THE CITY OF BURLESON TEXAS

Community Services Committee
Agenda

Wednesday, September 03, 2025
1:00 PM

City Hall Annex - 135 W. Ellison,
Suite 109, Second Floor
Conference Room #1
Burleson, TX 76028

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

2. **CITIZEN APPEARANCES**

   Each person in attendance who desires to speak to the Committee on an item NOT posted on the agenda, shall speak during this section. A speaker card must be filled out and turned in to the City Secretary prior to addressing the Committee. Each speaker will be allowed three minutes to speak.

   Each person in attendance who desires to speak on an item posted on the agenda shall speak when the item is called forward for consideration.

3. **GENERAL**

   A. Consider and take possible action on the minutes from the May 21, 2025 Community Services committee meeting. *(Staff Contact: Monica Solko, Deputy City Secretary)*

4. **REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS**

   A. Receive a report, hold a discussion, and provide recommendations to the city council regarding the Public Art Master Plan *(Staff Contact: Jen Basham, Director of Parks and Recreation)*

   B. Receive a report, hold a discussion, and provide recommendations to the city council regarding the Parks and Recreation Master Plan *(Staff Contact: Jen Basham, Director of Parks and Recreation)*

5. **REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS AND REPORTS**

6. **RECESS INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

   In accordance with Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code, the Board may convene in Executive Session in the City Council Workroom in City Hall to conduct a closed meeting to discuss any item listed on this Agenda.

   Pending or contemplated litigation or to seek the advice of the City Attorney pursuant to Section 551.071, Texas Government Code

7. **ADJOURN**

Allison Smith
Deputy Director of Recreation

asmith@burlesontx.com
817.426.9629

CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the above agenda was posted on this the 26th of August 2024, by 5:00 p.m., on the official bulletin board at the Burleson City Hall, 141 W. Renfro, Burleson, Texas.

Amanda Campos

City Secretary

ACCESSIBILITY STATEMENT

The Burleson City Hall Annex is wheelchair accessible. The entry ramp is located in the front of the building, accessible from Warren St. Accessible parking spaces are also available in the Warren St. parking lot. Sign interpretative services for meetings must be made 48 hours in advance of the meeting. Call the A.D.A. Coordinator at 817-426-9600, or TDD 1-800-735-2989.

THE CITY OF BURLESON TEXAS

Department Memo

Community Services Committee

DEPARTMENT: **City Secretary's Office**

FROM: **Monica Solko, Deputy City Secretary**

MEETING: **September 3, 2025**

SUBJECT:

Consider and take possible action on the minutes from the May 21, 2025 Community Services committee meeting. *(Staff Contact: Monica Solko, Deputy City Secretary)*

SUMMARY:

The Community Services committee duly and legally met on May 21, 2025 for a regular meeting.

OPTIONS:

Committee may approve the minutes as presented or approve with amendments.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve.

STAFF CONTACT:

Monica Solko, TRMC
Deputy City Secretary
msolko@burlesontx.com
817-426-9682

COMMUNITY SERVICES COUNCIL COMMITTEE
May 21, 2025
DRAFT MINUTES

Council present:

Phil Anderson
Alexa Boedeker

Council Absent:
Victoria Johnson

Staff present
Tommy Ludwig, City Manager
Eric Oscarson, Deputy City Manager
Harlan Jefferson, Deputy City Manager
Amanda Campos, City Secretary
Monica Solko, Deputy City Secretary

1. CALL TO ORDER – Time: 1:00 p.m.

Alexa Boedeker called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

2. CITIZEN APPEARANCES

- None.

3. GENERAL

A. Minutes from the February 19, 2025 regular Community Services Committee meeting. *(Staff Contact: Monica Solko, Deputy City Secretary)*

Motion made by Phil Anderson and seconded by Alexa Boedeker to approve.

Motion passed 2-0, Victoria Johnson absent.

4. REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

A. Receive a report, hold a discussion and provide staff direction on proposed text amendments to Burleson Code of Ordinances, Chapter 34, Environment, regarding donation containers. (*Staff Contact: Tony D. McIlwain, AICP, CFM, Development Services Director)*

Tony McIlwain, Director of Development Services, presented the proposed amendments to the Code of Ordinances, Chapter 34, Environment, to the committee. Presentation included a recap of the amendments for the legal protections and flexibility of donation boxes in the city. Current boxes would be brought into compliance if amendments were approved. Other topics of discussion

included fees, maintenance requirements, size limitations, location of boxes, and permitting.

The committee was in favor of the amendments and requested an item be brought forward to the full council for consideration.

5. REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS OR REPORTS

- None.

6. RECESS INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

In accordance with Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code, the City Council may convene in Executive Session in the City Council Workroom in City Hall to conduct a closed meeting to discuss any item listed on this Agenda.

A. Pending or contemplated litigation or to seek the advice of the City Attorney pursuant to Section 551.071, Texas Government Code

- No executive session needed.

7. ADJOURN

Alexa Boedeker adjourned the meeting.

Time: 1:18 p.m.

_____

Monica Solko
Deputy City Secretary

THE CITY OF BURLESON TEXAS

Department Memo

Community Services Committee

DEPARTMENT: **Parks and Recreation**

FROM: **Jen Basham, Director of Parks and Recreation**

MEETING: **September 3, 2025**

SUBJECT:

Receive a report, hold a discussion, and provide recommendations to the city council regarding the Public Art Master Plan *(Staff Contact: Jen Basham, Director of Parks and Recreation)*

SUMMARY:

The City of Burleson has developed the Public Art Master Plan to provide a long-term framework for guiding the development, funding, and management of public art throughout the community. The plan builds on the growing role of arts and culture in Burleson's identity, economic vitality, and placemaking efforts.

The plan reflects more than a year of monthly Public Art Committee meetings, during which the Committee provided direction, reviewed engagement outcomes, and guided draft recommendations. Their leadership has ensured the plan is responsive to community feedback and aligned with Burleson's broader cultural and quality of life goals.

Community Engagement

Public involvement was a cornerstone of the planning process:

- Survey (Oct 2024 – Apr 2025): 1,016 responses shaped the vision and goals for public art.
- In-person Engagement: Over 100 participants at the *BTX Beats* event provided visual preference feedback.
- Stakeholder Interviews & Focus Groups: Artists, community leaders, and residents contributed input on vision, site selection, and cultural identity.
- Artist-led Project Outcomes: The Barn Quilt series and Burleson Community Quilt were completed directly from community engagement and unveiled to City Council in June 2025.

Vision & Goals

The community envisions public art that enriches Burleson, sparks curiosity, invites dialogue, and reflects the city's unique history and aspirations. The plan outlines goals to:

1. Create places that foster meaningful connections.
2. Reflect Burleson's unique character.
3. Celebrate community spirit.
4. Contribute to economic vitality.

Policy & Implementation

The Public Art Master Plan includes:

- Public Art Policy: Establishes acquisition, funding, artist selection, mural guidelines, and collection management standards.
- Funding Models: Explores general fund allocations, hotel/motel tax, percent-for-art policies, and private development contributions.
- Implementation Framework: Steps include adopting policy, staffing the program, formalizing the Public Art Advisory Board, commissioning priority projects, and expanding funding sources.
- Immediate Projects: Rotating Barn Quilt series, final quilt installation, and mural projects at Bailey Lake.

OPTIONS:

RECOMMENDATION:

PRIOR ACTION/INPUT (Council, Boards, Citizens):

Park Board reviewed the plan on August 21, 2025 and unanimously supported

FISCAL IMPACT:

STAFF CONTACT:

Jen Basham
Director of Parks and Recreation
jbasham@burlesontx.com
817-426-9201

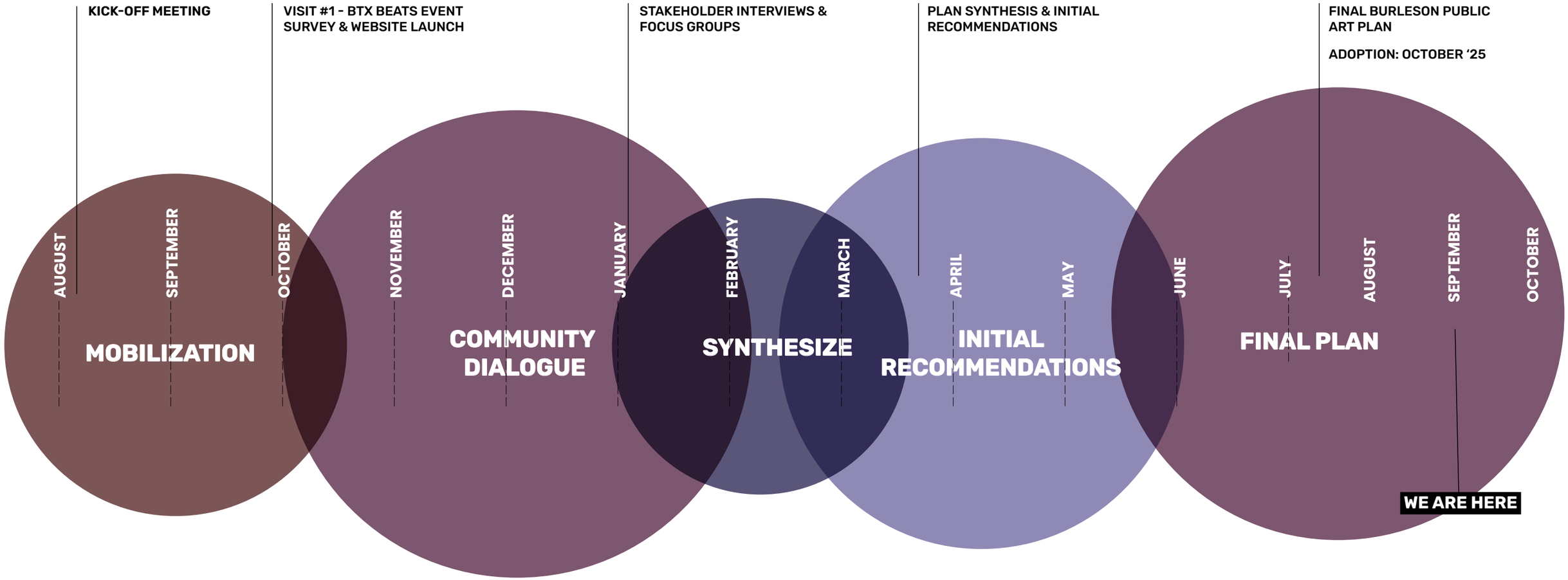
COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

PUBLIC ART MASTER PLAN

September 3, 2025

Presenter: Nancy McKenzie, Public Art Committee Chair

PROJECT TIMELINE



PLAN OUTLINE

Ch. 1 Plan Background

Why this plan?

Plan Goals & Objectives

Community Character

Ch. 2 Community Engagement

Barn Quilts Project + History

Survey Results

Community Vision for Public Art

Ch. 3 Public Art

Public Art Typologies Defined

Public Art Site Selection Criteria

Public Art Projects for Consideration

Project Implementation Matrix

Ch. 4 Public Art Administration

Public Art Advisory Board

Public Art Policy

Public Art Funding Opportunities

COMMUNITY VISION
FOR PUBLIC ART

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT PERIOD OCT ‘24 – APR ‘25

BURLESON PUBLIC ART PLAN

PROJECT WEBSITE & COLLATERAL

SURVEY RESPONSES: 1,016

IN-PERSON ENGAGEMENT AT BTX BEATS

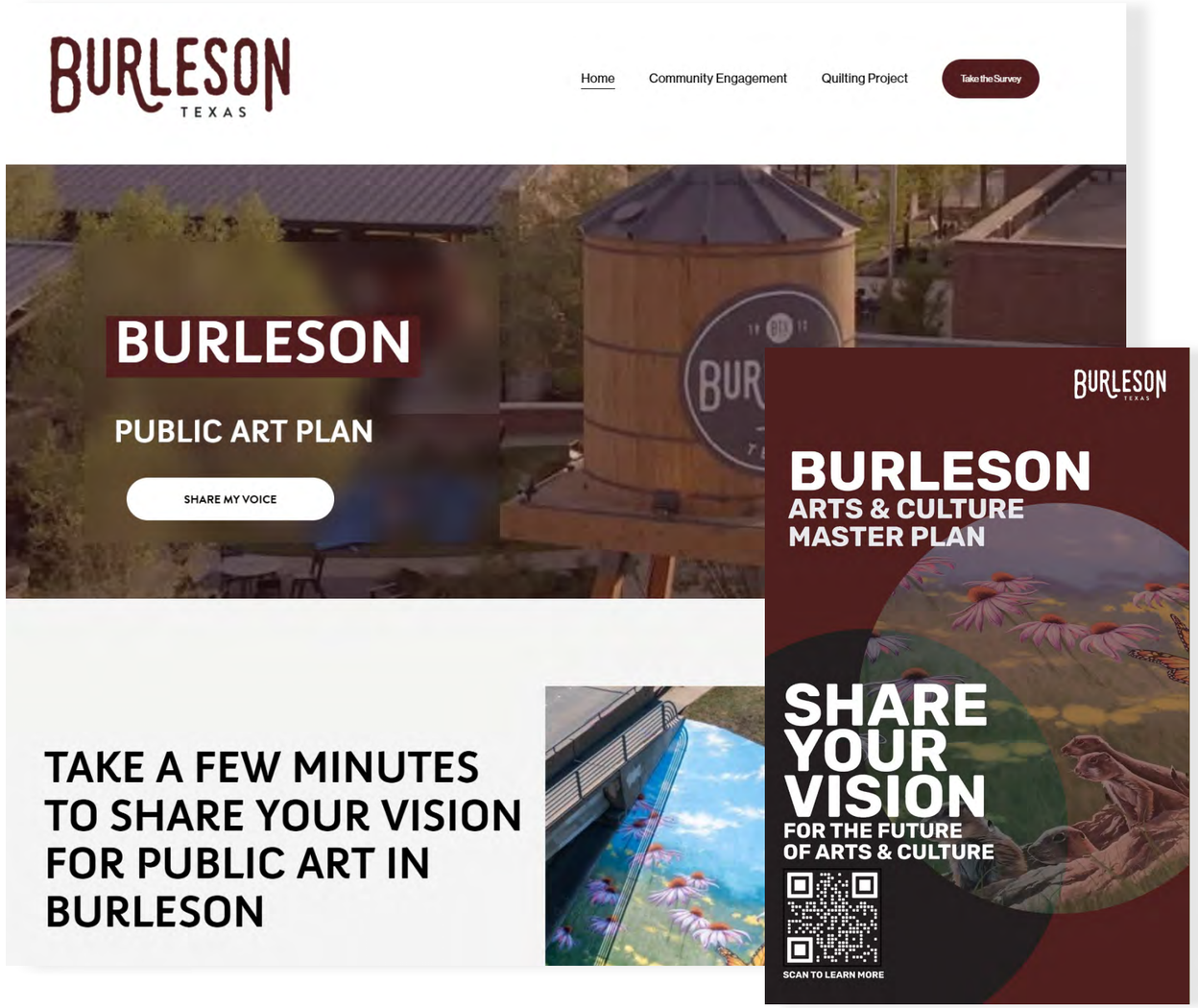
- An estimated 100+ people were engaged in conversation an a visual preference survey at the BTX Beats event on October 26th, 2024

STAKEHOLDER INTERVIEWS

- Members of the community, artists, and decision-makers were invited to participate in one-on-one conversations about the role public art should play in the community of Burleson.

FOCUS GROUPS

- Members of the community were invited to focus group opportunities on February 19th & 20th to workshop around the vision for public art in Burleson.



ARTIST LED PLAN OUTCOMES: BARN QUILT & SQUARES

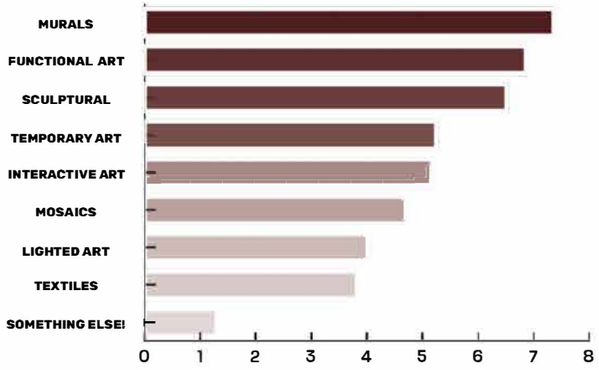
BURLESON PUBLIC ART PLAN

BARB & ERNIE MCCRAW

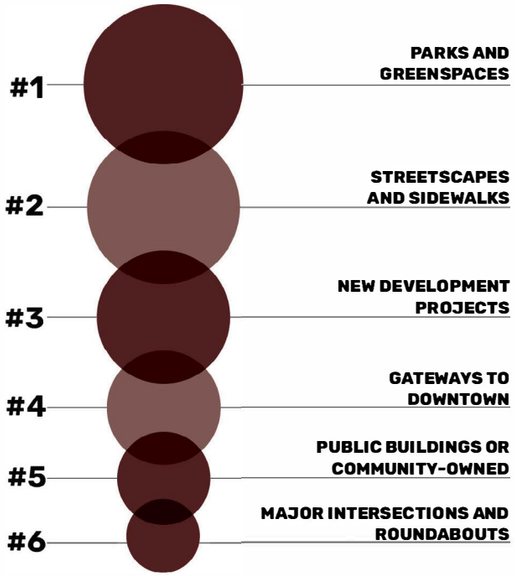
- In partnership with Russell Art Farm and directly from community engagement outcomes at BTX Beats the artist team led two efforts: the creation of 8 - 4’ x 4’ Barn Squares and a quilt intended to hang in the interior of Burleson City Hall once renovations are complete.
- The Quilt was presented to City Council at a public meeting on June 16th, 2025.
- The Barn Squares will be on a rotating display throughout city spaces until a permanent home for each is determined.

HOW SHOULD PUBLIC ART IN BURLESON FEEL?

WHAT TYPES OF PUBLIC ART WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE MORE OF IN THE AREA?



WHERE DO YOU MOST WANT TO SEE PUBLIC ART?



WHAT IMPACT SHOULD PUBLIC ART HAVE?

#1 BEAUTIFIES BURLESON
#2 HONORS HISTORY
#3 CREATES WHIMSY
#4 STRENGTHENS OUR IDENTITY
#5 BUILDS PRIDE IN THE CITY

IDENTIFY A PLACE IN THE AREA THAT MAKES YOU FEEL A SENSE OF BELONGING. WHAT ARE ITS CHARACTERISTICS?

OLD TOWN: THE TOP SPOT FOR BELONGING. PEOPLE LOVE IT FOR COMMUNITY EVENTS, WALKING AROUND, ITS COZY FEEL, HISTORY, ART, AND BEING FAMILY-FRIENDLY AND WELCOMING.

BAILEY LAKE: NATURE AND PEACE MAKE PEOPLE FEEL THEY BELONG. IT'S A PLACE TO CONNECT WITH NATURE AND OTHERS.

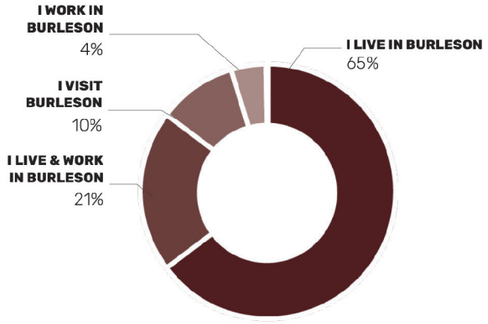
MAYOR VERA CALVIN PLAZA/THE PLAZA: A CENTRAL SPOT FOR COMMUNITY GATHERINGS AND FAMILY FUN.

RUSSELL FARM ART CENTER: A PLACE FOR ART, HISTORY, AND A WELCOMING COMMUNITY.

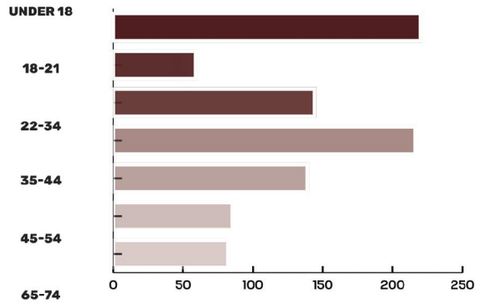
THE LIBRARY: A FRIENDLY AND HELPFUL COMMUNITY HUB FOR EVERYONE.

WHAT CHARACTERISTICS, PLACES, AND/OR VALUES ARE UNIQUE OR ICONIC TO BURLESON?

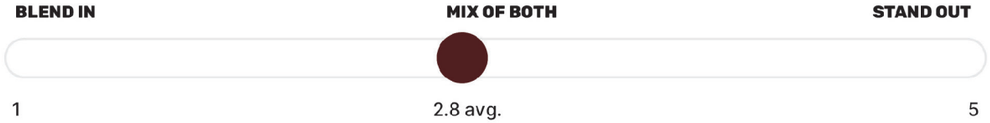
WHAT IS YOUR RELATIONSHIP TO BURLESON?



WHAT IS YOUR AGE?



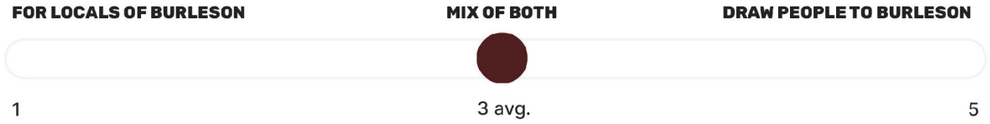
COMPARED TO ITS NEIGHBORS, SHOULD BURLESON BLEND IN OR TRY TO STAND OUT?



WHEN IT COMES TO ART IN BURLESON, SHOULD IT FEEL MORE HOME GROWN AND LOCAL OR SOMETHING NEW AND UNEXPECTED?

WHEN IT COMES TO ART IN BURLESON, SHOULD IT FEEL PURELY ARTISTIC AND CREATIVE OR SHOULD IT HAVE A MEANING BEHIND THE WORK?

SHOULD PUBLIC ART IN BURLESON BE MORE FOR LOCALS, OR BE UTILIZED TO DRAW PEOPLE TO THE AREA (FOR SHOPPING, DINING, ETC.)?



VISION

WE ENVISION PUBLIC ART ENRICHING BURLESON, SERVING AS A CONSTANT SOURCE OF DISCOVERY AND CIVIC PRIDE. SEAMLESSLY INTEGRATED INTO OUR PUBLIC SPACES, IT WILL SPARK CURIOSITY, INVITE DIALOGUE, AND TRANSFORM THESE AREAS INTO INSPIRING PLACES THAT TELL OUR COMMUNITY'S STORY – PAST, PRESENT, AND ASPIRATIONS. THIS WILL MAKE BURLESON A MORE BEAUTIFUL, CONNECTED, AND MEMORABLE PLACE WHERE EVERYONE TRULY BELONGS AND THRIVES.

GOALS

1. CREATE PLACES THAT FOSTER MEANINGFUL CONNECTIONS
2. REFLECT OUR UNIQUE CHARACTER
3. CELEBRATE OUR COMMUNITY SPIRIT
4. CONTRIBUTE TO OUR ECONOMIC VITALITY

CURATORIAL APPROACH

WE VALUE PUBLIC ART THAT:

- Brings people together, builds our collective identity, and says who we are and what we value.
- Transforms our public spaces to be even more engaging and accessible.
- Honors diversity, new people and a multiplicity of ideas.
- Connects people, ideas, and places and thereby raises our consciousness.
- Responds to our history and natural environment.
- Draws people to Burleson and is good for our local economy
- Demonstrates our friendliness, safety, small-town feel, pride-of-place, support for youth, families, and one another.
- Speaks to our collective humanity.
- Responds to the surrounding environment/site-specific.

POLICY & PROCESS

FUTURE FUNDING MODEL EXPLORATION

BURLESON PUBLIC ART PLAN

GENERAL FUND ALLOCATIONS

- Very common method of paying for one-off public art projects.

PERCENT-FOR-ART IN CIP

- Most typically 1% of public capital improvement projects, one of the most common public art program funding mechanisms nationally. (Bonded) Typically must be a work created in conjunction with the improvement and spent and installed in accordance with the construction schedule. City of Denton has percent for art within Bond Projects alongside HOT/MOT funding.

PERCENT-FOR-ART IN PRIVATE DEVELOPMENT

- City of Keller has this, is equivalent to a 0.25% fee of construction value on all development exceeding 5 units of residential. Potential yield for them during formalization was $200,000+, this would have generated over **$120,000 on average over the last five years if implemented in Burleson.**

HOTEL/MOTEL TAX

- City of Burleson has this. Yielded $75,000 in the cycle leading up to this plan.
- City Council can allocate up to 15 % of the total Hotel Occupancy Tax (HOT) revenues for public arts projects as allowed under Texas Tax Code 351.103(c).
- Typically HOT/MOT funding structures are more flexible than percent-for-art and allow expenditures on programming as well as permanent works of art.

PUBLIC ART POLICY

BURLESON PUBLIC ART PLAN

PUBLIC ART ACQUISITION

These policies establish the practices for acquiring artworks. The procedure creates a thorough and transparent process for acquiring artwork and favors open-ended selection processes to ensure artistic excellence in the City's Collection.

- Artist Selection Methods
- Artist Services Procurement
- Artist Selection Process
- Purchasing Procedures
- Project Implementation
- Maintenance Plan

PUBLIC ART POLICY

BURLESON PUBLIC ART PLAN

USE OF FUNDS

Funding for the City of Burleson Public Art Program may come from: the Public Art Fund; the City's Capital Improvement Budget; grants and/or contributions from private entities;other public agencies; philanthropic sources; or through other sources as deemed appropriate by the City. The public art funds may be spent for:

- Calls for Entry, RFQ's/RFP's, concept designs, maquettes, juror stipends, and other costs related to competitions and Commissions
- Artist fees including travel stipends and expenses related to travel;
- Artwork fabrication and installation, site preparation and cleanup;
- Acquisition of existing works of art;
- Relocation of existing or Commissioned works of art;
- Required permits and insurance during the fabrication and installation of the artwork;
- Informational/promotional materials and public events directly related to the artwork;
- Required equipment needed for installation;
- Artwork appraisal;
- Staffing and services of an Arts Administrator;
- Curators and contracted services.

PUBLIC ART POLICY

BURLESON PUBLIC ART PLAN

USE OF FUNDS

The public art funds may **NOT** be spent for:

- Mass-produced work, with the exception of limited editions controlled by the artist.
- Professional graphics, unless designed or executed by an artist or used in the development of collateral material.
- Decorative, ornamental or functional elements that are designed by a project's architect or other designer.
- Routine maintenance, conservation, repair, or restoration, exceeding more than 10% of the annual budget.
- Purchase of existing works of art outside of the selection process.

PUBLIC ART POLICY

BURLESON PUBLIC ART PLAN

ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

Mayor & City Council

Ultimately make the final decision on public art selection and hold ultimate responsibility for the program.

Parks & Recreation Department

Administers the Public Art Program.

Public Art Coordinator/Manager

The program “staff”, could be an existing city staff member, new part-time staff member or consultant.

Public Art Advisory Board

The Public Art Board has the following responsibilities:

1. Act principally in an advisory capacity to Burleson staff in any matter pertaining to public art.
2. Advise and make recommendations to city staff pertaining to, among other things, artist selection juries and process; commission and placement of artworks; and maintenance and removal of artworks.

PUBLIC ART POLICY

BURLESON PUBLIC ART PLAN

COLLECTION MANAGEMENT

Objectives

1. Maintain a Collection management program that results in a high-quality, city-owned Collection;
2. Eliminate artwork that is unsafe, not repairable, or no longer meets the needs of the City of Burleson;
3. Respect the creative rights of artists; and
4. Support an efficient workload for staff.

Key Policy Components

1. Donation Procedures
2. Maintenance Policy
3. Deaccession Policy

PUBLIC ART POLICY

BURLESON PUBLIC ART PLAN

PUBLIC ART PROGRAM WORKPLAN

How it works

The Public Art Program Workplan is a document that outlines in-process projects, and projects will be initiated in the coming fiscal year(s). The Program Update is one of the most crucial elements of the Public Art Program. It creates a roadmap and allows for the input of community members, elected officials, and others who care deeply about public art in the City of Burleson.

1. The following steps will be taken to develop the Public Art Program Workplan:
2. Work with the City Manager's Offices to determine the availability of funds for the upcoming year(s).
3. Identify projects to be paid for by identified funding, including acquisition and maintenance.
4. Develop a draft Public Art Program Workplan that will include locations, goals, and budgets for public art projects and programs for staff review.
5. Present the Update to City Council as part of the City budget approval.
6. Integrate feedback from City Council to determine the final Program Update.

PUBLIC ART POLICY

BURLESON PUBLIC ART PLAN

MURAL POLICY OPTIONS

Option A: Mural Guidelines

Mural Design considerations for murals on public property, with a request that private property-owners follow design considerations for:

- Scale - Who will be the intended viewer or audience? A mural intended for pedestrians may be of a different scale than one intended for automobile drivers or cyclists along a bike trail.
- Accessibility - Are there opportunities to engage those who are visually impaired or otherwise not able to view the mural?
- Maintenance - What are the long term maintenance implications of the design? Is it easily repairable?
- Longevity - What is the expected life span of the mural? Is it intended to be a short or long term installation?
- Experiential Elements - Is there a potential for additional elements that could be added to enhance the experience of the viewer such as virtual (VR) or augmented (AR) reality elements, audio elements either on site or online, instagram or social media interactions or other opportunities?

PUBLIC ART POLICY

BURLESON PUBLIC ART PLAN

MURAL POLICY OPTIONS

Option B: City of Burleson Mural Program (Private Property) Permitting Process and Regulations

Mural Design Considerations for murals on Public Property, with a permitting process that requires private property-owners follow design considerations and standards for:

- Scale - Who will be the intended viewer or audience? A mural intended for pedestrians may be of a different scale than one intended for automobile drivers or cyclists along a bike trail.
- Accessibility - Are there opportunities to engage those who are visually impaired or otherwise not able to view the mural?
- Maintenance - What are the long term maintenance implications of the design? Is it easily repairable?
- Longevity - What is the expected life span of the mural? Is it intended to be a short or long term installation?
- Experiential Elements - Is there a potential for additional elements that could be added to enhance the experience of the viewer such as virtual (VR) or augmented (AR) reality elements, audio elements either on site or online, instagram or social media interactions or other opportunities?

FOUNDATION FOR THE FUTURE

STEPS FOR PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION

BURLESON PUBLIC ART PLAN

STEP 1: BUILD THE PROGRAM STRUCTURE (ADOPT POLICY)

STEP 2: STAFF THE PROGRAM

STEP 3: FORMALIZE THE PUBLIC ART ADVISORY BOARD

STEP 4: EXPAND PROGRAM FUNDING

STEP 5: COMMISSION ARTWORK & PROGRAMS

- INSTALL THE BURLESON BARN QUILTS
- COMMISSION A SITE-SPECIFIC ARTWORK IN OLD TOWN
- DEVELOP A MURAL PROGRAM
- EXPLORE TACTICAL ART PROGRAMMING OPTIONS
- CREATE A CITY-WIDE ART TRAIL
- DEVELOP AN EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH PROGRAM
- COMMISSION AN ARTIST-DESIGNED PARK EXPERIENCE

PRIORITY PROJECTS FOR IMPLEMENTATION

BURLESON PUBLIC ART PLAN

IMMEDIATE PROJECTS FOR IMPLEMENTATION

- ROTATING BARN QUILT SERIES
- FINAL INSTALLATION (PERMANENT HOME) THE BURLESON BARN QUILTS
- COMPLETION OF THE MURAL AT BAILEY LAKE

CRITICAL IMPACT AREAS

BURLESON PUBLIC ART PLAN

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND IMPACT:

Public Feedback and Satisfaction: Include the public art program in any upcoming community surveys. Report findings in the annual public art update to City Council, where available.

Participation Rates: Measure attendance at public art dedication ceremonies, art walks, and community engagement workshops related to public art projects.

Public Response Rates: Monitor the participation in surveys or public forums for specific art projects to track the response rate and community interest in the program over time.

Educational Outreach: Keep track of the number of school groups or community organizations involved in activities related to public art program, set goals annually to increase and diversify participation rates.

CRITICAL IMPACT AREAS

COLLECTION QUALITY AND GROWTH:

Number of Accessioned Artworks: Track the annual number of new artworks and the overall investment in the Public Art Collection through commissions and accepted donations.

Diversity of Collection: Assess the diversity of artists and arts typologies represented, including local, national, emerging, and established individuals from various backgrounds. Evaluate the art forms such as sculpture, mural, functional, and environmental pieces, along with the themes in the collection.

Condition Assessments: Implement a regular schedule for assessing the physical condition of artworks, ideally an annual assessment by city staff and a conservator's report every 5 years. Keep maintenance logs, track repairs, and evaluate the overall state of the collection annually to ensure a high-quality, city-owned collection.

Lifespan Achievement: Monitor whether artworks are meeting their expected temporary, short-term, medium-term, or long-term lifespans outlined in the maintenance manuals provided by artists.

participation rates.

CRITICAL IMPACT AREAS

VISUAL ENHANCEMENT AND PLACEMAKING:

Visibility and Accessibility: Consider the use of foot traffic counters or geofencing technology in areas around public art installations to measure increases in pedestrian activity following the installation of an artwork.

Linkage to Other City Projects: Track the number of public art projects successfully integrated with capital projects or city initiatives to assess the programs success in integrating with other city functions.

Cultural and Historical Significance: Document how new artworks contribute to or reflect the cultural or historical importance to the community, possibly through narrative descriptions or community feedback about their relevance, consider publishing a landing page that community member can explore to learn more about the collection.

Perceived Vibrancy: Consider a 5-year survey check-point with the community on the public art collection to gather sentiments on the public collection and the perceived quality of life value, it may also be a good juncture to gathering input on near-term priorities for the collection.

CRITICAL IMPACT AREAS

PROGRAM EFFICIENCY AND COMPLIANCE:

Budget Adherence: Monitor the program's adherence to its allocated budget for acquisitions, maintenance, and administrative costs.

Project Timeliness: Track the completion rates of commissioned projects and evaluate the efficiency of the donation and accession processes against planned timelines.

Policy Adherence: Review compliance with established procedures for artist selection, donation acceptance, deaccessioning, and collection management.

Staff Workload: Periodically review staff workload related to the Public Art Program to ensure that the staff can efficiently handle their responsibilities.

THANK YOU!

Burleson Public Art Plan

2025

Table of Contents

CHAPTER 1: PLAN BACKGROUND 5
WHY THIS PLAN? 6
PLAN GOALS AND OBJECTIVES 8

CHAPTER 2: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT 11
ENGAGEMENT APPROACH 12
BARN QUILTS PROJECT + HISTORY 14
ENGAGEMENT RESULTS 19

CHAPTER 3: COMMUNITY VISION FOR PUBLIC ART 23
OUR VISION 24
PUBLIC ART TYPOLOGIES FOR BURLESON 26
PUBLIC ART PLACEMENT STRATEGIES 30

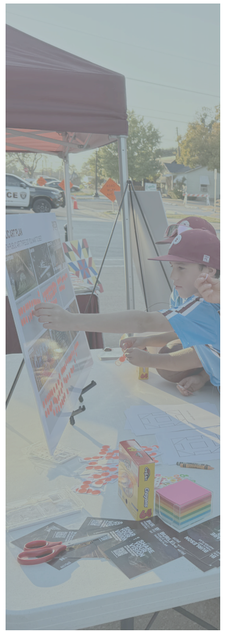
CHAPTER 4: PROCESS FOR COMMISSIONING ARTWORKS 35

CHAPTER 5: FOUNDATION FOR THE FUTURE 39
STEP 1: BUILD THE PROGRAM FOUNDATIONS 40
STEP 2: FUND THE PROGRAM 40
STEP 3: COMMISSION ARTWORK & PROGRAMS 41
STEP 4: MEASURING PROGRAM SUCCESS 42

APPENDIX 1: PUBLIC ART FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS 57
APPENDIX 2: PUBLIC ART POLICY 64
INTRODUCTION 66
ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES 67
COLLECTION MANAGEMENT 68
MAINTENANCE 72
PUBLIC ART PROGRAM WORKPLAN 76
USE OF FUNDS 77
PUBLIC ART ACQUISITION 77

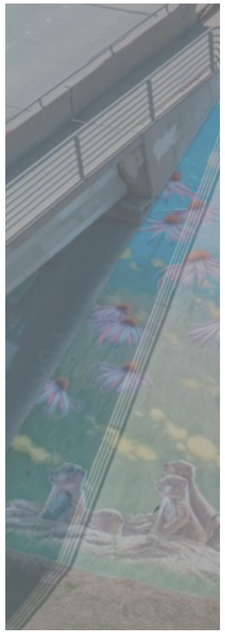
PLAN BACKGROUND

01



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

02



COMMUNITY VISION FOR PUBLIC ART

03

PROCESS FOR COMMISSIONING

04

FOUNDATION FOR THE FUTURE

05

Table of Contents

CHAPTER 1: PLAN BACKGROUND 5
WHY THIS PLAN? 6
PLAN GOALS AND OBJECTIVES 8

CHAPTER 2: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT 11
ENGAGEMENT APPROACH 12
BARN QUILTS PROJECT + HISTORY 14
ENGAGEMENT RESULTS 19

CHAPTER 3: COMMUNITY VISION FOR PUBLIC ART 23
OUR VISION 24
PUBLIC ART TYPOLOGIES FOR BURLESON 26
PUBLIC ART PLACEMENT STRATEGIES 30

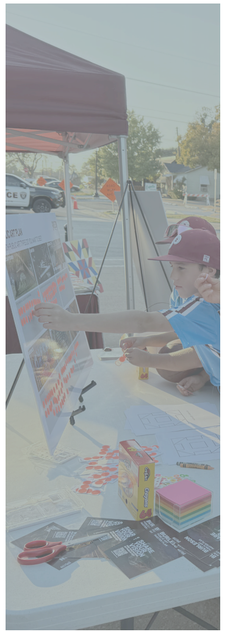
CHAPTER 4: PROCESS FOR COMMISSIONING ARTWORKS 35

CHAPTER 5: FOUNDATION FOR THE FUTURE 39
STEP 1: BUILD THE PROGRAM FOUNDATIONS 40
STEP 2: FUND THE PROGRAM 40
STEP 3: COMMISSION ARTWORK & PROGRAMS 41
STEP 4: MEASURING PROGRAM SUCCESS 42

APPENDIX 1: PUBLIC ART FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS 57
APPENDIX 2: PUBLIC ART POLICY 64
INTRODUCTION 66
ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES 67
COLLECTION MANAGEMENT 68
MAINTENANCE 72
PUBLIC ART PROGRAM WORKPLAN 76
USE OF FUNDS 77
PUBLIC ART ACQUISITION 77

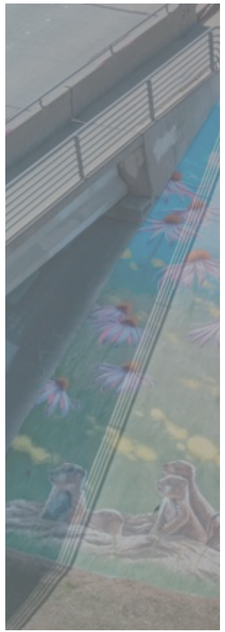
PLAN BACKGROUND

01



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

02



COMMUNITY VISION FOR PUBLIC ART

03

PROCESS FOR COMMISSIONING

04

FOUNDATION FOR THE FUTURE

05

01
Plan Background

Why this plan?

We envision public art enriching Burleson, serving as a constant source of discovery and civic pride. Seamlessly integrated into our public spaces, it will spark curiosity, invite dialogue, and transform these areas into inspiring places that tell our community's story – past, present, and aspirations. This will make Burleson a more beautiful, connected, and memorable place where everyone, community members and visitors alike, truly belongs and thrives.

Plan Background

WHAT IS PUBLIC ART

Public Art directly influences how people experience and connect with a place. It provides a sense of place, wonder, and memory. Art encourages attachment to a location for residents through cultural and historical understanding, and by highlighting what is unique about the places where people live, work, and play.

PUBLIC ART MATTERS

Public art is a critical factor in unique public places that yield physical, social, and economic benefits for a community. Public art directly influences how people experience and connect with a place. It provides a sense of place, wonder, and memory. Art encourages attachment to a location for residents and visitors alike through cultural and historical understanding, and by highlighting what is unique about the places where people live, work, and play.

Public art also makes communities more vibrant and economically sustainable. People want to move to places that are memorable, activated by and supportive of the arts. By investing in public art as a tool for growth and sustainability, communities can thrive economically.

Plan Goals & Objectives

The City of Burleson operates under the Guide BTX Strategic Plan, last updated in February 2024 established specific goals, strategies, and key priorities to ensure city operations and resources are aligned to meet future needs. Critical objectives also highlighted for execution include the 2022 Bond Program projects, sustained public safety operations, and vibrant economic development. This economic development encompasses the growth of Old Town, the development of Chisholm Summit and Hooper Business Park, and the strategic planning for a future hotel/conference center. Through this comprehensive strategic framework, Burleson is committed to continuously assessing its progress and identifying new or emerging areas of focus, ensuring it remains responsive to community needs and continues to thrive as a vibrant, safe, and inclusive place for all residents. The Public Art Master Plan was initially advocated for under:

Focus Area 3: Beautiful, Safe & Vibrant Community aims to provide a beautiful, safe, and vibrant environment for those who live, learn, work, and play in the City of Burleson. This objective is pursued through a multifaceted approach, including the implementation of beautification programs, the provision of public art that enhances the community's visual appeal and uniqueness—a key aspect of which is the finalization of the community arts masterplan in FY 24-25.

COMMUNITY CHARACTER

Burleson, Texas, founded in 1881 by the Katy Railroad as a depot between Fort Worth and Alvarado, was named for Dr. Rufus Burleson. Initially agricultural, the town grew after becoming a stop on the Cleburne-Fort Worth Interurban line in 1912 and receiving electricity in 1913. Located on multiple highways and railways south of Fort Worth in Johnson and Tarrant counties, Burleson established a post office in 1882 and soon developed stores and churches. It absorbed the earlier community of Brushy Mound, which had the first school in the area (later Alta Vista College and Red Oak Academy). In its first 50 years, Burleson was agriculturally focused, having a population of 200 by 1890 with various businesses and shipping significant quantities of cotton and grains by 1899. The population fluctuated before steadily increasing, reaching 573 by 1940. Incorporated before 1930, Burleson benefited from the Interurban line and the construction of State Highway 21 in 1924, leading to annexations and rapid growth after World War II as it became a Fort Worth suburb. The economy shifted from agriculture to business and industry, with the population booming from 795 in 1950 to 2,345 in 1960. By 1980, the population reached 11,734 with diverse manufacturing. In 1990, the population was 16,113, growing to 20,976 by 2000, with local newspapers and cultural institutions established.

Timeline of Burleson

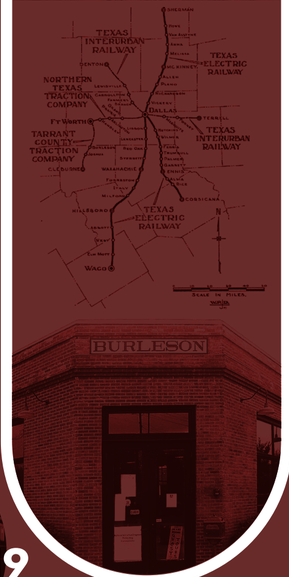
1881 — Burleson is founded by Henry C. Renfro who sells land to the Missouri, Kansas and Texas Railroad. The town is named after Dr. Rufus Burleson.

1882 — A post office is established in a saloon.

1895 — A fire devastates the business district.

1904 — The population reaches 368.

1912 — Burleson becomes a stop on the Cleburne-Fort Worth Interurban line.



1913 — Burleson is wired for electricity.

1930s — The population Increases

2003 — The City of Burleson lays the groundwork for the Burleson Veterans History Project.

2025 — Burleson continues to develop, including new commercial developments in Old Town.

02
Community Engagement

Approach to Engagement

The community was key to determining the vision for public art in Burleson. To ensure this plan authentically reflected the Burleson community and honored its character and historic legacy, the planning team utilized a variety of engagement methodologies to capture themes to inform plan priorities, actions, and define the curatorial approach to the Public Art Collection. Engagement approaches included 1-on-1 interviews with city leaders, a pop-up session during BTX Beats, and an online survey to gather input from all stakeholders (i.e., city leadership, arts organizations, artists, youth, and the general public).

LEADERSHIP CONVERSATIONS

Over a dozen 1-on-1 and small group stakeholder conversations with representatives from city government divisions and local community service organizations including:

- Mayor Chris Fletcher
- Council member Larry Scot
- Park Board Member Sherry Scott
- Council member Alexa Boedeker
- Park Board Member Ashli Logan
- Keep Burleson Beautiful Member Mary Ann Matthews
- Park Board Chair Matt Quinn
- Park Board Member Christian Schott
- Friends of Russell Farm
- Council member Victoria Johnson
- Council member Phil Anderson
- Park Board Member Tyler Knox

THESE QUESTIONS WERE USED TO GUIDE THE CONVERSATIONS:

- What role do you play in community of Burleson?
- What makes Burleson different from neighboring communities?
- How have the arts touched your work/life?
- What would you consider important icons or themes of Burleson?
- If you could dream of a vision for public art in Burleson, what would it look like?

COMMUNITY POP-UP SESSION

A visual preference survey and experience mapping activity was utilized during a pop-up conversation at BTX Beats.

The results of this engagement are provided on pages ##–## of this document.

COMMUNITY SURVEY

A non-scientific survey to discern community members' attitudes and preferences for public art in Burleson, it was published and available from October - February 2025. It was promoted on social media, via the email networks of local organizational leaders, and through print materials distributed through the City of Burleson and advisory committee members. The survey had particularly strong input from the youth, due to targeted outreach by advisory board members working in education, garnering 220 responses, or 23.28% by individuals under the age of 18. The survey was also promoted directly to participants at each engagement opportunity.

Survey responses and key insights from them can be found on pages ##–## of this document.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Throughout the process, a steering committee made up of representatives from the arts and arts education spaces were engaged in regular conversation to act as a sounding board for the planning process. This committee reviewed all content created throughout the process and was instrumental in the outreach efforts to garner the 1,061 responses submitted through the survey.

NATIONAL BEST PRACTICES

Throughout the process, case studies from all over the country in communities similar to Burleson were used to illustrate successful programming or policy. These best practices have been integrated into the plan objectives and strategies to illustrate successes throughout the sector.

Barn Quilts Project & History

QUILTING IN AMERICA: THE RISE OF BARN QUILTS

The history of the American Barn Quilt can be traced back almost 300 years to the arrival of immigrants from the central regions of Europe; Germany, Austria, and the Netherlands. The quilt, as we know it in America, was originally a strictly utilitarian article, born of the necessity of providing warm covers for beds. Quilts were also used as hangings for doors and windows that were not sealed well enough to keep out the cold. The earliest American quilts, made by English and Dutch settlers, were so intimately connected to everyday life of the early colonists that no record of them exists.

In modern time quilting is more accessible than it ever has been since. Quilting isn't entirely a necessity as it once was, we can instead use it as a creative outlet and pastime thus making art quilts a new medium of expression. The world of quilting continues to change as the world we live in evolves. Modern quilting utilizing bold color designs and prints, once an impossibility due to limited technology and supplies, has brightened the artform in unimaginable ways. Geometric and fractal quilting are growing in popularity as a new generation of quilters piece their first works, many of which have learned their craft online rather than through the traditional in-person learning process. As the world changes, so does quilting.

It is widely believed that barn painting/ quilting originated in Pennsylvania with these immigrants and then spread to much of the New England and Midwestern states. Paint was very expensive in those days and painting a decorative yet distinctive quilt pattern on their barns was a wonderful way of allowing for decoration. It also became an excellent way for travelers to find particular families or cross roads, as towns people would just tell them which pattern to look for.

Today, barn quilts have become popular again, with more and more becoming visible. Quilt trails have been developed in many states. After a number of barn quilts have been displayed in an area, a map is developed that guides the viewers to the location. The map will have an address, maybe a picture of the square and a name or explanation of its meaning. A few of the states that have developed quilt trails include: Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky, Iowa and Michigan. The barn quilts can be put on any type of building; from houses, garages, and sheds to parks or yards where they are mounted on two posts and displayed.

Artist Created Quilting Projects

Throughout the Public Art Plan process, a team of local artists created a series of artworks in partnership with Russell Art Farm that honor the tradition of quilting in the US. These artworks include a series of eight Barn Quilts, initially displayed in schools across Burleson in Late Spring as Burleson's first temporary public art exhibition.

The second artwork will include a community quilt that reflects icons and landmarks of the Burleson community. This quilt is designated for display in the City of Burleson's interior collection at City Hall.

Current Perception of the Arts

Burleson has a nascent but growing appreciation for public art, primarily evidenced by positive reception to existing projects like the Bailey Lake mural and the City Market mural. There's a general sentiment that art can enhance the community and its spaces. However, there's also an acknowledgment that Burleson is still "finding its culture" and identity, with a desire for public art to contribute to this definition rather than just being decorative. Some express a preference for "frills are okay, but we are a 'farm' town", hinting at a desire for art that resonates with the local character while still being aesthetically pleasing. Communication around public art initiatives has historically been a challenge, with a need for clearer plans and funding discussions.

UNIQUE COMMUNITY CHARACTERISTICS

Burleson is consistently described as a community-oriented, connected, and helpful small town, despite its growing population of 53,000 and a sales tax base equivalent to a city of 360,000. Key themes identified by stakeholders included:

- **Strong Community Pride:** Residents are passionate about their city, seeing it as distinct from Fort Worth and Dallas. They emphasize "I am from Burleson, not DFW."
- **Family-Centric:** Burleson is seen as a great place to raise a family, with excellent parks and schools being major draws.
- **Exceptional City Services:** City staff, from police to EMS, are highly regarded and have strong relationships with leadership and the community.
- **Growth and Evolution:** While historically a small community, Burleson is growing steadily, with a desire to manage this growth thoughtfully and invest in community spaces and amenities. It's becoming a destination for shopping, food, and experiences within the region.
- **Old Town and Train Heritage:** Old Town is a significant anchor for community identity and the economy, and the railroad tracks are iconic to the community and a major theme for exploration through the Public Art Program.
- **Agricultural Roots:** There's an acknowledgment of Burleson's farming town history, with a desire to keep these stories alive. Many people in the community still identify with this lifestyle even as the city grows.
- **Natural Spaces:** While development has impacted natural areas, there's an interest in cultivated landscapes and education around natural features, particularly in Burleson's parks, which are beloved of community members.

VISION FOR PUBLIC ART

The vision for public art in Burleson is diverse but converges on several key themes:

- **Identity and Culture Definition:** A strong desire for public art to help define Burleson's unique culture and identity, moving beyond a "blank canvas." This includes reflecting the community's history, values, evolving culture, and agricultural roots.
- **Accessibility and Engagement:** Art in parks and public spaces that encourages people to be outside. Ideas include interactive art, site-specific works with natural intertwined, educational components that explain the stories behind the artwork like interpretative signage to engage the community an arts scavenger hunt.
- **Multigenerational and Multicultural:** Art programming and content that appeals to a diverse range of ages, backgrounds, tastes, and themes.
- "**Storytelling":** A significant emphasis on art that tells Burleson's story, whether through honoring individuals or depicting historical narratives. There's a desire for art to have meaning beyond aesthetics, less art just for "arts sake" and more as a way to connect with the broader community.
- **Destination Creation:** Utilizing public art, especially well-lit pieces and dynamic pieces of scale, as a catalyst for bringing people to specific areas and creating landmarks within the city, similar to Fort Worth's success with the Lancaster Avenue development.
- **Specific Ideas:** Mentions of murals, utility box art programs, memorials, and potentially artist-designed play structures.

KEY CONSIDERATIONS

Several practical and strategic considerations were raised regarding public art initiatives by leadership:

- **Funding and Sustainability:** Budget perspective and the sustainability of funding are crucial.
- **Maintenance:** Maintenance is a significant concern, particularly for murals, highlighting the need for a comprehensive plan and the incorporation of a maintenance policy and guidance for securing maintenance manuals from artists when acquiring artworks.
- **Policy and Process:** The need for clear policies and processes for public art, including:
  - MOU for private property public art in the right-of-way.
  - Clear plan language and communication channels regarding funding and implementation.
  - Defined selection processes that factor in community input.
  - Learning opportunities from past projects and measure of impact to support program success
  - Prioritization of locations and parks-specific opportunities.
  - » Definition of "publicly accessible" art.
- **Community Input and Artist Connection:** Ensuring the community factors into the selection process and fostering human-to-human connection with artists.

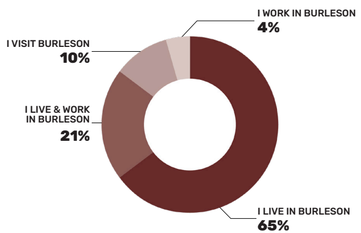
Survey Results

HOW SHOULD PUBLIC ART IN BURLESON FEEL?

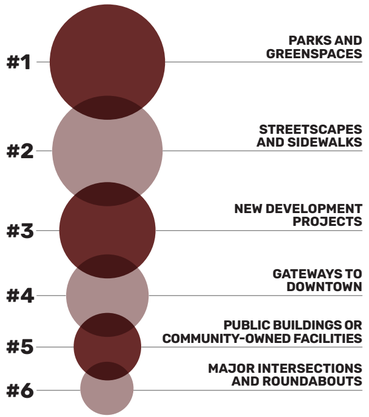
WHAT CHARACTERISTICS, PLACES, AND/OR VALUES ARE UNIQUE OR ICONIC TO BURLESON?

WHAT IMPACT SHOULD PUBLIC ART HAVE?

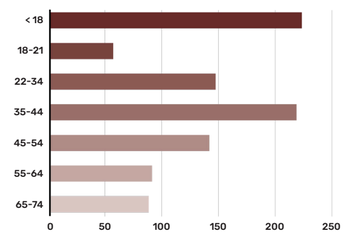
WHAT IS YOUR RELATIONSHIP TO BURLESON?



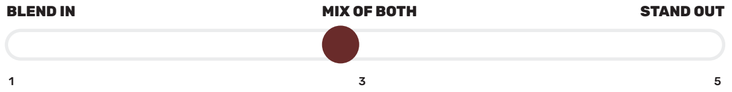
WHERE DO YOU MOST WANT TO SEE PUBLIC ART?



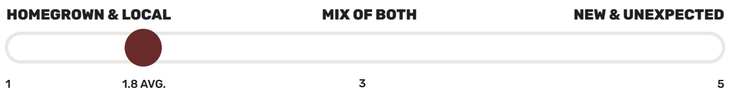
WHAT IS YOUR AGE?



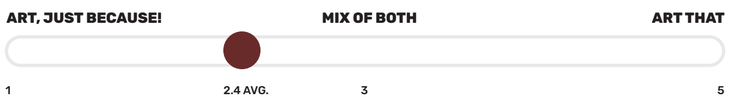
COMPARED TO ITS NEIGHBORS, SHOULD BURLESON BLEND IN OR TRY TO STAND OUT?



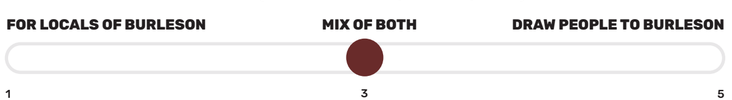
WHEN IT COMES TO ART IN BURLESON, SHOULD IT FEEL MORE HOME GROWN AND LOCAL OR SOMETHING NEW AND UNEXPECTED?



WHEN IT COMES TO ART IN BURLESON, SHOULD IT FEEL PURELY ARTISTIC AND CREATIVE OR SHOULD IT HAVE A MEANING BEHIND THE WORK?



SHOULD PUBLIC ART IN BURLESON BE MORE FOR LOCALS, OR BE UTILIZED TO DRAW PEOPLE TO THE AREA (FOR SHOPPING, DINING, ETC.)?



Survey Results

IDENTIFY A PLACE IN THE AREA THAT MAKES YOU FEEL A SENSE OF BELONGING. WHAT ARE ITS CHARACTERISTICS?

#1 **OLD TOWN:** THE TOP SPOT FOR BELONGING. PEOPLE LOVE IT FOR COMMUNITY EVENTS, WALKING AROUND, ITS COZY FEEL, HISTORY, ART, AND BEING FAMILY-FRIENDLY AND WELCOMING.

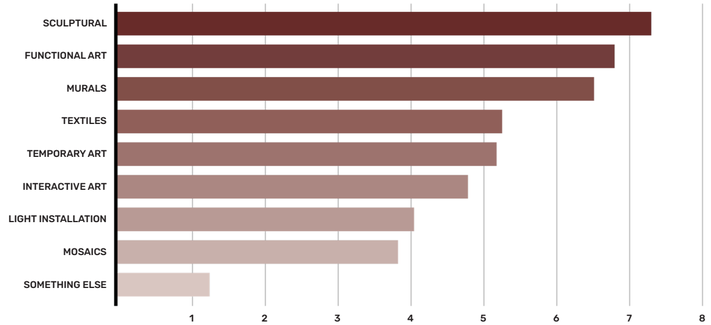
#2 **BAILEY LAKE:** NATURE AND PEACE MAKE PEOPLE FEEL THEY BELONG. IT'S A PLACE TO CONNECT WITH NATURE AND OTHERS.

#3 **MAYOR VERA CALVIN PLAZA/THE PLAZA:** A CENTRAL SPOT FOR COMMUNITY GATHERINGS AND FAMILY FUN.

#4 **RUSSELL FARM ART CENTER:** A PLACE FOR ART, HISTORY, AND A WELCOMING COMMUNITY.

#5 **THE LIBRARY:** A FRIENDLY AND HELPFUL COMMUNITY HUB FOR EVERYONE.

WHAT TYPES OF PUBLIC ART WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE MORE OF IN THE AREA?



Survey Summary

1. **RESPONDENTS MOST FREQUENTLY IDENTIFIED SCULPTURAL ART, FUNCTIONAL ART, AND MURALS AS THEIR PREFERRED ART TYPOLOGIES.**

2. **THERE WAS A CLEAR DESIRE FOR PUBLIC ART TO POSITIVELY IMPACT AND ENHANCE THE BEAUTY OF SURROUNDING PUBLIC SPACES AND STREETS.**

3. **A SIGNIFICANT PORTION OF SURVEY PARTICIPANTS WERE UNDER THE AGE OF 18, INDICATING STRONG ENGAGEMENT FROM YOUNGER COMMUNITY MEMBERS.**

4. **THE SURVEY HIGHLIGHTED A STRONG SENSE OF COMMUNITY BELONGING IN BOTH THE OLD TOWN AND BAILEY LAKE AREAS.**

5. **WHEN ASKED ABOUT THE DESIRED EMOTIONAL IMPACT OF ART, THE MOST COMMON RESPONSES INCLUDED ART FEELING FUN, WELCOMING, UNIQUE, AND INSPIRING.**

03

Community Vision for Public Art

Our Vision

We envision public art enriching Burleson, serving as a constant source of discovery and civic pride. Seamlessly integrated into our public spaces, it will spark curiosity, invite dialogue, and transform these areas into inspiring places that tell our community's story – past, present, and aspirations. This will make Burleson a more beautiful, connected, and memorable place where everyone, community members and visitors alike, truly belongs and thrives.

BRLESON PUBLIC ART CURATORIAL APPROACH

We value public art that:

- Brings people together, builds our collective identity, and says who we are and what we value.
- Transforms our public spaces to be even more engaging and accessible.
- Honors diversity, new people and a multiplicity of ideas.
- Connects people, ideas, and places and thereby raises our consciousness.
- Responds to our history and natural environment.
- Draws people to Burleson and is good for our local economy
- Demonstrates our friendliness, safety, small-town feel, pride-of-place, support for youth, families, and one another.
- Speaks to our collective humanity.
- Responds to the surrounding environment/site-specific.

GOALS

1 **CREATE PLACES THAT FOSTER MEANINGFUL CONNECTIONS**

2 **REFLECT OUR UNIQUE CHARACTER**

3 **CELEBRATE OUR COMMUNITY SPIRIT**

4 **CONTRIBUTE TO OUR ECONOMIC VITALITY**

Public Art Typologies for Burleson

SCULPTURE

Sculptures are three-dimensional original artworks that can be made of any material that offers structural stability and durability. Sculptures are scaled to their surroundings and typically do not move from the location in which they are installed. Whether contemporary, whimsical, traditional or something more, sculptures are often the focal points of civic art. Sculptures may commemorate and celebrate our history, express civic pride, or be established as culturally defining showpieces for the town.

ENVIRONMENTAL ART

Environmental art is any kind of outdoor public art that uses materials with a direct connection to nature, landscaping, or organic materials. Environmental art can be temporary or permanent, and its scale can vary. Its thematic context addresses environmentalism and sustainability.

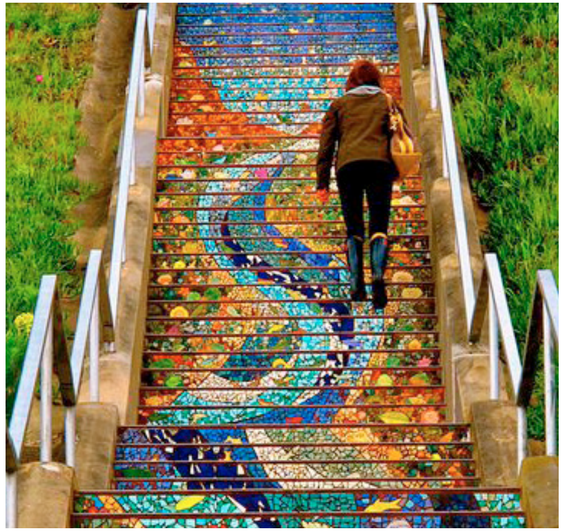
FIBER

Fiber art is any kind of artwork that uses natural or synthetic fiber materials as the primary component of its overall composition. Fiber art can take the form of wall hangings, tree wraps, suspended sculptures, and beyond. Examples of fiber materials include fabric, yarn, polyurethane materials (like tarp), and mesh.

FUNCTIONAL ART

Functional Art is ordinary infrastructure that has been reimagined and designed by an artist. Integrating unique designs into infrastructure may be an affordable and efficient way to create a major visual impact. Some possible options for functional art installations include bike racks, benches, play equipment, medians, subdivision walls, trash cans, transit stops, storm drains, manholes, monument signage, sidewalk treatments and more.

Public Art Typologies for Burleson



MOSAICS

Mosaics come in many shapes and sizes and include glass or ceramics. The relative flexibility of the application of mosaics responds well to many art contexts. Mosaics can be inlaid for flooring or wall elements, or they may be a component of a sculpture. Terrazzo floors can be considered as a kind of mosaic installation.

MULTIMEDIA

Multimedia installations may combine many other art types in ways that expand the imagination. Video, lighting, sculpture, murals, and more can be combined to make multimedia installations. Multimedia installations are especially useful for temporary or pop-up installations.

MULTIMEDIA

Murals are large-scale, two-dimensional compositions that can be: 1) painted onto the surface 2) graphic reproductions printed onto vinyl that is adhered to a surface, or 3) painted onto a panel that is affixed to the building. Environmental conditions, artwork display duration, artist ability, timeline, and budget are all considerations for which mural application style is suitable for a project. While curating permanent works of art as part of the collection is important, ephemeral works such as murals allow for the exposure of many artists over a short period of time rather than a few artists over a long period of time.`

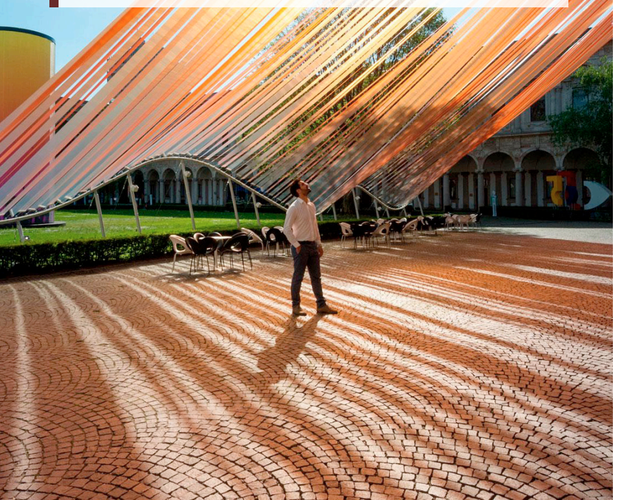
LIGHT INSTALLATIONS

Artists use lighting in creative and interesting ways in order to manipulate the built environment with limited physical impacts. Light installations may be used on existing buildings, in parks on substantial landscape features, or as part of a larger installation of sculpture. They may be especially useful and impactful when used in infrastructure projects.

Public Art Placement Strategies

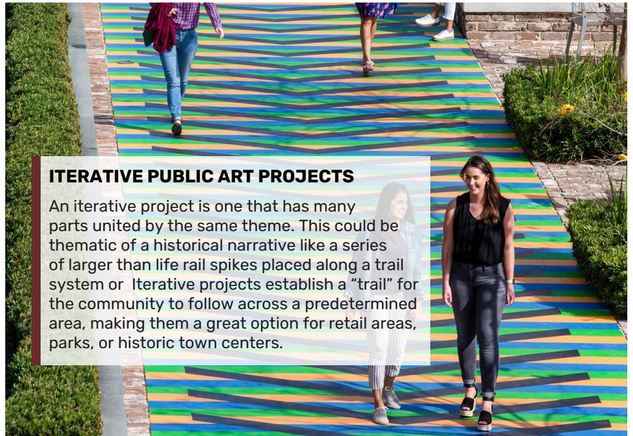
SINGLE-PRESENTATION PUBLIC ART PROJECTS

Single-presentation public art projects are those that do not repeat in multiple locations and their compositions are limited to one site. Examples of these kinds of projects include, a large-scale sculpture commissioned for a city hall lawn; a unique mural on the facade of a community center; or light installation that is engineered to complement the detailed architecture of a historic building. Single-presentation projects may be temporary, or long-term, and they are primarily characterized by their function as a landmark in public space.



ART TRAILS + TRANSIT

Taking inspiration from the format of Iterative Public Art Programs, art that is placed along trails or integrated into a Public Transit system can shape transportation routes and provide a captivating, continuous experience for travelers. The benefits of art integrated into the mass transit experience includes increased ridership, enhanced system identity, and vandalism deterrence, in addition to an overall stimulating and engaging rider experience.



