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# Parks Master Plan

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Adopted by Park Commission

November 25, 2008

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# City Council

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# Park Commission

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# Introduction

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The City of University City parks department was established by city code in the 1920's. Most of the city parks were established in 1923 and 1928 and many were expanded as land became available. The latest official park was Janet Majerus Park constructed in 1995. However, Mona Terrace, a vacated street and abandoned by a homeowners association, was shaped and planted to serve as a park in 2006 and has a portion of the Centennial Greenway trail in operation.

As an older inner ring suburb of St. Louis, University City has a large number of parks (19). Few of the parks have been professionally designed but serve the community well. As the community has changed over the last 90 years it is time to look at the parks and plan for the future.

This 20 year master plan should be updated every 5 to 7 years to keep current on changing demographics and leisure trends. The plan is made up of separate components which are then brought together for prioritizing future capital needs.

Chapter 1 is an Overview of the parks as they are today. It describes the types and numbers of parks, their maintenance and the responsibilities and partnerships of the parks division.

Chapter 2 is the Standards and Needs for parks. National standards come from the National Recreation and Parks Association's Recreation, Park and Open Space Standards and Guidelines and state standards come from the Missouri's State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan. These standards were established to help guide communities in meeting the recreational needs of their residents. The guidelines determine the land requirements for various kinds of parks and the minimum acceptable facilities for their communities.

Chapter 3 is the Evaluations of each park. Based upon the standards established in Chapter 2 each park was inspected and short term and long term needs were identified.

Chapter 4 is the Citizen Survey. An internet based survey was distributed to study citizen visitation, opinions on future improvements, and opinions about the department. The survey results were analyzed to determine any significant areas and difference between demographic variables.

Chapter 5 is the Public Forum. Citizens were invited to a public meeting to discuss the 5 areas of significant interest from the survey and 1 area from the park evaluations; redesign of some parks. At the conclusion of the focus group discussions and summary citizens were asked to vote on which area or sub area they were most interested in seeing move forward.

Chapter 6 is the Prioritization. All information gathered from the previous chapters was taken into consideration in scoring each identified need against established selection criteria.

# Overview of Parks

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## I. Parks Division Summary

The Parks division is responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of all city parks and a number of parcels throughout the city such as medians and public spaces like the Library and City hall grounds. In addition, the division supports the community in a variety of ways with labor and equipment. For 2007 the division spent the following hours performing these tasks.

<b>Mowing, Trimming and Litter Removal</b>	<b>6,946.50</b>	<b>25.97%</b>
<b>General Outdoor Maintenance</b>	<b>10,443.00</b>	<b>39.05%</b>
<b>General Indoor Maintenance</b>	<b>5,268.00</b>	<b>19.70%</b>
<b>Gardening and Forestry Activities</b>	<b>4,088.5.00</b>	<b>15.29%</b>

### a. Distribution of parks

The University City Code identifies 32 locations as designated parks. However 11 of these locations are really open space medians. The remaining park locations are spread throughout the city. As with any older city, the distribution is not the same in all areas. In the east part of the city the parks are smaller reflecting the difficulty of acquiring park land after an area was already developed. There are also areas of the city which are not served by certain types of parks at all.

### b. Types of Parks

Type	Service Area Radius	Size	Acres per 1000 population
Mini	Less than ¼ mile	Less than 5 acres	.25 to .5 acres
Neighborhood	¼ to ½ mile	5 – 25 acres	1 to 2 acres
Community	1 to 2 miles	25 acres or more	5 to 8 acres

There is no official national standard for park acreage. The above chart represents the standard most communities use.

In addition to designating types of parks by size there are special areas such as open space, linear parks, trails and unique parks such as a golf course. The City Municipal Code also defines 11 medians as parks as they are used as common spaces for the residents. Based upon the typical standards the following charts shows the type of park, acreage, and how it compares to the standards noted above.

Mini Parks	Acres
<b>Eastgate Park</b>	.93
<b>Janet Majerus Park</b>	4.50
<b>Kingsland Park</b>	1.35
<b>Lewis Park</b>	4.00
<b>Mona Terrace Park</b>	2.00
<b>Northmoor Park</b>	1.60
<b>Rabe Park</b>	2.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>16.38</b>

Neighborhood Parks	Acres
<b>Flynn Park</b>	6.61
<b>Fogerty Park</b>	11.8
<b>Greensfelder Park</b>	6.75
<b>Kaufman Park</b>	7.80
<b>Metcalfe Park</b>	5.60
<b>Millar Park</b>	12.10
<b>Mooney Park</b>	5.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>55.66</b>

Community Parks	Acres
<b>Heman Park</b>	<b>85.26</b>

Special Use Parks	Type	Acres
<b>Ackert Walkway</b>	Linear Park	3.49
<b>Greenway South</b>	Linear Trail	.81
<b>Oakbrook Lane</b>	Linear Greenbelt or esplanade	2.50
<b>Ruth Park Golf Course</b>	Golf Course	93.50
<b>Ruth Park Woods Park</b>	Natural Area	23.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>123.298</b>

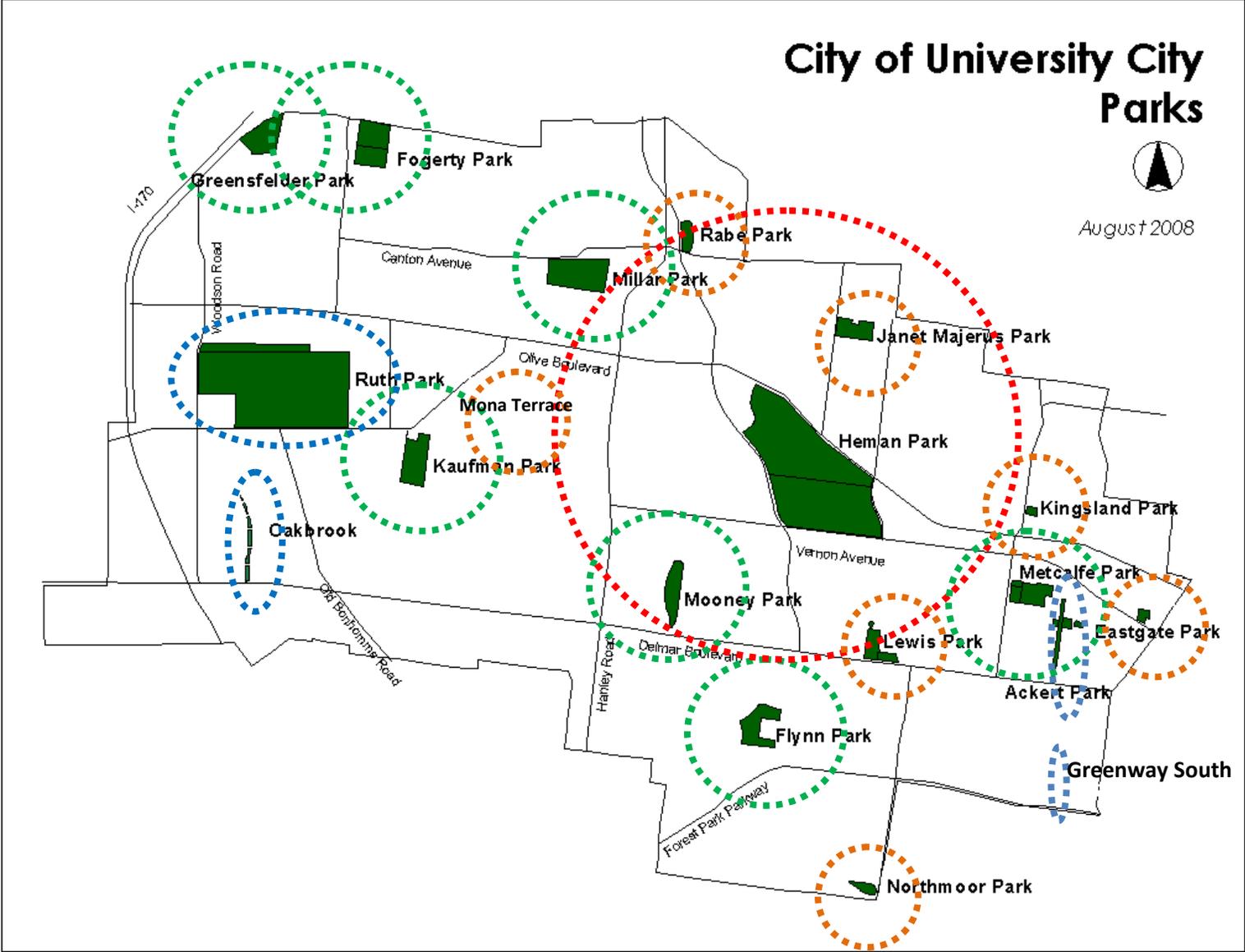
**Grand Total 280.6 acres**

Based upon the 2000 census University City's population is 37,644. The City should then have 9.41 to 18.82 areas of mini parks, 37.64 to 75.28 acres of neighborhood parks and 188.2 to 301.12 acres. The City has sufficient mini and neighborhood parks but is deficient in Community parks. The following map shows the service area radius of the mini, neighborhood and community parks in University City.

# City of University City Parks



August 2008



Community Parks



Neighborhood Parks



8

Mini Parks



Special Use Parks



c. Non Park grounds maintenance

Including the 11 medians identified in the City Municipal Code there are 129 parcels or 33.02 acres of city land the division maintains. These parcels include medians, traffic islands, city building grounds, right of ways and parking lots. Work in these areas includes trash removal, mowing, trimming, pruning and at a few locations maintaining the irrigation system. Appendix 2 is a chart of these properties.

d. Miscellaneous responsibilities

Other responsibilities include the Heman Park Swimming Pool which involves preparation for the Memorial Day opening, by cleaning the pool basin, caulking and painting where needed, getting the pumps and filtration system working, preparing the pool grounds, deck, and the bathhouse. During the pool season, work continues on water quality, equipment, miscellaneous repairs, and support for the swimming pool.

Throughout the summer, the staff provides assistance to neighborhoods throughout the city for block parties. There is an average of 59 block parties each summer and staff delivers and picks up tables, benches and trash containers.

Special events are primarily held in Heman Park and in the Delmar Loop. The Parks Division supports these events by providing the portable stage, extra trash containers, benches and tables.

e. Forestry

Forestry is a separate division in the department. However the Parks Division assists Forestry by providing staff and equipment to plant trees, removal of approximately 250 stumps each year, and the removal of forestry debris from seasonal storms.

f. Other City Departments

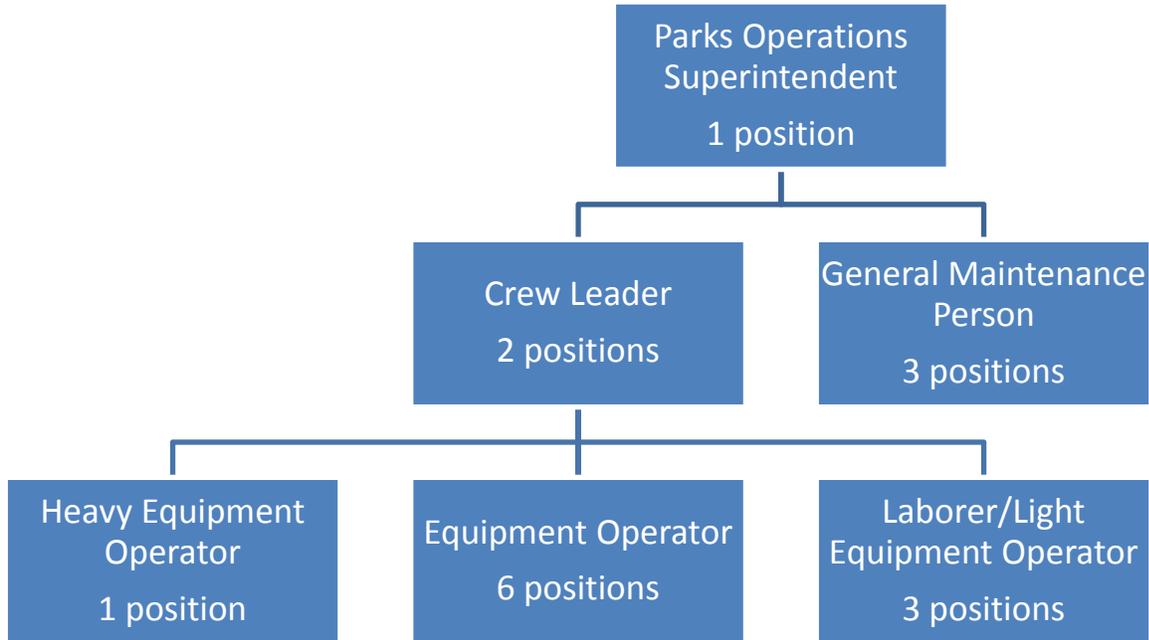
The Parks Division assists other city departments by boarding up an average of 25 vacant buildings each year, maintains the grounds of the Sutter-Meyer house, assists the Public Works department during fall leaf collection and provides equipment and technical staff for special projects throughout the year.

g. Interdepartmental

The Parks Division is responsible for the non-custodial maintenance of the Community Center and Centennial Commons. This includes all preventative maintenance of the HVAC systems and all repairs to the building and equipment. The Parks Division also provides maintenance support for the Ruth Park Golf Course club house and, as needed, to the golf course groundskeepers.

#### h. Staffing

The Parks Division is comprised of 15 persons. The average number of years on staff is 10.5 with an average of .25 vacancies each year. The division supplements the full-time staff with a mowing contract to maintain 21 parcels 18 times per year and (lawn care for Jack Buck field \$5000, miscellaneous properties \$20,070, lighted soccer field \$5000).



#### i. Equipment

The Parks Division has 10 trucks, 4 large tractors, a high-lift front loader, stump-cutter, utility vehicle, sweeper and small brush chipper, which are owned and maintained by the Public Works Department Fleet maintenance. As needed throughout the year, the department uses other heavy duty maintenance vehicles and equipment from Public Works.

The Division owns and maintains 5 riding mowers, 2 - 13.5" mowing decks, 2 - 80" mowing decks, a post hole digger and back hoe attachments, ball field groomer, several 20" push mowers, an edger, field marker striper, walk behind blower, 3 back pack and 4 hand blowers, 4 line trimmers, 2 chain saws, a power washer, a 50 gallon sprayer, a portable generator/welder, a gas powered water pump, a pick-up truck salt spreader, 2 walk behind snow blowers and a variety of hand and power tools.

Division owned equipment is on a regular replacement schedule.

j. Office and maintenance building and area

The Division is housed in the public works complex at the corner of Pennsylvania and Olive. There is one office area shared by the Parks Operation Superintendent and the Forester. The other spaces are used for equipment maintenance, paint and carpentry rooms, storage, employees break room, lockers and restroom, secured storage for hand tools and other items. The work area is difficult to keep clean and organized because of the way the space is allocated. At this point there are no females on staff but in the future an accommodation for privacy in the restrooms and locker areas will be needed.

k. Budget

The Parks Division budget varies from year to year because of city and grant funded capital improvements. Below is a chart for the FY 07-08 division budget.

Personnel & Benefits	\$873,386
Contractual/Utilities	\$281,083
Commodities	\$ 50,840
Capital	\$ 65,925
Total	\$1,271,234

l. Collaborations and partnerships

- i. U City in Bloom – a community based program with 200 volunteers which plants and maintains floral garden of over 200 flower beds at over 90 locations. Many of the gardens are in public parks and right of ways the Parks Division maintains. The Division collaborates with U City in Bloom to provide a source for watering, use of city equipment for annual bed preparation, land for growing plants, and space at the Community Center for a plant sale each spring.
- ii. Green Center – a 501c3 organization which leases the house and ground adjacent to Kaufman Park. The Green Center is a natural laboratory and cultural gathering place which partners with the City on environmental issues. The Green Center manages and maintains the grounds surrounding their building with prairie grasses; nature walks ways through the woods and has installed a new green house. They manage the Ruth Park Woods, an old growth forest between Ruth Park Golf Course and the River des Peres. Ruth Park Woods has a loop trail system with plant and tree identification markers as well as a shelter for environmental classes. The Green Center has worked with the City on the removal of invasive Japanese Honeysuckle and on clean-up of the River des Peres and water quality monitoring.

iii. Athletic Organizations

University City Sports Association organizes volunteer coaches to provide youth sports: spring (t-ball, machine pitch, baseball and softball) and fall (football and cheer leading). They use City of University City fields for practices and games; and use the old restrooms building by the Heman Park tennis courts for storage. All youth participating in the sports are entered into the City's registration system and pay a nominal fee (\$2/residents and \$5/non-residents per sport) in lieu of the organization paying for field rentals. The City offers the same spring sports programs and we coordinate field scheduling and have merged teams to make sure the programs take place. The Sports Association is limited to 3 teams per lighted field for football practices in order to help retain turf on the fields. There is a Memorandum of Understanding between the Sports Association and the City of University City.

The University City Soccer Club offers fall outdoor and winter indoor soccer leagues. The teams are organized by school (public and private) and play games on city fields. Practices are scheduled by the individual coaches at various locations. All youth participating in the sports are registered into the City's registration system and pay a nominal fee (\$2/residents and \$5/non-residents per sport) in lieu of the organization paying for outdoor field rentals. The Soccer Club pays for indoor field rental at a reduced rate.

For the fall outdoor soccer and football season the two organizations alternate days they may use city fields. This has significantly reduced conflicts.

- iv. School District – The School District uses City facilities for baseball, cross country, tennis, softball, soccer and golf. The swim team and water polo teams have used the Heman Park pool on occasion. The School District gets free use of city picnic shelters and Community Center for school sponsored events. The City has assisted the District in preparation for track meets, lending of maintenance equipment, delivering and spreading wood chips for school playgrounds, mowing of the prairie at Brittney Woods and assisting with PTO and school picnic. The City uses the Natatorium at the high school for 9.5 hours per week from September thru May. The City also uses Flynn and Delmar-Harvard elementary schools for 8 weeks for a summer day camp.
- v. Businesses – the department assists the Loop Business District in special events and hanging holiday decorations.

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# Standards and Needs for Typical Park Facilities

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The standards are based on the National Recreation and Parks Association suggested standards and the Missouri Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan 2002-2007. No community can be expected to meet these standards. Older communities were not as conscious of the importance of parks and open space 100+ years ago. Communities place different values on certain types of amenities in parks. The standards include amenities which are more natural resource based which are typically provided by county and state parks. Some standards are based on population and/or service radius/travel time. University City population is assumed to be 37,644 persons.

Other National or State identified standards that are not applicable to University City are:

## **State**

- Equestrian Trail – 1 mile/4,854 residents
- Handball/Racquet Ball Courts – 1/43,187 residents
- Multiuse Courts 1/6,073 residents
- Shuffleboard Courts 1/4251 residents
- Campsites 1/3,400 residents
- Skate park – state standard 1/34,435 residents
- Ice Rink 1/108,838 residents

## **National**

- Badminton 1/5,000 residents with service radius of ¼ to ½ mile
- Handball 1/20,000 residents with service radius of 15-30 minute travel time
- Ice Hockey 1/100,000 residents with service radius of ½ to 1 hour travel time
- Field Hockey 1/20,000 residents with service radius of 15 -30 minute travel time
- Multiple Recreation Court (basketball, volleyball, tennis) 1/10,000 residents with service radius of 1-2 miles
- Archery Range 1/50,000 residents with service radius of 30 minutes travel time
- Combination Skeet and Trap Field 1/50,000 residents with service radius of 30 minutes travel time

## **I. Playgrounds**

City of University City playgrounds should be located in parks where there are children in the neighborhood and/or children that frequent a park. The Missouri standard is one (1) playground per each 1,379 population. Playgrounds in city parks should be available for both younger (ages 2-5) and older children (ages 5-12) and be

visually attractive to the children and engage their imagination and physical activity. There are city owned and maintained playgrounds at:

1. Ackert
2. Eastgate
3. Flynn – younger
4. Flynn - older
5. Fogerty – younger
6. Fogerty - older
7. Greensfelder
8. Heman - east
9. Heman - west
10. Kaufman – younger
11. Kaufman - older
12. Kingsland
13. Lewis
14. Janet Majerus
15. Metcalfe
16. Millar – younger
17. Millar - older
18. Mooney – younger
19. Mooney - older
20. Rabe

The School District also has playgrounds that are open to the public during non-school hours at:

- a. Barbara C. Jordon
- b. Delmar-Harvard
- c. Jackson Park
- d. Nathaniel Hawthorne
- e. Pershing

Based on the standard University City should have 27.31 playgrounds

Playgrounds must meet the Consumer Product Safety Standards and be maintained and inspected by a Certified Playground Inspector. The most injuries occur from falls and a safety surface must be installed and maintained. Most University City playgrounds have wood chip surfaces which are difficult to maintain; especially under swings, and will not meet ADA standards in the future. All city playgrounds, when replaced or built will be place on poured in place rubberized safety surface or rubberized tiles.

## **II. Football and soccer fields**

Football and soccer fields should be located in large neighborhood or community parks as well as on school district property. The national standard is 1 field per 20,000 residents for football and 1 field per 10,000 residents for soccer. The service radius for football should be 15 -30 minutes of travel time and for soccer a 1-2 mile radius.. The Missouri standard is 1 football/soccer field for every 3,274 persons. There are city owned football or soccer fields at:

1. Heman – 1 combination soccer/football, 1 flag/practice football, 1 regulation soccer and 1 smaller soccer with lights; and one regulations soccer unlighted field adjacent to Jack Buck baseball field. Smaller areas of these fields are use by multiple teams (maximum 3) for practices.
2. Heman Indoor – one lighted artificial turf soccer field
3. Millar – one unlighted football field and one unlighted soccer field
4. Fogerty – one unlighted soccer field
5. Metcalfe – one unlighted soccer field and used for youth football practices
6. Greensfelder – one unlighted soccer/football field
7. Neighborhood parks like Flynn and Lewis are used for youth practices also.

There are school district football and soccer fields at:

- a. Brittney Middle School – 3 unlighted soccer fields (1 regulation and 2 smaller)
- b. Jackson Park – 1 unlighted soccer/football field
- c. High School – 1 unlighted football field for school use only

Based on the standards there are a sufficient number of football and soccer fields. However, there is a greater need for football fields in University City currently because the University City Sports Association football program is primarily made up of 76% non-residents.

Additional information on turf standards will be presented below. However, with the lack of irrigation on the football and soccer fields it limits our ability to serve the needs of the population of potential users.

### **III. Softball and Baseball Fields**

Regulation softball and baseball fields have fenced outfields and player’s benches. The City has only one regulation baseball field: Jack Buck. The national standard for baseball is 1 per 5000 residents and 1 lighted field per 30,000 and a service radius of ¼ to ½ mile. The national standard for softball is 1 field per 5000 residents if also used for youth baseball. The state standard for all ball diamonds is 1 field per 7,886 residents.

Adult softball is played on scrub diamonds at Millar and Fogerty Parks. Youth softball and baseball games and practices are played primarily at the 9 Heman Park fields. Additional scrub diamonds are located at: 1 at Fogerty, 2 at Metcalfe, and 2 at Millar parks for youth practices and pick-up games.

Based on the standards there is insufficient regulation baseball and softball fields, there are sufficient scrub diamonds for youth practices and games. Jack Buck baseball field should have lights. Outfield fencing for softball is problematic, in that, the outfields are also used for soccer and football. Consideration should be made to make the diamond adjacent to Jack Buck baseball field a regulation softball field with fencing of the outfields, lights and player boxes. Additional consideration is a

redesign of Metcalfe, Millar, or Fogerty to develop one regulation softball field and eliminate the soccer in the area to be converted to a regulation softball field.

#### **IV. Basketball Courts**

Basketball courts have a national standard of 1 court per 5000 residents with a service radius of ¼ to ½ mile. The state standard is 1 court for 4,410 residents.

Outdoor basketball courts are located at:

1. Heman Park – 3 courts
2. Mooney Park
3. Eastgate Park

Indoor basketball courts are located at Centennial Commons, there are 2 regulation high school or 4 youth size courts. Indoor courts are also located at some elementary schools, Brittany Woods Middle and the High School, but they are generally not available for drop in play.

Considering the 5 outdoor courts and the 4 youth size courts at Centennial Commons University City meets the standards for the number of basketball courts.

