COLUMBUS RECREATION AND PARKS
MASTER PLAN 2013
public workshop
INTRODUCTION
PLANNING TEAM

MKSK
www.mkskstudios.com

• Analysis
• Public Participation
• Master Planning
• Implementation + Phasing

pros consulting LLC

• Public Participation
• Service Delivery Analysis + Programming

etc Institute

• Community Survey

Schaedle Caldwell Association

• Building Conditions Assessment
AGENDA

• Importance of Parks
• Why a Master Plan?
• Public Involvement Process
• Planning Area Analysis
• Next Steps
IMPORTANCE OF PARKS

Generates Community Cohesion
• Promoting neighborliness and social inclusion
• Provides a venue for special events and social interaction
• Creates a destination for visitors and residents

Benefits Physical and Mental Development
• Play teaches children critical social skills  
  (Association of Childhood Education International)
• Studies indicate that play increases the brain’s capacity for learning  
  (Howard Hughes Medical Center, 1999)
IMPORTANCE OF PARKS

Increased Access to Parks Increases Physical Activity

- CDC has called for the construction of more parks and playgrounds to fight America’s obesity epidemic (*CDC Study: Increasing Physical Activity*)

- CDC study showed creation of access to parks and open space lead to a 25.6% increase in percentage of people exercising three or more times a week

- According to a North Carolina study, those who have access to places to be physically active are twice as likely to get the recommended levels of physical activity
BUFFERS AIR POLLUTANTS AND GENERATES OXYGEN
• U.S. Forest Service estimates that over a 50 year lifespan a single tree generates $31,250 of oxygen and provides $62,000 worth of air pollution control.

MANAGES STORMWATER RUNOFF AND FILTERS OF POLLUTANTS
• Natural buffers along streams and rivers preserve clean water by filtering nutrients from agricultural and residential runoff.
• American Forests estimates that trees in America’s metropolitan areas provide $400 billion in stormwater retention.
CITIES WITH HIGH QUALITY PARKS AND OPEN SPACE HAVE HIGHER RATES OF ECONOMIC GROWTH

• The quality of life of a community matters. Parks, attractive waterfronts, tree-lined streets, playgrounds and trails contribute to community attachment.

• Cities with high quality parks and open space also demonstrate higher economic rates of GDP growth over time. (Knight Soul of the Community: Why People Love Where They Live and Why it Matters, 2010)
ACCOMPLISHMENTS SINCE 2003

Facilities

- Acquisition of 1016 acres of new parkland for future development, at an average of 101.6 acres per year
- Construction and opening of Lazelle Woods Community Center
- Renovation of Dodge Community Center, Glenwood Community Center, Whetstone Community Center, and Maryland Pool (currently under construction)
- Creation of three new spraygrounds (Barnett, Blackburn, and Indian Mound)
- Opening of four new dog parks/areas (Big Walnut, Goddown, Three Creeks, and Wheeler)
- Development of Alum Creek Trail (18 miles) with expected completion by 2015
- Development of Hard Road Park
ACCOMPLISHMENTS SINCE 2003

Sustainability

• Planted 18,742 new trees along city streets, parks, and open spaces
• Established the Nature Preserve Advisory Council

Programmatic Improvements

• Instituted on-line registration for recreation programs and summer camp registration
• Instituted on-line registration for Adult sports leagues and officials
• Added 11 turf infields, concession stand, new lights and irrigation at Berliner
ACCOMPLISHMENTS SINCE 2003

Economic Impact

• Generated more than $12,000,000 in economic impact through tournaments held at Berliner Park

• Created Fitness Coordinator Position to manage fitness equipment, train staff, track use, maintenance and replacement of equipment at more than 15 centers

Volunteers

• Citizens contributed 201,095 volunteer instances for a total of 1,541,316 volunteer hours at a value of $26.5 million

  • Average Volunteer Instances: 20,109 instances
  • Average Volunteer Hours: 154,131 hours
  • Average Value: $2.65 million/year

• In its 2007 peak, citizens contributed 27,825 volunteer instances for a total of 196,942 volunteer hours at a value of $3.5 million
MASTER PLAN 2013 GOALS

