

2012 – 2016

ROSWELL RECREATION, PARKS, HISTORIC & CULTURAL AFFAIRS

FIVE YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN

AN UPDATE TO THE COMPREHENSIVE SYSTEM-WIDE MASTER PLAN

INTRODUCTION

The Roswell Recreation System is an excellent example of what can be accomplished through the application of sound planning principles, the timely expenditure of acquisition and development dollars and the exercise of diligence in system-wide operation and maintenance practices. It is nationally recognized as one of the finest systems in the United States.

This five-year strategic plan covers the years 2012 – 2016 (the 2012 Plan), and is the sixth update to the original Action Plan for Recreation, prepared in 1969. Updates have been prepared at roughly five-year intervals. Previous updates have focused on identifying land acquisition needs, improvements to existing parks and facilities and advancing recommendations for new parks, trails and linkages. In addition, the 2012 Plan will address cultural arts and historic resources, which are under the jurisdiction of the Roswell Recreation & Parks Department (the Department). It should be noted that the Roswell Recreation Commission recognizes that the Recreation and Parks Department has responsibilities for the City's Historic and Cultural Affairs Division, but this Division does not fall under the auspices of the Recreation Commission.

A strategic plan is an expression of a community's objectives, needs and priorities for leisure space, facilities, programs and service delivery. It provides guidance for policy formulation and the decision-making process as it relates to the quality and location of recreational opportunities. It is therefore the intent of the 2012 Plan to accurately reflect community desires while presenting imaginative new recreational opportunities that are functional, realistic, cost-effective and practical to implement.

The preparation of the 2012 Plan encompasses the five-year period beginning in fiscal year 2012. This updated Plan includes a revised acreage needs assessment, recommendations to meet both active and passive recreational needs of the community, the desire for cultural arts and programs, and an analysis of project funding estimates

The method followed in preparing the 2012 Plan was one of achieving a balance between the benefits of providing opportunities and facilities and the cost and efficiency of their development and operation. This was accomplished by involving stakeholders. Stakeholder involvement was initiated with an interactive website survey, public meetings and meetings with key personnel. Input received from the stakeholder participation process was translated into plan recommendations and implementation procedures.



Approach and Planning Process

APPROACH AND PLANNING PROCESS

APPROACH

The approach taken in preparing the 2012 Plan was to revise, expand upon and improve the 2001 Update to the Recreation Master Plan. Since 2001, the city's population has grown from just over 79,000 to an 88,346 residents in 2010.

In 2001, four approaches to plan preparation were discussed:

- Resource
- Economic
- Activity
- Behavioral

Based upon the City's demographic, social, economic and political characteristics, a combination of economic, behavioral and resource approaches were used to guide plan preparation for 2012 Plan.

The Roswell City Council has a past history of diligence and foresight in providing high quality recreation facilities that satisfy the needs of community residents. The city's economic viability and financial resources are such that necessary system-wide improvements can be accomplished. This is the primary reason that the Roswell recreation system has garnered regional and national acclaim.

As the city's population has grown, so has the desire of its residents to broaden their recreational experiences. Because leisure time is at a premium, individuals and families desire a diversity of both active and passive recreation opportunities. Therefore the behavioral approach to developing the Plan remains valid. Simply stated, the behavioral process defines recreation as an experience where everyone visiting a city recreation site takes something positive away when they leave.

With the advent of the Historic Roswell Trail System, the proximity of three units of the Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area (CRNRA), the on-going development of the Roswell River Walk and the development of new trail systems and bikeways, the ability of the land resource to support passive recreation opportunities must be considered. Therefore, an application of the resource approach is being used to evaluate open space opportunities.

PLANNING PROCESS

Data Collection and Community Profile

Previously completed comprehensive planning documents (The Roswell 2025 Comprehensive Plan), recreation planning studies (2001 Update to the Master Recreation Plan) and demographic data and forecasts were collected and analyzed in order to develop a profile of the Roswell community.

Facilities Inventory

A full inventory was taken to identify the type and number of facilities present, site characteristics, utilization, condition, neighborhood compatibility and maintenance needs. Three units of the CRNRA are close to the city and contribute to meeting some of the community's passive recreation needs. In addition, school recreation sites where there is a formal joint-use agreement in place or where the potential for joint utilization of facilities exists are also included in the inventory. An analysis of supply is conducted to determine the city's current ability to provide recreation acreage for community residents.

Website Survey

An interactive website survey was prepared and placed on the city's website. This survey identified the frequency of recreation site use, facilities receiving use and an evaluation of facility conditions. This afforded respondents the opportunity to provide input relative to deficiencies and to identify future system-wide demand and needs.

Needs Assessment and Goal Formulation

Based upon the Department's user and past participation records, Roswell "specific" standards, as used in prior Master Plans, were developed for system-wide acreage and applied to the year 2012 and 2016 design populations to determine existing and future deficiencies and needs.

Plan Recommendations

Recommendations are made for land acquisition and for the development of both active and passive facilities. In addition, the needs for expansion of cultural arts facilities and improvements to historic sites are identified. Plan recommendations provide strategic guidance for the location of future recreation sites, greenways, trails, linkages and related recreational facilities to meet future demands of Roswell residents.

Cost Estimates

Cost estimates are prepared for each of the system-wide recommended improvements. Project priorities are established for the five-year planning period, and potential funding opportunities are examined. A financial strategy is formulated and a five-year capital improvements program is developed.



Community Profile & Design Population

Literature Review
Demographic Data

COMMUNITY PROFILE AND DESIGN POPULATIONS

The City of Roswell was incorporated in 1854. Located north of the City of Atlanta in northern Fulton County, Roswell has been one of the fastest growing communities in the metropolitan area during the past twenty years. The City of Roswell occupies a land area in excess of 39 square miles. New residents have been attracted to the city as a result of its location proximate to the Chattahoochee River, attractive blend of housing, strong family orientation, its historic character, excellent school system and responsible government. The city's strategic location proximate to the rapidly developing GA 400 corridor has further contributed to its growth.

This section of the 2012 Plan presents an overview of the Roswell community, discusses growth trends and develops design populations for the five-year planning period.

LITERATURE REVIEW

To facilitate preparation of the community profile, planning documents and other relevant data were assembled and reviewed. Governmental and quasi-governmental agencies with policy-making authority that might affect the city were contacted as a means of validating data received. The following information was obtained for use in preparing the 2012 Plan:

- The Roswell 2030 Comprehensive Plan
- Update To The Roswell Recreation Master Plan (2001)

Roswell 2030 Comprehensive Plan












The 2030 Comprehensive Plan is the principle policy document for managing growth within the city of Roswell. The 2030 Comprehensive Plan was adopted by Mayor and City Council in October, 2011. The comprehensive plan is prepared in response to the Georgia Planning Act of 1989 and contains demographic and economic statistics and projections to guide the future development of the city for a twenty-year period. Recreation and Parks staff actively participated in the development process regarding the recreation and park aspects of the 2030 Comprehensive Plan. Several items (such as pocket parks and the Hog Waller Greenway) are mentioned in the 2030 Comp Plan but are not part of the Recreation Master Plan because these items deals with private property, not public property.

Update to the Master Recreation Plan

The 2001 Update to the Master Recreation Plan recommended \$13,439,000 in capital improvements to be spent over an eight-year period. Plan recommendations included: land acquisition, improvements to existing parks, additional indoor facilities, development of new parks and facilities, trails, bikeways and the Roswell River Walk. To date, specific accomplishments of the 2001 Update include:

- ✚ Acquisition of the 22-acre Garrard Landing along the Chattahoochee River
- ✚ Acquisition of the 160-acre Wilmer tract for Big Creek Park
- ✚ Acquisition of the 108-acre Leita Thompson tract
- ✚ Acquisition of 30 acres of property contiguous to East Roswell Park
- ✚ Acquisition of 11.3 acres adjacent to Waller Park for Grimes Bridge Park
- ✚ Retrofitting of Chattahoochee River Park as Azalea Park
- ✚ Incorporation of Cultural Arts and Historic Sites into the Department
- ✚ Development of Big Creek Park as passive-use park
- ✚ Development of Azalea Park as passive-use park
- ✚ Development of Grimes Bridge Park as active park
- ✚ Construction of the Adult Recreation Center at Grimes Bridge Park
- ✚ Expansion of East Roswell Park such as off leash area, disc golf course and community garden
- ✚ Expansion of Sweet Apple Park to include active facilities: two baseball fields, a one-mile walking trail, and playground
- ✚ Development of Leita Thompson Memorial Park as a passive-use park, including Memorial Garden, off leash area and community garden
- ✚ Retrofitting of existing farmhouse at Leita Thompson Memorial Park for use as the Arts Center West
- ✚ Assumption of responsibility for programming the Cultural Arts Center, the Archibald Smith Plantation Home, Bulloch Hall and Barrington Hall
- ✚ Completion of phases I, II, and III of the Roswell River Walk
- ✚ Addition of bikeways & trails along thoroughfares close to the Roswell River Walk
- ✚ Construction of a sprayground at Riverside Park and East Roswell Park

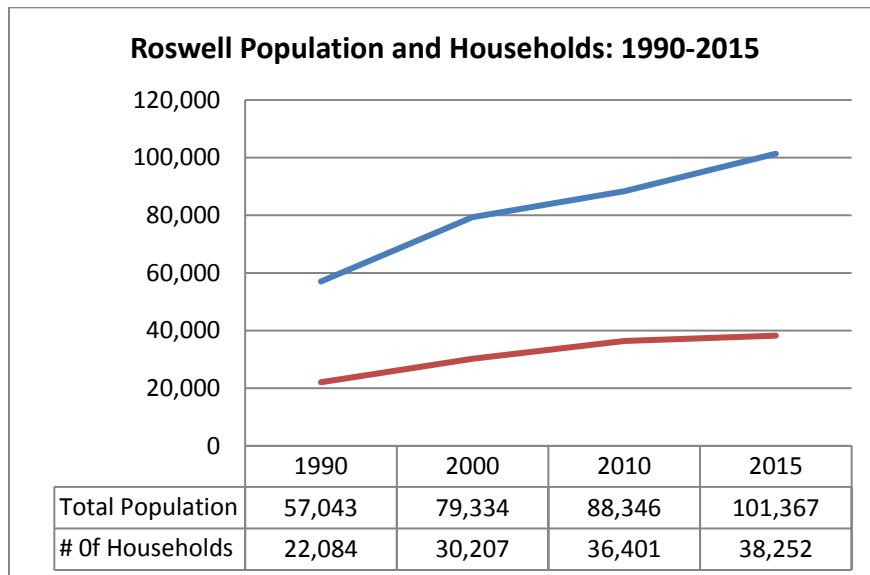
-  Construction of Riverside Park
-  Development of parks maintenance headquarters in the center of town (Dobbs Drive)
-  Development of walking trails and mountain bike trails at Big Creek Park
-  Connection of Big Creek Greenway to the Alpharetta Greenway
-  Development of Garrard Landing Park with boat launch, playground, restrooms and walking trail
-  Development of joint use facilities at Sweetapple Elementary School, Northwood Elementary School and Elkins Point Middle School
-  Began execution of the site plans for Barrington, Bulloch and Smith Plantation
-  Renovated Vickery Creek Park with a covered bridge connection to National Park Service, ADA accessibility and stabilization of Old Mill Ruins
-  Purchased and implemented registration and park maintenance software to better serve the citizens and track expenditures and workloads

DEMOGRAPHIC DATA

Population

The 2000 Census shows that the population of the City of Roswell was 79,334. As of 2010, that number has grown to 88,346. This represents an addition of 9,012 new residents since 2000, an average annual rate of increase of approximately 1.1% and a total growth rate of approximately 11.3% over the last 10 years.

