



MEETING NOTICE & AGENDA

TUALATIN PARK ADVISORY COMMITTEE

June 14, 2022 - 6:00 pm

Virtual Meeting

To join by phone:

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

Meeting ID: 858 1096 8458

To join by video: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85810968458>

“We are a group of enthusiastic advocates for the Parks & Recreation system with a focus on the stewardship and enhancement of our community.”

A. Call to Order

1. Roll Call
2. Election of Chair
3. Officers Meeting

B. Approval of Minutes

1. May 10, 2022

C. Communications & Comments

1. Chair
2. Staff
3. Public

D. Old Business

1. Parks Funding
 - a. Bond Update
 - b. Council Presentation
2. Veterans Plaza Site Design
 - a. Preferred Design
 - b. Draft Plan Report
 - c. Schedule
3. Basalt Creek
 - a. Property Acquisition
 - i. Alvstad
 - ii. County

E. New Business

1. Prosperity Plan Update

2. Updates

- a. Programs
- b. Projects
- c. Operations
- d. Volunteers

F. Upcoming Dates & Calendar Review

G. Committee Member Communications

H. Adjournment



Minutes

Tualatin Park Advisory Committee May 10, 2022

Virtual Meeting

Members Present:	Beth Dittman, Emma Gray, Michael Klein, Denise Cline, Brandon Gill
Members Absent:	Anthony Warren (excused)
Staff Present:	Ross Hoover, Parks and Recreation Director Rich Mueller, Parks Planning and Development Manager Kyla Cesca, Office Coordinator
Public Present:	None

A. Call to Order

1. Chair, Brandon Gill called the meeting to order at 7:03.

B. Approval of Minutes

1. The minutes of April 12, 2022 Parks Advisory Meeting were unanimously approved on a motion by Emma Gray, and second from Michael Klein.

C. Communication

1. Chair
None
2. Staff
None
3. Public
None

D. Old Business

1. Parks Funding
 - a. Bond Measure Update
Ross Hoover shared information about the potential bond stakeholder committee that has been meeting to work on a recommendation for the City Council work session on June 13. The goal is to present Council with a suggested plan regarding a bond amount, potential projects and potential schedule. Beth Dittman, Brandon Gill and Emma Gray added information and commented on the stakeholder meetings.

Tualatin Parks Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes – May 10, 2022

2. Veterans Memorial/Plaza Site Design

a. Virtual Open House & Survey

Kyla Cesca summarized the results of the Veterans Plaza Design Concepts Survey and shared the report from the design planning consultants.

Michael Klein mentioned graffiti as a potential issue to take into consideration. Brandon Gill suggested making sure all community members can access QR codes, such as those without smart devices.

b. Preferred Design and Draft Plan

Design planners are currently reviewing the survey results and along with the community guidance gathered during the first phase of planning, and are working to create the preferred design and draft report plan.

c. Schedule

Kyla Cesca shared the preferred design and draft report plan are expected to be completed approximately mid-June followed by a public review and comment period. Rich Mueller stated the draft plan will be presented at the City Council work session on July 11, then to TPARK for recommendation July 12, and back to City Council for consideration on July 25.

3. Basalt Creek

a. Property Acquisition

Rich Mueller shared a map with the location of the property currently in escrow and described the features of the land.

b. Metro Local Share Application

Staff mentioned that the appraisal is still in progress and the purchase of property is contingent on the results. The local share application has been submitted to METRO, and are excited to hear feedback on the progress of local share funding.

E. New Business

1. Election of Officers

a. June 14, 2022

Brandon Gill announced he will be resigning from TPARK, tonight will be his final meeting. This leaves an officer vacancy as well as a committee opening. There will be an election for officers at the June 14 meeting. Members were ask to contact Rich Mueller if interested in running for either office (chair or vice chair).

b. Committee Vacancies

Rich Mueller reported there is still a youth position open on the committee. Ross Hoover shared the City is working toward an appointment in June. Emma Gray stated she is aware of two youth that applied for the positions. Emma was asked to send the names to staff to confirm the applications have been received.

2. Updates

a. Programs

Ross Hoover reported on the Splash Pad grand reopening celebration. Kyla Cesca shared a list of upcoming programs and events such as Blender Dash, Viva Tualatin and Pollinator Week.

b. Projects

Rich Mueller gave brief updates on the Tualatin River Greenway trail extension and the status of the Browns Ferry boardwalk replacement.

Tualatin Parks Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes – May 10, 2022

c. Volunteers

Rich Mueller reported on the volunteer information found in the packet.

F. Upcoming Dates & Calendar Review

Brandon Gill reviewed the calendar.

G. Committee Member Communications

Brandon Gill reminded members to log their volunteer hours.

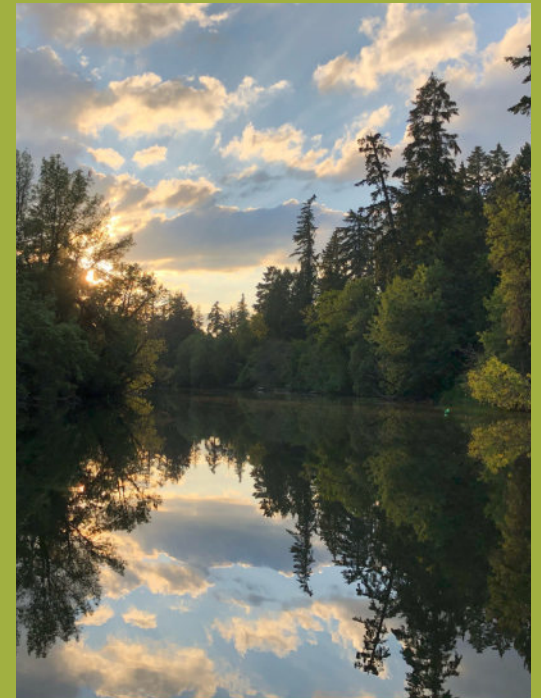
H. Adjournment

Chair Brandon Gill adjourned the meeting at 7:50 pm on a motion from Beth Dittman, and second by Emma Gray.

“We are a group of enthusiastic advocates for the Parks & Recreation system with a focus on the stewardship and enhancement of our community.”