ITERATIVE PUBLIC ART PROJECTS

An iterative project is one that has many parts united by the same theme. This could be thematic of a historical narrative like a series of larger than life rail spikes placed along a trail system or Iterative projects establish a “trail” for the community to follow across a predetermined area, making them a great option for retail areas, parks, or historic town centers.

POP-UP & TEMPORARY ART

Pop-up and Temporary Art are public art opportunities that exist in a community for between one day and two years. Though temporary art is not intended to live for a generation, it can have a lasting impact on a community by creating a sense of surprise and joy in unexpected places. Some ideal locations for temporary installations include construction sites, sidewalks, alleyways, parks, and temporarily empty spaces and storefronts.

Temporary art can be cost-effective and easy to execute, providing opportunities for additional artist engagement. In whatever form, its short lifespan gives energy to the space and drives excitement among the community. Temporary may also invite collaboration, be it with local schools or community groups, to rotate artwork over short periods of time.

SITE SPECIFIC ART

Site-specific art is artwork that is aesthetically, conceptually, and/or thematically connected to the unique circumstances, culture, history, and environment of a particular site. Site-specific art can take many forms, and may be permanent or temporary. In this approach to art-making, artists extensively research the place, site, or area where the site-specific artwork will be placed. Site-specific art tells the story of a place through its surroundings, enriching the experience of the place itself.

CONSIDERATIONS FOR PRIVATELY-OWNED PROPERTIES

In order to maintain the integrity of a public collection it is critical that public art funding is only spent on artwork that is placed in the public realm or public right-of-way as accessibility and ownership by the public is a critical component of public art.

Special considerations may be made to artwork that is placed on private property, such as a building facade, granted that the artwork 1) be clearly and directly visible from public space or the right-of-way 2) **if the art is publicly funded:** an easement be granted to the collection's governing body so that the public maintain ownership of the work 3) the work may not be integral to any private structure and would be removable whether permanently or temporarily for maintenance.

When determining whether or not a piece located on private property should be considered for the public collection it is imperative that the governing body consider all of the above as well as the long-term maintenance costs and needs associated with a work of art located on private property.

SITE SELECTION CRITERIA

Public art should contribute to city life and people's use and enjoyment of public places, strategic site selection maximizes the impact that public art makes. The following site selection criteria is provided to guide the successful installation of public art, ensuring artworks not only enhance aesthetic appeal but also contribute meaningfully to community life. From highly trafficked pedestrian zones to welcoming community gateways and key public buildings, understanding these criteria is paramount to maximizing visibility and public accessibility, highlighting cultural and historical significance, ensuring high public engagement, and fostering strong links with other city projects.

A site or sites may be chosen for a variety of reasons including but not limited to following:

- It may be specific to a story about a person or an event for the community.
- The site may be selected for its visibility or simply because property development is offering an opportunity for public art.
- Some public art welcomes people to the city, marks a city center or provides shade and resting places in a park.
- Some are sited in high traffic areas, especially places frequented by pedestrians.
- Other common sites include:
- Highway entrances (for welcome markers or gateways)
- Major public buildings
- Parks
- Libraries
- Neighborhood communities
- Senior centers
- Police
- Fire stations
- Central public spaces where people walk and gather

The vision is for Burleson to be a community where Public Art is innovative, diverse, and accessible to create vibrant public spaces and meaningful connections.

Selection sites need to maximize the following objectives:

1. High visibility and public accessibility;
2. Cultural and/or historical significance to the community;
3. High response rate during the public consultation; and
4. Greater opportunity to link with other City projects (e.g. capital projects, special events)

04

Process for Commissioning Artworks

Current Perception of the Arts

The commissioning of new public artworks in the City of Burleson is a structured process designed to ensure artistic excellence, community benefit, and responsible use of public funds. This process is governed by the principles outlined in the Public Art Policy, emphasizing transparency and open selection methods.

SECTION 1. PROJECT IDENTIFICATION AND PLANNING:

I. **Opportunity Identification:** City staff alongside the Public Art Advisory Board, are encouraged to identify opportunities for public art integration within Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) or other alongside city initiatives, especially in locations prioritized by the Public Art Plan (if applicable).

II. **Inclusion in Workplan:** Potential projects for commissioning are developed by the identified Public Art Coordinator in collaboration with the Public Art Advisory Board. These projects are then proposed for inclusion in the annual Public Art Program Workplan, cementing them as upcoming priorities for program implementation.

SECTION 2. ARTIST SELECTION AND PROPOSAL DEVELOPMENT:

I. **Open Selection Process:** Generally, the City will utilize open-ended selection process to identify artwork or artists in order to acquire public art, this includes either “Call for Art,” or “Request for Qualifications (RFQs),” or “Requests for Proposals (RFPs).” A “Call for Art,” being appropriate when seeking to acquire an existing work of art, a “Request for Qualifications (RFQs),” when seeking a qualified artist(s) to create a new work of art, or “Requests for Proposals (RFPs),” when budget allows to pay artist a fee for providing a concept to select from prior to final artwork selection, the RFP may be preceded by a RFQ.

II. **The Role of the Public Art Advisory Board:** The Public Art Advisory Board plays a crucial advisory role in this stage, providing recommendations on the formation and composition of artist selection juries, as well as the overall artist selection process. They will also advise on the proposed commission and placement of artworks.

III. **Concept Design and Proposals:** Funds may be allocated for concept designs such as renderings and maquettes (models) as part of the artist selection process, allowing for the provision of clearer understanding of the proposed artwork prior to final artwork selection by the committee or jury.

SECTION 3. FUNDING AND APPROVAL:

I. **Budgeting and Presentation:** The assigned Public Art Coordinator is responsible for presenting a public art update as part of the City’s regular budget process to the City Council, ensuring that proposed commissions are financially viable.

II. **Funding Allocation:** Public art funds are designated to cover costs associated with commissioning, including:

III. Calls for Entry, RFQs/RFPs, concept designs, maquettes, juror stipends, and other competition-related costs.

IV. Artist fees, including travel stipends and related expenses.

V. Artwork fabrication and installation, as well as site preparation and cleanup.

VI. City Council Approval: As the community’s elected officials, the Mayor and City Council members are ultimately responsible for the outcomes of the Public Art Program, including the final approval of commissioned artworks.

SECTION 4. CONTRACT AND ACCESSION:

I. **Formal Agreement:** If a commissioning proposal is accepted, a formal contract will be negotiated. This agreement will clearly outline the responsibilities of all parties involved, including the City, the artist, sponsors (if applicable), and any outside contractors. It will address critical aspects such as project funding, insurance, siting, installation, ongoing operations and maintenance, vandalism, rights of removal or transfer, and public safety.

II. **Ownership and Copyright:** Upon completion and installation, the City of Burleson will become the sole owner of the artwork, reserving the right to remove or alter the work for public safety or other city concerns, while upholding copyright law and the Visual Artists Rights Act of 1990 (17 U.S.C. § 106A).

III. **Accession:** The completed and installed artwork will be formally accessioned into the City’s Public Art Collection, added to the City’s inventory list, and included in the city’s database with all accompanying documentation.

05

Foundation for the Future

Foundation for the Future

STEP 1: BUILD THE PROGRAM FOUNDATIONS

1. Adopt the Revised Public Art Policy
2. Staff the Public Art Program

STEP 2: STAFF THE PROGRAM

The City Manager will determine appropriate staffing structure to oversee citywide public art activities and manage the Public Art Program. Additional staff resources or outside consultants may be required to assist in implementing projects, particularly those of a larger scale. Responsibilities include:

1. Work with various City Manager's Offices to develop potential projects for inclusion in the Program Update.
2. Coordination with other city planning efforts.
3. Present a public art update as part of the City's regular budget process to the City Council.
4. Coordinate and manage the Advisory Board and its quarterly meetings
5. Coordinate with Advisory Board to ascertain advice on any matter pertaining to public art, including:
    - » Preparing and presenting the public art update to the Advisory Board, the Commission, and City Council;
    - » Artist selection juries and process;
    - » Purchase of artworks;
    - » Commission and placement of artworks; and

STEP 3: FORMALIZE THE PUBLIC ART ADVISORY BOARD

The proposed Public Art Advisory Board serves as a community-member advisory body, working in close partnership with the City of Burleson's staff, City Council, and the Mayor to guide the Public Art Program. As an advisory board to the Parks and Recreation Board, its primary function is to guide plan implementation priorities and provide final recommendations on matters pertaining to the City's Public Art Collection, especially when the City is funding the creation or acquisition of new artwork in public spaces. This collaborative structure ensures that artistic vision, alongside broader community perspectives, are integrated into the decision-making process for public art initiatives within city functions.

Key responsibilities of the Public Art Advisory Board include:

1. The Board acts principally in an advisory capacity to Burleson staff on all aspects of public art.
2. It advises and makes recommendations regarding artist selection juries and the overall artist selection process.
3. The Board provides recommendations for the commissioning and strategic placement of artworks throughout the city.
4. It advises on the ongoing maintenance and, when necessary, the removal of artworks from the collection.
5. The Board is committed to promoting public awareness, access, and appreciation of public art for the City of Burleson.
6. It assists in facilitating administrative duties required for the effective operation of the Public Art Program.
7. Critically, this board only advises on matters pertaining to the publicly-owned collection, meaning artworks owned by the City of Burleson per the Public Art Policy.

Foundation for the Future

STEP 4: EXPAND PROGRAM FUNDING

Adopt a Percent-for-Art in Private Development

To relieve pressure on the existing Hotel/Motel Tax as the sole mechanism for procuring public art, a Percent-for-Art in Private Development program should be explored.

Such programs operate on the basis that development projects should respond to the distinctive characteristics of the community they are proposed within, and that public art is for the mutual enjoyment of the wider community and supports a thriving local economy and promotes cultural tourism and therefore development pressures should be leveraged for the public benefit.

Common approaches to percent for art in private development includes a fee-based model of 1% of total construction cost when placed within the development and 0.80% when paid into an arts fund for the city to disperse and manage. Percent-for-art in private development can be incentivized, or mandated.

Communities in Texas with mandated Percent-for-Art in Private Development include:

- **Nolanville, TX:** Adopted through an ordinance which explicitly requires a 1% set-aside for public art enhancement within each private development over $250,000, with options for on-site art or a 0.5% deposit into a Public Art Fund.

Communities in Texas with incentivized Percent-for-Art in Private Development include:

- **Denton, TX:** Tax abatements are offered to developers for the inclusion of art enhancements within the development, eligible projects may receive up to an additional 5% tax abatement under the condition that at least 50% of the value of this additional tax abatement must be committed by the applicant specifically to public art.

Key considerations:

- This would not be a requirement of any affordable housing project
- Developers would be allowed to contribute to the community arts fund in lieu of installing and maintaining artwork within their development

Step 3: Commission Artwork & Programs

INSTALL THE BURLESON BARN QUILTS

The highest priority program implementation recommendations is the installation of the Barn Quilts completed as part of this planning process. The city should work with local institutions and with other city departments to identify both private and public opportunities to implement these pieces.

TIMING	BUDGET
Now	N/A
IMPACT	

COMMISSION A SITE-SPECIFIC ARTWORK IN OLD TOWN

The city of Burleson should work to select an artist with the qualifications and experience necessary to design and fabricate an iconic, site-specific work in Old Town. an artist to create an iconic piece of art explicitly designed for a particular location within Burleson's historic Old Town district. The artwork would be conceived to respond to the specific history, architecture, or character of its chosen site, enhancing its unique identity and providing a landmark or point of cultural interest for residents and visitors.

TIMING	BUDGET
3-5 Years	$100,000 - $300,000
IMPACT	

Step 3: Commission Artwork & Programs

DEVELOP A MURAL PROGRAM

This involves establishing a comprehensive framework for creating murals across the city. This step would include defining guidelines for artist selection, site identification, community engagement, funding mechanisms, and maintenance protocols, ensuring a cohesive and sustainable approach to integrating large-scale painted artworks into the urban landscape.

TIMING	BUDGET
2-4 Years	$25,000 - $40,000 annually
IMPACT	

SPECIFIC OPPORTUNITIES

- **Complete the Mural at Bailey Lake:** This step signifies the final stages of a specific mural project located at Bailey Lake, likely involving the last phases of painting, sealing, and potentially unveiling.
- **Old Town Murals:** This refers to the initiative to enhance the visual appeal and cultural narrative of the Old Town district through the strategic addition of multiple murals.
- **Stormwater Drain Painting:** This artistic endeavor involves painting murals or designs directly onto stormwater drains and the surrounding concrete.

EXPLORE TACTICAL ART PROGRAMMING OPTIONS

This step focuses on investigating and planning for temporary, low-cost, and community-driven art interventions. Tactical art aims to quickly transform public spaces, activate underutilized areas, or address specific community needs through pop-up installations, performances, or interactive projects, fostering engagement and testing ideas for more permanent changes.

TIMING	BUDGET
1-3 Years	$25,000 - $50,000 annually
IMPACT	

SPECIFIC OPPORTUNITIES

- **Utility Box Coverings:** Utility box programs are common initiatives to transform mundane and often unsightly utility boxes into public art installations.
- **Beautification of Medians and Roundabouts:** Art interventions within the streetscape may involve integrating sculptures, artist-designed landscape enhancements and/or lighting elements.
- **Functional Art Furnishings** The Parks and Recreation department should consider commissioning or acquiring functional urban furniture that has been designed in collaboration with artists.

Step 3: Commission Artwork & Programs

CREATE A CITY-WIDE ART TRAIL

This project should be a connected series of artist-designed works across the city transforming ordinary places into an exploratory series. This initiative aims to invite discovery, promote exploration of community space, and provide a cohesive experience for residents and visitors. This project could specifically explore a community specific theme or narrative across the works, not unlike the barn quilts. This project could include a published guide or interactive webpage, potentially supported by signage or wayfinding.

TIMING	BUDGET
5-7 Years	$150,000 - $300,000
IMPACT	
●●●●●	

DEVELOP AN EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH PROGRAM

The City of Burleson should specifically work with local schools and higher education institutions locally, alongside local artists and collectives like Russell Art Farms to bring participatory arts programs to the community. This program would in involve designing and implementing initiatives to engage the community, particularly youth, with art. This could include workshops, guided tours, artist talks, or curriculum materials, aiming to foster appreciation for art, encourage creative expression, and inform residents about the public art collection and its benefits.

TIMING	BUDGET
2-4 Years	$5,000 - $15,000 annually
IMPACT	
●●●○○	

Step 3: Commission Artwork & Programs

COMMISSION AN ARTIST-DESIGNED PARK EXPERIENCE

This involves selecting an artist or artist team to conceptualize and realize a holistic artistic intervention within a specific park space. This project should prioritize concepts that either integrates art into the natural landscape, includes natural features as part of the artwork, or creates a new play experience ideated by an artist for the community, creating an immersive and cohesive artistic environment that enhances the overall park visitor experience.

TIMING	BUDGET
5-7 Years	$250,000 - $1,000,000
IMPACT	
●●●●○	

PROGRAM & ARTWORK MAP

The City of Burleson should specifically work with local schools and higher education institutions locally, alongside local artists and collectives like Russell Art Farms to bring participatory arts programs to the community. This program would in involve designing and implementing initiatives to engage the community, particularly youth, with art. This could include workshops, guided tours, artist talks, or curriculum materials, aiming to foster appreciation for art, encourage creative expression, and inform residents about the public art collection and its benefits.

Critical Impact Areas

The City of Burleson should consider ways to track and measure program success. Specific opportunities to collect information on the impact of the public art program include:

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND IMPACT:

- **Public Feedback and Satisfaction:** Include the public art program in any upcoming community surveys. Report findings in the annual public art update to City Council, where available.
- **Participation Rates:** Measure attendance at public art dedication ceremonies, art walks, and community engagement workshops related to public art projects.
- **Public Response Rates:** Monitor the participation in surveys or public forums for specific art projects to track the response rate and community interest in the program over time.
- **Educational Outreach:** Keep track of the number of school groups or community organizations involved in activities related to public art program, set goals annually to increase and diversify participation rates.

COLLECTION QUALITY AND GROWTH:

- **Number of Accessioned Artworks:** Track the annual number of new artworks and the overall investment in the Public Art Collection through commissions and accepted donations.
- **Diversity of Collection:** Assess the diversity of artists and arts typologies represented, including local, national, emerging, and established individuals from various backgrounds. Evaluate the art forms such as sculpture, mural, functional, and environmental pieces, along with the themes in the collection.
- **Condition Assessments:** Implement a regular schedule for assessing the physical condition of artworks, ideally an annual assessment by city staff and a conservator's report every 5 years. Keep maintenance logs, track repairs, and evaluate the overall state of the collection annually to ensure a high-quality, city-owned collection.
- **Lifespan Achievement:** Monitor whether artworks are meeting their expected temporary, short-term, medium-term, or long-term lifespans outlined in the maintenance manuals provided by artists.

Critical Impact Areas

VISUAL ENHANCEMENT AND PLACEMAKING:

- **Visibility and Accessibility:** Consider the use of foot traffic counters or geofencing technology in areas around public art installations to measure increases in pedestrian activity following the installation of an artwork.
- **Linkage to Other City Projects:** Track the number of public art projects successfully integrated with capital projects or city initiatives to assess the programs success in integrating with other city functions
- **Cultural and Historical Significance:** Document how new artworks contribute to or reflect the cultural or historical importance to the community, possibly through narrative descriptions or community feedback about their relevance, consider publishing a landing page that community member can explore to learn more about the collection.
- **Perceived Vibrancy:** Consider a 5-year survey check-point with the community on the public art collection to gather sentiments on the public collection and the perceived quality of life value, it may also be a good juncture to gathering input on near-term priorities for the collection.

PROGRAM EFFICIENCY AND COMPLIANCE:

- **Budget Adherence:** Monitor the program's adherence to its allocated budget for acquisitions, maintenance, and administrative costs.
- **Project Timeliness:** Track the completion rates of commissioned projects and evaluate the efficiency of the donation and accession processes against planned timelines.
- **Policy Adherence:** Review compliance with established procedures for artist selection, donation acceptance, deaccessioning, and collection management.
- **Staff Workload:** Periodically review staff workload related to the Public Art Program to ensure that the staff can efficiently handle their responsibilities

06
Appendices

Public Art Frequently Asked Questions

This section responds to some of the most commonly asked questions regarding public art programs.

QUESTION 1: WHY DOES BURLESON NEED A PUBLIC ART POLICY?

This Public Art Policy for the City of Burleson outlines a comprehensive framework for establishing and managing a robust public art program. It details the roles and responsibilities of various stakeholders, including the Mayor, City Council, Public Art Advisory Board, and City staff, in guiding public art initiatives. The policy also establishes clear guidelines for collection management, covering the acquisition of artworks through both commission and donation, alongside criteria for decommissioning. Crucially, it defines key terms related to public art, from “artist” and “mural” to different “life spans” for artworks, ensuring clarity and consistency. The policy further addresses specific procedures for donations and the display of art on loan or temporary display, including detailed requirements for agreements, costs, installation, and insurance, all while upholding the city’s right to manage its collection effectively for public safety and benefit.

QUESTION 2: WHAT DOES THE PUBLIC ART POLICY DO? HOW IS IT DIFFERENT FROM THE PUBLIC ART PLAN?

The Public Art Policy establishes the fundamental rules, principles, and definitions governing the city’s public art program, acting as a stable framework that outlines roles, responsibilities, and procedures for collection management and acquisition. In contrast, the Public Art Plan is a more dynamic, strategic document that details the specific vision, goals, and implementation strategies for the program, including recommendations and action items for building the public art program, funding strategies, projects ideas, and community engagement approaches, essentially translating the policy’s guiding principles into actionable projects and initiatives for the City of Burleson to implement.

Public Art Frequently Asked Questions

QUESTION 3: WHO SELECTS THE PUBLIC ART IN BURLESON?

Artwork Selection is a multi-step process, first a site is identified by city staff in collaboration with the Public Art Advisory Board and included in the Public Art Workplan. Next, either a “Call for Art,” “Request for Proposals,” or “Request for Qualification” is publicly-published. A selection committee is then formed or identified, this selection committee may be the Public Art Advisory Board (for artworks under $50,000) or an adhoc committee formed for a specific artwork selection, this may include members representing specific groups or perspectives when appropriate for the artwork, for example a member of the local historic society when artwork is intended to be placed in a historic neighborhood.

The Selection Committee then reviews the proposals or qualification of the artists and makes a recommendation for artwork or artist selection onto the Public Art Advisory Board, who approves this selection for referral onto City Council. City Council has ultimate responsibility for the program, including the approval of final artwork selection. For artworks under $50,000, the Public Art Advisory Board may select the artwork for referral onto City Council, acting as the Selection Committee.

QUESTION 4: WHAT IS CONSIDERED “PUBLIC ART” UNDER THE PUBLIC ART POLICY?

“Public Art” broadly includes sculpture, paintings, murals, graphic arts, photography, crafts, mixed-media, functional art (like street furniture), and environmental art (landforms, artistic landscapes). It specifically excludes mass-produced items, traditional architectural or landscape elements, commercial advertising, or art displaying slogans/logos unless part of a defined gateway sculpture.

The policy also specifically governs publicly-owned works of art or art placed on public property. Privately commissioned or acquired works, placed on private property are not policed by this process, however, this policy is available for reference by private parties, such as developers, who wish to acquire artwork for their properties.

Public Art Frequently Asked Questions

QUESTION 5: WHAT CAN PUBLIC ART FUNDS BE USED FOR?

- Costs associated with “Calls for Entry,” “Requests for Qualifications (RFQs),” and “Requests for Proposals (RFPs)” to solicit artist submissions.
- Funding for payment for concept designs and maquettes (small models) as part of the artist selection process.
- Stipends for jurors involved in artist selection.
- Other costs related to competitions and commissions.
- Artist fees, including travel stipends and related expenses.
- Artwork fabrication and installation.
- Site preparation and cleanup necessary for the artwork.
- Acquisition of existing works of art.
- Relocation of both existing and newly commissioned works of art.
- Required permits and insurance during the fabrication and installation phases of artwork.

Funds may NOT be used for:

- Mass-produced work, with the exception of limited editions controlled by the artist.
- Professional graphics, unless designed or executed by an artist or used in the development of collateral material.
- Decorative, ornamental or functional elements that are designed by a project’s architect or other designer.
- Routine maintenance, conservation, repair, or restoration, exceeding more than 10% of the annual budget.
- Purchase of existing works of art that does not follow the outlined selection process in the Public Art Policy.

QUESTION 6: HOW CAN PUBLIC ART BE DONATED TO THE CITY OF BURLESON?

First, the donation must meet the definition of public art, meaning:

Public art, when used herein, shall mean any of the following: sculpture, statues or monuments in any material or combination of materials; painting; murals; graphic arts including printmaking and drawing; photography; crafts in clay, fiber and textiles, wood, metal, plastics, glass and other materials; mixed-media, any combination of forms or media, including collage; functional art such as street furniture, as defined by the City of Burleson Public Art Program; environmental art consisting of landforms and artistic landscape composition.

WHAT IS NOT PUBLIC ART

The term “Public Art” does not include reproductions by mechanical or other means of original works of art, except for limited editions, controlled by the artist, of original prints, cast sculptures, photographs or other works of art; decorative, ornamental, or functional elements which are designed by the building architect or consultants engaged by the architect which are a traditional and typical element of architectural design; elements generally considered to be conventional components of a landscape architectural design including, but not limited to, plant materials, pools, paths, benches, receptacles, fixtures and planters except street furniture as defined by the City of Burleson Public Art Program and environmental art consisting of landforms and artistic landscape composition; “Art objects” which are mass produced or of a standard design, such as playground statues or fountains, except pieces of historical significance to the city; directional or other functional elements, such as supergraphics, signage, color coding and maps, except where sculptural pieces are used to define gateways in the city; electrical, water or mechanical service for activation of the work; exhibitions and educational programs related to the work; performing arts; and art that displays slogans, logos, mascots or commercial advertising.

If the work does not meet the above definition, then other city policies may apply but it does not qualify for acceptance into the city’s public art collection. If it does meet the definition for public art, then the following process applies:

1. A Donation Proposal (requirements specified in the Public Art Policy)
2. A Maintenance Plan detailing the artwork’s lifespan, routine cleaning protocols, long-range care, material specifications, guarantee against workmanship failures, and the assignment of manufacturer/fabricator warranties to the City where applicable. This would also include a plan to fund and deliver ongoing operations and maintenance, or the resolution accepting the art must identify how maintenance will be funded. This may identify publicly available funds or a private contribution to the works ongoing maintenance, the Public Art Advisory Board will review this approval to ensure the proposed artwork can be sustainably maintained within the proposed funding structure.
3. Review Process: Following a positive initial review by a City employee, the Public Art Advisory Board will evaluate the donation request. They determine the appropriateness of the donation based on established criteria and provide a final recommendation to the City Council. The City then assesses if the donation is in the community’s best interest and aligns with City goals, laws, policies, ordinances, and resolutions as well as the Burleson Public Art Plan in addition to being approriate for the characteristics site it is proposed to be integrated within
4. Artwork Acceptance and Accession: Following a successful evaluation by city staff, the Public Art Advisory Board, and City Council, the artwork may then be accessed into the public art collection and sited for installation.

Appendix: Public Art Policy

SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION

To establish a strong Public Art Program, the City of Burleson will adopt the following policies, which includes the following sections: Roles & Responsibilities; Collection Management; Program Update; Use of Funds; Public Art Acquisition; [Option A or B for murals].

INTRODUCTIONS 66
DEFINITIONS 66
ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES 67
CITY OF BURLESON MAYOR & CITY COUNCIL 67
ADVISORY BOARD 67
PUBLIC ART MANAGER 68
CITY STAFF 68
COLLECTION MANAGEMENT 68
DONATIONS 69
DONATION REQUIREMENTS 69
DONATION PROPOSAL PROCEDURES AND REVIEW PROCESS 69
OWNERSHIP 69
CRITERIA FOR EVALUATION 69
MEMORIAL GIFTS 70
ACCEPTANCE AND ACCESSION OF THE ARTWORK 70
ART ON LOAN OR TEMPORARY DISPLAY ON CITY-OWNED PROPERTY 71
REMOVAL, RELOCATION, OR DEACCESSION OF THE ARTWORK 71
MAINTENANCE 72
MAINTENANCE GUIDELINES FOR ACQUIRING NEW WORKS 73
DEACCESSION 74
REMOVAL FROM PUBLIC DISPLAY 74
PROVISION FOR EMERGENCY REMOVAL 74
CRITERIA FOR DEACCESSION 74
APPLICATION PROCESS 75
REVIEW PROCESS 75
PUBLIC ART PROGRAM WORKPLAN 76
USE OF FUNDS 77
PUBLIC ART ACQUISITION 77
GOALS OF THE SELECTION PROCESS 77
CONFLICT OF INTEREST 78
ARTIST SELECTION METHODS FOR ACQUIRING EXISTING ARTWORK 78
ARTIST SELECTION METHODS FOR COMMISSIONING NEW ARTWORK 78
ARTIST SERVICES PROCUREMENT 79
ARTIST SELECTION PROCESS FOR ARTWORK ACQUISITION (EXISTING ARTWORK AND NEWLY-COMMISSIONED ART) 79
PURPOSE AND RESPONSIBILITIES 79
ARTIST SELECTION COMITTEE 80
PURCHASING PROCEDURES 81
PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION PROCESS FOR SITE- SPECIFIC ARTWORKS 81

MURAL OPTION A - MURAL GUIDELINES 81
INTRODUCTION 82
PRIVATE MURALS ON PRIVATE PROPERTY 82
PUBLICLY-OWNED MURALS 82
MURAL DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS 82
MURAL EASEMENTS 83
RFQ ARTIST SELECTION 83
FUNDABLE EXPENSES 83
MURAL IMPLEMENTATION 83
MURAL OPTION B- CITY OF BURLESON MURAL PROGRAM (PRIVATE PROPERTY PERMITTING PROCESS AND REGULATIONS) 83
CITY OF BURLESON MURAL PERMIT SUBMITTAL COMPONENTS 84
APPLICATION 84
PRIVATE PROPERTY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM 84
MURAL ENCROACHMENT FORM 85
RIGHT OF WAY CONSTRUCTION PERMIT AND ENCROACHMENT PERMIT APPLICATION FOR OCCUPYING PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY 85
ARTIST COPYRIGHT LICENSE AND WAIVER 85
CITY OF BURLESON MURAL PROGRAM PERMIT DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS AND STANDARDS 85
DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS 85
STANDARDS 85
MURAL APPLICATION REVIEW 86
CITY OF BURLESON MURAL PROGRAM ARTIST REGISTER 86
EXISTING PRIVATELY-COMMISSIONED MURALS ON PRIVATE PROPERTY VISIBLE TO PUBLIC PROPERTY OR PUBLIC RIGHTS-OF-WAY (“LEGACY OR MURALS”) 86
ACQUISITION OF PRIVATELY-COMMISSIONED MURALS ON PRIVATE PROPERTY, EITHER IN THE PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY OR NOT IN THE PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY ACQUISITION 86

Appendix: Public Art Policy

INTRODUCTION

To establish a strong Public Art Program, the City of Burleson will adopt the following policies, which includes the following sections: Roles & Responsibilities; Collection Management; Program Update; Use of Funds; Public Art Acquisition; [Option A or B for murals].

DEFINITIONS

For these policies, the following terms, phrases, words, and their derivation shall have the meaning given herein:

- **Accession**, when used herein, shall mean a procedure for the acceptance of artwork into the Public Art Collection.
- **City of Burleson Mural Program**, when used herein, shall mean a program facilitated by staff of the City of Burleson to support the production of privately-commissioned murals to be installed on privately-owned property.
- **Artist**, when used herein, shall mean an individual generally recognized by critics and peers as a professional practitioner of the visual, performing, or literary arts, as judged by the quality of that professional practitioner's body of work, educational background, experience, public performances, past public commissions, sale of works, exhibition record, publications, and/or production of artwork. The members of the architectural, engineering, design or landscaping firms retained for the design and construction of a development project covered by these policies shall not be considered artists for the purposes of these policies.
- **City**, when used herein, shall mean the City of Burleson, Texas.
- **Creative amenity**, when used herein, shall mean non-standardized enhancements made to public space.
- **Deaccession**, when used herein, shall mean a procedure for the withdrawal of artwork from the permanent collection and the determination of its future disposition.
- Historic or civic objects, when used herein, shall mean an object that is historically or civically significant.
- **Life Spans**
  - Temporary: 0-2 years
  - Short term: 2-10 years
  - Medium term 10-25 years
  - Long term 25+ years
- **Mural**, when used herein, means a large-scale artwork, painting, or mosaic, applied to or mounted directly to an exterior surface of a building, construction fence or other structure and that is visible from the public right-of-way. Its primary intent is to be artistic in nature, rather than purely information, creative signage and commercial signage.
- **Public Art Collection or Collection**, when used herein, shall mean art objects owned by the City of Burleson, Texas, its agencies and authorities. Permanent Public Art must be located in a public place with public visibility, accessibility, and impact and shall have a permanence comparable to associated capital projects.
- **Public Art COORDINATOR or COORDINATOR**, when used herein, shall mean the Public Art Program Coordinator as determined by the City of Burleson.
- **Public Art Program**, when used herein, shall mean the Public Art Program of the City of Burleson, Texax. The Public Art Program intends to promote private and public programs to further the development and public awareness of, and interest in, the visual arts and fine crafts and encourage the integration of art into the architecture of municipal structures and commercial development projects in the City.
- **Committee**, when used herein, shall mean a COMMITTEE of the Advisory Board advising on matters pertaining to the City of Burleson's Public Art Collection when the City is funding the creation or acquisition of new artwork in public spaces. The COMMITTEE is committed to promoting awareness, access, and appreciation of public art for the City of Burleson. The COMMITTEE also provides recommendations for public art placement in the City of Burleson and facilitates administrative duties required for the Public Art Program.
- **Public art**, when used herein, shall mean any of the following: sculpture, statues or monuments in any material or combination of materials; painting; murals; graphic arts including printmaking and drawing; photography; crafts in clay, fiber and textiles, wood, metal, plastics, glass and other materials; mixed-media, any combination of forms or media, including collage; functional art such as street furniture, as defined by the City of Burleson Public Art Program; environmental art consisting of landforms and artistic landscape composition
- The term "Public Art" does not include reproductions by mechanical or other means of original works of art, except for limited editions, controlled by the artist, of original prints, cast sculptures, photographs or other works of art; decorative, ornamental, or functional elements which are designed by the building architect or consultants engaged by the architect which are a traditional and typical element of architectural design; elements generally considered to be conventional components of a landscape architectural design including, but not limited to, plant materials, pools, paths, benches, receptacles, fixtures and planters except street furniture as defined by the City of Burleson Public Art Program and environmental art consisting of landforms and artistic landscape composition; "Art objects" which are mass produced or of a standard design, such as playground sculpture or fountains, except pieces of historical significance to the city; directional or other functional elements, such as supergraphics, signage, color coding and maps, except where sculptural pieces are used to define gateways in the city; electrical, water or mechanical service for activation of the work; exhibitions and educational programs related to the work; performing arts; and art that displays slogans, logos, mascots or commercial advertising.
- **Public Art Public Art Policy or Public Art Policy**, when used herein, shall mean the policies recommended by the City Manager and approved by the City Council for the administration of the Public Art Plan. The Public Art Public Art Policy and any amendments thereto shall take effect forty-five (45) days after approval by the City Council.
- **Public Art Plan** or **Plan** when used herein shall mean the Public Art Plan of the City of Burleson, Texax that pertains to public art and culture, as it exists or may be amended. The Plan shall provide a process for the systematic selection and acquisition of pieces of artwork and locations of art to be included in public spaces.
- **Public space**, when used herein, shall mean any area or property (public or private) which is accessible or visible to the general public a minimum of 8 hours per business day.
- **Publicly-owned land**, when used herein, shall mean any land open to the public and managed by the City of Burleson, Texax.
- **Public Art Program Workplan**, when used herein, shall mean a document that outlines projects that are in-progress and will be initiated in coming fiscal years.
- **Relocation**, when used herein, shall mean a procedure for the movement of an artwork from one location to another.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The City of Burleson Parks and Recreation Office shall administer the Public Art Program in partnership with other departments. Day-to-day responsibility for the program will ultimately reside with the Public Art Coordinator, and are outlined below in the Public Art Public Art Policy. The Public Art Coordinator may be a City staff member or an outside consultant and have an oversight role for all of the public art projects executed within the city. The Public Art Coordinator will collaborate with City staff or outside contractors to execute projects.

CITY OF BURLESON MAYOR & CITY COUNCIL

The City of Burleson City Council has adopted Ord. [ ], establishing the City of Burleson Public Art Program. As the community's elected officials, the Mayor and Council members are ultimately responsible for the outcomes of the Public Art Program.

PUBLIC ART ADVISORY BOARD

The Burleson Public Art Board is an ADVISORY BOARD of the Parks and Recreation Board advising on matters pertaining to the City of Burleson's Public Art Collection when the City is funding the creation or acquisition of new artwork in public space, as defined above.

The following qualifications should be considered when appointing the members of the Committee. At a minimum, three of the five should be Burleson residents:

1. One or more artists;

Appendix: Public Art Policy

2. One or more arts professionals;
3. One member of the Advisory Board; and/or
4. One design professional.
5. One member of the Racial Equity Advisory Committee.

The Board consists of up to seven (7), but no fewer than three (3) members and is chaired by a COMMISSIONER.

The Public Art Board has the following responsibilities:

1. Act principally in an advisory capacity to Burleson staff in any matter pertaining to public art.
2. Advise and make recommendations to city staff pertaining to, among other things, artist selection juries and process; commission and placement of artworks; and maintenance and removal of artworks.

Any member serving on the Committee is ineligible for a public art project by the City of Burleson during their membership and for an entire year following.

PUBLIC ART PROGRAM MANAGER (MANAGER)

The City Manager will determine appropriate staffing structure to oversee citywide public art activities and manage the Public Art Program. Additional staff resources or outside consultants may be required to assist in implementing projects, particularly those of a larger scale. Responsibilities include:

1. Work with various City Manager's Offices to develop potential projects for inclusion in the Program Update.
2. Coordination with other city planning efforts.
3. Present a public art update as part of the City's regular budget process to the City Council.
4. Coordinate and manage the Advisory Board and its quarterly meetings
5. Coordinate with Advisory Board to ascertain advice on any matter pertaining to public art, including:
    a. preparing and presenting the public art update to the Advisory Board, the Commission, and City Council;
    b. artist selection juries and process;
    c. purchase of artworks;
    d. commission and placement of artworks; and
    e. public art programming;
6. Coordinate the hiring of an outside consultant or agency to administer public art projects as needed.
7. Ensure various city City Manager's Offices are following the City's Public Art Public Art Policy.

CITY STAFF

City staff members, particularly City Manager's Office heads, should look for opportunities to include public art in capital improvement projects (CIP) throughout the city, particularly in locations identified as priorities in this plan. Overall public art responsibilities include:

1. Explore opportunities to include public art in existing CIP projects.
2. Coordinate with the Manager for inclusion of projects within the Program Update and report.

COLLECTION MANAGEMENT

The City of Burleson acquires artworks by commission and donation. Processes for these acquisitions are dictated by the Public Art Ordinance and the Acquisition and Donation sections found in this section. Artwork acquired through these processes are considered to have been accessioned into the City's Public Art Collection. They must be cared for in accordance with the policies and Procedure for Maintenance and the Collection Management policies. Artwork in the City's possession that were acquired outside of or before these policies may not be accessioned pieces of the Public Art Collection and thus may not be subject to the Collection Management policies. These policies only apply to artworks formally accessioned into the City of Burleson Public Art Collection, in accordance with the processes set forth in this document. The Collection Management policies are intended to maintain the value of the City's Public Art Collection and guard against the arbitrary disposal of any of its pieces.

Objectives

- Maintain a Collection management program that results in a high-quality, city-owned Collection;
- Eliminate artwork that is unsafe, not repairable, or no longer meets the needs of the City of Burleson;
- Respect the creative rights of artists; and
- Support an efficient workload for staff.

DONATIONS

Requests to donate artwork to the City may be considered on a case-by-case basis, where the City has established in advance, and publicized, a need, project, or location in which an art donation may be included. Requests for consideration shall be made to the Public Art Coordinator The City has no obligation to accept a proposed Donation.

DONATION REQUIREMENTS

The City will consider donations on the following basis:

- The donation contributes to and enhances the City's Collection;
- The donation meets a high standard of quality and is appropriate and meaningful to the community;
- The donation follows required City procedures, including the submission of a Donation Proposal and a Maintenance Plan. Donation Proposal requirements are included in these policies. The requirements for the Maintenance Plan can be found in Procedure for Maintenance policies below;
- The donation proposal includes a plan to fund and deliver ongoing operations and maintenance – or the resolution accepting the public art must identify how maintenance will be funded; and
- The donation proposal is reviewed and endorsed by the Advisory Board and approved by the City of Burleson.

The City will not accept a donation of artwork until all funds for development, fabrication, siting, and installation have been secured. The City will consider the following types of donation proposals for artworks for City-owned property:

- An already completed artwork; or
- A commissioned artwork by a specific artist or artists to be created especially for City-owned property.

DONATION PROPOSAL PROCEDURES AND REVIEW PROCESS

Formal requests to donate artwork to the City of Burleson are made to the Public Art Coordinator.

1. The donor shall complete an Art Donation Agreement Application (donor form) and submit the form to the Public Art Coordinator.
2. Following a positive initial review by a City employee designated by the City Manager, the City will contact the Advisory Board, which will evaluate the donation request to determine the appropriateness of the donation as measured by approval criteria and provide a written recommendation to the City Council.
3. The City will then determine whether the donation is in the City's best interest and is consistent with the City's goals and applicable City laws, policies, Ordinances, and Resolutions.
4. The City will notify the donor in writing, identifying final conditions if approval is granted.

OWNERSHIP

Once the City accepts a gift, the City shall be the sole owner of the donated item and will have the right, in its sole and absolute discretion, to deaccession any donated item without providing notice to or obtaining the donor's consent.

CRITERIA FOR EVALUATION

Elements will include, but will not be limited to, the following:

1. **City-owned Property** – Donated public art must be suitable for public display on City-owned or City-managed property;
2. **Relevance and Site Context** – Works of art must be appropriate for the proposed location and its surroundings and/or complement the architecture, topography, history, and social dynamic of the location in which it is placed. Proposed public art should also align with the goals of the Public Art Plan;
3. **Artist and Artwork Quality** – The artist demonstrates the ability and potential to

Appendix: Public Art Policy

execute the proposed public art based on previous artistic achievement and experience. Duplication of work will also be considered. The public art must enhance the City's Collection;

4. **Physical Durability** – The public art will be assessed for long term durability against theft, vandalism, and weather;
5. **Public Safety and Liability** – The public art will be assessed for any public safety concerns, as well as for any potential liabilities for the City;
6. **Sustainability** – Consideration will be given to the environmental impact and sustainability of the proposed public art , including its operations and maintenance requirements/costs; and
7. **Legal** – Proposed terms of donation, legal title, copyright authenticity, artist's right to reproduce, liability, and other issues as deemed appropriate will be considered.
8. **Originality** - Works of art should be an original design unless it is decided that the work will enhance and complement the character of the surrounding area.
9. **Compliance with Sign Code** - Proposed public art should feature no copy, lettering, symbols, or any references directly promoting any product, business, or service unless such images are discreet and do not detract from the public art. Sponsor and artist names may be incorporated in murals but should be discreet and not exceed 5% of the design.
10. **Supporting Costs** - The City's preference is for donors and loaners to provide financial support for public art projects. Donations and loans are an important tool for growing the public arts in the City of Burleson and they foster civic pride by providing people and businesses the opportunity to shape the public environment. Projects should identify sponsorship. All requests for use of City funds for production, siting, installation or ongoing operations and maintenance of the work must be approved by City Council.
11. **Installation and Maintenance** - Any applicant for public art should present a reasonable plan to install and remove (or preserve) the work. The maintenance plan agreed upon between the artist, business owner, and/or property owner should adequately make arrangements to preserve and, if necessary, restore the quality of work during its exhibition. Elements of a thorough maintenance plan would include:
    i. Lifespan of public art and prognosis of durability in consideration of that lifespan.
    ii. Routine cleaning protocols, methods, cleaning agents, and frequency.
    iii. Itemization of long-range considerations and care, highlighting maintenance and the anticipated need for periodic conservation treatment or repairs.
    iv. Specifications of materials used in fabrication.
    v. Guarantee against failures of workmanship over an agreed upon period of time.
    vi. Assignment of manufacturers or fabricators warranties to the owner of the public art .

MEMORIAL GIFTS

Memorial gifts will have an additional review process, which will include, but will not be limited to, the following:

1. **Timeframe** – The person or historical event memorialized must be deemed significant enough to merit such an honor. If the public art portrays a person in their likeness, the person so honored will have been deceased for a minimum of two years before consideration. The City reserves the right to remove memorials at any time should the City deem it necessary;
2. **Community Value and Timelessness** – The art selected represents broad community values and timeless qualities that will be meaningful to future generations; and
3. **Location** – The location under consideration is an appropriate setting for the memorial; generally, there should be some specific geographic justification for the memorial being located within a particular site.

ACCEPTANCE AND ACCESSION OF THE ARTWORK

City staff should refer to the City of Burleson Purchasing Public Art Policy, prior to finalizing the accession process, as proposed donations may require City Council acceptance.

If the proposal is accepted by the City of Burleson, a formal agreement will be negotiated outlining the responsibilities of each party (the City, the sponsor(s), the artist, and outside contractors, where applicable).

The agreement will address project funding, insurance, siting, installation, operations and maintenance, project supervision, vandalism, the right of removal or transfer, public safety, and other issues as necessary.

The City of Burleson will be the owner of the artwork and reserves the right to remove or alter the work to ensure public safety or because of any other City concerns. The City upholds copyright law and the Visual Artists Rights Act of 1990 (17 U.S.C.§ 106A). Any changes will be made in consultation with the artist and sponsor(s) when possible, or notification will be provided.

The completed and installed artwork will be accessioned and added to the City's inventory list and master database with all accompanying documentation.

REMOVAL, RELOCATION, OR DEACCESSION OF THE ARTWORK

In accepting a donation of artwork, the City of Burleson will not be bound by any agreement with the donor that restricts the City's ability to act in the best interest of the City of Burleson. Nothing in the acceptance of a donation of artwork shall prevent the City from approving subsequent removal, relocation, or deaccessioning of such donations if it serves the City's best interest to do so. The City will deaccession and dispose of works of art in its Collection in accordance with the Collection Management policies.

ART ON LOAN OR TEMPORARY DISPLAY ON CITY-OWNED PROPERTY

Art on loan, or art on temporary display on City-owned property, must meet the Donation Requirements above, follow the Donation Proposal Procedures 1-11 above, and be reviewed through the Donation Proposal Review Process. Art on loan or art on temporary display on City-owned property must not be accessioned or added to the City's inventory list and master database. The City shall determine whether an expenditure of City funds, either a direct outlay of City funds or the use of City sources and materials, is associated with or required by acceptance of the loan prior to acceptance. The City may accept loaned public art from organizations and residents outside of the city.

All incoming loans should be documented and monitored in accordance with the same detailed procedures the government objects in City of Burleson's Public Art Collection. Loans must be documented by written loan agreements between the lender and the City, which should be signed by the lender prior to delivery and/or installation of the work to the City.

Upon City approval of a loaned artwork, the lender must sign an Art Loan Agreement with the City. The agreement should include:

- **Term of Loans**
    - Loan agreements shall be for a minimum of six months and a maximum of two years, with a provision for up to one year extension with written approval from the lender and the City. When determining the duration of a loan and its duration for display, Lenders and the City should consider an object's material conditions, display location, and display context.
    - At the end of the term of loan, the lender will be granted up to six additional weeks for the removal of the artwork from the site on which it resides.
- **Costs**
    - The lender will be responsible for all costs associated with the loaned artwork, including but not limited to costs of transportation, installation, maintenance, removal, and repair (if needed).
    - The City will provide site maintenance as well as assistance with installation and removal, under the supervision of the lender or lender's representative. The City shall not be held responsible for any damage to the artwork while it is on loan.
- **Installation**
    - Artwork must be installed in accordance with requirements from City staff.

Appendix: Public Art Policy

- **Insurance**
  - The City will not assume responsibility for damage or theft of artwork that is on display in accordance with this Public Art Policy.
  - The lender will acknowledge that a risk of damage, loss, vandalism, or theft is inherent in a public display.
  - The lender must furnish satisfactory evidence of liability insurance by submitting a Certificate of Insurance and an Additional Insured Endorsement listing the City. With approval from City Administration, the liability insurance requirement can be waived if the lender signed an Art Loan Release of Liability form.
- **Maintenance**
  - A representative of [Public Works? Parks?] will make periodic inspections of the work of art after acceptance by the City Council. Inspections shall be made at intervals deemed appropriate by the Planning Director or their assignee. The need for maintenance or repairs of the Loaned Public Art may be reported by the staff of any City department or office, the Commission, members of the Commission, and citizens.
  - The Loaned Public Art and surrounding site shall be kept in a clean and orderly condition and in accordance with Collection Management policies and the terms and conditions of the agreement, if one exists, between the lender and the City.
  - The lender or his or her designated representative will be utilized to make recommendations regarding the care and maintenance of the work of art when deemed appropriate by the City. A visual arts specialist or art conservator should be consulted if the artist or designated representative is not available to advise on the necessary care requirements.
  - The Office of Community Services shall be responsible for carrying out the lender's advice on such care requirements and for determining such requirements when the artist/donor is unavailable.
  - Prior to accepting the Loaned Public Art, the lender will provide the City with a condition inspection report.
  - Vandalism or other damage to the Loaned Public Art shall be reported to the Burleson Police Department and/or the Office of Community Services.
  - The lender shall pay the cost of maintaining the Loaned Public Art, unless otherwise provided in the written agreement between the lender and the City.
- **Removal**
  - Lenders are required to remove artwork by the agreed termination date. The City does not accept responsibility for artwork not removed within the designated time frame. Any piece of art that is not removed by the deadline shall be treated as abandoned property
  - Artwork may be removed from City property in accordance with the Deaccession section of this Public Art Policy.

MAINTENANCE

The City of Burleson will administer the maintenance of the City's Collection with advice from the Public Art Coordinator and other outside partners through yearly evaluation and planning for the care of the existing Collection.

This section addresses:

- Accessioning and inventorying the City's Collection of public art;
- Preparing a biennial Public Art Maintenance Plan; and
- Overseeing routine maintenance and special conservation treatment of the City's Collection.

Every five years, the City of Burleson will assess the condition of all public art with a qualified professional conservator and develop a prioritized list of works in need of conservation or maintenance. This list will be the basis of the biennial Public Art Maintenance Plan.

Under this plan, trained contractors may carry out routine maintenance. For work in need of a higher level of maintenance, specialized care, or conservation treatment, the Program will utilize the maintenance funds available held in the Public Art Fund.

TEMPORARY ARTWORK REMOVAL FOR CONSERVATION TREATMENT

In some cases, artwork conservation may not be possible for some artworks that are publicly displayed or in storage. Such artworks must be temporarily removed from public display or storage for conservation to be completed in a qualified conservation lab. Temporary removal of such artworks from public display or storage is not considered deaccessioning, and procedures for emergency removal do not apply to these cases.

In cases of temporary artwork removal from public display or storage for the purposes of receiving conservation treatment, the artwork will be processed as an outgoing artwork loan for the duration of its treatment.

If an artwork requires conservation treatment and must be removed from public display or storage, then the following procedures must be completed before the artwork is temporarily removed from display or storage for treatment:

- Presentation to the City Manager's Office, describing the scope, timeline, and budget for off-site conservation services for the artwork
- City Manager's Office approval of off-site conservation scope
- Public Art Coordinator's completion of the outgoing artwork loan form, which is to be filed with the appropriate City City Manager's Office.

Prior to the artwork's travel for treatment, the artwork must undergo an outgoing artwork conservation assessment by a trained conservator or registrar. Upon the artwork's return to the City of Burleson, the artwork must undergo an incoming artwork conservation assessment by a trained conservator or registrar. The City of Burleson should consult with a trained conservator or registrar on appropriate artwork crating and shipping procedures for any artwork traveling to or from the City of Burleson.

MAINTENANCE GUIDELINES FOR ACQUIRING NEW WORKS

Maintenance Plan

As described in the Acquisition Public Art Policy, all acquired artworks must have a maintenance plan developed.

Utilization of the Maintenance Plan

The Maintenance Plan will be used to:

- Advise the Advisory Board, appropriate City staff, and others who must review and approve design proposals or accept or decline donated artwork;
- Troubleshoot the production of construction drawings, the fabrication of the artwork, and the preparation of the site;
- Follow-up on the artist's recommendations; and
- Refer to during the post-fabrication/ installation inspection to prepare a final report and a punch-list to complete the project.

The City of Burleson, professional conservators, and artists will strive to address the recommendations in the Maintenance Plan without unduly interfering with the aesthetic intent of the proposed public art.

Post Fabrication/Installation Inspection

The Post-Fabrication/Installation Inspection conducted by City staff will be based upon and follow-up on the Maintenance Plan that was developed during the design phase. It will include the following:

- Ensure that recommendations made in the Maintenance Plan and during fabrication were followed;
- Confirm that the artwork is executed as proposed and agreed upon;
- Confirm that there are no missing or incomplete elements;
- Establish that materials quality and stability are acceptable;
- Establish that fabrication quality and stability are acceptable;
- Confirm that installation is stable and secure;
- Confirm that stainless steel is fully and properly "passivated";
- Confirm that, if required, protective coatings have been applied;
- Ensure that warranties for electronic and other media are submitted as necessary;
- Identify any remaining vulnerabilities;

Appendix: Public Art Policy

- Confirm no new damage resulting from installation process;
- Ensure that the maintenance and operations plan is accurate; amend as needed; and
- Confirm that the plaque/public notice meets program policies and is properly installed.

DEACCESSION

Removal from Public Display

Requests to deaccession artwork to the City may be considered on a case-by-case basis. Requests for consideration shall be made through the Public Art Coordinator to the Advisory Board, based on the deaccession criteria below.

If the artwork is removed from public display, the City of Burleson may consider the following options:

- Relocation: If the Advisory Board recommends that an artwork must be removed from its original site, and if its condition is such that it can be re-installed, the Advisory Board will attempt to identify another appropriate site. If the artwork was designed for a specific site, the Advisory Board will attempt to relocate the work to a new site consistent with the artist's intention. If possible, the artist's assistance will be requested to help make this determination.
- Store artwork until a new site has been identified or the City decides to deaccession the artwork.
- Sell or trade the artwork after deaccession.

PROVISION FOR EMERGENCY REMOVAL

In the event that the structural integrity or condition of an artwork is such that the artwork presents an imminent threat to public safety, the City Manager may authorize immediate removal without the artist's consent, and have the artwork placed in temporary storage. The artist must be notified of this action within 30 days. The City will then consider options for repair, reinstallation, maintenance provisions or deaccessioning. In the event that the artwork cannot be removed without being altered, modified, or destroyed, and if the Artist's agreement with the City has not been waived under the Visual Artists Rights Act of 1990 (17 U.S.C.§ 106A), the City must attempt to gain written permission before proceeding. In the event that this cannot be accomplished before action is required in order to protect the public health and safety, the City shall proceed according to the advice of the City Attorney.

CRITERIA FOR DEACCESSION

The Advisory Board may consider the deaccessioning of artwork for one or more of the following reasons in the event that it cannot be re-sited:

1. An artwork is not, or is only rarely, on display because of lack of a suitable site.
2. The condition or security of the artwork cannot be reasonably guaranteed.
3. The artwork has been damaged or has deteriorated and repair is impractical or unfeasible.
4. The artwork endangers public safety.
5. In the case of site specific artwork, the artwork's relationship to the site is altered because of changes to the site.
6. The artwork has been determined to be incompatible within the context of the collection.
7. The City of Burleson wishes to replace the artwork with work of more significance by the same artist.
8. The artwork requires excessive maintenance or has faults of design or workmanship.
9. The City of Burleson has approved necessary site alterations
10. Written request from the artist.
11. The artwork has become publicly associated with racism, sexism, homophobia, xenophobia, acts of assault or violence, or other offensive themes.

Integrity of Artworks

The City of Burleson Public Art Program will seek to ensure the ongoing integrity of the artwork and the sites for which they were created, to the greatest extent feasible, in accordance with the artist's original intentions, and consistent with the rights afforded by the Visual Artists Rights Act of 1990 (17 U.S.C.§ 106A).

Access to Artworks

The City will seek to assure continuing access to artworks by the public. However, the City may limit availability due to circumstances such as funding, public safety, display space, and deaccession processes.

Life Spans

An artwork's life span is either the $50,000 of time its materiality will allow it to be displayed (either for artwork safety or artwork integrity reasons), or the object's display period, as determined by a contract between the City and the artist, whichever is shorter. Life spans assigned to the work during the commissioning process will be considered as part of requests for deaccession or removal. For artworks that have not been assigned a life span, the Public Art Coordinator may engage experts to assist in assigning the artwork a life span, based on the life expectancy of the artwork's materials and fabrication methods, and/or the programming priorities of the Advisory Board.

- Temporary: 0 - 2 years
- Short Term: 3 -10 years
- Medium-Term 11 - 25 years
- Long-Term 26+ years

APPLICATION PROCESS

Preliminary Request

Permanent artworks must be in place for at least five years before deaccession or relocation requests will be considered unless matters of public safety necessitate the removal. Deaccession or relocation requests may be submitted by the public.

Deaccession and Removal Form

Applicants will be required to submit a written request to City staff, or the appropriate representative for consideration of deaccession or removal of artwork.

Review Process

In consultation with the Advisory Board, the Public Art Coordinator will review requests and decide on either deaccession or relocation.

Public Meeting

The City may hold a public meeting to gather community feedback on a proposed deaccession or removal, unless the removal is an emergency. The City may also decide to hold additional public meetings or gather community input through other methods. The City may seek additional information regarding the work from the artists, galleries, curators, appraisers, or other professionals before making a recommendation.

Artist Involvement

If deaccession or removal is recommended, the artist (if available) will be contacted and invited to provide input to the City. The artist's contract and other agreements or pertinent documents will be reviewed and sent to the City Attorney's Office for final approval.

Recommendation

The Public Art Coordinator will prepare a report and consult with the City Attorney, as necessary. City staff's recommendation may include dismissing the request and/or modifying, relocating, selling, donating, disposing, or storing the artwork.

1. Artist's Name, biographical information, samples of past artwork, and resume.
2. A written description and images of the Artwork.
3. Artist's Texaxment about the Artwork named in Deaccession or Relocation Request (if possible)
4. A description of the selection process and all related costs that was implemented at the time the Artwork was selected.
5. A formal appraisal of the Artwork (if possible)
6. Information regarding the origin, history, and past ownership of the Artwork
7. Information about the condition of the Artwork and the estimated cost of its conservation.
8. Information and images of the Artwork's site
9. Any information gained from the public meeting held about the deaccession and removal of the work.
10. Feedback from the City City Manager's

Appendix: Public Art Policy

Office responsible for operating and maintaining the Artwork.

11. Detailed budget for all aspects of conservation, maintenance, repair, installation, operation, insurance, storage, and City Staff support.
12. The Artist's contract with the City.

City staff can recommend one or more of the following methods for an artwork's deaccession:

1. Sale or Exchange - sale shall comply with the State of Texax and City of Burleson laws and policies governing the sale of municipal property.
    a. Artist, or eTexax of the artist, will be given the first option to purchase or exchange the artwork(s).
    b. Sale may be through auction, gallery resale, direct bidding by individuals, or other forms of sale in compliance with the State of Texax and City of Burleson law and policies governing surplus property.
    c. Exchange may be through an artist, gallery, museum or other institution for one or more artwork(s) of comparable value by the same artist.
    d. No works of art shall be traded or given to Advisory Board members or City of Burleson staff.
    e. Proceeds from the sale of artwork shall be placed in an City of Burleson account designated for public art purposes. Any pre-existing contractual agreements between the artist and the City regarding resale shall be honored. An exception to these provisions may be required if the artwork was originally purchased with funds that carried with them some restriction, for example, bond funds for street and sidewalk improvements, in which case the proceeds shall be placed in an account designated for art allowed under similar restriction(s).
2. Destruction of Artwork – if artwork is deteriorated or damaged beyond repair or deemed of negligible value.
3. If the City of Burleson is unable to dispose of the artwork in the manner outlined above, the Public Art Coordinator may recommend the donation of the artwork to a non-profit organization or another method.

Costs

If deaccession or relocation accommodates the applicant's interests or project, they may be required to cover the deaccession or relocation at no cost to the City.

Conflict Of Interest

No works of art shall be given or otherwise transferred publicly or privately to officers, directors, or employees or staff of the City of Burleson or their immediate families or representatives of the City of Burleson.

Compliance With Applicable Policies And Regulations

Deaccession and relocation of artwork will be done in a manner that complies with all other applicable City of Burleson, State of Texas, and federal procedures, policies, and regulations.

Existing Public Art Pieces At Time Of Public Art Policy Adoption

Existing public art pieces on City-owned property should be evaluated using the accession criteria to ensure that it is appropriate for the City to continue owning and maintaining the artwork. If it does not meet the accession criteria, then the piece will not be accessioned into the City of Burleson Public Art Collection.

PUBLIC ART PROGRAM WORKPLAN

WHAT IS THE PUBLIC ART PROGRAM WORKPLAN?

The Public Art Program Workplan is a document that outlines in-process projects, and projects will be initiated in the coming fiscal year(s). The Program Update is one of the most crucial elements of the Public Art Program. It creates a roadmap and allows for the input of community members, elected officials, and others who care deeply about public art in the City of Burleson.

The Public Art Coordinator will develop the Update in consultation with staff and the Advisory Board and submit it to the Mayor and City Council as part of the budget for review and approval.

The following steps will be taken to develop the Public Art Program Workplan:

1. Work with City City Manager's Offices to determine the availability of funds for the upcoming year(s).
2. Identify projects to be paid for by identified funding, including acquisition and maintenance.
3. Develop a draft Public Art Program Workplan that will include locations, goals, and budgets for public art projects and programs for staff review.
4. Present the Update to City Council as part of the City budget approval.
5. Integrate feedback from City Council to determine the final Program Update.
6. Report on the use of funds collected to support the Public Art Program to and increase the $50,000 of art in the City that is available to the public.

USE OF FUNDS

Funding for the City of Burleson Public Art Program may come from:

- the Public Art Fund, as outlined in CODE;
- the City's Capital Improvement Budget;
- grants and/or contributions from private entities;
- other public agencies;
- philanthropic sources; or
- through other sources as deemed appropriate by the City.

USES OF FUNDS

- The public art funds may be spent for:
- Calls for Entry, RFQ's/RFP's, concept designs, maquettes, juror stipends, and other costs related to competitions and Commissions
- Artist fees including travel stipends and expenses related to travel;
- Artwork fabrication and installation;
- Site preparation and cleanup;
- Acquisition of existing works of art;
- Relocation of existing or Commissioned works of art;
- Required permits and insurance during the fabrication and installation of the artwork;
- Informational/promotional materials and public events directly related to the artwork;
- Required equipment needed for installation;
- Artwork appraisal;
- Staffing and services of an Arts Administrator;
- Curators and contracted services.

The public art funds may not be spent for:

- Mass-produced work, with the exception of limited editions controlled by the artist.
- Professional graphics, unless designed or executed by an artist or used in the development of collateral material.
- Decorative, ornamental or functional elements that are designed by a project's architect or other designer.
- Routine maintenance, conservation, repair, or restoration, exceeding more than 10% of the annual budget.
- Purchase of existing works of art outside of the selection process.

PUBLIC ART ACQUISITION

These policies establish the practices for acquiring artworks. The procedure creates a thorough and transparent process for acquiring artwork and favors open-ended selection processes to ensure artistic excellence in the City's Collection.

Selecting the artist is one of the most critical steps in commissioning public art. An open, equitable, competitive process that inspires the artist and engages the community can be an enriching experience and lead to more creative and exciting public art. The Public Art Coordinator will work with the Advisory Board to determine the appropriate method for commissioning new artwork for each Public Art Program project.

GOALS OF THE SELECTION PROCESS

- To satisfy the goals of the project site through an appropriate artist selection.
- To further the mission and goals of the Public Art Program.
- To select an artist or artists whose existing public artworks or past collaborative

Appendix: Public Art Policy

design efforts have demonstrated a level of quality and integrity.

- To identify an approach to public art suitable to the goals and demands of the particular project.
- To select an artist or artists who will best respond to the distinctive characteristics of the site and the community it serves.
- To select an artist or artists who can work successfully as members of an overall project design team.
- To ensure that the selection process represents and considers the interests of all parties concerned, including the public.
- To ensure that the artwork collection, overall, is reflective of all present and past stories and community legacies of Burleson.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Advisory Board or Public Art Committee members will declare any and all conflicts of interest for all projects and artwork under consideration at the beginning of their meetings. A conflict of interest exists if a Advisory Board member, an organization the Advisory Board member is associated with as a staff or board member, or a Advisory Board member's family member, has the potential to gain financially from the project under consideration by the Advisory Board or Public Art Committee. In order to promote public confidence in this process, a Advisory Board member may also declare a conflict if they think there may be a perception that they have a conflict. Potential conflicts should be submitted in writing to the City Manager. If it is determined by the City Manager that a conflict exists, the Advisory Board member must resign from the selection Advisory Board.

ARTIST SELECTION METHODS FOR ACQUIRING EXISTING ARTWORK

Competitions

In competitions, the City may put out an open call to artists for a possible inclusion in an exhibition at a predetermined site. The competition, which may or may not take the form of a temporary exhibit may feature existing artworks. Each selected artist may receive a stipend and the City may purchase one or more pieces of artwork at the conclusion of the exhibit to be placed in public locations around City of Burleson. All calls for artists will be advertised on the City of Burleson's website, appropriate procurement site.

Direct Selection

On occasion, artists may be chosen directly by the Artist Selection Advisory Board. Direct selection may be useists could come from a pre-qualified list. Approval for this method should be in accordance with the City of Burleson's purchasing procedures. City staff should refer to City of Burleson Administrative Regulations (PURCHASING), prior to finalizing the accession process, as proposed donations may require City Council acceptance.

Direct Purchase

Some projects require the purchase of a specific artwork due to the exacting nature of the project or a minimal project timeline. In this case, the work must be "one-of-a-kind" and not mass-produced or off the shelf. This list of artists could come from a pre-qualified list. Approval for this method should be in accordance with the City of Burleson's purchasing procedures. City staff should refer to City of Burleson Administrative Regulations (PURCHASING), prior to finalizing the accession process, as proposed donations may require City Council acceptance.

ARTIST SELECTION METHODS FOR COMMISSIONING NEW ARTWORK

Open Competition

In an Open Competition, any artist may submit their qualifications or proposal, subject to any requirements established by the Artist Selection Advisory Board. The Requests for Qualifications (RFQs) or Requests for Proposals (RFPs) should be sufficiently detailed to permit artists to determine whether their art is appropriate for consideration. Open Competition allows for the broadest range of possibilities for a site and brings in new, otherwise unknown, and emerging artists.

Limited or Invitational Competition

In a Limited Competition or Invitational, several pre-selected artists are invited by the Artist Selection Advisory Board to submit their qualifications and/or proposals. This method may be appropriate when the City is looking for a small group of experienced artists, a limited time frame, or if the project requirements are so specialized that only a limited number of already identified artists would be eligible.This list of artists could come from a pre-qualified list.

Direct Selection

On occasion, artists may be chosen directly by the Artist Selection Advisory Board. Direct selection may be useful on projects where an urgent timeline, low budget, or where precise project requirements exist.This list of artists could come from a pre-qualified list. Approval for this method should be in accordance with the City of Burleson's purchasing procedures. City staff should refer to City of Burleson Administrative Regulations (PURCHASING), prior to finalizing the accession process, as proposed donations may require City Council acceptance.

Direct Purchase

Some projects require the purchase of a specific artwork due to the exacting nature of the project or a minimal project timeline. In this case, the work must be "one-of-a-kind" and not mass-produced or off the shelf. This list of artists could come from a pre-qualified list. Approval for this method should be in accordance with the City of Burleson's purchasing procedures. City staff should refer to City of Burleson Administrative Regulations (PURCHASING), prior to finalizing the accession process, as proposed donations may require City Council acceptance.

