Westlake Parks and Recreation Master Plan

Westlake, Ohio

February 5, 2015
Westlake Parks and Recreation Master Plan
Westlake, Ohio

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Architect’s Project No.  13103
February 5, 2015
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

EXISTING PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES IN WESTLAKE

The City of Westlake currently operates park sites in six locations, including a park (Tri-City) that is managed with two other cities and Porter Fields which utilizes unused cemetery land for two rectangular fields. The two large Community Parks are Recreation Center Park which houses the Recreation Center and Clague Park which is the location of the Peterson Pool. Westlake also provides Neighborhood Parks in the northern part of the City (Roman Park) and in the southwestern part of the City (Bradley Nature Park). The City of Westlake also operates the Meadowood Golf Course.

In addition to the facilities offered by the City of Westlake, Cleveland Metroparks manages the Bradley Woods Reservation, a large, primarily passive park at the southwestern edge of the City. Many schools in Westlake also provide playgrounds, athletic fields, and courts that can be used by the public when schools are not in session. Private organizations provide some fields and other facilities for use by the public. A sprayground is available for public use in Crocker Park.

THE NEED FOR A PLAN

Located in the northwestern portion of Cuyahoga County, the City of Westlake experienced a period of rapid growth in the 1950s and 1960s, followed by steady growth through 2000. The rate of population growth has slowed in Westlake, and the City had a population of 32,729 as of the 2010 Census. The composition of these residents is still changing, however. The median age has increased significantly and is expected to continue to do so into the future. Additionally, household sizes have decreased and income levels have increased. More information about demographics can be found in Section II.

Changes to the makeup of the population have implications to both the current and future needs for parks and recreation in the City of Westlake. Recognizing that the needs of the population should be assessed and that available land in Westlake is limited, the City Council and staff of the Recreation Department and Parks Division (of the Services Department) determined that a comprehensive process should be completed to determine the needs of the community, leading to the authorization of this Master Plan.

A CITIZEN DRIVEN PLAN

As the purpose of this Plan is to address the needs of the community, a primary focus of the Master Planning process was to identify those needs. A number of methods were utilized to determine the needs and desires of Westlake residents for parks and recreation facilities and programs. The public was involved in the process in the following methods:

1. A public workshop at the beginning of the process.
2. A statistically valid Community Attitude and Interest Survey conducted by ETC/Leisure Vision that was completed by 706 residents.
3. A web-based survey that was completed by approximately 500 residents.

4. A web-based community engagement effort through the Live Well, Play Hard! Westlake website, powered by MindMixer, which provided opportunities for input throughout the Master Plan process.

5. An active Parks and Recreation Master Plan Advisory Committee.

6. Meetings with over 20 stakeholder groups representing:
   - Sports organizations
   - Community organizations
   - City of Westlake departments, staff, committees, and elected officials
   - Community leaders
   - Seniors (Community Services Center users and the Advisory Board)
   - Arts and Historical organizations
   - Westlake City School District
   - Intermediate School students
   - Planning Commission

7. Preliminary presentations of the public input findings.

**WHAT WESTLAKE RESIDENTS SAID**

The information gathered from the various public input methods was used to identify the needs of Westlake residents. A brief summary of the findings and needs as communicated in the various public input methods is described below.

According to the statistically valid survey:

1. Eighty-seven (87%) of residents visited a park in Westlake over the past year (98% for the web survey), and most (62%) of these residents visited parks more than 20 times.

2. Recreation Center Park was the most visited park (65% reporting visiting), followed by Clague Park (63%). Seventy-seven (77%) of respondents reported using the Recreation Center.

3. Ninety-two percent (92%) of households are either “very supportive” or “somewhat supportive” for the City to upgrade older parks and recreation facilities. Other actions with very high levels of support include:
   - Develop recreational trails/connect existing trails (82%).
   - Buy land to preserve open space and historic areas (80%).
   - Upgrade existing youth/adult athletic fields (78%).
   - Develop new commuter biking trails (74%).
   - Develop new programs for teens (74%).
   - Buy land to develop athletic fields/recreational facilities (72%).

4. The most needed parks and recreation facilities for households were:
   - Walking and hiking trails (73%)
   - Natural areas/nature parks (66%)
   - Large Community Parks (59%)
   - Paved bike trails (54%)
   - Small Neighborhood Parks (51%)

5. The most needed parks and recreation programs for households were:
   - Adult fitness and wellness (59%)
   - Summer concerts (48%)
   - 50+ programs (35%)
   - Nature programs (34%)

6. The improvements households would most like see to existing parks include:
   - Restrooms (43%)
   - Sidewalks/trails (38%)
   - Bike trails and bike lanes (36%)
   - Expand trails (33%)
   - Drinking fountains (30%)

7. Respondents were asked how they would allocate $100 among different types of parks and recreation facility improvements in Westlake. The top responses ranked as follows:
   - New walking and biking trails.
   - Improvements and maintenance of existing parks, playgrounds, game courts and picnic areas.
According to the Live Well, Play Hard! Westlake website:

1. Recreation Center Park (including the Recreation Center) was by far the most used facility.
2. The top ideas of users for a vision of the future were:
   - Renovate/enhance Peterson Pool
   - More bike lanes
   - More soccer fields
   - Splash pad at Recreation Center
   - Dedicated soccer/lacrosse park
3. Users would most like to see the following at an upgraded Peterson Pool:
   - A lazy river
   - Waterslides
   - Shallow water area with play features
4. The top “One Change” ideas to Westlake Parks were:
   - Residents only at Peterson Pool
   - Update Peterson Pool
   - Improve softball/baseball facilities

According to the Public Workshop and Stakeholder groups:

- Upgrade Peterson Pool
- Peterson Pool for residents only
- More bike trails and bike lanes to connect the city.
- More access to restrooms in parks.
- Fix what we have.
- Improve athletic fields and better maintenance.
- Upgrade Clague Park playground.
- More passive park space.

The input from all of the methods provided similar results. Several common themes appeared in all methods of public input. Residents would like to see upgrades to existing facilities, restrooms, more trails, more athletic fields, and an upgraded Peterson Pool in its current location.

**Vision for the Future of Parks and Recreation in Westlake**

**Vision for the Future**

The vision for the City of Westlake is to be at the cutting-edge of parks and recreation services with premier facilities that inspire citizens to be healthy and instill community pride. The vision will be accomplished through planning to assure parks and facilities meet the expressed needs of the community while providing uniformity of appearance. The City will continue improving its service delivery with continuous monitoring of customer satisfaction. The City will continue to research and monitor trends to remain a leader in parks and recreation services. Finally, Westlake will provide welcoming, attractive parks that are clean, safe, and connected to the community.

**Guiding Principles**

The following principles will guide and direct priorities, actions, and investments and will help to ensure the City of Westlake accomplishes its vision.

1. **Excitement: Provide Cutting-Edge Facilities and Experiences**

   Westlake will provide facilities that will attract residents and visitors to locations all over the City. Facilities and services in the City of Westlake will be at the cutting-edge of parks and recreation technology but will be implemented in ways that are appropriate in the community. Teams will be excited to come to Westlake to use the premier facilities. Additionally, the City will think outside of the box when planning for programs and facilities.
2. **Desirability: Provide a Welcoming Atmosphere through Inviting Parks, Encompassing Facility Options, and Exceptional Programs and Events**

Westlake parks will encourage people to participate through outreach and through an attractive, welcoming theme with consistent signage. Parks will have uniformity of design as well as in communications. The City will enhance desirability by offering a diverse array of facilities, programs, and events, providing park users with occasions to interact and socialize with other residents while enhancing the sense of community in the City of Westlake.

3. **Connectivity: Connect Residents with Parks**

The City of Westlake will connect residents and guests to the community and to each other, both physically through trail connections and electronically through online access and new technology.

4. **Safety: Assure that Parks are Safe for Everyone during All Park Hours**

All fields and facilities will be well-maintained to assure safety for users. Parks will have adequate lighting and will be equipped with emergency equipment as necessary to maintain adequate security. Parks will have sufficient presence of City staff to assure safety.

5. **Investment: Encourage Creative Funding Opportunities and Partnerships**

The City of Westlake will explore a wide variety of opportunities for investment in parks and facilities. The City, the Recreation Department, and the Parks Division will build relationships throughout the community with local organizations and businesses for an assortment of purposes, including mutually beneficial financing opportunities. Fostering relationships will also help to avoid duplication of services and facilities, share information and resources among organizations, and to arrange for cross promotion of facilities and programs.

6. **Passion: Inspire Pride and Ownership in the Community through Leadership**

A highly trained, passionate staff that keeps the public well-informed and listens to the community will build trust in the Recreation Department and the Parks Division. Passionate staff will inspire participation and a feeling of ownership of facilities and programs throughout the community.

**Proposed New Mission Statement**

Westlake is a great place to live, work, and play. The mission of the Recreation Department and the Parks Division is to be at the cutting-edge of leisure programs, facilities, and services, while offering innovative opportunities that inspire citizens to be healthy, instill pride, and enrich our vibrant community.

**Primary Recommendations**

The Master Plan includes six goals that were each derived from one of the Guiding Principles of the Vision. Objectives describe how to meet those goals, and Strategies further describe how to meet each objective. Timeframes for the completion of each strategy, 0-2 years, 3-5 years, 6-10 years, or over 10 years, are also suggested to help set priorities for improvements. Twenty-eight (28) objectives and 122 strategies describe in detail how to meet each of the six goals (See Section IX Action Plan for details on each of the Objectives and Strategies). The following list broadly represents a summary of the primary recommendations for Parks and Recreation in Westlake.
1. Improve existing trails and provide additional trails at all existing and future parks, including all-purpose trails (cycling, skating, etc.).

2. Redevelop the Peterson Pool as an outdoor family aquatic center.
   - Provide drop-off, lazy river, waterslides, sprayground, lap pool, etc.
   - Consider a residents only policy.

3. Develop the land adjacent to the Porter Library as a Community Park
   - Develop rectangular fields, playground, picnic shelter, etc.

4. Expand the Recreation Center to include an auxiliary gym and additional lap pool.

5. Add outdoor basketball courts at selected parks.

6. Improve existing athletic fields and facilities.

7. Add an artificial turf field.

8. Improve or replace all playgrounds.
   - Replace Clague Park playground with nature themed all-access playground.
   - Improve Recreation Center Park playground with shade and picnic shelter.
   - Replace and add other playgrounds.

9. Consider redevelopment of all or part of the Meadowood Golf Course as a Community Park with athletic fields, trails, picnic areas, etc.

10. Provide restroom facilities at all parks.

11. Pave walkways to all facilities and spectator areas to improve access and meet ADA guidelines.

12. Redevelop the Community Services Center.
   - Choose location – current site, Center Ridge Site (next to library), or Recreation Center.

13. Begin implementation of the existing Citywide Bike Plan.
14. Add outdoor fitness equipment at select parks for exercise and enjoyment.

15. Develop two new Neighborhood Parks in areas of Westlake currently underserved by parks.
   - Northeast-Central and Southeast areas of the City.

16. Provide Wi-Fi Hotspots in most parks.

17. Improve safety in the parks.
   - Add lighting and security cameras.

18. Partner with other agencies and organizations to provide services and facilities.

19. Encourage volunteer opportunities.

**INDIVIDUAL PARK RECOMMENDATIONS**

Recommendations are also provided for each park and other sites in Westlake. Concept plans were prepared for the primary park sites in the City. These figures can be seen in Section VIII of this Master Plan as well as cost estimates for the outlined improvements. Some parks have two alternatives dependent on other decisions made by the City of Westlake. A summary of the individual recommendations are as follows:

1. Recreation Center
   - Improvements to diamond fields (lighting, fences, etc.)
   - Artificial turf at rectangle field
   - Playground area enhancements (shade, picnic shelter, sprayground)
   - Trail and walkway enhancements (fitness equipment, ADA compliance)
   - Auxiliary gym and additional indoor pool
   - Pickleball courts (to replace one tennis court)

2. Clague Park
   - New outdoor family aquatic center
   - New nature themed playground
   - New diamond fields (to replace existing ponytail fields)
   - Bandshell (for outdoor concerts)
   - Restoration of Clague Cabin (as open-air pavilion)
   - Improvements to the two lighted fields (restrooms, backstops)
   - Trail and walkway enhancements (all-purpose additional perimeter trail, improve existing loops, fitness equipment, ADA compliance)

3. Clague Park (Playhouse area)
   - New diamond fields (better fields and to allow expanded parking)
   - Basketball court
   - Playground
   - Trail and walkway enhancements (all-purpose perimeter trail, ADA compliance)

4. Center Ridge Site (next to the Library)
   - Rectangular fields (with restroom/concession building)
   - All-access playground
   - Outdoor fitness area
   - Basketball court
   - Trails and walkways (all-purpose perimeter trail, ADA compliance)
   - Bocce and pickleball courts (if Community Service Center is relocated to this site)
5. Meadowood (if redeveloped as a park)
   - Rectangular fields (up to seven)
   - Diamond fields (two or four, including one large field)
   - Two playgrounds
   - Basketball court
   - Two to three picnic shelters
   - Restroom/concessions buildings
   - Trail and walkway enhancements (all-purpose perimeter trail, trails around natural areas/water features, ADA compliance)

6. Roman Park
   - Diamond field improvements (fences, regrading, covered dugouts)
   - Trail and walkway enhancements (all-purpose perimeter trail, ADA compliance)
   - New playground

7. Other Sites
   - Bradley Nature Park – Pave trail to Crocker Road
   - Tri-City Park – Master Plan for improvements
   - Schools – Artificial turf field at Westlake High School
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**BRANDSTETTER CARROLL INC.**

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<td>30</td>
<td>Parks with Rental Pavilions</td>
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<td>31</td>
<td>Parks and Schools with Playgrounds</td>
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<td>Proposed Outdoor Basketball Court Locations</td>
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<td>Recreation Center Park North Concept Plan</td>
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<td>Meadowood Park Concept Plan - Alternative 1</td>
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<td>52</td>
<td>Meadowood Park Concept Plan - Alternative 2</td>
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<td>Roman Park Concept Plan</td>
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<td>54</td>
<td>Proposed Park Service Areas</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
I. INTRODUCTION

THE NEED FOR A PLAN

The City of Westlake is located in the northwestern portion of Cuyahoga County, approximately 12 miles west of Downtown Cleveland. Westlake was originally incorporated in 1911 as Dover Village and was renamed the Village of Westlake in 1940. In 1950, the population was just under 5,000, but this number increased to nearly 13,000 by 1960. Steady growth continued through the year 2000, with a population of 19,483 in 1980 rising to 27,018 in 1990 and 31,719 in 2000.

The rate of population growth has slowed in the City of Westlake with an increase of just over 1,000 residents over the next 10 years, giving the City a population of 32,729 as of the 2010 Census. The composition of these residents is still changing, however. The median age has increased significantly and is expected to continue to do so into the future. Additionally, household sizes have decreased and income levels have increased. More information about demographics can be found in Section II.

Parks and recreation services are currently provided by a variety of sources. The City of Westlake currently operates park sites in six locations, including a park (Tri-City) that is managed with two other cities and Porter Fields which utilizes unused cemetery land for two rectangular fields. The two large Community Parks are Recreation Center Park near the center of the City which houses the 102,500 square foot Recreation Center and Clague Park (and the adjacent Clague Playhouse area) in the eastern side of the City which is the location of the Peterson Pool. Westlake also provides Neighborhood Parks in the northern part of the City (Roman Park) and in the southwestern part of the City (Bradley Nature Park). The City of Westlake also operates the Meadowood Golf Course.

In addition to the facilities offered by the City of Westlake, Cleveland Metroparks manages the Bradley Woods Reservation, a large, primarily passive park at the southwestern edge of the City. Many of the schools in the Westlake City School District also provide playgrounds, athletic fields, and courts that can be used by the public when schools are not in session. Private organizations, including St. John Medical Center, also provides some soccer fields and other facilities for use by the public. Additionally, a park is operated by a Homeowners Association in the northwestern part of town, and a sprayground is available for public use in Crocker Park.

Recreation programming for Westlake residents is primarily provided through the Westlake Recreation Department for athletic and aquatic programming, and the Community Services Department for senior programming. Additional programming in Westlake is offered by the Porter Library and Cleveland Metroparks.

Changes to the makeup of the population have implications to both the current and future needs for parks and recreation in the City of Westlake. Recognizing that the needs of the population should be assessed and that available land in Westlake is limited, the City Council and staff of the Recreation Department and Parks Division (of the Services Department) determined that a comprehensive process should be completed to determine the needs of the community, leading to the authorization of this Master Plan.

PROJECT BACKGROUND

The Master Plan process consisted of several different phases with frequent meetings between representatives of the City of Westlake and the Consultant. Each phase concluded with the submittal

of a report and a presentation of findings to that point of the process. A summary of the process and details of each phase are outlined below.

**Planning Context**

The first phase of the Master Plan process launched with meetings with City of Westlake representatives, the gathering of information on City demographics, and a review of existing data.

**Master Plan Advisory Committee**

The City appointed a Master Plan Advisory Committee to work with the Consultants throughout the process. The Consultants met regularly with the Advisory Committee with updates of findings, from which the Committee assisted in establishing the future vision, goals, objectives, and priorities.

**Demographic Analysis**

Using information provided by the City of Westlake and other sources, the Consultant performed an analysis of the demographic and population characteristics of the City of Westlake. Demographic and land use trends and characteristics within the City limits were gathered from various sources. Information included:

- Demographic characteristics (quantity, ages, race, etc.)
- Five year population projections
- Household size
- Average or median household income and per capita income

**Review of Previous Studies**

Previous studies related to the delivery of parks, recreation and leisure services were reviewed to determine the existing conditions leading up to the start of the Master Plan process. These previous studies included: the previous parks plans, feasibility studies, annual reports, policies, use agreements, brochures, School District plans, and other planning studies. Summaries of the key findings of each report are included in Appendix A of this report.

1. City of Westlake Policy Review
   
   A review of City of Westlake policies, and any mandated plans, was performed to determine how they may impact park and recreation facilities, programs, and services.

2. Management Structure
   
   The City of Westlake’s existing management structure, staff levels, and operations were reviewed and analyzed.

3. Funding Analysis
   
   The budgets of the last five years were reviewed as were the proposed future operating and capital budgets.

**The Importance of Parks**

This Master Planning effort which will help determine the future of Parks and Recreation in Westlake is important because parks provide a number of benefits and services to the community. Additionally, local agencies have the responsibility to manage parkland in an efficient manner that is consistent with the health, safety, and welfare of the community, and this Master Plan is intended to assist and direct the management of these lands and facilities. For many residents, parks provide their primary access to the natural environment, and for all residents, parks provide a variety of natural and active
outdoor recreational opportunities. Access to these facilities helps to promote the health and wellness of the community.

The quality of a community’s parks and recreation system is viewed as one of the indicators of the overall quality of life. A recent study titled “The Economic Benefits of Land Conservation” by John L. Crompton for the Trust for Public Land included a section on the impact of parks and open space on property taxes. This study indicates that property values are higher for properties near quality parks and open spaces than for similar properties located elsewhere. In addition, recent surveys of home buyers by the National Association of Home Builders indicate that trails, parks, and playgrounds are three of the top five amenities that a home buyer desires when considering a new home purchase.

The residents and leadership of the City of Westlake place a high value on parks and recreation services. Based on the Community Interest and Opinion Survey, 92% of residents support upgrading older parks and facilities and 80% support purchasing land to preserve open space (See Section V for more information). Finally, parks are important because they can serve as gathering places for the community and help to provide a positive community identity for Westlake.

**Existing Parks, Facilities, and Programs Analysis and Needs Assessment**

The next phase of the Master Plan process consisted of an analysis of existing parks, facilities, and programs in their current form. This analysis is important in order to assess current conditions to compare against the desires of City residents as expressed in the following needs assessment phase.

**Parks, Open Space, and Facilities Inventory**

This process entailed an inventory of all existing parks and recreation facilities offered in and adjacent to the City of Westlake, including parks and facilities operated by others such as Cleveland Metroparks and Westlake Schools. Visits were made to all City of Westlake facilities to identify the existing conditions and assess opportunities for improvements. A Qualitative Assessment form was completed for each City of Westlake owned facility, plus the school facilities and the county park. These forms are included in this report as Appendix C.

**Recreation Programs Assessment**

Using public input, staff input, and the Consultant’s observations, a review was performed of current programs, service offerings, levels of usage, attendance, and customer satisfaction levels in each selected facility/area. The Needs Assessment Survey was utilized to identify existing satisfaction levels. Stakeholder Groups were employed in the Needs Analysis Phase as part of this analysis. Core programs were identified that should be offered by the City of Westlake.

**City-Wide Park and Recreation Facilities Map**

A map was prepared using GIS software to illustrate all of the City-owned parks and recreation facilities as well as those of Cleveland Metroparks, schools, and other providers in the area.

**Initial Public Workshop**

The initial public workshop and kick-off event was held at the Westlake Recreation Center to identify the public perception of park facilities and programming needs. The purpose of this public workshop was to solicit input from citizens and users regarding their concerns and opinions about existing facilities and programs and to determine their desires for future facilities and programs. The workshop was interactive and involved all participants in a variety of methods.

**Staff Input**

Meetings and interviews were conducted with City of Westlake staff members regarding their perceptions of the public’s needs and concerns, the potential for improved services, facilities, programs, and public access. These meetings were also used to identify the strengths, weaknesses,
I. INTRODUCTION

Service needs, and impediments to current operations. Staff input was gathered from the following City Departments: Recreation, Service, Administration, Police, Community Services, and Planning & Economic Development.

**Stakeholder Groups**

Meetings and round table discussions were conducted with many stakeholder groups representing a large variety of community and government organizations. These groups included: program users, school children, senior citizens, partner organizations, organized athletic leagues, the School Board, and other organizations. The City of Westlake provided invitations and meeting space for these meetings. Questions were prepared in advance and were approved by the Advisory Committee. The questions were sent to the stakeholder group participants in advance for discussions with their organizations prior to the meeting with each focus group.

**Benchmarking Comparisons to Similar Systems**

Benchmarking Comparisons of Similar Park Systems were created for comparisons to similar parks and recreation systems. Comparison between these park systems consisted of a number of criteria such as: park acreage (developed and undeveloped), per capita budgets, capital improvement expenditures, types of facilities offered, and other relevant characteristics. Twenty-three similar systems throughout the State of Ohio were identified for comparison.

The analysis used the NRPA PRORAGIS program to compare facilities, programs, and operating procedures with other like agencies.

**MindMixer Web Based Public Engagement Program**

The website by the name “Live Well, Play Hard! Westlake” was setup to solicit public engagement using MindMixer, a web based online community collaboration program. Residents could find out about the project, input their ideas, second ideas, respond to instant polls, respond to web surveys, and much more. The website was created specifically for the City of Westlake.

**Household Needs Assessment**

The input from the workshops, focus groups and staff input was utilized to develop a statistically valid mail survey conducted by ETC/Leisure Vision with 706 responses from residents of Westlake. Surveys were mailed to 2500 households. The survey was used to identify:

- Current satisfaction levels with programs and facilities
- Participation and satisfaction with current programs
- Parks currently used
- Needs for various indoor and outdoor facilities and programs
- Identification of the most needed indoor and outdoor facilities
- Identification of the primary functions that should be performed by the City of Westlake regarding parks, recreation, open space, trail linkages, programs, Community Services Center, and facilities

**Web-Based Survey**

Additionally, a shorter web-based survey was conducted that asked similar questions to the Household Needs Assessment Survey. Where the statistically valid mail survey reached a selected, random sample of residents, the goal of the web survey was to engage as many residents as possible. Questions were approved by the Master Plan Advisory Committee. The City of Westlake promoted the use of the web survey through email blasts, newsletter announcements, placement on their web
Geographic Distribution - Service Gap Analysis

An analysis was conducted to determine current service gaps by mapping the locations of current facilities with a defined service area and overlaying those areas with population density dots to compare the household locations to the facility locations. Individual maps were prepared for picnic shelters, playgrounds, rectangular fields, baseball/softball diamonds, tennis courts, and basketball courts to identify the distribution of these facilities throughout the community.

Level of Service Guidelines

Level of Service Guidelines were developed based on public input, benchmarking comparison surveys, and standards and guidelines developed by the Consultant through previous experience.

Vision, Goals and Objectives

The Master Plan Advisory Committee and the Consultant produced a vision for the future of parks and recreation services in the City of Westlake. Using the findings of this Master Plan process, a series of goals and objectives were identified with the Master Plan Advisory Committee.

Physical Planning, Program, and Services Recommendations

Using the data collected throughout the Master Plan process, a series of recommendations were formulated to meet the needs and expectations of City Staff and residents of the City of Westlake. The recommendations were separated into the following five categories.

City-Wide Park and Facility Improvement Recommendations

A city-wide map was produced to illustrate the proposed general locations of new parks by park type categories (Mini-Park, Neighborhood, or Community Park).

Individual Park Recommendations and Costs

Specific needed improvements were identified at each park or recreation facility with an estimate of probable construction cost for each recommended capital improvement.

Park Concept Plans

Park concept plans were provided to illustrate the recommendations at the primary sites for improvements in the City of Westlake. Recommendations were also provided for improvements to other existing parks.

Facility Analyses

The following specific facility improvements were analyzed and evaluated:

1. Installation of artificial turf at Recreation Center Park.
2. Possible relocation or total renovation of Peterson Pool.
3. Addition of sports fields and nature trails at two locations including portions of the current Meadowood Golf Course and the property on Center Ridge Road next to Porter Library.
4. Analysis of the Community Services Center facilities and location.

Capital Improvement Priorities

City of Westlake staff and the Master Plan Advisory Committee, with the assistance of the Consultant, prioritized each of the capital improvements and acquisitions. This process helped identify the
timeframe for each recommendation: short-range (0-2 years), mid-range (3-5 years), or long-range (6-10 years), or beyond (over 10 years).

**ACTION PLAN**

The final phase of the process consisted the creation of an Action Plan providing strategies for the implementation of the recommendations.

**Phased Implementation Plan**

1. The Action Plan provided specific strategies for:
   - Parks, trails, and open space,
   - Facility Recommendations,
   - Park and Facility Operations,
   - Programs and Services.
2. This process identified action steps for recommendations in the short-range (0-2 years), mid-range (3-5 years), long-range (6-10 years), and beyond (over 10 years), and the process also identified the responsible party and potential funding sources.

**Draft Master Plan**

Draft Master Plan including the Action plan was submitted for review to City staff and the Master Plan Advisory Committee, and a presentation of these findings was made to the Master Plan Advisory Committee. Comments from on this Draft Master Plan were used to update and complete the recommendations of the Final Master Plan.

**Final Master Plan**

After submittal to the Master Plan Advisory Committee, the final Master Plan document was adopted by the Westlake City Council on February 5, 2015 following a presentation of the findings of the planning process.
II. PLANNING CONTEXT

INTRODUCTION

The Planning Context is a summary of those historical factors and trends that influence the delivery of parks and recreation services throughout the City of Westlake. This section provides a summary of the population trends in Westlake as they relate to parks and recreation services and needs.

POPULATION TRENDS

An overall understanding of the population trends of Westlake was necessary to identify the present and predicted future needs for parks and recreation services and facilities. The Cuyahoga County Planning Commission with the City of Westlake Planning and Economic Development Department developed detailed analyses of the Westlake demographics and trends in Commercial and Industrial Market Analysis - Westlake and Surrounding Communities. Much of the text in this section was adapted from that document.

Table 1 illustrates the population trends for the City from 1970 to 2030. These tables use US Census Bureau data for past figures, ESRI Business Analyst Solutions for 2014, and projections from the Cuyahoga County Planning Commission for 2020 and 2030. Trends indicate that the population has increased substantially in each ten year period through 2000 but growth has since slowed down. Projections indicate that the population will remain steady over the next few decades with only slight increases. Projections by the Cuyahoga County Planning Commission are in line with those of ESRI Business Analyst. The Planning Commission’s 2020 population estimate of 33,105 is very close to the 2019 estimate of 33,084 by ESRI.

Table 1: Westlake, Ohio Population History and Projections (1970 - 2030)

<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>City of Westlake</td>
<td>15,689</td>
<td>19,483</td>
<td>27,018</td>
<td>31,719</td>
<td>32,729</td>
<td>33,052</td>
<td>33,105</td>
<td>33,984</td>
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<td>10 Year Growth %</td>
<td>24.2%</td>
<td>38.7%</td>
<td>17.4%</td>
<td>3.2%</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
<td>2.7%</td>
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</table>

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, ESRI Business Analyst for 2014, Cuyahoga County Planning Commission for 2020 and 2030

Table 2 shows the household and family size from 1990 to 2019 and indicates that in the City of Westlake, the average household size decreased from 1990 to 2000 and is expected to continue to decline to 2.26 in 2019. The average household size for residents in the City of Westlake is lower than for the United States and the State of Ohio, but very similar to Cuyahoga County since 2000. The 2010 average household size is 2.30 as compared to 2.29 for Cuyahoga County, 2.44 for the State of Ohio, 2.58 for the U.S.

Table 2: Household and Family Size (1990 to 2019)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Households</th>
<th>Average Household Size</th>
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<tr>
<td>USA</td>
<td>116,716,292</td>
<td>2.63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ohio</td>
<td>4,603,435</td>
<td>2.59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cuyahoga County</td>
<td>545,056</td>
<td>2.46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Westlake</td>
<td>10,262</td>
<td>2.55</td>
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</table>

Table 3, Median Age, identifies trends throughout the City of Westlake, Cuyahoga County, the State of Ohio, and the USA of the median age increasing. The median age in the City of Westlake was
37.4 in 1990 and is expected to increase to 47.7 in 2019. It should be noted that the median age for the City of Westlake is significantly higher than for the County, while the County median age is higher than that of the State, which is higher than the US median. The median age in 2010 was 45.0 in Westlake as opposed to 40.2 for Cuyahoga County, 39.0 for Ohio, and 37.1 for the USA. The age of the residents is important because Westlake needs to plan for the appropriate age groups that it will be serving. The median age in Westlake was higher in 1990 and has been increasing at a faster rate than in any of the larger comparative geographies as the 2019 median projected age of 47.7 represents an increase of nearly 28% in under 30 years.

### Table 3: Median Age (1990-2019)

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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>USA</td>
<td>32.9</td>
<td>35.3</td>
<td>37.1</td>
<td>37.7</td>
<td>38.2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ohio</td>
<td>33.3</td>
<td>36.2</td>
<td>38.7</td>
<td>39.5</td>
<td>40.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cuyahoga County</td>
<td>34.9</td>
<td>37.3</td>
<td>40.2</td>
<td>41.0</td>
<td>41.8</td>
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<tr>
<td>City of Westlake</td>
<td>37.4</td>
<td>42.0</td>
<td>45.0</td>
<td>46.3</td>
<td>47.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Source: U.S. Census Bureau
2. Source: ESRI Bis Forecast

Table 4 indicates the population age 65 and over from 1990 to 2019 and shows that this age group has increased as a percentage of the populations since 1990 and is expected to continue to do so through 2019. All of the other jurisdictions have a lower percentage of the population in this age cohort, as of 2000. While the percentage of the population over 65 is increasing at all geographic levels, Cuyahoga County has a greater percentage of the population in this age cohort than the State or the USA, and the City of Westlake, as of 2000, has a substantially higher percentage of the population over 65 than the County. In 2010, 19.1% of the population of Westlake was over the age of 65, compared to 15.5% for Cuyahoga County. In 2019, the proportion of the population over 65 is projected to be nearly 24% in the City of Westlake, compared to 19.1% for the County, 17.6% for Ohio, and 16.1% for the USA. These figures indicate that the importance of facilities and services for seniors, while currently substantial, is going to increase even further in the future.

### Table 4: Population Age 65 and over (1990-2019)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>USA</td>
<td>31,241,831</td>
<td>12.6%</td>
<td>34,991,753</td>
<td>12.4%</td>
<td>40,267,984</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ohio</td>
<td>1,406,961</td>
<td>13.0%</td>
<td>1,507,757</td>
<td>13.3%</td>
<td>1,622,015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cuyahoga County</td>
<td>221,066</td>
<td>15.7%</td>
<td>217,141</td>
<td>15.6%</td>
<td>198,541</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Westlake</td>
<td>4,222</td>
<td>15.6%</td>
<td>5,779</td>
<td>18.2%</td>
<td>6,223</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Source: U.S. Census Bureau
2. Source: ESRI Bis Forecast

Table 5 identifies the population age 19 and under from 1990 to 2019. The table indicates that in the City of Westlake the percentage declined slightly from 25.8% in 1990 to 23.3% in 2010. This trend contrasts to the previous table which identified the growing population over age 65. The percentage of the population age 19 and under in the City of Westlake is lower than for the County, State, and USA. In 2010, the City of Westlake had 23.3% of the population within this age cohort as opposed to 25.4% for Cuyahoga County, 26.6% for Ohio, and 26.9% for the USA. It is also important to note that the 19 and under population is decreasing in Westlake and Cuyahoga County in absolute numbers, not just as a percentage. Based on the projections in this table, sometime between 2014 and 2019, the number (and proportion) of residents in Westlake over 65 will surpass the number of residents age 19 and under. In contrast, as of 2019, the number of children (19 and under) will be greater than the number of seniors (65 and older) for the three other geographic levels.
All of this information indicates that the population of Westlake is older than the County, State of Ohio, and the United States in terms of their percentages.

### Demographic Trends in Westlake

The themes of aging, smaller households, income growth, and diversification are apparent through the following trends. Each of these themes highlights particular aspects of changes in the City of Westlake, but the trends discussed below are interwoven and will collectively shape the City’s demographic path.

#### Shifting of Age Demographics of the Population

The changes in age demographics in Westlake have followed a similar pattern to that of both the Northeast Ohio region and to that of the United States as a whole. The baby boom that lead to the population explosion of Westlake in the 1950’s, is now leading to the aging of the population. One fourth of households now contain a senior aged 65 or older.²

Like the rest of the region, Westlake is seeing a substantial increase in the older demographic cohorts but to an even greater extent as the average age in Westlake³ is 46.3 but only 41 for Cuyahoga County as a whole. The cohort with the greatest projected growth by 2019 is the 65-74 range at 54% increase between 2010 and 2019 (6% annually). The cohort with the greatest projected decrease in population is the 45-54 range at a loss of 17% (1.9% annually).

With a median age higher than that of the region and the nation, addressing the needs of the aging population will certainly be of great importance to the City of Westlake. The needs of other age ranges, nonetheless, will be quite significant. The 19-24 age range has the second highest projected growth rate by 2019 at 18% (2% annually).

#### Changes in Households

The proportion of households made up of families has decreased significantly in the City of Westlake from 70% in 1990 to 64% in 2000 and 62% in 2010. Most (91%) non-family households consist of a single person living alone. It is also important to note that 26% of households currently have a child under the age of 18.

Consistent with regional and national trends, the average household size has decreased in the City of Westlake from the 1960s through the 1980s. The household size began to stabilize in the 1990s but has continued to decline slightly.

The total number of households grew by 25% from 1990-2000 but slowed to 8.1% from 2000-2010. Both of these numbers are much higher than those of Cuyahoga County, 1.5% increase from 1990-2000 and a 4.6% decrease from 2000-2010.

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2. Commercial and Industrial Market Analysis - Westlake and Surrounding Communities by the City of Westlake Planning and Economic Development Department and Cuyahoga County Planning Commission
3. Based on 2014 ESRI forecasts

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### Table 5: Population Age 19 and Under (1990-2019)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Number</td>
<td>Percentage</td>
<td>Number</td>
<td>Percentage</td>
<td>Number</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USA</td>
<td>71,321,886</td>
<td>28.7%</td>
<td>80,473,263</td>
<td>28.6%</td>
<td>83,267,556</td>
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<td>Ohio</td>
<td>3,141,023</td>
<td>29.0%</td>
<td>3,215,955</td>
<td>28.3%</td>
<td>3,067,126</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cuyahoga County</td>
<td>375,601</td>
<td>26.6%</td>
<td>381,563</td>
<td>27.4%</td>
<td>325,090</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Westlake</td>
<td>6,975</td>
<td>25.8%</td>
<td>7,834</td>
<td>24.7%</td>
<td>7,631</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Source: U.S. Census Bureau
2. Source: ESRI Bis Forecast

---

II. PLANNING CONTEXT

9
The number of housing units has a very strong impact on the possible growth in the number of households. Table 6 shows the change in the number of households in Westlake since 1960. The rate of growth has greatly decrease since its peak in 1980 to 8.8% in 2010. This change closely mirrors the change in the number of households.

**Table 6: Total Housing Units 1960-2010**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total Housing Units</th>
<th>Change (#)</th>
<th>Change (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1960</td>
<td>3,794</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1970</td>
<td>4,522</td>
<td>728</td>
<td>19.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1980</td>
<td>7,222</td>
<td>2,700</td>
<td>59.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>11,014</td>
<td>3,792</td>
<td>52.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>13,648</td>
<td>2,634</td>
<td>23.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>14,843</td>
<td>1,195</td>
<td>8.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


The potential for new housing units in Westlake is decreasing due to the decline of available vacant residential land. The Cuyahoga County Planning Commission conducted an analysis to determine the build-out potential for Westlake based on the available land and development trends. The results displayed in Figure 7 show the potential for new housing development. Based on this analysis, Westlake could potentially add 2,539 new housing units to accommodate a total population of 37,874.

**Table 7: Residential Development Potential**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>2010 Count</th>
<th>Potential New Residential Development</th>
<th>Total At Build-Out</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Households</td>
<td>Population</td>
<td>Acres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Westlake</td>
<td>13,870</td>
<td>32,729</td>
<td>711</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The City of Westlake has also seen an increase in rental units from 25% in 2000 to 28% in 2010. Westlake has more renters than most of the neighboring communities as a result of zoning that allows for more diversity of housing. At 32%, Westlake has a higher percentage of multifamily units than all but one of its neighbors (Rocky River).

**Income and Education Growth**

The City of Westlake has experienced a period of substantial growth in income and educational attainment. Since 1990, the median household income has increased steadily from $47,629 (not inflation adjusted) in 1990 to $74,008 in 2012. The median income in Westlake is higher than most of its neighbors at $72,829, while the per capita income is higher than all neighbors at $45,328. Additionally, the unemployment rate in the City of Westlake is much lower than Cuyahoga County as a whole at 5.6% compared to 11.7% (2012 ACS 5-year estimate).

---

4 Tables 6 – 8 copied from the Commercial and Industrial Market Analysis - Westlake and Surrounding Communities.

5 2014 ESRI forecasts
Educational attainment is similarly strong in Westlake, compared to its neighbors and Cuyahoga County. In the City of Westlake (2014), 50.9% of residents age 25 and older had a Bachelor’s Degree or above while 20.2% have a Master’s Degree or above. Despite the high level of educational attainment in Westlake, these numbers have continued to increase since 1990 (37.6% for Bachelor’s Degree and above, 13.4% for Master’s Degree and above). The 2014 estimates for Cuyahoga County, in contrast, were 29.4% for Bachelor’s Degree and above and 11.8% for Master’s Degree or above.6

The economic strength of the City of Westlake is expected to continue, and the median income is projected to continue to grow. This growth will provide both opportunities for the City and challenges to ascertain and meet the desires of these residents.

**Growth of Ethnic Populations**

The City of Westlake has had a reduction in the proportion of the population consisting of White residents while the other minority populations have increased (Table 8). In 2010, the White population had declined slightly to 92.2% percent compared to 92.9% percent in 2000. Additionally, over the same time period, the minority population has grown steadily. The Hispanic community has had the largest increase in absolute numbers and by percentage of the population. The African American and Asian populations have also seen substantial increases.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Persons</th>
<th>White alone</th>
<th>Black or African American alone</th>
<th>Asian alone</th>
<th>Some other race alone*</th>
<th>Two or more races</th>
<th>Hispanic or Latino</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>31,719</td>
<td>29,477 92.9%</td>
<td>301 0.9%</td>
<td>1,332 4.2%</td>
<td>129 0.4%</td>
<td>480 1.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>32,729</td>
<td>29,847 91.2%</td>
<td>518 1.6%</td>
<td>1,599 4.9%</td>
<td>236 0.7%</td>
<td>529 1.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># change</td>
<td>1,010</td>
<td>370 1.2%</td>
<td>217 1.3%</td>
<td>267 2.0%</td>
<td>107 0.3%</td>
<td>49 0.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% change</td>
<td>3.2%</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
<td>72.1%</td>
<td>82.9%</td>
<td>10.2%</td>
<td>102.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


While the minority population in the City of Westlake is low compared to Cuyahoga County at 8.8% compared to 36.4%, Westlake has a higher minority population than any of the neighboring communities. Additionally, the Asian population in Westlake, 4.9% in 2010 and a projected 6.2% in 2019, is substantially higher than any of its neighbors as well as Cuyahoga County (2.6% in 2010 and 3.3% in 2019).

While minority populations currently make up a fairly small percentage of Westlake residents, they account for nearly all of the population growth of the City, as the White, non-Hispanic population grew by only 0.3% from 2000 to 2010. The growth rate of Hispanic and Asian populations far exceeds the growth of White populations in Westlake. This trend is expected to continue and will have substantial impacts on the City’s future.

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6 1990 numbers from US Census, 2014 numbers from ESRI forecasts.
Conclusion

Westlake’s strong economy and growing diversity provide many opportunities for the future of the City, while the aging of the population and limited new residential development opportunities will certainly guide the direction of the City. Westlake’s quality of life is a powerful instrument for economic development, and the city’s diverse demographic structures support and enrich its quality of life.
### III. PARKS AND RECREATION PROGRAMS AND FACILITIES INVENTORY

#### PARKS AND RECREATION CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM

The purpose of developing a park and recreation classification system for a community is to evaluate the total recreation opportunities that are being made available to the public. Too often, a community will “meet the standard” in terms of acreage, but it may meet this provision through only a single park that does not provide for the entire community. Therefore, a system of parks should be developed that provides a combination of local space such as Neighborhood Parks and Community Parks and support by county, regional, and state parks.

The parks and recreation facilities inventory in this section identifies each park by its park type category and also lists the number of specific facilities that are located within each park. Table 9 defines each park by its typical size and service area of each category, population served by each park, typical features and facilities, and the desirable characteristics of each park in these categories. The categories and descriptions were adapted from the Recreation, Park and Open Space Standards and Guidelines that was published by the National Recreation and Park Association in 1987 and 1995.

A park system is generally reviewed and analyzed as a composite of recreation areas, each existing to meet a particular public need. Based on a review of national and regional standards, a parks and recreation area classification system has been developed to reflect the actual conditions and opportunities for the City of Westlake.

#### Table 9: Recommended Park and Recreation Area Classification System

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PARK TYPE</th>
<th>TYPICAL SIZE and SERVICE AREA</th>
<th>ACRES/1,000 POPULATION</th>
<th>TYPICAL FEATURES/ FACILITIES</th>
<th>DESIRABLE CHARACTERISTICS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Neighborhood Park (NP)</td>
<td>5-15 Acres</td>
<td>2.0 Acres/1,000</td>
<td>Suitable for intense development. Typical facilities include field games, court games, playground apparatus, small pools, small neighborhood centers, drinking fountains, and restrooms.</td>
<td>Easily accessible to neighborhood population (safe walking and bike distance) May be developed as park/school facility or in conjunction with service agency facility. May not be needed in areas served by “community”, “county” or “regional” parks.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Community Parks (CmP)</td>
<td>25-50+ Acres</td>
<td>5 Acres/1,000</td>
<td>Typical facilities include all those listed for Neighborhood Parks plus: major swimming pool, field or court game complex, major recreation or community center, etc.</td>
<td>Capable of providing a range of intensive recreational activities; or, provides one or two activities that attract users from multi-neighborhood areas. Park should ideally be located at or near a school. May meet needs of a neighborhood park for users within a 1-mile radius.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Linear Park (LP)</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Area developed for one or more varying modes of recreational travel (pleasure driving, hiking, walking, jogging, biking, etc.).</td>
<td>Built or natural corridors, such as utility rights-of-way, bluff lines, creek beds, and roads that link other components of the park system or other community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PARK TYPE</td>
<td>TYPICAL SIZE and SERVICE AREA</td>
<td>ACRES/1,000 POPULATION</td>
<td>TYPICAL FEATURES/FACILITIES</td>
<td>DESIRABLE CHARACTERISTICS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------</td>
<td>------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>May also include active play areas, fitness courses, picnic areas, etc.</td>
<td>facilities (schools, libraries, etc.) with park areas.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Special Use-Local (SUL)</td>
<td>Serves community-wide area.</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Area for specialized or single purpose recreational activities, such as golf courses, plazas in commercial areas, major pools, riverfront park areas, indoor facilities, etc.</td>
<td>Area should be located to meet the special needs of the intended use.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. REGIONAL SPACE</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. County Park (CoP))</td>
<td>100 + Acres</td>
<td>5.0 Acres/1,000</td>
<td>Large properties that contain some active recreation facilities and a large percentage of natural or geographical features.</td>
<td>Capable of providing a range of specific recreational facilities. Should include unique natural areas of ecological interest. May meet needs of neighborhood and/or community park for users within a 2-mile radius.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5-6 mile service radius</td>
<td></td>
<td>Target size of 100 or more acres with 50% developed for active recreation.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>To serve most of the County.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Located in rural areas but readily accessible to most of the city population.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Travel time within 20 minutes.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Should be located off of major roads.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Destination-oriented parks.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Should connect to linear park system.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Nature Parks (NaP)</td>
<td>Size as needed to protect the resource.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Majority of park to remain in its natural state.</td>
<td>Should include unique natural areas with ecological interest. Typical size should be over 50 acres for management efficiency.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Facilities should focus on education by use of “nature activities.” The facility should reinforce that philosophy by offering habitat enhancement, trails, nature centers, interpretive signage, parking and restrooms. The park should be of sufficient size to protect the natural resource and provide a buffer from offsite conditions.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
OVERVIEW OF PARKS AND RECREATION IN WESTLAKE

The residents of Westlake, Ohio are offered a wide variety of parks, recreation facilities, and programs. The community’s needs are currently being met by the City of Westlake Recreation Department, the Parks Division (Services Department), Cleveland Metroparks, school facilities, and other facilities within the City. Table 10 provides a summary of the parks and recreation areas and facilities within the City of Westlake and also indicates the park type category for each existing park. Figure 1 illustrates the locations of the existing parks. This section provides a detailed narrative summary of the parks and recreation facilities offered in Westlake. Acreage listed for each park includes only the portion located within the City of Westlake. Aerial photos of the existing parks are provided in Appendix B. An overview of the county parks located within five miles of the City of Westlake is also found in this section.

