



PLAN
TO
play

2016 Metro Parks
and Greenways
Master Plan

October 2016

Public Meeting No. 2

METRO PARKS AND GREENWAYS MASTER PLAN 2016
SUPPORTING PROJECT PARTNERS



Agenda

Presentation:

- Update on Master Planning Process
- Summary of Public Engagement
- Mission, Vision and Guiding Principles
- Value of Parks as Infrastructure
- Needs Assessment Highlights
- Level of Service (LOS) Mapping
- Preliminary Recommendations
 - LAND
 - FACILITIES
 - PROGRAMS
- Next Steps
 - Operations
 - Finance

Interactive Discussion:

- Open House Stations



**MISSION, VISION,
GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

Mission and Vision

■ Mission Statement:

It is the mission of Metro Parks and Recreation to equitably and sustainably provide everyone in Nashville with an inviting network of parks and greenways that offer health, wellness and quality of life through recreation and conservation.

■ Vision:

Nashville's parks and greenways offer life-enriching everyday experiences that are central to the city's identity as a green, active, diverse, creative, thriving, and healthy community.



Metro Parks

Guiding Principles

- Open to All
- Relevant and Diverse
- Promoting Healthy Lifestyles
- Green
- Strategic and Productive
- Safe
- Uniquely Nashville
- Transparent
- A Good Investment



VALUE OF PARKS and GREENWAYS

Value of Parks and Greenways

Enhanced
Property
Value

Reduced
Stormwater

Air Pollution
Removal
by Vegetation

Tourism
Spending

Recreational
Use by
Residents

Improved Health
of Residents



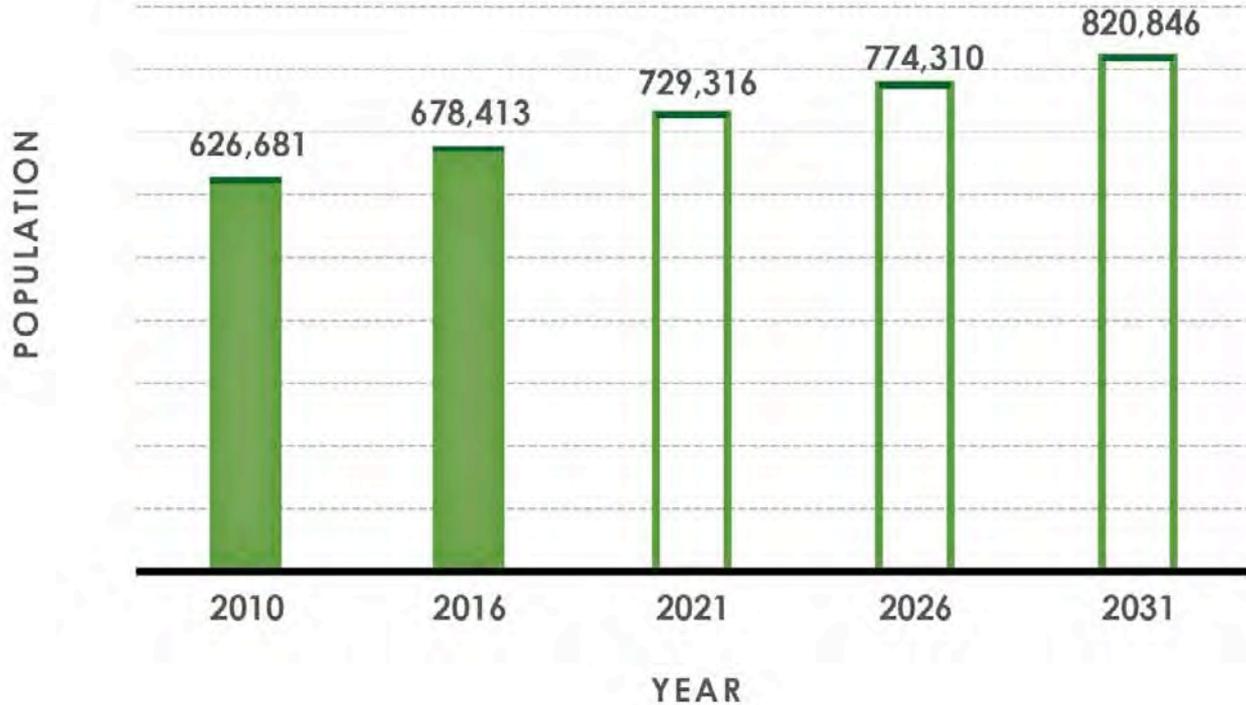
Value

Parks and Greenways

Benefit Category	Total (2016\$)
Enhanced property value	
Total additional property value	\$200,000,000
Additional annual property tax	\$2,150,000
Stormwater retention value	\$16,900,000
Air pollution removal value	\$3,660,000
Tourism value	\$116,000,000
Recreational use value	\$69,500,000
Human health value	\$27,500,000

NEEDS ASSESSMENT **HIGHLIGHTS**

Changing Demographics



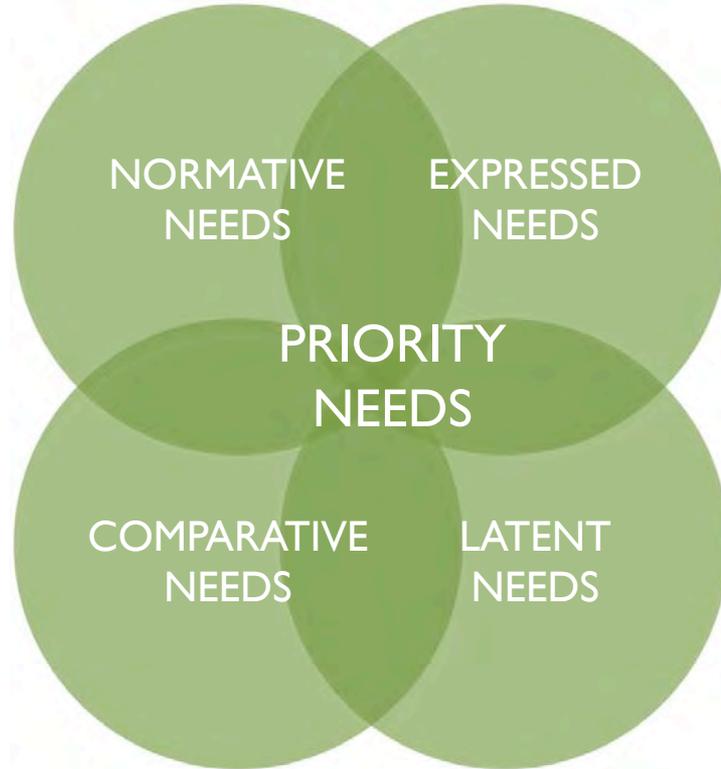
Needs Assessment Highlights

Expression of Need

QUANTITATIVE

- ✓ Evaluation of National Recreation Trends
- ✓ National Best Practices

- ✓ Review of Peer City Standards



QUALITATIVE

- ✓ Existing Use Patterns
- ✓ Agency Partner Interviews
- ✓ Community Meetings
- ✓ Department Interviews

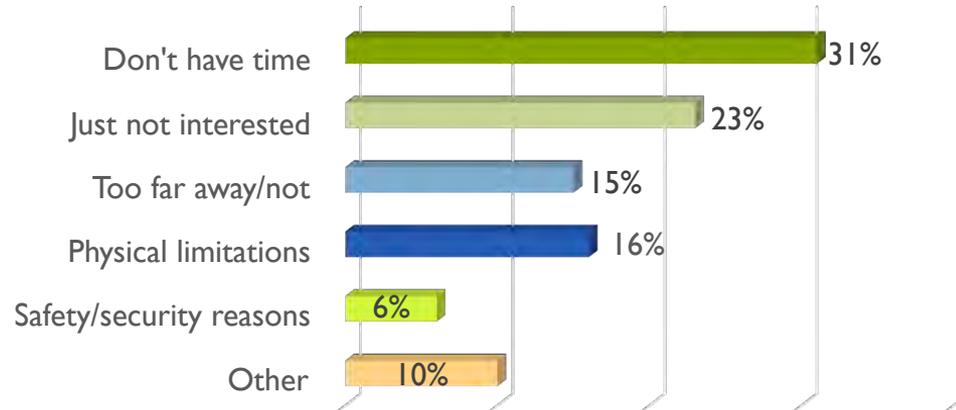
- ✓ Community Meetings
- ✓ Telephone Survey
- ✓ Community Online Surveys
- ✓ Demographic Trends

NEEDS ASSESSMENT
PUBLIC INPUT EXAMPLES

Telephone Survey Top Findings

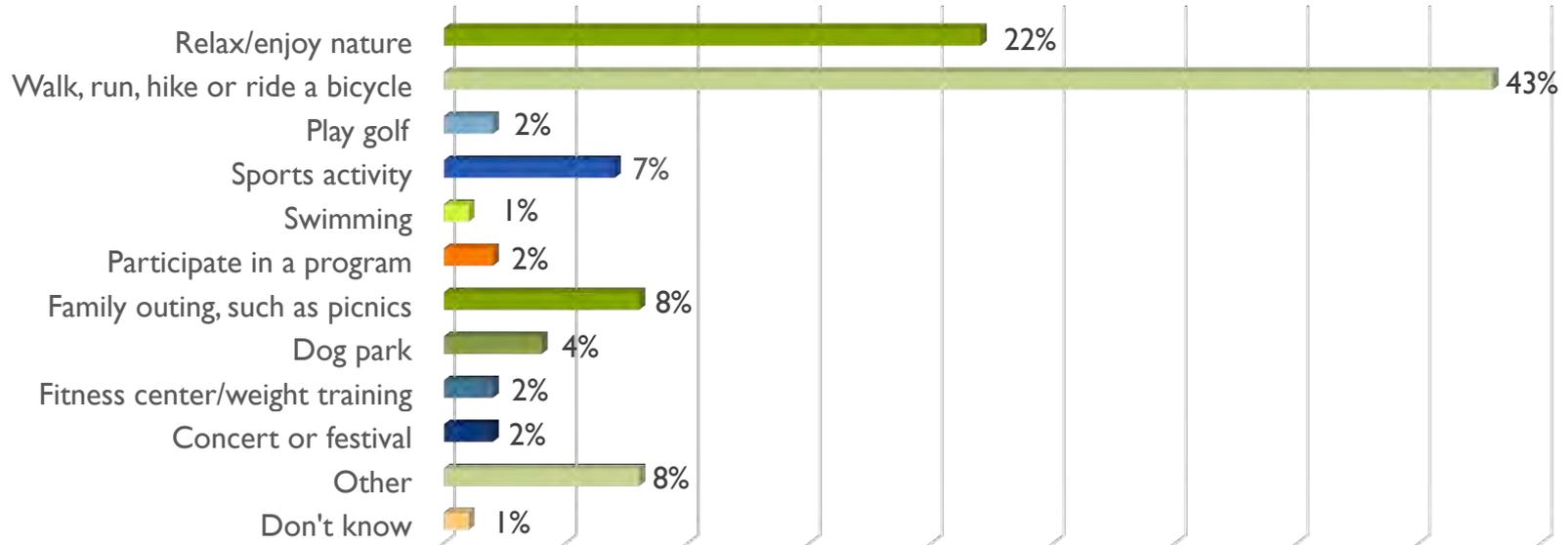
Frequency of Use

- 64% visit parks at least once or twice per month
- 15% don't use parks or facilities for the following reasons:



Telephone Survey Top Findings

Most Popular Uses of Parks and Greenways



Telephone Survey Top Findings

Programs

- **21% have participated** in a Parks program
- **88% rate the quality as excellent or good.**

