



Parks, Recreation & Open Space Master Plan 2012-2022



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1. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The City of Boerne, Texas prepared the City of Boerne Parks, Recreation & Open Space Master Plan 2012-2022 from December 2011 thru May 2012 through efforts of the City Staff, residents of Boerne and personnel from LUCK Design Team. The City Parks, Recreation & Open Space Master Plan reflects a range of issues and levels of planning within the broad-scale contextual relationships of parks in the community and serves as a guide for the future development of the City of Boerne parks and recreation system.

We thank the following individuals for their guidance in the development of this plan.

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In addition, the City would like to thank those who partook in the public workshops outlined in this document and to all the residents of Boerne who completed the Parks and Recreation Citizen Survey. Their input was vital in the development of the future guidance that this plan offers. We appreciate their time and energies in making Boerne a great place to live, work and play!



2. INTRODUCTION

PLANNING TO ADDRESS FUTURE RECREATION, PARKS AND OPEN SPACE NEEDS

The City of Boerne is located in south central Texas, approximately 30 miles northwest of San Antonio. Located along Interstate 10, the City's ideal location and highway access to San Antonio and to the Hill Country make it a highly desirable place to live.

The City has seen significant population growth due to its ideal location and urban setting. Kendall County's population growth rate change has increased 146% from 1980 to 2005, compared to Texas' growth rate change of 55%.¹ This has consequently lead to a significant increase in the demand for active recreation facilities and park amenities to service not only the City of Boerne but residents of Kendall County as well. This has been particularly evident in the increased growth in participation for youth leagues such as soccer, baseball and softball. The youth leagues utilize City owned facilities for practices and games. The majority of these participants are non-residents of the City, adding to the challenge of keeping up with park demand both for facilities and funding. Non resident use of the City of Boerne's parkland comprises an estimated 65% of the total use of the City's parks and recreation programs and facilities.



The majority of these participants attend schools in the Boerne Independent School District and feel a sense of belonging to the Boerne community. Current growth projections indicate that the City's athletic facilities will not be able to meet the growing needs of these leagues and organizations within a few short years. Accordingly, in 2007 it was determined that park land should be purchased to help meet this future demand. The City purchased the land for Northside Community Park in an effort to begin to offset this demand; the design and development of this park will be an important part of meeting the needs and priorities outlined in this plan.

Park and open space systems are vital to sustainable economic development in urban areas. In addition to attracting businesses and tourism, they enhance property values, promote public health and safety by encouraging physical fitness, and they provide positive alternatives to criminal behavior for adults and youth alike.

Parks are visual reminders of the quality of life within a community and often serve as a way to build community spirit through conservation, preservation and recognition of local cultural heritage.

As a result of the City's current and projected growth it is imperative that we have a workable and realistic park and open space master plan to guide the City Staff and elected officials of the City as they decide how best to meet and prioritize the recreation needs of a growing community over the next 10 years.

PURPOSE OF THE PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

The City of Boerne Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan 2012-2022, "The Plan", establishes goals and priorities and provides an assessment of the existing park system. The plan:

- Builds upon the recommendations and actions in the 2007 City of Boerne Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan;
- Points out deficiencies in the system and recommends alternatives to address and correct those deficiencies;
- Looks at potential growth of the City over the next 5 to 10 years, and assesses where additional facilities will be needed as the city grows, and what types of facilities are most needed;
- Guides Staff in acquiring land to meet current and future park and open space needs.
- Prioritizes key recommendations of the Plan so that the most significant deficiencies are addressed as quickly as possible;
- Is intended to guide staff and city leaders in determining where and how parks funding should be allocated over the next five to ten years.

JURISDICTION AND PLANNING AREA

Boerne is the primary governmental entity providing recreational facilities for the citizens of Boerne and the residents of areas in the City's extra-territorial jurisdiction (ETJ). In addition, the City serves all residents that reside outside of the City limits and ETJ, but within the boundaries of the Boerne Independent School District. Ancillary recreational facilities are provided by the Boerne Independent School District at some campuses with approval for scheduled activities. Currently, Kendall County is establishing a parks and natural area system with their stated service goal to provide river and stream recreation, and to protect and manage selected river and stream natural areas that provide essential support for regional biological diversity.



The recommendations in this Plan will be implemented by the City of Boerne within the guidelines of the annual budget and five year Capital Improvements Plan. This plan is intended to cover all of the City as well as strong considerations given to the areas included in the ETJ.

PLAN TIME FRAME AND UPDATING

The plan is formulated to address the time frame from the year 2012 - 2022.

Many of the recommendations of the plan are valid for a period of up to ten years, but should be re-evaluated periodically. The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) recommends that a Parks and Open Space Master Plan should be updated after a ten year period, or before if any major developments occur that significantly alter the recreation needs of the City.

An annual review of the plan should be done by Staff and presented to the City Manager and City Council to report progress and successes. In addition, the plan should be up-dated on a biannual basis with adoption by the City Council. More frequent updates may be required if special needs or occurrences require modifications to the plan. In all cases, public involvement through one or more of the following should be included in any updating process: citizen meetings, interviews, workshops, surveys.

COMPONENTS OF THE PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN 2012-2022

This Plan includes the components listed below, and meets the requirements for a Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan as established by TPWD .



1. Introduction

This section includes the unit of government for which the plan is created and its corresponding socio-economic data; demographics on ethnicity, age, and income as a minimum; current and projected population figures and their source; growth or non-growth patterns; and the government's or agency's role in providing parks and recreation opportunities.

2. Goals and Objectives

The parks and recreation services goals are indicated for the City of Boerne and follows with specific objectives for each goal. These goals and objectives are given careful thought along with a projected time period stated in the Plan.

3. Plan and Development Process

This important section indicates how the City identified and prioritized its resident's parks needs, wrote the plan and when the process began. Planning committees utilized and public input received through hearings, meetings, and surveys are also documented.

4. Area and Facility Concepts and Standards

This portion of the plan contributes directly to the assessment and identification of needs without establishing local standards and concepts.

5. Inventory of Parks and Facilities

Records the assessment of the parks, recreation and open space areas and facilities that are currently within the City of Boerne park system. The inventory information is essential for assessing needs.

6. Needs Assessment and Identification

The following two approaches are employed in the plan to assist in determining parks and recreation needs:

Demand-Based: This approach relies on information gathered from participation rates, surveys, and other information that indicates how much of the population wants certain types of facilities.

Standard-Based: This approach uses established standards to determine facilities and park areas needed to meet the needs of a given population size. The standards may be based on demand studies, the



professional judgment of park and recreation planners and designers, etc.

This section clearly identifies the needs and explains the methodology for determining them, considering both outdoor and indoor recreation needs.

7. Plan Implementation and Prioritization of Needs

A priority list of needs ranked in order from highest to lowest priority. Separate priority lists have been provided for indoor and outdoor needs. Lists must be area and/or facility specific, and be ranked according to priority (e.g. Outdoor Priorities: #1 = trails; #2 = Acquisition of neighborhood park in southeast area of town; #3 = Rest rooms in nature park; #4 = Adult softball fields; #5 = Tennis courts; etc. Indoor Priorities: #1 = Indoor pool; #2 = Gym and basketball court; #3 = Walking track; #4 = Arts and crafts room; #5 = Meeting room; etc.

8. Illustrations, Maps, Surveys, Etc.

City map, county map, or jurisdiction are indicated as appropriate. Maps, survey's charts, plates, graphics, and photographs in the plan help explain and support the planning process and conclusion.

The Plan covers at least a ten year period and may be updated every five years to remain eligible. Updates include a summary of accomplishment, new public input, most recent inventory date, and updated needs, priorities, and new implementation plan. Demographics, population projections, goals and objectives, standards, and maps should also be updated

if appropriate. Priorities may be updated as high priority items are accomplished and lower priorities move up. A new resolution is not required when updating priorities; however if you change or revise the priorities, a new resolution should be submitted. A complete new plan is required every ten years.



CITY OF BOERNE HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The City of Boerne was originally platted in 1852 by Gustav Theissen and John James. Gustav Theissen, a German colonist, bought 1,100 acres of land from Christian Hesse. With the help of John James, a public surveyor and Theissen's eventual partner, he proceeded to lay-out and survey the town site of Boerne. Named for Ludwig Boerne, a German poet and publicist, who died in France 15 years earlier. The settlement was located along the north side of the Cibolo Creek. Boerne developed slowly. In 1858, only ten houses were built. The Civil War (1861 – 1865) brought progress in the Hill Country and the entire nation to a standstill. One event of historical significance was that in 1862 when Kendall County was formed from portions of Bexar, Blanco, Comal and Kerr Counties in 1862, Boerne was selected as the county seat.

Indians were still a significant threat to the town in the early 1870's, but after several significant battles such as battle of Palo Duro Canyon in 1873, and the battle of Adobe Walls in 1874, the Indian threat was all but eliminated. The last big Indian fight in Kendall County occurred at Ring Mountain, near Sisterdale in 1871. After this, the

decades between 1879 and 1949 brought tremendous changes to the City of Boerne and Kendall County.

The telegraph reached Boerne in 1883. Two years later, the Dienger Building, a noted landmark, was constructed and served as a general store with upstairs living accommodations. This structure set off a commercial building trend that continued into the 1900's. In March of 1887, the first train arrived on the outskirts of Boerne. Residents could now receive twice daily delivery of mail and newspapers, have quick and easy travel to and from San Antonio in two hours, and paved the way for an influx of businessmen, travelers and health seekers. At the turn of the century Boerne actually had six hotels and merchants in town were actively promoting tourism and recreation activities.

By 1890, the population of Boerne had more than tripled to 800 residents and growth in Boerne continued into the 20th century. Boerne was supplied with electricity in 1904 and five years later was incorporated in 1909. The Cibolo Creek was the primary source of water for Boerne residents for many years, until the municipal water system was installed in 1947-48.

Over the next twenty years Boerne's population grew to over 2,000 residents, fueled by local economic opportunity based on tourism and cotton farming. However with the crash of Wall Street in 1929 (The Great Depression) Boerne saw hard times as industries faltered, hotels and businesses closed forever. Boerne's population decreased by 45% from 1929 to 1931. It would take over fifteen years for Boerne to again reach pre-Great Depression population levels.

The automobile became more affordable in the 1950's resulting in many Boerne residents working outside the municipality. In addition, an increasing number of San Antonio residents were able to move to Boerne while keeping their job in the city. As a result, since the 1950's, Boerne has experienced continued population growth. By 1980 the population exceeded 3,000 residents; 4,000 residents by 1990; and over 6,000 residents by 2000. With the continued outward growth and northward expansion of the San Antonio metropolitan area, it is anticipated that Boerne's population will continue to grow. This anticipated growth has created the need for the 2007 City of Boerne Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan update. The recent growth and development has brought both opportunities and challenges for the future of Boerne.

(Sources: Boerne.org, Rootsweb.com, Boerne Public Library, Historic Images of Boerne, Texas 1982)



PARK DEVELOPMENT

Main Plaza - The first area designated within the City of Boerne to serve as a "Community Park" was established about 1852 and was known as the "Public Square". This was a much larger area that was originally fenced and utilized by citizens to water horses, and livestock while in town.

Veterans Plaza (formerly Military Plaza) - In 1964, the City of Boerne had four park sites totaling 7.5 acres. There were two memorial parks, Veterans Plaza and Roeder Parks, Riverside Park and Downtown Park. In 1923 the H. J. Graham family erected a Memorial Monument near the center of Military Plaza honoring all the men and women who died as a result of military action in World War I. Additional names have been added to indicate those who lost their lives in World War II and the Korean War. As a result of the Vietnam War citizens added a bronze piece to the top of the monument recognizing veterans of both World Wars, Korean and Vietnam wars.

Roeder Park - On the 18th of June, 1945, C. T. and Eva Roberts deeded four lots in the Cibolo Park Addition to the City of Boerne to honor the memory of two brothers, Aaron and Allen Roeder who were killed in World War II

while serving their Country.