COMMUNITY PARKS

Clague Park - 63.1 acres

1. Site Location

Clague Park is located in the northeast portion of the City of Westlake at the intersection of Clague Road and Hilliard Boulevard. The park can also be accessed from the adjacent neighborhood to the west via a connecting trail.

2. Existing Facilities

The park is one of the two largest parks in the City of Westlake and is the primary park serving the eastern half of the City. The park houses the City’s only public outdoor pool as well as the majority of the baseball diamonds. The park has a large playground area, tennis courts, some trails, and picnic shelters. The Clague Cabin, which can be rented for events of up to 80 people, is located in this park.

- Five small baseball/softball diamonds and two large diamonds (two additional small diamonds and one large diamond are located behind the adjacent Clague Playhouse).
- Four tennis courts.
- One playground.
- Walking paths (1 mile, 2 loops).
- Three (two large and one small) picnic shelters.
- One restroom facility.
- One outdoor pool with slides.
- A pond located in the northern portion of the park.
- Five horseshoe pits.
3. **Facility Issues**

- The playground area often has standing water and needs improved drainage. Many playground features are dated.
- Tennis courts are cracked and need repair.
- The Clague Cabin needs renovation. The building has been enclosed and could be made to be more attractive.
- Residents stated a strong desire to replace Peterson Pool with a new, more family oriented facility and limit attendance to residents only. The entrance is inconvenient to access as patrons must walk across a footbridge and around the pool to gain entry. Handicapped entry is also difficult.
- The trail around the pond stops at the spillway. Residents requested a bridge to complete the loop.
- The Ponytail fields were installed as temporary fields and have remained unfinished, but useable. Fields share side fences, not allowing players to sit on one side of the field.
- Fields do not have accessible routes of travel for players or spectators.
- The fields do not drain well.
- Residents complain about the quality of the restrooms serving the park.

**Recreation Center Park - 86.0 acres**

1. **Site Location**

   Recreation Center Park is located near the center of the City of Westlake between Hilliard Boulevard and Center Ridge Road. The park can also be accessed through trail connections along the entrances at Hilliard Boulevard and Center Ridge Road. Two short trails link the park to the adjoining residential streets to the north (Preston Place) and the east (Presler Court).

2. **Existing Facilities**

   Westlake Recreation Park is the largest park in the City of Westlake and is the home of the Westlake Recreation Center. The Recreation Center has a large fitness room, two indoor basketball courts, an indoor track, exercise rooms, and an indoor aquatic center. The Recreation Center also has a conference room, a classroom, and two community rooms that can be reserved. Facilities include:

   - The Recreation Center
   - Two baseball/softball diamonds
   - Five tennis courts
   - Three rectangular (soccer/lacrosse) fields
   - One large playground
   - A 1.2 mile multi-use trail
   - Two sand volleyball courts
   - A fishing pond
   - One large picnic shelter
• Concession building
• Restroom building
• One gazebo

3. Park Issues

• Area near tennis courts often has standing water and needs improved drainage
• The ball diamonds do not drain well
• Additional shade is desired around the playgrounds
### Table 10: Parks and Recreation Areas and Facilities within the City of Westlake

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Facility Name</th>
<th>Park Type</th>
<th>Total Acres</th>
<th>Tennis Courts</th>
<th>Diamonds</th>
<th>Volleyball Court</th>
<th>Playfield</th>
<th>Recreational Fields (Basketball, Soccer, Lacrosse)</th>
<th>Outdoor Basketball Courts</th>
<th>Play-ground</th>
<th>Paved Trails (Miles)</th>
<th>Unpaved Trails (Miles)</th>
<th>Large Rental Pavilion</th>
<th>Small Pavilion / Gazebo</th>
<th>Restroom</th>
<th>Indoor Swimming Pool</th>
<th>Outdoor Swimming Pool</th>
<th>Gym</th>
<th>Parking</th>
<th>Other Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>CITY OF WESTLAKE</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bradley Nature Park</td>
<td>Neighborhood</td>
<td>3.2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.31</td>
<td>0.58</td>
<td>0.58</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clague Park</td>
<td>Community</td>
<td>42.3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1.03</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td>1</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>297</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clague Playhouse Fields</td>
<td>Community</td>
<td>7.9</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.34</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Porter Fields</td>
<td>Neighborhood</td>
<td>8.6</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td>1.06</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roman Park</td>
<td>Neighborhood</td>
<td>14.5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.42</td>
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<td>St. City Park</td>
<td>Neighborhood</td>
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<td>0.29</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Westlake Recreation Park</td>
<td>Community</td>
<td>31.6</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1.32</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>208</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Subtotal - Westlake City Parks</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>129.9</strong></td>
<td><strong>59.9</strong></td>
<td><strong>17</strong></td>
<td><strong>0</strong></td>
<td><strong>6</strong></td>
<td><strong>1</strong></td>
<td><strong>1</strong></td>
<td><strong>3.40</strong></td>
<td><strong>0.58</strong></td>
<td><strong>0</strong></td>
<td><strong>3</strong></td>
<td><strong>1</strong></td>
<td><strong>1</strong></td>
<td><strong>2</strong></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bradley Woods Reservation</td>
<td>County</td>
<td>10.5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.73</td>
<td>3.65</td>
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<td><strong>Special Use Parks</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clague Playhouse</td>
<td>Special Use</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.44</td>
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<td></td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Services Center</td>
<td>Special Use</td>
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1. Developed Acres are estimated based on GIS measurements and aerial photography.
2. Total school acres exclude school building structures.
3. Planned Facilities
Figure 1: Park Locations

Legend
Trail Type
- Walking/All-Purpose Trail
- Natural Trail
- Bike Lane

Park Type
- City Park
- Recreation Center
- City Golf Course
- City Owned Open Space
- Special Use Park
- County Metropark
- School
- Private Country Club
- Private Facilities
- Sprayground
- Other Public Properties
### Neighborhood Parks

#### Bradley Nature Park - 49.0 acres

**1. Site Location**

Bradley Nature Park is located in the southwestern portion of the City of Westlake to the east of Bradley Road. The park can also be accessed from the north via a walking trail from the adjoining residential neighborhood (Jefferson Way) or the natural trail that extends east to Crocker Road.

**2. Existing Facilities**

The park is both a Neighborhood Park and a Nature Park as it has features of both park types. The park includes Neighborhood Park features such as a playground and a playfield, but most of the park is in its natural state with a trail running through the natural area. This park is the only City of Westlake property with such a large amount of land in its natural state.

- One playground
- One playfield
- One picnic shelter
- Walking (0.36 miles) and natural trails (0.58 miles)
- Restroom building
- Pond

#### Porter Fields - 8.6 acres

**1. Site Location**

The Porter Fields are located in the southeastern portion of the City of Westlake at the intersection of Porter and Center Ridge Roads and are adjacent to the Evergreen Cemetery.

**2. Existing Facilities**

The site consists of two full size (110 yard) soccer fields with parking.

- Two soccer fields
- Gravel parking lot
- Picnic tables
Roman Park - 14.5 acres

1. **Site Location**
   Roman Park is the northernmost park in the City of Westlake, located north of Interstate 90. The park is located on the site of a former landfill.

2. **Existing Facilities**
   The park has a variety of facilities including baseball/softball diamonds, a playground, and a picnic shelter.
   - Three large baseball/softball diamonds, one field is lighted
   - One playground
   - One large picnic shelter
   - Restroom building
   - Concession building

3. **Park Issues**
   - Diamond fields have some drainage issue and often have standing water
   - Areas of standing water near playground
   - The fields are very uneven
   - These issues are likely a result of differential settling due to decomposition of subsurface landfill materials.
   - Lack of accessible paths to the shelter, diamonds, and playground.
   - The playground is old and needs to be replaced.

Tri-City Park - 1.9 acres

1. **Site Location**
   Tri-City Park is located at the eastern edge of the City of Westlake and is a joint venture between the Cities of Westlake, Rocky River, and Fairview Park. Only 1.9 of the parks 16 total acres are located in the City of Westlake, with the majority of the park located in the neighboring City of Rocky River.

2. **Existing Facilities**
   Tri-City Park has a dedicated lacrosse field as well as the only basketball court in any City of Westlake Park. The park also has a baseball/softball diamond, a playground, and a picnic shelter.
   - Two rectangular fields (one dedicated lacrosse fields)
   - One baseball/softball diamond
   - Eight tennis courts
   - One basketball court (4 goals)
   - One playground
   - One large picnic shelter
   - Restroom building
3. **Park Issues**
   - Tennis courts are worn and need resurfacing.
   - Lacrosse field is overused and does not drain well.

### COUNTY PARKS

**Bradley Woods Reservation - 401.6 acres (Cleveland Metroparks)**

1. **Site Location**
   Bradley Woods Reservation is located at the southernmost point on the western side of the City of Westlake. The park is located near the intersection of Center Ridge and Bradley Roads. Public access to the park is available only from Bradley Road and requires visitors to briefly leave the City of Westlake in order to enter. Of the park’s 804 total acres, 401.6 acres are located in the City of Westlake.

2. **Existing Facilities**
   The site is very large and mostly undeveloped. The reservation has areas of rare swamp forest habitat and contains some quarry sites. The primary objective of the park is the protection of natural resources, but it also allows for nature viewing through a series of nature trails. The park also has a picnic shelter, a playfield, and a swing set.
   - A multi-use trail (1.4 miles – 0.6 located within Westlake)
   - Five nature trail loops (four within the City of Westlake that total approximately 4 miles)
   - A series of unsanctioned trails
   - A playfield
   - Swings
   - Codrington Shelter – picnic pavilion
   - Restroom building

3. **Park Issues**
   - Poor connectivity of park and trails to the City of Westlake and adjacent Westlake neighborhoods.\(^7\)
   - Aside from the trail around Bunns Lake, the nature trails could be more formally established.

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\(^7\) Acknowledged in Cleveland Metroparks 2020 Emerald Necklace Centennial Plan
**UNDEVELOPED PARKLAND**

**Center Ridge Site (Adjacent to Porter Library) - 29.7 acres**

1. **Site Location**
   
   The site next to the Porter Library is a recently acquired property located on the south side of Center Ridge Road. The property also borders Westown Boulevard which is a high density residential street with numerous multifamily structures.

2. **Existing Facilities**
   
   The site is undeveloped with large areas of both grassland and woodland. Much of the woodland area has standing water and may have potential for nature programs and environmental education. The grass area has been used previously for soccer fields. An informal trail currently runs through the property, connecting the residential area to Center Ridge Road.

3. **Park Issues**
   - The property has been considered for a new outdoor pool, senior center, and other park facilities.
   - Demand for a connection to Center Ridge is apparent from the existing informal trail.
   - The open area in the center of the property has been covered with uncompacted fill over existing conditions and may require excavation and replacement before the development of structures.

**SPECIAL USE**

**Clague Playhouse - 3.5 acres**

1. **Site Location**
   
   The Clague Playhouse is located on Clague Road to the east of Clague Park.

2. **Existing Facilities**
   
   The site has two structures: the Clague House Museum and the Clague Playhouse (a former barn). The Clague House Museum is operated by the Westlake Historical Society, and the Clague Playhouse is used as a theatre for plays by the Clague Playhouse performance group. The site also has three baseball/softball diamonds as mentioned under the Clague Park description.
3. **Facility Issues**
   - Parking lot has several cracks
   - No accessible path to the fields
   - Lack of a permanent restroom to serve the park
   - Fields do not drain well

### Community Services Center - 2.2 acres

1. **Site Location**
   The Westlake Community Services Center is located at the western corner of Center Ridge and Crocker Rods. The center is adjacent to the Meadowood Golf Course.

2. **Existing Facilities**
   The Community Services Center provides senior services for the City of Westlake. The center provides programming and meeting spaces. The original building was the clubhouse for the golf course and has been expanded. Additional outdoor features include two bocce courts.

3. **Facility Issues**
   The building needs to be updated and expanded to meet the needs of the growing population and seniors in the City of Westlake. The building is on three levels and has several structural cracks. The parking lot is on a slope.

### Meadowood Golf Course - 67.6 acres

1. **Site Location**
   Meadowood Golf Course is located on Center Ridge Road near Crocker Road. The golf course is adjacent to the Community Services Center and Bradley Nature Park.

2. **Existing Facilities**
   The Meadowood Golf Course consists of 27 holes, 18 of which are executive (red/white course) and nine (9) are regulation length (yellow course).
   - Twenty-seven hole golf course
   - Golf shop/Clubhouse
   - Large picnic shelter
III. PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES

SCHOOL SITES

Bassett Elementary - 6.2 acres

1. Site Location

Bassett Elementary School is located in the northwestern portion of the City of Westlake on Bassett Road. The school can also be accessed from the south where it connects to Woodmill Drive.

2. Existing Facilities

The portion of the site not used for parking or the school structure is approximately 11.6 acres, most of which is currently unutilized or inefficiently configured. The school site has a baseball/softball diamond, a basketball court, and a playground.

- One small baseball/softball diamond
- Two basketball goals
- One playground

Dover Elementary/Dover Intermediate/Burneson Middle - 9.3 acres

1. Site Location

The Dover/Burneson complex is located in the center of the City of Westlake on the west side of Dover Center Road. The site can also be accessed from Bassett Road to the southwest or from the adjacent neighborhood to the northwest via a connecting trail.

2. Existing Facilities

This school has recently been redeveloped.

- Two rectangular (soccer) fields (One field is the high school soccer field with bleachers, lights, and restrooms.)
- One large skinned baseball/softball diamond
- Three outdoor basketball courts
- One playground
**Hilliard Elementary - 3.4 acres**

1. **Site Location**
   
   Hilliard Elementary is located in the eastern portion of the City of Westlake on Hilliard Boulevard, just south of Clague Park.

2. **Existing Facilities**
   
   - One small baseball/softball diamond
   - One small rectangular (soccer) field
   - Two basketball goals (2 half courts)
   - One playground
   - Large paved play area

**Holly Lane Elementary - 5.7 acres**

1. **Site Location**
   
   Holly Lane Elementary School is located on Holly Lane in the southern-central portion of the City of Westlake.

2. **Existing Facilities**
   
   - Two rectangular (soccer) fields
   - One small baseball/softball diamond
   - One playground
   - Two basketball goals (2 half courts)
   - Large paved play area

3. **Park issues**
   
   - Some shared space between baseball/softball diamond and soccer fields. Cannot be used concurrently. Could be addressed with change in configuration.

**Parkside Intermediate - 3.4 acres**

1. **Site Location**
   
   Parkside Intermediate School is located on Hilliard Boulevard near Hilliard Elementary. The school can also be accessed via a walking trail from Center Ridge Road.

2. **Existing Facilities**
   
   - One small rectangular (soccer) field
   - One baseball/softball diamond
   - One and a half (1.5) basketball courts (3 goals)
   - A paved play area
   - A 0.4 mile walking trail between Hilliard Boulevard and Center Ridge Road

3. **Park Issues**
   
   - Paved play area and basketball courts in poor condition (cracked and needs to be repainted).
### Westlake High - 28.2 acres

1. **Site Location**
   Westlake High School is located on the north side of Hilliard Boulevard, adjacent to City Hall, and close to the center of the City of Westlake.

2. **Existing Facilities**
   - Three baseball/softball diamonds (1 large grass, 2 small skinned)
   - Five tennis courts
   - One rectangle field with grandstands (soccer/football)
   - A running track

### Facilities by Others

#### St. John Medical Center - 3.5 acres

1. **Site Location**
   St. John Medical Center is located in the southern portion of the City of Westlake between Center Ridge and Crocker Roads. The fields are located at the northern end of the campus near Crocker Road.

2. **Existing Facilities**
   The fields at St. John Medical Center are undersized but well maintained. The campus also has some walking trails and park benches along the eastern side.
   - Five small soccer fields
   - Walking trails
   - Community gardens

3. **Park Issues**
   - Fields could eventually be developed as part of the campus.
   - Trails do not connect to neighboring properties.

#### St. Bernadette Church and School - 12.5 acres

1. **Site Location**
   St. Bernadette Church and School is located near the eastern edge of the City of Westlake on Clague Road near the intersection with Center Ridge Road.

2. **Existing Facilities**
   - One rectangular field
   - One small baseball/softball diamond
   - One basketball court (2 goals)
   - One playground
St. Paul Lutheran School

1. Site Location
   St. Paul Lutheran School is located at Detroit and Cahoon Roads.

2. Existing Facilities
   - One small soccer field
   - One small playground

County Parks

Only one county park is located within the City of Westlake, Bradley Woods Reservation (approximately half is located within the City limits). Five (5) other county parks are located within five (5) miles of the City, two (2) in Cuyahoga County and three (3) in Lorain County. The following section provides a brief summary of the amenities offered at each of these parks, and the location of these parks can be observed in Figure 2.

Cleveland Metroparks (Cuyahoga County)

1. Bradley Woods Reservation
   Bradley Woods Reservation is the one county park located within the City of Westlake. In addition to the 400 acres located in Westlake, the park has an additional 400 acres of land located in neighboring North Olmsted. This parkland consists of natural open space and passive recreation.

2. Huntington Reservation
   Huntington Reservation is located to the north of the City of Westlake in Bay Village. The 103 acre park has a series of trails, a nature center (Lake Erie Nature & Science Center), and beach access. Visitors can access Lake Erie for swimming, fishing, and kayaking. The park has a reservable picnic shelter, a community theatre (Huntington Playhouse), and a cultural arts center (BAYarts).

3. Rocky River Reservation
   The Rocky River Reservation is located approximately five miles east of the City of Westlake. The over 2,500 acres reservation has land in eight different municipalities and is the most visited reservation of Cleveland Metroparks (nearly 4 million visits). The park has a nature center and three golf courses. The reservation also has passive recreation amenities for fishing, boating, and kayaking in addition to all purpose, hiking, and bridle trails (35.6 miles). Rocky River Reservation has two reservable picnic facilities.

Lorain County Metro Parks

1. Kopf Family Reservation
   The Kopf Family Reservation is located to the northwest of the City of Westlake in the City of Avon Lake. The park is located adjacent to Avon Lake High School and is a partnership between Lorain County Metro Parks, the City of Avon Lake, Avon Lake Public School District, and Avon Lake Public Library. The 162 acre park offers two miles of paved trails.

2. Miller Nature Preserve
   The Miller Nature Preserve is located to the west of the City of Westlake in the City of Avon. The park houses the Conservatory that houses collection of plants from around the world. The visitor center at the park has a reservable room for private parties and other events.
3. **Sandy Ridge Reservation**

The Sandy Ridge Reservation is a 310 acre wetland and wildlife preserve in North Ridgeville, to the southwest of Westlake. The Johnson Wetland Center is located in the reservation, at the trailhead of a two mile scenic (gravel) trail loop. The park also has a reservable shelter and a playground.
Figure 2: County Parks within 5 Miles of the City of Westlake
Quality recreational programming is an important aspect of a healthy community. As citizens of all ages seek to enrich their lives with productive use of leisure time, the availability of a diverse range of recreational activities becomes increasingly vital. Quality recreational programs also reinforce societal values such as a community’s attractiveness to parents and business leaders and civic spirit/pride.

The core program concept was developed to provide direction in the planning, scheduling and coordination of community-based recreational activities. Emphasis must be given to the involvement of community representatives, parents, participants and advisory groups in the planning and development of the core program.

The following Core Program Guidelines are divided into two parts. The first section identifies five components, which should be utilized as benchmarks for determining the specific recreational activities conducted at each community center.

The latter sections provide an expanded description of each of the broad program categories. They include the formats which might be utilized, identify the primary values served by the activity, and finally list specific examples of the program.

It should be noted that the values served are only the primary values; other important values may be attained depending on the setting, the leader and the participant. In addition, the list of program examples is not intended to be all-inclusive, but rather to serve as a benchmark for cataloging other activities.

Finally, in any given setting, the level of Core Program offering may vary in activity type, intensity and scope depending on such factors as size of the building, equipment available and the number of staff.

**Core Program Components**

1. Neighborhoods and/or Centers should have broad appeal by conducting activities for people young and old. A variety and combination of age groups might include:
   - Preschool
   - Elementary age
   - Teens
   - Adults
   - Seniors
   - Intergenerational
   - Multiple Ages
   - Special Needs Programs
   - Special Events

2. Activities should be administratively feasible including the following considerations: Facility, Equipment, Safety, Cost, Requirements for Specialized Instruction, and Cost Benefit Analysis.

3. Program and service offerings should be of a coordinated nature within the community, thus serving to complement rather than duplicate activities already provided elsewhere or by others in the community.

4. Activities should be conducted in a variety of formal and informal settings, which might include:
   - Instructional Classes
   - Progressive Skill Levels
   - Drop-In
   - Special Events
• Special Interest Clubs
• Leagues and/or Tournaments and
• Outings and Field Trips

5. Programs should be constructive in nature and satisfy the creative, cultural, physical and social desires of the participants.

6. Each neighborhood and/or Center should, therefore, offer a diverse range of activities, and include a balanced mix of the following broad program categories:
• Athletics
• Creative Arts
• Games
• Health, Wellness, Education
• Outdoor Education
• Performing Arts
• Education and Seminars
• Special Events

**Athletics, Health, Wellness, and Aquatics**

**Definition:** Leisure activities which focus on body movement oriented in direction of fitness, skill development, and athletic enjoyment.

1. Formats:
   • Seasonal
   • Team
   • Individual
   • Participant & Spectator
   • Competitive
   • Progressive levels of skill development

2. Athletic activities provide the opportunity to:
   • Have fun
   • Develop and maintain an effective level of physical fitness
   • Utilize a positive outlet for aggressive behavior
   • Provide an opportunity to feel connected to and participate with a group (socialization).
   • Compete
   • Develop sportsmanship and character

3. Types of Activities Include (not limited to):
   • Aerobics
   • Badminton
   • Movement Fitness
   • Flag Football
III. PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES

4. Types of Activities Include (not limited to):
   - Tennis
   - Tumbling
   - Volleyball
   - Walking
   - Weight Training
   - Yoga
   - Equestrian Programs
   - Lacrosse
   - Pickleball
   - Bocce
   - Zumba
   - Silver Sneakers
   - Movement to Music
   - Aquatics
     - Lessons
     - Aerobics
     - Swim Team
     - Red Cross Courses

Creative Arts

Definition: Activities that result in the creation of something tangible. The process usually involves artistic or imaginative effort:

1. Format:
   - Progressive Skill Development
   - Individual and/or Group Projects
   - Exhibits, Shows, Displays
   - Classes and Workshops

2. Creative Arts provide the opportunity to:
   - Express creativity
   - Work with hands
   - Develop fine motor skills
- Enhance the appreciation for the arts
- Give personal satisfaction and pride in accomplishment

3. **Types of Activities Include (not limited to):**

- **Ceramics/Glass**
  - Glazing & Staining
  - Greenware
  - Hand Building
  - Raku
  - Stained Glass
  - Wheel (Throwing)

- **Crafts**
  - Copper Foil
  - Paper Making
  - Decoupage
  - Paper Mache
  - Enameling
  - Plaster Crafts
  - Jewelry Making
  - Plastic Crafts
  - Mobiles
  - Print Making
  - Mosaics
  - Silk Screening
  - Paper Crafts
  - Wood Working

- **Drawing/Painting-Calligraphy**
  - Pastels
  - Cartooning
  - Pen & Ink
  - Charcoal
  - Sketching
  - Mixed Media
  - Water Colors
  - Oil
  - Pre-School Drawing

- **Fabric**
  - Batik
  - Needle Point
  - Crochet
  - Quilting
  - Knitting
  - Sewing

- **Photography**
  - Composition
  - Pinhole Cameras
  - Using 35mm Cameras
  - Digital Workshops

- **Sculpture**
  - Casting
  - Plaster
  - Clay
  - Soft (Fabric)
  - Mobiles
  - Wire
  - Paper

- **Weaving**
  - Basketry
  - Dyeing
  - On or Off the Loom
  - Spinning
Games

Definition: Activities of play that are governed by specific rules and intended to provide challenges, diversion and enjoyment.

1. Formats:
   - Active or Semi active Group Games
   - Social Games, Mixers, Ice Breakers
   - Mental Games, Quizzes, Puzzles, Paper & Pencil Games
   - Table and Equipment Games
   - Quiet Games

2. Games provide the opportunity to:
   - Develop ability to cooperate effectively with others
   - Learn to accept and abide by the rules of the game
   - Accept victory and/or defeat in good spirit
   - Learn to persevere and keep trying
   - Develop good sportsmanship and consideration for the rights of others
   - Learn to take turns and accept boundary limits (either in a physical sense, or in terms of personal behavior).

3. Types of Activities Include (not limited to):
   - Air Hockey
   - Billiards
   - Board & Table Games
   - Cards
   - Checkers
   - Chess
   - Dominoes
   - Foosball
   - Horse Shoes
   - Low Organized Games (Lead-Up, Relays, Tag, Dodge ball)
   - Magic Stunts & Tricks
   - Table Tennis
   - Skittles
   - Word Games
   - World Wide Games

Health, Wellness and Educational Programs

Definition: These programs go beyond the traditional view of recreation and promote the individual's optimal well being physically, emotionally, socially and intellectually.

1. Format:
   - Testing/Screening
   - Instructional Workshops and Classes
   - Speakers
- Community Forums
- Partnerships/Programs with Other Agencies

2. **Health, Wellness and Educational Programs provide opportunities to:**
   - Enhanced self-esteem
   - Extend and continue the learning process
   - Create public awareness and understanding
   - Allow the individual to feel connected to his/her community

3. **Types of Activities Include (not limited to):**
   - Informational Referrals
   - Stress Management
   - Substance Abuse
   - CPR & First Aid
   - Parenting Skills
   - G.E.D. Programs
   - Smoke Enders
   - Tutoring
   - Personal Safety
   - Nutrition & Weight Control
   - Vision Screening
   - Kids Computer
   - Baby Sitting Classes
   - Financial
   - Computer
   - Medicare
   - Guide to social security
   - Personal Training
   - Diabetes
   - Arthritis
   - A fib
   - Heart

### Outdoor Education

**Definition:** Those recreational activities that can best be carried on outdoors and that have, in some way, a direct relationship or dependence on nature or that place the participant in direct contact with the elements.

1. **Format**
   - Individual or Group Activities
   - Classes/Workshops
   - Teambuilding
   - Partnerships and Programs with Other Agencies
   - Role Playing
   - Outing and Field Trips
   - Sensory Awareness Activities

2. **Outdoor education activities provide the opportunity to:**
   - Develop an awareness, appreciation and preservation of our natural resources,
   - Develop skills for adaptation to vocational or leisure pursuits
3. **Types of Activities Include (not limited to):**

- Bird Feeding & Watching
- Canoeing
- Cross Country Skiing
- Hiking
- Land/Wildlife Conservation
- Recycling
- Survival Skills
- Camping
- Composting
- Gardening
- Kayaking
- Pet Shows
- Repelling/Climbing
- Weather, Climate

### Performing Arts

**Definition:** The type of activity that allows the participant to use himself/herself as the medium of expression. The "Doing" process is important whether or not an audience is involved.

1. **Format**
   - Progressive skill level development
   - Classes and Workshops
   - Special Events

2. **Neighborhood Projects**

3. **Creative Arts provide the opportunity to:**
   - Provide the participant with the opportunity to discover himself/herself as a person, by being creatively involved in learning new skills, exploring and expressing talents.
   - Allows the participant to create his/her own entertainment.
   - May be enjoyed by people of all ages.
   - Serves to develop and enrich cultural appreciation.

4. **Types of Activities:**

   - **Dance**
     - Ballet
     - Ballroom Dance
     - Clogging
     - Creative Movement
     - Folk Dance
     - Jazz Dance
     - Modern Dance
     - Square Dance
     - Tap Dance
     - Line Dancing

   - **Drama**
     - Acting
     - Backstage Crafts
     - Games, Charades, Stunts, and Skits
     - Pantomime and Improvisation
     - Poetry Readings
     - Puppetry
     - Storytelling
     - Theater Groups
- Music
  - Choral Groups
  - Guitar
  - Piano
  - Recorder
  - Rhythm Instruments (Bells, triangles, blocks, Drums)
- Singing
- Talent/Variety Shows
- Special Needs Music Program
- Music Fundamentals

**WESTLAKE RECREATION CENTER - USAGE/ATTENDANCE ANALYSIS**

Attendance totals for the Westlake Recreation Center are derived from usage numbers from the following sources:

1. Memberships scanned
2. Silver Sneakers participants
3. Guest passes for adults, youth and seniors
4. Users under 3 years of age
5. Program participation
6. Rentals/Birthday parties
7. Visitors

Note: Usage figures for rentals, visitors and Silver Sneakers became available in 2011.

**Membership Usage**

2009 - 512,754
2010 - 504,222
2011 - 524,081
2012 - 587,182 (First full year of Silver Sneakers Program)
2013 - 595,200

The total usage of the Westlake Recreation Center for 2009-2013 was 2,723,439. Participants utilize the Center for an average of 544,688 participants per year. This usage level is high compared to similar facilities in other jurisdictions. The Westlake Recreation Center offers a tremendous number of program opportunities for their members. The overall participation level in the Center is a testimony to the work being accomplished by the Center staff.

**Program Participation**

A tool that the Westlake Center uses to determine overall usage is actual program participation for each program offered by the Center. This tool also allows the staff to determine which programs are being utilized and which are not. Listed below are the attendance numbers for programs offered by the Recreation Center each year.
The categories used to measure participation were the number of participants enrolled, hours of classes, and total hours conducted annually.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Programs offered</th>
<th>Programs cancelled</th>
<th>Programs conducted</th>
<th>78% of these programs offered ran during the course of the year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>1,312</td>
<td>293</td>
<td>1,019</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>1,364</td>
<td>341</td>
<td>1,023</td>
<td>75% of these programs offered ran during the course of the year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>1,525</td>
<td>416</td>
<td>1,109</td>
<td>73% of these programs offered ran during the course of the year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>1,223</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>973</td>
<td>In 2012, the format was changed to identify the number of enrollees and user visits.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>996</td>
<td>227</td>
<td>769</td>
<td>77% of these programs ran during the course of the year</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A review of the programs offered identifies the following as the most popular programs:

- Youth Sports
- Men's Basketball
- Karate
- Various Fitness Programs
- Softball
- Swim Team
- Flag Football
- Level II and III Swim Sessions
- Tiny Tots
- Summer Day Camp

The City of Westlake is very fortunate to have a group of staff members with the tenacity and passion for providing the City with a quality facility and program offerings. The new format for program participation that only identifies the enrollees and the user visits is an improvement over the previous method. One suggestion would be to include the ages of the users where they are not apparent such as youth and adult programs to be able to better understand who is taking advantage of Recreation Center programs. Additionally, many of the programs, such as level II and III sessions, are difficult to understand without the program guide.
## Peterson Pool Usage

Based on a review of the usage data, the outdoor Peterson Pool has an average of 25,239 participants per year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Participants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>24,925</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>25,925</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>24,867</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>21,694</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
IV. PUBLIC INPUT

GENERAL
The Needs Analysis consists of the following elements:

1. A summary of the public workshops and stakeholder groups.
2. A review of the usage and findings of the Live Well, Play Hard! Westlake website, powered by MindMixer, which provided opportunities for engagement throughout the Master Plan process.
3. A summary of the pertinent portions of the ETC/Leisure Vision Community Attitude and Interest Survey for the City of Westlake with a comparison to the web based survey distributed by the City of Westlake.

PUBLIC WORKSHOP – KICK-OFF EVENT

May 17, 2014
The Kick-off event was a tremendous success, despite the rain and need to move indoors. Over 50 people completed the surveys and 97 people used “Westlake Dollars” to vote on their preferred park improvements.

STAKEHOLDER GROUPS
The Consultant, BCI, met with Stakeholder Groups on the following dates. Complete summaries of the meeting with each of these groups can be found in Appendix D.

April 16, 2014
Westlake Community Services Center – Seniors (approximately 20 seniors)

April 21 and 22
1. Staff – Aquatics Manager, Front Desk Manager, Administrative Assistant, Assistant Director, Cashier, Aquatics Instructor, Athletic/Events Manager, Fitness Manager, Programs Manager
2. Westlake School Board and Superintendent
3. Westlake Council of PTA’s
4. Westlake Garden Club
5. Westlake Arts Council
6. Westlake Historical Society
7. Westlake Boys Baseball
8. Westlake Girls Softball
9. Westlake Lacrosse Association
10. Westlake Soccer Association
11. Westlake Porter Library
12. Senior Center Advisory Board
13. Mayor, City Manager, and Finance Director
14. Westlake Police Department
15. Westlake Services Department
May 19, 2014

Parkside Intermediate School 5th and 6th grade classes
Westlake Planning Commission

October 22, 2014

Community Services Center Staff

Common Themes from First Public Workshop and Stakeholder groups (Not in Order)

1. Upgrade Peterson Pool.
2. Peterson Pool for residents only.
3. More bike trails and bike lanes to connect the city.
4. More access to restrooms in parks.
5. Fix what we have.
6. Improve athletic fields and better maintenance.
7. Upgrade Clague Park playground (The area stays wet and it is difficult to access and equipment is outdated).
8. More passive park space.
9. Improve, expand, or relocate the Community Services Center.

Dollar Voting

Participants at two workshops, an Advisory Committee meeting, and other community events were given $1,000 in play money to distribute how they felt the City should allocate funds for various aspects of parks, recreation, trails, and open space. The following table (Table 11) shows the totals for the various categories. Participants could also write specific items they wanted on the money they placed in the “Other” box. The combined results for the 153 participants at the three events are listed below with the dollars for each park improvement option and the percentage of the total allocated for the improvement.

Table 11: Dollar Voting Park Improvement Allocations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Park Improvement</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Development of walking and biking trails</td>
<td>$29,500</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Redevelop or relocation of the Peterson Pool</td>
<td>$27,200</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expand the existing Recreation Center</td>
<td>$24,700</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Development of new outdoor parks and recreation facilities</td>
<td>$16,100</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Develop a driving range at Meadowood Golf Course</td>
<td>$15,800</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improvements/construction of new athletic fields</td>
<td>$12,500</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acquisition of land for open space/green space/future parkland</td>
<td>$10,300</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Develop new or improve the Westlake Community Services Center</td>
<td>$7,200</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other facilities</td>
<td>$9,100</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$152,400</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The development of walking and biking trails received the largest number of dollars at $29,500 or 19%, followed by the redevelopment or relocation of the Peterson Pool into an outdoor family aquatic center at $27,200 or 18%. Expansion of the Recreation Center was third at $24,700 or 16%. The remaining options received lower allocations (less than 10%). The “Other facilities” option
received $9,100 or 6% of the total allocation. These suggested improvements are listed below. More than a third of these other allocations are for specific trail or bike improvements.

### Table 12: Dollar Voting Other Park Improvements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Other Park Improvements</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clague Park Pond Trail bridge</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dog park</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ice rink</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Artificial Turf field at Westlake High School</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skate park</td>
<td>$900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indoor playground</td>
<td>$800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mountain bike trail</td>
<td>$500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Workout stations around the Recreation Center</td>
<td>$400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portable concert shelter</td>
<td>$400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trail &amp; crossing between Recreation Center and property adjacent to library</td>
<td>$300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weston House</td>
<td>$200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BMX facility</td>
<td>$200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Club with catering</td>
<td>$200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bike lanes</td>
<td>$100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Give back to taxpayers</td>
<td>$100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Final Public Workshop

#### October 21, 2014

The findings and results from all of the public input to date including the statistically valid surveys, handout/web survey, MindMixer comments on LiveWellPlayHardWestlake.com, stakeholder group meetings, dollar voting, and public workshops were presented to the public at this meeting. The elements of the new mission statement, vision statement, and the goals (developed by the Master Plan Advisory Committee) were also presented at this meeting. Attendees of the workshop reacted favorably and were in agreement with the vision for the future of parks and recreation in the City of Westlake as presented.

### Themes from this Final Public Workshop (Not in Order)

1. Fund artificial turf field at High School
2. Partner with schools
3. Central soccer field location
4. Improve quality of athletic fields, need larger diamond fields
5. Open up golf course for other uses
6. Finish trail around pond in Clague Park

### Community Attitude and Interest Survey

#### Mail and Phone Survey - Overview and Methodology

The Consultants subcontracted with ETC/Leisure Vision to conduct a Community Attitude and Interest Survey in the summer of 2014 to help establish priorities for the future development of parks and recreation facilities, programs, and services within the community. The survey was designed to obtain
statistically valid results from households throughout the City of Westlake. The survey was administered by mail, web, and phone.

Leisure Vision worked with City of Westlake officials, as well as members of the Brandstetter Carroll Inc. project team in the development of the survey questionnaire. This work allowed the survey to be tailored to issues of strategic importance to effectively plan the future system.

A six-page survey was mailed to a random sample of 2,500 households throughout the City of Westlake. Approximately three days after the surveys were mailed, each household that received a survey also received an automated voice message encouraging them to complete the survey. In addition, about two weeks after the surveys were mailed, ETC/Leisure Vision began contacting households by phone. Those who had indicated they had not returned the survey were given the option of completing it by phone.

The goal was to obtain a total of at least 300 completed surveys. ETC/Leisure Vision went above and beyond that goal with a total of 706 surveys completed. The results of the random sample of 706 households have a 95% level of confidence with a precision rate of at least ±3.6%.

**Web Survey**

In addition to mail and phone survey, the City of Westlake Recreation Department and Brandstetter Carroll Inc. prepared a handout and web based survey using Survey Monkey. A total of 473 residents completed these forms with 409 of those being from city residents and 64 from nearby areas. Many of the surveys were completed on handout versions that were available at the Recreation Center, City Hall, the Police Department Office, and park facilities throughout the community and were manually entered into the computer. Note that in the tables on the following pages, the results of the web survey are included for comparison where available.

The full report of the results of this survey is included as Appendix E.

**National Benchmarking**

Since 1998, Leisure Vision (a division of ETC Institute) has conducted household surveys for needs assessments, feasibility studies, customer satisfaction, fees and charges comparisons, and other parks and recreation issues in more than 700 communities in over 45 states across the country.

The results of these surveys has provided an unparalleled database of information to compare responses from household residents in client communities to “National Averages” and therefore provide a unique tool to “assist organizations in better decision making.” The National Benchmarking summary is included in Appendix E. Selected information is included on the charts in this section.
Survey Results

The following pages summarize major survey findings.

1. Visitation of Parks and Facilities in the City of Westlake

Respondents were asked if any members of their household have participated in Recreation Programs offered by the City of Westlake over the past 12 Months. The following summarizes key findings:

- According to the statistically valid mail survey, eighty-seven percent (87%) of respondent households have visited parks or recreation facilities in the City of Westlake over the past 12 months.
- Similarly, 98% of web survey respondents have visited parks or recreation facilities in the City of Westlake over the past 12 months.
- These results are higher than the national average.

Figure 3: Visitation of Parks in Westlake
2. **How Often Households Visit Parks & Recreation Facilities in the City of Westlake**

Respondent households that have visited parks and recreation facilities in the City of Westlake during the past 12 months were asked to indicate how often they have visited parks and recreation facilities during that time. The following summarizes key findings:

- According to the statistically valid mail survey, of those respondents who visited parks or recreation facilities over the past 12 months, (58%) of respondent households visited the facilities in the City 20 or more times. Other visitation levels include: 1-5 times (18%), 6-10 times (13%) and 11-19 times (12%).
- The numbers are identical for the web survey.

**Figure 4: Number of Visits to Parks**

Please indicate how often you or members of your household visited parks within the past year.

- 18% visited 1 to 5 visits
- 18% visited 6 to 10 visits
- 9% visited 11 to 19 visits
- 11% visited 20 or more visits

Outer Ring = Mail Survey
Inner Ring = Web Survey
3. **Physical Condition of Parks and Facilities Visited**

Respondent households that have visited parks and recreation facilities in the City Westlake during the past 12 months were asked to rate the physical condition of all the City parks and facilities they have visited. The following summarizes key findings:

- According to the statistically valid mail survey, respondent households who visited facilities over the past 12 months, 52% rate the condition of the facility as good. Other ratings include: excellent (44%), fair (4%) and poor (1%).

- Web survey respondents are less likely than the mail survey respondents to rate facilities as excellent (33%), and more likely to rate facilities as fair (16%). A similar percentage rated facilities as good (50%).

*Figure 5: Condition of Parks and Recreation Facilities*
4. Parks and Recreation Facilities Visited in the Past 12 Months

From a list of 18 parks and recreation facilities, respondents were asked to indicate all of the parks/facilities their household has visited in the past 12 months. The following summarizes key findings:

- From the statistically valid mail survey, seventy-seven percent (77%) of respondent households have visited the Westlake Recreation Center over the past 12 months. Other facilities respondents have visited include: Westlake Recreation Park (65%), Clague Park (63%), Bradley Nature Park (41%) and Bradley Woods Reservation (37%).
- Results from the web survey were similar, with higher percentages using each facility, particularly Peterson Pool at 39% compared to 23% for the web survey.
- The web survey combined all school facilities, while the mail survey recorded values for each school.

Figure 6: Most Visited Parks

Which of the following parks in Westlake have you visited in the past year?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Park</th>
<th>Mail Survey</th>
<th>Web Survey</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Westlake Recreation Center</td>
<td>77%</td>
<td>77%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Westlake Recreation Park</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clague Park</td>
<td>63%</td>
<td>63%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bradley Nature Park</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bradley Woods Reservation (MetroPark)</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peterson Pool</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crocker Park Sprayground (at Crocker Park)</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meadowood Golf course</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Westlake Community Services Center</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tri-City Park</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roman Park</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Westlake High School</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bassett Elementary</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lee Burneson Middle</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hilliard Elementary</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parkside Intermediate</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holly Lane Elementary</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dover Elementary</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Facilities</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
5. Participation in Recreation Programs Offered by the City of Westlake Over the Past 12 Months

Respondents were asked if any members of their household have participated in recreational programs offered by the City of Westlake or sports leagues in Westlake over the past 12 months. The following summarizes key findings:

- According to the statistically valid mail survey, seventy-one percent (71%) of respondent households have not participated in recreation programs offered by the City of Westlake over the past 12 months. Twenty-nine percent (29%) of respondent households have participated in recreation programs offered by the City over the past 12 months.
- The web survey yielded very different results with 63% reporting participation in recreational programs.

Figure 7: Participation in Recreational Programs or Sports Leagues

![Diagram showing participation rates for mail and web surveys.](attachment://figure7.png)

- Outer Ring = Mail Survey
- Inner Ring = Web Survey
6. **Quality of Recreational Programs or Sports Leagues in Westlake**

Respondents who have participated in recreational programs offered by the City of Westlake or sports leagues in Westlake were asked to rate the quality of the programs their household has participated in over the past 12 months. The following summarizes key findings:

- According to the statistically valid mail survey, respondent households who have participated in programs over the past 12 months, 60% rate the overall quality as good. Other ratings include: excellent (35%), fair (4%) and poor (1%).

- The results of the web survey were similar with 37% of participants rating programs as excellent. A lower percentage rated the programs as good (49%), and a higher percentage rated the programs as fair (12%).

**Figure 8: Quality of Programs**

![Quality of Programs Chart]

**How would you rate the quality of the programs in which you or members of your household participated?**

- **Excellent**: 37%
- **Good**: 49%
- **Fair**: 12%
- **Poor**: 4%

*Outer Ring = Mail Survey*
*Inner Ring = Web Survey*
7. **Level of Support for City Actions to Improve Parks and Recreation Services**

From a list of actions that could be taken by the City of Westlake, respondents were asked to rate their support for each improvement. The following summarizes key findings:

- According to the statistically valid mail survey, 92% of respondent households are either “very supportive” or “somewhat supportive” for the City to upgrade older parks and recreation facilities. Other similar levels of support include: develop recreational trails/connect existing trails (82%), buy land to preserve open space and historic areas (80%), upgrade existing youth/adult athletic fields (78%), develop new commuter biking trails (74%), develop new programs for teens (74%), and buy land to develop athletic fields/recreational facilities (72%). Respondents showed the least support for the development of a new dog park (44%) and the development of a new skate park (38%).

- The results of the web survey varied significantly from the statistically valid survey. Expansion of the Recreation Center received “very supportive” or “somewhat supportive” responses from 96% of surveys, compared to 66% for the mail survey. Web survey responses were also less supportive of new programs for teens (42%) and much more supportive of improvements to the Peterson Pool (82%), compared to 58% for the mail survey.

- Only the web survey asked for the level of support for a driving range at Meadowood Golf Course, and 81% of respondents were supportive of this action.

**Figure 9: Support for Parks and Recreation Improvements**
8. Need For Parks and Recreation Facilities

From a list of 28 various parks and recreation facilities, respondents were asked to indicate all of the ones for which they and members of their household have a need (Figure 10). The following summarizes key findings:

- According to the statistically valid mail survey, seventy-three percent (73%) of respondents or 10,139 households, have a need for walking and hiking trails. Other facilities respondents have a need for include: natural areas/nature parks (66% or 9,099 households), large community and/or County parks (59% or 8,211 households), paved bike trails (54% or 7,518 households), and small neighborhood parks (51% or 7,032 households).

- The web survey responses were mostly consistent with the mail survey with a few notable differences. Web survey respondents had a substantially lower reported need for natural areas or nature parks at 39%, compared to 66% for the statistically valid mail survey. Similarly, web survey respondents had a lower need for large community parks (36% compared to 59%), small neighborhood parks (37% compared to 51%), and an indoor swimming pool or waterpark (34% compared to 48%). Web survey respondents reported a greater need for an indoor ice rink at 34%, compared to 23%.

