



**PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT
MEMORANDUM #17-2017**

DATE: August 28, 2017
TO: Honorable Mayor Joyce Downing and City Council Members
FROM: James A. Hayes, AICP, City Manager 
Amanda J. Peterson, Director of Parks, Recreation and Culture 
SUBJECT: 2017 Parks and Recreation Master Plan Update - CR-88

PURPOSE

Attached to this memorandum is a Resolution which, if approved, would adopt the 2017 revisions to the City of Northglenn's Parks and Recreation Master Plan. The proposed plan complies with the obligations of the Parks and Recreation Advisory board, as described in section 17-2-7 of the Municipal Code.

BACKGROUND: This document is subject to annual review, with a revisions to be made every five years. The plan was most recently updated in 2011.

Staff is pleased to report that all of the "funded" projects identified in the 2011 plan were completed between 2011 and 2017, and all but one of the "unfunded" projects were either completed or had moved into the "funded" category.

City staff has worked with the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board to update the plan in-house for 2017. Much of the information in the current revision of the Master Plan is similar to previous years. The plan has been updated to include a current inventory of existing Parks and Recreation Facilities and the funded and unfunded Capital Improvement Projects that are needed and/or desired in future years.

Other changes to the plan include updates to reflect current demographics, and the addition of the department's mission statement, as adopted in 2016.

This plan is primarily utilized to further detail the city's five year CIP, and as supporting documentation for grant requests.

BUDGET/TIME IMPLICATIONS: The 2017 operating budget and CIP budget for the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department includes adequate funds for implementation of the sections of the plan proposed for action this year. Other long-term commitments in the plan will be reviewed on an annual basis and included in future proposed budgets as appropriate.

RECOMMENDATION

A recommendation to adopt the document was approved unanimously by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board on August 10, 2017. Staff recommends approval of the proposed Resolution as presented.

STAFF REFERENCE

For additional information, please contact Amanda Peterson, Director of Parks, Recreation & Culture at apeterson@northglenn.org or 303.450.8950.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A

2017 Parks and Recreation Master Plan

SPONSORED BY: MAYOR DOWNING

COUNCILMAN'S RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION NO.

No. CR-88
Series of 2017

Series of 2017

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE 2017 REVISED PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTHGLENN COLORADO, THAT:

Section 1. The 2017 Revised Parks and Recreation Master Plan, a copy of which is attached hereto and marked as Exhibit A, is hereby adopted by the City Council of the City of Northglenn, Colorado.

DATED at Northglenn, Colorado, this ____ day of _____, 2017.

JOYCE DOWNING
Mayor

ATTEST:

JOHANNA SMALL, CMC
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

COREY Y. HOFFMANN
City Attorney



Parks and Recreation Master Plan

2017



Introduction.....	1
Purpose.....	1
Background.....	1
Goals and Actions.....	1
Parks & Facility Inventory	2
Parks.....	2
Open Space.....	6
Nature Areas.....	7
Recreation & Sports Facilities	8
Right of Ways.....	9
Administration & Maintenance Facilities	9
Demographics.....	10
Geography	10
Population	11
Households.....	11
Mobility.....	11
Income	11
Education.....	12
Forecasts	12
Needs Assessment.....	12
Property Acquisition	13
Annual Review	13
Public Input Process	13
Maintenance and Improvement Plan.....	14
Five-Year Capital Improvement Program.....	14
Project Descriptions	15
Facilities Maintenance & Standards.....	18
Funding & Implementation.....	19
Current Expenditures and Revenues	19

Introduction

Purpose

As per Chapter 17-2-7(d) of the Northglenn Municipal Code, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board has the following responsibility:

“To assist and advise the City Manager and the City Council in determining the community’s needs and desires for parks, programs, and facilities in relationship to the Parks Master Plan, to review the Parks Master Plan on a yearly basis, and to recommend formal updates to the Parks Master Plan no less than every five (5) years to achieve an equitable balance, within reason, of parks, programs and facilities in the City.”

The following document is submitted in accordance with Chapter 17-2-7(d) of the Northglenn Municipal Code.

Background

In 1986, City Council adopted the City’s first comprehensive Parks and Recreation Master Plan. In addition, upon adoption of the Master Plan, the Council appointed a Task Force to develop a ten (10) year Implementation Plan for the Master Plan. Membership on the Task Force included representatives of City Council, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, the Planning Commission and City Staff. The ten (10) year Implementation Plan was adopted by City Council in 1987.

The authors of both the Master Plan and the Implementation Plan recognized that the parks and recreation desires and preferences of the community are continually evolving and recommended

that an annual evaluation be conducted to address and consider revisions to the plan. The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board are thus charged with conducting an annual review of the Master Plan and making recommendations for its update and revision.

In 2012, a shift was made to review the plan annually, with a formal update to occur every five years. The 2017 plan includes a current inventory of existing parks and facilities, as well as a 5-year Capital Improvement Plan, and an extended list of future capital improvement needs and desires.

During the 2017 review of this plan, it was noted that all of the “funded” projects and priorities outlined in the 2011 plan were completed, and all of the “unfunded” projects and priorities were either completed or moved into the “funded” category and are on track to be complete under this plan.

Goals and Actions

In 2016, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board adopted the following mission statement for the department: “The City of Northglenn’s Department of Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services and the Community Engagement Division strive to provide high quality recreation programs, parks, facilities, special events and community engagement opportunities to create community interaction, promote physical health and wellbeing and enhance the quality of life for residents and participants.”

As per Chapter 17-1-1 of the Northglenn Municipal Code, “The City Council of the City of Northglenn finds, determines and

declares that it is necessary and desirable that the City undertake to provide parks and recreation services, within the territorial limits of the City; and that it is necessary and desirable that the City provide recreation facilities of high quality to its citizens.” In addition, the city seeks to provide family friendly community events and engaging volunteer opportunities.

