

EASLEY

parks and recreation MASTER PLAN

Celebrating Character



Improving Quality of Life

Alice McKissick Park | Bark Park | Doodle Trail | Old Market Square | Hagood Park | J.B. "Red" Owens Sports Complex
Kings Park | Larry D Bagwell Gym | Nalley Brown Nature Park | Pope Field | Woodside Park

SUMMER 2017



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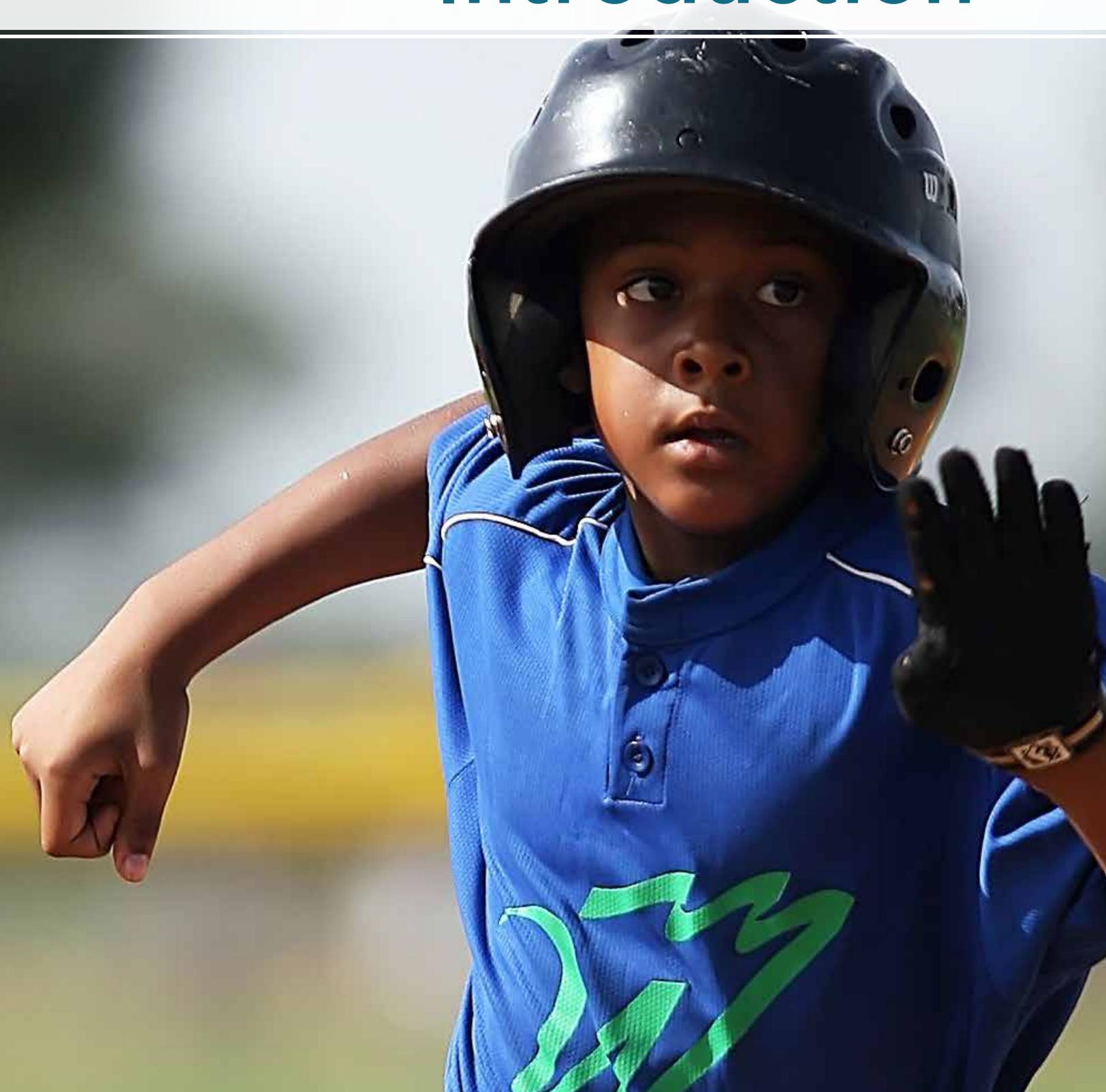
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Introduction



OVERVIEW

PLANNING AREA

The City of Easley is located in northwest corner of South Carolina, in Pickens County. Set 12 miles west of Greenville, Easley has been able to balance its small-town charm while continuing to grow as a social and economic hub.

Established in 1874, Easley is named for the Confederate General William Kind Easley, who at the end of the Civil War convinced the Atlanta Air Line Railroad to bring the railroad into the city. The railroad brought an economic boom to the city and helped with the expansion of the textile industry in Pickens County. Today, Easley has grown to approximately 20,000 residents and is no longer just known for its history but also as a hub for Baseball Tourments. Begining 2017, Easley will host the Senior League World Series and has been the host of the Big League Baseball World Series since 2000.

Every summer, baseball Little League teams with kids from the ages of 13-18 come from around the world to Easley to compete to become the world champions. The tournament draws over 100,000 people to Easley, providing the opportunity for Easley to become a destination city. By having visitors stay in the city, they can become aquatinted with what Easley has to offer, from its small-town charm to its exceptional quality of life.

Population growth, changes in culture, and anticipated increases in visitors are clear indicators that the City is poised for enhancements within parks and recreation offerings to accommodate new families, demographic changes, and enhanced visitor experiences.

MISSION, VISION, + GOALS

MISSION

The mission of the Easley Recreation Department helps guide which types of facilities are provided, programs are offered, and user experience. It serves as a check and balance on how the department can provide access to a high quality of life for residents and visitors.

The current department mission is:

We strive to provide a quality recreational department that serves everyone in the community by offering programs and facilities that improve the quality of life for its citizens.

Since the planning process is tied closely to the mission of the department - a critical component of project initiation was to vet the current mission and determine if it suits the growing needs of the community. Steering Committee members agreed that the mission statement should be modified to incorporate the three pillars of the Nation Recreation and Park Association (NRPA), Conservation, Health & Wellness, and Social Equity, as well as the department's focus on citizens and visitors. Modifications were suggested and vetted by the committee resulting in the following statement:



Old Market Square

MISSION

We strive to provide quality parks, recreation, leisure, and cultural experiences for residents and visitors of all ages and abilities.

This new statement will carry Easley into the future of parks, recreation, and cultural resource experiences for residents and visitors of all ages and abilities while, being mindful of its heritage and culture.

VISION

The Steering Committee crafted a vision for this plan founded in the intentions of the department's new mission. This vision for this plan is:

VISION

Our vision is to become a City with diverse programs and strategically located open spaces, cultural resources, and recreation facilities that celebrate Easley's character, foster civic pride, attract visitors, and promote daily health + wellness.

GOALS

The Steering Committee and consultant team revised the plan goals to better reflect the mission and vision, while being tied to national and state initiatives, funding sources, and trends.

GOAL ONE

Provide all residents and visitors with a diverse offering of recreation, leisure, culture, and educational programs aligned with national, state, and local trends for Conservation, Health & Wellness, and Social Equity.

GOAL TWO

Celebrate the history and culture of Easley by establishing consistent maintenance practices and design guidelines to strengthen community identity and civic pride.

**GOAL
THREE**

Encourage cooperation, consensus, and partnerships to expand the program and facility offerings for residents and visitors.

**GOAL
FOUR**

Create a connected park system that is safe and accessible via walking and bicycling, and will reduce the need for motorized transportation.

**GOAL
FIVE**

Inspire use and connectivity by crafting a uniform sign system to direct motorist, pedestrians, and bicyclists to and through parks, greenways, and cultural resource facilities.

PLANNING PROCESS AND METHODOLOGY

A systematic planning process was employed to learn about residents' park and recreational needs and to follow the guidance established by the Steering Committee. The project team assessed the current status of facilities, identified recreational needs for the community, determined whether these needs are being met, and crafted a plan of action.

The first step of this process was to conduct a thorough analysis of existing plans, understand the demographics of the city, visit facilities, and review the program inventory. Understanding the demographic characteristics of the city, existing facility and program offerings, and conducting a review of the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) revealed the opportunities and challenges of implementing recommendations. Examining the city's features, growth trends, and the parks and recreation facilities and programs provided a holistic view of how parks and recreation offerings contribute to the quality of life in Easley. The use of matrices and maps provided a thorough understanding of the existing conditions.

The second step of the process involved a needs assessment and analysis of supply and demand. Public input on impressions of existing facilities and programs was gathered at community functions and through online and hard copy surveys. Team members surveyed participants at local recreation events, and via an online tool hosted on the project website advertised through email blasts, Facebook links, city websites, and Twitter. A targeted senior survey was distributed due to a gap in participation by older residents. Analyzing the supply and demand of facilities aided in the visual representation of facility gaps and locations of high demand for future improvements.

The combination of existing inventory, supply and demand analysis, public comments and stakeholder feedback helped guide the development of the plan recommendations and action steps that will support the department through the achievement of this vision for the future of Easley facilities and programs.

Recommendations and action steps identified through this planning process reflect the City of Easley’s department mission, South Carolina’s guidance for celebrating and improving outdoor recreation, and NRPA’s three pillars.



TYING LOCAL PLANNING TO NATIONAL STANDARDS:

CONSERVATION, HEALTH & WELLNESS, AND SOCIAL EQUITY

Originally established for their aesthetic, parks have evolved into critical public spaces that enable communities to become healthy, more prosperous, and socially connected. Careful management and planned activities make local parks and recreation departments as essential components of modern life by helping mitigate the growing trend of obesity, fostering economic development, and providing environmental benefits through conservation. By following the National Recreation and Park Association’s (NRPA) three pillars of Conservation, Health & Wellness, and Social Equity, the City of Easley Department of Parks and Recreation can continue to provide resources and services that contribute to quality of life improvements for its residents.

Each of the recommendations in this plan can be tied back to one of these three pillars. It is important for the City to understand the purpose of balancing Conservation, Health & Wellness, and Social Equity through land

THE VALUE OF PARKS AND RECREATION

 <p> Conservation—Public parks are critical to preserving natural resources and wildlife habitats, which offer significant social and economic benefits. Local park and recreation agencies are leaders in protecting open space, connecting children to nature, and providing programs that engage communities in conservation.</p>	 <p> Health and Wellness—Park and recreation departments lead the nation in improving the health and wellness of communities. From fitness programs, to well-maintained, accessible, walking paths and trails, to nutrition programs for underserved youth and adults, our work is at the forefront of providing solutions to these challenges.</p>	 <p> Social Equity—We believe universal access to public parks and recreation is fundamental to all, not just a privilege for a few. Every day, our members work hard to ensure all people have access to quality parks and programs, and in turn, make our communities more livable and desirable.</p>
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NRPA emphasizes three key values of parks and recreation as seen here in the 2014 Annual Report.

acquisition, facility improvements, and program development. The following rationale and benefits for each of the pillars can be used by the City in grant applications and presentations to key stakeholders to convey the importance of parks and recreation in the role of enhancing quality of life for citizens and driving new visitors to Easley. In particular, these benefits can be leveraged for South Carolina Parks, Recreation, and Tourism grants ranging from recreation focused initiatives to celebrating natural resources.

CONSERVATION

Parks and public lands serve an essential role in the preservation of natural resources and wildlife habitat, protecting clean water and air, and providing green spaces for current and future generations to enjoy. The ability to preserve these essential connections is critical to the quality of life, and as such, the mission of parks and recreation departments at all levels should support the conservation of our nation's natural resources. Clean, green, and accessible parks and open spaces benefit everyone in the community.

Parks and recreation professionals are champions in protecting and managing open space for the common good. The preservation of our natural resources not only improves quality of life in our communities, it also provides substantial economic benefit by reducing health care costs, mitigating air and water pollution, and improving social equity. In America, poor air quality affects 127 million people resulting in respiratory and cardiovascular disease, decreased lung function, and increased cancer rates. In parks that contain contiguous forests with substantial tree cover, the park can remove significant amounts of ozone (O₃), sulfur dioxide, particulate matter, nitrogen dioxide, and carbon monoxide from the surrounding air¹. Park and recreation facilities and programs enhance the value of conservation by educating the public on their values, connecting young people to the outdoors, and coordinating environmental stewardship with other public and nonprofit entities. Through careful planning, stewardship, and public engagement, Easley can become a leader in conservation and build upon the benefits of its parks and open spaces. These benefits include:

- Providing carbon-reducing sustainable landscapes that cleanse air and water, replenish aquifers, reduce storm water runoff, and protect wildlife habitat;
- Offering the public access to safe, affordable, and healthy ways to experience and appreciate nature; and
- Contributing significantly to the economic wellbeing of communities through energy and resource conservation and providing many economic benefits to communities derived from outdoor recreation².

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Due in large part to a growing trend of poor nutrition, sedentary lifestyles, and overall unhealthy habits, obesity has become an epidemic in America. In South Carolina, over 66 percent of the adult population and 15 percent of adolescents and children are overweight, according to the CDC's Division of Nutrition and Physical Activity, and Obesity (DNPAO). Parks and recreation agencies have become leaders in fighting many of these challenges by enhancing the physical environments in which we live. More and more evidence has shown that parks and recreation actively contribute to healthier communities and are a critical solution for our nation's health epidemic. In a study published by the American Journal of Preventative Medicine, "the creation of or enhanced access to places for physical activity combined with informal outreach produced a 48.4 percent increase in the frequency of physical activity³." Through facilities, natural amenities, and programs, they encourage and promote healthy habits for people of all ages, socioeconomic backgrounds, and ethnicities. Easley should work toward improving the health and wellness of its community by offering collaborative programs and policies that:

- Help reduce obesity and incidence of chronic disease by providing opportunities to increase rigorous physical activity in a variety of forms;
- Provide a connection to nature which studies demonstrate relieves stress levels, tightens interpersonal relationships, and improves mental health;
- Aid in reducing hunger in America and increasing access to nutritious food options; and
- Foster overall wellness and healthful habits, such as becoming tobacco-free and engaging in enrichment opportunities that add balance to life⁴.

SOCIAL EQUITY

The philosophy of social equity and access is a core pillar of every parks and recreation department. Having access to programs, facilities, and spaces – regardless of skin color, age, income level, or ability – is a right, not a privilege, for people nationwide. Social equity is a critical responsibility of every public park and recreation agency and the professionals who operate them. The inclusive nature of parks and recreation cultivates ties through programs and services which connect people more deeply to the community. This sense of community connection improves quality of life and makes our communities more livable and desirable for residents and businesses.

Green spaces build community, foster social connections, and reduce crime. Research shows that people feel less isolated and are more likely to enjoy stronger social ties when connected to nature. A study by the University of Chicago found that the presence of grass and trees supports common space and encourages social contact among neighbors. Another study conducted in Chicago showed that residents in areas with more vegetation had lower rates of homicide, assault, robbery, theft, burglary, and arson. Overall, buildings with high levels of vegetation had 52 percent fewer total crimes than buildings with low levels of vegetation⁵.

Fostering social equity is also one of the core means of assuring the value of parks and recreation for future generations. Offering adult-supervised, structured park programs provide the type of activities kids need to develop important social skills and strong relationships. Effective youth programs provide a positive alternative to other, more devastating activities seen in areas with minimal youth-serving organizations.

ECONOMIC IMPACT AND TOURISM

Parks have a tremendous economic impact due to their many community benefits. These health, environmental, and social benefits consistently result in higher property values as people are willing to pay more for property located close to parks and open space. A recent study in Boulder, CO, concluded that the greenbelt added \$5.4 million to the total property value

NRPA PARK VALUES CALCULATOR

Available at <https://www.iisecure.com/nrpa/proragis/EcoBenefit.asp>

CATEGORY	BENEFIT
AIR QUALITY	\$0.54 per tree per year ¹ ; \$143.88 per acre per year
WATER QUALITY	\$156.12 per tree per year ³ ; \$790.63 per acre per year
HEALTH	Moderately active park users under 65 save \$427 annually in health care costs; Moderately active park users over 65 save \$854 annually in health care costs
	Children that have easy access to a playground are 5x more likely to have a healthy weight than children that do not have easy access to playgrounds
	Easy access to parks and open green spaces reduces mortality across one's lifespan
PROPERTY VALUE	Property values increase as much as 20 percent when adjacent to a park

Sources:

¹ David J. Nowak, "The Effects of Urban Trees on Air Quality" (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service), <http://www.fs.fed.us/ne/syracuse/gif/trees.pdf>

² <http://www.nrpa.org/About-NRPA/Position-Statements/Role-of-Parks-and-Recreation-in-Conservation/>

³ Emily B. Kahn et al. and the Task Force on Community Preventive Services, "The Effectiveness of Interventions to Increase Physical Activity," *American Journal of Preventive Medicine* 22, no. 4S (2002): pp. 87-88.

⁴ <http://www.nrpa.org/About-NRPA/Position-Statements/Role-of-Parks-and-Recreation-on-Health-and-Wellness/>

⁵ Frances E. Kuo et al., "Fertile Ground for Community: Inner-City Neighborhood Common Spaces," *American Journal of Community Psychology* 26, no. 6 (1998)

⁶ Mark R. Correll, Jane H. Lillydahl, and Larry D. Singell, "The Effect of Greenbelts on Residential Property Values: Some Findings on the Political Economy of Open Space," *Land Economics*, May 1978, cited in National Park Service, "Economic Impacts," *Economic Impacts of Protecting Rivers, Trails, and Greenway Corridors*, 4th ed., (Washington, D.C.: National Park Service, 1995), p. 14

⁷ <http://www.nrpa.org/About-NRPA/Position-Statements/Social-Equity-and-Parks-and-Recreation/>

of a neighborhood and there was a \$4.20 decrease in the price of residential property for every foot when moving away from the greenbelt⁶. NRPA has conducted extensive research to support park and recreation departments in quantifying the economic impact of facilities and programs. An impact calculator is available to provide a financial snapshot of air quality, water quality, health, and property value benefits (see chart on adjacent page).

Parks are also consistent sources of tourism for a region. People are drawn to parks as an aesthetic natural resource, for the concentration of commercial and cultural resources surrounding them, or for organized activities such as festivals, athletic events, and concerts. The resulting tourism fills hotel rooms, restaurants, and local shops, positively impacting the local economy.

ECONOMIC IMPACT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

Adapted from The City of Arlington Parks and Recreation Department



By continuing to improve upon the social equity and universal access to its parks and recreation opportunities, the community of Easley will enjoy many benefits, including:

- Public enjoyment and engagement. Where parks and open space are plentiful and recreation services strong, residents enjoy the closest attachment and engagement within their communities;
- Quality recreation time with family and friends. Parks and recreation services provide a space and a reason to partake in enjoying quality time, relaxation, and fun among family members and friends, thus strengthening the social and familial bonds that provide balance and satisfaction in life;
- Improvement of mental and physical health. Parks and recreation can reduce the impacts of chronic diseases, especially in such vulnerable populations as children, seniors, and the underserved;
- Measurable decreases in rates of crime and other detrimental activities. Communities are safer as a result of a wholesome atmosphere created by well managed parks and recreation services in communities through healthy activities and programming for all people Increase opportunities for economic development and tourism in the region; and
- Increase opportunities for economic development and tourism in the region.



Wayfinding and encouragement sign at the Doodle Trailhead.

Existing Conditions



OVERVIEW

The project team examined an array of existing conditions prior to crafting recommendations. Research, data-driven analysis, and field observations create a foundation for understanding community composition, park offerings, facility conditions, and available programming. This base understanding is combined with community input (detailed in Chapter 3: Needs Assessment) to reveal needs and desires that, when layered, evolve into recommendations and action items.

Understanding who the population is (demographics) and where they reside is critical to setting a baseline for facility and park needs.

An equity analysis indicates areas within the city that possess special needs based on data culled from US Census Data and the American Community Survey (ACS). These factors contributed to determining which types of programs and facilities should be offered to cater to the composition of the community.

Additional quantitative data gathering included a robust data driven demand model. Several combined spatial factors illustrate where people live, work, play, and learn, establish origins and destinations for greenway connectivity and areas in need of park facilities and programs.

In addition to demographic research and data-driven modeling (see Appendix A), each park was reviewed and evaluated to develop an inventory of facilities. This inventory includes the name, location, and hours of parks as well a list of assets and amenities.

Previous planning efforts were researched and documented to understand how other national, state, regional, and local initiatives affect park facilities and programs in Easley. A review of related parks and recreation plans, particularly the prior master plan, provided insight into which recommendations were executed or were incorporated as baseline questions for staff and stakeholder interviews.

POPULATION AND GROWTH CHARACTERISTICS

It is important to understand the demographic characteristics of a community when planning for recreation facilities and programs. Park facilities and programming requirements for seniors are quite different from those tailored to youth. In Easley, both youth and over 65 populations are growing. Therefore, a balance of age-appropriate facilities and programming should be sought to cater to these populations.

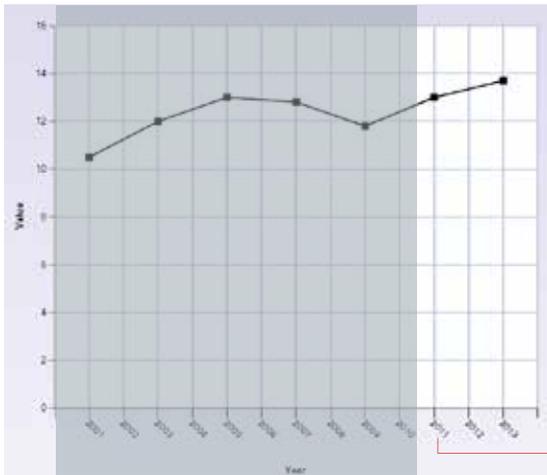
The chart below identifies population characteristics of Easley compared to county and state statistics. This comparison aids in calibrating facility and program offerings in the city versus those identified as important by the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan.

CHARACTERISTICS	CITY OF EASLEY	PICKENS COUNTY		SOUTH CAROLINA	
	2010	2010	2015	2010	2015
POPULATIONS ESTIMATE	20,027	119,226	121,691	4,625,401	4,896,146
PERSONS UNDER 5 YEARS	6.4%	5.4%	5.0%	6.5%	5.9%
PERSONS UNDER 18 YEARS	22.8%	20.4%	19.6%	23.4%	22.3%
PERSONS 65 YEARS AND OVER	18%	13.4%	15.5%	13.7%	16.2%
MALE POPULATION	47.3%	50.0%	49.8%	48.6%	48.6%
FEMALE POPULATION	52.7%	50.0%	50.2%	51.4%	51.4%
WHITE ALONE	83.1%	88.7%	89.1%	66.2%	68.4%
BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN ALONE	11.4%	6.6%	7.0%	27.9%	27.6%
AMERICAN INDIAN AND ALASKAN NATIVE ALONE	0.2%	0.2%	0.3%	0.4%	0.5%
ASIAN ALONE	0.8%	1.6%	1.9%	1.3%	1.6%
NATIVE HAWAIIAN OR OTHER PACIFIC ISLAND ALONE	0%	0%	0%	0.1%	.1%
TWO OR MORE RACES	1.8%	1.5%	1.7%	1.7%	1.8%
HISPANIC OR LATINO	5.6%	3.1%	3.5%	5.1%	5.5%
WHITE ALONE, NOT HISPANIC OR LATINO	80.6%	87.2%	86.1%	64.1%	63.8%

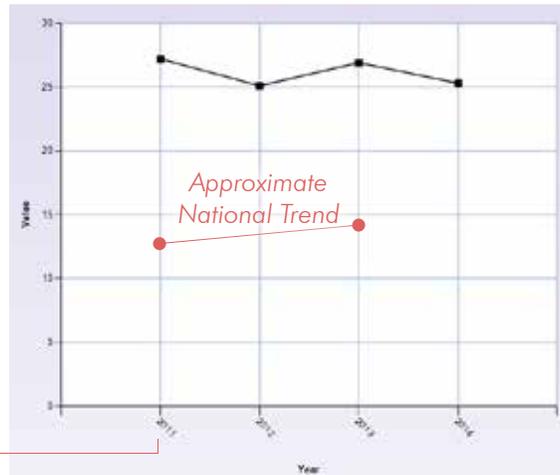
Data was not complete for Easley in 2015.

HEALTH CHARACTERISTICS

In keeping with the pillars of Health & Wellness, it was imperative to understand underlying key issues in health risk behaviors. According to the CDC (Center of Disease Control) adult obesity and inactivity are higher in South Carolina than the national average, and rising. High obesity and low physical activity rates have become common themes in the US. Parks and programs play a significant role in improving these unhealthy trends. Easley must provide opportunities for daily physical activity that is easily accessible for all ages.



United States: Percent of Adults who engage in no leisure-time physical activity (Source: CDC)



South Carolina: Percent of Adults who engage in no leisure-time physical activity (Source: CDC)

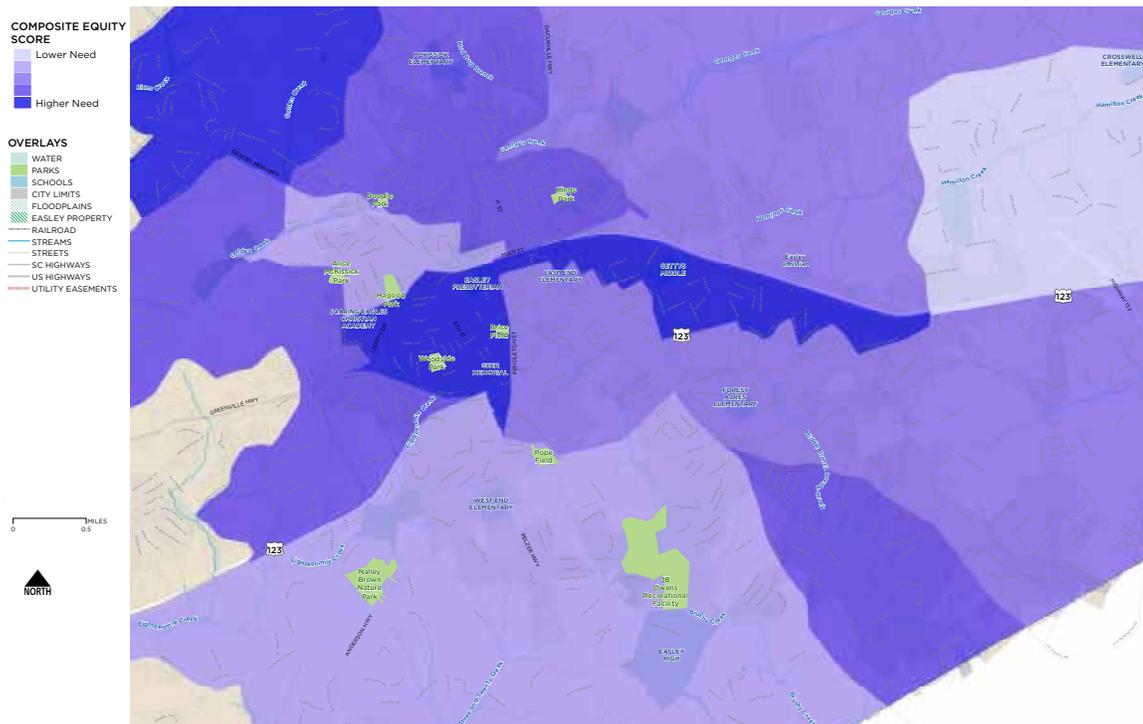


Open spaces such as those at Woodside Park could be used to create loop trails to promote daily use and encourage healthy behavior.

EQUITY ANALYSIS

A series of equity maps of the study area were created to illustrate areas with special needs using criteria culled from the American Community Survey (ACS). The categories reviewed were populations in the following categories: under the age of 18, over the age of 65, non-white, households below the poverty line, without a high school diploma, and limited English. These special needs populations tend to have limited resources and would benefit from parks and recreation offerings. Each map depicts concentrations per category, highlighting the relationship between each population and park facilities. While these maps are valuable for data driven analysis, the output of each model is limited to the input available. *These are tools that spur discussion, lead to further questions, and inform field analysis. They are not intended to be recommendations nor are they understood to be complete and accurate depictions of community composition.*

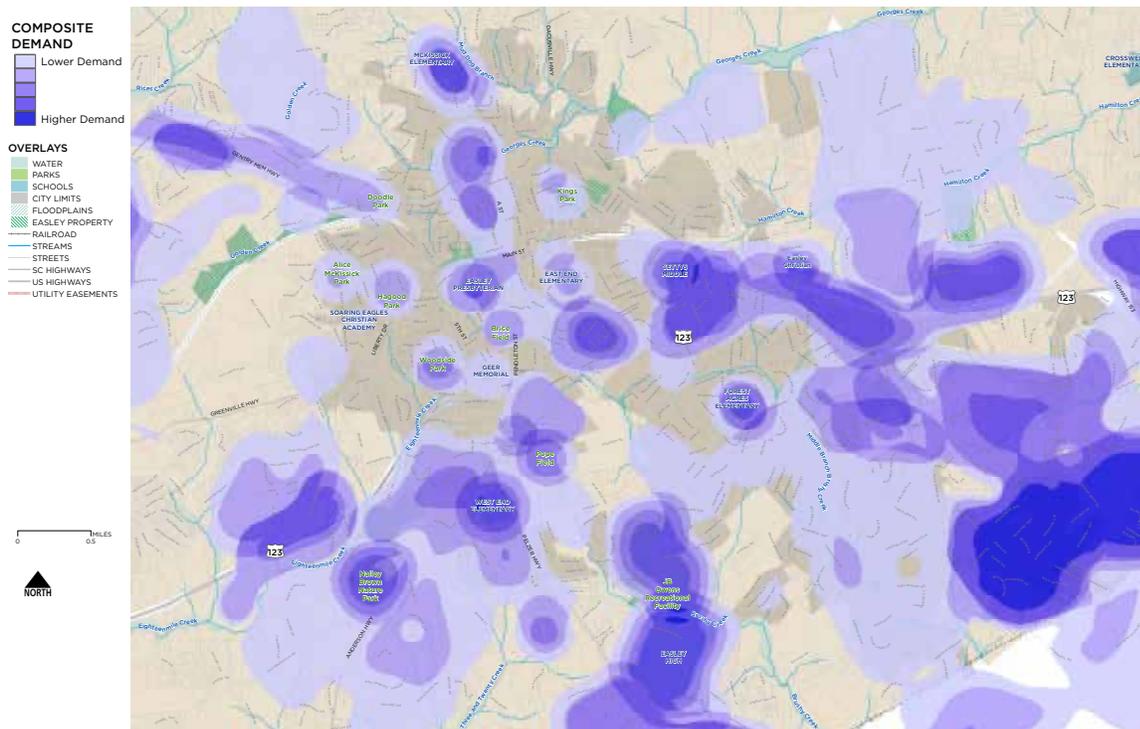
The full series of maps can be found in Appendix A with descriptions of findings and how to interpret each diagram. Below is the composite map from the equity analysis, showing the overlay of the categories above. This heat map illustrates the area of highest need according to modeling equity with Census data. Based on NRPA’s social equity pillar, residents living in the darker areas in the composite map would benefit from greenway connectivity and park facilities. Overlaying the existing park properties reveals a gap in service for these populations.



DEMAND ANALYSIS

Demand analysis is an objective, data-driven process designed to identify the areas of high concentration, where people live, work, play, and learn. The demand potential in Easley was measured based on the proximity and density of trip generators (such as homes and workplaces) and trip attractors (such as shopping centers and parks) to establish nodes of connectivity and areas where parks would benefit dense use areas. The resulting models represent heat maps that display “hot spots” within the community.

