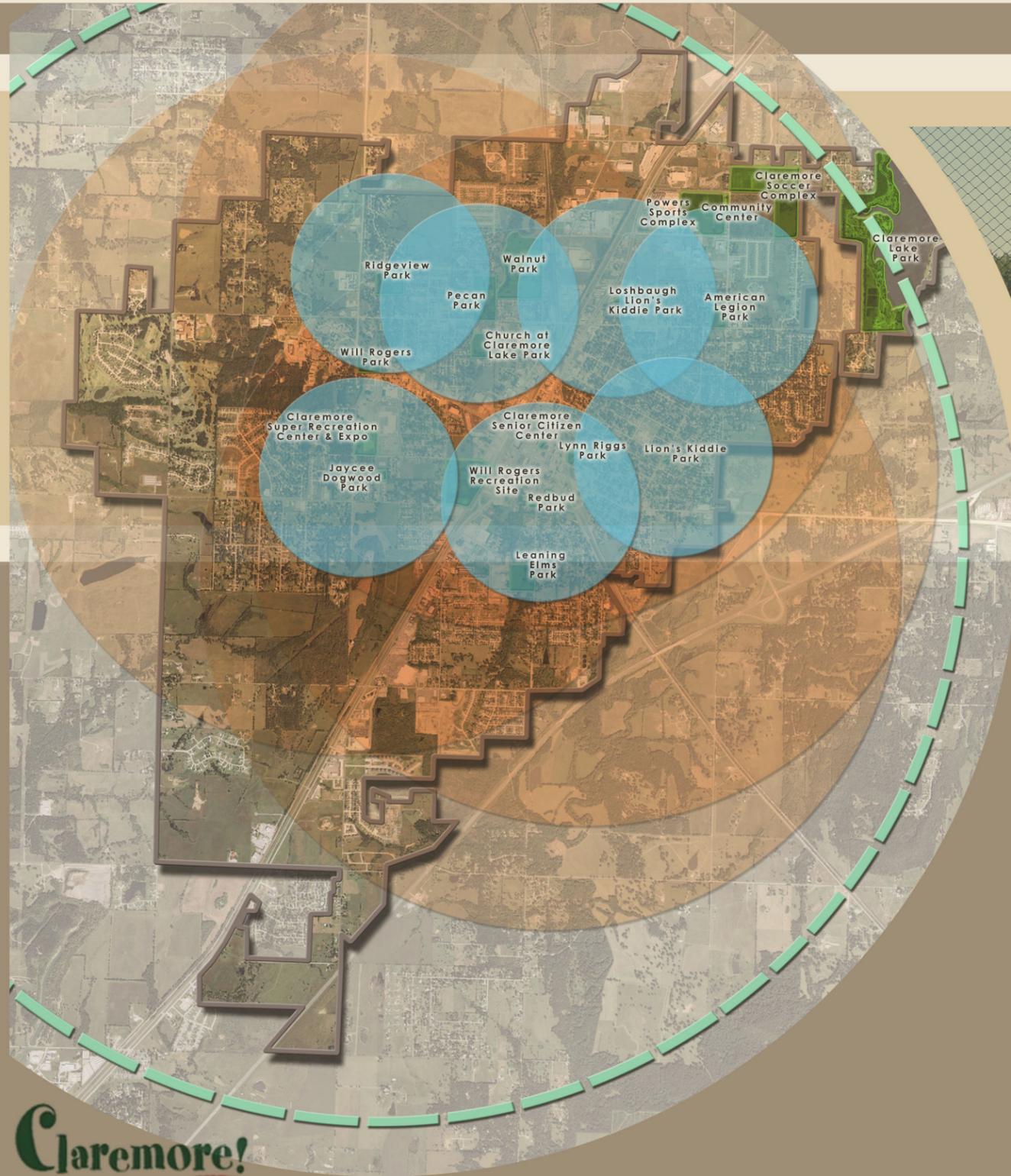


January 2008 Parks & Recreation
Open Space Master Plan



Acknowledgements

Jacobs Carter Burgess, Inc. would like to acknowledge and thank the residents, elected officials, and city staff who provided input during the creation of this Master Plan. The willingness and dedication of these individuals to participate in the process provides another example of the City of Claremore's commitment to providing an unmatched quality of life for its citizens. The following individuals are given special recognition due to the following individuals:

Parks and Recreation Master Plan Advisory Committee

- | | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| David Jones | Brenda Pendergraft | Rob Parker |
| Jay Stump | Scot Grauer | Robert Vardemann |
| Stratton Taylor | Paul Pixley | Kevin Walkingstick |
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City of Claremore Staff

- Matt Mueller, Assistant City Manager
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Introduction

Across the country, park systems are increasingly becoming a key component of a city's livability, identity, and economic sustainability. More and more, community leaders realize the significance of planning and developing a park system that balances the athletic and non-athletic pursuits and needs of their community. Therefore, the role of parks, recreational facilities, and open spaces are treated as important as other key elements of a city such as roads, utilities, and drainage corridors. Parks not only benefit the physical and mental well-being, but they preserve the heritage of Claremore and are an important connection to the natural environment.

