

PARKS & FACILITIES PLAN

# WILLISTON PARKS & RECREATION DISTRICT

PARK BOARD MEETING



# AGENDA

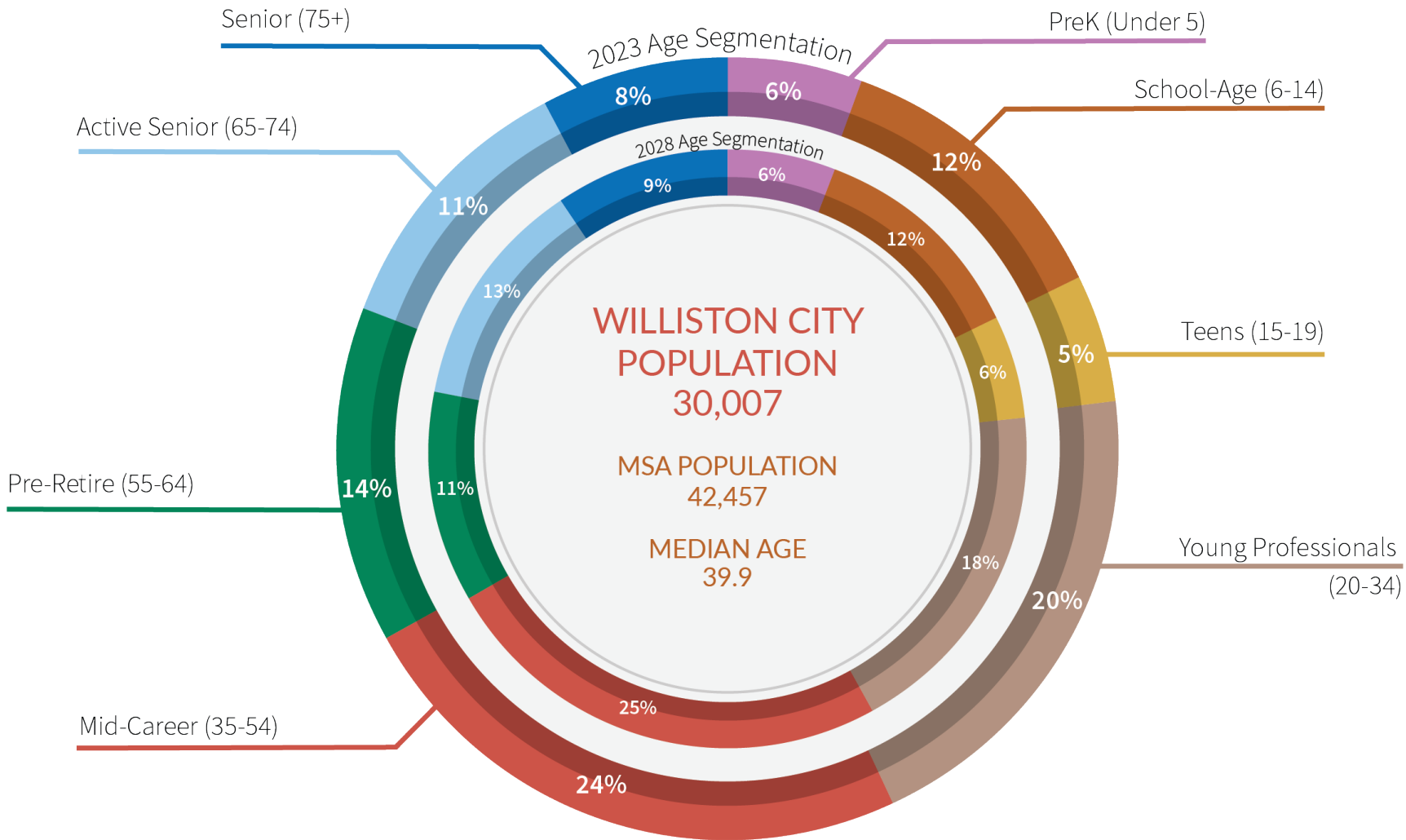
- Background
- Findings
- Recommendations (by Goal)
- Feedback / Q&A

# PLAN VISION

## Project Vision Statement

Williston Parks & Recreation District envisions an **inclusive, unique, and affordable** park system, fostering a **welcoming and connected community**. Through dedication, adaptability, and transparency, we aim to be a progressive hub for **diverse recreational experiences**.

# DEMOGRAPHICS: AGE SEGMENTATION



## KEY ITEMS

- Williston is an aging community
- Largest projected shift from 2023-28 is 65 & older.
- Young professionals & mid-career make up the largest group
- Consistency with 19 & younger

## INTEREST:

Older populations use recreation facilities more passively, focusing on active aging and mental health.