ARTIST SERVICES PROCUREMENT

Design Team Member

In some instances, the City may use a targeted process to select an artist as part of a larger project design team. Language would be added to the project Request for Qualifications/Request for Proposals specifying that all teams responding to the RFQ/RFP must include a professional artist from a pre-qualified list as described in the section below. Given the nature of the project, a design team responding to an RFQ/RFP may be asked to identify an artist as part of the team based upon criteria established by the City in the RFQ/RFP. In this case, the Public Art Coordinator will represent the Program as part of the selection Advisory Board for the design team.

Pre-Qualified Artist Lists

The City may decide to develop a pre-qualified pool of artists from which it can choose artists for Limited Competition, Direct Selection, and Direct Purchase. This pool would be developed based on a comprehensive review of artist qualifications. This list could be updated annually or bi-annually, depending on the frequency of new projects.

ARTIST SELECTION PROCESS FOR ARTWORK ACQUISITION (EXISTING ARTWORK AND NEWLY-COMMISSIONED ART)

Once an Artist Selection method is determined, a selection process will be established. A jury of recognized experts will make recommendations for selected artists to create site-specific artwork or will make recommendations for artwork chosen to be exhibited.

If the budget for a single piece of artwork is $50,000.00 or more, a selection panel must be formed. If the budget for a single piece of artwork is less than $50,000.00, the Advisory Board will act as the selection Advisory Board.

Purpose and Responsibilities

- The artist selection process will interpret and review the artist's proposals based on the selection criteria.
- The goals of the selection process are as follows:
- To satisfy the goals of a specific project or site through an appropriate artist selection.
- To further the mission and goals of the Public Art Program.
- To select an artist or artists whose existing public artworks or past collaborative design efforts have demonstrated a level of quality and integrity.
- To identify an approach to public art suitable to the goals and demands of the particular project.
- To select an artist or artists who will best respond to the distinctive characteristics of the site and the community it serves.
- To select an artist or artists who can work

Appendix: Public Art Policy

successfully as members of an overall project design team.

- To ensure that the selection process represents and considers the interests of all parties concerned, including the public, the arts community, and the City City Manager's Office(s) involved.

ARTIST SELECTION COMMITTEE

Membership of Selection Committee

Membership will be recommended by the Public Art Coordinator. The members of the selection panel (panelists) will be representative of the community demographic and will consist of at least five (5) but no more than nine (9) members from the list below:

- Members of the Advisory Board
- Artist or arts administrator;
- Design professionals
- City of Burleson project manager who may appoint the project architect or project landscape architect in their stead; and
- A member of the project steering Advisory Board if one has been appointed
- Community or neighborhood representative

Artist Selection Commitee Conflict of Interest

Artist Selection Advisory Board members will declare any conflicts of interest for all projects and artwork under consideration at the beginning of their meetings. A conflict of interest exists if a Advisory Board member, an organization the Advisory Board member is associated with as a staff or board member, or a Advisory Board member's family member can gain financially from the project under consideration by the Artist Selection Advisory Board. In order to promote public confidence in this process, a Advisory Board member may also declare a conflict if they think there may be a perception that they have a conflict. If a Advisory Board member has a conflict, he/she must not participate in the Artist Selection Advisory Board's discussion or decision regarding the project. They must also refrain from discussion about the project and from influencing fellow Advisory Board members.

Procedures

During an artist selection process, Artist Selection Advisory Board members will not submit applications for the placement of their own artwork and/or projects. City Staff and Advisory Board can invite artists to participate but must refrain from giving advice to applicants or answering their questions and direct such questions to the Public Art Coordinator during the selection process. The COMMISSION must solicit public comment for all pieces of public art commissioned or purchased for over $50,000.00. An opportunity for public comment must be given before a formal vote. A formal vote recommending the selection to the City of Burleson City Council must be recorded in keeping with the City of Burleson public record requirements.

Purchasing Procedures

Pursuant to City of Burleson Public Art Policy, if the purchase of an existing artwork, or the award of a contract for a newly commissioned artwork exceeds $49,999, then the Advisory Board must recommend the artwork for purchase to the City Council prior to approval of the contract.

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION PROCESS FOR SITE- SPECIFIC ARTWORKS

Upon the decision of the Artist Selection Advisory Board, and with the assistance of the City Attorney's Office, the Public Art Coordinator will prepare a contract that includes the scope of work, fee, schedule, and relevant terms and conditions to be approved by the City and artist.

The City will follow the process for contracting required by law. For some projects, the contract with the artist may be phased to include two scopes of work with separate pay schedules and deliverables. The first phase would include all design documentation, including final design, stamped engineering drawings, installation details, and a revised fabrication budget and timeline. The second phase would include all costs related to fabrication and installation.

The Public Art Coordinator will ensure all documents are signed and insurance coverage secured before issuing a notice to proceed and will be responsible for coordinating the artist's work to ensure the successful integration of the artwork into the project. The Public Art Coordinator will organize a meeting with all integral staff to review roles, responsibilities, and schedules.

If specified in the contract, the artist will develop design development drawings for review and approval from the City before fabrication. The Public Art Coordinator will schedule meetings with the appropriate offices to review and approve the plans.

If the artist proposes any significant design changes, the Public Art Coordinator will secure the recommendation for approval from the Advisory Board and the appropriate City Manager's Offices of the City before approving said changes in writing, per the terms and conditions of the contract.

If the parties are unable to reach mutually beneficial contract terms, then the contract process will be terminated.

The Public Art Coordinator will be responsible for overseeing the installation of the artwork. The Public Art Coordinator will ensure that all the necessary requirements have been completed before interim and final invoice payments to the artist.

Maintenance Plan

Understanding maintenance and care of public art begins before an artwork is created. During the design phase or when a donation is initiated, the City, artist, or sponsor will review and analyze their design proposal and advise on maintenance and operations of the artwork. It is best practice and highly recommended that an art conservator is contracted to give a report on the proposed artwork.

On behalf of the City, the artist, sponsor, or the appropriate party will submit a Maintenance Plan to the City of Burleson, who will review and then catalog any tasks associated with maintenance of the artwork.

The Maintenance Plan will enable the City to:

- Evaluate the quality and sustainability of the proposed or existing public art ;
- Establish maintenance requirements, assign schedules, and identify potential costs; and
- Determine if the City of Burleson should accept or decline the design proposal and/or public art .

To produce the Maintenance Plan, the artist should examine and render an opinion on the following:

- Durability;
- Type and integrity of materials;
- Construction/fabrication technique;
- Internal supports, anchoring and joining, and footings;
- Landscaping;
- Vulnerable and delicate elements;
- Drainage of artwork;
- Potentially dangerous elements;
- Security;
- Location;
- Environment;
- Whether the design encourages/discourages interaction; and
- Effects of skateboarding, graffiti, and any other potentially damaging activities.

The Maintenance Plan will include:

- A record of the artist's intentions for the artwork;
- Recommendations to mitigate potential problems discovered during the examination;
- Notes about how the artist would like the artwork to age;
- An itemization of long-range considerations and care, highlighting maintenance and the anticipated needs for periodic conservation treatment or repairs; and
- Identification of the lifespan of the artwork and a prognosis of its durability in consideration of that lifespan.

The artwork may also be identified as site-integrated, or part of the site and/or the architecture, as appropriate and will fall into the long-term lifespan category above.

MURAL OPTION A - MURAL GUIDELINES

INTRODUCTION

Murals are a relatively quick and highly impactful way to bring public art into the built environment. Murals provide an opportunity for visual artists to show their talent and creativity while also contributing to a community's landscape and identity.

Appendix: Public Art Policy

PRIVATE MURALS ON PRIVATE PROPERTY

The City of Burleson and City Manager's Office encourage the installation of private murals on private property in order to support artists and enhance the visual environment in City of Burleson. Private property owners are encouraged to voluntarily follow the policies set forth in this document as applicable and are also encouraged to consult with the City Manager's Office and the Public Art Coordinator with regard to any questions or concerns as they develop and implement private murals.

PUBLICLY-OWNED MURALS

City Manager's Office has oversight responsibility pertaining to the creation of publicly-owned murals in the City of Burleson. Publicly-owned murals may occur on publicly-owned buildings or on privately-owned buildings where the property owner agrees to a mural easement allowing for the creation and maintenance of a publicly-owned mural on private property for a specific period of time.

The Advisory Board or Public Art Committee assists the City Manager's Office with coordinating the creation and completion of publicly-owned murals. This assistance includes but is not limited to:

- Identifying potential mural sites.
- Issuing and administering the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for mural artists.
- Coordinating a selection process for RFQ reviews and artist recommendations.
- Acting as a selection panel if the budget is under the $50,000 project threshold.
- Making recommendations for the selection panel members if the budget is over the $50,000 threshold.

MURAL DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS

Murals in the City of Burleson are encouraged to be varied in both content and design. A wide variety of murals will ensure a vibrant visual experience for residents and visitors alike. Some murals may celebrate the history of City of Burleson while others may be palettes for vibrant artistic expression, inject whimsy into the built environment, or showcase the artists' wildest dreams - the opportunities are endless.

While not relating to content, some design considerations should be made in order to ensure a successful project.

Design Considerations:

1. Scale - Who will be the intended viewer or audience? A mural intended for pedestrians may be of a different scale than one intended for automobile drivers or cyclists along a bike trail.
2. Accessibility - Are there opportunities to engage those who are visually impaired or otherwise not able to view the mural?
3. Maintenance - What are the long term maintenance implications of the design? Is it easily repairable?
4. Longevity - What is the expected life span of the mural? Is it intended to be a short or long term installation?
5. Experiential Elements - Is there a potential for additional elements that could be added to enhance the experience of the viewer such as virtual (VR) or augmented (AR) reality elements, audio elements either on site or online, instagram or social media interactions or other opportunities?

MURAL EASEMENTS

In order to create additional mural opportunities within City of Burleson, these policies encourage property owners to enter into easement agreements with the City that allow for public funds to be expended for murals on private property. Though there may be positive benefits for a property owner as a result of the creation of a publicly-owned mural on their building, there must be no direct correlation between the content of the mural and the property or any business housed in the property.

In order for the City to implement a publicly-owned mural on a privately-owned building the building owner must sign an easement created by the City of Burleson which Texaxs that the owner will not paint over, destroy, cover, or alter the mural for the duration of the agreement. Agreements typically last for a minimum of 5 years but may be shorter or longer depending on the project. As part of easement negotiations, the City should also consider negotiating with the property owner for nightly illumination of the mural for the lifetime of the easement.

RFQ ARTIST SELECTION

A selection panel should be formed using the policies in the acquisition section of the Public Art Policy in order to select artists. The following criteria should be utilized as the minimum criteria for the selection of artists for all mural projects. Additional project specific criteria may be added in addition to the baseline criteria.

- Experience with similar mural projects, examples of past projects – either in City of Burleson or other cities with strong mural programs, including at least ten (10) color images of one or more completed mural projects – and three supporting professional references.
- Willingness to work with City Staff and the City Manager's Office to develop and refine the mural design.
- Timely response to the RFQ, which shall include but not be limited to a requirement that at least ten (10) color renderings/ designs of the proposed mural, a written description of the mural, and photographs of the proposed site and physical surroundings be submitted to the City Manager's Office
- Innovative and unique artistic vision, including technique, composition of visual art elements, use of line, color, form, and texture.
- Realistic project budget and timeline.
- Willingness to enter into a contractual agreement with the City of Burleson.
- Liability/Workers compensation/ automobile insurance.
- Agreement to allow images of the completed mural to be placed on the City of Burleson website.

FUNDABLE EXPENSES

The installation of a mural may necessitate additional expenses beyond the artist fee and materials. Additional fundable expenses include but are not limited to:

- Artist(s) fees for design and execution of murals.
- Rental or purchase of painting equipment or the purchase of painting supplies.
- Preparation of the mural surface including repairs and priming.
- Rental of barricades and other equipment required of street or alley closures.
- Lighting and electrical equipment.
- Other expenses that are pre-approved by the City Manager's Office and the City of Burleson.

MURAL IMPLEMENTATION

Upon selection, the artist will work with the City of Burleson to create a design, secure permits, as appropriate, such as street or alley closures. Below is a general overview:

- The City Manager's Office will review and give final approval for the artist selection and mural design.
- City Staff will monitor the creation and completion of the mural.
- The Artist will create the artwork in a timely fashion. If more time is needed, the artist must notify the City so that any applicable permits may be extended.
- The creation of the mural must include materials that are long-lasting (at least five (5) years unless agreed to beforehand), graffiti and UV resistant, or include an anti-graffiti and UV resistant coating.
- The artist must notify the City when the mural is completed.
- When the mural is completed, the City Manager's Office will hold a mural dedication event.

MURAL OPTION B - CITY OF BURLESON MURAL PROGRAM (PRIVATE PROPERTY) PERMITTING PROCESS AND REGULATIONS

Murals play an important role in City of Burleson's past and present. The City of Burleson has a long tradition of mural placement on private property, and encourages this and other forms of creative community expression. Murals provide an opportunity to transform blank walls into vibrant spaces. Murals can celebrate a place's history, tell memorable stories of residents, and be a source of beauty. Murals are a relatively quick and highly impactful way to bring public art into a city's built environment. The Mural Program regulates privately-commissioned murals visible to public property or public rights-of-way and is implemented

Appendix: Public Art Policy

through the issuance of Mural Permits pursuant to CODE.

The Mural Program does not apply to the following:

- Public art and murals funded by the City of Burleson or public art funds. These are governed by the "Acquisition" chapter in the Public Art Policy;
- Privately-commissioned public art and murals not visible to public property or public rights-of way. These are governed solely by CODE; and
- Public art and murals on property where said use is not permitted pursuant to CODE.

CITY OF BURLESON MURAL PERMIT SUBMITTAL COMPONENTS

The Mural Permit requires submission to the City Manager's Office of the following documents constituting the "Permit Package", which are described in detail in the subsequent sections.

1. Application
2. Private Property Acknowledgement Form
3. Encroachment Form
4. Permit Application for Occupying Public Right-of-Way (during installation)
5. Artist Copyright and License Waiver

Application

Incomplete applications will not be considered for review. A non-refundable application fee as set by City Council Resolution is required to be paid at the time of application. The Application shall be on a form approved by the City Manager's Office CONTACT and shall include provision of the following:

1. Property address and profile
2. Contact person identity and profile (applicant)
3. Contact information of property owner
4. Artist identity (artist as named on the City of Burleson Mural Program Register)
5. Budget and funding sources
6. Proposed Mural information:
    a. Title, dimensions, medium
    b. Description
    c. Project goals/vision, audience, outreach efforts, engagement, etc.
    d. Full color rendering/sketch of the proposed design
    e. Site images
6. Maintenance information
    a. Monthly, quarterly, yearly
    b. Complete list of materials that will be used to create the mural, and product names/identification, if available
    c. Description of maintenance provider qualifications/skills
4. Installation and deinstallation plans including:
    a. Proposed installation schedule
    b. Surface preparation process
    c. images of existing site and physical surroundings
    d. installation and deinstallation equipment required
    e. qualifications and profile of installation and deinstallation crew/personnel other than the Artist, if necessary, based on project scope

Private Property Acknowledgement Form

Private Property Acknowledgement Form confirms the property owner's knowledge of the existence of the mural, and will be signed by the property owner and notarized. The property owner agrees to the following parameters, which must be met to place a mural on private property:

1. Permits for murals on private property are allowable for up to five years from installation. At the discretion of the property owner, an extension of the Mural Permit may be granted, upon City review of the condition of the mural at the time of the request. Requests for extension shall be filed with the City Manager's Office prior to Permit expiration.
2. No part of the mural shall exceed the structure to which it is affixed.
3. No part of the mural shall extend more than 6 inches from the plane of the wall upon which it is affixed.
4. No part of the mural contains electrical or mechanical components or changing images.
5. No part of the mural contains a commercial message in text or images.
6. Murals on private property must have an anti-graffiti coat applied to the surface to abate graffiti and vandalism.

Mural Encroachment Form

The property owner must sign a form stating that the owner will not paint over, destroy, cover, or alter the mural for the duration of the agreement. Agreements typically last for a minimum of 5 years but may be shorter or longer depending on the project. This form is submitted as part of the City of Burleson Mural Program application process.

Right of Way Construction Permit and Encroachment Permit Application for Occupying Public Right of Way

A Right of Way Construction Permit and/or an Encroachment Permit may be required if the scope of public art or mural installation requires temporary occupation of the public right-of-way during installation, pursuant to those requirements contained in CODE.

Artist Copyright License and Waiver

Applicants will select an artist from the City of Burleson Mural Program Artist Register (described below). The artist selected by the applicant to propose a design for a must sign the Artist Copyright License and Waiver, which establishes image uses and copyright, and waives the artist's VARA rights (Visual Artists Rights Act of 1990 (17 U.S.C.§ 106A).

CITY OF BURLESON MURAL PROGRAM PERMIT DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS AND STANDARDS

The City of Burleson Advisory Board reviews mural proposals according to the following Design Considerations and Standards. Decisions of the Advisory Board are final within 10 days unless appealed to the City Council.

Design Considerations

While not relating to content, some design considerations will help ensure a successful, high impact project. Private Property Owners and Artists are encouraged to consider the following when creating a mural concept:

1. Scale - Who will be the intended viewer or audience? A mural intended for pedestrians may be of a different scale than one intended for automobile drivers or cyclists along a bike trail.
2. Accessibility - Are there opportunities to engage those who are visually impaired or otherwise not able to view the mural?
3. Maintenance - What are the long term maintenance implications of the design? Is it easily repairable?
4. Experiential Elements - Is there a potential for additional elements that could be added to enhance the experience of the viewer such as virtual (VR) or augmented (AR) reality elements, audio elements either on site or online, instagram or social media interactions or other opportunities?
5. Historic Preservation - Is this mural intended for a historic building or structure? If so, painting unpainted finished masonry is generally considered an inappropriate treatment. Explore other options such as painted panels or applied vinyl. Murals proposed for placement on historic buildings or structures shall be subject to applicable additional review depending on the proposed project scope.

Standards

Though there may be positive benefits for a property owner as a result of the creation of a mural on their building, there must be no direct correlation between the content of the mural and the property or any business conducted on the property. The City of Burleson Mural Program intends to support artistic expression, and proposals containing content that is inappropriate and/or indecent by community standards may not be approved.

1. Murals shall be an original artwork designed and implemented by an artist from the City of Burleson Mural Program Artist Register. A proposed artist from the City of Burleson Mural Program Register must be identified in the application.
2. Mural Applications are reviewed using the following criteria:

Appendix

a. Strength of the concept and appropriateness of the imagery for all ages.

b. Appropriateness of scale to the surrounding environment including the facade on the building in which it is placed, as applicable.

c. Absence of commercial signage elements.Public safety and compliance with local laws and regulations.

d. Selection of an artist able to execute the proposed public art or mural.

e. Demonstrated ability to complete and maintain the mural for the entire life of the permit, and a documented understanding of the proposed surface's ability to receive the proposed materials.

3. All Public Mural proposals containing any written text and/or signage elements, as defined in CODE, may be subject to an additional review process through the City Manager's Office.
4. Mural installation must begin within one year of the approval of the application. If the project is unable to be completed within the allocated time frame, the application will be considered void.
5. All murals are subject to ongoing conservation and maintenance activities.
6. The City reserves the right to reject any application if it presents a public safety risk or potential liability issues.
7. Incomplete applications will not be reviewed.

MURAL APPLICATION REVIEW

The Advisory Board reviews and approves or denies Mural Permit following the review process outlined below applications for the City of Burleson Mural Program:

1. Permit Package provided to the City Manager's Office with payment of the current fee.
2. Permit Package routed to the City Manager's Office for review by Public Art Coordinator for completeness.
3. Complete Permit Package routed for review by the Advisory Board.
4. Advisory Board sends Decision to City Manager's Office
5. City Manager's Office notifies applicant of decision and 10-day appeal period by letter and publically posts decision.

EXISTING PRIVATELY-COMMISSIONED MURALS ON PRIVATE PROPERTY VISIBLE TO PUBLIC PROPERTY OR PUBLIC RIGHTS-OF-WAY ("LEGACY OR MURALS")

Any mural on private property and visible to public property or public right-of-way installed prior to the effective date of these Public Art Policy for which a land use entitlement such as a Minor Conditional Use Permit or Conditional Use Permit has not been obtained may continue as a nonconforming use for a period of five years from the effective date of the Public Art Policy so long as it and/or the surface or property on which it is located is maintained such that it is not a public nuisance or otherwise creating a public safety issue. Legacy Murals may be expanded, modified and/or have the lifespan extended only in compliance with an approved Mural Permit.

ACQUISITION OF PRIVATELY-COMMISSIONED MURALS ON PRIVATE PROPERTY, EITHER IN THE PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY OR NOT IN THE PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY ACQUISITION

If any privately-owned and/or privately-commissioned mural on private property has been proposed for City acquisition into the Public Art Collection, then the mural in question must be reviewed for acquisition according to the procedures set forth in the "Acquisition" chapter of this Public Art Public Art Policy document. As mentioned above, privately-owned and/or privately-commissioned murals on private property are not automatically accessioned into the Public Art Collection of the City of Burleson.

THE CITY OF BURLESON TEXAS

Department Memo

Community Services Committee

DEPARTMENT: **Parks and Recreation**

FROM: **Jen Basham, Director of Parks and Recreation**

MEETING: **September 3, 2025**

SUBJECT:

Receive a report, hold a discussion, and provide recommendations to the city council regarding the Parks and Recreation Master Plan *(Staff Contact: Jen Basham, Director of Parks and Recreation)*

SUMMARY:

The *Rooted in Burleson* Parks, Recreation, Trails, and Open Space Master Plan provides a strategic framework for guiding the development, enhancement, and stewardship of the City's parks, trails, open space, and recreational programs over the next 5+ years. The plan builds upon the successes of the 2019 plan and incorporates community feedback, stakeholder input, benchmarking analysis, and best practices to ensure the City continues to meet the needs of a growing and diverse population.

Since 2019, the City has invested approximately $30.89 million into the parks system, completed more than 20 park renovations, expanded trails, acquired land for a new community park, and secured multiple grants and awards recognizing innovation, environmental stewardship, and excellence in maintenance.

The plan is designed to:

- Enhance quality of life through thoughtful design and management of parks, trails, and recreation areas.
- Promote community well-being, connectivity, and healthy lifestyles.
- Preserve natural resources and support environmental stewardship.
- Contribute to Burleson's economic vitality.
- Diversify recreation programs to serve all ages, abilities, and interests.

Community & Stakeholder Engagement

- Online Survey (Apr–Sep 2024): 1,089 responses identified top priorities as trail development, preservation of open space, and maintenance of existing facilities.
- Program Preferences: Festivals/events, family programming, and fitness classes ranked highest.
- Facility Use: Bailey Lake, Mayor Vera Calvin Plaza, Warren Park, and Chisenhall Sports Complex most frequented.
- Stakeholder Interviews: Conducted December 2024, highlighting priorities for inclusivity, connectivity, environmental stewardship, safety, and diversification of recreation opportunities.

Goals & Strategic Framework

1. Elevate Park Quality – Develop underserved areas, update parkland dedication ordinance, and increase park access.
2. Strengthen Connectivity & Environmental Resilience – Expand trail networks, integrate trailheads, shade, lighting, and promote sustainable design.
3. Enhance Recreational Facility Opportunities – Improve aquatic, indoor, and outdoor facilities; adapt programming to trends.
4. Enrich Events & Programming – Broaden year-round events and address gaps for underrepresented groups.
5. Advance Hidden Creek Golf Course – Enhance facilities and create new revenue-generating opportunities.
6. Establish Russell Farm Art Center as a Cultural & Art Hub – Increase programming diversity and community engagement.

Key Findings

- Parkland Level of Service: 14.1 acres per 1,000 residents—above NRPA standard of 10.2 acres; population growth will require continued acquisition.
- Trail Level of Service: 1 mile per 1,952 residents—below NRPA standard; 16.6 additional miles needed to meet benchmarks.
- Funding Strategies: 4B funds, Park Performance Fund, General Fund revenues, grants, development fees, and municipal bonds identified for capital and operational needs.

Implementation

The plan outlines action items for each goal, with priority projects including:

- Inclusive playground upgrades

- Interactive fitness zones
- Trail lighting and connectivity improvements
- Greenway expansion
- Outdoor learning spaces and community gardens
- Public art installations

OPTIONS:

RECOMMENDATION:

PRIOR ACTION/INPUT (Council, Boards, Citizens):

Park Board reviewed the plan on August 21, 2025 and unanimously supported

FISCAL IMPACT:

STAFF CONTACT:

Jen Basham
Director of Parks and Recreation
jbasham@burlesontx.com
817-426-9201

ROOTED IN BURLESON

PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

SEPTEMBER 3, 2025

STAFF CONTACT: **Jen Basham, CPRE**

Content

Acknowledgements

Introduction

Divisions

Mission, Vision, Values

Community Impact

What we heard

Current Inventory

Goals

Strategic Framework

Implementation

Appendices

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

TThe City of Burleson extends its sincere gratitude to the many individuals, organizations, and community members who contributed their time, insight, and passion to the development of the 2025 Parks, Recreation, Trails, and Open Space Master Plan.

We thank the Burleson City Council, Parks Board, and City leadership for their vision, guidance, and commitment to enhancing the quality of life for all residents. Your leadership ensured that this plan reflects both the community's aspirations and the City's dedication to excellence.

Special appreciation goes to the stakeholders and partner organizations—including community leaders, youth sports associations, civic groups, businesses, and nonprofit partners—whose perspectives helped shape a plan that is both ambitious and achievable.

We are especially grateful to the residents of Burleson who shared their ideas, priorities, and hopes for the future through surveys, public meetings, and stakeholder interviews. Your voices were essential in creating a plan that reflects the heart of our community.

Finally, we recognize the dedication of the Parks and Recreation Department staff and the consultant team at Kimley-Horn for their expertise, collaboration, and tireless effort in bringing this plan to life.

This plan is truly a product of collective vision, and we look forward to working together to bring it from concept to reality.

The following individuals are recognized for their significant contributions to the preparation of the City of Burleson Parks, Recreation, Trails, and Open Space Master Plan.

PARK AND RECREATION
Jen Basham, Director of Parks and Recreation
Jessica Martinez, Deputy Director of Parks
Allison Smith, Deputy Director of Recreation
James Roberts, Golf General Manager

PARKS BOARD
Shannan Sutter, Place 1
Addison Oscarson, *Place 2*
Miguel Angel Sanchez, *Place 3*
Christian Schott, Place 4
Lindsey Cobb, Place 5
Sherry Scott, Place 6
Matthew Quinn, Place 7
Tyler Knox, Place 8
Ashli Logan, Place 9

CITY COUNCIL
Chris Fletcher, Mayor
Victoria Johnson, Council Place 1
Phil Anderson, Council Place 2
Alexa Boedeker, Council Place 3
Larry Scott, Council Place 4
Dan McClendon, Council Place 5 & Mayor Pro Tem
Adam Russell, Council Place 6

CITY MANAGEMENT
Tommy Ludwig, City Manager
Harlan Jefferson, Deputy City Manager
Eric Oscarson, Deputy City Manager

CONSULTANT TEAM
Kimley-Horn, and Associates, Inc.
Katherine Utecht, PLA, LI
Amanda Hinton
Haley Carruthers, AICP
Adolfo Gonzalez

THE CITY OF
BURLESON
TEXAS
Parks and Recreation

INTRODUCTION

The 2025 Parks, Recreation, Trails, and Open Space Master Plan provides a comprehensive framework for developing, enhancing, and sustaining Burleson's park system over the next decade. Building on significant progress since the 2019 plan, it aligns community priorities, demographic trends, and operational goals to ensure that Burleson's parks, facilities, and programs remain vibrant, inclusive, and accessible for all residents.

The 2019 Master Plan Identified Multiple Priorities.
The following have been accomplished since 2019

·Identify and build a dog park –Bark Park
·Work on improving connectivity- Oak Valley South, Scott St Trailhead, MTB Trail Expansion
·Trail expansion and development-Village Creek Trail Design
·Upgrade amenities at Chisenhall Fields-Renovation of 15 fields to artificial turf infields, phase I parking expansion
·Acquire land for the community park-Acquired land and currently wrapping up design for phase I
·Create a Capital Improvement Plan-Completing Year 5
·Continue Renovating Existing Parks-Over 20 completed Renovations

DIVISIONS

01 Admin, Marketing and Volunteers

02 The BRiCk

03 Russell Farm

04 Hidden Creek Golf Course

05 Parks

06 Athletics

07 Special Events

08 Programs

MISSION, VISION VALUES

Mission

The Burleson Parks and Recreation Department serves exceptional experiences to our community through quality public spaces, trails and recreational opportunities.

Vision

To have a meaningful impact in the every day lives through parks and recreation.

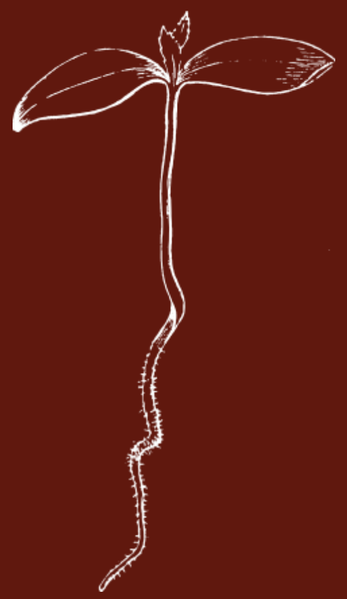
Core values

At the Burleson Parks and Recreation Department, our internal values shape the quality of life in our community. We foster transparency through vulnerability, create inclusive and accessible spaces by being mindful and intentional, and build strong connections through healthy, professional relationships. By holding ourselves accountable, staying passionate and energized, and leading with care and empathy, we earn trust, uphold high standards, and ensure every voice is heard—creating parks, programs, and experiences that connect, inspire, and enrich Burleson.

INPUT	OUTPUT
Vulnerability	Transparecy
Mindful and Intentional	Inclusive and Accessible
Healthy, Professional Relationships	Building Connections
Accountable	Trustworthy
Passionate and Energized	High Quality Standards
Caring and Empathetic	Hearing the Voices of Our Community

INVESTMENT INTO OUR COMMUNITY

Over $30,000,000 in completed projects



- Bailey Lake Parking Lot Expansion and Lake Dredging
- Bartlett Soccer Complex Field Regrading
- BRiCk Remodel
- Burleson Bark Park
- Burleson Memorial Cemetery Expansion
- Burleson Splash Pad
- Cedar Ridge Playground
- Centennial Playground and Landscape Improvements
- Chisenhall Sports Complex Turf Infields and Parking Lot Expansion
- Cindy Park Playground
- Clark Park Playground and Parking Lot
- Claudia’s Playground
- Elk Ridge Playground
- FS16 Memorial Garden
- MTB Trail Signage-
- Oak Valley North Playground, Parking Lot Expansion and Restroom Addition
- Oak Valley South Trail Extension
- Oak Valley South Scott St Trailhead
- Prairie Timbers Pavilion, Playground and Drainage Improvements
- Park Annex
- Veteran’s Memorial Turf Conversion
- Warren Park Playground and Court Renovation
- Wakefield Park Playground
- Meadowcrest Park Playground and Pickleball Courts
- Willow Creek Park Low Water Crossing
- Hidden Creek Golf Course Bunkers
- Hidden Creek Golf Course Clubhouse Renovation
- Hidden Creek Golf Course Range Improvements
- Hidden Creek Golf Course Cart Replacements
- Green Ribbon Phase I
- Park Monument and Rule Signs
- Shannon Creek Nature Preserve Design
- Community Park Land Acquisition and Phase I Design

*this list does not include all supplemental projects completed over the past 5 years

GRANTS AND AWARDS

From 2022-2025 multiple awards and grants were awarded to the city, along with various initiatives and programs implemented

Grants

- 2024 Phase 1 and 2025 Phase 2 Green Ribbon
- Texas A&M Forest Service Urban Forester and Tree Care Grants
- Gametime-Centennial Park

Awards

- 2023 TRAPS North Region – Excellence in Maintain Award
- 2024 and 2025 Southwest Park and Recreation Training Institute Innovation Award
- 2025 DFW Directors Association Environmental Stewardship Award
- Pride in our Parks Campaign
- Trees for Tomorrow Program

WHAT WE HEARD

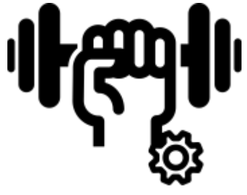
Survey

•>1000 individuals gave feedback on existing conditions and current reactional options, their visions, top priorities, and desires for future park development within the city
•Respondents voted trails, preservation of open space, and maintenance of existing facilities as priority.
•Festivals, events, and family gathering opportunities were higher priority for programming throughout the community.

Stakeholder Engagement

•Stakeholder interviews were conducted on December 2nd and 3rd, 2024.
•These stakeholders, representing strong ties to the community, local government, city council, park board representatives, etc. were asked a variety of questions about what a successful master plan looks like and their ideal visions for the city.
•Common topics found through feedback:
•Ways to improve the parks, trails, recreation, and open spaces throughout the city
•Inclusivity and diversification of recreational opportunities / Inclusive programming
•Connecting the city through a more seamless trail system
•Environmental stewardship and connection to nature
•Addressing safety concerns – signage, lighting, maintenance
•Healthy mix of active and passive recreational opportunities
•Burleson's current assets and successes
•Increase transparency, engagement, and communication with the community

Major Themes and SWOT Analysis

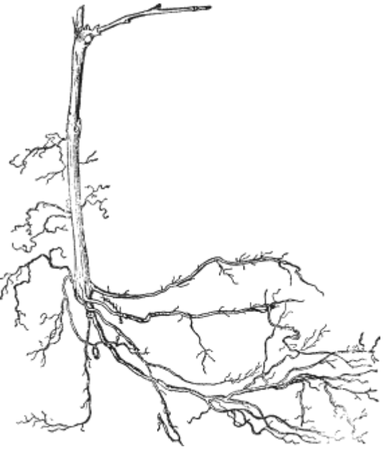


Strengths
- Existing Infrastructure
- Community Involvement
- Positive Reputation
- Diverse Offerings

Weaknesses
- Funding and Grant Limitations
- Maintenance Issues
- Room to improve Access and Connectivity

Opportunities
- Community health initiatives
- Inclusivity initiatives
- Sustainability Projects
- Continued Development of Assets
- Sports Tourism

Threats
- Competing Interests
- Developer land acquisitions
- Growth Reluctance / Community Hesitation



PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

777 Acres

Approximate amount of developed and undeveloped park land

5 Categories

Community, Neighborhood, Mini, Special Use and Undeveloped

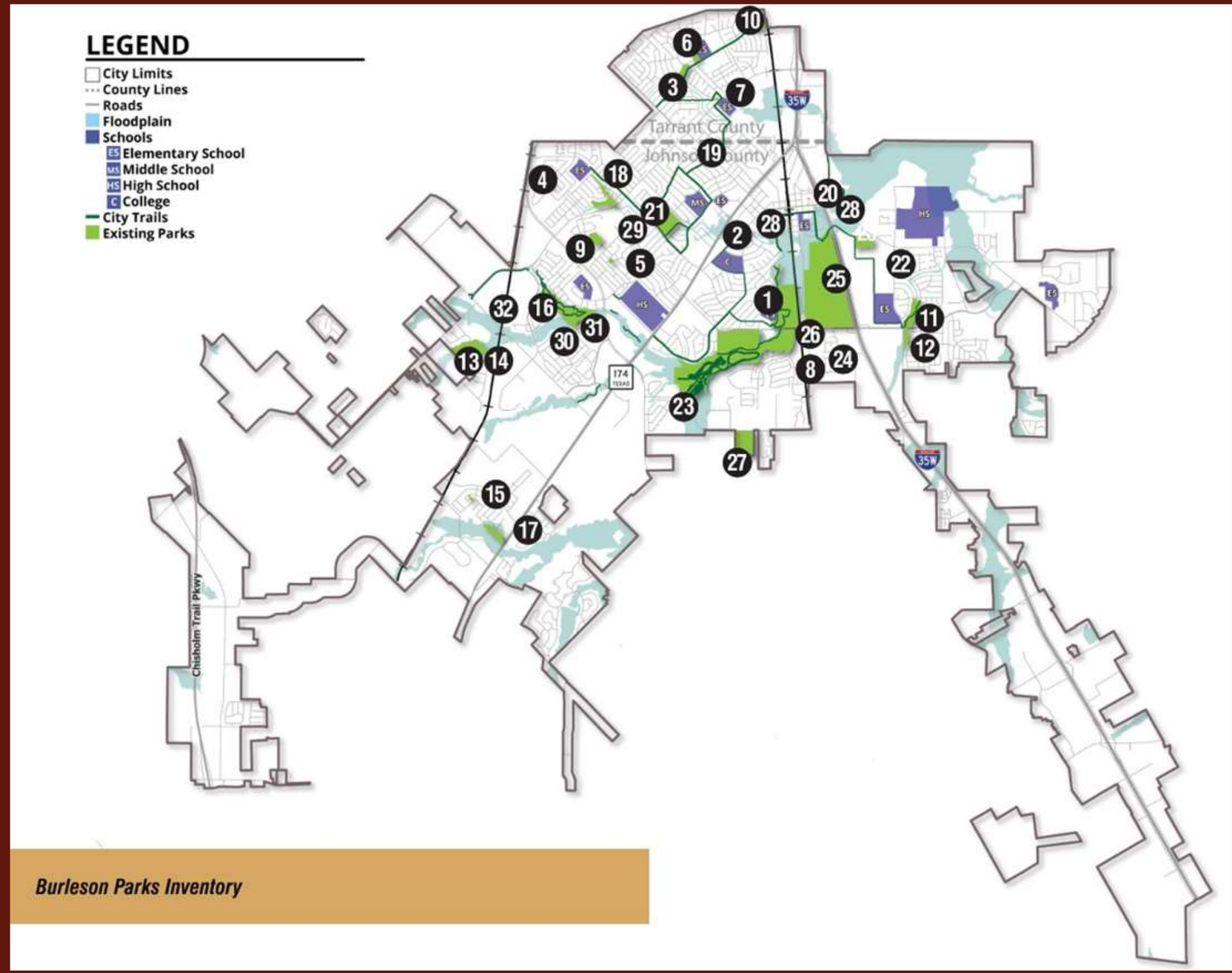
Largest Parks

Chisenhall, Bailey Lake, Hidden Creek, Russell Farm, Bartlett

PARKS

Park #	Park Name
1	Bailey Lake Park
2	Warren Park
3	Centennial Park
4	Claudia's Playground
5	Elk Ridge Park
6	Hajek Park
7	Heberle Park
8	Hidden Vistas Park
9	Meadowcrest Park
10	Mistletoe Park
11	Oak Valley Park
12	Oak Valley Park - South
13	Prairie Timber Park
14	Prairie Timber Park - East
15	Robert Joseph Park
16	Wakefield Heights Park
17	Willow Creek Park
18	Cedar Ridge Park
19	Cindy Park
20	Clark Park

Park #	Park Name
21	Bartlett Park and Splash Pad
22	Burleson Bark Park
23	Chisenhall Sports Complex
24	Fire Station 16 Memorial Garden
25	Hidden Creek Golf Course
26	Hidden Creek Sports Complex
27	Russell Farm Art Center
28	Veterans Memorial Plaza
29	Cedar Ridge Park - East
30	Shannon Creek Park
31	Wakefield Heights Park - Open Space
32	Community Park



Burleson Parks Inventory

SYSTEM AND FACILITY RECOMMENDATIONS

- Burleson has 14.1 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents. Based on the 2023 population and the NRPA standard of 10.2 acres per 1,000 residents, Burleson has 203.7 acreage surplus – Population expected to increase to 125,527 by 2053.
- Burleson's current level of service (LOS) for trails is 1 trail mile per 1,952 residents. This current metric is below the NRPA national standard, meaning the city would need to further implement 16.6 miles of developed trail to meet the standard.
- Priority to continue increasing parkland and trail connections within the city to reach future LOS projections

Burleson Existing and Future Parkland Level of Service

Year	Population	Park Acreage	NRPA Standard	Existing LOS	Gap
2025	55,144	777.06	**10.2 acres** per 1,000 residents	**14.1 acres** per 1,000 residents	214.6 acre surplus
2053	125,527	777.06	**7 acres** per 1,000 residents	**6.2 acres** per 1,000 residents	98.6 acre deficit

TRAILS

- Approximately 36.49 developed trail miles in Burleson.
- 5.14 miles are classified as Shared Use Trails
- 16.56 miles are classified as Side Paths
- 10 miles are classified as Nature Trails.
- The following are common user groups that may utilize Burleson's trail system in varying capacities:
- Walkers
- Joggers/Runners
- Children and Senior Bicyclists
- Basic Bicyclists
- Advances Bicyclists

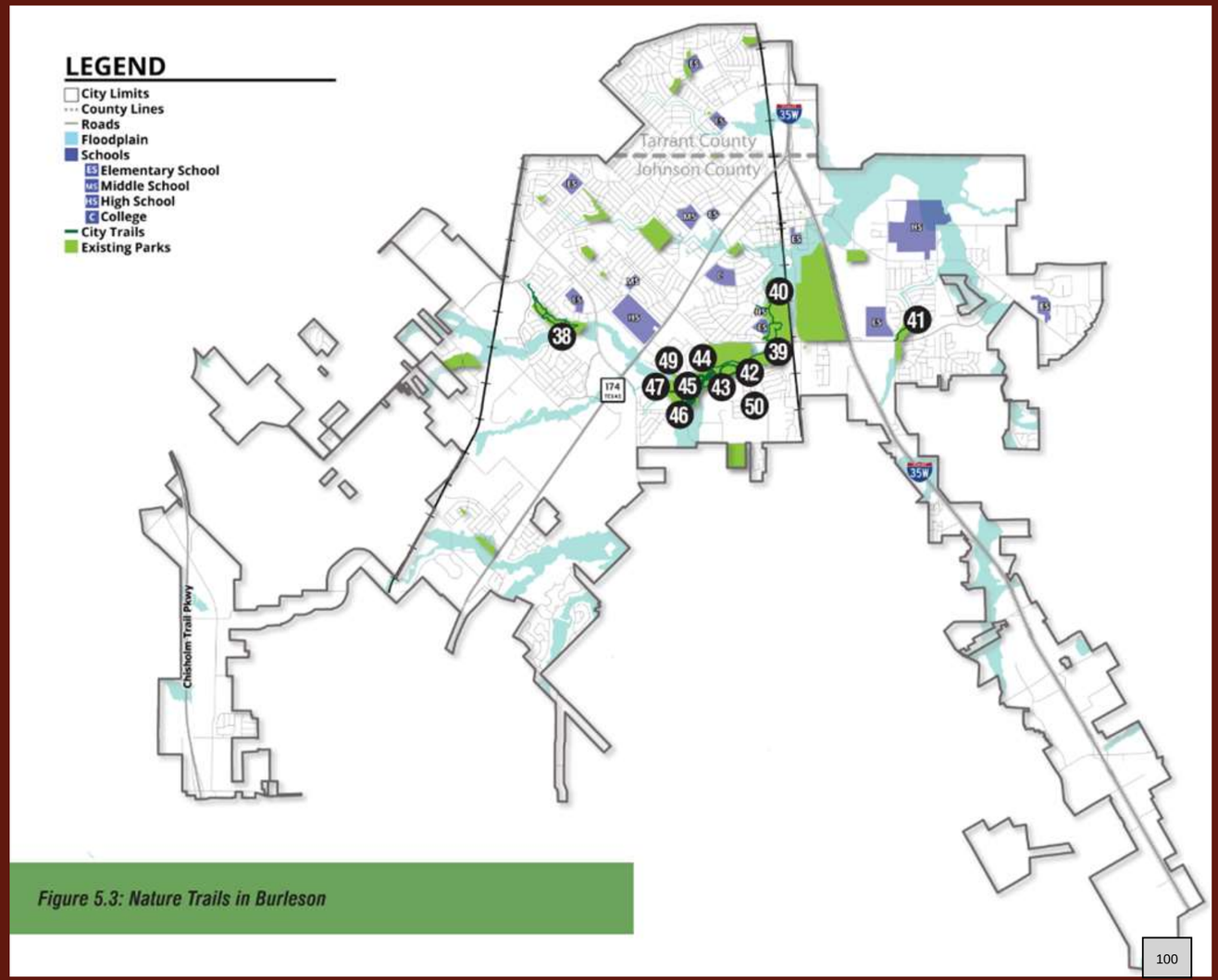


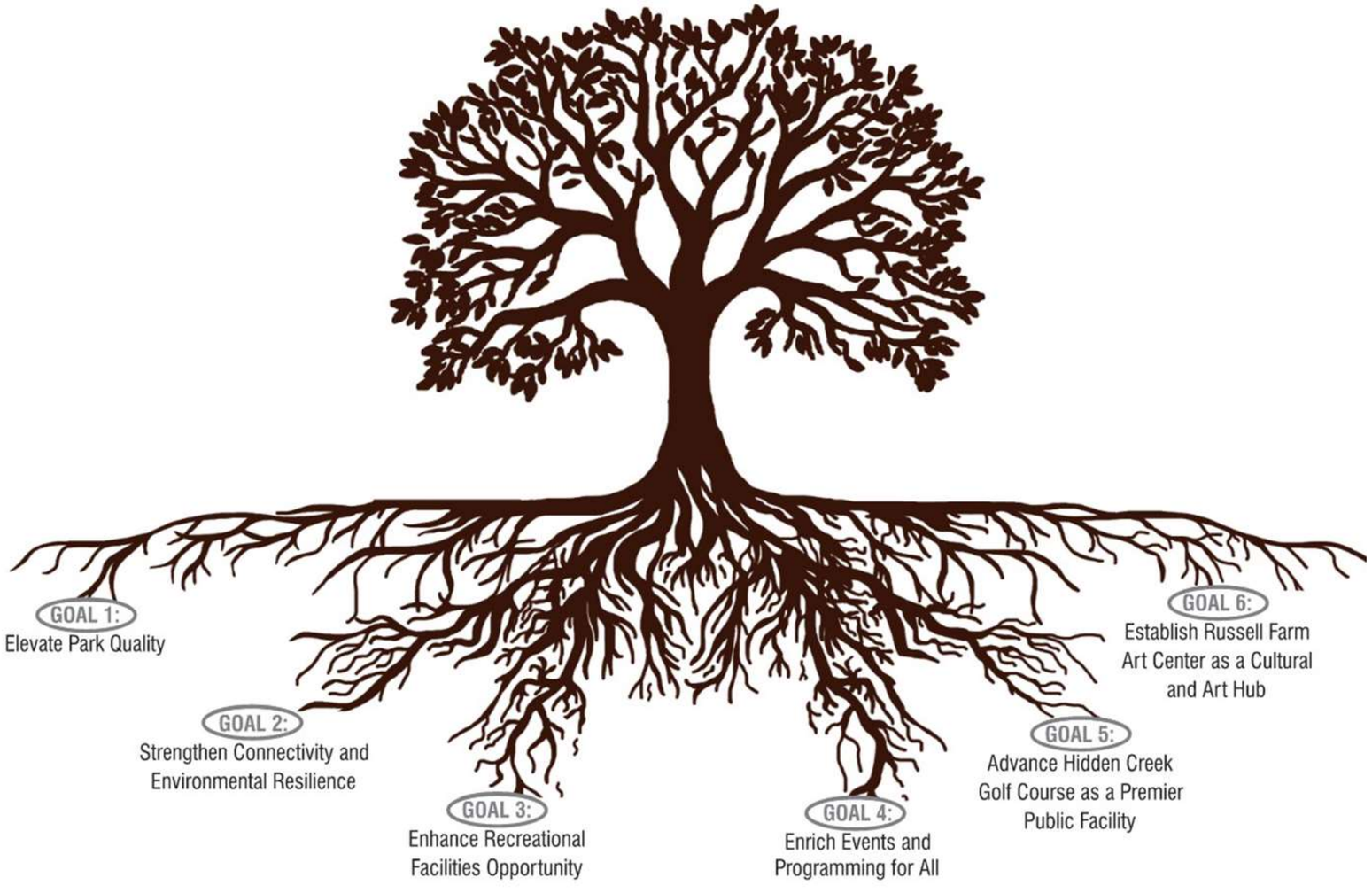
Figure 5.3: Nature Trails in Burleson

RECREATION AND PROGRAMMING

Existing Inventory

- Community Events
  - Annual events: Range from Dogs and Donuts to our multi-day festival Honey Tour
  - 38
  - Heritage and Cultural celebration events
- Programming and Services
  - Ranging from Summer Camp to Adult Athletics hosting over 101 programs annually
- The BRiCk
  - Approximately 65,000 square feet – Burleson's only comprehensive indoor facility
  - Offers a range of amenities, programs, outdoor and indoor activities, and multi-generational opportunities
  - Aquatics, Community Programs, Fitness, etc.
- Burleson Senior Center
  - Various indoor recreational amenities: language lessons, exercise programs, games, etc.
- Hidden Creek Golf Course
  - Full-scale, 18-hole course with bar-and-grill, lesson options, and more planned improvements
- Russell Farm Art Center
  - 30-acre Historic Farm and Art Center that hosts programs and events, options to create art, offers classes, etc.

ROOTED IN BURLESON



GOALS

ELEVATE PARK QUALITY

STRENGTHEN CONNECTIVITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL RESILIENCE

ENHANCE RECREATIONAL FACILITY OPPORTUNITIES

ENRICH EVENTS AND PROGRAMMING FOR ALL

ADVANCE HIDDEN CREEK GOLF COURSE AS A PREMIER PUBLIC FACILITY

ESTABLISH RUSSELL FARM AS A CULTURAL AND ART HUB

STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

Goal 1: Elevate Park Quality
•ACTION ITEM 1: Develop parkland in areas currently under served.
•ACTION ITEM 2: Actively plan and coordinate with the County for the acquisition and development of parks and open space in ETJ areas of the City.
•ACTION ITEM 3: Routinely review and update the parkland dedication ordinance to ensure that it reflects the true cost of acquiring and developing parks and ensure maintenance and operations increase with development.
•ACTION ITEM 4: Increase the percentage of residents that are within a 10-minute walk to a park to 75% by 2040.
•ACTION ITEM 5: Conduct specific park master plans for several parks in Burleson.

Goal 2: Strengthen Connectivity and Environmental Resilience
•ACTION ITEM 1: Partner with other departments to implement the improvements throughout the city of Burleson.
•ACTION ITEM 2: Provide multi-use trails and accessibility connections throughout the city and to surrounding cities or trails.
•ACTION ITEM 3: Integrate trailheads, shade, lighting, and water stations.
•ACTION ITEM 4: Promote sustainability and conservation by minimizing concrete trails where possible.
•ACTION ITEM 5: Implement regular environmental monitoring and Maintenance.

Goal 3: Enhance Recreational Facilities Opportunity
•ACTION ITEM 1: Improve and enhance aquatic, indoor recreation amenities, and outdoor recreation amenities.
•ACTION ITEM 2: Evaluate program offerings as demands and trends evolve.
•ACTION ITEM 3: Encourage placemaking in recreation facilities.

STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

Goal 4: Enrich Events and Programming
•ACTION ITEM 1: Plan out a variety of events throughout the entirety of the year that target a range of audiences and activities.
•ACTION ITEM 2: Identify gaps in programming and establish new programs to target underrepresented groups.

Goal 5: Advance Hidden Creek Golf Course as a premier Public Facility
•ACTION ITEM 1: Enhance current facilities to increase efficiency, use, and appeal.
•ACTION ITEM 2: Integrate more opportunities for play and generating revenue.

Goal 6: Establish Russell Farm Art Center as a Cultural and Art Hub
•ACTION ITEM 1: Engage with the broader community to enhance the presence of the farm.
•ACTION ITEM 2: Offer diverse programming and resources.

FINANCIAL AND REVENUE STRATEGIES

- 4B
  - 70% of the department's annual operating budget
- Park Performance Fund (PPF)
  - Propriety funds generated from various community events/ groups
- General Funds Revenue
  - Primary source if funds; come from local taxes
- Grants
  - Departments may receive grants from the government, private foundations or non-profit organizations
- Development Fees
  - Fees charged to residential developers for the dedication and development of parks, last updated 2022, no need to update at this time
- Municipal Bonds
  - City may issue municipal bonds to raise funds for large-scale capital projects
  - Bonds to be repaid overtime through property taxes or other dedicated revenue streams

Staffing

Staffing Area	2025	2035	2045	Net Increase
Admin	7.5	9	10	2.5
BRiCk Admin	7	8	9	2
Aquatics & Rec	126	128	128	2
Park Maintenance	23	27	*32*	*9*
Athletics	7	7	7	0
Russell Farm	2.5	4	4	1.5
Hidden Creek Golf Course	30	39	39	9
Programs	5	6	6	1
Special Events	4	5	5	1
Total	212	233	240	28

IMPLEMENTATION

The city can work to implement the 6 goals noted throughout the Master Plan with help from Parks and Recreation, Planning, Development Services and Engineering, Capital Improvements, and other partnerships. Current action items range in estimated cost and may be funded through city bonds, grants, or private funding opportunities

ELEVATE PARK QUALITY
Conduct park specific master plans
Incorporate all-inclusive play structures
Improve wayfinding signage
Implement low-impact design and maintenance strategies

STRENGTHEN CONNECTIVY AND ENVIRONMENTAL RESILIENCE
Green way Expansion for Enhanced Connectivity
Creation of Outdoor Learning Spaces
Community Gardens for Sustainable Living
Ecological restoration Initiatives

ENHANCE RECREATIONAL FACILITY OPPORTUNITIES
Improve and enhance aquatic and indoor recreation amenities
Evaluate programs and offerings as demands and trends evolve
Encourage placemaking within recreation facilities

ENRICH PROGRAMS AND EVENTS FOR ALL
Plan and implement a variety of events
Identify gaps in programming and establish new programs

ADVANCE HIDDEN CREEK GOLF COURSE AS A PREMIER PUBLIC FACILITY
Enhance current facilities to increase efficiency, use and appeal
Integrate more opportunities for play and generating revenue

ESTABLISH RUSSELL FARM AS AN ART AND CULTURE HUB
Engage with the broader community to enhance the presence of the farm
Offer diverse programming and resources

Appendices

- Park Design Standards
- Capital Program Plan
- Culture Plan

Park Design Standards

This document outlines the design standards for park improvements to ensure consistent quality, functionality, and aesthetic appeal for public spaces. The following guidelines address key amenities to enhance the park experience.

This is a living document maintained by the Parks and Recreation Department and is updated as design best practices and community needs evolve.

Source: City of Burleson

Landscape Improvements

1. Native and Adaptive Plantings

Plant Selection: Prioritize native and drought-resistant species to reduce water consumption and maintenance.
Biodiversity: Design landscapes that support local wildlife and pollinators.
Mulching: Use mulch to retain moisture and suppress weeds.
Monarch Way Station Design

- *Location:* Choose a sunny location with minimal human disturbance, preferably near natural areas like forests, prairies, or meadows.
- *Accessibility:* The way station should be easily accessible for monitoring and maintenance while ensuring that it does not interfere with existing habitats.
- *Size:* At least 100 square feet (10x10 feet) to provide enough resources for monarchs.
- *Plant Selection:* Prioritize native and drought-resistant species to reduce water consumption and maintenance.
    - Milkweed: Essential for monarch reproduction as it is the sole host plant for their larvae. There are various species of milkweed to choose from depending on your region, such as:
    - Common Milkweed (Asclepias Syriaca)
    - Swamp Milkweed (Asclepias incarnata)
    - Butterfly Weed (Asclepias tuberosa)
    - Showy Milkweed (Asclepias speciosa)
    - Nectar Plants: Monarchs also need nectar plants for sustenance during migration. Include native flowering plants that bloom throughout the growing season. Examples include:
        - Coneflower (Echinacea)
        - Black-eyed Susan (Rudbeckia)
        - Liatris (Liatris spicata)
        - Aster (Symphyotrichum)
        - Purple Prairie Clover (Dalea purpurea)
        - Bee Balm (Monarda)
        - *Diversity:* A variety of native flowering plants help attract other pollinators and provides continuous nectar sources.
- **Water Source:** Monarchs need water to drink, so incorporate a shallow dish or birdbath with clean, fresh water. Ensure the water is not too deep to avoid drowning.

Wildflower Meadow

Source: City of Burleson

Purple Prairie Clover, Purple Coneflower, and Yellow Coneflower Pollinator Garden

Source: Wisconsin Public Radio

Burleson Parks and Recreation Capital Project Program Plan

From Concept to Ribbon Cutting

This Capital Project Program Plan outlines the full lifecycle of a parks capital project—from concept and community input to funding, design, construction, and project close-out. This document clarifies internal processes, project timelines, and cross-department coordination needed to implement capital projects effectively. As a living document, this overview is reviewed and updated regularly to align with budget cycles, funding opportunities, and strategic priorities.

Phase 1: Concept Development & Prioritization

Objective: Identify and prioritize potential capital projects based on community needs, master plans, strategic goals, and feasibility.

Key Activities:

- Review adopted master plans (e.g., Open Space Plan, Facility Plans, ADA Transition Plan)
- Host internal brainstorming and alignment meetings
- Conduct gap analysis of facilities and service areas
- Evaluate preliminary cost estimates and constraints
- Identify alignment with grant or external funding opportunities

Public Engagement:

- Online input survey or comment form
- Pop-up outreach at events or community centers
- Stakeholder focus groups (e.g., youth sports, senior programs)

Milestones:

- Project concept developed and documented
- Internal staff vetting completed
- Public feedback synthesized and presented
- Priority list presented to Parks Board and City Council for endorsement

Phase 2: Feasibility and Pre-Design

Objective: Validate the project through site analysis, environmental factors, cost considerations, and stakeholder feedback.

Key Activities:

- Conduct feasibility studies (e.g., geotechnical, environmental, utility)
- Identify land acquisition or easement needs
- Create a high-level project schedule
- Develop a preliminary budget range

Public Engagement:

- Stakeholder meetings to validate need and desired outcomes
- Parks Board presentation and comment
- Online concept boards and comment period

Milestones:

- Feasibility study completed
- Land availability confirmed
- Cost range established
- Project advanced to schematic design phase

Phase 3: Schematic Design & Engagement

Objective: Create conceptual and schematic design alternatives based on community priorities and site constraints.

Key Activities:

- Hire design consultants
- Develop 2–3 conceptual site layouts
- Prepare visuals/renderings for engagement
- Estimate updated budget based on schematic design

Public Engagement:

- Open house or public workshop
- Online comment platform for design input
- Youth/family engagement for play and recreation elements
- Focused accessibility feedback for inclusive features

Milestones:

- Preferred schematic design selected
- Public input documented and responded to
- Schematic budget confirmed and updated
- City Council and Parks Board approval

Culture Plan

Strategic Integration

- *Business Intelligence + Operational Excellence*
- *Data-Driven Decisions:* Use attendance, revenue, and satisfaction data to drive program adjustments, staffing, and facility hours. Train staff in basic data literacy and dashboards.
- *Fiscal Awareness at Every Level:* Build budget literacy into supervisory roles and equip staff with tools to understand cost recovery, ROI, and business planning.
- *Innovation in Programming:* Encourage divisions to think like entrepreneurs—piloting new revenue-generating ideas with room for experimentation and evaluation.

Marketing + Storytelling

- *Unified Department Identity:* Build an intentional brand voice across divisions that celebrates Burleson's community character, diverse offerings, and staff commitment.
- *Empowered Storytellers:* Train staff to be brand ambassadors who tell the story of their work through photos, testimonials, and content for newsletters, social media, and council presentations
- *Marketing Collabs:* Strengthen internal relationships with marketing by creating regular planning cycles between divisions and communications staff to align campaigns, showcase impact, and leverage feedback.

Public Feedback + Community Partnership

- *Community Listening Loop:* Integrate public input into program and facility decisions through regular surveys, town halls, feedback kiosks, and digital suggestion boxes.
- *Transparent Feedback Response:* Create a "You Spoke, We Listened" platform to show the community how their input drives change.
- *Partnership Mindset:* Engage user groups, nonprofits, and community leaders in co-creating programs, events, and maintenance solutions.

Divisional Integration Summary

Division	Cultural Focus	Growth Opportunity	Accountability Tool	Team Integration
Athletics	Player-first coaching, youth development	Coaching clinics, referee pipeline	League satisfaction scores	Coordinate with Special Events for tournaments
Aquatics	Safety + fun culture	Lifeguard leadership ladder	Certification tracking, in-service performance	Integrated summer programming with BRiCk
The BRiCk	Wellness as service	Frontline to facility manager growth	Membership data + cost recovery	Programs linked with Special Events and Parks
Programs	Meeting the community where they are at	Building relationships with new community partners for new offerings	Program matrix additions and program retention numbers	Programs that reach across and collaborate with all divisions both internal and external
Russell Farm Art Center	Art, History, and Nature	Art facilitator development	Workshop impact tracking	Collaboration with Golf, BRiCk, and Events
Parks	Excellence in maintenance and appearance	Maintenance worker to Crew Leader	Park quality inspections	Joint service projects with all divisions
Golf (Hidden Creek)	Hospitality mindset	Course operations & sales career path	Revenue/round and pace of play	Thematic events with Russell Farm and Events
Special Events	Joy + logistics	Event planner growth track	Attendance and engagement surveys	Partner with every division to activate spaces

Questions and Comments

Thank You

THE CITY OF BURLESON TEXAS

Kimley»Horn

THE CITY OF
BURLESON
TEXAS

PARKS, RECREATION, TRAILS, AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

AUGUST 2025

Kimley»Horn
Expect More. Experience Better.

Acknowledgments

The following individuals are recognized for their significant contributions to the preparation of the City of Burleson Parks, Recreation, Trails, and Open Space Master Plan.

PARK AND RECREATION

Jen Basham, Director of Parks and Recreation
Jessica Martinez, Deputy Director of Parks
Allison Smith, Deputy Director of Recreation
James Roberts, Golf General Manager

PARKS BOARD

Shannan Sutter, Place 1
Addison Oscarson, *Place 2*
Miguel Angel Sanchez, *Place 3*
Christian Schott, Place 4
Lindsey Cobb, Place 5
Sherry Scott, Place 6
Matthew Quinn, Place 7
Tyler Knox, Place 8
Ashli Logan, Place 9

CITY COUNCIL

Chris Fletcher, Mayor
Victoria Johnson, Council Place 1
Phil Anderson, Council Place 2
Alexa Boedeker, Council Place 3
Larry Scott, Council Place 4
Dan McClendon, Council Place 5 & Mayor Pro Tem
Adam Russell, Council Place 6

CITY MANAGEMENT

Tommy Ludwig, City Manager
Harlan Jefferson, Deputy City Manager
Eric Oscarson, Deputy City Manager

CONSULTANT TEAM

Kimley-Horn, and Associates, Inc.
Katherine Utecht, PLA, LI
Amanda Hinton
Haley Carruthers, AICP
Adolfo Gonzalez

THE CITY OF
BURLESON
TEXAS
Parks and Recreation

Hidden Vistas Park

Source: City of Burleson

TABLE OF CONTENTS

01 INTRODUCTION

06 Introduction
08 Mission, Vision, Values
10 Rooted in Burleson
16 Purpose of Plan
17 Plan Structure
18 Existing City-Wide Plans and Regional Plans
20 TPWD Compliance
20 CAPRA Compliance

02 COMMUNITY CONTEXT

22 Community Context Introduction
24 About Burleson
25 Population Profile
28 Community Engagement
29 Stakeholder Engagement
33 Major Themes/SWOT Analysis
34 2019 Master Plan Progress Update
36 Awards Recognition and Grant Awards
38 Benchmarking

03 PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

44 Parks and Open Space Introduction
46 Parks Inventory Summary
50 Parks Classifications
60 System Recommendations and Opportunities
66 Action Items and Goal 1

04 TRAILS

74 Trails Introduction
76 Trails Inventory Summary
77 Trail Users
78 Trail Classifications
88 Action Items and Goal 2
90 Takeaways

05 COMMUNITY RECREATION AND PROGRAMMING

91 Community Recreation and Programming Introduction
93 Existing Inventory - Indoor Recreation
95 Action Items and Goal 3
96 Existing Inventory - Programming
97 Action Items and Goal 4
98 Existing Inventory - Hidden Creek Golf Course
100 Action Items and Goal 5
101 Existing Inventory - Russell Farm Art Center
103 Action Items and Goal 6
102 Needs Assessment

06 OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE

108 Operation and Maintenance Introduction
110 Current and Future Operations
111 Financial and Revenue Strategies
112 Operations and Staffing Recommendations

07 IMPLEMENTATION

113 Implementation Introduction
117 Action and Goals Matrix

i APPENDIX

122 Appendix
123 Park Design Standards and Procedures
127 Exhibit A
128 Exhibit B
129 Burleson Parks and Recreation Capital Project Program Plan
132 Burleson Parks, Recreation, Trails, and Open Space Master Plan Survey Results
146 4B Project Cost List and Schedule
148 Integrated Project Management Plan Template
150 Culture Plan
152 Glossary of Terms

INTRODUCTION 1

Source: City of Burleson

Source: City of Burleson

1 INTRODUCTION

Introduction
Mission, Vision, Values
Rooted in Burleson
Purpose of Plan
Plan Structure
Existing City-Wide and Regional Plans
TPWD Compliance
CAPRA Compliance

INTRODUCTION

The **Burleson Parks and Recreation Department** is dedicated to enhancing community life by delivering exceptional experiences through top-quality public spaces, trails, and recreational opportunities. We aim to enrich daily lives through parks and recreation, creating meaningful impacts across the community.

Our **parks** significantly elevate the quality of life in Burleson by offering a diverse range of active and passive recreational opportunities. These spaces provide venues to enjoy nature, engage in physical activities, and foster community connections. We uphold a commitment to operational excellence, ensuring our parks are safe, clean, and well-maintained. Our parks system is also integral in developing pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure, supporting alternative transportation through trails and neighborhood sidewalks. Additionally, we honor our veterans and loved ones with memorial spaces, including the Fire Station 16 Memorial Garden, Burleson Memorial Cemetery, and Veteran's Plaza.

Values

Input	Output
Vulnerability	Transparency
Mindful and Intentional	Inclusive and Accessible
Healthy, Professional Relationships	Building Connections
Accountable	Trustworthy
Passionate and Energized	High Quality Standards
Caring and Empathetic	Hearing the Voices of Our Community

MISSION, VISION, VALUES

Mission

The **Burleson Parks and Recreation Department** serves exceptional experiences to our community through quality public spaces, trails and recreational opportunities.

Vision

To have a meaningful impact that enriches every day lives through Parks and Recreation.

