



## Agenda

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE  
GOVERNING BODY  
CITY OF LENEXA, KANSAS  
17101 W. 87TH STREET PARKWAY**

**MARCH 26, 2024  
7:00 PM  
COMMUNITY FORUM**

### CALL TO ORDER

### ROLL CALL

### APPROVE MINUTES

February 27, 2024 Committee of the Whole meeting draft minutes (located in the Appendix)

### DISCUSSION

1. Parks and Recreation Master Plan

### ADJOURN

### APPENDIX

2. February 27, 2024 Committee of the Whole meeting draft minutes

Dist. Governing Body; Management Team; Agenda & Minutes Distribution List

IF YOU NEED ANY ACCOMMODATIONS FOR THE MEETING, PLEASE CONTACT THE CITY ADA COORDINATOR, 913/477-7550. KANSAS RELAY SERVICE 800/766-3777. PLEASE GIVE 48 HOURS NOTICE

ASSISTIVE LISTENING DEVICES ARE AVAILABLE FOR USE IN THE COMMUNITY FORUM BY REQUEST.



**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE  
MEMORANDUM**

**ITEM 1**

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**SUBJECT:** Parks and Recreation Master Plan  
**CONTACT:** Logan Wagler, Parks & Recreation Director  
**DATE:** March 26, 2024

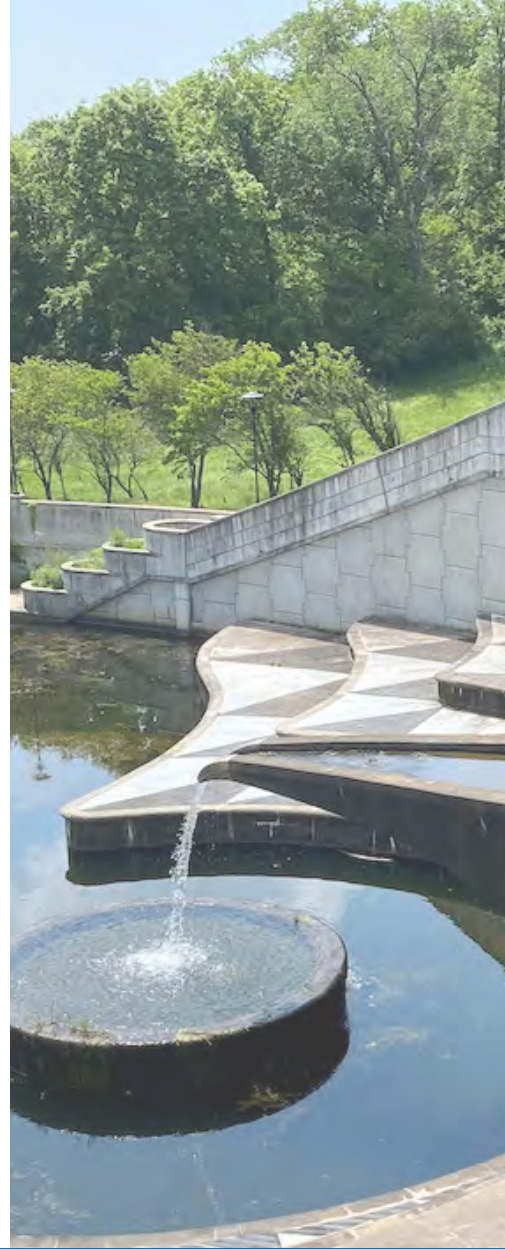
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**PROJECT BACKGROUND/DESCRIPTION:**

Parks and Recreation staff and consultant Landworks Studio, LLC will provide a presentation of the draft Master Plan.

**ATTACHMENTS**

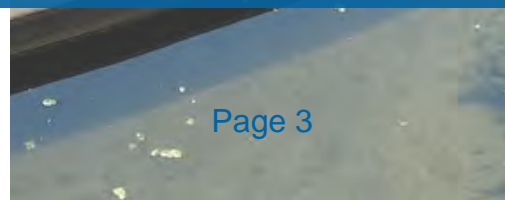
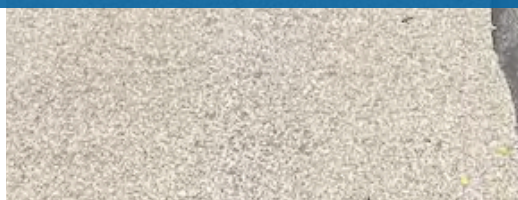
1. Presentation



# Lenexa Parks & Recreation Master Plan

CONNECTING PEOPLE, PLACES AND EXPERIENCES

MARCH 2024



# 2012 PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN GOALS



## Goal: Indoor Recreation/Aquatics/Civic Centers

- ✓ Special Use/Events Center (Community Center Campus)
- ✓ New Central Recreation and Aquatics Center
- ✓ New Central Civic Center at City Center
  - Western Recreation and Aquatics Center



## Goal: Outdoor Athletic Facilities

- ✓ Improved youth recreation fields and programs at Freedom Fields
  - Practice field expansion and general improvements at Centennial Park, Mill Creek, Buffalo Meadows and Electric Park
- ✓ New "destination" athletic facilities (e.g. skateparks)



## Goal: Bikeways and Trails

- ✓ 136 miles of interconnected multi-purpose trails and on-road bicycle lanes
  - Development of major and minor trailheads
- ✓ Development of trail design and maintenance standards



## Goal: Programs, Festivals, and Special Events

- ✓ Establish objective evaluation criteria and continually assess the life-cycle of all programs
- ✓ Provide new festivals/events (e.g. farmers market)
- ✓ Expand or seek out additional partnerships



## Goal: Nature/Interpretive Center and Programs

- Nature/environmental "hub" at Black Hoof Park
- Addition of a small, free-standing classroom building
- Addition of an outdoor, lake-side learning lab



## Goal: Ongoing Maintenance

- ✓ Develop automated work order system
- ✓ Develop ADA transition plan
- ✓ Require operations and maintenance estimates for all new capital projects



**HERITAGE**



**NATURAL BEAUTY**



# Lenexa



**PARTNERSHIP**



**INNOVATION**



**DIVERSE**



**GROWING**



# Today



**MATURING**

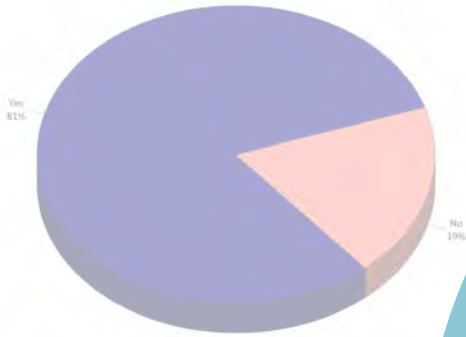


**PROSPEROUS**



Q4. Do you live within a 10-minute walk from a park?

by percentage of respondents (excluding "not provided")



## QUANTITATIVE

Needs Assessment Survey

Community Benchmarking

Level of Service Analysis

## PRIORITY NEEDS

Park,  
Trail,  
& Facility  
Evaluations

Operations  
& Maintenance  
Analysis

Demographic  
Analysis

Recreation &  
Program  
Analysis

Social Pinpoint

Community  
Open Houses

Focus Groups

## ANECDOTAL

## QUALITATIVE



# Top Priority Needs

## 1. Walking and Biking Trails

Expand the trail system in newly developed areas of Lenexa and improve connections between parks and neighborhoods. Enhance signage and wayfinding for the trail system.

## 2. Parks and Preservation

Citizens place a high value on the parks system and desire to preserve and maintain existing areas while filling in service gaps in the park system.

## 3. Dog Park (Off-Leash)

Offer more opportunities for off-leash dog areas for the community.

## 4. Outdoor Recreation and Nature Programming

Increase programming and opportunities for outdoor recreation and nature play.

## 5. Splash Pads/Spraygrounds

Provide splash pads/spraygrounds as an alternative and barrier-free option to the outdoor pools.

## 6. Pickleball Courts

Additional pickleball courts are needed to meet the demand from residents.

## 7. Farmer's Market

Continue to grow and invest in the Farmer's Market.

## 8. Adult Fitness, Wellness, and Enrichment

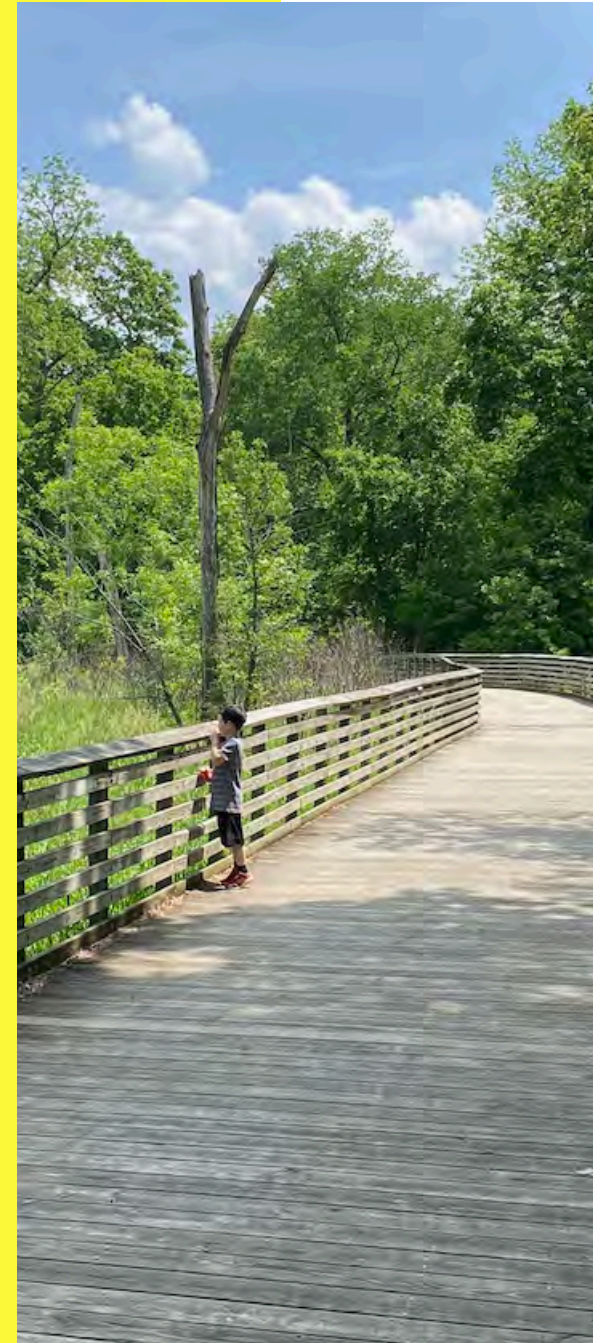
Due to evolving community demographics, additional program offerings for active older adults are needed.