Telephone Survey Top Findings

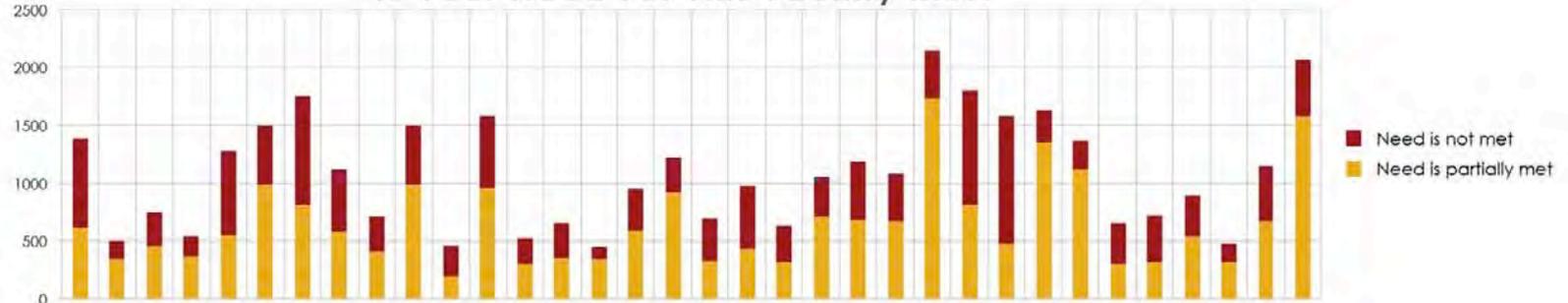
Funding + Investment

- 77% agree that **Metro should provide additional funding to Parks** to approach the national funding average.
- 94% support **preserving more green space** and acquiring **additional property for new parks and greenways.**
- 65% favored new investment at **existing parks and facilities versus developing new facilities.**

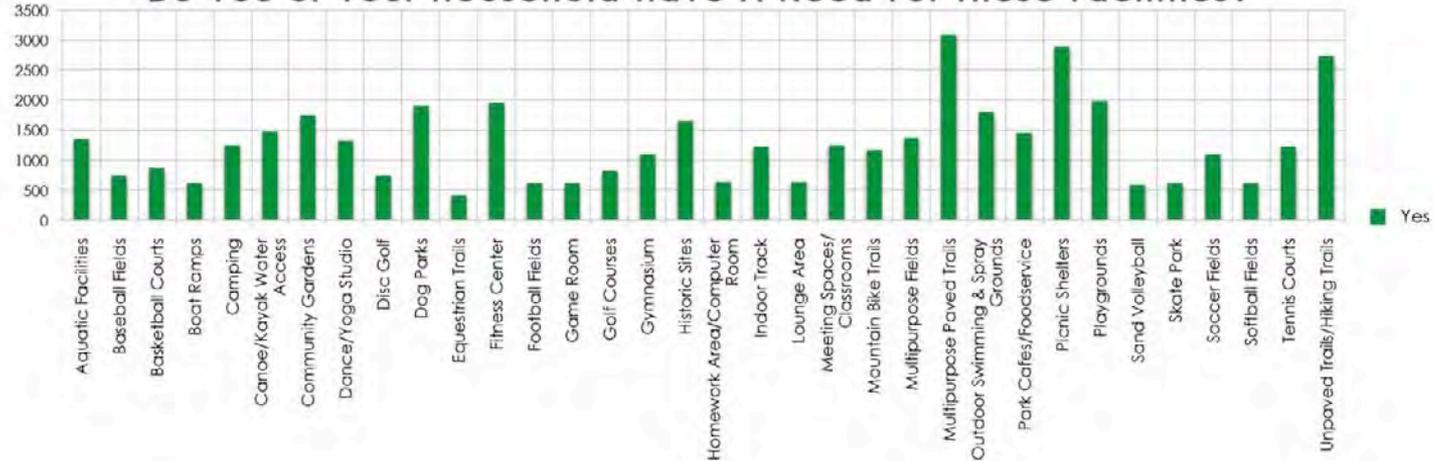
Qualitative Needs Categories

COMMUNITY SURVEY

Is Your Need For This Facility Met?

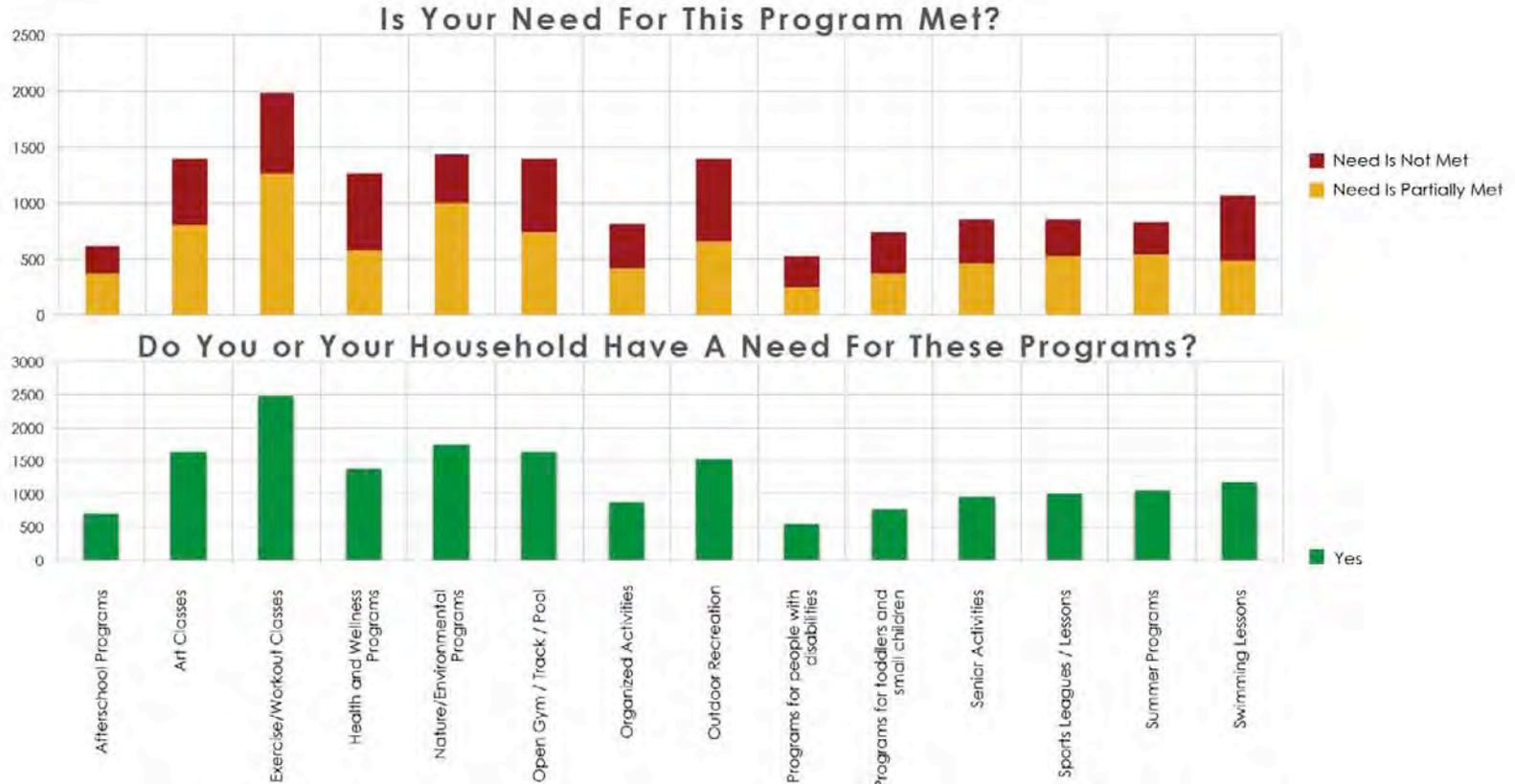


Do You or Your Household Have A Need For These Facilities?



Qualitative Needs Categories

COMMUNITY SURVEY



FACILITY USER SURVEYS

- **71%** of respondents visit the facility **weekly or daily**
- People participate most frequently:
 - **Walk, bike, bike, or run on trails or greenways (44%)**
 - **Programs or classes (39%)**
 - **Exercise / work out (29%)**
- **72%** rate the **quality of programs** above as **excellent**.
- What would they change? The **top theme** was to have **more programs/classes offered at more times**.

FACILITY USER SURVEYS

- **94%** said **user fees have not prohibited** participating in a program.
- **92%** usually **drive to the facility they visit**. They said they **live too far to walk or bike**.
- The **4 most important** public services provided:
 - **Fitness, health, and wellness opportunities**
 - **Recreation opportunities**
 - **A safe place for kids and teens**
 - **Public education** (nature classes, homework help, etc)

GREENWAY SURVEYS

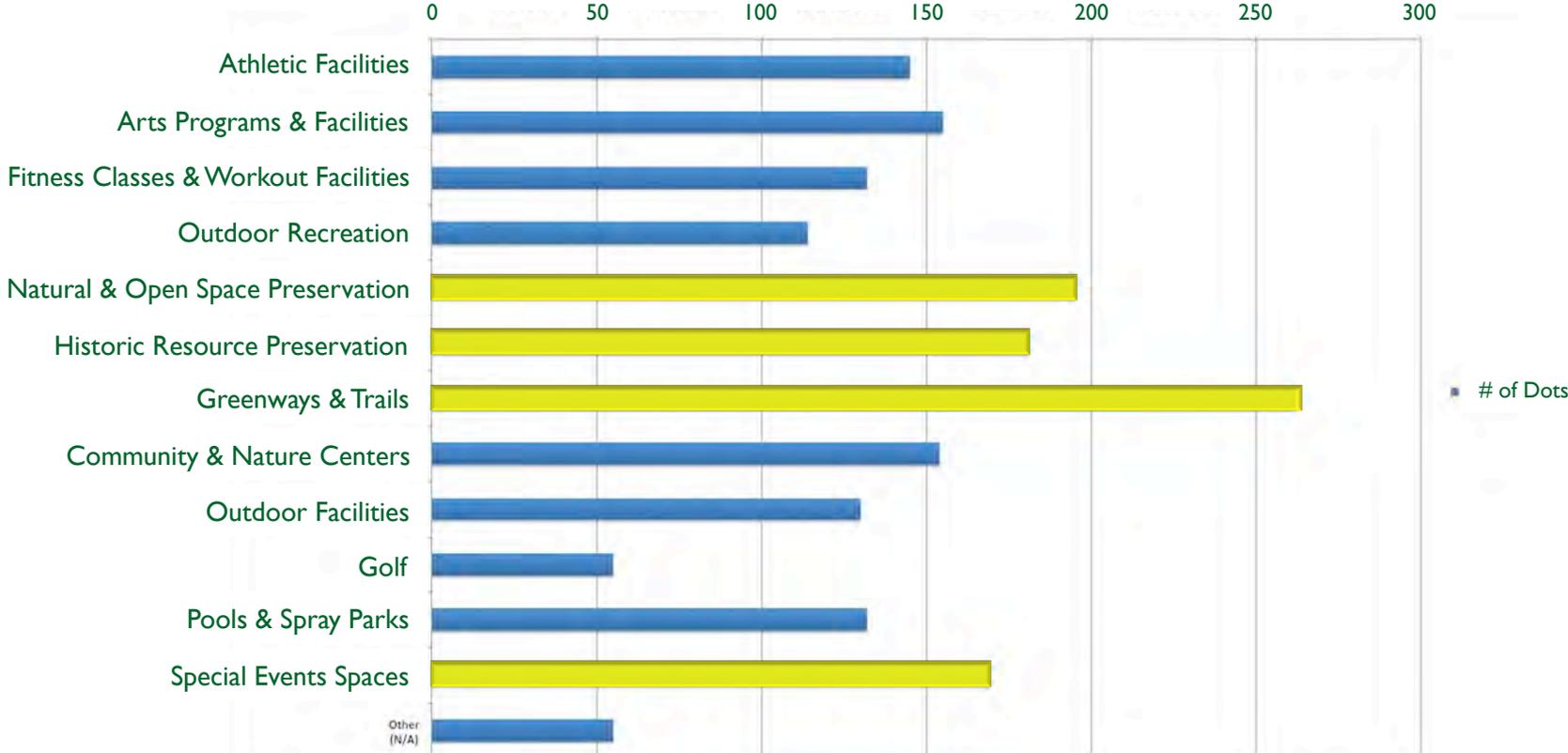
- Top ways people use greenways:
 - **Exercise (93%)**
 - **Enjoy nature (80%)**
 - **Spending time with friends (45%)**

