

SECTION 2



GRIGGS BOATHOUSE

In addition to being the home to The Ohio State University Rowing Team, the Griggs Boathouse has event rental space overlooking Griggs Reservoir.

EXISTING CONDITIONS AND TRENDS ANALYSIS



This section catalogs current parks and facilities within Columbus Recreation and Parks. It also examines how City of Columbus parks fit into the regional park system and how it relates to the park systems in adjacent municipalities. Looking to the future, the second part of this section focuses on the trends that will impact the Department in the next 10-plus years. This includes changing demographics, socioeconomics, and land use and population forecasts. Local and national trends in sports and recreation programs are also analyzed. Finally, how Columbus ranks compared to other cities nationally is examined.

INTRODUCTION

This section examines internal and external forces that will shape the need for future park investment over the next 10-plus years. This starts with understanding where the existing park system is today and its relationship to other adjacent jurisdictions' park systems and regional park systems that surround the City of Columbus. In addition to analyzing current park typologies and how they measure up to national standards, current community centers and program offerings are also inventoried.

Detailed demographic analysis examines where the City is today and the trends that will impact the facilities, programs and services that will need to be provided to address the City of Columbus' increasingly diverse population. The population will not only grow by nearly 100,000 by 2023, but it will also become more ethnically diverse and have a greater proportion of residents aged 55 or older. To understand where these populations live in the City of Columbus today, a high level lifestyle analysis was performed that combines socioeconomic, age, race and ethnicity data and ties it to a geographic location.

To further understand where the city is growing, the planning team also analyzed growth and land use trends of the Central Ohio region. The Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) prepares land use and population forecasts every five years. From this, trends can be identified that show where growth is most likely to take place. The planning team isolated this MORPC data for the City of Columbus boundaries and looked at how the city grew from 2000 and 2010 and then analyzed land use and growth projection forecast for the city for 2035.

Finally, the planning team examined national and local trends in parks, facilities, and programming. This trend analysis shows what activities and sports people are involved in and can begin to suggest how the market is changing and how CRPD can adjust to meet it. National benchmarks from the Trust for Public Land were also gathered to understand where the City of Columbus ranks on a national level and how it compares to cities of similar size and density.

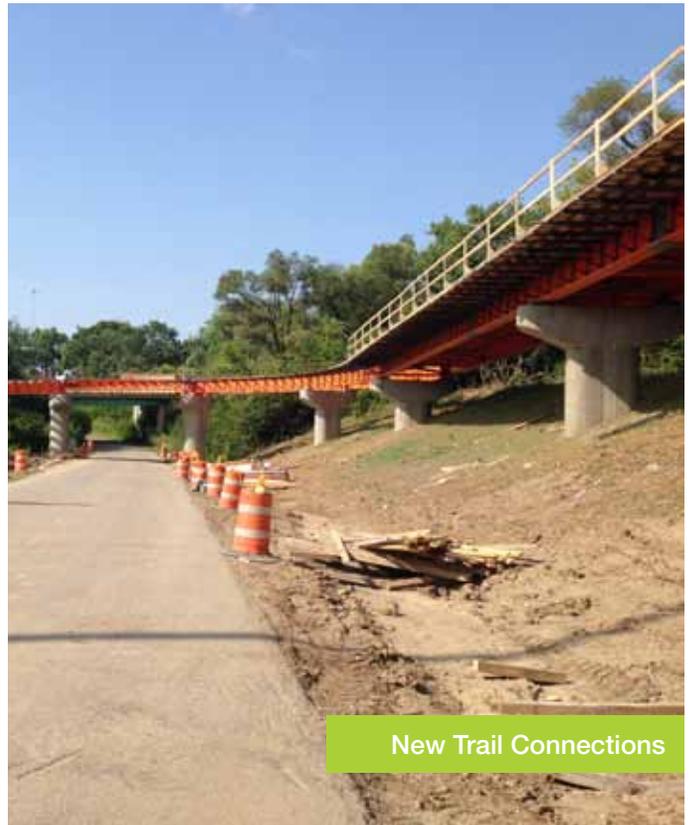
Taken together, all of this information is the first step in understanding the park system that the City has today and the steps it needs to take to keep up with local growth, demographic and national trends and the preferences of its citizenry.

Existing Facilities

14,397	Total Acres of Parkland
10,047	Land Acres
4,350	Water Acres
37.29	Acres per 1000 Residents For 2013 Population
382	Total Parks/Areas
184	Playgrounds
92.45	Trail Miles Total Existing System
184	Playgrounds
183	Multipurpose Fields
93	Tennis Courts
63	Basketball Courts
29	Community Centers
7	Outdoor Pools
1	Aquatic Center
3	Spraygrounds
3	Boat Ramp Facilities
1	Skate Park
5	Dog Parks

Parks by Category

97	Neighborhood Parks
50	Community Parks
8	Regional Parks
32	Special Use Parks
6	Golf Courses
3	Reservoirs
38	Neighborhood Open Spaces
95	Conservation/Natural Areas
41	Parkland Reserves
3	Operations/Non Park Areas



New Trail Connections

Existing Recreation Programs



1,000+	Recreation Programs For 2013
420	Sports Programs
189	Fitness Programs
295	Weeks of Summer Camps
46	Therapeutic Recreation Programs



Riverfront Transformation

EXISTING PARKS AND FACILITIES

OVERVIEW OF PARKS AND FACILITIES

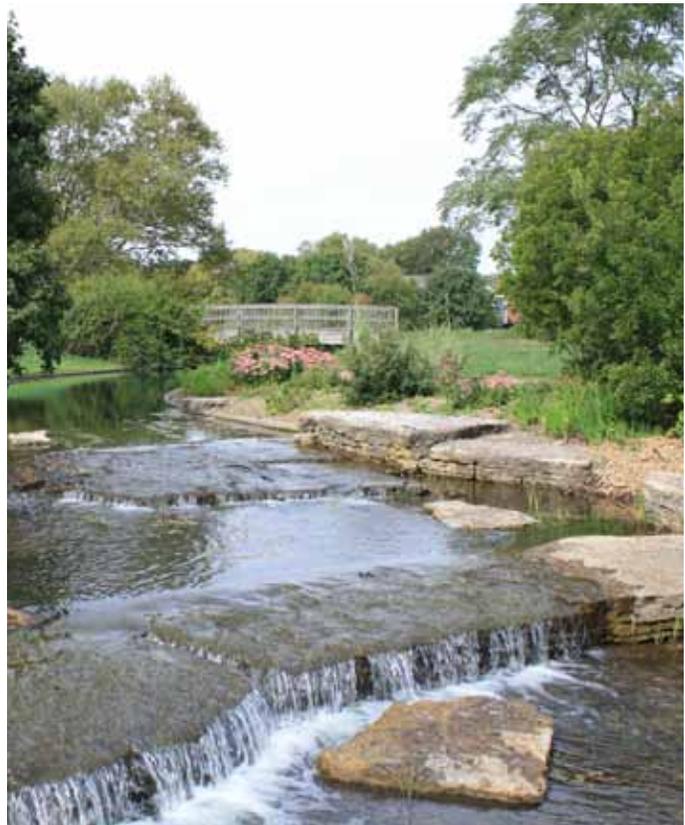
The Columbus Recreation and Parks Department manages, maintains and plans for 14,397 acres of parkland throughout the City of Columbus. Each type of parkland serves a different purpose within the community. The different park typologies and purposes are described and identified geographically on the following pages. For two of the major types of parkland—Neighborhood Parks and Community Parks—there are national standards for acres per 1,000 residents established by the National Recreation and Parks Association. City-wide, CRPD is close to the lower end of the standard for Neighborhood Parks and in need of improvement in terms of Community Parks.

There are numerous facilities within these parks. CRPD manages and maintains 183 multi-purpose sports fields, 104 softball fields, 63 basketball courts, 93 tennis courts, and 184 playgrounds in addition to other outdoor amenities. There are currently 92.45 miles of Multi-Use trails that connect parks and neighborhoods to one another and provide key recreation opportunities and commuting access to much of the city.

CRPD also maintains and manages many Special Use Parks. Primarily concentrated within Downtown Columbus and within the In-Town neighborhoods, these parks are some of the most visible in the city and are home to numerous special events and community festivals.

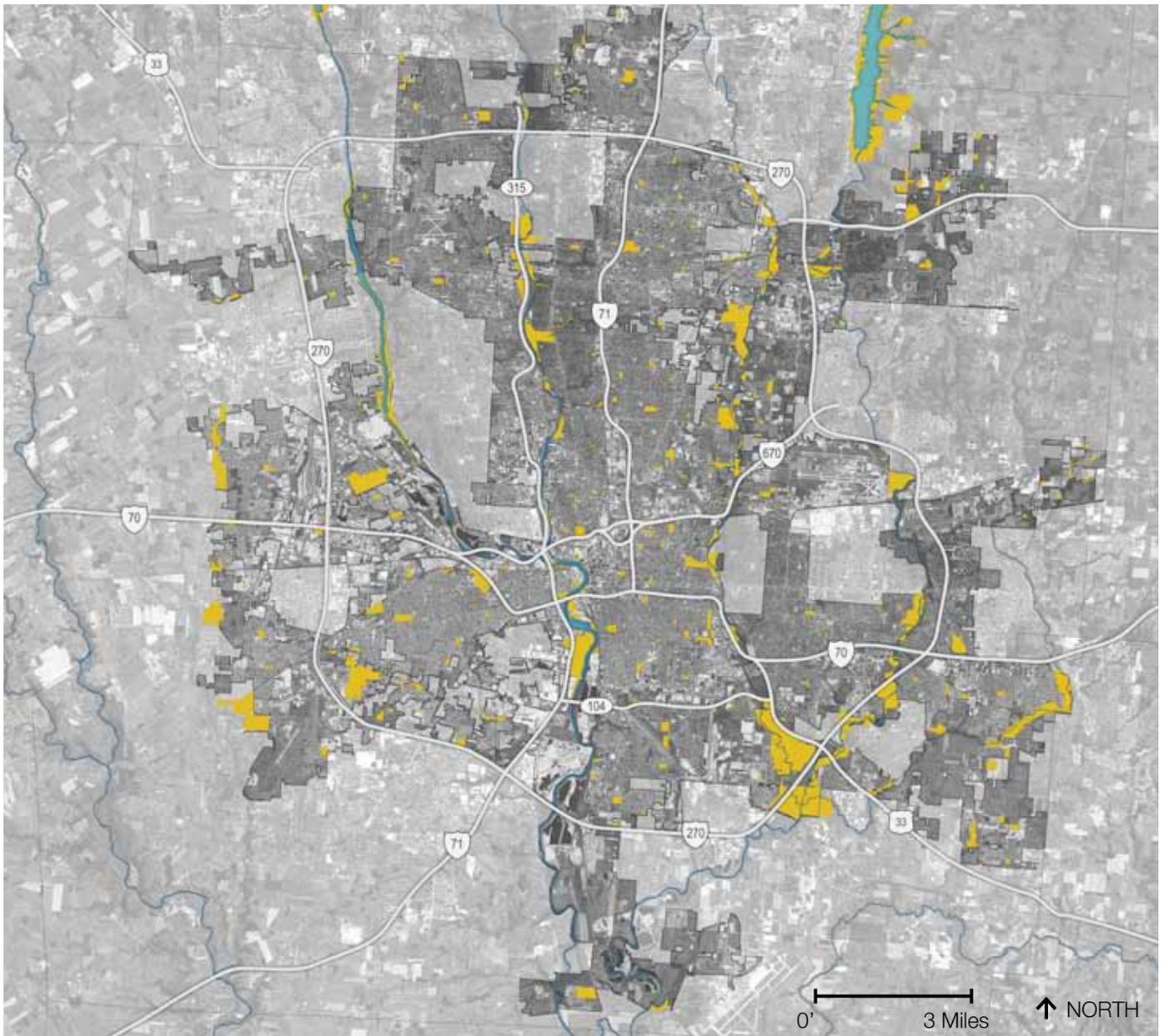
In addition to active parks that have multiple recreational uses, CRPD also plays an important role in conservation. The department has more than 1,400 acres of conservation and natural areas. Park and conservation holdings predominate along many of the city's river and stream corridors and wetland areas, providing an important environmental buffer and protecting habitat while also maintaining a degree of public access. There is currently one designated Water Trail within the city along the Olentangy River, with numerous other access points along river and stream corridors and at reservoirs city-wide.

Not all parkland is currently designated for use. The department also holds more than 760 acres of property that could become active parkland when needs warrant or when development and operating funds become available. This strategic approach is one method in ensuring that there is ample future park space available to Columbus residents.



TOP: Water feature at Franklin Park
BOTTOM: Goodale Park gazebo

Figure 2.1 Existing Columbus Parks - Aerial



Legend

-  City of Columbus Boundary
-  Hydrology
-  City of Columbus Park
-  Major Roads

EXISTING PARKS AND FACILITIES

EXISTING PARKS BY TYPE - CITYWIDE CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM

Table 2.1 Park Classification System and Acreage

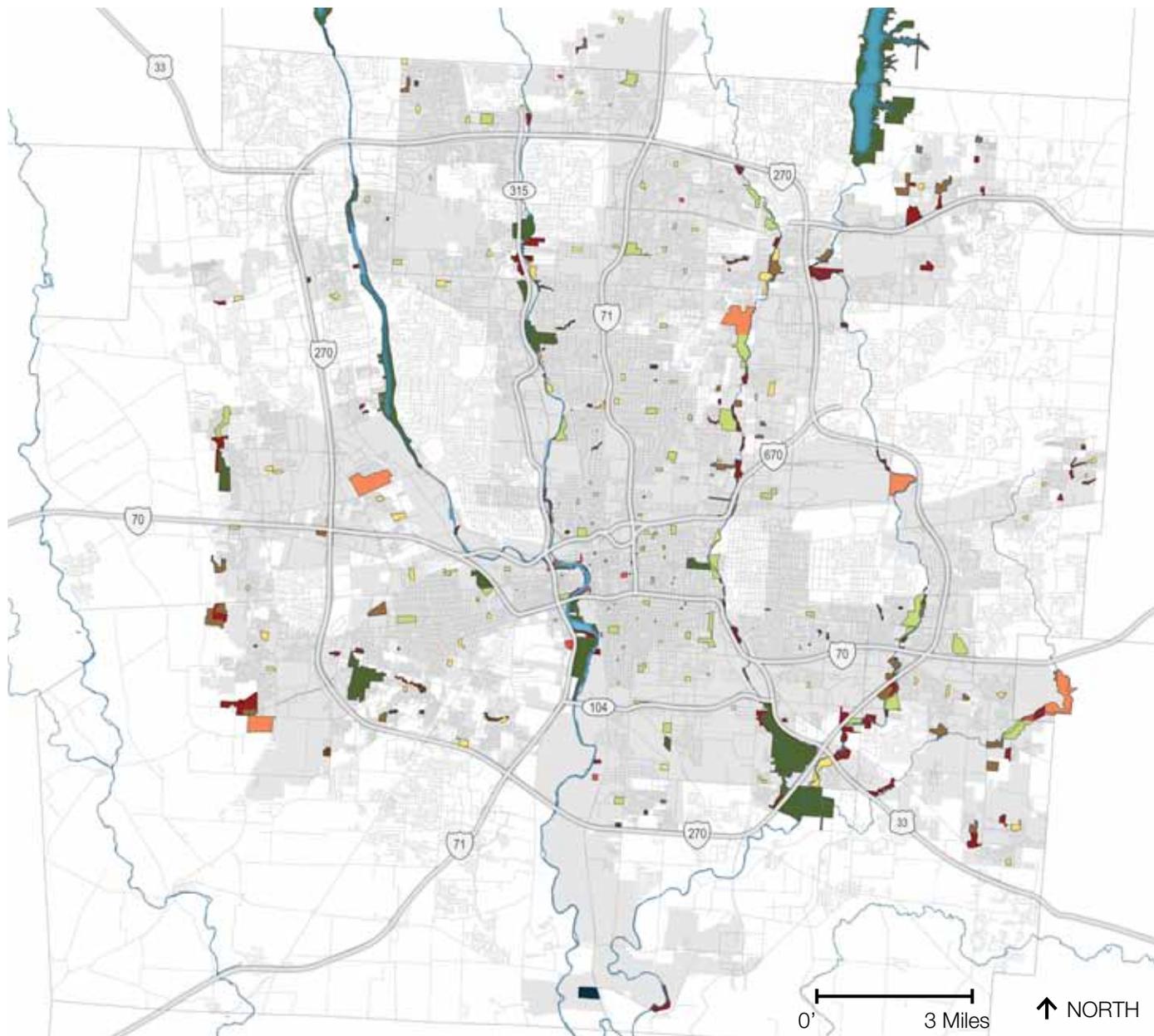
Park Type	Description	Acres Per 1,000 population (NRPA Standard)	Acres Per 1,000 population (Columbus)	Total Acreage
Neighborhood Parks	Developed park serving a neighborhood (1/2 mile radius). Usually contains playground, basketball, picnic tables, walks, and field game area. Sometimes has parking and shelter	1 - 2	0.95	766.05
Community Parks	Serves a larger area (2-3 miles radius) and has more facilities than a Neighborhood Park. Usually contains tennis courts, picnic areas, athletic fields, shelters, playground, parking lot, etc.	5 - 8	1.72	1,380.51
Regional Parks	Serves a large regional area with various facilities and uses often athletic related. Examples: Berliner Park, Anheuser-Busch, and Three Creeks. Other Regional parks are less developed and provide more natural areas.	Varies	2.84	2,277.41
Special Use Parks	Area providing unique or special attraction, usually without traditional park structures and facilities. Examples: Park of Roses, Darby Hill, Bicentennial Park, Cultural Arts Center and Dodge Skateboard Park	Varies	0.16	126.02
Golf	Property used as golf course	Varies	1.20	965.40
Reservoir	Land and Water associated with the three Columbus reservoirs	Varies	7.97	6,398.03
Neighborhood Open Space	Park area with no playground or other facilities but mowed regularly. Sometimes has picnic tables and benches	Varies	0.27	216.48
Conservation/Natural Area	Conservation/Natural Area: Parkland acquired to protect and preserve significant natural areas, wetlands, ravines, usually along waterways. No development planned. Limited public access.	Varies	21.12	1,418.39
Parkland Reserve	Property acquired through donation or purchase that will most likely be developed into a park. Development will occur when need and/or funds are available	Varies	0.95	762.04
Operations/Non-Park Area	Usually a maintenance area, offices, nursery, etc.	Varies	0.11	86.92
TOTAL			37.29	14,397

Table 2.2 Park Facilities

Facility Type	Total Facilities
Picnic Shelter Medium (50-100 person capacity)	1.00
Large Shelter (100+ person capacity)	4.00
Multi-Purpose Field (Soccer/Football/Lacrosse/Rugby/Cricket/Kickball)	183.00
Baseball Field	6.00
Softball Field	104.00
Basketball Courts	63.00
Tennis Courts	93.00
Disc Golf Course	2.00
Playgrounds	184.00
Dog Parks	4.00
Sand Volleyball Courts	-
Skate Park	1.00
Trails (Miles)	92.45
Outdoor Pools	7.00



Figure 2.2 Existing Parks by Typology - Citywide

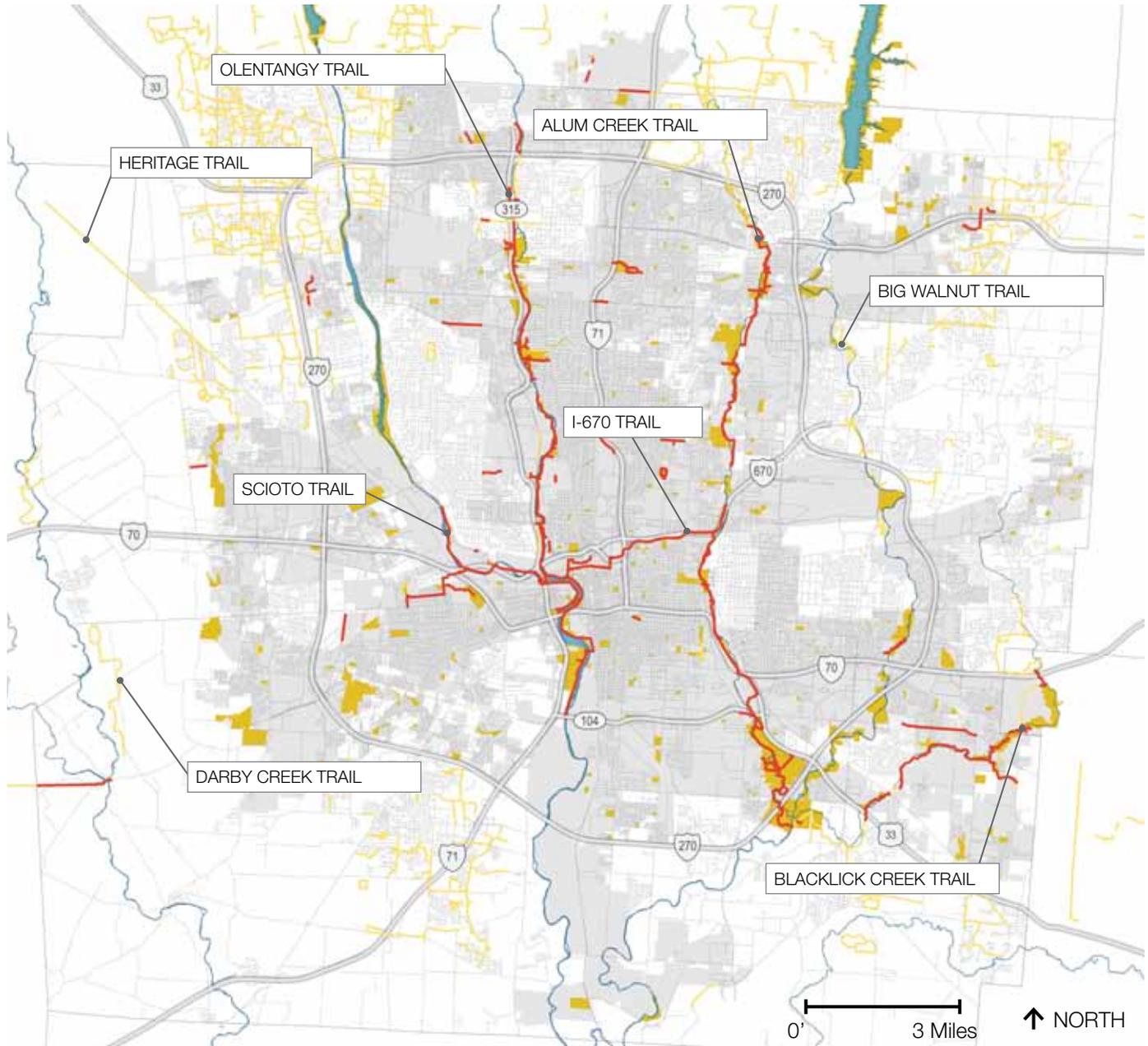


Legend

- | | |
|--|--|
|  City of Columbus Boundary |  Neighborhood Park |
|  Hydrology |  Neighborhood Open Space |
|  Major Roads |  Special Use Park or Facility |
|  Regional Park and Reservoirs |  Golf Course |
|  Community Park |  Operations/Non Park Area |
|  Parkland Reserve | |
|  Conservation/Natural Area | |

EXISTING PARKS AND FACILITIES

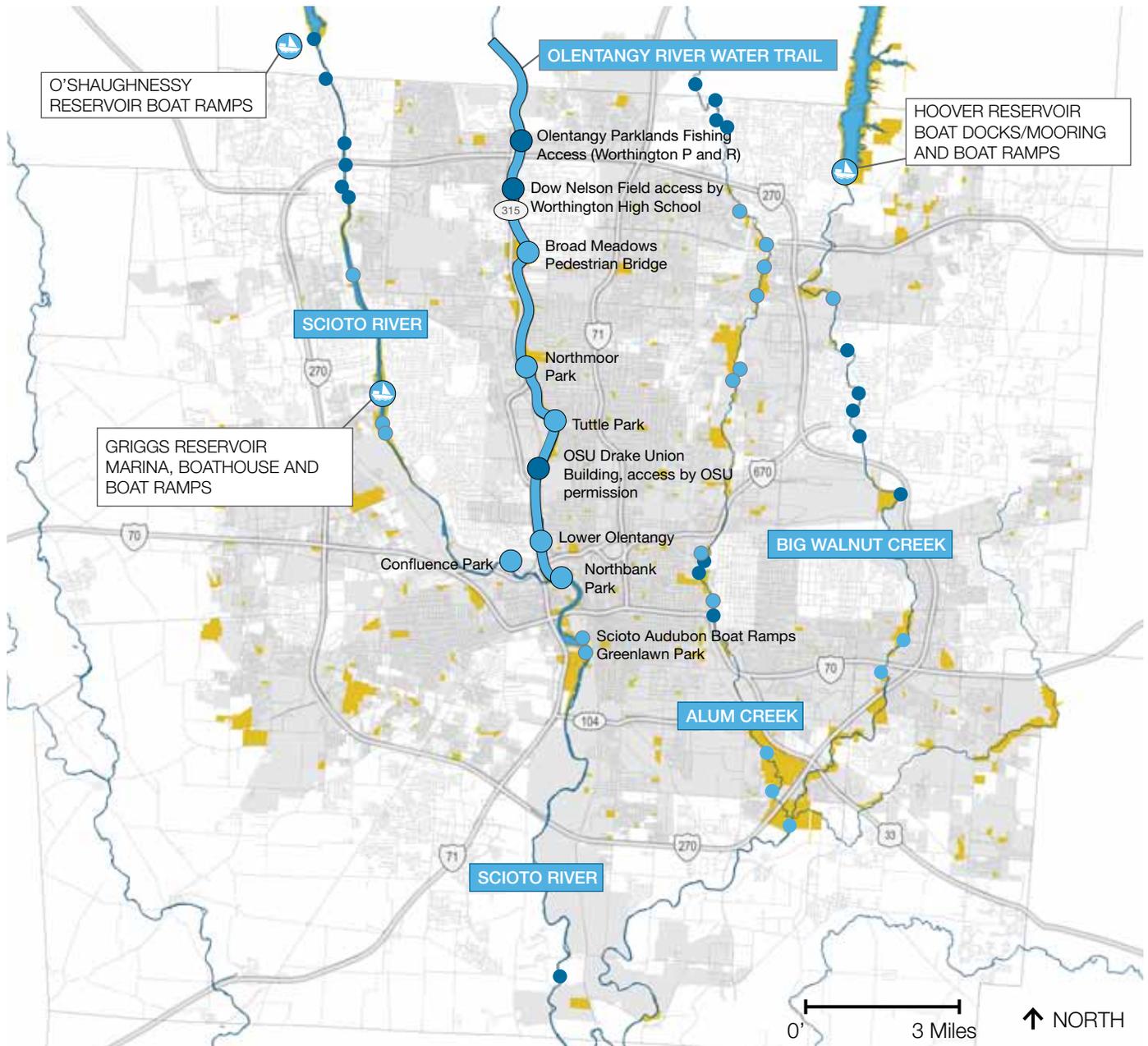
Figure 2.3 Existing Columbus and Regional Trail System - 92.45 Miles of Trails



Legend

- City of Columbus Boundary
- Hydrology
- Major Roads
- Existing City of Columbus Trail
- Existing Regional Trail
- City of Columbus Park

Figure 2.4 Existing Water Trails and Access



Legend

- City of Columbus Boundary
- Hydrology
- City of Columbus Park
- Major Roads
- Designated Water Trail
- Columbus Recreation & Parks Boat Ramps/Marinas
- Columbus River Access
- Regional River Access

EXISTING COMMUNITY CENTERS AND PROGRAMS

OVERVIEW OF COMMUNITY CENTERS

The Columbus Recreation and Park Department operates a total of 29 community centers throughout the city. Most centers include amenities such as a craft room, gymnasium, fitness center, weight room, kitchen, and general purpose meeting space. Some also include specialized features including a boxing center, billiards room, wood shop, or an auditorium. Centers range in size from 42,323 square feet (Martin Janis) to 8,230 square feet (Brentnell). For the purposes of description and analysis in this master plan the centers were divided into three categories: small (less than 19,000 sq. ft.), medium (19,000-30,000 sq. ft.), and large/multi-generational (greater than 30,000 sq. ft.).

The master planning process included an on-site evaluation of 20 community centers. This included an examination of the physical condition of each facility, observations of activity levels, and an assessment of the interaction between users, staff, and the center amenities. In an effort to acquire valuable information for recommendation purposes, center managers and key staff were interviewed to understand each center's perspective from the front lines. Individual community center assessments are found later in this plan that summarize the key findings of consultant visits as well as the opinions of staff, users, and the consulting team for each site.

Overall, the greatest strength of the community centers in the parks and recreation system are the highly-dedicated and talented staff that manage the facilities and provide services to users. Areas for improvement involve facility hygiene and maintenance, inefficient operating hours, lack of effectiveness in coordinating and scheduling programs and services, and organizational impediments to marketing and communication.



Arts programs provide a studio atmosphere where students are supplied with proper equipment and instruction to execute their ideas.

OVERVIEW OF PROGRAMS

CRPD provides a wide variety of activities and services to the residents of Columbus. Department staff are responsible for the management and implementation of recreation programs, special community-wide events, and the operation of multiple facilities. Employees are engaged year round in planning, implementing, conducting, and evaluating programs and events.