Tualatin

MOVING FORWARD
PARKS



FUNDING SOURCES

System Development Charges (SDC)

Capacity Additions

Utility Fee

Life Cycle Replacements

Operating Budget

Maintenance & Upkeep

Park Bond

Large investments

PARKS FUNDING MEASURES COMMITTEE



Ethan Bennett

Youth Representative
(former YAC)

Brandon Gill

TPARK

Trevor Owens

Tualatin Soccer Club

Chris Boyle

Tualatin Youth Football

Brett Hamilton

Arts Advisory

Dean Pickett

Tualatin Lacrosse Club

Beth Dittman

TPARK

Marissa Houlberg

Community Member

Darrel Pizer

Tualatin Youth Baseball

Mark Fitzsimmons

Tualatin River Keepers

Maya Hurst-Mayr

Tualatin River Keepers

Christen Sacco

Tualatin City Council

Nicole George

Tualatin Youth Softball

Susan Noack

Chamber of Commerce
& Aging Task Force

Emma Gray

TPARK

Monday, 4/25

Council Work Session presentation and direction to form a parks funding package workgroup

Wednesday, 4/27

Introduction, research results/findings, overview of work, process, schedule

Tuesday, 5/3

Potential projects-an introduction and discussion

Tuesday, 5/10

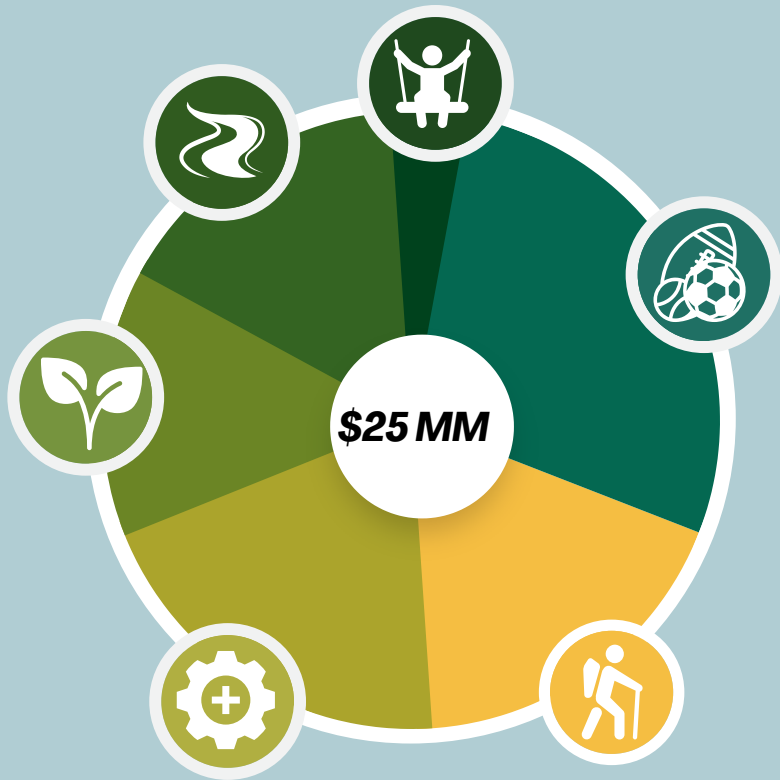
Project prioritization

Tuesday, 5/17

Project prioritization

Thursday, 5/26

Package finalization and recommendation



TRAIL CONNECTIONS *Est. \$4.5 MM*
 NEW TRAIL AT NYBERG CREEK



NEW RIVER ACCESS *Est. \$4 MM*
 DOWNTOWN TUALATIN



ATHLETIC FIELDS *Est. \$7 MM*
 IMPROVEMENTS



UPGRADES *Est. \$5 MM*
 TO EXISTING PARKS


































NATURAL AREAS *Est. \$3.5 MM*
 ACQUIRE & PROTECT



PLAY EQUIPMENT *Est. \$1 MM*
 IMPROVEMENTS



CITY COUNCIL VISION & PRIORITIES ALIGNMENT

	TRAIL CONNECTIONS	UPGRADES	NATURAL AREAS	NEW RIVER ACCESS	PLAY EQUIPMENT	ATHLETIC FIELDS
INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY						
CONNECTED, INFORMED, & ENGAGED						
ECONOMY						
GATHERING PLACES						
TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM						
NEIGHBORHOODS						
ENVIRONMENT						