In recognition of these trends, the City leaders of Claremore have commissioned the creation of a new Parks and Recreation Master Plan. The planning team, led by Jacobs Carter Burgess, has developed a coordinated set of goals and strategies for the City as it seeks to improve and expand its parks and recreation program. Existing facilities and recreation demands were evaluated and alternative strategies were put forth. Key interest groups, including the Sports Associations, were consulted and several public meetings were conducted to seek input for all portions of the Claremore citizenry.

This report represents the culmination of the master planning effort. First, **Background** data is provided to help frame the key issues; then the overall **Goals and Concept Plan** for the Parks and Recreation system are presented. Finally, a **Capital Improvement Budget** is detailed on a year by year basis through 2020. This Plan, and its accompanying budget, will serve as the roadmap for the City as it seeks to fund and implement the strategies that will continue to enhance the quality of life for Claremore citizens.

Background

From the outside looking in, many may wonder why the City of Claremore needs a Master Plan for their Parks and Recreation programs and facilities. The City has a long history of great parks and athletic programs that have served the citizens of Claremore and the surrounding smaller communities. Additionally, Claremore has one of the finest indoor recreation centers in the Tulsa region, and on any given weekend throughout the spring and fall, numerous out-of-state teams travel to Claremore to participate in baseball, softball or soccer tournaments at Powers and Pecan parks.

Looking a little closer, however, reveals numerous park facilities that are stretched to their limits. Current fields and playing surfaces are falling behind other communities' quality standards, and the overall system needs an infusion of new ideas and potential attractions. This is not to say that the City and the parks staff have been negligent in their duty to provide quality service and playing fields. To the contrary, their hard work and diligence in maintaining quality facilities and programs and their partnership with the local youth sports associations, who work just as hard, has allowed the City to remain a leader in providing quality park and recreation opportunities. Outlined below are several key issues for the Parks system and the City's operation of it that were identified in the planning process.

Key Issues

Strong Youth Athletic Leagues: It appears that all youth leagues are doing well and being supported financially by their participants, thus leading to a situation where success is breeding more and more participants. While the leagues believe that their current facilities meet their "regular" needs, all leagues are growing and believe that additional and/or improved facilities will be needed and could be used to entice more tournament play. The Plan should evaluate and prioritize these needs. Powers Park appears to have the greatest need for improvement.

Need for Alternative Athletic Pursuits - Skate Park: The research documented several instances in the past few years where the City was presented with evidence that a need and desire for a Skate Park exists within the City. In general, the Task Force accepted that the City should provide a safe and organized outlet for skaters within the City. The youth participants on the Task Force provided valuable insight into possible locations, nature and extent and operational characteristics of a potential skate park.

Doing More with Less - Benchmarking our System: A review of comparable communities and their parks system and operations indicated that the City has been and continues to be a good steward of their parks (see box below for representative communities). While the City has one of the highest average "acreage per person" to maintain, their operating budget falls well below the median "per capita" funding found in many comparable communities. Additionally, the City has instituted new maintenance procedures and practices that are designed to further economize the cost to maintain and operate the parks grounds.

City	Population 2007	Staff Full/Part	Number of Acres Total (Per Person)	Operating Budget Total - (Per Person)
Claremore, Oklahoma	17,310	10-5	523.80 acres (30.26)	\$650,000 (\$37.55)
Chickasha, Oklahoma	18,000	7-40	2,300 acres (128)	\$737,810 (\$40.99)
Ardmore, Oklahoma	25,000	24-14	1,328 acres (53)	\$2,700,353 (\$108)
McAlester, Oklahoma	19,000	15-54	102 acres (5.4)	\$1,108,985 (\$58.37)
Nacogdoches, Texas	61,000	11-4	400 acres ((6.6)	\$1,500,000 (\$24.59)



Key Issues (continued)

Claremore a "Regional" Parks Provider: While many cities struggle to keep up with the needs of their own citizens, it appears the Claremore has been and will continue to be the parks "provider" for large portions of Rogers County (see map this page for park locations). The nature and quality of the City's programs, leagues and facilities combine to attract more and more league teams and participants, and the general opinion among the Task Force members was that this trend will continue and may even intensify as smaller communities struggle to provide adequate facilities.