- 62% would use a combination of cycling or walking plus public transit **if more greenways connected to transit stops.**

- What are obstacles that **limit or prohibit use as transportation:**
 - Lack of sidewalks and/or bikeways to get to a greenway (60%)
 - No greenway route to where I need to go (55%)
 - No greenway close to my house (51%)

Expression of Need

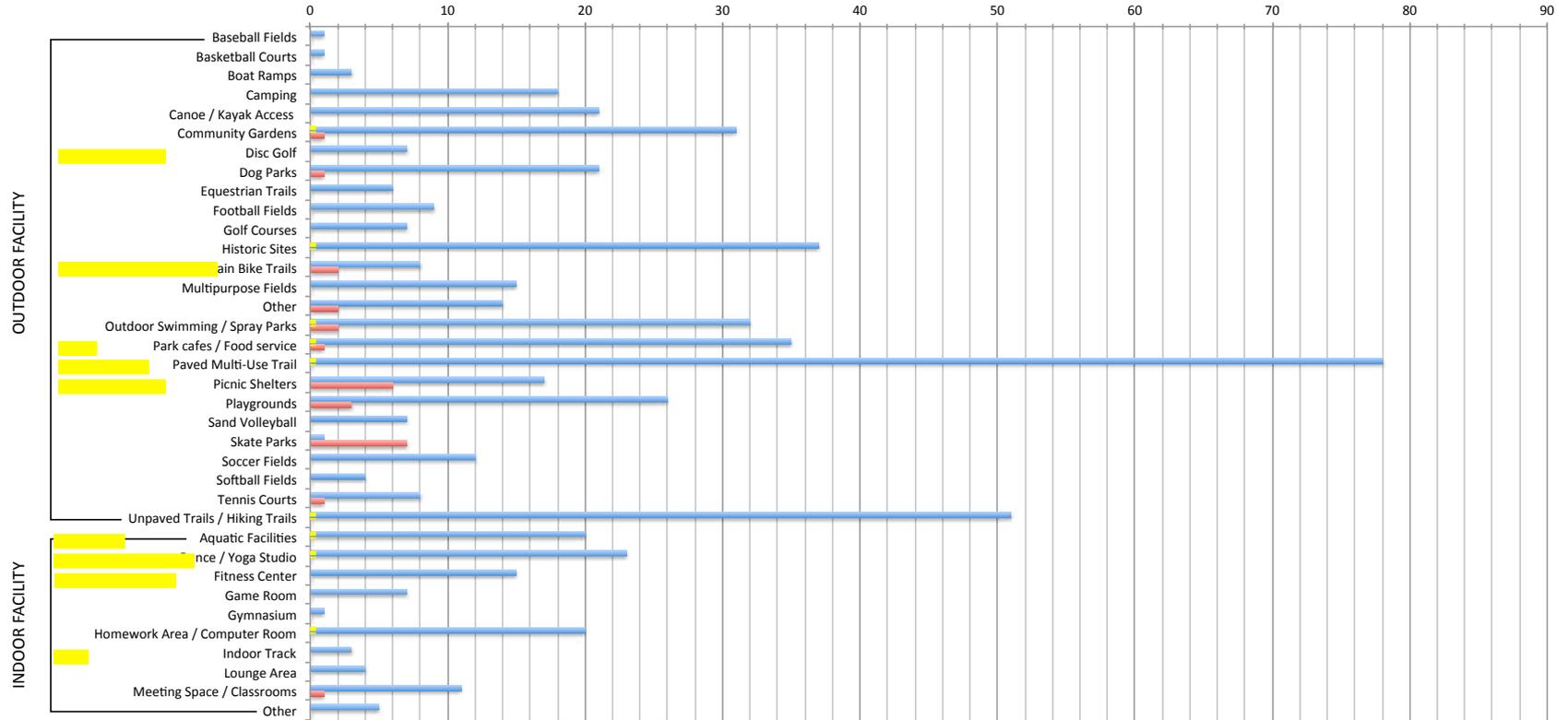
Public Meeting Input: Spending Priorities



Expression of Need

Public Meeting Input: Supply & Demand

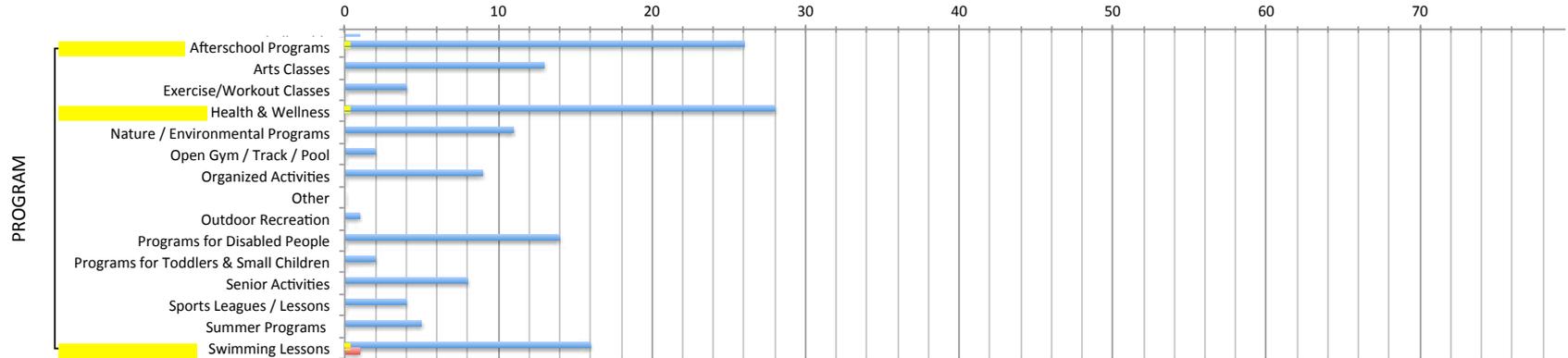
(wish we had more of this ...)



Expression of Need

Public Meeting Input: Supply & Demand

(wish we had more of this ...)

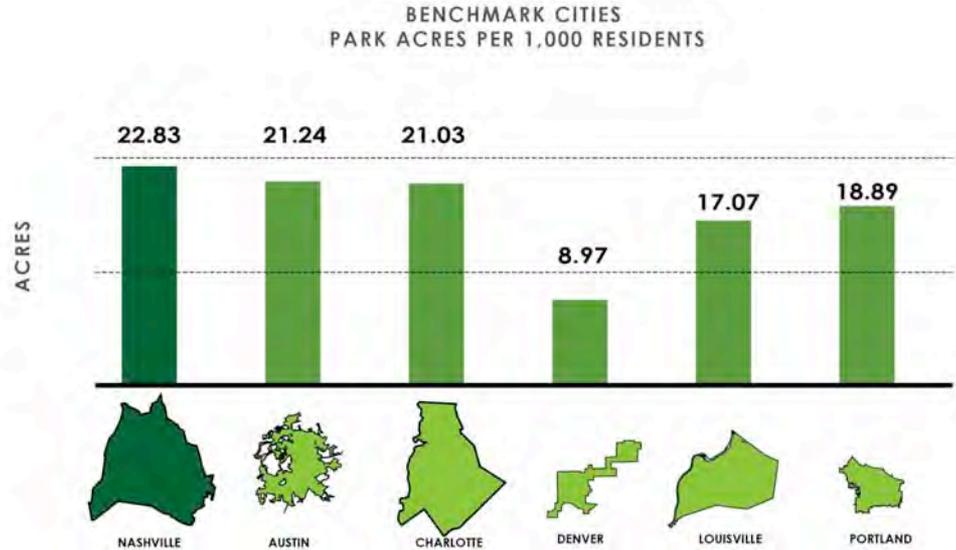
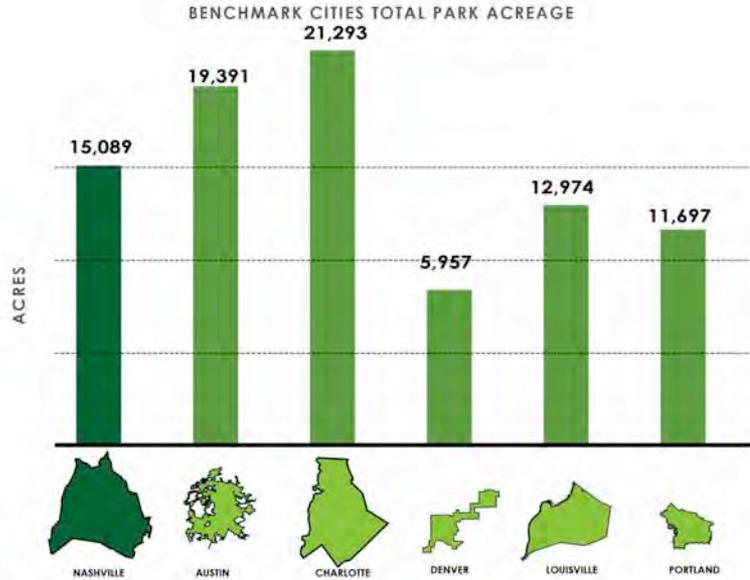