This Master Plan seeks to complement City-wide efforts and organizational direction as it relates to the roles and functions of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board and staff to achieve near-term and long-term capital improvements to the City’s parks, public grounds, and recreational assets and amenities. Existing plans and goals, such as the City’s Comprehensive Plan, the Civic Center Master Plan and City Council Goals are referenced to ensure consistency across departments.

It is hoped and anticipated that the community at large will support the efforts of staff and the public process that occurred to have identified and listed the noted and desired improvements to our recreational and leisure time assets. This document is intended to serve as a roadmap to guide staff toward the successful completion of multiple projects, pending the availability of required financial resources, to help assure the achievement of Council goals and the City Manager’s goals and the expressed wishes of the public, and in so doing provide a contribution to achieving what we all cooperatively strive for. When applicable, projects described within this Master Plan refers to the current goals as stated below.

In February 2017, the City Council established four high priority projects. These projects are:

- Northglenn Marketplace Redevelopment
- Civic Center Campus Master Plan Implementation
- Huron Street Rehabilitation
- Lift Station A Design and Construction

The City’s Strategic Goals, as adopted in 2008 are:

- Upgraded city infrastructure and facilities
- Fiscally responsible city government
- Strong, competitive businesses
- Community governance with civic partnerships
- Clean and beautiful city
- Livable neighborhoods and homes

Parks & Facility Inventory

Parks

Alvin B. Thomas Park

This neighborhood park is located at the corner of Leroy Drive and Rosalie Drive. The park is composed of approximately 2.7 acres of turf, along with basketball courts, a children’s playground, a small picnic shelter with tables and a grill. The turf field is occasionally used for organized soccer practices. In 1981, this park was dedicated to former Mayor Alvin B. Thomas. This park was last renovated in 2011.

Eleanor M. Wyatt Centennial Park & Sculpture Garden

This quiet, passive recreation space is located on Kennedy Drive and Melody Drive, just to the north of the Northglenn Marketplace. This park is the home of the Centennial Bell flower bed, a native flower bed and the Rose Garden, maintained by the Northglenn Garden Club. In dedication of the Nation's 200th Anniversary and the State of Colorado's 100th Anniversary, a time capsule is buried in the park, and is scheduled to be opened on August 1, 2026, and then re-buried until July 4, 2076. This park was originally named the "Civic Gardens," and was re-named after Eleanor M. Wyatt in 1981 for her contribution and dedication to the Northglenn Metropolitan Recreation District and the Northglenn Garden Club.

In 2016, the park became home to the City's first sculpture garden. Four sculptures were placed in the park during the inaugural season, with room for an anticipated 20-25 sculptures to be placed during the next two to three decades.

Charles C. Winburn Park

This park is located on Huron, just south of 112th Avenue. This area is the home of the Winburn Ponds, a small gazebo and a large turf field. The park is primarily a space for passive recreation, though a recent proposal to develop a disc golf course on the property is under consideration.



Figure 1: Winburn Park Gazebo and Ascension sculpture

This park is home to "Ascension," a sculpture gifted to the City by the Northglenn Arts and Humanities Foundation. In 1987, the park was named in honor of former Mayor Charles C. Winburn.



E.B. Rains Jr. Memorial Park

The City's flagship park, E.B. Rains Jr. Memorial Park is over 28 acres in size. Located just to the east of the Northglenn Recreation Center, this park offers fishing, walking trails, pedal boats, and the Sensory Playground. Amenities also include restrooms, barbeque grills and water fountains. This park is often used as a community gathering place

Figure 2: Fox Run North Park Sign, with playground in the background

for both private and public functions – on any given day throughout the year there may be a wedding, a birthday party or a city event taking place in one of the pavilions. This park hosts the Pirate Festival, the Magic Festival, the July 4th Family Festival, the Summer Concert Series and the Kids Fishing Derby on an annual basis. There are many flower beds cared for by volunteers, including the Peace Garden and the high-impact “Triangle” bed. This park is also the location of the City’s “Art on Parade” program, with six sculpture pads placed along the trail throughout the park. The park is home to the 15,000 square foot Don Anema Memorial Skatepark, constructed in 2011. The playground underwent minor repair in 2014, with a more substantial renovation scheduled for 2021, proposed to include the replacement of the poured in place safety surfacing, broken or aging playground equipment and renovation of the restroom facility.

Fox Run – North, Central & South Parks

These three, two-acre parks located throughout the Fox Run Subdivision were established in 2000. Each of the parks primarily serves the surrounding neighborhood, and includes a children’s playground, picnic tables, benches and basketball courts. These three playgrounds were last renovated in 2014.

Central Park is home to High Four, one of the sculptures that has been gifted to the City from the NAHF, as a part of the City’s permanent art collection.

Hugh Danahy Park

This park and playground are located at the corner of Roseanna Drive and

Livingston Drive. The playground equipment and other park amenities were last renovated in 2012.

Danahy Park is home to Friends, another sculpture gifted to the City by the NAHF.

Huron Crossing Park

This small neighborhood playground and park consists of just under 2 acres of turf and a children’s playground. There is also a basketball court, a small gazebo with a picnic table, a grill and a water fountain. The playground equipment was last replaced in 2009.



Figure 2: Playground at Huron Crossing

Thanks to several generous donations from a local business owner, additional amenities have been added in the past several years, including new basketball hoops, the grill, a new water fountain, and an outdoor ping pong table.

J.D. Cayton Park

This neighborhood park is adjacent to the playground at Hillcrest Elementary. There are several picnic tables with a fenced turf area that is occasionally utilized for youth sports practices.

Bill Goodspeed Happy Tails Dog Park

The City's only off-leash Dog Park is located on the east side of Irma Drive at Leroy Drive. The Dog Park was established in 2003 and is an asset to the community and the many dogs and their owners who visit the park daily. Former Councilman William "Bill" Goodspeed was instrumental in the park's conception. The park includes a fenced area, a shade structure, a water fountain and solar lighting.

