



**Town of  
South Windsor  
Park & Recreation Commission  
Master Plan 2020**



**SOUTH WINDSOR  
Parks & Recreation**



Town Of South Windsor  
**Park and Recreation Commission**  
Master Plan  
2020

The Town of South Windsor Park and Recreation Commission in conjunction with the Parks & Recreation Department developed the 2020 Master Plan to create a current vision of South Windsor's park system and recreation programs and services. We would like to extend special thanks to all of the South Windsor residents and organizations, the Mayor and Town Council, Park and Recreation Commissioners, and Town staff who participated in the Plan's development.

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# Master Plan 2020

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MASTER PLAN

INTRODUCTION

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# 1.1

## OPENING REMARKS

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The current members of the South Windsor Park and Recreation Commission (PARC) have long seen the need for an updated version of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan. With the most recent plan being completed in 2001, the need for a more detailed and comprehensive plan was imperative. Even with master plan updates being conducted nearly annually, there was without a doubt a sense of urgency to get an accurate and current Master Plan completed. With constant changes in demographics, new industry trends, and several societal challenges, this new version of the Master Plan focuses on how the Town of South Windsor and its Parks and Recreation Department (SWPRD) should be developing their programs and facilities. The intent of this document is to provide an up to date recommendation to the Town Council in order to continue to meet current and anticipated parks and recreation demands in South Windsor. The purpose of the Plan is to guide the Town's investment in parks, programs and facilities and serve as a community roadmap that demonstrates that parks remain a vital community resource. This Master Plan will assess the active and passive recreational needs and desires of the community and provide a comprehensive blueprint for immediate and long range development of recreational facilities. This document will be of great assistance to the present and the future Town Council, Town Manager, Parks and Recreation Director, Parks Superintendent, and other Town officials and employees. This Master Plan should be used as a working dynamic document that will be continually re-evaluated and amended in order to compliment and work in conjunction with the Town of South Windsor's growth and the capital improvement and development plans like the Plan of Conservation and Development, and the adopted Town Strategic Plan. The Plan should be one that is used to continue to direct the growth of the Town's recreational programs, facilities and culture.

### **-THE PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEMBERS**

## MISSION STATEMENT

The Park & Recreation Commission, in conjunction with staff from the Parks & Recreation Department, will develop a long term comprehensive plan of development for parks & recreation programs, services, facilities and properties to enhance the quality of life of the citizens of South Windsor.



## GOALS

The Master Plan will ...

1. ... incorporate a balance of active and passive recreational needs.
2. ... address land acquisition, conservation of open space and preservation of agriculture.
3. ... be sensitive to and inclusive of all ages, abilities and ethnicities.
4. ... provide accessibility for all by complying with the American with Disabilities Act.
5. ... be environmentally sound.
6. ... create a vision for the future.
7. ... blend aesthetics and practicality to attain the attractiveness that makes South Windsor a good place to live and raise a family.
8. ... maintain a high quality of life that provides for active living and healthy lifestyles.
9. ... recommend appropriate facilities necessary to support numbers 1-8 above.
10. ... offer an implementation strategy and funding mechanisms.

The PARC has prepared this report with these specific goals in mind. These are intentional goals—and are connected to projects we will be recommending to the community. PARC also knows, while unlimited resources are always the desire of any planning group the proposals are grounded in the reality of the potential financial costs to our community. In understanding this fact, PARC was committed to an approach that will include a series of reasonable, worthwhile projects that will increase the quality of life for all South Windsor residents. Having learned from the failure to implement the vast majority of the 2001 master plan due to its magnitude and cost, we have taken a more conservative approach to meet these identified priorities, both repeat and new.

# A MESSAGE FROM THE PARKS AND RECREATION DIRECTOR

According to Barbara Tulipane, former CEO and President of the National Recreation and Parks Association, “parks and recreation has the ability and the duty to meet the needs of an increasingly diverse population, year-round and regardless of race, creed, background or ability to pay. Our ability to deliver both joy and substance – giving the option for life-affirming experiences with nature and preventative healthcare through intentional programs – uniquely positions parks and recreation to provide the balm to our troubled national psyche. No matter what you need, we’ve got you covered. Stressed over politics? Try tai chi, yoga or Zumba. Commute getting you down? Try a walk with your kids or dog along a trail. In a rut after the holidays? How about a paddle along a waterway? Stuck in the vice grip of a seemingly endless polar vortex? Try a swim in the local pool, or cross-country ski and face winter head-on.” Sounds to me like parks and recreation is a critical community infrastructure!

Therefore, we must proactively plan for the mindful development of parks and recreation facilities and services to keep pace with the growth of the community and evolving diverse population. The key to our success will also require organizational rhythm or the proper timing for the planning of projects within the departments’ daily operations, annual re-evaluation of the plan to remain in synch with changing trends and needs, and re-adjusting priorities to seize unforeseen financial opportunities while still trying to stick to the plan.

On behalf of the PARC, the SWPRD and the Town of South Windsor tremendous gratitude is extended to all members of the public, community organizations and Town staff who participated in the needs assessment and development of the 2020 Master Plan of Development for Parks and Recreation for the Town of South Windsor. Thank you for helping us plan the Plan!

“Feel great – recreate”

Ray Favreau, CPRP  
Director of Parks & Recreation

## 1.2

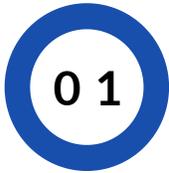
# METHODOLOGY

Since the development of the last Parks and Recreation Master Plan over a decade ago, the town of South Windsor has increased in population and developed areas. Recreation trends, desires, wants, and needs have changed since then. Town Leaders understand the relationship between community parks and recreation services, economic development, and quality of life. The purpose of this Master Plan is to set a direction for parks and recreation programs, events, facilities, and services offered by the town's overall Plan of Conservation and Development in compliance with statutory requirements.

To assist the PARC in developing the previous master plan the Town solicited bids from qualified engineering and design firms and following the standard search and selection process hired Vollmer Associates (now Stantec) from New Haven, CT to serve as consultants. The Plan development effort took over a year at a cost of \$38,938 to local taxpayers. With an estimated \$23,266,684 across 80 projects envisioned over a ten-year period, only 15 identified projects have actually been accomplished due to severe budgetary constraints. Dozens of smaller projects not anticipated in the 2001 master plan but driven by changing needs, trends and partnership funding opportunities were successfully realized. Understanding the financial challenges of developing multi-million dollar facilities and in the spirit of frugality we decided to make the next master plan revision an in-house venture saving the Town between \$50,000 and \$100,000 in consulting fees. This of course was not without disruptions and pitfalls, especially in the absence of a dedicated workforce, delaying numerous times over the course of five years. None-the-less, between volunteer hours of PARC members and SWPRD staff (including summer intern) 1,550+ "man-hours" or the equivalent of 194 eight-hour work days went into the development of this new plan. This ambitious approach focused on a more realistic vision with greater potential for accomplishment than large-ticket pipe-dreams, although wonderful, highly unattainable. What will be missing with this strategy are conceptual site maps and cost estimates, both of which can be done when the time comes to consider a particular project. We have discovered that producing conceptual maps with cost estimates in advance, and oftentimes projected years out, require repeat efforts as designs modified and pricing changes.

Another goal of the Master Plan is to reflect and move forward the vision of the Town of South Windsor's residents. Throughout the development of this plan, the Town took several actions to poll public interest and learned how residents use parks and recreation programs and facilities and how the Parks and Recreation department met residents' expectations. The process used to develop the 2020 Master Plan was designed for community engagement. The community participated by providing valuable feedback through online and in-person surveys, and attending focus group meetings that offered a collaborative atmosphere and open conversations. To help engage the local youth a visual survey was created that children could easily respond to by circling graphics or drawing pictures through multiple media to show their favorite activities. The needs assessment process included the following methods:

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FOCUS USER GROUP DISCUSSIONS

were designed to speak with key parks and recreation users, stakeholders, economic interests and potential partners regarding opportunities that could be mobilized through this Master Plan. Focus group meetings were held with the athletic department staff at South Windsor High School (March 13, 2014) and Timothy Edwards (June 3, 2014), Children grades K-5 during vacation program (April 14, 2015), the Sports Council (Jan. 22, 2015), and PARC brainstorming (May 13, 2015) for example.

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OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS

included sharing of information about the state of the art practices and trends in parks and recreation and facilitated discussions with residents about the types of recreation services, parks, and facilities they desire. Public workshops were held on October 8, 2014, November 12, 2014, December 10th 2014, and January 14th 2015.

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COMMUNITY SURVEYS

were conducted to see how residents viewed and use the parks and recreation department. Surveys were distributed at various community events, athletic games, and activities. The public interest surveys conducted in-person at events yielded 589 respondents, the 2018 comprehensive online citizen survey yielded 865 respondents, and 70 additional folks responded to the brief online survey monkey questionnaire all yielding valuable sources of information that are imperative to the development of the Master Plan.

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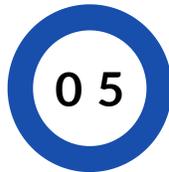


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#### PARKS AND RECREATION STAFF MEETINGS

were conducted by division to brainstorm how the department might evolve in the next five to ten years. The Recreation Division met numerous times culminating in a final day-long retreat on Dec. 11, 2014 (and reviewed annually thereafter) and the Parks crew participated in a number of exercises to gather their input on Dec. 14, 2014 and Dec. 11, 2015 (and reviewed annually thereafter).

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#### INDEPENDENT AUDIT

Tom O'Rourke, Executive Director of the Charleston County Parks & Recreation Commission and nationally acclaimed speaker and consultant conducted an independent audit and evaluation of the SWPRD and on Jan., 2014 presented his findings and recommendations for progress.

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#### PARC

Following the attrition of members that plagued the commission between 2014 and 2019 a three-hour bus tour of the park system was arranged in July, 2019 to re-acquaint new members with the planning process.

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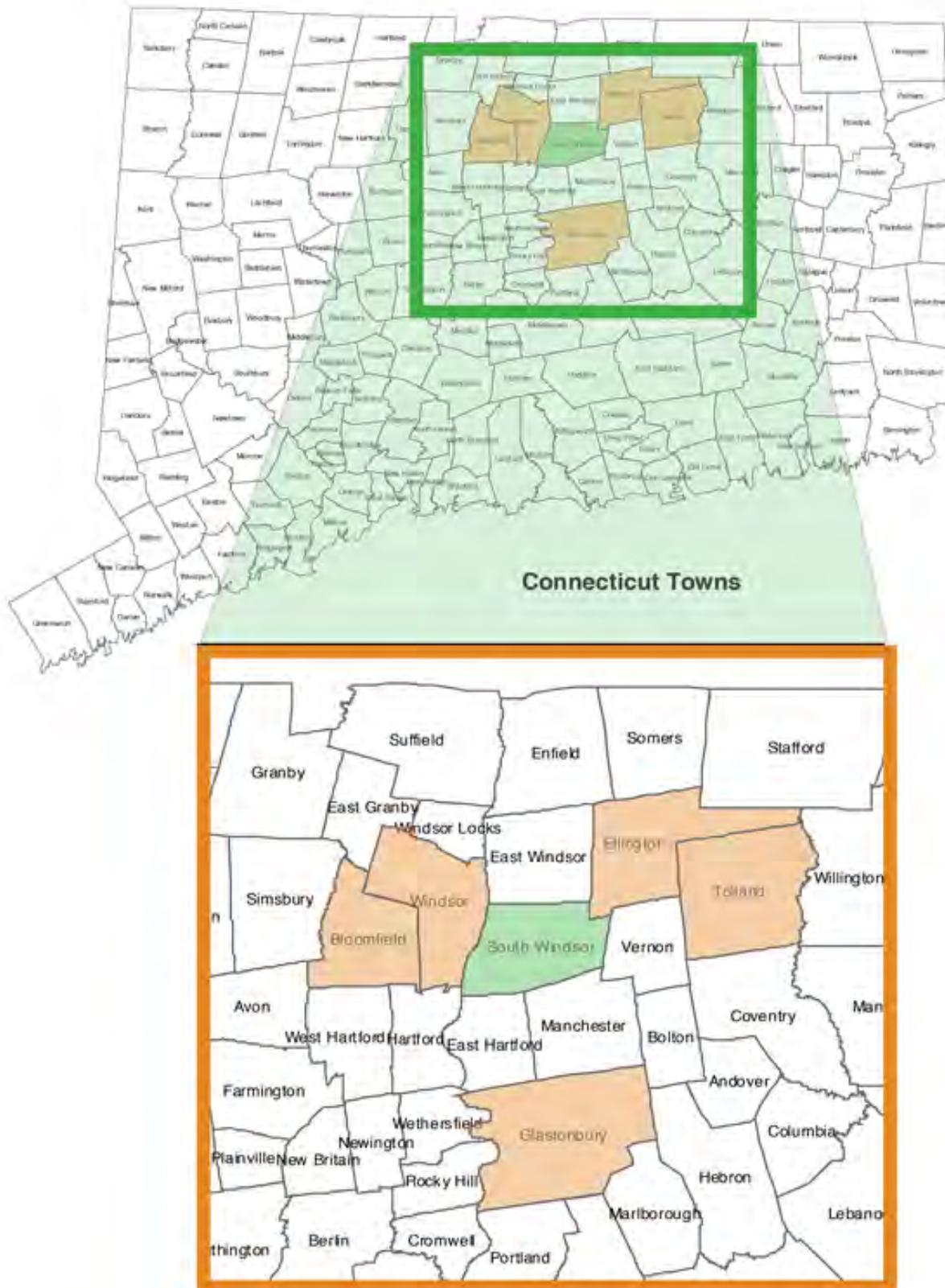
After completion of the exercises above an Analysis of the Public Needs Assessments was performed. Results from all sources of public input were tabulated and prioritized by the six methods of collection noted above. Then similarities were selected from each to create an overall public priority list. It is important to note that the needs assessments gathered are public opinion and not statistically valid. The Commission's preference was to check the pulse of the public through a more personalized down-to-earth grassroots effort rather than rely on numerical data.

Since the development of the last plan, new types of recreation activities (which demand different/new facilities) have become popular, and how we spend our leisure time has changed. More senior citizens are active, more families are single-parent or have two working parents, and more people are interested in a healthy lifestyle. Some of the areas that have been addressed in this revision include:

- Vision to meet challenges of the next decade and beyond
- Environmentally friendly infrastructure
- Programs that reflect community needs
- Events that bring the community together and contribute to the local economy
- Facilities that reflect community needs
- Trails and trail connections
- Bike friendly roads
- Open space/farmland preservation
- Community gardens and farmer's markets
- Identify partnership opportunities and new ways of doing business
- Parks & Recreation Department organizational and maintenance practices to meet community needs

# 1.3 DEMOGRAPHICS

## Section I: Neighboring Community Comparisons



# SOUTH WINDSOR, CT VS. BLOOMFIELD, CT

## South Windsor:

### Basic Demographics:

Land Area (sq. miles)	Population/Sq. Mile (2010)	Median Age (2010 -14)	Households (2014-2018)	Median HH Inc. (2014-2018)
28.0	916	43	9,847	\$107,088

### Population:

2000	2010	2014	2020
24,412	25,709	25,795	26,172

### Race/Ethnicity:

White	Black	Asian Pacific	Native American	Other/Multi Race	Hispanic
78%	2.4%	10.3%	0.01%	2.5%	6.8%

## Bloomfield:

### Basic Demographics:

Land Area (sq. miles)	Population/Sq. Mile (2010)	Median Age (2010 -14)	Households (2014-2018)	Median HH Inc. (20104-2018)
26.0	791	48	8,631	\$76,952

### Population:

2000	2010	2014	2020
19,587	20,486	20,626	21,301

### Race/Ethnicity (2010-2014):

White	Black	Asian Pacific	Native American	Other/Multi Race	Hispanic
29.7%	54%	2.6%	0.1%	2.8%	7.8%

# SOUTH WINDSOR, CT VS. WINDSOR, CT

## South Windsor:

### Basic Demographics:

Land Area (sq. miles)	Population/Sq. Mile (2010)	Median Age (2010 -14)	Households (2014-2018)	Median HH Inc. (2014-2018)
28.0	916	43	9,847	\$107,088

### Population:

2000	2010	2014	2020
24,412	25,709	25,795	26,172

### Race/Ethnicity:

White	Black	Asian Pacific	Native American	Other/Multi Race	Hispanic
78%	2.4%	10.3%	0.01%	2.5%	6.8%

## Windsor:

### Basic Demographics:

Land Area (sq. miles)	Population/Sq. Mile (2010)	Median Age (2010 -14)	Households (2014-2018)	Median HH Inc. (2014-2018)
30	987	43	10,796	\$88,986

### Population:

2000	2010	2014	2020
28,237	29,044	29,130	28,760

### Race/Ethnicity:

White	Black	Asian Pacific	Native American	Other/Multi Race	Hispanic
45.9%	38.7%	5%	0%	1.6%	8.8%

# SOUTH WINDSOR, CT VS. TOLLAND, CT

## South Windsor:

### Basic Demographics:

Land Area (sq. miles)	Population/Sq. Mile (2010)	Median Age (2010 -14)	Households (2014-2018)	Median HH Inc. (2014-2018)
28.0	916	43	9,847	\$107,088

### Population:

2000	2010	2014	2020
24,412	25,709	25,795	26,172

### Race/Ethnicity:

White	Black	Asian Pacific	Native American	Other/Multi Race	Hispanic
78%	2.4%	10.3%	0.01%	2.5%	6.8%

## Tolland:

### Basic Demographics:

Land Area (sq. miles)	Population/Sq. Mile (2010)	Median Age (2010 -14)	Households (2014-2018)	Median HH Inc. (2014-2018)
40	379	41	5,159	\$115,718

### Population:

2000	2010	2014	2020
13,146	14,809	14,980	14,655

### Race/Ethnicity:

White	Black	Asian Pacific	Native American	Other/Multi Race	Hispanic
92.6%	0.8%	2.9%	0%	2.0%	1.8%

# SOUTH WINDSOR, CT VS. GLASTONBURY, CT

## South Windsor:

### Basic Demographics:

Land Area (sq. miles)	Population/Sq. Mile (2010)	Median Age (2010 -14)	Households (2014-2018)	Median HH Inc. (2014-2018)
28.0	916	43	9,847	\$107,088

### Population:

2000	2010	2014	2020
24,412	25,709	25,795	26,172

### Race/Ethnicity:

White	Black	Asian Pacific	Native American	Other/Multi Race	Hispanic
78%	2.4%	10.3%	0.01%	2.5%	6.8%

## Glastonbury:

### Basic Demographics:

Land Area (sq. miles)	Population/Sq. Mile (2010)	Median Age (2010 -14)	Households (2014-2018)	Median HH Inc. (2014-2018)
51	676	44	13,152	\$116,625

### Population:

2000	2010	2014	2020
31,876	34,427	34,661	35,915

### Race/Ethnicity:

White	Black	Asian Pacific	Native American	Other/Multi Race	Hispanic
82.8%	1.7%	8.1%	0%	1.7%	5.5%

# SOUTH WINDSOR, CT VS. ELLINGTON, CT

## South Windsor:

### Basic Demographics:

Land Area (sq. miles)	Population/Sq. Mile (2010)	Median Age (2010 -14)	Households (2014-2018)	Median HH Inc. (2014-2018)
28.0	916	43	9,847	\$107,088

### Population:

2000	2010	2014	2020
24,412	25,709	25,795	26,172

### Race/Ethnicity:

White	Black	Asian Pacific	Native American	Other/Multi Race	Hispanic
78%	2.4%	10.3%	0.01%	2.5%	6.8%

## Ellington:

### Basic Demographics:

Land Area (sq. miles)	Population/Sq. Mile (2010)	Median Age (2010 -14)	Households (2014-2018)	Median HH Inc. (2014-2018)
34	457	40	6,094	\$85,5723

### Population:

2000	2010	2014	2020
12,921	15,228	15,449	16,299

### Race/Ethnicity:

White	Black	Asian Pacific	Native American	Other/Multi Race	Hispanic
85.9%	1.5%	5%	0%	2.6%	5%

## 1.3 DEMOGRAPHICS

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### Section II: Economic Impact of Local Parks

According to the National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA), seven in ten Americans visit their local parks and recreation facilities. An even larger number – nine in ten – agrees that their communities benefit from everything their local parks and recreation agencies offer. This level of public support is not surprising; parks and recreation promotes healthy, prosperous and connected communities in nearly every city, town and county throughout the United States. Millions of people benefit directly from their local parks and recreation agencies in many ways – as gathering places to meet with friends and family, open spaces to exercise and reconnect with nature or release stress with a walk along wooded trail.

NRPA and the Center for Regional Analysis at George Mason University for the Economic Impact of Local Parks Report released astonishing estimates of the economic impact generated from parks and recreation agencies nation-wide. The DIRECT EFFECTS are the spending by local parks and recreation agencies, whether for operations or capital programs, and include spending for equipment, utilities, goods, services and personnel. The INDIRECT EFFECTS capture the spending associated with local parks and recreation agencies' vendors. An example is an agency contracting with a local company to spray for mosquitoes. The pest control company will need to hire employees, purchase pesticides and contract with a bookkeeping service. The bookkeeping service in turn rents office space, hires workers, and purchases office supplies, etc. The INDUCED EFFECTS reflect the impact of consumer spending (from wages) by parks and recreation agency employees and employees working for the agency's vendors.

The model estimates the total effects on output, employment, labor income and value added. OUTPUT measures the value of the resulting transactions. EMPLOYMENT is the number of headcount jobs, both full- and part-time. LABOR INCOME includes salaries, wages and fringe benefits. VALUE ADDED is the measure most equivalent to GDP and includes property income, dividends, corporate profits and other measures.



Again, according to NRPA, local park and recreation agencies across the nation generated MORE THAN \$166 BILLION in economic activity and over 1.1 million jobs in 2017. In Connecticut alone in 2017 local parks and recreation agencies generated \$494,556,583 in economic activity, \$190,825,280 in labor income and 5,425 jobs were created by local parks and recreation agencies! Local park and recreation agencies generate additional economic benefits. While the figures above are significant, they represent only one aspect of the economic benefits of public parks, and consequently are conservative estimates of the full economic benefits of local parks and recreation.

Beyond the impact of local parks and recreation agency spending, other critical economic contributions from public parks include:

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### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

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Parks and recreation improves the quality of life in communities and benefits the local economic development of a region. A recent survey in Area Development notes that three-quarters of corporate executives rate quality-of-life features as important factors when choosing a location for a headquarters, factory or other company facility.

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### **VISITOR SPENDING**

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Many local park and recreation agency amenities spur tourism to their respective locales, generating significant economic activity, including (but not limited to) increased sales at local restaurants/bars and hotels. The August 2017 NRPA Park Pulse Poll found that park and recreation amenities—such as beaches, parks, trails and secluded and relaxing places—are important to people when choosing a vacation destination.

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### **HEALTH AND WELLNESS**

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Parks and recreation promotes improved physical and mental health. This not only helps people feel better, but can also help lower medical and insurance costs for those people taking advantage of those facilities and activities. Three in five respondents to the November 2017 NRPA Park Pulse poll indicate they would take up walking or jogging in local parks, trails or around their neighborhoods if advised by their doctors to be more physically active.

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### **CONSERVATION AND RESILIENCY**

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Park and recreation agencies' protection of land, water, trees, open spaces and wildlife improves air and water quality in communities. Through effective land management methods and green infrastructure investments, parks and recreation makes communities more resilient to natural disasters, reducing disaster recovery and insurance costs. Eighty-seven percent of respondents to the 2017 NRPA Americans' Engagement with Parks Survey agree that their local government and local park and recreation agency should make the needed investments to ensure their communities are more resilient to natural disasters.

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### **PROPERTY VALUES**

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Economic research has demonstrated consistently that homes and properties located near parklands have higher values than those farther away. Higher home values not only benefit the owners of these properties but also add to the tax base of local governments. Eighty-five percent of respondents to the 2017 NRPA Americans' Engagement with Parks Survey seek high-quality park and recreation amenities when they are choosing a place to live.

## 1.3 DEMOGRAPHICS

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### Section III: South Windsor vs. The National Average

According to the NRPA 2020 Agency Performance Review parks and recreation agencies are as diverse as the towns, cities and counties they serve. A successful agency is one that tailors its services to meet the unique needs of its community, including visitors. Knowing who uses South Windsor's resources and who may use them in the future (including age, race, income trends, etc.) are also factors in shaping the optimal mix of facilities and services to offer.

Here is a snapshot of how South Windsor Parks and Recreation measures up to the national average of parks and recreation agencies.

The typical Parks and Recreation Agency...

...has 9.9 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents.

**South Windsor has 34.4 acres per 1,000 residents!**

...has 1 park for every 2,286 residents.

**South Windsor has 1 park per 1,245 residents!**

...recovers 25.9% of operating expenditures through revenue generation.

**South Windsor recovers 55%!**

...spends \$167.50 per capita for communities of similar population size.

**South Windsor spends \$202.51 per capita.**

...dedicates 44% of its operating budget to park management/maintenance and 43% to recreation programming and 13% for other expenses.

**South Windsor earmarks 32% towards parks, 56% for programming and 12% for other expenditures.**

...derives funding 24% from revenue generation, 69% taxes and 16 % other.

**South Windsor's funding is from revenue collections at 55% and 45% tax-based.**

Other ways that SWPRD leads the way:



We administer community gardens when only 41% of agencies throughout the country do so.



We operate a before school program when only 20% do so nationally, and we run an after school program versus 44% of agencies elsewhere in the USA.



We oversee a Farmer's Market when only 19% do so nationally.



We offer a dog park when a surprising 78% of the rest of the country does not.



We get the job done with 22 full time employees compared to 27 employees in communities of equal population size throughout the nation.

## 1.3 DEMOGRAPHICS

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### Section IV: Conclusion

South Windsor is grounded strong in its history and residents enjoy and take pride in its small-town atmosphere, while being conveniently located just 10 miles from Hartford and nestled between Boston and New York City.

Additionally, with a superior school system, safe neighborhoods with a current median home price of \$348,000, a solid household annual income of \$107,088, and a trend-setting parks and recreation department who are leaders in the state, South Windsor is one of the most attractive communities east of the river.

The community demographic has a significant impact on how SWPRD operates the current parks system and how to grow in the future. South Windsor's growth in population and housing allows the Department to further assess parkland availability and visualize how the parks system can develop. Demographics such as age and ethnicity help with the understanding of different culture groups and help to determine future park design elements and a wide-variety of programming to meet their needs. The recent influx of folks of Asian descent representing approximately 27% of the associated home sales from 2018-2020 is a strong indicator that SWPRD must become more culturally competent and look beyond to supplement traditional services. As the population becomes more diverse so must programs and services.

The powerful impact parks and recreation has on economic activity, when combined with the ability to deliver healthier and happier communities, highlights the fact that these offerings are not merely a "nice-to-have," luxury government service. Rather, parks and recreation is a critical aspect of what makes South Windsor a vibrant and prosperous community.



## 1.4 HISTORY OF THE MASTER PLAN

The evolution of the “Master Plan” has come a long way since its birth in November of 1963. Titled the “Allen Report” it was the first plan written for the town of South Windsor regarding its parks and recreation improvement plan and became the impetus for the establishment of the Town’s first full time official Recreation Department. Just three years later in 1972 the South Windsor Community Development Action Plan was published that included a seven-year Recreation Department development program. This was followed shortly thereafter with three back-to-back feasibility studies in 1973 for the development of the proposed Plum Gulley Park and in 1975 the potential creation of Rye Street and Nevers Road Parks. After a thirty-three year gap, the Town’s PARC produced the “Park and Recreation Commission Strategic Plan” in March of 1996. Then only five years later, the Parks and Recreation Commission Master Plan, the most comprehensive one to date, was created in March of 2001. With that being said, annual master plan revisions were created from 2002 through 2012 until financial circumstances stifled work in 2012. The South Windsor Walk & Wheel Ways sub-committee of the PARC established in 2007 to advocate for safe biking and hiking in Town created their first master plan in 2010.

The following describes the history of these master plan documents created over the past 57 years:

# " ALLEN REPORT "

## NOVEMBER 1963

### General Aspects of the Document:

- Introduction
- Programs
- Areas and Facilities
- Basic Concepts
- Recommendations
- Priority Schedule
- Summary

Prepared by Park and Recreation Planners from Burlington, Vermont called the Allen Organization Financed by a \$3,500 grant from Hartford Foundation for Public Giving.

### Town Council Members:

1. Umberto Del Mastro
2. Walter M. Hill Jr.
3. Frederick P. Mahr
4. Edward J. Pastula
5. Vernon O. Petersen
6. Carlo G. Prestileo
7. William J. Thresher
8. James H. Throwe

Mayor: John J. Egan

Town Manager: Terry V. Sprenkel

Part-Time Recreation Director: Samuel F. Brady

### Inventory of Public Recreation spaces consisted of:

1. Ellsworth School
2. Wapping School/ South Windsor High School
3. Ayers and Nevers Road Property
4. Orchard Hill School
5. Avery School
6. Pleasant Valley School
7. Union School
8. Felt Road Area
9. Edgewood Drive Area
10. Fine Knob – Woodland
11. Rye Street Area

- At this time, all of the recreation facilities were held on public school grounds
- The report deemed South Windsor to be deficient in parks and recreation acreage and facilities
- 196 acres of public land available for recreation
- No golf courses in the town at this time
- No swimming area at this time (mentioned several times that it would be very useful)
- Three total tennis courts
- It was deemed that there was a deficiency in every facility category

### General Recommendations:

1. Develop separate pre-school areas in all park and recreation areas and provide opportunities for imaginative play
2. Provide clean, adequate and accessible rest rooms
3. Keep all facilities in good state of repair
4. Utilize wooded areas for nature trails, picnic areas, and day camps
5. Establish a police patrol for all areas

# "ALLEN REPORT"

## NOVEMBER 1963 (CONT.)

Page 35

### SUMMARY

If all the recommendations in this report are carried out, the following facilities will be available to the citizens of South Windsor in 1983:

	<u>1963</u>	<u>1983</u>
Ball diamonds	8	25
Field Game Areas	2	12
Tennis Courts	3	15
Outdoor Swimming Pools	0	3
Wading Pools	0	3
Indoor Swimming Pools	0	1
Outdoor Basketball	8	15
Picnic Areas	0	4
Apparatus Areas	4	11
Pre-school Areas	0	11
Multiple Use Areas	0	10
Horseshoe Courts	0	26
Areas for Ice Skating	0	11
Day Camps	0	2
Group Picnic Shelters	0	2
Putting Greens	0	1
Par Three Golf Course	0	1
Golden Age Center	0	1
Teen Center	0	1
Track and Field Areas	1	1
Launching Ramps	0	1
Band Shell	0	1
Childrens Fishing Area	0	1
Wild Life Sanctuary	0	1

\*\*\* Comparison of existing facilities in 1963 to envisioned facilities in 1983.

Picture taken directly from the report\*\*\*

# "SOUTH WINDSOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ACTION PLAN" (1972)

## General Aspects of the Document:

- Develop a seven-year development program for the Recreation Department
- Staffing requirements identified (Asst. Director and Secretary)
- Assignment of authority over parks to Recreation Director
- Facility construction
- Land acquisition
- Included results from community recreation surveys identifying swimming pools as the #1 need

## Town Council Members:

1. Umberto Del Mastro
2. Walter M. Hill Jr.
3. Frederick P. Mahr
4. Edward J. Pastula
5. Vernon O. Petersen
6. Carlo G. Prestileo
7. William J. Thresher
8. James H. Throwe

Mayor: John J. Egan

Town Manager: Terry V. Sprenkel

Part-Time Recreation Director: Samuel F. Brady

Prepared by Frank Russo, Division of Planning and Management Services,  
CT Dept. of Community Affairs

# "PLUM GULLEY PARK FEASIBILITY STUDY" (1973)

## General Aspects of the Document:

- Development of an 85 acre recreation complex on the site of the current Nevers Park
- Public Library
- Community Center
- Outdoor Ice Hockey Rink
- Outdoor Swimming Pool
- Athletic Fields
- Paddle Tennis Courts (2)
- Handball Courts (4)
- Picnic Areas
- Trails

## Prepared by

### Park & Recreation Commission Members:

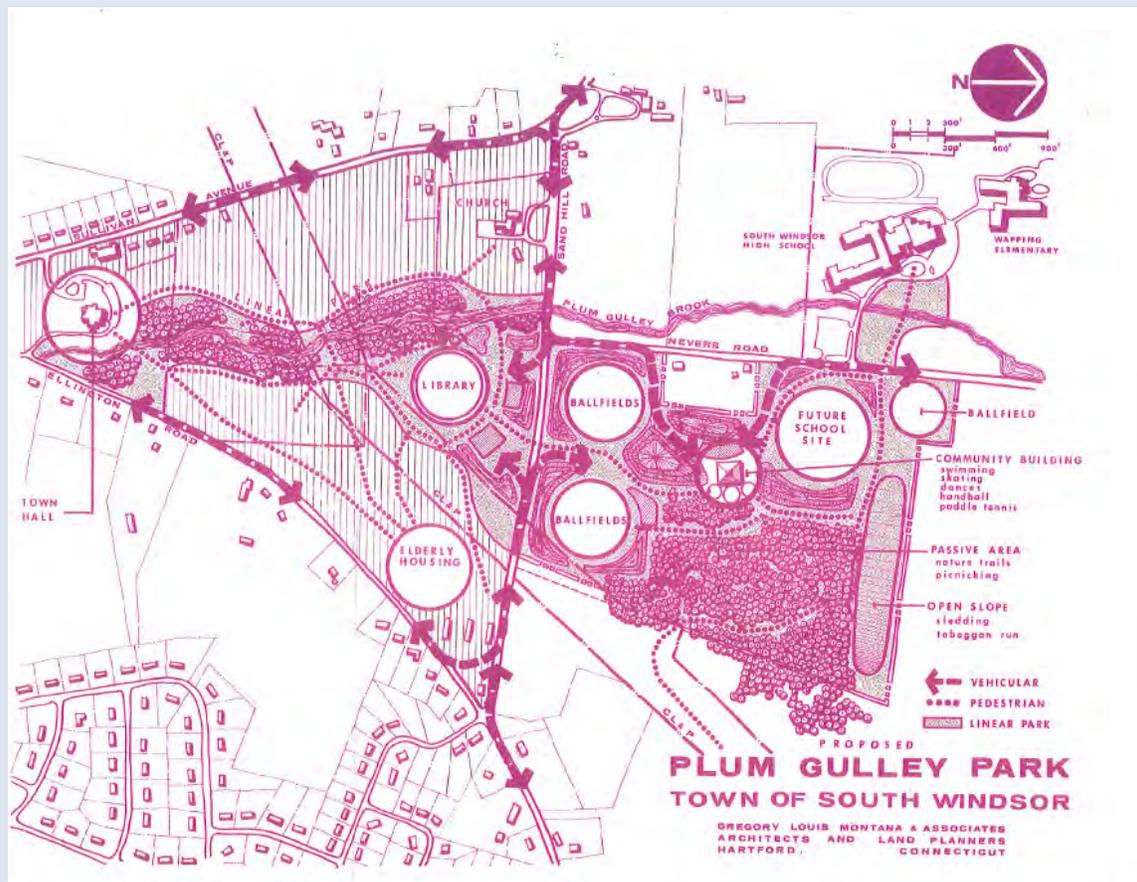
1. Alfred Sancho, Chair
2. Elizabeth Colton
3. Daniel Corcoran
4. Bob Fuchs
5. Rev. John Gay
6. Joan Oberg
7. Delores Spadaro

Mayor: Robert Smith

Town Manager: Terry V. Sprenkel

Recreation Director: James Snow

The original \$1,500,000 project went to public referendum and failed June of 2014.  
A second slightly larger version at \$2,400,000 never made it to public election.



# " RYE STREET PARK FEASIBILITY STUDY" ( 1 9 7 5 )

## General Aspects of the Document:

- This 93.1 acre parcel was originally intended as a future school site
- Playground
- Basketball Court
- Fishing Pond
- Softball Field
- Athletic Fields
- Garden Plots
- Camp site south of railroad tracks
- Picnic Areas
- Trails

## Prepared by Park & Recreation Commission Members:

1. Alfred Sancho, Chair
2. Elizabeth Colton
3. Daniel Corcoran
4. Bob Fuchs
5. Rev. John Gay
6. Joan Oberg
7. Delores Spadaro

Mayor: Sandy Bender

Town Manager: Terry V. Sprenkel

Recreation Director: James Snow

The project at an estimated \$276,793 never went to public referendum.

Prepared by: Lord-Wood, Larson Associates, Inc.

# "NEVERS ROAD PARK FEASIBILITY STUDY" (1975)

## General Aspects of the Document:

- This 80 acre parcel was originally intended as a future school site
- Baseball & Softball Fields
- Tennis Courts (2)
- Community Building
- Outdoor Swimming Pool
- Ski Tow
- Basketball Court
- Neighborhood Parks
- Open Space Fields
- Picnic Areas

The project at an estimated \$327,120 never went to public referendum.

Prepared by: M.R. Roming Associates, Land Planners

## Recreation Study Committee Members

1. Sam Brady, Chair
2. Dorothy Corcoran
3. Robert Davin
4. Fred Edlund
5. Kay Hathorn
6. Mary-Lou Kupchunos
7. Linda Levack
8. Donald Mercure
9. James Moyer
10. John Nesturek
11. Joanne Nesturek
12. John Pelly
13. Irving Sobolov
14. Walter Umberfield

Mayor: Howard Fitts

Town Manager: Terry V. Sprenkel

Recreation Director: James Snow



# "PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION STRATEGIC PLAN" MARCH 13, 1996

## General Aspects of the Document:

- Mission/Vision Statements
- Introduction
- Goals and Objectives
- Appendix (A-C)

## Mission Statement:

1. "To provide a wide range of cost effective, quality services that meet customer needs and expectations."
2. "To enhance the quality of life for the residents of South Windsor by providing, promoting and enhancing programs and recreational activities for its citizens."

