

2020-2025 Comprehensive Master Plan



www.berkeleyparkdistrict.com

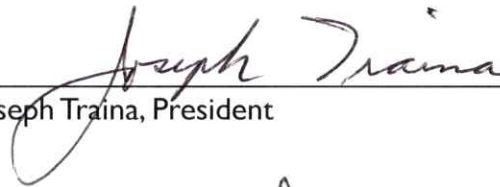
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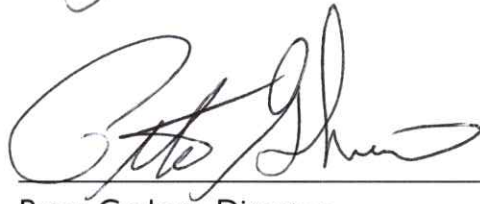
2020-2025
Comprehensive Master Plan

Berkeley Park District
Board of Commissioners

Berkeley Park District 2020-2025 Comprehensive Master Plan is hereby adopted by the Park District Board of Commissioners on the 6th day of May in the year 2020.



Joseph Traina, President



Peter Graham, Director



Acknowledgments

Berkeley Park District Board of Commissioners:

Joseph Traina - President
Kevin Lowe - Commissioner
Paul Smith - Commissioner
William Murtha - Commissioner
Dave Ditchfield - Commissioner
Ann Hord - Secretary
Art Schenone - Treasurer
Peter Graham - Director

Berkeley Park District:

1200 Lind Avenue
Berkeley, IL 60163

Phone: (708) 544-1935
www.berkeleyparkdistrict.com

Lead Consultant:

Design Perspectives, Inc.
1280 Iroquois Avenue
Suite 110
Naperville, IL 60563

Phone: (630) 428-3134
Fax: (630) 428-3159

www.design-perspectives.net

Tod J. Stanton, ASLA: President & Master Planner
Catt Eicher: Park Planner & GIS Analyst

Sub-Consultants:

Public Research Group LLC



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Executive Summary

In the spring of 2019, the Berkeley Park District proceeded with its first Comprehensive Master Plan to create a series of goals, objectives and recommendations that will guide both the decision making and strategic investments to serve the community over the next 5 years. With the times changing at such a rapid pace, it is important that agencies understand what the community needs are and make the most out of every opportunity to provide service the community. There will be several opportunities in the future due to the Park District's efforts to be more visible and engaged in the community. This connection to the small town it serves is important and will make an impact towards the future direction of the agency.

Outcomes

The planning process was led by the consortium of Design Perspectives and Public Research Group, with its first efforts centered on outreach and engagement to learn about the community. The steps that followed allowed for analysis, then goals & objectives and finally recommendations.

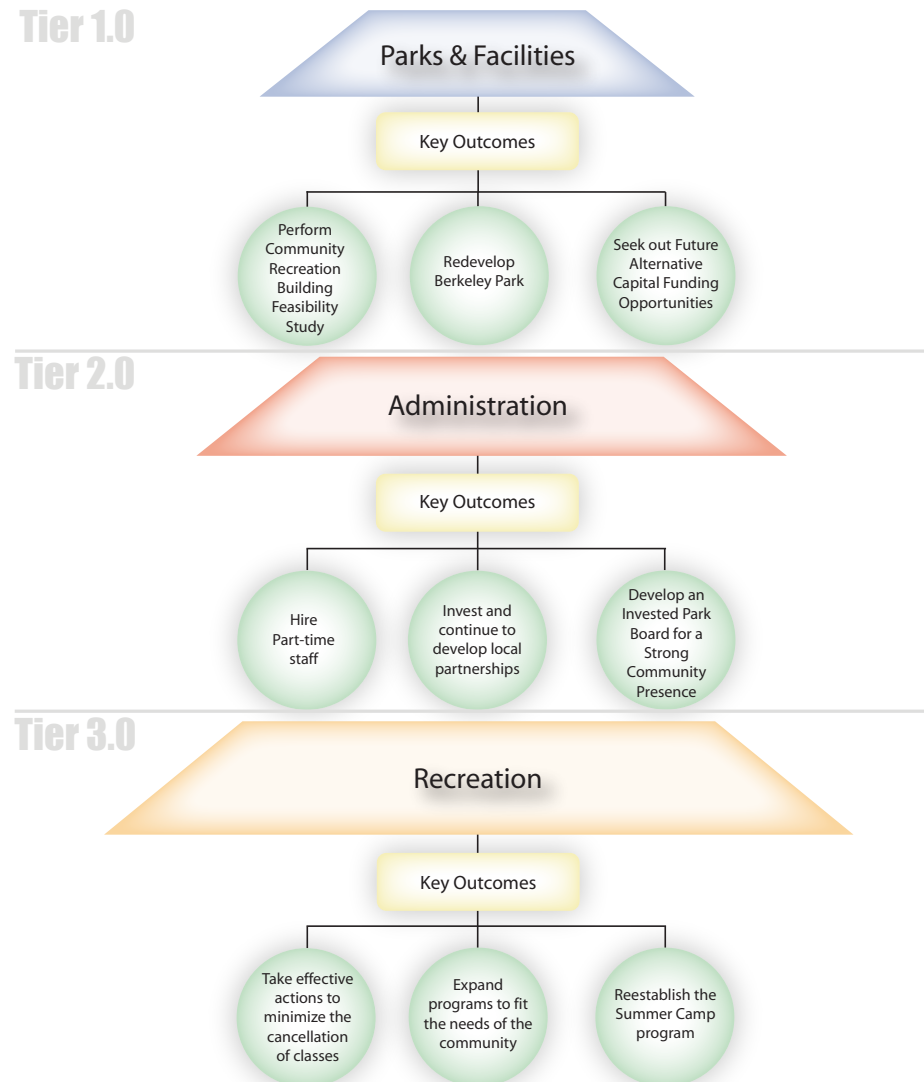
In the very beginning of the planning process, three questions were consistently orbiting the conversation:

- Question 1 - What does the community want from the Park District?
- Question 2 - Should we investigate building a new Recreation Building and what does the community think about it?
- Question 3 - Is the Park District still necessary for the community?

Answers to these questions can be found throughout the Comprehensive Master Plan.



The strategic atlas below illustrates the key outcomes based on the strategic goals and objectives laid out in order of importance based on the three core function areas of the agency.





Conclusion

The master planning process has led the Park District to validate its efforts to gain positive momentum by improving visibility and communication with the community. However, the journey is just beginning. The community voiced opinions as to what is important in the next 5 years that includes:

- Improve the programs both in terms of the summer camp program and a focus on senior and family orientated programs. The future growth of the Park District will be in these areas.
- Balance capital improvements to build new and renovate old parks and facilities. The potential redevelopment of Berkeley Park and new Recreation Center are important and strike this balanced approach.
- Continue to keep the communication efforts going within the community, especially on the parks and programs offered by the Park District.

The community will notice efforts within these directions to move the Park District forward and value the master plan to provide guidance for an ever-changing future.



Chapter I - Introduction

The Berkeley Park District has largely succeeded in satisfying the residents of the community, as evidenced by the survey results as well as the community input collected through the master planning process. The Park District places a strong emphasis on being local. This means being present in the lives of the local community with programs and services, taking pride in its ability to continue a legacy of improving the quality of life for its residents and neighboring communities by investing in local places to play. The challenge is to accomplish the ever growing recreational needs of the community with a sole, part-time director.

Berkeley Park District Mission

“The mission of the Berkeley Park District is to provide a safe outlet for recreational experiences, enriching our small community through the use our local parks & facilities.”



History of the Village of Berkeley

The Village of Berkeley is located on Cook County's western border. With Interstates 290 and 294 forming its western and part of its southern boundary, and the Union Pacific Railroad (formerly the Chicago & North Western) and the large Proviso classification yard to the north, Berkeley has ready access to the metropolitan region. Yet the transportation corridors that make Berkeley accessible to distant places also serve to separate the Village from its nearest neighbors (Elmhurst, Bellwood and Hillside) creating a small-town atmosphere.

Beginning in 1835 the area that was to become Berkeley was home to farmers, most of German and Dutch ancestry. Settling on farms that ranged from 40 to 160 acres, the Dutch tended to be truck farmers, while the Germans did general farming. This small group of farm families established a one-room school called Sunnyside in 1848. Now housed in a larger and newer building, Sunnyside Elementary School still operates today. A short distance west on St. Charles Road (completed in 1836); farmland was donated for what is now known as Old Settler's Cemetery.

The 1902 completion of the Chicago, Aurora & Elgin Railroad (interurban) gave the area its first passenger rail service at a stop called Berkeley. Subdivision in 1908 and again in 1914–1915 brought residential construction and new residents, many of whom were English, to the area. At the initiative of these newcomers, the Village of Berkeley was incorporated in 1924.

The population growth of the early 1900s paled by comparison to the population boom Berkeley experienced after World War II when the Village population tripled from 1,882 in 1950 to 5,792 in 1960. At the same time, Berkeley lost a number of houses when the construction of the Interstate 290 extension in the late 1950s cut a north-south swath through the western section of the Village. With traffic diverted to the new expressway system, the Chicago, Aurora & Elgin Railroad terminated its passenger service in 1957, but its route is still marked through the Village by the Prairie Path for bicycling.

Berkeley's land purchase from the railroad in the 1960s extended its northern boundary, allowing for the addition of a small industrial park. In 2000, the facility's 12 light industries included electrical contractors, printing companies, warehouses, wholesalers, currently companies like Vanne Foods, Preferred Meals, Honey-Can-Do, Int. and Eagle Distributors, Inc. call Berkeley "home".

In June 1973, the Village of Berkeley voted for the proposed Berkeley Park District. The following December, a real estate agreement was made to purchase land for the Park District. In 1975, more land was purchased along with the now northern part of Berkeley de-annexed from the Veterans Park District to join the future Berkeley Park District. The Berkeley Park District was formally founded in 1976 after 3 years of purchasing land and getting equipment and building space organized.

In May 1993, Berkeley Park land was declared to be used for recreation and became the 3rd and final park owned by the Berkeley Park District.



Master Plan Process

The purpose behind a Comprehensive Master Plan is to create strategies over a five-year period to focus the direction of an agency on ways to better serve the community. This plan provides information on the current state of the Park District which is the result of numerous opportunities to investigate the parks and recreational needs of the community.

The process will produce a road map for the future of the Park District. The following outlines key steps in the planning process that included:

- Visioning sessions
- Public input session
- Community survey
- Partnership investigation & analysis
- Parks & Facility inventory & analysis
- Standards development
- Level of service analysis
- Conceptual park planning
- Capital improvement planning
- Strategic road map with goals & key initiatives
- Implementation action plan

The purpose to develop a plan is a simple, straightforward option. The reasons are many that include:

- Establish priorities for a future direction based on comprehensive research to address documented needs.
- Develop goals with recommendations on how to achieve future priorities.
- Develop a plan that places high value in park and recreation opportunities for all Park District residents to enjoy.
- Establish a capital improvement plan to guide the future direction for planning and development.
- Pursue grants & other alternative funding opportunities.

The planning process covered slightly over six months and included the following timeline:





Chapter 2 - Current Environment

Berkeley Park District Demographics

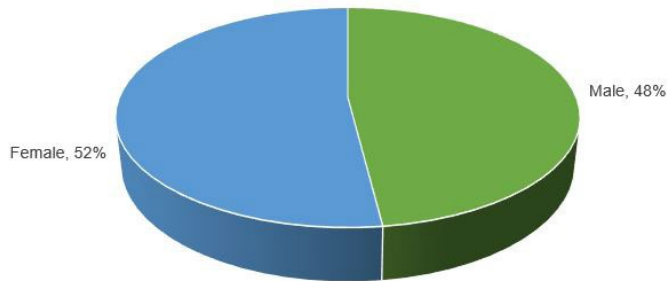
The following pages highlights the demographic profile of the Berkeley Park District.

Total Population ¹ :	5,205
Total Households ¹ :	1,752
Average Household Size ¹ :	3
Median Age ¹ :	39
Female ¹ :	48%
Male ¹ :	52%

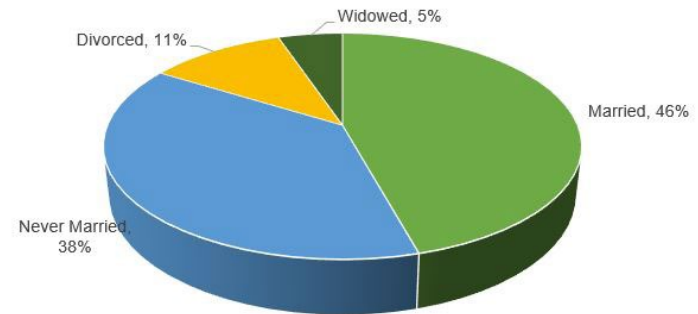
Marital Status¹

Never married:	38.1%
Now married:	45.7%
Widowed:	5.2%
Divorced:	11.0%

Resident Gender



Marital Status

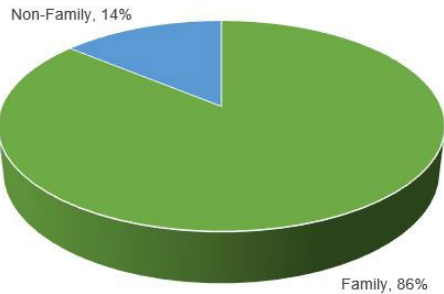




Households¹

Family:	86%
Non-family:	14%

Residents Household Types



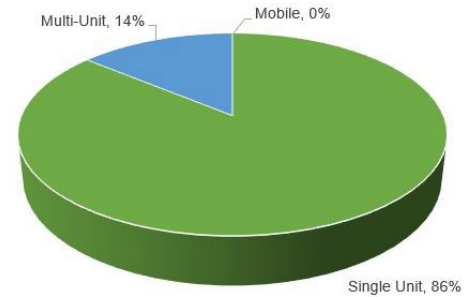
Units and Occupancy¹

Number of Housing Units:	1,842
Single Unit:	86%
Multi-Unit:	14%
Mobile Home, Boat, RV, etc.:	0%
Occupied:	95%
Vacant:	5%
Owner Occupied:	84%
Renter Occupied:	16%

Value

Median value of Owner-Occupied Housing Units:	\$172,000
Median Household Income ¹ :	\$67,130

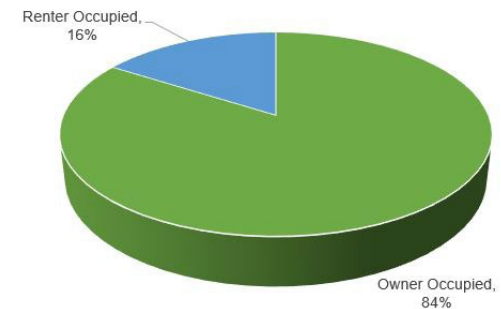
Types of Structure



Occupied vs. Vacant



Ownership of Occupied Units





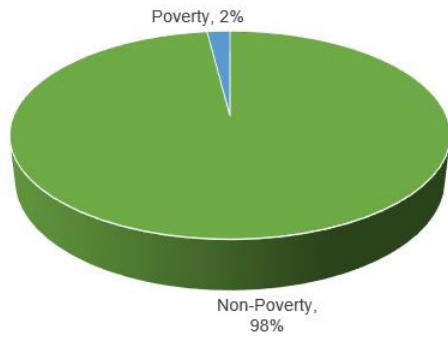
Poverty¹

Persons below poverty line:	7.5%
Children (Under 18) Poverty:	2%
Non-poverty:	98%
Seniors (65 and over) Poverty:	21%
Non-poverty:	79%

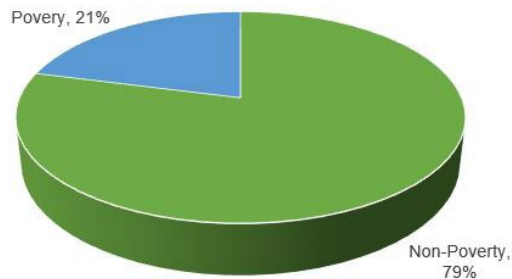
Age Groups¹

Under 18:	21.4%
18-64:	65.0%
65 & Over:	13.6%

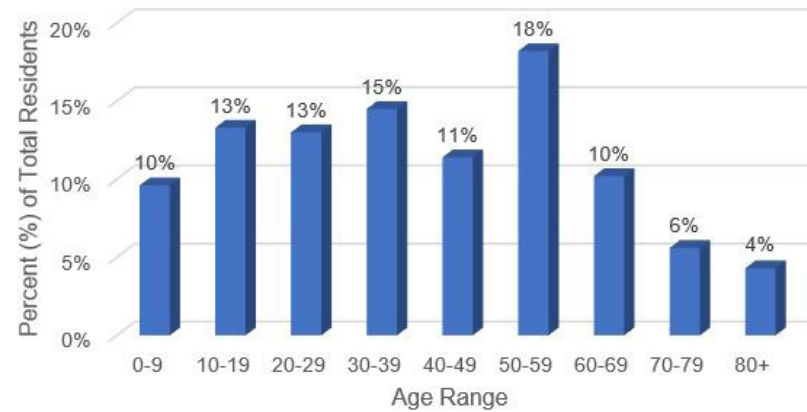
Poverty: Children (Under 18)



Poverty: Senior (65+)



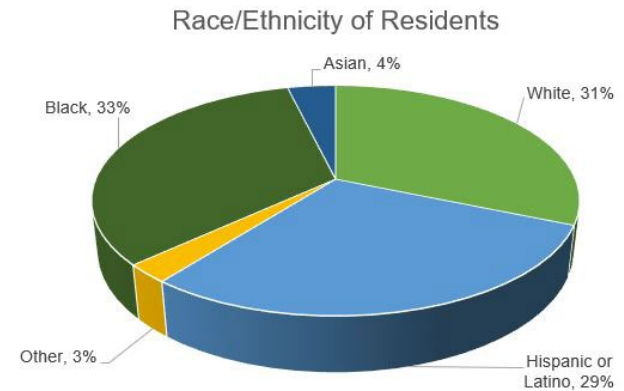
Age Breakdown





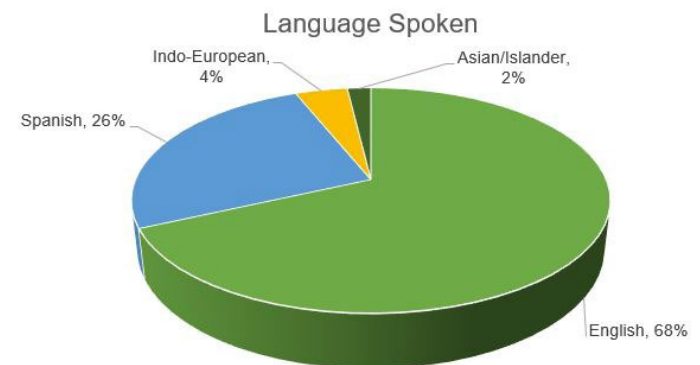
Race & Ethnic Diversity¹

White:	31.3%
Hispanic or Latino:	29.3%
Asian:	3.8%
Black:	33.0%
Other:	2.6%



Language Spoken¹

English:	68.1%
Spanish:	25.7%
Indo-European:	4.2%
Asian/Islander:	1.9%
Other:	0.2%



Education¹

High School Grad or Higher:	86.0%
Bachelor's Degree or Higher:	23.6%

¹ US Census Data – 2017



Operation Overview

The operational system of any organization sets the direction of how well that organization will function. The goal of an operation that strives for excellence is to have a continual focus on improvement. The core operational resource areas for the Park District are its administrative (people and procedures) and financial systems (operation budget and capital funding). The Park District is seeking positive changes in these two critical areas within the direction of this Master Plan which will have a positive effect on Park District operations.

Administration

The core of the Berkeley Park District's administrative system is comprised of the elected Park Board and the part-time Director. The Director works hard to organize programs and special events. This includes taking on many roles that are needed to operate the Park District, including but not limiting to maintenance, recreation programming and customer service.

The administrative system has been identified in the master planning process as an area that should be evaluated with particular attention given to the Park District staffing. Along with the part-time Director, additional part-time staff should be added that would work in the areas of greatest need, primary in programming.

Financial

Today there are over 300 Park Districts in Illinois. Between 1868 (when Illinois Park Districts were created) and today, the body of legislation created by the Illinois General Assembly has evolved that includes the taxing authority that Park Districts are permitted, the greatest of which is their ability to tax real estate within their political boundaries.

the Park District Board has the authority to sell bonds and to repay these bonds through a general obligation of the property taxpayers. The limits of the bonding authority are set by the Illinois General Assembly. Park District boards have the authority to have an outstanding general obligation bonded indebtedness of .575% of the EAV by action taken in a board meeting. This is referred to as a board's non-referendum bonding authority. This is further restricted by PTELL (Property Tax Extension Limitation Law) that allows the Park District to levy to a certain ceiling amount annually, inflated by changes in the Consumer Price Index ("CPI"). The Park District's 2017 debt service extension was \$20,829, well below the limit set in 1994 at \$66,973.



Park District boards are permitted by the General Assembly to have an outstanding indebtedness of 2.875% of the total value of their equalized assessed valuations. When this occurs, Park District boards can use fees from services to repay debt, or they can use their non-referendum bonding authority to repay them funded by general obligation property taxes. With approval from the voters through referendum, the limit of bonded indebtedness can increase to 5.75%

Based on the fact that the Berkeley Park District is permitted 2.875% indebtedness of its 2017 assessed valuation of \$75,367,647, it could have up to \$2,166,820 (less outstanding debt) in debt obligations. It has approximately \$52,388 in general obligation debit. Therefore, the current legal debt margin for the Park District is approximately \$2,114,432.