## 9. Arts, History, and Culture Programming

Provide more programs and events focused on arts, history, and culture.

## 10. Maintain Service Levels

Good customer service, well maintained infrastructure, and professional staff is highly desired by the community.



# Guiding Vision

TRAILS AND CONNECTIVITY

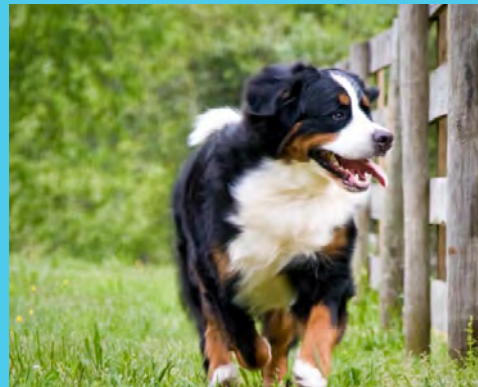
PARKS FOR ALL

PARK SYSTEM ENHANCEMENTS

PROGRAMS FOR ALL

ARTS AND CULTURE

ORGANIZATIONAL EXCELLENCE

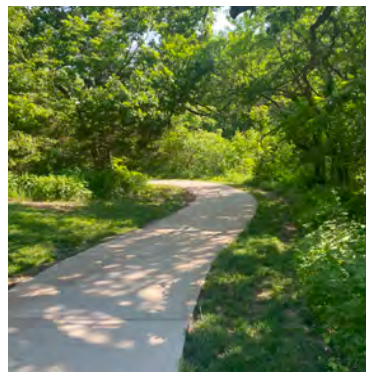
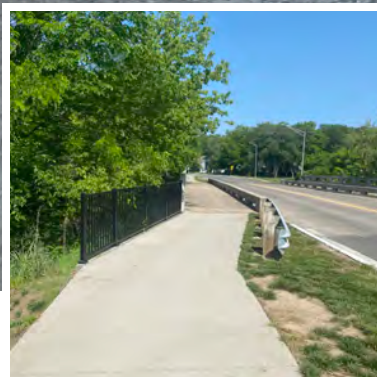
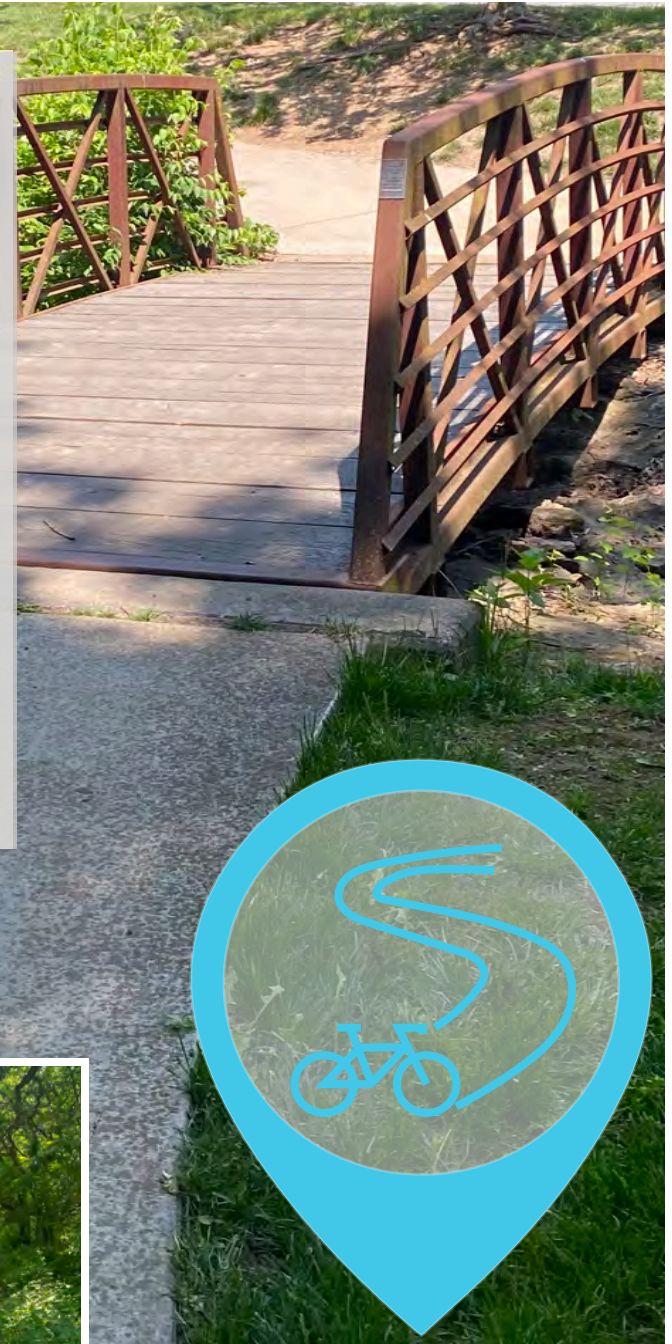




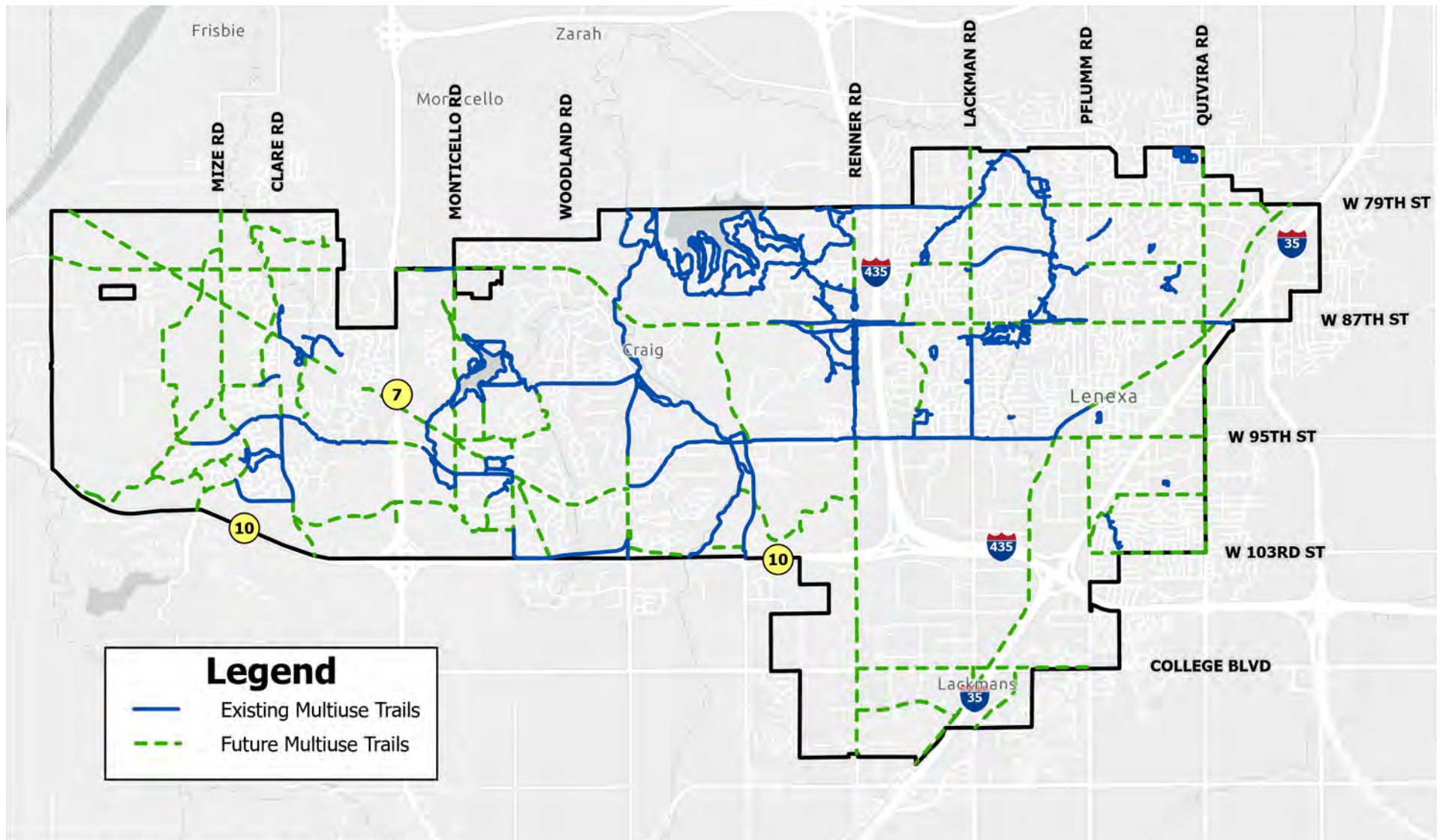
# Trails and Connectivity

Lenexa works hard to create a vibrant and interconnected trail system that enhances the quality of life in the City. This provides recreational opportunities and promotes a healthy, active community. Throughout the master plan process, trails were consistently given the highest priority by residents including carrying the highest priority investment rating according to the Needs Assessment Survey. Residents value trails for a wide range of recreational uses (walking, jogging, biking, skating) as well as for transportation. Lenexa has an extensive

trail network within the more mature areas of the community but lacks infrastructure in newer areas and areas yet to be developed. There should be major emphasis placed on further developing, maintaining, and improving the trail network. Exhibit 1.1: the Trail Network Map will be used as a guide and it is connected to all initiatives within this section. The map may evolve overtime as development progresses and should be updated frequently. The initiatives in this section outline the major priorities for the trail network.



