



**CITY OF LAFAYETTE  
COMPREHENSIVE  
FIVE-YEAR PARK  
MASTER PLAN  
2019-2023**



# Lafayette Parks & Recreation Department Comprehensive Five-Year Park Master Plan

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**City of Lafayette**  
Mayor Tony Roswarski

**City Council**  
Lauren Ahlersmeyer  
Perry Brown  
Ronald Campbell  
Bob Downing  
Lon Heide  
Kevin Klinker  
Steve Meyer  
Nancy Nargi  
Jerry Reynolds  
Melissa Williamson

**Parks & Recreation Board**  
Pat Corey  
Maurie Denny  
Dave Mecklenburg  
John Ragan

## **Parks & Recreation Department**

Claudine Laufman - Park Superintendent  
Jon Miner - Director of Operations

Lafayette Parks & Recreation  
1915 Scott Street  
765-807-1500



Landscape Architecture & Urban Design  
12175 Visionary Way, #410  
Fishers, IN 46038  
317-849-0600

**GENERAL RESOLUTION 19-01**

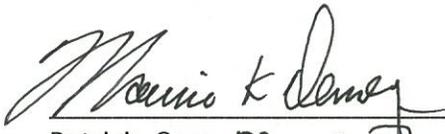
**PARK AND RECREATION BOARD  
CITY OF LAFAYETTE, INDIANA**

WHERE AS, the Lafayette Parks and Recreation Board is aware of the parks and recreation needs of the residents of Lafayette, Indiana and

WHEREAS, the Lafayette Parks and Recreation Board realized the importance of sound planning to meet the needs of its citizens,

NOW, THEREFORE, BIE IT RESOLVED THAT THE LAFAYETT PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD does adopt the Lafayette Park and Recreation Five Year Comprehensive Master Plan as its official plan for the next five years, for the grown and development of parks and recreation opportunities in Lafayette.

**BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
CITY OF LAFAYETTE**

  
Patricia Corey Maurice Denney  
Board Secretary

  
David Mecklenburg  
President

2/11/2019  
Date



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## ❖ Section One: Department Information

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## ❖ Lafayette Parks and Recreation Department

Claudine Laufman  
Park Superintendent  
1915 Scott Street  
Lafayette, IN 47904  
765-807-1500 (phone)

Tony Roswarski, Mayor  
20 N. 6<sup>th</sup> Street  
Lafayette, IN 47901

### **Parks and Recreation Board Mission Statement**

*The Lafayette Parks and Recreation Department maintains quality park and recreation facilities and services; and facilitates leisure opportunities so that citizens will receive personal, social, environmental and economic benefits.*

### **City Council Members**

Lauren Ahlersmeyer  
Perry Brown  
Ronald Campbell  
Bob Downing  
Lon Heide  
Kevin Klinker  
Steve Meyer  
Jerry Reynolds  
Melissa Williamson

### **Park Board Members**

Dave Mecklenburg, President  
3524 Mulberry Drive  
Lafayette, IN 47905  
Term expires 12/31/21

Maurie Denney  
24 Imperial Drive  
Lafayette, IN 47905  
Term expires 12/31/19

Pat Corey  
PO Box 309  
Lafayette, IN 47902  
Term expires 12/31/20

John Ragan  
1636 Skyline Road  
Lafayette, IN 47905  
Term expires 12/31/18

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## ❖ Department Goals

The Lafayette Board of Parks and Recreation is the policy-making authority for the Lafayette Parks and Recreation Department. The Board is bipartisan and comprised of four members appointed by the Mayor to serve staggered four-year terms. The most basic and necessary function of the City Park Board is to outline proposed goals and objectives which will provide the framework and direction within which the board will direct future land acquisition, development and recreational programming.

The Lafayette Parks and Recreation Department and its Board operate under the provision of the “Indiana Parks and Recreation Law” (IC 36-10-3) in accordance with City Ordinance.

The Lafayette Parks Foundation is an independent not-for-profit corporation organized under the laws of the State of Indiana. The purpose of the Lafayette Parks Foundation is to establish and maintain an endowment fund for the benefit of the Lafayette Parks and Recreation Department, encourage individuals and organizations to make financial contributions to support the Department, and in various other ways as opportunities and needs arise to support the Department.

### MISSION STATEMENT

The Lafayette Parks and Recreation Department maintains quality park and recreation facilities and services, and facilitates leisure opportunities so that all citizens will receive:

- Personal Benefits *in the form of physical fitness, relaxation, rest and revitalization;*
- Social Benefits *in the form of stronger and healthier families, ethnic and cultural harmony, reduced anti-social behavior, and enriched lives for persons with disabilities;*
- Environmental Benefits *in the form of a green and tree-filled city, habitat for native plants and animals, and open and protected green-space;*
- Economic Benefits *in the form of more productive and healthier citizens, increased tourism, and contributions to the quality of life sought by business and industry.*

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## GOALS & OBJECTIVES FOR LONG TERM EXCELLENCE

### Human Resources

- A Park Board that provides strong leadership and which fosters cooperation between itself, the Superintendent, the Mayor and the City Council.
- A qualified, committed Park Staff that is motivated and customer oriented, whose skills are competitively compensated, and whose achievements are recognized.

### Administration and Operations

An Administration that provides good management and follows adopted plans.

- A consistent set of policies regarding patron use of park property and a fee structure that supports maintenance of facilities and programs without denying access to any citizen.
- A safety and security program that provides safe facilities to attract the public, gives patrons a sense of security, and reduces vandalism.
- A park system whose appearance is a source of pride, whose facilities are clean, and whose maintenance is guided by a financially sound asset management program.

### Funding and Financial Management

- A long-term financial plan that enables careful financial management, accountability for revenue, spending and public funds, and a capital improvements program.
- Adequate long-term funding that includes a consistent level of tax support, creative new funding sources, and partnerships with business and private donors, all supported by the efforts of an active park Foundation.
- The ability to be entrepreneurial with programs and services.

### Organizational Relationships

- A park system that develops community pride, is user friendly, provides great customer service, and is supported by citizens through public/private partnerships.
- Beneficial government relations through coordination and collaboration with other park departments, other local government agencies, school corporations, and Purdue University in order to reduce duplication of facilities and programs, better coordinate the provision of infrastructure and to share resources, including staff expertise.

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### Physical Resources and Services

- System-wide improvements that create an inviting healthy family atmosphere at all parks.
- A well-maintained Columbian Park whose facilities and services are responsive to citizen needs and interests.
- An improved Zoo with a mission to encourage the appreciation of the world's wildlife, to enhance the preservation and conservation of biodiversity, and to inspire educational discovery and exploration in a fun, family-oriented environment for all citizens of the Greater Lafayette Area.
- Fully developed Riverfront Corridor Parks that maximize their potential and their location next to the Wabash River.
- A system of Neighborhood Parks that provides age-appropriate recreation and which are maintained in cooperation with neighborhood associations and neighborhood residents.
- An improved McAllister Center with a mission to provide a safe, fun environment for recreational programs and activities; a recreational facility that serves all citizens and high quality recreational programming that will enhance health and personal enrichment.
- Programs and classes for all ages, but with the greatest emphasis on children and teens, priced to be self-supporting.

### Planning and Growth

- A strong commitment to planning that responds to community desires and results in multi-year plans that can be realistically implemented and funded.
- A park system that provides for growth and new facilities commensurate with the growth of the city (including land, facilities, equipment, staff and financial resources.)
- A linear park trail system that will connect citizens to every park and the river.

### MASTER PLAN GOALS

The goals of this Comprehensive Five-Year Park System Master Plan are:

- Gather feedback and input from residents to develop future priorities for the department and board.
- Provide an action plan for the department for the next five years.
- Strengthen and expand partnerships and collaborations within the community.
- Review the action plan on an annual basis.

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## ❖ Organization

### Department

The Parks and Recreation Department is comprised of the following divisions: Administrative Services, Park Operations, Amusements, Columbian Park Zoo, and McAllister Recreation Center led by the Superintendent. During 2017, there were 35 full-time positions, 11 part-time and temporary positions, and approximately 200 seasonal employees.

#### Administrative Services

This division is responsible for financial accounting, fiscal planning, purchasing, data and record management, clerical and office services, marketing, public information, and customer service.

#### Facilities and Grounds

Park Operations is responsible for park and facility maintenance, trails, urban forestry, natural resources, city beautification, capital development and improvement, risk management, and safety and security.

#### Aquatics

This division oversees aquatics and pool facilities.

#### Columbian Park Zoo

This division is responsible for running the Zoo, amusement rides, providing educational programming, and raising funds for the on-going renovations.

#### McAllister Recreation Center

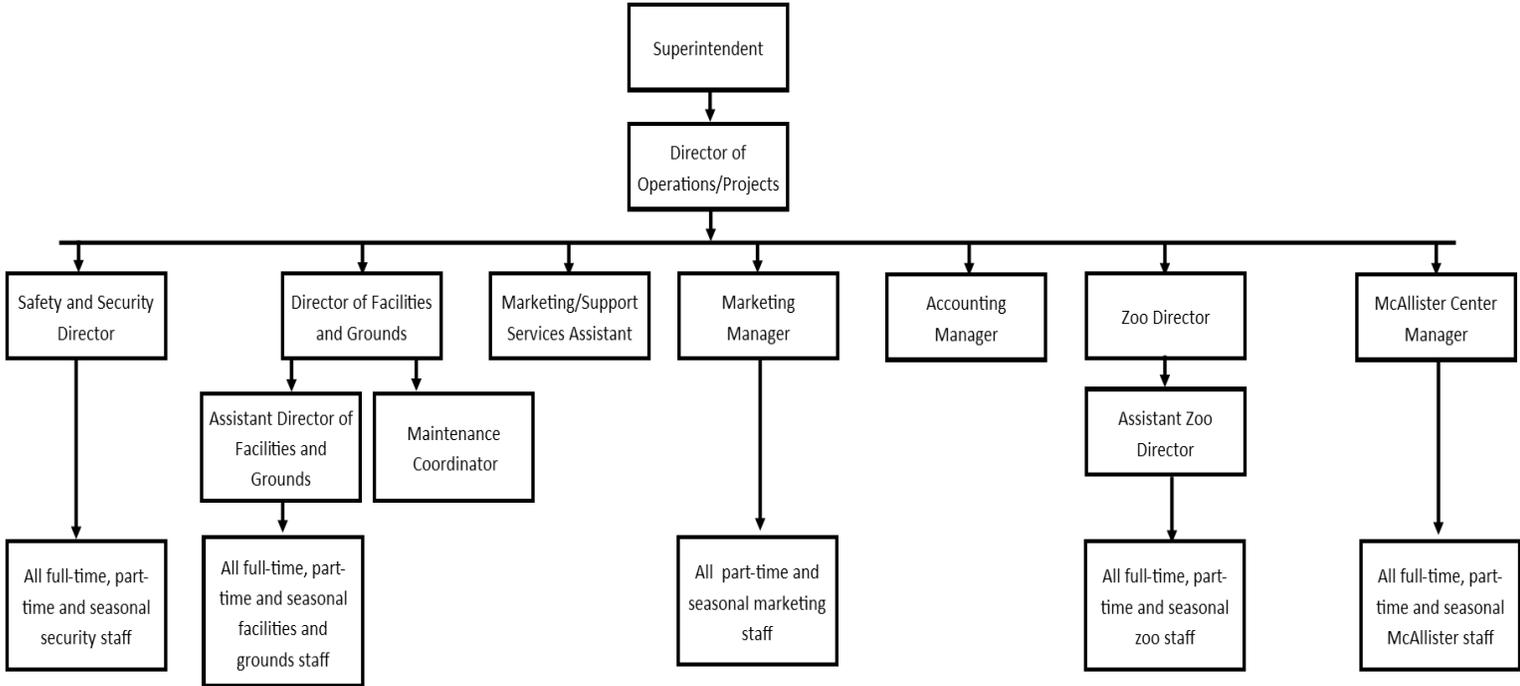
This division is responsible for the operation of McAllister Recreation Center and providing and overseeing a variety of recreational activities for the citizens of Lafayette.

#### Safety & Security

This division is responsible for providing security and safety throughout the park system and at park programs.

The department organization is represented on the following flow chart on the next page.

# DEPARTMENT ORGANIZATION



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## ❖ Progress Evaluation

Over the last five years, the Department has focused on long term maintenance and beautification within park facilities. The following list includes the larger scale improvements which were made in the Lafayette Park system during the last five years.

### ARMSTRONG PARK

- Playground Safety Mulched added
- Cleared invasive species from woods along south side of Park
- Invasive species removal along linear trail
- Installation of three new LED scoreboards on baseball fields
- Regraded and added new infield mix on baseball fields #1 and #3. Chain link fence repairs around all baseball fields
- New limestone around dugouts and bleachers of baseball fields
- Replacement slide on playground due to vandalism
- Resurfaced basketball courts
- Irrigation repair on softball fields

### CASTAWAY BAY

- Installation of air conditioning unit in First Aid room
- Installed new seating deck
- Added computerized automated water quality control systems

### CAT PARK

- Painted entrance gates and trash can posts
- Installed LED security lights on concession building
- Painted exterior doors on concession building
- New irrigation controller

### CENTENNIAL PARK

- Playground Safety Mulch added
- Replaced drinking fountain damaged by vandalism
- Added new landscape plants
- Power washed all concrete sidewalks
- Resurfaced and striped basketball court

### COLUMBIAN PARK

- Loeb Stadium: Started construction of new stadium
- Rush Pavilion porch
- Installed Little Library near SIA Playground
- Purchased four new playground pieces for SIA Playground
- Memorial Island Phase II project

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- Replaced 50' of train track
  - Installed Wi-Fi station at zoo train depot
  - Install new Vietnam Memorial on Memorial Island



#### COLUMBIAN PARK ZOO

- Updated Zoo Master Plan
- Seeded wallaby exhibit
- Repaired monkey holding area
- Upgraded Birds of Prey exhibit with new tree/branches

#### COLUMBIAN PARK - TROPICANOE COVE

- New Cove Mat Racer/Aqua loop installed (44' high, 6 lanes)
- New tot-sized fish slide
- Installed air-conditioning in concession building

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#### CROSSER SPORTS COMPLEX

- Started construction on new four-field softball complex

#### HEDGEWOOD PARK

- Removal of invasive plants

#### HANNA PARK

- Installed Little Library

#### LINNWOOD PARK

- Replaced play piece and tree damaged by vandalism

#### LYBOULT SPORTS PARK

- New entrance sign and landscape
- Installed new field identification signs and field distance signs
- Installed gates at all field access points
- Repaired all chain-link fences around softball fields
- Tree removal and pruning along foul line and home run fences

#### McALLISTER RECREATION CENTER

- Installation of On-Demand Fitness components
- Installed new back boards in gym
- Installation of ten rooftop HVAC units
- General building repairs and maintenance including painting, replacement of flooring and paneling in kitchen; refinishing the gym floor

#### McALLISTER PARK

- Installation of 18-hole disc golf baskets
- Volunteers removed invasive species removal at McAllister Park entrance and along Wabash Heritage Trail
- Widen mowing paths around all trails and exposed more usable green space

#### McCAW PARK

- New 11,200 square foot playground with poured-in-place rubber surface
- New storage building
- Converted sports court into 12 pickleball courts

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#### MUNGER PARK

- Repair and repaint both bathrooms
- Install adult fitness structure

#### MURDOCK PARK

- Installed six new concrete disc golf tee pads
- Install new roof on Softball Concession building

#### SHAMROCK PARK

- Additional fence added to create three separate large dog park sections
- Resurface roller hockey court; add slap shot wall around perimeter

#### SOUTH TIPP PARK

- Installed Little Library
- Added striping to basketball court

#### STERLING HEIGHTS PARK

- Park development included parking lot, new playground equipment, shelter and fence were installed

#### TROPICANOE COVE

- New Cove Mat Racer/Aqua loop installed
- New tot-sized fish slide
- Installed air-conditioning in concession building
- Added computerized automated water quality control systems

#### VINTON POOL

- New sidewalks installed along Prairie Lane
- Repainted pool floor/sides
- New electric panel in pump room
- Additional landscape around pool
- Added computerized automated water quality control systems
- Concessions service area improvements



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## ❖ Section Two: Community Profile

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## ❖ Community Profile

Lafayette is the county seat of Tippecanoe County and is located in west-central Indiana, 130 miles southeast of Chicago and 60 miles northwest of Indianapolis. Because of its central location in the county, it is a focal point not only for Tippecanoe County, but is considered the “hub” of a nine-county agricultural, commercial, industrial and educational heartland. In fact, in 1991 following the 1990 Census, the Census Bureau expanded the Lafayette MSA to include neighboring Clinton County to the southeast.

The community is served by Interstate 65, which connects Indianapolis and Chicago, and six additional state and federal highways. In addition to passenger railroad service (Amtrak), the community is provided rail service by two major lines. Chartered and commercial air transportation is provided by two airports in the county and Indianapolis International Airport is a 75-minute drive.

### *History*

Tippecanoe County was inhabited by a tribe of Miami Indians known as the Quiatenon or Weas. In 1717, the French government established Fort Quiatenon on the Wabash River about three miles south of the current location of the city of Lafayette. The fort was the center of trade between the Indians, merchants, and trappers. A festival know as The Feast of the Hunter’s Moon takes place there each fall.

William Digby, a boatman, founded Lafayette in 1824. Lafayette was chosen by the county commissioners in 1826 to be the county seat. The Wabash and Erie Canal construction stimulated additional growth in the community in the 1840’s and it was one of the most heavily used ports on the entire canal route. However, the railroad proved to be the catalyst that put Lafayette on the map. The first rail line connected Indianapolis to Lafayette in 1852 and then a second line was added downtown on what is now 5<sup>th</sup> Street. The rail lines allowed Lafayette to become a center for meat-packing and merchandising. The selection of Tippecanoe county for the site of a land grant college established by the Morrill Act, would result in the location of Purdue University across the Wabash due to a generous donation of land

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by John Purdue. The university's development along with the growth of the industrial sector became an important aspect of the growth of the entire community on both sides of the Wabash. During the depression era, Lafayette received federal aid through work relief programs which included the development of the Purdue Airport, construction of a swimming pool at Columbian Park and Purdue's fieldhouse.

Lafayette thrived during the era from 1940 - 1970's due to their industrial base and the GI Bill which brought thousands of serviceman to the area to do training and research. The construction of Interstate 65 was the catalyst for the city's new suburbs east of Lafayette in the early 1950's. Redevelopment efforts from mid 1975 to 1990's brought revitalization to the downtown along with historic preservation and new retail developments.

In the downtown area there are several cultural and historical buildings and/or locations which are linked together through sidewalk paths and trails. These include the Big Four Depot which was built in 1902 and relocated in 1994 as a part of the railroad relocation project. The future Brown Street Bridge location also will be connected by the trail system.

### ***Culture***

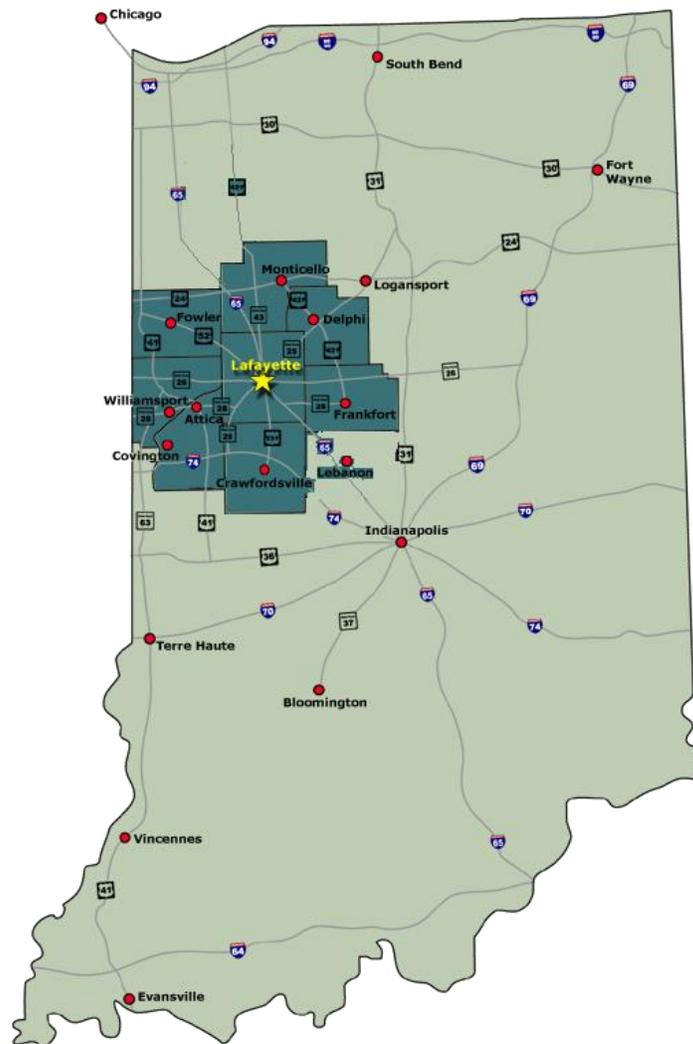
The Parks Department currently partners with the county historical society, county parks department, West Lafayette Parks department, native tribes, and cultural art groups to develop programs celebrating the unique history and culture of the Greater Lafayette Area including festivals, programs, etc.

The area is rich with cultural arts opportunities for its citizens. The Parks Department has an Art in the Park festival event series each summer. It showcases local and regional fine arts and crafts, live art: dance improv comedy and music all from local talent. Other groups such as the Civic Theater of Greater Lafayette offers camps, workshops, classes and shows for all ages. The Tippecanoe Arts Federation also located in downtown Lafayette offers After-School Arts Programs, exhibitions, gallery walks, Artreach instrument lending, and other opportunities for residents. These

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groups have a wide variety of programs which are available to all residents.

Reihle Plaza adjacent to the Big Four Depot is utilized throughout the year for festivals and concerts. The Lafayette Citizen Band performs free evening concerts during the summer months and plays for Stars & Stripes Celebration on July 4 with fireworks afterwards. Other events include the TASTE of Tippecanoe which is a one-day summer festival held in downtown. It is operated by the Tippecanoe Arts Federation. Farmers' Market held May through October downtown. Other festival activities within Tippecanoe County include The Feast of the Harvest Moon, Purdue University Cultural and Music programs, Germanfest, Indiana Fiddlers' Gathering, Art on the Wabash, Wabash Riverfest, Tippecanoe County 4-H Fair, and Global Fest, etc.





City of Lafayette

## ❖ Features

### *Geographic Features and Land Use*

The main natural feature is the Wabash River. It is an entrenched pre-glacial valley that was filled and later re-excavated. The river runs north to south through the city and Lafayette lies entirely within its drainage basin. The flood plain is very narrow for a stream of this size; the bottom lands are one-fourth to one-half mile wide with very little variation in relief and are thus subject to frequent flooding. The Department has utilized the river historically and has three parks that border the river. Flooding has created challenges for recreation uses due to the damage that can be caused to recreation fields and the golf course. The City closed the old golf course in McAllister Park six years ago due to the massive flooding that had taken place over the last 20 years.

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The old course has been utilized for trails and disc golf. The department still mows some areas to maintain trails and the disc golf course. However, the area has been left to go natural in the interim as the City plans the future for the riverfront. The City has undergone substantial planning efforts along the riverfront to determine how to re-use the parkland. The new master plans call for a wide variety of features and parkland development in the flood plain. These planning efforts were in partnership with the Wabash River Enhancement Corporation to create extensive master planning along the Wabash River corridor to plan for redevelopment within the urban and rural areas and plan for appropriate recreation uses with the flood plain and included detailed hydrology report, wetland inventories, topography studies to minimize flood damage for future development. The proposed developments included new pedestrian and vehicular bridges across the Wabash River, park development, trails, performance stage, wetlands, native planting areas, bioswales, boardwalks, permeable pavement, etc.

The Wabash River Enhancement Corporation (WREC) is a non-profit entity which has been leading long range planning efforts since 2004 to improve the riverfront, the river corridor, and water quality. The Wabash Heritage Trail crosses all three park jurisdictions in Tippecanoe County. The full master plan and comprehensive study of the Wabash River can be found at their website: [www.wabashriver.net/corridor](http://www.wabashriver.net/corridor).

Site plans from the proposed Riverfront Masterplan are included in the Appendix found at the end of this report. All park departments within the county are active members of WREC and the overall planning efforts. Funding for these projects are a joint effort.

The city continues to protect the existing tree canopy within the city limits by monitoring their tree inventory and assessing the conditions of their trees. This has been critical to maintaining healthy and vital trees which are so critical to the quality of life of a community. The city lost approximately 5% of its ash tree canopy due to the emerald ash borer infestation. The city worked with a tree consultant to develop a plan to maintain existing trees and replace trees. They continue to implement this plan today.

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This area has a variety of tree diversity including maple, oak, ash, spruce, poplar and locust. Parks department has actively been planting trees as replacements for those that have been lost. The department works closely with the city urban forester to monitor trees at park facilities. In tandem, they implement the tree maintenance program and work to protect existing trees and plant new trees.

The city's other surrounding areas are relatively flat areas which are used for agricultural purposes due to their rich loam soils. These agricultural areas have become more developed as the city has expanded and grown. Industrial and retail development have occurred near Interstate 65. Existing park land like Berlovitz Woods provide opportunities for interpretive trails or a future nature center to celebrate the natural tree stands that once blanketed this area in the 1800's.