- An additional outdoor court should be developed at either Fogerty Park or Greensfelder Park because of the lack of courts in the western portion of the city.
- With the recommendation to redesign Eastgate, Metcalfe and the center section of Ackert consideration should be made eliminate the court at Eastgate and build one at Ackert or Metcalfe because of the increase in college students living in the Loop area.

Outdoor basketball courts should have a smooth, crack free surface, color coating and striping. Benches, trash receptacles, and drinking fountains should be provided. The courts should be located in a visible location for supervision and control.

University City basketball courts need to be resurfaces and color coated. The Heman Park courts are not in a visible location but a more visible location is currently not available.

#### **V. Tennis Courts**

Tennis courts have a national standard of one court per 2000 residents with a service radius of ¼ - ½ mile. The state standard is 1 court for 2,333 residents.

Tennis courts are located at:

1. Heman Park – 8 post-tension concrete courts, 4 with lights
2. Flynn – 5 asphalt courts
3. Fogerty – 2 asphalt courts
4. Kaufmann – 4 asphalt courts

Based upon the standards, University City has sufficient number of tennis courts. The tennis courts surface should be smooth and crack free with color coating. There

should be 10'-12' high fencing on all sides with top, middle and bottom rails. Multiple access points with gates are needed to reduce players crossing courts. If needed, wind screens should be installed. In addition, benches, trash receptacles and nets with straight net posts should be at each location.

The major problem with tennis courts is the on going maintenance needs of asphalt courts. Asphalt will crack and the cracks will return in the same spot even with crack treatment and an overlay of asphalt. Non cracking alternatives to asphalt are:

- Post Tension Concrete – maintenance free (color coating every 5 years), twice as expensive and is a hard surface (fast and hard on knees)
- Clay – high daily maintenance and expensive to develop (slow and easy on knees)
- Sand base overlay – maintenance free (brushing yearly and additional sand 7 – 10 years) and is a soft surface (slow and easy on knees)

## **VI. Trails**

The national standard for trails is one system per region. The state standard varies by type of trail with walking trails at 1 mile /4,446 residents, bicycle trails at 1 mile/2,624 residents, exercise trails at 1 mile/3,907 residents, nature trails at 1 mile/4,814 residents and multi-purpose trails at 1 mile/4,220 residents.

Trails are designed to connect pedestrians and bicyclists to destinations. They differ from shorter, interior walkways within existing neighborhood parks. The City of University City has been involved in the planning of the Centennial Greenway with Great Rivers Greenway. This Greenway trail will connect Forest Park in the City of St. Louis to Creve Coeur County Park in Maryland Heights. This trail will connect through many communities using existing parks, walkways and utility corridors and will be on-street and off-street depending on the opportunities and constraints of a particular location. The plan for University City includes:

- Pedestrian bridge from Washington University to Greenway South and north on Melville to the Delmar Loop. Acquiring an easement on Melville from the residential neighbors on the east side of the street or from Washington University, the primary owner of buildings on the west side of the street is problematic.
- Crossing Delmar and north on Ackert Walkway to Vernon. The trail is narrow at Delmar. There is no signal at this pedestrian crosswalk, either.
- On-street or widened sidewalks on Vernon going west changing to Balson and to the High School. A connector trail through Heman Park and along the River des Peres to Olive Blvd. was recently completed.
- Proceeding north of the high school along the River des Peres under Hanley and North and South Roads to Mona Terrace. The cemetery land at North and South Road needs to be purchased or an easement acquired. Great Rivers Greenway has not succeeded yet in negotiating a price for the land.

- At Mona Terrace the route will split with one segment going east on Groby/Old Bonhomme to the I-170 segment coming north from Shaw Park in Clayton connecting to Greensfelder Park to the north. Greensfelder Park is proposed as a trail head location. The other route will proceed northwest along Mona Terrace behind the Value City property, across the north of Brittney Middle School and through Ruth Park Woods to Woodson north to Olive with wider sidewalks connecting to I-170.
- At I-170 and Olive the trail will be routed through Olivette.
- Additional connectors will utilize Midland an on-street corridor to Maryland Heights and an on-street corridor from the Ritz-Carlton Hotel in Clayton north on Jackson Ave. through Mooney Park to connect with the main trail by the High School.

If we consider the main Centennial Greenway as multi-purpose trail it will be approximately 4.45 miles long. The Heman Park Connector trail is ½ mile long. The I-170 corridor from Clayton/University City limit to Greensfelder Park will be approximately .89 miles long. The total is then 5.84 miles nearing the state standard for multi-purpose trails. The only other section is through Ruth Park Woods which is a nature trail at approximately ½ mile distance.

The trail has been developed by the Great Rivers Greenway to meet AASHTO (American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials) standards. It is the policy of the Great Rivers Greenway to plan, design and develop the trail and then enter into an agreement having the City maintain the trail. Some communities have leveraged the development costs by applying for state, federal and local grants.

## **VII. Park Roads and Parking Lots**

Only Heman Park has a park road which is off Midland at Shaftesbury. This road is an access road for park visitors coming to the picnic shelter, basketball courts and sports fields. The road is also used by parks, forestry and public works staff to access the forestry byproducts (wood and mulch). A section of the road was recently improved as part of the trail project. Future improvements are needed on the road surface and replacement of telephone pole vehicle barriers with curbs.

Parking lots are located in the following parks:

1. Fogerty – northwest corner
2. Greensfelder – south – shared by church
3. Heman
  - i. Centennial Commons and Swimming Pool
  - ii. Community Center
  - iii. Tennis Courts
  - iv. Jack Buck Field
  - v. East of Jack Buck Field
  - vi. Lower Picnic shelter
  - vii. Soccer/Football
  - viii. Basketball Court
4. Kaufman - south

5. Metcalfe – southwest & south east
6. Millar - west
7. Ruth Park Golf Course - Clubhouse

Some parking lots are in poor condition (Greensfelder), some just need striping and the lots the access road off Midland do not meet standards of having smooth asphalt surface with striped lines and curbs.

### **VIII. Pathways and Sidewalks**

The state standard for walking trails is 1 mile for every 4,446 residents. Established & maintained as walking pathways are found at:

- Fogerty - ½ mile
- Heman – 1 ½ mile plus the Centennial Greenway connector of ¾ mile
- Janet Majerus - 1/3 mile
- Millar – ½ mile
- Ackert walkway and Greenway South are segments of the Centennial Greenway

Total walking trail length is 2.83 miles. These pathways vary in width but the future standard should be 8’ wide for safe two way passage. The paths should be smooth and flush with the surrounding ground. The paths should be labeled with distances.

Quite a few of University City’s parks have sidewalks on one or more of the sides of the parks. It is the responsibility of the Parks Division to replace worn or damaged sections of the sidewalks. The City side walks specification of subsurface, depth of concrete and width shall be 4” rock, 4” concrete and 4’ wide for sidewalks.

### **IX. Ponds, River & Fountains**

Lewis Park and Janet Majerus Parks have ponds. Both ponds are small and shallow which require aeration fountains to maintain water quality. Swimming is not allowed in either pond. Both ponds have had fish “volunteered” to the water and the limited fishing by residents has not caused any problems. The Lewis Park pond has a sculpture titled “Fish on a Bike” on permanent loan from the Gateway Foundation which is responsible for its maintenance.

The River des Peres runs adjacent to Mona Terrace and Ruth Parks Woods. It also goes directly through Heman Park. The River des Peres is controlled by the Metropolitan Sewer District. The river is a collector for trash and debris and experiences combined sewer overflow. It is not currently an asset to the parks. The City Public Works department has a clean-up assistance program which can provide gloves, safety cones, and trash containers. It places door hangers on residences to inform neighbors of the clean-up.

The City maintains three (3) fountains at:

- Ackert Walkway;
- Rain Man at the corner of Delmar and Kingsland; and

- Heman Park Memorial Fountain

The fountains need regular maintenance, inspection, and periodic repairs.

## **X. Trees, Landscaping and Beautification**

Throughout the park system there are trees of various species, ages and conditions. The trees are planted, trimmed and removed by the Forestry Division. This service is supplemented by the Parks Division personnel. Park trees are trimmed on a 10 year rotation. There is a designated arboretum at Heman Park, established in 1975, which consists of a diversity of tree species for educational and general knowledge.

Landscaping in City parks is installed and maintained by Park Division personnel. The landscaping is primarily bushes and shrubs. There are hundreds of flower beds and landscape areas throughout the City of University City which are designed, planted and maintained by U City in Bloom, a not-for-profit community organization.

Trees are planted in appropriate locations based upon the location, are watered in the first year after planting, are pruned and all dead limbs removed. Landscaping beds are kept free of weed, annuals are removed after they have died off and perennials, and bushes and scrubs trimmed for a neat appearance.

## **XI. Turf and Irrigation**

Turf or lawn in City parks is generally of poor quality. It is primarily “green” weeds. Summers in University City are very dry and it is impossible to maintain uniform and healthy grass without some source of water. The following locations have irrigation:

- Heman
  - i. Landscape planting bed and grass in front of Centennial Commons
  - ii. Jack Buck Field
  - iii. The grounds surrounding the pool
- Ruth Park Golf Course – tees, greens and fairways

The priority areas for new irrigation are:

1. Millar Park – football field
2. Heman Park – lighted athletic field area
3. The grounds and islands at Centennial Commons (include pool entrance areas) and the Community Center
4. If and when regulation softball field is developed at #6 in Heman

It might be more cost effective to install an artificial turf such as “Field Turf”™ on the athletic fields because of the cost of the irrigation equipment, back flow preventer, monthly water bills and maintaining the system. Also, there is a benefit of being able to use it in all types of weather.

## **XII. Site Amenities – picnic tables, drinking fountains, trash container, benches, etc.**

Throughout the parks there are site amenities that have no uniform standard for design, manufacturer or even colors. It is appropriate for a particular park to have a different style but in general it would be a better if park furnishings were standardized for a uniformity of look and cost savings when purchasing larger orders.

- Picnic tables – the department has a mixture of stone, wood and vinyl coated metal tables. The stone tables are very old and chipped with missing seats in some cases. They are permanently mounted on cement slabs; which in some cases, are deteriorating. The wood tables are lighter, and replacement of slats is easy. However, this type of table has a tendency to be taken from the parks for personal use. The vinyl coated tables also are showing wear.

The standard for the future should be recycled plastic tables, on unpainted stainless steel tube frame, with at least one ADA table at each picnic shelter. Each table should be marked clearly that it is a City of University City table. All damaged or warped slats should be replaced. If a table location is going to be permanent the table should be secured on a cement slab. A limited number of wood tables can be kept for miscellaneous requests for special events or as temporary tables while a recycled plastic table is being repaired.

- Drinking fountains – the department has generally two types of drinking fountains. The older model is a round metal bowl on a pedestal. If kept painted, this model is fairly maintenance free and is durable. The newer models meet ADA regulations for wheel chair access if placed at a location with overall ADA access, however, they are less durable.

Ideally, the City needs to find a ADA model which is as durable as the older model. One suggestion is to also purchase a model that accommodates drinking water for dogs. Drinking fountains should be placed near basketball and tennis courts, picnic shelters, playgrounds and at centralized locations where there are athletic fields and along trail routes. If the park restroom is centrally located this would be a good location as well.

- Trash Containers – the department uses two types of trash container. Recycled oil drums and plastic barrels. Both are of various colors and most are in poor condition. The primary reason for these choices has been cost. However, the mixture of colors and the poor condition of many of the containers detracts from the aesthetics of the parks.

For most neighborhood parks all barrels should be the same type, color and in good condition. The containers are attached to posts, which should be straight, and located to encourage the public not to litter but also to minimize the vehicular traffic on park grounds.

Recycling containers are located at picnic shelters, the golf course and Jack Buck baseball field.

- Benches – Like picnic tables there are a variety of materials and overall condition of benches throughout the parks.

The standard bench should be made from recycled plastic on an unpainted stainless steel tube frame. Benches should be permanently located at basketball and tennis courts, playgrounds, at locations along walking trails, at each golf course hole, in baseball/softball dugouts and at selective, shaded, and reflective spots in parks. For football and soccer fields they can be temporarily secured for portability.

- Misc. Fencing – Some parks have ornamental fencing (Ackert Walkway & Eastgate) and some have chain link fencing for safety along the River des Peres (Heman & Mona Terrace).

The ornamental fencing should be straight with no rust and painted as needed. The chain link fencing should all match with even top and bottom rails and the chain link taught for the entire length of the fencing. The preferred standard is to have vinyl coated fencing in dark green, brown or black.

### **XIII. Signs**

The park signs are on routed wood with painted letters. This style of sign is more reminiscent of state and national park signs and has no indication or identity as a City of University park. Standard should be a stone/cement pedestal monument with the City logo, name of park and some unique art work that “speaks” to the viewer regarding something special or unique about that park.

Until such time as these monument signs can be acquired the wood signs should be kept in good repair and lettering painted.

### **XIV. Picnic Shelters**

The state standard is one picnic shelter for every 1,356 residents. The City of University City has picnic shelters at these parks:

1. Fogerty
2. Heman – 2 on the south and one on the north side of River des Peres
3. Millar

The City is significantly low on the number of picnic shelters. Not all of the new shelters need to be large, reservable or have restrooms nearby. Some could serve as needed shade structures. Suggested locations for new shelters are:

- a. Ackert – as part of redesign of the center section
- b. Greensfelder – a reservable shelter

- c. Kaufman – as a shade structure for the playground
- d. Lewis – as a shade structure for the playground
- e. Janet Majerus – as a shade structure for over the pond plaza
- f. Metcalfe – as part of the redesign in east area of park - reservable
- g. Rabe - as a shade structure for the playground

The state standard for picnic tables is 1 table for every 128 residents. No attempt to count picnic tables was made for this report. The City of University City standard should be enough tables to meet the capacity of the shelter and a minimum of one picnic table in pocket and neighborhood parks.

## **XV. Restrooms**

There are no state or national standards for restroom facilities to serve patrons at outdoor recreation areas or parks. However, outdoor recreation areas which serve patrons for extended periods of time (athletic competition, group picnic and special events should have public restrooms). Portable restrooms can be used when permanent restroom are not feasible. However, the public prefers permanent and clean restrooms. Recently installed prefabricated restrooms include natural lighting, electronic locks, and durable and easy to clean surfaces.

## **XVI. Lighting**

Athletic field and court lighting allows to expanded use of recreation facilities are available for the public use. Lighting systems have significantly improved over the past decade in energy efficiencies and the control of spill light. The IESNA (Illuminating Engineering Society of North America) has established levels of lighting (i.e. foot candles) for all types of facilities and area. Below is a chart of typical municipal park facilities and the recommended light levels.

Type of Facility	Recommended Foot Candles
<b>Baseball/Softball - Infield</b>	30
<b>Baseball/Softball - Outfield</b>	20
<b>Football/Soccer</b>	20
<b>Tennis</b>	30
<b>Gymnasiums</b>	50
<b>Golf Driving Range – Tee box</b>	20
<b>Golf Driving Range at 200 yards</b>	10
<b>Swimming</b>	30
<b>Volleyball</b>	20
<b>Parking Lots</b>	5

The type of light fixture and the type of lamp will be determined by the intended area to illuminate. The color of the light needs to be considered if any video or filming is going to occur. Athletic lighting systems vary in their energy efficiency and warranties on the life of the lamp. Long term costs should be considered when selecting the appropriate lighting system.

## **XVII. Swimming pools**

The state standard is 1 pool per 6500 residents, and national standard is 1 per 20,000 residents. Pools should accommodate 3 to 5% of total populations at a time. The service radius is 15 to 30 minutes travel time. The City owns and operates Heman Pool with operations from Memorial Day to Labor Day. This is a family leisure pool with 13 swim lanes that do not meet the standard 25 yard or 50 meter length. The School District owns the Natatorium with 24 yard & 1 inch competitive pool with 6 swim lanes. The City has access to the Natatorium for lap swim and open swim hours during the school year. Based on the standards, the City is not fully meeting the standards with only 1 pool available at any time during the year. The County maintains strict building and operational codes for public swimming pools and inspects the pools on a routine basis.

## **XVIII. Centennial Commons**

There are no standards for multipurpose recreation centers, however the gymnasium and indoor soccer field is counted for basketball, volleyball and soccer field inventory.

## **XIX. Community Center**

There are no standards for this type of facility.

## **XX. Golf Courses**

The national standard is 1 per 25,000 residents with service radius of ½ to 1 hour travel time and a driving range 1 per 50,000 residents with service radius of 30 minute travel time. The state standard for golf course or driving ranges is 1 per 25,674 residents. University City is just under the state and national standard but it is not clear if the standard is for a 9 hole or 18 hole course or if either would meet the standard. However, we do meet the standard for travel time. With the opening of the driving range we will meet the national standard.

## **XXI. Volleyball**

The state standard is 1 court within a mile for 4,659 people. The national standard is ¼ to ½ mile for 5000 people. University City has a sand volleyball court at Heman Pool and the capacity to have two courts operating in Centennial Commons. Based on the standard University City is deficient in volleyball courts.

## **XXII. Running Track**

The national standard is 1 track for 20,000 people and a 15-30 minute travel time. With the track at the high school and the one at Centennial Commons we meet the standard.

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# Park Evaluations

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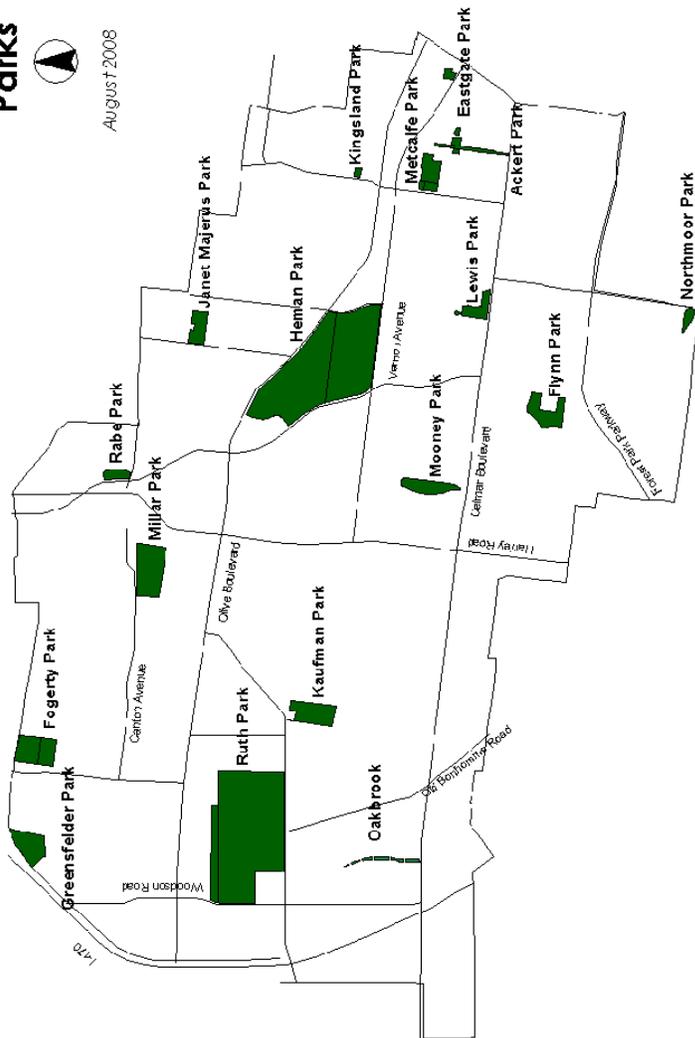
Based on the standards and needs for typical park facilities each of University City's parks were evaluated. Each park was walked during the same week in the fall of 2007. The evaluations follow this page.

A brief park history is included for each property. Each feature in the park is identified and evaluated against the standards. Opportunities and constraints were identified. A list of immediate, intermediate and long term needs was identified. Immediate needs were added to the work tasks of the Parks Division for the current year. Intermediate and long term needs were added to a comprehensive list of capital needs to be prioritized along with needs identified in the citizen survey and the focus group meeting.

# City of University City Parks



August 2008



# ACKERT WALKWAY PARK

**Address:** 6601 Delmar

**Acreage:** 3.489 acres

**Type of Park:** Linear Trail

**Acquisition and Construction History:**

Acquired through land clearance in 1967 and 1972

**Playground:** Located at midpoint along walkway. Need to paint tops of structures.

**Safety Surface:** Wood chips and more needed. Need poured in place safety surface.

**Constructed:** 1997

**Planned Replacement:** 2015

**Football/Soccer Field/s:** None

**Softball/Baseball Fields/s:** None

**Basketball Court/s:** None

**Tennis Courts:** None

**Trail:** Existing walkway that will be part of Centennial Greenway. Already 10' wide cement in good condition for most of the way. Going north the first seating section has cracks and sinking sections.

**Park Roads and Parking Lots:** None

**Pathways and Sidewalks:** In section where the park widens out at Clemens the hardscaping to the east (by the stone ponies) needs to be removed and grass planted. The upper area near Leland has some concrete sections that need replacing,

**Ponds, River & Fountains:** Fountain in landscape bed. Need to repair or replace porpoises which have their snouts cracked off.

**Trees, Landscaping and Beautification:** Nice tree lined walk. Remove tree stump at Clemens and Westgate. Trees need trimming.

**Turf:** Only turf area is by playground and is typical non-irrigated grass with weeds.

**Topography:** Flat except the section by Leland and Clemens which is higher. There is no ADA access from walkway.

**Site Amenities – benches, tables, drinking fountains, mutt mitt:** Many benches missing along trail. Do not need as many as originally installed by need to balance out where remaining benches are located. Need more attractive trash containers than bent up metal or plastic barrels in this area that link users to Delmar Loop. Remove stone ponies, which were originally playground pieces, and place in a more secure location only if they can be moved without damaging them. Three benches with recycle material has slats that a sagging. Under the south steps is the water and electrical for the park. Up the south steps there is a saw horse over exposed wires needs to be repaired, Public Works maintains the lights. Shelter apex shingles are missing; northwest corner shingles are missing, and some wood rot. Need to stain, seal and

repair roof. There is an old style drinking fountain. Wrought iron fencing needs painting and one post bent back. At north end where it narrows there is a drinking fountain with seating and to the west of the "T" intersection there is additional seating at Leland.

**Signs:** No identification sign. Only sign is at south end prohibiting alcohol consumption. Future signage for Centennial Greenway

**Picnic Shelter:** None – shelter at Clemens is more of a railroad depot sun/rain shelter.

**Restroom:** None

**Lighting – general and athletic:** Good lighting entire distance.

**Current Uses:** Used as both a passive park and a walkway to and from the Delmar Loop. Benches are used as informal gather places.

**Opportunities/ Constraints:** Area that widens out a Clemens should be redesigned to meet the needs of the future trail users and the changing demographic of the entire neighborhood. ADA access to upper area will require switch backs. Narrowing of trail near Delmar will require additional land or the movement of light poles.