## Vision Statement:

"A progressive customer driven organization, providing continuous improvement in effective quality services and their delivery, through a professional workforce, responsible for, and vested in the vitality and success of the organization and its service profession."

## Goals:

1. Successfully certify 40 volunteer coaches in NYSCA (National Youth Sports Coaches Association)
2. Expand participant evaluation process to monitor and improve customer satisfaction
3. Develop alternative funding source for parks & recreation capital expenditure to become more responsive, better serve our customers and reduce long term costs
4. Refine pre – school and swim lessons registration process with emphasis on speed, simplicity, and customer satisfaction

Mayor: William Aman

Town Manager: Matthew Galligan

Recreation Director: Ray Favreau

Prepared by: Park and Recreation Commission with consultation from James Snow, retired Director  
Gerald Baseel, Chair, Peter Anthony, Patrick Davin, Siamak Dowlatshahi, Leonard Jay,  
Michael Melocowski, John Murphy, Thomas Sharos, Viney Wilson

**Goals and Objectives in order of importance:**

**1. Maintain and Enhance Existing Facilities**

- Develop and upgrade existing parks
- Better up keep of existing facilities/improve/modify
- Revisit existing park master plan and make recommendations for completion

**2. New Facility Development**

- Continue to foster plans for public or municipal golf facility
- Together with the Swimming Pool Committee, support efforts to construct indoor/outdoor pool, either public or municipal
- Diversify winter sport offerings
- Establish local bike trails
- Add additional multi – purpose outdoor fields
- Add additional indoor gymnasiums for basketball, etc.
- Add roller/street hockey facility

**3. Land Acquisition for Recreational Use**

- Acquire land along the CT river for Linear Park
- Complete development of Dart Hill Rd. (Lawrence Road project)
- More space needed for outdoor and indoor sports
- Through PARC liaison, make recommendations for use of town open space property

**4. Communications and Commission Responsibility**

- Enhance the involvement of members on the commission
- Maintain PARC member participation and continuance of annual programs (special events)
- Coordinate efforts with other town departments concerning development of recreation facilities
- Work with sub committees and town personnel to coordinate large scale objectives
- Work with other commissions on "Quality of Life" issues, examples cultural, recreational, etc.

**5. Programs and Activities**

- Improve the process/procedures for enrolling children in town programs
- Emphasize health/fitness on a community basis
- Provide school kids with firearm safety training
- Pursue diversity of programs, especially those social/cultural in nature and activities geared towards teens and adults
- Ensure all children have opportunity to receive the benefits of recreation/programs. Promote fairness in enrollment

**6. Public Relations/Education**

- Improve public awareness of facilities and parks and recreation department operations
- Educate residents and organizations on role of commission and what we can do for them
- Make the quality of life better for South Windsor citizens

**"PARK AND RECREATION  
COMMISSION STRATEGIC  
PLAN" MARCH 13, 1996  
(CONT.)**

**INVENTORY OF  
BOARD OF EDUCATION AND  
TOWN-OWNED  
OUTDOOR RECREATION FACILITIES**

<b>TYPE</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>NUMBER</b>
<b>Baseball Fields</b>	Duprey Field	1
	Nevers Road Park I	1
	Nevers Road Park II (Lighted, May 1996)	1
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Running Track (One quarter mile)</b>	South Windsor High School	1
<b>Soccer Fields Tennis Courts</b>	Nevers Road Park	3
	Rye Street Park	4
	Eli Terry School	2
	Elisworth School	2
	Orchard Hill School	1
	Timothy Edwards School	1
	South Windsor High School	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>15</b>	
<b>Football Fields</b>	South Windsor High School	2
	Duprey Field (Tri Town Practice)	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3</b>	
<b>Volleyball Courts</b>	Nevers Road Park	1
<b>Horseshoes</b>	Nevers Road Park	1
<b>Walking/Exercise Trails</b>	Nevers Road Park (2 miles)	2
	Linear Park Along River (Proposed)	1
	Wildlife Bird Sanctuary (ungroomed)	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4</b>	

**"PARK AND RECREATION  
COMMISSION STRATEGIC  
PLAN" MARCH 13, 1996  
(CONT.)**

**INVENTORY OF  
BOARD OF EDUCATION AND  
TOWN-OWNED  
OUTDOOR RECREATION FACILITIES**

<b>TYPE</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>NUMBER</b>
<b>Basketball Courts</b>	Rye Street Park	1
	Wapping School	1
	Oak/Street/Dogwood Lane	1
	Veteran's Memorial Park	1
	Philip Smith School	1
	Eli Terry School	2
	Ellsworth School	1
	Pleasant Valley School	2
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>10</b>
<b>Tennis Courts</b>	Margaret Drive	1
	Rye Street Park	4
	Wapping School (Lighted)	6
	Timothy Edwards School	4
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>15</b>
<b>Softball Fields</b>	Rye Street Park (lighted)	2
	Ayers Road Complex	1
	Orchard Hill School	1
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>4</b>
<b>Little League/ Intermediate Fields</b>	Ayers Road Complex	3
	South Windsor High School	1
	Wapping School	1
	Avery Street School	1
	Eli Terry School	2
	Pleasant Valley School	2
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>10</b>

# "PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION MASTER PLAN" (MARCH 2001)

South Windsor Parks and Recreation

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## General Aspects of the Document:

- Introduction
- Facility inventories
- Needs Assessments
- Demographics and Growth Projections
- Recreation Trends
- Recommendations and site improvements
- Cost Projections and Funding Sources
- Conclusion

Written by the following from Vollmer  
Associates of Hamden, CT:

- Fred J. Correale
- Gary Sorge
- Alison Burke

## Parks and Recreation Commission Members:

- Viney Wilson, Chair
- Kevin McCann
- Peter Anthony
- Dick Blanchard
- Elaine Britz
- Jo DeMaio
- Tom Lines
- Toni Rodrigues
- Tom Ruby
- Mark Sluboski

Mayor: Marianne Lassman Fisher

Town Manager: Matthew Galligan

Director of Recreation: Raymond Favreau

## General Needs Assessments:

1. Provide a sports complex away from residential areas
2. Provide shelters at parks
3. Provide bike trails
4. Add athletic fields
5. Develop Lawrence Road/Dart Hill Road area into an active park
6. Add gymnasiums – renovate Ellsworth and build new
7. Provide teen areas
8. Provide area to operate more affordable summer day camp
9. Add park trails/pathways with lights for evening use
10. Add more smaller neighborhood areas for passive use
11. Indoor Pool
12. Improve maintenance at existing parks
13. Conserve open space for passive use



South Windsor Parks and Recreation Lego Mural  
Assembled by South Windsor residents at the Open House for the  
Wapping Parks and Recreation facility, January 2018

# "PARC MASTER PLAN REVISIONS" (DECEMBER 20, 2004)

## General Information:

**Purpose:** To streamline the \$23.3 million 2001 Master Plan to a more affordable and achievable ten-year strategy. The focus was on smaller improvement projects that attract partnerships, cost sharing and commitment from Town Council. This approach was to be re-visited annually to re-prioritize projects as needed and as funding levels permitted.

Two attempts to implement phases of the 2001 Master Plan met unsuccessful results in public referenda in 2001 (\$4.9 million) and in 2002 (\$4.6 million). Without the necessary public support for multi-million dollar proposals to implement the plan, the PARC decided, not to pack it up and go home, but rather to go back to the drawing board.

The commission re-evaluated the pulse of the community and local groups and identified more realistic "needs" versus ideal "wants". Focus shifted from development of costly brand new facility construction to the more frugal improvements and enhancements to existing facilities. They looked to capitalize on in-house resources and appealed to local user groups for financial commitment. This reasonable approach created a tremendous success story with the development of athletic fields to accommodate soccer, lacrosse and football in a multi-purpose configuration at Rye Street Park at a cost of \$218,000

The newly revised plan, in its bare-bones streamlined presentation, still provided a wonderful balance of active and passive recreational features including: open space areas, trails, improvements to and construction of outdoor sports fields, a skate park, playgrounds, a spray ground as well as enhancements at Veterans Memorial Park. The new plan did not however accomplish the intent of the original 2001 plan, and only addresses the outdoor recreational environment. The plan did present a reasonable, affordable and realistic approach to facility development in support of leisure pursuits for residents.

# "PARC MASTER PLAN REVISIONS" (DECEMBER 20, 2004) (CONT.)

## Proposed Improvements to Nevers Park

1. Infield and outfield irrigation on baseball fields
2. Skate Park
3. Trails
4. Permanent stands, fencing, and lighting upgrades at Rotary Field
5. Replace clay infield, mound, and home plate at Rotary Field
6. Softball field

## Proposed Improvements to Oak Street Park

1. Basketball court
2. Open field

## Proposed Improvements to Rye Street Park

1. Trails
2. Dog Park
3. Storage buildings and restrooms
4. Soccer field (full size)
5. Football/Lacrosse field

## Proposed Improvements to Lawrence Road Park

1. Basketball Court
2. Open field
3. Trails
4. Playground



## Projects Completed:

- Rotary Baseball Field Press Box/Concession/Restroom Building and Dugouts (\$150,000 - \$10,000 PARC, \$140,000 fund raised by American Legion Baseball)

Mayor: Matthew Streeter  
Town Manager: Matthew Galligan  
Director of Recreation: Raymond Favreau  
Parks and Recreation Commission Chair: Craig Zimmerman

# "PARC MASTER PLAN REVISIONS" (MAY 16, 2005)

## **Proposed Improvements to Nevers Park**

1. Infield and outfield irrigation on baseball fields
2. Skate Park
3. Trails
4. Permanent stands, fencing, and lighting upgrades at Rotary Field
5. Replace clay infield, mound, and home plate at Rotary Field
6. Softball field
8. Splash pad

## **Proposed Improvements to Oak Street Park**

1. Basketball court
2. Open field

## **Proposed Improvements at Little League Complex**

1. Add hose extensions at Duprey and softball fields

## **Proposed Improvements to Rye Street Park**

1. Trails
2. Dog Park
3. Storage buildings and restrooms
4. Soccer field (full size)
5. Football/Lacrosse field
6. Seed money for football, soccer, and Lacrosse programs

## **Proposed Improvements to Lawrence Road Park**

1. Basketball Court
2. Open field
3. Trails
4. Playground
5. Small backstop for a field, no permanent cutout or stands or lights

## **Projects Completed:**

- Two soccer fields at Rye Street Park – Phase I
- Football/Lacrosse fields at Rye Street Park – Phase I
- Basketball Court at Oak Street Park
- Open field at Oak Street Park

Mayor: Matthew Streeter

Town Manager: Matthew Galligan

Director of Recreation: Raymond Favreau

Parks and Recreation Commission Chair: Craig Zimmerman

# "PARC MASTER PLAN REVISIONS" (SEPTEMBER 13, 2006)

## Proposed Improvements to Nevers Park

1. Infield and outfield irrigation on baseball fields
2. Skate Park
3. Trails
4. Permanent stands, fencing, and lighting upgrades at Rotary Field
5. Replace clay infield, mound, and home plate at Rotary Field
6. Softball field
8. Splash pad

## Proposed Improvements to Oak Street Park

1. Basketball court
2. Open field

## Proposed Improvements at Little League Complex

1. Add hose extensions at Duprey and softball fields

## Proposed Improvements for Veterans Memorial Park

1. Volleyball Court
2. Water Feature
3. Playground
4. Basketball Court

## Proposed Improvements to Rye Street Park

1. Trails
2. Dog Park
3. Storage buildings and restrooms
4. Soccer field (full size)
5. Football/Lacrosse field
6. Seed money for football, soccer, and Lacrosse programs

## Proposed Improvements to Lawrence Road Park

1. Basketball Court
2. Open field
3. Trails
4. Playground
5. Small backstop for a field, no permanent cutout or stands or lights
6. Pond access and fishing dock
7. Parking lot for 50 vehicles



## Projects Completed:

- Nevers Baseball Field – irrigation, lengthen left field (\$44,674)
- Rotary Pavilion – new roof (\$11,200)

Mayor: Matthew Streeter

Town Manager: Matthew Galligan

Director of Recreation: Raymond Favreau

Parks and Recreation Commission Chair: Craig Zimmerman

# "PARC MASTER PLAN REVISIONS" (DECEMBER 13, 2007)

## **Proposed Improvements to Nevers Park**

1. Irrigate soccer fields
2. Infield and outfield irrigation on baseball fields
3. Skate Park
4. Trails
5. Permanent stands, fencing, and lighting upgrades at Rotary Field
6. Replace clay infield, mound, and home plate at Rotary Field
7. Move back Left Field fence at Rotary Field
8. Softball field
9. Splash pad
10. Jacob's view @ MFP
11. Perimeter fencing @ MFP
12. Indoor batting cage at Rotary Field

## **Proposed Improvements to Oak Street Park**

1. Basketball court
2. Open field

## **Proposed Improvements at Little League Complex**

1. Add hose extensions at Duprey and softball fields

## **Proposed Improvements for Veterans Memorial Park**

1. Volleyball Court
2. Water Feature
3. Playground
4. Basketball Court
5. Covered artificial ice rink
6. Rental Pavilion
7. Retrofit water features

## **Proposed Improvements to Rye Street Park**

1. Trails
2. Dog Park
3. Storage buildings and restrooms
4. Soccer field (full size)
5. Football/Lacrosse field
6. Seed money for football, soccer, and Lacrosse programs
7. Architectural plans for building
8. Additional parking for 100 cars
9. Skate park (roof covered)

## **Proposed Improvements to Lawrence Road Park**

1. Basketball Court
2. Open field
3. Trails
4. Playground
5. Small backstop for a field, no permanent cutout or stands or lights
6. Pond Access and fishing dock
7. Parking lot for 50 vehicles
8. Construction/bid documents
9. Fishing deck
10. Landscaping

## **Proposed Improvements at Wapping Park**

1. Disc golf

### **Projects Completed:**

- My Friend's Place Boundless Playground at Nevers Park (\$400,000 - \$30,000 SRRF and \$330,000 raised through newly founded South Windsor Community Foundation serving as fiduciary)

# "PARC MASTER PLAN REVISIONS" (DECEMBER 10, 2008)

## **Proposed Improvements to Nevers Park**

1. Irrigate soccer fields
2. Infield and outfield irrigation on baseball fields
3. Skate Park
4. Trails
5. Permanent stands, fencing, and lighting upgrades at Rotary Field
6. Replace clay infield, mound, and home plate at Rotary Field
7. Move back Left Field fence at Rotary Field
8. Softball field
9. Splash pad
10. Jacob's view @ MFP
11. Perimeter fencing @ MFP
12. Indoor batting cage at Rotary Field

## **Proposed Improvements to Oak Street Park**

1. Basketball court
2. Open field

## **Proposed Improvements at Little League Complex**

1. Add hose extensions at Duprey and softball fields

## **Proposed Improvements for Veterans Memorial Park**

1. Volleyball Court
2. Water Feature
3. Playground
4. Basketball Court
5. Covered artificial ice rink
6. Rental Pavilion
7. Retrofit water features

## **Proposed Improvements to Rye Street Park**

1. Trails
2. Dog Park
3. Storage buildings and restrooms
4. Soccer field (full size)
5. Football/Lacrosse field
6. Seed money for football, soccer, and Lacrosse programs
7. Architectural plans for building
8. Additional parking for 100 cars
9. Skate park (roof covered)

## **Proposed Improvements to Lawrence Road Park**

1. Basketball Court
2. Open field
3. Trails
4. Playground
5. Small backstop for a field, no permanent cutout or stands or lights
6. Pond Access and fishing dock
7. Parking lot for 50 vehicles
8. Construction/bid documents
9. Fishing deck
10. Landscaping

## **Proposed Improvements at Wapping Park**

1. Disc golf

## **Proposed Improvements at Ellsworth School**

1. Little League field, soccer field, basketball court

## **Projects Completed:**

- Nevers Park Dog Park (\$35,000)
- Rye Street Park – Phase II Soccer/Lacrosse/Football Fields (\$250,000 STEAP Grant)
- Architectural Plans for Concession/Restroom/Storage Building at Rye Street Park (\$11,000)
- Jacob's View Shade Shelter at My Friend's Place (\$30,000 - \$10,000 PARC, \$20,000 Golf4Kids Foundation)
- Construction/Bid Documents for Lawrence Road Park (by Vollmer Assoc.) – (\$56,600)

# "PARC MASTER PLAN REVISIONS" (FEBRUARY 11, 2009)

## **Proposed Improvements to Nevers Park**

1. Irrigate soccer fields
2. Infield and outfield irrigation on baseball fields
3. Skate Park
4. Trails
5. Permanent stands, fencing, and lighting upgrades at Rotary Field
6. Replace clay infield, mound, and home plate at Rotary Field
7. Move back Left Field fence at Rotary Field
8. Softball field
9. Splash pad
10. Jacob's view @ MFP
11. Perimeter fencing @ MFP
12. Indoor batting cage at Rotary Field

## **Proposed Improvements to Oak Street Park**

1. Basketball court
2. Open field

## **Proposed Improvements at Little League Complex**

1. Add hose extensions at Duprey and softball fields

## **Proposed Improvements for Veterans Memorial Park**

1. Volleyball Court
2. Water Feature
3. Playground
4. Basketball Court
5. Covered artificial ice rink
6. Rental Pavilion
7. Retrofit water features

## **Proposed Improvements to Rye Street Park**

1. Trails
2. Dog Park
3. Storage buildings and restrooms
4. Soccer field (full size)
5. Football/Lacrosse field
6. Seed money for football, soccer, and Lacrosse programs
7. Architectural plans for building
8. Additional parking for 100 cars
9. Skate park (roof covered)

## **Proposed Improvements to Lawrence Road Park**

1. Basketball Court
2. Open field
3. Trails
4. Playground
5. Small backstop for a field, no permanent cutout or stands or lights
6. Pond Access and fishing dock
7. Parking lot for 50 vehicles
8. Construction/bid documents
9. Fishing deck
10. Landscaping
11. Parking lot for 35 vehicles

## **Proposed Improvements at Wapping Park**

1. Disc golf

## **Proposed Improvements at Ellsworth School**

1. Little League field, soccer field, basketball court

## **Projects Completed:**

- Rye Street Park Concession/Restroom/Storage Building (\$169,035)
- Walk & Wheel Ways connector paths (\$1,306)

# "PARC MASTER PLAN REVISIONS" (DECEMBER 8, 2010)

## **Proposed Improvements to Nevers Park**

1. Irrigate soccer fields
2. Infield and outfield irrigation on baseball fields
3. Skate Park
4. Trails
5. Permanent stands, fencing, and lighting upgrades at Rotary Field
6. Replace clay infield, mound, and home plate at Rotary Field
7. Move back Left Field fence at Rotary Field
8. Softball field
9. Splash pad
10. Jacob's view @ MFP
11. Perimeter fencing @ MFP
12. Indoor batting cage at Rotary Field
13. Lighting at Rotary Field

## **Proposed Improvements to Oak Street Park**

1. Basketball court
2. Open field

## **Proposed Improvements at Little League Complex**

1. Add hose extensions at Duprey and softball fields

## **Proposed Improvements for Veterans Memorial Park**

1. Volleyball Court
2. Water Feature
3. Playground
4. Basketball Court
5. Covered artificial ice rink
6. Rental Pavilion
7. Retrofit water features
8. Rebuild athletic field

## **Proposed Improvements at Timothy Edwards Middle School**

1. Skate Park Phase one and two

## **Proposed Improvements to Rye Street Park**

1. Trails
2. Dog Park
3. Storage buildings and restrooms
4. Soccer field (full size)
5. Football/Lacrosse field
6. Seed money for football, soccer, and Lacrosse programs
7. Architectural plans for building
8. Additional parking for 100 cars
9. Skate park (roof covered)
10. Portable cricket pitch

## **Proposed Improvements to Lawrence Road Park**

1. Basketball Court
2. Open field
3. Trails
4. Playground
5. Small backstop for a field, no permanent cutout or stands or lights
6. Pond Access and fishing dock
7. Parking lot for 50 vehicles
8. Construction/bid documents
9. Fishing deck
10. Landscaping
11. Parking lot for 35 vehicles

## **Proposed Improvements at Wapping Park**

1. Disc golf

## **Proposed Improvements at Ellsworth School**

1. Little League field, soccer field, basketball court

## **Projects Completed:**

- Indoor Batting cages at Rotary Baseball Field (\$175,000 - \$25,000 PARC, \$50,000 Town, \$100,000 fund raised by American Legion Baseball)
- Walk & Wheel Ways connector paths (\$1,540)

# SOUTH WINDSOR WALK & WHEEL WAYS MASTER PLAN (MARCH 1, 2010)

South Windsor Parks and Recreation

---

## Vision:

The town of South Windsor will be a walking and bicycling friendly community in which residents and visitors will enjoy safe walking and bicycling for recreation and transportation.

## Mission Statement:

The mission of South Windsor Walk & Wheel Ways is to create and implement a comprehensive plan to provide safe non-motorized passages for the community by expanding and linking trails to neighborhoods, public premises and open spaces within our community and to other towns.

## Purpose:

The purpose of this plan is to identify opportunities for multi-purpose trails and safer, more pedestrian and bicycle friendly roads throughout South Windsor. The plan also provides information for communications, education, and safety enforcement, grant applications and other fundraising efforts. The plan will be submitted to the town council for their consideration. Once the plan has been accepted by the town council, then it will be incorporated into the Town of South Windsor Parks and Recreation Commission Master Plan which in turn becomes a subset of the town's Master Plan of Conservation and Development. The plan will be reviewed annually for the first three years upon approval and updated periodically thereafter.



Mayor: John Pelkey

Town Manager: Matthew Galligan

Recreation Director: Ray Favreau

Prepared by: South Windsor Walk & Wheel Ways Committee, Ginny Hole, Chair

South Windsor Recreation Department staff

# **SOUTH WINDSOR WALK & WHEEL WAYS MASTER PLAN (MARCH 1, 2010) (CONT.)**

## **Definition of South Windsor Walk & Wheel Ways**

**South Windsor** - Town in Greater Hartford in Hartford County in the state of Connecticut.

**Walk** - Dictionary.com defines walk as "to move about or travel on foot for exercise or pleasure".

Our organization defines walking as that and more. "Walk" in our name includes running, jogging, strolling, hiking, snowshoeing, and cross-country skiing. All those activities provide exercise, pleasure, or transportation.

**Wheel** - The dictionary definition of the wheel is "a circular frame or disk arranged to revolve on an axis, as on or in vehicles or machinery." In our group's vision, wheel can mean many non-motorized modes of wheeled transportation. Our primary focus will be bicycling but roller skating, rollerblading, and skateboarding will also be addressed. Transportation for people with disabilities, such as wheelchairs, is also important and should be considered.

**Ways** - Citing dictionary.com again; a way is a "passage or progress on a course". The ways of our organization are existing or new trails, paths, road shoulders, sidewalks or lanes for the use of walking and all wheeled traffic.

## **Goals:**

- Maintain a walking and bicycling plan as part of the South Windsor Parks & Recreation Commission Master Plan.
  - Create multi-use, off-road trails to connect neighborhoods and community sites (e.g. schools, parks, public buildings and open spaces) for recreation and transportation purposes.
  - Maintain existing trails.
  - Enhance existing roads to maintain a consistent and safe street-side pathway for bicyclists and pedestrians and or add parallel sidewalks or multi-use paths/trails.
- Link to other multi-use trail systems and road routes in neighboring communities.
- Advocate a safe walking and bicycling environment.
- Educate road users of all types on safe share-the-road practices and general safe bicycling information.
- Promote walking and bicycling options for neighborhood and community transportation.
- Promote the inclusion of walking and bicycling provisions in town plans for zoning, site planning, conservation and development.
- Recommend on-road routes for riding and provide bicycle and automotive signage.
- Create and implement a comprehensive plan to communicate with the public about walking and bicycling opportunities, bicycle and pedestrian safety, and the status of the master plan within the town.

# SOUTH WINDSOR FOOD ALLIANCE MASTER PLAN (2012)

## Vision:

The Town of South Windsor will promote a Healthy Food System, by supporting: local farms, farmers' markets, community gardens, increased use of town owned land for farming, food waste composting, green roof projects, restaurants buying local produce, edible schoolyards, and a food co-op store.

## Mission Statement:

The mission of the South Windsor FOOD Alliance is to create a Healthy Food System in town that will promote sales of locally grown foods and create new ventures that support local farming.

## Purpose:

The purpose of this project is to increase awareness regarding the health benefits of residents eating locally grown foods and to make the connection between where our food comes from and the local farms that have been an important link in the town's history. This plan will be integrated into the Town of South Windsor's Master Plan for Conservation and Development. The plan will be updated and reviewed annually to evaluate new issues and ideas as they are presented to the South Windsor FOOD Alliance.

## Definition of South Windsor FOOD\* Alliance (\*Families Organized for Optimal Development)

The South Windsor FOOD Alliance is a Task Force composed of town residents and members of three organizations: SW Park & Recreation Commission; SW Agricultural Land Preservation Advisory Commission; and the SW Historical Society. The Task Force is evaluating methods to support local farming and local food producers in ways that will create new ventures and assist both farming and food production in South Windsor.

Founder: Mr. Andrew Paterna



Charter Members: Park & Recreation Commission: Katie Graham, Andrew Paterna; Agricultural Land Preservation Advisory Commission: Elizabeth Warren, James Futtner, Sandy Jeski; Historical Society: Mary Busky; Residents: Honora Futtner, Spencer Hill, Patricia Lazos, Mark Hood, Stephanie Young, Maria Mayer, Karen Althammer, Willie Althammer, MaryEllen Brennan, Renee Ulbinsky; High School Students: Marta Holovatska, Caitlin Gilligan, Danielle Karpiej, Jenn Newton; SW Environmental Science Club-members; Advisory-Resource Members: MaryAnn Lopez (Director of Food Services-SW School System), Cindi Yakoubian, SW Schools-(Community Liasion), Sergeant Tom Fields, (SW Police Dept and Foodshare), Andrea Cofrancesco, (SW Human Services Dept and SW Food Bank), Sherry McGann, (SW Environmental Officer), Bettylou Sandy (President CT-NOFA), Danel Eitel (Faculty-SWHS).



# SOUTH WINDSOR PLAN OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT (2012)

A Revised Master Plan of Development for Parks & Recreation was presented to the Planning and Zoning Commission by South Windsor Park & Recreation Commission on January 31, 2012 for inclusion in the update to the Town's Plan of Conservation and Development.

The revised plan was devised based on the following assumptions:

- IN-HOUSE assistance and resources are optimally utilized (the SWPARC recognizes that the reliance on the expertise of town staff is absolutely necessary to properly implement the plan).
- Commitment by LOCAL SPORTS GROUPS and private contributions, both monetary and in-kind, will be essential.
- An INFLATIONARY factor of 3% per year.
- TOWN COUNCIL support for annual allocation in the town's Capital Improvement Plan budget.
- An understanding that PLANNING needs to be a multi-year and on-going process (a good example being that of a skate park).
- Potential re-allocation of FUND BALANCES from completed recreation-related capital projects (like Rye Street Park Athletic Fields, VMP Pool Renovations, Oak Street Basketball Courts, LoCIP Funds, and Recreation Capital Reserve for example).
- REQUEST for increased capital funding in reasonable increments over the long term.

Two other initiatives are worthy of brief mention, as they illustrate not only the need for mindful study but the loss of opportunity as a result of failure to act on feasible recommendations. Back in 1989 PARC created a sub-committee chaired by member Mr. John Murphy to investigate the feasibility of a public golf course in town. The C.I.P. budget allocated \$25,000, an RFP was drafted and a handful of consultants were interviewed. A firm associated with the PGA was selected and their findings verified that a public golf course could easily be sustained, and be profitable, since there was a severe shortage in the number of rounds of golf available in the greater Hartford area. They identified the perfect site in town and estimated the cost to purchase the land and construct the course would likely run just north of \$7,000,000. There was little political support to move on this proposal, but the Town was still a benefactor of this effort as it provided the stimulus for the private sector to build an 18-hole golf course at the exact suggested location. The property owner partnered with the designer of the TPC River Highlands PGA course in Cromwell, CT to build what became the premiere Topstone Golf Course.

The second proposal in 2001 was an in-house proposal crafted by then Town Manager Matthew Galligan, Recreation Director Ray Favreau and Assistant Recreation Director Mike McCarty. The Family Recreation & Leisure Center Business Plan was pitched as a private/public partnership securing non-taxed financing through the formation of either a "63-20 Corporation", or a "Recreational Authority" as permitted under the IRS as outlined by Bond Counsel, Robinson & Cole. The 95,000 square foot facility complete with indoor aquatics, gymnasiums, fitness center, all-purpose rooms and medical-clinical space to lease (ECHN was on-board as tenant) slated for the Evergreen Walk complex had a hefty estimated price tag of \$14,185,000. Despite the availability of extremely advantageous financing (5% interest rate when the going rate for new construction was 8% at the time) with Roosevelt & Cross, Inc. New York, New York there was overwhelming skepticism to endorse the entrepreneurial "revenue bond" approach (pledging revenue against debt service) versus the traditional general obligation bond and as such the project was moth-balled. Once again, this effort motivated the private sector to mobilize and as a result LA Fitness and ECHN constructed buildings on the precise site earmarked in the business plan.

# SOUTH WINDSOR PLAN OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT (2012) (CONT.)

## Parks and Recreation Referenda History – 54% success rate

Year	Project	Cost	Result
1974	Plum Gulley Recreation Complex	\$1,500,000	Fail
1986	Community Center	\$7,600,000	Fail
1987	Open Space Acquisition for Recreation	\$3,000,000	PASS
1989	Community Center	\$2,200,000	PASS
1996	Open Space Acquisition	\$4,000,000	PASS
1998	VMP Repairs/Recreation Center	\$7,600,000	Fail
2000	VMP Pool Renovations	\$3,100,000	PASS
2001	Parks & Open Space	\$4,920,000	Fail
*2002*	Recreation Proposal	\$4,600,000	Fail
2005	Open Space Acquisition	\$4,000,000	PASS
2009	Open Space Acquisition	\$2,000,000	PASS
2012	Parks & Athletic Field Improvements	\$1,010,000	Fail
2018	Open Space Acquisition	\$2,000,000	PASS
46 years	Total Approved Bonded Parks & Rec. Initiatives	\$20,300,000	

\*2002\* - A post referendum survey was distributed to 3,000 random voters to seek information as to why the election failed. PARC received an incredible response rate of 27%, or 817 returns. For those who voted NO the economy and cost was the deciding factor. The need for athletic fields was the primary reason folks voted YES. The following conclusions were drawn:

1. Residents did not want taxes raised to pay for recreation facilities
2. A large number of residents, 66% to be exact, preferred an indoor swimming pool and trails over athletic fields.
3. Only 33% recognized the need for organized sports fields

## 1.5

# ACCOMPLISHMENTS/IMPROVEMENTS SINCE 2001 PLAN

Year	Project	Cost	PARC Fund	Private Funding
2004	Nevers Park-Rotary Press Box & Dugouts	\$150,000	\$10,000	\$140,000 (fund raised by American Legion Baseball)
2004	<b>South Windsor Community Foundation (SWCF) established for Boundless Playground project</b>			
2005	Rye St. Park - Phase I - Two soccer 2 Football/Lacrosse fields	\$261,000	\$0	\$261,000 (LoCIP)
2005	Oak Street Park- Basketball court/Open field	\$46,281	\$46,281	\$0
2006	Nevers Baseball Field – irrigation, lengthen left field	\$44,674	\$44,674	\$0
2006	Nevers Park-Rotary Pavilion – new roof	\$11,200	\$11,200	\$0
2006	Ellsworth Gym-Interior painting ceiling, walls	\$13,761	\$614	\$13,000 (state grant)
2007	Nevers Park-My Friend's Place Boundless Playground	\$400,000	\$0	\$70,000 (SRRF) \$330,000 (raised through newly founded South Windsor Community Foundation fiduciary)
2007	<b>South Windsor Walk &amp; Wheel Ways Committee established (SWW&amp;WW)</b>			
2008	Nevers Park Dog Park (\$35,000)	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$0
2008	Rye St. Park – Phase II Soccer/Lacrosse/Football Fields	\$250,000	\$0	\$250,000 (STEAP)
2008	Rye St. Park - Architectural Plans for Concession/Restroom/Storage Building	\$11,000	\$11,000	\$0
2008	Nevers Park-Jacob's View Shade Shelter at My Friend's Place	\$30,000	\$10,000	\$20,000 (Golf4Kids Foundation)
2008	Lawrence Road Park-Construction/Bid Documents	\$56,000	\$56,000	\$0
2009	Rye St. Park Concession/ Restroom/Storage Building	\$169,035	\$165,035	\$0
2009	Walk & Wheel Ways connector paths	\$1,306	\$1,306	\$0
2010	<b>Parks merges with Recreation</b>			
2010	Nevers Park-Indoor Batting cages at Rotary Baseball Field	\$175,000	\$25,000	\$50,000 (Town) \$100,000 (fund raised by American Legion Baseball/SWLL)
2010	Rye St. Park-Football/Lacrosse scoreboard	\$21,044	\$3,489	\$17,555 (Panther Football)
2010	Walk & Wheel Ways connector paths	\$1,540	\$1,540	\$0
2011	Bobcat for Trail Maintenance	\$43,000	\$43,000	\$0

## 1.5

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS/IMPROVEMENTS SINCE 2001 PLAN (CONT.)

2011	VMP-Snack Shack	\$25,000	\$0	\$25,000 (SRRF)
2012	VMP – Retro-fit water features	\$27,390	\$27,390	\$0
2012	Nevers Park-Soccer/LX fields irrigation	\$30,000	\$0	\$30,000 (in-house)
2012	Little League Complex-Indoor Batting Cages	\$65,258	\$0	\$65,258 (SWLL)
2012	Little League Complex-Duprey outfield fence	\$20,900	\$0	\$20,900 (SWLL)
2012	South Windsor Food Alliance Sub-Committee established (SWFA)			
2013	SWW&WW Bike Fleet & Trailer	\$18,941	\$18,941	\$0
2013	Lawrence Rd. Park – parking lot (35 cars)	\$100,000	\$0	\$100,000 (Donation by Contractor)
2012	Nevers Park-Rotary Field scoreboard	\$28,039	\$25,039	\$3,000 (matching mini-grant)
2014	Nevers Park Skate Park, Phase I	\$103,000	\$103,000	\$0
2015	Little League Complex-replace “Shack”	\$271,091	\$100,000	\$171,091 (SWLL)
2016	Barton Property – develop 18 acres	\$300,000	\$0	\$300,000 (fees in lieu of open space fund)
2016-2019	Rye St. Park Mt. Bike Trail system	\$100,000 (estimate)	\$0	Design, build in-house (Parks Operating)
2016	Little League Complex – realign & reconstruct softball field	\$196,724	\$85,329	\$99,930 (BOE) \$11,465 (Parks Operating)
2016	Rye St. Park-Dredge Pond	\$6,850	\$0	\$6850 (Parks Operating)
2016	VMP-Improvements to lower parking lot	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$0
2017	VMP – Rotary Pavilion II	\$200,000	\$99,307	\$100,000 (Rotary Club)
2017	Nevers Park-Kevin’s Kourt- Bank Shot Basketball	\$64,750	\$0	\$20,000 (SWCF); \$10,000 (TOSW); \$34,750 (raised through SWCF fiduciary)
2019	Nevers Park – Year-round Restroom Facility	\$246,610	\$127,110	\$119,500 (Rotary Club)
2019	Nevers Park-Skate Park Phase II	\$182,045	\$150,000	\$32,045 (Capital Non-Recurring)
2020	Nevers Park – Internal Roadway and parking lots paved, expand lot at soccer fields	\$148,457	\$148,457	\$0
2021	Cross-Town Trail Design	\$186,000	\$86,000	\$100,000 (DEEP Rec. Trail Grant)
	<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$4,055,896</b>	<b>\$1,449,712</b>	<b>\$2,501,344</b>

Although not necessarily Master Plan related, major accomplishments/improvements positively impacting parks & recreation

# 1.6 ROLE OF THE PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION

---

The South Windsor Town Charter, Sec. 74-32 describes the duties of the Park & Recreation Commission as:

(a) The park and recreation commission shall, either on its own initiative or in response to specific requests from the town council or the recreation director, make reports or recommendations to the council or the recreation director concerning the initiation, development, maintenance or administration of recreational programs for the town, and the acquisition, development, use and maintenance of public parks, playgrounds, swimming pools or other recreational facilities.

(b) Notwithstanding the foregoing, all recreation related proposals involving the acquisition and/or development of public parks, playgrounds, swimming pools or other recreational facilities shall be referred directly to the park and recreation commission for its review and comment. The commission shall within 60 days thereafter, make its recommendations to the town council in the form of a written advisory report. No formal action shall be taken on the proposed unless and until the town council has received the park and recreation commission's advisory report or the 60 days for commission action has expired, whichever is sooner.

The official vehicle for this relationship is the Master Plan of Development for Parks and Recreation, the stewardship of which is the responsibility of PARC. The Plan is created and maintained by PARC with guidance and assistance from the parks & recreation department. The plan is implemented by the parks and recreation department staff.