Each demand map (live, work, play, learn) can be found in Appendix A. Below, the composite map shows overall areas of demand concentration. This diagram, like the equity analysis, is purely data-driven. Both series of maps inspired field discoveries and precipitated further discussion with staff, stakeholders, and the public. Notable discoveries from this map series include critical areas for greenway connectivity and areas where the parks department should explore land acquisition or reallocation of city property to serve as recreation, leisure, and cultural resource amenities for the public.



PARK CLASSIFICATIONS

Diversifying park facilities will allow the city to serve the entire community with small neighborhood-oriented spaces and large regional nature centers or sports complexes. By using a classification system and service area analysis method, the project team was able to determine if Easley is appropriately serving the existing community. As Easley continues to grow and diversify, it will need to provide a variety of parks and facilities areas of increased demand. The following park classifications were derived from the National Park and Recreation Standards and tailored to City of Easley, based on current facilities and demand for new ones.



Playground at Kings Park

MINI-PARKS

- 0 – 1 acres
- ¼ mile service area
- Should promote partnerships with neighborhoods, homeowners association, or businesses for maintenance
- Often used in high density areas (e.g. downtown)
- Parking is uncommon

NEIGHBORHOOD PARK

- 1 – 10 acres
- ½ mile service area
- Incorporated in or adjacent to residential areas
- Should promote partnerships with neighborhoods, homeowners association for maintenance
- Parking (not typical in neighborhood park) will vary

COMMUNITY PARK

- 30 – 50 Acres
- 1.5 mile service area
- Service large portions of the community
- Support services such as restrooms, concessions, and parking
- Should be accessible by trail, sidewalk, and street networks
- Should promote partnerships for community use
- Should accommodate active and passive recreation activities
- Parking size will vary based on components

SPORT COMPLEX

- 40-80 Acres
- Heavily programmed, with sport related facilities
- Service large portions of the community
- Limited number per community, density of facilities are recommended
- Support services such as restrooms, concessions, and parking
- Parking size will vary based on components and size

REGIONAL PARK

- 50- 100+ Acres
- Services the needs of multiple communities
- Support services such as restrooms, concessions, and parking
- Examples of regional parks include, but are not limited to: county parks, state parks and natural areas
- Typical activities include picnicking, boating, use of nature and greenway trails, nature study, and in some cases, camping
- Parking size will vary based on components

EXISTING INVENTORY SUMMARY

The matrix below summarizes the inventory of existing parks, their type and quantity of facilities. The following pages provide an inventory and evaluation of each park facility.

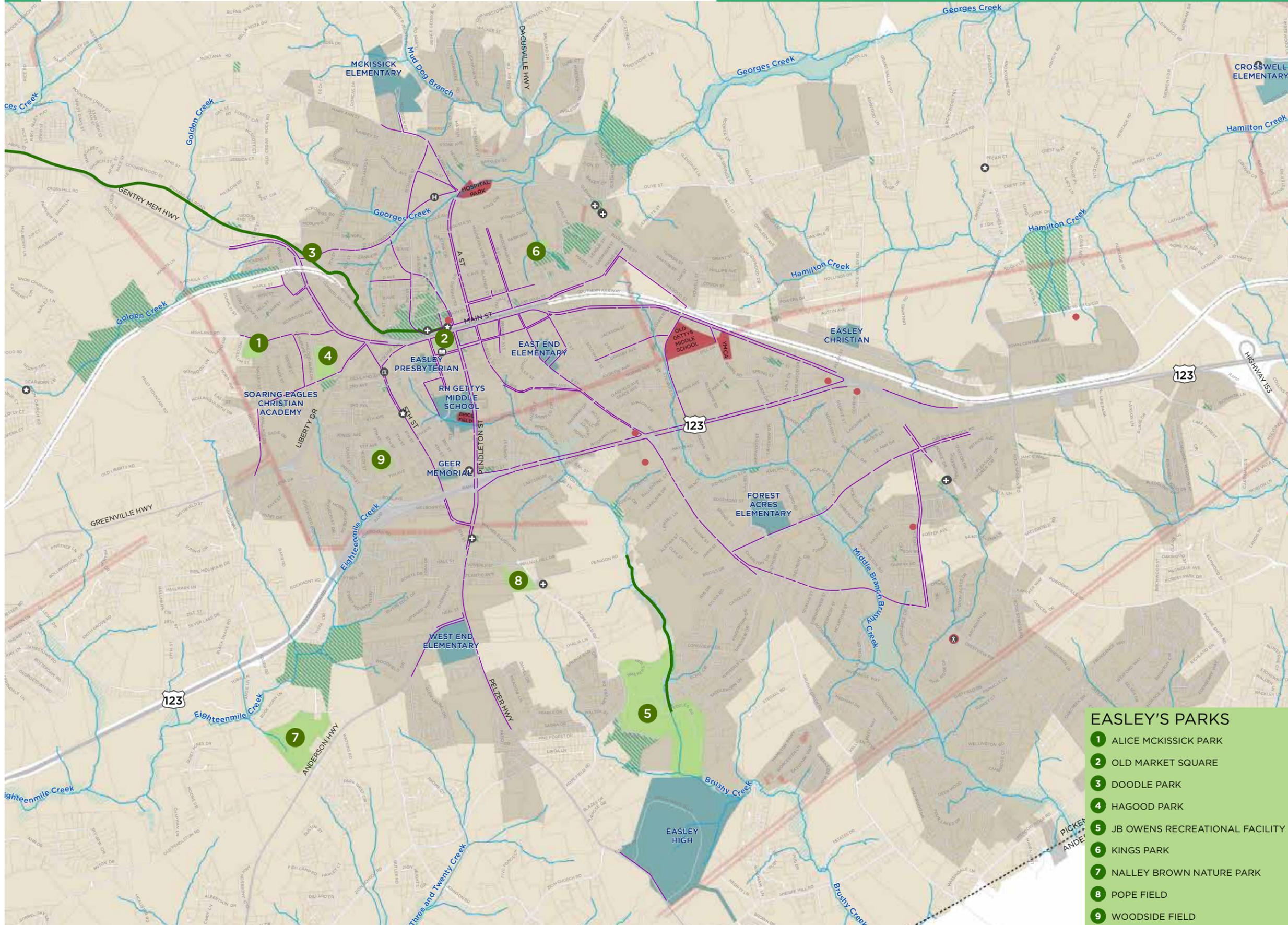
(M) MINI-PARKS (N) NEIGHBORHOOD PARK (C) COMMUNITY PARK
(S) SPORT COMPLEX (R) REGIONAL PARK

NAME/LOCATION	ALICE MCKISSICK PARK	HAGOOD PARK	OLD MARKET SQUARE	JB OWENS RECREATION FACILITY	LARRY D. BAGWELL GYMNASIUM	KINGS PARK	POPE FIELD	WOODSIDE PARK	DOODLE TRAIL
PARK TYPE	N	N	M	S	NA	N	N	N	M
ACREAGE	5	14	NA	104	NA	14	9	12	NA
BASEBALL FIELD	(1)	(1)		(3)			(2)	(1)	
BATTING CAGES	(2)			(8)					
T-BALL FIELD		(1)							
SOFTBALL				(5)					
RESTROOMS	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
SOCCER/FOOTBALL FIELD/MULTIUSE FIELD				(6)			(1)		
SHELTER		(2)		X		(1)	(2)	(1)	
PICNIC TABLES	X	X	X	X		(6)	(13)	(2)	
TENNIS/PICKELBALL		(2)					(6)		
OUTDOOR BASKETBALL		(1)		(1)					
INDOOR COURT					(3)				
SAND VOLLEYBALL		(2)							
TRAIL				X					X
2-5 PLAYGROUND		(1)		(1)					
5-12 PLAYGROUND		(1)		(3)		(1)	(1)	(1)	
DISK GOLF				(1)					
HORSESHOES		(2)							
DOG PARK		(1)							
AMPHITHEATER			(1)						



OVERVIEW

PARKS + RECREATION MASTER PLAN



BIKE/PED FACILITIES

- EXISTING GREENWAY
- EXISTING SIDEWALK

OVERLAYS

- WATER
- SCHOOLS
- CITY LIMITS
- FLOODPLAINS
- EASLEY PROPERTY
- OTHER RESOURCES*
- RAILROAD
- STREAMS
- STREETS
- SC HIGHWAYS
- US HIGHWAYS
- UTILITY EASEMENTS

*OTHER RESOURCES INCLUDE PRIVATE GYMS, RECREATION CLUBS, ETC.

POINTS OF INTEREST

- ⊕ CULTURAL SITES
- ⊗ GOLF COURSES
- ⊕ HOSPITALS
- ⊕ HISTORIC SITES
- ⊕ LIBRARIES
- ⊕ GOVERNMENT
- ⊕ PUBLIC SAFETY

EASLEY'S PARKS

- 1 ALICE MCKISSICK PARK
- 2 OLD MARKET SQUARE
- 3 DOODLE PARK
- 4 HAGOOD PARK
- 5 JB OWENS RECREATIONAL FACILITY
- 6 KINGS PARK
- 7 NALLEY BROWN NATURE PARK
- 8 POPE FIELD
- 9 WOODSIDE FIELD



ALICE MCKISSICK PARK

PARK TYPE

LOCATION	102 Nalley Street	OWNERSHIP PUBLIC	HOURS DAWN -UNTIL- DUSK
SIZE (ACREAGE)	5 Acres		
PREDOMINANT USE	Baseball, Batting Cage		
PARCEL NUMBER			

HAS THIS PARK EVER RECEIVED GRANT FUNDING?

GRANT SOURCE	No Information Available		
GRANT AMOUNT		GRANT DATE	

PREVIOUS RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDED RENOVATIONS

- Increase the number of parking spaces by adding on-street parking or demarcating existing and alternative spaces on site
- Treat and paint wood press box, ticket booth and dug outs
- Spot grade areas on field where water collects; aerate and over-seed bare spots in turf
- Install safety screens at dugouts
- Relocate entrance sign at park entrance and enhance with landscape

- Knuckle all selvage on fencing
- Sidewalk system
- Incorporate way-finding signage to help orient visitors
- Provide site furniture of a consistent scale and character

RECOMMENDED UPGRADES

- New dugout roofs
- New lights
- New batting cages
- New bullpens

INVENTORY AND EVALUATION

PARK ASSET / AMENITY	PRESENCE OR QUANTITY	CONDITION <i>N=Needs improvement; S= Satisfactory; C=Commendable</i>	NOTES
PARKING	Yes	S	Partially marked; delineated spaces in upper lot
PEDESTRIAN ACCESS TO THE PARK	No	N	No access from neighborhoods, no perimeter sidewalk or trail
BICYCLE ACCESS TO THE PARK/PARKING	Yes	N	On street access, no bike parking
PARK ID SIGNAGE	No	N	No Park ID signage from any access location
INTERNAL SIGNAGE (WAYFINDING AND INTERPRETATION)	No	N	Need to identify where restrooms and picnic tables are located
SUN/SHADE	No	N	Need shade for spectators, in picnic area and outfield open space behind fence line
RESTROOMS/CHANGING ROOMS (STALLS)	N/A	N/A	No access

PARK ASSET / AMENITY	PRESENCE OR QUANTITY	CONDITION <i>N=Needs improvement; S= Satisfactory; C=Commendable</i>	NOTES
BENCHES/PICNIC TABLES	Yes	S	No ADA accessible picnic area
PICNIC SHELTER	No	N/A	
PLAYGROUND (SPECIFY AGE RANGE)	No	N/A	
BASEBALL	Yes	C (Lighted)	
INTERNAL CIRCULATION	Yes	N	Path connecting the parking lot with the ballfield, but no paths connecting batting cages or picnic table area
PARK USE SEPARATION	N/A	N/A	
SITE LAYOUT AND LANDSCAPING	Yes	S	
SITE SECURITY AND VANDALISM	Yes	S	Entire site was locked making the facilities unusable to general public. Fencing is in good condition.
UNIQUE FEATURE	N/A	N/A	
DRINKING FOUNTAIN	N/A	N/A	No access
USER DIVERSITY (AGE, ABILITY)	No	N	Can only use this park site if you are in an organized league or program

USER ABILITY AND ACCESS

- Facility is locked and therefore not accessible to general public; park is operating as a single use facility and non-public space
- No pedestrian or bicycle facilities linking adjacent neighborhood to park

STRENGTHS OF THE PARK

- Ballfield is in good condition with a well-maintained field, grounds, and spectator seating
- Parking has been expanded and improved since the last master plan

CHALLENGES OF THE PARK

- Little shade provided for spectators on the bleachers
- No perimeter landscape buffering park to help demarcate entrances, provide shade, and establish character as a city facility

OPPORTUNITIES

- Provide shade on perimeter of field and on outfield behind fence line
- Add a shelter between parking area and fence line
- Create the ability for park to become a daily use facility by expanding use of the parking lot and utilizing small open spaces. Parking lot could be striped as a youth bicycle course and additional paths could create a small loop trail. A playground could be added to serve the neighborhood and entertain children during game play.
- Consider unlocking the park perimeter fencing or moving the fence to allow access to outfield areas

PROGRAMS HELD AT THIS PARK

- Easley High School Baseball (last week of January - First Week of May)
- Easley American Legion Baseball (First of May - Mid July)



Ample seating for spectators



Space for additional facilities or landscaping/stormwater management

ALICE MCKISSICK PARK

Park Maps

PARKS + RECREATION MASTER PLAN



BIKE / PED FACILITIES

- EXISTING GREENWAY
- - - PROPOSED GREENWAY
- EXISTING BIKE LANE

OVERLAYS

- WATER
- PARKS
- SCHOOLS
- CITY LIMITS
- FLOODPLAINS
- EASLEY PROPERTY
- RAILROAD
- STREAMS
- STREETS
- SC HIGHWAYS
- US HIGHWAYS
- UTILITY EASEMENTS

POINTS OF INTEREST

- III CULTURAL SITES
- X GOLF COURSES
- H HOSPITALS
- ★ HISTORIC SITES
- B LIBRARIES
- ★ GOVERNMENT
- + PUBLIC SAFETY
- X OLD MILLS



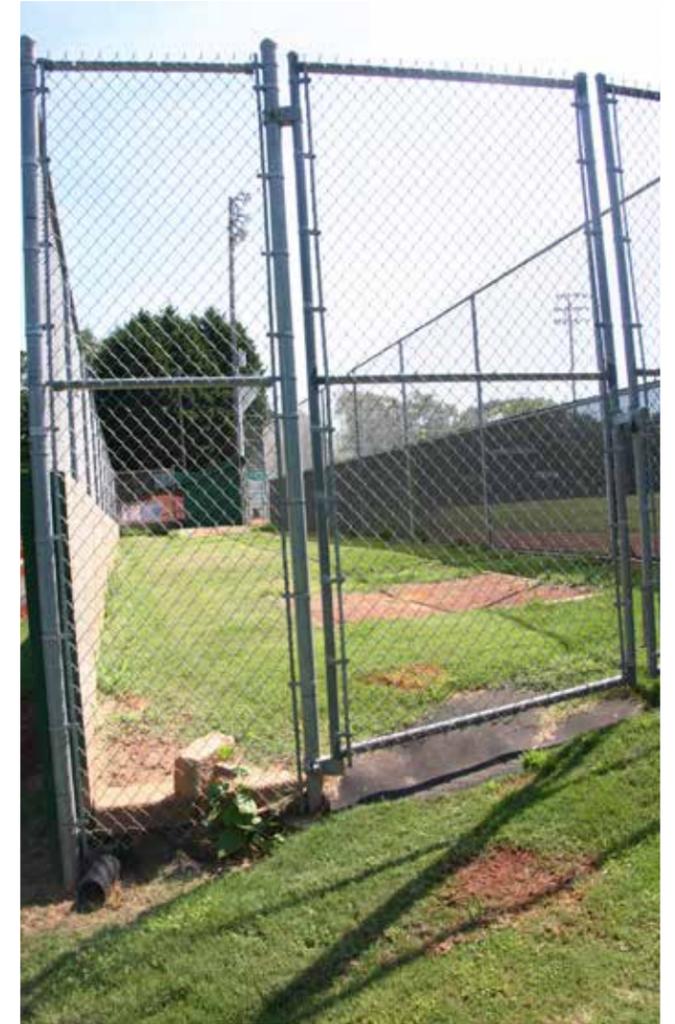
Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AEX, Geomatics, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP, swisstopo, and the GIS User Community



Possible area for a shelter, between parking lot and fields



Opportunity for multiple uses of parking lot



Facilities locked and not accessible to the public



No shade in the parking lot and no landscape buffer between park and neighboring properties



Batting cages in good condition



Bullpens - unclear if these have been updated since the last plan



Little shade for spectators



Facilities locked preventing daily use



Memorial plaque



Well maintained fields

COMMUNITY PARK

LOCATION	110 Old Liberty Road	OWNERSHIP  PUBLIC	HOURS DAWN -UNTIL- DUSK
SIZE (ACREAGE)	14 Acres		
PREDOMINANT USE	Softball, T-ball, Tennis, Basketball		
PARCEL NUMBER			
HAS THIS PARK EVER RECEIVED GRANT FUNDING?			
GRANT SOURCE	No Information Available		
GRANT AMOUNT		GRANT DATE	

PREVIOUS RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDED RENOVATIONS

- Replace outdated metal play equipment
- Tennis courts: provide adequate lighting, update and repair fencing and nets
- Spot grade and stabilize embankment with a retaining wall or vegetation to prevent erosion and further deterioration
- Clearly identify park entry and vehicular access point with signage
- Define parking spaces with striping
- Replace fence in dugout with taller safety fence
- Repave basketball courts
- Re-mulch and define edges of trail. In steep areas, continue wooden picket fencing for safety
- Replace all playground surfacing with an ASTM International approved surface

- Weed and clean out canal
- Replace bleachers
- Repair and upgrade scoreboard, replace missing bulbs
- Landscaping
- Informational signs
- Retrofit tennis courts and use for in-line roller hockey
- Striping
- Goals

RECOMMENDED UPGRADES

- New light poles and lights
- New dugout roofs
- Addition of skate park
- Build parking lot at upper fields
- Build Ball Field #4 with lights
- New fence on Field 3
- 8 new picnic table

INVENTORY AND EVALUATION

In Notes: Place an "L" if facility has lights; List if Feature is Existing or Future and "A" if the facility is Accessible.

PARK ASSET / AMENITY	PRESENCE OR QUANTITY	CONDITION <i>N=Needs improvement; S= Satisfactory; C=Commendable</i>	NOTES
PARKING	Yes	N	Unstriped paved near ballfield; gravel near tennis courts/ playground and dog park
PEDESTRIAN ACCESS TO THE PARK	No	N	None
BICYCLE ACCESS TO THE PARK/PARKING	No	N	None
PARK ID SIGNAGE	Yes	N	Signs needed at all entrances
INTERNAL SIGNAGE (WAYFINDING AND INTERPRETATION)	None	N	

PARK ASSET / AMENITY	PRESENCE OR QUANTITY	CONDITION <i>N=Needs improvement; S= Satisfactory; C=Commendable</i>	NOTES
SUN/SHADE	None	N	None over use areas
RESTROOMS/CHANGING ROOMS (STALLS)	1; 2 Port-a-johns	N	1 family restrooms with some graffiti; port-a-johns near tennis/ and open play
BASKETBALL COURT (SPECIFY INDOOR/OUTDOOR)	1- outdoor	N	New goals needed, graffiti, 1 picnic table, resurfacing needed
BENCHES/PICNIC TABLES	12		6 each shelter; 2 at upper playground- no benches
PICNIC SHELTER	2	N - Near Baseball	Grills (2) at each shelter; spigot at shelter; fireplace at shelter (usable?)
PLAYGROUND (2-5) BOTTOM PLAYGROUND	1	N	No accessible route from parking to playground; no rules, no bench for parents, no shade for playground (replaced per previous plan)
PLAYGROUND (5-12) TOP PLAYGROUND NEAR BARK PARK	1	N	No access to; mulch surface with plastic border; 3 belt swings 2 toddler (replaced per previous plan); two picnic tables no shade, need replaced
BASEBALL	1.5	S (L)	T-ball in outfield and partial size with lighting
VOLLEYBALL	2	N	Sand Volleyball; 1 net down; not enough sand; overgrown
INTERNAL CIRCULATION	N/A	None	Park could benefit greatly from internal walking paths and an overall park greenway loop
HORSESHOES	2	N	
PARK USE SEPARATION	Yes	S	Fencing for dog park and ball fields are in good condition
SITE LAYOUT AND LANDSCAPING		N	Park could benefit from thoughtful redesign to connect uses and provide complimentary adjacent activities
SITE SECURITY AND VANDALISM		N	Level of maintenance and condition of some items may create a negative perception
TENNIS/PICKLEBALL	2 (Lighted)	N	Two courts no accessible route, no benches, no shade for spectators or players waiting
UNIQUE FEATURE			Canal and Stone Walls
DRINKING FOUNTAIN	Yes	S	For dogs
USER DIVERSITY (AGE, ABILITY)		S	Park has the potential to serve multigenerational users as well as a variety of abilities
OTHER: DOG PARK	1	N	Big dog/little dog division, no pavement at entry causing erosion; 1 bench with shade in little dog area; no benches in big dog area, no shade; no water in big dog area but dog fountain in small dog area; dog exercise equipment,

USER ABILITY AND ACCESS

- Currently no bicycle or pedestrian access to site
- No arrival sequence or internal signage. Only one entrance (near the fields) has a monument sign.
- Uses within the park are not connected via a path system
- If park were in better condition and well organized, it could be a park for multiple ages and abilities.

STRENGTHS OF THE PARK

- Park location is ideal for connectivity to downtown, other parks, and neighborhoods
- Park size provides the opportunity for multiple use areas to serve a wide variety of users
- Presence of unprogrammed space helps balance other parks' saturation of active recreation

CHALLENGES OF THE PARK

- Little to no shade in use areas
- Most features need upgrades, renovations, and redesign
- No internal signage or wayfinding, in addition to lack of trails or connected paths
- Challenging topography which may prevent users from walking between use areas
- No shade, shelter, or seating near dog park, upper playground, volleyball courts, tennis courts, or basketball courts

OPPORTUNITIES

- Many opportunities to create shade with structures or by planting trees
- Park is poised for a redesign and presents an opportunity to execute a community-driven master planning process that involves all potential users - including youth - to create an appropriate park for the future needs of Easley residents and visitors.
- Ample space for an internal park loop greenway
- Property size enables the positioning of multiple features that serve a variety of user types, ages, and abilities
- Proximity to the Doodle Trail strengthens the ability of Easley to close gaps in the park to park active transportation network

PROGRAMS HELD AT THIS PARK

- Easley Dixie Softball (March 1 - Mid-June)

HAGOOD PARK

Park Maps

PARKS + RECREATION MASTER PLAN



BIKE / PED FACILITIES

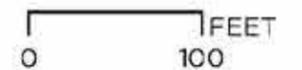
-  EXISTING GREENWAY
-  PROPOSED GREENWAY
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OVERLAYS

-  WATER
-  PARKS
-  SCHOOLS
-  CITY LIMITS
-  FLOODPLAINS
-  EASLEY PROPERTY
-  RAILROAD
-  STREAMS
-  STREETS
-  SC HIGHWAYS
-  US HIGHWAYS
-  UTILITY EASEMENTS

POINTS OF INTEREST

-  CULTURAL SITES
-  GOLF COURSES
-  HOSPITALS
-  HISTORIC SITES
-  LIBRARIES
-  GOVERNMENT
-  PUBLIC SAFETY
-  OLD MILLS



Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroX, Getmapping, Aerocrid, IGN, ICB, swisstopo, and the GIS User Community



Signage present at one entrance



Field conditions are satisfactory



There is an opportunity to use the canal and stone walls as a feature instead of a barrier to circulation



Valuable unprogrammed space



Shelters should be connected with ADA accessible paths



Lack of shade and seating near playgrounds create uncomfortable spaces for youth and guardians



Updating and improving facilities will change the perception of the park

OLD MARKET SQUARE

TRAILHEAD

LOCATION	Main Street Market Square	OWNERSHIP  PUBLIC	HOURS DAWN -UNTIL- DUSK
SIZE (ACREAGE)			
PREDOMINANT USE	Amphitheater Passive Park/Urban Park		
PARCEL NUMBER			
HAS THIS PARK EVER RECEIVED GRANT FUNDING?			
GRANT SOURCE	No Information Available		
GRANT AMOUNT		GRANT DATE	

PREVIOUS RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDED RENOVATIONS

- N/A

RECOMMENDED UPGRADES

- N/A

INVENTORY AND EVALUATION

In Notes: Place an "L" if facility has lights; List if Feature is Existing or Future and "A" if the facility is Accessible.

PARK ASSET / AMENITY	PRESENCE OR QUANTITY	CONDITION <i>N=Needs improvement; S=Satisfactory; C=Commendable</i>	NOTES
PARKING	Lot / Street	C	Paved parking surrounding facility
PEDESTRIAN ACCESS TO THE PARK	Yes	C	Accessible sidewalks, plaza space, stairs
BICYCLE ACCESS TO THE PARK/PARKING	Yes	S	On-street access, bicycle parking on-site
PARK ID SIGNAGE	Yes	S	ID from Main Street
INTERNAL SIGNAGE (WAYFINDING AND INTERPRETATION)	No	n/a	Could use wayfinding signage from Main Street Access to amphitheater and restrooms, ADA access route
SUN/SHADE	No		Could use shade at top tier of amphitheater and/or stage
RESTROOMS/CHANGING ROOMS (STALLS)	Yes	C	
SWING SET	2	S	Bench Swings (2)
BENCHES/PICNIC TABLES	6	C	Benches distributed throughout space
INTERNAL CIRCULATION	Good		
SITE LAYOUT AND LANDSCAPING	Yes	C	
SITE SECURITY AND VANDALISM	N/A	S	Well positioned in downtown with the opportunity for "eyes on the park"
UNIQUE FEATURE			Amphitheater
USER DIVERSITY (AGE, ABILITY)	Yes	C	

OLD MARKET SQUARE

Park Maps

PARKS + RECREATION MASTER PLAN



BIKE / PED FACILITIES

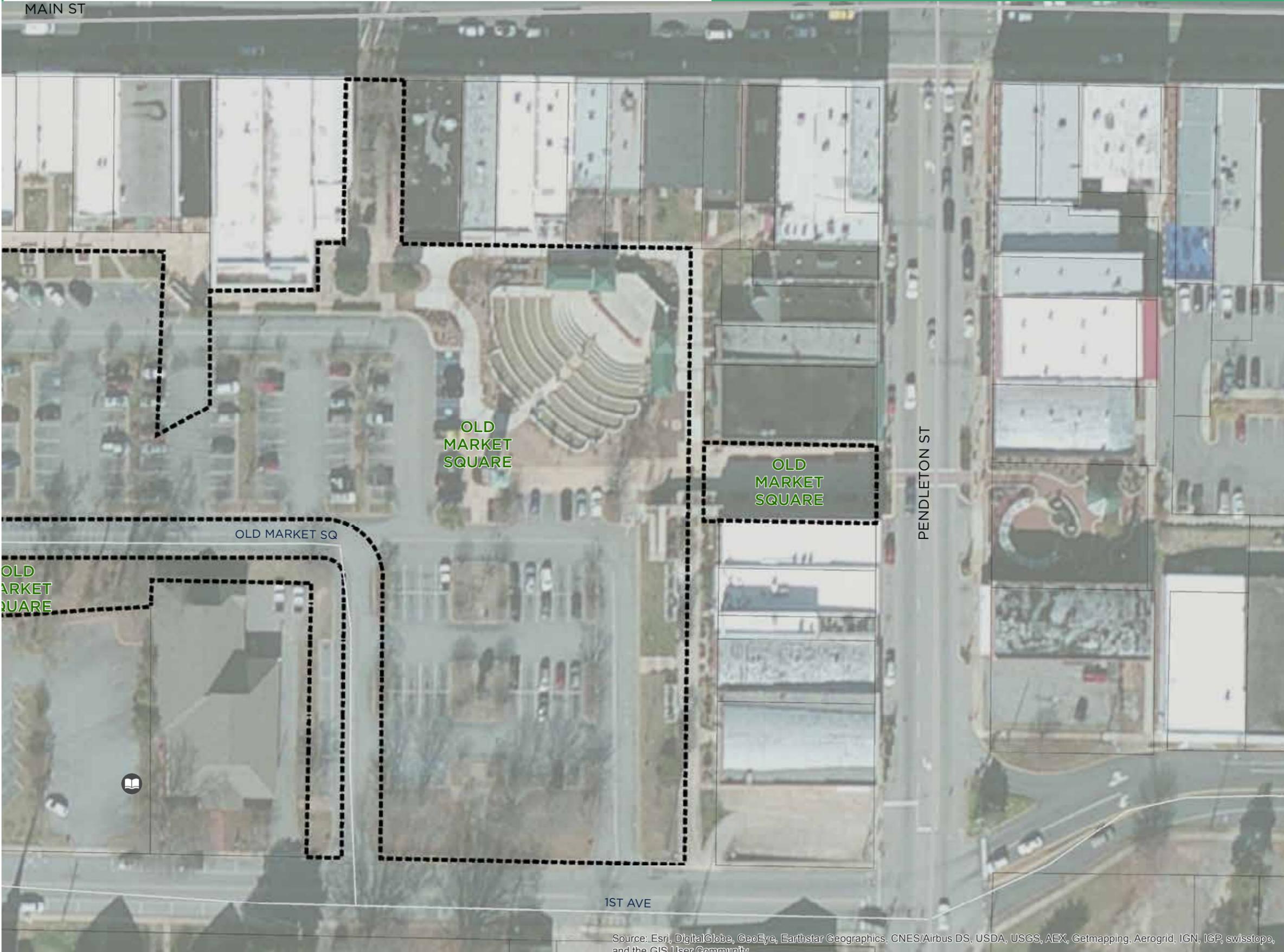
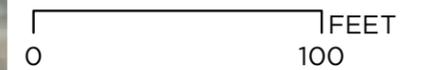
- EXISTING GREENWAY
- - - PROPOSED GREENWAY
- EXISTING BIKE LANE

OVERLAYS

- WATER
- PARKS
- SCHOOLS
- CITY LIMITS
- ▨ FLOODPLAINS
- ▨ EASLEY PROPERTY
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POINTS OF INTEREST

- Ⓘ CULTURAL SITES
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- ★ GOVERNMENT
- + PUBLIC SAFETY
- ✕ OLD MILLS



Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AEX, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, ICP, swisstopo, and the GIS User Community

USER ABILITY AND ACCESS

- Easy access for users of all abilities
- Park is in an urban area and well integrated into the downtown and adjacent uses

STRENGTHS OF THE PARK

- Park is centrally located and well positioned to host a variety of events or serve as a quiet daily respite
- Area is clean and well maintained
- Security cameras are present and noticeable
- Space creates backyard for several local businesses and can help drive economic development by attracting local residents and visitors through events

CHALLENGES OF THE PARK

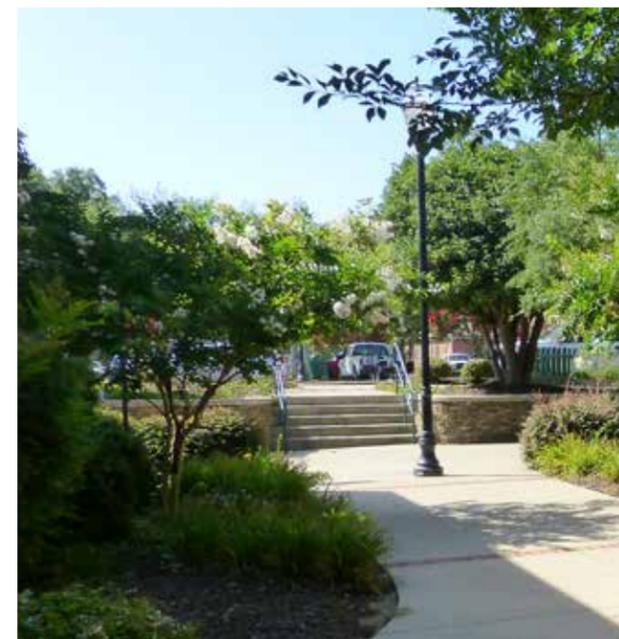
- Wayfinding could be improved
- No ADA route from Main Street to the amphitheater
- Little shade provided for users of the amphitheater

OPPORTUNITIES

- Addition of shade/ pergola/trees on top tier of the amphitheater would expand use and provide additional comfort, particularly in summer months
- Create an ADA paved pull off and seating from the accessible parking surface lot

PROGRAMS HELD AT THIS PARK

- Music on the Market (early May - Mid-June)
- Movies on the Market (September / October)



No ADA access from Main Street to amphitheater



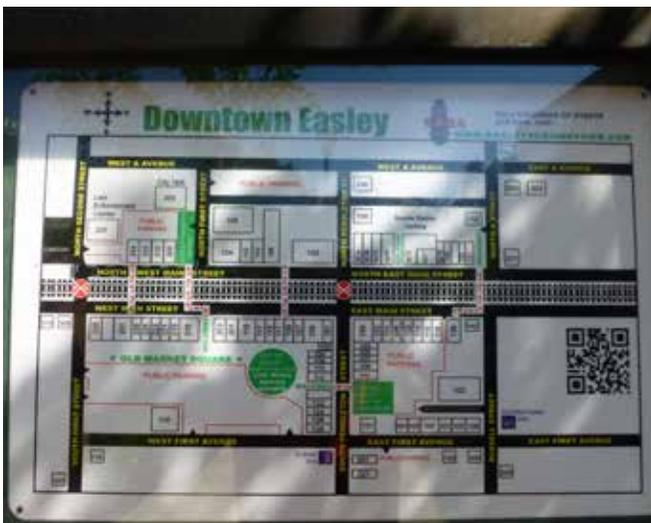
Centrally located in the heart of downtown



Entrance signage from Main Street



Well maintained area



Map of the downtown



Add more shading and benches throughout park



No shading in amphitheater

J.B. “RED” OWENS RECREATION FACILITY

SPORTS COMPLEX

LOCATION	111 Walkers Way	OWNERSHIP PUBLIC	HOURS DAWN -UNTIL- DUSK
SIZE (ACREAGE)	104 Acres		
PREDOMINANT USE	Recreation Complex		
PARCEL NUMBER			
HAS THIS PARK EVER RECEIVED GRANT FUNDING?			
GRANT SOURCE	Game Time		
GRANT AMOUNT	\$75,000	GRANT DATE	2016

PREVIOUS RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDED RENOVATIONS

FOOTBALL STADIUM FIELD

- ADA accessible sidewalk
- Fence around perimeter of field
- Stabilize bank with retaining wall or vegetation
- Home and visitor seating
- Scoreboards
- Lighting
- Goal post
- Re-locate secondary entrance sign off of Pope Rd. before the access drive
- Refresh mulch at all play areas

RECOMMENDED UPGRADES

SOCCER / FOOTBALL FIELDS

- Picnic shelter
- Restrooms, locker room, equipment storage building
- 40-car gravel parking lot

FOOTBALL STADIUM FIELD

- Concession / Pressbox / Restrooms building

3 FIELD BASEBALL

- Seating
- Concession / Pressbox / Restrooms building
- Batting cage
- 40-car gravel parking lot

INVENTORY AND EVALUATION

In Notes: Place an “L” if facility has lights; List if Feature is Existing or Future and “A” if the facility is Accessible.