The park underwent a major renovation in 2012. At that time, surfacing was replaced and the park was regraded to

Figure 4: Larson Park

improve drainage. Fencing was improved, and a small dog area was established. In addition, trees and benches were added to make the space more hospitable to park users.

Larson Glenn Park

This 1 acre park has a small picnic shelter and a basketball court, along with a parking lot to accommodate users. The asphalt basketball court and parking lot were improved in 2016, in coordination with the roadway improvements on 112th Avenue. At that time, planting beds were added along the south and west perimeter of the park, providing better separation between the park and the roadway.

Larson Park

This 3 acre park at 108th and Larson Drive has two large children's play structures, an open turf area, basketball and several picnic tables. This playground underwent a major renovation in 2015-2016. A new "Dinosaur Tracks" themed play structure

was added. In addition, the equipment for the two-five year olds was moved further back from the roadway and permanent outdoor adult fitness equipment was added.



Malley Park

This space is adjacent to Malley Elementary School, and includes picnic tables and nearly 4 acres of turf.

Sperry Park

This well-utilized neighborhood park has nearly 3 acres of turf sports fields, often utilized for impromptu volleyball or soccer games. The space is occasionally used for organized youth sports practices. The playground equipment was last renovated in 2010 with forest-themed play structures. The park also has a basketball court and picnic tables.

Stukey Park

This 3 acre park is adjacent to Stukey Elementary, and consists of a large grassy area often used by students at the school for team sports.

Village Greens I & II

These two small neighborhood parks are each just over 1 acre in size, and are located at 116th and Sherman and

116th and Pennsylvania. There are picnic tables, flower beds, large grassy areas and children's playgrounds at each of the two parks. The playground equipment is scheduled for replacement in 2017.



Figure 5: Playground at Village Greens II

Wyco Park

This site is adjacent to two elementary schools, STEM Lab and Hulstrom Options. As stated in the 2011 Parks and Recreation Master Plan, there is a desire to establish a joint use playground on this site as the previous playground was removed in 2009 as a part of the school renovation. A new playground was construction by Adams 12 Five Star Schools in 2013, but with the need for further renovations of the school, the playground was once again impacted. In 2017, the City entered into an Intergovernmental Agreement so that the school district could make necessary improvements to the school and have adequate staging space for construction. The school district will relocate the city's existing trail to the south side of the tennis courts, build a joint-use playground partially on city-owned property to the north side of the tennis courts and resurface the aging in-line hockey rink as a hard-surface sport-court. This work is anticipated to be complete by 2019.

Open Space

Grant Park

This park is located at 105th and Grant Drive alongside the C. A. "Gundy" Gunderson (Grant Ditch) Trail. The area is maintained in a natural state.

Scout Park

This park is located at 112th Place and Highline Drive adjacent to the property owned by the Community Reach Center. This space is undeveloped but is regularly used for archery practice.

Grange Hall Creek Trail Connection at Washington Street

The Grange Hall Creek trail runs east to west through Northglenn along Grange Hall Creek and generally provides the pedestrian or bicyclist easy passage without having to 'share the road' with motor vehicles. In 2013, an underpass was established at Washington Street, to improve trail connectivity and pedestrian safety. The crossing at Irma Drive is at-grade.

Another sculpture in the city's collection, Bee My Honey, sits adjacent to the trail, near the pedestrian underpass.

Grant Ditch/C.A. "Gundy" Gunderson Trail at Grant Ditch

Grant Ditch, a corridor along the east side of I-25 between the Farmers Highline Canal and Grant Ditch and along Grant Ditch to the eastern limits of the City of Northglenn, was adopted as part of the State Trail System in October of 1973. In January 2010, City Council resolved to rename the Grant Ditch Trail the C. A. "Gundy" Gunderson Trail in

honor of former Chief of Police, Carlisle “Gundy” Gunderson. A sign was erected identifying the C. A. “Gundy” Gunderson Trail at Grant Ditch and the 6,855 foot trail was dedicated to Chief Gunderson on May 12, 2010.

Nature Areas

Oscar Arnold Nature Area

The Oscar Arnold Nature Area is nestled alongside the athletic fields at Northwest Open Space on the northeast portion of the property north of the Farmers’ Highline Canal Trail running through the property and hosts a unique blend of wooded areas with mature cottonwoods, cattail marshes, and other wetland plants that are valuable resources for wildlife. A variety of species including foxes, coyotes, raccoons, hawks, pheasants, and owls, among others are residents of this area. The City adopted an Open Space Management Plan in 2002, updated in 2009, identifying a long-term maintenance and improvement program to the park’s natural area to control undesirable vegetative growth and enhance and preserve its standing as a wildlife habitat.

Croke Reservoir Nature Area/Bill Gillespie Nature Trail

The Croke Reservoir Nature Area is located at Huron and Naiad Streets and is home to a wide range of wildlife such as fish, snapping turtles, water fowl, herons, red-winged black birds, muskrats, raccoons, and an occasional fox. Willows and cottonwoods surround this area, providing a peaceful place to stop and rest. Fishing is permitted from April to mid-August but is limited to lures and flies and is prohibited on the north side of the reservoir for environmental reasons. Croke Reservoir was

rehabilitated in 2009 when the reservoir was drained and the shoreline stabilized. Many new amenities were added to the east side such as a walking path and pavilion with steps that lead to the water where you can sit and enjoy the view. Through the efforts of over 1200 volunteers, the following improvements were also made: removal of chain link gate near bridge, painting bridge railings, painting posts on entrance sign, trimming branches near bridge, painting metal railings, and replacement of 18 railroad ties on the fishing pier. The piece of sculpture, Hop To It!, found a new home here after the rehabilitation work was complete. The 3,988 feet of nature trail that wraps around the reservoir was renamed the Bill Gillespie Nature Trail on November 9, 2009 in honor of a former Councilman, resident and volunteer. Parks staff constructed a Memorial Sign identifying the Bill Gillespie Nature Trail and dedicated the trail to Mr. Gillespie on May 21, 2010.