NEW RIVER ACCESS





TRAIL CONNECTIONS





ATHLETIC FIELDS & PARTNERSHIPS



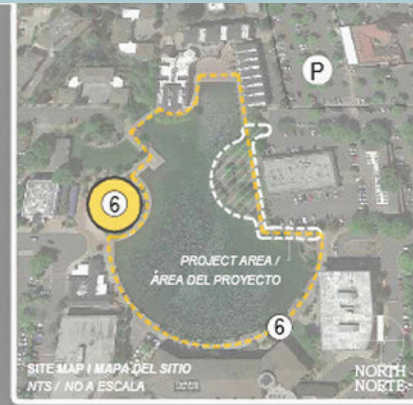
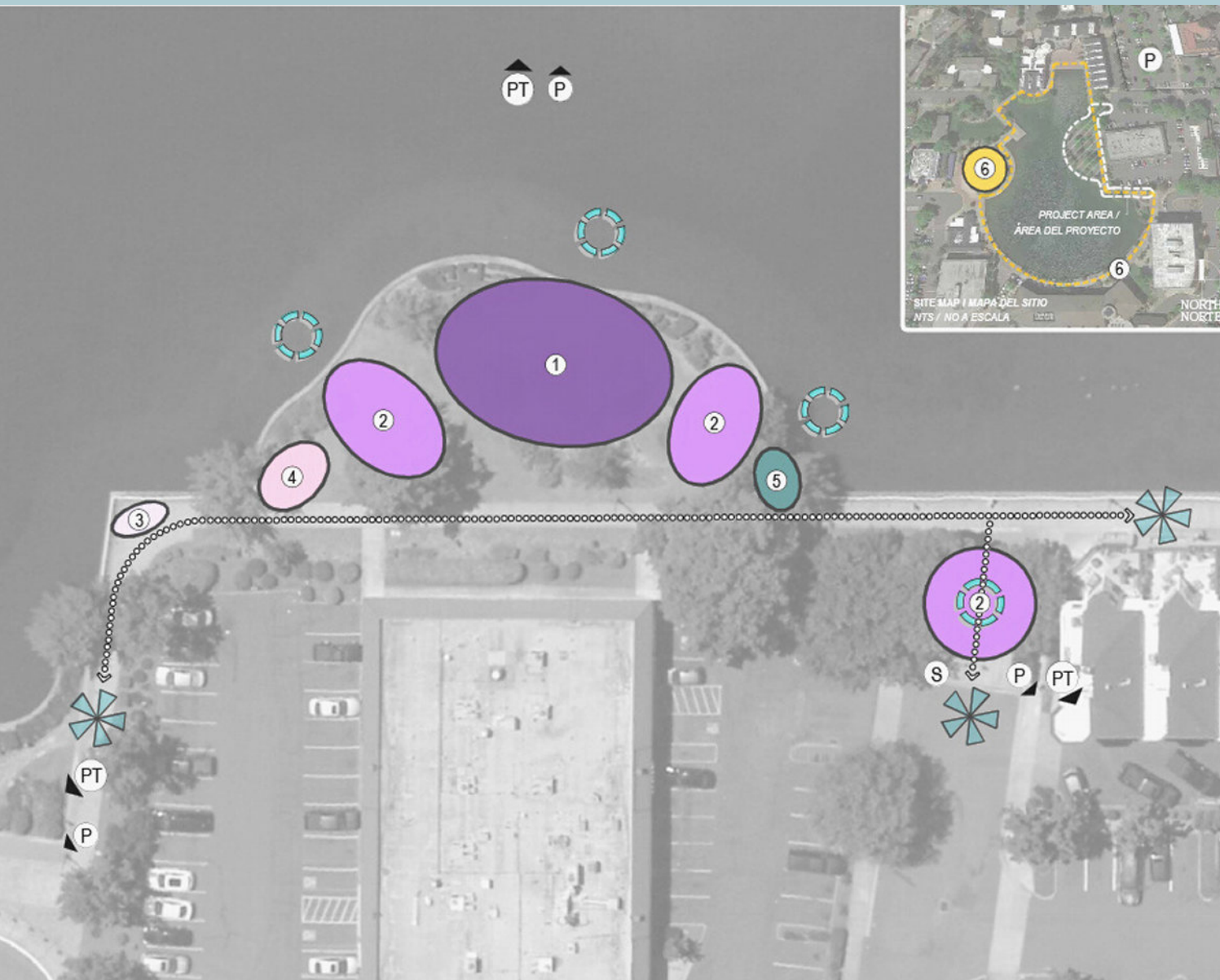


UPGRADES STONERIDGE PARK





UPGRADES VETERANS PLAZA



LEGEND / LEYENDA

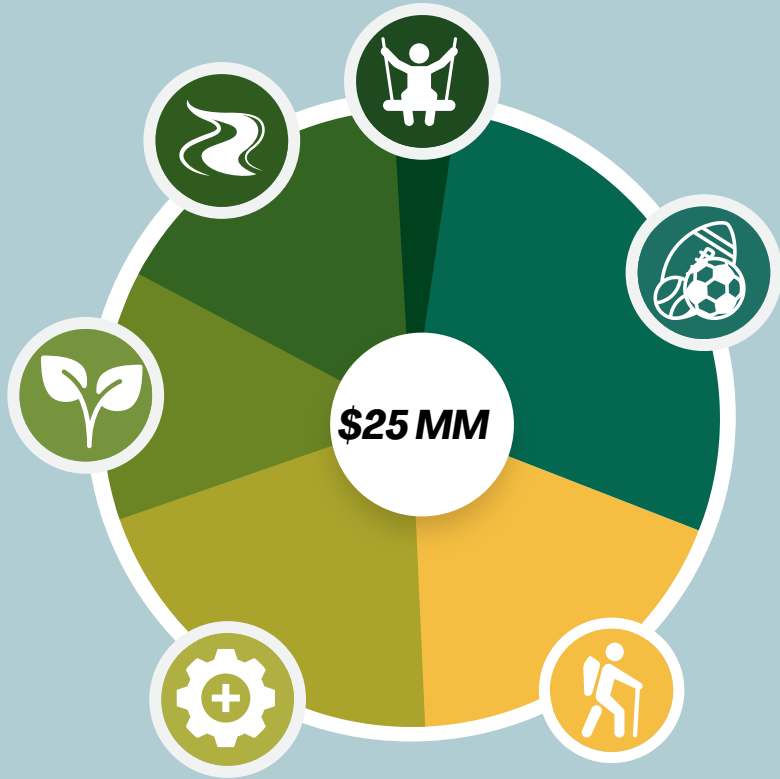
- 1** GATHERING SPACE
ESPACIO PARA REUNIONES
- 2** INTIMATE/PASSIVE SPACE W/ SEATING
ESPACIO ÍNTIMO O TRANQUILO CON ASIENTO
- 3** SPACE FOR SOLITUDE
ESPACIO PARA ESTAR A SOLAS
- 4** SPACE FOR PERSONAL STORYTELLING
ESPACIO PARA CONTAR HISTORIAS PERSONALES
- 5** DEDICATION AREA
ÁREA DE DEDICACIÓN
- 6** SPACE FOR RECREATION
ESPACIO PARA LA RECREACIÓN
- INTERPRETIVE / PEACE ELEMENT(S)
ELEMENTO(S) INTERPRETATIVO / PAZ
- ACCESS POINT
PUNTO DE ACCESO
- S** SIGNAGE
SEÑALES
- P** PARKING
ESTACIONAMIENTO
- PT** PUBLIC TRANSIT
TRANSPORTE PÚBLICO
- PEDESTRIAN CIRCULATION
CIRCULACIÓN PEATONAL