PARK ASSET / AMENITY	PRESENCE OR QUANTITY	CONDITION <i>N=Needs improvement; S= Satisfactory; C=Commendable</i>	NOTES
PARKING	Yes	S	Ample
PEDESTRIAN ACCESS TO THE PARK	No	N	Improve connectivity from nearby sidewalks and potential trail links
BICYCLE ACCESS TO THE PARK/PARKING	No	N	Relocate bicycle parking from neighborhood to lower field area and near gymnasium
PARK ID SIGNAGE	Yes	S	Different at each entrance
INTERNAL SIGNAGE (WAYFINDING AND INTERPRETATION)	Yes	N	Circulation wayfinding confusing
SUN/SHADE	No	N	No shade in use areas, lower complex needs shade

PARK ASSET / AMENITY	PRESENCE OR QUANTITY	CONDITION <i>N=Needs improvement; S= Satisfactory; C=Commendable</i>	NOTES
RESTROOMS/CHANGING ROOMS (STALLS)	Yes	S	Lower park (multi-use fields): 2 Concession, drinking fountains, restrooms; Mid-complex: announcer tower, restrooms/ concession Upper-complex pinwheel structure: concession, restrooms, announcer/ scoring tower
BASKETBALL COURT (SPECIFY INDOOR/OUTDOOR)	Yes	1	Lower-complex: 1 outdoor court in parking lot, good use of parking in non peak hours;
BENCHES/PICNIC TABLES	Yes		Primarily under shelters, could use benches along walking paved trail
PICNIC SHELTER	Yes	S	Upper-complex (near playground) large shelter: (11 tables)near gymnasium: 7 tables 1 grill
PLAYGROUND (LOWER COMPLEX NEAR MULTI-USE FIELDS)	Yes	N	Age range- 5-12; no ramp or access to the playground; mulch surface
PLAYGROUND (UPPER COMPLEX)	Yes	N	Age range 5-12; mulch surface with no ramp cut out and no access from parking to it
PLAYGROUND (INSIDE PINWHEEL COMPLEX)	Yes	S	5-12
PLAYGROUND (NEAR GYMNASIUM)	Yes	S	Tot lot, mulch, plastic border, swings (3 belt, 1 toddler)
BASEBALL	8	C (Lighted)	All high quality, lighted, maintained
MULTI-USE FIELDS	6	S	5 full size lighted fields in lower complex; 1 mid complex
GYMNASIUM	See Separate write up		See separate write up
INTERNAL CIRCULATION	Poor	N	Poor
PARK USE SEPARATION	Yes		
SITE LAYOUT AND LANDSCAPING	Lack of Shade		
SITE SECURITY AND VANDALISM			No vandalism
OTHER: BATTING CAGE COMPLEX	Yes	C	8- Great condition
OTHER: DISC GOLF	Yes	N	Route challenges near parking lot, start of course near gymnasium;

USER ABILITY AND ACCESS

- Sidewalk connectivity should be improved
- Adding crosswalks will help improve user safety
- A comprehensive trail system with amenities (like benches) would encourage use by multiple ages
- Playgrounds should be ADA accessible

STRENGTHS OF THE PARK

- Excellent facility for hosting large sports tournaments
- Economic generator for the city

CHALLENGES OF THE PARK

- Vehicular circulation is not continuous
- Lower complex needs trail connections, roadway circulation, and shelters between fields near the playground
- Other than the gym, most of the park is gated and inaccessible to the public for daily use

OPPORTUNITIES

- Improved vehicle circulation will reduce visitor frustration
- Creating a more defined trail around the park will increase daily use and provide short and long distance walking and running routes for local residents
- Improve shade for spectator seating
- Use this park as a portal to other parks, recreation, and leisure amenities throughout the City

PROGRAMS HELD AT THIS PARK

- Big League Baseball World Series
- Easley Soccer Club events
- Easley Adult Baseball League
- Excell Story Power Level Team Practice
- Various other sports team practices, games, and tournaments

J.B. “RED” OWENS RECREATION FACILITY’S LARRY D. BAGWELL GYMNASIUM INVENTORY

PARK ASSET / AMENITY	PRESENCE OR QUANTITY	CONDITION <i>N=Needs improvement; S= Satisfactory; C=Commendable</i>	NOTES
PARKING	Yes	S	Paved and delineated
PEDESTRIAN ACCESS TO THE PARK	Yes	S	Sidewalk from parking to gym and playground
BICYCLE ACCESS TO THE PARK/PARKING	No		No bike parking
PARK ID SIGNAGE	Yes	S	
INTERNAL SIGNAGE (WAYFINDING AND INTERPRETATION)	Yes	S	
SUN/SHADE	Yes	N	Use
RESTROOMS/CHANGING ROOMS (STALLS)	Yes	C	
MULTI-USE COURTS (SPECIFY INDOOR/OUTDOOR)	3 Indoor	C	Versatile courts (volleyball, fitness, and basketball)
SWING SET	n/a		
BENCHES/PICNIC TABLES	Yes	C	Benches at pick up area, indoor dining and concessions at entry; outdoor courtyard
WALKING TRACK	Yes	C	Indoor elevated walking track; 1/10 mile; opportunity to decorate wall
MEETING ROOMS	2	C	Versatile spaces, kitchenette in one, Presentation hookup
LOCKER ROOMS	Yes	C	Lower Level
UNIQUE FEATURE: CAFE	Yes	C	

JB OWENS RECREATIONAL FACILITY

Park Maps

PARKS + RECREATION MASTER PLAN



BIKE / PED FACILITIES

- EXISTING GREENWAY
- - - PROPOSED GREENWAY
- EXISTING BIKE LANE

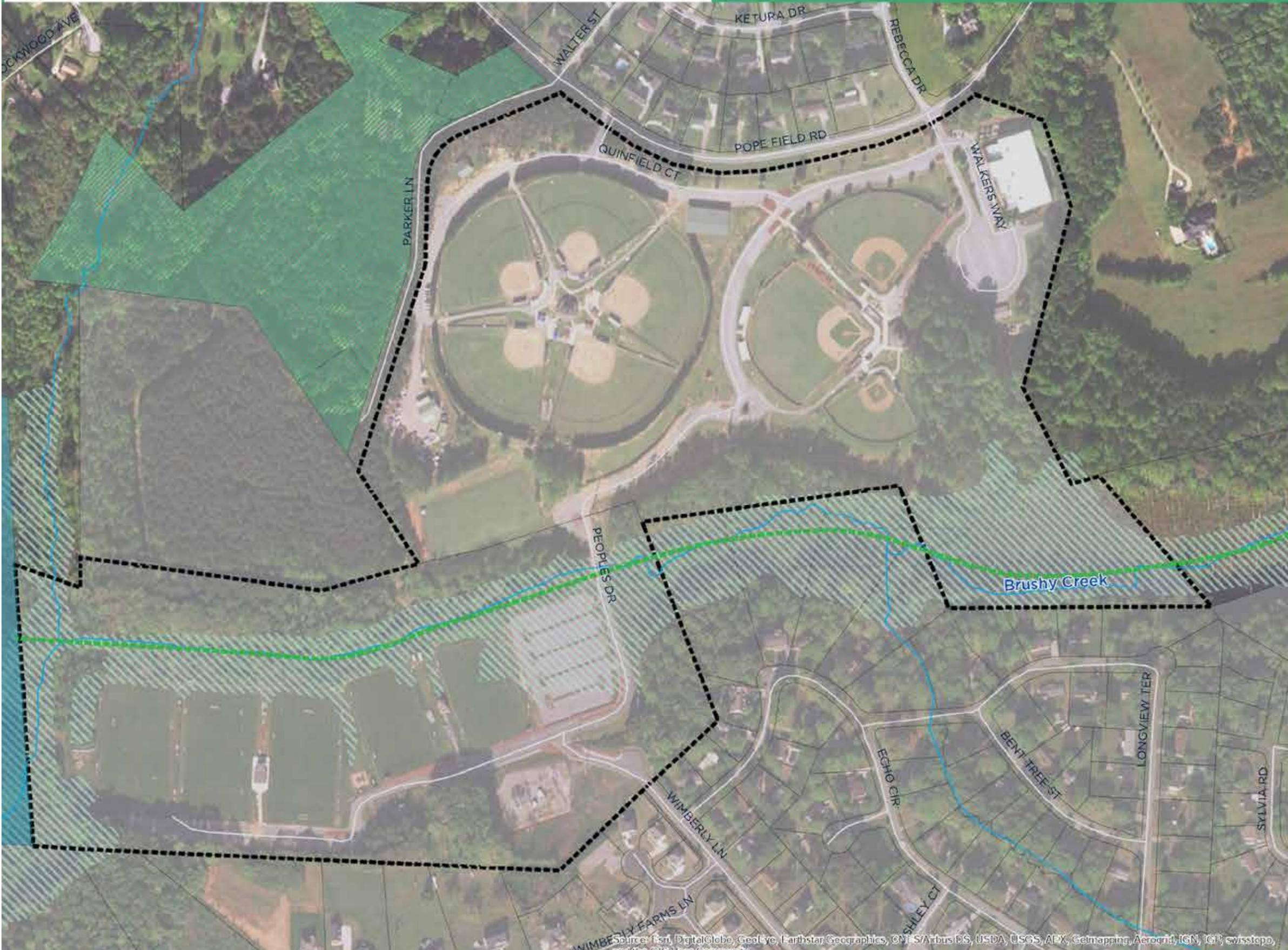
OVERLAYS

- WATER
- PARKS
- SCHOOLS
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- FLOODPLAINS
- EASLEY PROPERTY
- +— RAILROAD
- STREAMS
- STREETS
- SC HIGHWAYS
- US HIGHWAYS
- UTILITY EASEMENTS

POINTS OF INTEREST

- M CULTURAL SITES
- X GOLF COURSES
- H HOSPITALS
- ★ HISTORIC SITES
- B LIBRARIES
- ★ GOVERNMENT
- + PUBLIC SAFETY
- X OLD MILLS

0 100 FEET



Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNR/SATBUS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, IGI, swisstopo, and the GIS User Community



Fields in excellent condition



Ample parking



Larry D. Bagwell Gymnasium Interior



Larry D. Bagwell Gymnasium Conference rooms



Larry D. Bagwell Gymnasium



Large group shelters



Wayfinding signage exists for vehicles only



Playground adjacent to field should be ADA accessible



Additional play facilities



Batting cages are in excellent condition

KINGS PARK

NEIGHBORHOOD PARK

LOCATION	Oak Circle	OWNERSHIP  PUBLIC	HOURS DAWN -UNTIL- DUSK
SIZE (ACREAGE)	14 Acres		
PREDOMINANT USE	Shelters, Playground		
PARCEL NUMBER			
HAS THIS PARK EVER RECEIVED GRANT FUNDING?			
GRANT SOURCE	No Information Available		
GRANT AMOUNT		GRANT DATE	

PREVIOUS RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDED RENOVATIONS

- Enhance entrance sign, add landscaping and install perimeter fence
- Replace surfaces under play equipment with an ASTM International approved surface
- Repair and clean up picnic shelters
- Define or replace parking area
- 10-car gravel lot
- 10-car asphalt lot
- Replace play equipment

- Demolish concrete pad and remove metal pole
- Spot grade and stabilize eroded areas
- Provide site furniture of a consistent scale and character

RECOMMENDED UPGRADES

- Overhead site lighting
- Nature trail
- Outdoor art

INVENTORY AND EVALUATION

In notes: Place an "L" if facility has lights; List if Feature is Existing or Future and "A" if the facility is Accessible.

PARK ASSET / AMENITY	PRESENCE OR QUANTITY	CONDITION <i>N=Needs improvement; S= Satisfactory; C=Commendable</i>	NOTES
PARKING	Unknown	N	No formal parking areas partially paved
PEDESTRIAN ACCESS TO THE PARK	no	N	No sidewalk connectivity
BICYCLE ACCESS TO THE PARK/PARKING	none	N	
PARK ID SIGNAGE	1	S	
INTERNAL SIGNAGE (WAYFINDING AND INTERPRETATION)	N		
SUN/SHADE	Yes		Good balance of sun and shade, but sun on playground (L) 2 area lights
RESTROOMS/CHANGING ROOMS (STALLS)	Yes	N	1 stall/room family restroom

PARK ASSET / AMENITY	PRESENCE OR QUANTITY	CONDITION <i>N=Needs improvement; S= Satisfactory; C=Commendable</i>	NOTES
BASKETBALL COURT (SPECIFY INDOOR/OUTDOOR)	No		
SWING SET	Yes	N	1 belt missing no accessible route to swing
BENCHES/PICNIC TABLES	6		6 picnic tables under shelter
PICNIC SHELTER	1	S	1 grill next to shelter
PLAYGROUND (SPECIFY AGE RANGE)	Yes	S- appears to be a 5-12	No informational/rules signage; poured in place surfacing ADA ramp
INTERNAL CIRCULATION	None	N	No walking trails or sidewalks
PARK USE SEPARATION	Yes		Bollards at road to park and parking lot to shelter
SITE LAYOUT AND LANDSCAPING	No	N	No landscape within park; good shade surrounding park; hillside stabilization
SITE SECURITY AND VANDALISM		N	Swing belt damaged; no graffiti
UNIQUE FEATURE			Steep topography
DRINKING FOUNTAIN	No		

USER ABILITY AND ACCESS

- Steep terrain around the park presents a challenge for the 65 plus demographic
- No pedestrian connection from neighborhoods or within park

STRENGTHS OF THE PARK

- Good location to serve the immediate neighborhood

CHALLENGES OF THE PARK

- Steep topography
- Park is unknown to the community
- Access from primary roadway is very steep
- Park signage is small
- Shelter is in need of repair
- No benches at the playground

OPPORTUNITIES

- Sidewalk or internal walking trail
- Add bike parking
- Acquire adjacent land to expand park area and improve access

PROGRAMS HELD AT THIS PARK

- None known



Terrain within the park is a challenge and causing erosion



Belt swings are in need of repair, playground would benefit from additional shade and benches

KINGS PARK

Park Maps

PARKS + RECREATION MASTER PLAN



BIKE / PED FACILITIES

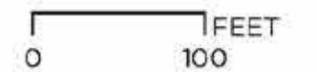
- EXISTING GREENWAY
- - - PROPOSED GREENWAY
- EXISTING BIKE LANE

OVERLAYS

- WATER
- PARKS
- SCHOOLS
- CITY LIMITS
- FLOODPLAINS
- EASLEY PROPERTY
- RAILROAD
- STREAMS
- STREETS
- SC HIGHWAYS
- US HIGHWAYS
- UTILITY EASEMENTS

POINTS OF INTEREST

- M CULTURAL SITES
- X GOLF COURSES
- H HOSPITALS
- ★ HISTORIC SITES
- B LIBRARIES
- ★ GOVERNMENT
- + PUBLIC SAFETY
- X OLD MILLS



Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroX, Swisstopo, and the GIS User Community



Shelter in need of repairs



Steep terrain for vehicular, pedestrian, and bicycle access



Restroom facilities



Signage placement and size is difficult to find for visitors unfamiliar with the park

POPE FIELD

COMMUNITY PARK

LOCATION	301 Pope Field Road		OWNERSHIP PUBLIC	HOURS DAWN -UNTIL- DUSK AND SPECIAL EVENTS/RENTAL
SIZE (ACREAGE)	9 Acres			
PREDOMINANT USE	Tennis, Football, Baseball			
PARCEL NUMBER				
HAS THIS PARK EVER RECEIVED GRANT FUNDING?				
GRANT SOURCE	Baseball Tomorrow Fund			
GRANT AMOUNT	\$65,000	GRANT DATE	2016	

PREVIOUS RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDED RENOVATIONS

- Replace bleachers
- Replace metal play equipment
- Replace surface under play equipment with an ASTM F1292 approved material
- Bring grade even with concrete pad for safety and accessibility
- Refurbish wood posts and beams
- Sprinkler system (Fields 1 and 2)
- Create a “gateway” using entrance monumentation and plant material
- All salvage on fencing needs to be knuckled on both ends, see figure below

- Sidewalks
- Scoreboards (Fields 1 and 2)
- Information boards (Shelter 1 and 2)

RECOMMENDED UPGRADES

- New dugouts (Field 2)
- Pressbox/Score tower (fields 1 & 2)
- Landscaping
- New lights at baseball fields
- Paved parking lot
- Outdoor basketball court
- Outdoor hockey court
- Outdoor handicap paved baseball field

INVENTORY AND EVALUATION

In Notes: Place an “L” if facility has lights; List if Feature is Existing or Future and “A” if the facility is Accessible.

PARK ASSET / AMENITY	PRESENCE OR QUANTITY	CONDITION <i>N=Needs improvement; S= Satisfactory; C=Commendable</i>	NOTES
PARKING	Yes	S	Paved, delineated, curbed, ADA parking but no circulation route from parking to park feature
PEDESTRIAN ACCESS TO THE PARK			Near to school
BICYCLE ACCESS TO THE PARK/PARKING			
PARK ID SIGNAGE	Yes		Signage orientation
INTERNAL SIGNAGE (WAYFINDING AND INTERPRETATION)	No	N	No shelters #’d, Pope Field has ID signage
SUN/SHADE	Yes		

PARK ASSET / AMENITY	PRESENCE OR QUANTITY	CONDITION <i>N=Needs improvement; S= Satisfactory; C=Commendable</i>	NOTES
RESTROOMS/CHANGING ROOMS (STALLS)	1		
SWING SET	Yes	S	1 ADA, 2 toddler, 3 belts
BENCHES/PICNIC TABLES	13	S	6 at each shelter; 1 near tennis
PICNIC SHELTER	2		2 grills; spigot; shelter repairs may be needed
PLAYGROUND (SPECIFY AGE RANGE)	1	S	Ages 5-12, mulch surface, plastic border with ramp, no access route from parking or shelter to playground
BASEBALL	2	S	Lighted, scoreboards
MULTIUSE FIELD	1	S	1 full size multi-use field (L), three smaller fields inset; scoreboard
INTERNAL CIRCULATION	N/a	N	Path from parking between baseball field and multiuse field
PARK USE SEPARATION	Yes	S	Fence between fields
SITE LAYOUT AND LANDSCAPING	No	N	No perimeter landscape
SITE SECURITY AND VANDALISM	No		No evidence of vandalism
TENNIS/PICKLEBALL	6 courts	S (L)	Bleachers at end,

USER ABILITY AND ACCESS

- Easy access via car
- Improvements could be made to adjacent sidewalk system to create clear connections
- Improvements to internal circulation would promote use of shelters and playground

STRENGTHS OF THE PARK

- Well organized paved parking lot
- Fields are in good condition and lighted at night
- Shelter and playground in good proximity to other park use areas

CHALLENGES OF THE PARK

- Creating shade for spectators
- Parking lot perimeter landscape consists of old Bradford Pears, consider phased replacement plan and adding shade trees between fence and tennis court
- No shade in parking lot
- Adjacent to a senior housing area with little to no recreation for seniors

OPPORTUNITIES

- Opportunity for park loop/trail/internal park greenway

PROGRAMS HELD AT THIS PARK

- Easley Little League



Internal sidewalks and trails could improve daily use and serve the adjacent over 65 population



The playground and shelter complement sports fields and provide the potential for daily use

POPE FIELD

Park Maps

PARKS + RECREATION MASTER PLAN



BIKE / PED FACILITIES

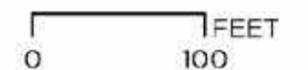
- EXISTING GREENWAY
- - - PROPOSED GREENWAY
- EXISTING BIKE LANE

OVERLAYS

- WATER
- PARKS
- SCHOOLS
- CITY LIMITS
- ▨ FLOODPLAINS
- ▨ EASLEY PROPERTY
- RAILROAD
- STREAMS
- STREETS
- SC HIGHWAYS
- US HIGHWAYS
- UTILITY EASEMENTS

POINTS OF INTEREST

- Ⓜ CULTURAL SITES
- X GOLF COURSES
- H HOSPITALS
- ★ HISTORIC SITES
- 📖 LIBRARIES
- ★ GOVERNMENT
- + PUBLIC SAFETY
- X OLD MILLS



Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, IGP, swisstopo, and the GIS User Community



Tennis courts are in good condition and dual striped for tennis and pickleball



Fire department administrative office space on park grounds



Limited seating



Shelter should have ADA accessible path



Field and parking lot are in good condition, but have no shade

WOODSIDE PARK

NEIGHBORHOOD PARK

LOCATION	200 South 8th Street	OWNERSHIP PUBLIC	HOURS DAWN -UNTIL- DUSK
SIZE (ACREAGE)	12 Acres		
PREDOMINANT USE	Baseball / Softball		
PARCEL NUMBER			
HAS THIS PARK EVER RECEIVED GRANT FUNDING?			
GRANT SOURCE	No Information Available		
GRANT AMOUNT		GRANT DATE	

PREVIOUS RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDED RENOVATIONS

- Build retaining wall adjacent to dugout and re-grade as necessary to ensure proper drainage
- Define parking lot boundaries and stripe spaces, repair asphalt
- Ensure all paths are ADA accessible and level or provide accessible height transitions
- Demolish or conceal exposed concrete
- General park clean-up, beautification and landscaping
- Aerate and over-seed areas where field is bare

- Replace surface under play equipment with a ASTM F1292 approved material
- Remove barbed wire fence and replace with 6' chain link fence
- Add entrance signage and landscaping
- Knuckle all selvaged fencing
- Replace overhang awning

RECOMMENDED UPGRADES

- New picnic shelter
- Nature trail or fitness trail with stations
- New parking lot
- Playground equipment
- Sprinkler system

INVENTORY AND EVALUATION

In Notes: Place an "L" if facility has lights; List if Feature is Existing or Future and "A" if the facility is Accessible.

PARK ASSET / AMENITY	PRESENCE OR QUANTITY	CONDITION <i>N=Needs improvement; S=Satisfactory; C=Commendable</i>	NOTES
PARKING	Yes	N	Upper lot, paved un-striped; lower lot gravel (access locked)
PEDESTRIAN ACCESS TO THE PARK	No	N	No sidewalks surrounding park or within park
BICYCLE ACCESS TO THE PARK/PARKING	Yes	N	Bike access via local streets
PARK ID SIGNAGE	Y	S	1 sign (it is hidden behind trees)

PARK ASSET / AMENITY	PRESENCE OR QUANTITY	CONDITION <i>N=Needs improvement; S= Satisfactory; C=Commendable</i>	NOTES
INTERNAL SIGNAGE (WAYFINDING AND INTERPRETATION)	None	N	Needs route signage to shelter and playground
SUN/SHADE	No	N	None in use areas
RESTROOMS/CHANGING ROOMS (STALLS)	N	N	None, facilities locked
BENCHES/PICNIC TABLES	2	S	Located under shelter
PICNIC SHELTER	1	S	Shelter in fair condition; no access route to it from with lot; grill
PLAYGROUND (SPECIFY AGE RANGE)	1	N	Ages 5-12, users do not know it exists, need accessible route, signage and seating
BASEBALL	1	S	No shade over seating; field lighted in good condition
INTERNAL CIRCULATION	No	N	Need internal circulation and ID
SITE LAYOUT AND LANDSCAPING		N	Needs shade; vegetation near playground should have understory/ scrub shrub cleared for perception of safety
SITE SECURITY AND VANDALISM		N	Lots of litter, evidence of vandalism
OTHER: STRUCTURES	2	N	Score booth and storage structure should be repaired or removed; current condition blocks view of park and utilizes space for future park features

USER ABILITY AND ACCESS

- Not accessible to the public - gates are locked but are easily bypassed
- No sidewalk connections to park
- Internal sidewalks are not present or incomplete

STRENGTHS OF THE PARK

- Ballfield in good condition and lighted (but spectator seating is uncomfortable and in need of repair)
- Unprogrammed open space is ample (but not perceivably safe)

CHALLENGES OF THE PARK

- Perceptions of safety
- The field is in good conditions but the park overall is in need of repair
- Access to and knowledge of playground and shelter
- CPTED of open space at back of park near playground

OPPORTUNITIES

- Open visual access through removal of buildings
- Improve the site to suit the surrounding community



Gates surround the park, but were not closed and locked



Fields in good condition

WOODSIDE PARK

Park Maps

PARKS + RECREATION MASTER PLAN



BIKE / PED FACILITIES

- EXISTING GREENWAY
- - - PROPOSED GREENWAY
- EXISTING BIKE LANE

OVERLAYS

- WATER
- PARKS
- SCHOOLS
- CITY LIMITS
- FLOODPLAINS
- ▨ EASLEY PROPERTY
- RAILROAD
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POINTS OF INTEREST

- Ⓜ CULTURAL SITES
- Ⓝ GOLF COURSES
- Ⓜ HOSPITALS
- ★ HISTORIC SITES
- 📖 LIBRARIES
- ★ GOVERNMENT
- + PUBLIC SAFETY
- ✕ OLD MILLS



Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AFX, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP, swisstopo, and the GIS User Community



Good availability of unprogrammed space



Poor perception of safety and incomplete sidewalks



Playground is removed with no trails leading to it



Spectator seating should be improved



Field dugouts are outdated



Facilities need to be renovated



Not easily accessible to the public

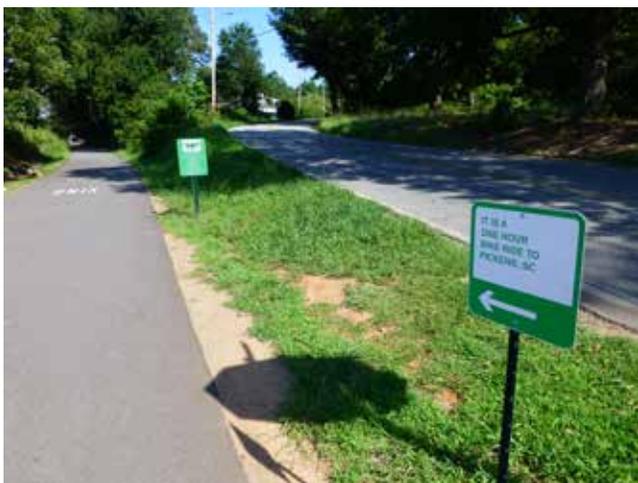
GREENWAYS AND TRAILS

OVERVIEW

One named greenway with a trailhead, has been constructed at the time of this study with the help of a ARC Grant and opened to the public April 1, 2017. Existing and planned greenways are illustrated on the map found on page 2-11.



Trailhead under construction at the time of this report



Signage at trailhead of Doodle Trail



No paved connection from parking lot to trail

OTHER PARK AND RECREATION FACILITIES

FUTURE PARK: NALLEY BROWN NATURE PARK

A master plan has been completed for Nalley Brown but there are currently no plans to initiate construction.



YMCA

The YMCA is located in an underserved area by the parks and recreation Department filling gaps in facilities and programs.

BRICE FIELD

Brice Field is an available facility to the Department for practice, local games, and regional tournament play.



EXISTING PROGRAMING

Below is a matrix of existing programs in Easley. The majority of programs are youth active recreation focused.

