# SKOKIE PARK DISTRICT

2020-2025 COMPREHENSIVE MASTER PLAN Adopted January 21, 2020



#### **Board of Commissioners**

Mike Reid, President Khemarey Khoeun, Vice President Susan Aberman, Commissioner Michael Alter, Commissioner

Minal Desai, Commissioner

#### STAFF

John Ohrlund, Executive Director

William Schmidt, Superintendent of Business Services Michelle Tuft, Superintendent of Recreation and Facilities Corrie Guynn, Superintendent of Parks Jon Marquardt, Assistant Superintendent of Recreation

Planning Team Hitchcock Design Group, Landscape Architecture & Planning

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# Introduction

The Skokie Park District developed this plan, based on the previous plan's accomplishments, updated community input, and current context, to guide park, facility, and program development decisions for the next five years. This section provides an overview of the Park District profile and the structure of the plan.

#### Purpose

The purpose of this Comprehensive Plan is to:

- Assess existing parks, facilities, and programs.
- Determine community opinion about services and facilities.
- Identify park, facility, and program needs.
- Define strategic and measurable goals and objectives.
- Provide an action plan to implement strategies over the next five years.

#### **Planning Process**

The comprehensive planning process covers four key phases: Analyze, Connect, Envision / Prioritize, and Implement. This Master Plan compiles the results, defines the Park District's objectives, and outlines the implementation plan. The planning process began in the Summer of 2019 with an update to the inventory and analysis of the Skokie Park District's park and open space assets, indoor facilities, and community context. Staff, stakeholders, the Board of Commissioners, and the community shared their opinions about the District's parks, facilities, programs, and needs during the Connect phase. Upon completion of the Analyze and Connect phases, the planning team met to develop preliminary strategies. Input from the Board of Commissioners and staff prioritized and incorporated these strategies into an action plan.

#### How to Use the Plan

This Comprehensive Plan document will be used by the Skokie Park District as a guide to implement action items over the next five years. The Action Plan should be thought of as a "working list" that will need to be evaluated and updated annually.

### **STRUCTURE OF THE DOCUMENT**



#### **Chapter One**

Analyze: Inventory and Analysis

Chapter One provides a detailed inventory of parkland, open space, District facilities, schools, trails, and relevant adjacent land uses. Park assets are classified and quantified by standards, size, location, and amenities.

#### **Chapter Two**

Connect: Community Engagement and Needs Assessment

Chapter Two includes national, state, and local parks and recreation trends. It also includes summaries of the community meeting, online engagement platform, stakeholder workshops, staff workshops, and Board of Park Commissioners workshop.

#### **Chapter Three**

#### Envision & Prioritize: Alternative and Preferred Strategies

Chapter Three outlines the needs that arose during the Analyze and Connect phases. It provides the background of those needs, synthesizing the results from the previous phases into justification and background for future action items, and the strategies to achieve them.

#### **Chapter Four**

Implement: Action Plan

Chapter Four outlines the highest priority strategies into a five-year action plan. The action plan designates when strategies will occur and how to accomplish them.

#### **Chapter Five**

Appendix Chapter Five contains local zoning maps and detailed survey results.

# **District Profile**

The Skokie Park District service area covers approximately 10.07 square miles and serves a population of over 63,900 people. Located in northern Cook County, the Park District maintains more than 247.8 acres of open space, recreation, and special use properties.

#### **Geographic Profile**

The Park District properties include two outdoor aquatic facilities, one golf course, one tennis center, and open spaces located throughout the District. Additionally, the Park District owns 15 special use facilities, including Weber Leisure Center, Skatium, Devonshire Cultural Center, and Oakton Community Center.

The Park District is located within Cook County and overlaps other governing bodies' jurisdictions. These jurisdictions include the Village of Skokie, the Village of Lincolnwood, the Village of Niles, the Village of Morton Grove, and the City of Evanston. It also includes Forest Preserve District of Cook County property, and portions of School Districts 65, 68, 69, 71, 72, 73, 73  $\frac{1}{2}$ , 202, and 219.

#### **Organizational Structure**

The five-member volunteer Board of Commissioners is the legal governing authority of the Park District. District residents elect Commissioners at large to serve staggered six-year terms. Some of the governing body's responsibilities include setting policy, making major investment decisions, hiring and overseeing the Executive Director, passing ordinances, adopting the budget, and determining tax rates. The Executive Director is responsible for overseeing the day-to-day operations, hiring qualified and professional employees, and carrying out the policies and ordinances of the District.

#### **Related Plans**

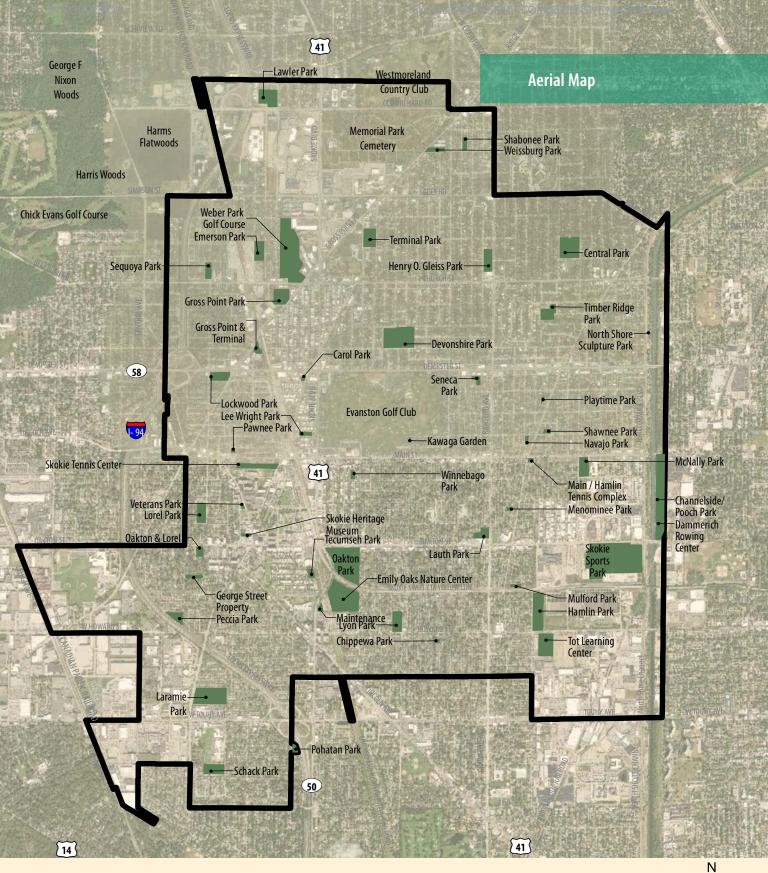
During the planning process the previous Skokie Park District Comprehensive Master Plan was referenced.

#### History

Originally know as the Niles Center Park District, the Skokie Park District was organized on February 3rd, 1928 under the Submerged Lands Statute of 1895. This statute authorized the creation of a municipal corporation separate and apart from "city" government. A year after officially organizing as a Park District, the District acquired the land for Oakton Park / Emily Oaks. Originally, the Village of Skokie was responsible for recreation programming, but transferred that responsibility to the Park District in 1951, the same year the District started levying its own tax.

Five years later, the District added seventeen new parks to its inventory and then added another ten parks in 1964. Between those acquisitions, the Devonshire Community Center and Oakton Community Center and pool were constructed, adding additional indoor recreation and program space to the growing community.

Throughout the 1970s the District continued constructing major indoor and outdoor facilities, adding the Skatium Ice Arena, Weber Park Golf Course, and the Skokie Park Tennis Center to its array of offerings. The 1980s led to the development of the original Tot Learning Center (1981) at Laramie Park, which eventually







District Boundary Skokie Park District Parks

moved to its own site in 1997, and the Emily Oaks Nature Center and Skokie Water Playground (1988). The Village moved the Meyer log cabin to a site behind the historic engine house, with the Skokie Park District taking over management and restoring both buildings (1982 & 1992). The site is now known as the Skokie Heritage Museum.

Most recently, the 1990s resulted in the construction of the Weber Leisure Center, Fitness First, the Exploritorium, Skokie Sports Park, the new Tot Learning Center, and the Skokie Water Playground renovation. The District's first website launched in 1996. During this period of growth and expansion, the Skokie Park District was honored to be named the national "Gold Medal Winner" for excellence in parks and recreation management from the National Recreation and Parks Association.

After the new millennium, the District added the Dammrich Rowing Center and Pooch Park on the east side of the District and renovated the Skatium Ice Arena. In 2003 the District celebrated its 75 year anniversary and today continues to be a statewide and national leader in park and recreation excellence.

#### **Awards & Recognition**

The Skokie Park District and its facilities have been the recipients of multiple awards throughout the course of its existence. In the past, the District's lifequard staff has won the 5-Star award for Risk Management and Rescue Preparedness and Golf Range Magazine named the Skokie Sports Park as one of the top 50 golf practice centers and learning facilities in America. The District has also been named an Illinois Distinguished Agency from 1997 to 2020. Less than 50 of Illinois's 400 agencies have received this award. SPD has also received the "Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting" from the Government Finance Officers Association. Finally, the District has also received the prestigious "National Award for Excellence in Park and Recreation Management" from the National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) and the Sports Foundation. In 1979, 1995, 1996, and 1997 the District was a National Gold Medal Award finalist, and won the award in 1997.

The Skokie Park District was named the national "**Gold Medal Winner**" for excellence in parks and recreation management from the National Recreation and Parks Association.





# CHAPTERABASSE inventory & analysis

# **Overview**

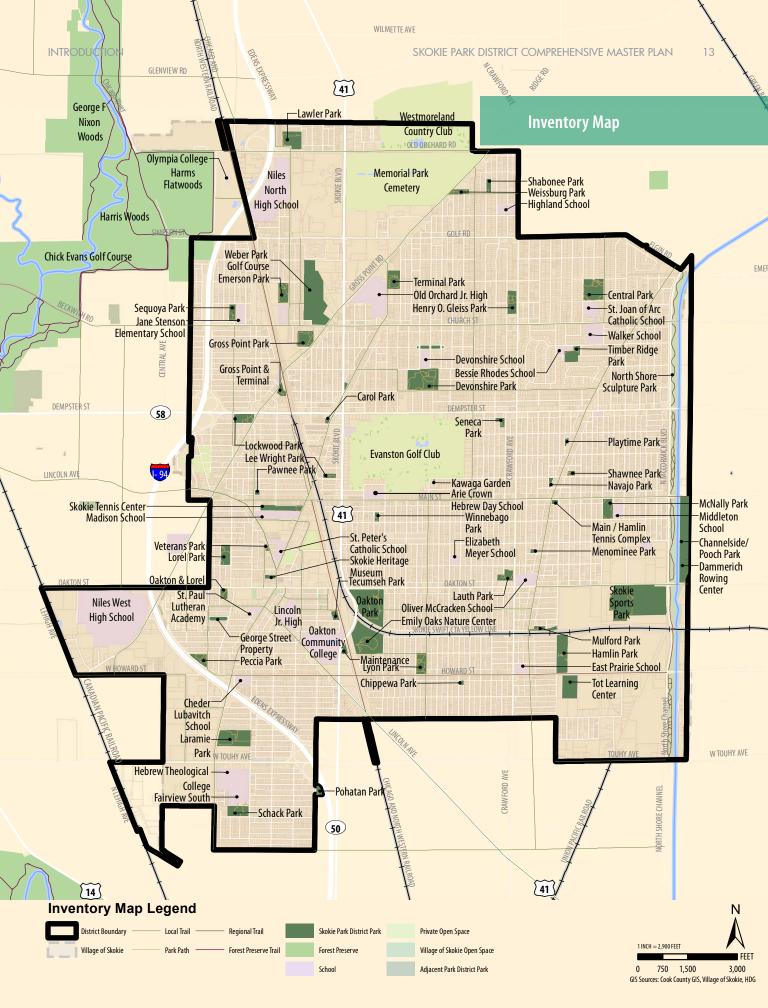
Analyze: Inventory and Analysis provides a description and illustration of the existing conditions of the Skokie Park District, showing a basic understanding of the District's assets and programs.

This chapter documents the inventory and analysis accomplished during the Analyze phase of the comprehensive master planning process. This phase describes the context in which the District operates, the recreation services they provide, and the patrons that utilize parks, facilities, and programs.

The following chapter defines the community's demographic context and provides detailed maps of the Park District that identify parks, open space, and other relevant land uses. It also includes the level of service analysis for parks and amenities, benchmarking the District's total acreage of parks and open space and the number of amenities to local, state, and national benchmarks. A distribution mapping analysis of the geographic location of parks is also found in this chapter. This information provides insight into potential surpluses or deficiencies the District has in terms of parks, open space, and recreation amenities.

#### **Chapter Outline**

- Demographics
- Existing Conditions
- Asset Inventory
  - · Park Classifications
  - · Park & Open Space Inventory Matrix
  - · Indoor Facility Inventory Matrix
- Level of Service Analysis
  - Acreage
  - · Distribution
  - · Mini Park Distribution Analysis
  - Neighborhood Park Distribution Analysis
  - Community Park Distribution Analysis
  - · Overall Park Distribution Analysis
  - · Amenities
  - · Amenity Distribution Analysis
  - · Facility Square Footage



# Demographics

The demographics review utilized the Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI) Business Analyst Online (BAO) software to gather up-to-date demographic data necessary to gain an understanding of the District and its context.

#### Summary

According to 2019 estimates, the Skokie Park District has a population of 63,901. Total population numbers from 2010 indicate the population is decreasing at an annual rate of 0.6%. The population is expected to continue decreasing into 2024, when the population is projected to be 63,600. The Park District's population is falling at a faster rate than the state's -0.03% while the national population is growing at a rate of 0.77%.

There are 22,965, households within the Park District. According to the U.S. Census, a household "includes all the persons who occupy a housing unit as their usual place of residence." Out of these 22,965 households 72% (16,598) are families. A family is defined as a household in which one or more people are related to the householder by birth, marriage, or adoption. The average household size is 2.75 in Skokie. This is consistent from 2010 (2.74) and the number is projected to remain at 2.75 into 2024.

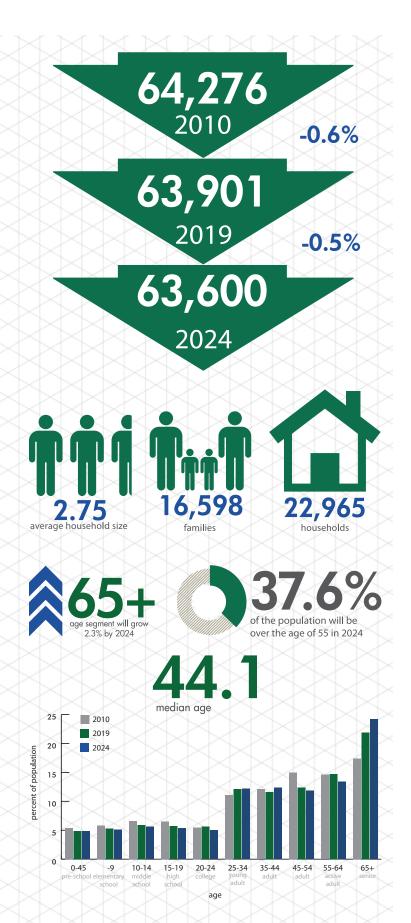
#### Age Distribution

With a median age of 44.1, the Park District has a mature, aging population. According to 2019 estimates, 37.6% of the population is over the age of 55. This percent is expected to remain at 37.6% through 2024. The aging active adult and senior populations are, and will continue to be, a major District demographic.

Since 2010, all age groups under 20 have decreased. This trend, which is expected to continue into 2024, will lead to a continued decrease in school district enrollment.

#### **Race and Ethnicity**

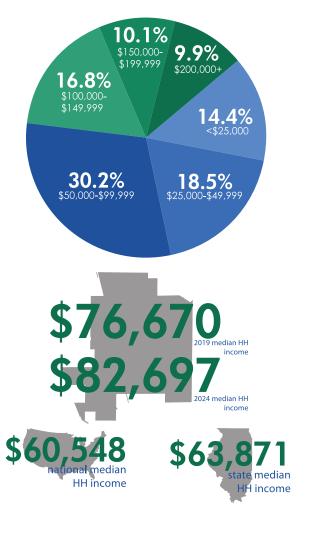
According to ESRI, the Skokie Park District has a diversity index of 40.7. The Diversity Index captures the racial and ethnic diversity of a geographic area in a single number, 0 to 100, and allows for efficient analysis of diversity throughout the U.S. The Diversity Index is "the likelihood that two persons, selected at random from the same area, would belong to a different race or ethnic group." According to demographic estimates, 55.3% of Park District residents indicate their race as White and 30.8% report their race as "Asian Alone", which results in a low diversity index. In addition, 6.1% report as "Black Alone," 4.2% report "Two or More Races," and 3.4% as "Some Other Race Alone". The remaining 0.2% of the population reported their race as American



Indian alone. Separately, 9.8% of the population identifies as Hispanic.

#### Income

The median household income for Skokie Park District residents in 2019 is significantly higher than both the state and national median. It is expected that median household income in the District will increase at a rate of about 1.5% per year. While this is less than the projected growth for both the state and the nation (2.5% and 2.7%, respectively), the median household income for Park District residents will still be well above the state and national median in 2024. Overall, the percent of Skokie Park District residents in each income group is comparable to the state and national trends. Although lower than the state and national population (19.1% and 19.7%, respectively), 14.4% of the District's population make less than \$25,000 per year which is the poverty line as defined by Illinois Legal Aid.



# **Existing Conditions**

The first step in the comprehensive planning process is to understand the Park District's surroundings and the existing conditions of the District's assets including land use and open space.

#### Land Use

The majority of the Skokie Park District is located within the Village of Skokie Zoning District and predominately consists of residentially zoned property. Most of these lots are designated for single-family homes, while multi-family development is generally located along the railroad tracks near the center of the Village. The remaining land uses are a mix of business, light industrial and public land. While public and commercial land is located throughout the Village, industrial use is concentrated in the southeast, southwest, and northwest corners of the Village. The Skokie Zoning Map can be found in the Appendix.

#### **Open Space Providers**

The Park District is one of many open space and outdoor recreation providers within the community. The Forest Preserve District of Cook County provides regional active and passive recreation opportunities while preserving significant open space assets. School Districts also provide outdoor recreation opportunities at elementary, middle and high school properties. Private agencies provide pay-to-play opportunities such as golf courses. The map to the right displays public and private open spaces within the Skokie Park District.

#### **Public Open Space**

Park District, Municipal, Forest Preserve District, State, Federal

The Skokie Park District owns more than 245 acres of active and passive open space and over 245,000 square feet of indoor facility space. The Forest Preserve District of Cook County owns nearly 10 acres and the Village of Skokie owns nearly 75 acres of open space within the District boundaries.

#### **Institutional Open Space**

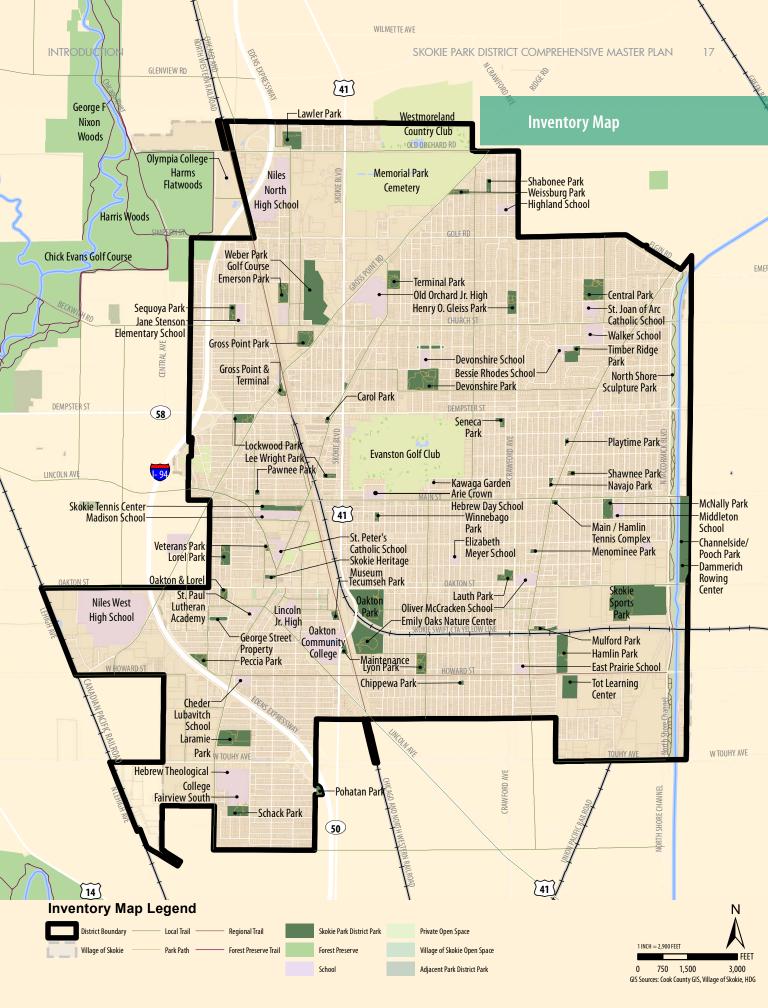
*Elementary, Middle, and High Schools; Colleges / Universities* 

There are eight elementary school districts and two high school districts serving Park District residents. In addition to public schools, there are eight private elementary and high schools within the Park District, as well as 23 speciality schools. Over 300 acres of public and private school open space is available to Park District residents.

#### **Private Open Space**

There are two privately-owned golf courses within the Park District boundaries. The Westermoreland Country Club (128 acres) and Evanston Golf Club (163 acres) each offer 18-hole golf courses and other outdoor recreation amenities.





# **Asset Inventory**

As a part of the planning process, we reference the guidelines outlined by the National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) - Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Guidelines Manual updated in 1996.

NRPA recommends creating a park classification system to serve as a guide for organizing an agency's parks. Park, Recreation, and Greenway Classification Guidelines are expressions of the minimum amount and development of land a community should provide for different classifications or types of parks, open space, and greenways.

Mini Park, Neighborhood Park, Community Park, Large Urban Park, and Sports Complexes are the five classifications for parks recognized by the NRPA. Commonly, School Parks serve similar functions as Neighborhood Parks and Large Urban Parks and Sports Complexes are included in the Community Park category.

These categories are based on size, function, and use. Mini Parks are the smallest and most limited in function, while Community Parks are typically the largest parks of a system and serve a variety of functions for the community. Other open space categories recognized by the NRPA are Natural Areas, Trails, Corridors or Linear Parks, and Special Use. Undeveloped Parks are sites not yet developed for meaningful access. This category is recognized for planning purposes but is not an NRPA category. Additionally, School Parks are not an NRPA category but are listed due to the function they serve for the neighborhoods they are located in. These classifications are vital to a comprehensive Level of Service analysis. In the park and open space matrix on the following pages, amenities were quantified to understand the District's total recreational offerings.

The District's indoor space was also inventoried. It consists of a comprehensive list of the District's assets. Facility locations can be found on the Inventory Map on the previous page.

### PARK CLASSIFICATIONS

Classification	General Description	Location Criteria	Size Criteria	Park District Parks
Mini Park (M)	Mini Parks meet the need for a walkable, drop-in recreation experience. Appropriate elements in these parks include playgrounds, picnic areas, and seating. These parks usually do not include parking. Used to address limited, isolated, or unique recreational needs.	Less than 0.25 mile distance in a residential setting.	Typically less than 1 acre in size.	Carol Park, Chippewa Park, Lee Wright Park, Menominee Park, Mulford Park, Navajo Park, Pawnee Park, Playtime Park, Pohatan Park, Seneca Park, Shabonee Park, Shawnee Park, Tecumseh Park, Weissburg Park, Winnebago Park
Neighborhood Park (N)	Neighborhood Parks remain the basic unit of the park system and are generally designed for informal active and passive recreation and community gathering spaces. Elements in these parks often include playgrounds, picnic areas, sports fields, and trail systems. Neighborhood Parks serve as the recreational and social focus of the neighborhood.	0.25 to 0.5 mile distance and uninterrupted by non-residential roads and other physical barriers.	1 to 5 acres.	Emerson Park, Henry O. Gleiss Park, Gross Point Park, Hamlin Park, Lauth Park, Lawler Park, Lockwood Park, Lorel Park, Lyon Park, McNally Park, Peccia Park, Schack Park, Sequoya Park, Timber Ridge Park
Community Park (C)	Community Parks focus on meeting community- wide recreation needs. These parks preserve unique landscapes and often serve the community as gathering places and general athletics. Elements in these parks include playgrounds, pavilions, trails and path systems, multiple sport courts and fields. Serves broader purpose than the neighborhood park. Focus is on meeting community based recreation needs, as well as preserving unique landscapes and open spaces.	Usually serves two or more neighborhoods and 0.5 to 3 mile distance.	As needed to accommodate desired uses. Minimum of 20 acres.	Central Park, Devonshire Park, Laramie Park, Oakton Park, Terminal Park
Natural Area	Conservation and wildlife areas, wooded areas, and waterways that are maintained for the most part in their natural state.	Service radius is unlimited.	No applicable standard.	Emily Oaks Nature Center, Kawaga Garden / Stein Property, Oakton & Lorel Park
Special Use	Special use facilities focus on meeting community- wide recreation needs. Often, these spaces, both indoor and outdoor, are designed as single-use recreation activities. Examples include golf courses, nature centers, and museums. Areas for specialized or single purpose recreational activities. Generally designed for active recreation and focus on meeting community based recreation needs.	No applicable standard.	Variable, depending on desired amenity.	Channelside / Pooch Park, Dammrich Rowing Center, Gross Point and Terminal Park, Main Hamlin Tennis Complex, Service Center, Skokie Heritage Museum, Skokie Sports Park, Skokie Sports Park East, Tot Learning Center, Veterans Park, Weber Park and Golf Course
Trail / Linear Park	Effectively tie park system components together to form a continuous park environment.	Resource availability and opportunity.	No applicable standard.	George Street Parkway
Undeveloped Park	Lands owned by the agency, but not yet developed with any amenities to provide meaningful access to the site such as trials, seating areas, and other passive and active recreation amenities.	No applicable standard.	No applicable standard.	None

### Park & Open Space Matrix

ACREAGE	TRAILS	INDOOR FACILITIES	DAY USE AMENITIES
Acreage - Own Acreage - Lease / Manage	Regional Trail Access Multi-Use Trails Nature / Interpretive Trails	Indoor Program / Support Facility Restrooms	Fitness Stations Dog Park Picnic Shelter Playground

#### PARK AND OPEN SPACE SYSTEM Mini Parks

	1	0.0					
Mini Park Acreage	12.8	0.0					
Winnebago Park	0.8			1			1
Tecumseh Park	1.4		0.1				1
Shawnee Park	0.8		0.13				1
Shabonee Park	1.2						1
Seneca Park	1.2		0.1			1	1
Pohatan Park	1.3						1
Playtime Park	0.2						1
Pawnee Park	0.3						1
Navajo Park	0.6						1
Mulford Park	1.1		0.13				1
Menominee Park	0.5						1
Lee Wright Park	1.1		0.1				1
Chippewa Park	0.3						1
Carol Park	0.4						1
Allan A. Weissburg Park	1.7		0.16				
Mini Parks							

#### 12.8

Neighborhood Parks						
Emerson Park	5.0		0.25	1		1
Henry O. Gleiss Park	4.4		0.25			1
Gross Point Park	5.0		0.28	2	1	1
Hamlin Park		8.5	0.12	1	1	1
Lauth Park	2.9		0.15	1	1	1
Lawler Park	5.9		0.36		1	1
Lockwood Park	5.0		0.16	1		1
Lorel Park	4.4		0.33	1	1	1
Lyon Park	4.0		0.35	1	1	1
McNally Park	5.3		0.22	1	1	1
Peccia Park	3.1		0.21			1
Schack Park	4.2		0.27	1	1	1
Sequoya Park	1.7		0.19			1
Timber Ridge Park	4.0		0.15	1		1
Neighborhood Park Acreage	54.9	8.5	1			

#### 63.4

	58	3.6						
Community Park Acreage	58.6	0.0						
Terminal Park	4.9		0.21		1		1	1
Oakton Park	19.1		0.33	1	1		1	1
Laramie Park	11.6		1		1		1	1
Devonshire Park	13.0		0.85	1	2		1	1
Central Park	10.0		0.44		1		1	1
Community Parks								

#### 126.3 8.5 134.8 TOTAL PARK & OPEN SPACE HOLDINGS 2 18 33 0 6.8 0.0 0 0 14

					SPO	ORTS CO	OURTS A	ND AM	ENITIES					WAT	ER-BASE	d Amei	NITIES	NATU FEAT	URAL URES
Basketball	Baseball / Softball	Cricket	Foot Golf Course	Futsol	Golf Course (holes)	Golf Driving Range	Petanque	Pickleball Court	Skate Park	Soccer	Tennis Court	Tennis / Pickleball Overlay Court	Volleyball Court	Swimming Pool	Ice Skating	Sled Hill	Boat Launch	Creek / River / Open Water	Natural Area / Gardens
														1	1	1	1		
1																			
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1		-																-	
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1	1										2								
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2	1			1				4		1		2							
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4 2	2 1										4			1					Х
2	2						1			3	2		2	1					Х
2	1										L	2							~

36	17	0	0	1	0	0	1	4	0	5	21	7	3	2	0	1	0	0	2

### Park & Open Space Matrix (continued)

	ACR	EAGE		TRAIL	s		oor Lities			' USE NITIES	
OTHER DISTRICT OPEN SPACE & FACILITIES	Acreage - Own	Acreage - Lease / Manage	Regional Trail Access	Multi-Use Trails	Nature / Interpretive Trails	Indoor Program / Support Facility	Restrooms	Fitness Stations	Dog Park	Picnic Shelter	Playground
Natural Areas	12.0			0.21	1	1	1		r	2	
Emily Oaks Nature Center	13.0			0.31	1	1				3	1
Kawaga Garden / Stein Property Oakton & Lorel Park	0.10			0.04							
Natural Area Acreage	14.5	0.0		0.1							
		4.5									
Special Lise	•		1								
Special Use Channelside / Pooch Park		11.6					1		1	1	1
Dammrich Rowing Center		3.4				1	1			1	
Gross Point and Terminal Park		1.2		0.1		<u>'</u>	<u> </u>				
Main Hamlin Tennis Complex	0.6										
Service Center	2.9					1					
Skokie Heritage Museum	0.3					1					
Skokie Park Tennis Center	9.3			0.21			1				
Skokie Sports Park		17.4		0.63			2				
Skokie Sports Park East		17.4									
Tot Learning Center	7.0					1					
Veterans Park	0.3										
Weber Park and Golf Course	25.8	51.0				1					
Special Use Acreage	46.2	51.0									
Trails, Corridors, and Linear Parks / Greenways George Street Parkway	97 1.3	7.2									
Trail, Corridor and Linear Park Acreage	1.3	0.0									
	188.3	.3 59.5									
TOTAL DISTRICT HOLDINGS	24	7.8	0	8.2	1.0	8	23	0	1	18	35
		BEYON					0	0	0	5	23
	AMENTILES	AT CURREN	IT ST	AND,	ARDS	8	23	0	1	13	12
						port Facility	Restrooms	Fitness Stations	Dog Park	Picnic Shelter	Playground
Acreage information was derived from the District's recognized park acreage standards.						Indoor Program / Support Facility		Fitn		Ā	
*all text in <b>red</b> indicates an amenity is beyond its useful life. ‡ indicates mini golf holes						Indoor Pro					
+ marcanes mining on noies							oor Lities			y USE Nities	

					SPO	ORTS CO	ourts A	ND AM	ENITIES					WAT	ER-BASI	ed ame	NITIES		URAL URES
Basketball	Baseball / Softball	Cricket	Foot Galf Course	Futsol	Golf Course (holes)	Golf Driving Range	Petanque	Pickleball Court	Skate Park	Soccer	Tennis Court	Tennis / Pickleball Overlay Court	Volleyball Court	Swimming Pool	Ice Skating	Sled Hill	Boat Launch	Creek / River / Open Water	Natural Area / Gardens
																		X	X X
																			X
									2	3				1			1	Х	Х
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											3								
	5					1					8								
		1								5									X
			1		9										2				Х
														<u> </u>					
36	22	1	1	1	9	1	1	4	2	13	32	7	3	2	2	1	0	3	10
1	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
35	11	1	1	1	9	1	1	4	2	13	32	7	3	2	2	1	0	3	10
Basketball	Baseball	Cricket	Foot Golf Course	Futsol	Golf Course (holes)	Golf Driving Range	Petanque	Pickleball Court	Skate Park	Soccer	Tennis Court	Pickleball Court	Volleyball Court	Swimming Pool	Ice Skating	Sled Hill	Boat Launch	Creek / River / Open Water	Natural Area / Gardens
					SPO	ORTS CO	ourts A	ND AM	ENITIES					WAT	ER-BASI	ed ame	NITIES		URAL URES

### **Indoor Facility Matrix**

·	SQUARE FOOTAGE	RESTR	ooms	AD	MIN			ACTIVITY	ROOM	S	
	Total Square Footage	Restrooms	Locker Rooms	Reception Desk	Office	Kitchen	Concessions	Banquet / Community	Classroom / Multipurpose	Art Room	Teen Room
INDOOR FACILITIES											
Recreation & Fitness Programming						-					
Devonshire Cultural Center	31,665	2		1		3			6	1	
Devonshire Playhouse		2									
Devonshire Preschool		5									
Oakton Community Center	28,270	7		1	7	2		1	3		
Exploratorium		3		1	1						
Weber Leisure Center	69,242	6	4	2	14	1			1		
Recreation & Fitness Programming											
Single-Use	· · · · ·	I									
Dammrich Rowing Center	9,138	2			1						
Emily Oaks Nature Center	12,485	4		1	2	1		1	5*		
Skatium	48,891		8	1	5	<u> </u>	1	<u> </u>	1		
Skokie Sports Park Tee Structure	4,400		0		5		1		-		
Club House		2		1	1			1			
Skokie Heritage Museum	2,450	2		-	1			1	1		
	2,838	2			1			1	1		
Log Cabin	345	- 10							1		
Tot Learning Center	14,350	10		1	2	1		1	7		
Single-Use	94,897										
Aquatics											
Devonshire Aquatic Center	5,150	2	2		1						
Skokie Water Playground	13,055	2	2	1	1	1		2	2		
Aquatics	18,205										
Maintenance											
Service Center	10,431	2	2	1	1	1					
Shop (Skokie Sports Park)	3,600	1									
Maintenance	3,600										
TOTAL SQUARE FOOTAGE	245,879	52	18	11	37	10	1	7	22	1	0
	agatoo Total Sdhare Footage	Kestrooms	Locker Rooms	Reception Desk	Z Office	Kitchen	Concessions	Banquet / Community	OClassroom / Multipurpose	Art Room	Teen Room
						I					

	RE	CREATIO	INA NC	d fitne	SS			OTI	HER	
Auditorium	Gymnasium	Indoor Turf	Fitness / Weight Room	Aquatics	Indoor Activity Courts	Dance	Storage	General	Greenhouse	Maintenance
						1	7			2
1							4			
							4			2
	1		1			2	9	2		1 2
							2	1		1
							3 4		1	2
							4			2
							1			
							1			
										2
							_			
							2			1
							-			-
							3			2
							1			1
1	1	0	1	0	0	3	46	3	1	20
Auditorium	Gymnasium	Indoor Turf	Fitness / Weight Room	Aquatics	Indoor Activity Courts	Dance	Storage	General	Greenhouse	Maintenance
			Fitness /		Indoor					
	DE		ON ANI					OTI		

# Level of Service Analysis

This Level of Service analysis evaluates how well the Skokie Park District's parks, facilities, and amenities are serving the current needs of the community.