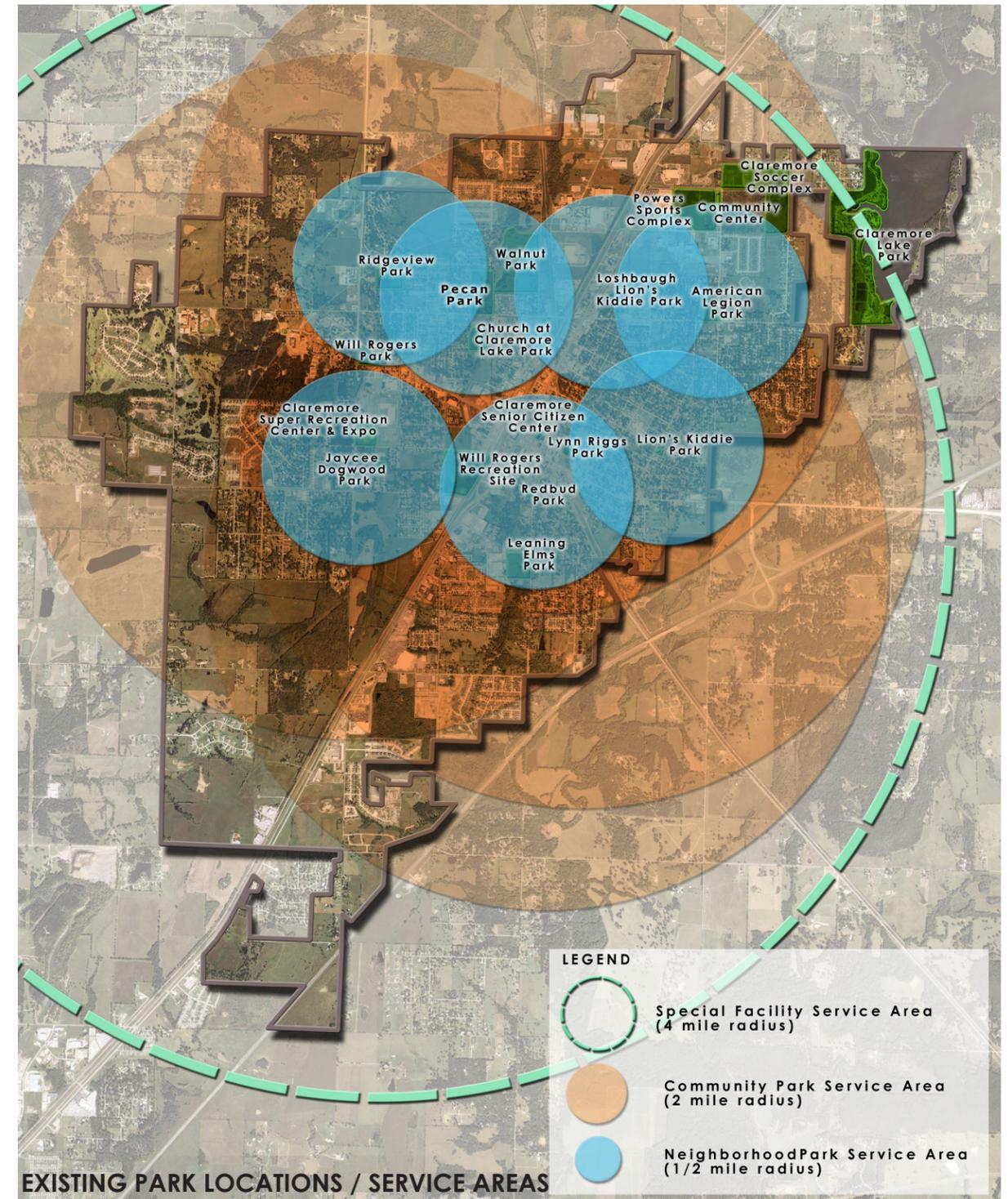
Availability of Quality Practice Areas: Currently, many team coaches are arriving 4-6 hours in advance of their practice times to "reserve" a practice field that may or may not be in optimal condition. Thus far, the lack of quality practice areas is not restricting the ability to play competition games, because the Parks department and Sports Associations have discouraged practicing on game fields. But, the lack of good, well-drained and adequately maintained practice fields is severely restricting the development of important athletic and "life skill" lessons and habits that can only come from participating in structured and organized team and individual practices.

Need for Connectivity - Passive / Active Trails: While a majority of our focus was on active sports and facilities, the Task Force indicated a strong desire to upgrade and expand the City's current trail/bikeway system. Quality trails that link Claremore to the broader region and/or an intra-City trail system that connects to all the current and future park sites would be examples of possible additions that could increase the quality of the Parks system and create a new "connectivity" within the City and the region.