	JULY	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.	JAN.	FEB.	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE
YOUTH PROGRAMS												
FOOTBALL	X	X	X	X	X	X						
CHEERLEADING	X	X	X	X	X	X						
FALL BASEBALL		X	X	X								
FALL VOLLEYBALL		X	X	X	X							
FALL SOFTBALL		X	X	X								
FALL SOCCER		X	X	X	X							
BASKETBALL					X	X	X	X				
FLAG FOOTBALL								X	X	X	X	
LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL	X							X	X	X	X	X
DIXIE SOFTBALL								X	X	X	X	X
SPRING VOLLEYBALL								X	X	X	X	
SPRING SOCCER								X	X	X	X	
TENNIS	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X
ADULT PROGRAMS												
FALL SOFTBALL		X	X	X	X							
SPRING SOFTBALL								X	X	X	X	
*CO-ED VOLLEYBALL		X	X	X								
SENIOR PROGRAMS												
LOW IMPACT FITNESS CLASS	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
WALKING CLUB	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

YOUTH PROGRAM ENROLLMENT - AGE			
AGE	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
3 TO 4	77	55	132
5 TO 7	192	126	318
8 TO 10	269	85	359
11 TO 13	193	85	283
14 TO 16	39	10	39
17 TO 18	0	0	0
TOTAL	770	361	1131

YOUTH PROGRAM ENROLLMENT- POPULATION			
POPULATIONS	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
ASIAN	32	14	46
AFRICAN AMERICAN	264	91	355
LATINO	41	12	53
WHITE/CAUCASIAN	413	238	651
NATIVE AMERICAN	16	4	20
OTHER POPULATION	3	2	5
TOTAL	770	361	1131

REVIEW OF RELEVANT PLANS

2014 SOUTH CAROLINA STATE COMPREHENSIVE OUTDOOR RECREATION PLAN (SCORP)

The South Carolina SCORP is created to become a blueprint for local municipalities providing a statewide vision and goals to encourage collaborations for the growth of park and recreation facilities and programs. Within the SCORP, The South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) reported that South Carolina has the 14th worst overweight and obesity rates in the nation, with over 60 percent of the state being overweight or obese. When narrowing the scope to county level, Pickens County's population is 57.4 percent overweight or obese. This is alarming and dangerous for the state's long-term health. If these trends continue, it will increase health care costs for individuals and communities. Other trends within the state are an increase in metropolitan areas, with the population expected to grow by 11.14 percent between 2010 and 2020, with the majority over the age of 40, based on the current population of the state. Also, the SCORP identified that 60 percent of polled survey participants visited a state park six or more time in the past five years, implying that repeat visits happen infrequently. It is no surprise, with over 50 percent of the state recorded as overweight, that the first goal of the SCORP is health focused, with action items centered around programs, new facilities, and encourage outdoor recreation.

GOALS AND ACTION ITEMS

1. Promote Healthy lifestyles and communities
 - b. Work with the SC Medical Association's Task Force on Childhood Obesity to advance healthy lifestyles and encourage use of state and local outdoor recreation sites for exercise.
 - c. Encourage collaboration with local health providers and hospitals to create programs and activities in parks and outdoor recreation areas promoting healthy lifestyles and exercise.
 - d. Establish, provide, or improve outdoor recreation facilities to enable greater accessibility by multiple age groups and persons with disabilities.
 - e. Encourage the development of outdoor recreation facilities near where people work and live and explore ways to connect existing facilities for pedestrians and bicyclists.
 - f. Create, improve, and expand a statewide network of trails for a variety of users and experiences.
2. Stewardship of Resources
 - a. Continue to collaborate with other State agencies, and public and private partners to protect and conserve South Carolina's natural, cultural and recreational resources.

- b. Target the special defining resources of the State to protect for public recreation, including the Blue Ridge Escarpment and the State’s many waterways.
 - c. Make the major rehabilitation of existing parks and recreational facilities an additional priority for funding through SCPRT’s grant programs.
 - d. Recognize how the changing demographics of the State are affecting recreational preferences and repurpose existing facilities to enhance their use by new groups.
 - e. Collaborate with the appropriate State and Federal agencies to improve access to and utilization of existing public lands for outdoor recreation.
3. Sustained Economic Benefits
- a. Promote the State Park System to enhance the benefits of tourism and serve as a catalyst for other economic opportunities, especially in the rural areas of the State.
 - b. Market the State’s natural, cultural and recreational resources as an economic driver.
 - c. Encourage small business and eco-tourism opportunities to enhance local economic development, and to fulfill unmet outdoor recreational needs.
 - d. Coordinate major outdoor recreation initiatives to foster collaboration and cooperation among communities and reduce the duplication of activities and services.
 - e. Give priority to projects that enhance

PICKENS COUNTY SOUTH CAROLINA COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

The plan states as part of its vision for the future: “Protection of the mountains and lakes, including parks, to enhance family recreation, and tourism.” This statement and idea is supported through the elements included within the plan and identifies compatible development of parks and recreation facilities within the goals and objectives. One goal supports the growth of communities while maintaining the lifestyle of the county with expanded recreation opportunities. Objectives within the plan include creating programs for all ages, especially the juvenile and senior communities, through art, culture, and educational programs. This is support by policy recommendations to “Provide incentives for the creation of public parks and green spaces.”

CITY OF EASLEY PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN

The most recent City of Easley Parks and Recreation Master Plan provided a review of six parks in Easley, with recommendations, which are listed in this plan inventory.

Key discoveries and recommendations from the past plan include:

- The city seems to have sufficient baseball/softball facilities compared to the national average, yet is below in other active program facilities.
- The passive program facilities compared to the national average is drastically low, and in need of more than nine miles of trails.
- Easley park system is mainly neighborhood parks, yet the community is low in all classification of parks, especially mini-parks, with a deficiency of 12 acres.

The vision and goals seem to support these findings as well, and included recommendation for the successes of new programs and facilities:

- To provide residents and visitors with a variety of active and passive recreational opportunities and programs congruent with national, state, and local trends in demographics, environment, economics, social relations, and recreation.
- To provide all segments of the population; individuals of all mental and physical abilities, ethnic backgrounds, and economic statuses; recreational experiences to improve their quality of life.
- To encourage cooperation and consensus between city officials, residents, private property owners, volunteers and resource managers.
- To be sensitive to the location and type of development for recreational facilities in order to sustain local economic, social, and natural resources.
- To beautify and improve visual appeal of the parks to reflect community identity and civic pride.
- To offer “close-to-home” recreational opportunities to encourage a pedestrian friendly, parks and recreation network, and to reduce the need for motorized transportation.
- To improve the “way-finding” systems at park and recreation facilities to help park visitors understand park boundaries, attractions, and navigate their way through the park.

ESTABLISHING BASE DATA

The above research, inventory, and plan review established a baseline for park condition, existing programs, and past recommendations. The following needs assessment expands upon the needs determined through a public input process that led to recommendations detailed in Chapter 4.

Needs Assessment



OVERVIEW

Public involvement is imperative in parks and recreation planning. In addition to analyzing demographics and comparing trends, there is no better gauge for identifying need than asking users their desires, opinions, and ideas. For this plan, public input was gathered through the steering committee, public events, and online and hard-copy surveys distributed to a diverse sampling of residents and visitors. Each community touch point connects to the mission and vision of the department and the three pillars of NRPA, to develop recommendations that will carry Easley into the future of livability for residents and fulfilling tourism experiences.



The farmers market provided an invaluable opportunity to connect with residents who would not typically attend public meetings and were not already using parks and recreation facilities.

PUBLIC INPUT METHODS

STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING - KICK-OFF

The Steering Committee met on August 16, 2016 to initiate and kick-off the City of Easley's 2017 *Parks and Recreation Master Plan*. In the meeting, the Steering Committee expressed their goals and vision for the plan. Common themes were: expanding and educating residents and visitors about the recreation program and facilities, adding variety to the types of recreation offered, and gathering input from all demographics within Easley. Many committee members expressed the need for the plan to be clear and implementable. There was also consensus centered around maintaining and enhancing Easley's small town charm and quality of life.

FARMERS MARKET

Public input was gathered at the City of Easley Fall for the Arts Festival/Easley Farmers Market on October 1, 2016. An estimated 200 local residents provided input on potential park activities, greenway and trail routes, and specific recommendations for Kings Park, Woodside Park, and Hagood Park. Most participants expressed excitement for any park improvements, while revealing a consistent concern that the current parks do not serve all age groups. The community desires park improvements for teen and adult needs as well as those targeted to serve youth and senior populations. Participants also expressed interest in connecting the Doodle Trail to downtown, the high school, parks, and other proposed greenway routes such as the future Brushy Creek Greenway. Overall there was great interest in passive and nature-based facilities and programs including wildlife viewing, nature-based playgrounds, yoga, and public gardens. There was also a general interest in playground structures and demonstration and learning events.



Public information cards and flyers were distributed throughout the community to draw residents to the project booth at the Farmers Market.

COMMUNITY NEEDS SURVEY



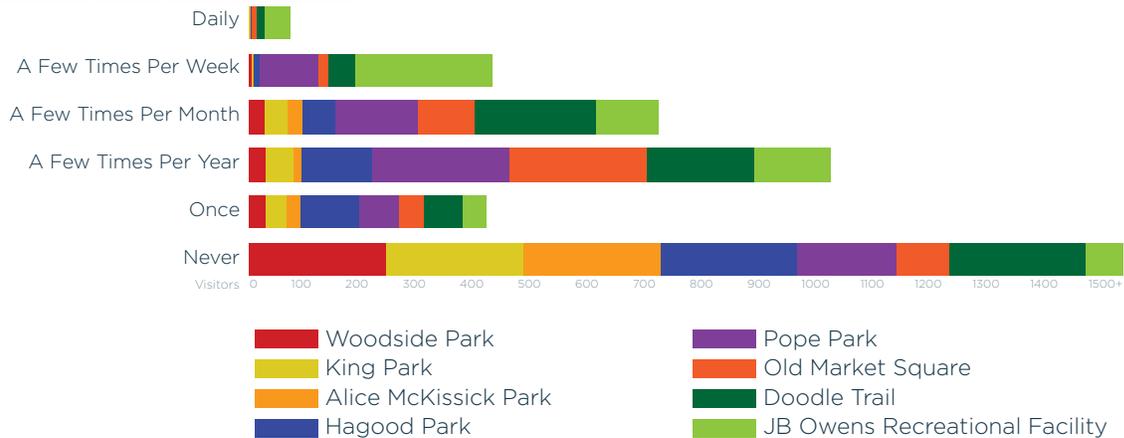
Participants responded to a series of questions and visual preferences surveys displayed on maps and boards. Overwhelming support emerged for balancing passive and active recreation and leisure opportunities. A desire for additional trails and greenways was also a popular topic.

As part of understanding resident and visitor needs, an online public input survey was created with staff using Google forms. The survey link was posted on the City of Easley website, Facebook page, and emailed to staff, steering committee, and community stakeholder groups. The survey was available for a period of ninety (90) days, remaining open from September 2, 2016 - December 6, 2016.

There were 364 survey responses with the majority of participants (75 percent) being Easley residents. Sixty percent of the participants were female with the majority between the ages of 35-44 (34.9 percent) and 45-54 (31 percent).

When participants were asked how frequently they visited a park, there were several facilities with little to no visitation: Alice McKissick (76.9 percent, Never), Woodside Park (72 percent, Never), King Park (65.1 percent, Never), and Hagood Park (44.2 percent, Never). JB Owens, Old Market Square, Pope Field, and the Doodle Trail all showed even distribution of use ranging from daily use to a few times per week, month, or year.

How frequently do you visit....

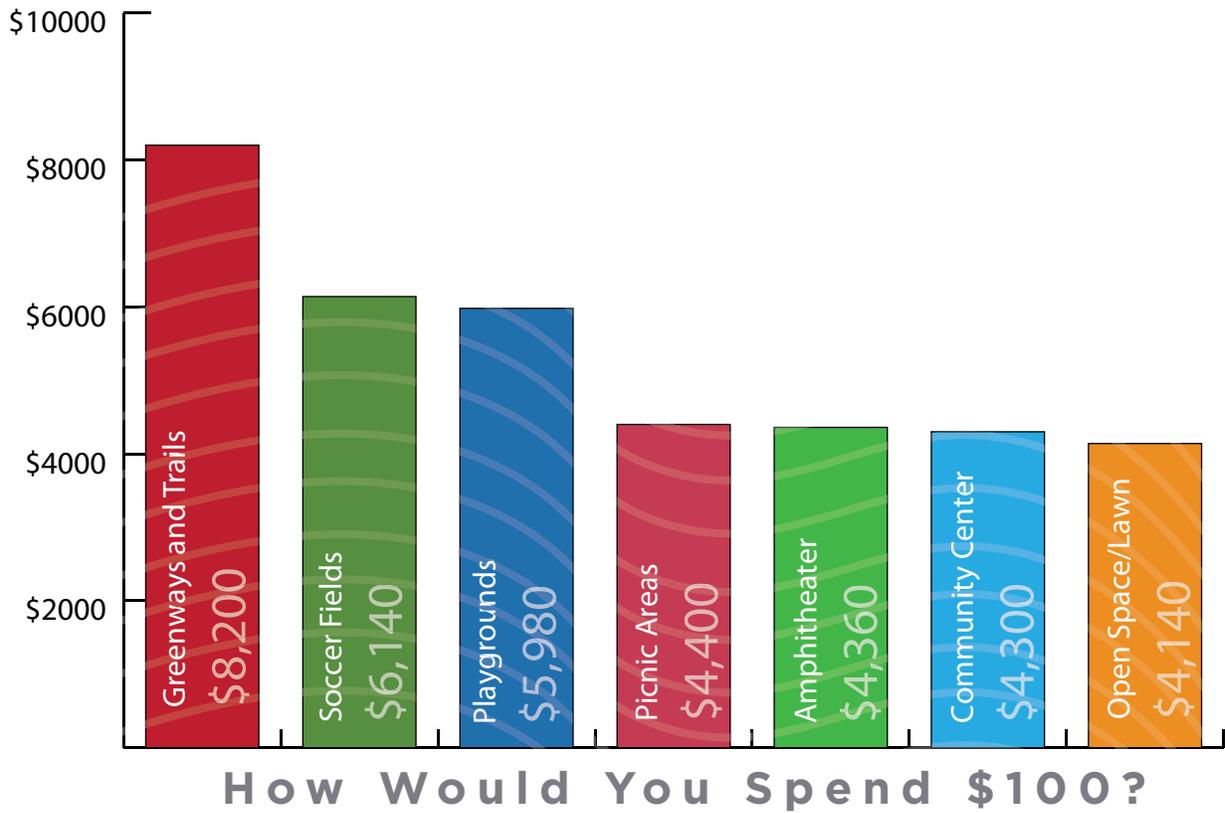


When asked about facilities used outside of Easley, Greenville facilities ranked the highest, with the Swamp Rabbit Trail specifically highlighted.

Participants ranked their **top 5 (five) activities** they or their family members enjoyed. The following activities were the highest ranked activities:



Participants were asked, **if they could spend \$100 on park features listed in the survey, how would they spend it.** The chart below illustrates the greatest desired investments:

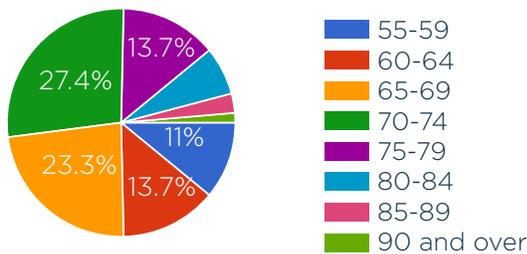


SENIOR SURVEY

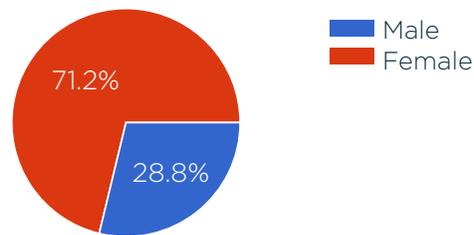
Easley residents over the age of 55 were underrepresented in the community survey resulting in the deployment of a supplemental survey to capture the needs of this growing population. The survey was available online and in hard copy with large type to provide increased legibility and comfort for participants.

There were 73 responses to the survey, with similar distribution of participants between the ages of 55-79. The majority were female (71 percent) and live in the 29642 zip code (41 percent) or 29640 zip code (42 percent).

What is your age?



What is your gender?



When asked how often they visited Larry D. Bagwell Gymnasium, most participant (60 percent) answered that they visit 3-4 days per week and almost all participants answered that they drive to get there (95 percent). Of the programs offered by Easley Parks and Recreation, the majority answered that they like to use the walking track. Low impact exercises (water aerobics, yoga, tai chi, Zumba, etc.) and senior activities (bingo, banking advice, dancing) were the most requested programs when asked about desired program offerings. When asked what types of senior focused facilities would they use if available, many seniors answered that they would like access to an indoor pool or pickleball at Larry D. Gymnasium and more walking trails and paths in any of the Easley parks. Many seniors responded that they participate in walking and pickleball programs hosted by the YMCA and the Pickens Senior Center.

While many of the responses were focused on fitness programs and facilities, when asked what other non-fitness programs would they participate in if available, many asked for social (day trips, art classes, book clubs, bingo/game night) and education programs (nutrition, technology, seminars, support for seniors, etc.). Many comments collected indicated that there is limited knowledge of the programs offered by the department. Senior participants shared that mailers and posters are the best means of communicating new and existing programs.

STAFF AND STAKEHOLDER INTERVIEWS

During the planning process, five key staff and stakeholders were interviewed to gauge need based on their intimate knowledge of facilities and programs. Participants' experience working in the City of Easley ranged from 1.5 to 30 years - bringing both a depth of experience and fresh perspective to the department and program offerings. Staff indicated they have worked in both North and South Carolina, providing a wealth of local South Carolina knowledge with the added benefit of understanding state goals for parks and recreation in a neighboring state.

Staff varied in their opinions of the most successful programs offered, but all felt the history of sports in Easley and the programs provided are a strength of the department. Basketball was noted as the fastest growing sport, followed by volleyball. It was noted that general fitness remains a weakness. Participants revealed that the department is currently experiencing a decline in participation for football and baseball.

When asked what programs they would recommend if funding were not an obstacle, staff and stakeholders shared several ideas including:

- Indoor multipurpose building of 100,000 sf or more that could serve basketball, volleyball, senior fitness, general fitness, events, etc.
- Indoor fitness space
- Storage for equipment
- Swim therapy
- Senior resource facilities
- Unprogrammed open space
- Non sports related facilities

As the “face of the department” citizens often share their thoughts and ideas with this staff and stakeholder group. The top requested facilities and programs were: fitness, work out facilities, water park/sprayground, senior fitness, additional parking, and amenities for spectators at sport fields.

The most underutilized parks noted by this group were Woodside and Hagood with participants sharing that programmed parks are often closed to the public creating a private-public park and therefore perpetuating a lack of public open space. Vandalism was also noted as a concern in Woodside and Hagood. Those interviewed stated a desire to have a heightened police presence in these two locations. This group identified the following key barriers to use of park facilities: perception of safety, outdated appearance, marketing, connectivity, and the desire to use a space that feels well maintained.

Just as the community survey revealed a desire for additional trail connections, this group agrees that connectivity to parks via greenways and the benefits of greenways as linear parks are key to the livability of Easley. Four top priorities listed for trail connections include:

- Pope to J.B. “Red” Owens
- Woodside to Hagood to Doodle Trail
- Doodle Trail to J.B. Red Owens
- Lower income neighborhoods to parks

In addition to a need to better connect the parks with greenways, trails, and sidewalks other access-based topics needing improvement were: playground equipment, wayfinding, recreational therapy for senior adults, park mapping, and coordination with Google to appropriately geolocate their parks with Google Maps and other popular navigation software.

When asked what makes Easley unique, the group was drawn immediately back to sports. However, while they realize Easley is geographically easily accessible and visitors are drawn to the city for events at J.B. “Red” Owens and the ESPN/World Series, the focus on sports can be a challenge because the city isn’t serving recreation and leisure needs for all people.

Each interview was closed by asking who they perceived to be key stakeholders or key groups who should be involved in this planning process. The soccer group was included in the interview process and was highlighted as a key group followed by seniors (resulting in the senior survey), the Dixie League, and the Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber’s involvement aligns with the emphasis from the state and the city to incorporate parks and recreation/leisure programs as an outbound tourism message.

PUBLIC INPUT SUMMARY

Serval themes revealed themselves in each step of the public input process. Committee members, residents, and visitors all express a desire to maintain the sense of place and charm that Easley has, while at the same time, continuing to grow and expand the opportunities in Easley, such as adding more variety of program and facilities types. Many groups requested more unprogrammed space for walking and general activities space. The limiting factor of current facilities use is education and condition. There is limited knowledge of park hours, where facilities are located, and which programs are offered. Throughout the input process the contrast between J.B. “Red” Owens and other facilities revealed a desire to repair or redesign many of the parks to improve the perception of safety and better serve the surrounding community.

NATIONAL BAROMETER: PARK METRICS

The prior City of Easley Parks and Recreation master planning effort offered guidance by recommending “ratios” for parks, facilities, and/or programs based on acres or facilities per thousand people. Ratios were adapted over the years using a variety of methods by a number of communities, however, this resulted in noticeable inconsistencies due to geographic distribution and condition of facilities not being identified, and demographics were not thoroughly addressed. As a result, the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) has worked to establish a process of understanding “supply and demand” for recreation services.

NRPA Park Metrics are the most comprehensive source of data standards and insights for park and recreation agencies. Launched in 2009 and previously known as PRORAGIS, these agency’s performance resources assist municipalities and park and recreation professionals in the effective management and planning of their operating resources and capital facilities. This suite of tools provides park and recreation agencies the ability to build customized reports for comparison with peer agencies. Park Metrics is just one of the tools used in the planning process.

The following information is a summary of how the Easley Parks and Recreation Department compares to other nearby agencies with similar population, state offerings, and national summaries. In order to obtain complete comparative data the City of Easley Parks and Recreation Department should enter all recreation data available for facilities, programs, and departmental operations into the NRPA database. These steps will allow Easley to refine data queries and obtain a higher level of analysis. The basic database features can be used without data entry and was implemented in this planning effort: <http://www.nrpa.org/metrics/>

When a basic query was conducted for comparison of Easley facilities, the following filters were applied: Agencies within North Carolina and South Carolina and a population no greater than 25,000. This input provided the following results: Cornelius, NC Parks, Arts, Recreation & Culture (PARC) Department; Monroe, NC Parks and Recreation Department; and, the Town of Fuquay-Varina Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Resources Department. It should be noted that no data of similar demographics or population size in South Carolina was available in a 2014 or 2015 query. A 2014 and 2015 query was also conducted for the following communities: Greenville, SC; City of Charleston, SC; Apex, NC; Spartanburg, SC; Burlington, NC; Statesville, NC; Morganton, NC; Charlotte-Mecklenberg, NC; Rock Hill, SC; which resulted in limited and/or Insufficient data (ISD) for direct comparison. 2015 national data comparison information was obtained by not applying filters to the database resulting in a complete national report. (See table on page 3-11).

CATEGORY	EASLEY QUANTITY	NATIONAL MEDIAN PER POPULATION PER FACILITY*	SC COMPARISON	EASLEY PER POPULATION BREAKDOWN	ABOVE OR BELOW SC	COMMENTS
PARK ACREAGE PER 1000 RESIDENTS	9.8	7.9	4.6		+	While Easley appears to have total acreage above the national and state comparisons, it should be noted that a large percentage of Easley facilities are locked and inaccessible to the public for daily use.
RECREATION CENTER	1	26000	13624	20765	-	
AMPHITHEATER	1	IDS	61397	20765	+	
GYMNASIUM	1	27596	23857	20765	+	
BASKETBALL	2	7102	3250	10383	-	Easley is below average in comparison with both national and state trends.
BASEBALL	12	5319	5613	1730	+	
SOCCER	6	5000	6500	3461	+	
MULTI-USE FIELDS	1	8187	3250	20765	-	Easley is below average in comparison with both national and state trends.
PLAYGROUNDS	9	3614	6351	2307	+	
TENNIS	8	5000	3926	2596	+	
INDOOR TRACK	1	ISD	ISD	20765		
DOG PARK	1	ISD	33948	20765	+	
VOLLEYBALL (SAND)	1	19,858	ISD	20765	-	
TRAILS:						
GREENWAY (MULTI-USE)	5	1217	ISD	4153	-	National Demand and Public Input indicate a desire for more trails
INTERNAL PARK TRAILS (WALKING/ HIKING)	ISD	ISD	ISD			National Demand and Public Input indicate a desire for more trails
MOUNTAIN BIKING, TRAIL RUNNING	ISD	ISD	ISD			National Demand and Public Input indicate a desire for more trails

ISD = Insufficient Data

Clear Need For The Future Indicated In Bold

* National Park database includes communities with much higher populations therefore some of the median data skews the comparisons to Easley facility comparisons

** This query resulted in the following 2015 data agency comparisons: Cornelius, NC Parks, Arts, Recreation & Culture (PARC) Department; Monroe, NC Parks and Recreation Department; the Town of Fuquay-Varina Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Resources Department; Greenville, SC; City of Charleston, SC; Apex, NC, Spartanburg, SC; Burlington, NC, Statesville, NC; Morganton, NC, Charlotte-Mecklenberg, NC; and Rock Hill, SC.

Note: The typical park and recreation agency offers one park for every 2,277 residents served, with 9.5 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents.

To distill the massive charts of data from operations to facilities and program offerings, key comparisons related to the needs of Easley citizens and visitors include:

PARK FEATURES

On a national and state level the following park features are available to communities similar to Easley:

- | | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Senior Center | Community Gardens | Public Art |
| Greenways in Parks | Historic Sites | Fitness Equipment |

RECREATION AND LEISURE PROGRAMS

Program data was limited at both the state and national level, however, the following program categories should be considered by Easley:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| Adventure Programs | Individual Sports |
| Fitness Enhancement Classes | Martial Arts |

SOCIAL EVENTS

Nationally and statewide, the following events are typical of communities similar to Easley:

- | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|
| Social Recreation | Performing Arts | Natural/Cultural History |
| Cultural Crafts | Visual Arts | Themed Events |



Born Learning Trail at J.B. “Red” Owens.

SERVICE AREA ANALYSIS

The supply area model consists of an analysis of area surrounding a park that is likely to draw visitors. Small mini parks typically serve homes immediately adjacent to the site or within the local neighborhood. As park size and programming audiences increase, so too do the service areas. The purpose of conducting this analysis is to understand if the department is geographically connected with residents and visitors. The table below displays the type and service area for parks in Easley.

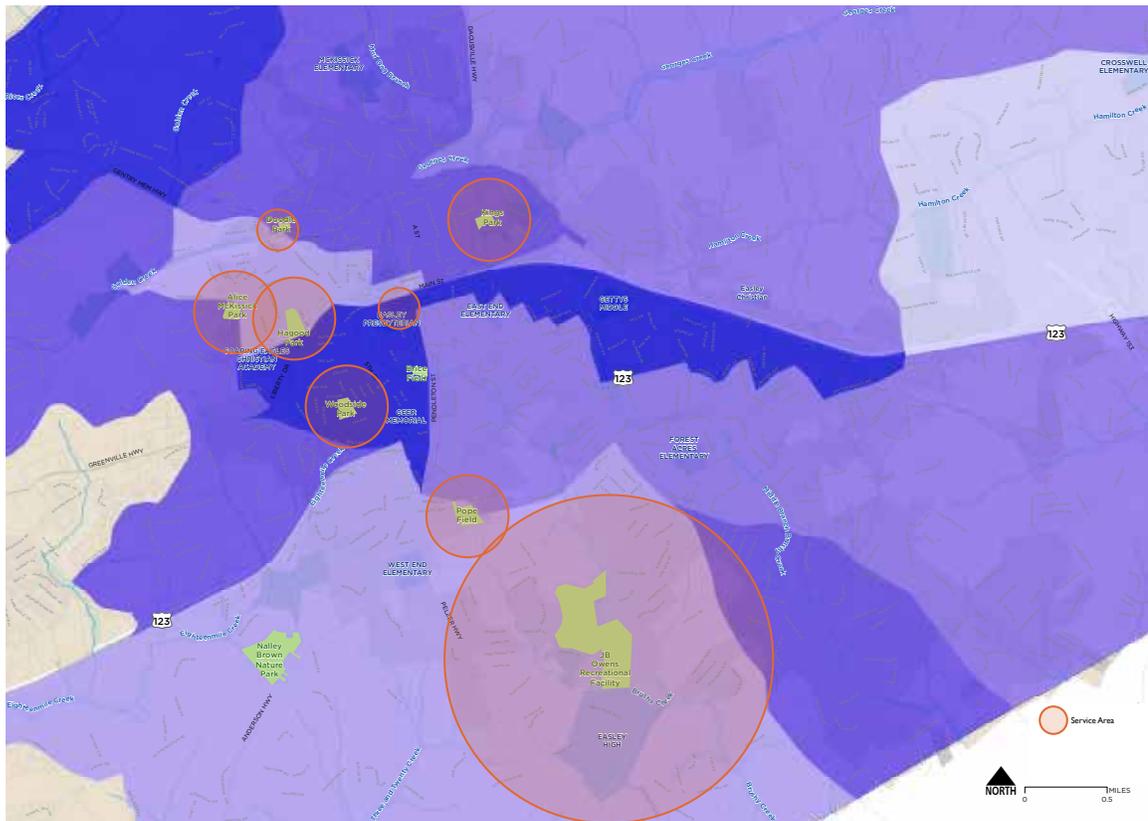
TYPE OF PARK	ACREAGE	SERVICE AREA RADIUS
MINI PARK/TOT LOT	0 -1 AC	1/4 mile
NEIGHBORHOOD PARK	5 - 10 AC	1/2 mile
COMMUNITY PARK	30 - 50 AC	2 mile
SPORT COMPLEX	40 - 80 AC	N/A
SPECIAL USE PARK	Varies	Varies
DISTRICT PARK	76 - 200 AC	5 mile
REGIONAL PARK	1000+ AC	50 miles
NATURAL RESOURCE AREA	Varies	Varies



The Larry D. Bagwell Gym acts as a “community center” with a large service area.

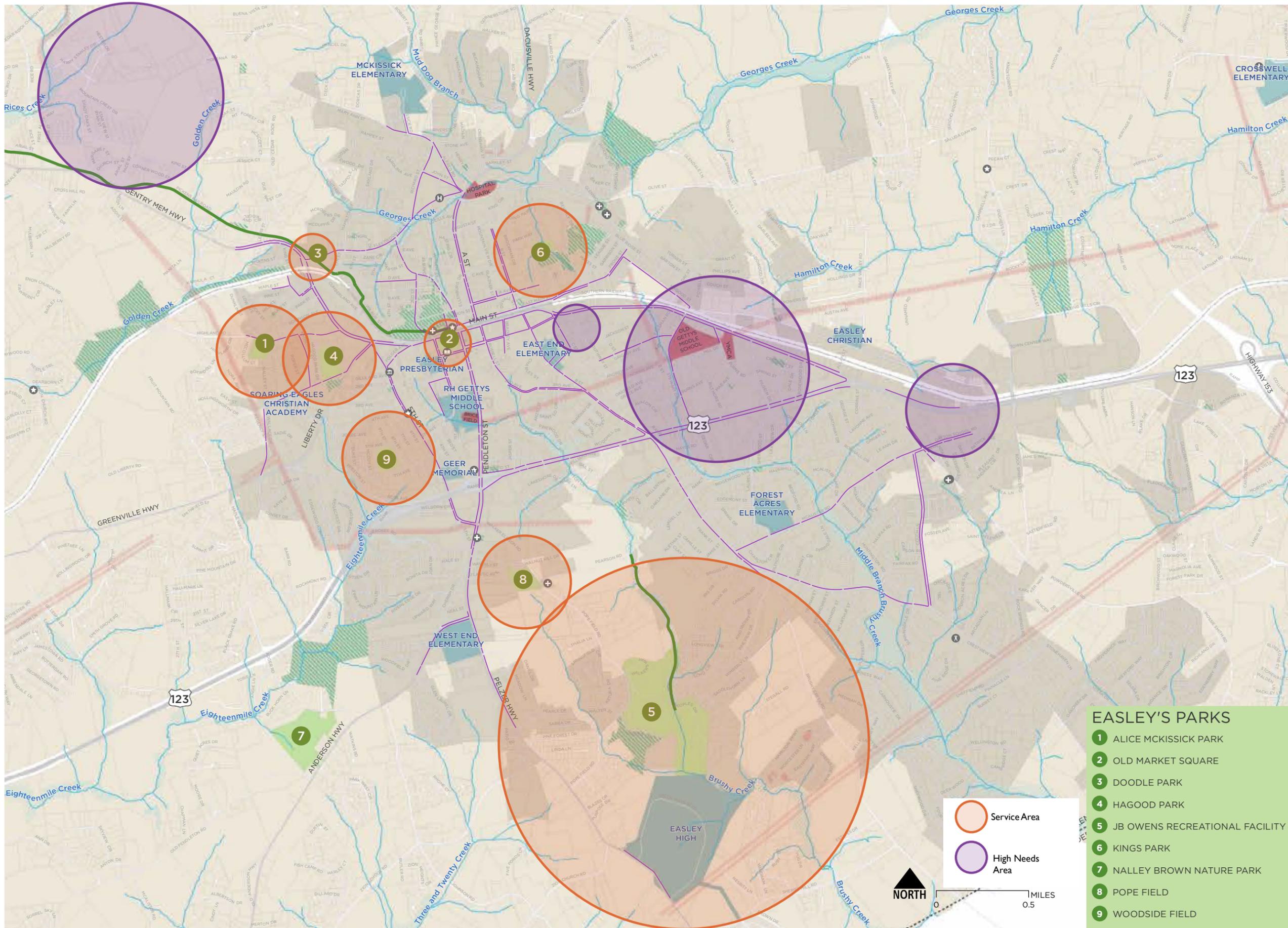
Each park in Easley was assigned an industry standard for park type. These park types related to the service areas as show in orange circles on the following maps. When overlaying a composite illustration of community equity (See Appendix A for equity analysis) with the service areas, the darkest blue “hot spots” should be covered in the Easley park service area. However, not all of the areas of high need for parks (dark blue areas) are currently being served by park facilities. This presents the following opportunities to add park facilities or services in the critical areas (depicted in purple circles in the lower map to the right):

- Partner with other entities, like the YMCA, to provide facilities and services to the community
- Communicate to the community that other facilities are options to serve current needs
- Explore the potential to use currently owned city property as park land
- Acquire land in these areas and initiate a master planning process for the property to discover how that property can meet the park, recreation, leisure, and tourism needs of Easley.