The development of a Level of Service standard for parks and recreation began in the 1980s with the development of Levels of Service for other infrastructure such as water, stormwater drainage, sewer systems, and transportation. These benchmarks provide agency officials with the ability to respond to growing communities, evolving demographics, and changing needs. It is important to note however, that these benchmarks are not strict rules that all communities should follow. These Level of Service benchmarks are simply another gauge for agencies to use when determining future needs and services.

According to the National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA), the Level of Service is a quantification of the park and recreation delivery philosophy and policy of a community. Its basic utility is in meeting a legal and/or economic requirement of quality service and equity. As a basic rule, a Level of Service benchmark should:

- · Be practical and achievable
- Provide for an equitable allocation of park and recreation resources throughout a community with equal opportunity access for all citizens
- Reflect the real-time demand of the citizens for park and recreation opportunities

The Level of Service standard uses four measurements to help a community evaluate the comprehensiveness and equability of their current park and recreation offerings. These are:

- 1. **Acreage:** A calculation of the minimum amount of land required to provide all of the recreation activities and facilities required to support such activities
- 2. **Distribution:** An evaluation of how equitable park and open space sites are placed throughout the community, as well as how accessible existing sites are to residents
- 3. **Amenities:** A calculation of the minimum number of amenities and facilities required to meet state and/or national averages
- 4. **Square Footage:** A calculation of the minimum number of indoor square footage required to provide all of the recreation programs and services

Level of Service guidelines are developed by state and national agencies, including the NRPA. Historically, a Level of Service analysis has been limited to total park and open space acreage alone and did not include distribution, amenities, or indoor square footage.

The national standard for acreage Level of Service was 10 acres per 1,000 population, but as park and recreation planning developed, professionals saw the need to develop a more comprehensive benchmarking tool that could be adjusted for and specific to each community.

Because one size does not fit all, the NRPA recommends using community-specific benchmarks. Park Metrics is the NRPA's online management tool, designed for public park and recreation agencies. This tool is a supplement to the NRPA standards that have guided land acquisition and development for the past 45 years. Through this tool, agencies have the ability to compare themselves and their offerings with departments and agencies in their state or region. Agencies can also compare themselves to others based on factors such as total population, operating budget and full-time technical equivalent employees. Now, agencies can plan and benchmark with more applicable data than national averages.

Park Metrics has thousands of data points and more than 600 completed profiles. It is now the largest and most comprehensive collection of detailed municipal, county, state, and special district data. As more agencies add their data to the database, trends and patterns begin to emerge that help agencies plan and benchmark.

The following Level of Service analyses reference national NRPA standards, Park Metrics benchmarks, and local and regional-specific standards set by the State of Illinois and the planning team. The Skokie Park District was compared against 2018 data for agencies with populations between 60,000 and 65,000 registered with the NRPA's Park Metrics. Because there were only three comparable agencies located in Midwestern states, the search was expanded to include the entire continental United States and yielded 22 results.

### Acreage

Acreage Level of Service benchmarks are calculations of the recommended amount of land required to provide all of the recreation activities and facilities required to support such activities.

The NRPA's population ratio method (acres/1,000 population) emphasizes the direct relationship between recreation spaces and people and is the most common method of estimating an agency's level of service for parkland and open space. In addition to the baseline of 10 acres/1,000 population used in this analysis, Park Metrics benchmarks are also used to understand how the Skokie Park District compares to agencies of similar population size.

Based on the NRPA benchmark of 10 acres per 1,000 population, 639.01 acres of Mini, Neighborhood, and Community Park space is recommended for the Skokie Park District. The table on the right designates these park assets as "Active Recreation Areas." With 134 acres of open space dedicated to Mini, Neighborhood and Community Park uses, the District has a 504 acre deficiency compared to this benchmark. The District has a level of service of 2.11 acres per 1,000 population, which is below the NRPA recommended 10 acres per 1,000.

When all District-owned and maintained open space is added to the Level of Service a analysis, the District has a shortage of 391 acres. This Level of Service gauge includes Special Use Sites, Trails, Corridors and Linear Parks, Undeveloped Parks, and School Parks in addition to Mini, Neighborhood, and Community Parks. The District has an overall level of service of 3.88 acres per 1,000 population.

The Park Metrics database was referenced to understand how the Skokie Park District compares to agencies across the nation with similar population sizes. The Skokie Park District has a population of 63,901. Out of over 600 agencies reporting, there were 22 agencies with populations between 60,000 and 65,000. Park Metrics provided information on the following level of service benchmarks:

- Total Number of Parks
- Total Park Acres
- Total Acres Managed
- Acres of Parks per 1,000 Residents

The Skokie Park District has 34 parks that total 134.8 acres, which is higher than the median of 24 total parks but significantly lower than the median of 268 acres as reported by Park Metrics.

#### Level of Service Analysis: 10 acres / 1,000 population

OWNED / LEASED ACTIVE RECREATION AREAS							
assification SPD Acreage Level of Service Recommen		IAPD/NRPA Recommended Acreage	IAPD/NRPA Recommended Level of Service (acres / 1,000 population)	Acreage deficiency / surplus (acre)			
Mini Park	12.81	0.20	31.95	0.50	-19.14		
Neighborhood Park	63.40	0.99	127.80	2.00	-64.40		
Community Park	58.60	0.92	479.26	7.50	-420.66		
Total Active Recreation Areas	134.81	2.11	639.01	10.00	-504.20		

Recommended acreage is based off the existing population of 63901

#### ALL SPD MANAGED OPEN SPACE

Classification	SPD Acreage (Total)	SPD Existing Level of Service (acres / 1,000 population)	IAPD/NRPA Recommended Acreage	IAPD/NRPA Recommended Level of Service (acres / 1,000 population)	Acreage deficiency / surplus (acre)
Mini Park	12.81	0.20	31.95	0.50	-19.14
Neighborhood Park	63.40	0.99	127.80	2.00	-64.40
Community Park	58.60	0.92	479.26	7.50	-420.66
Natural Areas	14.50	0.23	0.00	0.00	14.50
Special Use	97.20	1.52	0.00	0.00	97.20
Greenways	1.30	0.02	0.00	0.00	1.30
Total SPD Open Space	247.81	3.88	639.01	10.00	-391.20

Recommended acreage is based off the existing population of 63901

#### ALL PUBLIC OPEN SPACE

Classification	SPD Acreage (Total)	SPD Existing Level of Service (acres / 1,000 population)	IAPD/NRPA Recommended Acreage	IAPD/NRPA Recommended Level of Service (acres / 1,000 population)	Acreage deficiency / surplus (acre)
SPD Total Parks & Open Space	247.81	3.88	639.01	10.00	-391.20
School Open Space	306.60	4.80	0.00	0.00	306.60
Forest Preserve Open Space	9.70	0.15	0.00	0.00	9.70
Total Public Open Space	564.11	8.83	639.01	10.00	-74.90

Recommended acreage is based off the existing population of 63901

#### Level of Service Analysis: Park Metrics Benchmark

#### **OWNED / LEASED ACTIVE RECREATION AREAS**

Classification	SPD Acreage (Total)	SPD Existing Level of Service (acres / 1,000 population)	Park Metrics Recommended Acreage	Park Metrics Median Level of Service (acres / 1,000 population)	Acreage deficiency / surplus (acre)		
Total Active Recreation Areas	134.81	2.11	274.77	4.30	-139.96		
Total SPD Managed Open Space	247.81	3.88	274.77	4.30	-26.96		

Recommended acreage is based off the existing population of 63901

### Distribution

Planning areas are used to analyze park distribution, land acquisition, and park facility redevelopment needs. Planning areas are delineated by major pedestrian barriers, including major roads or highways, railroad corridors, and impassable natural features.

The location and geographic distribution of the parks themselves can offer an indication of how well an agency is serving its residents. By understanding where parks are located in relationship to residential development determines who is underserved. This analysis may reveal the need for acquisition to expand service or may reveal that the District is serving the residents well and should focus on maintaining or updating existing assets.

#### Methodology

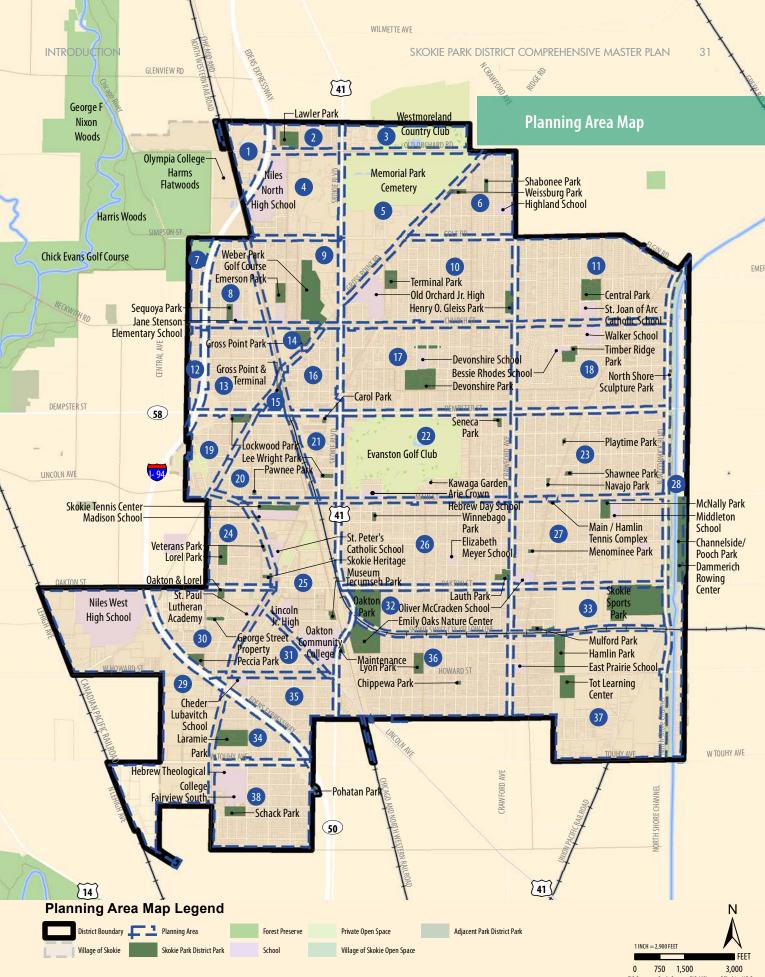
In the Skokie Park District, arterial roads and railroads serve as the main pedestrian barriers. These pedestrian barriers resulted in 38 planning areas.

A service area, illustrated in the following maps with an orange halo, was created around each individual park. The shape of each service area is determined by analyzing the existing road and sidewalk infrastructure to identify the actual route and distance one has to travel to access the park. The size of the service area is dependent upon the park classification and is either a quarter, half, or one mile.

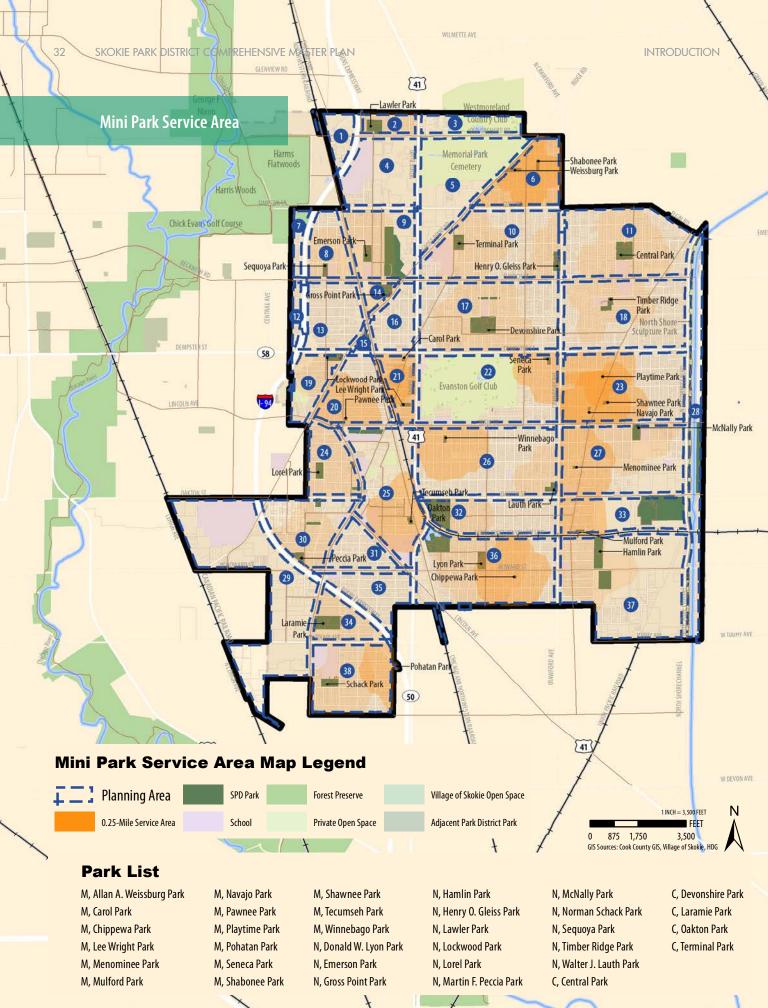
The table on **page 19** notes the various recommended service area distances for Mini, Neighborhood, and Community Parks. Natural Areas, Special Use Sites, and Undeveloped Sites are not included in this analysis.

Service area buffers for Mini and Neighborhood Parks were truncated to the planning area boundaries in which the park is located. Planning Area boundaries are considered barriers to safe or comfortable pedestrian access, and Mini and Neighborhood Parks are considered walk-to (walkable) destinations. For Community Parks, the boundaries were not truncated because these parks are seen as drive-to destinations.

Finally, overlaying service area maps reveal which areas are most and least served by the existing park system. The most served areas are illustrated by the dark orange, while the least served areas are illustrated by the lack of orange. The orange service area buffers overlap to form a gradient that illustrates the degree to which residents are served. The darker the orange, the better these residents are served. Residents who fall within the darker or opaque orange areas are served by multiple parks and their amenities. Demographics for each planning and service area further informed the level of service analysis.



GIS Sources: Cook County GIS, Village of Skokie, HDG



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	Planning Area	Population Served	% Served	Population Not Served	
1	1	0	0%	1	
	2	642	100%	0	
IN ST :	3	0	0%	727	
	4	0	0%	271	
	5	0	0%	602	
	6	1342	100%	0	
	7	0	0%	192	
	8	775	86.6%	120	
	9	1005	49.8%	1,014	
	10	1956	61.5%	1,224	
	11	1352	51.5%	1,271	
	12	0	0%	236	
Ξ	13	0	0%	1,440	
	14	599	100%	0	U.
	15	0	0%	60	
	16	0	0%	3,599	
	17	1845	48.1%	1,987	
+	18	1100	36.1%	1,945	
	19	469	48.5%	499	
	20	0	0%	1,756	
	21	2273	100%	0	
	22	618	41.8%	862	X
	23	2334	54.5%	1,949	
	24	0	0%	1,274	
	25	1793	55.7%	1,426	
	26	3731	58.9%	2,600	
	27	2258	91.7%	204	
	28	0	0%	48	
	29	0	0%	38	
	30	0	0%	1,809	
	31	0	0%	1,081	
	32	621	35.0%	1,153	
	33	536	100%	0	
	34	0	0%	632	
	35	0	0%	1,264	
	36	3,099	71.7%	1,226	
	37	1,020	85.7%	170	
	38	0	0%	1,852	

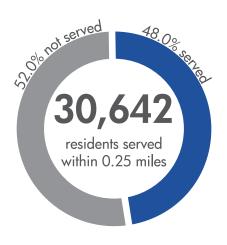
### Mini Park Distribution Analysis

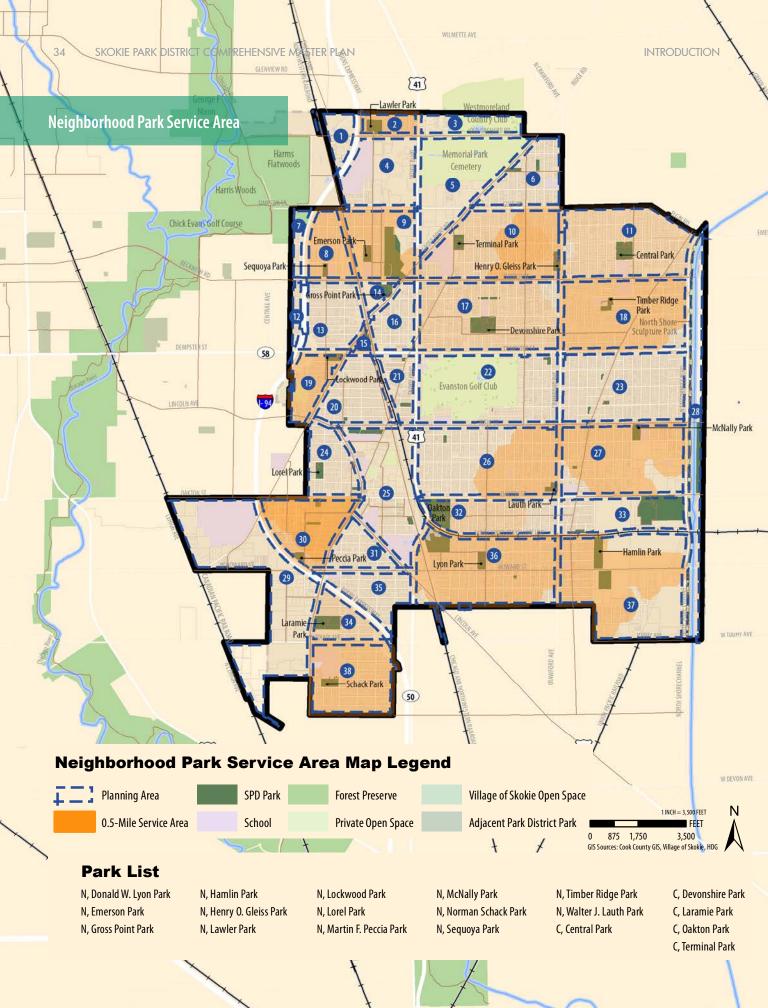
Mini Parks meet the need for a walkable, drop-in recreation experience. Appropriate elements in these parks include playgrounds, picnic areas, and seating opportunities.

The purpose of the Mini Park Distribution Analysis is to determine which planning areas are underserved by the District's existing Mini Park land holdings. Currently, the Park District has 15 Mini Parks.

The map to the left illustrates the quarter-mile (0.25-mile) service area reach for Mini, Neighborhood, School, and Community Parks shown in orange. Quartermile service areas are also shown for Neighborhood and Community Parks, as these parks serve the function of a Mini Park for those residents within a quarter-mile distance from the park.

The map to the left illustrates where Mini Parks service is concentrated within the District. Planning Areas 2, 6, 14, 21, and 33, where 100% of residents have walkable access to a Mini Park, are the best served. The percent of the population within the planning area with access is important, but knowing which planning areas have the highest total population without access allows the planning team to prioritize based on need. The planning area with the most residents not served is Planning Area 16 followed by Planning Areas 26, 17, 23, 18 and 38. It should also be noted that the entire populations of Planning Areas 1, 3, 4, 5, 7, 12, 13, 15, 16, 20, 24, 28, 29, 30, 31, 34, 35, and 38 have no Mini Park access. The included table compares the total population served to the total population not served by a park within one quarter-mile of their home. Overall, 48.0% of the Skokie Park District's population has access to a park asset within one quarter-mile walking distance. This is slightly higher than the median Mini Park Distribution Level of Service of 42.0% within the planning team's database.





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X	Planning Area	Population Served	% Served	Population Not Served	
/	1	0	0%	1	
	2	642	100%	0	
ST	3	0	0%	727	
	4	0	0%	271	
	5	0	0%	602	
	6	0	0%	1,342	
	7	0	0%	192	
	8	895	100%	0	
-	9	1,380	68.4%	639	
	10	3,180	100%	0	
	11	2,526	96.3%	97	
	12	0	0%	236	
-	13	0	0%	1,440	
	14	0	0%	599	
	15	60	100%	0	
-	16	0	0%	3,599	3
	17	3,678	96.0%	154	
-	18	2,980	97.9%	65	
	19	968	100%	0	
	20	0	0%	1,756	
	21	0	0%	2,273	
	22	0	0%	1,480	Ž
	23	0	0%	4,283	
	24	0	0%	1,274	1
	25	0	0%	3,219	
	26	1,843	29.1%	4,488	
	27	2,228	90.5%	234	
	28	0	0%	48	
	29	0	0%	38	
	30	1,809	100%	0	
	31	0	0%	1,081	
	32	1,160	65.4%	614	
	33	0	0%	536	
	34	632	100%	0	
	35	0	0%	1,264	
	36	3,850	89.0%	475	
	37	1,190	100%	0	
	38	1,852	100%	0	

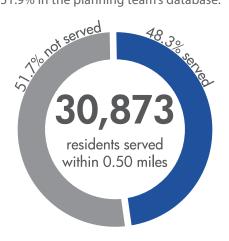
### Neighborhood Park Distribution Analysis

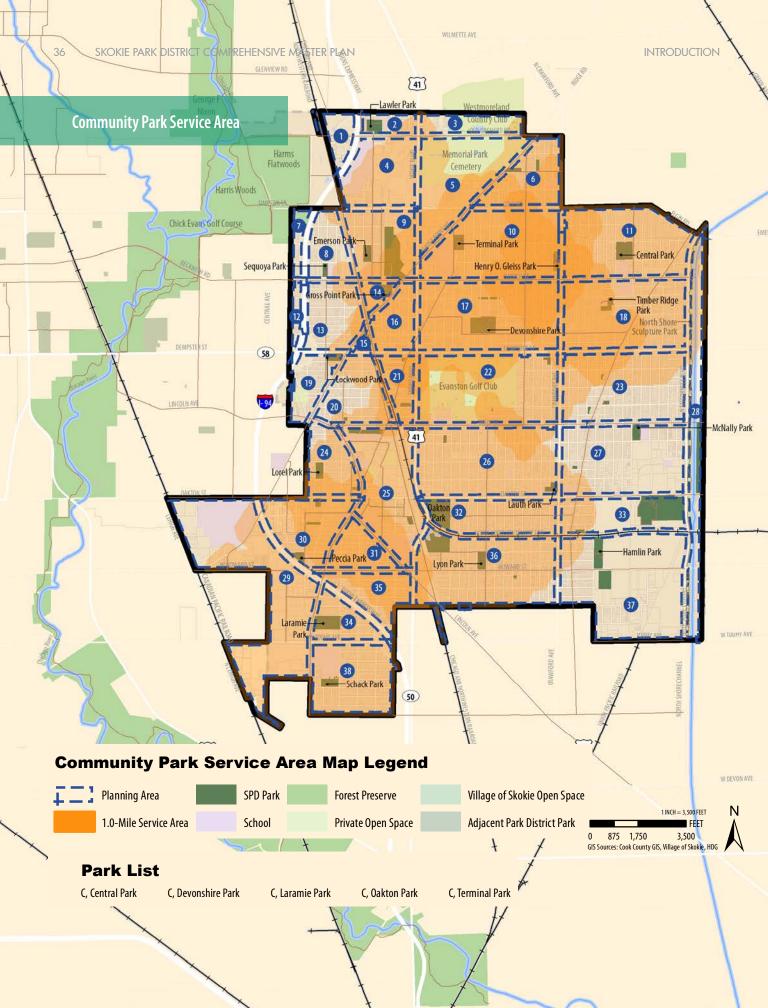
Neighborhood Parks remain the basic unit of the park system and are generally designed for informal active and passive recreation and community gathering spaces.

The purpose of the Neighborhood Park Distribution Analysis is to determine which planning areas are underserved by the District's existing Neighborhood Park land holdings. Currently, the District has 14 Neighborhood Parks that range from 1.7 acres to 8.5 acres in size.

The map on the left illustrates the half-mile (0.5-mile) service area reach for Neighborhood parks. This plan also illustrates a half-mile service area (shown in orange) for Community Parks, as these parks can serve the function of a Neighborhood Park for residents within a half-mile from the park. According to NRPA's Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Guidelines, Neighborhood Park service areas do not include residents who must cross a planning area boundary to reach the park. Service areas are truncated to all planning area boundaries.

The map to the left illustrates where Neighborhood Parks service is concentrated within the Skokie Park District. In Planning Areas 2, 8, 10, 15, 19, 30, 34, 37, and 38, 100% of residents have walkable access to a Neighborhood or Community Park. Planning Area 26 has the most residents not served; 4,488 residents do not have access to a park within a half-mile of their home. In planning areas 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 12, 13, 14, 16, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 28, 29, 31, 33, and 35 100% of the residents do not have access to a Neighborhood or Community Park within a half-mile of their home. The included table compares the total population served to the total population not served by a Neighborhood Park. Overall, 48.3% of the Skokie Park District's population has access to a park asset within half-mile walking distance. This is a bit lower than the Neighborhood Park Distribution Level of Service of 51.9% in the planning team's database.





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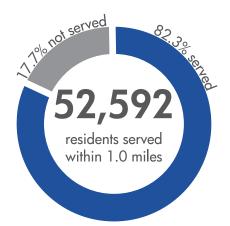
## **Community Park Distribution Analysis**

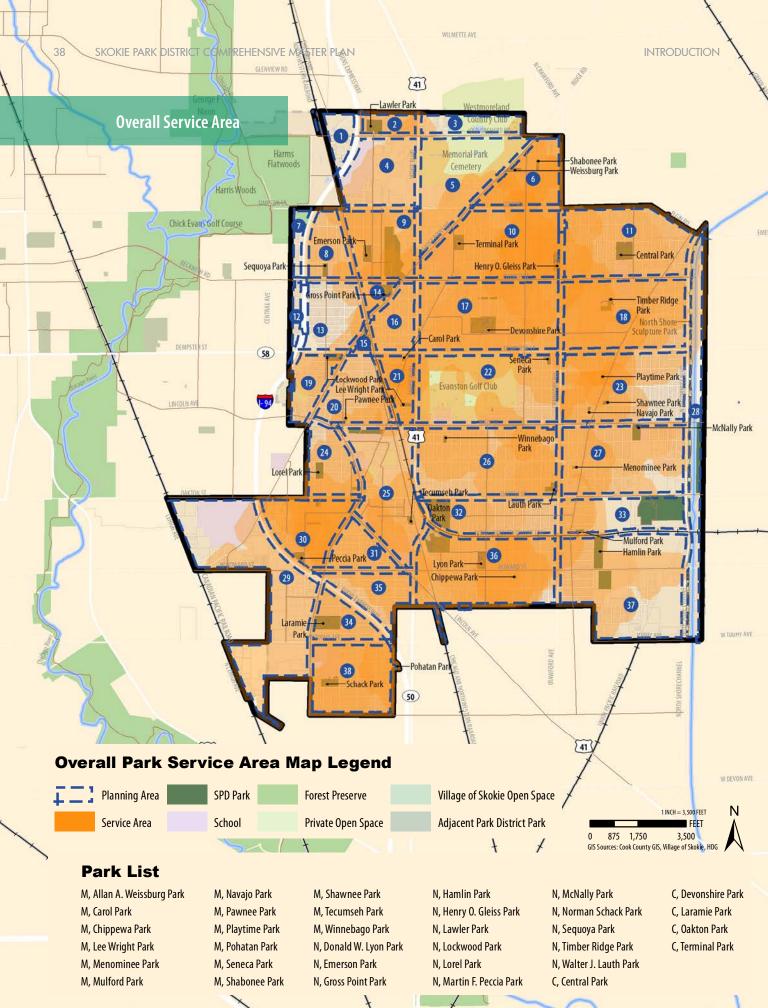
Community Parks focus on meeting community-wide recreation needs. These parks may preserve unique landscapes and often serve as event and recreational team sport spaces.

The purpose of the Community Park Distribution Analysis is to determine the location of gaps in Community Park service area coverage. Currently, the District has five Community Parks that range from 4.9 acres to 19.1 acres in size.

The map on the left illustrates the one-mile (1-mile) service area reach for Community parks, shown in orange. Unlike Mini, Neighborhood, and School Parks, Community Parks are considered drive-to recreation destinations. Service areas are not limited to the boundary of the planning area in which they are located. These drive-to destinations cover multiple planning areas and are community destinations for Park District residents.

Overall, 82.3% of the District has access to a Community Park asset within a 1-mile drive from where they live. The largest gaps occur in the northwestern and southeastern portions of the Park District. The Skokie Park District's Community Park Level of Service far exceeds the median 67.0% service found in the planning team's database.





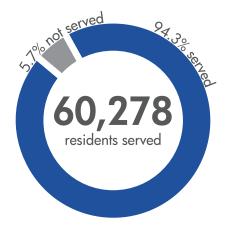
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## Overall Park Distribution Analysis

The Overall Service Area Analysis illustrates the District-wide deficiencies for Mini, Neighborhood, and Community Park assets combined.

The map on the left illustrates the service areas for all Mini (quarter-mile), Neighborhood (half-mile), and Community (1-mile) Parks. Per NRPA Guidelines, the Mini and Neighborhood service areas are truncated to the boundaries of the individual planning areas in which they reside. Community Parks are considered drive-to destinations, so those service areas are not truncated to the planning area boundaries. Natural Areas, Special Use facilities, Parkways, and Undeveloped land holdings are not included in this analysis.

Overall, 94.3% of Skokie Park District residents have access to a Mini, Neighborhood, School, and/or Community Park resource within one mile of where they live. The Skokie Park District's Overall Level of Service exceeds the median of 88.6% service found in the planning team's database.