**Immediate Needs:**

- Additional wood chips at playground
- Replace concrete walkway that is broken
- Replace bad concrete south of shelter
- Remove tree stump
- Replace bench slats
- Repair where exposed wires are accessible – Public Works
- Repair shelter
- Paint wrought iron

**Intermediate Needs (1-3 years):**

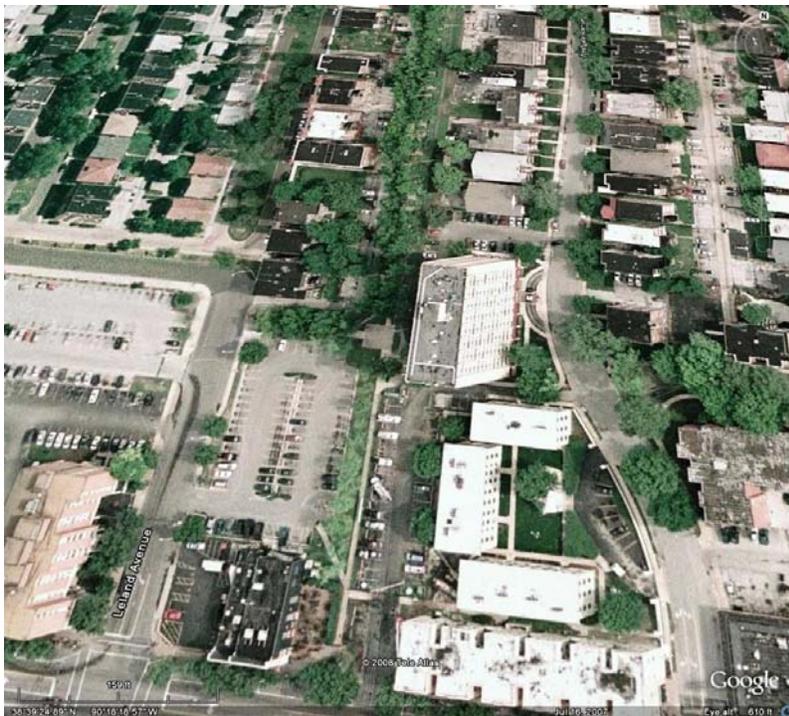
- Remove hardscape at Clemens north of playground
- Relocate ponies to more secure location
- Strategically place benches
- New trash containers

**Long Term Needs (3+ years):**

- Redesign wider area at Clemens
- Centennial Greenway signage



Ackert Walkway North



Ackert Walkway South

# EASTGATE PARK

**Address:** 848 Eastgate

**Acreage:** .93 acres

**Type of Park:** Pocket

**Acquisition and Construction History:**

Acquired in 1923

**Playground:** When it is replaced get more vibrant colors. Graffiti on playground sign.

**Safety Surface:** Wood chips. Needs poured-in-place safety surface

**Constructed:** 2002

**Planned Replacement:** 2017

**Football/Soccer Field/s:** None

**Softball/Baseball Fields/s:** None

**Basketball Court/s:** Needs color coating and striping

**Tennis Courts:** None

**Trail:** None

**Park Roads and Parking Lots:** On Street

**Pathways and Sidewalks:** Walkway around playground in good shape but too narrow to meet ADA.

**Ponds, River & Fountains:** None

**Trees, Landscaping and Beautification:** Tree limbs over swing set need trimming. Only landscaping area is between playground and patio

**Turf:** Very little turf and no irrigation.

**Topography:** Flat

**Site Amenities – benches, tables, drinking fountains, mutt mitt:** Three (3) benches at basketball court. There is a bike rack and old style drinking fountain. Shade structure and wood benches are rarely used and look “tired”. Wrought iron fence at southeast corner needs painting and should be extend as an edge all around the park. There is a mixture of plastic and metal trash barrels.

**Signs:** Low park sign at NW Corner made of wood.

**Picnic Shelter:** Shade structure is wooded slats

**Restroom:** None

**Lighting – general and athletic:** Street lights

**Current Uses:** Basketball highest use with some playground visitation.

**Opportunities/ Constraints:** Too much hardscape. Site needs to be total redesigned with major of grounds in a playground with spray water features to serve all northeast University City. See if CDBG funds will pay for this redesign. Move basketball to wide area at Ackert walkway because more Washington University students are living in that area than families with children. Consider a total redesign of all parks in this area because of changing demographics.

**Immediate Needs:**

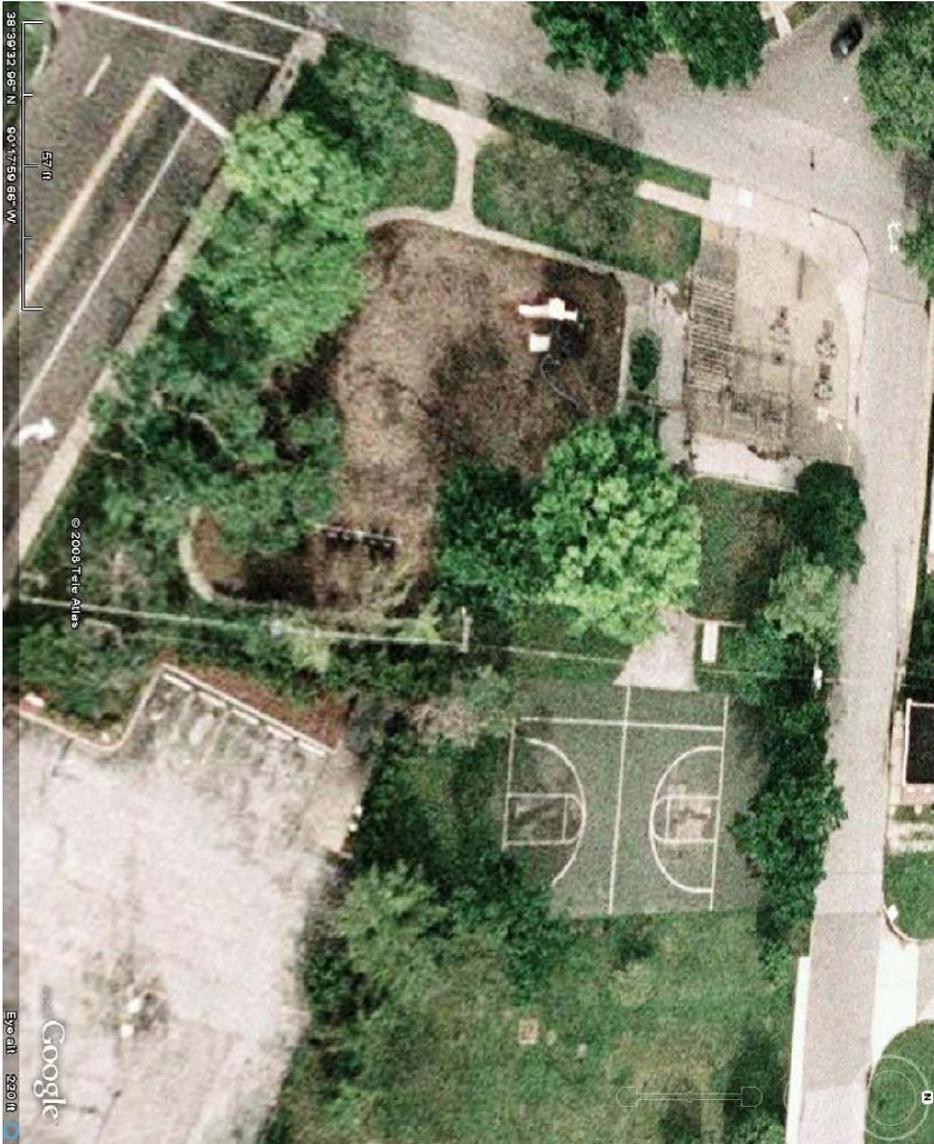
- Remove graffiti

**Intermediate Needs (1-3 years):**

- Color coating and striping of basketball court
- New park sign

**Long Term Needs (3+ years):**

- Total redesign of park to large playground with water spray features



Eastgate Park

# FLYNN PARK

**Address:** 420 Midvale

**Acreage:** 6.61 acres

**Type of Park:** Neighborhood

**Acquisition and Construction History:**

Acquired 1923

**Playground:** Heavily used by Flynn Park Elementary School. Climber appears to not be fall-through and should be removed. Should share cost of future entire playground replacement with school. Playground does not look to be planned well for site; very spread out.

**Safety Surface:** Wood Chips. Needs poured-in-place safety surface.

**Constructed:** 1995

**Planned Replacement:** 2009

**Football/Soccer Field/s:** One goal practice areas in north of park. Only flat and treeless area of park

**Softball/Baseball Fields/s:** None

**Basketball Court/s:** None

**Tennis Courts:** Five (5) courts on two levels which need to be replaced with a more durable surface. Plan is to use artificial sand based surface. Fencing needs to be replaced with bottom rails.

**Trail:** None

**Park Roads and Parking Lots:** On Street

**Pathways and Sidewalks:** Walks in fairly good shape some cracked and broken areas to be replaced.

**Ponds, River & Fountains:** None

**Trees, Landscaping and Beautification:** Many trees throughout park which provide good shade. Tree trimming is needed on some trees.

**Turf:** Heavy foot traffic around playground and significant shade leave little turf except on the north side. Remove excess concrete from storm drain on south side of park.

**Topography:** Rolling

**Site Amenities – benches, tables, drinking fountains, mutt mitt:** Red metal trash barrels, 2 wood and 1 concrete picnic tables, 2 benches by playgrounds and a few others scattered in the park, 2 memorial stone benches, and mutt-mitt station on west side by stairs and small entrance plaza. Add bird houses and label trees to make grounds an urban outdoor learning center.

**Signs:** Wood park sign at southwest corner

**Picnic Shelter:** None

**Restroom:** None

**Lighting – general and athletic:** A few lights interior of park

**Current Uses:** Flynn is a heavily used neighborhood park with strong neighborhood attachment. Park is a combination of active play and passive open space.

**Opportunities/ Constraints:** Tennis courts need to be replaced now. Playground needs total redesign. Good neighborhood and school involvement will be assets to improvements.

**Immediate Needs:**

- Playground climber needs to be removed
- Tennis courts and fencing
- Replace broken section of walkway on south side of park
- Remove excess concrete from storm drain on south side of park.
- Tree trimming

**Intermediate Needs (1-3 years):**

- New park sign
- Bird houses and label trees

**Long Term Needs (3+ years):**

- New playground on poured in place safety surface



Flynn Park

# FOGERTY PARK

**Address:** 1540 82<sup>nd</sup> Street

**Acreage:** 11.8 acres

**Type of Park:** Neighborhood

**Acquisition and Construction History:**

Acquired in 1928 – Tennis courts were constructed in the early 1980's.

**Playground:** When playground is replaced add more vibrant colors.

**Safety Surface:** Wood chips. Replaced with poured in place safety surface.

**Constructed:**1997

**Planned Replacement:** 2013

**Football/Soccer Field/s:** Park is used by U City Soccer Club and the turf, though weedy, held up well.

**Softball/Baseball Fields/s:** Scrub diamond for practices. Field needs fencing of player's benches for safety.

**Basketball Court/s:** None

**Tennis Courts:** Courts were resurfaced in 2005 and cracking has returned in the playing surface. Resurfacing and color coating will be required every 2-3 years. Courts eventually will need to be replaced with a more durable surface. Net posts are bent and in need of replacement.

**Trail:** ½ mile six (6) foot wide walking trail around and through park has some cracking on edges with large cracks behind shelter.

**Park Roads and Parking Lots:** One parking lot at the north end by shelter and on street parking. Lot needs striping.

**Pathways and Sidewalks:** Sidewalk on west side but not east side of park.

**Ponds, River & Fountains:** None

**Trees, Landscaping and Beautification:** Nice wooded area is on north end of park. Tree need trimming. If community volunteers become available clear out weeds and vines on north end of park.

**Turf:** Turf is typical of non-irrigated grass with many weeds.

**Topography:** Fairly flat

**Site Amenities – benches, tables, drinking fountains, mutt mitt:** Stone picnic tables and grills scattered in wooded north section of park and around picnic shelter. Park has plastic and metal trash barrels. Retaining wall that creates seating area by tennis courts is cracking and rotting and will need to be replaced with a more durable material. Drinking fountain needs painting.

**Signs:** Park sign is wood at the parking lot and the wording is obscured by plantings.

**Picnic Shelter:** Needs painting. Long term replace and separate from restrooms.

**Restroom:** Unattractive, not fully compliant with ADA. Replace in future.

**Lighting – general and athletic:** Some general park lighting with overhead cobra lights north and nicer lights in south end. Some concerns about lights not coming on in the evening and that the lighting is not very strong.

**Current Uses:** Picnic shelter gets regular use and walking path used by neighborhood residents. Tennis courts are underutilized and soccer field gets used in the fall. Adjacent Barbara Jordon Elementary school uses scrub ball diamond.

**Opportunities/ Constraints:** More neighborhood involvement would be welcome. Need to separate picnic shelter from restroom.

**Immediate Needs:**

- Replaced cracked walking path area behind shelter
- Stripe parking lot
- Trim trees
- Paint shelter
- Check to see if light timers are correct

**Intermediate Needs (1-3 years):**

- Replace playground with poured in place safety surface
- Resurfacing of tennis courts and straight net posts
- Replace sign.
- Retaining wall replacement

**Long Term Needs (3+ years):**

- Fenced player benches on scrub ball diamond.
- Replacement of tennis courts with more durable surface and new fencing with bottom rails.
- Upgrade lighting



Fogerty Park

# GREENSFELDER PARK

**Address:** 8301 Kempland

**Acreage:** 6.75 acres

**Type of Park:** Neighborhood

**Acquisition and Construction History:**

Acquired 1954 – softball field eliminated and replaced with soccer/football field in 2006.

**Playground:** Good shade at playground. Tops of playground structures need painting and small hole in post is showing rust.

**Safety Surface:** Wood chips. Needs poured-in-place safety surface.

**Constructed:** 1997

**Planned Replacement:** 2014

**Football/Soccer Field/s:** There was an informal soccer field that was being used by an adult league but there were complaints about poison ivy and the overall field conditions so we moved the adult league to a regulation field. This would be a good location when there are resources to improve the field and remove the poison ivy. Youth football teams also practice at this park. Netting has been purchased and will be installed in the spring of 2007 along the wood line to protect balls from entering into poison ivy.

**Softball/Baseball Fields/s:** None

**Basketball Court/s:** None

**Tennis Courts:** None

**Trail:** Will be a trail head for the Centennial Greenway with the route along the railroad tracks.

**Park Roads and Parking Lots:** The parking lot is jointly owned by the City and The City of Life Christian Church. The lot is in poor condition; especially at the entrance off Polk. A determination needs to be made as to who will pay for the repairs. There are also no curbs or bumper blocks to keep cars from driving on turf. The parking lot needs to be striped.

**Pathways and Sidewalks:** The only sidewalk is at the curve of parking lot.

**Ponds, River & Fountains:** None

**Trees, Landscaping and Beautification:** There are large trees around playground. The hillside is overgrown and vines are choking out trees. Many feet of parkland can be recaptured. This can be cleared out with the construction of the Greenway trail. The parking lot landscaped island is overgrown.

**Turf:** Turf is typical of non irrigated site and is poor, weeded and uneven.

**Topography:** Predominately flat with steep hillside to west and north

**Site Amenities – benches, tables, drinking fountains, mutt mitt:** Trash containers are metal barrels. Drinking fountain needs painting and there is a drainage problem just west of the fountain. Two (2) stone picnic tables are chipped and need to be replaced and the cement slabs or cracked. There is one small grill. Playground benches have been vandalized and footing is exposed.

**Signs:** Park sign is wood and is hidden by landscape plantings.

**Picnic Shelter:** None – this would be a good location for a reservable shelter. When developed as a trail head.

**Restroom:** None – one will need one when site developed as a trail head. Water and electrical available but sewer location will need to be determined or a composting system installed.

**Lighting – general and athletic:** None

**Current Uses:** This is a hidden park which is difficult to find. The adjacent church and its school are the predominant users. There does not appear to be much neighborhood ownership or involvement in this park.

**Opportunities/ Constraints:** Centennial Greenway trail head will transform this park along with improving the overall maintenance. The City should work with the church to resolve the south parking lot maintenance and also drainage from the church's north parking lot. The park entrance needs to be better defined and two past access points (Kempland and alley) cleaned up and landscaped. The alley was vacated years ago back and is now private driveway. The fencing of adjacent homeowners is in poor shape and detracts from the park.

**Immediate Needs:**

- Remove cement slab near park sign
- Top of playground painted and post hole repaired
- Drinking fountain painted
- Replace stone picnic tables and slabs.
- Repair benches and lower footing.

**Intermediate Needs (1-3 years):**

- Replace fencing behind homes at south corner
- Playground replaced on poured in place safety surface
- Parking lot repaired and striped
- Replace sign and relocate to Polk and Fullerton
- Add directional street signs at Kempland/Woodson and Kempland/Fullerton.

**Long Term Needs (3+ years):**

- Centennial Greenway trail head development with restroom and picnic shelter
- Area irrigated, grounds leveled and soccer field developed



Greensfelder Park

# GREENWAY SOUTH PARK

**Address:** 6600 Kingsbury

**Acreage:** .809 acres

**Type of Park:** Linear Trail

**Acquisition and Construction History:**

Acquired through land clearance in 1967- Southern most end of park impacted with Metro Link expansion in 2006; maintenance responsibilities in this area are still not well defined (University City, St. Louis County, Washington U and Metro Link all involved).

**Playground:** None

**Safety Surface:** N/A

**Constructed:** N/A **Planned Replacement:** N/A

**Football/Soccer Field/s:** None

**Softball/Baseball Fields/s:** None

**Basketball Court/s:** None

**Tennis Courts:** None

**Trail:** Yes, existing trail connects the Delmar Loop area to Washington University. This is the planned route for the Centennial Greenway. Route from Kingsbury north to Delmar on Melville is difficult because of neighbors to the east desire an expensive wall as compensation for allowing the trail to be in the back of their garages.

**Park Roads and Parking Lots:** None – very difficult to find a parking space when school is in session.

**Pathways and Sidewalks:** Pathway is 10 feet wide and in good condition.

**Ponds, River & Fountains:** None

**Trees, Landscaping and Beautification:** Tree lined and shaded.

**Turf:** Turf is thin and gravel in some locations. Need to bring in fill and plant shade-tolerant grass.

**Topography:** Flat

**Site Amenities – benches, tables, drinking fountains, mutt mitt:** Two park benches at mid-point where it is intersected with the walkway from the eastern neighborhood. There is one bike rack at south-end under the Washington University pedestrian bridge. There are no trash containers. On park bench is needed

**Signs:** No identification sign.

**Picnic Shelter:** None

**Restroom:** None

**Lighting – general and athletic:** Lighting is attractive and good.

**Current Uses:** Heavily used route for Washington University students and faculty.

**Opportunities/ Constraints:** This trail is a great starting point for Centennial Greenway in University City. The City needs to continue working with the neighbors from the Parkview Neighborhood and Washington University to find a solution to continue north to Delmar. There is some question as to if the City is responsible for the maintenance under the pedestrian bridge. This location will be a collector for litter and needs to be checked on a regular basis. Although never clearly defined, there was an understanding that St. Louis County would maintain under the bridge, Washington University would maintain the bridge itself and University City everything leading to up to the bridge. Park Maintenance began maintenance under the bridge when nothing was ever done; we continue to do so today.

**Immediate Needs:**

- Attractive trash container by benches
- Contact St. Louis County about maintenance under bridge.

**Intermediate Needs (1-3 years):**

- Improve turf

**Long Term Needs (3+ years):**

-



Greenway South

# HEMAN PARK

**Address:** 7200 Olive

**Acreage:** 85.26 acres

**Type of Park:** Community

**Acquisition and Construction History:**

Park acquired in three separate parcels – 1923, 28 & 44. The vast majority of the park is located on an old landfill full of cobble stones, brick, glass bottles and cinder.

**Playground:** Two playgrounds between picnic shelters in large shaded area.

**Safety Surface:** Wood chips. Need poured in place safety surface.

**Constructed:** 5-12 years old 2000 2-5 years old 2002

**Planned Replacement:** 2015

**Football/Soccer Field/s:** University City Sports Association uses both lighted areas in the park for football practices. Each of the lighted areas is considered two fields. Since 2006 the City has limited three teams to each field on the rotating days the Sports Association can practice on the fields. The other days are reserved for practices and games for the University City Soccer Club. Soccer goals are also set up on the outfield of the main softball field.

**Softball/Baseball Fields/s:** There are five backstops without outfield fencing or dugouts on the north side of the River des Peres. These fields are primarily used for youth t-ball, machine pitch and youth baseball provided by the City and the University City Sports Association.

There are 2 fields between the park access road and the River des Peres. One field is Jack Buck baseball field with full fencing, dug outs, irrigation and scoreboard. Jack Buck field is the home field for the University City High School baseball team and is rented by outside baseball organizations throughout the warm weather months. The other field is for softball and is the home field for the University City High School softball team. It does not have dugouts but does have a scoreboard.

There are 4 backstops on the south side of the park access road however the one farthest east is not used. These fields do not have dugouts and are used for both youth baseball and adult softball.

The City needs to determine the number of fields are needed, the best locations and then improve them with fenced dugouts.

**Basketball Court/s:** There are three outdoor courts at the end of the park access road. These courts need to be resurfaced and color coated.

**Tennis Courts:** There are 8 post-tension concrete tennis courts built in 2005. They are in excellent shape but will need color coating in about 3 years. Four of the courts are lighted.

**Trail:** There is a connector of the Centennial Greenway installed in 2007. It is 10' wide asphalt over a rock base. The trail begins on Vernon, crossed a new pedestrian bridge and the park service road. It then goes through the picnic areas and adjacent to the River des Peres until the Purdue bridge. This bridge is scheduled to be replaced, with another pedestrian bridge which will be used by the trail and connect into the trail to Olive Blvd.

**Park Roads and Parking Lots:** The park access road off Midland at Shaftsbury is in fair condition for the general public. The area used by city trucks needs to be repaired. The area where it intersects with the Centennial Greenway trail has been built to accommodate heavy trucks. There is a service road along the

north side of the River des Peres which is in poor condition and is in need of resurfacing from behind the pool to the tennis courts. The parking lots and the edge of the service road have utility poles to prevent vehicles from entering the park grounds. Some of these poles have sharp objects that need to be removed.

Parking lots are at the following locations.

- Centennial Commons – new in 2005 and in good condition. The area by the swimming pool is not strong enough to accommodate trucks or buses. There is a sign informing the drivers of this limitation.
- Tennis courts – okay condition.
- Three gravel lots off the park access drive – all need an asphalt surface and stripping.
- Behind the Community Center – okay condition but needs lighting.

**Pathways and Sidewalks:** There is a continuous walking path around the park that varies in width from 5' to 10' and is 1 ½ miles long. It is a mixture of concrete sidewalks and asphalt paths. The ADA accessible asphalt walks near the playgrounds and picnic pavilions are in need of repair and resurfacing. Sidewalks by Centennial Commons and the swimming pool are in good condition.

**Ponds, River & Fountains:** The River des Peres intersects the park from northwest to southeast. There is also a section on the south-side of the park. The river is obscured from public view by Japanese Honeysuckle, which has been declared an invasive species. Clearing the honeysuckle will be a major undertaking because it also has taken over native species and now serves as bank stabilization. Any clearing would require bank stabilization. This section of the River des Peres is unattractive and not usable as a recreational amenity so clearing the honeysuckle is not a priority. Exploring the opportunity of a joint effort between MSD and the City to cover the river through the park may be another option. Covering the river channel would add useable land for recreational activities. (Maybe a problem with the bike trail – river way trail?)

The Memorial Fountain is located between Centennial Commons and Olive Blvd. It was built in 1936 to honor all Veterans. It has color lights and attractive plantings maintained by U City in Bloom. The fountain underwent extensive renovation in July of 1986. It is the location of the Starlight Concert Series.

**Trees, Landscaping and Beautification:** This park has trees throughout with an older stand of Cotton Wood trees by the picnic shelters and an arboretum behind the swimming pool. The Oak trees within the pool fence did not survive the reconstruction of the pool in 2003-2004 and will be replaced with Hybrid Maples in 2007-2008.

Landscaping by Centennial Commons, the Community Center and at the park corners is provided by U City in Bloom.

**Turf:** The quality of turf depends on the type of use and the amount of shade in any particular part of the park. For the most part it is typical park grass and weeds without irrigation. Bermuda grass has been installed on the lighted field area off Midland. Irrigation is a high priority need for both lighted field areas.

**Topography:** Flat with a lower flat section between the park access road and the River des Peres.

**Site Amenities – benches, tables, drinking fountains, mutt mitt:** Benches at ball fields and tennis courts. Tables at located at the picnic shelters. There is only one mutt mitt station in the park located near N&O Pavilion. Drinking fountains are located at the tennis courts, #3 softball, pool entrance, F&G and N&O Pavilions, Jack Buck Field, the basketball courts and at ball fields #7, #8 and #9.

**Signs:** Park signs are wood routed. City informational signs are located in the corners of Pennsylvania and Olive and Vernon and Midland. There is an informational sign for Centennial Commons on Olive.

**Picnic Shelter:** There are three (3) reservable shelters. Two are located on the south side of the River des Peres and one is the overhang of the converted restroom building next to the tennis courts. The cedar wood post and framing are in need of repair, power washing and staining; the shingle roofs were replaced in 2006 and are in good shape. Picnic table boards to be replaced with recyclable plastic lumber over time.

**Restroom:** There are two park restroom buildings. One is a prefabricated building installed in 2005 by the tennis courts. The other is to be replaced in 2008 and located between the two picnic shelters off the park access drive. Both are ADA accessible.