EXISTING SERVICE AREA AND EQUITY COMPOSITE OVERLAY

AREAS OF HIGHEST NEED AND EXISTING SERVICE AREA



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Recommendations



OVERVIEW

The City of Easley has a strong foundation in active recreation. This focus serves youth who are in team sports, but does not cater to youth who prefer non-team recreation sports or residents and visitors more interested in passive recreation experiences. This gap in service can be filled by reprogramming components of existing parks and redesigning parks that are currently underutilized. With the natural resources available to the community, creating more diverse offerings will be a matter of defining action steps and prioritizing a sequence of implementation items to serve a wider variety of ages, abilities, and interests.

Using the Plan's Mission and Vision coupled with NRPA's three pillars of Conservation, Health & Wellness, and Social Equity, the following recommendations fulfill the needs and desires of the existing and growing population. A systematic approach to discovery and analysis founded in research, site analysis, and public input resulted in specific site improvements and overall system-wide recommendations. The following pages illustrate (in table format and graphic) each recommendation. Cost estimates can be found in Appendix B with prioritized action items located in the Implementation Workbook.

SYSTEM-WIDE RECOMMENDATIONS

Throughout the planning process, several recommendations emerged that were administrative, applied to all park sites, were not site specific, or included ideas for programs to cater to broader audiences. Administrative items in the table below may require decisions at the City leadership level or be cooperative efforts with non-city entities. Recommendations that should be applied to all park sites appear in the facilities table below and should be applied strategically to the entire system.

ADMINISTRATIVE /MARKETING

RECOMMENDATION	IMPLEMENTATION STEPS
Consider modifying the department name to be more inclusive of all types of recreation. For example: Easley Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Resources.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop all inclusive department name. Rebrand with a new image that includes a logo and graphic identity package. • Update department website. • Update collateral and outreach materials.
Improve outreach and awareness of facilities and programs to expand community exposure to the services provided by the Department.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a new staff position of Public Information Officer or use other resources to improve the Department website, social media, and other marketing opportunities.
According to DHEC, South Carolina is the fourteenth worst state in the US for obesity and poor health; reports state that 60 percent of residents are overweight. Therefore the City should provide facilities and programs that encourage an active and healthy lifestyle.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create and promote health focus initiatives and events. Consider partnering with local hospitals and health care professionals.
Encourage visitors to “stay one more day” by providing centralized hotels or similar for recreational tourism and by advertising the cultural, natural, and other resources Easley has to offer in addition to the active recreation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initiate a market research study to evaluate sites and the potential for Easley to support lodging in a central location. • Use large sporting events as an opportunity to advertise other local recreation and cultural opportunities to visitors. • Diversity facility and program offerings that cater to families attending sports events and would encourage longer stays and fuel the local economy.
As the facilities change and programs are created, evaluate staffing needs to effectively manage, maintain, and facilitate park and program user experiences.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a staffing plan to determine if new programs be created and managed by current staff and if the existing maintenance staff has adequate capacity to care for existing and proposed facilities. • Identify gaps in services and prioritize new hires to serve the needs of the community.

FACILITIES

RECOMMENDATION	IMPLEMENTATION STEPS
Using the new department name and brand, update park identification signage and internal park wayfinding systems.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use the new brand and identity package to design creative concepts for a wayfinding and signage family. • Create an implementation plan to install new signs. Wayfinding throughout each park should consider visibility and circulation patterns of all user types including motorists, bicyclists, and pedestrians of all ages and abilities.
Ensure new features have an accessible route and, at a minimum, meet ADA requirements. It is recommended Easley use the principles of Universal Design rather than meeting ADA minimums where possible.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete a comprehensive ADA audit of parks that are not recommended for a new master plan. • Prioritize a list of ADA compliance projects. • Review each new master plan and design with inclusive, Universal Design guidelines.
Diversify recreation facility offerings to better balance passive and active features. (The greenway network, park concepts, and land acquisition areas provide guidance for implementing this recommendation).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review parks that have been identified for passive recreation activities and initiate the master planning and design processes. • Identify parcels available for purchase or land swap within the land acquisition areas illustrated on page 4-17 with passive recreation and conservation initiatives as a site program priority.
Provide bicycle and pedestrian access to each park.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Close gaps between the pedestrian and bicycle networks and park entrances. • Explore the addition of sidewalks (see sidewalk recommendations on page 4-15). • Add crosswalks connecting to park entrances and trail access points.
Add a Senior Center with fitness room and multipurpose rooms for senior focused programs that promote health and wellness.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Catering to seniors can be achieved in partnership with the YMCA in the short-term. • Identified a centralized location to add a senior center (possibly the old Gettys Middle site).

PROGRAMS

RECOMMENDATION	IMPLEMENTATION STEPS
<p>Incorporate programs that promote health and wellness and life skills, especially for seniors and users under the age of 18. For example: Yoga, Tai Chi, Zumba, Bingo, Banking Advice, Dancing/Social, Day Trips, and Art Classes.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop senior and youth focused programs that can be initiated with current staffing. • Develop senior and youth programs based on a programming interest survey. Determine if new staff should be hired. • Advertise new programs through a variety outlets (social media, print, and local partners).
<p>The South Carolina SCORP and NRPA list culture and arts as priority park and recreation initiatives. Easley should include these aspects into its service offerings. Facilities and offerings can be based on the results found in the community survey as a component of this plan or future interest surveys released by the Department.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet yearly to discuss arts and culture focused programs and partners in the Easley area. Identify programs Easley can offer now and in the future with facility and staffing changes. • Advertise other local programs through the Department website and social media outlets to fill a gap in service.

PARK-SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS

The following pages illustrate recommended improvements at the conceptual level. These recommendations are based on demographic analysis, community desires, and national trends. Each site concept distributes the overall recommendations into a potential site concept based on the current inventory of park and City-owned property. For each park, some immediate maintenance actions will change perceptions and encourage use while a master planning process can be initiated to involve the community in site design decisions.



ALICE MCKISSICK PARK - IMPROVEMENTS

RECOMMENDATIONS
ADD SHELTER WITH PICNIC TABLES
ADD PERIMETER WALKING TRAIL OR SIDEWALK
ENHANCE PARKING AREA WITH PAINTED BICYCLE LEARNING LOOP
ADD ENTRANCE FEATURES AND VEGETATION TO CREATE A "CHAMPION FIELD" EXPERIENCE
ADD PARK IDENTIFICATION SIGNAGE
CREATE ADA ACCESSIBLE PATH FROM ADA PARKING TO SPECTATOR SEATING
CREATE ADA ACCESSIBLE RESTROOMS
APPROXIMATE COST: \$800,000 - \$1,300,000



IMPROVED PARKING CIRCULATION

DROP OFF

ENTRY PLAZA

IMPROVED CONCESSIONS + RESTROOMS

SHELTER

EXISTING BATTING CAGE

SHELTER

EXISTING BASEBALL FIELD

PERIMETER WALKING TRAIL

PLAYGROUND



HAGOOD PARK - CANDIDATE FOR MASTER PLAN - CONCEPT BELOW FOR INSPIRATION ONLY

RECOMMENDATIONS

- CLEANUP AND DEMOLISH UNSAFE AREAS
- ADD ADA ACCESSIBLE GREENWAY THROUGH THE PARK
- CREATE NEW PARKING AREAS WITH APPROPRIATE NUMBER OF ADA ACCESSIBLE SPACES
- ENHANCE DOG PARK WITH APPROPRIATE SURFACING (MULCH IN PARK AND CONCRETE ENTRY WITH CONNECTING SIDEWALK), BENCHES, AND SHADE
- CREATE NATURE-BASED PLAY AREA WITH OUTDOOR CLASSROOM AND SHELTER
- CREATE ADVENTURE PLAY AREA WITH MULTI-AGE FACILITIES, SEATING, AND SHADE
- CREATE COMMUNITY GARDEN
- CREATE CONNECTION TO THE DOODLE TRAIL
- CONVERT BALLFIELD INTO MULTI-USE FIELD
- MOVE / ENHANCE BASKETBALL COURT
- ADD TWO LARGE RENTAL SHELTERS
- ADD ADA ACCESSIBLE RESTROOMS
- APPROXIMATE COST:
\$3,600,000 - \$4,100,000
(PLUS MASTER PLAN)



J.B. "RED" OWENS RECREATION FACILITY - IMPROVEMENTS



RECOMMENDATIONS
ENHANCE INTERIOR PARK GREENWAY (OVERALL PARK LOOP; BOARDWALK AND RAIN GARDEN ADJACENT TO FLOODPLAIN, ADA ACCESSIBLE SENIOR TRAIL AROUND GYMNASIUM, ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND, AND PARKING LOT; ADDITIONAL SOCCER FIELDS; CONNECTION TO BRUSHY CREEK GREENWAY)
ADD FITNESS STATIONS TO INTERIOR PARK GREENWAY (SUITABLE FOR ADULTS AND SENIORS)
ADD SHELTER AND PICNIC AREA NEW SOCCER FIELD CONCESSIONS AT EXISTING AND PROPOSED FIELDS
ADD SOCCER FIELDS
KEEP CENTRAL FIELD AS UNPROGRAMMED MULTI-USE FIELD
ADD SHADE TREES IN PARKING LOTS AND AROUND THE LOWER SOCCER AREA FOR SPECTATORS
MODIFY VEHICULAR CIRCULATION TO CREATE A LOOP (AVOID THE TURN-AROUND AT THE MAINTENANCE AREA)
ADD ADDITIONAL PARKING ALONG CIRCULATION ROUTE AND ADDITIONAL LOTS
APPROXIMATE COST: \$10,200,000 - \$10,700,000

KINGS PARK - CANDIDATE FOR MASTER PLAN

RECOMMENDATIONS

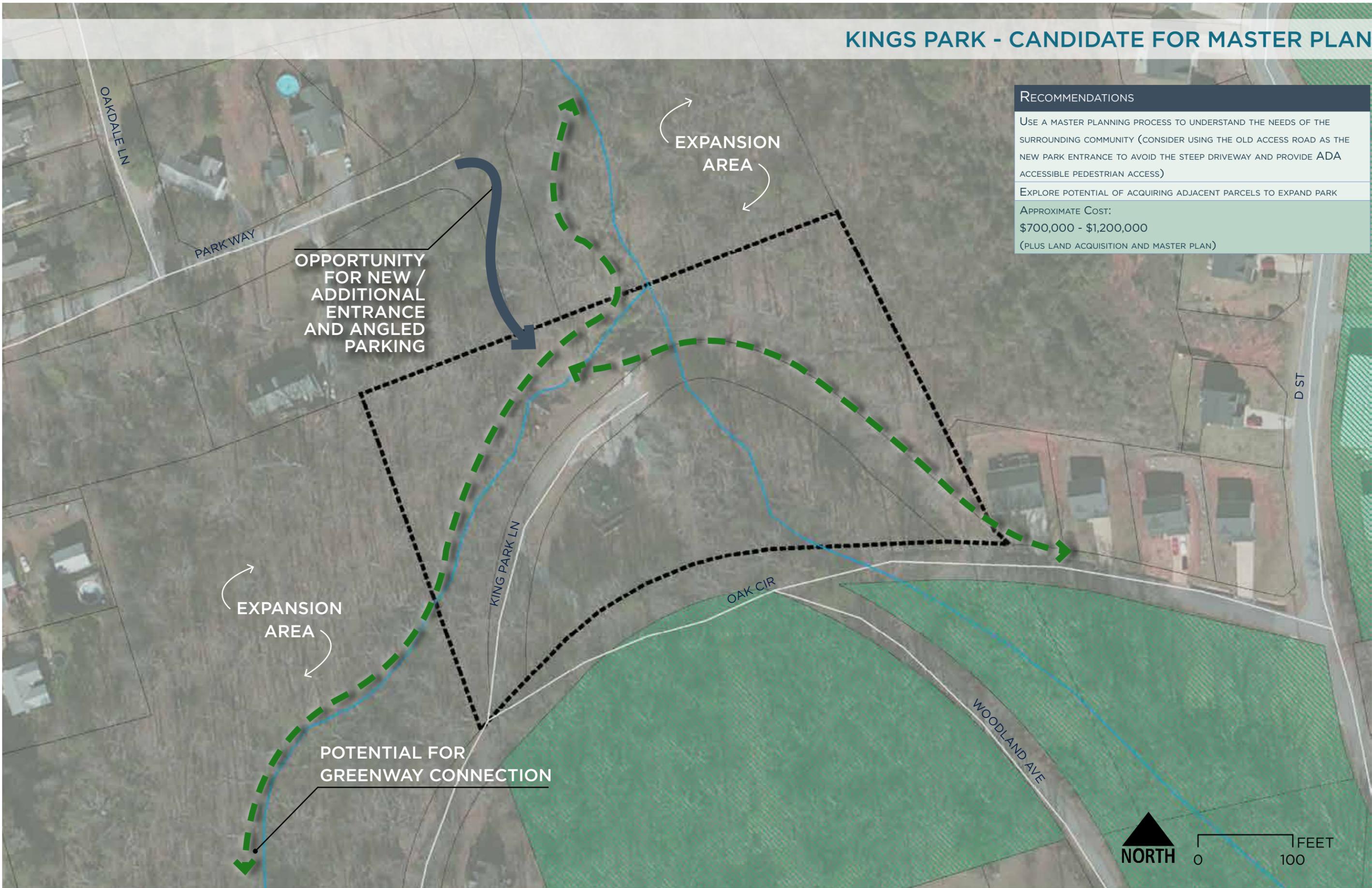
USE A MASTER PLANNING PROCESS TO UNDERSTAND THE NEEDS OF THE SURROUNDING COMMUNITY (CONSIDER USING THE OLD ACCESS ROAD AS THE NEW PARK ENTRANCE TO AVOID THE STEEP DRIVEWAY AND PROVIDE ADA ACCESSIBLE PEDESTRIAN ACCESS)

EXPLORE POTENTIAL OF ACQUIRING ADJACENT PARCELS TO EXPAND PARK

APPROXIMATE COST:

\$700,000 - \$1,200,000

(PLUS LAND ACQUISITION AND MASTER PLAN)



OPPORTUNITY FOR NEW / ADDITIONAL ENTRANCE AND ANGLED PARKING

EXPANSION AREA

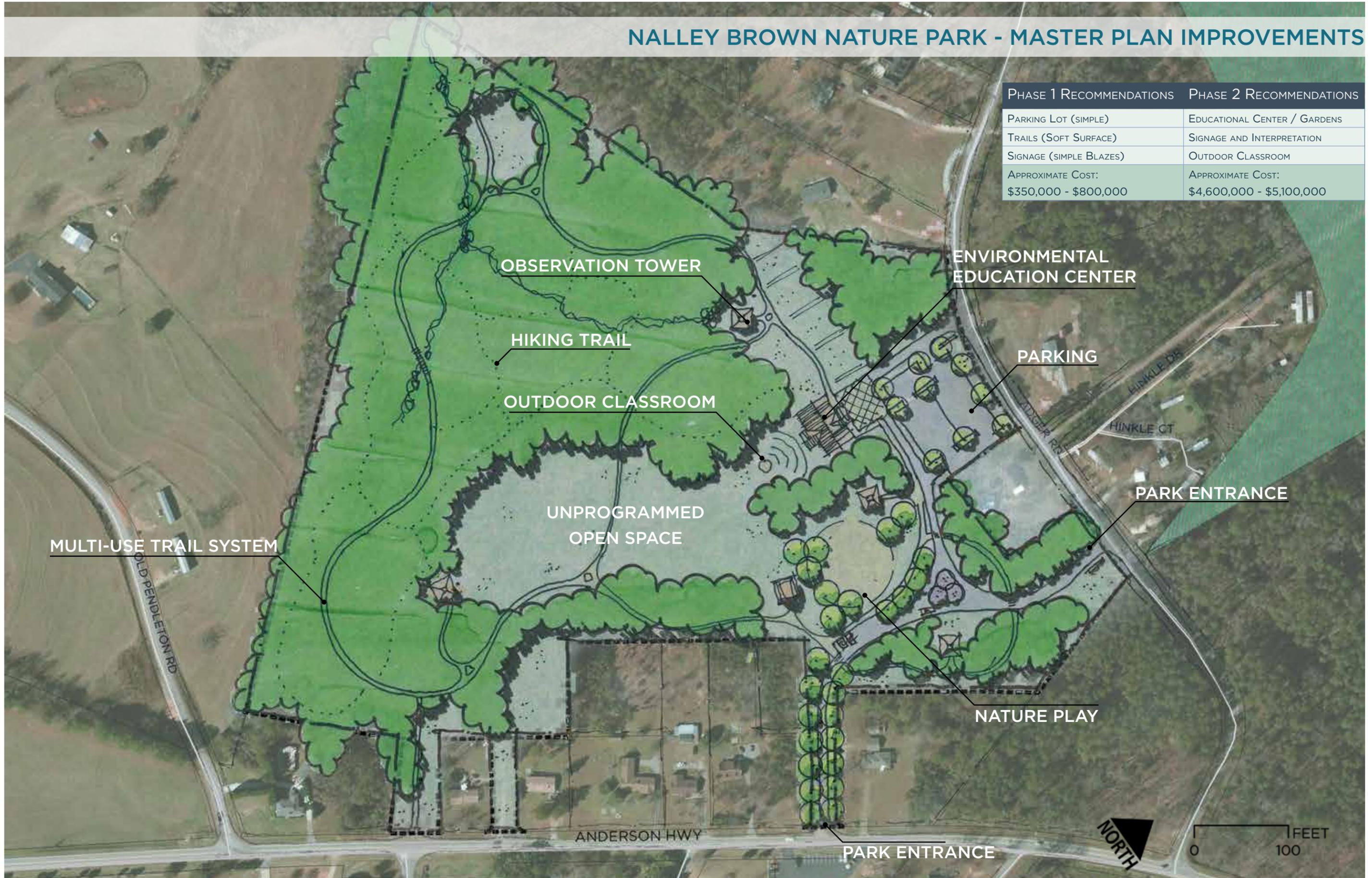
EXPANSION AREA

POTENTIAL FOR GREENWAY CONNECTION



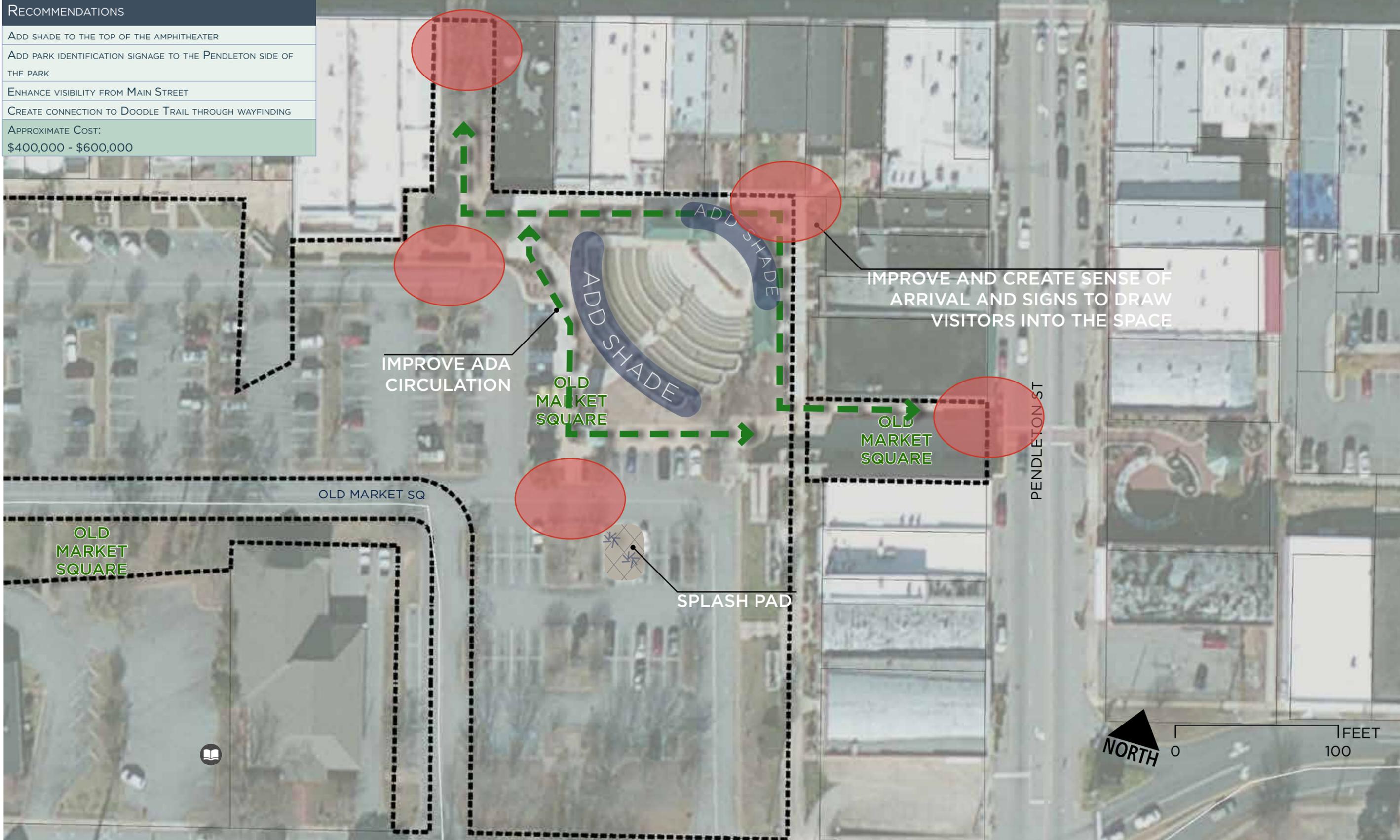
NALLEY BROWN NATURE PARK - MASTER PLAN IMPROVEMENTS

PHASE 1 RECOMMENDATIONS	PHASE 2 RECOMMENDATIONS
PARKING LOT (SIMPLE)	EDUCATIONAL CENTER / GARDENS
TRAILS (SOFT SURFACE)	SIGNAGE AND INTERPRETATION
SIGNAGE (SIMPLE BLAZES)	OUTDOOR CLASSROOM
APPROXIMATE COST: \$350,000 - \$800,000	APPROXIMATE COST: \$4,600,000 - \$5,100,000



RECOMMENDATIONS

- ADD SHADE TO THE TOP OF THE AMPHITHEATER
- ADD PARK IDENTIFICATION SIGNAGE TO THE PENDLETON SIDE OF THE PARK
- ENHANCE VISIBILITY FROM MAIN STREET
- CREATE CONNECTION TO DOODLE TRAIL THROUGH WAYFINDING
- APPROXIMATE COST:
\$400,000 - \$600,000



POPE FIELD - IMPROVEMENTS

RECOMMENDATIONS

- ADD INTERIOR PARK GREENWAY
 - PROVIDE SIDEWALK CONNECTIVITY TO ADJACENT MULTI-FAMILY HOUSING AND SENIOR VETERAN HOUSING
 - UPGRADE PLAYGROUND
 - PROVIDE ADA ACCESSIBLE ROUTES TO PICNIC SHELTERS
- APPROXIMATE COST:
\$1,400,000 - \$1,900,000



WOODSIDE PARK - CANDIDATE FOR MASTER PLAN - CONCEPT BELOW FOR INSPIRATION ONLY



RECOMMENDATION
CONVERT SOFTBALL FIELD INTO MULTI-USE FIELD / OPEN SPACE
CLEAR AND GRUB VEGETATION TO PROVIDE SIGHT LINES ACROSS THE ENTIRE PARK
ADD INTERIOR PARK GREENWAY
ADD TWO BASKETBALL COURTS
ADD NEW SHELTER (REMOVE OLD SHELTER)
ADD NEW PLAYGROUND
REDESIGN PARKING AREAS
CREATE WELCOMING ENTRANCES WITH VEGETATION AND PARK IDENTIFICATION SIGNAGE
ADD SPLASH PAD
APPROXIMATE COST: \$2,800,000 - \$3,300,000 (PLUS MASTER PLAN)

BASKETBALL COURT

ADDITIONAL PARKING

IMPROVED PARKING

ENTRY PLAZA

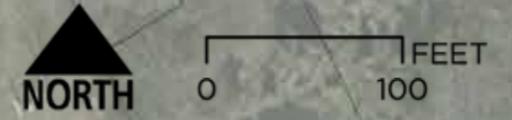
SPLASH PAD

WALKING PATH

PLAYGROUND

CLEAR AND GRUB TO IMPROVE PERCEPTION OF SAFETY AND VISIBILITY

SHELTER



GREENWAY, BICYCLE + PEDESTRIAN FACILITY RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDATION	
SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENTS MILEAGE	6.20 MILES
PROPOSED SIDE PATH	7.69 MILES
PROPOSED GREENWAY	7.04 MILES
TOTAL BUILD-OUT APPROXIMATE COST	\$11-12 MILLION

BIKE/PED FACILITIES

- EXISTING GREENWAY
- - - PROPOSED GREENWAY
- - - PROPOSED SIDEPATH
- EXISTING SIDEWALK
- - - PROPOSED SIDEWALK

OVERLAYS

- WATER
- SCHOOLS
- CITY LIMITS
- FLOODPLAINS
- EASLEY PROPERTY
- OTHER RESOURCES
- RAILROAD
- STREAMS
- STREETS
- SC HIGHWAYS
- US HIGHWAYS
- UTILITY EASEMENTS

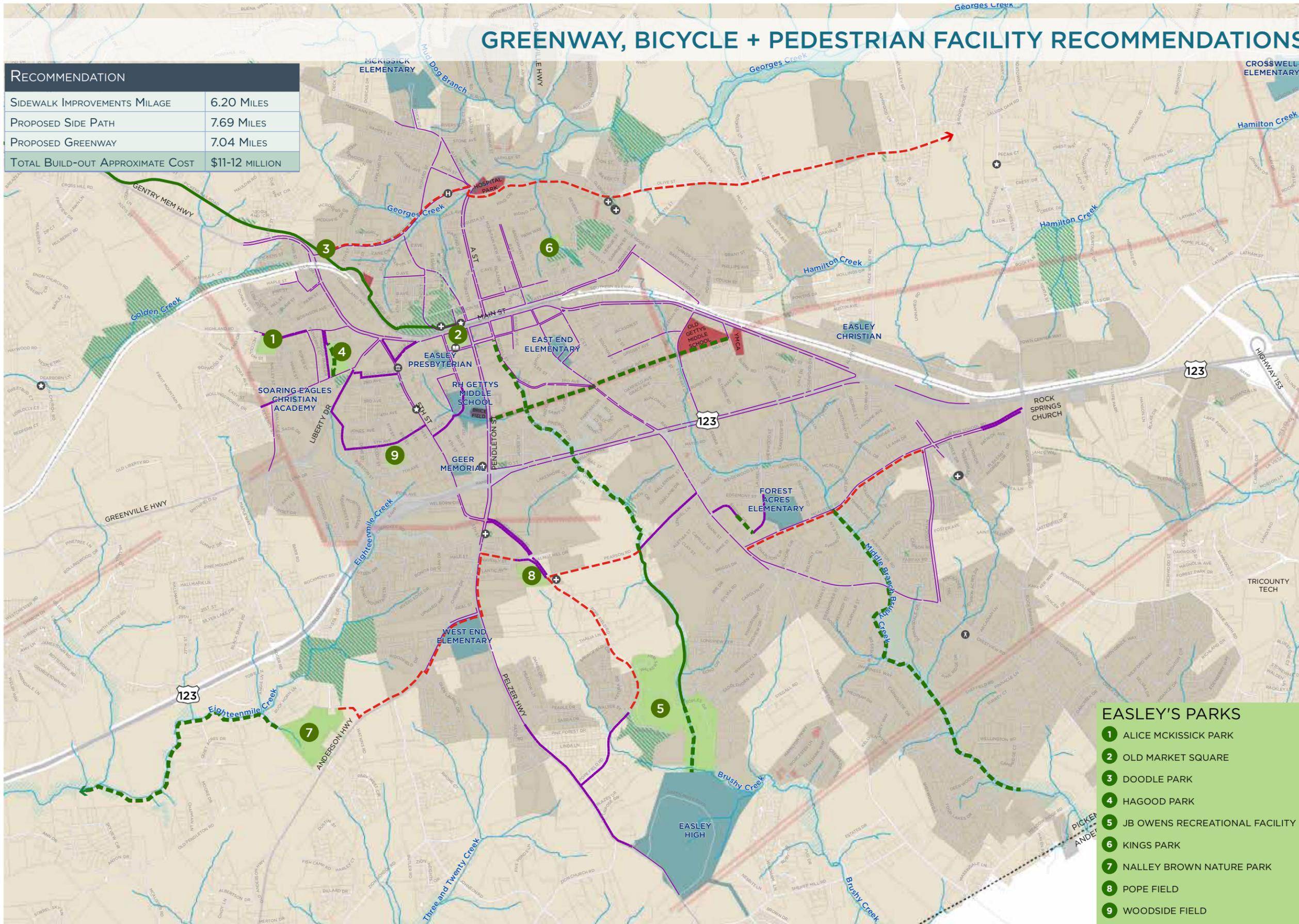
POINTS OF INTEREST

- Ⓜ CULTURAL SITES
- Ⓜ GOLF COURSES
- Ⓜ HOSPITALS
- Ⓜ HISTORIC SITES
- Ⓜ LIBRARIES
- Ⓜ GOVERNMENT
- Ⓜ PUBLIC SAFETY

EASLEY'S PARKS

- 1 ALICE MCKISSICK PARK
- 2 OLD MARKET SQUARE
- 3 DOODLE PARK
- 4 HAGOOD PARK
- 5 JB OWENS RECREATIONAL FACILITY
- 6 KINGS PARK
- 7 NALLEY BROWN NATURE PARK
- 8 POPE FIELD
- 9 WOODSIDE FIELD

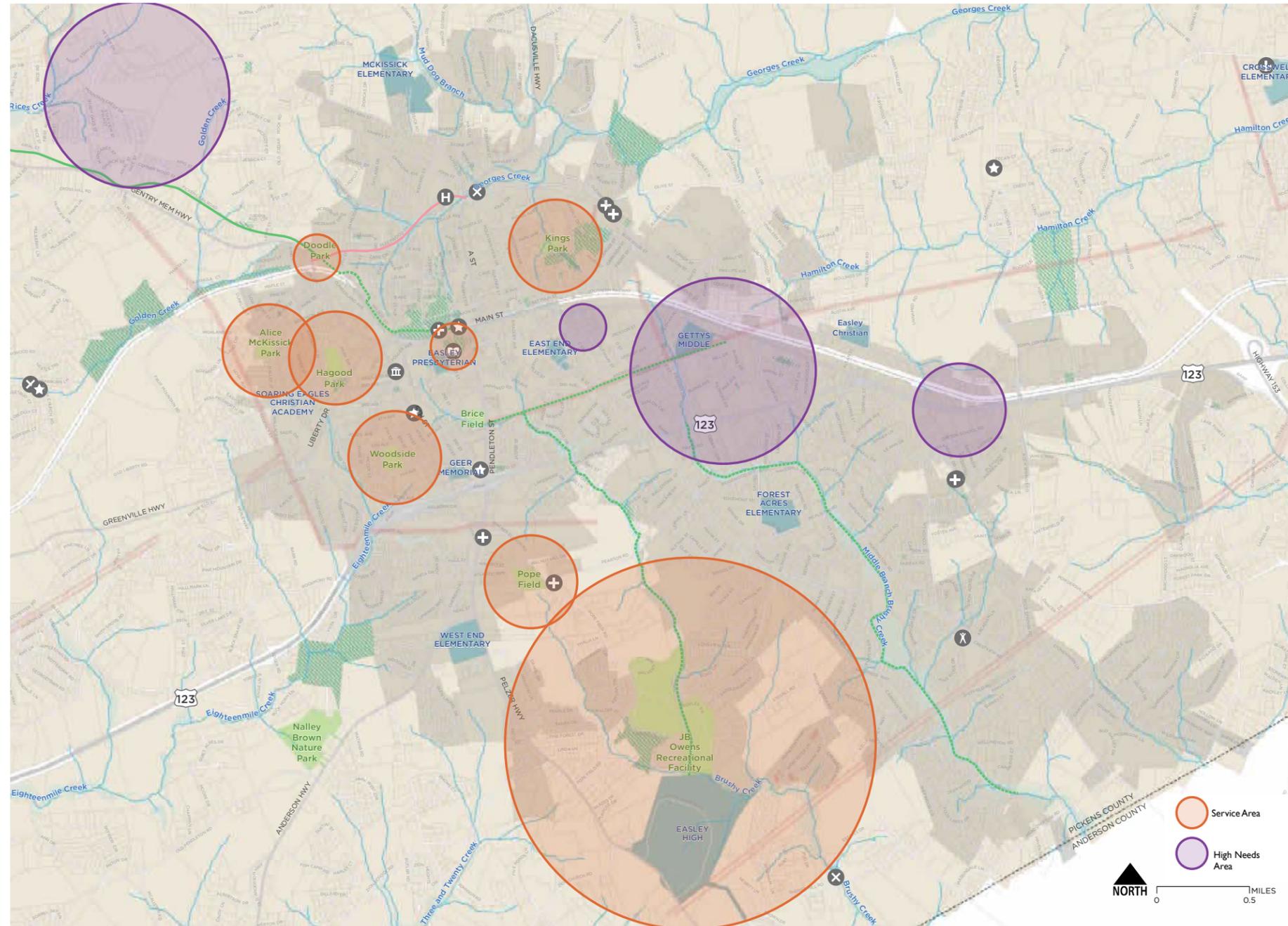
0 0.5 1 MILES



LAND ACQUISITION

The service area analysis in Chapter Three revealed gaps in service as illustrated below. These areas are key opportunities for land acquisition and should be evaluated on a yearly basis. There is already an opportunity to close the central gap by using the old Gettys Middle School Property. The northwest area is not a high priority and is served by the development of the Doodle Trail, which will link residents to other parks as well as to the downtown area.