## Amenities

In addition to park acreage and distribution, another measure of Level of Service is the total recreation amenities available to residents. These benchmarks come from the Illinois Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) and the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) Park Metrics.

## **SCORP Comparison**

Based on the Illinois SCORP, the Skokie Park District meets or exceeds the recommended number of amenities for 9 of the 24 amenities outlined in the chart to the right. Amenities that meet or exceed the recommendation are identified by black or green text, respectively, in the "Surplus / Deficit" column.

Items with red text noted in the "Surplus / Deficit" column are deficiencies. The six amenities with the greatest deficiencies, according to the comparison against SCORP averages are:

- Swimming Beaches (linear feet): -1,082.5
- Marina Slips: -17.4
- Playgrounds: -13.8
- Physical Fitness Trails (Stations): -10.1
- Volleyball Courts: -7.9
- Boat Launch Ramps / Access: -6.7

Because the Skokie Park District is a land locked District, some of the deficiencies noted, such as swimming beaches and marina slips, are to be expected. Meeting the recommendations for these amenities may not be a priority for the Park District.

			Existir	ng Population	2019	
		Skiokie Park Distri	ct	Illinois Facil	ity Average	Surplus / Deficit
	Existing # of Facilities (total)	Existing # of Facilities at current standards	Existing # of Facilities per 1,000 population	Total # of Facilities needed to meet IL Average	IL Average # of Facilities per 1,000 population	Surplus / Deficit
WATER-BASED FACILITIES						
Boat Launch Ramps / Access	1	1	0.02	7.7	0.12	-6.7
Canoe only access areas	2	2	0.03	2.5	0.04	-0.5
Marina Slips	0	0	0.00	17.4	0.27	-17.4
Swimming Pools	2	2	0.03	1.8	0.03	0.2
Swimming Beaches (linear ft.)	0	0	0.00	1082.5	16.94	-1,082.5
TRAILS	-		•			
Multi-Use Trails (Miles)	8.23	8.23	0.13	10.4	0.16	-2.2
Physical Fitness Trails (Stations)	4	4	0.06	14.1	0.22	-10.1
Nature / Interpretive Trails (Miles)	1	1	0.02	3.5	0.05	-2.5
, , , , ,						
DAY USE FACILITIES						
Picnic Shelters	18	13	0.20	13.2	0.21	-0.2
Playgrounds	35	12	0.19	25.8	0.40	-13.8
Interpretive Centers	0	0	0.00	0.6	0.01	-0.6
SPORTS COURTS AND FACILITIES						
Tennis Courts	32	32	0.50	31.3	0.49	0.7
Basketball Courts	36	35	0.55	16.0	0.25	19.0
Volleyball Courts	3	3	0.05	10.9	0.17	-7.9
Baseball Fields*	18	18	0.28	16.6	0.26	1.4
Softball Fields	4	4	0.06	8.9	0.14	-4.9
Soccer Fields	14	14	0.22	11.4	0.18	2.6
Golf Course (18-Hole Course)	0.0	0.0	0.00	0.5	0.01	-0.5
Golf Course (9-Hole Course)	1	9	0.14	0.3	0.01	8.7
Golf Driving Range	1	1	0.02	0.0	0.00	1.0
Ice Rinks	2	2	0.03	2.6	0.04	-0.6
Dog Parks	1	1	0.02	0.5	0.01	0.5
Frisbee Golf	0	0	0.00	0.5	0.01	-0.5
Skate Park	2	2	0.03	1.0	0.02	1.0

\*All baseball fields owned by the Skokie Park District function as both baseball and softball fields

## **Park Metrics Comparison**

In addition to the SCORP averages, the planning team referenced NRPA's Park Metrics to identify how the Skokie Park District compares to other agencies throughout the U.S. with populations between 60,000 and 65,000. Park Metrics provided information about the total population per facility for 14 recreation facilities and amenity types.

The table compares the total number of Park District-owned and managed facilities to agencies with similar populations. According to Park Metrics benchmarks, the District meets or exceeds the total number of Recreation / Community Centers, Nature / Interpretive Centers, Fitness Centers, Indoor Ice Skating Rinks, Gymnasiums, Performing and / or Visual Arts Center, playgrounds, tennis courts, basketball courts, baseball fields (50-65 ft), and soccer / lacrosse / rugby fields offered by agencies of similar population size.

## Existing Population 2019

5.2

2.4

-1.2

11.6

		Existing Population 2019			
	Skokie Park District			Illinois Facility Average	Surplus / Deficit
	Existing # of Facilities (total)	Existing # of Facilities at current standards	Existing # of Facilities per population	Total # of Facilities needed to meet Park Metrics median	Surplus / Deficit
INDOOR FACILITIES					
Recreation / Community Center*	3	3	0.05	1.5	1.5
Fitness Center	1	1	0.02	1.0	0.0
Senior Center	0	0	0.00	1.0	-1.0
Ice Skating Rink (indoor)	2	2	0.03	1.0	1.0
Gymnasium	2	2	0.03	2.0	0.0
Nature / Interpretive Center	2	2	0.03	1.0	1.0
Performing and / or Visual Arts Center*	1	1	0.02	1.0	0.0
DAY USE FACILITIES					
Playgrounds	35	12	0.19	10.8	1.2
SPORTS COURTS AND FACILITIES					
Tennis Courts	32	32	0.50	9.4	22.6
Basketball Courts	36	35	0.55	6.1	28.9
Baseball Fields (90 ft)	1	1	0.02	3.0	-2.0
Baseball Fields (50-65 ft)	17	17	0.27	7.9	9.1

4

14

0.06

0.22

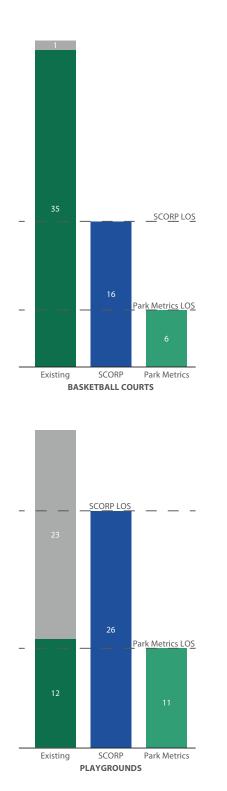
Soccer / Lacrosse / Rugby Fields evonshire Cultural Center is included in both categories, as it serves both functions

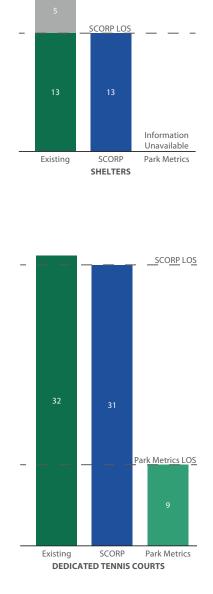
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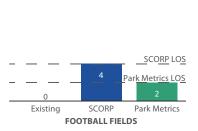
14

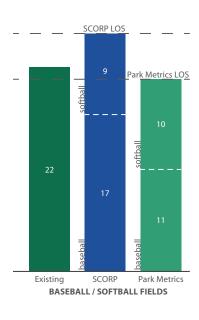
Softball Fields

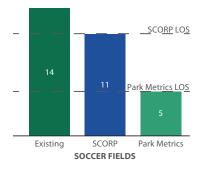
## SCORP - Park Metrics Key Comparison Graphics - Amenities Level of Service (LOS)

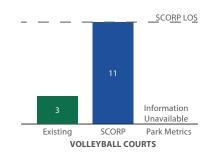












## **Amenity Distribution Analysis**

The location and distribution of amenities is an important factor in an agency's level of service. Just as the parks themselves should be equally distributed, so should the recreational amenities available to residents.

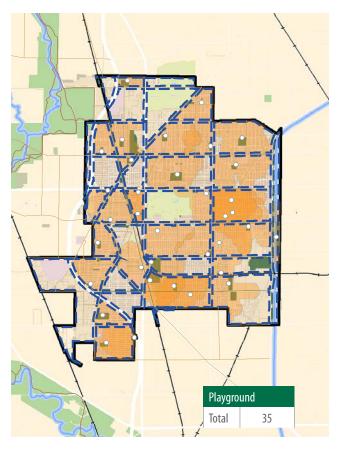
The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) established service areas for each park classification and individual recreation amenity in its 1990 and 1996 publications of the Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Guidelines.

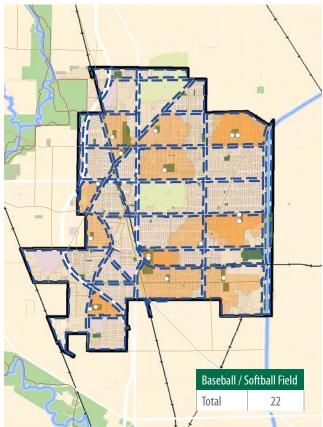
The amenity service area table describes the recommended service area per NRPA recommendations for each amenity and lists the number of each amenity owned and operated by the Skokie Park District. The graphics on the following pages illustrate the service area coverage for various individual amenities. Each dot represents an individual amenity and the surrounding orange halo illustrates that amenity's service area. The darkest shades of orange indicate the overlap of multiple amenity service areas while the lightest shade of orange represent coverage by a single amenity only.

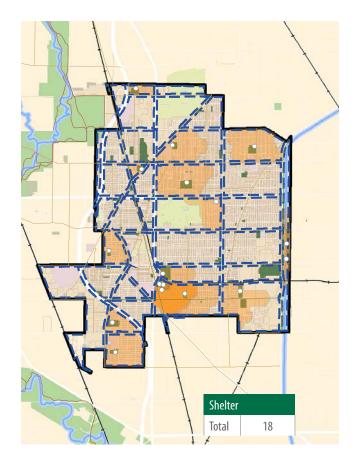
NRPA does not offer service area recommendations for all park amenities offered by the Skokie Park District. These amenities are shown in the graphic titled "Other Amenities" on the following pages. The individual amenity types are listed in the map legend.

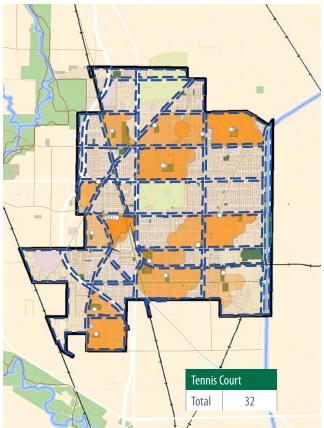
Service Area	SPD Amenities
0.5-mile	35
0.5-mile	22
0.5-mile	18
0.5-mile	32
1.0-mile	13
0.5-mile	36
1.0-mile	3
1.0-mile	2
2.0-mile	1
	0.5-mile 0.5-mile 0.5-mile 1.0-mile 0.5-mile 1.0-mile 1.0-mile

\*Service areas determined by the planning team, as there are no NRPA suggested outdoor development standards for these amenities.

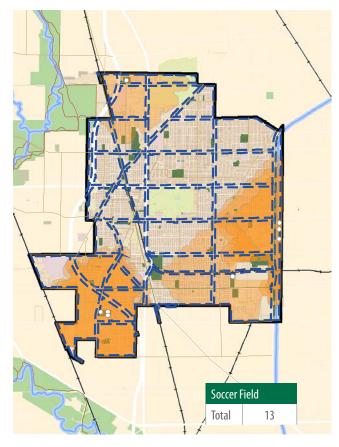


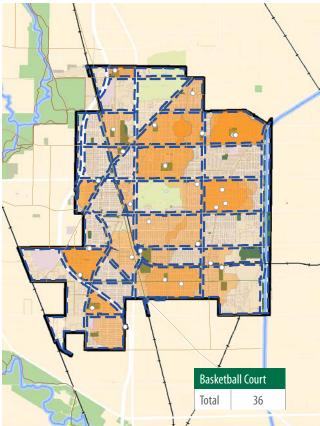


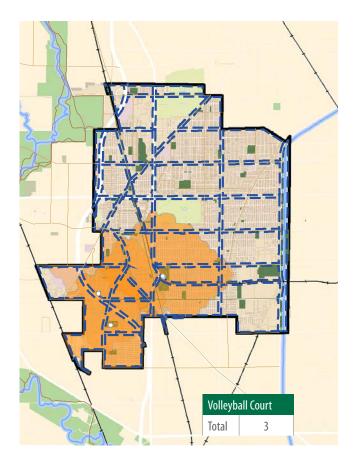


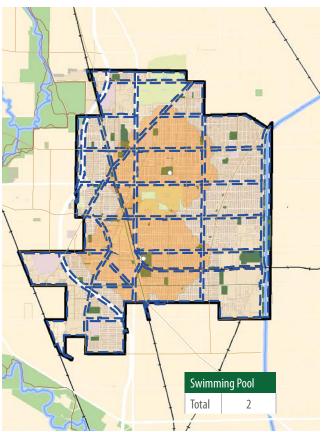


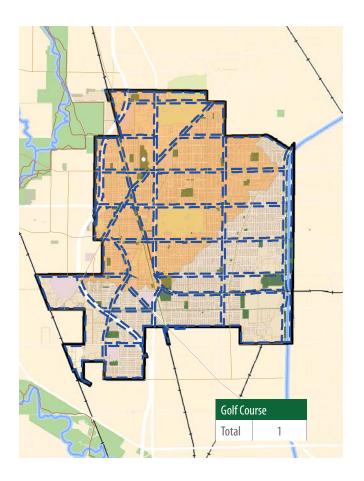


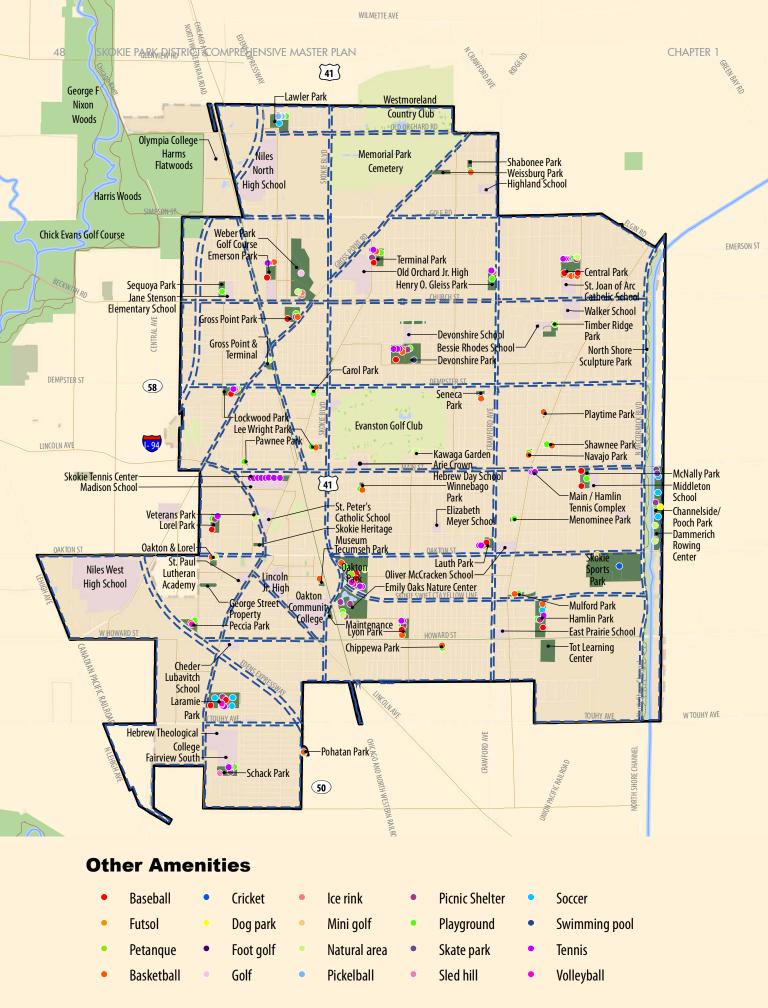












## **Facility Square Footage**

Square Footage Level of Service benchmarks are calculations of the minimum amount of indoor space recommended to provide all of the indoor recreation activities. It also includes considerations for specific facilities recommended to support programs and activities.

Level of Service (LOS) guidelines for indoor space are less established than the guidelines for parks and open spaces, but the planning team utilizes a Chicagoland benchmark of two square feet per person with 1.5 square feet consisting of indoor classroom-based or active recreation space and 0.5 square feet consisting of indoor aquatics.

The District has a total of 245,879 square feet of indoor recreational programming space. According to the indoor square footage level of service analysis, the District has an indoor level of service of 3.8 square feet per person. Compared to the Chicagoland benchmark, this is a surplus of 114,477 square feet. It is also a 1.8 square feet surplus over the recommended 2 square feet per person. While the Skokie Park District has a surplus of total indoor recreational space, it is deficient in indoor aquatics. According to this Level of Service gauge, the Skokie Park District has a 13,745.5 square foot deficit of indoor aquatic space and is 0.3 square feet per person below the recommended level of service.

NRPA does not collect square footage data for indoor facilities, so the planning team relies solely on the Chicagoland benchmarking for indoor recreation facility comparisons.

INDOOK RECKLATION SI ACE					
Classification	SPD Square Feet (Total)	SPD Existing Level of Service (SF / population)	Recommended Square Footage	Recommended Level of Service (SF / population)	Square Footage deficiency / surplus (SF)
Indoor Recreational Space	224074.00	3.51	95851.50	1.50	128222.50
Indoor Aquatics	18205.00	0.28	31950.50	0.50	-13745.50
Total Square Feet	242279.00	3.79	127802.00	2.00	114477.00

### Level of Service Analysis: Chicagoland Benchmark INDOOR RECREATION SPACE

Recommended acreage is based off the existing population of 63901





# **Overview**

Chapter Two focuses on the Connect: Community Engagement & Needs Assessment Phase and documents trends in the recreation industry and specific input received from the Skokie community

### Purpose

The purpose for understanding park and recreation trends is to determine probable demands for certain services and amenities. Recreation trend reports were compiled from nationally recognized sources to explore spending, participation, and inactivity. During the needs assessment phase of the master planning process, the project team reviewed trends, conducted a community survey, and led workshops with stakeholders, the public, Park District staff, and the Board of Commissioners. An online

Through workshops, meetings, and an online platform, over **740** community members participated in the development of this plan

In order to increase participation, knowing the trends and interests of various user groups is crucial. Significant changes in specific activities (both increases and decreases) over the past two years are summarized. Summaries of all engagement sessions follow the national, state, and local trends report. engagement platform, available 24/7 for a four-week period, gathered input from residents about their thoughts on parks, programs, and facilities.

### Chapter Outline

- Methodology
- Review of Trends
  - National
  - State
  - Local
- Community Meeting
- Online Engagement
- Stakeholder Workshops
- Staff Workshops
- Park Board Workshop

## **METHODOLOGY**

### **Review of Trends**

National trends were derived from the 2019 Sports, Fitness, and Recreational Activities Topline Participation Report that was facilitated by the Sports & Fitness Industry Association (a top national researcher in the sports and fitness industry) as well as the 2017 Outdoor Foundation's Outdoor Recreation Participation Topline Report. State trends were derived from the 2015 Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP). ESRI's Business Analyst provided local recreation participation trends.

### **Online Engagement**

Park District residents were invited to participate in an online survey composed of multiple choice and open-ended questions about Park District amenities, parks, and facilities. In total, 710 people completed the survey.

### **Community Meeting**

Skokie Park District residents were also invited to attend a public meeting in which they participated in a needs assessment workshop. They were asked several focus questions. They, in turn, came up with multiple ideas which they discussed with the group. The group then categorized the ideas to find similar themes and goals and voted on priorities.

### **Stakeholder Interviews and Focus Group Meetings**

Specific interest groups, or stakeholders, relevant to the Park District were invited to participate in a workshop similar to the one held during the community meeting. Approximately 20 individuals participated in two sessions.

### **Staff Workshops**

Three staff workshops were held to gather input from both full-time and part-time staff members. Staff discussed their ideas on where they believe the Skokie Park District's focus should be for the next five years.

### **Board Workshop**

A Board workshop was held to discuss the strengths, weaknesses, and opportunities of the Park District. Specific attention was given to potential improvements to parks. Other discussion included facility improvements, outreach, and operations.

# **National Trends**

Derived from the statistically valid surveys facilitated by the Sports and Fitness Industry Association with the Physical Activity Council and The Outdoor Foundation, the following national recreation patterns are based on annual studies.

The Physical Activity Council (PAC) is a partnership of eight major trade organizations in U.S. sports, fitness, and leisure activities. These organizations are the Sports & Fitness Industry Association (SFIA), the National Golf Foundation (NGF), Outdoor Industry Association (OIA), the International Health, Racquet, and Sports Club Association (IHRSA), the Tennis Industry Association (TIA), the United States Tennis Association (USTA), USA Football (USAF), and Snowsports Industries America (SIA).

The PAC produces an annual Sport, Fitness & Recreational Activities Topline Participation Report providing information on participation, inactivity, spending, aspirational participation, and projections. The 2019 report compiled and analyzed 20,069 online responses collected in 2018. Gender, age, income, household size, region, population density, and panel join date were used in weighting variables to apply the responses to the total U.S. population. The total U.S. population age 6 or older used for this report was 300,652,039. Other research incorporated in this chapter references the Outdoor Recreation Participation Topline Report, created by the Outdoor Foundation, in association with the Outdoor Industry Association. This annual report tracks American outdoor recreation trends with a focus on youth, diversity, and the future of the outdoors.

### **Sports and Fitness Participation**

Overall, more people are becoming active but only 35.7% - 38.5% of the population of any age group is meeting the recommended time and intensity of activities. Additionally, the percentage of the population who are active has steadily decreased at a rate of 1.09% over the last 6 years.

The data collected suggests that Americans are adding high-calorie burning exercise to their existing exercise routine. The most popular activities are Fitness Sports which experienced the largest annual participation growth between 2017 and 2018. Following Fitness Sports, the most popular activity categories are Outdoor Sports, Individual Sports, Team Sports, Water Sports, Racquet Sports, and Winter Sports. Among these categories, only Fitness Sports and Team Sports had an increase in participation rates.

Activity participation is measured by core participation and growth. Core participants are defined as those who participate in a sport or activity on a regular basis. Based on core participation, the top ten activities in 2018 defined by the number of participants, are:

- Walking for Fitness (50+ times/year): 74.9M
- Hiking (Day) (1+ times/year): 47.9M
- Free Weights (Dumbbells/Hand Weights) (50+ times/year): 32.6M
- Treadmill (50+ times/year): 27.9M
- Camping within 1/4 mile of vehicle/home (1+ times/ year): 27.4M
- Running/Jogging (50+ times/year): 25.1M
- Golf on a 9 or 18-hole golf course (1+ times/year): 24.2 M
- Weight/Resistance Machines (50+ times/ year): 21.5M
- Wildlife Viewing more than 1/4 mile from Home/Vehicle (1+ times/year): 20.6M
- Bicycling (Road/Paved Surface) (26+ times/year): 18.3M

In addition to referencing the current most popular activities by measuring core participation, the Overview Report also lists the growth of activities over one-, three- and five-year periods. These predictions can be used to recognize ongoing recreation trends and predict future areas of growth. The top ten core growth activities over the past three years are:

- Cardio Tennis (11.3%)
- Pickleball (9.7%)
- Rugby (9.4%)
- Hiking (Day) (8.8%)
- Kettlebells (7.9)
- Football (Age 6 to 17, Flag) (7.4%)
- Skiing (Cross-country) (7.3%)
- Trail Running (7.2%)
- Cross-Training Style Workouts (6.1%)
- Squash (5.5%)

As evidenced by the above lists of activities, outdoor fitness-related activities are currently a popular form of recreation with four of the ten activities falling into this category based on the number of participants. Aerobics activities are also popular with three of the top ten items by participation listed in this category. Growth trends, however, indicate a different, more diverse trend. The largest growth is occurring in racquet sports (three activities in the top ten), followed by team sports (two activities). Aerobic Activities, Strength Activities, Individual Sports, Outdoor Sports, and winter sports each had one activity in the top ten growing activities.

These trends reveal that active people are increasingly looking for non-traditional health and recreation experiences that offer a fun physical, emotional and mental experience. While the largest amount of growth is being seen in less traditional sectors, many class-based group fitness and exercise programs remain strong and are expected to grow in popularity, albeit at slower rates. Many solo aerobic, conditioning, and strength based activities, including those that utilize machines have also reported small increases over the past three years.

While many Americans enjoy watching team sports, both in-person and on television, they are increasingly disinterested in participating in them for their fitness needs. Ultimate frisbee and touch football had the largest decrease in participation over the past three years with other team sports including basketball, outdoor soccer, softball, wrestling, court volleyball, and track and field are also declining. While team sports participation is declining as a whole, a few team sports are growing, including baseball, cheerleading, flag football, lacrosse, and rugby.

Racquet sports such as squash, tennis, cardio tennis, and pickleball have maintained popularity over the last three years and gained participants. Pickleball has been growing in popularity in the recreation industry but is now being surpassed by cardio tennis in growth. In 2018, the sports had nearly equal participation.

The above findings are confirmed by the Worldwide Survey of Fitness Trends for 2020 which conducts an annual international survey among practitioners in the commercial, clinical, community and corporate fitness industries. In their predictions for 2020, the majority of activities in the top ten and the top 20 could be described as fitness related, while other trends can be classified as outdoor sports or technology. 16 of the top 20 trends reported remained from the previous year but Mobile exercise apps, Mobility/ myofascial devices, Small group personal training, and Postrehabilitation classes all moved out of the top 20 trends for 2020. The top 10 trends for 2020 are:

- Wearable technology (activity trackers, smart watches, heart rate monitors, GPS trackers, and smart eyeglasses)
- High-intensity interval training (HIIT uses short bursts of high-intensity exercise followed by short recoveries)
- Group training (motivational, instructor lead classes of five or more people)

- Training with free weights (strength training using barbell, kettlebells, dumbbells, medicine balls, and other free weights)
- Personal training (services provided by professionals with proper education, training, and credentials)
- Exercise is Medicine<sup>®</sup> (physical activity assessment and exercise recommendations provided by health care providers)
- Body weight training (resistance training using minimal equipment and multiple planes of movement)
- Fitness programs for older adults (safe, ageappropriate exercise for older, retired adults)
- Health / wellness coaching (Support, goalsetting, and encouragement from a coach to an individual or small group intended to change behaviors.
- Employing certified fitness professionals (training services provided by exercise professionals who are accredited through third-party organizations)

### **OUTDOOR SPORTS & PARTICIPATION**

According to the most recent Outdoor Foundation Topline Report, published in 2017, almost half the U.S. population (48.6%) participated in one or more outdoor sport or activity. These 144 million people went on a reported total of 11 billion outings over the course of the year. While these numbers reflect an overall increase in participation, the total number of outings declined as individuals went on fewer outings each. Compared to previous years, outdoor sports participation have increased. The largest increase last year compared to all other outdoor sports has been in BMX biking while Stand up paddling has had the most growth over the last three years. Running, jogging, and trail running has continued to be the most popular activity by participation for several years.

Across all age groups, running, jogging, and trail running remained the top form of outdoor outings by both participation rates and frequency. Bicycling and fishing were also among the top five activities for all ages. The most popular activities for youth (age 6-24) determined by participation rates were:

- Running, jogging, and trail running (25.3% or 20.3M)
- Bicycling (road, mountain, and BMX) (22.6% or 18.2M)
- Fishing (fresh, salt, and fly)(19.5% or 15.6M)
- Camping (car, backyard, and RV) (19.0% or 15.3M)
- Hiking (15.5% or 12.5M)

The favorite activities for youth, based on the frequency of participation, were running, jogging and trail running, bicycling, fishing, skateboarding, and camping.

For adults (age 25+), the most popular activities by participation rates were:

- Running, jogging, and trail running (14.8% or 32.0M)
- Fishing (fresh, salt, and fly)(14.6% or 31.5M)
- Hiking (13.7% or 29.7M)
- Bicycling (road, mountain, and BMX) (12.8% or 27.7M)
- Camping (car, backyard, and RV) (11.7% or 25.2M)

The top five favorite adult activities based on the frequency of participation were running, jogging, and trail running, bicycling, fishing, hiking, and wildlife viewing.

Three-year growth trends indicated that the following ten activities have seen increasing participation and will likely continue to provide opportunities to engage more people in the future:

- Stand up paddling
- BMX bicycling
- Skiing (cross-country)
- Adventure racing
- Kayak fishing
- Boardsailng/windsurfing
- Trail Running
- Triathlon (traditional/road)
- Hiking (day)
- Climbing (traditional/ice/mountaineering)

Three-year trends also identified ten activities with declining participation in the last three years. In order of largest to smallest decrease, they are:

- Birdwatching more than 1/4 mile from Home/ Vehicle
- Running/Jogging
- Snowshoeing
- Wakeboarding
- Rafting
- Camping within 1/4 mile from Vehicle/Home
- Bicycling (road/paved surface
- Wildlife viewing more than 1/4 mile from Home/ Vehicle
- Scuba Diving
- Canoeing

## **Engaging Inactives**

An "inactive" person is defined by the Physical Activity Council as one who does not participate in any of the sports/activities covered in the PAC Overview Report. In the past year, 82.1 million Americans, over a quarter of the population, were inactive. This is an increase in activity from last year with 0.7 million people becoming active in 2018. By age group, 6-12 year-olds are the most active with activity among 13-17 year-olds rising to nearly the same levels. Of the eight age groups, 18-24 year-olds, 35-44 year-olds, and people 65 and older became less active from 2017 to 2018. Americans over 65 have the largest rates of inactivity, reflecting the trend that people generally become less active as they age.

In order to understand how to engage inactives in sports and activities, the PAC survey lists "aspirational" activities that inactives are interested in participating in. Aspirational activities are becoming more varied between age groups, unlike past years, no activity made the top ten list for all age groups in 2018.

For younger inactives, there is a greater interest in team sports such as football, soccer, volleyball, and basketball. As Americans age, interest in outdoor sports such as hiking, fishing, and backpacking grows. Interest in individual activities such as working out with weights and machines and running/jogging also increases. Adults 65 and older list bird watching/wildlife viewing followed by fishing as their top aspirational activities. Hiking and camping are also within the top ten activities for this age group resulting in four of the ten items focused on outdoor activities. Americans are remaining involved in more strenuous activities later in life, swimming, working out with weights, and working out using machines were listed in the top ten aspirational activities for the 35-44 age group and all older groups.

Active adults, as well as inactives, are interested in social programs and sports leagues as well as active recreation. Active Network recommends the following activities for adult recreation programs:

- Sports Broomball, Inner Tube Water Polo, Pickleball, Wallyball
- Exercise Zumba Gold, Dance Buffet, Kettlebells, Outdoor FitnessTechnology - Beginner's Guide to iPad, Social Media, Digital Photography
- Entertainment Karaoke, Improv, Murder Mystery Dinners, Speed Dating, Wii for Seniors
- Art Cooking, Drawing/Painting, Jewelry Making, Mixed Media Arts, Pottery, Quilting
- Professional/Other Languages, Estate Planning, Self-Publishing, Brain Fitness, Voice-Overs, Memoirs

Many agencies are "branding" their active adult programs for younger populations than the traditional senior. Two local examples include Schaumburg Park District's *Club 55* and *50 Plus!* at the Champaign Park District.



Data from the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) is used to compare District amenities to other Park Departments and Districts in the state of Illinois.

The Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) is prepared as a five-year document by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) to maintain Illinois' eligibility to participate in the Land Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) program. Its purpose is to "evaluate the outdoor recreation needs of Illinois citizens and determine how best to meet those needs". The state's natural resources, recreational lands, facilities, and socioeconomic factors are considered in this vision document.

A major finding in the 2015-2019 SCORP is the state's long-standing deficit of outdoor recreation lands and facilities. While Illinois has not been able to achieve the per capita equivalent of other states with more lands and fewer people, park and recreation agencies throughout the state consistently plan for and achieve a high level of excellence with the recreation opportunities they provide to their communities.

### **Recreation Facilities and Park Lands Inventory**

There are more than 1.5 million acres of outdoor recreation land in Illinois ranging from federal and state lands to schools and private commercial lands. Municipal agencies, which include park and recreation departments, park districts, forest preserve districts, conservation districts, and county-level park departments, provide a total of 350,915 acres of park sites. They also own 195,753 acres of natural areas and lease/manage another 15,612 acres of open space.