**Lighting – general and athletic:** North of the River des Peres the lighting comes from 4 sources: Olive Blvd. and service road street lights, Centennial Commons parking lot lights, tennis courts athletic lights and, new in 2007, athletic field lights. South of the River des Peres there are 14 street lights scattered throughout the picnic shelter/playground area and athletic field lighting. The basketball court has one street light near the pedestrian bridge.

**Current Uses:** Heman Park is the City's largest park and is used as both an active and passive park as well as the location for many special events throughout the year.

#### **Opportunities/ Constraints:**

##### **Immediate Needs:**

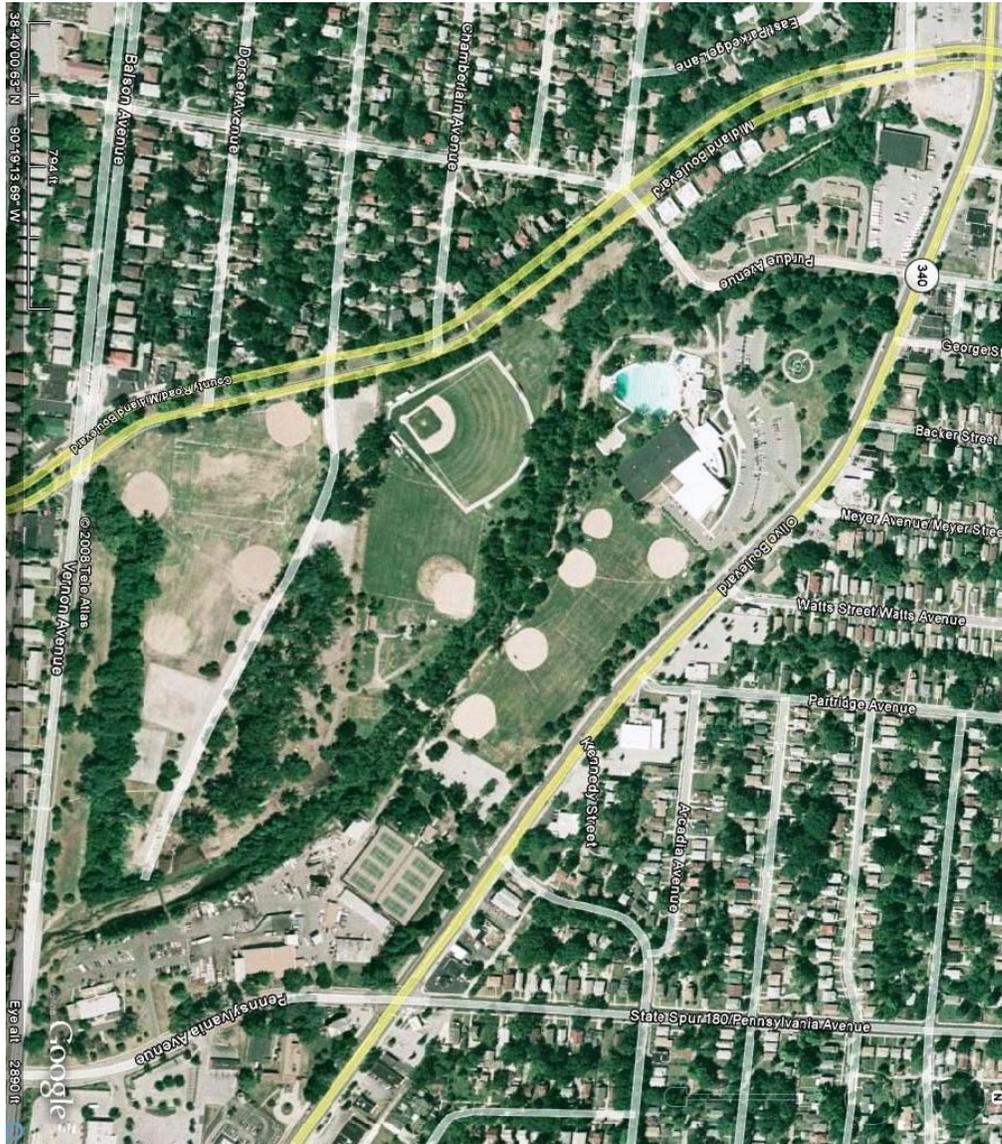
- Complete trail construction
- Complete the restroom replacement
- Remove dying oak trees and plant replacement trees outside fence
- Install additional mutt mitt stations
- Wash pavilion wood components and make needed repairs
- Remove sharp objects from utility pole barriers

##### **Intermediate Needs (1-3 years):**

- Determine softball and baseball field needs and improve those fields with dugouts
- Pave gravel parking lots
- Replace park signs
- Replace all picnic tables with recyclable plastic wood

##### **Long Term Needs (3+ years):**

- Resurface and color coat the basketball court
- Light the 4 other tennis courts
- Irrigate athletic fields



Heman Park

# JANET MAJERUS PARK

**Address:** 1300 Partridge

**Acreage:** 4.5 acres

**Type of Park:** Pocket

**Acquisition and Construction History:**

University City's newest park acquired in 1995 via a bond issue for \$140,000

**Playground:** When replaced use more vibrant colors.

**Safety Surface:** Wood chips. Needs poured-in-place safety surface

**Constructed:** 1996

**Planned Replacement:** 2012

**Football/Soccer Field/s:** None

**Softball/Baseball Fields/s:** None

**Basketball Court/s:** None

**Tennis Courts:** None

**Trail:** None

**Park Roads and Parking Lots:** On Street

**Pathways and Sidewalks:** A 1/3 mile asphalt path winds through park with a few fitness stations. There is some cracking along the path. Distance markers need painting.

**Ponds, River & Fountains:** Small, shallow pond. Past problems with water quality improved with additional aeration fountain. Pond will need to be dredged in 2020.

**Trees, Landscaping and Beautification:** Trees are still young and do not provide much shade. Nice landscaping between pond and playground.

**Turf:** Better than most of the parks with out irrigation.

**Topography:** Flat

**Site Amenities – benches, tables, drinking fountains, mutt mitt:** Benches around walking path. Wood picnic tables are by pond. There is a Mutt Mitt station.

**Signs:** Wood park sign and 2 stone pillars with brass signs along Partridge Ave.

**Picnic Shelter:** None – small non-reservable shelter would be a good addition over the picnic table area patio for some shade.

**Restroom:** None

**Lighting – general and athletic:** Street lights on south and west and interior lights on north path.

**Current Uses:** Playground, walkers, and some fishing.

**Opportunities/ Constraints:** Newest park in city still needs to mature. Neighborhood involvement and watchers is very helpful.

**Immediate Needs:**

- Signs and posts need painting
- Crack filling of walkway

**Intermediate Needs (1-3 years):**

- 

**Long Term Needs (3+ years):**

- Picnic/Shade structure



Janet Majerus Park

# KAUFMAN PARK

**Address:** 8025 Blackberry

**Acreage:** 7.8 acres

**Type of Park:** Neighborhood

## **Acquisition and Construction History:**

The land was acquired in 1972. There was agreement made that the City would obtain the additional 1.8 acres and the adjoining house upon the death of the owner. The City took possession of the house and additional acreage in 1996.

**Playground:** Relatively new playground. Mounds separate the tot and youth playgrounds making it difficult for parents to supervise children in both age groups. Parents have mentioned that the stone curved walls are attractive for kids to climb. Need to add safety surface and convert to real climbing walls.

**Safety Surface:** Poured in place safety surface

**Constructed:** 2006

**Planned Replacement:** 2020

**Football/Soccer Field/s:** None

**Softball/Baseball Fields/s:** None

**Basketball Court/s:** None

**Tennis Courts:** 4 asphalt color coated courts, resurfaced in June 2005. Courts have some cracking but not in the playing surface. Resurfacing and color coating will be necessary on a 2-3 year basis because cracks will continue to come back. Eventually courts will need to be replaced with a more durable surface. Fencing needs to be replaced along with a bottom rail. Courts are in a low area and drainage may be adding to the problem. There is a backboard wall outside the court area which could be redesigned for a different use.

**Trail:** Adjacent Green Center maintains a wooded trail on the northwest portion of the property.

**Park Roads and Parking Lots:** Parking lot on south end of park was resurfaced and stripped in 2007. Lot is in good shape. Replace railroad tie bumper blocks.

**Pathways and Sidewalks:** Pathways are cracked and in need of replacement. Pathway around parking lot and tennis courts is fine.

**Ponds, River & Fountains:** None

**Trees, Landscaping and Beautification:** Heavily wooded in northwest portion of park and maintained by the Green Center. Litter needs to be removed from this area. Pines adjacent to tennis courts need trimming and some replaced.

**Turf:** Turf is typical of non-irrigated grass with many weeds. Mowing of mounds by playground is more difficult than with flatter land.

**Topography:** Slopes from south to north and from west to east. Mounds at north end a park design feature.

**Site Amenities – benches, tables, drinking fountains, mutt mitt:** Seating area out side courts will need to replace the wood as it ages. Park had blue plastic trash barrels. Benches by playground need a few boards replaced and painting.

**Signs:** Park sign is wood.

**Picnic Shelter:** Small non-reservable shelter would be a nice addition between the two (2) playgrounds for family use.

**Restroom:** None

**Lighting – general and athletic:** Park had attractive pathway lighting.

**Current Uses:** Primarily tennis and the playground with the adjacent Green Center activities and events.

**Opportunities/ Constraints:** Topography makes park attractive but also causes some maintenance and youth supervision problems. Reuse of tennis backboard area could add a recreational element. A small picnic shelter would add to the park enjoyment.

**Immediate Needs:**

- Wood parking lot bumper blocks
- Litter in woods
- Tree trimming and replacement adjacent to tennis courts
- Benches by playground

**Intermediate Needs (1-3 years):**

- Resurfacing and color coating of tennis courts
- Wood seating by tennis courts
- Replace sign

**Long Term Needs (3+ years):**

- Replace tennis courts and fencing
- Redesign of tennis backboard area
- Non-reservable picnic shelter



Kaufman Park

# KINGSLAND PARK

**Address:** 6651 Kingsland

**Acreage:** 1.35 acres

**Type of Park:** Pocket

## **Acquisition and Construction History:**

Acquired through land clearance in the 1960's; area was maintained as an open green space for many years. Officially made a park in 1989. River Des Peres runs directly under the park.

**Playground:** New in 2004. Graffiti needs to be removed

**Safety Surface:** Poured in place (2006) except for stand alone slide

**Constructed:** 2004    **Planned Replacement:** 2019

**Football/Soccer Field/s:** None

**Softball/Baseball Fields/s:** None

**Basketball Court/s:** None

**Tennis Courts:** None

**Trail:** None

**Park Roads and Parking Lots:** On Street

**Pathways and Sidewalks:** Cement in good condition

**Ponds, River & Fountains:** None

**Trees, Landscaping and Beautification:** Plant trees a screen in southeast and in northwest

**Turf:** Fairly good condition for non-irrigated turf

**Topography:** Flat

**Site Amenities – benches, tables, drinking fountains, mutt mitt:** Drinking fountain, benches by playground and 2 benches facing Kingsland Ave. Site needs a picnic table.

**Signs:** Park has wood sign

**Picnic Shelter:** None

**Restroom:** None

**Lighting – general and athletic:** Street lights

**Current Uses:** Playground visitation primarily

**Opportunities/ Constraints:** Site is very small. Need to create a sense of place with additional landscaping and by completing the spilt rail fencing around east and west sides with openings to playground walkways.

**Immediate Needs:**

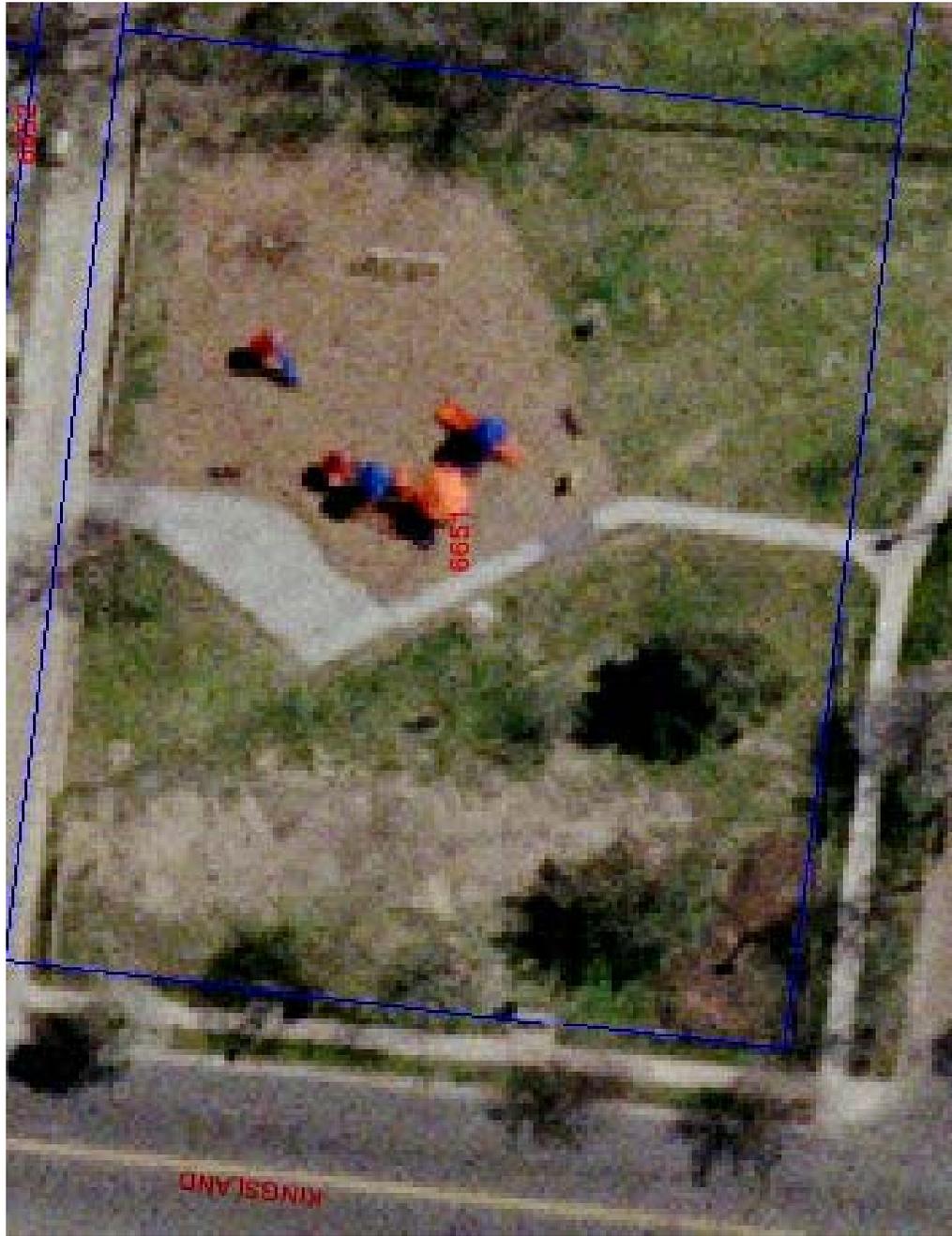
- Complete split rail fencing
- Additional trees
- Graffiti removed
- Picnic table installed

**Intermediate Needs (1-3 years):**

- Replace park sign
- Complete poured in place safety surface

**Long Term Needs (3+ years):**

-



Kingsland Park

# LEWIS PARK

**Address:** 7001 Delmar

**Acreage:** 4

**Type of Park:** Pocket

**Acquisition and Construction History:**

1923 – 2.59 acres 1928 - .16 acres 1954 – 1.25

Original plan for the park included a wading pool, outdoor shower, pond, shelter and two clay tennis courts; only the pond and tennis courts were ever installed. The clay courts were removed sometime in the early 1950's.

**Playground:** Colorful and attractive to children. Heavily used by families with young children. Retaining wall, mixture of cement and stone blocks; is in good shape. Parents made comments on the need for more shade.

**Safety Surface:** Wood fiber – no boarder so wood chips spread beyond needed areas. Needs poured in place safety surface

**Constructed:** Phase I – 1998; Phase II – 2000 **Planned Replacement:** 2015

**Football/Soccer Field/s:** None, area in southeast corner is open and flat for informal athletic use

**Softball/Baseball Fields/s:** None

**Basketball Court/s:** None

**Tennis Courts:** None

**Trail:** None

**Park Roads and Parking Lots:** On-street parking only and limited which limits the use, programming and special events for this park.

**Pathways and Sidewalks:** In good condition with two access points from neighborhood. The graffiti on private fence should be removed.

**Ponds, River & Fountains:** The pond is the focal point of the park with “Fish on a Bike” sculpture donated and maintained by the Gateway Foundation. Pond has aeration fountain, lighting and a small ramp for the water fowl to access the water. The pond was dredged in 1988 and will need it again in 2013. Fish are donated by the public and occasionally there is fishing.

**Trees, Landscaping and Beautification:** The trees recently trimmed. Brush needs to be cleared on the west side. Attractive landscaping maintained around pond.

**Turf:** Typical of park without irrigation and areas with heavy shade there is little grass or weeds.

**Topography:** Lower level with pond and upper level with flat greenspace. Steep slopes off Delmar with 2 concrete stairways. Sledding occurs on east portion of slope. West portion is steeper and should be terraced in the future. Recently installed wood chips on the slope will still erode. Need to paint hand rails.

**Site Amenities – benches, tables, drinking fountains, mutt mitt:** Benches located at playground and pond. Only one cement picnic table. Green metal trash cans. Old style drinking fountain needs painting. Mutt mitt station located at north entrance.

**Signs:** Wood routed park signs at north entrance and on Delmar.

**Picnic Shelter:** None - A small shade structure (non-reservable) with tables should be considered in the future.

**Restroom:** None

**Lighting – general and athletic:** Interior of park and street lights from Delmar.

**Current Uses:** Primarily from immediate neighborhood using the playground and enjoying the pond. Flat area in SE corner is used informally for sports

**Opportunities/ Constraints:** This park is highly visible off Delmar and is a focal point for the neighborhood. Maintaining slope off Delmar is difficult with drainage from street. Park is difficult to access for those outside immediate neighborhood.

**Immediate Needs:**

- Graffiti on private fence should be removed.
- Clear brush on west side.
- Paint stair hand rails.

**Intermediate Needs (1-3 years):**

- Poured in place playground safety surface.
- A small shade structure with tables.
- Replace signs.

**Long Term Needs (3+ years):**

- Terrace west area of slope off Delmar.
- Replace playground wit poured in place playground safety surface.
- Irrigate turf areas.



Lewis Park

# METCALFE PARK

**Address:** 830 Kingsland      **Acreage:** 5.6

**Type of Park:** Neighborhood

**Acquisition and Construction History:**

Acquired two parcels at separate times; 1955 for \$17,000 and 1962 for \$105,000.

The park was built on an old quarry later used as a landfill; in 1999 MSD was drilling a new tunnel along Vernon Avenue and caused the Park to sink 4 to 5 feet overnight. The park was restored to its original condition by 2001.

**Playground:** Is in southwest corner of park and is not used very much because the neighborhood has been changing with fewer families.

**Safety Surface:** Wood chips. Replace with poured-in-place if playground is replaced.

**Constructed:** 1999      **Planned Replacement:** Consider not replacing

**Football/Soccer Field/s:** One soccer field in center. Some youth football practices held here.

**Softball/Baseball Fields/s:** Two scrub diamonds without dug outs.

**Basketball Court/s:** None

**Tennis Courts:** None

**Trail:** None

**Park Roads and Parking Lots:** Two small parking lots on south side of park.

**Pathways and Sidewalks:** No pathways. Sidewalks on east and west sides.

**Ponds, River & Fountains:** None

**Trees, Landscaping and Beautification:** Trees along perimeter and some new plantings in east open area.

**Turf:** Typical park turf without irrigation but thin in heavily trafficked areas of athletic fields.

**Topography:** Majority of park is flat but north edge has slope and the east section is higher.

**Site Amenities – benches, tables, drinking fountains, mutt mitt:** Players benches at ball diamonds. Bleachers need painting, one cement picnic table at playground, old style drinking fountain which needs painting. There is a combination of metal and plastic trash barrels.

**Signs:** Two park identifications signs on east and west edge of park.

**Picnic Shelter:** None but consider east section of park for a reserveable picnic shelter.

**Restroom:** None but will need one with a picnic shelter.

**Lighting – general and athletic:** Lighting from street lights only.

**Current Uses:** Underutilized except for during football and soccer seasons.

**Opportunities/ Constraints:** Highly visible location and equidistant from Delmar and Olive business districts. Depending on the need for “flat fields” for soccer/football/softball site can be redesigned to meet

other recreational and community needs. Neighborhood is in transition with fewer families. Consider a design competition when we have the resources to implement to winning design.

**Immediate Needs:**

- Paint bleachers
- Paint drinking fountain

**Intermediate Needs (1-3 years):**

- Replace signs
- If playground is replaced add poured in place safety surface

**Long Term Needs (3+ years):**

- Redesign for other community recreation needs and possibly a picnic shelter and a restroom



Metcalfe Park

# MILLAR PARK

**Address:** 7603 Carleton

**Acreage:** 12.1 acres

**Type of Park:** Neighborhood with some sports activities Community use

**Acquisition and Construction History:**

Acquired 1928

**Playground:** Playground is older and needs more vibrant colors. Swing set frame needs painting and there is also graffiti. Timber edge of playground need to be replaced.

**Safety Surface:** Wood Chips. Replace with poured in place safety surface.

**Constructed:** 1995

**Planned Replacement:** 2010

**Football/Soccer Field/s:** Home field for games for the U City Sports Association football program. Scoreboard recently installed and still needs electricity to be hooked up and the excess concrete at footings removed. This field is a high priority area for irrigation in order to maintain turf. East field area is used for soccer.

**Softball/Baseball Fields/s:** 2 scrub diamonds are used for adult softball leagues. These fields need fenced dugouts. Remove cement slab by west right field and timbers replaced in the retaining wall.

**Basketball Court/s:** None

**Tennis Courts:** None

**Trail:** None

**Park Roads and Parking Lots:** Parking lots on west ends and by shelter plus on street parking.

**Pathways and Sidewalks:** Walking path around park is heavily used by residents and named for Betty L. Thompson in 2007. Path has fitness stations. Timber edge of northwest fitness station (ladder cross) needs to be replaced. Path has had many overlays and will need to be removed and replaced in the future to be flush with ground.

**Ponds, River & Fountains:** None

**Trees, Landscaping and Beautification:** Large trees along both sides of walkways. Recent storm damage has hit these trees pretty hard. Remove tree stumps.

**Turf:** No irrigation coupled with heavy use on athletic fields, large shade trees and heavy picnic shelter use has left very little grass in this park.

**Topography:** Flat with drainage culverts made of stone draining east field to the south.

**Site Amenities – benches, tables, drinking fountains, mutt mitt:** Trash barrels are a mixture of metal and plastic. Metal bleachers and players benches at football field need painting; lower seat and end caps need to be replaced. Fencing on northwest is privately owned and is a mixture of styles. Drinking fountain by shelter needs painting. There is a bike rack by the shelter. Larger grill for picnics is needed at shelter. Mixture of wood and cement picnic tables are scattered in central portion of park. One cement table is missing a bench.

**Signs:** Park sign is wood.

**Picnic Shelter:** There is a combination shelter and restroom that needs to be replaced by separate structures.

**Restroom:** Restrooms are very small and do not meet the ADA. Clean but not attractive and so worn out that they appear unclean.

**Lighting – general and athletic:** There is general lighting along walking path and by shelter. Consider lighting of football field only if field is irrigated and can sustain more use.

**Current Uses:** Park is heavily used by neighborhood and the community. It is the center of this neighborhood.

**Opportunities/ Constraints:** Park is overused for the current infrastructure and is showing excessive wear. It needs to have a full out division effort to correct the immediate needs and significant capital improvements in the future to continue to be an asset to the neighborhood. Neighborhood involvement will be high and encouraging collaboration on improvements will be beneficial.

**Immediate Needs:**

- Swing set frame needs painting and graffiti removed.
- Timber edge of playground need to be replaced.
- Excess concrete at scoreboard footings removed.
- Remove cement slab by west field.
- Remove tree stumps.
- Paint bleachers, replace seat and end caps.
- Paint drinking fountain.
- Replace damaged cement table.