In review of the approved 2018 annual financial report, The Park District has a modest budget and generally operates in a conservative manner as is illustrated in the following table:

	2017	2018	Difference
Revenues	\$221,507	\$222,332	\$825
Expenses	\$172,880	\$165,856	\$7,024
Balance	\$48,627	\$56,476	\$7,849

The Park District’s General Fund had a surplus of \$457,278 as of 12/31/18. This entire amount is unassigned and available for future operations. The recommendation of this master plan is to use \$200,000 of that surplus as matching funds and apply for an OSLAD grant to re-develop Berkeley Park in the near future.

Recreation Programs

Currently, the Berkeley Park District has limited programs, being made up of special events and athletic programs. These programs are more geared toward children and young families. Many of these programs are popular due to their affordable fees and knowledgeable instructors. The current programming is limited to the hours that Park District staff can work as well as access to appropriate facilities.

The Park District has the opportunity to expand into a traditional summer camp program using both Lind Avenue building as well as Berkeley Park, along with bringing back trips that can be offered to a wider demographic and not just to children. To expand programs, additional part time staff would be needed to assist the Director. The Park District can also expand into local partnerships that can provide assistance in offering additional programming prospects.



Parks Inventory & Analysis

The parks inventory and level of service analysis are key components of the Park District's service to the community. These critical areas must be assessed in order to provide an accurate understanding to the Comprehensive Master Plan's purpose. After determining the parks inventory, a Level of Service (LOS) analysis is created for a basic understanding of which park elements are being provided to the community. Further analysis illustrates where these elements provide services and if there are any areas either needing additional services or that have a redundancy of any service. Design Perspectives developed a method for parks inventory as well as level of service analysis to provide the Park District more understandable and information-rich maps.

The charts and maps on the following pages illustrate each park with individual elements located and scored. The Type, Condition, & Quantity (TCQ) scoring system was developed by Design Perspectives in order to analyze the overall condition of each park in the whole system. This helps determine which parks may need immediate attention or which parks provide higher services and opportunities to the community.

Before each park is given an overall TCQ score, each individual park element is classified into the following categories:

Type:

- Basic - Small Elements essential to most parks.
- Standard - Elements found in many parks.
- Advanced - Elements unique to certain parks

Condition:

- Poor - May be unusable/needs replaced
- Fair - Not well maintained but still usable
- Good - Well maintained and very usable
- Excellent - Top condition/just like new

Quantity:

- Number of each element.



Parks TCQ Scores Overview

The following table was created by consolidating all of the TCQ scores from each park. The blue column to the right illustrates the overall score each park received based on a classification from “Poor” to “Excellent”.



Park or Facility	Classification	General Score		Active Score		Passive Score		Total TCQ Score	
Berkeley Park	Community	17.4	GOOD	9.5	POOR	16.0	GOOD	42.9	GOOD
Lind Avenue Park	Special Use	7.0	FAIR	2.0	POOR	8.5	FAIR	17.5	GOOD
Victoria Avenue Park	Mini	3.5	FAIR	2.0	FAIR	3.8	FAIR	9.3	GOOD



		Berkeley Park						Prepared
		Community						
		10.33 Acres						
Park Name	Type	Condition	Quantity	TCQ Score	Score Notes			
General Park Elements (100)								
PE103	Bench	B	G	14	2.6			
PE104	Bike Rack	B	P	1	0.3			
PE111	Lighting	S	F	1	2.0			
PE112	Litter Can	B	F	4	1.0			
PE114	Park Sign	S	F	2	2.0			
PE115	Parking	B	F	2	2.0			
PE116	Picnic Table	B	G	6	1.5			
PE118	Restroom	A	F	1	3.0	Porta-Potty		
PE120	Shelter	S	F	3	3.0	1 Gazebo, 1 Pavilion, 1 Storage Building		
Total General TCQ Score					17.4		GOOD	
Active Park Elements (200)								
PE203	Baseball/ Softball Field	S	F	1	1.0			
PE204	Basketball Court	S	F	1	1.0			
PE206	Bleacher	S	F	2	1.0			
PE222	Player Bench	B	F	2	0.5			
PE223	Playground	S	F	2	4.0			
PE224	Roller Hockey Court	S	P	1	0.5			
PE230	Tennis Court	S	P	1	0.5			
PE231	Volleyball Court	S	F	1	1.0			
Total Active TCQ Score					9.5		POOR	
Passive Park Elements (300)								
PE304	Educational Signage	A	F	1	1.5	Bulletin Board		
PE307	Open Field	B	G	1	1.5			
PE309	Ornamental Planting	B	G	1	0.8			
PE312	Picnic Area	S	F	2	4.0			
PE314	Walking Trail	S	G	1	6.0	0.33 Miles; Part of Illinois Prairie Path System		
PE315	Historic Feature	A	G	1	2.3	Memorial Corner with Flagpole		
Total Passive TCQ Score					16.0		GOOD	
Total TCQ Score					42.9		GOOD	



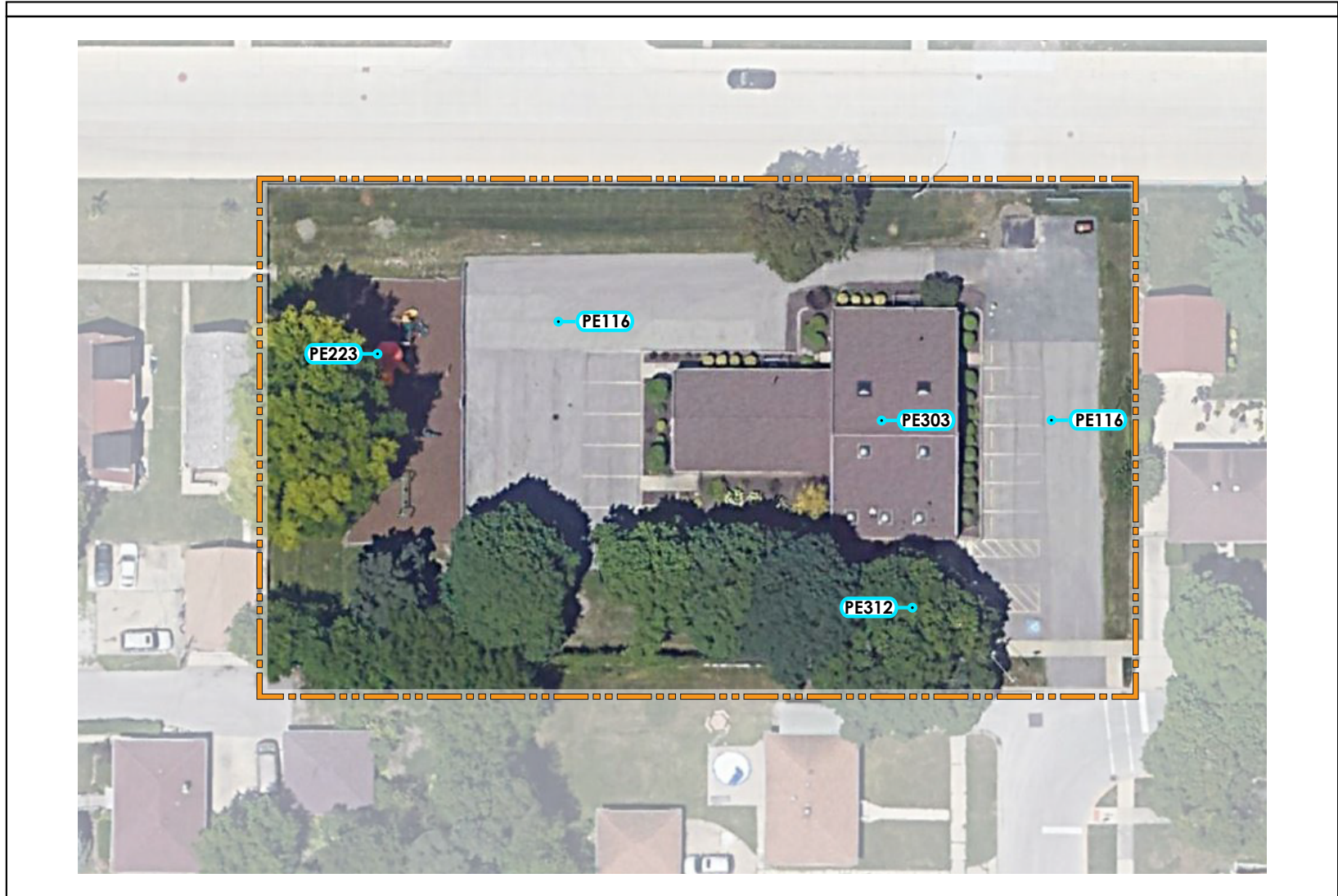
Berkeley Park
Scale: NTS

 Park Boundary
 PE100 Park Feature







					Prepared				
							Park Name	Lind Avenue Park	
							Park Classification	Special Use	
Park Size	0.9 Acres								
	Type	Condition	Quantity	TCQ Score	Score Notes				
General Park Elements (100)									
PE103	Bench	B	G	2	0.4				
PE111	Lighting	S	F	1	2.0				
PE112	Litter Can	B	F	1	0.3				
PE113	Ornamental Fence	S	F	1	1.0				
PE115	Parking	B	G	1	1.5				
PE116	Picnic Table	B	F	2	0.3				
Total General TCQ Score					5.5	FAIR			
Active Park Elements (200)									
PE223	Playground	S	F	1	2.0				
Total Active TCQ Score					2.0	POOR			
Passive Park Elements (300)									
PE301	ADA Access	S	F	1	2.0				
PE303	Community Center	A	G	1	4.5	Park District Office			
PE312	Picnic Area	S	F	1	2.0				
Total Passive TCQ Score					8.5	FAIR			
Total TCQ Score					16.0	GOOD			



Lind Avenue Park
Scale: NTS

 Park Boundary
 PE100 Park Feature







					Prepared	
Park Name		Victoria Avenue Park				
Park Classification		Mini				
Park Size		0.9 Acres				
		Type	Condition	Quantity	TCQ Score	Score Notes
General Park Elements (100)						
PE103	Bench	B	G	2	0.4	
PE104	Bike Rack	B	P	1	0.3	
PE108	Drinking Fountain	B	F	1	0.5	
PE112	Litter Can	B	F	1	0.3	
PE114	Park Sign	S	F	1	1.0	
PE116	Picnic Table	B	F	1	0.2	
PE120	Shelter	S	F	1	1.0	Gazebo
Total General TCQ Score					3.5	FAIR
Active Park Elements (200)						
PE223	Playground	S	F	1	2.0	
Total Active TCQ Score					2.0	FAIR
Passive Park Elements (300)						
PE307	Open Field	B	F	1	1.0	
PE314	Walking Trail	S	P	1	2.0	0.12 Miles
PE315	Historic Feature	A	P	1	0.8	Dedication Plaque
Total Passive TCQ Score					3.8	FAIR
Total TCQ Score					9.3	GOOD



Victoria Avenue Park
Scale: NTS

 Park Boundary
 PE100 Park Feature





Berkeley Park District																										
Park Matrix																										
Park Name	Classification	Acres	Playgrounds	Basketball Courts	Soccer Fields (All Sizes)	T-Ball Fields	Baseball Fields (Practice or Game)	Softball Fields	Backstop	Multi-Purpose Fields	Football Fields	Tennis Courts	Ice Rinks	Trails	Sand Volleyball Courts	Sled Hills	Swimming	Skate Park	Park Shelter	Parking Lots	Restroom Building (Portable or Permanent)	Ponds & Basins	Open Space	Building		
Berkeley Park	CP	10.33	2	1				1				1		0.33	1				3	2	1		1			
Lind Avenue Park	CP	0.9	1																	1				1		
Victoria Avenue Park*	PP	0.9	1											0.12					1				1			
Total for Park District		12.13	4	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0.45	1	0	0	0	4	3	1	0	2	1		
Key																										
PP = Pocket/Mini Park																										
CP = Community Park/Special Use																										
* = Owned by Illinios Tollway Authority																										



Standards Development:

It is a common practice in the development of a Comprehensive Master Plan to explore the comparison of the agency's existing outdoor recreation area features and the total land acres versus national guidelines and statewide standards. These guidelines and standards have become less relevant over the years and in many older, built out communities, not feasible to obtain. The basis of needs development for obtaining park acreage and/or new and improved outdoor park features is first and foremost developed by data gathering from community surveys, public meetings, special interest groups and other types of constructive public input to provide a reasonable basis for local planning. If the need to secure additional park land is based on significant level of service deficiencies or to gather new park land to meet growing programming needs, then the agency should explore acquiring the needed asset.

The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) developed guidelines that have not been updated in recent years and within current planning circles there has been discussion about moving away from such due to a wide range of variety in local needs and availability of suitable land for both open space preservation and the development of park and recreational facilities. The need to understand local conditions and those community preferences are becoming more important to planning studies than arbitrary standards.

This becomes very apparent when discussing the average target of providing 10 acres of park land per 1,000 residents. The Park District has approximately 5,205 residents, meaning that the Park District would need to provide 52.05 acres of park and open space to meet that standard. The current acreage for the Berkeley Park District is 12.13 acres, with losing 0.9 acres in the future. This will leave the Park District a total of 11.23 acres.

The Park District cannot reach the average target standard due to limited land available in the area. With the current acreage, the Park District can provide 2.33 acres per 1,000 residents. **The adopted standard for the Park District is 2 acres per 1,000 residents.**



Berkeley Park District																										
Park Matrix																										
Park Name	Classification	Acres	Playgrounds	Basketball Courts	Soccer Fields (All Sizes)	T-Ball Fields	Baseball Fields (Practice or Game)	Softball Fields	Backstop	Multi-Purpose Fields	Football Fields	Tennis Courts	Ice Rinks	Trails	Sand Volleyball Courts	Sled Hills	Swimming	Skate Park	Park Shelter	Parking Lots	Restroom Building (Portable or Permanent)	Ponds & Basins	Open Space	Building		
Berkeley Park	CP	10.33	2	1				1				1		0.33	1				3	2	1		1			
Lind Avenue Park	CP	0.9	1																	1				1		
Victoria Avenue Park*	PP	0.9	1											0.12					1				1			
Total for Park District		12.13	4	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0.45	1	0	0	0	4	3	1	0	2	1		
Key																										
PP = Pocket/Mini Park																										
CP = Community Park/Special Use																										
* = Set to be sold to Tollway in the future																										



Standards Development:

It is a common practice in the development of a Comprehensive Master Plan to explore the comparison of the agency's existing outdoor recreation area features and the total land acres versus national guidelines and statewide standards. These guidelines and standards have become less relevant over the years and in many older, built out communities, not feasible to obtain. The basis of needs development for obtaining park acreage and/or new and improved outdoor park features is first and foremost developed by data gathering from community surveys, public meetings, special interest groups and other types of constructive public input to provide a reasonable basis for local planning. If the need to secure additional park land is based on significant level of service deficiencies or to gather new park land to meet growing programming needs, then the agency should explore acquiring the needed asset.

The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) developed guidelines that have not been updated in recent years and within current planning circles there has been discussion about moving away from such due to a wide range of variety in local needs and availability of suitable land for both open space preservation and the development of park and recreational facilities. The need to understand local conditions and those community preferences are becoming more important to planning studies than arbitrary standards.

This becomes very apparent when discussing the average target of providing 10 acres of park land per 1,000 residents. The Park District has approximately 5,205 residents, meaning that the Park District would need to provide 52.05 acres of park and open space to meet that standard. The current acreage for the Berkeley Park District is 12.13 acres, with losing 0.9 acres in the future. This will leave the Park District a total of 11.23 acres.

The Park District cannot reach the average target standard due to limited land available in the area. With the current acreage, the Park District can provide 2.33 acres per 1,000 residents. **The adopted standard for the Park District is 2 acres per 1,000 residents.**



A more relevant conversation to review how the Park District stacks up in any standards department would be to review park against the Illinois Department of Natural Resources Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP). This document was updated in 2015 and is used to provide guidance for many units of government in planning open space preservation and development within the state. These numbers are statewide averages and reflect existing situations at a given point in time and are not a typical standard target to be achieved. They do however allow local units of government to see how they compare. Using the SCORP data, the following have been calculated for the Park District.

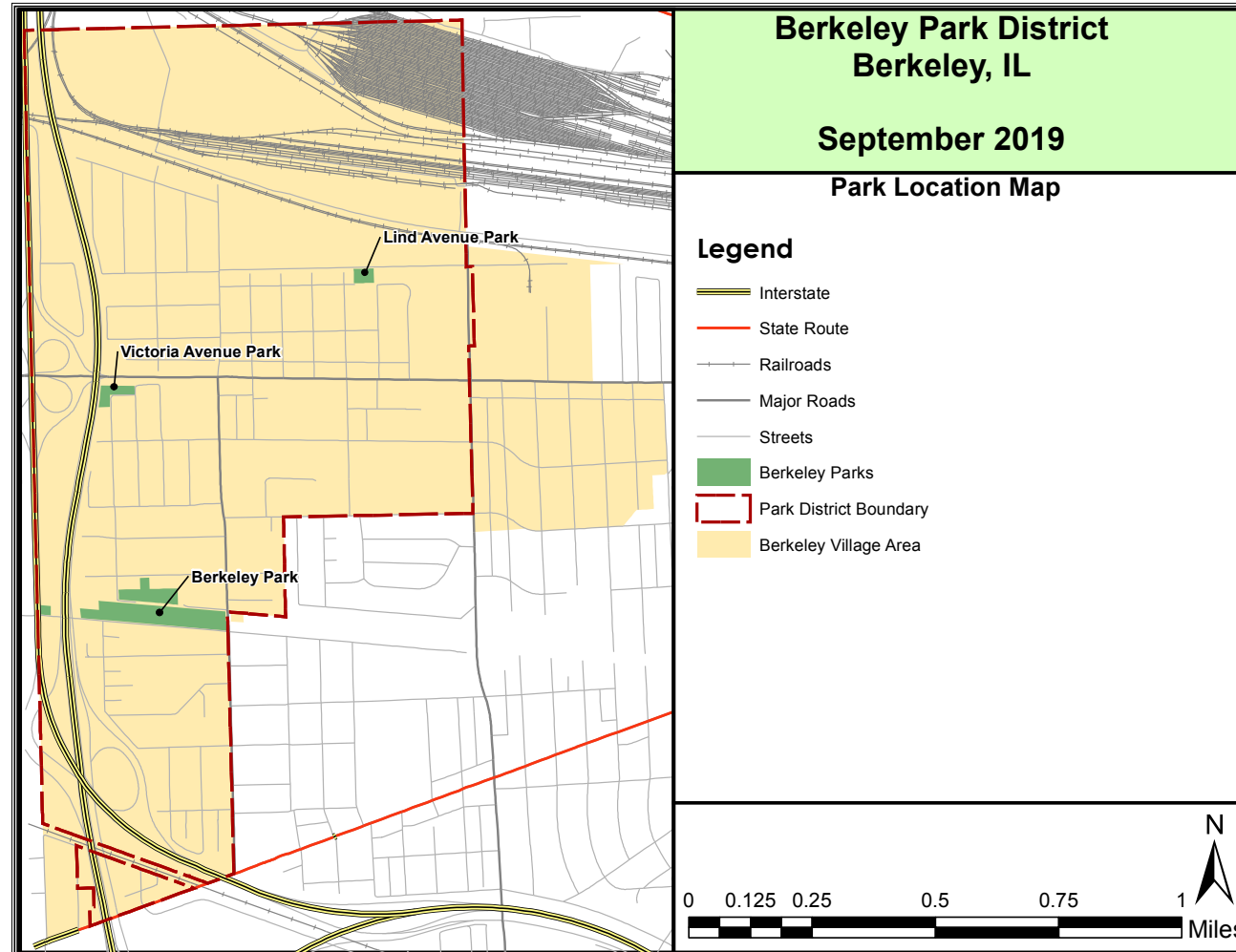
Facility	Statewide Average	Park District Average
18-Hole Golf Courses	1 per 123,000	None
9-Hole Golf Courses	1 per 192,000	None
Aquatic Center/Pool	1 per 34,000	None
Baseball Fields	1 per 5,750	None
Basketball Courts	1 per 7,500	1 per 5,205
Bocce Ball Courts	1 per 107,000	None
Dog Parks	1 per 84,000	None
Fishing Piers/Docks	1 per 22,000	None
Football Fields	1 per 25,000	None
Frisbee Golf Courses	1 per 110,000	None
Futsal Courts	No Data	None
Golf Driving Range	No Data	None
Pickleball Courts	1 per 90,000	None
Playgrounds	1 per 3,000	1 per 1,300
Shelters	1 per 4,400	1 per 1,300
Skate Parks	1 per 70,000	None
Soccer Fields	1 per 6,400	None
Softball Fields	1 per 8,000	1 per 5,205
Spray Grounds	1 per 40,000	None
Tennis Courts	1 per 6,000	1 per 5,205
Volleyball Courts	1 per 75,000	1 per 5,205

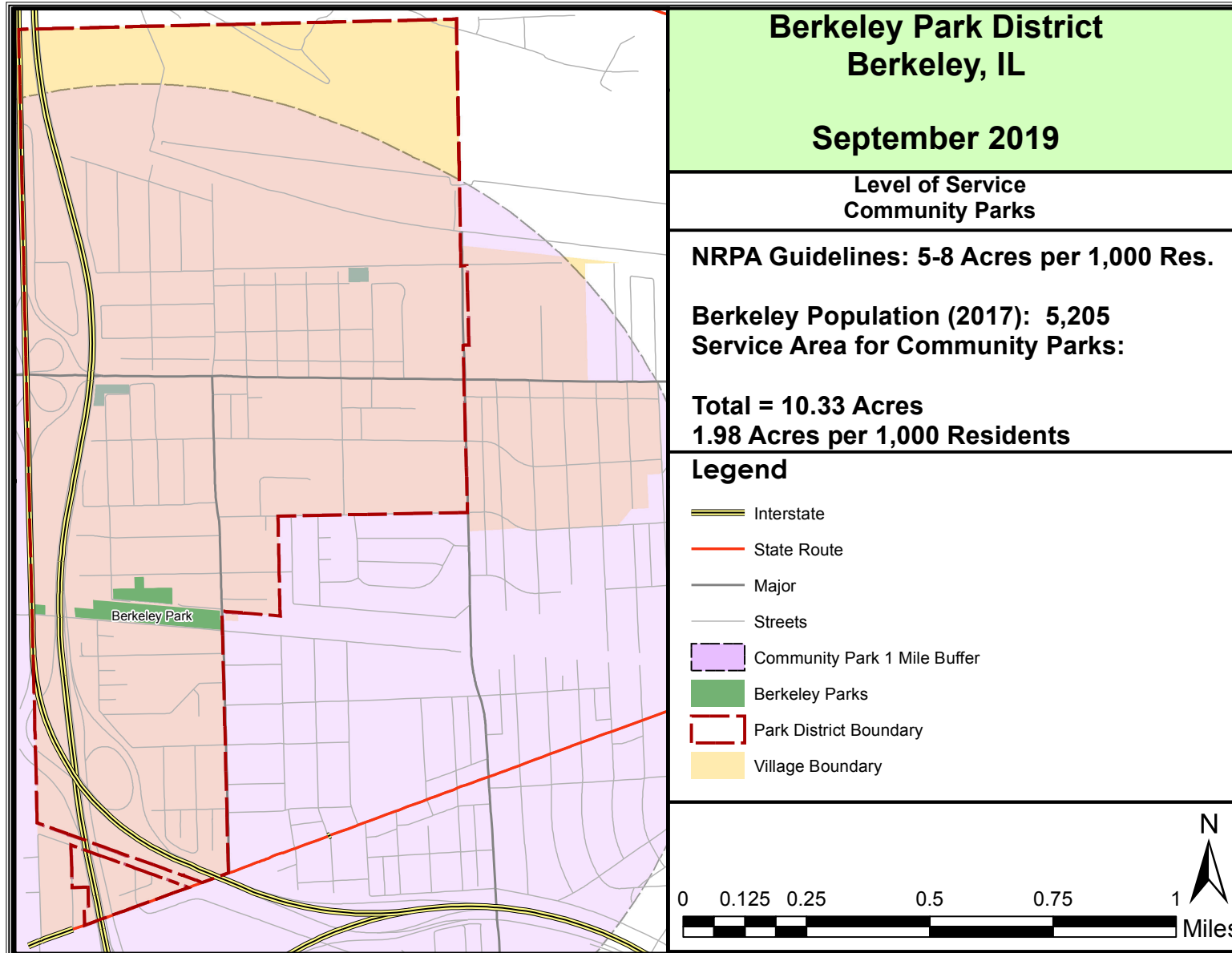
Most of the park or recreation elements provide adequate Level of Service for the total population with some park services, such as playgrounds, park shelters and parking having overlapping park locations. It is lacking, however in other park amenities, most notably an aquatics feature, dog parks and sports fields/courts.