The existing geography provides other opportunities for several different recreational opportunities such as walking and bicycle trails, interpretive programs related to historical sites, wildlife and plants. Open areas provide opportunities for sports and recreation fields, shelters, and general open space within the parks. The department has identified various historical sites in the downtown area that will be linked by interpretive trail loops and eventually to the trail system. The trail system has continued to expand by utilizing new bike lanes and development of new trails. The Public Works Department has been including new bike lanes, wider sidewalks, bike-pedestrian friendly grates and infrastructure as they maintain existing streets and build new streets. The U.S. 52 bridge over the Wabash River added a bike/pedestrian walkway as part of its new bridge deck in 2018. In the future a new Brown Street bridge could also be pedestrian and bicycle-friendly. There is no current timeline for the construction of this facility. These new facilities would expand trails on both sides of the river linking both communities to one another.

### **Climate**

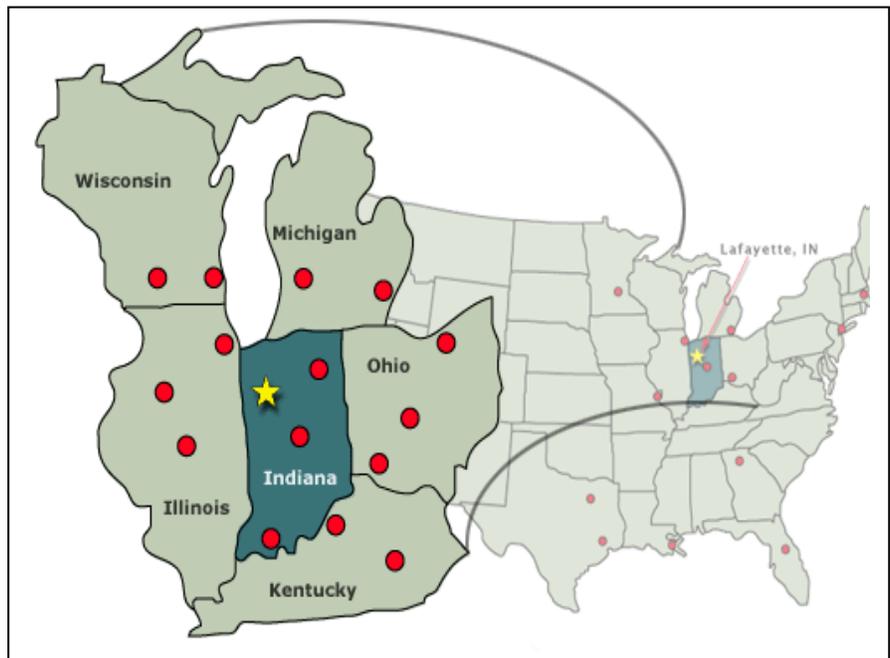
Lafayette's climate and temperature are relatively mild; generally, there are no extreme temperatures in this Midwest region. Average temperatures range from 30 degrees F during the winter months to 75.5 degrees in the summer. Annual precipitation is 38 inches.

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**Transportation:**

Because of its location 60 miles north of Indianapolis and 120 miles south of Chicago, the greater Lafayette area is easily accessed by car, bus, air and rail. A major north-south artery is Interstate 65, which connects the area with Chicago to the north and the southern part of the United States.

Conrail and Amtrak provide rail service. A regional airport and a daily commuter shuttle to the Indianapolis International Airport allow for access to major airlines. The city has actively worked with the railroads to create connections and relocate active rail lines to encourage connectivity within downtown. Pedestrian linkages over the Wabash River were proposed in the Wabash River Master Plan including enhancements to SR 26, Myers Bridge, and a new Brown Street bridge to connect West Lafayette to Lafayette.



Lafayette -Proximity Map

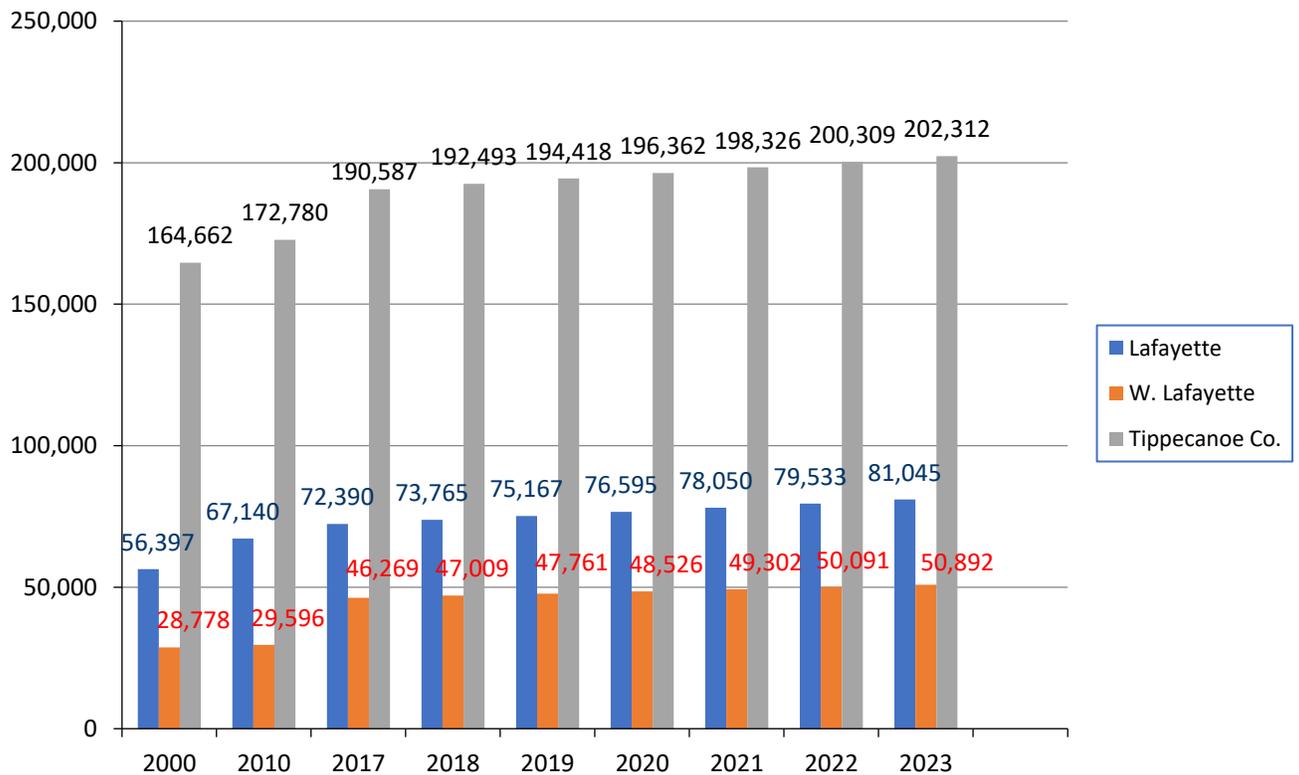
## ❖ Socio and Economic Considerations

### *Population and Demographics*

Tippecanoe County overall has seen slower growth than Lafayette and West Lafayette. Overall the planning area has continued to grow over the last two decades. Lafayette has seen a steady increase in population since 2010 of 5.1 percent through 2017 according to Stats Indiana. West Lafayette has seen a larger influx of 10.0%. West Lafayette’s growth can also be attributed to the growth of enrollment at Purdue University which has seen its student population grow. This is also evident by looking at the growth in the college age group in West Lafayette.

Lafayette’s population has continued to increase throughout the last 10 years. Population projections from STATS INDIANA indicated Lafayette’s population of 72,390, West Lafayette of 46,269 and Tippecanoe County 190,587. Greater Area Plan Commission indicated for future projections to utilize a projected rate of 1.9 percent for Lafayette, 1.6 percent for West Lafayette and Tippecanoe County at 0.47 percent for projections 2018-2023. These projected growth rates are depicted on the following chart.

**Community Growth Projections**



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The dominant age groups for Lafayette remained steady in the 25 - 54 age group which represents 41 percent of the population. This is down slightly from 2000 by 1.2 percent. Children under age 19 represent 26.5 percent of the population. In comparison to the 2000 census there has not been much change. The baby boomer generation showed an overall minor decrease in the last 10 years. The 60-69 age group decreased by 1.4 percent from 9.1 percent to 7.7 percent. Family households with dependent children make up the majority of households at 55.6 percent within Lafayette city limits. These demographics correlate with the department data for program participants as they continue to see strong participation in children and adult programming and sports.

The median age was in 2017 was 33 according to US Census - Community Analyst. The 20-34 age group represents almost 30% of the population which can likely be correlated to the proximity of Purdue University. This is not unusual in a community that is a college-town. Although most students, live in West Lafayette, they still utilize park facilities which presents unique challenges in weighing the needs of city residents and non-residents. Non-residents pay a different fee for various programs and event rentals. However, the student population oscillates over a two to six-year cycle which makes determining needs, budgets and planning efforts challenging. Students often are not contributing financially via taxes since they are often not working while attending college. This is also true for non-residents who live within the county and utilize city park facilities.

The department continues work in partnership with the Greater Lafayette Area Plan Commission as they track city growth and where future growth is anticipated on the east and south sides of the city. This future growth impacts future park facility locations, programming and trail connections.

The city's population remains primarily white; however, the Hispanic population grew slightly to 12.1 percent. This growth is anticipated to continue which is consistent over the last ten years. The city is also seeing more students living downtown due to the proximity of campus. They are also utilizing parks facilities more frequently than in the past.

### Age of Lafayette Population - 2010 US Census

AGE	Total	% of population	Male	Female
Total population	67,140	100	32,696	34,444
Under 5 years	5,343	8	2,735	2,608
5 to 9 years	4,388	6.5	2,224	2,164
10 to 14 years	3,783	5.6	1,828	1,955
15 to 19 years	4,306	6.4	2,151	2,155
20 to 24 years	6,881	10.2	3,358	3,523
25 to 29 years	6,752	10.1	3,532	3,220
30 to 34 years	5,146	7.7	2,644	2,502
35 to 39 years	4,142	6.2	2,144	1,998
40 to 44 years	3,937	5.9	1,997	1,940
45 to 49 years	4,040	6	2,024	2,016
50 to 54 years	4,068	6.1	1,983	2,085
55 to 59 years	3,734	5.6	1,715	2,019
60 to 64 years	3,027	4.5	1,391	1,636
65 to 69 years	2,163	3.2	948	1,215
70 to 74 years	1,706	2.5	721	985
75 to 79 years	1,324	2	510	814
80 to 84 years	1,212	1.8	452	760
85 years +	1,188	1.8	339	849
Median age (years)	31.9	( X )	30.9	33

These statistics support the staff’s desire to provide new recreation programs to support these demographic age groups and cultural diversity. Staff will need to continually monitor the age of participants in order to be responsive to the potential need for new programming for baby boomers which is a trend in other communities. The department is actively working to develop these programs by identifying new partners to assist them in these new programs.

### *HOUSING*

In Lafayette, new residential and commercial areas continue to be created within the city. The downtown area continues its’ revitalization with new housing, mixed-use development and riverfront development.

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There are over 31,230 households within the city limits with an average of 2.27 people per household. The owner-occupied housing unit rate was 46.6% with the average value being \$133,658. Renter-occupied rate was 45.1%. Average gross rent was \$789. The total number of vacant units in Lafayette is 9.3%. Residential living units in the downtown near the riverfront are in high demand and single-family homes have also been in high demand within the community. Residential housing in the greater Lafayette area has seen higher prices for single family and rental units due to high demand. (U.S. Census via Community Analyst)

The Redevelopment Commission commissioned a Downtown Visioning Study to understand how to develop or redevelop several parcels. The initial draft of this study indicates that there is currently and will continue to be a demand for housing in the downtown core. Approximately 40 percent of the demand will come from older professionals and empty nesters which is part of a national trend of older residents moving into urban areas. Another 45 percent of the demand will come from young professionals. Typically, these age groups are more likely to rent. Consequently, the study recommended more mid to upper density mixed-use projects. It also indicated that in the low potential scenario that they would need 550 more housing units downtown.

### *City of Lafayette demographics*

- Median Age: 33
- Number of Households: 31,230
- Average family size: 3
- Median Household Income: \$43,894
- Poverty Level 18.9%
- Population per square mile: 2,420.2

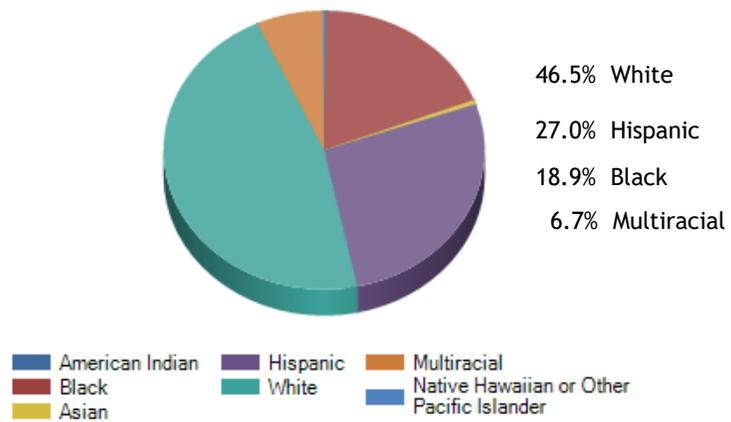
## ❖ Education

The residents of Lafayette support the Lafayette School Corporation which in 2018 had 7,996 students according to the Indiana Department of Education. Enrollment has increased by 800

students in the last ten years. The diversity of the student population has also grown over the last ten years.

Grade	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Pre-Kindergarten	250	269	260	213	243
Kindergarten	704	701	653	749	724
Grade 1	699	668	670	645	712
Grade 2	679	686	615	660	621
Grade 3	625	660	662	631	648
Grade 4	542	599	641	632	597
Grade 5	569	525	575	633	604
Grade 6	491	555	509	587	623
Grade 7	529	474	542	516	572
Grade 8	538	556	481	558	527
Grade 9	514	549	600	506	603
Grade 10	526	509	522	582	506
Grade 11	510	509	503	502	563
Grade 12	440	483	461	455	453
<b>Total Enrollment</b>	<b>7,616</b>	<b>7,743</b>	<b>7,694</b>	<b>7,869</b>	<b>7,996</b>

Enrollment 2018-19 by Ethnicity



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Lafayette Community Schools include the following:

- Earhart Elementary
- Edgelea Elementary
- Glen Acres Elementary
- Miami Elementary
- Miller Elementary
- Murdock Elementary
- Oakland Elementary
- Vinton Elementary
- Sunnyside Intermediate School
- Tecumseh Junior High School
- Jefferson High School
- Oakland High School
- Lafayette Adult Resource Academy
- Tippecanoe School Corporation

Local Private Schools

- Apostolic Christian Academy (K-12)
- Faith Christian Academy (K-12)
- Central Catholic Junior/Senior High School (7-12)
- Lafayette Christian School (K-8)
- St. Boniface School (4-6)
- St. James Lutheran (K-8)
- St. Lawrence School (Preschool-6)
- St. Mary's Cathedral School (Preschool-3)
- T.C. Harris School (Special needs 1-12)

Higher education opportunities are available through Purdue University, Ivy Tech Community College, Indiana Business College, and St. Elizabeth School of Nursing.

According to data from the 2010 U.S. Census, Lafayette residents 25 years or older, 83.1 percent are high school graduates or higher, 26.3 percent have a bachelor's degree or higher.

## ❖ Economic Base

Lafayette has a broad employment base which offers a variety of employment opportunities within Tippecanoe County and outside the community. According to the Greater Lafayette Commerce, the community has over 300 manufacturing firms which

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include robotics, biotechnology, food processing, microelectronics, instrumentation and office/clerical industries. Several of the listed manufacturing employers have made significant facility expansions in the last two years.

The greater Lafayette area business community continues to work together as a team to attract different types of employment beyond manufacturing through such opportunities as the Purdue Technology Research Park and Landis & Gyr.

Employers indicate that they are having challenges finding qualified staff given the low unemployed rates. Tippecanoe County unemployment rate in December 2018 was 3.1 percent. For the same period Indiana's unemployment was 3.6 percent and the national unemployment rate was 3.9 percent. Overall, the unemployment rate in Tippecanoe County and through-out Indiana has stayed steady fluctuating about 0.2 percent up and down in 2018 which is expected to continue in 2019. The department continues to work closely with the economic development group and local employers to evaluate opportunities for programs and events and to monitor employment trends in the area.

The following list of current employers was supplied from Greater Lafayette Commerce and the Chamber of Commerce

### **Non-manufacturing Employers**

- Purdue University
- Franciscan St. Elizabeth Hospital
- Tippecanoe School Corporation
- Indiana University Arnett Health
- Ivy Tech Community College
- Lafayette School Corporation
- City of Lafayette
- Tippecanoe County Government
- McDonald's Restaurants
- Great Lakes Chemical Corporation
- Kirby Risk
- Lafayette Community School Corporation
- Unity Health Care
- Wal-Mart

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### **Manufacturers (Over 200 Employees)**

- Subaru-Isuzu Automotive Inc.
- Wabash National Corporation
- Caterpillar Inc.
- Evonik Degussa Corporation Tippecanoe Laboratories
- Arconic
- Oerlikon Fairfield Drive Systems
- Siemens Power Transmission & Distribution
- TRW Commercial Steering Division
- Tate & Lyle, North and South Plants

Work commuting patterns show that only 5.0 percent of those living in Tippecanoe county commute out of the county to work. Residents within the Lafayette area have an average 16.7 minute commute according to U.S. Census Quickfacts.

### **Cited Sources:**

U.S. Census Bureau (2010)

U.S. Census 2011 American Community Survey

Greater Lafayette Commerce

City of Lafayette Economic Development Department

Wabash River Enhancement Corporation ([www.wabashriver.net](http://www.wabashriver.net))

Indiana Business Research Center ([www.stats.Indiana](http://www.stats.Indiana))

Economic Development Council of Greater Lafayette Commerce ([www.glpi.org](http://www.glpi.org))

Robert M. Taylor, Jr. etc *Indiana: A New Historical Guide* (Indiana Historical Society, 1989)

### **Misc. Web Resources:**

[www.in.gov](http://www.in.gov)

[www.rootsweb.com](http://www.rootsweb.com)

[www.hometownlocator.com](http://www.hometownlocator.com)

[www.maps-n-stats](http://www.maps-n-stats) (original source US Census Bureau)

[www.city-data.com](http://www.city-data.com)

[www.answers.com](http://www.answers.com)

(Forstall, Richard L. (editor) (1996). *Population of states and counties of the United States: 1790 to 1990: from the twenty-one decennial censuses*. United States Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Population Division. ISBN 0934213488

Indiana: A New Historical Guide - Robert M. Taylor, Jr. etc, 1989



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## ❖ Section Three: Park Inventory

# YOUR LAFAYETTE PARKS

## COMMUNITY PARKS

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1 Armstrong Park<br>9th Street & Beck Lane | 6 McCaw Park<br>Union Street & Creasy Lane            |
| 2 CAT Park<br>3630 McCarty Lane            | 7 Munger Park<br>3505 Greenbush Street                |
| 3 Columbian Park<br>1915 Scott Street      | 8 Murdock Park<br>18th Street & Ferry Street          |
| 4 Lyboubt Sports Park<br>1300 Canal Road   | 9 Shamrock Park<br>Wabash Avenue                      |
| 5 McAllister Park<br>North 9th Street      | 10 Crosser Sports Complex<br>2200 Breckenridge Street |

## NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 11 Arlington Park<br>1700 Arlington Road         | 16 Linwood Park<br>15th Street & Greenbush Street             |
| 12 Centennial Park<br>6th Street & Brown Street  | 17 North Darby Park<br>Darby Lane                             |
| 13 Hanna Park<br>18th Street & Hanna Street      | 18 South Tipp Park<br>3rd Street & Fountain Street            |
| 14 Hedgewood Park<br>Hedgewood Dr. & Beverly Dr. | 19 Sterling Heights Park<br>Harrington Drive & Cheyenne Drive |
| 15 Kennedy Park<br>Beck Lane & Sequoya Drive     | 20 Stockton Park<br>Erie Street & Ferry Street                |

## RECREATION CENTER

- 21 McAllister Recreation Center  
2351 N. 20th Street

## AQUATIC FACILITIES

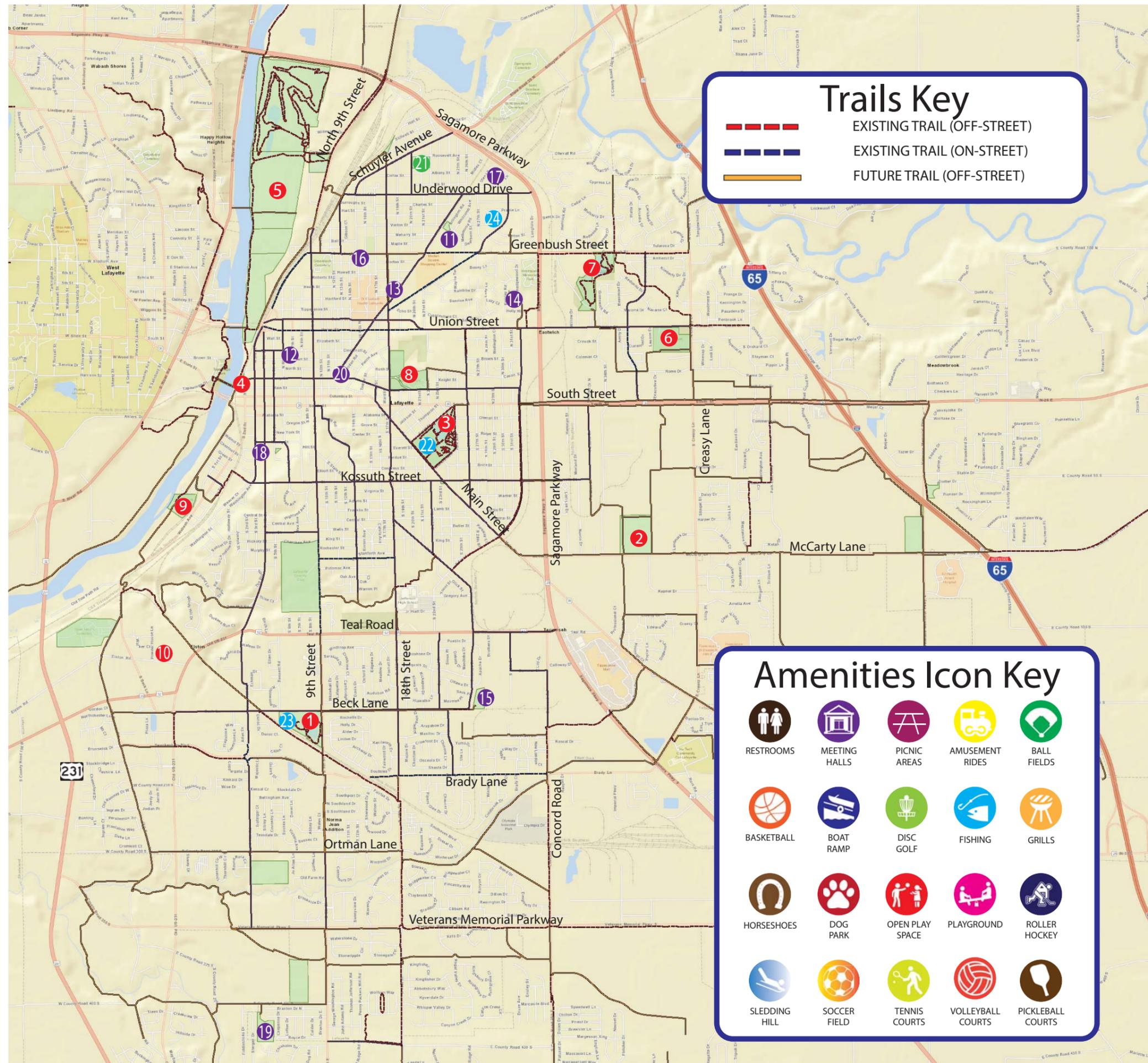
- |   |                                     |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| 22 Tropicane Cove<br>1915 Scott Street    | 24 Vinton Pool<br>3111 Prairie Lane |
| 23 Castaway Bay<br>9th Street & Beck Lane |                                     |

## Trails Key

- EXISTING TRAIL (OFF-STREET)
- EXISTING TRAIL (ON-STREET)
- FUTURE TRAIL (OFF-STREET)

## Amenities Icon Key

- |               |               |                 |                   |                   |
|---------------|---------------|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| RESTROOMS     | MEETING HALLS | PICNIC AREAS    | AMUSEMENT RIDES   | BALL FIELDS       |
| BASKETBALL    | BOAT RAMP     | DISC GOLF       | FISHING           | GRILLS            |
| HORSESHOES    | DOG PARK      | OPEN PLAY SPACE | PLAYGROUND        | ROLLER HOCKEY     |
| SLEDDING HILL | SOCCER FIELD  | TENNIS COURTS   | VOLLEYBALL COURTS | PICKLEBALL COURTS |



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## ❖ Existing Park Facilities

The Lafayette Parks and Recreation Department manages nearly 700 acres of park land within the City of Lafayette. Providing and preserving parks and open green space enhances the desirability of the community and contributes to the health and wellness of all Lafayette residents. The Department also operates many unique facilities which include an award-winning family aquatic center, innovative playground, dog park, premier baseball stadium, zoo, amusement rides, recreation center, golf course, a linear trail system, and portions of the Wabash Heritage Trail. These facilities serve as an investment in the future well-being of Lafayette residents, and contribute to the overall quality of life and viability of the city.