Items on the master plan are reviewed each year by PARC and individual items or projects may be removed or added based on relevancy or necessity due to changes in trends, user patterns and needs. There actually are two needs for capital funding: 1) The PARC funding to implement the master plan for improvements to the parks & recreation infrastructure, and 2) The SWPRD funding beyond the annual operating budget to solve problems or make improvements to the operation.

## 1.6

# ROLE OF THE PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION (CONT.)

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Each year PARC agrees on the list of projects to be submitted in good faith to the Capital Projects Committee after re-prioritizing items to address changing needs and taking advantage of opportunities that arise through matching grants, donations or partnerships. As a result you will find that a number of projects are taken out-of-order if you will. In addition, not everything is planned or anticipated in advance. Although the master plan is a long-term plan of development for parks & recreation, it must adapt to unexpected issues in a timely fashion.

The members of PARC take their advocacy work seriously and strive to provide the best advice and recommendations to the Town Council and the Director of Parks & Recreation.

Beyond the Master plan, PARC also has oversight of their two sub-committees - South Windsor Walk & Wheel Ways (SWW&WW) and South Winsor Food Alliance (SWFA). As mentioned earlier SWW&WW members are strong advocates for making South Windsor a walking and bicycling friendly community in which residents and visitors will enjoy safe walking and bicycling for recreation and transportation. SWFA's mission is to create a Healthy Food System in town that will promote sales of locally grown foods and create new ventures that support local farming. A representative of PARC also serves as an active voting member of the Town Council adopted Open Space Task Force (OSTF) responsible for reviewing and evaluating all open space proposals for potential acquisition by the Town.

Without question, the merger of the Parks & Grounds Division (previously under the Department of Public Works) with Recreation in 2010 to create a more traditional parks and recreation department has had a tremendous effect on implementing master plan initiatives. The advantage of having parks resources (man-power, equipment, talent and skill) to accomplish many projects in-house more often than not saves time and money.

PARC hopes to continue to check the pulse of the community by staying engaged with the public and routinely communicating with the Town Council to bring the best parks and recreation opportunities possible to the residents of South Windsor.

MASTER PLAN

CURRENT PARKS AND RECREATION INVENTORY



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## 2.1

# INTRODUCTION

This chapter includes a Town Land Inventory illustrated in map and table form. The map includes all Town and State-owned parcels, but this plan will focus on only those properties considered appropriate for future parks and recreation use, i.e., parcel size and land-use classifications.

These sites are color-code illustrated as Town Facility, Park/Open Space, Subdivision Open Space, and Other Open Space. Specific details of these targeted sites, acreage, use classification, general description, features and a modified SWOT analysis are covered in this section.

The following definitions are used throughout this document to clarify land classification and uses:

**Community Park:** Community parks serve a broader user group than neighborhood parks. Community parks may provide a wide range of amenities including passive, active and informal active facilities, as well as protected open space and natural areas. Community parks are typically a minimum of 30 acres.

**Mini-park:** Mini-parks address limited, isolated or unique recreational needs. For example, tot-lots with small open areas and areas with benches and shade trees within walking distance of a residential community fit this category. Mini-parks are typically less than one acre in size.

**Natural Resource Area:** This category includes land set aside for the preservation of natural resources, buffers, unique landscapes and open space. The size of the area may vary.

**Neighborhood Park:** Neighborhood parks are the basic unit of the park system and serve as recreational and social amenities. Neighborhood parks are typically five to ten acres in size and consist of passive and/or informal active recreation amenities.

**Recreation, Active:** Means activities that require physical exertion by people and/or causes physical alterations to the land, such as but not limited to exercise walking, running and formal organized group play.

**Recreation, Passive:** Means minimally intrusive non-structured activities that are informal in nature, typically done on a drop-in basis and allow the land to remain essentially in its natural state, such as but not limited to nature walks, bird watching, canoeing, sledding, cross country skiing, and camping.

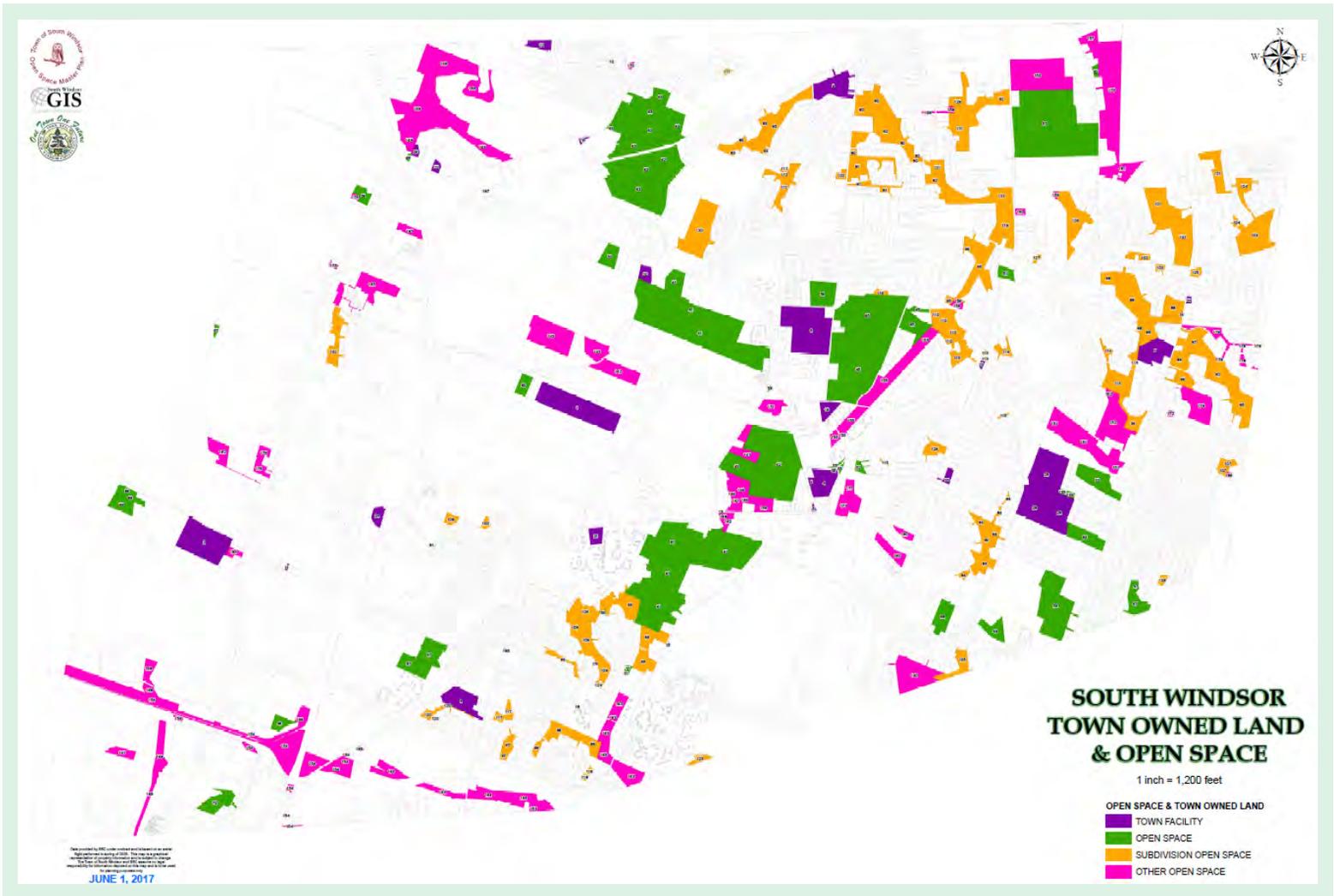
**School Park:** School parks are the recreation facilities of the municipal schools that are available, at times, for general public use. School parks may provide passive recreation amenities but in most cases, provide informal active or active facilities. School parks are essential in fulfilling Town-wide recreation needs.

**Special Use Area:** These areas generally serve a single use. The size of the parcels may vary. Centralized locations are not critical since users will travel longer distances to use specialized facilities.

**Sports Complex:** Sports complexes are typically heavily programmed active athletic facilities with support facilities for participants and spectators. Demand dictates the size of the venue. Central locations are critical.

# 2.1 INTRODUCTION

## Section I: Town-Owned Land and Open Space Map



# 2.2 INVENTORY OF EXISTING RECREATION FACILITIES

## OUTDOOR FACILITIES

Site Number	Site Name	Acreage	NRPA Classification	Basketball	Tennis	Softball	Softball (Shared)	Little League Baseball	90' Baseball	Batting Cage (Indoor)	Batting Cage (Outdoor)	Football/Soccer (Shared)	Football/Lacrosse	Soccer (Regulation)	Soccer (Mid-Size)	Soccer (Small)	Soccer/Lacrosse Regulation	Soccer (Mid-Size/Shared)	Soccer (Small/Shared)	Field Hockey	Multi-purpose field		
1	Ayers Little League Complex	14	Sports Complex			1	3*		1		2												
2	Community Gardens	2	Community Garden/Open space																				
3	Desmond's Pond	7.5	Wildlife Sanctuary																				
4	Donnelley Preserve	125	Wildlife Sanctuary																				
5	Dzen Tree Farm Pond Property	18.2	Open Space																				
6	Foster Farm Property	40.3	Open Space																				
7	John J. Mitchell Fairgrounds at Rye St. Park	82.9	Open Space																		1		
8	Jones Farm Property	16	Open Space																				
9	King Street Pond Property	11.26	Open Space																				
10	Lawrence Road Park	57.57	Community Park																				
11	Linear Park	11.3	Community Park																				
12	Niederwerfer Wildlife Sanctuary	117	Wildlife Sanctuary																				
13	Nelson Property	11.6	Open Space																				
14	Nevers Park	137.22	Community Park						*2	2						1	3				1		
15	Oak Street Park	4.9	Mini Park	1																			
16	Priest Property	72.5	Open Space																				
17	Porters Hill	18.1	Open Space																				
18	Rye Street Park	78.55	Community Park	1		*1						*2	1	3									
19	Veterans Memorial Park	23	Community Park	1																	1		
20	Wapping Park	162.8	School Park																				
21	Wapping School	46.28	School Park																				
22	South Windsor High School	46.28	School Park		6					2	1		1								2		
23	Pleasant Valley School	15.71	School Park	2				2															
24	Philip R. Smith School	15.33	School Park					1															
25	Orchard Hill School	36.33	School Park	1		2								2									
26	Timothy Edwards School	36.33	School Park		4	1								1							1		
27	Eli Terry School	17.06	School Park	1				2							2								
28	Ellsworth School	4.76	School Park	1											2								
				<b>Totals:</b>	8	10	5	0	8	0	3	4	2	1	2	5	7	1	3	0	0	1	5

KEY: \* = one facility with lights

Site Number	Site Name	Acreage	NRPA Classification	Playground Area	Pickle ball	Playscape	Picnic Facilities	Swimming (Outdoor)	Swimming (Indoor)	Nature Trail	Boat Launch	Volleyball	Horseshoes	Ropes Course	Gardens	Observation Deck	Roller/In-Line Hockey	Concession Facilities	Storage Building	Permanent Restroom Facilities	Model Plane Flying	400m Running Track	Hockey/Skating	Sledding Hill	X-country/skiing	Logging/Park Trail	
1	Ayers Little League Complex	14	Sports Complex															1	1	1							
2	Community Gardens	2	Community Garden/Open space												2												
3	Desmond's Pond	7.5	Wildlife Sanctuary																								
4	Donnelley Preserve	125	Wildlife Sanctuary				1	1																		1	
5	Dzen Tree Farm Pond Property	18.2	Open Space																								
6	Foster Farm Property	40.3	Open Space																								
7	John J. Mitchell Fairgrounds at Rye St. Park	82.9	Open Space																								
8	Jones Farm Property	16	Open Space																								
9	King Street Pond Property	11.26	Open Space																								
10	Lawrence Road Park	57.57	Community Park							1																1	
11	Linear Park	11.3	Community Park								1																
12	Niederwerfer Wildlife Sanctuary	117	Wildlife Sanctuary						1																1	1	
13	Nelson Property	11.6	Open Space																								
14	Nevers Park	137.22	Community Park	1		1	1					1	2	1				2		2			1			4	
15	Oak Street Park	4.9	Mini Park																								
16	Priest Property	72.5	Open Space																								
17	Porters Hill	18.1	Community park																					1			
19	Rye Street Park	78.55	Community Park	1		1	1																			1	
20	Veterans Memorial Park	23	Community Park					1	3									1		1							
21	Wapping Park	162.8	School Park							1																	1
22	Wapping School	46.28	School Park																								
23	South Windsor High School	46.28	School Park																								
24	Pleasant Valley School	15.71	School Park	1																			1				
25	Philip R. Smith School	15.33	School Park	1																							
26	Orchard Hill School	36.33	School Park	1																							
27	Timothy Edwards School	36.33	School Park			4																					
28	Eli Terry School	17.06	School Park	2																							
29	Ellsworth School	4.76	School Park			3																					
				<b>Totals:</b>	7	7	2	4	3	0	4	1	1	2	1	2	0	0	4	1	4	0	1	2	2	1	8

KEY: \* = one facility with lights

# 2.2 INVENTORY OF EXISTING RECREATION FACILITIES (cont.)

## INDOOR FACILITIES

Site Number	Site Name	NRPA Classification	Cafeteria	Auditorium	Gymnasium	Auxiliary Gym	Batting Cages	Multi Purpose Room
20	Wapping School	Elementary School	1 (2368 sq.ft.)		1 (3213 sq.ft.)			
21	South Windsor High School	High School	1	1 capacity: 605	1 (12807 sq. ft.)		2	1
22	Pleasant Valley School	Elementary School	1 (2418 sq.ft.)		1 (3506 sq.ft.)			
23	Philip R. Smith School	Elementary School	1 (2600 sq.ft.)		1 (4235 sq.ft.)			
24	Orchard Hill School	Elementary School	1 (2874 sq.ft.)		1 (4540 sq.ft.)			
25	Timothy Edwards School	Middle School	1	1 capacity: 600	1 (6461 sq. ft.)	1 (3222 sq. ft.)		
26	Eli Terry School	Elementary School	1 (2451 sq.ft.)		1 (4399 sq.ft.)			
27	Ellsworth School	Elementary School/Board of Education						
<b>Totals:</b>			<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>

## 2.3 INVENTORY OF EXISTING PARKS AND OPEN SPACES





# Avery Heights

Address	Acerage	NRPA Classification
LO44 Benedict Drive South Windsor, CT 06074	N/A	Open Space



### Strengths

- People want to participate
- Walking trails
- Biking trails
- Ecological
- Promotes community engagement/pride
- Promotes health and recreation

### Weaknesses

- Cost of property upkeep
- Lack of public accessibility
- Size
- Poor road access
- Poor parking

### Opportunities/Enhancements

- Ice Skating
- Fishing
- Walking trails
- Create a main entrance
- Create an emergency entrance

# Avery Heights (cont.)

---

**Description/Recommendations:**

This space, nestled in the middle of an established neighborhood, does not offer much for the community as a whole. Since there is no established parking, the area best suits the residents living in the neighborhood, with its minimal walking and biking trails. If the town had the opportunity, we could enhance the space by creating a main entrance and parking lot. Upkeep of the property could become expensive also.

**Improvements since 2001:** None

# Ayers Little League Complex

<p><b>Address</b> 138 Ayers Road South Windsor, CT 06074</p>	<p><b>Acerage</b> 14 acres</p>	<p><b>NRPA Classification</b> Sports Complex</p>
--	------------------------------------	--



## Strengths

- Storage
- Concessions
- Restroom facility
- Fields are in great condition
- Covered dugouts
- Lights on Pepin Field
- Scoreboards
- Indoor hitting building
- New softball field
- Property is receiving optimal usage

## Weaknesses

- Not enough parking
- No netting for foul balls
- No 50/70 field
- Not all fields are ADA accessible
- Crammed area
- Bleachers
- Not all fields have lights
- No turf fields

## Opportunities/Enhancements

- Turf infield for practice and tee ball
- 90' field plow able turf
- Upgraded PA system
- More parking
- Netting for foul balls
- Netting near the woods
- New lights
- 50/70 field
- Ice rink for the winter

## Ayers Little League Complex (cont.)

---

### **Description/Recommendations:**

This sports complex located on Ayers Road is a dynamic facility. Being centrally located in town and being easily accessible is a huge strength of this complex. However, the strengths outweigh the weaknesses pretty easily. The fields are in good playing condition with covered dugouts, functioning scoreboards, an existing PA system and lights on Pepin Field. Recently implemented was a softball field, concessions, storage facility, indoor batting cages, and restrooms. This facility has all the assets to be attractive and worthwhile for people to recreate here for a long time. The facility would be that much better with a larger amount of parking. Parking can get crammed, as this facility can be rather crowded. As a result of the crammed environment, netting should be placed on the fields preventing injuries from foul balls and lost balls in the poison ivy infested woods. Lastly, the implementation of the intermediate 50/70 little league field and the implementation of a plowable all turf field would put this facility over the top. With the recent trends of little league and the cold weather climate of New England, this facility would compete with the push towards the 50/70 field and the demand of a playing surface when other fields aren't suitable for play.

# Ayers Little League Complex (cont.)

## Improvements since 2001:

- 2001 Dugouts, Press Box, Storage at Pepin Field: \$31,110.00
- 2002 Batting Cages Rotary/Nevers Fields: \$18,850.00
- 2003 Batting Cages Little League Complex: \$7,250.00
- 2004 Outfield Wind Screen Wapping Field: \$4,100.00
- 2005 Fence Guard: \$4,680.00
- 2006 Portable Batting Cages Rotary/Duprey Fields: \$8,990.00
- 2007 Replacement Batting Cage Nets: \$1,742.00
- 2009 Payment to Town of SW Duprey 1B/RF Line Fencing: \$1,750.00
- 2009 Payment to Eastern Wholesale Duprey Fencing: \$8,260.00
- 2012 Duprey Outfield Fencing/Pepin Outfield Fence/Bull Pens & Minor A Dugouts: \$20,900.00
- 2012 Steel master Batting Facility: \$54,400.00
- 2012 On Deck Sports Batting Facility Nets/Flooring/Screens: \$10,858.00
- 2012 Major B Dugouts – Eagle Scout Project: \$848.88
- Paved parking lot
- 2014 Shack Re – build (\$100,000 PARC)
- 2015 Improved irrigation \$50,000
- 2018 re-build softball field (\$100,000)
- 2020 extensive improvements to Pepin field and Minor A field. Cost savings of \$150,000 due to being done in-house



# Avery Street Community Gardens

Address	Acerage	NRPA Classification	Price
425 Avery Street South Windsor, CT 06074	11 acres	Community Garden/ Open space	\$452,898.95



### Strengths

- Popular with residents (waiting list)
- Adequate parking
- Water
- Greenhouse

### Weaknesses

- Too small
- No storage
- No amenities
- Esthetics

### Opportunities/ Enhancements

- Walking trails
- Sidewalks connect to Timothy Edwards
- Signage
- Room for expansion

# Avery Street Community Gardens (cont.)

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## **Description/Recommendations:**

This space on Avery Street offers perimeter parking and water for irrigation on two acres. Implementing walking trails would add another use to this space besides just community gardens. Adding in a sign to show the name of the property would be a good addition.

## **Improvements since 2001:**

- 2013- Installed two high-tunnels (tunnels were funded by a grant, installation was done in-house- \$3,250 for materials)
- 2014- Installed new water lines, irrigation, and added hydrants (done in-house)

# Desmond's Pond

## Address

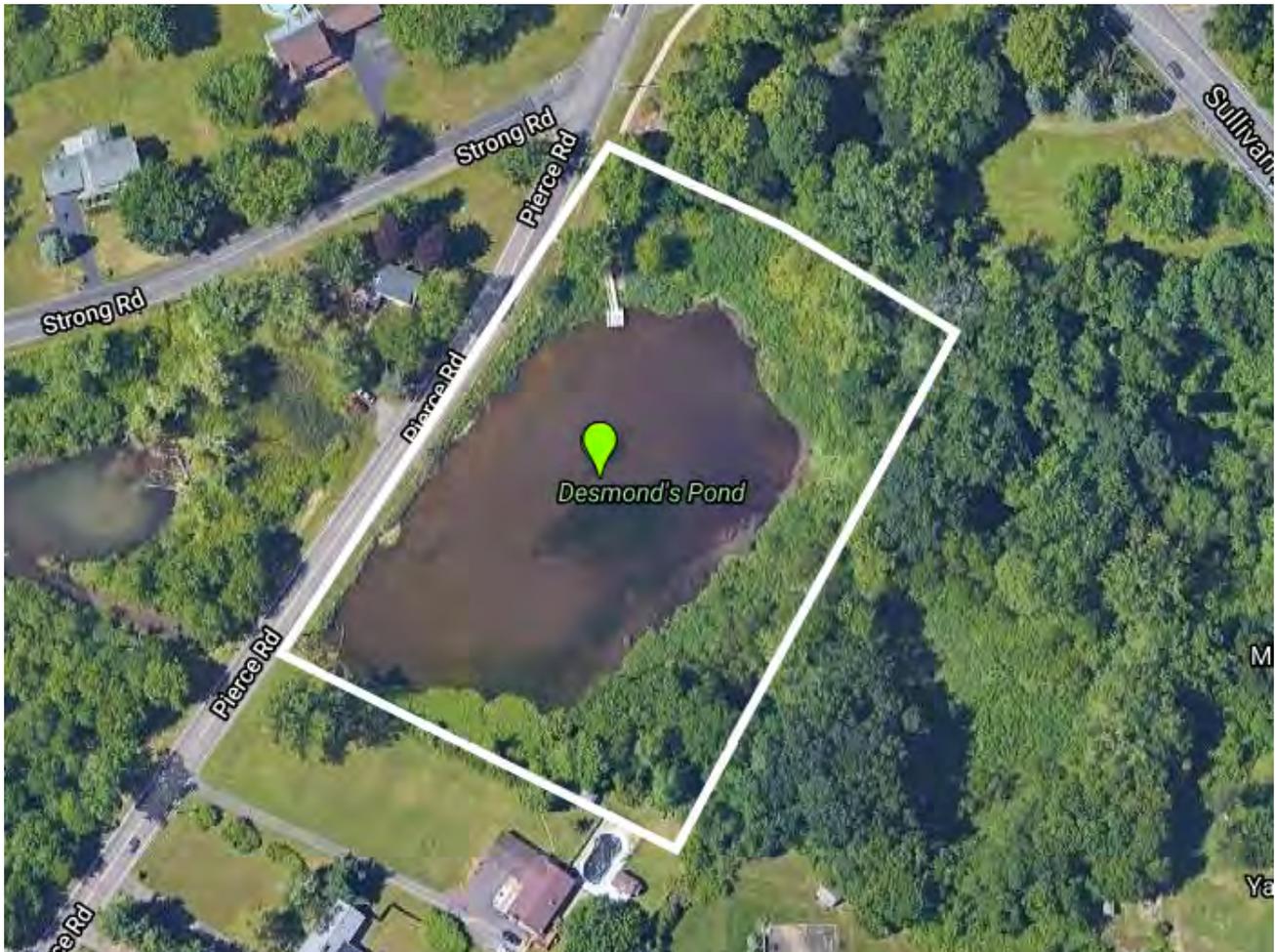
Pierce Road  
South Windsor, CT  
06074

## Acerage

11 acres

## NRPA Classification

Wildlife Sanctuary



## Strengths

- Easily accessible
- Good location
- Scenic
- Dock and bench

## Weaknesses

- No restrooms

## Opportunities/ Enhancements

- Walking trail around the pond
- Add more benches along the road

# Desmond's Pond (cont.)

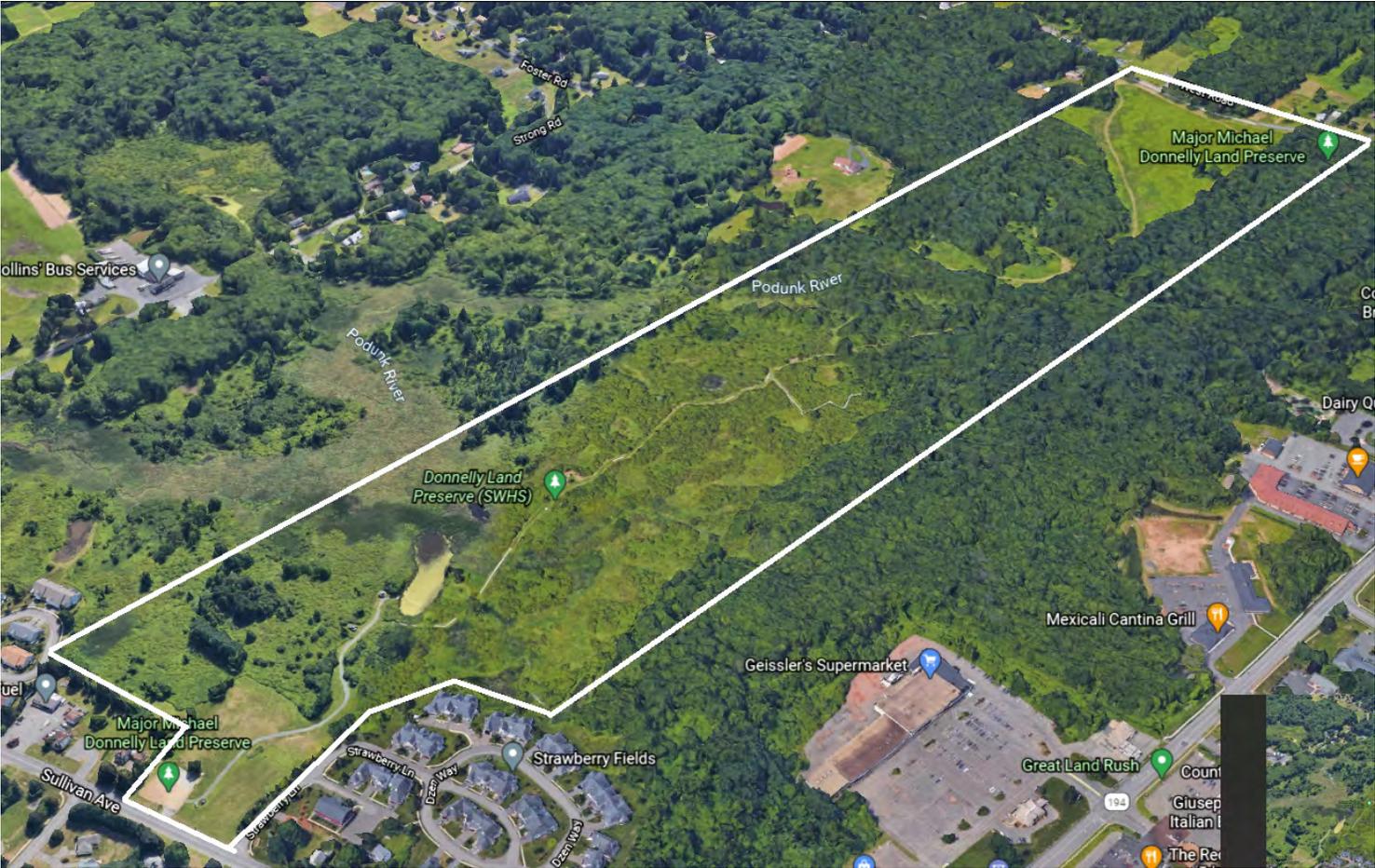
## **Description/Recommendations:**

This area is a well located, easily accessible, and scenic wildlife sanctuary that can't really be added to. Aside from a potential walking trail around the pond and a few benches along the road, this property should be left alone. Adding to this property would be ruining a quiet and already satisfactory location for bird watching.

**Improvements since 2001:** None

# Major Michael Donnelly Land Preserve

Address	Acerage	NRPA Classification	Price
165 Sullivan Avenue South Windsor, CT 06074	125 acres	Wildlife Sanctuary	\$814,235.00



### Strengths

- Walking trails
- Gazebos
- 3 access points with parking
- Pond
- Located in the center of town
- Road access
- Quality amenities
- Finished product

### Weaknesses

- Land restriction
- Full of Wetlands
- No restrooms
- Seasonal
- No Amenities

### Opportunities/ Enhancements

- Disc golf course
- Use open space to right of Sullivan Avenue
- Community garden area

# Major Michael Donnelly Land Preserve (cont.)

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## **Description/Recommendations:**

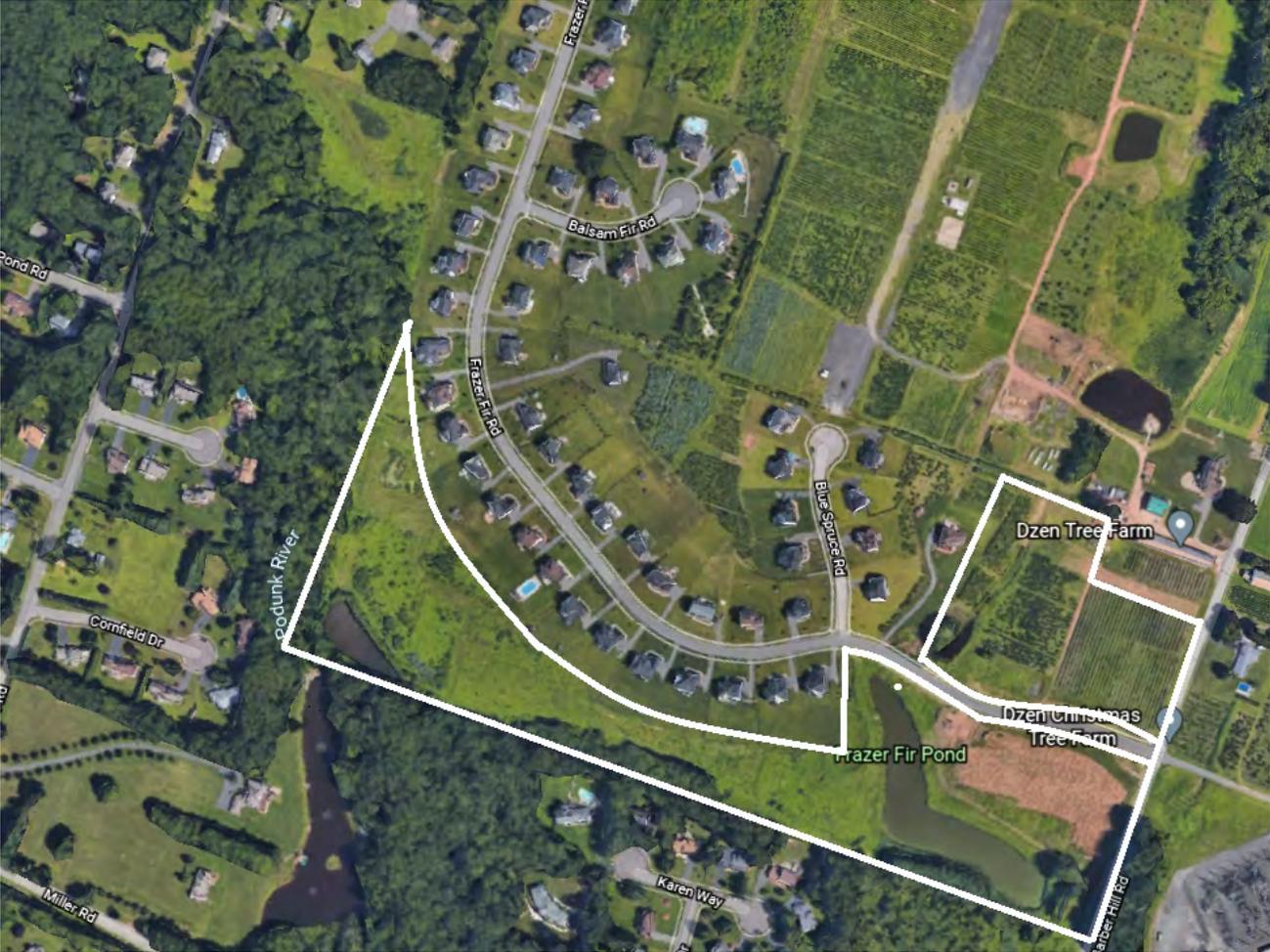
This property is a “can’t miss” right off of Sullivan Avenue in a heavily populated area. This property offers over two miles worth of walking trails that are accessible from three different parking lots. This property also offers a picnic area and a gazebo near the pond where people go to fish and observe the birds. The addition of a small athletic field, horseshoes, community garden or gazebo by the Sullivan Avenue entrance would put a finishing touch on an already beautiful destination.

## **Improvements since 2001:**

- constant improvements done to trails and features throughout the park

# Dzen Tree Farm Property

<p><b>Address</b> 215 Barber Hill Road South Windsor, CT 06074</p>	<p><b>Acerage</b> 18.2 acres</p>	<p><b>NRPA Classification</b> Open Space</p>
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### Strengths

- Lots of available space
- Good location, not a busy road

### Weaknesses

- Right next to a house and existing field
- Accessibility

### Opportunities/Enhancements

- Pool for residents and non-residents
- Community garden
- Sell the property

## **D z e n T r e e F a r m P r o p e r t y ( c o n t . )**

### **Description/Recommendations:**

This property offers open space on a quiet relatively low trafficked road. Aside from spending a lot of money and getting permission from neighbors, using this property is unlikely. Building a pavilion with picnic tables, grills, and restrooms for people to rent out and use for recreation use is an option.

### **Improvements since 2001:**

- 2013 Added gravel parking lot
- 2014 Cleared land for overflow parking and access to pond

# Ellsworth School

**Address**  
 1737 Main Street  
 South Windsor, CT  
 06074

**Acerage**  
 4.76 acres

**NRPA Classification**  
 School Park



### Strengths

- Relatively Flat open space
- Building size
- Location
- Restrooms
- Able to hold activities year round
- Amenities
- Storage

### Weaknesses

- Small amount of parking
- Cemetery behind parking lot
- Narrow parking lot
- One entrance/exit
- Gym size

### Opportunities/Enhancements

- Build sports fields
- Build a pavilion or gazebo
- Picnic area
- Relocate Board of Education, turn property into a museum

# Ellsworth School (cont.)

---

## **Description/Recommendations:**

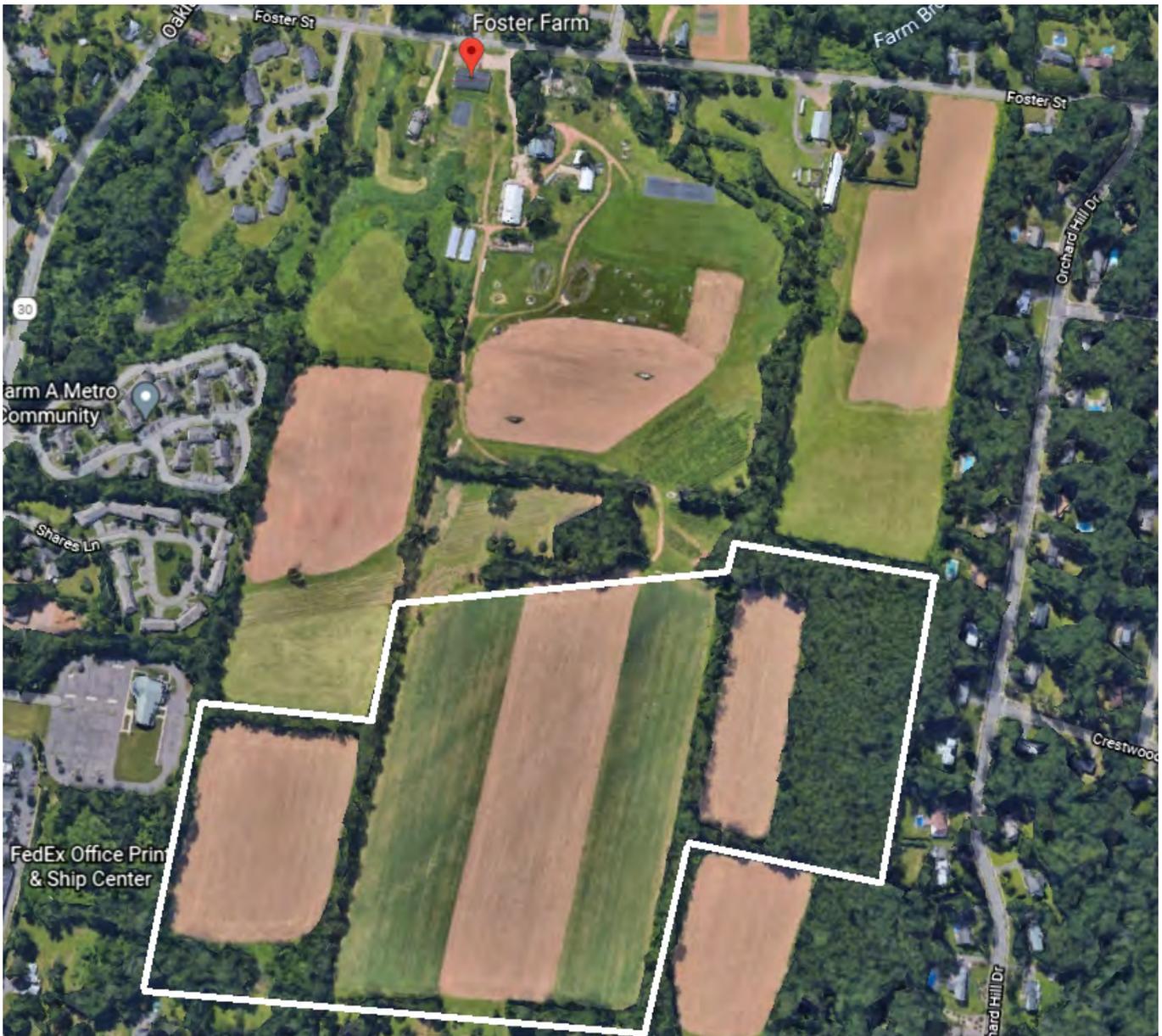
This facility is the current home of the South Windsor Board of Education. The gymnasium is receiving optimal use from recreation programs and other activities year round. The implementation of improved parking and accessibility would improve this facility greatly. Minor renovations to the gymnasium would make this location a more desirable space for activities. The addition of a second entrance/exit, recreation fields, a gazebo, and picnic tables would make this location more dynamic and increase the number of potential activities held at this location.

