

Park Master Plan Committee Priorities

Following presentation of the initial parks and recreation concepts at the Citizen Workshop, Opinions of Probable Cost figures were developed for each component of the plan. The Park Master Plan Committee then met to review and discuss the long list of proposed improvements and associated costs and to then prioritize the improvements for implementation. The priority-setting process for the master list involved the committee members each being given sets of colored dots (3 “high-priority” dots, 12 “mid-priority” dots, and one “omit from plan”), which they had the freedom to place as they saw fit. This process allowed all members an equal opportunity to express their preferences. Additionally, they were given more sets of dots to use on “follow-up” lists, which were designed to gather more detailed priorities on three particular issues, as discussed below.

Four documents have been prepared to summarize the priority ranking of the committee and are included in this report section.

- Summary of Priority Rankings for Park Master Plan Committee
 - This is a summary of priority voting on all master plan items. This summary document shows the totals of the “high-priority”, “mid-priority” dots, and “omit from plan” votes cast by the committee. The list was structured with community-wide issues at the top, followed by line items for each individual park. As well, most of the parks are divided into sub-groups of projects, allowing a committee member to prioritize particular elements of the plan, in effect saving assumed resources for other projects in other parks.
- Trail Priorities
 - This issue allowed the members to prioritize certain trail segments within the proposed overall system, with the understanding that development of the trail system will be achieved in many individual phases.
- Recreation Programming
 - Various broad groups of potential new recreation programs have been outlined in the master plan and priority ranking was conducted to help set priorities for pursuit of these opportunities.
- Additional Park Land Options
 - Based on a review of potential under-served areas of the community as shown on the “Neighborhood Park Features and School Playgrounds Service Areas” diagram (see Section 2 and the end of this section for copies), the members were asked to prioritize which, if any, areas should be targeted for potential new neighborhood parks.

A brief overview of the results of the four priority groups follows:

Summary of Priority Rankings for Park Master Plan Committee

The five highest priority items coming out of this exercise were the following:

1. Continue Exploration of Community Center Options, including possible natatorium facility with Shawnee Mission School District.
2. Weltner Park (State Line) Park – All Features (of the plan)
3. Re-align Cambridge Street, connect halves (of Weltner Park). *Note: This was a subset of the Weltner Park item above, thus is covered by priority #2.*
4. McCrum Park – All Features (of the plan), *tied with*
4. Increase lighting in all parks.

Followed by these ten items:

6. Develop Trail System, *tied with*
6. Develop Sculpture Garden with multiple pieces and walking path.
(the remaining items tied in the number of votes)
8. Purchase land for new parks
8. Franklin Park – All Features (of the plan)
8. Franklin Park nature play area. *Note: This was a subset of the Franklin Park item above, thus is covered by priority #9.*
8. Harmon/Santa Fe Parks Perimeter and Interior Trail System (plus trail maps)
8. Harmon Park Amphitheater (includes electrical upgrades for lighting and sound system power)
8. Harmon Park (Swimming Pool) New Indoor/Outdoor 50-meter Pool (assumes no Community Center facility is constructed)
8. Harmon Park Nine-hole Disc Golf Course
8. Porter Park - All Features (of the plan)

Trail Priorities

Partnering with Overland Park to create a connection to the Indian Creek Streamway Trail was viewed as the top priority, followed by a desire to expand the on-street bike lane system. The two highest rated individual trail segments were Mission Rd. from 63rd to Corinth and Somerset from Corinth to State Line.



Recreation Programming

More programming for toddlers and playgroups was the preference in this group, followed by working with Johnson County to better serve the 50+ population.

Additional Park Land Options

Area 1 – the upper northwest portion of Prairie Village – was deemed most in need of additional park land, followed by areas 4, 5, and 6 (please refer to the diagram at the end of this section for locations).

On the next four pages can be found the full summary documents, presented in the same order as above.