- Compared to the National Benchmarks, City of Westlake responses to the statistically valid mail survey showed a greater than average need for nature parks, golf courses, and soccer fields. Responses indicated a lower than average need for paved trails, small neighborhood parks, picnic shelters, an outdoor stage, spraygrounds, mountain bike trails, skate parks, and lacrosse fields. Survey results were within 5% for the other categories.

- The statistically valid mail survey also asked respondents how well their needs were met for parks and recreation facilities and estimated the number of households for which needs were met at less than 50%.

- Nearly 5,500 households in Westlake have less than 50% of their needs met for walking and hiking trails (Figure 11). Paved bike trails is the second greatest unmet need with over 5,000 households having less than 50% of their needs met. Natural areas and golf driving range/training facility were the next highest unmet needs with between 3,000 and 4,000 households having less than 50% of their needs met.

- Other facilities with high numbers of households with unmet needs:
  - Indoor ice rink
  - Golf courses
  - Outdoor stage
  - Outdoor swimming pool/aquatic center
  - Dog park
  - Outdoor ice rink
  - Picnic shelters
Figure 10: Need for Parks and Recreation Facilities

Do you or members of your household have a need for the City of Westlake to develop the following facilities? Select the facilities that you or members of your household would use if they were developed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Facility</th>
<th>Mail Survey</th>
<th>Web Survey</th>
<th>National Benchmark</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Waking and hiking trails*</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>66%</td>
<td>69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural areas or nature parks</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Large community parks</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paved walking and biking trails*</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small neighborhood parks</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indoor swimming pool or water park</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Picnic shelters and picnic areas</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Playgrounds</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor swimming pool or aquatic center</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golf course</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golf driving range / training facilities</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor stage or amphitheater</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor tennis courts</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rental facility for banquets, receptions</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indoor ice rink</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Off-leash dog parks</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baseball or softball diamonds</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor ice rink</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sprayground / splash pad</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor basketball courts</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor soccer fields</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disabled accessible parks and facilities</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mountain bike trails or BMX course</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth football fields</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skateboard parks</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lacrosse fields</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Difference in wording between Mail and Web Survey
Figure 11: Households with Facility Needs Met by 50% or Less

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Facility Type</th>
<th>Estimated Number of Households</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Walking and hiking trails</td>
<td>5435</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paved bike trails</td>
<td>5082</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural areas / nature parks</td>
<td>3703</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golf driving range / training facilities</td>
<td>3356</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indoor ice rink</td>
<td>2928</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golf courses</td>
<td>2907</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor stage or amphitheater</td>
<td>2859</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor swimming pools/aquatic centers</td>
<td>2769</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Off-leash dog parks</td>
<td>2625</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor ice rink</td>
<td>2313</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Picnic shelters / picnic areas</td>
<td>2114</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small neighborhood parks</td>
<td>2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Large community and/or County parks</td>
<td>1765</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indoor swimming pools / water parks</td>
<td>1664</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rental facility for banquets / receptions</td>
<td>1635</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor basketball courts</td>
<td>1536</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tennis courts</td>
<td>1377</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spray grounds / Splash Pad</td>
<td>1375</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Playgrounds</td>
<td>1323</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mountain bike trails / BMX course</td>
<td>1271</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor soccer fields</td>
<td>814</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Handicapped accessible parks / facilities</td>
<td>813</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baseball and softball diamonds</td>
<td>799</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skateboarding area</td>
<td>496</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth football fields</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lacrosse fields</td>
<td>218</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
9. **Need For Recreation Programs**

From a list of 21 various recreation programs, respondents were asked to indicate all of the ones that they and members of their household have a need (Figure 12). The following summarizes key findings:

- According to the statistically valid mail survey, 59% of respondents or 8,225 households, have a need for adult fitness and wellness programs. Other programs respondent households have a need for include: summer concerts (48% or 6,616 households), 50+ programs (35% or 4,827 households) and nature programs (34% or 4,050 programs).

- Web survey respondents consistently reported a higher need for recreation programs than the mail survey results. This difference is especially apparent for youth and teen programs.

- Compared to the National Benchmarks, City of Westlake responses to the statistically valid mail survey showed a greater than average need for adult fitness and wellness programs and senior (50+) programs. Responses indicated a lower than average need for special events, youth summer camp, birthday parties, before and after-school programs, martial arts, and childcare. Survey results were within 5% for the other categories.

The statistically valid mail survey also asked respondents how well their needs were met for recreation programs and estimated the number of households for which needs were met at less than 50% (Figure 13).

- Over 3,000 households in Westlake have less than 50% of their needs met for adult fitness and wellness programs and summer concerts. Nature programs and 50+ programs were next with just under 3,000 households having less than 50% of their needs met.

- Other programs with high numbers of households with unmet needs: adults sports programs, water fitness programs, and pet exercise programs.
Figure 12: Need for Parks and Recreations Programs

Programs that you or members of your household have a need to be offered in Westlake.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Mail Survey</th>
<th>Web Survey</th>
<th>National Benchmark</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adult fitness and wellness</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer concerts</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td></td>
<td>48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior (50+) programs</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nature programs</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water fitness</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Sports</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult sports</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth learn-to-swim programs</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special events</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult art, dance, performing arts</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td></td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth fitness and wellness</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td></td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pet exercise/Dog park</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth art, dance, performing arts</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth summer camp</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td></td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teen programs</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Birthday parties</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td></td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre-school programs</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td></td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Before and after-school programs</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td></td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Martial arts</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Babysitting/child care</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programs for mental/physically challenged</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Statistically Valid Mail Survey
Comparison to National Benchmark
Green = 6% or more over
Red = 5% or more under
Blue = within 5%

58
Figure 13: Households with Program Needs Met by 50% or Less

Estimated Number of Households in Westlake with 50% or Less of Needs Met for Recreation Programs

- Adult fitness and wellness programs: 3191
- Summer concerts: 3149
- Nature programs: 2898
- 50+ programs: 2857
- Adult sports programs: 1939
- Water fitness programs: 1887
- Pet exercise: 1873
- Adult art, dance, performing arts: 1621
- Youth art, dance, performing arts: 1392
- Special events: 1392
- Teen programs: 1371
- Youth fitness and wellness programs: 1155
- Youth Learn to Swim programs: 940
- Youth summer camp programs: 918
- Youth sports programs: 855
- Pre-School programs: 801
- Martial arts programs: 779
- Babysitting / childcare: 753
- Before and after school programs: 710
- Birthday parties: 669
- Programs for mental / physically challenged: 490
- Other: 41
10. **Potential Improvements to Westlake Parks**

From a list of 31 potential park improvements, respondents were asked to indicate all the improvements they would like to have made to the existing City of Westlake parks. The following summarizes key findings (Figure 14):

- According to the statistically valid mail survey, 43% of respondent households would most like to see improvements and additions to restrooms made in existing parks in the City of Westlake. Other improvement respondent households would most like to see include:
  - Sidewalks/trails (38%)
  - Bike trails and bike lanes (36%)
  - Expand trails (33%)
  - Drinking fountains (30%)

- The top response for the web survey was also improvements to restrooms at 44%. Trail improvements and drinking fountains rank the next highest, just as in the mail survey. Several improvements ranked much higher for respondents of the web survey than in the statistically valid mail survey. These substantial differences include:
  - Renovate the outdoor pool, 31% for the web survey compared to 18% for the mail survey
  - Replace the outdoor pool, 32% compared to 14%
  - Outdoor basketball courts, 20% compared to 13%
  - Artificial turf fields, 22% compared to 7%
Listed below are potential improvements that could be made to existing parks. Please select ALL the improvements you would most like to have made to parks in Westlake.

- Improve or add restrooms
- Bike trails and bike lanes
- Sidewalks/trails
- Drinking fountains
- Expand trails
- Trail lighting
- Golf course / driving range / training facility
- Picnic tables / benches
- Natural areas
- Park security lighting
- Picnic shelters
- Dog park
- Add security cameras
- Add urban green spaces
- Public gardens
- Renovate the outdoor pool
- Playground equipment
- Improved parking
- Renovate Clague Cabin
- Increased programs
- Replace the outdoor pool
- Bike racks
- Landscaping
- Outdoor basketball courts
- Sports fields and lighting
- Park entrance signs
- Handicapped accessibility
- Artificial turf fields
- More information & registration
- Replace Clague Cabin
- Wider roads
11. Allocation of $100 Among Parks and Recreation Improvements

Respondents were asked how they would allocate $100 among eight different types of parks and recreation facility improvements in the City of Westlake. The following summarizes the findings:

- According to the statistically valid mail survey, respondents would allocate the largest amount of the funds ($21) toward the development of new walking and biking trails; $20 to improvements and maintenance of existing parks, playgrounds, game courts and picnic areas; and $17 toward acquisition of land for open space, green space, and future park-land.

- In contrast, web survey respondents would allocate the largest amount of funds ($22) to the redevelopment of the Peterson Pool. Improvements or new athletic fields, improvements to existing parks, and development of new trails received $13 each. Development of new parks and acquisition of open space received the lowest allocations at $9 each.

Figure 15: $100 Allocation for Park Improvements

How Respondents Would Allocate $100 Among Parks and Recreation Improvements

- Improvements/construction of new athletic fields
- Development of new outdoor parks and recreation facilities
- Develop new or improve the Community Services Center
- Expand the existing Recreation Center
- Redevelop or relocation of the Peterson Pool
- Acquisition of land for open space/green space/future parks
- Improvements/maintenance of existing parks
- Development of new walking and biking trails
- Other

Outer Ring = Mail Survey
Inner Ring = Web Survey
12. Other Major Findings of the Statistically Valid Mail Survey

- **Functions Respondent Households Think Are the Most Important for the City to Provide:** Based on the sum of respondent households top three choices, (39%) believe that the most important function for the City is to buy land to preserve open space and historic areas. Other most important functions include: upgrade older parks and recreation facilities (37%), develop new trails and connect existing trails (29%), and develop new commuter biking trails (27%).

- **Organizations Respondent Households Use for Parks and Recreation Programs and Facilities:** Seventy-five percent (75%) of respondents use Westlake Porter Public Library for parks and recreation programs and facilities. Other organizations include: Cleveland Metroparks (69%) and the City of Westlake Recreation Department (64%).

- **Organizations Respondent Households Used the Most for Parks and Recreation Programs and Facilities:** Based on the sum of respondent households’ top two choices, 50% used the City of Westlake Recreation Department. Other most used organizations include: Westlake Porter Public Library (35%) and Cleveland Metroparks (33%).

- **Facilities that are the Most Important to Respondent Households:** Based on the sum of respondent households’ top four choices, 46% stated that walking and hiking trails were the most important facility to their household. Other most important facilities include: natural areas and nature parks (28%), paved bike trails (26%), small neighborhood parks (24%), and large community and or County parks (23%).

- **Programs that are the Most Important to Respondent Households:** Based on the sum of respondent households’ top four most important programs, 41% state that adult fitness and wellness programs are the most important to their household. Other most important program include: summer concerts (25%) and 50+ programs (23%).

- **Programs that Respondent Households Currently Participate in the Most Often:** Based on the sum of respondent households’ top four choices, 29% participate in adult fitness and wellness programs the most often. Other programs include: summer concerts (19%), youth sports programs (14%), nature programs (11%), and 50+ programs (11%).

- **Ways Respondent Households Learn about Recreation or Activities:** Sixty-three percent (63%) of respondent households learn about recreation or activities through the Recreation Gazette Brochure. Other ways respondent households learn about recreation or activities include: word of mouth (51%), newspaper (44%), and website (39%).

- **Amount of Time Respondents Are Willing to Walk or Bike to Attend Programs or Use Parks and Recreation Facilities:** Thirty-six percent (36%) of respondent households are willing to walk or bike 10-15 minutes to attend programs or use parks and recreation facilities. Other amounts of time include: 15-30 minutes (27%), 5-10 minutes (20%) over 30 minute (10%), and 0-5 minutes (8%).

- **Reasons that Prevent Respondent Households from Using Parks, Recreation Facilities, Trails and Programs of the City of Westlake More Often:** Thirty-three percent (33%) of respondent households are prevented from using parks, recreation facilities, trails and programs more often because the fees are too high. Other reasons include: program times are not convenient (23%), don’t know what is being offered (20%), program or facility not offered (13%), and use private clubs and gyms (13%).
In an effort to engage all residents, the City of Westlake implemented an online civic engagement tool that enabled residents to provide input regardless of where they were located, what time of day it was, and do so in more than 75 languages. The site, Live Well, Play Hard! Westlake, was designed explicitly for the City of Westlake and provided a forum for residents to submit ideas and recommendations, react to potential solutions, provide input on priorities, and engage in conversation with City leaders and others, and stay up-to-date on the planning process. The website was managed and updated by the planning consultants and staff. A total of 13,331 page views, 3,322 unique visitors, and 393 active participants were involved. The average age of participants was 48 years old, with the vast majority residing in the 44145 zip code.

Below is a summary of the results of the website. The results are presented in the order in which the topics were added as new polls and idea submission requests were added throughout the Master Plan process. Topics on the Live Well, Play Hard! Westlake website were posted in an effort to follow-up on previous public input and to keep the public involved throughout the process.

**Overall Site Statistics**

The figure below (Figure 16) provides a snapshot of the overall statistics related to visitation to the site.

**Figure 16: Site Visitation Snapshot**
Age, Gender, and Geographical Distribution

Figure 17 below outlines the characteristics of the average visitor to the Live Well, Play Hard! Westlake website. The figure also shows the distribution of website visitors based on their geographic location in the City, sorted by zip code and the age distribution of visitors.

Figure 17: Characteristics of Participants

Participants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TOTAL</th>
<th>393 Participants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GENDER</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>61%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

AGE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AGE</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>14-17</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18-24</td>
<td>2.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-34</td>
<td>9.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35-44</td>
<td>36.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45-54</td>
<td>24.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55-64</td>
<td>15.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65+</td>
<td>11.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

POSTAL CODE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ZIP CODE</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>44145</td>
<td>94.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44039</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44070</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44012</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44138</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44011</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44074</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44116</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44135</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The figure below shows the responses or “votes” received in response to the question, “What of the parks or facilities listed below do you use most often?” The total number of votes for this question was 488. Westlake Recreation Park received the most votes by far for this question followed by Clague Park.

**Figure 18: Most Visited Parks**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Park Facilities</th>
<th>Votes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Westlake Recreation Park including the Recreation Center</strong></td>
<td>230</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clague Park</td>
<td>105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peterson Pool</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bradley Nature Park</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bradley Woods Reservation (MetroPark)</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Porter Soccer Fields</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meadowood Golf Course</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tri-City Park</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Services Center</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roman Park</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Focus of the Master Plan**

The figure below shows the responses or “votes” received in response to the question, “Where should the City focus its efforts to improve parks and recreation services?” The total number of votes for this question was 131. The top choice for this question was for the Master Plan to focus on “Providing places for indoor recreation and fitness activities” with 24 votes, followed by “Providing places for outdoor sports programs” and “Operating and maintaining parks and facilities,” each with 22 votes. Users also voted for efforts to preserve the environment and provide open space/green space (21 votes) and provide trails and linear parks (18 votes).

**Figure 19: Focus of Master Plan Efforts**

![Focus of Master Plan Efforts](image-url)
Getting to the Parks

The figure below shows the responses or “votes” received in response to the question, “How do you and your family get to the parks and recreation facilities from your home?” The total number of votes for this question was 97. The largest number of people reported that they drive to parks and recreation facilities (61 votes or 63% of respondents). These numbers also indicate that substantial numbers of people bicycle (25%) or walk (12%) to park facilities.

Figure 20: Mode of Transportation to Parks

How do you and your family get to the Parks and Recreation Facilities from your home?

- Drive (61) 63%
- Bicycle (24) 25%
- Walk (12) 12%
Recreation Center Activities

The figure below shows the responses or “votes” received in response to the question, “What is your favorite activity at the Recreation Center?” The total number of votes for this question was 133. Most people reported their favorite activity was “Working out” (46) or “Swimming” (39). These two activities contained 64% of the votes. The next most common activities were using the walking track (15) and the gym (12).

Figure 21: Favorite Recreation Center Activity

What is your favorite activity at the Recreation Center?

- Working out (46)
- Swimming (39)
- Walking track (15)
- Use the gym for basketball, volleyball, pickleball or other activities (12)
- Group exercise or spinning (8)
- Fitness classes (8)
- Silver Sneakers (3)
- Educational Classes (1)
- Day camps (1)
- Socializing with friends (0)
Peterson Pool Upgrades

The figure below shows the responses or “votes” received in response to the question, “Peterson Pool in Clague Park is old and needs to be upgraded. How would you like to see the pool improved or relocated?” The total number of votes for this question was 161. The top three responses were for a lazy river (32), water slides (30), and a shallow water area with play features (29). These three upgrades accounted for 57% of responses. Lap lanes (21) and a splash pad (18) were the upgrades respondents would next most like to see. This poll had several comments for “Other” upgrades, most of which focused on improvements to the pool house and bathrooms.

Figure 22: Peterson Pool Upgrades
What to do with the Community Services Center?

The figure below shows the responses or “votes” received in response to the question, “How should the City improve the Community Services Center?” The total number of votes for this question was 48. The top response was to renovate and expand the building with 18 votes, followed by developing a new building on the land adjacent to the library (15 votes) and relocating the facility adjacent to the Recreation Center. Rebuilding at the current site had the least support.

Figure 23: Community Services Center Improvements
Visioning Westlake Parks and Recreation

When asked to envision the future of parks in the City of Westlake, responses are listed below (Table 13). The number in the column on the right side indicates the number of “points” received for a particular item. Points are determined by website users rating each response: “I Love It!” (3 points), “I Like It” (2 points), and “It’s Okay” (1 point). Ninety-one (91) ideas were submitted, many of which were duplicates. The points for these ideas were combined in the following table.

Table 13: Visioning Ideas

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Idea</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Renovate/enhance Peterson Pool</td>
<td>109</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More bike lanes</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More soccer fields</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Splash pad at Recreation Center</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New outdoor pool with splash pad</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dedicated soccer/lacrosse park</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Better outdoor pool</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open a community garden</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ice Rink</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bike paths links to Metroparks</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Artificial turf at the high school stadium field</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Make Peterson Pool Residents only</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor pool at Recreation Center (included with membership)</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purchase remaining green space</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scenic bike trails &amp; walking trails</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor pool &amp; splash pad on the Rec Center grounds</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pedestrian Crossings at Recreation Center entrances</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expanded bike trails</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor ice rink</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safe bike trail to Crocker Park</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trees, shade structures at Recreation Center</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A full size quarter mile indoor track</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A multi-use park in the middle of the city (next to library)</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Add bathroom facilities at Clague Park</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improve the bike lanes on Hilliard</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More green space</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor swimming pool needs more for kids</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
By far the most preferred idea for envisioning the future of parks in Westlake was the renovation and enhancement of the Peterson Pool. Outdoor swimming facilities were common ideas with responses regarding these facilities combining for 238 points with 116 specific to facilities for children. Biking facilities were also reoccurring ideas with “more bike lanes” receiving the second most points for individual ideas and bike facility ideas adding to a total of 149 points. Trail facilities were also frequently requested with these ideas adding up to 59 points. The final idea with substantial support was the development of more soccer and lacrosse fields. “More soccer fields” received the third most votes with 52, and the formation of a dedicated facility for these fields receiving 39 votes for a total of 91 votes.
Making One Change

Website visitors were asked to comment or “vote” on “If you had a magic wand, what one change would you make to improve Westlake parks and recreation?” The responses are displayed in Table 14. The number in the column on the right side indicates the number of “points” received for a particular item. Fifty-three (53) ideas were submitted, some of which were duplicates. The points for these ideas were combined in the following table.

Table 14: Making One Change Ideas

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Idea</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Peterson Pool should be for residents only</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Update Peterson Pool</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improve softball and baseball facilities</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New outdoor pool</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Working bathrooms at all parks</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Artificial turf field at Westlake High School</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drain and update playground at Clague Park</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional lacrosse and soccer fields</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shade structures at Recreation Center</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Add hockey facility</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional hours for slide at Recreation Center pool</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bike trails connecting parks and Crocker</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improve existing facilities</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Add a dog park</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Add umbrellas at Peterson pool</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cross country ski trails</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geese problem at the Recreation Center</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keep the bathrooms open during tournaments and picnics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preserve more green space in the city</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skating facility</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor workout stations</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The “One Change” idea with the most support was to make the Peterson Pool for residents only with 33 votes. Updating the pool was the second most popular idea with 29 points, and outdoor pool related ideas totaled to 77 points. The second most popular idea was to improve the baseball/softball facilities with 21 points. Comments on this idea indicated drainage problems with the current diamonds.
The figure below shows the responses or “votes” received in response to the question, “Should Westlake close the Yellow Course at Meadowood and replace it with a driving range and learning center?” The total number of votes for this question was 157. Support for this change appeared strong as 83% of visitors voted “Yes” in this poll. This poll had several comments, many of which suggested using the course for other purposes such as fields and trails. It is unclear from this poll what level of support those alternatives may have received. Based on this poll, respondents would prefer a driving range to leaving the course in its current state.

**Figure 24: Meadowood Golf Complex Improvements**
Community Services Center Relocation

The figure below shows the responses or “votes” received in response to the question, “Should Westlake build an addition to the Recreation Center and relocate the Community Services Center to this location?” The total number of votes for this question was 143. Many visitors were opposed to this change with 62% of visitors voting “No” in this poll. This poll had a few comments that suggested other locations or concerns about the Recreation Center site.

Figure 25: Relocation of Community Services Center

Should Westlake build an addition to the Recreation Center and relocate the Community Services Center to this location?

- Yes (54)
- No (89)
Outdoor Aquatic Facility

The figure below shows the responses or “votes” received in response to the question, “If a new outdoor aquatic facility is developed to replace the Peterson Pool, where should it be located?” The total number of votes for this question was 154. The most popular choice for the location of the outdoor aquatic facility was to upgrade and keep the facility in its current location with 47% of visitors selecting this choice over the Center Ridge site adjacent to the library (29%) and Recreation Center Park (25%). Most of the comments to this poll requested that the new facility be limited to residents only.

Figure 26: New Outdoor Aquatic Facility Location
Recreation Center Expansion

The figure below shows the responses or “votes” received in response to the question, “Which of the following changes would you support for the Westlake Recreation Center?” The total number of votes for this question was 176 (127 unique users). Visitors could choose any or all options. The most popular change to the Recreation Center was the addition of an “auxiliary gym with multi-purpose rubber floor” with 51% of visitors selecting this choice. An “additional indoor pool” and “expand the fitness area” each received 51 votes or support of 40% respondents.

**Figure 27: Recreation Center Expansion**
The figure below shows the responses or “votes” received in response to the question, “Which facilities would you like to see the City of Westlake add to new or existing parks?” The total number of votes for this question was 254 (96 unique users). Visitors could choose up to three facilities. The most requested new facility was “bike lanes and trails” with 48% of respondents choosing this facility. “Indoor ice rink” was the second most requested facility (41%) of respondents, followed by “walking trails” (35%). “Artificial turf field” (31%), “outdoor basketball courts” (29%), and “soccer/lacrosse fields” (28%) also received considerable support.

Figure 28: New Park Facilities
V. NEEDS ANALYSIS

GENERAL

The Needs Analysis consists of the following elements:

1. The classification of the existing parks and recreation facilities into standard park classifications.
2. A discussion of the parks and recreation area needs by park types.
3. Facilities Needs Analysis and Level of Service Standards formulated using accepted standards, guidelines, and past experience of the Consultant, and approved by the Master Plan Advisory Committee.
4. A discussion of the geographic distribution of parks and recreation facilities.
5. The summary of the PRORAGIS benchmark survey of Ohio communities.
6. A discussion of recent trends in parks, recreation, and leisure service.

PARK AND RECREATION AREA NEEDS BY PARK TYPE

The beginning portion of Section III included the table which identified the various classifications of parks and recreation areas. These classifications are consistent with the National Recreation and Park Association Guidelines. A general set of goals for the various park types was established by the Consulting Team and the Master Plan Advisory Committee as the Level of Service Standards for Westlake. These goals are consistent with several recent plans completed by the Consultant and communities throughout the nation. Table 15, parks and recreation Land Level of Service Standards, provides a breakdown of the needs for the City of Westlake. This table includes many parks (Neighborhood Parks) that are part of school sites because they do serve some of the park needs for residents.

Table 15: Parks and Recreation Land Level of Service Standards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Park Type</th>
<th>Existing Developed Acres</th>
<th>Recommended Acres/1000 Population</th>
<th>2010 Recommended Acres</th>
<th>2010 Surplus/Deficit (-)</th>
<th>2019 Recommended Acres</th>
<th>2019 Surplus/Deficit (-)</th>
<th>2030 Recommended Acres</th>
<th>2030 Surplus/Deficit (-)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Neighborhood</td>
<td>56.2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>65.5</td>
<td>-9.3</td>
<td>66.2</td>
<td>-10.0</td>
<td>68.0</td>
<td>-11.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community</td>
<td>101.8</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>163.6</td>
<td>-61.8</td>
<td>165.4</td>
<td>-63.6</td>
<td>169.9</td>
<td>-68.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County</td>
<td>10.5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>183.6</td>
<td>-153.1</td>
<td>165.4</td>
<td>-154.9</td>
<td>169.9</td>
<td>-159.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>168.5</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>392.7</td>
<td>-224.2</td>
<td>397.0</td>
<td>-228.5</td>
<td>407.8</td>
<td>-239.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Neighborhood Parks include 22.2 acres at school sites.

Population projections provided by ESRI Business Analyst for 2019 and Cuyahoga County for 2030.

2010 = 32,729
2019 = 33,084
2030 = 33,984

This table identifies the current park and recreation space needs of the City of Westlake and estimates the future needs through 2030 based on projected population growth. The table identifies the developed parkland that is owned by the City of Westlake, Cleveland Metroparks, or Westlake City School District. The figure identifies a current shortage of 224.2 acres of developed parkland in 2010 which will grow to a 239.3 acre deficit by 2030. The largest deficit is in the category of County Parks with a shortage of 153.1 acres. The City also has a 61.8 acre shortage of Community Parks and a 9.3 acre shortage of Neighborhood Parks. The recommended acres per thousand population of was discussed by the Master Plan Advisory Committee and is consistent with previous studies for the City of Westlake and many communities throughout Ohio.

Table 16 identifies the parkland and population distribution by for the eastern and western regions of the City of Westlake. For the purpose of this analysis, the City was divided at Dover Center Road. The figures in this table indicate that the current population per developed park acre is similar on
both sides of the City with 202 residents per acre in the East and 189 in the West. Therefore, on a per developed acre basis, the western portion is slightly better served.

**Table 16: Existing Developed Parkland and Population Distribution by City Region**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City Region</th>
<th>2010 Population</th>
<th>2010 % of Population</th>
<th>Total Planning Area Acres</th>
<th>Density (Population / Acre)</th>
<th>2014 Developed Park Acres</th>
<th>Total Population per Developed Park Acre</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>East</td>
<td>13,045</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>3,973</td>
<td>3.28</td>
<td>64.6</td>
<td>202</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West</td>
<td>19,684</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>6,186</td>
<td>3.18</td>
<td>103.9</td>
<td>189</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>32,729</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>10,159</td>
<td>3.22</td>
<td>168.5</td>
<td>194</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Tables 17 and 18 identify the parks and recreation needs by park type for the region East of Dover Center Road (Table 17) and West of Dover Center Road (Table 18). Table 17 identifies the eastern region of the City which has 64.6 developed park acres and indicates a current shortage of 91.9 acres which decreases to 90.4 acres by the year 2019 due to a projected slight decline of total population. The western region of the City (Table 18) currently has a shortage of 132.3 acres which is projected to grow to 138.2 acres deficit by the 2019 based on slight increase of population.

**Table 17: Parks and Recreation Needs by Park Type - East of Dover Center Road**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Park Type</th>
<th>Existing Developed Acres</th>
<th>Recommended Acres/1000 Population</th>
<th>2010 Recommended Acres</th>
<th>2010 Surplus (+) Deficit (-)</th>
<th>2019 Recommended Acres</th>
<th>2019 Surplus (+) Deficit (-)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Neighborhood</td>
<td>14.4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>26.1</td>
<td>-11.7</td>
<td>25.8</td>
<td>-11.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community</td>
<td>50.2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>65.2</td>
<td>-15.0</td>
<td>64.6</td>
<td>-14.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>65.2</td>
<td>-65.2</td>
<td>64.6</td>
<td>-64.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>64.6</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>156.5</td>
<td>-91.9</td>
<td>155.0</td>
<td>-90.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Neighborhood Parks include 12.5 acres at school sites.

Population projections provided by ESRI Business Analyst.
2010 = 13,045
2019 = 12,913

**Table 18: Parks and Recreation Needs by Park Type - West of Dover Center Road**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Park Type</th>
<th>Existing Developed Acres</th>
<th>Recommended Acres/1000 Population</th>
<th>2010 Recommended Acres</th>
<th>2010 Surplus (+) Deficit (-)</th>
<th>2019 Recommended Acres</th>
<th>2019 Surplus (+) Deficit (-)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Neighborhood</td>
<td>41.8</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>39.4</td>
<td>2.4</td>
<td>40.3</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community</td>
<td>51.6</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>98.4</td>
<td>-46.8</td>
<td>100.9</td>
<td>-49.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County</td>
<td>10.5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>98.4</td>
<td>-87.9</td>
<td>100.9</td>
<td>-90.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>103.9</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>236.2</td>
<td>-132.3</td>
<td>242.1</td>
<td>-138.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Neighborhood Parks include 15.5 acres at school sites.

Population projections provided by ESRI Business Analyst.
2010 = 19,684
2019 = 20,171

Based on these figures, both the East and the West of the City of Westlake have surplus acres of Community Parks and deficits of Neighborhood Parks. Most of the Neighborhood Parks in the East side of the City are located at schools, however (12.5 of 14.4 acres). As a result, park options in the East may be more limited during school hours.
Similar to the recommendations for parkland described previously, Table 19 details the facilities by type with the available supply compared to the needed supply to meet the goals established in this Master Plan. These goals were developed using a combination of existing standards and guidelines, desires of the Advisory Committee, public input, and the past experience of the Consultant. This table includes many facilities that are located on school sites because they serve some of the needs for residents.

Table 19: Facility Level of Service Goals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FACILITY</th>
<th>POPULATION GOAL [1 PER]</th>
<th>2014 EXISTING SUPPLY</th>
<th>2010 REQUIRED</th>
<th>2010 SURPLUS (+) DEFICIT (-)</th>
<th>2019 REQUIRED</th>
<th>2019 SURPLUS (+) DEFICIT (-)</th>
<th>2030 REQUIRED</th>
<th>2030 SURPLUS (+) DEFICIT (-)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor Areas</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Picnic Shelter</td>
<td>3,000</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10.9</td>
<td>-1.9</td>
<td>11.0</td>
<td>-2.0</td>
<td>11.3</td>
<td>-2.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Playground</td>
<td>3,000</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10.9</td>
<td>-1.9</td>
<td>11.0</td>
<td>-2.0</td>
<td>11.3</td>
<td>-2.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. Unpaved Trails [miles]</td>
<td>5,000</td>
<td>4.23</td>
<td>6.5</td>
<td>-2.3</td>
<td>6.6</td>
<td>-2.4</td>
<td>6.8</td>
<td>-2.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. Swimming Pool</td>
<td>25,000</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>-0.3</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>-0.3</td>
<td>1.4</td>
<td>-0.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F. Outdoor Theater</td>
<td>34,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>-1.0</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>-1.0</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>-1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor Fields &amp; Court Areas</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Small Diamonds (50-65' bases)</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>21.8</td>
<td>-2.8</td>
<td>22.1</td>
<td>-3.1</td>
<td>22.7</td>
<td>-3.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Large Diamond (90' Bases)</td>
<td>15,000</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>-1.2</td>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>-1.2</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>-1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Soccer / Football / Lacrosse</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>25.2</td>
<td>-9.2</td>
<td>24.4</td>
<td>-9.4</td>
<td>24.1</td>
<td>-10.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. Basketball Courts</td>
<td>3,000</td>
<td>8.5</td>
<td>10.9</td>
<td>-2.4</td>
<td>11.0</td>
<td>-2.5</td>
<td>11.3</td>
<td>-2.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. Tennis Courts</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>21.8</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>22.1</td>
<td>-0.1</td>
<td>22.7</td>
<td>-0.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F. Volleyball Courts</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>-1.3</td>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>-1.3</td>
<td>3.4</td>
<td>-1.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indoor Areas/ Specialized Facilities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Indoor Pool</td>
<td>50,000</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>0.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Game Court</td>
<td>11,000</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>-1.0</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>-1.0</td>
<td>3.1</td>
<td>-1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Recreation/Community Center</td>
<td>16,000</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>-0.1</td>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>-0.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Population projections provided by the ESRI Business Analyst for 2019 and Cuyahoga County for 2030.
2010 = 32,729
2019 = 33,084
2030 = 33,984

2. All city or county owned/leased facilities and facilities at schools that are accessible to the public are included.
3. Due to rounding, all figures do not add exactly.

The largest deficit for Westlake recreation facilities was found for rectangular fields (soccer/football/lacrosse) with a deficit of 9.2 based on the 2010 population that will grow to 10.1 based on the projected 2030 population of the City. A substantial deficit was also apparent for small diamond fields at 6.2 in 2010 (increasing to 7.1 in 2030). Basketball courts had the next highest deficit at 2.4 in 2010, followed by playgrounds and picnic shelters (1.9 each). The City of Westlake has a deficit for large diamond fields, trails (paved and unpaved), indoor game courts, and an outdoor theater. The City also has a substantial deficit of paved trails, needing an additional 7.0 miles to meet the 2010 demands.

Geographic Distribution of Parks and Facilities

Figure 29, Park Service Areas, indicates an inventory of the existing parks and schools with service areas for each of the various types of parks. The map also includes dots showing which parts of Westlake have higher and lower densities. The green areas represent a half mile range of a Neighborhood Park, Community Park, or Cleveland Metropark. The yellow indicates areas within one mile of a Community Park. The blue areas show portions of the City within a half mile of a school neighborhood park. These schools have parks with facilities similar to what is found in a typical neighborhood park.
Based on this figure, the following areas are not very well served by parks.

a. The northwestern portion of the City of Westlake (south of I-90).

b. The north-central portion of the City.

c. Southeastern portions of the City are not well served or served only by school parks.

The density dots indicate the presence of residents in these areas that are currently not well served by parks.

**GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF FACILITIES**

Another portion of the analysis is a review of the geographic distribution of specific types of facilities that are provided to residents. These are indicated on Figures 30-35. These maps indicate the parks and schools with the various facilities and displays the areas of the City of Westlake within a half mile of these facilities. Facilities at parks are signified by the green areas, and facilities at schools are signified by the blue areas. Density dots are included in each figure to show the location of residents. The service area for each type of facility are discussed below.

**Parks with Shelters/Pavilions**

Figure 30 identifies which portions of the City of Westlake are within a half mile of picnic shelters. Five different parks have picnic shelters with locations spread throughout the City. The central and southwest portions of the City are well served by Westlake Recreation Park and Bradley Nature Park. The eastern portion of Westlake is well served by Clague and Tri-City Parks. The northwestern, southeastern, and north-central portions off the City are not very well-served by shelters. Bradley Woods Reservation has a large picnic pavilion that serves the southwestern portion of the City. The shelter, like the others in Westlake is not currently reservable, but may be in the future.\(^9\)

**Parks and Schools with Playgrounds**

Figure 31 identifies the half mile service area of playgrounds throughout Westlake which are fairly well distributed. The areas in the center and easternmost portions of the City are well-served by playground facilities. Areas with no public playgrounds nearby are the northwestern and north-central portions of the City. The northwestern portion of the City has a private playground that serves some residents. The south-central portion of the City is not well-served or only served by school facilities that may not be open to the public during the day. The blue dots on this figure represent children and demonstrate their presence in the identified less served areas.

**Parks with Baseball/Softball Diamonds**

Figure 32 identifies the half mile service area of parks or schools with baseball and/or softball diamonds throughout the City of Westlake. This map indicates that most of these diamonds are located in the central portion and the eastern end of the City. These areas are well-served by this type of facility. The southwestern and northwestern portions of the City are the most notable areas without any baseball/softball diamonds nearby.

**Parks and Schools with Rectangular Fields**

Figure 33 displays the half mile service areas for rectangular fields in the City of Westlake. Rectangular fields are located at three (3) parks and four (4) schools throughout the City. These field locations are concentrated in the middle of the City with three (3) fields at Recreation Park, two (2) at the Dover/Burneson complex, and two (2) at Porter Fields. The eastern portion of the City has three (3) public fields with one field at each of Parkside Intermediate School, Hilliard Elementary School, and Tri-City Park. Additionally, Holly Lane Elementary has a field in the southeastern part of the City. Private facilities also help meet the need for rectangular fields. Five (5) small fields are located at St.

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\(^9\) Cleveland Metroparks 2020 Plan recommends considering renting the facility.
John Medical Center in the western side of Westlake, and one is located at St. Bernadette Church and School on the eastern side of the City. The map shows a few areas that are outside of the half mile service area as no fields are located in the northwestern, southwestern, or north-central regions of the City.

**Parks and Schools with Tennis Courts**

Figure 34 shows the areas of the City of Westlake within a half mile of a tennis court. Only three parks in the City have tennis courts: Recreation Center Park, Clague Park, and Tri-City Park. As a result, residents of most of the City have no tennis courts nearby. The notable locations lacking tennis courts are the northwest, the southwest, and the southeastern areas. The north-central part of the City has some service for this type of facility, but the courts at Westlake High School are not available when in use by the school or during school hours.

**Parks and Schools with Outdoor Basketball Courts**

Figure 35 identifies the service areas of outdoor basketball courts at parks and schools in the City. Outdoor basketball courts are located at only five sites throughout Westlake, so much of the City does not have outdoor basketball courts nearby. Additionally, all but one of the facilities are located at schools and are not available for public use during school hours. One private court is located at St. Bernadette Church and School. Only a small portion of residents of the City of Westlake (the southeastern corner) have an outdoor basketball court located at a public park within a half mile of their home.
Figure 29: Park Service Areas
Figure 30: Parks with Picnic Shelters
Figure 31: Parks and Schools with Playgrounds
Figure 32: Parks and Schools with Baseball/Softball Diamonds
Figure 33: Parks and Schools with Rectangular Fields
Figure 35: Parks and Schools with Outdoor Basketball Courts
One method of evaluating the park and recreation services offered in the community is to use benchmarking comparisons to other communities. For the comparisons for the City of Westlake, averages and medians from jurisdictions participating in the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) Parks and Recreation Operating Ratio and GIS (PRORAGIS) Program were used. Communities for comparison were limited to 23 comparable municipalities located in Ohio that participated in the PRORAGIS program (county, regional, and large cities were not included).

The City of Westlake is not a participant in the PRORAGIS program, so figures for these comparisons were derived from a variety of sources including budgets, annual reports, and department records. Only parks and facilities managed by the City of Westlake are included in this analysis (school facilities and Cleveland Metroparks are not included). The figures used in this analysis for the City of Westlake are for the year ending on December 31, 2013, and the figures for the comparison Ohio municipalities for the latest available year between 2010 and 2014. The following table (Table 9) provides a list of the jurisdictions included in this benchmark comparison.

Table 20: Benchmark Jurisdictions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Jurisdiction</th>
<th>Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>City of Avon Parks &amp; Recreation Dept.</td>
<td>22,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beachwood Recreation Department</td>
<td>12,186</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beavercreek</td>
<td>45,193</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boardman Township Park</td>
<td>35,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bowling Green (City of) Parks and Recreation</td>
<td>30,028</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canton Joint Recreation District</td>
<td>75,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dayton Recreation and Youth Services</td>
<td>166,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dublin Parks &amp; Recreation Department</td>
<td>42,346</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fairborn Parks &amp; Recreation</td>
<td>32,260</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fairfield Parks and Recreation</td>
<td>42,510</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gahanna, Department of Parks &amp; Recreation</td>
<td>34,355</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green (City of) Division of Parks and Recreation</td>
<td>26,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kettering Parks Rec &amp; Cultural Arts</td>
<td>56,163</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lincoln Park Family Aquatic Center</td>
<td>36,689</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miamisburg Parks and Recreation</td>
<td>20,181</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Moraine Parks and Recreation</td>
<td>6,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Piqua (City of) Parks Division</td>
<td>20,619</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Solon (City of) Recreation Department</td>
<td>23,348</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trotwood Parks and Recreation Department</td>
<td>24,431</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vandalia Parks &amp; Recreation Department</td>
<td>15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Carrollton</td>
<td>14,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Westerville Parks and Recreation</td>
<td>36,665</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Willoughby Parks and Recreation</td>
<td>22,500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Benchmarking Comparisons table follows this text (Table 21) and provides tabular data for all of the information discussed in this text. The analysis of comparisons are organized into the following categories.

1. Parkland Information
2. Department Functions
3. Staffing
4. Operating and Capital Budget
5. Facilities
The following text details the findings of these analyses. Note that the figures used in these comparisons are those which were reported to PRORAGIS by the municipality and may vary from the actual budgets.

**Parkland Information**

The analysis indicates that the City of Westlake provides 6.4 acres of parkland per thousand population. This number is lower than the median of Ohio municipalities of 10.2 acres median and the lower quartile of 7.6 acres. Parks in the City of Westlake are larger than other Ohio municipalities. Westlake’s has 35.0 acres per park, higher than the median of 22.6 acres and the upper quartile of 31.5 acres for comparable Ohio municipalities. Taken together, these figures suggest that the City of Westlake has fewer, but larger, parks than the other Ohio municipalities.

The comparison of percentage of parkland that is developed for parks and recreation purposes indicates that 62.0% of Westlake’s parkland is developed compared to the median of 68.5% for the other Ohio municipalities. The 62% of developed parkland is also lower than the lower quartile of 64.5%, but the variation from these comparison values is minimal. Westlake has a slightly lower percentage of parkland that is developed and a slightly higher percentage that is in its natural state than the other Ohio municipalities.

The comparison of total miles of greenways and trails managed by the agency identifies the City of Westlake with 3.4 miles of trails separated from roads (4.0 including unpaved trails) compared to the average of the other Ohio municipalities at 11.1 miles. Westlake has substantially fewer miles of trails than the comparison municipalities. If all trails, including those not managed by the City of Westlake are included, the total comes to 6.1 (informal dirt trails are not included in this total), still well below the average of the other municipalities. Total trail miles per jurisdiction square mile is a measurement that controls for differences in the size of comparative municipalities. Westlake has 0.25 miles of trails per square mile of the City, compared to the Ohio municipality average of 0.54 miles of trails per square mile of jurisdiction.

**Department Functions**

A comparison of the services that are offered by the various park and recreation departments in the benchmarking comparison identifies that the City of Westlake Recreation Department and the Parks Division (of the Services Department) manage most of the services that are most commonly offered by other agencies. The services managed by the Recreation Department include: providing recreation and programming services; operating parks and facilities; managing a major aquatic complex; conducting major jurisdiction wide special events; and actively managing open space.

The only services offered by 50% or more of the comparison municipalities in Ohio that are not managed by the Recreation Department are maintenance of public areas which is handled by another City of Westlake department, management of historic properties, and the management of a tournament/event quality outdoor sports complex which the city does not currently operate.

The City of Westlake indicated total number of participants attending programs, classes, and small events of 10,256 people which is slightly below the median of 13,500 for the comparison municipalities in Ohio. Figures may be skewed in this analysis because the figure for the City of Westlake does not include the events offered at the Community Services Center, many of which are recreation based programs.

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10 Golf courses and special use parks are not included in these figures.
11 The number of responding municipalities vary by question. The number of responses for question is included in the table at the end of this section.
12 Managed by the Parks Division
13 2012 numbers
Staffing

The Westlake Recreation Department and Parks Division employ 19 full-time employees (of which eight are related to park maintenance) and a total of 266 part-time and seasonal employees. Considering acres of parkland per full-time equivalent (FTE), the City of Westlake employs one employee per 4.8 acres compared to the median of one employee per 14.5 acres and a lower quartile of 8.0 acres per employee. The City of Westlake has a higher ratio of employees to parkland than most of the comparison communities, indicating that City of Westlake staff are responsible for less acreage than staff of other communities.

Limiting the analysis to maintenance staff only, Westlake employs one maintenance FTE per 18.4 acres, while the median of the other Ohio communities is one FTE per 32.0 acres. The City of Westlake acres of parkland per maintenance FTE is just below the lower quartile value of 22.9, indicating that each maintenance employee is responsible for fewer acres than the comparative municipalities in Ohio.

The analysis of the population served per FTE indicates Westlake at 537, which is lower than the median (1,634) as well as the lower quartile value of 898.

Operating Budget

The total Department Operating Budget (including all park and recreation administration, programs, maintenance, and services) for the 2013 fiscal year for the City of Westlake (from the City Budget) was $3,663,348 which is substantially higher than the $1.9 million median of the other Ohio municipalities. The per capita operating expenditures for the City of Westlake are $111.93 compared to the comparison median of $75.56. These numbers indicate that the expenditures by the City of Westlake are considerably higher both in terms of total budget and on a per capita basis than the other Ohio municipalities. Expenditures for the City of Westlake are lower on both of these measures than the upper quartile numbers of $4.3 million (total budget) and $177 (per capita).

A look at the revenue for the Recreation Department indicates that these additional expenditures are not coming from the City’s Operating Budget. The total non-tax revenue for the Westlake Recreation Department was $3,065,090 which was much higher than the comparison municipalities’ median of under $1 million and higher than the upper quartile number of just over $2 million. The revenue per capita for Westlake was also much higher than the comparison communities at more than twice the median. These figures suggest that the City of Westlake is able to provide more services for residents without significant funding from the City’s Operating Budget through the use of fees for services.