Table 1 – Population Estimates



**Average Household Size:
1990-2015**

1990: 2.58
2000: 2.62
2010: 2.42
2015: 2.65

Source: US Census Bureau, 2010
 ESRI Forecast

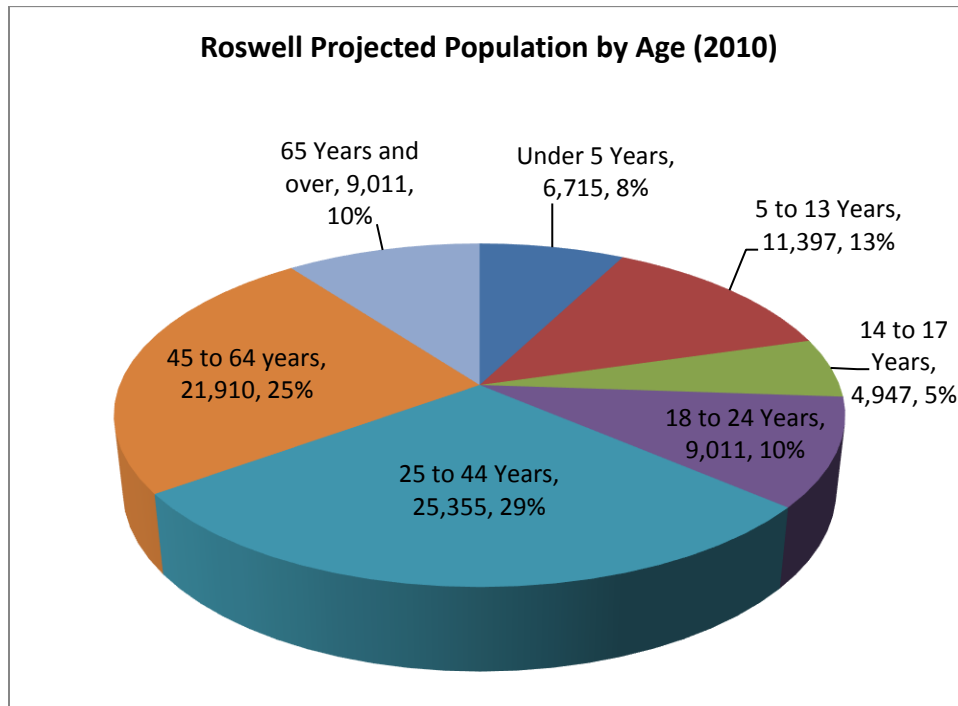
Age

Age has a direct bearing on the types of recreational activities preferred by the population. As the population ages, demand for more individualized activities and programs increases, as does the desire for passive-use opportunities. Based on the most current Census data, it is clear that while the city's population continues to increase, it is also aging. Nearly 65% of the population is at least 25 years old, and the largest projected increases are expected to occur in the sector of the population that is at least 45 years old.

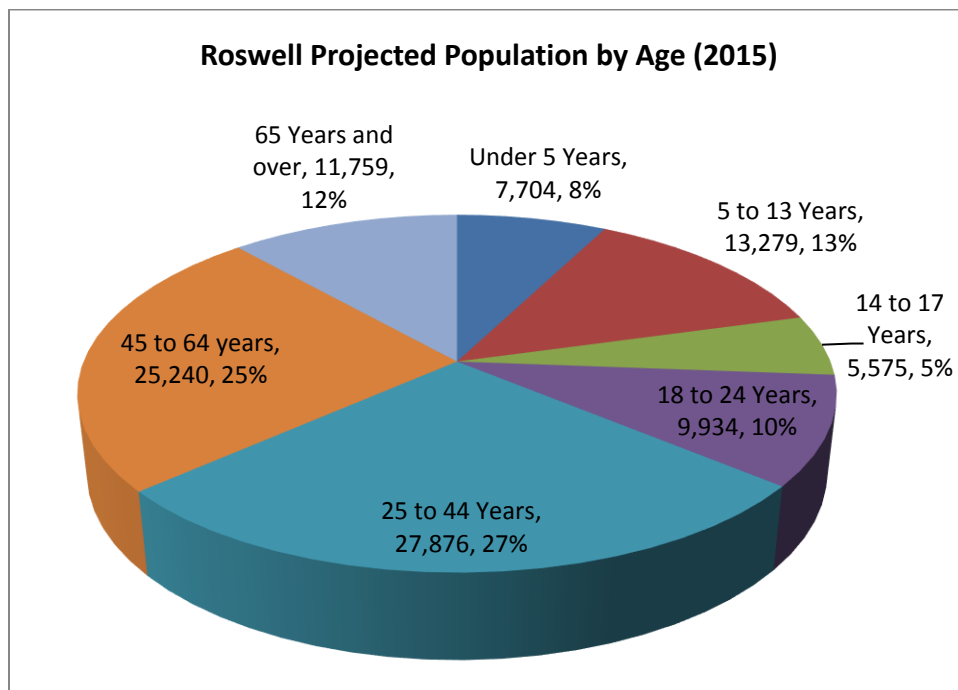
The implications of age distribution on recreation can be related to program offerings. The under 19 age groups include many of the participants in youth sports programs, while individuals and families of ages 20 through 64 generally participate in adult sports programs and also seek passive recreation activities.

Based on Tables 2 & 3, youth sports programs will likely experience a modest increase in participation over the next five years. The growing senior citizen component of the population is an indication that senior programs should continue to be expanded. Thus while continuing to provide a wide range of organized athletic programs, the Department will need to focus on expanding individual recreational opportunities, cultural and historic facilities and provide more passive activities.

Table 2 & 3 Population Estimates by Age



Source for 2010 Numbers: US Census Bureau, 2010 ESRI Forecast



Source for 2015 numbers: US Census Bureau, 2000 ESRI Forecast

Race and Ethnicity

From 2000 to 2010 the minority population increased by more than 2 times from 20% to 42% of the city's overall population. Although the majority of the population is still white, the percentage of minorities is expected to increase by 10% over the next five years. By 2015 it is projected that the aggregate minority population will actually represent a slight majority of the overall city population. Table 4 illustrates an increase in every minority demographic with the largest increases occurring in the Black and Hispanic populations. Different ethnic groups have different recreational needs, which should be incorporated into the 2012 Plan recommendations.

Table 4 – Population by Race

Roswell Population by Race						
Ethnicity	2000		2010		2015	
	Population	%	Population	%	Population	%
White Alone	56,248	70.90%	51,311	58.20%	48,961	48.20%
Black Alone	6,743	8.50%	10,373	11.70%	16,219	16.00%
American Indian Alone	159	0.20%	261	0.30%	304	0.30%
Asian or Pacific Islander Alone	3,015	3.80%	3,615	4.10%	5,677	5.60%
Some Other Race Alone	3,253	4.10%	5,846	6.60%	8,515	8.40%
Two or More Races	1,507	1.90%	2,241	2.50%	3,142	3.10%
Hispanic Origin	8,409	10.60%	14,699	16.60%	18,753	18.40%
Total	79,334		88,346		101,571	

Educational Attainment

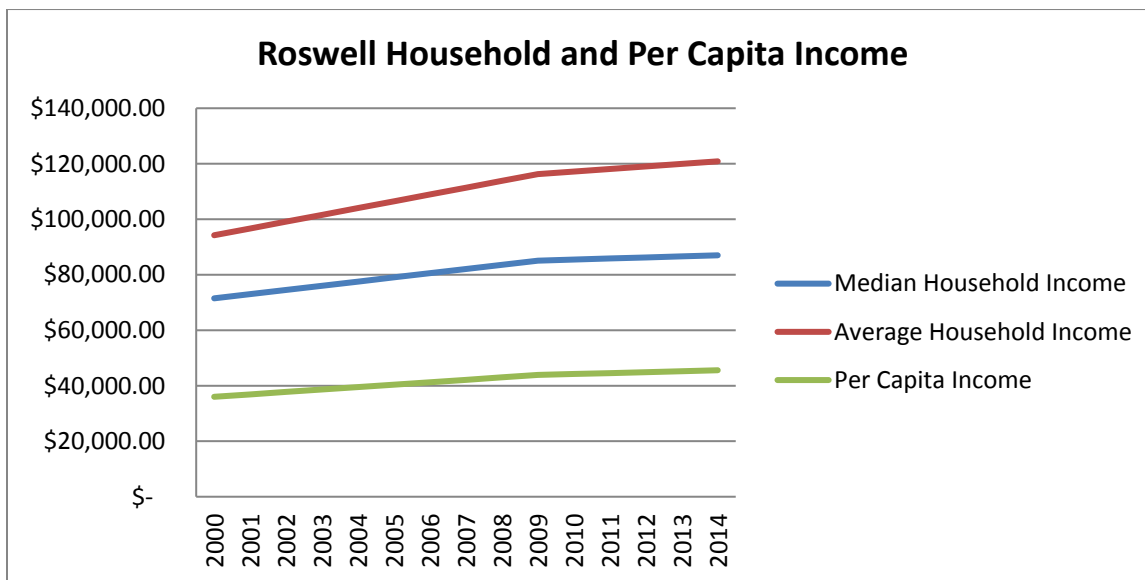
Educational attainment influences recreational activity participation. It is also an indication of the type of recreation facilities and programs that should be provided. According to the 2000 Census more than 52 percent of Roswell residents over the age of 25 held at least a Bachelor's degree. The Census estimates from 2009 indicate this number has remained unchanged. Therefore it is reasonable to assume that participation in cultural, environmental and arts programs will be consistent with levels shown over the past decade. The Department does not anticipate the need to expand these programs, and will maintain them at their current levels.

Income

From 2000 to 2009 income levels in Roswell experienced tremendous growth. Median household income increased by 19 percent and per capita income increase nearly 22 percent. Table 5 indicates that while both household and per capita incomes will continue to increase throughout the planning period, the increases will be more modest at only 2 percent and 4 percent respectively.

Based on these numbers, it is reasonable to assume that disposable income levels will remain relatively flat through the planning period. Current program fees are set by Commission policy. Fees should continue to reflect this policy and should be kept affordable for all levels of participants.

Table 5 – Population by Income



Source: ESI Business Analyst Online (Census 2000)



Inventory of Facilities

Terms defined
Small Urban Parks
Linear Parks
District Parks
Special Use Areas
Indoor Facilities
Historic Sites
School Recreation Areas
Undeveloped Recreation Sites
The Historic Roswell Trail system
Other Recreation Sites

INVENTORY OF FACILITIES

The facilities inventory conducted in 2001 was updated to include additional recreation, cultural and historic sites. The inventory includes city owned sites, school recreation areas where joint-use agreements are in place, trails and historic buildings now under the jurisdiction of the Department. Other recreation sites not owned by the city, but contribute to meeting the recreational needs of the Roswell community, were also included in the facilities inventory. These include the Chattahoochee Nature Center and the National Park Service's Vickery Creek, Gold Branch and Island Ford units of the Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area.