River Road Park (formerly Riverside Park) - River Road Park is one of the most popular park sites in Boerne given its small size and high service level. This linear park is located along the banks of the Cibolo Creek and is home to a numerous variety of ducks, migratory songbirds, and native aquatic species.

One of the unique features of River Road Park is the Cibolo Dam located at the east end of the park. The dam was deeded to the City of Boerne in July 1912. The dam was originally known as the old Dietert Mill Dam and was part of the old Dietert homestead which was located on the south side bank of Cibolo Creek.

City Park - In 1964, efforts were underway by the City to acquire a 125 acre tract of land to serve as the City's first developed park. Mayor Ray Smart, was notified on February 10, 1965 by Western Union Telegram, from Ralph W. Yarborough, United States Senator, that Boerne would be receiving an Urban Renewal Administration Grant of \$12,159 from the Housing and Home Financing Agencies to aid in the purchase of the park land. Park planners envisioned amenities such as athletic fields, recreation building, playground, tennis courts, picnic and camping areas. The City's first Recreation Committee was organized in 1969 to discuss a Master Recreational Plan for the park. The park served for many years as the City's only park that supported athletic activities such as softball, baseball, tennis, and soccer. Today the park features the only public pool in the county, tennis courts, soccer fields, sand volleyball courts, and picnic areas. The Cibolo Nature Center and the Agricultural Heritage Museum are also located in City Park. The City leases about 100 acres of City Park to the Friends of the Cibolo Wilderness to operate and maintain the Cibolo Nature Center. The Agricultural Heritage Museum, a non-profit organization established in 1986 leases 5.433 acres from the City to run and operate the Agricultural Heritage Museum.



The museum is dedicated to preserving the historic farming implements, tools, and artifacts that were used in the Texas Hill Country for tomorrow's generations to learn from and enjoy. Many improvements and additions to City Park are the result of major contributions from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department as well as from other public and private donors.

Boerne Lake Park

Concerned over flooding in Boerne, city forefathers recognized a need to create a means to assist with flood control. An application was made to the Texas Water Commission to seek approval for water rights in the Cibolo Creek Watershed of the San Antonio River Basin. The Texas Water Commission granted permission to the City of Boerne on January 7, 1972, to construct and maintain a dam and reservoir on Cibolo Creek for municipal purposes to aid in flood control.

The Certificate of Adjudication was amended on November 12, 1979, when the city asked to have the right to utilize the water from the reservoir for domestic purposes. This was a significant move on the part of the city forefathers to ensure that the city would have another source of water for its citizens.

In September 2005, the Boerne City Council approved development of City Lake Park. In 2008 the Park opened for

use including approximately 100 acres of water surface, boat launch, fishing piers, pavilion, and rest rooms.

Optimist Park – Formerly a city well site now abandoned, this park was developed in 1997 with the support of the local Optimist Club. The Optimist Club supported the purchase of playground equipment and development of the site.

Northrup Park - The land was purchased from the Northrup family and officially opened in 2000. This park has become a popular park for softball and baseball tournaments and leagues. In addition to the ball fields, a covered basketball court serves both as a facility for picnics, reunions, social gatherings and pick up games of basketball or organized practices. In the southeastern portion of this park; the first Park Operations shop, housing both staff and equipment, was completed in December 2004.

Northside Community Park

When the 2007 Parks Master Plan was adopted it included recommendations to purchase land for the future development of a community park that would help satisfy the growing need for recreational field use. In May of 2007 voters approved a quality of life bond which included funds that were used to purchase 38 acres now known as the Northside Community Park. In 2010 the Boerne Skate Park opened on this property including rest room facilities, playground, and skate park. The remaining approximately 36 acres are still available for future development.

Northside Neighborhood Park

In August 2007 the property now known as Northside Community Park was purchased using funds from the May 2007 quality of life bonds. In 2008 the house on the property was renovated and is currently the home to the Parks Department main office. The property includes a portion of Curry Creek and as of March 2012 is now the home to the Curry Creek Trail head. Future development of the park is planned in the next 5 years.

The Old Number Nine Trail – This trail was officially opened in the fall of 2004 with the completion of trail amenities such as rest stops, drinking fountains, all-steel depot style pavilion and interpretive signage. This 1 ¼ mile section of the abandoned Southern Pacific railroad right-of-way was initially granted to the San Antonio & Aransas Pass Railway Company and now serves as a pedestrian and bicycle trail.

THE PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT OF BOERNE

Boerne is located on the southern rim of the semi-arid Edwards Plateau with an elevation of 1405 feet, Latitude: 29.79 N, Longitude: 98.73 W. The terrain is rolling, rugged, hills that are comprised mostly of limestone rocks and boulders. Consequently, this region is prone to flash flooding because of the limestone bedrock, rugged topography, thin topsoil profile and sporadic rainfall intensity.



Numerous creeks and waterways run through the City of Boerne providing opportunities for an extensive greenways and trail system. Conversely, these waterways present safety issues and challenges as a result of periodic flash flooding. The Cibolo Creek is by far the most significant creek running through Boerne. Rising ten miles northwest of Boerne in southwestern Kendall County, the Cibolo runs southeast for 100 miles, forming the Bexar-Comal and the Bexar-Guadalupe county lines and crossing Wilson County, to its mouth on the San Antonio River, five miles northwest of Karnes City in Karnes County. The Cibolo has several dams located on its route such as the one on HWY 46 East/River Road at River Road Park. Continuing downstream, the Cibolo is the signature feature in City Park as it borders the west portion of the park and boasts large cypress trees creating one of the most majes-

tic and beautiful locations in Boerne.

Boerne City Lake, fed by Cibolo Creek is located off of Upper Cibolo Creek Road on the northwest side of Boerne (West of IH-10). The lake was developed in the 1970's to serve as a flood control lake and is now also utilized as the City's primary municipal water reservoir.

LAND USE

The Future Land Use Plan was adopted as part of the Boerne Comprehensive Master Plan (approved in October of 2010). The City of Boerne Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan 2012-2022 is based upon analysis of the City's existing natural systems, development patterns, infrastructure, as well as interviews with public and appointed officials, key stakeholders, and the public. An extensive public participation process produced several alternative scenarios that were presented in a series of community workshops.

2010 DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE DATA OF BOERNE

Between 1890 and 1920 Boerne experienced gradual but steady growth. During the 1920's and 1930's Boerne's population experienced a dramatic increase then decrease. After 1950, Boerne's population began to exponentially increase. Boerne's increasing population trend has continued into the 21st Century with the most recent decennial growth rates recording the highest increases in both total number and percent. In addition to Boerne, Kendall County's growth rate is almost identical to Boerne's time line from 1890 until 1970. After 1970, however, Kendall County's population begins to exponentially increase at an even higher rate than Boerne's. This trend indicates that unincorporated Kendall County is also experiencing growth pressures resulting from the continued rapid influx of new residents.

Demographic Profile Data for the City of Boerne from the 2010 U.S. Census is provided below and on the following pages:

Total Population²: 10,471

Age²

Median Age: 38.4 years old

Under 5 years	718	6.9%
5 to 9 years	740	7.1%
10 to 14 years	795	7.6%
15 to 19 years	660	6.3%
20 to 24 years	564	5.4%
25 to 29 years	636	6.1%
30 to 34 years	648	6.2%
35 to 39 years	716	6.8%
40 to 44 years	661	6.3%
45 to 49 years	779	7.4%
50 to 54 years	683	6.5%
55 to 59 years	585	5.6%
60 to 64 years	510	4.9%
65 to 69 years	439	4.2%
70 to 74 years	293	2.8%
75 to 79 years	245	2.3%
80 to 84 years	348	3.3%
85 years and older	451	4.3%

Gender²

Males	4,948	47.3%
Females:	5,523	52.7%

Race²

Total Population	10,471	
<u>Hispanic/Latino</u>	2,381	22.7%
Mexican	2,003	19.1%
Puerto Rican	56	0.5%
Cuban	11	0.1%
Other Hispanic	311	3.0%
<u>Not Hispanic/Latino</u>	8,090	77.3%
White Alone	7,807	74.6%
Black or African American Alone	53	0.5%
American Indian/ Alaska Native Alone	28	0.3%
Asian Alone	80	0.8%
Native Hawaiian Alone	6	0.1%
Some Other Race Alone	6	0.1%
Two or more Races	110	1.1%

Total Households²

4,085

Households with individuals under 18	1,388	34.0%
Households with individuals 65 years+	1,186	29.0%
Average Household Size	2.47	

Occupied housing units²

Owned with a mortgage or loan	1,539	37.7%
Owned free and clear	679	16.6%
Renter occupied	1,867	45.7%

SOURCE:

1. www.kendallcountyedc.com/demographics, retrieved 05.29.12.
2. U.S. Census, 2010 Census, retrieved 05.08.12.

3. PLAN DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

The City has utilized the City of Boerne 2007 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan 2012-2022 to guide the management and growth of its parks system over the last five years and many of the recommendations of that plan have been implemented. Although the planning horizon of that plan is valid for a period of up to ten years, it should be evaluated periodically, and the development of the City of Boerne Parks, Recreation & Open Space Master Plan 2012-2022 represents the culmination of that future planning evaluation. The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) recommends that a Parks and Open Space Master Plan should be updated if any major developments occur that significantly alter the recreation needs of the City.

The City began the process of revising the 2007 plan in the late fall of 2011. Staff from the City of Boerne developed the "2011 City of Boerne Parks and Recreation Citizen Survey" and copies of the survey were mailed to all residents of the City. Copies of the survey were also available at various City buildings and online at the City's website. 138 surveys were completed and turned into the City from December 15, 2011 to March of 2012. It is from these survey compilations that a benchmark of park needs were established to serve as a base point to develop the City's future park and recreation priorities.

The City also conducted a series of open house workshops to gather further public input in the development of the plan. Four separate meetings was facilitated to discuss preliminary goals, objectives and needs for the City's park system. These meetings were held on January 19, 2012, February 24, 2012, February 27, 2012 and February 28, 2012 respectively and are further detailed in "Section 6 -Needs Assessment and Identification" of this document.

As the public input process was completed, the park planning firm of LUCK Design Team was hired to distill this information into a working plan. Members of Luck Design Team met with City Staff throughout the remainder of the planning process to identify the City's park and recreation needs and priorities and provide growth planning recommendations.

An inventory of public and private parks in Boerne was conducted and evaluated. Upon conclusion of the inventory, proposed acreage and facility standards were compared to the needs assessment and provided to guide future planning through 2022. The proposed standards took into account the current level of service and expressed needs of survey respondents. The City's park needs were also sorted into high, medium and low priorities for indoor and outdoor facilities. These priorities were derived from the public input and survey responses, plus input from City staff. Recommendations on priorities were developed to assist with the 10-year implementation plan that outlines when the prioritized projects should be accomplished.



The plan was endorsed by City Staff in May of 2012 and the revised Parks, Recreation & Open Space Master Plan 2012-2022 was approved by the City Council in June of 2012.

4. GOALS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE BOERNE PARKS AND RECREATION SYSTEM

Goals are an important part of the park planning process. The goals expressed in the Plan reflect the desires of the citizens, elected officials and staff.

The following goals and objectives are provided to give direction for future City decisions regarding recreation activities, programs, and the parks and open space system. The goals and objectives were formulated based on input from focus group discussions, a citizen’s survey conducted in 2011, elected officials, and public meetings held in conjunction with the development of the Boerne Master Plan.

In developing the Plan it is important to be in unison with the Boerne Master Plan, and other approved master plans such as those created for waterways, Central Business District, etc. so that our efforts are in alignment with the overall vision and goals of the City. For example, recreation, parks, trails and open space are especially important in the citizen’s vision of their community and priorities as reflected in the Boerne Master Plan, thus the incorporation of these goals in this master plan.