Current & Future Facility Needs

This Parks and Recreation Master Plan utilizes the guidelines established by the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA), as amended by the City and the planning team to determine appropriate levels and types of parks needed in the community. As indicated in the accompanying chart and shown on the map, the City has developed an excellent park system when viewed in terms of quantity, location and type. Based on current estimates, the City meets most of the required park types and acreages with their current system and these facilities are located in the most populated areas of the community. Furthermore, when the broader, "regional" population base is examined, the City generally provides the basic park facility needs (i.e. playing fields, picnic areas, etc.). While this Plan does not recommend or suggest that the City should or must meet these standards for the region, it is important to note that the standards for other key facilities, such as trails (walking and biking) and swimming pools are not met. See current and future facility needs.

Activity / Facility	Recommended Facilities Per Population	Existing Facilities in Claremore	Recommended Facilities for 2006 Population of Claremore City (Population 17,310)	Recommended Facilities for 2007 "Regional Area", 15 mile Radius (Population of 53,000)	Recommended Facilities for Projected Population of 2012 "Regional Area", 15 mile Radius (Population 59,000)	Recommended Facilities for Projected Population of 2020 "Regional Area", 15 mile Radius (Population 65,000)
Baseball Fields	1 per 7,000	13	2.5	7.5	8.5	9.5
Basketball Courts (outdoor)	1 per 4,000	4	4	13	15	16.5
Football Fields	1 per 20,000 C	1	0.87	2.65	3	3.5
Hard Trail	1 mile per 4,000	3 miles	4 miles	13 miles	15 miles	16 miles
Pavilion/Picnic Shelter	1 per 4,000	11	4	13	15	16.5
Picnic Tables	1 table per 400	106	43	133	148	163
Playgrounds	1 area per 3,000	11	5.77	18	20	22
Practice/Multi-Use Soccer Fields	1 per 10,000	16	1.7	5	6	6.5
Practice Softball/Baseball	1 per 7,000	27	2.5	7.6	8.5	9.5
Recreation/Community Center	1 S.F. per person	97,600 S.F.	17,310 S.F.	53,000 S.F.	59,000 S.F.	65,000 S.F.
Running Track	1 per 20,000	3	0.86	2.65	3	3.5
Soccer Fields	1 per 10,000	18	1.7	5	6	6.5
Soft Trail	1 mile per 10,000	0 miles	1.7 miles	5 miles	6 miles	7 miles
Softball Fields (adult & girls)	1 per 20,000	8	0.87	2.65	3	3.5
Inline Skating Court	1 per 25,000	1	0.7	2	2	3
Skate Park	1 per 100,000	0	0.17	0.53	0.6	0.65
Swimming Pool (community)	1 per 25,000	1	0.7	2	2	3
Tennis Courts	1 court per 10,000	15	1.7	5	6	6.5
Volleyball Areas	1 per 7,000	5	2.5	7.6	8.5	9.5



The Master Plan – Goal Statements

Goals are an important part of the park planning process. The goals expressed in this master plan reflect the desires of the citizens, task force, City of Claremore staff, and the experience of the Jacobs Carter Burgess planning team. These goals provide the underlying philosophical framework for the decisions the City will face when evaluating the need for park or recreation improvements. They will also guide decision makers on issues that are not specifically addressed in the master plan. Accordingly, this Parks and Recreation Master Plan includes three primary goals:

- Quality First:** The city of Claremore will develop and maintain first rate parks and recreation facilities and programs in order to maintain its image as a leader in providing quality parks and recreation services in the Tulsa region.
- Connectivity:** The city of Claremore will develop a comprehensive trail system that connects their park facilities to each other and to the broader region, and the City will promote inclusiveness in all programs and facilities to insure that the City “connects” to all of its residents.
- Beyond Sports:** The city of Claremore will provide innovative and diverse facilities and programs for its citizens that are not focused solely on athletic endeavors, but also stress overall wellness and outdoor activity.

The development of these goal statements provided a logical framework for the overall organizing and development of the Master Plan. The themes of Quality First, Connectivity, and Beyond Sports emerged again and again as the central ideals for the Plan. Accordingly, a more detailed examination of these themes is provided below:

Quality First! A key directive in this Plan is to re-establish and maintain first rate, quality parks throughout the City and to concentrate the Department’s efforts on the quality of existing and new facilities, not the quantity of them. To this end, the following strategies are recommended:

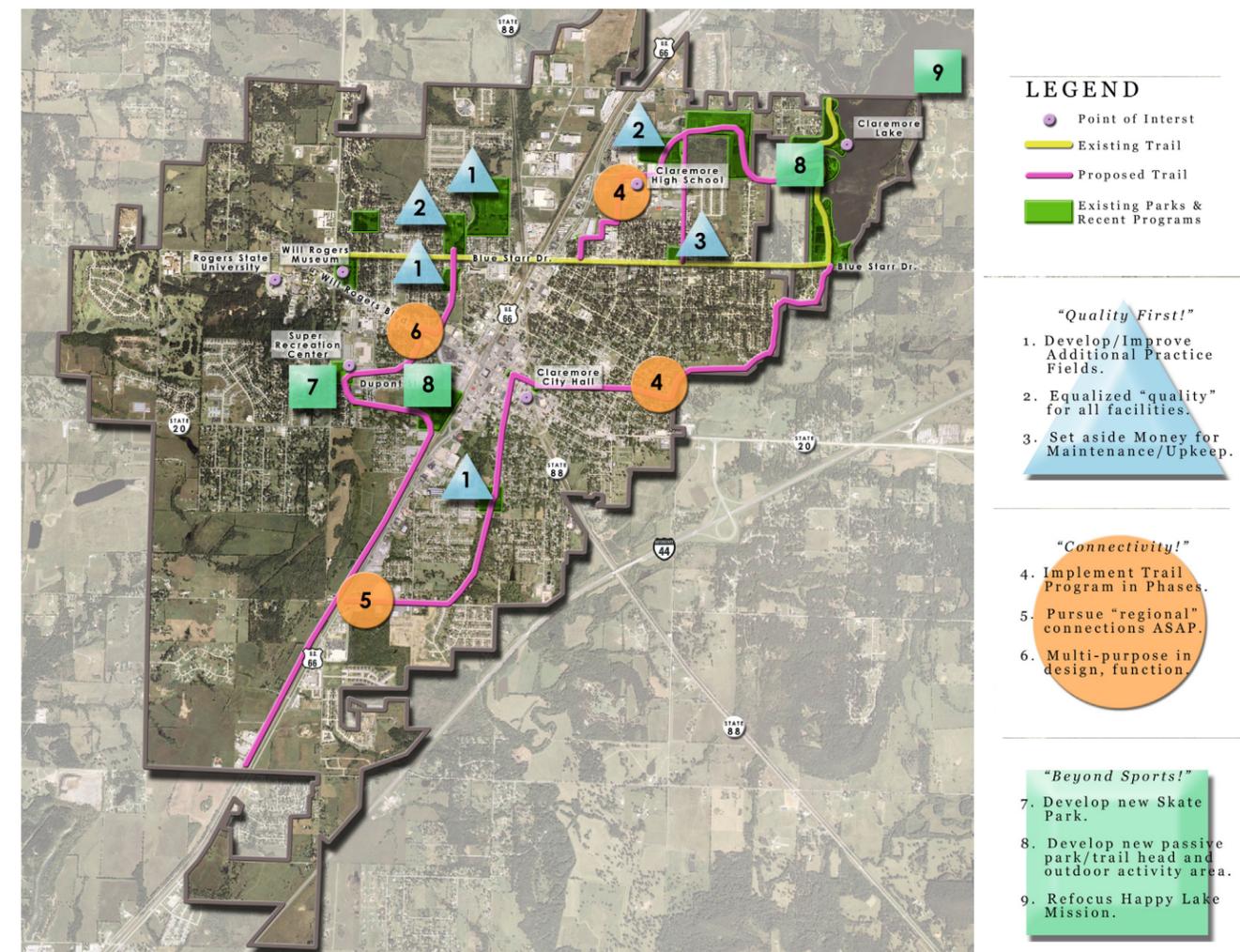
1. **Annual Funding for Practice Field Development:** the establishment of quality practice fields not only provides greater teaching and learning environments for participants, but it also lessens the wear and tear on existing competition fields.
2. **Equal Quality at Key Sports Venues:** dedicated funding should be provided to renovate and restore the major youth sports facilities within the City. These renovations should concentrate first on quality playing fields and then providing inviting common areas that promote and encourage community gathering and interaction.
3. **Playground/Equipment Reserve Funds:** annual funding should be provided to promote the replacement of outdated equipment/playground apparatus and maintenance equipment in order that all parks (including neighborhood mini parks) contain quality fixtures and furniture and the grounds are carefully maintained as first rate facilities.

Connectivity! A system of parks and recreation areas is not complete without linear linkages between facilities and connections to neighborhoods, schools, and other public use facilities within the City. The Plan recommends the development of an interconnected system of bicycle and pedestrian facilities that serves as a form of recreation and exercise, as well as an alternative mode of transportation. Off-road trails will allow for relatively uninterrupted pedestrian movement to and through the park system and protect users from busy development areas and vehicular traffic. This “connectivity” trail system will link key parks and facilities throughout the City and then move to link Claremore to the broader network of regional trails. Highly developed trails and trailheads (including signage, maps and destination markers) are recommended to promote easy and safe use of the trails.