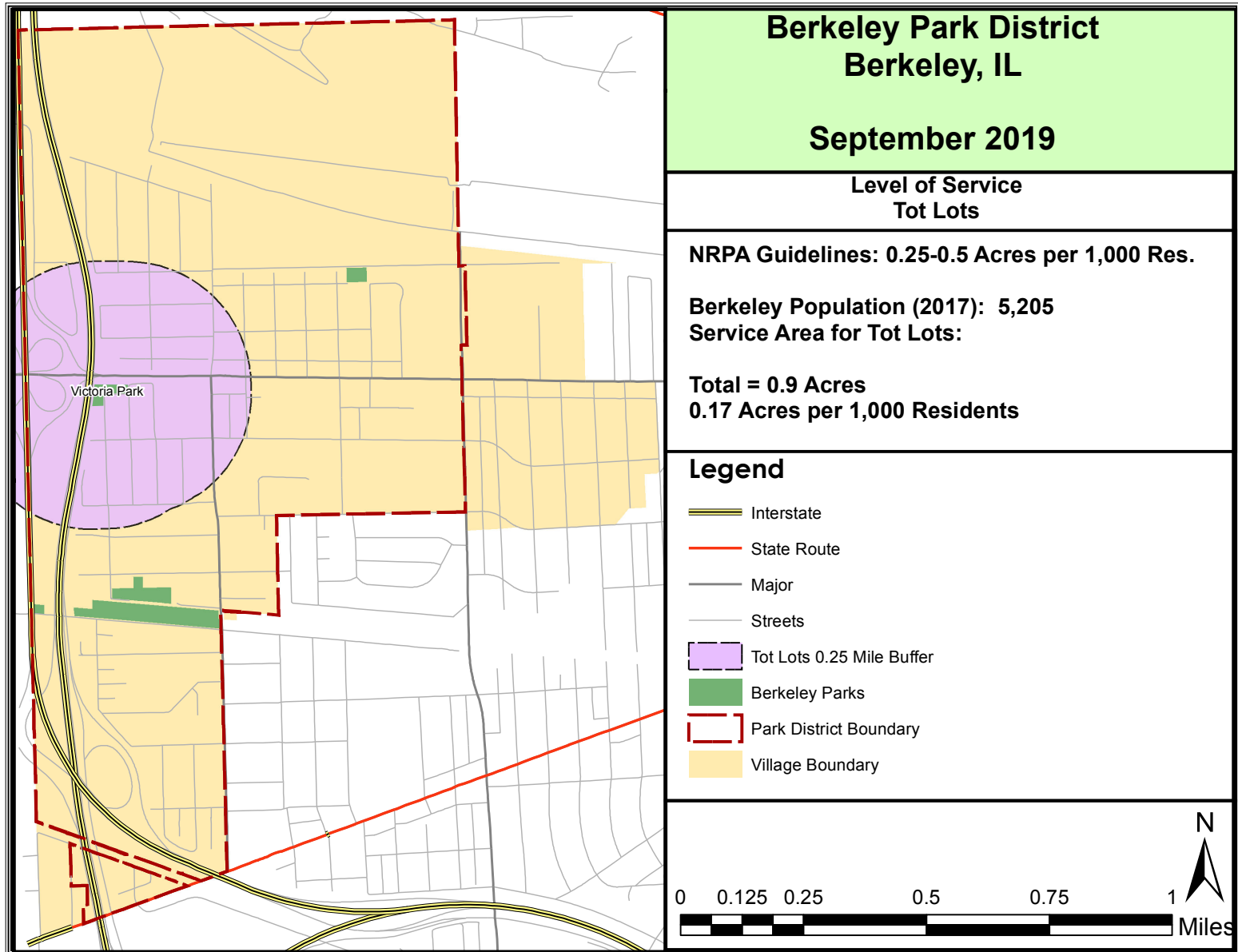


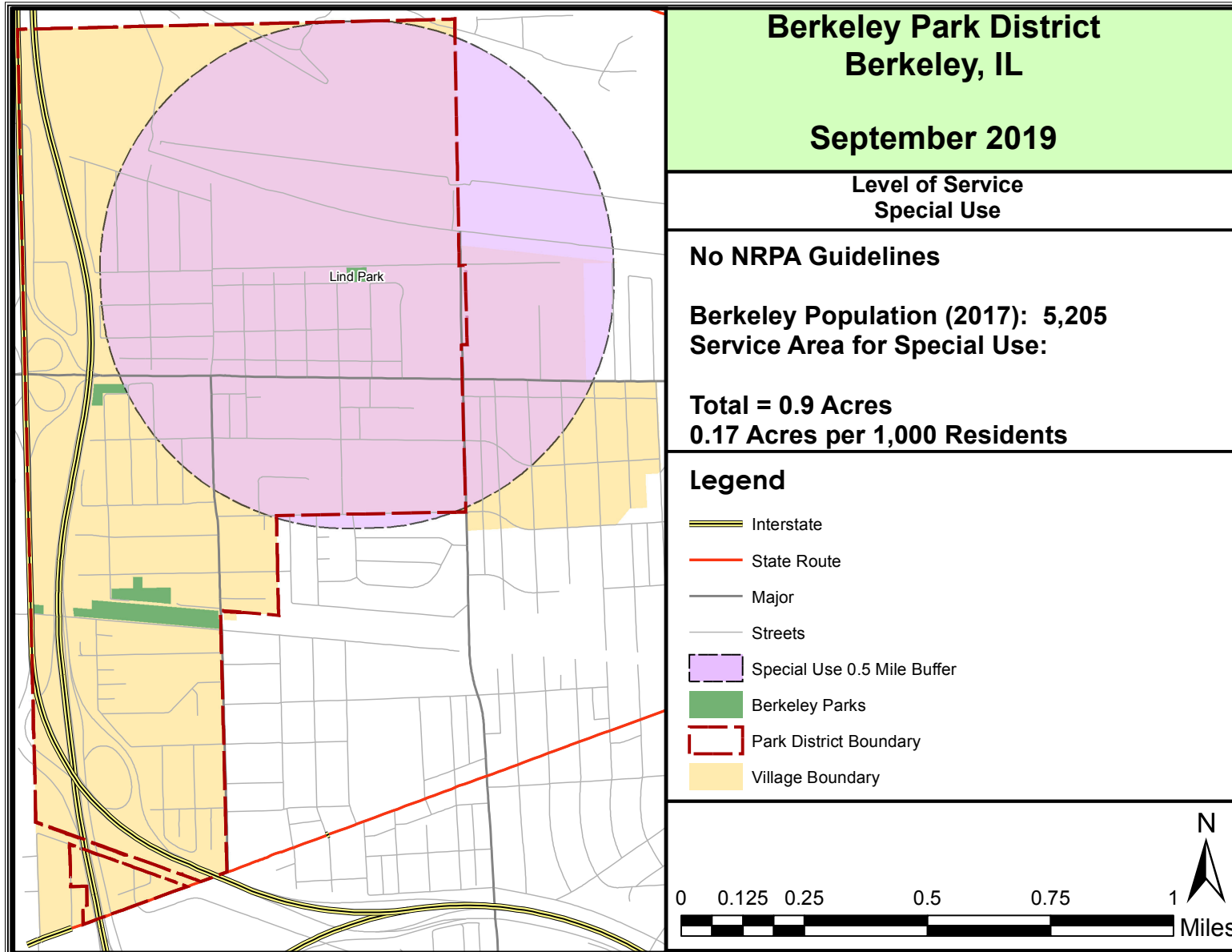
Level of Service Area Analysis

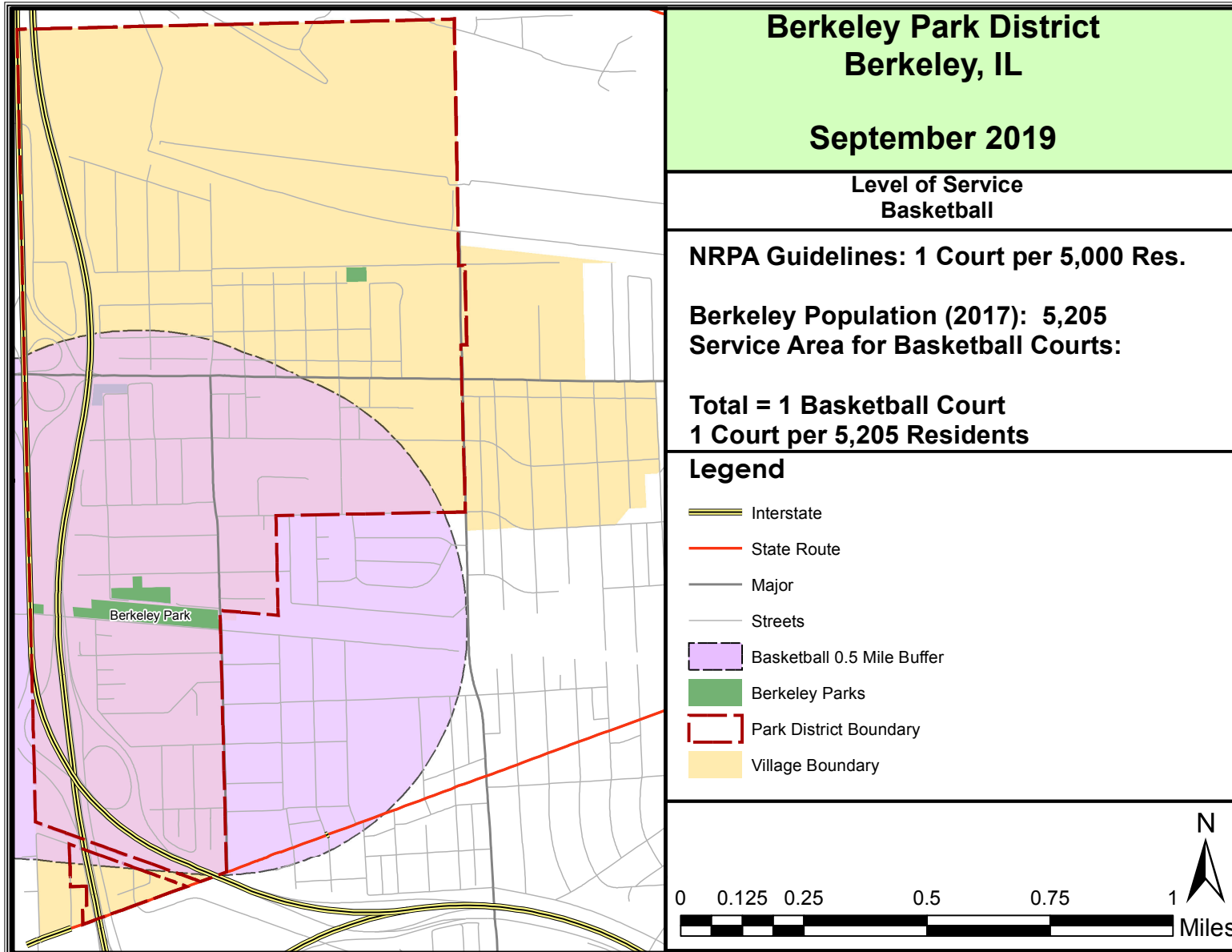
The Level of Service analysis illustrates the success of a parks system in regards to the services the Park District provides to the community. Each service provided by the parks or facility has a different geographic reach. In general, the Park District provides a wide range of basic services.