Stated Goals & Objectives

Strategic Goal 1: Provide the highest quality parks and recreational facilities and services.

General Objective 1 Boerne should have high quality maintenance standards and seek to improve all existing city parks, equipment, and grounds.

Specific Goal # 1 Continue to manage the maintenance, safety standards and procedures for the Parks and Recreation Department.

Specific Goal # 2 Manage and update regularly the Urban Forestry Plan for Boerne.

Specific Goal # 3 Develop a fleet and equipment replacement plan.

Specific Goal # 4 Establish an on-going re-appraisal of existing parks, facilities, and services offered by the Department.

Strategic Goal 2: Continue to enhance the system of parks, recreational facilities and recreational services, and open space.

General Objective 2.1 Ensure that there is sufficient park and recreation facilities to meet the needs of citizens who reside within the City of Boerne service area.

Specific Goal # 5 Monitor and maintain a Level of Service standard for the City of Boerne.

Specific Goal # 6 Investigate and seek revenue sources for park improvements and development.

- Specific Goal # 7 Work and coordinate with residential developers to ensure that open space dedication requirements are met (City of Boerne Subdivision Ordinance, Article III).
- Specific Goal # 8 Implement approved Capital Improvement Programs.
- Specific Goal # 9 Coordinate with the School District and other youth and adult service providers to investigate the feasibility of cooperative ventures to jointly provide park and recreation areas.

General Objective 2.2 Continue to offer recreational programs and special events to meet the community needs and desires.

Specific Goal # 10 Sponsor, co-sponsor and assist with special events, athletic events and activities that promote Boerne, meet community needs, and support economic health in the community.

Specific Goal # 11 Meet with service providers to seek opportunities for joint ventures in recreational programming.

Specific Goal #12 Create and execute special events and hire as needs and benefits indicate.



Strategic Goal # 3 Continue to develop pedestrian / bikeway trails and greenbelts to connect park and residential areas.

General Objective 3.1 Acquire adequate funding for greenway development from various sources; design and construct trails by following development and maintenance guidelines; develop a program for long term maintenance of publicly held greenways; and incorporate maintenance costs into future year budgets .

General Objective 3.2 Continue to develop a network of pedestrian and bicycle facilities throughout Boerne.

Specific Goal # 13 A comprehensive pedestrian / bicycle trail system should link together the existing three major parks in Boerne (Boerne City Lake Park, Northrup Athletic Park and City Park) as outlined in the Boerne Master Plan.

Specific Goal # 14 Preserve and utilize natural creek corridors, drainage, utility easements as potential linkage corridors throughout the City through park land acquisition or cooperatively with the City Public Works Department, developers, and private landowners through public/private access agreements.

Specific Goal # 15

Ensure that developers meet approved design standards for pedestrian and bicycle trails and that they link to existing trails and sidewalks or proposed trails as approved in the Greenbelt Open Space Master Plan.



5. INVENTORY OF PARKS AND FACILITIES

Introduction

As always, a good inventory of existing parks and open space facilities of a community is essential for the park planning process. In addition, knowledge of the current condition and availability will also be important in determining if the current system supports the needs of the community.

Existing Park System in Boerne

The City of Boerne has a variety of developed parks totaling 388.18 acres. The system offers a variety of parks such as special use parks, linear, to large community parks. The parks classified under the City of Boerne Parks System are documented on the following pages.

The chart below indicates Inventory of Area Facilities. Park Amenities represented below are both city-owned and non-City Owned.

Inventory of Area Facilities

Activity/Facility	Description	Number	Location/Ownership
Basketball	Indoor School Facilities	13	Boerne High School - 2 Champion High School - 2 Middle School N. - 2 Middle School S. - 2 Elementary Schools - 5
	City Park Outdoor (Covered) Goals 1/2 court or less	1 3	Northrup Park Pavilion City Park Parking Lot
Tennis	School Courts	8	Champion High School Middle School S.
	Public Courts	8 lighted	City Park /City of Boerne
	Country Club Courts	12 lighted 4 lighted	Fair Oaks/Country Club Tapatio Springs. Country Club
Volleyball	Sand Volleyball	3 lighted	Northrup Park/City of Boerne
	Indoor	11	School Gym's (see Basketball above)
Baseball	Regulation Babe Ruth Pony League	2 lighted	Boerne High School (BISD - available with approved use)
		2 lighted	Champion High School Bower Field (private - use by contract)
Youth Softball/ - Baseball	Softball skinned infield	2 lighted	Northrup Park/City of Boerne
	Youth - Little League/PONY League	2 3 lighted	Northrup Park/City of Boerne
Youth T-Ball	Youth - Grass Infield	1 2	Northrup Park/City of Boerne

Adult Softball	Regulation	2 lighted 1	Northrup Park/City of Boerne
Backstops	Practice Sites	Numerous	Public/private, not graded, rough turf
Football	Regulation	3 lighted 1	Boerne High School/BISD Boerne Middle School N./BISD Boerne Middle School S./BISD Boerne High School/BISD-practice site
	Multi Use Field (soccer, football)	2	City Park
Soccer	Regulation	3 lighted	Boerne High School, Middle School N., Middle School S. - BISD (available with approved use)
	Adult (215 x 350 & 280 x 370) Youth (285 x 220, 170 x 250, 170 x 286)	2 3	City Park/City of Boerne City Park/City of Boerne
Running Track 1/4 mile	All Weather	1	Boerne High School/BISD
	All Weather	1	Champion High School/BISD (practice)
	Cinder	1	Boerne Middle School N./BISD
	Asphalt	1	Curington Elementary/BISD
Golf	9-Hole	1	Tapatio/private facility
	18-Hole	3	Tapatio/private facility
	Fair Oaks/Country Club	2	Private facility
Swimming Pool	Public	1	City Park/City of Boerne
	Private	1	Fair Oaks/Country Club
Playgrounds		8	3 on City Property 5 on School Property
		1	Cordillera Ranch/private-residential
		1	Trails at Herff Ranch/residential
		Misc.	Churches/Day Cares - not public
Skate Park		1	City Park, Northside Community Park/ City of Boerne
Pavilion		2	City Park, Northrup/City of Boerne
Picnic Areas/Tables		31	City, Park, River Road Park, Northrup Park, Optimist Park/City of Boerne
Trails	Improved Trail	1.4 miles	Old No. 9 Trail/City of Boerne
	Improved Trail	1.75 miles	Cibolo Creek Trail/City of Boerne
	Improved Trail	.5 miles	Currey Creek Trail/City of Boerne
	Natural Trail	1/2-2 miles	Cibolo Nature Center/City of Boerne

Bowling Alley		1	Private
Lake		1	Boerne City Lake-City of Boerne
Nature Center		1	Boerne City Park-Operated by Friends Of the Cibolo Wilderness
Cibolo Wilderness Area		150 acres	City Park, Old No. 9 Trail, Boerne Lake, Northrup Park
Campground		2	Bergheim Campground Guadalupe State Park
Community Park		2	Boerne City Park - 125 Northrup Park - 103
Mini Park		2	Roeder Park, Optimist Park
Linear Park		2	River Road/City of Boerne Fair Oaks/Country Club
Special Use Areas		3	Veterans Plaza Park Main Plaza Park Agricultural Heritage Center-City Park
Fitness Club		2	Private

BOERNE LAKE PARK 1 CITY LAKE ROAD



EXISTING AMENITIES	QUANTITY	CONDITION				ACCESSIBILITY
		EXCELLENT	GOOD	FAIR	POOR	
Parking	140		X			X
Overflow (Event Parking)	350			X		
Restroom	1	X				X
Interpretive Signage	3				X	
Pavilion	1		X			X
Pet Waste Station	1	X				X
Fire Ring	3		X			
Boat Ramp	1		X			
Picnic Tables	20		X			X
Playground with shade cover	1		X			X
Disc Golf	9 holes		X			
Small BBQ Pits	8		X			
Large BBQ Pits	1			X		
Volleyball Court	1			X		
Fishing Pier	2		X			
Bird Observation Blind	1			X		
Butterfly Garden	1		X			X

ACREAGE: 100 Acres

CURRENT CLASSIFICATION: Community Park

BOERNE LAKE PARK CONTINUED



CITY PARK 106 City Park Rd



EXISTING AMENITIES	QUANTITY	CONDITION				ACCESSIBILITY
		EXCELLENT	GOOD	FAIR	POOR	
Soccer Fields with Lights	2		X			X
Soccer Fields without Lights	3		X			X
Picnic Tables	13			X		X
Bleachers	1	X				
BBQ Pits	4				X	
Playground with Shade (Ages 5 to 12)	1	X				X
Restroom	2		X			X
Concession Stand	1				X	X
Drinking Fountain	3		X			X
Tennis Court	8			X		X
Swimming Pool	1			X		X
Trails	.25 miles		X			X
Basketball Goal	2				X	
Parking	188		X			X
Nature Center						X
Pavilion with Restroom	1			X		X
Benches	3		X			
Drinking Fountain	1		X			X
Picnic Tables	4			X		
Play Area (Tree House)	1		X			
Trails	4.0 miles		X			
Board Walk	1	X				X

ACREAGE: 125 Acres

CURRENT CLASSIFICATION: COMMUNITY PARK

CITY PARK CONTINUED



MAIN PLAZA 100 N MAIN STREET



EXISTING AMENITIES	QUANTITY	CONDITION				ACCESSIBILITY
		EXCELLENT	GOOD	FAIR	POOR	
Bench	8	X				
Drinking Fountain	2		X			X
Gazebo	1		X			X
Restroom	1		X			X

ACREAGE: 1.7 Acres

CURRENT CLASSIFICATION: Special Use Park

NORTHRUP PARK 37550 IH-10 WEST



EXISTING AMENITIES	QUANTITY	CONDITION				ACCESSIBILITY
		EXCELLENT	GOOD	FAIR	POOR	
Bleachers with Shade	22	X				
Bleachers without Shade	2		X			
Playground with Shade	1		X			X
Concession Stand	3		X			X
Scoreboard	10		X			
Restrooms	4		X			X
Youth Softball Field with Lights	4		X			X
Youth Baseball Field with Lights	4		X			X
T-Ball Fields	2		X			X
Adult Softball Field with Lights	2		X			X
Adult Softball Practice Field with No Lights	1			X		X
Water Fountains	6		X			X
Volleyball Court	3			X		
Bench	5		X			
Picnic Tables	11		X			X
Pavilion	1			X		X
Basketball Court	1			X		X
BBQ Pit	8			X		X
Parking	550		X			X

ACREAGE: 103 Acres

CURRENT CLASSIFICATION: Community Park

NORTHRUP PARK CONTINUED



NORTHSIDE COMMUNITY PARK 1017 ADLER STREET



EXISTING AMENITIES	QUANTITY	CONDITION				ACCESSIBILITY
		EXCELLENT	GOOD	FAIR	POOR	
Playground	1	X				X
Restroom	1	X				X
Skate Park	1	X				X
Picnic Table	4					X
Bench	2	X				X
Parking	20	X				X

ACREAGE: 39 Acres

CURRENT CLASSIFICATION: Community Park

NORTHSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD PARK 524 ADLER STREET



EXISTING AMENITIES	QUANTITY	CONDITION				ACCESSIBILITY
		EXCELLENT	GOOD	FAIR	POOR	
Picnic Table	2	X				X
Water Fountain	1	X				X
Trail	.5 miles	X				X
Parking	13		X			X
Parks Office	1		X			X

ACREAGE: 8 Acres

CURRENT CLASSIFICATION: Neighborhood Park

OLD #9 TRAIL 358 ESSER ROAD



EXISTING AMENITIES	QUANTITY	CONDITION				ACCESSIBILITY
		EXCELLENT	GOOD	FAIR	POOR	
Trail	1.4 miles			X		X
Bench	10	X				X
Kiosk (informational signage)	10		X			X
Bike Rack	1			X		
Stretching Station	1		X			
Drinking Fountain	3		X			X
Pet Waste Station	2	X				X
Parking	18		X			X