All functions within the Department combine to provide hundreds of programs in the areas of fitness, athletics, aquatics, sports, nature, youth camps, and special events. The Department also operates numerous specialized facilities, community centers and a variety of parks. In addition to the provision of services provided directly by

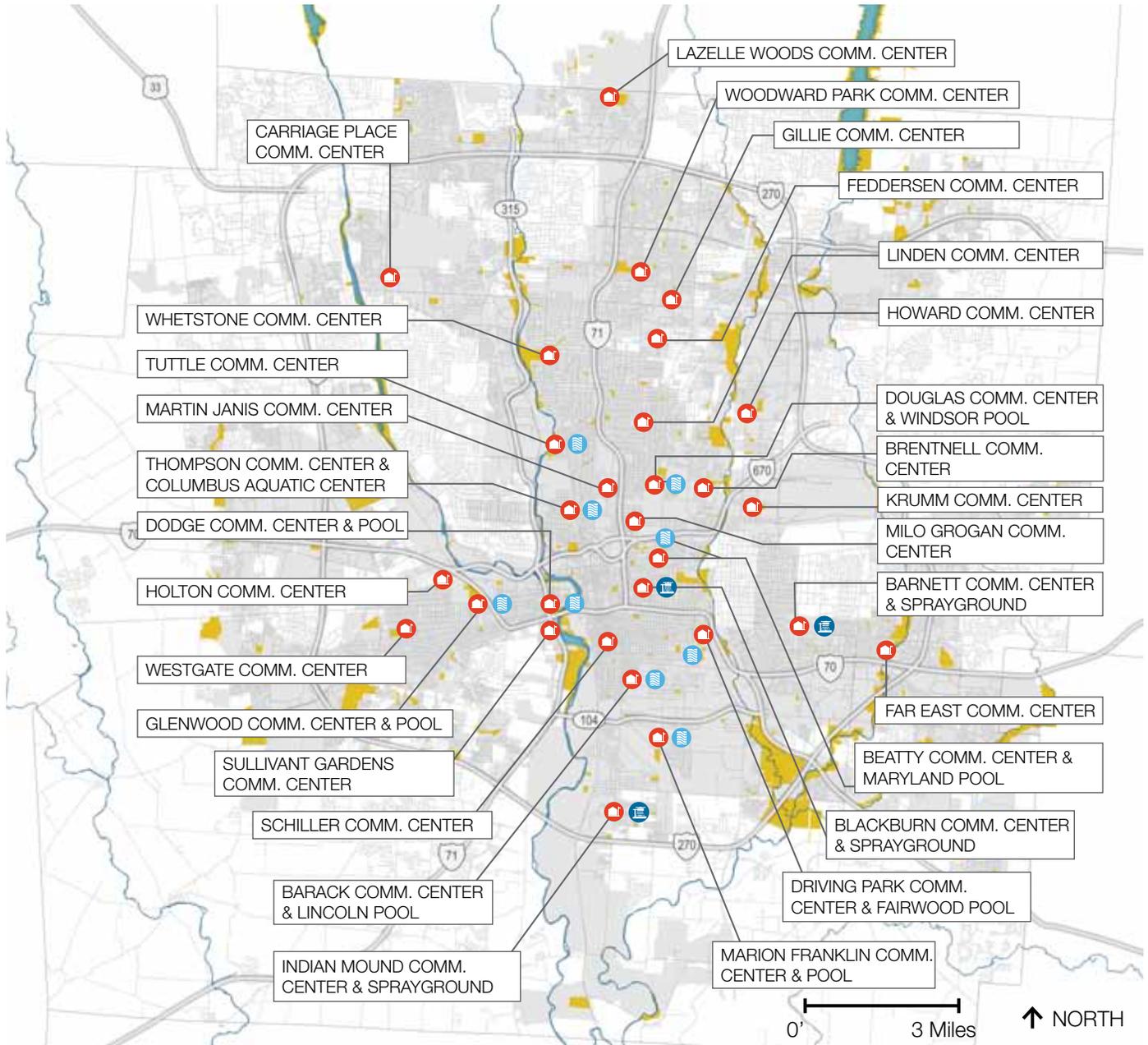
Table 2.3 Inventory of Community Centers

Center	Zip	Built	SqFt
Barack	43207	1964	31,742
Barnett	43227	1965	32,093
Beatty	43203	1951	24,820
Blackburn	43205	1967	39,301
Brentnell	43219	1975	8,230
Carriage Place	43235	1990	20,167
Dodge	43215	2005	31,772
Douglas	43211	1993	24,423
Driving Park	43206	1980	11,853
Far East	43227	1971	17,200
Feddersen	43224	1965	35,297
Gillie	43229	2001	19,900
Glenwood	43223	1916	15,063
Holton	43204	1975	10,130
Howard	43219	1990	20,157

Table 2.3 Inventory of Community Centers

Center	Zip	Built	SqFt
Indian Mound	43207	1975	10,170
Lazelle Woods	43081	2005	27,453
Linden	43211	1951	23,343
Marion-Franklin	43207	1972	35,555
Martin Janis	43211	1978	42,323
Milo Grogan	43201	1973	16,267
Schiller	43206	1917	40,424
Sullivant Gardens	43223	1976	11,130
Thompson	43201	1959	35,500
Tuttle	43201	1975	11,257
Westgate	43204	1963	26,580
Whetstone	43214	1956	39,940
William Adams	43219	1975	10,630
Woodward	43229	1976	15,403

Figure 2.5 Existing Community Centers, Pools, and Spraygrounds



Legend

- City of Columbus Boundary
- Hydrology
- Major Roads
- 🏠 Community Centers
- 🏊 Pool
- 🌊 Sprayground

EXISTING COMMUNITY CENTERS AND PROGRAMS

CRPD, partnerships with other organizations are utilized throughout the service area. Through formal and informal cooperative relationships, partners assist with delivering select programs, training of staff, granting access to specialized facilities, and providing support to programs with supplies and materials.

PRIORITIES AND CORE PROGRAM AREAS

The mission of CRPD is to “enrich the lives of our citizens.” To help achieve this mission, it is important to identify core program areas based on current and future needs to create a sense of focus around specific program areas of greatest importance to the community. Public recreation is challenged by the premise of being all things to all people, especially in a community such as Columbus. The philosophy of the core program area assists staff, policy makers, and the public focus on what is most important. Program areas are considered as core if they meet a majority of the following categories:

- The program area has been provided for a long period of time (over 4-5 years) and/or is expected by the community.
- The program area is so operationally intensive that it singularly consumes a significant portion (5% or more) of the entire department’s overall total budget (e.g., 5% of CRPD’s \$34 million budget would be \$1.7 million).
- The program area is offered 3-4 seasons per year.
- The program area has wide demographic appeal.
- There is a tiered level of skill development available within the programs area’s offerings.
- There is full-time staff responsible for the program area.
- There are facilities designed specifically to support the program area.
- The agency controls a significant percentage (20% or more) of the local market.

In consultation with department staff, the planning team identified the following core program areas:

Aquatics

The Aquatics program area aims to provide aquatic opportunities for individuals six months and up. In addition to providing learn-to-swim programs, the Department also offers programs on the skills of boating, sailing, and canoeing. CRPD aquatic facilities are also used for training lifeguards and learn to swim instructors. The goals of the program area are to provide an outstanding learn to swim program for all ages during the indoor season and outdoor summer season, and to provide inexpensive open swim times for all residents to enjoy.

Arts

Community centers, the Cultural Arts Center, the Davis Performing Arts Center, and the Golden Hobby Shop are major facilities within the Arts program area that provide visual arts, performing arts, dance, music, exhibitions, artist talks, camps, workshops and classes for ages Pre-K through Seniors of all skill levels. The goals of the program area are to provide a studio atmosphere where students are supplied with proper equipment and instruction to execute their ideas; to encourage students of all ages and skill levels to confidently explore multiple mediums; to expose students to programming that is interesting, relevant, and has educational value; and to provide opportunities for students to experience guest artists, speakers, and programs related to the arts. Located downtown across from Bicentennial Park, the Cultural Arts Center provides exhibition space and adult classes in ceramics, painting, beading, and a variety of other visual arts. The Davis Performing Arts Center, located near Deaf School Park, contains two theater spaces that host a various of shows and classes. The Golden Hobby Shop is located in the heart of German Village and acts as a consignment shop for senior citizens’ handcrafted items.

Fitness

CRPD offers a variety of opportunities in the Fitness program area for the residents of Central Ohio to get more active and fit. Programs range from cardio classes at community centers to walking clubs and fitness center memberships. The Department strives to offer low cost memberships while providing high-quality fitness facilities. Goals of the Fitness program area include promoting increased participation to achieve active lifestyles, increasing the number of facilities offered with upgraded fitness rooms, and ensuring staff are adequately trained to be sure participants are getting safe guidance in fitness training.

Outdoor Education

CRPD’s Outdoor Education program provides environmental education and outdoor programming to residents of all ages in the City of Columbus and surrounding communities. Free and low cost programs are offered year round. These programs include activities such as after school enrichment classes, school field trips, winter and summer day camps, scout and youth group programming, and special events. The goals of the program area include instilling a lifelong appreciation for the outdoors through collaborative learning, fostering environmental and community stewardship, and providing hands on service learning projects for participants to learn about the environment and their relationship to the community.



The Therapeutic Recreation program area provides services ranging from social recreational enrichment, sports, fitness, after-school programs, outreach activities, and summer camps.

Sports

Activities such as basketball, baseball, soccer, softball, flag football, tennis, and hockey are included in the Sports program area. Special interest and emerging programs such as futsal and pickle ball are also provided by this area. In addition, CRPD staff manage several leagues and/or tournaments in various sports. The goals of these programs are to promote sports and healthy lifestyles through a variety of programs, generate revenue, and to offer high-quality leagues and tournaments to participants.

Summer Camps

The summer camps provided by CRPD offer the children of Central Ohio opportunities to explore their creative and physical self while participating in supervised activities such as sports, drama, nature, art, and dance. Campers also investigate careers in fields including public safety and public health. The Summer Camp program area aims to provide parents with the assurance that their children will be well supervised, engaged in activities and are having fun. A major goal of the program area is to build self-confidence, increase social skills, give youth opportunities to practice effective problem solving and decision making, and to create a positive experience.

Therapeutic Recreation

The Therapeutic Recreation program area provides services ranging from social/recreational enrichment, sports, fitness, after-school programs, outreach activities, Adventure Center programs, and summer camps. The program is located at the Franklin Park Indoor Adventure Center, which features a climbing wall and a high ropes course. Social/recreational enrichment programs create opportunities for participants to interact with one another in a positive, constructive

environment. Sports and fitness programs teach a progression of physical skills and help participants achieve and maintain a healthy lifestyle. After-school programs provide opportunities for participants to develop awareness and skills as they relate to education, leisure and recreation. Outreach activities provide advocacy and support to the community. Summer camp programs encourage awareness, appreciation, knowledge and skill development as part of various day camp activities.

Special Programs

CRPD offers and administers a variety of special programs aimed at specific segments of the community with the overall goal of increasing access to facilities and activities for everyone. Examples of these programs include:

- **APPS** (Applications for Purpose, Pride, and Success), which serves to enrich the lives of youth and young adults (ages 14-21) through programs focused on building life skills, character development, employment, post-secondary education, and other components that foster success in life.
- **P.L.A.Y.**, which provides grants to youth 18 years and younger in the Columbus area who meet certain financial criteria to allow them to participate in fee based programs of Columbus Recreation and Parks.
- **Youth First**, which through a competitive application process, awards and provides grants to local youth sports organizations with the purpose of reducing or eliminating participation costs for middle-school age children.

Existing Recreation Programs at a Glance

30	Aquatics
184	Arts
189	Fitness
24	Outdoor Education
420	Sports
295	Weeks of Summer Camps
46	Therapeutic Recreation
3	Special Programs

PARKS AND FACILITIES BY OTHER JURISDICTIONS

INTRODUCTION



Walnut Woods Metro Park

When planning for future improvements and additional parkland, it is important to consider parks and facilities that serve the needs of Columbus residents and those of the larger metropolitan region. When analyzing the Level of Service needs of the City of Columbus, the regional facilities operated by Metro Parks and the YMCA were taken into account (see page 90).

Metro Parks

The Metro Parks system, which is funded by Franklin County taxpayers, has more than 15,500 acres of parkland just within Franklin County at 18 different parks. Though the majority of these parks are located on the suburban/rural fringes of the county, Metro Parks recently built the Scioto Audubon Metro Park (2007) on the Whittier Peninsula just south of Downtown Columbus in a collaboration with CRPD. CRPD also cooperates with Metro Parks on other parks. Both organizations have jointly developed and operate Three Creeks Park and Metro Parks manages and maintains the Olentangy Greenway Multi-Use trail. Plans to extend this trail to Highbanks Metro Park north of I-270 will create a Multi-Use trail linkage that connects to Scioto Audubon Metro Park on the south.

YMCA

There are also 10 YMCA facilities within the City of Columbus that serve residents of the region with various recreation and programming facilities, both indoor and outdoor. There are a number of urban YMCA locations, but for the most part they are located in the more suburban areas of the City. These often have pool facilities, gyms, recreation fields, and programming similar to that offered by CRPD.

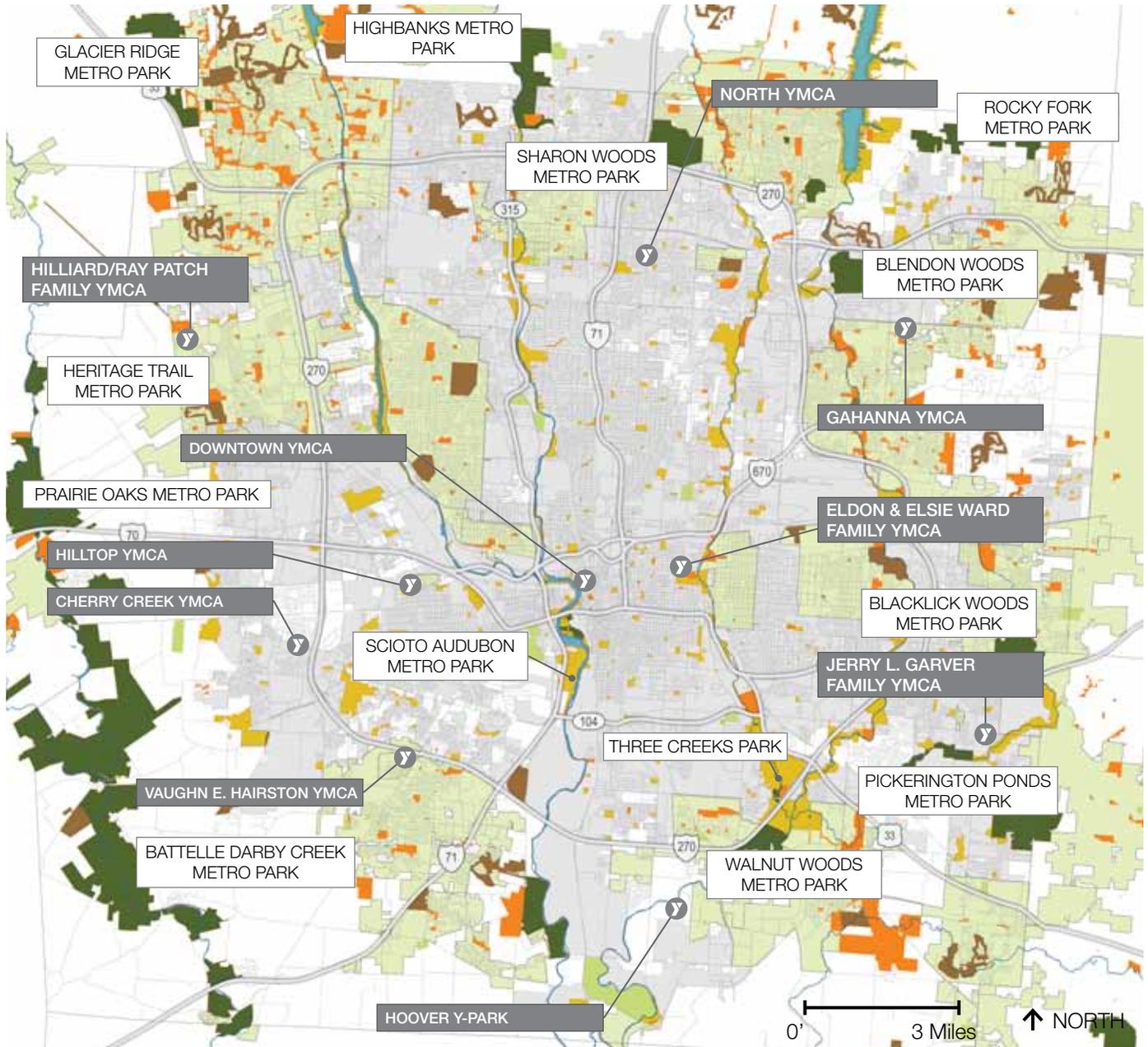
Table 2.4 Metro Park System Acreage (Franklin County Only)