The system-wide facilities inventory classifies recreation sites by type, ascertains the acreage (both active and passive), provides a general description of the site, assesses utilization, evaluates the condition of facilities and identifies any needs for maintenance to either the site or individual facilities.

ROSWELL RECREATION AND HISTORIC SITES

Within the City of Roswell, a total of 42 sites were noted as part of the facilities inventory. Of these 42 sites, six are small urban parks, eleven are linear parks, six are district parks, seven are special use areas, three are historic buildings, seven are school recreation sites owned and operated by the Fulton County Board of Education and the remaining two sites are undeveloped land dedicated to recreation. Within those 42 sites, a total of 10 indoor facilities were inventoried.

TERMS DEFINED

Throughout the balance of the 2012 Plan, certain terms relating to the Roswell recreation system are used to describe system-wide recreation resources. The following definitions are provided for each of these terms:

Recreation Resources - Areas that consist of land and/or water that afford recreation opportunities for community residents or visitors to the city.

Recreation System - All of the recreation resources within the City of Roswell.

Recreation Site - A parcel of land and/or water dedicated for use for specific recreation purposes (also referred to a "parks" or "complexes").

Recreation Facilities - Improvements within a recreation site (ball fields, soccer fields, courts, playgrounds etc.).

Small Urban Park - A park that meets some of the active or passive recreational needs of a segment of the immediate adjacent area.

Neighborhood Park - A basic unit of a park system that generally meets informal, non-programmed active and passive recreation needs of a local neighborhood(s).

Linear Park - A park or greenway typically passive in nature that links other components of the recreation system together as part of a continuous park environment.

District Park - The principle unit of the recreation system, the district park meets a broad range of active, passive and programmed athletic needs and serves a large geographic segment of the community.

Athletic Complex - A recreation site devoted entirely to programmed athletic fields and support activities.

Special Use Area - A recreation site that is devoted to a single type of use.

Indoor Facility - A recreation center, community center, cultural arts center or other facility devoted to meeting singular or multiple active and/or passive needs.

Historic Site – A building that is either a National Register property or one having local historic significance.

School Recreation Area - A recreation site located at a school where a joint-use agreement is in place permitting use of some or all school recreation facilities by the City of Roswell.

Undeveloped Land - A site presently undeveloped that is owned by the City of Roswell and dedicated for recreational use.

Recreation Supply - The total acreage of recreation resources available for use at a given time.

SMALL URBAN PARKS

There are six small urban parks in the City of Roswell, all of which are in passive use. Each site is approximately two to three acres in size and offers opportunities to experience unique aspects of the community.



Located within the city's municipal complex, the area to the west of City Hall is devoted to a commemoration of those who served in the Vietnam War. The "Faces of War" memorial consists of a bronze sculpture, and a walkway paved with engraved bricks noting the names of war veterans. There is also a flagpole and monument dedicated to those who died serving their country in World War II. The area is well landscaped with marble benches, and brick walkways that lead from the Memorial to the north side of City Hall, connecting to the Smith Plantation and Cultural Arts Center.

Heart of Roswell Park

Heart of Roswell Park is located in the triangle formed by Atlanta Highway, Canton Street and Elizabeth Way. The southern portion of the site consists of a well landscaped area. The northern part of the park is a well-landscaped area with brick sidewalks, benches and planters. The focal point is a central, circular plaza with a stone sidewalk and benches.

Sloan Street Park

Sloan Street Park is located on Sloan Street within the Roswell Historic District. The site is level and grassed and has a plaza at each end. The western plaza consists of a decorative wood arbor, brick walkways, decorative lighting and benches. The eastern plaza has brick walkways, bench seating and a Civil War Monument to honor the Roswell women and children who were forcibly relocated during the War. A playground is situated between the two plazas.

Terramont

Terramont is a small subdivision recreational open area located in the eastern portion of the city on Terramont Road, adjacent to Holcomb Bridge Road. The site consists of an open space area used for informal play, as well as a community garden. This parkland is used only by residents of the Terramont Subdivision.



This site is located at the center of the old Roswell downtown and is a relatively level, heavily landscaped square with large, stately trees. The principle features are a central fountain and monuments, accessed from any of six entry walkways. A bandstand is located at the north end of the square, and a monument to Roswell King is located at the southern end of the square.

Triangle

The Triangle is a small landscaped area adjacent to the Heart of Roswell Park, which is located behind the City Municipal Complex, within the Historic District of downtown Roswell.

LINEAR PARKS

There are eleven linear parks within the city, all of which are proximate to water features.

Ace Sand Company/Don White Park

This site is located in southeast Roswell along the bank of the Chattahoochee River and is an integral segment of the Roswell River Walk trail along the Chattahoochee River.



Azalea Park is another link in the continuous linear park system adjacent to the Chattahoochee River. The river front park is leased from Fulton County and operated and maintained by the City of Roswell. Park facilities include: trails, river access, picnic areas, a playground, family restrooms, boat ramp, river equipment rentals and other passive-use amenities.



Big Creek Park was purchased in 2002 and at 175 acres is the largest park in the City of Roswell. At present, the park is dedicated to open space and facilities have been developed to take advantage of scenic views that abound in this area. Soft and hard surface trails are located throughout the park. There is also a system of elevated boardwalks with an outdoor classroom that provide environmental educational opportunities about the constructed wetlands that lie within the park. There are beginning and intermediate mountain bike trails located throughout the Park. Big Creek Park also connects to the Alpharetta Greenway system.

Don White Memorial Park

Located adjacent to the Chattahoochee River on Riverside Road beneath GA 400, Don White Memorial Park was constructed in memory of Don White, former Councilman who dedicated over 29 years of his life toward the betterment of the Roswell recreation system. The site consists of a variety of passive use facilities, including a handicap accessible fishing deck with river overlooks, fishing, benches, picnic tables, two memorials, a restroom facility and decorative lighting. This site provides access to the Roswell River Walk both to the west towards Riverside Park and to the east towards the Wells Tract. Utilization of this site is very heavy. This park also has a canoe/kayak/fishing dock and an outdoor sand volleyball court.

Garrard Landing

The Department received 22 acres of a larger tract when the city acquired the land three years ago. The tract affords access to the Chattahoochee River, an ADA accessible canoe/kayak launch ramp, a restroom facility, playground, picnic shelter and a soft surface trail.

Oxbo Linear Trail

Oxbo Linear Trail is a passive use recreation site located along Oxbo Road, extending westward from Grimes Bridge Road almost to Atlanta Street. Within the park are benches, deck overlooks and picnic tables. A soft surface trail extends the length of the site along Big Creek. There is a trail linkage from the park to the Historic Roswell Trail System.



Riverside Park is primarily a passive use park and an event facility that receives heavy utilization. The park itself contains playground facilities, a restrooms/concession building, pavilions, trails, fishing dock, picnic facilities, sprayground, event lawn, and stage.

Roswell River Walk

The Roswell River Walk is a linear park that when completed will extend the entire length of the city's boundary along the Chattahoochee River. Presently the Roswell River Walk extends 3 miles from Eves Road to Willeo Park. The total acreage of the Roswell River Walk is included as part of other linear parks.



Old Mill Park is adjacent to the Vickery Creek unit of the CRNRA. The site is rugged with an approximate 500-foot difference in elevation between Sloan Street and Big Creek. The park entry point is a trailhead located on Mill Avenue at the location of the covered bridge. The soft surface trail contains interpretive areas and overlooks of the Old Mill ruins and the dam.

Wells Tract

The Wells Tract is open space that was purchased as result of the River Care 2000 program. The land is presently mostly undeveloped except for two small ponds and a trail linkage from Don White Park. This property is part of the continuous trail system that parallels the river throughout the extent of the city limits.

Willeo Park

Willeo Park is located adjacent to the Chattahoochee River at the extreme southwestern edge of the city. The park has river access and contains a boardwalk trail that extends above a large expanse of wetlands. There are also a fishing/observation deck, soft trails and picnic facilities available for use in this park.

DISTRICT PARKS

In 1981, the Department adopted the district park concept as a means of providing the widest possible range of active and passive recreational opportunities to residents and visitors to the community. Under this concept, several parks (district parks) were to be developed in strategic locations in order to afford maximum geographic coverage of the city. As an outgrowth of this strategy there are presently six district parks in the city (East Roswell Park, Grimes Bridge Park, Hembree Park, Leita Thompson Memorial Park, Roswell Area Park and Waller Park/Waller Park Extension).

East Roswell Park, located on A.C. Lavender Drive off of Fouts Road is the only active recreation site east of GA 400. This park is very heavily utilized, particularly the athletic fields. The site is relatively level to gently rolling, and is well landscaped and maintained.



Facilities within East Roswell Park include softball fields, soccer fields, tennis courts, outdoor volleyball, covered pavilions with picnic tables, playgrounds, ponds, 1.5-mile perimeter walking/jogging trail, 18-hole disc golf course, trail link to Eves Road, dog park, community garden, sprayground and maintenance facility. All facilities in East Roswell Park are ADA accessible.

East Roswell Recreation Center, a multi-purpose building is located in East Roswell Park.

Grimes Bridge Park

Grimes Bridge Park is contiguous to Waller Park Extension. Facilities include soccer fields, outdoor handball court, a skate park and the Adult Recreation Center. The Adult Recreation Center provides seniors a wide range of programs and activities and is heavily used by this group.



Hembree Park is located on Hembree Road near the northern city limits. Due to its location and the presence of programmed athletic facilities, Hembree Park is heavily used. The park is well landscaped and highly maintained.

Within the park are baseball/softball fields, tennis courts, a covered pavilion, playground, memorial garden, pond, one-mile walking/jogging trail, a group campground area and a maintenance facility. The Hembree Recreation Center is located at Hembree Park.

Leita Thompson Memorial Park

The Leita Thompson Memorial Park is largely undeveloped open space with two small lakes. The site houses the Arts Center West and also includes 16 apartments that are rented by the Department, two small homes, a large house, a lake house and a Park Police officer's residence. There are soft walking trails, an off-leash area for dogs and a community garden within the park



Centrally located off Woodstock Road, Roswell Area Park is the most heavily used district park in the City and has the most acreage dedicated to active recreation. The site is elevated to the north and facilities have been constructed to blend with the topography and natural setting of the park. As with other Roswell parks, Roswell Area Park is heavily utilized and well maintained.

The city's only Olympic size outdoor swimming pool is located in this park along with a wading pool, baseball/softball fields, soccer and football fields, a playfield, tennis courts, covered pavilions and picnic facilities, a large playground, a three acre fishing lake with fountain feature, a three mile variable circuit trail system and a maintenance facility.

The Bill Johnson Community Activity Building, the Physical Activity Center and the Visual Arts Center are located in the Roswell Area Park.

Waller Park/Waller Park Extension

Because Waller Park and Waller Park Extension are adjacent to each other, this complex is considered a single district park. The site is located just north of the Vickery Creek unit of the CRNRA with entrances on Oak Street and Dobbs Drive. Waller Park is one of the city's oldest parks having been constructed in 1946. The site is characterized by rolling topography, becoming more level at Waller Park Extension.