Fox Run Nature Area

The Fox Run Open Space west of Fox Run Parkway was designated as the area to be renamed a Nature Area in April of 2007 from Planned Unit Development (PUD) to Open O-1. As defined, the Nature Area shall be protected from development but may also be used for unimproved trails, buffering between land uses, defining the edges of urbanization and the preservation of valuable natural features and ecosystems. Utilities and existing improvements located in a nature area may be maintained as necessary, but reasonable efforts should be used to minimize environmental impacts.

Improvements were made to the Nature Area in 2016-17, including rehabilitating the crusher fines trail, adding trees and creating three educational overlooks with interpretive signage. Students from STEM Lab and staff from Bird Conservancy of the Rockies participated in the project.

Recreation & Sports Facilities

Recreation Center

The 40,000 square foot Recreation Center was built in 1974, and includes a

Figure 6: Fox Run Nature Area

swimming pool with starting blocks, gymnasium, locker rooms, racquetball courts, weight room, classrooms, senior center and a 300-seat performing arts theatre. The recreation center offers a variety of passive and active recreation activities annually for persons of all ages, abilities and interests, with over 200,000 visits to the facility each year.

Major renovations to meet both code compliance requirements and user needs were conducted between 2010 and 2015. These improvements included a remodeled locker rooms, replacement of the pool liner, resurfacing the pool deck, a new roof and a new HVAC system.

There are no additional improvements planned for the existing recreation center; the recently adopted Civic Center Master Plan includes plans for a new Recreation Center, Senior Center and Theatre to be constructed on the south west corner of the existing civic center campus in the next three to five years.

Jaycee Ball field

The ball field at Jaycee Park is located on the east side of Irma Drive at Leroy Drive. This single ball field is used



primarily for adult softball, and includes an electronic scoreboard, lights, a scorekeeper booth, a small supply shed and parking.

Kiwanis Pool & Park

The City's only outdoor pool is located on the southwest corner of Garland and Washington Street. In addition to the large pool with a diving board and slide, there is also a wading pool for the youngest users, a covered pavilion area and picnic tables. The aging bathhouse with a men's and women's locker room and cashier's station is aging and in need of renovation. The large pool was resurfaced in 2010 and the kiddie pool was last resurfaced in 2006. The facility is scheduled for a major renovation in 2018, to include a new bath house and splash pad. Grant funds totaling \$800,000 were secured in 2017 for this project. The pool is open seasonally from June through August each year.



Figure 7: Kiwanis Park

Northwest Open Space

This 50 acre athletic complex located at Pecos Street and Roseanna Drive is utilized throughout the year for youth and adult soccer, football, cross-country, baseball and softball. The fencing, infield mix and backstops on the ball fields were replaced in 2010, along with the addition of a new soccer field. This park is home to two sculptures gifted to the City by the Northglenn Arts and Humanities Foundation, “Open Space” at the north entrance and “Orphans” at the south entrance, as well as another Plant Select xeric garden.

Conceptual plans and design work for a major renovation occurred in 2016 and 2017. Construction is anticipated to begin in 2018, depending upon the availability of grant funding.

Rotary Park

Located at the corner of Pecos and Roseanna Drive, this ball field is also utilized for youth and adult baseball and softball. In 2010, some improvements were made to the infield and the fencing. The dugouts are scheduled for replacement in 2017.

Right of Ways 104th Avenue

This stretch of 104th Avenue includes a meandering trail, irrigated turf and landscaped areas. In addition, fencing was added in 2002 and stained and sealed in 2009, and is scheduled again in 2017. The medians in this area were improved with both hardscape and plant material in 2003. As a major arterial road in Northglenn, this area also includes several monument signs welcoming visitors to the City of Northglenn. These signs will need to be updated with the new city logo in the next two to four years.

106th Avenue RTD Area

In 2003, 106th Avenue between Melody and Huron was reconstructed to accommodate a new RTD bus stop area. This included landscaping and irrigation.

Community Center Drive Overpass

The overpass was completed in 2002, linking Community Center Dr with West 112th Avenue. This area is landscaped with xeric plant materials, along with some irrigated turf.

Croke Reservoir and Huron St

The area in front of Croke Reservoir, along Huron Street, includes entrances into the Croke Reservoir Nature Area and the Bill Gillespie Nature Trail at Croke Reservoir. The area includes a large pavilion area adjacent to Huron Street, and a monument sign identifying the area as a City of Northglenn facility.

Administration & Maintenance Facilities

City Hall

The City’s administrative offices are located at City Hall, 11701 Community

Center Drive. The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meets in City Council Chambers, located on the lower level of City Hall. The grounds surrounding City Hall, including the Veteran's Memorial, are approximately 33 acres. The front of City Hall showcases a "Plant Select" xeric garden with the sculpture "Blooming Pink Amaryllis". The "Potato Man," another sculpture gifted to the City through the Northglenn Arts and Humanities Foundation, resides in one of several flower beds at the Police/Court entrance.

As per the recently complete Civic Center Master Plan, this building is slated for replacement, to the north of the current building. The Civic Center Master Plan estimates construction to occur in approximately five to ten years, as the second phase of a three-phase process.

Maintenance & Operations Facility

The Parks division's administrative and maintenance offices are located at the Maintenance and Operations facility on Claude Court. Staff offices are in the administration building, with equipment and work space in the parks maintenance facility. Several storage containers are also maintained on the site to store holiday decorations, theatre set pieces and other small equipment. The parks maintenance facility is scheduled for replacement in 2017.

Water Treatment Plant

To increase efficiency, a small barn has been set up at the Water Treatment Facility to store tools and equipment that are used on the west side of town. This eliminates the need to transport

equipment across town on a daily basis, reducing wear and tear on the equipment and increasing the amount of time the equipment is available for use.

