



Community Services Advisory Commission
February 14, 2023
Minutes

Commission Members: Present: Elizabeth McClain, Vivek Arunachalam, Dee Kanonchoff, Rex Pryor, Hong Qiu, Vicki Von Sadovszky

Absent: Steve Dritz

Staff Members Present: Megan O’Callaghan, City Manager
Robert Ranc, Deputy City Manager/COO
Matt Earman, Director of Parks & Recreation
Emily Goliver, Management Analyst DCM/COO

Guests: Kris Miller, Dublin Resident

1. Call to Order

Ms. McClain established a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. Public Comments on Items Not on the Agenda

Ms. Qiu wished everyone a Happy Valentine’s Day.

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Minutes from the December 13, 2022 meeting were distributed for review via email. Ms. McClain asked if anyone had any changes to the meeting minutes. There were no changes to the meeting minutes. Ms. Kanonchoff made a motion to approve the minutes. Ms. Qiu seconded the motion. All in favor, the December meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

4. Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update – Matt Earman

Ms. Earman thanked the commission and reminded the commission that this topic was presented before them several months prior. Staff is approaching the finish line with some preliminary findings and recommendations. Mr. Earman said staff wanted to take an opportunity this evening to bring this Master Plan back to the commission so everyone is aware of what has been taking place over the last several months.

Mr. Earman said this evening he would be talking about the project and process overview, along with what that entailed. He would also be discussing some of the technical analysis that took place, the public engagement, some of the preliminary recommendations or key focus areas that the plan will focus on, and then we want to cover some of the topics we presented to City Council along with their feedback.

Mr. Earman said one of the hierarchy of frameworks the City is working on is the Strategic Framework, which is broken down into three areas. These areas include sustainable, connected and resilient. You will find that within each of the subcategories within each of the areas, it will touch on everything within this Framework to some extent and in fact, the plan itself will itemize some of the topics within the plan, and how they achieve this for the Framework itself.

Mr. Earman discussed the process timeline and overview:

- Phase 1 - Launch occurred March/April 2022
- Phase 2 – Discovery with included public forums, online survey, statically valid survey, stakeholder interviews
- Phase 3 – Understanding the findings from Phase 2 and determining what to create with it
- Phase 4 – Current phase we are working towards. We are in the process of focus workshops. Staff presented to Council to get their feedback. We will take this back to Council on the March 6th work session with some more defined recommendations for Council’s feedback
- Phase 5 – Hopefully we will then approach this phase, which is the approval phase of the plan with City Council

Mr. Earman provided a list of the project tasks that have taken place. He commented that the list does not look lengthy, but the processes within each of the topics was very extensive.

Project Tasks		
Completed	In Progress	Next Steps
Statistically-Valid & Online Survey	Review of Parks & Recreation Operations	Refine Assessments
Staff & Key Stakeholder Input	Financial Analysis	Action Plan
Demographics & Trends	Capital Improvement Plan	Draft Report
Park & Facility Review	Frame out Draft Plan	Final Presentation
Program & Services Assessment		
Level of Service Standards		
Needs Prioritization		

Mr. Earman said Building of the Plan is primarily based on three pillars. He said number one is the heart of it all, which is the public input. That is really what the City wants this plan to represent is the community needs, so that was the number one focus. Mr. Earman said staff also wanted to take a technical analysis of what we have learned with some of our data trends including things we have internally. Then, last, staff wanted to get some outside perspective we wanted to find out what some of those other cities in the country are doing so we know what to benchmark towards, including the National Recreation and Parks Standards. Not one of these three things will stand alone, but it is a combination of all three so that we can get a better understanding of how they all drive us forward.

Mr. Earman continued to explain that with the technical analysis of the plan, there was a park/facility assessment study done during the summer. This was completed on 20 of Dublin's community parks. Community parks are designed for community-based needs for multiple programming. Neighborhood parks are designed primarily to satisfy the needs of each individual neighborhood.

Mr. Earman shared some of the information that came out of the park facility assessments. What we found in some of those facility assessments as a whole is there are some strengths, challenges and opportunities before us.

Strengths	Challenges	Opportunities
Park identity signage	Older parks and amenities showing age	Next-level active sports facility
Wayfinding from major roads	Lack of turf sports fields	Expand the styles and locations of furnishings
5-10 minute walk coverage	Managing aesthetic versus maintenance demands	Individual park upgrades to amenities
System-wide variety of scenery, amenities, and activities		

Mr. Earman said the commission might recall that at one of the earlier meetings last year, one of the residents in attendance asked the City to add the climate resiliency to the list of topics to discuss and this commission was very welcoming of that idea. Mr. Earman said the consultants did take a look at the climate change and what direct impact it does have on Dublin residents. Obviously, it is what we have all been seeing which is increasing average temperatures for long periods of time, frequency of larger participation events, and higher risk of droughts. Therefore, in understanding those, we put together some ideas on how we might be able to be more climate changing resilient which Mr. Earman discussed.