**Intermediate Needs (1-3 years):**

- Electricity to scoreboard by Sports Association.
- Replace timbers on west softball field retaining wall.
- Replace timber edge at fitness station.
- Install large grill by shelter.
- Replace park sign.

**Long Term Needs (3+ years):**

- Irrigation
- Athletic lighting
- Fenced dug outs at softball fields
- Replace walking path
- Separate shelter and restroom structures



Millar Park

# MONA TERRACE PARK

**Address:** 1100 Groby

**Acreage:** 2

**Type of Park:** Not officially a park. Land was owned as commons space by homeowners association which no longer exists. A City street, which is adjacent to the River des Peres, was abandoned by City.

**Acquisition and Construction History:** A trail installed by public works. The parks department took over maintenance in 2006 and cleaned up the grounds and fixed a long standing drainage problem.

**Playground:** None

**Safety Surface:** N/A

**Constructed:** N/A

**Planned Replacement:** N/A

**Football/Soccer Field/s:** None

**Softball/Baseball Fields/s:** None

**Basketball Court/s:** None

**Tennis Courts:** None

**Trail:** ¼ mile long asphalt trail that will be part of the Centennial Greenway is new.

**Park Roads and Parking Lots:** None

**Pathways and Sidewalks:** None

**Ponds, River & Fountains:** Adjacent to River des Peres and has had some bank and river clean up by Green Center volunteers.

**Trees, Landscaping and Beautification:** A few large trees, additional trees would enhance open space area.

**Turf:** New seeding is taking over and will improve over time.

**Topography:** Area contoured to improve drainage but not totally flat.

**Site Amenities – benches, tables, drinking fountains, mutt mitt:** None, but a few benches along the trails and a mutt mitt station should be installed.

**Signs:** None – need one at each end of trail

**Picnic Shelter:** None

**Restroom:** None

**Lighting – general and athletic:** None

**Current Uses:** This is a passive park with trail. The site is relatively isolated and has been a spot for partying.

**Opportunities/ Constraints:** Centennial Greenway will add the positive use element to this location and discourage inappropriate park behaviors. Newly improved open space area, which was a negative to the adjacent neighbors, may create more neighborhood involvement and motivate adjacent property owners to

improve their properties; especially the fencing. Footbridge from Mona Drive is maintained by Public Works and is in poor condition. Depending on the alignment of the Centennial Greenway this footbridge may be removed without affecting access from the other side of the river. Continue to have Green Center volunteers clearing banks of invasive species.

**Immediate Needs:**

- Benches along trail
- Mutt Mitt station
- Trees planted

**Intermediate Needs (1-3 years):**

- Connect to full Centennial Greenway
- Identification signs

**Long Term Needs (3+ years):**

-



Mona Terrace Park

# MOONEY PARK

**Address:** #5 Vanderbilt

**Acreage:** 5

**Type of Park:** Neighborhood

## **Acquisition and Construction History:**

Park acquired in separate parcels; one in 1923 and the other in 1931. The original playground was moved from a flat area in the park along Jackson Avenue in the late 1970's and cut into the a hillside in the center of park.

**Playground:** Replacement has been postponed two (2) years because of budget concerns. Needs to be replaced and maintenance free retaining wall installed. Retain wrought iron fence and paint. Dome insert is missing. Playground sign has graffiti. Nice shaded area.

**Safety Surface:** Wood chips need to be replaced by poured in place safety surface.

**Constructed:** 1995

**Planned Replacement:** 2008/09

**Football/Soccer Field/s:** None

**Softball/Baseball Fields/s:** None

**Basketball Court/s:** One in fairly good shape but needs a new asphalt layer with positive drainage. It should then be color coated and striped. The existing drain is in playing surface.

**Tennis Courts:** None

**Trail:** A spur of the Centennial Greenway will come north on Jackson and a route needs to be planned on the east side of the park.

**Park Roads and Parking Lots:** On street parking

**Pathways and Sidewalks:** None

**Ponds, River & Fountains:** None

**Trees, Landscaping and Beautification:** Large mature trees with some hanging limbs that need to be trimmed. North area had significant tree damage from recent storms.

**Turf:** Typical non-irrigated turf with weeds and in areas with significant shade no turf.

**Topography:** Entire park slopes up toward the east.

**Site Amenities – benches, tables, drinking fountains, mutt mitt:** Mutt mitt station, orange bike rack, benches and picnic table scattered throughout park. Granite bench with inscription was donated. Trash barrels are metal cans. There is an old style drinking fountain that needs painting. Bench at playground has warped recycled plastic slats.

**Signs:** Wood signs at north and south

**Picnic Shelter:** None

**Restroom:** None

**Lighting – general and athletic:** Around perimeter and by playground

**Current Uses:** High use by neighborhood for both active and passive use. Basketball court has heavy use as well as the playground.

**Opportunities/ Constraints:** Neighborhood involved and interested in the park. Any significant changes or additions would be difficult to get consensus because of significant neighborhood ownership.

**Immediate Needs:**

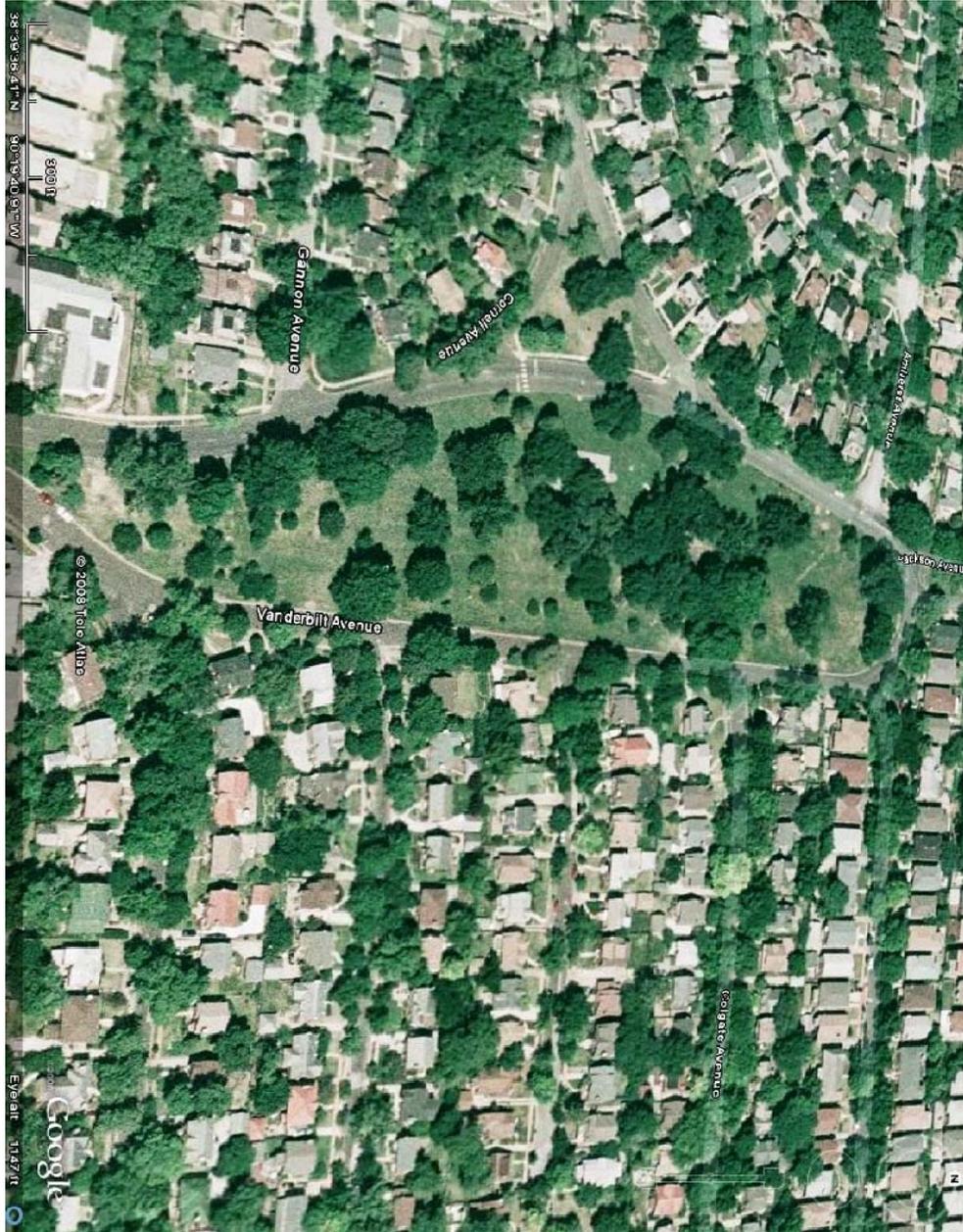
- Replace the playground on a poured in place safety surface with a maintenance free retaining wall.
- Trim trees
- Paint drinking fountain
- Fix playground bench
- Resurface basketball court

**Intermediate Needs (1-3 years):**

- 

**Long Term Needs (3+ years):**

- Develop spur of Centennial Greenway



Mooney Park

# NORTHMOOR PARK

**Address:** 7000 Northmoor      **Acreage:** 1.6 acres

**Type of Park:** Pocket/Open Space

**Acquisition and Construction History:**

Acquired in 1933

**Playground:** None

**Safety Surface:** N/A

**Constructed:** N/A **Planned Replacement:** N/A

**Football/Soccer Field/s:** None

**Softball/Baseball Fields/s:** None

**Basketball Court/s:** None

**Tennis Courts:** None

**Trail:** None

**Park Roads and Parking Lots:** On Street

**Pathways and Sidewalks:** None

**Ponds, River & Fountains:** None

**Trees, Landscaping and Beautification:** Trees along edge. Trim suckers from east side tree. Remove topped tree in southwest corner.

**Turf:** Turf has some weeds but is better than other parks because it gets less compaction.

**Topography:** Bowl shaped storm water detention area. Storm sewer cover needs to be moved into place.

**Site Amenities – benches, tables, drinking fountains, mutt mitt:** Two (2) park benches at east-end.

**Signs:** Park sign is wood at Big Bend.

**Picnic Shelter:** None

**Restroom:** None

**Lighting – general and athletic:** General lighting from street lights.

**Current Uses:** Passive recreational use

**Opportunities/ Constraints:** A very pretty open space area which past neighbors wanted to keep exactly as it is. Open throughout center for small group “pick up” games, kite flying and sledding.

**Immediate Needs:**

- Trim and remove trees
- Flag by fire hydrant? (**not sure**)

**Intermediate Needs (1-3 years):**

- Replace park sign

**Long Term Needs (3+ years):**

-



Northmoor Park

# OAKBROOK LANE PARK

**Address:** 8401 Delmar

**Acreage:** 2.5

**Type of Park:** Linear greenbelt or esplanade

**Acquisition and Construction History:**

No history on acquisition; one worthy construction note – originally a small creek flowed along the middle of the island and in the mid-to-late 1990's it was closed in and covered.

We have lost quite a few oak trees in the area and are planting a variety of other species.

**Playground:** None.

**Safety Surface:** N/A

**Constructed:** N/A **Planned Replacement:** N/A

**Football/Soccer Field/s:** None

**Softball/Baseball Fields/s:** None

**Basketball Court/s:** None

**Tennis Courts:** None

**Trail:** None

**Park Roads and Parking Lots:** On street parking

**Pathways and Sidewalks:** None

**Ponds, River & Fountains:** None

**Trees, Landscaping and Beautification:** Trees recently trimmed and there is a good diversity of trees. Three tree trunks carved; 2 for seating and one into a squirrel on a stump with seating.

**Turf:** Good general coverage of grass with some weeds.

**Topography:** Flat

**Site Amenities – benches, tables, drinking fountains, mutt mitt:** Trash can is blue barrel. Mutt mitt station centrally located.

**Signs:** None main identification sign. Suggest one would add to neighborhood identity.

**Picnic Shelter:** None

**Restroom:** None

**Lighting – general and athletic:** Street lights

**Current Uses:** Passive use open space

**Opportunities/ Constraints:** Tree trunk art appreciated by neighbors. Consider artwork placement on storm water management concrete structures.

**Immediate Needs:**

- None

**Intermediate Needs (1-3 years):**

- Art work
- Identification sign

**Long Term Needs (3+ years):**

- Art work



Oakbrook Lane Park

# RABE PARK

**Address:** 7369 Canton

**Acreage:** 2 acres

**Type of Park:** Pocket Park

**Acquisition and Construction History:**

Donated to the City in 1934

**Playground:** Older playground with faded colors.

**Safety Surface:** Wood Chips- more needed. Needs poured in place safety surface.

**Constructed:** 1999

**Planned Replacement:** 2014

**Football/Soccer Field/s:** None

**Softball/Baseball Fields/s:** None

**Basketball Court/s:** None

**Tennis Courts:** None

**Trail:** None

**Park Roads and Parking Lots:** On Street

**Pathways and Sidewalks:** Sidewalks on all sides except east

**Ponds, River & Fountains:** None

**Trees, Landscaping and Beautification:** Large trees along the east side

**Turf:** Grass is typical for non-irrigated park

**Topography:** Flat on west and north and slopes to east on southern 2/3 of park.

**Site Amenities – benches, tables, drinking fountains, mutt mitt:** Plastic trash barrels, 1 bench at playground and 1 wood picnic table.

**Signs:** Wood sign and illuminates city information sign

**Picnic Shelter:** None

**Restroom:** None

**Lighting – general and athletic:** Street lights

**Current Uses:** Park is under-utilized primarily because the playground is not very inviting and the park is cut off from neighbors to the west because park is between Hanley and Midland where there is significant vehicular traffic..

**Opportunities/ Constraints:** Nice green space. There is an opportunity to do something to enhance the park and the neighborhood particularly in the south end of the park. Need to keep in mind that there is limited on street parking if a new amenity draws many users.

**Immediate Needs:**

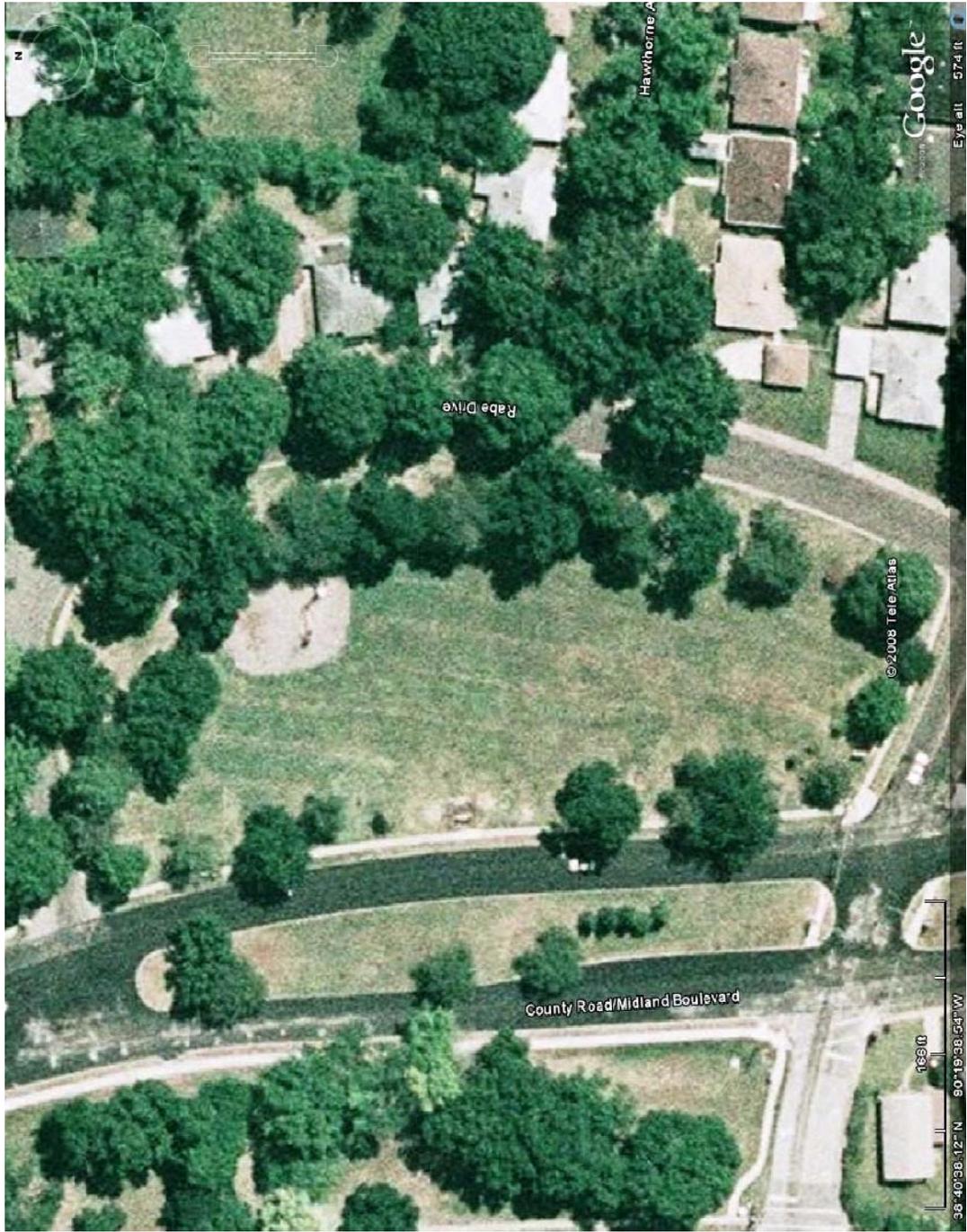
- Additional wood chips at playground

**Intermediate Needs (1-3 years):**

- Replace park sign
- Replace playground on poured in place safety surface.

**Long Term Needs (3+ years):**

- Redevelop south area of park



Rabe Park

# RUTH PARK GOLF COURSE

**Address:** 8211 Groby Road

**Acreage:** 93.5 acres

**Type of Park:** Golf Course

**Acquisition and Construction History:** The Ruth Park property (the golf course and the woods) was purchased in three separate parcels: 75 acres in 1928, 27 acres in 1945 and 14 acres in 1949. In 1953, 20.5 acres were sold to the school district. The course opened for play in 1931. A new driving range and learning center was completed in 2008.

**Playground:** None.

**Safety Surface:** None

**Constructed:** None

**Planned Replacement:** None

**Football/Soccer Field/s:** None

**Softball/Baseball Fields/s:** None

**Basketball Court/s:** None

**Tennis Courts:** None

**Trail:** None

**Park Roads and Parking Lots:** There is a paved road to golf maintenance facility off McKnight Road.. Parking lot near club house and on street parking.

**Pathways and Sidewalks:** Sidewalk adjacent to Groby Road. Cart Paths on the golf course. There are newer concrete cart paths on holes #1, 4, 6 green to 7 tee, and 8. Highest priority is to complete all cart paths.

**Ponds, River & Fountains:** None currently but plans are to include a rain garden between fairways 2 & 8 to retain drainage waters.

**Trees, Landscaping and Beautification:** Course has many trees and new trees are planted on a frequent basis. Tree trimming is occurring throughout the course this year. Flower beds by the club house are maintained by U City in Bloom.

**Turf:** Fairways are zoysia grass, roughs are a mix of blue grass and fescue, tees are zoysia and the greens are a mix of penn cross bent and poa annua.

**Topography:** Rolling hills

**Site Amenities – benches, tables, drinking fountains, mutt mitt:** Recent contract with provider of tee signs will include benches and ball washers. Drinking fountain is at hole #6. Tables and benches are on patio by club house.

**Signs:** Need a sign like other park signs at club house. Sign to be installed at the new driving range.

**Picnic Shelter:** Rain shelter at #6 is being replaced by Washington University architecture students. There is a shelter over benches at club house.

**Restroom:** Club house has restrooms but they are not ADA accessible and are substandard for what one expects at a golf course. A portable restroom is located adjacent to # 6 fairway.

**Lighting – general and athletic:** Overhead lights for driving range tee box and bunker lights illuminates the range.

**Current Uses:** Golf Course

**Opportunities/ Constraints:** Play has declined and course has been subsidized by the City's general fund. Driving range reduced non-resident fees and marketing campaign should balance budget. The club house needs to be replaced and could include banquet facilities to serve the function of the receptions and banquets currently held at the Community Center.

**Immediate Needs:**

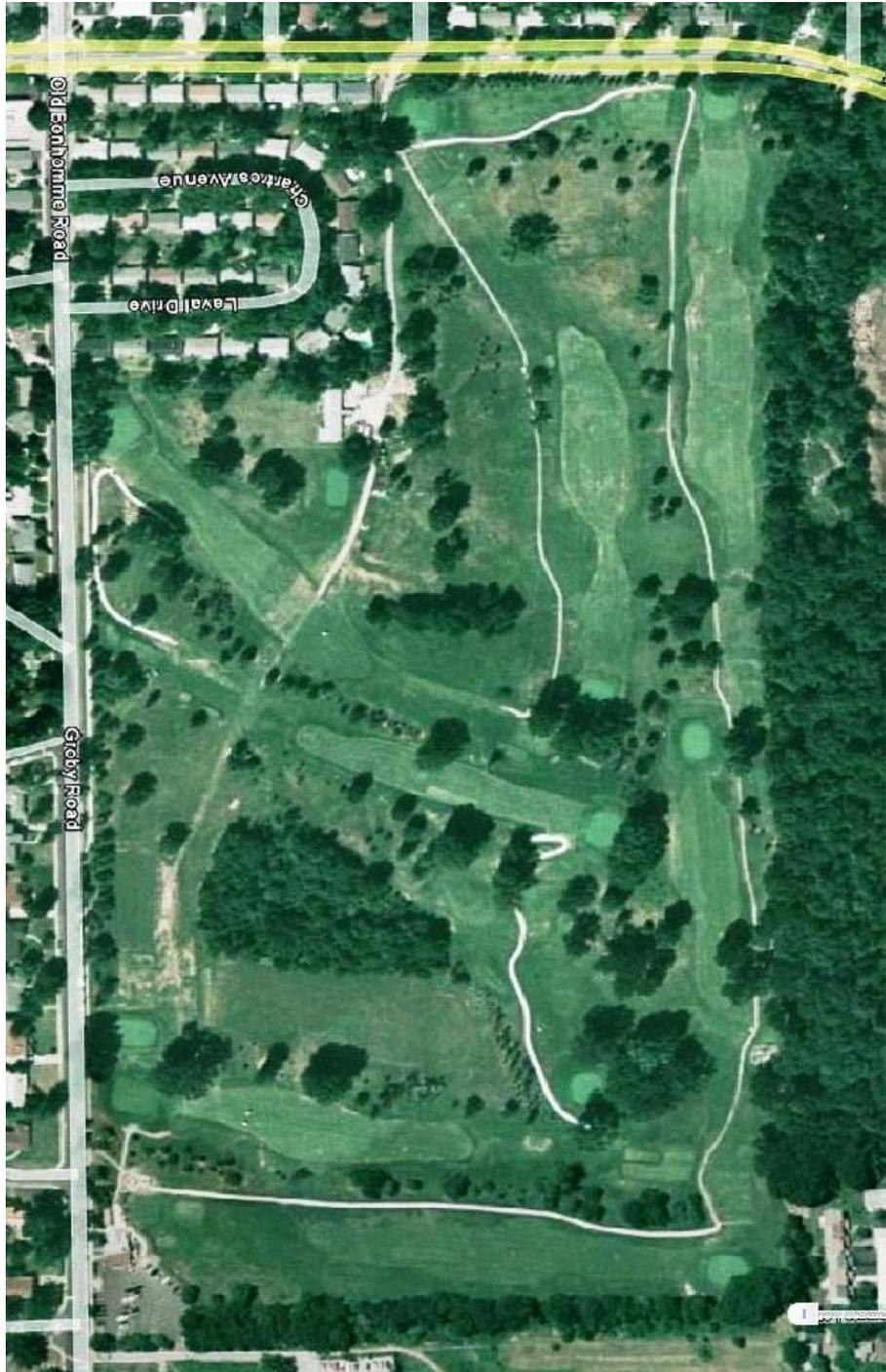
- Complete driving range
- Tree trimming
- New tee signs, benches and ball washers
- Marketing of course and range
- Development of rain garden

**Intermediate Needs (1-3 years):**

- Concrete cart paths
- Replace rain shelter at #6

**Long Term Needs (3+ years):**

- Replace club house



Ruth Park Golf Course

# RUTH PARK WOODS PARK

**Address:** 1160 McKnight

**Acreage:** 23 acres

**Type of Park:** Natural Area

**Acquisition and Construction History:**

The Ruth Park property (the golf course and the woods) was purchased in three separate parcels -75 acres in 1928, 27 acres in 1945 and 14 acres in 1949; 20.5 acres were sold to the school district in 1953.