Park	Acres
Battelle Darby	6,584
Blacklick	289
Blendon	653
Heritage Trail	59
Highbanks	300
Inniswood	123
Pickerington	1,170
Prairie Oaks	1,276
Sharon Woods	761
Three Creeks	1,100
Alum Creek Greenway	7
Big Walnut Greenway	66
Blacklick Creek Greenway	309
Scioto Audubon	120
Rocky Fork	1,003
Scioto South	620
Walnut Woods	1,032
Camp Chase Trail	31
Miscellaneous	24
Totals	15,528

Table 2.5 Branch YMCA Facilities (Franklin County Only)

Facility Name	Square Footage
Downtown YMCA	168,173
Eldon & Elsie Ward Family YMCA	30,876
Hilltop YMCA	23,359
North YMCA	46,314
Gahanna YMCA	215,996
Hilliard Ray Patch Family YMCA	49,708
Vaughn E. Hairston YMCA	34,298
Jerry L. Garver YMCA	28,376
Hilltop-Cherry Creek YMCA	8,370
Hoover Y-Park	10,564
Total	616,034

Figure 2.6 Existing Parks and Facilities by Other Jurisdictions



PEER COMPARISON

ADJACENT JURISDICTIONS

Adjacent jurisdictions were also considered as part of this Master Plan. Since municipalities size parks and facilities to meet the needs of their citizens, this data was not included in the Level of Service Analysis. However, it is important to note that it is likely that Columbus residents that live in nearby cities use these facilities and it is also likely that nearby residents of other municipalities use City of Columbus facilities.

Table 2.6 lists the adjacent municipalities and the amount of parkland in each. Only Groveport has more parkland per thousand residents (38) than Columbus (37.29). Table 2.7 lists adjacent municipalities and what regulations are in place for non-residents that wish to use their facilities. All allow residents of other cities to use their facilities, but have some restrictions and require additional fees.

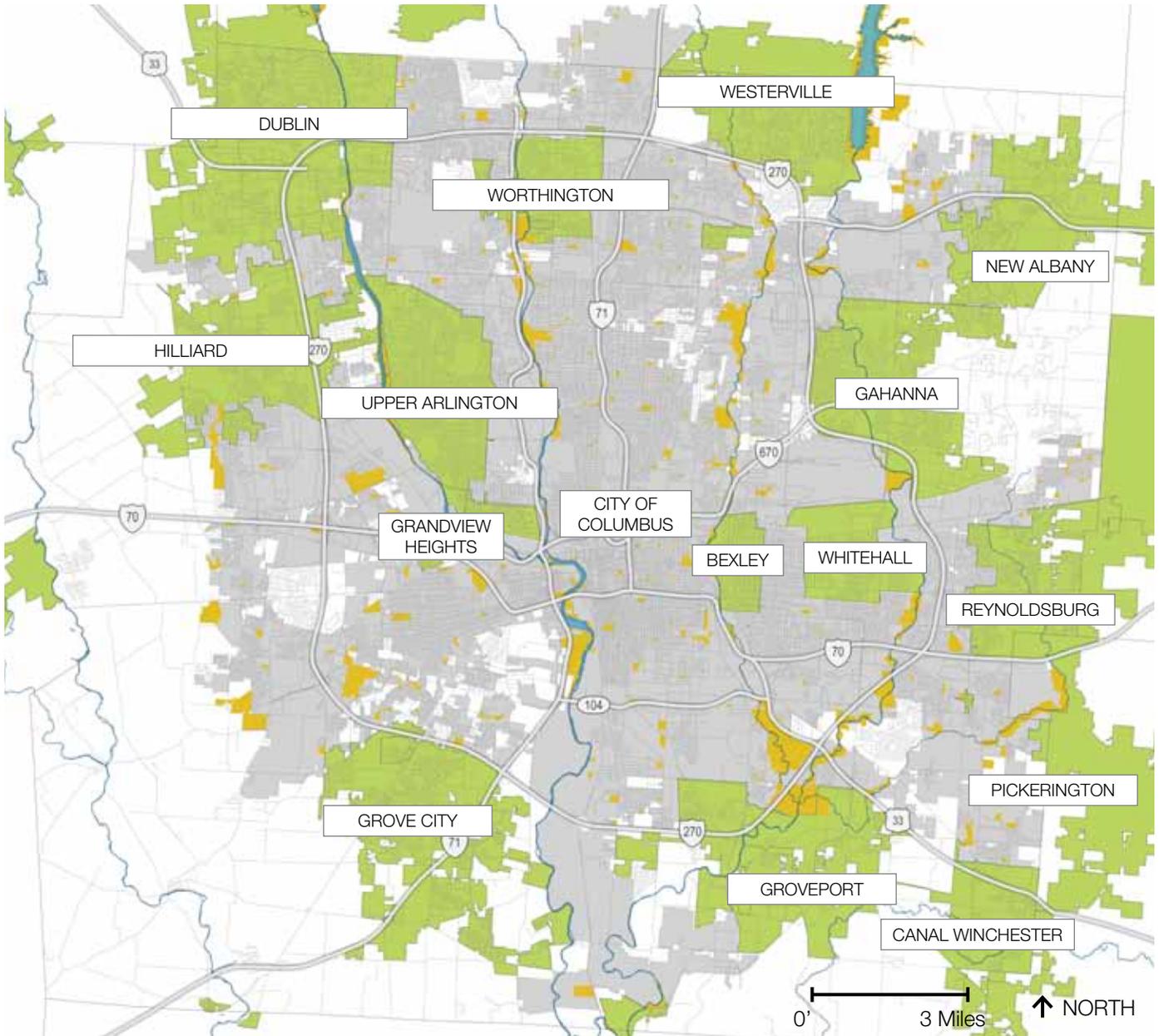
Table 2.6 Population and Parkland of Nearby Municipalities

Municipality	Parkland Acreage	Population (2013)	Parkland per Thousand
Bexley	150	13,445	11.5
Canal Winchester	225	7,393	30.4
Dublin	1,098	43,607	25.5
Gahanna	775	34,501	22.7
Grandview Heights	45	6,943	7.5
Grove City	395	37,490	10.7
Groveport	190	5,632	38
Hilliard	326	28,435	11.6
New Albany	904	8,829	113
Pickerington	150	19,085	7.9
Reynoldsburg	275	36,526	7.6
Upper Arlington	180	34,420	5.3
Westerville	600	37,530	16.2
Whitehall	157	18,503	8.7
Worthington	221	13,837	17

Table 2.7 Use Restrictions of Nearby Municipalities

Community	Residency Requirement	Non-Resident Use	Non-Resident Charge
Bexley	Yes	Yes, restricted	Varies
Canal Winchester	Yes		
Dublin	No	Yes	Varies. 50% - 95% increase for school district residents. 95%-190% increase for non residents
Gahanna	No	Yes	Varies
Grandview Heights	No	Yes	Varies. 49% to 61% increase for residents
Grove City	Yes	Yes, with restrictions for the Big Splash Water Park	Yes
Groveport	No	Yes	Varies 50% to 73% increase for residents
Hilliard	Yes	Yes	Varies. 33% - 94% increase for school district residents and non residents
New Albany	No	Yes	For memberships, 11%-37% increase for non residents
Pickerington	No	Yes	22%-28% increase for non residents
Reynoldsburg	No	yes	Yes. \$56.00
Upper Arlington	Yes	Yes, with restrictions	Yes
Westerville	No	Yes	Varies
Whitehall	No	Yes	Yes, Varies.
Worthington	No	Yes	Varies. 25%-42% increase for residents

Figure 2.7 Adjacent Municipalities



- City of Columbus Boundary
- Hydrology
- Major Roads
- City of Columbus Park
- Other Jurisdiction Boundary

POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS

The Demographic Analysis provides an understanding of the population within the City of Columbus. This analysis is reflective of the total population, and its key characteristics such as age segments, income levels, race, and ethnicity.

It is important to note that future projections are all based on historical patterns and unforeseen circumstances during or after the time of the projections could have a significant bearing on the validity of the final projections.

Demographic Overview

The total population of the City of Columbus had an increase of approximately 9.6% from 711,470 in 2000 to 787,033 in 2010. The current population estimate for 2013 is 802,411, and it is projected to reach 838,107 in 2018, and total 909,369 by 2028.

According to the U.S. Census reports, the total number of households in the city has increased by approximately 9.1%, from 301,534 in 2000 to 331,602 in 2010. Columbus is estimated to have 338,751 households in 2013, and is expected to grow to 383,203 households by 2028.

The target area's median household income (\$40,341) and per capita income (\$23,592) are well below both state and national averages.

Based on the 2010 Census, the population of the City of Columbus is much younger (31.4 years) than the median age of the U.S. (37.2 years). Projections show that by 2028, the city will undergo an aging trend, with the 55+ group being the only age segment experiencing growth. The distribution by age segments is expected to be balanced between the four major age groupings based on 2028 forecasts.

The estimated 2013 population of City of Columbus is mostly White Alone (61.74%), with the Black Alone (27.08%) group as the only minority representing more than 5% of the total population. From 2000 to 2010, the target area's racial composition underwent slight diversification, as the White Alone category dropped from 67.93% to 61.46%, and the Black Alone segment increased from 24.47% to 27.98%. In the period between censuses, those of Hispanic Origin more than doubled, from 2.46% in 2000 to 5.64% in 2010. Future projections show that by 2028 the city will slowly become more diverse, but the White Alone (56.73%) group will remain the majority. Based on 2028 projections, the largest minority will be the Black Alone (28.87%) group, followed by Some Other Race (5.38%) and Asian (4.88%). The Hispanic ethnic group will continue growing, and represent 10.78% of the population by 2028.

Methodology

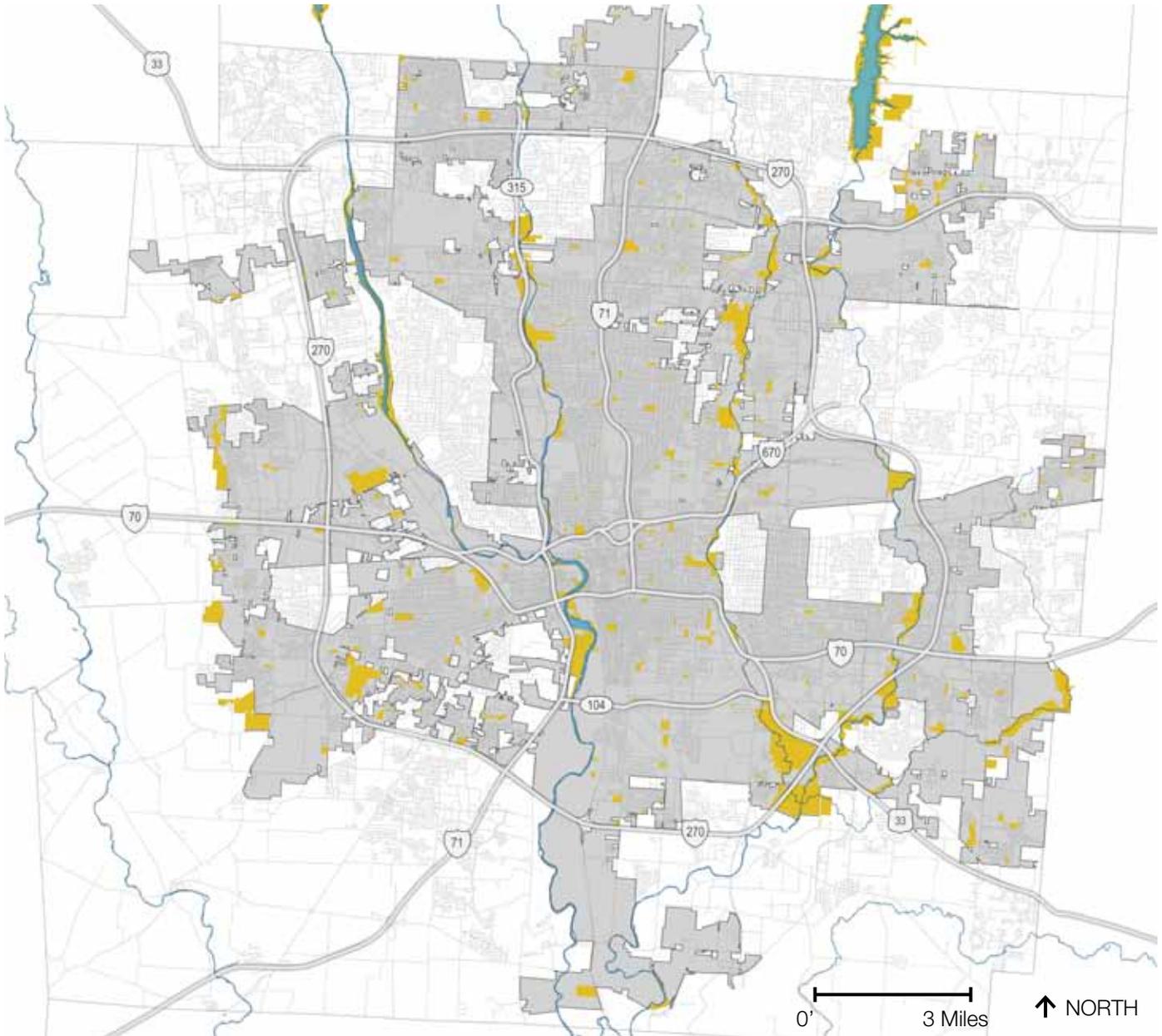
Demographic data used for the analysis was obtained from U.S. Census Bureau and from Environmental Systems Research Institute, Inc. (ESRI), the largest research and development organization dedicated to Geographical Information Systems (GIS) and specializing in population projections and market trends. All data was acquired in September 2013 and reflects actual numbers as reported in the 2000 and 2010 Censuses, and estimates for 2013 and 2018 as obtained by ESRI. Straight line linear regression was utilized for projected 2023 and 2028 demographics. The geographic boundary of the City of Columbus was utilized as the demographic analysis boundary shown in Figure 2.8.

Race And Ethnicity Definitions

The minimum categories for data on race and ethnicity for Federal statistics, program administrative reporting, and civil rights compliance reporting are defined as below. The Census 2010 data on race are not directly comparable with data from the 2000 Census and earlier censuses; caution must be used when interpreting changes in the racial composition of the U.S. population over time. The latest (Census 2010) definitions and nomenclature are used within this analysis.