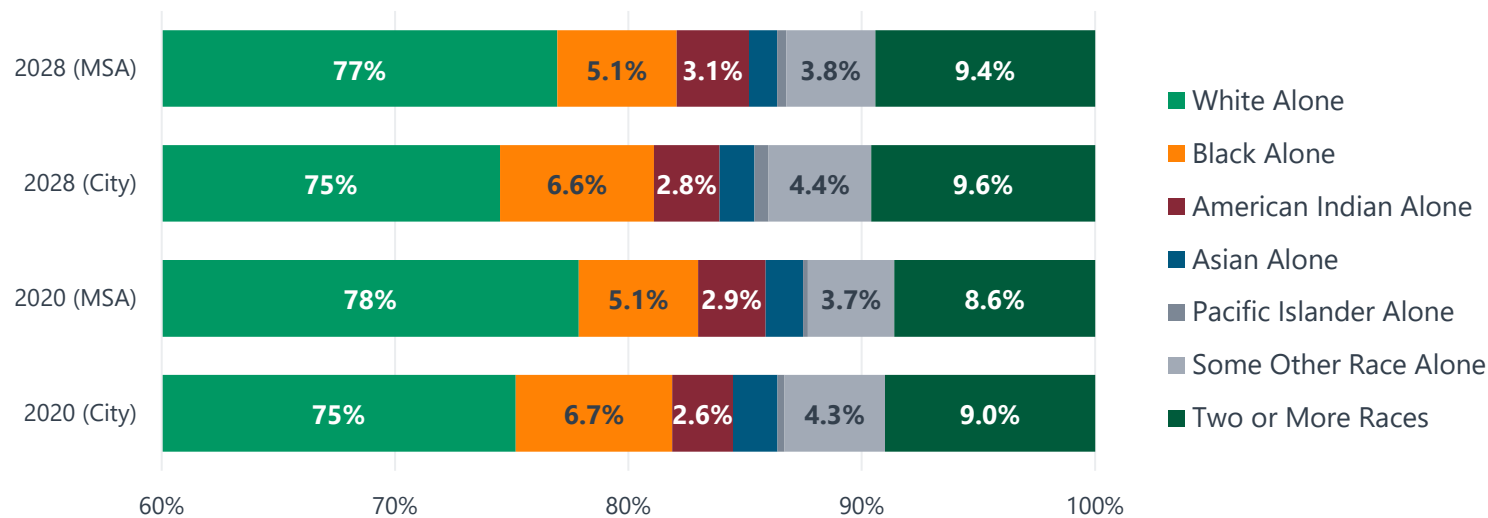
# DEMOGRAPHICS: INCOME & ETHNICITY



## KEY ITEMS

- 7.4% of population is living below the poverty line (2022 estimate)
- Growing percentages of non-white populations
- Nuanced needs and recreation trends.

## Ethnicity



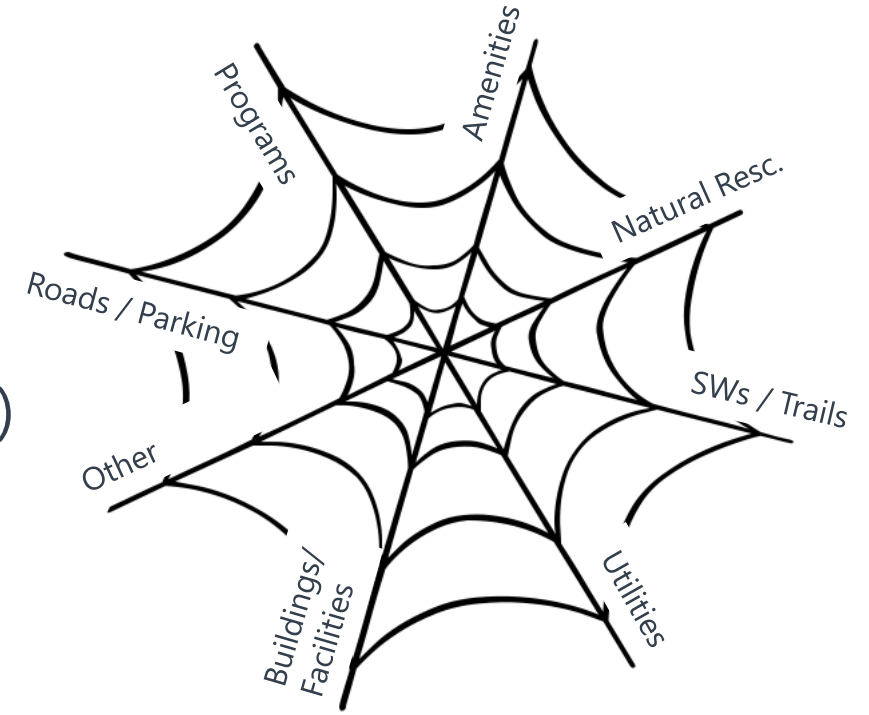
## INTEREST:

- Income affects likelihood of participation and access
- Growing percentages of non-white populations
- Nuanced needs and recreation trends.