TUALATIN COMMONS

SITE CONCEPT DIAGRAM
DIAGRAMAS DE CONCEPTO DEL SITIO



BOND COST PROJECTIONS



The rate per \$1,000 of
Assessed Value is 0.2930



**MONTHLY \$7.32
ANNUALLY \$88**

TIMELINE

January	Launch Grassroots Campaign
February – March	Online Survey
February – March	Telephone Survey
March – April	Refine Funding Options/Messaging
April 25	City Council Discussion
April – October	Grassroots Public Engagement
April – May	Develop Funding Request
May 17	Primary Election
June	Committee Recommendation
June 13	City Council Workshop
June 16-23	Telephone Survey?
June 30	Focus Groups?
July	Draft Ballot Title, etc.
August	City Council Action
September	File Ballot Measure
August – October	Public Education (under ORS)
November 8, 2022	Election Day

Tualatin 
MOVING FORWARD
PARKS

DISCUSSION



TUALATIN VETERANS PLAZA

A PLACE OF HONOR AND REFLECTION

PREFERRED PLAN + RENDER PACKAGE

MAY 26, 2022

SHAPIRO / DIDWAY

OVERALL SITE PLAN



ENLARGEMENT 1



ENLARGEMENT 2



ENLARGEMENT 3



PERSPECTIVE 1



PERSPECTIVE 2



PERSPECTIVE 3



PERSPECTIVE 4



PERSPECTIVE 5



SHAPIRO / DIDWAY

SHAPIRO DIDWAY LLC

1204 SE Water Ave. STE 21

Portland, OR 97214

o. 503.232.0520

www.shapirodidway.com

@shapirodidway

Thank you.

JUANITA POHL CENTER MENTAL WELLNESS FAIR



MAY 23-27, 2022 | 100 ACTIVE OLDER ADULTS

Day Trekkers: Fort Vancouver National Historic Site

Juanita Pohl Center ~ May 19, 2022

7 older adult hikers

"Where Active Adults Engage"

**Learn *Laugh *Move More*





Put Down Roots in Tualatin Hug A Park / Atfalati Park May 14, 2022



Thank You Volunteers for your enthusiasm and muscles!

- 25 enthusiastic volunteers from the Meridian Park Ward gave Atfalati Park some TLC.
- Volunteers braved the misty morning to mulch planting beds and install Fi-Bar in the playground.
- Thank you volunteers for prepping our park for summer and community events.
- Thank you to the Parks Maintenance team for supporting and engaging volunteers and keeping our Parks clean and green.





Put Down Roots in Tualatin HUG A STREET LITTER BLITZ May 18 & 24, 2022



- **25** enthusiastic volunteers from the Tualatin High School environmental studies class spent 2 class periods learning about the path of storm water from their campus to the Tualatin River.
- 60 pounds of litter was picked up between the school and the Chieftain Dakota Greenway.





THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF PARKS

Not only are local park and recreation professionals providing essential services and facilities to communities nationwide, but also they are powerful engines of economic activity. Policymakers and elected officials at all levels of government should take notice. Investments made to local and regional parks not only raise the standard of living in our neighborhoods, towns and cities, but also they spark activity that can ripple throughout a state's economy.

THE ECONOMIC IMPACT IN OREGON

Economic Activity
(transactions)

\$2,995,234,595

Labor Income

\$937,839,394

Employment
(jobs)

18,064

NATIONAL ECONOMIC IMPACT

In 2019, local park and recreation agencies across the country generated nearly **\$218 billion in economic activity** and their operations and capital spending supported almost **1.3 million jobs**.

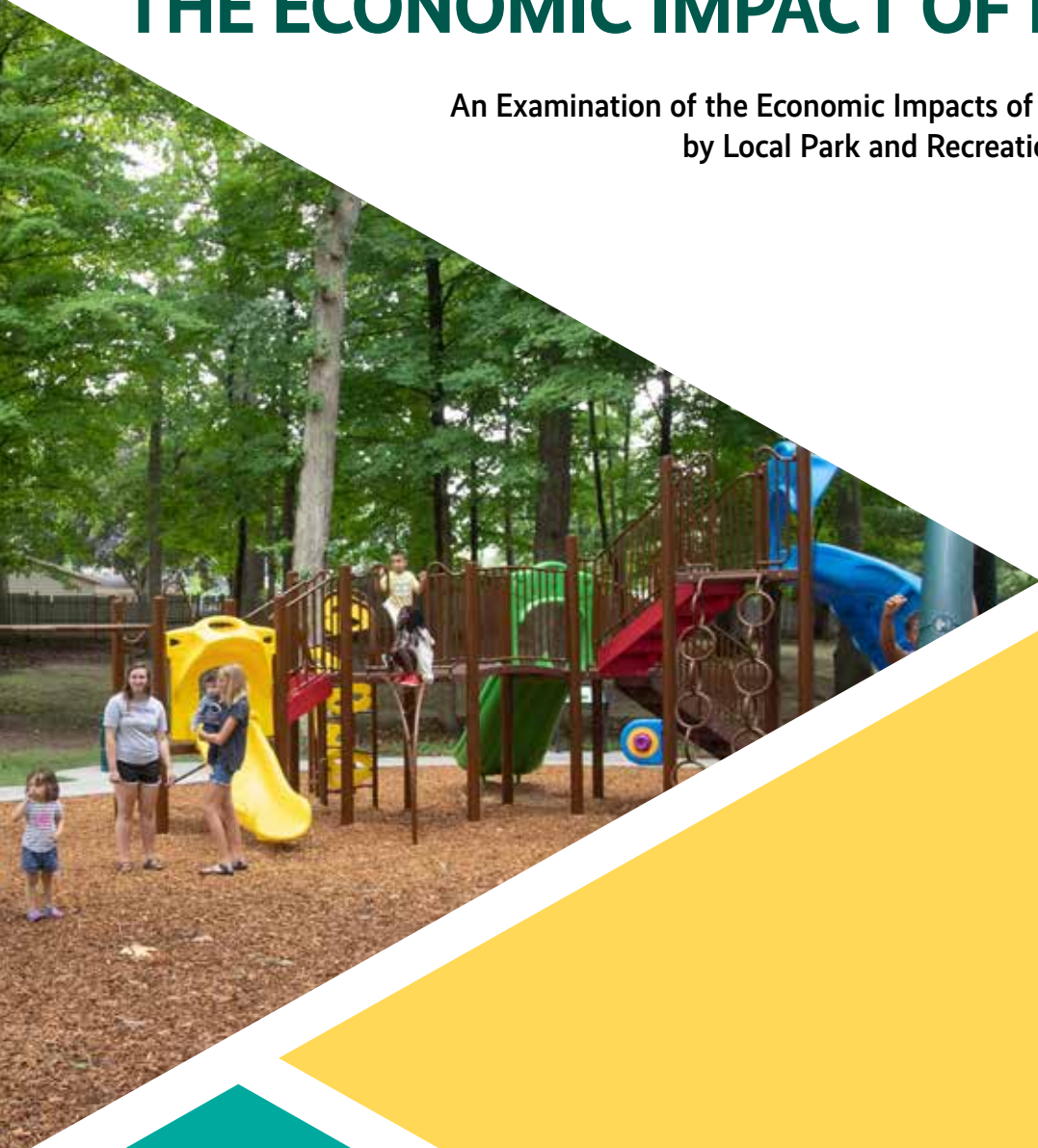
To learn more, visit nrpa.org/EconomicImpact.