As always, opportunities that occasionally arise to conserve land or create passive recreation experiences should be explored. With the development of Nalley Brown as a trailhead and series of nature paths, Easley is poised to begin closing service area gaps and passive recreation gaps. Park types and level of service should be determined based on a combination of demand and department resources. Any new park development should reflect the demographic needs of the area.



AREAS OF HIGHEST NEED AND EXISTING SERVICE AREAS

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Implementation



OVERVIEW

The recommendations provided in the previous chapter outline actions that will address the recreational needs of Easley citizens and visitors. These recommendations are supported by research, community involvement, and national standards. Each action item is presented in this Implementation Workbook. The Workbook can be used by staff to facilitate yearly progress and monitor phasing. The phasing is broken down into Short (1-3yrs), Mid (3-5yrs), and Long Term (+5yrs). Space is provided to record implementation status, document rationale for adjusting action items and timing, and track accomplishments. The Workbook format provides actions that are simple, achievable, and sometimes broad to allow annual revisions and flexible planning. The Department should review and refine this Workbook in a departmental meeting at least once per year to set the course for successful implementation and evaluation.

ACTION STEPS		KEY PLAYERS	RECOMMENDED TERM	COMPLETED
CATEGORY Administration	Develop a Department name and brand that reflects all of the service offerings. Brand package should include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A logo and graphic identity package. • Update department website. • Update collateral and outreach materials. 	Parks and Recreation Department and Easley City Leadership	Short	
	Create a new staff position of Public Information Officer or use other resources to improve the Department website, social media, and other marketing opportunities.	Parks and Recreation Department	Short	
	Create and promote health-focused initiatives and events, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walk/Bike to Work Day • Park Rx Programs • Community Health Challenges 	Parks and Recreation Department, YMCA, Local Hospitals, Area Doctors, Local and Regional Health Organizations	Short	
	Initiate a market research study to evaluate sites and the potential for Easley to support additional lodging in a central location. Use large sporting events as an opportunity to advertise other local recreation and cultural opportunities to visitors.	Easley Planning Department, Parks and Recreation Department, Local Businesses, Greater Easley Chamber of Commerce	Long	
	Diversity facility and program offerings that cater to families attending sports events and would encourage longer stays and fuel the local economy.	Easley Planning Department, Parks and Recreation Department, Local Businesses, Greater Easley Chamber of Commerce	Long	
	Create a staffing plan to determine if new programs can be created and managed by current staff and if the existing maintenance staff has adequate capacity to care for existing and proposed facilities.	Parks and Recreation Department (Administration and Maintenance Staff)	Mid - On-going	
	Identify gaps in services and prioritize new hires to serve the needs of the community.	Parks and Recreation Department (Administration and Maintenance Staff)	Mid - On-going	

	CURRENT CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES	COMPLETED

		ACTION STEPS	KEY PLAYERS	RECOMMENDED TERM	COMPLETED
CATEGORY	Facilities	Use the new brand and identity package to design creative concepts for a wayfinding and signage family.	Parks and Recreation Department	Short	
		Create an implementation plan to install new signs. Wayfinding throughout each park should consider visibility and circulation patterns of all user types including motorists, bicyclists, and pedestrians of all ages and abilities.	Parks and Recreation Department	Short	
		Complete a comprehensive ADA audit of parks that are not recommended for a new master plan. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prioritize a list of ADA compliance projects. • Review each new master plan and design with inclusive, Universal Design guidelines. 	Parks and Recreation Department	Short	
		Review parks that have been identified for passive recreation activities and initiate the master planning and design processes.	Parks and Recreation Department	See Individual Facilities for Recommendation Terms	
		Identify parcels available for purchase or land swap within the land acquisition areas illustrated on page 4-17 with passive recreation and conservation initiatives as a site program priority	Parks and Recreation Department	Mid	
		Close gaps between the bicycle network and park entrances.	Easley Planning Department and Parks and Recreation Department	Short (for parks without recommended master planning process) See Term for parks undergoing master planning process	
		Explore the addition of sidewalks (see sidewalk recommendations on page 4-15)	Easley Planning Department and Parks and Recreation Department	Mid	

	CURRENT CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES	COMPLETED

		ACTION STEPS	KEY PLAYERS	RECOMMENDED TERM	COMPLETED
CATEGORY	Facilities	Add crosswalks connecting to park entrances and trail access points.	Easley Planning Department and Parks and Recreation Department	Short (for parks without recommended master planning process) See Term for parks undergoing master planning process	
		Build a senior-focused partnership with the YMCA to provide programs and facilities as a short-term solution while Parks and Recreation Department programs and facilities are being created.	Parks and Recreation Department and YMCA	Short	
		Identify a centralized location to add a senior center (possibly the old Gettys Middle site).	Parks and Recreation Department	Mid-Long	
	Programs	Develop Senior and Youth focused programs that can be initiated with current staffing.	Parks and Recreation Department and Local Special Interest Groups	Mid	
		Develop Senior and Youth programs based on a programing interest survey. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Determine if new staff should be hired. 	Parks and Recreation Department (Administration and Programs) and Local Special Interest Groups	Long	
		Advertize new programs through a variety outlets (social media, print, and local partners).	Parks and Recreation Department and Local Partners	On-going	
		Meet yearly to discuss arts and culture focused programs and partners in the Easley area. Identify programs Easley can offer now and in the future with facility and staffing changes.	Parks and Recreation Department and Arts Council of Pickens County	On-going	
		Advertise other local programs through the Department website and social media outlets to fill a gap in service.	Parks and Recreation Department and Arts Council of Pickens County	Short	

	CURRENT CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES	COMPLETED

ACTION STEPS		KEY PLAYERS	RECOMMENDED TERM	COMPLETED
CATEGORY Alice McKissick Park	Add shelter with picnic tables.	Parks and Recreation Department	Long	
	Add perimeter walking trail or sidewalk.	Parks and Recreation Department	Mid-Long	
	Enhance parking area with painted bicycle learning loop.	Parks and Recreation Department	Long	
	Add entrance features and vegetation to create a "Champion Field" experience through sponsorship, signage, and naming rights.	Parks and Recreation Department	Long	
	Add park identification signage.	Parks and Recreation Department	Mid	
	Create ADA accessible path from ADA parking to spectator seating.	Parks and Recreation Department	Mid	
	Create ADA accessible restrooms.	Parks and Recreation Department	Mid	

	CURRENT CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES	COMPLETED

ACTION STEPS		KEY PLAYERS	RECOMMENDED TERM	COMPLETED
CATEGORY Hagood Park	Complete Park Master Plan outlining site specific recommendations phasing and funding.	Parks and Recreation Department	Short	
	Clean up and demolish unsafe areas.	Parks and Recreation Department	Short	
	Add ADA accessible greenway through the park.	Parks and Recreation Department	Mid	
	Create new parking areas with appropriate number of ADA accessible spaces.	Parks and Recreation Department	Mid	
	Enhance dog park with appropriate surfacing (mulch in park and concrete entry with connecting sidewalk), benches, and shade.	Parks and Recreation Department	Mid	
	Create nature-based play area with outdoor classroom and shelter.	Parks and Recreation Department	Mid	
	Create adventure play area with multi-age facilities, seating, and shade.	Parks and Recreation Department	Mid	
	Create Community Garden/Children's Garden	Parks and Recreation Department	Mid	
	Create connection to the Doodle Trail.	Parks and Recreation Department	Mid	

	CURRENT CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES	COMPLETED

ACTION STEPS		KEY PLAYERS	RECOMMENDED TERM	COMPLETED	
CATEGORY Hagood Park (cont.)	Convert ballfield into multi-use field.	Parks and Recreation Department	Mid		
	Move / enhance basketball court.	Parks and Recreation Department	Mid		
	Add two large rental shelters.	Parks and Recreation Department	Mid		
	Add ADA accessible restrooms.	Parks and Recreation Department	Short		

	CURRENT CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES	COMPLETED

ACTION STEPS		KEY PLAYERS	RECOMMENDED TERM	COMPLETED
CATEGORY J.B. "Red" Owens Recreation Facility	Enhance interior park greenway (overall park loop; ADA accessible senior trail around gymnasium, adventure playground, and parking lot; additional soccer fields; connection to brushy creek greenway)	Parks and Recreation Department	Short	
	Add fitness stations to interior park greenway (suitable for adults and seniors).	Parks and Recreation Department	Short	
	Add shelter and picnic area new soccer field concessions at existing and proposed fields	Parks and Recreation Department	Long	
	Add 1 soccer/multiuse fields	Parks and Recreation Department	Long	
	Keep central field as unprogrammed multi-use field.	Parks and Recreation Department	Short	
	Add shade trees in parking lots and around the lower soccer area for spectators.	Parks and Recreation Department	Mid	
	Modify vehicular circulation to create a loop (avoid the turn-around at the maintenance area)	Parks and Recreation Department	Mid	
	Add additional parking.	Parks and Recreation Department	Long	

	CURRENT CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES	COMPLETED

ACTION STEPS		KEY PLAYERS	RECOMMENDED TERM	COMPLETED		
CATEGORY	Kings Park	Use a master planning process to understand the needs of the surrounding community (consider using the old access road as the new park entrance to avoid the steep driveway and provide ADA accessible pedestrian access).	Parks and Recreation Department	Long		
		Explore potential of acquiring adjacent parcels to expand park.	Parks and Recreation Department	Mid		
ACTION STEPS		KEY PLAYERS	RECOMMENDED TERM	COMPLETED		
CATEGORY	Nalley Brown Nature Park	Implement Master Plan.	Parks and Recreation Department	Mid		
		Develop parking lot.	Parks and Recreation Department	Short		
		Develop internal nature trail system	Parks and Recreation Department	Short		
		Develop internal wayfinding system.	Parks and Recreation Department	Short		
		Create Environmental Education Center.	Parks and Recreation Department	Long		

	CURRENT CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES	COMPLETED
	CURRENT CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES	COMPLETED

ACTION STEPS		KEY PLAYERS	RECOMMENDED TERM	COMPLETED
CATEGORY Old Market Square	Add shade to the top of the amphitheater.	Parks and Recreation Department	Short	
	Add park identification signage to the Pendleton side of the park.	Parks and Recreation Department	Mid	
	Enhance visibility from Main Street.	Parks and Recreation Department	Mid	
	Create connection to Doodle Trail through wayfinding.	Parks and Recreation Department	Mid	
ACTION STEPS		KEY PLAYERS	RECOMMENDED TERM	COMPLETED
CATEGORY Pope Field	Add interior park greenway.	Parks and Recreation Department	Mid	
	Provide sidewalk connectivity to adjacent multi-family housing and senior veteran housing.	Parks and Recreation Department	Mid	
	Upgrade playground.	Parks and Recreation Department	Long	
	Provide ADA accessible routes to picnic shelters.	Parks and Recreation Department	Short	

	CURRENT CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES	COMPLETED
	CURRENT CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES	COMPLETED

ACTION STEPS		KEY PLAYERS	RECOMMENDED TERM	COMPLETED
CATEGORY Woodside	Complete Master Planning Process.	Parks and Recreation Department	Mid	
	Convert softball field into multi-use field / open space.	Parks and Recreation Department	Long	
	Clean up and demolish unsafe areas and clear and grub vegetation to provide sight lines across the entire park.	Parks and Recreation Department	Short	
	Add interior park greenway.	Parks and Recreation Department	Long	
	Add one basketball courts.	Parks and Recreation Department	Long	
	Add new shelter (remove old shelter).	Parks and Recreation Department	Long	
	Add new playground.	Parks and Recreation Department	Long	
	Redesign parking areas.	Parks and Recreation Department	Long	
	Create welcoming entrances with vegetation and park identification signage.	Parks and Recreation Department	Long	
	Add splash pad.	Parks and Recreation Department	Long	

Appendix A - Data Driven Analysis

DATA DRIVEN ANALYSIS

Two Geographic Information System (GIS) models were used to help define the composition of Easley. Data collected included US Census, American Community Survey (ACS) and state, county, and local GIS data. These two models are tools used to identify areas of need based on equity and demand.

The Equity Analysis uses several categories of US Census data to identify where people live who would benefit from park facilities, recreation and leisure services, and trails. In order to best assess Social Equity, one of the three pillars of NRPA, it is critical to spatially identify communities with a high level of need. These factors also help identify how specific parks should be programmed to meet the needs of the surrounding community. For example, parks adjacent to over 65 populations should include benches, shade, walking trails, and perhaps playgrounds for grandchildren.

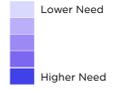
Each map in the series shows “hot spots” based on the density of the particular population being studied and each represents areas of highest need.

The Demand Model - or Live, Work, Play, Learn Analysis - provides an illustration of origins and destinations. These areas of concentration provide insight into the need for connectivity of greenways, sidewalks, and bicycle facilities. This diagrammatic mapping is also useful for determining the density, or demand, in geographic areas based on the factors of live, work, learn, and play. As state goals for recreation trend in a direction of providing parks and trails near homes, employment centers, and schools, this analysis reveals geographic service gaps.

Each of the following maps are diagrams of the data collected. During the planning process, it was critical to consider the human factor to evaluate the output of each model. These maps are not recommendations, but rather, analysis that lead to further exploration in the field and the integration of staff, steering committee, and public input to calibrate how each map relates to real-world conditions.

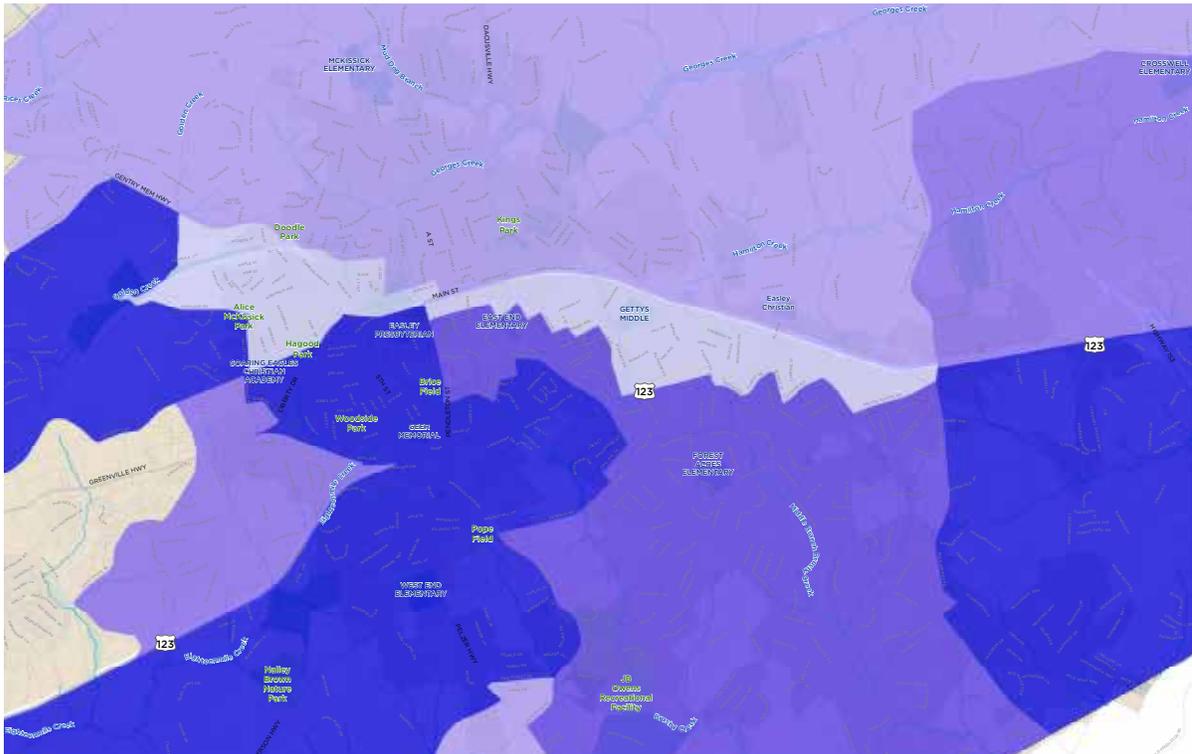
For each diagram below, an accompanying caption provides insight into the importance of evaluating each factor and/or the implications of inequity and how parks and recreation facilities and programs are important to enhancing livability for residents of Easley.

POPULATION UNDER 18



OVERLAYS

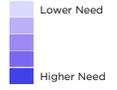
- WATER
- PARKS
- SCHOOLS
- CITY LIMITS
- FLOODPLAINS
- EASLEY PROPERTY
- RAILROAD
- STREAMS
- STREETS
- SC HIGHWAYS
- US HIGHWAYS
- UTILITY EASEMENTS



POPULATION UNDER 18

Being physically active helps build social connections, boosts academic achievement and self-esteem, in youth populations, while preventing costly chronic diseases. There is a concentration of neighborhood parks in high youth areas, but limit access to trails and non-team sport oriented parks.

POPULATION OVER 65



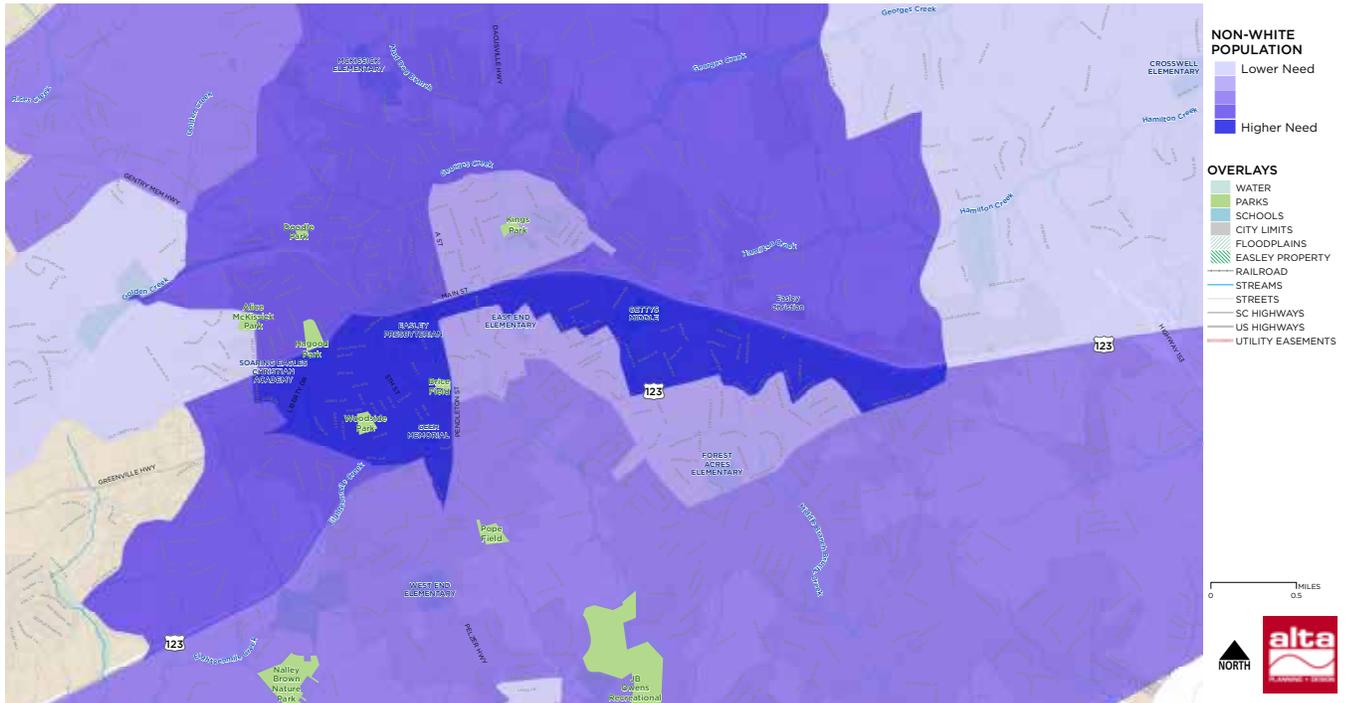
OVERLAYS

- WATER
- PARKS
- SCHOOLS
- CITY LIMITS
- FLOODPLAINS
- EASLEY PROPERTY
- RAILROAD
- STREAMS
- STREETS
- SC HIGHWAYS
- US HIGHWAYS
- UTILITY EASEMENTS



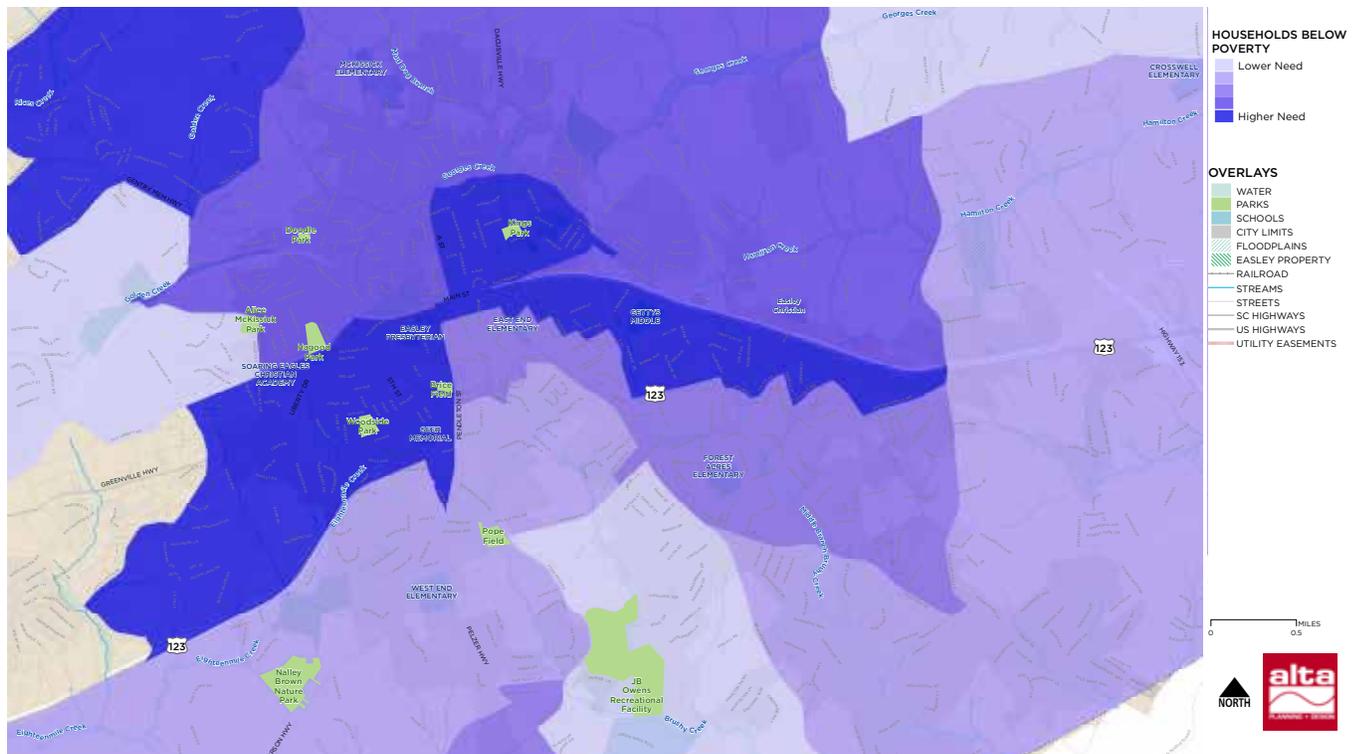
POPULATION OVER 65

Sixty one percent of American adults age 65 or older have at least one activity-based limitation. Creating communities where older adults can safely be physically active is crucial to the prevention or delay of chronic diseases such as arthritis, osteoporosis and diabetes. Older adults are especially vulnerable to social isolation, which can result in significant declines in physical health, and so it is important to connect them with passive recreation facilities, such as trails. In Easley, the concentration of adults over 65 are located near J.B. "Red" Owens Sport Complex, which contains limited passive recreation, and Kings Park, which is primarily youth focused with challenging topography.



NON-WHITE POPULATION

Ethnic minorities are more likely to live in areas with poor or limited educational opportunities, job resources, or healthy food outlets. They are less likely to have access to a household car, regardless of income. Communities of color are more likely to experience low social cohesion within their residential area because of limited activated public spaces. In Easley, the parks located near this population are in need of repair and improvement to better serve the community and enhance a perception of safety.



POPULATION OF HOUSEHOLD BELOW POVERTY

Youth in impoverished areas with limited access to greenspace are more likely to experience varying levels of social disfunction and developmental issues. The parks in the impoverished areas within Easley are closed or have limited public access, in addition to being in disrepair.

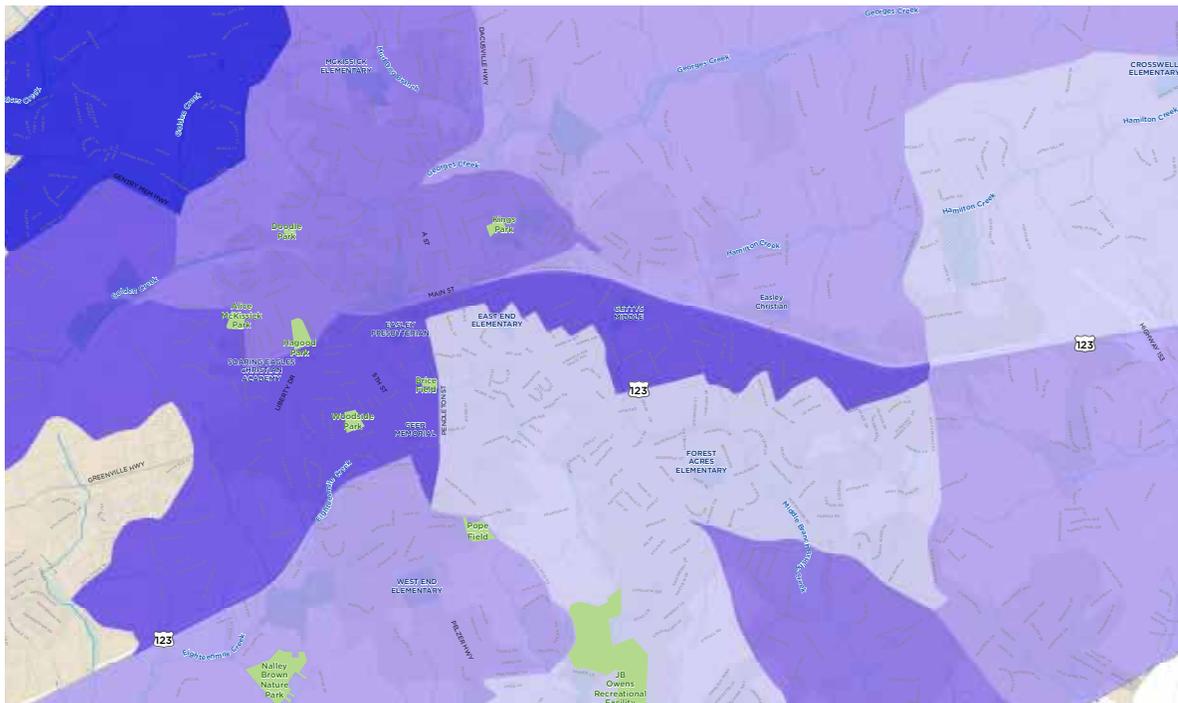
INDIVIDUALS WITHOUT HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA

- Lower Need
- Higher Need

OVERLAYS

- WATER
- PARKS
- SCHOOLS
- CITY LIMITS
- FLOODPLAINS
- EASLEY PROPERTY
- RAILROAD
- STREAMS
- STREETS
- SC HIGHWAYS
- US HIGHWAYS
- UTILITY EASEMENTS

0 0.5 MILES



POPULATION WITHOUT A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA

Within Easley, populations without a high school diplomas are isolated outside city limits, with limited access to parks and trails. Additionally, they are isolated from programs, such as sports and education, which could increase social cohesion and job opportunities.

