

# THE CITY OF Weldon Spring

# Parks and Greenway Master Plan







# **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

| Section 1 - Introduction                                   | - 1 |
|--|-----|
| <ul> <li>Purpose of the Plan</li> </ul>                    |     |
| <ul> <li>The Park Master Planning Process</li> </ul>       |     |
| Document Organization                                      |     |
| Section 2 - Data Collection                                | 5   |
| Data Collection Process                                    |     |
| <ul> <li>Community Overview</li> </ul>                     |     |
| <ul> <li>Park &amp; Trail System Overview</li> </ul>       |     |
| <ul> <li>Other Recreational Opportunities</li> </ul>       |     |
| Community Input  |     |
| Section 3 - Analysis & Concept Development                 | 19  |
| <ul><li>Introduction</li></ul>                             |     |
| <ul> <li>Park Land Analysis</li> </ul>                     |     |
| <ul> <li>Park Land Distribution Analysis</li> </ul>        |     |
| <ul> <li>Recreation Facilities Inventory</li> </ul>        |     |
| <ul> <li>Park Summaries</li> </ul>                         |     |
| <ul> <li>Existing Shared Use Trail Summary</li> </ul>      |     |
| Shared Use Trail Expansion                                 |     |
| Section 4 - Master Plan                                    | 35  |
| <ul> <li>Master Plan Recommendations</li> </ul>            |     |
| <ul> <li>Park Land Opportunities</li> </ul>                |     |
| <ul> <li>Park System Recommendations: City Park</li> </ul> |     |
| <ul> <li>New Park Along Siendentop Road</li> </ul>         |     |
| <ul> <li>Greenway Recommendations</li> </ul>               |     |
| Implementation Strategies                                  |     |
| Appendix A - Park Assessment Surveys                       | A-1 |
| Appendix B - On-Line Survey Results                        | B-1 |
| Appendix C - Meeting Notes                                 | C-1 |
|  |     |





# INTRODUCTION

City of Weldon Spring Parks & Greenway Master Plan

### **PURPOSE OF THE PLAN**

Parks master plans ensure that a city is meeting the recreational needs of the community and that recreational needs will continue to be met as a community changes over time. Having a high quality system of parks, greenways, and recreation opportunities increases the quality of life for residents and helps to create an attractive and desirable place to live. Parks and greenway master plans focus on improving the physical structure and components of a city's parks and its greenway network.

The City of Weldon Spring, Missouri embarked on a Parks and Greenway Master Plan with the landscape architecture and park planning consultants at Planning Design Studio in July of 2021. The goal of the master plan is to guide development of Weldon Spring's parks and greenways over the next decade.

Parks and greenway master plans are community-driven, meaning that public input is a critical component in the planning process. This ensures that the plan's recommendations are tailored to the needs and desires of the unique community. Parks and greenway master plans build community support and enthusiasm for park improvements and new recreation facilities. Park master plans create a blueprint for implementing needed capital improvement projects. Strategically identifying and prioritizing projects allows the city to make the best use of available funds to achieve a high quality recreation system. The plan also

helps to identify funding strategies for the implementation of improvements. These strategies can multiply the impact of invested capital by making use of creative alternate funding strategies.

# THE PARK MASTER PLANNING PROCESS

The Weldon Spring parks and recreation master planning process includes three primary phases:

- 1. Data Collection
- 2. Analysis & Concept Development
- 3. Master Plan Development

The first phase, Data Collection, involves gathering information on the existing conditions of the City's parks, an overview of the community context, and documentation of the community wide trail system. The park existing conditions are assessed by the planning team. The Data Collection phase also includes collection of public input through an online community survey.

The Analysis and Concept Development phase is comprised of a park land distribution analysis and a park facilities analysis. The park land distribution analysis examines the amount of park land available compared to benchmarks based on the City's population, and the distribution of park land throughout the city. The park facilities analysis compares Weldon Spring's existing recreation facilities to benchmarks based on the City's population. The result of the

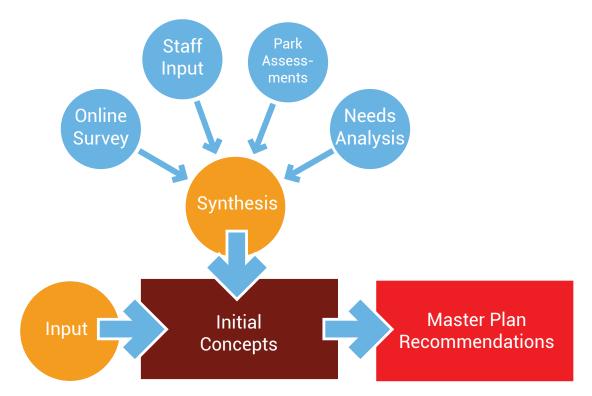


Figure 1.1: The Master Planning Process.

analysis may include a recommendation for additional parks or facilities that would help Weldon Spring adequately serve the recreation needs of the entire population.

The planning team then synthesizes the information gathered into recommendations for each park, and for the greenway trail system overall.

The Master Plan Development phase incorporates the information developed in previous phases to summarize the master plan recommendations. This phase includes the development of a list of suggested improvements for the master plan and outlines a direction for the parks and greenway system. The master plan recommendations are prioritized with input from the public and a phasing plan is developed that groups improvements into short-term (0-3 years), mid-term (3-6 years) and long term (6-10 years) phases. Broad, master plan-level cost estimates are developed for each recommendation

and each phase of development. The master planning process is graphically represented in Figure 1.1.

# **Community Input**

As a community-driven plan, public input is gathered from the Weldon Spring residents and park users during the planning process and is critical to creating a successful plan. The Data Collection phase included an on-line public survey that collected community input.

# Implementing the Plan

Implementing the recommendations in the plan should be a phased process. Starting with one small demonstration project can help to build momentum and public support for the improvements. The first projects should be important to residents and make a tangible difference in the community's use of the parks system. Grant opportunities should be sought out to maximize the funding



Figure 1.2: New walking trail recently added on the east side of City Park

available for improvements. Partnerships can be sought out as well, and key leaders in the community can help drive the plan forward, build support and make progress. Additional Implementation Strategies are discussed further in the Master Plan section of this document.

### **DOCUMENT ORGANIZATION**

The master plan document is organized by the project phases. Section 2 covers the Data Collection phase, Section 3 is on the Analysis and Concept Development phase, Section 4 includes the Master Plan recommendations, as well as funding and implementation strategies for the recommendations. An Appendix is included as a separate document that includes the Park Assessment Sheets, On-Line Survey Results Data, and any Stakeholder & Public Meeting Notes.



# **DATA COLLECTION**

City of Weldon Spring Parks & Greenway Master Plan

# DATA COLLECTION PROCESS

The first phase of the master planning process involves gathering a wide variety of information on the existing condition of Weldon Spring's parks and greenway system and contextual information on Weldon Spring's community and region. Part of this phase is the compilation of a community profile with information on demographics, school districts, and local recreation opportunities outside the city parks system. This phase also includes an inventory and review of the existing conditions within the park system. The parks are inventoried and assessed by the planning team.

An essential component of the data collection process is gathering community input through a public survey. The results of the community input process are summarized in this report.

### **COMMUNITY OVERVIEW**

# **Community Profile**

The City of Weldon Spring lies within St. Charles County along the southeast portion adjacent to the Missouri River. The city covers and area of about 7.7 square miles with the cities of O'Fallon, Cottleville, and St. Peters to the north, the Missouri River and the city of Chesterfield to the south, and Interstate 64 running along the western boundary.

The central and northern portions of Weldon Spring's landscape consists of flat to gently rolling hills. However, in the south this changes to larger hills, ravines, and bluffs before reaching the edge of the Missouri River. Missouri's famous Katy Trail runs along the base of these bluffs and there is a trail head located at the south end of Pitman Hill Road.



Figure 2.1: Location of the City of Weldon Spring in St. Charles County and within Missouri (Source: Wikipedia).



Figure 2.2: Weldon Spring City Hall

The land that would become Weldon Spring was first settled by Europeans in 1790 by John Weldon who received a 425-acre land grant from Spain. His home was located in land now occupied by Emmanuel United Church of Christ near Highway 94 and I-64.

In the early 1940's, 20,000 acres of land just west of Weldon Spring was acquired by the US Government to manufacture TNT and DNT for the war effort. After WWII, over 15,000 acres of the land was transfered to the State of Missouri, with large parts eventually becoming the August A. Busch Memorial Conservation Area and the Weldon Spring Conservation Area. Today, these large natural parks are used by people all over the region for passive recreation like hiking, bike riding, hunting, fishing, and archery.

In the mid 1980's Weldon Spring was incorporated and later upgraded to a forth class city. The 2015 adopted Comprehensive Plan included the following vision for the community:

"Make Weldon Spring a great place to live, work and play by preserving Weldon Spring's rural character, natural beauty and family-friendly atmosphere and increasing the confidence to invest in the City."

## **Demographics**

In 2020, Weldon Spring had a population of 5,326 people in 2,313 households. Most of the residents in Weldon Spring live along a central east-west axis of the city in planned single-family home communities. A large portion of the city land is made up of semi-rural farm and country estate properties located both north of City Park and in the south along the Missouri River bluffs.

#### Diversity

Weldon Spring's racial makeup is about:

- 95% white
- 3% black
- 1% Asian

The Hispanic population (any race) is about 1.3%.

This is a little less diverse then the surrounding St. Charles County at 89.6% white, 5.3% Black, 2.8% Asian. The county's Hispanic population (any race) is 3.4%.

#### Age

In 2019, Weldon Spring's median age is 55.8 which is significantly older than Missouri's at 38.9 years old. Those 65 and older make up about 27.1% of the total population. Children under 18 years old make up 15.6% of the population compared to 22.4% for Missouri.

#### **Education and Income**

In education, about 50.3% of the population has a Bachelor's degree or higher compared to 30.2% for Missouri.

In 2019, the city's median household income of \$107,875 is much higher than St. Charles County at \$89,146 and almost double the state's at \$57,409. Home ownership is very high with about 88.5% housing units are owner-occupied. Median property values in Weldon Spring are the highest among neighboring cities at \$397,300.

### Francis Howell School District

The City of Weldon Spring lies entirely within the Francis Howell School District. The district covers over 150 square miles of southeast St. Charles County and enrolls over 16,700 students from Pre-K through grade 12.

Four schools in the Francis Howell School District are located within the Weldon Spring city boundaries:

- Francis Howell Middle School
- Bryan Middle School
- Independence Elementary School
- Meadows Parkway Early Childhood Center

Bryan Middle and Independence
Elementary are connected to Weldon
Spring's multi-use path that runs along
the west side of Patriotic Trail. Both Bryan
Middle School and Francis Howell Middle
School have running tracks and practice
ball fields. Independence Elementary
School has 2 playground areas located in
the back of the school.



Figure 2.3: Bryan Middle, Independence Elementary, and Meadows Parkway are all located next to each other. (Source: Google)

# PARK & TRAIL SYSTEM OVERVIEW

The city of Weldon Spring maintains one developed park, called City Park, located around City Hall. The city also owns two other small pocket park parcels. One is a less than one acre parcel located along Weldon Spring Parkway, just east of O'Fallon Road, and contains a picnic table, four on-street parking stalls, and has a multi-use trail that passes through it. The other pocket-park is an undeveloped 2.4 acre parcel located on the south side of Siedentop Road just west of Vogt Drive. In addition to parks, Weldon Spring has built just over three miles of shared use paths.

### City Park

City Park is located in the very center of Weldon Spring at 5401 Independence Road and is also the City Hall. The park is just over 18 acres in size and contains:

- Large 13,000 square foot playground area.
- Two Practice ball fields (one regular size at 250'-300', the other is T-Ball size at 100').
- Two BBQ pavilions with electricity available for group events.
- 0.8 Acre pond and fishing deck.
- 1 Mile of multi-use paths.
- Heated, public restrooms (located adjacent to the park's building).
- Four disk-golf holes (these were removed due to trail construction)



Figure 2.4: One of the large playground structures.





Figure 2.5: Long line of 12 swings at the playground.



Figure 2.8: The fishing deck next to the pond.



Figure 2.6: Large net climbing structure in the playground.



Figure 2.9: New multi-use path being built on the east side of the park.

### **Shared Use Paths**

Weldon Spring has shared use paths built along several roads in the central core of the city. The current trail network includes:

- Independence Rd. (E/W portion)
- Patriotic Tr. from Bryan Middle School south to Wolfrum Rd.
- Wolfrum Rd (N/S portion) from Grey Oaks Dr. to Hwy. 94
- Weldon Spring Pkwy from Independence Rd. to Center Point Hospital Dr.



Figure 2.10: Shared Use path along Independence Road in front of City Park

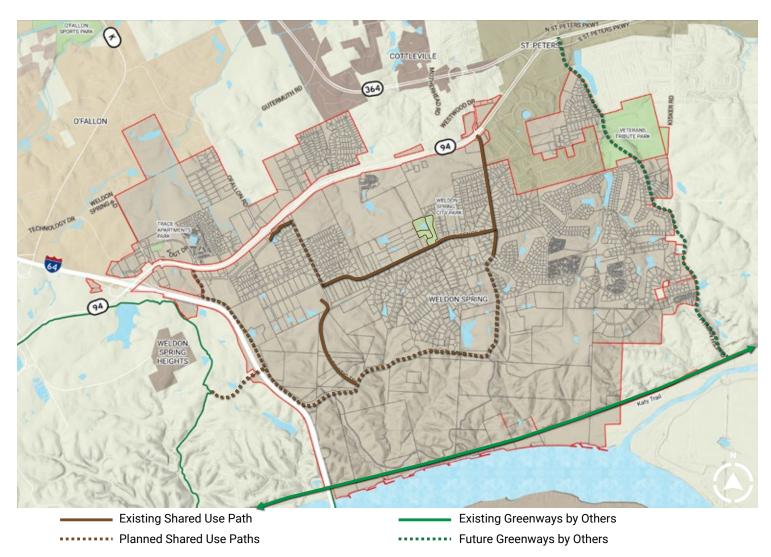


Figure 2.11: Map of existing and planned shared use paths in Weldon Spring.

# OTHER RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Several other parks, greenways, and recreational opportunities exists around Weldon Spring that complement the services provided by the City. The parks and greenway master plan needs to take these other opportunities into account when analyzing and making recommendations to the city. The following is a brief description of these recreational opportunities.

#### **Veterans Tribute Park**

This 120 acre park is owned and managed by St. Charles County and officially opened in October 2018. The park is located within the eastern boundary of the city limits between Pitman Hill Road and Kisker Road. The large park features a destination playground with water play, 1.6 miles of walking and biking trails, two fishing lakes, three BBQ shelters, a three-acre dog park, and six acres of open play sports fields.



Figure 2.12: View of play area.



Figure 2.13: Veteran's Tribute Fountain

# August A. Busch Memorial Conservation Area

This 6,950 acre wildlife conservation area was originally used by the US Army during WWII as a TNT munitions plant to support the war effort. In 1947 the Missouri Department of Conservation purchased the land with the help of Mrs. August A. Busch Sr. The conservation area is located adjacent to the western edge of the city limits. From Weldon Spring it can be accessed via Research Park Circle, Highway 94 and Highway K.

After extensive cleanup efforts, the area today is a popular destination that features many passive recreational activities like hiking, hunting, fishing, bicycling, outdoor photography, wildlife viewing, and bird watching. The park features 28 fishable lakes and ponds totaling 550 acres. There is also a MDC managed visitor center on site as well.



Figure 2.14: Fishing Lake.



Figure 2.15: Sunset at lake.

# Weldon Spring Conservation Area

This 8.398 acre conservation area is another large tract of land originally used by the US Army during WWII as a TNT munitions plant to support the war effort. The area today features many similar passive recreational activities to the Busch Conservation Area such as hiking, hunting, fishing, bicycling, outdoor photography, wildlife viewing, and bird watching. There are several trail connections between the two conservation areas and the surrounding region. Two significant trail connections include the Katy Trail, which runs along the southern border of the park, and Great Rivers Greenway's Busch Greenway along the eastern edge.

### Katy Trail State Park

At over 240 miles long, the Katy Trail is the longest developed rails-to-trail system in the country. Running between Clinton and Machens, there are 26 official trailheads and 4 fully restored railroad depots along the way.

The city of Weldon Spring sits halfway between the Greens Bottom trailhead and the Weldon Spring trailhead, which is actually located in the Weldon Spring Conservation Area just west of the city. There are only a few locations along this stretch of trail that people could potentially access the trail due to the large bluffs that adjoin the Missouri River. Currently, the closest public connection to the trail for local residents is a small gravel parking area/trailhead located at the southern end of Pitman Hill Road.



Figure 2.16: Missouri River.



Figure 2.17: Native vegetation and wildlife.



Figure 2.18: Pedestrian bridge along Katy Trail.



Figure 2.19: Katy Trail Users.

# Great Rivers Greenway's (GRG) Busch and Dardenne Greenway

Greenways connect neighborhoods, businesses, schools, rivers, parks, and conservation areas. They are multiuse paths where residents can take a walk, go for a run, ride a bike, get fresh air, and are paved and accessible for all. There are two greenways close to Weldon Spring.

The Busch Greenway is located on the west side of I-64 and connects the Katy Trail, Weldon Spring Conservation Area, and the Busch Conservation Area together. The Dardenne Greenway corridor is approximately 1.25 miles north of the Weldon Spring city limits. Developed trail sections are located in Bluebird Meadow Park and Barathaven Park in Dardenne Prairie. The other developed section is in Legacy Park in Cottleville. A future greenway is also planned to connect the Dardenne Greenway to the Katy Trail roughly along the Pitman Hill Road corridor.



Figure 2.20: Dardenne Greenway shared use path.



Figure 2.21: Busch Greenway picnic spot.

# Sports Park & Renaud Center (O'Fallon, MO)

The Sports Park and Renaud Center are located just approximately 2 miles north of the city along Highway K. The Sports Park is a 95 acre parks featuring 12 soccer fields, restrooms, concession stands, a playground, cricket field, multiuse court, and pickleball courts. The Renaud Center is a 66,000 square-foot indoor recreation facility with a fitness center, 10,000 square-foot natatorium, gymnasium, and many types of aerobic workout classes covering all ages.



Figure 2.22: O'Fallon Sports Park fields.



Figure 2.23: Renaud Center.

### Legacy Park (Cottleville, MO)

Legacy Park is Cottleville's largest and most utilized park. The park is located one mile north of Highway 364 and features two playgrounds, a dog park, sand volleyball courts, basketball courts, six BBQ pavilions for rent, the Rotary Amphitheater, a historic log cabin, sports fields, a community garden, two large lakes with walking trails, and access to the Dardenne Greenway.

# Chesterfield Valley Athletic Complex (Chesterfield, MO)

The Chesterfield Valley Athletic Complex is located just on the other side of the Missouri River in Chesterfield and a quick drive for many Weldon Spring residents. The 176 acre sports complex features 21 ball diamonds, 13 multi-purpose fields, ten baseball/softball practice fields, six sand volleyball courts, four concession buildings, two playgrounds, and two entertainment plazas. Of the ball diamonds, four have synthetic infields and one is a premiere Catch 22 Miracle Field for individuals with disabilities.



Figure 2.24: Log Cabin at Legacy Park.



Figure 2.25: View of Dardenne Greenway shared use path.



Figure 2.26: Chesterfield Valley Athletic Complex.



Figure 2.27: Main plaza area by ballfield 'F'.

### **COMMUNITY INPUT**

Input is an important component of a community-driven parks and greenway master plan. A variety of input sources helps to inform the planning process and validate the results. For the Weldon Spring Parks and Greenways Master Plan numerous sources of public input were included.