The Planning Area is defined as areas within five miles of the city limits of Lafayette and the city limits, which does include areas west of Interstate 65. The department allows non-residents to participate in their various programs, leagues and facilities at a non-resident rate. The department works closely in partnership with the county park department and the West Lafayette park department to coordinate services and programs to maximize services and financial resources.

### **Columbian Park 40 acres**

The ‘crown jewel’ of the Lafayette park system, Columbian Park has served the community for over a century. The small zoo was opened in 1908 and currently houses over 190 animals, representing over 90 species. The Zoo master plan was updated in 2015. Renovations are on-going and recent renovations are listed in Section 1 of the report under Progress Evaluation.

Loeb Stadium, a 3,500-seat baseball stadium, was built in 1940 and is home field to Lafayette Jefferson High School, the American Legion Post-11 League, and 13-and-older Colt League. The stadium annually hosts the Colt World Series and IHSAA tournaments. A new stadium is currently under construction at the same location.

Tropicanoe Cove Family Aquatic Center continues the long aquatic tradition in the park while meeting the leisure needs of today's families. The SIA Playground provides Lafayette children and families an exciting and adventurous place to play. The innovative playground is fully accessible and includes distinct areas specifically designed for all ages ranging from tots to adults.

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Columbian Park features amusement rides with a restored miniature train and other rides enjoyed by smaller children. The Rush Pavilion, restored in 1990, was built in 1890 and is on the National Register of Historic Places. Other features of the park, are Jenks Rest (home to the Tippecanoe County Council on Aging and Junior Achievement), Memorial Island (veteran memorials and amphitheater), picnic shelters, and the Boathouse, which serves as the Parks Administrative Office.

## **RIVERFRONT PARKS**

The Department manages a complex of parks along the Wabash River comprised of over 450 acres.

### **Wabash Heritage Trail**

- Cooperatively maintained by Lafayette, West Lafayette, and Tippecanoe County Parks Departments
- 13-mile trail travels along the Wabash River and Burnett's Creek.
- Over two miles of the trail cross the Lafayette Riverfront Parks listed below.

### **Lyboubt Sports Park 52 acres**

- 3 Lighted Softball Fields
- Basketball Courts
- Horseshoes
- Picnic Areas
- Portions of the Wabash Heritage Trail
- Public Restrooms
- Sand Volleyball Court

### **McAllister Park 350 acres**

- Model Airplane Strip
- Open Green Space
- Portions of the Wabash Heritage Trail
- Former Municipal Golf Course closed in 2013

### **Environmental Interpretive Area**

- Undeveloped site located north of US 52
- Wooded site with high-quality wetland.

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## COMMUNITY PARKS & RECREATION CENTER

The Department manages seven community parks, one community recreation center, and a linear park trail system.

### Armstrong Park 30 Acres

- 0.67-mile walking trail
- Linear Parks trail 0.5 miles
- 3 youth baseball fields
- 5 lighted tennis courts
- Multi-age playground
- Open green space
- Public restroom
- Rentable 50-person Picnic shelter
- Pond
- Wildflower areas
- Mature trees
- Castaway Bay Aquatic Center

### Berlovitz Woods 20 acres

- Site is currently undeveloped.
- Woods and quality wetland.

### CAT Park and Soccer Fields 32 acres

- 8 soccer fields of varying sizes
- Recreational softball field
- Small picnic shelters
- Walking trails
- Wildflower Prairie area
- Restroom/concession building

### Crosser Sports Complex 15 acres

- 4 Lighted competition Girls Softball Fields
- Restroom/Concession
- Press Box Building
- Parking

### Linear Park Trail

- Trailhead begins near Armstrong Park
- One mile in length

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**McCaw Park 26 acres**

- 12 lighted pickleball courts
- 2 small picnic shelters
- 3 lighted Youth Baseball Fields
- Grill
- Open green space and wildflower areas
- Woodland areas
- Wetland areas
- Public restrooms
- Tot and multi-age playground

**Munger Park 32 acres**

- 1-mile paved trails
- 110-person rentable picnic shelter
- Grill
- Multi-age playground
- Open green space and wildflower areas
- Pond
- Fishing
- The park and its development were made possible by significant contributions from Duke Energy and Thomas and Alice Munger.

**Murdock Park 39 acres**

- Largest and most forested park within the central part of the city
- 0.52 Mile Interpretive Trail
- Two picnic shelters-50 seat each available for Rental
- Cardinal Court (Basketball Court)
- Disc golf course - 18 holes/baskets
- Grill
- Public restroom
- Sled hill/run
- Tot and multi-Age Playground
- Youth softball Field

**Shamrock Park 11 acres**

- Basketball court
- Grill
- Horseshoes
- Open green space
- Outdoor roller hockey rink
- Parking areas
- Picnic areas

- 
- Rentable 50-person picnic shelter (\$35.00 Add-on)
  - Tot and multi-age playground
  - Volleyball court
  - 2-acre dog park

#### **McAllister Recreation Center**

- Gymnasium
- Community meeting areas
- Game rooms
- Weight and fitness areas
- Open green space
- Basketball court
- Picnic shelter
- Multi-age playground.
- Center offers programs for adults and youth of Lafayette.

### **AQUATIC FACILITIES**

The Department manages three family aquatic centers. These outdoor facilities are open during the summer season to serve the aquatic needs of the community.

#### **Castaway Bay in Armstrong Park**

- Beach-like entry
- Spray and play areas
- Geysers
- Bubble bench
- Play area that can be used for games or exercise,
- Grass area for sunning
- Open green play space
- Modern bathhouse.

#### **Tropicane Cove Family Aquatic Center in Columbian Park**

- Large leisure pool with zero-depth entrance
- Lazy river
- Cove mat slide (under construction)
- Water slides
- Water and sand playgrounds
- Sand volleyball court
- Bathhouse and concession building.

#### **Vinton Pool**

- Z-shape
- Beach like entrance with playful water geysers
- Double splashdown slide and water basketball hoop

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## NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS

The Department manages eight smaller parks that serve neighborhoods.

### Arlington Park 1 acre

- Basketball court
- Playground
- Open green space
- Picnic Shelter
- Tennis Court

### Centennial Park 0.5 acres

- Basketball Court
- Picnic Shelter
- Tot and Multi-age playground

### North Darby Park 0.8 acres

- Basketball court
- Multi-age playground
- Open green space

### Hanna Park 2.2 acres

- Basketball Court
- Grill
- Musical Chimes
- Picnic Shelter
- Playgrounds 2-5, and 5-12
- Tricycle path
- Serves youth programs sponsored by Hanna Center and Dennis Burton Child Care Center

### Hedgewood Park 7 acres

- Multi age playground
- Open green space
- adult swing
- picnic table

### Kennedy Park 7 acres

- Multi age playground
- Open Green Space
- Soccer Field

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**Linnwood Park 0.5 acres**

- Basketball court
- Picnic shelter
- Tot and multi-age playground

**SIA South Tipp Park 0.55 acres**

- Picnic shelter
- ½-basketball court
- Sports mister
- Two newer multi-age playgrounds
- Drinking fountain

**Sterling Heights Park 1.7 acres**

- Multi-age playground
- Green space
- Swings
- Parking
- Picnic Shelter

**Stockton Park 0.5 acres**

- Drinking fountain
- Picnic Shelter
- Spring-rider
- Swing
- Path

**Digby Park 5 acres**

- Undeveloped open area along the riverfront and 2<sup>nd</sup> Street near the overpass

**Brittany Chase 2.75 acres**

- Undeveloped open area located at the north end of Runyon Drive in Brittany Chase neighborhood on the southside of the city.

**Trails outside of park property:**

These trails are maintained by park staff.

<u>Trail</u>	<u>Distance</u>
Munger Trail	0.76 miles - connects Greenbush Street to Creasy Lane
Linear Trail	1.12 miles - connects Beck Lane to S. 18th Street along Norfolk & Western Railroad
Wabash Heritage Trail	2.3 miles - from Sagamore Parkway to the John T. Meyers Pedestrian Bridge

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## Park Programs

The parks department provides a wide variety for all ages throughout the year. It also teams with local sports groups to provide youth and adult sports for baseball, softball, soccer, bike polo, pickleball, basketball, and volleyball.

Programming includes the following:

- Youth Summer Camp
- Zoo Pajama Party
- Zoo Sprouts (ages 3-4)
- Two @ the Zoo
- Youth and Adult Volleyball
- Fitness on Demand
- Yoga
- Zumba
- Strong by Zumba
- Summer and Fall Tennis
- Dance Classes: 3 years through 5<sup>th</sup> grade
- Camps: Summer, Spring Break, Holiday, Fall Break
- Zoo Kids Night Out
- Zoo Run
- Father Daughter Dance
- Critter Class
- Wildlife Workshop
- Discovery Workshop (ages 12-14)
- Junior Counselor Program
- Stories for Shorties: Preschool reading (ages 3-5)
- Sporties for Shorties: Basketball, T-Ball, Soccer, Flag Football
- McAllister Spring Break Camp
- McAllister Spring Celebration
- BFF Day
- Dad's Day
- Family Fund Day(s)
- Flag football ages 6-11
- Military Appreciation
- Grandparents' Day
- Fall Youth Basketball
- Fall Volleyball
- Winter Youth Basketball
- Winter Volleyball
- Holiday Drop and Shop
- Donuts with Santa
- Kids' Fishing Day
- Family Learn to Fish Day
- Learning adventure camps (ages 8-11)

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## Other Recreation Providers

In addition, Lafayette's recreational needs are met through a variety of additional groups and facilities. Citizens may utilize programs and facilities offered by West Lafayette and Tippecanoe County Park's Department and other organizations in the below list.

- Prophetstown State Park
- Schools
  - Earhart Elementary
  - Edgelea Elementary
  - Glen Acres Elementary
  - Miami Elementary
  - Miller Elementary
  - Murdock Elementary
  - Oakland Elementary
  - Vinton Elementary
  - Lafayette Sunnyside Middle School
  - Lafayette Tecumseh Junior High School
  - Jefferson High School
  - Lafayette Adult Resource Academy
  - Greater Lafayette Area Special Service
  - Tippecanoe School Corporation
- Miscellaneous Public Facilities/Group
  - Boys and Girls Club of Tippecanoe County (north and south)
  - YMCA
  - YWCA
  - Fraternal Order of Eagles
- Area golf courses
  - Lafayette Elks Country Club
  - Battle Ground Golf Course
  - Birck Boilermaker Golf Complex
  - Coyote Crossing Golf Course
  - Ravines Golf Course
  - Lafayette Country Club
- Faith Based Providers
  - East Community Center: indoor pool, fitness center, 7500 SF skate park, full basketball court, room rentals, indoor walking track

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## Community Partners and Collaborators

The Department continues to work collaboratively with governmental agencies, local organizations and area businesses to better serve the community.

- American Red Cross
- Community Appearance Task Force
- Community and Family Resource Center
- Downtown Business Center
- Friends of Columbian Park Zoo
- Greater Lafayette Commerce
- Dog Park Association of Greater Lafayette
- Greater Lafayette Convention and Victors Bureau
- Hanna Community Center
- Indiana Department of Natural Resources
- Indian Urban Forest Council
- Lafayette Adult Resource Academy
- Lafayette Colt Tournaments
- Lafayette School Corporation
- Tree Lafayette
- Lafayette Parks Foundation
- Lafayette Urban Enterprise Association
- Lafayette Volunteer Bureau
- Leadership Lafayette
- Lyn Treece Boys and Girls Club
- Tippecanoe County Master Gardeners
- Purdue University
- Tippecanoe County Health Department
- Tippecanoe County Historical Association
- Tippecanoe County Parks and Recreation
- Tippecanoe County Public Library
- Wabash Center
- Wabash River Enhancement Corporation (WREC)
- West Lafayette Parks and Recreation

The Department maintains reciprocal agreements with Lafayette School Corporation and Lafayette Catholic Schools for use of sports and educational facilities. Other sports-related agreements are held with the following groups:

- Lafayette Youth Baseball
- Greater Lafayette Recreational Soccer Alliance

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- Greater Lafayette Girls Softball league
  - Greater Lafayette Tennis Association
  - Lafayette Area Softball Association
  - Lafayette Horse Club
  - Lafayette Pickleball Association
  - Wabash Disc Golf Club

## ❖ **Americans with Disabilities Act**

Accessibility and the Americans with Disabilities Act requirements must be taken into consideration for every program and facility. The Department continually strives to achieve accessibility stands in all of its program services, facility renovations and developments. The ADA Compliance officer for the City of Lafayette is Ms. Kim Meyer. Her office is located at 20 N. Sixth Street, 47901 in City Hall. Additional contact information: phone: 765-807-1060, email: HR@lafayette.in.gov. She can be contacted via phone, email or the City's Action Center. The City's ADA public notice and grievance policy procedures can be found on the city's website or by contacting the ADA Compliance Officer at City Hall whose contact information is provided above.

The City performs regular audits for accessibility within park facilities. There were no major critical findings in the 2014 audit. Since the last master plan, the Department has changed toilet paper roll hanging heights; replaced hand towel dispensers; restriped all parking lots; repaired sidewalks for tripping hazards. An updated audit will be performed in 2019.

As standard practice the Department continues to monitor their facilities for accessibility. Items such as incorporating accessible site furniture like picnic tables, benches, paving pathways and trails, play areas with resilient surfacing are all part of department protocols. Monitoring sidewalks and pathways for repair and clearances are also done on a regular basis.

Staff will continue to perform needed improvements and whenever possible incorporate new activities that allow those who may suffer from some form of disability to be involved. The department also incorporates various activities and options for those who have special needs in their programming at McAllister and throughout the system. Zoo programs allow any caregiver free

entry to assist a special needs visitor. They also partner with the Wabash Center who provides services and assists those with disabilities.

The new Loeb Stadium will provide a modern facility incorporating technology and other enhancements to assist all users. Loeb Stadium is incorporating a multi-use artificial turf field to allow for a wide variety of programming needs for everyone.

Special considerations are incorporated into the programs to allow for everyone to participate. The department desires to be flexible in their programming and allow all skill levels and abilities to participate.

## ❖ Parks and Recreation Budget

The park and recreation budget is primarily funded through property tax revenues and user fees imposed and collected for various programs.

The chart is a summary of general fund and revenue from the 2013/14 - 2017. The department has partnered with local businesses and other agencies to meet the ongoing budget challenges over the last five years. They continue to actively pursue partnerships and grants to fund programs and capital improvement projects.

GENERAL FUND	2013-14	2015	2016	2017
Personnel	\$2,232,505	\$2,304,743	\$2,381,192	\$2,741,825
Supplies	\$404,766	\$321,357	\$373,173	\$365,983
Services	\$810,295	\$771,345	\$785,112	\$703,547
Total	\$3,541,066	\$3,397,445	\$3,539,478	\$3,811,356

REVENUE	2013-14	2015	2016	2017
Aquatics	\$248,910	\$312,903	\$366,009	\$378,585
Rides	\$68,761	\$84,498	\$87,033	\$99,549
Concessions	\$96,410	\$109,739	\$123,916	\$123,880
Rentals	\$51,193	\$90,073	\$94,808	\$89,364
McAllister	\$273,750	\$290,180	\$332,680	\$304,235
Zoo	\$181,044	\$176,409	\$204,985	\$221,104

*Data: Department Annual Reports*



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❖ Section Four:  
Park Trends & Needs Analysis

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## ❖ Trends in Park and Recreation

Citizens are becoming more health conscious as they age, and they are paying more attention to their overall health and fitness.

Current trends throughout the United States continue to focus on activities that can incorporate all members of the family such as growth in fitness walking trails and aquatic facilities, and there is still major emphasis on health and wellness programs. These have been increasing over the last twenty years and continue to do so today. Citizens are becoming more health conscious as they age, and they are paying more attention to their overall health and fitness. This is evidenced by the fact that more people are walking, swimming and exercising today more than ever before. This is also evidenced by the fact that schools, businesses and hospitals are instituting wellness programs for all ages to encourage life-long fitness and to reduce health insurance costs. Walking continues to be the most popular recreation activity enjoyed by approximately 109 million Americans according to the Sports Fitness & Industry Association. Other top activities included running/jogging, swimming, pickleball triathlon (non-traditional/off-road, triathlon (traditional/road) kayak fishing, paddle boarding. Trail-related recreation activities according to the 2017 Outdoor Participation Report indicates a positive three-year trend for trail running, running/jogging/hiking, mountain biking and BMX biking. Running/jogging/hiking being their most popular activity with 55.9 million participants.

In Recreation Management Magazine's 2018 State of the Industry report published in June 2018, their study indicated that over half of the respondents planned additions to their park facilities to accommodate new interests. These additions included:

1. Splash Play areas 31.4%
2. Dog Parks 20.8%
3. Fitness trails and outdoor fitness equipment 20.6%
4. Walking and Hiking Trails 17.8%
5. Synthetic Turf Sports fields 16.9%
6. Playgrounds 16.4%
7. Disc Golf courses
8. Park Shelters 15.3%
9. Park Restroom Structures 13.9%
10. Bike Trails 13.9%

Synthetic turf sports fields and bike trails did not appear in the top 10 planned features last year. They replace Wi-Fi Services and

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fitness centers. Fitness trails and fitness centers have been very popular over the last five years. Walking and trails have been in the top ten for the last ten years.

The most commonly planned program additions by park and recreation respondents in 2018 included:

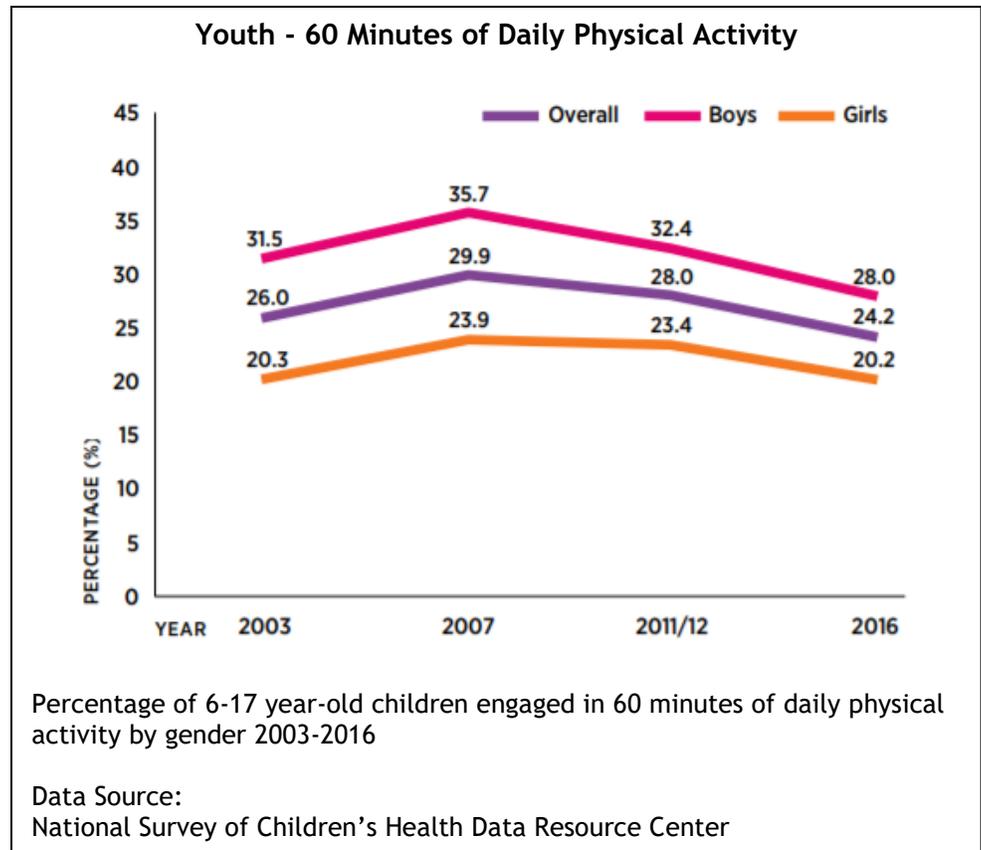
1. Environmental education programs
2. Fitness programs
3. Teen programming
4. Education programs
5. Mind-body balance programs (i.e. yoga)
6. Day camps and summer camps
7. Special needs programs
8. Adult sports teams
9. Individual sports activities like running clubs
10. Sport specific training like tennis or golf.

The current trend of fitness was also confirmed by the Physical Activity Council's (PAC) - 2018 Participation Report which showed a consistent six-year trend of fitness sports participation around 60 percent. Other sport activity groups included

- Outdoor sports 49%
- Individual sports 33%
- Team Sports 22%
- Racquet sports 13%
- Water sports 13%
- Winter sports 7.7%

The PAC report also looked at participation trends by generation in the same sports categories. Fitness was the highest in all groups with the exception of Generation Z who was at 50 percent in fitness. Generation Z (2000+) was over fifty percent in three categories and is very active in team sports 57.1percent, outdoor sports and fitness sports at over 60.2 percent and 50.8 percent in each of those categories. Millennials (1980-1999) are more active in outdoor sports and fitness sports at 57 percent and 66.5 percent respectively. Generation X (1965-1979) is very similar to Millennials in high participation in outdoor and fitness sports 50.6 percent and 65.4 percent respectively. Boomers (1945-1964) rank highest in fitness sports at almost 60 percent.

Physical activity for youth ages 6-12 usually happens by playing in an organized or unorganized team or individual sport. In 2017, survey respondents indicated that fifty percent of children in this age range reported playing at least once a year. Only 37 percent of six to twelve-year old children report planning one sports team on a regular basis. Approximately 54 percent of high school students indicated playing at least one sport team. However, overall the statistics still indicate that most children are not getting one hour of physical activity a day which contributing to their health and wellness issues. In the 2018 US Report Card on Physical Activity for Children and Youth, this trend has gone downward since 2007.



From a regional or state perspective, the Indiana Department of Natural Resources’ Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan 2016-2020 reflected many of the same popular national trends. Top participation activities included walking, hiking or jogging was the most popular with camping, fishing, swimming and paddle sports rounding at the top five. Survey respondents

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also indicated that the participated in the following top five activities weekly: walking/hiking/jogging, bicycling, fishing, gardening and swimming. Walking, hiking, and jogging has bene the top activity in Indiana for over fifteen years and nationally since 1990.

Swimming also continues to be in the top ten activities in recreation. Over 27 million Americans over the age of 6 swam for fitness in 2017. This is up from 17.35 million in 2010. While aging pools are often replaced by aquatic centers that offer more than the traditional pool and diving well. Aquatic trends in the parks and recreation industry include zero-depth pool entry, lazy river, water slides, natural lighting for indoor facilities, splash pads, large water structures, larger pool areas that can allow for water polo, water fitness, and synchronized swimming. Splash pads are also incorporated into the newer aquatic centers but also as an amenity within community and neighborhood parks as an alternative to the larger aquatic center facility or pool. Splash pads is free to park users versus as a part of an aquatic center which has a user fee. In the last ten years, over 65 percent of respondents have added at least one splash pad within their park system.

## ❖ The Effects of Recreation on Wellness

60 percent of the U.S. population is inactive or underactive.

Recreational opportunities and facilities have a profound effect on the health and wellness of a community. Ideally, through careful planning of green space, parks, facilities and programs, a community creates an environment that offers multiple opportunities and choices for healthy lifestyles - opportunities which easily incorporate physical activity into the daily lives of its citizens.

Statistics released by the Surgeon General indicate that 60 percent of the U.S. population is inactive or under active; conditions which have fueled the growing epidemic of obesity, diabetes and related disorders. A growing body of evidence indicates that community design plays in fostering, or inhibiting, an active lifestyle. A few of the elements that have been identified as creating healthy, 'walkable communities' include:

- Safe and accessible sidewalks, crosswalks and bike paths.

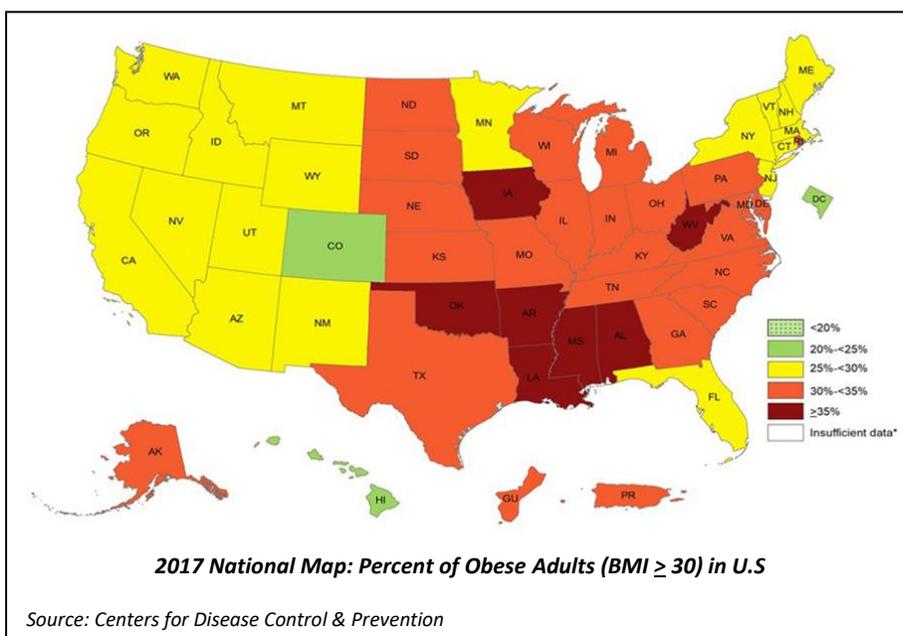
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- Transportation alternatives with pedestrian access to buses and transit systems.
  - Safe, attractive and convenient parks and recreation facilities.
  - Shopping and services that can be accessed without automobiles.