## **Improvements since 2001:**

- Lighting by the basketball hoops in the gym
- Gym renovation

# Foster Farm Property

Address	Acerage	NRPA Classification	Price
215 Foster Street South Windsor, CT 06074	40.3 acres	Open Space	\$2,799,000.00



## Strengths

- Structure in place
- Located near schools
- Garage
- Road Access
- Room for additions

## Weaknesses

- A lot of work needs to be done
- Partially a wet land
- No Amenities
- No restrooms

## Opportunities/Enhancements

- Mini park
- Sell to a farmer
- Storage facility

## **Foster Farm Property (cont.)**

### **Description/Recommendations:**

This property is a work in progress. In a good location next to Timothy Edwards Middle School and Orchard Hill Elementary School, this location offers some potential. Already having an existing structure, with a garage, offers to the possibility of storage. Being so close to the schools, this location could serve to be a multi-purpose storage unit for the schools, the town, the parks and recreation department, etc. Even with a limited space, this location could serve as a mini park, storage, or a garage for the town.

**Improvements since 2001:** None

# John J. Mitchell

## Fairgrounds (formerly Barton Property)

Address	Acerage	NRPA Classification	Price
75 Brookfield Street South Windsor, CT 06074	82.9 acres	Open space	\$633,290.98



### Strengths

- Close proximity to Rye Street Park
- Large, flat, and cleared area
- Summer and Winter use
- Size
- Room for a lot of parking
- Beautiful foliage, especially in the fall
- Cricket usage
- Easily accessible
- Location

### Weaknesses

- No sign yet
- No amenities
- No restrooms
- Railway prevents connecting with Rye Street Park
- No storage area
- Not receiving optimal usage
- No benches or picnic area
- No trails

### Opportunities/Enhancements

- Parking
- Restrooms/Amenities
- Picnic tables
- Storage
- Security cameras
- Recreation fields
- Home of the Farmers Market
- Fair grounds
- New baseball or soccer complex, tennis facility, pool, or hockey rink
- Sell it to a farmer

# John J. Mitchell Fairgrounds (cont.)

## **Description/Recommendations:**

This location on Brookfield Street is a good spot in terms of its proximity to the center of town, and to Rye Street Park. Loaded with open space for parking, restrooms, and amenities, this property offers room for expansion for pretty much anything the budget allows. Being easily accessible and plenty of non-used open space, the potential is very high for this location.

## **Improvements since 2001:**

- 2015 cleared 17 acres of trees
- 2016 grading and seeding
- 2018 installed a drainage swale
- 2018 installed cricket pitch, paid for by The CT Cricket League

# Jones Property

## Address

559 Avery Street  
South Windsor, CT  
06074

## Acerage

16 acres

## NRPA Classification

Open Space



## Strengths

- Accessible from road
- Location near Timothy Edwards

## Weaknesses

- No Parking
- Land already has a dam on it

## Opportunities/ Enhancements

- Sell

# Jones Property (cont.)

## **Description/Recommendations:**

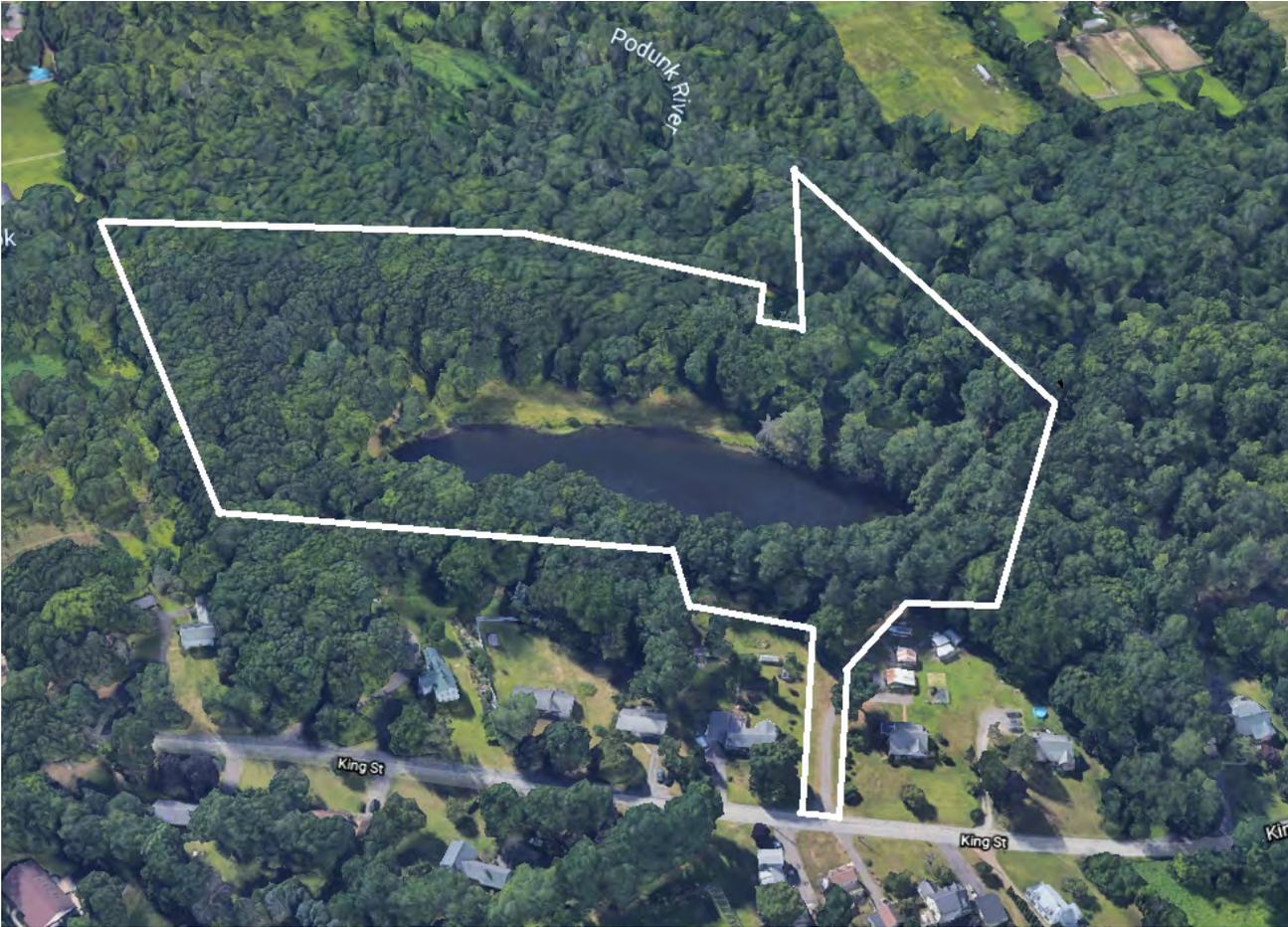
Accessibility to the property is poor. There isn't any potential here as a dam was built on this property. Recreational activities at this location won't happen. This property should be sold.

## **Improvements since 2001:**

- 2018 abatement of two buildings (\$11,944)
- 2019 regraded area, removed trees

# King Street Property

Address	Acerage	NRPA Classification	Price
491 King Street South Windsor, CT 06074	11.26 acres	Open Space	\$130,830.41



### Strengths

- Quiet location
- Full of potential
- Open space by the pond
- Baseball field across the street
- Foliage

### Weaknesses

- Poor access
- Access through a driveway down a steep hill
- No parking
- No existing structures
- No trails
- No amenities
- No storage

### Opportunities/Enhancements

- VMP for non-residents
- Build a dock
- Ice skating
- Fishing hole
- Camp ground
- Utilize the ball field across the street
- Disc golf
- Design Trails
- Mini beach
- Snow shoe trails

# King Street Property (cont.)

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**Description/Recommendations:**

This property, with poor accessibility, no parking, and a steep entrance, has a lot of potential to become a location that allows a variety of different activities. A man-made pond right off the entrance serves as the primary asset on this property. Creating a beach or another town pool isn't outside the realm of possibilities, but the poor accessibility and steep entrance is the driving factor keeping this property from being dynamic. Activities such as camping, disc golf, biking trails, walking trails, and ice skating would be a more realistic fit for this property.

**Improvements since 2001:** None

# Lawrence Road Park

## Address

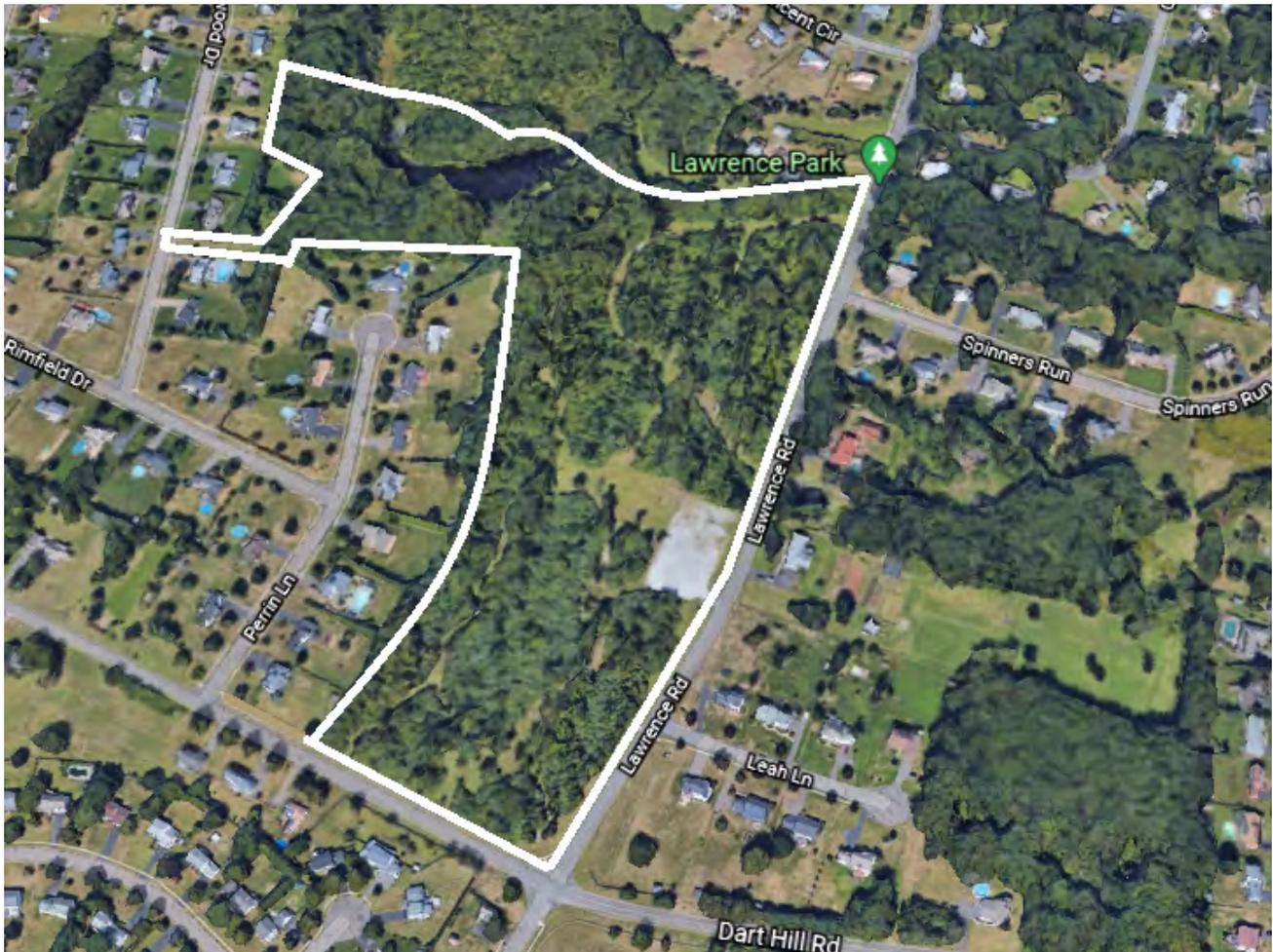
175 Lawrence Road  
South Windsor, CT  
06074

## Acerage

57.57 acres

## NRPA Classification

Community Park



### Strengths

- Flat land
- Close proximity to neighborhoods
- Sidewalk access
- Parking
- Picnic Area
- Pond

### Weaknesses

- Not active
- Too remote and wet to the North of the pond
- Not enough cleared space
- No amenities
- Seasonal
- No storage

### Opportunities/Enhancements

- Clear space for a field
- Gazebo and benches at the pond
- Pavilion

# Lawrence Road Park (cont.)

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## **Description/Recommendations:**

This property is one of few parks located on that side of town. Full of walking trails, along with a pond and picnic area, this park offers a quiet location with easy accessibility from surrounding neighborhoods. Adding recreation fields and a pavilion near the pond would turn this remote and relatively empty area into a more dynamic community park. This park has its own master plan and is one of the parks that is underutilized and there is a large amount of town residents that would be able to use the park if it was built up according to the master plan. This is one of the only parks in that area for residents. There is about 30 acres of usable space. A dock on the east side of the pond was put up by an Eagle Scout. Refer to the Stantec plans that were made for the park in addition to a Disc Golf Course.

## **Improvements since 2001:**

- 2013 gravel parking lot for 35 cars: (donated)
- continuous tree work to help the park become more user friendly

# Linear Park

**Address**  
 4 Vibert Road  
 South Windsor, CT  
 06074

**Acerage**  
 11.3 acres

**NRPA  
 Classification**  
 Community Park



### Strengths

- Scenic location
- Parking
- CT river access
- Walking trails
- Foliage
- Location off of Main Street
- Easily accessible

### Weaknesses

- Boat ramp
- No dock
- Appearance
- Flooding
- Land locked
- No restrooms
- No amenities
- Seasonal use

### Opportunities/ Enhancements

- New boat ramp
- Grills
- Picnic area
- Landscaping
- Horseshoes
- Dock

# Linear Park (cont.)

## **Description/Recommendations:**

This property is a small park with accessibility and a scenic view of the Connecticut River. The park needs to be updated, but once it is, it will be a beautiful spot for people to come and spend their leisure time. An improved boat ramp, a dock, and some overall landscaping would greatly affect the parks appearance and attractiveness. The boat ramp needs to be redone and implementation of a gazebo, picnic area, and restroom facility would make this a spot people would want to visit.

**Improvements since 2001:** None

# Niederwerfer Wildlife Sanctuary

Address	Acerage	NRPA Classification	Price
Barber Hill Road & Niederwerfer Road South Windsor, CT 06074	117 acres	Wildlife Sanctuary	\$3,000,000.00



### Strengths

- Walking/Cross country skiing trails
- Highest point in town
- Foliage
- Signage
- Benches
- Sledding Hill
- Accessibility from road

### Weaknesses

- Limited parking
- Restrictions
- No storage
- No lights

### Opportunities/ Enhancements

- Better parking areas
- Lighted areas

# Niederwerfer Wildlife Sanctuary (cont.)

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## **Description/Recommendations:**

This property is located nicely, sandwiched between Barber Hill Road and Niederwerfer Road with accessibility through parking areas at both spots. The trails are abundant with stops along the way to admire the wildlife and a sledding hill.

## **Improvements since 2001:**

- 2016 Parking lot improvements
- 2020 Eagle Scout project- marking trails with map information stands (\$500)

# Nelson Property

(home of the Deming Community Gardens)

Address	Acerage	NRPA Classification	Price
490 Deming Street South Windsor, CT 06074	11.6 acres	Open Space	\$650,562.46



## Strengths

- Open and flat land
- Relatively quiet area
- Existing structure
- Easily accessible
- Room for parking
- Amenities
- Storage

## Weaknesses

- A lot of work needs to be done
- Crammed between houses
- No parking
- Poor location
- In a neighborhood
- Near the Manchester line

## Opportunities/Enhancements

- New parks and recreation storage
- Storage facility
- Sell to a farmer or homeowner
- Recreation fields
- Community garden

# Nelson Property (cont.)

(home of the Deming Community Gardens)

## **Description/Recommendations:**

This property offers a quality piece of land with open space, but in a less than ideal location with it being so close to the Manchester town line. There is room for parking and it is easily accessible from the road.

## **Improvements since 2001:**

- 2019 Parks and CT Water work together to add water to the site
- Summer 2020 first year with active gardeners

# Nevers Park

Address	Acerage	NRPA Classification	Price
150 Nevers Road South Windsor, CT 06074	137.22 acres	Community Park	\$113,965.80 January 1, 1969



## Strengths

- Heavily used by all ages and activities
- Space for more
- Bark Park
- Great location and near SWHS and Senior Center
- All amenities
- Many athletic fields
- Easily accessible
- Large in size
- Activities for all seasons
- Pavilion
- Foliage, Benches, Storage, Trails, Restrooms

## Weaknesses

- Overuse
- Not enough parking

## Opportunities/Enhancements

- Future Recreation Center
- 50/70 baseball field
- Multi-purpose field in NW section of the park
- Disc golf
- 90' plow-able turf baseball field

## Description/Recommendations:

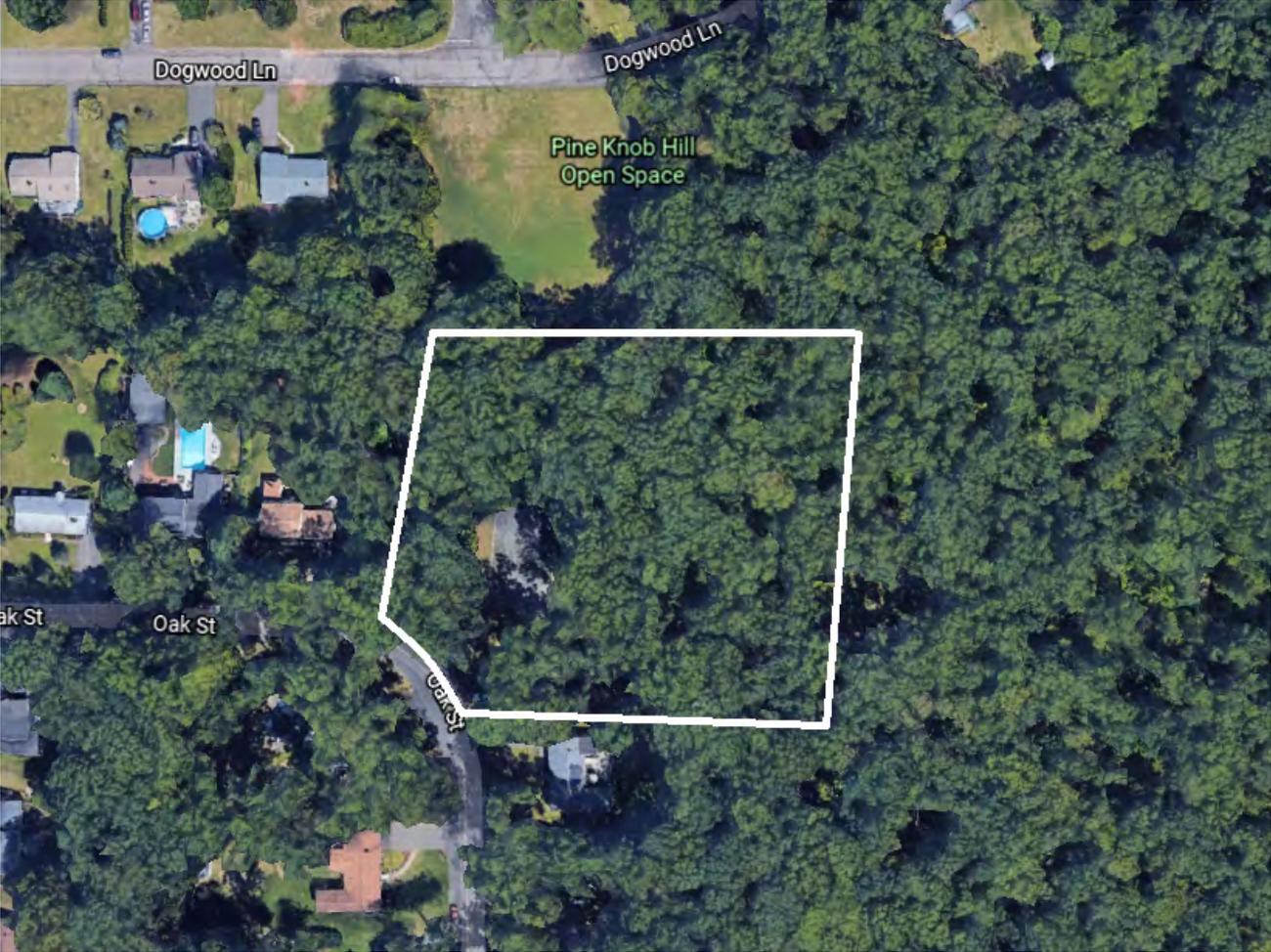
This area is the home to South Windsor's best town park. With state of the art facilities and all the amenities, this park offers a little something for everyone. With road accessibility and average sized parking, people can come and recreate during any time of the year. Whether it be winter, summer, spring, or fall, Nevers Park has an option for anytime of the year. As recreation trends become more obvious, Nevers will need to be upgraded. Examples such as the 50/70 little league field, disc golf courses, pickle ball, and plow able turf fields will eventually need to be implemented. Having some of those new features wouldn't just maintain Nevers Park as South Windsor's top park, but perhaps Hartford County's top park. Overuse can be a problem with any successful park, but it is a good problem to have. The need to water in the summer, clean up in the spring, and prepare for winter in the fall come even more of an importance as a park is considered to be overused.

## Improvements since 2001:

- Indoor batting cages (Town: \$50,000, Group: \$105,000, **TOTAL: \$185,000**)
- Lights on Rotary field (Town: \$20,000, Group: \$105,000, **TOTAL: \$125,000**)
- Rotary Field Press Box and Field Dugouts (Town: \$10,000, Group: \$140,000, **TOTAL: \$150,000**)
- Rotary Pavilion- Remodeled kitchen
- 2005 - 2006 Irrigation for Rotary Field: (\$33,290)
- 2005 - 2006 Fencing for Rotary Field: (\$6,575)
- 2005 - 2006 test borings: (\$1,000)
- 2006 - 2007 Irrigation: (\$3,809)
- 2007 Dog Park (\$35,000)
- 2012 Skate Park: (\$52,150)
- 2013 Irrigate soccer/lacrosse fields: (\$30,000)
- 2017 Kevin's Court (\$20,000 SWCF, \$10,000 TOSW, \$34,750 SWCF Fiduciary, **TOTAL: \$64,750**)
- 2018 - 2019 Year-round restroom (Town: \$127,110, Rotary Club: \$119,500, **TOTAL: \$246,610**)
- 2019 Skate Park Phase II: (\$182,045)
- 2020 Re-paving roadway from Chief Ryan Way to Pavilion, three small parking lots and the lower lot at Nevers Park; (\$148,456.66)

# Oak Street Park

<p><b>Address</b> Oak Street South Windsor, CT 06074</p>	<p><b>Acerage</b> 4.9 acres</p>	<p><b>NRPA Classification</b> Community Park</p>
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### Strengths

- Basketball court
- Neighborhood park trails
- Ice skating

### Weaknesses

- No parking
- Crammed
- Too small
- Poor accessibility

### Opportunities/Enhancements

- Eliminate the park and sell the land

# Oak Street Park (cont.)

## **Description/Recommendations:**

This property is tucked back on Oak Street and is in a poor location. With no parking and limited accessibility from the road, this park really doesn't offer much at all. A run-down basketball court is the only visual from the road, and it isn't appealing. This park provides a basketball court, neighborhood trails and ice skating. The basketball court should be replaced by a parking lot and the park should be created in a trails only park. Implementing a sign at the entrance and a map of the trails at the parking lot would be a sufficient use of this space.

## **Improvements since 2001:**

- 2005 Basketball court (\$46,281)

# Priest Property

Address	Acerage	NRPA Classification	Price
1407 Sullivan Avenue South Windsor, CT 06074	72.5 acres	Open Space	\$500,215.89



### Strengths

- Open acerage
- On a highly traveled road
- Room for parking
- Accessibility from road
- Existing structure
- Amenities
- Flat land
- Good location

### Weaknesses

- Structures need renovating
- Property needs landscaping
- No parking

### Opportunities/Enhancements

- Future home of the farmers market
- Use for crops
- Parks division storage and garage
- Permanent fair grounds
- Corn maze

# Priest Property (cont.)

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## **Description/Recommendations:**

Once an agricultural use of land with several buildings and a silo remaining, this property offers potential on a well located piece of land. Being on a highly trafficked road and in the center of town, this property has the potential to hold mass amounts of people at once. With room for parking and room for expansion, this property shows promise for holding a farmer's market, a fair, a corn maze, or a parks division storage unit and garage. The options are abundant.

## **Improvements since 2001:**

- 2020 HazMat and abatement of outbuildings (\$4,260)

# Porter's Hill

(formerly Collins Sledding Hill)

<p><b>Address</b>          Nevers Road          South Windsor, CT          06074</p>	<p><b>Acerage</b>          18.1 acres</p>	<p><b>NRPA Classification</b>          Open Space</p>
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### Strengths

- Ideal location
- Parking across the street
- Trees were cleared
- Open space
- Can take amenities from Nevers

### Weaknesses

- Land isn't flat
- No restrooms
- No storage

### Opportunities/Enhancements

- Sledding hill
- Skiing
- Snowboarding
- Kite flying
- Drone flying

## Porter's Hill (cont.)

---

### **Description/Recommendations:**

This open space of property is an ideal location to potentially receive high volumes of people. Being located on Nevers Road with close proximity to Nevers Park, the Community Center, the High School, and several other locations, this property has upside. This property allows the town to add to its open space inventory, where they can potentially turn this property into a multi-purpose field. Sledding, skiing, snowboarding, kite flying, drone flying, and walking are several activities that this location can provide, especially with the parking lot across the street at Nevers Park. An improved bridge over the mini creek would add to this property's accessibility.

### **Improvements since 2001:**

- 2020 New footbridge at the base of the hill, built in-house

# Rye Street Park

**Address**  
 476 Rye Street  
 South Windsor, CT  
 06074

**Acerage**  
 78.55 acres

**NRPA Classification**  
 Community Park



## Strengths

- Popular park
- Holds many athletic events
- Ample parking
- Storage facility
- Basketball courts
- Concession stand
- Lights
- Biking trail
- Cross Country skiing
- Pond for skating
- Amenities

## Weaknesses

- Tennis courts
- Playground
- No grills or pavilion
- Backstop for Zagorski field

## Opportunities/Enhancements

- Splash pad
- New playground
- New tennis courts
- Skate park
- Pavilion
- More lights on the fields
- Bleachers
- Signage

# Rye Street Park (cont.)

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## **Description/Recommendations:**

Being an easily accessible and well located park, Rye Street Park offers a smaller feel than Nevers Park. With several athletic fields and ample parking, this property is home to large athletic events. With soccer, softball, lacrosse, and football capabilities, this facility offers a lighted football/lacrosse field and numerous soccer fields. With the addition of new tennis courts and playground, this park would be complete. Being the second largest park in town behind Nevers Park, Rye Street needs more. Signage, bleachers, a skate park, and a pavilion would be changes to the park that would make it dynamic and easier to satisfy everyone's wants and needs. Cross country skiing and a pond for skating offer all season activities at Rye Street which not many parks can offer. Some changes that need to be made at Rye Street Park can be cost effected. The tennis courts being in an unplayable condition need to be ripped out and redone. This will include new cement, new fences, new surfacing, and new lines. Also, a new playground should be implemented right where the old one is now. Expanding that playground may need to be an option as well. Lastly, the backstop at Zagorski field serves no purpose and should be ripped out and not replaced. The area where the backstop at Zagorski field is should be left as open space.

## **Improvements since 2001:**

- 2004 New Lacrosse/Football field with lights, two midsize soccer fields (**TOTAL: \$230,000**)
- 2009 New Lacrosse/Football field, two intermediate/full size soccer fields (**TOTAL: \$250,000**)
- 2009 Storage, concession, and restroom facility (\$169,035)
- 2016 Mountain bike trails, built in-house

# Veterans Memorial Park

## Address

575 Pleasant Valley Rd.  
South Windsor, CT  
06074

## Acerage

23 acres

## NRPA Classification

Community Park



## Strengths

- Town swimming pools
- Three pools
- Pools have lanes
- Lifeguards
- Rotary Pavilion II
- Picnic Area
- Restrooms
- Concessions
- Parking
- Road Accessible
- Amenities
- Satisfies all ages
- High usage

## Weaknesses

- Open field doesn't have a purpose
- No winter activities
- No athletic fields
- No horseshoes
- Seasonal
- Pools are not heated
- Hot tub

## Opportunities/Enhancements

- Playground
- Improved parking area
- Utilize the open field
- Add horseshoes
- Add lights for use at night
- Heat the pools
- Pave the parking lot

# Veterans Memorial Park (cont.)

## Description/Recommendations:

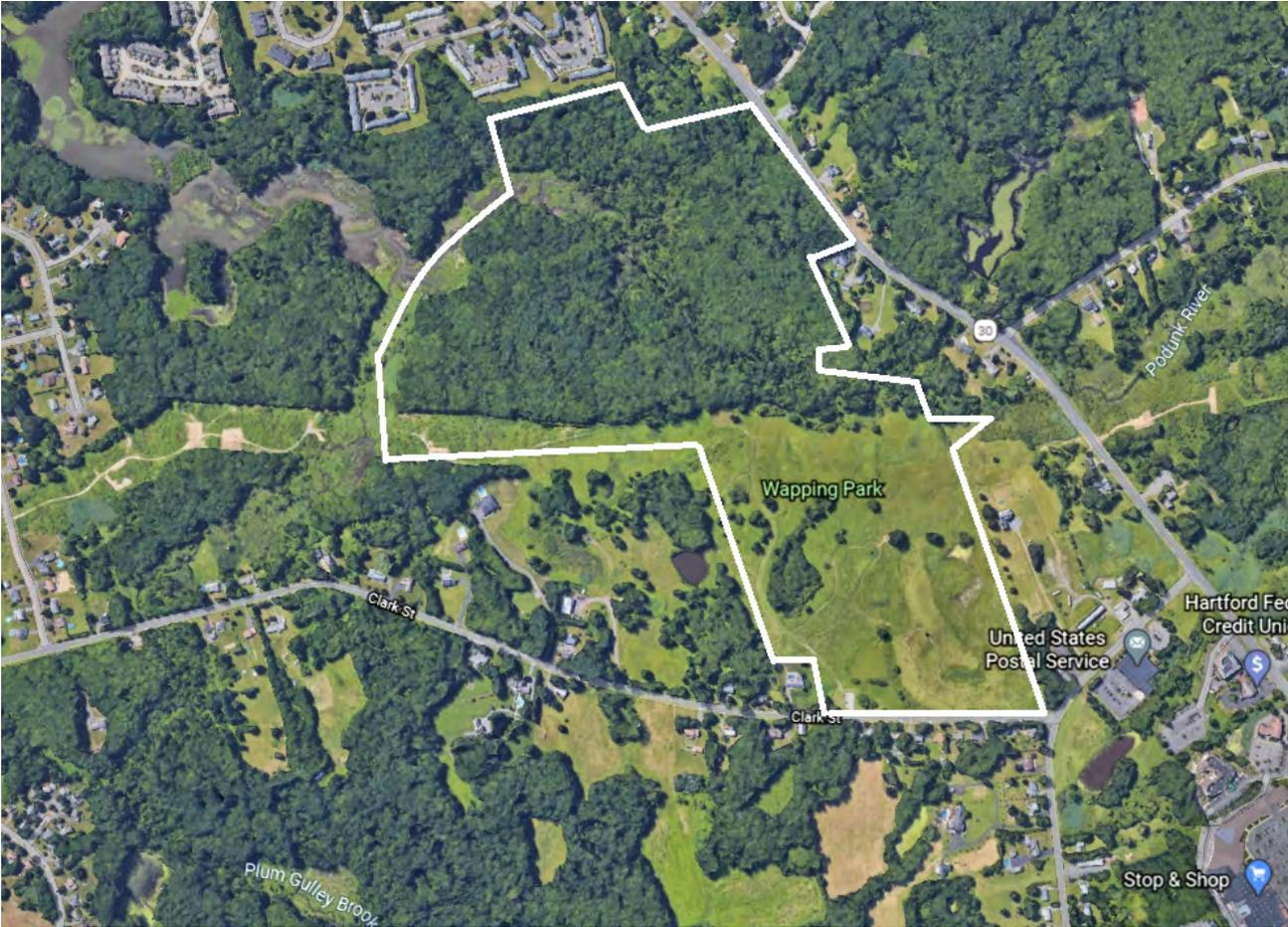
This facility is a great spot for many uses. Whether it be competitive swimming, leisure swimming, swim lessons, birthday parties, family gatherings, etc; Veterans Memorial Park is dynamic in the fact that you can do multiple things there. With accessibility from the road and ample parking, this facility offers the towns best pools. Three different pools allows for several different uses for all ages. With a beautiful pavilion with restrooms and storage, this location allows for rental capabilities for large events. Open areas as well as wooded borders and young vegetation in undeveloped areas. Some minor improvements could be made to make this park even better. Aside from overflow parking, the back field doesn't have a purpose. Putting in horseshoes or a men's league softball field could be done. In addition, making the pool lighted and heated could change the dynamic of this facility. Adding lights allows for increased pool hours into the night and heat allows for increased pools hours in early June and late September. Lastly, adding a hot tub could potentially increase satisfaction amongst people at this park.

## Improvements since 2001:

- 2011 new Snack Shack installed
- 2012 Vortex Spin "N" Splash Dome: \$11,580 + 2012 Vortex "N" Splash Dumping Bells: \$15,150 + Installation: \$659 (TOTAL: \$27,389)
- 2012 Hand Rail: \$4,900
- 2014 Perimeter fencing (\$60,000)
- 2017 Rental Pavilion (Town: \$100,000, Rotary Club: \$130,000, **TOTAL \$230,000**)

# Wapping Park

Address	Acerage	NRPA Classification	Price
765 Clark Street South Windsor, CT 06074	162.8 acres	Community Park	\$1,370,567



### Strengths

- Road accessible
- Parking
- Walking Trails
- Biking Trails
- Cross Country skiing trails
- Foliage
- Signage

### Weaknesses

- Limited Parking

### Opportunities/Enhancements

- Expand parking areas
- Disc Golf Course
- Bee keeping area
- Purchase adjacent Kelly property

# Wapping Park (cont.)

## **Description/Recommendations:**

This property allows for a year round recreation experience with several different trails with bridges, boardwalks, bird observation posts, pine forests, shallow marshes, vernal pools, and the Podunk River. Potentially adding disc golf would be huge assets to this community park.