Prairie Village 2009 Park & Recreation Master Plan		
Summary of Priority Rankings for Park Master Plan Committee		
1/16/2009		
GENERAL PRIORITY KEY		
	HIGHEST PRIORITIES - TOP 5, MINIMUM 6 TOTAL POINTS	
	MID-LEVEL PRIORITIES - NEXT 10, MINIMUM 4 TOTAL POINTS	
ITEM	SUB-GROUPS	GROUP TOTAL
CONTINUE EXPLORATION OF COMMUNITY CENTER OPTIONS, Including possible Natatorium partnership with SMSD		\$20,000,000
DEVELOP TRAIL SYSTEM (Outside Parks)		\$5,276,000
INCREASE CITY-SPONSORED RECREATION PROGRAMMING OPPORTUNITIES	NOT ESTIMATED AT THIS TIME	
DEVELOP OFF-LEASH DOG PARK(City-Owned and Managed)		\$250,000
PURCHASE LAND FOR NEW PARKS	NOT ESTIMATED AT THIS TIME	
DEVELOP SCULPTURE GARDEN WITH MULTIPLE PIECES and WALKING PATHS	NOT ESTIMATED AT THIS TIME	
INTERPRET PARK SITE HISTORIES (INTERPRETIVE SIGNS AT EACH PARK)		\$40,000
DEVELOP GARDENING OPPORTUNITIES THOUGHOUT THE PARK SYSTEM	NOT ESTIMATED AT THIS TIME	
INCREASE LIGHTING IN ALL PARKS		\$200,000
INDIVIDUAL PARKS		
BENNETT PARK - ALL FEATURES		
ADD ON-STREET PARALLEL PARKING, TRYKE TRACK, AND OTHER MINOR IMPROVEMENTS	\$65,000	\$65,000
CONSIDER EXPANSION OPPORTUNITIES IN THE FUTURE	NOT ESTIMATED AT THIS TIME	
BRENIZER PARK (add water feature)		\$20,000
FRANKLIN PARK - ALL FEATURES		
WIDEN PERIMETER AND INTERIOR TRAIL SYSTEM (PLUS TRAIL MAPS)	\$310,000	\$1,064,000
NATURE PLAY AREA, WITH WATER FEATURE	\$125,000	
PARKING EXPANSION - ALL OPTIONS		
MAXIMIZE PARKING ALONG ROE AVE.	\$85,000	
EXPAND EXISTING LOT TO WEST ONE BAY (ADDS 9 STALLS)	\$17,000	
ADD NEW LOT TO WEST SIDE @ 87th & SOMERSET (ADDS +/- 20 STALLS)	\$62,000	
SHELTER, RESTROOM, AND GAZEBO	\$390,000	
BALL FIELD ADJUSTMENT AND IMPROVEMENT	\$75,000	
HARMON/SANTA FE PARKS - ALL FEATURES		
PERIMETER AND INTERIOR TRAIL SYSTEM (PLUS TRAIL MAPS)	\$360,000	\$6,525,000
DESTINATION PLAY AREA AND SANTA FE TRAIL PRAIRIE RESTORATION	\$775,000	
INCLUDES REVISED DRIVES AND PARKING, PLUS NEW PRACTICE COURTS		
AMPHITHEATER (Includes electrical upgrades for lighting and sound system power)	\$480,000	
GROUP 1 - EXPAND/IMPROVE OUTDOOR POOL COMPLEX		
FLO-RIDER	\$1,000,000	
NEW CONCESSIONS/RESTROOMS BUILDING(S) - Cost potentially absorbed by Community Center	\$500,000	