Climate Resiliency		
Parks system play a key role in helping manage the impacts of climate change.		
Adapting to a changing climate	Directly fighting climate change	Providing relief of climate change
Use of Central Ohio native plants	Reduce flooding and runoff	Utilize park space to counter urban heat
Reduce use of irrigation using location-appropriate plants	Parks and woodlands for sequestering carbon capture	Use parkland to improve city-wide stormwater management
Reduce resource intensive lawn areas – educate residents	Incorporate renewable energy	
Expand areas to absorb flood events	Execution of the City's Sustainability Framework Plan	

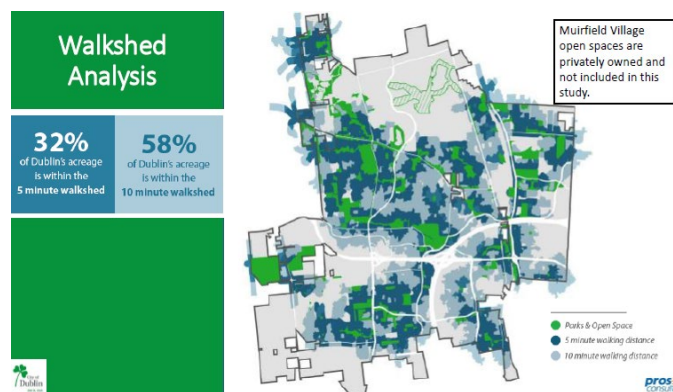
Mr. Earman continued to explain that one of the things we do realize is that this section of the plan is going to refer heavily to the City's Sustainability Framework Plan, which is already in progress.

There will be a volume of things that are in the Sustainability Plan, which will also address the needs listed. So, with that being said, we will stay a little above the surface here and let the Sustainability Plan take a little bit more of a stronger hold on what that looks like going forward.

Mr. Earman said he mentioned earlier the walkshed analysis. He shared a map which represents City Parks (green) and the five minute walk sheds to those parks (dark blue) and the ten minute walk sheds to those park (light blue). Mr. Earman explained in the northern section of the map is Muirfield, which is privately owned and it is not included in this public accessibility of land. In looking at this map, there is a tremendous coverage of accessibility to all of our City parks. It is representative of communities, pretty far and few between compared to what we have here in Dublin. We are very fortunate and we will talk a little bit about what that means going forward.

Mr. Ranc also added that our consulting group works with cities around the country when they perform this analysis. They just underscored the coverage here in Dublin compared to what they see throughout the country is really through the roof. They have not seen coverage, in terms of the walk shed, quite like this throughout the country. So obviously, this plan is about finding ways to improve our park system, but Dublin is starting from a good foundation definitely compared to other places that we have looked at.

Mr. Earman said some of the maps that are produced just have a dot on the map that represents the park with just a simple circle, which is a radius of a certain mileage. Through the influence of Mr. Ranc on some of the park plans that he has worked on, asked our consultants to take a little bit deeper dive on that. Therefore, this map does not just have a mileage radius, but shows more of what is affecting people from accessing these parks. It could be a river, a road or private property or so forth. This map shows true accessibility.

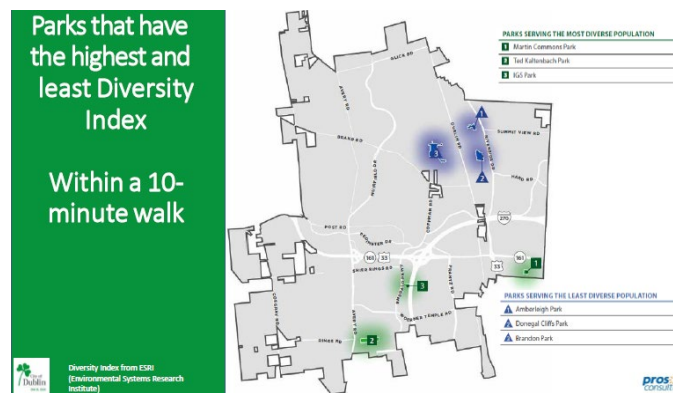


Mr. Earman continued to say so, with that, some of the diversity, equity and inclusion considerations for the plans going forward include:

- From a diversity standpoint
 - Making sure the parks and recreation 'team' is reflective of the community
 - Culturally-appropriate programming opportunities are available

- From an equity standpoint
 - Make sure watershed gaps are few and far between
 - Identify the under maintained/underserved communities
- From an inclusion standpoint
 - Accessibility of all of our parks
 - Access to non-motorized active transportation network
 - Park amenity and programming proximity to age groups

Mr. Earman explained that taking the watershed map that shows the gap, it gives us the opportunity to look at what parks are serving the most diverse population (green on map) and which parks are serving the least diverse population groups (blue on map).



Ms. Qiu asked what criteria was used to determine the diversity index.

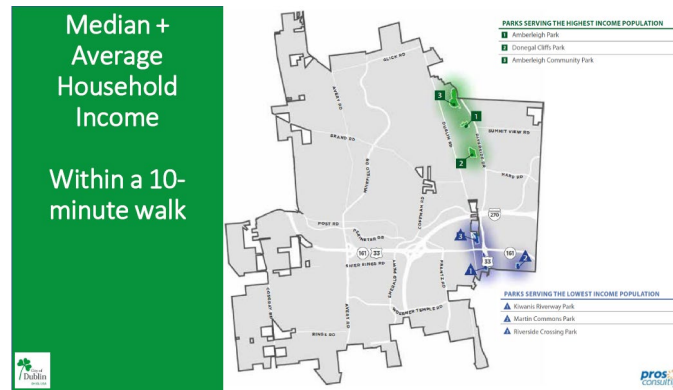
Mr. Ranc said a mapping service called Esri was used which takes into consideration several standard indicators of diversity such as racial, ethnic, gender, economics and income. Esri is a widely used service. They have put together a composite score in this way and we will share more detail as far as the different types of diversity that we broke out further. This is an overall look that took into account those standard measures of diversity in a composite score that Esri put together.