# Exhibit 1.1 Trail Network Map



# Initiative 1.1

## Extend trail corridors across Lenexa

Expand the trail network to cover a wider area, ensuring that all residents have equitable access to recreational trails.



### STRATEGIES:

- 1.1.1 Collaborate with the Community Development Department to identify trail sections or segments from the Trail Network Map that are ready for trail extensions.
- 1.1.2 Create projects and phasing as needed to construct trails.
- 1.1.3 Seek funding opportunities, including grants and partnerships, for trail expansion projects.
- 1.1.4 Place priority on trails that connect people to parks, schools, and neighborhoods.
- 1.1.5 Evaluate environmental impacts and create sustainable trail designs.



# Initiative 1.2

## Improve trail signage: wayfinding and mapping

Enhance the user experience by providing clear navigation and information on the trail system.

### STRATEGIES:

- 1.2.1 Conduct a comprehensive audit of existing signage and wayfinding systems within the city and county.
- 1.2.2 Develop a standardized signage system across all trails in Lenexa.
- 1.2.3 Identify a signage phasing plan to include wayfinding signage with all future trail projects.
- 1.2.4 Install trail maps at all major trailheads and access points. This includes all bike-share station locations.
- 1.2.5 Regularly update trail maps.
- 1.2.6 Leverage digital tools and smartphone apps for real-time trail information.





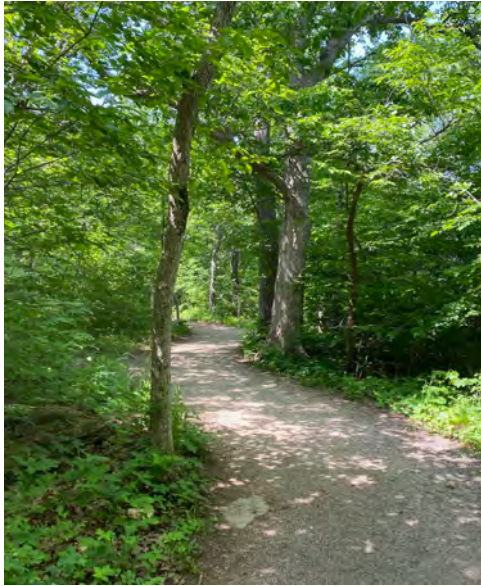
## Initiative 1.3 Identify and fill in gaps along the trail system

Ensure a seamless and safe trail system for recreational experiences and alternative transportation.

### STRATEGIES:

- 1.3.1 Conduct a gap analysis to identify missing links using the Trail Network Map.
- 1.3.2 Prioritize gap closures based on safety, connectivity, and community demand.
- 1.3.3 Seek partnerships to fill in gaps. Consider partnering with road projects or major infrastructure projects in the area.





## Initiative 1.4 Expand nature trails where appropriate

Enhance the diversity of trail experiences and provide opportunities for nature exploration. Lenexa's trails are primarily hard-surfaced trails with only a couple locations utilizing other surface materials such as limestone screenings or mulch. There is an opportunity to expand the trail network into hard-to-reach locations using more natural trail approaches.

### STRATEGIES:

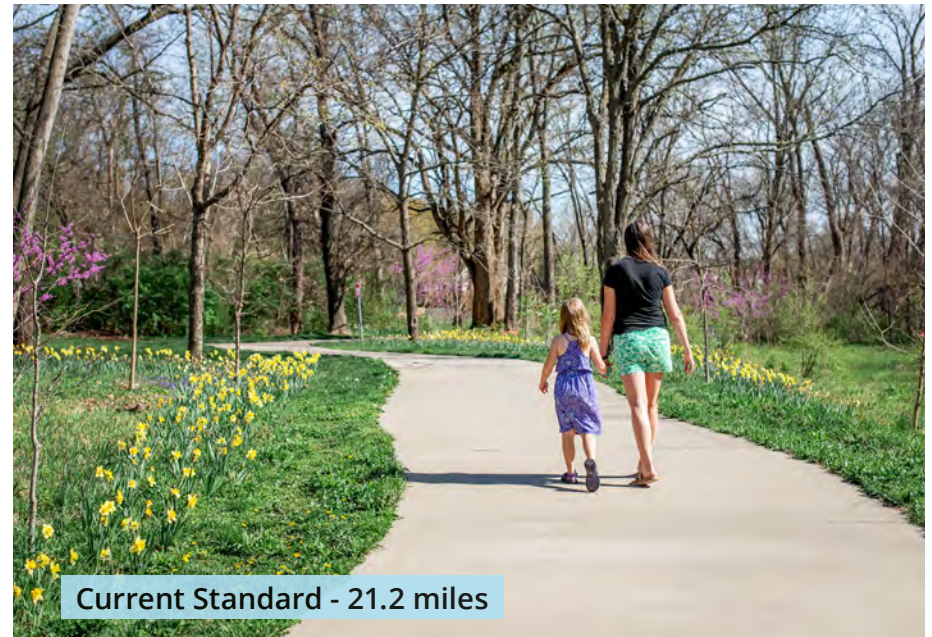
- 1.4.1 Conduct an assessment of parkland to determine suitable areas for nature trails. These types of trails should be considered where hard-surfaced trails are not feasible.
- 1.4.2 Implement eco-friendly trail construction practices to minimize environmental impacts.
- 1.4.3 Provide educational materials and guided tours to promote awareness of local ecosystems where applicable.



## Initiative 1.5

# Upgrade trails in need to current Lenexa standard

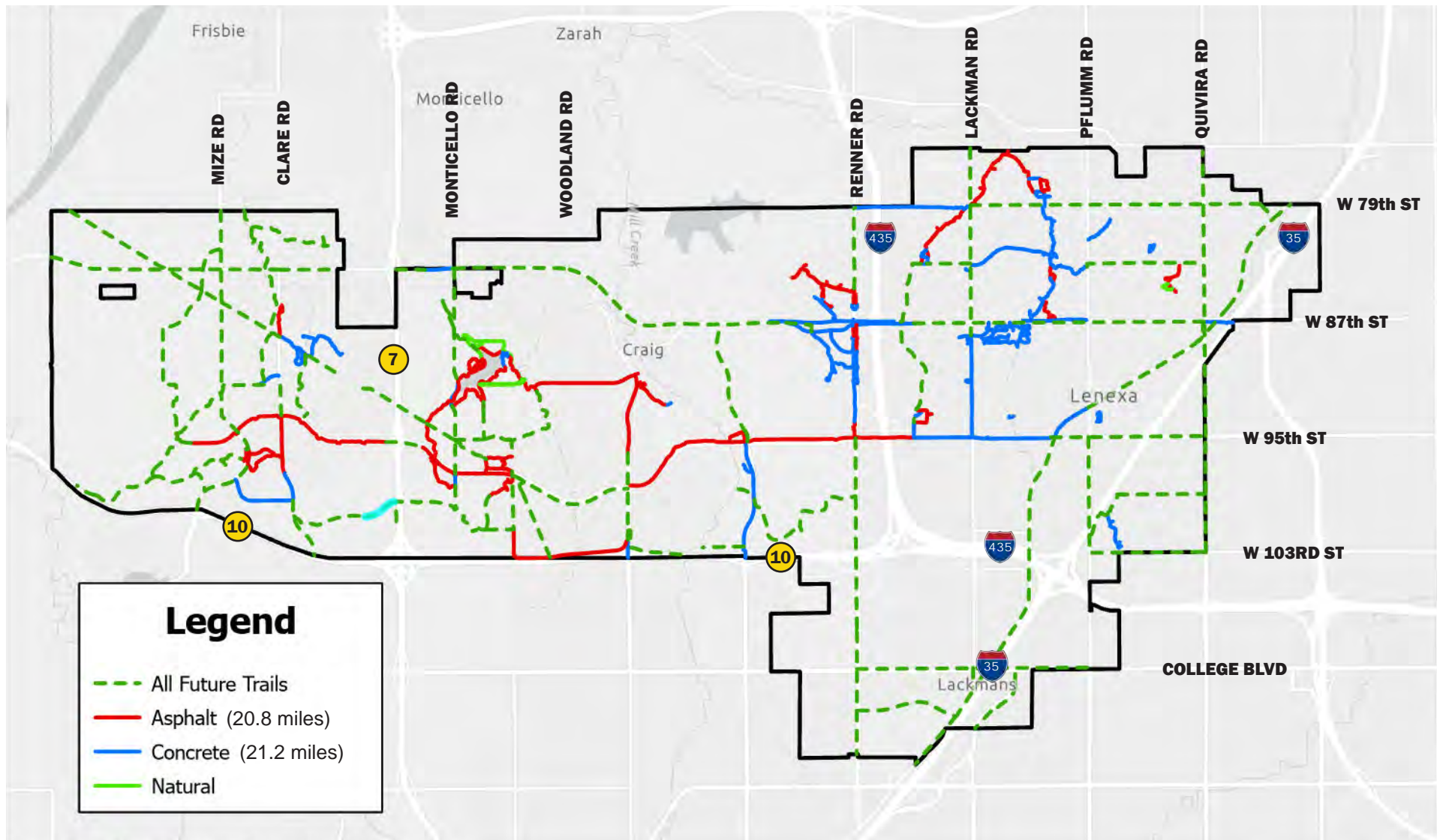
Ensure all existing paved trails meet the current city standards of a 10-foot-wide concrete trail with a minimum of 3-feet of clearance on both side whenever possible. As the map on the following page indicates, nearly half of the paved trail network does not meet the current city standards.