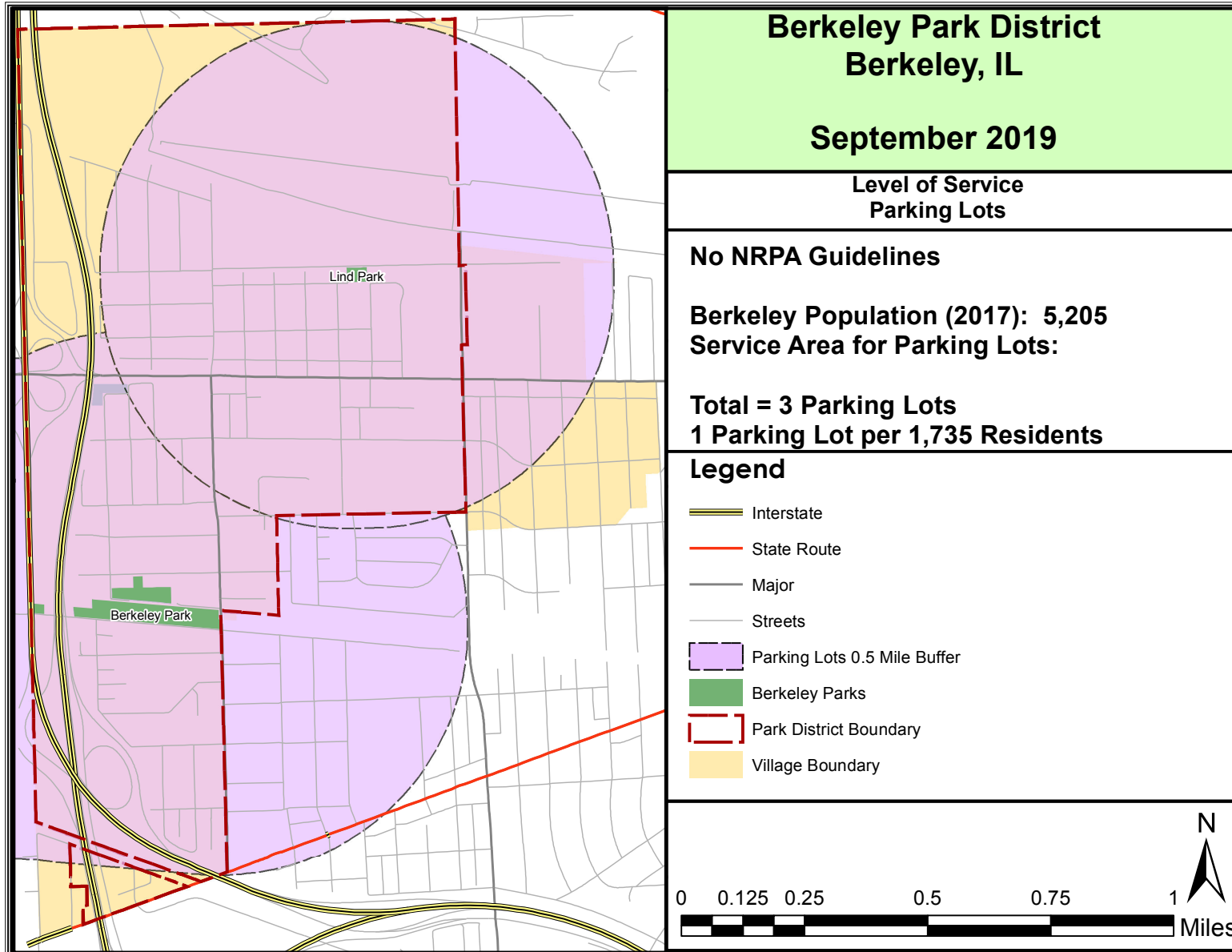


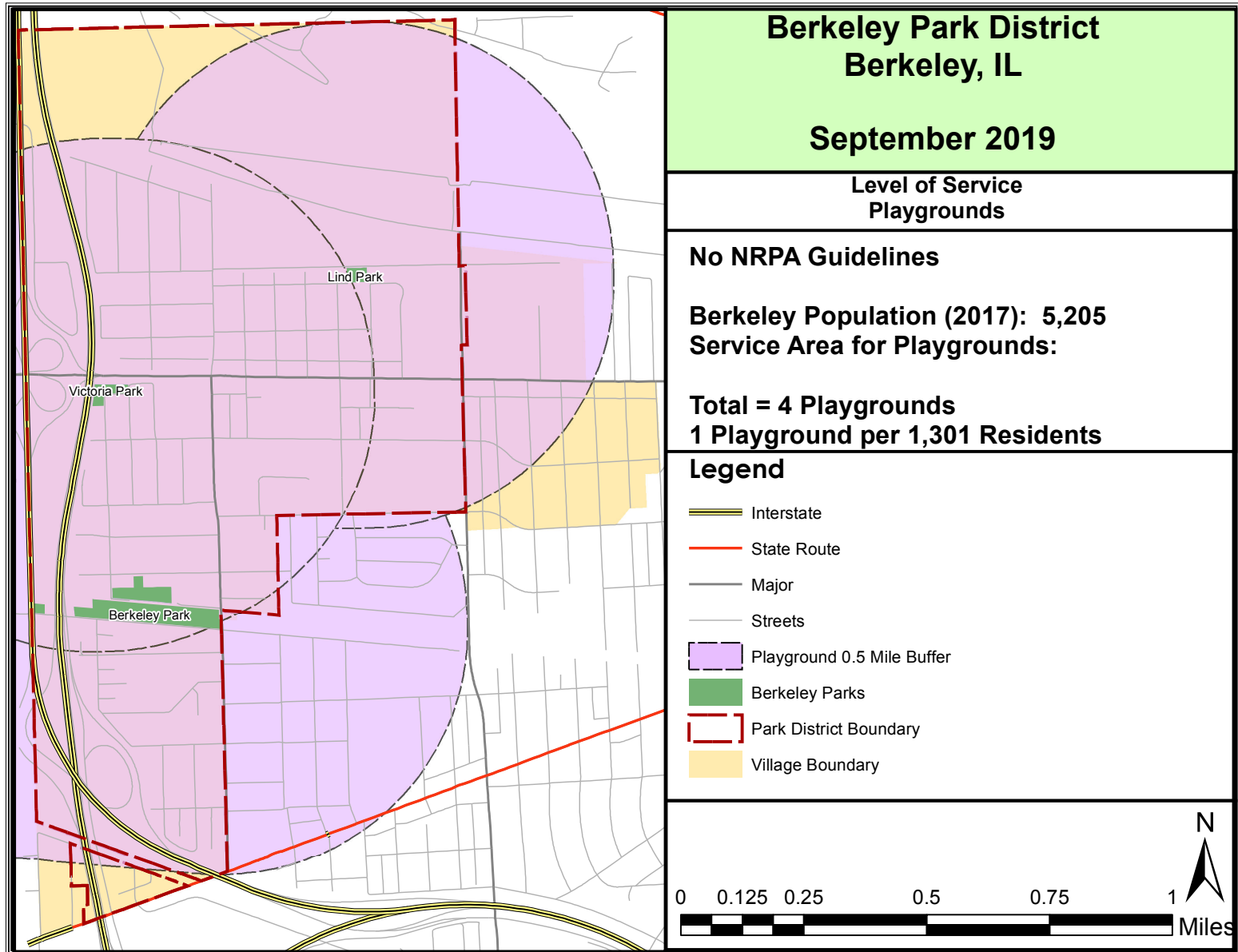


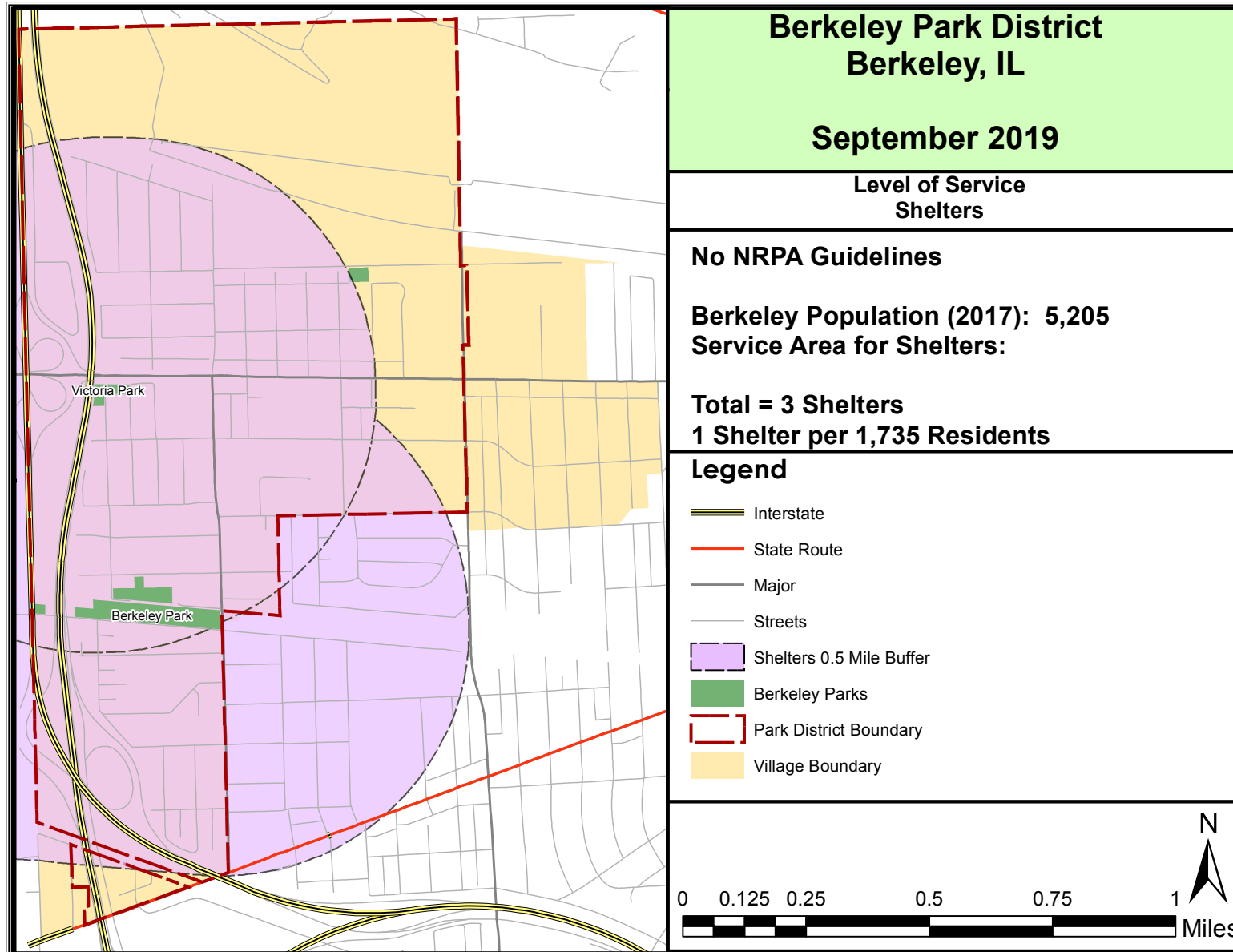


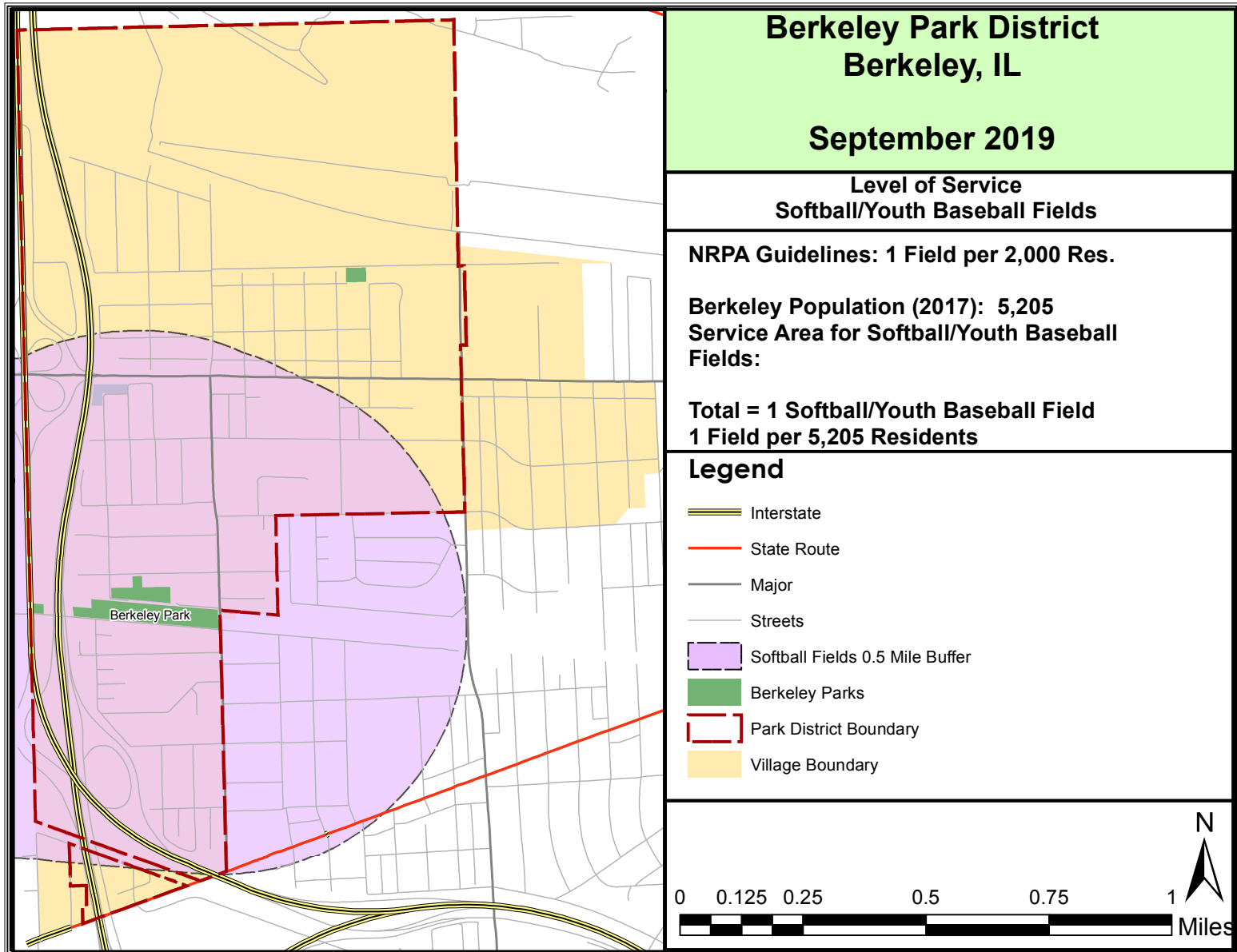


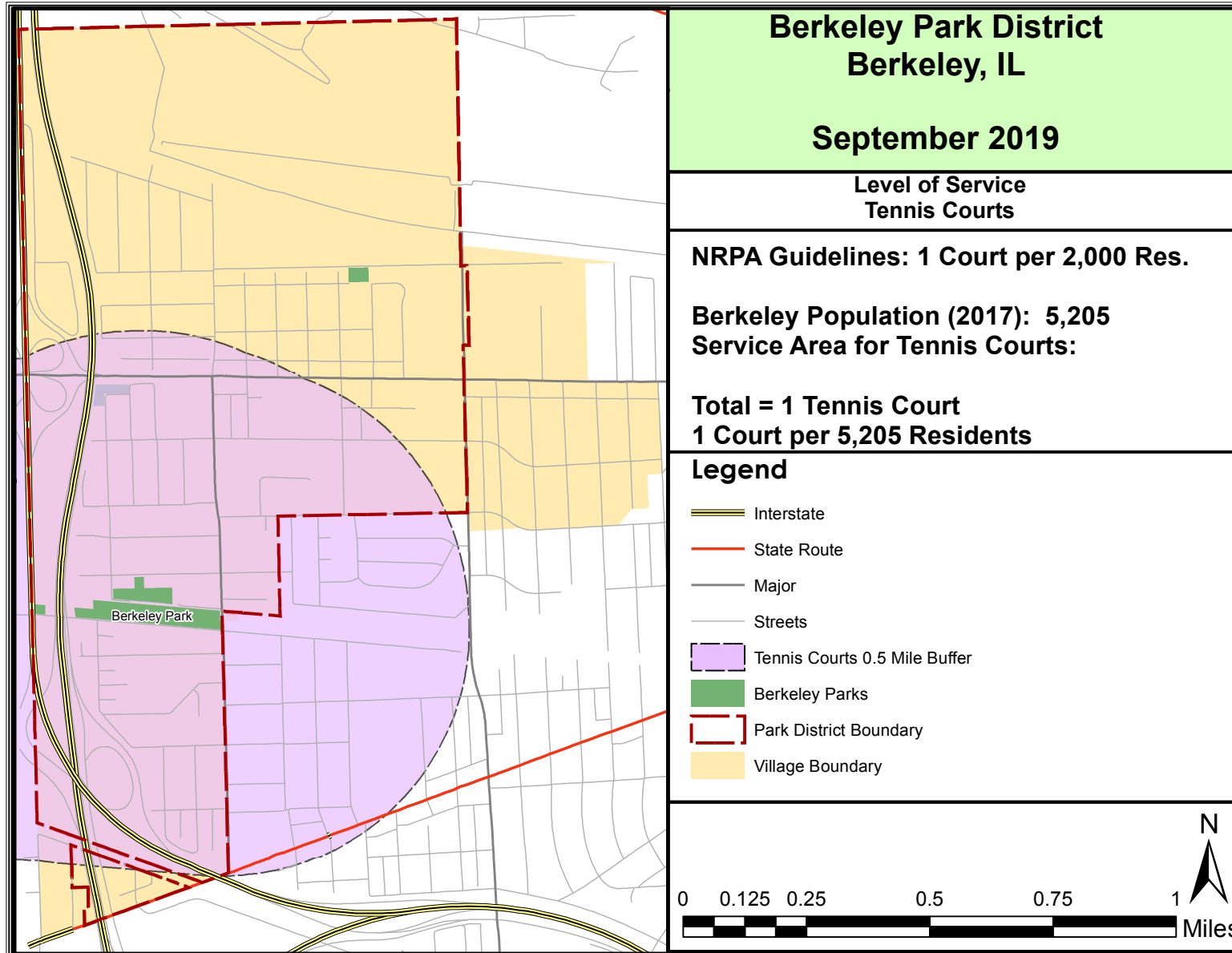


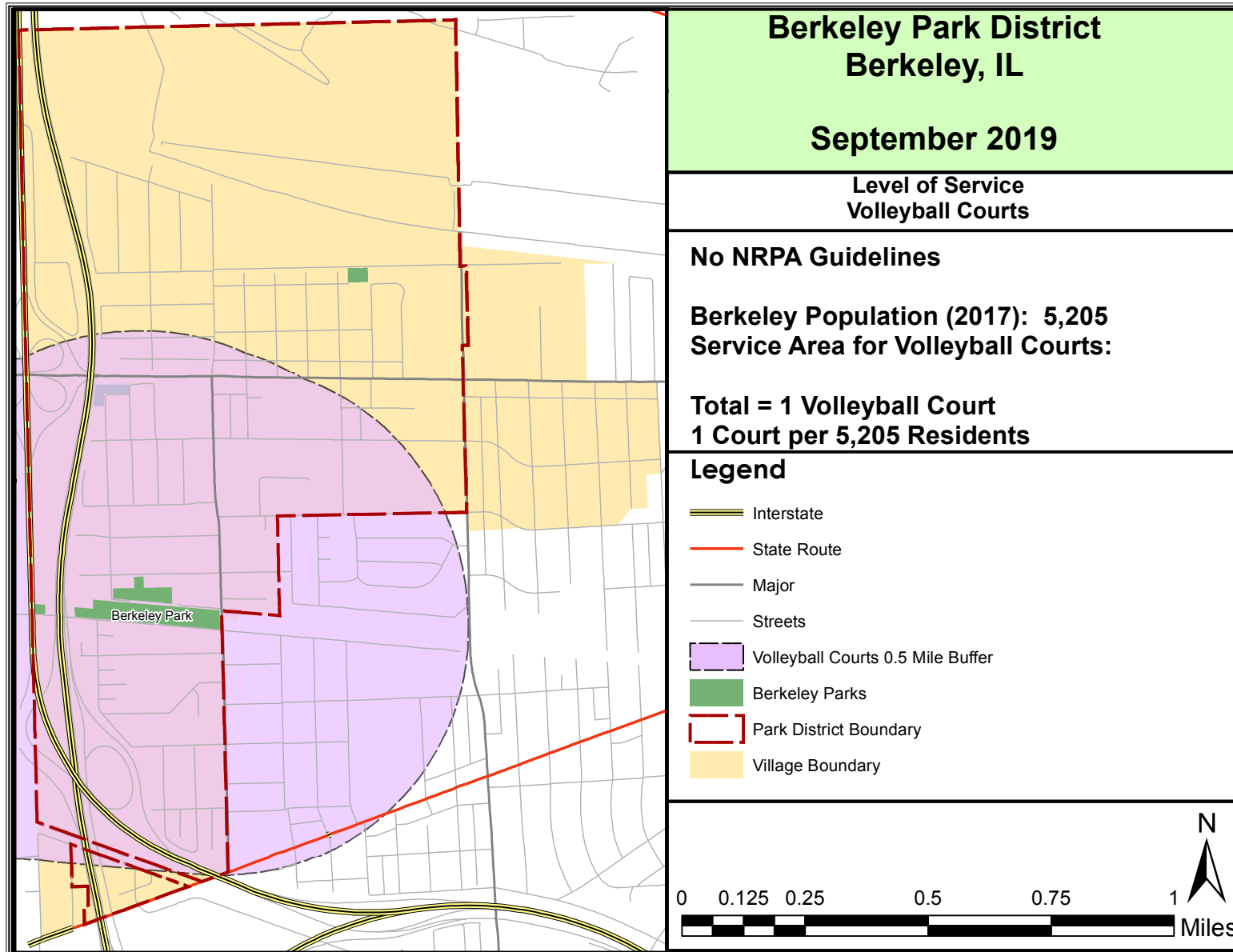














Partnerships

The Berkeley Park District hosts many organizations that organize activities in the parks and facilities. The Park District takes an active approach in working with its partners. Partnerships take on many different forms, but there are three primary types that the agency engages with. They include:

- Intergovernmental Partnerships
- Affiliate Partnerships
- Corporate Partnerships

All three of these types are important to the Park District mission. The first two are well established, but the third one, corporate park partnerships, is an area that can grow in the future. Partnerships are typically charged user fees that contribute to the overall Park District revenues.

The concept of the cost charged from user fees are usually based on equity. In other words, those who benefit from the service should pay for it and those who benefit the most should pay the most. Park District usually offer three category types of services that include:

- Private – Those who receive a benefit beyond what the public receives.
- Merit – Partial tax subsidy to recover a portion of the cost.
- Public – No fees and cost is totally subsidized with taxes.

Intergovernmental Partnerships

Partnerships in this category are typically long standing and provide many benefits to those involved these agreements. The Park District has a successful history with these governmental agencies.

- Village of Berkeley
- Berkeley Public Library District
- Berkeley School District 87
- Hillside School District 93
- Proviso High School District 209



Affiliate Partnerships

Partnerships in this category are community based and usually straightforward relationships. An affiliate group typically has a single purpose and is usually in need of assistance in the form of space. These partnerships can sometimes be awkward as leadership can change over time, affiliates can make capital improvements and provide on-going maintenance to spaces for their benefit and seek priority scheduling for those spaces even though the Park District owns that space. However, if managed properly, affiliates can engage the community unlike any others. The Park District should explore developing these types of partnerships in the future.

Corporate Park Partnerships

As Park Districts' realize a shift in revenue sources, corporate partners are becoming more of a focus for the future. While Berkeley is a residential bedroom community, at least 12 light industries, including Honey-Can-Do, Int, reside in the Village. This opens an opportunity to work with these industries and local businesses. This is the highest level of association with the Berkeley Park District, and benefits include exclusivity, brand exposure and hospitality in one core area. Each park partner would be a multi-year commitment and provide opportunities for high level visibility. These include:

- Berkeley Park Partner
Improvements at Berkeley Park.
- Special Events Partner
Help offset the costs of special events.
- Park Beautification Partner
Aide in small improvements in the park such as flowers, benches, etc.



Chapter 3 - Community Influence & Assessment

This phase of the master planning process involved a set of comprehensive data gathering tools in an effort to examine the internal and external mood of the Park District's community. This is the primary endeavor tackled early on in the planning process allowing the project team to absorb multiple layers of feedback from a variety of voices that have a vested stake in the outcome of the master plan. The analysis of the information gathered during this process is summarized in the following section of this report, which addresses community survey demographics, survey responses and a summary of the public input collected over the course of this phase of the project.

Community Survey Results

Methodology

Public Research Group conducted a Community Wide Survey during the fall of 2019. The purpose of the survey was to gather resident opinions to help set priorities for the future development of parks, facilities, programs and services.

From this survey, Public Research Group collected a total of 140 responses, all of which were mail surveys. Statistically, a sample of 140 households provides a 95% confidence level with a margin of error of plus or minus 8.2%. Even though only 140 responses were returned, the response rate was satisfactory to the Park District. The survey data is a valuable source of information in terms of understanding the wishes of the community.

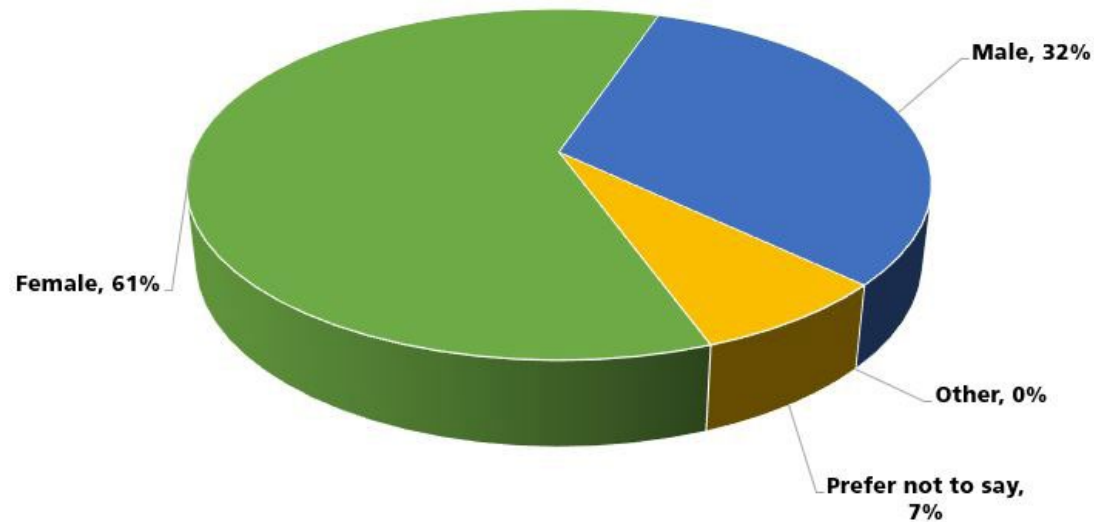


Demographics of the Survey

Question 17 asked respondents how long they have lived within the Berkeley Park District. The responses were then combined, and the average length of residency for the survey was 27.1 years. Answers to this question varied, suggesting that the responses provide a good cross section of long-time residents, as well as families new to the area.

Question 18 asked for the gender of respondents. The following shows that of the 140 who responded, 61% were female, 32% were male and 7% preferred not to say.

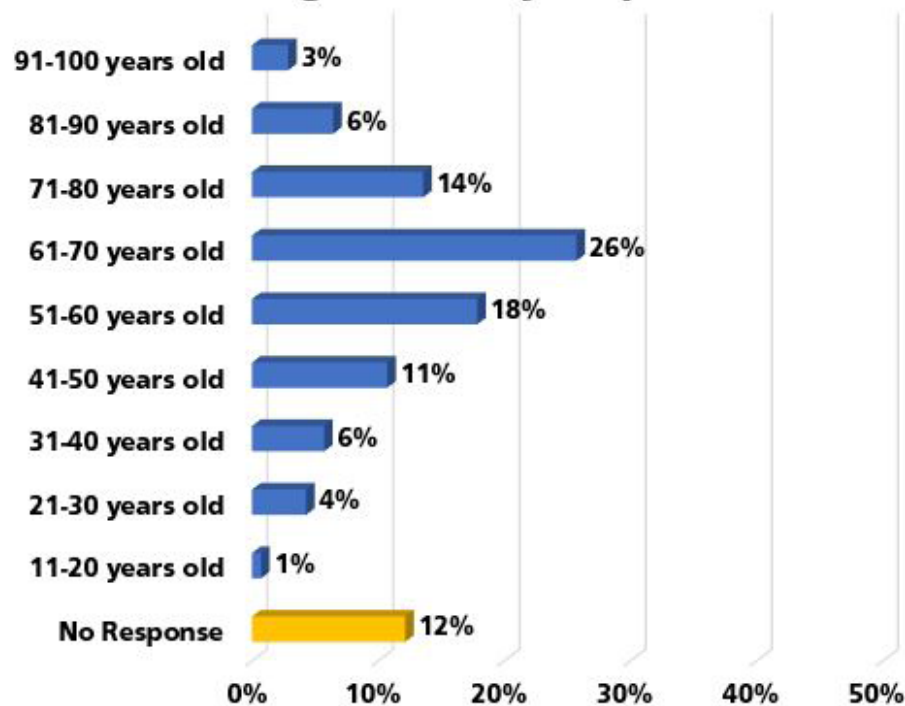
18: What is your gender?