Availability and accessibility of attractive bike paths, walking paths, exercise facilities and the overall aesthetics of an environment play a role in citizen's determining the type and amount of physical activity in which they will engage.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) confirms that inactivity increases with age and is more common among women than men, and among those with lower income and less education than among those with higher income or education. Physical activity also declines dramatically with age during adolescence.

Supporting statistics are as follows:

- 59 percent of American adults are sedentary
- Only 23 percent of adults and 27 percent of youth (grades 9-12) engage in recommended levels of physical activity.
- Children born today have a lower life expectancy than their parents
- Indiana is ranked 38<sup>st</sup> in the nation by United Health Foundation in its 2017 *State Health Rankings* report due to the obesity levels of children and adults.
- 32.5% of Hoosiers are considered obese with a body mass index greater than 30.



## Adult Trends

Millennials are embracing outdoor recreation as they start to age. As mentioned earlier in this section, outdoor sports and fitness participation were up over the last five years. In a recent study by the 2017 North American Camping Report, millennials now account for 38 percent of the 75 million active camper households in the United States. According to the study, key reasons include spending more time with friends and family and being more physically active. The 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the National Park Service was stated as a reason by both millennials and generation Xers to get out and visit state and national parks. Both groups also mention that the advancement of technology allows them to spend more time camping. While overall, campers are split about the ability to have technology or not utilize technology while camping, evidence would support that camping overall has increased by one million new users since 2014. Generation Z (ages 13-18) are very enthusiastic about camping and believe it is a high priority for people their age to spend time outdoors. This year for the first time in the survey hiking was up overall 6 percent higher than fishing as the most popular activity while camping. Kayaking and mountain biking were up 5 percent and were rated in the top five. Another interesting finding within the study noted that when camping, millennials had larger groups of

people. Millennials had an average group size of 10.7, gen Xers 8.5 and baby boomers 7.9. Camping has become a family event whether it is tent camping, RV camping or staying in a cabin. 3 in 10 campers indicate that camping allows them to spend more time vacationing each year.

Baby boomers continue to be physically very active. They are also often involved in helping raise grandchildren which leads to more multi-generational programming opportunities. In 2018, the average age of the boomers is 75.

Boomers continue to look to park departments to provide them with skills to enjoy life-long hobbies and sports and learn new skills. Boomers are engaged in an active lifestyle and look for ways to incorporate their engagement through fitness, and arts and cultural events. The popularity of fitness programming has significantly increased in the last 15 years. The American College of Sports Medicine (ACSM) *Health and Fitness Journal* has conducted annual surveys since 2007. The table below compares the results from their first survey in 2007 to its findings in 2017.

2007 Trends	2017 Trends
1. Children and obesity	1. Wearable technology
2. Fitness programs for older adults	2. Body weight training
3. Educated and experienced fitness professionals	3. High-intensity interval training
4. Functional fitness	4. Educated and experienced fitness professionals
5. Core training	5. Strength training
6. Strength training	6. Group training
7. Personal training	7. Exercise is Medicine
8. Mind/body exercise	8. Yoga
9. Exercise and weight loss	9. Personal training
10. Outcome measurements	10. Exercise and weight loss

Source: American College of Sports Medicine Health and Fitness Journal

## Technology

Ninety-one percent of Americans own a cell phone. Young adults engage in mobile data applications at much higher rates than adults ages 30 and older. Mobile marketing continues to be a growing trend. Social websites and applications such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn, YouTube, Snapchat are popular tools for marketing. These social media applications can be used to receive event updates, report emergencies or facility problems, promotions, discounts, program registration and website links.

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Staff also can utilize mobile technology for maintenance, inventory, security, reporting, administrative needs, tracking of inventory and equipment, etc.

**Resources:**

- American College of Sports Medicine *Health and Fitness Journal*
- Centers for Disease Control - National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, *Overweight and Obesity*
- George Deines, “Aquatic Trends” Parks and Recreation Magazine, December 2016
- Kampgrounds of America, Inc. (KOA) *2017 North American Camping Report*
- National Physical Activity Plan Alliance - *The 2018 United States Report Card on Physical Activity for Children and Youth* - October 2, 2018
- National Survey of Children’s Health Data Resource Center for Child & Adolescent Health
- Outdoor Industry Association, 2018 Outdoor Participation Report
- Physical Activity Council, *2018 Participation Report-The Physical Activity Council’s annual study tracking sports, fitness, and recreation participation in the US*
- Recreation Management Magazine - *2018 State of the Managed Recreation Industry* - June 2018
- United Health Foundation *2017 State Health Rankings*
- United States Department of Health and Human Services - Surgeon General’s Call to Action to Prevent and Decrease Overweight and Obesity

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# Needs Analysis

## Park Classifications and Land Requirements

The Master Plan preparation process includes reviewing recreation guidelines developed by organizations including the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA), the Indiana Department of Natural Resources (IDNR), and the master plans for communities of similar size. In addition, specific characteristics such as local natural resources, economic conditions, land use availability, cultural preferences, and community needs contribute to the formation of a community’s recreation standards.

The recommended guidelines for park classifications and land area requirements are described below and itemized in Table 1. The park classifications conform to one of three general categories: places for active recreation, resource-oriented areas and specialized facilities. Space requirements, typical facilities and programs, and unique environmental features further define the park types.

### State or National Park

A state park serves several communities or a multi-county region within a one-hour driving distance. Approximately 10 acres per 1,000 population is served, and the park is generally 1,000 acres or more. A state park is an area of natural ornamental quality that provides diverse and unique natural resources for nature-oriented outdoor recreation such as nature viewing and study, wildlife habitat conservation, hiking, camping, canoeing, and fishing. Usually 80% of the land is reserved for conservation and natural resource management, with less than 20% of the site developed for active recreation. Active recreation areas consist of play areas and open fields for informal use and can include specialized activities like golf, boating, hiking, lodging, and a conference center. It is common for these types of parks to become specialized in their offerings to the public. Many state parks can be considered a ‘destination park.’

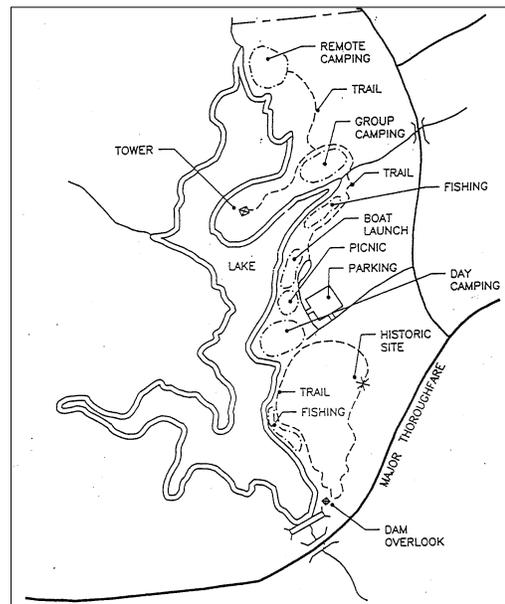


Exhibit A - State Park

*Exhibit A* illustrates a typical state park. Prophetstown State Park located northeast of Lafayette is an example of a regional park that is near the Lafayette planning area.

## Regional Park

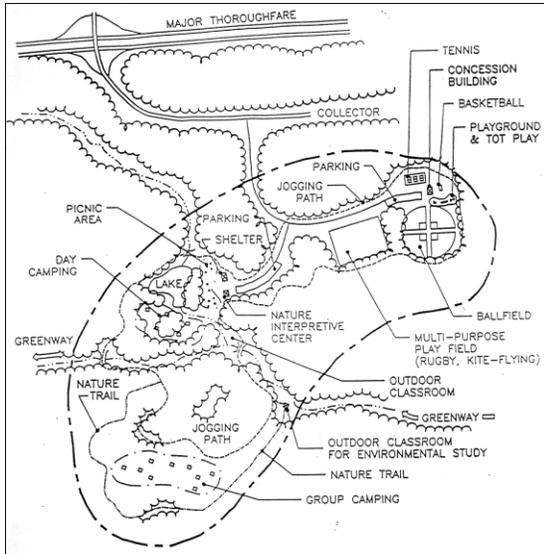


Exhibit B - Regional Park

A regional park provides more diverse recreational opportunities than the regional park, yet on a smaller scale. Similar to a state park, a regional park emphasizes passive recreational opportunities, but it also includes active recreational facilities. A regional park is easily accessible by the population it serves and maintains a 5-mile service radius. The park contains a minimum of 5 acres per 1,000 population and is usually 200-400 acres in size. Regional parks normally include an indoor recreation building, or an interpretive center that reflects the character of the park. Active recreational facilities located in a regional park include active play areas, ball fields, hard surface courts, golfing, swimming, boating, multi-purpose play fields, picnic facilities, and various types of trails. Many regional parks are specialized in their offerings to the public and draw participants from throughout the community. Columbian Park is an example of a regional park.

## Community Park

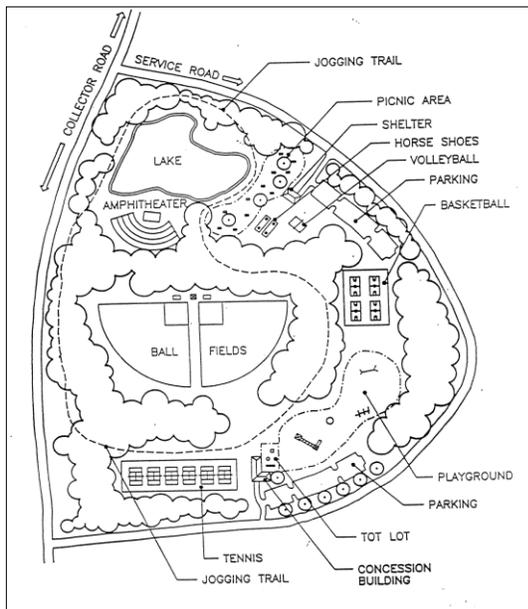


Exhibit C - Community Park

Community parks are easily accessible to a single or several neighborhoods depending on local needs and the population distribution at the time it was developed. When possible, the park may be developed adjacent to a middle or elementary school. A community park provides recreational opportunities for the entire family and contains areas suited for intense recreational purposes such as a recreation center building, athletic fields, swimming, tennis, and walking/jogging trails. The park may also have a recreation center and/or have areas of natural quality for outdoor recreation such as viewing, sitting, and picnicking. Community parks have an average service area of 2 miles and require a minimum of 3 acres per 1,000 population served and should be between 16 and 75 acres (typically 40 acres). The size is variable due to the type of facilities located within the park. *Exhibit C* illustrates a typical community park. Municipalities usually provide community parks. Armstrong and Munger Parks are examples of a community park.

## Neighborhood Park

A neighborhood park is designed to serve a population of up to 5,000, but in many instances may serve more. The park requires 3 acres per 1,000 population served and should be between 5-15 acres; however, many times they are smaller. Neighborhood parks are typically characterized by family oriented recreational activities such as court games, crafts, playground apparatus, picnicking, and space for quiet/passive activities.

The service radius for a neighborhood park is one-half mile and is easily accessible to the neighborhood population through safe walking and bicycle access. Parking may or may not be required. Where feasible, the activity use areas are divided equally between quiet/passive activities and active play areas.

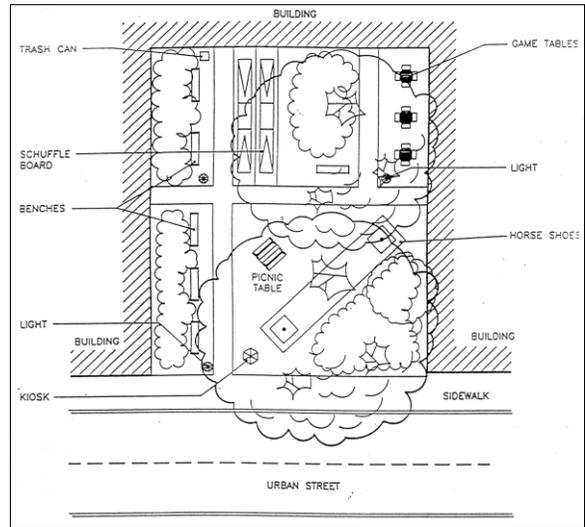


Exhibit D - Neighborhood Park

This type of park may be developed as a school/park or neighborhood center facility. *Exhibit D* illustrates a typical neighborhood park. Municipal governments normally provide neighborhood parks. Centennial, Edgelea, and Kennedy Parks are examples of neighborhood parks within this planning area.

## Greenway/Linear Park

A greenway park is an area developed for one or more varying modes of recreational travel such as hiking and biking. The greenway park will often be developed to connect recreational facilities as well as schools and residential neighborhoods.

The acreage and service area of a greenway park is variable and subject to existing natural and man-made features, the existence of public right-of-way, and the public demand for this type of park. In some cases, a greenway park is developed within a large land area designated for protection and management of the natural environment, with the recreational use as a secondary objective. *Exhibit F* illustrates a typical greenway park. All levels of government provide these parks. The Wabash Heritage Trail is a linear Park.

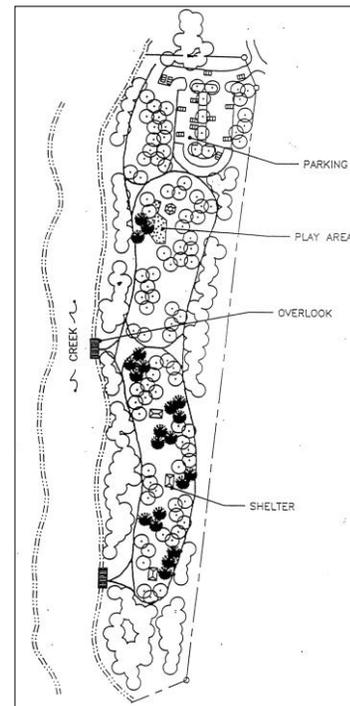


Exhibit F—Greenway/Linear Park

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## Special Sites or Facilities

The unique or special areas are park types that exist to enhance or utilize a special man-made or natural feature. They can include beaches, aquatic facilities, museums, golf facilities, parkways, historical sites, sites of archeological significance, arboretums, conservation easements, flood plains, river access, etc. Minimum standards relating to acreage or population have not been established by the park and recreation industry for this category. A size that is sufficient to protect and interpret the resource, while providing optimum use, is considered desirable. Other specialized facilities require space sufficient to accommodate the program planned for the site. All levels of government provide special use parks. Reihle Plaza and the Big Four Depot Community room are examples of special use sites and facilities.

## Recommendations

Park facilities were labeled per their actual use within the community, not by the actual acreage. As the charts on the following two pages will demonstrate, there are two park categories noticeably short of national averages in park acreage: regional and neighborhood parks as earlier defined in this section. Future park sites also need to be identified due to the anticipated growth within the community. The park system will need to continue to develop partnering opportunities with local developers and the School Corporation to potentially share and develop recreational facilities. The community has a variety of recreational providers. Consequently, the system needs to focus on continuing to provide a high level of service at their existing facilities, while providing new facilities in growing areas of the community. Pedestrian linkages are also an important element to the future success of the park system as it continues to grow over the next five years.

The Crosser Sports Complex was developed to meet an underserved need of softball fields within the community through the last planning process. The department is keenly aware of the growth within the community. Citizens were in agreement that new facilities will be needed and should be developed in the underserved areas on the east and south sides of Lafayette. In addition, as downtown continues to add residential housing, the need for event gathering areas should be included to facilitate small groups, concerts and informal gatherings. The development of Berlovitz Woods property which is currently underutilized will be key in the future.

This issue will only become magnified as the community continues to grow. Consequently, it will be critical for the Department to identify potential future park sites within the current corporate city limits and in the surrounding growing areas. It also is important to note the impact that trails are having within the community which allow the citizens more mobility between public spaces and neighborhoods. The development of future trails and parks is being coordinated with other city departments and through partnerships with West Lafayette, Wabash River Enhancement Corporation and Tippecanoe County. This includes trail and mixed-use development along the riverfront as downtown development continues to expand.

Creative programs and funding will be critical to the future success of the program as the community continues to grow. The parks have become, and will continue to be, the place where the citizens have a sense of community and greater purpose.

The minimum park land requirement (in acres) for the total population of the Lafayette planning area is provided in Table 1. The acreage requirement is based upon the population ratio method (acres of park land per 1,000 population) established for each park classification.

<b>Table 1 National Standards for Park and Land Area Requirements (NSR)</b>				
<b>Park Type Standard</b>	<b>Acres/1000 Population</b>	<b>Acres</b>	<b>Population Served</b>	<b>Service Area</b>
<b>State Park</b> National Recommended	10 10	1000 1000	Several Communities 50,000-100,000	1 hr. drive 50 mi. radius
<b>Regional Park</b> National Recommended	5-10 5	200 76-200	Several Communities 10,000-50,000	15-20 minute drive 5 mi. radius
<b>Community Park</b> National Recommended	5-8 3	25+ 25+	Several Neighborhoods 5,000-15,000	1-2 mile radius 2 mile radius
<b>Neighborhood Park</b> National Recommended	1-2 2	15+ 5-15	5,000 5,000	¼-½ mile ½ mile
<b>Greenway/Linear Park &amp; Special Use</b> National Recommended	Varies Varies	Varies Varies	Varies Varies	Varies Varies

The minimum park land requirement (in acres) for the total population of the Lafayette planning area is provided in Table 2. The acreage requirement is based upon the population ratio method (acres of park land per 1,000 population) established for each park classification as shown in Table 1.

The types of parks that will be needed by the end of the planning period (2023) are based upon the acreage standards provided in Table 2. They include regional parks, community parks, neighborhood parks, linear park/special use, and open space areas.

**TABLE 2**  
**City of Lafayette Planning Area**  
**Total Park Sites and Acreage Requirements**

PARK TYPE	PLANNING AREA		
	Year/Population and National Standard Requirements (NSR)		
	Existing Properties in 2018	Required per NSR 2019 (75,167) <sup>5</sup>	Required per NSR 2023 (81,045) <sup>5</sup>
<b>State Parks<sup>1</sup></b> +1000 acre park (10 Ac/1000)	N/A <sup>1</sup> N/A	N/A <sup>1</sup> N/A	N/A <sup>1</sup> N/A
<b>Regional Parks*</b> 76-400 acre park (5 Ac/1000)	418 acres <sup>2</sup> 2 sites	376 acres <sup>2</sup> 1 site	406 acres <sup>2</sup> N/A
<b>Community Parks</b> +15-75 acre park (3 Ac/1000)	195 acres <sup>3</sup> 11 sites <sup>3</sup>	226 acres 5 sites	243 acres 6 sites
<b>Neighborhood Parks</b> 0.5-15 acre park (2 Ac/1000)	21.7 acres <sup>4</sup> 11 sites <sup>4</sup>	150.7 acres 11 sites	162 Acres 12 Sites
<b>Special Use Parks</b> Not Applicable	NA	NA	NA
<p><sup>1</sup> Prophetstown State Park is near the planning area.</p> <p><sup>2</sup> Regional Park: Columbian, Riverfront which consists of Youth Activity Park, former land from Golf Course, Overlook, Lyboults Sports Complex, McAllister Park, Heritage Trail</p> <p><sup>3</sup> Community Parks: Armstrong, Berlovitz, CAT, Crosser Sports Complex, McAllister Recreation Center, McCaw, Munger, Murdock, Shamrock</p> <p><sup>4</sup> Neighborhood Parks: Arlington, Centennial, North Darby, Hanna, Hedgewood, Kennedy, Linnwood, SIA South Tipp, Sterling Heights, Stockton, Vinton Pool</p> <p><sup>5</sup> Population estimates based on information from US Census Bureau Population Division, 2010 U.S. Census Bureau</p>			

**Standards Resources:**

- Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Indiana Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) 2011-2015
- Mertes, James and Hall, James, Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Guidelines, a publication of the National Park and Recreation Association, 1996

TABLE 3 Lafayette Planning Area Park Facility Guidelines			
PARK AREA	PLANNING AREA		
	(Municipal Owned) Existing Properties in 2019	Suggested base on population 2019 (75,167)	Suggested base on population 2023 (81,045)
Baseball Diamonds* (1/6,613)	3	11.3	12.3
Softball Diamonds* (1/12,000)	5	6.2	6.75
Basketball Courts (1/6,000)	12.5*	12.5	13.5
Tennis Courts (1/4,250)	6	17.6	19.1
Volleyball (1/6000)	4*	12.5	13.5
Soccer Fields (1/5900)	9	12.7	13.7
Pickleball Fields (1/20,000)	12	3.7	4.1
Splash Pad (1/100,000)	1	.75	.81
Recreation Center (1/26,650)	1	2.8	3.1
Dog Park (1/40,000)	1	1.8	2.0
Playgrounds (1/6,500)	12	11.5	12.4

\*Includes gym at McAllister Center

Benchmark data for facilities per population are from National Park Recreation Agency (NRPA) 2018 Agency Performance Review. Pickleball and splash pad benchmark data was based on Trust for the Public Land (TPL) 2017 *City park facts* and *Parkscore*. Playground benchmark data was an average of data from both NRPA and TPL *Parkscore*.

NRPA does not set a benchmark for trails mileage. However, their study noted that most Park Departments average 10 miles of trails.

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This chart does not include school properties or other providers which are available on a limited basis for public use.

These guidelines are a useful place to begin for future planning and should be adjusted as dictated by the needs of the individual community. Some facilities can be designed for multi-purpose uses and should be considered to facilitate the best use of park land and finances. Not all park type facilities are provided by a park department due to the size and individual character of each community.



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## ❖ Section Five: Public Engagement

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## ❖ Public Engagement - Summary

Public engagement is a critical component of the master planning process so that the City can include those programs and facilities that are most desired by residents. The master planning process included numerous opportunities for residents to provide their thoughts and opinions, including focus group meetings, online survey, printed survey and public meetings. Opportunities for input were posted on the park website, city website, social media, local newspaper, advertised in the paper and physically posted at park facilities. The following are the findings from the public engagement process.

### A. Interviews and Stakeholder Group Meetings

Over 69 individuals participated in interviews and nine focus group meetings to discuss parks and recreation needs and priorities including:

- City Departments
- Economic Development
- Tourism
- Housing
- Youth and adult sports league providers and volunteers
- Recreation groups: Cloud Jockeys, Pickleball, Disc Golf, Roller Hockey, Bike Polo, etc.
- Lafayette School Corporation
- Park Board Members
- Park staff
- Park volunteers
- Park program users
- Special Needs groups
- Veterans and senior groups
- Wabash River Enhancement Corporation

The participants did not constitute a representative, random sample of City residents; however, they are very knowledgeable about parks and recreation needs and issues. The following are parks and recreation needs and issues identified in these meetings. Full meeting notes are included in the Appendix.

Concerns and needs mentioned multiple times:

- Activate downtown green spaces including programming and event planning
- Gathering space downtown

- 
- More rental facilities and variety of rental facilities
  - Public awareness of facilities and opportunities
  - Finish Columbian Park: Zoo, Memorial Island, Jenk's Rest, carousel, entrance, lagoon, clean-up and parking
  - Special needs play areas and fields
  - Trails and trail connections including bike lanes
  - Engagement with the Wabash River
  - Natural spaces
  - Staff turnover
  - Winter activities and programming
  - New Loeb Stadium programming - events and activities all year
  - Safety and security in McAllister Park and old golf area
  - Outdoor venues with shade
  - More multi-purpose courts for bike polo, roller hockey, pickleball
  - Dog park
  - Marketing communication strategy
  - Open green space and multi-purpose fields
  - Wi-Fi availability in all parks
  - Maintenance funding for staff and equipment
  - New parks to serve east and south sides of community
  - Individual Park upgrades ie. Lyboulte, McAllister, Murdock etc.
  - Indoor facility for sports and fitness
  - Upgrade infrastructure: playgrounds, tennis and basketball courts

Concerns and needs mentioned once.

- Iconic welcome area off I-65: logo, green space, maybe art sculpture
- Evening festivals
- Recycling opportunities within parks
- Master plans for parks: McAllister, Berlowitz Woods and Brittany Chase Property
- Website linking activities calendar linking to partners and groups
- Ice Hockey rink
- Clear trails in winter time
- Promote programs more
- Tennis courts
- Artificial turf fields
- Charging station outlets
- Programming for at-risk children
- Update and restrooms McCaw, Munger, Shamrock
- Make sure we are servicing entire community and growth needs to happen in underserved areas. Review for future city annexations and impacts on park land needs.

- 
- Open up visibility to riverfront parks
  - Renovate existing facilities and ballfields at Armstrong and McCaw
  - Softball continues to grow.

## B. Public Input Questionnaire

Over a one month period from August 8 through September 9, 2018, 481 individuals responded to a questionnaire that was available online and in printed form at park facilities and events. All respondents utilized the online option for responding to the questionnaire. The questionnaires provide an additional opportunity for public involvement. The questionnaire was promoted through social media, the local newspaper, emailing past park program users, public meetings, city and park events.

Over 48 percent of respondents currently visit a park facility or attend a program/event with over 50 percent being satisfied with facilities and programs. Consistent with the stakeholder input, the respondents felt the higher priorities of trails and trail connections and renovation of existing park facilities were critical in the next five years. Future facility needs and priorities were trails, splash pads and building new facilities which mirrored input from stakeholders and staff.

Below is a summary of the responses from the questionnaires. Individual comments or responses may be found in the Appendix.