The state itself, primarily handled by the IDNR, manages over 470,000 acres of open space throughout the state. State lands include parks, fish and wildlife areas, conservation areas, and recreation areas to name a few. Federal lands include the 280,000-acre Shawnee National Forest and seven National Wildlife Refuges sites throughout the state. Other providers include schools, non-profits, and private entities that provide unique outdoor recreation opportunities for the people of Illinois. The lands managed by these providers were not included in the SCORP. Based on the 2015 Illinois Community Recreation Facilities and Park Lands Inventory, there are approximately 347.08 acres and 17.9 park sites on average per community throughout the state. Typically, park districts provide more acreage and park sites than city/village recreation agencies.

Top trends across the state are pickleball, disc golf, and splash pads. The increasing popularity of pickleball is in response to aging populations found in all communities across the state, while the popularity of splash pads is in response to the financial constraints of outdoor swimming pool renovations. The popularity of disc golf demonstrates a growing preference for alternative outdoor recreation activities. Foot golf is another example of an alternative outdoor recreation activity that has increased as golf course owners look for alternate uses for their assets.

### **Top Activities**

The top activities identified by the IDNR community-wide survey were pleasure walking and observing wildlife/bird watching. Picnicking, using a playground, on-road bicycling, and swimming at outdoor pools were also among the most prevalent activities for Illinois residents. Activities with lower participation numbers include lacrosse, pickleball, snowmobiling, trapping, in-line skating, sailing, and crosscountry skiing. Reasons for some sports having lower participation rates might include smaller interest groups, no available facility, or that the trend is still growing, like pickleball.

According to the survey, city parks or county preserves are used most for visiting an amphitheater or band shell, softball/baseball, lacrosse, soccer, and mountain biking. State parks are used most for tent camping, vehicle camping, hiking, motor boating, and water skiing. Federal lakes or forests are primarily used for sailing, water skiing and motor boating. Hunting is the most prevalent reason residents visit and use private areas for recreation.

### **Attitudes about Outdoor Recreation**

Respondents were asked to rate the various factors they considered to be important when making decisions about engaging in outdoor recreation opportunities. Top contributing factors to respondent's decisions to participate in outdoor recreation activities include exercise/health, experience nature, have fun, and spend time with family and friends.

Survey respondents indicated the primary role of parks and recreation facilities for Illinois communities is to preserve open space. Other primary roles include making the community more desirable, improving fitness, enhancing a sense of place, and increasing property values. Most (56.3%) respondents believe that local, state, and federal open space and recreation agencies are underfunded. The top two priorities for providers in the state are the operation and maintenance of existing park facilities and long-term planning and management. The most important items in terms of park and open space development are recreational facility variety, followed closely by camping, trails, fishing, and boating facilities. Regional and community trails are also important to approximately 80% of respondents.

### **Outdoor Recreation Priorities**

Priorities in the 2015-2019 State of Illinois SCORP are:

- Healthy people and communities
  - Access to outdoor recreation
- Natural resource stewardship
- Conservation education
- Cooperative partnerships

# Local Trends

Trend information was derived from the Environment Science Research Institute (ESRI) Sports and Leisure Market Potential Report.

This data is based upon national propensities to use various products and services, applied to the local demographic composition of the Skokie Park District area. Usage data was collected by Growth for Knowledge Mediamark Research and Intelligence, LLC. (GfK MRI) in a national survey that was representative of U.S. households. Market Potential Index (MPI) measures the relative likelihood of the adults in specific areas to exhibit certain consumer behaviors or purchasing patterns compared to the U.S. population as a whole. An MPI of 100 represents the U.S. average while numbers under 100 indicate a lower than average representation and numbers above 100 represent a higher than average representation.

Based on projected population, the top ten recreational activities Skokie residents will participate in are:

- Yoga
- Zumba
- Ice skating
- Soccer

- Walking for exercise
- Tennis
- Pilates
- Skiing (downhill)
- Hiking
- Aerobics

The number of MPIs over 100 for Skokie is slightly higher than what the planning team typically finds, which speaks to an active community. With 17 activities that score at or over 100 compared to most communities where only 12-15 score over 100, the Skokie Park District bodes well for future program expansion. With activities split between indoor and outdoor recreation, there are several areas in which the district can grow its parks and facilities.

Product/Consumer Behavior	Expected # of Adults/HHs	Percent	MPI
Participated in yoga in last 12 months	5,537	10.8%	133
Participated in Zumba in last 12 months	2,144	4.2%	128
Participated in ice skating in last 12 months	1,866	3.6%	127
Participated in soccer in last 12 months	2,471	4.8%	120
Participated in walking for exercise in last 12 months	15,101	29.4%	120
Participated in tennis in last 12 months	2,084	4.1%	118
Participated in Pilates in last 12 months	1,484	2.9%	117
Participated in skiing (downhill) in last 12 months	1,662	3.2%	117
Participated in hiking in last 12 months	7,248	14.1%	115
Participated in aerobics in last 12 months	4,340	8.5%	111
Participated in ping pong in last 12 months	2,181	4.2%	109
Participated in jogging / running in last 12 months	7,072	13.8%	107
Participated in baseball in last 12 months	2,175	4.2%	106
Participated in bicycling (road) in last 12 months	5,229	10.2%	105
Participated in weight lifting in last 12 months	5,604	10.9%	105
Participated in swimming in last 12 months	8,415	16.4%	101
Participated in backpacking in last 12 months	1,748	3.4%	100
Participated in bicycling (mountain) in last 12 months	2,100	4.1%	98
Participated in basketball in last 12 months	3,890	7.6%	94
Participated in golf in last 12 months	4,040	7.9%	95
Participated in bowling in last 12 months	4,118	8.0%	91
Participated in softball in last 12 months	1,288	2.5%	89
Participated in fishing (saltwater) in last 12 months	1,773	3.5%	88
Participated in canoeing/kayaking in last 12 months	1,030	2.0%	86

# **Online Engagement**

Over 700 Skokie Park District residents and non-residents shared their ideas for the Park District for the next five years via an online survey over a four week time period.

The online engagement platform consisted of a webpage and survey. Both were available 24/7 to provide information on the planning process and allow participants the opportunity to give input on programs, parks, and facilities at their leisure. The survey consisted of 19 multiple choice and open-ended questions. The survey also included a final comment box for any additional feedback.

### **Participation and Traffic**

Launched on July 26, 2019, the online survey engaged Park District users about parks, programs, and facilities. Over the four-week period, 710 people completed all or part of the survey. In addition to links on the project website, the survey was also shared on the Park District's website, social media accounts, and in an email blast.

### Format

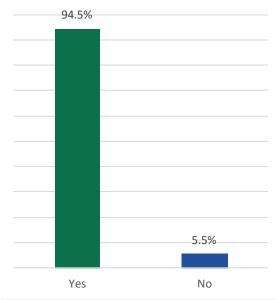
The survey questions focused on: Parks and Open Space, Indoor Facilities, and Programs and Events. The survey was open for the full four-week period. All questions were optional and provided participants the opportunity to skip the question. The following results do not reflect the views of all respondents but are a summary of the multiple choice and ranking questions and the most prevalent comments. Responses to the open ended questions are included in the appendix.





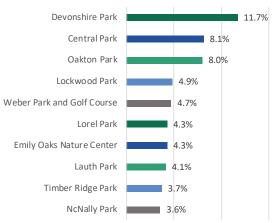
### Responses

**1. Are you a resident of the Skokie Park District?** Skipped: 4

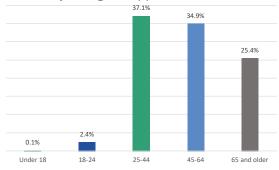


## **2. Which Skokie Park do you live closest to?** Skipped: 10

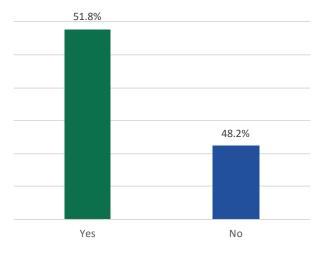
The ten highest scoring parks are represented in the graph below.



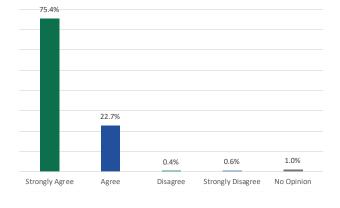




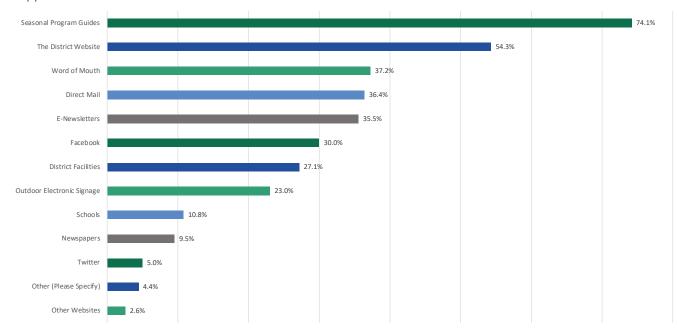
## 4. Do you currently have any children, ages 18 & under, residing in your household? Skipped: 5



## 6. Would you agree that the Skokie Park District contributes to the quality of life in Skokie? Skipped: 4



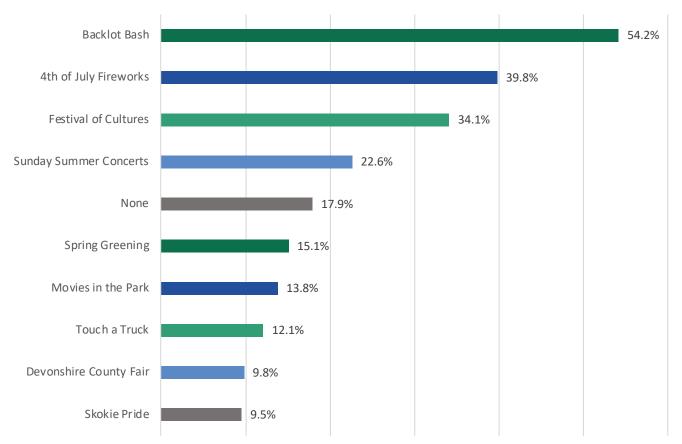
## **5. How do you obtain information about the Skokie Park District?** (Check all that apply.) Skipped: 6



Open ended responses show a number of other communication sources with no notable consistency.

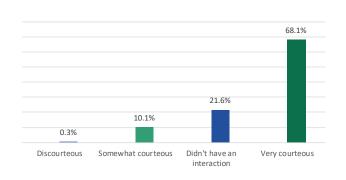
## 7. In which Skokie Park District free special events have you or a member of your household participated during the last 12 months? (Check all that apply.) Skipped: 7

The top ten attended free events are represented in the graph below.

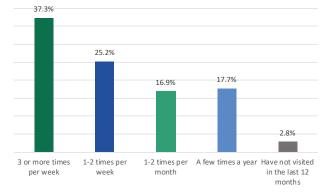


Open ended responses showed other notable free special events including: Egg Hunt, Earth Day, Chilly Fest, Tuesday Family Fest, Holiday Events, National Night Out, Camp, and Emily Oaks Pancake Fest.

### 8. How would you characterize your interaction with the Skokie Park District staff during your attendance at programs or special events? Skipped: 5

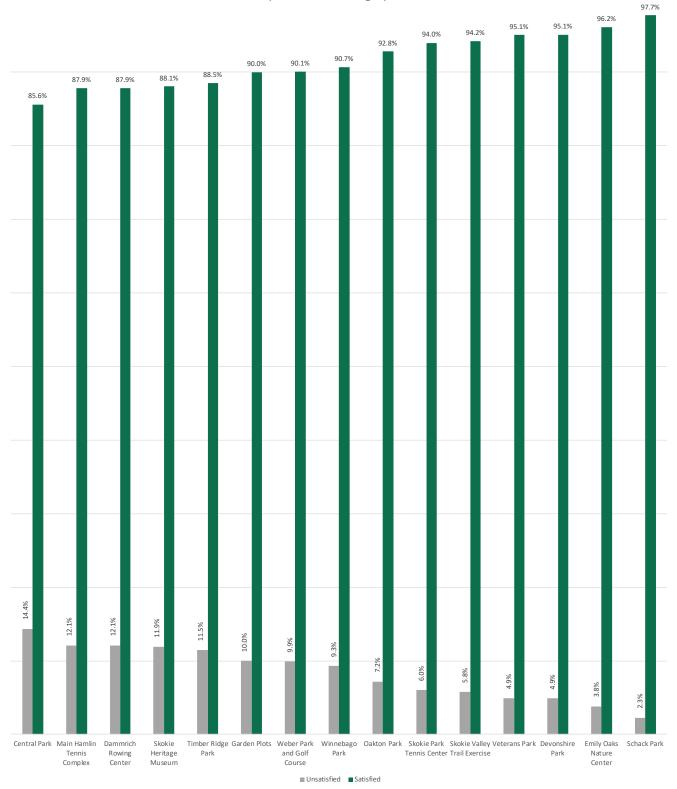


9. About how many times have you or members of your household visited the Skokie Park District parks in the last 12 months? Skipped: 5

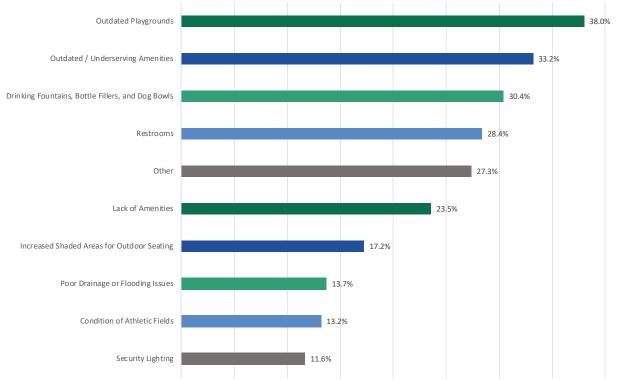


## **10.** Of the Skokie Park District parks you or your family have visited in the last 12 months, how satisfied were you with each park? Skipped: 20

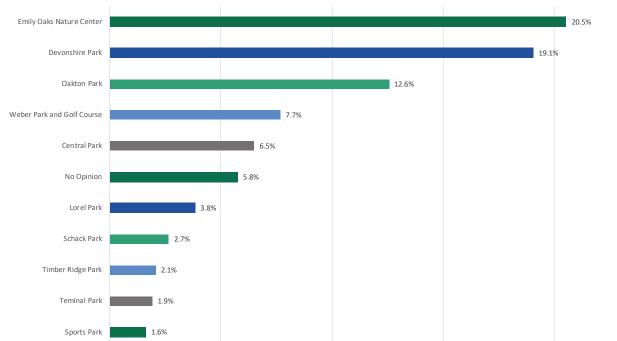
Parks with less than 85% satisfaction are not represented in the graph below.



## **11.** If you selected "Unsatisfied" with any of the parks you visited, what do you feel needs improvement? (Select all that apply.) **Skipped: 315**

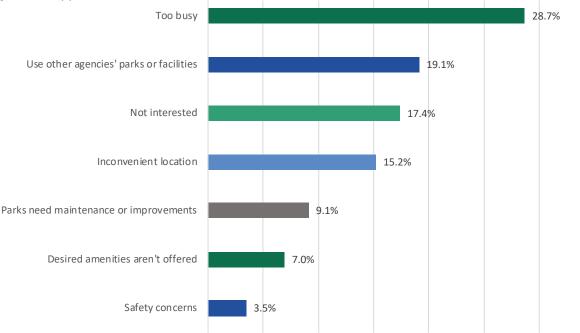


Open ended responses varied greatly with the most mentioned topics being policy and maintenance.



### 12. What is your favorite Skokie Park District park? Skipped: 33

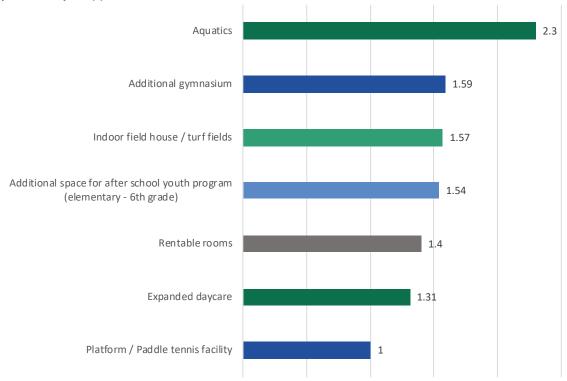
Notable reasons provided include: Proximity to responder's home, unique amenities located in the park, variety of amenities, programs held at the park, and the presence of natural areas.



## 13. If you don't visit Skokie Park District parks, why not? (Pick all that apply or skip if you visit Skokie Park District's parks.) Skipped: 48

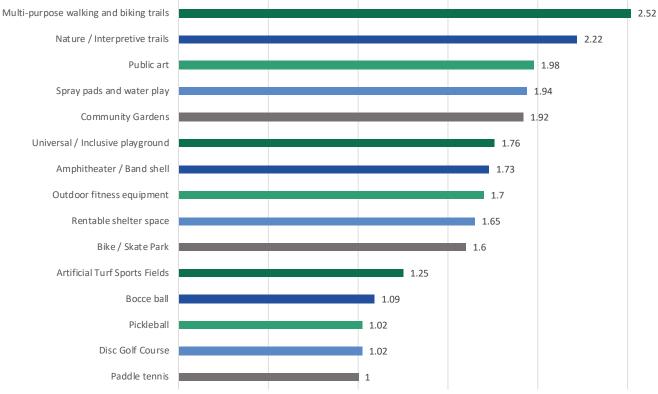
Most respondents not using Skokie Park District parks mentioned other municipalities or private amenities as alternate recreation providers.

## **14.** Please tell us how important the following potential improvements to INDOOR facilities would be to you and your family. Skipped: 57



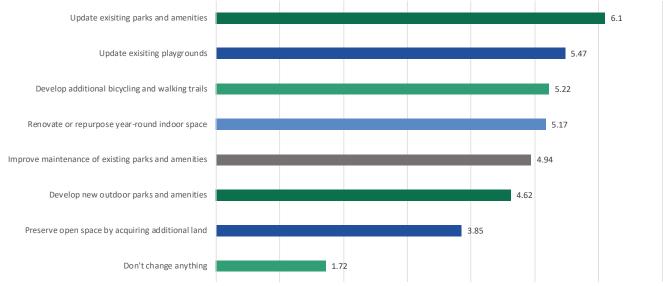
Responses were weighted from 1-7, with the highest weight indicating the highest importance.

## **15. Are there outdoor recreation opportunities not currently provided by the Skokie Park District that you would like to see added or that you think we need more of in our park system? (Select all that apply.)** Skipped: 39



Responses were weighted from 1-15, with the highest weight indicating the highest importance.

## **16.** What should Skokie Park District's primary goals be for Parks and Recreation over the next five years? Rank the list below from 1-8, with 1 being the most important. Skipped: 42

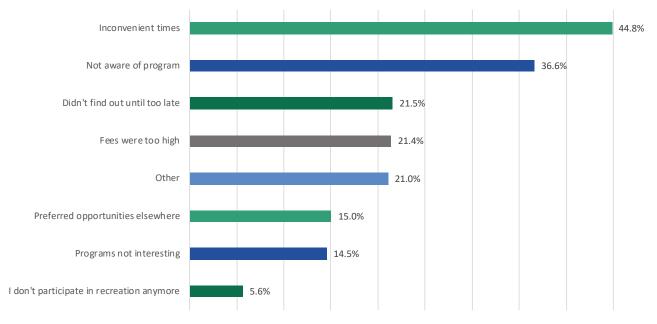


Responses were weighted from 1-8, with the highest weight indicating the highest priority.

### 17. (OPTIONAL) Explain why you ranked the item above as most important. Skipped: 409

Open ended answers reinforce bar graph data. See appendix for complete list of open ended responses.

## 18. What are the reasons that you or members of your household might not have participated in Skokie Park District recreation programs? (Check all that apply.) Skipped: 125

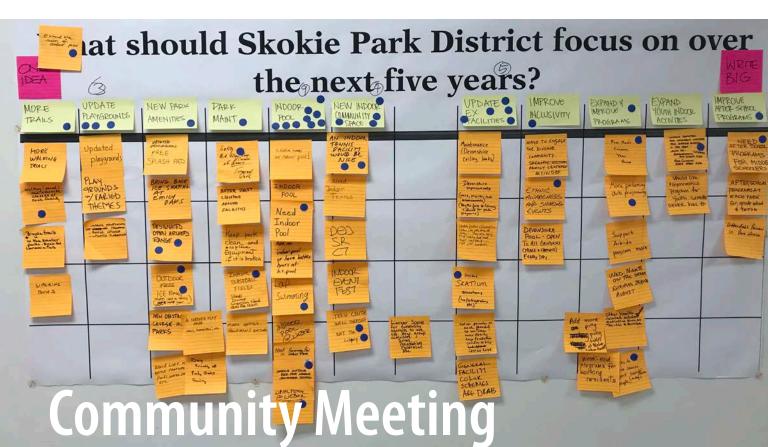


### 19. How did you hear about this survey? Skipped: 108

Responses show consistency with responses to question 5 with most responders siting Facebook, E-mail, Direct Mail, and the Newsletter. See appendix for complete list of open ended responses.

## 20. Thank you for your participation. If you have any additional comments, please write them here or direct them to Michelle Tuft at MTuft@skokieparks.org. Skipped: 575

Of the 135 responses major trends included: expressions of positivity (31), siting programs (26), expressing desire for an indoor pool (22), expressing desire for park improvements (13), comments expressing opposing opinions of the place of dogs within the district (11), and comments expressing a desire for greater access to park and amenities. See appendix for complete list of open ended responses.

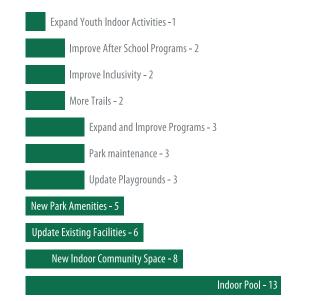


## A public community meeting was held on September 19, 2019, to gather input on the Comprehensive Master Plan.

Residents were invited to participate in a needs assessment workshop. They were asked several focus questions. Each participant then had the opportunity to write down all their ideas and comments. From this list they chose the two most important items. The group then categorized these ideas to find similar themes and goals and voted on priorities.

One community workshop was held to gather input. The results are listed on the next page. All comments are documented "as written" by residents during the meeting.

## What should Skokie Park District focus on over the next five years?



#### **Expand Youth Indoor Activities**

#### 1 vote

- Indoor activities for inclement weather for grade school and junior high such as Exploratorium for older kids rock climbing and open gym
- Would like gymnastics program for youth. Currently Skokie has none

#### Improve After School Programs

#### 2 votes

- Need after school programs for middle schoolers
- Afterschool programs at each park for grade school and teens
- Affordable preschool park district

#### Improve Inclusivity

#### 2 votes

- Update Oakton and Devonshire center (as was done at Weber). They are very tired looking and need major overhauls not just Band-Aids.
- Overdue Skatium renovations (ice / refrigeration, etc.)
- Solar panels on each facility so we can more easily keep facilities comfortable and cost less
- General facility color schemes are drab
- Ways to engage the diverse community family centered activities
- Ethnic awareness and sharing events
- Devonshire pool open to all genders (male and Female every day)

#### **More Trails**

#### 2 votes

- More Walking Trails
- Walking (paved) and exercise classes at each facility
- Bicycle trails and in the smaller parks such as Laramie Park
- Walking paths

#### **Expand and Improve Programs**

#### 3 votes

- Free music concerts year round
- More preforming arts programming
- Support Aikido program more
- Wed. Nights on the green extended beyond August
- Add more ping pong tables at weber to other facilities
- Offer health related outdoor activities such as Tai-chi Zumba
- Week-end programs for working residents
- Activities to increase senior citizens' hand/arm or leg strength

#### Park Maintenance

#### 3 votes

• Safety, rid village parks of Canadian geese

- Better street lighting around facilities
- Keep park clean and replace equipment if it is broken
- Improve baseball fields, stands, drainage, concession stand, home run fences
- More water fountains outside

#### **Update Playgrounds**

#### 3 votes

- Updated playgrounds
- Playgrounds with varied themes
- Improve maintenance, better upkeep, updated playground

#### **New Park Amenities**

#### 5 votes

- Free splash pad
- Bring back ice skating at Emily Oaks
- Designated open archery range
- Outdoor free ice ring (MGPD used a tennis last year)
- New Obstacle course in parks
- Would like more water features, ponds, waterfalls, etc.
- A nature play area logs, "waterfall", etc.
- Dog friendly at Emily Oaks Facility

#### Update Existing Facilities

#### 6 votes

- Maintenance (Devonshire ceiling leaks)
- Devonshire improvements (mics, projector, tech, enhancements) (Pay the fees so filming is allowed for youth programs)

#### **New Indoor Community Space**

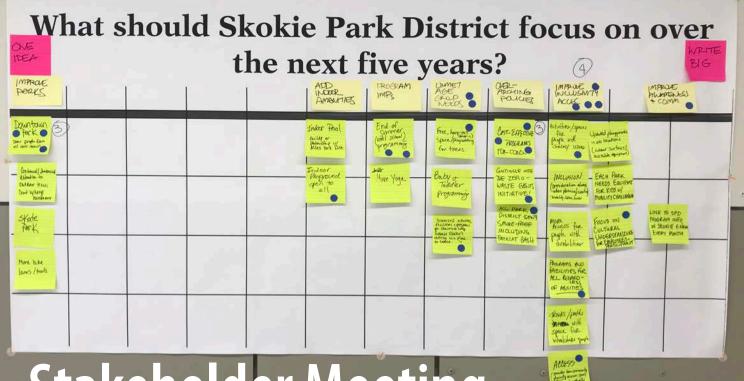
#### 8 votes

- An indoor tennis facility would be nice
- Need indoor tennis
- Dedicated Senior Center
- Indoor events fest
- Teen center well overdue not the library
- Larger spaces for community agencies to use for large group activities dinners presentations fundraisers etc.

#### **Indoor Pool**

- Skokie needs an indoor pool
- Indoor pool
- Need indoor pool
- Add an indoor pool or have better hours at H.S. pool
- Lap swimming
- Indoor pool at Weber
- Need swimming pool in weber park
- Indoor outdoor pool for longer swimming season
- Whirlpool at Weber

#### CHAPTER 1



## **Stakeholder Meeting**

Stakeholder meetings were held on September 19, 2019, to gather input on the Comprehensive

Master Plan.

Stakeholders were asked several focus questions. Each participant then had the opportunity to write down all their ideas and comments. From this list they chose the two most important items. The group then categorized these ideas to find similar themes and goals and voted on priorities.

Two stakeholder workshops were held to gather input. The combined results are listed on the next page. All comments are documented "as written" by stakeholders during the meeting.

### What should Skokie Park District focus on over the next five years?

Expand Intergenerational Opportunities – 0



#### **Expand Inter-Generational opportunities**

#### 0 votes

- Family activities
- Childcare for ages 0-2 max subsidized childcare for lower income families

#### Improve Awareness and Communication

1 vote

• Link to SPD program info in Skokie e-news every month

#### **Add Indoor Amenities**

1 vote

- Indoor pool facility or partnership with Niles park
   district
- Indoor playground open to all

#### **Expand Awareness / Opportunities for Special Needs** *1 vote*

 Programs designated for people with special needs including physical activity and health and wellness programs

#### **Expand Programs**

1 vote

Fitness programs

#### **Program Improvements**

2 votes

- End of summer (until school) programming
- More yoga

#### Large Events / Festivals (indoor and outdoor)

2 votes

Large events and festivals

#### **Improve Parks**

#### 3 votes

- Downtown park draw people from all over town
- Continual / increased attention to outdoor tennis court upkeep and maintenance
- Skate park
- More bike lanes / trails

#### **Expand Older Adult Opportunities**

#### 3 votes

• Partnership with Mather to have daily meals for adults 50+

#### **Unmet Age Group Needs**

#### 4 votes

- Free, hang-out (drop-in) space / programming for teens
- Baby and toddler programming
- Increased activities, facilities and programs for seniors to help improve Skokie's ratings as a place to retire

#### **New Indoor Space**

4 votes

- Add an indoor pool partner with a pool facility
- Indoor family park for winters
- More gym space

#### Increase / Continue Leadership Inclusivity

4 votes

- Continue partnership in and leadership of SEED program
- Have race relation conversations in an outdoor space
- Have courageous conversations in a nature setting
- Continue big community events like festival and backlot bash

#### **Over-Arching Policies**

#### 5 votes

- Cost-effective programs for cons[ideration]
- Continue with the zero waste events initiative
- All park district events smoke-free including backlot bash

#### **Expanded Partnerships**

5 votes

- Partner with library to serve neighborhoods
- Partnership with houses of worship and how Skokie P.D. and worship spaces can see these facilities as partners

#### Improve Inclusivity Access

- Activities / spaces for people with sensory issues
- Inclusion (consideration always when planning/ creating) disability, culture, gender
- More access for people with disabilities
- Programs and facilities for all regardless of abilities
- Track / paths with space for wheelchairs and people
- Access (consider how community physically accesses (ADA) as well as logistically accesses programs / service)
- Updated playgrounds in all locations (rubber surfaces / accessible equipment)
- Each park needs equipment for kids with mobility challenges
- Focus on cultural understanding for employees and participant

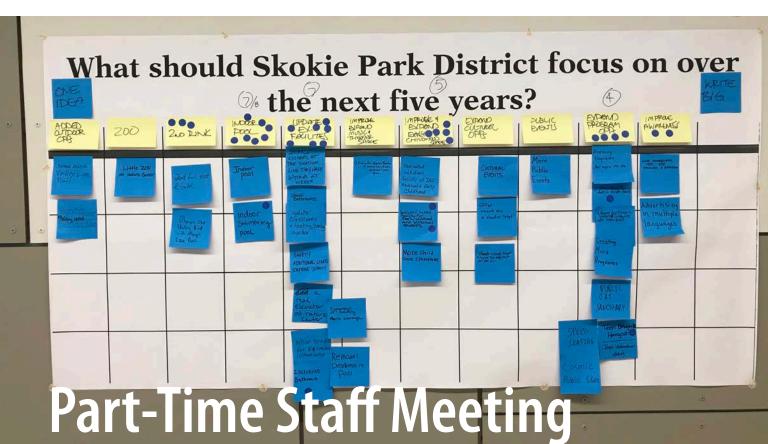
#### **Expand Youth Opportunities**

#### 8 votes

- Continued and expanded youth programs
- More spaces and activities for teens especially in colder months
- Summer programming for kids 13-15 years old
- Youth voice for need and wants
- Partnership among organizations to after free after school drop-in athletic activities for teens
- More after-school programming opportunities for students.

#### Improved / Added Park Amenities

- Add another cricket field in Skokie
- Playground for adults 50+
- Sensory park for children and adults that need quiet time and special accommodations
- Add more walking trails
- Park district should cultivate parks as community commons. Intentionally bring people together need good lighting and gathering areas
- Park equipment incorporated in regular equipment but designated for people with disabilities
- More winter friendly outdoor spaces and activities
- Flood lights at Skokie sports complex cricket field



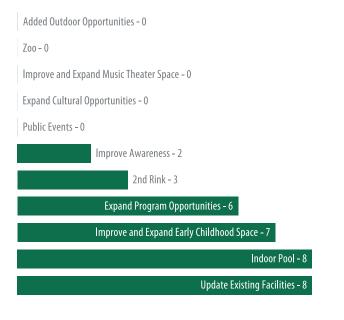
A Part-Time Staff meeting was held on September 19, 2019, to gather input on the

Comprehensive Master Plan.

Part-time staff were asked several focus questions. Each participant then had the opportunity to write down all their ideas and comments. From this list they chose the two most important items. The group then categorized these ideas to find similar themes and goals and voted on priorities.

One part-time staff workshop was held to gather input from part-time staff members. The results are listed on the next page. All comments are documented "as written" by staff members during the meeting.