Demographics

This portion of the Parks & Recreation Master Plan is excerpted from the Northglenn Comprehensive Plan, adopted in 2010 and updated in 2017 utilizing the most recent DRCOG Community Profiles.

This section of the Comprehensive Plan is intended to provide a snapshot of the current conditions in the city of Northglenn as well as perspective on trends and comparisons to other jurisdictions with similar attributes. In some cases, comparisons are made between the populations of Northglenn and Adams County (where the developed portion of Northglenn is wholly seated) or the entire Denver metro region. In other cases, comparisons are made between the city and the cities of Wheat Ridge or Englewood. These two communities are deemed to have similar attributes and challenges to that of Northglenn (inner ring suburbs, limited room for growth, interstate highway proximity, etc.). The goal is to help understand the various factors that make up the city today and will play a large part in its future direction.

Geography

Northglenn is a small Colorado city, located in the heart of the Denver Metro Region, encompassing approximately 7.45 square miles. The bulk of the city is located within Adams County (6.45

square miles) in an urbanized setting. One square mile is located in Weld County, approximately seven miles north of developed Northglenn. Northglenn is strategically positioned in the center of the growing northern portion of the Denver metro region, where access to all lifestyle elements (jobs, shopping, air travel, downtown Denver) is within a 30-minute drive. Additionally, the undeveloped portion of the city, in Weld County, provides unique opportunities for growth and development in the future.

Population

The State Demographer's Office indicates that Northglenn has a population of approximately 38,648 residents. The city has seen a slight upward trend in population over the past three years, in line with the growth in the rest of Adams County and the Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG) region. In recent years, residential growth in the region has occurred outside of Northglenn's boundaries. The last major single-family development in Northglenn was the Fox Run community, which was developed during the late 1990s. Of the city's nearly 39,000 residents, approximately 26 percent are under the age of 18 and 10 percent are 65 or over. The median age of all residents in the community is 34.3, significantly younger than similar communities in the region. As we plan for the future of Northglenn, it will be important to keep in mind that nearly one out of every four Northglenn residents is under the age of 18. To provide the opportunities for young people to conduct the various stages of life within the city, evaluation of their needs will be increasingly important as Northglenn changes and evolves (e.g.

housing choices, recreation amenities, shopping opportunities).

Households

The nearly 39,000 residents of Northglenn live in approximately 14,000 households throughout the community. The average household size is 2.7 people, which is roughly comparable to the average household size for Colorado. Families comprise 64 percent of the households in Northglenn. This figure includes both married-couple families (48 percent) and "other" families (16 percent). Non-family households make up 36 percent of all households in Northglenn. Most of the non-family households are people living alone, but this figure also includes people living in households where no one is related.

Mobility

In 2007, 80 percent of Northglenn residents were living in the same homes a year earlier. Nine percent had moved during the past year from another residence in Adams County, 7 percent had moved from another county in Colorado and 5 percent had moved from another state. In all, one in five people had moved from some place outside of Northglenn in the previous year. The ever changing population of Northglenn provides unique challenges in fostering a sense of community. Alternatively, the data suggests that Northglenn is a highly desired destination where people find opportunities for housing, jobs, and changes in lifestyle.

Income

The median income of households in Northglenn was \$53,616 in 2014, approximately \$4,800 less than in 2000, adjusted for inflation. According to the

ACS, 14 percent of the total population are living in poverty. Twenty percent of children under 18 are living below the poverty level, compared with 7.5 percent of people 65 years old and over. Nine percent of all families and 16.5 percent of families with a female householder and no husband present have incomes below the poverty level.

Education

As of 2015, 86.5 percent of people 25 years and older had at least graduated from high school and 18.5 percent had a bachelor's degree or higher. School enrollment for preschool through high school in Northglenn constitutes approximately 6,400 children, or about 18 percent of the total population. Nursery school and kindergarten enrollment is approximately 700 and there are approximately 5,700 children enrolled in elementary or high school. There are approximately 1,600 students enrolled in college or graduate school. Education attainment in Northglenn tracks closely with that of Adams County, but lags when compared to the entire state of Colorado. Northglenn's 2007 levels of educational attainment are slightly lower than data collected during the 2000 Census, but not significant enough to determine a downward trend. Continued partnerships and cooperation with Adams County School District 12, the Adams County Education Consortium and other higher education partners will be critical in fostering growth in these indicators.

Forecasts

DRCOG provides municipal level forecasts through their regional modeling project. Through the year 2040, they forecast approximately

40,200 people living in Northglenn (13 percent increase) and approximately 14,800 jobs located in the city (26 percent increase). Accommodation of these increases will largely be dependent on the conversion of currently vacant land and redevelopment of targeted areas throughout the city. DRCOG's ability to coordinate each municipality's perspective of their respective future growth potential is a difficult task. Certain realities of local government legislation are not always taken into consideration when conducting a regional growth forecasting model. For example, the 1993 Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) between Northglenn and the City of Thornton may have a significant impact on the future growth associated with Section 36.

Source: 2000 U.S. Census Source: U.S. Census and DRCOG estimates, data is taken from the ACS conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau between the years of 2001 and 2015. Other data is derived from previous decennial census programs, annual Census estimates, or the estimates provided by DRCOG Community Profiles.

The U.S. Census generally defines families as individuals living in a household that are related to one another by birth, marriage, or adoption. The Census defines a household as the following: a housing unit occupied either by a family or by non-family (nonrelated or single) members. Individuals living in group quarters are not tallied as living in households.

Needs Assessment

Property Acquisition

Unless the City experiences significant demographic changes, the acquisition of additional property for parks and recreation purposes remains to be a low priority. According to a report titled “2015 City Park Facts” from the Trust for Public Land, the City and County of Denver has 9.05 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents. According to the National Parks and Recreation Association, the national average is 9.4 acres per 1,000 residents.