Park facilities include baseball/softball fields, soccer fields, a small artificial turf soccer field, racquetball courts, a playfield, playgrounds (including handicapped play equipment), picnic areas, and a trail link to the CRNRA.

The Waller Park Recreation Center is located in the older section of the park.

SPECIAL USE AREAS

There are seven special use areas in the City of Roswell. These include sites of historic significance, single-purpose athletic areas, a special events facility and a small park area associated with the Roswell Visitor's Center.

Founder's Cemetery

Founder's Cemetery is located on Sloan Street in the Roswell Historic District. The cemetery originated in 1841, was deeded to the city in 1981 and contains the graves of Roswell King, the city founder, Confederate war dead and other individuals that played a role in the city's history. The cemetery entryway incorporates a decorative brick wall with benches and attractive landscaping. Soft-surface trails provide pedestrian access throughout the cemetery. The site is well maintained.

Lake Charles

Located adjacent to a Roswell fire station on Jones Road at Lake Charles Drive, the Lake Charles recreation site contains two tennis courts, benches and an open area consisting of grass and parking.

Roswell River Landing

The Roswell River Landing consists of a special events building and open space. The area outside of the building includes a concrete patio facing the river and an observation deck. Decorative lighting illuminates the building and parking area. The old tennis courts have been converted into an additional parking lot and boat storage for the Atlanta Junior Rowing Club.

Sweetapple Park

Adjacent to Sweetapple Elementary School, this park consists of two soccer fields, two baseball/softball fields and a concessions/restroom building. The concession/restroom building was constructed by the Department adjacent to the school as part of the joint-use agreement with the Fulton County Board of Education. The soccer fields are owned by the City of Roswell and are used for scheduled matches, but not as a practice facility.

Woodstock Soccer Complex

Located on Woodstock Road, the Woodstock Soccer Complex consists of two soccer fields, a concessions/restroom building and storage area. The site is level and the fields are heavily used for both practice and game play.

Leita Thompson Memorial Gardens

The memorial gardens occupy a small tract within the larger Leita Thompson Memorial Park in northwest Roswell. The gardens are beautifully landscaped and include seating areas, a water feature, sculptures, brick walkways, and a pavilion.

Liberty Square

This site is a subdivision recreation area that is presently maintained by the City of Roswell. The site consists of 21.4 acres and is a relatively level to gently rolling open grassed field located within a flood plain. This parkland is used primarily by residents of the Liberty Square Subdivision and surrounding apartment complexes.

INDOOR FACILITIES

Roswell's indoor recreation facilities are strategically located within the city's parks, and include multi-purpose buildings and amenities devoted to specialized athletics and cultural activities. The location within city parks provides accessibility for park users, individuals and families. There are 10 such facilities within the city's recreation system.

Arts Center West

The Arts Center West (ACW) has a clay studio renovated from an old farm house located at Leita Thompson Memorial Park. The ACW offers a wide range of clay and pottery programs and has firing facilities, studio space and gallery space for display of finished work.



Located within Grimes Bridge Park the Adult Recreation Center (ARC) is a heavily utilized facility serving a large segment of Roswell's over 50 population. A wide range of in-house programs are available including computer classes, bridge, dances, luncheons, and travel programs. Facilities also include a fitness center, arts and crafts classrooms, a computer room, billiard's room, ballroom and kitchen areas.

Bill Johnson Community Activity Building

Located in Roswell Area Park, the Bill Johnson Community Activity Building (BJCAB) is a multi-purpose structure that includes both active and passive recreation facilities. The two-story building contains 36,000 square feet of floor space. Facilities at the BJCAB include two gymnasiums, a mezzanine level running track, fitness and exercise rooms, a racquetball court, meeting rooms, a dance studio, a game room and administrative offices. This facility is heavily utilized for organized athletics, free-play and community functions.

Cultural Arts Center

With the incorporation of the Historic and Cultural Affairs Division, the Cultural Arts Center (CAC) is now operated by the Department. Located across from City Hall, within the Municipal Complex, the CAC receives heavy utilization from resident company programs, city programs and rental use. The facility includes a 600-seat, two-level auditorium, meeting rooms, and a small kitchen on the ground floor. The second floor contains a gallery, library, archives managed by the Historical Society, a box office, and offices used by the Georgia Ensemble Theatre. The CAC is operating at or above capacity throughout the year.

East Roswell Recreation Center

The East Roswell Recreation Center (ERRC) is located in East Roswell Park and contains 29,600 square feet of usable space. Facilities are similar to those in the BJCAB, except that some of the rooms are primarily devoted to dance and the arts.

Hembree Park Recreation Center

Hembree Park Recreation Center (HPRC) is located in Hembree Park. With 23,000 square feet of floor space, this facility contains two gymnasiums, a game room, meeting rooms, and administrative offices. This facility also has a two level storage area for athletic equipment.

Physical Activity Center

The Physical Activity Center (PAC) at Roswell Area Park is the most intensively used indoor facility in the city recreation system. This building was originally constructed to house the gymnastics program; however, due to the demand for additional gymnastic and dance programs, was expanded to 37,000 square feet. The building is operating at full capacity as the gymnastics, dance, and exercise programs continue to flourish.

Roswell River Landing

This special events facility is located on the south side of Azalea Drive along the Chattahoochee River. The Roswell River Landing (RRL) is a two-story event facility containing a kitchen, large meeting/dining room and restrooms. It is used for various group functions, meetings, banquets, weddings, reunions, and special events. This facility is heavily utilized.



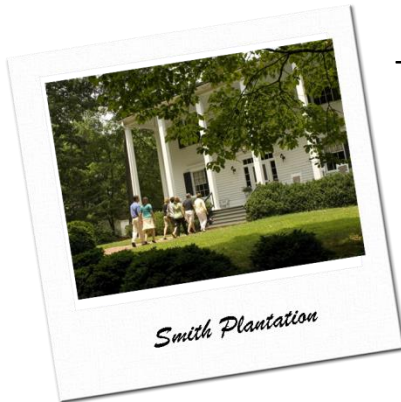
Located close to the BJCAB and Physical Activity Center, the Visual Arts Center (VAC) is unique to the area, providing instruction in fine arts, pottery and photography together with exhibition areas. Some of the classrooms include outdoor patios. This facility receives heavy usage.

Waller Park Recreation Center

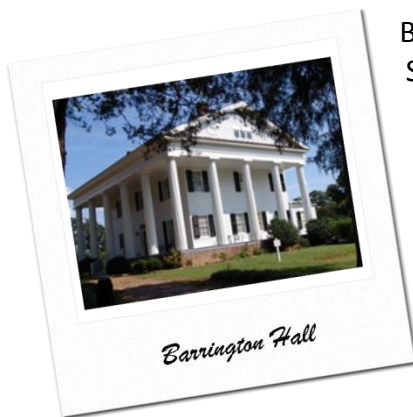
The Waller Park Recreation Center (WPRC) is the oldest facility in the city's recreation system. This structure contains 13,000 square feet of floor space which includes a gymnasium, meeting rooms, a game room and administrative offices.

HISTORIC SITES

The Department presently operates and maintains three historic sites: the Archibald Smith Plantation Home, Barrington Hall and Bulloch Hall.



The Archibald Smith Plantation is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and occupies an eight acre tract located adjacent to Roswell City Hall. Three generations of the Smith family occupied this land. The present site contains eleven original structures and two storage buildings. In addition to these buildings, there is a covered well and pavilion on the site. Approximately 11,000 visits are recorded annually at the Smith House. A Master Plan and Historic Structures Report have been completed for this site.



Barrington Hall is located in downtown Roswell, just west of South Atlanta Street. A National Register property, Barrington Hall was built in 1842 by the co-founder of the city. The Barrington King house was completely restored in 2003 and sold to the city in 2004. The six acre site is level and affords a great view of the surrounding city. Other structures adjacent to the home include a barn, smoke house, ice house and well. A Master Plan and Historic Structures Report have been completed for this site. Approximately 4,000 people visit the Barrington site annually.



Bulloch Hall is located on 16 acres west of Mimosa Boulevard at the western edge of the city's downtown area. Constructed in 1840 it is a Greek revival structure that was once the home of Theodore Roosevelt's mother. Approximately 1,300 people tour the home each year. The grounds are well landscaped and accessible via a trail. A Master Plan has recently been prepared that will improve pedestrian connections between buildings, provide adequate parking and enhance scenic vistas throughout the site. A Master Plan and Historic Structures Report have been completed for this site. Approximately 12,000 people visit this site annually for tours and events. Other structures adjacent to the home include slave cabins, a gift shop and pavilion.

SCHOOL RECREATION AREAS

The Department's joint-use agreement with the Fulton County Board of Education presently provides access to seven school recreation areas. These agreements enable the use of certain, but not all school recreation facilities for practice and/or programmed athletic activities.

Centennial High School

An agreement permitting use of the baseball, softball & football fields is in place.

Crabapple Middle School

Crabapple Middle School, located on Crabapple Road adjacent to Roswell Area Park and an agreement allows the use of two lighted ball fields and a gymnasium. The parking lots are used for certain special events.

Elkins Point Middle School

An agreement is in place to permits use of athletic fields and gymnasium.

Northwood Elementary School

An agreement is in place that permits the Department to use the soccer field at Northwood Elementary School.

Roswell High School

Roswell High School is located on King Road, close to the intersection of Crossville Road. The school has a wide range of state-of-the-art indoor and outdoor athletic facilities and the Department has an agreement to use the football, softball and lacrosse fields.

Roswell North Elementary School

Located on Woodstock Road just north of the entry to Roswell Area Park, Roswell North Elementary School has outdoor recreation facilities that are used by the Department. The Department presently has access to a lighted ball field and practice ball field. The school's gym is currently used by the Department during the winter months.

Sweetapple Elementary School

Under the existing joint-use agreement with the Sweetapple Elementary School and our Department, the community can enjoy two playgrounds, an athletic multi-use field 2 baseball/softball fields, picnic pavilion, and a one-mile soft-surface walking trail.

UNDEVELOPED RECREATION SITES

LaView

LaView is an undeveloped 7 acre subdivision recreation area located on Jade Cove Circle that was deeded to the city many years ago. The site is a heavily wooded area and is located within an active flood plain. The City of Roswell has a water quality monitoring station located on this property.

Sun Valley

Sun Valley is an 11.4 acre site that was historically used as a swimming area by many Roswell residents. There are two small lakes and wetlands on the site.

THE HISTORIC ROSWELL TRAIL SYSTEM



The Historic Roswell Trail System was conceived in 1991 by then City Councilman Don White and "The Friends of the Roswell Trail System". This system consists of sidewalks and bike lanes along paved roads, soft-surface trails, hard surface trails, and multi-purpose trails including bike paths. The main trailhead with an interpretive kiosk is located at the Roswell Municipal Complex.

Specific links within the overall system include the Historic District Trail, the Historic District Spur, the Old Mill Trail, the Vickery Creek Spur, the Roswell River Walk and trail systems within Roswell Area Park, Hembree Park, Waller Park, Big Creek Park, East Roswell Park, the Chattahoochee Nature Center and existing parkland along the Chattahoochee River.