NATIONAL
RECREATION AND PARK
ASSOCIATION

THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF LOCAL PARKS

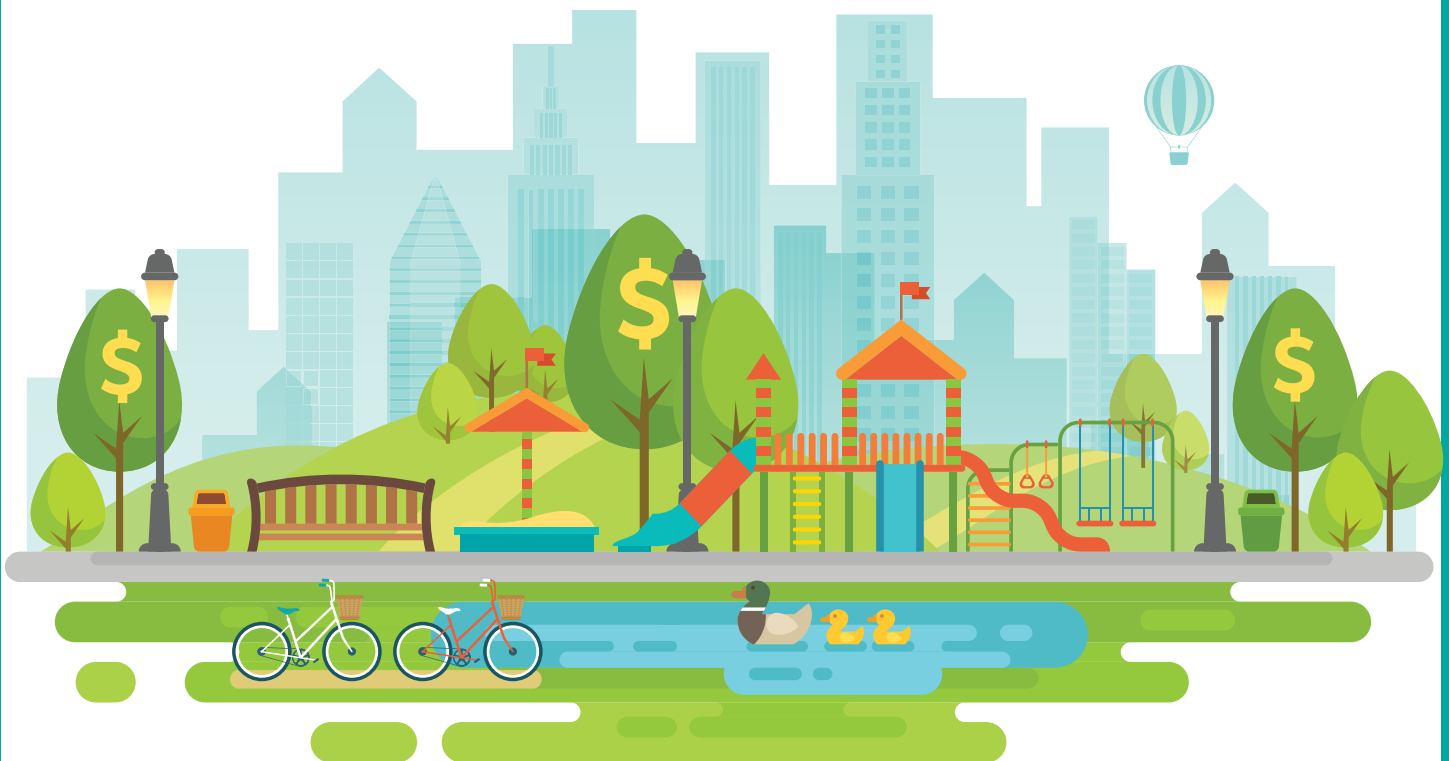
An Examination of the Economic Impacts of Operations and Capital Spending
by Local Park and Recreation Agencies on the U.S. Economy



NATIONAL RECREATION
AND PARK ASSOCIATION

KEY FINDINGS

Local public park and recreation agencies in the United States generated nearly \$218 billion in economic activity and supported almost 1.3 million jobs that boosted labor income by more than \$68 billion from their operations and capital spending in 2019.



Impact of Local Park and Recreation Agencies on the U.S. Economy – 2019

	Economic Activity	Employment
Total Impact	\$217.8 billion	1,280,724 jobs
Operations Spending	\$112.9 billion	686,254 jobs
Capital Spending	\$104.8 billion	594,470 jobs

Sources: IMPLAN and Center for Regional Analysis – George Mason University for NRPA, U.S. Census Bureau

Parks and recreation is essential infrastructure in healthy, vibrant and resilient communities. Through the tireless efforts of hundreds of thousands of full-time, part-time and seasonal workers — and supported by countless volunteers and advocates — local park and recreation agencies have a positive impact on the lives of millions of people. Park and recreation facilities, amenities and programming are diverse; they range from no- or low-cost fitness opportunities (such as a walking trail or a fitness class at a community center) and access to nutritious meals at out-of-school time programs for youth to providing our cities, towns and counties with cleaner air and water thanks to preserved open space.