## City-Wide Community Survey

In the Spring of 2021, the city engaged in a statistically valid opinion survey regarding city programs and services. A six-page questionnaire was sent to all residents in the City. A total of 380 households completed the questionnaire representing a 95% level of confidence with the precision of the input received. Results from the parks and recreation related survey questions are summarized below:

- Overall satisfaction with City's Parks and Recreation (88%).
- Top two areas of emphasis for the City are 1) number of walking/biking trails and 2) connectivity of waking/biking trails.
- Highest level of support for improvements included walking trails (89%), pavilions/shelters (78%), playground equipment (73%), outdoor amphitheater (67%) and tennis/ pickleball courts (64%).

Since the City-wide opinion survey was statistically valid input it can be used to help set priorities for the recommendations included in this study.

For this parks and greenway master plan, the community provided input through meetings with the Weldon Spring Parks and Recreation Committee (PRAC) and a public on-line survey. The feedback from the survey is summarized below.

# **On-Line Community Survey**

The data collection on-line survey was open for approximately five weeks and received 86 respondents.

In the survey, 87% of the respondents indicated that they were residents of Weldon Spring with the rest indicating that they resided in either St. Charles County or other communities. Among the respondents, 50% were from ward II, 30% were from Ward III, and 20% were from Ward I. All but one of the respondents indicated that they were NOT business owners in Weldon Spring.

Approximately 44% of respondents had children under 18 in their household. On average, about 28% of the respondents visited City Park a few times per week and nearly 65% of respondents visited at least a few times per month.

# Should the City pursue and indoor recreation space?

About 49% of respondents said "yes", with 27% saying "no" and the remaining being unsure. Of those saying yes, eleven thought it should be located near City Hall or in the park. Seven thought it should be located near major highways and six were unsure.

Which parks in your area have you or members of your household visited in the past year?

The top three responses were:

- Veterans Tribute Park (85.7%)
- Weldon Spring City Park (78.6%)
- August A. Busch Conservation Area (60%)

Other responses like Weldon Spring Conservation Area, Legacy Park, and Woodlands Sports Park only received 26%-34%. Other parks included as options in the survey had less that 3% indicating visitation. As a followup, people were asked what they liked most about those parks that they visited in the past year and 66% indicated that their favorite features were the trails and playgrounds. The next largest group of responses at 13% identified nature, wildlife, and green space a favorites.

Using the park list in the question above, respondents indicated that they visit Weldon Spring City Park most often (49%), followed almost equally by Veterans Tribute Park (43%).

About 76% indicated they know Veterans tribute Park is owned and maintained by the St. Charles County instead of another jurisdiction like Weldon Spring.

Questions about Weldon Spring's City Park, Trails, and other Facilities.

Approximately 64% of respondents indicated they were very or somewhat satisfied with City Park. About 12% said the opposite and where very or somewhat dissatisfied.

About 81% indicated that it was important or very important for Weldon Spring to provide high quality parks, trails, and other facilities. A further 68% indicated that the park needs to be upgraded. Figure 2.29 next page shows the priorities for improving existing facilities at the park.



Figure 2.28: Katy Trail users near Busch Greenway.

# Questions about greenways and destinations.

The second part of the on-line survey focused on gathering input related to greenways and trail use preferences. Respondents were given five greenway experiences and ranked them by importance. The top three experiences are as follows:

- 1. Having Greenways near your Home.
- 2. Being in Nature (woods, prairies, wetlands, etc.).
- 3. Connecting to the Katy Trail or Other Regional Parks and Trails.

Respondents were asked what destinations within Weldon Spring city limits are a priority to connect to via a greenway. A significant majority (78%) said that the Katy Trail was their highest priority. The second highest priority (at 39%) was connecting to Independence Elementary School. Bryan Middle School (29%), Frances Howell Middle School (24%), and Whitmoor Country Club (20%) followed with all other responses receiving less than 5%.

Respondents were asked which destinations outside Weldon Spring were a priority and the top three were:

- 4. Cottleville Landing Shopping Area
- 5. Busch Greenway
- 6. Chesterfield Commons & Outlet

A ranked summary of all destinations are shown in Figure 2.30 on the next page.

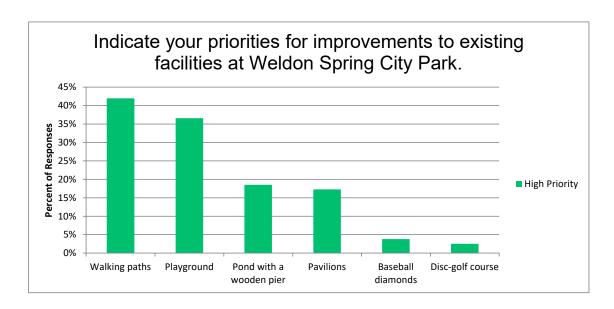


Figure 2.29: City Park existing facility improvement priorities.

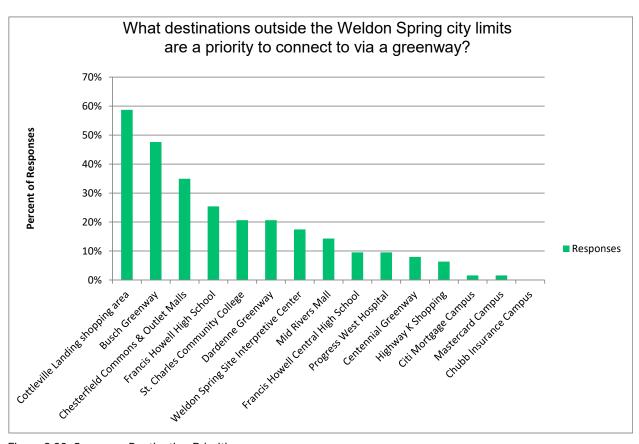
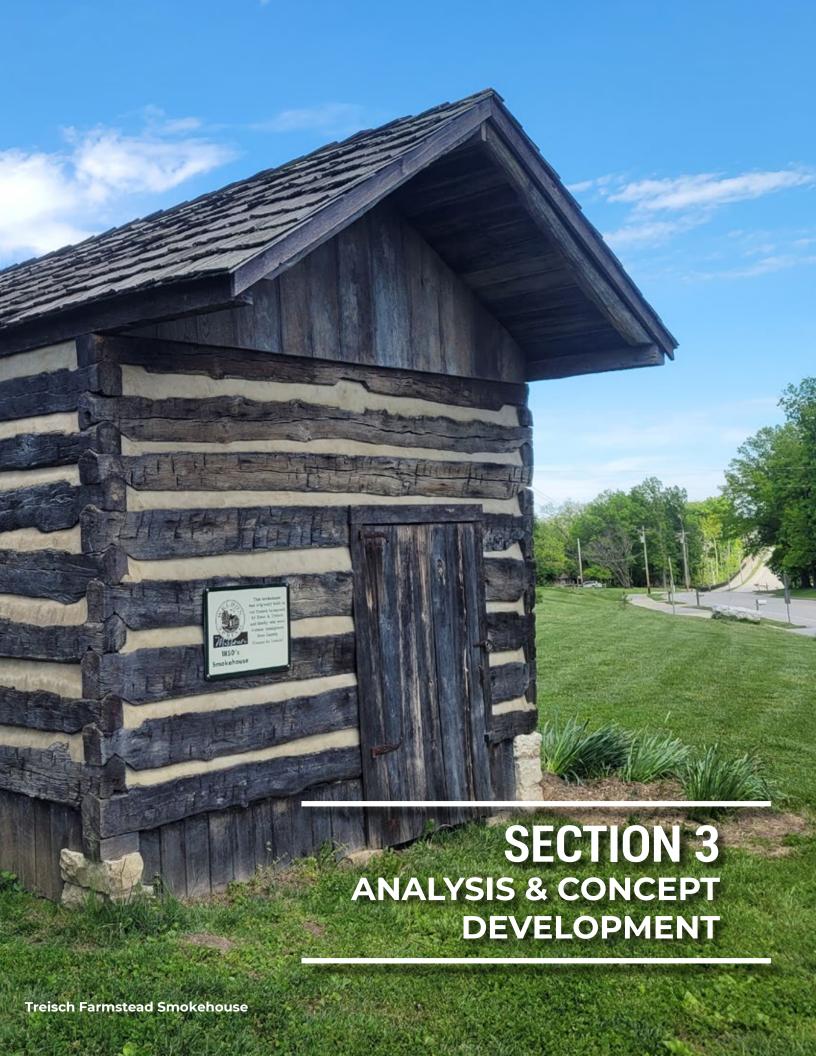


Figure 2.30: Greenway Destination Priorities.





# **ANALYSIS & CONCEPT DEVELOPMENT**

City of Weldon Spring Parks & Greenway Master Plan

### INTRODUCTION

The second phase of the master planning process is the analysis of park land quantity, park land distribution, and recreation facilities based on industry standards. This analysis provides a baseline to evaluate if Weldon Spring is in need of more park land, which parts of the city might be under-served by parks, and what facilities the city could add to better meet the recreational needs of its residents.

The park land analysis is an evaluation of the total amount of park land and the amount of park land within each park size category. The first part of this analysis considers park land owned and maintained by the City of Weldon Spring, which is compared to benchmarks based on Weldon Spring's population. The second part of the analysis includes in the evaluation public open space within a certain radius of the city that is available for Weldon Spring residents to use. The park land distribution analysis evaluates the extent to which residents in all parts of the city have walkable access to park land. The results can indicate areas in which the city could consider adding new park land. The recreation facilities inventory compares the availability of various types of recreation facilities within Weldon Spring compared to benchmarks standards based on Weldon Spring's population. The first part of the inventory evaluates only recreation facilities owned and maintained by the City of Weldon Spring. The second part considers facilities managed by other entities within Weldon Spring (such as

public schools), as well as public facilities within a certain radius outside of the city. This process determines opportunities for the city to add additional recreation facilities.

### PARK LAND ANALYSIS

The park land analysis is an evaluation of the amount of park land available to the residents of Weldon Spring. The first step considers only parks owned and maintained by the city, while the second part considers park land near the city available for public use. Each park is classified into a park type category based on its size in acres from standards created by the National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA). Each park type has a benchmark need (in acres) per 1,000 people and a service area radius, which represents the maximum distance that people are typically willing to travel to visit that type of park. For instance, a person might drive up to 30 miles to visit a large Regional Park, but would only be willing to walk one quarter of a mile to visit a Mini Park. The park types and the size range is listed below, and Figure 3.1 shows the park categories, their size ranges, the standard of acreage needed of each type per 1,000 people and the service area radius of each.

- · Neighborhood Park 5-15 acres
- District Park 16-79 acres
- Metropolitan Park 80-249 acres
- Regional Park 250+ acres

Weldon Spring's only park is City Park. At around 18 acres in size, City Park is classified as a District Park. The city also

| Park Type Category | Size Range   | Park Land Needed Per<br>1,000 People | Park Type Service Area<br>(Typ. Max Travel Distance) |
|--------------------|--------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| Neighborhood Park  | 5-15 acres   | 1.5 acres                            | 1 mile   |
| District Park      | 16-79 acres  | 2.4 acres                            | 3 miles  |
| Metropolitan Park  | 80-250 acres | 4 acres                              | 5 miles  |
| Regional Park      | >250 acres   | 6 acres                              | 30 miles   |

Figure 3.1: NRPA Park Type Categories, Size Range and Acreage Need per 1,000 People.

owns two other minimally developed parcels. One parcel is along Siedentop Road and 2.4 acres in size and the other parcel is located on Weldon Spring Parkway and less than 1 acre in size. Both are much smaller than a typical Neighborhood Park.

When considering only parks owned and maintained by the city, Weldon Spring has enough District Park acres. However, the standard suggests that the city needs an additional:

- 8 acres of Neighborhood Parks
- Weldon Spring, because of its population size and close proximity to Metropolitan and Regional Parks managed by other agencies does not have a need for any metropolitan or regional parks within its city limits.
   Providing connection to nearby large

parks is a higher priority and more fiscally responsible than the city developing large parks themselves.

A summary of park needs are shown in Figure 3.2 below.

In addition to Weldon Spring owned and managed park land, residents also have access to nearby park land operated by other entities. The second part of the analysis considers these other parks located near Weldon Spring whose service area overlaps the city of Weldon Spring. This includes Neighborhood Parks within 1 mile, District Parks within 3 miles, Metropolitan Parks within 5 miles, and Regional Parks within 30 miles.

|                                   | Standard Acreage<br>Needed | Weldon Spring Total<br>Acres | Weldon Spring<br>Need (-) or Surplus<br>Acres | Existing Park Land<br>Outside Weldon<br>Spring Acres | Total Park Land<br>Need (-) or Surplus<br>Acres |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|---|--|---|
| Neighborhood Park (5 ac 15 ac.)   | 8                          | 0                            | -8  | 7  | -1  |
| District Park (16 ac 79 ac.)      | 13                         | 18                           | 5   | 145  | N/A   |
| Metropolitan Park (80 ac 249 ac.) | 21                         | 0                            | N/A   | 676  | N/A   |
| Regional Park (250 ac. +)         | 32                         | 0                            | N/A   | 15,344   | N/A   |
| Park Land Total Acreage Need      | 113                        | 18                           | N/A   | 16,172   | N/A   |

Figure 3.2: Weldon Spring park land analysis.

The parks included are listed in Figure 3.3 with their owner, classification, size, distance from city, and a brief summary of the facilities that the park offers.

The analysis suggests that Weldon Spring has a surplus of park land acres in all categories except neighborhood parks (need 1 acre) when including nearby park land operated by outside entities.

Upon further analysis, there appears to be an adequate amount of local District Park and Metropolitan Park acreage within the city that makes up for any lack of Neighborhood Park acreage. The next section looks into the distribution of park land around the city.

| Park / Facility  | Park Classification | Approx.<br>Acreage | Approx. mi.<br>from City<br>Boundary | Facilities  |
|--|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------------|---|
| Community Park (St. Peters)                            | Neighborhood        | 7                  | 1                                    | 3 Ball Fields, 1 Pavilion, 1 Playground   |
| Jack Gittemeier Park (St. Peters)                      | District            | 89                 | 3                                    | 3 Miles of Trail  |
| College Meadows Park (St. Charles<br>County)           | District            | 56                 | 2.25                                 | 9-hole disc golf course, Fitness Trail with 10 exercise stations  |
| O'Fallon Sports Park (O'Fallon)                        | Metropolitan        | 93                 | 1.5                                  | 12 Soccer Fields, 2 Playgrounds, 2 Pavilions,<br>1 Community Center, 2 Restrooms, 0.75<br>Miles of Trail, 1 Basketball, 2 Pickleball              |
| Woodlands Sports Park (St. Peters)                     | Metropolitan        | 95                 | 3                                    | 8 Ball Fields, 8 Soccer Fields, 2 Playgrounds,<br>3.5 Acres of Lakes, 1.25 Miles of Trail   |
| Legacy Park (Cottleville)                              | Metropolitan        | 105                | 1.5                                  | 2 Playgrounds, 2 Sand Volleyball, 1 Dog<br>Park, 2 Basketball, 1 Amphitheater, 3<br>Pavilions, 9 Acre Lake, 1.7 Miles of Trails                   |
| Barathaven Park (Dardenne Prairie)                     | Metropolitan        | 88                 | 2                                    | 3 Miles of Trails, 15 Acre Lake, 2 Soccer<br>Fields, 1 Cricket Pitch  |
| Veterans Tribute Park (St. Charles County)             | Metropolitan        | 119                | 0                                    | 3 Pavilions, 3 Restrooms, 1 Dog Park, 1.6<br>Miles of Trails, 4 Acres of Lakes  |
| Chesterfield Valley Athletic Complex<br>(Chesterfield) | Metropolitan        | 176                | 1.5                                  | 21 Baseball Diamonds, 13 Multi-Purpose<br>Fields, 10 Ball Fields Fields, 6 Sand<br>Volleyball, 2 Playgrounds, 1.5 miles of<br>Trails, 6 Restrooms |
| August A Busch Conservation Area (State)               | Regional            | 6,947              | 0.5                                  | 550 Acres of Lakes, Hunting, Archery<br>Range, Shooting Ranges, 4 Miles of Bike<br>Trails   |
| Weldon Spring Conservation Area (State)                | Regional            | 8,397              | 0.5                                  | 40 Acres of Lakes, 3 Miles of Trails, Hunting   |

Figure 3.3: All parks managed by other entities within 3 miles that were included in the park land analysis. Only Neighborhood Parks within 1 mile of the city were included due to service area limitations.

# PARK LAND DISTRIBUTION ANALYSIS

The second part of the analysis evaluates the distribution of park land within the City of Weldon Spring. The examination of how evenly park land is distributed throughout the city can be used to reveal areas that are under-served in regards to close access to parks. The park land distribution standard is to have a park within walking distance for each city resident. For this analysis, a maximum walking distance radius of one-mile was used for District and Metropolitan class parks.

All parks within 1 mile were overlaid on a map of the city. In addition, major pedestrian barriers like highways were considered as they are difficult for pedestrians to cross. The map is shown on Figure 3.4 below, with transparent circles representing the walkable radius around each park. Neighborhood, District, and Metropolitan class parks are shown with transparent purple circles showing the 1-mile distance. Public schools are also shown with light blue circles at a distance of 1/2 mile. Public schools can provide part-time recreational needs to locals with their walking tracks, practice fields, and sometimes playgrounds that

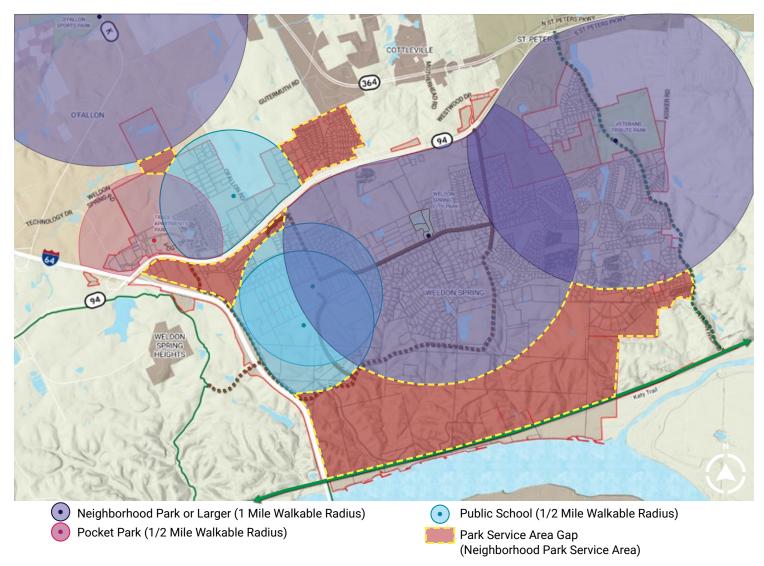


Figure 3.4: Weldon Spring Park Land Distribution Analysis

are available during non-school hours. At many schools, agreements can be made to allow local access to these outdoor facilities when school is not in session. Red colored areas on the map represent gaps in the park land distribution at the Neighborhood Park service level.

Through this analysis, several apparent gaps can be observed around the city. However, due to lot sizes and the lack of density of residential development, not all of these gap areas may need neighborhood park access. The southern portion of the city is primarily large agricultural parcels or homes adjacent to a large golf course. Presently, there are only about 22 households in that southern portion of the city which encompasses over 1500 acres. The need for new neighborhood park land is very low. If future residential large track development happens in that area then open space should be included for recreation opportunities within the neighborhoods. The park service area gaps in the NW corner of the city along I-64 are primarily commercial land instead of residential. The need for park land in this area is also very low.

From the distribution analysis, the only remaining area that appears to need additional park land is the Wrenwyck Place neighborhood located between Hwy. 94 and Hwy. 364. No sidewalks exist within the Wrenwyck Place neighborhood making walk-ability within the neighborhood difficult. One method that Weldon Spring can provide better park access to this neighborhood is to provide a shared use path along Westwood Drive and then safe, pedestrian access across Hwy 94.

# RECREATIONAL FACILITIES INVENTORY

The recreation facilities inventory compares the availability of various park and recreation facilities to standard benchmarks based on Weldon Spring's population. Each facility has its own benchmark that represents the standard demand for that facility. The benchmarks for acres of open space and acres of lakes/ponds are determined as a percentage of the city's total land area. Benchmarks for the rest of the facilities are determined based on a standard population-based need. The recreation facilities that were inventoried, the standard need for each and the facility demand for the City of Weldon Spring are shown in Figure 3.5. The first part of the analysis inventoried only facilities within Weldon Spring city parks. The results of this analysis show that Weldon Spring falls short of benchmark standards in most recreational categories. The full results are shown in Figure 3.5 on the following page.

Like the park land analysis, a second part of the recreation facilities inventory takes into consideration public facilities managed by entities other than the City of Weldon Spring that are available for Weldon Spring residents to utilize. Facilities were surveyed at a distance within 3 miles from Weldon Spring. These include facilities at public schools within Weldon Spring and facilities in parks managed by the county, state, or nearby communities. All non-Weldon Spring facilities were calculated at 1/2 the actual quantity due to the assumption that they may not always be available to use by residents.

Weldon Spring has no need for additional recreational facilities when considering other facilities within a 3-mile radius of the city (See Figure 3.5).

| Recreation Facility          | Standard Population<br>Based Demand <sup>1</sup> | Facility Demand <sup>4</sup> | Weldon Spring<br>Facility Inventory <sup>5</sup> | Facility N <mark>eed</mark><br>(Weldon Spring<br>Facilities Only) | Other Facilities<br>within 3-miles<br>(shown at 1/2<br>actual quantity) | Facility Need<br>(Including Facilities<br>Owned by Others) |
|------------------------------|--|------------------------------|--|---|---|--|
| Park Land Acres              | 1 acre / 47 people                               | 113                          | 18   | 95  | 8,096   | 0  |
| Multi-Purpose Trail (Paved)  | 1 mile / 4,446                                   | 1                            | 3.75   | 0   | 2   | 0  |
| Nature Trail (unpaved)       | 1 mile / 4,814                                   | 1                            | 0  | 1   | 4   | 0  |
| Swimming Pool                | 1 / 6,500  | 1                            | 0  | 1   | 1   | 0  |
| Picnic Pavilion              | 1 / 1,356  | 4                            | 2  | 2   | 5   | 0  |
| Baseball / Softball Diamond  | 1 / 1,545  | 3                            | 2  | 1   | 30  | 0  |
| Soccer Fields                | 1 / 3,274  | 2                            | 0  | 2   | 22  | 0  |
| Multi-Purpose Field          | 1 / 7,886  | 1                            | 0  | 1   | 7   | 0  |
| Football                     | 1 / 10,000 <sup>2</sup>                          | 1                            | 0  | 1   | 2   | 0  |
| Golf Course (9 Hole)         | 1 / 25,674                                       | 0                            | 0  | 0   | 0   | 0  |
| Tennis Court                 | 1 / 2,333  | 2                            | 0  | 2   | 8   | 0  |
| Basketball / Multi-Use Court | 1 / 4,410  | 1                            | 0  | 1   | 7   | 0  |
| Volleyball Court             | 1 / 4,659  | 1                            | 0  | 1   | 4   | 0  |
| Playground                   | 1 / 1,379  | 4                            | 1  | 3   | 13  | 0  |
| Lakes and Ponds              | 1 acre / 14,000 <sup>3</sup>                     | 0                            | 1  | 0   | 311   | 0  |
| Outdoor Amphitheater         | 1 / 10,000 <sup>3</sup>                          | 1                            | 0  | 1   | 1   | 0  |
| Skate Park                   | 1 / 50,000 <sup>3</sup>                          | 0                            | 0  | 0   | 0   | 0  |
| Roller Skating Rink          | 1 / 50,000 <sup>3</sup>                          | 0                            | 0  | 0   | 0   | 0  |
| Community Center             | 1 / 25,000 <sup>3</sup>                          | 0                            | 0  | 0   | 1   | 0  |

Standards from 2018-2021 Missouri SCORP unless noted

Figure 3.5: Weldon Spring Recreation Facility Analysis

### Trends in Recreation Facilities

Some of the more prominent recreation facility trends should be taken under consideration in Weldon Spring for future development. The most popular facility trends nation wide include pickleball courts, nature based play, inclusive playgrounds, sustainable design, interpretive/educational features, shade structures, thematic and/or customized play features etc.



Figure 3.6: Outdoor Pickleball Courts.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Standards from MPRA

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Standards from Planning Design Studio

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Based upon Weldon Spring estimated 2020 population of 5,326

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Inventory based upon facilities maintained by Weldon Spring

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Other Recreation Facilities quantities shown reduced by 50%

### PARK SUMMARIES

Below is a summary of the planning team's observations and initial improvement suggestions for Weldon Spring's parks. These document initial ideas, and do not represent the final recommendations.

## City Park

#### **Primary Observations**

- Both parking lots in front show signs of asphalt cracking and faded striping.
- Some playground features are new and in good condition. Others are old and will likely need replacing within the next five years.
- Some areas of the playground need more wood chips. The mulch safety surface at the end of the slide has been worn away resulting in a potential fall height issue.
- The large Red Barn (park office & maintenance area, built in 2009) is in good condition. The attached BBQ shelter and restrooms are also in good condition.
- The small wood BBQ shelter is in average condition.
- Most of the asphalt loop walking trail is in good condition. There is some cracking along the outside edges of the path.
- The ball fields are for informal practices or play only. The outfield on Field 2 is very small, limiting its use to informal T-ball games or infield practice only.
- The Treisch Smoke House exterior seems to be in good condition. An access path to the structure would be nice for people to read the historical information about the building.
- The single exercise/fitness station located next to the parking lot is

- in a poor location that is not along any of the walking trails or near the playground. There is a trash can blocking use of one of the stepping stations and the wood chip base does not adequately cover the use area. In addition, the center pole seems to be installed farther away from the stepping platforms than what the posted instructions show.
- The disk golf course was removed to make way for the new trail constructed in 2021. If the city wants to reinstall the course, the course needs to be redesigned around the path to avoid conflict with trail users.
- The fishing dock wood stain is getting old and fading.
- The Lake Rules sign is located away from the pathway and difficult to read.
- Mowing so close to the pond edge causes excess nutrients to wash into the water and leads to algae blooms, cloudy water, and poorer water quality for the fish and other aquatic animals. In addition, many edges are eroding and in poor condition from people walking so close to the water's edge.
- Several of the fish habitat tube structures are out of place and turned over or sticking out of the water.
- The new trail connection at the north end of the park still leaves an unresolved entrance to the park from the adjoining neighborhood.

#### **Initial Suggested Improvements**

- Resurface and re-stripe both parking lots.
- Replace older playground structures in the next five years.
- Add more wood chips to the playground, especially near high use areas like around slides and swings.

- Monitor the condition of the wood BBQ shelter and stain/paint the wood as needed.
- Patch or repair cracks along the edges of the loop walking path.
- Build a small access path to the Treisch Smoke House so people can read the historical information about the building.
- Relocate the exercise/fitness station to a location near a trail or the playground. Check the manufacturer's instructions to ensure it is installed correctly.
- Power wash and then re-stain or repaint the fishing dock.
- Relocated the Lake Rules sign to be close to the pathway and easier to everyone to read.
- Consider adding more tall grasses grow near the edged of the pond with designated clear areas where people can get close to the water and fish from.
- Re-position the fish habitat tube structures that are out of position in the lake.
- The city should fully block off Nancy Lane between the Red Barn and the north end of the park so cars can no longer cut through the park. Residents can just as easily use John-Linn Pl to enter and exit the neighborhood without causing conflicts with park users.
- Create a pedestrian entrance to the north end of the park at Nancy Lane.



Figure 3.7: The close-cut, eroded edge of the lake that leads to poorer water quality.



Figure 3.8: The unresolved north park entrance at Nancy Ln.



Figure 3.9: The disk golf course does not work anymore due to the new trail construction passing through multiple holes.

# Progress Review of 2017 City Park Master Plan & Implementation

In 2017, the design team worked with the City of Weldon Spring to develop a master plan for City Park (see Figure 3.10 next page). Since that time, several of the recommended improvements have been implemented including:

- Added walking paths across the middle of the park and also to the eastern (Brock Property) portion of the park.
- Added several new play features to the playground.
- Added a small fishing deck to the lake.

These improvements make good progress towards implementing the City Park Master Plan. Upon further analysis of the Master Plan, the following recommendations are still valid improvements that the design team believes the city should make to the park.

1. Lake, Forebay, & Stage: Both should be dredged to re-establish the original designed depth. The forebay's current mowed lawn should be changed out with native wetland plants to increase bio-diversity within the park and improve water quality in the lake. Stone outcroppings around parts of the perimeter and mixed within should be added to provide improved aesthetics and a help the transition between mowed lawn and natural plantings. Native wetland plantings should be continued around the edge of the lake to improve water quality and prevent lake edge erosion. A stage by the lake is still a good addition that also takes advantage of the natural slope at the back of ball field #1.

- Barn (Parks Building) & Maintenance Building: Currently the red barn (parks building) is often used as partial storage of maintenance equipment. This equipment should be moved to the maintenance building next door at the Brock property so that the red barn can be used for city events as it was designed for.
- 3. Other Improvements: The park will benefit greatly from implementing the recommended landscaping, woodlands, and grassland improvements in the Master Plan. The new trail on the eastern Brock property is currently very exposed to the neighbors' homes and visual plant screening would benefit both parties. Maintaining some areas as open prairie while still keeping the grass close to the trail as mowed lawn fits in well with the semi-rural character of Weldon Spring.



Figure 3.10: The 2017 City Park Master Plan.

### Weldon Spring Parkway -Pocket Park

#### **Primary Observations**

- The pocket park is very small and simple with only a single picnic bench and a shared use trail that cuts through the site.
- Four on-street parking stalls are located along Weldon Spring Parkway (two on each side).
- The close proximity to the road and to Highway 94 makes stopping here to eat a small picnic with friends not very inviting.

#### **Initial Suggested Improvements**

- Locate the picnic table closer to the trail and possibly add some overstory trees to partially screen the road traffic (without blocking low level views for security)
- Add a small paved area below the picnic table to make mowing around the table easier.

## Siedentop Road -(Possible) Pocket Park

#### **Primary Observations**

 The vacant parcel sits several feet below the adjacent road and sidewalk. In addition, the whole site sits in the flood plane of the adjacent Crooked Creek. Any development on the parcel needs to take flooding into account.

#### **Initial Suggested Improvements**

- If the city chooses to further develop this parcel, the city should prioritize passive recreational uses with robust features that can survive flooding with minimal cleanup and maintenance.
- Possible features could include walking trails, pickleball courts, picnic area, and a small off-street parking area.



Figure 3.11: The picnic table feels uncomfortably close to the road with no access path to the trail.



Figure 3.12: The curving route of the shared use path creates a nice experience.



Figure 3.13: Open parcel that sits several feet below the elevation of the adjacent sidewalk and road.

# EXISTING SHARED USE TRAIL SUMMARY

Below is a summary of observations and initial suggested improvements for Weldon Spring's existing shared use trails. These document initial ideas, and do not represent the final recommendations.

#### Trails along Patriotic Tr.

- Only exists on portion of the road south of Independence Road. North of Independence Road there are just standard sidewalks.
- The gap in the trail between the Independence Road Shared use trail and the section south of Bryan Middle School forces people to drive through the Bryan Middle School parking lot. During school hours this connection is potentially restricted or blocked off.

# Trails along Independence Road. (East-West section)

- This trail is in good condition and provides a nice connection for many residents to access City Park.
- Street crossings are provided on some, but not all road intersections on the south side of Independence Road. The city should build crossings for safer pedestrian access to these roads.

#### Trails along Wolfrum Road.

- This trail runs from Hwy 94 south to Grey Oaks Drive on the west side of the road.
- Street crossings are provided on some, but not all road intersections on the east side of Wolfrum Road. A lot of people live in the neighborhoods on the east side of the road and many expressed comments in the ETC survey that stop signs and pedestrian crossings are greatly needed at each of the neighborhood entrances. If the city does not want to install four way

stop signs, another alternative are pedestrian activated crossing signs.

#### Trails along Weldon Spring Parkway

- This short trail section currently runs between Independence Road and Center Pointe Hospital Drive.
- In the middle the trail curves around one of the city's tiny pocket parks that includes a picnic table and on-street parking for four cars.



Figure 3.14: Most of the shared use trails are lacking safe cross walks to the opposite side of the road at all road intersections

# SHARED USE TRAIL EXPANSION

The first step of planning Weldon Spring's shared use trail network expansion is to consider the key destinations around the city that users want to travel to. In Weldon Spring, most users of the trail system are using it for recreation so recreational destinations were prioritized. In Figure 3.15 below, key recreational destinations are shown and broken out into two main categories. The red asterisk icons show parks and greenways located around the city and the blue asterisk icons show public schools around the city.

We can see that currently, only destinations in the center of the city, including City Park, Bryan, and Independence Schools, are connected to the existing trail network. Future trail expansion should focus on expanding outward from the current network and making connections to all the other destinations shown.

Weldon Spring should coordinate closely with area partners on trail expansion so that their projects can connect up with Weldon Spring's own trail network. On the eastern edge of the city, Great Rivers Greenway (GRG) has plans to eventually

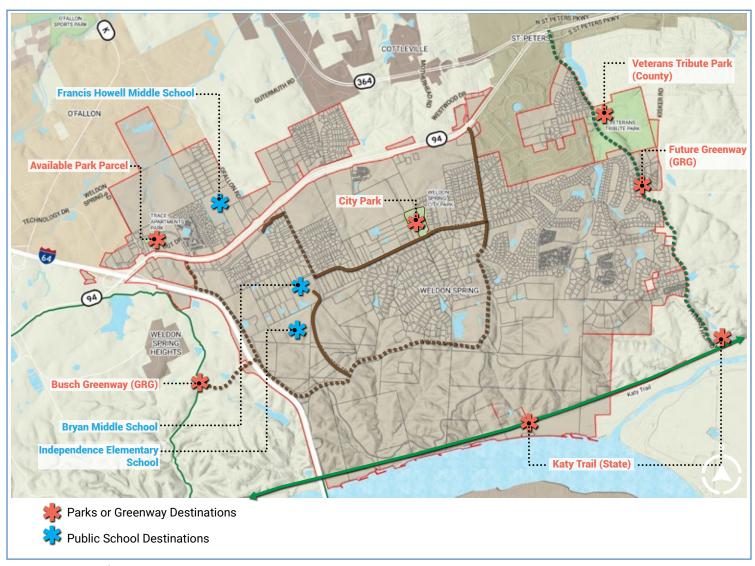


Figure 3.15: Map of key destinations in Weldon Spring that the trail network should connect together.

build a new greenway to connect the Dardenne Greenway to the Katy Trail and pass by Veterans Tribute Park. The final alignment has not been decided yet but it should roughly follow the direction of Pitman Hill Road.

#### **Key Connecting Routes**

The design team outlined in Figure 3.16 below three new key connection routes, besides the existing planned routes, that the city of Weldon Spring should focus on constructing. The routes shown below represent potential corridors that provide connections to destinations. The following is a description of each route and why the connection is important:

1. Highway 94 is a significant barrier in Weldon Spring and almost no pedestrian facilities exist for anyone to access the businesses or neighborhoods along the highway without a car. Building a shared use path along the north side of Hwy. 94 will greatly help connect up many of these neighborhoods and businesses and allow them better access to nearby recreational destinations. In at least three locations along the highway, safe pedestrian crossings should be built across Highway 94 to further connect up the new northern shared use trail to the rest of the city's trail network and recreation destinations.

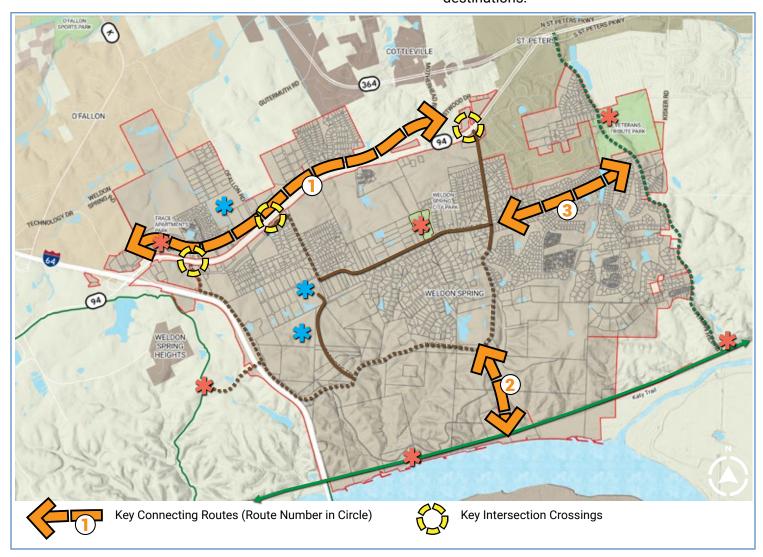


Figure 3.16: Map of key connecting routes and intersection crossings for future shared use trail expansion.

- 2. The Katy Trail is the most well known trail in Missouri and is a favorite travel destination all over the state. Despite having a trailhead named "Weldon Spring, MO", the trailhead is not in Weldon Spring and the city of Weldon Spring has little to no easy connections to the Katy Trail. The design team believes that making a direct connection to the Katy Trail will be a benefit to the city that the residents will greatly appreciate. Currently, all the roads and property south of Wolfrum Road are privately owned. The city will need to negotiate with the local landowners if they wanted to build a shared-use path in this area to connect the Katy Trail with the rest of the Weldon Spring trail network.
- 3. Weldon Spring is divided into two parts east and west with no public roads connecting the two parts. Currently, there is no way to travel from Wolfrum Road to Pitman Hill Road without either illegally cutting through the private, gated streets of the Whitmoor Country Club neighborhood or going around and using Highway 94. This major disconnect means that most Weldon Spring residents can't walk or bike to Veterans Tribute Park or connect to the Katy Trail south of Pitman Hill Road. The city of Weldon Spring can work with the different neighborhood associations, possibly utilizing neighborhood common ground, to find an acceptable path to connect together these separate halves of the city.



Figure 3.17: View towards Veterans Tribute Park pedestrian entry looking from Pitman Hill Road. The park is a priority to connect to for the residents of Weldon Spring.



## **MASTER PLAN**

### City of Weldon Spring Parks & Greenway Master Plan

#### MASTER PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS

The master plan recommendations are developed from a synthesis of all of the information and analysis collected throughout the planning process. The first part of this section of the Master Plan includes recommendations for exploring future open space opportunities, improvements to City Park and the undeveloped city parcel located on Siedentop Road. Master plan level budgetary cost information, phasing recommendations and a graphic

representation of how the improvements could fit into the existing park is included. The second section of the Master Plan will present the recommendations for greenway corridor connections within Weldon Spring's shared use path system.

# PARK LAND OPPORTUNITIES

The analysis of the Weldon Spring park land distribution illustrated gaps in park land service areas in the north and mainly southern sections in the city. As Weldon Spring continues to grow, city leaders should explore opportunities to gain additional park land in areas that currently

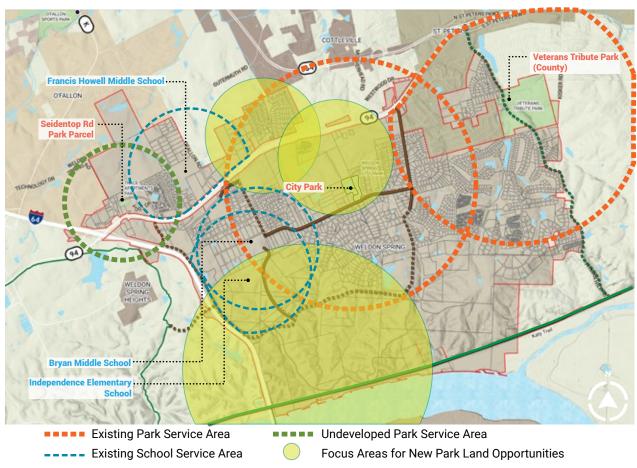


Figure 4.1 Future Park Land Opportunities

have service area gaps. In Figure 4.1 on the previous page, the diagram shows the existing park and school service areas as well as the service areas of the undeveloped park land on Siedentop Road. Focus areas for potential park land opportunities are highlighted on the map that can help to address the service area gaps if park land is secured in these areas.

# CITY PARK RECOMMENDATIONS:

# Summary of Recommended Improvements:

The following recommended improvements are highlighted on the following page in Figure 4.2 and explained in the corresponding numbers below:

- Forebay and Lake: Dredge lake and forebay to restore to original design.
   After dredging, plant native wetland plants in the forebay and add them around the shore of the lake to reduce erosion, prevent excess nutrients from running into the lake, add fish habitat, and to improve overall water quality. Select areas around the lake can be designated fishing spots if the city would like more locations besides the fishing dock.
- 2. Large Pavilion and Restroom: Many large groups have made requests to the city to build a pavilion that can accommodate 75-100 guests. Locating this pavilion close to the front of the park will help a lot in terms of close proximity to parking and good utility access for additional restrooms that a large pavilion requires.
- 3. **Music Stage:** A stage set against the lake provides an informal amphitheater area where the city can hold small concerts and events. An access path adjacent to this location was recently completed in 2021

making the area easily accessible.

- 4. Pickleball or Multi-Use Court: According to a recent article in 'The Economist', pickleball is the fastest growing sport in America. With Weldon Spring's demographic makeup there should be a strong demand for that sport. Currently, no public courts exist within Weldon Springs and the closest public court residents can use are at the O'Fallon Sports Park. Adding courts to City Park provides a centrally located and easily accessible location for many people in the city. The large flat area next to the path just north of City Hall makes a good place to add several pickleball courts or a large multi-use court. The area is already relatively flat and is in close proximity to City Hall, restrooms, the playground, and parking.
- 5. Screened Maintenance Work Area.

  The city should build a screened maintenance work area between the Red Barn and the adjacent maintenance building with easy access from Nancy Lane. Currently, three public walking paths feed into the south side of the Red Barn and constructing this relocated work area will move some of the maintenance equipment to an area away from public view.
- 6. **Playground**. The city installed several new pieces of play equipment over the last few years. Some large, older equipment pieces still remain and the city needs to plan for their replacement within the next three years as well. City should consider replacing the wood mulch with a poured-in-place safety surface that will improve accessibility and reduce maintenance.
- 7. **Wildflower Meadow**. Weldon Spring's citizens greatly value the semi-rural character of Weldon Spring. The rolling



Figure 4.2 City Park Master Plan Recommendations

topographic changes on the eastern Brock parcel and the new, winding walking path makes a great setting for a large wildflower meadow. There does not appear to be a feasible way to add back in the four disk golf holes in this area. If the park ever expands north in the future, that new land may make a good location with enough area to include disk golf if there is enough demand within the community (current surveys put disk golf very low on their requested priorities).

- 8. **Additional Paths**. The abandoned Nancy Lane that is currently a wide gravel path can remain and be used as another link to parts of City Park.
- 9. Future Expansion North. Long term, the city should consider expanding North if the property is available. Preserving this land as park land would help keep Weldon Spring's semi-rural character. This expansion would double the size of City Park and add acres of wooded land that could be used to expand the park's trail network.

## Recommended Phasing & Cost of Improvements:

The following description organizes the list of improvements into Short Term (0-3 years), Medium Term (3-6 years), and Long Term (6-10+ years). Order of magnitude costs are given in Figure 4.4.

#### **Short Term (0-3 Years)**

- Add music stage near lake.
- Add pavilion and new restrooms.
- Dredge lake and install wetland plantings in forebay and around lake edge.
- · Add screened maintenance work area.
- Install wildflower meadow on eastern Brock parcel.

#### Medium Term (3-6 Years)

- Playground equipment and safety surface upgrades.
- Build pickleball or multi-use court.

#### Long Term (6-10+ Years)

• Future Shared Use path expansion north (if land is available).

Several websites offer information regarding native planting and wildflower meadow development. Two of merit include the University of Missouri Extension service 2014 publication 'Wildflowers in the Home Landscape' available from the link below:

## https://extension.missouri.edu/publications/g6660

and by reviewing the 'Native Landscaping Manual' available from the Missouri Botanical Garden (MoBOT) website. A link to the manual is below:

www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/



Figure 4.3: Example of trail and wildflower meadow development from the Dardenne Greenway in St. Charles County.

| Weldon Spring City Park                              |            |                               |  |
|--|------------|-------------------------------|--|
| Improvement  | Timeframe  | Order of Magnitude Cost Range |  |
| Add Music Stage                                      | 0-3 years  | \$100,000 - \$125,000         |  |
| Add Pavilion and New Restroom                        | 0-3 years  | \$300,000 - \$450,000         |  |
| Wildflower Meadow                                    | 0-3 years  | \$50,000 - \$75,000           |  |
| Screened Maintenance Work Area                       | 0-3 years  | \$20,000 - \$30,000           |  |
| Dredge Lake & Forebay, Install Wetland Plants        | 0-3 years  | \$300,000 - \$500,000         |  |
| Playground Equipment and Safety Surface Improvements | 3-6 years  | \$500,000 - \$750,000         |  |
| Pickleball or Multi-Use Court                        | 3-6 years  | \$75,000 - \$100,000          |  |
| Shared Use Path Expansion North                      | 6-10 years | \$150,000 - \$200,000         |  |

Figure 4.4 City Park - Order of Magnitude Costs

# NEW PARK ALONG SIEDENTOP ROAD

# Summary of Recommended Improvements:

The following recommended improvements are highlighted on the following page in Figure 4.5 and explained in the corresponding numbers below:

- 1. Parking Lot: Siedentop has no space for on-street parking so a small parking lot must be created if the parcel is developed into a park. The parking area shown on the map is for eight stalls, but this can be enlarged depending on need.
- Pickleball / Multi-Use Court. The area shown on the map can fit at least four pickleball courts or be a multi-use courts that can accommodate several different activities depending on need. A court-based recreational activity should also accommodate occasional creek flooding without too much damage or cleanup maintenance afterwards.
- 3. Pavilion/Restroom & Gathering Plaza.

  A small restroom/shade shelter and plaza can be built between the parking area and the courts to provide a central, comfortable place to rest out of the sun. This parcel is currently an open field with no shade and a shaded

place to sit will be greatly appreciated by visitors. A flood-resistant restroom could be included with the pavilion as an added convenience to park visitors.

- 4. Loop Walking Trail. A loop walking trail that connects with the sidewalk makes the park a convenient place to exercise for the immediate locals who have no other off-street places to walk in the area.
- 5. Wildflower Meadow. The meadow areas on each end of the park help reduce mowing maintenance, add valuable wildlife habitat, and create visual interest along the walking trails that makes walking in the park much more enjoyable.
- Open Lawn. The open lawn area provides one of the only safe, informal open places in the immediate area for kids and families in the nearby apartments and townhouses to run around or kick a ball.

# Recommended Phasing and Cost of Improvements:

The design team recommends that the whole park should be constructed at the same time to save on construction costs. The estimated order of magnitude cost to design and build the park is included in Figure 4.6.



Figure 4.5 New Park along Siedentop Road - Master Plan Recommendations

| New Park along Siedentop Road                       |           |                       |  |  |
|---|-----------|-----------------------|--|--|
| Improvement Timeframe Order of Magnitude Cost Range |           |                       |  |  |
| Park Design/Engineering                             | 3-6 years | \$20,000 - \$35,000   |  |  |
| Parking Lot (8 Stalls)                              | 3-6 years | \$15,000 - \$30,000   |  |  |
| Pavilion/Restroom & Plaza                           | 3-6 years | \$200,000 - \$275,000 |  |  |
| Loop Trail  | 3-6 years | \$40,000 - \$60,000   |  |  |
| Wildflower Meadow                                   | 3-6 years | \$10,000 - \$15,000   |  |  |
| Lawn Area   | 3-6 years | \$3,000 - \$5,000     |  |  |

Figure 4.6 New Siedentop Road Park- Order of Magnitude Costs

# GREENWAY RECOMMENDATIONS:

The following recommended shared use paths that expand on Weldon Spring's existing network are highlighted below in Figure 4.7. These new shared use path routes are in addition to already proposed routes by Weldon Spring (dashed brown lines) or Great Rivers Greenway (dashed green lines) which are also shown on the map.

1. **City Park Trail Expansion:** Weldon Spring should explore the possibility of a shared use path north of City Park if an easement through that

- parcel can be secured or the parcel is acquired by the city. The path could be the first step to providing a link to Westwood Drive north of Highway 94 if a pedestrian bridge is developed in the future. A pedestrian bridge crossing Highway 94 in that location would be technically challenging and costly however it has merit with regard to providing a safe crossing of a busy highway.
- 2. Patriotic Trail and Meadows Parkway Connection. Currently, a gap exists at the north end of Patriotic Trail where the path turns into the Bryan Middle School parking lot and forces

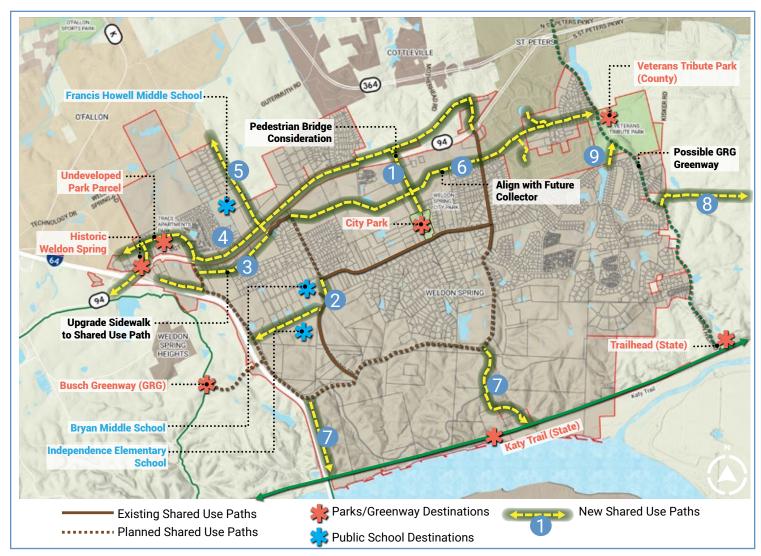


Figure 4.7: New Shared Use Path Locations

- people to travel through the parking lot to connect with the path on Independence Road. This diversion through the middle school potentially cuts off public use of the trail during school hours. The city should build a connecting piece that avoids going through the school parking lot. Likewise, a share-use path should be built along Meadows Parkway which would provide a major shortcut to anyone wanting to travel over to I-64 and to the Busch Greenway. The current planed trails would force people to loop around south along Wolfrum Road and is double the distance of using Meadows Parkway.
- 3. Weldon Spring Parkway. Along the eastern end of Weldon Spring Parkway is a 10' wide shared use path on the south side of the street. The city should consider widening the existing sidewalks long the entire length of Weldon Spring Parkway as use increases and to provide connection to other planned paths in that area along Technology Drive and also to cross Hwy. 94 at Siedentop Road. Several businesses are located along Weldon Spring Parkway and this path allows residents to access them without having to drive or get close to Hwy. 94.
- 4. North Side of Highway 94 and Siedentop Road. Many neighborhoods and businesses located on the north side of Hwy 94 are cut off from each other and rest of the City. A complete trail along this route would connect up the entire north side of Weldon Spring. On the east half of the route the path could run alongside Westwood Drive. Then, between O'Fallon Road and Siedentop Road, the trail would need to stay on the north side of the highway on its own path. At Siedentop Road the path would travel north and follow the road to the hospital. The

- city should build pedestrian crossings at three of the intersections along Hwy 94 to meet up with other shared use paths on the south side of the highway.
- 5. **O'Fallon Road**. The sidewalk along O'Fallon Road should be widened to a 10' shared use path to allow better access to Francis Howell Middle School. The city of Weldon Spring should coordinate with the City of O'Fallon to extend the 10' shared use path north to Highway K which would create a link to O'Fallon's expanding bike lane and shared use path network.
- 6. Future Collector Road. The Weldon Spring Comprehensive plan identi ies a potential alignment for a future eastwest collector road between Independence and Pitman Hill Road. If this collector road gets developed in the future, the road right-of-way should be designed large enough to include a shared use path on one or both sides of the street. Neighborhoods along that corridor could have connecting paths developed to provide access to this central pedestrian spine. Other alignment options may exist to connect Wolfrum Road to Pitman Hill via the neighborhood HOA open space behind the properties. Further detailed study is needed to determine if an alignment in that open space would be feasible. A pedestrian connection to Pitman Hill Road would be a highly desired and impactful connection for the City of Weldon Spring shared use path network.
- 7. Wolfrum Road to the Katy Trail. The city's current Katy Trail connection at the south end of Pitman Hill Road currently requires the completion of connection #6 above to make it accessible to the rest of the city. However, a second route is possible

through negotiation with the private landowners that use parts of the private roads of Old Wolfrum Road and Main Street. The route shown avoids going close to most of the homes so as to minimize disturbance.

8. Towers Road. Weldon Spring's comprehensive plan showed potentially expanding the city west of Pitman Hill. If the city expands west, the best way to connect these neighborhoods together and to the rest of the city's shared-use path network is to build a path along Towers Road. All the neighborhoods in the area are isolated from each other and Towers Road is their only common connection.

These eight proposed trails described above are in addition to the other proposed trails the city is already planning to make which are shown on Figure 4.7 on the previous page. The city should consider both groups of trails when deciding which section to build next. When comparing between two different shared use path sections to build, the city should prioritize sections that have no pedestrian facilities at all over sections that already have basic sidewalks.

Improving the city's existing shared use paths to make them more accessible to the neighborhoods would also be easy to make improvements the city could take on soon as other sections are being planned and designed. The existing shared use paths are typically only located on one side of the road. Unfortunately, this means that many people who live in neighborhoods on the opposite side of the road must cross the road, often with no stop signs or flashing pedestrian signs to cross safely. The city could easily add these crossings at many of the neighborhood entrances to make the existing path network much more safe and user friendly.



Figure 4.8: Stops signs or a button activated flashing pedestrian sign greatly improves the safety and access to the city's existing shared use path network.

#### **Historic Preservation**

Communities should look to preserve historic sites, structures and landmarks that are located within the municipal boundary. In Weldon Spring, several historic buildings from the original settlement area are located near Highway 94 and Highway 64. In that same area is the John Weldon spring which flows into Crooked Creek. These historic buildings and sites should be preserved and enhanced with needed improvements and interpretive signage. As the share use paths are developed throughout Weldon Spring these historic sites can become points of interest.



Figure 4.9: Undated photo of the John Weldon spring near the old Emmanuel Church.

# IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

Implementation of the Weldon Spring Parks and Greenway Master Plan is a long term process that will require updates as existing recreation facilities are improved or new ones are built and as demands change. It is recommended that the master plan be reviewed every few years in order to incorporate current conditions and maintain progress towards meeting the future recreation goals of the community. A determination can be made by staff and elected officials on whether the update warrants external assistance from a park planning consultant or whether the update can be completed internally by city staff. The following describes implementation strategies and priorities. The information that follows is an overview of implementation and funding considerations.

Knowing that resources available for implementing the Weldon Spring Parks and Greenway Master Plan are typically limited for municipalities, a phased strategy for carrying out recommendations is suggested. The phased approach should be based upon the priorities that the city and the public have identified through the planning process. Phasing sequence may vary depending on factors such as funding sources, implementation logistics, construction operations, bid packaging, and cost/pricing efficiencies.

Small steps toward the completion of recommendations can be implemented incrementally over time that will serve park users in the near term. Lower priority improvements that are not critical to park operations or usability can be implemented later. This approach allows Weldon Spring to show results toward the improvement of the park system and will create a favorable climate toward future parks and recreation spending.

#### **Potential Funding Sources**

#### Weldon Spring Municipal Parks/ Facilities Fund

Per the Weldon Spring website, the municipal parks and facilities fund is restricted for parks and recreation activities, municipal building operations and capital projects. Revenues earmarked for this fund are generated from a 1/2% sales tax, parks reservation/user fees and a portion of the Metro Parks Sales tax. Expenditures of this fund include parks related wages/benefits, special events, facility/grounds maintenance, equipment/ fixtures as well as real property improvements and purchases. Annual revenues generated from this fund are in the range of \$350,000 - \$550,000 over the last five years. Expenditures of this fund over the last five years have ranged from a low of \$114,000 to a high of \$648,000. Per the Weldon Spring budget forecast expenditures will outpace revenue through FY 2026.

#### Park Land Dedication

Dedication of open space or payment of fees for park development or recreation purposes by private developers can be negotiated in exchange for developmental considerations beyond those customarily permitted by planning and zoning requirements.

Unless properly written and applied, a park land dedication ordinance can result in a lengthy court battle with a developer accusing the local government of illegally taking valuable land. In order to prevent this, the ordinance must provide that any land or funds will benefit the users of the new development. Fees in lieu of open space can be used when it is not practical for a developer to donate land. An important aspect of park land dedication is land quality. Not every plot of ground is suitable for recreation.

A typical ordinance will require that most of the land be dry, reasonably flat, and accessible by road. Some ordinances provide allowances for private recreation space. The idea is that the private amenities will reduce residents' need to use local public parks. Restrictive covenants and maintenance agreements are usually part of the conditions for allowing private recreation space to be given allowance.

#### Parks and Stormwater Sales Tax

In 1995, the Missouri General Assembly enacted legislation to allow any city in the State to levy a sales tax of up to 1/2 cent for municipal parks and stormwater control. The tax is collected on a point-of-sale basis within the current city borders and any annexed areas. Hundreds of municipalities in Missouri participate in the sales tax levy.

#### **User Fees**

As a practical matter, communities throughout the country are requiring users of parks and recreation facilities to pay for the facilities they use on a daily permit or seasonal basis. This is primarily true of costly indoor recreation facilities and large labor-intensive outdoor facilities such as ballfield complexes and aquatic facilities that have high staffing and maintenance obligations.

#### Grants

Grant funding programs have been available at both the state and federal levels. Opportunities for federal grant funding of recreation improvements are limited. However, there still are a variety of state grant programs available. Some of these grants are listed below.

Great Rivers Greenway - On November 7, 2000, Proposition C, the Clean Water, Safe Parks & Community Trails Initiative successfully passed in St. Louis City, St. Louis County, St. Charles County, in Missouri and Madison County and St. Clair County in Illinois, establishing the Metropolitan Park and Recreation District in Missouri and the Metro East Park District in Illinois. Great Rivers Greenway provides funding to develop parks, trails, and greenways.

Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) - Land and Water Conservation Fund grants are available to cities, counties and school districts to be used for outdoor recreation projects. Projects require a fiftly-five percent match. All funded projects are taken under perpetuity by the National Park Service and must only be used for outdoor recreational purposes. Development and renovation projects must be maintained for a period of twenty-five years or the life of the manufactured goods. This program is administered through the Missouri Department of Natural Resources' Division of State Parks.

Recreation Trails Program (RTP) - In Missouri, RTP grants are open to local and state governments, school districts, non-profit and for-profit organizations. Missouri receives between \$1 and \$1.5 million per fiscal year. The maximum amount awarded is \$250,000 for trail projects. Sponsors must have a minimum 20 percent match. Projects must be open to the public.

Transportation Enhancement (TE) Grants - The Transportation Enhancement (TE) activities offered funding opportunities to help expand transportation choices and enhance the transportation experience through twelve eligible TE activities related to surface transportation, including pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure and safety programs, scenic and historic highway programs, landscaping and scenic beautification, historic preservation, and environmental mitigation.

#### **Bonds**

The City could utilize its bonding capacity to place a bond referendum on the ballot. With successful passage, the city would then be allowed to sell bonds to raise capital for renovation and improvements to the park system. Taxes are raised appropriately to retire the bond over the term of the bond. The bond money typically is available in a lump sum and put to use on the projects for which it was identified. Likewise, there is a time frame under which the bond money must be committed for use or it can be forfeited. The following are three types of bonds that may be considered for recreation facility funding:

Special Obligation Bonds - Issued in one or more series to finance the undertaking of any development project and paid back by one or more limited revenue sources.

General Obligation Bonds - Bonded indebtedness issued with the approval of the electorate for capital improvements and general public improvements. These bonds usually require an increase in property tax.

Certificates of Participation - Lease financing can be arranged through public sale of certificates of participation (COPs). Each certificate holder owns a beneficial interest in the lease. Certificate holders in the aggregate constitute the lessor. COPs are a newer form of lease financing that is gaining popularity and acceptance by investors. COPs are limited by the City's existing revenue sources.

#### **Private Enterprise**

Contracts with private business could be signed to provide and operate desirable recreational facilities financed and constructed by the public sector on city owned lands with compensation paid to the city.

#### Lease/Purchase Financing

Facilities for public use can be financed and built through an entity separate from the municipality - either another public entity, a nonprofit corporation set up for that purpose, a bank or leasing company, or joint powers authority. There are several types of lease purchase funding mechanisms, including certificates of participation which have previously been discussed, and sales leaseback, which is a means for public entities to sell an existing facility to a separate entity such as a nonprofit organization, an investor, or a group of investors. Improvements can be made by the separate entity who then leases the facility back to the public entity for an agreed to period of time and interest rate.

# Non-Profit Organizations, and Foundations

The development of non-profit organizations and/or foundations represents another opportunity to enhance the parks and recreation system in Weldon Spring through special projects for which city funding is not available. In this situation, independent organizations would cooperate with the city to promote the parks and ensure their long-term service to residents through independent funding. Goals for an organization of this type might include preservation of green

space, support for providing quality park and recreation facilities for business, employees, residents, and visitors to enjoy and provide funding for projects which enhance park resources and encourage renewal of recreation facilities without using local tax dollars.

#### **Private Donations**

A variety of programs have been developed in other park systems to accept private donations for enhancements to the park system including land, facilities, equipment, trees, plants and other elements to the park system.

#### Conclusion

Successful implementation of the master plan will be achieved by utilizing a combination of the previously mentioned funding sources. For the largest and most costly projects, the use of bonds, leveraged bonds, or similar municipal financing is the most realistic. This method permits access to a large sum of money to complete the project in the shortest possible time frame, thus making the improvement available to the community in the near future. The amount of the bond should be fixed to ensure sufficient funds are generated from the sales tax to not only retire the bonds, but also provide for some level of operations and maintenance, as well as finance other smaller capital improvements to be completed by city staff on a labor and materials basis.

The small to medium sized projects should be funded by other sources such as grants, donations, and self-help activities. It is not possible at this time to identify a specific source for every project in the master plan as this is an interactive process that needs to be undertaken by city officials. This section has offered several broad suggestions to help the city begin developing an approach to

implementing the plan. These ideas are suggestions and the city may revise, refine or re-prioritize them as conditions in Weldon Spring change.

#### **Action Items**

#### Formal Plan Adoption

The first action item the City of Weldon Spring should seek to accomplish is support of the master plan by the Board of Alderman and formal adoption of the plan by the city. This gives the plan legitimacy and spreads the responsibility for its implementation throughout the municipal organization.

#### **Develop Champions for the Plan**

The city should continue to promote and encourage secondary support groups to champion the implementation of the Master Plan.

#### **Ongoing Consensus Building**

It is important that consensus building continue throughout implementation of the plan. An informed public with "knowledge" and "ownership" in the plan will help keep the process moving forward.

#### **Summary**

The implementation of the Master Plan is a process that will help the City of Weldon Spring meet future recreation demands while providing a high level of recreation facilities and programs. A number of funding sources have been identified in order to assist the city in financing the Plan. The city should pursue as many opportunities for funding as possible and remain open to new and creative input toward funding the Plan in the future. Periodic reviews of the Plan should be made in every few years in order to ensure that implementation is progressing toward the vision described in this report.



#### **Weldon Spring Parks & Greenway Master Plan**

18.14 acres

**Weldon Spring City Park** 

5401 Independence Road, Weldon Spring, MO 63304

Park Site Condition Assessment Form

Date: 09/02/2021 Prepared by: Jonathan Corbett

| Rating | Guide |
|--------|-------|
| Naulie | Julue |

|     |                  |   |                 |                   |                | _  |
|-----|------------------|---|-----------------|-------------------|----------------|--|
| Por | ads, Bridges and | l Darking Lots                              |                 |                   | Rating         | Comments                                   |
| NO  |                  | trance Length                               | 150 Width       | Material Con      | crete A B C D  |  |
|     |                  | Length                                      |                 |                   |                |  |
|     |                  | Length                                      |                 |                   |                |  |
|     | noda name        |   |                 |                   |                |  |
|     | Bridge           | Length                                      | Width           | Material          | A B C D        |  |
|     | Bridge           | Length                                      | Width           | Material          | A B C D        |  |
|     | Ped. Bridge      | Length                                      | Width           | Material          | A B C D        |  |
|     | Ped. Bridge      | Length                                      | Width           | Material          | A B C D        |  |
| st) | # of Parking Lot | : Spaces 20                                 | _ Material      | Asphalt           | A B 🕝 D        | Lots of Cracks, Faded Lines, Needs Resurfa |
| )   | # of Parking Lot | Spaces 6                                    | _ Material      | Asphalt           | A B C D        | Employee Parking                           |
| st) | # of Parking Lot | Spaces 14                                   | _ Material      | Asphalt           | A B 🔘 D        | Lots of Cracks, Needs Resurfacing          |
|     | # of Parking Lot | Spaces                                      | _ Material      |                   | A B C D        |  |
|     | # of Road Parki  | ng Spaces                                   | Material        |                   | ABCD           |  |
|     |                  |   |                 |                   |                |  |
| Sid | ewalks/Paths T   | hat Connect Parkin                          | ng/Pedestria    | n Access to Playe | rounds. Shelte | rs, Restrooms, ETC.                        |
|     |                  | Avg. Width                                  |                 |                   |                |  |
|     |                  | Avg. Width _                                |                 |                   |                |  |
|     |                  |   |                 |                   |                |  |
|     |                  | Avg. Width _                                |                 |                   |                |  |
| Res | strooms/Play A   | reas/Shelters                               |                 |                   |                |  |
|     | Restroom Nam     | e   | Size            | _X                | ABCD           |  |
|     | Wall Materia     | l   |                 |                   | ABCD           |  |
|     |                  | l   |                 |                   | ABCD           |  |
|     | # of Toilets_    | # of Urinals_                               | # of            | Sinks             |                |  |
|     | Heated/Unh       | neated (circle one)                         |                 |                   |                |  |
|     | Public Sewe      | r / Sewer Plant / Se                        | eptic (circle o | ne)               |                |  |
|     | Other            |   |                 |                   |                |  |
|     | Restroom Nam     | e   | Size            | _X                | ABCD           |  |
|     | Wall Materia     | I   |                 |                   | ABCD           |  |
|     | Roof Materia     | I   |                 |                   | ABCD           |  |
|     |                  | # of Urinals_                               | # of            | Sinks             |                |  |
|     | Heated/Unh       | neated (circle one)                         |                 |                   |                |  |
|     |                  | neated (circle one)<br>r / Sewer Plant / Se | entic (circle o | ne)               |                |  |

| Total # of Play Area Pieces                                   | АВСD                       | Platform Structure is older, City plans to replace in 3-4 years. |
|---|----------------------------|--|
| # of 2-5 Age Structures                                       | АВСD                       | Needs more woodchips in some areas. Slide dropoff is high.       |
| # of 5-12 Age Structures                                      | ABCD                       | Some structures are new and in good condition                    |
| Sq. Ft. of Safety SurfaceMaterialWoodchips                    | _ A B C D                  |  |
| Total # of Play Area Pieces                                   | ABCD                       |  |
| # of 2-5 Age Structures                                       | ABCD                       |  |
| # of 5-12 Age Structures                                      | ABCD                       |  |
| Sq. Ft. of Safety SurfaceMaterial                             | _ A B C D                  |  |
| Shelter Name Large (@ Barn) Size 40' X 24' Material Wood/Ste  | elABCD                     | Has power & lights   |
| Shelter Name Small Size 30' X 20' Material Wood               | _ ABCD                     | Has power, no lights   |
| Shelter Name SizeX Material                                   | _ A B C D                  |  |
| Trail Name North Loop Length 2,240' Width 6' Material Asphale | t_ABCD                     | Some cracked edges, need crack seal                              |
| Trail Name S Lake Path Length 480' Width 10' Material Asphalt | <u>t_</u> <b>A</b> ) B C D | New Path south of Lake   |
| Trail Name E. Path Length 1,330' Width 10' Material Asphalt   | E_ABCD                     | New Path on East Property  |
| Trail Name Length Width Material                              | A B C D                    |  |
| Other   |                            |  |
| # of Basketball Courts  | ABCD                       |  |
| 2 # of Ball Diamonds  | A B C D                    | Informal Play. Not for official games                            |
| # of Ball Diamonds-Lighted                                    | АВСD                       |  |
| # of Football/ Soccer Fields                                  | АВСD                       |  |
| # of Football/Soccer Fields-Lighted                           | АВСD                       |  |
| # of Tennis Courts  | АВСD                       |  |
| # of Tennis Courts-Lighted                                    | АВСD                       |  |
| # of Pickleball Courts  | ABCD                       |  |
| # of Volleyball Courts  | ABCD                       |  |
| # of Campsites  | ABCD                       |  |
| # of Historical Sites   | ABC D                      | Old Smoke House  |
| # of Monuments/Flagpoles                                      | ABC D                      |  |
| # of Horseshoe Pits   | ABCD                       |  |
| # of Archery Ranges   | АВСD                       |  |
| # of Exercise/Fitness Sites# of Stations                      | A B CD                     | Need more mulch. Trash can too close                             |
| # of Golf Courses (per 18 holes)                              | ABCD                       |  |
| # of Disc Golf Course (per 9 holes) 4 holes                   | A B C D                    |  |
| # of Dog Parks  | ABCD                       |  |
| ac. Of Lakes/Ponds  | ABCD                       |  |
| # of Fishing Docks  | ABC D                      | Need Powerwash/ new Paint/Stain                                  |
| # of Boat Ramps   | ABCD                       |  |
| # of River Access Sites                                       | ABCD                       |  |
| # of Picnic Sites   | ABCD                       |  |
| # of Cricket Pitch  | ABCD                       |  |
| # of Entrance SignsMain_RoadLocation                          | (ABCD                      | Stone, good condition  |
| # of Entrance SignsLocation                                   | ABCD                       |  |
| # of Entrance Signs with Message Boards                       | ABCD                       |  |

| Qty                      |               |                 |              | ABCD      |                                       |  |
|--------------------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------|-----------|---------------------------------------|--|
| Qty                      | Facility      | Oth             | ner          | ABCD      |                                       |  |
| Qty                      | Facility      | Oth             | ner          | ABCD      |                                       |  |
| <b>Maintenance</b>       |               |                 |              |           |                                       |  |
|                          | Dad Dama      |                 | 0.01         |           |                                       |  |
| Maint. Building Name     | e Red Barn    | Size <u>40'</u> | X <u>60'</u> | _ABCD     | Built it 2009, good condition.        |  |
| Wall Material Ste        |               |                 |              | ABCD      |                                       |  |
| Roof Material <u>Ste</u> | eel           |                 |              | ABCD      |                                       |  |
| Storage Building Nan     | ne            | Size            | X            | _ABCD     |                                       |  |
| Wall Material            |               |                 |              | ABCD      |                                       |  |
| Roof Material            |               |                 |              | ABCD      |                                       |  |
| Lean To Structure (Sto   |               | Size <u>11'</u> | X <u>15'</u> | _ABCD     | Open on 1 side, next to Tornado Siren |  |
| Wall Material Ste        |               |                 |              | ABCD      | Stores lake boat & plows              |  |
| Roof Material Ste        | el<br>————    |                 |              | ABCD      |                                       |  |
| Yard SizeX_              | <del></del>   |                 |              | ABCD      |                                       |  |
|                          |               |                 |              |           |                                       |  |
| Maint. Building Name     |               | Size <u>30'</u> | x <u>40'</u> | _ABCD     | East of Red Barn on New Property      |  |
| Wall Material Ste        | eel<br>       |                 |              | ABCD      |                                       |  |
| Roof Material Ste        | eel           |                 |              | ABCD      |                                       |  |
| Storage Building Nan     | ne            | Size            | X            | _A B C D  |                                       |  |
| Wall Material            |               |                 |              | ABCD      |                                       |  |
| Roof Material            |               |                 |              | ABCD      |                                       |  |
| Lean To Structure        |               | Size            | X            | _A B C D  |                                       |  |
| Wall Material            |               |                 |              | ABCD      |                                       |  |
| Roof Material            | <del></del> - |                 |              | ABCD      |                                       |  |
| Yard SizeX_              |               |                 |              | ABCD      |                                       |  |
|                          |               |                 |              |           |                                       |  |
| Maint. Building Name     | e             | Size            | X            | _A B C D  |                                       |  |
| Wall Material            |               |                 |              | ABCD      |                                       |  |
| Roof Material            |               |                 |              | ABCD      |                                       |  |
| Storage Building Nan     | ne            | Size            | X            | _ A B C D |                                       |  |
| Wall Material            |               |                 |              | ABCD      |                                       |  |
| Roof Material            |               |                 |              | АВСD      |                                       |  |
| Lean To Structure        |               | Size            | X            | _A B C D  |                                       |  |
| Wall Material            |               |                 |              | ABCD      |                                       |  |
| Roof Material            |               |                 |              | ABCD      |                                       |  |
| Yard SizeX_              |               |                 |              | АВСD      |                                       |  |
|                          |               |                 |              |           |                                       |  |

| Improvements Required   |                  |
|---|------------------|
|   | _                |
|   | _                |
|   | _                |
|   |                  |
|   |                  |
|   | <del></del>      |
|   |                  |
|   | _                |
|   |                  |
|   |                  |
|   | _                |
|   | _                |
|   |                  |
|   |                  |
|   | _                |
|   | _                |
|   | _                |
|   | _                |
|   |                  |
|   | =                |
| Other Easility Suggestions / Comments   | _                |
| Other Facility Suggestions/Comments   | _                |
| - Can't read lake rule sign from path or dock. Must walk into grass to read (bad placement)                               |                  |
| - Fish habitat structures in lake have come loose and stick out of the water (look bad). Need to re-submerge into water.  |                  |
| - Has lots of algae growth. More depth in lake plus some natural edge planting would improve some.                        | <del></del>      |
| The lot of digue growth. More depart in take plue some natural edge planting would improve some.                          | _                |
|   |                  |
| - Need better connection with neighborhoods. The connection to the neighborhood to the NE is poor and should be reworked. |                  |
| - Need to limit car access into the park from NE entrance.  |                  |
| - Need park signage on NE side so people know this is a park.   | _                |
| Treed park digitage of the did to people know the load park.  | _                |
|   |                  |
|   |                  |
|   | _                |
|   |                  |
|   | _                |
|   |                  |
|   |                  |
|   | <del></del>      |
|   |                  |
|   | _                |
|   |                  |
|   | _                |
|   | <u> </u>         |
|   |                  |
|   |                  |
|   |                  |
|   | <del></del>      |
|   | _                |
|   | _                |
|   |                  |
|   | _                |
|   | _                |
|   | <u> </u>         |
|   | _                |
|   |                  |
|   | _                |
|   | <u> </u>         |
| Needs rebuildings to accomidate new trail 8   | realigning       |
| Holes cross trails. Pads in poor condition (s   | ome are removed  |
| + totes cross trails, + aus III pour condition (s   | erno aro removeu |
|   | _                |





#### **Data Collection On-line Survey Results**

The data collection on-line survey was open for approximately five weeks and received 86 respondents. The following is a summary of the results of the survey and comments received.

Question 1: Please Indicate the community you reside in.

• Of the 86 respondents over 87% indicated that they were residents of Weldon Spring. The rest of the respondents indicated that they were resided in either St. Charles County or other communities.

Question 2: If you are a Weldon Spring resident, indicate what Ward you reside in.

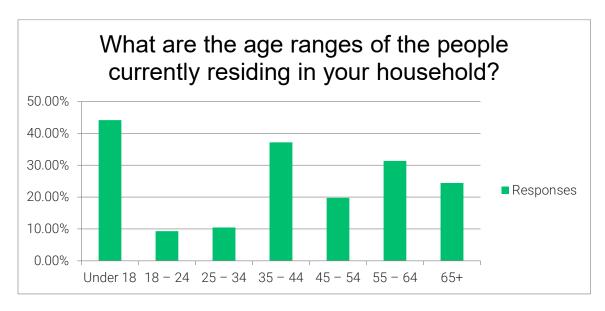
 Among the respondents indicating that they were Weldon Spring Residents 50% were from Ward II, 30% from Ward III and 20% from Ward I.

Question 3: Are you a local business owner in Weldon Spring?

• Approximately 99% of the respondents were NOT business owners in Weldon Spring.

Question 4: What are the age ranges of the people currently residing in your household? (Select all that apply)

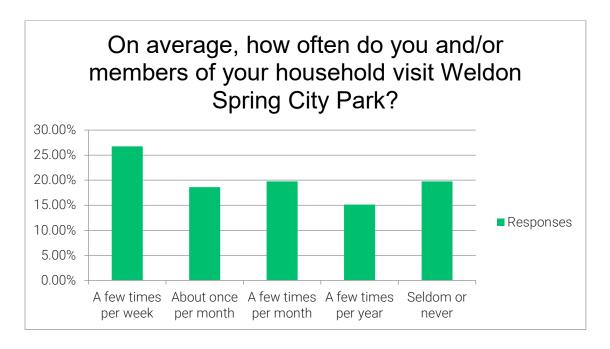
• Approximately 44% of the respondents had children under 18 in their household. See chart below for the age range breakdown.





Question 5: On average, how often do you and/or members of your household visit Weldon Spring City Park?

 Approximately 28% of the respondents indicated that they visit the park a few times a week. See chart below for the rest of the visitation data.



Question 6: Should the City pursue an indoor recreation space?

 Approximately 49% of the respondents said "Yes", 27% said "No" and the rest were unsure

Question 7: If yes, where should the indoor recreation space be located?

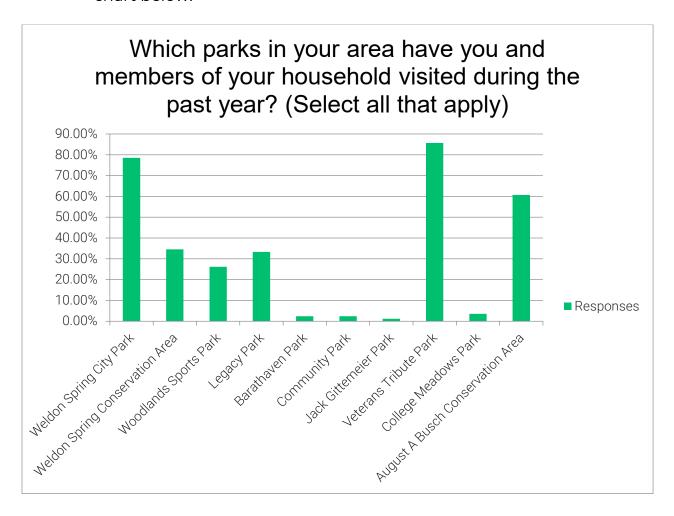
• There were 26 comments related to this question. 11 of the 26 comments included the suggestion that the indoor space be located near City Hall or in a park. 7 of the 26 respondents indicated that the indoor recreation space should be located near major highways 94 or 40/64. 6 of the 26 respondents were unsure. The remaining two comments indicated "Wulfrom Road" and "Central".

Question 8: Which parks in your area have you and members of your household visited during the past year? (Select all that apply)

Respondents indicated that the three parks most visited was 1)
 Veterans Tribute Park, 2) Weldon Spring City Park, 3) August A



Busch Conservation Area. The remaining selections are shown in the chart below.



Question 9: What do you like most about the parks you have visited in the past year?

69 Respondents to the survey commented on this question. The top three comments were 1) 46 of 69 comments indicated that the favorite features were the trails and playgrounds; 2) 9 of the 69 comments identified nature, wildlife and green space as favorites. Cleanliness and proximity to home were also identified as being liked in the parks that they visit.



P.O. Box 179279 Saint Louis, Missouri 63117 Phone: 314.214.3600 planningdesignstudio.com

Question 10: From the list of parks in the previous questions, which one does your household use MOST OFTEN?

• The top three responses included 1) Weldon Spring City Park 44%; 2) Veterans Tribute Park 43%; 3) Legacy Park 5%.

Question 11: Are you aware that the Veterans Tribute Park is owned and maintained by St. Charles County?

• Approximately 76% of the respondents said "Yes", 24% said "No".

Question 12: How satisfied are you with the current state of Weldon Spring City Park?

• Approximately 64% of the respondents indicated that they were Very or Somewhat Satisfied and about 12% indicated they were Very or Somewhat Dissatisfied with the state of Weldon Spring City Park.

Question 13: How much impact do parks in the City of Weldon Spring have on your daily life, property values and health?

 39% pf the responded indicated that parks have a "Moderate" impact with only 5% indicating that park have no impact in their lives.

Question 14: How important do you feel it is for the City of Weldon Spring to provide high quality parks, trails and facilities?

 Approximately 81% of the respondents said indicated that it was "Important" or "Very Important".

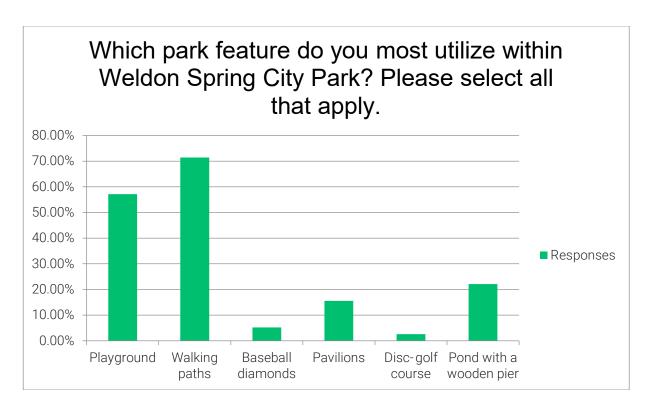
Question 15: Which statement best represents your opinion on the current state of Weldon Spring City Park?

Approximately 68% indicated that the park needs to be upgraded.
 See the chart below.

Question 16: Which park feature do you most utilize within Weldon Spring City Park? Please select all that apply.

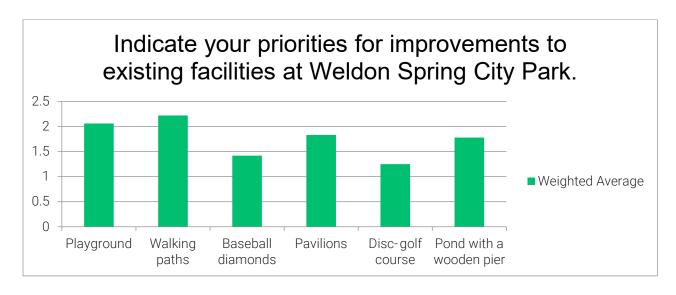
• Approximately 71% of the respondents indicated that the trail was used most often followed by the playground. See the chart below for the full breakdown of responses.





Question 17: Indicate your priorities for improvements to existing facilities at Weldon Spring City Park.

The three highest ranked priorities included the walking trail, playground and pond. The full breakdown of responses in shown in the chart below.





P.O. Box 179279 Saint Louis, Missouri 63117 Phone: 314.214.3600 planningdesignstudio.com

Question 18: Do you have any additional suggestions for improvements to Weldon Spring City Park?

• 54% of the respondents did not have any additional suggestions. Of the 36 comments received the most frequent ones included adding ball fields, an amphitheater, a dog park, tennis/pickleball courts both indoor and outdoor, a splash pad, trails and trail connections.

#### **Greenway Related Questions**

Question 19: Please rate the importance of the following five greenway experiences to you and your family.

• Respondent's top ranked experiences were 1) "Having Greenways Near Your Home", 2) Being in Nature (woods, prairies, wetlands, etc.), 3) Connecting to the Katy Trail or Other Regional Parks and Trails.

Question 20: What destinations within the Weldon Spring city limits are a priority to connect to via a greenway? (Select all that apply)

• 78% of the respondents indicated that the Katy Trail was the highest priority. The remaining responses are summarized in the following chart.





Question 21: What destinations outside the Weldon Spring city limits are a priority to connect to via a greenway? (Select all that apply)

• Respondent's top ranked destinations outside the city of Weldon Spring was 1) Cottleville Landing shopping area, 2) Busch Greenway), 3) Chesterfield Commons & Outlet Malls.





Question 22: Have you ever been to Weldon Spring City Hall?

Approximately 72% of the respondents said "Yes", 28% said "No".

Question 23: In general, what is your opinion of Weldon Spring City Hall?

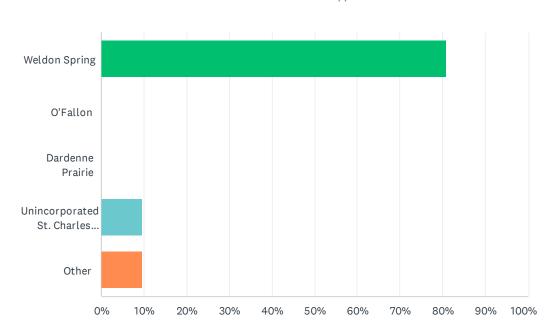
• 64% of the respondents had a "neutral" opinion of City Hall. Twentyfour comments were received that explained their opinion. The most frequent was "It's a house not a proper community building."

Question 24: If you would like to be kept up to date on the Weldon Spring Parks and Greenway Master Plan, please enter your contact information below.

40 of the 86 respondents provided contact information.

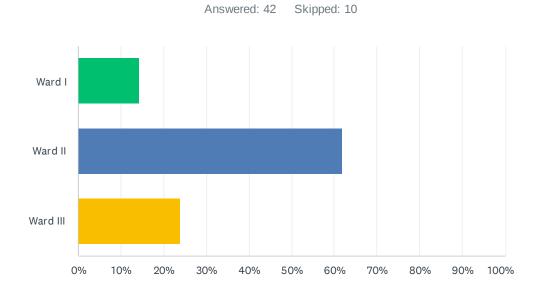
## Q1 Please indicate the community you reside in.





| ANSWER CHOICES                    | RESPONSES |    |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|----|
| Weldon Spring                     | 80.77%    | 42 |
| O'Fallon                          | 0.00%     | 0  |
| Dardenne Prairie                  | 0.00%     | 0  |
| Unincorporated St. Charles County | 9.62%     | 5  |
| Other                             | 9.62%     | 5  |
| TOTAL                             |           | 52 |

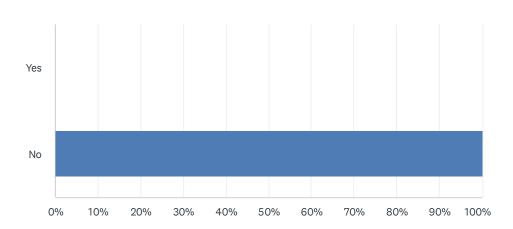
## Q2 If you are a Weldon Spring resident, indicate what Ward you reside in.



| ANSWER CHOICES | RESPONSES |    |
|----------------|-----------|----|
| Ward I         | 14.29%    | 6  |
| Ward II        | 61.90%    | 26 |
| Ward III       | 23.81%    | 10 |
| TOTAL          |           | 42 |

## Q3 Are you a local business owner in Weldon Spring?

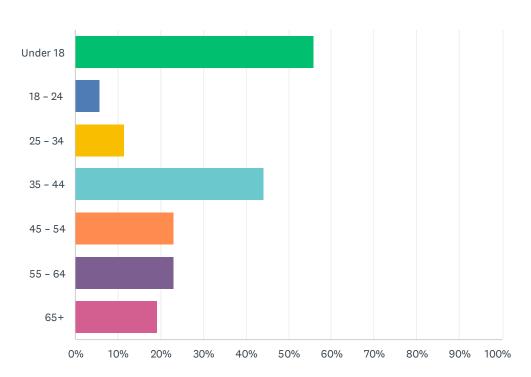
Answered: 51 Skipped: 1



| ANSWER CHOICES | RESPONSES |    |
|----------------|-----------|----|
| Yes            | 0.00%     | 0  |
| No             | 100.00%   | 51 |
| TOTAL          |           | 51 |

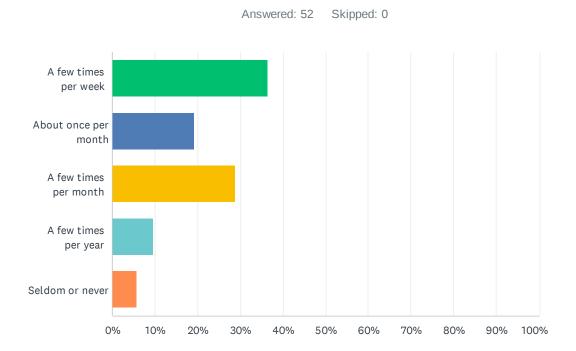
# Q4 What are the age ranges of the people currently residing in your household? (Select all that apply)





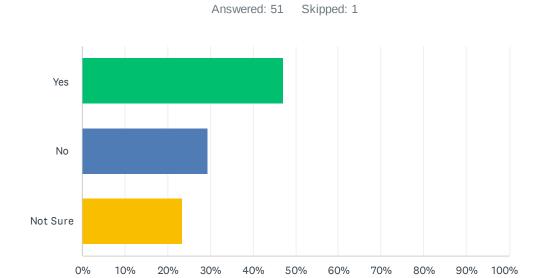
| ANSWER CHOICES        | RESPONSES |    |
|-----------------------|-----------|----|
| Under 18              | 55.77%    | 29 |
| 18 – 24               | 5.77%     | 3  |
| 25 – 34               | 11.54%    | 6  |
| 35 – 44               | 44.23%    | 23 |
| 45 – 54               | 23.08%    | 12 |
| 55 – 64               | 23.08%    | 12 |
| 65+                   | 19.23%    | 10 |
| Total Respondents: 52 |           |    |

# Q5 On average, how often do you and/or members of your household visit Weldon Spring City Park?



| ANSWER CHOICES        | RESPONSES |    |
|-----------------------|-----------|----|
| A few times per week  | 36.54%    | 19 |
| About once per month  | 19.23%    | 10 |
| A few times per month | 28.85%    | 15 |
| A few times per year  | 9.62%     | 5  |
| Seldom or never       | 5.77%     | 3  |
| TOTAL                 |           | 52 |

## Q6 Should the City pursue an indoor recreation space?



| ANSWER CHOICES | RESPONSES |    |
|----------------|-----------|----|
| Yes            | 47.06%    | 24 |
| No             | 29.41%    | 15 |
| Not Sure       | 23.53%    | 12 |
| TOTAL          |           | 51 |

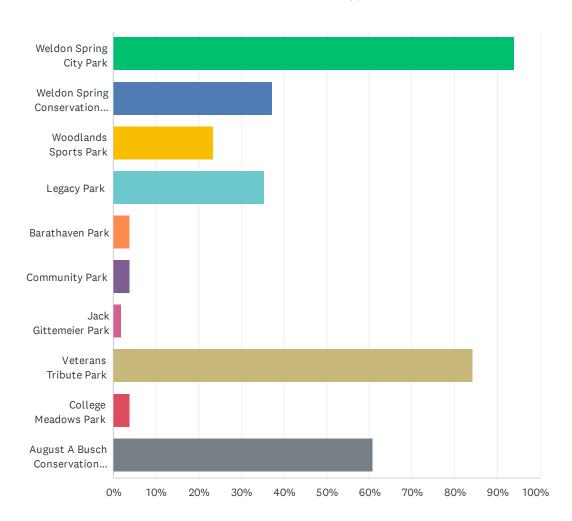
#### Q7 If yes, where should the indoor recreation space be located?

Answered: 14 Skipped: 38

| #  | RESPONSES  | DATE                |
|----|--|---------------------|
| 1  | The area of the park between Independence and the parking lots - could go on either side of the existing drive. May also need to allocate addt. parking. | 11/3/2021 7:48 PM   |
| 2  | Near city hall   | 11/3/2021 6:56 PM   |
| 3  | Not sure   | 11/3/2021 11:46 AM  |
| 4  | Near I-40 corridor   | 11/3/2021 10:46 AM  |
| 5  | At the park  | 10/29/2021 1:12 PM  |
| 6  | By the Hwy patrol area.  | 10/17/2021 10:00 PM |
| 7  | Close to the park wherever plans so available. Too bad you couldn't have gotten the Gold's gym space since they had a nice pool.                         | 10/16/2021 7:33 AM  |
| 8  | Near city hall   | 10/15/2021 5:39 PM  |
| 9  | Central  | 10/15/2021 5:37 PM  |
| 10 | Map wouldn't load so not sure on ward. Locate near veteran park  | 10/15/2021 5:26 PM  |
| 11 | Near city hall and park  | 10/15/2021 5:08 PM  |
| 12 | Close to hwy 64  | 10/15/2021 4:15 PM  |
| 13 | Off technology drive right next to the highway; by roundabout  | 10/15/2021 4:14 PM  |
| 14 | By park if possible  | 10/15/2021 4:00 PM  |

#### Q8 Which parks in your area have you and members of your household visited during the past year? (Select all that apply)

Answered: 51 Skipped: 1



| ANSWER CHOICES                   | RESPONSES |    |
|----------------------------------|-----------|----|
| Weldon Spring City Park          | 94.12%    | 48 |
| Weldon Spring Conservation Area  | 37.25%    | 19 |
| Woodlands Sports Park            | 23.53%    | 12 |
| Legacy Park                      | 35.29%    | 18 |
| Barathaven Park                  | 3.92%     | 2  |
| Community Park                   | 3.92%     | 2  |
| Jack Gittemeier Park             | 1.96%     | 1  |
| Veterans Tribute Park            | 84.31%    | 43 |
| College Meadows Park             | 3.92%     | 2  |
| August A Busch Conservation Area | 60.78%    | 31 |
| Total Respondents: 51            |           |    |

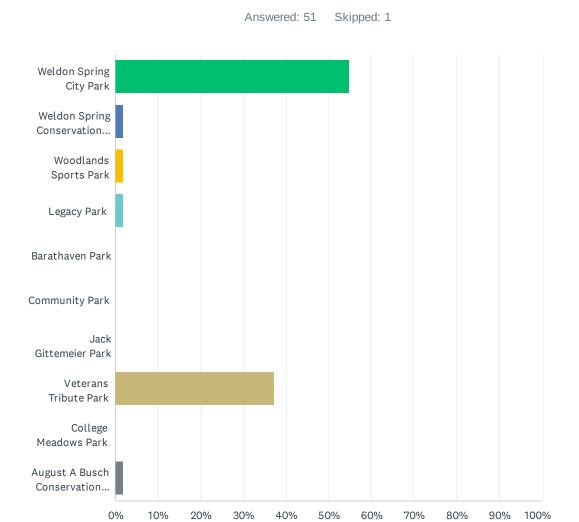
### Q9 What do you like most about the parks you have visited in the past year?

Answered: 42 Skipped: 10

| #  | RESPONSES  | DATE                |
|----|--|---------------------|
| 1  | Cleanliness  | 11/4/2021 8:45 AM   |
| 2  | Wildlife, green space,   | 11/3/2021 9:30 PM   |
| 3  | They all have something different to offer, and it's just good to be outside.  | 11/3/2021 7:48 PM   |
| 4  | Walking paths  | 11/3/2021 6:56 PM   |
| 5  | COVID kept us close to home  | 11/3/2021 3:16 PM   |
| 6  | The green space!   | 11/3/2021 3:10 F M  |
| 7  | We love walking and bike paths lined with trees that have a more natural feel like the Katy trail. We also enjoy nice picnic spaces, fishing and biking. We live closer to weldon Spring park but typically go to Veteran's Tribute park because it's so much nicer. The walking path is great, the kids love the playground and we use the splash area in the summer. The updates to the Weldin Spring park have honestly been pretty disappointing so far. The playground is still covered in mulch rather than an updated surface | 11/3/2021 12:01 PM  |
| 8  | Trails   | 11/3/2021 11:46 AM  |
| 9  | Walking trails, nature, pavilions, playground  | 11/3/2021 10:46 AM  |
| 10 | The splash pads for the kids and sports fields   | 10/29/2021 1:12 PM  |
| 11 | Nature   | 10/23/2021 2:56 AM  |
| 12 | Variety of things for kids of all ages   | 10/17/2021 10:00 PM |
| 13 | clean, convenient, well cared for  | 10/17/2021 9:18 PM  |
| 14 | Proximity to my home. Accessibility for young children as well as older people.  | 10/17/2021 4:12 PM  |
| 15 | Love all of our parks! Love the walking trails!!   | 10/17/2021 3:15 PM  |
| 16 | walking trails and fishing   | 10/17/2021 10:01 AM |
| 17 | Playground, pond/lake, trails  | 10/16/2021 3:14 PM  |
| 18 | Places were large groups can gather, ball fields were kids can play, pavilions for family gatherings   | 10/16/2021 10:15 AM |
| 19 | The playground area and walking paths  | 10/16/2021 9:51 AM  |
| 20 | Walking path, playground, baseball fields  | 10/16/2021 9:20 AM  |
| 21 | Veterans Tribute Park has a wonderful playground - we take our grandchildren.  | 10/16/2021 7:33 AM  |
| 22 | Nice modern playgrounds. Walking trails  | 10/16/2021 7:22 AM  |
| 23 | Beautiful outdoor spaces. It's nice to have covered areas as well and we love the dog parks.   | 10/16/2021 1:13 AM  |
| 24 | Walking paths. Dog park.   | 10/15/2021 10:22 PM |
| 25 | Close to home  | 10/15/2021 9:34 PM  |
| 26 | The trails to walk my dog on. The problem with the conservation area is they very seldom mow the trails during the summer and early fall. Very overgrown   | 10/15/2021 8:09 PM  |
| 27 | Nature and playgrounds for the kids  | 10/15/2021 6:20 PM  |

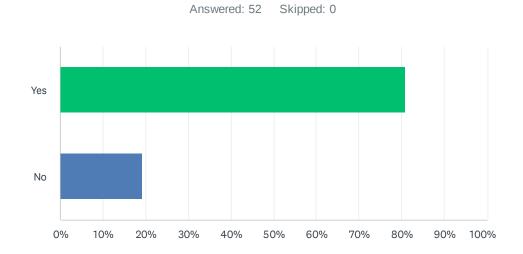
|    | Weldon Spring Parks and Greenway Master Plan   | SurveyMonkey       |
|----|--|--------------------|
| 28 | Convenient   | 10/15/2021 5:47 PM |
| 29 | Veterans tribute should be a model for other parks   | 10/15/2021 5:39 PM |
| 30 | Cleanliness  | 10/15/2021 5:37 PM |
| 31 | Family friendly, pet friendly  | 10/15/2021 5:33 PM |
| 32 | Trails, trees, quietness   | 10/15/2021 5:26 PM |
| 33 | The proximity to us and abundance of amenities. We mostly frequent playgrounds and bike paths.   | 10/15/2021 5:08 PM |
| 34 | I am a firm believer in maintaining or green space. Land development is often based on greed. Maintaining our park sad value to our whole community, not just some investment firm.s | 10/15/2021 4:52 PM |
| 35 | Not overly developed and can feel like I'm in nature. For city parks, I enjoy how close they are.  | 10/15/2021 4:51 PM |
| 36 | Weldon spring park is our favorite because it is the only one around with SHADE TREE's surrounding the playground.   | 10/15/2021 4:39 PM |
| 37 | shade from trees and walking/jogging paths. playgrounds and fishing lakes  | 10/15/2021 4:33 PM |
| 38 | The trails and fishing. Playgrounds for the kids.  | 10/15/2021 4:26 PM |
| 39 | The walking paths (nice landscaping/views) and proximity to our house  | 10/15/2021 4:25 PM |
| 40 | Playgrounds that keeps kids of all ages and abilities busy for a long period of time, water features, nice athletic fields, concert venue  | 10/15/2021 4:14 PM |
| 41 | Walking paths  | 10/15/2021 4:00 PM |
| 42 | Trails and playgrounds   | 10/15/2021 3:57 PM |
|    |  |                    |

#### Q10 From the list of parks in the previous questions, which one does your household use MOST OFTEN?



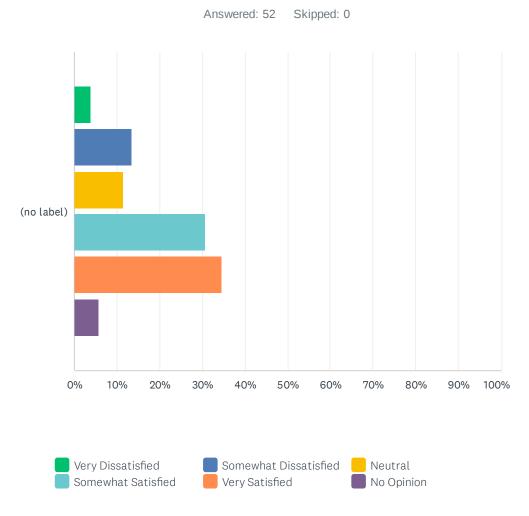
| ANSWER CHOICES                   | RESPONSES |    |
|----------------------------------|-----------|----|
| Weldon Spring City Park          | 54.90%    | 28 |
| Weldon Spring Conservation Area  | 1.96%     | 1  |
| Woodlands Sports Park            | 1.96%     | 1  |
| Legacy Park                      | 1.96%     | 1  |
| Barathaven Park                  | 0.00%     | 0  |
| Community Park                   | 0.00%     | 0  |
| Jack Gittemeier Park             | 0.00%     | 0  |
| Veterans Tribute Park            | 37.25%    | 19 |
| College Meadows Park             | 0.00%     | 0  |
| August A Busch Conservation Area | 1.96%     | 1  |
| TOTAL                            |           | 51 |
|                                  |           |    |

### Q11 Are you aware that the Veterans Tribute Park is owned and maintained by St. Charles County?



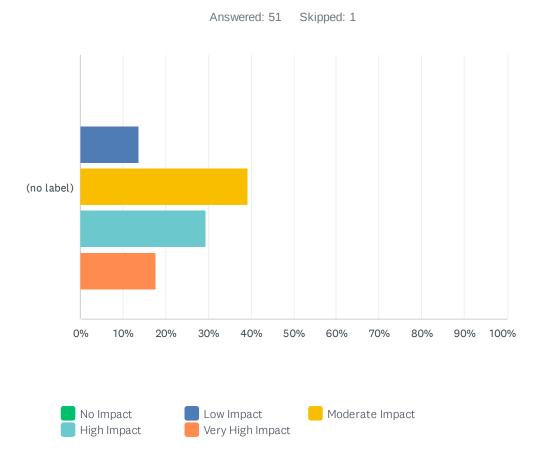
| ANSWER CHOICES | RESPONSES |    |
|----------------|-----------|----|
| Yes            | 80.77%    | 42 |
| No             | 19.23%    | 10 |
| TOTAL          |           | 52 |

#### Q12 How satisfied are you with the current state of Weldon Spring City Park?



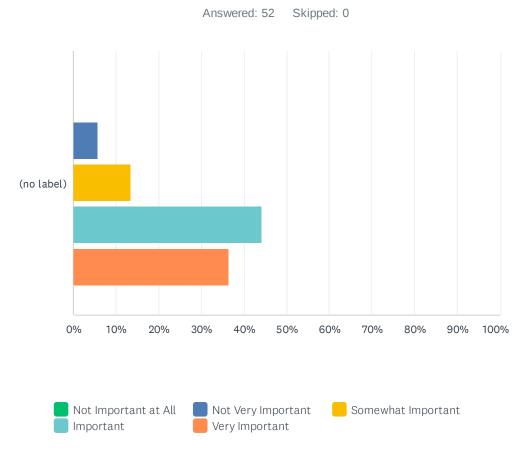
|               | VERY<br>DISSATISFIED | SOMEWHAT<br>DISSATISFIED | NEUTRAL     | SOMEWHAT<br>SATISFIED | VERY<br>SATISFIED | NO<br>OPINION | TOTAL | WEIGHTED<br>AVERAGE |
|---------------|----------------------|--------------------------|-------------|-----------------------|-------------------|---------------|-------|---------------------|
| (no<br>label) | 3.85%<br>2           | 13.46%<br>7              | 11.54%<br>6 | 30.77%<br>16          | 34.62%<br>18      | 5.77%<br>3    | 52    | 3.84                |

## Q13 How much impact do parks in the City of Weldon Spring have on your daily life, property values and health?



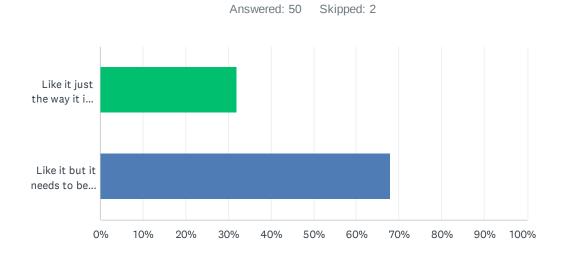
|               | NO<br>IMPACT | LOW<br>IMPACT | MODERATE<br>IMPACT | HIGH<br>IMPACT | VERY HIGH<br>IMPACT | TOTAL | WEIGHTED<br>AVERAGE |      |
|---------------|--------------|---------------|--------------------|----------------|---------------------|-------|---------------------|------|
| (no<br>label) | 0.00%        | 13.73%<br>7   | 39.22%<br>20       | 29.41%<br>15   | 17.65%<br>9         | 51    |                     | 3.51 |

### Q14 How important do you feel it is for the City of Weldon Spring to provide high quality parks, trails and facilities?



|               | NOT IMPORTANT<br>AT ALL | NOT VERY<br>IMPORTANT | SOMEWHAT<br>IMPORTANT | IMPORTANT    | VERY<br>IMPORTANT | TOTAL | WEIGHTED<br>AVERAGE |
|---------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------|-------------------|-------|---------------------|
| (no<br>label) | 0.00%                   | 5.77%<br>3            | 13.46%<br>7           | 44.23%<br>23 | 36.54%<br>19      | 52    | 4.12                |

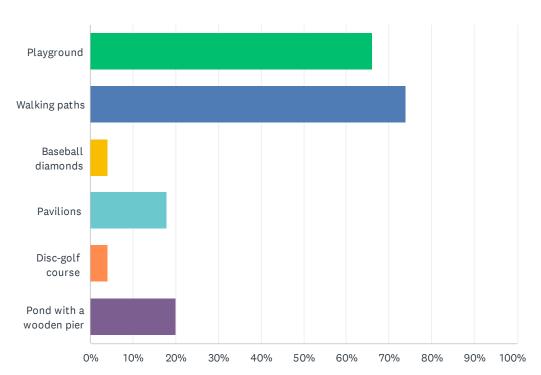
## Q15 Which statement best represents your opinion on the current state of Weldon Spring City Park?



| ANSWER CHOICES                              | RESPONSES |    |
|---|-----------|----|
| Like it just the way it is, leave it alone. | 32.00%    | 16 |
| Like it but it needs to be upgraded.        | 68.00%    | 34 |
| TOTAL                                       |           | 50 |

#### Q16 Which park feature do you most utilize within Weldon Spring City Park? Please select all that apply.

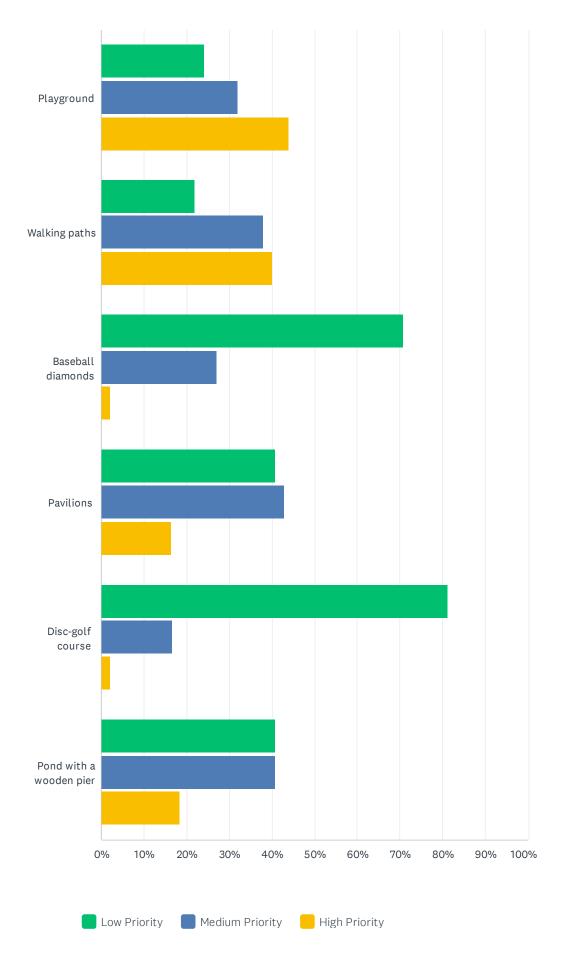




| ANSWER CHOICES          | RESPONSES |    |
|-------------------------|-----------|----|
| Playground              | 66.00%    | 33 |
| Walking paths           | 74.00%    | 37 |
| Baseball diamonds       | 4.00%     | 2  |
| Pavilions               | 18.00%    | 9  |
| Disc-golf course        | 4.00%     | 2  |
| Pond with a wooden pier | 20.00%    | 10 |
| Total Respondents: 50   |           |    |

## Q17 Indicate your priorities for improvements to existing facilities at Weldon Spring City Park.

Answered: 51 Skipped: 1

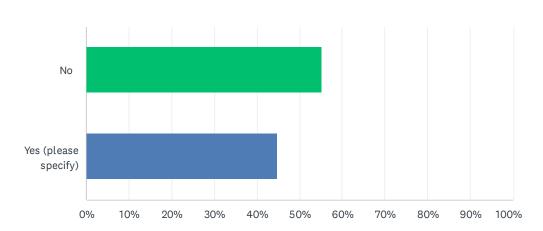


#### SurveyMonkey

|                         | LOW PRIORITY | MEDIUM PRIORITY | HIGH PRIORITY | TOTAL | WEIGHTED AVERAGE |
|-------------------------|--------------|-----------------|---------------|-------|------------------|
| Playground              | 24.00%       | 32.00%          | 44.00%        |       |                  |
|                         | 12           | 16              | 22            | 50    | 2.20             |
| Walking paths           | 22.00%       | 38.00%          | 40.00%        |       |                  |
|                         | 11           | 19              | 20            | 50    | 2.18             |
| Baseball diamonds       | 70.83%       | 27.08%          | 2.08%         |       |                  |
|                         | 34           | 13              | 1             | 48    | 1.31             |
| Pavilions               | 40.82%       | 42.86%          | 16.33%        |       |                  |
|                         | 20           | 21              | 8             | 49    | 1.76             |
| Disc-golf course        | 81.25%       | 16.67%          | 2.08%         |       |                  |
|                         | 39           | 8               | 1             | 48    | 1.21             |
| Pond with a wooden pier | 40.82%       | 40.82%          | 18.37%        |       |                  |
|                         | 20           | 20              | 9             | 49    | 1.78             |

#### Q18 Do you have any additional suggestions for improvements to Weldon Spring City Park?



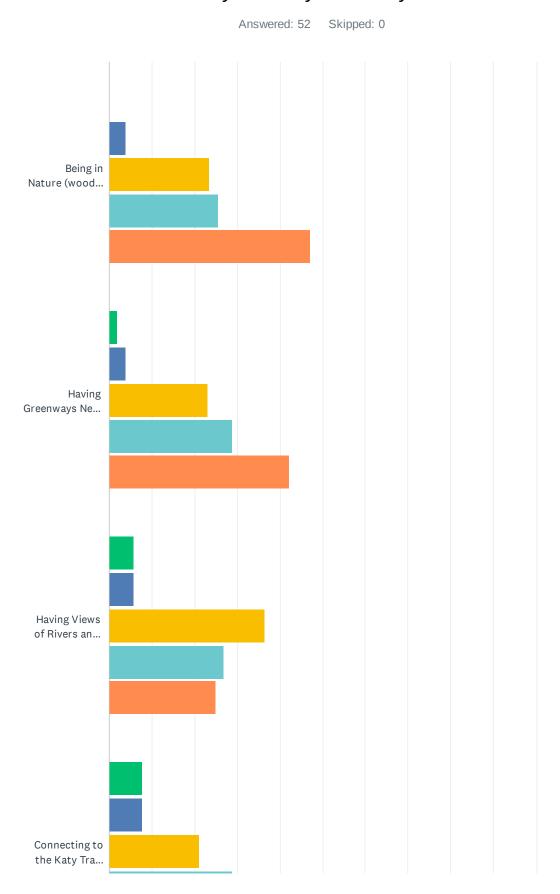


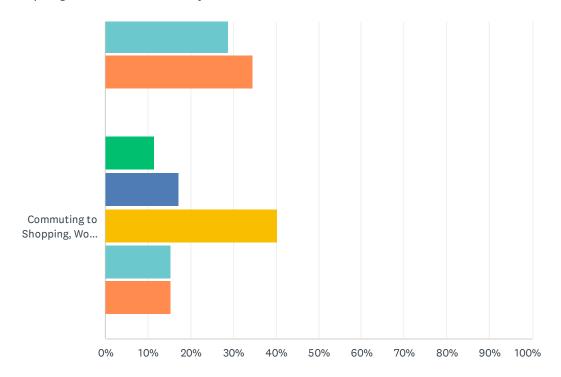
| ANSWER CHOICES       | RESPONSES |    |
|----------------------|-----------|----|
| No                   | 55.32%    | 26 |
| Yes (please specify) | 44.68%    | 21 |
| TOTAL                |           | 47 |

| #  | YES (PLEASE SPECIFY)  | DATE                |
|----|---|---------------------|
| 1  | More dog / trash receptacles  | 11/4/2021 8:45 AM   |
| 2  | Pickleball courts   | 11/3/2021 6:56 PM   |
| 3  | Splash pad area   | 11/3/2021 12:01 PM  |
| 4  | The park has continually been improved upon. The city is doing a great job.   | 11/3/2021 10:46 AM  |
| 5  | Needs more rec areas like sand volleyball or horseshoes or shuffle board. Need bee hives some wildflowers   | 10/29/2021 1:12 PM  |
| 6  | Provide walking paths that are natural/mulched surfaces rather than all concrete/asphalt trails   | 10/23/2021 2:56 AM  |
| 7  | Love the new walking trails recently installed!! We will be coming here more often!   | 10/17/2021 3:15 PM  |
| 8  | I think more Pavilions, named after past and current city leaders so more families could enjoy outside gathering for reunions and maybe one with a beautiful setting for weddings and anniversary celebrations. | 10/16/2021 10:15 AM |
| 9  | Playground metal gym portion should be replaced   | 10/16/2021 9:51 AM  |
| 10 | Facility to rent for our subdivision picnic.  | 10/16/2021 7:33 AM  |
| 11 | The wood mulch in the playground are needs to go. It's a constant issue when my kids are there.   | 10/16/2021 7:22 AM  |
| 12 | I wish we had a public pool or water play area.   | 10/16/2021 1:13 AM  |
| 13 | Add dog park  | 10/15/2021 10:22 PM |
| 14 | Ask kids what they like to do on a playground before remodeling again. More interactive features, slides, climbing featuresless standing structures   | 10/15/2021 5:47 PM  |

| V  | Veldon Spring Parks and Greenway Master Plan   | SurveyMonkey       |
|----|--|--------------------|
| 15 | BASKETBALL!!! My teenage boys need a place to gather and play basketball!  | 10/15/2021 5:38 PM |
| 16 | Tennis and multi-use court for basketball etc. would be amazing. A pavilion or seating area close to the playground would also be great.   | 10/15/2021 5:08 PM |
| 17 | There could be more done with the new parcel. The walking paths don't make much sense as is. There could have been an amphitheater off the north side of the red shed or behind city hall building to incorporate more community events. Current paths cut oddly through open space. | 10/15/2021 4:51 PM |
| 18 | A bridge over the lake. Or more landscaping to make the walking path more interesting.   | 10/15/2021 4:39 PM |
| 19 | Not necessarily in the park but trails that connect to other trails outside the city.  | 10/15/2021 4:26 PM |
| 20 | Outdoor movies and concerts, water features for playground, more places to sit   | 10/15/2021 4:14 PM |
| 21 | Clean up walking paths   | 10/15/2021 4:00 PM |

## Q19 Please rate the importance of the following five greenway experiences to you and your family.



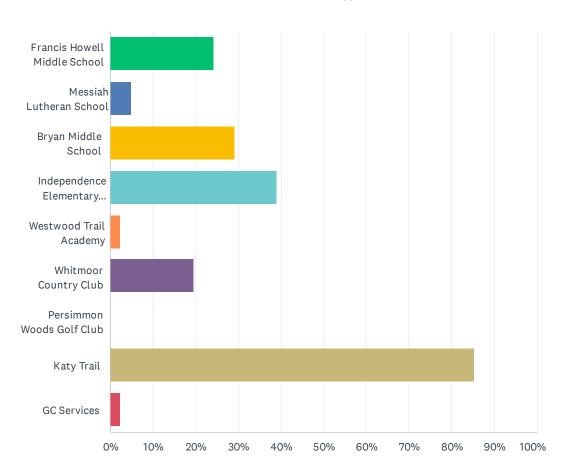




|   | NOT<br>IMPORTANT<br>AT ALL | NOT VERY<br>IMPORTANT | MODERATELY<br>IMPORTANT | IMPORTANT    | VERY<br>IMPORTANT | TOTAL | WEIGHTED<br>AVERAGE |
|---|----------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|--------------|-------------------|-------|---------------------|
| Being in Nature<br>(woods, prairies,<br>wetlands, etc.)               | 0.00%                      | 3.92%<br>2            | 23.53%<br>12            | 25.49%<br>13 | 47.06%<br>24      | 51    | 4.16                |
| Having Greenways<br>Near Your Home                                    | 1.92%<br>1                 | 3.85%                 | 23.08%<br>12            | 28.85%<br>15 | 42.31%<br>22      | 52    | 4.06                |
| Having Views of Rivers and Waterways                                  | 5.77%                      | 5.77%                 | 36.54%<br>19            | 26.92%<br>14 | 25.00%<br>13      | 52    | 3.60                |
| Connecting to the Katy<br>Trail or Other Regional<br>Parks and Trails | 7.69%<br>4                 | 7.69%<br>4            | 21.15%<br>11            | 28.85%<br>15 | 34.62%<br>18      | 52    | 3.75                |
| Commuting to<br>Shopping, Work or<br>Dining Destinations              | 11.54%<br>6                | 17.31%<br>9           | 40.38%<br>21            | 15.38%<br>8  | 15.38%<br>8       | 52    | 3.06                |

#### Q20 What destinations within the Weldon Spring city limits are a priority to connect to via a greenway? (Select all that apply)

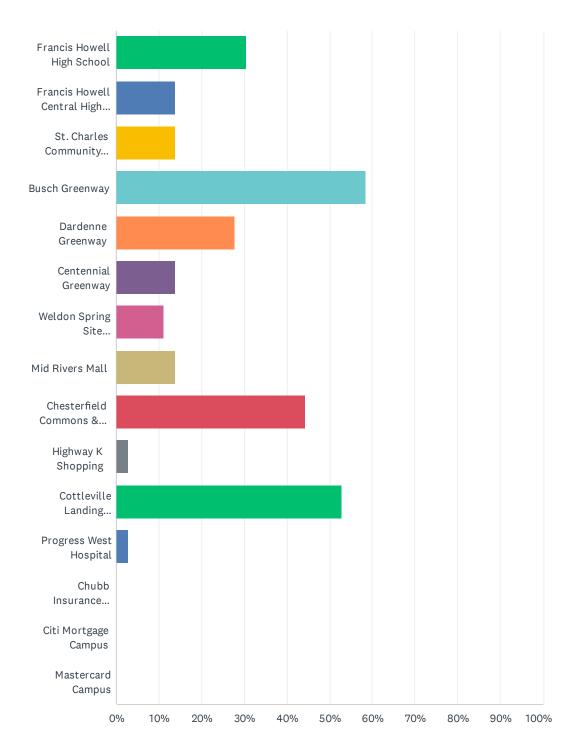




| ANSWER CHOICES                 | RESPONSES |    |
|--------------------------------|-----------|----|
| Francis Howell Middle School   | 24.39%    | 10 |
| Messiah Lutheran School        | 4.88%     | 2  |
| Bryan Middle School            | 29.27%    | 12 |
| Independence Elementary School | 39.02%    | 16 |
| Westwood Trail Academy         | 2.44%     | 1  |
| Whitmoor Country Club          | 19.51%    | 8  |
| Persimmon Woods Golf Club      | 0.00%     | 0  |
| Katy Trail                     | 85.37%    | 35 |
| GC Services                    | 2.44%     | 1  |
| Total Respondents: 41          |           |    |

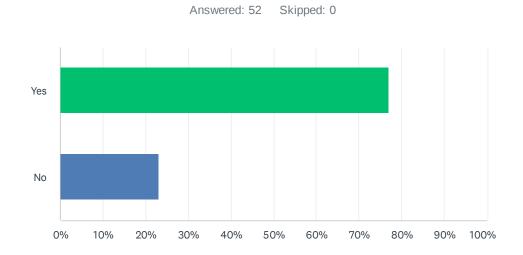
#### Q21 What destinations outside the Weldon Spring city limits are a priority to connect to via a greenway? (Select all that apply)





| ANSWER CHOICES                         | RESPONSES |    |
|--|-----------|----|
| Francis Howell High School             | 30.56%    | 11 |
| Francis Howell Central High School     | 13.89%    | 5  |
| St. Charles Community College          | 13.89%    | 5  |
| Busch Greenway                         | 58.33%    | 21 |
| Dardenne Greenway                      | 27.78%    | 10 |
| Centennial Greenway                    | 13.89%    | 5  |
| Weldon Spring Site Interpretive Center | 11.11%    | 4  |
| Mid Rivers Mall                        | 13.89%    | 5  |
| Chesterfield Commons & Outlet Malls    | 44.44%    | 16 |
| Highway K Shopping                     | 2.78%     | 1  |
| Cottleville Landing shopping area      | 52.78%    | 19 |
| Progress West Hospital                 | 2.78%     | 1  |
| Chubb Insurance Campus                 | 0.00%     | 0  |
| Citi Mortgage Campus                   | 0.00%     | 0  |
| Mastercard Campus                      | 0.00%     | 0  |
| Total Respondents: 36                  |           |    |

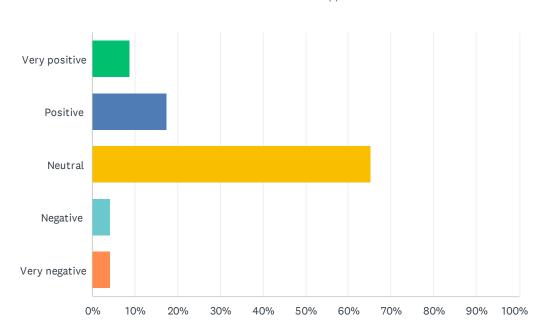
#### Q22 Have you ever been to Weldon Spring City Hall?



| ANSWER CHOICES | RESPONSES |    |
|----------------|-----------|----|
| Yes            | 76.92%    | 40 |
| No             | 23.08%    | 12 |
| TOTAL          |           | 52 |

#### Q23 In general, what is your opinion of Weldon Spring City Hall?





| ANSWER CHOICES | RESPONSES |    |
|----------------|-----------|----|
| Very positive  | 8.70%     | 4  |
| Positive       | 17.39%    | 8  |
| Neutral        | 65.22%    | 30 |
| Negative       | 4.35%     | 2  |
| Very negative  | 4.35%     | 2  |
| TOTAL          |           | 46 |

| # | WHY? (PLEASE SPECIFY)  | DATE                |
|---|--|---------------------|
| 1 | It's very unimpressive and outdated for such a wealthy community. I don't think it's a good representation   | 11/3/2021 12:01 PM  |
| 2 | It's a house not a proper community building. Need a safe community center not a barn with chemicals storage, no heating, non-commercial food area | 11/3/2021 11:46 AM  |
| 3 | It's house not a city hall. Needs to be e rec center and move city hall .  | 10/29/2021 1:12 PM  |
| 4 | Needs updating   | 10/23/2021 2:56 AM  |
| 5 | It has been a while, but it represents a positive atmosphere and where voices can be heard.  | 10/16/2021 10:15 AM |
| 6 | Appears to be adequate for the business of running Weldon Spring government  | 10/16/2021 9:51 AM  |
| 7 | It works for the size of Weldon  | 10/16/2021 9:20 AM  |
| 8 | Just looks old and outdated for the area.  | 10/16/2021 7:22 AM  |
| 9 | Never get to go into the building since I work the same hours it's open. I do appreciate the new posted board outside with info just put up        | 10/15/2021 8:09 PM  |

|    | Weldon Spring Parks and Greenway Master Plan   | SurveyMonkey       |
|----|--|--------------------|
| 10 | I like it the way it is. I appreciate a modest building and not trying to mimic St Peters.   | 10/15/2021 4:51 PM |
| 11 | Always courteous   | 10/15/2021 4:33 PM |
| 12 | Part time staff, small facility, however haven't really had a need for anything different  | 10/15/2021 4:14 PM |
| 13 | There needs to be a stop sign or crosswalk so people from whitmoor can SAFELY cross wolfrum to access to the trials. Having people run across a busy road is an accident waiting to happen. The Highlands have a stop sign or crosswalk, I don't understand why whitmoor does not. | 10/15/2021 3:57 PM |

# Q24 Thank you for your time! If you would like to be kept up to date on the Weldon Spring Parks and Greenway Master Plan, please enter your contact information below.

Answered: 20 Skipped: 32

| ANSWER CHOICES  | RESPONSES |    |
|-----------------|-----------|----|
| Name            | 100.00%   | 20 |
| Company         | 0.00%     | 0  |
| Address         | 0.00%     | 0  |
| Address 2       | 0.00%     | 0  |
| City/Town       | 0.00%     | 0  |
| State/Province  | 0.00%     | 0  |
| ZIP/Postal Code | 0.00%     | 0  |
| Country         | 0.00%     | 0  |
| Email Address   | 100.00%   | 20 |
| Phone Number    | 0.00%     | 0  |

| #  | NAME                 | DATE                |
|----|----------------------|---------------------|
| 1  | Jeff Gutterman       | 11/4/2021 8:45 AM   |
| 2  | Dan Lodes            | 11/3/2021 7:48 PM   |
| 3  | Watkins              | 11/3/2021 2:24 PM   |
| 4  | Vic Conlin           | 10/29/2021 1:12 PM  |
| 5  | Jerry Cox            | 10/23/2021 2:56 AM  |
| 6  | Larry F. Guessfeld   | 10/16/2021 10:15 AM |
| 7  | Terry Crowers        | 10/16/2021 9:51 AM  |
| 8  | Mary                 | 10/16/2021 9:43 AM  |
| 9  | Molitor's            | 10/16/2021 7:33 AM  |
| 10 | Vanessa Roberts      | 10/15/2021 10:22 PM |
| 11 | Mary                 | 10/15/2021 9:52 PM  |
| 12 | Paula Thomson        | 10/15/2021 9:34 PM  |
| 13 | Gina Mark Hofmeister | 10/15/2021 8:09 PM  |
| 14 | Meghan               | 10/15/2021 6:20 PM  |
| 15 | Austin Pennington    | 10/15/2021 5:39 PM  |
| 16 | Lauren Verhoff       | 10/15/2021 5:08 PM  |
| 17 | Kate s               | 10/15/2021 4:39 PM  |
| 18 | Greg Robertson       | 10/15/2021 4:26 PM  |
|    |                      |                     |

| Weldon Spring Parks and Greenway Master Plan |                          | SurveyMonkey        |
|--|--------------------------|---------------------|
| 19   | Tim Kennedy              | 10/15/2021 4:00 PM  |
| 20   | Krissi Carney            | 10/15/2021 3:57 PM  |
| #  | COMPANY                  | DATE                |
|  | There are no responses.  |                     |
| #  | ADDRESS                  | DATE                |
|  | There are no responses.  |                     |
| #  | ADDRESS 2                | DATE                |
|  | There are no responses.  |                     |
| #  | CITY/TOWN                | DATE                |
|  | There are no responses.  |                     |
| #  | STATE/PROVINCE           | DATE                |
|  | There are no responses.  |                     |
| #  | ZIP/POSTAL CODE          | DATE                |
|  | There are no responses.  |                     |
| #  | COUNTRY                  | DATE                |
|  | There are no responses.  |                     |
| #  | EMAIL ADDRESS            | DATE                |
| 1  | jeff.gutterman@gmail.com | 11/4/2021 8:45 AM   |
| 2  | dblodes@gmail.com        | 11/3/2021 7:48 PM   |
| 3  | bpwsnw@sbcglobal.net     | 11/3/2021 2:24 PM   |
| 4  | vmcjac@gmail.com         | 10/29/2021 1:12 PM  |
| 5  | jcpsyd57@gmail.com       | 10/23/2021 2:56 AM  |
| 6  | larryfg@charter.net      | 10/16/2021 10:15 AM |
| 7  | tcrowers@gmail.com       | 10/16/2021 9:51 AM  |
| 8  | marymbrew@gmail.com      | 10/16/2021 9:43 AM  |
| 9  | urbmolitor@aol.com       | 10/16/2021 7:33 AM  |
| 10   | pineappledunn@gmail.com  | 10/15/2021 10:22 PM |
| 11   | mcomer84@yahoo.com       | 10/15/2021 9:52 PM  |
| 12   | pudalee@yahoo.com        | 10/15/2021 9:34 PM  |
| 13   | ginerbean23@yahoo.com    | 10/15/2021 8:09 PM  |
| 14   | meghanwidel@yahoo.com    | 10/15/2021 6:20 PM  |
| <br>15                                       | Usmc6511@gmail.com       | 10/15/2021 5:39 PM  |
| 16   | lbverhoff@gmail.com      | 10/15/2021 5:08 PM  |
| 17   | katemc325@yahoo.com      | 10/15/2021 4:39 PM  |
| <br>18                                       | gsrobertson@charter.net  | 10/15/2021 4:26 PM  |
| 19   | tpkennedy4@gmail.com     | 10/15/2021 4:00 PM  |
| 20   | krissi1027@hotmail.com   | 10/15/2021 3:57 PM  |
| ±<br>#                                       | PHONE NUMBER             | DATE                |
| ,  | There are no responses.  | DAIL                |







#### **Meeting Notes**

| Date:             | 8/24/2021  | Page 1 of 2 |
|-------------------|--|-------------|
| Meeting<br>Topic: | PRAC Kickoff Meeting   |             |
| Project:          | Weldon Spring Parks & Greenway Master Plan   |             |
| PDS Job #:        | J21.12   |             |
| Attendees:        | Michael Padella, Weldon Spring City Administrator Bill Hanks, City Clerk Nicholas Baldecchi, PRAC Chairman Ronnie Griesenauer, PRAC Vice-Chair Vic Conlin, PRAC Member Robert Ahern, PRAC Member Mitchell Jordan, Community Relations Coordinator Scott Emmelkamp, PDS |             |
| Notes by:         | Scott Emmelkamp  |             |

Primary focus of the kickoff meeting was to 1) provide the PRAC with a little more information on Planning Design Studio, 2) provide a quick review of the project tasks and thoughts on schedule, and 3) review draft questions with the committee for the on-line survey. Comments received from the presentation included the following:

- Scott to send out a PDF of the PowerPoint presentation for the committee to review the schedule and the draft on-line survey questions.
- PRAC would like some general demographic questions included in the survey as well as questions to identify area the respondents live and if they are a local business owner.
- Include questions that ask if respondents know what are Weldon Spring parks versus St. Charles County parks.
- For questions regarding destinations make sure to include Busch Conservation area. Scot said that PDS would use GIS to identify parks, schools, shopping areas and large employers within a 5-mile radius of the city.
- A PRAC Member is interested if trails can be linked to the Whitmoor Neighborhood.
- PRAC would like a question related to the future use of City Hall. Should it me used for indoor recreation such as gym/offices?

- PRAC would like connections to Veteran's Tribute Park, Katy Trail and across Hwy 94.
- PRAC would like the parks master plan study to mention Golf Cart issue. They think golf carts on trails is dangerous and creates conflicts with pedestrians. Golf carts should be
- PRAC asked if it would be good to schedule public meetings at Weldon Spring events this fall/winter. (Yes)
- PRAC expectations for master plan project:
  - o Would like the project to provide information on improvement priorities in a five-year timeframe.
  - o Master Plan should identify future park land opportunities.
  - o What to do with "Lot C" a pocket park donated to city. Has utilities, may be a good trailhead.



P.O. Box 179279 Saint Louis, Missouri 63117 Phone: 314.214.3600 planningdesignstudio.com

#### **Meeting Notes**

| Date:             | 02/17/2022                                 | Page 1 of 2 |
|-------------------|--|-------------|
| Meeting<br>Topic: | Parks & Recreation MP Update for PRAC      |             |
| Project:          | Weldon Spring Parks & Greenway Master Plan |             |
| PDS Job #:        | J2112                                      |             |
|                   | Nicholas Baldecchi, PRAC Chairman          |             |
|                   | Ronnie Griesenauer, PRAC Vice-Chair        |             |
|                   | Bob Ahern – PRAC Member                    |             |
| Attendees:        | John Stefanyak - PRAC Member               |             |
|                   | Mitchell Jordan – City of Weldon Spring    |             |
|                   | Scott Emmelkamp – Planning Design Studio   |             |
|                   | Jonathan Corbett – Planning Design Studio  |             |
| Notes by:         | Scott Emmelkamp & Jonathan Corbett         |             |

Virtual meeting held 6:30 – 8 pm. The following is a summary of the comments related to the PowerPoint presentation which included suggested improvements for parks and greenways (attached).

- Might be good to add examples to the PowerPoint of different Hwy crossing options that may work for Hwy 94. (Examples - Hwy 100 in Wildwood At Grade; Pedestrian Bridges - GRG, Wildwood)
- Weldon Spring PRAC prefers a pedestrian bridge option to cross Hwy 94.
- Greenway Connections Slide:
  - PRAC member Bob indicated that the Whitmoor Neighborhood had an interest in having a trail link to Veterans Tribute Park. Possible connection through 23 acres of open space owned by St. Charles County west of Pitman Hill Road adjacent to the Park.
  - Look at Technology Drive for possible extension of greenway south to Katy Trail.
  - Focus Area #7 Towers Road is narrow and steep. May be challenging to connect to Katy Trail.
  - Wolfrum Road is also narrow and dangerous for pedestrians. Okay to keep as a greenway focus area but make it a lower priority. The PRAC also indicated that the neighbors along the south portion of Wolfrum Road have expressed resistance to trail development in this area in the past.

- Comments on City Park Suggested Improvements:
  - Ocity is seeking a grant to add a pavilion and restroom on the east side of Nancy Lane south of the Red Barn. Pavilion size is similar to the one at Veterans Tribute Park and be able to hold approximately 75-100 guests. Mitchell will send PDS the grant application. This location should have easy access to utilities due to it being near where an old home was located.
  - Forebay & Lake is a priority (Current Erosion Issues)
  - North Parking Lot, restroom and pavilions should be removed from suggested improvements. Residents don't want anything in that area due to safety concerns.
  - o Nancy Lane must stay open due to an old easement. The city said working to remove the easement is a low priority.
  - o City has applied for a grant for the Music/Event Stage.
  - o PRAC likes the suggestion of a screened maintenance area.
  - o PRAC likes the wildflower meadow improvements.
  - o PRAC likes the suggestion of adding internal paths.
- City would like to do a Facility Needs Assessment for City Hall. Issues with building including basement flooding, old bathrooms, and structural concerns.
- City identified a need for more indoor gym space and a desire to generate revenue if the city would develop indoor gym space.
- PRAC would like the Weldon Spring and creek locations shown on the mapping.
- PRAC would like the old Weldon Spring town proper area shown on the mapping.

#### Action Items:

- PDS update the presentation & mapping to incorporate PRAC meeting comments.
- Mitchell to send PDS grant application.
- Mitchell to send an email to online survey respondents.