The breakdown of sources of funding for these expenditures confirms that City of Westlake parks and recreation services are funded primarily by fees and charges. Westlake receives far more of its funding from fees than the comparison Ohio municipalities at 73.5% compared to only 30.5%. Only 23.4% of funding sources in Westlake came from the general fund, compared to 69.2% for the comparison municipalities.

The total operating expenditure per acre of land managed or maintained is $12,439 for the City of Westlake. This figure is much higher than the median of $6,772 but lower than the upper quartile value of $14,237. These numbers suggest that the City of Westlake operates more expensive facilities on a per acre basis.

14 The total number of FTEs for the Recreation Department and Parks Division is 61, 16 of which are maintenance staff.
15 Includes expenditures for the Parks Division (not including the Urban Forestry subdivision)
16 Total expenditures for Recreation Department $3,311,425.74 (page 54 of 2014 City Budget) + Park Maintenance of Parks Division $351,922.45 (page 55 of 2014 City Budget)
The Recreation Department and Parks Division Capital Budget was $277,820 for 2013 which is higher than both the median ($103,000) and the upper quartile ($267,375) of the comparison Ohio municipalities. The capital cost per capita is similarly higher than the median for the other communities at $8.49 compared to $4.49 but below the upper quartile of $11.40. These numbers suggest that Westlake spends more than the comparison municipalities on improvements to their park facilities. The 2014 Capital Budget for the Recreation Department and Parks Division (of the Services Department) is much higher at $2,310,000 further supporting this implication.

The new capital need for parks and recreation facilities in Westlake was derived from the City’s 5-Year Capital Plan. The City of Westlake’s identified capital need of $7,540,455 is much higher than the median for comparison communities of $1 million as well as the upper quartile value of $3.2 million. The renovation need for Westlake’s parks and recreation facilities is similarly much higher than the comparison municipalities as the $1,224,500 is more than double the median value of $500,000. These numbers could indicate that the facilities in the City of Westlake are in greater need of repair than the comparison communities or that the City has made a greater effort to identify these needs.

A comparison between the City of Westlake and comparative communities in Ohio for population per facility provides a way to evaluate the existing quantity of each type of facility. This comparison with other municipalities will help to identify which facilities the City might want to add in the future. This analysis looks at five types of facilities: playgrounds, tennis courts, basketball courts, diamond fields (small and large), and rectangular fields.

The City of Westlake has five playgrounds at five parks throughout the City. The resulting population per playground is 6,546 which is higher than the comparison communities. The median for these other Ohio communities is 3,120 residents per playground, and the upper quartile is 5,350.

In contrast, Westlake has a large number of tennis courts compared to the other Ohio communities. The 17 tennis courts in Westlake parks yields a value of 1,925 residents per court. This number is substantially lower than the median of 3,469 as well as the lower quartile of 2,759. The City offers more tennis courts compared to its population than most of the other Ohio municipalities.

The City of Westlake has a very high population per basketball court as the City has only one in Tri-City Park. This one facility produces a population per court of 32,729 which is much higher than the comparison communities’ median of 7,500 and is nearly four times the upper quartile value of 8,628. The one basketball court is also located on the furthest east side of the City (actually in Rocky River).

Westlake has a substantial supply of diamond fields (16) at 2,046 residents per field. This number is much lower than the median for the other Ohio communities of 6,023 and is even lower than the lower quartile value of 2,368. These numbers suggest that Westlake has a better supply of these fields than most of the comparison communities; however, the City does have a deficiency of larger (90-foot base path) fields with only one of this size. The median for other Ohio communities is 10,105 population per field and the upper quartile is 20,525.

The last facility type for comparison is rectangular fields of which the City of Westlake has seven. The median of the other Ohio communities is 4,251 residents per field which is slightly lower than the 4,676 residents per fields for Westlake. The City’s supply of this type of field is in line with what other municipalities are offering.
Table 21: PRORAGIS Benchmarking Comparisons

Comparison of the City of Westlake, Ohio to communities which have participated in the NRPA PRORAGIS Program.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PARKLAND INFORMATION</th>
<th></th>
<th>2010-2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Westlake, Ohio</td>
<td>Ohio Municipalities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Acreage of Parkland per 1,000 Population</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Responses</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower Quartile</td>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median</td>
<td>7.6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper Quartile</td>
<td>6.4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>20.4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Acres per Park</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Responses</td>
<td>17</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower Quartile</td>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median</td>
<td>10.2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper Quartile</td>
<td>6.4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>20.4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Acres of Parkland Managed or Maintained per Jurisdiction Sq. Mi.</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Responses</td>
<td>16</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower Quartile</td>
<td>11</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median</td>
<td>13.2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper Quartile</td>
<td>24.5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>41.4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>What percent of your acreage is developed for parks and recreation purposes?</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Responses</td>
<td>16</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower Quartile</td>
<td>64.5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median</td>
<td>68.5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper Quartile</td>
<td>62.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>93.5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>What is the total mileage of greenways and trails managed by your agency?</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Responses</td>
<td>13</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. Multi-purpose - No Equestrian</td>
<td>3.4</td>
<td>8.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Multi-purpose - Equestrian permitted</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Hiking/walking only</td>
<td>0.58</td>
<td>1.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Bicycling only</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Equestrian only</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f. Other</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>3.98</td>
<td>11.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total trail miles per jurisdiction square mile</td>
<td>0.25</td>
<td>0.54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DEPARTMENT FUNCTIONS</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Does your department...</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Responses</td>
<td>22</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. Provide recreation programming and services</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>95.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Operate parks and facilities</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>90.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Maintain street trees and medians</td>
<td>40.9%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Actively manage open space</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>68.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Maintain public school grounds and recreational facilities</td>
<td>22.7%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f. Maintain jurisdiction public areas</td>
<td>63.6%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g. Manage major aquatic complex</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>63.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>h. Manage or maintain public cemeteries</td>
<td>27.3%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i. Manage or maintain fairgrounds</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>j. Maintain, manage or lease indoor performing arts center</td>
<td>9.1%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>k. Manage historic properties</td>
<td>50.0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>l. Administer or manage farmer’s markets</td>
<td>18.2%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>m. Administer community gardens</td>
<td>36.4%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>n. Manage large performance outdoor amphitheaters</td>
<td>27.3%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o. Administer or manage Professional or college-type stadium/arena/racetrack</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>p. Administer or manage Tournament/Event quality Indoor Sports Complexes</td>
<td>13.6%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>q. Administer or manage Tournament/Event quality Outdoor Sports Complexes</td>
<td>50.0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>r. Conduct major Jurisdiction wide special events</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>81.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>s. Do you have snow plowing responsibility other than in the parks?</td>
<td>27.3%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>t. Provide environmental education or natural history interpretive programs</td>
<td>18.2%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Comparison of the City of Westlake, Ohio to communities which have participated in the NRPA PRORAGIS Program.

### What is your total annual number of participants attending programs, classes and small events?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Westlake, Ohio</th>
<th>2010-2014 Ohio Municipalities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of Responses</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower Quartile</td>
<td>4,000</td>
<td>13,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median</td>
<td>10,256</td>
<td>62,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper Quartile</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### STAFFING

#### Number of Full-time Employees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Number of Responses</th>
<th>2010-2014 Full-Time Employees</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. Department’s top executives and related staff</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Administrative (Human Resources, Finance, Accounting, etc.)</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Operations (staffing and operating facilities)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Programs (programming classes and all events)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Maintenance (maintaining buildings grounds structures and fleet)</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>6.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f. Planning and Development</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g. Other</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>14.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Population Served per Full-Time Equivalent (FTE)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Number of Responses</th>
<th>Lower Quartile</th>
<th>Median</th>
<th>Upper Quartile</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Population Served</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>898</td>
<td>537</td>
<td>2,223</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Acres of Parkland per FTE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Number of Responses</th>
<th>Lower Quartile</th>
<th>Median</th>
<th>Upper Quartile</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Acres of Parkland</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>8.0</td>
<td>14.5</td>
<td>24.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Acres of Parkland per Maintenance FTE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Number of Responses</th>
<th>Lower Quartile</th>
<th>Median</th>
<th>Upper Quartile</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Acres of Parkland</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>22.9</td>
<td>32.0</td>
<td>55.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### OPERATING BUDGET

#### What are your department's TOTAL operating expenditures for your fiscal year?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Number of Responses</th>
<th>Lower Quartile</th>
<th>Median</th>
<th>Upper Quartile</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Operating Expenditure</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>$999,461</td>
<td>$1,909,599</td>
<td>$4,317,446</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### What are your department's TOTAL non-tax revenue for your fiscal year?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Number of Responses</th>
<th>Lower Quartile</th>
<th>Median</th>
<th>Upper Quartile</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Non-Tax Revenue</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>$719,755</td>
<td>$753,559</td>
<td>$2,271,775</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### What percentage of your total operating expenditures are in the following categories?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Number of Responses</th>
<th>2010-2014 Percentage</th>
<th>2010-2014 Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. Personnel Services (expenditures for all salaries, wages and benefits)</td>
<td>63.3%</td>
<td>59.0%</td>
<td>36.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Operations (expenditures for all functions of the Department)</td>
<td>30.2%</td>
<td>36.4%</td>
<td>5.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Capital (expenditures for capital equipment, projects, and debt service, Paid from operating funds.)</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Other</td>
<td>5.0%</td>
<td>5.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Comparison of the City of Westlake, Ohio to communities which have participated in the NRPA PROMAGIS Program.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What percentage of your total operating expenditures came from the following sources?</th>
<th>Westlake, Ohio</th>
<th>2010-2014 Ohio Municipalities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of Responses</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. Jurisdiction general fund</td>
<td>23.4%</td>
<td>69.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Agency fees and charges</td>
<td>73.5%</td>
<td>30.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Tax levy (specific parks and recreation)</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>6.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. School District Taxes</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Foundation Grants</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f. Sponsorships, please describe:</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g. Endowment, please describe:</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>h. Special use taxes, please describe:</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i. State Grants</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>j. Federal Grants</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>k. Other</td>
<td>3.1%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Operating Expenditures per Capita</th>
<th>Lower Quartile</th>
<th>Median</th>
<th>Upper Quartile</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of Responses</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>$39.82</td>
<td>$75.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating Expenditures per Acre of Land Managed</td>
<td>Lower Quartile</td>
<td>$3.775</td>
<td>Median</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revenue per Capita</td>
<td>Lower Quartile</td>
<td>$28.08</td>
<td>Median</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital Budget</td>
<td>Lower Quartile</td>
<td>$51,500</td>
<td>Median</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Capital Costs per Capita</td>
<td>Lower Quartile</td>
<td>$3.51</td>
<td>Median</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What is your department’s amount of new capital need?</td>
<td>Lower Quartile</td>
<td>$186,875</td>
<td>Median</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What is your department’s amount of renovation need?</td>
<td>Lower Quartile</td>
<td>$200,000</td>
<td>Median</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Comparison of the City of Westlake, Ohio to communities which have participated in the NRPA PRORAGIS Program.

### POPULATION PER FACILITY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Facility Type</th>
<th>Number of Responses</th>
<th>Lower Quartile</th>
<th>Median</th>
<th>Upper Quartile</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Playgrounds</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>15</td>
<td>2,294</td>
<td>3,120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tennis Courts (Outdoor)</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>12</td>
<td>2,759</td>
<td>3,469</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Basketball Courts (Outdoor)</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>15</td>
<td>5,172</td>
<td>7,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Diamond Fields (50-65 ft base paths)</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>10</td>
<td>2,046</td>
<td>6,023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Diamond Fields (90 ft base paths)</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>10</td>
<td>32,729</td>
<td>10,105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Rectangular fields (Soccer, Lacrosse, Field Hockey)</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>11</td>
<td>4,676</td>
<td>11,093</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### NOTES

1. Figures obtained through the City of Westlake Recreation Department and City of Westlake Annual Budget. Budget numbers include the Recreation Department and the Parks Division of the Services Department.
2. Based on averages of 23 communities the were located in Ohio and participated in the NRPA PRORAGIS Program. Median values were used unless otherwise noted.
3. Average values used.
4. Numbers include all uncompleted projects from 5-year Capital Plan from 2012-2016.
5. The Recreation Department and Parks Division have 19 year-round full-time employees plus approximately 266 part-time and seasonal employees. These 266 employees were converted to FTEs for the determination of these figures.
Future Trends Analysis

The Aging Population

Throughout the country, the average age of the population is increasing. The number of persons in the age group 65 and over is growing rapidly. Census data indicates that the percentage of the City of Westlake population age 65 and older was 15.6% in 1990, 18.2% in 2000, and 19.0% in 2010. It is expected to increase to 23.9% by 2019. As indicated earlier in the Planning Context Section, the median age will rise to 47.7 by 2019, up substantially from 37.4 in 1990. The relative health of these individuals is better than ever before, and the activities they desire are more active than in the past. The old senior citizens centers where seniors play cards and do more sedentary activities are being replaced and incorporated into larger, more active, community and recreation centers where individuals participate in fitness programs, walking, cardiovascular exercises, aerobics, and many other more active pursuits.

This trend encourages parks and recreation agencies to invest more in activities, programs, and facilities for the older population. This graying of America also generates demand for more paved walking trails, fishing areas, gardens, cultural and nature education, as well as other activities that are in demand for multiple age groups.

This data points clearly to the growing need to provide quality facilities and programs for this growing population in the City of Westlake. The Community Attitude and Interest Survey, as well as all forms of the public engagement process, indicated support from the community for improving the Community Services Center. This facility will likely be inadequate to meet the needs of this population which is growing at an increasing rate despite already representing a higher proportion of the population in Westlake than in Cuyahoga County, Ohio, and the United States.

Indoor Recreation

The typical recreation center that included gymnasium space, locker rooms, and a few other attractions has been replaced by much larger, multi-generational facilities.

The newer facilities have a much stronger emphasis on fitness with aerobics rooms, free weights, exercise machines, cardiovascular areas, walking tracks, indoor swimming pools for both family oriented and lap swimming, lounges, concessions, and climbing walls, along with the traditional basketball and volleyball gymnasiums. These facilities may also include multipurpose rooms, which are used for a wide variety of indoor programming, such as arts and crafts, dance classes, and other community education programs.

The Westlake Recreation Center provides most of these opportunities. Public input from the Community Attitude and Interest Survey, the public workshops (dollar voting), and the Live Well, Play Hard! Westlake website indicated a strong level of support for development of additional facilities at the Recreation Center. Sixty-six percent (66%) of respondents to the Community Attitude and Interest Survey were “Very Supportive” or “Somewhat Supportive” of expansion of the Recreation Center, while an incredible 96% of web survey respondents support this expansion.
Universal Access

Many park systems are developing unique facilities, (especially playgrounds) that are designed to go well beyond the minimum requirement for the Americans with Disabilities Act. By creating an environment that is totally accessible to persons of all ages and abilities, park system administrators are setting the best example for other organizations to follow. In the case of playgrounds, accessibility results in facilities with several ground level activities, multiple ramps providing access to the decks, and the use of poured-in-place rubber surfacing. The City of Westlake does not currently have any fully accessible playgrounds although the playground at Recreation Center Park is partially accessible.

While it may not be cost effective to develop this level of universal access at every playground facility, forward thinking recreation departments may desire some destination facilities with this level of access. Textured edging on trails helps to make the facilities more accessible to the visually impaired. Fragrant plants, sensory gardens, and interactive displays that allow a hands-on approach to education have also been developed to promote a better experience for special populations.

Universal access applies to much more than playgrounds; it also applies to aquatic facilities (both Peterson Pool and the indoor pool at the Recreation Center have zero depth entry), interpretive facilities, trails, access into buildings, and access to all programs and facilities offered by the community. The strategies in this Plan clearly identify recommendations to develop more barrier-free parks.

Trails and Interconnectivity

The demand for increased availability of trails and trail linkages between parks and open spaces (and other popular destinations) has been growing for a long time. A high level of demand for these facilities is identified in nearly every community where surveys have been conducted. Even communities with extensive trail systems still have a strong desire to continually connect and link the trails to neighborhoods, schools, shopping areas, and other community facilities. These communities are very livable communities residents report a high quality of life. The need for trails for both recreational use and transportation was conveyed very clearly and strongly in all forms of the public input process.

Trails development received very high support in all forms of public input. Trails received the highest allotment in the dollar voting exercise. Trails represented three of the top five potential improvements to parks in the Community Attitude and Interest Survey, and the survey indicated 82% of respondents indicated they were very or somewhat supportive of trails development. Paved tails ranked highest among facilities for which households have a need at 73%.

Revenue Generation

With the advent of tightened budgets throughout the country, facilities that generate revenue have become increasingly popular due to their ability to offset some of the operating costs. Most notably, the increased presence of concessions in parks and at other locations has improved the ability of the public sector to raise money. Multi-field complexes, in addition to miniature golf courses, carousels, paddleboats and canoe rentals, and other creative applications, have enhanced the community
experience while lessening the tax burden by providing services for a fee. Summer camp programs and before and after school programs can also be a source of income for departments.

The City of Westlake currently recovers approximately 73.5% (based on Recreation Department and City of Westlake Budgets) of its parks and recreation operating costs through fees.\(^\text{17}\) This figure is well above the average of Ohio communities of 30.5%, based on the PRORAGIS benchmarking survey. The Westlake Recreation Center generates enough revenue to cover its operating expenses, while the Peterson Pool and Meadowood Golf Course revenues are insufficient to cover their operating costs.

Possibilities in Westlake to increase revenue generation can be found in potential upgrades to both the Peterson Pool and the Meadowood Golf Course which are projected to generate increased fees at these facilities. Moreover, fees could be generated from concessions at tournaments at a potential sports complex (described further on the next page), and additional programming at the expanded Recreation Center.

**Dog Parks**

The construction of dog parks is an ongoing trend that has been sweeping the country in the last ten years. The development of fence enclosed areas where dogs can run leash free can be a positive addition to a community. Dog parks have proven to be good for improving the social interaction skills of dogs and have also been a very good social attraction for the dog owners. Quality dog parks need well-conceived planning. They also need a fairly extensive operating budget that includes staff time for maintenance and upkeep. A typical dog park will provide three areas of at least an acre each: one for large dogs, one for small dogs, and an area unused to allow for regeneration of turf. Shade, sitting areas, water, and restrooms are typical amenities at these parks. Some communities have developed small dog parks in dense urban areas to supplement parks in larger parks.

Although dog parks ranked in the middle of potential improvements that respondents would most like to see on the Community Attitude and Interest Survey, there is a contingency of dog owners promoting the concept.

**Extreme Parks / Skate Parks**

Due in part to the increased exposure to extreme sports on television, the pursuit of extreme sports activities, especially by teenagers, has increased by hundreds of percent. Nearly every community that does not have a skate park has a very large contingent of teens and young adults that are strong advocates for the development of such a facility. Other types of active pursuits in an extreme park include: BMX tracks, mountain bike trails, and climbing walls. These activities appeal to a demographic that often does not take advantage of traditional parks and recreation programming activities.

The communities that have developed successful skate parks will entice dozens of teens to gather in the park. These parks can actually be construed as teen oriented parks and should be supplemented with other facilities, such as basketball courts, sand volleyball courts, shade shelters, and snack bars.

\(^{17}\) Combined figures for the Recreation Department and Parks Division of the Services Department.
The City of Westlake currently has no skate park, and this type of facility ranked low with respondents in the Community Attitude and Interest Survey. Skate parks also had the largest amount of opposition in the survey with 51% “Not Supportive” of the City taking this action to improve parks and recreation services.

**Fitness**

Current research identifies that Americans are becoming less fit. A strong emphasis has been placed at the state and the federal levels to improve the fitness of individuals throughout the United States. Local parks and recreation departments are building upon this message. These departments are in a good position to make an impact on the overall fitness of the community through programs, promotions, and facilities that are available to local residents.

Community Attitude and Interest Survey respondents indicated adult fitness and wellness as the highest need for programs with 59% of households reporting this need. Many communities partner with health providers to offer fitness facilities and programs. Fitness facilities do not need to be confined to indoor spaces as modern elements can now be provided in outdoor environments that are similar to those seen typically in fitness centers, offering an alternative to the old fitness and par-course trails. Recreation Center Park, Clague Park, or the property adjacent to the Porter Library may be ideal locations for these types of activities to supplement programs offered at the Westlake Recreation Center.

In addition, the redevelopment of the Community Services Center will provide convenient opportunities for area residents to become more fit. A rubber surface auxiliary gym at the Recreation Center would provide additional opportunities for fitness for residents.

**Economic Impact of Sports Tournaments**

As mentioned in the revenue generation section, tournaments can be a revenue generator by exacting entrance fees and promoting concession sales. A current trend is to develop facilities that are of tournament level quality to attract better teams and better tournaments to the facilities. These high quality facilities offer a bonus for the local leagues and activities when not being used for tournaments. A balance does need to exist between local league use and use for tournaments.

Facilities must be designed to accommodate tournaments which will require larger parking lots and an arrangement of fields in a cluster for easy accessibility, such as a wagon wheel configuration for baseball and softball fields. Quality restroom facilities are necessary, and concessions, shade, and other amenities should be available throughout the park that make it a desirable place to spend the day or a weekend. The proposed synthetic turf fields could offer a tremendous potential. With the need to improve and add soccer and lacrosse fields, the potential for such a facility should be considered, and public input has indicated support for such a facility, especially on the Live Well, Play Hard! Westlake website.
Synthetic Turf Athletic Fields

Westlake is behind the trend of many school systems and municipalities developing synthetic turf fields to meet the ever increasing demand for soccer, football, lacrosse, rugby, and other athletic pursuits. These synthetic turf fields have a higher initial cost; however, the ability to play on the fields continuously (without the need to water, fertilize, mow, stripe, etc.) results in a maintenance savings to the community. The fields can be developed to be flat and can accommodate substantial rains without damage to the surface. The fields are safer than overused grass fields. The main benefits of synthetic turf fields include:

- Lower operating costs per event
- Safer surfaces for athletes
- Ability to schedule significantly more events on the same area compared to natural grass fields
- Ability to extend the season by allowing use earlier in spring and later in fall without damaging turf
- Fewer rain outs
- In communities with limited fields available, synthetic turf fields allow the maximum use on the same area
- No need for watering, mowing, fertilizing, or striping

Communities must consider the long term need to replace the carpet every 8 to 15 years, based upon the use of the field. The City of Westlake has considered an artificial turf field at the Westlake High School, and public input has found support for this proposal, particularly on the Live Well, Play Hard! Westlake website where this option ranked highly amongst potential park improvements. A field at Recreation Center Park and/or the Center Ridge site are also possible long term.

Environmental Education

The success of environmental education centers throughout the country and the strong desire for nature education in the Community Attitude and Interest Survey and the web survey indicates that there is an interest by the public for better education regarding natural processes, resource management, and other nature education activities. These facilities work well in conjunction with school systems to supplement the science curriculum.

This “environmental education” cultivates understanding of the benefits of natural habitats and open spaces (including those owned and managed by municipalities). Many park departments and commissions take an outreach approach by providing environmental curriculum to schools in the form of nature center classes and activities. This tactic provides a method for promoting more use and appreciation of parks. These programs also provide an opportunity for county park systems and universities to work closely with municipal parks and recreation departments to provide a level of programming that the municipalities could not perform on their own.

While the need for nature programs ranked highly in both surveys, the Community Attitude survey also found nearly 3,000 families have 50% or less of their needs met for this type
of program, the third highest of unmet program needs. Partnerships opportunities could be explored with Cleveland Metroparks for this type of program at both Bradley Nature Park and the Bradley Woods Reservation. Cleveland Metroparks currently has nature centers at many of their reservations, including one at the Rocky River Reservation.

### Outdoor Family Oriented Aquatics

The older rectangle and L-shaped swimming pools have a very limited appeal. The desire to have 3 ½’ depths of water for flip turns, or competition swimming, dictated a deeper water depth of the pool which resulted in a lack of shallow. As a result, younger children were relegated to a “baby” pool, which really only appeals to babies and toddlers. Inadequate amenities for 4-10 year olds limit the draw of these older pools.

The newer family aquatic centers are geared toward the entire family with zero depth access, shallow water, interactive water spray activities, along with the traditional competition lanes and diving boards. Newer aquatic facilities are also incorporating lazy rivers, which are popular with people of all ages. The newer facilities also provide large water slides. These elements, along with shade structures, larger grass beach areas, and quality concessions, have resulted in a complete turnaround in the net operating costs to municipalities for aquatic facilities. Whereas the older pools were a drain on the budget, the newer facilities are able to generate funds for the operations cost, and some have even shown a surplus, which has been used to pay off some of the debt service for the capital construction. Where older pools have been renovated to include the newer features, communities typically see a 200% or more increase in attendance. This demand provides an opportunity for charging higher fees which may result in a greater profit margin.

Another new concept that is sweeping the country is the development of splash pads or spraygrounds. These have replaced the wading pools at many aquatic facilities but are also developed as freestanding wet playgrounds in other park areas. Spraygrounds have several benefits. In most instances, they still recirculate the water, but because there is no standing water, lifeguards are not needed. Therefore, the operation costs are considerably lower than for a swimming facility. Although not operated by the City of Westlake, a sprayground is located at Crocker Park, and 22% of respondent households reported visiting the facility in the past 12 months.

The development of new swimming facilities in Westlake was a recurring theme throughout the public input process. Fifty-eight percent (58%) of Community Attitude and Interest Survey respondents and 82% of web survey respondents were “Very Supportive” or “Somewhat Supportive” of the City to “Improve or replace Peterson Pool.” Redevelopment or relocation of the Peterson Pool received the second highest allocation for dollar voting at the public workshops and the highest allocation by respondents of the web survey when asked how they would spend $100.

### Trends in Sports and Fitness Participation

The Sport and Fitness Industry Association (SFIA) conducts an annual survey of individuals and households throughout the United States to determine participation in a variety of sports and fitness activities. The 2013 sample consisted of 42,356 online interviews (15,770 individuals and 26,593 households) intend to serve as representation of US population ages 6 and older. The following tables were generated using data from the SFIA report.
The first table (Table 22) shows the difference in participation rates between generations for seven types of sports. The youngest generation had the highest participation rates for Individual Sports, Team Sports, and Outdoor Sports. Participation rates dropped for these three types of sports with each older generation. The youngest group also had the lowest participation in Fitness Sports, while the other three generational groups had similar participation rates for this type of sport. The remaining three types of sports (Racquet, Winter, and Water Sports) have similar trends with Millennials representing the highest level of participation.

The high demand for fitness sports programs in the City of Westlake is consistent with these findings in Table 22. With the high percentage of residents in the older two generations, this type of program is likely to increase in demand into the future. Despite decreasing in popularity with age, outdoor sports are still popular with all age groups. Individual and team sports are most popular with the youngest generation. The availability of these facilities and programs will be an important consideration for families with children when choosing to live in Westlake.

Table 22: Participation Rates by Generation
The second table (Table 23) displays the 5-year participation rates for 26 different sports and fitness activities. This table also shows the 5-year annual growth rate as well as rankings for these sports based on growth in participation (Growth Rate Rank) and absolute numbers (Participant Rank). Based on these figures, the fastest growing sport is lacrosse at 8.9% annually, although the overall number of users is still fairly low. Aerobics (high impact), trail running, ice hockey, and running/jogging are also growing at rates of nearly 5% or higher. Walking for fitness has the greatest number of participants by a large margin at well over 100 million participants, with running/jogging coming in second at over 50 million participants. Hand weights had the third most users, followed by bicycling and hiking. With four of the top five activities (based on Participant Rank) using trails, it is no surprise these facilities are in such high demand.

Residents of Westlake have similarly expressed a strong interest in these type of trail-based activities, leading to a need for more of these facilities. Also, with the existing need for more and improved soccer fields, the City can prepare for the fastest growing sport, lacrosse, by making sure any new fields can accommodate the sport.

The Westlake Recreation Center, particularly with potential expansions, is in a good position to meet the needs for quickly growing high impact aerobics needs and high participant levels for free weights, swimming for fitness, and low impact aerobics. The City of Westlake does not currently have a facility for the ice hockey, the fourth fastest growing (but still relatively low number of total participants) sport in the table.

Table 23: Nationwide Five-Year History of Selected Sports Participation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sport/Fitness Activity</th>
<th>Participants (In Thousands)</th>
<th>5-Year Average Annual Growth</th>
<th>Growth Rate Rank</th>
<th>Participant Rank</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aerobics (High impact)</td>
<td>11,287 11,780 12,771 14,567 15,755 16,178</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aerobics (Low impact)</td>
<td>22,397 23,283 24,927 26,431 25,950 25,707</td>
<td>2.9%</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Archery</td>
<td>5,950 6,180 6,368 6,323 6,471 7,173</td>
<td>3.9%</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baseball</td>
<td>16,058 16,539 15,429 14,198 13,561 12,976</td>
<td>-4.2%</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basketball</td>
<td>25,911 25,791 25,156 24,790 23,708</td>
<td>-1.8%</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bicycling (Road/paved surface)</td>
<td>38,940 38,527 39,127 39,370 39,834 39,790</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cheerleading</td>
<td>3,279 3,192 3,070 3,134 3,049 3,244</td>
<td>-0.1%</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Football (Tackle)</td>
<td>7,939 7,816 7,743 6,850 6,448 6,220</td>
<td>-4.7%</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free Weights (Hand Weights)</td>
<td>43,821 43,409 44,466 45,928 46,944 46,564</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hiking (Day)</td>
<td>29,965 31,238 32,542 32,334 33,497 34,319</td>
<td>2.9%</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ice Hockey</td>
<td>1,840 1,871 2,018 2,140 2,131 2,363</td>
<td>5.2%</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ice Skating</td>
<td>11,430 11,215 10,944 11,477 11,426 11,214</td>
<td>-0.3%</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lacrosse</td>
<td>1,058 1,092 1,162 1,423 1,501 1,607</td>
<td>8.9%</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Martial Arts</td>
<td>6,865 6,818 6,643 6,002 5,037 5,075</td>
<td>-5.6%</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roller Skating (inline wheels)</td>
<td>10,814 10,211 8,942 8,128 7,451 6,647</td>
<td>-9.2%</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Running/jogging</td>
<td>41,064 41,097 42,511 46,650 50,061 51,450</td>
<td>4.7%</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skateboarding</td>
<td>8,429 8,118 7,580 7,080 6,318 6,227</td>
<td>-5.8%</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soccer (Indoor)</td>
<td>4,237 4,467 4,825 4,920 4,631 4,617</td>
<td>1.8%</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soccer (Outdoor)</td>
<td>13,708 13,966 13,957 13,883 13,667 12,944</td>
<td>-1.1%</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Softball (Fast Pitch)</td>
<td>2,345 2,331 2,476 2,513 2,400 2,624</td>
<td>2.4%</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Softball (Slow-Pitch)</td>
<td>9,485 9,660 9,180 8,477 7,829 7,411</td>
<td>-4.8%</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swimming for Fitness1</td>
<td>21,517 21,216 N/A N/A N/A N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tennis</td>
<td>16,940 17,749 18,546 18,719 17,727 17,020</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trail Running</td>
<td>4,216 4,537 4,845 4,985 5,373 5,806</td>
<td>6.6%</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volleyball (Beach/Sand)</td>
<td>3,878 4,025 4,324 4,752 4,451 4,505</td>
<td>3.2%</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volleyball (Court)</td>
<td>6,986 7,588 7,737 7,315 6,662 6,384</td>
<td>-1.6%</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walking for Fitness</td>
<td>108,740 110,204 110,882 112,082 112,715 114,029</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. SFIA started collecting numbers for Swimming for Fitness in 2011.
2. Rank of these selected sports and fitness activities. Top 5 in Bold.
VI. STRATEGIC PLAN AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This Master Plan represents the collective vision for parks, recreation, and trails for the City of Westlake. The engagement process culminated in the formulation of this cohesive vision for continually improving parks and recreation opportunities in the City of Westlake. The vision, mission, and guiding principles are outlined below that guide this Master Plan and the future of parks, recreation, and trails in the City of Westlake.

VISION STATEMENT

The vision for the City of Westlake is to be at the cutting-edge of parks and recreation services with premier facilities that inspire citizens to be healthy and instill community pride. The vision will be accomplished through planning to assure parks and facilities meet the expressed needs of the community while providing uniformity of appearance. The City will continue improving its service delivery with continuous monitoring of customer satisfaction. The City will continue to research and monitor trends to remain a leader in parks and recreation services. Finally, Westlake will provide welcoming, attractive parks that are clean, safe, and connected to the community.

Guiding Principles

The following principles will guide and direct priorities, actions, and investments. These principles help the Recreation Department and the Parks Division (of the Service Department) work in concert with other City departments to ensure the City of Westlake accomplishes its vision and maintains the qualities that make it such an attractive place to live and visit. Residents and visitors will encounter the following characteristics in Westlake facilities, programs, and interaction with staff.

1. **Excitement: Provide Cutting-Edge Facilities and Experiences**
   Westlake will provide facilities that will attract visitors to locations all over the City. Facilities and services in the City of Westlake will be at the cutting-edge of parks and recreation technology but will be implemented in ways that are appropriate in the community. Teams will be excited to come to Westlake to use the premier facilities. Additionally, the City will think outside of the box when planning for programs and facilities.

2. **Desirability: Provide a Welcoming Atmosphere through Inviting Parks, Encompassing Facility Options, and Exceptional Programs and Events**
   Westlake parks will encourage people to participate through outreach and through an attractive, welcoming theme with consistent signage. Parks will have uniformity of design as well as in communications. The City will enhance desirability by offering a diverse array of facilities, programs, and events, providing park users with occasions to interact and socialize with other residents while enhancing the sense of community in the City of Westlake.

3. **Connectivity: Connect Residents with Parks**
   The City of Westlake will connect residents and guests to the community and to each other, physically through parks and trail connections and electronically through online access and new technology.

4. **Safety: Assure that Parks are Safe for Everyone during All Park Hours**
   All fields and facilities will be well-maintained to assure safety for users. Parks will have adequate lighting and will be equipped with emergency equipment as necessary to maintain adequate security. Parks will have sufficient presence of City staff to assure safety.

5. **Investment: Encourage Creative Funding Opportunities and Partnerships**
   The City of Westlake will explore a wide variety of opportunities for investment in parks and facilities. The City, the Recreation Department, and the Parks Division will build relationships throughout the community with local organizations and businesses for an assortment of purposes.
including mutually beneficial financing opportunities. Fostering relationships will also help to avoid duplication of services and facilities, share information and resources among organizations, and to arrange for cross promotion of facilities and programs.

6. **Passion: Inspire Pride and Ownership in the Community through Leadership**

A highly trained, passionate staff that keeps the public well-informed and listens to the community will build trust in the Recreation Department and the Parks Division. Passionate staff will inspire participation and a feeling of ownership of facilities and programs throughout the community.

**MISSION STATEMENT**

**Current Mission Statement**

Westlake is a great place to live, work and play; and our mission is to provide leisure programs, facilities and services that enrich this vibrant community.

**Proposed New Mission Statement**

Westlake is a great place to live, work, and play. The mission of the Recreation Department and the Parks Division is to be at the cutting-edge of leisure programs, facilities, and services, while offering innovative opportunities that inspire citizens to be healthy, instill pride, and enrich our vibrant community.

**GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

The Master Plan includes six goals that represent the areas of strategic priority for the next five to ten years and beyond. Objectives represent the specific areas of emphasis for each goal area, to which the City of Westlake will invest time, energy, and resources over the next five to ten years. Strategies are the concrete, specific actions the City will take to accomplish the objectives. These actions follow directly from the vision established by the City, in accordance with the mission statement of the Recreation Department and the Parks Division, and are a culmination of all previous steps of the Master Planning process. The following section outlines the six goals and 28 objectives included in the Master Plan. A detailed, consolidated table of these goals and objectives plus 113 strategies with corresponding timelines, funding sources, and responsibilities is located in Section IX, Detailed Action Plan.

**Goal 1: Generate Excitement in Facilities and Services**

Strategically plan for and implement strategies to acquire, preserve, develop, maintain, and redevelop cutting-edge parks, facilities, and open space.

**Objectives:**

1.1. Proactively prioritize the implementation of this Master Plan to assure an evenly distributed balance of active recreation, passive recreation, open spaces, and natural environments in the City of Westlake.

1.2. Provide premier facilities and services to meet current and future needs for the City of Westlake through acquisition, development, partnerships, and redevelopment strategies and priorities.

1.3. Provide quality athletic facilities for children and adults to participate in healthy sports programs. Develop fields in complexes where possible for efficient maintenance, management, and supervision and to serve the needs of local leagues, host tournaments, and promote tourism.

1.4. Reduce long term maintenance costs by developing high quality facilities using durable materials and the most innovative technology.

**Goal 2: Engender Desirability through a Welcoming Atmosphere for Residents and Visitors**

Invite participation in parks and recreation programs and facilities for all Westlake residents.
Objectives:

2.1. Encourage park and recreation facility usage and program participation through community outreach and by providing attractive, inviting facilities throughout the City.

2.2. Ensure access for everyone, regardless of age or disability, to quality facilities and programs.

2.3. Offer a wide variety of programs and events that appeal to everyone and provide social opportunities while fostering a sense of community.

2.4. Establish continuous and consistent marketing of programs and facilities.

2.5. Assure that Parks and facilities are a major attraction for residents and visitors for the City of Westlake.

Goal 3: Promote Connectivity Between the Community and Parks and Recreation Services

Build connections of all types throughout the City of Westlake to link residents and guests to all available services and facilities as well as information about those opportunities.

Objectives:

3.1. Ensure the City of Westlake is a well-connected and accessible city; using a series of multi-use trails to connect neighborhoods, parks, schools, and shopping areas for both recreation and transportation. Consider both current and future modes of transportation.

3.2. Begin implementation of the existing Citywide Bike Plan.

3.3. Enhance opportunities to connect users electronically to programs, events, and information about City facilities making sure to implement new technologies as they become available.

3.4. Enhance Westlake Parks as community hubs (particularly the Community Parks at Recreation Center Park in the west, Clague Park in the east, the new site adjacent to the Library on Center Ridge Road, and Meadowood, if developed as a park).

3.5. Foster an appreciation of the natural environment and promote sustainable natural resource management practices.

3.6. Acquire and develop Neighborhood Parks in areas underserved by existing parks or schools to provide close access to parks.

Goal 4: Ensure Safety for Users of Facilities, Programs, and Events

Provide a high level of security at facilities, programs, and events to assure that all residents and visitors feel safe at all times when taking advantage of parks and recreation opportunities in the City of Westlake.

Objectives:

4.1. Ensure that all relevant staff are trained in safety measures in order to maximize their ability to assure safety for park users.

4.2. Increase patrols at parks to improve safety and security.

4.3. Provide proactive maintenance to assure all facilities operate at the highest level of safety while enhancing the reputation for safe facilities and services.

4.4. Install lighting and security cameras to deter and solve crime and instill a sense of security for park users.

Goal 5: Maximize Investment Opportunities

Explore all opportunities for investment in parks and recreation in the City of Westlake with consideration given to funding opportunities and partnerships, financial and service-based.
Objectives:

5.1. Seek grants and sponsorships from other organizations for revenue generation.

5.2. Pursue mutually beneficial partnerships for funding of services and to avoid duplication of services.

5.3. Maintain existing funding sources.

5.4. Consider selling of naming rights of facilities to share in the initial capital costs and to reduce ongoing maintenance costs.

5.5. Enhance coordination with Westlake Schools to maximize use of school property for recreation programs and activities, recognizing that Westlake is mostly developed with limited land available for large park development.

Goal 6: Intensify Community Passion and Provide Exemplary Leadership

Utilize staff to set an example to foster a passionate community that demands superior programs and services while encouraging more involvement in the process.

Objectives:

6.1. Promote volunteerism to cultivate community ownership and a vested interest in the parks and programs.

6.2. Enhance the experience of staff through ongoing training to assist staff in becoming experts in their fields.

6.3. Evaluate current and emerging needs to develop and implement standards of excellence in parks and recreation services for the City of Westlake.

6.4. Promote the long term implementation of the Master Plan through support from an active group of community leaders and volunteers.

Public Feedback of Vision Statement and Guiding Principles

After the development of the Vision Statement and Six Guiding Principles, Westlake residents were asked to comment on how they would like to see the City accomplish the goals associated with each of the Guiding Principles. Through the Live Well, Play Hard! Westlake website, users were able to download a document that presented a draft of the Vision Statement, Guiding Principles, and Goals for review. These users were then able to provide suggestions and comments through the website.

The reactions to the Vision, Guiding Principles, and Goals from Westlake community members were consistent with the other feedback up to that point. Through the Live Well, Play Hard! Westlake website, Westlake residents continued to request off-road trails for bicyclists, walkers, and runners. Another reoccurring theme from these comments was the desire for more and higher quality athletic fields (possibly at the golf course), including an artificial turf field. Respondents would also like to see more cooperation between public agencies including the City of Westlake, Westlake City Schools, and the Porter Library. Respondents reaffirmed their desire for a redeveloped Peterson Pool open to Westlake residents only and to see greater enforcement of rules both at the Peterson Pool and the Recreation Center.

Observations, Analyses, and Potential Solutions

The following are a series of observations, findings, and information gained from the focus groups, workshops and surveys, along with the Consultant’s analyses. Throughout the planning process, potential solutions were identified which will later become the recommendations after discussions with the Advisory Committee and City Staff.
**Existing Park Improvements**

1. **Observations and Analysis**

   - Eighty-seven percent (87%) of Westlake residents use parks in the City, higher than the national average of 80%.
   - The most visited parks, Recreation Center Park and Clague Park, were visited by between 60% and 70% of park users. The other parks were used at substantially lower rates, likely due to more limited facilities at each park.
   - Ninety-two percent (92%) of residents support upgrading older parks, according to the Community Attitude and Interest Survey (mail survey).
   - The need to upgrade existing parks and facilities was a reoccurring theme at the public workshops.
   - The need for improved access to restrooms was the number one potential improvement to parks in the mail survey and a common theme at the public workshops.
   - The addition of drinking fountains at the parks also received strong support (third highest rated potential improvement in the mail survey).
   - Many playgrounds are in need of renovation, particularly the one at Clague Park.
   - Basketball courts are lacking in the City of Westlake with only a few located at schools and one court at Tri-City Park (the facility is actually located in Rocky River). Even considering the school locations, large gaps in service appear in the southeast and southwest portions of the City.
   - Westlake has few basketball courts compared to the benchmark communities, and basketball courts were the sixth most requested new facility on the Live Well, Play Hard! Westlake website.
   - Eighty-one percent (81%) of web survey respondents would like to see a driving range developed at the Meadowood Golf Course, and a driving range was the fourth most unmet need in the mail survey. Additionally, the Live Well, Play Hard! Westlake website found strong support for the development of a driving range, at least as an alternative to leaving the property unchanged.
   - Forty-two percent of residents would like to see more (and reservable) shelters/pavilions in the City of Westlake, and none are available in the space between Recreation Center Park and Clague Parks nor in the northwest portion of the City.
   - Seventy-eight percent (78%) of residents support upgrading or improving existing fields (mail survey).
   - Improving baseball/softball fields was the third most supported idea in the “Make One Change” exercise on the Live Well, Play Hard! Westlake website.
   - Trails were consistently the most requested facility and might be potentially part of any park improvement.
   - The Americans with Disabilities Act established new requirements as of March 2012 which required an assessment of the accessibility of all facilities, programs, and communications.

2. **Potential Solutions**

   - Perform an ADA Accessibility Assessment of all facilities, programs, and communications.
   - Focus short term capital improvements on renovation/improvement to existing facilities, especially the basic facilities of trail surfaces, playgrounds, game courts, picnic shelters, signage, athletic fields, and the additions of restrooms.
- Replace aging playgrounds (Clague, Roman, and Bradley Parks).
- Improve all athletic fields with improved drainage, grading, and support facilities. Consider irrigation for improved turf.
- Redevelop the playgrounds at the Recreation Center Park and Clague Park to be large, all-access playgrounds with rubber safety surfaces. The Recreation Center Park playground (a long term recommendation) to have a modern theme and the Clague Park playground (short term) to have a natural playground theme (treehouse, logs, climbing rocks, wildlife theme, etc.). These playgrounds should be large, creative, and unique to the region.
- Add lighting to existing baseball/softball diamonds at Recreation Center Park.
- Provide an accessible route of travel to all athletic fields and spectator seating areas.
- Improve paving of parking lots.
- Add outdoor basketball courts at selected parks.
- Upgrade natural trails at Bradley Nature Park which connect through the park to Crocker Road to paved trails for maximum accessibility and reduced maintenance. Develop additional natural trails.
- Expand the Community Gardens in partnership with St. John Medical Center.
- Install security cameras and additional lighting in parks to reinforce a safe atmosphere.
- Establish an implementation committee to monitor timelines and ensure continued enthusiasm for Master Plan goals and recommendations.

New Park and Facilities Development

1. Observations and Analyses
   - Westlake has fewer playgrounds than the benchmark communities.
   - Notable gaps in service for playgrounds are located in the central-northeast and the northwest of the City.
   - The City of Westlake has a deficiency of Neighborhood Park acreage, especially to the east of Dover Center Road.
   - Many of the needed facilities for existing parks could be incorporated into new parks including: trails, fields, basketball courts, community gardens, and picnic shelters.
   - The City of Westlake currently has no amphitheater/bandshell. A substantial number of residents have a need for this facility.

2. Potential Solutions
   - Plan and develop the land adjacent to the Library with active athletic fields, trails, picnic shelters, parking, and the potential relocation of the Community Services Center (other options including an addition to the Recreation Center or redevelopment at the current location also to be explored for the Community Services Center). Maintain the natural areas that exist on both sides of the property.
   - Acquire and develop Neighborhood Parks (8-10 acres) in the northeast-central and southeast areas which are underserved by parks or schools.
   - Develop a community amphitheater/bandshell for community events (music, movies, etc.)
   - Continue to work with developers to provide neighborhood parks in new subdivisions.
   - Continue to plan and develop the Civic Space in Crocker Park
- Redevelop all or portions of the Meadowood Golf Course as a Community Park.
- Long Term – Investigate the potential to acquire part of the School Board land on Bradley Road and adjacent to Meadowood (if it is not planned for future school development) for the development of park facilities (or incorporate into potential redevelopment of Meadowood). The northern portion and portions of the southern half are identified as wetlands, leaving only portions available for development. Provide trail connections to the Bradley Nature Park.