Source: City of Burleson

Independence Day Parade, 2025

Source: City of Burleson

Special Events & Programs aim to unite the community through a diverse array of events, from family-oriented activities to cultural celebrations. We balance community needs and interests with programs in camps, athletics, nutrition, special needs, community achievements, and collaborations with businesses, non-profits, civic organizations, and school districts.

The **Russell Farm Art Center** offers a unique experience through its historic farm and art center. Visitors can explore facilities dating back to 1877, create art, attend events or programs, or simply enjoy a peaceful retreat amid the animals and country landscape.

Volunteers play a crucial role in every program, park, and event we host. Our department manages volunteers, adopt-a-spot programs, beautification agreements, and partnerships with Keep Burleson Beautiful to enhance all of our initiatives and spaces.

The **Burleson Recreation Center** is a cornerstone of our recreational offerings, featuring fitness, aquatics, athletics, and a variety of programs for both members and visitors. The center includes a splash pad that provides a free aquatic play environment for everyone.

Our **Athletic Programs** cater to diverse needs with adult leagues, specialized clinics, introductory sports education, and partnerships with youth associations. These collaborations offer a wide range of sports opportunities across our three sports complexes: Chisenhall, Hidden Creek Softball, Bartlett Soccer Complex, and future community park.

The **Hidden Creek Golf Course** is our municipal golf facility, featuring a full-scale operation with a pro shop and restaurant. Its goal is to provide a premier 18-hole golf experience for the Burleson community and golf enthusiasts. The course also contributes to the local economy through tournaments and serves as a tourist attraction for the North Texas region.

BRiCk Splash Pad

Source: [illegible]son

ROOTED IN BURLESON

Parks and Recreation Open Space Master Plan Goals and Strategic Framework

Goal 1: Elevate Park Quality

Objectives

Maintenance & Operations:

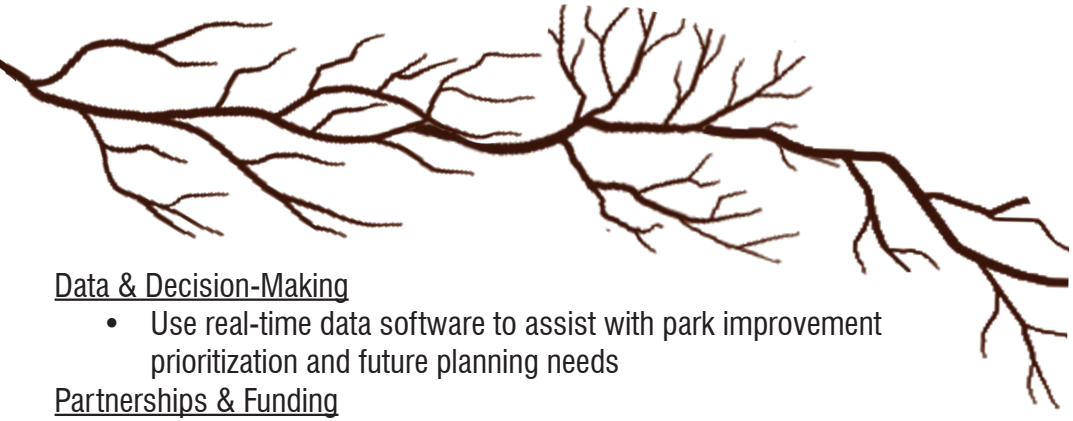
- Increase maintenance in community parks
- Use off-season months to complete proactive replacements and larger renovation projects
- Expand use of technology to improve maintenance efficiency
- Prioritize safety improvements in parks

Capital Planning & Resource Alignment

- Coordinate with internal departments for capital planning and budgeting

Design & Accessibility

- Implement inclusive design standards in playground renovations
- Increase shade access throughout the parks system



Data & Decision-Making

- Use real-time data software to assist with park improvement prioritization and future planning needs

Partnerships & Funding

- Establish strategic partnerships with private developers to create publicly accessible open spaces that are privately maintained
- Build partnerships and beautification agreements to enhance park aesthetics, reduce maintenance strain, and promote community stewardship
- Pursue grant funding for park upgrades, services, and beautification

Strategy (2025–2029)

- Conduct park inspections based on maintenance standards; complete off-season renovations by March annually.
- Pilot smart technologies like autonomous mowing and GPS-controlled irrigation.
- Conduct bi-monthly safety audits to guide timely repairs.
- Establish a standardized Budget Impact Notification Form to facilitate early internal coordination among departments and ensure new properties requiring City maintenance are identified and incorporated into future budget planning.
- Adopt inclusive design standards in all playground renovations. Increase shaded areas system-wide through trees and structures.
- Leverage real-time data tools to guide staffing and capital needs.
- Partner with developers for publicly accessible open spaces and pursue beautification agreements with community partners.
- Submit at least two high-impact grant applications annually.

Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

Maintenance and Operations:

- Maintain customer satisfaction ratings related to park cleanliness and maintenance at 80% or above, with qualitative feedback reviewed annually
- 75% of scheduled off-season projects completed by March 31 each year
- Achieve a 10% reduction in manual labor hours at pilot sites within the first year
- Address at least 80% of high-priority safety issues within 30 days of identification

Capital Planning & Resource Alignment:

- 80% of applicable projects submitted with a completed budget impact form at least 3–6 months prior to the Parks Department assuming maintenance responsibility

Design & Accessibility:

- 100% of new playground renovations include inclusive design elements and updated surfacing

- Increase shade coverage at a minimum of two park sites per fiscal year using at least one funded method (tree planting, structure installation, or shade-integrated amenity)

Data & Decision-Making:

- Real-time data used to inform at least two budget, staffing, or operational decisions annually

Partnerships & Funding:

- At least one applicable development project annually includes publicly accessible open space with an associated maintenance agreement
- Implement 3 beautification agreements per year; reduce maintenance costs at participating sites by 10%
- Submit at least two grant applications annually, with a minimum 25% success rate

Goal 2: Strengthen Connectivity and Environmental Resilience

Objectives

Trail Network Expansion:

- Expand and enhance trail connectivity between neighborhoods, parks, schools, and regional destinations.

Sustainable Landscape Management:

- Reduce long-term maintenance strain through sustainable and seasonal landscape practices across the park system.

Urban Forestry and Ecosystem Health:

- Strengthen the city's urban forest and ecological assets.

Strategy (2025–2028):

- 2026–2027: Develop and adopt a Trails Master Plan to guide long-term connectivity across neighborhoods, parks, and schools
- 2026–2029: Incorporate native planting, no-mow zones, and water-wise landscaping throughout the park system to reduce maintenance demands.
- 2026–2030: Implement an Urban Forestry Plan to expand canopy coverage and strengthen ecological assets citywide.

Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

- Increase no-mow acreage annually by 1 acre community wide year parks system – overall
- Increase resident satisfaction with trail connectivity and comfort.
- Use Placer.ai data to document increases in trail usage and inform future expansions
- Secure at least 2 external funding sources within a 5 year period for trail development

Goal 3: Enhance Recreational Facilities Opportunity

Objectives

- Add and rotate multipurpose fields to reduce overuse of current sites.
- Expand lighting and facilities to accommodate adult leagues and year-round use.
- Plan for indoor recreation space growth to meet future demand.
- Incorporate sports tourism as an opportunity to enhance system and create a regional and state draw for sports.
- Identify future locations for additional aquatic opportunities such as splash pads
- Create partnerships to expand recreational facility offerings as community grows towards the west
- Continue to upgrade and update existing facilities to provide year around aquatic recreation
- Ensure recreational opportunities are inclusive for people of all abilities

Strategy

- 2026–2029: Use capacity data to phase athletic field expansion and lighting improvements. Launch pilot adult sports programs. Initiate a BRiCk facility study by 2026.
- 2026–2029: Determine key locations within existing and expanding system to add additional aquatic and recreation facilities. Ensure future designs incorporate shade and ample seating as well as inclusive design.

Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

- Average BRiCk daily usage (member check-ins and day passes)
  - *Target:* Average of 1,000 daily users
- Number of Pool Party Room rentals annually
  - *Target:* 70% capacity (approximately 375 users at one time)
- Increase diversity of sports courts offerings throughout parks, 1 per year
- Identify and prioritize at least 3 potential sites for splash pads or aquatic play areas by 2027.
- Host at least 2 joint-use facility programs or events annually in partnership with external organizations.
- Create and complete annual facility condition assessments for all Recreation facilities by the end of each year.
- Conduct user experience surveys post-installation of new features, aiming for 85%+ satisfaction rate on comfort, access, and amenities.

BRiCk Boatnanza, 2023

Source: City of Burleson

Goal 4: Enrich Events and Programming for All Ages

Objectives

- Deliver a vibrant calendar of festivals, concerts, and family-friendly events.
- Strengthen age-targeted programming for teens and seniors.
- Create new and innovative programs that are not in conflict with current offerings throughout the community.
- Implement robust line-up of programs for our community members with different abilities
- Ensure regular programming at regional parks, the plaza and future community hubs.

Strategy

- 2026–2028: Identify seasonal and community-driven themes for new events. Contract facilitators for expanded teen, senior, and arts programming. Pilot quarterly programs at new parks.

Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

Events: Ensure community events reflect the diverse needs, interests, and identities of the population served.

- *Target:* Host at least one event annually in each of the following categories, with all events designed to be accessible and inclusive of people with disabilities:
  - Culturally Diverse Communities
  - Local Business Engagement
  - Arts & Creative Expression
  - Major Holidays
  - Multi-day Festival
  - Health and Wellness
  - Families
  - Pets
- *Inclusion Criteria* (applies to all events):
  - Venue and materials meet accessibility standards
  - Efforts made to accommodate sensory, mobility, and communication needs
  - Multilingual support where appropriate
  - Inclusive marketing and outreach strategies

Goal 4: Enrich Events and Programming for All

Objectives

- Deliver a vibrant calendar of festivals, concerts, and family-friendly events.
- Strengthen age-targeted programming for teens and seniors.
- Create new and innovative programs that are not in conflict with current offerings throughout the community.
- Implement robust line-up of programs for our community members with different abilities
- Ensure regular programming at regional parks, the plaza and future community hubs.

Strategy

- 2026–2028: Identify seasonal and community-driven themes for new events. Contract facilitators for expanded teen, senior, and arts programming. Pilot quarterly programs at new parks.

Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

Events: Ensure community events reflect the diverse needs, interests, and identities of the population served.

- *Target:* Host at least one event annually in each of the following categories, with all events designed to be accessible and inclusive of people with disabilities:
  - Culturally Diverse Communities
  - Local Business Engagement
  - Arts & Creative Expression
  - Major Holidays
  - Multi-day Festival
  - Health and Wellness
  - Families
  - Pets
- *Inclusion Criteria* (applies to all events):
  - Venue and materials meet accessibility standards
  - Efforts made to accommodate sensory, mobility, and communication needs

Goal 5: Advance Hidden Creek Golf Course as a Premier Public Facility

Objectives

- Transition from a budget-friendly model to a regional destination golf course.
- Improve course conditions, customer service, and player amenities.
- Implement dynamic pricing and loyalty strategies to boost revenue.

Strategy

- 2026–2030: Complete infrastructure improvements in phases. Implement tiered pricing, upgraded carts, and F&B enhancements. Launch regional marketing campaigns.

Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

- Total Rounds – Target 45,000
- Total Revenue – Target $3,000,000
- Revenue per Round – Target $66/round
- Tournaments hosted – Target 65
- Players Club Memberships – Target 325

Hidden Creek Golf Course

Source: Hidden Creek Golf Course

Goal 6: Establish Russell Farm Art Center (Russell Farm) as a Art and Cultural Hub

Objectives

- Expand public programming, art exhibits, and cultural events at the farm.
- Support implementation of the Public Art Master Plan and artist engagement.
- Develop Russell Farm as a consistent destination for heritage and learning.

Strategy

- 2026–2028: Offer quarterly arts and cultural programs for all community members, with a focus on diversity, accessibility, and engagement. Integrate Russell Farm into the city event calendar. Add signage, art installations, and facility improvements.
- 2026: Complete Russell Farm Master Plan.

Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

Programming & Events: Offer a range of programs and events that promote art, history, and nature for all community members.

- *Target:* Host at least one event (single occurrence or celebration) semi-annually in each of the following categories:
  - Art
  - History
  - Nature
- *Target:* Host at least two programs (structured class, series of activities, or camp) semi-annually in each of the following categories:
  - Art
  - History
  - Nature
- *Inclusion Criteria* (applies to all events):
  - Materials meet accessibility standards
  - Efforts made to accommodate sensory, mobility, and communication needs
  - Multilingual support where appropriate
  - Inclusive marketing and outreach strategies

Annual attendance growth at Russell Farm

- *Target:* Achieve a minimum 10% year-over-year growth in total attendance by expanding programming, events, rentals, and promoting general visitation.

Number of artists featured through exhibits

- *Target:* Host a minimum of four art exhibits annually with a reception for

Russell Farm Art Center, Burleson, TX

Source: City of Burleson

PURPOSE OF PLAN

The Purpose of the City of Burleson's Parks, Trails, Recreation, and Open Space Master Plan is to envision, guide, and strategically manage the development and utilization of the city's outdoor spaces. This comprehensive plan aims to create a dynamic and sustainable environment that enhances the quality of life for residents and visitors alike. By fostering the thoughtful design of parks, trails, recreation areas, and open spaces, the Master Plan seeks to promote community well-being, social and nature connectivity, and active, healthy lifestyles.

Additionally, it aims to preserve and protect natural resources, foster environmental stewardship, and contribute to the overall economic vitality of Burleson. Through collaborative engagement with the community, the Master Plan endeavors to shape a vibrant and inclusive outdoor experience that reflects the diverse needs and aspirations of the City's residents, both now and for future generations.

The Master Plan outlines necessary upgrades and expansions to existing recreation facilities, ensuring they meet the evolving needs of our residents; aims to diversify and enrich recreation programs for all age groups and interests; and highlighted city wide events to foster civic pride in Burleson and contribute to the City's cultural vibrancy and economic vitality.

Engaging with City Council, Parks Board, and City Staff in the planning process, the Master Plan seeks to align with the diverse needs and aspirations of the Burleson community, ensuring that these outdoor spaces not only meet current demands but also serve as enduring assets that enhance the overall quality of life for residents and visitors alike.

Russell Farm Art Center, Burleson, TX

Source: City of Burleson

PLAN STRUCTURE

This section presents an overview of the plan's structure, highlighting the focus of each chapter. Together, these sections create a cohesive framework, progressing from a detailed assessment of current conditions to the development of actionable strategies aimed at ensuring the long-term sustainability and growth of the city's parks, trails, and recreation system.

INTRODUCTION

COMMUNITY CONTEXT
Community Context analysis provides a data-driven snapshot of the Burleson community to assess local demographics, economic conditions, and resident needs.

BENCHMARKING
Benchmarking is a data-driven analysis used by the consulting team and Burleson staff to compare the city's parks and trails with those of peer cities, focusing on metrics like budget, staffing, and outdoor facilities.

FACILITY ANALYSIS
The Facility Analysis and Recommendation chapter outlines Burleson's current parks and open space system, detailing park types, inventory, existing conditions, and assessing future park needs.

FACILITY RECOMMENDATIONS
The Facility Recommendation chapter outlines recommendations for Burleson's facilities, based on assessments of park, trail, and indoor needs.

PROGRAM ASSESSMENT
The Program Assessment chapter evaluates Burleson's Parks and Recreation programs by analyzing target audience, life cycle, and seasonal offerings to assess how well they meet community needs.

STAFFING RECOMMENDATIONS
The Staffing Recommendations chapter evaluates Burleson Parks and Recreation staff across key focus areas, including operations and maintenance, programming, administration, capital development, and other essential responsibilities to address community and facility needs.

FINANCIAL AND REVENUE STRATEGIES
The Financial and Revenue Strategies chapter examines Burleson's financial needs for current and future facilities and programs, while identifying potential funding opportunities to support growth and sustainability.

PARK, TRAIL, AND OPEN SPACE PLAN
The Parks, Trails, and Open Space Plan chapters outline park classifications, existing conditions of each facility, needs assessment for all areas, and recommended opportunities for future development and grant funding.

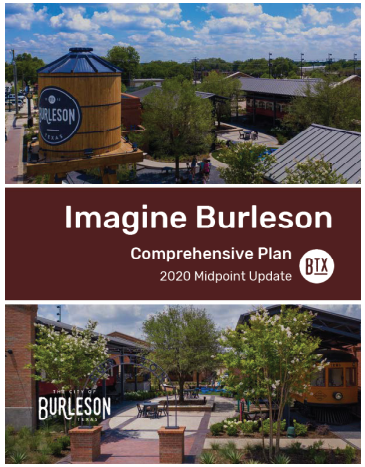
IMPLEMENTATION PLAN
The Implementation Plan chapter outlines strategies to enhance Burleson's Park and Recreation System, prioritizing recommendations by scope and budget impact to guide realistic goals while preserving Burleson's identity.

CONCLUSION
The comprehensive analysis and recommendations outlined in this report provide a strategic framework for enhancing Burleson's parks, trails, and recreation system. By assessing community needs, benchmarking against peer cities, and identifying opportunities for facility improvements, staffing enhancements, financial sustainability, and future development, this plan ensures that Burleson's parks and recreation assets continue to thrive.

EXISTING CITY-WIDE PLANS

The following plans were collected and reviewed to gain insight into the City's framework, assess their potential impact on parks, trails, and recreation systems, and establish a foundation for developing this Parks Plan.

- **Imagine Burleson Comprehensive Plan 2020 Midpoint Update**
- **Burleson Mobility Plan**
- **Bike Path and Trail Master Plan Map**
- **Master Thoroughfare Plan Map**
- **Public Art Plan (Draft)**
- **Guide BTX - FY24-25 Strategic Plan**



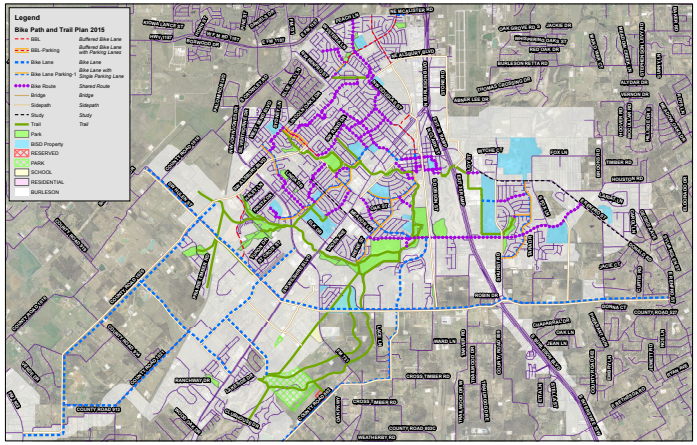
Imagine Burleson Comprehensive Plan

The Imagine Burleson Comprehensive Plan 2020 Midpoint Update aims to evaluate the 2010 Imagine Burleson comprehensive plan and recalibrate it to reflect current conditions and expectations ten years after its original adoption. While this Midpoint Update is not a full overhaul of the comprehensive plan, it offers guidance on the community's vision and values, future land use planning, and updated implementation actions.

Burleson Mobility Plan

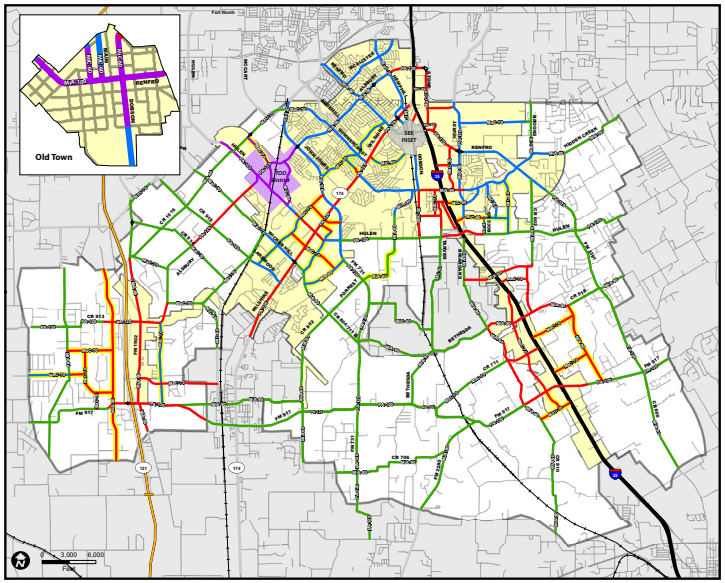
The Burleson Mobility Plan, adopted in 2023, updates the 2015 Master Mobility Plan to align goals and objectives with the current roadway network and evolving priorities. By integrating transportation planning, the City aims to develop a network where streets complement adjacent land uses and enhance [illegible] experiences. This plan identifies mobility goals, capital improvement projects, and policies for the City to consider as it continues to grow.

Item B.



Bike Path and Trail Master Plan Map

The Bike Path and Trail Master Plan Map indicates designated bike lanes and specific bike routes to understand the existing infrastructure and where improvements are necessary and recommended.



Master Thoroughfare Plan Map

Understanding the existing and updated roadway classifications and street context is important for means of traveling to parks, trails, and recreation amenities throughout the city. The data is utilized to understand future growth and pin point ideal park improvements and needs. Where roadways increase, development increases and the need for public amenities.

Facility Feasibility Study

Burleson is currently working on an overall facility feasibility study and creating models for staffing as well as a facility needs assessment. Based on these findings and recommendations, the City will ensure the goals, improvements, future considerations align with the Parks, Recreation, Trails, and Open Space Master Plan.

Source: City of Burleson

Public Art Plan

A vision for public art is a priority for the Parks and Recreation D t. Citizen feedback on where art should be located, how it should feel, and the impact it will have on the community is important. Capturing the unique spirit of Burleson is pivotal as the community grows. The public art plan approved and passed Spring 2025.

Source: City of Burleson

TPWD COMPLIANCE

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) partners with communities across Texas, offering grants, assistance, education, and outreach programs. Through these efforts, TPWD helps build new parks, conserve natural resources, provide access to water bodies, develop youth education programs, and more, based on community needs. To qualify for TPWD assistance, municipalities must submit a Parks Master Plan Update every five years and a new Parks Master Plan every ten years. To meet TPWD assistance requirements, the Burleson Parks Master Plan must include the following:

- Summary of accomplishments since previous plan
- New pertinent public input
- Inventory data
- Needs assessment
- Priorities
- Implementation
- Demographics
- Goals and objectives
- Maps

CAPRA COMPLIANCE

The NRPA's Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies (CAPRA) provides quality assurance and improvement to accredited park and recreation departments nationwide. As the only national accreditation for park and recreation departments, CAPRA serves as a key measure of a department's operational quality, management, and community service. To meet accreditation requirements, the Burleson Parks Master Plan must include the following:

- Agency mission and objectives
- Recreation and leisure trends analysis
- Needs assessment
- Community inventory
- Level of Service (LOS) standards
- Strategic Plan

Hot Sounds of Summer Event

Source: City of Burleson

Bailey Lake Park

Source: City of Burleson

COMMUNITY CONTEXT

2

Source: City of Burleson

COMMUNITY CONTEXT

About Burleson
Population Profile
Community Engagement
Community Engagement
Stakeholder Engagement
Major Themes / SWOT Analysis
2019 Master Plan Progress Update
Awards Recognition and Grant Awards
Benchmarking

Community Context analysis offers a data-driven snapshot of Burleson, providing essential insights into local demographics, economic conditions, and resident needs. It ensures that recommendations are grounded in a clear understanding of the community, helping to create a parks system that reflects and meets the needs of Burleson's residents.

About Burleson

Burleson, Texas, is a vibrant city located in the Johnson and Tarrant counties of North Texas, about 12 miles south of Fort Worth and 40 miles southwest of Dallas. It is part of the Dallas-Fort Worth metroplex, blending suburban charm with easy access to amenities and employment opportunities. Founded in 1881 after Dr. Rufus C. Burleson, a prominent president of Baylor University, Burleson began as a small farming community. The city quickly grew with the arrival of the railroad in 1882, marking the start of its development into a bustling town.

Over the years, Burleson has seen many significant milestones. Martha Glenn Russell, who moved to the area in 1877 when it was known as Marystown, began a homestead that would later be recognized as the Russell Farm Art Center. As Burleson's population grew through the early 1900s, infrastructure improvements like paved roads, electricity, and gas services were introduced. Essential facilities, including schools and healthcare, were established, attracting more residents who valued the balance of urban conveniences and a quieter suburban lifestyle.

The Burleson Lions Club established the Burleson Area Chamber of Commerce in 1965 to support community growth, bringing together 75 dedicated members focused on fostering economic development, community engagement, and a thriving environment for businesses. This laid the groundwork for future prosperity, as the population increased to 10,000 by 1980 and reached 20,000 by the turn of the century. The Burleson Rotary Club, established in 1982, has assisted with volunteering and setting a strong community standard for people to make Burleson their home. Today, Burleson's population is approximately 55,144. The city spans about 27 square miles and features a mix of residential, commercial, and industrial areas. The historic old town district has preserved its small-town charm, with a variety of shops, restaurants, and local businesses housed in historic buildings. Burleson's education system is highly regarded, providing quality learning opportunities for students of all ages.

Source: City of Burleson

Burleson benefits from its beautiful North Central Texas setting, situated in a transition zone between the Cross Timbers and Blackland Prairie ecoregions. Its rolling hills, woodlands, and prairies bring natural beauty into the suburban landscape. Through the Keep Burleson Beautiful program, the city promotes environmental care, beautification projects, litter clean-ups, and natural resource management. In 2020, the program earned the President's Circle Award for its dedication to these efforts.

Residents and visitors can enjoy Burleson's numerous parks, trails, and green spaces. These spaces support outdoor activities like hiking, biking, walking, and picnicking. The city's commitment to preserving its natural surroundings ensures abundant recreational opportunities for nature lovers, athletes, and anyone seeking a peaceful retreat. Community events and gatherings also happen frequently, highlighting the city's indoor and outdoor recreational opportunities, local businesses, performances and celebrations, and more.

Transportation in Burleson is supported by major highways, including Interstate 35W, which provides convenient access to Fort Worth and Dallas. The city also operates the Burleson Area Rapid Transit (BART) system, offering local bus services and connections to surrounding communities, further enhancing accessibility for residents and visitors.

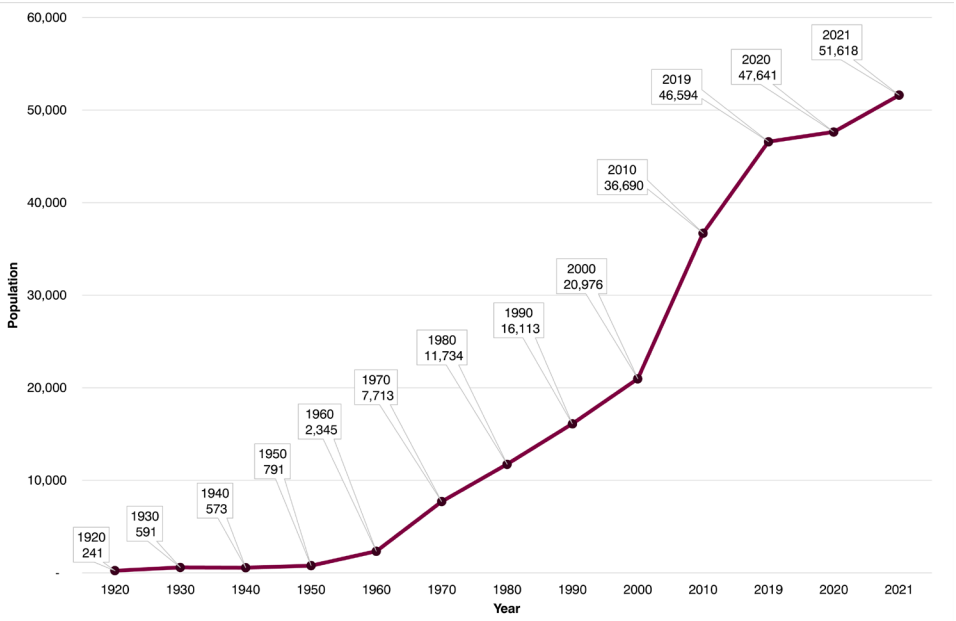
Burleson Community Profile

+ **Current Population, 2025**: 55,144 (Source: NCTCOG)
+ **Location**: Johnson and Tarrant Counties
+ **Median Age**: 34.9 (Source: United States Census Bureau)
+ **Annual Growth**: 3% (Source: City of Burleson)
+ **Average Household Income**: $94,162 (Source: United States Census Bureau)

Population Profile

Understanding the demographic profile of a community is crucial as it provides valuable insights into the needs and characteristics of the population. By knowing the age, gender, income level, education level, and other demographic factors, Burleson can tailor services and initiatives to better meet the specific needs of the community.

Population Trend



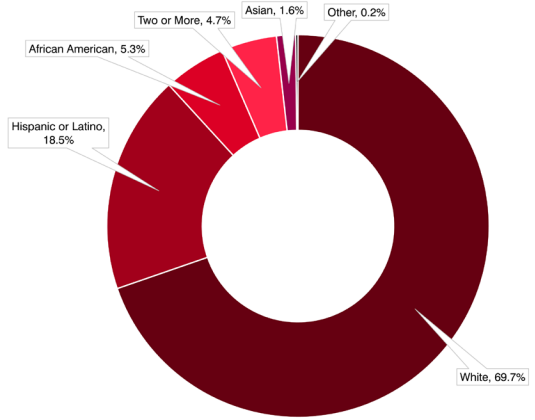
The population of Burleson has shown a steady and significant increase over the past century. Starting from a small population of just 241 in 1920, the city saw modest growth reaching 2,345 by 1960. Population growth accelerated notably in the late 20th century, with a significant jump to over 20,000 by 2000. This upward trend continued with the population nearly doubling between 2000 and 2010, reaching 36,690. In recent years, Burleson has seen further rapid growth, with the population reaching 55,144 by 2025. (Sources: City of Burleson and the United States Census Bureau)

Race and Gender

Gender

51% female | 49% male

Race



Race	Percent
White	69%
Hispanic or Latino	19.4%
Black	5.4%
Two or More	4.7%
Asian	1.4%
Other	0.3%

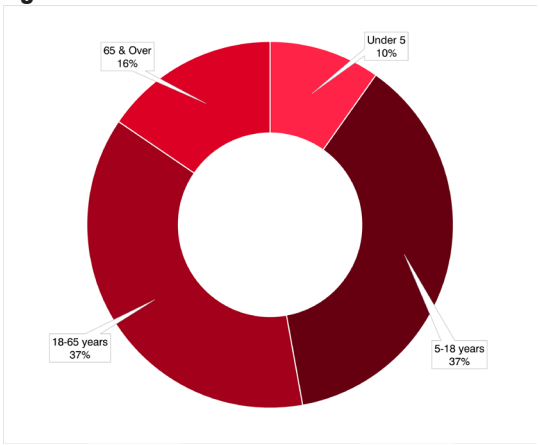
The racial distribution of Burleson residents is as follows: 69% White, 19.4% Hispanic or Latino, 5.4% Black, 4.7% identifying as two or more races, 1.4% Asian, and 0.3% Other.

Sources: US Census Bureau

Age and Income

A thorough understanding of population density, age distribution, household size, and income levels is essential for shaping effective policies and strategic planning. These insights drive decisions regarding zoning regulations, the development and enhancement of transportation infrastructure, targeted land acquisition, and the provision of public amenities. By analyzing these demographic factors, planners can create responsive, sustainable solutions that meet the needs of a growing and diverse community, ensuring that resources are allocated efficiently and future growth is well-supported.

Age

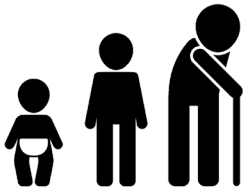


Age Group	Percent
Under 5	9.8%
5-18 years	37.4%
18-65 years	37.4%
65 & over	15.5%

The age distribution of Burleson residents is as follows: 9.8% Under 5 years, 37.4% 5 to 18 years, 37.4% 18 to 65 years, and 15.5% 65 and over.

For years 2019-2023, 4.9% of the population of Burleson has a disability, under the age of 65 years. This is based on the ACS (American Community Survey) six aspects of disability, which includes hearing, vision, cognitive, ambulatory, self-care, and independent living.

Community Snapshot

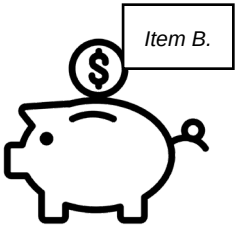


Median Age

34.9 years

Annual Growth

3%



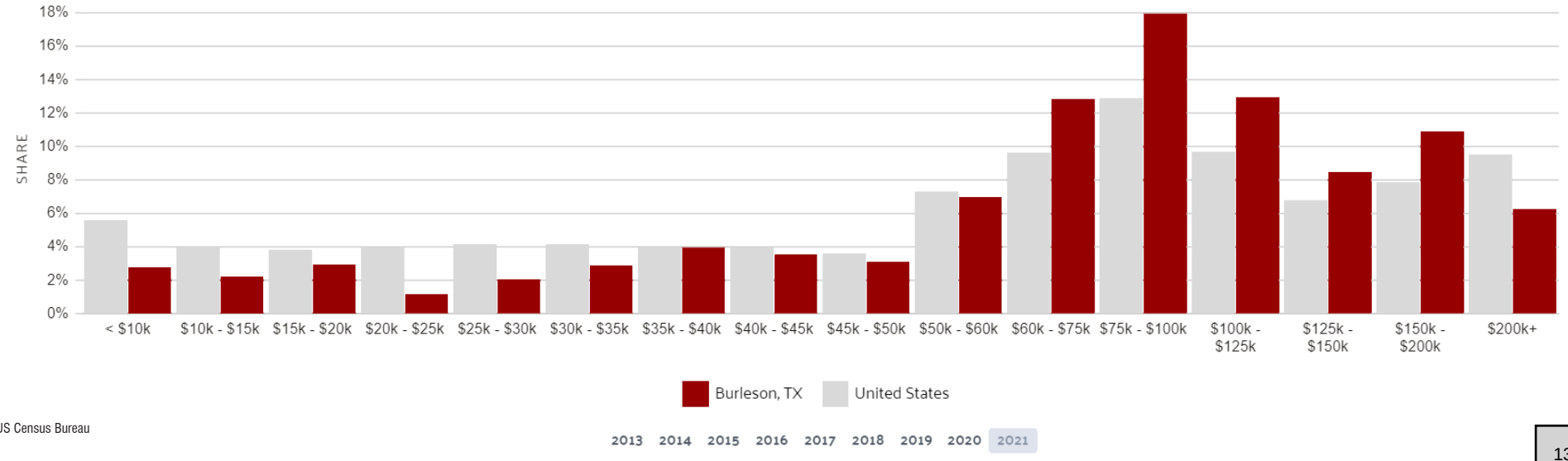
Average Household Income

$94,162

Densely populated urban areas encourage walking, cycling, energy efficiency, and a more sustainable lifestyle. These areas often feature vibrant social and cultural scenes, attracting a diverse population and supporting a wide range of events, festivals, and community activities. Burleson, with a population density of 1,666 people per square mile—well above the national average of 91—stands to benefit from these advantages.

In Burleson, 53% of families have children under 18, with a median age of around 35. Approximately 10% of households report a median income below $25,000, while 23% earn above $150,000. By prioritizing the well-being and needs of families, Burleson fosters an environment where children can thrive, parents find strong support, and families as a whole enjoy a high quality of life.

Household Income (2021)



Sources: US Census Bureau

Esri Tapestry Segments

Esri Tapestry Segmentation classifies US neighborhoods into segments based on demographics, socioeconomic characteristics, and lifestyle. This information is helpful in determining the buying power of communities and compare markets.

The Esri Tapestry Segmentation database provides a nuanced portrait of communities, and this data is most meaningful when incorporated into hyper-local analysis. The number of neighborhoods that you are generalizing determines your analytic outcome: generalizing large populations tends to reveal broader characteristics and population trends, while classifying smaller populations creates a more detailed and descriptive profile of a community.

(information provided from esri.com)

2024 Consumer Spending

esri
THE SCIENCE OF WHERE

Community Profile

Burleson City, TX 4
Burleson City, TX (4811428)
Geography: Place

Prepared by Esri

	Burleson city...
Top 3 Tapestry Segments	
1.	Up and Coming Families (7A)
2.	Middleburg (4C)
3.	Green Acres (6A)
2024 Consumer Spending	
Apparel & Services: Total $	$45,104,761
Average Spent	$2,355.96
Spending Potential Index	99
Education: Total $	$30,023,013
Average Spent	$1,568.19
Spending Potential Index	91
Entertainment/Recreation: Total $	$77,541,291
Average Spent	$4,050.21
Spending Potential Index	99
Food at Home: Total $	$133,114,596
Average Spent	$6,952.97
Spending Potential Index	95
Food Away from Home: Total $	$75,892,652
Average Spent	$3,964.10
Spending Potential Index	102
Health Care: Total $	$144,632,000
Average Spent	$7,554.56
Spending Potential Index	98
HH Furnishings & Equipment: Total $	$60,870,743
Average Spent	$3,179.46
Spending Potential Index	100
Personal Care Products & Services: Total $	$18,247,346
Average Spent	$953.11
Spending Potential Index	96
Shelter: Total $	$489,599,221
Average Spent	$25,573.22
Spending Potential Index	96
Support Payments/Cash Contributions/Gifts in Kind: Total $	$71,200,146
Average Spent	$3,718.99
Spending Potential Index	106
Travel: Total $	$57,050,397
Average Spent	$2,979.91
Spending Potential Index	98
Vehicle Maintenance & Repairs: Total $	$28,178,757
Average Spent	$1,471.86
Spending Potential Index	99

Data Note: Consumer spending shows the amount spent on a variety of goods and services by households that reside in the area. Expenditures are shown by broad budget categories that are not mutually exclusive. Consumer spending does not equal business revenue. Total and Average Amount Spent Per Household represent annual figures. The Spending Potential Index represents the amount spent in the area relative to a national average of 100.
Source: Consumer Spending data are derived from the 2019 and 2020 Consumer Expenditure Surveys, Bureau of Labor Statistics. Esri.

Source: Esri forecasts for 2024 and 2029. U.S. Census Bureau 2000 and 2010 decennial Census data converted by Esri into 2020 geography.

October 16, 2024

©2024 Esri

Community Engagement

Introduction

The success of any project is rooted in the active participation and input of the community it serves. Our goal throughout the master planning process was to gather valuable insight, address concerns, share important information, and ensure that the master plan aligns with needs and expectations of the Burleson community. During the community engagement process, traits such as the opportunity to contribute, transparency in addressing questions, and a commitment to inclusivity and accessibility were all highlighted to ensure every community member voice was heard.

Building trust and fostering strong relationships with the community is paramount to us. Though an online questionnaire, City Council interviews, and Parks Board interviews, we captured significant needs, challenges, and opportunities for the parks and recreation system to grow and flourish.

Chisenhall Ribbon Cutting

Source: City of Burleson

Online Engagement

Burleson Parks, Recreation, Trails, and Open Space Master Plan Survey Recap

Through an online questionnaire, City Council interviews, and Parks Board interviews, we captured significant needs, challenges, and opportunities for the parks and recreation system to grow and flourish. A survey was developed as part of the parks' plan to gather community input on recreational needs, priorities, and ideas for improving park facilities and programs. The survey was open from April 29th, 2024 to September 9th , 2024 and more than 1,000 individuals provided feedback on Burleson's existing conditions, their visions, and priorities for the city's parks, trails, and open spaces.

A key goal of the public engagement process was to foster transparency, encourage participation from individuals who might not typically engage in projects like this, and ensure that the final plan reflects the community's vision. The survey was hosted on CVENT and promoted through various virtual platforms by the City. The survey questions were designed to capture input regarding the current state and desired improvements for the parks, trails, indoor recreation, inclusivity, programming, and demographics.

Respondents voted trails, preservation of open space, and maintenance of existing facilities as priority. Festivals, events, and family gathering opportunities were higher priority for programming throughout the community.

Bailey Lake, Mayor Vera Calvin Plaza, and Warren Park are among the top visited public spaces within the City. Most of the facilities within the City are visited and provides diversity amongst the community.

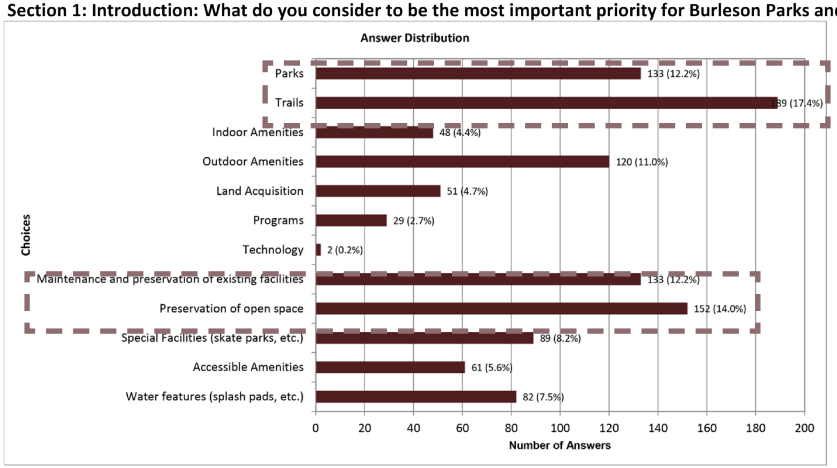
Burleson Parks Master Plan Online Survey			2024											
			J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
1	Online Survey/ Questionnaire	04/2024 - 09/2024												
2	City Council and Parks Board Members Interviews	12/2/2024-12/03/2024												

Shade is an element dictating the amount of visitors to the parks, trails, and recreation facilities. Lack of shade or limited shade prevents use of a facility. This is a goal the City is implementing with its new features and proposed improvements.

Trails with limited shade, drinking fountains with water bottle fill stations, or lack of lighting create conflict with users. Knowing this information, the City can focus on providing these amenities with trail extensions, additions or modifications. Trail grant funding could provide these desired elements as the City continues to grow.

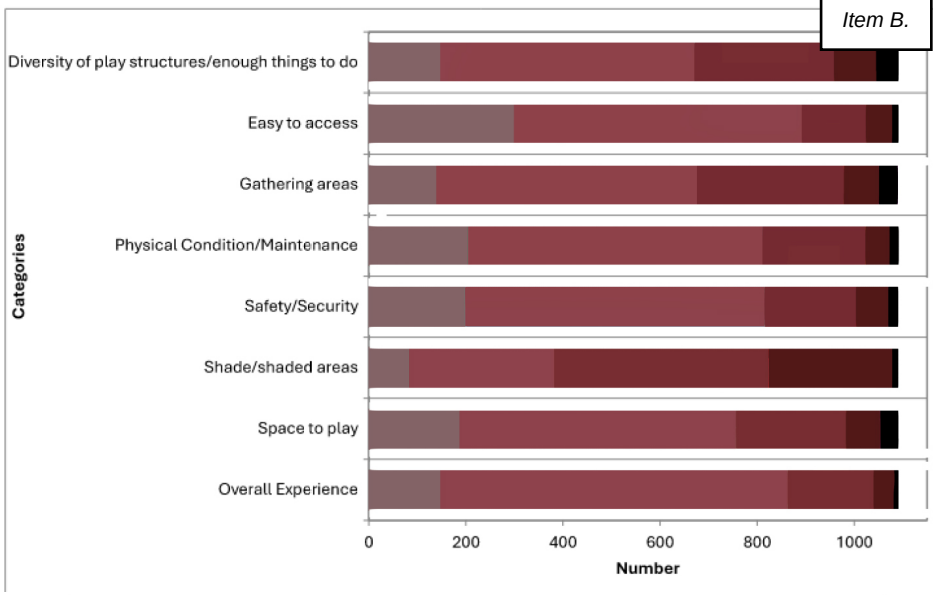
With the BRiCk undergoing renovation, the indoor recreation facility will continue to provide access to fitness, activities, and programming with improved entry for visitors, functional space for staff, and enhanced member experience.

Section 1: Introduction: What do you consider to be the most important priority for Burleson Parks and Recreation?



Section 1 - Based on the feedback and responses, the City of Burleson can prioritize improvements across its park, recreation, programming, and trails to continue focusing on making the city a great place to live and visit.
Based on our community survey, the most important priority for Parks and Recreation in Burleson is Parks, Trails, Preservation of Open Space, and maintenance/preservation of existing facilities. The majority of respondents are eager for a focus on park improvements; trail connectivity city wide and vital improvements for users of the trails; maintenance and preservation of existing facilities throughout the city; and preserve local ecosystems and biodiversity throughout existing open spaces.

Section 2: Parks: How would you rate the parks or facility features during your visit?



Answer Category	Excellent	Good	Needs some improvement	Needs much improvement	Don't know/don't use
Overall Experience	13.6%	65.7%	16.3%	3.7%	0.8%
Space to play	17.2%	52.3%	20.8%	6.2%	3.5%
Shade/shaded areas	7.5%	27.6%	40.3%	23.4%	1.1%
Safety/Security	18.2%	56.8%	16.9%	6.2%	1.8%
Physical Condition/Maintenance	18.7%	55.8%	19.4%	4.5%	1.6%
Gathering areas	12.8%	49.3%	27.7%	6.6%	3.6%
Easy to access	27.5%	54.5%	12.1%	4.8%	1.2%
Diversity of play structures/enough things to do	13.5%	48.3%	26.3%	7.7%	4.2%

Section 2 - Overall feedback from surveyors captured the parks and facilities of Burleson to be good overall, with a few areas needing improvement. Understanding the experience of visitors and the community to these facilities will assist city staff to cater improvements and commit to providing ample amenities for all. Maintenance, physical condition, ease of access, and safety mostly fall under the good rating. The knowledge gathered from this survey allows the Burleson parks and recreation staff to align their goals, actions, and objectives to improve these percentages up to an excellent rating.

Stakeholder Engagement

Stakeholder interviews, administered as part of the Burleson Parks, Recreation, Trails, and Open Space Master Plan, were conducted on December 2nd and 3rd, 2024. The stakeholders interviewed for the plan reflect various experiences and strong ties to the community. Some have lived in Burleson for decades, growing up or raising families in the city, while others moved from nearby areas like Fort Worth, Dallas, or smaller towns across Texas and the Midwest. Their professional backgrounds include banking, education, real estate, parks management, and local government. Those interviewed currently hold leadership roles, such as city council members, park board representatives, Mayor, and Mayor Pro Tem. Their connections to the city are personal and professional, with most having a history of involvement in community activities.

These stakeholders contribute valuable perspectives on Burleson's parks and recreational needs. Their roles include policymaking on the city council, volunteering with local organizations, managing youth sports programs, and supporting services for seniors. Some bring expertise from working in parks and recreation, while others are active residents who regularly use the parks for biking, walking, and family activities. Together, they represent a broad understanding of the city's priorities and a commitment to improving public spaces for all residents.

Texas Heritage Festival

Source: City of Burleson

+ What would you like to see accomplished with this plan?

- Highlight cycling by connecting trail systems, improving and linking segments.
- Focus on inclusivity by ensuring all parks feature universally accessible amenities.
- Integrate sustainability by maintaining and creating green spaces with low-maintenance designs.
- Prioritize effective budgeting and funding, using grants and tax allocations to maximize resources.
- Address safety by ensuring proper lighting, clear signage, and well-maintained pathways.
- Add more shade and trees in parks to combat the heat and provide better relaxing spaces.

+ What would make this planning effort a success in your eyes?

- Ensure parks are in good condition with ongoing maintenance and upgrades.
- Improve trail connectivity by adding missing links and ensuring seamless access to popular areas.
- Expand sidewalk connections to accommodate walkers and encourage active transportation.
- Make cosmetic improvements over time to keep parks modern and appealing.
- Introduce more educational programs about nature, wildlife, and environmental stewardship.
- Increase community engagement by regularly soliciting feedback from residents.
- Secure funding through grants and creative partnerships to implement long-term plans.

+ What is your feedback regarding the City of Burleson's implementation of inclusivity throughout its parks, recreation, programming, and trails?

- Ensure that inclusivity is a priority in all park designs, including playgrounds and seating areas.
- Highlight accessible elements such as wheelchair swings, adaptive play areas, and wider paths.
- Promote inclusive programming that caters to people of all abilities, from sports to arts.

- Make sure to advertise inclusive features clearly so that residents are aware of them.
- Focus on high-density areas like Alsbury and Hulen to ensure inclusivity in urban locations.
- Collaborate with local organizations to provide specialized services for people with disabilities.
- Provide regular updates on the progress of inclusivity initiatives to maintain community support.

Source: City of Burleson

+ Please provide your feedback on the diversity of amenities throughout Burleson?

- Ensure a variety of amenities that cater to different age groups, from seniors to children.
- Improve facilities for active sports, such as basketball courts, soccer fields, and tennis courts.
- Increase availability of dog parks and dog-friendly areas.
- Provide shaded areas and water fountains in parks to promote outdoor activities during summer.
- Continue to develop spaces for fitness activities, including outdoor gyms and walking trails.
- Ensure all parks have accessible restrooms, drinking fountains, and other necessary facilities.
- Address the need for covered pavilions and picnic areas in popular parks.

+ Trail expansion opportunities in Burleson, please provide your top 3 priorities.

- Focus on connecting different parts of the city, such as parks, neighborhoods, and commercial centers, to create a seamless trail system. This includes linking areas like Russell Farm, Bailey Lake, and key parks.
- Develop separate lanes for walkers, cyclists, and runners to ensure safety and accommodate a variety of trail users. This also includes incorporating bike-pedestrian trails throughout the city.
- Install trail markers, signs, and indicators to help with navigation and ensure safety, especially along high-traffic areas. Focus on adding lighting and security features for nighttime safety.
- Add rest stops with benches, shade, water fountains, and trash receptacles to encourage use and comfort for trail users. Continue to develop spaces for fitness activities, including outdoor gyms and walking trails.
- Work on creating more direct routes between major parks, neighborhoods, and recreational centers, ensuring easier access for all residents. This could involve integrating trails with existing infrastructure, such as sidewalks and roads.
- Design trails that enhance the natural landscape, promoting eco-friendly transportation while preserving green spaces and minimizing environmental impact.
- Promote the use of trails by making them more visible, accessible, and attractive through better signage, and community outreach efforts.

+ Please provide your input on the overall level of service in the City of Burleson when it comes to parks, recreation, trails, and programming.

- Ensure that staff is adequately trained and has the resources needed to maintain parks efficiently.
- Address seasonal maintenance issues, such as managing overgrowth and seasonal flooding in parks.
- Improve communication with the community regarding park hours, updates, and upcoming events.
- Offer more recreational programs that reflect the interests of diverse community groups.
- Improve overall park aesthetics by introducing more landscaping and artistic elements in public spaces.
- Increase focus on youth and senior programming, tailoring activities to each demographic's needs.

+ **What are Burleson's greatest assets? Any 'hidden treasures' we can bring forth or highlight through the master plan?**
    - Russell Farm and Bailey Lake offer unique natural features that could be further promoted for outdoor activities.
    - Highlight the city's strong sense of community, where local organizations often collaborate to improve public spaces.
    - Promote Burleson's walkable areas, which can be expanded into pedestrian-friendly districts.
    - Celebrate the city's local non-profit organizations that can be involved in parks and programming.
    - Focus on hidden green spaces like smaller pocket parks that may not be well-known but offer charm and community value.
    - Market parks and trails that are underutilized, bringing attention to areas with potential for greater use.

+ **What barriers could prevent Burleson parks, recreation, trails, open space system from capitalizing on opportunities?**
    - Limited budget for capital improvements and ongoing maintenance.
    - Growth concerns from residents - further development may alter the community's character.
    - The availability of land for expansion, especially in urbanized areas, could be a constraint.
    - Challenges in securing partnerships with developers or private entities to fund park projects.
    - Potential resistance to increased taxes or funding allocations for parks and recreation.
    - The perception that growth might detract from the small-town feel, making residents wary of larger-scale projects.

+ **Are there existing areas within the park system that cause you concern? If so, why? In your opinion, what should be done to mitigate those concerns?**
    - Concerns about prioritization of developable land - buildings or green space.
    - Park upgrades - facilities and roadway infrastructure.
    - Improved signage and safety markers in remote areas of parks, trails
    - Address overcrowding at larger parks with similar or unique amenities at smaller parks.
    - Increase transparency and communication with community.

Hot Sounds of Summer Event

Bailey Lake Mural Ribbon Cutting

Source: [illegible]on

Major Themes Heard/SWOT Analysis

A SWOT analysis is a tool that helps us evaluate our parks and recreation system by examining four key areas: strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats. Strengths highlight the positive aspects and resources that benefit our community, while weaknesses identify areas needing improvement. Opportunities point to potential areas for growth and new initiatives, and threats consider external factors that could negatively impact our services. By conducting a SWOT analysis, we can strategically plan for the future, ensuring our parks and recreation services continue to meet the needs and expectations of our community.

Strengths

- **Existing Infrastructure:** Burleson already has several parks and recreational facilities that serve as a foundation.
- **Community Involvement:** High level of community engagement and participation in recreation programs.
- **Positive Reputation:** The city's parks have a good reputation, making it easier to introduce new initiatives.
- **Diverse Offerings:** A variety of parks and recreation programs cater to different interests and age groups.

Weaknesses

- **Funding Limitations:** Budget constraints could limit the scope and speed of implementation for new projects.
- **Maintenance Issues:** Some existing facilities may require updates or repairs, adding an extra financial burden.
- **Access and Connectivity:** Certain areas may need better connectivity and access to parks, particularly in underserved neighborhoods.
- **Limited to Seasonal Use:** Certain amenities may be limited by seasonal weather conditions.
- **Grant Writing and Funding:** Potential to secure federal and state grants and public-private partnerships.

Opportunities

- **Community Health Initiatives:** Growing interest in public health and outdoor activities can drive more support.
- **Inclusivity Initiatives:** Opportunities to develop programs and facilities catering to diverse populations, including ADA-compliant amenities and spaces designed for all age groups and abilities.
- **Sustainability Projects:** Implementing sustainable practices such as educational programming, and water conservation techniques in park maintenance and development.
- **Continued Development of Assets:** Expansion and enhancement of existing parks and recreational facilities, including upgrading current assets to meet the evolving needs and preferences of the community.
- **Sports Tourism:** Pursue sports tourism as economic driver and revenue generator.

Threats

- **Competing Interests:** Other community priorities might divert attention and resources from parks and recreation.
- **Sales Tax Dependence:** Reliance on sales taxes for funding can be risky, especially during economic downturns when sales tax revenue might decrease.
- **Growth Reluctance:** Citizens may be reluctant or resistant to rapid growth, preferring the community's current character or worrying about overcrowding of facilities.
- **Developer and Land Acquisitions:** Competition with private developers for land can drive up costs and limit opportunities for park expansion and new green spaces.
- **Sports Tourism Competition:** Neighboring cities might attract more sports tourism due to better facilities or more established programs, potentially reducing Burleson's draw for such events.

Progress Since 2019

In the city of Burleson's previous Master Plan, priority action items were identified to help implementation. By looking through these past goals, listed actions, and systemwide recommendations, the city can further progress their programming, park, and trail efforts throughout the community. By comparing needs from a few years ago to similar needs now, development on city parks can continue with planned trajectories and shift some priorities towards goals that still need to be completed.

Land Acquisition

One main goal from the previous plan was to acquire more land to compete with a growing population and increased need for park space. Since 2019, Burleson has worked towards this goal - one example being a 30 acre tract being acquired which will be turned into a 55 acre community space.

Playground Improvements and Replacement

By aiming to improve existing facilities and parks, the city has worked to make current parks and trails more update for existing communities. Claudia's Playground, for example, features a new playground and outdoor fitness equipment, seating with shade, and more open space for visitors. Other local parks have been highlighted for planned improvements, using public input and surveys to find out what the people actively want and need.

Park Development

With land acquisition for new parks to be developed and updates to existing parks, development is growing rapidly in Burleson. Centennial Park had a large demolition and playground replacement in December of 2024, adding accessible play equipment, enhancing walking trails, and upgrading safety features. Bailey Lake park and Shannon Creek are others currently being developed.

Trails

With trails being a high priority of the prior Master Plan, the city has worked to increase access throughout Burleson and its park system. The Scott Street Trailhead, Oak Valley Trail and Trailhead were recently completed in Spring of 2025. The Oak Valley Trail increased east and west access across the city. The city anticipates trail improvements and expansions in the future like Village Creek Trail.

Goals that have since been completed as of June 2025:

- Identify and build a dog park
- Work on improving connectivity
- Trail Expansion and development
- Upgrade amenities at Chisenhall Fields
- Acquire land for thee community serving parks
- Continue updating existing parks (Centennial Park, Shannon Creek Park, Claudia's Playground, etc.)

Cedar Ridge Park Renovations

Source: City of Burleson

Partnering with residents, City Council, and Parks Board, the city has diligently completed numerous park and recreation projects since the previous master plan. *See Park Renovations and Upgrades Chart for some of these projects.*

Park Renovations and Upgrades - As of 2025		
Park Name	Update(s)	Status
Bailey Lake	Parking Expansion and Pond Dredging	Complete
Bartlett Park	Soccer Fields Renovated	Complete
BRiCk	Lobby Remodel	Complete
Burleson Bark Park	First City Dog Park	Complete
Burleson Memorial Cemetery	Expansion and Renovation of Cemetery	Complete
Burleson Splash Pad	First City Splash Pad	Complete
Cedar Ridge Park	Turf, Fencing, Play Equipment, and Shade Additions	Complete
Centennial Park	Playground Renovations	Complete
Chisenhall Fields	Sports Field Turf Conversion and Parking Expansion	Complete
Cindy Park	Playground Rennovations	Complete
Clark Park	Parking Lot Additions and Striping / Signage	Complete
Claudia's Playground	Playground Replacement and amenity additions	Complete
Community Park	Acquisition and Design Phase I	In Progress
Elk Ridge Park	Playground Replacement and amenity additions	Complete
Green Ribbon Phase I	Upgrades and Renovations	In Progress
FS16 Memorial Garden	Memorial Garden and Dedication	Complete
Hidden Creek Golf Course	Drainage Improvements, Clubhouse Renovations, Cart Path Repairs, Range Improvements, Bunkers, and Golf Cart Replacements	Complete/ In Progress
Hidden Vistas	Onboarded	Complete
Meadowcrest	Playground and Pickleball Courts Updates	Complete
MTB Trail	Signage	In Progress
Oak Valley North	Playground Replacement, Restroom and Parking Lot	C
Oak Valley South	Trail Extension / Connector	Complete
Oak Valley - Scott St	Trailhead Addition	Complete
Panchasarp Farms	Onboarded	Complete
Prairie Timbers	Pavilion, Playground and Drainage Additions	Complete
Park Annex	Upgrades and Renovation	Complete
Park Monument and Rule Signs	Upgrades and Renovations	In Progress
Scott Street Trailhead	Trailhead Addition and Updates	Complete
Shannon Creek	Nature Park and Playground, Sport Court, Restroom, Pond, Parking, Trails, Etc.	In Progress
Veteran's Memorial	Turf Conversion	Complete
Village Creek	Paved Trail Additions, Pump Station, and Pedestrian Underpass	Complete
Warren Park	Playground and Pickleball Courts Updates	In Progress
Wakefield Heights Park	New Playground, surfacing, and swing set	Complete
Willow Creek	Low Water Crossing	Complete

Developed Trails in Burleson:

- Oak Valley Trail and Trailhead
- Coyote Loop Family Trail
- MTB Trails at Chisenhall

Awards Recognition and Grant Awards (2022–2025)

Award Recognition

- 2022 TRAPS North Region Part-Time Employee of the Year
  Carl Dechart – Youth Track Program Coach
- Fall 2022 Inclusive Programming
- 2023 TRAPS North Region – Excellence in Maintenance Award
  No Mow Areas Initiative
- 2023 TRAPS North Region – Arts & Humanities Programming Achievement Award
  Juneteenth Art, Food, and Music Festival
- 2023 DFW Directors Association – Environmental Stewardship Award
  The Old Town Tree Care Program
- 2023 DFW Directors Association – Inclusion Award
- 2024 Southwest Park & Recreation Training Institute – PSA Award
  Pride in Our Parks Campaign
- 2025 Southwest Park & Recreation Training Institute – Innovation Award
  Trees for Tomorrow Program
- 2025 DFW Directors Association – Environmental Stewardship Award
  Kids Around the World Program

City Of Burleson Employees

Source: City of Burleson

Grant Awards

- 2024 TXDOT Green Ribbon – Phase I
  $400,000
- 2024 GameTime Playground Grant
  $127,364
- 2025 TXDOT Green Ribbon – Phase II
  $650,000 (in partnership with Keep Burleson Beautiful's GCAA Grant)
- Texas A&M Forest Service – Urban Forester Grant
  $100,000
- Texas A&M Forest Service – Tree Care Grant
  $20,000

Oak Valley North Park

Source: City of Burleson

Benchmarking

Benchmarking is a data-driven comparative analysis used by the consulting team and Burleson city staff to measure the Burleson park system relative to other park and recreation systems in peer cities. Some of the metrics that have been analyzed include budget, staffing, and outdoor facilities.

The table below and the following map provide an overview of all parks within Burleson city limits, highlighting their distribution and supporting an understanding of the city's recreational landscape.

Park #	Park Name
1	Bailey Lake Park
2	Warren Park
3	Centennial Park
4	Claudia's Playground
5	Elk Ridge Park
6	Hajek Park
7	Heberle Park
8	Hidden Vistas Park
9	Meadowcrest Park
10	Mistletoe Park
11	Oak Valley Park
12	Oak Valley Park - South
13	Prairie Timber Park
14	Prairie Timber Park - East
15	Robert Joseph Park
16	Wakefield Heights Park
17	Willow Creek Park
18	Cedar Ridge Park
19	Cindy Park
20	Clark Park

Park #	Park Name
21	Bartlett Park and Splash Pad
22	Burleson Bark Park
23	Chisenhall Sports Complex
24	Fire Station 16 Memorial Garden
25	Hidden Creek Golf Course
26	Hidden Creek Sports Complex
27	Russell Farm Art Center
28	Veterans Memorial Plaza
29	Cedar Ridge Park - East
30	Shannon Creek Park
31	Wakefield Heights Park - Open Space
32	Community Park

Parks and Open Space Acreage

The analysis of total park sites and acreage managed by Burleson and its peer jurisdictions provides a benchmark for assessing the total system size with two data points. Burleson has 32 parks managed by the parks and recreation department and owns 777.06 acres.

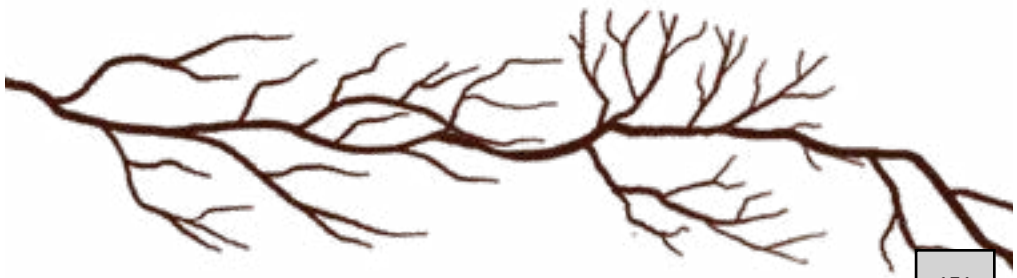
Parks and Open Space Acreage				
	Burleson, TX	Grapevine, TX	Euless, TX	Mansfield, TX
Total acres	777.06	1,556	350	1,200
Total number of parks	32	49	15	20

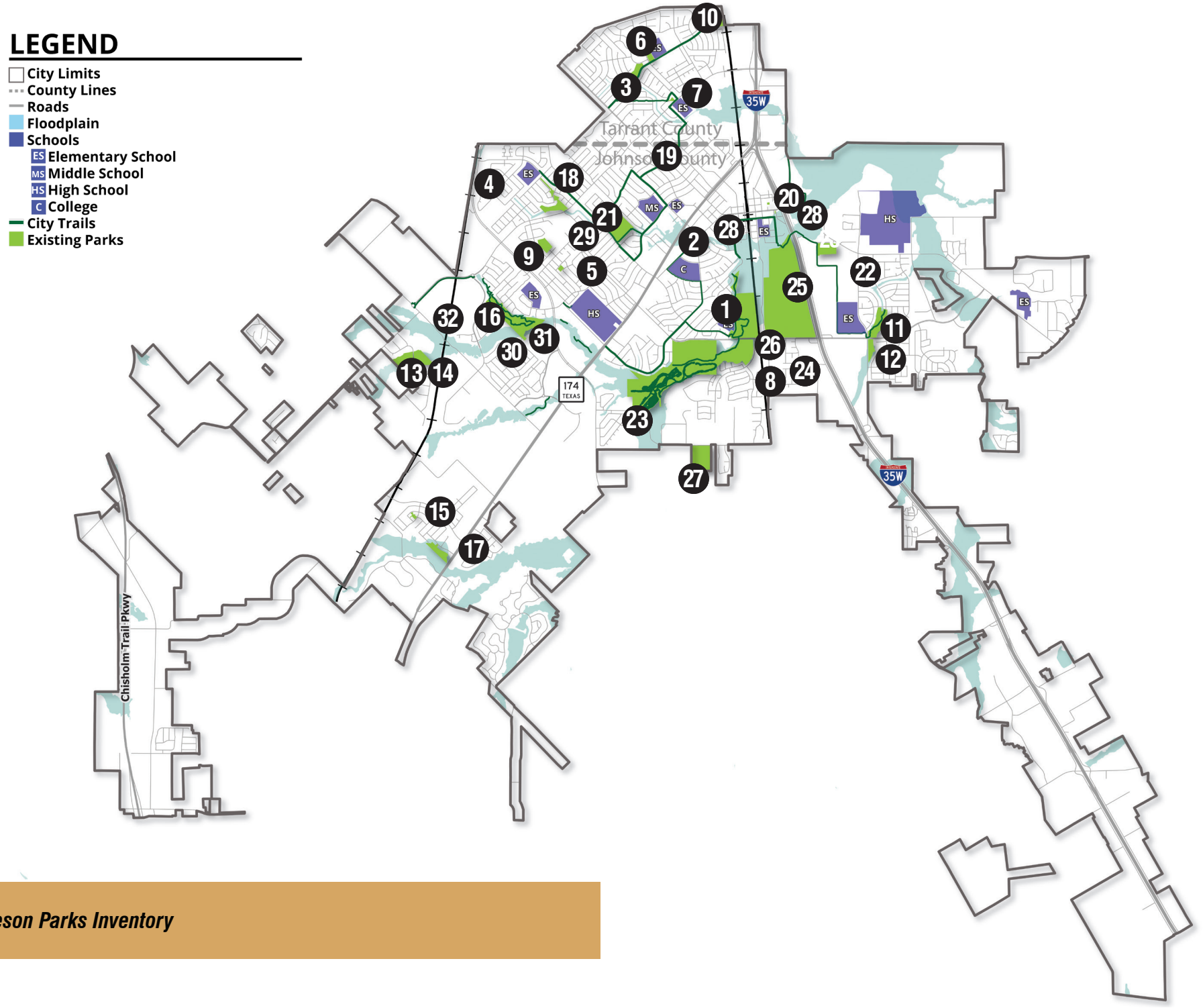
Jurisdiction

To conduct the benchmark analysis, the City of Burleson identified Grapevine, TX, Euless, TX, and Mansfield, TX as peer agencies. These communities were selected for their similar populations and location within Texas. Data collected for the analysis included information on demographics, park acreage, staffing, programming, operating and capital budgets, and funding sources.