### What should Skokie Park District focus on over the next five years?



#### **Added Outdoor Opportunities**

#### 0 votes

- Extend Skokie valley line trail
- Ice skating outside

#### **Zoo**

#### 0 votes

Little zoo at nature center

#### Improve expand music and theater space

0 votes

• Funding for music and theater i.e. Musical info, theater equipment, and more space

#### **Expand Cultural Opportunities**

#### 0 votes

- Cultural events
- Offer second day of theater trips
- Theater events that anyone can help out or be in

#### **Public Events**

#### 0 votes

• More public events

#### **Improve Awareness**

#### 2 votes

- More awareness for SPD facilities and services
- Advertising in multiple languages

#### 2nd Rink

#### 3 votes

- 2nd full size rink
- Olympic size skating rink with Olympic size pool

#### **Expand Program Opportunities**

#### 6 votes

- Evening programs for ages 19-59
- Fitness classes for autistic children / adults
- Expand H2O fitness to winter collaborate with indoor pools
- Creating more programs
- Public cat sanctuary
- Speed skating
- Cosmic public skate
- Teen hangout / teen volunteer day

#### Improve and Expand Early Childhood Space

#### 7 votes

- Dedicated lockdown facility at DCC preschool and early childhood
- Dedicated locked facility for early childhood and preschool students
- More childcare classrooms

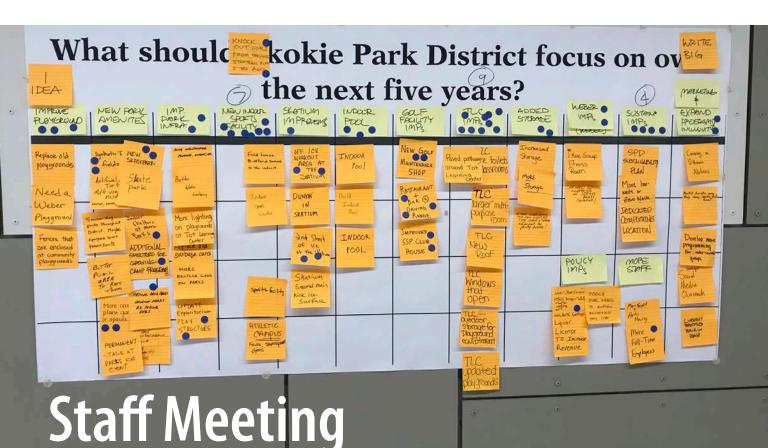
#### **Indoor Pool**

8 votes

- Indoor pool
- Indoor swimming pool

#### **Update Existing Facilities**

- Storage lockers at the Skatium like they have upstairs at weber
- Staff bathrooms
- Update classrooms and heating / cooling system
- Safety, additional lights, improve security
- A real elevator at nature center
- New roof at Devonshire cultural center
- Inclusion bathroom
- Expansion of facility storage
- Remodel Devonshire pool



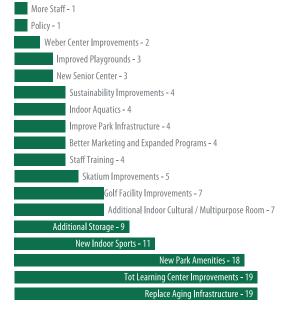
Staff meetings were held on September 19, 2019, to gather input on the Comprehensive

Master Plan.

Staff were asked several focus questions. Each participant then had the opportunity to write down all their ideas and comments. From this list they chose the two most important items. The group then categorized these ideas to find similar themes and goals and voted on priorities.

Two staff workshops were held to gather input from full-time staff members. The combined results are listed on the next page. All comments are documented "as written" by staff during the meeting.

### What should Skokie Park District focus on over the next five years?



#### More staff

1 vote

- More staff and parks mowing
- More full-time employees

#### Policy

#### 1 vote

- Liquor / beer / wine attract younger adults
- Liquor license to increase revenue
- Pooch park needs to enforce membership use only

#### Weber Center Improvements

2 votes

- 1 more group fitness room
- We need better lighting in steam room

#### **Improve Playground**

#### 3 votes

- Replace old playgrounds
- Need a weber playground

#### **New Senior Center**

#### 3 votes

Dedicated actual senior center

#### **Stainability Improvements**

#### 4 votes

- SPD sustainability plan
- More low waste zero waste events
- Dedicated composting location

#### **Indoor Aquatics**

#### 4 votes

- Indoor pool
- Build indoor pool
- Indoor pool
- Expand / add indoor aquatic facilities
- Indoor pool
- Build indoor pool

#### Improve Park Infrastructure

#### 4 votes

- Aging infrastructure programming fencing, asphalt, etc.
- Better water fountains
- More lighting on playgrounds at tot learning center
- Replace old garbage cans
- More recycle cans in parks
- Update Exploratorium play structure

#### **Marketing and Expanding Programs / Inclusivity** *4 votes*

- Catering to different abilities
- Market diversity using flags along sports park east
- Develop more programming for under-served groups

- Stronger social media outreach
- Add Video Game Tournaments!
- Programming for tots and young children (2-6)
- Café that serves fitness
- More health and safety training for patrons and employees
- Increase drop in social meeting place
- More programming and training catering to those with autism/sensory awareness
- More senior activities on weekends

#### **Staff Training**

#### 4 votes

- Customer service need to be informed about changes in the programs and about any common questions patrons ask.
- Increase training seminars for admin staff.

#### **Skatium Improvements**

#### 5 votes

- Off ice workout area at the Skatium
- Dunkin in Skatium
- 2nd sheet of ice at Skatium
- Skatium second main rink ice

#### **Golf Facility Improvements**

#### 7 votes

- New golf maintenance shop
- Restaurant and bar at driving range
- Improved SSP club house

#### Additional Indoor Cultural / Multi-Purpose

#### 7 votes

- Expand cultural arts facilities
- Event venue 200+ people (weddings, etc.)
- Art center gallery
- Additional program space
- Music lesson rooms
- More space at Devonshire

#### **Added Storage**

- Increased storage
- More storage
- We need closet space for new lighter type chair and tables adjacent to party rooms
- More storage space at Weber
- Need more storage and programming space
- WLC more room for storage as our programing grows!
- Storage

#### **New Indoor Sports Facility**

#### 11 votes

- · Field house to extend summer to the indoors
- Indoor sports center
- Sports facility
- Athletic campus field's, skatepark, gyms
- Indoor tennis pickleball facility
- More indoor sports facilities
- Add gymnasium
- Indoor air structure for soccer, box lax, batting cages, etc.
- Separate sports facility
- Women's hockey locker room

#### **New Park Amenities**

#### 18 votes

- Synthetic turf fields
- Artificial turf multi-use field
- New skatepark
- Skatepark
- Smaller dog parks throughout district. Maybe repurpose some tennis courts
- Indoor shelters at more parks
- Additional shelters for growing camp programs
- Better picnic area to have them
- More natural plant gardens or spaces
- Passive park areas develop parks as passive sites
- Permanent stage at parks for event
- Permanent outdoor performance space
- Add splash pads
- Skateboarding parks
- Need outdoor sports complex synthetic fields
- Bandshell at DCC
- Need concert / picnic pavilion
- Bus shelter OCC
- Public art murals etc.
- New park facility used for camps and programs
- Outdoor synthetic athletic complex football baseball soccer

#### Tot Learning Center (TLC) Improvements

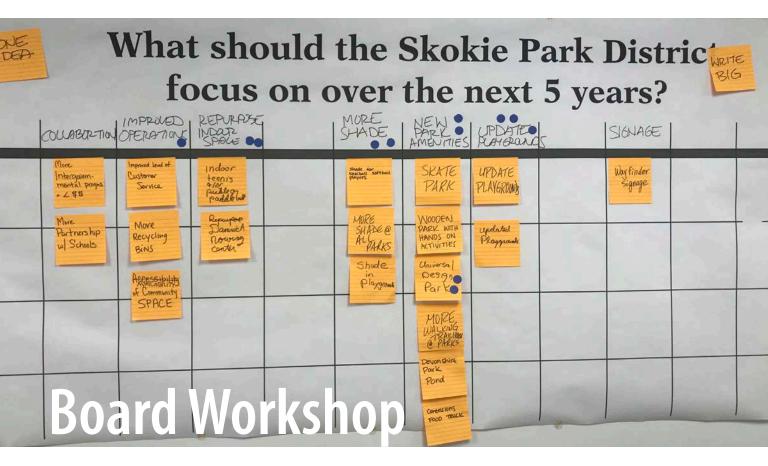
19 votes

- Paved pathway around tot learning center
- TLC more toilets in classrooms
- TLC larger multi-purpose room
- TLC new roof
- TLC windows that open
- TLC updated playgrounds
- Rec room for TLC staff at site
- TLC needs a multi-purpose room
- TLC need renovation
- Closet too small for TLC we need more space
- Add a playroom to TLC
- Update all playgrounds at TLC
- TLC playgrounds need updating
- Playground expansion / renovation at TLC
- Expand TLC
- Add a room for community family events at TLC

#### **Replace Aging Infrastructure**

- Roof replacement
- New roof
- DCC roof
- New boiler room
- Infrastructure
- Upgrade and modernize existing facilities
- Maintenance technology
- More weber office space fewer cubicles
- Make facility lobbies and front desk area more contained for safety reasons

#### CHAPTER 1



A Board workshop was held on August 21, 2019, to gather input on the Comprehensive

Master Plan.

The Park District Board members were asked several focus questions. Each participant then had the opportunity to write down all their ideas and comments. From this list they chose the two most important items. The group then categorized these ideas to find similar themes and goals and voted on priorities.

One Board workshop was held to gather input. The results are summarized and listed on the next page. All comments are documented "as written" by Board members during the meeting.

### What should Skokie Park District focus on over the next five years?

Collaboration - 0	
Signage – 0	
Improved Operations - 1	
Repurpose Indoor Space – 2	
More Shade - 2	
Update Playgrounds – 3	
New Park Amenities - 4	

#### Collaboration

#### 0 votes

- More intergovernmental programs = less money
- More partnerships with schools

#### Signage

0 votes

Wayfinding signage

#### **Improved Operations**

1 vote

- Improved level of customer service
- More recycling bins
- Availability of community space

#### **Repurpose Indoor Space**

2 votes

- Indoor tennis and/or pickle or paddle ball
- Repurpose Dammrich Rowing Center

#### More Shade

2 votes

- Shade for baseball/softball players
- More shade at all parks
- Shade in playgrounds

#### **Update Playgrounds**

3 votes

- Update playgrounds
- Updated playgrounds

#### **New Park Amenities**

- Skate park
- Wooden park with hands-on activities
- Universal design park
- More walking trails/paths and parks
- Devonshire Park pond (create a pond)
- Concessions food truck



# CHAPTER STATES ALTERNATIVE & Preferred Strategies

## **Overview**

This Chapter documents the Envision & Prioritize: Alternative & Preferred Strategies Phase of the comprehensive master planning process.

#### **Purpose**

The purpose of the Envision & Prioritize: Alternative & Preferred Strategies Phase is to develop actionable items for the Park District to accomplish over the next five years.

The project team conducted a visioning workshop to develop a series of goals and strategies to address the opportunities revealed during the Analyze and Connect Phases. The strategies were then organized under primary objectives to address the needs identified in the other phases. Following the visioning workshop, the planning team refined the strategies with input from Park District staff. Finally, the planning team met with both staff and the Park District Board of Commissioners to review the initial priorities and determine the most preferred action items to implement over the next five years.

#### **Chapter Outline**

This chapter is organized by the defined themes as listed below.

- Theme 1: Parks and Open Space
- Theme 2: Indoor Facilities
- Theme 3: Planning and Programs

Determined through discussion with the Park District staff, strategies were organized into a five year Action Plan or listed as recurring tasks.

## Update aging park amenities Background

Park inventories show that the Skokie Park District (SPD) has amenities that are approaching or currently beyond their useful life expectancy as defined by the IDNR OSLAD program. Most notably, nearly two-thirds of playgrounds are beyond their useful life. The community survey results show that the community sees updating aging amenities as a need. Updating existing parks and amenities was voted the highest priority in the community survey (with a weighted score of 6.10 out of 8). Participants at the community meeting voiced a need specifically for updated playgrounds and baseball fields.

#### Update / replace playgrounds Background

Nearly 66% of Skokie Park District's playgrounds were installed in the 1990s, putting them well beyond their useful life. This was documented in the 2014 comprehensive master plan as well. The level of service analysis shows that SPD needs twenty-six total playgrounds to meet IDNR average number of playgrounds per population for the Park District. Therefore, SPD needs to update 14 playgrounds to meet this benchmark. In addition, updating playgrounds specifically was the second highest priority in the community survey (with a weighted score of 5.47 out of 8). This need was discussed at the community, Board, and staff workshops and received votes at all sessions. It was the 4th highest voted item at the staff workshops, it did receive three votes from staff members.

#### Master plan key parks Background

Larger neighborhood and community parks typically contain multiple amenity types that have varying useful life ranges. Instead of updating these features one at a time as they come to the end of their useful life, it is beneficial for the Park District to develop master plans for these parks. This allows for improvements to be designed, bid, and constructed at the same time or in phases and ensures that the improvement of one amenity type does not conflict with the improvement of the other amenities.

#### Develop a sustainable park practices plan / policy Background

SPD staff expressed the need to develop sustainable park practices for their properties. Implementing sustainable practices at each park can decrease maintenance efforts while also increasing efficiency by utilizing similar practices at each property across the entire Park District. Sustainable practices also provide an educational opportunity for the public.

## Improve accessibility standards / connectivity Background

There is a need for improved physical inclusivity and accessibility in SPD's parks. Stakeholders desire an improvement to inclusivity and access (tie for 2nd highest voted workshop item), while community survey participants would like to specifically see universal / inclusive playgrounds in the Park District (ranked 6th of 15 for desired recreation opportunities). Inclusivity extends beyond ADA requirements and physical access. It should also include those with differing cognitive abilities and encompass all age groups. The community survey results show that the public would like to see increased accessible connections between parks. Many of the related comments state that there should be more trails that connect the parks to one another. To further expand upon the accessibility aspect, park amenities and facilities should have adequate parking and accessible routes to each amenity.

## Consider providing trending park amenities Background

Adding contemporary amenities as park master plans are updated is a strategy that came directly from the 2014 plan and has continued to be supported in the 2019 findings. Board members indicated they would like to see new park amenities introduced in parks at their workshop (tied for 2nd highest voted item). Many of these trending amenities, especially splash pads, fitness equipment, and pickleball, are popular throughout the Chicagoland region. The following trending amenities should be considered:

## Universal / inclusive playgrounds Background

• Demand for universal and inclusive playgrounds is on the rise, both across the region and in Skokie specifically. These types of playgrounds were brought up in the community survey as well as the Board workshop. Community responders ranked universal / inclusive playgrounds 6th of 15 for desired recreation opportunities in Skokie. Several open-ended comments expressed the need for inclusive / accessible playgrounds. This amenity was the 2nd highest voted item (tied) at the Board workshop.

## Specialty / adventure play Background

• Although it was not called out specifically in any of the workshops, staff leadership sees specialty / adventure play as a need in the community. Nature based play, challenge courses, and ropes adventure courses are all trending specialty play types that are growing in popularity across the region. A great number of open-ended comments in the community survey call for a need to update existing playgrounds. Several of these comments present the idea of providing "more exciting" playground options, like ninja warrior style courses and playgrounds that cater to a wider age range than traditional play structures.

#### Pickleball Background

Pickleball is a multi-generational activity that is gaining popularity across the region. Staff leadership has
stated that pickleball courts are a growing demand in the community. The community survey yielded mixed
results, though. Pickleball was tied as the least demanded outdoor recreation opportunity, but there were
several pickleball-related open-ended comments. These comments ranged from stating the need for indoor
and outdoor courts to improving the existing courts to adding courts to keep up with surrounding agencies.
The Park District should evaluate whether more designated pickleball courts are needed in the community, or if
re-purposing / overlaying tennis courts will meet the need for pickleball. Two dedicated pickleball courts will be
constructed at Laramie Park in 2020.

## Outdoor fitness equipment Background

• SPD should evaluate use of its current outdoor fitness equipment pieces. The popularity of this equipment is on the rise across the region, especially as communities are looking to provide recreation opportunities for multiple age groups. The community survey revealed that outdoor fitness equipment is right down the middle of the road in terms of community demand in Skokie. It ranked 8th of 15 desired recreation opportunities. As the population continues to change, demand for this and similar amenities may rise. Four pieces of outdoor fitness equipment will be constructed at Laramie Park in 2020.

#### Artificial turf fields Background

 Although a relatively low-voted item in workshops and the community survey, outdoor artificial turf fields are gaining popularity across the region as they increase the lifespan of athletic fields and in turn, revenue for recreation agencies. During staff workshops, artificial turf fields received a cumulative three votes. The community survey results show that artificial turf fields are a relatively low priority. It ranked 11th out of 15 items for desired recreation opportunities, and votes were nearly equal amongst important, not important, and no opinion. Artificial turf will be installed at the west baseball field at Laramie Park in 2020.

#### Splash pads Background

• There are no stand-alone splash pads in the Skokie Park District. Two are needed to meet IDNR average per population for Skokie. The two splash pads that are located in the District are part of larger outdoor pool facilities. Community survey results reveal that splash pads are a highly desired item. Survey responders ranked splash pads 4th of 15 recreation items not currently provided by SPD. Because of the high cost of this type of amenity, the Park District should consider conducting a cost benefit analysis to determine the feasibility of building a splash pad in Skokie.

#### Improve / expand trail system Background

The park inventories show that SPD manages 8.23 miles of trails. According to the level of service analysis, SPD needs 10.4 total miles to meet the IDNR average per population for Skokie and has a deficiency of 2.17 miles. The desire for increased and improved trails systems is evident in the community survey results. Multi-purpose walking and biking trails ranked 1st of 15 desired recreation amenities. Nature / interpretive trails ranked 2nd of 15. In a separate survey question, developing additional biking and walking trails was ranked as the 3rd highest priority for the Park District (weighted 5.22 out of 8). Many trail-related open-ended comments express a desire for more trails or improved connections. Residents love Skokie's trails but feel better, safer trail connections would lead to even greater use. This leads to an opportunity to partner with other agencies to create a stronger regional trail system.

#### Evaluate opportunities to improve park access for residents in underserved areas Background

Community Park and Overall level of service (LOS) coverage for the Skokie Park District is relatively high at 82.3% and 94.3%, respectively. Mini Park and Neighborhood Park level of service coverage is considerably lower, albeit comparable to other agencies in the planning team's database at 48.0% and 48.3%, respectively. There are several variables to consider when evaluating planning area needs. Both service level and population size must be taken into account. The availability of new park sites should also be considered. Because Skokie is landlocked, land acquisition opportunities for new park land are limited. Planning Area 16 shows the most potential underserved area for parks within  $\frac{1}{4} - \frac{1}{2}$  mile walking distance (Neighborhood Park level) and is the 5th highest planning area population at 3,599 (5.6% of the total population). Planning Area 26 shows the second most potential underserved area for parks within  $\frac{1}{4} - \frac{1}{2}$  mile walking distance and is the highest planning area population. Additional planning areas to evaluate are listed below.

- LOS analysis: top 3 underserved areas based on population not served:
  - $\cdot$  Planning Area 26: 4,488 not served at  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile increment; 2,600 not served at  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile increment
  - · Planning Area 16: 3,599 not served at either increment
  - · Planning Area 17: 154 not served at 1/2 mile increment; 1,987 not served 1/4 mile increment
- LOS analysis: There are 12 Planning Areas that are not served by a mini or neighborhood park. The top 3 underserved areas based on population not served:
  - Planning Area 16: 3,599 not served
  - · Planning Area 13: 1,440 not served
  - · Planning Area 35: 1,264 not served

## Continue to evaluate other opportunities to provide for special interest needs including additional cricket fields, community garden plots, and sports lighting Background

A need for several other amenities that don't fall into the "trending" category was brought up in both the community survey and stakeholder workshops. The community survey results show community gardens as a relatively popular desired recreation amenity. It ranked 5th of 15 items. The open-ended comments also revealed that some community members see a need for sports lighting, especially at many of the baseball fields. Although the topic was only brought up in six comments, the sentiment was the same in each. They see lit fields as safer for the community's youth and an opportunity to extend playing time, especially in late fall and early spring. Lighting at Sports Park cricket field was brought up and voted on at one of the stakeholder workshops. In addition to lighting the existing field, the addition of another cricket field received a vote at the same workshop.

## Be prepared for acquisition opportunities if they arise Background

It was revealed in the 2014 plan that Skokie Park District is deficient by more than 500 acres of active recreation space. When all SPD managed open space is considered, the deficiency drops to more than 400 acres deficient. These numbers still hold true in the 2019 plan. Because the Park District is landlocked, land acquisition opportunities are few and should be considered if and when they do arise. The acquisition of parcels over 5 acres in size will have the biggest impact on the District's deficit and should take priority over smaller parcel sizes.

### Consider adding park lighting or other security measures Background

Staff leadership expressed a potential need for security lighting and cameras in the parks. They questioned how the community at large perceives park safety / security. When asked what responders feel needs improvement at parks in the community survey, security lighting was a relatively low vote item, receiving only 11.65% of all votes, ranking 10th out of 16 items. New or improved park lighting was only mentioned in two open-ended comments.

### **INDOOR FACILITIES**

## Update existing facilities / replace aging infrastructure Background

Much like updating aging amenities in parks, updating existing facilities and replacing aging infrastructure is viewed as one of the highest Park District needs related to indoor facilities. The community survey shows renovating or re-purposing year-round indoor space as the 4th highest priority (with a weighted score of 5.17 out of 8). A number of open-ended comments reiterate the public's desire to update SPD's indoor facilities. The community workshop further supports this need, as update existing facilities was the 2nd highest voted item. The staff workshops resulted in similar outcomes. Replacing aging infrastructure was the third highest voted item amongst full time staff, and updating existing facilities was tied as the highest voted item amongst part-time staff. One specific facility update item that came out of the staff workshops was a roof replacement at Devonshire Cultural Center. SPD leadership identified a need to update the Skatium. At the time of publication, a facility plan has been developed for Skatium improvements, and grant funding for the improvements is being sought.

## Provide new and / or re-purpose indoor facility space for additional recreation programming Background

The community survey and series of workshops brought to light two related facility needs. Providing new indoor facility space and/or re-purposing existing indoor space for additional recreation and programming was addressed in one of the community survey questions and came up in every workshop. The community survey results show that additional space for special use facilities, new indoor field house / turf fields, and an additional gymnasium ranked 2nd, 3rd, and 4th respectively for desired indoor improvements. New community space in general was the 3rd highest voted item at the community workshop. Specific facility suggestions that came out of the community workshop included a teen center and indoor tennis facility. Stakeholders also viewed new indoor space as a high priority for SPD, making it their 3rd highest voted item (tie). Discussion at the staff workshops led to an extensive list of potential new indoor facilities, including:

- general program space
- dedicated senior center
- event venue (weddings, conferences, etc.)
- dedicated indoor sports facility (2nd highest voted item amongst full-time staff)
- · dedicated camp facility
- expanded cultural arts facility
- additional rink / sheet of ice
- expanded Tot Learning Center (TLC) community room

Renovating or re-purposing existing indoor space could eliminate the need for new facilities altogether. The Park District should evaluate the feasibility of re-purposing space before exploring new facility options. Some options to consider are re-purposing Dammrich Rowing Center or explore alternate uses for the golf course. The idea of re-purposing existing space is supported by the community. Community survey results show renovation or re-purposing of year-round interior space was voted as the 4th highest (of 8) priority for the Park District. The Board ranked this same item 2nd during their workshop. The staff workshops showed that there is a need for improvements to TLC that include adding or re-purposing some of the existing spaces.

### Expand and improve storage space for key facilities Background

Lack of storage space tends to be an issue many agencies face, and Skokie Park District is no exception. Although the facility inventory shows an extensive number of storage spaces, many of these spaces fall short of the square footage needed to be efficient. More storage / expanded storage at facilities in general was the 6th highest voted item by full-time staff. Storage issues at TLC specifically was also brought up during the part-time staff workshop.

### **INDOOR FACILITIES**

### Provide indoor opportunities for aquatics Background

Facility inventories show that the Skokie Park District has no indoor pools or aquatic facilities. Therefore, SPD is at a deficit when compared to the planning team's database benchmark for indoor aquatics. The addition of an indoor pool was brought up at nearly every public input outlet. The community survey results show indoor aquatics as the highest desired indoor facility improvement. Over 77% of responders marked it as very or somewhat important. It was also the second most mentioned topic in the open-ended comments (over 12% of comments). In addition to the survey, the community workshop also yielded high support for an indoor pool. It was the highest voted item in the workshop, receiving nearly double the number of votes as the 2nd highest-voted item. The part-time staff decided an indoor pool was the highest priority during their workshop. Full-time staff also voted on the addition of an indoor pool, but it only received a median number of votes during those workshops. Because of the high cost of building and maintaining an indoor aquatic facility, the Park District should consider performing a feasibility study and weigh the need of this type of facility against the need of other capital projects and explore opportunities for partnerships.

## PLANNING AND PROGRAMS

## Improve awareness to the community regarding available activities and opportunities provided by the District's parks, facilities, and programs Background

The Skokie Park District provides a wealth of activities and resources, but the public is not always aware of these resources. The community survey results show that the number two and three reasons residents do not participate in programs is because they are not aware of the programs and they do not find out about programs until it is too late, respectively.

#### Evaluate program offerings Background

The public input process yielded extensive results related to programming, with comments covering a wide variety of topics. SPD should continue to evaluate their current program offerings in relation to number of programs offered, types of programs offered, and enrollment. Many of the public comments call for additional or new types of programs, but they also note that they are not always aware of program offerings. Of those survey responders that reported not participating in Park District programs, 44.8% cited inconvenient times as the reason for their lack of participation. A lack of awareness of programs is the 2nd highest reason for not participating in programs with 36.6% of votes. The community survey open-ended comments showed a need for expanded programming for adults and better timing for youth programs that don't interfere with parents' work schedules. Expand program opportunities was 4th highest voted item in the part-time staff workshop and was a low voted item at the full-time staff workshops. At the community workshop, a variety of programming types received votes, including:

- expanded programs
- after school programs
- performing arts programs
- senior programs

At the stakeholder workshops, a variety of programming types received votes, including:

- additional after school programs
- summer programs for young teens
- special needs programs
- senior programs

The evaluation of programs should be a recurring task for the Park District with the replacement of programs occurring when the evaluation results deem necessary.

### Increase inclusive programming and recreation opportunities Background

The need for increased inclusivity came up during several points in the community input process. Although inclusive playgrounds were mentioned specifically in the community survey and various workshops, other comments called for a broader sense of inclusivity. The stakeholder workshops asked that inclusivity be extended to programs and other recreation opportunities beyond playgrounds. Increased inclusion should consider the many cultures and languages that are represented throughout the Park District. This sentiment was echoed at the community workshop as well. The Festival of Cultures is the third most attended special event, according to the community survey, which shows that additional programming that highlights specific cultures will likely be welcomed by SPD residents. This increased inclusion should encompass all age groups as well. Several of the workshops called for more programming for active adults and seniors, and although it did not receive any votes, increased inter-generational opportunities was brought up as a topic for discussion. Staff leadership also expressed that increased inclusive opportunities are needed.

## PLANNING AND PROGRAMS

## Explore partnerships with other agencies to satisfy unmet needs Background

Nearly 20% of community survey responders use other agencies' parks and facilities instead of SPD's parks and facilities. Some cited that these other agencies offer amenities that Skokie does not. This shows that there is an opportunity to partner with others to fill these needs that are currently not met by SPD offerings. There was discussion during the stakeholder workshops about agency partnerships that would both increase service coverage for the communities involved while reducing the financial burden on those agencies. Expanded partnerships was one of the highest voted items at these workshops. The 2014 plan specifically called out a partnership with the School District to offer language programs because of the high number of languages spoken in Skokie.

#### Continue to develop Capital Replacement Plans for equipment and facilities Background

A number of Park District amenities are beyond useful life and in need of replacement. The 2014 comprehensive master plan called for the development of a Capital Replacement Plan for equipment and facilities. The development and refinement of this plan should be an annual task that is continually updated as replacements and facility updates occur.



# CHAPTER France Action Plan

## **Action Plan**

The Action Plan Chapter outlines the proposed tasks and projects for the Skokie Park District over the next five years.

#### Purpose

This chapter outlines the steps and potential timeline for implementing the Comprehensive Master Plan strategies identified in the previous chapter from the Envision & Prioritize phase. They were further refined and finalized through workshops with the Skokie Park District staff and Board of Commissioners to develop the action plan. The action plan is to act as a guide to assist the Skokie Park District with implementing the strategies over the next five years and will be periodically re-evaluated and adjusted to reflect completed projects and the community's changing needs. The action plan is organized as follows:

> An at-a-glance Action Plan timeline with each year divided into quarters (Q1, Q2, Q3, and Q4) to provide a general idea of when each action or action item step might start or end within a given year

- A detailed summary of the action items is provided in a year-by-year list in chronological order from 2019/2020 2025+
- The action items are further organized within each year according to the following categories:
  - · Parks and Open Space
  - · Facilities
  - · Planning and Programs

The Skokie Park District is following a May to April fiscal year.