The Northglenn parks and recreation system includes 25 identified parks, and 341.76 acres of parkland, which includes 165.76 developed acres, 160 natural open space acres and 12 undeveloped acres. In addition, there are 216.72 acres of right of ways and trails. This equates to approximately 1 park for every 1,560 residents and 8.84 acres per 1,000 residents.

One piece of land exists that has been identified as having potential for future acquisition. Eastlake Reservoir #1, located in the northeast corner of the City, would be an appropriate site for park and open space development. This 10 acre site would serve the recreational needs of the surrounding neighborhood, and potentially provide unique features that would serve the entire City. This parcel also serves to connect the Greenway Trail System to a segment of the trail constructed by the City of Thornton along the Farmer’s Highline Canal and an existing section owned and maintained by the City of Northglenn. Acquisition of the Eastlake Reservoir #1 should be considered at the time that adjoining development or a favorable economic climate becomes evident. The City of Thornton has

shown past interest in taking possible lead on the development of a park in close proximity to this location.

A previously unanticipated park acquisition was made in 2016, with the acquisition of a 4-acre parcel at 421 W. 112th Avenue. It is anticipated that this property will be developed into a neighborhood park in the next two to five years, though the specific use has yet to be determined.

Annual Review

This Master Plan identifies long-term goals for Northglenn’s Park and Recreation system and provides direction for future development and renovation efforts. To ensure its relevance for future use, it needs to be updated and/or revised as necessary to reflect completed projects, new development opportunities or any changes in the community that may impact the direction of the development efforts.

To accomplish this, this Master Plan will be reviewed on an annual basis within the context of the five-year Capital Improvement Program and the budget preparation process. As projects and/or acquisitions are completed, or when new projects or proposals are considered, amendments to the Master Plan will be incorporated and presented to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board and City Council for adoption. This shall be done every five years, or more often if warranted.

Public Input Process

Public comment is welcomed and encouraged as it relates to parks and recreation programs or projects. The department has several established

means of offering opportunities for public input. A public hearing is held at least one time each year, during the spring, to gather public input regarding the programs and activities that are offered through the Recreation division. A public hearing is held at least one time each year, generally during the fall, to gather public input regarding the five-year Capital Improvement Program prioritization.

To increase community ownership and interest, and to allow for personal opinions to be shared in a productive manner, a public input process may be utilized prior to renovation of parks or recreation facilities. This process may include public meetings, gathering of survey data, focus groups, online feedback or open comment periods. Notification of such opportunities will be made through existing marketing resources such as the Northglenn Connection, the Recreation brochure, Channel 8, www.northglenn.org, and community message boards. For projects that may impact a specific neighborhood, direct mailing may also be utilized.

Maintenance and Improvement Plan

Five-Year Capital Improvement Program

As a part of the annual budget preparation process, the City Manager prepares and submits to the City

Council a proposed Capital Improvement Projects Program for the next five (5) fiscal years. The program incorporates a list of capital improvements proposed to be undertaken during the five year period covered by the program and identifies the necessity, estimated cost, method of financing, recommended schedules for each improvement and the estimated annual cost of operating and maintaining the facilities to be constructed or acquired if applicable.

The Capital Improvement Projects program is adopted by the City Council following a public hearing on the proposed budget, with or without amendment.

The recommendations proposed in the Master Plan will be considered during this process and individual projects will be identified for construction or acquisition reflecting available resources, priorities and/or desires at the time of budget preparation.

The 5-year CIP is an established process that addresses the long-term needs of the parks and recreation program while providing the flexibility to investigate a variety of funding options for new development and redevelopment of parks and associated facilities. Citizen input into this decision making process is encouraged and provided for through an annual public hearing on the CIP program that is hosted in the early fall by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. Additionally, citizen input is also sought through a variety of more informal means such as through a variety of public meetings, special interest groups and other opportunities.

The five-year capital improvement program for parks and recreation has been developed with consideration to the funding that is anticipated through Adams County Open Space discretionary funds and the Conservation Trust Fund allocation.

This plan has been developed primarily with near-term budget restraints and current conditions in mind; therefore, it does not include identification of funding for some projects for which interest has been expressed. However, a list of those “unfunded” projects exists in an effort to ensure that these desires are not forgotten in the future when new opportunities may present themselves. These projects, although identified as needs, have not yet been inserted into the Capital Improvement Program. Existing funding is available for some, though not all, of these projects and they will be prioritized and inserted into the program as appropriate in the years to come based on community interest and the impacts that exist as projects relate to one another.

As of 2017, estimates show revenue from the Adams County Open Space Sales Tax to be \$380,000 annually. The Conservation Trust Fund provides the City with approximately \$370,000 each year.

Project Descriptions- Funded

Greenway Trail Concrete Replacement Program

This is an annual program to maintain the Greenway Trail. Degraded trail sections are documented by the Parks division throughout the year. The

Greenway Trail Concrete Replacement program replaces these degraded sections to maintain a safe, accessible and aesthetically pleasing trail system. This program is typically combined with the annual street improvements project to obtain the best unit pricing.

Sensory Playground Repair

The playground equipment at the City’s parks is replaced on a periodic basis due to normal wear and tear, vandalism, and unavailable replacement parts. The playground equipment at Sensory Playground was last replaced in 2006. The typical life span of a park is 10 to 12 years; however, as the City’s largest playground, this park is highly utilized causing equipment to wear out prematurely. This project includes replacement of various play structures and other park amenities. Not all of the playground equipment is anticipated for replacement in 2019. This project will allow for replacement of only worn pieces, extending the useful life of the playground. The type of playground equipment and park amenities will be selected through a public input process as is discussed in the Parks and Recreation Master Plan. It is anticipated that this playground will benefit from multiple renovations in the years to come, rather than one complete park replacement.