### Trails

1. **Observations and Analyses**
   - The development of commuter bike trails was supported by 74% of Westlake residents (mail survey).
   - Trails were a reoccurring topic at all stages of public engagement and were the top choice in the dollar voting exercise at the workshops.
   - Eighty-two percent (82%) of residents support developing new and connecting existing trails, while 67% support purchasing land in order to do so (both surveys).
   - Trails received the highest allocation in the mail survey when asked how residents would spend $100 (trails were second in the web survey).
   - Walking and hiking trails were the number one needed facility, while bike trails were the second most supported park improvement with sidewalks/trails coming in third, according to the mail survey.
   - More than a third of Westlake residents that participated on the website walk or bike to parks (Live Well, Play Hard! Westlake website).
   - Trails were the number one new facility to add, and more bike lanes was the second highest voted idea in the visioning exercise (Live Well, Play Hard! Westlake website).
   - Westlake currently has fewer trails than the comparison cities in the benchmarking survey, both in terms of average total length of trails and length per square mile of incorporated area.

2. **Potential Solutions**
   - Work toward implementation of the existing Citywide Bike Plan.
   - Identify and develop potential trail connections between parks and neighborhoods.
   - Improve the trail around the pond at Clague Park to be a continuous loop, requiring a bridge over the spillway.
   - Provide a safe crossing of Center Ridge Road to link the Recreation Center Park to the parkland adjacent to the library.
   - Work with Metroparks to improve trails in and to Bradley Woods Reservation.
   - Establish a base of volunteers to assist in the maintenance and patrol of trails.
   - Designate a staff person within the Planning & Economic Development Department to coordinate trails planning to provide consistency and advocate for connectivity as future development takes place.
Natural Areas and Nature Education

1. Observations and Analyses
   - Eighty percent (80%) of residents support the preservation of open space in the City of Westlake, according to the mail survey (86% support in web survey).
   - Preservation of the natural environment has the third most support for the focus of the Master Plan on the Live Well, Play Hard! Westlake website.
   - Nature programs were the fourth highest needed program and the third highest unmet need according to the mail survey.
   - The need for more passive park space was a common theme at the public workshops, and nature parks with the second most needed facility, according to the mail survey.

2. Potential Solutions
   - Partner with Cleveland Metroparks, schools, colleges or universities to provide nature education programs in Westlake parks.
   - Promote nature parks and educational programs of Metroparks within the Rec Gazette to avoid duplication of programs.
   - Provide natural areas at existing and future parks to maintain natural areas and open space.

Outdoor Athletic Fields

1. Observations and Analyses
   - Fifty-seven percent (57%) of residents support developing new fields, while 78% support upgrading or improving existing fields.
   - An artificial turf field was a common request at public workshop and was the fifth most desired additional facility on the Live Well, Play Hard! Westlake website.
   - Places for outdoor sports programs ranked third for the focus of the Master Plan, according to the Live Well, Play Hard! Westlake website.
   - More soccer fields was the third most supported idea in the visioning exercise on the Live Well, Play Hard! Westlake website.
   - Westlake has fewer diamond fields with 90-foot base paths than the benchmark communities, which are needed for adult baseball programs.

2. Potential Solutions
   - Improve grading and drainage on all athletic fields.
   - Irrigate athletic fields for improved turf.
   - Light fields where appropriate to maximize use. Initially light the Recreation Center Park fields.
   - Improve existing complexes to attract tournaments and to provide higher quality facilities, including restrooms, for residents.
   - Partner with Westlake High School on the artificial turf at the High School.
   - Develop the Center Ridge Site (adjacent to the library) with some athletic fields.
   - Develop at least one large baseball field and additional smaller fields as needed.
   - Develop at least 3-4 large rectangular fields (allows flexibility to be smaller fields and to be used for soccer and lacrosse).
- Reconfigure the ponytail ball fields at Clague Park to be more conducive to tournaments and for better spectator and player experiences.
- Long term – Develop one artificial turf field at the Recreation Center (or potentially Meadowood, if redeveloped as a park).

**Programming**

1. **Observations and Analyses**
   - The number one needed program and the number one unmet need for programs was for adult fitness and wellness, according to both the mail and web surveys.
   - The number two need (and partially unmet need) was for summer concerts (concerts are currently offered, but residents want more).
   - Seventy-four percent (74%) of residents support new programs for teens, according to the mail survey.
   - Residents were also in need of nature programs (#4 needed program and #3 unmet need).
   - Senior (50+) programs were the third most needed program and fourth most unmet need, according to the mail survey.

2. **Potential Solutions**
   - Continuously monitor customer satisfaction and suggestions, trends, and program attendance to keep programs relevant and fresh.
   - Develop programs to take advantage of the Civic Space in Crocker Park once it is opened.
   - Program the proposed community amphitheater/bandshell for more community events, concerts, movies, etc.
   - Establish opportunities for more social interaction with events, mobile food vendors, coffee every day in the Recreation Center, etc.
   - Expand marketing for all programs and events.
   - Establish partnerships with health care providers to increase and enhance programs related to health, wellness, and therapeutic recreation.

**Indoor Recreation**

1. **Observations and Analyses**
   - Indoor recreation rated as the number one focus for the Master Plan on the Live Well, Play Hard! Westlake website.
   - Working out and swimming were the top two activities at the Recreation Center, and the development of a secondary pool and an auxiliary gym had support on the Live Well, Play Hard! Westlake website.
   - The existing pool and gym are often in use for programs, leaving members without access during these events.
   - Sixty-six percent (66%) of residents support the expansion of the Recreation Center, according to the mail survey (96% support in web survey).
   - The percentage of the population age 65 and over is larger in the City of Westlake than in Cuyahoga County, Ohio, and the USA, and the median age is higher and continuing to rise. These figures indicate the importance of facilities and services for seniors which is expected to increase even further in the future.
The Community Services Center is in need of significant repairs and has limited room for expansion. The facility is on three levels, making access difficult for some.

Senior (50+) programs were in significant demand (third highest of programs), according to the mail survey.

Clague Cabin has been in need of renovation for many years.

2. **Potential Solutions**

- Expand the Recreation Center to include an auxiliary gym with rubber floor and an additional lap pool for member use during swim meets.
- Choose one of the following three options for the Community Services Center: renovate and expand the facility in its current location, relocate the facility to the new park adjacent to the Library, or connect the facility to the Recreation Center. All three options should be explored with the Community Service Center staff.
- Redevelop the Community Services Center (once a site is chosen) on one floor (if new site is chosen) with multi-purpose rooms, large kitchen, fitness rooms, library, lounge, computer lab, and offices. Outdoor complementary facilities should include bocce courts, pickleball courts, gardens, etc. Design the facility for future expansion as the aging population grows.
- Redevelop the Clague Cabin through historic restoration as an open air pavilion and rental facility.
- Maximize the use of schools for indoor programming (i.e. basketball practices).

### Outdoor Aquatics

1. **Observations and Analyses**

- Redeveloping the Peterson Pool was the number one idea in the visioning exercise on the Live Well, Play Hard! Westlake website, and updating the pool and making it residents only were the top two ideas on the “Make One Change” exercise.
- Fifty-eight percent (58%) of residents support improving or replacing the Peterson Pool (mail survey). Eighty-two percent (82%) of web survey respondents support improving or replacing the pool.
- Redevelopment of the Peterson Pool received the second largest allocation for the dollar voting exercise at the public workshops, and updating the pool and making it residents only was a common theme at these events.
- Improving the Peterson Pool received the highest allocation in the web survey when asked how residents would spend $100 on park improvements.
- Based on feedback on the Live Well, Play Hard! Westlake website, residents want a lazy river, waterslides, a shallow water play areas, and lap lanes as features of a new pool and prefer the pool remain in its current location.
- Residents also would like to see a splash pad at the Recreation Center Park, Peterson Pool, or both (#4 in visioning exercise on Live Well, Play Hard! Westlake website).

2. **Potential Solutions**

- Implement the existing Peterson Pool Plan to redevelop the Peterson Pool at Clague Park. New facility to include a drop off area, main entrance closer to parking, lap pool, diving well, shallow water, waterslides, shade structures, splash pad and lazy river. Orient the splash pad to allow it to be open before and after the pool season.
Investigate the financial ramifications of reserving the Peterson Pool for residents only as adjacent communities have done (possibly using same requirements as Recreation Center memberships).

Long term - Develop a sprayground in the Recreation Center Park.

**Maintenance**

1. **Observations and Analyses**
   - The Parks Division (of the Services Department) currently maintains outdoor park areas except the Recreation Center, the Peterson Pool, and Meadowood Golf Course which are maintained by the Recreation Department. The Recreation Center is maintained by the Recreation Department.
   - Tennis courts at Clague Park are in need of repair.
   - Several playgrounds are in need of repair.
   - Drainage issues are apparent at several parks (Roman, Clague, and Recreation Center Park fields).

2. **Potential Solutions**
   - As noted earlier in the “Existing Park Improvements” section, focus short term capital improvements on renovation/improvement to existing facilities, especially the basic facilities of trail surfaces, playgrounds, game courts, picnic shelters, signage, athletic fields, and the addition of restrooms.
   - Improve staff training and increase equipment/budget for athletic field maintenance.
   - Expand the maintenance staff as facilities expand.
   - Develop a program to promote volunteerism and community support for trail maintenance and landscape planting at park entrances.
   - Utilize parks as examples of Best Management Practices (BMP) for stormwater detention, rain gardens, etc.

**Partnerships and Sponsorships**

1. **Observations and Analyses**
   - Partnerships and sponsorships can provide opportunities to reduce upfront capital costs as well as operating costs.
   - The City of Westlake currently has a partnership for community gardens at St. John Medical Center.

2. **Potential Solutions**
   - Strengthen existing partnerships with Westlake Schools, athletic leagues, Community Services Center to share facilities including fields, gyms, and meeting spaces.
   - Continue working with St. John Medical Center to expand the community gardens.
   - Consider a healthcare partner in the new Community Service Center.
   - Recruit sponsors for larger programs and events to offset costs.
   - Establish policies for sponsorships recognition, signage, naming rights, etc.
   - Partner with Cleveland Metroparks to make the shelter at Bradley Woods Reservation reservable (a goal of the Emerald Necklace Centennial Plan).
Organize a “Friends of Westlake Parks” foundation to be an advocate for this Master Plan and to raise funds for improvements through donations, endowments, bequests, trusts, and grants.

An indoor ice rink was a common request through the public engagement process. This type of facility was the second most requested facility to add on the Live Well, Play Hard! Westlake website and was the fifth highest unmet need on the mail survey. An ice rink is unlikely to be developed by the City due to the high capital and operating cost, but a partnership with a private organization might make the development of a facility possible by another organization.

**Budget**

1. **Observations and Analyses**
   - The City is currently able to cover approximately 75% of operating costs through fees, and has several sources for funding capital improvements (impact fees, cable fees, and the Recreation Improvement Fund).
   - The percentage of funding from user fees is much higher than most of the comparison communities.
   - The City of Westlake has substantial capital and renovation needs.

2. **Potential Solutions**
   - Renew the current income tax to fund capital improvement recommendations.
   - Continue impact fees and cable fees for ongoing park facility needs.
   - Continue to pursue grants for the development and operations of parks and facilities.
   - Consider selling of naming rights of facilities to share in the initial capital costs and to reduce ongoing maintenance costs. Rooms in the Recreation Center and Community Services Center and new athletic fields, playgrounds, and shelters are prospects for naming rights.

**Communications**

1. **Observations and Analyses**
   - Twenty percent (20%) of residents do not participate in programs because they do not know what is being offered (mail survey)
   - The Rec Gazette is the main source of information for programs listed by 63% of residents, followed by word of mouth at 51%, newspaper at 44%, and 39% of residents learn about programs through the City website.

2. **Potential Solutions**
   - Provide Wi-Fi in the most used parks.
   - Develop an event, facilities, and programming web/smart phone application (Parks App) to enhance participants’ experiences at events and to inform residents of programs and facilities.
   - Continuously utilize social media and new digital methods to communicate programs and offerings to residents and visitors.
   - Cross-market programs with other organizations in the community, such as schools, Crocker Park, St. John Medical Center, Porter Library, and others.
   - Develop an education and marketing campaign to inform residents of the parks, trails, and programs available. This will be an ongoing effort.

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18 The 75% includes the Services Department Budget for the Parks Division.
- Establish a new logo and branding identity for the Recreation Department soon after this Master Plan to be used in all communications.

- Implement a signage program for consistent and attractive park entrance signs, directional signs, trail system identification, wayfinding, etc.

Standards of Excellence

1. Observations and Analyses

- The National Recreation and Park Association has established a procedure for the accreditation of park and recreation agencies. The agency that administers this program is the Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies (CAPRA). This process is a self-assessment and peer review procedure. The guidelines are included in the “Self-Assessment Manual for Park and Recreation Agencies.” The goal of this process is to develop and maintain an agency that is efficient, effective, and professional in its operational system and which delivers quality services. Agencies accredited by these standards have demonstrated not only that they meet the standards of quality operation, but also that they have the professional competence and the community support to complete the extensive process.

2. Potential Solutions

- Train leadership staff to become experts in their respective fields.

- Continuously train staff and emphasize customer service.

- Create and implement professional and career development plans for all staff. Management level staff should attend professional development programs offered by state, regional, and national training organizations.

- The Department should pursue CAPRA Accreditation within the next five years.

- Review and update this Master Plan at intervals not to exceed five years to evaluate progress and to reassess priorities.
VII. FACILITY RECOMMENDATIONS AND CRITERIA

The Facility Recommendations and Criteria Section describes the facilities with design criteria intended to define the recommended facilities and provide general guidelines to consider in follow-up planning and design. Photographs of sample facilities are included to illustrate the concepts discussed. The criteria are followed by site concept plans for each primary park in the City of Westlake.

TRAILS

Walking and hiking trails (both paved and unpaved) and bike trails were among the top activities that residents would use more if facilities were provided. The Community Attitude and Interest Survey results showed the largest number of households in Westlake with unmet needs for these facilities. If developed, 73% of households report that they would use “walking and hiking trails,” and 54% would use “paved walking and biking trails.” These high percentages of support illustrate very strong desire for more trails and a series of integrated trail systems. The ultimate goal is to have a series of interconnected trails that link Westlake neighborhoods, schools, parks, and community facilities.

The Westlake Citywide Bike Plan identifies several key routes for proposed off-road trails and bike lanes. Some key off-road connections include the following:

- Along Crocker Road from Crocker Park, southward to Bradley Woods Reservation, linking Crocker Park, St. John Medical Center, Bradley Nature Park, Meadowood, Bradley Woods and several neighborhoods. A key near term connection would be to connect the recently developed off-road trail on the west side of Stearns Road, south of Center Ridge Road, to Bradley Woods Reservation.
- East-west connector from Crocker Road at St. John Medical Center, through the Medical Center property, along Center Ridge Road to the Recreation Center and Porter Library, then heading east along Westwood Road to the City’s eastern boundary and Tri-City Park.
- East-west connector along Lorain Road from Bassett Road to Clague Road, with a north-south connector on Columbia Road to the north side of I-90.
- Along Bradley Road, north of Lorain Road, to the City’s northern boundary, then heading east along the northern city limit on a utility road located south of the railroad tracks, extending to Calhoun Road.

In addition to the desire to implement the Citywide Bike Plan, residents also desire the development of trail loops within the parks. These trails should be either paved or unpaved, depending on the location and intended use. Paved trails should be developed around the main activity areas of general use parks to link the facilities and provide a smooth walking surface. These trails should link to adjacent neighborhoods, trails, and sidewalks where possible. Paved trails can also help provide ADA accessibility. Natural trails with earth, stone, or bark chip surfaces are appropriate to provide opportunities for nature education, wildlife viewing, and hiking.

Parks with the potential for additional trails:

1. The Center Ridge Site (adjacent to the library)
2. Clague Park (main park and Playhouse area)
3. Roman Park
4. Bradley Nature Park (including paving existing natural trail)
5. Bradley Woods Reservation (Metropark)
6. Meadowood (if developed as a park)
7. All future parks
Trail Design Criteria

The trails that would be developed would receive a great deal of use according to survey results. These trails would be used for bicycling, walking, and jogging. Therefore, the trails in these heavily used areas should be at least 10 feet wide and paved to provide ample room for this wide variety of potential users. Where land is available, a path for wheels (bikes and rollerblades) separated from the other walking paths helps to avoid conflicts between users. In areas where the slopes are steep or land is not available, the trails can be combined. Initial phases could include natural or wood chip type trails to allow pedestrian access only, but these trails would not allow for the maximum use of the proposed facility.

The Citywide Bike Plan includes a description of improvement types with examples and opportunities for signage, grate covers, surfaces, pavement markings, and bicycle parking. Trails for bicycles should be developed to the standards published in the AASHTO Guide for the Development of Bicycle Facilities, 2012.

The hike and bikeways routes are recommended to follow a three tiered system.

1. Hikeways
   - Class One: Hiking Only
   - Class Two: Hike and Bikeway combined
   - Class Three: Hikeway on the berm of a vehicle right-of-way

2. Bikeways
   - Class One: Bikeway Only
   - Class Two: Hike and Bikeway Combined
   - Class Three: Bikeway shared with vehicles, without a barrier but with marked off lanes and signs indicating bike lane.

In this plan, the primary corridors should be Class One or Class Two Trails. Where necessary to connect destinations in developed areas, Class Three Trails are acceptable.

Playgrounds

Playgrounds are typically developed at nearly every mini-park, neighborhood, community, regional, and county park. Playgrounds should be designed for the age specific group for which they are intended. At larger community parks, separate areas should be designated for pre-school and school-aged children.

A variety of experiences should be provided at each playground. Safe and durable materials such as plastic components, plastic coated steel decks, steel posts, and similar materials should also be used. The overall design of the playground in each facility should meet the Consumer Product Safety Commission Guidelines. Proper safety surfacing should be provided under all equipment. Universal design and accessibility is a major issue, which must be considered in the design of each existing and future playground.

At the larger community parks, it is recommended that larger and very creative destination playgrounds be developed since these parks typically have the infrastructure to handle larger groups of people. Larger community parks have the capacity to attract regional populations.

All playgrounds must meet minimum ADA requirements, but a higher level of universal access is desired at county and community parks. The main general use parks should have large destination playgrounds where appropriate.
**Parkland with Potential for New Playgrounds**

1. **The Center Ridge Site** (adjacent to the library)
2. **Clague Park** (Playhouse area)
3. **Meadowood** (if developed as a park)
4. **All future parks**

**Parks in Need of Upgraded Playgrounds**

1. **Roman Park**
2. **Clague Park - Nature Themed**
3. **Recreation Center Park**
4. **Bradley Nature Park**

**Athletic Fields**

The demand for athletic fields is ever increasing as the population increases and participation grows. It would be ideal for these facilities to be developed in complexes rather than in single fields scattered throughout the City. A complex is more efficient for the following reasons:

1. Increased efficiency for maintenance and for equipment purchase and installation.
2. Increased potential for concession sales.
3. Better oversight and convenience to league officials.
4. Equipment storage in one location.
5. Increased chance of positioning qualified medical staff at the site when an injury or accidents occur.

**Recommendations and Observations for Specific Types of Fields**

1. **Synthetic Turf Fields**

   The City may consider the development of synthetic turf fields. These fields can be used earlier in the year, later in the year, and more often during the playing seasons than natural grass fields. Additionally, these fields are safer to play upon. The long term costs are higher for the development, replacement, and maintenance, but these costs are offset by the greater number of events that can take place on the fields. The football field at Westlake High School and a field at Recreation Center Park would be ideal locations for this type of development (or potentially Meadowood, if redeveloped as a park).

2. **Natural Grass Fields**

   Fields for soccer, baseball, and lacrosse should be irrigated if possible to provide better rejuvenation of the lawn. Also, rectangular fields, such as soccer fields can be rotated in different directions for various seasons or keep some fields out of use each year to allow them to rejuvenate the grass in the wear areas. The seasons for soccer are typically in the spring and fall,
which are the prime growing seasons for grass, which makes it difficult on fields with heavy use to maintain a good lawn. Additional rectangular fields could be located at the new park location adjacent to the library and on land at Meadowood Golf Course after a decision is made about its future.

3. **Baseball Infields**

A variety of admixtures are available for improving infields of ball fields. Fields should contain primarily dirt with admixtures to improve the playing surface if they are used for multiple age groups or girl’s softball. In cases where organizations desire grass infields, which require more maintenance, then the organization should be responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of those fields. Westlake Parks have a sufficient number of baseball diamonds, but many need repair or replacement including those at Clague Park (plus the Playhouse area) and Roman Park.

**Recommended Support Facilities**

1. Bleacher/stadium seating, ideally with shade cover.
2. Parking for at least 60 cars per field.
3. Restroom and concession facilities.
4. Fields should be lighted to extend their use where consistent with the Zoning Code.
5. Paved accessible path to fields and to spectator seating areas.

**Parks with Potential for New or Upgraded Athletic Fields**

1. **The Center Ridge Site** (adjacent to the library) – New soccer/lacrosse
2. **Clague Park** – Upgraded baseball/softball diamonds
3. **Clague Park (Playhouse area)** – Upgraded baseball/softball diamonds
4. **Meadowood Golf Course** – (If converted to a park) – New soccer/lacrosse and diamond fields
5. **Roman Park** – Upgraded baseball/softball diamonds
6. **Recreation Center Park** – Upgraded baseball/softball diamonds (lighting), artificial turf at soccer/lacrosse field
7. **Westlake High School** – Artificial turf field

**Picnic Areas**

The development of picnic areas and picnic shelters were very high on the list of items identified in the surveys, the Live Well, Play Hard! Westlake website, and in the public workshops. Picnic areas are best if developed in a natural setting and could be developed in each of the neighborhood, community, and county parks. Community parks provide better opportunities for the development of large shelters (group reservable picnic shelters). These facilities could be used for events such as company picnics, family reunions, church outings, etc. Shelters in Westlake are not currently reservable; however, a change to this policy would make it easier for groups to plan for these events while also providing a revenue source.

The best group rental facilities are developed in conjunction with playgrounds, sand volleyball courts, walking trails, or open fields for games. Shelters should be located in close proximity to parking and restrooms. The most used shelters are located in a natural setting. The most inviting natural settings for picnic areas include: wooded areas, open fields, lakes for fishing, and natural stream corridors. The vicinity of athletic complexes is also an appropriate location to develop picnic shelters and facilities. Families often spend many hours at the ball fields on game days, and these shelters provide a place to get out of the sun and a place for the teams to meet.
Parks with Potential for New Picnic Shelters

1. The Center Ridge Site (adjacent to the library)
2. Clague Park
3. Recreation Center Park
4. Meadowood (if redeveloped as a park)
5. All future parks

RESTROOM FACILITIES

One of the most requested improvements to existing parks was restrooms. The desire for such facilities is common in most surveys completed by the Consultant. Residents desire restrooms with running water, flush toilets, and sinks for hand washing. They should be developed of masonry materials, be easy to clean, and should be designed to withstand heavy use and frequent cleaning. Prefab restroom buildings, such as the one at Bradley Nature Park, can come preassembled or can be assembled on site and can include additional amenities such as concessions or storage.

Potential Sites for New Restroom Facilities

1. The Center Ridge Site (adjacent to the library)
2. Clague Park
3. Clague Park (Playhouse area)
4. Porter Fields
5. Meadowood (if developed as a park)
6. All future parks

PAVILION/AMPHITHEATER COVERED STAGE

The development of a pavilion, or bandshell with a covered stage at a park in the City of Westlake would provide opportunities for a wider variety of cultural arts programs, concerts, and other presentations that are of value to the community. These structures should be designed to accommodate the types of performances for which the programs would be planned. The photographs indicate some typical types of successful amphitheaters and bandstands that have been used in other communities in Ohio.

These facilities should be supported by the presence of restrooms, drinking fountains, parking areas, and paved walkways for access. One possibility is to add an amphitheater or bandshell to Clague Park to compliment potential renovations to the Clague Cabin. Additional opportunities exist at the new Civic Space at Crocker Park with its indoor pavilion and adjacent open space.
Outdoor Aquatics

Outdoor Family Aquatic Centers

A large outdoor family aquatic center is recommended to upgrade or replace the existing Peterson Pool which should remain in its current location. The existing Outdoor Aquatic Center Feasibility Study and Peterson Pool Complex Plan, by Larsen Architects, should be implemented to meet these needs. The images below provide examples of typical outdoor family aquatic centers.

1. Design Criteria
   - A minimum of five acres in size
   - Highly visible site to increase attendance
   - Developed in conjunction with other active recreation facilities to share parking
   - Included within a larger park with other activities that would increase attractiveness for family use
   - Easy road access
   - Water, sewer and major utilities are required

2. Amenities that should be provided include the following:
   - Pool house with locker rooms
   - Large shallow water area with zero depth access and some interactive water spray activities
   - Eight lane by 25 meter (minimum) competition and lap swim area
   - A minimum of two 25 foot tall water slide towers with varying types of slides and the possibility of developing more slides in the future
   - A large water sprayground area for use by smaller children
   - Lazy River
   - Large grass sunbathing area
   - Large concession area with picnic shelter within the fence enclosure for use by larger groups.
   - Several large umbrellas or shade shelters
   - A minimum of 200 car parking lot
   - High level of lighting on the pool and deck area to allow for night time rentals and evening programs such as movies at the pool, teen parties, luaus, and other water related programs
The Clague Park site and Peterson Pool Complex Plan meet most of these requirements. Parking will likely need to be expanded, especially with the other improvements to Clague Park. The Plan provides six lap lanes (which might be sufficient for the needs in Westlake) rather than the recommended eight, and improvements should be made to the pickup/drop-off area to meet the needs of the community.

Spraygrounds

The development of spraygrounds, or water playgrounds, has become very popular among communities for a variety of reasons. One reason is that they are less costly to both develop and operate than an outdoor swimming pool or aquatic center, and they do not require lifeguards. They do, however, require pumps, filtration system, chemical feeders, and systems similar to swimming pools to recirculate and reuse the water.

The City of Westlake currently has the Splash Zone at Crocker Park which provides a place for children to play and cool off. Public input suggests that residents want more of these facilities, and new facilities could provide additional amenities. The photographs below identify potential elements of some spraygrounds. Support facilities for a sprayground area include: seating areas with shade, restrooms, and parking.

The development of two new spraygrounds is recommended in the City of Westlake. The proposed sprayground at the Peterson Pool in Clague Park will meet the needs of the eastern side of the City and should be oriented to allow it to be open during times when the pool is closed. A second sprayground should be located at Recreation Center Park adjacent to the existing playground.
Pickleball

The sport of pickleball was originally conceived in 1965 by Joel Pritchard, Bill Bell, and Barney McCallum. The sport, which can be played both indoor and outdoor, grew slowly throughout the 20th century but has recently exploded in popularity. Places to play have doubled since 2010. The sport was designed as a game the whole family could play and is popular within community centers and retirement communities. Pickleball combines elements of tennis, badminton, and ping-pong and is played with a paddle and a plastic ball like a wiffleball. A pickleball court is 20 feet by 44 feet with a 36 inch net (34 inches at the center).\(^{19}\)

Pickleball courts can be constructed as a new facility but are often developed through a tennis court conversion, which can be temporary or permanent. The simplest way to convert a pickleball court is to add the necessary lines to a tennis court and lower the net to 34 inches in the center (Figure 36). Four courts can also be painted on one tennis court with nets for each. A permanent conversion provides the best gameplay by adding fencing around courts and removing tennis court lines (Figure 37).\(^1\)

**Figure 36: Temporary Court Conversion - One Court**

\(^{19}\) Source: USA Pickleball Association (USAPA) website (http://www.usapa.org/)
Figure 37: Permanent Court Conversion - Four Courts

Potential Sites for Pickleball Courts

1. Recreation Center Park - Tennis court conversion (Change one tennis court to four courts)
2. The Center Ridge Site (adjacent to the library)

Basketball

Basketball is one of the most popular sports in the United States. Based on the trends in sports participation portion of this document (Section IV), basketball was the seventh most popular sport and the most popular team sport in the US. The City of Westlake currently has indoor basketball courts at the Westlake Recreation Center and outdoor basketball courts only at schools and Tri-City Park, located in Rocky River. Through the public input process, residents indicated a need for more of both types of facilities. A full sized basketball court requires a pad approximately 90 feet by 60 feet to accommodate the 84’ by 50’ playing area.
### Potential Sites for Basketball Courts

1. **The Center Ridge Site (adjacent to the library) - Outdoor**
2. **Clague Park (Playhouse area)**
3. **Meadowood (if redeveloped as a park)**
4. **Recreation Center Park - Indoor**

### Outdoor Fitness

The installation and use of outdoor fitness equipment has been growing in the United States due in part to the aging community. These facilities include equipment such as elliptical and arm press equipment and are also referred to as outdoor or open-air gyms. The facilities are free to use and can include wheelchair accessible equipment.\(^{20}\)

The equipment does need regular maintenance to remain functioning properly. Equipment can be located along trails, at playgrounds, or as a separate facility. Westlake currently has no facilities of this type, but with the high demand for adult fitness and wellness, such facilities should be very popular.

### Potential Sites for Outdoor Fitness

1. **The Center Ridge Site (adjacent to the library) - Adjacent to the playground**
2. **Recreation Center Park - Along trail**
3. **Clague Park - Along trail**

### Community Gardens

Community gardens allow residents to sign-up to maintain a plot on a shared open space to grow both edible and inedible plants. Plots can vary in size. Community gardens provide a number of benefits to communities including quality-of-life, social opportunities, producing nutritious food, conserving resources, and education.

The City of Westlake currently has a partnership with St. John Medical Center to offer 13 plots measuring 12 feet by 4 feet on land owned by the hospital. Users pay $25 per year for the plots, and all plots are currently in use. The City is working to expand the community garden, and the utilization of all plots as well as the results of the surveys suggest demand for these facilities. Accordingly, the City should continue this partnership and look for opportunities to expand at the hospital or in other locations as necessary.

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**SIGNAGE**

Proper signage is a key factor to allowing the community to find and relate the parks to a quality of life asset provided by the City of Westlake. Each park should have a quality and consistent sign identifying the facility, and a series of coordinated way finding signs to provide directions to other parks and directions to amenities within the park. These signs should also be coordinated with educational signage, Recreation Department documentation, and sign boards/kiosks where needed for more detailed park program information and park maps. Additionally, the signage should be updated to include a redesigned logo for the Recreation Department.

**COMMUNITY SERVICES CENTER**

The Community Services Center (CSC) is not a focus of this Master Plan assignment as it is under a separate board, but its future directly impacts several potential solutions for parks and recreation services in Westlake. Therefore, the Consultants met with a stakeholder group of senior citizens at the beginning of the process, and then another of the CSC Board, and then finally met with the staff of the CSC to gain their perspective near the end of the process.

The current facility adjacent to the Meadowood Golf Course is approximately 15,000 square feet (s.f.) and the CSC Staff identified approximately 20,000 – 30,000 s.f. facility which would be ideal for their needs. Some of the ideal elements would include the following:

- Facility on one level
- Wide hallways
- Lots of restrooms
- Double the size of the food pantry
- Private entry for social service clients
- A waiting area
- Offices for eight full time employees plus transportation staff
- A flat parking lot designed for busses and easy maneuverability by the older patrons
- Plenty of storage
- Small conference room for clients of about 250 s.f.
- Movie room to accommodate about 50 plus people
- Offices close together for easy communications
▪ Increase meeting room #1 to about 3,000 s.f. for classes, lunch and learns, and a back-up for the outdoor program
▪ Meeting room #2 about 1,000 s.f. for cards, chess, and small groups
▪ Meeting room #3 increase from 750 s.f. to about 3,000 s.f. for movies and other activities
▪ Large room #4, which is the ballroom from 2,160 s.f. to about 4,500 s.f. to accommodate 300 people lecture style. This room is currently not rented and none of the other facilities are as well.
▪ An exercise room of about 1,800 s.f. to accommodate 50 people
▪ A therapeutic pool
▪ Bathrooms of about 300 s.f. each with benches
▪ Seating in the hallway
▪ A clinic, a medical room about 350 s.f. seating 24 people (with water)
▪ Kitchen increased from 510 to 1,000 s.f. plus a 400 s.f. pantry
▪ Staff break room at 250 s.f.
▪ Food cupboard increased from 160 to 800 s.f.
▪ A café and social space
▪ Outdoor patio
▪ Staff restroom
▪ Larger workroom of about 275 s.f.
▪ Covered and lighted bocce courts, at least two
▪ Walking path
▪ Pickleball courts
▪ Covered parking for the drivers that pick up patrons
▪ Good acoustics

Three options have been discussed for the future location of an expanded facility, including: redevelopment of the current site at Meadowood; relocation adjacent to the Recreation Center; or on the new park site on Center Ridge Road adjacent to the Library. All of these options impact the future development of other park facilities and the pros and cons of each site must be weighed in the decision as to which option is most favorable to the City. Some of the factors to be considered, which have been identified by the CSC Staff and the Consultants, include:

1. **The current Meadowood site**
   
   **PROS**
   ▪ Views over the golf course
   ▪ Isolated site
   ▪ No children
   ▪ Dedicated to their use
   ▪ Overflow parking at the golf course
CONS
- Sloped parking lot
- On three levels
- The rooms are too small
- They have a wait list for activities
- There is no waiting room
- No social space
- No men’s restroom upstairs
- Hard to evacuate in an emergency because they are so spread out
- Staff offices are spread out
- Structural cracks in the building
- Roof in poor condition in the old portion

2. Field adjacent to the Porter Library site on Center Ridge Road

PROS
- Centrally located
- Level site
- Good relationship to the library
- Being near the library results in less driving by their patrons
- The library has a café

CONS
- It is located on a busier section of Center Ridge Road
- Structural condition of the soils in this area because they are uncompacted fill on top of a possible wetland area. Soils and geotechnical analyses are needed to determine the structural capability and construction cost impact for developing on this site.

3. Recreation Center Site

PROS
- Results in one stop shop with less driving and more seniors using both facilities
- Would meet the needs of the more active seniors that are moving into this age group
- Would maximize use of facilities during the daytime, when many areas are less used (i.e. – proposed auxiliary gym, pools, fitness center, meeting rooms, etc.)
- Infrastructure and office space could be shared by staff of both facilities.

CONS
- Would take away open space on the site
- Sharing of space would have to be coordinated

Proposed Facility Locations and Service Areas

If the recommended improvements are made to parks, the facility service areas will be expanded. Figures 38-42 show the recommended facility locations and potential updated service areas for these
facilities. These maps do not include recommendations for parkland not yet acquired by the City of Westlake.

The figures show increased service areas for all of the park facilities with the most noticeable improvements for diamond fields (Figure 40), rectangular fields (Figure 41), and basketball courts (Figure 43). Much of the expanded service areas require the redevelopment of Meadowood as a park, as it is located in an area currently underserved by many of these facilities.
Figure 38: Proposed Picnic Shelter Locations
Figure 39: Proposed Playground Locations
Figure 40: Proposed Diamond Field Locations

Legend
- Proposed Facilities
  - Proposed Diamond Field
  - 1/2 Mile Range of Park with Diamond

- Existing Facilities
  - 1/2 Mile Range of Park with Diamond
  - 1/2 Mile Range of School with Diamond
  - 1/2 Mile Range of Private Diamond

Parks and Recreation Master Plan
City of Westlake, Ohio

Proposed Diamond Field Locations
Figure 41: Proposed Rectangular Field Locations

Legend

Proposed Facilities
- Proposed Rectangular Field
- 1/2 Mile Range of Park with Rectangular Field

Existing Facilities
- 1/2 Mile Range of Park with Rectangular Field
- 1/2 Mile Range of School with Rectangular Field
- 1/2 Mile Range of Private Rectangular Field

Parks and Recreation Master Plan
City of Westlake, Ohio

Proposed
Rectangular Field
Locations
VIII. INDIVIDUAL PARK RECOMMENDATIONS

This section details recommendations for improvements to the existing parks and proposed new facilities. Site Concept Plans are included in this section for several parks to illustrate possible configurations of proposed facilities. These recommendations and concepts should be used as a starting point for further discussions with the community, users, and neighbors in the design of the parks. Further investigation of these parks is required to determine their capability to support the desired facilities and to identify the precise arrangement of facilities.

All parks are in need of improvements to the parking areas. Additionally, security cameras and lighting are recommended for all parks except the Porter Fields. Similarly, Wi-Fi Hotspots should be installed at the same parks. All perimeter trails should be all-purpose trails (bicyclists, skaters, runners, pedestrians, etc.) and should be at least 8 feet wide (preferable 10’-12’). Cost estimates for these improvements are included at the end of the discussion of park recommendations.

RECREATION CENTER PARK

As the site of the Recreation Center, this park is the most visible and most visited park in the City of Westlake. Accordingly, this park should be improved to serve as a showcase of the system with high quality, cutting-edge facilities. The concept plans for the proposed improvements are separated into two sections, the northern portion of the park (Figure 43) and two alternatives for the southern portion of the park (Figures 44 and 45), depending on the chosen location of the Community Services Center.

Northern Portion (Figure 43)

1. Improvements to Diamond Fields
   The following will improve the quality of these fields, accessibility, and times of use.
   - Pave paths to and areas around dugouts and bleachers to increase accessibility.
   - Add outfield and side fences, regrade the infield and outfield, and irrigate the fields for improved quality of play and field appearance.
   - Add covered dugouts.
   - Add lights to allow for use after dark.

2. Artificial Turf at Primary Rectangle Field
   Adding artificial turf to the existing rectangular field, adjacent to the diamond fields, will help to confirm this park as a primary attraction in the City of Westlake. This field should be lighted, fenced, and should include permanent bleachers for spectators.

3. Playground Area Enhancements
   The playground is in good shape but will benefit from some improvements, including the addition of shade over the accessible portion of the playground and a reservable picnic shelter for hosting events. This area also may be a good location for the eventual development of a sprayground.

4. Trail and Walkway Enhancements
   Connection trails between the facilities and parking will make this area accessible and ADA compliant. These walkways will provide better access for spectators and will allow all community members to take advantage of these great park facilities. The addition of fitness stations along the existing trail will provide opportunities for users to enhance their workout and enjoyment.
Southern Portion – Alternatives 1 and 2 (Figures 44 and 45)

1. **New Community Services Center**
   If the Recreation Center is chosen as the location for a new Community Services Center, the structure should be constructed as an expansion to the western end of the existing building, providing a separate entrance while allowing access to the existing Recreation Center facilities. This option will require expanded parking, likely involving the relocation of the gazebo.

2. **Auxiliary Gym**
   The addition of an auxiliary gym for use while the existing gym is occupied has been under consideration for many years and was a common request throughout the planning process. This gym would have a multi-purpose rubber floor that would complement the Community Services Center if it is located at this site. This addition should be located on the southwest side of the existing structure under both alternatives.

3. **Additional Indoor Pool**
   Like the auxiliary gym, a second indoor pool has been an ongoing consideration at the Recreation Center. A new pool will provide an opportunity for users to swim while the main pool is in use for swim meets and practices.

4. **Fitness Area Expansion**
   If expansion of the fitness area is desired in the future, the area adjacent to the existing fitness area will be reserved for that potential use.

5. **Pickleball Courts**
   One existing tennis court should be converted into four pickleball courts. The easternmost court should be used because it is wide enough to allow for four courts and is already separated from the other tennis courts.

6. **Trail and Walkway Enhancements**
   As recommended for the northern portion of the park, fitness stations should be located along the existing trail. Walkways should be added to connect parking in the southern portion to the facilities in the northern portion to support the facility improvements in that area of the park.

**Clague Park**

Two concept plans were prepared for Clague Park to provide options for field development that will be contingent on developments in other parks in the City of Westlake. Figure 46 illustrates a four field complex while Figure 47 provides an alternative that leaves more of the park as open space. A Master Plan is needed to fully develop a long term vision for this park.

**Alternative 1 (Figure 46)**

1. **New Outdoor Family Aquatic Center**
   A new outdoor family aquatic center should be developed on the site of the current Peterson Pool. This facility should build off of the existing concept plan for the redevelopment of the pool. The development should also include a drop-off area with accessible parking.

2. **New Playground**
   The playground at Clague Park is in great need of repair and should be replaced with a new nature themed playground to fit the character of the park. The playground and surrounding area should allow universal access and should include a reservable picnic shelter for events. All pathways to the playground must be paved.
3. **Bandshell**
   A bandshell should be constructed in the northwestern portion of the park near Clague Cabin to provide a location for a variety of desired events including summer concerts and movie nights.

4. **New Four Diamond Field Complex**
   Four new diamond fields in a wagon wheel alignment replace the existing Ponytail fields under this alternative. These new fields will be high quality facilities with 200 foot fences, and a restroom/concessions building should be located in the center of the complex.

5. **Additional Parking**
   This park currently suffers from a deficiency of parking, and the new development will increase the parking requirements. Accordingly, the western parking lot should be expanded, and parking should be added in the northeastern part of the park to accommodate the diamond fields. A permeable parking lot is recommended at the current location of the overflow parking. This solution will provide for more formalized parking when needed while allowing stormwater to absorb into the soil when not in use.

6. **Restoration of Clague Cabin**
   The Clague Cabin is in great need of repair and should be restored to its original use as an open air pavilion. The structure is historic and should become an asset for the community. The facility will be rentable separately or used in conjunction with the bandshell for larger events.

7. **Existing Field Improvements**
   The two fields located in the southeastern portion of the park are in need of improvements and lack convenient access to a restroom facility. The backstops for both fields should be replaced and a restroom/storage building should be constructed to improve these fields for users and spectators. The fields should be regraded, new infield mix should be installed, and drainage should be enhanced.

8. **Trail and Walkway Enhancements**
   The park currently has two trail loops that are not connected and limited trails throughout the rest of the park. These two trail loops should be connected and a new perimeter trail should be constructed around the main area of the park. The new perimeter trail should be 10' to 12' wide and the existing trails should be widened to match. This width will allow for safe use for both pedestrians and bicyclists. Additionally, a bridge should be constructed over the spillway to complete the northeastern loop around the pond. A series of walkways should be constructed to connect the facilities and to make all facilities accessible and ADA compliant. Finally, a series of fitness stations should be located along the perimeter trail.

**Alternative 2 (Figure 47)**

The second alternative for Clague Park provides all the proposed improvements outlined in the first alternative, except the four diamond field complex is replaced with two fields and a restroom building. This option provides a greater amount of open space in the northern portion of the park, but the diamond fields will likely need to be replaced somewhere else in the City of Westlake.

**CLAGUE PARK (PLAYHOUSE AREA)**

The parkland behind the Clague Playhouse is underutilized, and the facilities currently located at this site are in need of improvement and are not well oriented. Figure 48 shows the concept plan for the area behind the Playhouse.

1. **New Three Diamond Field Complex**
   The fields behind Clague Playhouse are in need of improvements and are oriented in a way that does not allow for the expansion of the parking lot which is insufficient to the needs of these fields.
A new three diamond field complex should be constructed to replace these fields with a restroom building in the center. This configuration will allow for the needed expansion of the parking lot and places the largest number of park users at the center of the park area, at the greatest distance from neighboring residences.

2. **Basketball court**

   The City of Westlake is in need of additional outdoor basketball courts, and the proposed configuration will provide room for such a facility in this location. The proposed location for this facility is, like the fields, located as far from neighboring residences as possible.

3. **Playground**

   A small playground at this location is recommended to support the diamond fields to provide activities for siblings while attending ballgames.

4. **Trail and Walkway Enhancements**

   A new perimeter trail will provide additional uses for this park for those not using the diamond fields. The perimeter trail should be 10’ to 12’ wide to allow for safe use by both pedestrians and bicyclists. The trail should connect to Clague Road at the sidewalk, and a widened sidewalk up to the crosswalk should connect this trail to the trails at Clague Park. Finally, a series of walkways should be constructed to connect the facilities and parking to make all facilities accessible and ADA compliant.

5. **Expanded Parking**

   As noted above, the parking is currently inadequate at this location and needs to be expanded. The proposed field orientation will allow for the parking lot to be expanded by 100 spaces or more.

6. **New Service Barn and Yard**

   A new service barn and yard has been requested previously, and it is recommended that it be included in the improvements to this park.

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**CENTER RIDGE SITE (NEXT TO LIBRARY)**

The City of Westlake owns a 29.7 acre property adjacent to the Porter Library on Center Ridge Road. This site should be developed as a park for the use of residents of the City. This location provides an opportunity to meet many of the unmet facility needs of Westlake residents. This site is another potential location for the Community Services Center. Therefore, two alternative concept plans (Figures 50 and 51) were developed, one with the Community Services Center and one without the facility. These concept plans use available data to illustrate the portions of the property that are likely to be usable as active parkland.

A Master Plan, including a survey and wetland delineation, is needed for this property to identify which portions of the property can and should be developed. Uncompacted fill was placed on this site which could result in differential settling. Therefore, soil and subsurface analysis will be required before any structures are considered for this site.

**Alternative 1 (Figure 49)**

1. **Rectangular Fields**

   The City of Westlake has a substantial need for additional soccer fields, and this property has a significant amount of flat open land that should be utilized for these needs. This open space is large enough to provide for three full sized fields and one medium sized field. These fields can be relined as smaller fields or as lacrosse fields. Additionally, a concessions/restroom building is recommended to complement these new fields.
2. **Playground**

A new all access playground is recommended to provide a facility to serve children and families of the City of Westlake while also complementing the new fields.

3. **Outdoor Fitness Area**

An outdoor fitness area is recommended at this location to provide the equipment options proposed along the trails at both Recreation Center and Clague Parks. This facility will provide an alternative for users who prefer to use equipment in one central location rather than at various stations along a trail.