Questions 19 and 19a asked for the age of the respondents and everyone else in the household. It should be understood that children under the age of 18 do not respond to community surveys. The average age of respondents to the community survey was 43 years old. The findings suggest that the respondents are representative of the community and support the notion that its findings are valid. Of the households surveyed, 19% had children 18 or younger and 52% of households had active adult/senior citizens.

19a: Age of Survey Respondent



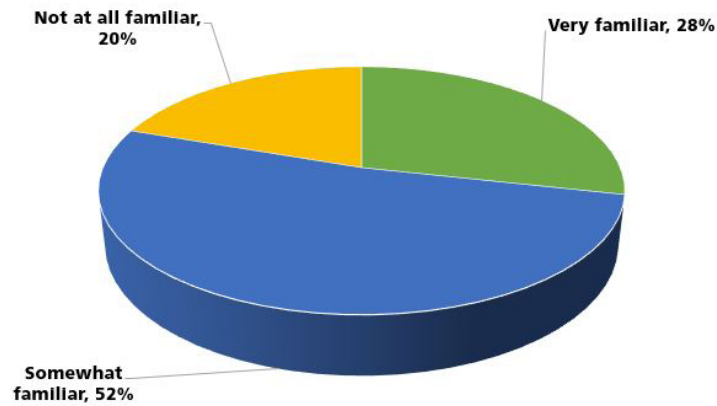


Administration

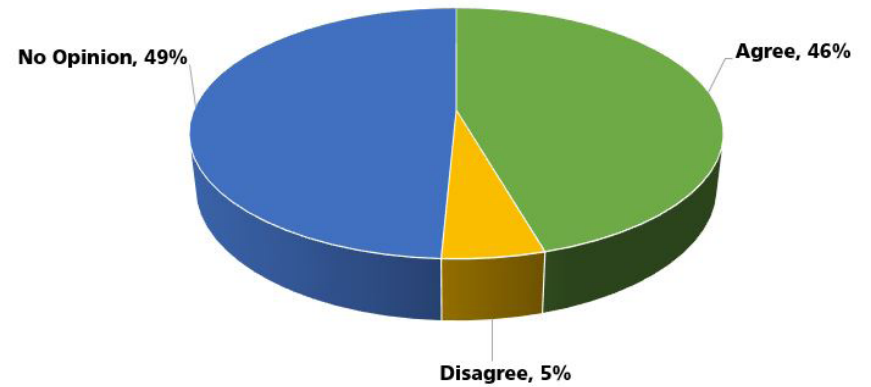
Question 1 asked respondents how familiar they were with the Berkeley Park District. The chart shows that 52% were somewhat familiar, 28% of respondents were very familiar and 20% were not at all familiar. In total, 80% of those surveyed were familiar with the Park District.

Question 2 asked respondents if their last interaction was a positive experience, 46% said that it was.

1: How familiar are you with the Park District?



2: Has your most recent interaction with the Park District been a positive experience?

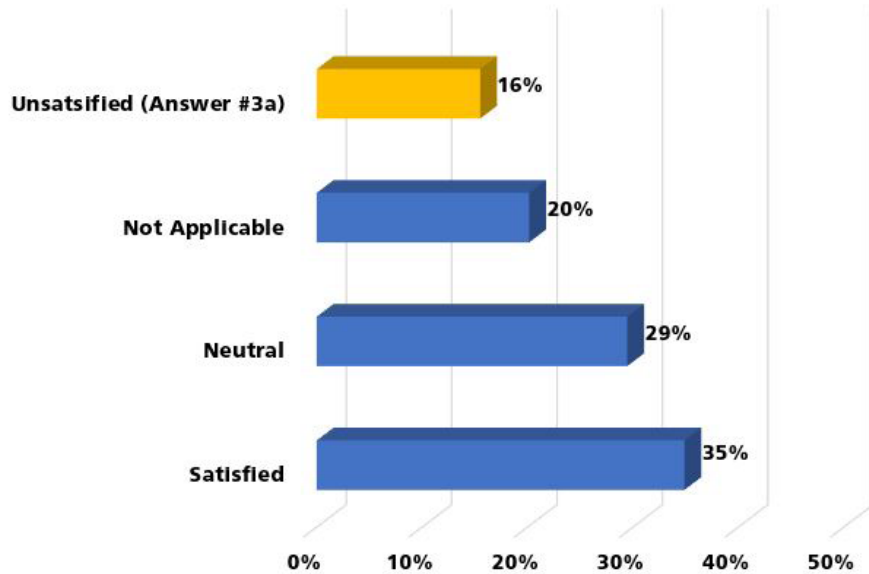




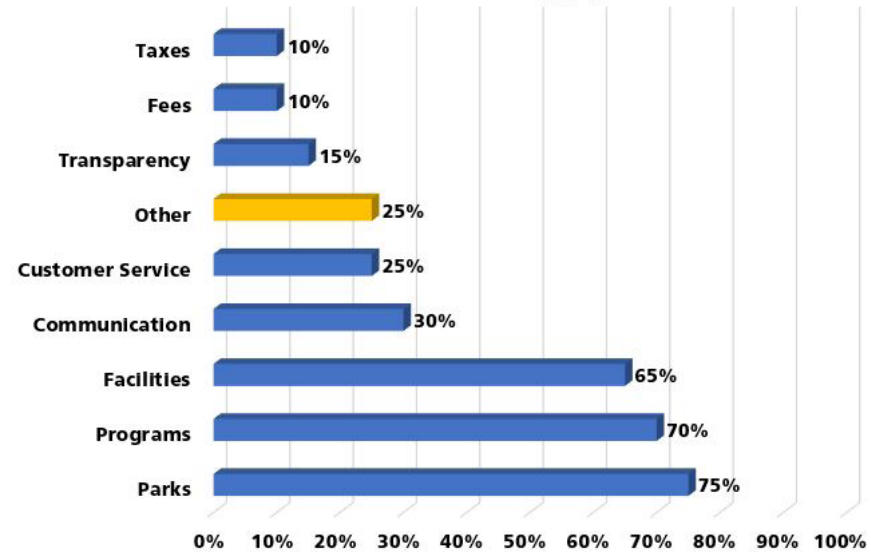
Question 3 asked respondents how they would rate their overall satisfaction with the Park District. A majority of respondents at 62% were satisfied or neutral with the Park District. A small percentage of respondents were dissatisfied at 16%.

Question 3a asked respondents that were unsatisfied what they were displeased with. The top three areas included parks, programs and facilities.

3: How would you rate your overall satisfaction with the Park District?



3a: If you answered Unsatisfied above, please tell us which area(s) you are displeased with? (Check all that apply)



Question 4 was an open-ended question that asked respondents what they like about the Park District. Events were the most popular, including Music in the Park and Cruise Nights, along with the connection to the Prairie Path Trail and the affordable programs. Respondents found the Park District staff to be friendly and parks to be clean.



Programs

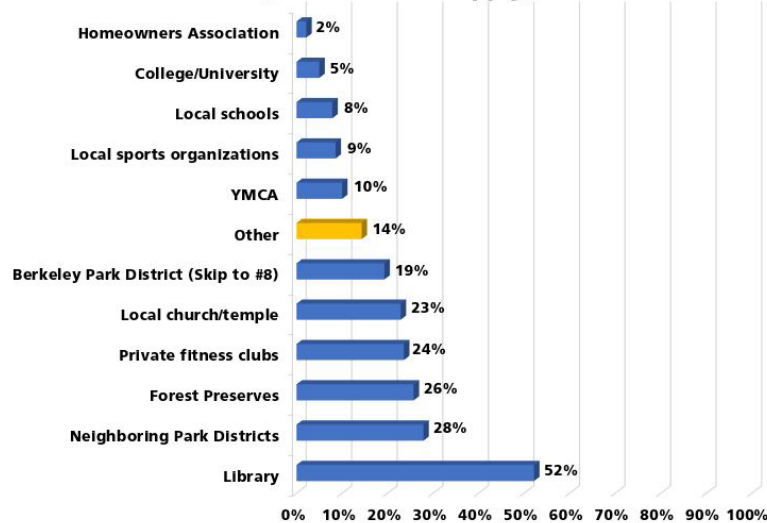
Question 5 was an open-response question that asked respondents to list one new program or special event the Park District should consider for the future. The most common recommendations involved more programs for adults and seniors, including exercise programs, educational classes and trips. There is also a growing interest in childcare services, such as before/after school programs, summer camp, and with improved amenities like exercise and playground equipment.

Outside Agencies

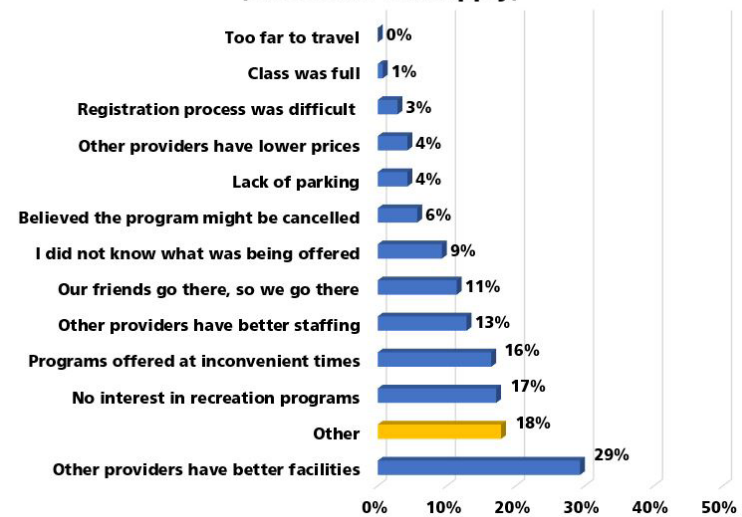
Question 6 asked respondents what facilities they use, including those outside the Park District. Of the responses, 19% use the Berkeley Park District. Regarding outside facilities, the top three responses are the library at 52%, neighboring Park Districts at 28% and forest preserves at 26%.

When asked why respondents would use facilities outside the Park District, the top responses were that other providers had better facilities at 29%, “other” at 18%, no interest in recreation programs at 17%, and programs being offered at inconvenient times at 16%. A few of the themes from the “other” comments include facilities to walk dogs, access to an aquatic center and more program variety for seniors.

6: Where do you or members of your household go for recreation programs and/or services? (Choose all that apply)



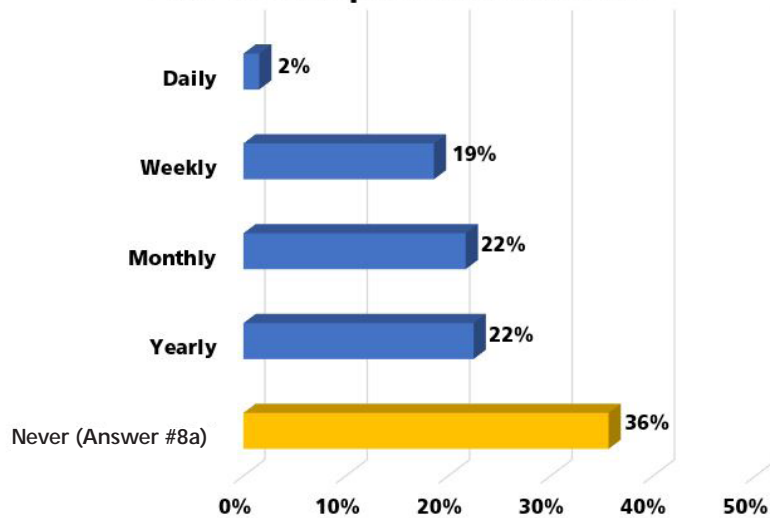
7: If you go outside of the Park District, why do you find it necessary to do so? (Choose all that apply)



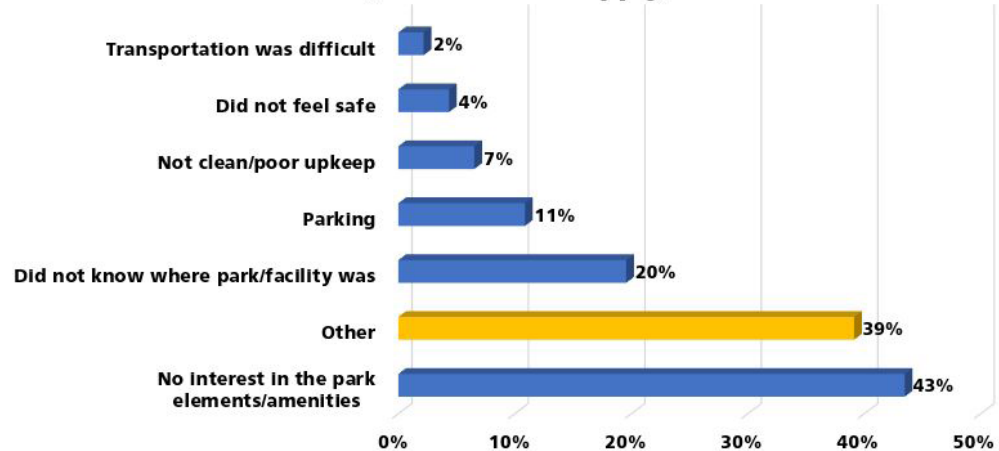


Question 8 asked how often respondents visit the Berkeley Park District parks and facilities. Respondents showed that parks and facilities are used at 64%, mostly on a yearly or monthly basis and never at 36%. Question 8a was a follow up to the those who answered “never”. No interest in the park elements/amenities, “other” and not knowing where park/facilities were was cited as the top reasons for not visiting the parks. The “other” responses were a small series of open-ended responses that included age, lack of ADA access and outdated playgrounds as reasons why.

8: How often do you visit the Berkeley Park District parks and facilities?



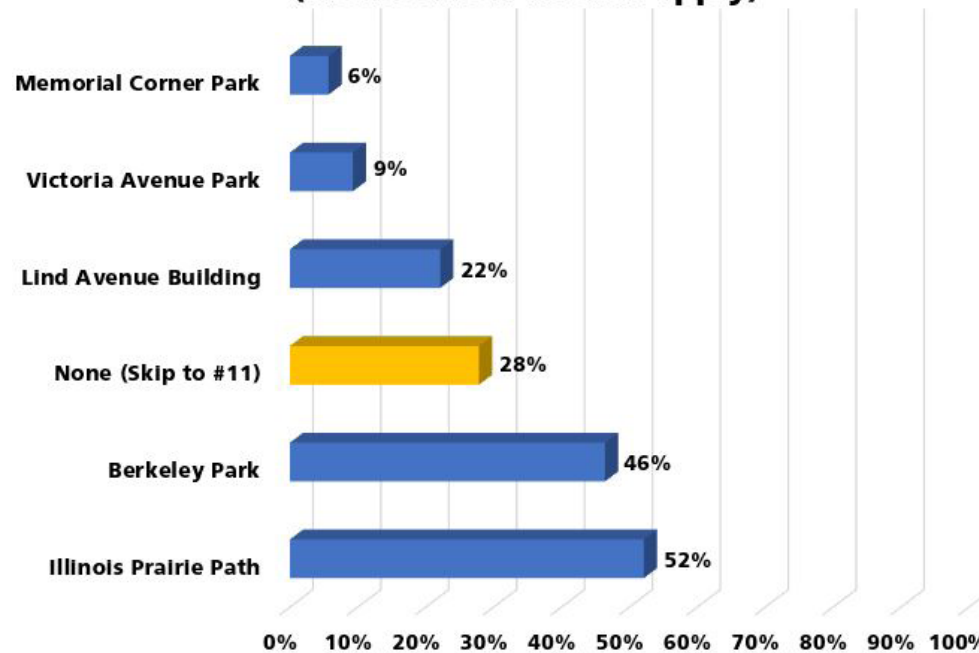
8a: If you answered Never above, did any of the following factors prevent you or a household member from visiting a Park District park or facility? (Check all that apply)





Question 9 asked respondents which Berkeley Park District parks and facilities that they or members of their household use. Illinois Prairie Path is the most visited at 52%, with Berkeley Park at 46% and none at 28%.

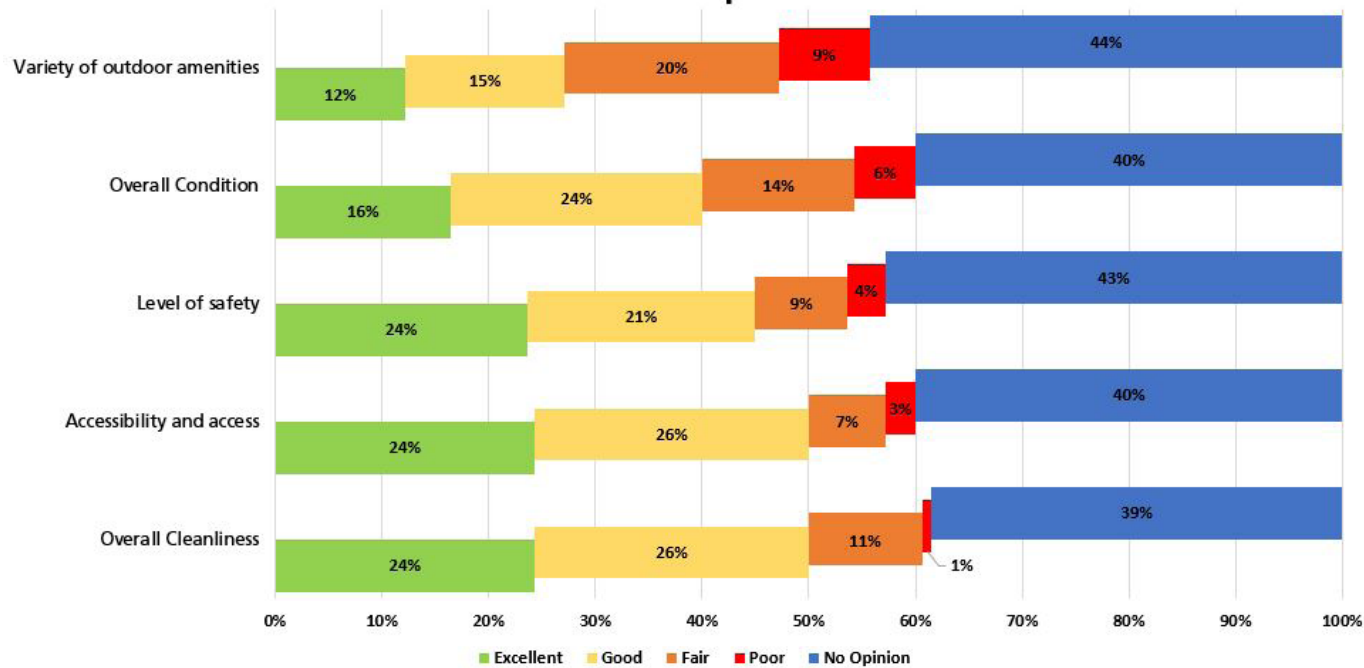
**9: Which of the following Berkeley Park District parks and facilities do you or other members of your household use?
(Please check all that apply)**





Question 10 asked respondents to rate their feelings about that park or facility they visited the most. Overall, the parks and facilities visited are clean, safe and accessible.

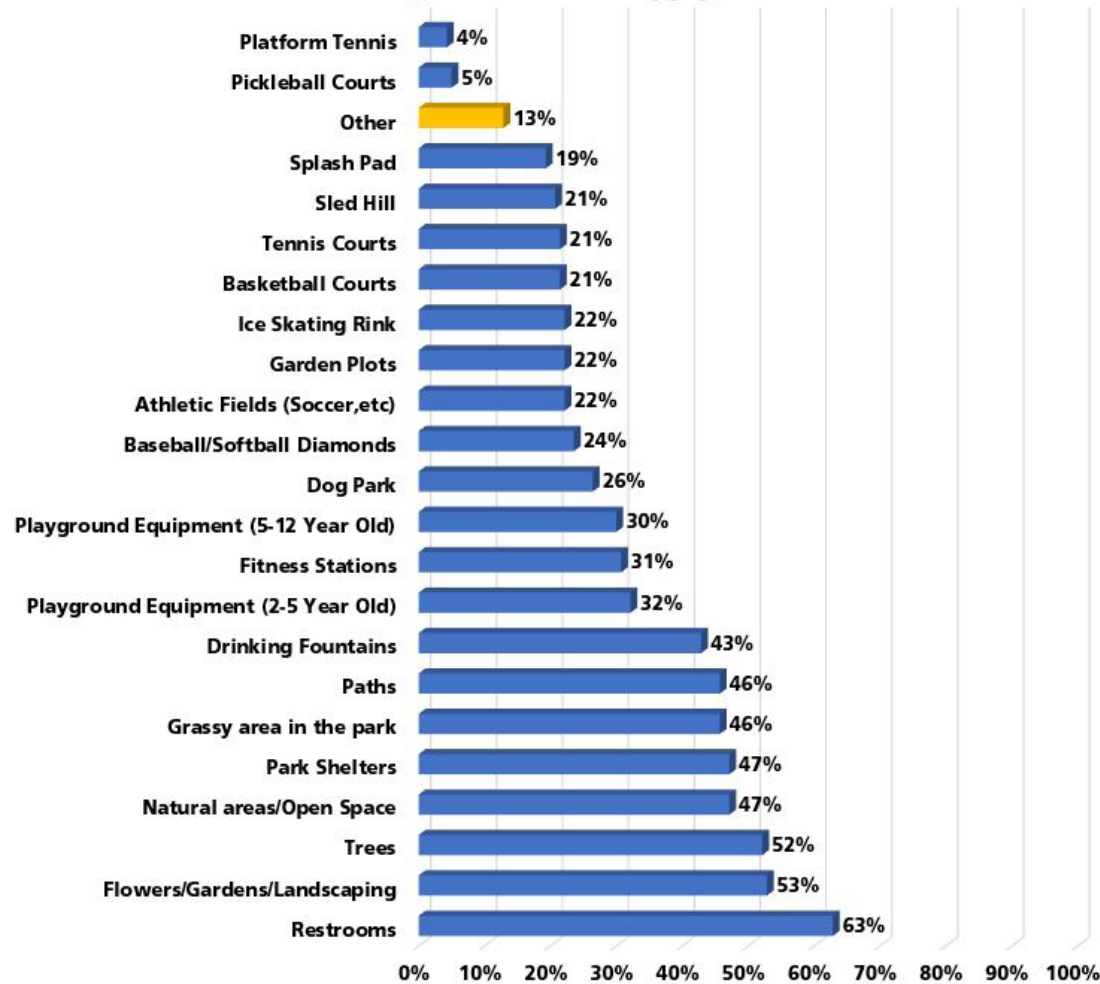
10: Please rate your feelings from Question 9 for you and your household by circling the number on a scale of 1 to 5, where 5 means "Excellent" and 1 means "No Opinion".