Ms. Qiu asked because she was curious if the City has a goal to reach.

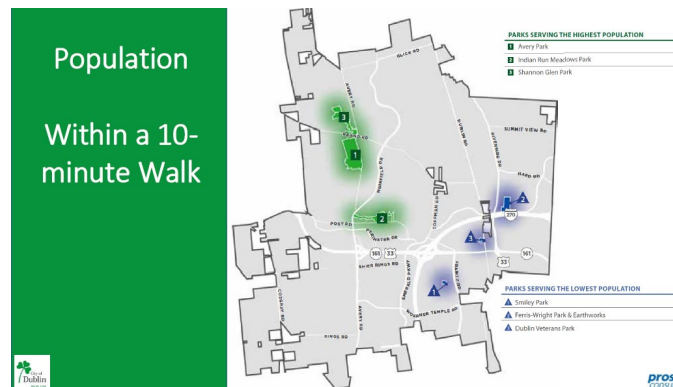
Mr. Ranc said as we look at these different indicators of diversity it is neither, in our opinion, good or bad that these parks are more or less diverse. What we are really looking at as we look at these parks on these different measures of diversity is, are these parks serviced similarly. Do we have a gap in terms of services and different amenities on these different measures of diversity? We do not. The maps that Mr. Earman is about to share are going to lead to the progression that will lead up to that, but that is why we looked at it in this way.

Mr. Earman said furthermore, as we go through some of these breakouts of what those diversities are, it give us an opportunity to design the park, add facilities to the park or even programming

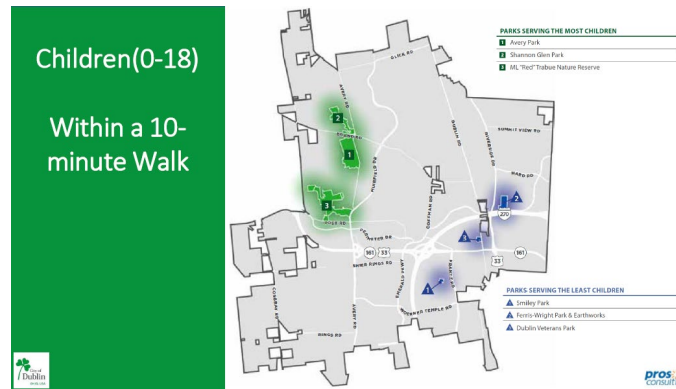
within the park accommodate what is around those parks that give us the best opportunity to serve. The next map Mr. Earman shared included the median average household income. This shows the parks serving the highest income population to the north (in green) and the parks serving the lowest income population to the south (in blue). This gives us an opportunity what those inequities might be and maybe we can overcome some of the challenges for both.



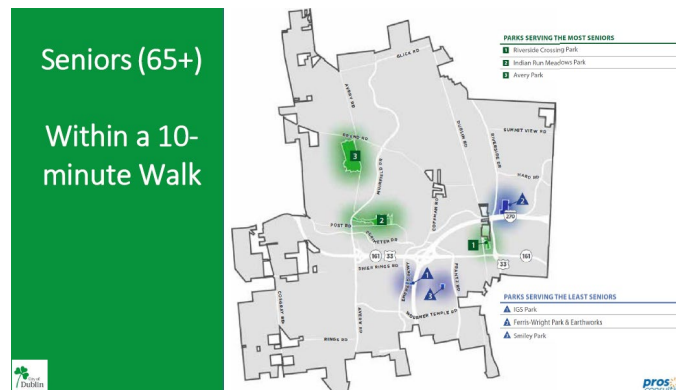
Another map Mr. Earman shared reflects parks serving the highest population (in green) and those maps serving the lowest population (in blue). If we understand those parks that are serving the greater population then we might invest more in those parks to provide the type of facilities that might accommodate more people. Whereas some of those parks that are not really being served or serve the lowest population, we may not invest as much or it will be more focused on the people in that region.



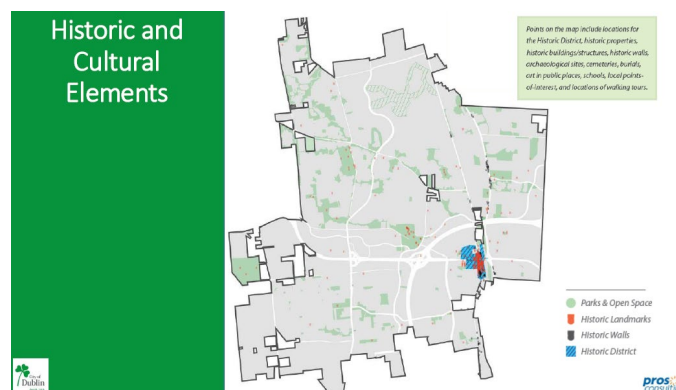
The next map reflects parks serving the most children (in green) and the ones serving the least amount of children (in blue). This information comes from programming and playground design.



Mr. Earman said there is a breakout of parks serving the most seniors (in green) and parks serving the least amount of seniors that are 65 and older (in blue). Everything age group wise gives us the opportunity to make sure we have the right amenities in those parks to serve the greatest number of people throughout the community.