4. **Picnic Shelter**

A reservable picnic shelter will complement the other uses at this park and provide a desirable location near the natural areas of this property.

5. **Trails and Walkways**

This property provides a great opportunity for both paved and unpaved trails. A perimeter trail (around the developed portion of the site) will provide an additional trail for the community for both pedestrians and bicyclists. This trail will also connect the residential area to the south of the site to this new park, Center Ridge Road, and the Porter Library. Nature trails should meander through the portion of the property that will be left undeveloped. Finally, ADA compliant walkways should be constructed as needed to connect facilities and parking.

6. **Basketball Court**

The construction of a basketball court at this location will fill a need in the City of Westlake in a central location. One full sized court is recommended and additional side goals can be added in the future if needed.

7. **Parking**

A sufficient number of parking spaces should be constructed to serve the facility uses at this park. This concept plan shows parking for 220 vehicles to meet the needs of the outlined facilities. The parking lot should connect to Center Ridge Road at the north side of the property and Dover Center Road to the east, connecting to the existing road behind the library.

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**Alternative 2 (Figure 50)**

1. **Items 1 through 5 from Alternative 1**

The first five items from Alternative 1 also appear in Alternative 2; however, the smaller of the four soccer fields and the basketball court have been removed to make room for the Community Services Center and related facilities.

2. **New Community Services Center**

If this site is chosen as the location for a new Community Services Center, the building should be located at the northern end of the property along Center Ridge Road and adjacent to the Porter Library.

3. **Bocce Courts**

Bocce courts should be constructed to the south of the structure to complement the facility and should have shade structures to protect users from the sun and increase the desirability of the courts.
4. **Pickleball Courts**

   If the Community Services Center is located at this site, two pickleball courts should be constructed to support the facility as these courts are desirable to seniors. Space near the courts should be left available for additional future courts if a demand arises.

5. **Parking**

   The parking in Alternative 2 is expanded to 270 spaces to support the Community Services Center, and the facility should have a covered drop-off at the Center Ridge entrance and a secondary drop-off at the side entrance.

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**Meadowood Park**

The future of the Meadowood Golf Course has been a reoccurring topic throughout this planning process. The City of Westlake has considered developing a driving range but has also considered developing the property as an active and passive recreation park. If the property is redeveloped as a park, the existing clubhouse should be kept for use as a tournament headquarters and rental facility. The following two concept plans were produced to illustrate the potential of the site. These concept plans (Figures 52 and 53) use available data to show the portions of the course that are more easily developed into active park facilities including fields.

Alternative 1 illustrates the potential for the entire property if developed as a park for the community. Alternative 2 illustrates the potential redevelopment of only the Yellow Course while leaving the White and Red Courses untouched. Effort was made to minimize impact to the natural features of the site and to utilize existing elements such as wooded areas, ponds, and existing trails. Under either alternative, a putting green could be preserved for practice and play. A Master Plan, including a survey, is needed for this property to identify which portions of the property can and should be developed.

**Alternative 1 (Figure 51)**

1. **Rectangular Fields**

   The concept plan for Alternative 1 shows land for up to six full sized fields and one medium sized field while maintaining the existing features of the property. These fields could be developed as necessary or rotated in use to maintain the quality of turf. An artificial turf field could be developed at the location of one of the fields as an alternative to the field at Recreation Center Park.

2. **Four Diamond Field Complex**

   Four diamond fields in a wagon wheel alignment could be developed in the southeastern portion of the park, under this alternative. These new fields will be high quality facilities with one large field with a 300 foot fence and three smaller fields, two with 215 foot fences and one with a 225 foot fence. A restroom/concessions building should be located in the center of the complex.

3. **Trails and Walkways**

   The golf course provides abundant opportunities for trails. A perimeter trail connecting to the existing golf cart trails will provide a lengthy trail that will also connect to Bradley Nature Park. These collective trails will provide an off-road trail connection between Center Ridge and Bradley Roads. In addition to the all-purpose perimeter trail, a series of interior trails through natural areas and around water features will enhance the communities enjoyment if the property. Finally, ADA compliant walkways should be constructed as needed to connect facilities and parking.

4. **Playgrounds**

   Because this property is so large, two playgrounds are recommended at opposite ends of the park. The concept plan depicts the playground on the western side of the park near the parking lot and adjacent to the soccer fields. The playground on the eastern side of the park is also
located near parking and adjacent to the clubhouse. At least one of these playgrounds should be all-access to serve all members of the community and to meet ADA guidelines.

5. **Basketball Court**

A basketball court is recommended for this park to help meet this unmet need for the City of Westlake. The location of the court in the concept plan is near the center of the park adjacent to the parking. As with the previous concept plans with basketball courts, one full sized court is recommended and additional side goals can be added if needed. Land is also available at this park for additional courts in the future.

6. **Picnic Shelters**

The concept plan shows three picnic shelters located throughout the park. One shelter should be located adjacent to each of the two large ponds with the third located on the wooded western side of the property near the playground. The location of these shelters should make them desirable as rental facilities. The shelter located near the southern pond will be located close to parking, making it the most accessible of the shelters.

7. **Restroom and Concessions Buildings**

Several restroom buildings and combined restroom/concessions buildings are recommended throughout the site. In addition to the restroom/concessions building located at the diamond field four-plex, an additional such facility is recommended in the western portion of the park adjacent to the three large soccer fields and the playground. Additional restroom buildings are also recommended near the northeastern picnic shelter and north of the basketball court. Due to the size and number of facilities at this site, more restroom buildings may be desirable in the future.

8. **Parking with Access Road**

In order to provide adequate parking, additional parking will be required. Also, the facilities on the western side of the site will need nearby parking. An access road will be needed to reach a new parking area with a capacity of approximately 225 spaces. A parking lot for 100 vehicles expanding the existing in the southeastern portion of the property is also recommended. If all proposed fields are developed and used simultaneously, more parking may be needed.

**Alternative 2 (Figure 52)**

Alternative 2 (the Yellow Course only) contains all of the elements of Alternative 1 but with a reduced number of each type of facility. The number of potential soccer fields is reduced from seven to two, and the number of diamond fields is reduced from four to two. The diamond fields are also relocated to the western side of the property, maintaining the two largest fields.

This alternative has two reservable picnic shelters, one in the wooded area on the western side of the property and one on the eastern side adjacent to the pond. The perimeter all-purpose trail would be realigned but would still connect to Bradley Nature Park. This concept also has only two restroom buildings and no concessions.

**Roman Park**

Roman Park is currently underutilized because the fields are in need of repair. As the only park in the northern part of Westlake, this site has the potential for increased usage. The concept plan for this park (Figure 53) displays improvements that would enhance this park for City residents.

1. **Improvements to Diamond Fields**

The three diamond fields at this park are large enough for adult softball and one of the fields is lighted. Improvements to these fields could make this park more desirable for these users. First, the dugout and bleacher areas should be paved to improve access, and the dugouts should be
covered. The fields need to be regraded, and outfield and side fences would improve the experience for users and spectators.

2. **Trail and Walkway Enhancements**

Roman Park currently has no walking trails or connecting walkways. A perimeter trail is recommended to provide services to residents and adjacent businesses. The all-purpose trail would loop around the diamond fields and may need to connect to the sidewalk along Ranney Parkway to complete the loop. Finally, a series of walkways should be constructed for ADA compliance and to connect to the trail, facilities, and parking.

3. **New Playground**

The playground at Roman Park is old and in need of replacement. A new playground should be constructed to replace the existing facility to provide a needed facility for local residents, children attending ballgames at the park, and users of the picnic shelter.

### Other Parks

The remaining parks in the City of Westlake need more limited improvements. Only the previously discussed parking lot repaving and the addition of a restroom building is needed at the Porter Fields. Bradley Nature Park would benefit from trail enhancements. The trail connecting the park to Crocker Road should be paved as an all-purpose trail to allow all users to reach the park from that location. An extension to connect to Meadowood, if developed as a park, should be constructed to improve connectivity between the Westlake Parks and the overall community.

Finally, repairs and improvements are needed at Tri-City Park. A Master Plan should be completed for this park to determine the needs for the future, and strategy should be formulated with the other two cities that operate this park (Rocky River and Fairview Park) as to how to implement those improvements.

### New Parks

Two new neighborhood parks are recommended in the City of Westlake to fill gaps in service. One should be located in the northeast-central region of Westlake, and one should be located in the southeast portion of the City. Figure 54 shows the proposed park service areas if these parks are developed as well as the parks at the Center Ridge Site and Meadowood Golf Course. The two new parks depicted in this map (Northeast-Central Park and Southeast Park) represent general locations for the City of Westlake to look for opportunities for new parkland. These locations should not be interpreted as specific locations for land acquisition. Rather, if land of sufficient size (8 to 12 acres) becomes available in these areas, the City should investigate the potential for park development at those properties.

### School Facility Improvements

The City of Westlake has been considering partnering with the Westlake City School District to develop an artificial turf field at the Westlake High School. Public support for developing this facility was a reoccurring theme throughout this planning process, so it is recommended that this project move forward or invest in an artificial turf field at a city park.

The playgrounds and fields at many of the school sites need to be improved to address safety and ADA issues. These improvements are the responsibility of the School District. The Recreation Department and Parks Division (of the Services Department) should consider opportunities for collaboration with the schools to make sure these facilities are well-maintained and available to the residents of Westlake.
The capital improvement ranking was determined by the Master Plan Advisory Committee and community leaders after reviewing the potential solutions and recommendations of the Master Plan. The committee participated in an exercise to help establish priorities for the Action Plan. The results were presented from the public input processes and other analyses by the Consultant, Committee Members, and community leaders. The committee members and community leaders tasked with implementing the Master Plan (City Council, City Department Heads and Chiefs, and Recreation Department Staff) were asked to rank each capital improvement project with a High Priority (3), Medium Priority (2), Low Priority (1), or Not Needed (0). The priority ranking was used to indicate the importance of the improvements and not necessarily the order in which they would be developed.

Table 24 identifies the capital improvement ranking based on the average of the ranking for each item. These rankings were used as part of the process for recommending priorities, along with public input and analyses completed throughout this Master Planning process.

### Table 24: Capital Projects Priority Ranking

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Capital Projects Rank - High (3), Medium (2), Low (1), or Not Needed (0).</th>
<th>Capital Improvement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Average Score, Priority Rank</td>
<td>Capital Improvement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.53, 1, Clague Park - New family aquatic center (to replace Peterson Pool)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.21, 2, Recreation Center Park - Baseball/softball field lights, pave bleacher/dugout areas, and outfield/side fences</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.18, 3, Clague Park - New perimeter trail and link/widen existing loops, with outdoor fitness stations</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.13, 4, Clague Park - Pedestrian bridge over spillway to complete loop trail around pond</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.08, 5, Recreation Center - Auxiliary gym addition</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.05, 6, Security cameras and lighting (all parks)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.97, 7, Clague Park - Replace playground (with new nature themed equipment) with picnic shelter</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.95, 8, Redevelop the Meadowood Golf Course as an active and passive park with athletic field complexes, trails, picnic areas, natural areas, etc.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.87, 9, Clague Park (Playhouse area) - New diamond field three-plex to replace existing fields with restroom/concessions building and parking</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.86, 10, Clague Park lit field improvements</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.84, 11, Center Ridge Site (adjacent to library) - Soccer fields (3 large, 1 medium) with restroom/concessions building</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.79, 12, Trails and paths outside of parks</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.76, 13, Cooperate and invest capital and maintenance funds for facilities on School properties to take advantage of the land and for higher quality fields</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.74, 14, Center Ridge Site (adjacent to library) - Paved perimeter trail around central area and nature trails in wooded area</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.68, 15, Recreation Center Park - Artificial turf lighted rectangular field with bleachers</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.68, 15, Westlake High School - Partner in cost of artificial turf field</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average Score</td>
<td>Priority Rank</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.66</td>
<td>17</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>1.63</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.61</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.61</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.58</td>
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<td>1.53</td>
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<td>1.50</td>
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<td>1.46</td>
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<td>1.42</td>
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<td>1.39</td>
<td>29</td>
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<td>1.37</td>
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<td>1.34</td>
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<td>1.32</td>
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<td>1.21</td>
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<td>1.12</td>
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<td>0.87</td>
<td>39</td>
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<tr>
<td>0.76</td>
<td>40</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Figure 43: Recreation Center Park North Concept Plan
Figure 44: Recreation Center Park Southern Concept Plan - Alternative 1
Figure 45: Recreation Center Park Southern Concept Plan - Alternative 2
Figure 46: Clague Park Concept Plan - Alternative 1
Figure 47: Clague Park Concept Plan - Alternative 2
Figure 48: Clague Park Playhouse Fields Concept Plan
VIII. INDIVIDUAL PARK RECOMMENDATIONS

Figure 49: Center Ridge Concept Plan - Alternative 1
Figure 50: Center Ridge Concept Plan - Alternative 2
Figure 51: Meadowood Park Concept Plan - Alternative 1
Figure 52: Meadowood Park Concept Plan - Alternative 2
Figure 53: Roman Park Concept Plan
### ORDER OF MAGNITUDE CAPITAL PROJECT ESTIMATES

The following project costs are order-of-magnitude cost estimates for the improvements described previously in this section of the Master Plan. The provided concept plans are very general, and final designs should be coordinated with neighborhoods and park users through a more formal park design process. The illustrations show possible park configurations and how proposed facilities could fit on each site. The estimated project costs are presented in order of descending cost. For project priorities, see the Action Plan in Section IX.

#### Community Parks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Alternatives</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Recreation Center Park</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Alternatives 1 &amp; 2</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. New pool addition (structure)</td>
<td>$2,500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. New indoor pool</td>
<td>$2,125,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Auxiliary Gym</td>
<td>$2,025,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Fitness area expansion</td>
<td>$1,373,850</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Artificial turf at rectangle field</td>
<td>$1,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f. Lights at diamonds and rectangle field</td>
<td>$450,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g. Sprayground</td>
<td>$400,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>h. Repave parking lot</td>
<td>$300,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i. Diamond field regrading, sod, &amp; infield admixtures</td>
<td>$80,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>j. Shade structure at playground</td>
<td>$75,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>k. Diamond field irrigation</td>
<td>$60,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>l. New picnic shelter at playground</td>
<td>$60,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>m. Outdoor fitness equipment along trail</td>
<td>$60,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>n. Bleachers at artificial turf field on concrete pad</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o. Walkways in northern portion (all access)</td>
<td>$33,913</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>p. Covered dugouts</td>
<td>$32,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>q. Convert one tennis court to four pickleball courts</td>
<td>$30,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>r. Pave around dugouts and bleachers</td>
<td>$27,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>s. Security cameras system</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>t. Outfield and side fences at diamonds</td>
<td>$16,865</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>u. Drinking Fountains with Spigots</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>v. Wi-Fi Hotspots</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>w. Relocate gazebo</td>
<td>Funded Separately</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>x. New Community Services Center</td>
<td>Funded Separately</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>y. Expand parking for Community Service Center</td>
<td>Funded Separately</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Subtotal for Construction** $10,743,628

Contingency (10%) $1,074,363

**Construction Total** $11,817,990

Design/survey/bidding (12%) $1,418,159

**Project Total** $13,236,149
### 2. Clague Park

#### Alternative 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. New family aquatic center (with drop-off) $5,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Diamond field four-plex with restroom/concessions building $2,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Bandshell and stage $300,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Replace playground (nature themed/all access) $250,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Historic restoration of Clague Cabin to open air pavilion $240,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f. Restroom building with storage (southeastern diamonds) $200,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g. Repave existing parking lots $185,670</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>h. Widen and repave existing trails (both loops) $165,240</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i. Restroom building (western side of park) $150,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>j. New perimeter trail $129,768</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>k. Permeable parking lot (overflow parking) $95,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>l. Additional paved parking (2 places) $88,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>m. Diamond Field Regrade, sod, &amp; infield $80,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>n. Outdoor fitness equipment along trail $60,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o. Picnic shelter at playground $60,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>p. Diamond field irrigation $60,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>q. Bridge over spillway $50,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>r. Replace backstops (southeastern diamonds) $30,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>s. Connecting trails and walkways (all access) $27,865</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>t. Security cameras $25,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>u. Drinking Fountains with Spigots $24,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>v. Wi-Fi Hotspots $10,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Subtotal for Construction** $9,230,543  
**Contingency (10%)** $923,054  
**Construction Total** $10,153,597  
**Design/survey/bidding (12%)** $1,218,432  
**Project Total** $11,372,029  

#### Alternative 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. New family aquatic center (with drop-off) $5,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Diamond fields (2) $800,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Bandshell and stage $300,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Restroom buildings (2) $300,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Replace playground (nature themed/all access) $250,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f. Historic restoration of Clague Cabin to open air pavilion $240,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g. Restroom building with storage (southeastern diamonds) $200,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>h. Repave existing parking lots $185,670</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i. Widen and repave existing trails (both loops) $165,240</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>j.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>k.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>l.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>n.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>p.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>q.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>r.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>s.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>t.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>u.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>v.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Subtotal for Construction** $8,170,543  
**Contingency (10%)** $817,054  
**Construction Total** $8,987,597

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Cost</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a.</td>
<td>Diamond field three-plex</td>
<td>$540,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b.</td>
<td>New service barn and yard</td>
<td>$400,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c.</td>
<td>Restroom/Concession Building</td>
<td>$200,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d.</td>
<td>Additional paved parking</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e.</td>
<td>Repave existing parking lots</td>
<td>$89,380</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f.</td>
<td>Playground</td>
<td>$80,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g.</td>
<td>Perimeter trail with connection to main Clague Park</td>
<td>$55,858</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>h.</td>
<td>Basketball court</td>
<td>$30,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i.</td>
<td>Area lighting</td>
<td>$24,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>j.</td>
<td>Connecting trails and walkways (all access)</td>
<td>$21,775</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>k.</td>
<td>Widen sidewalk to crosswalk</td>
<td>$8,424</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>l.</td>
<td>Drinking Fountains with Spigots</td>
<td>$6,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>m.</td>
<td>Wi-Fi Hotspots</td>
<td>$6,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>n.</td>
<td>Security cameras</td>
<td>$6,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Subtotal for Construction** $1,567,937  
**Contingency (10%)** $156,794  
**Construction Total** $1,724,731

Design/survey/bidding (12%) $206,968  
**Project Total** $1,931,698
4. **Center Ridge Site (Next to Library)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Alternative 1</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. Playground (all access)</td>
<td>$250,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Paved parking lot</td>
<td>$220,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Restroom/concessions building</td>
<td>$200,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Four soccer fields - Three large, one medium</td>
<td>$91,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Perimeter trail</td>
<td>$75,348</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f. Picnic shelter</td>
<td>$60,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g. Area Lighting and electric line</td>
<td>$52,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>h. Signed crosswalk to connect to Recreation Center Park</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i. Basketball court</td>
<td>$30,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>j. Nature trails</td>
<td>$15,513</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>k. Security cameras</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>l. Connecting trails and walkways (all access)</td>
<td>$11,253</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>m. Wi-Fi Hotspots</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>n. Drinking Fountains with Spigots</td>
<td>$9,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Subtotal for Construction</strong></td>
<td>$1,089,813</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Contingency (10%)</strong></td>
<td>$108,981</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Construction Total</strong></td>
<td>$1,198,794</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Design/survey/bidding (12%)</strong></td>
<td>$143,855</td>
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<td><strong>Project Total</strong></td>
<td>$1,342,650</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Alternative 2</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. Playground</td>
<td>$250,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Paved parking lot</td>
<td>$220,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Restroom/concessions building</td>
<td>$200,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Three large soccer fields</td>
<td>$68,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Perimeter trail</td>
<td>$62,496</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f. Outdoor gym</td>
<td>$60,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g. Picnic shelter</td>
<td>$60,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>h. Area Lighting and electric line</td>
<td>$52,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i. Signed crosswalk to connect to Recreation Center Park</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>j. Nature trails</td>
<td>$15,575</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>k. Security cameras</td>
<td>$12,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>l. Connecting trails and walkways (all access)</td>
<td>$11,253</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>m. Wi-Fi Hotspots</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>n. Drinking Fountains with Spigots</td>
<td>$9,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o. Two bocce courts with shade</td>
<td>Funded Separately</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
5. Meadowood Park

**Alternative 1**

a. Diamond field four-plex with restroom/concessions building $2,250,000
b. Playgrounds (2) $350,000
c. Paved parking lot $325,000
d. Restroom buildings (2) $300,000
e. Restroom/concessions building $200,000
f. Picnic shelters (3) $180,000
g. Connecting trails and walkways (all access) $166,575
h. Six large soccer fields, one medium field $159,600
i. Area Lighting and electric line $122,500
j. Perimeter trail $79,038
k. Road to parking lot $49,860
l. Improve existing trails $36,000
m. Security cameras $36,000
n. Basketball court $30,000
o. Drinking Fountains with Spigots $24,000
p. Wi-Fi Hotspots $14,000

**Subtotal for Construction** $4,322,573
Contingency (10%) $432,257

**Construction Total** $4,754,830
Design/survey/bidding (12%) $570,580

**Project Total** $5,325,410

**Alternative 2**

a. Two diamond fields $1,000,000
b. Playgrounds (2) $350,000
c. Restroom buildings (2) $300,000
d. Paved parking lot $225,000
e. Picnic shelters (2) $120,000
f. Connecting trails and walkways (all access) $95,435
g. Area Lighting and electric line $87,500
### Individual Park Recommendations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>h. Perimeter trail</th>
<th>$69,966</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>i. Two large soccer fields</td>
<td>$68,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>j. Road to parking lot</td>
<td>$54,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>k. Improve existing trails</td>
<td>$36,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>l. Basketball court</td>
<td>$30,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>m. Security cameras</td>
<td>$27,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>n. Drinking Fountains with Spigots</td>
<td>$18,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Subtotal for Construction** $2,489,301

**Contingency (10%)** $248,930

**Construction Total** $2,738,231

**Design/survey/bidding (12%)** $328,588

**Project Total** $3,066,819

### Neighborhood Parks

**1. Roman Park**

| a. Diamond Field Regrade, sod, & infield | $120,000 |
| b. Diamond field irrigation             | $105,000 |
| c. Replace playground                    | $80,000  |
| d. Pave around dugouts and bleachers    | $54,000  |
| e. Covered dugouts                      | $48,000  |
| f. Outfield and side fences at diamonds | $47,190  |
| g. Repave existing parking lot          | $45,480  |
| h. Perimeter trail                      | $44,514  |
| i. Widen sidewalk along Ranney Pkwy     | $34,776  |
| j. Connecting trails and walkways (all access) | $30,590 |
| k. Area lighting                        | $17,500  |
| l. Security cameras                     | $12,000  |
| m. Wi-Fi Hotspots                       | $7,000   |
| n. Drinking Fountains with Spigots      | $6,000   |

**Subtotal for Construction** $652,050

**Contingency (10%)** $65,205

**Construction Total** $717,255

**Design/survey/bidding (12%)** $86,071

**Project Total** $803,326

**2. Bradley Nature Park**

| a. Replace Playground                   | $80,000 |
| b. Pave existing trail connection to Crocker Road | $44,496 |
| c. Repave existing parking lot          | $24,516 |
| d. Security cameras and lighting        | $10,500 |

**Subtotal for Construction** $208,694

**Contingency (10%)** $20,869

**Construction Total** $229,563
### VIII. INDIVIDUAL PARK RECOMMENDATIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>e. Connect trail to Meadowood (if developed as a park)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f. Wi-Fi Hotspots</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g. Drinking Fountains with Spigots</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Subtotal for Construction** $181,818  
Contingency (10%) $18,182  
**Construction Total** $200,000  
Design/survey/bidding (12%) $24,000  
**Project Total** $224,000  

### 3. Porter Fields

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. Restroom building</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Repave existing parking lot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Drinking Fountains with Spigots</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Subtotal for Construction** $204,720  
Contingency (10%) $20,472  
**Construction Total** $225,192  
Design/survey/bidding (12%) $27,023  
**Project Total** $252,215  

### 4. Tri-City Park

- Master plan for improvements: $25,000  
  **Project Total** $25,000

### School Facilities

**Westlake High School**

| Artificial turf field | $500,000 |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Project Total</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Recreation Department

- a. New logo/rebranding: $25,000  
- b. ADA Accessibility Assessment: $20,000  
- c. Signage for wayfinding at all parks: $30,000  

**Project Total** $75,000

### New Parks

1. **Northeast-Central Neighborhood Park**: $1,000,000  
2. **Southeast Neighborhood Park**: $1,000,000

### Recreation Department

- **New logo/rebranding**: $25,000  
  **Project Total**: $25,000

**Total Parks**: $37,087,477

**Note:** Does not include land acquisition costs or the development of parks on School lands (except artificial turf at the High School).
Total Parks

The total cost for all improvements will depend on the alternatives chosen at Recreation Center Park, Clague Park, and the Center Ridge Site. The cost is also dependent on whether or not Meadowood Golf Course is redeveloped as a park. The total cost will likely be in the neighborhood of $30 million plus another $3 to $5.5 million to redevelop the golf course as a park. These estimates do not include the costs associated with land acquisition or development on school sites (other than the artificial turf field at the High School).
IX. ACTION PLAN

ACTION PLAN STRATEGIES

The table on the following pages details the recommendations of this Master Plan and should serve as direction for the City Council and Recreation Commission regarding the implementation of this Plan. A total of six goals, 28 objectives, and 122 strategies are outlined in this Action Plan. The legend at the top of the table identifies the abbreviations used throughout the table in columns for “Responsibility” and “Funding Source.”

The table identifies each goal, followed by a series of objectives to meet those goals. Strategies further describe how to meet each objective. Check marks indicate the timeframe for the completion of each strategy 0-2 years, 3-5 years, 6-10 years, or over 10 years. Some strategies are indicated as “Ongoing” as they apply to all time frames.

The two columns on the right indicate the responsible organization and the funding source for the strategy. “Responsibility” indicates the organization or agency that is should lead implementation of the recommendation. “Funding Source” indicates how the strategy should be funded or the type of funds used. For example, CP indicates that funds come from a source related to the City’s Five-Year Capital Plan, including existing or future revenue sources.
## ACTION PLAN

### Goals, Objectives, and Strategies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>0-2 YEARS</th>
<th>3-5 YEARS</th>
<th>6-10 YEARS</th>
<th>10+ YEARS</th>
<th>RESPONSIBILITY</th>
<th>FUNDING SOURCE</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Legend of Abbreviations/Organizations</strong></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rec = Westlake Recreation Department</td>
<td>Partner = Other organizations or government agencies (i.e. Businesses, Civic Associations, state/federal grants, etc.)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parks = Westlake Parks Division of the Services Department</td>
<td>Schools = Westlake City School District</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>City = City of Westlake, City Council, Other City Departments</td>
<td>OP = City Operating Budget</td>
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<tr>
<td>County = Cleveland Metroparks</td>
<td>CP = Five-Year Capital Plan sources (Park Improvements Fund, Recreation Improvements, etc.)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Goal 1: Generate **Excitement** in Facilities and Services

Strategically plan for and implement strategies to acquire, preserve, develop, maintain, and redevelop cutting-edge parks, facilities, and open space.

**Objective 1.1:** Proactively prioritize the implementation of this Master Plan to assure an evenly distributed balance of active recreation, passive recreation, open spaces, and natural environments in the City of Westlake.

**Strategy 1.1.1:** Present Final Master Plan to the Steering Committee and City Council.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>0-2 YEARS</th>
<th>3-5 YEARS</th>
<th>6-10 YEARS</th>
<th>10+ YEARS</th>
<th>RESPONSIBILITY</th>
<th>FUNDING SOURCE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>✔</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Rec</td>
<td>OP</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Strategy 1.1.2:** Establish an implementation committee to monitor timelines and ensure continued enthusiasm for Master Plan goals and recommendations.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>0-2 YEARS</th>
<th>3-5 YEARS</th>
<th>6-10 YEARS</th>
<th>10+ YEARS</th>
<th>RESPONSIBILITY</th>
<th>FUNDING SOURCE</th>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Rec</td>
<td>OP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strategy</td>
<td>Description</td>
<td>0-2 Years</td>
<td>3-5 Years</td>
<td>6-10 Years</td>
<td>10+ Years</td>
<td>Responsibility</td>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Strategy 1.1.3:</strong></td>
<td>Conduct regular assessments and evaluations of existing parks and facilities for their functionality, accessibility, aesthetics, and ability to meet established standards of service.</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Rec, Parks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Strategy 1.1.4:</strong></td>
<td>Determine if all or part of Meadowood Golf Course will be redeveloped with athletic fields, playgrounds, trails, picnic shelters, etc.).</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Strategy 1.1.5:</strong></td>
<td>Determine location of the new Community Services Center (Recreation Center, Center Ridge Site, or current location).</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
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<td>City</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Objective 1.2: | Provide premier facilities and services to meet current and future needs for the City of Westlake through acquisition, development, partnerships, and redevelopment strategies and priorities. |

<p>| Strategy 1.2.1: | Redevelop the Peterson Pool at Clague Park to include a drop off area, main entrance closer to parking, lap pool, diving well, shallow water, waterslides, shade structures, splash pad, and a lazy river. | ✓ | ✓ | | | City | CP |
| <strong>Strategy 1.2.2:</strong> | Orient the Clague Park sprayground to allow use before and after the pool season. | ✓ | ✓ | | | City | CP |
| <strong>Strategy 1.2.3:</strong> | Develop the land adjacent to the library (Center Ridge Site) as a Community Park with natural areas, active athletic fields, trails (paved and unpaved), picnic shelters, and parking. | ✓ | ✓ | | | Rec, City | CP |
| <strong>Strategy 1.2.4:</strong> | Prepare more detailed Master Plans for improvements for Clague Park, the Center Ridge Site, Trilogy Park, and Meadowood Golf Course, if redeveloped as a park. (Plans only) | ✓ | ✓ | | | Rec, City | CP |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Strategy</strong></th>
<th><strong>Description</strong></th>
<th><strong>0-2 Years</strong></th>
<th><strong>3-5 Years</strong></th>
<th><strong>6-10 Years</strong></th>
<th><strong>10+ Years</strong></th>
<th><strong>Responsibility</strong></th>
<th><strong>Funding Source</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Strategy 1.2.5:</strong></td>
<td>Continue to work with developers to provide neighborhood parks in subdivisions.</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>City</td>
<td>Partner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Strategy 1.2.6:</strong></td>
<td>Expand the Recreation Center to include an auxiliary gym.</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>City</td>
<td>CP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Strategy 1.2.7:</strong></td>
<td>Expand the Recreation Center to include an additional lap pool for member use during swim meets.</td>
<td></td>
<td>✔</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>City</td>
<td>CP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Strategy 1.2.8:</strong></td>
<td>Develop a sprayground at Recreation Center Park, adjacent to the playground.</td>
<td></td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td></td>
<td>Rec</td>
<td>CP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Strategy 1.2.9:</strong></td>
<td>Consider developing the proposed driving range at Meadowood Golf Course if the decision is made not to redevelop the property as a park.</td>
<td></td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td></td>
<td>Rec</td>
<td>CP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Objective 1.3:</strong></td>
<td>Provide quality athletic facilities for children and adults to participate in healthy sports programs. Develop fields in complexes where possible for efficient maintenance, management, and supervision and to serve the needs of local leagues, host tournaments, and promote tourism.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Strategy 1.3.1:</strong></td>
<td>Add lighting and outfield/side fences to existing baseball/softball diamonds at Recreation Center Park.</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Rec</td>
<td>CP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Strategy 1.3.2:</strong></td>
<td>Add outdoor basketball courts at selected parks (Center Ridge Site, Clague Playhouse, Meadowood, if redeveloped).</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Rec</td>
<td>CP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Strategy 1.3.3:</strong></td>
<td>Improve the diamond field complex at Roman Park to provide higher quality adult softball fields for residents.</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Rec</td>
<td>CP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strategy 1.3.4: Replace the diamond fields at Clague Park (Playhouse Area) with a tournament quality, youth three field complex with restroom building.</td>
<td>0-2 YEARS</td>
<td>3-5 YEARS</td>
<td>6-10 YEARS</td>
<td>10+ YEARS</td>
<td>RESPONSIBILITY</td>
<td>FUNDING SOURCE</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Rec</td>
<td>CP</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

| Strategy 1.3.5: Replace the ponytail fields at Clague Park with a tournament quality four field complex with a restroom/concessions building, or replace these fields with two high quality fields and develop replacement fields in other locations. |  | ✓ |  | Rec | CP |

| Strategy 1.3.6: Replace backstops and add restroom/storage building at the two lighted fields at Clague Park (southeastern corner). | ✓ |  |  | Rec | CP |

| Strategy 1.3.7: Add artificial turf to existing rectangular field at Recreation Center Park with lighting, fencing, and permanent bleachers). | ✓ | ✓ |  | Rec | CP |

| Strategy 1.3.8: Install outdoor fitness equipment along all-purpose trails at Recreation Center and Clague Parks. | ✓ |  |  | Rec | CP |

| Strategy 1.3.9: Develop outdoor fitness at the Center Ridge Site in one location (outdoor gym). | ✓ |  |  | Rec | CP |

| Strategy 1.3.10: Convert one tennis court at Recreation Center Park to four pickleball courts. |  | ✓ |  | Rec | CP |

| Strategy 1.3.11: Evaluate the feasibility of and demand for disc golf holes when developing master plans for the Center Ridge Site, Clague Park, and Meadowood (if redeveloped as a park). |  |  | ✓ | Rec | CP |
### Objective 1.4: Reduce long term maintenance costs by developing high quality facilities using durable materials and the most innovative technology.

| Strategy 1.4.1: Redevelop the playground at Clague Park with a nature theme and as a large all-access playground with a solid rubber safety surface. | ✓ |  |  | Rec | CP |
| Strategy 1.4.2: Add shade structures to improve Recreation Center Park playground. | ✓ |  |  | Rec | CP |
| Strategy 1.4.3: Replace the playgrounds at Roman and Bradley Parks and add a playground at Clague Park (Playhouse Area). | ✓ | ✓ |  | Rec | CP |

### Goal 2: Engender Desirability through a Welcoming Atmosphere for Residents and Visitors

**Invite participation in parks and recreation programs and facilities for all Westlake residents.**

| Objective 2.1: Encourage park and recreation facility usage and program participation through community outreach and by providing attractive, inviting facilities throughout the City. | ✓ |  |  | Rec | OP |
| Strategy 2.1.1: Establish a new logo and branding identity for the Recreation Department soon after this Master Plan to be used in all communications. | ✓ |  |  | Rec | CP |
| Strategy 2.1.2: Improve all athletic fields with improved drainage, grading, and support facilities. | ✓ |  |  | Rec, Parks | CP |
| Strategy 2.1.3: Focus short term capital improvements on renovation/improvement to existing, basic facilities (trail surfaces, playgrounds, game courts, picnic shelters, signage, athletic fields, and the addition of restrooms). | Ongoing |  |  | Rec, Parks | CP |
| Strategy 2.1.4: Irrigate fields for improved turf. | ✓ | ✓ |  | Rec, Parks | CP |
### Strategy 2.1.5:
Consider a change in policy to allow reservation of existing picnic shelters to aid in the planning of events by users and to provide an additional revenue source for the City.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>0-2 YEARS</th>
<th>3-5 YEARS</th>
<th>6-10 YEARS</th>
<th>10+ YEARS</th>
<th>RESPONSIBILITY</th>
<th>FUNDING SOURCE</th>
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<tr>
<td>✓</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Rec</td>
<td>OP</td>
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</table>

### Strategy 2.1.6:
Redevelop the Clague Cabin through historic restoration as an open air pavilion and rental facility.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>0-2 YEARS</th>
<th>3-5 YEARS</th>
<th>6-10 YEARS</th>
<th>10+ YEARS</th>
<th>RESPONSIBILITY</th>
<th>FUNDING SOURCE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>✓ ✓ ✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Rec</td>
<td>CP</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Strategy 2.1.7:
Investigate the financial ramifications of reserving the Peterson Pool for residents only as adjacent communities have done (using same requirements as Recreation Center memberships).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>0-2 YEARS</th>
<th>3-5 YEARS</th>
<th>6-10 YEARS</th>
<th>10+ YEARS</th>
<th>RESPONSIBILITY</th>
<th>FUNDING SOURCE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Rec, City</td>
<td>OP</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Strategy 2.1.8:
Add restroom facilities to Clague Park, Clague Park (Playhouse Area), Porter Fields, and all future parks (including the Center Ridge Site and Meadowood, if redeveloped).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>0-2 YEARS</th>
<th>3-5 YEARS</th>
<th>6-10 YEARS</th>
<th>10+ YEARS</th>
<th>RESPONSIBILITY</th>
<th>FUNDING SOURCE</th>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>Rec, Parks</td>
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</table>

### Strategy 2.1.9:
Add drinking fountains to all existing and future parks. Locate the facilities adjacent to all structures (picnic shelters, restroom buildings), near fields/courts, and along trails.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>0-2 YEARS</th>
<th>3-5 YEARS</th>
<th>6-10 YEARS</th>
<th>10+ YEARS</th>
<th>RESPONSIBILITY</th>
<th>FUNDING SOURCE</th>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>Rec, Parks</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Objective 2.2:
Ensure access for everyone, regardless of age or disability, to quality facilities and programs.

#### Strategy 2.2.1:
Perform an ADA Accessibility Assessment of all facilities, programs, and communications.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>0-2 YEARS</th>
<th>3-5 YEARS</th>
<th>6-10 YEARS</th>
<th>10+ YEARS</th>
<th>RESPONSIBILITY</th>
<th>FUNDING SOURCE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Rec, City</td>
<td>OP</td>
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</table>

#### Strategy 2.2.2:
Provide an accessible route of travel to all athletic fields and spectator seating areas.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>0-2 YEARS</th>
<th>3-5 YEARS</th>
<th>6-10 YEARS</th>
<th>10+ YEARS</th>
<th>RESPONSIBILITY</th>
<th>FUNDING SOURCE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Rec</td>
<td>CP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strategy 2.2.3:</td>
<td>Implement a signage program for consistent and attractive park entrance signs, directional signs, trail system identification, wayfinding, etc.</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>Rec</td>
<td>CP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strategy 2.2.4:</td>
<td>Pave areas around dugouts and bleachers at Recreation Center, Roman, and Clague Parks in improve accessibility.</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>Rec</td>
<td>CP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strategy 2.2.5:</td>
<td>Improve paving of parking lots.</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>Rec, Parks</td>
<td>CP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strategy 2.2.6:</td>
<td>Add parking at Clague Park and Clague Park (Playhouse Area) and assure parking needs are met for future parks and facilities.</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td></td>
<td>Rec</td>
<td>CP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strategy 2.2.7:</td>
<td>Assure that playgrounds at Community Parks are all-access and barrier free to be enjoyable by all Westlake residents.</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>Rec, Parks</td>
<td>CP</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Objective 2.3:** Offer a wide variety of programs and events that appeal to everyone and provide social opportunities while fostering a sense of community.

<p>| Strategy 2.3.1: | Redevelop the Community Services Center. | ✓ | ✓ | City | City |
| Strategy 2.3.2: | Develop a community amphitheater/bandshell for community events (music, movies, etc.). | ✓ | ✓ | Rec | CP |
| Strategy 2.3.3: | Continue to plan and develop the Civic Space in Crocker Park. | ✓ | | City, Rec | City |
| Strategy 2.3.4: | Develop programs to take advantage of existing and future facilities. | Ongoing | | Rec | OP |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategy 2.3.5:</th>
<th>Continuously monitor customer satisfaction and suggestions, trends, and program attendance to keep programs relevant and fresh.</th>
<th>Ongoing</th>
<th>Rec</th>
<th>OP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Objective 2.4:</strong> Establish continuous and consistent marketing of programs and facilities.</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Strategy 2.4.1:</strong></td>
<td>Expand marketing to enhance parks, recreation, and programming opportunities.</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>Rec</td>
<td>OP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Strategy 2.4.2:</strong></td>
<td>Cross-market programs with other organizations in the community, such as schools, Crocker Park, St. John Medical Center, Porter Library, and others.</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>Rec, City, Partner</td>
<td>OP, Partner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Strategy 2.4.3:</strong></td>
<td>Develop an education and marketing campaign to inform residents of the parks, trails, and programs available.</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>Rec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Objective 2.5:</strong></td>
<td>Assure that Parks and facilities are a major attraction for residents and visitors for the City of Westlake.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Strategy 2.5.1:</strong></td>
<td>Welcome new residents to Westlake through communication of program and facility offerings, and potentially enticements to join the Recreation Center.</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>Rec</td>
<td>OP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Strategy 2.5.2:</strong></td>
<td>Promote a positive and welcoming experience for visitors to Westlake participating in events, programs, and tournaments.</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>Rec, City</td>
<td>OP</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Goal 3: Promote Connectivity Between the Community and Parks and Recreation Services

Build connections of all types throughout the City of Westlake to link residents and guests to all available services and facilities as well as information about those opportunities.