### 1. Do you currently visit a park facility or attend a program/event?

*378 answered, 3 skipped*

Daily: 49 (10.3%)

Weekly: 231 (48.3%)

Monthly: 156 (32.6%)

Annually: 42 (8.8%)

### 2. Overall, how satisfied are you with the park facilities and programs?

*378 answered, 3 skipped*

11.3% Very Satisfied

52.7% Satisfied

32.6% Somewhat Satisfied

3.3% Not satisfied

### 3. How should parks and recreation services be supported?

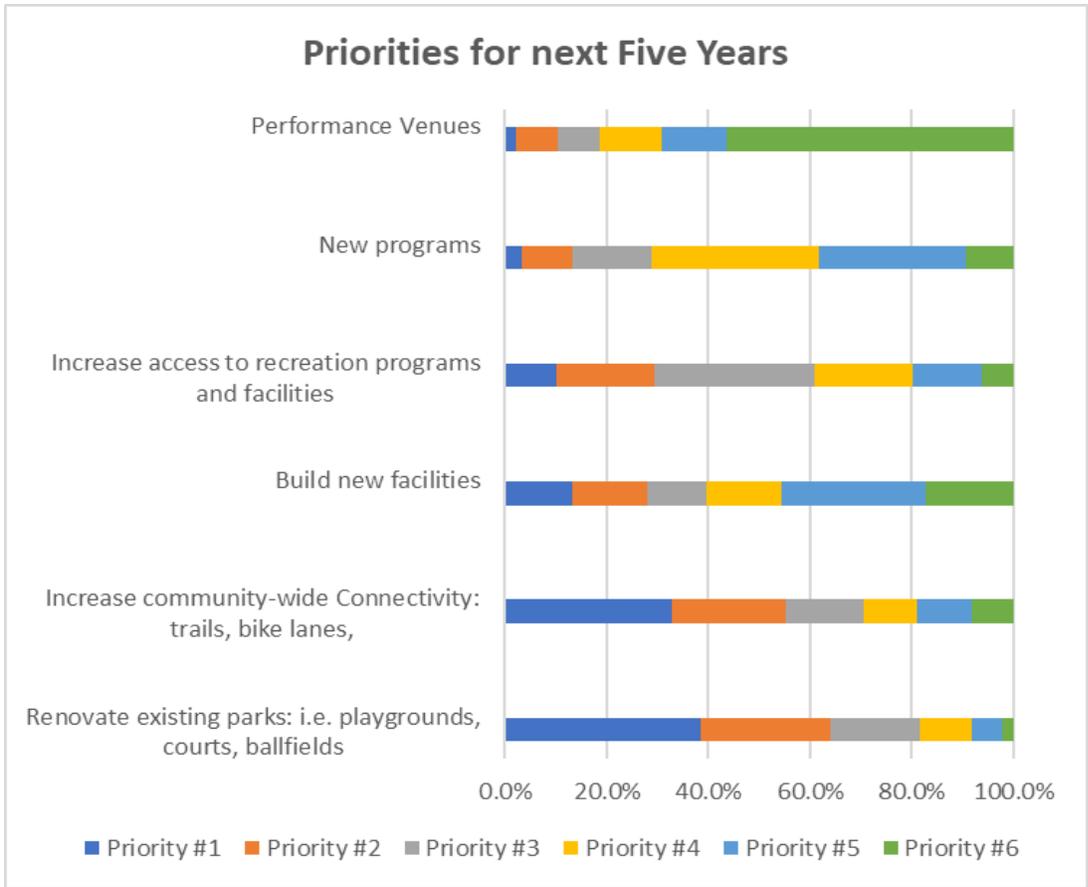
*378 answered, 3 skipped*

1.9 % Self-supporting

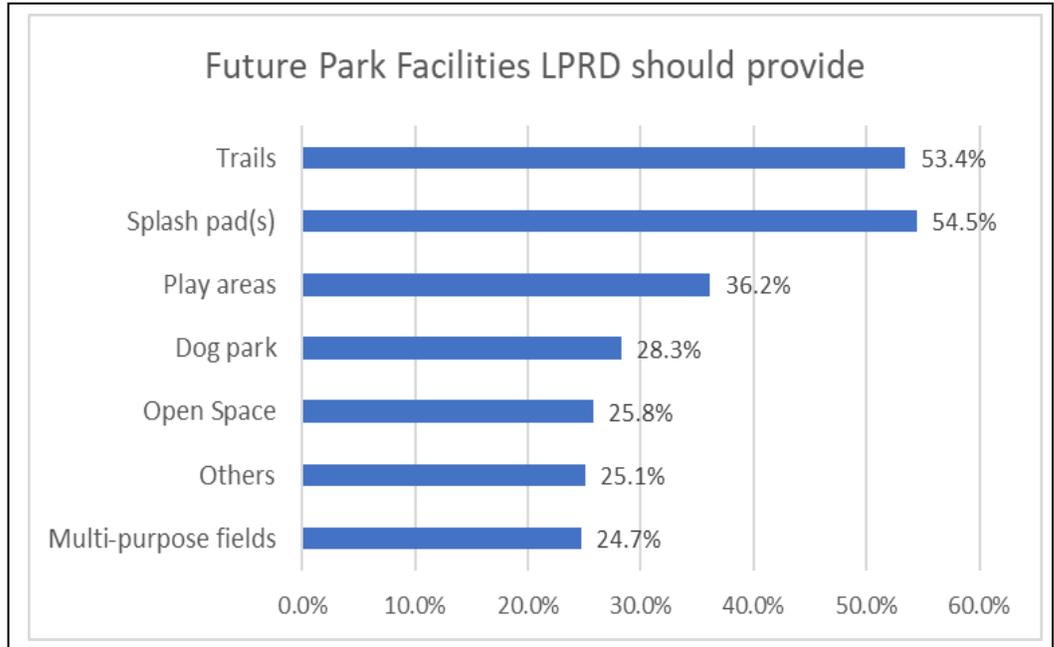
16.5% Supported by taxes

81.7% Combination of self-supported and taxes.

4. What should be the top priority of the parks department for the next five years? Please rank in order of importance with #1 being highest priority. 481 answered, 0 skipped



5. What type of park facilities do you think the department should provide in the future. Check the recreational facilities/services that you think are important to community and to you. *481 answered, 0 skipped*



Other comments mentioned more than once:

- Disc Golf (21)
- Special Needs play area including autism, mobility (6)
- Trails (5)
- Splash pads that are free (3)
- Special Needs equipment (2)
- Bike Polo (2)
- Multi-use courts for roller hockey, bike polo, tennis, pickle ball (2)
- New pools (2)

Comments that were mentioned only once:

- Mountain bike trails
- Plant trees
- Indoor Recreation Space
- Scenic Gather spots
- Wildlife viewing
- Food truck
- Columbian Park update ponds and fountains
- Columbian Park: bring back carousel

- 
- Update McAllister Park
  - Indoor pool with Olympic size pool
  - Better access for family fishing
  - Update park on Wabash (Shamrock Park)
  - Tennis courts
  - Internal park road: allows for those who can't walk to drive through park
  - Better pools
  - Bathrooms with changing tables
  - Water park
  - Indoor park like Whitestown
  - Indoor play space
  - Play areas with rubber surfacing ages 1-3
  - Parents night out
  - Skate Park
  - Bike lanes
  - Wildlife viewing areas
  - Large multi-purpose venue for weddings, community events.
  - Outdoor racquetball courts
  - Easier access for grandparents
  - Ramp to river

6. Where should new parks be located as Lafayette continues to grow?

North	20.3%
South	46.1%
East	18.0%
Downtown	15.5%

7. Please indicate your age group. (480 answered, 1 skipped)

17 and under	1.3%
18-25	8.3%
26-59	77.3%
51-65	10.8%
Over 65	2.3%

8. How many children or teenagers live your household?

None	33.1%	Three	13.1%
One	19.5%	Four or more	8.1%
Two	27.2%		

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9. What ages are your children?

0-5	58.4%
6-12	35.9%
12-17	20.1%
18 or older	8.9%

10. Where is your legal residence?

Lafayette resident	57.3%
West Lafayette resident	15.8%
Purdue Student Living in Lafayette	2.1%
Tippecanoe County	19.2%
Other	6.5%

Counties: Benton, Clinton, Carroll, Fountain, Warren, Montgomery, White

Towns: Delphi, Brookston, Mulberry, Terre Haute, Monticello, Crawfordsville

Visitor playing disc golf

11. Do you have any other suggestions for improving the Lafayette Parks & Recreation Department? These suggestions and comments can be found in the Appendix.

**C. Public Meetings**

Other opportunities for input came at a public open house held on August 18, 2018 and several park board meetings held from May through November 2018.

Six citizens attended the August 18 Open House and provided their input on needs and priorities. Their input was also consistent with other input that had been received.

1. What are the Department's strengths to build on for the future?

- Land
- variety of parks
- Ball parks
- Parks well maintained
- Love Columbian Park - lots for grandkids
- Variety of programs

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## 2. Key challenges facing the department?

- Access to water from picnic areas in Columbian Park
- Connecting bike trails to bike system
- Technology growth
- Safety
- Maintenance
- Keeping up with population growth and increased use of parks

## 3. Overall desired changes for the Department over the next 10 years? i.e. types of programs, facilities you would like to see.

- New community size park on southside
- Partnership with Special Olympics for football, bocce, cornhole, fitness course
- Need accessible paths to some venues
- More walking/biking trails and connections to existing trail system
- More special events/festivals
- Winter activities

## D. Other opportunities for input:

### **Park Board Meetings**

Board meetings provided additional opportunities were held on the following dates were May 14, June 11, June 25, July 9, July 23, August 13, August 27, September 24, October 15, November 19, December 17, January 14, and February 11. Input was very positive. Detailed presentations were provided at September and November park board meetings on findings and on overview of the master plan, recommendations and action plan. There were four members of the general public in attendance for the October meeting, three for the November meeting, four for December, 4 for January and 3 for February.

### **Five Points Redevelopment Master Plan**

The Five Points planning study in 2017 included public input meetings to look at the redevelopment of this area which is adjacent to Columbian Park. Columbian Park is at the southeast edge of this planning area. The plan reviewed development opportunities, land use, transportation access, street trees, parking, bicycle and pedestrian connections/access, open space, identity and branding. Main Street serves as a major gateway to downtown from the east.

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## **Wabash River Enhancement Corporation**

The Wabash River Enhancement Corporation (WREC) has continued to be active in advancing the master plans created in 2010-11. Detailed plans for the rural and urban sections have included public input meetings which also address the parks along the riverfront. WREC continues to pursue grants and development opportunities along the Wabash River.

### **Summary Recommendations from Public Engagement**

Highest needs and priorities based on input priorities are as follows:

- Finish Columbian Park
- New Loeb Stadium programming and events planning
- Trails and trail connections
- Maintain to the highest standard existing facilities
- Add splash pads
- Upgrade playgrounds and courts system wide
- Renovate existing facilities
- Special needs playground and ballfield



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❖ Section Six:  
Priority Action Plan & Funding

## ❖ Community Needs and Issues

After reviewing all the public input, issues, existing park facilities and needs as stated by the community, city staff, Park Board and park staff, there was a consistent theme of upgrading facilities to replace aging infrastructure and provide new features and providing new facilities and programming.

<b><i>Needs Assessment Summary</i></b>	Online/ Printed Survey	Interview and Stakeholder Meetings	Level of Service Analysis	Trends
Walking and bike trails: Increased connectivity	●	●	●	●
Playgrounds	●	●	●	●
Winter activities	●	●		
Splash Pads	●	●		●
Special needs playground and field	●	●	●	
Tennis Courts	●			
Basketball courts	●	●		
Pickleball courts	●	●		●
Nature areas	●			●
Youth Programming	●	●	●	
Gathering spaces	●	●		●
Softball fields	●	●		
Swimming	●	●		●
Accessibility	●			●
Fitness Programming		●		●
Disc Golf	●	●		
Events/Festivals	●	●		
Dog parks	●			

After careful analysis of the issues identified by the Park Board, staff and general public, major needs were categorized into the following list:

- Loeb Stadium: Completion of construction
- Finish Columbian Park: Zoo, Carousel, Primate and Cats Exhibits, Memorial Island, pedestrian and vehicular circulation

- 
- Tropicanoe Cove: new features and upgrades
  - Upgrade playgrounds system wide
  - Upgrade tennis and basketball courts system wide
  - Land acquisition for future parks on east and south sides
  - Special needs playground and playfield
  - Trails and trail connections
  - Renovations and upgrades to Armstrong and McCaw Parks
  - On-going maintenance
  - Riverfront development

It should be noted that although some specific items listed in the chart on page 6.1 are not exclusively listed in the above list that does not imply that they are not a part of the overall future project development. For example: The Wabash River Riverfront development includes future walking trails, pedestrian bridge across the river, disc golf, wetlands, model plane airspace, boardwalk, and gathering areas etc. as a part of the larger project.

Overall, the Department continues to strive to meet the needs of the citizens through working with other city departments, economic development groups and is creating partnerships to leverage city budget dollars to improve and enhance the facilities and programs for the citizens of Lafayette. The City remains committed to the development of great parks and recreation spaces and programming that provide

The staff and the Park Board are committed to finding ways to provide funding for the variety of needs that have been listed by the public and staff. The Department will continue to focus on maintaining all facilities at a high level and increasing programming opportunities for all citizens.

The action and priority list on the following page demonstrates a road map for the next five years. The action plan is meant to be flexible in order to maximize the Board's ability to take advantage of future funding and partnering opportunities as they become available.

## ❖ Action and Priority Plan 2019-2023

YEAR	SITE	DESCRIPTION	COST	SOURCE
2019	Columbian	Loeb Stadium maintenance staff	TBD	Admin
	System wide	Playground Replacements	TBD	General/Donor
	Columbian	Memorial Island	\$5,100,000	Bond
	Columbian	Zoo: Carousel, Primates & Cats Exhibits	\$5,500,000	Bond
	Columbian	Pedestrian and vehicular circulation	TBD	TBD
	Columbian	Loeb Stadium	\$16,000,000	TIF
	Columbian	Zoo: Penguin Exhibit	\$1,800,000	Donor/Bond
	Columbian	Zoo: Commissary Building	\$40,000	Donor
	Columbian	Tropicanoe Cove: Mat Racer Slide/Aqua Loop	\$3,819,000	TIF/Bond
	Crosser	Completion of sports complex	\$2,400,000	Donor/General
2020	Columbian	Loeb Stadium construction completion	\$16,000,000	TIF
	Columbian	Memorial Island	\$5,100,000	Bond
	Columbian	Zoo: Carousel, Primates & Cats Exhibits	\$5,500,000	Bond
	Columbian	Pedestrian and vehicular circulation	TBD	TBD
	McAllister Rec. Ctr.	Recreation Center playground replacement	\$350,000	Donor/Grant
	Armstrong	Facility upgrades and playground upgrade	\$350,000	TBD
2021	Berlowtiz Woods	Site master plan	\$25,000	General
	Loeb Stadium	Event coordinator	\$50,000	General
	Murdock	Accessible playground and ballfields	\$750,000	TBD
2022	McAllister	Site Master Plan	\$30,000	General
2023	Administrative	5 Year Comprehensive Master Plan	TBD	General

Admin - Administrative  
TBD– To Be Determined  
TIF – Tax Increment Fund District

Note: Trail development is being coordinated with Engineering Department and other City departments and is reflected in those budgets.

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## ❖ Grant Funding Opportunities

A variety of funding opportunities are available through grants and not-for-profit organizations to assist in the development and planning of programs and facilities. This list is a starting point for potential grants and partnerships for the department's consideration.

### **Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT)**

- The Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Act (MAP-21) replaced the Transportation Enhancement 21 (TE-21) It is a federal grant administered by INDOT. Transportation systems: i.e. trails, sidewalks and street improvements are typical projects. Funds 80 percent of construction cost with 20 percent match by applicant.
- Safe Routes to School Fund (SRTS) is a federal grant administered by INDOT. Non-infrastructure activities will be limited to a cost of \$75,000. Infrastructure projects will be limited to a cost of \$250,000. SRTS activities and projects must be programmed in the statewide transportation improvement program to receive federal funds. School must be within two-mile radius of construction improvements project.

### **Indiana Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) -Fish & Wildlife**

- Lake and River Enhancement: This program provides technical and financial assistance for qualify projects. The goal of this program is to protect and enhance aquatic habit for fish and wildlife, to insure the continued viability of Indiana's publicly accessible lakes and streams for multiple uses, including recreation opportunities. This is accomplished through measures that reduce non-point sediment and nutrient pollution of surface waters to a level that meets or surpasses state water quality standards.

### **IDNR - Forestry**

- Arbor Day Grant: \$500 - \$1000 grant. Any activity that assists in promoting Arbor Day.
- Urban Forestry Grants: \$2000 - \$20,000, Community projects target program development, planning and education.

### **IDNR Historic Preservation & Archaeology**

- Historic Preservation Fund Program: Federal grant that U.S. Congress appropriates approximately \$37 million to the Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) The HPF provides matching grants to encourage private and non-federal investment in historic preservation efforts nationwide, and assists State and local governments, and Indian tribes with expanding and accelerating their historic preservation activities nationwide. Grant serves as seed money for preserving and protecting our nations' irreplaceable heritage. Funds are distributed through the National Park Service to State Historic Preservation Programs.

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### **IDNR Outdoor Recreation**

- Recreation Trails Program: funded as a part of MAP-21. Provides funds for motorized and non-motorized trails and trails related projects. Program provides 80/20 percent reimbursement/match assistance for eligible projects (\$10,000 to \$100,000 maximum available).
- Land and Water Conservation Fund is matching a 50 percent reimbursing federal assistance program. Program provides a minimum of \$10,000 to \$200,000 maximum available for one project per year. Maximum amount may be increased dependent on current budget at Federal level.

### **Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) Division of Nutrition and Physical Activity (DNPA)**

- The DNPA provides matching funds to communities to assist in the preparation of community-wide Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plans to facilitate more active living in Indiana. The maximum award is \$20,000 for each community. A dollar-for-dollar local match is required from a municipality or eligible applicant. DNPA uses grant funds awarded to the ISDH from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) *State Public Health Actions to Prevent and Control Heart Disease, Obesity and Associated Risk Factors and Promote School Health* program. <https://www.in.gov/isdh/25141.htm>

### **Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs (OCRA)**

- Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) Federal grant administered by OCRA. Provides annual grants on a formula basis to local government and states for wide ranging planning initiatives. CDBG funds are intended for activities that benefit low and moderate-income persons, prevent or eliminated slums or blight, and address urgent community development needs. <https://www.in.gov/ocra/cdbg.htm>

### **President Benjamin Harrison Conservation Trust Fund (PBGCTF) - formerly known as Indiana Heritage Fund**

- The fund was created to fund the purchase of natural areas for public use. It is funded by the sale of environmental license plates and donations. The money is used for land acquisition. A project committee reviews the proposed projects submitted to the PBGCTF committee which makes recommendations to the Governor. A portion of the funds are available to the Division of Outdoor Recreation for the purchase of land that meets established criteria. Projects may include greenways and land for trails.

### **Other municipal funding sources:**

- Cumulative Capital Improvement Funds
- Impact Fees
- Non-reverting account funds
- Lease purchase

- 
- General Obligation Bond
  - Gifts
  - Donations (land, cash, labor, materials and equipment)

**Resources utilized for this report:**

Bureau of Economic Analysis, Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Census Bureau

Indiana Department of Workforce Development

Indiana University Business Research Center

National Parks and Recreation Association *2018 NRPA Agency Performance Review*

Trust for the Public *Parkscore 2018 and 2017 City park facts*

U.S. Census 2000, 2010

U.S. Centers for Disease Control & Prevention

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U.S. Census 2000, 2010

U.S. Centers for Disease Control & Prevention



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## ❖ Section Seven: Appendix

Additional References listed in order:  
(# of pages)

- United Health Foundation: 2017 American Health Rankings Annual Report – Indiana (1)
- Stakeholder Meeting Notes (12)
- Questionnaire Question 5: Other responses (5)
- Questionnaire Question 11: Comments (12)
- Wabash River Enhancement Corporation:
  - Wabash River Central Reach Site Plan (2)
  - Wabash River North Reach Site Plan (2)

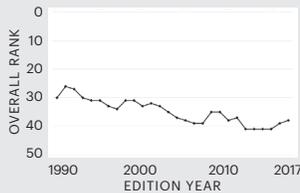
# Indiana

INDIANA

**OVERALL RANK:**  
**38**



Change: ▲ 1  
Determinants Rank: **37**  
Outcomes Rank: **41**



**Strengths:**

- Low percentage of children in poverty
- Low incidence of *Salmonella*
- High meningococcal immunization among adolescents

**Challenges:**

- High prevalence of smoking
- Lower number of dentists
- High levels of air pollution

**Highlights:**

- In the past year, drug deaths increased 7% from 16.7 to 17.9 deaths per 100,000 population, a 108% increase since 2007
- In the past two years, children in poverty decreased 40% from 23.3% to 13.9% of children
- In the past two years, excessive drinking increased 18% from 15.8% to 18.6% of adults
- In the past eight years, air pollution decreased 27% from 13.2 to 9.7 micrograms of fine particles per cubic meter
- In the past year, premature death increased 3% from 8,208 to 8,471 years lost before age 75 per 100,000 population

**Ranking:**

Indiana is 38th this year; it was 39th in 2016. The state ranks 39th for senior health and 36th for the health of women and children.

**State Health Department Website:**  
[www.in.gov/isdh](http://www.in.gov/isdh)

	Rating	2017 Value	2017 Rank	No. 1 State
<b>Behaviors</b>				
Drug Deaths (deaths per 100,000 population)	++	17.9	34	5.7
Excessive Drinking (% of adults)	+++	18.6	28	11.8
High School Graduation (% of students)	++++	87.1	15	90.8
Obesity (% of adults)	++	32.5	40	22.3
Physical Inactivity (% of adults)	++	26.8	38	15.7
Smoking (% of adults)	+	21.1	41	8.8
<b>Behaviors Total*</b>	++	-0.106	40	0.295

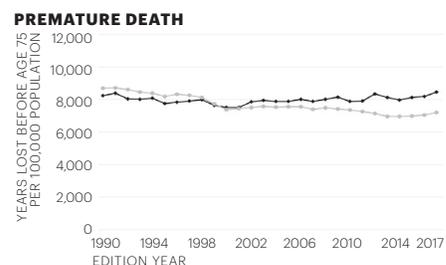
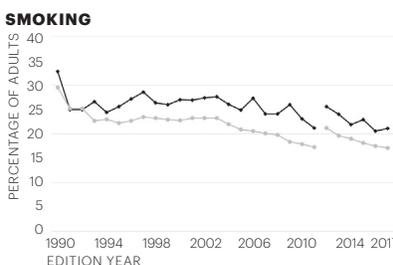
	Rating	2017 Value	2017 Rank	No. 1 State	
<b>Community &amp; Environment</b>					
Air Pollution (micrograms of fine particles per cubic meter)	+	9.7	46	3.8	
Children in Poverty (% of children)	++++	13.9	13	7.6	
Infectious Disease (mean z score of chlamydia, pertussis and <i>Salmonella</i> )*	+++++	-0.653	6	-1.107	
Infectious Disease—	Chlamydia (cases per 100,000 population)	+++	437.9	24	233.3
	Pertussis (cases per 100,000 population)	++++	3.4	16	0.4
	<i>Salmonella</i> (cases per 100,000 population)	+++++	10.1	4	9.3
Occupational Fatalities (deaths per 100,000 workers)	++	5.1	33	2.0	
Violent Crime (offenses per 100,000 population)	++	405	31	124	
<b>Community &amp; Environment Total*</b>	+++	0.025	27	0.324	

	Rating	2017 Value	2017 Rank	No. 1 State	
<b>Policy</b>					
Immunizations—Adolescents (mean z score of HPV, meningococcal and Tdap)*	+++	-0.028	22	1.717	
Immunizations—Adolescents—	HPV Females (% of females aged 13 to 17 years)	++	43.5	37	73.0
	HPV Males (% of males aged 13 to 17 years)	+	24.7	46	68.7
	Meningococcal (% of adolescents aged 13 to 17 years)	++++	88.0	13	96.4
	Tdap (% of adolescents aged 13 to 17 years)	+++	89.5	22	96.7
Immunizations—Children (% of children aged 19 to 35 months)	++	68.8	34	85.3	
Public Health Funding (dollars per person)	+	\$49	49	\$296	
Uninsured (% of population)	+++	8.9	28	2.7	
<b>Policy Total*</b>	++	-0.026	32	0.185	

	Rating	2017 Value	2017 Rank	No. 1 State
<b>Clinical Care</b>				
Dentists (number per 100,000 population)	+	46.8	45	80.7
Low Birthweight (% of live births)	+++	8.0	25	5.8
Mental Health Providers (number per 100,000 population)	+	144.2	42	547.3
Preventable Hospitalizations (discharges per 1,000 Medicare enrollees)	+	56.8	41	23.3
Primary Care Physicians (number per 100,000 population)	++	123.4	39	256.3
<b>Clinical Care Total*</b>	+	-0.101	41	0.180
<b>All Determinants*</b>	++	-0.207	37	0.778

	Rating	2017 Value	2017 Rank	No. 1 State
<b>Outcomes</b>				
Cancer Deaths (deaths per 100,000 population)	+	210.5	42	150.5
Cardiovascular Deaths (deaths per 100,000 population)	++	277.5	37	189.7
Diabetes (% of adults)	++	11.5	37	6.6
Disparity in Health Status (% difference by high school education)	++++	25.5	16	8.1
Frequent Mental Distress (% of adults)	++	13.2	38	8.3
Frequent Physical Distress (% of adults)	++	12.6	32	8.9
Infant Mortality (deaths per 1,000 live births)	+	7.2	42	4.2
Premature Death (years lost before age 75 per 100,000 population)	++	8,471	38	5,555
<b>All Outcomes*</b>	+	-0.150	41	0.254
<b>OVERALL*</b>	++	-0.357	38	0.916

\* Value indicates z score. Negative scores are below U.S. value; positive scores are above U.S. value. For complete definitions of measures including data sources and years, see Table 7.