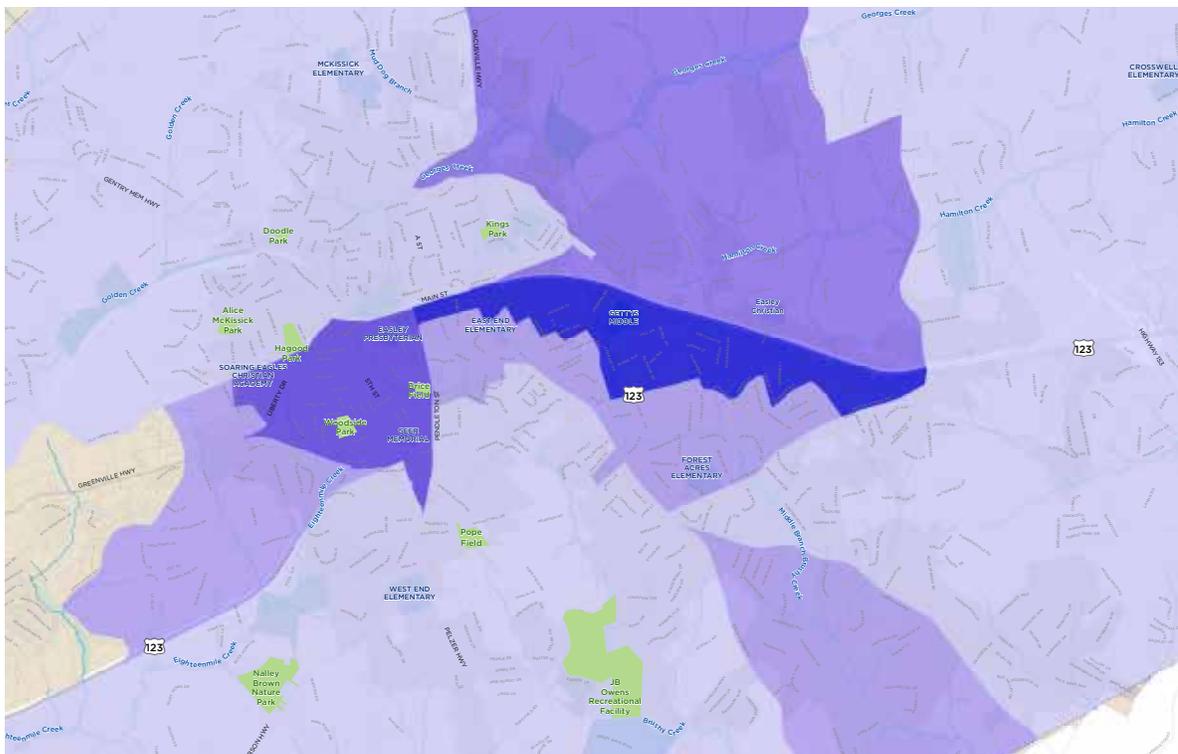
NON-ENGLISH SPEAKING POPULATION

- Lower Need
- Higher Need

OVERLAYS

- WATER
- PARKS
- SCHOOLS
- CITY LIMITS
- FLOODPLAINS
- EASLEY PROPERTY
- RAILROAD
- STREAMS
- STREETS
- SC HIGHWAYS
- US HIGHWAYS
- UTILITY EASEMENTS

0 0.5 MILES



NON-ENGLISH SPEAKING POPULATION

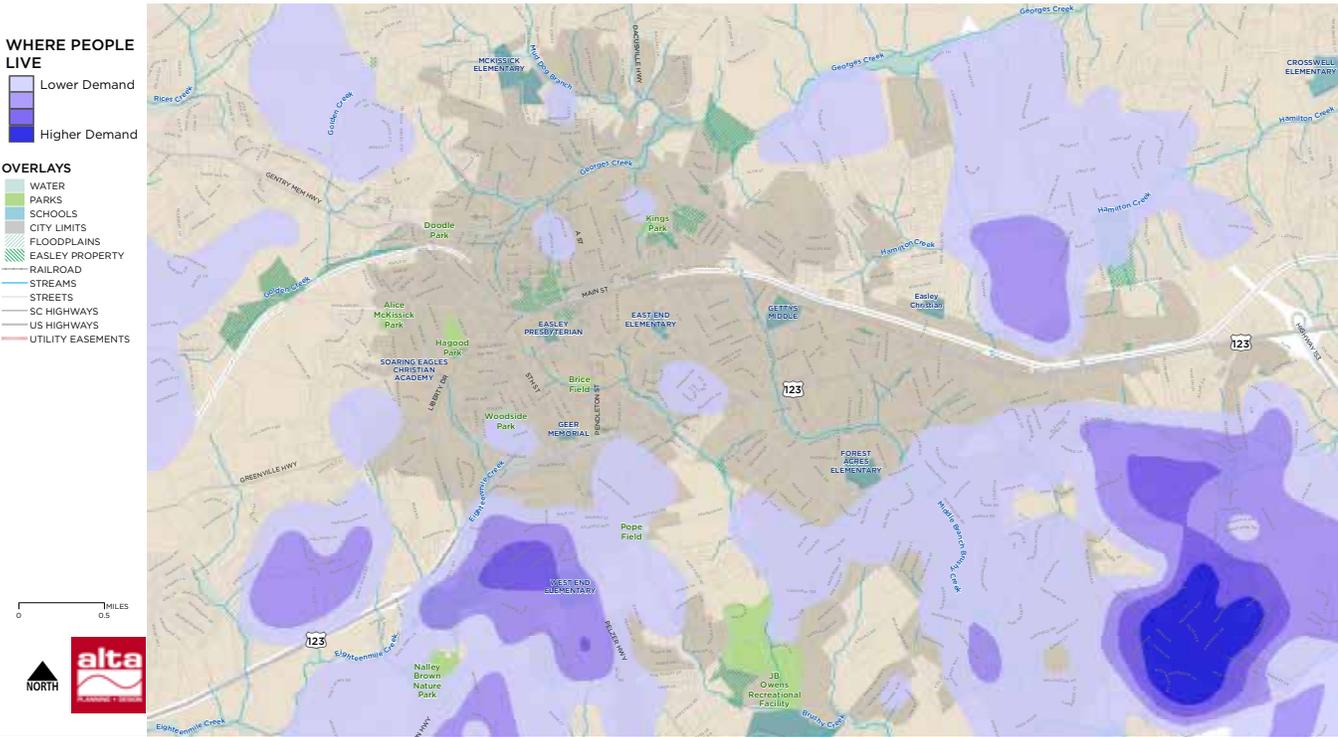
High concentrations of non-English speaking residents are located in an area without public parks, but contain recreation and program resources, such as the YMCA and county library. Generally, low economic status of non-English speaking individuals is correlated with low car ownership rates and high reliance on bicycling, walking, and public transportation.



COMPOSITE EQUITY

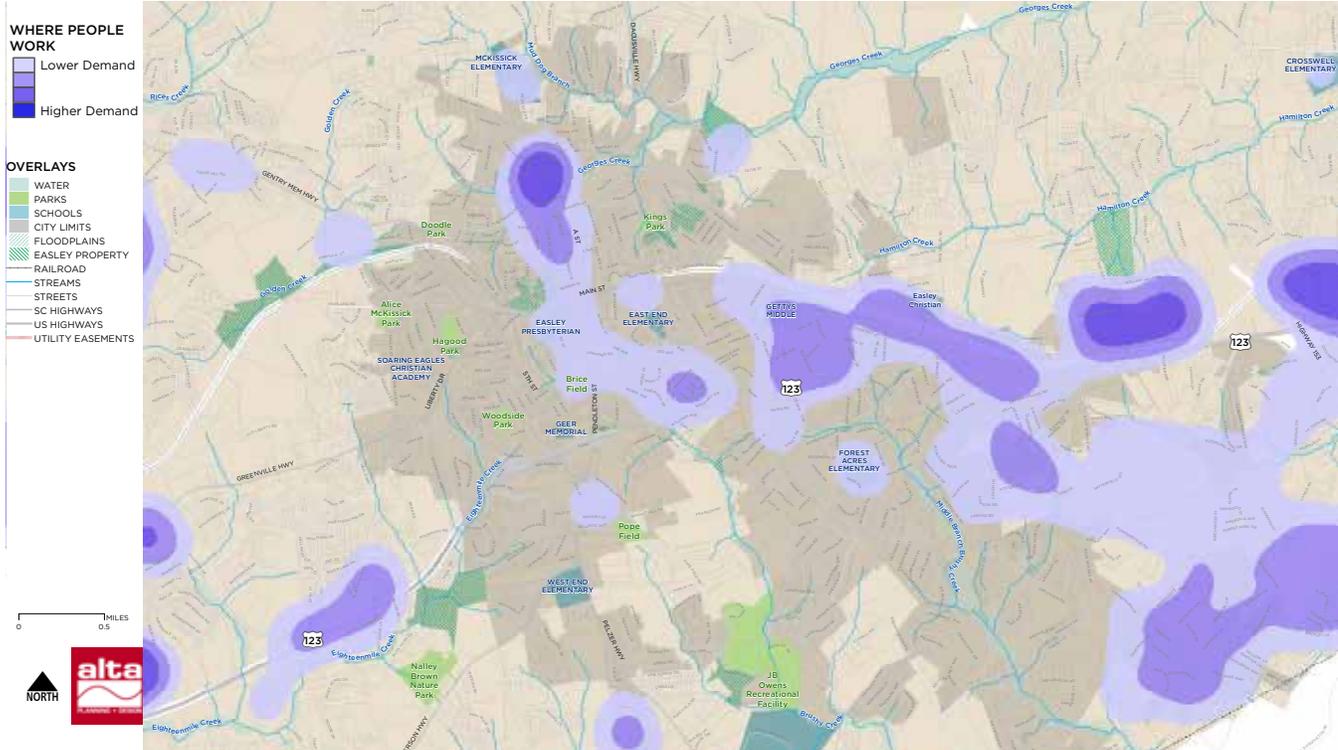
The area of highest need within Easley is between Pendleton Street and Wallace Drive, extending east along the southern edge of E Main Street. This area currently contains Woodside, Brice, and Hagood parks to the west. All of these parks have opportunities for improvements, redesign, and monitoring to provide a perception of safety for users. Currently, access via safe bicycle and pedestrian facilities is limited. The area lacks connectivity to other regions in need and parks. Currently, the YMCA is filling a facility and program gap which presents a partnership opportunity.

These equity factors are layered with public input and stakeholder feedback to craft recommendations for the city that will improve quality of life for citizens of all ages and abilities. Diversifying facility types and programming will enable the department to be an integral component of enhancing resident and visitor experience.



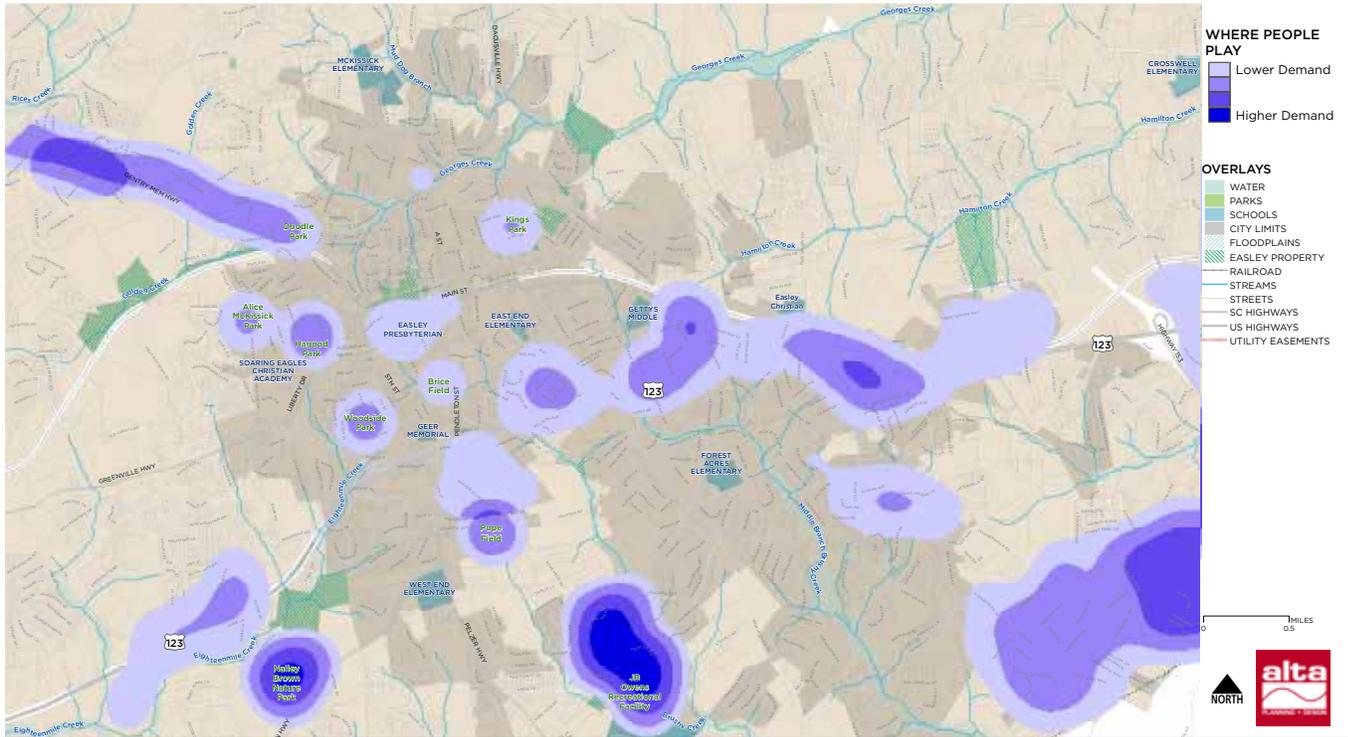
WHERE PEOPLE LIVE

This maps represents the concentration of where people live in and around Easley. The southeastern area has the highest population density and while it appears there are no public parks, the community does supply parks for residents. Areas depicting the next highest level of density should be examined for connectivity via greenways.



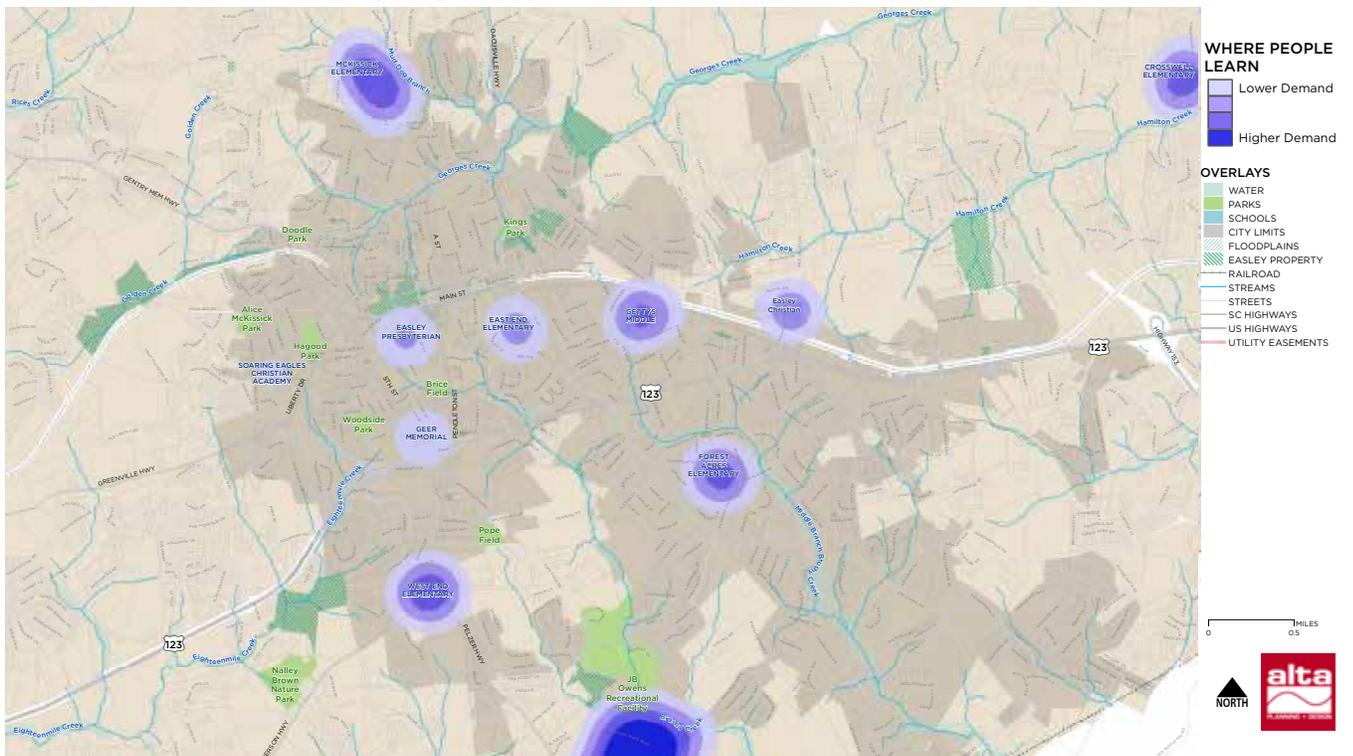
WHERE PEOPLE WORK

This map shows where people work, regardless of residency, throughout the Easley study area. People appear to work along transportation corridors. Employment centers act as both trip attractors (i.e., retail stores or cafes) and trip generators (i.e., office parks and office buildings).



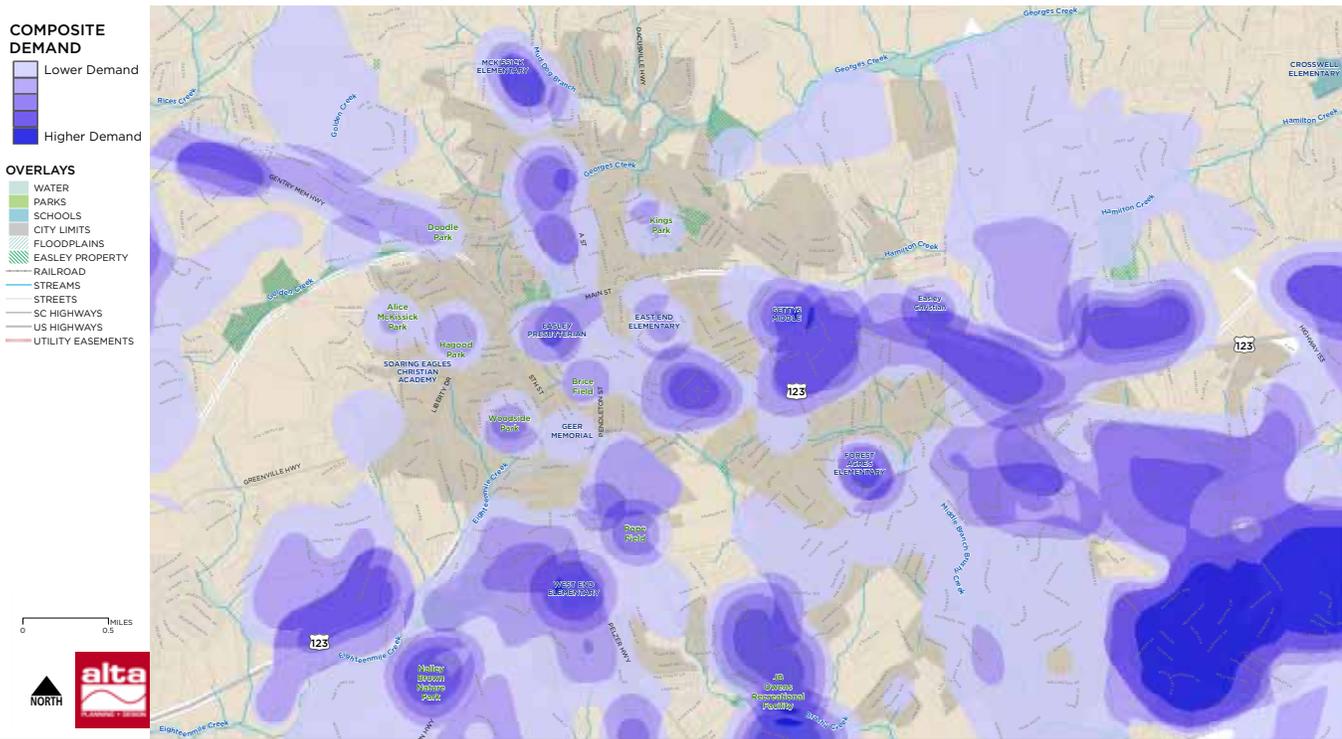
WHERE PEOPLE PLAY

This category is a combination of varied land use types and destinations. Retail destinations and parks were selected because they are land use types where people most often “play.” J.B. “Red” Owens, is a large draw for residents and visitors. The hot spots above should all be candidates for connectivity via the greenway system - whether an actual trail, or on-road bicycle and pedestrian facilities.



WHERE PEOPLE LEARN

This category shows the locations of all schools - from elementary to universities. Depending on the facilities available at each school, proximity to parks and connections to trails can improve the quality of life, social equity, and health of students.



COMPOSITE OF LIVE, WORK, PLAY, LEARN

This map displays the composite demand for the live, work, play, and learn factors. The overlay shows high demand spread out over the southern half of the study area, with other high areas of demand in the southwest, around schools, and near J.B. "Red" Owens. The eastern side of downtown has large area of high demand. This area is currently served by the YMCA and should be a focus for greenway connectivity.

These areas of demand will be explored during fieldwork to determine how to connect each area through active transportation and where it is appropriate to seek additional park land.

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Appendix B - Cost Estimates

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ALICE MCKISSICK PARK

Preliminary discussion of cost- Concept Phase only

Costs presented are preliminary and shall be used for preliminary discussion purposes only. Items are based upon draft conceptual site sketch. Costs and quantities shall be refined as the concept plan develops. Amounts are based upon recent bids and/or discussions with vendors and contractors to be used for planning only.

DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	UNIT	UNIT COST	TOTAL
GENERAL SITE WORK COST CONSIDERATIONS				
Mobilization and Demolition	1	ls	\$30,000	\$30,000
Sediment and Erosion Control	1	ls	\$50,000	\$50,000
Stormwater Allowance (pipe and drainage for trail)	1	ls	\$40,000	\$40,000
PAVING AND ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS				
Pavement Markings- Add pavement for "Bicycle Learning Loop"	1	ls	\$15,000	\$15,000
TRAILS, BOARDWALKS, SIDEWALKS				
Trails- Multi-Use Perimeter Trail: Asphalt (10' wide)	1700	lf	\$100	\$170,000
5' Concrete Sidewalk- ADA route to ballfields	100	lf	\$24	\$2,400
STRUCTURES				
Playground	1	ls	\$40,000	\$40,000
Shelters	1	ea	\$150,000	\$150,000
Comfort Station/Restroom ADA Upgrades	1	ea	\$100,000	\$100,000
SITE FURNISHINGS				
Bike Rack	1	ea	\$1,000	\$1,000
Trash Receptacles	1	ea	\$1,200	\$1,200
Picnic Tables - 8'	1	ea	\$2,000	\$2,000
Drinking Fountains (pet, bottle filling, ADA, and drinking)	1	ea	\$2,700	\$2,700

DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	UNIT	UNIT COST	TOTAL
SIGNAGE				
Park identification/Title Signage with Landscape (vehicular)	1	ea	\$7,000	\$7,000
LANDSCAPE				
Landscaping (Trees only) (installed)	1	ls	\$30,000	\$30,000
Shrubs and Groundcover (installed)	1	ls	\$15,000	\$15,000
Specialty Planting	1	ls	\$50,000	\$50,000
	CONSTRUCTION COST SUBTOTAL			\$706,300
	20% CONTINGENCY			\$141,260
	CONSTRUCTION OPINION OF COST			\$847,560
	GEOTECH / DESIGN / PERMITTING / SURVEY / CA (25%)			\$211,890
	PROJECT COST TOTAL			\$1,059,450

HAGOOD PARK

Preliminary discussion of cost- Concept Phase only

Costs presented are preliminary and shall be used for preliminary discussion purposes only. Items are based upon draft conceptual site sketch. Costs and quantities shall be refined as the concept plan develops. Amounts are based upon recent bids and/or discussions with vendors and contractors to be used for planning only.

ESTIMATE FOR MASTER PLANNING PROCESS	TOTAL
Park Master Planning Process	\$50,000 - \$80,000

DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	UNIT	UNIT COST	TOTAL
GENERAL SITE WORK COST CONSIDERATIONS				
Mobilization and Demolition	1	ls	\$30,000	\$30,000
Clearing and Grubbing (wooded area)	1	ac	\$25,000	\$25,000
General Site Grading and Earthwork	1	ls	\$40,000	\$40,000
Construction Entrance	2	ea	\$3,000	\$6,000
Stormwater Controls	1	ls	\$75,000	\$75,000
Sediment and Erosion Control	1	ls	\$50,000	\$50,000
Demolition Allowance	1	ls	\$15,000	\$15,000
Multi-Use Field Lighting	1	ea	\$250,000	\$250,000
Lighting (If not on lease, add lighting costs)	1	ea	\$50,000	\$50,000
PAVING AND ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS				
Parking Spaces	80	ea	\$1,400	\$112,000
Wheel Stops	80	ea	\$70	\$5,600
Roadway upgrade and repaving	600	lf	\$120	\$72,000
TRAILS, BOARDWALKS, SIDEWALKS				
Trails- Multi-Use: Asphalt (10' wide) and connection to Doodle Trail	2300	lf	\$100	\$230,000
5' Concrete Sidewalk	4000	lf	\$20	\$80,000

DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	UNIT	UNIT COST	TOTAL
STRUCTURES				
Shelters	2	ea	\$100,000	\$200,000
Comfort Station/Restroom	1	ea	\$250,000	\$250,000
Maintenance shed	1	ls	\$25,000	\$25,000
PARK FEATURES				
Adventure Playground	1	ls	\$200,000	\$200,000
Nature Based Play area	1	ls	\$150,000	\$150,000
Park Fitness Equipment	5	ea	\$4,000	\$20,000
Relocate Volleyball Court	1	ls	\$15,000	\$15,000
Dog Park (1.5 AC Area for small and large dogs)	1	ls	\$40,000	\$40,000
Multi-Use Field	1	ls	\$200,000	\$200,000
Tennis Courts/Pickleball Stripes	2	ls	\$75,000	\$150,000
basketball	2	ea	\$50,000	\$100,000
Community garden	1	ls	\$40,000	\$40,000
SITE FURNISHINGS				
Bike Rack	1	ea	\$1,000	\$1,000
Trash Receptacles	1	ea	\$1,200	\$1,200
Recycle Bins	1	ea	\$1,200	\$1,200
Picnic Tables - 8'	1	ea	\$2,000	\$2,000
Park Benches - 6'	1	ea	\$1,500	\$1,500
Dog Suport Features (Water Bowls, Dog waste stations, dog rinse,	1	ea	\$2,000	\$2,000
Drinking Fountains (pet, bottle filling, ADA, and drinking)	1	ea	\$2,700	\$2,700

HAGOOD PARK (CONT.)

DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	UNIT	UNIT COST	TOTAL
SIGNAGE				
Park identification/Title Signage with Landscape (vehicular)	1	ea	\$7,000	\$7,000
Title Signage (greenway)	1	ea	\$3,000	\$3,000
Directional Signs (vehicular)	1	ea	\$3,000	\$3,000
Directional Signs (pedestrian)	1	ea	\$1,900	\$1,900
Building and Special Park Features Identification Sign	1	ea	\$700	\$700
LANDSCAPE				
Landscaping (Trees only) (installed)	1	ls	\$30,000	\$30,000
Shrubs and Groundcover (installed)	1	ls	\$15,000	\$15,000
Specialty Planting	1	ls	\$50,000	\$50,000
	CONSTRUCTION COST SUBTOTAL			\$2,552,800
	20% CONTINGENCY			\$510,560
	CONSTRUCTION OPINION OF COST			\$3,063,360
	GEOTECH / DESIGN / PERMITTING / SURVEY / CA (25%)			\$765,840
	PROJECT COST TOTAL			\$3,829,200

JB OWENS

Preliminary discussion of cost- Concept Phase only

Costs presented are preliminary and shall be used for preliminary discussion purposes only. Items are based upon draft conceptual site sketch. Costs and quantities shall be refined as the concept plan develops. Amounts are based upon recent bids and/or discussions with vendors and contractors to be used for planning only.

DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	UNIT	UNIT COST	TOTAL
GENERAL SITE WORK COST CONSIDERATIONS				
Mobilization and Demolition	1	ls	\$30,000	\$30,000
Clearing and Grubbing (wooded area)	3	ac	\$25,000	\$75,000
General Site Grading and Earthwork	1	ls	\$45,000	\$45,000
Construction Entrance	2	ea	\$3,000	\$6,000
Stormwater Controls	1	ls	\$75,000	\$75,000
Sediment and Erosion Control	1	ls	\$50,000	\$50,000
Demolition Allowance	1	ls	\$15,000	\$15,000
PAVING AND ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS				
Parking Spaces	340	ea	\$3,000	\$1,020,000
Roadway	5000	lf	\$120	\$600,000
Stream Crossing	20	lf	\$10,000	\$200,000
High Visibility Crosswalk Intersection (4 crosswalks)	4	ea	\$10,000	\$40,000
Pedestrian Countdown Signals	1	ea	\$14,000	\$14,000
Hawk Signal	1	ea	\$120,000	\$120,000
Pavement Markings	8000	lf	\$10	\$80,000
TRAILS, BOARDWALKS, SIDEWALKS				
Trails- Multi-Use: Asphalt (10' wide)	12000	lf	\$100	\$1,200,000
Trails- Multi-Use within floodplain: Concrete (10' wide)	4800	lf	\$150	\$720,000
Boardwalk	40	lf	\$7,500	\$300,000
5' Concrete Sidewalk	850	lf	\$24	\$20,400
STRUCTURES				
Shelters	1	ea	\$150,000	\$150,000
Comfort Station/Restroom	2	ea	\$250,000	\$500,000
Maintenance Building / Storage	1	ls	\$100,000	\$100,000

DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	UNIT	UNIT COST	TOTAL
PARK FEATURES				
Adventure Playground	1	ls	\$50,000	\$50,000
Community garden near community center	1	ls	\$40,000	\$40,000
Soccer Field (competition)	1	ea	\$720,000	\$720,000
Soccer Field (regular)	1	ea	\$580,000	\$580,000
SITE FURNISHINGS				
Bike Rack	1	ea	\$1,000	\$1,000
Drinking Fountains (pet, bottle filling, ADA, and drinking)	1	ea	\$2,700	\$2,700
Bike Repair Stations	1	ea	\$2,000	\$2,000
Fitness Stations	8	ea	\$4,000	\$32,000
SIGNAGE				
Park identification/Title Signage with Landscape (vehicular)	2	ea	\$7,000	\$14,000
Title Signage (greenway)	5	ea	\$3,000	\$15,000
Directional Signs (vehicular)	5	ea	\$3,000	\$15,000
Directional Signs (pedestrian)	5	ea	\$1,900	\$9,500
Building and Special Park Features Identification Sign	3	ea	\$700	\$2,100
Interpretive Signage	4	ea	\$3,500	\$14,000
Map Kiosk (Pull-up Car & Pedestrian)	4	ea	\$4,500	\$18,000
Trail Mile Markers	8	ea	\$1,500	\$12,000
LANDSCAPE				
Landscaping (Trees only) (installed)	1	ls	\$30,000	\$30,000
Shrubs and Groundcover (installed)	1	ls	\$15,000	\$15,000
Rain Garden	1	ac	\$30,000	\$30,000
Specialty Planting	1	ea	\$30,000	\$30,000
			CONSTRUCTION COST SUBTOTAL	\$6,992,700
			20% CONTINGENCY	\$1,398,540
			CONSTRUCTION OPINION OF COST	\$8,391,240
			GEOTECH / DESIGN / PERMITTING / SURVEY / CA (25%)	\$2,097,810
			PROJECT COST TOTAL	\$10,489,050

KINGS PARK

Preliminary discussion of cost- Concept Phase only

Costs presented are preliminary and shall be used for preliminary discussion purposes only. Items are based upon draft conceptual site sketch. Costs and quantities shall be refined as the concept plan develops. Amounts are based upon recent bids and/or discussions with vendors and contractors to be used for planning only.