ACREAGE: N/a

CURRENT CLASSIFICATION: Linear Linkage

OPTIMIST PARK 111 WATER STREET



EXISTING AMENITIES	QUANTITY	CONDITION				ACCESSIBILITY
		EXCELLENT	GOOD	FAIR	POOR	
Picnic Table	3			X		
Bench	4	X				
Sand Box	1				X	
Swing Set	3				X	
Playground	1				X	
Spring Rocker	2		X			
Chin Up Bar, Balance Beam, Monkey Bar	1				X	
Parking	10			X		X

ACREAGE: 0.9 Acres

CURRENT CLASSIFICATION: Mini Park

RIVER ROAD PARK 415 RIVER ROAD

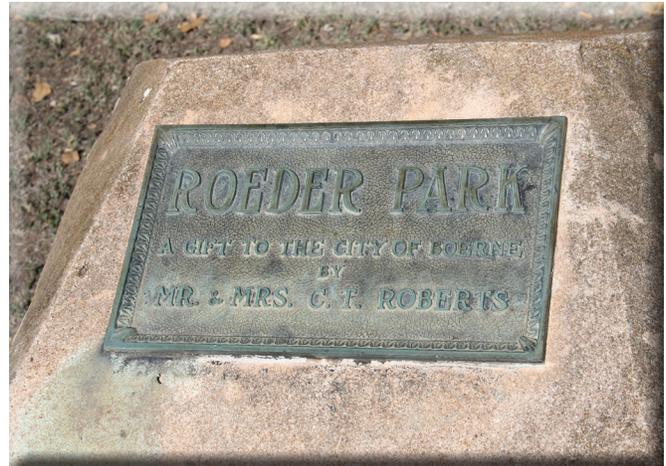


EXISTING AMENITIES	QUANTITY	CONDITION				ACCESSIBILITY
		EXCELLENT	GOOD	FAIR	POOR	
Restroom	1		X			X
Fishing Dock	2	X				X
Picnic table						X
Bench						X
Water Fountain	1		X			X

ACREAGE: 7.8 Acres

CURRENT CLASSIFICATION: Linear Linkage

ROEDER PARK 104 ROEDER ROAD



EXISTING AMENITIES	QUANTITY	EXCELLENT	CONDITION			ACCESSIBILITY
			GOOD	FAIR	POOR	
Bench	1	X				
Swing Set	1		X			

ACREAGE: 0.3 Acres

CURRENT CLASSIFICATION: Mini Park

VETERANS PARK 801 S MAIN STREET



EXISTING AMENITIES	QUANTITY	CONDITION				ACCESSIBILITY
		EXCELLENT	GOOD	FAIR	POOR	
Benches	3	X				
Drinking Fountain	1			X		
Monument	1				X	

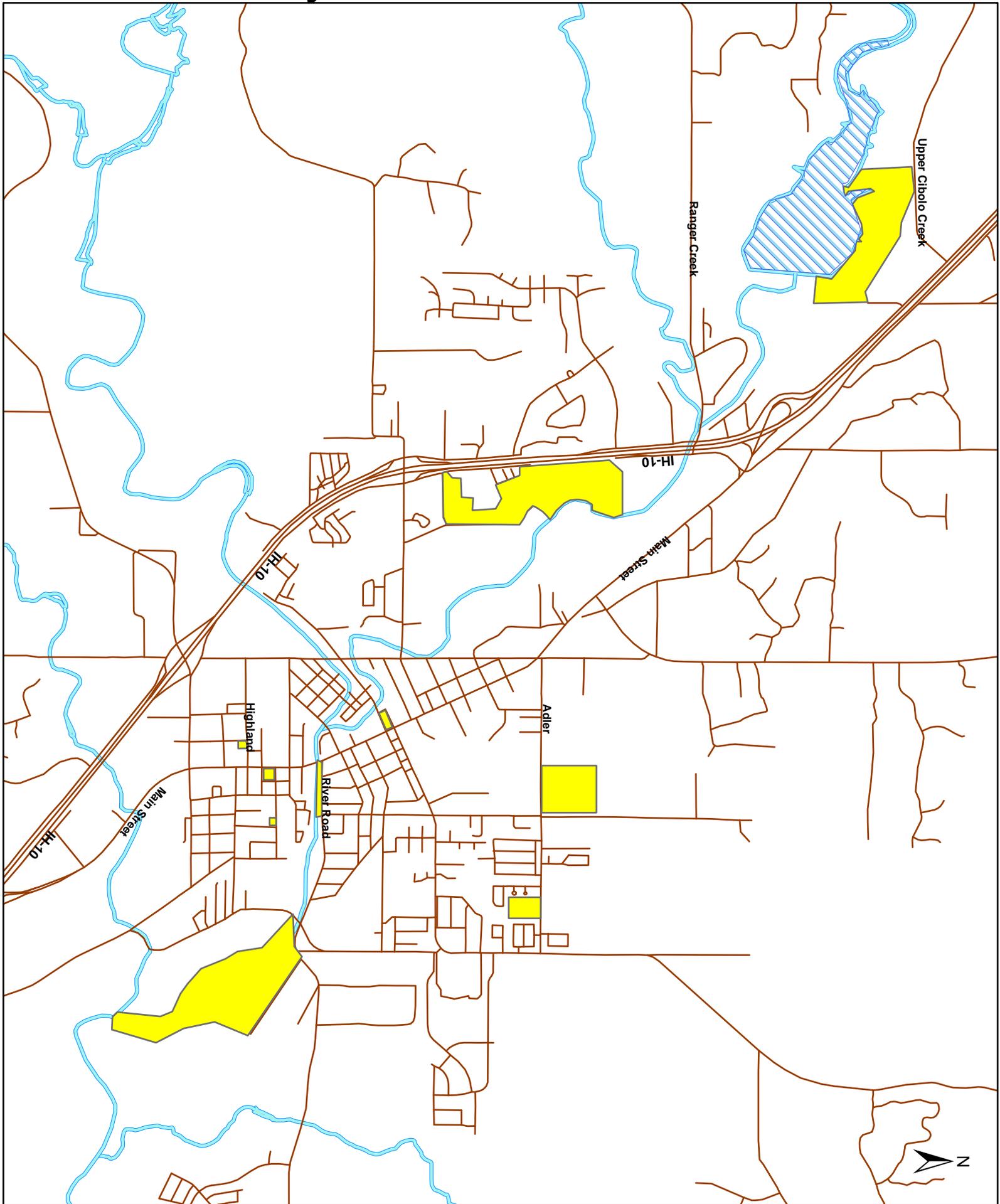
ACREAGE: 1.8 Acres

CURRENT CLASSIFICATION: Special Use Park

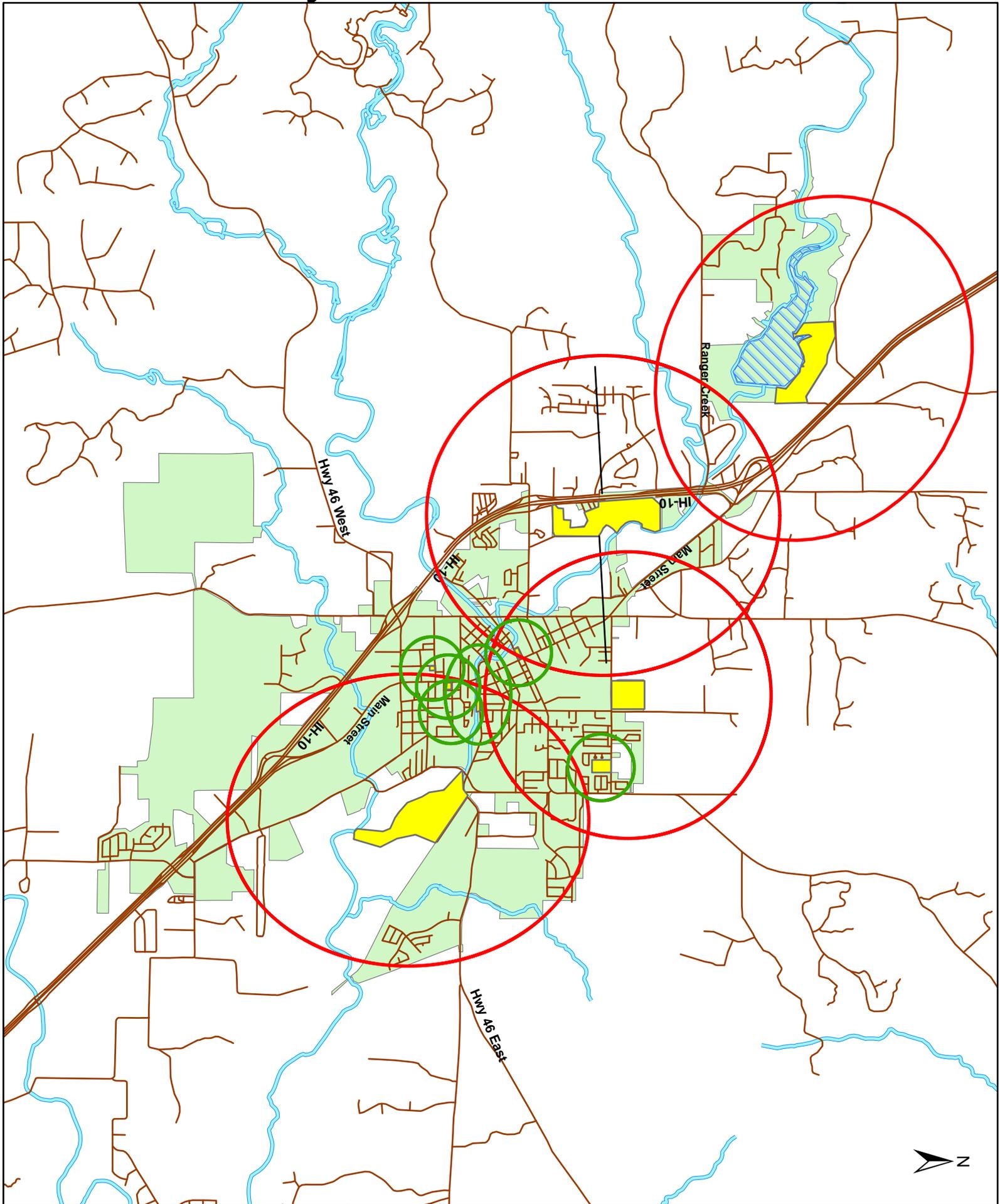
Recreational Amenities Table - City of Boerne

Park Facility Name	Location	Acres	Park Classification	Amphitheaters	Baseball Fields (Including T-ball)	Basketball Courts	BBQ Grills	Benches	Bird Observation Blind	Boat Ramps	Boardwalks	Butterfly Garden	Concession Buildings	Disc Golf Holes	Exercise Stations	Fishing/Piers			
Boerne Lake Park	1 City Lake Road	100	NR				9		1	1		1		9			2		
Cibolo Creek Trail	Along Cibolo Creek																		
City Park	106 City Park Rd	125	C			1	4	3			1		1						
Main Plaza	100 N Main street	1.70	S					8											
Northrup Park	37550 IH-10 West	103.00	C		6	1	8	5					3						
Northside Community Park	1017 Adler Street	39.00	C					2											
Northside Neighborhood Park	524 Adler Street	8.00	N																
Old #9 Trail	358 Esser Road	2.00	S					10							1				
Optimist Park	111 Water Street	0.90	N					4											
River Road Park	415 River Road	7.80	S															1	
Roeder Park	104 Roeder Road	0.30	N					1											
Veterans Park	801 S. Main Street	1.80	S					3											
Total		389.5		0	6	2	21	36	1	1	1	1	4	9	1	1	3		
			N=Neighborhood																
			C=Community																
			R= Regional																
			S= Special Purpose Parks																
			NR=Natural Resource Park																
			O=Ornamental																

City of Boerne Parks



City of Boerne Parks



6. NEEDS ASSESSMENT AND IDENTIFICATION

The needs assessment is one of the most critical component of the parks master planning effort. An assessment of what deficiencies exist in the parks system is vital so that appropriate action can be developed that will address the deficiencies.