The Ruth Woods trail was constructed in 1997. Prior to 1997 the woods were utilized but there were no bridges, interpretive signage or gravel base surface material.

**Playground:** None

**Safety Surface:** N/A

**Constructed:** N/A **Planned Replacement:** N/A

**Football/Soccer Field/s:** N/A

**Softball/Baseball Fields/s:** N/A

**Basketball Court/s:** N/A

**Tennis Courts:** N/A

**Trail:** Nature trail and spur of the planned Centennial Greenway

**Park Roads and Parking Lots:** On street parking

**Pathways and Sidewalks:** Trail begins on the service road west of Brittney Wood Middle School and then is pea gravel, a board walk over a wetlands area, grass and then dirt and gravel in woods. It is not ADA accessible and the boardwalk, made of recycled plastic timbers, is slippery. The land that has the trail going adjacent to Brittney Woods is School District property. There are three (3) footbridges that are in good condition. They may not be wide enough to accommodate the Centennial Greenway and meet standards if the section is to be designated for bicycles.

**Ponds, River & Fountains:** South of the River des Peres

**Trees, Landscaping and Beautification:** Nature trail. Woods are to be left in natural state except for the clearing of invasive species and trees and limbs that fall on the trail.

**Turf:** Trail is on grass at north section by school field and behind Ruth Park Golf Course.

**Topography:** In woods trail is steep in sections. South loop will be easier to modify to meet ADA standards.

**Site Amenities – benches, tables, drinking fountains, mutt mitt:** The bar gate at end of service road is not welcoming and should be replaced with a bollard. Three (3) arrow shaped markers are flush with ground and provide environmental education information. One of the markers is broken and all are difficult to read. Markers should be replaced with interpretive signs that are more durable and recognizable. Tree identification markers and a few are down and the holes could cause an injury to someone who walks off the trail. Occasional benches are in good condition.

**Signs:** No identification signs at either end of trail or to guide the user on where to go especially behind the golf course.

**Picnic Shelter:** The shelter is off the north loop and is in good shape with benches and 1 picnic table. Shelter was constructed by the Boy Scouts. Used for environmental education.

**Restroom:** None

**Lighting – general and athletic:** None

**Current Uses:** Environmental education trail.

**Opportunities/ Constraints:** Great partnership with the Green Center as an outdoor education gathering place. Installation of signs with maps is needed. The lack of signage is confusing to first time user so users know where they are going and that the trail loops. Maintaining the site in its natural condition, while making ADA modifications and as part of Centennial Greenway, will be a challenge. Great effort by volunteers to remove invasive species needs to continue. Golf Course needs to continue management practices that do not impact the Woods or the River des Peres. With more use, the trail will need to have additional trash containers at both ends of the trail and a system of collection. The leaf mulching operations at the west side needs to be better screened from the trail or moved to another location. Establishing a small trail head parking lot with bike racks on the west side would make the trail more accessible. To keep users on the trail, use downed limbs and trees to line both sides of trail.

**Immediate Needs:**

- Replace interpretive tree posts
- Remove styrofoam pellet litter at turn to go behind golf course
- Replace bar gate with bollard (school district property)

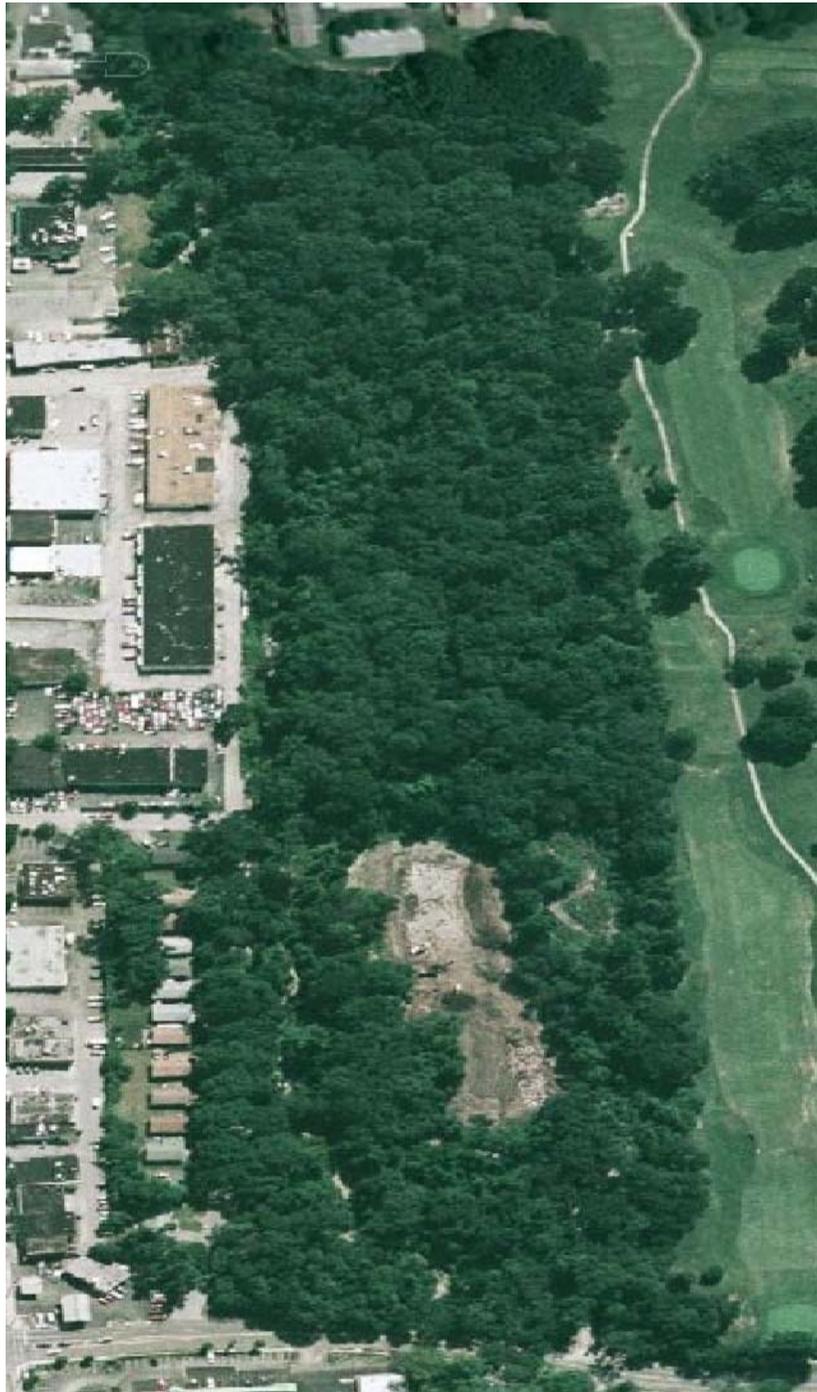
**Intermediate Needs (1-3 years):**

- Signage at both ends of trail
- Determine type of use from the Centennial Greenway
- Develop ADA access plan
- Line trail with downed branches and trees.
- Plant screening vegetation on south side of trail by mulch pile

**Long Term Needs (3+ years):**

- Implement ADA access plan
- Small parking lot on west end

Ruth Park Woods is maintained by the Green Center. There was an Ecosystem Management Plan for the Woods, Golf Course and the River des Peres written in 2001 and in 2008 a 15-year Comprehensive Management Plan for the Green Center Outdoor Learning Spaces which includes Ruth Park Woods.



Ruth Park Woods Park

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# Master Plan Citizen Survey

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## Methodology

A survey was prepared to get citizen input for the future needs for parks and recreation facilities. The survey was prepared using Survey Monkey, a web-based software program. The survey was distributed in April and May via e-mail with a web link to the survey. Once a computer was used to answer the survey it was denied future access. Hard copy surveys were also available at City Hall, the Library and Centennial Commons. Responses from hard copy surveys were then entered into the survey collection process.

A total of 578 surveys were collected. A total of 395 residents responded. For the purpose of the analysis only resident responses will be considered.

## Data Cross Tabulation

Questions were asked about the respondent's frequency of park visitation, purpose for visitation, opinions on future improvements and their opinions about the Parks, Recreation and Forestry department. Demographic questions were asked: gender, age, marital status, household makeup and where they live.

**Question 1** asked the respondents: How often do you or your family use the parks and recreation facilities in University City? The total of resident responses is shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Frequency of Use		
	Response Percent	Response Count
<b>Weekly</b>	64.8%	255
<b>Monthly</b>	20.5%	81
<b>2 or 3 times a year</b>	9.6%	38
<b>Once a year</b>	2.8%	11
<b>Never</b>	2.5%	10
<b>Total</b>		395

Females used the parks and facilities more than males 64.7% verse 58.4%. Use by age is shown in table 2. Visitation fell some for those ages 35-50.

Table 2: Age and Frequency of Use	
<b>19-34</b>	66.1%
<b>35-50</b>	59.5%
<b>51-65</b>	62.7%
<b>66 or more</b>	60.5%

Use by marital status is shown in table 3 with single respondent's visitation the lowest.

Table 3: Martial Status and Frequency of Use	
<b>Single</b>	50.0%
<b>Married</b>	64.4%
<b>Widowed</b>	67.7%

Use by household makeup shows that when there are only adults in the household visitation was 56% but with children in the household use rose to 66.1%.

Use by where residents lived is shown in Table 4. The two areas closest to Heman Park and Pool and Centennial Commons had the highest frequency of use.

Table 4: Location of Household and Frequency of Use	
<b>North of Olive and East of Pennsylvania</b>	43.5%
<b>North of Olive between Pennsylvania and North and South</b>	71.1 %
<b>North of Olive and West of North and South</b>	46.4%
<b>South of Olive and West of North and South</b>	57.6%
<b>South of Olive, North of Delmar and East of North and South</b>	74.6%
<b>South of Delmar and East of North and South</b>	63.9%

**Question 2** asked the respondent: What are the primary reasons for you or your family to visit University City parks? The respondents were directed to answer all that were applicable. Table 5 is the total of all resident responses.

Table 5: Reason for Uses		
	Response Percent	Response Count
<b>Fitness- walking, hiking, jogging</b>	67.0%	246
<b>Playgrounds</b>	35.4%	130
<b>Sports – Soccer, football, baseball, softball</b>	39.8%	146
<b>Swimming</b>	38.7%	142
<b>Tennis</b>	14.7%	54
<b>Picnicking</b>	13.9%	51
<b>Dog Walking</b>	22.3%	82
<b>Basketball</b>	7.4%	27
<b>Relaxation</b>	36.5%	134
<b>Total</b>		367

Tables 6–10 are the reasons for use based upon the demographic survey information for all responses over 50% except for the adult only household.

Table 6: Gender and Reasons for Use				
<b>Female</b>	Fitness	71.4%		
<b>Male</b>	Sports	56.1%	Fitness	54.0%

Table 7: Age and Reasons for Use				
<b>Age 19-34</b>	Fitness	66.7%		
<b>Age 35-50</b>	Fitness	61.1%	Sports	55.2%
<b>Age 51-65</b>	Fitness	67.4%		
<b>Age 66 or more</b>	Fitness	54.8%		

Table 8: Marital Status and Reasons for Use				
<b>Single</b>	Fitness	66.7%		
<b>Married</b>	Fitness	62.0%		
<b>Widowed</b>	Fitness	50.0%		

Table 9: Household Makeup and Reasons for Use					
<b>Adults Only</b>	Fitness	32.0%			
<b>Child in House</b>	Fitness	57.3%	Sports	56.8%	Playgrounds 51.1%

Table 10: Location of Household and Reason for Use				
<b>North of Olive and East of Pennsylvania</b>	Fitness	66.7%		
<b>North of Olive between Pennsylvania and North and South</b>	Fitness	81.8%	Playgrounds	50.0%
<b>North of Olive and West of North and South</b>	Fitness	68.0%		
<b>South of Olive and West of North and South</b>	Fitness	64.7%		
<b>South of Olive, North of Delmar and East of North and South</b>	Fitness	70.4%		
<b>South of Delmar and East of North and South</b>	Fitness	58.6%	Sports	52.3%

**Question 3** asked the respondents: Which parks and recreation facilities have you visited in the past year and how frequently. Table 11 is the total of all resident responses.

<b>Table 11: Parks and Recreation Facilities Visited</b>				
<b>Park or Facility</b>	<b>Frequently - weekly</b>	<b>Often- Monthly</b>	<b>Occasionally - Annually</b>	<b>Never</b>
<b>Ackert Walkway</b>	2.8%	10.1%	24.0%	63.1%
<b>Centennial Commons</b>	50.0%	18.8%	23.1%	8.1%
<b>East Gate Park</b>	1.0%	1.9%	11.5%	85.6%
<b>Flynn Park</b>	23.1%	12.9%	29.2%	34.8%
<b>Fogerty Park</b>	0.9%	7.1%	18.9%	73.1%
<b>Greensfelder Park</b>	2.4%	4.3%	11.0%	82.4%
<b>Greenway South</b>	6.3%	5.3%	14.0%	74.4%
<b>Heman Park</b>	32.5%	29.9%	28.2%	9.4%
<b>Heman Community Center</b>	13.9%	12.7%	49.4%	23.9%
<b>Heman Swimming Pool</b>	31.4%	19.3%	28.5%	20.8%
<b>Janet Majerus Park</b>	2.9%	3.9%	7.2%	86.0%
<b>Kaufman Park</b>	2.6%	11.5%	26.9%	59.0%
<b>Kingsland Park</b>	.05%	3.0%	9.9%	86.7%
<b>Lewis Park</b>	17.1%	22.2%	31.1%	29.6%
<b>Metcalf Park</b>	2.8%	7.9%	17.1%	72.2%
<b>Millar Park</b>	11.6%	8.6%	17.2%	62.5%
<b>Mooney Park</b>	15.8%	18.6%	23.9%	41.7%
<b>Northmoor Park</b>	1.4%	3.3%	13.6%	81.8%
<b>Rabe Park</b>	1.0%	4.4%	10.2%	84.5%
<b>Ruth Park Golf Course</b>	18.8%	14.9%	23.8%	42.6%

Tables 12 - 16 are the highest visiting percentage based on each of the demographics.

<b>Table 12: Gender and Visits to Facilities</b>						
<b>Female</b>	Centennial Commons	50.3%	Heman Pool	33.9%	Heman Park	30.2%
<b>Male</b>	Centennial Commons	45.1%	Heman Park	33.1%	Golf Course	32.3%

<b>Table 13: Age and Visits to Facilities</b>						
<b>Age 19-34</b>	Centennial Commons	53.8%	Heman Pool	27.8%	Heman Park	23.8%
<b>Age 35-50</b>	Centennial Commons	47.3%	Heman Park	32.0%	Heman Pool	26.4%
<b>Age 51-65</b>	Centennial Commons	48.6%	Heman Park	34.2%	Heman Pool	30.9
<b>Age 66 or more</b>	Golf Course	48.3%	Centennial Commons	38.1%	Heman Park	31.8%

Table 14: Marital Status and Visits to Facilities						
<b>Single</b>	Centennial Commons	47.5%	Heman Park	22.4%	Heman Pool	22.2%
<b>Married</b>	Centennial Commons	47.7%	Heman Park	33.1%	Heman Pool	29.5%
<b>Widowed</b>	Centennial Commons	33.3%	Heman Park	25.0%	Community Center	28.6%

Table 15: Household Makeup and Visits to Facilities						
<b>Adults Only</b>	Centennial Commons	46.0%	Heman Park	30.0%	Heman Pool	20.0%
<b>Child in House</b>	Centennial Commons	48.5%	Heman Pool	33.5%	Heman Park	32.3%

Table 16: Location of Household and Visits to Facilities						
<b>North of Olive and East of Pennsylvania</b>	Centennial Commons	55.6%	Heman Park	50.0%	Heman Pool	41.2%
<b>North of Olive between Pennsylvania and North and South</b>	Centennial Commons	63.2%	Heman Park	46.2%	Millar Park	44.1%
<b>North of Olive and West of North and South</b>	Centennial Commons	42.1%	Heman Park	25.0%	Heman Pool	25.0%
<b>South of Olive and West of North and South</b>	Centennial Commons	29.3%	Heman Park	22.7%	Heman Pool	17.1%
<b>South of Olive, North of Delmar and East of North and South</b>	Centennial Commons	62.0%	Heman Park	40.6%	Mooney Park Heman Pool Lewis Park	33.3% 33.0% 33.0%
<b>South of Delmar and East of North and South</b>	Centennial Commons	43.0%	Flynn Park	45.9%	Heman Pool	33.7%

**Question 4** asked the respondents their opinion on improving or increasing recreational services and opportunities and how they should be paid for. Table 17 is the total of all resident responses.

<b>Table 17: Opinions on Improving Recreation Services and How to Pay for them</b>					
	No	Not Sure	Yes with Taxes	Yes with Fees	Yes with a combination of taxes and fees
<b>Community Center</b>	7.8%	14.8%	18.3%	27.3%	32.6%
<b>Heman Pool Bathhouse</b>	8.2%	13.2%	16.9%	28.7%	34.1%
<b>Biking, Jogging, Walk Paths/Trails</b>	6.2%	13.4%	57.4%	5.9%	17.6%
<b>Beautification of the Parks</b>	5.0%	14.8%	57.7%	5.0%	17.9%
<b>Tennis Courts</b>	9.9%	14.8%	23.8%	27.2%	24.6%
<b>Soccer/Football Fields</b>	8.9%	16.4%	25.4%	21.3%	28.2%
<b>Softball/Baseball Fields</b>	9.0%	17.2%	25.1%	21.9%	27.1%
<b>Lighted Sports Fields</b>	11.8%	16.2%	25.7%	24.2%	23.3%
<b>Picnic Shelters</b>	11.3%	15.4%	33.6%	19.1%	20.9%
<b>Indoor Swimming Pool</b>	7.1%	12.7%	16.4%	26.6%	38.8%
<b>Park Restrooms</b>	9.8%	13.4%	60.2%	5.0%	11.8%
<b>Public Art in the Parks</b>	24.0%	24.3%	33.5%	8.0%	10.1%
<b>Skateboard Park</b>	29.3%	23.2%	14.1%	19.9%	14.4%
<b>Passive Parks and Nature Areas</b>	11.6%	22.7%	50.0%	4.1%	12.2%

Tables 18 -22 are the highest opinion percentage based on each of the demographics.

<b>Table 18: Gender and Opinions to Improvements - Yes with Taxes, Fees or Combination</b>						
	Yes with Taxes		Yes with Fees		Combination of Taxes and Fees	
<b>Female</b>	Park Restrooms	59.8%	Community Center	28.1%	Indoor Pool	40.9%
	Beautification	56.4%	Tennis Courts	25.4%	Pool Bathhouse	36.2%
	Trails	55.3%	Pool Bathhouse	25.4%	Community Center	33.3%
<b>Male</b>	Park Restrooms	57.2%	Pool Bathhouse	32.3%	Indoor Pool	32.8%
	Trails	55.1%	Indoor Pool	30.7%	Community Center	31.9%
	Beautification	52.0%	Lighted Fields	27.1%	Soccer/Football Fields	31.0%

<b>Table 19: Age and Opinions to Improvements - Yes with Taxes, Fees or Combination</b>						
	Yes with Taxes		Yes with Fees		Combination of Taxes and Fees	
<b>Age 19-34</b>	Beautification	56.9%	Indoor Pool	20.8%	Community Center	30.0%
	Trails	56.6%	Skateboard Park	20.0%	Lighted Fields	26.0%
	Park Restrooms	47.1%	Tennis Courts	18.0%	Indoor Pool	24.5%
<b>Age 35-50</b>	Park Restrooms	59.6%	Community Center	31.4%	Indoor Pool	36.0%
	Beautification	58.5%	Indoor Pool	30.7%	Pool Bathhouse	32.8%
	Trails	55.6%	Pool Bathhouse	30.3%	Community Center	30.4%
<b>Age 51-65</b>	Park Restrooms	61.5%	Pool Bathhouse	29.9%	Indoor Pool	43.7%
	Trails	53.7%	Community Center	25.4%	Pool Bathhouse	35.8%
	Passive Parks	52.2%	Softball/Baseball Fields	24.6%	Soccer/Football Fields	35.1%
<b>Age 66 or more</b>	Passive Parks	67.9%	Lighted Fields	39.3%	Community Center	45.2%
	Park Restrooms	63.3%	Tennis Courts	35.7%	Pool Bathhouse	43.3%
	Trails	58.6%	Indoor Pool	35.5%	Indoor Pool	41.9%

<b>Table 20: Marital Status and Opinions to Improvements - Yes with Taxes, Fees or Combination</b>						
	Yes with Taxes		Yes with Fees		Combination of Taxes and Fees	
<b>Single</b>	Park Restrooms	55.3%	Tennis Courts	27.5%	Community Center	39.8%
	Trails	53.2%	Pool Bathhouse	22.8%	Indoor Pool	30.4%
	Beautification	51.0%	Indoor Pool	20.0%	Pool Bathhouse	34.8%
<b>Married</b>	Park Restrooms	60.5%	Pool Bathhouse	30.4%	Indoor Pool	37.3%
	Trails	56.7%	Community Center	28.7%	Pool Bathhouse	34.0%
	Beautification	55.4%	Indoor Pool	28.7%	Community Center	30.4%
<b>Widowed</b>	Passive Parks	57.1%	Picnic Shelters	20.0%	Indoor Pool	57.1%
	Beautification	50.0%	Softball/Baseball Fields	16.7%	Beautification	50.0%
	Trails	42.9%	Lighted Fields	16.7%	Soccer/Football Fields	50.0%
	Park Restrooms	42.9%			Softball/Baseball Fields	50.0%

<b>Table 21: Marital Status and Opinions to Improvements - Yes with Taxes, Fees or Combination</b>						
	Yes with Taxes		Yes with Fees		Combination of Taxes and Fees	
<b>Adults Only</b>	Park Restrooms	58.0%	Tennis Courts	31.0%	Indoor Pool	36.0%
	Trails	52.0%	Pool Bathhouse	28.0%	Community Center	34.0%
	Beautification	51.0%	Indoor Pool	28.0%	Pool Bathhouse	32.0%
					Softball/Baseball	32.0%
<b>Child in House</b>	Park Restrooms	58.4%	Pool Bathhouse	29.6%	Indoor Pool	37.3%
	Trails	56.9%	Community Center	27.0%	Pool Bathhouse	32.4%
	Beautification	56.7%	Indoor Pool	26.7%	Community Center	30.8%

<b>Table 22: Household Location and Opinions to Improvements - Yes with Taxes, Fees or Combination</b>						
	Yes with Taxes		Yes with Fees		Combination of Taxes and Fees	
<b>North of Olive and East of Pennsylvania</b>	Park Restrooms	57.9%	Indoor Pool	31.6%	Indoor Pool	31.6%
	Trails	57.9%	Pool Bathhouse	31.6%	Pool Bathhouse	26.3%
	Beautification	57.9%	Lighted Fields	27.8%	Community Center	21.1%
					Trails	21.1%
					Tennis Courts	21.1%
					Soccer/Football	21.1%
<b>North of Olive between Pennsylvania and North and South</b>	Trails	63.4%	Pool Bathhouse	42.1%	Indoor Pool	35.0%
	Park Restrooms	60.5%	Community Center	35.0%	Pool Bathhouse	28.9%
	Beautification	55.8%	Indoor Pool	32.5%	Lighted Fields	27.0%
<b>North of Olive and West of North and South</b>	Park Restrooms	60.0%	Community Center	30.0%	Beautification	29.2%
	Lighted Fields	52.2%	Picnic Shelters	26.1%	Passive Parks	27.3%
	Beautification	41.7%	Skate Park	26.1%	Indoor Pool	23.8%
<b>South of Olive and West of North and South</b>	Park Restrooms	64.2%	Lighted Fields	32.0%	Community Center	38.2%
	Passive Parks	52.8%	Tennis Courts	31.4%	Indoor Pool	35.8%
	Trails	51.9%	Indoor Pool	30.2%	Pool Bathhouse	32.7%
	Beautification	51.9%				
<b>South of Olive, North of Delmar and East of North and South</b>	Beautification	66.1%	Tennis Courts	29.9%	Indoor Pool	45.9%
	Park Restrooms	63.4%	Softball/Baseball	22.2%	Pool Bathhouse	39.8%
	Trails	59.1%	Fields		Community Center	35.8%
			Soccer/Football Fields	21.8%		
<b>South of Delmar and East of North and South</b>	Trails	60.6%	Pool Bathhouse	33.9%	Indoor Pool	38.5%
	Beautification	56.1%	Community Center	32.7%	Pool Bathhouse	36.6%
	Park Restrooms	55.5%	Indoor Pool	29.4%	Community Center	36.5%

**Question 5** asked the respondents a series of questions regarding their opinions on the parks department and the parks and facilities. Table 23 is the total of all resident responses.