PEER CITY ANALYSIS



Quantitative Needs Categories

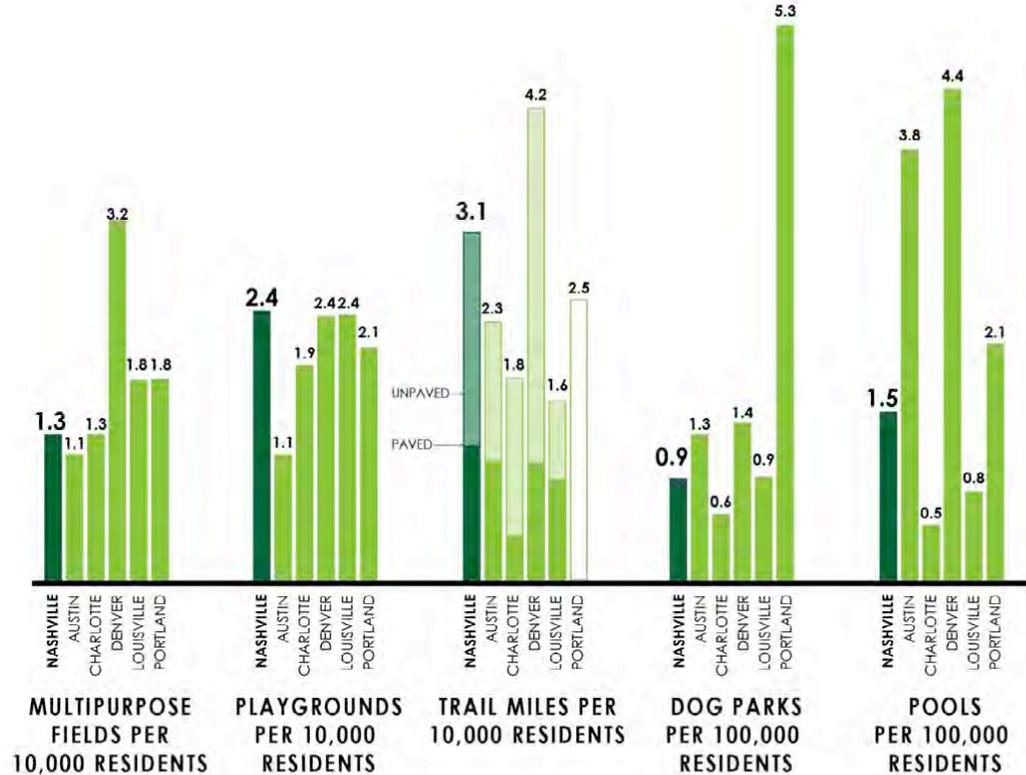
PEER CITY ANALYSIS



Quantitative Needs Categories

PEER CITY ANALYSIS

AMENITIES

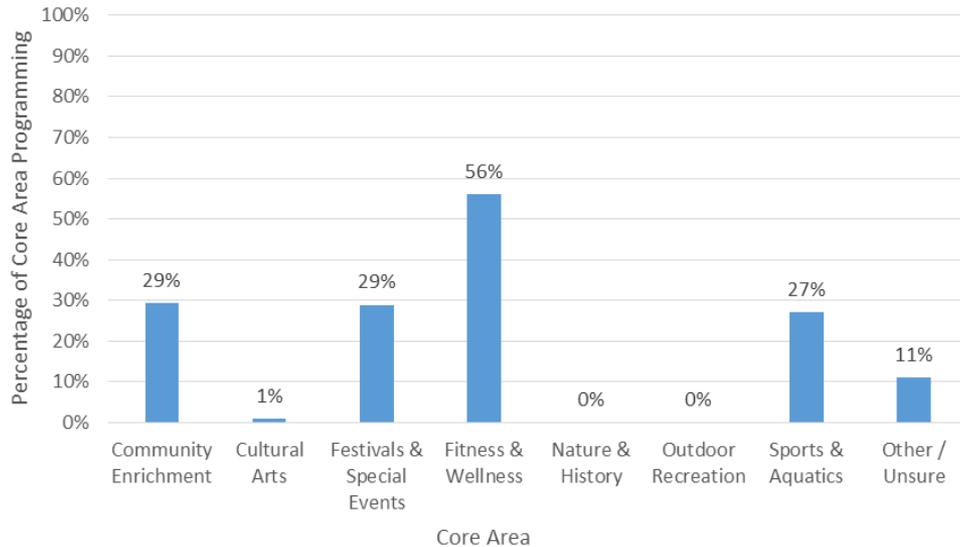


BENCHMARK CITIES
AMENITIES PER CAPITA

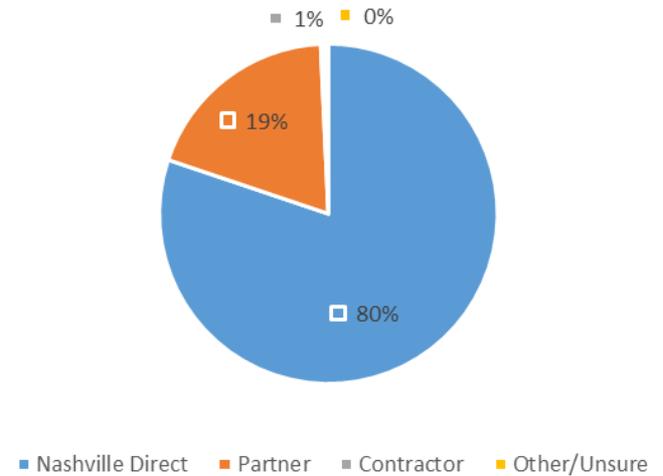
Quantitative Needs Categories

RECREATION PROGRAM ASSESSMENT

Regional Center Programs: Core Areas



Regional Center Programs: Service Provider



Quantitative Needs Categories

FACILITY SPACE ASSESSMENT

Regional Center
Facility Data

Center Name	Square Footage*	FTEs	# of Programs (2015)	% of Free Programs	# of Participations (2015)	# of Visitors	Volunteer Hours
Southeast Regional Center	46,000	7.95	24	71%	21,013	138,856	3,516
Hadley Regional Center	37,776	10.52	17	47%	35,369	78,555	1,125
Coleman Regional Center	37,000	10.46	33	55%	49,508	131,092	540
East Regional Center	33,994	10.02	30	0%	18,305	43,391	1,800
Hartman Regional Center	33,915	9.67	53	91%	32,548	41,932	3,200
McCabe Regional Center	25,000	8.29	32	63%	33,511	79,571	250
Sevier Regional Center	20,000	8.16	29	55%	22,451	54,563	73
Total	233,685	65.07	218	58%	212,705	567,960	10,504

*Chart sorted by square footage

Regional Center
Productivity of Space

Center Name	Indoor Analysis		
	Total Available Facility Hours (Indoor)	Total Used Facility Hours (Indoor)	Facility Utilization (Indoor)
Hartman Regional Center	380	267	70%
McCabe Regional Center	380	256	67%
Hadley Regional Center	456	283	62%
East Regional Center	532	325	61%
Sevier Regional Center	380	229	60%
Coleman Regional Center	456	269	59%
Southeast Regional Center	456	254	56%
Regional Center Subtotal	3,040	1,882	62%



LEVEL OF SERVICE (LOS) MAPPING

Level of Service

LOS – “by the numbers”

Arrived at preliminary goals by:

- Looking at how well the system is already doing
- Comparing against benchmarking cities
- Analyzing public input and identifying priorities
- Looking at projected growth rate of the population
- Examining level of recreation experience

Level of Service

LOS – “by the numbers”

■ Park Categories – based on function and service areas

- Pocket Park – up to 3 acres
- Neighborhood – 3 to 20 acres
- Community – 20 to 100 acres
- Regional - 100 + acres
- Specialty and Signature Parks

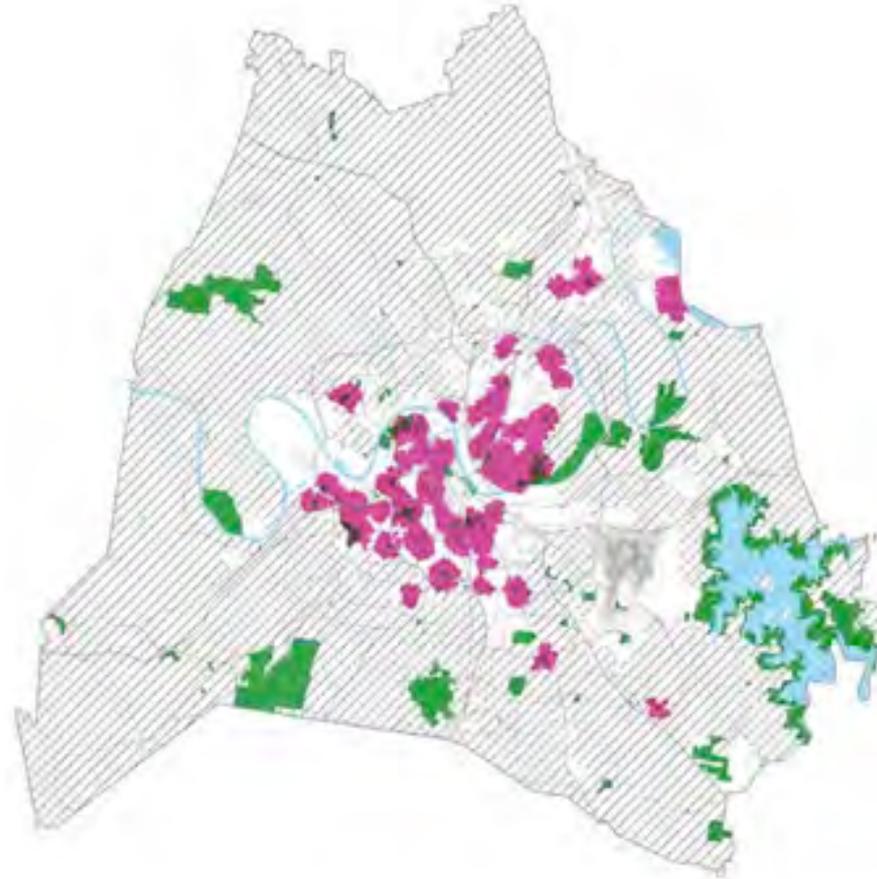
■ 2016 = 678,413 population

■ 2026 = 774,310 population

Park Type	2016 Nashville Current Service Level based upon population			Peer Cities Current Service Level based upon population			
	Value	Unit	Population	City	Value	Unit	Population
Pocket Parks (incl. school playgrounds): < 3 acres	0.12	acres per	1,000	Austin	0.03	acres per	1000
				Denver	0.03	acres per	1000
Neighborhood Parks: 3 - 20 acres	0.83	acres per	1,000	Austin	1.07	acres per	1000
				Charlotte/Mecklenburg	0.69	acres per	1000
				Denver	1.04	acres per	1000
				Louisville	0.56	acres per	1000
Community Parks: 20 - 100 acres	1.77	acres per	1,000	Charlotte/Mecklenburg	2.60	acres per	1000
				Denver	1.77	acres per	1000
				Louisville	1.57	acres per	1000
Regional Parks: 100 + acres	28.10	acres per	1,000	Austin	6.75	acres per	1000
				Charlotte/Mecklenburg	4.70	acres per	1000
				Denver	1.90	acres per	1000
				Louisville	8.97	acres per	1000
Signature Parks	0.26	acres per	1,000				
Special Use Park (incl. sports)	1.09	acres per	1,000	Austin	2.37	acres per	1000
				Denver	1.67	acres per	1000