State —◆— Nation —●— The 2012–2017 data in the smoking graph is not directly comparable with prior years.

## Summary

1. What are Strengths to build on for the future?
  - Quality of staff
  - Parks are visually and aesthetically pleasing
  - Providing a variety of community events
  - Variety of amenities within parks
  - Number of park locations
  - ADA accessible facilities
  - Great partner
  - Work well with other city departments
  - Maintenance is very responsive to issues within parks
  - Zoo and Columbian Park are unique facilities
  - Staff responsive and aware to assist and support community in daily activities and events
  - Development and training opportunities for staff
  - In-house maintenance staff that can install play equipment, concrete, etc.
  
2. What are your concerns and/or challenges?
  - Staff is great. In order to grow, we need more staff, funding and time. Concerned about staff burnout
  - Public awareness of facilities and opportunities
  - Transit for people to reach parks
  - Adding new facilities and making sure there are enough staff and funds to operate, maintain, and program them
  - Parking at Columbian Park
  - Signage to direct Columbian Park users to parking during events
  - Physical facility updates
  - Funding to grow programming and facilities; hire staff
  
3. What are the Opportunities for the Department for the future?
  - As city grows, new parks needed on east and south side
  - More senior programming
  - Young adults and high school programming
  - Public awareness of Programs/facilities
  - Need marketing and public relations budget to facilitate more public awareness
  - Development of Riverfront
  - Baseball stadium as event facility – new events, programs,
  - More facility room for camps and programming
  - New bucket truck
  - New maintenance vehicles Finish Zoo! – Primates, Commissary, Aviary, Big Cat exhibit, Vet area. Primate area big priority

**Staff Input Meeting - April 5, 2018**

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3. Opportunities for the Department for the future (*continued*)
  - Bring back a carousel to Columbian Park
  - Clean up lagoon: odor free, it becomes a true asset to park
  - Indoor pool
  - Indoor fieldhouse/track/multi-purpose use
  - Winter activities
  - Revenue generating banquet facility
  - Mountain bike trails
  - Create new 4<sup>th</sup> of July festival event

## Summary

1. What are Strengths to build on for the future?
  - Amazing landscaping
  - Great grounds keeping, well-maintained
  - Diversity of facility locations
  - Diversity of types of parks from zoo to small parks, old golf course variety of age groups use
  - Columbia Park and especially the Zoo
  - Variety of Programming
  - Aviators baseball team
  - Loeb Stadium
  - Trails
  
2. What are your concerns and/or challenges?
  - Public awareness of facilities and opportunities
  - Be active in downtown planning of events
  - Need more rental facilities and/or variety of rental options
  
3. What are the Opportunities for the Department for the future?
  - New dog park, area that doesn't flood more locations
  - Amateur athletics for tourism and revenue
  - Skate park
  - Lagoon paddle boats
  - Winter activities; ice hockey, skating snowboarding
  - Indoor carousel
  - Rosemont – central area/gathering downtown green space like Rapid City, South Dakota
  - Festival area downtown
  - Engage with river ferry boat rides
  - Future Trails - Old SR26/ south St.
  - Iconic welcome area off I-65 tourism, logo sculpture green space.
  - Natural area park east and south like wild cat reek county park
  - Green Space @ 5 Points
  - Maintain what we have at the highest level
  - Recycling opportunities at parks
  - Evening festivals city does well but park isn't a player...they should be
  - Custodial challenges – hire is difficult.
  - Volunteer group adopt a park to assist
  - Validation of nostalgic and history lie Monkey Island
  - Does new Y have rental rooms?
  - Activate downtown green spaces with programming to bring it alive
  - Trails: Future rest areas, restrooms water fountains and mile markers

## Summary

### Mayor's Comments:

- ❖ City focus and vision to adding 25,000 people in community by 2026. Make sure we have a great to community to live, work and play. Quality of life and economic development are key to this goal.
  
- ❖ Overall Parks' Focus:
  - New Loeb Stadium: Aviators new ownership including 2 new local partners; multi-use facility with programming director and need for promotions and marketing as new stadium comes on line in 2020. Artificial turf in Loeb Stadium will be an asset for a variety of uses in Loeb.
  - New \$2.4 million water slide at Tropicanoe Cove
  - Finish Columbian Park! Including the Zoo, Lagoon, Memorial Island, Carousel, pedestrian and general beautification. Show off Columbian Park as the destination park to visit in the Midwest.
  - Regional Parks: (no specific order)
    - i. Facility upgrades within the parks such as Armstrong
    - ii. New playgrounds throughout park system
    - iii. Trails and bike lanes
    - iv. Develop and plan for new park facilities to the growing areas south and east of the city. McCarty Lane road extension will facilitate development near Berlowtiz Woods property lends itself to a natural and passive park. Brittany Chase property also needs to be master planned.
  - Downtown programming and activating spaces. New residential and companies downtown will bring more people into the core areas.
  - Parks are looking great and are well maintained. Get compliments daily on how parks are looking.
  
- ❖ City staff Team is working well.
- ❖ Five Points Gateway
- ❖ The leadership in West Lafayette, Lafayette, Tippecanoe County, Purdue have developed great partnerships which are moving everyone together in mutual beneficial way.

## Summary

1. What are Strengths to build on for the future?
  - Great communication with staff
  - Fantastic maintenance group
  - Wonderful partner overall
  - Responsive to needs and concerns. Assist in keeping up with fields for tournaments. Crosser Complex will be amazing – very grateful.
  - Flexible
  - Staff: willingness to listen and pleasant to deal with
  
2. What are your concerns and/or challenges?
  - Status of Murdock softball field in future. Would hate to lose a field for practice
  - Murdock: Erosion issues; disc golf needs signage and concrete tee pads.
  - Future needs for disc golf – course out of flood zone. Two 18 holes courses outside of flooding area would allow for 2-3 days tournaments and bring in people..ie tourism, hotel stays etc.
  - Softball growing has 30 teams on 3 fields
  
3. What are the Opportunities for the Department for the future?
  - Future needs for disc golf – course out of flood zone. Two 18 holes courses outside of flooding area would allow for 2-3 days tournaments and bring in people..ie tourism, hotel stays etc.
  - More practice fields
  - Indoor facility: Indoor batting cages; practice areas and rental rooms
  - Ability to host large tournaments
  - Lybolt: Kids friendly playground;
  - Future of Lybolt as Riverfront North plans go forward?
  - Open up visibility to Riverfront parks

## **Summary**

1. What are Strengths to build on for the future?
  - Great communication and partner
  - Columbian Park 'one of a kind' – Zoo, Loeb Stadium
  
2. What are your concerns and/or challenges?
  - Memorial Plaza and Island: Critical to repair bridge to Jenks' Rest, ADA access to stage, railings, ramps; shade structures over seating,
  - Lagoon clean-up
  
3. What are the Opportunities for the Department for the future?
  - Fix Lagoon: dredge, sea walls, add paddle boats or row boats
  - Accessibility to stage – looking at adding mini-elevator type lift
  - Downtown events and festivals: art show, Taste of Tippecanoe
  - Access to Wabash River: ferry boat

## Summary

1. What are Strengths to build on for the future?
  - Team building
  - McAllister and program variety
  - Columbia Zoo
  - Neighborhood parks
  - Community Parks
  - Great parks in general
  - Sports
  
2. What are your concerns and/or challenges?
  - Staff turnover – a problem everywhere not just parks. Work ethic today of younger people is lacking. Societal issue
  - Parking issues in Columbia Park
  - Pedestrian Circulation in Columbia Park
  
3. What are the Opportunities for the Department for the future?
  - Make sure we are servicing entire community and growth may need to happen in underserved areas not just to the new developing areas of the City.
  - Sports and summer camps
  - Development of new facilities to the south first
  - Special needs playground and fields
  - Cleanup the lagoon, bring back paddle boats.
  - Carousel
  - Winter activities
  - Develop programming for January through March. Seems like we should offer more during this time frame due to winter months.
  - Ice skating
  - New Loeb Stadium and multi-purpose events and full-time programming position and full-time public relations/marketing position just for Loeb. Need a game plan to begin this year.

## Summary

1. What are Strengths to build on for the future?
  - Great partner: engaged and willing to provide input, ideas and action
  - Open to new ideas
  - Encourage growth in programming
  - Good listener
  - Acts on ideas
  - Great maintenance
  - Great personnel
  - Variety of parks
  - Lots of parks: neighborhood parks are hidden gems
  
2. What are your concerns and/or challenges?
  - Roller hockey area prone to flooding
  - Can't keep up with maintenance without volunteers, maintain what you have don't keep trying to grow and create more issues.
  - Accessible playgrounds and facilities
  - No visibility in McAllister, concerns about safety and security on trails, disc golf,
  - Cloud Jockeys -Road in terrible shape in McAllister
  - Website should list activities calendar with links to partners and groups.
  
3. What are the Opportunities for the Department for the future?
  - Can't grow unless you add staff and more budget for maintenance
  - Equipment needs
  - Winter activities
  - Visibility to facilities for security
  - Winter activities, ice hockey rink skating,
  - Promotion of park programs and partners, marketing
  - Pick a specific Park and invite groups that run activities in park to set up table and share their activities
  - Awareness of public to activities going on in respective parks
  - More pickle ball
  - More bike polo rinks which allows for tournaments 120' x 60' with 4' high boards at perimeter
  - Create youth groups to introduce kids to different recreation activities like bike polo. Bike polo camp
  - Clear trails in winter time or prioritize specific trails that will always be cleared.
  - Special needs play areas
  - Update playgrounds
  - Provide outdoor venues with shade structures

- See Veterans Community Park in Naples Florida.  
(<https://www.colliercountyfl.gov/your-government/divisions-f-r/parks-and-recreation/parks/veterans-community-park>)
- Unique opportunities to promote bike polo, disc golf, roller hockey, etc.

## Summary

1. What are Strengths to build on for the future?
  - Involving community
  - Quick response to questions and concerns
  - Great communication
  - Fantastic partner
  - Help groups: 2-way encouragement, sharing of ideas/input/action
  - Facilitate opportunities growth and build each other up
  - Cross-interaction
  - Helper supporter
  - Clean facilities
  - Well maintained.
  
2. What are your concerns and/or challenges?
  - Dog park
  - Practice fields
  - Open green areas and multipurpose fields
  - Artificial turf that can be played on 9 months of year
  - Aviators place to play during construction.
  
3. What are the Opportunities for the Department for the future?
  - Recreation fields – tournaments – multiple sports soccer, baseball flag football, drainage
  - Artificial turf fields
  - Shade structures benches
  - Wi-fi in parks
  - Charging stations outlets
  - At risk kids
  - Unfired sports: special needs with kids track and basketball
  - Program facilitation training/volunteers Jr. high
  - Workout facility
  - Tennis courts
  - Baseball games during Loeb stadium construction

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Note: Soccer participants Ages 5-18: spring league 2500, Fall League 2300

## Summary

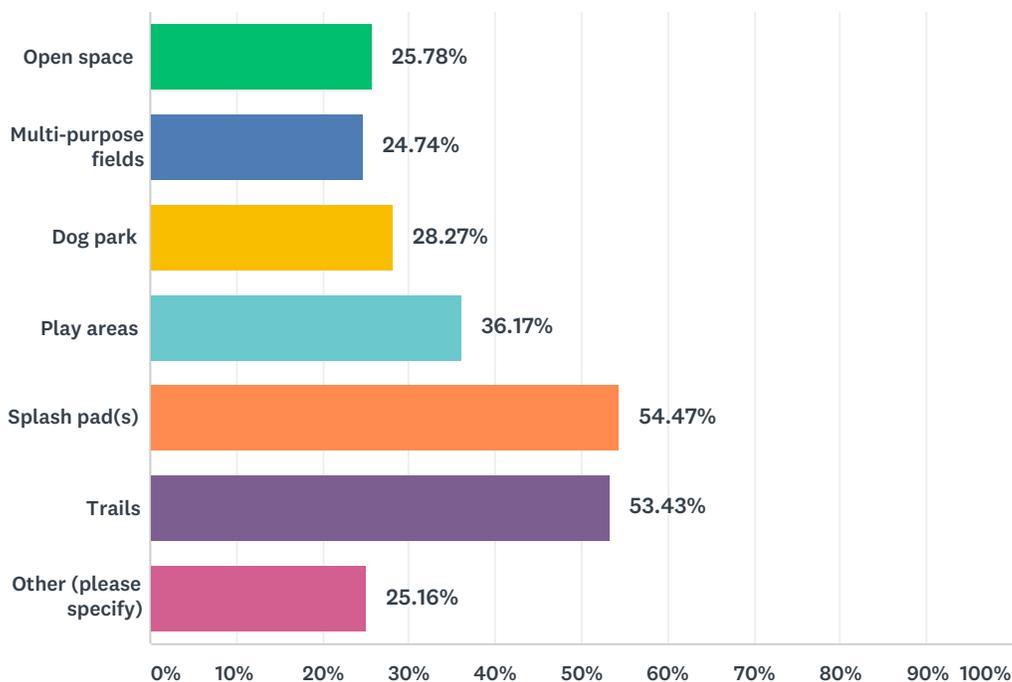
1. What are Strengths to build on for the future?
  - Columbia Zoo
  - Neighborhood parks are hidden gems
  - Variety of parks
  - Great parks in general; well maintained.
  - Zoo
  
2. What are your concerns and/or challenges?
  - Clear trails in winter time. Need the correct equipment
  - Concerned about trail down by pond in Munger park flooding which makes it slick in winter time.
  - As we think about future is our mission to serve all of Tippecanoe County or citizens of Lafayette?
  - Future park board members? How do we start to prepare and find future leaders since 3 out of 4 members plan to retire within next 3-4 years.
  - Maintenance funding for staff and equipment.
  
3. What are the Opportunities for the Department for the future?
  - Carousel as soon as possible for Columbia Park
  - Loeb Stadium programming for multi-use: critical!
  - Munger: one restroom should be open all winter.
  - McCaw: Add new restroom by play area and pickleball courts
  - Could area behind Murdock School be utilized to its' fullest extent?
  - Wi-Fi available in all parks
  - Finish Zoo
  - Make sure we are servicing entire community and growth may need to happen in underserved areas not just to the new developing areas of the City.
  - What does planning department say about future city annexation and how does that impact new park development out east and south. Thinks we should go east before we develop south.

## Summary

1. What are Strengths to build on for the future?
  - Patron satisfaction
  - Shared Vision
  - Increase in aesthetics of Parks
  - Variety of programs & activities in all age groups
  - Quality of programs
  - Ability to analyze and identify new opportunities and “fill those gaps” by adding new programs
  - Proactive in long-term care of facilities and equipment.
  - Improved and increased educational opportunities for staff. Both technical and leadership staff
  - Parks are drawing visitors from 90-mile radius: destination, cost-effective for family: Tropicanoe Cove (Zoo free). Shelters are full.
  
2. What are your concerns and/or challenges?
  - Department wide more leadership and profession training
  - Budgets
  - Community input on programming beyond being re-active to a program
  - Marketing full time
  - Social media: consistent
  - Overall marketing strategy
  - Communication with Engineering Department on new trails
  - Volunteer groups – need to create a list of opportunities to serve and volunteer. And a different list on how to engage those volunteers
  - Organization chart: are positions functioning the way that is really needed?
  - How to benchmark and compare with other communities that are experiencing significant population growth
  - Recruiting younger staff for part-time and seasonal positions.
  
3. What are the Opportunities for the Department for the future?
  - Finish Columbian Park: Zoo exhibits, Lagoon, Entrance into Columbian Park, Memorial Island, Jenks Rest, Carousel
  - New slide at Tropicanoe Cove
  - East and southside growth and new park facilities
  - New trails with infrastructure
  - Upgrade infrastructure: playgrounds, tennis and basketball courts
  - Renovation of existing facilities and ballfields at Armstrong and McCaw
  - Accessible Playground and field 2021
  - McAllister Park master plan

## Q5 What type of park facilities do you think the department should provide in the future?

Answered: 481 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Open space	25.78%	124
Multi-purpose fields	24.74%	119
Dog park	28.27%	136
Play areas	36.17%	174
Splash pad(s)	54.47%	262
Trails	53.43%	257
Other (please specify)	25.16%	121
Total Respondents: 481		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	community recreation center with indoor pool	9/7/2018 7:09 PM
2	more amusement rides for children and adults	8/27/2018 4:10 PM
3	New zoo exhibits and new amenities in existing parks	8/20/2018 3:59 PM
4	Pool/splash pad on east side of Lafayette!	8/19/2018 9:22 PM
5	Additional Disc Golf Course	8/18/2018 12:42 PM
6	Disc golf courses	8/17/2018 9:30 AM
7	Hiking and walking trails	8/16/2018 9:06 PM
8	Improved swimming facilities	8/16/2018 12:59 PM

## 2018 Lafayette Parks & Recreation Department Five-Year Park System Master Plan Questionnaire

9	Closed in areas to rent for gatherings in case of bad weather. Playroom inside & out. Bathroom in everyone too.	8/16/2018 10:43 AM
10	swimming pool facilities for the east side of town	8/16/2018 9:46 AM
11	team sport facilities that are not softball/basketball	8/16/2018 9:26 AM
12	Mountain Bike Trails	8/16/2018 7:57 AM
13	Mtn Bike Trails	8/16/2018 7:37 AM
14	Pickleball (good for active aging)	8/16/2018 7:06 AM
15	Specifically, a non-road trail network that cyclists and pedestrians can feel safe using	8/16/2018 6:44 AM
16	But after the Delphi murders I am terrified of trails... so safety is a factor:/	8/16/2018 6:03 AM
17	Disc golf	8/15/2018 11:06 PM
18	Splash Pad!	8/15/2018 10:35 PM
19	More native plants, garden plots	8/15/2018 10:06 PM
20	Facilities where we can rent for venues, quinceañeras , weddings, capacity to 300, there is not very many venues for that capacity and self cater	8/15/2018 9:55 PM
21	Kayaking and fishing ponds	8/15/2018 9:44 PM
22	Mountain Bike Trails!	8/15/2018 9:17 PM
23	More native vegetation!	8/15/2018 9:00 PM
24	Disc Golf	8/15/2018 8:23 PM
25	gear rental center, cross country skiing area, shooting/archery range, indoor ice skating	8/15/2018 8:12 PM
26	Bike Park	8/15/2018 8:03 PM
27	Please preserve natural areas that remain. Please do not cut down anymore trees	8/15/2018 7:25 PM
28	Bike polo courts	8/15/2018 7:21 PM
29	skate park for all BMX	8/15/2018 7:03 PM
30	Outdoor fitness equipment	8/15/2018 7:03 PM
31	Mountain Bike Trails. A dirt pump track.	8/15/2018 6:57 PM
32	You would be surprised how big mountain biking is in Lafayette	8/15/2018 6:01 PM
33	Mountain Bike Trails, Pump Track	8/15/2018 5:53 PM
34	Walking/bicycling Trails in the east side somewhere close to IU hospital and Wyandotte library	8/15/2018 5:39 PM
35	Adult baseball facilities for public use, both organized and unorganized. Paddle boating at Armstrong park, downtown greenspace,	8/15/2018 5:38 PM
36	Disc golf courses	8/15/2018 5:36 PM
37	Skatepark	8/15/2018 4:58 PM
38	Skate park	8/15/2018 4:38 PM
39	Colombian park train to be accessible to children/ adults in wheelchairs...a lift so person could stay in chair Jon Poynter worked with SIA for handicapped accessible playground.. this is his idea	8/15/2018 4:25 PM
40	info kiosks to let people know whats available and where to find the facilities. more bathrooms spread out strategically for those that cant walk far or are disabled. security phones near trails and other areas.	8/15/2018 3:44 PM
41	BASEBALL AND BASKETBALL PARKS WITH MORE ACCESS	8/15/2018 3:37 PM
42	Disc golf courses	8/15/2018 3:32 PM
43	Disc golf	8/15/2018 3:10 PM
44	more soccer fields open to public	8/15/2018 3:04 PM
45	Please update Kennedy Park!!	8/15/2018 3:01 PM

## 2018 Lafayette Parks & Recreation Department Five-Year Park System Master Plan Questionnaire

46	Shade for play areas	8/15/2018 1:56 PM
47	bike trails	8/15/2018 12:46 PM
48	Bike polo court	8/15/2018 12:45 PM
49	Disc golf	8/15/2018 12:31 PM
50	Disc Golf Courses	8/15/2018 12:29 PM
51	Frisbee golf	8/15/2018 12:28 PM
52	Multiple bike Polo courts at the same location.	8/15/2018 12:26 PM
53	Disc golf	8/15/2018 12:13 PM
54	Mountain bike trail mileage	8/15/2018 12:11 PM
55	More disc golf	8/15/2018 12:09 PM
56	Expand and invest in disc golf courses	8/15/2018 12:08 PM
57	Disc golf courses	8/15/2018 12:00 PM
58	2+ Side-by-side multi-use hardcourts for roller hockey/bike polo/tennis/pickleball	8/15/2018 11:57 AM
59	More trees in parks for shade	8/15/2018 11:56 AM
60	Disc golf courses	8/15/2018 11:38 AM
61	Dedicated Mixed use facility for Bicycle Polo, Roller Hockey, derby, etc	8/15/2018 11:36 AM
62	Indoor recreation space, to learn and play when it is icky out. Have you seen BellABoo's in Lake Station, IN? It is part of the parks department and amazing!!!	8/15/2018 11:28 AM
63	Scenic gathering spaces. Think fountains, ponds, bandshell with electricity. Unique settings for wedding and Instagram photos, small concerts, community pot lucks, movie nights, etc. (This is where I lived up until a few months ago: <a href="http://www.yelp.com/biz/lafayette-park-saint-louis">www.yelp.com/biz/lafayette-park-saint-louis</a> )	8/15/2018 11:24 AM
64	Disc Golf	8/15/2018 11:08 AM
65	Update and beautify the ponds at Colombian Park.	8/15/2018 11:06 AM
66	Food truck park	8/15/2018 11:06 AM
67	Bike trails	8/15/2018 11:01 AM
68	We need more disc golf. It's getting kids out in nature being healthy and is very cost effective so anyone can play. Course upkeep is very minimal after the initial installment.	8/15/2018 10:55 AM
69	Disc golf	8/15/2018 10:53 AM
70	Disc golf	8/15/2018 10:46 AM
71	Facilities for sports that are not on grass	8/15/2018 10:45 AM
72	More disc golf courses	8/15/2018 10:44 AM
73	Bicycle trails more connected	8/15/2018 10:44 AM
74	Disc Golf Courses	8/15/2018 10:42 AM
75	More disc golf	8/15/2018 10:39 AM
76	More walking trails- fix up McAllister park	8/15/2018 10:35 AM
77	Disc golf courses	8/15/2018 10:34 AM
78	Disc golf courses	8/15/2018 10:33 AM
79	New Disc Golf baskets at Murdock	8/15/2018 10:33 AM
80	Disc Golf	8/15/2018 10:32 AM
81	SPLASH PAD!!!!	8/15/2018 10:21 AM
82	Additional disc golf courses	8/15/2018 10:17 AM
83	Indoor facility with an olympic size pool that could be open all year	8/15/2018 10:01 AM

## 2018 Lafayette Parks & Recreation Department Five-Year Park System Master Plan Questionnaire

84	Better access for family fishing	8/15/2018 9:11 AM
85	Tennis courts	8/15/2018 8:47 AM
86	swimming pool...with depth for swimming (like happy hollow)	8/15/2018 8:28 AM
87	We need a drive thru park that people that can't get out of there car and walk around can drive thru and pull off at sinic or wildlife pulloffs. These are the older or less fortunet they help pay for these parks that are ONLY geared for fit healthy people.	8/15/2018 8:05 AM
88	Better pools. Castaway cay is a joke, vinton is almost as bad, and Columbian park pool could use a lot of work too.	8/15/2018 7:59 AM
89	Increase trails by using abandoned railroad easement	8/15/2018 7:53 AM
90	The park on Wabash ave needs updated like the one on union st.lots of kids need that facility	8/15/2018 7:44 AM
91	Bathrooms with changing tables	8/14/2018 10:14 PM
92	Trails that connect subdivisions to the schools on south side	8/14/2018 8:26 PM
93	Water parks	8/14/2018 7:56 PM
94	Indoor park for kids similar to the one in whitestown	8/14/2018 7:22 PM
95	Pools with more swim areas.	8/14/2018 7:21 PM
96	Disc golf courses	8/14/2018 7:14 PM
97	Enclosed play space for young children; also indoor play space for winter/rainy days	8/14/2018 6:20 PM
98	Free splash pads	8/14/2018 5:46 PM
99	Play area designed for children ages 1-3 enclosed with rubber solid footing	8/14/2018 5:08 PM
100	Parents night out	8/14/2018 4:34 PM
101	skate park	8/14/2018 1:02 PM
102	Bring back the merry ground at Columbian Park.	8/10/2018 8:39 PM
103	Play areas and water park areas for disabled patrons	8/10/2018 4:41 PM
104	Bike Lanes	8/10/2018 1:39 PM
105	Wildlife Viewing areas	8/10/2018 1:22 PM
106	Large Multi-purpose venue (300+) for events such as weddings, reunions, large group instruction, community meetings.	8/10/2018 12:24 PM
107	Outdoor racquetball courts	8/10/2018 9:01 AM
108	Playground for special needs play equipment with kids with sensory processing disorders and autism	8/10/2018 5:53 AM
109	Special needs accesable equipment/park	8/10/2018 12:13 AM
110	Special needs play area	8/9/2018 11:21 PM
111	Park designed with the elderly in mind (think grandparents taking their grandkids)	8/9/2018 7:42 PM
112	Really really would love more splash pads!	8/9/2018 7:11 PM
113	Special needs accessible	8/9/2018 7:00 PM
114	Special needs	8/9/2018 6:47 PM
115	Ramps to the river	8/9/2018 6:43 PM
116	Special needs park	8/9/2018 6:19 PM
117	Special needs accessible parks	8/9/2018 6:16 PM
118	Special needs equipment	8/9/2018 6:09 PM
119	Special needs playground needs to happen	8/9/2018 5:58 PM
120	Special needs playground	8/9/2018 5:42 PM



## Q11 Do you have any comments or suggestions you would like to share with the Lafayette Parks & Recreation Department. Thank you for your assistance!