Jaycee Ballfield Lights

The lights at the Jaycee Ballfield are old and in need of replacement. The current lights require constant maintenance, as they go out on a regular basis, causing problems for teams playing games in the evenings.

Bocce Ball Court

Requests for the addition of bocce ball courts were made during the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board CIP public comment period. The Parks and Recreation Department elicited feedback from the residents, via social media, to determine the level of desire for bocce ball. Residents responded in favor of the additional park amenity with a location to be determined.

Tennis Courts

The city owns and maintains two tennis facilities - a three-court facility at Wyco Park and a two-court facility at Danahy Park. These are lighted, fenced, asphalt courts with an acrylic overlay. The thin acrylic overlay must be repaired every 1-3 years, to prevent a poor playing surface, trip hazards and/or additional damage. The courts at Danahy Park were entirely reconstructed in 2014, the acrylic surface has some wear and needs minor patching. The court at Wyco is cracking, with significant damage to the acrylic surface. The Wyco court had the acrylic patched in 2016 and is recommended for reconstruction in 2019.

Webster Lake Retaining Wall Replacement and Restroom Repairs

The retaining wall on the east side of Webster Lake is in need of replacement. Over the years, many of the wall caps have been removed and/or broken. They are unable to be replaced because the material is no longer manufactured. Additional drainage and slope issues will be addressed when the wall is replaced. The permanent restrooms are in need of repair. While the building structure itself is in good condition, there are plumbing and mechanical concerns that cause a need for excessive maintenance.

Northwest Open Space Improvements

Northwest Open Space is the City's largest athletic field complex, and is well utilized for soccer, football, rugby, softball, baseball and cross country. This facility, however, has no permanent facilities. The proposed improvements include restroom facilities, a children's playground, picnic shelters with tables and barbeque grills, a concession stand, replacing the existing asphalt trail with concrete, and the addition of storage facilities for athletic equipment and maintenance equipment.

Kiwanis Pool Improvements

The bath house at Kiwanis has had few improvements since its opening in 1965. The bath house, which includes locker rooms and a cashier's station, is in need of a new roof, new plumbing and electrical, new lockers, sinks, toilets, showers and other fixtures, and repainting.

Currently, the pool drainage is not connected to the sanitary sewer, but rather drains to the stream system. In instances when large amounts of water are drained from the pool without sufficient time for de-chlorination, chlorinated water is discharged to the stream system. This is potentially harmful to the balance of the stream ecosystem. In addition, small amounts of chlorinated water are discharged regularly through the daily backwash process. Although this is an acceptable practice, it is not ideal. Connection to the sanitary sewer would alleviate this concern.

This project also includes a large splash ground, a commonly requested amenity amongst users.

Parks Maintenance and Storage Facility

The existing barn is in poor repair, with multiple holes in the exterior. This allows for animals to access the space and water to seep in to the facility, creating an unpleasant working environment. Work was done on the barn in 2011 to ensure a safe work environment, but the only long-term solution is to replace the barn with a new facility that is insulated, sealed from the elements, meets all fire and building codes and allows for appropriate work and storage space for the parks division.

Senior Playground

It is important to keep our senior population physically active. The “senior playground” brings together fitness and fun in an outdoor area. The playground would consist of 5-8 pieces of outdoor fitness equipment. It was originally proposed to be located behind the recreation center; however, with a new recreation center under consideration, alternative locations will be evaluated.

Recreation Center, Senior Center & Theatre

In 2016 and 2017, city staff, Council and a consultant team completed work on a Civic Center Master Plan. This plan was adopted by the Council in April 2017, and implementation began immediately thereafter. The plan includes a new recreation center, senior center and theatre, to be located on the south west corner of the existing civic center site. Additional information about the

process, and a copy of the final and complete plan, can be found at www.northglennciviccenter.org.

The first step in implementation is to complete a programming and staffing assessment for a new facility. A contract was established with Barker Rinker Seacat in June 2017 to complete this pre-planning work.

Funding in the amount of approximately \$53 million (\$40 million for facility construction and \$13 million for the associated infrastructure) has been identified. This funding is from existing sources, primarily the 2% marijuana special tax and the Capital Improvement Program ½% sales tax.

It is anticipated that pre-planning work will occur in 2017. As approval is granted to move forward, and funding is allocated, it is intended that the design process would take place in 2018, with construction to begin as early as 2019. This would allow a new facility to open in 2020 or 2021.

Project Descriptions—Unfunded

Trail Extension at Badding Reservoir

The Badding Reservoir site borders the City of Thornton, and the Reservoir itself is owned by the City of Thornton. As such, Thornton is seeking to have additional land to the south of the existing site dedicated as Open Space. It would be favorable to both Cities and the residents in the area to have the Greenway Trail extended through both the Northglenn and Thornton portions of

this open space, regardless of which entity were to make the improvement.

Playground Replacements

These projects include replacement of the play structure and/or other park amenities. The type of playground equipment and other park amenities that are installed will be selected through a public input process as identified in this Parks and Recreation Master Plan. The typical life span of a play structure is approximately 10 to 12 years.

Equipment Purchases

Although the estimates on most of these equipment purchases are not high enough to warrant inclusion as capital projects or capital outlay, they are unable to be purchased from regular operating funds without significant impact. These items are recommended as additions to the operating budget in the years to come.

Facilities Maintenance & Standards

The standards identified in this section include only basic, ongoing maintenance activities. Many additional tasks are completed throughout the year, but are not specified on this master schedule.

Additional detail regarding maintenance activities may be found in the attached Noxious Weed Management Plan, the Open Space Management Plan, or by contacting the Parks Supervisor for information on the current detailed maintenance schedule.