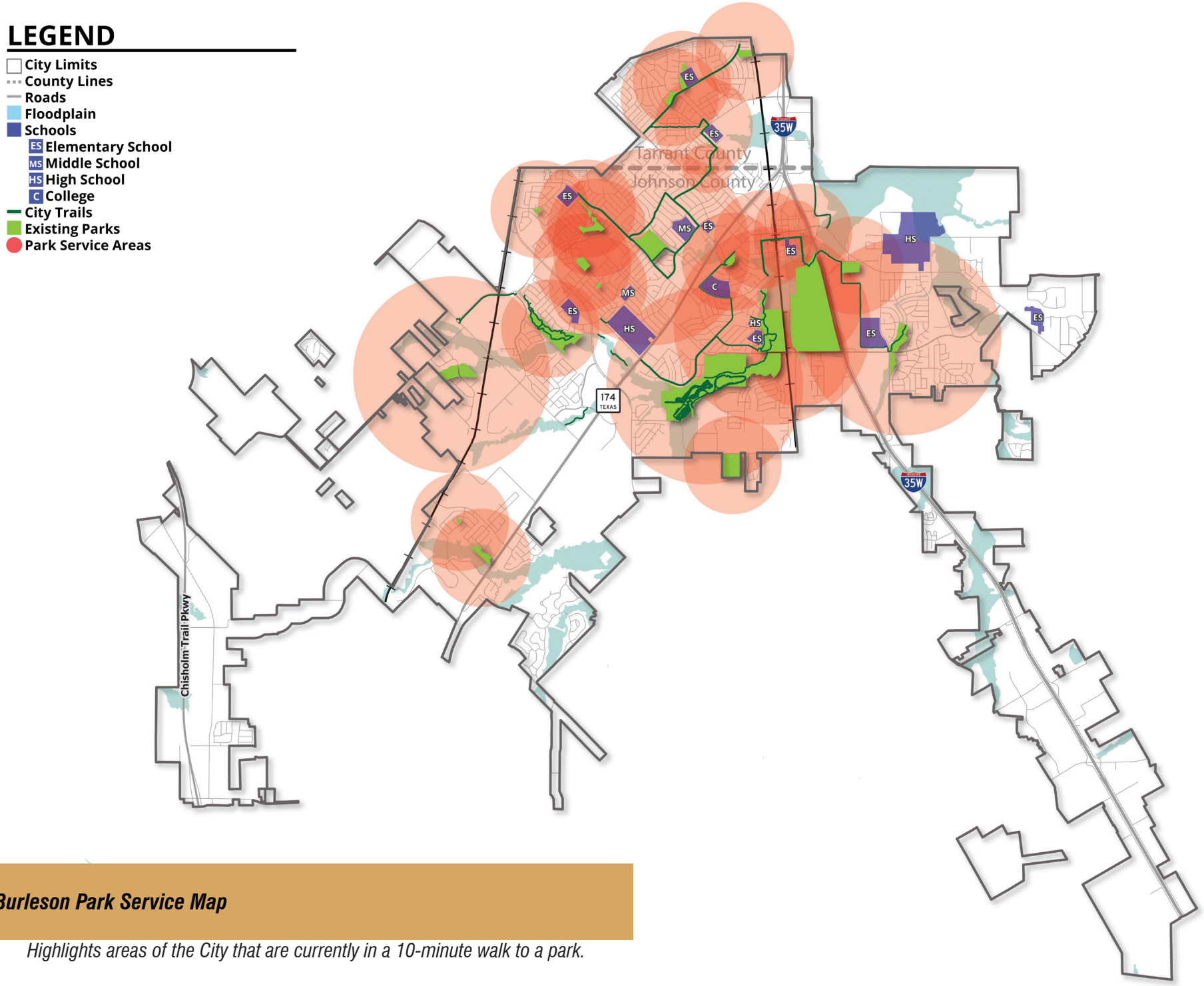
Since the data was gathered independently rather than provided directly by the agencies, some variations and discrepancies may exist due to differences in reporting methods and data collection. In some cases, data was unavailable. Any review of the benchmarking results should take these limitations into account.

Population			
Burleson, TX	Grapevine, TX	Euless, TX	Mansfield, TX
55,144	52,346	51,601	89,227





Burleson Parks Inventory



Burleson Park Service Map

Highlights areas of the City that are currently in a 10-minute walk to a park.

Heberle Park

Source: City of Burleson

Outdoor Amenities

This benchmark measured the number of existing outdoor amenities offered by Burleson and benchmarking agencies.

As a growing city south of the DFW metroplex, highlighting and utilizing benchmarking communities will help the city stay on top of trends or direction the overall parks, recreation, open space systems are taking.

Amenities				
	Burleson, TX	Grapevine, TX	Euless, TX	Mansfield, TX
Playgrounds	24	32	17	16
Sports Courts	6	24	9	14
Athletic Fields	34	32	48	43
Dog Parks	1	1	1	1
Recreation Centers (with fitness)	1	1	1	1
Recreation Centers (without fitness)	0	0	2	0
Senior Center	1	1	1	1
Splash Pads	1	3	1	1
Aquatic Center (Outdoor Pool)	1	2	1	0
Aquatic Center (Indoor Pool)	1	1	1	0
Special-Use	1	5	2	2

Budget

Budget				
	Burleson, TX	Grapevine, TX	Euless, TX	Mansfield, TX
Total operating expenses	$170,972,971	$80,016,454	$53.2 M	$385.8 M
Total capital budget	$85,191,359	$58,047,512	$8.3 M	$308.6 M

Sources: City of Burleson, City of Grapevine, City of Euless, City of Mansfield

A broad range of annual budget and operating expenses were reported by the various benchmarking agencies.

Total operating expenses and capital budgets are updated annually through heavy involvement from city staff, city management, and city council. The driving forces for some expense budgets are personnel costs, utilities and infrastructure maintenance, public safety, municipal services, general administration, debt service, and social services.

Capital budgets hinge on infrastructure expansion and upgrades, public buildings and facilities, parks and recreation, technology advancements, economic development initiatives, environmental sustainability, and public safety.

Overall, the capital budget reflects long-term investments and strategic initiatives for the city's development, while operating expenses are more focused on the day-to-day running of city services and maintenance. Both budgets must be carefully balanced to ensure the sustainable growth and efficient functioning of the city.

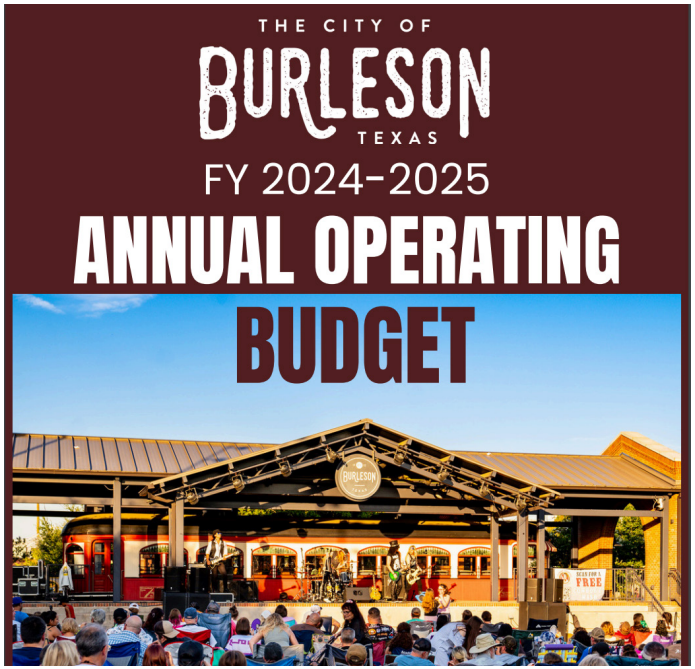
This master plan considers a 5-year snapshot of the funds for the City as a whole.

A few revenue sources for cities includes property taxes, sales taxes, income taxes, utility fees, usage fees and permits, fines and penalties, intergovernmental transfers, sales of good and services, tourism and hospitality taxes, development fees, public bonds, or public-private partnerships (PPPs).

These revenue sources help cities fund essential services, infrastructure maintenance, and development projects, ensuring the well-being and growth of the community.

Recovering costs and ensure financial sustainability as a Parks and Recreation Department is crucial to provide specific services, projects, or infrastructure improvements. Purpose and benefits include being sustainable financially over the long term, equity, transparency, and encourage efficient use and effective use. Facilities such as the BRiCk, Hidden Creek Golf Course, Russell Farm, and Chisenhall Sports Complex provide avenues for cost recovery and financial sustainability. Highlighting and maintaining these facilities come full circle for the community to utilize and provide resources for staff to make continuous quality improvements.

A well-structured cost recovery plan helps cities maintain fiscal health, provide essential services, and invest in future growth, all while ensuring accountability and fairness in financial management.



Source: City of Burleson

Staffing

Providing current staffing and projected staffing allows the City to better handle the maintenance needs of its parks, recreation, and trail amenities. Below are current staffing numbers for City of Burleson Parks and Recreation Department and benchmark cities.

Staffing				
	Burleson, TX	Grapevine, TX	Euless, TX	Mansfield, TX
FY 2025	205	700	276	500
FY 2035	233	N/A	N/A	N/A
FY 2045	240	N/A	N/A	N/A

The table above shows current approximate numbers for city staff. Future and projected numbers not available for Benchmark cities.

Meeting our staffing needs is essential for maintaining the high standard of living that our residents expect and deserve. By strategically investing in human resources, we can ensure that our city remains safe, prosperous, and well-equipped to handle future challenges. It is imperative that we continue to evaluate and adapt our staffing requirements in response to the changing needs of our community, ensuring that our city remains a vibrant and thriving place to live, work, and visit.

Summary

The benchmarking analysis utilizing peer communities' data provides a useful comparison of Burleson's Parks and Recreation performance relative to other park and recreation systems across the state.

The comparative insights from benchmark communities provide us with actionable strategies that align with our vision for a thriving, equitable, and sustainable city. By continuously benchmarking our performance against the best, we reaffirm our commitment to excellence and our dedication to the well-being of our community.

Tinker Trail

Source: City of Burleson

PARKS & OPEN SPACE | 3

Robert Joseph Park

Source: City of Burleson

3 PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

Introduction
Parks Inventory Summary
Parks Classifications
System Recommendations and Opportunities
Action Items and Goal 1

Before assessing the park system needs in Burleson, it is essential to inventory the existing conditions. This chapter provides a snapshot of Burleson's current parks and open space system. It begins by establishing a hierarchy of park types and presenting an inventory of each kind. The chapter also discusses the existing conditions of the current parks and concludes with an assessment of park needs.

Park Inventory Summary

Burleson has a total of 780.06 acres of dedicated parkland, encompassing both developed and undeveloped spaces. Most of this parkland is developed, with approximately 60 acres remaining undeveloped, excluding areas designated as non-programmed or natural spaces. Community parks make up about 49% of the city's total park acreage.

Figure 3.1 provides an inventory of amenities available in Burleson parks. As noted, Community Parks comprise the largest percentage of park acreage, and therefore, most of the city's amenities are located within these parks. The amenities inventory includes only those parks owned and maintained by the City of Burleson.

Park Inventory Definitions

Playground
Designated outdoor area specifically equipped with recreational structures such as swings, slides, climbing frames,etc.

Recreation
Includes various types of outdoor sports fields, such as soccer fields, baseball diamonds, tennis courts, basketball courts, pickle ball courts, and multi-purpose fields, all designed to accommodate a wide range of athletic pursuits and recreational interests. Ponds and lakes offer recreation amenities such as fishing, kayaking, canoeing, or educational opportunities. These facilities are intended to offer community members opportunities for organized sports, casual play, and fitness, enhancing their overall well-being and enjoyment of the park.

Trail
A multi-use trail in a park is a designated pathway designed to accommodate a variety of recreational activities, such as walking, running, or cycling. See Chapter 4 for more on trails.

Open Space
These spaces are often grassy fields or natural landscapes designed for various informal recreational activities, such as picnicking, playing catch, flying kites, or simply relaxing. Open spaces provide a versatile environment that encourages social gatherings, spontaneous play, and community events.

In-development
Designated area of land that is currently undergoing planning, construction, and landscaping to transform it into a recreational space for public use.

Undeveloped
Undeveloped parkland in a park refers to areas that remain in their natural state without any constructed amenities, landscaping, or recreational facilities. These tracts of land are typically characterized by native vegetation, forests, wetlands, or other natural features and are preserved to protect ecosystems, wildlife habitats, and biodiversity. The community park is undeveloped, but in the process of design and future construction.

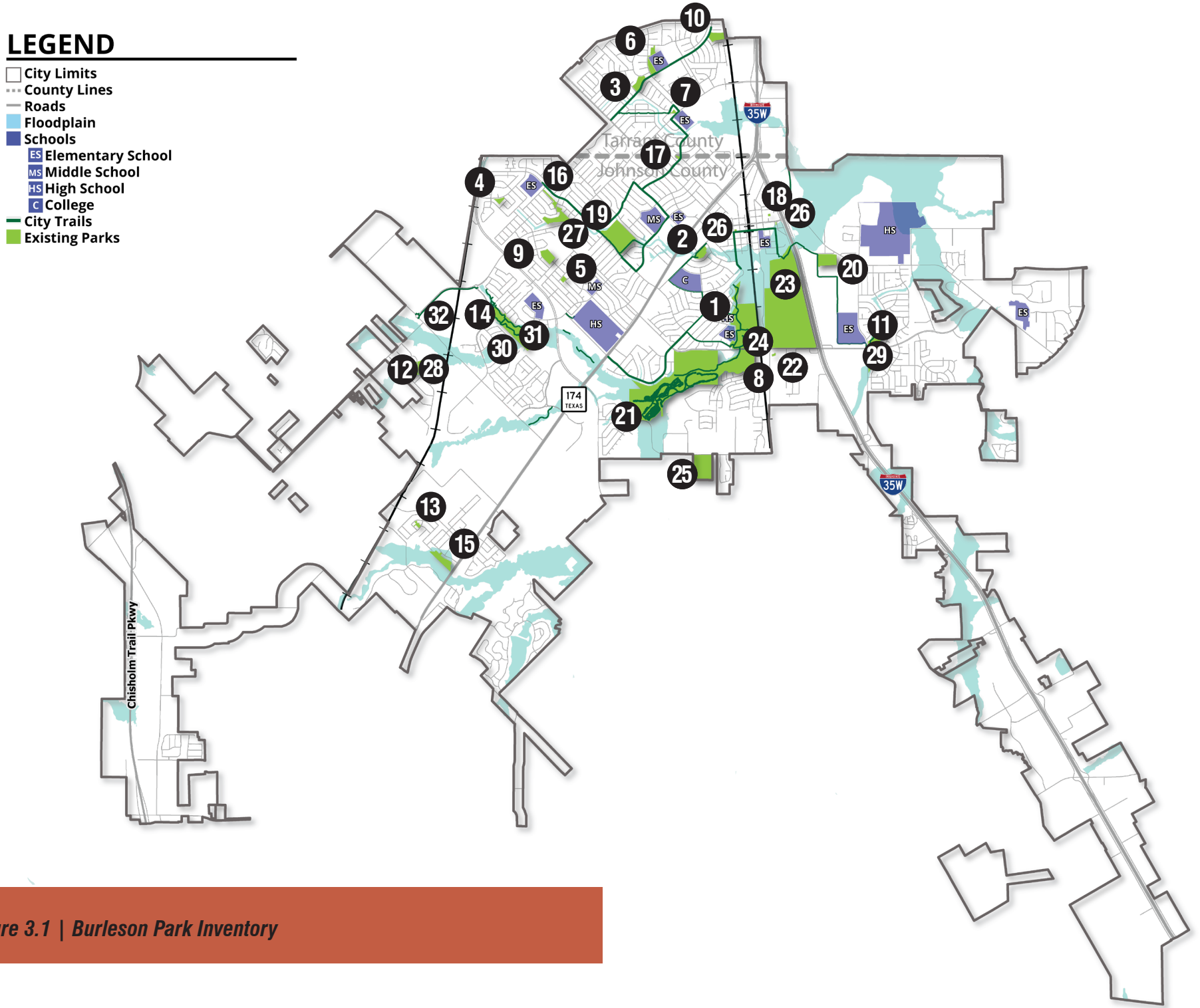


Figure 3.1 | Burleson Park Inventory

Figure 3.1 | Inventory of Burleson Parks

Park #	Park Name	Park Type	Playground	Trail	Open Space	In-development	Undeveloped	Acreage
1	Bailey Lake Park	Community		X	X			67.3
2	Warren Park	Community	X	X	X			5.5
3	Centennial Park	Neighborhood	X	X				5.6
4	Claudia's Playground	Neighborhood	X	X				1.9
5	Elk Ridge Park	Neighborhood	X	X				1.3
6	Hajek Park	Neighborhood			X			5.9
7	Heberle Park	Neighborhood	X	X				0.7
8	Hidden Vistas Park	Neighborhood		X				36.6
9	Meadowcrest Park	Neighborhood	X	X				7.1
10	Mistletoe Park	Neighborhood	X	X				7.0
11	Oak Valley Park	Neighborhood	X	X				17.86
12	Prairie Timber Park	Neighborhood	X	X	X			13.2
13	Robert Joseph Park	Neighborhood	X	X	X			2.0
14	Wakefield Heights Park	Neighborhood	X					0.5
15	Willow Creek Park	Neighborhood	X	X	X			8.6
16	Cedar Ridge Park	Mini	X					2.2
17	Cindy Park	Mini	X					0.6

Park #	Park Name	Park Type	Playground	Trail	Open Space	In-development	Undeveloped	Acreage
18	Clark Park	Mini	X					0.3
19	Bartlett Park and Splash Pad	Special Use	X	X				34.5
20	Burleson Bark Park	Special Use			X			3.5
21	Chisenhall Sports Complex	Special Use	X	X	X			172.9
22	Fire Station 16 Memorial Garden	Special Use						0.5
23	Hidden Creek Golf Course	Special Use						194.4
24	Hidden Creek Sports Complex	Special Use						17.5
25	Russell Farm Art Center	Special Use						29.3
26	Veterans Memorial Plaza	Special Use						0.2
27	Cedar Ridge Park - East	Open Space/ Undeveloped					X	10.2
28	Prairie Timber Park - East	Open Space/ Undeveloped					X	11.2
29	Oak Valley Park - South	Open Space/ Undeveloped		X			X	6.0
30	Shannon Creek Park	Open Space/ Undeveloped				X	X	14.8
31	Wakefield Heights Park - Open Space	Open Space/ Undeveloped			X			42.9
32	Community Park	Open Space/ Undeveloped				X		55.0
	Total Acreage							**777.06**

Park Classifications

Park classifications categorize parks by type, allowing the city to allocate resources effectively based on size and amenities. In Burleson, there are four park classifications:

- Community Park
- Neighborhood Park
- Mini park
- Special Use Park

Figure 3.2 Illustrates the existing parks in Burleson. Each classification has a standard size range, typical amenities, and a service area based on guidelines from the National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA). Service area refers to the typical driving distance individuals are willing to travel to visit each park type. Defining park typologies is a key part of the master plan process. It helps identify deficiencies in specific park types and determine whether a park is missing amenities typical for its classification. The following pages provide descriptions of each park type and Burleson's current inventory.

Bartlett Park

Sources: City of Burleson

Community Park

Community Parks are larger parks designed to serve multiple surrounding neighborhoods. They typically contain active and passive amenities, including but not limited to, sports fields, courts, aquatics, trails, landscaping, playgrounds, open space, benches, pavilions, and public art. Currently, Burleson has 2 Community Parks spanning approximately 72.8 acres. Bailey Lake Park is the largest with 49-acres of park space, and 8-acre lake, and 18-hole disc gold course. **Figure 3.3** outlines the acreage breakdown of the community parks.

- **Size:** 10 to 50 acres (typically falls between 30-50 acres)
- **Service Area:** 0-5 miles

Figure 3.3 | Inventory of Community Parks

Park #	Community Park Name	Acreage
1	Bailey Lake Park	67.3
2	Warren Park	5.5
	Total Acreage	**72.8**

Warren Park

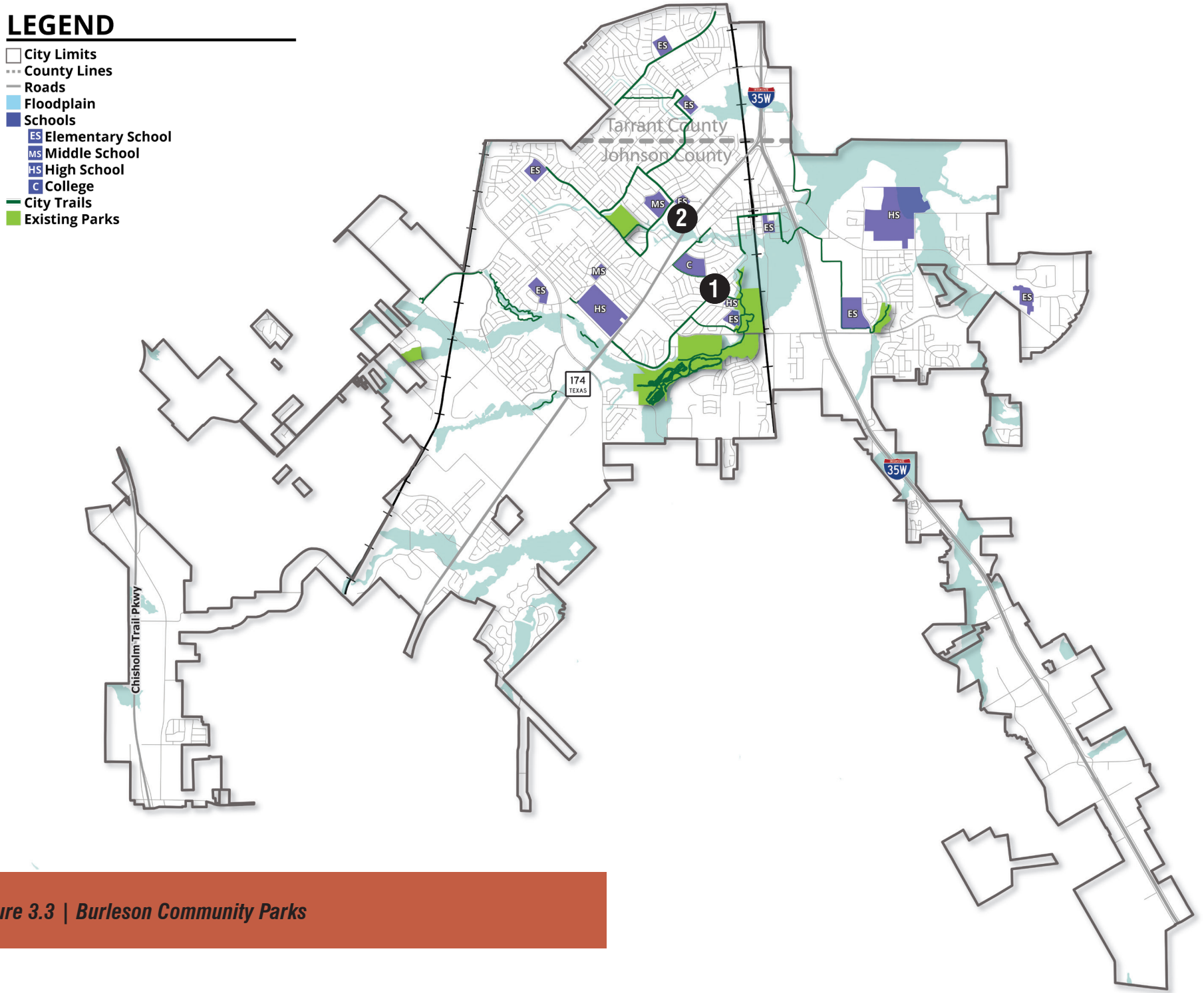


Figure 3.3 | Burleson Community Parks

Neighborhood Park

Neighborhood Parks are small to medium-sized parks located within walking distance of the nearby community they serve. They typically contain passive amenities including but not limited to, landscaping, playgrounds, open space, benches, pavilions, and sculptures or similar public art. Neighborhood parks vary in their amenities; some include restrooms and parking lots while others do not. Currently, there are 13 Neighborhood Parks in Burleson. **Figure 3.5** outlines the acreage breakdown of Neighborhood Parks in Burleson

- **Size:** 3 to 20 acres (typically falls between 3-5 acres)
- **Service Area:** 0-1 mile

Elk Ridge Park

Sources: City of Burleson

Figure 3.4 | Inventory of Neighborhood Parks

Park #	Neighborhood Park Name	Acreage
3	Centennial Park	5.6
4	Claudia's Playground	1.9
5	Elk Ridge Park	1.3
6	Hajek Park	5.9
7	Heberle Park	0.7
8	Hidden Vistas Park	36.6
9	Meadowcrest Park	7.1
10	Mistletoe Park	7.0
11	Oak Valley Park	17.86
12	Prairie Timber Park	13.2
13	Robert Joseph Park	2.0
14	Wakefield Heights Park	0.5
15	Willow Creek Park	8.6
	Total Acreage	**108.26**

Mistletoe Park

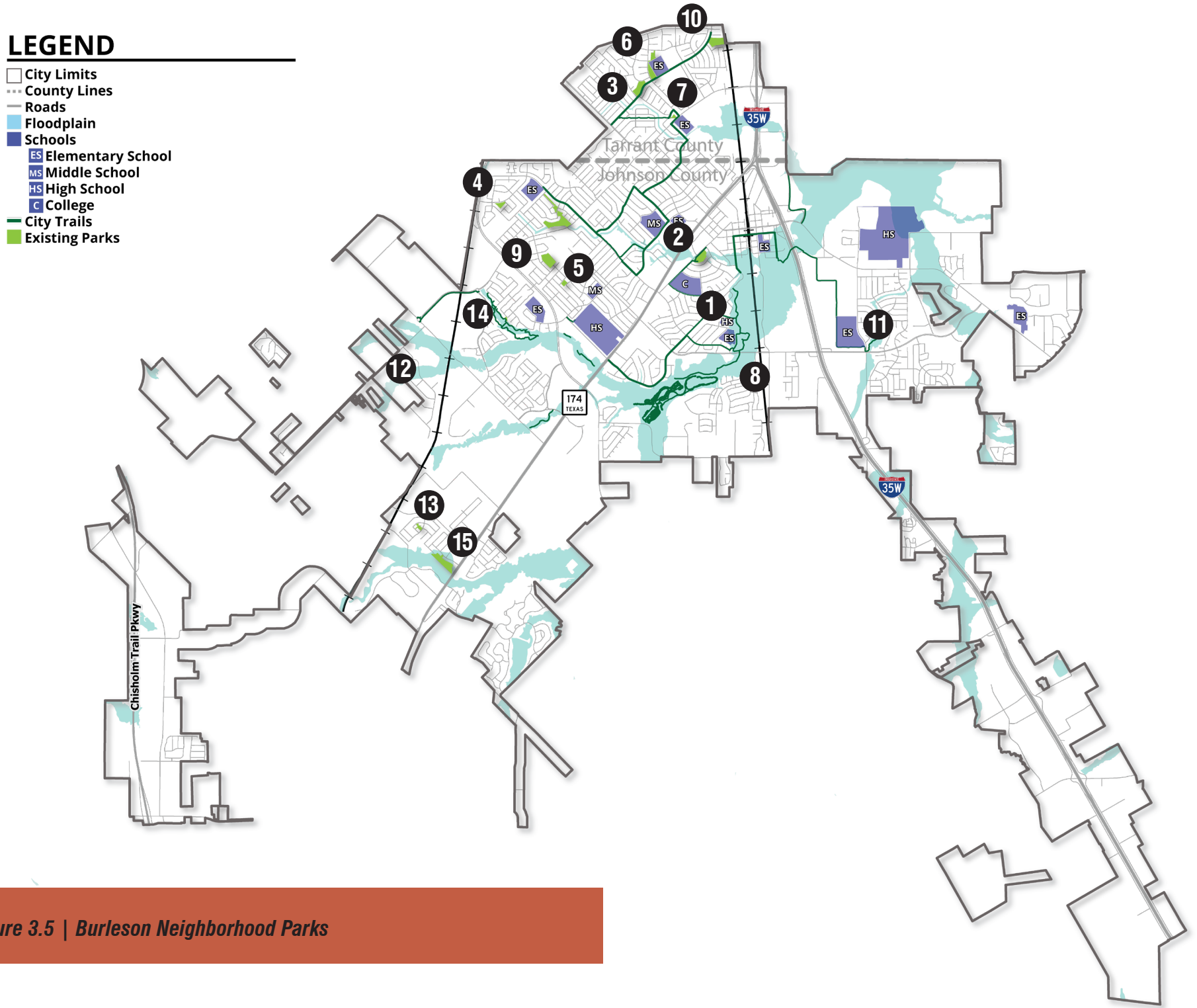


Figure 3.5 | Burleson Neighborhood Parks

Mini Park

Mini Parks are small public parks designed to fill gaps in park coverage. Mini Parks are frequently created on small, irregular pieces of land, in vacant building lots, along the centers of broad avenues, or even in parking spots. These parks typically feature passive amenities, such as seating, and are ideal for signage or beautification efforts. Mini Parks generally do not include restrooms or parking lots. **Figure 3.6** provides a detailed breakdown of Mini Park acreage in Burleson.

- **Size:** 0-3 acres
- **Service Area:** 0-0.5 mile

Figure 3.6 | Inventory of Mini Parks

Park #	Mini Park Name	Acreage
16	Cedar Ridge Park	2.2
17	Cindy Park	0.6
18	Clark Park	0.3
	Total Acreage	**3.1**

Cindy Park

Clark Park

Sources: City of Burleson

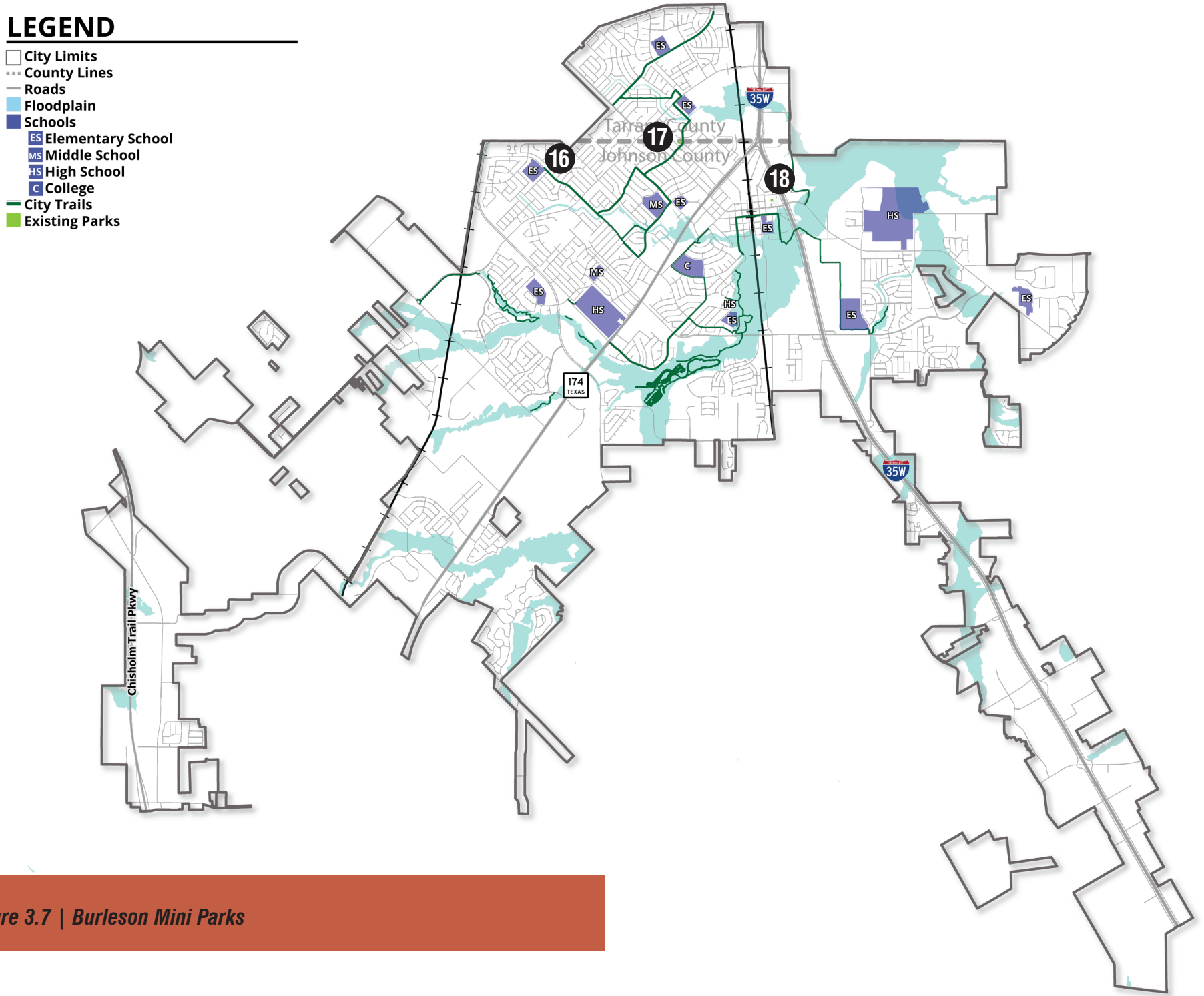


Figure 3.7 | Burleson Mini Parks

Special Use Park

Special Use Parks generally have dedicated and unique uses such as a sports fields, historical sites, skate parks, or bike parks. There is approximately 452.8 acres of special-use parkland in Burleson today. **Figure 3.8** outlines the acreage breakdown of special-use parks. The Burleson Memorial Cemetery is not included in the overall parks list, but is maintained and managed by the Parks and Recreations Department. The cemetery is 9.7 acres with 37.7 R.O.W. acres and 82.7 drainage acres.

- **Size:** Varies
- **Service Area:** City-Wide

Hidden Creek Sports Complex

Russell Farm Art Center

Sources: City of Burleson

Figure 3.8 | Inventory of Open Space & Undeveloped Parkland

Park #	Special Use Park Name	Acreage
19	Bartlett Park and Splash Pad	34.5
20	Burleson Bark Park	3.5
21	Chisenhall Sports Complex	172.9
22	Fire Station 16 Memorial Garden	0.5
23	Hidden Creek Golf Course	194.4
24	Hidden Creek Sports Complex	17.5
25	Russell Farm Art Center	29.3
26	Veterans Memorial Plaza	0.2
	Total Acreage	**452.8**

Burleson Bark Park

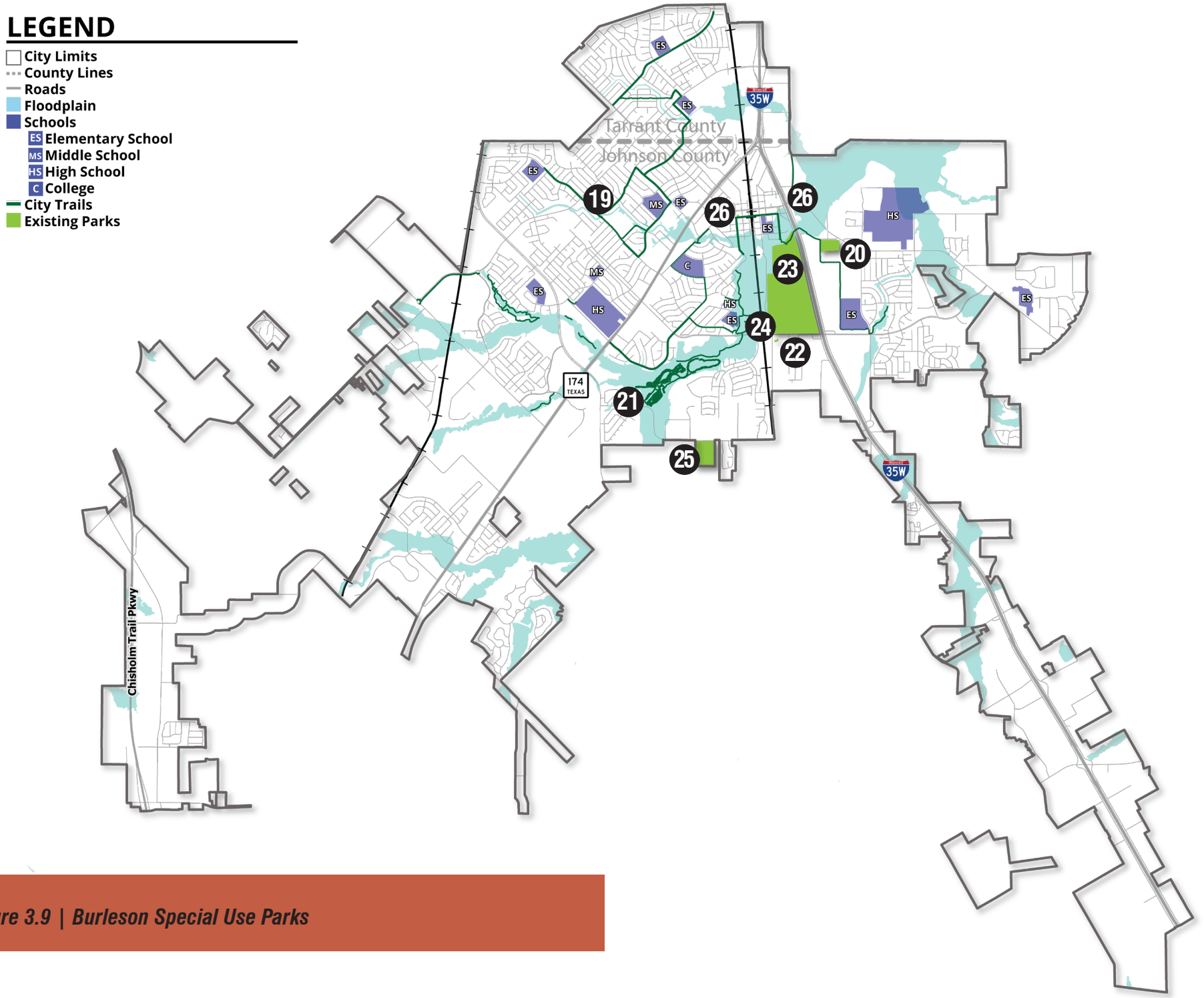


Figure 3.9 | Burleson Special Use Parks

Open Space & Undeveloped Parkland

Burleson currently has three undeveloped parks, but those parks are currently under design, completed design and commencing construction. Shannon Creek Park, Wakefield Heights Park and the community park located at Alsbury and Hulen. Open Spaces are generally non-programmed, natural areas that preserve the environment while providing public access to features like: creeks, lake shores, forests and other natural landscapes. The Community Park at the corner of Alsbury and Hulen is under current development, which will be around 55 acres in total.

These spaces typically offer minimal amenities, emphasizing conservation and passive recreation. **Figure 3.10** provides a breakdown of undeveloped parkland acreage in Burleson as of 2024.

Shannon Creek Nature Park

Sources: City of Burleson

Figure 3.10 | Inventory of Open Space & Undeveloped Parkland

Park #	Open Space & Undeveloped Parkland Name	Acreage
27	Cedar Ridge Park - East	10.2
28	Prairie Timber Park - East	11.2
29	Oak Valley Park - South	6.0
30	Shannon Creek Park	14.8
31	Wakefield Heights Park - Open Space	42.9
32	Community Park	55
	Total Acreage	**140.1**

Wakefield Heights Park - Open Space

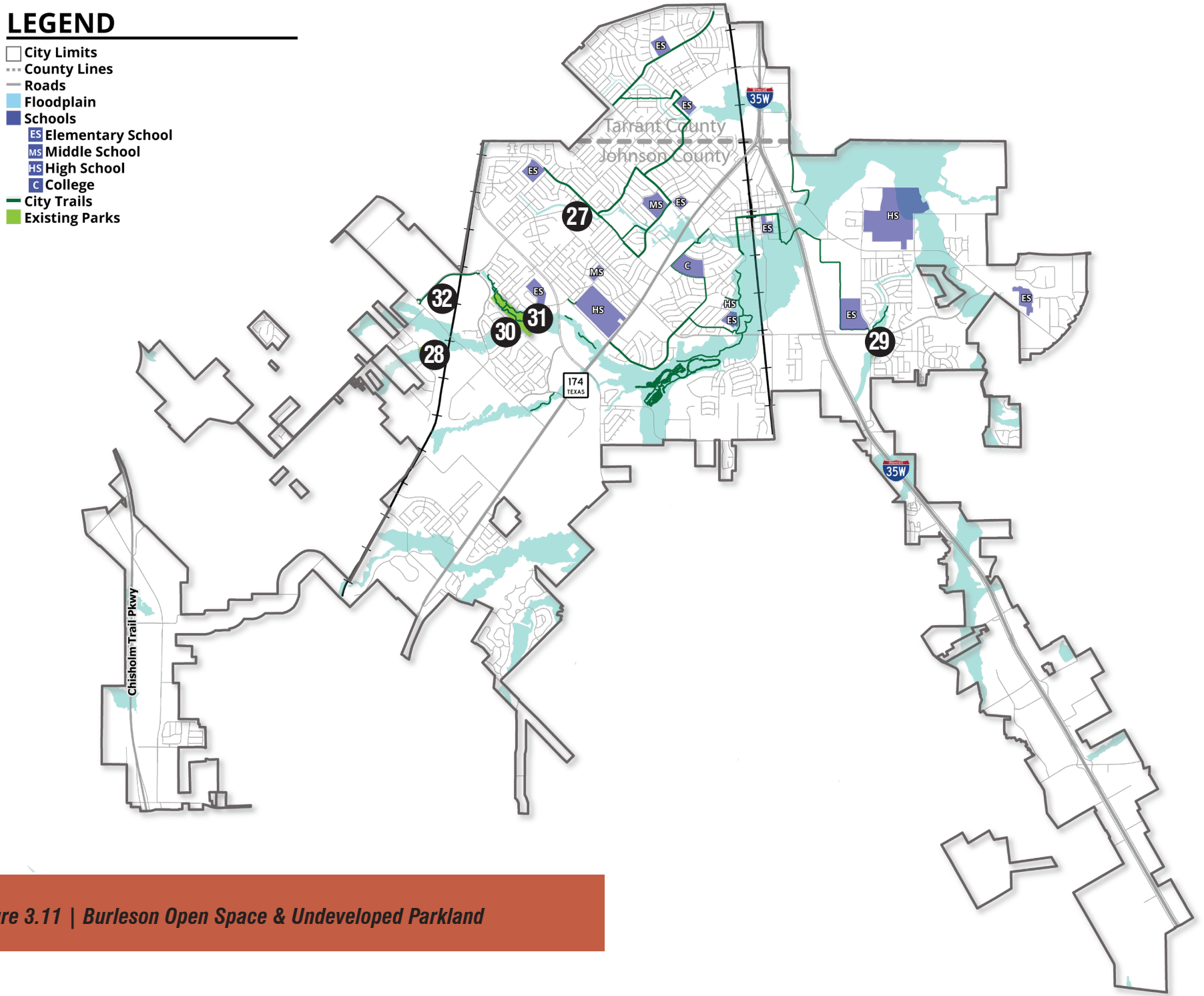


Figure 3.11 | Burleson Open Space & Undeveloped Parkland

System Recommendations and Opportunities

This section provides an analytical framework for identifying the facilities and amenities most desired by Burleson residents. The Needs Assessment offers recommendations for park system improvements, prioritizing them based on a combination of quantitative and qualitative data. A three-part approach is used to evaluate both current and future park needs in Burleson.

- **Standards Based.** The Standards Based Approach compares current and projected population figures to the city's park acreage. It also maps park access and distribution across the city to identify gaps in park coverage. Comparisons are made against national standards set by the National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA).
- **Demand Based.** The Demand Based Approach analyzes public input and facility use statics to determine what facilities are most utilized and desired by residents. Data used for this analysis was gathered through online surveys, public meetings, focus groups, and an assessment of facility usage data.
- **Resource Based.** The Resource Based Approach evaluates existing amenities and identifies potential locations for future amenities. These opportunities typically include creating additional preserves for natural systems, taking advantage of underused land in floodplains, collaborating with schools and other local entities to identify parkland for possible multi-use agreements, re-purposing vacant open spaces, and identifying future development areas.

Chisenhall Fields

Elk Ridge Park

Sources: City of Burleson

Standards Based Approach

Park Acreage Level of Service

Acreage Level of Service (LOS) is shown as a per-capita figure such as "10 acres per 1,000 population." The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) has developed standards for park acreage LOS and based on these national standards a target LOS (TLOS) was developed for the City of Burleson. **Figure 3.13** shows the NRPA standards for neighborhood parks, community parks, and the overall park system.

Today Burleson has 14.1 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents. Based on the 2025 population and the NRPA standard of 10.2 acres per 1,000 residents, Burleson has 214.6 acreage surplus. However, the population is projected to grow to 125,527 by 2053. If Burleson did not add any parkland to the current park system, the city would have a deficit of 98.6 acres. So while the current park system meets the standards set by NRPA, as the population grows the city will need to acquire additional land.

Benchmarking Communities

The communities displayed in the LOS analysis help identify where the park system in Burleson match up in the region. While every park system and city has its own unique set of characteristics and needs, a standards based assessment and identifying similar communities help create a benchmark for future goals. The identified benchmarking communities were identified by the City.

Grapevine Existing Level of Service
29.11 Acres per 1,000 Residents

Euless Existing Level of Service
6.18 Acres per 1,000 Residents

Mansfield Existing Level of Service
13.66 Acres per 1,000 Residents

Figure 3.12 | Burleson Existing and Future Parkland Level of Service

Burleson Existing and Future Parkland Level of Service					
Year	Population	Park Acreage	NRPA Standard	Existing LOS	Gap
2025	55,144	777.06	**10.2 acres** per 1,000 residents	**14.1 acres** per 1,000 residents	214.6 acre surplus
2053	125,527	777.06	**7 acres** per 1,000 residents	**6.2 acres** per 1,000 residents	98.6 acre deficit

Willow Creek Park

Source: City of Burleson

Park Service Area

The NRPA also established a general service area for different park typologies. The typical service area for different types of parks is shown in **Figure 3.13. Figure 3.14** uses radii to determine the existing service area for Burleson based on the standard radius displayed in **Figure 3.14**. For the purpose of this analysis only community parks, neighborhood parks, mini parks and special use parks service radius were measured. Open space and undeveloped parkland service area is varied based on the size of the park.

Trust for Public Land (TPL) is a national nonprofit organization dedicated to creating parks and protecting land for people to enjoy, ensuring healthy, livable communities for generations to come. It collaborates with communities to ensure that everyone has access to the benefits of nature, focusing on equitable park access, climate resilience, and community engagement. The ParkScore® index is a comprehensive analysis developed by TPL that evaluates the quality and accessibility of parks across the United States. This tool helps guide local efforts to improve park systems, ensuring that green spaces are available and beneficial to all community members.

Based on the Trust for public land park score analysis, 65% of Burleson residents live within a 10-minute walk. The median park score for American cities is 55%. Looking at areas of the city under served by parks, these gaps are primarily located in the southern and eastern parts of the city. Shannon Creek and the new Community Park to be developed are examples aiming to minimize these gaps and expand park access. **Figure 3.14** displays TPL's service area analysis for Burleson.

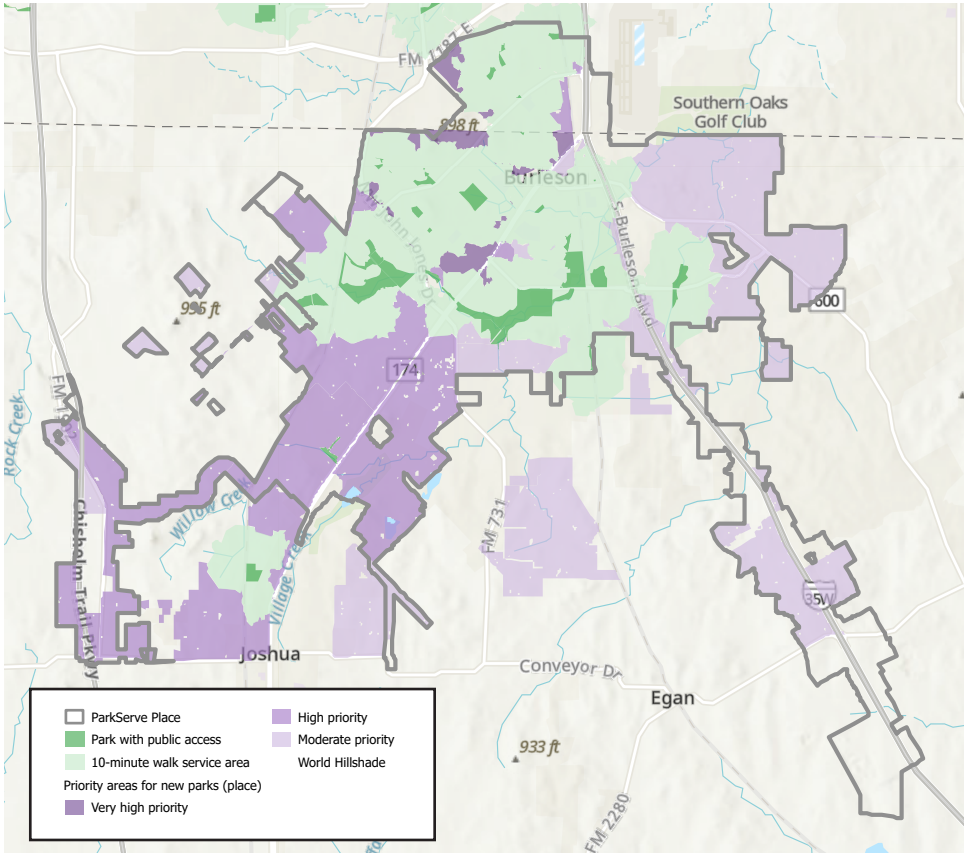
Prairie Timber Park

Source: City of Burleson

Figure 3.13 | Service Area by Park Type

Park Type	Standard Radius
Community Parks	1 Mile
Neighborhood Parks	1/2 Mile
Mini Parks	1/4 Mile
Special Use Parks	1/2 Mile
Open Space/Undeveloped Parkland	Variable

*Figure 3.14 | Trust for Public Land Service Area Map**



**The data above is based on the inventory Trust for Public Land(TPL) had in their data base. The map does not capture all of the parks in Burleson*

Bartlett Park Playground

Source: City of Burleson

Resource Based Assessment

The resource based assessment examines the existing resources in Burleson. These resources can be utilized by the City to identify future parks, recreation, and open space amenities. The park service map on page 40 shows the areas of the City that are currently in a 10-minute walk to a park. The city can examine the current gaps in the park system to identify where future parks might go. Prioritizing parks in the gaps can help increase overall accessibility and connectivity in Burleson's park system. The City of Burleson's resources with the greatest potential for new parks spaces include:

- City-Owned Land
- Undeveloped Land
- Natural Features
- Future Land Use Map Growth Areas

City Owned Land

The City of Burleson owns a significant amount of land, some in ideal locations for future park development. Further analysis of these areas may reveal the feasibility of transforming these sites into pocket parks, thereby extending park services further into residential neighborhoods.

Undeveloped Land

Burleson's city limits encompass a significant amount of undeveloped land that could be transformed into new park spaces. Much of this land is situated in areas lacking park services, particularly in the eastern part of the city. By strategically acquiring and developing these areas, Burleson can create a more comprehensive and interconnected system of parks, recreation, and open spaces.

Natural Features

Currently Burleson does a great job at designing with the natural landscape of the City and has built trails along the existing floodplain. Preserving these natural features within the park system will provide opportunities for passive recreation, education, flood management, and maintaining connections between existing park assets.

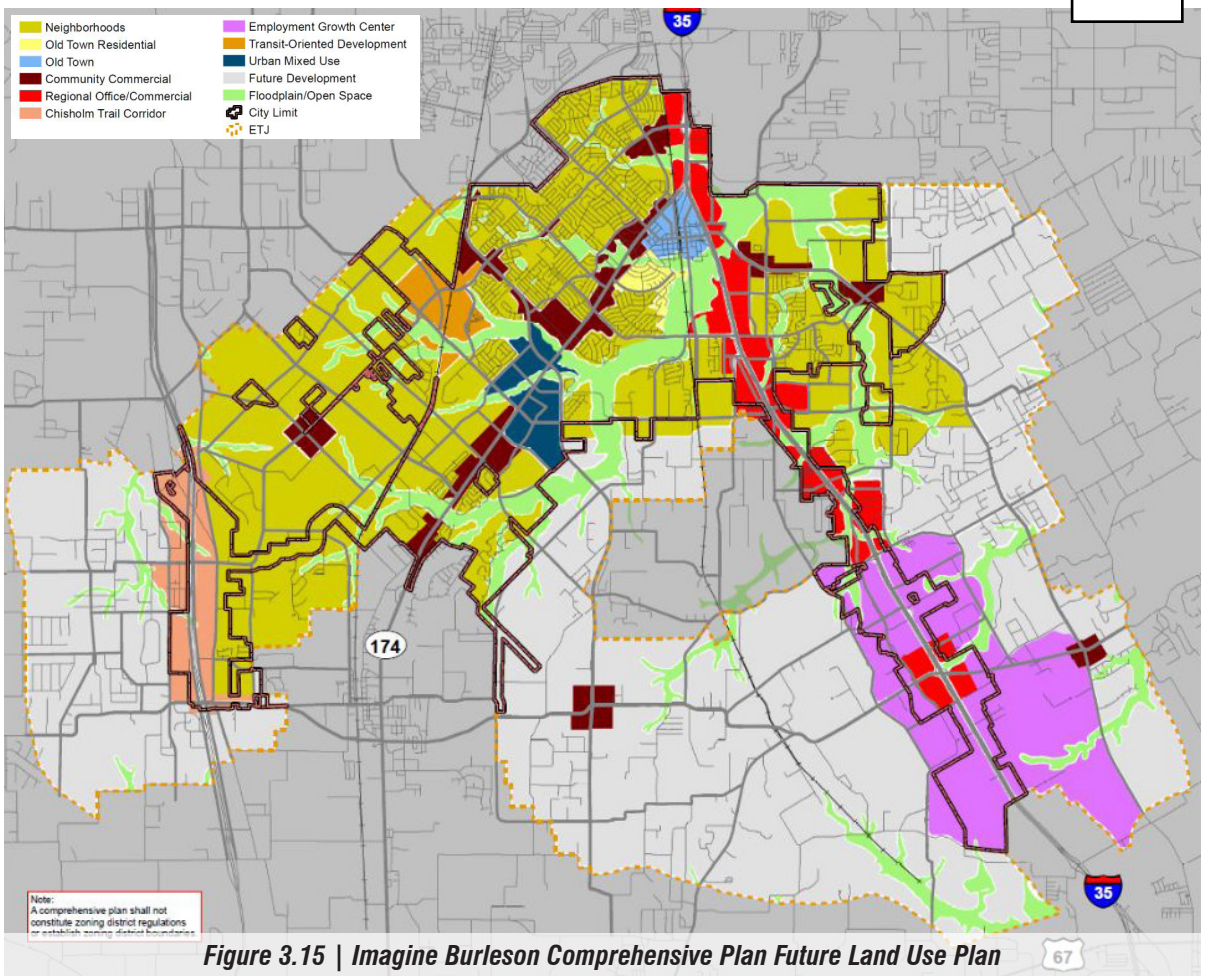


Figure 3.15 | Imagine Burleson Comprehensive Plan Future Land Use Plan

Source: City of Burleson

Future Land Use Map Growth Areas

The Future Land Use Map in the Imagine Burleson Comprehensive Plan outlines future development and growth for the City. **Figure 3.15** displays the Future Land Use Map. The yellow displays where future residential areas are expected to develop. Planning for future parks in these areas can ensure that future residents have access to parks. The Chisholm Trail corridor the transit-oriented development areas should also capture park amenities to meet the demands as the population grows.

Bailey Lake Dredging and Public Education

Source: City of Burleson

Action Items and Goal 1

Through the needs assessment and community engagement process, a series of actions have been identified. Survey data and citizen input highlighted several ways to enhance the park system and expand its offerings in line with the City's growth. These themes are integrated into the action plan as detailed strategies in Chapter 7.

Elevate Park Quality

Action Item 1.1
Develop parkland in areas currently under served.

The Park Service map on page 40 displays where there are gaps in the current park system. Developing parks in under served areas currently outside the existing service area can significantly enhance overall community connectivity. These new parks will act as vital links, creating a network of green spaces that facilitate easier access to recreational facilities for all residents. Improved connectivity encourages more active lifestyles, supports mental well-being, and fosters social interaction among community members. Additionally, strategically placed parks can help bridge gaps in service, ensuring equitable access to recreational opportunities, promoting environmental stewardship, and potentially increasing property values in surrounding neighborhoods. By addressing these under served areas and coordinating with internal departments for capital planning and budgeting, the community can enjoy a more cohesive and vibrant park system.

Action Item 1.2
Actively plan and coordinate with the County for the acquisition and development of parks and open space in ETJ areas of the City.

Burleson's extraterritorial jurisdiction (ETJ) currently encompasses approximately 29,258.68 acres. This is a combination of residential lots, retail space, elementary school and open field/land. These areas could eventually be annexed into the City and thus subject to all city development regulations. As part of long-term planning, the City should identify potential parkland opportunities within the ETJ. The Future Land Use Map created for the Imagine Burleson Comprehensive Plan, displayed on page 64, shows where future development could occur. As the plan progresses, coordination on how to preserve land for parks and open should be considered.

Wakefield Heights Park

Source: City of Burleson

Action Item 1.3

Routinely review and update the parkland dedication ordinance to ensure that it reflects the true cost of acquiring and developing parks and ensure maintenance and operations increase with development.

Burleson has a parkland dedication ordinance mandating that developers either allocate a portion of their development for parkland or pay a fee instead. This fee is then used for the development of new parks. This ordinance is essential for ensuring that new developments contribute to the city's growth. To maintain its effectiveness, the parkland dedication ordinance was reviewed and updated as part of this process to reflect the true costs of land acquisition and park development. **Figure 3.16**, located below, illustrates an example of this ordinance, which was adopted in 2022.

Figure 3.16 | Parkland Dedication Ordinance

EXHIBIT A

ARTICLE 8. - PARK AND RECREATION DEVELOPMENT

The purpose of the park land dedication and development requirements is to provide recreational areas in the form of city or private parks in conjunction with subdivision development. Each residential development, including multi-family developments, containing four or more residential units shall dedicate a portion of the land and construct facilities, or pay cash in lieu of dedication and construction.

Sec. 8.1 - Parkland dedication policy.

(a) ***Parkland site selection requirements.***

(1) Land proposed for dedication under this policy shall be suitable for parks, linear destination trails and recreational uses, as determined by the director of parks and recreation.

(2) Park locations shall generally comply with the parks and trails master plan.

(3) In selecting a site for a park, the director of parks and recreation will avoid an accumulation of non-contiguous parcels of land or an accumulation of land unsuitable for park purposes.

(4) Park sites will be accepted on the basis of obtaining natural, park-like settings, where available, and will consist of diverse topography and open space suitable for the development of recreational facilities.

(5) Park sites shall be located, whenever possible, contiguous to school sites and other public or nonprofit agency sites in order to make maximum use of common public facilities and grounds.

(6) Careful consideration shall be given to the need for development of linear parks and trails around natural creeks and wooded areas. When development occurs near a floodway that is designated by either the parks and trails master plan or the director of parks and recreation, the developer is required to construct that portion of the trail that occurs within his/her development. The developer will construct the trail in accordance with park and recreation design criteria. The cost for the trail's development will be borne by the developer and will be credited toward the developer's infrastructure requirement.

(7) At least 50 percent of the required dedicated parkland should have slopes in the two percent to five percent range and should be well-drained.

(8) Floodplain and floodway areas, as designated on the flood insurance rate map (FIRM) should not exceed 50 percent of the total park dedication.

With every park development, maintenance and operations should increase and be accounted for. Expanding the use of technology to improve maintenance efficiency and utilizing off-season months to complete proactive replacements and larger renovation projects are strategies for the City to continue its maintenance program. The Parks department is dedicated to prioritizing safety improvements throughout the existing parks to promote a level of comfort amongst the community and visitors.

Action Item 1.4

Increase the percentage of residents that are within a 10-minute walk to a park to 75% by 2040.

Currently, 65 percent of Burleson's residents live within a 10-minute walk of a park. To increase this percentage to 75 percent as the city grows, Burleson will need to strategically develop new parks and enhance existing ones, particularly in under served areas. This can involve acquiring and developing vacant land, re-purposing underutilized spaces, and creating green corridors that connect neighborhoods to parks.

Integrating parks into new residential developments and prioritizing accessibility in urban planning will also be crucial. However, achieving this goal will be challenging as the population grows, requiring careful coordination of resources, community engagement, and long-term planning to ensure that new and existing residents have equitable access to recreational spaces.

Centennial Park Playground

Source: City of Burleson

Action Item 1.5
Conduct specific park master plans for several parks in Burleson.

During the planning process the project team conducted park visits to assess the existing conditions of parks in Burleson. The following parks will need additional considerations to create specific master plans:

- Cedar Ridge Park East
- Chisenhall Sports Complex
- Oak Valley Park South
- Prairie Timber Park - East
- Warren Park
- Wakefield Heights Park - Open Space

Initial planning and research, needs assessment, community engagement, stakeholder engagement, concept development, and an implementation plan are key steps to creating park specific master plans for the city to update and improve over the years.

Action Item 1.6
Pursue funding from Texas Parks and Wildlife Department for future amenities.

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) provides various grant funding opportunities for indoor and outdoor recreation projects. These funds can be utilized to upgrade existing facilities or add new amenities, such as playgrounds, pavilions, trails, and sports fields. Keeping in mind the TPWD core values of Excellence, Integrity, Service, Stewardship, and Teamwork, Burleson can pursue several grant opportunities. Following TPWD's guidance for master plans, a high-priority needs list was developed based on the results of the needs assessment and public input. When Burleson applies for future grant funding, the amenities below should take priority:

- Indoor recreation center addition or expansion
- Continue playground upgrades and improvements including inclusive, sensory, and accessibility elements
- Shade
- Seating
- Park additions with land acquisition to increase the availability of parks to all residents
- Restroom facilities
- Preserving natural areas, incorporating native, adaptive plant material within parks and utilizing green infrastructure practices

Chisenhall Sports Complex

16th Annual NCS DFW World Series at Chisenhall Field

Source: City of Burleson

High Priority Needs

Outdoor Facilities

To encourage greater use of existing parks and actively promote the needs of the community, focus should be centered on accessibility and overall access to parks, walkability to and from amenities, and the key identification of areas to include future park development. Early planning in the location and type of outdoor facilities for the city and its residents will be a necessary task. Programming underserved areas with open space and park systems would allow for a higher level of service (LOS) throughout the city and provide strategic development to uplift nearby communities. Each neighborhood should have equitable access to a nearby park or adjacent program, whether a neighborhood park, sports fields, walking trails, etc.

Policies

High-priority policies should focus on community engagement, accessibility, sustainability, funding opportunities, and addressing the needs of under-served communities. Enhancing accessibility by implementing ADA-compliant pathways and facilities will make parks inclusive for all residents. Targeted initiatives and public outreach, such as outreach and collaboration with community organizations, can ensure under served, local communities' voices are heard and their needs are met. The city has been actively implementing these policies to enhance community engagement and inclusivity. Exploring diverse funding opportunities such as seeking grants from federal and state programs, partnering with local businesses and non-profits, and considering public-private partnerships. Additionally, implementing sustainable practices, such as promoting local trail systems and encouraging eco-friendly infrastructure, will promote environmental stewardship and potentially attract green funding sources. The city of Burleson has been working to implement these policies and actions and plans to continue to do so through future park updates.

Centennial Park

Source: City of Burleson

Action Item 1.7
Incorporate all-inclusive play structures into playgrounds strategically.

All-inclusive parks are recreational areas designed to be accessible and enjoyable for people of all ages and abilities, including those with physical, sensory, and cognitive disabilities. These parks feature equipment and facilities that accommodate a wide range of needs, such as wheelchair-accessible playgrounds, sensory gardens, and quiet areas for individuals who may be overwhelmed by noise and activity. The goal of all-inclusive parks is to create environments where everyone can participate in recreational activities, fostering inclusivity and social integration within the community.

Inclusive playgrounds typically consist of these key components:

- **Sensory-rich details:** The playground should incorporate activities engaging the different sensory systems.
- **Zones:** Locating similar equipment types in the same area promotes engagement between kids of diverse skills and abilities. These areas can be identified through orientation pathways, which guide visitors to different play areas. For instance, including a quiet zone provides a space for children to retreat when they become overstimulated by noise or activity.
- **Social play:** Inclusive playgrounds should offer play events that stimulate the imagination, along with parallel and cooperative play. Cooperative play involves working together to play a game. Parallel play involves kids playing adjacent to each other without interrupting the other.
- **Multiple levels of challenge:** You can incorporate activities with challenge levels that gradually increase. This promotes active engagement for all ages and abilities on the playground.
- **Routes and maneuverability:** Be sure to widen travel routes through and around the playground. This allows people using wheelchairs to pass, get close to activities and transfer onto equipment.
- **Unitary surfacing:** Protective playground surfacing creates a shock-absorbing surface for visitors. Unitary surfacing is more suitable for inclusive parks, as it helps people with wheelchairs pass each other, turn and get to the activities more seamlessly. Unitary surfacing makes it easier for strollers and wheelchairs to enter and navigate the playground.