Answered: 244 Skipped: 237

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	access for disabled and IDD individuals	9/7/2018 7:09 PM
2	Make the pedestrian bridge across the River more easily accessible for bikes and strollers - needs a ramp or something. Make bike paths connecting WEst Lafayette and Lafayette - I would bike more if I didn't have to bike on busy streets!	8/29/2018 7:11 AM
3	I think you're doing a terrific job and I really enjoy our parks!!!	8/27/2018 8:46 PM
4	I have seen a decline in safety at parks over last few years. Also, the demographics of some park users has also declined and has created a concern about safety in our parks and shelters.I would like to see all shelter use limited ONLY to paying customers. We should not be seeing huge groups coming in to open non rented shelters and setting up for a full 10 hr day if music blaring and traffic coming and going from residential areas. Shelters should be rent only or roped off and an increase in security at our parks and trail systems would be helpful. Thank you for installing more cameras. Please consider better enfircing noise and trash issues from park users. Also, parks like Colombian park create serious issues for residential areas. Residents need signage indicating for residents only, to keep huge parties from setting up all day events in the neighborhoods. Drugs and vandalism have become much more prevalent. Many of us are very worried about the future of our city parks.	8/23/2018 10:50 AM
5	There are limited amounts of restrooms, which have been an issue for me a few times. I don't know how to resolve that, but I think it should be noted.	8/22/2018 8:41 PM
6	I am so happy to have the quality and variety of parks and amenities that are offered in Lafayette. Thank you!	8/20/2018 3:59 PM
7	Please add something on the far East side. Pool/splash pad would be awesome. A park with an enclosed toddler area.	8/19/2018 9:22 PM
8	Maintenance for 'cleaner ' water parks, got a bad infection from Tropicanoe Cove this summer	8/18/2018 3:52 PM
9	Keep up the good work	8/18/2018 12:42 PM
10	More mountain biking trails would be nice.	8/17/2018 12:33 PM
11	Splash park---free or minimal cost if possible! Current options are too expensive to attend regularly for low-income residents.	8/17/2018 11:02 AM
12	We love our parks. Thank you for your efforts, and we look forward to what will come next.	8/16/2018 5:18 PM
13	I interned for the Parks department and am excited for the future growth in the community!	8/16/2018 3:51 PM
14	We love the parks in town, especially Columbian Park, and the wonderful programs offered at the zoo education center. Please continue to re-invest in Columbian Park and the zoo!	8/16/2018 3:25 PM
15	Creating shade over play areas would be a nice addition to some of the existing parks.	8/16/2018 2:34 PM
16	With the expansion in the Old Romney neighborhood, procure the leased fields at Twickingham and Old Romney and convert them into athletic fields, pavillion, and play ground. Also, in line with the national program of more walk/biking space, create trails connecting the city parks and downtown for the pedestrian friendly aspect.	8/16/2018 2:12 PM
17	Bring back paddle boats to the Colombian Park. South side needs a park. Pools are needed with deep water to swim in. An outdoor concert area would be nice.	8/16/2018 12:59 PM
18	Splash pads would be really enjoyed by younger children when pools are still scary places to go with non swimming children.	8/16/2018 12:51 PM
19	No	8/16/2018 11:32 AM

## 2018 Lafayette Parks & Recreation Department Five-Year Park System Master Plan Questionnaire

20	I think our parks are great! As the city grows so should the parks. There are many spaces on the south side I see could be turned in to small open spaces for use as parks. I personally look for places like Marlin Park - a small space with picnic tables where I can take my family to have an impromptu picnic.	8/16/2018 11:30 AM
21	Parks could be accessed all year around by inclosing picnic areas installed bathrooms. Generate money from renting them. Keeping a few free shelters also, maybe splitting the area to fit more. Like a partition. That way two different events can share with a little privacy.	8/16/2018 10:43 AM
22	whatever is done, please have more security available!	8/16/2018 9:49 AM
23	Upgrade the playground at Armstrong Park. Such a nice park, but the playground is minimal..	8/16/2018 9:46 AM
24	As the Lafayette area continues to grow and attract new businesses, individuals and families are looking for more alternative transportation solutions to combine exercise and travel. Bike trails, off-road trails, and multi-use trails are needed to connect neighborhoods and places of worship, shopping, restaurants, and the workplace. Consider the popularity of electric bikes and scooters. Do these modes of transportation belong on 38, 52, Creasy Lane, and 26 or on the sidewalk?	8/16/2018 9:28 AM
25	It would be really great to have a location like Beaman court not in a flood plain so the pavement wasn't ruined every three years. A more multipurpose area for hockey, polo, roller skating, skateboarding would be a dream come true.	8/16/2018 9:26 AM
26	Would love to see more bike trails and connectivity. Not just along roads, but also other areas where possible.	8/16/2018 7:39 AM
27	Keep up the great work. We love the parks here.	8/16/2018 7:26 AM
28	It would be great to have a small footprint play structure (or two) downtown and new pocket parks scattered to match population density. Parks Dept. is a great asset!	8/16/2018 7:06 AM
29	A better trail network is desperately needed, especially as the Wabash Heritage trail is disrupted due to the Sagamore construction (and is also unusable basically every time it rains)	8/16/2018 6:44 AM
30	Our family loves the parks in Lafayette and we regularly use the McCallister Center. I hope that you continue to provide the great service we are used to. Thank you	8/16/2018 6:28 AM
31	Even tho I am older, I take my grandkids and you had no category for that age wise so don't discount my answers please.	8/16/2018 6:03 AM
32	Improve your playgrounds. Add more benches. Love McGraw playground Old playground at Columbia park. Needs help in small children areas. More benches for grandparents	8/16/2018 4:34 AM
33	keep up the great work.	8/16/2018 2:39 AM
34	Ice hockey would be awesome too!	8/15/2018 11:06 PM
35	Carefully plant maple trees so shade can be near benches and picnic tables especially near playgrounds.	8/15/2018 10:35 PM
36	The greater Lafayette area lacks indoor pool access. More bike lanes/connectors to bike trails. Longer bike trails or rail trails.	8/15/2018 10:06 PM
37	We need more parks around the east side, there are hardly any....i do not like the ones with the ponds, im afraid one of the kids will fall in them.. i have 7 children. I do not go to those.	8/15/2018 9:55 PM
38	Safety lighting needed on trails and emergency buttons, more connectivity of all of the trail systems please! you are doing a great job though, and I have noticed many improvements city wide in the last few years, thank you. Please add more water play areas for kids, the monon park/splashpad that is free in Indy is amazing, I'd love to see some more programs at the parks as well, nature art, community potlucks, things like that to get people together.	8/15/2018 9:24 PM
39	Support the Tippecanoe Mountain Bike Association! Build Trails to go from Lafayette to West Lafayette. Make commuting to work safer! Build wide sidewalks Farther away from the road to make them safer. Make the Wabash Heritage Trail bike accessible.	8/15/2018 9:17 PM
40	More bike trails and native plantings, please! Please don't plant any invasive ornamentals, like burning bush! Please do what you can to remove invasive species in our town, especially along the river! More educational signs about natural areas and plant identification would be wonderful. Thank you for your hard work! Another pool on the south side of town would be really useful too!	8/15/2018 9:00 PM
41	We appreciate the parks in Ladayette very much. We have 3 grandchildren ages 4,2,1. Many memories have been made going to the parks in Lafayette	8/15/2018 8:53 PM

## 2018 Lafayette Parks & Recreation Department Five-Year Park System Master Plan Questionnaire

42	Keep up the great work!	8/15/2018 8:53 PM
43	Have a slightly higher police presence in the parks. Certain parts of the town feel safer with the police around.	8/15/2018 8:48 PM
44	Trail connectivity from Lafayette to West Lafayette parks will increase not only park usage but also decrease the automobile dependency of people in the area.	8/15/2018 8:45 PM
45	Please create a splash pad like Mulberry Fields. It is so needed!	8/15/2018 8:40 PM
46	We love Lafayette and west Lafayette parks. We need more parks on the south side of Lafayette. Other than Armstrong there are really no parks and Armstrong's play ground is small and a bit run down. We need splash pads and more parks.	8/15/2018 8:34 PM
47	A splash pad would be awesome! We're willing to drive to Avon order Indy to get to one. Having that amenity in the community would be a big bonus. And putting it in the Northend would continue to build on the revitalization happening with the Northend Community Center.	8/15/2018 8:33 PM
48	Need safe space for teenagers	8/15/2018 8:18 PM
49	The recreation programs and services seem to be non-existent and very passive. I would love to see the community strive to offer recreation services that are comparable to a Fort Wayne, Evansville, etc. and more collaboration between WL and the county system. Would also like to see more adult programming like kickball, dodgeball, broomball, etc.	8/15/2018 8:12 PM
50	Bikes bikes bikes!! And open space, natural spaces in unexpected areas. No parks exist near the Highland Park / Kossuth neighborhoods (where we used to live, and maybe partially why we moved away).	8/15/2018 8:08 PM
51	Overall, I LOVE our parks! More monitoring during peak hours would be great. Better lighting would be helpful at some locations. Really, more security to limit vandalism, fights, and crime is a big deal for me.	8/15/2018 7:46 PM
52	I really don't understand why the cities don't use cycling as a marketing point more. It's really great up there. more mountain bike trails than Indy has, and it's very easy to get out of town and away from traffic.	8/15/2018 7:38 PM
53	Increasing connectivity of parts of town and different parks is essential. Currently trails do not connect well. More trails would be awesome as well and I have heard a lot of interest in unpaved trails for both mountain biking and trail running	8/15/2018 7:32 PM
54	Happy Hollow park is a special place that needs preserved, please do not build any more parking in this area. Please focus some resources towards fixing the park	8/15/2018 7:25 PM
55	I play bike polo and am a bicycle enthusiast and I would like more bicycle related events/facilities	8/15/2018 7:21 PM
56	Would love to see food options in parks. We spend hours at the parks not always knowing how long we would stay and would love some options - perhaps rotate food trucks through every once in a while? Many parks in other cities do this.	8/15/2018 7:09 PM
57	Would appreciate having the signage around some of the trails prohibiting bikes (non-motorized) updated to reflect mountain biking being allowed. There is some confusion among the community, and it is primarily the mountain bike community that has worked to build and maintain many of the local trail system.	8/15/2018 6:58 PM
58	Southside needs more. Need a pump track/mountain bike skills park. More mountain bike trails, please. Attracting a race/regional event could bring hundreds of visitors to the county.	8/15/2018 6:57 PM
59	You guys are doing a great job! Parks look so nice!	8/15/2018 6:07 PM
60	Trees and trails! We need some shady lengths to run and walk.	8/15/2018 6:02 PM
61	Keep in mind that many people from the surrounding counties come to yours for recreation and spend money. I spend thousands a year in your community just because of mountain biking.	8/15/2018 6:01 PM
62	I would like to have more biking and hiking trails. The Amphitheater is heavily used by multiple user groups. Tippecanoe county is in need of more miles for trails.	8/15/2018 6:00 PM
63	The Heritage trail should be a multiuser trail. Multiple parks are connected, but only being able to hike to each one doesn't make sense.	8/15/2018 5:53 PM
64	Since the new hospital was built we have notice an increase on people running/walking and bicycling around that area so it would be nice to have more of that kind of trails on the east side	8/15/2018 5:39 PM

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65	If responding none to q8, q9 should be skipped. Parks are a major deficit in Lafayette. Looking at west Lafayette's trail system, it is clear bike ped connectivity is possible, however Lafayette continues to lag behind WL in this regard. Also, columbian park is not a good park. It is covered with roads and restricted places such as the zoo, the new baseball field (which is a project done on the cheap, by rebuilding in the current over crowded park rather than in downtown) a huge water storage bunker, and the fenced off water park. Think of how much nicer columbian park could have been if the baseball field was reused as green space/"splash pad" or similar. Major missed opportunity to fix that park and revitalize downtown.	8/15/2018 5:38 PM
66	We need a full size ice rink in Lafayette	8/15/2018 5:36 PM
67	Armstrong playground could use an update, check out brownsburg Williams park.	8/15/2018 5:19 PM
68	Splash pads please!!	8/15/2018 4:47 PM
69	I would love to see a skate park and a space for roller skating in an area that does not flood like Shamrock. Without a roller rink there are limited options to safely and legally roller skate.	8/15/2018 4:38 PM
70	Jon has had the idea about the train for a while; little kids in wheelchairs want to ride with families they can't really do any other "rides"	8/15/2018 4:25 PM
71	Your landscaping is lovely- especially at Columbian Park it's greatly appreciated.	8/15/2018 3:37 PM
72	Love the existing parks and variety. I love disc golf and would like to see parks that somewhat separate the disc golf from the people enjoying walking their animals and enjoying trails	8/15/2018 3:32 PM
73	we are behind with the splash pads my kids take the grandkids to Indianapolis area for this activity.	8/15/2018 3:26 PM
74	Disc golf	8/15/2018 3:10 PM
75	Splash pad for toddlers. Very limited on toddler activities younger than pre-school.	8/15/2018 3:07 PM
76	Kennedy Park on Sequoya needs a desperate upgrade. I've lived in the area all of my life, and it's the same as it was 46 years ago. Even a splash pad would be awesome in the warmer months.	8/15/2018 3:01 PM
77	Need to put a new park in at McAllister Center. The playground equipment is old and needs to replace. Also a new big shelter at McAllister Center.	8/15/2018 2:26 PM
78	We would love a big splash pad or 2 that is free. The one by the Hartford Hub is way too small for many kids to enjoy. Also an indoor play area like Traders Point would be nice for winter. It's hard to find free things to do in the winter	8/15/2018 2:03 PM
79	I would love to see splash pads incorporated into existing parks! Or a new large stand alone splash pad would be wonderful. Also, I visit several parks weekly with my children. I have found that most do not have much shading. I know as a parent, it gets quite hot on the play equipment without any shade. More trees placed appropriately would be appreciated. Lastly, playgrounds that have the rubber ground in lieu of mulch are more utilized. Parents tend to frequent these parks due to less accidents and easier clean up. Lastly, please stop planting bee/wasp attracting plants close to playground equipment!	8/15/2018 2:02 PM
80	Need a large multi purpose park besides columbian similar to happy hollow	8/15/2018 1:56 PM
81	Please turn on the water fountains in the park in a more timely manner. This summer it was incredibly hot and many kids were out and I walked my dog a lot, but there was no access to water.	8/15/2018 1:30 PM
82	It would be great to have another bike polo hardcourt facility that provides higher exposure to the public. Thank you!	8/15/2018 12:45 PM
83	You guys do amazing work out there! Keep it up. It doesn't go unnoticed or appreciated.	8/15/2018 12:31 PM
84	Continue to support and enhance the presence of the sport of disc golf in the local area. The course at Murdock Park is well taken care of and developed. The course at Mcalister Park is a work in progress and is a top tier disc golf course in the state of Indiana. Some improvements to make Mcalister park a more permanent installation, such as tee signs, concrete tee pads, benches would really enhance the course and bring more players to the area. Thank you for your continued support of Disc Golf in the Greater Lafayette area as well as your work throughout all of the parks. Lafayette Parks Dept. does a great job.	8/15/2018 12:29 PM
85	We don't have enough golf or frisbee golf coarses. A small par 3 golf course and a frisbee coarse would be a very welcome site. Plus add jobs and pay for itself if done right.	8/15/2018 12:28 PM
86	I just want to see new bike Polo courts that don't get flooded like the one at Shamrock Dog Park.	8/15/2018 12:26 PM

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87	Thank you for all you do for the sport of disc golf already. It is VERY appreciated.	8/15/2018 12:13 PM
88	Having an extensive network of mountain bike trails that are interconnected increases tourism from outside the area. This benefits local businesses. Various rural communities throughout the country have developed world class mountain bike trails to promote economic development. Lafayette is well situated because most of the great trails in Indiana that stimulate tourism are in the southern part of the state and the Chicago area does not have great trails.	8/15/2018 12:11 PM
89	More dedicated bike lanes and bike paths! Especially off the main road as drivers here do not respect bike traffic.	8/15/2018 12:10 PM
90	I think the current parks are great. The only thing I would really love to see is a splash pad (or maybe 2, because I have no doubt it would be popular). Right now we drive 45 minutes to one and 75 minutes to another. A splash pad should have plenty of parking and more than one bathroom. The one up north only has one toilet and it's not well maintained. I think our current parks are all great, my only other suggestion is that they all have bathrooms. We love the playground on Union St, it's just lacking a bathroom! More walking trails/bike trails would also be great, but I tend to avoid those when it's just me and my kids after what happened in Delphi. :(	8/15/2018 12:09 PM
91	The support for disc golf has been wonderful but more visibility would encourage use of the green spaces we have.	8/15/2018 12:09 PM
92	Disc golf is among the fastest growing sports in the country. It can be enjoyed at all levels and is an excellent family sport/hobby. Recently the city committed to keep the course at McCallister Park and allow the local disc golf club to put in another course on the property. I believe this is an excellent decision. Myself being a local club member I am very grateful. That being said, it would be super if the parks department would help or completely fund course development. If one were to look at cities with enough excellent DG courses in the area. You would find that the opportunity to host bigger tournaments which in turn could bring a good amount of revenue to local businesses, hotels and restaurants. A good model to look at would be Peoria, Ill and the surrounding area. They host the LedgeStone insurance open that brings in over 1,000 competitors every year.	8/15/2018 12:08 PM
93	Pools are to expensive and kids like rides. The zoo is good	8/15/2018 12:05 PM
94	Splash pads would be fantastic!	8/15/2018 12:02 PM
95	We love playing at the parks and attending programs. Having a splash pad closer then Remington would be awesome!	8/15/2018 12:02 PM
96	The disc golf community is growing and funding for new courses is what could help boost disc golf in the area. If we had top of line courses, we could hold bigger tournaments which would attract more people from around the state, maybe even around the country. Having large disc golf tournaments which bring in a lot of people which would bring more money into our city which would help boost small business and large business alike.	8/15/2018 12:00 PM
97	The trail between Union and Greenbush and the "road diet" features of the recent Greenbush and Main St projects are good examples of how connectivity should be achieved. Other corridors need to be developed to connect downtown/central neighborhoods with South and East. One should be able to safely bike to and from destinations along Sagamore and Creasy, for example.	8/15/2018 11:58 AM
98	Drain columbian park lagoon and remove algae, debris, and broken walls. It's current state looks like it's an old swamp. Seek a tax referendum if needed to pay for repairs.	8/15/2018 11:56 AM
99	Now bike trails	8/15/2018 11:51 AM
100	I appreciate the facilities that are available however the safety of the areas are a concern. I have noticed adults engaging in drug use, drug swaps/sales, as well as drug paraphernalia being left on the playground. While I always check for such items, this safety concern worries me. I have observed children with out any adults to watch out for their safety. The lack of lighting in the parks also concerns me. I understand that parks are not be attended in the dusk and night hours, however, this is the time when people engage in inappropriate activities due to not being noticed or seen.	8/15/2018 11:47 AM
101	I would really love a splash pad in Lafayette with no or low cost to visit. Lafayette currently only has pools which are too pricey for low income or larger families to do on a regular basis.	8/15/2018 11:46 AM

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102	I relocated from Lafayette to Tallahassee fl for work a year ago and I'm now moving back to Lafayette. I'm an avid disc golfer and the biggest difference between Lafayette and Tallahassee is the courses. Playing leagues in both cities they have very high turnout anywhere from 30-50 players. What Lafayette lacks is a true disc golf course. Without a true course Lafayette will never be able to hold any substantial tournaments that can generate a lot of revenue for the city and local businesses. Crown Point for example has tournaments that draw players from all over the US. Bringing in 300+ players and their families into our community for a weekend of disc golf is nothing but great things for Lafayette.	8/15/2018 11:38 AM
103	I am an avid member of Lafayette Bike Polo, help us make Lafayette the polo capital of the heartland region!	8/15/2018 11:36 AM
104	More security cameras at all parks	8/15/2018 11:30 AM
105	I love the parks! I wish there were Activities to do inside as well	8/15/2018 11:28 AM
106	I was severely attacked by a dog while riding my bike at Prophets Town State park December 2016. I was on the Bike path, where dogs are also allowed to walk. This dog was not on a leash, and took me off my bike. I have had several surgeries and therapy for PTSD. I have since been attempting to ride again, and still, I am coming across dogs off leash, or on retractable leashes and it has become very stressful. I wish dogs were monitored more by staff, and made to be kept off the bike paths. The retractable leashes cross the bikes and can get also get tangled and is extremely dangerous. After the attack, I have been chased 5 times now by dogs.	8/15/2018 11:26 AM
107	Speaking as a former resident of a big city, it is vital that you always stay ahead of crime, vandalism, graffiti, loitering, littering, etc. I realize it's not easy to prohibit bad behavior, but once that behavior takes hold, it's impossible to stop. And then no one comes to your gathering space anymore, except for the bad element. Best of luck to all involved. :)	8/15/2018 11:24 AM
108	Last year I was riding my bike on the trail that connects to Mungler Park. I was riding just past Shenandoah Drive. There was about four of your employees behind the bushes just off the trail. One of them threw dirt and grass on the back of my head as I rode by. There has been other rude behavior by your employees. I like to go to the park to exercise and don't like being harassed.	8/15/2018 11:16 AM
109	Please finish the zoo	8/15/2018 11:08 AM
110	Update the Columbian Park ponds and put back in the paddle boats.	8/15/2018 11:06 AM
111	Parks should be multi purpose so everyone can use them and more events can be planned	8/15/2018 11:06 AM
112	I used to take my grandchildren to Columbian Park often, however I don't feel it is safe to do so any longer. There are too many young adults walking their pit bulls at the park. Also there seem to be many young adults up to no good at the park.	8/15/2018 11:04 AM
113	I would love to see more trails like the one from Teal to 18th. This trail feels safer for kids and families to ride their bikes on. I'd also like to see more public pools that can be used for adults to swim laps.	8/15/2018 11:01 AM
114	none	8/15/2018 10:59 AM
115	Bring more Disc Golf to the community!	8/15/2018 10:55 AM
116	No	8/15/2018 10:53 AM
117	I would like to say they should renovate/upgrade like completely the current parks in Lafayette before talking about adding new buildings. I suggest Columbian Park HIGHLY for upgrades especially the main playground. Maybe add a splash pad as well to the park because the water in the zoo is liked highly. If West Lafayette Parks and Rec. can recognize Happy Hollow needing playground completely upgraded then why can't you guys see this with Columbian Park. Its very worn down park. Revitalize Columbian Park playground.	8/15/2018 10:51 AM
118	There could be more venues for teens	8/15/2018 10:44 AM
119	Please! Please! Build a splash pad! Indianapolis has over 20! Can we have just one? PLEASE!	8/15/2018 10:40 AM
120	More disc golf at McCallister	8/15/2018 10:39 AM
121	I think McAllister Park is great but mosquitoes are just overwhelming out there. Quit going just because of mosquitoes.	8/15/2018 10:35 AM