Current Year			Year 1				
20 May June July	Aug Sept Oct	20 Nov Dec Jan	Feb March April	20 May June July	Aug Sept Oct	20 Nov Dec Jan	Feb March April
Quarter 1			Quarter 4	Quarter 1		Quarter 3	
			Implement Laramie Park Improvements (fitness, pickleball, artificial turf)				
				Develop Sustainable Park Practices Plan / Policy			
				Replace Aging Amenities Group A		i	
		Fund Skatium			Bid Skatium		Construct
		improvements (PARC Grant)			improvements		Skatium improvements
					Duraliza		Duslas and
					Develop community walking program and Implement awareness plan		Develop and Implement storage improvement plan
						Develop and Implement parks security plan	>
				Develop awareness campaign / Refine and Implement communications plan			

		ar 2				ar 3	
20	21	20	22	20	22	20	23
May June July	Aug Sept Oct	Nov Dec Jan	Feb March April	May June July	Aug Sept Oct	Nov Dec Jan	Feb March April
Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
Community Garden Feasibility Study			1			Master Plan and Fund Lawler Park	Design and Engineer Lawler Park
							Design and Engineer Central Park
Replace Aging Amenities Group B				Replace Aging Amenities Group C			
Conduct feasibility study to partner with The Talking Farm (TTF) to plan new TLC / TTF development	Fund and Design and Engineer new TLC / TTF development		Bid and Construct new TLC / TTF development				
Update ADA transition plan							

Year 4			Year 5				
20	23	20	24	20	24	20	25
May June July	Aug Sept Oct	Nov Dec Jan	Feb March April	May June July	Aug Sept Oct	Nov Dec Jan	Feb March April
Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
	Bid and Construct Lawler Park					Master Plan Oakton and Lorel Property	
					Bid and Construct Central Park	1	Design and Engineer Gleiss Park
							Replace aging amenities at Lauth Park
				Plan Adventure Playground			Fund Adventure Playground
Facility Plan entry and locker room at Skokie Water Playground (SWP)							
				Update needs assessment			

Year 5+				
Bid and Construct Gleiss Park				
Design and Engineer Adventure Playground	Bid and Construct Adventure Playground			
Perform Facility Study for Skokie Sports Park (SSP) clubhouse				
Conduct feasibility study for Dammrich Rowing Center repurposing				
Evaluate alternate uses for Weber Golf Course				
Evaluate property north of Skokie Heritage Museum				

Legend Parks and Open Space Facilities Planning and Programs					
R	ecurrin Items	g			
Evaluate grant opportunities	Implement ADA Plan				
Conduct artificial turf cost / benefit analysis	Update and Implement capital improvements plan (CIP)				
Evaluate inclusive play location	Explore partnerships for inclusive programs				
Evaluate opportunites for Adventure Playground	Develop mobile park programs				
Perform splash pad feasibility study	Evaluate opportunities to improve access in underserved areas 26/16/17				
Perform sports complex feasibility study	Explore partnerships for trail connectivity				
Perform cricket field feasibility study	Explore partnerships for indoor aquatics				
Implement sustainable park practices	Evaluate and adjust program offerings				

## Current Fiscal Year (Present through April 30, 2020)

#### **PARKS AND OPEN SPACE**

- Implement Laramie Park improvements, which include:
  - playground replacement
  - ball field artificial turf installation
  - fitness equipment installation
  - pickleball court installation
  - new sports court lighting

#### FACILITIES

Fund Skatium facility improvements (IDNR PARC grant)

## Fiscal Year 1 (May 1, 2020 through April 30, 2021)

#### PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

- Implement Laramie Park improvements (continued from Current Fiscal Year)
- Develop a sustainable park practices policy
- □ Replace aging amenities in Parks Group A:
  - Laramie Park
  - Gross Point Park
  - Tecumseh Park
  - Carol Park
  - Navajo Park

#### FACILITIES

- Bid Skatium facility improvements
- Construct Skatium facility improvements

#### **PLANNING AND PROGRAMS**

- Develop and implement a community walking program
  - Implement an associated awareness plan
- Develop and implement a facility storage improvement plan
- Develop and implement a parks security plan
- Develop a comprehensive awareness campaign
  - Refine and implement communications plan

## Fiscal Year 2 (May 1, 2021 through April 30, 2022)

#### PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

- Perform a community garden feasibility study
- □ Replace aging amenities in Parks Group B:
  - Hamlin Park
  - Pohatan Park
  - Playtime Park
  - Shabonee Park
  - Peccia Park

#### FACILITIES

- Construct Skatium facility improvements (continued from Fiscal Year 1)
- Conduct feasibility study to partner with The Talking Farm (TTF) to plan facility for new Tot Learning Center (TLC) / TTF development
- □ Fund and Design and Engineer new TLC / TTF development
- □ Bid and Construct new TLC / TTF development

#### PLANNING AND PROGRAMS

- Update ADA transition plan
- Develop and implement storage improvement plan (continued from Fiscal Year 1)
- Develop and implement parks security plan (continued from Fiscal Year 1)

## Fiscal Year 3 (May 1, 2022 through April 30, 2023)

#### PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

- Replace aging amenities in Parks Group C:
  - Menominee Park
  - Lorel Park
- Master Plan and Fund Lawler Park
- Design and Engineer Lawler Park
- Design and Engineer Central Park

#### FACILITIES

□ Bid and Construct new TLC / TTF development (continued from Fiscal Year 2)

## Fiscal Year 4 (May 1, 2023 through April 30, 2024)

#### PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

- Design and Engineer Central Park (continued from Fiscal Year 3)
- Bid and Construct Lawler Park

#### **FACILITIES**

Facility Plan entry and locker room at Skokie Water Playground (SWP)

## Fiscal Year 5 (May 1, 2024 through April 30, 2025)

#### PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

- Master Plan Oakton and Lorel Property
- □ Bid and Construct Central Park
- Design and Engineer Gleiss Park
- □ Replace aging amenities at Lauth Park
- □ Plan Adventure Playground
- Fund Adventure Playground

#### **PLANNING AND PROGRAMS**

Update community needs assessment

#### CHAPTER 4

## Fiscal Year 5+ (May 1, 2025 and beyond)

#### PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

- Bid and Construct Gleiss Park
- Design and Engineer adventure playground
- □ Bid and Construct adventure playground

#### FACILITIES

- Perform Facility Study for Skokie Sports Park (SSP) clubhouse
- □ Conduct feasibility study for Dammrich Rowing Center repurposing
- Evaluate alternate uses for Weber Golf Course
- Evaluate property north of Skokie Heritage Museum

## **Recurring Items**

#### PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

- Evaluate grant opportunities
- $\hfill\square$  Conduct cost / benefit analysis for artificial turf
- □ Evaluate inclusive playground location
- □ Evaluate opportunities for adventure playground
- Perform splash pad feasibility study
- □ Perform sports complex feasibility study
- □ Perform cricket field feasibility study
- □ Implement sustainable park practices annually

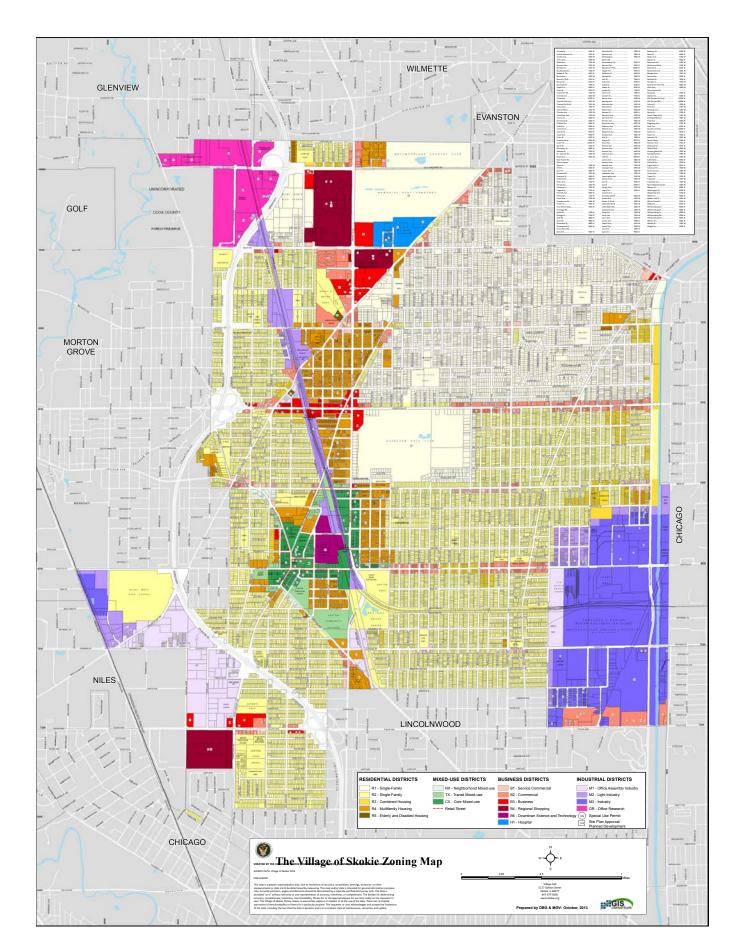
#### PLANNING AND PROGRAMS

- Implement ADA plan
- □ Update and implement capital improvements plan (CIP)
- □ Explore partnerships for inclusive programming
- Develop mobile park programs to increase access to Park District offerings
- Evaluate opportunities to improve access in underserved areas, especially Planning Areas 26, 16, and 17
- □ Explore partnerships for increased trail connectivity
- □ Explore partnerships for indoor aquatic opportunities
- Evaluate and adjust program offerings





# CHAPTER PENdix



#### SurveyMonkey

### Q17 (Optional) Explain why you ranked the item above as most important.

Answered: 301 Skipped: 409

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	It seems Skokie was originally developed with cars as the primary mode of transportation, and in many places it's difficult to get around by bike or walking. It would improve traffic, pollution and citizen health to promote walking and biking by making them safer and more accessible.	8/23/2019 7:45 AM
2	I would love to see updated playgrounds and park amenities; however, If we can't maintain our current parks that is a problem.	8/23/2019 4:13 AM
3	Year-round use should be priority since a good chunk of the year, the outside is misery. More programming or opportunities for play would be very welcome.	8/22/2019 3:11 AM
4	I've lived in Skokie all my life and I'm so pleased and happy to have my children playing in the same parks/facilities I did as a kid. While some parks and facilities are new there are a lot that are still as I remember it growing up. Update what we have and if we can add newer things than great. It would be a shame to lose the older parks because they weren't maintained, or watching them decay year after year makes the community feel like the powers at be don't care.	8/22/2019 3:08 AM
5	I'd love to be able to bike/walk more to be more environmentally friendly, but there are several intersections that are so busy for my kids and I to get across. More walking/biking paths would allow for ease in getting around safely.	8/22/2019 2:30 AM
6	Important for redidents	8/22/2019 2:30 AM
7	The park closest to me, Winnebago was updated in recent years. Since the renovation, the number of children using the park has increased exponentially. Other parks and kuds should have the same experience.	8/21/2019 5:04 PM
8	I love all of our Skokie Parks, but I do think some of them could be updated with newer/ more universal equipment to keep up with neighboring parks in other villages/cities.	8/21/2019 4:25 PM
9	I am an avid biker and love the bike trails.	8/21/2019 1:03 PM
10	We believe it is good for people to be outside in nature.	8/21/2019 12:59 PM
11	Overall, Skokie has a fantastic park system with excellent facilities. With Playtime Park being the closest neighborhood park, I love that the basketball court was resurfaced a few years back. But the playground needs to be better maintained. If the (old) play equipment isn't going to be replaced soon, a coat of paint would go a long way towards making the park look less shabby. And controlling the weeds in the sand would help too.	8/21/2019 12:49 PM
12	Some of the indoor spaces look dated	8/21/2019 6:33 AM
13	It's what I do!	8/21/2019 6:33 AM
14	Better children's classes and programs in the district. Higher quality classes necessary	8/21/2019 1:43 AM
15	Some of the parks are filthy and dangerous. Trash, Bottles, glass and old equipment thats has sharps or unstable	8/20/2019 6:37 PM
16	Love all of the pocket parks in Skokie. Some of them are kind of sad. Unattractive, unenticing. Sadly don't end up being community hubs like newer playgrounds.	8/20/2019 5:02 PM
17	Indoor facilities are very valuable during the long Chicago winter.	8/20/2019 4:52 PM
18	Don't need additional taxes in a town that doesn't place importance on it's residents.	8/20/2019 4:27 PM
19	Kids don't like to play on flooded fields and play grounds. All the parks need to be better pitched to prevent that.	8/20/2019 11:06 AM
20	n/a	8/20/2019 10:34 AM
21	I don't want my taxes to go up any higher. The SPD board has spent money like it's going out of style!	8/20/2019 9:51 AM

22	The trails get tons of use, and are already great. Adding more would be even better.	8/20/2019 9:38 AM
23	because Skokie only has one large year round facility and could use another one	8/20/2019 9:08 AM
24	Important for the parks currently used to be as nice as possible	8/20/2019 8:35 AM
25	Parks are important for our kids. They should have the newest and safest equipment	8/20/2019 8:06 AM
26	In general Park district does a great job with maintenance of existing facilities so important. Would love to see more bike trails and walking trails as well as an indoor tennis facility.	8/20/2019 7:41 AM
27	I do a lot of walking and jogging around skokie and would like to be able to use more/better walking trails.	8/20/2019 7:21 AM
28	Optinal	8/20/2019 6:52 AM
29	Keep what already exists in good shape before expanding into anything else. That's just common sense IMO.	8/20/2019 6:52 AM
30	once developed, green space is hard to get back; better to save it even if the village does not need it now	8/20/2019 5:53 AM
31	Our parks are great	8/20/2019 5:43 AM
32	I'd like to use my bike more often and drive less. Having more trails available might help me achieve that.	8/20/2019 5:10 AM
33	to promote a safe, healthy community with plenty of outdoor activities for individuals and families	8/20/2019 4:21 AM
34	Well, like today, I was walking on the Skokie Sculpture Park and there was a trash can overflowing with garbage. Maintenance and oversight is important to keep the parks nice.	8/20/2019 4:15 AM
35	Because I use it.	8/20/2019 4:15 AM
36	Having lived in Evanston, I miss being able to ride my bike across town safely for recreation and to access shopping so I don't have to use the car.	8/20/2019 4:02 AM
37	Because I ride my bike frequently and would like to feel safe. Appreciate bike lane on Main Street.	8/20/2019 2:46 AM
38	With additional bike and walking trails, people will be more fit and not drive everywhere.	8/20/2019 2:37 AM
39	When we my daughter played softball last spring I was very impressed with other park districts facilities and fields. I felt Skokie was lacking a bit. Our fields and grounds weren't maintained as well and I wish there were some newer amenities.	8/20/2019 2:32 AM
40	Couldn't rank above questions . Update parks etc very important	8/20/2019 1:16 AM
11	Preserving open space is vital for the health of the planet	8/20/2019 12:35 AM
2	Pooch Park needs some updates in the agility area.	8/19/2019 10:06 PM
43	Have aggressive ongoing maintenance, repairs, and cleaning. Provide good lighting, cleanliness, and conspicuous security. More picnic tables and benches. Have restrictions on electronic noise pollution.	8/19/2019 9:00 PM
44	I have kids and need access to outdoor play.	8/19/2019 7:31 PM
15	Wear and tear on year round facilities, plus outdated equipment, is showing at more locations than not	8/19/2019 7:00 PM
16	I love the new bike trails that have been established and would get a lot of use out of additional ones.	8/19/2019 6:26 PM
17	the budget for the park system is too big , cut thir budget so u can lower my taxs	8/19/2019 6:26 PM
8	Because Lyons park is horrible and always has been.	8/19/2019 6:13 PM
19	Playgrounds get a lot of use, require a lot of maintenance and occasional improvements.	8/19/2019 4:55 PM
0	More parks, green space is important to environment	8/19/2019 4:34 PM
51	My family uses the playgrounds the most of all of the park district facilities, so this affects us the most.	8/19/2019 4:29 PM
52	We can go far with our existing parks—we just need to invest a bit more in maintenance and upkeep!	8/19/2019 4:16 PM

Skokie	Park District Comprehensive Plan Update: Public Input Survey	SurveyMonke
53	Skokie parks are wonderful. They add to the community and I want them to be well maintained so all will want to use them	8/19/2019 3:39 PM
54	I think what you have already is enough but if you want to spend money just update what you have and expand on outdoor walking and biking areas.	8/19/2019 3:39 PM
55	I feel it's important to keep parks and playgrounds at state of the art levels and especially to make these areas as safe as possible.	8/19/2019 3:36 PM
56	While Skokie has a lot of green space, it is precious and we should expand it for climate reasons and recreation.	8/19/2019 3:28 PM
57	having both an indoor and outdoor pickleball court would be nice	8/19/2019 2:45 PM
58	Ranked itself - unable to change no's	8/19/2019 2:30 PM
59	We love being outdoors in nature!	8/19/2019 2:12 PM
60	Many of the smaller parks, especially on the southern end of Skokie, are old, outdated, in poor condition, and uninteresting for children to play on.	8/19/2019 1:48 PM
61	Having more trails and bike paths makes it safer and more convenient to commute via bike, this reducing traffic.	8/19/2019 1:47 PM
62	People need safe places to bike and walk	8/19/2019 1:45 PM
63	Skokie has great parks already, but any improvements to existing parks would make what we have in our community even better.	8/19/2019 1:37 PM
64	Need a closer link to existing bike/walking trails that Is not subjected to automobile traffic.	8/19/2019 1:34 PM
35	We have enough facilities for kids alreadywe need more options for adultsmore nature, walking paths.	8/19/2019 1:29 PM
6	Take care of what you already have	8/19/2019 1:13 PM
67	I love bike riding, one thing i would really love to see is the tail on old orchard by the cemetary actually connect to the trail at the forest preserve	8/19/2019 1:02 PM
68	Why not take care of what we have to keep it functional, rather than purchase new?	8/19/2019 12:55 PM
39	Not everyone exercises or participated in athletic activities but EVERYONE walks and should be encouraged to do so.	8/19/2019 12:55 PM
70	I would love to see new equipment (since some of it is older than 20 years), and get rid of the sand and replace it with that rubber material. You should also include things for younger girlfriend from infant through toddler, and special needs children as well. We are a progressive city and need to have our parks match that.	8/19/2019 12:52 PM
71	I love the environmental commitment Skokie shows, and I love the native gardens. I walk a lot and would love more such land.	8/19/2019 12:46 PM
72	There are just too many buildings/hardscapes.	8/19/2019 12:41 PM
73	You do a fine job maintaining SPD facilities. Keep it up Cleanliness, safety, accessibility so important. Parks are so important to any community, like the library. It is a place where inclusivity should be a top priority and a chance for children of all ages to develop athletic, social, play, and camp skills. Keep up your great efforts.	8/19/2019 12:36 PM
74	Right now tax collections are slipping. The parks are pretty good, and should continue to be maintained well.	8/19/2019 12:36 PM
75	more exercise classes for Seniors like strech class	8/19/2019 12:35 PM
6	Indoor swimming pool Trail to connect near optima at the comed right of way	8/19/2019 12:34 PM
7	weather dictates this	8/19/2019 12:33 PM
'8	Space is limited. Get what you can now, even if it's not going to be developed for some time.	8/19/2019 9:10 AM
79	I have a special needs child and there should be more for her and kids like her.	8/19/2019 7:57 AM

80	Some playground are missing equupment and could possibly use a better play surface. I prefer a park with the rubber aurface. Sand is terrible and attracts sand bees in the sprind/ early summer. Skokie water playfround baby/toddler areas needs all ground level water toys to be fixed. A total disappointment. I felt like I was rippwd off after purchasing season passes for my family, and then seeing NOTHING was fixed since last summer.	8/19/2019 1:12 AM
81	Skokie has a lot of parks- some just need updating and better use of the space	8/18/2019 5:58 PM
82	I don't think we necessarily need more and new land or parks, but to maintain the ones we have.	8/18/2019 2:52 PM
83	I have teenagers who live to bike, seems like lots of things were available when they were younger. Now there us less. This is one thing they can do	8/18/2019 6:03 AM
84	indoor aquatics would be very beneficial considering we only really have about 3 month of Summer weather here to enjoy the outdoor pools	8/18/2019 5:36 AM
85	It is important to update the outdoor parks and facilities that are already in place that its local users visit frequently. If residents know these locations are being updated, they'll more likely want to use then more frequently as well. No one wants to use a space that isn't maintained or no longer fits the needs of its residents.	8/18/2019 4:28 AM
36	It is annoying that the Skatium and Devonshire Cultural Center are not found on the above facility lists. Renovation of the Skatium ice rinks has been delayed and must be done soon. Additional microphones are needed at Devonshire. An additional ice rink would be highly beneficial. Also not found on this listimprovements to after school child care offerings. Without a nearby YMCA in many parts of Skokie, the park district has a monopoly on after school child care in many school districts. A focus on improving program quality, accessibility, and more pleasurable and meaningful alternatives to SPACE would be very beneficial. If this survey is supposed to spark comprehensive plan feedback, why doesn't it reflect key facilities and programs? I feel like both of the most important elements of park district programming are not reflected in this survey and that the absence of these programs jeopardizes getting the priority they need for critical improvements.	8/17/2019 12:58 PM
37	Oakton pool is filthy. Make all wear swim caps. Devonshire needs lights in the North parking lot.	8/17/2019 6:41 AM
88	Green space is vital and gives a place to unwind. Updating current parks is important for upkeep. Already a lot of amenities, some need improvement (e.g., resurfacing tennis courts, more tennis courts with lights). Additionally, we need more dog space/parks. The only dog park in the area is Pooch Park but the village requires residents to pay, that's ludicrous. Don't our tax dollars already go to the maintenance and development of said parks? We take our dog into the city to go to dog parks there as they're free. Skokie needs to become more dog friendly. There are so many dogs in the neighborhoods, it would be great to have more space for them.	8/17/2019 3:06 AM
39	It would be nice to somewhat - somehow show paths between near by parks.	8/16/2019 5:38 PM
90	I feel many of our playgrounds are outdated and not always safe for the younger children	8/16/2019 5:02 PM
91	Skokie has a large number or parks that are already great, but that could be well served, by improved drainage, more frequent trash pick-up, and other general maintenance.	8/16/2019 6:23 AM
92	We are in several of the parks at least 6 times a week, and we have noticed many maintenance issues. Poor drainage at Lorel and Devonshire around baseball diamonds, cracked tennis court surface at Lorel. Weeds and bare spots in grassy areas and around trees. Let's keep what we have beautiful and functional before expanding.	8/16/2019 3:19 AM
93	9	8/16/2019 2:56 AM
4	Baseball fields were an embarrassment this year for the Skokie Indians program.	8/15/2019 4:27 PM
95	not at this time	8/15/2019 9:02 AM
96	The locker rooms at both pools are disgusting. Devonshire pool should be open more after camp. The hours are rediculous. The park bathrooms should have soap and toilet paper. It is so unsanitary for the people to use the washrooms and not wash hands.	8/15/2019 4:05 AM
)7	Love to walk and bike	8/14/2019 6:40 PM
	Love to walk and bike Love the new bike trail	8/14/2019 6:40 PM 8/14/2019 4:50 PM
97 98 99		

Skokie	Park District Comprehensive Plan Update: Public Input Survey	SurveyMonkey
101	We use playgrounds the most and seems most feasible economically. Indoor pool at Weber or new Weber like facility with pool/fitness center is most desired but seems unattainable.	8/14/2019 6:09 AM
102	Some of the parks throughout the village seem to have outdated equipment, and I'd rather see the village improve the existing parks rather than spend money on making new parks or expanding bike and walking trails (Which we already have).	8/14/2019 3:38 AM
103	Playgrounds are used most	8/14/2019 2:18 AM
104	Improvements needed. Example- Pooch Park's entrance key doesn't work. Any dog can be let in. The agility area needs updating.	8/14/2019 1:37 AM
105	Green spaces provide mental rest, improve health, relaxation. Make life a little more peacefulless stressful.	8/13/2019 5:21 PM
106	Newer models of play equipment needed in some of the parks.	8/13/2019 1:08 PM
107	We need an indoor pool!	8/13/2019 12:50 PM
108	SPD is one of the finest park districts around. I don't think I would change anything.	8/13/2019 12:05 PM
109	I think a lot of parks need washrooms	8/13/2019 11:55 AM
110	More green space is always in important in an area as densely populated as Skokie.	8/13/2019 11:22 AM
111	Pool needed	8/13/2019 9:38 AM
112	Indoor space serves community year-round	8/13/2019 8:49 AM
113	We live in an area where it is about 6 blocks to walk to any park and feel there should be more parks in our area. It is also essential to add more green space and limit the amount of buildings, to help our planet.	8/13/2019 8:31 AM
114	My family and I have to travel outside of Skokie for a decent bike ride. Evanston and the birth shore have abundant bike trails. We're stuck with a single trail that barely gets us to the library and forces us to take dangerous sidewalks and sit at intersections. Increased bike lanes and trails need to be present to promote a more healthy community	8/13/2019 8:08 AM
115	Section above did not take my answers	8/13/2019 6:50 AM
116	na	8/13/2019 5:20 AM
117	Like weber center alot	8/13/2019 4:53 AM
118	There are many underparked areas of Skokie and land shoukd be considered for parks rather than development, even on commercial strips like Dempster. Why not use some of those vacant lots for parks? Also, all parks need more trees, many more trees.	8/13/2019 2:53 AM
119	Updates are critical for safety and inclusion for all. Our parks are great but can also use touch ups here and there.	8/13/2019 12:42 AM
120	Because I would like to see a new splash park in the area is really needed in the summer days, and is so necessarily to clean the old parks too, because sometimes garbage are full and water fountain are dirty.	8/13/2019 12:27 AM
121	It's been over 20 years since the park shelters and playgrounds have received new facilities	8/12/2019 7:32 PM
22	Always good to make spaces better	8/12/2019 5:10 PM
123	N/A	8/12/2019 3:57 PM
124	I think the Skokie Parks look good in general. I do not know how much to build a new park and to maintain it. It looks bad if any park is dirty or not safe. So I do not want to hear that park district does not have money to maintain or update due to too many parks. I prefer to see the existing parks look inviting and let residents feel comfortable and safe.	8/12/2019 2:23 PM
125	We have young kids and extended family who visit weekly and having newer playgrounds is very important to us especially having seen what neighboring suburbs have (Lincolnwood, Morton grove, Glenview, Evanston).	8/12/2019 2:12 PM
126	Equipment at some parks are just outdated or no longer used; even with the posted hours, we could use better lighting.	8/12/2019 1:55 PM
127	Some Parks or areas of parks appear under utilized and could draw more people with additional amenities.	8/12/2019 1:33 PM

128	Better to build on what's currently existing than add new.	8/12/2019 1:05 PM
129	We absolutely love having a park next door to our home (Shabonee), it's part of why we bought our house. However it is very outdated and the playground equipment could be safer and newer	8/12/2019 12:49 PM
130	The most important change should be staffing the pools in Sept as the weather has changed and they close way too early. Use seniors to staff if the teens are in school.	8/12/2019 11:58 AM
131	Public lands are essential to health of for us and our environment	8/12/2019 11:38 AM
132	I love what SPD already has, and would like to discover more of what already exists. SPD is one of the deciding factors to make the move to Skokie.	8/12/2019 11:22 AM
133	Because the remodeling is done but it pays attention to few people who make demands but not to the ones that people who dont voice themselves since they are most of the people	8/12/2019 11:02 AM
134	Our parks just need to be maintained well. Landscaping, equipment, water fountains, pools!, etc	8/12/2019 10:56 AM
135	Everyone needs to bike and walk more. New trails would make this easier!	8/12/2019 9:36 AM
136	Skokie would be best served with not only updating and renovation some parks but also by adding an indoor turf facility like neighboring Niles and Evanston recently opened.	8/12/2019 9:32 AM
137	I am an Evanston resident and have only gone and participated at Weber Park - for about 6 years now.	8/12/2019 8:45 AM
138	I love the breathing space, trees, and overall nature/ environment that natural and open spaces provide Skokie- especially since we do live next to a busy city. Emily Oaks is a fantastic use of wooded space and Central Park is also a gorgeous space of open land, biking loop, playground, and beautiful trees.	8/12/2019 8:34 AM
139	I am in Skokie parks and FPDCC 5 days a week on walking and hiking trails. I have dogs but no children.	8/12/2019 8:32 AM
140	Playgrounds are so important! They keep our kids fit, they provide a safe space for kids to play, and they are places where neighbors gather. They should be fun, safe, accessible, with shady and sunny areas, and with water fountains and restrooms available.	8/12/2019 8:18 AM
141	I would like an indoor pool for public use and increase swimmtime at Devonshire-similiar to Wilmette- they're outdoor pool is open all of September- if they can find life guards why can't we??	8/12/2019 7:25 AM
142	I would love to see more undisturbed natural prairie and other landscapes to heal the environment.	8/12/2019 7:20 AM
43	Open lands improves the quality of life	8/12/2019 7:02 AM
44	It is accessible to many	8/12/2019 6:59 AM
45	I feel we don't need to make new parks just update/repurpose the ones we have	8/12/2019 6:39 AM
46	most inclusive for everyone. plus encourages more exercise and less cars	8/12/2019 6:38 AM
147	Parks are good, but would rather see money spent on keeping the good then embarking on new stuff	8/12/2019 6:32 AM
48	I think there are a lot of playground that can use an update	8/12/2019 6:31 AM
149	I would love for our young people to have more places to go after school during the cold months to hang out and be active and not get into trouble.	8/12/2019 6:29 AM
150	We have so many existing playgrounds that I think can be refreshed or new equipment can be added.	8/12/2019 6:28 AM
151	Throughout the year we need more indoor space for activities.	8/12/2019 6:23 AM
52	Think most playgrounds could use some updating	8/12/2019 6:21 AM
53	I use the driving range daily and would like the raised greens, etc leveled so that you can see where the ball lands.	8/12/2019 6:21 AM
54	New bike trails, and an indoor pool would be great.	8/12/2019 6:16 AM
155	Indoor space will be used more throughout the year. Improve your facilities. Expand programs wherever needed.Prioritize children's programs!	8/12/2019 6:16 AM
156	I recently visited a fantastic multi-purpose park in Elmhurst. They had pretty much everything in very close proximity to each other. Fantastic.	8/12/2019 6:15 AM

	Park District Comprehensive Plan Update: Public Input Survey	-
157	More attention to biking please and NOT combined with skaters. It's annoying and dangerous	8/12/2019 6:13 AM
158	A lot of the athletic fields are very prone to flooding.	8/12/2019 6:11 AM
159	The parks are great. More safe walking and biking would be the biggest improvement. I'd love to see a space where kids could roller skate.	8/12/2019 6:10 AM
160	could always use an update of the parks and facilities	8/12/2019 6:07 AM
161	I'd be most interested in an indoor pool that can be used for lap swimming more often than just 2x a week!	8/11/2019 2:31 PM
162	Maintainance of the parks is primordial, beautification and perhaps an addition to a pool facility for the west side of Skokie. It will be amazing to have an indoor pool in the Weber Center.	8/10/2019 7:12 AM
163	As mentioned, unlike other communities, soccer has no indoor turf fields. Skokie residents have to go to Niles or Evanston for such access.	8/7/2019 4:29 AM
164	I feel it is important to maintain what we already have and improve upon it	8/6/2019 2:33 PM
165	I have a young child and playgrounds are very important.	8/5/2019 10:52 AM
166	While I enjoy Oakton and Devonshire Parks in particular, I'm concerned that they both are at risk for becoming rundown, and I'd hate to see that.	8/5/2019 10:41 AM
167	Once open land is gone (to developers ) it is lost	8/5/2019 6:00 AM
168	Skokie is becoming too dense with buildings and concrete taking over green space.	8/4/2019 4:32 PM
169	The local playground at Shabonee is very outdated	8/4/2019 12:07 PM
170	We also like the walking trail on the old RR right of way. Another trail would be nice.	8/2/2019 5:44 PM
171	in my opinion the parks are not maintained as they should be for a community like ours.	8/2/2019 12:00 PM
172	The SPD provides so many recreation services aside from outdoor parks. In our region, the weather can prohibit people from using outdoor spaces 50% of the year. The SPD already does a GREAT job with the number and maintenance of the parks and outdoor spaces they have.	8/2/2019 6:55 AM
173	Would like to see indoor pools more accessible to seniors for rehab purposes at a reasonable cost.	8/1/2019 2:32 PM
174	I believe are parks are nice already and always look forward to seeing new parks and open spaces. Any opportunity for public outdoor spaces is good:)	7/31/2019 3:20 PM
175	I actually thought many of them were duplicates. Updating/renovating is the same in my opinion. Considering it's only warm 2-3 months of the year, you may want to put your focus more on indoor opportunities like an aquatics center or ice rink etc. I love the parks and Skokie has a lot, how many of them are in bad shape where the equipment is outdated and needs replaced etc are your residents in more need of indoor space for activities because of the brutal winters. Also, our family loves the Skokie Sports Park. Again, I am open to raising taxes if I will get better maintained parks etc. I do think there is a need for after-school activities for middle school-aged children. These students technically aren't old enough to be home alone yet many of them are because parents are working.	7/31/2019 2:47 PM
176	B/c I want an indoor pool with aquatic classes.	7/31/2019 12:47 PM
177	safety issue for bikers and walkers	7/31/2019 12:09 PM
178	Kids bike and have much fun. Adults jog, seniors jog. Everyone enjoys trails	7/31/2019 10:57 AM
179	Oakton Center needs a complete renovation and update. Its current condition is filthy, rundown, and poorly maintained. The building's bathrooms have a serious mold problem.	7/31/2019 8:49 AM
180	Everything is great	7/31/2019 7:32 AM
181	There are many neighborhoods that have no park so we have no safe place for kids to play so we end up driving to another neighborhood that has a park. I see plenty of open spaces that could be purchased to build even a small park. My neighborhood at 5000 block of Dobson along with the adjacent one to the south have no park while some neighborhoods have several. I see a huge OCC parking lot that is never used at Lincoln and Dobson that would be perfect for a little park. Also having a walkable bridge or path between Oakton and Emily Oaks seems to be a no-brainer. Right now the way to get between the 2 is ridiculous.	7/31/2019 6:46 AM
182	Green space is critical for communities.	7/31/2019 6:24 AM

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Skokie I	Park District Comprehensive Plan Update: Public Input Survey	SurveyMonke
204	I have kids. We love new playgrounds! And it seems like most of our interior spaces are already updated - and wonderful!	7/30/2019 6:05 AM
205	Updating might be easiest and fastest	7/30/2019 5:40 AM
206	Kids and I love exploring new fun areas of Skokie. We love nature, being able to spend fun time outside, and getting exercise by doing so.	7/30/2019 5:17 AM
207	I ranked them at the level of interest to me.	7/30/2019 5:06 AM
208	Skokie needs more green space and less building of new properties. Skokie is becoming too dense with new housing	7/30/2019 4:51 AM
209	We need more open public space for our kids that's year-round. Since we have mostly winter in the midwest, open gyms are important. Open land is important as well. Not only for environmental purposes but for the mental health of our community as well. Next we need to improve the spaces we have and bring them up to date in all parts of our community. And then we can add on.	7/30/2019 4:39 AM
210	Some of the parks could use new and updated equipment, some of the bathrooms could be updated	7/30/2019 4:36 AM
211	We DESPERATELY need more indoor play spaces. Period. There is almost nowhere to go in the winter with small kids. PLEASE!!! Many of our existing playgroundsespecially Central Parkare in need of a boost.	7/30/2019 3:30 AM
212	I love the bike trails in Skokie and would like to see more of them.	7/30/2019 3:27 AM
213	Where we live on 8300 N Tripp, there is not a very close park option to take our family. It would be great to have a space within 3-4 blocks for a shirt walk to enjoy.	7/30/2019 3:12 AM
214	Too much street traffic for walkers and bikers. Need safe routes to other trails.	7/30/2019 3:04 AM
215	Use those every day	7/30/2019 2:54 AM
216	Bike trails and bike lanes foster community and help people get outdoors. Everyone wins with bike and hiking trails. Also it's great for all ages, and beautifies the community	7/30/2019 2:45 AM
217	new senior bus	7/30/2019 2:44 AM
218	Keeping Skokie a safe, inviting, and affordable place for families will maintain the wonderful inclusive nature of our village.	7/30/2019 2:17 AM
219	Playgrounds need updating, ball fields are rocky and often flooded out	7/30/2019 1:40 AM
220	Both of my sons play baseball and we've played games in the neighboring communities. All of these communities have nicer parks and/or bigger complexes. James Park in Evanston. Community Park West in Glenview. Roemer Park in Wilmette. Etc. There doesn't seem to be a lot of available extra space in Skokie. But at the same time, there is not one grass infield and only one field with lights. Also, the space near Sports Park is still undeveloped. While not the best location being by the Water Reclamation Plant, it's not being used at all.	7/30/2019 1:40 AM
221	The paths that we have are good, but getting to them requires us to load our bikes and drive to them. We have young kids and riding on the street is scary.	7/30/2019 1:26 AM
222	improves walkability in the town and residential access and safety	7/30/2019 12:20 AM
223	Because there was not an option for "develop new indoor parks" which we need for long winters, esp for recreation like swimming or roller skating, not always for classes, free swim, free skate etc, things all ages can do at a low cost or free	7/29/2019 8:00 PM
224	Skokie already has a lot of excellent playgrounds. I think we would benefit from updating what we already have before adding new parks.	7/29/2019 7:15 PM
225	We love Skokie for its abundance of parks. Additional parks are probably unnecessary. Every one in Skokie lives near a park.	7/29/2019 7:01 PM
226	As we have visited other park out of the city, I feel as thought ours lag behind.	7/29/2019 6:37 PM
227	When winter comes kids reallIIIIIy need places to run, jump & climb. The exploratorium is great but it gets really crowded & not great for small kids in the tubes and tunnels	7/29/2019 5:55 PM
228	If a park is dirty or not maintained well then we will not visit.	7/29/2019 5:54 PM
229	For decades the Skokie Park District has lacked inside facilities, which are becoming increasingly more important as our winter weather gets worse.	7/29/2019 5:50 PM