Level of Service

LOS Mapping: Pocket Parks

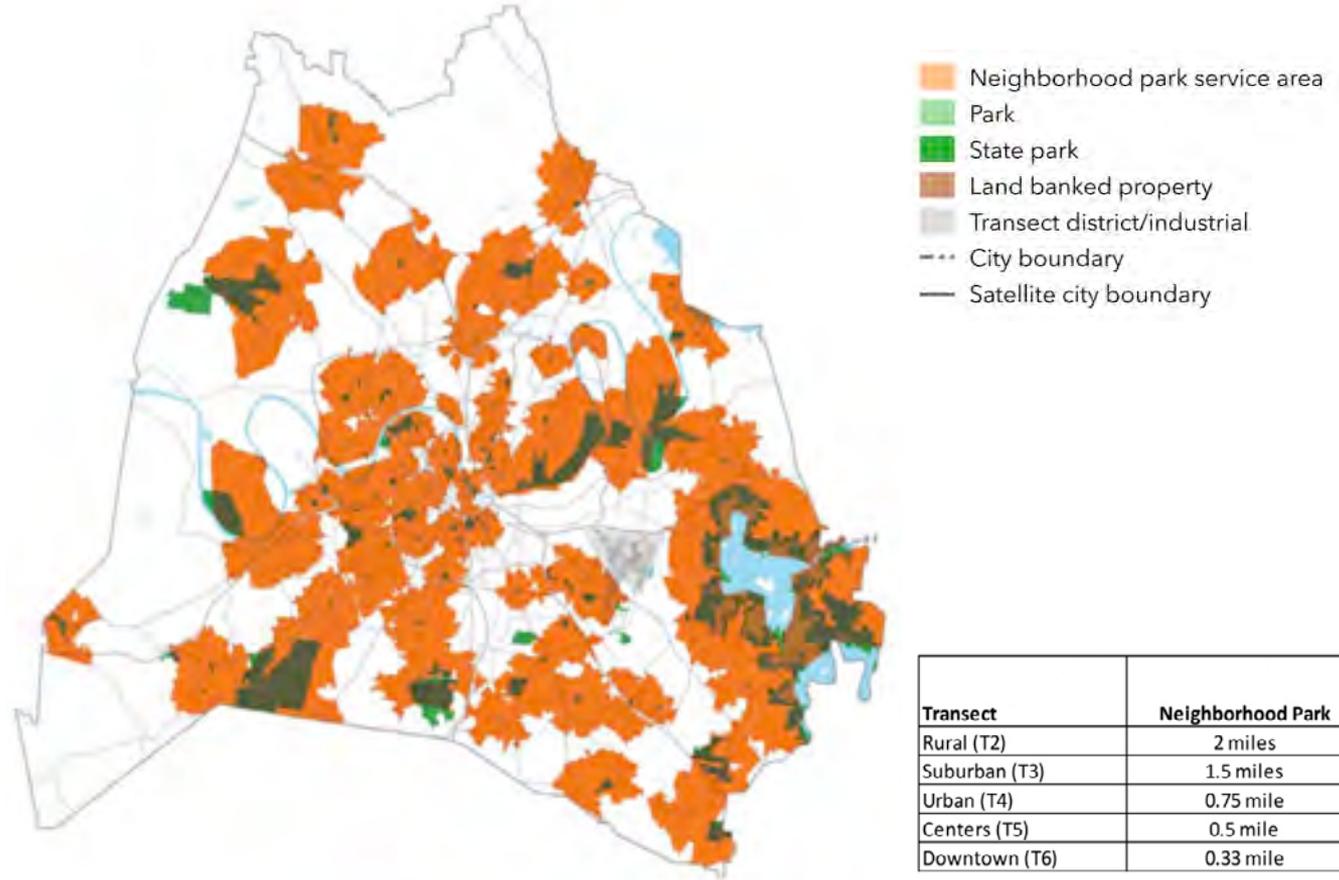


- Pocket park service area
- Park
- State park
- Land banked property
- ▨ Transect rural and suburban (T2/T3)
- ▨ Transect district/industrial
- - - City boundary
- Satellite city boundary

Transect	Pocket Park
Rural (T2)	n/a
Suburban (T3)	n/a
Urban (T4)	0.5 mile
Centers (T5)	0.33 mile
Downtown (T6)	0.25 mile

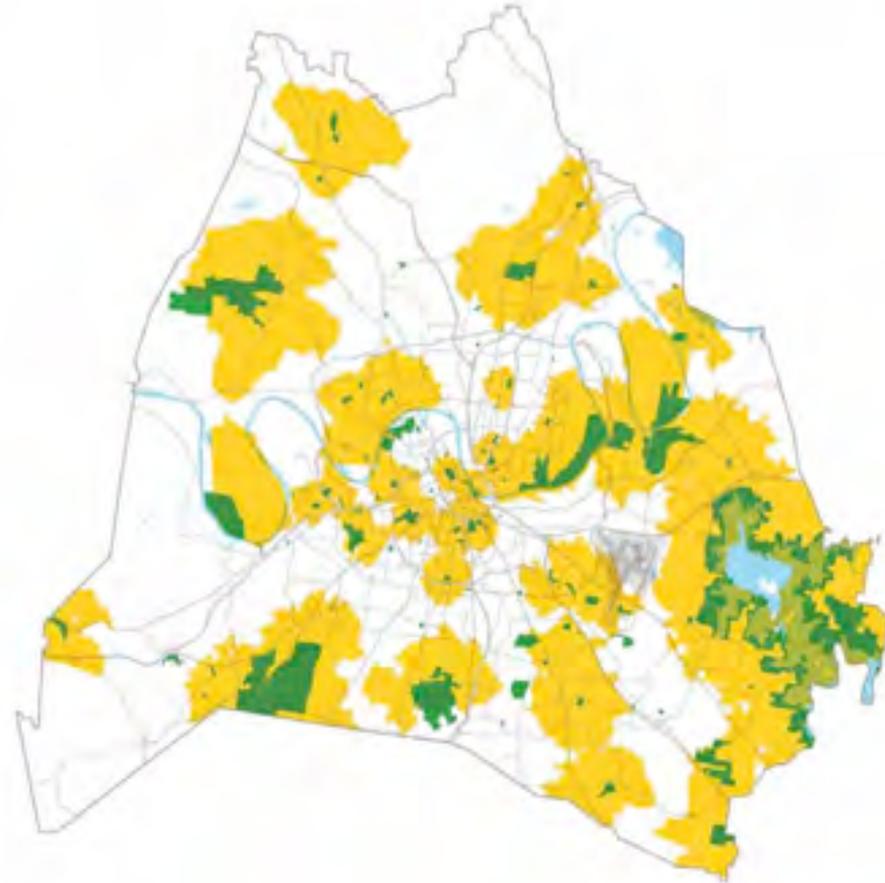
Level of Service

LOS Mapping: Neighborhood Parks



Level of Service

LOS Mapping: Community Parks

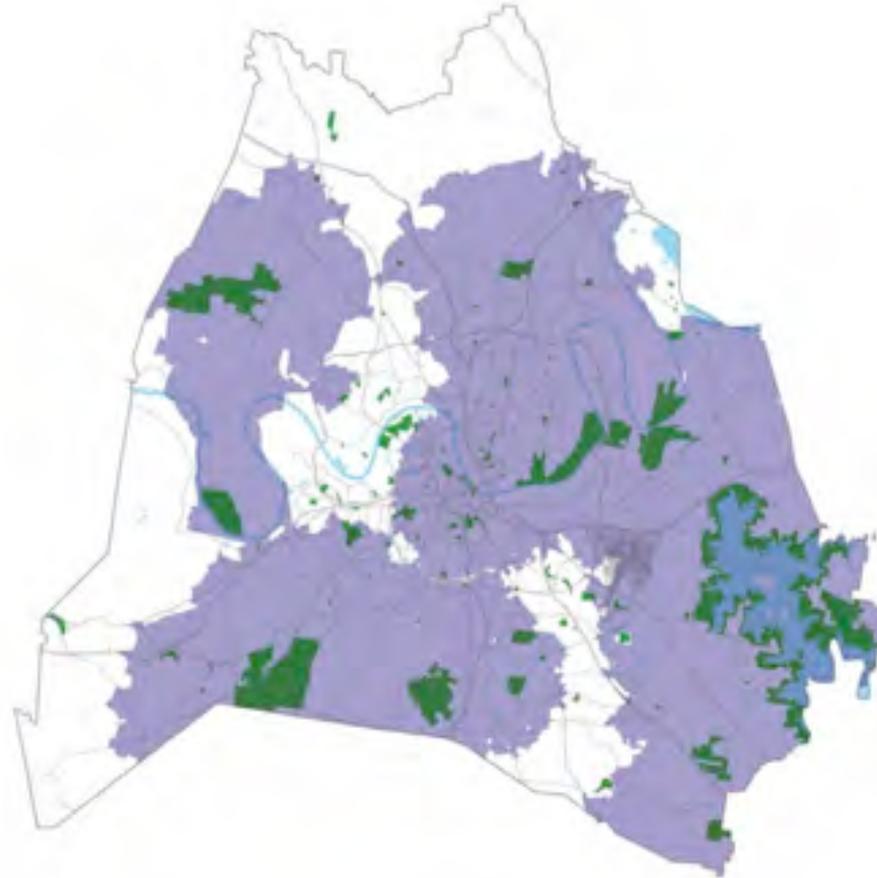


- Community park service area
- Park
- State park
- Land banked property
- Transect district/industrial
- City boundary
- Satellite city boundary

Transect	Community Park
Rural (T2)	3 miles
Suburban (T3)	2 miles
Urban (T4)	1 mile
Centers (T5)	0.75 mile
Downtown (T6)	0.5 mile

Level of Service

LOS Mapping: Regional Parks

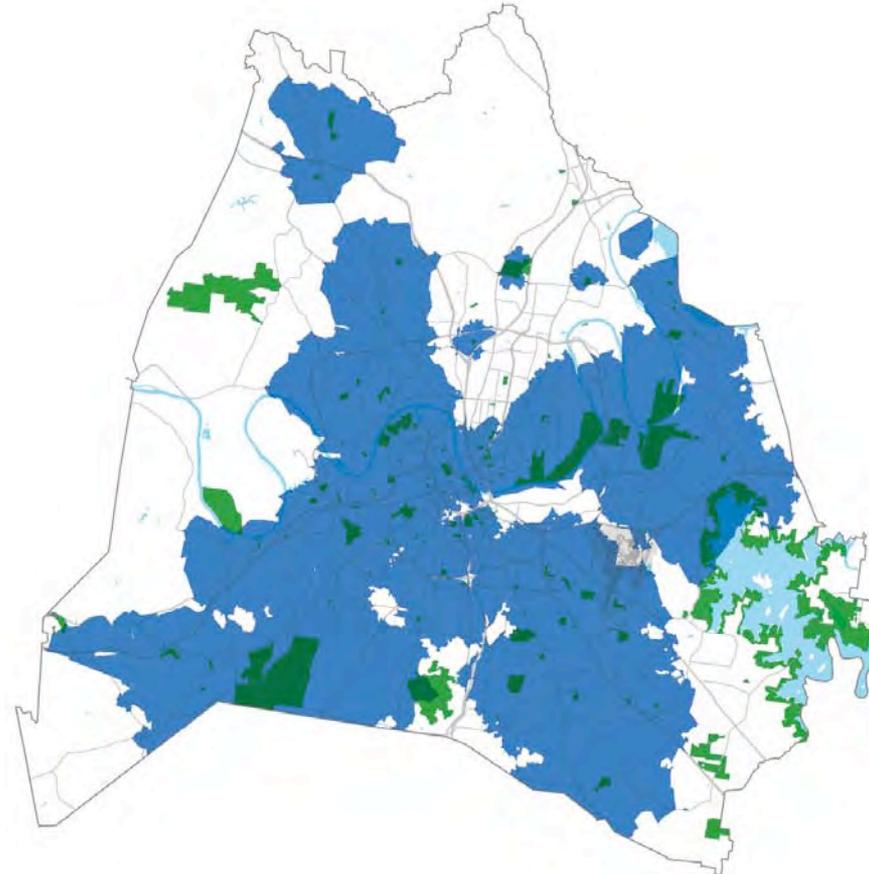


- Regional park service area
- Regional park
- Park
- State park
- Land banked property
- Transect district/industrial
- City boundary
- Satellite city boundary

Transect	Regional Park
Rural (T2)	5 miles
Suburban (T3)	5 miles
Urban (T4)	5 miles
Centers (T5)	5 miles
Downtown (T6)	5 miles