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122	I would love for more trails, both downtown and in rural areas to be built to help connect Lafayette for those who don't have transportation. (I work at Community Corrections and we definitely need a sidewalk connecting the Work Release facility to the rest of downtown). I love going to the Ampitheater to unwind and go on a relaxing walk or jog, I would love more trails like that to be built if possible. Thanks!	8/15/2018 10:34 AM
123	Keep up the great work. Would love to see more disc golf programming, but I really like the courses, especially McAllister Park!!	8/15/2018 10:33 AM
124	I frequent Murdock Park and McAllister Park. Murdock - Needs attention to cleanliness and more security in the woods. Always trash and wanderers. McAllister - Paths need grass cut-back and edged. Continual mowing. tree debris clean-up.	8/15/2018 10:32 AM
125	I like to visit Lafayette Parks. I have two dogs and we would like to be able to bring them on each outing.	8/15/2018 10:30 AM
126	I'd like to see more parks, larger parks, and more multifunction parks (some tennis courts, some playground equipment, a pond or lake, soccer fields, etc.)	8/15/2018 10:26 AM
127	We really need a splash pad!	8/15/2018 10:21 AM
128	Thanks for all you do to support disc golf in the Greater Lafayette area. You're the best.	8/15/2018 10:17 AM
129	I love the city parks! Really, really would love a free splash pad not near a pool, though! Remington has a great one and I wish Lafayette had something similar!	8/15/2018 10:16 AM
130	I think our parks are absolutely beautiful and I have had a chance to participate in some of the offerings at Columbian Park. A side note: the spinning game at the top of the playground is very broken and seriously dangerous for kids to play on. I saw kids play on it this Sunday and was worried that they would get their legs caught. Please consider taking down the game until it can get fixed.	8/15/2018 10:15 AM
131	Nope	8/15/2018 10:09 AM
132	Make the parks bigger , better, add more things to do or activities, also add more basketball courts	8/15/2018 10:04 AM
133	Lower the prices at the pools.	8/15/2018 9:58 AM
134	It would be nice to have more public restrooms. When you are playing at a park with little one's it would be nice to have somewhere for them to go at the park instead of having to pack up and go somewhere else.	8/15/2018 9:58 AM
135	On the bike trails do away with the steel dividing posts. Put up a sign on the side of trail stating no motorized vehicles.	8/15/2018 9:52 AM
136	When will the Hoffman park open. I believe it was donated 8 years ago.	8/15/2018 9:50 AM
137	Please add bike trails!	8/15/2018 9:13 AM
138	Would like to see better access for family fishing/picnics, more trash receptacles, recycling receptacles, and water station/restroom/portable toilet facilities.	8/15/2018 9:11 AM
139	anything to make the town more bike friendly!	8/15/2018 9:09 AM
140	Love the pools! Our kids have loved working at them!	8/15/2018 8:51 AM
141	Very limited tennis Facilities. Armstrong has nice courts, but the constant language and fighting on the basketball court presents issues there. Arlington is not maintained and the 2 fences on the side of the court are too low for a tennis court. The Sunnyside courts were removed along with columbian park courts. Tried to use Lafayette Jeffs courts and some lady ran us out of there so she could teach lessons to 1 child (there were 9 additional unused courts at the time).	8/15/2018 8:47 AM
142	I think more could be done with existing infrastructure. It's a bit of a hobby horse of mine, but there is so much potential for Loeb Stadium outside of baseball that is being wasted.	8/15/2018 8:45 AM
143	Columbian park needs a lot of upgrades - little kid areas are sparse & rundown. Pavilions are in poor shape, rides are bad, zoo is pretty good but needs more attractions, water park is wonderful.	8/15/2018 8:37 AM
144	Link trails with west side and county	8/15/2018 8:35 AM
145	Dog parks please!!! so I can enjoy the parks without fearing loose dogs. Also splash pad somewhere in town would be wonderful!!! With the creek for run off like mulberry fields in zionsville. Kids love the creek!	8/15/2018 8:34 AM

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146	Maybe some upgrads to the cove pool area?	8/15/2018 8:31 AM
147	I am concerned about the security at Colombian park...additionally, I would love a "real" pool, not more splash pads	8/15/2018 8:28 AM
148	Columbian Park used to be a great park, now it is a nothing park. When I was growing up I practically lived in that park, now there is not much to do there! Not to mention the thugs that seem to hang out there now.	8/15/2018 8:07 AM
149	tippecanoe ampatheater should have weekly concerts shows events fleemarkets car shows or be demolished it cost to much to keep something up that isn't being used.	8/15/2018 8:05 AM
150	Please update your pools around the area. They are horribly lacking. This family usually goes out of town or to Prophetstown to go to a pool. Play structures in the water, better under 54" waterslides. It is like the planner forget that there is a huge difference between what a 1 year old can do and 5 year old. Almost all the water parks cater to the 1 year old crowd. And no a splash pad is not an answer. Splash pad are horrible for the environment, water usage, and a worse than pools i regards small kids without proper diapers.	8/15/2018 7:59 AM
151	no	8/15/2018 7:40 AM
152	Splash pads appropriate for young children are sorely needed in this community. The closest are in Indianapolis but that's a long way to drive with small kids. More playgrounds, especially on the South side, are also desperately needed	8/15/2018 7:09 AM
153	I wish the pool would stay open after schools start. There are a lot of adults that would love to spend a relaxing day at the pool during the week.	8/15/2018 7:09 AM
154	Splash pads please!!!!	8/15/2018 6:33 AM
155	Splash pad splash pad splash pad!!!! Thanks :) I'm a former McAllister Rec center camp counselor and Love the Parks!!	8/15/2018 5:56 AM
156	Trails and bike lanes with some connectivity, please! People who use bikes for transportation don't find random one mile stretches of trail useful.	8/14/2018 11:59 PM
157	The Lafayette parks are great and always clean. We would love a new oark on the Southside. Armstrong park is small, not shaded at all which makes it very warm in the summer. The slide is almost too hot to slide on. Also it's very far from the parking lot. A splash pad would be amazing!	8/14/2018 10:15 PM
158	We love the area parks! Thanks for taking time to hear from citizens and consider their opinions.	8/14/2018 10:06 PM
159	We need a splash pad!	8/14/2018 9:53 PM
160	We need more splash pads!!! And benches around playgrounds to sit.	8/14/2018 9:37 PM
161	We desperately need a splash pad & an indoor playground!!	8/14/2018 9:32 PM
162	free splash pads for the kiddos	8/14/2018 9:27 PM
163	More toddler friendly areas. Splash pads, playground equipment (partial/fenced is a plus). More zoo animals, activities at zoo.	8/14/2018 9:06 PM
164	A splash pad please or at least keep the pools open during the week outside of the school off season. Not just school kids like the pool in the summer!!!	8/14/2018 8:07 PM
165	More classes and programs! I cine from Peoria, IL. Check out their park district offerings as well as the surrounding cities (East Peoria, Washington, etc). There is SO much for all ages and so reasonably priced. Gymnastics, jarate, swimming, arts, drawing, yoga, dance, etc etc. Theyre shorter sessions but good way to get feet wet and try something. Ever fall, spribg, summer, winter there are new boojs with all the activities.	8/14/2018 7:45 PM
166	I like Centennial Park, but Shamrock Park needs more shade. Shamrock Park also needs a way to make the playground equipment cooler - it is too hot for a child to play on when the sun is beating down on it. It would be wonderful to have bathrooms available at your parks for the littles too!	8/14/2018 7:33 PM
167	Thank you for working with the local disc golf club!	8/14/2018 7:14 PM
168	We really love having all the parks here in Lafayette. We use them frequently and really appreciate them.	8/14/2018 6:44 PM
169	I think both the South and the North side would benefit from parks. I REALLY would appreciate spraygrounds and more dog parks.	8/14/2018 6:36 PM

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170	Please, please consider multiple splash pads and handicap accessible play equipment	8/14/2018 6:33 PM
171	Splash pads in existing parks would be very helpful for those who can't afford pools.	8/14/2018 6:32 PM
172	Splash Pad (and a large one & preferably more than one so it's not insane) should be priority #1	8/14/2018 6:17 PM
173	Would love a splash pad!	8/14/2018 6:15 PM
174	A splash park would be awesome! Many communities are building them. I feel like that would be a huge benefit to families in the community.	8/14/2018 6:13 PM
175	Would love a park building that could be rented out for events.	8/14/2018 5:46 PM
176	Small parks that are walkable are wonderful for those of us with small kids. They are also easily accessible for those with only 1 car or less.	8/14/2018 5:22 PM
177	I would just really like to see a park on the east side. I hate having to drive 15 min to the closest park (mccaw). We are right outside city late mits by Arnett hospital and there is nothing for kids that way.	8/14/2018 5:13 PM
178	Splash pad, I beg you!	8/14/2018 5:08 PM
179	Please do some free splash pads!	8/14/2018 4:45 PM
180	None	8/14/2018 4:44 PM
181	I think a large splash pad is lacking in this area.	8/14/2018 4:34 PM
182	Please look into more activities for seniors	8/14/2018 4:34 PM
183	Our moms group has been to most of the parks in Lafayette and West Lafayette over the last few years. A splash pad would be so amazing because the closest thing is the fountains on campus, and there is so much construction, it's really hard to access them. It would also be nice to have a couple of playgrounds that are specifically for smaller children and that are enclosed so it would be less stressful for moms with more than one child. There are a lot of playgrounds for oldet kids, but not many that are uniformly safe for children 1-3.	8/14/2018 4:29 PM
184	An indoor play area would be amazing! And a splash pad!	8/14/2018 4:17 PM
185	We need a nice park over on the east side for residents to come to. Nothing over here but the small ones provided by the subdivisions. Also connecting a nice biking/hiking trail from McCarty to the city would be great	8/14/2018 4:16 PM
186	Connecting trails. We use them extensively for biking.	8/14/2018 3:56 PM
187	The main wish that I hear is the lack of free splash pads in town. Additionally, the amount of playground equipment specifically for the under 5 set is minimal, and it would be great to increase that!	8/14/2018 3:54 PM
188	I would love for there to be a splash pad or two available to take small kids. There is not much to offer on the south side in general. It would also be great to have a couple indoor community spaces to rent for small events like birthday parties etc that don't cost a fortune.	8/14/2018 3:44 PM
189	Adding more bike/walk trails like in West Lafayette would be amazing! Especially if they all ended up interconnecting.	8/14/2018 3:38 PM
190	Arlington Park is in need of some serious attention. The playground is missing swings and the merry go round is broken.	8/14/2018 3:23 PM
191	I'm lucky to live close to Armstrong Park -- my dog really enjoys his daily walks around the park, and we enjoy meeting our other dog friends there. Thanks for all you do to keep the parks clean and nicely landscaped. I wish human beings were more considerate & weren't so disgusting in leaving their trash on the floor. But we appreciate how much you guys do to provide us with trash cans all around the parks, and then to clean up after the messy rude folk. Your hard work and efforts are much appreciated! I always say 'thanks' to your guys whenever I see them landscaping and cleaning, etc. You make a difference in the community.	8/14/2018 2:26 PM
192	Na	8/11/2018 6:44 AM
193	I love the parks. Thank you!	8/11/2018 6:22 AM

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194	-No parks south of Brady -Trails are not connected. Fortunately, there are trails next to the corn fields on Twyckenham but none on Old Romney south of Twyckenham where all the homeowners are (I know, transportation, not Parks...) -Facilities are lacking. They're "there" but lack any "character". The only exception is Columbian Park. Otherwise it's mostly block buildings, clover, and crabgrass and offer little. -Nothing in the park system to offer anything like Happy Hollow or the county park at the Sagamore Pky cloverleaf...wooded trails, fishing ponds, etc. Instead of turning the old golf course into something such as a reclaimed prairie with wild flowrers and native grasses, you've allowed it to turn into a over grown weed field that offers nothing more than a paved trail that will soon be no more. A prairie could have attracted birds , butterflies, etc. and been a nature preserve next to the river similar to what surrounds the Celery Bog in WL but, you did nothing. -Total lack of any type of performance venue -instead of paying people to mow city right-of-way, pay to plant native grasses and wildflowers, similar to what was done on VMP S. Save money by not having to mow (in the long run), add roadside shelter belts, and provide visually appealing flora. - The parks department should build a riverside park near downtown that offers a conference and expo center. There is a need to have such a facility. WL will build one and will continue to move ahead of Lafayette on development.	8/10/2018 9:21 PM
195	More recreation activities are needed for teens and preteens. Indoor and outdoor,	8/10/2018 8:39 PM
196	I have lived in every region of the country and Lafayette has some of the best parks I've seen. Keep up the awesome work, my family thanks you!	8/10/2018 5:53 PM
197	Parking spaces for visitors to Loeb Stadium is a problem! Brice Street between S.24th and Park Ave. needs NO PARKING SIGNS on the south side of the street. When cars park on both sides, there is barely enough room for one lane in the middle, it forces people to walk in the street and makes it difficult for residents to navigate the neighborhood.	8/10/2018 4:17 PM
198	I would love to see more solar powered buildings and structures in Lafayette as we move toward being an environmentally friendly town.	8/10/2018 3:42 PM
199	A splash pad would be great and be suitable for the size of Lafayette	8/10/2018 2:04 PM
200	Venues to support music and the arts Venues that support walks and runs (5K/10K type) Venues to support year round activities; gyms, ice rinks, lacrosse fields, basketball courts, bicycling	8/10/2018 1:44 PM
201	Would love West Lafayette to build a Splash pad!	8/10/2018 1:12 PM
202	Lafayette does a good job maintaining current parks and facilities. There are a few playgrounds that need replaced due to aging/high use. When building new facilities, etc. make sure to increase staff so they can still maintain at a high level and keep things in good shape.	8/10/2018 12:59 PM
203	Create a venue to host weddings, reunions, etc. with large crowds.	8/10/2018 12:34 PM
204	Excited for the new slide at the cove!	8/10/2018 12:13 PM
205	Splash pads have always been something I wish we had in the area. Many parents, especially parents with multiple children, have a hard time taking their children to a pool because of the difficulty of watching them all closely enough to prevent drowning. A large splash pad that was fenced with only one entry and exit monitored by a guard would be incredible!	8/10/2018 10:38 AM
206	I have enjoyed Art in the Park. I do think efforts should be made to recruit more vendors.	8/10/2018 10:32 AM
207	We recently visited this splash pad and river water feature. It was so nice! It would be amazing to have something like this in our community! Thanks <a href="http://www.zionsville-in.gov/Facilities/Facility/Details/Mulberry-Fields-9">http://www.zionsville-in.gov/Facilities/Facility/Details/Mulberry-Fields-9</a>	8/10/2018 10:19 AM
208	The play area at the top of the hill at Colombian Park is very stressful because people can come and go from any direction and as it is a circular play area I cannot sit while my kods play I must follow them around to make sure they are safe and I worry about a stranger making off with them. Marion,IN has a big playset that is long not circular so you can sit on either side and see you kids from any direction , also there is a fence all the way around with only one entrance/exit	8/10/2018 9:37 AM
209	Recycling programs needed within the parks. Have recycle-training programs for kids. So many inner-city kids just throw their garbage on the ground, create a program to support and encourage recycling in the lower-income populations around central Lafayette and downtown.	8/10/2018 9:06 AM
210	I think it would be a good idea for the Department to operate the adult softball program at Lyboubt Fields rather than the current contractors. There is a reputation that deters some people for participating in the leagues.	8/10/2018 9:01 AM

## 2018 Lafayette Parks & Recreation Department Five-Year Park System Master Plan Questionnaire

211	Definitely splash pads. I would like to see a park area east. Lots of additions. There are a few subdivision play areas but not kept well.	8/10/2018 8:45 AM
212	Please build a splash pad! :) The new park at McCaw is AWESOME! More like that please!	8/10/2018 8:17 AM
213	The way memorial island was redone is not very user friendly to actually hold concerts. It's a great space for a concert it's just very hard to load in and load out. It's like it was redone with a vision of what you wanted to do with the space.	8/10/2018 7:58 AM
214	Do whatever it takes to finish the Zoo master plan. It has been a long time coming!	8/10/2018 7:53 AM
215	Accessible bathrooms at every park is important with kids and people with chronic illness	8/10/2018 7:40 AM
216	Please build more parks on the south side!	8/10/2018 7:21 AM
217	We have great parks. Keep up the good work!	8/10/2018 7:04 AM
218	Splash pads (free) should be a priority for parks. Most other communities offer lots of options for kids to cool off at existing parks.	8/10/2018 6:56 AM
219	Splash Pad would be awesome!! Also, maybe an indoor playground area.	8/10/2018 6:44 AM
220	We need a park for kids with special needs as autism is on the rise everywhere we need to do this and then other communities would maybe realize how important it is to give these kids with special needs the same opportunities as other children.	8/10/2018 5:53 AM
221	Finish the Zoo!	8/10/2018 5:14 AM
222	We live less than a 1/2 mile from the city limits. We would love to see special needs accessible equipment and playgrounds. I have been to the Possibilities Playground in Port Washington, WI. It was amazing. My son could interact with kids of all abilities. I believe our community has a need for something like this. Thank you!	8/10/2018 12:13 AM
223	I have a special needs daughter that is wheelchair bound. I think it would be awesome if we could get equipment that she could enjoy. Even if it was just a swing.	8/9/2018 11:21 PM
224	I would love to see the old city golf course developed into a more park like setting with walking trails, playgrounds, shelters, etc.	8/9/2018 10:34 PM
225	Love Columbian park, wish we had something like that here in TH	8/9/2018 9:44 PM
226	We have great facilities for nice weather days, but I would love to see indoor playgrounds or some sort of youth exercise facilities. Would also love a splash pad, for when going to a pool for hours is not feasible.	8/9/2018 9:09 PM
227	Need to better treat for bees at parks. Often nesting in ground or on play equipment. Bike paths/walking paths at all areas would be nice. Unless you plan on downtown getting cleaned up with less crime, don't waste money there...it will just be defaced and destroyed. Routine cleaning of parks needs to happen. And the addicts are starting to linger or sleep on benches, in woods of parks etc. 9th Street is example, ad is Armstrong. Using less, just don't feel as safe.	8/9/2018 9:06 PM
228	While I would like to see programming available to people of all income levels and new facilities developed, please don't expand services at the expense of maintaining existing facilities. I think the parks look like they are taken care of and I don't want that to change.	8/9/2018 8:02 PM
229	More planned family activities	8/9/2018 7:42 PM
230	Bike trails connecting various parks would be wonderful. A free splash pad not inside one of the aquatic centers would also be nice.	8/9/2018 7:41 PM

## 2018 Lafayette Parks & Recreation Department Five-Year Park System Master Plan Questionnaire

231	A few splash pads would be great in different areas in parks (not just at pools) would even be cool downtown! Better newer parks on the south end would also be really nice! We love out off 350 and we have to drive to mccaaw park, colmbian park or Cumberland in WL. Armstrong park is not worth our time. So many events are at mccaalister rec center but it doesn't always work great. Would be nicer to see events held in a more open indoor space. Would be nice to see more events outside of mccaalister in general. Oh and some of the zoo programs can be a little pricey. I have several small children so going to one event just one day can really add up so i worry about families with limited access not having equal access. Also art in the park in theory is an awesome idea but not well executed. Has the opportunity to be significantly better. Oh and the "rides" for kids in the zoo, i never even knew they were there, these could be awesome but sadly aren't because how many other people dont realize they are in use! Major bummer! Oh and could something be done about the "animals" around the park for the train ride? Again great in theory but these are so corny. I like the idea of a safari but they honestly look so tacky! A concession stand and maybe a small seating area at colmbian park could also be amazing and profitable. Oh and better access to fishing spots at places like Armstrong and munger parks. You have these beautiful lakes but they are surrounded by tall brush, it really is a disservice to the park and the users. Tourism initiatives like scavenger hunts through all the parks would be another great idea. Do you have any parks with lakes big enough for paddle boats? Another great idea! I could go on. You can email me at ahoffman924@gmail.com if you would like more honest feedback. Otherwise you guys really are doing a great job. I know i listed a lot but these are just possible beneficial improvements.	8/9/2018 7:11 PM
232	Special needs equipment	8/9/2018 6:47 PM
233	Put a fence up down by lybolt Park for dogs! Keep the kids out of the dog watering stations at all parks. Patrol the river walk for the homeless mooching on the trail and at the train station and the bridge.	8/9/2018 6:43 PM
234	The new pool stuff will be good	8/9/2018 6:41 PM
235	Special needs park	8/9/2018 6:19 PM
236	I think the parks we have are a little dated and need some renovations in areas. I have 3 special needs children and they love going to the park but are very limited in the areas they can play safely	8/9/2018 6:16 PM
237	There needs to be a special needs program for those unable to use the swings a child with non physical challenges is able to use. Sometimes the public or officials say all are welcome, but when everyone tries to be included it's just not possible because of there isn't anything for a child with physical challenges.	8/9/2018 5:58 PM
238	We need a handicap accessible playground just for special needs and disabilities	8/9/2018 5:42 PM
239	We need a special needs playground	8/9/2018 5:31 PM
240	Thanks for all you have done already to improve and expand our parks! I have lived in this community for 30 years and it's been encouraging to see all the changes taking place!	8/9/2018 4:42 PM
241	I went to a Frankfort outdoor movie night at their park. I think you should consider doing something like that at columbian park. I went to the ones that were there eariler and they seemed "thrown together"....	8/9/2018 4:07 PM
242	N	8/9/2018 3:46 PM
243	Greater Lafayette needs a splash pad! Also, we love the renovation of MaCaw Park. I hope future parks and renovations will be done in a similar style. Indoor play spaces would be great, too!	8/9/2018 3:01 PM
244	Thanks for asking me what I think!!	8/9/2018 1:03 PM

# THE DOWNTOWN PARK

HARRISON BRIDGE

River's Edge

Brown Street Development

Tapawingo Lawn + Bandshell

Sky Link Bridge

CINCINNATI ST

Third Street Park

BROWN ST

The Ribbon + Tapawingo Square

The Ripple

BROWN ST

The Point

Riverside Pavilion + Green

East Shore Overlooks

NORTH ST

Third Street Development

Margerum Commons

The Bottomlands

Riverside Promenade North

FERRY ST

Riehle Park

STATE ST

JOHN T. MYERS BRIDGE

MAIN ST

Riverside Promenade South

TAPAWINGO DR

Tapawingo Drive Development

COLUMBIA ST

2ND ST

3RD ST

4TH ST

SOUTH ST



# THE DOWNTOWN PARK

## Sky Link Bridge

The iconic link connecting pedestrians and bicyclists to park and plaza spaces on both sides of the river,

## The Point + Third Street Park

The eastern end of Sky Link Bridge joins Riverside Promenade North near where the promenade bends south toward the downtown Lafayette skyline.

## Third Street Development

New, vibrant mixed-use urban infill development anchors the northeast corner of The Downtown Park.

## Riverside Promenade North

The Riverside Promenade North is dynamic and iconic element that weaves between the river corridor and mixed-use downtown development.

## Riehle Park

Already a place for gathering and warm weather events, Riehle Plaza expands to become the crown jewel of Downtown Lafayette open space and becomes known as Riehle Park.

## Riverside Promenade South

The Riverside Promenade South is dynamic and iconic element that weaves between the river corridor and mixed-use downtown development.

## Tapawingo Drive Development

As the new, gateway to downtown West Lafayette, this vibrant mixed-use urban infill development anchors the intersection of State Street and Tapawingo Drive.

## Margerum Commons

A new fountain is the central feature in this space, which also includes a new plaza and rebuilt steps and walks linking the bridge, fountain, and plaza.

## Riverside Pavilion + Green

The existing Riverside Skating Center will be transformed to become the Riverside Pavilion and host local events on the Riverside Green lawn.

## The Ribbon + Tapawingo Square

On axis with the Riverside Pavilion is The Ribbon and Tapawingo Square, which is an interactive fountain in the summer and ice track in the winter.

## Tapawingo Performance Lawn + Bandshell

Tapawingo Performance Lawn aligns with the center of Riverside Pavilion and Tapawingo Square to form a concentrated cluster of activity on the north side of Tapawingo Park.

## The Ripple

Between Tapawingo Square and the river's edge is a place of interactive and natural play and imagination known as The Ripple.

## Brown Street Development

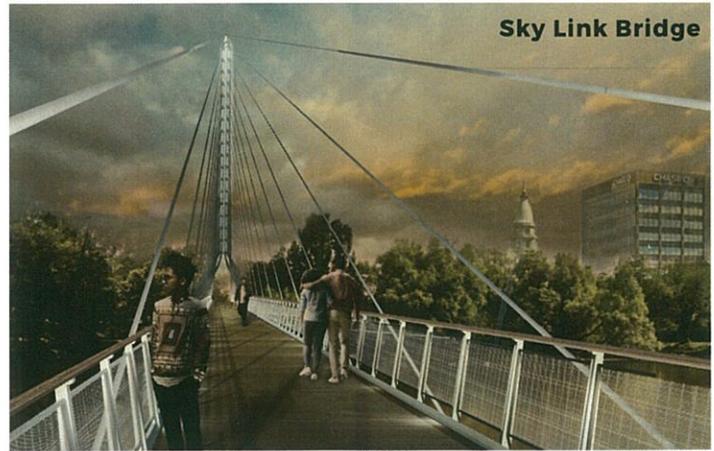
New, vibrant mixed-use urban infill development anchors the northwest corner of The Downtown Park.

## The Bottomlands

The unique wetland ecosystem known as a 'bottomlands' and is considered a rarity this far north on the Wabash River and will remain protected.

## River's Edge + East Shore Overlooks

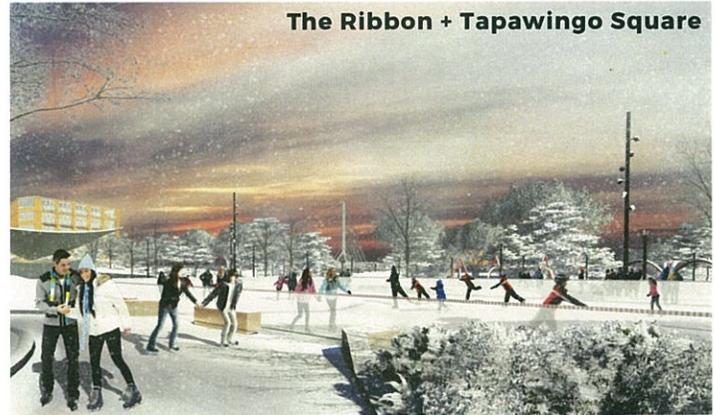
The quiet and forgotten shorelines are activated by new trail connections and strategically placed overlooks.



Sky Link Bridge



Riehle Park



The Ribbon + Tapawingo Square



The Ripple

## Site Legend

1. Parking
2. Mountain Bike Trail
3. Playground
4. Community Garden
5. Great Lawn
6. Pavilion/Performance Stage
7. Trail
8. Promenade
9. Softball Fields
10. Boat Launch
11. Disc Golf
12. Model Airspace
13. Earth Shaping
14. Wetlands
15. Wellheads
16. Mix-use Development
17. Boardwalk
18. Overlook





North Reach

# WABASH RIVER

ENHANCEMENT CORPORATION

North Reach



WABASH RIVER NORTHERN REACH