Mr. Earman said the next map, which shows historic and cultural elements, might be a little hard to read. There are numerous orange dots, which are reflective of historic landmarks. It also depicts historic walls (in gray) and the historic district (in blue) throughout the City. As you can see, we are very widely scattered across the map evenly.



Mr. Earman moved on to discuss the level of service in Dublin. These are guidelines, which define service areas based on our population. This does not mean that because the data shows us something that we have to change. It provides another look at our data. For instance, in the chart it shows that in 2022 the City needed nine acres of additional parkland in order to achieve the level of service of achieving a 10-minute walkshed for all residents. The City currently has 64 parks in our community very easily accessible to residents, so to convince us that we need nine more acres of park would be a little bit of a challenge. It does give us some awareness to know if we are on track and if we are accommodating the right people for the right amount of park acreage.

Level of Service

- Level of Service (LOS) standards are guidelines that define service areas based on Dublin's population
- Support investment decisions related to parks, facilities, and amenities
- LOS standards can and will change over time as the asset lifecycles change and demographics of Dublin change

PARKS, FACILITIES, AND AMENITIES	2022 NEED	2027 NEED
Neighborhood park	9 acres	15 acres
Community park	26 acres	43 acres
Basketball courts	3	3
Pickleball courts	0.5	1
Dog parks	0.5	0.6
Splash pads	1	1

*Level of service needs based on achieving 10-minute walkshed for all residents



Mr. Earman shared a chart that shows the scope for different levels of service standards. It goes through the current inventory of everything the City has and then it breaks it down into per capita, which puts everything on a level playing field. If you have a certain number of acres per 1,000, you can compare yourself to any community based on that and not just the number of acres. It provides a metric to use, which the National Association of Parks & Recreation (NRPA) has, all of those metric standards. We can then compare and assess those to what we have. Through this process, it develops us an understanding of what we are lacking or are in need of based on those standards.

Level of Service

Level of Service Standards											
Current Inventory				Current LOS		Metric		Recommendation Scenario		Current Population Scenario (2040)	2040 Population Scenario (2040)
Item	Quantity	Acres	Per Capita	Current Inventory	Current LOS	Metric	Recommendation	Recommendation	Recommendation	Recommendation	Recommendation
Neighborhood Park	64	1,100	0.017	64	1,100	0.017	0.017	0.017	0.017	0.017	0.017
Community Park	1	26	0.0004	1	26	0.0004	0.0004	0.0004	0.0004	0.0004	0.0004
Basketball Courts	3	0.1	0.000001	3	0.1	0.000001	0.000001	0.000001	0.000001	0.000001	0.000001
Pickleball Courts	0.5	0.01	0.0000001	0.5	0.01	0.0000001	0.0000001	0.0000001	0.0000001	0.0000001	0.0000001
Dog Parks	0.5	0.01	0.0000001	0.5	0.01	0.0000001	0.0000001	0.0000001	0.0000001	0.0000001	0.0000001
Splash Pads	1	0.1	0.000001	1	0.1	0.000001	0.000001	0.000001	0.000001	0.000001	0.000001
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Community Park	1	26	0.0004	1	26	0.0004	0.0004	0.0004	0.0004	0.0004	0.0004
Basketball Courts	3	0.1	0.000001	3	0.1	0.000001	0.000001	0.000001	0.000001	0.000001	0.000001
Pickleball Courts	0.5	0.01	0.0000001	0.5	0.01	0.0000001	0.0000001	0.0000001	0.0000001	0.0000001	0.0000001
Dog Parks	0.5	0.01	0.0000001	0.5	0.01	0.0000001	0.0000001	0.0000001	0.0000001	0.0000001	0.0000001
Splash Pads	1	0.1	0.000001	1	0.1	0.000001	0.000001	0.000001	0.000001	0.000001	0.000001
Neighborhood Park	64	1,100	0.017	64	1,100	0.017	0.017	0.017	0.017	0.017	0.017
Community Park	1	26	0.0004	1	26	0.0004	0.0004	0.0004	0.0004	0.0004	0.0004
Basketball Courts	3	0.1	0.000001	3	0.1	0.000001	0.000001	0.000001	0.000001	0.000001	0.000001
Pickleball Courts	0.5	0.01	0.0000001	0.5	0.01	0.0000001	0.0000001	0.0000001	0.0000001	0.0000001	0.0000001
Dog Parks	0.5										

acclaimed national gold medal from the NRPA because of their standards. We want to understand where we match up to some of the best in the country. We anticipate that we are qualifiers for the gold medal, but that is based on our own assessment. In looking at the slide shared, you can see that Dublin has the least residents per park and the largest acreage developed. Roseville, California did not give us their information. Based on NRPA, their standard is 12.9 acres per 1,000 residents, so Dublin is over two and a half times greater than the national standard.

Benchmarking – Park Acres

- Dublin has the least residents per park and the largest acreage developed
- Dublin is well above NRPA Metrics Median (12.9 acres per 1,000)

AGENCY	POPULATION	TOTAL PARKS	RESIDENTS PER PARK	TOTAL ACRES	ACRES DEV/ MAINT.	NATURAL ACRES NOT MAINT.	ACRES/1,000 RESIDENTS
Roseville	146,875	79	1,859	4,745	n/a	n/a	32.31
Dublin	50,501	64	537	1,522	1041	386	30.14
Westerville	39,190	34	1,153	568	422	146	14.49
Lee's Summit	104,000	36	2,889	1,235	380	855	11.88
Carmel Clay	99,757	20	4,988	639	127	512	6.41



Mr. Earman said if you look at the trail miles, it is the same type of situation where Dublin has the largest amount of trail miles with a standard of 2.8 miles per 1,000 residents. The standard for total miles of trails is 29 and Dublin has a total of 140 miles, which exceeds the NRPA standard.