Park and recreation professionals and their agencies make critical contributions to their communities as highlighted by the National Recreation and Park Association's (NRPA) Three Pillars:

- **Health and Wellness** – Local park and recreation agencies provide spaces, programs and services that are essential to a community's vitality. They also serve as key factors in advancing health equity, improving individual and community-level health outcomes, and enhancing quality of life. Park and recreation professionals are uniquely positioned to create — in partnership with the community, public health leaders and other local organizations — upstream solutions that catalyze and transform park and recreation agencies into holistic and people-centered Community Wellness Hubs.
- **Equity** – Every person in every community deserves to benefit from the power of parks and recreation. The very philosophy behind public parks and recreation is the idea that all people — regardless of race, ethnicity, age, income level, identity or ability — have access to programs, facilities, places and spaces that improve quality of life and build healthy communities. Parks and recreation truly builds communities — communities for all.
- **Conservation** – Creating resilient and climate-ready communities depends on parks and recreation. Park and recreation professionals are champions in addressing our most pressing environmental challenges; the parks and open spaces they manage maximize the benefits of nature to achieve positive and equitable health and economic impacts at the community level.

Park and recreation professionals and their agencies make another valuable contribution: promoting economic activity that makes our cities, towns and counties more prosperous. Just how significant is the impact of local park and recreation agencies on the U.S. economy?

To answer this question, NRPA joined forces with the Center for Regional Analysis at George Mason University in 2015, to conduct the first nationwide study on the economic impact of local park and recreation agencies' operations and capital spending. Since then, NRPA and the Center for Regional Analysis have partnered thrice more to update that landmark 2015 research: in 2018, 2020 and 2022. Each of the studies focuses exclusively on the direct, indirect and induced effects local park and recreation agencies' spending have on economic activity using U.S. Census Bureau data compiled for the analysis. This report summarizes the key findings of the 2022 research. A more detailed description, including a discussion of the methodology and implications, is available at nrapa.org/ParkEconReport.

U.S. ECONOMIC IMPACT

Local park and recreation agencies employed more than 385,000 full-time and part-time employees in 2019, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. That translates to almost \$49 billion of operations spending by the nation’s more than 10,000 local park and recreation agencies. This spending — combined with capital expenditures — ripples through the national, regional and local economies as park and recreation employees spend their paychecks, park and recreation agency vendors hire workers, and both agencies and their vendors purchase products and services to serve their clients.

The result of park and recreation expenditures on the nation’s economy is immense. The shared impact of operations and capital spending by U.S. local park and recreation agencies in 2019 resulted in nearly \$218 billion in economic activity and \$107 billion in added gross domestic product (GDP) and supported nearly 1.3 million jobs that paid salaries, wages and benefits totaling \$68.4 billion.



People attend the 32nd Annual Independence Day Parade in Farragut, Tennessee. *Photo by Carisa Ownby.*

Local park and recreation agencies generated nearly \$218 billion in economic activity and supported almost 1.3 million jobs in 2019.

Impacts of Local Park and Recreation Agency Spending on the U.S. Economy – 2019

	Total Impact of Local Park and Recreation Agencies' Spending
Economic activity (transactions)	\$217.76 billion
Value added (gross domestic product)	\$106.98 billion
Labor income (salaries, wages, benefits)	\$68.44 billion
Employment (jobs)	1,280,724 jobs

Sources: IMPLAN, Center for Regional Analysis – George Mason University for NRPA, U.S. Census Bureau



Attendees of the North Chagrin Summer Camp walk the Willow Branch Nature Trail. Photo by Kyle Lanzer, courtesy of Cleveland Metroparks.

Preliminary Results for 2020

The coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic affected nearly every facet of life, parks and recreation included. In many cities, towns and counties across the United States, however, parks, trails and other public spaces remained open, and provided valued respites for physical activity and recreation during a very challenging time. Park and recreation agencies and their staff pivoted to deliver emergency services to their communities, such as serving as COVID-19 testing and vaccination sites and distributing meals.

The economic impact of these agencies remained resilient, too. Preliminary estimates show that operations and capital spending in 2020 led to \$225.0 billion in economic activity and supported 1.25 million jobs.

Preliminary Estimate of the Economic Impact of Local Park and Recreation Agencies on the U.S. Economy – 2020

	Total Impact of Local Park and Recreation Agencies' Spending
Economic activity (transactions)	\$225.02 billion
Value added (gross domestic product)	\$108.65 billion
Labor income (salaries, wages, benefits)	\$68.97 billion
Employment (jobs)	1,247,017 jobs

Sources: IMPLAN, Center for Regional Analysis – George Mason University for NRPA, U.S. Census Bureau

STATE-LEVEL ANALYSIS

This study also examined the economic impact of local park and recreation agencies' spending in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. The methodology used in the state-level analysis mirrored that for the national study. The estimates of total economic impacts include the direct, indirect and induced effects of operations and capital spending by local park and recreation agencies in each state and the District of Columbia.

Impact of Local Park and Recreation Agency Spending on State Economies – 2019

State	Employment	Labor Income	Value Added	Economic Activity
Alabama	15,348	\$651,815,076	\$968,962,257	\$2,074,811,929
Alaska	2,436	\$128,750,088	\$197,457,958	\$397,859,417
Arizona	20,360	\$969,578,370	\$1,566,748,260	\$3,304,989,339
Arkansas	8,854	\$347,365,396	\$540,930,446	\$1,149,932,788
California	127,600	\$7,454,796,148	\$11,312,230,491	\$23,623,079,078
Colorado	41,976	\$2,196,664,230	\$3,404,420,455	\$6,982,346,026
Connecticut	7,120	\$386,895,021	\$566,370,006	\$1,114,018,171
Delaware	2,731	\$139,428,435	\$216,578,852	\$445,470,653
District of Columbia	6,384	\$442,135,815	\$657,659,039	\$1,442,361,444
Florida	97,501	\$4,426,656,602	\$7,345,851,964	\$15,947,448,166
Georgia	34,238	\$1,504,933,141	\$2,379,731,449	\$4,979,693,655
Hawaii	8,572	\$462,964,112	\$711,367,441	\$1,382,382,611
Idaho	6,241	\$280,892,101	\$442,260,249	\$987,795,641
Illinois	60,000	\$3,056,226,499	\$4,989,057,917	\$9,893,097,615
Indiana	13,838	\$628,826,865	\$1,059,988,503	\$2,198,298,077
Iowa	8,385	\$388,234,552	\$29,549,008	\$1,365,669,998
Kansas	12,067	\$553,104,369	\$845,507,759	\$1,794,310,796
Kentucky	8,827	\$363,947,712	\$567,243,390	\$1,320,817,940
Louisiana	19,009	\$875,335,408	\$1,451,541,312	\$3,081,187,441
Maine	2,464	\$92,567,722	\$143,939,202	\$303,230,532
Maryland	27,974	\$1,480,134,422	\$2,318,025,964	\$4,590,263,035
Massachusetts	13,643	\$818,839,621	\$1,200,032,621	\$2,254,340,648
Michigan	22,548	\$1,129,923,090	\$1,844,711,303	\$4,107,024,794
Minnesota	27,463	\$1,562,414,815	\$2,438,097,363	\$5,167,013,455
Mississippi	7,322	\$301,297,647	\$478,189,020	\$1,085,028,752
Missouri	23,064	\$1,128,825,692	\$1,783,974,762	\$3,636,518,937