The City of Boerne used several public outreach means and methods to gather information regarding its parks needs assessment. The City distributed a needs assessment survey (See Appendix) and held a series of key stakeholder meetings throughout the parks and opens space master planning process. Each of these outreach efforts are identified below:

Parks Needs Assessment Survey

Staff from the City of Boerne developed the “2011 City of Boerne Parks and Recreation Citizen Survey” in the late fall of 2011. Copies of the survey were mailed to all residents with City addresses and copies of the survey were also available at various City buildings. 138 surveys were completed and turned into the City from December 15, 2011 to March of 2012. Information regarding the responders to the survey are highlighted in the corresponding chart.

AVG AGE		53
AVG YEARS RESIDENCY		12.35
MALE	66	48%
FEMALE	72	52%
AVG HOUSEHOLD SIZE		2.78
DISTRICT 1	34	25%
DISTRICT 2	21	15%
DISTRICT 3	13	9%
DISTRICT 4	28	20%
DISTRICT 5	15	11%
KENDALL COUNTY	27	20%

138

Question Number 1 of the Citizen Survey specifically asked residents which specific parks they visit and their frequency. Each of the tallies in the chart below represents a respondent . For example, 15 survey respondents indicated that they often visited Boerne Lake Park.

Park Name	I visit this park often	I visit this park occasionally	I visit park only on special occasions	I never visit this park
Boerne Lake	15	53	24	32
Northrup	11	20	29	59
City Park	43	31	21	23
River Road	28	40	22	18
Main Plaza	54	38	28	12
Veterans Park	13	28	37	35
Roeder Park	3	8	12	93
Optimist Park	2	18	11	94
Skate Park	3	9	11	92
Old # 9 Trail	45	37	9	32
Adler Park	12	23	14	74

Citizens also rated the condition and amenities of the park as shown below. A score of “1” indicated the poorest park condition and the a score of “5” indicated the best park condition.

	How would you rate the condition and amenities of this park?					Average
	1	2	3	4	5	
Boerne Lake	0	4	6	30	26	4.18
Northrup	4	1	12	24	24	4.16
City Park	2	3	32	30	22	3.75
River Road	6	24	34	27	6	3.03
Main Plaza	0	8	23	31	24	3.83
Veterans Park	3	7	30	21	18	3.56
Roeder Park	2	5	7	4	4	3.14
Optimist Park	2	3	13	4	4	3.19
Skate Park	2	1	7	12	10	3.84
Old # 9 Trail	1	6	27	34	15	3.67
Adler Park	4	6	17	8	8	3.23

Question Number 7 of the Citizen Survey specifically asked residents to rank park and recreational items in low, medium and high priorities. The tallies of these responses and their overall aggregate score are indicated below:

Priority	Low	Medium	High
Trails and sidewalks linking community resources such as schools, parks, and downtown.	15	27	82
Maintenance of existing parks recreational facilities.	2	35	89
Construction of new parks and recreational facilities.	51	37	37
Conservation of natural resources.	18	32	72
Educational opportunities for youth and adults.	40	45	40
Supports facilities such as restrooms, water fountains, and parking.	13	49	49
Acquiring new park land to protect undeveloped land with provisions for public use.	43	37	47
Acquiring new park land to develop for organized outdoor recreation.	47	38	35
Recreation programs and opportunities for ages 18 and under.	25	56	44
Recreation programs and opportunities for ages 18 to 35.	33	69	16
Recreation programs and opportunities for ages 35 and over.	37	58	28
Free family programs such as movies in the park and concerts.	35	46	44
Programs and events that bring visitors to town and produce positive economic impact.	31	39	55
Renovation of existing swimming pool facilities.	31	52	40
Construction of a new swimming pool facility.	59	22	46

Furthermore, residents were queried as to which different types of facilities should be a priority in the master plan. The highest priority facilities from a predetermined list indicated on Question 2 of the survey are indicated herein with the percentage of respondents who replied that this was a high priority.

Open Space/Natural Areas	67	49%
Picnic Areas	46	33%
Tennis Courts	24	17%
Skate Park	7	5%
BBQ Pits	15	11%
Disc Golf	8	6%
Fishing Docks	23	17%
Boat Launch	10	7%
Benches	40	29%
Indoor Recreation	32	23%
Fitness (gym)	33	24%
Public Restrooms	64	46%
Soccer Fields	28	20%

Citizens also responded with written comments about elements they thought should be a high priority. These amenities and the number of people out of the 138 responders are depicted below.

# of Respondees	Park Amenity That Should Be a Priority
9	Indoor Pool
7	Dog Park
1	Shade
1	Improve Water quality at River Road Park
2	Add bike lanes
3	Golf Course
3	Splash Pad
14	Maintain current level of parks and open spaces (no new expenditures)
7	Tennis Courts need resurfacing
2	#9 improvments (trees resurfacing)
7	Fields for football program
1	Basketball Courts
4	Large Unique Playground
8	New Outdoor Swimming Pool
20	Cont adding trails for connecting everything
7	More Practice fields (soccer, football, baseball)

Lastly, residents were asked their opinions if they would support a bond proposition that might increase property taxes for park improvements?

Would you support a bond election?	
Yes	No
82	55
59%	40%

Key Stakeholder Meetings

Boerne City Staff also facilitated three open forum meetings with key stakeholders who utilize the City's park facilities for their park and recreation needs. The dates, attendees and items discussed are recapped below:

JANUARY 19, 2012 STAKEHOLDER MEETING AT THE BOERNE COMMUNITY CENTER

Organizations who had representatives attend the meeting:

- Boerne Youth Athletic Association
- Cibolo Nature Center
- Boys and Girls Club
- Boerne Chamber of Commerce
- Kronkosky Place
- Boerne Soccer Club
- YMCA

* Note: The following organizations were invited as key stakeholders but were not able to have representatives for this meeting: Boerne ISD, Kendall County and Kendall County EDC.

Representatives identified below "What makes the Boerne Parks System great?!"

- Diversity of available activities**
- Connectivity / Accessibility**
- Kid friendly
- Facilities are high quality**
- Good stewards of the environment
- Parks are positioned in good locations
- Facilities are safe
- Steady growth and improvement
- Well maintained
- Facilities and activities are well used / attended



** Group representatives identified these has the highest rated qualities.

Representatives identified the following as the park system's main issues and needs?

- Lighting on trails
- Recreation Center**
- Cooperative efforts city/county/school district
- Increased rules enforcement "park police"
- Separation of youth and adult program times and areas
- Not enough practice space for all sport activities**
- Not enough public use "unstructured activities"
- Need field space for different activities (football, lacrosse, etc.)
- Heated indoor swimming pool year round access**
- Renovation and update of existing pool "dated and crowded"

Project Priorities

1. Recreation Center
2. Natatorium
3. Trails specifically that connect places
4. Practice Fields (multi use)
5. Neighborhood Parks

Funding Special Considerations

- Don't duplicate services
- Partnerships City, ISD, County, YMCA, private, etc.
- Private donors
- Grants
- Create spaces that can be multi purposed seasonally



FEBRUARY 24, 2012 STAKEHOLDER MEETING AT THE KRONKOSKY PLACE SENIOR CENTER

15 citizens attended to focus group meeting

What makes Boerne Parks System great!

- "Senior" friendly**
- Skate Park provided a place to skate
- Variety of activities at Main Plaza
- New Library and programs provided
- Community events (car shows, band concerts, parades, Quiltfest ETC...)
- Trails (connectivity)
- Parks Guide, e-mail notifications, social media
- Downtown- Main Plaza, Trails , River Road, Veterans Park

What are the issues and needs?

- Additional tennis courts spread out in sets of one or two, free and open to public
- Movie theater
- Shuffleboard
- Additional rest rooms, benches , tables, shade, off street parking (support features)**
- Bypass to pull traffic off the downtown area
- Downtown police substation
- Renovation of Veterans Park**
- Make what we have more accessible for more people.
- Recreation Center with indoor pool**

Project Priorities

1. Downtown support features
2. Renovations to Veterans Park (with the help of the veterans)
3. Recreation Center with indoor pool
4. Make the current parks accessible to seniors and ADA
5. Bypass to relieve traffic from downtown.

FEBRUARY 27-28, STAKEHOLDER MEETING AT BOERNE HIGH SCHOOL

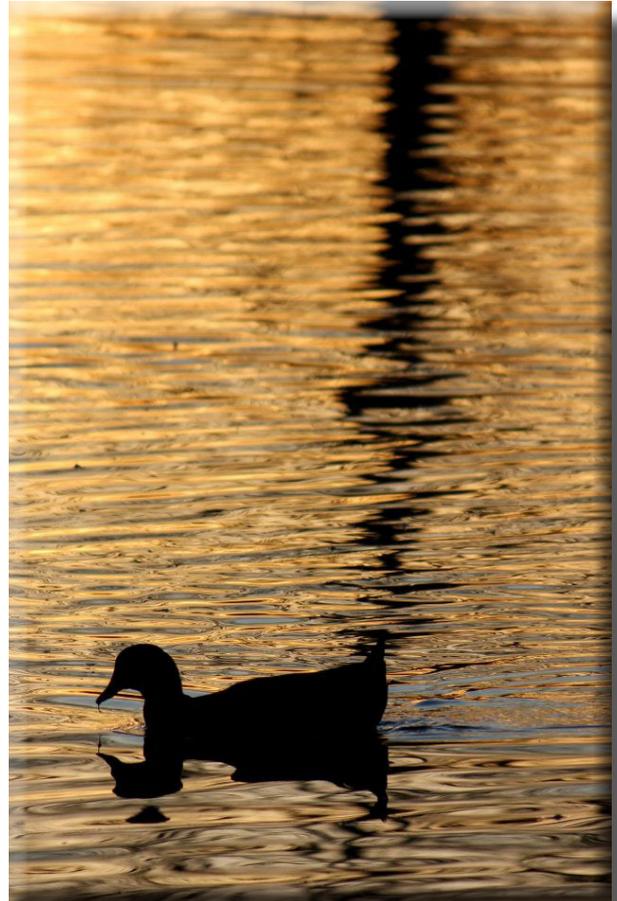
6 Senior Government Classes Approximately 140 students

What makes Boerne Parks System great!

- Boerne Lake Park
- Trails
- Proximity to San Antonio
- Main Plaza
- Small Town feel
- Parks are well maintained
- Skate Park
- River Road Park
- Cibolo Nature Center
- Community Events

What are the issues and needs?