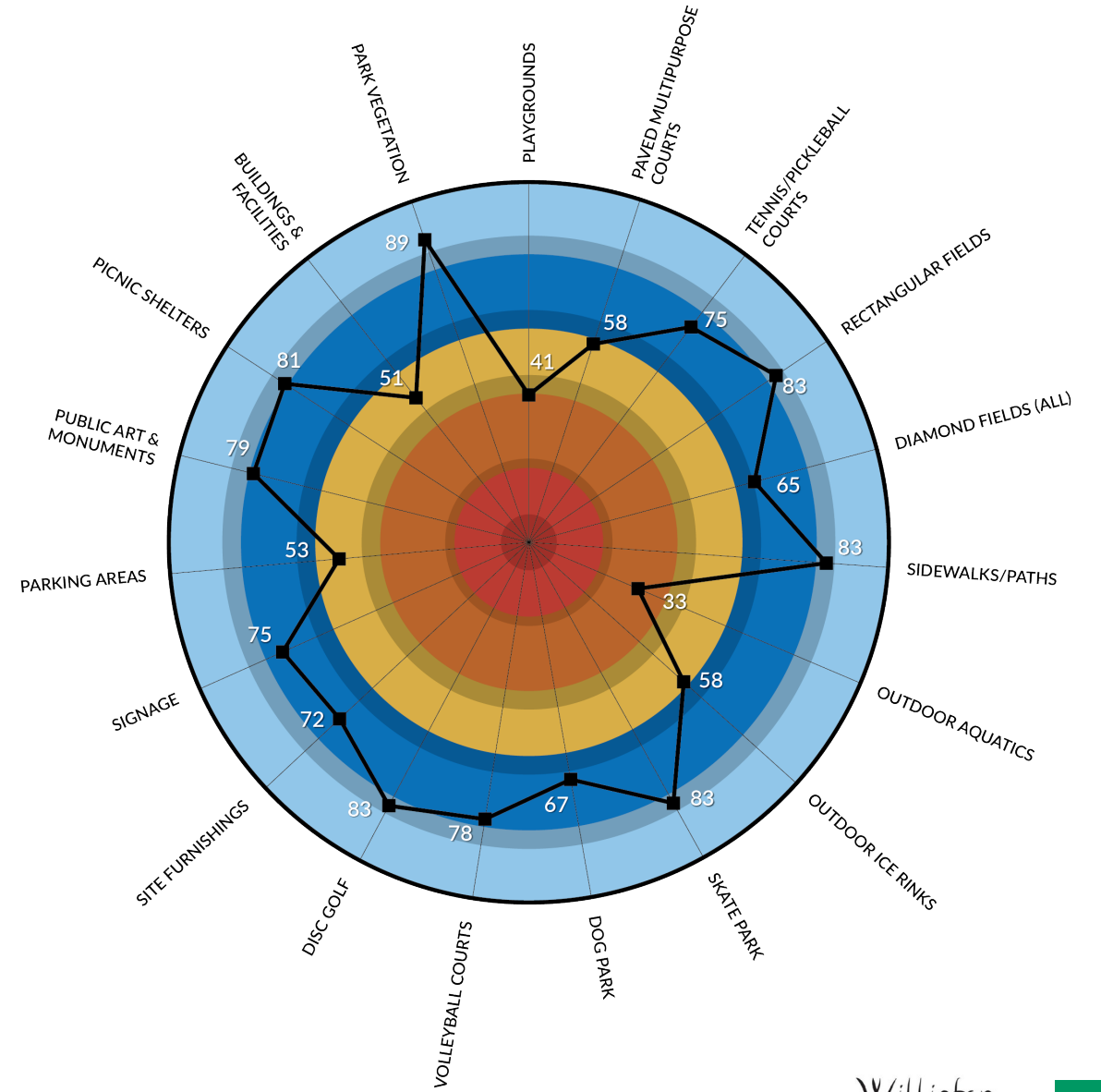
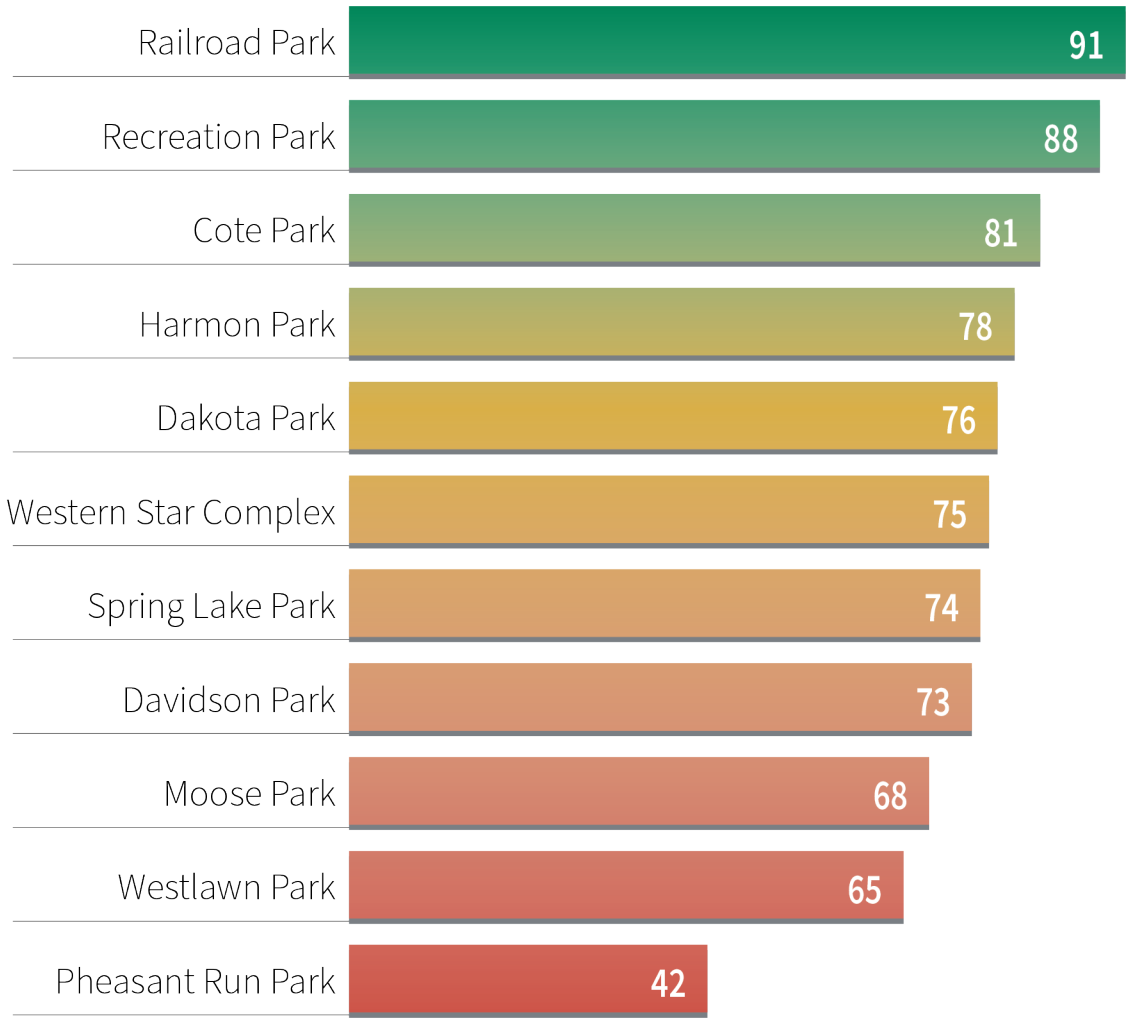
# ASSETS