Benchmarking – Trail Miles

- Dublin has the largest amount of trail miles with a standard of 2.8 miles per 1,000 residents
- Dublin is well above NRPA Metrics Upper Quartile of 29 total miles of trail

AGENCY	POPULATION	TOTAL MILES OF TRAILS	TOTAL PAVED	MILES UNPAVED	TRAIL MILES PER 1,000 RESIDENTS
Dublin	50,501	140.2	137.5	2.7	2.8
Westerville	39,190	51.35	50	1.3	1.3
Lee's Summit	104,000	93	90	3	0.9
Roseville	146,875	36.2	36.2	0	0.2
Carmel Clay	99,757	8.57	21.7	4.7	0.09



Mr. Earman said from a program assessment standpoint, our consultants took a deep dive into our core programming areas, which include our adaptive areas, adult and senior programs, aquatics, fitness, preschool, teen, and theater and youth categories of programs. Mr. Earman shared some of what the consultants found:

- Core Program Areas are well constructed
- Program descriptions/goals do an excellent job of effectively communicating
- Age segment distribution is aligned with the community's current population. Monitor aging population offerings

- Program lifecycle reveals good distribution
- Marketing and promotions is currently adequate
- Department utilizes multiple customer feedback methods, have many opportunities
- Cost recovery goals are currently being utilized and tracked on a Core Program Area level

Mr. Earman said overall it was a really, good assessment of what we are doing. It does not mean the City cannot improve. In fact, we want more about program innovation and trends, and really putting some things on the map of what we can do differently.

Mr. Earman continued to say that staff looked at the City's funding strategies in working with the Finance Department, alongside with the consultant to talk about some of the funding strategy the City currently has in place. The City has a good distribution of resource, but there are some not being used, which were also discussed. The current funding sources currently used are external funding, capital funding, user fees, taxes and franchise/licenses. If the City would take a look at some of the other funding strategies the City is not currently using, it could produce some greater opportunities for our entire system.

Mr. Earman said there are certainly grants to explore as well. There are all types of grants available to us to apply for on various projects and the City has had some success in applying for a few grants recently. The City also needed to receive 325 statistical survey responses and the City received 521, which is well over the requested amount. The City had great response to the different touch points and needed responses towards the plan.

Mr. Earman provided a little more information in regards to the statistically valid survey and online survey. The online survey is opened up for anyone to take the survey, but the statistically-valid survey is randomly distributed across the entire field of the City to make sure we get an understanding of what it really represents. You can see by the results of that survey, from a participation component, the City did well. The goal was to receive 375 completed surveys, but the City received 521 surveys.

Mr. Earman shared some different graphs with the commission. One of the things that stuck out on the graphs is that a comparison of the blue lines (statistically-valid survey) and the red lines (U.S. Census) shows the two are very well aligned for the household type demographics, whereas the online survey (black lines) is a little less representative of the community. The graphs comparing age, race, income and gender are also consistent with the U.S. Census for the community. Mr. Earman continued to say if you take the entire distribution of the survey, as well as who took the survey, you can see on the map shared; you can see that it represents all areas of the City well for the population and residing areas.

Mr. Earman said from all of the information staff has received and from everything we have learned the consultants developed a priority investment rating. This shows what are the most important amenities and what unmet facilities needs are being asked for. This gave staff a better

understanding of our recreational facilities based on the statistically valid survey and the online survey, as you can compare from the chart that was shared by Mr. Earman. It really is an understanding of what the community at large would like to see.

High Priority Investment Rating – Recreation Facilities

Facility Priority Investment Rating - Statistically-Valid Survey High Priority		Facility Priority Investment Rating - Online Survey High Priority	
	SCORE		SCORE
Aquatic/pool facilities	184.8	Aquatic/pool facilities	200.0
Botanical/formal gardens	134.4	Fitness/exercise facilities (indoors)	113.5
Canoe/kayak launch	126.6	Pickleball courts (indoors)	107.9
Environmental education/nature center	121.4	Botanical/formal gardens	101.0
Fitness/exercise facilities (indoors)	111.9		
Playground equipment (indoors)	103.0		

Mr. Earman continued to say that we have also learned what the top interest are as it relates to recreation programs, which gives us an opportunity to build on some of those opportunities and programs.

High Priority Investment Rating – Recreation Programs

Program Priority Investment Rating - Statistically-Valid Survey High Priority		Program Priority Investment Rating - Online Survey High Priority	
	SCORE		SCORE
Adult sports	183.3	Adult sports	197.5
Aquatics – open swim	164.5	Aquatics – open swim	177.0
Adult arts	148.6	Fitness – group fitness exercise classes – land	174.0
Aquatics – lap swim	148.3	Fitness – yoga, pilates, Zumba	173.9
Summer camps – preschool, youth, and teen	138.9	Aquatics – lap swim	155.1
Fitness – group fitness exercise classes – land	129.7	Adult arts	152.4
Theater presentations/theater camps	118.5	Aquatics – swim team	142.2
Fitness – yoga, pilates, Zumba	113.6	Adult active movement	130.5
Aquatics – swim team	105.2		
Adult active movement	103.2		

Mr. Earman said from all of the information gathered five key focus areas have been developed. With those focus areas we are following the vision of this plan, which is to provide every resident of the City of Dublin an exceptional parks and recreation experience to elevate Dublin to a global city of choice. The five key focus areas are:

1. Park Land – Acquire and develop new parkland, and maximize the value of each park type currently in the system to reach the full recreation value associated with its design.