Park Maintenance & Standards

Daily

- Trash cans checked, emptied as needed
- Restrooms cleaned
- Pavilions cleaned
- Playgrounds cleaned
- Ballfields prepped for play (if field is scheduled for use)

Bi-weekly

- Mowing
- Flower Beds Weeded
- Irrigation system checked

Weekly

- Playgrounds inspected
- Minor spot repairs completed
- Targeted weed control

Monthly

- Edging
- Minor Pruning
- Touch up/spot painting
- Irrigation clocks adjusted

Bi-Annually

- Fertilization of all turf
- Chemical & biological weed control

Annually

- Pruning & mulching trees
- Pruning shrubs and other perennial plant material
- Annuals planted
- Flowerbeds prepared for winter
- Painting restrooms
- Paint/repair/replace signage

Right-of-Way and Open Space Maintenance & Standards

Daily

- Trash cans checked, emptied as needed
- Conduct graffiti checks, removal if needed

Weekly

- Arterial Right-of-Ways mowed
- NWOS entrance mowed

Every three weeks

- Trails mowed
- Targeted weed control

Annually

- Trees and shrubs pruned
- Chemical & biological weed control

Nature Area Maintenance & Standards

Daily

- Trash cans checked, emptied as needed
- Conduct graffiti checks, removal if needed

Weekly

- General debris clean up

Bi-monthly

- Targeted weed control

Every three weeks

- Mowing of perimeter and fence line areas

Bi-Annually

- Chemical control of noxious weeds

Annually

- Biological control of noxious weeds
- Pruning trees
- Pruning shrubs and other perennial plant material

Funding & Implementation

Current Expenditures and Revenues

Operating Budget

The operating budget for Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services includes personnel, operating and capital outlay expenses, but does not include capital improvement project

expenses. It is anticipated that the budget requirements associated with achieving the operating and maintenance needs of the department will be accommodated through the City's general fund and supplemented through user and participation fees, as well as from outside funding sources when possible. It is anticipated that operating funding sources will remain relatively flat in upcoming years, and that the operating budget will be maintained in a manner consistent with current expenditures and revenues.

The current operating budget for the Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services is available on the city website at www.northglenn.org/finance.

Funding Alternatives

There are a variety of known alternative funding sources available, some of which provide annual disbursements, others which are available through the competitive grant process. A description of the City of Northglenn's most accessible funding sources follows.

Adams County Open Space Funds

The Adams County Open Space sales tax has proved to be a consistent and dependable source of funds for the City's park improvement efforts. This voter approved initiative, passed on November 2, 1999, originally called for a tax of 1/5th of one cent with the collected proceeds earmarked for the acquisition of undeveloped land for open space land preservation, wildlife habitat, trail development, conservation easements for farmland preservation, park

development and improvements, recreation uses and environmental education projects. The original initiative called for a sunset of the tax to occur on December 31, 2006. However, on November 2, 2004 voters approved a 20-year extension on the tax, which is now set to expire on December 31, 2026. In addition, the tax was approved for an increase from 1/5th of one cent to 1/4th of one cent starting on January 1, 2007.

Operationally, 68 percent of the tax goes into a fund for competitive grants while 30 percent is returned to the cities of origin. These dollars can then be used at the discretion of the receiving agency as long as they are expended on appropriate efforts. The remaining 2 percent is retained by the County for administrative overhead. In the first half of 2017 the City received over \$1 million in funding through the ADCO competitive grant process for the acquisition of park property and outdoor aquatics improvements.

Conservation Trust Fund

The Conservation Trust Fund provides a consistent source of revenue for parks and recreation capital improvement projects from Lottery proceeds. The City's annual share of Lottery proceeds has ranged from \$155,000 to over \$300,000 per year since 1991. Popularity of the various Lottery games has recently led to consistent revenue projections of \$300,000 - \$325,000 annually, with current projections at \$303,700. It is anticipated that the Conservation Trust Fund will continue to be a consistent revenue source.

Great Outdoors Colorado

In 1992, Colorado voters approved the creation of the Great Outdoors Colorado Trust Fund. The GOCO trust fund is administered by a State Board and has the responsibility of assuring that trust fund revenues are expended in "substantially equal" shares through four funding categories, one of those categories being local governments, specifically Parks and Recreation Departments. Local governments are eligible to apply for competitive grants during specified periods and funding cycles. GOCO has a proven historical record of awarding funds for active recreation projects rather than those catering to more passive uses. Due to this indicator and their competitive nature, staff are selective of the projects it submits for consideration for GOCO funding. The most recent grant application submitted to GOCO was a request for \$95,000 for skate park lighting. This request was fully funded by GOCO in 2010.

The GOCO funds available to local governments are highly competitive. Although GOCO funds are available, when granted, matching funds and/or in-kind contributions are required. Since GOCO funds are awarded as competitive grants, GOCO funds are considered as potential, and not as a consistent revenue source for planning purposes. Regardless, this continues to be a fund source of interest to the City and should be considered a viable option for securing the funds necessary to accomplish desired improvements.

Public Private Partnerships

An emerging trend in the funding of parks and recreation is public/private partnerships. Typically, these types of partnerships include the formation of

non-profit foundations that benefit parks and recreation agencies, include corporate sponsorship recruitment, the formation of interest groups and organizations, the initiation of joint use and intergovernmental agreements and an effective volunteer effort.

The City of Northglenn continues to be active in each of the areas identified above. Examples of these types of partnerships include the Northglenn Community Foundation, Northglenn Build a Generation, the Northglenn Arts and Humanities Foundation, the Northglenn Youth Commission, the Northglenn Senior Commission, Partners with Parks and Adams 12 Five Star Schools.

Although these partnerships exist, if we intend to rely on them for significant and long lasting contributions to the community's parks and recreation efforts, the City will need to assume and maintain a leadership role in creating a cooperative environment that nurtures and sustains such partnerships. The development of community pride and a willingness to look towards alternative methods and approaches to parks and recreation improvement efforts always requires an investment of time and resources. This is something that becomes an ever increasing challenge as job duties and responsibilities grow, while staffing levels remain consistent.