GROUP 2 - Select One		
LAZY RIVER	\$900,000	
SPRAY PAD/SKATE RINK	\$150,000	Not in Total
CENTRE COURT' TENNIS FACILITY	\$90,000	Not in Total
COMBINE SPRAY PAD/SKATE RINK AND 'CENTRE' COURT'	\$220,000	Not in Total
COMBINE SPRAY PAD/SKATE RINK AND LAZY RIVER	\$750,000	Not in Total
GROUP 3 - Select One		
NEW OUTDOOR 50-METER POOL	\$2,300,000	
NEW INDOOR/OUTDOOR 50-METER POOL (Assumes no Community Center facility is constructed)	\$7,000,000	Not in Total
CLIMBING WALLS NEAR SKATE PARK	\$180,000	
NINE-HOLE DISC GOLF COURSE IN HARMON PARK	\$15,000	
'CRAFT SHACK' - ASSOCIATED WITH DESTINATION PLAY AREA	\$15,000	
McCRUM PARK - ALL FEATURES		
NEW PLAY EQUIPMENT, SMALL SPRAY PAD, SMALL SHELTER, TRYKE TRACK(ASSUMES WATER TOWER REMOVED)	\$330,000	\$420,000
ADD ON-STREET PARALLEL PARKING ON 70th St. AND MID-BLOCK CROSSING SIGNAL ON ROE AVE.	\$90,000	
CONSIDER EXPANSION OPPORTUNITIES IN THE FUTURE	NOT ESTIMATED AT THIS TIME	
MEADOWLAKE PARK - ALL FEATURES		
WIDEN, EXPAND PERIMETER TRAIL	\$115,000	\$365,000
NEW PLAY EQUIPMENT, RENOVATE AREA, REMOVE LARGE SAND "BOX"	\$185,000	
PRACTICE FIELD IMPROVEMENTS	\$65,000	
PORTER PARK - ALL FEATURES		
WIDEN PERIMETER AND INTERIOR TRAIL SYSTEM	\$225,000	\$406,000
NATURE PLAY AREA AND EXPAND PLAY AREA SHELTER	\$116,000	
PARKING EXPANSION - ADD ON-STREET PARKING ALONG ROE AVE.	\$40,000	
IMPROVEMENTS TO EXISTING FEATURES - DRAINAGE PROBLEM AREAS, WEST SHELTER SWINGS	\$25,000	
PRAIRIE PARK - ALL FEATURES		
MINOR ADJUSTMENT TO ALLOW ADDITION OF SWINGS TO PLAY AREA	\$6,000	\$6,000
CONSIDER EXPANSION OPPORTUNITIES IN THE FUTURE	NOT ESTIMATED AT THIS TIME	
SCHLIFFKE PARK - REMOVE PARKING, CONSTRUCT TRAIL SEGMENT AND BRUSH CREEK OVERLOOK		\$175,000
WELTNER PARK (STATE LINE) - ALL FEATURES		
RE-ALIGN CAMBRIDGE STREET, CONNECT HALVES	\$600,000	\$870,000
ADD PERIMETER TRAIL AND PLAY AREA	\$270,000	
WINDSOR PARK - ALL FEATURES		
WIDEN PERIMETER AND INTERIOR TRAIL SYSTEM, CONNECTION TO THE VILLAGE, AND ENHANCE ENTRY	\$270,000	\$520,000
ADD NATURE PLAY AREA, SHADE OVER EXISTING PLAY EQUIPMENT, REPLACE SHELTER WITH MORE OPEN STYLE	\$250,000	
TOTAL PROBABLE PROJECT COST (In 2009 dollars)		\$36,202,000