### STRATEGIES:

- 1.5.1 Seek opportunities to upgrade existing asphalt trails to 10-foot-wide concrete trails.
- 1.5.2 Develop prioritization for replacement projects based on status of current trail conditions and cost of replacement.
- 1.5.3 Aim to replace 10 miles of asphalt trail with concrete trail within the next 10 years.

# Exhibit 1.2 Trail Condition Map

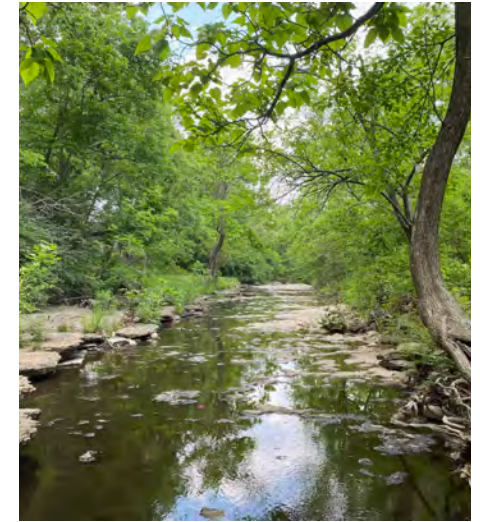




## Initiative 1.6

# Maintain partnerships and coordinate with adjacent agencies

Foster collaboration with neighboring jurisdictions and agencies to create an integrated trail network across the County and Metro.



### STRATEGIES:

- 1.6.1 Continue to attend regional planning and cooperation meetings focused on trail development. This includes participation in the Mid-America Regional Council transportation and trail efforts as well as the Johnson County Trails planning group.
- 1.6.2 Identify future trail alignments that would connect into surrounding jurisdictions with any trail development projects. Coordinate the timing and final layout with partners.
- 1.6.3 Identify future opportunities for shared trail projects and cost-effective maintenance practices.
- 1.6.4 Promote regional trail initiatives through advocacy and lobbying efforts.



# Parks for All

At the core of the parks and recreation mission lies the need to provide and maintain a diverse and interconnected park system that meets the recreational and cultural needs of the community, ensuring that every resident has easy access to high-quality parks and green spaces. Lenexans benefit from a robust park system that provides a great blend of smaller neighborhood spaces and larger community spaces with a wide range of recreational opportunities.

Residents place a premium on parks and open space. Throughout the master plan process, they showed a strong desire to preserve and maintain existing areas while filling in any service gaps. The vision for the parks system is to create inclusive, accessible, and vibrant parks and recreational spaces for all residents while ensuring the well-being of Lenexa and fostering a strong connection to nature and each other.

## Initiative 2.1

# Maintain the parks and trail network

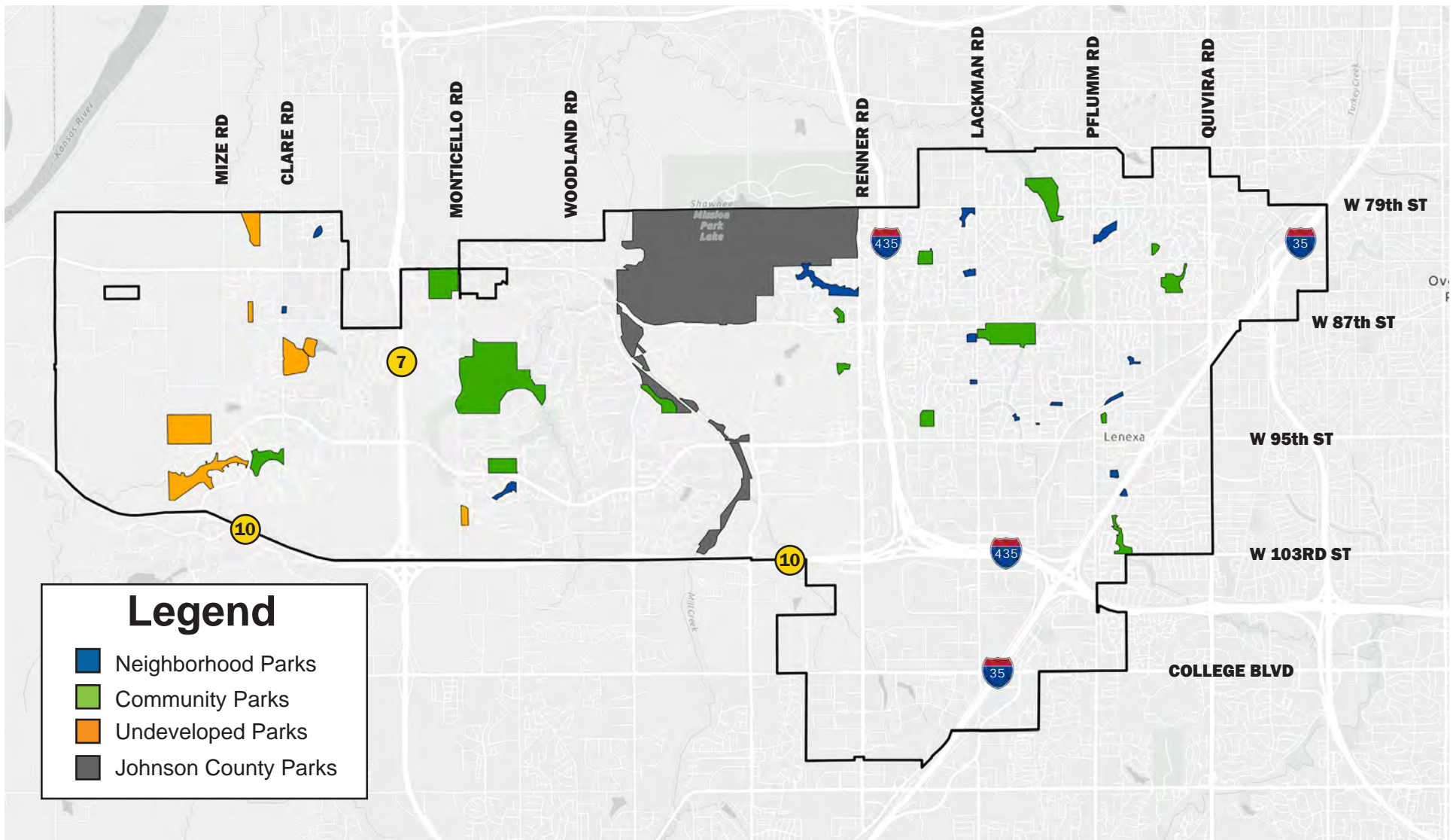
Lenexa's "Parks for All" begins with a commitment to maintaining and enhancing our existing parks and trail networks. This involves a systematic approach to the upkeep and improvement of existing facilities, ensuring they continue to be safe and meet the evolving needs of the community.



### STRATEGIES:

- 2.1.1 Through regular park assessments, evaluate the condition and safety of all parks and trails.
- 2.1.2 Follow maintenance schedules and allocate resources accordingly.
- 2.1.3 Create replacement schedules for all pertinent equipment and infrastructure.

# Exhibit 2.1 Park Network Map





## Initiative 2.2 Master plan and develop Centennial Park

Centennial Park is a 40-acre park that has been slated for future development for over a decade. As a range of private development is underway in this area of the city, the park is ripe for development. This park is intended to provide a range of active recreation opportunities to complement the existing trail corridor and stormwater infrastructure that is already in place. Centennial Park should undergo a comprehensive master plan to identify how the park will be developed to meet the needs of this area of the community and provide some larger community-wide amenities.

### STRATEGIES:

- 2.2.1 Collaborate with a design team to help facilitate the master plan process for the park.
- 2.2.2 Engage the community through various means including surveys and open houses to gather input and feedback on potential amenities.
- 2.2.3 Seek funding through a mix of public sources for development.
- 2.2.4 Implement the master plan in phases (if needed), prioritizing the most impactful features.





## Initiative 2.3 Master plan the West 60 - acre undeveloped park

The future West 60-acre park located at the western end of Prairie Star Parkway provides an exciting opportunity to create a new, large-scale green space that can serve as a recreational and ecological haven for Lenexa. It offers a range of varying terrain and includes a future major trail corridor. This park is intended to be a passive park but offers a unique opportunity for additional outdoor nature-focused amenities such as a single-track bike course, nature areas, or disc golf.

### STRATEGIES:

- 2.3.1 Conduct ecological assessments to understand the unique features and potential conservation efforts for the park.
- 2.3.2 Engage the community through various means including surveys and open houses to gather input and feedback on potential amenities.
- 2.3.3 Seek funding through a mix of public sources for development.
- 2.3.4 Implement the master plan in phases (if needed), prioritizing the most impactful features.