**Objective 3.1**: Ensure the City of Westlake is a well-connected and accessible city; using a series of multi-use trails to connect neighborhoods, parks, schools, and shopping areas for both recreation and transportation. Consider both current and future modes of transportation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategy 3.1.1: Designate a staff person within the Planning &amp; Economic Development Department to coordinate trails planning to provide consistency and advocate for connectivity as future development takes place.</th>
<th>0-2 YEARS</th>
<th>3-5 YEARS</th>
<th>6-10 YEARS</th>
<th>10+ YEARS</th>
<th>RESPONSIBILITY</th>
<th>FUNDING SOURCE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>City</td>
<td>City</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategy 3.1.2: Upgrade natural trail at Bradley Nature Park that connects the park to Crocker Road to a paved trail for maximum accessibility and reduced maintenance.</th>
<th>0-2 YEARS</th>
<th>3-5 YEARS</th>
<th>6-10 YEARS</th>
<th>10+ YEARS</th>
<th>RESPONSIBILITY</th>
<th>FUNDING SOURCE</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Rec. Parks</td>
<td>CP</td>
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</table>

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategy 3.1.3: Develop a paved all-purpose trail to connect Bradley Nature Park to Meadowood (if redeveloped as a park).</th>
<th>0-2 YEARS</th>
<th>3-5 YEARS</th>
<th>6-10 YEARS</th>
<th>10+ YEARS</th>
<th>RESPONSIBILITY</th>
<th>FUNDING SOURCE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Rec</td>
<td>CP</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategy 3.1.4: Widen and connect existing trail loops at Clague Park for all-purpose use, add all-purpose perimeter trail around main portion of park, and construct a bridge over the spillway to complete trail loop.</th>
<th>0-2 YEARS</th>
<th>3-5 YEARS</th>
<th>6-10 YEARS</th>
<th>10+ YEARS</th>
<th>RESPONSIBILITY</th>
<th>FUNDING SOURCE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Rec</td>
<td>CP</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategy 3.1.5: Develop all-purpose perimeter trails at Roman Park and Clague Park (Playhouse Area).</th>
<th>0-2 YEARS</th>
<th>3-5 YEARS</th>
<th>6-10 YEARS</th>
<th>10+ YEARS</th>
<th>RESPONSIBILITY</th>
<th>FUNDING SOURCE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Rec</td>
<td>CP</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strategy 3.1.6:</td>
<td>Develop all-purpose perimeter trails at all new parks (Center Ridge Site, Meadowood, future parks).</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>Rec, City</td>
<td>CP, Partner</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strategy 3.1.7:</td>
<td>Identify and develop trail connections between parks, schools, and adjacent neighborhoods.</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>Rec, City, Schools, Partner</td>
<td>CP, Schools, Partner</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strategy 3.1.8:</td>
<td>Work with Cleveland Metroparks to improve connectivity of Bradley Woods Reservation to Crocker Road/Stearns Road and to surrounding neighborhoods.</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>County, City</td>
<td>County</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strategy 3.1.9:</td>
<td>Provide a safe crossing of Center Ridge Road to link the Recreation Center Park and the Center Ridge Site (adjacent to the library).</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>City</td>
<td>City, CP</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strategy 3.1.10:</td>
<td>Evaluate the feasibility of and demand for mountain bike trails when developing Master Plans for the Center Ridge Site and Meadowood (if redeveloped as a park).</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>City</td>
<td>City, CP</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strategy 3.1.11:</td>
<td>Continuously monitor trends and make accommodations for new modes of transportation within parks and throughout the City.</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>Rec, City</td>
<td>City, CP</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Objective 3.2:</td>
<td>Begin implementation of the existing Citywide Bike Plan.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strategy 3.2.1:</td>
<td>Work with other City departments to implement the Bike Plan.</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>City</td>
<td>City</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strategy 3.2.2:</td>
<td>Begin construction of bike lanes on Clague, Bradley, and Dover Center Roads as a first step.</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>City</td>
<td>City, Partner</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strategy</td>
<td>Description</td>
<td>0-2 Years</td>
<td>3-5 Years</td>
<td>6-10 Years</td>
<td>10+ Years</td>
<td>Responsibility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Strategy 3.2.3:</strong></td>
<td>Prioritize and investigate opportunities for the development of key off-road connections.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Strategy 3.2.4:</strong></td>
<td>Amend the Citywide Bike Plan to include pedestrian connectivity, walking, and hiking trails.</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Strategy 3.2.5:</strong></td>
<td>Follow signage recommendations in Citywide Bike Plan and utilize parks as trailheads for the Citywide trails system.</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>City, Rec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Objective 3.3:</strong></td>
<td>Enhance opportunities to connect users electronically to programs, events, and information about City facilities making sure to implement new technologies as they become available.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Strategy 3.3.1:</strong></td>
<td>Provide Wi-Fi in most parks.</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Rec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Strategy 3.3.2:</strong></td>
<td>Develop an event, facilities, and programming web/smart phone application (Mobile Parks App) to enhance participants’ experiences at events and to inform residents of programs and facilities.</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Rec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Strategy 3.3.3:</strong></td>
<td>Continuously utilize social media and new digital methods to communicate programs and offerings to residents and visitors.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>Rec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Strategy 3.3.4:</strong></td>
<td>Utilize these enhancements for feedback on programs and facilities.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>Rec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Strategy 3.3.5:</strong></td>
<td>Prepare and maintain a map of Westlake parks and trails. Integrate with wayfinding, website, and apps.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>Rec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Objective 3.4: Enhance Westlake Parks as community hubs (particularly the Community Parks at Recreation Center Park in the west, Clague Park in the east, the new site adjacent to the Library on Center Ridge Road, and Meadowood, if redevelopment completed as a park).</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Strategy 3.4.1:</strong> Establish opportunities for more social interaction with events, mobile food vendors, coffee every day in the Recreation Center, etc.</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Rec</td>
<td>OP</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Strategy 3.4.2:</strong> Develop reservable picnic shelters to complement park facilities at new and existing parks.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td></td>
<td>Rec, Parks</td>
<td>CP</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Strategy 3.4.3:</strong> Provide signage for wayfinding at all parks detailing locations of trails and facilities.</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>Rec, Parks</td>
<td>CP</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<p>| Objective 3.5: Foster an appreciation of the natural environment and promote sustainable natural resource management practices. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| <strong>Strategy 3.5.1:</strong> Develop additional nature trails. | ✓ |  |  | Rec | CP |
| <strong>Strategy 3.5.2:</strong> Work with Cleveland Metroparks to formalize existing nature trails at Bradley Woods Reservation (consistent with Emerald Necklace Plan). | ✓ |  |  | Rec, Parks, City, County | CP, County |
| <strong>Strategy 3.5.3:</strong> Form partnerships to provide nature education programs in Westlake parks. |  | Ongoing |  | Rec | OP |
| <strong>Strategy 3.5.4:</strong> Promote nature parks and educational programs of Metroparks within the Rec Gazette to avoid duplication of programs. |  | Ongoing |  | Rec, County | OP, County |
| <strong>Strategy 3.5.5:</strong> Provide natural areas at existing and future parks to maintain natural areas and open space. |  | Ongoing |  | Rec | CP |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategy 3.5.6:</th>
<th>Utilize parks as examples of Best Management Practices (BMP) for stormwater detention, rain gardens, etc.</th>
<th>0-2 YEARS</th>
<th>3-5 YEARS</th>
<th>6-10 YEARS</th>
<th>10+ YEARS</th>
<th>RESPONSIBILITY</th>
<th>FUNDING SOURCE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Rec, Parks</td>
<td>CP, City</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Objective 3.6:** Acquire and develop Neighborhood Parks in areas underserved by existing parks or schools to provide close access to parks.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategy 3.6.1:</th>
<th>Acquire and develop a Neighborhood Park (8-10 acres) in the northeast-central portion of the City.</th>
<th>0-2 YEARS</th>
<th>3-5 YEARS</th>
<th>6-10 YEARS</th>
<th>10+ YEARS</th>
<th>RESPONSIBILITY</th>
<th>FUNDING SOURCE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Rec, Parks, City</td>
<td>CP</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategy 3.6.2:</th>
<th>Acquire and develop a Neighborhood Park (8-10 acres) in the southeast portion of the City.</th>
<th>0-2 YEARS</th>
<th>3-5 YEARS</th>
<th>6-10 YEARS</th>
<th>10+ YEARS</th>
<th>RESPONSIBILITY</th>
<th>FUNDING SOURCE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Rec, Parks, City</td>
<td>CP</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Goal 4: Ensure Safety for Users of Facilities, Programs, and Events**

*Provide a high level of security at facilities, programs, and events to assure that all residents and visitors feel safe at all times when taking advantage of parks and recreation opportunities in the City of Westlake.*

**Objective 4.1:** Ensure that all relevant staff are trained in safety measures in order to maximize their ability to assure safety for park users.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategy 4.1.1:</th>
<th>Expand staff training as new facilities are added with an increased focus on safety measures related to maintenance.</th>
<th>0-2 YEARS</th>
<th>3-5 YEARS</th>
<th>6-10 YEARS</th>
<th>10+ YEARS</th>
<th>RESPONSIBILITY</th>
<th>FUNDING SOURCE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td></td>
<td>Rec</td>
<td>OP</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Objective 4.2:** Increase patrols at parks to improve safety and security.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategy 4.2.1:</th>
<th>Establish a volunteer group to assist in the maintenance and patrol of trails.</th>
<th>0-2 YEARS</th>
<th>3-5 YEARS</th>
<th>6-10 YEARS</th>
<th>10+ YEARS</th>
<th>RESPONSIBILITY</th>
<th>FUNDING SOURCE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Rec, City</td>
<td>OP</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategy 4.2.2:</th>
<th>Coordinate with Police Department for increased presence at parks and programs.</th>
<th>0-2 YEARS</th>
<th>3-5 YEARS</th>
<th>6-10 YEARS</th>
<th>10+ YEARS</th>
<th>RESPONSIBILITY</th>
<th>FUNDING SOURCE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Rec, City</td>
<td>OP, City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Objective 4.3: Provide proactive maintenance to assure all facilities operate at the highest level of safety while enhancing the reputation for safe facilities and services.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Strategy 4.3.1:</strong> Increase size of maintenance staff to assure higher quality of facilities.</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Rec, Parks</td>
<td>OP, City</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Strategy 4.3.2:</strong> Increase budget for equipment and athletic field maintenance.</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Rec, Parks</td>
<td>OP, City</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Strategy 4.3.3:</strong> Continue to expand the maintenance staff as facilities expand.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td></td>
<td>Rec, Parks</td>
<td>OP, City</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Strategy 4.3.4:</strong> Construct new service barn and yard at Clague Park (Playhouse Area) as requested by Service Department staff.</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Parks</td>
<td>City</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Objective 4.4: Install lighting and security cameras to deter and solve crime and instill a sense of security for park users. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Strategy 4.4.1:** Install security cameras at most parks. | ✓ | | | Rec, Parks | CP |
| **Strategy 4.4.2:** Add additional lighting to most parks. | ✓ | | | Rec, Parks | CP |

<p>| Goal 5: Maximize Investment Opportunities |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Explore all opportunities for investment in parks and recreation in the City of Westlake with consideration given to funding opportunities and partnerships, financial and service-based. |
| <strong>Objective 5.1:</strong> Seek grants and sponsorships from other organizations for revenue generation. |
| <strong>Strategy 5.1.1:</strong> Seek grants from state, federal, and non-profit sources for trail and bikeway improvements. | Ongoing | | | Rec, Parks, City | OP |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategy 5.1.2:</th>
<th>Recruit sponsors for larger programs and events to offset costs.</th>
<th>Ongoing</th>
<th>Rec</th>
<th>OP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Strategy 5.1.3:</td>
<td>Establish policies for sponsorships recognition (signage, etc.).</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>Rec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strategy 5.1.4:</td>
<td>Continue to pursue grants for the development and operations of parks and facilities.</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>Rec</td>
<td>OP</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Objective 5.2:** Pursue mutually beneficial partnerships for funding of services and to avoid duplication of services.

<p>| Strategy 5.2.1: | Expand the Community Gardens in partnership with St. John Medical Center. | ✓ | | Rec, Parks, Partner | Partner |
| Strategy 5.2.2: | Partner with Cleveland Metroparks, schools, colleges or universities to provide nature education programs in Westlake parks. | Ongoing | Rec, Partner, County | OP, County, Partner |
| Strategy 5.2.3: | Establish partnerships with health care providers to increase and enhance programs related to health, wellness, and therapeutic recreation. | ✓ | | Rec, Partner | OP, Partner |
| Strategy 5.2.4: | Strengthen existing partnerships with Westlake Schools, athletic leagues, Community Services Center to share facilities including fields, gyms, and meeting spaces. | Ongoing | Rec, School, City | City, Schools |
| Strategy 5.2.5: | Consider a healthcare partner in the new Community Service Center. | ✓ | | City | City |
| Strategy 5.2.6: | Partner with Cleveland Metroparks to make the shelter at Bradley Woods Reservation reservable (a goal of the Emerald Necklace Centennial Plan). | ✓ ✓ | County | County |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective 5.3: Maintain existing funding sources.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Strategy 5.3.1:</strong> Renew the current income tax to fund capital improvement recommendations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Strategy 5.3.2:</strong> Continue impact fees and cable fees for ongoing park facility needs.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective 5.4: Consider selling of naming rights of facilities to share in the initial capital costs and to reduce ongoing maintenance costs.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Strategy 5.4.1:</strong> Establish policies for selling of naming rights (facilities, rooms, etc.).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Strategy 5.4.2:</strong> Establish policies for recognition of naming rights (signage, etc.).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective 5.5: Enhance coordination with Westlake Schools to maximize use of school property for recreation programs and activities, recognizing that Westlake is mostly developed with limited land available for large park development.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Strategy 5.5.1:</strong> Partner with the School District for the artificial turf field at Westlake High School.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Strategy 5.5.2:</strong> Maximize the use of schools for indoor programming (i.e. basketball practices).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Strategy 5.5.3:</strong> Cooperate and invest capital and maintenance funds for facilities on School properties to take advantage of the land and for higher quality fields.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Goal 6: Intensify Community Passion and Provide Exemplary Leadership

Utilize staff to set an example to foster a passionate community that demands superior programs and services while encouraging more involvement in the process.

### Objective 6.1: Promote volunteerism to cultivate community ownership and a vested interest in the parks and programs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategy 6.1.1: Encourage more volunteers to become involved in parks and recreation programs and events.</th>
<th>Ongoing</th>
<th>Rec</th>
<th>OP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Strategy 6.1.2: Develop a program to promote volunteerism and community support for trail maintenance and landscape planting at park entrances.</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>Rec, Parks</td>
<td>OP</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Objective 6.2: Enhance the experience of staff through ongoing training to assist staff in becoming experts in their fields.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategy 6.2.1: Create and implement professional and career development plans for all staff.</th>
<th>✓</th>
<th>Rec</th>
<th>OP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Strategy 6.2.2: Continuously train staff and emphasize customer service.</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>Rec</td>
<td>OP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strategy 6.2.3: Encourage management level staff to attend professional development programs offered by state, regional, and national training organizations.</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>Rec</td>
<td>OP</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Objective 6.3: Evaluate current and emerging needs to develop and implement standards of excellence in parks and recreation services for the City of Westlake.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategy 6.3.1: Pursue CAPRA Accreditation.</th>
<th>✓</th>
<th>Rec</th>
<th>OP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
**Objective 6.4:** Promote the long term implementation of the Master Plan through support from an active group of community leaders and volunteers.

**Strategy 6.4.1:** Organize a “Friends of Westlake Parks” foundation to be an advocate for this Master Plan and to raise funds for improvements through donations, endowments, bequests, trusts, and grants.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Years</th>
<th>0-2</th>
<th>3-5</th>
<th>6-10</th>
<th>10+</th>
<th>Responsibility</th>
<th>Funding Source</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>Rec, City</td>
<td>OP</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Strategy 6.4.2:** Review and update this Master Plan at intervals not to exceed five years to evaluate progress and to reassess priorities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Years</th>
<th>0-2</th>
<th>3-5</th>
<th>6-10</th>
<th>10+</th>
<th>Responsibility</th>
<th>Funding Source</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>Rec, City</td>
<td>OP</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Strategy 6.4.3:** Reference this Master Plan in City Guide Plan or future Comprehensive Plan.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Years</th>
<th>0-2</th>
<th>3-5</th>
<th>6-10</th>
<th>10+</th>
<th>Responsibility</th>
<th>Funding Source</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>Rec, City</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Totals**

| Ongoing | 56 | 34 | 9 | 2 |

**Ongoing = 40**
X. APPENDICES

A. Summaries of Previous Reports
B. Aerial Photos of Existing Parks
C. Qualitative Site Assessment Forms
D. Stakeholder Group Summaries
E. National Benchmarking
APPENDIX A – SUMMARIES OF PREVIOUS REPORTS

CITYWIDE BIKE PLAN
CITY OF WESTLAKE
PREPARED BY ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN GROUP
FEBRUARY 2012

Introduction:
The City of Westlake Bike Plan is intended to serve as a guide for bicycle transportation for the City of
Westlake and the surrounding area. The Plan identifies where linkages are desired and recommends
how to integrate bicycle infrastructure into existing roads and future construction projects. The
document sets the following goals:

1. Reinforce the City’s commitment to provide a desirable place to live, work, and play.
2. Provide an alternative cost-effective transportation network.
3. Ease congestion on existing road networks;
4. Promote health and wellness of residents and employees.
5. Encourage local tourism through easy access to destinations for regional users.
6. Support a network for advanced riders as well as family and children.
7. Improve safety for drivers, pedestrians, and bicyclists.
8. Improve safety and convenience for cyclists and pedestrians to connect to destinations.
9. Control cost of living by allowing cost-effective and multiple modes of transportation.
10. Provide better commuting options for residents and employees.
11. Provide a non-motorized transportation network for residents, employees, and visitors that link
schools, libraries, recreation centers, neighborhoods, and other local points of interest to improve
connectivity, safety, and convenience.
12. Link recreation areas, Cleveland Metroparks’ reservations and the regional bikeway network.

Summary:
At the time of this Plan, the City of Westlake had few bicycle facilities. The City received a grant from
NOACA to complete this bicycle master plan in 2010. The Plan relied on public input, field research,
and analysis to propose bike routes for the City that incorporated all-purpose trails (APTs), widened
sidewalks, bicycle lanes, and shared lanes. The Plan proposed a 13.75 mile loop, “the Westshore Bike
Loop,” that would connect the jurisdictions of Westlake, Bay Village, and North Olmsted and the
Bradley Woods and Huntington Beach Reservations with various other connections.

Analysis:
The Plan used a variety of analyses to determine recommendations for potential routes in the City of
Westlake. A Destination Analysis identified the potential connections necessary for users in the City:
neighborhoods, schools & universities, employment centers, commercial centers, recreational
facilities, and the transit network. The existing conditions along major routes in the City were also
considered, looking at factors such as: road speed, traffic volume, pavement type, severity of slope,
and curb cuts.

The analysis also use the Bicycle Compatibility Index (BCI) to rate 37 different route segments in the
City of Westlake. This model produces scores that are used to assign a level of service (LOS) from A
to F for each of these routes. The average score in Westlake was 4.45, a level ‘C’ rating. Most route segments received a rating of ‘D’ or ‘E.’

**Proposed Route Plan:**

All potential routes were identified and analyzed using the characteristics outlined previously plus other limitations such as utility constraints to produce the route recommendations seen below. These recommendation use a collection of different types of facilities including APTs, widened sidewalks, bicycle lanes, and shared lanes to make up the potential bicycle network for the City of Westlake.

In addition to the Westshore Bike Loop, the Plan outlines 12 different projects with estimated costs to improve bicycle connections within the City. The Plan also includes recommendations for signage, utility covers, pavement surfaces and markings, traffic calming, and bike parking.

**Figure A-1: Existing and Proposed Bike Routes**

![Proposed Citywide Bike Plan Routes](image)

**Implementation & Funding Strategy:**

The strategy for the implementation of the Bike Plan recommends prioritizing the various individual routes and using different funding streams for each project. Detailed cost estimates need to be produced to allow for quick implementation when funding sources are realized. The Plan finally provides a list of potential funding sources and methods including: impact fees, Special Improvement Districts, and working with non-profit and government agencies for funding.
Purpose of the Plan:
The Cleveland Metroparks 2020: The Emerald Necklace Centennial Plan is a comprehensive document intended to serve as a guide to assure that the Park District continues to maintain its reputation for quality. The Plan calls for Metroparks to be a leader in sustainability and to enhance lives high-quality outdoor education, recreation, and zoological opportunities. The Action Plans are included to implement this vision for program services, facilities, natural resources, greenway and trail network, park expansion, marketing, reservations, and Zoo.

Bradley Woods Reservation Concept Plan

Existing Conditions Summary:
The Bradley Woods Reservation is a large tract of relatively undisturbed woodlands. Much of the reservation is also by wetlands which drain to Lake Erie tributaries and provide habitat for amphibians and birds. Only 4.6% of the park is impacted by development, the lowest of the 16 Cleveland Metroparks reservations. The park currently has a picnic area (Codrington Shelter), a series of trails (6.4 miles), and an open field for free play.

Sensitivity Analysis:
The Bradley Woods Reservation is the largest remaining protected block of the Lake Plain Swamp Forest ecosystem. As a result, the reservation has remained largely undeveloped to prevent damage to its hydrology, soils, and rare plant species. The Plan designates most of the reservation as a priority protection area, although some areas have a higher rank based on locations of plant and animal species. The reservation sits on headwaters streams and is not affected by the downstream disturbances but is still at risk for stormwater drainage disturbances from adjacent communities.

Concept Plan:
The Plan provides six recommendations for Bradley Woods Reservation focused on citizen science and ecological studies, trails, and picnic areas.

1. Core Protection Area (protect & restore Lake Plain Forest and rare vegetation)
   - Prepare a detailed ground survey as baseline existing conditions information.
   - Conduct hydrologic study to determine appropriate lake plain forest protection and restoration actions.
   - Evaluate and install where appropriate large scale deer exclosures to improve ecology and compliment species reintroduction program.

2. Internal Trails and Roads
   - Provide trail head facilities at existing property entry and consider removing or adapting existing entry road to restore natural drainage patterns.
   - Evaluate extensive unsanctioned trails for conversion and/or redesign as a hiking trail system, consider boardwalks in wet areas and limiting internal park circulation to pedestrians, service and emergency use.

3. Neighborhood Connections
   - Extend all-purpose trail around perimeter as loop trail for neighborhood use.
4. Outdoor Recreation
   - Consider focusing use on primitive/rustic, backpack and no trace camping outpost for outdoor skill development, ecological restoration, studies/research and citizen science activities.

5. Building Improvements
   - Codrington Shelter - utilize picnic shelter as program station for environmental studies, rustic day and overnight camp use.
   - Consider development of picnic use area along perimeter with appropriate amenities.

6. Other Recommendations
   - Consider name change to include indication of “swamp forest” and signal ecological program focus.
   - Consider supplemental use as a special event and reservable facility (Codrington Shelter).

Figure C-2: Bradley Woods Reservation Concept Plan
Summary:
This study considers the feasibility of an outdoor aquatic center at the current site of the Peterson Pool. Constructed in 1967, the Peterson Pool was built as a rectangular lap pool. Improvements have been added since, including a zero-depth entry ramp and two water slides. This study was completed to determine the feasibility of replacing the current Peterson Pool with an outdoor aquatic center. The study produced a potential site plan for the new aquatic center with cost estimates for both construction and operation.

Site Plan:
The site plan (below) includes a number of features including: a lap pool, a sprayground, a tot pool, zero-depth entry, and a lazy river. Additionally, the plan relocates the existing slide structures and adds a separate splash down pool. The site plan also includes locations for shade structures, a pavilion, bathrooms, and the pump building. The complex is intended to provide activities for all ages and has un-programmed areas that can be used for future expansion.

Figure A-3: New Peterson Pool Concept Plan

Costs:
The study includes cost estimates of between $3.5 and $4 million for construction (2010 dollars). The annual operational cost are estimated at between $285,600 and $332,000. Revenue is estimated with and without a residents-only policy. A residents-only policy potentially yields between $187,200 and $212,000, while a resident/non-resident policy potentially yields between $284,300 and $325,200 in annual revenue.
This plan is intended to provide a roadmap for the City of Westlake of short and long term options for the Meadowood Golf Complex. Goals of the plan include: to improve financial sustainability by reducing costs while increasing revenue, to improve the facility as an asset to the community, to attract a more diverse user base, and to fill regional needs for golfers.

The plan breaks the improvements into five phases and includes cost estimates for the first two phases. The first phase establishes a practice range by eliminating nine of the current 27 holes. The cost of this phase is estimated at $740,000, including irrigation & pond construction, a pump station, grading & shaping, and drainage. The second phase established a “True Executive” golf experience with more varied yardage per hole and completes the practice range and learning center started in phase one. The costs of this phase are estimated at $240,000.

The plan provides estimates for operating costs and revenues for Meadowood Golf Complex with the completion of these first two phases. According to these projections, the complex will generate more revenue that it costs for operate starting the first year of operation of the driving range.

The later phases of the plan are more conceptual and do not include cost estimates for construction or operation. The third phase recommends expansion of the learning center and practice range with more indoor opportunities. The fourth phase establishes recreational fields with the remaining lands of the site and recommends expansion of the practice tee area with retail and entertainment opportunities, which would require the relocation of the Westlake Community Services Center. The fifth phase completes this process.

Figure A-4: Meadowood Golf Complex Concept Plan
In 2003, this Feasibility Study was completed to determine whether a series of expansion possibilities under consideration for the Recreation Center could be constructed with consideration to site limitations. The Study consisted if a series of drawing detailing a possible configuration for each of these improvements including: a new fitness area, a new gymnasium, new multi-purpose rooms, a new indoor pool, a second floor office renovation, and additional outdoor facilities.

Figure A-5: Recreation Center Floor Plan with Proposed Expansion
Bradley Nature Park
Clague Park
(Playhouse Area)
## Qualitative Site Assessment

### City of Westlake Parks and Recreation Master Plan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Facility Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Bradley Road</td>
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<td>Size</td>
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<td>Year Renovated</td>
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<tr>
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### Parks

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<td>Fair</td>
<td>Poor</td>
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</table>

#### Structures
- Restrooms: 1, 2009, Prefab
- ADA
  - Shelter 1: 1, 30' x 45'
  - Shelter 2: 2000, 7 tables, No grill.
- Shelter 3
- Gazebo

#### Movement Systems
- Paved Walks & Trails: 2009, Prefab
- Unpaved Walkways & Trails: 2009, Prefab
- Roads: 2009, Prefab
- Parking: 45, Needs milled and paved.
- ADA Parking: 4, Needs milled and paved.
- Curbs: No curbs, Wheel stops.

#### Activity Areas
- Playgrounds: Dino climber.
- Surfacing: Wood carpet
- ADA Access: No path, Plastic curb.
- Swings: 6, 5 plank, 1 bullet.
- Spring Riders: 5
- Baseball Diamonds
- Backstop & Fencing
- Spectator areas
- Football Fields
- Soccer Fields
- Lacrosse Fields
- Tennis courts
- Volleyball courts
- Basketball courts
- Horseshoe Pits

#### Misc. Amenities
- Lighting: 4 areas, Wood poles, Parking lot corners.
- Benches: 6
- Picnic tables: 7
- Grills: 2
- Vegetation
- Lawn
- Irrigation
- Signage
- Fences
- Trash Receptacles: 5, 3 large trash cans, 2 recycle bins.
- Drinking fountains
- Bike racks: 1, ~10 bikes

#### General Observations
- Security
- Maintenance
- Access-Barrier Free
- Use level
- Natural Areas
- Environment
- Drainage
- Other

#### Total

Workshops, Focus Group & Stakeholder Comments
- Memorial plaque - 2 benches, 1 flagpole
- Girl Scout interpretive signs
- Sled hill
## Qualitative Site Assessment

**City of Westlake Parks and Recreation Master Plan**

### Facility Name
- **Clague Park**
- **63.1 Acres**

### Location
- Hilliard Boulevard and Clague Road

### General Comments
- **Constructed:**
- **Year Renovated:**

### Parks

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</table>

### Structures
- **Restrooms:**
  - 1 30' x 22' (✓)
- **ADA:**
- **Shelter 1:**
  - 1 30' x 45' (✓) 2006
- **Shelter 2:**
  - 1 25' x 37' (✓) 2000
- **Large Gazebo:**
  - 1 42' 2000
- **Gazebo:**
  - 1 2000

### Movement Systems
- **Paved Walks & Trails** (✓)
- **Unpaved Walkways & Trails** (✓)
- **Roads**
- **Parking:** 291
- **ADA Parking:** 14
- **Curb**

### Activity Areas
- **Playgrounds:**
  - 2
- **Surfacing**
- **ADA Access**
- **Swings:**
  - 28 6 plank/10 strap/12 bullet
- **Spring Riders:**
  - 4
- **Baseball Diamonds:**
  - 7
- **Backstop & Fencing** (✓)
- **Spectator areas**
- **Tennis courts:**
  - 4 (✓) Some cracking. No lights.
- **Volleyball courts**
- **Basketball courts**
- **Horseshoe Pits:**
  - 5 (✓)

### Misc. Amenities
- **Lighting**
- **Benches**
- **Picnic tables:**
  - 26 (✓)
- **Grills:**
  - 11 (✓)
- **Vegetation**
- **Lawn**
- **Irrigation**
- **Signage**
- **Fences**
- **Trash Receptacles**
- **Drinking fountains**
- **Bike racks**

### General Observations
- **Security**
- **Maintenance**
- **Access-Barrier Free**
- **Use level**
- **Natural Areas**
- **Environment**
- **Drainage**

### Total

**Workshops, Focus Group & Stakeholder Comments**
## Qualitative Site Assessment

### Clague Playhouse

#### Facility Name

**Clague Playhouse**

**11.4 Acres**

**Location**

**Year**

**General Comments**

**Constructed:**

**Year Renovated:**

### Parks

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</table>

### Structures

- Restrooms
- ADA
- Shelter 1
- Shelter 2
- Shelter 3
- Gazebo
- Other

### Movement Systems

- Paved Walks & Trails
- Unpaved Walkways & Trails
- Roads
  - Parking
    - 23
  - ADA Parking
    - 2
  - Curbs
  - Other

### Activity Areas

- Playgrounds
  - Surfacing
  - ADA Access
  - Swings
  - Spring Riders
- Baseball Diamonds
  - 3
  - Backstop & Fencing
    - ✓
    - ✓
  - Spectator areas
- Football Fields
- Soccer Fields
- Lacrosse Fields
- Tennis courts
- Volleyball courts
- Basketball courts
- Horseshoe Pits
- Other

### Misc. Amenities

- Lightning
- Benches
- Picnic tables
- Grills
- Vegetation
- Lawn
- Irrigation
- Signage
- Fences
- Trash Receptacles
- Drinking fountains
- Bike racks

### General Observations

- Security
- Maintenance
- Access-Barrier Free
- Use level
- Natural Areas
- Environment
- Drainage
- Other

### TOTAL

- Workshops, Focus Group & Stakeholder Comments
## QUALITATIVE SITE ASSESSMENT

**CITY OF WESTLAKE PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN**

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### General Comments
- Constructed: 
- Year Renovated: 

#### PARKS

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#### STRUCTURES

- Restrooms: 2 portable toilets
- ADA
- Shelter 1
- Shelter 2
- Shelter 3
- Gazebo

#### MOVEMENT SYSTEMS

- Paved Walks & Trails
- Unpaved Walkways & Trails
- Roads
- Parking: 112
- ADA Parking
- Curbs
- Other

#### ACTIVITY AREAS

- Playgrounds
- Surfacing
- ADA Access
- Swings
- Spring Riders
- Baseball Diamonds
- Backstop & Fencing
- Spectator areas
- Football Fields
- Soccer Fields: 2
- Lacrosse Fields
- Tennis courts
- Volleyball courts
- Basketball courts
- Horseshoe Pits
- Other

#### MISC. AMENITIES

- Lighting
- Benches: 2
- Picnic tables
- Grills
- Vegetation
- Lawn
- Irrigation
- Signage
- Fences: 3 rail w/ mesh
- Trash Receptacles: 4
- Drinking fountains
- Bike racks

#### GEN. OBSERVATIONS

- Security
- Maintenance
- Access-Barrier Free
- Use level
- Natural Areas
- Environment
- Drainage
- Other

### TOTAL

- Workshops, Focus Group & Stakeholder Comments
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Monday - Friday
### Parks

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<td>Shelter 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gazebo - Octagon</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>35'</td>
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### Structures

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### Movement Systems

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### Activity Areas

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### Misc. Amenities

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### General Observations

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### Total

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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>Fair</td>
<td>Poor</td>
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Workshops, Focus Group & Stakeholder Comments
**Qualitative Site Assessment**

**City of Westlake Parks and Recreation Master Plan**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Facility Name</th>
<th>Roman Park</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
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<tr>
<td>General Comments</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year Constructed</td>
<td>1980</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year Renovated</td>
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### Parks

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<th>Year Built</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Good Fair Poor H M L</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Structures

- Restrooms/Concessions: 1 27' x 40'
  - ADA: Yes
- Shelter 1: 1 25' x 40'
  - Year: 2000
  - Comments: No accessible path.
- Shelter 2
- Shelter 3
- Gazebo

#### Movement Systems

- Paved Walks & Trails
- Unpaved Walkways & Trails
- Roads
  - Parking: =82
  - ADA Parking: None
- Curbs
- Other

#### Activity Areas

- Playgrounds: 2
  - Surface: Mulch, Plastic edging
- Swings: 6
- Spring Riders: 6
- Baseball Diamonds: 3 290' outfields
- Backstop & Fencing: Yes
- Spectator areas: Old/rusty/leaning
- Baseball Diamonds
- Softball
- Soccer Fields
- Lacrosse Fields
- Tennis courts
- Volleyball courts
- Basketball courts
- Horseshoe Pits
- Other

#### Misc. Amenities

- Lighting: Yes
  - 1 field lighted
- Benches: 4
  - Wood seat, concrete stand
- Picnic tables: 11
  - 7 in shelter, 2 at playground, 2 at fields
- Grills
- Vegetation: Yes
- Lawn
- Irrigation: Yes
- Signage: Yes
- Fences: Yes
- Trash Receptacles: 7
- Drinking fountains
- Bike racks

#### General Observations

- Security
- Maintenance
- Access-Barrier Free
- Use level
- Natural Areas
- Environment
- Drainage
- Other

**Total**

Workshops, Focus Group & Stakeholder Comments
# QUALITATIVE SITE ASSESSMENT

**CITY OF WESTLAKE PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Tri-City Park</th>
<th>1.9 Acres</th>
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<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Westwood Road</td>
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### General Comments

Year Constructed:  
Year Renovated:  

### Parks

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<th>Year Built</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Fair</td>
<td>Poor</td>
<td>H</td>
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</table>

#### Structures

- **Restrooms**: 1 25' x 17' ✓
- **ADA**
- **Shelter 1**: 1 36' x 30' ✓
- **Shelter 2**
- **Shelter 3**
- **Gazebo**
- **Other**

#### Movement Systems

- **Paved Walks & Trails**: ✓ One to shelter
- **Unpaved Walkways & Trails**
- **Roads**
- **Parking**: 35
- **ADA Parking**: 5
- **Curbs**
- **Other**

#### Activity Areas

- **Playgrounds**: 1
  - Surfacing ✓ Mulch with wood edging
  - **ADA Access**: ✓ None
- **Swings**: 4
- **Spring Riders**
- **Baseball Diamonds**: 1
  - **Backstop & Fencing**: 1 ✓
  - **Spectator areas**: Bleachers in grass
- **Football Fields**
- **Soccer Fields**
- **Lacrosse Fields**: 1
- **Tennis courts**: 8 ✓
- **Volleyball courts**
- **Basketball courts**: 1 ✓
- **Horseshoe Pits**
- **Other**

#### MISC. Amenities

- **Lighting**
- **Benches**
- **Picnic tables**: 4 ✓ In shelter
- **Grills**
- **Vegetation**
- **Lawn**
- **Irrigation**
- **Signage**
- **Fences**
- **Trash Receptacles**
- **Drinking fountains**
- **Bike racks**

### Gen. Observations

- **Security**
- **Maintenance**
- **Access-Barrier Free**
- **Use level**
- **Natural Areas**
- **Environment**
- **Drainage**
- **Other**

### TOTAL

Workshops, Focus Group & Stakeholder Comments
### Facility Name
Bassett Elementary School

### Location
2155 Bassett Road

### Acres
11.6

### General Comments

#### PARKS

<table>
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<th>Num</th>
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<td></td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Fair</td>
<td>Poor</td>
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</table>

#### STRUCTURES

- Restrooms
- ADA
- Shelter 1
- Shelter 2
- Shelter 3
- Gazebo
- Other

#### MOVEMENT SYSTEMS

- Paved Walks & Trails
- Unpaved Walkways & Trails
- Roads
- Parking 55
- ADA Parking 3
- Curbs
- Other

#### ACTIVITY AREAS

- Playgrounds 1
- Surfacing ✓ ✓ ✓ Mulch, plastic edging
- ADA Access ✓ ✓ ✓ 1 missing
- Swings 11
- Spring Riders
- Baseball Diamonds 1 ✓ Small fields, no access
- Backstop & Fencing ✓ ✓ Spectator areas
- Spectator areas
- Football Fields
- Soccer Fields
- Lacrosse Fields
- Tennis courts
- Volleyball courts
- Basketball courts 1 ✓
- Horseshoe Pits
- Other

#### MISC. AMENITIES

- Lighting
- Benches
- Picnic tables 4 At baseball diamond
- Grills
- Vegetation
- Lawn
- Irrigation
- Signage
- Fences
- Trash Receptacles 2
- Drinking fountains
- Bike racks

#### GEN. OBSERVATIONS

- Security
- Maintenance
- Access-Barrier Free
- Use level
- Natural Areas
- Environment
- Drainage
- Other

#### TOTAL

Workshops, Focus Group & Stakeholder Comments
## Qualitative Site Assessment

**City of Westlake Parks and Recreation Master Plan**

### Facility Name
Burneson Middle School

### Location
2240 Dover Center Road

### General Comments
Built: Year Renovated:

#### Parks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Num</th>
<th>Size</th>
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<th>Priority</th>
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<tr>
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</tbody>
</table>

#### Structures

- Restrooms: 4
- ADA
- Shelter 1
- Shelter 2
- Shelter 3
- Gazebo
- Other

#### Movement Systems

- Paved Walks & Trails
- Unpaved Walkways & Trails
- Roads
  - Parking: 87
  - ADA Parking: 2
- Curb
- Other

#### Activity Areas

- Playgrounds
- Surfacing
- ADA Access
- Swings
- Spring Riders
- Baseball Diamonds
- Backstop & Fencing
- Spectator areas
- Football Fields: 1 Practice field
- Soccer Fields: 1 Westlake Soccer Stadium
- Lacrosse Fields
- Tennis courts
- Volleyball courts
- Basketball courts
- Horseshoe Pits
- Other

#### Misc. Amenities

- Lighting
- Benches
- Picnic tables
- Grills
- Vegetation
- Lawn
- Irrigation
- Signage
- Fences
- Trash Receptacles
- Drinking fountains
- Bike racks: 5 loops back of school

#### General Observations

- Security
- Maintenance
- Access-Barrier Free
- Use level
- Natural Areas
- Environment
- Drainage
- Other

### Total

Workshops, Focus Group & Stakeholder Comments
### Dover Elementary School

**Location:** 2300 Dover Center Road

**Facility Name:** Dover Elementary School

**Acres:** 0.5

<table>
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<tr>
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<th>Num</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>Good Fair Poor H M L</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

#### STRUCTURES
- Restrooms
- ADA
- Shelter 1
- Shelter 2
- Shelter 3
- Gazebo
- Other

#### MOVEMENT SYSTEMS
- Paved Walks & Trails
- Unpaved Walkways & Trails
- Roads
- Parking 95
- ADA Parking
- Curbs
- Other

#### ACTIVITY AREAS
- Playgrounds 1
  - Surfacing
  - ADA Access ✓ ✓
  - Swings 12
  - Spring Riders
  - Baseball Diamonds
  - Backstop & Fencing
  - Spectator areas
- Football Fields
- Soccer Fields
- Lacrosse Fields
- Tennis courts
- Volleyball courts
- Basketball courts 1 ✓
- Horseshoe Pits
- Other

#### MISC. AMENITIES
- Lighting
- Benches 1
- Picnic tables 1
- Grills
- Vegetation
- Lawn
- Irrigation
- Signage ✓ ✓
- Fences 4' black
- Trash Receptacles 1
- Drinking fountains
- Bike racks

#### GENERAL OBSERVATIONS
- Security
- Maintenance
- Access-Barrier Free
- Use level
- Natural Areas
- Environment
- Drainage
- Other

#### TOTAL

Workshops, Focus Group & Stakeholder Comments
# Qualitative Site Assessment

## City of Westlake Parks and Recreation Master Plan

### Facility Name: Hilliard Elementary School

- **Location**: 24365 Hilliard Boulevard
- **Year**
- **General Comments**
- **Constructed**: Year Renovated:

### Parks

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<td>Fair</td>
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### Structures

- Restrooms
- ADA
- Shelter 1
- Shelter 2
- Shelter 3
- Gazebo

### Movement Systems

- Paved Walks & Trails
- Unpaved Walkways & Trails
- Roads
- Parking: 54
- ADA Parking: 4
- Curb
- Other

### Activity Areas

- Playgrounds: 2
- Surfacing: 1 large, 1 small
- Swings: 14
- Baseball Diamonds: 1
- Backstop & Fencing: 12 strap/2 bullet
- Spring Riders
- Basketball courts: 2
- Horseshoe Pits
- Spectator areas: None
- Football Fields
- Soccer Fields: 1
- Lacrosse Fields
- Tennis courts
- Volleyball courts
- Other

### Misc. Amenities

- Lighting
- Benches
- Picnic tables: 3
- Grills
- Vegetation
- Lawn
- Irrigation
- Signage
- Fences
- Trash Receptacles
- Drinking fountains
- Bike racks

### General Observations

- Security
- Maintenance
- Access-Barrier Free
- Use level
- Natural Areas
- Environment
- Drainage

### TOTAL

Workshops, Focus Group & Stakeholder Comments
### Parks

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### Structures

- Restrooms
- ADA
- Shelter 1
- Shelter 2
- Shelter 3
- Gazebo
- Other

### Movement Systems

- Paved Walks & Trails
- Unpaved Walkways & Trails
- Roads
  - Parking: 54
  - ADA Parking: 2
  - Curbs
  - Other

### Activity Areas

- Playgrounds: 1
  - Surfacing: ✓ ✓ ✓
    - Mulch, plastic edging
  - ADA Access: ✓
  - Swings: 12
  - Spring Riders
  - Baseball Diamonds: 1
    - Backstop & Fencing
  - Spectator areas
  - Football Fields
  - Soccer Fields: 2
  - Lacrosse Fields: 1 ✓
  - Tennis courts
  - Volleyball courts
  - Basketball courts
  - Horseshoe Pits
  - Other

### Misc. Amenities

- Lighting
- Benches: 1
- Picnic tables: 4 ✓
- Grills
- Vegetation
- Lawn
- Irrigation
- Signage
- Fences
- Trash Receptacles
- Drinking fountains
- Bike racks

### Gen. Observations

- Security
- Maintenance
- Access Barrier Free
- Use Level
- Natural Areas
- Environment
- Drainage
- Other

### Total

Workshops, Focus Group & Stakeholder Comments

---

**Facility Name:** Holly Lane Elementary School  
**Location:** 3057 Holly Lane  
**Acres:** 8.3  
**Year Constructed:**  
**Year Renovated:**
## QUALITATIVE SITE ASSESSMENT

### CITY OF WESTLAKE PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN

<table>
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<th>Facility Name</th>
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<td>Acres</td>
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### General Comments

#### Constructed: Year Renovated:

### PARKS

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<td>Good</td>
<td>Fair</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### STRUCTURES

- Restrooms
- ADA
- Shelter 1
- Shelter 2
- Shelter 3
- Gazebo
- Other

### MOVEMENT SYSTEMS

- Paved Walks & Trails
- Unpaved Walkways & Trails
- Roads
  - Parking 122
  - ADA Parking 5
- Curb
- Other

### ACTIVITY AREAS

- Playgrounds
  - Surfacing
  - ADA Access
- Swings
- Spring Riders
- Baseball Diamonds 1 √
  - Backstop & Fencing
  - Spectator areas
- Football Fields
  - Soccer Fields 1 √
  - Lacrosse Fields
- Tennis courts
- Volleyball courts
- Basketball courts 1.5 √
- Horseshoe Pits
- Shot Put/Discus Backstop 1 √

### MISC. AMENITIES

- Lighting
- Benches
- Picnic tables 2 √
- Grills
- Vegetation
- Lawn
- Irrigation
- Signage
- Fences
- Trash Receptacles
- Drinking fountains
- Bike racks

### GEN. OBSERVATIONS

- Security
- Maintenance
- Access-Barrier Free
- Use level
- Natural Areas
- Environment
- Drainage
- Other

### TOTAL

Workshops, Focus Group & Stakeholder Comments

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APPENDIX C - QUALITATIVE SITE ASSESSMENT FORMS
Senior Stakeholder Group
Location: Westlake Community Services Center
Bob DeMinico and Patrick Hoagland met with about 20 senior citizens that are active members of the community services. They asked the participants four main questions which are listed below with their responses.

1. Where do you currently go and what do you do for parks and recreation activities?
   - Walk to Bradley Woods Reservation
   - The Rec Center
   - The Clague Playhouse
   - Crocker Park and the public spaces there
   - Bike and hike
   - Walking in Clague Park
   - All of the Cleveland Metro Parks such as Chagrin and Strongsville for nature hikes and picnicking
   - Huntington Beach
   - Bradstreet Landing and Rocky River for picnicking and fishing
   - Sandy Ridge in North Ridgeville for bird watching
   - TrueNorth Cultural Arts in Lorain for plays
   - Bradley Park for picnic, playground, and the sled hill
   - Soccer fields
   - Lorain Metro Parks
   - Golfing at Meadowood
   - Walking on the trail at St. John Hospital
   - Movies
   - Baseball games

2. What do you like about parks and recreation opportunities in Westlake?
   - The Community Services Center
   - The broad range of activities for people of all ages
   - The library is outstanding for their books, public spaces, activities, etc. The staff is also excellent.
   - Golf at Meadowood
   - Classes that are offered
   - Clague Park for the fall color of the trees and open spaces
   - Sports fields
   - Staff is great

3. What don’t you like or what could be improved?
   - Need a driving range
   - The entrance to the recreation center at Center Ridge is difficult
   - The traffic pattern at the rec center
   - Geese at the rec center on their walking trail
- Need more picnic tables
- Need a bike club
- Need more access to the school fields
- Need more activities from the silver sneakers program
- The community services center is too small and need larger spaces
- The movie room is too small. They used to go into one of the rooms before leaving on their trips but now there is no room in the center to do that.
- The room temperatures are often difficult. It is often very cold in many of the rooms.
- Parking at Crocker Park
- Need an amphitheater
- Need more bicycle lanes on the streets
- There is no place to park at the Bradley Woods trail along Bradley Road
- Need to change the yellow course at the golf course into a driving range and other open space needs.
- Need to utilize the 30 acres next to the library. It was suggested that a new senior center be located at that location.
- The trails at the rec center should be clearly marked. They are listed as a ¼ mile trail but do not know where that starts.
- The recreation center track has walkers on the outside and runners on the inside. This causes walkers to have to walk on the banked area which is difficult for some because of the change in elevation. The City should change the pattern to walkers on the inside and runners on the outside.

4. Pretend it is 10 years in the future and you are very pleased with what has happened since the Master Plan was completed. What has happened to make Westlake an even better place to live, work and play?
   - An amphitheater is developed with a covered stage and permanent seats
   - Need another outdoor pool with more slides
   - Need additional bike and walking trails
   - There is a bike track for racing or just bicycling
   - Need to have more scheduled evening and weekend events at the community service center
   - Need to develop a disc/soccer golf course
   - The side street sidewalks are plowed to provide better access to the schools
   - There is money to maintain the new facilities adequately
   - The land next to the library is developed as the community services center
   - There are more activities for youth that are non-sports related
   - There is an outdoor ice rink like Rockefeller Center
1. The Senior Center Advisory Board has a 12 member board and there are 750 people on their mailing list.

2. This is a volunteer organization that meets four times per year and they are an advisory board to the Community Services Center.

3. The trends are that their memberships and activities are down a little bit this year.

4. The Service Center has separate funding which has about $1M for building and staff. The Service Center is currently on three levels and this is a poor condition for access throughout the building. The parking is on the slope and is “horrible”. There is a lack of space for storage in the building. The Center has 22 staff members with 6 full time. There are 9 offices in one area and one office for the auxiliary.

5. They would like to expand the Food Bank with a separate entrance for privacy.

6. Their education and health wellness are their biggest programs. The group provides lunch four times a month with a charge of between the $4 and $12 range. The group also provides bus trips 14-15 times per year with a 4-5 day extended day trip, the extended trips and tours.

7. They also have Thanksgiving at the Westlake Recreation Center, and last year they had about 144 people. They had 240 people at their Christmas Program at the Country Club. There is a maximum of 80 people and 112 people in different rooms at the Community Service Center. They also had 88 people at an over 90’s dinner which they cannot do at the Center because that area of the building is too small.

8. Ideally there would be a medical and screening room possibly with a hospital partner and some exercise equipment. The library offers good technology and rooms.

9. Want to set up a room for 200-250 that is dividable with a full service kitchen where they can do classes. They would also like to provide some programs for the mentally impaired. Probably not day care but other types of programs. The Recreation Department does not provide enough of this type of program and some of this can be done jointly.

10. The seniors hate the parking lot at the Recreation Center. The Recreation Center is taken over when the swim teams come in and fill up the locker rooms and the kids dominate the center in the opinion of the seniors. There should possibly be separate locker rooms for seniors and teens. Also suggest that they look at the revenue of the Center to see how it can be improved.

11. Their current membership is approximately 50% city residents and the remainder outside the city.
School Board

MET WITH: Daniel Keenan, Superintendent
Carol Winter
Barb Leszynski

1. The High School is currently raising funds for an artificial turf field and they are about half way to their goal. They have raised about $350,000 at this point.

2. The schools use the City pools for their home swim meets and practices. The schools various athletic leagues use the schools and fields at the schools and the City does some of the lining of the fields at times. The schools are willing to share the facilities with the community after school hours. Some private schools use the school facilities. The schools use the City’s tennis and softball fields, especially during the construction that has been taking place at the schools. Some athletic fields are being built at the high school currently.

3. There were discussions of the City use of the artificial turf field and it was determined that there would be a lot of access, especially in the summer and some in the fall, but less in the fall due to the many school sports that would be taking place.