- American Indian – This includes a person having origins in any of the original peoples of North and South America (including Central America), and who maintains tribal affiliation or community attachment
- Asian – This includes a person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent including, for example, Cambodia, China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippine Islands, Thailand, and Vietnam
- Black – This includes a person having origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa
- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander – This includes a person having origins in any of the original peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands
- White – This includes a person having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, the Middle East, or North Africa
- Hispanic or Latino – This is an ethnic distinction, a subset of a race as defined by the Federal Government; this includes a person of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, South or Central American, or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race

Figure 2.8 City of Columbus Boundary



Legend

- City of Columbus Boundary
- Hydrology
- City of Columbus Park
- Major Roads

CITY OF COLUMBUS POPULACE

POPULATION

The City of Columbus has witnessed a gradual increase in population in recent years. From 2000 to 2010, the target area's total population experienced an increase of 9.6% (from 711,470 to 787,033), or an annual growth rate of nearly 1%. This is almost equal to national growth averages, which were just over 1% annually. Projecting ahead, the total population of the city is expected to continue to increase over the next 15 years. Based on predictions through 2028, Columbus is expected to have approximately 909,369 residents living within 383,203 households. See Figure 2.9.

AGE SEGMENT

Evaluating the distribution by age segments, the City of Columbus is somewhat balanced between youth, young adult, family, and senior populations. In 2010, the largest segment by population is the 18-34 age group representing 33% of the total population, and the smallest is the 55+ segment which constitutes 15.3%.

Over time, the overall composition of the population is projected to undergo an aging trend. The Census results from 2000 and 2010 show slight decreases in the three youngest age segments, while the 55+ group grew from 15.3% to 17.9% of the population. Future projections through 2028 show that each age segment, except the 55+ group, will undergo small, but steady, decreases in size as compared to the population as a whole. The 55+ segment is expected to steadily grow to represent approximately 25.8% of the population by 2028, making the distribution of the four age segments nearly equal. This is consistent with general national trends where the 55+ age group has been growing as a result of increased life expectancies and the baby boomer population entering that age group. See Figure 2.10.

RACE AND ETHNICITY

In analyzing race and ethnicity, the target area is fairly diverse. The 2013 estimate shows that the majority of the population falls into the White Only (61.74%) category. In the time between Censuses of 2000 and 2010, the city recognized some diversification as the White Only category reduced from 67.93% to 61.46%, while the Black Alone segment increased from 24.47% to 27.98%. In the same 10-year period, those of Hispanic Origin more than doubled their representation from 2.46% to 5.64%. Predictions for 2028 expect the target area to be 56.73% White Alone, while the Black Alone will be the largest minority (28.87%), followed by Some Other Race (5.38%) and Asian (4.88%). The Hispanic ethnic group will grow to represent 10.78% of the population based on 2028 projections. See Figure 2.11 and Figure 2.12.

Figure 2.9 Columbus Population

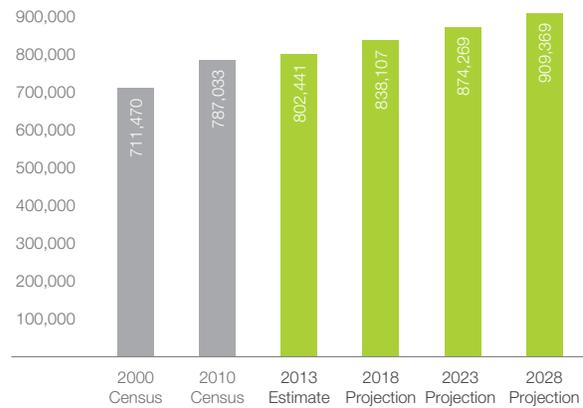


Figure 2.10 Columbus Age Segments

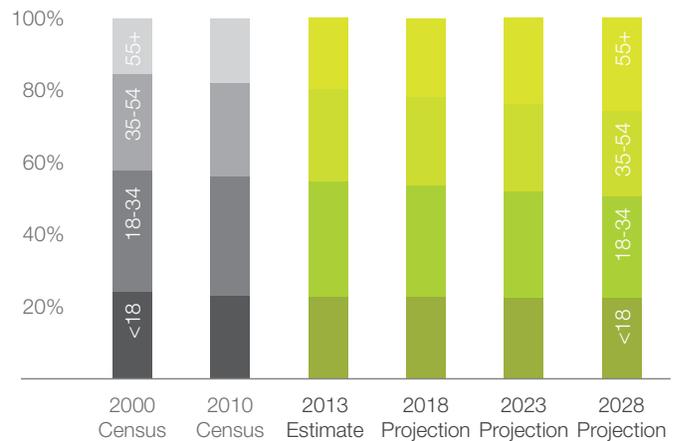


Figure 2.11 Race and Ethnicity Distribution

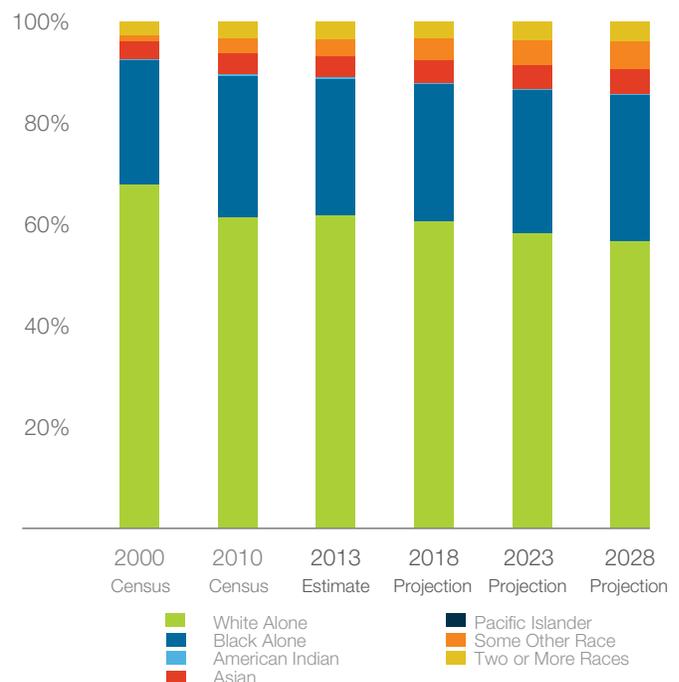


Figure 2.12 Hispanic Population

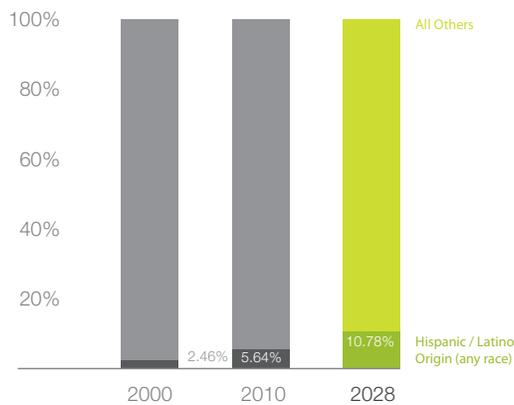


Figure 2.13 Columbus Income Levels

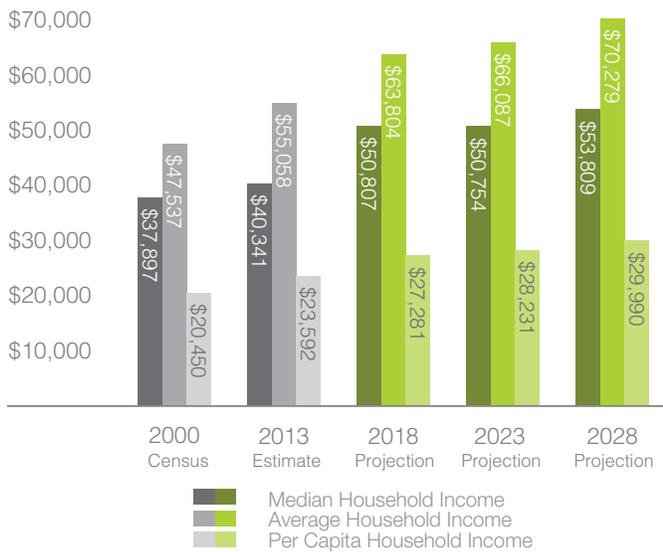
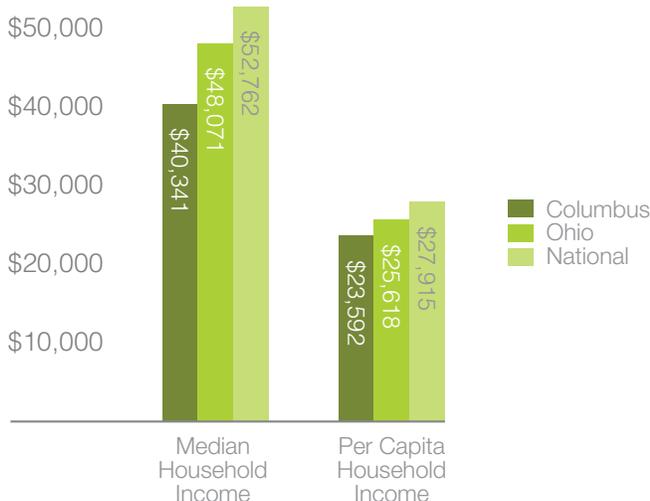


Figure 2.14 Columbus, Ohio and National Income Levels



HOUSEHOLDS AND INCOME

The City of Columbus's income characteristics demonstrate steady growth trends. The median household income was \$37,897 in 2000 and \$40,341 in 2013. It is projected to grow to \$53,809 by 2028. The median household income represents the earnings of all persons age 16 years or older living together in a housing unit. The per capita income, is also projected to increase from \$20,450 in 2000 and \$23,592 in 2013 to \$29,990 by 2028 (Figure 2.13).

As seen in Figure 2.14, Columbus's median household income (\$40,341) is well below the state (\$48,071) and national (\$52,762) averages. Per Capita Income (\$23,592) is also below state (\$25,618) and national (\$27,915) averages. Future predictions expect that both Median Household Income and Per Capita income for the area will increase to \$53,809 and \$29,990, respectively, by 2028.

HIGH LEVEL LIFESTYLE ANALYSIS

TAPESTRY SEGMENTATION LIFEMODE DATA

In addition to considering demographic trends, the planning team also conducted a high level lifestyle analysis that combines socioeconomic with demographic factors. Tapestry Segmentation LifeMode data supplied by ESRI for the Columbus region identifies where certain types of residents live within the city. For example, this information shows where there is a higher proportion of immigrant populations (along SR 161 east of I-71, and along the far east and far west side of Broad Street), larger concentrations of seniors (on the far north, far south and far east sides), a high degree of students (along SR 315, I-670 west and Alum Creek just north of I-670) and greater

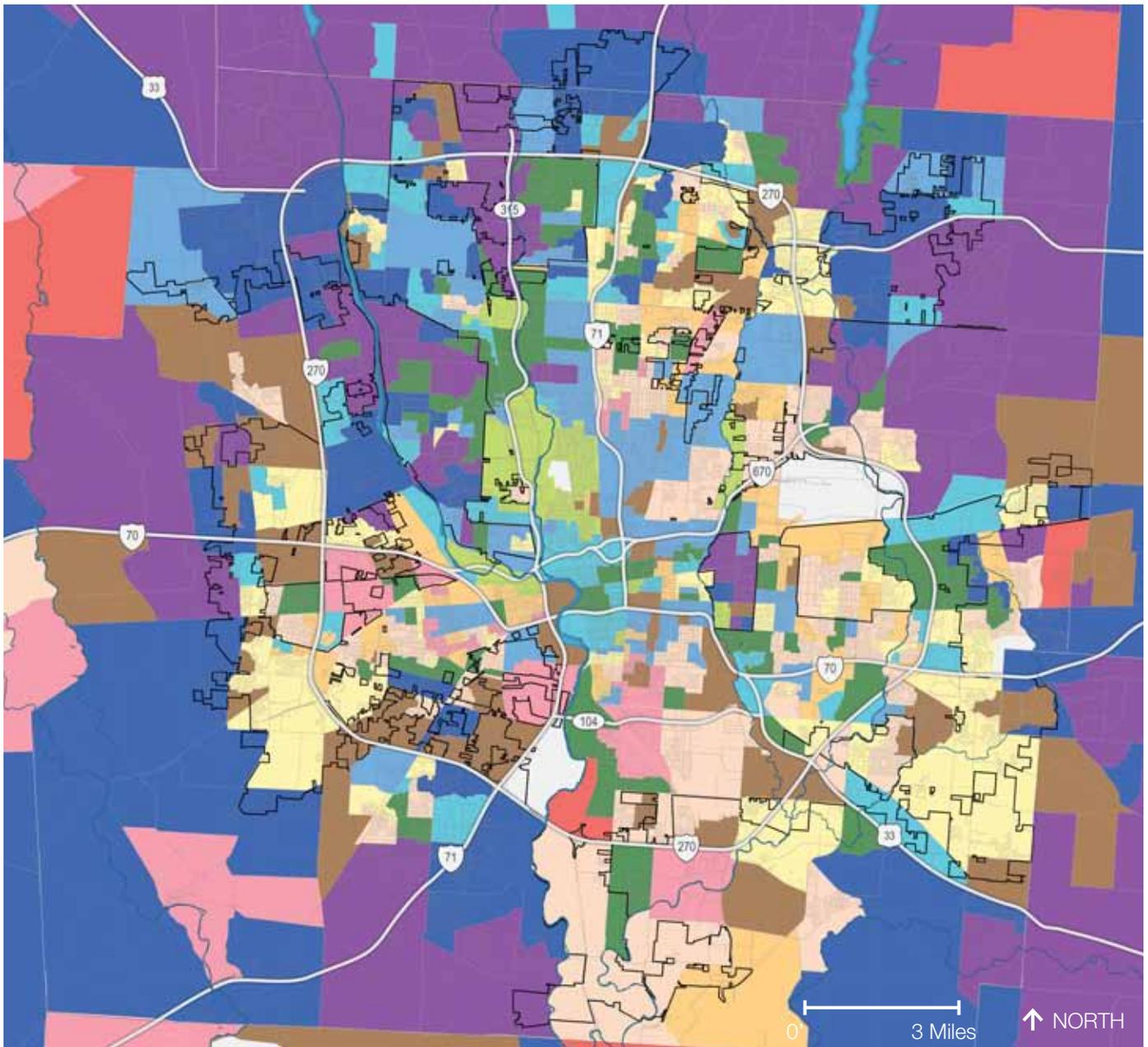
amounts of younger, aspirational families (southwest, southeast and northeast parts of the city). While this represents a current “snapshot” in time, it provides another layer of information in terms of how best to serve an increasingly diverse population.