## Initiative 2.4 Pursue opportunities to develop more parks using the 10-minute walk goal

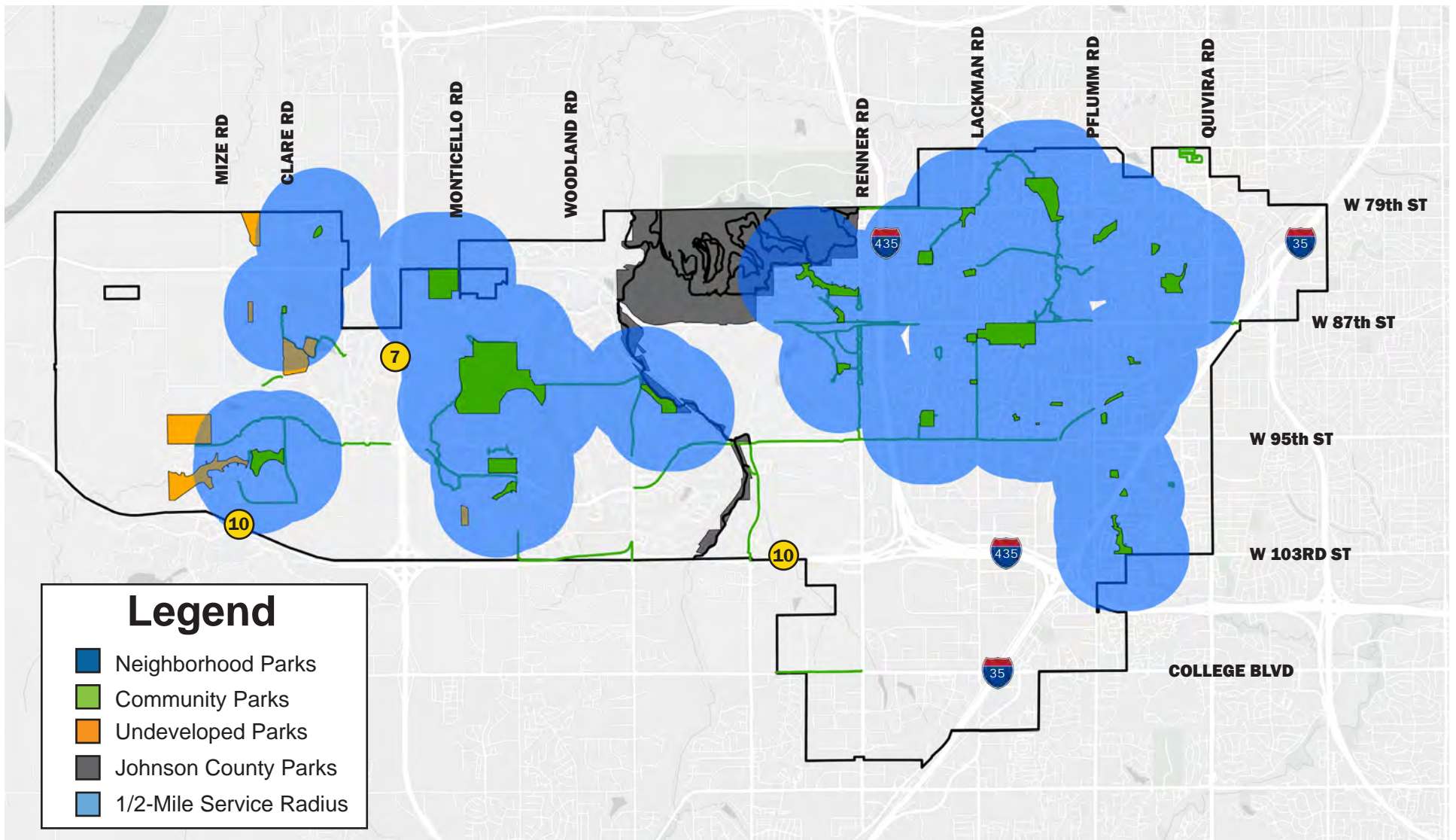
To ensure that every resident has equitable access to a park within a 10-minute walk, Lenexa should actively seek opportunities to create new parks in areas with service gaps. Explore partnerships with developers and other stakeholders to achieve this goal.



### STRATEGIES:

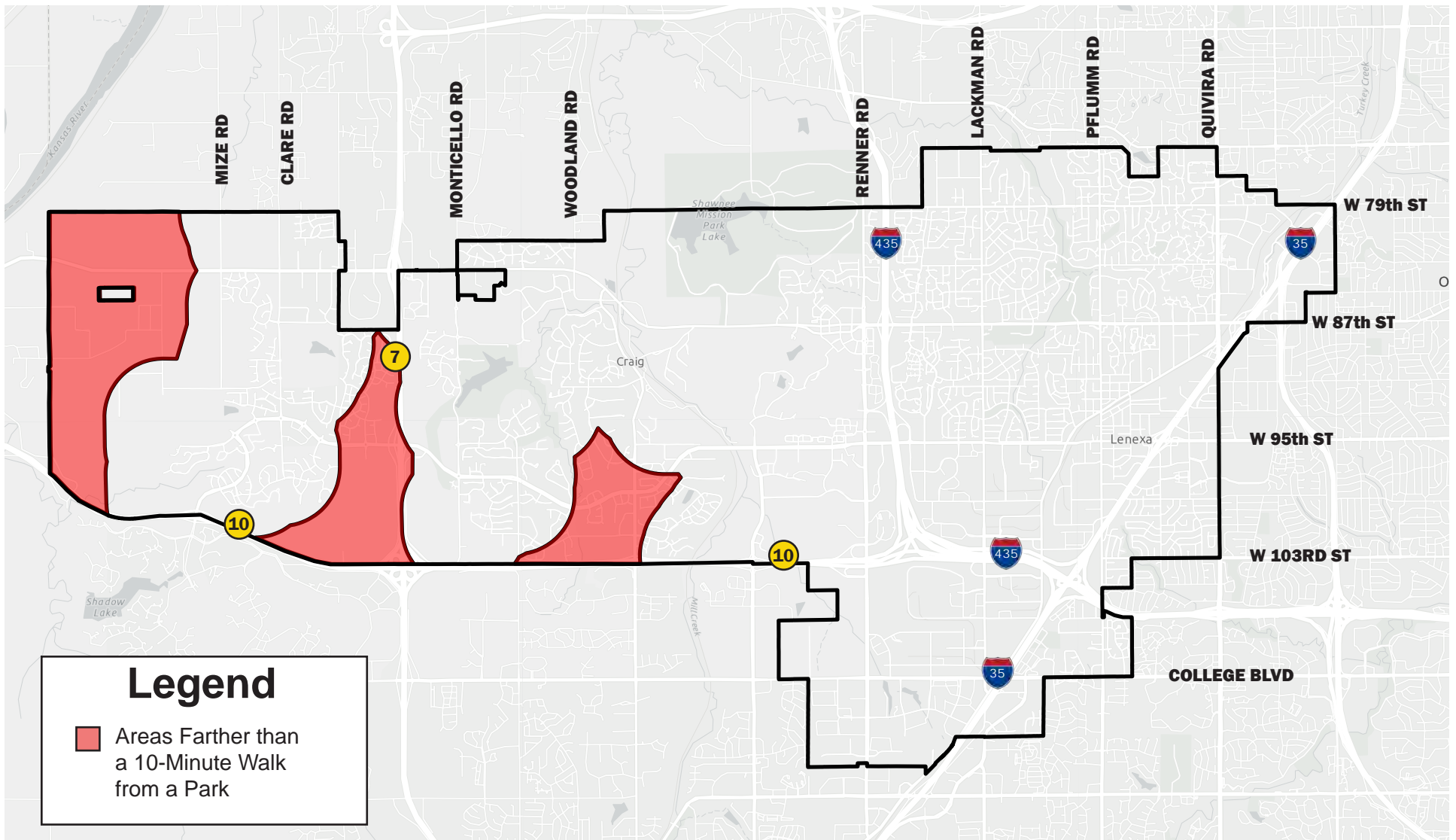
- 2.4.1 Identify areas with the greatest need for new parks considering population, density, zoning, and accessibility. Prioritize the list accordingly.
- 2.4.2 Work with Community Development and explore partnerships with real estate developers and other community partners to incorporate parks and recreational facilities within new developments.
- 2.4.3 Ensure new parks align with inclusion goals and are well-connected to existing green spaces.

# Exhibit 2.2 10-Minute Walk Map





# Exhibit 2.3 Park Opportunity Map





## Initiative 2.5

# Continue to invest in inclusive features at all playgrounds

Lenexa is committed to making parks and playgrounds inclusive and accessible to all, regardless of age, ability, or background. This goal emphasizes ongoing investments in inclusive features at all playgrounds across the system.

### STRATEGIES:

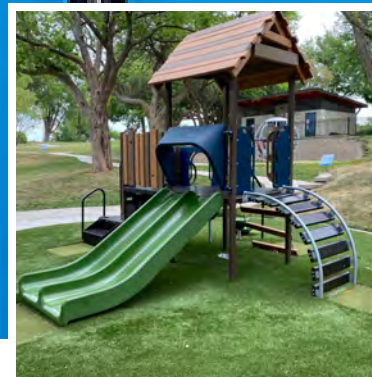
- 2.5.1 Assess and inventory the range of inclusive features in current playgrounds. Identify priority areas and any specific needs.
- 2.5.2 Allocate resources for the installation of adaptive equipment and universally accessible features across the park system.
- 2.5.3 Monitor trends and emerging equipment that could enhance the system.
- 2.5.4 Promote public awareness about inclusivity of the playgrounds and encourage community engagement. Utilize existing programs, such as Playground Passport, to enhance awareness and engagement.
- 2.5.5 Consider investigating alternative resources through grants and partnership.