Prairie Village 2009 Park & Recreation Master Plan

Summary of Priority Rankings for Park Master Plan Committee

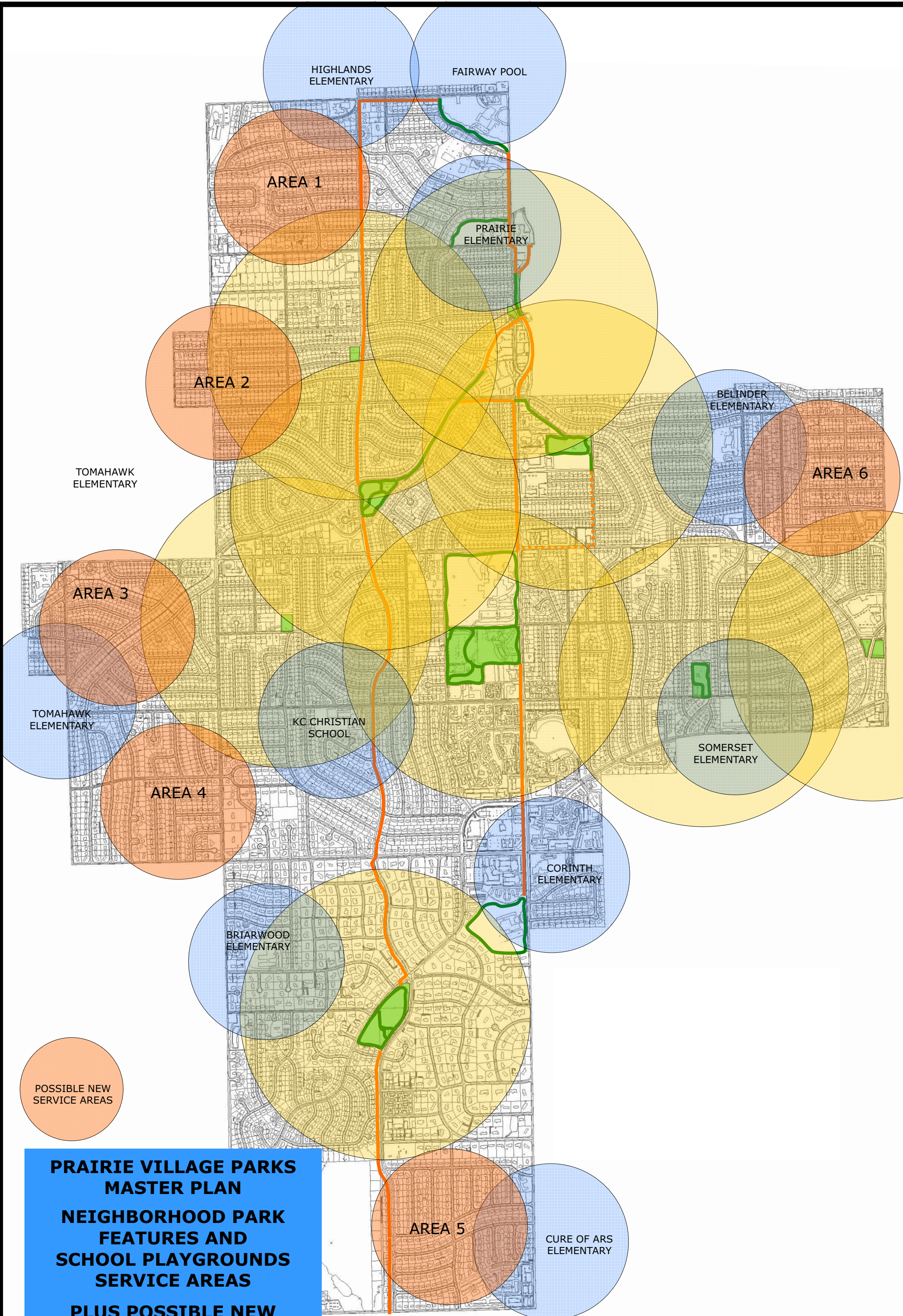
1/16/2009

TRAIL PRIORITIES (Segments outside of parks only)

PRIORITY VOTES	ITEM	SEGMENT TOTAL
4	Partner with Overland Park for connection to Indian Creek Streamway Trail	NOT ESTIMATED AT THIS TIME
3	EXPAND ON-STREET BIKE LANE SYSTEM	NOT ESTIMATED AT THIS TIME
3	ALL SEGMENTS (Includes all segments below)	\$5,276,000
2	MISSION RD. - 63RD to Corinth	\$980,000
2	SOMERSET - Corinth to Meadowbrook CC	\$575,000
1	ROE AVE. - 63rd to 95th	\$1,531,000
1	SOMERSET - Corinth to State Line (Weltner Park)	\$530,000
	BRUSH CREEK - Porter Park to the Village	\$305,000
	BRUSH CREEK - Porter Park to 79th	\$775,000
	CHEROKEE DR./BOOTH DR. - The Village to Weltner Park (State Line)	\$580,000

	<u>Prairie Village 2009 Park & Recreation Master Plan</u>	
	Summary of Priority Rankings for Park Master Plan Committee	
	1/16/2009	
	RECREATION PROGRAMMING	
PRIORITY VOTES	ITEM	
3	TODDLERS/PLAYGROUPS	
2	50+ AGE GROUP - WORKING WITH JCPRD	
2	TEEN AGE GROUP ACTIVITIES	
1	20-50 AGE GROUP - KICKBALL, CHICAGO BALL LEAGUES IN EXISTING PARKS, ETC.	
1	NO ADDITIONAL CITY-SPONSORED RECREATION PROGRAMMING IS NEEDED	
	ALL OPPORTUNITIES - Whatever is easiest to accomplish	

	Prairie Village 2009 Park & Recreation Master Plan	
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	1/16/2009	
	ADDITIONAL PARK LAND OPTIONS	
PRIORITY VOTES	ITEM	
3	AREA 1	<i>See Park Service Analysis Map</i>
		Note: One vote was placed specifically on the historic cemetery property
		Note: One vote was placed specifically on the Homestead CC property
2	ALL OPPORTUNITIES - Wherever presented within these areas	
		Note: One vote stated that opportunities near existing parks are preferred
2	AREA 4	<i>See Park Service Analysis Map</i>
2	AREA 5	<i>See Park Service Analysis Map</i>
		Note: One vote was placed specifically on the small pond between 90th St. and 90th Terrace, just west of Mission Rd.
2	AREA 6	<i>See Park Service Analysis Map</i>
1	AREA 3	<i>See Park Service Analysis Map</i>
1	ADJACENT TO BENNETT PARK	
1	ADJACENT TO McCRUM PARK	
1	ADJACENT TO PRAIRIE PARK	
1	Note: One vote was placed specifically on the Somerset School property	
	AREA 2	<i>See Park Service Analysis Map</i>