<b>Table 23: Opinions on the Department, Parks and Facilities</b>					
<b>Statement</b>	<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Not Sure</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>
<b>Department is a major provider of recreation for myself or my family</b>	29.4%	41.9%	9.0%	14.1%	5.6%
<b>Nonresident use has been a problem for me or my family</b>	6.0%	7.6%	19.8%	39.2%	27.4%
<b>There is a need for special programs for person over age 55</b>	13.7%	26.6%	47.4%	8.9%	3.4%
<b>Encourage self directed leisure activities</b>	18.4%	51.8%	21.3%	7.4%	1.1%
<b>More organized activities with staff playing leadership role</b>	11.9%	24.9%	39.2%	20.9%	3.2%
<b>Satisfied with services received for tax dollars</b>	11.5%	49.7%	16.5%	16.0%	6.3%
<b>Need for more lighted facilities to expand hours of use</b>	11.9%	24.3%	40.4%	17.7%	5.8%
<b>Park facilities are clean and well maintained</b>	12.6%	61.7%	12.3%	10.2%	3.1%
<b>Need to upgrade facilities and playgrounds</b>	10.5%	28.8%	44.7%	12.7%	3.2%
<b>Feel secure in parks and recreation facilities</b>	16.8%	55.3%	15.4%	10.4%	2.1%
<b>Willing to pay reasonable user fees for new programs and facilities</b>	14.7%	58.0%	15.2%	5.5%	6.6%
<b>Staff is courteous and helpful</b>	21.3%	47.0%	24.7%	3.9%	3.1%
<b>Aware of parks and facilities City maintains</b>	22.7%	58.3%	13.8%	4.4%	0.8%

Tables 24–31 summaries, by demographics, each of the statement responses. Strongly Agree and Agree are combined as well as Disagree and Strongly Disagree.

<b>Table 24: Statements by Gender</b>				
<b>Statement</b>	<b>Male</b>		<b>Female</b>	
	Strongly Agree and Agree	Disagree and Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree and Agree	Disagree and Strongly Disagree
<b>Department is a major provider of recreation for myself or my family</b>	65.9%	20.4%	70.0%	23.3%
<b>Nonresident use has been a problem for me or my family</b>	13.4%	67.7%	14.4%	67.4%
<b>There is a need for special programs for person over age 55</b>	38.5%	14.5%	42.9%	10.2%
<b>Encourage self directed leisure activities</b>	67.5%	8.2%	70.7%	7.8%
<b>More organized activities with staff playing leadership role</b>	32.6%	26.1%	39.2%	19.4%
<b>Satisfied with services received for tax dollars</b>	58.0%	20.6%	58.0%	21.2%
<b>Need for more lighted facilities to expand hours of use</b>	40.3%	23.6%	36.7%	21.5%
<b>Park facilities are clean and well maintained</b>	75.6%	12.2%	71.9%	14.7%
<b>Need to upgrade facilities and playgrounds</b>	34.1%	14.7%	45.5%	14.4%
<b>Feel secure in parks and recreation facilities</b>	69.6%	12.5%	70.2%	13.1%
<b>Willing to pay reasonable user fees for new programs and facilities</b>	68.9%	11.4%	72.4%	11.2%
<b>Staff is courteous and helpful</b>	71.0%	4.2%	67.4%	8.2%
<b>Aware of parks and facilities City maintains</b>	77.6%	5.0%	77.3%	6.9%

**Table 25: Statements by Age**

Statement	19 - 34		35 - 50	
	Strongly Agree and Agree	Disagree and Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree and Agree	Disagree and Strongly Disagree
<b>Department is a major provider of recreation for myself or my family</b>	61.4	17.5%	71.9%	18.8%
<b>Nonresident use has been a problem for me or my family</b>	10.5%	66.7%	15.0%	65.7%
<b>There is a need for special programs for person over age 55</b>	26.3%	10.6%	35.6%	11.6%
<b>Encourage self directed leisure activities</b>	75.4%	5.3%	63.8%	8.1%
<b>More organized activities with staff playing leadership role</b>	42.1%	19.3%	34.2%	22.6%
<b>Satisfied with services received for tax dollars</b>	63.1%	15.8%	61.3%	19.2%
<b>Need for more lighted facilities to expand hours of use</b>	50.9%	8.8%	39.9%	25.5%
<b>Park facilities are clean and well maintained</b>	70.2%	15.8%	74.6%	11.4%
<b>Need to upgrade facilities and playgrounds</b>	28.1%	21.1%	45.9%	14.5%
<b>Feel secure in parks and recreation facilities</b>	70.1%	12.3%	69.9%	15.0%
<b>Willing to pay reasonable user fees for new programs and facilities</b>	66.6%	10.5%	70.0%	9.6%
<b>Staff is courteous and helpful</b>	69.6%	3.6%	66.4%	6.6%
<b>Aware of parks and facilities City maintains</b>	73.6%	1.8%	77.4%	6.6%

**Table 26: Statements by Age**

Statement	51-65		66 and older	
	Strongly Agree and Agree	Disagree and Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree and Agree	Disagree and Strongly Disagree
<b>Department is a major provider of recreation for myself or my family</b>	67.1%	26.3%	60.0%	28.6%
<b>Nonresident use has been a problem for me or my family</b>	14.2%	71.6%	11.1%	61.1%
<b>There is a need for special programs for person over age 55</b>	48.9%	15.5%	60.0%	5.8%
<b>Encourage self directed leisure activities</b>	72.3%	8.8%	77.7%	8.3%
<b>More organized activities with staff playing leadership role</b>	33.3%	26.5%	44.5%	11.1%
<b>Satisfied with services received for tax dollars</b>	53.0%	25.8%	54.6%	18.2%
<b>Need for more lighted facilities to expand hours of use</b>	32.9%	24.1%	28.6%	22.9%
<b>Park facilities are clean and well maintained</b>	76.3%	15.8%	65.7%	9.4%
<b>Need to upgrade facilities and playgrounds</b>	36.7%	12.9%	31.0%	10.3%
<b>Feel secure in parks and recreation facilities</b>	73.5%	9.9%	56.3%	9.4%
<b>Willing to pay reasonable user fees for new programs and facilities</b>	47.1%	12.6%	63.6%	15.2%
<b>Staff is courteous and helpful</b>	71.3%	7.3%	73.5%	2.9%
<b>Aware of parks and facilities City maintains</b>	80.0%	6.7%	73.5%	5.9%

<b>Table 27: Statements by Marital Status</b>							
<b>Statement</b>	<b>Single</b>		<b>Married</b>		<b>Widowed</b>		
	Strongly Agree and Agree	Disagree and Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree and Agree	Disagree and Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree and Agree	Disagree and Strongly Disagree	
<b>Department is a major provider of recreation for myself or my family</b>	61.7%	23.6%	70.3%	21.5%	75.0%	12.5%	
<b>Nonresident use has been a problem for me or my family</b>	9.9%	68.3%	14.5%	67.7%	25.0%	50.0%	
<b>There is a need for special programs for person over age 55</b>	48.5%	8.0%	37.1%	13.5%	62.5%	0.0%	
<b>Encourage self directed leisure activities</b>	69.0%	9.0%	68.9%	8.1%	75.0%	0.0%	
<b>More organized activities with staff playing leadership role</b>	36.7%	14.9%	34.8%	25.7%	50.0%	12.5%	
<b>Satisfied with services received for tax dollars</b>	58.4%	21.8%	58.9%	21.0%	37.5%	12.5%	
<b>Need for more lighted facilities to expand hours of use</b>	41.2%	21.5%	36.7%	23.8%	28.6%	14.3%	
<b>Park facilities are clean and well maintained</b>	75.2%	8.9%	73.6%	14.8%	57.2%	14.3%	
<b>Need to upgrade facilities and playgrounds</b>	34.7%	12.2%	41.3%	15.8%	0.0%	0.0%	
<b>Feel secure in parks and recreation facilities</b>	65.0%	16.5%	71.1%	11.5%	85.7%	14.3%	
<b>Willing to pay reasonable user fees for new programs and facilities</b>	63.4%	12.8%	72.8%	10.8%	57.2%	14.3%	
<b>Staff is courteous and helpful</b>	70.3%	6.0%	69.0%	6.6%	57.2%	0.0%	
<b>Aware of parks and facilities City maintains</b>	79.2%	6.0%	76.9%	5.9%	85.7%	0.0%	

<b>Table 28: Statements by Household Makeup</b>				
<b>Statement</b>	<b>Adults Only</b>		<b>Children in Household</b>	
	Strongly Agree and Agree	Disagree and Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree and Agree	Disagree and Strongly Disagree
<b>Department is a major provider of recreation for myself or my family</b>	63.0%	25.0%	72.6%	19.2%
<b>Nonresident use has been a problem for me or my family</b>	11.0%	71.0%	17.0%	63.6%
<b>There is a need for special programs for person over age 55</b>	45.0%	13.0%	37.3%	12.0%
<b>Encourage self directed leisure activities</b>	72.0%	7.0%	66.2%	8.7%
<b>More organized activities with staff playing leadership role</b>	35.0%	21.0%	36.1%	23.1%
<b>Satisfied with services received for tax dollars</b>	61.0%	17.0%	56.4%	24.1%
<b>Need for more lighted facilities to expand hours of use</b>	38.0%	20.0%	38.8%	25.4%
<b>Park facilities are clean and well maintained</b>	75.0%	13.0%	72.4%	13.7%
<b>Need to upgrade facilities and playgrounds</b>	20.0%	13.0%	48.9%	15.3%
<b>Feel secure in parks and recreation facilities</b>	67.0%	11.0%	72.3%	14.8%
<b>Willing to pay reasonable user fees for new programs and facilities</b>	71.0%	12.0%	69.0%	11.5%
<b>Staff is courteous and helpful</b>	71.0%	5.0%	66.5%	7.2%
<b>Aware of parks and facilities City maintains</b>	81.0%	4.0%	75.3%	7.7%

**Table 29: Statements by Location of Household**

Statement	North of Olive & East of Pennsylvania		North of Olive between Pennsylvania & North and South	
	Strongly Agree and Agree	Disagree and Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree and Agree	Disagree and Strongly Disagree
<b>Department is a major provider of recreation for myself or my family</b>	82.6%	13.0%	79.6%	13.7%
<b>Nonresident use has been a problem for me or my family</b>	27.2%	50.0%	9.1%	70.5%
<b>There is a need for special programs for person over age 55</b>	56.5%	4.3%	34.9%	9.3%
<b>Encourage self directed leisure activities</b>	77.3%	4.5%	72.1%	7.0%
<b>More organized activities with staff playing leadership role</b>	72.8%	9.1%	32.6%	23.2%
<b>Satisfied with services received for tax dollars</b>	60.9%	17.3%	72.8%	15.9%
<b>Need for more lighted facilities to expand hours of use</b>	65.2%	21.7%	44.4%	24.4%
<b>Park facilities are clean and well maintained</b>	68.2%	22.7%	77.2%	11.3%
<b>Need to upgrade facilities and playgrounds</b>	56.5%	8.7%	40.5%	23.8%
<b>Feel secure in parks and recreation facilities</b>	71.5%	14.3%	81.8%	11.4%
<b>Willing to pay reasonable user fees for new programs and facilities</b>	76.1%	9.5%	66.7%	9.5%
<b>Staff is courteous and helpful</b>	72.7%	9.1%	71.1%	4.4%
<b>Aware of parks and facilities City maintains</b>	72.8%	4.5%	88.9%	2.2%

<b>Table 30: Statements by Location of Household</b>				
<b>Statement</b>	<b>North of Olive and West of North and South</b>		<b>South of Olive and West of North and South</b>	
	<b>Strongly Agree and Agree</b>	<b>Disagree and Strongly Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Agree and Agree</b>	<b>Disagree and Strongly Disagree</b>
<b>Department is a major provider of recreation for myself or my family</b>	66.6%	25.9%	56.6%	33.4%
<b>Nonresident use has been a problem for me or my family</b>	14.8%	66.6%	10.6%	70.2%
<b>There is a need for special programs for person over age 55</b>	51.8%	11.1%	50.0%	12.5%
<b>Encourage self directed leisure activities</b>	85.2%	7.4%	67.8%	17.0%
<b>More organized activities with staff playing leadership role</b>	46.2%	26.9%	36.9%	28.1%
<b>Satisfied with services received for tax dollars</b>	56.0%	20.0%	63.8%	25.8%
<b>Need for more lighted facilities to expand hours of use</b>	48.0%	24.0%	37.5%	28.6%
<b>Park facilities are clean and well maintained</b>	66.6%	18.5%	75.4%	10.6%
<b>Need to upgrade facilities and playgrounds</b>	34.6%	15.3%	29.1%	18.1%
<b>Feel secure in parks and recreation facilities</b>	44.4%	29.6%	66.1%	7.2%
<b>Willing to pay reasonable user fees for new programs and facilities</b>	66.7%	14.8%	73.6%	10.5%
<b>Staff is courteous and helpful</b>	70.4%	7.4%	57.1%	12.5%
<b>Aware of parks and facilities City maintains</b>	85.2%	3.7%	75.4%	10.6%

<b>Table 31: Statements by Location of Household</b>				
<b>Statement</b>	<b>South of Olive, North of Delmar and East of North and South</b>		<b>South of Delmar and East of North and South</b>	
	<b>Strongly Agree and Agree</b>	<b>Disagree and Strongly Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Agree and Agree</b>	<b>Disagree and Strongly Disagree</b>
<b>Department is a major provider of recreation for myself or my family</b>	76.7%	13.7%	69.4%	20.6%
<b>Nonresident use has been a problem for me or my family</b>	13.1%	63.1%	14.3%	69.8%
<b>There is a need for special programs for person over age 55</b>	43.9%	12.2%	28.2%	14.7%
<b>Encourage self directed leisure activities</b>	71.5%	7.1%	64.9%	6.9%
<b>More organized activities with staff playing leadership role</b>	32.1%	25.0%	33.9%	23.7%
<b>Satisfied with services received for tax dollars</b>	59.3%	25.7%	58.8%	21.0%
<b>Need for more lighted facilities to expand hours of use</b>	27.2%	26.3%	32.8%	18.1%
<b>Park facilities are clean and well maintained</b>	80.5%	11.5%	69.5%	14.4%
<b>Need to upgrade facilities and playgrounds</b>	33.3%	18.9%	47.4%	10.5%
<b>Feel secure in parks and recreation facilities</b>	76.8%	15.2%	73.3%	8.6%
<b>Willing to pay reasonable user fees for new programs and facilities</b>	71.0%	14.9%	76.7%	10.8%
<b>Staff is courteous and helpful</b>	75.0%	4.5%	64.7%	7.6%
<b>Aware of parks and facilities City maintains</b>	85.8%	2.7%	76.6%	6.7%

The tables below are the demographic data of the resident respondents.

<b>Table 32: Demographic Data - Gender</b>	
<b>Male</b>	44.2%
<b>Female</b>	56.1%

<b>Table 33: Demographic Data - Age</b>	
<b>Under 18</b>	0.3%
<b>19-34</b>	10.9%
<b>35-50</b>	47.7%
<b>51-65</b>	32.8%
<b>66 or older</b>	8.6%

<b>Table 34: Demographic Data – Marital Status</b>	
<b>Single</b>	21.4%
<b>Married</b>	76.5%
<b>Widowed</b>	2.3%

<b>Table 35: Demographic Data - Household Information</b>					
	1	2	3	4	5
<b>Adults in household</b>	16.9%	71.3%	9.0%	2.3%	1.0%
<b>Children in household under 5 years old</b>	60.0%	32.5%	3.8%	3.8%	1.3%
<b>Children in household 6-10 years old</b>	63.8%	33.0%	3.2%	0.0%	1.1%
<b>Children in Household 11-18 years old</b>	59.8%	36.9%	2.5%	1.6%	0.0%

<b>Table 36: Demographic Data – Household Location</b>					
<b>North of Olive &amp; East of Pennsylvania</b>	North of Olive between Pennsylvania & North and South	North of Olive and West of North and South	South of Olive and West of North and South	South of Olive, North of Delmar and East of North and South	South of Delmar and East of North and South
<b>5.8%</b>	11.3%	7.0%	15.3%	29.9%	30.9%

## **Analysis of Data**

There was only 1 respondent under the age of 18 and only 9 responders that were widows. These do not represent a large enough sample to be factored into the analysis.

### **Question 1 – Frequency of Use**

There was no statistical significance to the distinguish responses by gender or age. Single respondents (50%) used parks slightly less than Married (64.4%) respondents. Use by households with children was expectedly higher (66.1%) than households with adults only (56.0%). The two neighborhoods located closest to Heman Park had the highest frequency of use.

### **Question 2 – Primary Reason for Visitation**

Across almost all demographic groups fitness-walking, hiking, jogging was the primary use at the park and facilities. Males participated in sports at a slightly higher level than for fitness. When looking at households with adults only the fitness response was still the highest but dropped to only 32%. The two neighborhoods located closest to Heman Park and the Centennial Commons had higher responses to fitness.

### **Question 3 – Parks and Recreation Facilities Visited**

For almost all demographic groups the top three facilities visited were Centennial Commons, Heman Pool and Heman Park. Males responded that Ruth Park Golf Course as the third most visited. Persons in households located North of Olive between Pennsylvania and North & South responded that Millar Park as the third most visited. Persons in households located South of Olive and, North of Delmar and East of North & South divided their third most visited parks as Mooney, Heman Pool and Lewis Park. Persons in households South of Delmar and East of North & South responded that Flynn Park was their second most visited.

As expected visitation at smaller, more neighborhood based parks had much less visitation. The exceptions are Flynn, Lewis and Mooney Parks. There was expectedly very low use seen at Eastgate, Janet Majerus, Kingsland, and Rabe Parks, which may be more a reflection of the lower response rate from respondents from the neighborhoods where these parks are located. Additionally Greensfelder and Northmoor Parks had lower than expected visitation.

### **Question 4 – Opinions of Improving or Increasing Recreational Services**

For those who responded “Yes with Taxes” there was a fairly consistent response to Park Restrooms, Beautification, and Trails. With respondents over age 51, Widowed, or living South of Olive and West of North & South for there was interest in Passive Parks. Respondents living North of Olive and West of North & South supported Lighted ball fields. It is important to note that the question was not asked if they would support these items with new taxes verses use of existing tax resources.

For those who responded “Yes with Fees” the responses were more varied. Many of the opinions to pay for improvements with fees are not really feasible because the cost to build or renovate and then the on-going operational costs would far exceed the revenue generation ability. The most consistently mentioned items were:

Improvement Paid for from Fees	Mentioned in top 3 of demographic group
<b>Indoor Pool</b>	13
<b>Pool Bathhouse</b>	10
<b>Community Center</b>	8
<b>Tennis Courts</b>	7
<b>Lighted Fields</b>	5
<b>Softball/Baseball Fields</b>	3
<b>Picnic Shelters</b>	2
<b>Skateboard Park</b>	2
<b>Soccer/Football Fields</b>	1

For those that responded “Yes with a combination of taxes and fees there was a fairly consistent response: Indoor Pool, Pool Bathhouse, and Community Center across most demographic groups. There were a few responses for Soccer/Football Fields (3), Lighted Fields (2), Beautification (2), Softball/Baseball Fields (2), Trails, Tennis Courts, and Passive Parks. This reflects the understanding that respondents are willing to pay reasonable user fees (see question 5) to cover operational expenses but to pay taxes for the capital improvements.

The improvements noted in the survey with the highest responses for “No” (fees or taxes) were: a Skateboard Park at 29.3% and Public Arts in the Parks at 23.2%. It is interesting to note that these projects also generated the highest response of “Not Sure”. This survey was not expected to generate much youth respondents. It would be expected that the Skateboard Park would receive a more favorable response if the survey was administered to a population under the age of 19 years old.

### **Question 5 – Opinions on the parks department and the parks and facilities**

This question had a series of thirteen (13) statements for the respondents to either answer Strongly Agree, Agree, Not Sure, Disagree or Strongly Disagree. Below are the statements and the difference, if any, among demographic groups.

*The Parks and Recreation Department is a major provider of recreation for myself or my family.*

Overall the combination of “Strongly Agree” and “Agree” was 71.3%. Females agreed with the statement slighted more than males, those aged 35-65 agreed more than those 19-34 and over age 66. Married respondents agreed more than single responders. Households with children agreed more than households with only adults. The most agreement with the statement came from the neighborhood North of Olive and East of Pennsylvania (82.6%) and the least agreement came from the neighborhood South of Olive and West of North & South (56.6%). The physical proximity to Heman Park,

Centennial Commons and Heman Pool is a likely determinant in how each neighborhood responded.

*Nonresident use has been a problem for me or my family.*

Overall the combination of “Disagree” and “Strongly Disagree” was 66.6% with an additional 19.8% responding Not Sure. There was no difference because of gender. Those ages 51-65 had a higher level of disagreement (71.6%) and those over age 66 a lower level of disagreement (61.1%). There was not statistical significance between single or married responders. Those with only adults in the household had a higher level of disagreement (71%) than those with children in the household (63.6%). Those households that responded from the area North of Olive and East of Pennsylvania had a lower level of disagreement (50%). All other areas fairly close to the overall survey results. From these results the vast majority of respondents either think that nonresident use has not been a problem or are not sure.

*There is a need for special programs for persons over age 65.*

Overall the “Not Sure” response was 47.4% and the combination of “Strongly Agree” and “Agree” was 40.3%. Females agreed at 42.9% and Males 38.5%. There was a significant, but expected, pattern as the older the respondent the more the agreement with the statement: 19-34 year olds agree at 26.3%, 35-50 year olds at 35.5%, 51-65 year olds at 48.9% and those 66 and older agreeing at 60%. Single responders agreed (48.5%) more than married (37.1%) responders. Those households with no children agreed at 45% and those households with children at 37.3%. The location of the households had significantly wide variances. Only 28.3% of households South of Delmar and East of North & South whereas 56.5% for households located North of Olive and East of Pennsylvania agreed.

*The Department should encourage citizens to use the parks and facilities on their own, performing self-directed leisure activities.*

Overall the combination of “Strongly Agree” and “Agree” was 70.2%. There was no significant difference based on gender. The youngest (75.4%) and oldest age groups (77.7%) agreed more than the other age groups (ages 35-50 was 63.8% and ages was 72.3%). There was no statistical difference between single and married responders. Households with only adults agreed at 72% but households with children agreed at a lesser percentage of 66.2%. The highest percentage of respondents that agreed (85.2%) with the statement live North of Olive and West of North & South and the lowest percent 64.9% was for household South of Delmar and East of North & South.

*The Department needs to have more organized activities where the Department staff plays a leadership role.*

Overall this statement was fairly evenly split between the responders with 36.8% “Strongly Agreeing” or “Agreeing”, 39.2% “Not Sure”, and 24.1% responding that they “Disagree” or “Strongly Disagree”. Females (39.2%) agreed more than males (32.6%). The youngest age group (42.1%) and the oldest age group (44.5%) agreed more than the other age groups (34.2% and 33.3%). Singles (36.7%) agreed slightly more than married

(34.8%) respondents. There was no statistical difference between household with adults only and those with children. Based on the location of the household there was a wide variance with all areas agreeing in the range of 32.1% to 46.2% except for the area North of Olive and East of Pennsylvania which responded that they agreed at 72.8%.