# Park System Enhancements

Lenexans place high value on quality-of-life features and there is a strong desire to improve and enhance the park system. This is accomplished by installing new unique community-desired recreation spaces. The initiatives in this section of the framework are either new features or additions to some amenities that are

highly desired by residents. Through these strategic enhancements, the park system will continue to meet the diverse needs of Lenexa's growing and aging population. They ensure a vibrant, inclusive, and accessible park system that enriches life in the community, fosters recreation, and promotes a healthy, active lifestyle.



## Initiative 3.1 Develop dog park(s) in accessible location(s)

Dog adoption and ownership has dramatically increased since 2020 and there is a growing demand for facilities geared toward dogs. This initiative is to provide dedicated off-leash spaces for residents and their dogs to socialize and exercise in a safe space.



### STRATEGIES:

- 3.1.1 Identify suitable locations within the city that could accommodate a dog park.
- 3.1.2 Consider complementing the county-operated dog park through both differentiation and location.
- 3.1.3 Collaborate with local dog experts to design the parks with amenities for both small and large dogs, agility equipment, dog waste stations, seating, and other features.
- 3.1.4 Ensure facilities can accommodate individuals with disabilities.
- 3.1.5 Foster responsible pet ownership with appropriate rules and expectations.



## Initiative 3.2 Develop additional pickleball courts

Meet the growing demand for pickleball, a popular and inclusive sport, by expanding the number of courts available to the public.

### STRATEGIES:

- 3.2.1 Conduct an audit of the park system to determine ideal locations for new pickleball courts.
- 3.2.2 Ideally, create a 10-12 court facility in an area of Lenexa that does not offer this amenity.
- 3.2.3 Work with a design team with pickleball facility experience to create a pickleball court facility that includes social space.
- 3.2.4 Promote pickleball programming and events to encourage community engagement.





## Initiative 3.3 Construct an all-wheel pump track and single-track course

To provide thrilling and challenging biking experiences for riders of all skill levels, construct a pump track and a single-track mountain bike course.

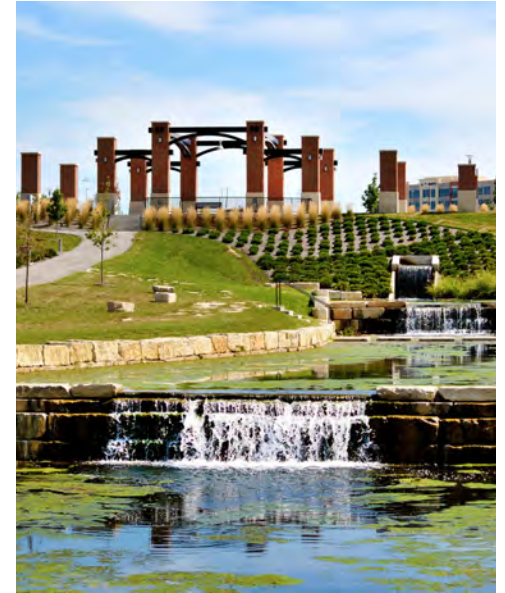
### STRATEGIES:

- 3.3.1 Identify potential locations for a pump track and single-track mountain bike course.
- 3.3.2 Work with a consultant to design and construct a pump track within a park that has supporting infrastructure including parking and restrooms.
- 3.3.3 Partner with local mountain bike organizations and interest groups to layout and construct a single-track course.
- 3.3.4 Implement safety measures and signage to encourage responsible riding.



## Initiative 3.4 Construct a playground within City Center

Playgrounds provide a safe and stimulating play area that promotes physical activity, imagination, and social interaction for children and families. Lenexa City Center is a destination for a wide range of people and attracts a significant number of young families and children.



### STRATEGIES:

- 3.4.1 Explore suitable locations within City Center for a playground.
- 3.4.2 Engage a design team and playground experts to design a visually appealing, safe, adaptive, and inclusive playground.
- 3.4.3 Include equipment that caters to different age groups and abilities.

## Initiative 3.5 Develop a fitness park for accessible outdoor exercise

Offer a barrier-free and accessible outdoor fitness area that encourages healthy lifestyles and wellness among residents and visitors.



### STRATEGIES:

- 3.5.1 Determine appropriate location options for a fitness park.
- 3.5.2 Consider a variety of exercise stations that appeal to a range of users.
- 3.5.3 Identify equipment that is durable, easy to use, and safe.
- 3.5.4 Provide education and programming to promote usage.
- 3.5.5 Implement appropriate facility audits, maintenance schedules, and regular cleaning to ensure a safe and inviting environment.





## Initiative 3.6

# Develop a splash pad/sprayground

Splash pads and spraygrounds offer an alternative to traditional swimming pools; providing a barrier-free and fully accessible option for all. They offer a refreshing and enjoyable way to beat the heat, promote physical activity, and create a sense of togetherness in the community, making them very popular.

### STRATEGIES:

- 3.6.1 Identify potential locations. Prioritize locations further away from Lenexa's outdoor pools and locations with supporting infrastructure.
- 3.6.2 Work with a design team for conceptual layout options. Gather community input on designs before finalizing.
- 3.6.3 Ensure proper water quality and safety standards are met and enforced at the facility.





# Programs for All

For many years, Lenexa has been known for its community-based events and festivals. Residents enjoy the wide range of options and feel it helps keep a “small town feel” as the community grows and evolves. Over the past decade, there has been an increasing demand for recreational programs and activities. Citizens desire to grow various areas of recreation programs that cater to the evolving needs of residents. Because Lenexa is located within a metropolitan area, there is potential

for both competition and overlap of services. Lenexa has done a great job of finding the “sweet spots” and gaps in services and meeting those needs. The Department’s current focus on non-competitive, recreational level services, facility-based, outdoor, and senior programming has served the community well and is where the most demand remains. A broad but community-focused recreation programming portfolio contributes to the overall well-being and vitality of Lenexa.



# Initiative 4.1

## Maximize programming at the newly renovated Lenexa Old Town Activity Center (LOTAC)

The upcoming renovations and improvements to the Community Center and Senior Center Campus are scheduled to be completed by the end of 2024. The facility will be named the Lenexa Old Town Activity Center (LOTAC) as a nod to the location (historical Old Town) and will provide a wide range of indoor and outdoor activities. This major investment will offer a range of flexible spaces for a range of programs while better serving the 50+ population and offering outdoor recreation opportunities and social spaces. Lenexa should fully leverage this amazing new resource by maximizing programming and recreation opportunities at the center.



### STRATEGIES:

- 4.1.1 Conduct a comprehensive program, rental, and usage assessment to identify opportunities.
- 4.1.2 Develop a flexible schedule that optimizes the use of available spaces that cater to various groups and interests.
- 4.1.3 Dedicate staff and resources appropriately to operate and maintain the facility.
- 4.1.4 Implement a marketing and outreach campaign to inform residents about programs, events, and opportunities at the center.

## Initiative 4.2 Increase 50+ and active adults programs

The aging demographics of Lenexa has driven the demand for more programs and events tailored to 50+ and active adults. This includes active, passive, social, travel, and educational programs.



### STRATEGIES:

- 4.2.1 Ensure availability of appropriate spaces and resources to accommodate 50+ programs.
- 4.2.2 Collaborate with local retirement communities, healthcare providers, and other senior-focused providers to expand outreach and impact.

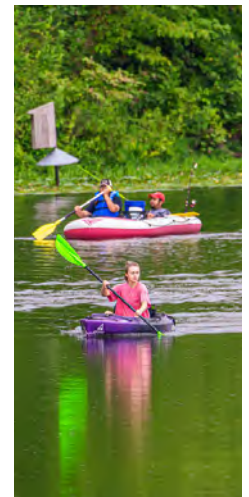


## Initiative 4.3 Expand outdoor adventure opportunities and nature programming

Promoting outdoor experiences and nature education is not only beneficial for physical health but also fosters a deeper connection to the environment. Lenexa has high-quality parks with a range of beautiful natural resources that is only minimally programmed. The community strongly desires more outdoor recreation focused on nature, adventure, and education.

### STRATEGIES:

- 4.3.1 Identify suitable locations for nature programming and outdoor adventure activities.
- 4.3.2 To complement current offerings, develop a variety of nature-based educational programs including guided hikes, bird watching, wildlife conservation initiatives, and outdoor skill workshops for people of all ages.
- 4.3.3 Collaborate with local environmental organizations, wildlife experts, and outdoor guides to enhance program offerings.
- 4.3.4 Consider expanding self-driven activities such as kayak rental program, bike rental program, fishing, and geocaching.



## Initiative 4.4

# Expand youth introductory sports to meet demand

Lenexa has experienced an increase in the demand for locally available introductory clinics, programs, and opportunities for youth sports. Recognizing the demand, the city should expand offerings to provide children with opportunities to engage in sports and physical skills in a supportive and nurturing environment.



### STRATEGIES:

- 4.4.1 Analyze current enrollment and participation rates in existing youth programs, and identify gaps and opportunities.
- 4.4.2 Expand current programs and develop new programs as needed to meet demands.
- 4.4.3 Provide necessary training and resources for coaches and instructors to maintain high-quality programs.
- 4.4.4 Survey participants and adapt as needed.

# Arts and Culture

Arts and Culture are integral to the well-being and vitality of communities. Investments and programs in this area enhance social connections, education, economic development, and the overall quality of life for residents. Lenexans showed strong support for the arts, culture, and local

history and a desire to grow in these areas. Continued investments in these areas foster community cohesion, inspiration, preservation, education and learning, tourism, and positive economic impacts. The strategies below are some specific areas that received significant support.





## Initiative 5.1 Identify options to add programming to Legler Barn Museum & Depot

The Legler Barn Museum & Depot operations recently transitioned to the City after being managed by the Lenexa Historical Society. The complex offers a wide range of historical structures and artifacts cataloging the local history of Lenexa.