Question 13 asked respondents what outdoor park amenities were important to them and their household. The top five responses included restrooms at 63%, flowers/gardens/landscaping at 53%, trees at 52%, natural areas/open space at 47% and park shelters at 47%. Many of these are passive park elements and focused on providing comfort while using the parks.

**13: What outdoor park elements are important to you and your household to have in our parks?
(Check all that apply)**



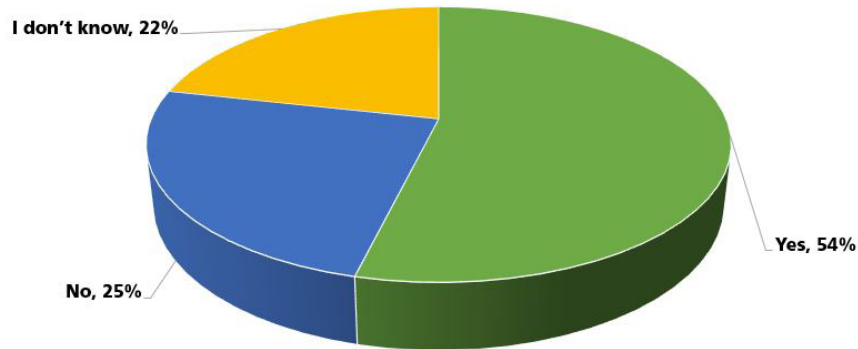


Future Priorities

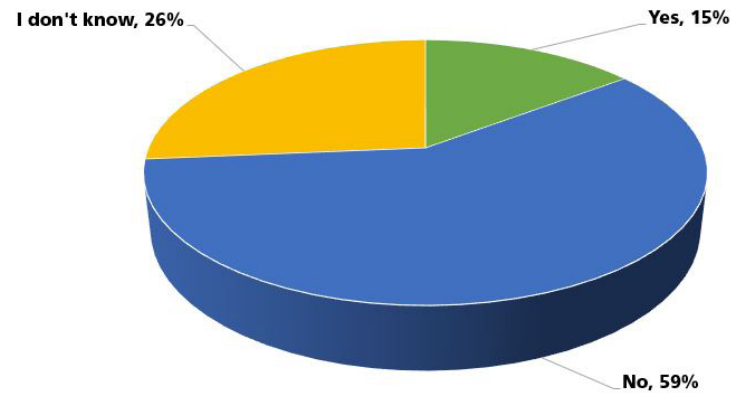
Question 11 asked respondents if they would support the building of a new Park District Facility that would include amenities like a gymnasium, meeting/community rooms, tennis court and volleyball court. Half of respondents would support this new building at 54%.

Question 12 asked respondents if they would use a summer camp program if offered by the Park District. Over half of respondents said that they would not at 59%, followed by those that didn't know at 26% and yes at 15%.

11: Would you support building a new Park District Facility which would include amenities like a Gymnasium, Meeting/Community Rooms, Tennis Court, Volleyball Court, etc.?

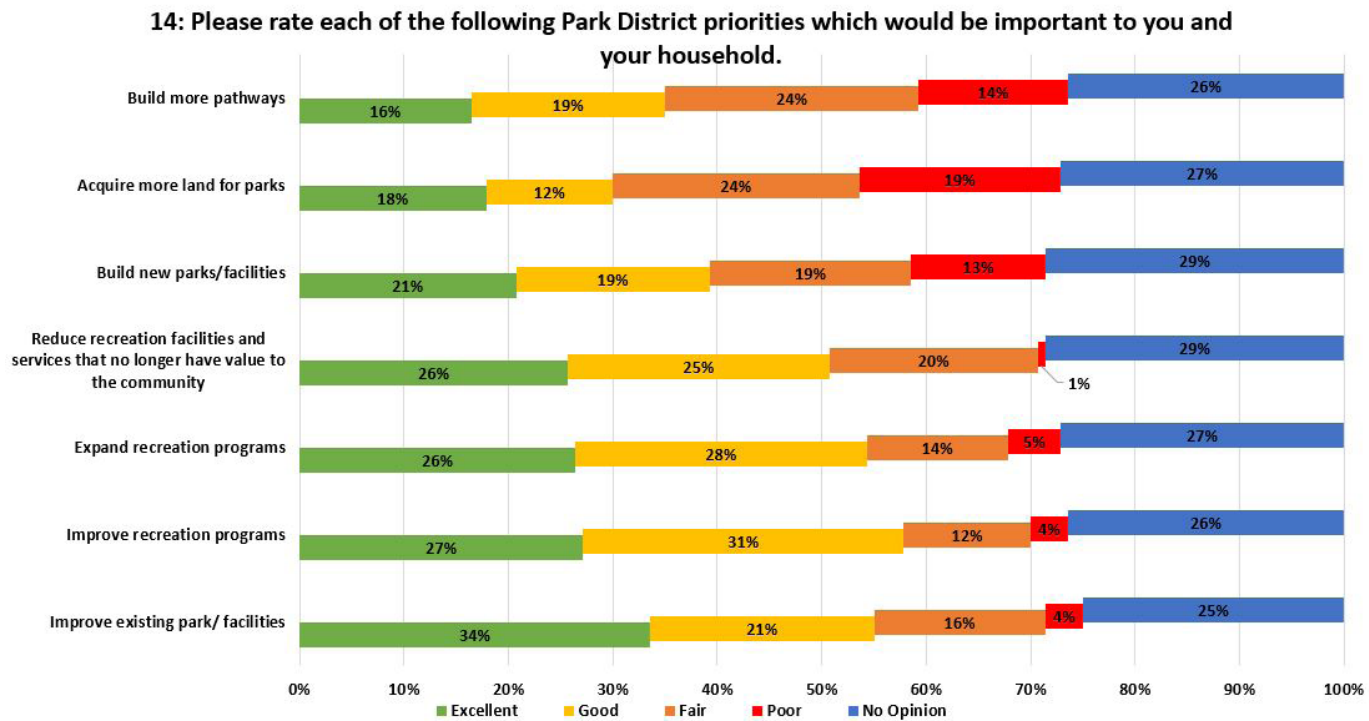


12: Would you use a summer camp program if offered by the Park District?





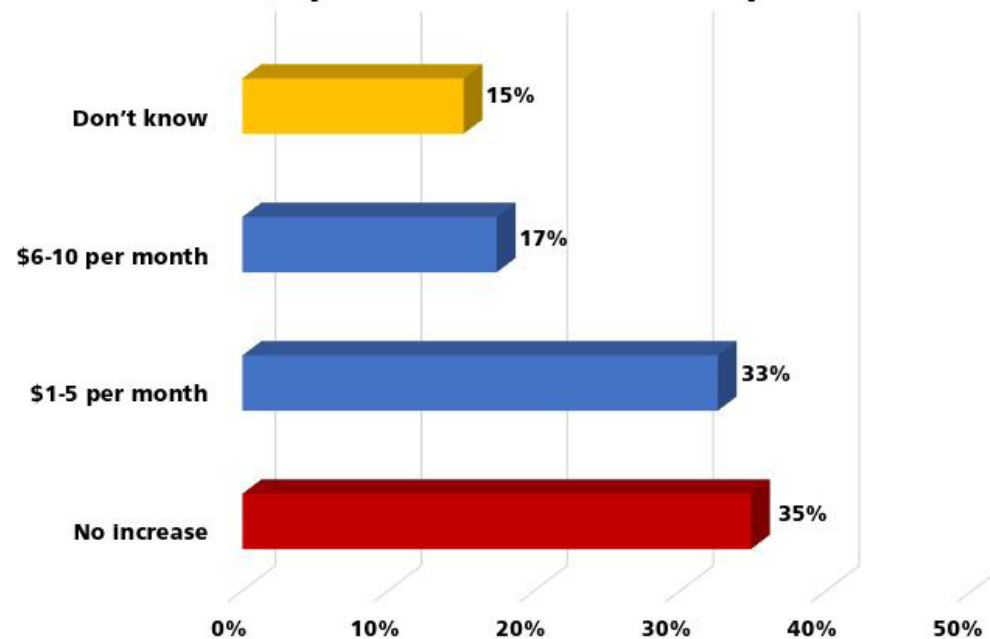
Question 14 asked respondents to rate the following Park District priorities which would be important to them and their household. The respondents favored improving existing parks/facilities, improving recreation programs and expanding recreation programs as a high priority. Building more pathways scored low for future priorities.





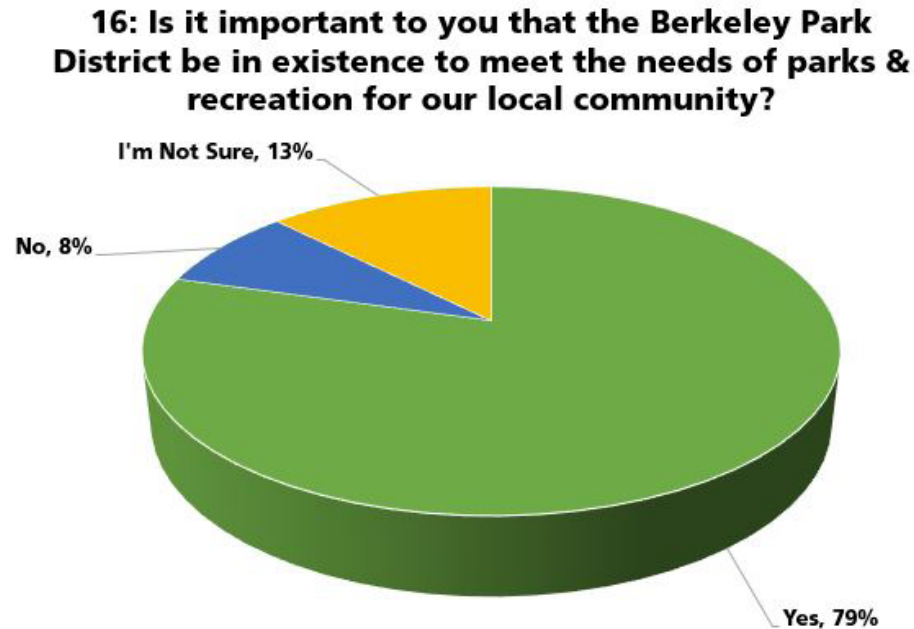
Question 15 asked respondents how much of a tax increase they would be willing to pay to fund the costs to continue to build, operate and maintain Berkeley Park District parks. Of the responses, a majority would support a small tax increase at 50%, followed by those who would not support an increase at 35% and respondents who didn't know at 15%.

15: How much of a tax increase would you be willing to pay to fund the costs to continue to build, operate and maintain our parks?





Question 16 asked respondents if it was important that the Berkeley Park District be in existence to meet the needs of parks & recreation for the community. A majority of respondents agreed that the Park District is important to their community at 79%.



Question 20 was an open-ended question that asked respondents for any additional comments they think would be helpful. Many of the comments were positive, praising the special events hosted by the Park District this summer and the effort the Park District is making to improve. Many suggestions regarded updating amenities/facilities, including playgrounds at Lind Avenue and Berkeley Park, dog park and an updated parks facility. Program comments included more programs for seniors, programs better scheduled for working families and an updated website for program information and registration. All open-ended responses can be found in the Appendix.



Staff Vision Meeting

The Public Research Group facilitated a staff visioning workshop with the Director on the afternoon of July 31, 2019. The meeting was used to help identify strengths and issues as perceived by the Director of the Berkeley Park District. A series of questions were asked which helped to frame and provide direction to the overall discussion.

There was an agreement that the Park District does well with what they have and public participation. There are a few areas of concern mainly centering on the need for facility space for the community. Even with the limited staffing, the Park District has been on budget for several years. However, in order to meet the Park District needs, it will need to look at alternative funds. The Park District needs to work on its budgeting for future capital improvements and hire more part-time staff to aide in the responsibilities of operating the Park District.

Public Vision Meeting

The Public Research Group facilitated a public visioning workshop on the evening of July 25, 2019 to gather meaningful data regarding the Park District as perceived by the residents of the Berkeley Park District. This comprised of discussions with attendants of the Berkeley Music in the Park concert.

A majority felt that the Park District overall does good with what they have, but needs to change with the community. Some concerns included needing more programs to serve the senior residents and improve existing child programs. The Park District has a great opportunity with Berkeley Park as a music venue and the connection with the Prairie Path. Some additional comments include bringing back adult field trips, more food trucks at events, kid friendly events and recycling options.

Board Visioning Meeting

The Public Research Group facilitated a Park Board Visioning Meeting on October 2, 2019. The board recognize the Park District needs to change not just with the times, but with the community. They expressed the need for more senior programs and activities for all ages. They also expressed their concern for the aging facilities and disrepair of park elements, like the tennis courts and playgrounds. They value the parks that they have and see the opportunity to redevelop Berkeley Park, the community's main park. They view the master planning process as a valuable tool for gathering information to help make good decisions on what the community needs for their Park District and how they can continue to grow with the community. Everyone was positive and excited for growing the presence of the Park District to help the community live healthy and happily.



Delphi Committee Report

The Delphi meeting was held on September 19, 2019 at the Lind Avenue Park District Administrative Building. A total of 4 members were in attendance. The following were covered during the meeting:

Parks & Facilities

The committee discussed the needed improvements at Berkeley Park and its future. The park has several amenities that are outdated and in need of an update. This includes the separation of the main and infant/toddler playground, maintenance at the ballfield and need parking signage. The existing building at Berkeley Park needs to be updated or demolished. There is an opportunity for Berkeley Park to become the central recreation hub of the Park District and possible location for a new recreation facility. While the Lind Building is used regularly, the building is out of place. The new recreation center in Berkeley Park would provide a more convenient location to hold programs and events.

Programs

Berkeley is a aging community that need to evaluate there programs for there long time residents while also serving the new young families that are moving into the district. The summer camp program can benefit the community better by being an all day program, while also being combined with other athletic programs. This would give attending children the opportunity to try out sports that they wouldn't previously and allow kids already part of team sports to transition to practice if camp is held at the recreation hub of Berkeley Park. When it comes to special events, the Park District should expand on the summer events they hold and take part in Village held events, such as Park Day.

Community Expectations and Partnerships

The committee agreed that the Berkeley Park District needs to work on their community outreach, since not many in the community know about the Park District and what they do. The Park District needs to take advantage of the partnership opportunities they have available to them like the library, the Village of Berkeley and neighboring Park Districts. However, if the Park District wants to grow and better serve the community, they need to hire more part-time staff to help with the community's needs.



Key Outcomes of Assessment Analysis

The information generated from the sessions combined with the survey data begins to develop a clear sequence of possible outcomes. In review of the visioning and the survey findings, the table below highlights a simple strengths, weakness, opportunities and threats matrix in administration, recreation and parks and facilities.

	Strengths	Weakness	Opportunities	Threats
Administration	Dedication	Limited Resources	Hiring new part-time staff	Too many commitments
Recreation	Special Event Programs	Lack of Diverse Programs	Create new programs and unique events	Finances and Budget
Parks and Facility	Berkeley Park	Outdated facilities and equipment	The redevelopment of Berkeley Park and new recreation center	Finances (Capital Funding)

This analysis will lead into a defined strategic direction and implementation objectives in the master plan.



Chapter 4 - Defining Our Future

Introduction

The planning journey has provided a vast amount of collected information that has provided insights into the needs of parks and recreation services for the Berkeley Park District. The goals and objectives are always the foundation of any master plan. The goals for this planning effort are divided into three main categories that include;

- Administration
- Recreation
- Parks & Facilities

Ultimately, the Comprehensive Master Plan should be viewed as a guide to the future. It should be understood that goals are different from objectives in that goals provide a high-level view while objectives are the smaller steps that help advance the goal. The plan should be evaluated on an on-going basis to remain current as times and influences change.

Identification of Key Issues

The analysis of the information collected across the planning effort has led to the following the discoveries:

- Need for continued open communication with the community
- Boost confidence in programming
- The ability to grow across the board in areas that include Administration/Operations, Parks/Facilities and Recreation Programs/Services
- Invest into meaningful capital improvements that include Berkeley Park and Lind Avenue Park Building related projects



Strategic Atlas

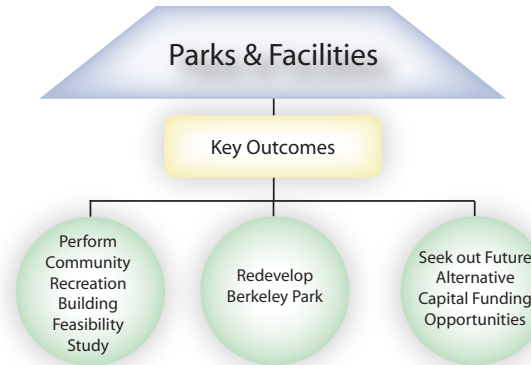
The strategic atlas illustrates a clear overview of the major outcomes based on assigning a level of importance to the categories generated by the goals and objectives, laid out based on the three core function areas of the Park District.

(High Priority) Tier 1 – Parks & Facilities

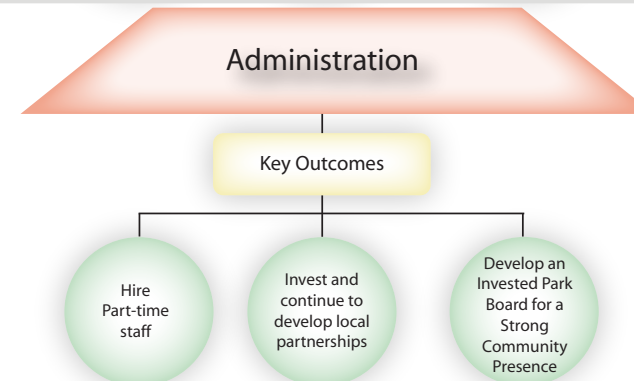
(Mid Priority) Tier 2 - Administration

(Low Priority) Tier 3 - Recreation

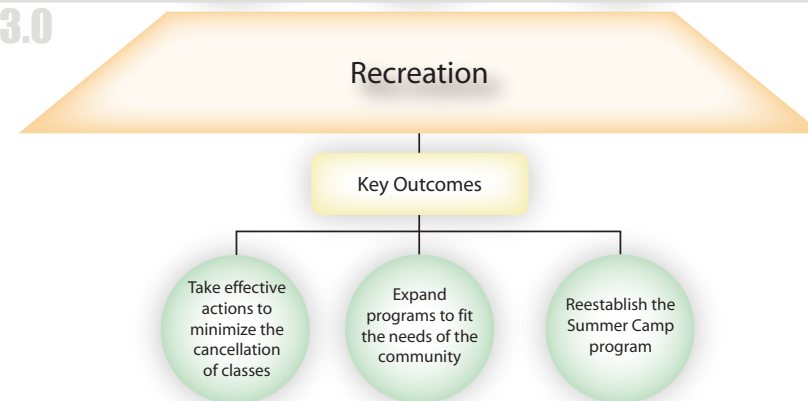
Tier 1.0



Tier 2.0



Tier 3.0





Goals and Objectives

The goals and objectives surrounding park and recreation facilities should be viewed as the highest priorities. These goals also should be viewed as a series of interrelated activities with respect to programming and finance as each will have a profound and direct effect on each other.

Parks & Facilities Goals

Access to quality outdoor & indoor recreational spaces is important to the overall quality of life of the community. To fulfill this civic need, parks and facilities play a critical role. The basic cost to develop and maintain parks and facilities are always increasing. These goals and objectives provide enough direction to get targeted capital investments started within the next five years.

Goal 1: Perform Community Recreation Building Feasibility Study

Objectives:

- Investigate the feasibility of selling the Lind Avenue Building.
- Identify the key program spaces of a new community recreation building to meet the needs of the community.
- Construct a community recreation building in Berkeley Park.

Goal 2: Redevelop Berkeley Park

Objectives:

- Define the future vision of Berkeley Park including gathering additional community input.
- Create a capital budget to implement improvements at Berkeley Park, which may include phasing opportunities.
- Pursue grant funding to offset capital improvement costs.