Beyond Sports! The final focus area is the development of additional parks and recreation opportunities that concentrate on wellness, outdoor activities and programs or uses that do not involve organized sports. By providing new outdoor passive use parks, interpretive trails, skate and spray parks, camping opportunities, off-road biking, etc., the City will appeal to the complete and diverse participant base currently residing within the community. Due to its prominence as a desired and needed element in the overall system, a skate park is proposed to be constructed immediately at the Super Rec Center site. Other major components of this strategy include outdoor activity areas at Claremore Lake and Will Rogers Recreation site. These facilities will help to create an effective balance for the City’s facilities and programs into the future.

The Master Plan – Strategies Map

The location of major components for each strategy identified in the Master Plan is included in the Master Plan Strategies Map included on this page. When used in concert with the detailed Capital Improvements Plan (included on the next page), this Map will provide an illustrative reminder of the City’s goal to balance key activities in the implementation of the Plan.



Capital Improvements Plan - Summary

The Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) Summary outlined on this page, and examined in more detail on the following pages, identifies the major capital funding projects proposed in the Master Plan. The first five budget years are highlighted to indicate their importance in the overall development and “jumpstarting” of the Master Plan strategies and implementation. The projects shown after these first five years represent the long term “vision” for improvements at each park site. These items should be evaluated at the end of the first five years to determine their continued importance in the overall Plan. The amounts shown reflect estimated total costs of each major improvement recommended in the existing and proposed projects/parks. The recommended CIP includes approximately \$3.65 million in park and trail improvements for the first five years, and then another \$5.9 million for projects extending through 2020.

While this level of funding may represent a dramatic increase from previous years, the Plan and budgets also represent a realistic estimate of the work required to provide quality and diverse opportunities for its citizens. At present, the City provides great athletic opportunities at less than “great” facilities, and if implemented, these funded projects would create an exciting “balance” between the level of programs and the quality of the

facilities. Furthermore, this budget provides for the development of new and diverse recreation opportunities for the residents of the City. Skate Parks and trail systems are no longer considered luxury items for communities, but instead, they represent the backbone of the non-sports components of progressive parks programs.

Finally, this budget and Plan attempts to maintain and enhance the City’s ability to generate offsetting revenues to these identified costs by creating top notch facilities that can attract tournaments and special events. The influx of visitors to Claremore during a tournament weekend will generate increased sales tax revenues for the City that may not otherwise exist without this Plan being implemented.

Budget Notes

1. The amounts shown budgeted for each project in each year are approximate and are representative of the project’s priority in the overall Plan implementation. The City may elect to fund an entire project in one fiscal year (through bond proceeds, impact fees, etc.) rather than budget it over two to three fiscal years.
2. All figures are expressed in 2007 dollars. Inflation has not been factored into these budgets.

Park / Focus Area	2007 - 08	2008 - 09	2009 - 10	2010 - 11	2011 - 12	2012 - 13	2013 - 14	2014 - 15	2015 - 16	2016 - 17	2017 - 18	2018-19	2019-20	TOTAL
Quality First! Improvements	\$1,110,050	\$1,197,500	\$125,000	\$55,000	\$55,000	\$70,000	\$734,963	\$794,963	\$562,000	\$605,000	\$10,000	\$70,000	\$10,000	\$5,389,475
- Playground/Equipment Replacements	\$60,000		\$60,000			\$60,000		\$60,000		\$60,000		\$60,000		\$360,000
- Practice Field Development	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000											\$30,000
- Powers Park	\$1,000,050						\$724,963	\$724,963						\$2,449,975
- Pecan and Walnut Park complex		\$1,132,500								\$535,000				\$1,667,500
- Soccer Complex		\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000				\$552,000					\$612,000
- American Legion Park	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$120,000
- Misc. Improvements @ Ex. Parks (Redbud, Lion's Children, Ridgeview, Dogwood, Leaning Elms, Loshbaugh)	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$30,000									\$150,000
														\$0
Connectivity! Improvements	\$0	\$160,000	\$160,000	\$157,500	\$0	\$74,400	\$67,000	\$234,400	\$280,000	\$338,800	\$384,000	\$645,550	\$485,550	\$2,501,650
- "Connectivity" Trail Network		\$160,000	\$160,000	\$157,500				\$160,000	\$160,000	\$160,000	\$150,000	\$160,000		\$1,267,500
- Claremore Lake Park Trailhead						\$74,400								\$74,400
- Former Willow Bend Park Trailhead							\$67,000							\$67,000
- Pecan/Walnut Park Trailhead								\$74,400						\$74,400
- Former Municipal Pool Park Trailhead									\$120,000					\$120,000
- Will Rogers Recreation Site Trailhead										\$178,800				\$178,800
- Will Rogers Blvd @ Dog Creek Trailhead											\$234,000			\$234,000
- Gazebo Park (downtown) Trailhead												\$485,550	\$485,550	\$485,550
Beyond Sports! Improvements	\$150,000	\$264,000	\$208,000	\$0	\$0	\$150,000	\$0	\$100,000	\$0	\$0	\$263,550	\$0	\$0	\$1,135,550
- Will Rogers Recreation Site			\$108,000											\$108,000
- Super Rec Center (skate park & misc)	\$150,000					\$100,000		\$100,000						\$350,000
- Claremore Lake Park		\$232,000												\$232,000
- Happy Lake Park (off road trail)		\$32,000									\$263,550			\$295,550
- Powers Park Community Center						\$50,000								\$50,000
- Former Municipal Pool - Splash Pad			\$100,000											\$100,000
TOTALS	\$1,260,050	\$1,621,500	\$493,000	\$212,500	\$55,000	\$294,400	\$801,963	\$1,129,363	\$842,000	\$943,800	\$657,550	\$715,550	\$495,550	\$9,026,675