Some of the ideas reflected in some of the feedback received from the residents include sports field complex, cultural trail, canoe/kayaking and rock climbing. Need to tie into regional visionary programs. Will need to prioritize based on the best use of City resources to serve the most residents in the City

2. Recreation Facilities – Continue to be the leader in indoor and outdoor community-based facilities for people of all ages and interests.

To be a leader our recreation center facility needs to be at its best. Staff will look at what we can do build it up better and make sure it is updated and ready to serve the needs of the future. We have heard feedback about a natatorium for our swimming and aquatics needs. We need to make sure that we are accommodating our teams in the community. E-Sports is another popular activity arising among teens. Some feedback also includes a performing art center and to add more natural elements to engage people outdoor. The City is currently conducting a feasibility study regarding a potential performance arts center.

3. Program Services – Enhance parks and recreation facilities through new and improved program services to maximize the community's invest in its facilities and enhance their impact on the quality of life for Dublin residents.

Received feedback about more adult programming, some of that being adventurous time and family oriented. We have pickle ball courts already and they have become very popular. Focusing on some of the indoor opportunities and enrichment activities as well through gardening and programs of that nature. Also, looking different cultural festivities that we can engage with the community.

4. Park & Recreation Operations – Provide industry-leading and innovative services for parks and recreation operations to deliver an exciting and high-quality experience for Dublin residents

We want our facilities to be at very high standards. We have great parks and amenities, but some of those are showing their age, so we want to make sure we are attending to those needs, maintaining and renovating as needed. Staff is also looking into innovation and technology, such as the autonomous mower, which would allow staff to do more high skill landscaping beautification, so we really want to make sure we are staying on the cutting edge of smart city technology, particularly in reference to our parks and parks maintenance. We have also heard that people want more Wi-Fi access in our parks. Currently the City is improving the Wi-Fi at Coffman Park, particularly in the area where the Dublin Irish Festival is located. This will help support the operations and vendors for the festival.

Ms. Qiu said we want to encourage people to be active in the parks and free from their devices, so she finds this a little alarming that the City is want to improve the Wi-Fi. She does though understand the desire for people to use their devices more in the parks. She was curious if it is possible to turn off the Wi-Fi during certain times.

Mr. Ranc said staff would need to analysis the parks with Wi-Fi access. One reason there is a high demand for it, is because parents have kids that are playing sports/practicing in the parks while at the same time the parents are still trying to work. People need that balance for their different needs, but that is a good point and staff will consider it for the future.

Mr. Earman also commented that in the parks and recreation industry, technology seems to be a competitor, so we need to integrate technology into what we do to make sure people do stay active and outdoors.

Ms. Goliver said there is also the economic development perspective. There are still people that working from home currently, so it is a great way to still be at work and maybe take a meeting outside while in the park. There is also Wi-Fi in Riverside Crossing Park, as well and this is encouraging the use of outdoor amenities while at the same time finishing the workday.

5. Financing – Expand the fund options available to the Parks and Recreation Department to fund the community’s desire for a world class parks and recreation system that meets or exceeds the community’s vision for Dublin

This requires working very closely with the Finance Director and the consultants to make sure that we have strategies going forward. This will require many partnerships and new ideas on revenue generation that will help support what the City wants to do. This is a key component and probably one of the most difficult strategy. It will require a lot of work to get key people at the table to make sure things can happen

Mr. Earman said staff took this plan to City Council last month and Council provided some feedback:

- Supportive of key focus areas
- Important to focus on maintenance of current parks and recreation amenities
- Incorporate safety into design principles
- Provide data to analyze the cost per user of potential new amenities
- Focus on multiple funding options
- Look for synergies and partnership opportunities
 - Visit Dublin Darree Fields Expansion Market Demand, Financial Feasibility & Economic Impact Study
 - Potential for partnerships with schools
- Request for additional data such as cross tabulation of survey results

Mr. Ranc thanked Mr. Earman for all the hard work him and his team have put in for this master plan, and with that being said it a lot of work does go into it. We are excited to be moving towards completion. We realize there will be feedback and revision when it comes to the actual recommendations because it is important that we get this right. Staff shared the feedback that

we received from Council, so we would like to turn it over to this commission to provide any feedback or ask any questions.

Ms. Qiu asked if this plan would be a five or ten year plan.

Mr. Earman said we usually aim for a plan of this size to go for 10 years.

Ms. O'Callaghan said this plan would also be used to inform the update of our Community Plan, which will take place over the next 12 to 15 months. Our Community Plan will be updated about every five years moving forward as well. All of these planning efforts are very much tied together.

Ms. Qiu said people are already feeling the impact of inflation. She asked how this would affect the financial aspect of the master plan.

Mr. Ranc said things do not get less expensive, so two things will be very important as we look at the financing portion of this plan. We will need to look at new revenue models and it will be very important to look at different partnerships. We will need to be creative in the way that we look at financing. We are very blessed in this community to have a very active capital improvement program. Twenty five percent of our income taxes are dedicated to our capital improvement program, but there are many needs and as the City continues to grow and age, there are maintenance needs along with new projects.