• Build off the 2003 Master Plan and assess how well the expectations of that effort have been met
• Study of current needs and determine the ability of current facilities to meet these needs
• Anticipate growth areas and demand for future services
• Understand and document trends since 2003 and the changes in population and attitudes
• Identify opportunities to integrate with facilities in adjacent park districts
INTEGRATION OF OTHER INITIATIVES

- City of Columbus Bike Plan Update
- City of Columbus Public Health Department’s Institute for Active Living
- City of Columbus Stormwater Master Plan Update
- City’s “Get Green Columbus” Program
- Recent Neighborhood Plans
PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

- Steering Committee
- Advisory Committee
- Park Commission
- Stakeholder Interviews and Roundtable Discussions
- Survey
- Public Open Houses / Workshops
- Web Site
### ParkScore Index

Provided by the Trust for Public Land

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>ParkScore Total</th>
<th>Acreage</th>
<th>Service &amp; Investment</th>
<th>Access</th>
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**Columbus National Rank: 37**

- **40.0 Total Score (weighted) max. 100**
- **20 Points max. 40** for Acreage
- **12 Points max. 40** for Service & Investment
- **16 Points max. 40** for Access

**Park Size & Park Land Percentage**

**Spending Per Capita & Playgrounds per 10,000**

**Percent of Residents within 0.5 mile of a Park**
How Does Columbus Stack Up?

Park Acreage as Percent of City Land Area
Columbus & Comparable Cities with Intermediate Low Population Density

Provided by the Trust for Public Land

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>Total Park Acres</th>
<th>Park Acres as Percent of City Land Area</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Austin</td>
<td>29,225</td>
<td>15.0%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cincinnati</td>
<td>6,820</td>
<td>13.7%</td>
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<td>Dallas</td>
<td>23,331</td>
<td>10.7%</td>
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<td><strong>Columbus</strong></td>
<td><strong>10,847</strong></td>
<td><strong>7.8%</strong></td>
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<td>Denver</td>
<td>5,900</td>
<td>6.0%</td>
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<td>Atlanta</td>
<td>4,777</td>
<td>5.6%</td>
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<td>Toledo</td>
<td>2,232</td>
<td>4.3%</td>
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Legend:
- **Orange**: Parklands that have been created, constructed, planted, and managed primarily for human use.
- **Green**: Natural areas: Pristine or reclaimed lands that are open to the public and left largely undisturbed and managed.
- **White**: Natural areas: Pristine or reclaimed lands that are open to the public and left largely undisturbed and managed.

7.8% of City Land Area
PARK SYSTEM

EXISTING PARKS

Legend:
- City of Columbus Park
- City of Columbus Boundary
- Hydrology
- Major Roads
EXISTING COLUMBUS TRAILS

Legend:
- City of Columbus Park
- Columbus Trails/Greenways
- City of Columbus Boundary
- Hydrology
- Major Roads
PARK SYSTEM

EXISTING COLUMBUS & REGIONAL TRAILS

Legend:
- City of Columbus Park
- Columbus Trails/Greenways
- Regional Trails/Greenways
- City of Columbus Boundary
- Hydrology
- Major Roads
PLANNING AREAS

**In Town:**
Franklinton AC
Italian Village AC
Victorian Village AC
North East Area AC
Brewery District AC
German Village AC
Near East AC
Livingston AC
Columbus Southside AC
University AC
5th by Northwest AC
Harrison West CA
Columbus Southside CA
Downtown Residents’ Association

**Southeast:**
Southeast Community Coalition
Far South Columbus AC
Far East AC
North Eastmoor CA
Eastmoor CA
Peacekeepers CA
Eastmoor CA
James Road Neighborhood CA
Renewed Hope CA
Berwick CA
Berwyn West CA
Berwyn East CA
Leawood and Walnut Ridge CA
Thunderbird Acres CA
Rathburn Woods CA
Pinecrest East Neighborhood CA
Willis Park CA
Shady Lane Park CA