Impact of Local Park and Recreation Agency Spending on State Economies – 2019 (cont.)

Montana	3,916	\$191,132,441	\$284,311,510	\$634,228,445
Nebraska	9,631	\$479,853,688	\$714,960,686	\$1,602,027,016
Nevada	58,392	\$3,517,896,935	\$5,615,230,371	\$11,134,637,681
New Hampshire	2,158	\$96,634,741	\$148,324,927	\$314,455,946
New Jersey	17,940	\$946,221,766	\$1,413,831,635	\$2,552,120,029
New Mexico	9,857	\$416,058,523	\$654,024,854	\$1,374,984,731
New York	77,105	\$4,828,806,143	\$7,352,532,632	\$14,089,125,737
North Carolina	37,511	\$2,093,336,805	\$3,064,471,638	\$6,037,512,440
North Dakota	6,859	\$352,781,735	\$537,316,152	\$1,220,630,384
Ohio	43,306	\$2,160,222,072	\$3,419,555,293	\$7,047,862,139
Oklahoma	19,718	\$987,940,351	\$1,497,955,439	\$3,387,540,973
Oregon	18,064	\$937,839,394	\$1,457,710,363	\$2,995,234,595
Pennsylvania	20,878	\$1,168,754,188	\$1,897,412,064	\$3,829,272,383
Rhode Island	1,459	\$67,676,611	\$109,808,005	\$223,583,142
South Carolina	18,205	\$794,811,379	\$1,240,098,551	\$2,714,181,055
South Dakota	3,720	\$176,411,461	\$269,485,936	\$613,030,056
Tennessee	17,995	\$852,569,033	\$1,292,161,403	\$2,643,931,995
Texas	77,149	\$3,877,977,407	\$5,872,912,123	\$12,094,925,549
Utah	18,700	\$882,890,731	\$1,389,792,312	\$2,960,427,055
Vermont	1,519	\$74,707,109	\$113,592,830	\$245,764,108
Virginia	30,162	\$1,420,190,988	\$2,256,407,901	\$4,600,320,899
Washington	34,718	\$2,229,735,609	\$3,471,351,248	\$6,462,337,579
West Virginia	6,407	\$296,241,584	\$494,399,206	\$1,033,634,110
Wisconsin	18,619	\$992,375,176	\$1,577,173,051	\$3,342,438,343
Wyoming	3,705	\$165,161,863	\$253,205,824	\$543,010,454

Sources: IMPLAN, Center for Regional Analysis – George Mason University for NRPA, U.S. Census Bureau

NOTE: The sum of the state-level impacts presented in this table does not equal the national level economic impact estimates presented in the previous section. The difference reflects how the full economic impact of local park and recreation agency spending is not confined within state borders. For example, if the playground equipment installed at park in Maryland, came from a manufacturer located in Idaho, the value of that product production would not count as an impact on the Maryland economy, nor does the study include such an impact in the estimates for Idaho.

WHAT THE RESULTS MEAN



Children play in the water in front of a fire truck in the park. Photo courtesy of Ginger Clark, Centreville-Washington Park District.

These estimates of the economic impact generated from park and recreation agency spending come from an input-output model that estimates direct, indirect and induced effects of those expenditures.

- **Direct effects** reflect the spending by local park and recreation agencies — whether for operations or capital programs — and include wages and benefits for agency employees and spending on equipment, utilities, goods and services.
- **Indirect effects** capture the spending associated with local park and recreation agencies' vendors. An example is an agency contracting with a local landscaping company to mow ballfields. The landscaping company hires employees, purchases mowers and contracts with a bookkeeping service; in turn, the bookkeeping service leases office space, employs workers, purchases office supplies and so forth.
- **Induced effects** track the impact of consumer spending (from wages) by park and recreation agency employees and employees working for the agency's vendors.

The model estimates the total effects on economic activity (output), employment, labor income and value added resulting from park and recreation agencies' operations and capital spending:

- **Economic activity (output)** measures the value of the resulting transactions
- **Employment** is the number of headcount jobs, both full- and part-time
- **Labor income** includes salaries, wages and fringe benefits
- **Value added** is the measure most equivalent to GDP and includes property income, dividends, corporate profits and other measures

Your Local Park and Recreation Agency Generates Additional Economic Benefits

While the figures presented in this report are significant, they represent only one aspect of the economic benefits of public parks. Indeed, the conclusions of this report are conservative estimates of parks and recreation's full economic benefits.