Goal 3: Seek out Future Alternative Capital Funding Opportunities

Objectives:

- Identify and apply for grants that can assist in the construction of capital improvements from grant programs like OSLAD & PARC funds.
- Consider engaging grant writers to seek out grants specific to Berkeley Park.
- Seek out other revenue sources that include sponsorships and/or partnerships for select capital improvements that match planning initiatives.



Administrative Goals

Administrative goals always provide for a strong foundation for any planning exercise. The operation of the Park District is broken down into two primary functions. The Director provides day to day operational oversight while the elected officials are responsible for policy matters facing the Park District.

Goal 4: Hire Part-time staff

Objectives:

- Identify the areas where new part-time staff can be of assistance and define job responsibilities.
- Include in the budget for additional part-time staff.
- Insure that new part-time staff are engaged in their job.

Goal 5: Invest and continue to develop local partnerships

Objectives:

- Evaluate the current partnerships and whether they are still appropriate for the future.
- Investigate into new partnerships that might include neighboring Park Districts, school districts and local service organizations.
- Ensure that agreements with partners benefit both parties.

Goal 6: Develop an Invested Park Board for a Strong Community Presence

Objectives:

- Provide Board training sessions with mandatory attendance.
- Ensure that the Park Board has an understanding of the five-year living strategy of the master plan.
- Hold yearly board retreat.
- Develop and vet a short list of potential board members for future appointment.



Recreation Goals

The ability to program timely and affordable course offerings while providing a variety of options is a challenge for every recreation provider. As noted in the previous chapter, the need to go outside the box in thinking as to how the Berkeley Park District can pro-actively work in developing programs is needed. Program development should speak to the Park District growth potential with classes centered on youth activities, in addition to active adults and seniors. Lastly, the Park District must take action in minimizing the cancellation of classes and expanding the summer camp program as summer should be a busy programming time at the Park District.

Goal 7: Take effective actions to minimize the cancellation of classes

Objectives:

- Evaluate the programs that were canceled on why, whether from low enrollment due to availability or lack of interest.
- Look into holding class hours that fit with after school hours or summer break.
- Schedule classes and programs to be available to working families and school district scheduling.

Goal 8: Expand programs to fit the needs of the community

Objectives:

- Identify target demographics that current programs don't apply to or are lacking, including seniors and working adults.
- Develop select new programs that take in consideration the needs of the community and staff availability.
- Use current and new partnerships to aide in providing program space, for example a gymnasium or outdoor pool space.

Goal 9: Re-establish the Summer Camp program

Objectives:

- Sequence summer camp date and times to match working family needs that would include five day, all day summer camp.
- Explore recreation and programming activities that hold interest for summer camp participants.
- Provide a location that is more convenient for summer camp users, such as Berkeley Park.
- Define budget for the expanded summer camp including fee pricing as well as expenses that includes additional staff.



Chapter 5 - Implementation for Moving Forward

Introduction

For any type of planning to be successful, good background information must be the foundation on which to build solid goals and objectives. The overall success of the plan truly lies with the agency's desire to execute it. The previous chapter outlined specific strategic goals and objectives that have the ability to make significant progress in creating a better organized Park District in the future. The plan mainly focuses on parks, but does not lose the need to pay attention to the programs and administration as well. The plan will allow the agency the opportunity to plan for capital needs, but just as important, create new opportunities to expand new programs and events.

This chapter is organized into a simple to follow action plan that should be implemented to meet the goals and objectives as outlined in this plan. It is the cumulation of all the research, meetings, responses and discussions that has transpired during the planning process. The overarching end goal of this plan is to set a direction that can be implemented allowing for a positive impact to the overall parks and recreation environment surrounding the Berkeley Park District.

The following table illustrates the timeline to accomplish the goals of this plan during the 5-year planning horizon. The goals and objectives are laid out by tier to mimic the importance highlighted by the strategic atlas, while each individual objective is color-coded high (red), medium (yellow) or low (blue) importance within each goal.



Goal	Tier	Objective	Type	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Perform Community Recreation Building Feasibility Study	I	Investigate the feasibility of selling the Lind Avenue Building.	Parks & Facilities	X	X				
		Identify the key program spaces of a new community recreation building to meet the needs of the community.	Parks & Facilities		X				
		Construct a community recreation building in Berkeley Park.	Parks & Facilities			X	X		
Redevelop Berkeley Park	I	Define the future vision of Berkeley Park including gathering additional community input.	Parks & Facilities	X	X				
		Create a capital budget to implement improvements at Berkeley Park, which may include phasing opportunities.	Parks & Facilities		X				
		Pursue grant funding to offset capital improvement costs.	Parks & Facilities			X			X
Seek out Future Alternative Capital Funding Opportunities	I	Identify and apply for grants that can assist in the construction of capital improvements from grant programs like OSLAD & PARC funds.	Parks & Facilities	X	X	X	X	X	X
		Consider engaging grant writers to seek out grants specific to Berkeley Park.	Parks & Facilities	X	X	X	X	X	X
		Seek out other revenue sources that include sponsorships and/or partnerships for select capital improvements that match planning initiatives.	Parks & Facilities	X	X	X	X	X	X



Goal	Tier	Objective	Type	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Hire Part-time staff	2	Identify the areas where new part-time staff can be of assistance and define job responsibilities.	Administrative	X					
		Include in the budget for additional part-time staff.	Administrative	X	X	X	X	X	X
		Insure that new part-time staff are engaged in their job.	Administrative	X	X	X	X	X	X
Invest and continue to develop local partnerships	2	Evaluate the current partnerships and whether they are still appropriate for the future.	Administrative	X					
		Investigate into new partnerships that might include neighboring Park Districts, school districts and local service organizations.	Administrative	X	X	X	X	X	X
		Ensure that agreements with partners benefit both parties.	Administrative	X	X	X	X	X	X
Develop an Invested Park Board for a Strong Community Presence	2	Provide Board training sessions with mandatory attendance.	Administrative	X	X	X	X	X	X
		Ensure that the Park Board has an understanding of the five-year living strategy of the master plan.	Administrative	X	X	X	X	X	X
		Hold yearly board retreat.	Administrative	X	X	X	X	X	X
		Develop and vet a short list of potential board members for future appointment.	Administrative	X		X		X	



Goal	Tier	Objective	Type	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Take effective actions to minimize the cancellation of classes	3	Evaluate the programs that were canceled on why, whether from low enrollment due to availability or lack of interest.	Recreation	X	X	X	X	X	X
		Look into holding class hours that fit with after school hours or summer break.	Recreation	X	X	X	X	X	X
		Schedule classes and programs to be available to working families and school district scheduling.	Recreation	X	X	X	X	X	X
Expand programs to fit the needs of the community	3	Identify target demographics that current programs don't apply to or are lacking, including seniors and working adults.	Recreation	X		X		X	
		Develop select new programs that take in consideration the needs of the community and staff availability.	Recreation	X		X		X	
		Use current and new partnerships to aide in providing program space, for example a gymnasium or outdoor pool space.	Recreation	X	X	X	X	X	X
Re-establish the Summer Camp program	3	Sequence summer camp date and times to match working family needs that would include five day, all day summer camp.	Recreation	X	X	X	X	X	X
		Explore recreation and programing activities that hold interest for summer camp participants.	Recreation	X	X	X	X	X	X
		Provide a location that is more convenient for summer camp users, such as Berkeley Park.	Recreation	X	X	X	X	X	X
		Define budget for the expanded summer camp including fee pricing as well as expenses that includes additional staff.	Recreation	X	X	X	X	X	X



Capital Improvement Planning

The following pages of Chapter 5 present the Berkeley Park District's parks in conceptual planning format as a guide for future development and improvements. This 'how-to' guide is intended to be diagrammatic recommendations to provide a strong starting point to all members of the Park Board, Director and persons responsible for the planning, design, detail and overall maintenance of the park system. All future improvement projects performed by the Park District should consider these conceptual plans and recommendations in order to achieve their full potential within the overall park system.

Quality of Service Identification

The Quality of Service (QOS) matrix on the following pages illustrates the accumulation of all analysis and project recommendations for each individual park and facility. Through the scoring of each park or facility's inventory, level of service and projected capital, the QOS matrix charts the total impact each has on the overall park. This unique approach of looking at each individual park through multiple lenses over various high-importance factors helps to illustrate the priorities and direction of the Park District.

The breakdown of categories that comprise the QOS matrix are:

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| -Use | The total amount of community involvement with each park. |
| -Capital Investment | The projected capital required for all recommended improvements to each park. |
| -Level of Service | The size/use area of each park determined through the LOS analysis. |
| -Projected Impact | The overall difference or outcome to the community possible if recommended improvements are achieved. |
| -TCQ | The score of each park received as part of the inventory and analysis. |
| -QOS | The final score given to each park to identify each one's individual priority. |



**Berkeley Park District
QOS Composite Score Matrix**

Park or Facility	Use	Cost	Level of Service	Impact	TCQ Score	QOS Score
Berkeley Park	3	3	3	3	3	15
Lind Avenue Park	1	1	3	1	3	9
Victoria Avenue Park	1	1	1	1	3	7
	1 - Low	1 - Low (\$500,000 & Under)	1 - Low (Tot Lot)	1 - Low	1 - Poor	
	2 - Medium	2 - Medium (\$500,000-\$1,000,000)	2 - Medium (Neighborhood Park)	2 - Medium	2 - Fair	
	3 - High	3 - High (\$1,000,000 & Up)	3 - High (Community Park/Special Use)	3 - High	3 - Good	
					4 - Excellent	



Park	QOS Score	Development Item	Total Cost	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026+
Berkeley Park	15	Recreation Center Building	\$3,000,000.00							\$3,000,000.00
(OSLAD Candidate)		Parking Lot Construction	\$150,000.00							\$150,000.00
		Stage	\$75,000.00		\$75,000.00					
		Playground (Small Shelter, Equipment, Safety Surface, Concrete Plaza)	\$200,000.00		\$200,000.00					
		Ballfield Renovation	\$100,000.00		\$100,000.00					
		Volleyball Court Improvements	\$35,000.00		\$35,000.00					
		Fitness Course	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00						
		Pre-fabricated Restroom	\$50,000.00		\$50,000.00					
		Large Shelter	\$45,000.00			\$45,000.00				
		Site Furnishings (Picnic Tables, Litter Cans, Etc.)	\$25,000.00		\$15,000.00	\$10,000.00				
		Pathway Construction	\$30,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00					
		Landscape Improvements	\$20,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$1,000.00			
Park Construction Sub-Total			\$3,780,000.00	\$67,000.00	\$505,000.00	\$57,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,150,000.00
Contingency & Inflation Sub-Total			\$75,600.00	\$1,340.00	\$10,100.00	\$1,140.00	\$20.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$63,000.00
Design Consultant Fees Sub-Total			\$189,000.00	\$3,350.00	\$25,250.00	\$2,850.00	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$157,500.00
Berkeley Park Total Expenditure			\$4,044,600.00	\$71,690.00	\$540,350.00	\$60,990.00	\$1,070.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,370,500.00



Berkeley Park Concept Site Plan



Legend

1	Recreation Center
2	Parking Lot (+/- 71 New Spaces)
3	Playground with Plaza
4	Ball Field Renovation
5	Volleyball Courts (2) Renovation
6	Fitness Course
7	Shelter and Restroom Building on Existing Concrete Pad
8	Stage
9	Detention Pond
10	Existing Water Tower
11	Existing Parking Lot
12	Illinois Prairie Path
13	Cell Tower Utility Building

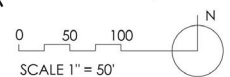


Prepared for: Berkeley
Park District
Berkeley, Illinois

Design Perspectives, Inc.
Grounded in Creativity
1280 Strogoz Avenue
Suite 110
Naperville, Illinois 60563
Telephone: (630) 428-3134
Fax: (630) 428-3135
www.design-perspectives.net

DRAFT

February 2020



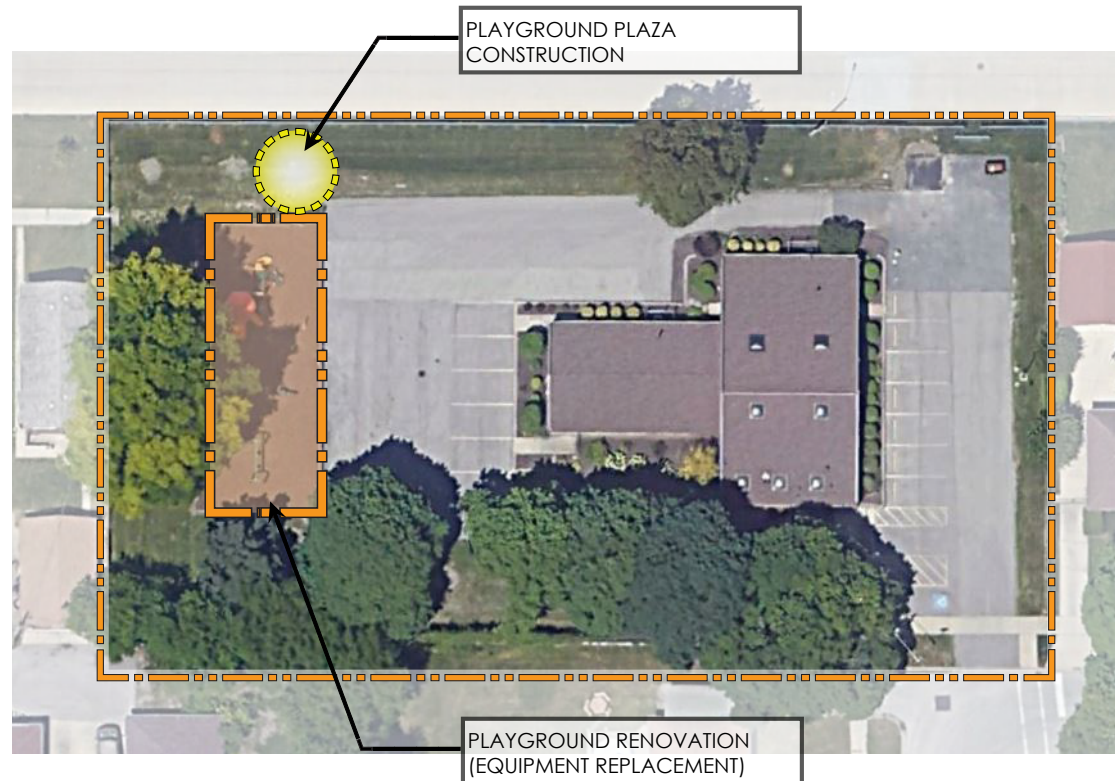


Park	QOS Score	Development Item	Total Cost	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026+
Lind Avenue Park	9	Playground Replacement & Renovation (Equipment & Plaza)	\$125,000.00		\$125,000.00					
Park Construction Sub-Total			\$125,000.00	\$0.00	\$125,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Contingency & Inflation Sub-Total			\$2,500.00	\$0.00	\$2,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Design Consultant Fees Sub-Total			\$6,250.00	\$0.00	\$6,250.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Lind Avenue Park Total Expenditure			\$133,750.00	\$0.00	\$133,750.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00



Lind Avenue Park

Concept Diagram



Scale: NTS



December 2019

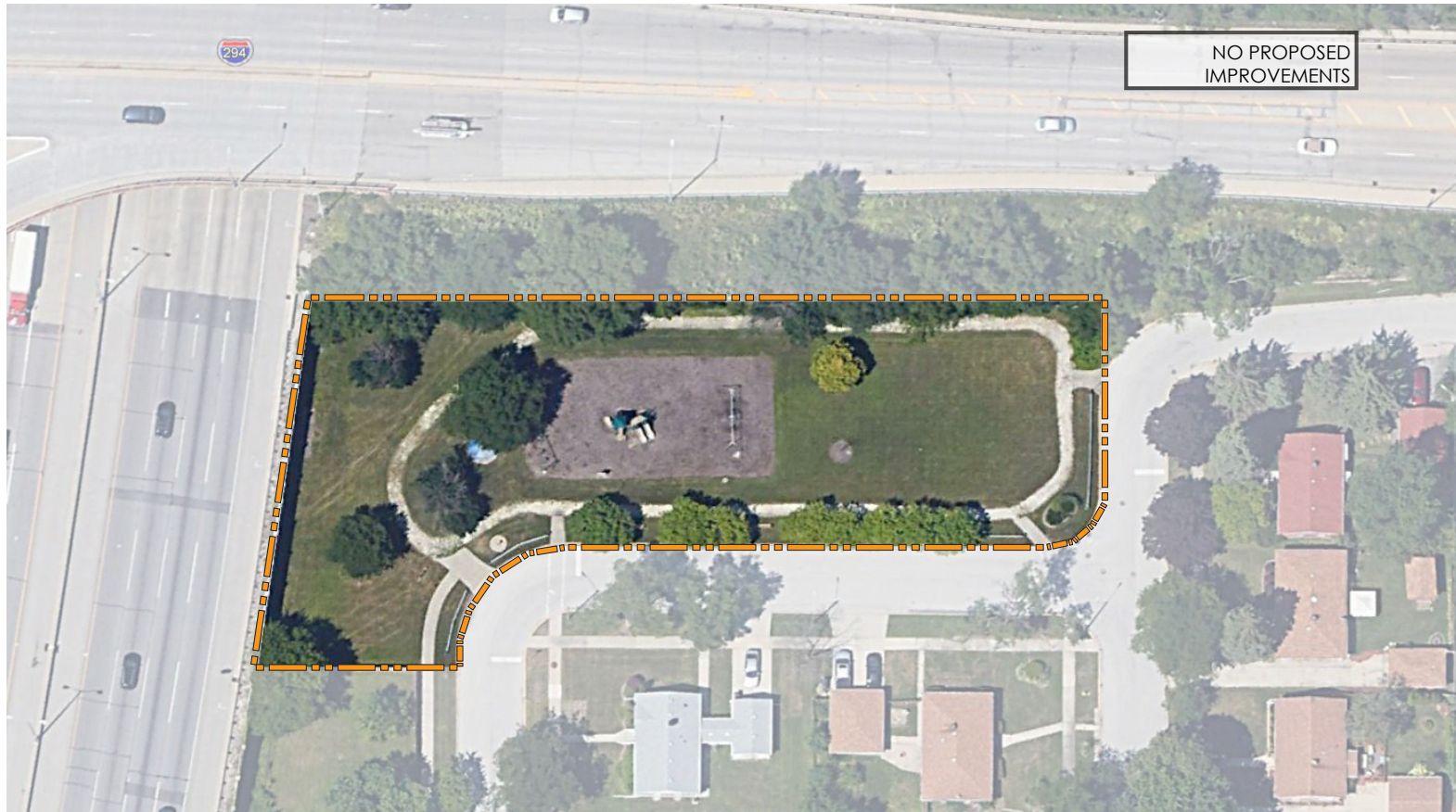


Park	QOS Score	Development Item	Total Cost	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026+
Victoria Avenue Park	7	No Improvements								
Park Construction Sub-Total			\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Contingency & Inflation Sub-Total			\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Design Consultant Fees Sub-Total			\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Victoria Avenue Park Total Expenditure			\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00



Victoria Avenue Park

Concept Diagram



Scale: NTS



December 2019



Indoor Recreation Facilities Recommendations

The Berkeley Park District has a very limited amount of indoor recreation space. The Park District has only one primary indoor recreation facility that includes the Lind Avenue Building. The goal for the future is to possibly grow indoor recreation by adding a Recreation Center.

The Park District understands that in order to grow and improve their programming, they would need more recreation space than what they currently have. The addition of a proper Recreation Center would offer more space for indoor recreation and help balance the system of outdoor parks and indoor facilities.

The following are the major facility projects identified through the Comprehensive Master Plan process. This project will need to be further evaluated with preliminary designs and detailed budgets for both construction and operation budgets. Also, as identified in the master plan, there is the possibility through partnerships to help provide out of District recreation space and fund the development of the Recreation Center project.

Facilities	Development Item	Code	Total Cost	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026+
Lind Avenue Park	Misc Building Repair		\$100,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$40,000.00
District Wide	Signage		\$7,500.00	\$7,500.00						
Facilities Construction Sub-Total			\$107,500.00	\$17,500.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$40,000.00
Contingency & Inflation Sub-Total			\$12,900.00	\$2,100.00	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00	\$4,800.00
Design Consultant Fees Sub-Total			\$8,600.00	\$1,400.00	\$800.00	\$800.00	\$800.00	\$800.00	\$800.00	\$3,200.00
Facilities Total Expenditure			\$129,000.00	\$21,000.00	\$12,000.00	\$12,000.00	\$12,000.00	\$12,000.00	\$12,000.00	\$48,000.00
Technology	Development Item	Code	Total Cost	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026+
Software Upgrades			\$2,000.00	\$15,000.00						
Technology Total Expenditure			\$2,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00



Berkeley Recreation Center

The Recreation Center will have specific components within the footprint of an approximately 20,000 SF building. These components could include:

- Full size gymnasium with lower level walking track
- Small 2,000 square foot fitness center with cardio equipment, individual weight machines and free weight area
- Large 3,000 square foot multi-purpose room that can be divided into 2 smaller rooms with a sink for party rentals
- Restrooms for males, females and families
- Storage
- Administration area with 2 offices and front desk/check in



Conclusion

The Berkeley Park District has given the community opportunities to express its hopes and dreams as to the future of the agency. Berkeley Park is recognized throughout the community as a significant place that is full of potential to become a destination park that is uniquely Berkeley. Along with redeveloping Berkeley Park, the programs and events offer by the Park District will benefit to being updated and improved. Namely for programs, this involves improving the summer camp program and focusing more on senior and family oriented programs that better serve the community.

The master plan has been developed to be a resource for wise decision making and provide the context for change over the course of time. The community will notice improvements to the parks, attention to the little details that matter, a continued effort to engage the public on important topics, planning for improved recreational programs and special events and coming to a consensus on the level of future support for increased financial assistance from the community.