## **Improvements since 2001:**

- 2020 purchased 1355 Ellington Road to add additional parking lot on the opposite side of the park (\$110,000)



# INVENTORY OF EXISTING BOARD OF EDUCATION FACILITIES



# South Windsor High School

## Address

161 Nevers Road  
South Windsor, CT  
06074

## Average

46.28 acres

## NRPA Classification

High School



## Activities

- Gymnastics – coed
- Youth Basketball games – Junior and Senior Boys
- Travel Basketball
- Community Chorus
- Batting Cages
- Turkey Shoot
- Amateur Wrestling – coed youth
- Hershey Track Meet – Track Program
- Lacrosse

## Facilities

- 1 Multi – Court Gym
- 2 Batting Cages
- 1 Auditorium
- 1 All-weather outdoor track
- 1 Soccer field
- 2 Multi – Purpose fields
- 1 Football/soccer game field
- 1 Multi – Purpose activity room

## Improvements since 2001:

- Multi-Purpose turf field and all weather outdoor track renovation: \$257,000
- Repaired practice fields

# Timothy Edwards Middle School

South Windsor Parks and Recreation

<b>Address</b> 100 Arnold Way South Windsor, CT 06074	<b>Acerage</b> 36.33 acres	<b>NRPA Classification</b> Middle School
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## Activities

- Over 30 Men's Basketball league
- Adult Volleyball Men's and Women's leagues
- Youth Volleyball program – coed
- Youth Basketball games – Junior Boy's
- Youth Basketball practices
- Open gym during school vacations
- Travel basketball
- Soccer
- Indoor soccer – youth
- Little League games/practices

## Facilities

- 1 Two court gym
- 1 Auxiliary gym
- 1 Soccer field
- 4 tennis courts
- 1 Softball field
- 1 Field Hockey field

## Improvements since 2001:

- 2010 re-furbishing tennis court

## Address

569 Griffin Road  
South Windsor, CT  
06074

## Acerage

17.06 acres

## NRPA Classification

Elementary School



## Activities

- Country Western Line Dancing – coed
- Youth Self Defense – coed
- Youth Basketball practices
- Soccer
- Mighty Mite Hoops
- Little League Games/Practices

## Facilities

- 1 Gym
- 2 Soccer fields (Intermediate)
- 2 Playground Areas
- 2 Little League fields
- 1 Basketball court (outdoor)

## Improvements since 2001:

2020 Opened a newly constructed school

# Philip R. Smith School

South Windsor Parks and Recreation

---

## Address

949 Avery Street  
South Windsor, CT  
06074

## Acerage

15.33 acres

## NRPA Classification

Elementary School



## Activities

- Youth basketball practices
- Open adult Volleyball – coed
- Mighty Mite Hoops

## Facilities

- 1 Gym
- 1 Little League field
- 1 Playground Area

## Improvements since 2001:

2020 Opened a newly constructed school

# Pleasant Valley School

## Address

591 Ellington Road  
South Windsor, CT  
06074

## Acerage

15.71 acres

## NRPA Classification

Elementary School



## Activities

- Youth basketball practices
- Little League practices/games

## Facilities

- 1 Gym
- 2 Little League field
- 2 Basketball courts (outdoor)
- 1 Playground Area

## Improvements since 2001:

2020 Referendum vote passes to rebuild the school, to be completed in 2023

# Wapping School

South Windsor Parks and Recreation

## Address

91 Ayers Road  
South Windsor, CT  
06074

## Acerage

46.28 acres

## NRPA Classification

Elementary School



## Activities

- Youth basketball practices
- Mighty Mite Hoops
- Summer Day Camp
- Little League games

## Facilities

- 1 Gym
- 1 Little League field
- 2 Playground Area
- 1 Basketball court (outdoor)
- 6 tennis courts (lighted)
- Recreation Department offices

## Improvements since 2001:

2017 Current home to the Parks and Recreation Department

# Orchard Hill School

## Address

350 Foster Street  
South Windsor, CT  
06074

## Acerage

36.33 acres

## NRPA Classification

Elementary School



## Activities

- Youth basketball practices
- Little League games/practices
- Youth Basketball games – girls
- Soccer

## Facilities

- 2 Soccer fields
- 1 Gym
- 1 Softball field
- 1 Playground Area
- 1 Basketball (outdoor)

## Improvements since 2001:

2017 Opened a newly constructed school



## 2.5 PROGRAM INVENTORY

South Windsor Parks and Recreation

Parks and Recreation Department		
Recreation Division		
Division of Responsibilities- Alpha Order		
Revised: November 3, 2020		
Program Name	Responsibility	Season
4 <sup>th</sup> R Program	Shelby	All year
Adult Self Defense	Nancy	All year
Adventure Unit Camp & JR Adventurers (Teens)	Paul	Summer
Advertisements	Keri	All year
Aerobics	Nancy	All year
Art/Theatre Classes	Shelby	Fall, Winter, Spring
Badminton (Adult, Youth, and Open Gym)	Ashley	All Year
Basketball, 3v3 College Rec League	Ashley	Summer
Basketball, Challenger	Cheryl	Winter
Basketball, Men's A League	Ashley	Fall, Winter
Basketball, Men's B League	Ashley	Fall, Winter
Basketball, Try-Outs & Draft	Ashley	Fall
Basketball, Women's	Ashley	Fall, Winter
Basketball, Youth In-House Leagues	Ashley	Fall, Winter
Basketball, Youth League Practices	Ashley	Fall, Winter
Basketball, Youth Travel- Liasion	Ashley	Fall, Winter
Benefits for Businesses	Ray	All year
Biking and Hiking	Nancy	Spring/Summer
Board of Ed, Weekend School Use	Ashley	All year
Board of Education Liaison	Ray	All year
Body Sculpting/Toning	Nancy	All year
Brochure (Magazine) Design	Keri	All year
Brochure (Magazine) Preparation	Team	All year
Budget Management	Ray, Keri, John	All year
Budget Preparation	Team	All year
Camp Accreditation	Ray, Keri	Every 3 years
Camp Discovery & Trail Blazers (Elementary)	Paul	Summer
Camp Family Night (Camp Directors)	Paul	Summer
Career Nights/Job Fairs	Keri, Cheryl, Shelby	All year
Cartoon Character Ice Cream Sundae Social	Cheryl	Winter
Celebrate Veterans at VMP	Nancy	Summer
Coaches Training	Ashley	Fall
Chamber of Commerce	Ray	All year
Community Band	Cheryl	All year
Community Chorus	Cheryl	All year
Computer Programming classes	Nancy	All year
Concerts	Cheryl	Summer

# PROGRAM INVENTORY (cont.)

South Windsor Parks and Recreation

Coordinate Extra Duty Events	Cheryl	All year
CPR/First Aid Training	Nancy	All year
Customer Service	Stephanie	All year
Dance Youth/Adult	Nancy	All year
Direct Supervision of Program Staff	Keri	All year
Directors Responsibilities in absence	Keri	All year
DIY Vintage Sign Workshops	Shelby	Spring
Dodgeball Throwdown	Cheryl	Winter
Doggie Dips	Cheryl	Summer
Drama	Nancy	All year
Egg Hunt	Cheryl - Team	Spring
Facility Rental Marketing	Keri	All year
Facility Rental Staffing	Keri	All year
Fall Fest/WW5k & Jacobs Jog	Cheryl	Fall
Family Camp Out	Shelby	Summer
First Aid Supplies	TBD	All year
Fishing Derby	Cheryl	Spring
Food truck festival	Cheryl	Fall
Food Explorers	Nancy	All year
Foundation, S.W. Comm. Inc.	Ray	All year
Free Friday Flicks	Cheryl	Summer
Frisbee Club	TBD	Summer
Futsal and Street Soccer Camp	Ashley	Summer
Golf at Willowbrook	Shelby	Fall, Spring
Grinchmas	Shelby	Winter
Haunted Torch Walk	Cheryl	Fall
Internship	Keri	Summer
Introduction to Watercolor	Shelby	Fall
Jacob's Jog	Cheryl	Fall
Junior Lifeguard Class	Nancy	Summer
Jukido	Nancy	All year
Jumping Clay Display Workshop	Shelby	Winter
Kids Night Out	Shelby	Winter
Letters to Santa	Cheryl	Winter
Little Explorers Camp (Preschool)	Paul	Summer
Lifeguard Review Course	Nancy	Summer
Manage Entire Department	Ray	All year
Marketing Plan	Keri	All year
Master Plan for Parks & Rec.	Ray	All year
Merry and Bright Holiday Lights Contest	Team	Winter
Middle School Volleyball	Ashley	Winter
Mighty Mite & More Mighty Mite Hoop	Ashley	Winter

# PROGRAM INVENTORY (cont.)

South Windsor Parks and Recreation

Monday Night Social Club (spec. needs)	Cheryl	All year
Mount Southington "Schools Out" Program	Nancy	Winter
Multi – Sport Camp	Ashley	Summer
New Program Development	Team	All year
Noodle Nights	Nancy	Summer
Open Gyms (Adult & Youth)	Ashley	Summer, Fall, Winter
Operation Graduation	Rec Supervisors	Spring
Park & Rec. Commission	Ray	All year
Paws in the Park	Cheryl	Spring
Pilates	Nancy	All year
Porters Hill Pumpkin Roll	Cheryl	Fall
Pre & Post Camp	Paul	Summer
Preschool Halloween Party	Shelby	Fall
Preschool Programs	Shelby	All year
Preschool Registrations	Shelby	All year
Purchase Orders, Inv., Vouchers	Ray, John, Stephanie	All year
Registration Software (recDesk)	Stephanie	All year
Ropes Course Management	Ashley	All year
School Vacation Programs	Shelby	Fall, Winter, Spring
Science Camps	Shelby	Summer
Senior Exercise	Nancy	All year
Senior Sunday	Cheryl	Summer
Skate Nights	Nancy	Winter
Skate Lessons	Nancy	Winter
Skate with Santa	Cheryl	Winter
Softball, Adult Leagues	Ashley	Summer
Specialty Camps	Shelby/Ashley	Summer+
Specialized Youth Programs	Shelby/Ashley	All year
Sponsorship Program	Keri, Ray	All year
Sports Camps (Baseball, Basketball, Sky Hawks &	Ashley	Summer
Sports Council/Organizations	Ray, John	All year
Staff Meetings, Dept.	Ray	All year
Summer Staff Training	Nancy/Paul	Spring, Summer
Summer Staff Training Coordinator	Keri	Spring, Summer
Sundae Sunday	Cheryl	Summer
Supervision of all Professional Staff	Ray	All year
Supervision of Program Delivery Staff	Rec Supervisors	All year
Swim Lessons	Nancy	Summer
Swim staff management	Nancy	Summer
SWAFF	Ashley	All year
SWFA	Ray	All year
SWW&WW	Ray	All year

# PROGRAM INVENTORY (cont.)

Tech/Computer Supp./Data Proc. Liaison	Stephanie	All year
TEMS After School Programs	Shelby	Fall, Winter, Spring
TEMS Fitness Club	Nancy	Fall, Spring
TEMS Ski/Snowboard	Nancy	Winter
Tennis Lessons & Tournaments	Ashley	Summer
Town Council	Ray	All year
TQM Team Participation	TEAM	All year
Track Club Kids	Nancy	Spring
Trailblazer Poker Ryed	Nancy	Fall
Trips		All year
Turkey Hoop Shoot Contest	Ashley	Fall
USCG Boating Course	TBD	Fall, Winter
Vacation Day/Camp	Shelby	Fall/Winter/Spring
Valentine Dance	Cheryl	Winter
VMP (Veteran's Memorial Pool)*	Nancy	Summer
Volleyball, Men's & Women's Indoor League	Ashley	Fall, Winter
Web Site	Keri & Team	All year
Week-night/Weekend Staff Management	Keri	All year
Winterfest	Team	Winter
Resolution Run	Cheryl	Fall
Women's Outdoor Bootcamp	TBD	Spring
Wrestling	Ashley	Fall
Yoga	Nancy	All year
Yoga for Kids	Nancy	Spring
Youth Enrichment	Shelby	All year
Youth Sports Initiative	Ashley	All year
Youth Sports Organizations	Ray	All year
Zumba	Nancy	All year

NEEDS AND PRIORITY ASSESSMENTS

03



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# PUBLIC NEEDS ASSESSMENTS

## Section I: Public Interest Survey

The “Public Interest Survey” was created and distributed by the South Windsor Parks and Recreation Commission with the intent to see what the public’s stance was on the existing locations, along with input on what needs to be changed. With these surveys being distributed by event staff and completed by the public at various events listed below, the Commission has a better understanding on what changes may or may not need to be done. 96.11% of these survey respondents have visited a South Windsor park in the twelve months; with Nevers Park (88.47%), Rye Street Park (55.27%), Veterans Memorial Park (54.67%), and Little League Complex (45.73%) being the top results in that order. See the appendix for an example of the “Public Interest Survey”.

### Events, Locations, and Dates Distributed: (TOTAL: 589 respondents)

Event	Date	# Responses
Town-wide Lacrosse Open House, SWHS	Mon., 3/31/2014	117
Little League Opening Day, Ayers Road Complex	Sat., 5/3/2014	170
Fishing Derby, Dzen Tree Farm	Sat., 5/3/2014	8
Paws in the Park, Rotary Pavilion	Sat., 5/3/2014	5
CT Trails Day, Lawrence Road Park	Sun., 6/8/2014	16
Farmer’s Market, Community Center	Sat., 6/21/2014	38
Summer Concert Series, Evergreen Walk	Thurs., 6/26/2014	11
Summer Concert Series, Evergreen Walk	Thurs., 7/3/2014	12
Summer Concert Series, Evergreen Walk	Thurs., 7/10/2014	13
Camp Family Night, Rotary Pavilion at Nevers Park	Wed., 7/16/2014	61
Summer Concert Series, Evergreen Walk	Thurs., 7/17/2014	5
Summer Concert Series, Evergreen Walk	Thurs., 7/24/2014	6
Senior Picnic, Community Center	Thurs., 7/24/2014	67
Nevers Park Trail	Sat., 8/8/2014	21
Summer Concert Series, Evergreen Walk	Thurs., 8/14/2014	7
Pooch Plunge, Veterans Memorial Park	Mon., 8/25/2014	3
4th R Families	October 2014	29
Total Events = 17		589 Total

# Section I: Public Interest Survey (cont.)

## Priority Need #1:

One main area of focus for the Commission, that was evident in this survey, was to see what the public thought the town needed for new outdoor recreation facilities. As a part of this survey, respondents were to list their top 3 new outdoor facilities they thought needed to be implemented. The top three results are as follows:

1. Turf/Synthetic Fields (75.89%)
2. Soccer fields (21.43%)
3. Trails/Bike Paths (16.96%)

Another main area of focus for the Commission, that was evident in this survey, was to see what the public thought the town needed for new indoor recreation facilities. As a part of this survey, respondents were to list their top 3 new indoor facilities they thought needed to be implemented. The top three results are as follows:

1. Indoor pool (61.74%)
2. Basketball Courts (17.39%)
3. Skating Rink (15.65%)

## Priority Need #2:

The Commission's intent with the survey was to not only see what the public thought needed to be implemented but also what the public thought needed to be improved. As a part of the survey, respondents were asked what they would you like to see improved. The top results were popular by a considerable margin and are as follows:

1. General Parks and Recreation Maintenance (48.72%)
2. Sports and Fields (47.70%)

In addition to just categorizing the improvements that the public thinks need to be made, the survey yielded many open responses to what need to be done in order to improve "General Parks and Recreation Maintenance" and "Sports and Fields". The most common responses for improving "General Parks and Recreation Maintenance" were as follows:

1. More Restroom Facilities at all parks (14.03%)
2. Nothing (6.89%)
3. Improve Parking at all parks/facilities (6.89%)

The most common responses for improving the "Sports and Fields" were as follows:

1. Improve drainage and safety (12.24%)
2. Turf/synthetic fields (9.18%)
3. Lighting (4.85%)

# Section I: Public Interest Survey (cont.)

## Priority Need #3:

Another aspect of the survey that the Commission wanted to hear from the people about was what the Parks and Recreation could improve upon regarding their programs and services. When asked what the department could improve upon, the results were as follows:

1. Nothing (19.43%)
2. More programs/classes/locations (14.17%)
3. More advertising/communication (11.74%)

## Priority Need #4:

The last area of focus that the Commission focused on was the public's top two unmet recreational program needs. Through an open ended question on the survey, the top results were as follows:

1. More sports programs for various ages (20.59%)
2. Fields/Sport's needs (14.12%)
3. More programs (11.76%)
4. Art/Music/Science Programs (7.65%)
5. Indoor Pool (4.12%)



Porters Hill

# 3.1 PUBLIC NEEDS ASSESSMENTS

## Section II: Online Survey

The “Online Survey” was created and distributed by the South Windsor Parks and Recreation Commission with the intent to see what the public’s stance was on the existing locations, along with input on what needs to be changed. With the surveys being distributed online, the Commission now has a better understanding on what changes need to be made. With a percentage of 86.67% that answered “yes” that they have been to a South Windsor Park in the last twelve months, the data recovered shows the Commission a lot about what the people want to see changed. See appendix for an example of the “online survey”.

### Priority Need #1:

As evident in this survey, the Parks and Recreation Commission wanted to see what new or additional indoor and outdoor facilities are needed. Similar results from previous section were also yielded in this survey. Respondents to this survey were asked to list their top five new or additional indoor facilities. The results are as follows:

1. Swimming Pool (77.78%)
2. Fitness and Exercise Area (71.11%)
3. Multi-Purpose Community Center (55.56%)
4. Multi-Use Sports Courts (55.56%)

Being in a region of the world where four seasons are evident, it is important to provide both indoor and outdoor recreation facilities. In addition to being asked to list their top five additional or new indoor facilities, respondents were also asked to list their top five new or additional outdoor recreation facility. The results are as follows:

1. Walking trails (39.53%)
2. Biking trails (39.53%)
3. Nature Conservation Areas (25.58%)

# Section II: Online Survey (cont.)

## Priority Need #2:

A main focus of the Parks and Recreation Commission was to gather information on the public's views on the quality of the programs and services of the Parks and Recreation Department. When respondents were asked to rate the quality of the Parks and Recreation programs and services, 91.12% of people rated good to excellent. See appendix for addition comments on this question. The breakdowns of the results are as follows:

1. Good: (55.56%)
2. Excellent: (35.56%)
3. Fair: (4.44%)

## Priority Need #3:

Similar to the prior need addressed above, the Parks and Recreation Commission wanted to see the public's viewpoints on the quality of the Parks and Recreation facilities. When asked about the quality of the Parks and Recreation facilities, 77.95% of respondents rated the quality good to excellent. See appendix for respondent comments. The breakdowns of the results are as follows:

1. Good (55.82%)
2. Excellent (22.73%)
3. Fair (18.18%)

## Priority Need #4:

Perhaps the most important question on the survey asks respondents to list their top five areas where they feel the town should invest in parks and recreation facilities. This question gives the Parks and Recreation a good sense of what the public feels are the town's top parks and recreation facility needs. The results are as follows:

1. Indoor Swimming Pool (46.67%)
2. Town Wide Bike Trail System (40.00%)
3. Town Wide Walking Trail System (37.78%)
4. Maintain existing parks and recreation infrastructure (33.33%)
5. Synthetic Turf Athletic Fields (33.33%)

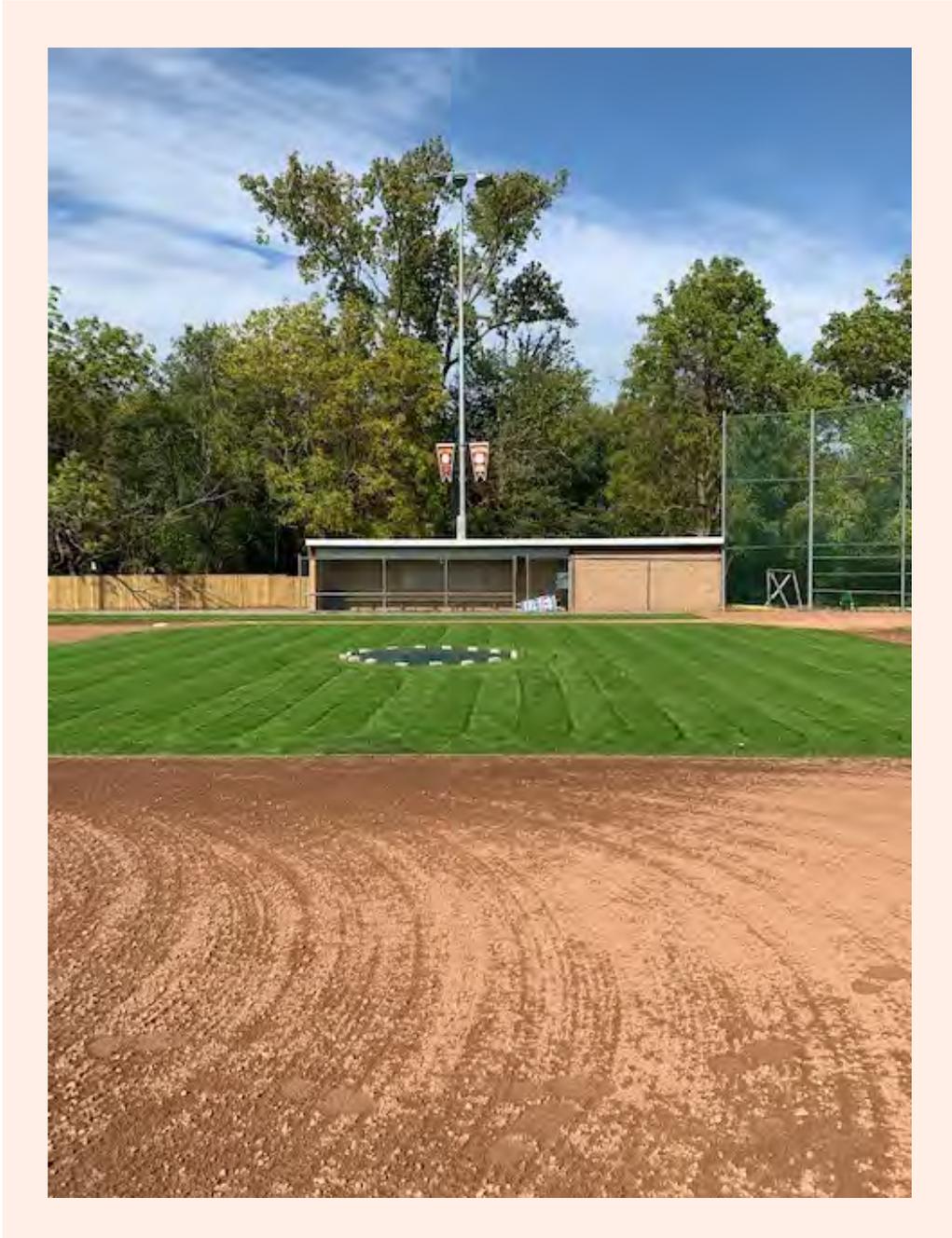
# 3.1 PUBLIC NEEDS ASSESSMENTS

## Section III: 2018 Online Citizen Survey

Throughout June, July and August of 2018, the Town of South Windsor opened its online Citizen Survey to residents. The objective was to understand residents' satisfaction with the quality of life in Town as well as various Town services. Another goal was to find out if there were any additional services or investments that residents would like to see in Town. This survey contained thirteen sections, which included parks and recreation, along with land development policies. On average, the survey took between 35 and 45 minutes to complete and the survey yielded 865 total responses.

### Notable Highlights:

- 85% of respondents answered with “very high” or “high” when asked about their quality of life in South Windsor
- Trash pick – up in parks (78%), Town beautification (69%), and sidewalks on existing roads (56%) were identified as either “very important” or “important” investments by respondents
- 23% (230 respondents) answered “yes” to whether or not the Town should go out for referendum on an indoor pool
- When asked about the Town hiring a park ranger, 39% (288) answered “yes” and 45% (305) answered “no” and 19% (143) “don’t know”
- When asked about how important it is for the Town to have dedicated open space properties, 85% of respondents indicated that it is “very important” or “somewhat important”
- The most popular means of getting information for Recreation were the Recreation magazine (74%), Parks and Recreation website (74%), and word of mouth (51%)
- When asked if they were aware of the seasonal outdoor public swimming pool at Veteran’s Memorial Park, 97% (691) indicated “yes”. When asked if they (or other members of their family) used the pool, 55% indicated they did
- The results indicate that visiting a Town park was the most popular activity with 33% of respondents indicating they had visited a park 13 or more times in the past year
- The most popular means of communication were: Town’s website (487) email (447) and regular mail (308)
- When asked what respondents liked most about the Town, the comments included: services, parks, and open space
- When asked if they had visited the Wildlife Sanctuary on Barber Hill Road, 36% (262) respondents indicated they had been to the site
- 14% of respondents said they participated in recreation programs 13 or more times over the last year



Pepin Field, Little League complex

# 3.1 PUBLIC NEEDS ASSESSMENTS

## Section IV: Focus Groups and Public Workshops

Through the use of focus groups and public workshops, the South Windsor Parks and Recreation Commission was able to gain a first-hand grasp of what needs to be changed and updated. A series of public workshops were conducted at the Town Hall and several meetings with the parks crews were helpful in compiling a list of changes and updates. In addition to public workshops and private meetings with the parks crew, the Commission also sat down with the athletic departments at the high school and middle school to gain their perspective.

### Athletic Departments Agreed Upon Needs:

High School (March 13, 2014):

- Improved lighting at sport fields
- Synthetic Turf fields
- Second full size gym

Middle School (June 3rd, 2014)

- Improved natural turf
- Better Cross Country Trails
- Re – grading the soccer field

\*\*\* Forty-Five varsity and junior varsity coaches attended the Focus Group meeting at the High School and fifteen coaches attended the meeting at the Middle School. \*\*\*

# Section IV: Focus Groups and Public Workshops (cont.)

## Public Workshops:

November 12th, 2014 / December 10th, 2014 / January 14th, 2015:

- Synthetic turf at athletic fields
- Not enough lighted facilities
- Lack of pickle ball courts (indoor and outdoor)
- Lack of recreation field hockey program
- Lack of recreation cross country program
- Lack of an indoor pool
- Keep Ellsworth gym available for pickle ball
- Ice skating rink at King Street Property
- Tennis Courts and Volleyball Courts at Lawrence Road Park
- Renovate tennis courts at Rye Street Park and line with pickle ball lines
- ADA accessibility improvements at Veterans Memorial Park
- Playground at Veterans Memorial Park
- Indoor pickle ball courts at the gymnasium inside Wapping School

## Other:

Through sessions with children, emails directly sent to the Parks and Recreation Department, through word of mouth, and face-to-face interaction, the Commission was able to generate a list of needs expressed by people of all ages. The list is as follows:

- More outdoor basketball courts
- More indoor basketball courts
- Slides at swimming pools
- Indoor swimming pools
- More playgrounds and playscapes
- Indoor arcade
- Turf fields
- Zip lining
- Rock climbing
- Animal Park at Nevers Park

# 3.1 PUBLIC NEEDS ASSESSMENTS

## Section V: Department Audit & Evaluation

In January of 2014, the executive director of parks and recreation for Charleston, SC came up to South Windsor and created a small report about the South Windsor Parks and Recreation Department. Tom O'Rourke, a colleague of Ray Favreau conducted a department audit and evaluation. His report is very informative and provides worthwhile information for this portion of the master plan.

### **Long – Term Recommendation #1: “Culture”**

- The department should undergo an extensive retreat ending with specific actions that will solidify the “culture” of the department
- Knowing exactly why the department exists with a clear mission, vision, and values is very important

### **Long – Term Recommendation #2: “Changing Demographics”**

- There is a tremendous opportunity to include new cultures into the offerings of the department through programs and events
- Programs through all cultures can unite a diverse community

### **Immediate Action Recommendation #1: “Gain Appreciation of Cultural Differences”**

- Each event should be similar in nature to avoid ease in planning and implementation. The elements of a successful cultural diversity special event are; Music and Dancing, Food Vendors, Craft Vendors, and Games for Children
- A committee made up of people that represent the ethnicity of the Culture. This committee should be established in order to insure that cultural sensitivity is taken into consideration. The committee could also provide the labor.
- The fees for the event should more than cover any costs. This should, if done correctly, could be a great revenue generator

# Section V: Department Audit & Evaluation (cont.)

## Immediate Action Recommendation #2: “Promote Health & Wellness”

- There is an opportunity to create a series of walking running events, fitness programs, and self – guided fitness opportunities with trail markings that would encourage citizens to stay in great physical condition
- With a 5K already in place, a 10K of half marathon should be in the conversation
- Events like couples races on Valentine’s Day, relay long distance races, are becoming more popular and successful
- The community of Mountain Bikers is evident. A trail should be established, branded, and operated
- A cross country ski event could be planned based upon adequate snow fall
- Year round events. Such as running in the spring, swimming in the summer, biking in the fall, and cross country skiing in the winter
- Providing walking and running group locations with branded trails would enhance opportunities for people to participate in activities
- Having an established medical community, partnering with hospitals would provide needed funds to pay for activities

## Other:

- The most valuable asset of the South Windsor Parks and Recreation Department is the dedication of the staff
- Obtaining more infrastructure – obtaining additional land can be partnering with others or even leasing existing space or land. The focus should be on what the citizens want, not the buildings
- Maintenance of existing facilities – deferred maintenance of existing facilities at some point will need to be addressed
- Relevance and Credibility with public, other departments, elected people – the department needs ONE clear message that can be sold to the community
- Staff buy – in: the staff is happy but it won’t stay this way unless they are challenged and programs are reinvented
- Change – Change is hard. New is good. Every once in a while it is a good idea to clear out the clutter and reinvent yourself, if the time is right.

## Source:

“South Windsor Parks & Recreation Department Audit & Evaluation” 2014. Tom O’Rourke

# 3.1 PUBLIC NEEDS ASSESSMENTS

## Section VI: Conclusion

Through the usage of a public interest survey, an online survey, focus groups, and public workshops, the South Windsor Parks and Recreation Commission was able to firmly prioritize what needs to be updated and/or built to satisfy resident's needs. The main indoor facility that needs to be implemented is an indoor pool. Whether the indoor pool was mentioned in survey comments, focus groups, and public workshops it was without a doubt the top indoor facility mentioned. The top new addition or facility mentioned for outdoor recreation throughout all the research conducted was the need for synthetic turf on athletic fields. It is also evident throughout the research that people wish to see more trails. Whether it is multi – purpose trails, biking trails, or walking trails, the implementation of more trails in town is a top priority. Below is the list of the top “needs” in order of importance:

1. Indoor Pool
2. Synthetic Turf athletic fields
3. Walking, biking, multi – purpose trails
4. Indoor fitness and exercise area
5. Indoor multi – purpose community center
6. Indoor multi – use sports courts
7. Pickle ball courts
8. Improved lighting at athletic fields
9. Outdoor basketball courts
10. ADA accessibility at Veterans Memorial Park



Jacob's View at My Friends Place

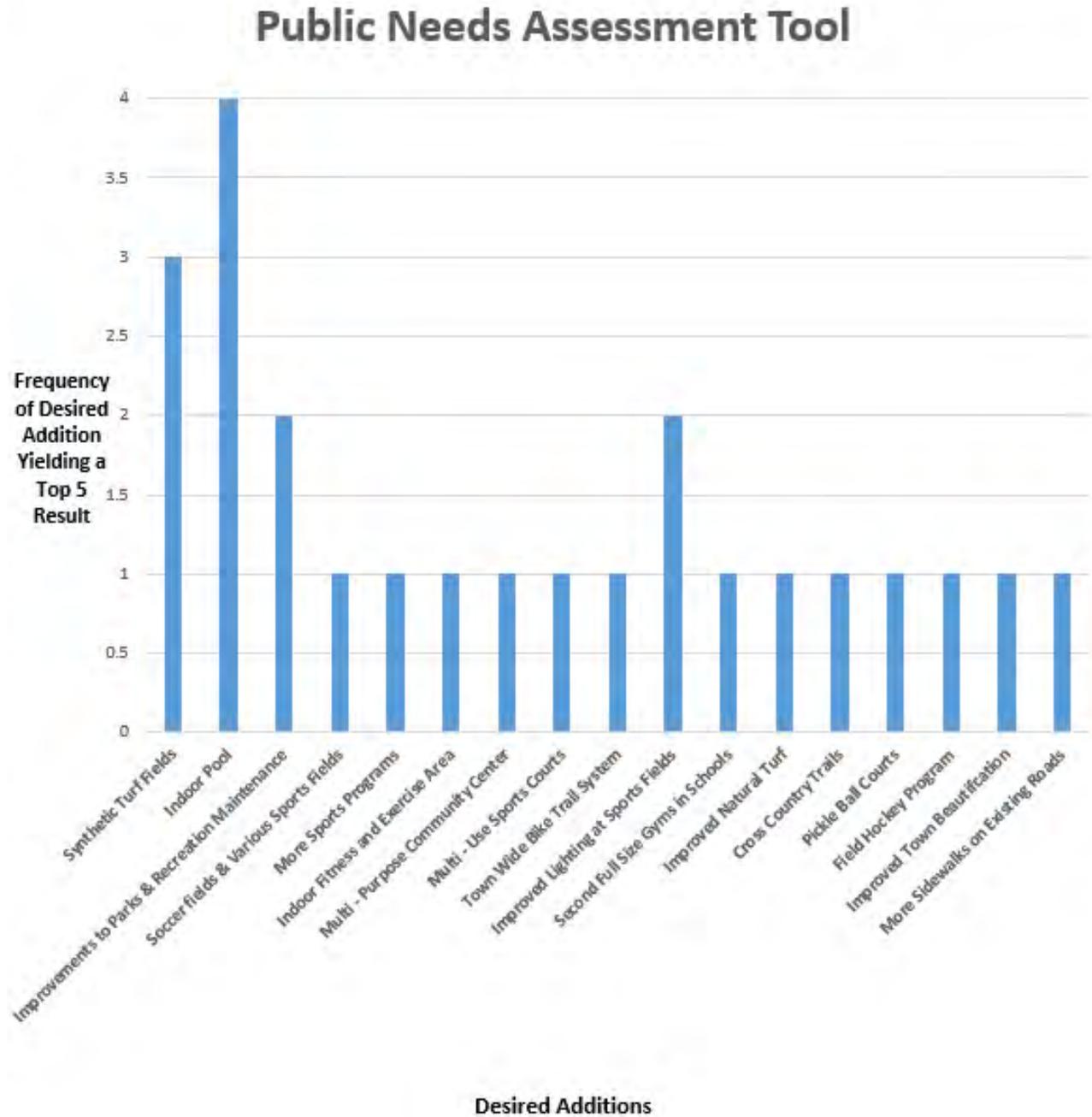
# 3.2 Public Needs Assessment



## Public Assessment Tool

Desired Additions:	Public Interest Survey	Online Survey- Survey Monkey	2018 Citizen Online Survey	Athletic Department Agreed Upon Needs	Public Workshops	Frequency of Desired Addition Yielding a Top 5 Result
Synthetic Turf Fields	1			2	1	3
Indoor Pool	2	1	4		4	4
Improvements to Parks & Recreation Maintenance	3		1			2
Soccer fields & Various Sports Fields	4					1
More Sports Programs	5		5			1
Indoor Fitness and Exercise Area		2				1
Multi - Purpose Community Center		3				1
Multi - Use Sports Courts		4				1
Town Wide Bike Trail System		5				1
Improved Lighting at Sports Fields				1	2	2
Second Full Size Gyms in Schools				3		1
Improved Natural Turf				4		1
Cross Country Trails				5		1
Pickle Ball Courts					3	1
Field Hockey Program					5	1
Improved Town Beautification			2			1
More Sidewalks on Existing Roads			3			1

# 3.2 Public Needs Assessment (cont.)



## Section I: Introduction

The South Windsor Park and Recreation Commission (SWPARC) supports the Parks & Recreation Department's commitment to provide quality recreation programs and parks that provide exceptional experiences, and as such suggests that consideration must be given to industry trends not only at the local level, but at the state, regional and national levels as well. Since the crafting of the current master plan adopted in March of 2001, major changes have occurred in how people spend their leisure time and what they do during this leisure time. The following sections will focus on these exciting variations and the potential for opportunity in South Windsor. Both programming and facility trends and challenges will be addressed, sometimes individually and sometimes combined depending on the need for one or the other, or both.

### **The Top Ten Most Commonly Planned RECREATION Program Additions in 2018:**

1. Fitness Programs (25.9%)
2. Educational Programs (25.7%)
3. Mind – body/ Balance Programs (23.3%)
4. Teen Programs (22.7%)
5. Environmental Education (20.7%)
6. Day Camps and Summer Camps (20.3%)
7. Special Needs Programs (18.9%)
8. Adult Sports Teams (18.5%)
9. Holiday Events and Other Special Events (18.3%)
10. Individual Sports Activities (17.5%)

\*\*\*Information pulled from the 2018 Recreation Management Report written by parks and recreation professionals\*\*\*

# Section I: Introduction (cont.)

## **The Top Ten Commonly Planned PARK Program Additions in 2018:**

1. Environmental Education Programs
2. Fitness Programs
3. Teen Programming
4. Educational Programs
5. Mind – body Programs (such as Yoga)
6. Summer and Day Camps
7. Special Needs Programs
8. Adult Sport Teams
9. Individual Sport Activities
10. Sport – specific Training Lessons

## **The Top Ten Most Commonly Planned Additions for PARKS RESPONDENTS in 2018:**

1. Splash Play Areas (31.4%)
2. Dog Parks (20.8%)
3. Fitness trails and outdoor fitness equipment (20.6%)
4. Walking and hiking trails (17.8%)
5. Synthetic turf sports fields (16.9%)
6. Playgrounds (16.4%)
7. Disc Golf Courses (15.6%)
8. Park Shelters (15.3%)
9. Park restroom structures (13.9%)
10. Bike Trails (13.9%)

## Section II: Industry Trends

### Growth of the Parks Agency

- The overall outlook on parks and recreation has grown more positive in the last five years
- The percentage planning new construction and people using park run facilities are increasing
- Parks contribute to the overall well-being of communities and the communities economy
- Parks raise property value, improve quality of life and health, and improve environmental conservation
- Revenues for parks respondents continue to grow
- Increase in usage at facilities
- Increase in the number of respondents who have plans for construction over the next three years for new facilities
- Budget increases for new construction projects
- 9 in 10 respondents to the 2017 NRPA Americans' Engagement with Public Parks Survey agreed that parks and recreation is an important service provided by their local government
- According to the 2018 NRPA Agency Performance Review, businesses will be more likely to relocate to such areas, and good jobs will be more likely to remain in areas where recreational amenities are good

### Commonly Planned Additions to Parks and Facilities

1. Splash Play Areas
2. Fitness Trails
3. Playgrounds
4. Park Structures
5. Dog Parks
6. Hiking and walking trails
7. Bike Trails
8. Park restroom structure
9. Synthetic turf athletic fields
10. Wi-Fi services

### Commonly Planned Programs at Parks and Facilities

1. Teen programming
2. Educational programs
3. Environmental education programs
4. Fitness programs
5. Arts and crafts
6. Programs for active older adults
7. Mind – body balance programs such as yoga and tai chi
8. Holidays and other special events
9. Special needs programs
10. Performing arts

# Section II: Industry Trends (cont.)

## Increased Usage of Technology to Market and Communicate

- Success in the Parks and Recreation is and will continue to be based on the willingness to utilize and learn about technology
- Understanding and applying GIS as a visualization tool
- Using PRORAGIS to explain economics, population, leisure activity, proximity, and other datasets relate to each other and how all are critical for making decisions when deploying resources and personnel
- Using social media effectively
- Using apps to communicate with the public
- Using technology to enhance your marketing skills

## Strategic Positioning and Collaboration

- Professionals need to know how to interpret data to communicate to elected officials and decision – makers how parks and recreation provides solutions to problems and saves taxpayer money
- The well-equipped professional needs to know how to position his or her agency as a problem solver, a money saver, and provider of the public good
- Professionals must have the knowledge and skills to build partnerships

## Importance of “Free Play”

- Children aren’t receiving enough free play, instead they are receiving competitive driven programs at a very early age
- “Playground Days” are becoming more popular; trained staff supervises children and allows parents the assurance that their child is safe
- “Play Ambassador or Playologist” programs have grown in popularity and teach high school students about the benefits of play fun games for younger children. Under this program, high school students are allowed to run a “free play” program for younger children

## “Park Rx” Programs

- Gaining in popularity
- Physicians prescribe physical activity in park settings to their patients
- By creating awareness of nearby parks and their health benefits, they can also help increase participation in programs, as well as stewardship of parks
- Huge solution to today’s growing obesity rate

# Section II: Industry Trends (cont.)

## Multi – Purpose/Elevate Fitness Playgrounds

- Today’s gyms are increasingly offering members access to a more diverse range of fitness opportunities
- Wide range of fitness routines – from yoga to kickbox
- Hybrid style gym: group classes, circuit training, and cardio equipment
- Extreme Generation playground with challenging physical events for children
- Innovative designs, fully enclosed skyways, rope course inspired activities

## Outdoor Fitness Areas

- Set the standard for gyms that are inclusive, intergenerational, and have something to challenge everyone
- ADA accessible challenges and programs for everyone
- Person cross fitness rig, kickboxing stations, core line units, etc.
- Equipped with iPhone 6 and iPad charging stations
- Solar powered through a solar panel covering the entire facility

## Disc Golf Course

- Gaining fast in popularity
- Relatively inexpensive
- Easy to design a course that caters to players of all ages
- Aside from mowing, maintenance costs are inexpensive
- Acreage range is 12 to 39

# Section II: Industry Trends (cont.)

## Safe Routes to Parks

- Focus on improving safe walking accessibility to parks
- Walking distances and accessibility mileage will vary based on local demographics (half mile)
- 39% of people nationwide live within a half mile of a park
- Increasing the number entrances and increasing accessibility to parks is a major area of focus for many professionals today.

### Essential Elements of a Safe Route to a Park:

1. Comfort – Conditions of sidewalks and aesthetics are vital to take into account when building a safe route to a park. Creating a visually appealing and clean environment, ensuring low traffic and off road trail access.
2. Convenience – Should be in close proximity to where the residents live. Less than a quarter mile walk to where the people reside is ideal
3. Safety – separation boundaries from roads are essential when creating a safe route to a park
4. Access and Design – making the route attractive to people will result in people using it. Having multiple access points for easy accessibility will attract more people as well
5. The Park Itself – having a safe route to a park that is poorly maintained or not popular doesn't make sense. Having a safe route to a popular and well kept park makes sense.

## Solar Power in Parks

- The installation and implementation of solar panels on roofs at structures inside parks
- Requires certain certification based on wattage intake
- Designed to reduce energy costs, reduce impacts on the environment
- Provide alternative forms of power in remote locations
- Demonstrate leadership in the field

# Section II: Industry Trends (cont.)

## Bike Parks

- Outdoor playground but for bikes
- Bikes are a form of fun, freedom, and fresh air for kids
- Implementing an area with ramps, turns, and paths for kids to bike on
- Kids will never outgrow their healthy pastime of biking

## Drones

- Very popular with today's new generation
- Over a million drones purchased
- AMA Drone Zone at parks for safe and responsible flying
- Drone flying clubs
- Hobby and commercial drones are reported to be selling at the rate of 15,000 or 16,000 per month, almost 200, 000 per year
- For recreational purposes, drones are mostly used for photography
- Likely to be an uptick in the membership of local model airplane clubs and drone user groups accompanied by an increasing demand for more public spaces to fly drones

## Art in the Park

- Innovative designs add aesthetic interest to public parks and open space
- Public art allows that cultural experience to be enjoyed by everyone – for free, and you can visit anytime
- Including art makes a space unique and engaging, and perhaps more fun
- Art can tell a story, add a layer of surprise and help create an experience that's specific to the place where it's found
- Individualizing parks through the use of public art can create a site that is meaningful, relevant and personal to the user of the public

### Permanent Installations:

- Something put in place that's intended to stay there forever
- Finding a permanent subject matter to implement in a public park forever can be challenging
- Some areas designate a portion of public works funding for art

### Temporary Installations:

- Very cost effective way to install public art
- Each year has a different theme
- Allow local art groups to install artwork at parks annually

## Promoting Healthy Food & Beverage Choices in Parks and Recreation Facilities

- Parks and Recreation departments across the country are realizing the important role they can play in promoting and modeling healthier food environments for kids, staff, and other community members
- Parks & Recreation departments can support the healthy choices of kids, parents, guests, and staff by providing healthy food and beverage environments
- Organizations are applying a nutrition standard to food and beverages (removing sugary choices has been a popular choice)

### “100% Healthy or Something Else” Nutrition Standard Approach:

- Decide on a nutrition standard
- Decide on how strong your standard should be
- Fast and immediate change in nutrition changes. The changes are made to the organizations nutrition immediately and the strength of the changes are significant

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#### Pros

- Offers a clear and straightforward policy that is easy to understand and monitor
- Makes a statement about the importance of a healthy food and beverage environment
- Less complicated over time – does not require constant monitoring and tracking
- Promotes social norm change around what is a healthy food and beverage environment
- Provides more food and beverage choices for staff and visitors who want healthy choices

#### Cons

- Some park staff or visitors may be initially resistant and complain
  - May be difficult to implement initially due to required contract changes and renegotiations that are complex and time consuming, could limit the number of vendors
  - Creates possible additional costs related to beverage and food equipment changes. Increased food preparation space and refrigeration demands will also increase
- 

There is another plan called “Less than 100% approaches” which focuses on the same idea as described above, but the change is gradually implemented. The idea of this standard is to gradually get children, staff, and other community members to eat healthier in a healthy environment. However, with today's growing obesity and diabetic rate, South Windsor Parks and Recreation should implement the “100% Healthy or Something Else” standard. While conducting an assessment of South Windsor's existing food and beverage environment can help figure out where to start, parks and recreation departments should be responsible for promoting the healthiest lifestyle through exercise and healthy eating choices. It should go without saying that the South Windsor Parks and Recreation Department should take action and begin promoting healthy food and beverage choices for everyone involved with the programming, supervision, and participation of the department and its residents.

## Foot Golf

- Golf with a twist of soccer
- Get a soccer ball in a 21 inch cup in as few strokes as possible
- Played on a golf course
- Regular golf and foot golf can be played at the same time together, as long as the course is designed correctly
- PGA and AFGL have an agreement which allows for foot golf to be played on regular golf courses
- Good use for a course that isn't getting enough foot traffic

## Archery

- Archery has recently grown in popularity because of the Hunger Games movies
- Parks and Recreation programmers are feeling the impact of the movies and books because people are asking for archery lessons
- Interests amongst women and girls is greater than boys and men
- Memberships increased 104% between 2011 and 2013 and then another 121% from 2013 to 2014
- Fitness Industry Association said 6,180,000 Americans tried their hand in archery in 2008 but by 2013, that number had climbed to 7,647,000 participants

## Floor ball

- Very similar to floor hockey
- The ball is designed to be controlled and easily directed
- The sticks are made of either carbon or fiber glass (won't damage wood or synthetic surfaces)
- Protective equipment isn't mandatory but recommended
- Can be played pretty much anywhere and can be adapted to suit your needs and facility restrictions

## All – Weather Skating Rink

- All season synthetic ice that doesn't melt
- Low maintenance requirements
- Middletown, CT implemented an all season rink for \$160,000
- Rink in Middletown, CT is 60 feet wide by 120 feet long

## Geocaching

- Real – world outdoor treasure – hunting activity that used GPS enabled devices to allow participants to navigate a set of coordinates to find a specific object that has been hidden in locations by the game – makers
- Geocachers are all about the hunt because it gives outdoor enthusiasts a chance to explore the world, visit new places, and explore off the beaten path locations
- This activity is an opportunity for South Parks and Recreation to promote their parks and recreation facilities
- This activity also allows the younger generation to use their technology in a positive way and to also spend time being active outside

## eSports

- Competitive and organized video gaming
- Competitors play against each other in games such as Fortnite, League of Legends, Counter – Strike, Call of Duty, Overwatch, and Madden NFL
- More than 50 colleges have varsity eSports programs
- According to research, eSports revenue will reach \$906 million worldwide in 2018. By 2019, that number is expected to surpass \$1 billion
- South Windsor Parks and Recreation Department should look into holding a similar event or program on a smaller stage

## Personal Health Investment Today (PHIT) Act

- An effort to help make opportunities for physical activity more accessible and affordable
- Originates from Congress, gives consumers a discount on the cost of active life styles, while the activity provider receives full price
- PHIT is a tax bill, it would modify the tax code. As of June 2018, half of the members on the top of the congressional tax committee support the PHIT Act
- Under the PHIT Act, tax – free funds could be used on things such as:
  1. Health club memberships
  2. Sports and fitness equipment
  3. Personal trainer fees and fitness/exercise classes
  4. Entry fees for athletic competitions
  5. Fees for adult and youth sports leagues and camps
  6. Pay – to – play school sports fees
  7. Company sponsored health and wellness programs
- Increases physical activity through tax incentives

## **Recess: Essential for Student Development**

- According to an article published by Parks & Recreation in 2018, teachers agree that recess is essential for Student Development
- In a survey conducted on elementary school teachers, 100% of the teachers said that recess is essential for young athletes mental and physical development
- In the same survey, 81% of teachers said their kids behaviors changed positively after recess
- In the same survey, kids that tend to behave poorly, nearly all the teachers surveyed – 97% said that recess improved their behavior
- In addition, the survey showed that 95% of teachers agree that recess improved their students' social interaction and 78% of their students were focused and ready for their next lesson after recess

## **Farmers Markets**

- 57% of Millennials think it is either very or extremely important to have access to locally grown fresh produce
- 55% of “GenXers” think it is either very or extremely important to have access to locally grown fresh produce
- 48% of Baby Boomers” think it is either very or extremely important to have access to locally grown fresh produce
- 48% of men ” think it is either very or extremely important to have access to locally grown fresh produce
- 56% of women ” think it is either very or extremely important to have access to locally grown fresh produce
- 87% of Americans ” think it is either very or extremely important to have access to locally grown fresh produce

### **Benefits of Farmers Markets for local communities:**

- Increased consumer traffic, sales and demand
- The expansion and importance of farmers markets accepting supplemental nutritional assistance
- An increase in efforts around nutrition education provided at market sites
- Strengthening opportunities for community engagement and linking local food business development
- Parks and recreation agencies are well – suited to leverage their role as trusted providers of accessible health and wellness opportunities and landowners and partner in efforts to expand local agriculture initiatives

## Demographic Trend – Town of South Windsor

- 28% of homes bought in South Windsor between June of 2018 and December of 2018 were purchased by persons from a minority ethnicity

## Miscellaneous Facts

- Recent findings show Americans typically visit local park and recreation facilities twice a month
- Nine of ten Americans agree that parks and recreation is an important local government service
- 85% of people consider high – quality park and recreation amenities as a principal factor when choosing a place to live
- Public officials don't see parks and recreation agencies as important contributors to their biggest day to day concern: economic development
- The typical park and recreation agency dedicates 43% of its operating budget to park management and maintenance and 40% to recreation
- The typical park and recreation agency has annual operating expenditures of \$3,313,040
- The typical park and recreation agency has nearly 200,000 contacts every year
- The typical agency offers 161 programs each year: 95 of those programs are fee – based events
- 41% of parks and recreation agencies administer community gardens
- 18% of parks and recreation agencies administer or manage farmers markets
- Local park and recreation agencies generated more than \$154 billion in economic activity and more than 1.1 million jobs in 2015
- Public officials see parks and recreation as a critical solution to many of their top concerns, they don't see these agencies as being top contributors to day to day concerns. The main concern is economic development. Parks and recreation departments that attract and retain businesses from the community are likely to benefit from greater and steadier funding from the local government

# Section II: Industry Trends (cont.)

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## Section III: Industry Challenges

### Transgender/LGBTQ Accommodations and Policies

- Increase in transgender persons
- LGBTQ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer or Questioning)
- LGBTQ teens are coming out at an even younger age, and they and their families are requesting services and accommodations that meet their needs
- Staff has to know where LGBTQ teens are, how to know reach them, how to gain their trust and what methods and media they use to get information
- Develop all staffs' ability to be culturally competent in relating to and working with LGBTQ teens
- The law requires individuals to use facilities in accordance to their biological gender, but with the emergence of transgender persons, the laws bring about controversy and potential changes
- "All gender restrooms" or "family bathroom" signage are becoming more popular
- Aquatic industry has faced several lawsuits over lack of gender equality locker rooms, changing areas, and restrooms

### 8 Recommendations for Creating a More Equitable Environment for Transgender Individuals:

1. Put it in writing! Include gender identity in your nondiscrimination statement wherever it appears in your written and online materials
2. Talk to the local members of the transgender community. Invite members of the community to sit on an existing advisory board, or create an advisory committee that specifically addresses LGBT issues and includes transgender members
3. Create formal partnerships with the transgender organizations in your community
4. Get out of the gender policing business and institute explicit policies that allow individuals to determine which facilities and programs are most appropriate for them
5. Train your staff about your policies and procedures and give them the tools they need for positive and welcoming interactions. Bring in outside expertise if you feel that you need it
6. Do an assessment of facilities. How private are they? Sometimes the fix is relatively inexpensive: for example, adding a shower curtain or a door on an existing stall
7. Check your forms! Do you require people to choose M/F? You should consider doing it this way instead: Gender:
8. Ensure that all of your programming is trans-inclusive and provide some trans-specific programming too

## Racial Equality in Parks and Recreation

- It is anticipated that by 2042 people of color will become the majority population in the United States. Children of color are on course to reach that milestone by 2023
- Some tools being used to gain racial equality are:
  1. Identify clear goals, objectives, and measurable outcomes
  2. Engage community in the decision making process
  3. Identify who will benefit or be burdened by a given decision
  4. Develop mechanisms for successful implementation and evaluation of impact

## Gender Equity in Community Athletics

- Creating equal opportunities for males and females
- While involvement in recreational sports is growing, there is still a huge gap in boys' and girls' engagement in these activities
- A study of 50,000 Boston youths showed that girls participate at HALF the rate of boys community – based sports and physical activity
- A survey of 100 inner – city and suburban parks in Southern California revealed that girls are generally less satisfied than boys with available park equipment and programs
- “Gender Equity in Recreation and Sports” is a policy that has since been adopted

## Distractions

- Television, video games, movies, social media, and technology in general is a distraction from people participating in recreational activities
- In 2013, an average American spent 11 hours looking at a screen. The more screens in a person's life, the most time they will spend looking at it
- Parks and Recreation professionals are designing and implementing different programs and facilities to attract people to get out from in front of their screen

## Security

- Security issues are always a challenge in any industry and the Parks and Recreation industry is no different
- The following are actions that professionals can take:
  1. Change the registration and operation policy for adult basketball leagues
  2. Begin clustering activities at district recreation centers
  3. Make improvements to external grounds
  4. Begin installing security cameras if the budget allows
- Some pressing security concerns are: unauthorized access, theft, violence, abductions, active shooters

## Environmental Concerns

- Global warming
- Pollution
- Parks and Recreation agencies need to start educating the youth about nature, and the potential impacts of it
- Improve nature focused signage
- Human activity impacts species, natural resources, and climate patterns

## Social Equity

- Satisfying wants and needs to persons of all ethnicities and religion
- Parks and Recreation programs need to welcome people of all ages, skill levels, and abilities through a variety of services and programs
- Professionals need to be educated and culturally competent

## Persons with Disabilities

- Satisfying peoples wants and needs whom have disabilities
- 56.7 million Americans with disabilities, according to the 2010 US Census,, account for 18.7% of our population
- 1 in 5 people have a disability
- Parks and Recreation programs and professionals need to adjust their programs to fit the wants and needs of people with disabilities

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# 3.4 Revised Park and Recreation Master Plan 2019-2020 draft

Completed	Category	Location	Item	Fiscal Year	Cost / Estimate	PARC Fund	Private Funding Sources	Other Funds and Sources
✓	Active	Rye St. Park	2 Soccer Fields, 2 football/Lacrosse Fields	2004-05	\$261,000		\$261,000 C.I.P	
✓	Both	Oak Street	Basketball Court/Open Field	2004-05	\$46,281	\$46,281		
<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>				<b>2004-05</b>	<b>\$307,281</b>			
✓	Active	Nevers Park	Nevers Baseball Field- irrigate infield, outfield. Lengthen LF	2005-06	\$44,674	\$44,674		
✓	Passive	Nevers Park	Rotary Pavilion Roof	2005-06	\$11,200	\$11,200		
<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>				<b>2005-06</b>	<b>\$55,874</b>			
✓	Active	Ellsworth	Ellsworth Gym-interior painting	2006-07	\$13,761	\$614		\$13,000 State Grant
✓	Active	Nevers Park	My Friend's Place- Boundless Playground	2006-07	\$400,000		\$330,000 SWCF	\$70,000 SRRF
<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>				<b>2006-07</b>	<b>\$413,761</b>			
✓	Passive	Nevers Park	Dog Park	2007-08	\$35,000	\$35,000		
✓	Active	Rye St. Park	Regulation Soccer Field, Football/Lacrosse Field	2007-08	\$250,000			\$250,000 STEAP Grant
✓	Active	Rye St. Park	Architectural Plans for Bldg.	2007-08	\$11,000	\$11,000		
✓	Active	Nevers Park	Jacob's View @ MFP	2007-08	\$30,000	\$10,000	\$20,000 Golf4Kids	
✓	TBD	Lawrence Rd.	Construction/Bid Documents	2007-08	\$56,600	\$56,600		
<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>				<b>2007-08</b>	<b>\$382,600</b>			
✓	Passive	Town-wide	Walk & Wheel Ways Connector Paths	2008-09	\$1,306	\$1,306		
✓	Active	Rye St. Park	Add. Parking for 100 cars	2008-09				
<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>				<b>2008-09</b>	<b>\$1,306</b>			
✓	Active	Nevers Park	Indoor Batting Cage at Rotary	2009-10	\$175,000	\$25,000		\$50,000 TOSW \$100,000 SWLL and American Legion
✓	Passive	Rye Street	Concession/Storage/Restrooms	2009-10	\$169,035	\$169,035		
✓	Passive	Town-wide	Walk & Wheel Ways Connector Paths	2009-10	\$1,540	\$1,540		
<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>				<b>2009-10</b>	<b>\$345,575</b>			
✓	Both	LRP / TEMS	Bobcat for Maintenance/Improvements	2010-11	\$43,000	\$43,000		
✓	Passive	Town-wide	Walk & Wheel Ways	2010-11	\$12,715			
<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>				<b>2010-11</b>	<b>\$55,715</b>			
	TBD	TBD as needed	Maintenance/Improvements	2011-12	\$25,000			
✓	Passive	Town-wide	Walk & Wheel Ways - Balance from 3-\$20K allocations	2011-12	\$44,439			
✓	Active	Veterans Park	Snack Shack	2011-12	\$25,000			\$25,000 SRRF
<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>				<b>2011-12</b>	<b>\$94,439</b>			
✓	Active	Veterans Park	Retrofit Water Features	2012-13	\$27,390	\$27,390		
✓	Active	Nevers Park	Irrigate Soccer/Lacrosse Fields	2012-13	\$30,000			\$30,000 in-house
	TBD	TBD as needed	Maintenance/Improvements	2012-13	\$25,000			
✓	TBD	Lawrence Rd.	Parking Lot for 35 vehicles	2012-13	\$100,000			Donation from contractor
	N/A	Entire System	Mandatory ADA Audit	2012-13	\$50,000			
	Passive	TBD	Disc Golf	2012-13	\$10,000			
✓	Passive	Town-wide	Walk & Wheel Ways Bike Fleet and Trailer	2012-13	\$18,941	\$18,941		
<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>				<b>2012-13</b>	<b>\$261,331</b>			
	Passive	Town-wide	Walk & Wheel Ways	2013-14	\$20,000			
	TBD	TBD as needed	Maintenance/Improvements	2013-14	\$25,000			
	Passive	Veterans Park	Playground	2013-14	\$200,000			
	Passive	Nevers Park	Fencing @ Boundless Playground TBD	2013-14	\$30,000			
✓	Active	Nevers Park	Skate Park PHASE I-Design&Const	2013-14	\$103,000	\$103,000		
<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>				<b>2013-14</b>	<b>\$378,000</b>			
	Active	Nevers Park	Dugouts/Fencing - Nevers Baseball	2014-15				
	Active	O.H.	Re-build Athletic Field	2014-15	\$200,000			
	TBD	TBD as needed	Maintenance/Improvements	2014-15	\$25,000			
	Active	Nevers Park	Lighting @ Nevers Baseball	2014-15	\$45,000			
	Passive	Town-wide	Walk & Wheel Ways	2014-15	\$20,000			
<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>				<b>2014-15</b>	<b>\$290,000</b>			
	TBD	TBD as needed	Maintenance/Improvements	2015-16	\$25,000			
✓	Active	L.L. Complex	Complex Improvements-New Shack	2015-16	\$271,091	\$100,000	\$171,091	
	Passive	Town-wide	Walk & Wheel Ways	2015-16	\$20,000			
<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>				<b>2015-16</b>	<b>\$316,091</b>			
	TBD	TBD as needed	Maintenance/Improvements	2016-17	\$25,000			
	Active	Nevers Park	Improve Rotary Baseball Field	2016-17	\$45,000			
	Passive	Town-wide	Walk & Wheel Ways	2016-17	\$20,000			
	Active	L.L. Complex	Challenger L.L. Field	2016-17	\$1,000,000			
<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>				<b>2016-17</b>	<b>\$1,090,000</b>			
	Passive	Rye St. Park	Trails	2017-18	\$100,000			
	TBD	TBD as needed	Maintenance/Improvements	2017-18	\$25,000			
✓	Active	Veterans Park	Rental Pavilion	2017-18	\$200,000	\$99,307	\$100,000 Rotary Club	\$99,930 SW BoE \$11,465 Parks operating
✓	Active	LL Complex	Re-build softball field	2017-18	\$196,724	\$85,329		
✓	Active	Fairgrounds	Permanent Cricket Pitch	2017-18	\$1,000			
	Passive	Town-wide	Walk & Wheel Ways	2017-18	\$20,000			
<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>				<b>2017-18</b>	<b>\$542,724</b>			
✓	Passive	Nevers Park	Year-round restroom	2018-19	\$248,610	\$127,110	\$119,500 Rotary Club	
	TBD	TBD as needed	Maintenance/Improvements	2018-19	\$25,000			
✓	Active	Nevers Park	Skate Park Phase II	2018-19	\$182,045	\$150,000		\$32,045 Capital Non-Recurring
	Passive	Town-wide	Walk & Wheel Ways	2018-19	\$20,000			
<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>				<b>2018-19</b>	<b>\$473,655</b>			
	TBD	TBD as needed	Maintenance/Improvements	2019-20	\$25,000			
	Passive	Town-wide	Walk & Wheel Ways	2019-20	\$20,000			
<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>				<b>2019-20</b>	<b>\$45,000</b>			
	TBD	TBD as needed	Maintenance/Improvements	2020-21	\$25,000			
✓	Passive	Town-wide	Walk & Wheel Ways- Cross Town Trail Design	2020-21	\$186,000	\$86,000		\$100,000 DEEP Rec. Trail Grant
✓	Active	Nevers Park	Internal Roadway and parking lots paved, expand lower lot	2020-21	\$148,457	\$148,457		
		Burgess Road	Showmobile	2020-21	\$165,000			
			Storage Building	2020-21	\$223,000			
<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>				<b>2020-21</b>	<b>\$747,457</b>			
<b>TOTALS</b>					<b>\$5,800,809</b>	<b>\$1,400,784</b>	<b>\$171,091</b>	

MASTER PLAN

LONG RANGE VISION

04



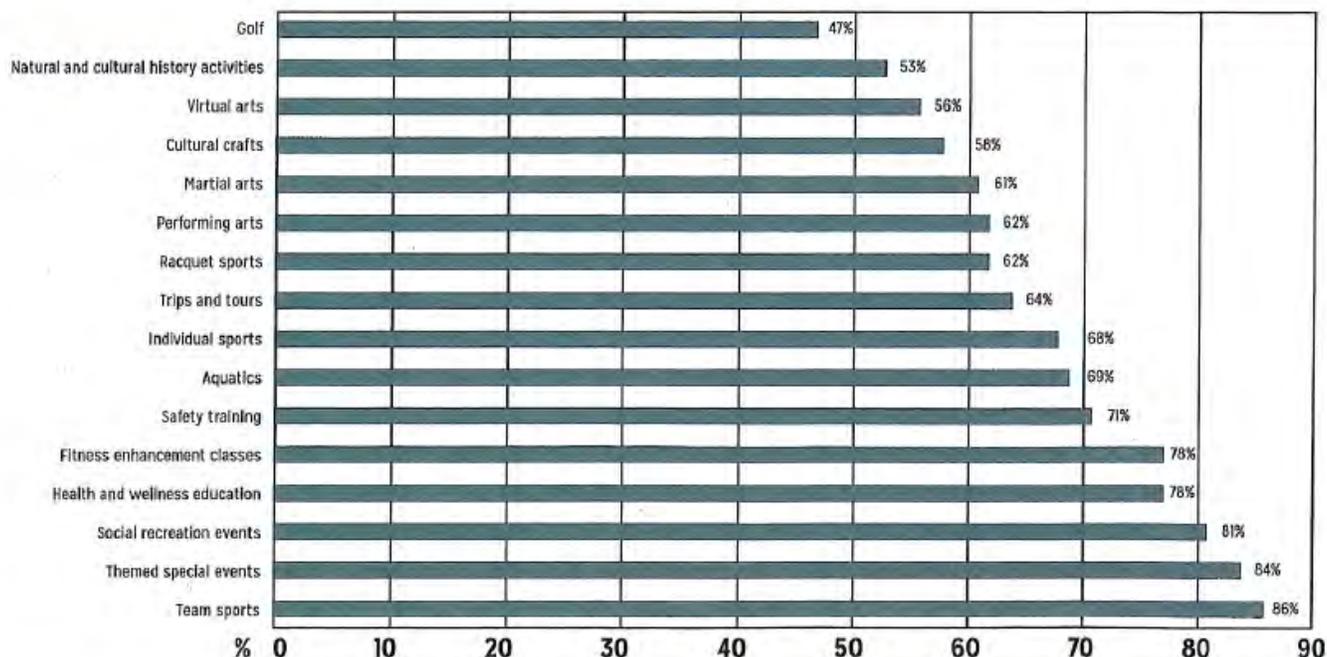
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## Section I: Introduction

The purpose of this section of the Master Plan is to show the need for program development. This graphic illustrates data received from the NRPA regarding national averages from 2018 of programs offered by parks and recreation agencies. As the graphic also illustrates, the typical agency offers 161 programs each year, in which 95 of those programs are fee – based.

**FIGURE 5: PROGRAMMING OFFERED BY PARK AND RECREATION AGENCIES (PERCENT OF AGENCIES)**



# Section I: Introduction (cont.)

This graphic illustrates another program related study conducted by the NRPA for 2018. This graphic shows targeted programs specific to children, seniors, and people with disabilities. This study shows the national average of agencies that provide these specific programs with regards to specific population ranges.

**FIGURE 6: TARGETED PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN, SENIORS AND PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES  
(PERCENT OF AGENCIES BY JURISDICTION POPULATION)**

	% of Agencies	Less than 20,000	20,000 to 49,999	50,000 to 99,999	100,000 to 250,000	More than 250,000
Summer camp	84%	68%	90%	90%	89%	87%
Specific senior programs	79	70	82	85	85	75
Specific teen programs	63	47	62	73	77	73
Programs for people with disabilities	62	34	63	72	81	75
After-school programs	55	44	46	66	65	72
Preschool	36	27	41	45	35	35
Before-school programs	21	15	20	28	20	31
Full daycare	8	2	9	11	7	16

# Section I: Introduction (cont.)

## The Top Ten Most Commonly Planned Program Additions in 2018:

1. Fitness Programs (25.9%)
2. Educational Programs (25.7%)
3. Mind – body/ Balance Programs (23.3%)
4. Teen Programs (22.7%)
5. Environmental Education (20.7%)
6. Day Camps and Summer Camps (20.3%)
7. Special Needs Programs (18.9%)
8. Adult Sports Teams (18.5%)
9. Holiday Events and Other Special Events (18.3%)
10. Individual Sports Activities (17.5%)

\*\*\*Information pulled from the 2018 Recreation Management Report written by parks and recreation professionals\*\*\*

## The Top Ten Commonly Planned PARK Program Additions in 2018:

1. Environmental Education Programs
2. Fitness Programs
3. Teen Programming
4. Educational Programs
5. Mind – body Programs (such as Yoga)
6. Summer and Day Camps
7. Special Needs Programs
8. Adult Sport Teams
9. Individual Sport Activities
10. Sport – specific Training Lessons

Source:

- Recreation Management. [www.recmanagement.com](http://www.recmanagement.com) June 2018

## Section II: Disc Golf Courses

Disc golf is growing in popularity. It is important for parks and recreation professionals to be aware that the demand for disc golf courses is growing. Disc course is an activity that is of low cost, with high leisure value for participants. With very inexpensive implementation costs and growing popularity, the town of South Windsor should invest in adding disc golf course(s) to parks.

### Benefits:

#### Social:

1. Disc golf offers park visitors a fun, healthy way to exercise with friends and family

#### Economical:

2. Disc golf equipment is inexpensive to install and maintain

#### Environmental:

3. Disc golf can highlight the features of your property and utilize areas that can't support other activities

#### Programming:

4. Disc golf can provide year round competitive and recreational activities at parks and/or schools

#### Tourism:

5. A well-designed course draws recreational disc golfers to the town. Disc golf tournaments can also increase hotel room nights by drawing competitive players from across the region

#### Popularity:

6. Top park feature among visitors and managers
7. Steady growth for over 30 years
8. Over 5000 courses around the world

#### Great for young and old:

9. Easy to learn, enjoyable for a lifetime
10. A great activity for families
11. Seniors, the fastest growing demographic, are taking to disc golf in record numbers

#### Health Benefits:

12. A low impact activity that gets people walking
13. A great way to introduce exercise into your routine
14. Offers both upper and lower body conditioning
15. A sport for all abilities

#### Park/Terrain Scenery:

16. Route players to and around interesting geographical features
17. Variety of terrain can create an exciting course design and boost positive feedback which should increase course visits
18. Take advantage of under – utilized areas of the park (floodplain, wooded areas, steep slopes)
19. Displace undesirable activity from an area by adding a frequent traffic stream
20. Less used parks can get an attendance boost from a well designed course

#### Park Promotion:

21. List your course on disc golf course directories to draw players from near and far
22. Host a grand opening event to publicize your new course
23. Run a charity event on your new course to gain positive media exposure

# Section II: Disc Golf Courses (cont.)

## Top Ten Reasons to Build a Disc Golf Course:

1. If you build a disc golf course, players will participate
2. Can be a good source of revenue for a park department or a pay to play facility
3. Inexpensive to play. You can start using a single disc for less than \$10
4. Easy to learn and provides a lifetime of fun and exercise
5. In many cases, local disc golfers are willing to help with maintenance and upkeep of disc golf courses
6. Disc golf attracts people from other areas of state and country to your park
7. Disc golf offers four season recreation across much of the United States
8. An 18 hole disc golf course can accommodate 90 or more people at one time
9. Disc golf is a sport that everyone can play, regardless of age, ability, or gender
10. A disc golf course can be designed into under – utilized areas of your facility

## Locations with Disc Golf Courses:

### Mountain Resorts:

- Adventure Ridge at Vail (Vail, CO)
- Sugarbush Resort (Warren, VT)
- Campgaw Reservation (Mahwah, NJ)

### Camps and Campgrounds (over 90)

- Saugerties/Woodstock KOA (Saugerties, NY)
- Camp Sacanac (Spring City, PA)

### Colleges and Universities (over 150)

- Cal. State University at San Marcos (San Marcos, CA)
- Winthrop University (Rock Hill, SC)
- U. of Alabama Huntsville (Huntsville, AL)

### Privately Owned Pay – To – Play:

- Highbridge Hills Sports Complex (Highbridge, WI)
- Dragan Field Disc Golf (Auburn, ME)
- Pyramids Disc Golf (Leicester, MA)
- Twin Parks Country Club (Austin, TX)
- Base Camp Adventure Lodge (Moab, UT)

### Disc Golf on Traditional Golf Courses:

- Center City at Goat Hill (Oceanside, CA)
- Sea Pines Golf Resort (Los Osos, CA)
- Ashe County Park (West Jefferson, NC)
- Abel Cotnoir at Porcupine Ridge Disc Golf (Vassalboro, ME)
- Grand Central Station Disc Golf Course (Central, SC)
- Wallingford Parks and Recreation (Wallingford, CT)
- Wickham Park (Manchester, CT)

# Section II: Disc Golf Courses (cont.)

## Attractions of a Disc Golf Course:

### Recreational Disc Golf:

- High level of enthusiasm shown by many disc golf courses and clubs
- Clubs in engage in park clean up, course maintenance, and charity work
- Friendly competition

### Weekly Leagues:

- Increase traffic to the course
- Word will spread and course attendance will grow

### Youth Programs:

- EDGE (Educational Disc Golf Experience)
- Provide materials and equipment needed to introduce disc golf to the youth in your community

### Charity Events and Community Events:

- Provide a heart warming opportunity for disc golfers to give back to their community
- Positive media exposure
- Implemented into special Olympics and senior games

### Tournament Play:

- Can draw players from local areas and beyond to experience the course and hospitality
- Increase the number of volunteers looking to gain experience
- Events can be run in cooperation with parks and recreation departments

### Professional Disc Golf Association (PDGA)

- Founded in 1976, is a non profit organization dedicated to the promotion of disc golf
- Governing body of the sport
- More than 1600 PDGA tournaments are held annually



Vail Mountain Disc Golf. Vail, CO

# Section II: Disc Golf Courses (cont.)

## Steps to Implementing a Course:

### Planning:

- Involve the community
- Lay out every detail of the project
- Hold public meetings at potential sites
- Evaluate sites at various parks to find the most appropriate location
- Set financial plans prior to course proposal

### Design and Installation:

- Avoid environmental issues
- Avoid endangered species
- Examine any safety conflicts
- Avoid crossing paths with other groups
- Plan one acre per hole
- Decide difficulty and numbers of holes
- Consider installing multiple tee pads for different skill levels
- Utilize the features of the land that will define and make the course memorable and unique

### Sustainability and Maintenance:

- Get local players and clubs involved – are great marketers as well as volunteer/fundraising sources for future projects
- Obtain User feedback – find out peoples likes and dislikes about the course. See if trends emerge from feedback
- Monitor impact – check for wear around tee pads, scars on trees and development of spider trails

## Potential Cost Projections:

Item	Nine-hole cost estimation	Eighteen-hole cost estimation
Disc Golf Targets	\$2,700.00	\$5,400.00
Concrete Tee Pads	\$3,600.00	\$7,200.00
Sign Package	\$990.00	\$1,905.00
Course Design	\$1,500.00	\$3,000.00
Freight Charges	\$243.00	\$486.00
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>\$8,283.00</b>	<b>\$16,491.00</b>

## Section II: Disc Golf Courses (cont.)

### Conclusion:

If the investment and implementation of a disc golf course is done correctly, the benefits will be numerous. The South Windsor Parks and Recreation would benefit their residents and their department with the installation a disc golf course. Designing a well-balanced course that is safe, fair, and scenic can be a positive experience for everyone. An 18-hole course at potentially Rye Street Park or Nevers Park through the New England woods and beautiful layout would be a hot spot for everyone. Being an all season and inexpensive sport, disc golf course should be implemented in South Windsor.

### Sources:

- Innova Disc Golf. "Disc Golf Course Equipment, Design, and Advice" [www.innovadiscs.com](http://www.innovadiscs.com)
- 2010. "Rattle the Chains" [www.parksandrecbusiness.com](http://www.parksandrecbusiness.com) Jordan Bruursema and Robert Dvorak
- Innova Disc Golf. Brochure. "A disc golf course is Inexpensive and Easy to Install" [www.pdga.com](http://www.pdga.com)

# 4.1 Program Development

## Section III A: Premier Tennis Courts

The town of South Windsor should implement the Premier Tennis Courts at parks and schools. Premier tennis courts are a cushioned, crack proof, maintenance free surface designed and proven to solve the existing problems and costly repairs of cracked courts. This surface is used in many large tennis events such as ATP and WTA events. This new patented surface has been proved to be successful both indoor and outdoor in every geographical area.

### Characteristics/Benefits of Premier Tennis Courts:

- Cushioned, crack proof, maintenance free
- Short – term or temporary crack repair product
- Can be used for indoor and outdoor facilities
- Real absorbing cushion and traditional hard court playability
- 25 year crack free warranty

### Locations/Organizations Used:

- Ephesus Park (Chapel Hill, NC)
- Centennial Park (Chapel Hill, NC)
- John Hopkins University (Baltimore, MD)
- Columbia University (New York, NY)
- Bayfront Condominiums (Naples, FL)
- Davis Cups
- US Open (Flushing, NY)
- WTA Events
- See evident box for a full list

### Conclusion:

Growing in popularity and a high amount of installation projects complete, Premier Tennis Courts should be implemented in South Windsor. With existing tennis courts in need of repair, providing residents and schools with new Premier Tennis Courts is worthwhile for South Windsor. Choosing Premier Tennis Courts is beneficial because of the crack free and low maintenance of the surface along with the 25-year warranty.