In 1999, the Department initiated the Roswell River Walk project, a critical link in the Historic Roswell Trail System. In 2008 the Big Creek Greenway was connected to the Alpharetta Big Creek Greenway. Future linkage for the Roswell River Walk with neighboring communities including Sandy Springs, and Cobb County will complete this award winning trail system.

The Historic Roswell Trail System is an integral link in the regional passive use park system that has been developed along the Chattahoochee River. This continuous system will ultimately extend from north Georgia to Columbus, Georgia

OTHER RECREATION SITES

Chattahoochee Nature Center

The Chattahoochee Nature Center, located on Willeo Road in the southwestern part of the City, is a 43-acre educational facility owned and operated the non-profit organization by the same name. The Nature Center property contains a lake, classrooms and interpretive areas. Educational and environmental programs are operated at the Nature Center for visitors, school children and other organized groups. Across Willeo Road wooden boardwalks provide a pedestrian connection to the vast expanse of wetlands proximate to the Chattahoochee River.

Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area

Three units of the CRNRA are located within, or proximate to the City of Roswell. Each of these units is dedicated to passive recreational use and includes trail systems and interpretive areas.

The Island Ford unit is located in Fulton County, south of GA 400 on the west side of the Chattahoochee River. This unit of the CRNRA contains trails and the National Park Service headquarters. The Gold Branch unit is located along the Chattahoochee River southwest of the city in Cobb County and contains trails and river access points.

The Vickery Creek unit is located within the City of Roswell on Riverside Road and extends north along the eastern side of Vickery Creek (Big Creek) to Oxbo Road and Grimes Bridge Road. The Vickery Creek unit is also a passive use area containing heavily wooded areas on land characterized by significant topographic differentials. Historic resources and sites are abundant within the Vickery Creek unit and include the Historic Dam and Allenbrooke. Vickery Creek contains a soft surface perimeter loop trail and several spur trails. A covered pedestrian bridge across Big Creek connects the perimeter loop trail with Old Mill Park and Oxbo Linear Park.

Alpharetta Greenway

The Big Creek Greenway in the City of Alpharetta is a linear park, extending north-south and located on the east of GA 400. It consists of three completed sections and a future connection to Forsyth County.



Analysis of Programs

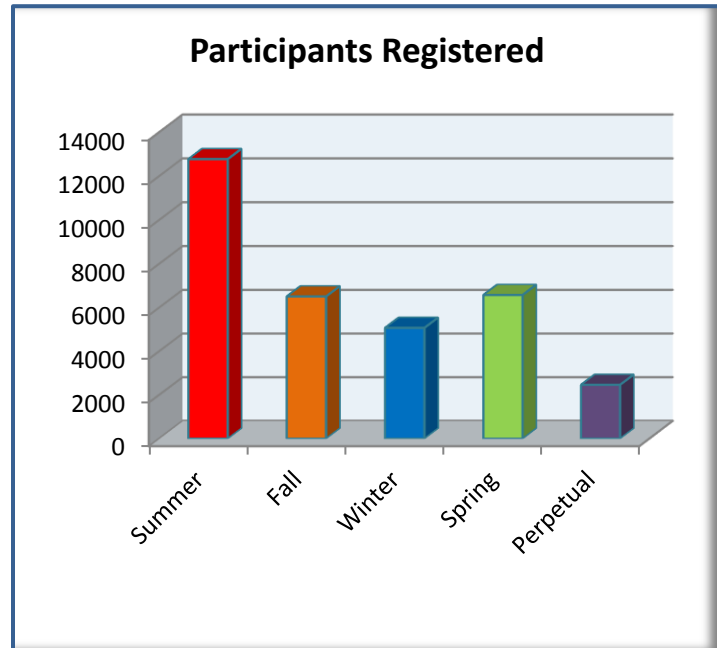
Youth Programs
Adult Programs
Programs for Mature Adults
Historic and Cultural Programs and Events
Special Events
Programs for Special Population Groups
Assessment of Programs

ANALYSIS OF PROGRAMS

The department offers year round programs for both youth and adults. These programs cover both active and passive recreational needs for all ages and include activities such as athletics, swimming, general interest, visual arts, Camps, health, and performing arts. These programs are offered at multiple facilities throughout the City of Roswell. The City also offers a wide range of Historic and Cultural Events throughout the year at our Historic homes and Cultural Arts Center.

Three times during the year, the City will publish a program brochure that is available on the City of Roswell Website and at any of our Recreational Facilities. Registration can be done online, in person, by mail, or by drop box. There is a 50% surcharge for non-resident program participation.

The Department strives, through its program offerings, to provide the widest possible range of opportunities wanting to participate in recreational activities. The City wants to provide opportunities for people of all genders, socio-economic levels, ages and proficiency levels.



YOUTH PROGRAMS

Programs offered for youth include athletics, aquatics, general interest, gymnastics, camps, performing arts, and visual arts.

Youth athletics are offered on a year round basis for boys and girls of all ages. Programs include lacrosse, baseball, soccer, football, tennis, cheerleading, basketball, disc golf, softball, tennis, volleyball, and gymnastics.

General Interest programs are also offered year round and include babysitting, cooking, crafts, fencing, karate creative play, safety town, puppet shows, youth workshops, and mothers morning out.

Summer Camp Programs are offered at several locations and include athletic camps, arts camps, day camps, middle school camps, performing arts camp, gymnastic camps, historical camps, and skate camps.

Performing Arts Programs for youth participants are offered primarily Fall through Spring. These programs included acting, musical theatre, creative dramatics, Kinderkids, dance.



Visual Arts programs for youth participants are offered year round and include classes for painting, sewing, clay, photography, sculpture, illustration, drawing, and the culinary arts.

ADULT PROGRAMS

Adult programs are offered on a year round basis. Programs include athletics, general interest, health and wellness, and visual arts.

Athletic programs for adults include softball, flag football, tennis, basketball, soccer, and disc golf.

Programs classified as “General Interest” for adults include art, dance, sign language, gardening, self-defense, fishing, and fencing.

Health and Wellness programs are offered throughout the year and include, aerobics, running, boot camp, yoga, and zumba. Multiple facilities also have walking trails and fitness rooms as well for participants to use.

Visual Arts Programs are offered year round and include, Painting, Drawing, Sculpting and Wheel Classes.

PROGRAMS FOR MATURE ADULTS

The population of mature adults, age 50 and over, in and around the Roswell area is very active. The department offers a wide range of both active and passive programs for both men and women. Programs are offered year round and include, fitness, personal training, aerobics, zumba, yoga, tai chi, retirement planning, nutritional classes, badminton, dancing, computer fundamentals, the Roswell Ramblers, lunches, dinners and dance events. The City also participates in the North Fulton Golden Games, held each May.



HISTORIC AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS DIVISION PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

This division sponsors events at the Cultural Arts Center, the three historic homes and other City Wide Events. These events occur at various times of the year and include theater, concerts, dance programs, art exhibits, festivals, professional workshops, historic performances and shows, gardening events and children’s programs. In addition, guided tours are offered at Barrington Hall, Bulloch Hall and the Smith Plantation daily.



The following is just a brief list of some of the annual events and programs offered by the Historic and Cultural Affairs Division:

-  Riverside Sounds Concert Series at Riverside Park
-  Roswell Farmers Market at City Hall
-  Roswell Roots: Festival of Black History & Culture in February
-  Heritage Days in May Festival
-  Summer Puppet Show Series
-  Fall Farm Days at Smith Plantation
-  Candlelight Tours at the three historic homes
-  Bard in the Yard at Barrington Hall
-  Tea with Beatrix Potter at Barrington Hall
-  Cooking Classes at Barrington
-  Trilogy Trolley Crawl
-  Numerous Holiday related programs and special decorations throughout December at the historic site
-  Summer Camp at all three Historic Homes
-  Various Concerts held at the Cultural Arts Center
-  Quilt Show at Bulloch



SPECIAL EVENTS

There are numerous events and festivals held throughout the year in Roswell at various locations. These are geared to all ages and include holiday celebrations (Easter, Halloween, Memorial Day, Fourth of July, Labor Day, and Christmas), concerts, pet shows, art festivals, pool events, fishing, and many others. The City also host its Annual Youth Day Parade in October.

PROGRAMS FOR SPECIAL POPULATION GROUPS

The department offers a wide range of programs for Special Population groups of all ages. These programs include both active and passive recreational opportunities for all ages and include a club for young adults, therapeutic recreation, tennis, swimming, field day, adaptive basketball, adaptive soccer, chair aerobics, quarterly dances, and other activities.



ASSESSMENT OF PROGRAMS

Historically, the department has strived to offer a wide range of programs that are aimed at meeting both the active and passive recreational needs of both residents and non-residents. A large portion of our programs are usually at or near capacity and are supervised by highly qualified personnel. In addition, through the increased technology given to us through our registration software package, supervisors are now capable of tracking the programs over several years. This helps them monitor trends and gives them the ability to make adjustments to underperforming programs and be ahead of the curve before waitlist for other programs become excessive.

Participation Data for the past year was reviewed to facilitate completing an overall assessment of the Department's programs. Table 6 presents a summary for the Period of June 2011-May 2012

Table 6
Program Utilization
June 2011 – May 2012

Season	Programs Offered	Programs Cancelled	Percent Cancelled	Programs Waitlisted	Participants Registered	Participants Waitlisted
Summer	1139	167	14.66%	98	12778	233
Fall	829	306	36.91%	81	6513	199
Winter	619	185	29.89%	51	5073	158
Spring	711	175	24.61%	99	6579	249
Perpetual	145	9	6.21%	0	2463	0
Total	3443	842	24.46%	329	33406	839

From the table above, you will notice that we offer the largest number of programs during the Summer season. This is due in large part to the number of camps and swim lessons offered during this season. You will also notice that during this same period, the total number of cancellations is also low at just above 14.5%.

On an annual basis, our program cancellation rate stands at just below 25%. This would be considered average for the total number of programs offered. Presently, all programs that have been cancelled in the past year are being reexamined to determine the feasibility of the program and what changes need to be made to help reduce the overall number of programs cancelled. Programs offered that had a waitlist, about 10%, are also being examined to help reduce the overall number of participants on the waitlist. This will be done by adding additional sections or increasing the maximum number of participants for a program where possible. These discussions, along with feedback from website surveys will be used to formulate recommendations for programs, to be reflected in subsequent section of this plan.





WAIT-LISTED PROGRAMS

While several programs only have a minimal waitlist of 3 or less, there are some programs that have waitlist that warrants the possibility of offering additional sections to meet the demand for the program. In the past year, 839 people were waitlisted over 329 programs. The following Programs had the most significant Waitlist.