- Mountain Bike Trails / BMX track
- Recreation Center / Teen Center
- Wi-Fi access
- Renovate pool with slides, spray apparatus
- Natorium
- Putt-Putt
- Overnight camping at Lake Park
- Rock wall / challenge / ropes course
- Public art wall / graffiti wall
- Golf Course
- Driving range
- Horse trails
- Basketball courts
- Skate Park phase II
- Scuba classes at Lake Park
- Dog Park
- More sidewalk and trails
- Inflatable blob or slide / trampoline on Boerne Lake
- Adventure Race
- Drive In Movie Theater
- Outdoor Concert Venue
- Seasonal / Temporary ice skating rink
- Public shooting range
- Bowling alley / arcade / food court
- Dirt track / mudding pit



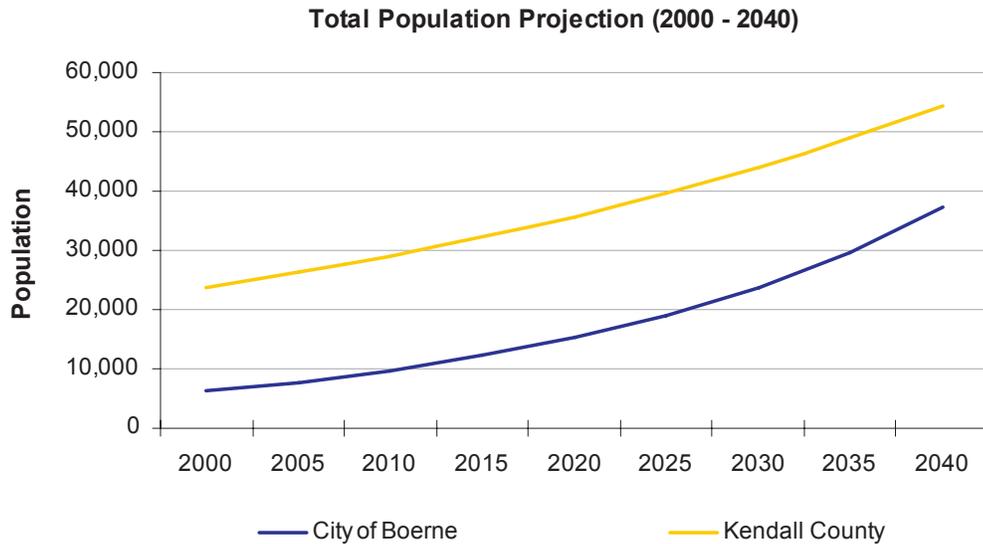
Project Priorities

1. Recreation Center / Teen Center
2. Overnight camping at Lake Park
3. Outdoor Aquatic Center
4. Skate Park Expansion
5. More sidewalks and trails



7. AREA AND FACILITY STANDARDS

The City of Boerne is the main provider of park and recreation services for not only its residents but also for all residents of Kendall County. The source of the City of Boerne and Kendall County population projections used in the City of Boerne Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan 2012-2022 is the Boerne Master Plan Update, 2006 as prepared by Gould Evans. These projections are illustrated below:



Source: Gould Evans

Web Source: <http://www.ci.boerne.tx.us/DocumentCenter/Home/View/226>; retrieved May 20, 2012.

FACILITY BASED GUIDELINES

The National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) provides the industry standard for parks, recreation and open space design as recognized by park planning professionals throughout the country. This master plan follows the latest published nomenclature and standards as outlined by NRPA in the Parks, Recreation, Open Space, and Greenway Guidelines 1990 edition. NRPA has inferred that each municipality or governmental agency develop and provide its own guideline for growth and park planning as dictated by local conditions. As such, a numerical nation wide template of standards for parks growth does not exist, although the development of one for each municipality is exhorted. Previously NRPA had published a minimum of 11 acres of parkland /1000 population.

Information from the NRPA guidelines is listed along with facility development guideline recommendations from LUCK Design Team specific to the City of Boerne. The recommendations from LUCK Design Team are in reference to facilities that were not covered in the NRPA recommendations. Proposed guidelines for fiscal years 2017 and 2022 as developed by City staff are also on the following page.

City of Boerne Park Facility Guidelines

Activity / Facility	Guidelines Recommended For Facilities Per Population	Facilities In Boerne Pop. of 10,471#	Facilities Proposed For 2017 Pop. of 14,500~	Facilities Proposed For 2022 Pop. of 18,000~
Amphitheaters	1/20,000^	0	0	0
Baseball Fields	1/5,000*	6	6	6
Basketball Courts (outdoors)	1/5,000*	2	3	3
Benches	1 bench/400^	36	40	45
Disc Golf	18 holes/20,000^	9	0	1
Fishing Piers	1/10,000^	3	3	3
Football Fields	1/20,000*	0	0	1
Golf Course	1/50,000*	0	0	0
Pavilion/Shelters	1/2,000*	4	5	6
Picnic Tables	1 table/300*	57	60	60
Playgrounds	1 area/1,000*	7	8	10
Recreation Centers	1/20,000-30,000*	0	0	1
Skate Parks	1/20,000^	1	1	1
Soccer Fields	1/5,000*	5	5	7
Softball Fields	1/5,000*	7	7	7
Splash Pads	1/10,000^	0	1	1
Swimming Pools	1/20,000*	1	1	1
Tennis Courts	1/5,000*	8	8	8
Trails	1/2-1 mile/1,000*	6.15 Miles	8 Miles	10 Miles
Volleyball Area (outdoors)	1/5,000*	4	4	4

* - Source: Guidelines from Appendix A in Recreation, Park and Open Space Standards and Guidelines, p. 60-61, 4th printing 1990, a publication of the National Recreation and Park Association.

^ - Source: LUCK Design Team professional recommendation for the City of Boerne.

- Source: U.S. Census, 2010 Census, retrieved 05.08.12.

~ - Source: Extrapolated from the Boerne Master Plan Update, 2006 as prepared by Gould Evan

PARKLAND ACQUISITION

The City of Boerne currently has 388.18 acres of parkland. This acreage is divided into the following four classifications: neighborhood parks, community parks, special use parks, and natural resource park land.

With a 2010 total population of 10,471, the total existing park acreage for the City equals 37.05 acres/1000 of population.

With a flat lined economy projected for the foreseeable future, all other park classification acreages are proposed to remain the same, providing the City with a 2022 parkland ratio of 21.56 acres /1000 of population.

Park Classification	Existing Parks	Acreage
Neighborhood Parks	Northside Neighborhood Park	8.00
	Optimist Park	0.90
	Roeder Park	0.30
	Total Neighborhood Park Acreage=	9.20
Community Parks	City Park	125.00
	Northrup Park	103.00
	Northside Neighborhood Park	39.00
	Total Community Parks Acreage=	267.00
Special Use Parks	Main Plaza	1.70
	Old #9 Trail	2.00
	River Road Park	7.80
	Veterans Park	1.80
	Total Special Use Parks Acreage=	13.30
Natural Resource Parks	Boerne Lake Park	100.00
	Total Natural Resource Parks Acreage=	100.00
TOTAL PARK ACREAGE		388.18

City of Boerne Park Acreage Guidelines

Park Facility	Existing 2010 Population of 10,471# Existing Parks AC/1000	Guidelines for 2015 Population of 14,500~ Suggested AC/1000	Guidelines for 2020 Population of 18,000~ Suggested AC/1000
Neighborhood Parks	9.20 .88 ac/1000	9.20 .63 ac/1000	9.20 .51 ac/1000
Community Parks	267.00 25.50 ac/1000	267.00 18.41 ac/1000	267.00 14.83 ac/1000
Special Use Parks	11.98 1.14 ac/1000	11.98 .83 ac/1000	11.98 .67 ac/1000
Natural Resource Park	100.00 9.55 ac/1000	100.00 6.90 ac/1000	100.00 5.56 ac/1000
Totals	388.18 37.07 ac/1000	388.18 26.75 ac/1000	388.18 21.57 ac/1000

* - Source: Guidelines from Appendix A in Recreation, Park and Open Space Standards and Guidelines, p. 60-61, 4th printing 1990, a publication of the National Recreation and Park Association.

^ - Source: LUCK Design Team professional recommendation for the City of Boerne.

- Source: U.S. Census, 2010 Census, retrieved 05.08.12.

~ - Source: Extrapolated from the Boerne Master Plan Update, 2006 as prepared by Gould Evans.

8. PLAN IMPLEMENTATION AND PRIORITIZATION OF NEEDS

An important component of this plan is outlining the City of Boerne's future park priorities. This section identifies those priorities as well as an implementation and action plan focused along three congruent tracks: outdoor facilities; indoor facilities; and park specific renovation projects.

OUTDOOR FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS

Based on the public input gathered from the needs assessment survey, the public workshops and input from City Staff, the following park development needs were identified. For purposes of this plan, they have been divided into high, medium and low priorities.

High Outdoor Needs and Priorities:

1. Trails connecting parks, schools, and downtown.
2. Open space preservation.
3. Multiuse fields youth and adult sports activities.
4. Outdoor pool.

Medium Outdoor Needs and Priorities:

5. Pavilions
6. Picnic Tables
7. Benches

Low Outdoor Needs and Priorities:

8. Tennis Courts
9. Fishing Docks
10. BBQ Pits
11. Skate Parks
12. Off-leash Dog Park

INDOOR FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS

Throughout the Needs Assessment process, much of the feedback received from the public focused on the desire for indoor programming activities, and specifically a multi-purpose recreation/gymnasium center to house them. The City's population has grown to the point where it can warrant and support a recreation center and the master plan identifies the need for one within the next five years. A multi-purpose Gymnasium is the City's number one indoor facility priority.

Indoor Priority List

1. Multipurpose Gymnasium
2. Natatorium
3. Cardio/Weight Room
4. Class Room Space for Community Education Classes
5. Group Exercise Classroom space

RENOVATION PRIORITIES

In addition to the outdoor and indoor park facility priorities previously outlined, specific park renovation projects have been identified by City Staff as a future priority.

1. Optimist Park. This neighborhood park, comprised of almost one acre of park land, needs to be completely renovated. The playground equipment is old and needs to be replaced and appropriate fall zones need to be

provided. Currently, the playground does not meet accessibility guidelines because of the tiered nature of the site and is not in compliance with National Playground Standards set by the American Society of Testing and Materials (ASTM) and the Consumer Products Safety Commission (CPSC). It is recommended that the park soon undergo a complete overhaul or be abandoned.

2. Veterans Park. Renovating Veterans Park is one of the top priorities of City Staff. Located on Main Street, the park needs general maintenance and repair on several items. The limestone material on Veterans monument itself is eroding and crumbling and needs to be repaired. With time, the concrete sidewalks have buckled and they need to be widened to better accommodate pedestrian traffic and comply with accessibility standards. Planting and irrigation improvements also need to be made to the park to bring it up to standards since it is located inside the Hill Country Mile.
3. City Park Concession Buildings. Quite simply these buildings need to be razed and replaced. The Soccer Club has made renovations to the buildings over the years but the buildings have exceeded their useful lifespan. Aesthetically they are also an eyesore and City Staff recommends that they be replaced.
4. City Park Pool House. These buildings are in similar condition as the concession buildings mentioned above. The pool house is recommended to be replaced with a new building as it is worn down and not in compliance with accessibility requirements. The timing and replacement of the pool house should be in concert with the timing of the future aquatics center and outdoor pool identified as a priority #4 on the Outdoor Needs and Priorities list. If it looks like a new outdoor pool is going to be developed in the near future, the importance of this renovation diminishes.
5. Northrup Park Field 11. The long-term goal of the City is to convert fields 9, 10, and 11 from adult softball to youth baseball. (Adult softball will be moved to Northside Community Park.) Currently, Fields 9 and 10 are irrigated and fully lighted facilities. Field 11 needs to be renovated for both irrigation and athletic field lighting improvements to be at the same standards Fields 9 and 10.
6. Main Street Rest Room. The rest room facility at Main Street Park needs to be replaced and possibly relocated.
7. City Park Pavilion. Renovation needs to occur on the roof of the pavilion and on the rest rooms associated with the pavilion. Accessibility issues with the pavilion need to also be addressed.

FUTURE NEW PARK DEVELOPMENT

As the park service radius map on page 37 indicates, the southwest section of the City of Boerne is currently underserved. Considering future city development is trending towards that portion of the City as well, it is deemed necessary to provide a future neighborhood park in southwest area of the City. The development of the park may be supplemented through developer impact fees or thru subdivision ordinance. No time line is set for the development of this future park, but it is suggested to be within the ten year horizon on this master plan.

ACTION PLAN

Based on the Outdoor Facility Improvements, Indoor Facility Improvements and the Renovation Priorities listed on the previous pages, the City of Boerne has developed the following action plan as part of the City of Boerne Parks, Recreation & Open Space Master Plan 2012-2022. It is the intent of this action plan to outline implementation items for the growth and renovation of the City's park system and to guide City Leadership in fiscally planning for the park improvements. The action plan items as indicated do not bind the City of Boerne to any time lines or expenditures in the future and are subject to change.