Level of Service

LOS Mapping: Multi-Purpose Paved Trails

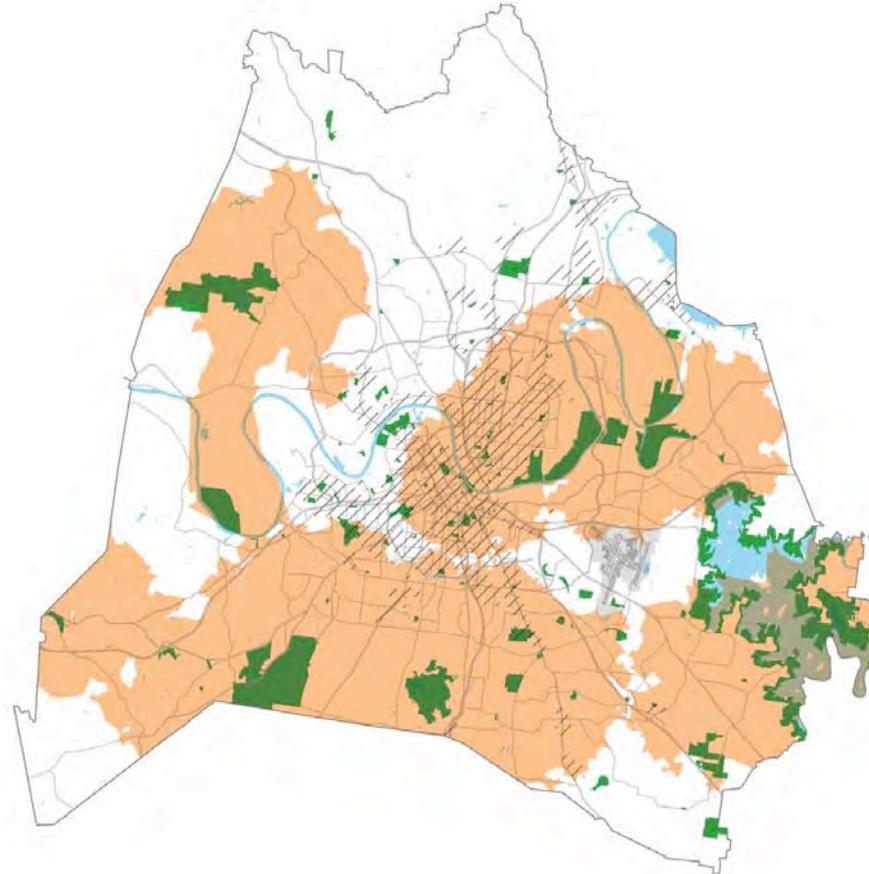


-  Paved trail access
-  Greenway trail
-  Park trail
-  All paved trail service area
-  Park
-  State park
-  Land banked property
-  City boundary
-  Satellite city boundary

Transect	Greenways	Park Trails
	paved multi-use trails (8ft min)	walking loops
Rural (T2)	3 miles	1.5 miles
Suburban (T3)	3 miles	1 mile
Urban (T4)	1 mile	0.75 mile
Combined Centers (T5/T6)	0.5 mile	0.5 mile

Level of Service

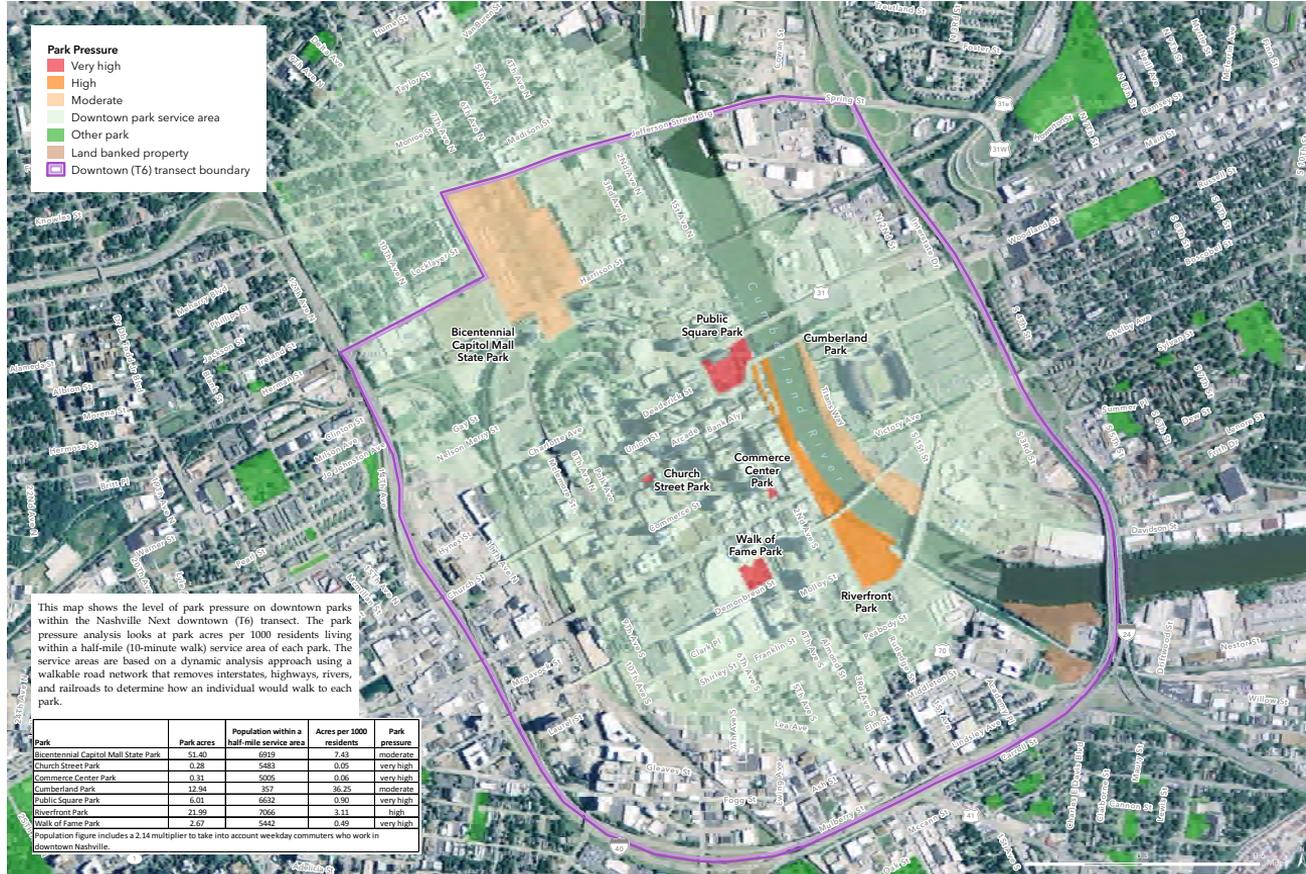
LOS Mapping: Unpaved Trails / Hiking Trails



- Hiking trail access
- Greenway trail
- Hiking trail
- Park trail
- Hiking trail service area
- Park
- State park
- Land banked property
- Transect urban, center, and downtown (T4/5/6)
- City boundary
- Satellite city boundary

Transect	Hiking Trails unpaved trails (dirt, mowed, gravel)
Rural (T2)	5 miles
Suburban (T3)	5 miles
Urban (T4)	n/a
Combined Centers (T5/T6)	n/a

LOS Mapping: Downtown Park Pressure



Preliminary Recommendations

- ① **Land (Parks and Greenways)**
- ② **Facilities**
- ③ **Programs**
- ④ Operations & Maintenance (Part 4)
- ⑤ Funding (Part 4)

PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATIONS:

LAND

Preliminary Land Recommendations

Update Park Typologies



Church Street Park (Mini Park)



Shelby Bottoms Park and Greenway (Regional Park)

- **Size**
 - Pocket Parks: up to 3 acres
 - Neighborhood Parks: 3 to 20 acres
 - Community Parks: 20 to 100 acres
 - Regional Parks: 100+ acres
 - Specialty Parks: n/a
 - Signature Parks: n/a
- **Service Area and Access**
- **Facilities and Amenities**
- **Maintenance and Operations**

Preliminary Land Recommendations

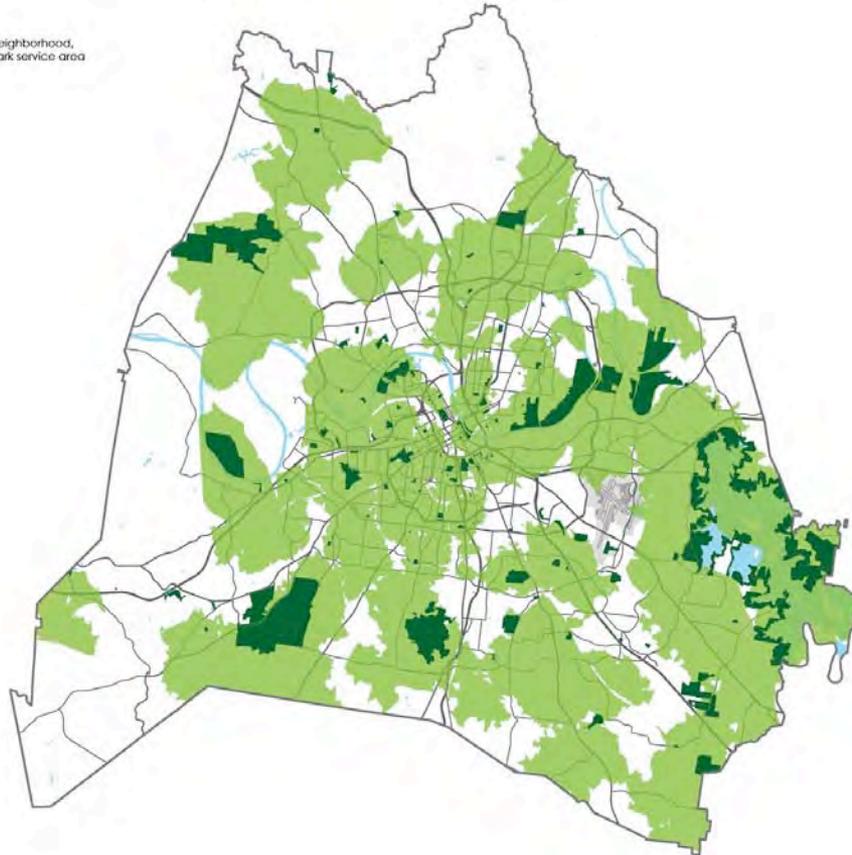
Park Land Recommendation by Type



Park Type	2026 Facility Standards			Additional Facilities/ Amenities Needed	
	Recommended Service Levels: Revised for Local Service Area				
Pocket Parks (incl. school playgrounds): < 3 acres	0.15	acres per	1,000	37	Acre(s)
Neighborhood Parks: 3 - 20 acres	1.00	acres per	1,000	226	Acre(s)
Community Parks: 20 - 100 acres	2.00	acres per	1,000	379	Acre(s)
Regional Parks: 100 + acres	28.10	acres per	1,000	3,187	Acre(s)
Signature Parks	0.40	acres per	1,000	141	Acre(s)
Special Use Park (incl. sports)	1.50	acres per	1,000	440	Acre(s)
Greenway corridors	1.00	acres per	1,000	130	Acre(s)
Total Park Acres	34.15	acres per	1,000	4,541	Acre(s)
Land Bank	2.53	acres per	1,000	290	Acre(s)
Total Acres	36.68	acres per	1,000	4,830	Acre(s)

Preliminary Land Recommendations

Park Land Service Areas



Additional acreage target 2026:

- Pocket Parks: 37 acres
- Neighborhood Parks: 226 acres
- Community Parks: 379 acres
- Regional Parks: 3,187 acres

Greenway System Infrastructure

- Increase Connectivity for Multi-Modal Transportation
- Increase Access to Outdoor Recreation for Health and Wellness
- Protect Open Space, Natural Resources, Wildlife Habitat and Waterways
- Utilize Greenways, Trails and Open Space System as an Economic Generator
- Develop New Tools to Acquire Land and Right of Way for Expansion of Greenway Network



PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATIONS:
FACILITIES

Preliminary Facility Recommendations

Top Unmet Needs



1. Paved multi-use trails
2. Unpaved trails
3. Picnic shelters
4. Recreation / Fitness Centers
5. Playgrounds
6. Dog parks
7. Aquatic facilities
8. Historic sites
9. Community gardens
10. Canoe / kayak access
11. Park cafes and concessionaires in parks
12. Multi-purpose fields