Park Trends: Inclusive Playgrounds

One in four adults has a disability, as do 17% of children aged 3-17. The rise of all-inclusive playgrounds in parks reflects a growing recognition of the need for recreational spaces that cater to children of all abilities. Traditional playgrounds often present barriers to children with disabilities, limiting their ability to participate fully in play activities. All-inclusive playgrounds are designed with features that accommodate a wide range of physical, sensory, and cognitive needs.

Centennial Park is an inclusive playground within the City of Burleson, designed for children ages 2 to 12 of all abilities to play together. It features a range of movement, climbing, tactile, visual, and auditory play equipment. The impact of these parks provide opportunities for physical activity, social interaction, and community engagement for individuals who might otherwise face barriers to participation.

Source: https://playworld.com/blog/the-importance-of-inclusive-playgrounds/#gref

Cedar Ridge Park - Communication Board

Source: City of Burleson

Action Item 1.8
Improve wayfinding signage within existing parks to locate amenities.

Improving wayfinding signage within existing parks to help visitors locate amenities is essential for enhancing the user experience and ensuring that all park features are easily accessible.

Strategies to effectively improve wayfinding signage in parks:

- **Needs Assessment:** Continue to evaluate current signage and identify gaps where visitors have difficulty finding amenities. Gather feedback from park users to understand their experience and update the current needs assessment as needed.
- **Signage Plan Development:** Create a comprehensive signage plan that includes consistent design elements, clear language, and logical placement. Ensure the plan covers all key areas, including entrances, trails, playgrounds, sports facilities, restrooms, picnic areas, parking lots, and other amenities.
- **Use Clear and Consistent Design:** Employ easy-to-read fonts, high-contrast colors, and universally recognizable symbols (such as icons for restrooms, drinking fountains, and trails). Maintain consistent design standards across all signs to create a cohesive look and feel throughout the park.
- **Strategic Placement:** Place signage at key decision points such as park entrances, intersections of trails, and near amenities. Ensure signs are visible and unobstructed by vegetation or other park features.
- **Incorporate Maps:** Install large, easy-to-read maps at major entrances and central locations within the park. Include "You Are Here" markers on maps to help visitors orient themselves. With advancements in technology, providing digital maps accessible via QR codes for visitors is a great resource for all ages.
- **Directional Signage:** Use directional arrows and distances to guide visitors to various amenities like restrooms, picnic areas, playgrounds, and specific trails. Include wayfinding information at regular intervals to reassure visitors they are on the right path.
- **Informational and Interpretive Signage:** Include informative signs that provide context about the park's history, natural features, and wildlife. Ensure interpretive signs enhance the educational value and visitor experience.
- **Accessibility Considerations:** Design signage to be inclusive, incorporating features such as braille for visually impaired visitors and clear pathways to ensure accessibility for individuals with mobility challenges. Highlight accessible routes and amenities on maps and directional signs.
- **Regular Maintenance and Updates:** Keep signage maintained, updated, clean, and free from damage or vandalism.
- **Digital Integration:** Leverage technology by providing a park app or interactive digital displays that offer real-time navigation and information about park events and amenities.

Scott Street Trailhead, Oak Valley Trail

Source: City of Burleson

Action Item 1.9
Identify ADA accessibility issues within existing parks and develop a plan to address them.

Ensuring that parks are accessible to all, including individuals with disabilities, is not only a legal requirement under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) but also a vital aspect of creating inclusive, welcoming public spaces.

Step 1: Conduct an Audit
Assemble a team including park staff, the city's city-wide ADA committee, accessibility experts, and individuals with disabilities to perform a thorough on-site inspection of all park areas including entrances, paths, restrooms, playgrounds, recreational facilities, picnic areas, signage, and parking lots. Utilize accessibility checklists to confirm and evaluate current conditions and state of amenities.

Step 2: Analyze Findings and Prioritize Issues
Record all identified accessibility barriers and non-compliant elements, using photographs and detailed notes. Engage with individuals with disabilities and advocacy groups to understand their specific needs and priorities. Categorize issues based on their impact on accessibility and the number of people affected. High-priority areas typically include pathways, restrooms, entrances, and key amenities.

Step 3: Develop and implement ADA compliance plan
Define clear goals for making the park fully accessible, aligning with ADA standards. Create a detailed action plan that outlines:

- Specific modifications needed for each identified issue.
- Resources required, including cost estimates, materials, and labor.
- A timeline for completing each modification.
- Responsible parties for implementation.

Identify funding sources such as municipal budgets, grants, donations, and public-private partnerships to assist with the necessary improvements. If resources are limited, implement the plan in phases, starting with the highest-priority issues. Engage qualified contractors, architects, and landscape professionals with experience in ADA compliance to perform the necessary modifications.

Step 4: Monitor and Maintain Accessibility
Regularly inspect the park to ensure that all modifications remain in good condition and that any new barriers are promptly addressed. Create a feedback mechanism for park users to report accessibility issues and suggest improvements. Educate park staff and volunteers about ADA requirements and best practices for maintaining accessibility.

By systematically identifying and addressing ADA accessibility issues within parks, cities can create more inclusive and enjoyable public spaces for everyone. A detailed and prioritized plan, coupled with ongoing commitment to maintenance and improvements, will ensure all community members have equal access to the park's amenities and natural beauty. This dedication to inclusivity reflects the city's core values of sharing and caring, ultimately enhancing the

Source: City of Burleson

Action Item 1.10
Implement low-impact design and maintenance strategies.

Low-impact design and maintenance strategies aim to minimize the environmental footprint of parks while enhancing their sustainability and resilience. These strategies focus on preserving natural landscapes, managing stormwater, reducing resource use, and promoting biodiversity.

Low-impact Design Strategies:

- **Native Plants:** Utilize native plants and trees in landscaping to reduce the need for water, fertilizers, and pesticides. Native species are better adapted to local climate and soil conditions. Replace traditional lawns with wildflower meadows to support pollinators, enhance biodiversity, and reduce mowing requirements.
- **Mulch:** Apply mulch around plants and trees to retain moisture, suppress weeds, and improve soil structure.
- **Solar Lighting:** Install solar-powered lighting for pathways, parking lots, and public spaces to reduce energy consumption and reliance on the grid.
- **Efficient Buildings:** Design park buildings with energy-efficient systems, such as LED lighting, high-performance insulation, and energy-efficient HVAC systems.

Low-impact Maintenance Strategies:

- **Smart Irrigation:** Use smart irrigation systems that adjust watering schedules based on weather conditions and soil moisture levels to minimize water use. Implement drip irrigation for landscaped areas to deliver water directly to plant roots, reducing evaporation and runoff.
- **Integrated Pest Management (IPM):** Employ IPM techniques to manage pests using environmentally friendly methods such as biological controls, cultural practices, and mechanical removal.
- **Reduced Mowing:** Reduce mowing frequency by allowing certain areas to grow naturally or converting them to wildflower meadows.
- **Recycling:** Provide recycling bins throughout the park to encourage waste diversion and reduce landfill impact.
- **Sustainable Materials:** Use recycled and sustainably sourced materials for park infrastructure and maintenance supplies.
- **Wildlife Corridors:** Create and maintain corridors that connect different habitats, allowing wildlife to move safely across the park.
- **Nest Boxes and Habitats:** Install bird and bat boxes, insect hotels, and hibernacula to support local wildlife populations.

Assess, plan, train, educate, monitor and adapt are all methods the community and City staff can aim to enforce in order to implement low-impact results for the parks and recreation amenities in Burleson.

Action Item 1.11
Update structures or amenities with known safety issues

Ensuring the safety of park visitors and commitment to safety is a top priority for the city. Addressing and updating structures or amenities with known safety issues can prevent accidents and enhance the overall user experience.

Continue to implement routine inspections to systematically examine all park structures and amenities for safety issues. This includes playground equipment, benches, walkways, bridges, sports facilities, restrooms, lighting, and any other built infrastructure. Use detailed checklists that adhere to safety standards and guidelines relevant to each type of structure or facility. Collect safety reports from park staff, maintenance crews, and visitors on a regular basis.

Categorize identified issues based on severity and potential risk to visitors. High-priority issues include any hazards that could cause injury, such as structural instability, slippery surfaces, or broken equipment. Develop a phased plan to address issues and hazards. Set an achievable timeline for repairs and upgrades and communicate those to the community. Establish clear safety standards in line with national and local regulations.

Implement repairs, replacements, upgrades to all amenities enforcing the health, safety and welfare of the community. Inform the public about ongoing and upcoming safety improvements through community meetings, social media, newsletters, and park websites. Develop and conduct safety awareness programs for park visitors, highlighting the importance of adhering to park rules and reporting safety concerns.

Regular communication with the community and ongoing maintenance will not only enhance safety but also build trust and encourage greater use of these valuable public spaces. This approach embodies the values of sharing and caring, ultimately contributing to a healthier, happier community.

Tinker Trail

Source: City of Burleson

TRAILS | 4

Source: City of Burleson

4 TRAILS

Introduction
Trails Inventory Summary
Trail Users
Trail Classifications
Action Items and Goal 2
Takeaways

Local community trails are vital to both the natural and economic environment. They help preserve key natural landscapes and habitats while providing spaces for residents to stay active and connect with nature. For some, trails offer alternative transportation options, enabling access to work and retail without the need for a vehicle.

This chapter begins by reviewing the different types of trails in Burleson and provides an inventory of the existing trail network. It then assesses the current conditions of the trails and concludes with an evaluation of opportunities for future trail development.

Trails Inventory Summary

There are 26.49 developed trail miles in Burleson. Of the total trail miles, 5.14 miles are classified as Shared Use Trails, 16.56 miles are classified as Side Paths, and approximately 10 miles are classified as Nature Trails.

LOS

Level of Service (LOS) is a method used to compare the miles of trails within a community to the total population compared to benchmark communities to determine if there are adequate number of trails to serve the community. It is important to note that the LOS calculation is based on quantity, not quality of the trails. A community with a lower population-per-trail mile equates to a higher LOS, and inversely, a community with a higher population-per-trail mile equates to a lower LOS.

According to the NRPA, the regional benchmark for community trails is 1 trail mile per 1,200 residents. The table below summarizes the LOS based on the existing and projected population for Burleson, Grapevine, Euless, and Mansfield.

Based on Burleson's 2025 population of 55,144 and its 26.49 miles of developed trails, the existing Level of Service (LOS) is 1 trail mile per 1,952 residents. This is below the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) national standard. To meet the current standard, Burleson would require an additional 16.6 miles of developed trails.

For the projected 2053 population of 125,527 residents, the LOS will decrease to 1 trail mile per 4,739 residents if no additional trails are developed. By that time, Burleson would face a deficit of 78.11 trail miles to meet NRPA standards.

Grapevine, Euless, and Mansfield were selected as comparison communities due to their population sizes being similar to Burleson's. Grapevine has 1,715 more residents than Burleson and 41.19 additional miles of developed trails. Euless has 4,048 more residents but 18.75 fewer miles of trails, while Mansfield has 24,180 more residents and 21.49 fewer miles of trails.

Grapevine's Level of Service (LOS) is 1 trail mile per 789 residents, resulting in a 23.16-mile surplus over NRPA standards. In contrast, Euless has an LOS of 1 trail mile per 7,204 residents, creating a 38.73-mile deficit from NRPA standards. Mansfield's LOS is 1 trail mile per 15,719 residents, leaving it 58.25 miles short of meeting NRPA standards.

Burleson Existing and Future Trails LOS				
Population	***Developed Trail Miles***	***NRPA Standards***	***Existing LOS***	***Gap***
55,144	26.49	1 trail mile per 1,200 residents	1 trail mile per 1,952 residents	16.6 mile deficit
125,527 (projected)	26.49	1 trail mile per 1,200 residents	1 trail mile per 4,739 residents	78.11 mile deficit
Grapevine Existiing Trails LOS				
52,346	67.68	1 trail mile per 1,200 residents	1 trail mile per 789 residents	23.16 mile surplus
Euless Existing Trails LOS				
51,601	7.74	1 trail mile per 1,200 residents	1 trail mile per 7,204 residents	38.73 mile deficit
Mansfield Existing Trails LOS				
89,227	5	1 trail mile per 1,200 residents	1 trail mile per 15,179 residents	58.25 mile deficit

Trail Users

Burleson's comprehensive trail network supports a variety of uses, catering to distinct segments of the community based on demographics, interests, and recreational needs. Identifying these user groups ensures that trail design and development address the diverse preferences of the community. User groups include families seeking safe, family-friendly paths, cyclists requiring smooth and well-connected routes, hikers exploring nature trails, nature enthusiasts enjoying scenic and wildlife-rich areas, and commuters using trails for alternative transportation. Understanding the unique expectations and requirements of these groups fosters a trail network that is inclusive, accessible, and engaging for all.

The following are common user groups that may utilize Burleson's trail system in varying capacities:

- **Walkers**
- **Joggers/Runners**
- **Children and Senior Bicyclists**
- **Basic Bicyclists**
- **Advances Bicyclists**

Bailey Lake Park Trail

Sources: City of Burleson

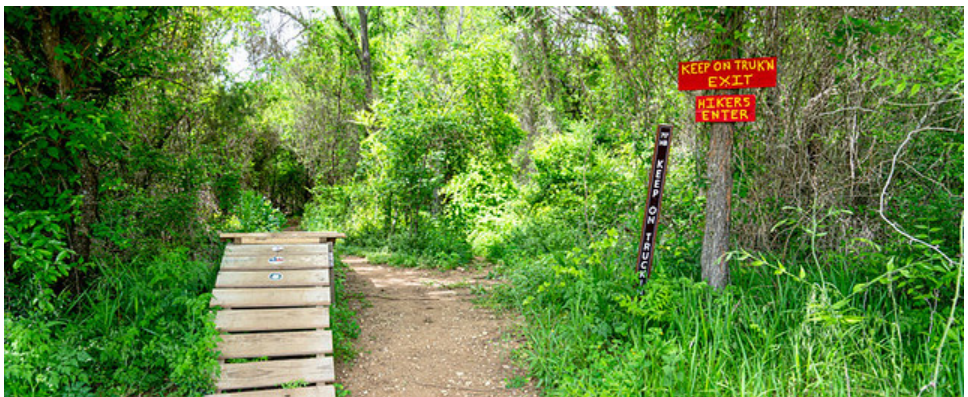
Walkers: This group includes pedestrians and those pushing strollers, often using trails for leisure. Walking is a popular recreational activity due to its accessibility and low cost. Therefore, it's important that trails connect neighborhoods and nearby destinations, offering a safe, enjoyable, and comfortable experience for walkers.

Joggers/Runners: Trails are also favored by joggers and runners seeking fitness, leisure, or sports activities. Multi-use trails with a width of 10-14 feet allow runners and joggers to pass walkers and slower users comfortably and provide ample space for group activities.

Children and Senior Bicyclists: Youth and seniors are the most vulnerable trail users, requiring easily navigable, accessible routes. When planning trails, it's crucial to create environments that are safe and comfortable for users of all ages, particularly at both ends of the age spectrum.

Basic Bicyclists: Recreational cyclists who prefer off-road bike trails and shared-use paths along roads make up this group. Less confident in riding alongside traffic, they often choose on-street biking within residential neighborhoods and parks.

Advanced Bicyclists: Experienced cyclists typically use bikes for transportation and feel comfortable riding alongside motor traffic. They favor dedicated bike lanes and bikeways and are often members of cycling groups or commuting riders. For the safety of all users, implementing speed control measures may be necessary when advanced riders share trails with slower users.



Chisenhall Hike/Bike Trails

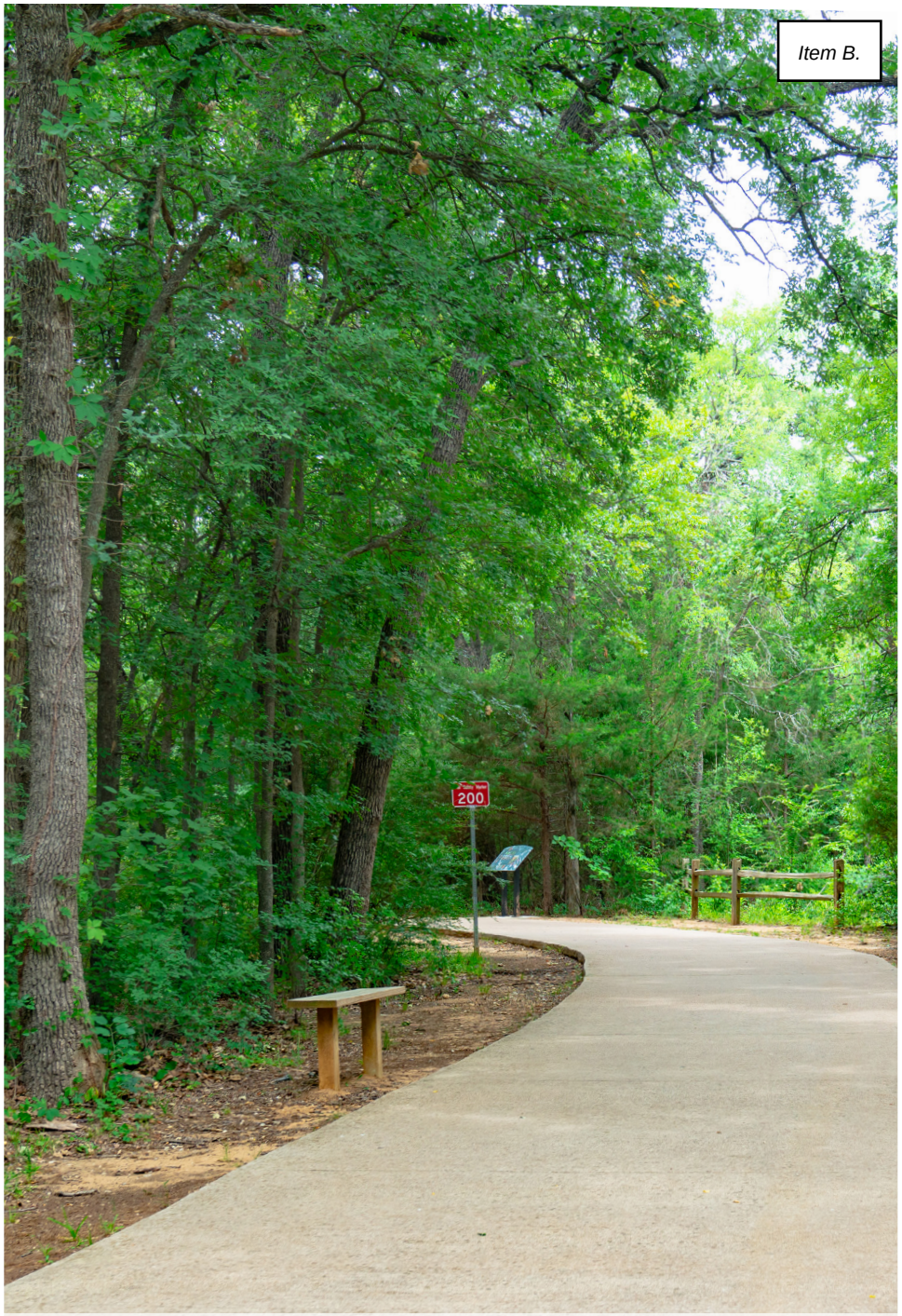
Trails Classifications

Similar to parks, trails can be classified to help the city allocate resources effectively based on their length and the amenities they offer. Currently, Burleson has three trail classifications:

- Community Trails
- On-street Bike Facilities
- Shared Use

Each trail classification has a standard length, typical amenities, and service area based on guidelines from the National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA). Service area refers to the usual driving distance individuals are willing to travel to visit each trail type. It is important to define trail typologies as part of a master plan process to determine if there are any deficiencies in a certain kind of trail and if a trail is missing amenities typical for its category. The following pages describe each trail type and inventory how many trails fall within each category.

Coyote Loop Family Trail



Oak Valley Park Trail

Sources: City of Burleson

Willow Creek Park Trail

Source: City of Burleson

Community Trails

Community trails are multi-use pathways designed to accommodate various types of non-motorized traffic, including pedestrians, cyclists, runners, and skaters. Community trails are in parks, natural areas, along utility easements or roadways. The minimum width for trails is recommended to be 12', however, 10' may be applicable in areas with existing ROW constraints. This is consistent with AASHTO and regional standards. For trails designated as part of the Regional Veloweb, the trail should be 12' to meet NCTCOG standards and provide a high level of comfort. These paths can be used for recreational uses or commuting when connecting to employment centers and schools. Community trails are broken into three categories for this plan:

- **Side Paths**
- **Shared Use Trails**
- **Park and Nature Trails**

The following tables outline the mile breakdown of the community trails.

Hidden Vistas Park

Source: City of Burleson

Side Paths are hard-surface pathways running parallel to a roadway and are primarily designed to accommodate cyclists and pedestrians. They are [illegible]d with amenities like signage and often provide enhanced crossings to promote safety. Side paths provide connectivity between neighborhoods and activity centers. The locations of these trails can be seen in **Figure 5.1.**

Trail #	Name/Location of Trail	Width	Miles
1	Summercrest	--	0.89
2	Summercrest	10'	0.49
3	McAlister	--	1.39
4	Thomas	--	0.54
5	Oak Valley South Trail	10'	0.09
6	Trail at Irene St. towards Arnold Ave.	--	0.48
7	Trail at Irene St. beginning at SW Harris St.	10'	1.25
8	Trail at SE Gardens Blvd. beginning at Irene St.	--	1.11
9	Trail at SW Rand Dr. from Summercrest Blvd.	--	1.07
10	Trail at NW Newton Dr. from SW Rand Dr.	--	0.24
11	Trail at SW Cindy Ln. from NW Newton Dr.	--	0.19
12	Trail at NW Douglas St. from SW Cindy Ln.	--	0.03
13	Trail at NE Alsbury Blvd. from NW Douglas St.	--	0.004
14	Trail at Tyler Ct.	--	0.684
15	Trail at SW Warren St. from W Ellison St.	--	1.55
16	Trail at W Ellison St. from SW Warren St.	--	0.73
17	Trail at S. Scott St. from W Ellison St.	--	3.63
18	Trail at Alsbury Blvd. to SW Hulen St. and Cander St. round-about	--	0.67
19	Trail at Gregory St. from Burleson Texas Gifts	9'	1.24
20	Trail from SE Garden Blvd. to Irene St.	10'	0.16
21	Trail at SW Johnson Blvd. to Warren Park	8-10'	0.12

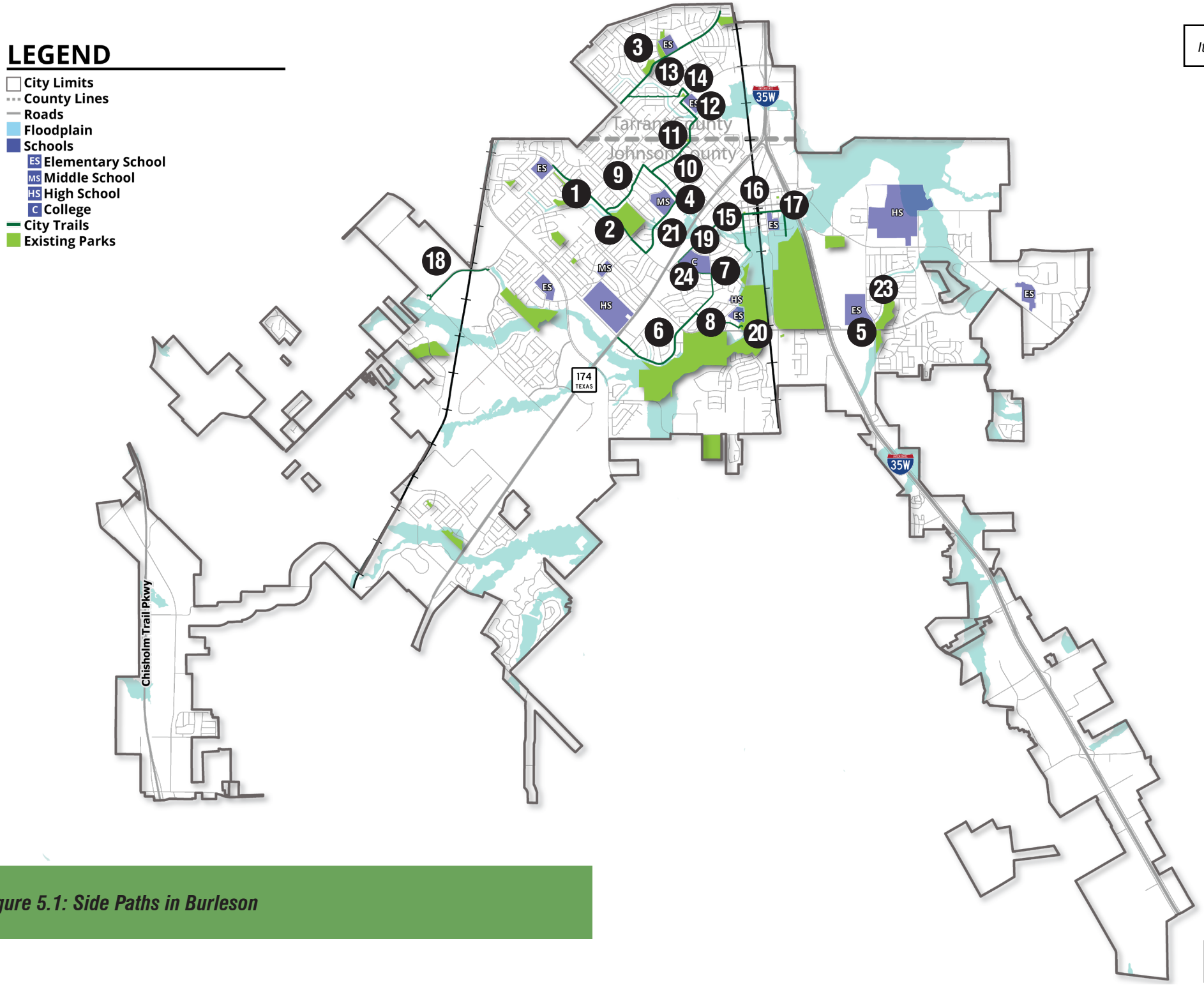


Figure 5.1: Side Paths in Burleson

Shared Use Trails are pathways often located within or parallel to streams, drainage corridors, utility easements, railways, and environmentally sensitive lands and typically designed to accommodate cyclists and pedestrians. They are equipped with amenities like signage, benches, and rest areas, mile markers, benches, drinking fountains. They promote recreational activities, commuting, and connectivity in the community. The locations of these trails can be seen in **Figure 5.2.**

Trail #	Name/Location of Trail	Width	Miles
22	Thomas	10’	0.12
23	Oak Valley Trail and Scott St. Trailhead	10’	1.87
24	Heberle	10’	0.40
25	Elk Dr	10’	0.01
26	Trail at intersection of NW Mcalister Rd and Trail	--	0.004
27	Village Creek	--	1.61
28	Bailey Lake to Tinker Trail	10’	0.08
29	Trail from Rigney Way to Hidden Creek Golf Course	--	0.40
30	Trail from Commons Dr to SW Hulen St	--	0.002
31	Summercrest	10’	0.09
32	Trail at Village Creek Pkwy to Mcall St	--	0.05
33	Trail at Alsbury Blvd and SW Hulen St round about	--	0.26
34	Trail in Warren Park headed to SW Johnson Blvd	10’ |--	0.20

Oak Valley Trail

Item B.

Oak Valley Trail

Bailey Lake Trail

Sources: City of Burleson

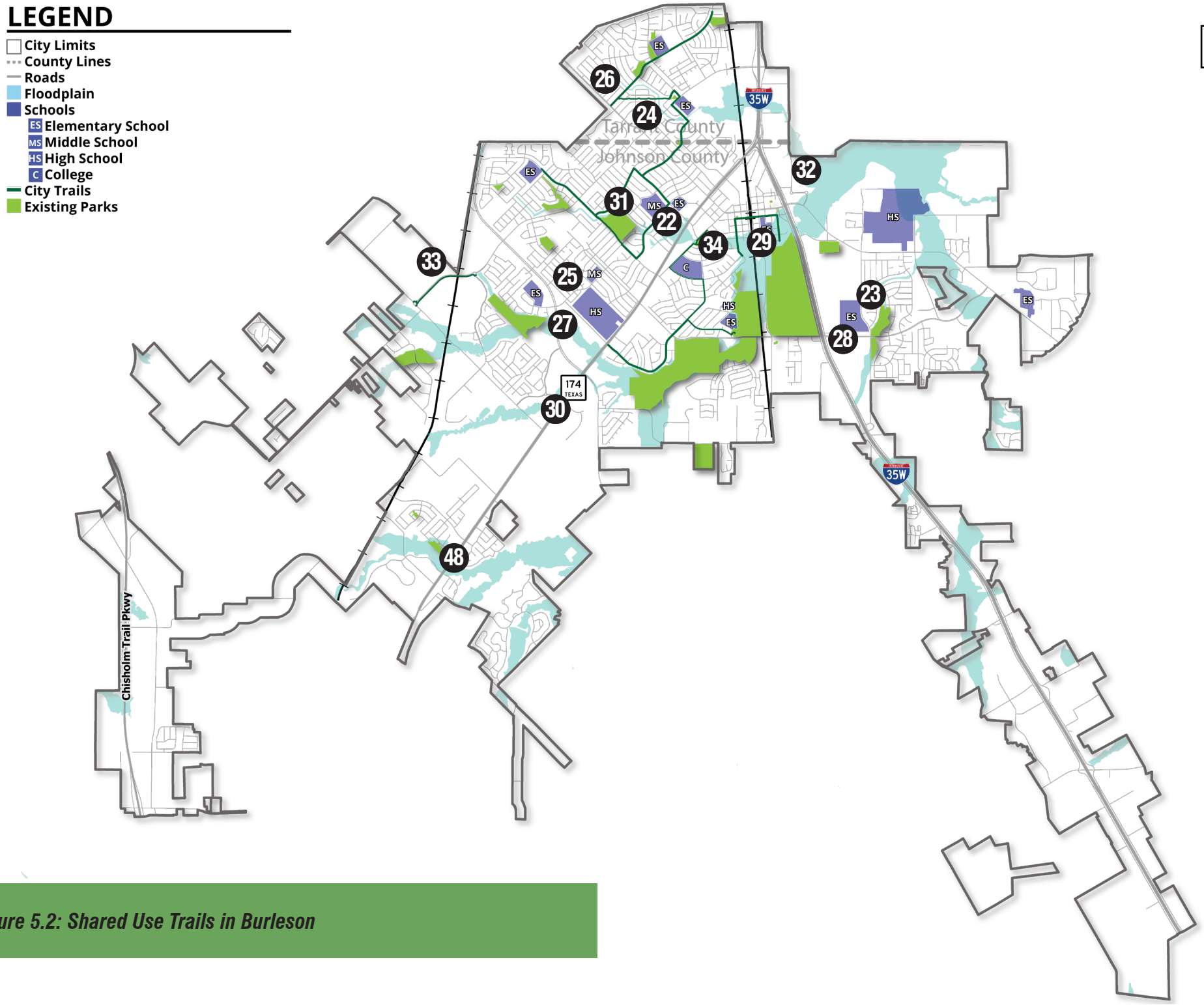


Figure 5.2: Shared Use Trails in Burleson

Park and Nature Trails hard or soft surface pathways designed to promote recreation within a park or other activity center, but are not always configured to provide transportation linkages between community destinations. These can also include hike and bike trails. Amenities along the park and nature trails include but are not limited to directional signage, benches, drinking fountains, and fitness equipment. The locations of these trails can be seen in **Figure 5.3.**

Trail #	Name/Location of Trail	Width	Miles
38	Coyote Loop Trail	6’	2
39	Chisenhall to Tinker Trail	10’	1.5
40	Bailey Lake	10’	1.4
41	Oak Valley North	10’	2.2
42	Field Loop	--	1.55
43	West Loop	--	0.73
44	Goatman's Island	--	1.42
45	North Side	--	1.18
46	South Town	--	2.23
47	Wrecked	--	0.4
48	Willow Creek Trail	6’	0.32
49	Keep on Truckin’	--	1.6
50	Hidden Vistas	--	0.45

Coyote Loop Family Trail

Sources: City of Burleson

Far Out Family Campout at Bailey Lake Park, 2025

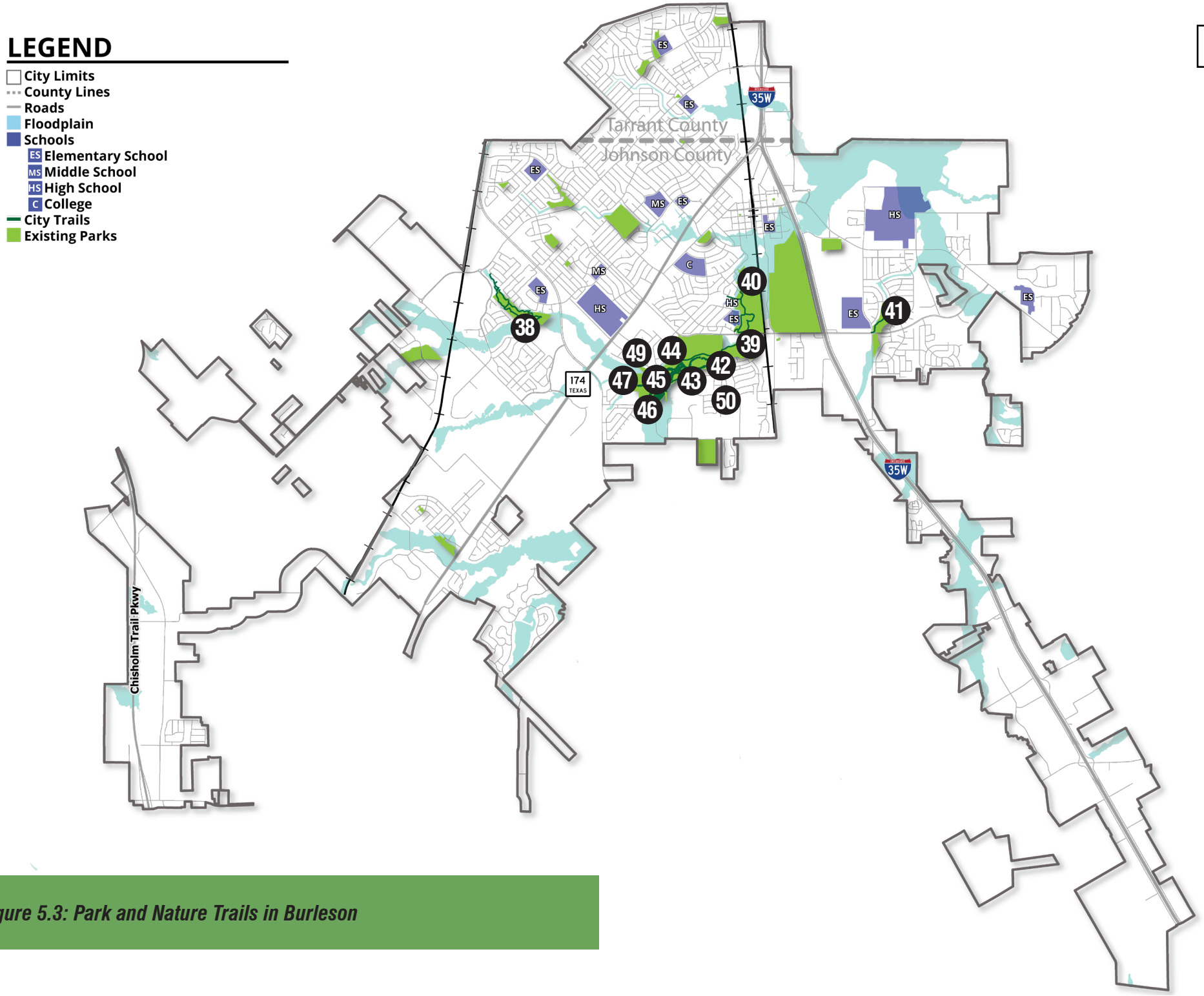


Figure 5.3: Park and Nature Trails in Burleson

On-street Bike Facilities

On-street bike facilities are designated infrastructure on roadways intended to provide safer and more convenient spaces for cyclists. These facilities can include bike lanes, shared lanes (sharrows), and buffered bike lanes. They are marked with specific signage and pavement markings to indicate the presence of cyclists and to encourage a safer sharing of the road between motor vehicles and bicycles. All on-street facilities should be designed and constructed following AASHTO recommendations and TMUTCD standards. The locations of these bike paths / lanes can be seen in **Figure 5.4.**

- **Buffered Bike Lane**
- **Bike Lane**
- **Shared Use Lane**

Buffered Bike Lane consists of designated bicycle lane on a roadway that includes a physical barrier to separate the bike lane from adjacent motor vehicle lanes and/or parking lanes. This buffer provides additional space and protection for cyclists, enhancing safety by increasing the distance between cyclists and moving or parked vehicles.

Bike Lanes are on-street facility for the exclusive use of cyclists or other micro-mobility devices through striping, signage, and pavement markings. Conventional bike lanes run curbside and in the same direction of traffic. Bike lanes can be buffered from motor vehicle traffic by either striping or a physical barrier.

Shared-use lanes are designated along low-volume roadways and include pavement markings and signage to indicate the street is to be shared between vehicles and cyclists.

2024 BTX Bike Ride Along Event

Sources: City of Burleson

Bike Path #	Bike Path Name/Location	Bike F
1	Summercrest	Shared Use Lane
2	Summercrest	Bike Lane
3	McAlister	Shared Use Lane
4	McAlister	Bike Lane
5	McAlister	Bike Lane
6	McAlister	Shared Use Lane
7	McAlister	Bike Lane
8	Thomas	Bike Lane
9	Thomas	Bike Lane
10	Thomas	Shared Use Lane
11	Thomas	Shared Use Lane
12	Bailey Lake	Shared Use Lane
13	Path at SW Rand Dr. from Summercrest Blvd.	Shared Use Lane
14	Path at NW Newton Dr. from SW Rand Dr.	Shared Use Lane
15	Path at SW Cindy Ln. from NW Newton Dr.	Shared Use Lane
16	Path at SW Cindy Ln. from NW Hillery St.	Shared Use Lane
17	Path at NW Douglas St. from SW Cindy Ln.	Shared Use Lane
18	Path at NE Alsbury Blvd. from NW Douglas St.	Shared Use Lane
19	Path at Tyler Ct.	Shared Use Lane
20	Summercrest	Bike Lane
21	McAlister	Shared Use Lane
22	Path at SW Warren St. from W. Ellison St.	Shared Use Lane
23	Path at W Ellison St. from SW Warren St.	Shared Use Lane
24	Path at S. Scott St. from W. Ellison St.	Shared Use Lane
25	Path at S. Scott St. from E. Miller St.	Shared Use Lane
26	Summercrest	Buffered Bike Lane
27	Summercrest	Buffered Bike Lane

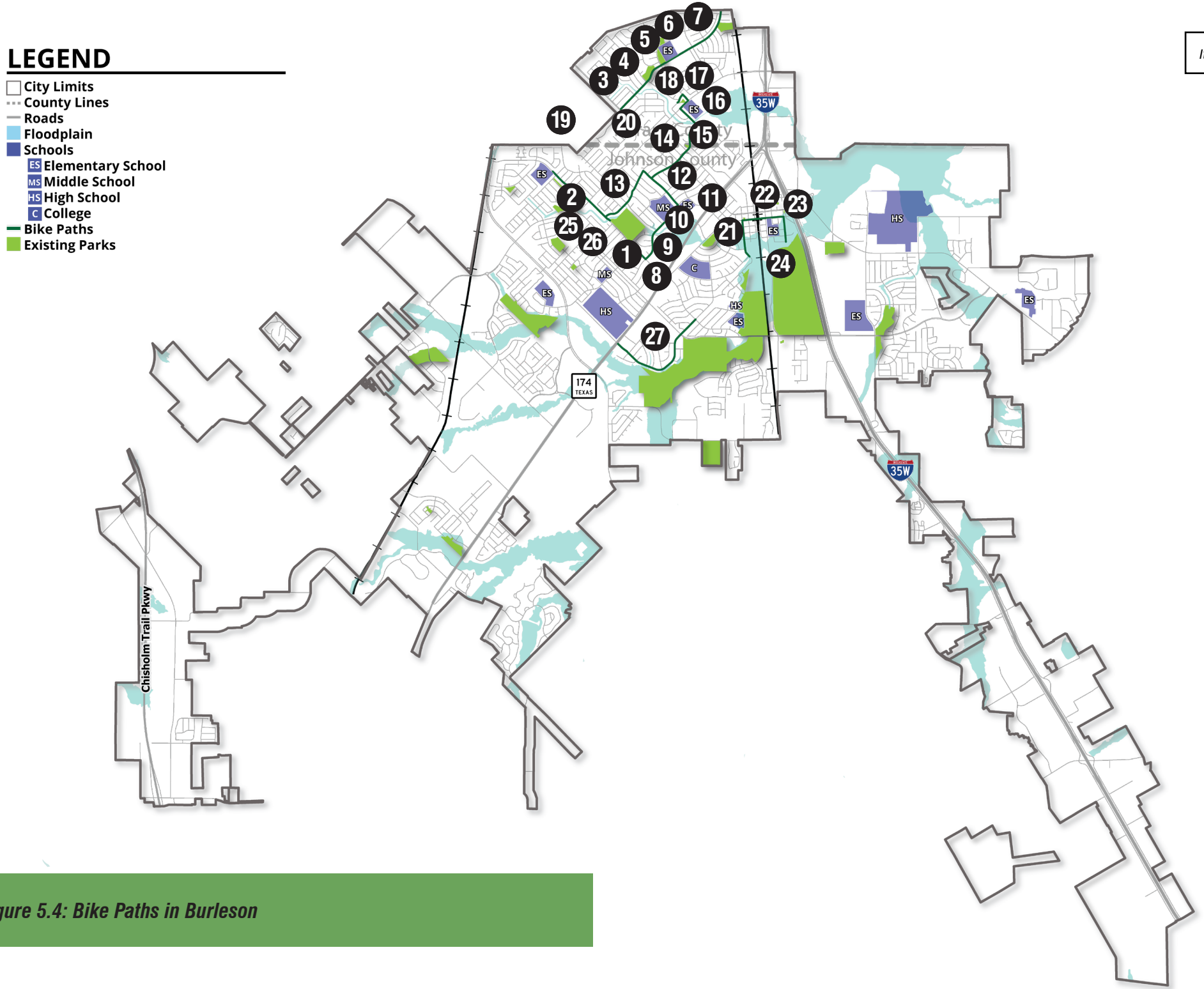


Figure 5.4: Bike Paths in Burleson

Action Items and Goal 2

Strengthen Connectivity

Action Item 2.1
Partner with other departments to implement the improvements throughout the city of Burleson.

The Parks Department should identify key city departments to partner and involve with trail improvements and map out future trail improvements. Creating a collaborative plan of action amongst departments will ensure everyone is on the same page and address concerns. Discuss staffing needs and availability to capture in house improvements and coordinate externally with consultants on larger project improvements. Developing a phase plan for improvements will minimize disruption and ensure accountability internally and externally to the community.

Action Item 2.2
Provide multi-use trails and accessibility connections throughout the city and to surrounding cities or trails.

Providing multi-use trails and enhanced accessibility connections can significantly benefit the community by promoting active transportation, recreation, and connectivity.

- Collaboration: Partner with neighboring cities, counties, regional planning authorities, and relevant organizations to develop a cohesive trail network.
- Trail Design: Designs should accommodate various users, including pedestrians, cyclists, and individuals with disabilities. Ensure trail improvements and rehab improvements meet accessibility standards with appropriate surface materials, width, slopes and amenities.
- Connectivity: Plan trail connections to key destinations within the city. Parks, schools, commercial areas as well as surrounding cities and regional trails.
- Environmental: Incorporate sustainable practices and environmental considerations in trail design by utilizing green infrastructure and preserving natural habitats.

The city can successfully implement multi-use trails and enhance accessibility connections, creating a more connected, active, and vibrant community.

Incorporate elements that are comfortable, safe, and inviting for all users.

Action Item 2.3
Integrate trailheads, shade, lighting, and water stations.

Trailheads

Strategically place trailheads at key access points, such as parking areas, parks, and residential neighborhoods. Amenities could include:

- Information Kiosks: Maps, trail information, safety guidelines, contact numbers
- Restrooms: Install accessible restroom facilities throughout city at multiple trails.
- Benches: Offer seating for breaks, preparing for trail use, or post trail use.
- Bike Racks and Repair Stations: Ensure cyclists have secure bike storage and tools for minor repairs.
- Signage: Include clear signage for orientation, trail rules, directions, and emergency information.
- Water Stations: Install water stations at trailheads and select points along the trail to give users easy access to clean drinking water. Regularly maintain these stations and equip them with refillable water bottle features to reduce plastic waste.

Shade

Shaded areas provide places for users to take breaks, cool down, and enjoy the surroundings comfortably. Regularly maintain and monitor shade structures or trees to ensure they remain in good condition and provide adequate protection from the elements.

- Seating Areas: Umbrellas or shade covers can be added to benches, tables, or other seating areas to enhance rest stops.
- Trees: While it also enhances biodiversity and supports the surrounding environment, planting trees strategically along trails, long sidewalks, or at trailheads can provide natural shade and cooling effect.

Trail Lighting

Installing lighting along trails ensures that trails are safe to use during early mornings, evenings, and low-light conditions. Ensure lighting is designed to minimize light pollution and is sensitive to the surrounding natural environment to avoid disturbing wildlife, while still providing security.

- Pathway Lights
- Pole Mounted Lights / Street Lights
- Bollard Lighting
- Tree mounted Lights
- Illuminated Signage

Referring to the high number of feedback regarding trails or improvements of trails from the community and stakeholders, incorporating these features will allow the trail system to be more user-friendly, encouraging greater community use and enjoyment.

Scott Street Trailhead at Oak Valley Trail

Source: City of Burleson

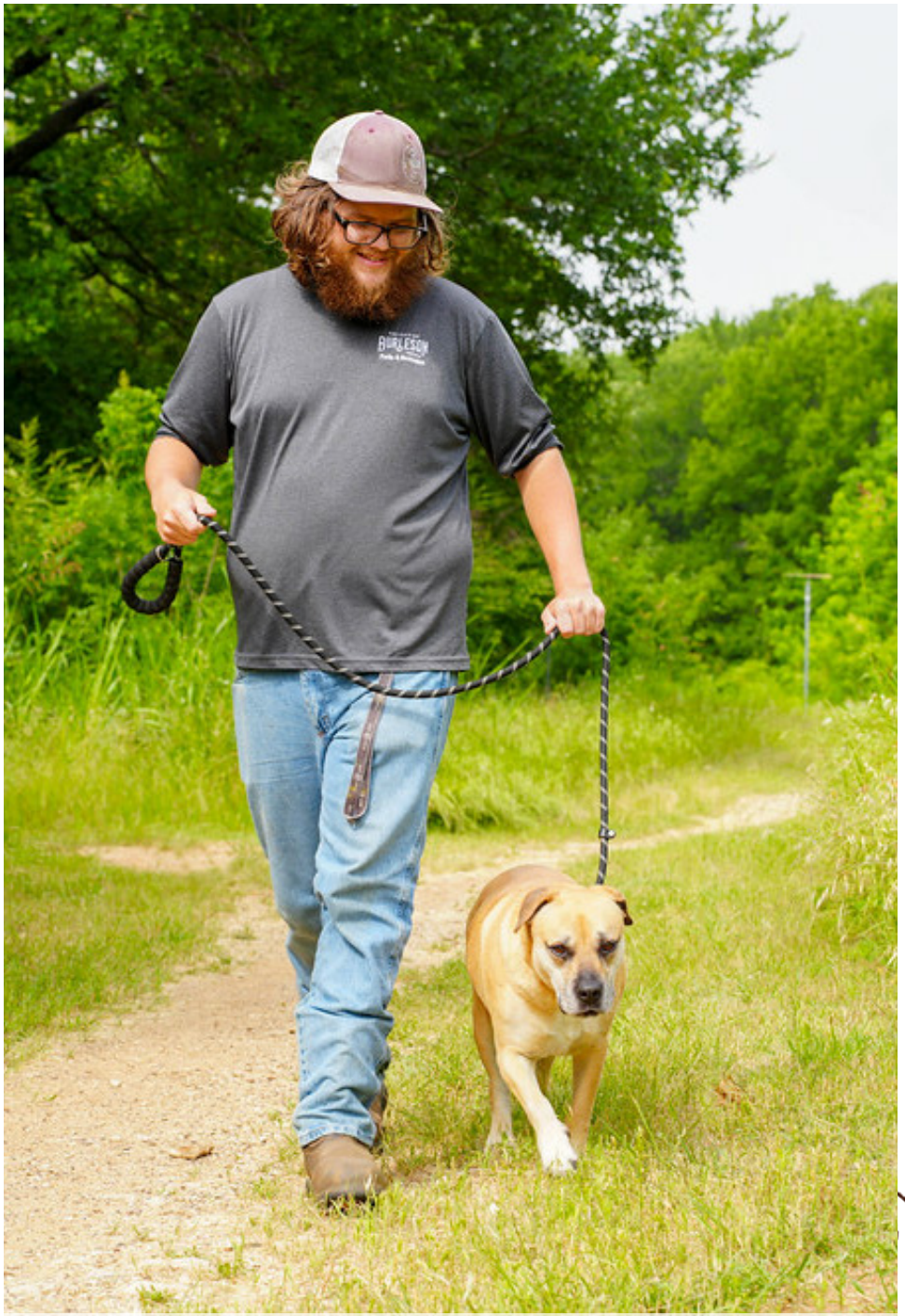
Action Item 2.4
Promote sustainability and conservation by minimizing concrete trails where possible.

By identifying suitable locations for nature access and implementing soft surface trails made of gravel or other natural materials, the human impact on surrounding habitats and the environment can be minimized. This approach benefits the community by providing increased and convenient access to nature, while also protecting natural communities, native plants, and animals from the pressures of heavy human development and hardscape.

- Promoting Biodiversity: By following sustainable trail design standards and avoiding sensitive habitats, nature trails can help preserve diverse plant and animal species. This careful planning ensures that critical habitats are not fragmented or destroyed, supporting the overall health and diversity of the ecosystem.
- Supporting Ecosystem Services: By preserving natural habitats, soft surface trails help maintain essential ecosystem services such as water filtration, air quality regulation, and carbon sequestration. Healthy ecosystems are better able to provide these critical services, benefiting both the environment and human communities.
- Encouraging Responsible Recreation: Nature trails guide visitors through designated paths, concentrating foot traffic on specific routes. This minimizes the disturbance to wildlife and prevents the trampling of vegetation in undisturbed areas, thus reducing the overall human impact on natural habitats.

Action Item 2.5
Implement Regular Environmental Monitoring and Maintenance.

By keeping any trails that are developed, especially soft surface trails, up to date with their maintenance and surrounding environment monitored, the safety and security of surrounding communities can be protected. This will aim to make effective use of nature trails to not only enhance public enjoyment and accessibility but also to actively contribute to the sustainability and monitoring of natural habitats.



Barks and Recreation Event

Source: City of Burleson

Takeaways

Current LOS Metric:

Burleson's current level of service (LOS) for trails is 1 trail mile per 1,952 residents. This current metric is below the NRPA national standard, meaning the city would need to further implement 16.6 miles of developed trail to meet the standard.

Benchmarking against Similar Cities:

When compared to other cities with similar population sizes (Grapevine, Euless, and Mansfield), Burleson is comparable in trail development. Although there is need to improve within Burleson's trail system, Euless and Mansfield are still in a greater trail deficit in comparison. Grapevine is exceeding the standard with a trail surplus of 23.16 miles.

Future Needs:

Looking at future metrics, it is projected that Burleson will have a larger deficit of 78.11 miles by the time its population reaches 125.5k people. To prevent a high deficit gap as the population and development increase, the city needs to take into account where new trails can be planned and existing trails can be expanded to meet demand. Population increase is inevitable, which provides opportunities to plan ahead for current and future use.

Action Required:

Through efficient city planning and implementation of dedicated bike lanes, additional developed trails, and expansion of existing trails for greater access, the city can work towards closing the deficit gap for trail mileage. Focus on making new parks and outdoor spaces accessible, walkable, and including trails will be beneficial towards the city's LOS trail metrics and community needs.

COMMUNITY RECREATION AND PROGRAMMING

5

5 COMMUNITY RECREATION AND PROGRAMMING

Community Recreation and Programming Introduction
Existing Inventory - Indoor Recreation
Action Items and Goal 3
Action Items and Goal 4
Action Items and Goal 5
Action Items and Goal 6
Needs Assessment

Indoor recreation facilities offer a wide range of programs and activities for Burleson residents, catering to diverse interests and age groups while promoting physical health and well-being. This chapter establishes an inventory of the existing indoor recreation facilities in Burleson, assesses the overall needs for these facilities today and in the future, and creates recommendations to meet future needs and demands.

Existing Inventory

Burleson offers several indoor recreation facilities catering to different interests and age groups. The BRiCk (Burleson Recreation Center) is the primary indoor facility. Constructed in May 2010, it spans about 65,000 square feet and provides various recreational amenities, including aquatics, fitness, and sports. The Burleson Senior Activity Center, located offers activities and services for senior citizens aged 50 and older. Additionally, the Russell Farm Art Center is a historic site that hosts art-related events and classes. These facilities provide diverse recreational options for Burleson residents.

Community Events

A variety of community events are held throughout the year for many occasions around the city: holidays, family events, local business engagement, social gatherings, and more. Each event allows the community within Burleson to come together to collaborate and interact with one another, uplifting their local community and fostering relationships. Some events are held annually, such as “Dogs and Donuts”, the “Be Healthy Run”, and “Hot Sounds of Summer”. Other events may be unique to new park or facility openings, or raise awareness for safety or local charitable causes. Different heritage and cultural celebration events are also held, celebrating and highlighting the people that make up the Burleson community.

Juneteenth Celebration

Source: City of Burleson

Dogs and Donuts Halloween Event

Source: City of Burleson

The BRiCk

The BRiCk (Burleson Recreation Center) is located at 550 NW Summercrest Blvd. Constructed in May 2010, the BRiCk is approximately 65,000 square feet, making it a prominent family recreational facility in Burleson. It offers a variety of programs and services, along with outdoor recreational amenities.

The BRiCk serves as a cornerstone of community health and wellness, offering a wide range of amenities for youth, families, and older adults. Its central location and broad programming support the City’s goals for inclusive, multi generational recreation opportunities.
As the City’s only comprehensive indoor recreation facility, the BRiCk should be prioritized for ongoing investment, modernization, and expansion to meet current and future population growth.

The BRiCk

Source:

Recreational amenities of the BRiCk include:

- Youth and adult programs
- 50-piece cardio equipment
- Strength training equipment
- 1,100 square feet of free weights
- Suspended track
- Fitness rooms for various aerobic and stretching classes
- 2 full-sized basketball courts
- 4 adjustable goals that can accommodate simultaneous activities
- Five-lane lap pool
- Lazy river
- Water park slide
- Splash Pad
- Play structure
- Sundeck
- Vortex

Aquatics

The indoor and outdoor aquatic facilities provide essential year-round swim and water fitness programming. Continued investment in pool infrastructure, slide and feature replacements, and expanded water safety programming (e.g., drowning prevention, lifeguard development) should be prioritized.

The outdoor pool is seasonally popular, but aging infrastructure (e.g., decking) requires long-term planning for replacement or enhancement to remain competitive with surrounding communities. Keeping the current splash pad up-to-date with maintenance and care is also necessary so that it can continue to be a popular recreational attraction.

Fitness and Wellness

To maintain high-quality amenities and ensure the fitness facility remains current and competitive, we proactively replace a portion of the fitness equipment each year. This ongoing investment supports both member satisfaction and long-term operational relevance.

Wellness programming could be expanded with targeted initiatives around senior fitness, youth strength training, and partnerships with local healthcare providers.

Community Use and Programming

Multi-purpose rooms and open gym spaces are heavily used for prog , camps, and rentals. Rental offerings (e.g., birthday packages, themed rentals) and improved room functionality (e.g., updated AV, flexible furnishings) are recent items that have been completed to enhance community facilities.

There is strong demand for community events, family nights, and drop-in programs. Master planning should explore flexible programming zones and improved crowd flow for special events.

Childcare and Youth Engagement

The KidZone offers critical support to families, enabling fitness participation. This area should be maintained and evaluated for future enrichment opportunities (e.g., activity-based learning, STEAM play).

Youth programming should expand to include mentorships, junior leadership opportunities, and skill-based camps. Homeschool program offerings mid-day catering to students that are homeschooled.

Camp BTX and School Break Fun Camps occurs during the spring, summer, Thanksgiving break, and winter break. Campers can participate in fun and exciting activities such as arts and crafts, swimming, and team building events.

Aqua Egg Hunt at The BRiCk

Source: City of Burleson

Adult Programming
A variety of recreational activities are offered for adults. Some of these include: pickle ball open play, adult athletics (softball, basketball, volleyball), night hikes, a variety of group fitness classes, and self defense classes.

Facility Maintenance and Infrastructure
Currently, The BRiCk is undergoing new renovations to its lobby: new flooring, new control desk, new indoor play structure, updated meeting rooms with new AV, remodeled family changing rooms, wayfinding and furniture, screening of KidZone for safety, which will help improve overall functionality and operations.

On the aquatics side, re-plastering, replacement of sand filters, replacement of indoor slide and stairs, replacement of zero entry play structure, replacement of dehumidification system and enhancement of an evacuator system and sauna are all underway to enhance pool spaces.

HVAC replacements and improved signage, branding, and wayfinding are also being added to enhance the BRiCk.

Accessibility and Inclusion
Ensure all areas of the BRiCk exceed ADA compliance and continue to pursue inclusive programs that support individuals with disabilities, language barriers, or transportation limitations.

Introduce bilingual signage, inclusive programming guides, and diverse staff training to better reflect the community served.

Sustainability and Energy Efficiency
Evaluate opportunities for sustainability upgrades—such as LED lighting, pool energy management systems, and water-saving fixtures—to reduce long-term operating costs and align with City goals.

Partnerships and Revenue Opportunities
Explore new revenue streams through vendor partnerships, expanded corporate wellness packages, or facility sponsorships (e.g., naming rights for fitness rooms or outdoor spaces).

Action Items and Goal 3

Enhance Recreational Facilities Opportunity

Action Item 3.1
Improve and enhance aquatic, indoor recreation amenities, and outdoor recreation amenities.

Conducting a more in-depth feasibility study of indoor recreation to identify needs for a multi-generational complex as well as meet future demands of growth. Incorporating year round use allows for a diverse range of inclusive play for all ages and different sports. In order to maintain aquatics, the City needs to ensure stable funding sources and identify future locations for additional aquatic opportunities such as splash pads. Upgrading and updating existing facilities is pivotal to continue bringing valuable amenities to the entire community. Adding and rotating multipurpose fields to reduce overuse is important as the city grows its recreational leagues and practice spaces. Creating a regional and state draw for sports with sports tourism is an opportunity to expand the recreational amenities for the City.

Action Item 3.2
Evaluate program offerings as demands and trends evolve.

Conduct an annual review of recreation participation to refine offerings and evaluate programs to consider service rationale, scope, and service effectiveness. The City can promote partnerships with the school system to increase participation and offerings of programs throughout the year. This is an opportunity for kids to involve themselves with activities, community engagement, and build relationships.

Action Item 3.3
Encourage placemaking in recreation facilities.

Implementing public art into recreational facilities that reflect Burleson's history and culture strengthens the community and provides opportunities to showcase local talent. Creating and designing adaptable spaces for community events enhances the placemaking efforts from the City.

Programming and Services

Burleson offers a wide range of programs for all age groups, including sports leagues, fitness classes, arts and crafts workshops, and outdoor adventure activities. These programs are designed to foster community engagement, promote physical and mental well-being, and provide opportunities for social interaction and personal growth. The following sections outline the programs and services available at each recreational facility.

Burleson Senior Activity Center

The Burleson Senior Activity Center is located at 216 SW Johnson Avenue and provides a variety of activities, programs, and services for the senior citizens of Burleson aged 50 years and older. Opened in 1994, the center features amenities for Burleson's elderly residents such as a full-size kitchen, game rooms, and a quilting room, and hosts events like health fairs and monthly dances.

Indoor recreational amenities of the Burleson Senior Activity Center include:

- Language Lessons
- Exercise Programs
- Games
- Dance Lessons
- Music Lessons
- Lunch and Learns
- Seasonal events/activities
- A quilting group
- A Parkinson's Support group
- Providing information for accessing senior service
- Bingo and La Loteria: classic offerings held to socially engage community members.
- Yoga: an ancient, proven exercise program promoting flexibility, deep breathing, and overall health.
- Ping Pong: a great game for keeping more mobile seniors active and engaged.
- Board/Card Games: bridge, canasta, Rummikub, Chickenfoot, Skipbo, Racko, Pegs & Jokers, and more—these games keep the players mentally and socially active and engaged.
- Senior Center 4th Saturday at the Movies: watch both new and classic films

Source: City of Burleson

Burleson Senior Activity Center Volunteer and Sponsor Appreciation

Source: City of Burleson

Benefits of Senior Centers

According to current estimates, in 2030 more than 27% of the Texas population will be 55 or older. Now is the time to prepare long-term strategies for meeting these peoples' needs. Having a vibrant, active senior center is often a prerequisite for older people looking to move into a new community. Here are some additional reasons to invest in senior centers.

Senior Center Halloween Party 2024

Source: City of Burleson

Benefits of Senior Centers

- **Reducing Healthcare Costs**: Good senior centers offer programs which encourage physical activities, wellness, and a healthy lifestyle. Healthier seniors require fewer emergency services, hospitalizations, or long-term care.
- **Preventing Mental Health Issues:** It's a short step from isolation, loneliness, or endless boredom to depression… or simply giving up on life. Senior centers offer socially engaging activities which work the mind and body, thus leading to fewer mental-driven health issues.
- **Preventing or Delaying Institutional Care**: By providing opportunities for companionship, social engagement, physical wellness, and health screenings, senior centers help mitigate the need for nursing homes, which can be a huge financial burden for local governments.
- **Easing Family Burdens:** Family caregivers have to take time off work, and often find that taking care of their loved one is physically, emotionally, and financially draining. Active, healthy seniors require less care-giving than their counterparts. Also, senior centers provide information about home health care options which may be available.
- **Community Integration and Volunteerism**: Senior centers may offer language classes to help non-English speakers integrate into the community. They may also encourage senior volunteering which can reduce the cost of public services by providing free expertise.

Action Items and Goal 4

Enrich Events and Programming for All

Action Item 4.1

Plan out a variety of events throughout the entirety of the year that target a range of audiences and activities.

By planning out different events throughout year, more opportunities can be provided for all community members. Although each event may target specific audiences, ages, interests, or seasonal activities, there should be a robust line-up of programs for the community, families, and all abilities. Creating community hubs where regular or innovative programming can be implemented as to not conflict with current offerings brings diversity and inclusion to the City.

Action Item 4.2

Identify gaps in programming and establish new programs to target underrepresented age groups.

By prioritizing where current programs (in recreation and community centers) are successful and where they lack in fully representing all age groups, new program opportunities can be identified. By implementing at least one to two recurring programs or activities throughout the year for each age range, the city of Burleson will be able to enhance the needs and desires of the community. Generally, programs specific to one age group should follow these ages:

- Infants: 0-1 year old
- Toddlers: 1-3 years old
- Preschoolers: 3-5 years old
- Early Childhood: 0-5 years old
- Children/Kids: 5-12 years old
- Adolescents/Teens: 13-18 years old
- Young Adults: 19-29 years old
- Older Adults: 30-39
- Middle-Aged Adults: 40-59 years old
- Senior Adults: 60+ years old

Focusing on the physical, social, and emotional well-being of the community is important for the City Parks and Recreation to be successful.

Hidden Creek Golf Course

The **Hidden Creek Golf Course** is our municipal golf facility. It features a full-scale operation with a pro-shop and restaurant. Its goal is to provide a premier 18-hole golf experience for the local Burleson community and golf enthusiasts. Hidden Creek provides an enjoyable, recreational venue for healthy outdoor activity, allowing visitors to spend time outdoors with their friends and family. The course provides multiple teeing ground areas, allowing the course to be played at multiple lengths, and has undulating, generous putting surfaces for a challenging experience.

Through hosting various tournaments, serving as a tourist attraction for the North Texas region, and providing a destination for over 25,000 non-residents in addition to local players, the Hidden Creek Golf Course economically benefits the surrounding community. Tournament services provided by Hidden Creek may include carts, cart staging, personalized scorecards and signs, range balls, proximity markers, and more. Lessons are also available for multiple ages. Hidden Creek also provides a venue for multiple corporations and charities to host golf outings and raise money, benefiting both the local community and outreach beyond Burleson.

Sources: City of Burleson, Hidden Creek Golf Course

Maintenance and Staffing

The golf course staff currently has 30 full time employees, but projected to expand to 39 employees in 2035 and 2045 with current roles. Operation hours are set to be extended for both the course and restaurant. Paths, the course, and lakes and trees are to be edged and maintained weekly. Additional mows of non-green surfaced will be completed one additional time per week.

Technology Upgrades

Autonomous mowing has begun to be integrated for the tees, fairways, rough, clubhouse, and driving range, with a total of 13 mowers. Future replacements are set to take place in the upcoming years, updating older technology and saving costs overall.