### Source:

- Premier Tennis Courts. [www.premiercourt.com](http://www.premiercourt.com) “Premier Tennis Courts, Solutions.... Performance.... Guaranteed....”

# 4.1 Program Development

## Section III B:

### Post Tensioned Concrete Tennis Courts

The Town of South Windsor should also look into the Post Tensioned Concrete technology for their tennis court surfaces. Being in a harsh climate during the winter months, the tennis courts surface take a beating and begin to form significant cracks over time. Obviously installing a surface that performs favorably and lasts a long time is the right path to go down. Providing residents and non – residents with long lasting, crack free, and quality tennis courts is something that shouldn't be over looked.

#### Characteristics/Benefits of Post Tensioned Concrete:

- Cost effective product for the user
- 20 year crack free guarantee
- Economical and effective
- Increased resistance to frost heaves
- Eliminates cold joints around net posts and fences
- More controlled slope for drainage
- Ability to reconstruct over existing courts without major excavation
- Eliminates the potential liability from structural cracking

#### Classic Turf Company:

The Classic Turf Company stems off of Post Tensioned Concrete Tennis Courts and is very popular amongst organizations with the need for new tennis courts. The most recent and local tennis courts replaced by Classic Turf were the tennis courts at Manchester High School.

Specializes in:

- Consultation
- Tennis Court design
- New tennis court construction with post-tensioned concrete
- Post-Tension Concrete courts over existing without the expense of demolition.
- Specialty tennis court surfaces
- Classic Turf Cushioned Sports Surface
- Prime Coating Sports Surface
- Rooftop tennis court construction
- Tennis court color options
- Tennis court accessories
- Custom Fencing

#### Conclusion:

Along with Premier Tennis Courts, post-tensioned concrete tennis courts are a great option for the tennis courts in South Windsor. Having a surface that can with stand the harsh winter should be used in South Windsor. Dependent upon cost and seasonal installation, either company is reliable and would be perfect for the tennis courts.

#### Source:

"Post Tension Concrete Tennis & Basketball Courts" <https://www.classicturf.org/post-tension-concrete.html> 2018.

## Section IV: Outdoor Fitness Areas

The implementation of outdoors fitness areas has become more popular across various recreation agencies across the country. These areas have led to the evolution of fitness amongst all age groups. Providing adults with fitness trails and parks, and children open “free play” spaces are changing the way people exercise.

### Tri Active America:

- Features over 30 individual pieces that allow greater flexibility in budget planning, fitness routines, and site layout development
- Five year warranty
- Standard colors are Moss Green and Almond

#### E – Line Premium Equipment:

- Increased durability
- Rust protection
- Made of 100% rusted steel
- 10 year warranty
- Several color options

#### E – Line Accessible Multi – Gym:

- Wheel Chair accessible
- More exercise choices
- Able bodied use now allowed
- Future alterations possible
- Easier to Read instructions

### Greenfield Outdoor Fitness:

- Wheel Chair accessible
- Different packages for varying needs and budgets

#### Accessible Line:

- Multigenerational
- Socially Orientated
- QR code link for video demonstrations
- Eight models
- Suited to any climate
- Vandal Resistant

#### Professional Series:

- Adjustable resistance
- Bidirectional pistons
- Safe design
- QR code link to video demonstrations
- Safe – Stop stoppers
- Suited to any climate
- Vandal Resistant

#### Core Line:

- Multigenerational
- Socially – Oriented
- QR Code link for video demonstrations
- Safe – Stop stoppers
- Suited to any climate
- Body weight resistance
- Vandal Resistant

# Section IV: Outdoor Fitness Areas (cont.)

## Game Time Fitness:

- GTfit Advanced Series
- GTfit Elite Series
- GTfit Base Series

## Benefits for your community's health:

- Provide a solution to the growing obesity epidemic in your community through a well – rounded fitness routine that can be enjoyed by people of all abilities and fitness levels
- Encourage more frequent use of parks and public recreation areas by creating active communities
- Provide a social outlet for exercise groups and meet – ups
- Instill a sense of pride in both users of the products and supporters of the community
- Create opportunities to generate revenue by hosting fitness classes or renting the facility to local fitness trainers
- Remove barriers to exercise and create healthy, active communities by installing GTfit products in a community playground

## Conclusion:

Whether it is Tri Active America, Greenfields Outdoor Fitness, or GTFit, the need and development of an outdoor fitness area in South Windsor is evident. As referred to in the Trends section of this plan, many parks and recreation agencies are implementing outdoor fitness areas. With that being said, the companies listed above offer different packages to fit budgetary limits. It is without question that the South Windsor Parks and Recreation should purchase and install a desirable outdoor fitness area for its residents.

## Sources:

- GameTime Fit. “Moving Fitness Forward” 2014.
- Greenfields Outdoor Fitness. [greenfieldsfitness.com](http://greenfieldsfitness.com).
- Tri Active America. [www.TriActiveAmerica.com](http://www.TriActiveAmerica.com)

## Section V: Improved Public Restrooms

A smaller aspect of the parks and recreation industry is the durability of public restrooms. With the recent debates over all gender restrooms and family style restrooms, it is important for parks and recreation departments to stay up to date with current trends. In addition, the attractiveness of a recreational facility and/or park is sometimes determined on its public restrooms. Having clean, durable, well designed, and up to date restrooms are an important aspect of facilities and parks.

### General Information:

- Four inch thick steel with reinforced concrete walls
- Five inch thick steel reinforced concrete roof and floors
- Tamper resistant components
- Designs allow for easy maintenance and stand up to tough environments
- Room for pump houses, concessions, utilities, maintenance, storage, offices, entry stations, etc.
- Buildings are shipped to specific locations
- Prison grade stainless steel plumbing fixtures
- ADA compliant
- High efficiency water usage
- Anti – microbial and vandal resistant products

### Company Names:

1. Public Restroom Company
2. CXT: Concrete Building

### Sources:

- CXT. “Tough as Mother Nature” [www.cxtinc.com](http://www.cxtinc.com)
- Public Restroom Company. [www.publicrestroomcompany.com](http://www.publicrestroomcompany.com) 2015.



My Friends' Place Boundless Playground at Nevers Park

## Section VI: Musco Lighting

Musco Lighting is a lighting company that specializes in lighting for sporting and/or recreational facilities. Along with the desire for synthetic turf, lighting at sports fields is something that all parks and recreation agencies are looking to implement. With the advances in technology, lighting features have grown and make it even more user and environmentally friendly.

### Benefits:

- Cuts operating costs in half
- Reduces spill light by 50%
- Includes system monitoring and remote on/off control services
- Provides constant light levels
- Complete system from foundation to pole top
- Factory wired, aimed, and tested
- Fast, trouble – free installation
- Comprehensive corrosion protection package
- 25 year Assurance and Warranty Program

### Control Link System:

- Saves energy and staff costs
- Allows Flexible Control
- Provides Usage Data
- Increases security
- Provides reliable operation
- Monitors system performance

#### The Control Link system allows you to:

- Directly control your fields via a website
- Enter, edit, and update your schedules from your web – enabled smart phone
- Manage and analyze the extensive amount of stored information. Reports include usage at facilities and fields

# Section VI: Musco Lighting (cont.)

## General Information:

- Extensive product assurance program with the people in place to make it happen
- Factory – aimed luminaries guarantee first – time and long – term alignment
- Comprehensive corrosion – resistant package assures trouble – free operation
- Engineered systems assure little to no risk of failure or leakage at transition points
- More light per luminaries means fewer luminaries to buy, install, operate and maintain
- Computer – based design services ensure lighting conditions meet the needs of participants, spectators and television cameras
- Precise control of light with engineered optic systems using proven spill and glare reduction methods

## Source:

- Musco Lighting. Control Link. 2006-2010. [lighting@musco.com](mailto:lighting@musco.com)

## Section VII: Pickle Ball Courts

Along with disc golf, one of the most popular new recreational activity and sport is pickle ball. Pickle ball is a paddle sport created for all ages and skill levels. The rules are simple and the game is easy for beginners to learn, but can develop into a quick, fast – paced, competitive game for experienced players. Several parks and recreation departments are meeting the people’s demands for pickle ball accessibility, but South Windsor is not. Implementing indoor and outdoor pickle ball courts is a must for the South Windsor Parks and Recreation department.

### Reasons why Pickle ball is growing in Popularity:

- Suitable game for all players (beginners, advanced players, young adults, children, adults, seniors, etc.)
- Social activity – a lot like tennis in the sense that it allows players to easily hold conversations with each other
- Healthy – good exercise. Pickle ball works your flexibility, reflexes, and hand – eye coordination with straining your body immensely like tennis
- Parks and Recreation Department friendly – bright new program idea and is easy to execute. It can be implemented indoors and outdoors and is typically an all season sport in most climates

### Trending Statistics:

- There are over 15,000 indoor and outdoor courts in the United States
- There is at least one location in all 50 states
- There are more than 2.5 million pickle ball participants in the United States

### Facilities:

- Coronado Tennis Center (California) – painted pickle ball lines on all of their tennis courts
- Naples Community Park (Florida) – home of the inaugural U.S. Open Pickle ball Championships
- Crandalls Park (Tolland, CT) – painted pickle ball lines on three tennis courts

## Counter – Programming:

The idea of counter – programming is that a parks and recreation department adjusts their program and facility to fit the need and demand of the participants. Pickle ball is the common denominator when it comes to counter – programming. Here are specific examples of how pickle ball can be used to counter program:

1. When tennis courts aren't getting a lot of use, add pickle ball lines and allow people to lower the tennis nets to the ideal height for pickle ball
  - Adding pickle ball lines is inexpensive
  - Adding pickle ball lines to a tennis court makes the facility more dynamic
2. Run down basketball court or open piece of asphalt
  - Add some pickle ball lines and throw up a pickle ball net
  - Add some fresh paint and a couple of benches to make the location more attractive to potential players
3. Vacant gymnasiums and community centers
  - Gyms at schools that aren't anymore
  - Mini gyms or open spaces
  - Removable nets
  - Implement lines on the floor

## Maintenance Requirements:

- Equivalent of a tennis court
- Constantly keep the debris off the courts
- Washing off stains
- Addressing cracks
- Asphalt outdoors will crack quickly during the cold season of New England
- Indoor courts will receive little to no maintenance attention at all
- Adding lines onto surfaces should be done by a sports contractor (black or yellow in color)

# Section VII: Pickle Ball Courts (cont.)

## Options for South Windsor:

1. Rye Street Park
  - Rip up the tennis courts, make new tennis courts, and add pickle ball courts
  - Rip up the tennis courts, make a pickle ball only complex
  - Eliminate the area
2. Wapping School
  - Add pickle ball lines to the six tennis courts
  - Eliminate the basketball hoops, pave the area, add fencing and implement two or more pickle ball courts in that area
3. Wapping Gym
  - Could fit at least three pickle ball courts
  - Gives people an indoor option to play
  - Portable nets
  - Paint boundary lines

## Existing Courts in South Windsor:

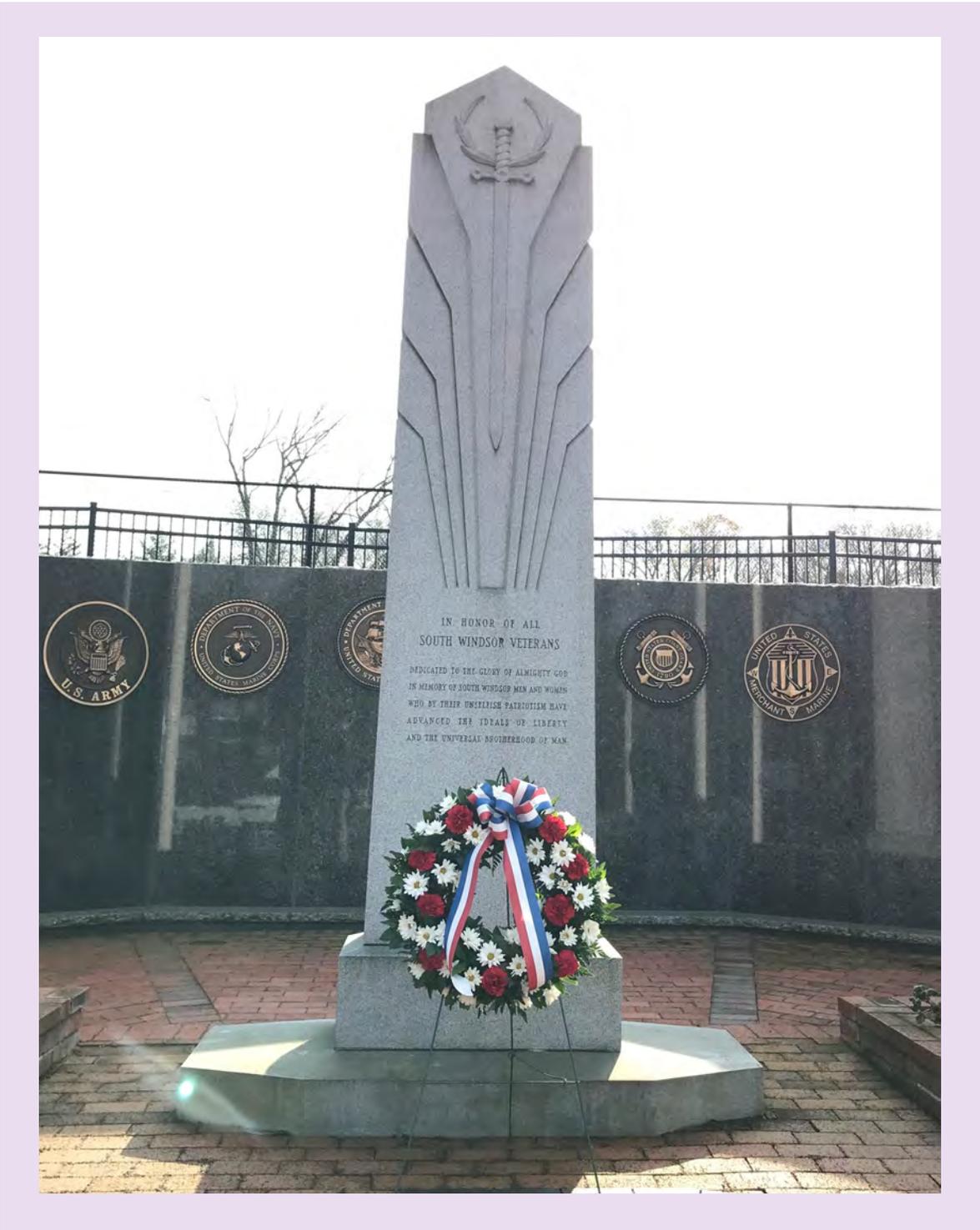
- Three indoor courts at Ellsworth School in the gymnasium
- Four outdoor courts on the tennis courts at Timothy Edwards Middle School

## Conclusion:

The Town of South Windsor and its Parks and Recreation Department needs to implement pickle ball courts to its parks, schools, and gyms. Being a growing sport and a trending activity, South Windsor should act fast to get courts up and available for its residents. There are many easy options and locations to put pickle ball courts and they are very inexpensive. Simply adding lines to tennis courts and allowing players to lower the tennis nets is the most inexpensive and equally satisfying for players and the parks and recreation department.

## Sources:

- “Why is Pickle ball so Popular?” <https://www.sportsimports.com>
- “What is Pickle ball?” <https://www.usapa.org> USAPA
- “Designing a new facility? Don’t forget the acoustics” Athletic Business. 2016. [www.athleticbusiness.com](http://www.athleticbusiness.com)



Memorial Wall at Veterans' Memorial Park

## Section VIII: Synthetic Turf/ Multi-Use Playground Surfacing

The use of synthetic turf for athletic fields and playground areas are becoming more popular amongst parks and recreation departments, colleges and universities, public schools, and other organizations. Investing and implementing synthetic turf for athletic fields is worth the expensive. The benefits are numerous and the attractiveness of a facility increases when turf is installed. The geographical climate has a lot to do with whether or not organizations utilize synthetic turf playing fields.

### Benefits:

- Allows you to play more games when the weather isn't cooperating
- Cut down immensely on the amount of maintenance (dragging, raking, etc.)
- Play sooner, more often, and whenever you want
- Most turf is plow able
- Increase length of play (8-10 years of play with use everyday)
- Reduced pesticide and fertilizer use
- No need to mow and reduced water usage
- Less affected by the heat
- Aside from turf burn, less injuries then natural turf

### Easy Turf for Playgrounds:

#### Soft Fall Technology:

- Forgiving, cushioned surface comforts falls
- Most durable playground synthetic turf surface
- No fertilizers and pesticides needed
- No deodorizers or additives needed

#### Maxx Flow Technology:

- 100% permeable backing
- Drains better then real grass
- Acts as a weed barrier
- Ideal for high traffic areas
- Ideal for children's play areas
- Pet friendly

### Locations with Turf Athletic Fields:

#### Franklin Pierce University – Rindge NH

- Plow able turf baseball field
- Plow able all purpose soccer, football, field hockey, and lacrosse field

#### Paradise Greens – Scottsdale, AZ

- Artificial turf play areas
- In ground trampolines surrounded by safe and padded synthetic turf

# Section VIII: Synthetic Turf/ Multi-Use Playground Surfacing (cont.)

## Conclusion:

The Town of South Windsor has made a big step in the right direction by adding a multi – purpose turf field at the school. The common trend amongst many school districts in New England is to decide to install turf fields at their high schools, and some middle schools. There is no question that the turf field at South Windsor High School has increased playability and improved the attractiveness of the facility to residents and non-residents. Another aspect of the turf field at the high school that would make it even more attractive to its residents and non-residents is lighting. Implementing lighting would make the field seen as “ideal playability” with it being accessible as often as the demand requires it to be. With that being said, the next big step to meet the demand of the synthetic turf trend is for South Windsor to keep installing synthetic turf at facilities. Whether it is a synthetic turf baseball field (rotary field) or a little league field (Ayers LL Complex) or a playground area (Nevers Park), the attractiveness of the facility alone will attract new people. For example, a plow able synthetic turf baseball field at Nevers Park would allow colleges, universities, travel league basketball organizations, local little league, and other organizations to play on the field in January, February, and March. In addition, using synthetic turf on other soccer fields in town would decrease the wear and tear and increase the longevity of the field.

## Sources:

- Recreation Management. [www.recmanagement.com](http://www.recmanagement.com) 2016. “What You Need to Know About Baseball & Synthetic Turf” Dan Collier.
- Easy Turf A Field Turf Company. “Industry Leading Multi – Use & Playground Surfacing”
- Recreation Management. [www.recmanagement.com](http://www.recmanagement.com) “Field of Dreams” Rick Dandes

## Section IX: Pet Wash Stations

A lot of people's leisurely time is spent with their pets. Pets are companions for people and are usually always right by their side. Satisfying the needs of people's pets shouldn't be ignored and would make parks and facilities more attractive to people if they are pet friendly. Having a dog park in town is a great start to becoming pet friendly for its residents, but having would pet wash stations would go a long way with South Windsor residents.

### Characteristics:

- Sold as a complete unit or as the structure itself
- Structure's finish is baked on powder coat, applied with any color
- Safety tempered glass is standard for the sliding door
- Chemicals are included with the building and equipment
- Water: ¾ fresh water line coming in
- Waste: ¾ grey water line coming out
- Electric: 100 amp electric service

Poo Free Parks, an eco – friendly pet waste program funded by scholarships. Being a private – public partnership is aimed to reduce the negative impacts of pet waste and plastic on the environment, using eco – friendly materials and operations. The “Waste Not, Want not” program is delivered to local communities at no cost to municipalities or taxpayers.

### Sources:

- Recreation Management. [www.recmanagement.com](http://www.recmanagement.com) 2012. “Waste Not, Want Not” Colo Aurora

## Section X: Outdoor Air Structures

Poligon Air Structures are the newest in facility and park evolution. Providing random areas such as benches, picnic tables, and open areas with decorative over hangs are becoming more and more popular. These air structures add to the attractiveness of each facility or park and there should be no reason why South Windsor shouldn't invest money into this product.

### Characteristics:

Poligon allows towns, agencies, parks and recreation departments, colleges, etc to design their own over hang air structure for each specific location they wish to install at. The structures are made of the following material:

- Steel
- Fabric
- Wood
- Request

Poligon designs and installs air structures for the following:

- Squares
- Rectangles
- Hexagons
- Octagons
- Dodecagons
- Trellises
- Amphitheaters
- Walkway Covers
- Small shelters
- Specialty designs
- Custom designs

### Locations to Install in South Windsor:

- Outside Wapping School near the outdoor charging station
- Mini structure near the Wapping tennis courts
- Nevers Park near Rotary field and/or Rotary Pavilion
- Rye Street Park near the basketball courts, near the tennis courts, or by the picnic tables
- Somewhere at the high school
- Near the tennis courts at Timothy Edwards

# 4.1 Program Development

## Section XI: Pioneer Bridges

Pioneer Bridges has been the main bridge manufacturer for golf courses, parks and recreation departments, towns, universities, and other institutions for over fifty years. If the budget allows, the town South Windsor definitely should look into utilizing Pioneer Bridges for a few locations. Pioneer Bridges have been designed, created, and trusted by various organizations for many years.

### Characteristics:

#### Uses:

- Hiking Trails
- Biking Trails
- Golf Courses
- Small garden bridges

#### Features:

- Can be fabricated for wide ranges to suit anyone’s needs
- Several different truss styles
- Multiple floor finish options
- Treated pine, hardwood, concrete, steel grating
- Safety rails (wood, steel, steel cables)

#### Design:

- Engineers work with the buyer to create an appropriate design
- Licensed in fifty states

#### Design:

- Engineers work with the buyer to create an appropriate design
- Licensed in fifty states

#### Fabrication:

- Certified by the American Institute of Steel Construction
- Bridges designed and fabricated with the highest level of quality
- Ten year warranty

#### Delivery:

- Offers nationwide shipping
- Large bridges are spliced for easier shipment

#### Installation:

- Most bridges will be installed in one day

### Locations in South Windsor:

- Porters Hill

### Sources:

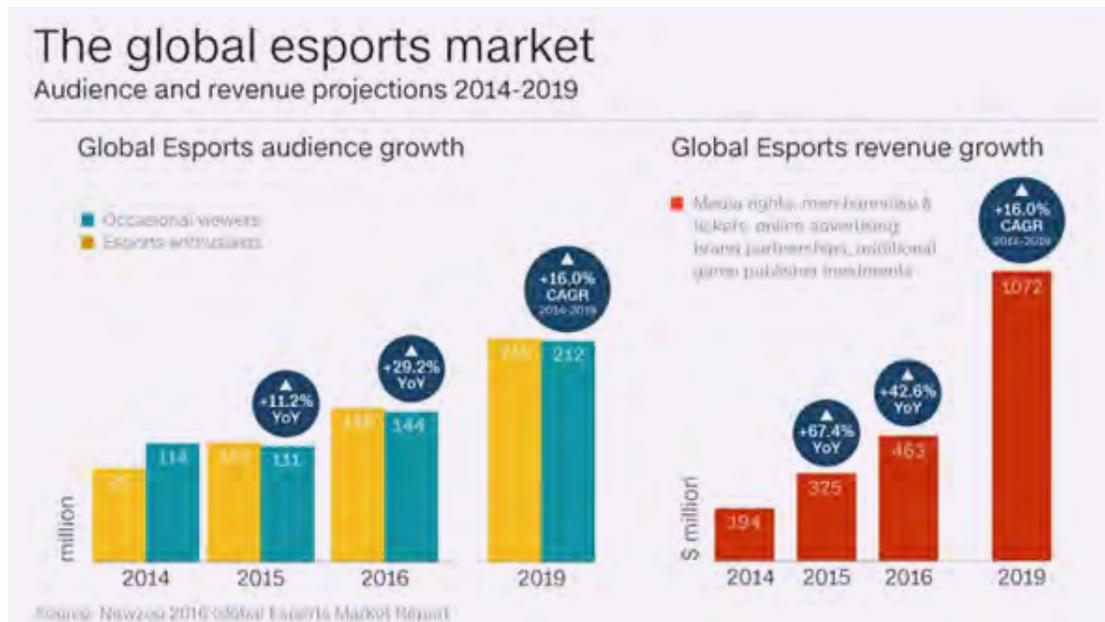
- <http://pioneerbridges.com/> “Pioneer Bridges” 2018

# 4.1 Program Development

## Section XII: eSports

The eSports industry has become a billion – dollar industry and is one that is very attractive to the younger population. The idea of eSports is a competitive video gaming industry in which people compete against each other at a specific video game. The South Windsor Parks and Recreation Department can do something very similar to eSports. With the renovation of the cafeteria, that would be an ideal spot for the department to hold an eSports tournament or “friends night”. Allowing kids or adults to come in and compete against each other on a video game console would be very popular.

- Competitive and organized video gaming
- Competitors play against each other in games such as Fortnite, League of Legends, Counter – Strike, Call of Duty, Overwatch, and Madden NFL
- More than 50 colleges have varsity eSports programs
- According to research, eSports revenue will reach \$906 million worldwide in 2018. By 2019, that number is expected to surpass \$1 billion



### Growth of the Industry:

The graphic above shows evidence that the eSports industry is growing and is something that is a worthwhile investment for people. Providing a similar event on a smaller scale is something the department should look into and potentially host at Wapping. Allowing people to come in and use their own video game console on the TV's in the Wapping cafeteria is something that should be looked into.

### Source:

• CNN. <https://www.cnn.com/2018/08/27/us/esports-what-is-video-game-professional-league-madden-trnd/index.html> December 13th 2018

# 4.2 Facility Development

## Section I: Introduction

This section of the Master Plan will illustrate future facility development plans for the Town of South Windsor to utilize. The graphic below is research conducted by the NRPA from 2018 regarding national averages of existing facilities. For example, the first facility listed is a playground. Out of all the departments, 92% of agencies have a playground in their facility inventory. In addition, the table take into consideration the popular ranges that were researched. This diagram pertains to outdoor facilities only.

**FIGURE 3: OUTDOOR PARK AND RECREATION FACILITIES—POPULATION PER FACILITY (BY PREVALENCE AND POPULATION PER FACILITY)**

	Median Number of Residents per Facility					
	% of Agencies	All Agencies	Residents per Square Mile			
			Less than 500	500 to 1,500	1,501 to 2,500	More than 2,500
Playgrounds	92%	3,600	6,132	3,558	3,000	3,572
Basketball courts	83	7,122	7,869	7,040	6,037	7,350
Tennis courts (outdoor only)	77	4,545	5,462	4,833	4,250	4,578
Diamond fields: baseball - youth	75	6,519	6,628	5,358	6,613	7,770
Diamond fields: softball fields - adult	66	12,000	10,957	9,491	12,083	14,725
Rectangular fields: multi-purpose	63	8,055	9,043	6,158	7,691	9,547
Diamond fields: softball fields - youth	59	9,900	10,495	8,181	9,255	12,121
Diamond fields: baseball - adult	55	18,880	15,000	13,367	18,140	25,179
Dog park	55	41,500	51,804	37,000	40,000	49,665
Swimming pools (outdoor only)	52	31,709	42,344	23,350	31,600	40,218
Totlots	47	12,104	19,766	10,625	14,850	11,301
Rectangular fields: soccer field - youth	47	6,039	5,584	5,082	5,900	8,773
Community gardens	46	27,587	37,571	30,346	28,605	27,042
Rectangular fields: soccer field - adult	42	11,383	10,250	9,833	11,692	15,746
Multiuse courts - basketball, volleyball	38	14,650	12,757	12,105	15,214	18,557
Diamond fields: tee-ball	38	14,511	11,270	12,763	13,045	18,557
Rectangular fields: football field	38	24,742	21,750	19,023	22,615	35,453
Ice rink (outdoor only)	16	17,310	11,168	13,669	17,072	25,500
Multipurpose synthetic field	15	41,719	35,238	20,888	28,728	54,161
Skate park	14	46,850	27,375	40,620	37,607	61,306
Rectangular fields: lacrosse field	11	24,060	12,522	17,500	22,119	29,924
Rectangular fields: cricket field	9	160,000	199,889	288,617	160,000	108,575
Overlay field	6	12,844	10,820	7,200	55,245	15,831
Rectangular fields: field hockey field	4	20,893	20,893	23,034	15,757	22,500

# Section I: Introduction (cont.)

This table below illustrates the indoor facilities nationwide. Just like the previous graphic, this research was conducted by the NRPA for 2018. This graphic takes into account specific population ranges along with percentages of the agencies that have each type of facility.

**FIGURE 4: INDOOR PARK AND RECREATION FACILITIES—POPULATION PER FACILITY  
(BY PREVALENCE AND POPULATION PER FACILITY)**

	Median Number of Residents per Facility					
	% of Agencies	All Agencies	Residents per Square Mile			
			Less than 500	500 to 1,500	1,501 to 2,500	More than 2,500
Recreation centers	57%	27,375	25,000	27,004	24,825	30,853
Gym	55	27,334	21,000	24,250	26,668	30,378
Community centers	54	27,486	24,746	25,625	28,645	29,683
Senior centers	41	45,436	26,750	35,426	44,025	62,700
Fitness center	38	40,602	33,000	37,707	32,339	49,858
Performance amphitheater	30	47,442	43,735	41,254	39,000	70,496
Nature centers	26	99,783	160,380	73,826	63,125	111,296
Ice rink	18	31,709	9,250	24,084	50,175	54,259
Stadiums	17	64,500	27,375	38,941	71,538	120,310
Indoor track	13	49,000	25,000	44,348	49,500	70,757
Teen centers	12	53,490	16,440	48,900	32,550	57,432
Arena	9	56,119	43,879	42,000	72,417	48,000

## 4.3 Policy Development

### Section I: Smoke & Tobacco Free Parks

Parks and Recreation offices are beginning to lead the effort of smoke free parks. Being an industry that supports healthy habits, fitness programs, and a healthy lifestyle approach, it is only fitting that parks and recreation departments are leading this effort. Outdoor parks and/or recreation facilities are typically a location for people to enjoy the nature and enjoy fresh clean air. Smoking in these areas simply ruins that experience for people. NRPA board of directors recently have adopted a statement encouraging the establishment and maintenance of tobacco free facilities. Their leadership is looking to enforce the importance of the health of their workforce, visitors, and environment. Many areas throughout the United States have begun implementing smoke free parks and recreation facilities, and there are many reasons to support their decision.

#### Positives:

- Helps protect the health of community members, particularly children
- Reducing exposure to second hand smoke
- When children see adults smoking, they absorb a cultural attitude that smoking is acceptable; smoke free parks would eliminate that exposure
- Tobacco free policies in outdoor settings are a part of a national trend that has been taking place for several years
- Helps change community norms
- Helps leaders, parents, and other adults to model healthier lifestyle choices
- Tobacco free policies reduce tobacco litter
- Schools are tobacco free, youth is already familiar with this regulation
- Eliminates confusion of staff, participants, and visitors about what is allowed and what isn't

#### Negatives:

- People perceive the bans as an intrusion of government on their rights
- Difficult to implement because certain states preempt the ability of local governments to regulate smoking and tobacco use
- Extremely time consuming and relatively expensive

#### South Windsor Parks and Recreation Smoking/Tobacco Policy:

TBD

# Section I: Smoke & Tobacco Free Parks (cont.)

## Local Towns with Existing Bans on Smoke and Tobacco Products on School Grounds and Recreational Facilities:

- Colchester
- Columbia
- East Lyme
- East Haddam
- Guilford
- Groton
- Ledyard
- Montville
- New London
- Rocky Hill
- Windham
- Wallingford
- Redding (during season)
- Glastonbury
- Easton
- Westbrook (parking lot only)

## National Locations with Existing Bans on Smoke and Tobacco Products on Town Property and Recreation Areas:

- Austin City, Texas
- Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- Mecklenburg County, North Carolina
- Clayton, Missouri
- Woodstock, Georgia (within 25 feet)
- Saint Paul, Minnesota
- North Branch, New Jersey
- Henderson, Kentucky
- San Jose, California
- Boston, Massachusetts
- Los Angeles, California
- Houston, Texas
- Jasper, Alabama
- Sylvania, Ohio
- Wellington Colorado
- Duluth, Georgia
- Portland, Oregon
- Harrisburg, Pennsylvania
- Richboro, Pennsylvania
- Boca Raton, Florida
- Seattle, Washington
- Charleston, South Carolina
- New York City, New York
- Spokane, Washington



# Section I: Smoke & Tobacco Free Parks (cont.)

## “Young Lungs at Play” Program

- Offered through the Pennsylvania Department of Health and Penn State Cooperative Extension
- Promotes tobacco free parks and recreation areas
- “Young Lungs at Play” signs: 12 by 18 inches
- Advisory program, not a park ordinance with penalties
- Designed to discourage smoking and tobacco use in recreation areas

## Sources:

- The Horn. 2011. “Austin City Council passes Proposal for Smoke – Free Parks. Alexa Ura.
- Parks and Recreation. 2016. [www.parksandrecreation.org](http://www.parksandrecreation.org) “Smoke – Free Parks: Why Park and Recreation Departments Should lead the Effort” Justin Hurdle
- “Smoking/Tobacco ban in Parks” NRPA Connect. 2016.
- Parks and Recreation. 2011. [www.nrpa.org](http://www.nrpa.org) “Implementing Tobacco – Free Parks in Local Communities” Melanie Chansky.
- Athletic Business. 2012. [www.athleticbusiness.com](http://www.athleticbusiness.com) ‘Atlanta City Council to Vote on Smoking Ban at All Parks, Fields, and Pools” Jeremiah McWilliams.
- Parks and Recreation. 2011. [www.nrpa.org](http://www.nrpa.org) “Smoke – Free in New York” Haley Adams
- Spokane Parks and Recreation. 2009. “Tobacco – Free Park Zones In Parks and Recreation Aread and/or Facilities”
- 2011. [www.parksandrecbusiness.com](http://www.parksandrecbusiness.com) “Long – Winded Debate” Randy Gaddo
- Connecticut Department of Public Health. Tobacco Use Prevention and Control Program. 2013. “Living and Playing Tobacco Free”

### Section II: Eagle Scout Project Policy

This section of the report will cover the how, what and where of Eagle Scout projects. Eagle Scout project inquiries have been abundant and a policy needs to be put in place in order to address all the requests being brought forward. With a limited amount of space and the need for maintenance after the project is completed, a stricter policy will be implemented in order to address this concern. In order to be considered for an Eagle Scout project, a scout needs to submit a written plan to the Parks and Recreation Director.

#### Statement of Philosophy:

The South Windsor Parks and Recreation Department sees Eagle Scout Projects as both worthwhile and an important part of personal growth amongst Eagle Scouts, along with the projects being a vital aspect of community involvement and development. The South Windsor Parks and Recreation Department is excited about the opportunity to work with Boys Scouts of America to implement useful and helpful Eagle Scout Projects.

#### Eagle Scout Plan Parameters:

- How the community will benefit from the project
- Where will the project take place? (Map)
- Time frame of the project (start and end dates)
- How will it be accomplished
- Who will be responsible for all costs associated with the project?
- Scout will keep a time sheet for all hours that were worked by themselves and all others
- Scout will keep a materials cost sheet
- At the conclusion of the project scout shall submit all information electronically, or on CD in addition to a hard copy
- Scheduled 30 minute meeting with Parks and Recreation to discuss project details
- Completed Eagle Scout Application Form

# Section II: Eagle Scout Project Policy (cont.)

## **Project Selection:**

- Upon selection of a South Windsor Parks and Recreation park project, the Eagle Scout must make an official request to South Windsor Parks and Recreation Department outlining the project, including a basic time frame
- The Eagle Scout must provide paperwork from his own troop/scout office
- The Eagle Scout candidate must research to become informed about the type of work he wishes to pursue with his project
- The Eagle Scout finalizes the project and schedules a meeting with the South Windsor Parks and Recreation director to discuss his project
- The South Windsor Parks and Recreation director reviews the project with his/her staff and makes a decision on whether or not to approve the project within 5 business days
- If approved, the South Windsor Parks and Recreation staff will notify the Eagle Scout and schedule a final walk through at the site two weeks before the scheduled start date. Materials will be discussed, construction locations flagged, and last minute questions answered

## **Project Completion:**

- Scout attends every work day and stays until completion each day
- Scout and volunteers must sign a South Windsor Parks and Recreation volunteer form
- Scout must make appropriate scheduling adjustments or cancellations as needed
- Scout must conduct himself as he would at the Scout office and he must conduct himself as if he was an employee of the South Windsor Parks and Recreation Department
- Scout must ensure safety, high productivity, and a high quality end result through using materials properly, respecting equipment and people surrounding the project, and leading by example

## **Project Cancellations:**

- Project doesn't meet the deadline agreed upon
- The scout doesn't meet time requirements for project approval and scheduling
- The quality of work doesn't meet the agreed upon standards by the South Windsor Parks and Recreation Department
- The scout and/or volunteers don't respect Departmental property and procedures
- The scout doesn't show high quality leadership throughout the project. The discretion to end the project will be given to the South Windsor Parks and Recreation staff

# Section II: Eagle Scout Project Policy (cont.)

## Potential Eagle Scout Projects Available In South Windsor

- Gazebo installation at Donnelley Preserve parking lot on Sullivan Avenue
- Updating of work out equipment along trails at Nevers Park
- Installation of a mini pavilion to provide a shaded area at Wapping Tennis Courts
- Landscaping at Linear Park
- General landscaping at requested locations
- Various dumpster and porta – pot enclosures
- General picnic table and bench painting and repairs
- Storage sheds at requested parks and locations
- Flag pole installation at requested locations
- Signage updating at requested locations
- Tree planting at requested locations

## Sources:

- Peculiar Parks and Recreation. Eagle Scout Project Policy. Cass County, Missouri.