Quality First! Improvements

Everyone loves a great park! From toddlers chasing birds or each other to senior citizens relaxing to exuberant youth playing their favorite sport, there is increasing evidence of the links between people's mental and physical health and the quality of the environment in which they live. Just by increasing the quality and care for each one of Claremore's parks can be beneficial to all who reside within the community, and that is the primary purpose for the Quality First! projects.

Annual Funding Projects to Improve and Maintain Quality Parks: The budget below indicates the annual funding levels proposed for the purchase of improved playground and maintenance equipment and the development of upgraded practice fields throughout the community. This annual funding will permit the development of quality mini parks and the creation of sports practice areas that enhance teaching and alleviate the strain of constant use of competition fields. Claremore has numerous areas throughout the City which could be used as multi-use practice fields (i.e. Walnut Park, Church @ Claremore fields, Dupont Avenue area fields, Leaning Elms and South Muskogee fields, etc.), these fields just need more refinement and development to enable full time and effective use as practice areas.

Minimum Standards for Practice Areas

1. Be evenly graded to drain and provide a smooth even surface for practice
2. Provide consistent and durable turf and surface
3. Multi-functional in layout and provide minimum appurtenances (backstops, etc.)
4. Optional features – "skinned" infields and lights for nighttime use

Item	Description	Qty.	Unit	Unit Price	Total	Funding Year
Miscellaneous Annual Improvements						
1	Playground/Equipment Reserves	6	YR	60,000.00	\$360,000	2007-2020
2	Practice Field Development/Maintenance	3	YR	10,000.00	\$30,000	2007-2010
Total Costs for Misc. Annual Improvements					\$390,000	

Powers Park Youth Baseball Complex

To effectively maintain its position as a regional youth baseball provider, the City should address several key field, infrastructure and amenity issues at Powers Park. From the overall layout and quality of the fields and playing surfaces to the need for more attractive and usable common spaces, this hallmark Park should be renovated and re-positioned to maintain its stature in the region. Appendix A of this report provides more detail of the multi-phase improvement plan and a summary of the budget for these improvements is outlined below.



Powers Park						
Item	Description	Qty.	Unit	Unit Price	Total	Funding Year
1	Phase I Improvements (see Appendix A)	1	LS	1,000,050	\$1,000,050	2007-08
2	Phase II Improvements (see Appendix A)	1	LS	\$1,449,925	\$1,449,925	2013-15
Total Costs					\$2,449,975	

Pecan and Walnut Park Complex – Girls Youth Softball and Adult Softball

The proximity and compatible uses of these two existing parks presents a good opportunity for the City to create a comprehensive softball facility for the current user groups. By combining these parks across _____ Creek, the City could create a multi-use facility that accomplishes the weekly and seasonal demands of the current leagues, but also can provide needed practice areas and additional fields that could entice new tournaments and new sales tax revenues to the City.

Shown herein is a Concept Plan and proposed budget for the combined park complex. This Concept Plan is proposed for two phases early in the Plan implementation period. Girls Softball would still be anchored at the upgraded facilities and fields at the current Pecan Park. This park is targeted for major renovations and upgrades to the common areas (make them more inviting and usable), as well as a complete upgrade of the playing surfaces (i.e. drainage, turf, irrigation, lighting, etc.). Once this facility achieved its desired level of "quality," then additional field improvements, parking areas and practice field developments could occur at Walnut Park. These practice areas should be developed to the minimum standards identified herein in order that they could be converted to competition fields if future needs so required. Finally, the Park would also serve as a major trailhead and anchor for the City-wide "connectivity" trail network, thus adding an additional feature/element that expands the park's function and purpose beyond just sports.