## Parks ARE infrastructure

- Parks → ±243 acres
- Pathways/Trails → 5 miles (on property)
- 11 Buildings/support facilities → (over 300,000 sq. ft.)
- Playgrounds → 19
- Parking Lots → ±23 acres
- 100s of Millions worth of assets!
- Aging infrastructure



# PUBLIC SPACE QUALITY INDEX



## RECREATION

**1** GOLF COURSE  
9-HOLE



**2** SPORTS COMPLEXES



**1,875**  
RESIDENTS PER  
PICNIC SHELTER



**1** SPLASH  
PAD



**3,334**  
RESIDENTS PER  
PICKLEBALL /  
TENNIS COURT

**286**  
KIDS PER  
PLAYGROUND  
AGES 14 & YOUNGER



## PARKS

**11** PARKS



**232** ACRES OF  
TOTAL  
PARKLAND  
7.73 ACRES / 1,000 RESIDENTS



**5**

MILES OF  
TRAILS

**1**  
DOG  
PARK



**54%**  
OF RESIDENTS  
LIVE WITHIN A  
10-MINUTE  
WALK



# FINDINGS LEVEL OF SERVICE

### KEY ITEMS:

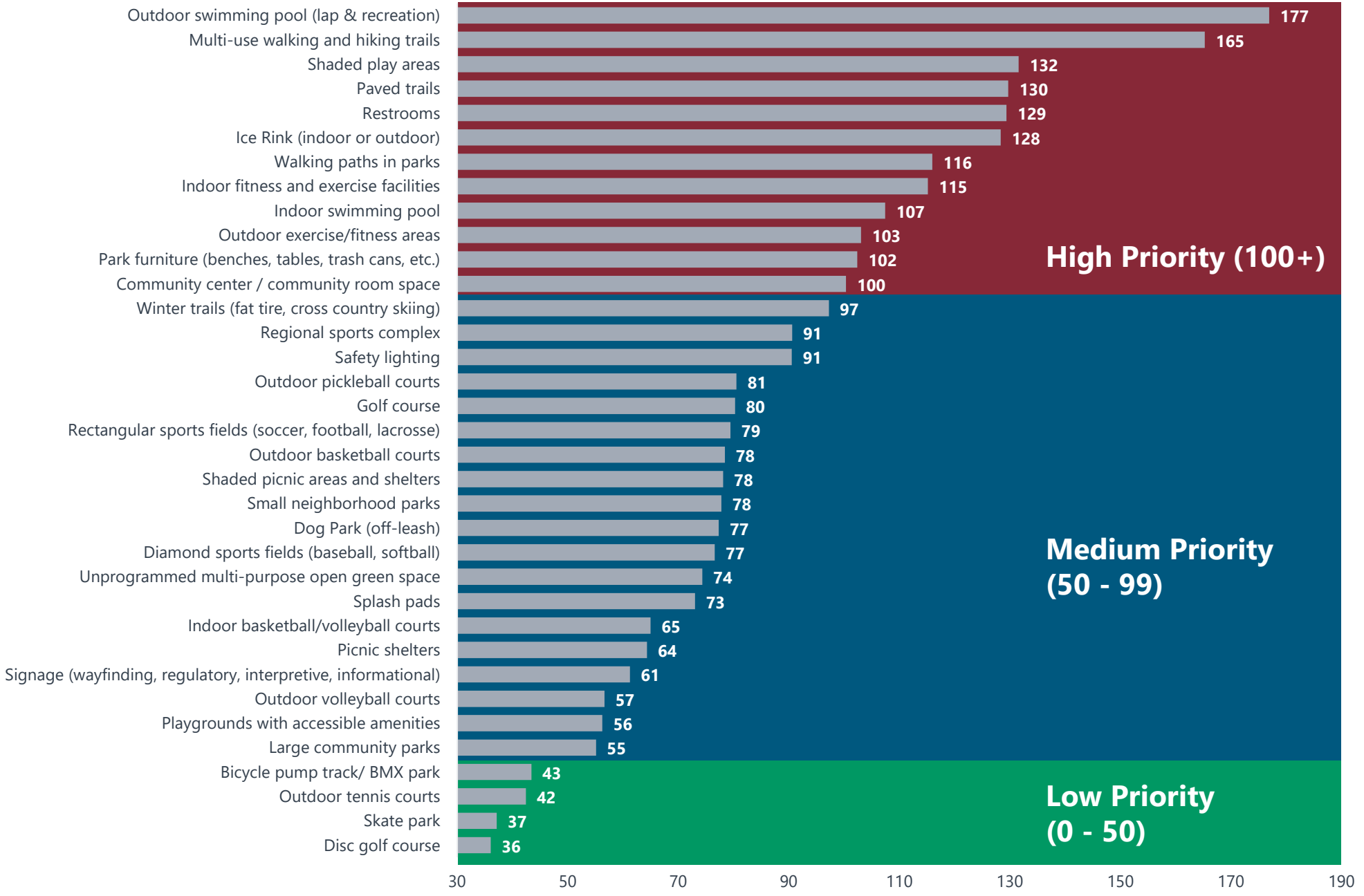
- Parkland per capita is consistent with NRPA benchmarking
- Recommend to increase LOS for neighborhood and community parks
  - 22 new acres by 2034
- Need exists in 5 and 10 years for several outdoor amenities
- Need exists for indoor ice rink by 2034



# FINDINGS I/S RATING



# SURVEY: TOP PRIORITIES FOR FACILITIES & AMENITIES



## High Priority (100+)

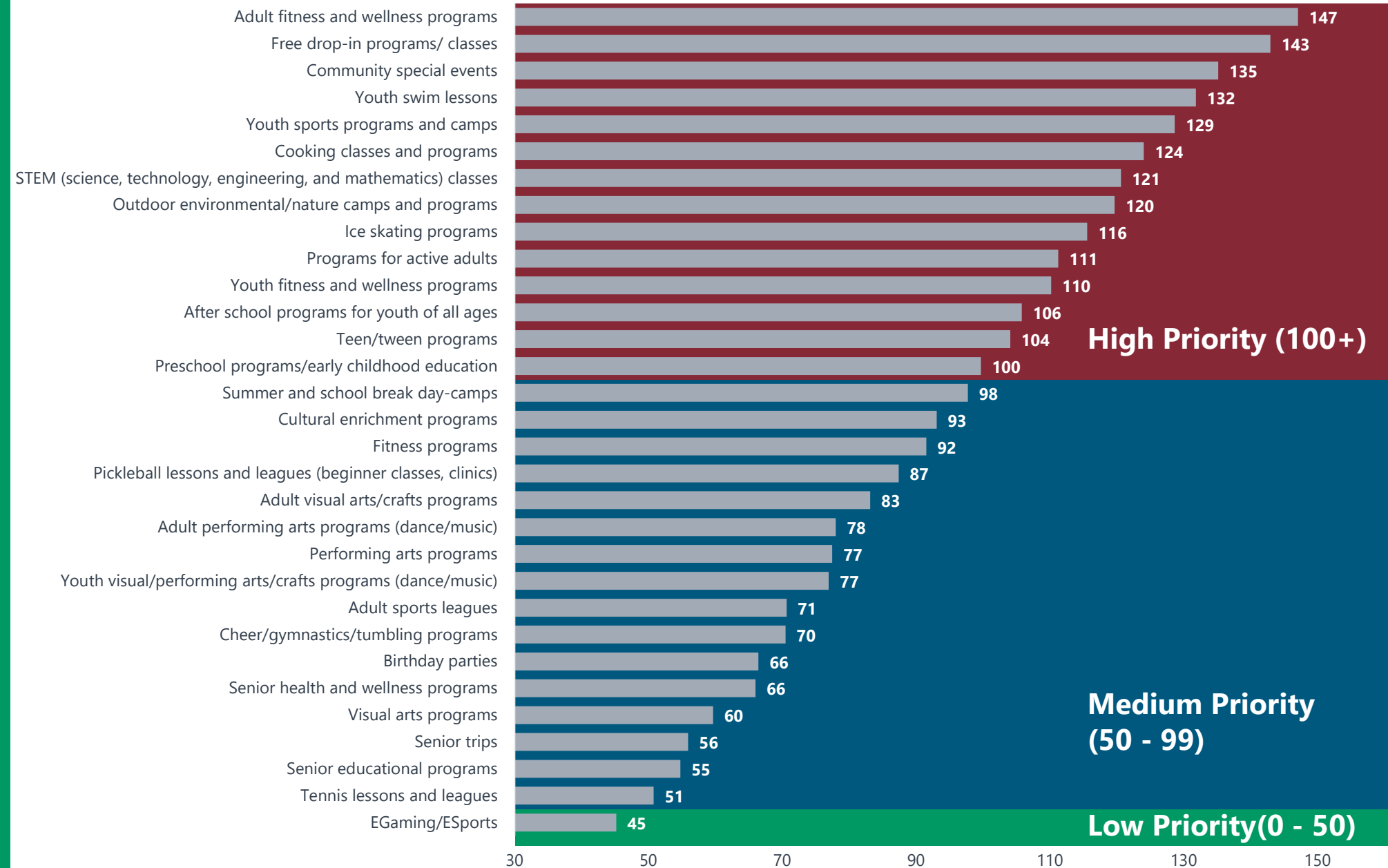
- Outdoor Swimming
- Multi-Use Walking/Hiking Trails
- Shaded Play Areas
- Paved Trails
- Ice Rink
- Walking Paths in Parks
- Indoor Fitness & Exercise
- Outdoor Exercise/Fitness
- Park Furnishings
- Winter Trails