Mr. Ranc said he and Ms. O'Callaghan were very thoughtful about the images that we put into this; because we wanted to make sure, they represented partnership, because that is going to be important. We want to accomplish these things but we also recognize we are going to have competing interest and dollars are going to many different places. Therefore, as we get into the implementation of this that will be something we will spend time on.

Ms. Von Sadovszky asked Mr. Ranc, when he refers to partnerships, does that refer to partnerships in other cities and counties. If so, then does that means we might have to expand those facilities to accommodate those other people coming in.

Mr. Ranc said when you look at something such as a sports facility and things to that effect, that's something that we're really going to want to take a look at partnerships for because that can improve and affect the surrounding areas as well. Another example is if you would look at an aquatics facility, you could look at private partnerships concerning operations. Several staff membership took a fact-finding trip to Carmel, Indiana. It is a City that we benchmark against quite a bit, because they do many things great. While we were there, we were able to visit Westfield, Indiana, which has a facility called Grand Park. It is a very large indoor/outdoor facility. It is a city built and currently a city run facility. We were very impressed ongoing operations of the facility, which is now going on ten years old. They are getting to the point of taking on some pretty significant maintenance projects such as replacing artificial, synthetic fields, which is a seven-figure proposition, so they are looking at potential public and private partnerships. The City

of Dublin currently has a similar partnership with the Golf Club of Dublin. We have a private operator that takes the operating risk and profit and we own the golf course itself. So these are the types of partnerships we are really going to have to research and explore bigger ideas.

Ms. Kanonchoff said she was very impressed with the data shared. She was curious to know if there is any way to project out five years to know if what we put in place now will still be valid in five to ten years. Is there any plan to reassess the efforts to show all of the demographics related to who wanted specific amenities. Is there a way to recheck the data part way through to make sure the decisions being made are the right ones being implemented.

Mr. Earman said that is a great question. One of the best ways to answer that is complimenting the residents of this community for being so vocal to express their interest. We do get a lot of feedback. If we were to hear feedback that was inconsistent with this plan, we would probably pause and take a deeper look at it. One example of this is our pickleball courts at Coffman Park. Those pickleball courts were not in our vision. Those were supposed to be basketball and tennis courts. We heard differently from the community and we responded. It is a little more difficult on some of the larger projects that take years to build or partnerships to build facilities. Mr. Earman said everybody in this City takes great pride in where we are going and we will continue to stay on top of that.

Mr. Ranc as far as the larger project, such as additional fields or river access, those seem to be timeless needs. There are not a lot of fad amenities in Dublin. Probably the most fad amenity we have added is the pickleball courts and those are not diminishing. The City regularly seeks input from the community, not just informally, but we do bi-annual surveys and community attitude surveys every three years. We stay on top of things as the demographics change over time.

Ms. Qiu commented that demographic change and climate change were both discussed, but what about the population growth. How will the master plan be tailored in anticipation of the population growth over the next 5-10 years?

Mr. Ranc said as Ms. O'Callaghan shared earlier this is going to be a part of the Community Plan and a big part of the Community Plan is future land use. If you look anecdotally, where we have land for new development and you look at the level of service, that is why we projected five years out as far as park standards, so we can project all of those things and make sure the needs are not just met today but in the future.

Mr. Arunachalam commented that the recreation center has been a little overwhelming with the membership and population. He recalls a few years ago when the City had a partnership with a private facility. Will the City look at more partnerships? Will there be an expansion of the recreation center in the future.

Mr. Earman said right now we are making sure that the amenities we have right now, are up-to-date and serving as many as possible. He does not believe there is any great desire to expand the

recreation center at this time. It is more about bringing it up-to-date. That facility was built in 1996 so we really need to invest in that facility not just aesthetically, but functionally up to standard. Mr. Earman said as far as a partnership with others around the community, the City had a pilot program in which the City had a partnership with multiple other private recreation centers and fitness centers around Dublin. We wanted to see if we could expand our level of service without expanding the recreation center. Sometimes capacity is an issue at the recreation center. The City explored the idea of working with other entities and allowing access for our members at their facilities for a reduced fee. The pilot program was not really taken advantage of because residents just wanted to go to the recreation center. It is those types of innovative ideas that we are going to continue to explore to see how we can better serve the community.

Ms. Qiu suggested getting feedback from the community when situations such as the recreation center capacity occur.

Mr. Earman said the City is always open to feedback from the community.

Ms. O'Callaghan also said as a part of the Community Plan update there will be multiple opportunities for the community to engage on a whole variety of topics.

Mr. Pryor said in the larger report that was provided to the commission there where a handful of tables in regards to identified needs based on the survey results. From those results and from the high priority investment for facilities and such, is there anything the City has identified as a unique challenge to meet those needs. An example of this would be an aquatics facility.

Mr. Ranc said Mr. Pryor provided a perfect example of an aquatics facility. Building it is one thing, but operating it is another. It is expensive to build and it is expensive to operate. Therefore, when we talk about this, we need to look at the different operating models and it is going to need its own feasibility study. The scope of this project is higher level, so as we get into specific projects that come out of the Master Plan, we are going to need to answer those questions when we get into those ideas more. Any new project or expansion of services, have their own unique challenges.