Individual parks are highlighted below and a synopsis of the proposed improvements and action items are bulleted:

Old # 9 Trail Renovation

- Repair sections of the trail that are cracking.
- Repair sections of the trail that have eroded.
- Possible addition of exercise stations along the trail



Existing Old #9 Trail

Optimist Park Renovation

- Address ADA issues
- Address safety issues
- Update play equipment
- Install safe fall surfacing
- Removal of sand box
- Irrigation



Existing Optimist Park

Veterans Park Renovation

- Restoration of monument
- Replace sidewalk areas to address ADA and safety issues
- Enhance Main Street frontage
- Install irrigation
- Replace aging lights

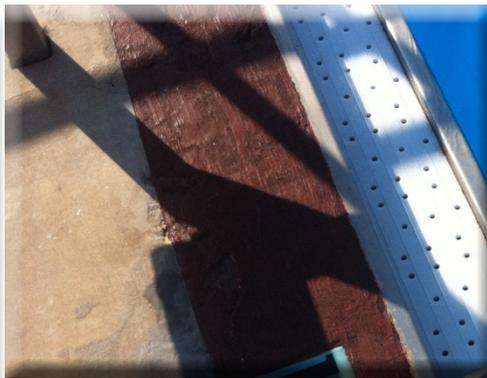




Existing Veterans Park Conditions

Swimming Pool and Pool House Renovation

- Address ADA issues in Pool House
- Major issues with liner occurring again
- Still operates on a gas chlorine system
- Update to a modern aquatic facility that could serve wider range of patrons
- Possible to include this into a Recreation Center location at some point



City Park Concession Building Renovation

- Address ADA issues
- Current Structure is an eye sore
- Youth Soccer club has made some repairs but building needs to be replaced

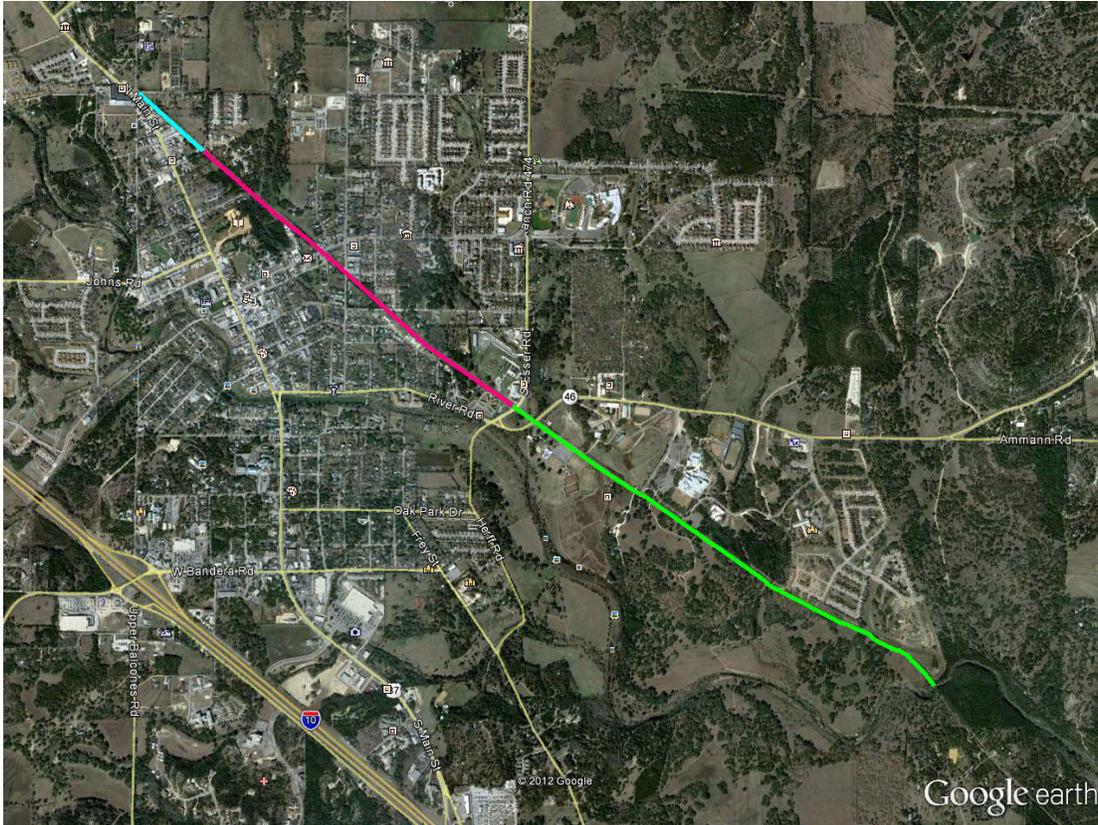


Existing Building to be Razed



Old # 9 Trail Extension

- Existing Old # 9 Trail (indicated in pink)
- North Extension to Adler Road (indicated in blue)
- South Extension to Cibolo Overlook (indicated in green)



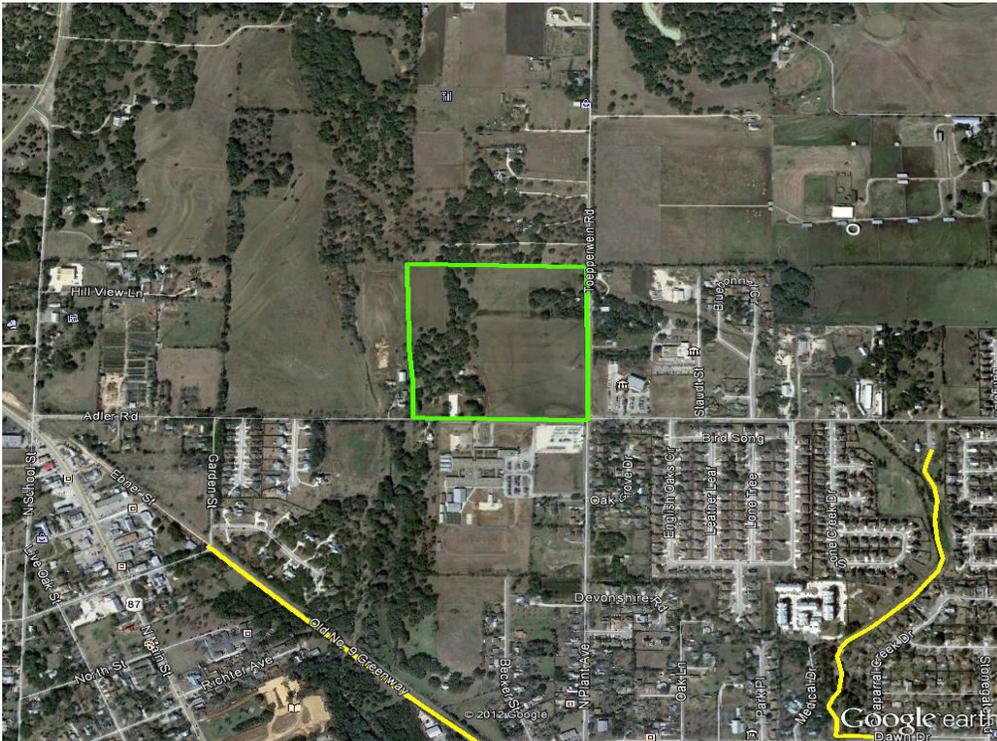
City Park Trail Improvements and Extension

- Improvements to current trails surfacing
- Connections with new Herff Road and Herff Farm (indicated in orange)
- Include a pedestrian bridge



Northside Community Park Development

- Trails
- Adult Softball
- Multiuse Fields
- Off-Leash Dog Park
- Pavilion
- Basketball Court
- Would allow Fields 9-11 at Northrup Park to be converted to youth fields
- Skate Park (existing)
- Playground (existing)
- Rest room (existing)

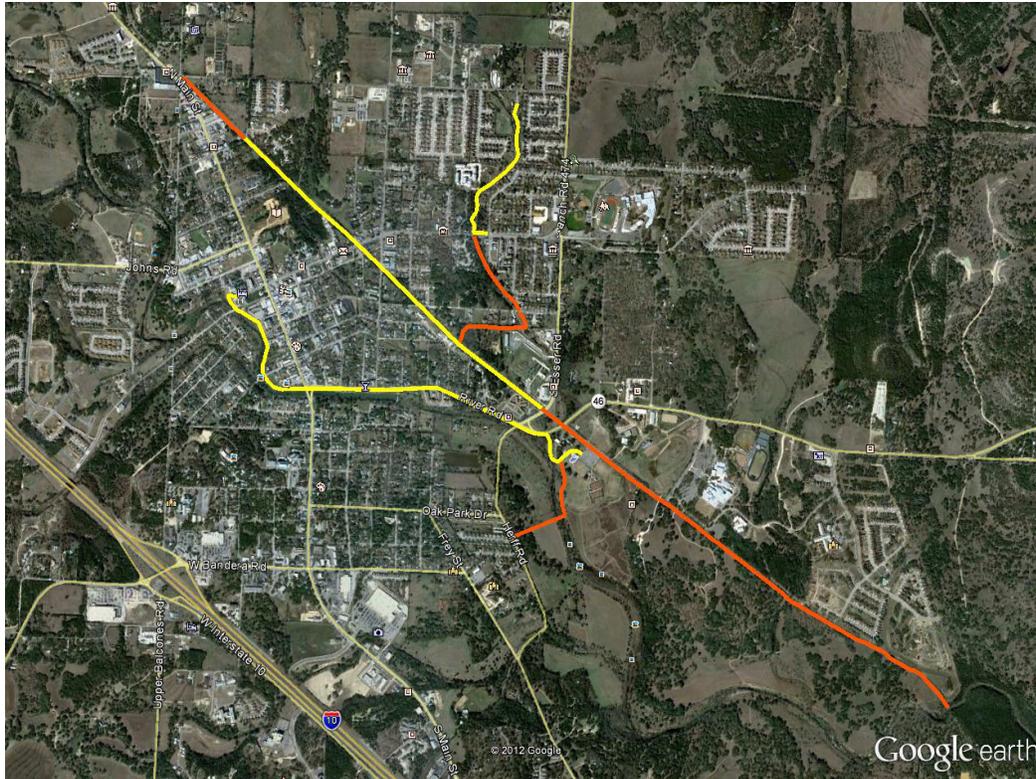


Curry Creek Trail Extension (indicated in orange)



Northside Neighborhood Park

- Small Pavilion
- Playground
- Basketball Court (half court)
- Exercise Stations
- Picnic Areas
- Trails
(Existing indicated in yellow)
(Proposed indicated in orange)



Recreation Center & Natatorium

- This project was the most requested and was the only item to be listed as a top priority by all three focus groups
- Would require a cooperative effort between the City, County, and School District
- May be managed by a private management company or City run
- Could include a gym, exercise room, class rooms, pool, racquetball, or other facilities



ESTIMATED COST OF CONSTRUCTION AND PROPOSED TIME LINE OF IMPLEMENTATION

Project	Estimated Cost	Time Frame
# 9 Trails Repairs	\$ 150,000.00	2012-2014
Optimist Park Renovation	\$ 250,000.00	2013-2015
Veterans Park Renovation	\$ 150,000.00	2013-2015
Pool	\$ 3,250,000.00	2015-2018
Pool House	\$ 250,000.00	2015-2018
City Park Concession Building	\$ 75,000.00	2015-2018
# 9 Trail Extension	\$ 1,200,000.00	2015-2018
City Park Trail Improvements	\$ 450,000.00	2015-2018
Northside Community Park	\$ 5,250,000.00	2017-2020
Northrup Park Fields 9,10,11 conversion	\$ 200,000.00	2017-2020
Extension of Curry Creek Trail	\$ 325,000.00	2017-2020
Northside Neighborhood Park	\$ 100,000.00	2017-2020
Recreation Center	\$ 5,500,000.00	2018-2022
Natatorium	\$ 7,250,000.00	2018-2022
Total	\$ 24,400,000.00	2012-2022

Note: The action plan items as indicated above do not bind the City of Boerne to any time lines or expenditures in the future and are subject to change.

9. APPENDIX



2011 City of Boerne Parks and Recreation Citizen Survey



The City of Boerne is currently collecting citizen input to assist in the updating of the Recreation, Parks & Open Space Master Plan. The plan was last updated in 2007 and was a key ingredient in the projects that have been completed and the programs that have been added over the past 4 years. The update process will provide several opportunities for the citizens of Boerne to be involved in the development of the master plan. The first such opportunity is the following survey. Please provide as much information as possible. Surveys may be returned via:

Email to dzincke@ci.boerne.tx.us Fax: 830-331-9652 Mailing Address: 402 E Blanco, Boerne, TX 78006

Are you currently a resident of Boerne Texas? _____ If so for how many years? _____

If not are you currently a resident of Kendall County? _____ If so for how many years? _____

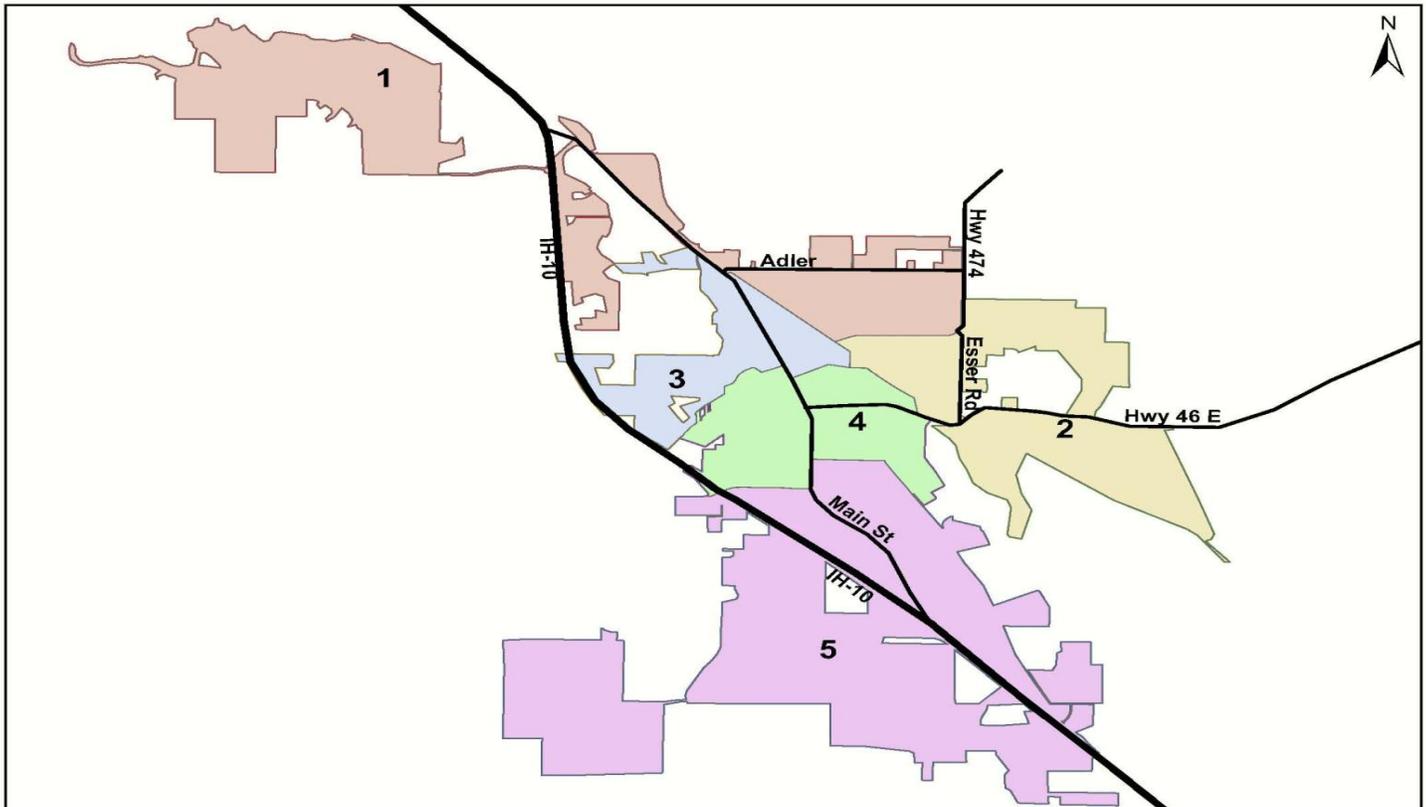
Do you own property in the City of Boerne? _____ Gender: M / F Age: _____

Are you currently: Employed? ____ Retired? ____ Full Time Student? ____ Other? _____

Please list the age of any other adults living in your household. _____, _____, _____, _____

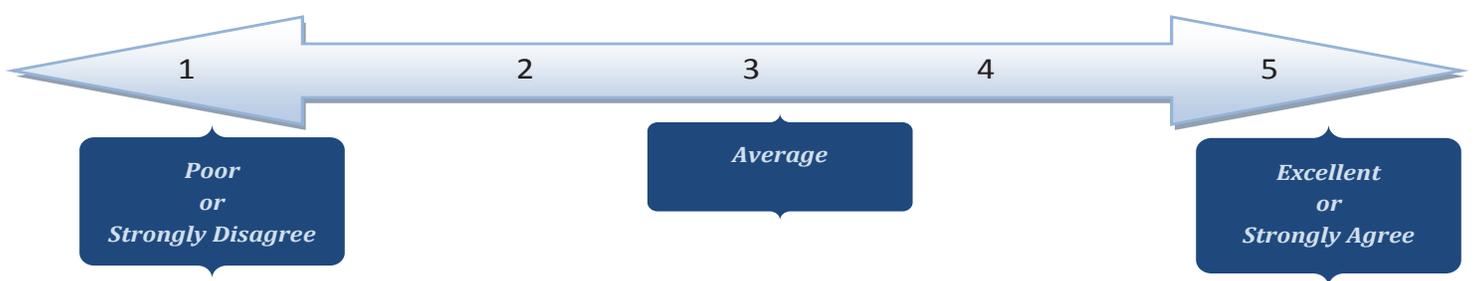
Please list the age of any children living in your household. _____, _____, _____, _____, _____, _____, _____

Using the map below for reference what district do you live in? _____



Empty rectangular box for handwritten responses.



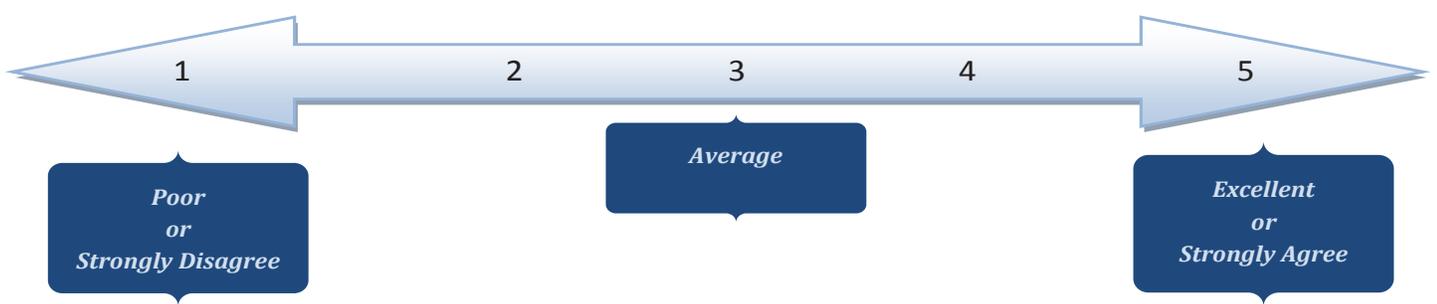


1. Please indicate with a check mark how often you visit each of the City of Boerne Parks and Trails, and then rate each park using the rating scale provided at the top of the page.

Park Name	I visit this park often	I visit this park occasionally	I visit park only on special occasions	I never visit this park	How would you rate the condition and amenities of this park?
Boerne Lake					1 2 3 4 5
Northrup					1 2 3 4 5
City Park					1 2 3 4 5
River Road					1 2 3 4 5
Main Plaza					1 2 3 4 5
Veterans Park					1 2 3 4 5
Roeder Park					1 2 3 4 5
Optimist Park					1 2 3 4 5
Skate Park					1 2 3 4 5
Old # 9 Trail					1 2 3 4 5
Adler Park					1 2 3 4 5

2. Please rate the facilities listed below for each category provided using the scale provided at the top of the page. (Space provided to add any facilities you feel were omitted.)

Facility Description	Availability of this type of facility	Quality of this type of facility	There is an adequate amount of this type of facility	This type of facility should be a high priority in the master plan
Youth Baseball/ Softball Fields	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
Adult Softball Fields	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
Swimming Pool	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
Walking Trails	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
Bike Trails	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
Playgrounds	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
Open Space/Natural Areas	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
Picnic Areas	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
Tennis Courts	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
Skate Park	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
BBQ Pits	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
Disc Golf	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
Fishing Docks	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
Boat Launch	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
Benches	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
Indoor Recreation	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
Fitness (gym)	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
Public Restrooms	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
Soccer Fields	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5



3. Please rate the following youth activities for each category provided using the scale provided at the top of the page. (Space provided to add any activities you feel were omitted.)

Activity Description	Current availability of this type of activity	Current quality of this type of activity	Activity Description	Current availability of this type of activity	Current quality of this type of activity
Baseball / Softball	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	Football	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
Basketball	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	Soccer	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
Volleyball	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	Swimming	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
Art and Crafts	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	Swim Lessons	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
Music Arts	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	Kickball	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
Gymnastics	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	Summer Camps	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
Skate Boarding	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5		1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
Golf	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5		1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
Canoeing / Kayaking	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5		1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
Fishing	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5		1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
Hiking	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5		1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
Cycling	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5		1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5

4. Please rate the following adult activities for each category using the scale provided at the top of the page. (Space provided to add any activities you feel were omitted.)

Activity Description	Current availability of this type of activity	Current quality of this type of activity	Activity Description	Current availability of this type of activity	Current quality of this type of activity
Softball	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	Swimming	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
Basketball	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	Swim Lessons	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
Volleyball	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	Kickball	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
Art and Crafts	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	Fitness Classes	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
Music Arts	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	Computer Classes	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
Football	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5		1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
Soccer	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5		1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
Golf	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5		1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
Canoeing / Kayaking	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5		1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
Fishing	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5		1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
Hiking	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5		1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
Cycling	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5		1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5

5. Would you support a bond proposition that might increase property taxes for park improvements?

6. What do you feel should be the Parks and Recreation Department’s top priority?

7. Please identify each of the following items as low, medium, or high priorities.

Priority	Low	Medium	High
Trails and sidewalks linking community resources such as schools, parks, and downtown.			
Maintenance of existing parks recreational facilities.			
Construction of new parks and recreational facilities.			
Conservation of natural resources.			
Educational opportunities for youth and adults.			
Supports facilities such as restrooms, water fountains, and parking.			
Acquiring new park land to protect undeveloped land with provisions for public use.			
Acquiring new park land to develop for organized outdoor recreation.			
Recreation programs and opportunities for ages 18 and under.			
Recreation programs and opportunities for ages 18 to 35.			
Recreation programs and opportunities for ages 35 and over.			
Free family programs such as movies in the park and concerts.			
Programs and events that bring visitors to town and produce positive economic impact.			
Renovation of existing swimming pool facilities.			
Construction of a new swimming pool facility.			

Additional Comments:

Thank you for taking the time to share your thoughts!