Additional Opportunities for Consideration:

- The Terrace Bar-and-Grill could expand to be a full service restaurant
- Concession midway through the course or additional concessions facility
- The implementation of a player development / learning center
- The addition of a short Par 3 course
- Dynamic/Tier Pricing options

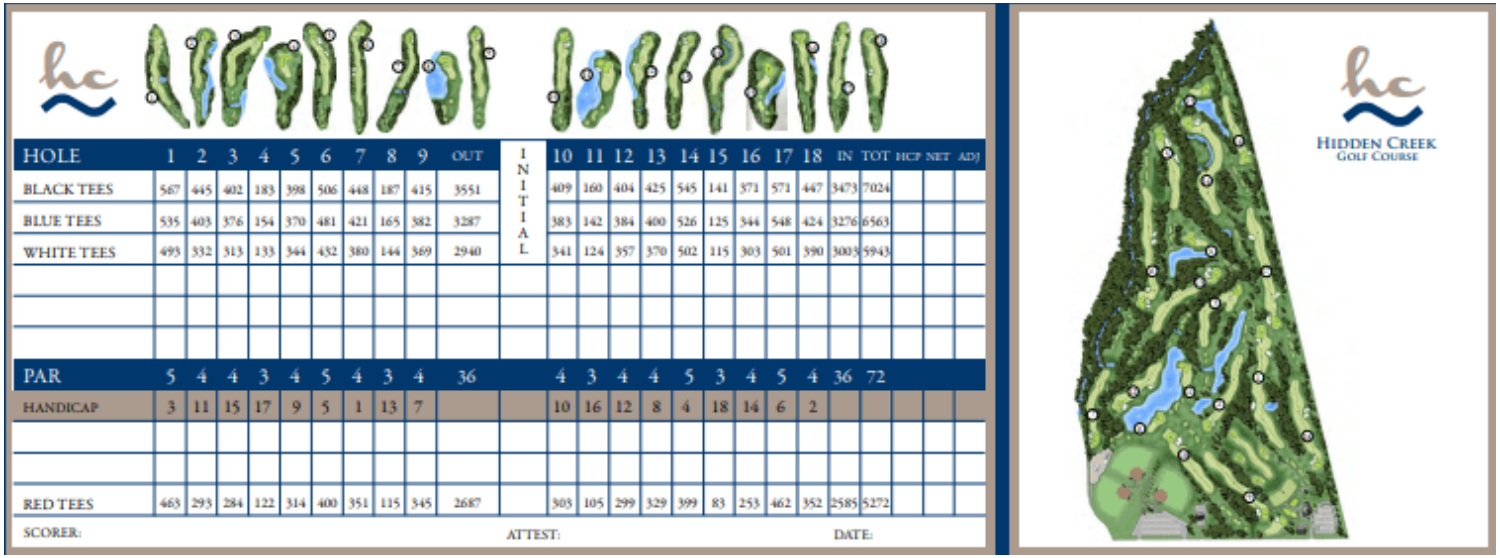
Overall, these opportunities would attract more visitors and some would allow more revenue to be generated. Learning centers and expanded playing/practice options for a range of playing levels would be highly beneficial.

Completed Course Improvements: 2021-Present

- Bunker conversion to Better Billy Bunker System
- Pumphouse Renovation
- Cart path replacements
- Drainage improvements
- Turf restorations (Holes, 7, 8, and 18)
- Tree removal and limb up
- New carts with GPS
- Chemigation System
- Aeration Machine
- Terrace Bar-and-Grill Enhancements

The **Hidden Creek Golf Course** is focused on further upgrading the course to be a regional, destination facility, with pristine playing surfaces, consistent greens, well-maintained turf and landscaping, attention to detail, updated clubhouse and practice facilities, technology integrations, and excellent service. The planned improvements above total to an investment of $1,370,547 as of 2021.

Continued investment into successful programming and infrastructure at Hidden Creek aim to increase revenue generation, increase the number of tournaments hosted, and increase the amount of players club memberships.



HOLE	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	OUT	INITIAL	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	IN	TOT	HCP	NET	ADJ
BLACK TEES	567	445	402	183	398	506	448	187	415	3551		409	160	404	425	545	141	371	571	447	3473	7024			
BLUE TEES	535	403	376	154	370	481	421	165	382	3287		383	142	384	400	526	125	344	548	424	3276	6563			
WHITE TEES	493	332	313	133	344	432	380	144	369	2940		341	124	357	370	502	115	303	501	390	3003	5943			
PAR	5	4	4	3	4	5	4	3	4	36		4	3	4	4	5	3	4	5	4	36	72			
HANDICAP	3	11	15	17	9	5	1	13	7			10	16	12	8	4	18	14	6	2					
RED TEES	463	293	284	122	314	400	351	115	345	2687		303	105	299	329	399	83	253	462	352	2585	5272			

SCORER: ATTEST: DATE:

Source: Hidden Creek Golf Course

Action Items and Goal 5

Advance Hidden Creek Golf Course as a Premier Public Facility

Action Item 5.1
Enhance current facilities to increase efficiency, use, and appeal.

Currently, the Hidden Creek Golf Course currently sees over 25,000 visitors (both local residents and non-residents) throughout each year and remains notably one of the toughest public courses in the DFW area. To further increase retention of members, increase visitors per year, and establish Hidden Creek as a premier facility, the city should focus on upgrading their current facilities to bring the course up to the level of other premier facilities. By first identifying which areas need priority updates, costs and energy can be focused towards renovating or upgrading those items first. It is important to prioritize maintenance and keep the fairways and greens well-manicured year-round. Landscaping in and around the course should be well-kept and consistent, providing a natural theme and elevating the courses' appeal and atmosphere.

Action Item 5.2
Integrate more opportunities for play and generating revenue.

In terms of additional enhancements, implementing a learning center for player development is one way to target younger players and enhance class options at the facility. In addition, a shorter 3-par course option would allow for a greater diversification of activities at the facility and provide all levels of players with an accessible, approachable, and less time-committed option for play. Integrating a dynamic pricing system and providing various choices for membership and play is another implementation option that provides greater flexibility and access for players.

Sources: City of Burleson, Hidden Creek Golf Course

Russell Farm Art Center

Russell Farm Art Center offers a unique experience through its historic farm and art center. Located on a 30-acre historic family farm started in 1877, it is a City of Burleson facility that is dedicated to working artists and their art, cultural awareness, and the preservation of historic land. The property is registered as a Texas Century Farm certified by Texas Department of Agriculture.

A “rustic and very picturesque slice of Texas”, Russell Farm Art Center is inset into a hilly landscape, home to its original farmhouse and restored farm buildings. The center provides a quiet and creative atmosphere for local and visiting artists, or curious visitors, to immerse themselves in the artistic and traditional setting. It aims to harbor discovery and promote collaboration in nature by preserving its historic environment and supporting aspiring artists.

Visitors can explore historic facilities, create art, attend events or programs, take classes, or simply enjoy a peaceful retreat amid the animals and country landscape. Surrounded by history, art, and local culture, Russell Farm Art Center provides opportunities for seminars, workshops, and classes for students and galleries.

“Louise and I seek to provide a place that promotes artistic expression. The Russell Farm has a heritage of pioneer spirit, located in a tranquil natural setting that will help aspiring artists for many years to come.”

- Charlie Boren

Source: City of Burleson, The Russell F... Art Center

Russell Farm Art Center offers art, historical, nature, and community programming.

Art Programming

Current programming includes art lectures, painting/drawing classes, wood shop class, open art, Boren Studio/gallery tours, art gallery/shows, and arts and crafts education. Future programming includes Public Arts Committee partnership with the City and Art Tours including Baker Building Gallery. Investing in resources for additional media such as metal art, stone sculpting, and photography would expand the areas of interest to the greater community. Expansion of Boren Gallery or a new building for Charlie's wood sculpture collection would be a great addition for visitors to Russell Farm.

Historical Programming

Russell Farm provides historical tours, period cooking and canning classes. Proposed future historical programming includes expanded historical tours, music in the open field, field trips, hayrides, period arts/house back porch, Pioneer Children's Class and Period Reenactments, and Old Time Historical Photos/Boren House. The Farm would like to bring in an old chapel or vintage building for classes and/or weddings.

Vision

To be a beacon of cultural enrichment and creative empowerment, where past and present intersect to shape a vibrant and inclusive future for all.

Mission

To inspire and cultivate a deep appreciation for skilled arts, history, and nature within our community by providing an inclusive space that nurtures a creative expression, life-long learning (or education), and a connection to our shared heritage and culture.

Possible Taglines

Preserving Heritage, Inspiring Art
Explore the Past, Create the Future
Bridging Generations through Art, History, Nature, and Legacy

Nature Programming

Programming implemented currently at Russell Farm Art Center includes community garden and rentals, partnering with Master Gardener's club and Master Naturalist, donkeys, chickens, cattle grazing, land lease, picnic areas, Ag Day, Arbor Day, gardening classes, horse camp, and story time in the garden. Proposed future programming needs are expanding walking trails for multi-use, expanding FFA programs, farm to table cooking from the garden, gazebo and sensory garden programs/rentals, and first Saturday hay rides. In the future, building a large greenhouse would allow for hydroponic farming and cooking demonstrations using farm grown foods expanding agricultural education.

Community Programming

Current programming for the community includes donuts with the Easter Bunny, Fall festival, Scarecrow making class, family camp-out, Christmas at the Farm, Breakfast with Santa, Christmas lights display, Watermelon Day, Autism Awareness and Resources Workshop, Dance/Date night at the Farm, Show Me How workshops, Home schooling farm school, Kids Arts and Crafts, Spanish classes, Fun on the Farm Camps, Archery classes, Summer camps, STEAM camps, and Youth cooking classes. The Farm provides building rentals for the community to utilize for special occasions or events and Home School Enrichment classes.

Action Items and Goal 6

Establish Russell Farm Art Center (Russell Farm) as a Cultural and Art Hub

Action Item 6.1
Engage with the broader community to enhance the presence of the center.

Russel Farm and Art Center currently offers a range of community events, tours, camps, and art opportunities for residents and visitors to participate in. However, in order to establish the center as a hub for culture and art throughout the city of Burleson, DFW, and beyond, Russell Farm should further utilize marketing opportunities and technology to promote events, engage with the public, share photos, highlight artists, and establish an online presence to reach a greater audience. Focusing on diversity, accessibility, and engagement throughout the year at Russell Farm will be a consistent destination for heritage and learning.

Source: City of Burleson, The Russell Farm Art Center

Action Item 6.2
Offer diverse programming and resources.

Russel Farm Art Center seeks to embrace different art forms and types by highlighting a different art form or medium each month beyond the traditional. This provides a diverse range of visitors and involvement from the community.

Host a variety of events beyond what is traditionally offered or only based on seasonal opportunity. This can happen through the establishment of workshops, screenings, artists talks, and public art projects.

Make shared art spaces easily accessible and provide inclusive resources for residents by accommodating sensory, mobility, and communication needs. Providing multilingual support where appropriate will further expand the use and attraction of Russell Farm.

Needs Assessment

The following needs assessment evaluates Burleson's existing recreational facilities using the Level of Service (LOS) metric, as defined by the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA). This section analyzes the city-wide recreational facility needs by comparing Burleson's current LOS against its population, identifying areas where the city meets or falls short of national standards.

Existing Level of Service

Currently, Burleson offers residents 65,000 square feet of indoor recreational space and amenities. With a 2025 population of 55,144, the current level of service (LOS) is 1.47 square feet per resident.

NRPA provides a useful metric that compares cities of similar size by dividing the total population by the number of indoor recreation facilities. For cities with populations similar to Burleson's, the median figure in 2020 was 53,550 residents per indoor recreation facility. Burleson is slightly above this median, with 55,144 residents per facility.

The following table compares Burleson with other cities of similar size. In this comparison, Burleson is tentatively below Grapevine and Euless in terms of service levels, but slightly above Mansfield. While the differences in LOS are not significant, they could become more pronounced as Burleson's population continues to grow. To enhance accessibility, Burleson will need to increase the square footage of recreational facilities and amenities per person.

The NRPA outlines key metrics for various types of indoor facilities and amenities, including the number of each type relative to the population of a given jurisdiction. They assess the presence of different indoor recreational facilities by reporting the percentage of agencies that offer each type, helping to illustrate the distribution and accessibility of these facilities across different cities. From 2021 to 2023, data was gathered from over 1,000 park and recreation agencies nationwide. The table on the following page highlights the prevalence of various indoor recreation facilities and amenities among the study agencies.

Benchmarking Communities

The communities shown in the LOS analysis help assess how Burleson's indoor recreation facilities compare to nearby benchmarking communities, using a standards-based evaluation. These benchmarking communities were selected by the City.

Burleson Existing Level of Service

- Population: 55,144
- The BRiCk (65,000 square feet)
- **1.47 square feet per resident**

Grapevine Existing Level of Service

- Population: 52,346
- The REC (115,000 square feet)
- **2.15 square feet per resident**

Euless Existing Level of Service

- Population: 51,601
- Euless Family Life Center (52,300 square feet)
- Simmons Center (5,600 square feet)
- Historical Museum (5,000 square feet)
- Star Center (95,000 square feet)
- Fuller House Museum (2,000 square feet)
- Himes Log House (1,500 square feet)
- **2.81 square feet per resident**

Mansfield Existing Level of Service

- Population: 89,227
- Mansfield Activities Center (23,431 square feet)
- Star Center (80,000 square feet)
- **1.36 square feet per resident**

Indoor Park and Recreation Facilities by Prevalence		
Type of Facilities	**Percent of Agencies**	**Present in Burleson?**
Competitive swimming pools	22%	Yes
Pools designated exclusively for leisure	19%	Yes
Pickle ball	19%	Yes
Multi-use courts	16%	Yes
Basketball courts, standalone	12%	Yes
Multi-use court-tennis, pickle ball	12%	Yes
Therapeutic pools	11%	No
Walking loops/Running tracks	10%	Yes
Racquetball/Handball/Squash courts	9%	No
Tennis courts	5%	Yes
Recreation centers (including gyms)	62%	Yes
Community centers	59%	No
Senior centers	40%	Yes
Performance amphitheaters/Plaza	40%	Yes
Nature centers	34%	No
Aquatics centers	30%	Yes
Permanent and semi-permanent restrooms	28%	Yes
Stadiums	19%	No
Teen centers	12%	No
Indoor ice rinks	12%	No
Arenas	9%	No

The table below illustrates various LOS for recreational facilities and [illegible]s offered in Burleson, showcasing the extent of indoor recreational opportunities available to the community, including fitness centers, sports courts, swimming pools, and other indoor activities.

Indoor Swimming Pool				
Population	**Structures**	**LOS**	**Existing LOS**	**Gap**
55,144	1	1/64,150	1/55,144	0.19 surplus
125,527 (projected)	1	1/64,150	1/125,527	0.96 deficit
Recreational Facility (Gym)				
Population	**Structures**	**LOS**	**Existing LOS**	**Gap**
55,144	1	1/39,886	1/55,144	0.30 deficit
125,527 (projected)	1	1/39,886	1/125,527	2.15 deficit
Senior Center				
Population	**Structures**	**LOS**	**Existing LOS**	**Gap**
55,144	1	1/67,190	1/55,144	0.20 surplus
125,527 (projected)	1	1/67,190	1/125,527	0.87 deficit
Aquatic Center				
Population	**Structures**	**LOS**	**Existing LOS**	**Gap**
55,144	1	1/60,824	1/55,144	0.15 surplus
125,527 (projected)	1	1/60,824	1/125,527	1.06 deficit
Basketball Court				
Population	**Structures**	**LOS**	**Existing LOS**	**Gap**
55,144	2	1/26,612	1/25,857	1 surplus
125,527 (projected)	2	1/26,612	1/62,763	2.72 deficit

Takeaways

Current LOS Metric:
Burleson's current level of service (LOS) for indoor recreational space is 1.47 square feet per resident, below NRPA standards.

Comparison with Similar Cities:
Burleson has a lower indoor recreation facility square footage to resident ratio than the median for cities of a similar size, but the existing LOS metrics for other indoor facilities such as aquatic centers or senior centers surpass the median figure.

Benchmarking Against Peers:
Burleson's indoor recreation LOS is slightly below cities like Grapevine and Euless in terms of recreational facility availability, but it is comparatively stronger than Mansfield.

Future Needs:
As Burleson's population grows, the discrepancy in recreational facility availability will likely become more pronounced. Additional indoor recreational space and amenities may be necessary to maintain or improve accessibility and service levels.

Action Required:
To address the anticipated shortage and future growth, Burleson's decision-makers should consider expanding the city's indoor recreational facilities and amenities to better meet the needs of its residents and align with national standards. A new sports complex at the community park anticipates replacing Hidden Creek Sports Complex and meeting the needs of the sporting community.

Chisenhall Sports Complex

Source:

BRiCk Splashpad

Source: City of Burleson

OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE

6

Source: City of Burleson

Source: City of Burleson

6 OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE

Introduction
Current Operations
Future Operations
Financial and Revenue Strategies
Operations and Staffing Recommendations

Introduction

The City of Burleson has ample parks, recreation, programming, and trails needing ongoing maintenance and operational staff. As the parks system grows, facilities are added and programming develops further. In turn, the staffing requirements and needs for these additional spaces grow. The city contracts with a third party contractor for litter maintenance and tier 2 and 3 mowing/trimming maintenance. Tier 1 mowing , R.O.W's, and the city mowing drainage program are handles internally with the Parks department. This is a critical aspect of managing infrastructure and keeping systems operating efficiently and reliably.

Parks and Recreation, Cityfest 2025

Source: City of Burleson

Current Operations

The Parks and Recreation Department presently staffs the BRiCk, maintenance, Russell Farm, and Hidden Creek Golf Course. Current FY 2025 staffing is below. These numbers are inclusive of full time and part time staff. Anticipated 10 year staffing projection for 2035 and 20 year staffing projection for 2045 follows current staffing numbers.

- Parks and Recreation Administration - 7.5 individuals
- BRiCk Administration - 7 individuals
- Parks Maintenance - 23 individuals
- Aquatics and Recreation - 126 individuals
- Athletics Team - 7 individuals
- Russell Farm - 2.5 individuals
- Hidden Creek Golf Course - 30 individuals
- Programs - 5 individuals
- Special Events - 4 individuals

Future Operations (FY 2035)

- Parks and Recreation Administration - 9 individuals
- BRiCk Administration - 8 individuals
- Parks Maintenance - 27 individuals
- Aquatics and Recreation - 128 individuals
- Athletics Team - 7 individuals
- Russell Farm - 4 individuals
- Hidden Creek Golf Course - 39 individuals
- Programs - 6 individuals
- Special Events - 5 individuals

Future Operations (FY 2045)

- Parks and Recreation Administration - 10 individuals
- BRiCk Administration - 9 individuals
- Parks Maintenance - 32 individuals
- Aquatics and Recreation - 128 individuals
- Athletics Team - 7 individuals
- Russell Farm - 4 individuals
- Hidden Creek Golf Course - 39 individuals
- Programs - 6 individuals
- Special Events - 5 individuals

BRiCK Splash Pad

Parks and Recreation Month, 2024

Sources: City of Burleson

Operations and Staffing Recommendations

Developing and implementing a plan to identify full-time positions necessary to operate and manage the Parks and Recreation Department for the next 5 - 10 years. This could include the addition of parks maintenance staff; expand the programming staff to further grow the athletics, events, youth and adult recreation programs; and administrative personnel where needed in existing facilities and new facilities.

Goals

- Equity, diversity, and inclusion to create a welcoming environment for all individuals.
- Follow general City operations and requirements and parks department operations.
- Develop a funding strategy to expand operations and maintenance staff
- Update operational policies and procedures and ensure all employees are aware of updates.
- Establish performance measures and develop an annual methodology for tracking.

Financial and Revenue Strategies

The Burleson Parks and Recreation Department is funded through a variety of platforms. The 4B provides a half-cent sales tax dedicated to the maintenance and expansion of parks and recreation facilities, accounting for more than 70% of the department's annual operating budget.

Chisenhall Sports Complex Ribbon Cutting

Park Performance Fund (PPF): Proprietary funds generated from various activities, such as athletics, the Burleson Recreation Center (BRiCk), and Russell Farm.

Parks and recreation departments often generate revenue from user fees for activities and services such as admission to recreation centers, rental of facilities, participation in sports leagues, classes, and special events. Hidden Creek Golf Course, Russell Farm Art Center, the BRiCk, and the Chisenhall Sports Complex fall under Burleson's revenue generating facilities.

General Fund Revenues are a primary source of funds for most parks and recreation departments. General fund revenues come from local taxes, such as property taxes, sales taxes, and sometimes income taxes. These funds are allocated annually through the city's budgetary process. ROW maintenance and general park maintenance fall under the general fund revenue category.

Departments may receive grants from federal, state, and local governments as well as from private foundations and non-profit organizations. These grants often support specific projects or initiatives such as park renovations and improvements.

With the growth Burleson is seeing, fees charged to residential developers for the dedication and development of parks, last updated 2022, no need to update at this time.

Cities may issue municipal bonds to raise funds for large-scale capital projects. The bonds are repaid over time, typically through property taxes or other dedicated revenue streams.

Kids Around the World Playground Donation

Be Healthy Burleson Run, 2024

Sources: City of Burleson

Prairie Timber Park

Source: City of Burleson

IMPLEMENTATION 7

Far Out Family C

Source: City of Burleson

7 IMPLEMENTATION

Introduction
Action and Goals Matrix

Implementation

Introduction

The actualization of the Burleson Parks Master Plan requires a concerted effort that will require financial investment paired with the identification of responsible parties, funding avenues, and time frames. The recommendations made within the plan have been subdivided into Action Items that provide a measurable and actionable framework that should serve as a checklist for the city to track the progression of park-related objectives.

Action Types

Investment: New or adjusted capital or operational expenditure.
Study: Requires further analysis or investigation to determine the most appropriate solution.
Regulation: Requires Council-approved modification to City ordinance.
Operations: Requires a new or modified program or staffing arrangement.
Policy: Requires a new or modified process or policy to guide City decisions.
Partnership: Formal agreement or informal pursuit of shared goals with an external entity.

Timeline

Short-Term: Items should be completed within five years of this plan's adoption. These are either items that are feasible to implement within a short period of time or high-priority items that must be completed promptly.
Mid-Term: Items should be completed within five to ten years post-plan adoption.
Long-Term: These items should be included in the city's long-term budget and vision, but likely require additional prerequisites such as planning studies, funding, or phasing before implementation. These items will likely require more than ten years after plan adoption to be completed.
Ongoing: Items that do not have a specific timeframe but should be continually implemented throughout the plan's lifecycle.

Cost

These general estimates indicate the projected financial responsibility that would be placed on the city for completing the associated action.
Estimated Dollar Amount
$ Up to $150,000
$$ $150,000 - $400,000
$$$ $400,000 - $1 million
$$$$ More than $1 million

Responsible Party
The responsible party is the agency associated with the City of Burleson that oversees the implementation of the action item.

Funding Source

Federal Grants:
- Community Development Block Grants

State Grants:
- Texas Parks and Wildlife Department programs

Local Funding:
- City budget allocations
- Bond issues
- County grants
- Capital Improvement (CI)

Private Sector:
- Corporate sponsorships and partnerships
- HOA parks/privately developed and maintained parks
- Sponsorships

Nonprofit and Charitable:
- Grants and donations from foundations
- Support from local nonprofits

Community Fundraising:
- Crowdfunding campaigns
- Fundraising events

Public-Private Partnerships:
- Development agreements and collaborative ventures

Implementation

Introduction of Interactive Fitness Zones:
Proposal Statement: Introduce interactive fitness zones within Burleson's parks, leveraging modern fitness equipment and technology to encourage physical activity, cater to diverse age groups, and enhance the overall well-being of residents.

Greenway Expansion for Enhanced Connectivity:
Proposal Statement: Expand the existing greenway network to establish comprehensive connectivity between parks and neighborhoods, promoting alternative transportation, encouraging outdoor recreation, and fostering a stronger sense of community cohesion.

Inclusive Playground Upgrades:
Proposal Statement: Upgrade existing playgrounds to be inclusive and accessible for all abilities, ensuring that children of varying needs can enjoy the benefits of play in a safe and welcoming environment, reinforcing the city's commitment to inclusivity.

Trail Lighting for Extended Hours of Use:
Proposal Statement: Install trail lighting along key pathways within parks to extend usability into the evening hours, providing residents with safer and more accessible opportunities for recreational activities, evening walks, and community events.

Creation of Outdoor Learning Spaces:
Proposal Statement: Develop designated outdoor learning spaces within parks, integrating educational elements and interpretive signage to engage residents in environmental stewardship, wildlife education, and experiential learning opportunities.

Community Gardens for Sustainable Living:
Proposal Statement: Establish community gardens within parks promoting sustainable practices, local food production, and community engagement. These gardens would serve as educational hubs and promote a culture of environmental responsibility.

Cycling Infrastructure Enhancements:
Proposal Statement: Enhance cycling infrastructure by creating dedicated bike lanes, bike-sharing programs, and repair stations along popular trails. This will encourage sustainable transportation and promote a bike-friendly culture within the community.

Programs for Active Aging:
Proposal Statement: Develop tailored programs and amenities within parks to cater to the needs and interests of older adults, promoting active aging, social interaction, and health and wellness activities in a supportive and inclusive environment.

Ecological Restoration Initiatives:
Proposal Statement: Implement ecological restoration initiatives within parks to preserve and enhance natural habitats, promoting biodiversity, and establishing a model for responsible environmental stewardship within urban landscapes.

Public Art Installations:
Proposal Statement: Integrate public art installations within parks and along trails to enhance aesthetic appeal, celebrate local culture, and create landmarks that contribute to a sense of identity, pride, and community connection.

ADA Inclusivity:
Proposal Statement: Enhance ADA accessibility by conducting a comprehensive audit of public facilities and identifying areas that need improvements. Following this, the city can invest in infrastructure upgrades, such as ramps, curb cuts, and accessible pedestrian signals at key intersections and public spaces.

These proposal statements are designed to spark improvements in Burleson's parks, trails, and recreation, addressing diverse needs and enhancing the overall quality of life for residents.

Goal 1: Elevate Park Quality and Natural Connectivity						
Number	**Action Item**	**Action Type**	**Conceptual Cost**	**Responsible Party**	**Funding Sources**	**Timeline**
1.1	Develop parkland in areas currently under served	Policy	$$$$	Parks and Planning	City Bond, CI, Grants	Mid-Term
1.2	Actively plan and coordinate with the County for the acquisition and development of parks and open space in ETJ areas of the City.	Policy	$$	Parks, Planning, Development Services	City Bond, CI, Grants, Private Funding	Ongoing
1.3	Routinely review and update the parkland dedication ordinance to ensure that it reflects the true cost of acquiring and developing parks and ensure maintenance and operations increase with development.	Policy	$	Parks and Recreation	City Bond, CI, Grants	Ongoing
1.4	Increase the percentage of residents that are within a 10-minute walk to a park to 75% by 2040.	Investment	$$$$	Parks and Recreation	City Bond, CI, Grants	Long-Term
1.5	Conduct specific park master plans for several parks in Burleson.	Investment	$$$	Parks and Recreation	City Bond, CI, Grants	Long-Term
1.6	Pursue funding from Texas Parks and Wildlife Department for future amenities.	Partnership	$$	Parks and Recreation	City Bond, CI, Grants	Long-Term
1.7	Incorporate all-inclusive play structures into playgrounds where feasible.	Investment	$$$$	Parks and Recreation	City Bond, CI, Grants	Mid-Term
1.8	Improve wayfinding signage within existing parks to locate amenities.	Investment	$$	Parks and Recreation	City Bond, CI, Grants	Ongoing
1.9	Identify ADA accessibility issues within existing parks and develop a plan to address them.	Investment and Policy	$$$$	Parks and Recreation	City Bond, CI, Grants	Ongoing
1.10	Implement low-impact design and maintenance strategies.	Investment and Policy	$$$$	Parks and Recreation	City Bond, CI, Grants	Ongoing
1.11	Update structures or amenities with known safety issues.	Investment and Policy	$$$$	Parks and Recreation	City Bond, CI, Grants	Ongoing

Goal 2: Strengthen Connectivity and Environmental Resilience						
2.1	Partner with other departments to implement the improvements throughout the City of Burleson.	Partnership	$$$	Parks and Recreation, Planning, Engineering	City Bond, CI, Grants	Ongoing
2.2	Provide multi-use trails and accessible connections throughout the City and to surrounding cities or trails.	Investment, Partnership	$$$	Parks and Recreation	City Bond, CI, Grants	Mid-Term, Ongoing
2.3	Integrate trailheads, shade, lighting, and water stations.	Investment	$	Parks and Recreation	City Bond, CI, Grants	Ongoing
2.4	Promote sustainability and conservation by minimizing concrete trails where possible.	Investment, Policy	$$	Parks and Recreation, Planning	City Bond, CI, Grants	Ongoing
2.5	Implement regular environmental monitoring and maintenance.	Investment, Policy, Partnership	$	Parks and Recreation, Partnership	CI	Ongoing, Long-Term
Goal 3: Enhance Recreational Facilities Opportunity						
3.1	Improve and enhance aquatic, indoor recreation amenities, and outdoor recreation amenities.	Investment	$$$	Parks and Recreation	City Bond, CI, Grants	Ongoing, Long-Term
3.2	Evaluate program offerings as demands and trends evolve.	Policy	$	Parks and Recreation	City Bond, CI, Grants	Ongoing
3.3	Encourage placemaking in recreational facilities.	Investment	$	Parks and Recreation	City Bond, CI, Grants	Ongoing
Goal 4: Enrich Events and Programming for All						
4.1	Plan out a variety of events throughout the entirety of the year that target a range of audiences and activities.	Investment	$$$	Parks and Recreation	City Bond, CI, Grants	Mid-Term, Ongoing
4.2	Identify gaps in programming and establish new programs to target underrepresented age groups.	Investment	$$$	Parks and Recreation	City Bond, CI, Grants	Long-Term

Goal 5: Advance Hidden Creek Golf Course as a Premier Public Facility						
5.1	Enhance current facilities to increase efficiency, use, and appeal.	Investment	$$$$	Parks and Recreation	City Bond, CI, Grants	Mid-Term
5.2	Integrate more opportunities for play and generating revenue.	Investment, Partnerships	$$$$	Parks and Recreation, Capital Improvements	City Bond, CI, Grants	Mid-Term, Long-Term
Goal 6: Establish Russell Farm Art Center as a Cultural and Art Hub						
6.1	Engage with the broader community to enhance the presence of the center.	Investment, Partnership	$	Parks and Recreation	City Bond, CI, Grants	Short-Term, Ongoing
6.2	Offer diverse programming and resources.	Investment, Partnerships	$$	Parks and Recreation	City Bond, CI, Grants	Short-Term, Ongoing

Potential Goals: The below potential goals represent additional measures and techniques to achieve the established six strategic framework set forth with this t.

Potential	Within the next five years, apply for at least three Texas Parks and Wildlife grant funding opportunities	Partnership	$$	Planning	City Bond, CI, Grants	Mid-Term
Potential	Continue to coordinate with developers on new parks and amenities within master plan developments.	Investment	$	Development Services	Privately Funded	Ongoing
Potential	Maintain a Park acreage Level of Service measure for the city of Burleson that is greater than the median for populations of similar sizes.	Policy	$$$	Parks and Recreation	City Bond, CI, Grants	Long-Term
Potential	Utilize the Trust for Public Land's ParkServe or a similar tool to make decisions that provide equitable distribution of park amenities throughout the City.	Investment, Policy	$	Parks and Recreation	City Bond, CI, Grants	Ongoing
Potential	Consider strategic acquisition or shared-use agreements with public institutions within areas currently under served by parks	Partnership	$$	Parks and Recreation	City Bond, CI, Grants	Mid-Term
Potential	Canopy coverage	Investment, Policy	$$$	Parks and Recreation	City Bond, CI, Grants	Long-Term
Potential	Playground Maintenance	Investment, Policy	$$	Parks and Recreation	City Bond, CI, Grants	Ongoing
Potential	Low Impact Development (LID)	Investment, Policy	$$$	Parks and Planning	City Bond, CI, Grants	Long-Term
Potential	Promote Volunteer Opportunities: Develop volunteer programs for park clean-ups, trail maintenance, and other community involvement activities.	Investment, Partnership	$	Parks and Recreation	City Bond, CI, Grants	Ongoing
Potential	Create a branding palette for consistent future trail amenities, including mile markers, parking, trailheads, and other wayfinding signage. Integrate Burleson's existing strong parks and recreation branding mechanisms into this design.	Capital Investments	$$$	Parks and Recreation		Long-Term

Cedar Ridge Park

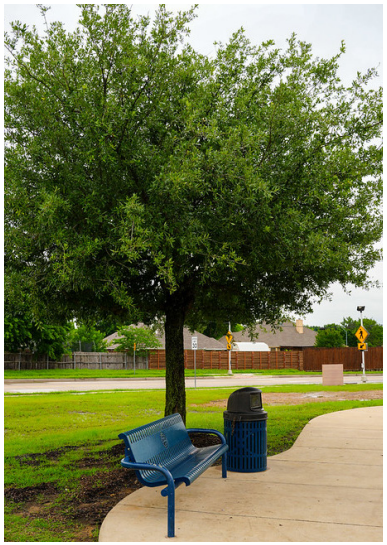
Source: City of Burleson

APPENDIX i

Park Design Standards

This document outlines the design standards for park improvements to ensure consistent quality, functionality, and aesthetic appeal for public spaces. The following guidelines address key amenities to enhance the park experience.

This is a living document maintained by the Parks and Recreation Department and is updated as design best practices and community needs evolve.



Source: City of Burleson

Landscape Improvements

1. Native and Adaptive Plantings

Plant Selection: Prioritize native and drought-resistant species to reduce water consumption and maintenance.
Biodiversity: Design landscapes that support local wildlife and pollinators.
Mulching: Use mulch to retain moisture and suppress weeds.
Monarch Way Station Design

- *Location:* Choose a sunny location with minimal human disturbance, preferably near natural areas like forests, prairies, or meadows.
- *Accessibility:* The way station should be easily accessible for monitoring and maintenance while ensuring that it does not interfere with existing habitats.
- *Size:* At least 100 square feet (10x10 feet) to provide enough resources for monarchs.
- *Plant Selection:* Prioritize native and drought-resistant species to reduce water consumption and maintenance.
    - Milkweed: Essential for monarch reproduction as it is the sole host plant for their larvae. There are various species of milkweed to choose from depending on your region, such as:
    - Common Milkweed (Asclepias Syriaca)
    - Swamp Milkweed (Asclepias incarnata)
    - Butterfly Weed (Asclepias tuberosa)
    - Showy Milkweed (Asclepias speciosa)
    - Nectar Plants: Monarchs also need nectar plants for sustenance during migration. Include native flowering plants that bloom throughout the growing season. Examples include:
        - Coneflower (Echinacea)
        - Black-eyed Susan (Rudbeckia)
        - Liatris (Liatris spicata)
        - Aster (Symphyotrichum)
        - Purple Prairie Clover (Dalea purpurea)
        - Bee Balm (Monarda)
        - *Diversity:* A variety of native flowering plants help attract other pollinators and provides continuous nectar sources.
- **Water Source:** Monarchs need water to drink, so incorporate a shallow dish or birdbath with clean, fresh water. Ensure the water is not too deep to avoid drowning.

Wildflower Meadow

Source: City of Burleson

Purple Prairie Clover, Purple Coneflower, and Yellow Coneflower Pollinator Garden

Source: Wisconsin Public Radio

2. Naturalized Areas

- **Purpose:** Designate specific areas for naturalized landscapes to enhance habitat creation and reduce mowing needs.
- **Trail Integration:** Incorporate interpretive signage to educate visitors on local ecosystems. Interpretive signage is defined in the signage section of this document.

Low-Impact Maintenance: Utilize minimal irrigation and natural growth cycles.

3. Drainage Ponds

- **Aeration:** Install aeration fountains to improve water quality and prevent stagnation.
- **Access:** Provide safe, controlled access for maintenance and emergency services.
- **Riparian Areas:** Incorporate native vegetation around ponds to enhance biodiversity and stabilize shorelines.

4. Sustainable Materials

- **Pathways & Trails:** Use recycled or permeable materials to improve stormwater management.
- **Furniture & Fixtures:** Prioritize sustainably sourced or recycled-content furnishings.
- **Construction Practices:** Implement low-carbon-footprint building methods when cost effective.

5. Irrigation for Graded Turfed Areas

- **Coverage:** Ensure full irrigation coverage for all turf areas to promote healthy growth and prevent dry spots.
- **Efficiency:** Utilize high-efficiency sprinkler heads and smart irrigation controllers to optimize water use.
- **Zoning:** Separate irrigation zones based on sun exposure, soil type, and turf species to maximize efficiency.

6. Tree Planting Requirements

- **Species Selection:** Use a diverse mix of native and adaptive trees to ensure biodiversity and resilience to climate conditions in Texas.
- **Placement:** Strategically plant trees to provide shade for pathways, seating areas, and playgrounds while avoiding conflicts with underground utilities.
- **Irrigation:** Provide deep-root watering systems or drip irrigation to establish healthy root systems and reduce water waste.
- **Maintenance:** Implement a tree care program including mulching, pruning, and pest management to sustain long-term health.

Burleson Arbor Day 2025

Source: City of Burleson

Active Recreation

1. Playgrounds

- **Age Zones:** Separate play structures for ages 2-5 and 5-12.
- **Safety Surfacing:** ADA-compliant materials such as pour-in-place rubberized surfacing or artificial turf to provide a safe, accessible play surface.
- **Shade Structures:** Integrated shade solutions for play areas to reduce heat exposure.
- **Inclusive Design:** Incorporate sensory play elements, wheelchair-accessible ramps, and diverse activity stations are recommended.

2. Dog Parks

- **Size & Layout:** Minimum of 5,000 sq. ft. for small parks; larger parks should allocate separate areas for small and large dogs.
- **Fencing:** Minimum 8-ft high fencing with double-gated entry for safe entry/exit.
- **Surface Material:** Use durable, low-maintenance materials like decomposed granite, artificial turf, or natural grass.
- **Amenities:** Include shaded seating, agility equipment, waste stations, and dog water fountains.
- **Signage:** a rules sign including our current dog park regulations must be placed at the entrance to the dog park.

3. Skate Parks

- **Design:** Provide features for various skill levels, including beginner, intermediate, and advanced riders.
- **Materials:** Construct with durable, low-maintenance concrete or modular systems.
- **Safety:** Ensure clear sightlines and adequate lighting for security and nighttime use.
- **Seating & Shade:** Include seating areas with shade for spectators and resting participants.

4. Sports Courts

- **Types:** Provide a variety of courts including basketball, tennis, pickle-ball, and volleyball.
- **Surfacing:** Use durable, shock-absorbent materials such as acrylic, asphalt, or concrete with proper striping for sport-specific guidelines.
- **Fencing:** Minimum 10-ft high fencing with durable, rust-resistant materials to contain balls and ensure safety.
- **Windscreens:** Install windscreens on fencing to reduce wind interference and improve player comfort.

5. Trail System

- **Multi-Use Trails**: Minimum 10-ft wide to accommodate pedestrians, cyclists, and strollers.
- **Walking Paths:** Minimum 6-ft wide for pedestrian-only pathways.
- **Surface Material:** Concrete, asphalt, or stabilized decomposed granite for durability and accessibility.
- **Lighting:** Provide LED lighting for safety in low-light conditions.

Centennial Park

Source: City of Burleson

Passive Recreation

1. Shade Structures

- **Placement:** Provide shade over picnic tables, seating areas, playgrounds, benches, and picnic tables where appropriate.
- **Material:** Use durable, UV-resistant fabrics or metal structures.
- **Design:** Ensure designs complement park aesthetics and provide sufficient airflow.

2. Site Furnishings

- **Benches:** Durable, low-maintenance seating with armrests for accessibility; incorporate shade structures or place in shaded areas.
- **Trash & Recycling Receptacles:** Strategically placed for convenient waste disposal.
- **Picnic Tables:** Provide ADA-compliant tables with shade structures or place in shaded areas.
- **Bike Racks:** Located near trailheads and entry points.
- **Design standards:** If development is a public park, must order current park standard furnishings as defined by Parks and Recreation Department Director and/or designee.

3. Water Fountains

- **Design:** Multi-level drinking stations to accommodate children, adults, and pets; include freeze-resistant features for year-round functionality.
- **Placement:** Install fountains near playgrounds, picnic areas, and trailheads.
- **Durability:** Use vandal-resistant and freeze-proof designs where appropriate.

4. Pavilions and Restrooms

- **Pavilions:**
  - Provide covered structures with picnic tables, seating, and electrical access where possible.
  - Size should accommodate small to large group gatherings with appropriate spacing for accessibility.
  - Locate pavilions near key activity areas such as playgrounds, splash pads, or sports courts for convenience.
- **Restrooms:**
  - Provide durable, easy-to-maintain facilities with ADA-compliant stalls.
  - Install baby-changing stations in both men's and women's restrooms.
  - Ensure restrooms are well-lit, ventilated, and equipped with water-efficient fixtures.
  - Restrooms are appropriate in parks classified as neighborhood or larger as defined in *Exhibit A*. To determine if a restroom is appropriate within a development, developer should get approval from the parks and recreation director or designee.

5. Signage

- **Wayfinding:** Clear directional signs for park amenities and trail routes.
- **Regulatory Signs:** Include park rules, leash requirements, and operational hours.
- **Educational/Interpretive Signage:** Highlight environmental features, wildlife, or historical context.
- **Design:** Consistent style, fonts, and colors for cohesive visual identity. The parks and recreation department will provide rules signs and branding requirements.

Bailey Lake Park, Burleson, Texas

Source: City of Burleson

Exhibit A - Classification of Parks:

The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) classifies parks into different categories based on their size, function, and the services they provide. The NRPA classification system includes the following park types:

1. Mini Parks
- Size: Less than 1 acre.
- Purpose: Serve small areas and provide basic recreational services like a small playground, seating, or green space.

Examples: Pocket parks, small neighborhood parks.

2. Neighborhood Parks
- Size: 1–10 acres.
- Purpose: Serve as community hubs within neighborhoods, offering areas for recreation, social gatherings, and often basic amenities like walking paths, playgrounds, and sports facilities.

Examples: Local parks with playgrounds, picnic areas, sports fields.

3. Community Parks
- Size: 10–50 acres.
- Purpose: Provide recreational opportunities to larger groups, often including more specialized facilities like sports complexes, nature trails, and open spaces for organized events or large gatherings.

Examples: Larger parks with sports courts, trails, and community event spaces.

4. Regional Parks
- Size: 50–200 acres.
- Purpose: Serve a broader regional area, offering larger-scale recreational activities. They often feature diverse natural environments, larger recreational complexes, or more specialized outdoor activities like camping or boating.

Examples: Nature reserves, large parks with multi-use trails, and lakes.

5. Special Use Parks
- Size: Variable.
- Purpose: Designed for specific, often specialized activities. These parks may not be intended for general recreation but rather for a particular purpose, such as athletic fields, golf courses, or historical sites.

Examples: Sports complexes, cultural heritage parks, zoos, botanical gardens, and golf courses.

6. Natural Resource Areas
- Size: Variable.
- Purpose: Areas primarily focused on the conservation of natural s, such as forests, wetlands, or wildlife habitats. These areas may provide opportunities for passive recreation like hiking and birdwatching, but their primary function is environmental preservation.

Examples: Nature preserves, wildlife refuges, and ecological reserves.

7. Greenways and Trails
- Size: Variable.
- Purpose: Linear corridors designed for non-motorized transportation and recreation, such as walking, biking, and horseback riding. Greenways often connect different parks and offer routes through natural or urban spaces.

Examples: Bike paths, hiking trails, and urban green corridors.

8. Urban Plazas and Open Spaces
- Size: Variable.
- Purpose: Typically located in urban areas, these spaces are designed for social interaction, relaxation, and often have amenities like seating, fountains, and public art. They serve as areas for community gatherings, lunch breaks, or cultural events.

Examples: Public plazas, town squares, and community gathering areas.

These classifications help in organizing parks and recreational spaces in a way that meets the needs of various communities, whether for small neighborhood enjoyment or large-scale regional recreation.

Clark Park (Mini-Park)

Source: Wisconsin Public Radio

Exhibit B - Approved Tree List:

Large Trees
American Elm
Arizona Cypress
Bald Cypress
Bur Oak
Caddo Maple
Cedar Elm
Chinquapin Oak
Deodar Cedar
Lacebark Elm
Live Oak
Mexican Sycamore
Monterrey Oak
Pecan
Pond Cypress
Shumard Red Oak
Southern Magnolia
Sycamore
Texas Red Oak

Medium Trees
Bigtooth Maple
Claudia Wannamaker Magnolia
Common Persimmon
D.D. Blanchard Magnolia
Eastern Red Cedar
Eve's Necklace
Ginkgo biloba
Lacey Oak
Little Gem Magnolia
Shantung Maple
Trident Maple

Oak Tree, Mayor Vera Calvin Plaza

Source: City of Burleson

Ornamental Trees
Blue Point Juniper
Carolina Buckthorn
Carolina Cherry Laurel
Crepe Myrtle
Deciduous Holly
Desert Willow
East Palatka Holly
Fig
Forest Pansey Redbud
Japanese Maple
Mexican Buckeye
Mexican Plum
Nellie R. Stevens Holly
Oklahoma Redbud
Rusty Blackhaw Viburnum
Savannah Holly
Saucer Magnolia
Smoketree
Sumac
Texas Mountain Laurel
Texas Perssimon
Vitex

Screening Trees
Arizona Cypress
Blue Point Juniper
Burford Holly
Carolina Cherry Laurel
East Palatka Holly
Eastern Red Cedar
Little Gem Magnolia
Mary Nell Holly
Nellie R. Stevens Holly
Savannah Holly
Taylor Juniper
Yaupon Holly

Arbor Day, 2024

Source: City of Burleson

Burleson Parks and Recreation Capital Project Program Plan

From Concept to Ribbon Cutting

This Capital Project Program Plan outlines the full lifecycle of a parks capital project—from concept and community input to funding, design, construction, and project close-out. This document clarifies internal processes, project timelines, and cross-department coordination needed to implement capital projects effectively. As a living document, this overview is reviewed and updated regularly to align with budget cycles, funding opportunities, and strategic priorities.

Phase 1: Concept Development & Prioritization

Objective: Identify and prioritize potential capital projects based on community needs, master plans, strategic goals, and feasibility.

Key Activities:

- Review adopted master plans (e.g., Open Space Plan, Facility Plans, ADA Transition Plan)
- Host internal brainstorming and alignment meetings
- Conduct gap analysis of facilities and service areas
- Evaluate preliminary cost estimates and constraints
- Identify alignment with grant or external funding opportunities

Public Engagement:

- Online input survey or comment form
- Pop-up outreach at events or community centers
- Stakeholder focus groups (e.g., youth sports, senior programs)

Milestones:

- Project concept developed and documented
- Internal staff vetting completed
- Public feedback synthesized and presented
- Priority list presented to Parks Board and City Council for endorsement

Phase 2: Feasibility and Pre-Design

Objective: Validate the project through site analysis, environmental fa st considerations, and stakeholder feedback.

Key Activities:

- Conduct feasibility studies (e.g., geotechnical, environmental, utility)
- Identify land acquisition or easement needs
- Create a high-level project schedule
- Develop a preliminary budget range

Public Engagement:

- Stakeholder meetings to validate need and desired outcomes
- Parks Board presentation and comment
- Online concept boards and comment period

Milestones:

- Feasibility study completed
- Land availability confirmed
- Cost range established
- Project advanced to schematic design phase

Phase 3: Schematic Design & Engagement

Objective: Create conceptual and schematic design alternatives based on community priorities and site constraints.

Key Activities:

- Hire design consultants
- Develop 2–3 conceptual site layouts
- Prepare visuals/renderings for engagement
- Estimate updated budget based on schematic design

Public Engagement:

- Open house or public workshop
- Online comment platform for design input
- Youth/family engagement for play and recreation elements
- Focused accessibility feedback for inclusive features

Milestones:

- Preferred schematic design selected
- Public input documented and responded to
- Schematic budget confirmed and updated
- City Council and Parks Board approval

Phase 4: Final Design & Permitting

Objective: Complete construction documents, permitting, and final cost estimates.

Key Activities:

- Construction drawings (CDs) and specifications completed
- Coordinate with engineering, legal, and permitting departments
- Final cost estimate and bid package preparation
- Procurement schedule finalized

Public Engagement:

- Design boards shared for transparency
- Project website updated with design status and FAQs

Milestones:

- 100% construction documents complete
- Permits submitted and/or approved
- Bid documents issued
- Project advertised for bid

Phase 5: Funding & Procurement

Objective: Secure and finalize all funding and contracts for construction.

Key Activities:

- Confirm funding sources (CIP, grants, donations, partnerships)
- Submit grant reimbursement/approval documentation (where applicable)
- Evaluate bids and award construction contract
- Draft and execute construction agreements

Public Engagement:

- Public update via social media and project webpage
- Ribbon-cutting teaser/promotional materials developed

Milestones:

- Grant or bond funding confirmed
- Bids received and reviewed
- Construction contract awarded
- Pre-construction meeting scheduled

Phase 6: Construction

Objective: Execute the construction of the project while ensuri y, communication, and compliance with specifications.

Key Activities:

- Issue notice to proceed
- Regular site inspections and construction meetings
- Change order management
- Community impact updates (closures, detours, etc.)

Public Engagement:

- Monthly updates via website/social
- Onsite signage showing renderings and timeline
- Project walkthrough with stakeholders and elected officials

Milestones:

- Groundbreaking event (if applicable)
- Key construction phases completed (sitework, vertical, landscaping)
- Substantial completion walkthrough

Construction - Public Works

Source: City of Burleson

Phase 7: Project Close-Out & Ribbon Cutting

Objective: Ensure project meets expectations, finalize documentation, and celebrate with the community.

Key Activities:

- Final inspection and punch list completion
- Final payments and grant reimbursement
- Project documentation archived
- Maintenance and operation plans handed off
- Community celebration and communications

Public Engagement:

- Ribbon cutting event with media and partners
- Recognition of donors, stakeholders, and community participants
- Social media “then and now” campaign

Milestones:

- Final completion and acceptance
- Maintenance transfer complete
- Public event held
- Project formally closed in CIP tracking
- Cross-Phase Tools & Commitments
- Project Webpage: Updated monthly with visuals, timeline, budget, FAQs
- Transparency Dashboard: Track progress against timeline and budget
- Quarterly Reports: Internal and Council/Park Board updates
- Community Recognition: Inclusion of community voices and contributors in signage, events, or publications

Cedar Ridge Park Ribbon Cutting

Centennial Park Grand Re-Opening Ribbon Cutting

Sources: City of Burleson

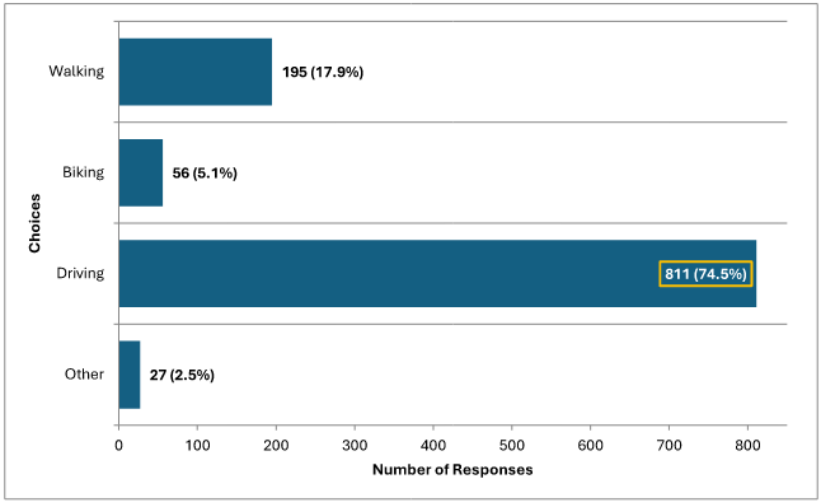
Burleson Parks, Recreation, Trails, and Open Space Master Plan Survey Results

Plan, was open for responses from April 29, 2024, to September 9, 2024. A key goal of the public engagement process was to foster transparency, encourage participation from individuals who might not typically engage in projects like this, and ensure that the final plan reflects the community's vision. The survey was hosted on CVENT and promoted through various virtual platforms by the City.

More than 1,000 individuals provided feedback, answering questions about Burleson's existing conditions, their visions, and priorities for the city's parks, trails, and open spaces. This document outlines the responses to the community survey.

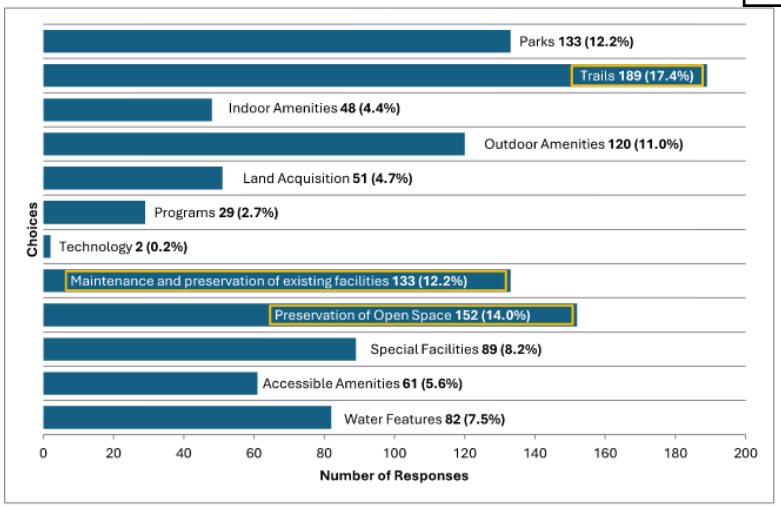
Section 1 - Introduction:

What is your primary method of transportation for accessing parks, trails, or recreation facilities?



Choices	Number of Responses
Other	27 (2.5%)
Driving	811 (74.5%)
Biking	56 (5.1%)
Walking	195 (17.9%)

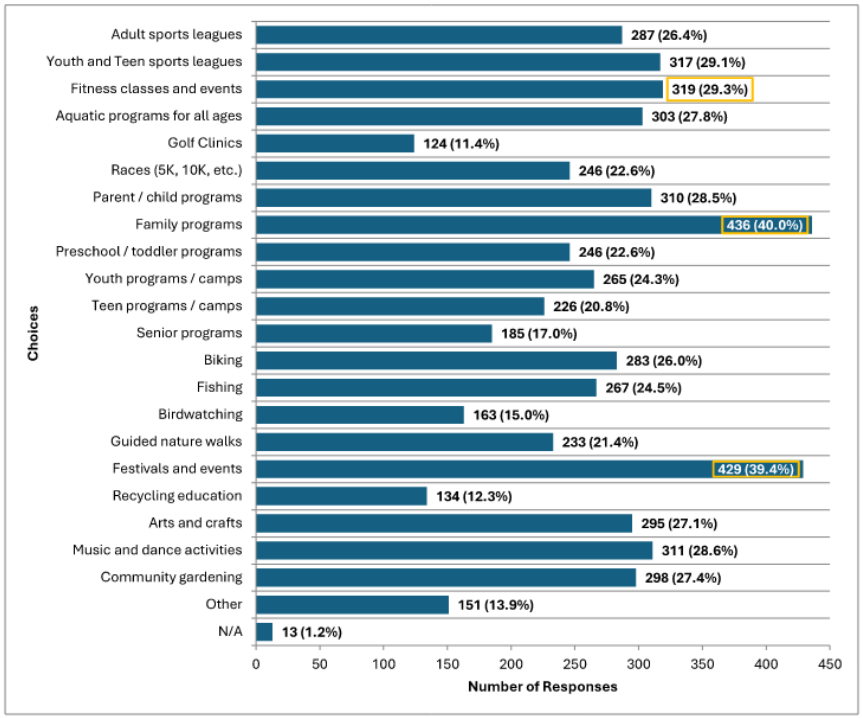
What do you consider to be the most important priority for Burleson Parks and Recreation?



Choices	Number of Responses
Water features (splash pads, etc.)	82 (7.5%)
Accessible Amenities	61 (5.6%)
Special Facilities (skate parks, etc.)	89 (8.2%)
Preservation of open space	152 (14.0%)
Maintenance and preservation of existing facilities	133 (12.2%)
Technology	2 (0.2%)
Programs	29 (2.7%)
Land Acquisition	51 (4.7%)
Outdoor Amenities	120 (11.0%)
Indoor Amenities	48 (4.4%)
Trails	189 (17.4%)
Parks	133 (12.2%)

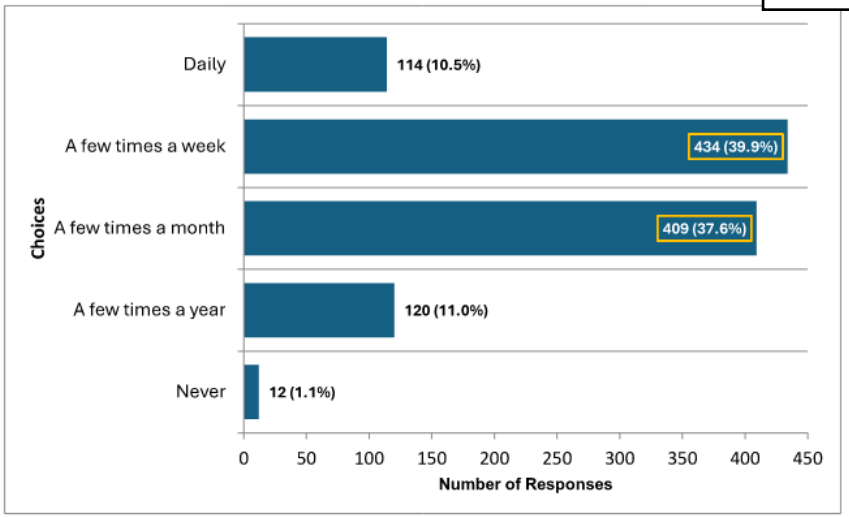
Section 2 - Parks:

What programs or special events would you or any member of your household be most interested in seeing in your community?



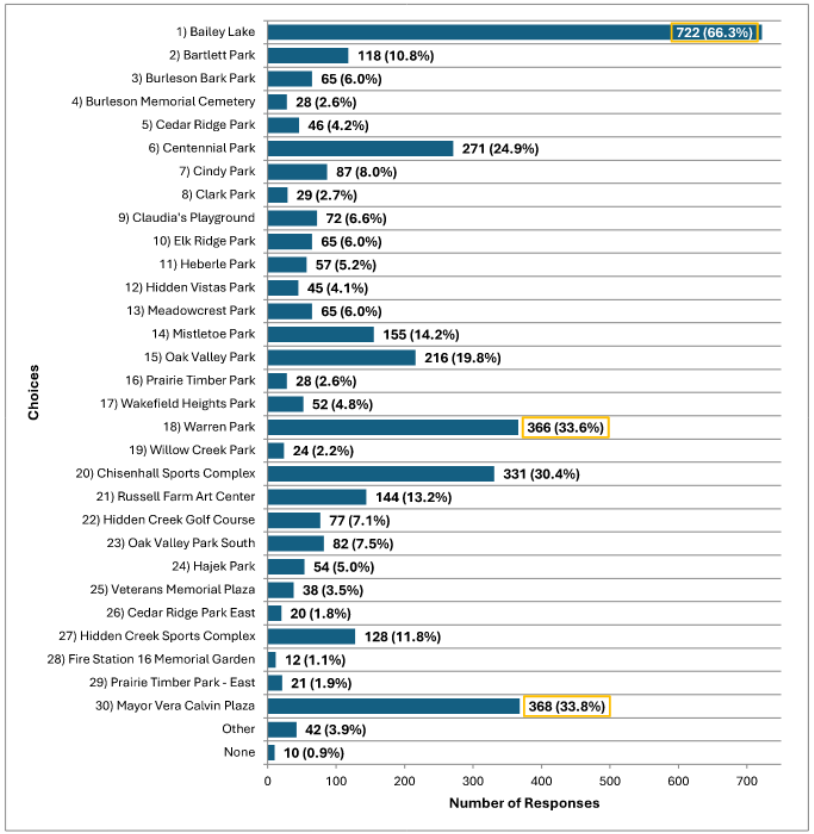
Choices	Number of Responses
N/A	13 (1.2%)
Other	151 (13.9%)
Community gardening	298 (27.4%)
Music and dance activities	311 (28.6%)
Arts and crafts	295 (27.1%)
Recycling education	134 (12.3%)
Festivals and events	429 (39.4%)
Guided nature walks	233 (21.4%)
Birdwatching	163 (15.0%)
Fishing	267 (24.5%)
Biking	283 (26.0%)
Senior programs	185 (17.0%)
Teen programs / camps	226 (20.8%)
Youth programs / camps	265 (24.3%)
Preschool / toddler programs	246 (22.6%)
Family programs	436 (40.0%)
Parent / child programs	310 (28.5%)
Races (5K, 10K, etc.)	246 (22.6%)
Golf Clinics	124 (11.4%)
Aquatic programs for all ages	303 (27.8%)
Fitness classes and events	319 (29.3%)
Youth and Teen sports leagues	317 (29.1%)
Adult sports leagues	287 (26.4%)

How often do you visit park facilities in Burleson?



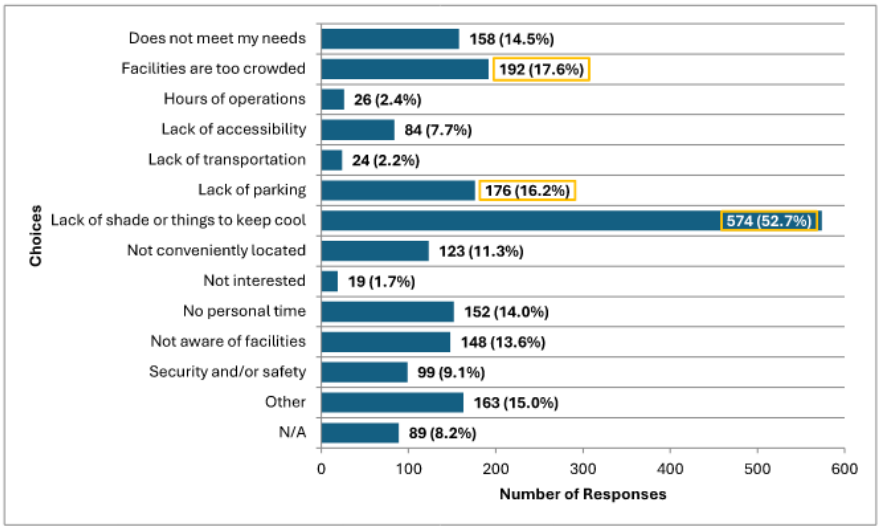
Choices	Number of Responses
Never	12 (1.1%)
A few times a year	120 (11.0%)
A few times a month	409 (37.6%)
A few times a week	434 (39.9%)
Daily	114 (10.5%)

Which Park(s) in our community do you frequent the most?



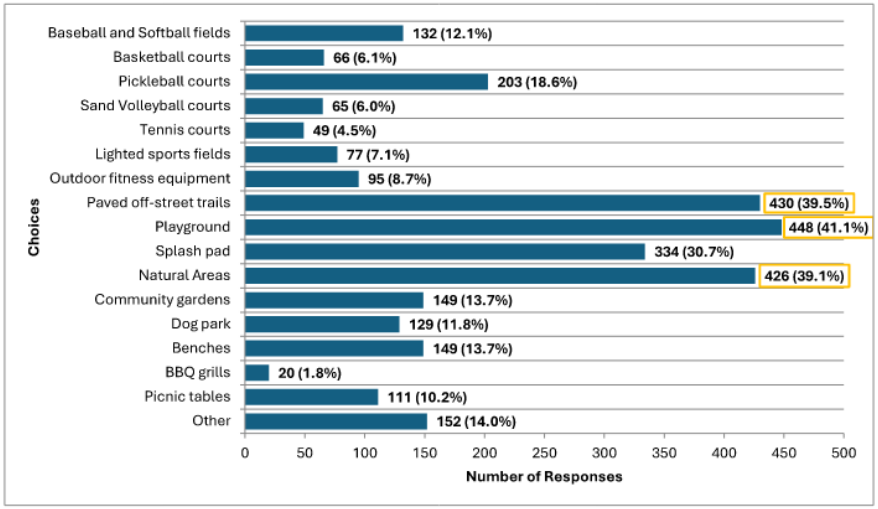
Choices	Number of Responses
None	10 (0.9%)
Other	42 (3.9%)
30) Mayor Vera Calvin Plaza	368 (33.8%)
29) Prairie Timber Park - East	21 (1.9%)
28) Fire Station 16 Memorial Garden	12 (1.1%)
27) Hidden Creek Sports Complex	128 (11.8%)
26) Cedar Ridge Park East	20 (1.8%)
25) Veterans Memorial Plaza	38 (3.5%)
24) Hajek Park	54 (5.0%)
23) Oak Valley Park South	82 (7.5%)
22) Hidden Creek Golf Course	77 (7.1%)
21) Russell Farm Art Center	144 (13.2%)
20) Chisenhall Sports Complex	331 (30.4%)
19) Willow Creek Park	24 (2.2%)
18) Warren Park	366 (33.6%)
17) Wakefield Heights Park	52 (4.8%)
16) Prairie Timber Park	28 (2.6%)
15) Oak Valley Park	216 (19.8%)
14) Mistletoe Park	155 (14.2%)
13) Meadowcrest Park	65 (6.0%)
12) Hidden Vistas Park	45 (4.1%)
11) Heberle Park	57 (5.2%)
10) Elk Ridge Park	65 (6.0%)
9) Claudia's Playground	72 (6.6%)
8) Clark Park	29 (2.7%)
7) Cindy Park	87 (8.0%)
6) Centennial Park	271 (24.9%)
5) Cedar Ridge Park	46 (4.2%)
4) Burleson Memorial Cemetery	28 (2.6%)
3) Burleson Bark Park	65 (6.0%)
2) Bartlett Park	118 (10.8%)
1) Bailey Lake	722 (66.3%)

Which of the following reasons prevent you or other members of your household from using the parks more often?



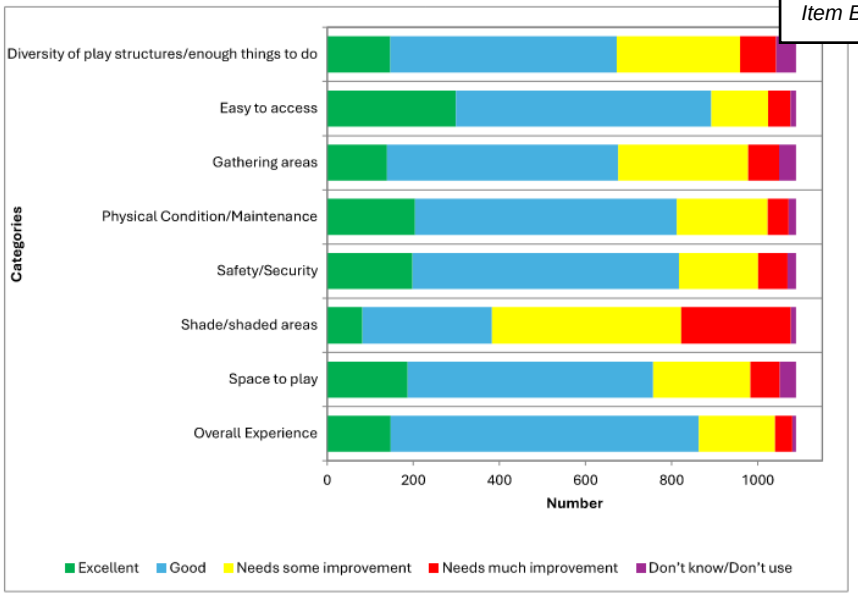
Choices	Number of Responses
N/A	89 (8.2%)
Other	163 (15.0%)
Security and/or safety	99 (9.1%)
Not aware of facilities	148 (13.6%)
No personal time	152 (14.0%)
Not interested	19 (1.7%)
Not conveniently located	123 (11.3%)
Lack of shade or things to keep cool	574 (52.7%)
Lack of parking	176 (16.2%)
Lack of transportation	24 (2.2%)
Lack of accessibility	84 (7.7%)
Hours of operations	26 (2.4%)
Facilities are too crowded	192 (17.6%)
Does not meet my needs	158 (14.5%)

Which three outdoor amenities are most important to your household?