### STRATEGIES:

- 5.1.1 Identify and implement options to expand and diversify the programming and activities.
- 5.1.2 Develop a comprehensive calendar of events and workshops including temporary exhibits, tours, and speakers.
- 5.1.3 Engage with Lenexa Historical Society and other area historians to maximize options and reach.
- 5.1.4 Promote volunteerism through the historical complex.
- 5.1.5 Consider facility usage and suitable spaces for various programs.







## Initiative 5.2

# Expand and embrace Lenexa's history through interpretive signage and outreach

Lenexa's parks, trails, and facilities are home to a variety of historical "stories" about Lenexa's long and rich history. Lenexa has numerous opportunities to preserve history and share these interesting stories through interpretive signage and wayfinding.

### STRATEGIES:

- 5.2.1 Conduct an audit and inventory of existing signage locations and information.
- 5.2.2 Create a comprehensive signage plan with phasing options and priority locations.
- 5.2.3 Build Online resources to support Lenexa's history and the interpretive signage program.
- 5.2.4 Collaborate with Lenexa Historical Society and other local historians to ensure accuracy and authenticity.



## Initiative 5.3

# Seek opportunities to expand arts and culture programming

Arts and culture programming is essential for the preservation of cultural heritage, human expression, and societal well-being. Its far-reaching impacts on education, economy, and social cohesion make it an integral part of any thriving community. Lenexa has made huge strides in the area of arts and culture, offering a wide range of options. Currently, Lenexa does not own or operate a dedicated facility for arts and culture but instead utilizes a wide range of flexible spaces.



### STRATEGIES:

- 5.3.1 Continuously review programs and offerings, seeking opportunities to expand and grow arts and culture programming.
- 5.3.2 Actively seek out partnerships with local schools, community organizations, and businesses to enrich the offerings and reach.
- 5.3.3 Consider facility usage agreements and partnerships for more suitable spaces for various programs.

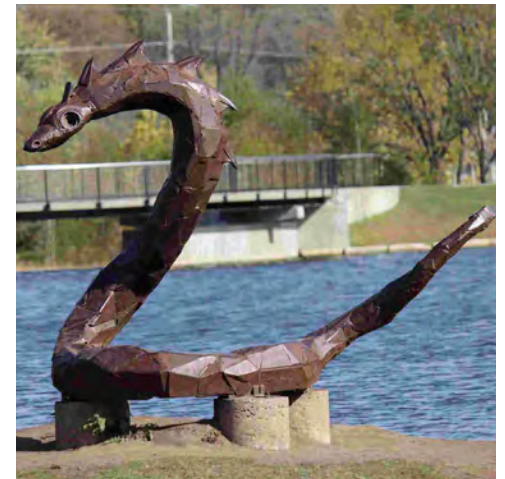
## Initiative 5.4 Incorporate public art into appropriate capital projects

Public art plays a pivotal role in enhancing spaces by increasing functionality, cultural significance, and emotional resonance. There is a desire to include public art proactively, when appropriate, in City projects. All projects for city parks, facilities, and trails, should be evaluated as a potential site.



### STRATEGIES:

- 5.4.1 Identify capital projects where art installations would be appropriate and enhance the overall community aesthetic. Seek City Council approval during the project initiation.
- 5.4.2 For targeted projects, ensure coordination between the project manager, architect/design team, and Lenexa Arts Council.
- 5.4.3 Select art that is site-appropriate and enhances the project location while adding to the overall quality of the public art inventory.
- 5.4.4 Seek grants and other funding sources to supplement dedicated art funding as appropriate.





# Organizational Excellence

Parks and Recreation departments are service organizations dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for the community through exceptional programs, services, and the maintenance of beautiful public spaces. Lenexa has a very high-performing department. The residents, stakeholders, and patrons recognize this, express appreciation and desire to ensure the high standards for maintenance and customer service

continue. The department's largest resource is the staff who strive to set the highest standards of professionalism, innovation, community engagement, recreational opportunities, and inclusiveness. These initiatives include tools for regular assessments, adaptability, and the pursuit of industry best practices to maintain excellence in service delivery.





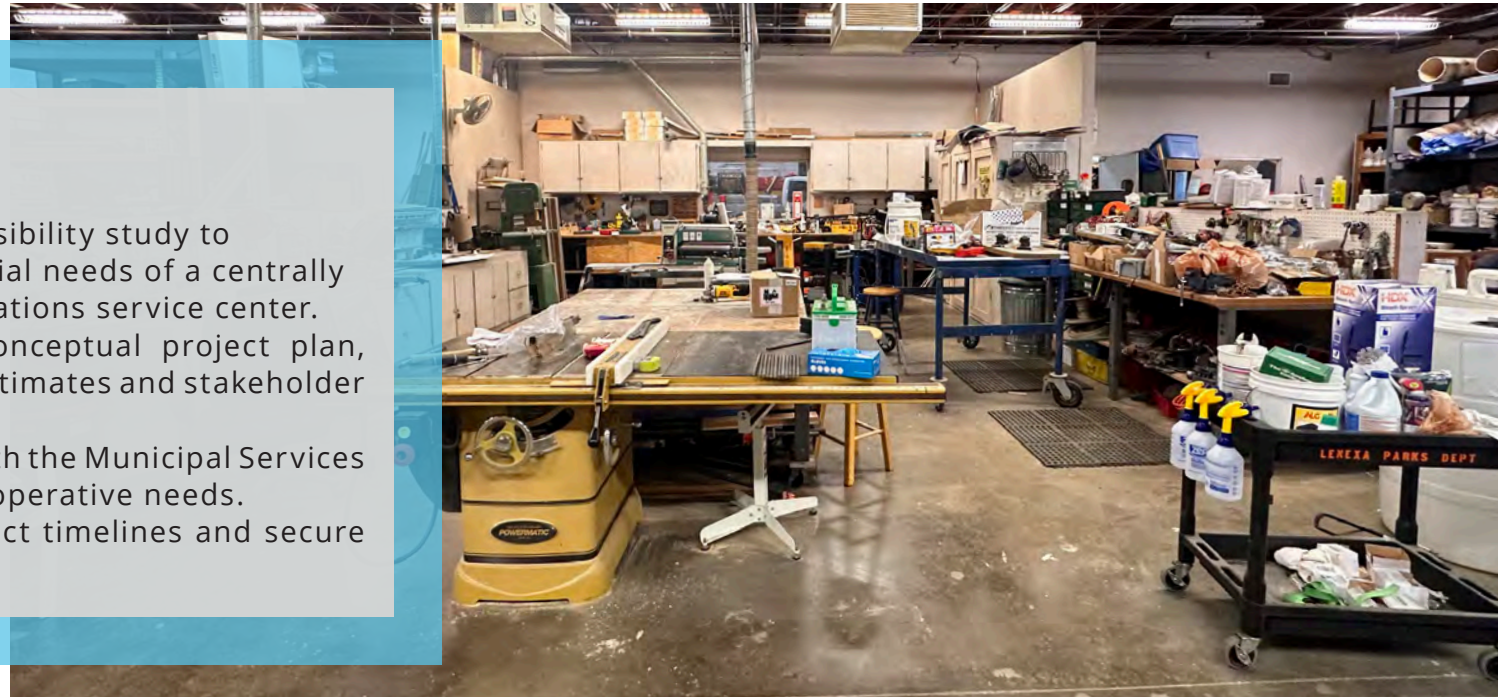
## Initiative 6.1

# Construct a centrally located Parks Operation Service Center for maintenance operations

To improve the efficiency and effectiveness of maintenance operations, there is a need for a more centrally located Parks and Recreation Service Center. The current facility is located in Old Town Lenexa which is not centrally located within the city. The current facility does not meet a range of needs including size, storage, workspace, secured parking, staff parking, and access to materials used on a regular basis.

### STRATEGIES:

- 6.1.1 Conduct a feasibility study to determine the spatial needs of a centrally located parks operations service center.
- 6.1.2 Develop a conceptual project plan, including budget estimates and stakeholder engagement.
- 6.1.3 Coordinate with the Municipal Services Department for cooperative needs.
- 6.1.4 Develop project timelines and secure resources.



## Initiative 6.2 Update Parks and Recreation Master Plan every five years

The recreational needs of all communities evolve and change rapidly. It is important to regularly assess and adapt to the changing conditions. The Parks and Recreation Master Plan should be updated approximately every five years to ensure the plan is relevant, effective, and aligns with changing circumstances, objectives, economic conditions, and priorities.



### STRATEGIES:

- 6.2.1 Establish a dedicated team for reviewing, revising, and implementing updates to the master plan.
- 6.2.2 Ensure the master plan aligns with evolving needs and desires of the community by engaging residents through surveys and open houses.

## Initiative 6.3

# Seek agency accreditation through the Commission for Accreditation of Parks and Recreation Agencies (CAPRA)



While Lenexa has a very high-performing department, there is value in seeking accreditation through CAPRA. This will help ensure a comprehensive management system and operational best practices. It can improve operational effectiveness and efficiency while demonstrating accountability.



### STRATEGIES:

- 6.3.1 Launch an accreditation committee responsible for the CAPRA process.
- 6.3.2 Review criteria. Identify and address any gaps in current operations to meet standards.
- 6.3.3 Prepare for accreditation reviews and make necessary adjustments to achieve and maintain CAPRA accreditation.



## Initiative 6.4 Maintain current market position in staffing

Accomplishing the City's mission is dependent upon having adequate staff and resources. Recruitment and retainage of quality staff is at the core of strong services. This allows for stability, credibility, industry expertise, process refinement, financial stability, adaptability, and leads to better service outcomes.