Skokie	Park District Comprehensive Plan Update: Public Input Survey	SurveyMonke
230	The walking and biking trails would help connect Skokie community in being active and meeting our neighbors. We should also focus on improving what we have and making sure it's accessible to everyone before we think about acquiring new land or property.	7/29/2019 5:37 PM
231	Many of the playgrounds around town have been unchanged since the 90s/early 200s and are showing their age. There are a lot of playground around town that could use new play features so they aren't "boring" in my kids words. Would also love to see more public indoor space. I ranked bike/walking path as low because the village is doing most of that, and i am not sure the park district has enough land that paths could be something substantial anyways.	7/29/2019 5:25 PM
232	Baseball and softball fields need updating: improved drainage, dugouts, lighting. Stop pumping money into Fitness First and fix the parks that everybody uses!	7/29/2019 5:24 PM
233	Indoor facilities are year-round assets; keep them in great condition.	7/29/2019 5:09 PM
234	The Skatium needs improvements. It's an awesome perk of living in Skokie, but ask any ice parent, and they'll tell you about the needs for an upgrade.	7/29/2019 5:00 PM
235	I'm a bike rider. We need to encourage more of it. Walking is great for your health.	7/29/2019 4:47 PM
236	I visit Weber center frequently and it is often crowded without enough space for some classes and not enough parking	7/29/2019 4:47 PM
237	We need parks that are nature friendly. Done parks are designed with material that gives off odor and heat. Replacing the ground with artificial grass, more trees planted around, restrooms, and drinking fountains would be big.	7/29/2019 4:39 PM
238	We should connect our trails to the trails in the Forest Preserve and the City trails to increase length of trails and find a safe means to bike/run to Chicago's lakefront.	7/29/2019 4:14 PM
239	It's important to keep the facilities updated and in good condition.	7/29/2019 3:57 PM
240	More parks make every community better. Also, I think thar you do a pretty good job of upkeep in our parks.	7/29/2019 3:53 PM
241	Most of the playgrounds could use some updating, specifically getting rid of the sand would be nice.	7/29/2019 3:45 PM
242	Need more paths for seniors and special needs residents.	7/29/2019 3:45 PM
243	Start with improving what you have first	7/29/2019 3:31 PM
244	Skokie really needs an indoor tennis facility. Winter is long and Niles North is not a great option.	7/29/2019 3:23 PM
245	I would like to see an indoor pool with water fitness.	7/29/2019 3:03 PM
246	Bike and walking trail would be great. Other than that I am very happy with the parks. Only complaint is that some of the playgrounds have no shade, like Emily oaks.	7/29/2019 2:35 PM
247	With 3 children under 6, having a playground that is updated and also targets toddlers and elementary aged children, is super important to me. More fencing or bushes or barriers around parks would also be nice to kind of manage multiple children. A splash pad would be nice to have too, Lawler park is one park with a ton of space too and requires a massive renovation. I think the whale has been there since I was a kid. In any case, Emily Oaks, Devonshire by the cultural center and Oakton are excellent parks! We love how Oakton has a purpose related to archaeology.	7/29/2019 2:32 PM
248	As already listed, Skokie desperately needs a facility like the Niles Family Fitness Center (which I visit 3+ times a week because I can swim in their indoor pool ANY time). The indoor pool in Skokie are located at the high schools & cannot he used by the public during much of the day.	7/29/2019 2:29 PM
249	Kids don't have enough gym time so parks and playgrounds are crucial. Also, they are free and available to everyone so my kids meet new friends.	7/29/2019 2:09 PM
250	We use indoor facilities more than outdoor areas.	7/29/2019 1:59 PM
251	NA	7/29/2019 1:51 PM
252	Would love to not have to drive out of Skokie to find a good park or activities for my children ranging in ages from 6-15 years of age. Thank you!	7/29/2019 1:51 PM
253	I think we have a good frame work of parks but some could use an upgrade.	7/29/2019 1:41 PM

Skokie l	Park District Comprehensive Plan Update: Public Input Survey	SurveyMonke
254	I believe that keeping existing parks current, safe and clean should be a priority before adding new parks or facilities	7/29/2019 1:16 PM
255	After parties- it takes awhile for garbage to be collected and people should be fined for leaving a mess	7/29/2019 1:08 PM
256	Na	7/29/2019 1:06 PM
257	don't	7/29/2019 1:04 PM
258	Extend the bike trail from the northern end (by skokie swift) to further north by developing the land within Skokie borders and by participating with other municipalities.	7/29/2019 12:59 PM
259	personal opinion	7/29/2019 12:48 PM
260	Continuing to maintain Skokie Park District's investments seem the most financially sound.	7/29/2019 12:46 PM
261	By renovating/repurposing indoor space there can be a pool for the fitness center	7/29/2019 12:46 PM
262	We think the parks are great, that the maintenance schedule seems to keep up with needs, etc.	7/29/2019 12:42 PM
263	Let's improve what we have first to keep it in top shape.	7/29/2019 12:41 PM
264	I use Weber center as well as the Position Pool. Some exercise classes are very crowded. The fans are old and don't work correctly leaving some parts of the room very hot and uncomfortable.	7/29/2019 12:38 PM
.65	I think more activities could be offered through repurposed indoor space	7/29/2019 12:36 PM
.66	Remove sand parks	7/29/2019 12:34 PM
.67	need to keep parks uptodate and add new items	7/29/2019 12:33 PM
68	We need to set aside open space for people before it is all taken up with brick and asphalt	7/29/2019 12:32 PM
69	We need an indoor pool option! Maybe update and use the JCC location or land?!	7/29/2019 12:32 PM
270	based on how my family uses parks	7/29/2019 12:32 PM
271	there are no walking/bike trails near me	7/29/2019 12:31 PM
272	I think the addition of indoor soccer facilities is important and possibly climbing walls or bouldering.	7/29/2019 12:31 PM
273	Chance to play in cold winter months.	7/29/2019 12:30 PM
274	Having an indoor pool for public use so the public does not have to get memberships at other facilities	7/29/2019 12:28 PM
275	Updated local neighborhood playgrounds are important to parents and grandparents of young kids. Used for camps and after school recreation. Keeps young families wanting to move to Skokie.	7/29/2019 12:28 PM
276	Open space will get increasingly more important and more expensive. The park district should plan ahead and acquire land at every opportunity. Parks and green space improve the quality of life and value of property.	7/29/2019 12:27 PM
277	By far I think the two most important things are more bike and nature trails (specifically a continuation of the bike trail from Dempster to Niles North) and updating/adding to indoor space at Weber if possible.	7/29/2019 12:26 PM
278	We need more indoor year round option indoor pools would be a great thing for families indoor mini golf would be a great money maker for park district and fun for families just imagine if we had a lazy river water slide facility year round pool how awesome	7/29/2019 12:26 PM
279	New turf ball fields and lit fields are needed. Other towns in the north suburbs have gone in this direction and it has led to some of the parts being a destination for the entire area.	7/29/2019 12:25 PM
280	Sequoia was last renovated 27 years agomy son was 1.5-2 years old and we couldn't play there.	7/29/2019 12:21 PM
281	I have small children and the playgrounds are the most used part of the park district for our family	7/29/2019 12:20 PM
282	Skokie is landlocked. We have 42 parks. There is a schedule for updating them every year. What we Do NOT have is an indoor pool and a skate park.	7/29/2019 12:19 PM
283	Updating parks for kids in the area would be nicer than creating a new park in a different area. Beautify skokie first, then develop other parks for new construction areas	7/29/2019 12:18 PM
284	Due to weather - indoor space is important. The senior lounge sometimes feels crowded - more room is needed to accommodate everyone.	7/29/2019 12:17 PM

285	Baseball fields need better amenities	7/29/2019 12:15 PM
286	Biking trails don't connect very well between sculpture park and other places	7/29/2019 12:14 PM
287	We are very blessed and don't need more park spaces and amenities. Need more programming and marketing for teenagers and middle schoolers.	7/29/2019 12:14 PM
288	Devonshire could use renovation inside, such as was done with Weber.	7/29/2019 12:12 PM
289	Na	7/29/2019 12:11 PM
290	Parks are always needed	7/29/2019 12:11 PM
291	Most use - year round. Facilities should be updated.	7/29/2019 12:10 PM
292	I enjoy bike riding on safe, extended trails. Shady rest areas are a plus!	7/29/2019 12:07 PM
293	Because I use Weber center and want to keep it updated.	7/29/2019 12:07 PM
294	More useful for more people of all ages and abilities than a skate/bike park or other facilities that cater to a small and specific group of people.	7/29/2019 12:06 PM
295	Skating is most important	7/29/2019 12:05 PM
296	It makes sense to upgrade what is already owned than to acquire new space.	7/29/2019 12:05 PM
297	The parks south of the tracks are in poor condition! Why haven't they been updated? Courts have cracks, playgrounds are old, etc. please spend some time and money on theses parks.	7/29/2019 12:03 PM
298	Skokie has always been known for the number of parks, no matter how small or big. In a semi- urban area it is nice to have more green space and its good for the environment.	7/29/2019 11:58 AM
299	I have lived in Skokie all my life, am now 38, with 2 children ages 7 and 10. There has been slow revamp of parks in the area, would love to see new equipment with various play areas for kids.	7/29/2019 11:52 AM
300	You need to expand the available amenities outside of Devonshire and downtown Skokie. Amenities including programming. I'd love to see outdoor movies down the street with my neighbors or be able to have a party in the park. We also need updating to happen outside of devonshire and downtown. Playground equipment is deteriorating in the smaller parks.	7/29/2019 11:43 AM
301	I believe we should maintain and update what we have before we spend more money acquiring more space. The indoor facilities are in fine shape, but many of the local playgrounds are run down and outdated.	7/29/2019 11:23 AM

#### SurveyMonkey

#### Q19 How did you hear about this survey?

Answered: 602 Skipped: 108

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	I work for the park district.	8/23/2019 7:45 AM
2	Facebook	8/23/2019 4:13 AM
3	Word of mouth	8/23/2019 12:48 AM
4	Through school district thread	8/23/2019 12:44 AM
5	Facebook	8/22/2019 5:53 PM
6	Facebook	8/22/2019 4:02 PM
7	Facebook	8/22/2019 3:11 AM
8	Facebook.	8/22/2019 3:08 AM
9	My husband receives your email news, and he forwarded this survey to me.	8/22/2019 2:30 AM
10	Fb	8/22/2019 2:30 AM
11	Email from skokie	8/21/2019 6:58 PM
12	Facebook	8/21/2019 6:36 PM
13	Facebook	8/21/2019 5:04 PM
14	Facebook	8/21/2019 4:25 PM
15	SkokieNews email	8/21/2019 4:22 PM
16	Twitter	8/21/2019 1:03 PM
17	Skokie news update online.	8/21/2019 12:59 PM
18	Emailed Skokie newsletter	8/21/2019 12:49 PM
19	Facebook	8/21/2019 8:07 AM
20	email	8/21/2019 6:33 AM
21	Email	8/21/2019 6:33 AM
22	Facebook post	8/21/2019 5:48 AM
23	Facebook	8/21/2019 1:43 AM
24	from Skokie news	8/21/2019 1:40 AM
25	email	8/20/2019 7:02 PM
26	Enewsletter	8/20/2019 6:37 PM
27	Skokie Eblast	8/20/2019 5:57 PM
28	Skokie Village newsletter	8/20/2019 5:02 PM
29	SkokieNews email	8/20/2019 4:52 PM
30	skokie email newsletter	8/20/2019 4:33 PM
31	Email address	8/20/2019 4:27 PM
32	Village e-newsletter	8/20/2019 4:25 PM
33	e-mail	8/20/2019 2:57 PM
34	online	8/20/2019 11:39 AM
35	Friend on Facebook.	8/20/2019 11:06 AM

36	Email	8/20/2019 10:56 AM
37	Skokie Newsletter (email)	8/20/2019 9:51 AM
38	Email	8/20/2019 9:38 AM
39	the skokie e-letter	8/20/2019 9:08 AM
40	Facebook	8/20/2019 8:38 AM
41	Skokie newsletter	8/20/2019 8:35 AM
42	email	8/20/2019 8:06 AM
43	online	8/20/2019 7:41 AM
44	Village of Skokie email	8/20/2019 7:28 AM
45	ON LINE FROM YOUR VILL AGE COMMUNICATION	8/20/2019 7:23 AM
46	email blast	8/20/2019 7:21 AM
47	email	8/20/2019 6:52 AM
48	Skokie e-newletter	8/20/2019 6:52 AM
49	Saw on Facebook.	8/20/2019 6:37 AM
50	From Skokie enews.	8/20/2019 5:58 AM
51	Village on line news	8/20/2019 5:53 AM
52	Village letter	8/20/2019 5:43 AM
53	Email	8/20/2019 5:37 AM
54	village e-newsletter	8/20/2019 5:36 AM
55	Skokie E-newsletter	8/20/2019 5:18 AM
56	Newsletter	8/20/2019 5:16 AM
57	SkokieNews email	8/20/2019 5:10 AM
58	village newsletter	8/20/2019 4:40 AM
59	by e-mail	8/20/2019 4:24 AM
60	email	8/20/2019 4:21 AM
61	online newsletter	8/20/2019 4:17 AM
62	monthly e-nail newsletter	8/20/2019 4:15 AM
63	News letters	8/20/2019 4:15 AM
64	Email.	8/20/2019 4:12 AM
65	Skokie News	8/20/2019 4:09 AM
66	email	8/20/2019 4:02 AM
67	Facebook sponsored post	8/20/2019 3:58 AM
68	Skokie News email	8/20/2019 3:53 AM
69	Skokie News email	8/20/2019 3:50 AM
70	Newsletter sent to my email	8/20/2019 2:46 AM
71	Email	8/20/2019 2:34 AM
72	village e-mail	8/20/2019 2:32 AM
73	email	8/20/2019 2:19 AM
74	Village of Skokie email newsletter	8/20/2019 1:52 AM
75	Reading email village news	8/20/2019 1:16 AM
76	Email	8/20/2019 12:35 AM

Skokie I	Park District Comprehensive Plan Update: Public Input Survey	SurveyMonk
77	Facebook	8/19/2019 10:06 PM
78	Park district email newsletter.	8/19/2019 9:00 PM
'9	Facebook targeted ad	8/19/2019 8:47 PM
30	Husband shared it	8/19/2019 7:31 PM
31	Skokie ebulliten	8/19/2019 7:00 PM
32	Skokie news	8/19/2019 6:45 PM
33	Skokie newsletter	8/19/2019 6:26 PM
34	email	8/19/2019 6:26 PM
35	SkokieNews email	8/19/2019 5:23 PM
36	Village e-news	8/19/2019 5:20 PM
37	email	8/19/2019 5:19 PM
38	E-Newsletter	8/19/2019 5:03 PM
39	Skokie e-newsletter	8/19/2019 5:03 PM
90	Village of Skokie newsletter	8/19/2019 4:55 PM
91	Facebook	8/19/2019 4:38 PM
92	you sent me email with a link	8/19/2019 4:34 PM
93	Village of Skokie online newsletter; I think I also received it via the park district	8/19/2019 4:30 PM
94	Skokie News Email	8/19/2019 4:29 PM
95	Skokie enewsletter	8/19/2019 4:23 PM
96	Facebook	8/19/2019 4:19 PM
97	Email from Village of Skokie	8/19/2019 4:16 PM
98	E-mail from village.	8/19/2019 4:04 PM
99	SkokieNews email	8/19/2019 3:55 PM
100	Email	8/19/2019 3:39 PM
101	Skokie newsletter	8/19/2019 3:39 PM
102	I receive the Skokie on line newsletter.	8/19/2019 3:36 PM
103	Email	8/19/2019 3:30 PM
104	Skokie newsletter	8/19/2019 3:28 PM
105	Skokie enews	8/19/2019 3:27 PM
106	e-mail included in the Village of Skokie newsletter	8/19/2019 2:45 PM
107	Skokie weekly email	8/19/2019 2:41 PM
108	Facebook	8/19/2019 2:12 PM
109	Skokie news letter e mail	8/19/2019 2:11 PM
110	email	8/19/2019 2:02 PM
111	it was emailed to me.	8/19/2019 2:00 PM
12	Skokie news email	8/19/2019 1:48 PM
13	Village of Skokie email.	8/19/2019 1:48 PM
14	Email newsletter	8/19/2019 1:47 PM
15	Skokie e-newsletter	8/19/2019 1:45 PM
16	Skokie e-newsletter	8/19/2019 1:37 PM
17	Email	8/19/2019 1:34 PM

118	SKOKIE VILLAGE NEWS	8/19/2019 1:31 PM
119	email	8/19/2019 1:29 PM
120	Skokie newsletter email	8/19/2019 1:25 PM
121	Village of Skokie Email	8/19/2019 1:18 PM
122	Email	8/19/2019 1:13 PM
123	Skpkie newsletter	8/19/2019 1:10 PM
124	SkokiEnews	8/19/2019 1:08 PM
125	Email	8/19/2019 1:04 PM
126	Email	8/19/2019 1:02 PM
127	E newsletter	8/19/2019 1:01 PM
128	Email from the village.	8/19/2019 12:55 PM
129	Skokie newsletter	8/19/2019 12:55 PM
130	Email	8/19/2019 12:53 PM
131	My email and the newsletter.	8/19/2019 12:52 PM
132	Skokie email newsletter	8/19/2019 12:46 PM
133	NewSkokie	8/19/2019 12:41 PM
134	Skokie newsletter	8/19/2019 12:37 PM
135	found it on line with Sk News	8/19/2019 12:36 PM
136	Skokie e- newsletter	8/19/2019 12:36 PM
137	website	8/19/2019 12:35 PM
138	Email	8/19/2019 12:34 PM
139	email	8/19/2019 12:33 PM
140	e news	8/19/2019 12:32 PM
141	SkokieNews	8/19/2019 12:30 PM
142	Skokie enews	8/19/2019 12:27 PM
143	Email	8/19/2019 12:25 PM
144	via email	8/19/2019 11:27 AM
145	Facebook	8/19/2019 9:10 AM
146	Email and facebook	8/19/2019 7:57 AM
147	Facebook	8/19/2019 7:22 AM
148	Facebook	8/19/2019 5:29 AM
149	email	8/19/2019 5:04 AM
150	Social media	8/19/2019 2:49 AM
151	Facebook	8/19/2019 1:49 AM
152	Facebook	8/19/2019 1:12 AM
153	Facebook	8/18/2019 5:58 PM
154	Email	8/18/2019 5:07 PM
155	Facebook	8/18/2019 4:10 PM
156	Facebook	8/18/2019 2:52 PM
157	Instagram	8/18/2019 7:53 AM
158	Facebook	8/18/2019 6:03 AM

SKOK1e	Park District Comprehensive Plan Update: Public Input Survey	SurveyMonke
159	other household member	8/18/2019 5:36 AM
60	Facebook and email	8/18/2019 4:28 AM
61	Facebook	8/18/2019 3:03 AM
62	Facebook	8/17/2019 12:58 PM
163	email	8/17/2019 6:41 AM
64	Facebook	8/17/2019 3:16 AM
65	Facebook	8/17/2019 3:06 AM
66	Facebook	8/16/2019 5:38 PM
67	Facebook	8/16/2019 5:17 PM
68	Facebook	8/16/2019 5:02 PM
69	Facebook	8/16/2019 4:32 PM
70	Facebook	8/16/2019 4:05 PM
71	Facebook	8/16/2019 3:53 PM
72	Facebook	8/16/2019 9:13 AM
73	Facebook	8/16/2019 6:23 AM
74	Facebook	8/16/2019 3:19 AM
75	8	8/16/2019 2:56 AM
76	Facebook	8/15/2019 4:27 PM
77	Facebook	8/15/2019 3:23 PM
78	Facebook	8/15/2019 3:15 PM
79	Facebook	8/15/2019 3:05 PM
80	web page	8/15/2019 9:02 AM
81	Email	8/15/2019 4:05 AM
82	personal email	8/15/2019 4:00 AM
83	Email and Facebook	8/15/2019 3:37 AM
84	Facebook friend	8/15/2019 3:11 AM
85	Facebook	8/15/2019 2:00 AM
86	Park district employee	8/14/2019 6:40 PM
87	Received email	8/14/2019 5:39 PM
88	Fb	8/14/2019 5:21 PM
89	Facebook	8/14/2019 4:50 PM
90	facebook	8/14/2019 3:47 PM
91	Facebook	8/14/2019 3:45 PM
92	facebook	8/14/2019 3:38 PM
93	Facebook	8/14/2019 2:04 PM
94	Twitter	8/14/2019 11:17 AM
95	email	8/14/2019 7:03 AM
96	Facebook	8/14/2019 6:09 AM
97	Email	8/14/2019 5:30 AM
98	I was emailed the survey	8/14/2019 3:38 AM
99	Facebook	8/14/2019 3:21 AM

200	Email	8/14/2019 2:18 AM
201	Twitter	8/14/2019 2:07 AM
202	Facebook	8/14/2019 1:37 AM
203	On Facebook	8/13/2019 5:34 PM
204	got an email	8/13/2019 5:21 PM
205	E mail	8/13/2019 1:43 PM
206	email	8/13/2019 1:18 PM
207	email	8/13/2019 1:17 PM
208	Email	8/13/2019 1:08 PM
209	Email	8/13/2019 12:50 PM
210	Facebook pta page	8/13/2019 12:14 PM
211	email	8/13/2019 12:05 PM
212	email	8/13/2019 11:55 AM
213	Email	8/13/2019 11:45 AM
214	Facebook	8/13/2019 11:22 AM
215	Twitter	8/13/2019 9:55 AM
216	Pta page	8/13/2019 9:38 AM
217	Facebook	8/13/2019 9:07 AM
218	on my email	8/13/2019 8:49 AM
219	Facebook	8/13/2019 8:42 AM
220	Email	8/13/2019 8:31 AM
221	Email	8/13/2019 8:08 AM
222	e-mailed to me	8/13/2019 7:43 AM
223	From a friend	8/13/2019 7:01 AM
224	email	8/13/2019 6:50 AM
225	email	8/13/2019 5:40 AM
226	Facebook	8/13/2019 5:34 AM
227	email	8/13/2019 5:20 AM
228	My dad forwarded it to me.	8/13/2019 5:02 AM
229	e mail	8/13/2019 4:53 AM
230	Email from neighbor	8/13/2019 2:53 AM
231	Email	8/13/2019 1:55 AM
232	Instagram	8/13/2019 12:47 AM
233	Facebook.	8/13/2019 12:42 AM
234	Via Facebook	8/13/2019 12:27 AM
235	Post on Instagram	8/12/2019 11:54 PM
236	Email	8/12/2019 10:41 PM
237	email	8/12/2019 7:42 PM
238	Email	8/12/2019 7:32 PM
239	The internet!	8/12/2019 7:17 PM

Skokie	Park District Comprehensive Plan Update: Public Input Survey	SurveyMonke
241	Facebook	8/12/2019 5:10 PM
242	email	8/12/2019 5:02 PM
243	Facebook	8/12/2019 4:45 PM
244	e-mail	8/12/2019 4:43 PM
245	email	8/12/2019 4:02 PM
246	Online	8/12/2019 3:57 PM
247	Email	8/12/2019 3:56 PM
248	Facebook	8/12/2019 2:36 PM
249	by email sent to me	8/12/2019 2:23 PM
250	Email from Skokie Park District employee.	8/12/2019 2:12 PM
251	Twitter	8/12/2019 2:02 PM
252	Via email from the Skokie Park District.	8/12/2019 1:55 PM
253	email	8/12/2019 1:33 PM
254	Email	8/12/2019 1:25 PM
255	Email	8/12/2019 1:05 PM
256	Twitter	8/12/2019 12:49 PM
257	It was emailed to me.	8/12/2019 12:37 PM
258	Came via email.	8/12/2019 12:33 PM
259	Email	8/12/2019 12:28 PM
260	email	8/12/2019 11:58 AM
261	facebook	8/12/2019 11:38 AM
262	Received email	8/12/2019 11:36 AM
263	Facebook	8/12/2019 11:22 AM
264	email notification	8/12/2019 10:56 AM
265	Email	8/12/2019 10:25 AM
266	Email	8/12/2019 10:24 AM
267	Email	8/12/2019 10:15 AM
268	Email	8/12/2019 10:10 AM
269	Email	8/12/2019 9:57 AM
270	Email	8/12/2019 9:57 AM
271	email	8/12/2019 9:48 AM
272	email	8/12/2019 9:41 AM
273	News article	8/12/2019 9:36 AM
274	Twitter	8/12/2019 9:32 AM
275	Emailed	8/12/2019 9:11 AM
276	via email	8/12/2019 8:45 AM
277	Email	8/12/2019 8:41 AM
278	email	8/12/2019 8:34 AM
279	Facebook	8/12/2019 8:32 AM
280	Facebook	8/12/2019 8:29 AM
281	Email	8/12/2019 8:25 AM

282	Facebook	8/12/2019 8:18 AM
283	email	8/12/2019 8:11 AM
284	Email	8/12/2019 8:04 AM
285	email	8/12/2019 7:52 AM
286	On line	8/12/2019 7:48 AM
287	Email	8/12/2019 7:26 AM
288	Email	8/12/2019 7:25 AM
289	Email	8/12/2019 7:21 AM
290	email	8/12/2019 7:20 AM
291	Facebook	8/12/2019 7:15 AM
292	Facebook	8/12/2019 7:15 AM
293	email	8/12/2019 7:13 AM
294	Email	8/12/2019 7:02 AM
295	email	8/12/2019 6:59 AM
296	email	8/12/2019 6:46 AM
297	through my email	8/12/2019 6:46 AM
298	email	8/12/2019 6:44 AM
299	Email	8/12/2019 6:42 AM
300	email	8/12/2019 6:42 AM
301	Email	8/12/2019 6:39 AM
302	email	8/12/2019 6:38 AM
303	Email	8/12/2019 6:36 AM
304	Email	8/12/2019 6:36 AM
305	Email	8/12/2019 6:34 AM
306	Email	8/12/2019 6:34 AM
307	email	8/12/2019 6:32 AM
308	Received an email	8/12/2019 6:31 AM
309	It was emailed to me.	8/12/2019 6:29 AM
310	Email.	8/12/2019 6:28 AM
311	Email	8/12/2019 6:28 AM
312	email	8/12/2019 6:27 AM
313	Friends and Family	8/12/2019 6:23 AM
314	Email	8/12/2019 6:21 AM
315	email	8/12/2019 6:21 AM
316	Email	8/12/2019 6:18 AM
317	Email	8/12/2019 6:18 AM
318	Email	8/12/2019 6:17 AM
319	It came to my email.	8/12/2019 6:16 AM
320	email	8/12/2019 6:16 AM
321	umyou emailed it to me.	8/12/2019 6:15 AM
322	email	8/12/2019 6:15 AM

Skokie	Park District Comprehensive Plan Update: Public Input Survey	SurveyMonke
323	you emailed me	8/12/2019 6:14 AM
324	email to me	8/12/2019 6:13 AM
325	Email	8/12/2019 6:11 AM
326	popped up on my email	8/12/2019 6:11 AM
327	email	8/12/2019 6:10 AM
328	Email link	8/12/2019 6:10 AM
329	email	8/12/2019 6:07 AM
330	Email	8/12/2019 6:05 AM
331	EMAIL	8/12/2019 6:00 AM
332	email	8/10/2019 7:12 AM
333	It was emailed to me by the Executive Director of the Skokie Park District.	8/10/2019 1:38 AM
334	social media	8/9/2019 8:20 AM
335	park district web site	8/8/2019 1:08 PM
336	SPD employee	8/7/2019 4:29 AM
337	Email, Facebook	8/6/2019 2:33 PM
338	e-mail	8/5/2019 10:52 AM
339	Email	8/5/2019 10:41 AM
340	E-mail	8/5/2019 6:00 AM
341	email	8/4/2019 5:54 PM
342	Email	8/4/2019 4:32 PM
343	email	8/4/2019 12:07 PM
344	Email	8/4/2019 4:34 AM
345	Duh email	8/4/2019 2:45 AM
346	You e-mailed me a request to fill out the survey.	8/2/2019 5:44 PM
347	it was emailed to me	8/2/2019 12:00 PM
348	Email	8/2/2019 11:55 AM
349	email sent directly to me	8/2/2019 6:55 AM
350	It was sent to me.	8/2/2019 3:35 AM
351	It was sent to me via email.	8/1/2019 2:32 PM
352	email	8/1/2019 9:09 AM
353	It was sent to me e-mail.	8/1/2019 8:56 AM
354	email	8/1/2019 5:37 AM
355	Emailed to me	8/1/2019 3:05 AM
356	Email	8/1/2019 2:07 AM
357	It was emailed to me.	7/31/2019 3:20 PM
358	Another resident posted it on Facebook.	7/31/2019 2:47 PM
359	Emailed to me	7/31/2019 1:51 PM
360	Email	7/31/2019 12:47 PM
361	email from park district	7/31/2019 12:09 PM
362	email	7/31/2019 11:21 AM
363	Facebok	7/31/2019 10:57 AM

364	Sent to me	7/31/2019 7:32 AM
365	email	7/31/2019 6:54 AM
366	Email	7/31/2019 6:46 AM
367	Email	7/31/2019 6:40 AM
368	Sent to my email	7/31/2019 6:24 AM
369	email	7/31/2019 6:11 AM
370	Email	7/31/2019 4:19 AM
371	Facebook	7/31/2019 1:58 AM
372	email	7/31/2019 1:37 AM
373	Email	7/31/2019 12:40 AM
374	Facebook	7/30/2019 8:23 PM
375	Link sent to me by email from SPD	7/30/2019 7:08 PM
376	Email	7/30/2019 7:04 PM
377	It was emailed to me by the park district. I love living in Skokie, and my family uses the parks a lot. Most of our parks, though, have old equipment and little shade. There are also hardly any free or inexpensive places for children or teens to hang out. There are no indoor facilities for older children to hang out in regularly. The Exploritorium is great for young children; something is needed for kids above 7 years old. is The park district could do better.	7/30/2019 6:53 PM
378	Facebook	7/30/2019 6:51 PM
379	My spouse forwarded the email to me.	7/30/2019 6:38 PM
380	Skokie Park District newsletter	7/30/2019 6:22 PM
381	email	7/30/2019 5:25 PM
382	Facebook	7/30/2019 4:33 PM
383	On email list	7/30/2019 3:44 PM
384	Email and friends	7/30/2019 3:25 PM
385	Facebook	7/30/2019 3:13 PM
386	Email	7/30/2019 1:23 PM
387	Email	7/30/2019 12:58 PM
388	Direct email	7/30/2019 12:16 PM
389	facebook Skokie Park District page	7/30/2019 11:24 AM
390	l got an email	7/30/2019 11:10 AM
391	Came into my email	7/30/2019 10:41 AM
392	Facebook	7/30/2019 10:26 AM
393	Email	7/30/2019 10:02 AM
394	email	7/30/2019 9:56 AM
395	Facebook	7/30/2019 9:53 AM
396	Email	7/30/2019 9:48 AM
397	email	7/30/2019 9:18 AM
398	email	7/30/2019 9:16 AM
399	e-mail	7/30/2019 9:08 AM
400	Email from park district	7/30/2019 8:50 AM
401	email	7/30/2019 8:49 AM