Choices	Number of Responses
Other	152 (14.0%)
Picnic tables	111 (10.2%)
BBQ grills	20 (1.8%)
Benches	149 (13.7%)
Dog park	129 (11.8%)
Community gardens	149 (13.7%)
Natural Areas	426 (39.1%)
Splash pad	334 (30.7%)
Playground	448 (41.1%)
Paved off-street trails	430 (39.5%)
Outdoor fitness equipment	95 (8.7%)
Lighted sports fields	77 (7.1%)
Tennis courts	49 (4.5%)
Sand Volleyball courts	65 (6.0%)
Pickleball courts	203 (18.6%)
Basketball courts	66 (6.1%)
Baseball and Softball fields	132 (12.1%)

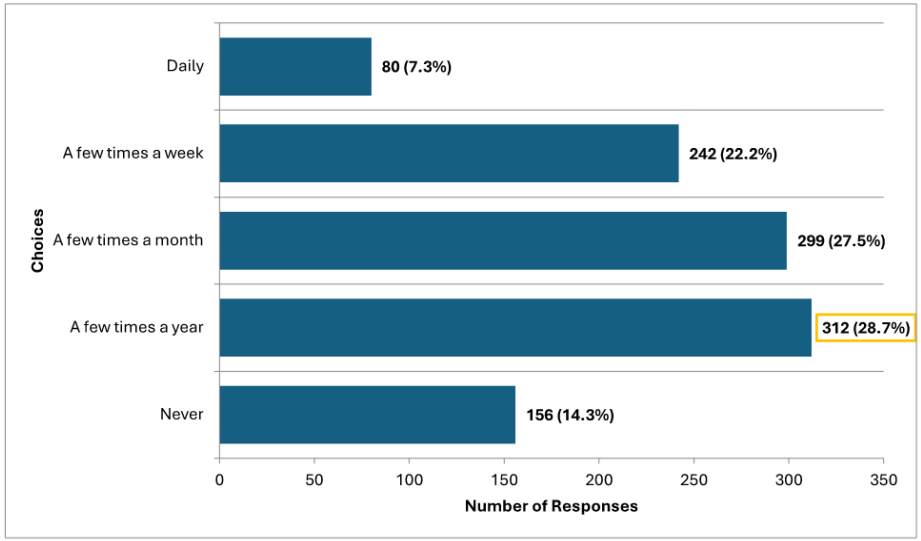
How would you rate the parks or facility features during your visit?



Answer Category	Excellent	Good	Needs some improvement	Needs much improvement	Don't know/Don't use
Overall Experience	13.6%	65.7%	16.3%	3.7%	0.8%
Space to play	17.2%	52.3%	20.8%	6.2%	3.5%
Shade/shaded areas	7.5%	27.6%	40.3%	23.4%	1.1%
Safety/Security	18.2%	56.8%	16.9%	6.2%	1.8%
Physical Condition/Maintenance	18.7%	55.8%	19.4%	4.5%	1.6%
Gathering areas	12.8%	49.3%	27.7%	6.6%	3.6%
Easy to access	27.5%	54.5%	12.1%	4.8%	1.2%
Diversity of play structures/enough things to do	13.5%	48.3%	26.3%	7.7%	4.2%

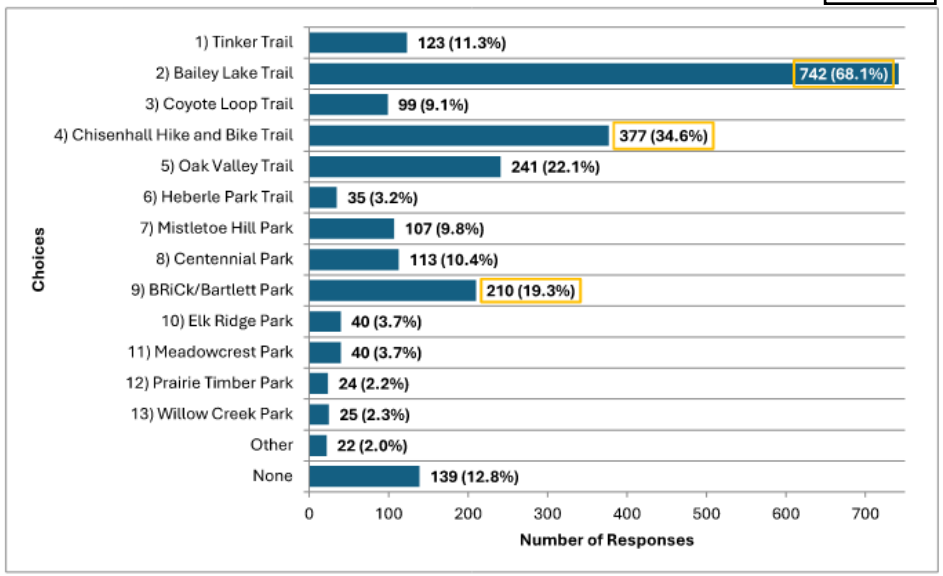
Section 3 - Trails:

How often do you use the trails in Burleson?



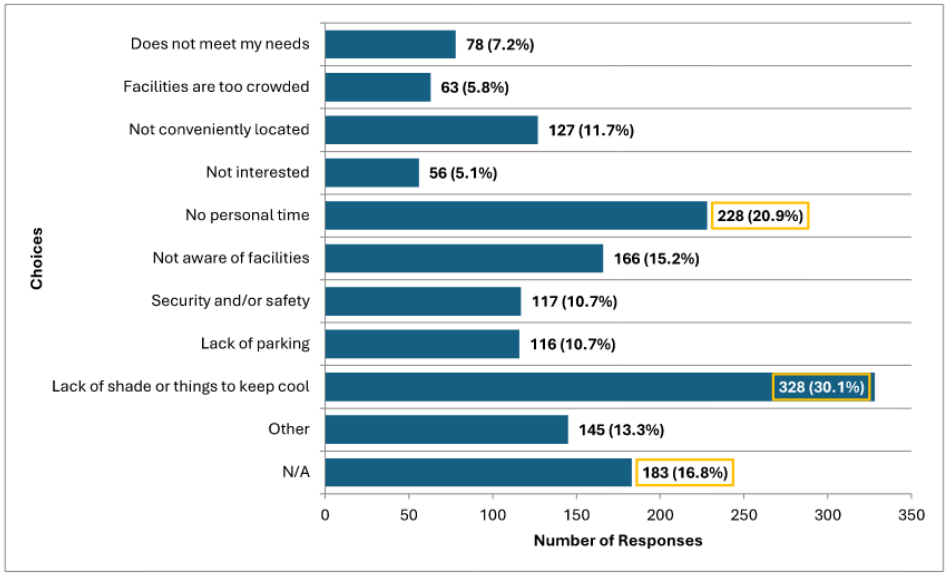
Choices	Number of Responses
Never	156 (14.3%)
A few times a year	312 (28.7%)
A few times a month	299 (27.5%)
A few times a week	242 (22.2%)
Daily	80 (7.3%)

Which Trail(s) in our community do you frequent the most?



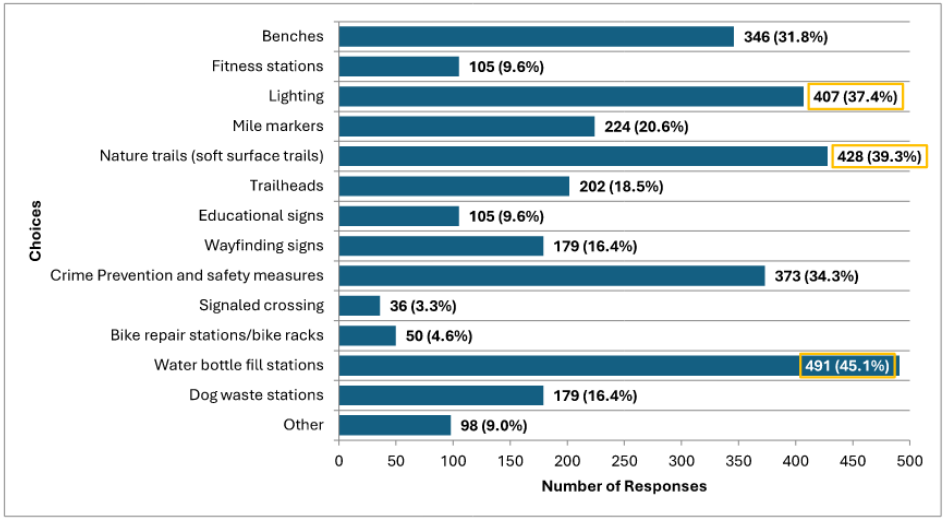
Choices	Number of Responses
None	139 (12.8%)
Other	22 (2.0%)
13) Willow Creek Park	25 (2.3%)
12) Prairie Timber Park	24 (2.2%)
11) Meadowcrest Park	40 (3.7%)
10) Elk Ridge Park	40 (3.7%)
9) BRiCk/Bartlett Park	210 (19.3%)
8) Centennial Park	113 (10.4%)
7) Mistletoe Hill Park	107 (9.8%)
6) Heberle Park Trail	35 (3.2%)
5) Oak Valley Trail	241 (22.1%)
4) Chisenhall Hike and Bike Trail	377 (34.6%)
3) Coyote Loop Trail	99 (9.1%)
2) Bailey Lake Trail	742 (68.1%)

Which of the following reasons prevent you or other members of your household from using the trails more often?



Choices	Number of Responses
N/A	183 (16.8%)
Other	145 (13.3%)
Lack of shade or things to keep cool	328 (30.1%)
Lack of parking	116 (10.7%)
Security and/or safety	117 (10.7%)
Not aware of facilities	166 (15.2%)
No personal time	228 (20.9%)
Not interested	56 (5.1%)
Not conveniently located	127 (11.7%)
Facilities are too crowded	63 (5.8%)
Does not meet my needs	78 (7.2%)

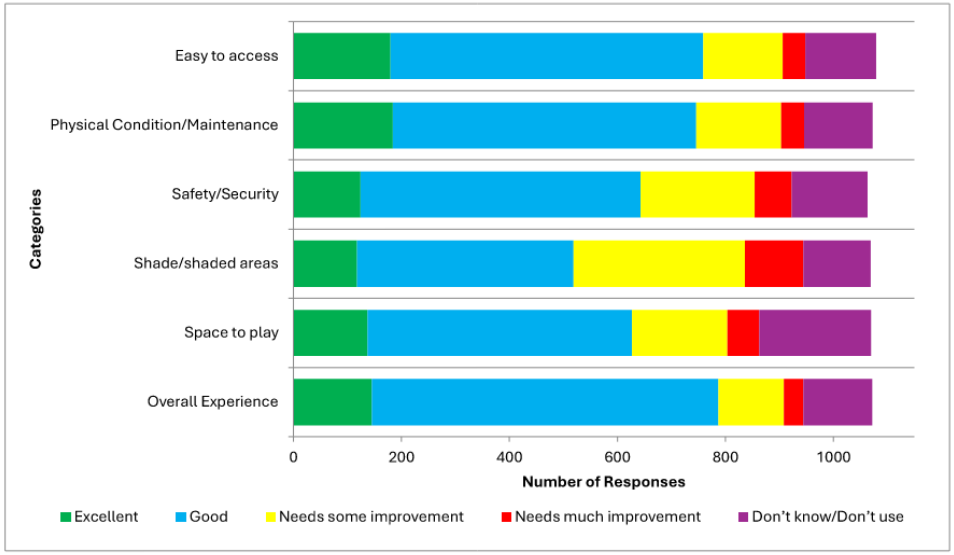
What three amenities are most important to you on trails?



Choices	Number of Responses
Other	98 (9.0%)
Dog waste stations	179 (16.4%)
Water bottle fill stations	491 (45.1%)
Bike repair stations/bike racks	50 (4.6%)
Signaled crossing	36 (3.3%)
Crime Prevention and safety measures	373 (34.3%)
Wayfinding signs	179 (16.4%)
Educational signs	105 (9.6%)
Trailheads	202 (18.5%)
Nature trails (soft surface trails)	428 (39.3%)
Mile markers	224 (20.6%)
Lighting	407 (37.4%)
Fitness stations	105 (9.6%)
Benches	346 (31.8%)

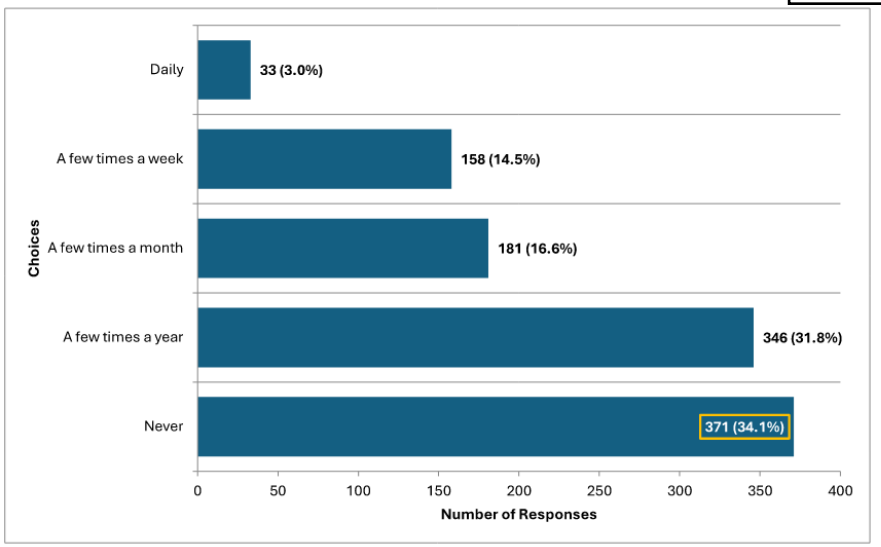
Section 4 - Indoor Recreation:

How would you rate the trails or trail facility features during your visit?



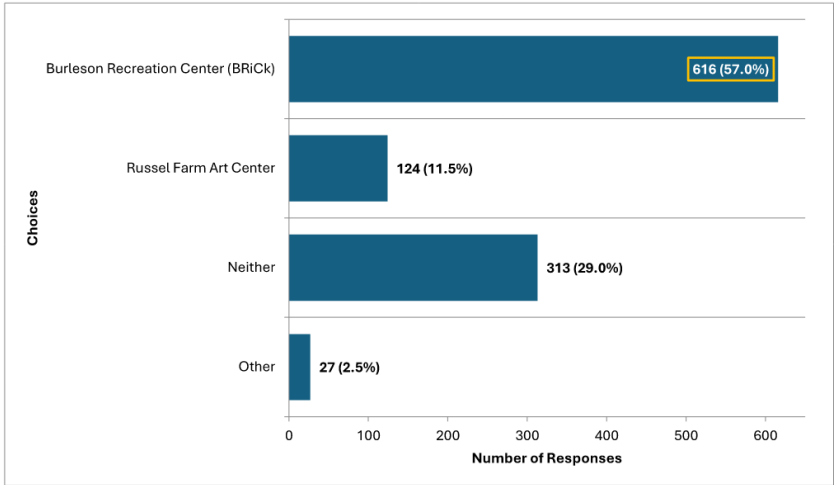
Answer Category	Excellent	Good	Needs some improvement	Needs much improvement	Don't know/Don't use
Overall Experience	13.5%	59.9%	11.3%	3.4%	11.9%
Space to play	12.8%	45.8%	16.5%	5.5%	19.3%
Shade/shaded areas	11.0%	37.5%	29.7%	10.1%	11.7%
Safety/Security	11.7%	48.8%	19.8%	6.5%	13.2%
Physical Condition/Maintenance	17.1%	52.4%	14.6%	4.0%	11.8%
Easy to access	16.7%	53.7%	13.6%	3.9%	12.1%
Overall Experience	13.5%	59.9%	11.3%	3.4%	11.9%
Space to play	12.8%	45.8%	16.5%	5.5%	19.3%

How often do you use the recreation facilities in Burleson?



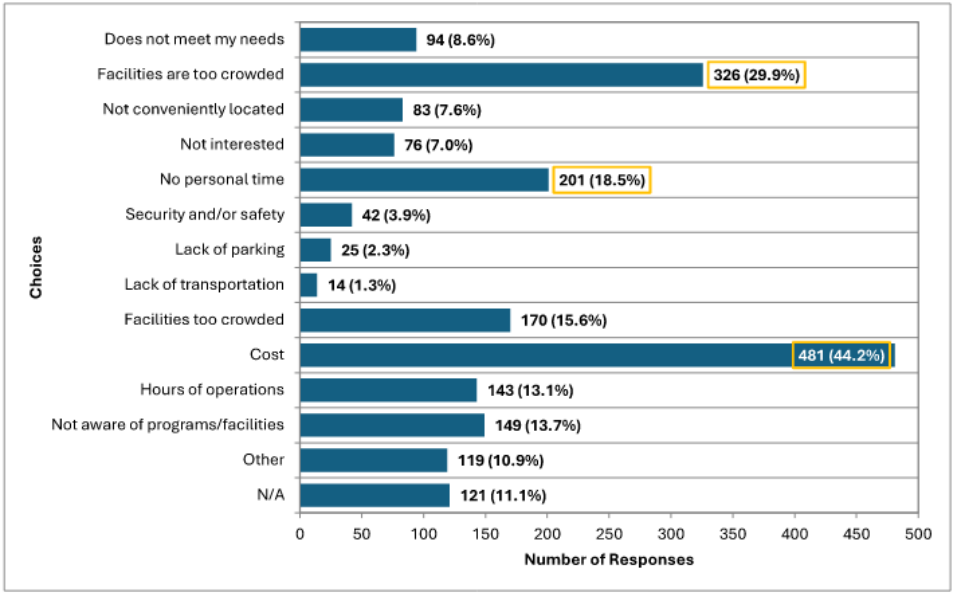
Choices	Number of Responses
Never	371 (34.1%)
A few times a year	346 (31.8%)
A few times a month	181 (16.6%)
A few times a week	158 (14.5%)
Daily	33 (3.0%)

Which recreation facility in our community do you frequent the most?



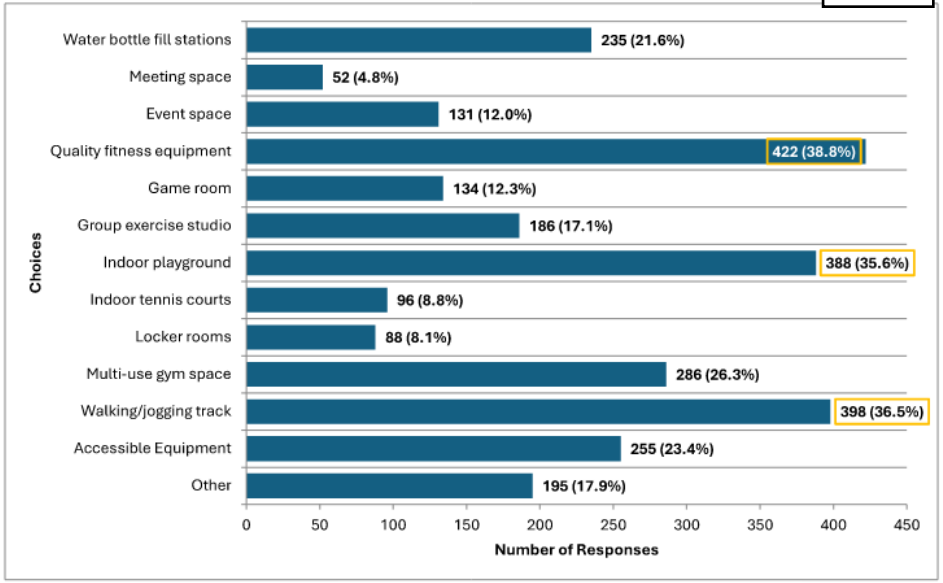
Choices	Number of Responses
Other	27 (2.5%)
Neither	313 (29.0%)
Russel Farm Art Center	124 (11.5%)
Burleson Recreation Center (BRiCk)	616 (57.0%)

Which of the following reasons prevent you or other members of your household from using the recreation facilities/programs more often?



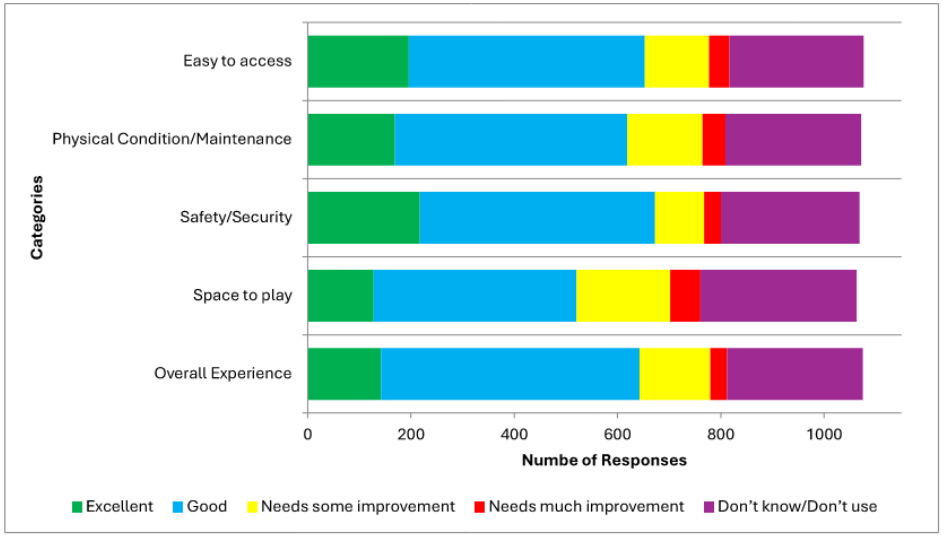
Choices	Number of Responses
N/A	121 (11.1%)
Other	119 (10.9%)
Not aware of programs/facilities	149 (13.7%)
Hours of operations	143 (13.1%)
Cost	481 (44.2%)
Facilities too crowded	170 (15.6%)
Lack of transportation	14 (1.3%)
Lack of parking	25 (2.3%)
Security and/or safety	42 (3.9%)
No personal time	201 (18.5%)
Not interested	76 (7.0%)
Not conveniently located	83 (7.6%)
Facilities are too crowded	326 (29.9%)
Does not meet my needs	94 (8.6%)

What three amenities are most important to you and your household?



Choices	Number of Responses
Other	195 (17.9%)
Accessible Equipment	255 (23.4%)
Walking/jogging track	398 (36.5%)
Multi-use gym space	286 (26.3%)
Locker rooms	88 (8.1%)
Indoor tennis courts	96 (8.8%)
Indoor playground	388 (35.6%)
Group exercise studio	186 (17.1%)
Game room	134 (12.3%)
Quality fitness equipment	422 (38.8%)
Event space	131 (12.0%)
Meeting space	52 (4.8%)
Water bottle fill stations	235 (21.6%)

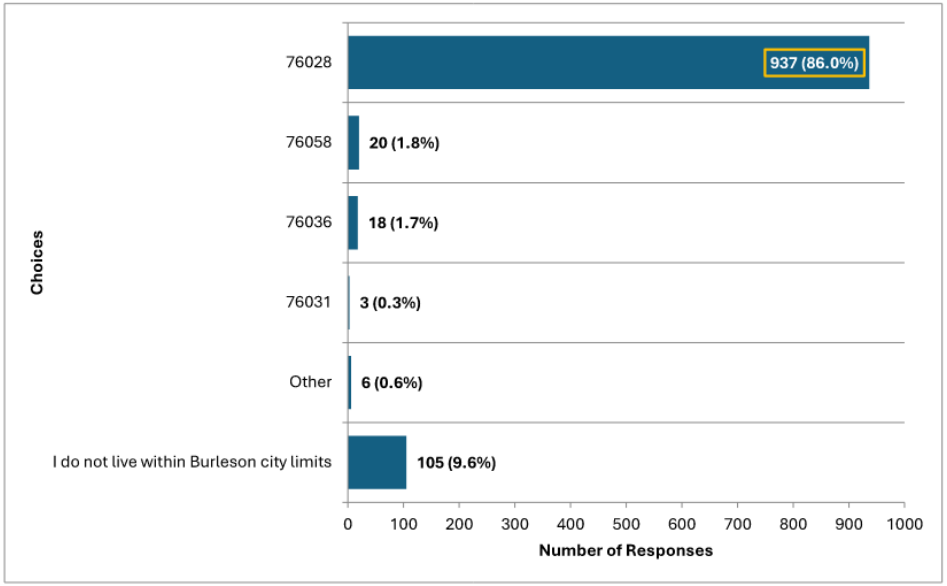
How would you rate the trails or trail facility features during your visit?



Answer Category	Excellent	Good	Needs some improvement	Needs much improvement	Don't know/Don't use
Overall Experience	13.2%	46.6%	12.7%	3.0%	24.5%
Space to play	12.0%	37.0%	17.0%	5.6%	28.4%
Shade/shaded areas	20.3%	42.7%	8.9%	3.0%	25.2%
Safety/Security	15.8%	42.0%	13.6%	4.1%	24.5%
Physical Condition/Maintenance	18.2%	42.4%	11.5%	3.7%	24.1%
Easy to access	13.2%	46.6%	12.7%	3.0%	24.5%
Overall Experience	12.0%	37.0%	17.0%	5.6%	28.4%
Space to play	20.3%	42.7%	8.9%	3.0%	25.2%

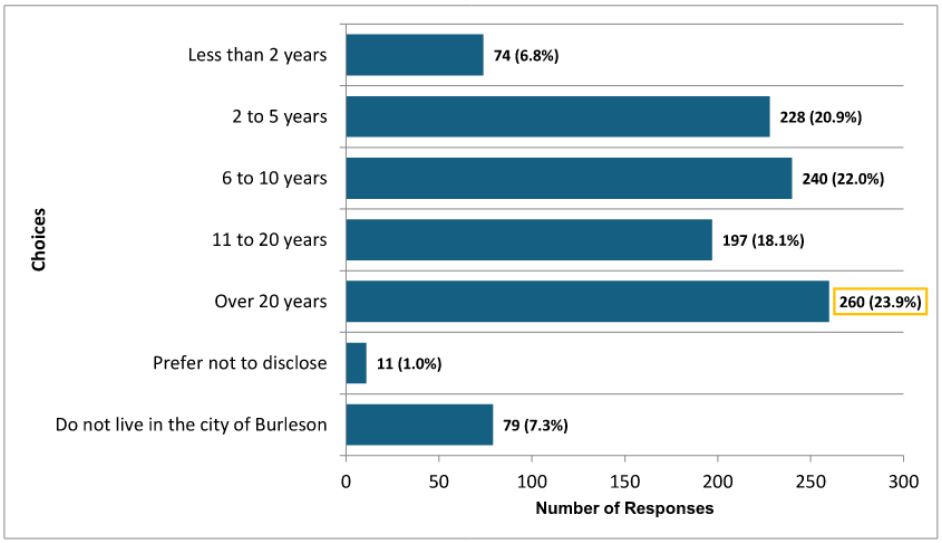
Section 5 - Demographics:

If you live within Burleson city limits, which zip code do you liv



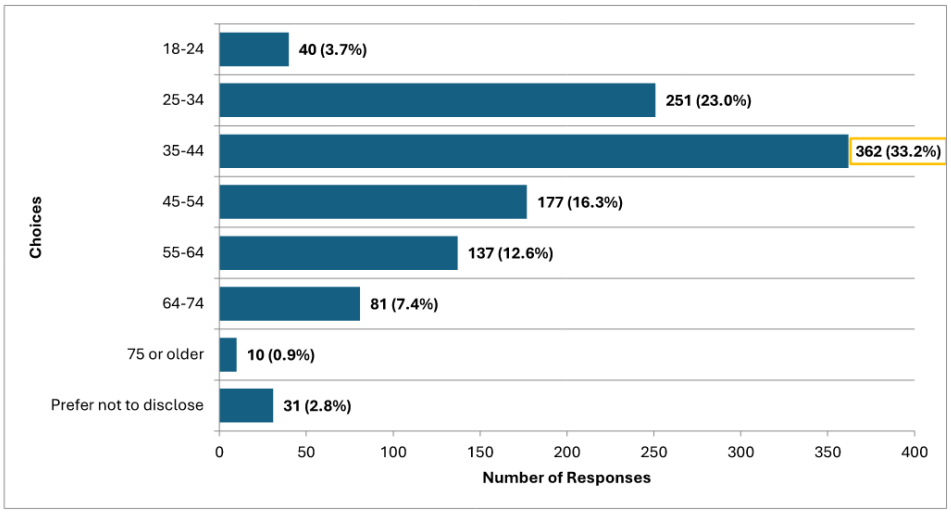
Choices	Number of Responses
I do not live within Burleson city limits	105 (9.6%)
Other	6 (0.6%)
76031	3 (0.3%)
76036	18 (1.7%)
76058	20 (1.8%)
76028	937 (86.0%)

How long have you been a resident of Burleson?



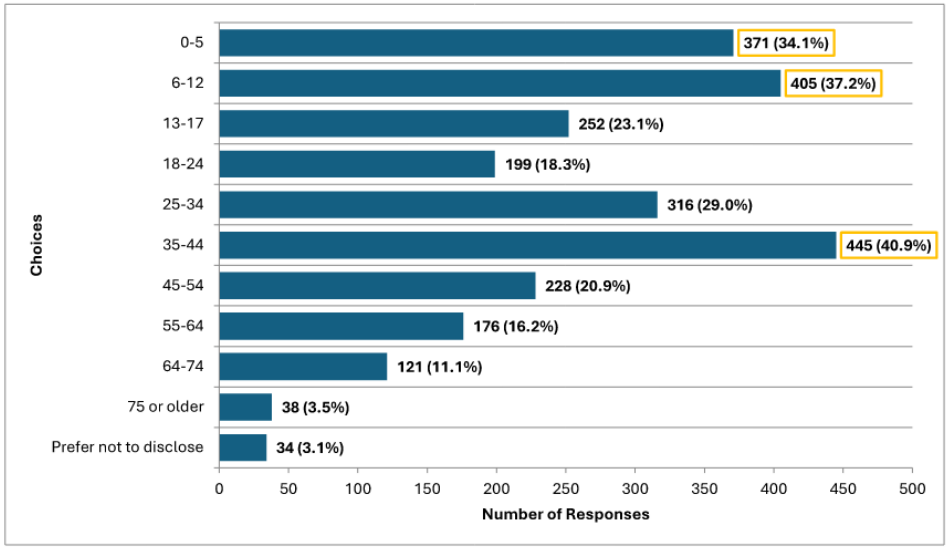
Choices	Number of Responses
Do not live in the city of Burleson	79 (7.3%)
Prefer not to disclose	11 (1.0%)
Over 20 years	260 (23.9%)
11 to 20 years	197 (18.1%)
6 to 10 years	240 (22.0%)
2 to 5 years	228 (20.9%)
Less than 2 years	74 (6.8%)

What is your age?



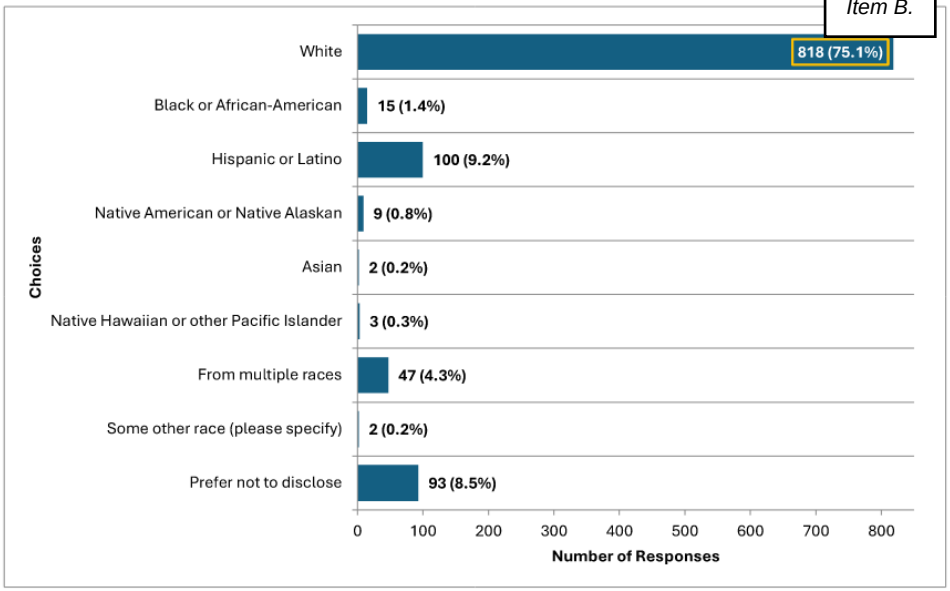
Choices	Number of Responses
Prefer not to disclose	31 (2.8%)
75 or older	10 (0.9%)
64-74	81 (7.4%)
55-64	137 (12.6%)
45-54	177 (16.3%)
35-44	362 (33.2%)
25-34	251 (23.0%)
18-24	40 (3.7%)

Including yourself, what age groups are represented in your household?



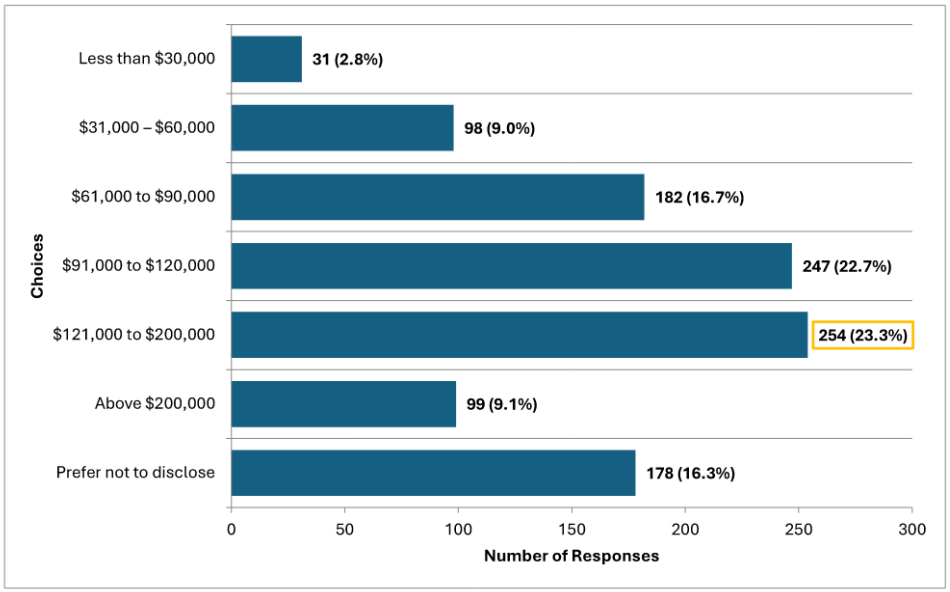
Choices	Number of Responses
Prefer not to disclose	34 (3.1%)
75 or older	38 (3.5%)
64-74	121 (11.1%)
55-64	176 (16.2%)
45-54	228 (20.9%)
35-44	445 (40.9%)
25-34	316 (29.0%)
18-24	199 (18.3%)
13-17	252 (23.1%)
6-12	405 (37.2%)
0-5	371 (34.1%)

How would you describe your ethnicity?



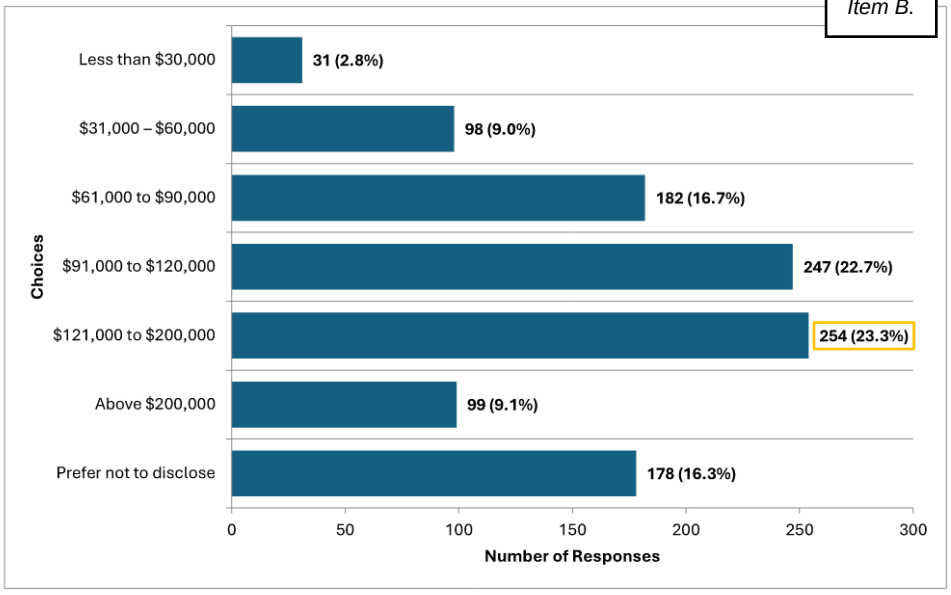
Choices	Number of Responses
Prefer not to disclose	93 (8.5%)
Some other race (please specify)	2 (0.2%)
From multiple races	47 (4.3%)
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	3 (0.3%)
Asian	2 (0.2%)
Native American or Native Alaskan	9 (0.8%)
Hispanic or Latino	100 (9.2%)
Black or African-American	15 (1.4%)
White	818 (75.1%)

Which group does your annual household income fall under?



Choices	Number of Responses
Prefer not to disclose	178 (16.3%)
Above $200,000	99 (9.1%)
$121,000 to $200,000	254 (23.3%)
$91,000 to $120,000	247 (22.7%)
$61,000 to $90,000	182 (16.7%)
$31,000 to $60,000	98 (9.0%)
Less than $30,000	31 (2.8%)

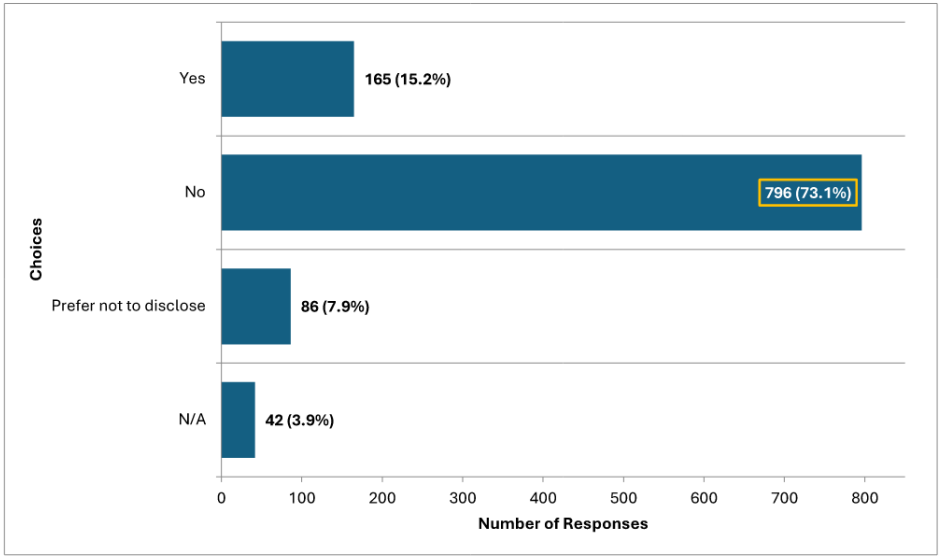
What is your current employment status?



Choices	Number of Responses
Prefer not to disclose	178 (16.3%)
Above $200,000	99 (9.1%)
$121,000 to $200,000	254 (23.3%)
$91,000 to $120,000	247 (22.7%)
$61,000 to $90,000	182 (16.7%)
$31,000 to $60,000	98 (9.0%)
Less than $30,000	31 (2.8%)

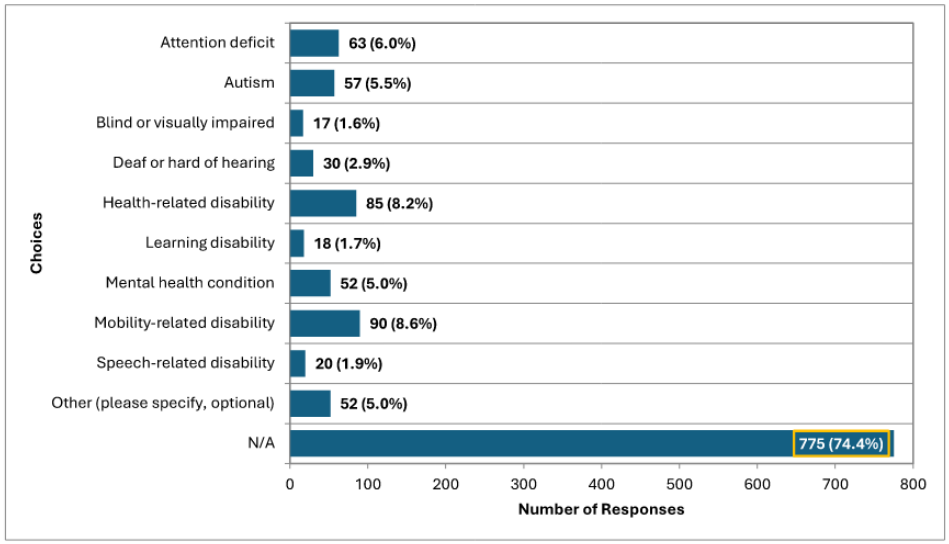
Section 6 - Inclusivity:

Do you identify as a person with a disability or other chronic condition?



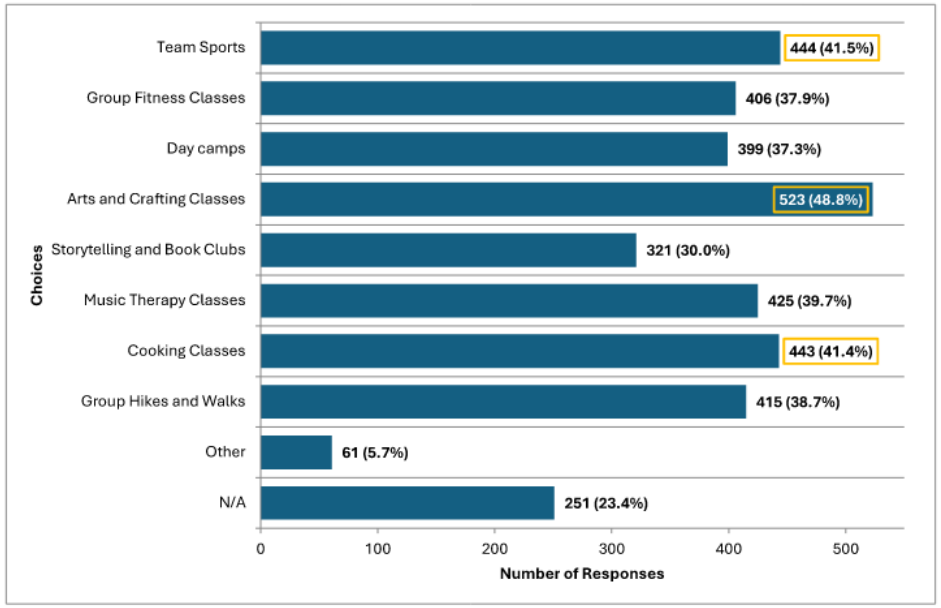
Choices	Number of Responses
N/A	42 (3.9%)
Prefer not to disclose	86 (7.9%)
No	796 (73.1%)
Yes	165 (15.2%)

How would you describe your disability or chronic condition?



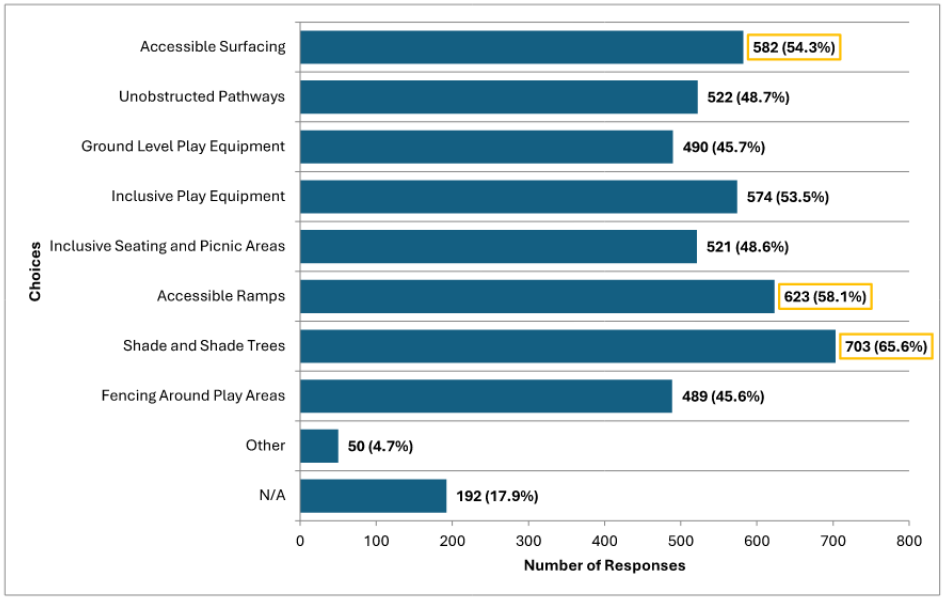
Choices	Number of Responses
N/A	775 (74.4%)
Other (please specify, optional)	52 (5.0%)
Speech-related disability	20 (1.9%)
Mobility-related disability	90 (8.6%)
Mental health condition	52 (5.0%)
Learning disability	18 (1.7%)
Health-related disability	85 (8.2%)
Deaf or hard of hearing	30 (2.9%)
Blind or visually impaired	17 (1.6%)
Autism	57 (5.5%)
Attention deficit	63 (6.0%)

What programs/programming would you like to see for people with disabilities?



Choices	Number of Responses
N/A	251 (23.4%)
Other	61 (5.7%)
Group Hikes and Walks	415 (38.7%)
Cooking Classes	443 (41.4%)
Music Therapy Classes	425 (39.7%)
Storytelling and Book Clubs	321 (30.0%)
Arts and Crafting Classes	523 (48.8%)
Day camps	399 (37.3%)
Group Fitness Classes	406 (37.9%)
Team Sports	444 (41.5%)

What park amenities would you like to see for people with disab



Choices	Number of Responses
N/A	192 (17.9%)
Other	50 (4.7%)
Fencing Around Play Areas	489 (45.6%)
Shade and Shade Trees	703 (65.6%)
Accessible Ramps	623 (58.1%)
Inclusive Seating and Picnic Areas	521 (48.6%)
Inclusive Play Equipment	574 (53.5%)
Ground Level Play Equipment	490 (45.7%)
Unobstructed Pathways	522 (48.7%)
Accessible Surfacing	582 (54.3%)

4B Project Cost List and Schedule
2025-2030

4B Projects	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	Total
Centennial	$525,000						$525,000
Chisenhall Field Turf	$2,205,000						$2,205,000
Adult Softball Fields	$2,163,000						$2,163,000
Shannon Creek Park	$1,881,675						$1,881,675
Community Park	$540,750						$540,750
Natatorium - Indoor Play Structure	$443,674						$443,674
Russell Farm-Chesapeake HVAC and Building Improvements	$54,133						$54,133
Community Park-Ballfield Lights		$1,500,000					$1,500,000
Outdoor Pool Plaster		$136,827					$136,827
Warren Park-Study		$75,075					$75,075
Green Ribbon	$90,000	$120,750					$210,750
Green Ribbon TxDOT Reimbursable Cost		$400,000	$400,000	$400,000	$400,000	$400,000	$2,000,000
BRiCk - Dry Sauna		$444,087					$444,087
Russell Farm - Domestic Water		$21,000					$21,000
Russell Farm - Bathroom at Chesapeake Building		$75,448					$75,448
Russell Farm-Hay Barn Restroom Improvements		N/A					N/A
Russell Farm - Master Plan		$32,051					$32,051
Golf – Fence		$262,500					$262,500
Golf - Additional Well		$183,750					$183,750
Mistletoe Hill - Bathroom Addition			$163,375				$163,375
Bailey Lake - New Playground			$523,687				$523,687
Mistletoe Hill			$614,250				$614,250
Golf - Pond Renovation			$99,419				$99,419

4B Projects	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	Total
New Community Park – Playground				$787,500			$787,500
Bartlett - Playground Replacement				$441,000			$441,000
Heberle - Park Improvements				$352,800			$352,800
Elk Ridge Park - Bathroom Addition				$170,336			$170,336
Golf - Greens Resurface				$460,156			$460,156
Chisenhall - Playground Replacement					$546,000		$546,000
Warren Park - Park Improvements					$1,312,500		$1,312,500
Bailey Lake - Low Water Crossing					$231,000		$231,000
BRiCk Roof Replacement					$1,260,000		$1,260,000
Claudia's Playground - Bathroom Addition						$180,556	$180,556
Total	$7,903,232	$3,176,413	$1,800,731	$2,611,792	$3,749,500	$180,556	$19,896,799

Integrated Project Management Plan - Template

Project Name: Centennial Park Renovation
Project Sponsor: City of Burleson Parks and Recreation Department
Project Manager: [Insert Name]
Start Date: February 10, 2025
End Date: March 12, 2025

1. Initiating

1.1 Project Objectives

- Enhance Centennial Park by improving playgrounds, restrooms, landscaping, and public amenities.
- Ensure ADA compliance and long-term sustainability.
- Minimize disruption to public access while maintaining project efficiency.
- Deliver the project on time and within budget while maintaining quality standards.

1.2 Stakeholder Identification & Engagement Plan

Internal Stakeholders

- City Management: Receives progress reports.
- Parks & Recreation Department: Oversees operational handoff.

External Stakeholders

- Residents: Kept informed through signage, social media, and public meetings.
- Contractors & Vendors: Engaged through RFQs and procurement.

2. Planning

2.1 Scope Management Plan & WBS

2.1.1 Major Deliverables

- Playground Renovation: Demo, inclusive play equipment, surfacing, shade, drainage.
- Irrigation & Landscaping: System repairs, native plantings, hydroseeding.
- Restroom & Facility Upgrades: Fixtures, partitions, ADA amenities.
- Park Infrastructure: Parking lot re-striping, signage, Trees for Tomorrow plantings.

2.1.2 Work Breakdown Structure (WBS)

- A WBS can be created based on the above deliverables, breaking down into tasks per discipline.

2.2 Schedule Management Plan

Task	Start	End
Kickoff & Planning	Feb 10	Feb 12
Grading & Site Prep	Feb 13	Feb 15
Irrigation Installation	Feb 20	Feb 24
Playground Installation	Feb 24	Feb 28
Landscaping & Topsoil	Feb 28	Mar 2
Shade Structure & Trees	Mar 3	Mar 5
Concrete Work	Mar 7	Mar 9
Final Inspections	Mar 10	Mar 11
Ribbon Cutting	Mar 12	Mar 12

2.3 Cost Management Plan

Category	Estimated Cost
Playground	$200,000
Irrigation & Landscaping	$50,000
Restroom	$75,000
Signage & Wayfinding	$20,000
Total	**$345,000**

2.4 Resource Management Plan (Example)

Task	Resources
Grading	Crew, heavy machinery
Irrigation	Techs, materials
Playground	Contractor
Tree Installation	Forester, irrigation tech
Concrete	Crew, rebar
Final Cleanup	City inspectors, staff

2.5 Quality Management Plan

- Follow CAPRA Accreditation guidelines.
- Perform bi-weekly inspections.
- Implement restroom winterization SOPs.
- Final walkthrough with punch-list signoff.

2.6 Communications Management Plan (Example)

Audience	Method	Frequency
City Management	Reports	Biweekly
Residents	Social Media, Signage	As Needed
Staff	Meetings	Weekly
Public	Ribbon Cutting	End of Project

2.7 Risk Management Plan

Risk	Mitigation
Weather Delays	Build in buffer days
Material Shortages	Preorder & backup vendors
Safety Incidents	PPE & daily briefs
Complaints	Early and clear communication
Contractor Delays	Performance clauses

2.8 Procurement Management Plan

- Use RFQs and cooperative contracts for quicker timelines.
- Select vendors based on price, experience, and performance history.

3. Execution

- Mobilize crews and begin work per WBS.
- Use SharePoint for document management and updates.
- Implement quality and risk controls.
- Perform routine stakeholder communications.

4. Monitoring and Controlling

- Weekly progress check-ins.
- Site walkthroughs and inspections.
- Cost-to-date vs. budget monitoring.
- Document all delays and issue resolution paths.

5. Closing

5.1 Project Closeout

- Conduct final inspections and collect punch list items.
- Archive documentation in SharePoint.
- Hold a handover meeting with long-term maintenance staff.

5.2 Sustainability & Maintenance

- Preventative Maintenance Plan in place for new features.
- Educate staff on new equipment and SOPs.

Culture Plan

Strategic Integration

- *Business Intelligence + Operational Excellence*
- *Data-Driven Decisions:* Use attendance, revenue, and satisfaction data to drive program adjustments, staffing, and facility hours. Train staff in basic data literacy and dashboards.
- *Fiscal Awareness at Every Level:* Build budget literacy into supervisory roles and equip staff with tools to understand cost recovery, ROI, and business planning.
- *Innovation in Programming:* Encourage divisions to think like entrepreneurs—piloting new revenue-generating ideas with room for experimentation and evaluation.

Marketing + Storytelling

- *Unified Department Identity:* Build an intentional brand voice across divisions that celebrates Burleson's community character, diverse offerings, and staff commitment.
- *Empowered Storytellers:* Train staff to be brand ambassadors who tell the story of their work through photos, testimonials, and content for newsletters, social media, and council presentations
- *Marketing Collabs:* Strengthen internal relationships with marketing by creating regular planning cycles between divisions and communications staff to align campaigns, showcase impact, and leverage feedback.

Public Feedback + Community Partnership

- *Community Listening Loop:* Integrate public input into program and facility decisions through regular surveys, town halls, feedback kiosks, and digital suggestion boxes.
- *Transparent Feedback Response:* Create a "You Spoke, We Listened" platform to show the community how their input drives change.
- *Partnership Mindset:* Engage user groups, nonprofits, and community leaders in co-creating programs, events, and maintenance solutions.

Divisional Integration Summary

Division	Cultural Focus	Growth Opportunity	Accountability Tool	Team Integration
Athletics	Player-first coaching, youth development	Coaching clinics, referee pipeline	League satisfaction scores	Coordinate with Special Events for tournaments
Aquatics	Safety + fun culture	Lifeguard leadership ladder	Certification tracking, in-service performance	Integrated summer programming with BRiCk
The BRiCk	Wellness as service	Frontline to facility manager growth	Membership data + cost recovery	Programs linked with Special Events and Parks
Programs	Meeting the community where they are at	Building relationships with new community partners for new offerings	Program matrix additions and program retention numbers	Programs that reach across and collaborate with all divisions both internal and external
Russell Farm Art Center	Art, History, and Nature	Art facilitator development	Workshop impact tracking	Collaboration with Golf, BRiCk, and Events
Parks	Excellence in maintenance and appearance	Maintenance worker to Crew Leader	Park quality inspections	Joint service projects with all divisions
Golf (Hidden Creek)	Hospitality mindset	Course operations & sales career path	Revenue/round and pace of play	Thematic events with Russell Farm and Events
Special Events	Joy + logistics	Event planner growth track	Attendance and engagement surveys	Partner with every division to activate spaces

CONCLUSION

This culture plan is not a document—it's a commitment. A commitment to grow from within, build with accountability, celebrate diverse voices, and serve the Burleson community with unity and heart. As we evolve, we will continue to listen, learn, and lead—together.

Source: City of Burleson

Glossary of Terms

Accessibility: Being able to access all places, services and information with ease and dignity. Capable of being used or accessed. Often when we talk about accessibility in parks and recreation, we mean that something is, at its basic level, legally accessible to people. Accessibility of playgrounds and facilities, for example, is often determined by Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements.

Active Recreation: Leisure pursuits that involve physical activity, such as running, walking, cycling, swimming, playing games or participating in organized sports.

Benchmarking: A data-driven analysis used by the consulting team and Burleson staff to compare the city's parks and trails with those of peer cities, focusing on metrics like budget, staffing, and outdoor facilities. It is form of measurement that compares, in this case, a city's performance against other cities of similar size, demographic, economics, and growth.

Bike Lane: On-street facility for the exclusive use of cyclists or other micro-mobility devices through striping, signage, and pavement markings. Conventional bike lanes run curbside and in the same direction of traffic.

Buffered Bike Lane: Consists of designated bicycle lane on a roadway that includes a physical barrier to separate the bike lane from adjacent motor vehicle lanes and/or parking lanes. This buffer provides additional space and protection for cyclists, enhancing safety by increasing the distance between cyclists and moving or parked vehicles.

Community Center: A building and grounds for social, recreational, health or welfare of the community served. They offer programs for adults, children, teens, and active seniors including after-school, mentoring, and sports programs. May have rooms available for community meetings, classes, socials, etc. Although some have basketball courts or fitness centers, the primary purpose of a community center is social rather than recreational.

Community Engagement: The process of working collaboratively with and through groups of people affiliated by geographic proximity, special interest or similar situations to address issues affecting the well-being of those is a powerful vehicle for bringing about environmental and behavioral changes that will improve the health of the community and its members. Community engagement is often in the form of surveys, polls, or in-person engagement boards. It often involves partnerships and coalitions that help mobilize resources and influence systems, change relationships among partners, and serve as catalysts for changing policies, programs and practices.

Community Park: Community Parks are larger parks designed to serve multiple surrounding neighborhoods. They typically contain active and passive amenities, including but not limited to, sports fields, courts, aquatics, trails, landscaping, playgrounds, open space, benches, pavilions, and public art.

Community Trails: Community trails are multi-use pathways designed to accommodate various types of non-motorized traffic, including pedestrians, cyclists, runners, and skaters. Community trails are in parks, natural areas, along utility easements or roadways. Community trails are in parks, natural areas, along utility easements or roadways. The minimum width for trails is recommended to be 12', however, 10' may be applicable in areas with existing ROW constraints. This is consistent with AASHTO and regional standards. For trails designated as part of the Regional Veloweb, the trail should be 12' to meet NCTCOG standards and provide a high level of comfort. These paths can be used for recreational uses or commuting when connecting to employment centers and schools.

Grant Funding: Funds that do not require repayment and are provided by a government entity, foundation, or corporation, and are awarded to support public services or programs, initiatives, research, etc.

Inclusion: Authentically bringing traditionally excluded individuals and/or groups into the processes, activities and decisions/policymaking in a way that shares power, recognizes and celebrates differences, ensures people feel welcome, and makes sure everyone has equitable access to opportunities. To make something inclusive means to create a space, program, activity, etc. that is accessible and welcome to any and all people, regardless of ability, background, differences, circumstances, etc.

KPI (Key Performance Indicator): A measurement that is used to determine if an organization or team has met or is meeting a previously identified goal. They help further determine necessary actions that are needed to achieve said goals.

Level of Service (LOS): A method used to compare the miles of trails within a community to the total population compared to benchmark communities, to determine if there are adequate number of trails to serve the community. LOS calculation is based on quantity, not quality of the trails.

Mini Park: Mini Parks are small public parks designed to fill gaps in park coverage. Mini Parks are frequently created on small, irregular pieces of land, in vacant building lots, along the centers of broad avenues, or even in parking spots. These parks typically feature passive amenities, such as seating, and are ideal for signage or beautification efforts.

Neighborhood Park: A multi-use recreation park small to medium in size, often associated with local neighborhood use and located within walking distance of the nearby community they serve. They typically contain passive amenities including but not limited to, landscaping, playgrounds, open space, benches, pavilions, and sculptures or similar public art.

NRPA: National Recreation and Parks Association

Passive Recreation: Activities in our public open spaces and recreation facilities that are focused on relaxation and enrichment, such as experiencing nature, watching people, enjoying social interaction, learning about places through interpretative signage, or watching outdoor sports or performance.

Park Access: The just and fair quantity, proximity, and connections to quality parks and green spaces, recreation facilities, as well as programs that are safe, inclusive, culturally relevant, and welcoming to everyone.

Park or Public Playground: An open recreation facility or park owned and operated by a public agency such as the city and available to the general public for neighborhood use, including lighted tennis courts, but not including lighted athletic fields for night time play. Often include playgrounds for kids, seating areas, pavilions, etc.

Park Trail / Nature Trail: Hard or soft surface pathways designed to promote recreation within a park or other activity center, but are not always co to provide transportation linkages between community destinations. These can also include hike and bike trails. Amenities along the park and nature trails include but are not limited to directional signage, benches, drinking fountains, and fitness equipment.

Playground: A civic/open space designed and equipped for children's recreation. A playground shall be fenced and may include an open shelter. Playgrounds shall be located within residential areas. They may be included in other open spaces.

Play: An experience or activity undertaken for enjoyment or entertainment. While play is a guaranteed right of children, playful activity can be enjoyed by people of any age.

Public Open Space: Outdoor space that is accessible to the public and set aside primarily for recreation, nature conservation, amenity and public gatherings. It is mainly publicly owned land,but may include private land where public access is permitted.

Recreation: The broad range of passive and active leisure activities people do in our public open spaces and recreation facilities, for enjoyment, relaxation, health, wellbeing and social/community connection. It includes casual activities such as sitting in a park or picnicking with friends, to regular self-guided fitness routines or highly organized competitive sports.

Recreation Center (with fitness): The focus of recreation centers is to provide various activities for recreation in one location. Offer a host of passive and active opportunities for everyone including pools, exercise and dance classes, fitness, weight rooms, personal trainers, sports, courts (tennis, basketball, etc.), trails, and/or playgrounds. Recreation centers with fitness include standard gym equipment or a gym facility for use in addition to other recreational activities that do not require fitness equipment. Typically membership-based.

Recreation Center (without fitness): The focus of recreation centers is to provide various activities for recreation in one location. Offer a host of passive

and active opportunities for everyone including pools, exercise and dance classes, sports, courts (tennis, basketball, etc.), trails, and/or playgrounds, but do not provide gym facilities or standard gym equipment. Typically membership-based.

Recreation Facilities: The buildings, structures and purpose-built outdoor areas provided and managed to accommodate or support recreational activities, such as swimming pools, recreation centers, public toilets and changing rooms, playgrounds, sports fields, basketball or tennis courts, and trails.

Recreation Programs and Services: Planned activities, assistance and events that support people to recreate, including informing people about recreational opportunities, facilitating participation, and administering booking systems for use of facilities and organizing regular learning opportunities such as swimming lessons. Often involves helping people to overcome barriers to participation and promoting the benefits of active recreation.

Shared-Use Lane: Hard-surface pathways running parallel to a roadway and are primarily designed to accommodate cyclists and pedestrians. They are equipped with amenities like signage and often provide enhanced crossings to promote safety. The lanes are designated along low-volume roadways and include pavement markings and signage to indicate the street is to be shared between vehicles and cyclists.

Shared-Use Trail: Trails that are often located within or parallel to streams, drainage corridors, utility easements, railways, and environmentally sensitive lands and typically designed to accommodate cyclists and pedestrians, and promote recreational activities, commuting, and connectivity in the community. Can be hard or soft-surface.

Side Path: Hard-surface pathways running parallel to a roadway and are primarily designed to accommodate cyclists and pedestrians. They are equipped with amenities like signage and often provide enhanced crossings to promote safety. Side paths provide connectivity between neighborhoods and activity centers.

Special-Use Parks: Special parks / facilities are those which serve a specific function or protect a special feature. Special Use parks / facilities generally have dedicated and unique uses such as a sports fields, historical sites, centers, skate parks, or bike parks. This park type serves as a designation for parks and facilities which are clearly not one of the other types, and for this reason the function, size, service area, access and facility characteristics vary considerably. Due to the special nature of these parks, the service area is often city-wide. For this master plan, cemeteries will be included under special-use parks.

Sport: An activity involving physical exertion and skill in which an individual or a team competes against another or others for entertainment.

Stakeholder Engagement: Stakeholder interviews, administered as part of the Burleson Parks, Recreation, Trails, and Open Space Master Plan, were conducted on December 2nd and 3rd, 2024. The stakeholders interviewed for the plan reflect various experiences and strong ties to the community.

SWOT Analysis: SWOT analysis is a tool that helps us evaluate our parks and recreation system by examining four key areas: strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats. Strengths highlight the positive aspects and resources that benefit our community, while weaknesses identify areas needing improvement. Opportunities point to potential areas for growth and new initiatives, and threats consider external factors that could negatively impact our services. By conducting a SWOT analysis, we can strategically plan for the future, ensuring our parks and recreation services continue to meet the needs and expectations of our community.

Trails: Can range in meaning form a marked or beaten path, as through woods or wilderness, or a paved multi-use trail. Overall a designated pathway or route that can be paved or unpaved, shared-use, multi-use, for bikes and/or pedestrians, etc. that provides recreational opportunities and may also provide connectivity to other green spaces, neighborhoods, urban development, and alternative modes of transportation outside of the park. Also allow people to traverse the natural environment for recreation, enjoyment, and exercise.

Volunteering: In this strategy, volunteering refers to giving time freely to organize recreational activities, carry out projects or care for the environment in parks and recreational facilities, usually associated with a community group.

Glossary of Terms - References:

- City of Burleson Code, Definitions - https://ecode360.com/39938365
- https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/c4ffb8d631934ff4bde9519f-2cf2777f/page/Glossary/
- https://www.nrpa.org/siteassets/nrpa-equity-language-guide-10-21-2021.pdf
- https://www.waco-texas.com/files/sharedassets/public/v/1/departments/parks-amp-recreation/documents/trails/city-of-waco-trails-master-plan_reduced-file-size.pdf
- https://www.austintexas.gov/sites/default/files/files/Parks/longrangeplan/ch2definitions.pdf