*I am satisfied with the parks and recreation opportunities I receive for my tax dollars.*

Overall the combination of “Strongly Agree” and “Agree” was 61.2%. The response percentage was equal for males and females. The two younger age groups were more satisfied (63.1% and 61.3%) then the older age groups (53.0% and 54.6%). There was no statistical difference between single and married responders. Households with only adults were more satisfied (61%) than those households with children (56.4%). Based on the location of the household there was a wide variance with all areas agreeing in the range of 56% to 63.8% except for the area North of Olive between Pennsylvania and North & South which responded that they agreed at 72.8%.

*There is a need for additional lighted park facilities to expand the available hours of use.*

Overall the “Not Sure” response was 40.4% and the combined “Strongly Agree” and “Agree” was 36.2%. Males (40.3%) agreed more than females (36.7%). Those respondents 19-34 agreed at 50.9% and as the responders were older those agreeing dropped for ages 35-50 was 39.9%, ages 51-65 was 32.9%, and ages 66 and older was 28.6%. Single persons (41.2%) agreed more than married responders (41.2%). There was no statistical difference for households with just adults versus those with children. Based on the location of the household there was a wide variance with all areas agreeing in the range of 27.2% to 48% except for the area North of Olive and east of Pennsylvania which responded that they agreed at 65.2%.

*Park facilities I visit are clean and well maintained.*

Overall the combination of “Strongly Agree” and “Agree” was 74.3%. Males agreed (75.6%) more than females (71.9%). The youngest (70.2%) and the oldest (65.7%) responders agreed less than the other 2 age groups (74.6% and 76.3%). Single responders (75.2%) agreed slightly more than married responders (73.6%). Those households with just adults (75%) agree more than households with children (72.4%). Households North of Olive and East of Pennsylvania (65.2%), North of Olive and West of North & South (66.6%), and South of Delmar and East of North & South (69.5%) agree less than South of Olive and West of North & South (75.4%) and North of Olive between Pennsylvania and North & South (77.2%), with the highest agreement of 80.5% located South of Olive, North of Delmar and East of North & South.

*The Department needs to upgrade its facilities and playground equipment.*

Overall the “Not Sure” response was 44.7% and the combined “Strongly Agree” and “Agree” was 39.3%. Females agree (45.5%) more than males (34.1%). Respondents ages 35-50 agreed (45.9%) more than the other age groups (ages 19-34 was 28.1%, ages 51-65 was 36.7% and ages 66 and older was 31%). Married responders (41.3%) agreed more than single responders (34.7%). Those households with children (48.9%) agreed much more than those with just adults (20%) probably based on there more frequent

visitation to park playgrounds. Households living North of Olive and East of Pennsylvania (56.5%) agreed the most and households South of Olive and West of North & South (29.1%) agreed the least.

*I feel secure in University City's park and recreation facilities.*

Overall the combination of “Strongly Agree” and “Agree” was 72.1%. There was no statistical difference between males and females. The two youngest age groups had no statistical difference (ages 19-34 was 70.12% and ages 35-50 was 69.9%) while those aged 51-65 (73.5%) agreed more than those 66 and older (56.3%). Married responders (71.1%) agreed more than single responders (65%). Households with children (72.3%) agreed more than households with just adults (67.0%). Households located North of Olive and West of North & South agreed the least (44.4%) and households located North of Olive between Pennsylvania and North & South agreed the most (81.8%).

*I am willing to pay reasonable user fees for new recreation programs and facilities.*

Overall the combination of “Strongly Agree” and “Agree” was 72.7%. Females agreed (72.4%) more than males (68.9%). Responders ages 51-65 agreed the least (47.1%) and responders ages 35- 50 agreed the most (70%). Married responders (72.8%) agreed more than single responders (63.4%). There was no statistical difference in household with and without children. Households north of Olive and West of Pennsylvania (2 areas) agreed less (66.7%) than the other neighborhoods (76.1%, 73.6%, and 76.7%).

*The Department's staff is courteous and helpful.*

Overall the combination of “Strongly Agree” and “Agree” was 68.3%. Males (71%) agreed more than females (67.4%). The two younger age groups (ages 19-34 was 69.6% and ages 35 to 50 was 66.4%) agreed more than the two older age groups (ages 51 -65 71.3% and ages 66 and older 73.5%). There was no statistical difference between single and married responders. Households with just adults (71%) agreed more than households with children (66.5%). Households located South of Olive and West of North & South (57.1%) agreed least and households located South of Olive, North of Delmar and East of North & South agreed the most (75%).

*I am aware of the parks and facilities the City maintains.*

Overall the combination of “Strongly Agree” and “Agree” was 81%. There is no statistical difference by gender. Responders ages 51-65 (80%) agreed the most and those 19-34 (76.3%) and those 66 and older (73.5%) agreed the least.

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# Park Master Plan Focus Group Meeting

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Based upon the results from the citizen survey and the park evaluations, the follow items were selected as a priority to request more in-depth citizen discussion.

1. Trails
2. Community Center
3. Indoor pool and Heman Bathhouse
4. Park Redesign
5. Beautification
6. Restrooms

On the evening of July 22, 2008 the community was invited to the Community Center to participate in the focus groups. Along the walls of the building boards were displayed about each of the parks showing photos, aerial maps and the recent evaluations. Approximately 80 citizens attended. A review of the master plan process to date was given and what would occur during that night's meeting. Citizens could choose which focus group to participate in and attend more than one if they choose.

The Park Commissioners served as facilitators for the focus groups and department staff took notes on large pads of paper. The Park Commissioners were briefed by staff on their topic as it related to the park standards, park evaluations, the citizen survey results and any other relevant issues regarding the topic.

The focus groups met for discussion for approximately 45 minutes. There was no one interested in discussing park restrooms even though it was a high priority from the citizen survey. Patrick Owens, from Great Rivers Greenway, helped with the trails focus group because of his knowledge of the planned Centennial Greenway.

The entire group was called together and the Park Commissioners gave an overview of their group discussion. Each person was given 6 dots to vote on their particular interests or priority on the overall topic or a particular item on the notes.

Attached are the notes and votes from the focus groups.

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# Park Master Plan Focus Group Notes and Votes

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## TRAILS



- Use of Private Property 
- Plan for more trail miles in Heman & Landscaping 
- Vernon Parking
- Trail width for families
- Beautification of trails 
- Materials used for surface (walking vs. biking) 
- Trail alignment not set in Ruth Park 
- Can trail go through park to Shaftsbury
- Like connector trail in Heman Park
- Improve gravel trail north side of park 

## COMMUNITY CENTER

- Move the Senior Center Location to Centennial Commons(1-3 year plan) 
- Disconnect between Centennial Commons and MEAAA populations – Senior Center attendees “excluded” from other active community seniors who go to Centennial Commons
- Increase programming (space)
- Expand Centennial Commons (Senior Services/Rental); if money becomes available, could build/expand Centennial Commons footprint
- Fees – at the LIMIT 
- E-mail, word of mouth, signs (how to get the word out?) Marketing that the Community Center is available for use
- Cost/operational savings
- Educating community about cost savings benefit
- Make building attractive 
- Not cost effective to invest in Community Center 
- Alternative locations – look for location other than golf course as possible places to build a new community Center
- Citizens walk to Community Center (accessibility to max. citizens)
- Consider Traffic/increase litter at golf course if new community center built there
- Could build a multi level parking structure (new) at the current Community Center, if decide to renovate
- ADA – important to make sure renovations or new building are accessible
- Cost to build new - about the same as to build new
- Cheaper to beautify (not a million dollars to make attractive
- Ask current users – get more feedback 
- How to maximize use 
- Look at feasibility to add 2<sup>nd</sup> floor to current building, if decide to renovate
- Meeting Center (teach/update) – if decide to renovate, make sure technology upgrades include to attract business meetings etc.

## INDOOR POOL/HEMAN BATHHOUSE

- Location not an issue
- 50 Meter separate competitive (10 lanes)
- Leisure pool – family play area separate from the competitive pool, since play area would need warmer water than lap
- Pool temperature
- Heated – therapeutic
- Natatorium not ADA compliant
- Water polo
- Sky lights
- Seating to accommodate swim meets or water polo matches
- Removable lid
- Bond issue or sales tax
- School and Parks and Recreation
- Alternate location – Jackson Park School field – also current community center
- Build green
- Centennial Commons location for pool
- Salt water pool
- Hours of operation – make flexible hours

### Heman Bathhouse

- Face lift, paint
- New flooring – non slip
- Larger lockers
- Family changing area
- Shared bathrooms for indoor & outdoor pools
- Regulate water temperature – users can regulate in showers

## PARK REDESIGN

- Problem with skate park – covering green space “green”
- Heman – River des Peres: clean up, similar to San Antonio River Walk, habitat, encouragement of wildlife
- Skate park – liability
- Amenities in parks – picnic tables, restrooms, shelter (i.e. Ackert, Majerus, Greensfelder)
- Smaller parks – more inviting – provide more amenities
- Safety at Heman (especially basketball courts) – move closer to Olive Blvd. Current basketball location become smaller soccer field
- Heman seems neglected; uncared for, turf like concrete, MSD – raw sewage pumped through; as citizens stand up and fight
- Where can teens go? Suggestion at High School. Survey teens re: activities
- Rubberized running track around Heman/Miller – large parks
- More benches/picnic tables at all parks especially Mooney
- Widening/expanding walkway on Olive side of Heman
- Outdoor fitness area at Heman Park
- Field turf instead of grass – Midland side of Heman
- Mission statement/philosophy for all U City parks – make them workable parks – inviting to all
- Develop green space corner of Purdue & Midland
- Lewis Park – pavilion, restrooms
- Permanent bandstand, amphitheater – Heman Park
- Signage for Ackert Park – currently not on west/east
- Regular maintenance on current parks – currently ‘rough’ – benches, tennis court fences, etc.
- Grills in neighborhood parks

## BEAUTIFICATION

- New signs for the parks (park foundation)
- Garden in Metcalfe Park – water source?
- Beautification at Ruth Park Golf Course – water source, flower beds at tees, new cart path along Groby Road
- Beautification along major streets
  - Spreading flower pots or containers along Delmar west and east
  - Places to sit
  - Flowers along Olive Blvd.
- Truck for water source
- Ackert basketball court – new one or keep Eastgate – and shelter
- Hire landscape designer for all parks – Oakland designer
- Median on Kingsland – ownership city or county?
- Beautification on Midland – talk with County – Barb Frazier
- Beautification of parking lot behind Loop Market
- Get Washington University involved in landscaping – continuing cooperation
- Millar Park trees replaced and continually maintained
- Trees for shade by picnic tables at parks – Majerus
- Bicycle paths in parks
- More trees, lakes that are more attractive to senior population
- Bird watching areas
- Survey for senior population input
- Walkways of different substances: gravel wood chips, etc.
- Trimming along outside of parks

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## Prioritization of Capital Needs

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Throughout the planning process needs were identified for capital improvements, replacement and new parks and recreation amenities and facilities. In order to determine which project to complete, as funds become available, a system of prioritization was needed. The Park Commission reviewed the past capital plan selection criteria and also those from other communities which used a similar system in their park master plan. The Park Commission chose sixteen (16) selection criteria for each of the identified capital project. In addition, five (5) selection criteria exceptions were identified. These exceptions can be used by City Council to move a project to a higher priority.

Each of the capital needs was scored against each selection criteria with the maximum of one point if it fit the criteria. Each point is of equal weight.

Project	Park	Cost Estimate	Reduce or not add significantly to maintenance costs	Unsafe or reduce liability	Upgrade infrastructure or deteriorated facility	Increase enjoyment of existing facility	Increase access, use and services for persons with disabilities	Helps achieve equitable distribution of facilities & programs to meet identified needs	Increase leisure opportunities, skills, passive recreation or family participation	Facility/ Program not offered or in short supply that meets an identified need	Provides basic amenity for facility	Opportunities to increase revenues which help support the agency	Large user base	Increases public awareness and public involvement for programs or facilities	Encourages City partnerships with the private sector, other public agencies, or neighborhoods to meet identified needs	Support neighborhood revitalization or City goals	Trail linkages which will connect parks, schools, public and private open spaces throughout the City and surrounding area	Enhances beautification of parks and high visibility areas of the city	TOTAL
Centennial Greenway Trail Head/restroom & shelter	Greensfelder	\$ 250,000				1	1	1	1	1	1		1	1	1	1	1		11
Concrete Cart Paths - annual until completed	Golf Course	\$ 50,000	1	1	1	1	1		1		1	1	1			1			10
Trail Development	Ruth Park Woods	\$ 500,000		1		1	1		1	1			1	1	1		1		9
Redesign Park Center Section	Ackert	\$ 150,000				1	1		1					1	1	1	1	1	8
Beautification along trails	Centennial Greenway					1				1	1			1	1		1	1	7
Replace Tennis Courts	Flynn	\$ 150,000	1	1	1	1	1	1	1										7
Golf Course Club House	Golf Course	4-6 million			1	1	1					1	1	1				1	7
Fencing & Dugouts	Heman	\$ 125,000		1		1			1	1	1	1	1						7
Light Jack Buck Field	Heman	\$ 75,000				1		1	1	1		1	1		1				7
Parking Lot Landscaping and Lighting	Community Center	\$ 125,000		1	1	1					1		1					1	6
Dugouts - all other parks	Multiple	\$ 100,000		1		1			1	1		1	1						6
Redesign Park	Metcalf	\$ 1,000,000				1			1				1		1	1		1	6
Indoor pool	TBD	\$ 5,000,000			1	1	1		1			1	1						6
Playground and Surface	Flynn	\$ 140,000	1	1			1						1		1				5
Bathhouse renovation	Heman	\$ 500,000	1		1	1	1						1						5
Widen walkway around Heman	Heman	\$ 100,000		1	1		1						1				1		5
Centennial Greenway Spur	Mooney	\$ 100,000							1	1				1	1		1		5
New Community Center	TBD		1			1						1	1						4
Acoustical Movable Walls	Community Center	\$ 75,000			1	1						1	1						4

Project	Park	Cost Estimate	Reduce or not add significantly to maintenance costs	Unsafe or reduce liability	Upgrade infrastructure or deteriorated facility	Increase enjoyment of existing facility	Increase access, use and services for persons with disabilities	Helps achieve equitable distribution of facilities & programs to meet identified needs	Increase leisure opportunities, skills, passive recreation or family participation	Facility/ Program not offered or in short supply that meets an identified need	Provides basic amenity for facility	Opportunities to increase revenues which help support the agency	Large user base	Increases public awareness and public involvement for programs or facilities	Encourages City partnerships with the private sector, other public agencies, or neighborhoods to meet identified needs	Support neighborhood revitalization or City goals	Trail linkages which will connect parks, schools, public and private open spaces throughout the City and surrounding area	Enhances beautification of parks and high visibility areas of the city	TOTAL
Redesign Park	Eastgate	\$ 750,000				1			1						1			1	4
Playground and Surface	Fogerty	\$ 175,000	1	1			1						1						4
Restroom Shelter - replace & separate	Fogerty	\$ 250,000			1	1		1					1						4
Playground and Surface	Greensfelder	\$ 150,000	1	1			1								1				4
Playground and Surface	Heman	\$ 250,000	1	1			1						1						4
Irrigate Athletic Fields	Heman	\$ 200,000		1		1			1				1						4
Playground and Surface	Lewis	\$ 150,000	1	1			1						1						4
Shade Structure	Lewis	\$ 15,000				1			1	1			1						4
Terrace Slope	Lewis	\$ 150,000	1		1		1											1	4
Playground and Surface	Millar	\$ 125,000	1	1			1						1						4
Irrigate Fields	Millar	\$ 200,000		1		1			1				1						4
Replace Walking Path	Millar	\$ 75,000		1	1	1							1						4
Shelter - replace & separate	Millar	\$ 250,000			1	1	1						1						4
Playground and Surface	Mooney	\$ 130,000	1	1			1						1						4
Park Signs	Multiple (30)	\$ 150,000									1			1	1			1	4
Playground and Surface	Ackert	\$ 150,000	1	1			1												3
Fitness, Furniture and Equipment - annual	Centennial Commons	\$ 25,000	1								1		1						3
Update Restrooms	Community Center	\$ 20,000			1	1							1						3
Kitchen Upgrade	Community Center	\$ 25,000			1		1						1						3
Tennis Surface and Net Posts	Fogerty	\$ 25,000			1	1		1											3
Irrigation and soccer field developed	Greensfelder	\$ 75,000		1		1			1										3
Parking Lot Repaired and Striped	Greensfelder	\$ 10,000			1		1								1				3
Pave Parking Lots	Heman	\$ 100,000			1		1						1						3

Project	Park	Cost Estimate	Reduce or not add significantly to maintenance costs	Unsafe or reduce liability	Upgrade infrastructure or deteriorated facility	Increase enjoyment of existing facility	Increase access, use and services for persons with disabilities	Helps achieve equitable distribution of facilities & programs to meet identified needs	Increase leisure opportunities, skills, passive recreation or family participation	Facility/ Program not offered or in short supply that meets an identified need	Provides basic amenity for facility	Opportunities to increase revenues which help support the agency	Large user base	Increases public awareness and public involvement for programs or facilities	Encourages City partnerships with the private sector, other public agencies, or neighborhoods to meet identified needs	Support neighborhood revitalization or City goals	Trail linkages which will connect parks, schools, public and private open spaces throughout the City and surrounding area	Enhances beautification of parks and high visibility areas of the city	TOTAL
Move Heman Basketball Courts to more visible location	Heman	\$ 150,000		1					1				1						3
Redesign area of backboard	Kaufman	\$ 50,000			1	1			1										3
Shade Structure	Kaufman	\$ 20,000				1			1	1									3
Playground Surface Completion	Kingsland	\$ 5,000	1	1			1												3
Picnic /Shade Structure	Majerus	\$ 75,000				1			1	1									3
Playground and Surface	Majerus	\$ 100,000	1	1			1												3
Light Fields	Millar	\$ 100,000				1			1				1						3
Resurface & Color Coat Basketball Courts	Mooney	\$ 25,000		1	1	1													3
Redevelop south area of park	Rabe	\$ 100,000				1			1								1		3
More trees	All - 100 more per year	\$ 10,000				1					1					1			3
Permanent bandstand amphitheater	TBD	\$ 3,000,000							1	1		1							3
Energy Efficiency Improvements (primarily windows)	Community Center	\$ 100,000	1		1														2
New north entry and parking lot with vestibule & signage	Community Center	\$ 50,000				1	1												2
Floor Replacement	Community Center	\$ 15,000			1								1						2
HVAC System Replacement	Community Center	\$ 100,000	1		1														2
Lighting Upgrade	Fogerty	\$ 25,000		1		1													2
Beautification at Trees and along Groby	Golf Course	\$ 25,000													1			1	2
Light Tennis Courts	Heman	\$ 75,000				1							1						2

Project	Park	Cost Estimate	Reduce or not add significantly to maintenance costs	Unsafe or reduce liability	Upgrade infrastructure or deteriorated facility	Increase enjoyment of existing facility	Increase access, use and services for persons with disabilities	Helps achieve equitable distribution of facilities & programs to meet identified needs	Increase leisure opportunities, skills, passive recreation or family participation	Facility/ Program not offered or in short supply that meets an indentified need	Provides basic amenity for facility	Opportunities to increase revenues which help support the agency	Large user base	Increases public awareness and public involvement for programs or facilities	Encourages City partnerships with the private sector, other public agencies, or neighborhoods to meet identified needs	Support neighborhood revitalization or City goals	Trail linkages which will connect parks, schools, public and private open spaces throughout the City and surrounding area	Enhances beautification of parks and high visibility areas of the city	TOTAL
Resurface & Color Coat Basketball Courts	Heman	\$ 15,000				1							1						2
Pavilions & restrooms	Lewis	\$ 250,000				1			1										2
Replace Roof	Park Maintenance	\$ 75,000			1					1									2
Playground and Surface	Rabe	\$ 150,000	1				1												2
Picnic Tables at Shelters - recycled plastic	Multiple (100)	\$ 300,000	1										1						2
More tables, benches & grills	All	\$ 10,000				1			1										2
Façade Improvements and Offices	Community Center	\$ 250,000																1	1
Roof Replacement	Community Center	\$ 100,000			1														1
Playground and Surface	Kaufman	\$ 175,000					1												1
Replace Tennis Courts	Kaufman	\$ 150,000	1																1
Playground and Surface	Kingsland	\$ 150,000														1			1
Beautification along major streets	Various	\$ 150,000														1			1
Fencing	Greensfelder	\$ 15,000	1																1
Resurface and Color Coat Tennis Courts	Kaufman	\$ 15,000	1																1
Irrigate	Lewis	\$ 75,000																1	1
Landscape design	All	\$ 1,000,000																1	1

**SELECTION CRITERIA - EXCEPTIONS**

Funding is now available for a project that meets recognized needs

City Council interest or preference

A unique acquisition opportunity

Identified benefits clearly exceeds cost

Project addresses a major inequity or urgent need

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# Major Conclusions and Recommendations

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While all of the projects listed in the Prioritization of Capital Projects are important the following projects should be pursued by the City of University City in the next five years.

## **Beautification**

University City is fortunate to have U City in Bloom provide numerous flower beds throughout the City. There is citizen interest in seeing the expansion of the beautification efforts throughout the city. The City, U City in Bloom, the school district, neighborhood and business organizations need to work together to develop a plan.

## **Centennial Greenway**

Completion of a fully contiguous trail through University City with the capital funding coming through the Great Rivers Greenway and future state and federal grants was desired by the residents. There are challenges in acquiring access for the trail in a few locations and the community should work together to find compromises that assure that the trail plan is fully completed.

## **Community Center**

The City is currently studying the development of a Municipal Operations Facility that may require the space where the Community Center is located. The primary weekday use of the Community Center is the senior programs operated by Mideast Area on Aging (MEAAA). These services could be located in Centennial Commons. The weeknight use is primarily community meetings and small organizations. If the Municipal Operations Facility included some meeting rooms these functions could continue. The primary weekend use is for wedding receptions. This service could be accommodated in a new club house building at the golf course.

If the Community Center is retained it should be known that it is not energy efficient, would be costly to remodel, and needs to be upgraded so it has less of an institutional feel. As long as the current uses can be transferred to other locations the space could be readily used for the Municipal Operations Facility.

## **Golf Course**

Stabilizations of revenues and expenses will provide the resources needed to complete the concrete cart paths and to maintain the replacement schedule for maintenance equipment. The club house needs to be replaced and if banquet facility space is allocated it could serve the function of the Community Center on weekends as well as support other community events and generate additional revenues.

## **Indoor Pool**

The Natatorium at the high school needs to be replaced. The residents have responded that they would like to see a new indoor pool but not necessarily pay for it with taxes. The City, School District and the citizens need to develop a plan to build a new pool. The major decision will be what type of pool: competitive, leisure or a combination. Determining the location, financing, and management will also need to be determined. Finally, the operation costs will need to be clearly understood and a stable funding source secured.

## **Redesign of Three Parks**

Based upon the park evaluations the 3 parks within the Parkview Garden neighborhood were determined to be the most in need of redesign. Through collaboration with neighbors, Washington University, the School District, businesses, Great Rivers Greenway and other stakeholders develop new designs for Eastgate, Ackert Walkway and Metcalfe Parks that reflects the changed and changing demographics, optimizes the space to serve current and future users and serves as an economic stabilizer or enhancement to nearby properties.

## **Replacement and Enhancements of Park Features and Amenities**

Through a combination of City capital funds and grant funds the playgrounds and tennis courts should be on a regular replacement or resurfacing schedule. All playgrounds should be built on poured-in-place safety surfaces. Restroom buildings at Millar and Fogerty Park need to be replaced with ones similar to the new restrooms in Heman Park. Athletic fields are in a time of transition. The interest in baseball and softball has significantly declined while the interest in soccer has grown. University City hosts a large football program in which 80% of the participants are not University City residents. Prior to the expenditure of capital funds for dugout, irrigation or additional lighted fields an analysis of the long term need for which type of fields needs to be completed.

## **Ongoing Maintenance**

With the current staffing level the existing parks can be maintained at the current level with regular intensive maintenance at selected parks each year. Adopting best maintenance practice and green practices can help improve our efficiency and help lower costs. Any reduction in staffing will require the trade off in loss of specific services. Maintenance deferred will result in greater capital costs in the future.