## High Priority (100+)

## Medium Priority (50 - 99)

## Low Priority (0 - 50)

# SURVEY: TOP PRIORITIES FOR PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES



## High Priority (100+)

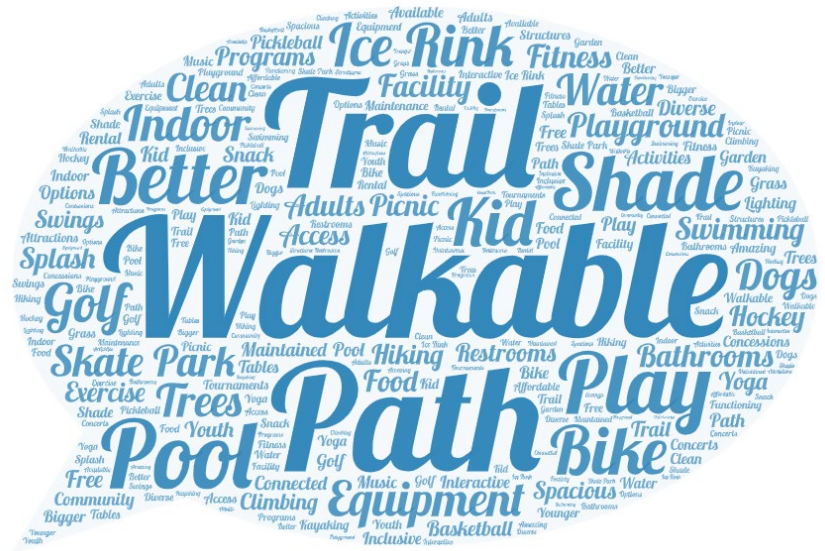
- Youth/Adult fitness & wellness
- Free drop-in programs/classes
- Comm. Special Events
- Youth Swim Lessons
- Youth sports / camps
- Cooking classes
- STEM
- Nature camps
- Ice skating
- Active Adult
- After School
- Teen/Tween
- Preschool Education

## High Priority (100+)

## Medium Priority (50 - 99)

## Low Priority (0 - 50)

# COMMUNITY SURVEY: VISION



# OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE

## Why Does it Matter?



- Operations & Maintenance is **directly proportional** to High-Quality/Safe Visitor Experiences
- This is where Level of Service matters
- *"We can't reduce doing XYZ, because it's expected"*

# FINDINGS

## O&M

### STAFFING

Maintenance Function	Annual Best Practice Staffing Level (FTEs)	Annual Best Practice Staffing Level (labor hours)
Open Space Parks Maintenance	0.2	406.39
Developed Parks Maintenance	5.6	9,927.57
Diamond Field, 60-ft Bases (Youth)	1.3	2,200.00
Diamond Field, 90-ft Bases (Adult/Youth)	3.0	5,280.00
Rectangular Fields (U13)	1.4	2,464.00
Community Center Custodial Services	0.4	687.24
Community Center Maintenance Services	0.3	481.07
Ice Rink Custodial Services	3.1	5,470.58
Ice Rink Maintenance Services	1.6	2,872.06
Recreation Center Custodial Services	2.2	3,844.76
Recreation Center Maintenance Services	1.5	2,691.33
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>20.64</b>	<b>36,322.00</b>
Current Total Annual Labor Hours		<b>29,432.00</b>
Total Annual Labor Hours Needed		<b>36,322.00</b>
Total Annual Labor Hours Gap		<b>6,890.00</b>
Annual FTEs Needed		<b>3.91</b>

#### KEY ITEMS

- Current annual staffing is 6,890 labor-hours short of best practice levels ±3.91 FTEs