ESTIMATE FOR MASTER PLANNING PROCESS	TOTAL
Park Master Planing Process	\$50,000 - \$80,0000

DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	UNIT	UNIT COST	TOTAL
GENERAL SITE WORK COST CONSIDERATIONS				
Mobilization and Demolition	1	ls	\$30,000	\$30,000
Clearing and Grubbing (wooded area)	1	ac	\$25,000	\$25,000
General Site Grading and Earthwork	1	ls	\$45,000	\$45,000
Construction Entrance	1	ea	\$3,000	\$3,000
Sediment and Erosion Control	1	ls	\$15,000	\$15,000
Demolition Allowance	1	ls	\$15,000	\$15,000
TRAILS, BOARDWALKS, SIDEWALKS				
Trails- Multi-Use: Asphalt (10' wide)	2000	lf	\$100	\$200,000
5' Concrete Sidewalk ADA Park route	250	lf	\$24	\$6,000
STRUCTURES				
Shelters	1	ea	\$150,000	\$150,000
Comfort Station/Restroom upgrades	1	ea	\$60,000	\$60,000
SITE FURNISHINGS				
Bike Rack	1	ea	\$1,000	\$1,000
Drinking Fountains (pet, bottle filling, ADA, and drinking)	1	ea	\$2,700	\$2,700

DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	UNIT	UNIT COST	TOTAL
SIGNAGE				
Park identification/Title Signage with Landscape (vehicular)	1	ea	\$7,000	\$7,000
Title Signage (greenway)	1	ea	\$3,000	\$3,000
LANDSCAPE				
Specialty Planting	1	ls	\$50,000	\$50,000
			CONSTRUCTION COST SUBTOTAL	\$612,700
			20% CONTINGENCY	\$122,540
			CONSTRUCTION OPINION OF COST	\$735,240
			GEOTECH / DESIGN / PERMITTING / SURVEY / CA (25%)	\$183,810
			PROJECT COST TOTAL	\$919,050

NALLEY BROWN NATURE CENTER

Preliminary discussion of cost- Concept Phase only

Costs presented are preliminary and shall be used for preliminary discussion purposes only. Items are based upon draft conceptual site sketch. Costs and quantities shall be refined as the concept plan develops. Amounts are based upon recent bids and/or discussions with vendors and contractors to be used for planning only.

DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	UNIT	UNIT COST	TOTAL
GENERAL SITE WORK COST CONSIDERATIONS				
Mobilization and Demolition	1	ls	\$30,000	\$30,000
Clearing and Grubbing (wooded area)	1	ac	\$25,000	\$25,000
General Site Grading and Earthwork	1	ls	\$40,000	\$40,000
Construction Entrance	1	ea	\$3,000	\$3,000
Stormwater Controls	1	ls	\$75,000	\$75,000
Sediment and Erosion Control	1	ls	\$50,000	\$50,000
Demolition Allowance	1	ls	\$15,000	\$15,000
Lighting (If not on lease, add lighting costs)	1	ea	\$50,000	\$50,000
Water Re-use/Rain Barrels	1	ls	\$20,000	\$20,000
PAVING AND ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS				
Parking Spaces	100	ea	\$1,400	\$140,000
Wheel Stops	100	ea	\$70	\$7,000
Roadway	700	lf	\$120	\$84,000
TRAILS, BOARDWALKS, SIDEWALKS				
Trails- Multi-Use: Soft Surface (10' wide)	4000	lf	\$100	\$400,000
Trails: Hardpack (10' wide)	500	lf	\$25	\$12,500
Trails: Single Track / Soft Surface (3' wide)	800	lf	\$20	\$16,000
Boardwalk	200	lf	\$450	\$90,000
Overlooks / Nature Observation	1	allowance per	\$35,000	\$35,000
5' Concrete Sidewalk	500	lf	\$24	\$12,000
STRUCTURES				
Shelters	2	ea	\$150,000	\$300,000
Comfort Station/Restroom	1	ea	\$250,000	\$250,000
Environmental Education Center	1	sf	\$3,000,000	\$3,000,000
Observation Tower	1	ls	\$200,000	\$200,000

DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	UNIT	UNIT COST	TOTAL
PARK FEATURES				
Teaching Gardens	2	ls	\$10,000	\$20,000
Nature Based Play area	1	ls	\$150,000	\$150,000
Community Garden	1	ls	\$40,000	\$40,000
SITE FURNISHINGS				
Bike Rack	1	ea	\$1,000	\$1,000
Trash Receptacles	1	ea	\$1,200	\$1,200
Recycle Bins	1	ea	\$1,200	\$1,200
Picnic Tables - 8'	1	ea	\$2,000	\$2,000
Park Benches - 6'	1	ea	\$1,500	\$1,500
Dog Support Features (Water Bowls, Dog waste stations, dog rinse,	1	ea	\$400	\$400
Drinking Fountains (pet, bottle filling, ADA, and drinking)	1	ea	\$2,700	\$2,700
Bike Repair Stations	1	ea	\$2,000	\$2,000
Fitness Stations	1	ea	\$4,000	\$4,000
SIGNAGE				
Park identification/Title Signage with Landscape (vehicular)	1	ea	\$7,000	\$7,000
Title Signage (greenway)	1	ea	\$3,000	\$3,000
Directional Signs (vehicular)	3	ea	\$3,000	\$9,000
Directional Signs (pedestrian)	8	ea	\$1,900	\$15,200
Building and Special Park Features Identification Sign	5	ea	\$700	\$3,500
Traffic Control Signage	8	ea	\$350	\$2,800
Interpretive Signage	4	ea	\$3,500	\$14,000
Map Kiosk (Pull-up Car & Pedestrian)	1	ea	\$4,500	\$4,500
Mid-Trail Immediate Area Map	3	ea	\$1,000	\$3,000
Trail Blazes	12	ea	\$100	\$1,200
Trail Mile Markers	8	ea	\$1,500	\$12,000
Future Exhibits	1	ls	\$150,000	\$150,000

NALLEY BROWN NATURE CENTER (CONT.)

DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	UNIT	UNIT COST	TOTAL
LANDSCAPE				
Landscaping (Trees only) (installed)	1	ls	\$30,000	\$30,000
Shrubs and Groundcover (installed)	1	ls	\$15,000	\$15,000
Specialty Planting	1	ls	\$50,000	\$50,000
		CONSTRUCTION COST SUBTOTAL		\$5,400,700
		20% CONTINGENCY		\$1,080,140
		CONSTRUCTION OPINION OF COST		\$6,480,840
		GEOTECH / DESIGN / PERMITTING / SURVEY / CA (25%)		\$1,620,210
		PROJECT COST TOTAL		\$8,101,050

OLD MARKET SQUARE

Preliminary discussion of cost- Concept Phase only

Costs presented are preliminary and shall be used for preliminary discussion purposes only. Items are based upon draft conceptual site sketch. Costs and quantities shall be refined as the concept plan develops. Amounts are based upon recent bids and/or discussions with vendors and contractors to be used for planning only.

DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	UNIT	UNIT COST	TOTAL
GENERAL SITE WORK COST CONSIDERATIONS				
Mobilization and Demolition	1	ls	\$30,000	\$30,000
Demolition Allowance	1	ls	\$15,000	\$15,000
TRAILS, BOARDWALKS, SIDEWALKS				
5' Concrete Sidewalk	300	lf	\$30	\$9,000
STRUCTURES				
Composite Shade Structure	1200	sq	\$180	\$216,000
Splash Pad/Water Play	1	ls	\$380,000	\$380,000
SIGNAGE				
Park identification/Title Signage with Landscape	3	ea	\$7,000	\$21,000
Pavement Markings	4	ea	\$200	\$800
LANDSCAPE				
Landscaping (Trees only) (installed)	1	ls	\$30,000	\$30,000
	CONSTRUCTION COST SUBTOTAL			\$701,800
	20% CONTINGENCY			\$140,360
	CONSTRUCTION OPINION OF COST			\$842,160
	GEOTECH / DESIGN / PERMITTING / SURVEY / CA (25%)			\$210,540
	PROJECT COST TOTAL			\$1,052,700

POPE FIELD

Preliminary discussion of cost- Concept Phase only

Costs presented are preliminary and shall be used for preliminary discussion purposes only. Items are based upon draft conceptual site sketch. Costs and quantities shall be refined as the concept plan develops. Amounts are based upon recent bids and/or discussions with vendors and contractors to be used for planning only.

DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	UNIT	UNIT COST	TOTAL
GENERAL SITE WORK COST CONSIDERATIONS				
Mobilization and Demolition	1	ls	\$30,000	\$30,000
Clearing and Grubbing (wooded area)	1	ac	\$25,000	\$25,000
General Site Grading and Earthwork	1	ls	\$20,000	\$20,000
Construction Entrance	1	ea	\$3,000	\$3,000
Stormwater Controls	1	ls	\$40,000	\$40,000
Sediment and Erosion Control	1	ls	\$20,000	\$20,000
Demolition Allowance	1	ls	\$15,000	\$15,000
TRAILS, BOARDWALKS, SIDEWALKS				
Trails- Multi-Use: Asphalt (10' wide)	2500	lf	\$100	\$250,000
5' Concrete Sidewalk	500	lf	\$24	\$12,000
Resurfacing Tennis courts to Pickelball Court	3	ea	\$15,000	\$45,000
STRUCTURES				
Shelters	1	ea	\$150,000	\$150,000
Comfort Station/Restroom	1	ea	\$250,000	\$250,000
PARK FEATURES				
Gardens	1	ls	\$10,000	\$10,000
Updated Playground w/ fitness and Adventure focus	1	ls	\$150,000	\$150,000
SITE FURNISHINGS				
Bike Rack	1	ea	\$1,000	\$1,000
Park Benches - 6'	5	ea	\$1,500	\$7,500
Dog Suport Features (Water Bowls, Dog waste stations, dog rinse,	1	ls	\$2,000	\$2,000
Drinking Fountains (pet, bottle filling, ADA, and drinking)	1	ea	\$2,700	\$2,700
Fitness Stations	5	ea	\$4,000	\$20,000

DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	UNIT	UNIT COST	TOTAL
SIGNAGE				
Park identification/Title Signage with Landscape (vehicular)	1	ea	\$7,000	\$7,000
Title Signage (greenway)	1	ea	\$3,000	\$3,000
Directional Signs (vehicular)	1	ea	\$3,000	\$3,000
LANDSCAPE				
Landscaping (Trees only) (installed)-phase out aged trees add shade trees and parking lot area trees	1	ls	\$30,000	\$30,000
Specialty Planting	1	ls	\$50,000	\$50,000
		CONSTRUCTION COST SUBTOTAL		\$1,146,200
		20% CONTINGENCY		\$229,240
		CONSTRUCTION OPINION OF COST		\$1,375,440
		GEOTECH / DESIGN / PERMITTING / SURVEY / CA (25%)		\$343,860
		PROJECT COST TOTAL		\$1,719,300

WOODSIDE PARK

Preliminary discussion of cost- Concept Phase only

Costs presented are preliminary and shall be used for preliminary discussion purposes only. Items are based upon draft conceptual site sketch. Costs and quantities shall be refined as the concept plan develops. Amounts are based upon recent bids and/or discussions with vendors and contractors to be used for planning only.

ESTIMATE FOR MASTER PLANNING PROCESS	TOTAL
Park Master Planing Process	\$50,000 - \$80,0000

DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	UNIT	UNIT COST	TOTAL
GENERAL SITE WORK COST CONSIDERATIONS				
Mobilization and Demolition	1	ls	\$30,000	\$30,000
Clearing and Grubbing (wooded area- clear understory for good visibility)	1	ac	\$25,000	\$25,000
General Site Grading and Earthwork	1	ls	\$45,000	\$45,000
Construction Entrance	2	ea	\$3,000	\$6,000
Stormwater Controls	1	ls	\$75,000	\$75,000
Sediment and Erosion Control	1	ls	\$50,000	\$50,000
Demolition Allowance	1	ls	\$30,000	\$30,000
Lighting (If not onlease, add lighting costs)	1	ea	\$50,000	\$50,000
PAVING AND ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS				
Parking Spaces	60	ea	\$1,000	\$60,000
Wheel Stops	60	ea	\$70	\$4,200
Roadway	150	lf	\$120	\$18,000
Parking Improvements to existing	1	ls	\$40,000	\$40,000
High Visibility Crosswalk Intersection (4 crosswalks)	2	ea	\$10,000	\$20,000
TRAILS, BOARDWALKS, SIDEWALKS				
Trails- Multi-Use: Asphalt (10' wide)	1500	lf	\$100	\$150,000
5' Concrete Sidewalk	700	lf	\$24	\$16,800
STRUCTURES				
Shelters	2	ea	\$150,000	\$300,000
Comfort Station/Restroom	1	ea	\$250,000	\$250,000

DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	UNIT	UNIT COST	TOTAL
PARK FEATURES				
Gardens	1	ls	\$10,000	\$10,000
Adventure Playground	1	ls	\$150,000	\$150,000
Community and Cultural Art	1	ls	\$20,000	\$20,000
Art/Sculpture projects	1	ls	\$7,000	\$7,000
Basketball Court	1	ls	\$75,000	\$75,000
Community garden	1	ls	\$40,000	\$40,000
Splash Pad/Water Play	1	ls	\$380,000	\$380,000
SITE FURNISHINGS				
Bike Rack	2	ea	\$1,000	\$2,000
Trash Receptacles	1	ea	\$1,200	\$1,200
Recycle Bins	1	ea	\$1,200	\$1,200
Picnic Tables - 8'	6	ea	\$2,000	\$12,000
Dog Suport Features (Water Bowls, Dog waste stations, dog rinse,	1	ea	\$400	\$400
Drinking Fountains (pet, bottle filling, ADA, and drinking)	1	ea	\$2,700	\$2,700
Bike Repair Stations	1	ea	\$2,000	\$2,000
Fitness Stations	5	ea	\$4,000	\$20,000
SIGNAGE				
Park identification/Title Signage with Landscape (vehicular)	2	ea	\$7,000	\$14,000
Directional Signs (vehicular)	2	ea	\$3,000	\$6,000
Directional Signs (pedestrian)	4	ea	\$1,900	\$7,600
Building and Special Park Features Identification Sign	3	ea	\$700	\$2,100
LANDSCAPE				
Landscaping (Trees only) (installed)	1	ls	\$30,000	\$30,000
Shrubs and Groundcover (installed)	1	ls	\$15,000	\$15,000
Specialty Planting	1	ls	\$50,000	\$50,000
			CONSTRUCTION COST SUBTOTAL	\$2,018,200
			20% CONTINGENCY	\$403,640
			CONSTRUCTION OPINION OF COST	\$2,421,840
			GEOTECH / DESIGN / PERMITTING / SURVEY / CA (25%)	\$605,460
			PROJECT COST TOTAL	\$3,027,300

GREENWAY AND TRAILS

Preliminary discussion of cost- Concept Phase only

Costs presented are preliminary and shall be used for preliminary discussion purposes only. Items are based upon draft conceptual site sketch. Costs and quantities shall be refined as the concept plan develops. Amounts are based upon recent bids and/or discussions with vendors and contractors to be used for planning only.

ESTIMATE FOR MASTER PLANNING PROCESS	TOTAL
Greenway Feasibility Study (per project if needed)	\$70,000

DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	UNIT	UNIT COST	TOTAL
GENERAL SITE WORK COST CONSIDERATIONS				
Mobilization and Demolition	4	ea	\$30,000	\$120,000
Clearing and Grubbing (wooded area)	4	ea	\$25,000	\$100,000
Construction Entrance	4	ea	\$3,000	\$12,000
Stormwater Controls	4	ea	\$75,000	\$300,000
Sediment and Erosion Control	4	ea	\$50,000	\$200,000
Demolition Allowance	4	ea	\$15,000	\$60,000
Lighting	8	ea	\$10,000	\$80,000
TRAILS, BOARDWALKS, SIDEWALKS				
Trails- Multi-Use: Asphalt (10' wide)	40603	lf	\$100	\$4,060,320
Trails: Hardpack (10' wide)	37171	lf	\$35	\$1,300,992
5' Concrete Sidewalk	32736	lf	\$30	\$982,080
SIGNAGE				
Park identification/Title Signage with Landscape (vehicular)	7	ea	\$7,000	\$49,000
Title Signage (greenway)	10	ea	\$3,000	\$30,000
Directional Signs (pedestrian)	14	ea	\$1,900	\$26,600
Traffic Control Signage	10	ea	\$350	\$3,500
Interpretive Signage	14	ea	\$3,500	\$49,000
Map Kiosk (Pull-up Car & Pedestrian)	14	ea	\$4,500	\$63,000
Trail Blazes	56	ea	\$100	\$5,600
Trail Mile Markers	56	ea	\$1,500	\$84,000
LANDSCAPE				

DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	UNIT	UNIT COST	TOTAL
Landscaping (Trees only) (installed)	8	ls	\$25,000	\$193,250
Shrubs and Groundcover (installed)	8	ls	\$10,000	\$77,300
	CONSTRUCTION COST SUBTOTAL			\$7,796,642
	20% CONTINGENCY			\$1,559,328
	CONSTRUCTION OPINION OF COST			\$9,355,970
	GEOTECH / DESIGN / PERMITTING / SURVEY / CA (25%)			\$2,338,993
	PROJECT COST TOTAL			\$11,694,963

Appendix C - Funding

POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES

This section outlines sources of funding for greenway trails along with bicycle, pedestrian, and redevelopment projects for the City of Easley. When considering possible funding sources, it is important to understand that not all construction activities will be accomplished with a single funding source. Funding is administered at all levels of government (federal, state, local) and through private sources. The following section identifies potential matching and funding sources, and the criteria for certain projects and programs. Further information and should be consulted prior to applying for funds as each source of funding can be modified at any time.

FEDERAL FUNDING SOURCES

Federal funding is often directed through state agencies to local governments either in the form of grants or direct appropriations, independent from state budgets. Federal funding typically requires a local match of 20%, although there are sometimes exceptions, such as the 2009 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act stimulus funds, which did not require a match.

The following is a list of possible Federal funding sources that could be used to support construction of many pedestrian and bicycle improvements. It should be noted that the FHWA encourages the construction of pedestrian and bicycle facilities as an incidental element of larger ongoing projects, such as building sidewalks or on-street bikeways as part of new highways.

Transportation Alternatives Program

The Transportation Alternatives Program using FAST Act funding sources and is available through a competitive process.

Eligible applicants: local governments, regional transportation authorities, transit agencies, school districts or schools, and any other local or regional government entity with responsibility for oversight of transportation or recreational trails.

Eligible programs: recreational trails and programs and infrastructure-related projects that provide safe routes for active transportation users, such as on and off-road trails, Safe Route to School programs, sidewalks, and bikeways.

Highway Safety Improvement Program

The Highway Safety Improvement Program funding aims to help communities achieve significant reductions in traffic fatalities and serious injuries on all public roads. Funding for this program is allocated to states.

Eligible applicants: funding for this program is allocated to the state.

Eligible programs: safety projects that are consistent with the State's Strategic Highway Safety Plan; bike and pedestrian safety improvements, traffic calming projects, and crossing treatments such as pedestrian hybrid beacons, medians, and pedestrian crossing islands.

Surface Transportation Block Grant Program

The Surface Transportation Block Grant Program provides states with flexible funds for a variety of highway, road, bridge, and transit projects.

Eligible applicants: funding for this program is allocated to the state.

Eligible programs: recreational trail projects, pedestrian improvements, Safe Routes to School and congestion pricing projects.

Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery Discretionary Grants

The Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) Discretionary Grants provide funding intended to support multimodal projects, surface transportation projects, rail, transit, and port projects.

Eligible applicants: State, local, and tribal governments; transit agencies, port authorities, and Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs).

Eligible programs: capital projects that include highway or bridge projects (including bike and pedestrian-related projects), certain public transportation projects, passenger and freight rail transportation projects, and intermodal projects.

Community Development Block Grants

The State Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program is a federally funded program that is administered by the South Carolina Department of Commerce, Division of Grants Administration. The program addresses a variety of community and economic development needs.

The Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) program provides money for streetscape revitalization, which may be comprised of pedestrian improvements.

Eligible applicants: local government entities.

Eligible programs: community and economic development projects such as streetscape revitalization and pedestrian improvements.

Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality Program

The Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) Program provides funding for projects and programs in air quality nonattainment and maintenance areas for ozone, carbon monoxide, and particulate matter which reduce transportation related emissions. States with no nonattainment areas may use their CMAQ funds for any CMAQ or STP eligible project.

Eligible applicants: funding for this program is allocated to states.

Eligible programs: bicycle and pedestrian facilities that reduce travel by automobile. Purely recreational facilities generally are not eligible.

STATE FUNDING SOURCES

The following is a list of possible State funding sources that could be used to support construction of many pedestrian and bicycle improvements in the City of Easley.

Recreation Trails Program

The Recreational Trails Program (RTP) is a federal-aid assistance program designed to help states provide and maintain recreational trails for both motorized and nonmotorized recreational trail use. In South Carolina, RTP is administered by the South Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism.

Eligible applicants: local, state and federal government entities along with private organizations that operate public recreational facilities.

Eligible programs: construction and maintenance of recreational trails open to the public on state, county, municipal or private lands.

Land and Water Conservation Fund

The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) is a federal assistance program provides matching grants to States and local governments for the acquisition and development of public outdoor recreation areas and facilities, including trails. In South Carolina, the LWCF is administered through the South Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism.

Eligible applicants: counties, cities, and Special Purpose Districts with authority to acquire develop, operate, and maintain public park and recreation areas.

Eligible programs: Outdoor public recreation projects and indoor facilities that support adjacent outdoor public recreation activities.

Parks and Recreation Development Fund

The Parks and Recreation Development (PARD) Fund is a is a state-funded noncompetitive reimbursable grant program.

Eligible applicants: any local government unit, including special purpose districts, which has provided parks or recreation services

Eligible programs: Planning, development and renovation of outdoor recreation opportunities.

Statewide Transportation Improvement Program

The Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) is The South Carolina Department of Transportation's (SCDOT) short-term capital improvement program, providing project funding and scheduling information for the department and South Carolina's metropolitan planning organizations.

The program provides guidance for the next six years and is updated every three years. The South Carolina Department of Transportation Commission, as well as the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) approve the STIP.

South Carolina Department of Transportation Maintenance Program

SCDOT operates a number of road resurfacing maintenance projects annually. There may be opportunities for road restriping to be completed as part of regular roadway maintenance. This will require coordination between the City of Easley, the SCDOT District Traffic Engineer and the local maintenance office to ensure that the pavement marking design is appropriate and safe for cyclists and drivers.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUNDING SOURCES

Local funding sources that would support bike and pedestrian facility project construction will most likely be limited but should be explored to support the City of Easley's active transportation projects.

Metropolitan Planning Organization

The Greenville-Pickens Area Transportation Study (GPATS) is the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the area. MPOs are a partnership between local and state government that makes decisions about transportation planning in urbanized areas and meets planning requirements established by federally authorizing legislation for transportation funding. GPATS works cooperatively with SCDOT to develop road projects, safety projects, bicycle and pedestrian projects, and public transit. GPATS also works with local governments to coordinate land use and transportation planning.

General Fund

The General Fund is often used to pay for maintenance expenses and limited capital improvement projects. Projects identified for reconstruction or repavement as part of the Capital Improvements list should also implement recommendations for bicycle or pedestrian improvements in order to reduce additional costs.

Local Bond Measures

Local bond measures, or levies, are usually general obligation bonds for specific projects. Bond measures are typically limited by time based on the debt load of the local government or the project under focus. Funding from bond measures can be used for engineering, design and construction of trails, greenways, and pedestrian and bicycle facilities. A bond issued in Denver, Colorado funded \$5 million for trail development and also funded the City's bike planner for several years. In 2012, voters in Austin, Texas approved a \$143 million bond to fund a variety of mobility and active transportation projects.

System Development Charges/Developer Impact Fees

System Development Charges (SDCs), also known as Developer Impact Fees, represent another potential local funding source. SDCs are typically tied to trip generation rates and traffic impacts produced by a proposed project. A developer may reduce the number of trips (and hence impacts and cost) by paying for on- or off-site pedestrian and bicycle improvements that will encourage residents to walk (or use transit, if available) rather than drive. In-lieu parking fees may be used to help construct new or improved pedestrian and bicycle facilities. Establishing a clear nexus or connection between the impact fee and the project's impacts is critical in avoiding a potential lawsuit.

Street User Fees

Many cities administer street user fees through residents' monthly water or other utility bills. The revenue generated by the fee can be used for operations and maintenance of the street system, and priorities would be established by the Public Works Department. Revenue from this fund can be used to maintain on-street bicycle and pedestrian facilities, including routine sweeping of bicycle lanes and other designated bicycle routes.

In Lieu of Fees

Developers often dedicate open space or greenways in exchange for waiving fees associated with park and open space allocation requirements in respect to proposed development. These types of requirements are presented within local municipal codes and ordinances.

Local Improvement Districts (LIDs)

Local Improvement Districts (LIDs) are most often used by cities to construct localized projects such as streets, sidewalks or bikeways. Through the LID process, the costs of local improvements are generally spread out among a group of property owners within a specified area. The cost can be allocated based on property frontage or other methods such as traffic trip generation. Based on South Carolina's Municipal Improvements Act of 1999, LIDs can include a Municipal Improvement District (MID), a County Public Works Improvement District (CPWID) or a Residential Improvement District (RID).

Business Improvement Area or District (BIA or BID)

Trail development and pedestrian and bicycle improvements can often be included as part of larger efforts aimed at business improvement and retail district beautification. Business Improvement Areas collect levies on businesses in order to fund area wide improvements that benefit businesses and improve access for customers. These districts may include provisions for pedestrian and bicycle improvements, including as wider sidewalks, landscaping and ADA compliance.

Sales Tax

Local governments that choose to exercise a local option sales tax use the tax revenues to provide funding for a wide variety of projects and activities. The City of Easley's bicycle and pedestrian projects can be funded by a portion of local sales tax revenue or from a voter approved sales tax increase.

In 2004, Charleston County voters approved a ½ cent sales tax for the purpose of financing transportation and greenbelt projects. Voters approved a second referendum in 2006. Any increase in the sales tax, even if applying to a single county, must gain approval of the state legislature.

Property Tax

Property taxes generally support a significant portion of a local government's activities. However, the revenues from property taxes can also be used to pay debt service on general obligation bonds issued to finance open space system acquisitions. Because of limits imposed on tax rates, use of property taxes to fund open space could limit the county's or a municipality's ability to raise funds for other activities. Property taxes can provide a steady stream of financing while broadly distributing the tax burden.

Excise Taxes

Excise taxes are taxes on specific goods and services. These taxes require special legislation and the use of the funds generated through the tax are limited to specific uses. Examples include lodging, food, and beverage taxes that generate funds for promotion of tourism, and the gas tax that generates revenues for transportation-related activities.

Tax Increment Financing (TIF)

Tax Increment Financing is a tool to use future gains in taxes to finance the current improvements that will create those gains. When a public project (e.g., shared use trail) is constructed, surrounding property values generally increase and encourage surrounding development or redevelopment. The increased tax revenues are then dedicated to support the debt created by the original public improvement project.

PRIVATE SECTOR FUNDING SOURCES

Many communities have solicited greenway funding assistance from private foundations and other conservation-minded benefactors. Below are several examples of private funding opportunities available.

People for Bikes Community Grant Program

The Bikes Belong Coalition of bicycle suppliers and retailers has awarded \$1.2 million and leveraged an additional \$470 million since its inception in 1999. The program funds corridor improvements, mountain bike trails, BMX parks, trails, and park access. It is funded by the Bikes Belong Employee Pro Purchase Program.

Eligible applicants: non-profit organizations, city or county agencies or departments, and from state or federal agencies working locally.

Eligible programs: bicycle infrastructure projects and some advocacy programs.

National Trails Fund

American Hiking Society administers the National Trails Fund, the only privately supported national grants program working toward establishing, protecting and maintaining foot trails in America. The fund offers Micro-Grants to active organizations of their Alliance of Hiking Organizations.

Eligible applicants: active organizations of the American Hiking Society's Alliance of Hiking Organizations.

Eligible programs: Securing trail lands, building and maintaining trails, and constituency building around specific trail projects.

The Kodak American Greenways Program

The Conservation Fund's American Greenways Program has teamed with the Eastman Kodak Corporation and the National Geographic Society to award small grants (\$250 to \$2,000) to stimulate the planning, design and development of greenways.

Eligible applicants: primarily to local, regional or statewide nonprofit organizations. Although public agencies may also apply, community organizations will receive preference.

Eligible programs: Planning, technical assistance, and legal costs related to greenway project development.

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation funds initiatives that promote healthy communities and lifestyles, and foster a culture of health. Active funding programs can be found at <http://www.rwjf.org/applications/>

OTHER SOURCES

Local Trail Sponsors

A sponsorship program for trail amenities allows smaller donations to be received from both individuals and businesses. Cash donations could be placed into a trust fund to be accessed for certain construction or acquisition projects associated with the greenways and open space system. Some recognition of the donors is appropriate and can be accomplished through the placement of a plaque, the naming of a trail segment, and/or special recognition at an opening ceremony. Types of gifts other than cash could include donations of services, equipment, labor, or reduced costs for supplies.

Corporate Donations

Corporate donations are often received in the form of liquid investments (i.e. cash, stock, bonds) and in the form of land. Employers recognize that creating places to bike and walk is one way to build community and attract a quality work force. Bicycling and outdoor recreation businesses often support local projects and programs. Municipalities typically create funds to facilitate and simplify a transaction from a corporation's donation to the given municipality. Donations are mainly received when a widely supported capital improvement program is implemented. Such donations can improve capital budgets and/or projects.

Volunteer Work and Public-Private Partnerships

Individual volunteers from the community can be brought together with groups of volunteers from church groups, civic groups, scout troops and environmental groups to work on greenway development on special community workdays. Volunteers can also be used for fundraising, maintenance, and programming needs. Local schools or community groups may use the bikeway projects as a project for the year, possibly working with a local designer or engineer. Work parties may be formed to help clear the right-of-way where needed. A local construction company may donate or discount services.

Private Individual Donations

Private individual donations can come in the form of liquid investments (i.e. cash, stock, bonds) or land. Municipalities typically create funds to facilitate and simplify a transaction from an individual's donation to the given municipality. Donations are mainly received when a widely supported capital improvement program is implemented. Such donations can improve capital budgets and/or projects.

Fundraising / Campaign Drives

Organizations and individuals can participate in a fundraiser or a campaign drive. It is essential to market the purpose of a fundraiser to rally support and financial backing. Oftentimes fundraising satisfies the need for public awareness, public education, and financial support.

Land Trust Acquisition and Donation

Land trusts are held by a third party other than the primary holder and the beneficiaries. This land is oftentimes held in a corporation for facilitating the transfer between two parties. For conservation purposes, land is often held in a land trust and received through a land trust. A land trust typically has a specific purpose such as conservation and is used so land will be preserved as the primary holder had originally intended.

Adopt a Trail Program

A challenge grant program with local businesses or organizations may be a good source of local funding, where corporations or volunteer groups 'adopt' a trail and help maintain the facility.