Preliminary Facility Recommendations

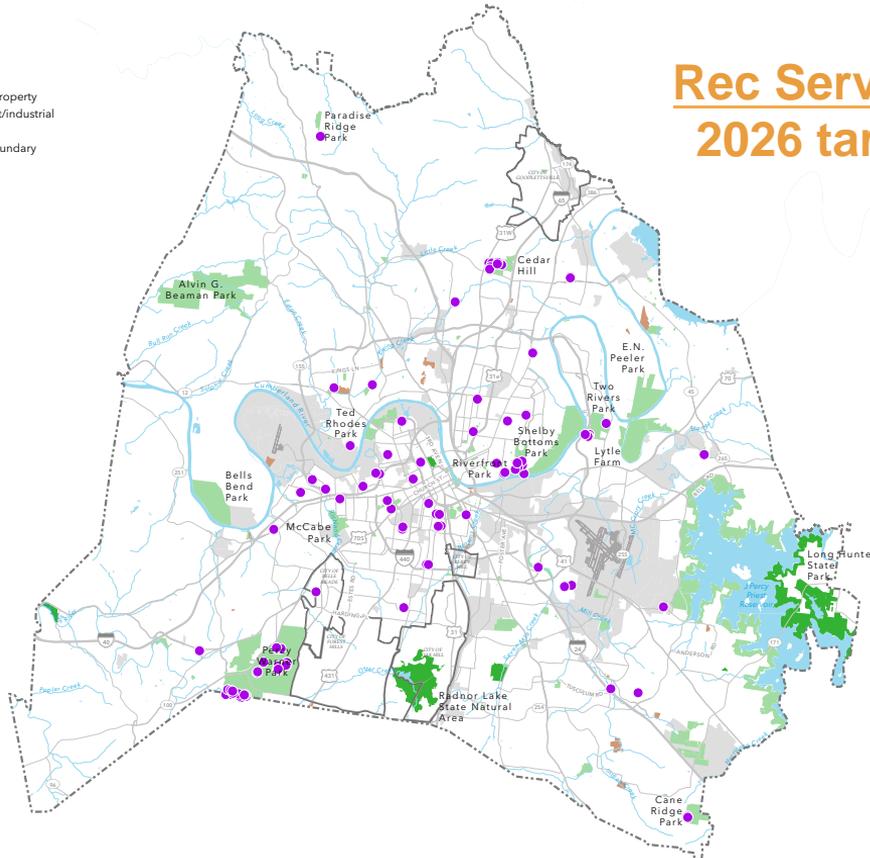
Current Service and Highest Needs

Amenity:	2016 Inventory - Developed Facilities				Recommended Service Level			2026 Facility Standards	
	Nashville	Nashville Current Service Level based upon population			Recommended Service Levels: Revised for Local Service Area			Additional Facilities/ Amenities Needed	
OUTDOOR AMENITIES:									
Reservable Shelters	60	1.00	site per	11,014	1.00	site per	10,000	17	Sites(s)
Soccer Fields	67	1.00	field per	9,863	1.00	field per	8,000	30	Field(s)
Multi-Purpose Fields (Football, Cricket, Lacrosse)	16	1.00	field per	41,302	1.00	field per	15,000	36	Field(s)
Adult Ball Fields	52	1.00	field per	12,708	1.00	field per	12,000	13	Field(s)
Youth Ball Fields	34	1.00	field per	19,436	1.00	field per	10,000	43	Field(s)
Basketball Courts	28	1.00	court per	23,601	1.00	court per	7,000	83	Court(s)
Tennis Courts	147	1.00	court per	4,495	1.00	court per	4,495	25	Court(s)
Playgrounds	156	1.00	site per	4,236	1.00	site per	3,500	65	Site(s)
Dog Parks	7	1.00	site per	94,405	1.00	site per	50,000	8	Site(s)
Skate Park	2	1.00	site per	330,418	1.00	site per	70,000	9	Site(s)
Sand Volleyball	5	1.00	site per	132,167	1.00	site per	30,000	21	Site(s)
Paved Multi-Use Trails	80	0.12	miles per	1,000	0.25	miles per	1,000	114	Mile(s)
Unpaved Trails/ Hiking Trails	66	0.10	miles per	1,000	0.12	miles per	1,000	27	Mile(s)
Mountain Bike Trails	23	0.03	miles per	1,000	0.05	miles per	1,000	16	Mile(s)
Equestrian Trails	17	0.03	miles per	1,000	0.04	miles per	1,000	14	Mile(s)
Outdoor Pools	4	1.00	site per	165,209	1.00	site per	50,000	11	Site(s)
INDOOR AMENITIES:									
Community Center/Recreation/ Gymnasium/Fitness Facility (Square Feet)	750,069.00	1.14	SF per	person	1.50	SF per	person	411,396	Square Feet

#3 Picnic Shelters

Rec Service Level: 1 site / 10,000 residents
2026 target: Add 17 picnic shelters

- Picnic shelter
- Park
- State park
- Land banked property
- Transect district/industrial
- City boundary
- Satellite city boundary



- Install picnic shelters in prioritized areas of Unmet Need
- Install in existing parks to align with types of amenities recommended within park types, as well as in linear parks (greenways), and new parks.

Preliminary Facility Recommendations

#4 Recreation Centers



Rec Service Level: 1.50 sf per resident
2026 target: Add 411,396 sf

- Update Recreation Center categories
Updates to:
 - Square footages
 - Amenities at centers

 - Improve efficiency and productivity of square footage in existing centers.
- ** Additional centers must be strategically placed and be financially sustainable.

Update Kinds of Recreation Centers

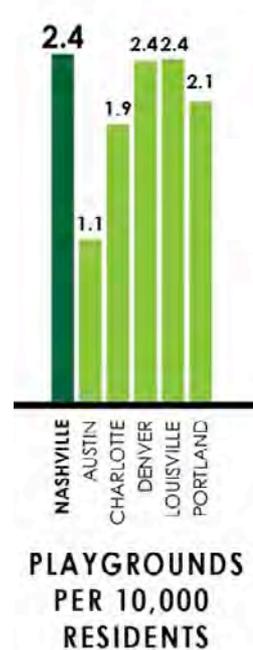
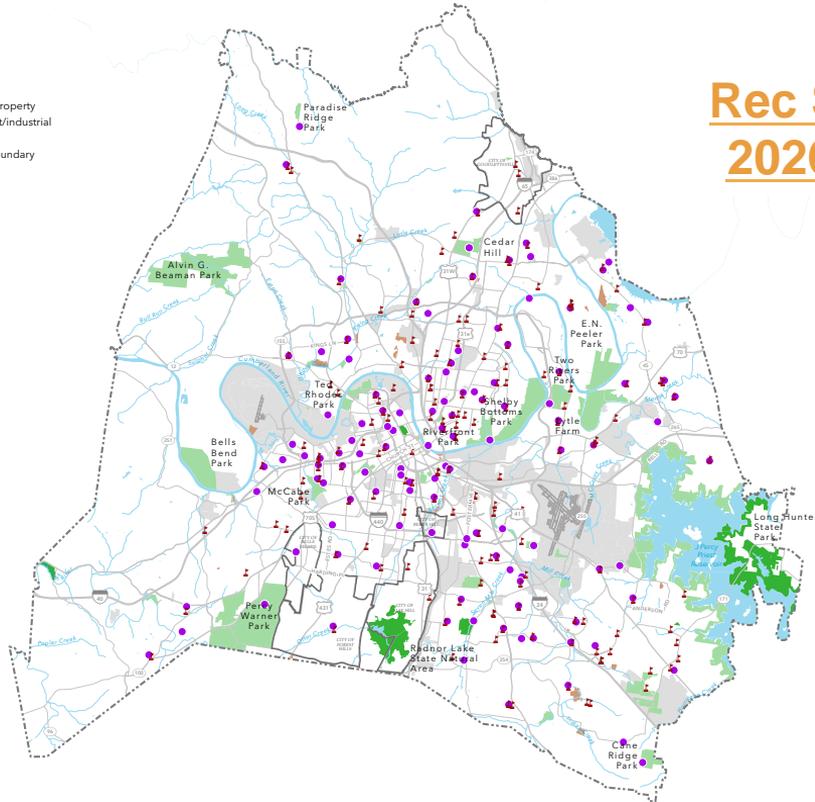
- Neighborhood Recreation Centers
- Community Centers
- Multi-generational Regional Centers
- Field House/SportsPlex
- Nature Centers
- Specialty Centers
 - Senior Centers
 - Art Centers
 - Performing Art Centers



Preliminary Facility Recommendations

#5 Playgrounds

Rec Service Level: 1 site / 3,500 residents
2026 target: Add 65 playgrounds



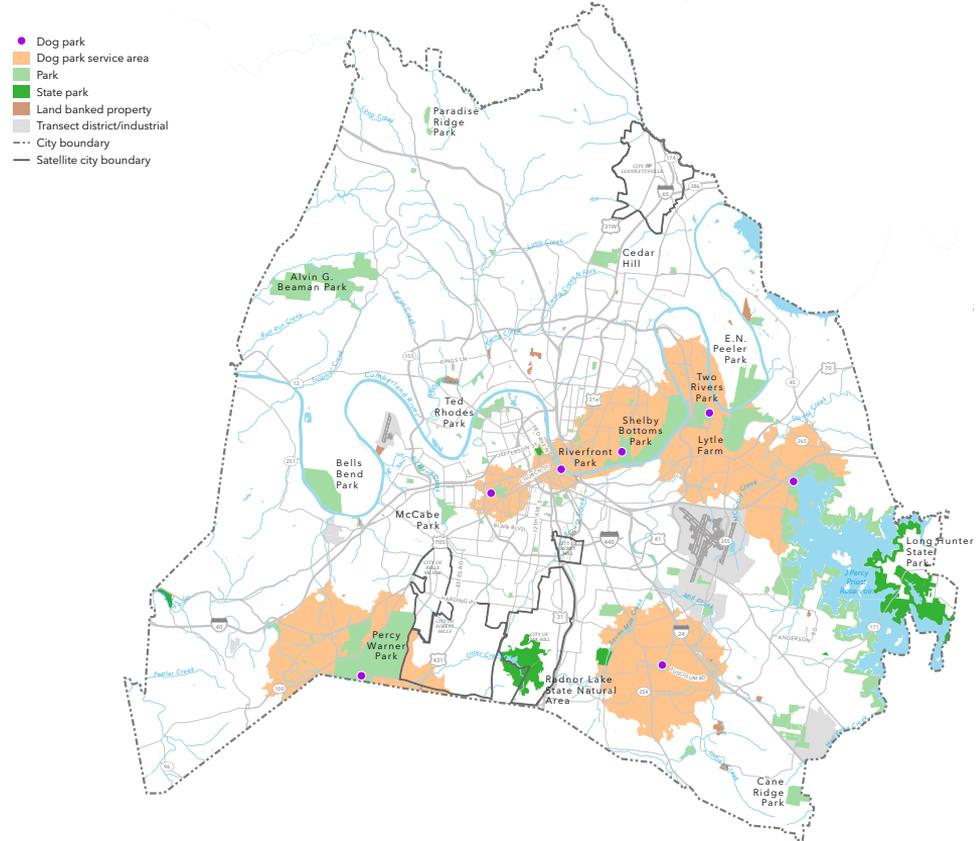
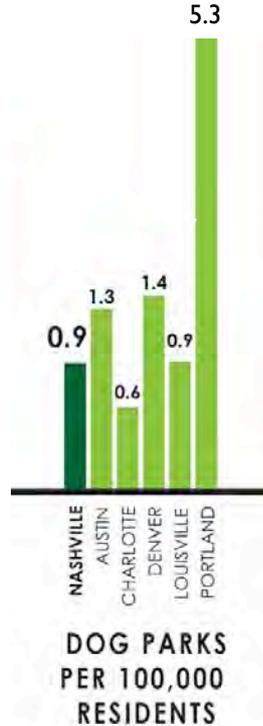
- Utilize schools to fill gaps in playground service.
- Revisit agreement with schools to ensure it's a win-win.

Preliminary Facility Recommendations

#6 Dog Parks

**Rec Service Level:
1 dog park / 50,000
residents**

**2026 target:
Add 8 dog parks**



Preliminary Facility Recommendations

#7 Aquatic Facilities



Recommendation: 1 site / 50,000 residents
2026 target: 11 facilities

- Need for more cost effective ways to deliver these facilities.
- Build regional indoor pools that accommodate flexible and diverse uses.
- Implementation must be strategic and financially sustainable.
- Build facilities that accommodate tournaments

Preliminary Facility Recommendations

#8 Historic Sites

- Establish goals for each historic facility:
 - Visitation
 - Programmatic
 - Operational
- For each specific facility determine the operations and maintenance costs. Align with level of service identified from the goals.
- Explore adaptive reuse at certain facilities to expand offerings.



Preliminary Facility Recommendations

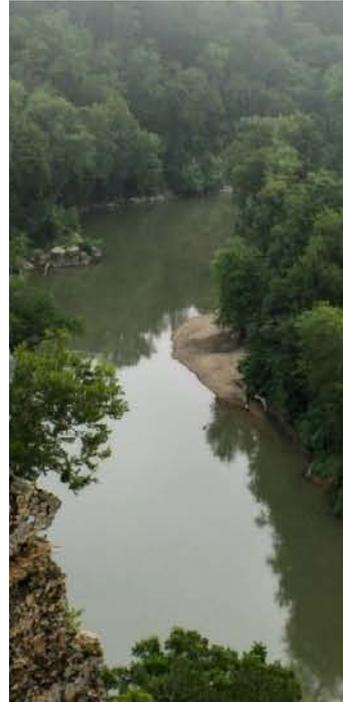
#9 Community Gardens



- Very popular in other parts of the country and also scored high in the needs assessment
- Partnerships with NGO groups; study further to better understand need and capacity
- Focus on areas where neighborhood interest and organizational support is high.

#10 Canoe & Kayak Access

- Develop a Blueway Plan to guide and prioritize water access, and identify adventure recreation as a core service.
- Prioritize access points along existing and future greenways & parks.
- Expand the access network through partnerships (TDOT & USACE).
- Seek opportunities to meet adventure recreation needs through outside providers & partners.



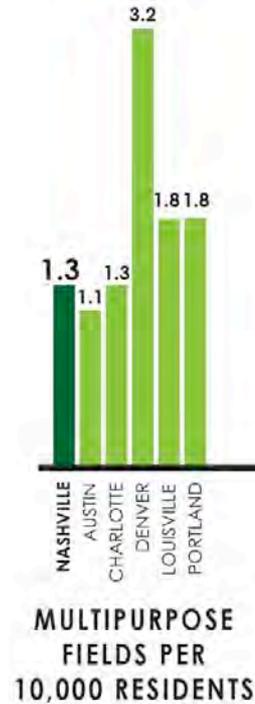
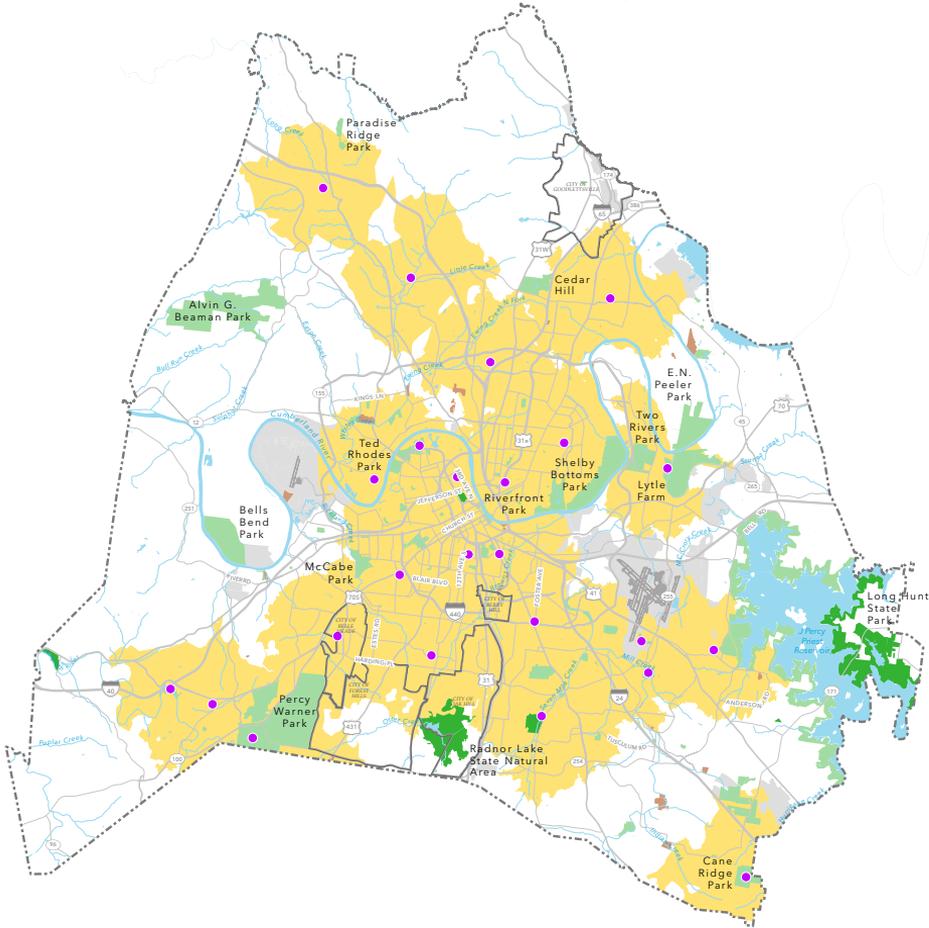
#11 Park Cafes & Concessionaires in Parks

- Identify existing spaces in parks for early implementation.
- Opportunity to further activate and promote parks.
- Food services attract visitors to the parks and also add a social element.



Preliminary Facility Recommendations

#12 Multi-Purpose Fields



Rec Service Level:
1site / 15,000
residents

2026 target:
expand by 36 fields

Preliminary Facility Recommendations

Specialty Facilities

Field House / SportsPlex

Add 1 field house in the county to expand service. Recommended size: 150,000 sf.

Golf Courses

Improve productivity of select courses by diversifying programs and amenities.

Wave Pool

Increase visitation by adding a new feature/amenity every 3-5 years.

Field Sports Complex

Add 1 regional tournament complex.



PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATIONS:
PROGRAMS

Preliminary Program Recommendations

Recommendations Overview



- Focus on expanding programs:
 - Expand hours and days available including more opportunities over the weekend.
- Expanded program offerings are directly linked to available funding for staffing, operations, and facilities.
- As funding capacity is increased raise program awareness through promotion and marketing

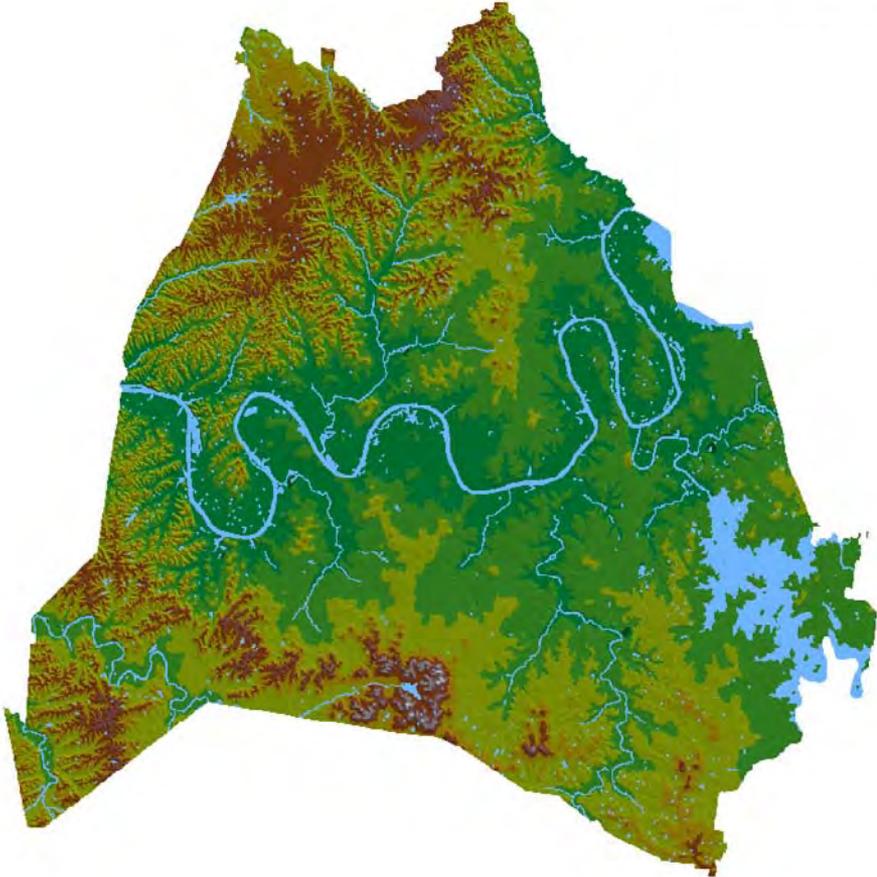
Preliminary Program Recommendations

Highest Unmet Needs

1. Outdoor Recreation programs
2. Exercise / Work-out classes
3. Health & Wellness programs
4. Art programs
5. Summer Enrichment programs
6. After school programs



Outdoor Recreation



- Expand existing outdoor recreation program offerings:
 - Offer programs across Nashville's diverse geography
 - Continue to expand focus on outdoor recreation youth programming
 - Expand program delivery methods through partnerships, outreach, equipment rentals, outfitters and off-site trips.

Nature Programs

- Increase outreach programming by bringing nature programs and environmental education out and into communities (i.e. facility extension programs)
- Engage volunteers and partner with outfitters / contractors to expand and optimize services



Preliminary Program Recommendations

Community Program Improvements



- Increase capacity (with funding) and then promotion of program offerings
- Focus on:
 - Exercise/Workout classes
 - Health & Wellness classes
 - Summer Enrichment
 - After school programs
- Fully utilize existing spaces to expand programs to meet user demand

Preliminary Program Recommendations

Senior Programs

- Launch a senior programs initiative with dedicated staff and dedicated funding.
- Provide active and passive program options to address the diverse needs of seniors spanning a 40 year age range.



Visual & Performing Arts Programs

- Expand arts programming into more recreation centers in the community.
- Where strong interest exists, provide programming in available space.
- Broaden the use of partners/contractors to deliver programs.



Preliminary Program Recommendations

B-Cycle Program



- Expand the B-Cycle program in parks and along greenways to encourage recreation and transportation:
 - Set a goal to have a B-Cycle station on every major greenway route.
 - Work with the Downtown Partnership and other Metro Agencies in increasing B-Cycle by fourfold by 2017 as recommended in GU 2020.

Preliminary Program Recommendations

Urban Park Programming



- Partner with Not-for-Profits, volunteers, and third parties to program and activate downtown parks.
- Increase intentional program space for passive, self-selecting programming (such as table tennis, bocce, food service, board games, etc.), and a variety of seating types.
- Develop a strategy to include opportunities for more refreshments (food and drink) in urban parks.

Community Input

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