Mr. Ranc said one thing he learned from the visit to Grand Park facility, is that they probably didn't realize exactly how much it was going to cost to maintain the facility going forward. He was not criticizing them. It is a beautiful facility and they really did something special. We had a chance to talk to the Mayor, who was kind of the vision behind it and he said they had to do something to get people to the community and to get economic development to their community. They are learning from this. We need to make sure we do things right.

Ms. McClain asked if there were any other comments or questions. There was none. Ms. McClain thanked Mr. Earman for the presentation. She said it is all super exciting and she completely agrees that we also have to think of the maintenance and operations of what the City builds. The City has a lot of great stuff already that still needs taken care of.

Mr. Earman thanked the commission for their input and being a part of the process.

Deer Management Update – Emily Goliver

Ms. Goliver distributed a memo to the commission prior to the meeting in regards to deer management. Ms. Goliver said that a year earlier, Barbara Ray was at a meeting to discuss wildlife management. Since that time, staff has been keeping a close eye on this topic, specifically as it relates to deer management. In looking at accident reports and reports of dead deer made through GoDublin in 2022 and in the last five years, there is not one specific areas where the herd is more, dense, but rather it is scattered throughout the City. In order to get a better idea of what the herd looks like, and where it might be more, dense the City has engaged with the Ohio State School of Environment and Natural Resources. They host a three- week Maymester course. In the month of May, the students act as consultants. They are going to provide a report to the City on population, estimated population and density of the herd. This will begin in May starting with key stakeholder interviews with City staff. The second week will be their field data assessment, and that includes tracking down deer droppings and then using industry data to estimate what the population might look like and where it might be more, dense. It will also include setting up a trail camera and the students will look through recordings made through the trail camera, counting unique deer. This data will also help determine the population. The findings will be reviewed and then presented to staff. The third week, the professor will take a look at the final report before it gets sent to staff to make sure it is professional, but shortly after staff will receive the final report and then we will present this information back to the commission.

Ms. Kanonchoff said she was impressed with the five-year data showing such a significant difference in data in one year.

Ms. Goliver said nationally accidents went up because there were less drivers on the roads due to Covid, so drivers were going at a higher speed when traveling which gives less control of the vehicle and less response time to any deer that may have crossed the path. Therefore, it was an unfortunate data point, but very interesting to see that and how it relates nationally as well.

Mr. Kris Miller located at 7898 Tullymore Drive said managing speed on the roads is probably the best way to avoid accidents. Some areas could use some more deer crossing signs. In addition, he has not seen any statistics on roadkill deer, other than what he sees on the road. There are quite a few on Hyland-Croy, south of Brand Road. Also, outside of the City along Mitchell-Dewitt towards Industrial Parkway. Mr. Miller said he also recently looked and did not see anything in City code regarding feeding of the deer. He has witnessed certain households that are putting feed out for the deer. Not that he wants to lower the population, but he also does not want to encourage them.

Ms. McClain thanked Mr. Miller for his comments.

Topic Ideas – Robert Ranc

Mr. Ranc said this is something we do annually with this commission. We want to make sure that we are regularly asking the commission, if there are any topics the commission would like to request or see before this commission. City Council refers topics, as necessary, to the commission, but with that being said; we often instigate that process by asking for referrals by the commission.

Mr. Ranc said there are two topics that will be coming to this commission in the near future. The City received American Reinvestment Act funds as a part of that legislation from Congress. The City received over \$5 million dollars. Just over \$3 million dollars is earmarked and set aside to begin to renovate the recreation center. Staff has been engaged with MSA Architects over the past several months looking at different areas of the recreation center and coming up with renovation concepts. We are getting to the point where we are going to be ready to receive some feedback and we would like to ask for referral for that to come to this commission for review.

Mr. Ranc said as well, we are working on a community health needs assessment, which we have kicked off in earnest. This is something we have been under contract for quite some time, but we wanted to make sure that we timed it correctly, particularly with the Parks and Recreation Master Plan. It going to take a lot of public input and some public surveying and we didn't want to over survey or have people confused about which surveys they were completing. We have put together an advisory committee with groups such as healthcare providers, local school district and local social services providers, which have a unique insight and perspective that can guide the work. A community health needs assessment is really a qualitative and quantitative look at the health needs of the community whether it is mental, physical or social deterrent of health. We have contracted with a firm called Illuminology, which is well regarded in this field and has done several of these need assessments. We had our first advisory committee group meeting last week. We would like to refer this for ongoing feedback and recommendations to this commission well.

Mr. Ranc provided the Code of Ordinance that lays out the responsibility, duties and functions of this commission. If there is anything this commission would for staff to request referral of based on this Code of Ordinance 32.61.

Ms. McClain thanked Mr. Ranc for asking the commission what they would like to be working on. The commission does like to stay busy.

Mr. Ranc commented that the two topics coming before this commission will take some time, but if at any time a member of this commission wants to bring up a topic they can feel free to do so. There is a section of the agenda, that refers to 'other topics of interest.' New topics can be discussed at that time.

5. Other Items of Interest

There were no other items of interest.

6. Next meeting: March 14, 2023

The next meeting will be Tuesday, March 14, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.

7. Adjournment

Ms. McClain adjourned the meeting at 7:53 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Margi Kepler

Marja Keplar, Administrative Support III

Attachments: CSAC Guest Sign-in Sheet



Community Service Advisory Commission

DATE: February 14, 2023 @ 6:30 pm

Guest Sign-in Sheet

Note: Anyone wishing to address the Commission must sign-in. Please print all information *legibly*.

[illegible]