Fall

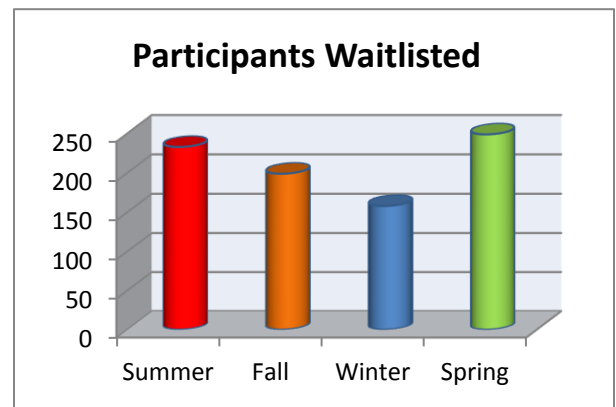
-  Fall Family Campout
-  Youth Baseball (Multiple Age Groups)
-  Youth Football (Multiple Age Groups)
-  Cheerleading (Multiple Age Groups)
-  Boys Recreational Soccer (Multiple Age Groups)
-  Kiddie Kickers @ East Roswell Park
-  Beginner Gymnastics (Multiple Sections)

Winter









-  Father/Daughter Valentine Dance (One Day Program)
-  Winter Bingo (One Day Program)
-  Boys Basketball (Multiple Age Groups)
-  Girls Basketball (Multiple Age Groups)

Spring

-  Teen Baseball (Multiple Age Groups)
-  Boys Recreational Soccer (Multiple Age Groups)
-  Girls Recreational Soccer (Multiple Age Groups)
-  Kiddie Kickers @ East Roswell Park
-  Flashlight Egg Hunt (One Day Program)



Summer

-  RAP Day Camp
-  Adventure Camp (Multiple Weeks)
-  All American Bingo (One Day Program)
-  Gymnastic Tumbling and Trampoline
-  Girls Gymnastic Camps (Multiple Weeks)
-  Musical Theatre Camp (Multiple Weeks)
-  Drawing and Painting Camps (Multiple Weeks)
-  Art Exploration Camp (Multiple Weeks)



PROGRAMS UNDER CAPACITY

Programs that consistently are under capacity are subject to cancellation. In some cases, programs will be cancelled permanently based on previous registration numbers and market analysis. Programs that are cancelled are routinely evaluated to determine if they should still be offered.

During the past year, a total of 842 classes were cancelled due to low enrollment. This number has increased in recent years due to the department having to examine the cost effectiveness of running programs under capacity. If a program is unable to cover the expected cost based on the number enrolled, the program is cancelled.

Several of the programs cancelled were also a result of the department over saturating the market. For example we may have offered 55 programs of Kinder Gym when only 45 were needed. Program Supervisors have taken note of these trends and will adjust according in future years to reduce the number of cancelled and under capacity classes. You will actually notice a downward trend in the number of cancelled classes from Fall, to Winter, to Spring as supervisors adjusted as needed during the year.

At the conclusion of each year, department program personnel review those programs that are frequently under capacity, or that are cancelled to determine the feasibility offering them in the future.











Input to the Planning Process

INPUT TO THE PLANNING PROCESS

An interactive survey was placed on the City's website from June 30, 2010 through September 21, 2010 to give residents of the Roswell an opportunity to provide input into the 2012 Plan. In addition to the online survey, hard copies were also made available in various locations throughout the City and at all Recreation Centers. Approximately 500 handwritten responses were received by the Department. At the end of the survey period total of 2,919 people completed the Roswell Recreation and Parks Departments' Needs Assessment Questionnaire.



The survey queried:

-  Residency status
-  The area of the city in which respondents lived
-  Visitation to parks, activity centers, cultural and historic facilities
-  Frequency of visitation and visitor preferences
-  Desired additions to parks, centers, cultural and historic facilities
-  Desired improvements to the park system
-  The need for additional programs and services
-  Other related user data.

The results of the survey are summarized in Appendix C.







Needs Assessment

NEEDS ASSESSMENT




The purpose of the Needs Assessment is to identify system-wide acreage requirements. This is accomplished by applying accepted standards for acreage to existing and forecast populations. The overall adequacy of recreation system acreage to be provided is determined using standards that are specific to the Roswell community.

Therefore, the Needs Assessment contained in this 2012 Plan uses National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) standards as a baseline, with these standards modified to reflect local participation rates, utilization, user demand and expressed desires of community residents. The Department maintains records of recreation site utilization and program participation rates resulting in "Roswell-specific" guidelines for system-wide assessment. This strategy for "Roswell-specific" guidelines was successful in preparing the 1981, 1986, 1992 and 2001 updates to the original Action Plan for Recreation. Developing standards that are unique to addressing the needs of the Roswell community has contributed in part to the present high level of satisfaction with the Roswell recreation system.

System-wide and facility standards were developed as part of the Needs Assessment process. The resultant guidelines are:

-  People-oriented, reflecting the perceived needs and desires of system users
-  Practical, based upon sound recreation planning principles
-  Feasible, deemed as attainable within the five-year implementation period
-  Relevant, reflecting longer-term growth and annexation trends

System-wide planning standards are used as guidelines to determine the amount of land necessary to meet present and future recreation demand. Beginning with the 2001 Plan, the Department opted to utilize such an overall standard to ascertain the need for future park acres. This 2012 Plan will also utilize a modified version of this standard. Using an overall acreage standard as a benchmark, "Roswell-specific" system-wide acreage planning guidelines were developed. The local criteria that influenced the development of this guideline included:

-  Input received from the interactive website survey
-  Perceived demand for both active and passive parkland
-  Local demographic characteristics and population forecasts

With population anticipated to increase by the year 2016, and with residents expressing a desire for both active and passive recreation opportunities, the Department has adopted an overall standard of 9.0 acres per 1,000 persons.

Table 7 depicts the system-wide acreage needed to meet this standard.

**TABLE 7
LOCAL CLOSE-TO-HOME ACREAGE NEEDS
2010 AND 2015**

YEAR	POPULATION	STANDARD	NEED (ACRES)	SURPLUS (DEFICIT)
2010	88,346	9.0 Ac./1,000	795	123 acres
2015	101,367	9.0 Ac./1,000	912	6 acres

With a present total of 918 acres of parkland (including undeveloped sites), the city has a 2010 surplus of 123 acres, and by the year 2015 will have a small surplus of 6 acres. However, approximately 211 acres of the total are considered “undevelopable land”, which is property that due to its size, shape, frontage, topography, location or/and legal use cannot be developed with site improvements such as buildings or active recreational uses, and if sold must be assembled to adjacent property. It is therefore important that the Department continue to look for additional acreage to acquire for active recreation areas such as lacrosse fields.





2012 Plans, Goals & Objectives

Land Acquisition
Recreation Sites
Recreation Facilities
Programs
Operations and Maintenance
Safety and Security
Community Involvement

2012 PLAN GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

In order to understand the relationship between goals and objectives and the recreation planning process the following definitions are provided:

 **Goal:** A goal is an expression of wishes and values, providing direction and has the full support of the community. A goal is a desirable condition or an end result.


 **Objective:** Objectives are identifiable tasks which when attained results in goal attainment. Objectives are measurable actions.


Historically, planning studies including system-wide recreation master plans tend to include a range of general goals together with numerous objectives. To facilitate goal attainment during the five-year planning period, the principle of "less is more" is followed in developing goals and objectives for this 2012 Plan. Eight goals are identified together with specific, measurable objectives.


❖ Land Acquisition

Maintain the standard of nine acres per 1,000 persons through the year 2016.

Specific objectives for meeting this goal include:

 In the event that land of an appropriate size, in an appropriate location is made available to the Department, consideration should be given to making the acquisition.

 Should an event occur that results in a population increase beyond that which is forecast in this 2012 Plan, the Department should endeavor to acquire parkland that will maintain the acreage standard.

 The Department should continue to consider acquiring land jointly with the Fulton County Board of Education.

❖ Recreation Sites

Continue to provide parks in strategic locations to achieve a higher level of geographic coverage throughout the community.

Specific objectives for meeting this goal include:




-  Complete the development of sites presently unfinished.
-  Retrofit parks where there is a need to upgrade site/facilities, or where there is a distinct demand for new recreational opportunities.
-  Evaluate the facilities, programs, and services offered in existing parks and make adjustments to more evenly distribute them throughout the community based on population distribution, particularly in regards to east and west of GA 400 (see table below).

Table 8 depicts a snapshot of the services offered east of GA 400 (at East Roswell Park) and how they relate to NRPA guidelines.

**TABLE 8
ROSWELL FACILITY SUPPLY/NEEDS EAST OF GA 400**








<i>Facility/Program</i>	<i># East of GA 400</i>	<i>NRPA Guideline</i>	<i>*2012 Supply</i>	<i>2012 Need</i>
Ball fields (diamonds)	4	1/ 5,000	1/ 7,000	2
Tennis	8	1/ 2,000	1/ 3,500	6
Lacrosse	0	No Guideline	0	2
Playgrounds	3	1/ 5,000	1/ 14,000	4

**Based on a population of 28,264 people east of GA 400. That number was extrapolated from the responses to Question 14 from the survey. No statistical modeling was applied. A basic assumption was made that the responses to the survey are representative of the overall population. Further analysis is needed to make an accurate assessment of the Supply/Needs east of GA 400.*

❖ Recreation Facilities

Expand the number and type of recreation facilities in order to meet the demand of all age groups.






Specific objectives for meeting this goal include:

-  Improve facilities where necessary in existing parks.
-  Installation of artificial turf athletic fields
-  Construction of a new indoor aquatic / recreation center facilities
-  Construction of new facility for gymnastics (boy's team) and performing arts.
-  Expand the Cultural Arts Center to include a modified black box theatre, new gallery, lobby spaces, back of house spaces, rehearsal hall, offices and mezzanine.
-  Development of passive-use facilities to include: group campsites, nature trails and park trails.
-  Continued construction of support facilities including concessions, restrooms and parking.

❖ Programs

Provide a wide range of programs throughout the year designed to meet the needs of residents and non-residents.







Specific objectives for meeting this goal include:

-  Evaluate wait listed programs to determine the need to expand size limits or, if it is feasible, to offer additional similar programs.
-  Review the programs that are under capacity or cancelled each season to determine the need for permanent cancellation.
-  Evaluate and prioritize new programs that have been requested by respondents to the Needs Assessment Questionnaire as they relate to the rest of the data in the 2012 Plan.
-  Prepare an updated Community Cultural Plan to assess the current needs of underserved populations for additional arts and cultural presenting programs.
-  Expand programs for special populations, with emphasis on inclusion in existing programs.

❖ Operations and Maintenance

Expand and improve current maintenance practices as necessary to retain the highest quality of parks, equipment and support facilities.







Specific objectives for meeting this goal include:

-  Provide adequate personnel to achieve routine and non-routine maintenance functions.
-  Continue to provide training and certifications for all maintenance personnel.
-  Locate a full-service maintenance facility at all district parks.
-  Continue to add staff as acreage, facilities and responsibilities increase.
-  Establish a specialized maintenance crew for historic sites.
-  Charging fees for non-resident uses non-revenue generating programs/facilities.

❖ Safety and Security

Expand the present Park Police and supervisory Department staff compliment as necessary to provide continued high levels of safety and security at both existing and new parks and facilities.






Specific objectives for meeting this goal include:

-  Add Park Police as new recreation sites are constructed, or if crime accelerates.
-  Explore the feasibility of dedicating some Park Police for bicycle patrol of trails and linear parks.
-  Continue to utilize security lighting at park entryways, in parking lots, proximate to restrooms and adjacent to high activity areas.
-  Adjust hours of operation of greenways and trails in linear parks to minimize the potential for criminal activities.
-  Install security cameras at historic sites for the protection of volunteers and valuable artifacts.
-  Research the CPTED program (Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design) and investigate the feasibility of sending staff members to training seminars.