In review of the questions posed in the very beginning of the planning process, these have been answered through the master planning process with a summary response that follows:

- Question 1- The community wants the Park District to better serve the community. This includes adjusting timing of programs to better suit user's schedules and listen to their needs.
- Question 2- There is an interest in a Recreation Center by the community. The Park District has gone years without a proper recreation center and would need one if they are to grow their programming variety.
- Question 3- The community still feels that the Park District is an important part in their lives, and would like to see it stay relevant.

This plan will help to provide a foundation of understanding to the park, recreational and administration needs of the Park District, as well as help give a voice to the community to contribute to the decision-making process. The community will notice efforts within these directions to move the Park District forward and value the master plan to provide guidance for an ever-changing future. The most compelling discovery in the recent months is one of gratitude for letting the Park District know how big a part it plays in the life of the community and the efforts it has in the Village of Berkeley's future.



Appendix



October 18, 2019

Dear Park District Resident,

The Berkeley Park District was established in 1935 and has actively served the public recreation needs of Berkeley since it was founded. Today, with dedicated outdoor park spaces in addition to indoor recreation opportunities at Lind Park, the Park District serves the Village with a variety of recreational possibilities.

We are pleased to provide your household this survey. The community input collected from this survey will be used in developing our first ever Comprehensive Master Plan for the next 5 years which will identify parks and recreation needs as well as help establish priorities for the future. **Your response to the enclosed survey is extremely important. The survey starts on the back of this cover letter.**

Public Research Group, a local independent research firm, has been selected to conduct this survey. **Your responses will remain confidential.** Please return your completed survey in the **next 4 weeks** in the enclosed postage-paid envelope. The survey is relatively short and will take less than 10 minutes to complete.

Thank you for taking the time to do this. If you should have any additional comments you wish to express to me personally, please feel free to contact me at 708-544-1935.

Sincerely,

Peter Graham
Director
Berkeley Park District

1200 Lind Avenue | Berkeley, IL 60163

Berkeley Park District Questionnaire

The Berkeley Park District would like your input to help determine future park and recreation priorities for our community. Your "household" refers to you and those residing in your home. This survey will take up to 10 minutes to complete. When you are finished, please return your survey in the enclosed postage-paid envelope. **All responses to this survey are anonymous and confidential.**

- How familiar are you with the Park District?
 Very familiar Somewhat familiar Not at all familiar
- Has your **most recent** interaction with the Park District been a positive experience?
 Yes No No opinion
- How would you rate your overall satisfaction with the Park District?
 Satisfied Neutral Unsatisfied (**Answer #3a**) Not applicable
 3a. If you answered **Unsatisfied** above, please tell us which area(s) you are displeased with?
(Choose all that apply)
 Customer Service Parks Fees Taxes
 Facilities Programs Communication Transparency
 Other (Please specify) _____
- What is the one thing you really like about the Park District?

- Please list one new program or special event that the Park District should consider for the future?

- Where do you or members of your household go for recreation programs and/or services?
(Check all that apply)
 Local schools Private fitness clubs Neighboring Park Districts
 YMCA College/University Local Church/Temple
 Forest Preserves Local sports organizations Homeowners Association
 Library Berkeley Park District (**Skip to #8**)
 Other (Please specify) _____
- If you go outside of the Park District, why do you find it necessary to do so?
(Check all that apply)
 Programs offered at inconvenient times No interest in recreation programs
 Lack of parking Other providers have better facilities
 Believed the program might be cancelled Other providers have better staffing
 Other providers have lower prices Our friends go there, so we go there
 Class was full Registration process was difficult
 Too far to travel I did not know what was being offered
 Other (Please specify) _____



8. How often do you visit the Berkeley Park District parks and facilities?
 Daily Weekly Monthly
 Yearly Never **(Answer #8a)**
- 8a. If you answered **Never** above, did any of the following factors prevent you or a household member from visiting a Park District park or facility? **(Check all that apply)**
 Transportation was difficult Did not feel safe
 Parking No interest in the park elements/amenities
 Did not know where park/facility was Not clean/poor upkeep
 Other (Please specify) _____
9. Which of the following Berkeley Park District parks and facilities do you or other members of your household use? **(Please check all that apply)**
 1. Berkeley Park 2. Memorial Corner Park 3. Victoria Avenue Park
 4. Lind Avenue Building 5. Illinois Prairie Path 6. None **(Skip to #11)**
10. Please rate your feelings from Question 9 for you and your household by circling the number on a scale of 1 to 5, where 5 means "Excellent" and 1 means "No Opinion".
- | | Excellent | Good | Fair | Poor | No Opinion |
|---------------------------|-----------|------|------|------|------------|
| Cleanliness | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| Condition of the elements | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| Variety of elements | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| Level of safety | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| Accessibility and access | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
11. Would you support building a new Park District Facility which would include amenities like a Gymnasium, Meeting/Community Rooms, Tennis Court, Volleyball Court, etc.?
 Yes No I don't know
12. Would you use a summer camp program if offered by the Park District?
 Yes No I don't know
13. What outdoor park elements are important to you and your household to have in our parks?
(Choose all that apply)
 Athletic fields (Soccer, etc) Natural areas/Open space Pickleball courts
 Baseball/softball diamonds Garden plots Sled hill
 Basketball courts Grassy areas in the park Restrooms
 Drinking fountains Park shelters Tennis courts
 Fitness stations Playground equipment (2-5 Year Old) Paths
 Dog park Playground equipment (5-12 Year Old) Platform tennis
 Trees Splash pad Ice skating rink
 Flowers/Gardens/Landscaping
 Other **(Please specify)** _____

14. Please rate each of the following Park District priorities which would be important to you and your household by circling the number on a scale of 1 to 5, where 5 means "Very Important" and 1 means "No Opinion".

	Very Important	Important	Neutral	Unimportant	No Opinion
Reduce recreation facilities and services that no longer have value to the community	5	4	3	2	1
Improve recreation programs	5	4	3	2	1
Expand recreation programs	5	4	3	2	1
Improve existing park/ facilities	5	4	3	2	1
Build new parks/facilities	5	4	3	2	1
Build more pathways	5	4	3	2	1
Acquire more land for parks	5	4	3	2	1

15. How much of a tax increase would you be willing to pay to fund the costs to continue to build, operate and maintain our parks?
 \$1-5 per month \$6-10 per month No increase Don't know
16. Is it important to you that the Berkeley Park District be in existence to meet the needs of parks & recreation for our local community?
 Yes No I'm Not Sure
17. How long have you lived within the Park District? _____ Years
18. What is your gender?
 Female Male Other Prefer not to say
19. Beginning with yourself, what are the ages of those in your household?

20. Please make any additional comments that you think would be helpful.



Thank you for your time.

Please complete the survey by November 15, 2019 and return it in the self addressed stamped envelope.

Survey continues on other side



Answers to Open Ended Survey Questions

3a. If you answered Unsatisfied above, please tell us which area(s) you are displeased with?

- Mostly the programs are for kids - no adults.
- Not enough programs offered.
- Lack of a large multipurpose building.
- Need a dog park.
- Tennis courts in poor condition, program fees too expensive and programs get canceled.

4. What is the one thing you really like about the Park District?

- N/A.
- I appreciate the parks and prairie path.
- Affordable.
- Location.
- Nothing - I pay taxes, but it's all mostly geared for families. Kids are grown. Give to adults.
- The beautiful playground & picnic shelter and the ease of rental of the shelter for Berkeley residents.
- It offers a variety of events for all ages.
- I live close to Lind Park.
- Employees are very friendly.
- Very clean.
- The music in the Park.
- Annual events and cleanliness.
- Exercise class - very reasonable price.
- Location of parks.
- Walking distance from our house.
- Prairie Path.
- Accessibility & Availability.
- It is small and personal.
- Never been there. Location unknown to me.
- Open areas.
- It's family oriented.
- Car shows, Cruise Nights, Music in Park.



- The Bike Path. Not that familiar with Park District Activities.
- How well kept the parks are, allowing for ease of use of the grounds.
- That the IL Prairie runs through it.
- The fees are very affordable (when the programs happen!).
- Well maintained.
- Facilities are conveniently located in the community.
- It's clean and accessible.
- The park is within walking distance to our house.
- The fees for classes are reasonable.
- That it offers programs.
- Cleanliness.
- Holiday events for kids.
- Well maintained.
- They offer a variety of programs/activities for various age groups.
- If we had young kids at home, there are some nice options for activities.
- It has a ramp so I am able to vote.
- It's great for my grandkids.
- Sand volleyball leagues.
- Very clean.
- Close proximity to my home.
- N/A.
- (Attractive) Especially the corner of Electric & Taft.
- Used to love the AYSO soccer camps & baseball is great.
- Close by.
- Good programs for children and young adults.
- Good variety of programs.
- That you offer a wide variety of activities for our community.
- Variety - something for all ages.
- Very close to where I live.
- Nothing - I pay taxes, but it's all mostly geared for families. Kids are grown. Give to adults.
- Variety of activities offered.
- Staff is friendly.



- Patron Offerings.
- Lind Park appearance i.e., Grounds are kept up nicely.
- My neighbors like the Music in the Park. They are always trying to get me to go.
- People that run it. Flexibility for weather (shelter on Lind Ave).
- We are very happy to have a Park District, although we haven't used it in the past few years.
- Nothing! We have to go to Elmhurst Parks to be able to enjoy walking in a park with our dog.
- They make the most of a small budget.
- Berkeley Park.
- That it always hosts events for the community like concerts & things for the kids.
- The clean parks.
- The exercise programs.
- Clean playground for my grandchildren.
- I enjoyed the music in the park events that I attended.
- Lawn is well kept and litter is picked up.
- Parties.
- Short, simple and smart.
- Maintenance of parks & buildings.
- Park District is available to everyone in town all ages.
- Cost effective.
- Clean.
- Familiarity, community.
- Variety of programs.
- Adult yoga, etc.
- Easy to read communications.
- Affordability of classes, leagues and events.
- Variety of summer events.
- For a town this size has a good variety of programs.
- Close to home.



5: Please list one new program or special event that the Park District should consider for the future?

- N/A.
- More things for kids. More engagement for the community. Develop programs with variety.
- Better playground on Lind Park - basketball court addition.
- More for adults! Cooking class - plays- horticulture - Drury Lane.
- Pilates.
- Arm chair yoga.
- Can't think of anything at this time.
- Don't know.
- I would like to see more health and wellness programs - (Tai Chi - Meditation - healthy cooking).
- SK walks.
- Program for senior citizens.
- Parking, water for dogs on Taft.
- More playground for children.
- Car show, cruise nights, music in park.
- Music.
- Outdoor expo with vendors for outdoor products and events (i.e., fishing, hunting, hiking, biking, camping, etc.).
- Horseshoe Tournament.
- Exercise class for seniors/walking programs/bowling or golf lessons.
- Full stock exercise area indoor with shower area & lockers.
- All day-day care.
- Frisbee golf, slack-lining.
- Improve the exercise equipment.
- I think it would be nice if we had some help with the snow.
- Girls softball, flag football program or more adult social programs.
- Fishing contest.
- Any program per popular demand.
- Boxing class, weight lifting, more activities for 1-3 year olds.
- More available hours for activities and not early.
- I am 91 so not interested.
- Don't know.
- Either move the gazebo or cut down the trees around it. The viewing is limited because of the trees.



- Evening programs for children.
- Need a dog park.
- AYSO.
- Trips like places to arboretum, etc.
- 4th of July celebration, i.e., parade or fireworks.
- Music in the Park to come much more alive. “Too dead”, Post better signs to alert more people.
- Summer camps, splash pads, make it pet friendly also. Fitness equipment I park.
- Internet/smart phone class for seniors.
- All day programs for kids in summer before and after school programs (care).
- Bingo, consecutively.
- Maybe an open hose sort of thing.
- Bus trip to Fireside Theater or downtown for events.
- Disappointed with Berkeley Park District. When I spoke up with new ideas, BPD was not receptive to my ideas. So now my family goes to Elmhurst to play tennis.
- Program for toddlers to play wit different toys.
- Pumpkin Patch.
- Yoga in the park.
- Activities for seniors.
- Senior exercise during the day.
- Crafts for seniors.
- Keep up the good work.
- Some activity for kids.
- Carry on with regular programs.
- Chair yoga, Chartered bus trip downtown to see the Christmas lights.
- More senior activities.
- Home school sports or science activity.
- Offer yoga earlier in the day.
- Casino outing for adults and more programs geared towards girls.
- Summer jazz series.
- Adult outings, day trips, plays, etc. Family outings, ice shows, etc.
- Seminars on living green, global warming and teaching your child manners.



6. Where do you or members of your household go for recreation programs and/or services?

- Car shows at other towns.
- None.
- Elmhurst has more ideas for adults.
- Nowhere.
- Morton Arboretum.
- Don't go anywhere.
- Internet.
- Memorial Park District Fitness Center.
- Bellwood Park District.
- Elmhurst has more ideas for adults.
- Work office.
- Internet.
- Memorial Park District.
- Neighboring music in the park.
- Time management issues, so not much time.
- We own a summer home on a lake.
- We Don't.
- Bike trail.
- Morton Arboretum, Botanic Gardens (nature walks, Bird watching).
- Elmhurst Park District - More for seniors.

7. If you go outside of the Park District, why do you find it necessary to do so?

- Car shows.
- Pool passes through dinner auction fundraiser to nearby Park District pool.
- No online registration.
- Only go to the park occasionally.
- Fitness class for senior.
- Use walking track and gym equipment at a reasonable price for seniors.
- No interest in exercise programs.
- YMCA has an "indoor" pool & basketball.
- The other park districts offer more of a variety of programs for children of all ages (i.e., sports classes and leagues).



- Park District didn't offer program.
- More variety, better choices.
- Other parks have "foam" floors.
- I like the forest preserves to walk my dog.
- Not too many programs for seniors.
- They have much better selection of food vendors and music artists to perform.
- Time duration.
- Since we are retired we have different interests. Children are grown.
- We own a summer home on a lake.
- You were not receptive to my feedback. Dogs not allowed even on leash in Berkeley Parks. So, walk my dog in other community parks.
- I work for another Park District & receive free programming.
- I would like to participate in fitness programs offered by the Park District. I plan to.
- Busy outside of community - church & family needs.
- The YMCA has pool and gym equipment.
- Want to experience other communities, variety.
- Other Park District & Churches offer outings I am interested in.

8a. If you answered Never above, did any of the following factors prevent you or a household member from visiting a Park District park or facility?

- No car shows.
- My 10 year old son finds the Lind Park a baby park.
- Very outdated! Sorry, it's just old. Not everyone likes yoga or exercising.
- None of activities suited.
- Have no reason to visit - kids moved out.
- Just didn't go.
- Lack of time.
- No applicable programs.
- Too old to walk.
- Too elderly.
- Dogs aren't allowed.
- Nothing offered of any interest to me.
- Did not have what I was interested in.



- No time.
- To vote.
- Dog walking not permitted in Berkeley Parks. Tennis courts in poor condition.
- Need to be able to park on Electric.
- Need more handicap access at Lind Building & Village Hall. Spaces need to be closer to the gazebo.

13. What outdoor park elements are important to you and your household to have in our parks?

- A sled hill would be wonderful!
- Park benches!
- None.
- Walking/Running Track/Path.
- Gym - Room, weights.
- Nature prairie and woods.
- More parking availability.
- All of them. Why limit?
- Totally open to pickleball, sled hill, tennis courts, ice skating rink. We don't have room for it all, but it would be nice to offer something neighboring communities don't have!
- Benches.
- Our parks need a major overhaul and upgrade. Major work needed. We are outdated!
- Fishing pond.
- Per popular demand.
- Ability for dog to be close to playground. We have a dog and child and need to separate at playground due to park "no dog" rules.
- A "No" dog/pet zone for those who are afraid of pets.
- Ability to enjoy the park with my dog but not a dog park.
- A rent-able party room please!
- Playground equipment for special needs. Add bike racks to lock up bikes.

**20. Please make any additional comments that you think would be helpful.**

- I don't even know where Memorial Corner Park, Victoria Ave Park and Lind Ave Bldg are. Their locations are never posted, you just ASSUME people know where they are.
- You need a website that is actually updated! Fitness programs that appeal to younger adults. Actual preschool/ mom and baby programs. Either fix the tennis courts or take them out, they are embarrassing. MORE TRANSPARENCY! Look to neighboring communities like Westchester, Memorial Park Villa Park - none have a ton of money but all have appealing and dynamic programming!
- Lind Park needs new playground equipment for older children please.....
- Berkeley needs to cut operation costs - Looking up salaries that it makes are comparable to Elmhurst but the administration doesn't deliver the same opportunities to residents. We are now considered "Low Income". Where does all of this money go? The town is looking shabby - overgrown bushes, no codes are enforced, anymore. I just sleep here. It's sad to see the town so ugly now. *Village Meetings...Nothing gets done! It takes years to get anything done if at all -
- We are empty nesters Does Berkeley offer an extensive tour of the village so that residents know what resources are in the village? And where the Berkeley boundaries are since we are closely connected to other villages. The Park District is in a location that is not visible to residents. I just found out about it a couple years ago so I cannot form an opinion about the resources or give a fair evaluation. Perhaps hosting a periodic meet and greet at the Park District would be an opportunity for residents to know more about it and what is offered.
- I would also like to see more exercise equipment like stationary bikes - free weights, etc. Great job - Pete
- Don't mean to be negative - Just don't use park facilities
- It would be great if we could combine w/Hillside to get more participation. Also market the programs you have - use the electronic reader board at Taft & St Charles. Work programs with garden club & library - team up.
- Thank you!
- It would be wonderful to see improvement and expansion, but taxes are so high already that sadly, I would be against it
- The parks are fine as they are & were even before that last round of improvements. No children in household to use it anymore. Need some things for people with children. We have a wonderful library that meets needs of ages with computers & programs, movies & crafts, and helpful service.
- No more dumping money into bad ideas. Many suggested items are not wanted or needed. Take care of what we have and no more. Do not trust Mayor Lee and his rubber stamp board with more spending decisions
- Kudos to the park district for making an effort to improve
- Thank you for working toward a better Berkeley!
- I am too old to use an parks. Cannot afford any extra expense to pay for or any additional increase in taxes.
- Sweeping changes in building & programs, more communication with residents on current status and future
- Fishing, Farmstand



- My kids are at the ages that they don't really play at the playground anymore but I think the Berkeley Park playground is overdue for an upgraded system. When my kids were younger, we sometimes went to the playground, but often visited other playgrounds in Elmhurst.
- The Park District & Village should work as one
- I love the Village of Berkeley. I plan on staying until I die. So, please help the seniors stay in their homes especially the widows.
- We have a lot of room for improvement. Maybe new vision for change? A board that wants to work to see those changes. We believe there is hope and want to see the Park District thrive. Maybe, form a resident committee to brainstorm and fundraiser. Get ideas - input
- I had seen plans for a pond. What happened with that idea?
- Residents' interest is very important.
- My opinions would be significantly different if our children were young & at home.
- The tennis courts needed major upkeep. Park where I can take niece needs upgrading along with more dog friendly areas.
- Offer more adult fitness classes
- Facility needs upgrades. Programs in the evening due to day working parents. Dogs being able to participate in child friendly activities. Younger couples are moving in. Let's adapt.
- Parks are good. Don't see too many kids playing in them. Dog Park please.
- I'm sure the Park District is/can be an asset to our community. Our crazy work schedules have kept us from looking into or participating.
- Fenced in park areas
- Waste of taxpayers money to have so many parks for such a small population (5,073). Money better spent elsewhere (roads, lights)
- I really love living in Berkeley... I'm more of a summertime person who loves outdoor activities, music, singing, dancing, laughs. Berkeley you've done a wonderful job so far... Summer activities are what need to be fixed. "Music in the park".
- The park itself doesn't have much for kids to play on.
- I've never used the Park District. So, am not qualified to rate it. I'm a senior citizen and don't find program offers that suitable for me, but that is no reason for me to criticize, Keep up the good work you do.
- Extended operations, Community Yard Sales
- I work a lot of hours so I don't get a chance to do much else. When young, I went to many Park District programs where we lived. I've also worked for 2 Park Districts. I think they are very important. They bring the community together. More young families have been moving into Berkeley. A good Park District is important. Even if I don't use it much I would gladly pay more to help the Park District. I think it's a very important part of the community: second only to the schools.
- Trips locally to events, i.e., museums, plays, etc.
- We are retired and do not use the parks anymore. Our Spring, Summer, and Fall are spent at our summer home with our kids and grandkids.
- Remove the over 30 year old outdated no dogs allowed signs and ordinance. Park District @ Berkeley - Implement after school non registered free programs - outdoor sports with whomever shows up, and when weather cold, indoor drop-in games/crafts
- I support the District even though I do not have kids. A good Park District is important to the community



- I am on my way out. My opinion is of no importance to anyone.
- Have police offices sometimes monitor parks. At times, parents act like children and I would feel much safer.
- An old tree on the parkway may need to be cut down. Big branches that are rotted have been falling. Would appreciate issue to be addressed.
- You guys rock!!
- Really enjoyed the mentalist, magician & comedian this summer
- When our 6 children were young we used he park programs extensively. Unfortunately, I travel to church & have family that needs help and so I am out of the area a lot.
- Sell Lind Park to help fund expansion. Focus all efforts on Berkeley Park x tot lots throughout town. Build a new Park District Facility. Almost 100 yrs without an adequate building. (85 years without building)
- Village of Berkeley should absorb the Park District giving it more direction
- Add more lights & spaces to lock bicycles
- I will be retiring next year and would like to use the services to stay healthy. Teach Spanish classes.
- Park District should not be a separate entity from the Village
- There is a lot of potential. Maybe host a town hall to hear from residents and what they want.
- Don't eliminate the Park District.