4. The schools do own a 40 acre piece of property along Bradley Road which has some wetlands on it now. The current Parkside Intermediate School will be used much less as only 20 percent of the building will be used after portions of the school are moved out of that location. This is all on a single floor, has classrooms and an auditorium, and it was suggested that it would be an ideal location for some senior programs and other class space. Hilliard Elementary near Clague Park will be closed. The schools plan to eventually reduce their seven buildings to about four in the long run. Bassett Elementary will be the elementary school on the west side and Holly Lane will be the school serving the southern area.

5. It was mentioned that the schools are willing to develop some partnerships. They feel that the City should support school issues more.

6. There is a map in their office of other properties owned by the School District.

7. The enrollment in the schools has leveled off to about 4,000 students. About 25% of the children in Westlake go to private schools. The community is about 97% built-out, so there is not much expectation that the schools will grow much. Overall they are seeing this as a maturing community and their estimate is that by the year 2020 they will still have a need for about 4,000 students.

8. Other needs of the schools are for batting cages, and adding lights to the softball fields due to losing a field. They also do have an indoor track. Indoor fields are also needed.

9. The schools partner with the Recreation Department with their Link Program after school.

10. Their playgrounds are open to residents after school hours.

11. There are seven athletic fields at the elementary schools and all facilities are available to the public.

12. It was noted that the schools are generally underutilized. It was also offered that community education and other classes could be offered at Parkside Elementary.
Westlake Garden Club and Arts Council

MET WITH: Regina McCarthy, Westlake Garden Club
Jean Smith, Westlake Garden Club
Patt Long, Westlake Arts Council

Garden Club

1. The Garden Club is in its 51st year and they currently have about 42 members of which about 12 are very active. Dues are currently $25 per year. The group meets once per month with a speaker. Lately they have become more visible in the community. They have a web site at westlakegardenclub.org. This group maintains the gardens at the Community Services Center. There is also a new community garden which the City is helping and it is in its first year. It is located at the St. John Medical Center. There are 14 plots to start and a wait list to manage those. The club meets at the Library.

2. It was noted that the Community Service Center needs modernized.

3. This organization is part of the Garden Clubs of Ohio and The National Garden Club and Botanical Garden. Speakers come from those organizations typically. They are active with the schools with vegetable gardens at three of the schools.

4. The Garden Club has one fund raiser per year which is a luncheon with speakers. Members are from outside of Westlake as well. The group provides floral arrangements for the Clague Cabin for historical events and they also promote the Westlake in Bloom and have raised funds for the clock in the City. They also promote Arbor Day and they have been planting one tree for 51 years.

5. Ideally, they would have a cabinet at the Library for storage.

Arts Council

1. The Westlake Westshore Arts Council is in its 30th year. The group has about 150 members with an eight member board. They promote arts in the community and they host four programs per year at the Library. They have one major event per year at the Library. All of their programs are free. They do have one fundraiser.

2. They have two locations where they have promoted public art in the community with a stainless steel sculpture located at the southwest corner of Dover Center and Hilliard Boulevard.

3. The organization gets very good support from the businesses.

4. One of their activities is bus tours to other communities.

5. The space at the Library gets crowded for some of their larger events.

6. In the fall, they work with the Cleveland Institute of Music and for an Opera Program.

7. The group is trying to work with the schools and art teachers to promote arts in the community. They do offer a scholarship program for high school seniors for any student pursuing a future in the arts. There is a $10,000 endowment for the scholarship program.

8. The Arts group needs a home. Possibly a plan for a new Community Service Center could provide some space. It was noted that Rocky River has a good vibrant Senior Center which could be a model for the City of Westlake. The building could also be a place for board meetings, storage, etc. Their organization needs to rent rooms and some of their activities have a problem paying for their activities.

9. One goal of the community is to have an ordinance to provide a percentage of construction for arts and they would try to get more public art in the City. The City has been very supportive of the arts such as the City paid for the base, site preparation, and installation for the sculpture across from City Hall.
Other Recommendations

1. The group mentioned the possibility of moving the Community Services Center to the Recreation Center site with a separate parking lot to develop a community campus.

2. Another observation was that the Silver Sneakers classes at the Westlake Recreation Center are too small and they need to have more space so that they can have more people in this program. It would be ideal to have an auxiliary gym for the Silver Sneakers Program so that they could have more activities. They need more space for active adults in the community.

3. It is also noted that the Recreation Center costs too much for seniors at $199 per year. It was noted that the Center may be too geared towards kids with few programs for adults.
Westlake Baseball and Softball

MET WITH: Steve Meno, Westlake Boys Baseball
           Jeff Whitesell, Westlake Girls Softball

Baseball

1. The baseball program has been in existence for over 30 years. There are currently 650 children in the
   recreation program with 10 additional travel teams with 12-13 children per team. Age groups range
   from kindergarten - 12th grade. They play on city fields and throughout the schools as well. They also
   provide some funds for maintenance for the fields. It was stated that the facilities are not up to par with
   other communities and there are no premier fields in the community. There are no good facilities to
   host tournaments.

2. Softball has approximately 300 children in the program and over the last 3-4 years it has ranged from
   300-350. They use the same fields as the baseball group and have noted that there are many puddles
   and the drainage is poor on those fields. They understand that there is limited staff to maintain the
   fields. This group does not use the schools and they used to use the ones at Bassett Elementary School,
   but they have stopped using it.

3. Travel softball is a separate organization. They have a goal to align their program with the High School
   program in terms of clinics and drills, etc.

4. The softball organization also started a girl’s pitching program to develop better pitchers in the area.

5. Baseball plays with no mounds since there are no mounds on the fields. Baseball used to use Bassett
   Field as well, but stopped using it because it is in such poor condition.

6. The leagues use Roman Fields as an exception. These fields are very uneven. Many of their make-up
   games are held at this field.

Future Needs

1. Softball has an acceptable number of fields usable right now. Baseball needs one 90’ field with a
   mound and 2-3 multipurpose fields.

2. The largest number of children are in the T-ball program.

3. The Baseball Organization follows the Cal Ripken rules, but it is not affiliated with the organization.

4. Baseball is in the CVBA Travel Baseball Organization. Softball is in the Emerald Necklace Softball
   League.

Future Vision

1. By 2024 the High School has a great program, there are better fields for the players, and the community
   is proud of their fields. The City is able to get the kids to want to play baseball on their fields.

2. The relationship with the City is great.

Other Recommendations

1. Clague Park fields need more to do at the park than play ball and the pool. They need more
   community area within the park.

2. There is also a need for outdoor basketball courts. These individuals love the summer concert series
   and the movies at Crocker Park. It was noted that the City could use more unity and community pride.
Westlake Lacrosse and Soccer

**MET WITH:**  Ed Aghajanian, Westlake Lacrosse Association  
Mike Powers, Westlake Soccer Association  
Sean M. Coakley, Westlake Soccer Association

**Lacrosse -**
1. Lacrosse will be a high school varsity sport starting in 2014. Their organization has been in existence since 2005 as a club. They have 2nd through 8th graders in the program. Last year they had 60 3rd and 4th graders. Overall there are 130-165 children in the program and they lost 65 to a new program in Avon.
2. This is primarily a teaching program.
3. Westlake High School has a girls club and it will be a boy’s varsity sport this coming year. It will be another 2-3 years before lacrosse is an OHSAA sanctioned sport.
4. The organization schedules the fields and referees.
5. The organization does not turn any children away.
6. They use the one lacrosse field at Tri-City Park and they share this field with Magnificat High School. The field is overused as Magnificat has two teams that practice there and there are 7 youth boys teams, and Rocky River has 2 teams which use the field. In all there are 12 teams using the one field.

**Soccer -**
1. Soccer has 1,000 children in the program with 80 teams. The organization has recreation and travel teams from U8 through high school ages. The recreation program is for pre-k to 8th grade.
2. The organization stared in 1979 and is an all-volunteer organization. They are part of the Ohio Youth Soccer Association North (OYSAN).
3. Space is a major challenge for Soccer. They use 3 locations: Recreation Center Park’s 3 fields, St. Johns Hospital, and the 2 fields at the Porter Cemetery. These are used for practice and games.
4. There is concern about the fields at the WRC due to this area being used for events. Trailers are driven and parked on the fields, leaving the ground compacted and with ruts.
5. Their budget is about $100,000 per year. They give about $20,000 to the City for field repairs. They also receive a $3,000 uniform credit from the City. The organization has also given funds to the high school teams for facilities.
6. There is concern that the fields at St. Johns and at the cemetery could be lost due to need to expand the cemetery and future development at the hospital.
7. Both organizations used schools at one time, but have stopped due to poor field conditions. Fields were wet and not graded well.
8. They provided three concept plans for the 30 acres next to the Porter Library. These plans have been reviewed with the Library Director and the Library is okay with the plans.
9. Ideally there would be some fields with lights to extend play, especially if there would be an artificial turf field.
10. Current fields need better drainage and irrigation.
11. They host 6v6 leagues for 1st and 2nd graders and 8v8 for 3rd and 4th graders at St. John.
12. The Roman Park fields are very unstable and uneven.
13. Their organization hosts a WIST Soccer Tournament over Memorial Day weekend. The tourney hosts over 200 teams on a Saturday and Sunday. Games are played at City fields and in other communities.

**Other Comments**
1. Clague Park fields are poorly drained and the park is underutilized.
2. An ice rink is needed in the community.
3. A field house is also needed.
4. The golf course is underutilized.

**Vision for the Future**
1. Space is utilized better. Playing fields are allowed to rest.
2. Need more quality and quantity of fields.
3. Ideally soccer would be at one location.
4. City has diverse offerings, including an ice rink, field house, and two artificial turf fields for several sports.
5. Professional staff maintains fields.
6. Sports organizations work closely with the schools to serve as feeder programs.
7. The community is more cohesive.
8. More coordination among clubs in many sports.
9. The WIST Tournament continues to grow.
10. A practice wall is provided for lacrosse practice, like a handball, racquetball, or tennis wall.
11. City has more storage space for sports equipment, such as goals.
Westlake Historical Society
MET WITH: Lisa Stanton
Dave Pfister

The Westlake Historical Society is a 501-C-3 organization that was established originally in 1952 and officially in 1967. They have 60 people in the organization and a board of seven members. This group operates the museum in Clague Park. They are a small but mighty organization. They are active in the schools and in the recreation programming area as well.

Fundraising

They raise about $9,000 per year for their operating budget. This group leases the Clague House Museum from the City and they pay the utilities and provide insurance. They are very active on-line as well. The group also works with the Lily Weston House on Center Ridge and Dover Center Roads at the entrance to the Recreation Center Park. They would like to develop this as an early Dover dwelling while working at the museum and use this as a trail head.

Dover was established in 1810 and was the home of the Stagecoach Station. The group noted that there are over 100 century homes and over 100 barns in the community as well. This group catalogs century homes and they have a program of providing plaques to put on these homes. 78 acres of Clague Park was given to the City to become a park.

The group provides interpretation to some parks and recreation programs as they dress as pioneers. They noted that the City has been very good to work with. Both of the people in attendance are members of the Recreation Center.

The organization assists the City with the Halloween program and also conducts a history walk as in the Founders Walk in Clague Park.

Vision for the Future

1. The Recreation Center is a community gathering place where the neighbors come together. The Weston House is part of this complex and becomes part of the park.

2. They are in touch with other organizations and community representatives from various organizations and meet regularly to share what they are doing.

3. Noted that it is difficult to function with the baseball games and parking at the Playhouse. An idea would be to move the fields, provide more green space, develop a pond etc. around the museum and the playhouse. The fields need to be in a complex with lights and not behind the museum.

4. The City needs a central location to store soccer goals. The City leaves the goals as needed. A field house is needed in the community.

5. Impact fees were used long ago, but they do not know if they are still charged.

6. Roman Park needs to be completely regraded as this area is very rough. They cannot get to these fields until July because they stay so wet.
Westlake Porter Library

MET WITH: Andrew Mangels, Director
Jennifer Cirincione

1. The Westlake Library is operated on a $2.8 m levy with 75% of their funding coming from the levy and the other 25% coming from the state. The library is located in the center of town and it has been at the current location since 1985. They had about 480,000 visits last year and this number has been consistent over the last 10 years. They circulate over 1.3 million items which are mostly books. The programs are increasing but there has been a drop in DVD and CD distribution. E-books are making a dent in books.

2. The library is transitioning; it has historically been a meeting place, now they are doing more programming on their own. The library has been located in this general vicinity since 1984. Leonard Porter donated a collection and $1,000 for a public library at that time.

3. Visitors to the library use the Wi-Fi, the café, and community meeting rooms. They have 4-5 rooms which can host in the range from 25-200 people. They are booked 75% - 80% of the time and often they are booked a year in advance. Homeowner associations, Kiwanis, Toastmasters, Garden Clubs and others use this facility. Overall it benefits the entire community. The private groups cannot use the rooms as they are reserved for community organizations. They also get help from the Friends of the Library which has a $100,000 budget. There is no charge for most of the programs that are offered by the library.

4. There is some overlap with programs that are offered by the Recreation Department.

5. The library was used as a shelter during Tropical Storm Sandy.

6. The group has about 200 people who volunteer about 11,000 hours per year, which is equal to about 5-6 full time equivalents and about $100,000 salary.

7. The Friends fund all of the programs and provide about $40,000 per year from the Friends of the Library. Since the Recreation Department charges for their programs and if they offer the same, obviously people would go to the library.

8. The library also partners with the schools in job and career training as a career transition center.

9. One of their fundraisers is a Celebrate Westlake Race. It is a five mile run and other community organizations, including the Recreation Center staff, help with the registration for this program.

10. The library also hosts community representative meetings which are held regularly among the various organizations in the community. They have good cooperation with the City.

11. We discussed the 30 acres of City owned land adjacent to the center. Mr. Mangels indicated that he would not be in favor of developing a pool at this site, he would be worried about people bringing wet clothes into the library. They would be willing to share the parking lot with adjacent park use and like the idea of a Community Services Center possibly being relocated to this location and actually could share some space. They would be a strategic partner with the adjacent 30 acre site.

12. Discussions about the facilities noted that the baseball fields by the Playhouse have very poor drainage. They thought it had been fixed last year but it has not. The City needs to make these fields more playable and safe.

13. Peterson Pool is old and needs to be replaced. Needs splash pads, need more neighborhood parks. Parking is poor at Peterson Pool.

Vision

1. Continue planning and thinking ahead.

2. Have more support for public school system to maintain property values.

3. More space for movement into new technology, such as 3-D printers. They need to create content for their programs rather than just getting information. Also need to look at some of the multiple cultures in the community.
City of Westlake Police
MET WITH: Chief Kevin Bielozer
Nick Ballinger

We asked Chief Bielozer about any issues or problems areas. He indicated there are very few incidents in the parks. He did suggest that more video surveillance would be ideal to prevent crime. There could be more coverage of playground areas, entrances and exits to parks. Ideally there would be live video monitoring in the parks and for July 4th.

Other discussion items:

1. The Police do most of their training and fitness in-house. There are no cost cuts for Police at WRC.
2. They do use the community rooms in the WRC for in-service training. Ideally there would be more technology available in the rooms.
3. Meadowood is a good facility that could be rented out more if it were advertised more.
4. Traffic flows well for July 4th festivities as people spread out in several directions. Traffic clears out quickly after the events.
5. The Service Department sets up the Police command post for July 4th.
6. The City should check with the Fire Department in the use of AED’s in parks.
7. The City pays Auxiliary Police to do park patrols in summer.
8. Police lock the restrooms in parks, and check doors, etc.
9. The Police have offered to provide emergency training to the WRC staff, such as what to do if there is a shooter, but the Center Staff has not taken them up on the offer. Staff should have a plan of how to alert patrons.
10. Suggested to move Safety Town to the Recreation Center site.
Westlake Council of PTA’s

MET WITH: Amy Havelka

1. Ms. Havelka is the Parkside PTA President and First Vice President for the Association. This is a volunteer organization and they have a good relationship with the schools and have about 2,000 members. They provide great support for the schools. The organization uses the Recreation Center for membership drives and field trips. Overall she is very happy with the Recreation Center. There have been some complaints that the outdoor restrooms are closed except during events and they should be open more often. There was also discussion of Clague Park and the poor drainage and the old playground equipment that is an embarrassment to the community.

2. At Peterson Pool, the slides are great but the locker rooms are “gross”. The kiddie pool is “pathetic”. Need to develop a facility equal to the quality of the Recreation Center at Peterson Pool. This is the only city which allows non-residents to use their outdoor pool. Another need is for an ice rink in the community.

3. The Recreation Center uses some of the e-mail lists from the PTA group for the distribution of information. The WRC does not always reciprocate.

4. For school trips, children must pay the full price even if they are a Recreation Center member if it is a field trip to the Recreation Center and they feel that this is unfair.

5. The City should provide more support for the school levies and there is some frustration over the lack of promotion by the City. The WRC staff does come to a calendar meeting in May where the calendar for the year is established. There is some room for improvement in the relationship.

6. The Porter Library is a good model to follow in promoting programs. In the future they would like to see a more reciprocal relationship. Another suggestion was that the schools need more City support for the artificial turf field at the High School.

7. There is also a need for walkways to the fields from the parking lots. An example is the grandmother who cannot go to the games because there is no path to the fields.
**School Student Stakeholder Groups**

6th Grade Focus Group, Parkside Intermediate School, May 19, 2014

We met with approximately 18 6th graders and asked the following three questions:

1. Where do you currently go for Parks and Recreation activities?
   - Tri-City Park for Lacrosse
   - Clague Park for baseball
   - Basketball at the Rec Center
   - Bradley Nature Park for hiking
   - Schwartz Park in Avon for Soccer
   - Meadowood Golf Course
   - Victory Park in North Ridgeville for football
   - Swings –n- Things

2. What activities do you currently participate in through Parks and Recreation?
   - Lacrosse – Noted that there were several bare spots and holes that hold water in the lacrosse field.
   - Soccer
   - Baseball
   - Basketball
   - Ultimate Frisbee
   - BMX in North Olmsted

3. We then asked the students to identify how they would like to see Parks and Recreation improved in the community. Following this each student was given three dots to place on the chart where they wanted. The number in parenthesis indicates the number of votes each item received.
   - Ice cream parlor (14)
   - Baseball fields with fences (13)
   - Artificial turf (8)
   - Paintball (6)
   - Improve lacrosse field (5)
   - Better golf (4)
   - Outdoor basketball courts (4)
   - Dodgeball court (3)
   - Improve tennis courts (2)
   - Better pool (2)
   - Better restrooms (1)
   - Better maintained soccer fields (1)

**Other items receiving no votes:**
   - Speed slide at the pool
   - Better sand volleyball
   - New football field
   - Improve the lake at the rec center
   - Ping pong table
5th Grade Focus Group at 2:30 p.m.

1. Where do you currently go for Parks and Recreation activities?
   - Several identified Clague Park for picnicking, playground and other activities
   - The Valley for Frisbee and softball
   - St. John for Soccer
   - The pool in Clague Park
   - Recreation Center was identified by several

2. What activities do you currently participate in through Parks and Recreation?
   - Tennis
   - Snowboard and sled at the rec center
   - Trails
   - Fishing
   - Swimming
   - Play on the playgrounds
   - Basketball
   - Baseball

3. What would you like to see improved in the parks? The items in parenthesis identify the number of votes:
   - Go carts (22)
   - Paint ball (12)
   - Laser Tag (6)
   - Swings n Things (4)
   - Climbing wall (2)
   - Remote control car park (1)
   - Track and field (1)
   - Fishing (1)
   - Outdoor basketball (1)

Other items receiving no votes:
   - Nature Center
   - Bike park
   - Batting cages
   - Mini golf
   - Dirt bike course
   - Waterboats
   - Large water slides
   - Playground at Parker Park
   - Arcade
   - Roller rink
   - Bowling alley
   - Bigger pool with neon lights
   - Snack bar
   - Hot tub
   - Ice rink
   - Better football fields.
City of Westlake Mayor and Finance Director

MET WITH: Dennis Clough, Mayor
Prashant Shah, Finance Director

1. We asked the Mayor and Finance Director what they have been hearing from community members. Some of the suggestions included the following:
   - Longer hours at the Recreation Center
   - Outdoor pool located at the Recreation Center
   - Partnerships with St. Johns Hospital and the schools
   - Make sure that anything that is done is done in the right way. Resulting in quality facilities and services. If there is a need for more facilities, it should be validated.
   - Develop facilities in steps and build the program. Make sure that it will be utilized and allocate the funds by year for any improvements.
   - If the pool is to be moved, it should be located at the Recreation Center or leave it at Clague.
   - The City should consider the possibility of limited non-resident use at Peterson Pool.
   - School fields need improving. The Mayor suggested that the fields at the 30 acre site at Porter would work.
   - Need to maintain the buffer around the Recreation Center site.
   - The City would entertain the possibility of acquiring the school and property at Bradley Road and have offered a sum in the past.
   - Some guidelines from the community include meeting the needs of the residents, providing a stable financial environment, improving the quality of life, providing safe facilities that provide the amenities that are needed, listen to the people, and manage the facilities well.

2. The City would prefer to pay for capital improvements as they go rather than bonding. There will be a renewal of a bond, which is a 1/8th of 1% tax that would generate $1.6 – 1.7 m per year in income, which could be used for the development of recreation facilities. They currently owe on the Recreation Center bond for four more years. The property was not part of that bond.
City Services Department

MET WITH: Ben Wright, Operations Manager
Chris Stuhm, Deputy Director
Rick Walczak, Parks Crew Chief

1. The Services Department has 9 staff in summer, 4 full time and 5 part time. In winter, there are 2 full time and 2 part time are assigned to other departments. The crews maintain the park buildings, playground equipment, facilities, shelters, etc. But not the Recreation Center. The Recreation Department maintains the area inside the fences such as diamond dragging, lining, etc. The Services Department performs roadside mowing, guardrail and bridge maintenance, cemetery operations, signage, etc.

2. The Services Department does not do any work at Tri-City Park.

3. The Services Department owns the land that the Recreation Department uses.

4. Clague Cabin is old and needs to be replaced. The restrooms at Clague need to be rebuilt.

5. They replaced the tennis courts at Clague ten years ago due to cracking.

6. A trail is needed at Clague Park to connect the sidewalks along the roads to the park trails.

7. WIST needs more fields.

8. Parking at WRC fields is a problem as cars park along the street.


10. Vandalism is not a large issue in the parks.

11. The Services Department provides the mulch in the playgrounds, but do not rake it. The mulch lasts about 4 years.

12. Clague Park remains very wet. Drainage is needed and the fields need drain tile.

13. The pond needs dredged. A silt trap is needed on Horseshoe Creek.

14. The WRC playground was installed in 1995 and it is difficult to get replacement parts.

15. The Porter fields are irrigated.

16. Storage of soccer goals is an issue. The Services Department installs the goals and needs actual locations. A central location in the City is needed for storage of goals.

17. Roman Park is difficult to mow. They cannot get on the fields until about July due to the wet conditions. The ground is very uneven.
Recreation Department Staff

MET WITH: Ann Hallows, Program Manager, Westlake Recreation Center
Jim Dispirito, Athletics and Events Manager

1. Ms. Hallows schedules programs for the Recreation Center and also supervises production of the Rec Gazette publication. It was noted that some programs offered by the City do go stale over time and they have maintained these programs because other communities are doing it. Some of the arts and crafts classes are in competition with some of the art supply stores. The City offers line dancing at the Clague Cabin and other opportunities at the Recreation Center.

2. The City offers adult and youth sports and offers the ball fields and tennis courts. Mr. Dispirito is a liaison with the athletic and sports organizations. He also supervises the Fourth of July festivities, except for the Fall Festival, which Ann Hallows supervises. There is also a special needs program for which the City took the lead regionally in this type of program.

3. It was noted that there has not been much modernization of the athletic fields in the past.

4. Roman Park is on a land fill with methane vents. The park has nice restrooms. Adult softball takes place at that site with 70 teams.

5. Adult basketball takes place at the Recreation Center.

6. Volleyball leagues are held at the Recreation Center. Bocce is held at the two courts at the Community Services Center and pickle ball takes place at the indoor gymnasium at the Recreation Center. The City also offers a Corporate Challenge Program. The youth basketball league has 650-700 people playing on Saturdays at the Recreation Center. There is also a pre-K basketball, baseball, and soccer program that is offered by the City. There is a growing first and second grade flag football program and a new third and fourth grade flag football program. Flag football takes place at the Recreation Center and there are two 8v8 teams.

7. There are 15 City baseball fields and all are multi-use fields. Clague Field No. 5 is the only one with 90' bases. There are two fields at the Rec Center and three at the Playhouse with 70' bases. The City needs at least one mid-sized field.

8. Soccer takes place at the Recreation Center, the Porter Fields (at the cemetery which could be expanded at some point), they share the hospital with five small fields, fields with the school and outfields of the baseball fields in the fall are used.

9. They would like to have bocce courts at the Recreation Center. Pickle ball courts are also ideal and one of the courts at the Center could be converted to pickle ball.

10. Lacrosse uses Tri City Park. There is one game field and the outfield of the baseball field is used for practice. This is a shared space with Magnificat High School. The City of Westlake takes care of the lacrosse field, Fairview is responsible for the baseball fields and Rocky River is responsible for the restrooms, trash cleanup and the tennis courts. Fairview also does the grass cutting.

11. Boy's baseball uses three elementary school fields for which the schools maintain the fields. Soccer uses some of the school fields as well.

12. All fields in the city need drainage and are antiquated. There are really no fields in the far west areas of the community. The City at one time had plans for the school owned property on Bradley Road; the City will see if they can find a copy of those. Mr. Dispirito remembers that there were six soccer fields, four baseball fields, a restroom building, trail, and other activities. There is also a trail next to the Bradley Nature Park. The main problem of the fields is their current condition and there may be a need for one to two more. Lights are needed on at least two of the baseball/softball fields.

13. Soccer needs at least three to four large fields and ideally they would be in a separate soccer park. Lacrosse also needs fields.

14. Storage is needed for all activities.
15. The Rec Center could use another classroom, especially during camp season.
16. Parking is an issue at the Recreation Center sometimes and they could possibly use additional 70-80 parking spaces. Any special events will close down the park.
17. The concession stand at the Recreation Center Park is not used and the restrooms are even closed at times when the general park is open, but open for soccer tournaments. The soccer tournaments fill the hotels.
18. The community needs outdoor basketball courts and there are none in town except for the ones located at the school.
19. The feeling is that there are enough tennis courts with five at the Recreation Center and four at Clague Park, but there are no lights. It would be good if some of those could be lighted. It was suggested to switch one of the courts at the Recreation Center to a pickle ball court.
20. There is an opportunity to potentially use the gym at Park Side School. There is a concern over snow days and closing of the schools, which is when the Recreation Department needs the gymnasium space a lot as they are open when the schools are closed.
21. Some of their activities are limited by the staffing rules of a maximum of 20 hours per week. There has been some job sharing with other communities for part time help.
MET WITH:  Anne Mitchell, Fitness Manager, Westlake Recreation Center  
Don Cisar, Aquatics Manager  

The Recreation Center has been open since November of 1998.  Ms. Mitchell has been Fitness Manager for the last five years.  Mr. Cisar has been with the Recreation Department since 1997 as the Aquatics Manager.  He has also been a swim team coach since 1985.

**Fitness Program**

Ms. Mitchell supervises the fitness programs for youth to active agers.  The Services Center does their own fitness programs.

**Aquatics**

Mr. Cisar manages both the Peterson Outdoor Pool and the pools in the Recreation Center.  The Recreation Department provides learn to swim lessons at both facilities and provides aerobics, outdoor and at the center also.  Swim teams also use both facilities.  There are two teams at the high school plus USA Swimming and also a diving class using the spring board.  There is a scuba class three times per year.  There is also life guard training.  There are also private swimming lessons that are offered indoors only.  Water walking exercise takes place at the Recreation Center.

Facilities include slides at both, but a larger spiral slide is at the outdoor pool.  Programs that they offer include Swim with Santa, Cardboard Boat Regatta, Fun Fridays and other programs.

**Trends**

There are more adults with a variety of ages packed in the programs and less children involved in programs.  There is a good number of children in the Tiny Tots program, but less of the 6-7 year olds.

**Facilities needed at the Recreation Center**

- Need an additional pool at the Recreation Center which would have some shallow water which would provide six teaching areas.  Each should have zero depth to three feet, some three feet deep lap lanes and some four feet deep area as well.  Some of these areas could also be used for practices and warm ups for swim teams.
- There should be a wet/dry classroom which currently, when parties are held, they must go upstairs to a carpeted room for cake and other party areas but cannot come back to that area once they have been to the pool.  Most of the parties are in two and one half hour blocks.
- More family locker rooms are needed as these are very popular.
- The facility needs an additional gym which would allow them to maintain open gym time while other programs and games are taking place in the main gyms.  Ideally this auxiliary gym would have a multipurpose floor such as a rubberized surface.  It would also be used two times per year for swim meets and there are 11 high school meets held at this facility and three dual meets in the summer.  This room would be used for summer camps also.  Some of the regional meets are held on Fridays and Saturdays and they host larger regional meets every two years.
- It is a separate membership to the outdoor pool than the indoor facility, but there is a 20% discount to the center membership if you join both.

**Peterson Pool**

1.  The goal of this pool is to break even.  It is currently open to non-residents and there has been a lot of discussion by the residents to limiting it to the current residents of the City of Westlake and people that work within the City.  The staff feels that being open to non-residents is necessary to break even.  Many of the other facilities in the area, such as Bay Village, Rocky River, and Avon Lake are residents only.  The City of Westlake does get a lot of people from out of town such as in Avon, North Olmsted, Lakewood, Lorain, Elyria, and other communities.  Entry fees are currently $6 for residents, $8 for non-residents.
2. If the City were to renovate the Peterson Pool or develop a new outdoor pool, they may need to make it for residents only. Currently it is open to the public from 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and open in the morning from 6:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. for lessons, swim teams, and camps. Lessons are offered on Tuesdays and Thursdays. An all day Kindergarten program also uses the pool. Swim classes are held from 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. and they feel that they meet most of the demands. The cost of the swim lessons is $6.50 per class and the indoor facility charges non-members double.

3. Fitness Programs provide a program by which members can buy a Fit Pass 360. Programs are offered by private contractors but there is not much of a break for members in these private classes. The Westlake Recreation Center cost per visit is $5 - $10 for non members.

4. One of the trends they are seeing is a shifting to smaller group training classes, but more space is needed for these type of programs.

5. The Silver Sneakers Program has about 30 people, but they could do 60 if there was space in the room. The facility needs a lot more storage space.

6. There is currently enough room in the fitness machine area but this could need to be expanded in the future.

7. The fitness area was expanded from 5,000 s.f. to it's current size of 14,000 s.f. They could still use about five more treadmills.

8. Some members would prefer to have a concession stand instead of the vending area. The center offers coffee some days, but not all the time. Members would like some freshly prepared food that is healthy. This would also provide an opportunity for a concession stand for the Saturday basketball leagues as well.

9. Peterson Pool is outdated, it was renovated in 1988. The restrooms are small, the filters are inadequate. The slides were installed about ten years ago and need to be recoated. The coating on the slides should be a gel coating. Some shade canopies are also needed. It was discussed that if the Peterson Pool were to move from the east side it would leave nothing in this area of town.

10. One of the drawbacks at the current Peterson Pool site is that there is really not a good dropoff area. The City gets about 850 – 1,000 people in the learn to swim program. Some of the proposed features that they would like to see include a lazy river, splash pad, 8 lane by 25 yard pool for meets, and natural seating areas. To accomplish all of that they may need to move one of the ballfields. The bathrooms are too small and the water closets are also too small. These areas are very cramped. There are currently no family changing facilities. There is no hot-tub and they do not really want to manage one as well. It was noted that the Fourth of July fireworks are held at Clague Park where the Peterson Pool is located. This is a very heavily used park. The restrooms in the park are adequate and the concessions are adequate. The pool has about 50-60 part time staff and up to 120 people in the summer. The fitness area has 30-40 part time staff.


**MET WITH:** Fran Bennett, Cashier  
Ruth O’Brocta, Aquatic Instructor

1. The aquatic program has 98 children with a five week program. The program takes place outside in June.
2. It was noted that several languages are spoken in these classes, including Russian, Chinese, Japanese, and others. It is a very diverse population.
3. The Peterson locker rooms are very poor. Ideally there would be a splash pad at the pool area and ideally it would be connected to the Recreation Center.
4. Another need is for a 50 meter pool for training at higher levels. The heating needs to be improved. When it is cold, they get a lot of complaints. The parking is alright at Peterson but the Rec Center is a problem when they are in basketball season.
5. Westlake offers most everything a person could want. It is a great community to live in.
6. Ideally the indoor and outdoor pool should be in the same location. Now they pull people from all over. The Recreation Center gets busier over the summer than they have in the past. Peterson should remain open. They have a lot of handicap children that use the facilities.
7. The City has a difficult time getting lifeguards due to the hours restrictions.
8. Peterson Pool is free for seniors 62 years and older.
9. The high school pays to use the indoor pool at a cost of about $10,000 per year.
10. The Recreation Center staff is good at taking programs and implementing them.
11. The Recreation Center needs an employee lounge or rest area.
12. Lifeguards sit in the back room which is not an ideal location.
13. The pool manager needs an office at the pool area. He needs a vision of the pool.
14. There is a gap in the mid-day when tot care is not being offered at the Recreation Center and people have requested. This hurts some of the program attendance.
15. The Clague Cabin needs massive renovation or removal and the air conditioning is not very good in that facility.
16. The golf course only allows alcohol in the off-season.
MET WITH: Mike Rump, Assistant Director
        Bill Beech, Facility and Grounds Manager

Community Needs

1. The Recreation Center needs an auxiliary gym.
2. Need more to do in the pool areas with the water park theme.
3. During the swim season there needs to be a body of water with lap lanes for the members. The fitness room is getting tight and could possibly be expanded.
4. Need a cover over the exercise gardens to allow more outdoor space to be used.
5. Ideally the land next to the Porter Library would be used for a trail, gardens, art, turf field, gazebo, and band shell. Of the 30 acres at this site, about 20-25 are usable. The city purchased wetland in Medina County to mitigate this property.
6. The City has a $750 per lot impact fee which is used for land and equipment at parks. There is also a cable TV franchise tax which is used for a match.
7. Meadowood recently had a $600,000 club house renovation and this has a 27 hole executive course. It gets about 30,000, nine hole rounds. This was bought by the City in the 1980’s.
8. It was recommended that the five acres behind the Recreation Center be purchased. This land is about 200’ x 1,000’ long and it is land locked. This gives them additional room for expansion.
9. Need more green space around the center and throughout the City.
10. Noted that during the 1980’s, Dover Center Road was pretty much the west end of the community and it has grown since then. The City needs to identify green space.
11. We should check the Larson Study for potential improvements to the Recreation Center.
12. Another suggestion would be for an outdoor covered ice rink and also the relocation of Roman Park since those fields are in such poor condition.

If you should disagree with any information contained herein, please kindly notify our office in writing within 10 days of receipt of this memorandum.

Patrick D. Hoagland

August 7, 2014
Date

PDH/Ig

cc: File, Bob DeMinico, KER
Mr. Hoagland met with the staff of the Community Services Center to discuss their ideal facility to serve the community into the future. The current facility is approximately 15,000 s.f. and they have identified approximately 20,000 – 30,000 s.f. facility which would be ideal for their needs. Some of the ideal elements would include the following:

- Facility on one level.
- Wide hallways.
- Lots of restrooms.
- Double the size of the food pantry.
- Private entry for social service clients.
- A waiting area.
- Offices for eight full time employees plus transportation staff.
- A flat parking lot designed for busses and easy maneuverability by the older patrons.
- Plenty of storage.
- Small conference room for clients of about 250 s.f.
- Movie room to accommodate about 50 plus people.
- Offices close together for easy communications.
- Increase meeting room #1 to about 3,000 s.f. for classes, lunch and learns, and a back-up for the outdoor program.
- Meeting room #2 about 1,000 s.f. for cards, chess, and small groups.
- Meeting room #3 increase from 750 s.f. to about 3,000 s.f. for movies and other activities.
- Large room #4, which is the ballroom from 2,160 s.f. to about 4,500 s.f. to accommodate 300 people lecture style. This room is currently not rented and none of the other facilities are as well.
- An exercise room of about 1,800 s.f. to accommodate 50 people.
- A therapeutic pool.
- Bathrooms of about 300 s.f. each with benches.
- Seating in the hallway.
- A clinic, a medical room about 350 s.f. seating 24 people (with water).
- Kitchen increased from 510 to 1,000 s.f. plus a 400 s.f. pantry.
- Staff break room at 250 s.f.
- Food cupboard increased from 160 to 800 s.f.
- A café and social space.
- Outdoor patio.
- Staff restroom.
- Larger workroom of about 275 s.f.
- Covered and lighted bocci courts, at least two.
- Walking path.
- Pickleball courts.
- Covered parking for the drivers that pick up patrons.
- Good acoustics.
The group then discussed the pros and cons for each of three options that are outlined below:

1. The current Meadowood site

**PROS**
- Views
- Isolated
- No kids
- Dedicated to their use
- Overflow parking at the golf course

**CONS**
- Sloped parking lot
- On three levels
- The rooms are too small
- They have a wait list for activities
- There is no waiting room
- No social space
- No men's room upstairs
- Hard to evacuate in an emergency because they are so spread out
- Staff offices are spread out
- Structural cracks in the building
- Roof in poor condition in the old portion

2. Field adjacent to the Porter library site on Center Ridge Road

**PROS**
- Centrally located
- Level site
- Good relationship to the library
- Being near the library results in less driving by their patrons
- The library has a café

**CONS**
- It is located on a busier section of Center Ridge Road
- Structural condition of the soils in this area because they are uncompacted fill on top of a wetland area.

3. Recreation Center Site

**PROS**
- Results in one stop shop with less driving and more seniors using both facilities
- Would meet the needs of the more active seniors that are moving into this age group

**CONS**
- Would take away open space on the site
- Sharing of space would have to be coordinated

There was discussion about using the recreation center site which indicated that there would be a separate entry and separate parking lot to the west of the current community room entrance, at the location of the current sand volleyball courts. This is away from the main active portions of the recreation center and there would be a separate entrance to the parking lot for the patrons. There was concern that they would need to consider an even more separate entrance for the patrons using social services because they do want some privacy.
If you should disagree with any information contained herein, please kindly notify our office in writing within 10 days of receipt of this memorandum.

Patrick D. Hoagland, ASLA
PDH/Ig
Mr. Hoagland and Bob DeMinico, Recreation Director, led a public workshop on this evening. Mr. Hoagland presented the findings and results from all of the public input to date including the statistically valid surveys, handout/web survey, MindMixer comments on Livewellplayhard.com, stakeholder group meetings, dollar voting, and public workshops. Following this discussion, the floor was opened for discussion for additional elements that should be further discussed by the community. The following items were identified and written on a flip chart by Mr. DeMinico.

1. Fund the High School football field artificial turf for multi-use.
2. Limited open space. Partner with the schools if they have land available in the future.
3. Families should be a top priority.
4. Plan for new soccer fields in a centralized location.
5. Baseball fields - need 80’ and 90’ base paths on fields. Currently no pitching mounds and needed at fields for this use.
6. There was a question as to whether there is really a need for a driving range as golf is in the decline. This land should be opened up for other uses, or at least part of it.
7. Need for racquetball courts.
8. Need pickleball courts.
9. Finish the path at Clague Park around the pond. Geese droppings, can we clean it better?
10. Work with the City and the schools in a global approach.
11. Community Service Center relocated to the property next to the library.
12. Recreation park – don’t put too much on it.
13. Clague Cabin historic structure - don’t tear it down, but rather enhance it to a more modern facility.
15. General comments are that the athletic fields in the community are of a much lower quality than the surrounding communities and Westlake should provide better facilities for its residents and to attract people to town through tournaments to enhance tourism, putting heads in beds and bodies in the restaurants to help the local economy.

Following this discussion, Mr. Hoagland highlighted the elements of the new mission statement, vision statement and the goals that have been developed by the Master Plan Steering Committee. The group was in general agreement with the vision for the future as presented.

If you should disagree with any information contained herein, please kindly notify our office in writing within 10 days of receipt of this memorandum.

Patrick D. Hoagland, ASLA
National Benchmarking

Since 1998, Leisure Vision (a division of ETC Institute) has conducted household surveys for needs assessments, feasibility studies, customer satisfaction, fees and charges comparisons, and other parks and recreation issues in more than 700 communities in over 45 states across the country.

The results of these surveys has provided an unparalleled data base of information to compare responses from household residents in client communities to “National Averages” and therefore provide a unique tool to “assist organizations in better decision making.”

Communities within the data base include a full-range of municipal and county governments from 20,000 in population through over 1 million in population. They include communities in warm weather climates and cold weather climates, mature communities and some of the fastest growing cities and counties in the country.

“National Averages” have been developed for numerous strategically important parks and recreation planning and management issues including: customer satisfaction and usage of parks and programs; methods for receiving marketing information; reasons that prevent members of households from using parks and recreation facilities more often; priority recreation programs, parks, facilities and trails to improve or develop; priority programming spaces to have in planned community centers and aquatic facilities; potential attendance for planned indoor community centers and outdoor aquatic centers; etc.

To keep the benchmarking data base current with changing trends, Leisure Vision’s benchmarking data base is updated on an annual basis and we only use citizen survey results going back a maximum of five years in our current benchmarking averages.

Results from household responses for the City of Westlake were compared to National Benchmarks to gain further strategic information. A summary of all tabular comparisons are shown on pages 2-6.

Note: The benchmarking data contained in this report is protected intellectual property. Any reproduction of the benchmarking information in this report by persons or organizations not directly affiliated with the City of Westlake is not authorized without written consent from Leisure Vision/ETC Institute.
<table>
<thead>
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<th>Has your household visited parks or recreation facilities during the past year?</th>
<th>National Average</th>
<th>City of Westlake 2014</th>
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<td>80%</td>
<td>67%</td>
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<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>20%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>How would you rate the quality of all the parks/facilities you've visited?</th>
<th>National Average</th>
<th>City of Westlake 2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Excellent</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fair</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poor</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Has your household participated in City/County/Park District recreation programs during the past year?</th>
<th>National Average</th>
<th>City of Westlake 2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>71%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>How would you rate the quality of all the recreation programs you've participated in?</th>
<th>National Average</th>
<th>City of Westlake 2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Excellent</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>59%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fair</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poor</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don't Know</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Ways respondents learn about recreation programs and activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Method</th>
<th>National Average</th>
<th>City of Westlake 2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Word of mouth</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City Website</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newspaper articles/advertisements</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parks and Recreation brochure</td>
<td>63%</td>
<td>63%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conversations with Parks/Rec staff</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-mail reminders</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School newsletter</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social networking/media</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cable television</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chamber of commerce/tourism</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visited or call a City office</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth sports organizations</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Organizations used for parks and recreation programs and facilities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>National Average</th>
<th>City of Westlake 2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>City/County Parks and Recreation Department</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YMCA</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neighboring Cities</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homeowners associations/apartment complex</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private sports leagues</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School district facilities</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private clubs</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Churches</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local colleges</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library</td>
<td>57%</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private schools</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County, City or State Parks</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Benchmarking for Westlake Community Interest and Opinion Surveys

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recreation programs that respondent households have a need for</th>
<th>National Average</th>
<th>City of Westlake 2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adult fitness and wellness programs</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>59%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nature programs/environmental ed.</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult art, dance, performing arts</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult sports programs</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water fitness programs</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior adult programs (50+)</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth sports programs</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth summer camp programs</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth art, dance and performing arts</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Before and after school programs</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth learn to swim programs</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programs for teens</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth fitness and wellness programs</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preschool programs</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special needs programs (disabilities)</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Martial arts programs</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special events</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Birthday parties</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Babysitting/childcare</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recreation programs that are the most important to respondent households</th>
<th>National Average</th>
<th>City of Westlake 2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Special events ie. concerts, movies etc.</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult fitness and wellness programs</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nature programs/environmental ed.</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult programs for ages 50+</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth sports programs</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth summer camp programs</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult sports programs</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult art, dance and performing arts</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Before and after school programs</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth art, dance, performing arts</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preschool programs</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programs for teens</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programs for people with special needs/disabilities</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth learn to swim programs</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth fitness and wellness programs</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water fitness programs</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Martial arts programs</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Birthday parties</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Babysitting/childcare</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parks and recreation facilities that respondent households have a need for</td>
<td>National Average</td>
<td>City of Westlake 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walking and biking trails</td>
<td>69%</td>
<td>73%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nature Center</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mountain bike trails</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor swimming pools/aquatic center</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Playgrounds</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Off-leash dog park</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor tennis courts</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Large community parks</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>59%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small neighborhood parks</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golf courses</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tennis courts</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth football fields</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skateboarding park</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soccer fields</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor basketball courts</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Picnic areas and shelters</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor amphitheater</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lacrosse fields</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indoor ice skating rinks</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Splash pad/Spraygrounds</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paved bike trails</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baseball/softball diamonds</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Most Important Parks and Recreation Facilities to Respondent Households</th>
<th>National Average</th>
<th>City of Westlake 2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Walking and biking trails</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skateboarding parks</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Off-leash dog park</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Playgrounds</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor swimming pools/water park</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor tennis courts</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small neighborhood parks</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Large community parks</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor basketball courts</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soccer fields</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural areas/nature parks</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Picnic areas and shelters</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golf courses</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spray grounds/splash pad</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mountain bike trails</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indoor ice rink</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lacrosse fields</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor stage or amphitheater</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indoor swimming pools/water park</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reasons that Prevent Respondent Households From Using Programs or Facilities More Often</td>
<td>National Average</td>
<td>City of Westlake 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facilities do not have the right equipment</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use facilities of other agencies</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programs times are not convenient</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program or facility not offered</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Do not know what is being offered</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Too far from residence</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Do not know locations of Facilities</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of quality programs</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registration process is difficult</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facilities are not well maintained</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of parking</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poor customer service by staff</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Security is insufficient</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class full</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facility operating hours are not convenient</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language barrier</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>