❖ Community Involvement

Develop and implement a structured mechanism that will facilitate the continued involvement of community residents in the recreation planning process.

Specific objectives for meeting this goal include:

-  Hold public informational meetings each year to inform the public as to plan changes to the recreation system and to elicit input to the planning process.
-  Conduct a formal leisure survey of city residents at least once every three years.
-  Meet informally with homeowner's associations, civic and special interest groups to disseminate information and to gain input relative to demand for facilities and programs.
-  Update the Community Cultural Plan at least every five years.
-  Consider using area schools as forums for disbursing information pertaining to recreation sites, facilities and programs.








Strategic Plan Recommendations

STRATEGIC PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS

In this section of the 2012 Plan, recommendations are made to address the acquisition of land, improving and/or expanding existing parks and for the development of new parks and facilities.

PLAN DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

The overall strategy to facilitate the implementation of plan recommendations identifies several initiatives to be followed during the five-year planning period:





-  Land costs within the city continue to increase and few contiguous parcels containing significant acreage remain within the corporate limits. The needs assessment revealed a surplus of recreational acreage by the year 2016. However, in the event that the opportunity arises to acquire land suitable for development as a recreational, historical or cultural resource, consideration should be given to making the acquisition.
-  The presence of GA 400 is a physical barrier to east-west travel, particularly during peak hour traffic periods. In the future the Department should attempt to balance active and passive-use facilities on either side of GA 400.
-  Indoor facilities are becoming overcrowded. Efforts should be made to alleviate overcrowding by seeking additional locations for such facilities or by expanding current facilities.
-  Program offerings should be reviewed seasonally to determine if there is a need to cancel those that are consistently under capacity, and to examine the need to expand capacities or to add additional programs to address wait listed programs.
-  The maintenance of parks and facilities is of on-going importance to the viability of the recreation system. The city needs to be certain that adequate maintenance personnel and equipment are made available to the Department to retain the Roswell recreation system as one of the Southeast's best.








Special Five-Year Strategic Recommendations

SPECIFIC FIVE-YEAR STRATEGIC RECOMMENDATIONS





➤ Acquire additional parkland

-  Parkland adjacent to existing parks should always be a priority
-  Property proximate to the intersection of Hardscrabble and Chaffin Road
-  Property on Fouts Road near East Roswell Park
-  Property adjacent on either side of Hembree Park






➤ Administrative Support

-  Expand Public Relations efforts to community
-  Develop a fund raising campaign for small project development
-  Add Park Police as acres and responsibility increases
-  Provide additional security measures such as cameras and solar powered phones
-  Continue to promote a “Bike Friendly Community”








➤ Facility Development

-  Indoor aquatics facility
-  Artificial turf fields
-  Art Center on East Side
-  Gymnastics/Dance facility on East Side







➤ Existing Facilities Improvements/Expansions

-  Restrooms/picnic areas/parking at Leita Thompson Memorial Park
-  Restrooms/picnic areas/parking at Big Creek Park
-  Therapeutic Pool and Fitness Center at Adult Recreation Center
-  Completion of Don White Park (Ace Sand Company)
-  Expansion of Cultural Arts Center





➤ Trail Development

-  More pedestrian access to the Chattahoochee River
-  Connect Historic Roswell Trail System to National Park Service Trail at Allenbrooke
-  Connection of Roswell River Walk with Big Creek Park
-  Complete Roswell River Walk from Azalea Drive to Willeo Park
-  Expand bike opportunities for all type of bikes
-  Connect Roswell River Walk to Cobb County at Willeo Park
-  Connect Roswell River Walk to East Roswell Park via Eves Road

➤ Program Implementation

-  Expand programs east of Georgia Hwy 400
-  Expand programs with waiting lists
-  Investigate adventure based programming
-  Expand program offerings to citizens with special needs
-  Encourage more self-directed programs for adults
-  Maintain programming efforts to meet the changing needs of the community

➤ Maintenance

-  Renovations of existing aged recreational buildings and amenities
-  Expand parking areas along Roswell River Walk parks
-  Provide more shade structures at playgrounds
-  Expand weekend parks staff hours for routine duties in all parks



Appendix

Projects Considered for Future Bond Referendums
Facility Matrixes
Participant Survey Summary

Appendix A

Projects considered for future Bond Referendums

This appendix was attached to the Five year Strategic Plan due to the timing of this plan and the possibility of bond referendums within the time period covered by this plan.

All cost estimates presented are in 2012 dollars.

It is not the intention of this appendix to imply that the following list of items will be accomplished during the length of the 2012 Plan.

COST ESTIMATES FOR FUTURE BOND ITEMS / CAPITAL EXPENDITURES

Future Bond item/Capital	Cost Estimate
Synthetic Turf Athletic Fields	\$4,000,000
Adult Recreation Center Addition	\$2,000,000
Development of River Walk Parks	\$1,000,000
Indoor Aquatic Center	\$18,000,000
Continuation of RRW to BCP	\$10,000,000
Gymnastic/Dance Facility	\$3,000,000
Synthetic Turf Athletic Fields	\$8,000,000
Cultural Arts Center Expansion	\$18,000,000
BCP Boardwalk Develop to GA 400	\$500,000
Development of Don White/Ace Sand	\$1,500,000
Purchase Additional Parkland	\$12,000,000
Park Development (LTMP/ERP/BCP)	\$9,000,000
Total Estimated Cost	\$87,000,000




























Appendix Acronym Key

RRW	- Roswell RiverWalk
BCP	- Big Creek Park
LTMP	- Leita Thompson Memorial Park
ERP	- East Roswell Park

Appendix B

Facility Matrixes

SMALL URBAN PARKS

	City Hall	Heart of Roswell	Sloan Street	Terramont	Town Square	Triangle
ACREAGE						
Active Acres	0	0	0	2.5	0	
Passive Acres	3	0.5	1.5	0	1	0.5
ACTIVE FACILITIES						
Ball Field				1		
Playfield				1		
Playground			1			
PASSIVE FACILITIES						
Arbors						
Fountain						
Gazebo						
Pedestrian Plazas						
Memorials and/or						
Monuments						
Pavilions			1			
Picnic Facilities						
Benches						
Decks/Overlooks						
Decorative						
Paved Walkways			0.1 Mi.			
Soft Trails			0.2 Mi.			
Landscaped Areas						

LINEAR

	Ace Sand Co.	Azalea Park	Big Creek Park	Don White	Garrard Landing	Oxbo Linear Trail	Riverside Park	Roswell River Walk	Old Mill Park	Wells Tract	Willeo Park
ACREAGE	28	85.2	175	1.5	22	12.6	20	N/A	40.4	38	30
Active Acres	0	1	5	0	0.5	0	1	N/A	0	0	0
Passive Acres	28	84.2	170	1.5	21.5	12.6	19	N/A	40.4	38	30
ACTIVE FACILITIES											
Soccer Fields			2								
Playgrounds		1	1		1		2				
Playfields			2		1						
Mountain Biking			Yes								
PASSIVE FACILITIES											
Covered Pavilions		2	1		1		5				
Picnic Facilities											
Cooking Grills		4			2		5				
Boat Launch		1		1	1		1				
Decks	1	1	2	2	1	2		2			1
Boardwalk											
Interpretive Areas											
Pedestrian Bridge		1	4	1		1	2	1	1	1	
Benches											
Paved Trails	0.8 Mi.	1.3 Mi.	1.5 Mi.	0.2 Mi.		1.2 Mi.	1.5 Mi.	3.0 Mi.			
Soft Trails	0.5 mile		0.5 Mi.		0.6 Mi.	1.0 Mi.	0.2 Mi.		1.2 Mi.	1	0.25 Mi.
Trail Linkages											
Landscaped Areas											
Water Features	River	River	Creek	River	River	Creek	River	River	Creek	River/Pond	River
Scenic Overlooks											
Historic Ruins											
SUPPORT FACILITIES											
Restrooms		2	1	1	1		1				
Maintenance Facility							1				

DISTRICT PARKS

	East Roswell Park	Grimes Bridge Park	Hembree Park	Leita Thompson Memorial Par	Roswell Area Park	Waller Park/ Extension
ACREAGE	96.6	11.3	34.5	143.1	79.6	58.6
Active Acres	44.7	11.3	34.5	0	79.6	58.6
Passive Acres	51.9	0	0	143.1	0	0
ACTIVE FACILITIES						
Baseball/Softball	 X 4L		 X 6L		 X 8L	 X 3L
Dog Park						
Soccer Fields	 X 2 L	 X 2 UL			 X 1 L	 X 3L, 2 UL
Football Fields					 X 1 L	
Scorer's Buildings	2		6		8	2
Running Track					1	
Tennis Courts	 X 8 L		 X 4 L		 X 12 L	 X 2 UL
Tennis Building	✓				✓	
Artificial Turf field						✓
Racquetball Courts						2 UL
Volleyball Courts	1 UL					
Disc Golf Course	✓					
Skate Park		✓				
Playfields	✓				✓	✓
50 Meter Swimming						
Pool					1 (9 Lanes)	
Playgrounds	 X2					 X2
PASSIVE FACILITIES						
Covered Pavilions	2 w/RR		1 w/RR		6 - 3 w/RR	1
Picnic Facilities						
Cooking Grills					Yes	
Water Features	Ponds (2)		Pond	Lakes (2)	Lake	
Fishing						
Memorial Gardens						
Paved Sidewalks	✓		✓		✓	✓
Paved Trails	1.5 Mi.		1.0 Mi.		3.0 Mi.	0.5 Mi.
Soft Trails	1.0 Mi.			3.0 Mi.		0.5 Mi.
Community Garden						
Campground						
SUPPORT FACILITIES						
Apartments/Homes	1			20		
Park Police Residence				1		
Conc./Restroom						
Buildings	2	1	3		4	2
Maintenance Facility	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓

SPECIAL USE AREAS

	Founder's Cemetery	Lake Charles	River Landing	Sweetapple Park	Woodstock Soccer Complex	Leita Thompson Memorial Gardens	Liberty Square
ACREAGE	1	0.5	2.5	8.2	5	5	21.4
Active Acres	0	0.5	0	8.2	5	0	0
Passive Acres	1	0	2.5	0	0	5	21.4
ACTIVE FACILITIES							
Ball Fields				2 UL			
Soccer Fields				2 UL	2 L		
Practice Field				1 UL			
Tennis Courts		2 UL					
Playgrounds				1			
Playfield							1
PASSIVE FACILITIES							
Historic Graves	✓						
Benches	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
Pavilions				✓		✓	
Picnic Facilities				✓		✓	
Gardens						✓	
Fountains						✓	
Walkways	✓			✓			
Water Features				Creek			
Landscaped Areas	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
Soft Trails	0.1 Mi.			1.1 Mi.			Yes
SUPPORT FACILITIES							
Buildings				✓	✓		