## Section III: Trail Accessibility for Motorized Vehicles

The recent nationwide debate over motorized vehicle accessibility to trails is: what vehicles are allowed and which vehicles aren't allowed? New compliance rules and policies have been adopted to restrict or allow certain persons from accessing trails with certain vehicles. A recent Department of Justice finding allows certain power driven mobility devices to be used on trails by individuals with disabilities.

### South Windsor Parks and Recreation Power – Driven Mobility Device Policy:

#### Permitted:

- Power – driven wheelchairs and Segway's
- Emergency vehicles
- Sanctioned maintenance vehicles
- Power driven mobility devices with visible approved sticker

#### Not Permitted:

- All-Terrain Vehicles
- Golf carts
- Motorized or power – driven mobility devices not approved by South Windsor Parks and Recreation
- Power driven mobility devices without visible approved sticker

### Characteristics of an electronic personal assistance mobility device (EPAMD):

- Does NOT include gas powered devices, golf carts, riding lawn mowers
- Wheelbase width must not exceed width of the trail and must not exceed 32 inches to allow passage of pedestrians and others without going off the trail
- Weight of 500 pounds or less to limit trail degradation
- Travels on low – pressure tires
- Designed to have a maximum speed of 200 mph or less and not modified so as to increase that speed
- Operated by an electric powered engine where the maximum noise level is 55 dBA or less at a distance of 25 feet from the device

# Section III: Trail Accessibility for Motorized Vehicles (cont.)

## **ATV's, golf carts, and other power driven mobility devices are prohibited for the following reasons:**

- The slopes of the terrain at various facilities
- Congestion of foot traffic on the shared paths of various facilities
- Manufactures recommendations for helmet and protective equipment for riders
- Unrealistic administrative burden of meeting FDA requirements for these vehicles
- Noise disturbance of neighboring households
- Noise disturbance of persons seeking passive recreation
- Potential damage to existing facilities (tire tracks on trails, dented railings, etc.)

## **When determining whether a particular other power – driven mobility device can be allowed, South Windsor Parks and Recreation will consider:**

- Type, size, weight, dimensions, and speed of the device
- The facility's volume of pedestrians
- The facility's design and characteristics
- Whether legitimate safety requirements can be met to permit safe operation of the device in the specific facility
- Whether the use of the device creates a substantial risk of serious harm to the environment, natural/cultural resources, or poses a conflict laws and regulations regarding land management, plans, and policies.

## **Sources:**

- Nashville Metro parks: Power – driven mobility device ADA access policy for trails, bike paths, greenway trails and pedestrian use areas

## 4.3 Policy Development

### Section IV: Code of Conduct Policy

Aggressive behavior towards coaches, officials, and administrators has been an issue for parks and recreation departments and leagues for a long time. Getting ahead of this issue and implementing the proper code of conduct, and enforcing it, is crucial to running a program without any issues. The South Windsor Parks and Recreation department believes that recreational programs and services should be a fun and safe experience for all participants. It is the intent of the South Windsor Parks and Recreation department to program and protect participants from harm in the best way possible.

#### **South Windsor Parks and Recreation Department Code of Conduct:**

1. Participants in the programs are to exhibit respect (themselves, other participants, working staff, anyone associated with the program)
2. Every participant in the program is to know, understand, and follow the rules implemented
3. All participants are to communicate in an acceptable manner. Inappropriate language such as harsh verbal words, sexually offensive language, offensive racial comments, and tone of voice will not be tolerated
4. Inappropriate physical contact that is not a welcoming gesture or allowed based on the program will not be tolerated. Suspension or expulsion from the program may occur
5. Participants must act in a harassment free manner. Every participant must be allowed to play with the opportunity to fulfill his/her full potential. Persons limiting participant's full ability because of hazing, racial comments, and offensive language will not be tolerated
6. Every participant is to show "productive participant" behavior. This behavior promotes a safe, healthy, and fun environment through fair play and encouraging language
7. Referees and umpires are human; people don't yell at you when you make a mistake so please don't yell at them if they make a mistake
8. The Primary purpose of youth sports programs is to offer each participant the opportunity to pursue, through competitive sports, the physical and emotional benefits of such activities. Too often the emphasis in sports participation has been placed on winning at any cost
9. As a volunteer coach, you are representing the department by supervising the building while in use. It is crucial we keep the schools safe and clean to ensure future use for our programs.

\*\*\*See Appendix for the Jim Snow Youth Basketball Coaches Handbook/Code of Conduct\*\*\*

#### **Sources:**

- Somerville Massachusetts Recreation. Parks and Recreation Code of Conduct.
- 2017-2018 Jim Snow Youth Basketball Coaches Handbook. South Windsor CT Parks and Recreation Department

### Section V: Land Acquisition Guidelines

In order to assure the wise and prudent acquisition of public land whether through purchase, donation, grants or sub-division open space the Park & Recreation Commission suggests that they have a greater role in that determination. The Commission fully respects the function and responsibilities of the Open Space Task Force and does not look to replace, displace or disregard their mission. The Commission simply wishes to supplement the auditing and review process from a parks & recreation perspective.

The primary focus of any land acquisition should be to provide a balance of potential uses including active recreation, passive recreation, conservation/preservation and agriculture.

Review criteria should include:

- What is the market value of the property?
- What is the fundamental purpose?
- What is/are the potential uses(s)?
- How do we optimize the use of the property?
- What is the return on investment (ROI)?
- What is/are the impact(s) to the Town – does development add the burden of additional students to the school system? Can Town services sustain more homes, roads, etc? Can the Town infrastructure support more development? Are we weighing the advantages of conservation/preservation versus development?
- Are we simply “land banking”?
- Should the Town consider “fees in lieu of” accepting open space parcels from developers that truly do not meet an identified need?
- Is the purchase of development rights (newly enacted ordinance, 2018) a better way to go?
- Are we buying or accepting land just to get land without purpose, or public benefit?

## Section VI: Partnership Proposal Policy

### Proposed Partnership Outline Format

Please provide as much information as possible in the following outline form.

#### I. Description of Proposing Organization:

- Name of Organization
- Years in Existence
- Contact Names, Mailing Address
- Physical Address, Phone, Fax, E-mail
- Purpose of Organization
- Services Provided
- Member/User Profiles
- Accomplishments
- Legal Status

#### II. Summary of Proposal (100 words or less)

- What is being proposed?

#### III. Benefits to the Partnering Organization

Why is your organization interested in partnering with the XX Parks & Recreation Department? Please individually list and discuss the benefits (monetary and non-monetary) for your organization.

#### IV. Benefits to the South Windsor Parks & Recreation Department

Please individually list and discuss the benefits (monetary and non-monetary) for the XX

Parks & Recreation Department and residents of the Agency.

#### V. Details (as currently known)

The following page lists a series of Guiding Questions to help you address details that can help outline the benefits of a possible partnership. Please try to answer as many as possible with currently known information. Please include what your organization proposes to Provide and what is requested of XX Parks & Recreation Department. Please include (as known) initial plans for your concept, operations, projected costs and revenues, staffing, and/or any scheduling or maintenance needs, etc.

MASTER PLAN

IMPLEMENTATION/ACTION PLAN



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# 5.1 FUNDING SOURCES

## **Section I: Introduction**

Financing recreation and parks is a complex process that extends far beyond obtaining funds, paying bills, and generating financial reports. “You have to spend money to make money” is a very common saying that is applicable for this section of the master plan. Managing the proper mix of revenue sources, making difficult choices between competing resource demands and delivering services effectively and efficiently is important. The bottom line is that financing public recreation and parks services is a big subject because it is hard to do well. This section will show several ways for the South Windsor Parks and Recreation Department to finance their programs and activities.



## FUNDING SOURCES

### Section II: Budgeting Effectively

Budgets are a financial plan that anticipates revenues and expenditures to help pay for desired accomplishments and goals. Budgets provide parks and recreation departments with the following:

- Control expenditures by placing limits on the amount of money departments can spend
- A department's most important financial tool. It is a plan outlining the resources needed to operate programs and services
- Coordinating municipal operations by connecting your recreation and parks services with other local government groups
- Allows the department to monitor revenues and expenditures against their desired estimations that were put into place
- Forecast into the future: allows a department to measure spending and income on a year to basis

#### Variety of Budgeting Options:

##### Operating budgets:

- Plan designed to allocate funds and estimate the income to finance your day – to – day operation for the upcoming year
- Include items like wages, salaries, utility costs, postage, supplies, and other regular occurring expenses

##### Capital budgets:

- Plan designed to identify, prioritize, and finance expensive projects
- Includes the following:
  1. Acquisition of parkland
  2. Construction of new recreation facilities,
  3. Purchase new equipment
  4. Major repairs or replacement of existing facilities and equipment

##### Fixed Allocation Budgets:

- Plan designed to allocate funds at the beginning of the year, and you do not change them
- Revenue generated goes into the general fund and not back into the general fund for the department to spend
- Disadvantage: tendency to spend your full budget each year because of the concern that you won't get the money again next year

##### Variable Expense Budgets:

- Plan designed to tie expenses to the amount of income generated
- If revenue is higher than anticipated, it's assumed your expenses will also be higher
- Very common in parks and recreation departments that must generate their operating income and rely on a variety of revenue sources

# Section II: Budgeting Effectively (cont.)

## Estimating Revenues:

Conditions that can affect revenue are:

- The economy
- Citizen demand
- Community needs and interests
- How efficiently services are delivered
- Competition from other organizations
- Weather

## How to Sell a Budget:

- Show how the department is satisfying citizens wants and take into account emerging recreation needs
- Explain to decision makers the relationship between expenditures, the departments objectives and how citizens and the community will benefit
- Connect the budget to other planning, operations and performance evaluation functions of the department
- Show how the departments operations have become more efficient and cost effective

## Source:

- “Financing Municipal Recreation and Parks” A Resource Guide for Recreation, Parks, and Conservation. Susan E. Landes (CPRP)

# 5.1 FUNDING SOURCES

## Section III: National Parks Service

Every year the National Park Service makes technical assistance grants to the following:

- Community groups
- Nonprofits
- Tribes
- State and local governments

### Facts about the Assistance Grants:

- Local leaders collaborate with National Parks Service staff and other partners to plan trails and parks, conserve and improve access to rivers and natural areas, and create other outdoor recreational opportunities
- National Parks Service staff provide free facilitation and planning expertise, help engage partners, develop plans and identify funding sources

### Specific Example:

Bruce Levine: Director of the Parks and Recreation Commission for the City of Eureka Springs, Arkansas:

- “The National Parks Service Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program has been an invaluable resource for our communities’ effort to formulate a master plan for our trails system.”
- “The program fills a void in smaller communities that otherwise lack the staff or resources to provide the necessary elements to produce professional planning documents.”

### Source:

- “Program Assists Communities With Conservation, Recreation Projects” 2014. Recreation Management. [www.recmanagement.com](http://www.recmanagement.com)

## Section IV: Partnerships

A partnership is a cooperative working relationship that allows both organizations to gain new resources and serve the larger community. Partnerships share responsibility for achieving a specific goal and is a sustained “win – win” relationship. Some partnerships that are worthwhile looking into for the South Windsor Parks and Recreation Department are:

- Health and wellness organizations
- Youth Development organizations
- Community arts/art education organizations
- Local history organizations
- Senior citizen organizations
- Conservation/Outdoor education organizations
- Youth sports leagues

The primary reason to partner with others is to collaborate in gaining or conserving resources in order to provide facilities, programs, or services needed for the community. A major component in exploring any potential partnership will be to identify additional collaborating partners that may help provide a synergistic working relationship in terms of resources, community contributions, knowledge, and political sensitivity. These partnerships should be mutually beneficial for all proposing partners including the Agency, as well as for the citizens of the community. Partnerships are being used across the nation by governmental agencies in order to utilize additional resources for their community’s benefit. Becoming more and more popular are partnerships between a public and private entity.

### Types of Partnerships:

#### Active:

- Management agreements
- Program partnerships
- Facility Leases
- Intergovernmental
- Agreements (IGA’s)
- Marketing Partnerships

#### Semi – Limited Decision Making Partnerships

- Sponsorships

#### Limited Decision Making Partnerships

- Grant Programs
- Donor Programs
- Volunteer Programs

## **Benefits of Partnerships:**

- Two or more parties combine assets and finances to achieve a common goal
- Can accomplish tasks with limited resources
- Respond to compelling issues
- Encourage cooperative interaction and conflict resolution
- Involve outside interests
- Serve as an education and outreach tool
- Broaden ownership in various projects
- Increase public support for community recreation goals
- Flexibility to obtain and invest money on products or activities where municipal government may be limited
- Merging of resources to create a higher level of service and facility availability for
- Community members.
- Making alternative funding sources available for public community amenities.
- Tapping into the dynamic and entrepreneurial traits of private industry.
- Delivering services and facilities more efficiently by allowing for collaborative
- Business solutions to public organizational challenges.
- Meeting the needs of specific groups of users through the availability of land for development and community use.

## **Examples of Public/Private Partnership:**

- A private business seeing the need for more/different community fitness and wellness activities wants to build a facility on Agency land, negotiate a management contract, provide the needed programs, and make a profit
- A biking club wants to fund the building of a racecourse through a park. The races would be held one night per week, but otherwise the path would be open for public biking and in-line skating

# Section IV: Partnerships (cont.)

## **Example of Public/Non – Profit Partnership:**

- A group of participants for a particular sport or hobby sees a need for more playing space and forms a non-profit entity to raise funds for a facility for their priority use that is open to the public during other hours

## **Example of Public/Public Partnership:**

- A school district sees the need for a climbing wall for their athletes. The district funds the wall and subsidizes operating costs, and the Agency manages and maintains the wall to provide public use during off hours

## **Items to Include in Proposals:**

- Describe your programs, services, and outcomes for participants and the community
- Describe the specific goals and/or measures used to evaluate the impact of your programs and services
- Summarize your current resources including staff, volunteers, facilities, budget, grants, and donations
- Explain how a partnership between your organization and the Department helps bring new services, expands an existing program, reaches a specific audience or meets a critical community need
- Describe what your organization can gain from a partnership with the Department
- Detail what your organization can offer the Department through a partnership

## **Sources:**

- “Community and Partnerships” 2017. [http://161.58.91.113/About-Parks-and-Recreation/Community\\_and\\_Partnerships.htm](http://161.58.91.113/About-Parks-and-Recreation/Community_and_Partnerships.htm)
- Sample XX Partnership Policy and Proposal Format. March 2007. [http://greenplayllc.com/dev/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/Sample\\_Part\\_Policy.pdf](http://greenplayllc.com/dev/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/Sample_Part_Policy.pdf)
- “Joining Forces” 2015. Recreation Management. [www.recmanagement.com](http://www.recmanagement.com) Deborah L. Vence

## Section V: Crowdfunding

Crowdfunding is the practice of funding a project or venture by raising many small amounts of money from a large number of people usually through the internet. Parks and Recreation agencies have started to take notice and are beginning to incorporate crowdfunding efforts alongside traditional fundraising strategies. Putting together a written proposal or plan of what crowdfunding campaign would look like – with desired goals and expectations is important.

- It is important to know you're hoping to gain from crowdsourcing
- Only successful crowdsourcing efforts are conducted thoroughly and don't exhibit a lack of focus
- Knowing what you need the most and focusing the campaign around that is right way to crowdsource
- The NRPA has implemented a Fund Your Park crowdfunding platform

### Benefits of NRPA Crowdfunding:

#### It's Free:

- Fund Your Park is free to members and each campaign project retains any funds that are raised, even if you don't reach your funding goals
- NRPA retains 5% administration fee on all donations in order to support the site and administration cost

#### Donations are tax deductible:

- All donations are processed by NRPA as charitable contributions

#### Hands on Support:

- NRPA will provide the crowdfunding platform
- NRPA will help crafting messages
- NRPA will train on how to run your campaign

#### Sources:

- [www.hartfordbusiness.com](http://www.hartfordbusiness.com) 2016. Dave Benoit
- "Let Young Professionals Take the Crowdfunding Reigns" [www.nrpa.org](http://www.nrpa.org) 2015.
- "Fund Your Park" National Recreation and Park Association. 2016.

## Section VI: Cooperative Purchasing

Cooperative purchasing combines the collective buying power of multiple agencies that can be utilized by other public agencies. This type of contract can improve the overall effectiveness of the purchasing process by providing volume discounts, administrative savings and other benefits. It is important to differentiate between national and local cooperative contracts.

### Benefits of Cooperative Purchasing:

- Reduces the total acquisition cost through economies of sale
- Almost guaranteed a “good deal” because you have the purchasing power
- Aims to place the power of purchasing in the hands of public agencies – nonprofits, school districts, and smaller agencies
- Increase an agency’s administrative efficiencies by eliminating the need to go through a bid or RFP process
- Cooperative contract is designed to help agencies receive competitively solicited pricing for goods and services as well as save staff times and resources

### Items to Consider when Choosing a Cooperative Contract:

- Is the procurement process offered substantially similar to the process your park and recreation agency is required to use?
- Does the cooperative organization have independent and broad oversight of the program and its operations?
- Does the supplier have multiple cooperative contracts, and if so, which is best?
- Does the cooperative provide third – party oversight, or audits, to ensure contract compliance?

### Sources:

- Parks and Recreation. 2016. “Streamline Purchasing with Cooperatives” Jennifer Sulentic

## FUNDING SOURCES

### Section VII: Development Impact/Tax Improvement Fee

The entire idea of a development impact tax is to tax new construction. These taxes are usually used to pay for the infrastructure needed to support the public strain of new development. An impact fee is a financial tool available to cities, villages and towns to pay for anticipated capital costs associated with new development. Capital costs refer to the one-time cost of constructing, expanding or improving physical, public facilities such as highways or sewage treatment systems. Prior to developing or imposing an impact fee, a municipality must conduct a detailed needs assessment to determine the portion of facility costs necessitated by the new development. The impact fee may not be used to pay for inadequacies in the current system. New commercial development can require additional infrastructure or other public services that require tax money. With that being said, this specific kind of tax is illegal in the State of Connecticut. However, implementing a department or town wide policy utilizing an improvement fee could be an option.

#### Improvement Fee Proposal:

- Collect a percentage on tournaments
- Collect a percentage to pay for field maintenance and electricity for indoor facilities
- South Windsor Little League supports this idea

#### Eligible Uses for Impact Tax:

- Highways, transportation facilities, and traffic control devices
- Sewage and water treatment facilities
- Water pumping, storage and distribution systems
- Parks, playgrounds and land for athletic fields
- Solid waste and recycling facilities
- Fire, law enforcement, and emergency medical facilities
- Libraries

#### Ineligible Uses:

- School district facilities
- Vehicles
- Operation and maintenance expenses
- Deficiencies in existing public facilities
- Purposes other than those for which the fees were collected

#### Sources:

- "Planning Implementation Tools Impact Fees" April 2008. [https://www.uwsp.edu/cnr-ap/clue/Documents/PlanImplementation/Impact\\_Fees.pdf](https://www.uwsp.edu/cnr-ap/clue/Documents/PlanImplementation/Impact_Fees.pdf)

# 5.1 FUNDING SOURCES

## Section VIII: Grants

Another option for funding parks and recreation projects and programs is through grants. Typically with grants an application process takes place and the grant committee deems whether or not the organization applying for the grant qualifies for it. The following is a list of websites that should be visited when applying for grants:

1. [Doublethedonation.com](http://Doublethedonation.com)
2. [Donorsearch.net](http://Donorsearch.net)
3. [FoundationCenter.org](http://FoundationCenter.org)
4. [FoundationSearch.com](http://FoundationSearch.com)
5. [Guidestar.org](http://Guidestar.org)
6. [Grants.gov](http://Grants.gov)
7. [Grantstation.com](http://Grantstation.com)
8. [www.tgci.com](http://www.tgci.com) Grantsmanship Center
9. [Instrumentl.com](http://Instrumentl.com)
10. [Matchinggifts.com](http://Matchinggifts.com)
11. [Playcore.com/funding](http://Playcore.com/funding)
12. [www.nrpa.org/our-work/Grant-Fundraising-Resources](http://www.nrpa.org/our-work/Grant-Fundraising-Resources)

## 5.2 CAPITAL PROJECTS BUDGET

Another option for funding parks and recreation projects is through the Capital Improvements Plan.

A Capital Project is "a physical public betterment of improvement involving facilities, land, or equipment, with a substantial useful life and a cost of \$100,000 or more.

Items classified as capital projects include:

1. New public buildings (including equipment needed to furnish such buildings);
2. Significant alterations, additions, or improvements to existing public buildings;
3. Land improvements, acquisition, and development
4. Equipment replacement and/or refurbishing;
5. Street reconstruction and major resurfacing;
6. Pedestrian walkway construction and major rehabilitation;
7. Sewer main construction and rehabilitation;
8. Sanitary sewer and storm drain construction and rehabilitation, and;
9. Long range planning studies"

Every year, the Capital Improvement Plan is updated based on changes in the Town's needs. The Park and Recreation Commission, along with the Park and Recreation Director and Parks Superintendent, determine what projects should be brought forward based on trends, needs, and input from the residents or the Park and Recreation department.



**MASTER PLAN**





## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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While compiling the information for this Master Plan, the Park and Recreation Commission was committed to approaching ideas that included a series of reasonable, worthwhile, projects that will increase the quality of life for all South Windsor residents. By setting goals that are practical and attainable, it will allow for implementation for the investment in the town's parks, programs and facilities. Although the master plan is a long-term plan of development for Parks and Recreation, it is a constant evolving document due to the changing needs of the community.

Residents that live in South Windsor highly value it's parks, open spaces, and amenities. The Parks Department oversees 893.44 acres of parks and open spaces over 15 different locations, not including town buildings or Board of Education facilities, while the Recreation division offers a wide variety of programs, free events, and other exceptional experiences. Access to Parks and Recreation facilities promote healthy lifestyles for all ages. It is also an important way to allow families to spend quality time together. Whether it be at a sporting event, taking a walk on a trail, attending a free concert, or spending a day at the community pool, it encourages citizens to take advantages of all there is to offer. As a result, it offers members of this community a sense of pride.

The hope for this Master Plan is that it provides a great resource to the Commission, Parks and Recreation Department, Town Manager, and Town Council. The Commission continues to strive to be a valuable working group in order to determine the needs of our growing community.

MASTER PLAN



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APPENDIX

# APPENDIX A: Evidence Box of Sources Used

The information listed in this document is the list of sources used to develop the master plan. The following list is organized and labeled in the evidence box. The information laid out in the document goes in order that the sources are organized in the evidence box, from top to bottom. Specific sections are labeled and clipped together in the evidence box. In addition, every source used to create this Master Plan was internally cited throughout the plan at the end of each respective section.

## Introduction

1. Executive Summary
2. History of the Master Plan
3. Methodology
4. Role of the Park and Recreation Commission

## Existing Facilities & Open Space

1. Purchasing Prices

## Needs Assessments

1. Public Interest Survey
2. Online Survey
3. 2018 Online Citizen Survey
4. Focus Groups and Public Workshops
5. Department Audit & Evaluation

## Industry Trends and Challenges

1. Industry Trends
2. Industry Challenges

## Demographic Comparisons

## Long Range Program Development

1. Disc Golf Courses
2. Premier Tennis Courts & Post Tensioned Concrete Tennis Courts
3. Outdoor Fitness Area
4. Improved Public Restrooms
5. Musco Lighting
6. Pickle ball Courts
7. Synthetic Turf/Multi – Use Playground Surfacing
8. Pet Wash Station
9. Outdoor Air Structures
10. Pioneer Bridges
11. eSports

## Program Inventory

1. Department program magazines
2. Division of Responsibilities Alpha – Order

## Long Range Policy Development

1. Smoke & Tobacco Free Parks
2. Eagle Scout Project Policy
3. Trail Accessibility for Motorized Vehicles
4. Code of Conduct Policy
5. Land Acquisition Policy
6. Partnership Proposal Policy

## Funding Sources

1. Budgeting Effectively
2. National Parks Service
3. Partnerships
4. Crowdfunding
5. Cooperative Purchasing
6. Development Impact Tax/Improvement Fee

## Jim Snow Youth Basketball Coaches Handbook

2019-2020

### JIM SNOW YOUTH BASKETBALL COACHES HANDBOOK



#### Welcome to South Windsor Parks and Recreation Youth Basketball

The South Windsor Parks and Recreation Jim Snow Youth Basketball Philosophy

**-Health and Safety:** As a town organization, we believe that the health and safety of the players entrusted to our care is a serious responsibility.

**-Responsible Leadership:** We believe we have an obligation to parents to provide responsible leadership possessing good judgment.

**-Player Experience:** We strive to maintain our program in such a way that all players will have the opportunity to broaden their horizons, to gain knowledge by acquiring new skills and to experience the joy of friendship.

**-Equal Play Opportunity:** All divisions in the South Windsor Jim Snow Youth Basketball League have very specific playing time rules designed to allow each child the opportunity to play at least one half of every game. Every child will be assigned to a team. There are no cuts from South Windsor Jim Snow Youth Basketball.

#### Thank you to our 2018-2019 sponsors!

South Windsor Lions Club  
Hale's Floor Covering, LLC  
Wallace & Tétreault Realty  
Andrews Oil & Gas Services  
MPF Law  
Cusson Automotive  
Integrated Rehabilitation Services  
Kingswood Oxford School  
Puida Builders  
Precision Mortgage, LLC  
Merwin Mason Supply Co.

Dzen Commercial Roofing  
Lynch Toyota  
New England Silica Inc.  
Burstein Dental  
Post Road Stages  
Dick's Sporting Goods  
Splash Pool Supply  
Shea & Co. Real Estate  
South Windsor Community Women's Club  
St. Junipero Serra Parish  
Conroy & MacGilpin Orthodontics

# Jim Snow Youth Basketball Coaches Handbook

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## DESCRIPTION OF RESPONSIBILITIES

Purpose of Job: To create a safe and healthy environment for all youth to have an opportunity to broaden their horizons, to gain knowledge by acquiring new skills, and to experience the joy of friendship. To provide responsible leadership possessing good judgment. And to ensure equal playing time in every game.

### Qualifications

- At least 18 years of age.
- Have a desire to positively impact youth.
- Enthusiastic, patient, organized, dependable, and responsible.

### Requirements

- Must attend the coaches orientation and training.
- Regular attendance at scheduled practices and games.
- Communicate program information to parents and players.
- Follow protocols regarding accidents, safety, and communication.
- Available for practices and games for the season.
- Must consent to a background check prior to the season.

### Responsibilities

- Participate in creating well balanced teams for the season by attending placement day and honestly assessing players' abilities.
- Teach fundamental skills to participants while emphasizing skill development, fair play, teamwork, sportsmanship, and fun.
- Be on time to all practices and games or find a replacement coach who is approved by the Parks and Recreation Department.
- Provide a safe and fun environment.

# Jim Snow Youth Basketball Coaches Handbook

- Put the wellbeing of players ahead of your desire to win.
- Teach skills in developmentally appropriate stages.
- Learn all league rules and abide by Code of Conduct. Ask for help when needed.
- Follow first aid protocol when injuries occur.
- Report any problems with gyms, equipment, player behavior, parent behavior, or officials to Recreation Supervisor.
- Communicate with Recreation Supervisor

## CODE OF CONDUCT

The Primary purpose of youth sports programs is to offer each participant the opportunity to pursue, through competitive sports, the physical and emotional benefits of such activities. Too often the emphasis in sports participation has been placed on winning at any cost. The purpose of the Jim Snow Youth Basketball Program Code of Conduct, to be followed by every participant, is to emphasize good sportsmanship, proper conduct, and full compliance with the rules and policies of the Jim Snow Youth Basketball League. The Jim Snow Youth Basketball Program Code of Conduct applies to all players, coaches, officials, parents, and spectators. The Code of Conduct is based on the following principles of sportsmanship:

### Code of Conduct for Players

1. Play the game for the game's sake
2. Be generous when you win.
3. Be gracious when you lose.
4. Be fair always, no matter what the cost.
5. Obey the rules of the game.
6. Work for the good of your team.
7. Accept the decisions of the officials with grace.
8. Believe in the honesty of your opponents.
9. Conduct yourself with honor and dignity.
10. Honestly and wholeheartedly applaud the efforts of your teammates and opponents.

### Code of Conduct for Parents

The role of parents and spectators is critical to the success of the Jim Snow youth basketball program. It is, therefore, important that you follow the guidelines set forth below.

1. Always keep in mind that the Jim Snow Basketball League is a recreational sports program with an emphasis on developing skills and having fun. Although competition is a natural part of sports activities, do not make winning the primary goal for you or your child.
2. Support your child and his/her team in a positive manner. Cheer for your child and his/her team, not against the opposing player or team.
3. Always show respect for all players, coaches, game officials and other fans. Allow for the fact that anyone can make a mistake. Set a positive example for our children with your behavior.
4. Follow the regulations set forth by the school district or Recreation Department for use of its facilities.

# Jim Snow Youth Basketball Coaches Handbook

## Code of Conduct for Coaches

1. Set a good example for participants and fans to follow.
2. Respect officials and their judgment and abide by the rules of the event.
3. Treat opposing coaches, participants and spectators with respect.
4. Instruct participants in sportsmanship and demand they display good sportsmanship.
5. Coach in a positive manner and do not use derogatory comments or abusive language.
6. At least two adults present at all practices and events.

## PLAYING RULES

Division rules are posted online at [recreation.southwindsor.org](http://recreation.southwindsor.org). Please refer to the rules often as they are subject to change.

## PLAYING TIME

See attachment for playing time guidelines.

## FACILITIES

The Parks and Recreation department applies for permission to utilize the Board of Education's buildings for our programs. Each school has a custodian present during practices or games. If there is a piece of broken equipment or mess in the school upon arrival, please notify the custodian as soon as possible. As a volunteer coach, you are representing the department by supervising the building while in use. It is crucial we keep the schools safe and clean to ensure future use for our programs. If any issues arise and a custodian cannot be found, please call the night and weekend supervisor for assistance.

## IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION

### NIGHT AND WEEKEND SUPERVISOR

Person Varies                      Cell: 860-268-4628

### RECREATION SUPERVISOR

Ashley Casiano                      Office: 860-648-6355                      Cell: 860-803-8891

### OTHER IMPORTANT NUMBERS

ALL EMERGENCIES:                      911  
(Police, Fire, Ambulance)

South Windsor Recreation Department Main Line .....860-648-6355

South Windsor Recreation Department Fax.....860-648-5048

# Jim Snow Youth Basketball Coaches Handbook

South Windsor Recreation Department Cancellation Hotline .....860-648-6349

South Windsor Police Department.....860-644-2551

South Windsor Fire Department.....860-644-2441 or 860-644-8547

South Windsor Parks and Recreation website.....recreation.southwindsor.org

## WEATHER

Please check the hotline for cancellations. We try to give ample notice to prevent any traveling in poor weather conditions. Depending on the severity of the weather, we may cancel sections of the day and assess weather for the remaining games for the day. Continue to check the hotline before your game time. We highly encourage coaches to communicate this to participants to become self-sufficient on game days.

If a game is cancelled due to weather or other unforeseeable circumstances, all efforts will be made to reschedule. However, due to time restraints and/or gym usage conflicts, some games may not be made up.

## ACCIDENT REPORTING

If a participant is hurt during practice or at a game, tend to the participant. Assess if 911 needs to be called. Call the parent/guardian as soon as possible, even if they think they can still play. Each gym has a new metal first aid kit. Please let the program supervisor know if supplies is running low. Complete an accident report found in the gym or online at recreation.southwindsor.org. If you are unable to find a form, please provide the program supervisor with the information below by the next day:

Individual's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of accident or injury: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_ Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Program Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Program Supervisor: \_\_\_\_\_ Reported by: \_\_\_\_\_

Description of injury: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Action Taken: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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Parent notified: Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ Time \_\_\_\_\_ By whom: \_\_\_\_\_

Witnesses names and contact information : \_\_\_\_\_

Other staff involved: \_\_\_\_\_

## CORRECTIVE ACTION PROCEDURES

A coach, player, team attendant or spectator shall not: disrespectfully address an official, use profanity, disrespectfully address or bait an opponent, object to an official's decision by rising from the bench or using gestures, incite undesirable crowd reaction, or enter the court unless given permission by an official to attend to an injured player.

Any action taken depends on the severity of the infraction, and the discretion of the Parks and Recreation Department.

- Any coach receiving more than one technical foul at any point in the season will be suspended from coaching for the duration of the season.
- For every three single technical fouls throughout the season a player will be suspended for a period of one game and any player ejected from a league game (two technical fouls in one night) for any reason shall be ineligible to play in his team's next two games.
- A second ejection in the same season will result in a four game suspension.
- Any player ejected from a subsequent league game for any reason during the same season shall also be subject to additional penalties, at the discretion of the Parks and Recreation Department staff.
- Any player participating in fighting and/or physical abuse of any player(s), game official(s), or spectator(s), shall be subject to a suspension of five games or more, at the discretion of the Parks and Recreation Department staff.
- Other incidents of misconduct at game sites will be reviewed by Parks and Recreation Department staff, and offenders will be subject to penalties up to and including a lifetime ban from the league. A Technical foul maybe assessed prior, during, or after league play.

## CONCUSSION INFORMATION

See attachment for concussion information.

# Jim Snow Youth Basketball Coaches Handbook

## IMPORTANT DATES

### BEGINNER BOYS AND GIRLS Grades 3 & 4

#### Mandatory Coaches Orientation and Wins for Life Training

*Hear from referees from your division about rule specifics, discuss playing time, plan placement day, and get creative ideas for practices from professional coaches from Wins for Life.*

Wapping Gym

Thursday, November 2

5:00pm-7:15pm

#### Parent & Player Open House

*Meet and greet for parents, players, and coaches. Disperse shirts and schedules, set practice and game expectations.*

Wapping Gym

Wednesday, November 8

6:00pm-7:00pm

Practices Start: Week of Monday, November 13

Games Start: Week of Saturday, December 2

### JUNIOR & INTERMEDIATE BOYS AND GIRLS Grades 5 & 6

#### Mandatory Coaches Orientation and Wins for Life Training

*Hear from referees from your division about rule specifics, discuss playing time, plan placement day, and get creative ideas from professional coaches from Wins for Life.*

Wapping Gym

Thursday, October 26

5:00pm-7:15pm

#### Placement Day

*Coaches will collectively run tryouts to assess all players' skill level. Coach's children are required to attend team placement day.*

Timothy Edwards Middle School Gym

Saturday, November 4

Gym Time

Junior Girls

Grades 5 & 6 (All): 9:00am - 10:00am

(COACHES: Rating and Placement 10:00am to 11:00am)

Junior Boys

6<sup>th</sup> Grade: 10:00am to 11:00am

5<sup>th</sup> Grade: 11:00am to 12:00pm

(COACHES: Rating and Placement 12:00pm to 1:30pm)

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## JUNIOR & INTERMEDIATE BOYS AND GIRLS Grades 5 & 6 (cont'd)

Intermediate Boys  
8<sup>th</sup> Grade Boys - 12:00 pm to 1:00pm  
7<sup>th</sup> Grade Boys - 1:00pm to 2:00pm  
(COACHES: Rating and Placement 2:00pm to 3:00pm)

Intermediate Girls  
Grades 7 & 8 (All) - 2:00pm - 3:00pm  
(COACHES: Rating and Placement 3:00pm to 4:00pm)

ALTERNATE PLACEMENT DAY: Timothy Edwards Middle School  
Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup>

Junior Girls Grades 5 & 6 (All) - 12:00pm-12:45pm Small Gym

Junior Boys Grades 5 & 6 (All) - 12:00pm-12:45pm Large Gym

Intermediate Girls Grades 7 & 8 (All) - 1:00pm-1:45pm Small Gym

Intermediate Boys Grades 7 & 8 (All) - 1:00pm-1:45pm Large Gym

### Parent & Player Open House

*Meet and greet for parents, players, and coaches. Disperse jerseys and schedules, set practice and game expectations.*

Wapping Gym  
Wednesday, November 8  
7:00pm-8:00pm

PRACTICES START: Week of Monday, November 13

GAMES START: Week of Saturday, December 2nd

## ADVANCED & SENIOR BOYS AND GIRLS Grades 9-10

### Parent & Player Open House

*Meet and greet for parents, players, and coaching team. Set practice and game expectations. Teams will not have been chosen at this time but parents are encouraged to attend.*

Wapping Gym  
Wednesday, November 8  
8:00pm-9:00pm

### Mandatory Coaches Orientation and Wins for Life Training

*Hear from referees from your division about rule specifics, discuss playing time, plan placement day, and get creative ideas from professional coaches from Wins for Life.*

Wapping Gym  
**Thursday, November 30**  
5:00pm-7:15pm

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## ADVANCED & SENIOR BOYS AND GIRLS Grades 9-10 (cont'd)

### Placement Day

*Coaches will collectively run tryouts to assess all players' skill level. Coach's children are required to attend team placement day.*

Timothy Edwards Middle School Gym

Saturday, December 2

### Senior Girls

Grades 9-12 (All): 1:00pm - 2:00pm

*(COACHES: Rating and Placement 2:00pm - 3:00pm)*

### Advanced Boys

10<sup>th</sup> Grade: 2:00pm - 3:00pm

9<sup>th</sup> Grade: 3:00pm - 4:00pm

*(COACHES: Rating and Placement 4:00 - 5:00pm)*

### Senior Boys

Grades 11 & 12 (All) - 4:00pm - 5:00pm

*(COACHES: Rating and Placement 5:00pm - 6:00pm)*

**Practices Start:** Week of Monday, December 4

**Games Start:** Week of Saturday, December 16