The descriptions of the LifeMode groups can be found below and the map at right identifies the areas of the city where each group makes up a predominant portion of the population. Additional information can be found online at http://www.esri.com/data/esri_data/tapestry

LifeMode Group	Description	Median Income
High Income <i>(High Society)</i>	Residents are affluent and well educated. They represent slightly more than 12 percent of all US households but generate nearly one-quarter of the total US income. Most households are married couple families who live in affluent neighborhoods.	\$100,216
Above-Average Incomes <i>(Upscale Avenues)</i>	Similar to the High Society segments, many in this group are also well educated with above-average earnings. However, their housing choices reveal their distinct preferences, from high-rises to single-family homes.	\$65,912
City Dwellers <i>(Metropolis)</i>	Residents live and work in America’s cities in older, single-family homes or row houses built in the 1940s or earlier. Ages among the segments range from Generation Xers to retirees; households include married couples with children and single parents with children.	\$39,031
Young City Dwellers <i>(Solo Acts)</i>	Residents are mainly singles who prefer city life. Many are young, just starting out in more densely populated US neighborhoods; others are well-established singles who have no home ownership or child-rearing responsibilities. Second only to High Society, residents of this group tend to be well-educated, working professionals.	\$39,234 to \$84,612
Seniors <i>(Senior Styles)</i>	More than 14.4 million households in the nine Senior Styles segments comprise one of the largest summary groups. Median income is attributable mostly to retirement income or Social Security payments. Their choice of housing depends on their income; this group may reside in single-family homes, retirement homes, or high-rises.	\$41,334
Students and Military <i>(Scholars & Patriots)</i>	Shared traits for this group include youth, with the attendant lower incomes, and atypical environments such as college life or military service. Because of their transient lifestyle and lifestage, their home ownership rate is low.	\$24,047 - \$41,240

LifeMode Group	Description	Median Income
Young Working Families <i>(High Hopes)</i>	These residents are a mix of married couples, single parents, and singles who seek the “American Dream” of home ownership and a rewarding job. Most live in single-family houses or multiunit buildings; approximately half own their homes.	\$40,928
New Americans <i>(Global Roots)</i>	Ethnic diversity is the common thread among the eight segments in Global Roots. Typical of new households, Global Roots’ residents are young, earn modest incomes, and tend to rent in multiunit buildings. Half of all households have immigrated to the United States within the past 10 years.	\$26,283 - \$42,725
Ethnically Diverse Working Families <i>(Family Portrait)</i>	Family Portrait has the fastest-growing population of the summary groups, with more than 30 percent of residents of Hispanic descent. The neighborhoods are predominantly composed of homeowners who live in single-family homes.	\$16,339 - \$69,522
Older Working Families <i>(Traditional Living)</i>	This group is composed of working, settled families. The group’s higher median age of 37.8 years also conveys their lifestage—a number of older residents who are completing their child-rearing responsibilities and anticipating retirement.	\$38,460 - \$52,987
Rural & Small Town Residents <i>(Factories and Farms)</i>	Residents represent rural life from small towns and villages to farms. Employment in manufacturing and agricultural industries is typical in these small, settled communities across America. Most households are families, either married couples or married couples with children.	\$37,716
Higher Income Rural & Small Town Residents <i>(American Quilt)</i>	Location in America’s small towns and rural areas links the four segments in American Quilt. Unlike Factories and Farms, this group also includes workers in local government, service, construction, communication, and utilities. Households are also more affluent, and more likely to be homeowners.	\$41,953

Figure 2.15 ESRI Tapestry Segmentation Lifemode



Legend

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| City of Columbus Boundary | Seniors (Senior Styles) | Older Working Families (Traditional Living) |
| Hydrology | Students and Military (Scholars and Patriots) | Rural & Small Town Residents (Factories and Farms) |
| Major Roads | Young Working Families (High Hopes) | Higher Income Rural & Small Town Residents (American Quilt) |
| High Income (High Society) | New Americans (Global Roots) | Unclassified |
| Above-Average Incomes (Upscale Avenues) | Ethnically Diverse Working Families (Family Portrait) | |
| City Dwellers (Metropolis) | | |
| Young City Dwellers (Solo Acts) | | |

POPULATION AND LAND USE PROJECTIONS

MORPC POPULATION FORECAST

Introduction

In addition to analyzing demographic data, the planning team also obtained population growth and land use projection information from the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC). Conducted as part of the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) on a five-year basis, these forecasts shape investments in transportation infrastructure by predicting which parts of the 11 county region will be growing and how development patterns will change over time. MORPC develops these scenarios based on adaptation of local land use plans, trends in development policies and the demands of the marketplace. These scenarios assume development will occur in already developed areas that have existing infrastructure and capacity and are not in environmentally sensitive areas. Evaluating this information can be valuable to CRPD in planning for future investment and anticipating future needs. These projections are continually being updated by MORPC. The MTP is currently being updated and MORPC is also working on a new regional growth scenario study, Insight 2050 that will complete its first phase of analysis by the end of 2014. CRPD should continue to review and monitor this information and analysis work to refine future plans as new development scenarios and forecasts are released and actual population growth is documented.

The planning team isolated these forecasts for the City of Columbus, and compared 2010 information with the outlook for 2035. While the methodology used by MORPC results in slightly different projections as those determined by the U.S. Census and ESRI data and the straight line linear regression methodology used by the planning team, this data is another useful layer of information as CRPD looks to the future and where it will likely need to consider increased investment, facilities and services going forward. The following pages review the changes in population from 2000 to 2010 and existing land uses and then the projections for population growth and land use change for 2035 (see pages 52-55).

2000-2010 Growth

Between 2000 and 2010 the region grew by 190,700 people. While a good amount of this growth was in suburban areas of the city and outside of I-270, there was also substantial growth In-Town. The Southwest, Central, and North study areas experienced modest population growth between three and 5.6 percent, adding 20,846 residents. The largest growth, however, took place in the In-Town Study Area which includes downtown and nearby neighborhoods. This part of the city increased by 34,518 new residents between 2000 and 2010 following a national and regional trend of population growth returning to the urban core. The Southeast Study Area lost population during this time period, dropping 7.3% and losing more than



Since 2000, Downtown Columbus has gained population and more residential development is underway.

12,000 residents. The modest suburban growth and decline in the Southeast area is largely attributed to the economic downturn, the housing slow down and the increase in foreclosure rates that occurred in the latter half of the decade.

2010 – 2035 Growth and Land Use Forecast

The seven county region studied by MORPC is slated to grow by 20% over the next 25 years. The City of Columbus during that time period is projected to grow by 13.6%, or 123,822 residents. The following MORPC data that predicts where population growth will occur throughout the City was reviewed by the planning team. This information has been broken down by the five Study Areas defined by this planning process and highlights for each area can be found in Table 2.9.

Table 2.9 MORPC 2010 – 2035 Growth and Land Use Forecast

NORTH

The North Study Area is projected to continue its strong growth curve into 2035 with 13.6% growth and an increase in population of 28,134 residents. Continued growth along the SR 161/Sawmill Parkway/Hard Road corridors and the Polaris area is expected as is substantial growth along the Columbus/New Albany border. The Northland area has recently experienced an influx of immigrant population and this trend is expected to continue with strong growth projected in this area as well.

CENTRAL

More modest growth is projected in the Central Study Area as many neighborhoods, especially east of I-71 are largely built out. Still, growth is expected to increase 12.2% and add 12,163 residents. Areas around Riverside Hospital, Easton Town Center, Ohio Dominican University and Port Columbus, and infill in the Linden neighborhood are projected to add the most population.

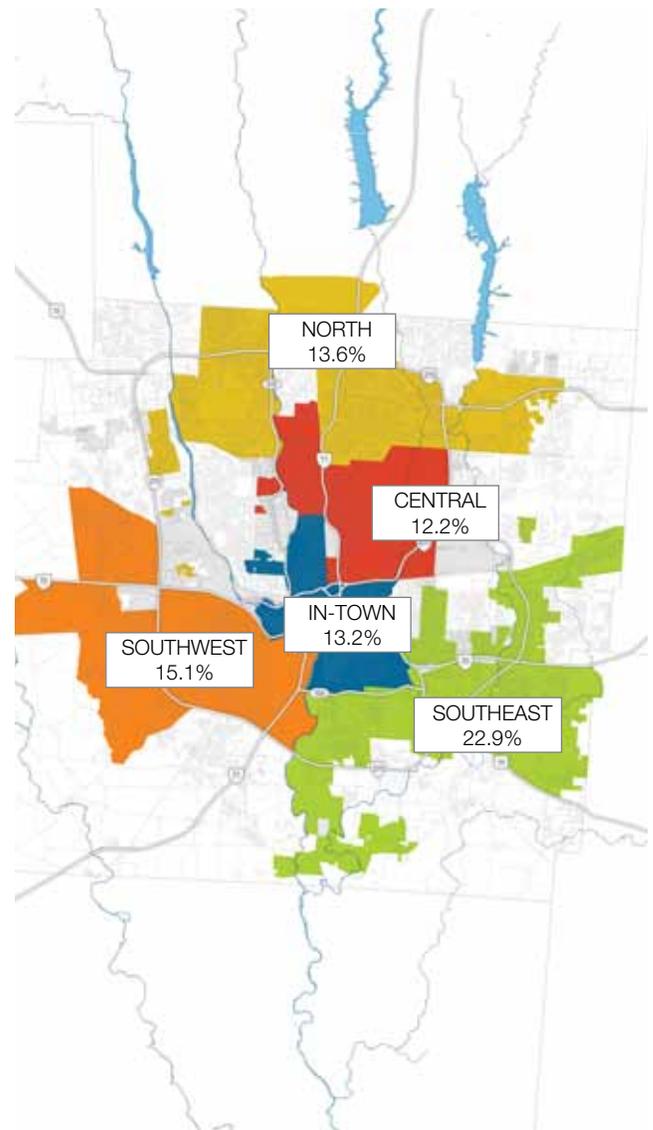
IN-TOWN

Continued downtown residential growth as well as infill in close-in residential neighborhoods will lead to a population increase in the In-Town Study Area of 13.2%, or 17,513 residents. The Arena District and the northeastern portion of Downtown Columbus will have the most growth, as well as continued residential growth in Franklinton, the Short North, Weinland Park, the Franklin Park area and German and Merion Village. Development proposals announced in 2013 through 2014 suggest continued high growth for the In-Town Study Area.

SOUTHWEST

The Southwest Study Area is projected to grow by 15.1%, adding an additional 20,508 residents. This significant growth in residential population is spread throughout this area, but areas around Big Run Park and close to the casino and Ohio Health Doctor's West hospital are projected to see the biggest gains in population.

MORPC 2035 PROJECTED GROWTH RATES

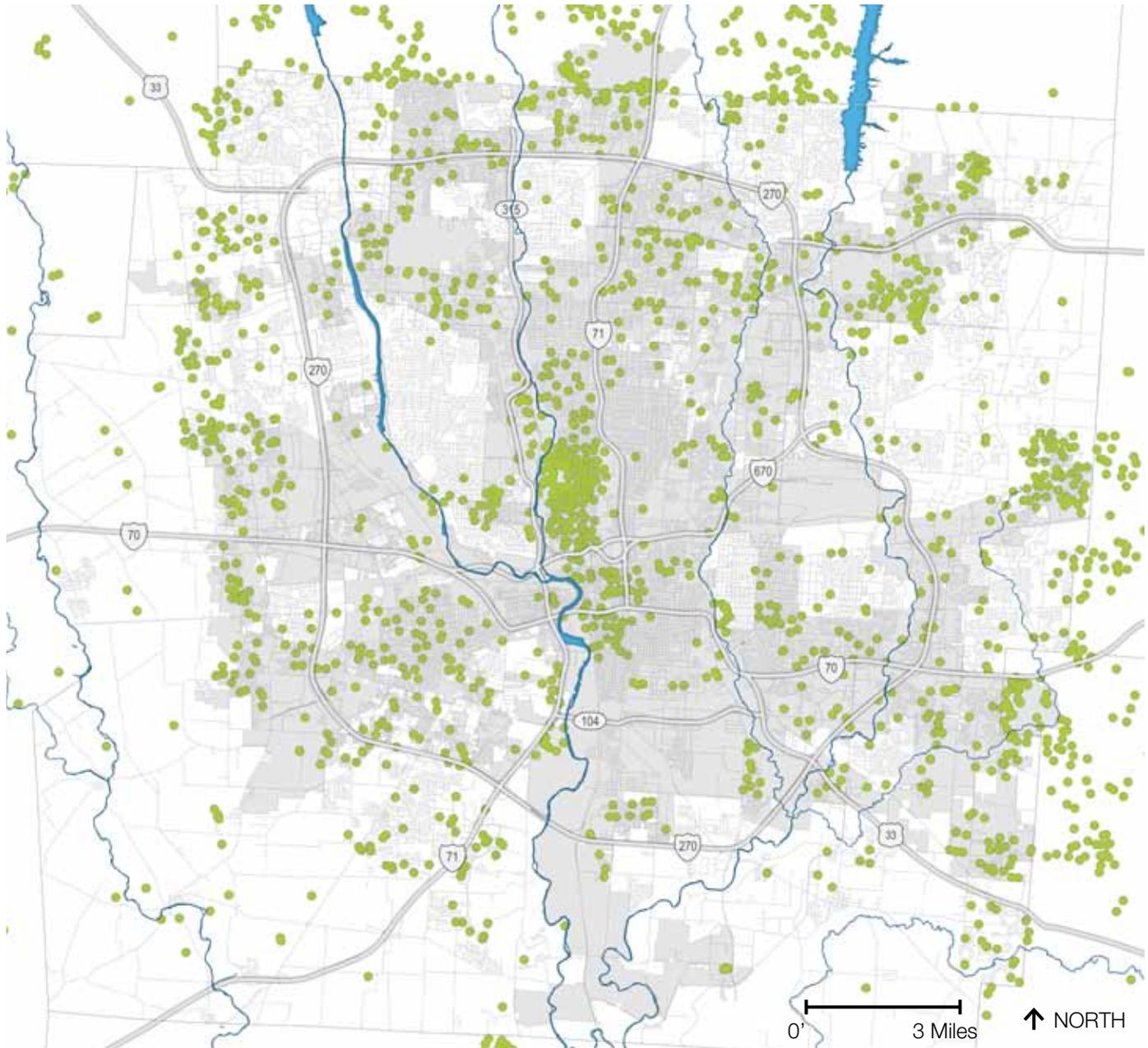


SOUTHEAST

The Southeast Study Area is projected to have the strongest growth than any other part of the city by 2035, growing by 22.9% and adding 35,080 new residents. The vast majority of this growth is predicted to be concentrated around Rickenbacker Air Force Base, Obetz and Groveport. Other expected growth areas are in the Eastland area around the I-270/US 33 interchange, and around the I-70/Hamilton Road and US 33/Gender Road interchanges.