Beyond the impact of local park and recreation agency spending, other critical economic impacts from public parks include:

- **Health and wellness:** Parks and recreation promotes improved physical and mental health. This not only helps people feel better, but also can help lower medical and insurance costs for those people taking advantage of those facilities and activities. An [NRPA-commissioned literature review](#) demonstrates how parks and recreation supports healthy, productive lives and resilient, cohesive communities. Ninety-three percent of U.S. adults responding to the [June 2021 NRPA Park Pulse](#) poll indicated that their mental health was improved by services offered by local park and recreation professionals and agencies. Further, an [Oregon State University](#) study found that Oregon residents' engagement in one of 30 outdoor recreation activities in 2018, resulted in a savings of \$735 million to \$1.416 billion accrued to health insurers, providers and participants.
- **Conservation and resiliency:** Park and recreation agencies' protection of land, water, trees, open spaces and wildlife improves air and water quality in communities. Through effective land management methods and green infrastructure investments, parks and recreation makes communities more resilient to natural disasters, reducing disaster recovery and insurance costs. Ninety-three percent of respondents to NRPA's [2019 Engagement with Parks](#) survey indicated it is essential that their local government acquire, construct and maintain local parks, trails and green spaces near bodies of water to protect natural resources in their community. Six in seven U.S. adults responding to an [April 2021 NRPA Park Pulse](#) poll expressed support for their local park and recreation agency's environmental initiatives.
- **Property values:** Economic research has demonstrated consistently that homes and properties located near parklands have higher values than those located farther away. Higher home values not only benefit the owners of these properties, but also add to the tax base of local governments. Four in five respondents to the [2021 Engagement with Parks](#) survey indicated that they seek high-quality parks and recreation amenities when choosing a place to live.
- **Economic development:** Parks and recreation improves the quality of life in communities and benefits the local economic development of a region. Eighty-two percent of corporate executives responding to a 2022 [Area Development](#) survey rated quality-of-life features as an important factor when choosing a location for a headquarters, factory or other company facility. Further, 94 percent of adults responding to the [March 2020 NRPA Park Pulse](#) poll expressed support for their local government investing in infrastructure improvements that promote economic activity in their community
- **Visitor spending:** Many local park and recreation agency amenities spur tourism to their respective locales, generating significant economic activity, including (but not limited to) increased sales at local restaurants/bars and hotels. An [August 2017 NRPA Park Pulse](#) poll found that people seek out park and recreation amenities — such as beaches, parks, trails and secluded and relaxing places — when choosing a vacation destination. An [August 2021 NRPA Park Pulse](#) poll noted that more than nine in 10 U.S. adults find park and recreation summer activities create fond memories.

KEY CONCLUSIONS



Ashland Park along the Ohio River in Clarksville, Indiana, overlooking the Louisville, Kentucky Skyline. *Photo courtesy of Ken Conklin.*

Park and recreation professionals at the more than 10,000 agencies across the United States positively contribute to their communities in many different ways. Not only are parks leading the way in terms of health and wellness, equity, and conservation, but they also drive significant economic activity.

Local park and recreation agencies generated nearly \$218 billion in U.S. economic activity and supported almost 1.3 million jobs from their operations and capital spending alone in 2019. Preliminary estimates for 2020 show that parks and recreation remained resilient in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic, with \$225 billion in economic activity and 1.25 million jobs supported. These results, combined with studies on the state and [national](#) park systems, are proof that public parks are robust engines of economic activity.

Parks and recreation is a part of a broader outdoor recreation economy. The [Bureau of Economic Analysis](#) estimates that the outdoor recreation economy represents \$374.3 billion of gross domestic product (GDP) — or 1.8 percent of the U.S. economy.

Beyond the impact of their expenditures, park and recreation agencies generate even more economic value through their promotion of health and wellness, as well as conservation and resiliency that foster higher property values and increase tourism. Critically, park and recreation amenities are the cornerstones to improving a locality's or region's quality of life — a significant factor in attracting employers and workers to an area.

When combined with the ability to deliver healthier and happier communities, the powerful impact parks and recreation has on economic activity highlights the fact that park and recreation agency offerings are not merely a “nice-to-have” luxury government service. Instead, parks and recreation transforms our cities, towns and counties into vibrant and prosperous communities for all.

Policymakers and elected officials at all levels of government should take notice and support greater and more stable taxpayer funding of parks and recreation. Local park and recreation agencies not only help raise the standard of living in our neighborhoods, towns and cities, but they also spark economic activity that can have ripple effects well beyond any initial expenditure in creating jobs and prosperity throughout our nation.

This study uses data from the U.S. Census Bureau to estimate operational spending by local park systems. The [Survey of Public Employment & Payroll](#) offers estimates of agency employment and payrolls in 2019, while the [Annual Survey of State and Local Government Finances](#) provides agency operations spending data. Researchers at the Center for Regional Analysis at George Mason University (GMU) derived its capital spending estimates from reports available from the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) and a review of budget records for dozens of park systems selected to reflect a diverse range of localities and park operating characteristics.

The GMU researchers used the IMPLAN economic input-output model to estimate the total economic impacts, often called “economic contributions,” generated by park system operating and capital spending. Consistent with previous studies prepared for NRPA, the researchers categorized park agency spending as if it were private-sector businesses operating parks, recreation and similar entertainment venues. In their judgment, this is more accurate than treating the expenditure as general local government spending (i.e., park and recreation agency spending patterns are much more like a privately-run entertainment venue than a local tax office).

The researchers adjusted the model inputs to reflect actual compensation paid to park system employees, which is often different than what private-sector firms pay its employees. The IMPLAN model is the most widely used tool for estimating economic impacts. This model is updated frequently to reflect shifts in the structure of the economy; therefore, the results reported here are not directly comparable to the findings of previous analyses.



More than 100 people (kids and adults) came together to create the largest community painted mural in Minnesota. The mural is 30'x30' and represents elements that the children found beautiful in the city. The majority of the mural was painted with one-inch brushes or smaller. *Photo courtesy of Jennifer Fink, City of New Brighton, Minnesota.*



NATIONAL RECREATION
AND PARK ASSOCIATION

22377 Belmont Ridge Road,
Ashburn, VA 20148-4501
800.626.NRPA (6772)

nrpa.org



JUNE 2022



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4 Blender Dash
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13 City Council Meeting	14 TPARK Meeting: Officer Elections	15	16	17	18
19	20 Holiday City Closed Pollinator Weeek →	21	22	23	24	25
26	27 City Council Meeting	28	29	30		

JULY 2022



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
31					1	2
3	4 Holiday City Closed	5	6	7	8	9 Viva Tualatin
10	11 City Council Meeting: Veterans Plaza Draft plan review	12 TPARK Meeting: Veterans Plaza Draft plan review for recommendation	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25 City Council Meeting: Veterans Plaza Draft plan consideration	26	27	28	29	30