### STRATEGIES:

- 6.4.1 Work with HR to continuously assess and benchmark staffing levels and pay ranges against industry standards and community needs.
- 6.4.2 Continue to evolve strategies to attract, retain, and develop high-quality staff members.
- 6.4.3 Continue to invest in professional development and training for staff.





## Initiative 6.5 Continue to leverage volunteers to enhance and help with programs and events

Volunteers are an invaluable resource for addressing and enhancing a wide range of needs. They play a key role in Lenexa's various festivals, events, programs, and maintenance efforts. Additionally, the broad opportunities provide benefits to the volunteers through community building, skill sharing, civic engagement, personal and professional development, environmental conservation, as well as emotional well-being.



### STRATEGIES:

- 6.5.1 Maintain a comprehensive volunteer recruitment and management program.
- 6.5.2 Provide volunteers with training and recognition, making their contributions rewarding and meaningful.
- 6.5.3 Actively seek partnerships with local organizations to grow the volunteer base and enhance community engagement.

## Initiative 6.6

# Maintain cross-training and internship programs

Cross-training allows staff to grow professionally and personally through skill diversification, collaboration, succession planning, and risk mitigation while increasing job satisfaction and productivity. Lenexa's internship programs have been highly successful for skill development, networking, employability, and innovation, as well as providing critical real-world experiences for young people preparing to enter the workforce.



### STRATEGIES:

- 6.6.1 Maintain a structured cross-training program to enhance the skills and versatility of staff members.
- 6.6.2 Evolve and promote internship opportunities to foster talent development and community engagement.
- 6.6.3 Engage with local schools and universities to build relationships and improve the internship program.



## Initiative 6.7 Continue to expand partnerships and fundraising focusing on leveraging the Lenexa Foundation

The Lenexa Foundation was established in 2017 and provides great opportunities for community partners to support how Lenexans live, work, and play. Leveraging community partnerships has endless benefits and enhances the lives of residents, employers, and visitors.

### STRATEGIES:

- 6.7.1 Collaborate with local businesses, nonprofits, and civic organizations to establish mutually beneficial relationships.
- 6.7.2 Prioritize the alignment of fundraising efforts with the Lenexa Foundation's mission and values.
- 6.7.3 Cultivate relationships with potential donors and supporters through effective communication and stewardship.
- 6.7.4 Market the Lenexa Foundation and its many important efforts, successful projects, and potential uses.
- 6.7.5 Continue using Lenexa's Farmers Market to enhance connections with local businesses.



**BLACK HOOF**

**Disc Golf Course**

# Priority Tiers

## Tier 1 Initiatives

- Highest priority
- Estimated to be implemented within 1-5 years

## Tier 2 Initiatives

- Mid-term priorities
- Estimated to be implemented within 5-10 years

## Tier 3 Initiatives

- On-going efforts and initiatives
- Includes initiatives that become applicable due to timing and opportunities



# Strategic Action Plan

TIER 1 INITIATIVES	
Initiative	Probable Cost
Extend trail corridors across Lenexa	\$5,500,000
Improve trail signage: wayfinding and mapping	\$500,000
Identify and fill in gaps along the trail system	\$2,500,000
Maintain the parks and trail network	\$2,500,000
Master plan and develop Centennial Park	\$4,500,000
Develop dog park(s) in accessible location(s)	\$750,000
Develop additional pickleball courts	\$1,850,000
Construct an all-wheel pump track and single-track course	\$1,500,000
Construct a playground within the City Center	\$500,000
Develop a fitness park for accessible outdoor exercise	\$275,000
Maximize programming at the newly renovated Lenexa Old Town Activity Center (LOTAC)*	\$250,000
Increase 50+ and Active Adults programs*	\$125,000
Expand outdoor adventure opportunities and nature programming*	\$150,000
Expand youth introductory sports to meet demand*	\$100,000
Identify options to add programming to Legler Barn*	\$40,000
Expand and embrace Lenexa's history through interpretive signage and outreach	\$60,000
<b>Total Cost</b>	<b>\$21,100,000</b>

# Strategic Action Plan

TIER 2 INITIATIVES	
Initiative	Probable Cost
Expand nature trails where appropriate	\$700,000
Master plan the undeveloped 60-acre park on Prairie Star Pkwy. west of Canyon Creek Blvd.	\$4,000,000
Develop a splashpad/sprayground	\$1,600,000
Seek opportunities to expand arts and culture programming; strategically utilize partnerships when possible	\$250,000
Construct a centrally located Parks Service Center for maintenance operations	\$15,000,000
Update Parks and Recreation Master Plan every five years	\$150,000
Seek agency accreditation through the Commission for Accreditation of Parks and Recreation Agencies (CAPRA)	\$50,000
<b>Total Cost</b>	<b>\$21,750,000</b>

TIER 3 INITIATIVES	
Initiative	Probable Cost
Upgrade trails to current Lenexa standard	\$2,500,000
Maintain partnerships and coordinate with adjacent agencies	\$1,000,000
Pursue opportunities to develop additional parks using the 10-minute walk goal	\$7,500,000
Continue to invest in inclusive features at all playgrounds	\$1,000,000
Incorporate public art into appropriate capital projects	\$1,500,000
Maintain current market position in staffing	\$2,500,000
Continue to leverage volunteers to enhance and help with programs and events	\$0
Maintain cross-training and internship programs	\$0
Continue to expand partnerships and fundraising focusing on leveraging the Lenexa Foundation	\$0
<b>Total Cost</b>	<b>\$13,500,000</b>



Questions?



**MINUTES OF THE  
FEBRUARY 27, 2024  
LENEXA COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING  
COMMUNITY FORUM, 17101 W 87<sup>th</sup> STREET PARKWAY  
LENEXA, KS 66219**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Sayers called the meeting to order at 7 PM.

**ROLL CALL**

Councilmembers Karlin, Eiterich, Charlton, Arroyo, Williamson, and Herron were present with Mayor Sayers presiding. Councilmembers Nicks and Denny were absent.

Staff present included Beccy Yocham, City Manager; Todd Pelham, Deputy City Manager; Mike Nolan, Assistant City Manager; Scott McCullough, Community Development Director; Sean McLaughlin, City Attorney; Jennifer Martin, City Clerk; and other City staff.

**APPROVE MINUTES**

*Councilmember Karlin made a motion to approve the November 14, 2023 Committee of the Whole meeting draft minutes and Councilmember Arroyo seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.*

**DISCUSSION**

1. K-10 Capacity Improvements Project

Cameron McGown, HNTB, reviewed the project schedule and status of the K-10 Capacity Improvements Project. He said they are approximately half-way through studying alternatives; the preferred/recommended alternatives should be determined in the second quarter with a final decision made late this year.

Mr. McGown presented the results of the Toll Study. Considerations of the study included the following:

- Will the toll lanes be used and manage congestion?
- Are toll lanes revenue responsible?
- Can debt support any capital costs?

Mr. McGown said that a variety of models and configurations were considered, but that express toll lanes were not found to be KDOT's preferred strategy for the K-10 expansion because it would not provide a congestion-management option and would be more expensive. Because of this determination, he said that there is no longer any need for the City to take action and other toll-free alternatives will now be considered.

Mr. McGown said the public engagement is in progress. Thus far, 93 Lenexa



residents participated in the survey, providing 113 comments. He said that they have received a regional response that is a good geographical representation. He added that more than 80% of the responses are about concern for driver safety. Upcoming engagement will include updates to city councils, another public survey, and presentations to civic organizations as requested.

Mr. McGown discussed the Clare Road and Lone Elm Road alternatives that are being considered and reviewed the evaluation considerations for each alternative and each location. He said they have determined an interchange is not recommended for further analysis for Clare Road. He also said they have determined that a continued evaluation of an interchange for Lone Elm Road is warranted with additional analysis needed for school traffic and safety. He talked about next steps in the process.

Mr. McGown presented the preliminary implementation plan, saying that construction of all the improvements total \$1.1 billion.

Discussion followed regarding Lone Elm & Clare Road not being included on the preliminary plan, the possibility of a half-interchange at Lone Elm and K-10 Highway, and the potential reduction in Prairie Star Parkway traffic as a result of the changes.

## 2. 2024 Pavement Management Program and 2024 Sidewalk Repair Program

*The 2024 Pavement Management Program (PMP) treats approximately 24 residential lane-miles with an Ultra-Thin Bonded Asphalt Surface (UBAS) and 26 lane-miles with a two-inch mill and overlay surface treatment. The 2024 Sidewalk Repair Program will complete sidewalk gaps in two areas.*

Nick Arena, Municipal Services Director, presented the Pavement Management Program (PMP) by Year map reflecting work completed from 2018-2023, and talked about the different types of streets that have been treated through this program to date. He said crews also do other necessary work while they are doing PMP work in the area, such as sidewalk repairs, ADA ramps, and curbs.

Mr. Arena presented the proposed PMP 2024 program.

Discussion followed regarding lessons learned from prior years and the longevity of UBAS versus 2-inch mill and overlay.

Mr. Arena then talked about the Sidewalk Program, which started in 2020, and said that over six miles of sidewalk has been repaired to date.

Mr. Arena presented the proposed 2024 Sidewalk Repair Program.

## 3. 2023 Economic Development Report

Mike Nolan, Assistant City Manager, reviewed the goals and purpose for economic development, and talked about how the vision and values of the City drive economic development.

Kyle Glaser, Economic Development Analyst, reviewed each of the economic

development tools that Lenexa uses after he provided an overview of each project using economic development tools in the City.

Mr. Glaser went through the report, providing an explanation of each tool and how they work and giving examples to illustrate.

### **ADJOURN**

*Councilmember Eiterich made a motion to adjourn and Councilmember Arroyo seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.*

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM.