

## Components of a System Wide Park and Recreation Plan

### Goals for Ultimate Development Based on Recreation Needs of the Citizens

- Inventory of existing areas and facilities:
  - Public & Private (look at programs and facilities)
  - Regional: neighboring counties, state (particularly for greenway/trail plans)
- Inventory of Potential Resources (physical)
- Identify potential sites for acquisition (this can be a general area within the city or county limits)
  - Where?
- Population Projections & Profiles
  - Countywide
  - Municipalities
  - Unincorporated
- Transportation Patterns
  - Existing & Future or Proposed
- Demand Analysis – with projections
- Citizen Involvement Process
  - Did all groups have the *opportunity* to become involved?
- Development and application of standards
- Financial Resources
  - Proposed costs
  - Sources of Funds (existing and potential)
- Action Plan
  - Implementation Plan
  - Timeline and costs based on results of above documentation

## Why Plan?

- Establish Land Use Priorities
- Coordinate planning efforts for park use vs. neighboring land use
- Guides for design of future facilities
- Provide a basis for cost estimates
  - Budget Justification
- More Knowledgeable of the community
- Customer Satisfaction (citizens are stakeholders, they should buy in to the plan during the process)
- Advantage for Grant Funds (business plan: more likely to give money to someone who has a plan!)

## Tips for a successful plan:

Who to involve?

- Park and Recreation Department staff & volunteers
- Planners (local & regional)
- Athletic Associations
- Special interest groups
- Civic groups
- Others?: \_\_\_\_\_

Have the plan adopted by the local governing board. They need to commit to what the citizens of the jurisdiction have stated they need for recreation in their community

*REMEMBER: A plan can be changed; it is not set in stone. As a community changes so do the needs. Planning is a method to evaluate changing needs.*

## Public Involvement:

Why should citizens be involved?

- Give citizens a voice - democracy
- Citizens become active supporters
- Helps assure representation by all
- It is their park system and their money
- Qualify for grants

## Citizen Participation Techniques/Function Matrix

Technique	Function						
	Identify Attitudes & Opinions	Facilitate Participation	Answer Citizen Questions	Disseminate Information	Generate New Ideas and Alternatives	Resolve Conflict	Develop Support/ Minimize Opposition
Charette	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>		<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>
Advisory Committee	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>
Bond Referendum	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>				<b>X</b>	
Surveys	<b>X</b>						
Public Hearing		<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>			
Focus Groups	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>				

Use **Multiple Techniques** for Public Input to get a better representation of the community needs and insure that everyone has had the opportunity to provide input into the process.