HIGHLANDS
ELEMENTARY

FAIRWAY POOL

AREA 1

PRAIRIE
ELEMENTARY

AREA 2

BELINDER
ELEMENTARY

AREA 6

TOMAHAWK
ELEMENTARY

AREA 3

TOMAHAWK
ELEMENTARY

KC CHRISTIAN
SCHOOL

SOMERSET
ELEMENTARY

AREA 4

CORINTH
ELEMENTARY

BRIARWOOD
ELEMENTARY

AREA 5

CURE OF ARS
ELEMENTARY

POSSIBLE NEW
SERVICE AREAS

**PRAIRIE VILLAGE PARKS
MASTER PLAN
NEIGHBORHOOD PARK
FEATURES AND
SCHOOL PLAYGROUNDS
SERVICE AREAS
PLUS POSSIBLE NEW
SERVICE AREAS
NOVEMBER 2008**

Implementation Recommendations

Using the committee's documented priorities as a starting point, the following additional thoughts and recommendations on implementation of the master plan are offered by the design team. It is hoped that these professional opinions are offered in such a way as to compliment and deepen the opinions expressed by the survey respondents, the Master Plan Committee, and others.

Exploration of a Community Center

The various discussions of which we were a part during the development of this master plan lead us to believe that the time is right for the city to undertake a focused study of this issue and to engage in discussions with all potential partners. In terms of shared interest and similar stages of prior planning, it would be difficult to imagine a more favorable set of circumstances with which to initiate this effort. There is real need and desire to provide better facilities within all parties, and we believe that the burden required to achieve significant gain can potentially be shared by these partners.

Weltner and McCrum Parks

While it may be a surprise initially that improvements to these parks were prioritized ahead of others, in retrospect it can be viewed as testament to the fact that these parks represent the least used park, Weltner Park, which sits at a main entry into the city, and the most aged of the parks, McCrum Park. Thus, the opportunity to make a measurable difference in their quality and character exceeds the needs of many other parks.

Franklin Park

The prioritization of this park is an indication of the understanding that it is a true jewel in the city's park system and efforts to improve it will positively impact many daily users and visitors to the city. As well, its heavy use warrants the attention.

Harmon & Santa Fe Parks

Aside from the dedicated tennis and skate park uses, and the seasonal influx of the pool, it is our opinion that Harmon and Santa Fe Parks are significantly under-utilized for the space and setting which they possess. The views afforded by the hill-top location, and adjacency to aforementioned tennis, skate park, and pool, make these combined parks a natural to truly serve as THE community park. The three core elements of the master plan with the appeal to help this park reach its potential are the expansive trail system, an improved amphitheater area, and a destination play area. A greater appreciation for the historical nature of Santa Fe Park and the trail ruts will follow with implementation of these new features.

Trail System

It was consistently expressed through the surveys and in meetings that improving opportunities to safely bike and walk are strongly desired. By beginning

implementation of this system in the easiest places – the parks – much momentum can be gained over time to extend the system throughout the city and beyond.

Recreation Programming

Our recommendations are consistent with those of the Committee’s priorities, and also emphasize that some additional staff assistance will be needed to truly maximize the chance for success and the other recommended city-sponsored programs.

Additional Park Land Options

Regardless of future opportunities or intentions to increase park land in the city, it will be important to establish a Park Land Fund with which to pursue a purchase when the opportunity arises. The under-served areas of the city do indeed warrant serious discussion for new parks and finding opportunities to expand the smaller existing parks is also an important consideration.

Nature Play Areas

As expressed in the master plan summary and evident in the detailed plans for play area improvements in five of the city parks, one of our key recommendations is to begin approaching play area design in a new and broader sense. Playful interaction with natural materials – water, sand, grasses, trees – is sorely lacking throughout our society and in the youngest generations, in particular. The time has come to bring some of these very simple play features back into our parks. Simple features, yet complex and enriching to the mind of a child. It is our hope that Prairie Village can be a parks and recreation leader by implementing a nature play standard in its park system.

It should be understood that these recommended priorities are a starting point for future discussions and budgets. As with any master plan, certain opportunities arise that may suggest certain projects be moved ahead of others. However, periodic review of the capital improvement budgets should always go back to this priority setting information and give credence to the efforts put forth by the members of the Master Plan Committee and the master plan as a whole.