**Central:**
North Linden AC
South Linden AC
Milo-Grogan AC
North Central AC
Clintonville AC
Northeast AC
Colonial Hills CA
Kenwood Area Resident CA
Riverside Heights CA
Shady Hill Estates CA
East Columbus CA

**North:**
Far North Columbus Communities Coalition
Far Northwest Coalition
Northwest CA
Northland Community Council
Scioto Woods CA
The Glen CA
Scioto Trace CA
River Landing CA
Saddlebrook CA
Monohan Homeowners CA
Ballymeade CA
Shannon Hts/Kibannon/Kildaire CA

**Southwest:**
Greater Hilltop AC
Westland AC
Southwest AC
West Point CA
Greater Feder Road CA
Chesapeake Farms Homes CA
Far West Coalition CA
SOUTHWEST PLANNING AREA

PLANNING AREA BOUNDARIES

Southwest:
Greater Hilltop AC
Westland AC
Southwest AC
West Point CA
Greater Feder Road CA
Chesapeake Farms Homes CA
Far West Coalition CA
The Southwest Planning Area contains 51 parks, including:

- 7 Community Parks
- 7 Conservation/Natural Areas
- 1 Golf Courses
- 15 Neighborhood Parks
- 11 Neighborhood Open Spaces
- 6 Parkland Reserves
- 3 Regional Parks
- 1 Special Use Park/Facilities

Among other facilities, this area has:

- 3 Recreation/Community Centers
- 1 Pool (Glenwood Pool)

Parks in the Southwest Planning Area contain:

- 14% of citywide parkland acreage
- 5.25% of developable land within planning area
### SOUTHWEST PLANNING AREA

#### SOUTHWEST PLANNING AREA STATISTICS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Value</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Southwest Planning Area Population (2010)</td>
<td>166,737</td>
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<tr>
<td>Population Density</td>
<td>2,748 people/Sq.Mile</td>
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<tr>
<td>City of Columbus Population (2010)</td>
<td>787,033</td>
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<tr>
<td>Population Density</td>
<td>3,624 people/Sq.Mile</td>
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<td>Southwest Planning Area Parkland Per 1000 Residents (2010)</td>
<td>10.1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Acres/1000 Residents</td>
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<tr>
<td>Recommended Parkland Per 1000 Residents</td>
<td>6.25 - 10.5*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Acres/1000 Residents</td>
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* Established by the National Recreation and Park Association*
EXISTING PARKS

Legend:
- City of Columbus Park
- City of Columbus Boundary
- Hydrology
- Major Roads
SOUTHWEST PLANNING AREA

PARK TYPES

Legend:
- Regional Park
- Community Park
- Parkland Reserve
- Conservation/Natural Area
- Neighborhood Park
- Neighborhood Open Space
- Special Use Park or Facility
- Golf Course
- Operations/Non Park Area
- City of Columbus Boundary
- Hydrology
- Major Roads
SOUTHWEST PLANNING AREA

EXISTING CITY AND REGIONAL TRAILS

Legend:
- City of Columbus Park
- Recreation Center
- Pool
- Columbus Trail
- Regional Trail
- City of Columbus Boundary
- Hydrology
- Major Roads
SOUTHWEST PLANNING AREA

IMAGES OF REPRESENTATIVE PARKS

GOLF COURSE
- Mentel Memorial

REGIONAL PARK
- Berliner Park
- Big Run Park
SOUTHWEST PLANNING AREA

IMAGES OF REPRESENTATIVE PARKS

COMMUNITY PARKS
- Westgate Park

NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS
- Greene Countrie Park
- Spindler Road Park
SOUTHWEST PLANNING AREA

IMAGES OF REPRESENTATIVE PARKS

NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS

Westchester Park

PARKLAND RESERVE

Alkire Woods Parkland

Clover Groff Natural Area
BREAK OUT INPUT SESSION

• **STATION ONE** – Input on existing recreation and parks facilities and programs

• **STATION TWO** – City/Regional Trail Systems Input

• **STATION THREE** – City-wide Regional Parks and Facilities
NEXT STEPS

• Data Collection
• Survey
• Public Open House in Spring
• Website: parks.columbus.gov