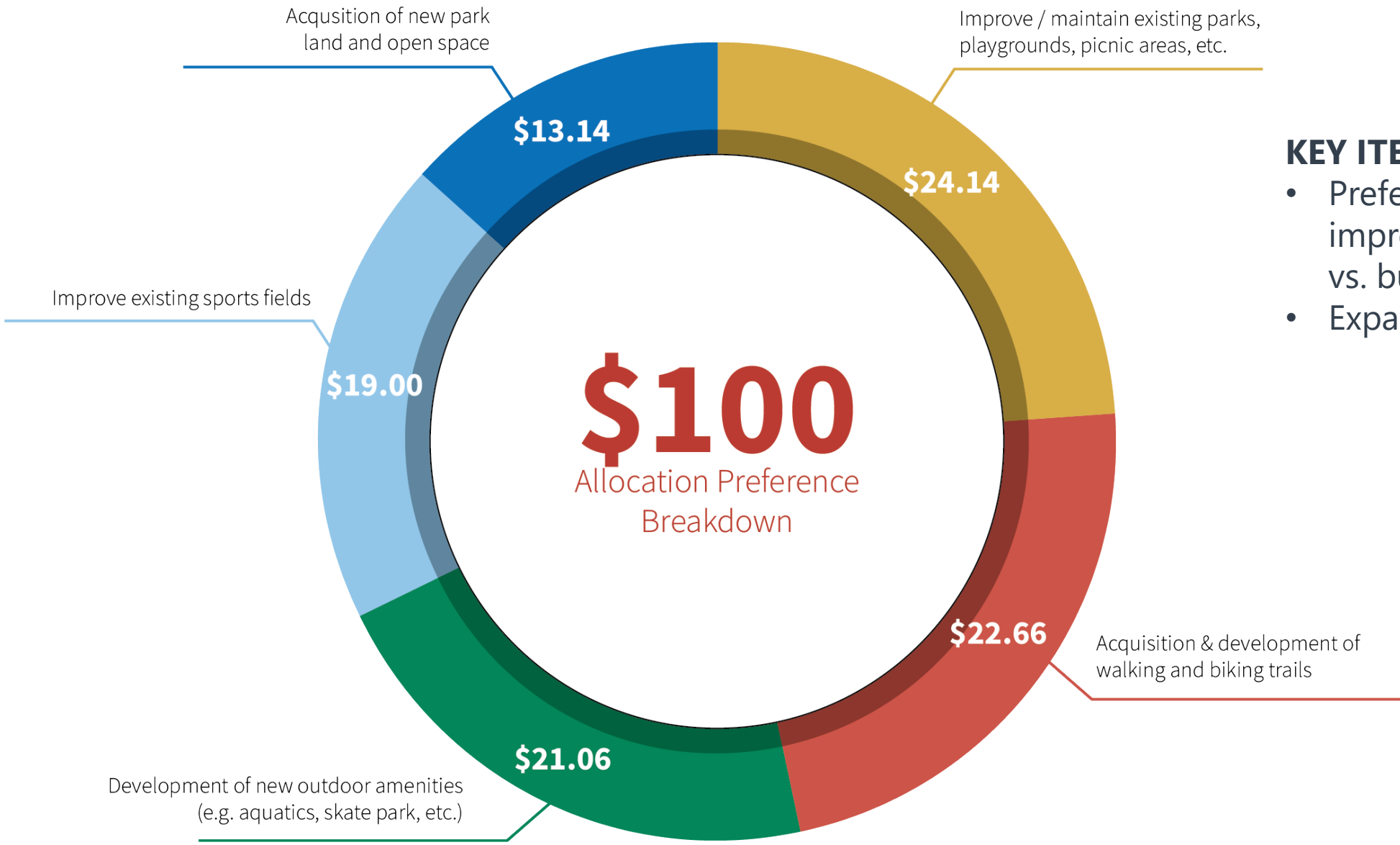
# FINDINGS O&M FUNDING

Park/Facility Class.	Unit	Direct Costs	Indirect Costs	Total Costs	Inventory	Best Practice Unit Cost
Community Parks	Acres	\$396,445	\$132,148	\$528,594	132.15	\$4,000
Neighborhood Parks	Acres	\$105,150	\$35,050	\$140,200	28.04	\$5,000
Open Space Parks	Acres	\$3,867	\$1,289	\$5,156	17.19	\$300
Mini Parks	Acres	\$19,530	\$6,510	\$26,040	4.34	\$6,000
Sports Complexes	Acres	\$315,188	\$105,063	\$420,250	84.05	\$5,000
Specialty Parks	Acres	\$35,175	\$11,725	\$46,900	4.69	\$10,000
Indoor Rec. Center	SF	\$137,625	\$45,875	\$183,500	48,875.00	\$4.00
Indoor Ice Rink	SF	\$244,778	\$81,593	\$326,370	65,274.00	\$5.00
Community Center	SF	\$24,600	\$8,200	\$32,800	8,200.00	\$4.00
<b>Totals</b>		<b>\$1.28M</b>	<b>\$427.4K</b>	<b>\$1.71M</b>		