Skokie l	Park District Comprehensive Plan Update: Public Input Survey	SurveyMonk
402	Got sent it through my email	7/30/2019 8:32 AM
403	email	7/30/2019 8:18 AM
404	Facebook	7/30/2019 8:16 AM
405	Email	7/30/2019 8:09 AM
406	emailed	7/30/2019 7:38 AM
407	Emailed to me	7/30/2019 6:57 AM
408	Email	7/30/2019 6:47 AM
109	Received this survey in my email box.	7/30/2019 6:39 AM
110	SPD sent me an email	7/30/2019 6:05 AM
111	Email	7/30/2019 5:59 AM
112	Email	7/30/2019 5:40 AM
113	received email.	7/30/2019 5:17 AM
114	You emailed me.	7/30/2019 5:06 AM
415	email	7/30/2019 4:51 AM
416	Facebook	7/30/2019 4:39 AM
417	email	7/30/2019 4:38 AM
118	email	7/30/2019 4:36 AM
119	Email	7/30/2019 4:25 AM
120	email	7/30/2019 4:24 AM
121	on line.	7/30/2019 4:20 AM
122	email	7/30/2019 4:19 AM
123	email	7/30/2019 4:15 AM
124	Email	7/30/2019 4:12 AM
125	email	7/30/2019 3:50 AM
426	e mail	7/30/2019 3:40 AM
127	Via email	7/30/2019 3:30 AM
128	email	7/30/2019 3:29 AM
129	It arrived in my inbox in an email.	7/30/2019 3:27 AM
430	email	7/30/2019 3:22 AM
431	Email	7/30/2019 3:13 AM
132	Email	7/30/2019 3:12 AM
433	email	7/30/2019 3:04 AM
434	Email	7/30/2019 2:54 AM
435	Email	7/30/2019 2:45 AM
136	email	7/30/2019 2:44 AM
137	email	7/30/2019 2:41 AM
138	email	7/30/2019 2:19 AM
439	Email	7/30/2019 2:18 AM
440	direct email invitation	7/30/2019 2:17 AM
141	Email	7/30/2019 2:11 AM
142	Email and also saw Facebook post	7/30/2019 1:40 AM

443	Email	7/30/2019 1:40 AM
444	Email	7/30/2019 1:26 AM
445	FB	7/30/2019 1:10 AM
446	You sent it to me.	7/30/2019 1:10 AM
447	Email	7/30/2019 12:20 AM
448	Email from wife	7/30/2019 12:06 AM
449	email	7/29/2019 10:04 PM
450	Email	7/29/2019 8:00 PM
451	email	7/29/2019 7:32 PM
452	Facebook	7/29/2019 7:15 PM
453	Email	7/29/2019 7:05 PM
454	in my inbox	7/29/2019 7:01 PM
455	Via direct email.	7/29/2019 6:59 PM
456	Email	7/29/2019 6:37 PM
457	came in email.	7/29/2019 6:31 PM
458	Email	7/29/2019 5:55 PM
459	Facebook	7/29/2019 5:54 PM
460	OK. We are just too old too participate anymore.	7/29/2019 5:52 PM
461	Email	7/29/2019 5:50 PM
462	I received an email.	7/29/2019 5:50 PM
463	Email	7/29/2019 5:45 PM
464	Email from the SPD	7/29/2019 5:44 PM
465	Online and email	7/29/2019 5:37 PM
466	Email	7/29/2019 5:33 PM
467	Got an email from SPD	7/29/2019 5:25 PM
468	SPD Commissioner	7/29/2019 5:24 PM
469	Email	7/29/2019 5:22 PM
470	E-MAIL	7/29/2019 5:18 PM
471	email	7/29/2019 5:16 PM
472	email	7/29/2019 5:11 PM
473	Email	7/29/2019 5:09 PM
474	Received email	7/29/2019 5:07 PM
475	Email	7/29/2019 5:00 PM
476	Email	7/29/2019 4:52 PM
477	Email	7/29/2019 4:47 PM
478	Received an email	7/29/2019 4:47 PM
479	Friend sent it to me	7/29/2019 4:47 PM
480	Email by Skokie	7/29/2019 4:39 PM
481	email	7/29/2019 4:39 PM
482	Inbox	7/29/2019 4:37 PM
483	Facebook	7/29/2019 4:35 PM

Skokie l	Park District Comprehensive Plan Update: Public Input Survey	SurveyMonke
484	Facebook.	7/29/2019 4:14 PM
485	email	7/29/2019 3:57 PM
486	sent	7/29/2019 3:53 PM
487	Email	7/29/2019 3:53 PM
488	email and Facebook	7/29/2019 3:45 PM
489	Park District email	7/29/2019 3:45 PM
490	email	7/29/2019 3:33 PM
491	Email	7/29/2019 3:31 PM
192	email	7/29/2019 3:25 PM
493	Email	7/29/2019 3:23 PM
194	email	7/29/2019 3:21 PM
495	Online	7/29/2019 3:03 PM
196	email	7/29/2019 2:56 PM
197	Email	7/29/2019 2:53 PM
198	Facebook	7/29/2019 2:45 PM
499	Email	7/29/2019 2:40 PM
500	received email	7/29/2019 2:33 PM
501	It was delivered in my email	7/29/2019 2:32 PM
502	Via email	7/29/2019 2:30 PM
503	Email	7/29/2019 2:29 PM
504	Husband forwarded survey to me because I visit Skokie parks & have taken Park District classes (excellent Tai Chi classes at Oakton Center).	7/29/2019 2:29 PM
505	email	7/29/2019 2:21 PM
506	this email	7/29/2019 2:21 PM
507	Email	7/29/2019 2:18 PM
508	Email	7/29/2019 2:18 PM
509	Email	7/29/2019 2:13 PM
510	Email	7/29/2019 2:02 PM
511	I received an email	7/29/2019 2:00 PM
512	You sent the survey to me	7/29/2019 1:59 PM
513	EMAIL	7/29/2019 1:51 PM
514	Email	7/29/2019 1:51 PM
515	It was emailed to	7/29/2019 1:45 PM
516	Email	7/29/2019 1:44 PM
517	Email	7/29/2019 1:41 PM
518	Email	7/29/2019 1:40 PM
519	email	7/29/2019 1:25 PM
520	email	7/29/2019 1:25 PM
521	Email	7/29/2019 1:19 PM
522	Email	7/29/2019 1:16 PM
523	Facebook	7/29/2019 1:11 PM

524	Email to me	7/29/2019 1:08 PM
525	Facebook	7/29/2019 1:06 PM
526	Email	7/29/2019 1:05 PM
527	l got an email	7/29/2019 1:04 PM
528	Received by email.	7/29/2019 12:59 PM
529	email	7/29/2019 12:56 PM
530	email	7/29/2019 12:52 PM
531	Email	7/29/2019 12:52 PM
532	email	7/29/2019 12:48 PM
533	Emailed to me	7/29/2019 12:46 PM
534	email	7/29/2019 12:46 PM
535	Email	7/29/2019 12:44 PM
536	email	7/29/2019 12:42 PM
537	Got an email from Park District. And saw on Facebook.	7/29/2019 12:41 PM
538	Email	7/29/2019 12:40 PM
539	Through exercise classes.	7/29/2019 12:38 PM
540	Skokie Citizens in Action Facebook Page	7/29/2019 12:37 PM
541	sent to me via email	7/29/2019 12:36 PM
542	An email to my in-box	7/29/2019 12:36 PM
543	Email	7/29/2019 12:36 PM
544	Facebook and email	7/29/2019 12:34 PM
545	email sent to me	7/29/2019 12:33 PM
546	email	7/29/2019 12:32 PM
547	Facebook	7/29/2019 12:32 PM
548	Friend posted to Facebook	7/29/2019 12:32 PM
549	email	7/29/2019 12:31 PM
550	it was emailed to me.	7/29/2019 12:31 PM
551	Email	7/29/2019 12:30 PM
552	Email sent out	7/29/2019 12:28 PM
553	Email	7/29/2019 12:28 PM
554	I received an email and the link	7/29/2019 12:27 PM
555	Email	7/29/2019 12:27 PM
556	Email	7/29/2019 12:26 PM
557	It was emailed to me.	7/29/2019 12:26 PM
558	emailed to me	7/29/2019 12:26 PM
559	Email	7/29/2019 12:26 PM
560	E-mail	7/29/2019 12:25 PM
561	Email list because member of fitness first this year	7/29/2019 12:25 PM
562	Email	7/29/2019 12:25 PM
563	Email	7/29/2019 12:24 PM
564	Email message	7/29/2019 12:24 PM

Skokie	Park District Comprehensive Plan Update: Public Input Survey	SurveyMonke
565	email	7/29/2019 12:21 PM
566	Email	7/29/2019 12:21 PM
567	Email	7/29/2019 12:21 PM
568	Email	7/29/2019 12:20 PM
569	Email	7/29/2019 12:20 PM
570	I'm a former park district commissioner in Skokie	7/29/2019 12:19 PM
571	got it in an email	7/29/2019 12:19 PM
572	Email in my inbox	7/29/2019 12:18 PM
573	email	7/29/2019 12:17 PM
574	Emailed	7/29/2019 12:15 PM
575	email	7/29/2019 12:14 PM
576	email	7/29/2019 12:14 PM
577	Email	7/29/2019 12:14 PM
578	email	7/29/2019 12:14 PM
579	email.	7/29/2019 12:12 PM
580	Email	7/29/2019 12:11 PM
581	Received it in my email inbox	7/29/2019 12:11 PM
582	Email	7/29/2019 12:11 PM
583	E mail	7/29/2019 12:11 PM
584	Email	7/29/2019 12:10 PM
585	Email	7/29/2019 12:09 PM
586	Email	7/29/2019 12:07 PM
587	Email to me	7/29/2019 12:07 PM
588	Email	7/29/2019 12:06 PM
589	Got an email	7/29/2019 12:06 PM
590	EmAil	7/29/2019 12:05 PM
591	Facebook	7/29/2019 12:05 PM
592	enmailed to me.	7/29/2019 12:04 PM
593	Received it in email	7/29/2019 12:03 PM
594	Email	7/29/2019 12:03 PM
595	Email	7/29/2019 12:02 PM
596	Email	7/29/2019 12:01 PM
597	SPD website	7/29/2019 12:01 PM
598	Email	7/29/2019 12:00 PM
599	Email	7/29/2019 11:58 AM
600	Facebook	7/29/2019 11:52 AM
601	Online commissioner	7/29/2019 11:43 AM
602	Facebook	7/29/2019 11:23 AM

#### SurveyMonkey

#### Skokie Park District Comprehensive Plan Update: Public Input Survey

## Q20 Thank you for your participation. If you have any additional comments, please write them here or direct them to Michelle Tuft at MTuft@skokieparks.org.

Answered: 135 Skipped: 575

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	I understand that the volleyball courts at Laramie park are slated to be eliminated and these are the only volleyball courts in Skokie. I hope the park district will reconsider this decision, so that kids who play volleyball have a place to practice.	8/23/2019 7:45 AM
2	The programs I utilize the most are the SPACE and summer camp programs. Five years years ago, they were one of the reasons I moved to Skokie. The changes this year to both programs price and enrollment process has changed how I used to feel. I believe the park district was doing a great job supporting Skokie community residents and families. My fear is that is changing for the worse within these programs.	8/23/2019 12:44 AM
3	Please ask to stop mass emailing every person who has ever taken a tennis class. We have repeadetly asked to unsubscribe from the lust, but to no avail. Totally unprofessional. Also, please ask him to use bcc or an email list program. People should not be able to see the 300 email addresses he is sending to.	8/21/2019 5:04 PM
4	We have lived in Skokie for 49 years in the same house and love the suburb, immentities, location, library and conveniences.	8/21/2019 6:33 AM
5	Safety is a big deal for smaller neighborhood parks. Winnebago is closest to us and I often times don't like being there because there seem to be older kids or adults just hanging out and not playing. More police patrols would be nice.	8/20/2019 7:25 PM
6	Unsafe dirty parks. Classes mostly at night. Fees far too high. Very little for seniors. We built the town and have supported it for many years, yet are overlooked and shoved aside. Most things are geared towards millennials.	8/20/2019 4:27 PM
7	Why are Affiliates programs (skokie baseball) Being pushed around by Field availability for these programs with 20 years plus working with the park district and serving the same community and giving up field space for other base ball clubs. That is working for profit not for the community and the greater good.	8/20/2019 11:06 AM
8	Email	8/20/2019 10:34 AM
9	Thank you for finally allowing dogs in our parks. More garbage cans throughout the neighborhoods and recycling ones too would be a nice improvement. But please stop spending money on needless expansion.	8/20/2019 9:51 AM
10	Thanks for the change in the dog rules. Skokie Park District is one of the reasons we moved to Skokie (from Lincolnwood) even if we currently don't have time to take advantage of all that is offered. Hope that will change soon.	8/20/2019 6:52 AM
11	It made me realize how little I know about Skokie Parks and how little I take advantage of them in spite of living here for 20 years and now being retired.	8/20/2019 6:37 AM
12	I am so very happy to have Weber Center programs. Thanks so much for providing them	8/20/2019 5:53 AM
13	Need indoor pool option in community that is affordable	8/20/2019 5:37 AM
14	A lot of the parks and playground have "NO DOGS" allowed signs. Why? If the dog is leashed and curbed, why can't I bring her into a park and sit on a bench and rest for a minute or get a drink of water?	8/20/2019 4:15 AM
15	The new mobile website does not work. Most pages link to the old site or cannot be found. It's the #1 way to find opportunities and it does not work.	8/20/2019 2:34 AM

SKOKIE	Park District Comprehensive Plan Update: Public Input Survey	SurveyMonke
17	Skokie has fabulous park district. Beautiful parks. I am at Weber walking track & Oakton outdoor pool as often as possible.	8/20/2019 1:16 AM
18	Senior fitness and social programs in evenings and beyond business hours. Would greatly appreciate indoor lap swimming pools.	8/19/2019 9:00 PM
19	I would love to have an indoor pool, similar to one that Niles or Park Ridge has to use year round	8/19/2019 6:26 PM
20	why oes the village have baskets of plants hanging from poles no one looks up only know they are there is when the trucks tie up traffic watering them. Yoga with new teachers at Weber Center. Flower pots in downtown damage car doors when one opens door and hits the big pots, who needs this nusiance ? the people at the park district who are getting money from the seller for buying them	8/19/2019 6:26 PM
21	Yoga teacher is a treasure.	8/19/2019 4:30 PM
22	Thank you!	8/19/2019 4:29 PM
23	Thanks and we love SPD programs, trails and parks! Fortunate there are so many to appreciate.	8/19/2019 4:23 PM
24	ok	8/19/2019 2:45 PM
25	Survey should include map showing park names. I don't know names of parks I visit in Skokie	8/19/2019 2:30 PM
26	Lyons park needs an update. It looks terrible. I bypass it just to go to other nearby parks like Emily Oaks or the Lincolnwood parks. A playground that corresponds to the size of the park would be nice. Improvement to the tennis courts and visibility is required. Get rid of the basketball courts and use the space for something else. The crowd that gathers there is not always safe.	8/19/2019 1:48 PM
27	Skokie park district ROCKS. We'll worth the taxes we pay.	8/19/2019 1:34 PM
28	Need to enforce no dog policy at Oakton Park. Posting more signs in highly used walkways could help	8/19/2019 1:13 PM
29	The remodeled Weber Center is lovely.	8/19/2019 12:55 PM
30	Michelle, I am begging for you to update our equipment and get rid of the sand!	8/19/2019 12:52 PM
31	How can we promote further recycling? Keeping parks clean when used by a group or family? Just keep us informed as you do of what is going on it matters. I wish more people READ what you published!	8/19/2019 12:36 PM
32	THE POOLS NEED TOM STAY OPEN LONGER IN THE SUMMER. This really needs to change. Pools should be open until LBOR DAY.	8/19/2019 12:26 PM
33	Ok	8/19/2019 9:10 AM
34	I think Skokie is lucky to have a wonderful park district.	8/18/2019 2:52 PM
35	Thank you for reaching out to your residents for feedback! We love SPD and take advantage of all of its offerings for our kids.	8/18/2019 4:28 AM
36	When I was a kid everyone with hair over 1 inch had to wear a swim cap. Why has this changed? Are you afraid it is not politically correct?	8/17/2019 6:41 AM
37	Thank you for this survey and thank you for maintaining excellent parks.	8/16/2019 5:38 PM
38	Skokie needs an indoor pool.	8/16/2019 4:32 PM
39	Love our parks! But they need some TLC. Thank you for all you do to make Skokie so wonderful.	8/16/2019 3:19 AM
40	Devonshire cultural center dance studios need updating! The ceiling is falling from leaks, the Barre is breaking, and there is only 1 good dance floor. More studios would allow more classes at a time and make it easier for families to find times that work with their schedules.	8/15/2019 3:23 PM
11	Skokie needs to do a better job of advertising their programs	8/15/2019 4:05 AM
42	Would love indoor, year round pool not subject to high school schedule	8/14/2019 6:40 PM
43	Over the last 22 years we have used the park district for after school daycare, sports, camp, & when my children were in college as their summer employer. The list goes on & onit's a wonderful resource & an amazing park district. Keep up the great work.	8/14/2019 4:50 PM

44	The theatre/dance divisions have provided amazing activities for my family and many friends and	8/14/2019 3:38 PM
	neighbors. The theatre space needs more storage space, more dressing room space, more rehearsal space etc. It would be great if there was a theatre that didn't have to share the space with preschool, or Voting days, or Church rentals. The theatre is occupied by Devonshire players, outside theatre companies, the dance department and classes almost constantly. The multipurpose space doesn't really serve the very active theatre community in the best way. I believe Devonshire has the capability to be one of the best community theatre programs in the a Chicagoland area. The staff is talented and could really make the program better with additional support (better marketing, local sponsorship, group sales to seniors, etc) Also, there really needs to be an indoor aquatic facility that offers classes for kids, Aqua fitness, etc. Glenview's SplashLandings is awesome—would love to have that in Skokie.	6, 17,2013 3.30 F W
45	Overall, SPD has done an exceptional job compared to other suburbs.	8/14/2019 2:04 PM
46	thank you for all you do and for asking us to participate in your future plans	8/14/2019 7:03 AM
47	Thanks for the opportunity to express our thoughts.	8/14/2019 6:09 AM
48	We have been very impressed with the park district after school/ camp programs	8/14/2019 5:30 AM
49	Would really like to see an indoor pool for SKOKIE Park District.	8/14/2019 1:37 AM
50	Pooch park is not very good and it's not even near where people actually live! We need dog parks in areas where people actually live and there should not be a fee!	8/13/2019 1:16 PM
51	Thank you for changing the Dog laws!	8/13/2019 9:55 AM
52	Indoor pool needed	8/13/2019 9:38 AM
53	A lot of the activities, such as sports and summer camps, have very high fees, especially compared with Chicago and given that our taxes are so high. I like the free programs in the summer.	8/13/2019 8:31 AM
54	Very sad about dogs now being allowed into parks. Still have yet to see a list of where they are permitted and restrictions. We have two small children and have been forced to leave parks on several occasions due to dogs that are not on leashes. If you could send the policies to I would appreciate it. I would love to see more adult sports with	8/13/2019 8:08 AM
	individual registrations.	
55	We are both 80+. Not too interested in programs, though we have used 2 trips to special lunch programs with visit to interesting buildings and enjoyed them.	8/13/2019 6:50 AM
56	I want to thank the Park District for the Roundup moratorium. Please make it permanent. And invest in more native plants, tree canopies, and less lawn.	8/13/2019 2:53 AM
57	Great programming for all. Very happy to be raising our son in Skokie. Parks and schools are critical.	8/13/2019 12:42 AM
58	If looking for bicycle and walking trail options having good and continuous east-west trails would be nice. There are no sprinklers in our parks! Need to go to other cities!	8/12/2019 5:10 PM
59	Can I be added to a list to receive Skokie Park District mailings? I live in Lincolnwood.	8/12/2019 5:02 PM
60	Entrances to the parks with flowers is breathtaking.	8/12/2019 4:43 PM
61	It would be beneficial to have a park district indoor pool for aerobics. There should be a whirlpool and a heated pool.	8/12/2019 4:02 PM
62	N/A	8/12/2019 3:57 PM
63	Thanks for asking my opinion.	8/12/2019 2:23 PM
64	Have the availability of golf carts at Weber Park Golf Course for those people who are not able to walk great distances.	8/12/2019 11:36 AM
65	Nice idea with the survey!!! Good survey!	8/12/2019 9:41 AM
66	Whatever you do, don't raise our taxes.	8/12/2019 9:36 AM
67	More lighted field rental parks would be a nice option for sports	8/12/2019 9:32 AM
68	Largely lacking is an indoor swimming pool	8/12/2019 7:48 AM

		5
70	e mail	8/12/2019 6:57 AM
71	On several occasions, I have visited parks with my toddler to find unsafe and hazardous conditions such as unleashed dogs in playground areas, broken glass and cigarette butts in the sandbox, dog feces, life language and behavior. The parks need to be more closely monitored and laws especially pertaining to dogs strictly enforced.	8/12/2019 6:36 AM
72	Indoor water park would be a great addition!	8/12/2019 6:34 AM
73	We live on Ewing just north of Dempster and would love a neighborhood playground! Currently, if we want to walk to a playground w/out crossing a major street, we have to walk to Walker school. We'd love it if Skokie would turn the empty storefronts at Dempster and Ewing/Bennett into a playlot. It's not as big of a lot as Lockwood Park but could have similar potential even though it's off a busy street.	8/12/2019 6:31 AM
74	Thank you for making Skokie a better place to live.	8/12/2019 6:23 AM
75	Any discussions of combining library services and indoor park district services in one location. One less stop for a lot of the patrons in Skokie. Also more dog friendly amenities in outdoor parks, please.	8/12/2019 6:18 AM
76	I wish the bike trail was continued north of the Skokie Swift Station.	8/12/2019 6:11 AM
77	Keep up the good work. Love the trails and the outdoor exercise equipment!	8/12/2019 6:10 AM
78	i THINK THE SKOKIE PARK DISTRICT IS EXCELLENT!	8/12/2019 6:00 AM
79	I have noticed a lot more trash/littering in the parks. Perhaps having attention getting or novel receptacles to "feed" would help? Maybe get some of Skokie's streetscape and mural painters to design some? Also, the turtles seem to have disappeared from the Emily Oaks lagoon since their basking logs were removed. That park is getting a lot more traffic since the adjacent trail was opened, and shows more wear.	8/5/2019 6:00 AM
30	Updating aging playgrounds and park facilities should be a top priority. My neighborhood park is Shabonee, and the playground there is at least 25 years old and poorly maintained. Playgrounds don't just give opportunities for residents with children, they contribute to our property values as well. Update and maintain the playgrounds!	8/4/2019 5:54 PM
81	Skokie Park District is a wonderful park district that offers many things my suburb's park district does not offer. I have brought my family to many programs over the years and I appreciate that it is there for me and my family to enjoy.	8/2/2019 3:35 AM
82	Your bus drivers are good drivers and very concerned over seniors, but the income limitations are sometimes not realistic	8/1/2019 2:32 PM
33	I just want to add that I love being a member of fitness first. The facility is nice and easy to use, the classes are above average (some better than others) and the price is right! Thanks for asking:)	7/31/2019 3:20 PM
34	Adolescent activities, trails with bridges, bigger dog park, indoor pool with exercises.	7/31/2019 12:47 PM
35	Oakton Center should be your major focus.	7/31/2019 8:49 AM
86	Please don't spend my tax dollars searching for a new Executive Director when there is a 100% perfect person in place already who knows the District very well and is very well-suited to lead the Park District.	7/31/2019 6:54 AM
37	We could use better soccer and baseball fields for the kids along with proper lighting due to lack of daylight hours in the spring and fall months.	7/31/2019 6:46 AM
38	Baseball fields could use some updating	7/30/2019 8:23 PM
89	The computer systems, online purchases and visit tracking procedures for the district and particularly for the Weber Center and Golf course seem outdated, clumsy, and very ineffecient. They should be improved to make the user experience easier and more convenient. Improvements could also increase revenue by allowing online purchases or renewals.	7/30/2019 7:08 PM
90	The Park District is my favorite thing about Skokie. (Especially the Aikido program.) Thank you for everything you do!	7/30/2019 6:22 PM
91	I love the variety of programs SPD provides. Keep up the great work! My only strong suggestion - please fix the issues at Devonshire Cultural Center. That building is wearing out!	7/30/2019 5:25 PM

92		7/30/2019 1:55 PM
93	Thanks for the opportunity to give feedback!	7/30/2019 11:24 AM
94	Dear Michelle, Here are my thoughts: In my opinion a lot of the parks and green areas of Skokie are just green wastelands. I do not see a lot of people using them. At least the cost of maintenance seems to stand in no relation to the use of the open areas. To me the reason, why people do not use this green spaces, is that there is nothing of interest there (green grass, a park bench and some trees don't do it). Parks should add areas with wildflowers where people can see native flowers, bees and insects etc. (variation, educational purpose and benefit to nature). Or fountains where people can play with or listen to the sound of water. Small coffee shops/ food vendors would also be great for sitting outside and enjoy the outdoors For example the small park between the Skokie Library and the Village Hall is beautifully done. I can see people sitting on the benches sometimes but for sure the frequency stands in no relation to the costs of keeping this space the way it is. Why not add a big fountain to the space or build a small coffee shop in the back . Then this space can develop into a vibrant inner city meeting space Skokie desperately needs. I am sure there are a lot more ideas out there. Thanks for your attention.	7/30/2019 11:10 AM
95	You all do great work. Would suggest that your staff get ongoing and in depth training on the new data base. A DB IS only as good as the quality of training.	7/30/2019 10:41 AM
96	We want to Thank you for providing the cricket playing community of Skokie a full size cricket field at the Sports Park This is why Skokie is so unique as it equally caters to diversity sport	7/30/2019 9:48 AM
97	What is happening at Oakton and McCormick near the mini golf park and range? Is anything going to be developed at that site?	7/30/2019 9:16 AM
98	I really believe Skokie Park District does a great job, I do not feel like extreme improvements are needed, I think its doing a great job. Would like to mention, I am not in support of Pride Parade being an event done and promoted by the park district.	7/30/2019 9:08 AM
99	Please contact me if you would like to discuss activities that we should have to recruit more young families and keep the ones we have.	7/30/2019 8:16 AM
100	Please continue to be a reason to live in Skokie.	7/30/2019 7:38 AM
101	I hope you will take these suggestions. My strongest issues are the length of the trail and the hours of Weber Center. I have spoken with about the hours and she has said there is no way they are changing. But then you shouldn't raise the fees as much as they have gone up. I'm sure there are other people in skokie that work late hours and would appreciate the club being open later. The other area clubs already do this and are cheaper per month than Weber. I hate to leave but might due to these issues.	7/30/2019 6:47 AM
102	I love SPD! Glad that you're considering so many updates but the main thing that really needs to be fixed is your web traffic issue on camp signup day!! All the moms I know dread that day because it's always such a mess. Your staff handles it with grace but in 2019 surely your site shouldn't be crashing just because of a high traffic day! Overall, you do a great job. Thanks for requesting my opinions and keep up the great work!	7/30/2019 6:05 AM
103	Skokie has a terrific park district - thank you!!	7/30/2019 4:38 AM
104	update Central Park playground. Develop putting green complex at driving range, grassy area east of entrance driveway. Popular concept, negotiate with MWD.	7/30/2019 4:20 AM
105	Many Skokie residents are Sabbath observers and send our children to private day school. More communication with us and our schools about services, and scheduling (ie - camps/programs during our winter breaks), as well as input about our holiday calendar would be greatly appreciated. For example - I would have attended this year' Pride event if it wasn't on a Saturday, I know there are sleepovers for the children during the year that are on Friday night (Sabbath), but if they were moved to Saturday night we would be able to participate. Thanks!	7/30/2019 4:12 AM
106	So very pleased to know the the Park District continues to ponder how to grow. It is the jewel of the Village!	7/30/2019 2:17 AM
107	Overall we are very happy with SPD and we take advantage of many programs, events and park space! It was one of the reasons we moved here from city 4 yrs ago. Grateful for all the programs the park district has to offer, looking forward to continued improvements, thank you for involving the community with this survey!	7/30/2019 1:40 AM

SKOKIE I	Park District Comprehensive Plan Update: Public Input Survey	SurveyMonk
108	Thank you. The SPD is great and it can be even better with additional maintenance and care. This survey is a great step in that direction.	7/30/2019 1:26 AM
109	Try to continue 'free'events and offer opportunities for 'free' recreation for all ages and abilities. Thank you for the opportunity to participate in the survey.	7/29/2019 8:00 PM
110	The parks department in skokie is one of the best there is. My only complaint is the length of time between park district camp and school starting. It is a huge burden on families to have to find alternate childcare for three weeks between the end of park district summer programming and the start of school. Likewise with morning preschool classes ending at 11:00 with no SPACE program until 3. It's a mad scramble for parents to figure out adequate childcare.	7/29/2019 7:15 PM
11	Thanks	7/29/2019 5:55 PM
112	Please consider keepiing the oakton pool open longer in the summerperhsps only nights and weekends in late August and September. The past few years have seen cooler June weather and less use.	7/29/2019 5:33 PM
13	Generally speaking, Park District fees are way too high for the average person to afford. We stopped attending paid programs years ago because of this. We'd like to attend more but can't.	7/29/2019 5:22 PM
114	The gravel road along the canal St channelside is dangerous for kids running to retrieve s soccer ball. Also too many balls wind up in the river and the fields do not drain well. Note that I do not like artificial turf fields.	7/29/2019 4:47 PM
115	Hello, Thank you for sending this survey out to the residents of Skokie. Please make a note that we need restrooms, water fountains, and park that are in the shade or have shaded canopies to help address the heated plastic slides and play areas. Thanks	7/29/2019 4:39 PM
116	I think there should be facility for volleyball/basketball, etc. for the kids that there aren't after school activities for. That means junior high students.	7/29/2019 4:37 PM
117	Thanks for asking.	7/29/2019 4:14 PM
118	Would be nice if parks were more dog friendly. Evanston parks welcome dogs and I haven't seen any issues there, at least not so far.	7/29/2019 3:53 PM
119	Ok	7/29/2019 3:31 PM
120	While I think the prices for things are mostly good, it can be hard with multiple children. Syncing discounts or twin discounts for classes within the same discipline would nice. For instance if you have two kids who ice skate or dance, maybe a small discount for the second kid or third? Maybe a punchcard type program where after taking so many classes you get one discounted. Also, it would be nice if the toddler classes be offered on opposite days. I think often the expectation to have your kids in park district preschool would mean your preschoolers are in school either M,W,F or Tu, Th. There were classes I wanted to sign my preschool aged kids up for where both class options were on Wednesday and Friday so we can't do either and we already planned a daytime Saturday class with only night options for weekdays. Lastly, weekday tot skating lessons would be nice too. I recognize there is an option to create your own class if you bring the number of kids forward, but advertising it would be nice so maybe area moms can see who else is interested. Maybe on Facebook or something.	7/29/2019 2:32 PM
121	We appreciate the Skatium especially the staff.	7/29/2019 2:30 PM
122	Please do NOT share my email address with anyone!	7/29/2019 2:29 PM
123	Thanks!	7/29/2019 2:18 PM
124	NA	7/29/2019 1:51 PM
125	Thanks	7/29/2019 1:06 PM
126	I'd like to see the Skokie valley bike trail extended to Northfield	7/29/2019 12:44 PM
127	Consider expanding the Skokie Valley bike trail south of Dempster!	7/29/2019 12:41 PM
128	I love Skokie Parks District, love the programs offered and the facilities. However, one thing I have had issues with is booking events and/or rooms in the facilities. I rented a room and got great communication while trying to book it, however once I booked it and I had paid the fees, I was never able to communicate with the person in charge of the room rentals (This was at Devonshire Cultural Center).	7/29/2019 12:37 PM

SurveyMonkey
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129	Please look into tube issues at the water playground. Also parts of the playground always seem to be brokenincluding slide cushions at bottom of playground every year!	7/29/2019 12:32 PM
130	Indoor tennis courts! Indoor swimming pool!	7/29/2019 12:27 PM
131	К	7/29/2019 12:26 PM
132	The soccer field beside the Sports Park needs some serious makeover. My son had AYSO games schedule there during the previous fall season but one played once due to the condition. The idea is there, it just needs to be improved. Also, an indoor baseball/soccer facility would be nice. just a thought.	7/29/2019 12:20 PM
133	ok, and thank you for asking	7/29/2019 12:17 PM
134	Please do not use Roundup or any other toxic chemicals in the park districts, especially with children using them on a daily basis. Not safe especially since other less toxic alternatives are available, and other park districts are using these safer options.	7/29/2019 12:15 PM
	Trees, trees, and, of course, trees!	7/29/2019 12:07 PM