POPULATION AND LAND USE PROJECTIONS

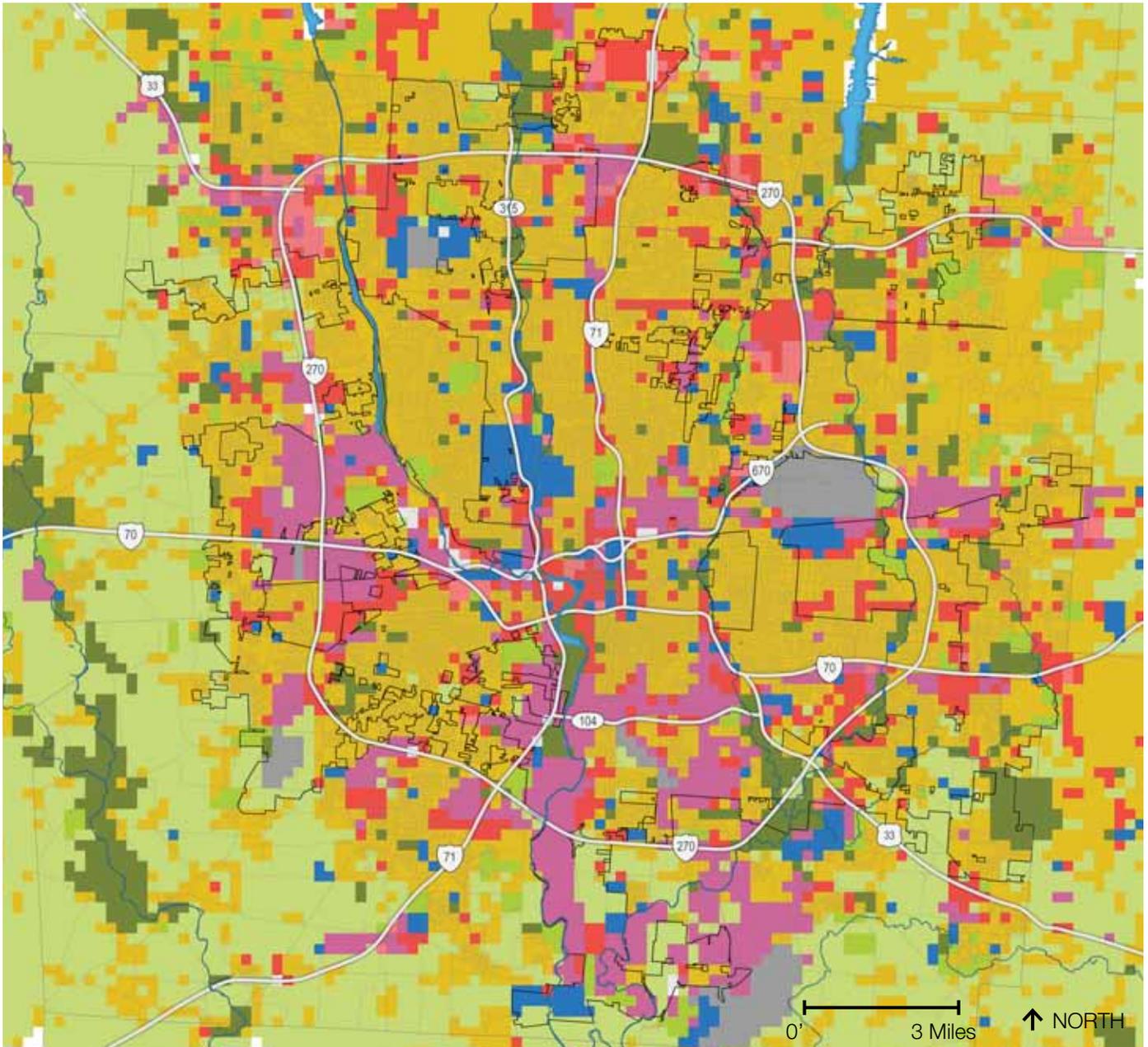
Figure 2.16 Population Change: 2000 to 2010 (Data Source: MORPC)



Legend

- City of Columbus Boundary
- Hydrology
- Major Roads
- Net Population Change (100 People)

Figure 2.17 Land Use: 2009 Existing Conditions (Data Source: MORPC)



Legend

- | | |
|---|--|
|  City of Columbus Boundary |  Agriculture |
|  Hydrology |  Parks |
|  Major Roads |  Other Open Space |
|  Civic, Healthcare and Education |  Residential |
|  Industrial |  Transportation |
|  Office | |
|  Commercial | |

POPULATION AND LAND USE PROJECTIONS

Figure 2.18 Population Change: 2010 to 2035 (Data Source: MORPC)



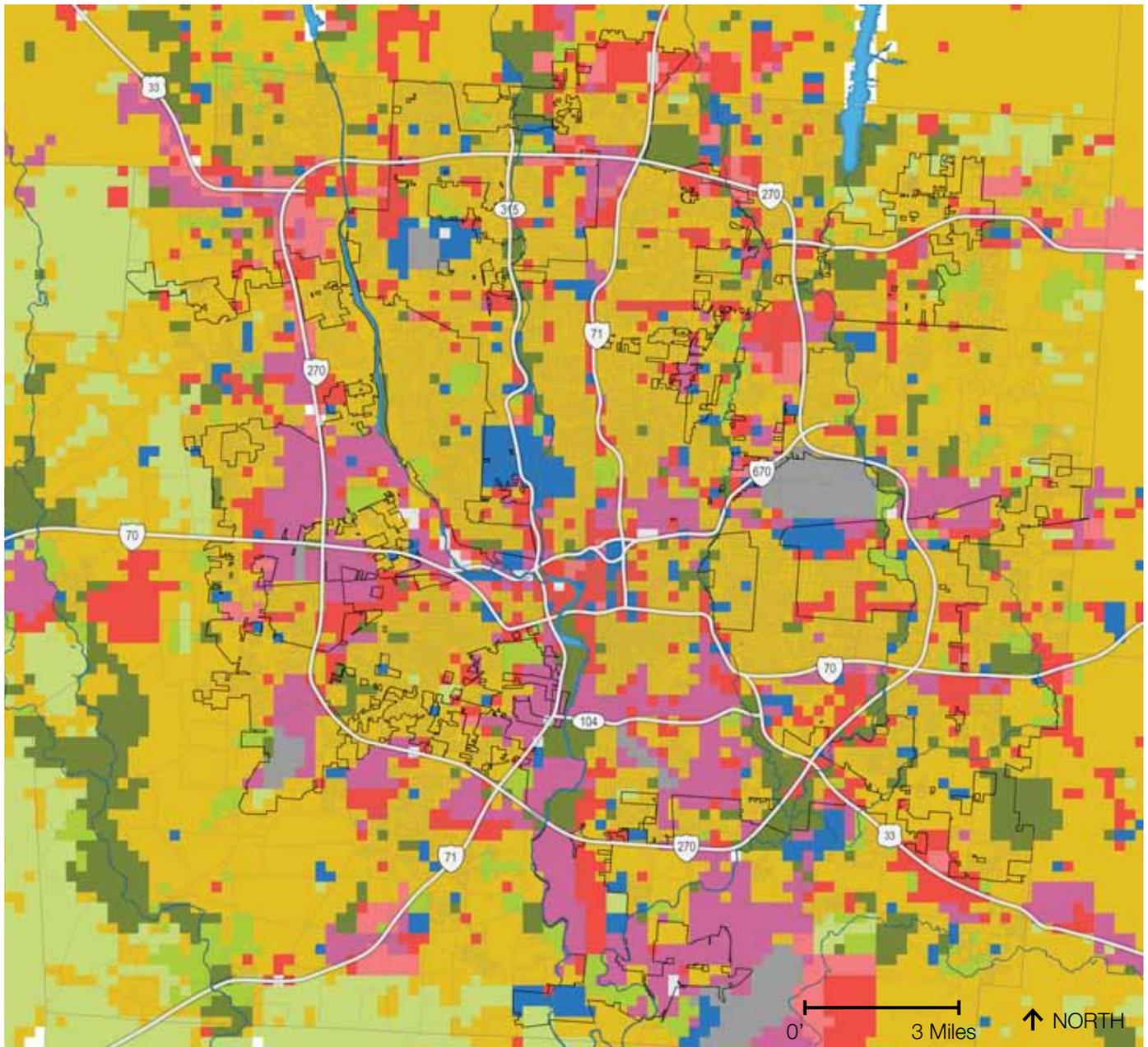
Legend

- City of Columbus Boundary
- Hydrology
- Major Roads
- Net Population Change (100 People)

Percent Change in Population (by TAZ)

- Below 10%
- 10 - 100%
- 101% - 1,000%
- 1,001% and Above

Figure 2.19 Land Use: 2035 Projection (Data Source: MORPC)



Legend

- | | |
|---|--|
|  City of Columbus Boundary |  Agriculture |
|  Hydrology |  Parks |
|  Major Roads |  Other Open Space |
|  Civic, Healthcare and Education |  Residential |
|  Industrial |  Transportation |
|  Office | |
|  Commercial | |

TRENDS IN RECREATION AND PARKS

INTRODUCTION

Information released by Sports and Fitness Industry Association's* (SFIA) 2014 Study of Sports, Fitness, and Leisure Participation reveals that the most popular sport and recreational activities include: fitness walking, treadmill, running/jogging, free weights and bicycling. Most of these activities appeal to both young and old alike, can be done in most environments, are enjoyed regardless of level of skill, and have minimal economic barriers to entry. These popular activities also have appeal because of the social aspect. For example, although fitness activities are mainly self-directed, people enjoy walking and biking with other individuals because it can offer a degree of camaraderie.

Fitness walking has remained the most popular activity of the past decade by a large margin. Walking participation during the latest year data was available (2013), reported over 117 million Americans had walked for fitness at least once.

From a traditional team sport standpoint, basketball ranks highest among all sports, with nearly 24 million people reportedly participating in 2013. Team sports that have experienced significant growth in participation are rugby, lacrosse, field hockey, ice hockey, gymnastics, beach volleyball, and ultimate Frisbee— all of which have experienced double digit growth over the last five years. Most recently, rugby, field hockey, and lacrosse underwent the most rapid growth among team sports from 2012 to 2013.

In the past year, there has been a slight 0.4% decrease of “inactives” in America, from 80.4 million in 2012 to 80.2 million in 2013. According to the Physical Activity Council, an “inactive” is defined as an individual that doesn't take part in any “active” sport. Even more encouraging is that an estimated 33.9% of Americans above the age of 6 are active to a healthy level, taking part in a high calorie burning activity three or more times per week.

The Sports & Fitness Industry Association (SFIA) Sports, Fitness & Recreational Activities Topline Participation Report 2014 was utilized to evaluate national sport and fitness participatory trends. SFIA is the number one source for sport and fitness research. The study is based on online interviews carried out in January and February of 2014 from more than 19,000 individuals and households.



Sport climbing is a growing local sport in Central Ohio

NATIONAL TRENDS IN GENERAL SPORTS

Basketball, a game originating in the U.S., is the sport with the heaviest participation level among the traditional “bat and ball” sports, with almost 24 million estimated participants. This popularity can be attributed to the ability to compete with relatively small number of participants, the limited amount of equipment needed to participate, and the limited space requirements necessary – the last of which make basketball the only traditional sport that can be played at the majority of American dwellings as a drive-way pickup game.

As seen in Table 2.10, since 2008, squash and other niche sports like lacrosse and rugby have seen strong growth. Squash has emerged as the overall fastest growing sport, as it has seen participation levels rise by nearly 115% over the last five years. Based on survey findings from 2008-2013, rugby and lacrosse have also experienced significant growth, increasing by 80.9% and 66% respectively. Other sports with notable growth in participation over the last five years were field hockey (31.4%), ice hockey (27.9%), gymnastics (25.1%), and beach volleyball (18.5%). From 2012 to 2013, the fastest growing sports were rugby (33.4%), field hockey (19.2%), lacrosse (12.8%), and squash (9.6%). During the last five years, the sports that are most rapidly declining include wrestling (45.2% decrease), touch football (down 32%), and slow pitch softball (28.9% decrease).

In terms of total participants, the most popular activities in the general sports category in 2013 include basketball (23.7 million), tennis (17.7 million), baseball (13.3 million), outdoor soccer (12.7 million), and slow pitch softball (6.9 million). Although three out of five of these sports have been declining in recent years, the sheer number of participants demands the continued support of these activities.

*In 2012, the Sports & Fitness Industry Association (SFIA) came into existence after a two-year strategic review and planning process with a refined mission statement-- “To Promote Sports and Fitness Participation and Industry Vitality”. The SFIA was formerly known as the Sporting Goods Manufacturers Association (SGMA).

Activity	Participatory Levels			Percent Change	
	2008	2012	2013	2012 to 2013	2008 to 2013
Baseball	15,539	12,976	13,284	2.4%	-14.5%
Basketball	26,108	23,708	23,669	-0.2%	-9.3%
Cheerleading	3,192	3,244	3,235	-0.3%	1.3%
Field Hockey	1,122	1,237	1,474	19.2%	31.4%
Football, Flag	7,310	5,865	5,610	-4.3%	-23.3%
Football, Tackle	7,816	6,220	6,165	-0.9%	-21.1%
Football, Touch	10,493	7,295	7,140	-2.1%	-32.0%
Gymnastics	3,975	5,115	4,972	-2.8%	25.1%
Ice Hockey	1,871	2,363	2,393	1.3%	27.9%
Lacrosse	1,092	1,607	1,813	12.8%	66.0%
Racquetball	4,611	4,070	3,824	-6.0%	-17.1%
Roller Hockey	1,569	1,367	1,298	-5.0%	-17.3%
Rugby	654	887	1,183	33.4%	80.9%
Soccer (Indoor)	4,487	4,617	4,803	4.0%	7.0%
Soccer (Outdoor)	13,996	12,944	12,726	-1.7%	-9.1%
Softball (Fast Pitch)	2,331	2,624	2,498	-4.8%	7.2%
Softball (Slow Pitch)	9,660	7,411	6,868	-7.3%	-28.9%
Squash	659	1,290	1,414	9.6%	114.6%
Tennis	17,749	17,020	17,678	3.9%	-0.4%
Track and Field	4,604	4,257	4,071	-4.4%	-11.6%
Ultimate Frisbee	4,459	5,131	5,077	-1.1%	13.9%
Volleyball (Court)	7,588	6,384	6,433	0.8%	-15.2%
Volleyball (Sand/ Beach)	4,025	4,505	4,769	5.9%	18.5%
Wrestling	3,335	1,922	1,829	-4.8%	-45.2%

Note: Participation figures are in the 000's for the US Population ages 6 and over	Large Increase	(Greater than 25%)
	Moderate Increase	(0% to 25%)
	Moderate Decrease	(0% to -25%)
	Large Decrease	(Less than 25%)

NATIONAL TRENDS IN AQUATIC ACTIVITY

Swimming is unquestionably a lifetime sport. Swimming activities* have remained very popular among Americans, and both competition and fitness swimming have witnessed an increase in participation recently. Fitness swimming is the absolute leader in multigenerational appeal with over 26 million reported participants in 2013, a 13.5% increase from the previous year (Table 2.11)

*In 2011, recreational swimming was broken into competition and fitness categories in order to better identify key trends.

Aquatic Exercise has a strong participation base, but has recently experienced a downward trend. Aquatic exercise has paved the way for a less stressful form of physical activity, allowing similar gains and benefits to land based exercise, including aerobic fitness, resistance training, flexibility, and better balance. Doctors have begun recommending aquatic exercise for injury rehabilitation, mature patients, and patients with bone or joint problems due to the significant reduction of stress placed on weight-bearing joints, bones, muscles, and also the affect that the pressure of the water assists in reducing swelling of injuries.