## KEY ITEMS

- Annual operational funding for O&M is ±\$165k below recommended
  - 67% should be allocated toward staffing

# FINDINGS SUPPORT FOR ACTIONS



### KEY ITEMS

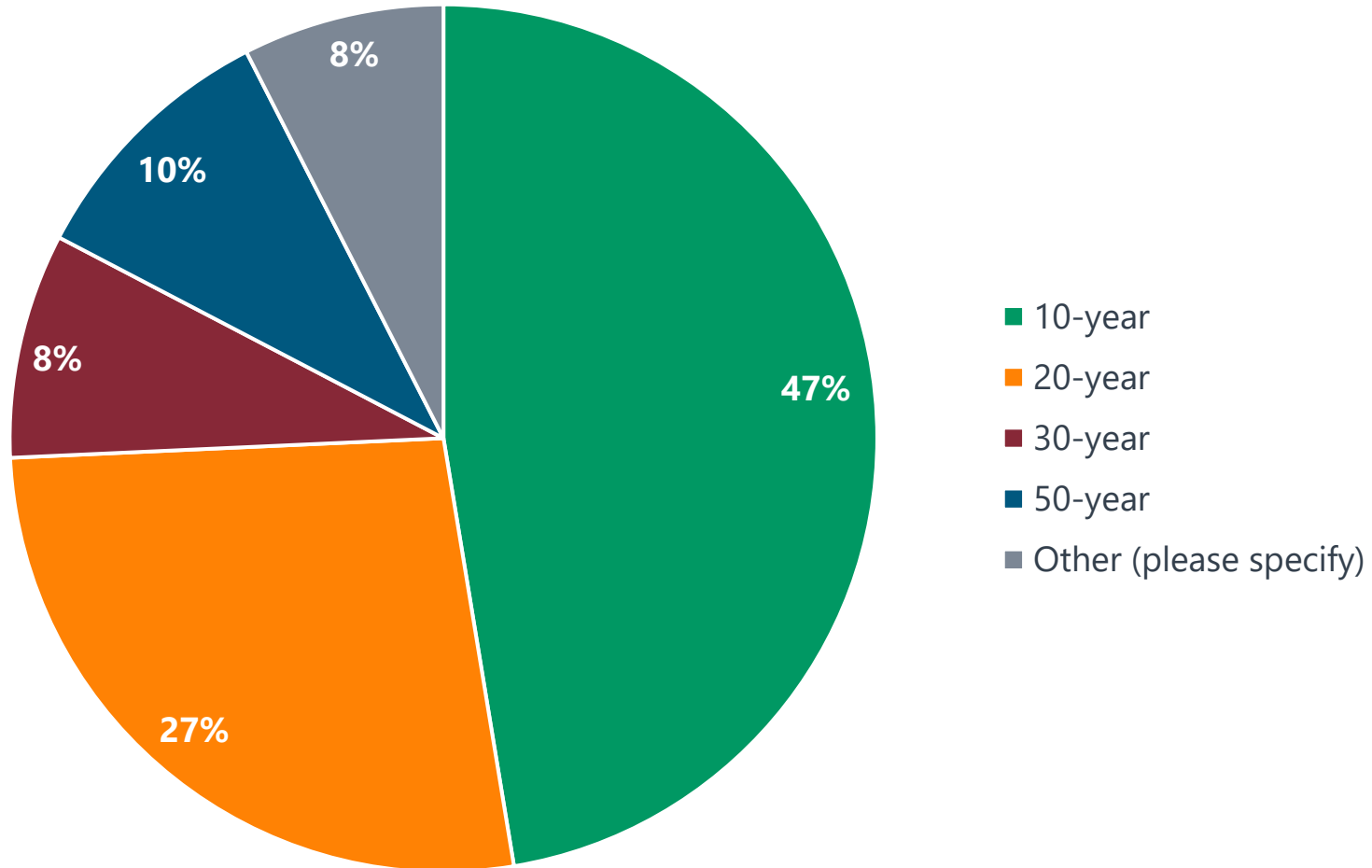
- Preference toward improving/caring for existing vs. building new
- Expanding trail system



# FINDINGS

## SUPPORT OF ACTIONS

For what duration would you support the continuance of a 1% sales tax?



### KEY ITEMS

- Strong overall support supporting.
- Preference toward shorter terms to ensure transparency & accountability

# RECOMMENDATIONS

## Goals

- **Stewardship (STW):** Emphasizes the careful management and maintenance of park resources and facilities to ensure their long-term sustainability and effectiveness. This approach emphasizes a context-sensitive strategy to maintain and enhance the quality of the park system.
- **Equity (EQ):** Ensures that all community members have fair and inclusive access to park facilities and programs, addressing barriers and promoting fairness for everyone. It aims to create a welcoming environment that serves the diverse needs of all residents.
- **Community Outreach & Engagement (COM):** Focuses on engaging residents through effective dialogue and transparent information sharing. This approach seeks to address community needs and build strong partnerships for enhanced park system impact.
- **Experience Enhancement (EXP):** Aims to improve user satisfaction by refining park programs, events, amenities, and management. It involves continuously upgrading offerings to ensure a positive and memorable experience for all park visitors.