INDOOR FACILITIES

	ACW	ARC	BJCAB	CAC	ERRC	HPRC	PAC	RRL	VAC	WPRC
BUILDING SIZE	8,000 sf	15,752 sf	36,000 sf	35,000sf	29,000sf	23,000sf	37,000sf	4,180 sf	8,000sf	13,000sf
ACTIVE FACILITIES										
Basketball Courts			✓✓		✓✓	✓✓				✓
Running Track			✓							
Racquetball Cts.			✓							
Exercise Rooms			✓		✓		✓✓			
Fitness Rooms		✓	✓✓		✓					
Gymnastics Ctr.							✓			
Dance Studios			✓		✓		✓✓✓✓			
Ballroom		✓								
Dance Floor		✓						✓		
PASSIVE FACILITIES										
Archive Rooms				✓✓						
Auditorium				600 Seat						
Dressing Rooms				✓✓						
Rehearsal Room				✓						
Art Studios		✓			✓				✓✓✓✓✓	
Clay Studios	✓✓								✓	
Kilns	✓									
Photo Darkrooms									✓	
Exhibit Areas	✓			✓					✓	
Galleries	✓			✓					✓	
Libraries		✓		✓						
Community Rooms		✓✓✓	✓		✓	✓				✓
Meeting Rooms		✓	✓✓✓✓	✓✓W/Div	✓✓	✓✓	✓			✓✓
Computer Room		✓								
Game Rooms		✓	✓			✓				✓
Kitchens	✓	✓	✓	0.5	✓	✓		✓		
Stage			✓	✓						
Lobby Reception	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Loft							✓	✓		
Patio/Deck Areas	✓	✓						✓✓	✓	
SUPPORT FACILITIES										
Admin. Offices.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Concessions				✓			✓			
Restrooms	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Equipment/Storage	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

HISTORIC SITES

Column1	Archibald Smith Plantation Home	Barrington Hall	Bulloch Hall
ACREAGE	8	6.5	16
BUILDINGS			
Barn	✓	✓	
Block House			✓
Caretaker's House	✓		
Cook House	✓		
Corn Crib	✓		
Garage	✓		
Greenhouse	✓		
Guest House	✓		
Ice House		✓	
Main House	✓	✓	✓
Museum/Shop			✓
Necessary House	✓	✓	
Servant's House	✓		
Slave Quarters	✓		✓
Smoke House		✓	
Spring House	✓		
Storage Building	✓✓		
INDOOR AMENITIES			
Administrative Offices	✓	✓	✓
Equipment Areas	✓		
Exhibit Areas	✓	✓	✓
Kitchens	✓✓✓	✓✓	✓
Lobby/Reception Area	✓		
Meeting Rooms		✓	✓
Restrooms	✓✓✓✓		✓
Storage Areas	✓	✓	✓
Welcome Centers	✓		✓
Gift Shop			✓
OUTDOOR AMENITIES			
Benches	✓		✓
Covered Pavilions	✓		
Gardens	✓	✓	✓
Pavilions	✓		
Gazebos	✓		✓
Interpretive Areas	✓	✓	✓
Water Features	Spring		Pond
Landscaped Areas	✓	✓	✓
Paved Walkways	✓	✓	✓
Picnic Facilities	✓		✓
Soft Trails	0.25 Mi.		0.5 Mi.
Stone Terraces	✓		
Wells	✓	✓✓	✓✓

Appendix C

2010 Participant Survey Summarization

The number in parenthesis at the end of each question is the total number of responses for that particular question.

Question 1 – Which of the following parks do you or your family utilize? (2,893)

Often

Roswell Area Park	65.4 %
Hembree Park	24.2 %
Sweetapple Park	23.3 %

Occasionally

Riverside Park	45.7 %
East Roswell Park	44.6 %
Hembree Park	38.6 %

Never

Sloan Street Park	89.7 %
Garrard Landing Park	89.5 %
Founder's Cemetery	84.3 %

Question 2 – Which of the following facilities do you or your family utilize? (2,750)

Often

Community Activity Building	24.3 %
Physical Activity Center	23.9 %
East Roswell Recreation Center	16.4 %

Occasionally

Cultural Arts Center	43.3 %
East Roswell Recreation Center	38.4 %
Roswell River Landing	36.2 %

Never

Waller Park Recreation Center	76.4 %
Art Center West	74.0 %
Smith Plantation	69.8 %

Question 3 – In which of the following programs and services do you or your family participate? (2,625)

Alive After Five	55.1 %
Instructional Programs at RAP	32.3 %
Swimming	30.4 %

Question 4 – Which of the following special interest facilities do you or your family utilize? (2,690)

Often

Walking/Jogging Trails	58.9 %
Playgrounds	37.1 %
Bike Trails	28.8 %


Occasionally


Picnic Pavilions	56.6 %
Bike Trails	38.7 %
Playgrounds	37.7 %


Never


Racquetball Court	90.4 %
Youth group camping area	86.1 %
Indoor Track	84.0 %


Question 5 – What parks, facilities and/or amenities would you or your family like to see the City of Roswell build? (1,851)


 The answers to this question were compiled into several categories: Indoor programming facilities; Trails; Biking; Pool (aquatics). Outdoor facilities and the remaining answers were included in a category called General facilities/amenities.

 The category that had the most responses was “Facilities - General”. In this category, respondents overwhelmingly placed *Athletic facility* needs far ahead of the various suggestions that were submitted. More specifically, nearly 70% of those respondents stated the need for synthetic athletic fields and/or the need for more athletic fields in general.


 The most requested indoor facility was for an indoor pool (natatorium). This included a varying array of responses from zero-depth pools for toddlers to heated lap pools for seniors.


 There was also a large number of responses that requested not only more trails but the connection of multiple trails – specifically the Greenway connection.


 Reviewing the responses, it appeared that special interest groups organized their participants to respond to the questionnaire. This was apparent by the “clumping” of responses pertaining to a particular interest. Examples of these groups are the Disc Golf enthusiasts, mountain bikers and those interested in Roswell Area Park football stadium area renovation.


 Conversely, responses such as synthetic and/or new athletic fields, a natatorium and trails appeared more consistently throughout the survey timeframe.


Question 6 – What programs or services would you or your family like to see the City of Roswell offer? (1,320)


 Eleven percent (11%) of respondents said they were completely satisfied with the existing program offerings.


 Nineteen percent (19%) said they would like to see more programs for toddlers, preschool age, youth, and particularly, teens.


 Eighteen percent (18%) requested more general adult offerings, especially social adult programs for people ages 25 yrs. – 49 yrs.

 Eight percent (8%) of responders requested senior programs to be offered in different locations across the city, including more fitness programs.





 Fourteen percent (14%) listed disc golf, soccer for all ages & general athletics.

 Evenly split was twelve percent (12%) of the responders requesting more location specific programming on the east and west sides respectively.

 Approximately ten percent (10%) of respondents requested time-specific programs for working families and working seniors: early morning, evening, and weekend programs in all categories for all ages.

 Five percent (5%) of the respondents requested inclusive programming and programs for children and people with disabilities.

Question 7 – What improvements would you or your family like to see at existing parks or facilities? (1,530)

-  A very wide variety of answers were recorded for question number seven. The most consistent answer stated satisfaction with the current job being done by the Department with 8% using the phrase “an excellent job”.
-  Coming in a close second with 6% of the comments was renovating football/lacrosse facilities at Roswell Area Park, including new turf fields.
-  Slightly fewer than 4% of the comments asked for the restroom facilities in all parks to be renovated and updated.
-  Slightly more than 2% of the comments asked for more shade structures in all parks for protection from the sun and heat in the summer.

Question 8 – What can the Recreation, Parks, Historic & Cultural Affairs Department do to improve you or your family’s quality of life? (1,124)

The largest single answer (21%) commented that the Department is doing a great job and should keep up the good work. While there was no one idea that ranked high on the percentage scale, more marketing of the Department’s programs, facilities and services was mentioned, as well as improvement to individual sport facilities. However, most of the comments were single remarks regarding many different program areas.

Question 9 – Please indicate the number of individuals by age group living in your household. (2,624)

5 & under	30.9 %
6 to 11	42.3 %
12 to 17	34.9 %
18 to 25	21.8 %
25 to 49	70.0 %
50 +	48.7 %

These numbers represent the percentage of respondents that fell into each category, not the percentage of the overall population. Because the average household has 2.65 people, many respondents would fall into multiple categories. These numbers are consistent with Table 2 and reinforce that the population is aging.

Question 10 – If additional funds are required to continue recreation program services at the existing level, please rate the following in your order of preference with 1 being the highest. (2,523)

	1	2	3	4	5
Fund Raising Campaign	55%	17%	14%	10	4%
Increased Program Fees	20%	31%	25%	16%	8%
Increased Property Taxes	8%	9%	12%	21%	50%
Increased User Fees	12%	28%	31%	23%	6%
Reduce program & Services	10%	13%	16%	25%	36%

Question 11 - If additional funds are required to build additional park facilities, please rate the following in your order of preference with 1 being the highest. (2,320)

	1	2	3	4	5
Fund Raising Campaign	63%	14%	11%	9%	3%
Increased Program Fees	15%	34%	25%	18%	8%
Increased Property Taxes	8%	11%	12%	19%	50%
Increased User Fees	10%	27%	33%	23%	7%
Reduce program & Services	8%	13%	17%	28%	34%

Question 12 – Please select all the reasons that prevent you or your family from utilizing City of Roswell parks, facilities, programs and services more frequently. (2,299)

Busy Schedule	72.7%
Lack of interest in offered programs	22.6%
Distance to Travel	22.2%





Question 13 – Do you live within the city limits of Roswell? (2,555)

Yes	87.3%
No	12.7%




Question 14 – Which of the following best describes the location of your residence? (2,539)

North of 92/West of 400	36.7%
North of 92/East of 400	19.3%
South of 92/West of 400	34.0%
South of 92/East of 400	10.0%








Question 15 – What are the three things you or your family like the most about the Roswell Recreation, Parks, Historic and Cultural Affairs Department? (1,780)

-  Almost 29% of those responding to this question selected the variety of programs as the number one thing they like most about the Department.
-  This was followed by 19% stating that they like the well maintained facilities and parks.
-  Over 16% like the proximity of parks to their residence
-  Over 15% like the walking/jogging trails available in Roswell.

Question 16 - What are the three things you or your family likes least about the Roswell Recreation, Parks, Historic and Cultural Affairs Department? (1,346)

-  Eight percent (8%) of the respondents stated that park amenities need a “facelift” due to the age of the facilities, restrooms and centers.
-  Seven percent (7%) stated program registration fees were too high. In this economically strapped time, the respondents felt that fees need to be decreased rather than increased.
-  Six percent (6%) of the respondents stated that the special events offered by our Department are too crowded and take away from the “hometown” atmosphere. Events identified were Alive after 5, July 4th Celebration, and concerts at Riverside Park.

Question 17 – Please provide any additional comments you or your family feel are relevant to the assessment of the City of Roswell Recreation, Parks, Historic and Cultural Affairs Department. (692)

-  This question had almost as many different comments as it had people who answered. However, almost 200 comments included “good job” or “thank you Roswell”
-  “More Lacrosse fields” received 16 comments
-  “Support rowing” received 9 comments
-  “More swimming facilities” received 19 comments
-  “Add more disc golf” received 19 comments
-  “Don’t raise taxes” received 7 comments
-  “Charge non-residents more” received 9 comments