Activity	Participatory Levels			Percent Change	
	2008	2012	2013	2012 to 2013	2008 to 2013
Aquatic Exercise	9,512	9,177	8,483	-7.6%	-10.8%
Swimming (comp.)	N/A	2,502	2,638	5.4%	N/A
Swimming (fitness)	N/A	23,216	26,354	13.5%	N/A

Note: Participation figures are in the 000's for the US Population ages 6 and over	Large Increase	(Greater than 25%)
	Moderate Increase	(0% to 25%)
	Moderate Decrease	(0% to -25%)
	Large Decrease	(Less than 25%)

NATIONAL TRENDS IN GENERAL FITNESS

National participatory trends in general fitness have experienced some strong growth in recent years. Many of these activities have become popular due to an increased interest among people to improve their health by engaging in an active lifestyle. These activities also have very few barriers to entry, which provides a variety of activities that are relatively inexpensive to participate in and can be performed by nearly anyone with no time restrictions.

The most popular fitness activity by far is fitness walking, with over 117 million participants in 2013, which was a 2.9% increase from the previous year. Other leading fitness activities based on number of participants include running/jogging (over 54 million), treadmill (48.1 million), and hand free weights (43.2 million), and weight/resistant machines (36.3 million).

Over the last five years, the activities that are growing most rapidly are high impact aerobics (up 47.1%), yoga (up 36.9%), running/jogging (up 31.9%), cardio kickboxing (28.7% increase), and group stationary cycling (up 27.8%). Most recently, from 2011-2012, the largest gains in participation were in boxing for fitness (8.7% increase), Tai Chi (up 8.3%), and high impact aerobics (up 7.1%). See Table 2.12.

TRENDS IN RECREATION AND PARKS

Table 2.12 National Participatory Trends - General Fitness					
Activity	Participatory Levels			Percent Change	
	2008	2012	2013	2012 to 2013	2008 to 2013
Aerobics (High Impact)	11,780	16,178	17,323	7.1%	47.1%
Aerobics (Low Impact)	23,283	25,707	25,033	-2.6%	7.5%
Aerobics (Step)	9,423	9,577	8,961	-6.4%	-4.9%
Boxing for Fitness	N/A	4,831	5,251	8.7%	N/A
Calisthenics	8,888	9,356	9,356	0.0%	5.3%
Cross-Training	N/A	7,496	6,911	-7.8%	N/A
Cardio Kickboxing	4,905	6,725	6,311	-6.2%	28.7%
Elliptical Motion Trainer	24,435	28,560	27,119	-5.0%	11.0%
Fitness Walking	110,204	114,029	117,351	2.9%	6.5%
Free Weights (Barbells)	25,821	26,688	25,641	-3.9%	-0.7%
Free Weights (Dumbbells)	N/A	N/A	32,309	N/A	N/A
Free Weights (Hand Weights)	N/A	N/A	43,164	N/A	N/A
Martial Arts	6,818	5,075	5,314	4.7%	-22.1%
Pilates Training	9,039	8,519	8,069	-5.3%	-10.7%
Running/Jogging	41,097	51,450	54,188	5.3%	31.9%
Stair Climbing Machine	13,863	12,979	12,642	-2.6%	-8.8%
Stationary Cycling (Group)	6,504	8,477	8,309	-2.0%	27.8%
Stationary Cycling (Recumbent)	11,104	11,649	11,159	-4.2%	0.5%
Stationary Cycling (Upright)	24,918	24,338	24,088	-1.0%	-3.3%
Stretching	36,235	35,873	36,202	0.9%	-0.1%
Tai Chi	3,424	3,203	3,469	8.3%	1.3%
Treadmill	49,722	50,839	48,166	-5.3%	-3.1%
Weight/Resistant Machines	38,844	38,999	36,267	-7.0%	-6.6%
Yoga	17,758	23,253	24,310	4.5%	36.9%



Nationwide, basketball remains of the most popular sports.

NATIONAL TRENDS IN GENERAL RECREATION

Results from the SFIA's Topline Participation Report demonstrate increased popularity among Americans in numerous general recreation activities. Much like the general fitness activities, these activities encourage an active lifestyle, can be performed individually or with a group, and are not limited by time restraints. In 2013, the most popular activities in the general recreation category include road bicycling (over 40 million participants), freshwater fishing (nearly 38 million participants), and day hiking (over 34 million participants).

From 2008-2013, general recreation activities that have undergone very rapid growth are adventure racing (up 159%), non-traditional/off-road triathlons (up 156%), traditional/road triathlons (up 139.9%), and trail running (up 49.7%). In-line roller skating, horseback riding, and skateboarding have all seen a substantial drop in participation, decreasing by 40%, 29.4%, and 21.8% respectively over the last five years. See Table 2.13.

Note: Participation figures are in the 000's for the US Population ages 6 and over	Large Increase	(Greater than 25%)
	Moderate Increase	(0% to 25%)
	Moderate Decrease	(0% to -25%)
	Large Decrease	(Less than 25%)

Table 2.13 National Participatory Trends - General Recreation					
Activity	Participatory Levels			Percent Change	
	2008	2012	2013	2012 to 2013	2008 to 2013
Adventure Racing	809	1,618	2,095	29.5%	159.0%
Archery	6,180	7,173	7,647	6.6%	23.7%
Bicycling (Mountain)	7,242	7,265	8,542	17.6%	18.0%
Bicycling (Road)	38,527	39,790	40,888	2.8%	6.1%
Bicycling (BMX)	1,896	1,861	2,168	16.5%	14.3%
Climbing (Sport/ Indoor/Boulder)	4,642	4,355	4,745	9.0%	2.2%
Climbing (Traditional/Ice/ Mountaineering)	2,175	2,189	2,319	5.9%	6.6%
Fishing (Fly)	5,849	5,848	5,878	0.5%	0.5%
Fishing (Freshwater)	42,095	39,002	37,796	-3.1%	-10.2%
Fishing (Saltwater)	14,121	12,000	11,790	-1.8%	-16.5%
Golf	28,571	25,280	24,720	-2.2%	-13.5%
Hiking (Day)	31,238	34,519	34,378	-0.4%	10.1%
Horseback Riding	11,457	8,423	8,089	-4.0%	-29.4%
Roller Skating, In-Line	10,211	6,647	6,129	-7.8%	-40.0%
Skateboarding	8,118	6,227	6,350	2.0%	-21.8%
Trail Running	4,537	5,806	6,792	17.0%	49.7%
Triathlon (Non-Traditional/Off Road)	543	1,075	1,390	29.3%	156.0%
Triathlon (Traditional/Road)	943	1,789	2,262	26.4%	139.9%

Note: Participation figures are in the 000's for the US Population ages 6 and over	Large Increase	(Greater than 25%)
	Moderate Increase	(0% to 25%)
	Moderate Decrease	(0% to -25%)
	Large Decrease	(Less than 25%)

LOCAL SPORT AND MARKET POTENTIAL

The following charts show sport and leisure market potential data from ESRI. A Market Potential Index (MPI) measures the probable demand for a product or service in the City of Columbus. The MPI shows the likelihood that an adult resident of the target area will participate in certain activities when compared to the US national average. The national average is 100, therefore numbers below 100 would represent a lower than average participation rate, and numbers above 100 would represent higher than average participation rate. The city is compared to the national

average in four (4) categories – general sports by activity, fitness by activity, outdoor activity, and money spent on miscellaneous recreation. The City of Columbus shows high market potential index numbers for all categories.

As seen in the tables below, the following sport and leisure trends are most prevalent for residents within City of Columbus. Cells highlighted in yellow indicate the top three scoring activities based on the purchasing preferences of residents.

Table 2.14 Columbus Participatory Trends - General Sports	
Activity	MPI
Participated in Baseball	113
Participated in Basketball	129
Participated in Football	136
Participated in Golf	97
Participated in Soccer	122
Participated in Softball	112
Participated in Tennis	116
Participated in Volleyball	112

Table 2.15 Columbus Participatory Trends - Fitness	
Activity	MPI
Participated in Aerobics	110
Jogging/ Running	115
Participated in Pilates	102
Participated in Swimming	95
Participated in Walking for Exercise	93
Participated in Weight Lifting	112
Participated in Yoga	105

Table 2.16 Columbus Participatory Trends - Outdoor Activity	
Activity	MPI
Participated in Archery	110
Participated in Backpacking/Hiking	106
Participated in Bicycling (mountain)	105
Participated in Bicycling (road)	104
Participated in Fishing (fresh water)	97
Participated in Fishing (salt water)	102
Participated in Horseback Riding	94

NATIONAL BENCHMARKS

INTRODUCTION

The Trust for Public Land (TPL) conducts an annual survey of parkland within the 60 largest U.S. cities and has developed a ParkScore ranking system that examines three characteristics of park systems: acreage, services and investment, and access. For the City of Columbus, TPL considers the acreage of both the city park system and the Metro Park system that are within municipal boundaries. This includes 7,903 acres of city parkland and 2,958 acres of Metro Park parkland. Based on this information, Columbus has a score of 41, which ranks it 47th nationally. When looking at the ParkScores of other more highly ranked cities, those that are more dense and compact geographically tend to score higher. The geographic spread of the City of Columbus as a result of its aggressive annexation policies and the fact that much of the park infrastructure is located in the 1950s pre-annexation portions of the city, is undoubtedly one of the reasons why it ranks toward the bottom of the 60 largest cities in the country. While not a perfect metric, this is an opportunity to measure how the City of Columbus compares to park systems in other cities and provides insights into how the system could be improved in the future.

the national median of 5.0 acres.

A new measure available this year compares acres of designed park areas and natural park areas. Columbus has slightly more designed park areas than natural, although similar cities like Austin, Dallas and Raleigh have protected far greater amounts of natural areas.

Services and investment is another important metric in the ParkScore system. It awards points based on two measures: playgrounds per resident and total spending per resident. Columbus has 1.9 playgrounds per 1,000 resident compared to a national median of 2.1 and it spends a total \$73 per resident, meeting the national median. At \$34 per resident, Columbus exceeds the national median of \$17 per resident in Capital Spending.

Access is scored based on the percentage of the population living within a ten-minute walk of a public park (one half mile). That half mile must be entirely within the public road network and uninterrupted by physical barriers such as highways, train tracks, rivers, and fences. Forty-nine percent of Columbus residents live within a half mile of a park, compared to the national median of 65%.

PARKSCORE METRICS

For the ParkScore, cities are given a ranking of one to five benches, where five is the best and one indicates a need for improvement. Columbus received the most points for acreage (20), which equally weighs median park size and park acres as a percentage of city area. Park acres as a percent of city area was 8.1% for Columbus, compared to a national median of 9.3%. When compared against cities of a similar density and size, Columbus remains toward the middle of the rankings and below the median for medium low density cities of 8.4% (see Table 2.16). Columbus' median park size of 7.1 acres, however, was greater than

CREATING A BETTER PARK SYSTEM

There is clearly room for improvement across all metrics measured by the TPL. In order to improve the park system, providing better access and increasing the geographic distribution of park facilities is needed. CRPD's planned investment in new parks and multi-use trails will begin to improve these aspects of the park system. However, more will need to be done. The remainder of this Master Plan will examine the issues facing CRPD and recommend strategies for creating a park system that better serves its residents now and into the future.

Table 2.16 Parkland for Columbus and Similar Medium-Low-Density Cities (Trust for Public Land)

City	Adjusted City Area (Acres)	Total Parkland (Acres)	Percent Parkland	Natural And Designed Parkland By City (Acres)	
				Designed	Natural
Austin	186,902	27,398	14.7%	15,124	12,274
Dallas	215,676	23,331	10.8%	9,761	13,570
Raleigh	91,399	12,879	14.1%	2,478	10,401
Columbus	133,309	10,861	8.1%	5,690	5,141
Cincinnati	48,724	6,821	14%	3,441	3,380
Atlanta	84,250	4,418	5.2%	3,290	1,128
Toledo	51,643	2,716	5.3%	1,067	1,128
Median For Medium-Low-Density Cities			8.4%		

Designed Areas: Parklands that have been created, constructed, planted, and managed primarily for human use, including neighborhood parks, sports fields, plazas and municipal cemeteries.

Natural Areas: Pristine or reclaimed lands that are open to the public and left largely undisturbed and managed for their ecological value (i.e., wetlands, forests, deserts). They may have trails and occasional benches, they are not developed for any recreation activities beyond walking, running, and cycling.

Table 2.17 2014 Trust for Public Land ParkScore

Rank	City	Score	Rank	City	Score
1	Minneapolis	82	45	Los Angeles	42
2	New York	73.5	45	Nashville	42
3	Boston	72.5	47	Columbus	41
3	Portland	72.5	48	Houston	40
3	San Francisco	72.5	48	Miami	40
6	Washington	72	48	Wichita	40
7	Denver	71	51	Jacksonville	38.5
7	Sacramento	71	52	Santa Ana	36
9	San Diego	70	53	Memphis	35
10	Aurora	68.5	53	San Antonio	35
10	Virginia Beach	68.5	55	Oklahoma City	33.5
12	Omaha	67.5	56	Mesa	32.5
13	Oakland	67	57	Charlotte	29
14	Seattle	65	58	Indianapolis	27.5
15	Albuquerque	63.5	58	Louisville	27.5
16	Chicago	62.5	60	Fresno	26
16	Kansas City	62.5			
18	New Orleans	61			
18	San Jose	61			
20	Philadelphia	57.5			
21	Raleigh	57			
22	Milwaukee	56			
23	Colorado Springs	55			
24	Long Beach	54			
25	Baltimore	53.5			
26	Cleveland	52.5			
27	St Louis	52			
28	Corpus Christi	51			
28	Detroit	51			
28	Honolulu	51			
28	Phoenix	51			
28	Tampa	51			
33	Austin	49			
34	Riverside	47.5			
35	Las Vegas	47			
36	Anaheim	46			
36	Arlington	46			
36	Dallas	46			
36	Bakersfield	46			
40	Fort Worth	45			
40	Tulsa	45			
42	Atlanta	44			
42	Tucson	44			
44	El Paso	43.5			

Columbus TPL Parkscore Scorecard

47 National Rank for Columbus
Out of 60 Most Populated Cities (2013 Rank: 37/50)

41 Total Points (Weighed)
Out of 100 Max

2  Columbus Scored 2 out of 5 "Park Benches"

Acreage

20 Total Points for Acreage
Out of 40 Max

13 Points for Median Park Size (7.1 Acres)
Out of 20 Max

7 Points for Parkland as Percent of City Area (8.1%)
Out of 20 Max

Services & Investment

13 Total Points for Services & Investment
Out of 40 Max

7 Points for Spending Per Resident
Out of 20 Max

6 Playgrounds per 1,000 Residents (1.9)
Out of 20 Max

Access

16 Total Points for Access
Out of 40 Max

About ParkScore Scoring

49 Total Raw Score
Each city can earn a maximum of 120 points, which is then normalized to a scale out of 100

Other Park Facts

49% Percent of Columbus residents within a 1/2 of a Park

7.5 People Serviced Per Park Acre

Spending

Total Spending*:
\$59,257,365 (2013)

Operating Spending*:
CBUS: \$39 per resident
Median: \$63 per resident

Capital Spending*:
CBUS: \$34 per resident
Median: \$17 per resident

Total Spending*:
CBUS: \$73 per resident
Median: \$73 per resident

Adjusted Spending*:
Reflecting Price of Living
CBUS: \$81 per resident
Median: \$81 per resident

*Includes spending by both CRPD and Metro Parks

(Source: 2014 TPL City Park Facts)