Pecan/Walnut Park Complex						
Item	Description	Qty.	Unit	Unit Price	Total	Funding Year
1	Master Plan/Engineering	1	LS	217,500.00	\$217,500	2008-09
2	Pecan Park Improvements				\$915,000	
2A	- Create Common Area/Community Gathering	12000	SF	20.00	\$240,000	2008-09
2B	- Concessions/Restrooms Building	2200	SF	125.00	\$275,000	2008-09
2C	- Additional Playground Equipment	1	LS	30,000.00	\$30,000	2008-09
2D	- Infield Drainage/Irrigate	6	EA	30,000.00	\$180,000	2008-09
2E	- New Field Lighting	6	EA	20,000.00	\$120,000	2008-09
2F	- Warm Up areas	2	EA	20,000.00	\$40,000	2008-09
2G	- Misc. Field Upgrades (turf, etc)	6	EA	5,000.00	\$30,000	2008-09
2	Walnut Park Improvements				\$535,000	
2A	- Create Common Area/Community Gathering	5000	SF	20.00	\$100,000	2015-16
2B	- Concessions/Restrooms Building	1000	SF	125.00	\$125,000	2015-16
2C	- Upgraded Practice Fields/Area	10	AC	5,000.00	\$50,000	2015-16
2D	- Upgraded Competition Field Complex	4	EA	35,000.00	\$140,000	2015-16
2E	- New Parking Complex and Playground	10	AC	10,000.00	\$100,000	2015-16
2G	- Misc. Field Upgrades (turf, etc)	4	EA	5,000.00	\$20,000	2015-16
Total Costs					\$1,667,500	

Soccer Complex

An expansion of the current Claremore Soccer Complex is anticipated in the future to meet the growing needs and demand for the Association, but the more pressing issues of expansion of the parking lot and access in and out of the park will need to occur first. Due to the probable economies of scale during construction, the overall improvements to the Soccer complex are projected to occur in a single phase. The parking improvements, development of new fields and an overall upgrade to all existing fields are anticipated with the project (see budget below).

In addition, as the Soccer Complex expansion project occurs, the development of new multi-purpose practice areas should provide a practice "home" for Claremore Youth Football. These fields could be developed as practice areas that could be converted to soccer competition fields when the need and demand arise.

Soccer Complex						
Item	Description	Qty.	Unit	Unit Price	Total	Funding Year
1	Master Plan/Engineering	1	LS	72,000.00	\$72,000	2014-15
2	Infrastructure Improvements				\$375,000	
2A	- Parking Lot Improvements	200	SP	600.00	\$120,000	2014-15
2B	- Finish Grading for fields	6	EA	30,000.00	\$180,000	2014-15
2C	- Additional Playground at future fields	1	EA	75,000.00	\$75,000	2014-15
2D	- Field Lighting	6	EA	30,000.00	\$180,000	2014-15
3	Field Renovations				\$105,000	
3A	- Irrigation Improvements	15	EA	5,000.00	\$75,000	2014-15
3B	- Netting/bleachers/etc.	15	EA	2,000.00	\$30,000	2014-15
4	Annual Miscellaneous Improvements	4	YR	15,000.00	\$60,000	2008-12
Total Costs					\$612,000	



Existing Neighborhood Parks

Finally, the City's park system has several neighborhood parks scattered throughout the City that add to the quality of the overall system, but the lack of available funding for needed improvements has led these parks into a state of disrepair. This Plan recommends that an annual funding amount of \$30,000 be set aside in the first five years of the Plan implementation to improve the quality of these facilities. These funds will enable the improvement of playground areas, signage, and other sitework and amenity improvements at these various locations in order that these parks become viable and effective pieces of the overall parks system. As these parks are improved and become a more integral part of the overall neighborhood fabric, the next 5-10 years of the Plan's implementation period should allow the City to identify if any of these areas require adjustment or reuse as the City's recreation needs and demands change over time.

American Legion Park						
Item	Description	Qty.	Unit	Unit Price	Total	Funding Year
1	Annual Miscellaneous Improvements	1	LS	10,000.00	\$10,000	2007-2020
Total Costs					\$10,000	
Existing Neighborhood Parks - Loshbaugh, Redbud, Lion's Children, etc.						
Item	Description	Qty.	Unit	Unit Price	Total	Funding Year
1	Miscellaneous Annual Improvements	4	YR	30,000.00	\$120,000	2007-12
Total Costs					\$120,000	



Connectivity! Improvements

A system-wide "connectivity" trail network could provide safe, accessible routes for children and others who either cannot, or may choose not, to drive automobiles to each of the park locations. A diverse trail system also provides an opportunity for recreation, exercise and enjoyment of the outdoors for all residents, and with careful planning and implementation some of these trail experiences could include scenic outlooks, nature observation areas, picnic and rest areas. Possible links to trails from other cities such as Tiawah, Verdigris, and Foyil could also provide interesting and educational destination sites.

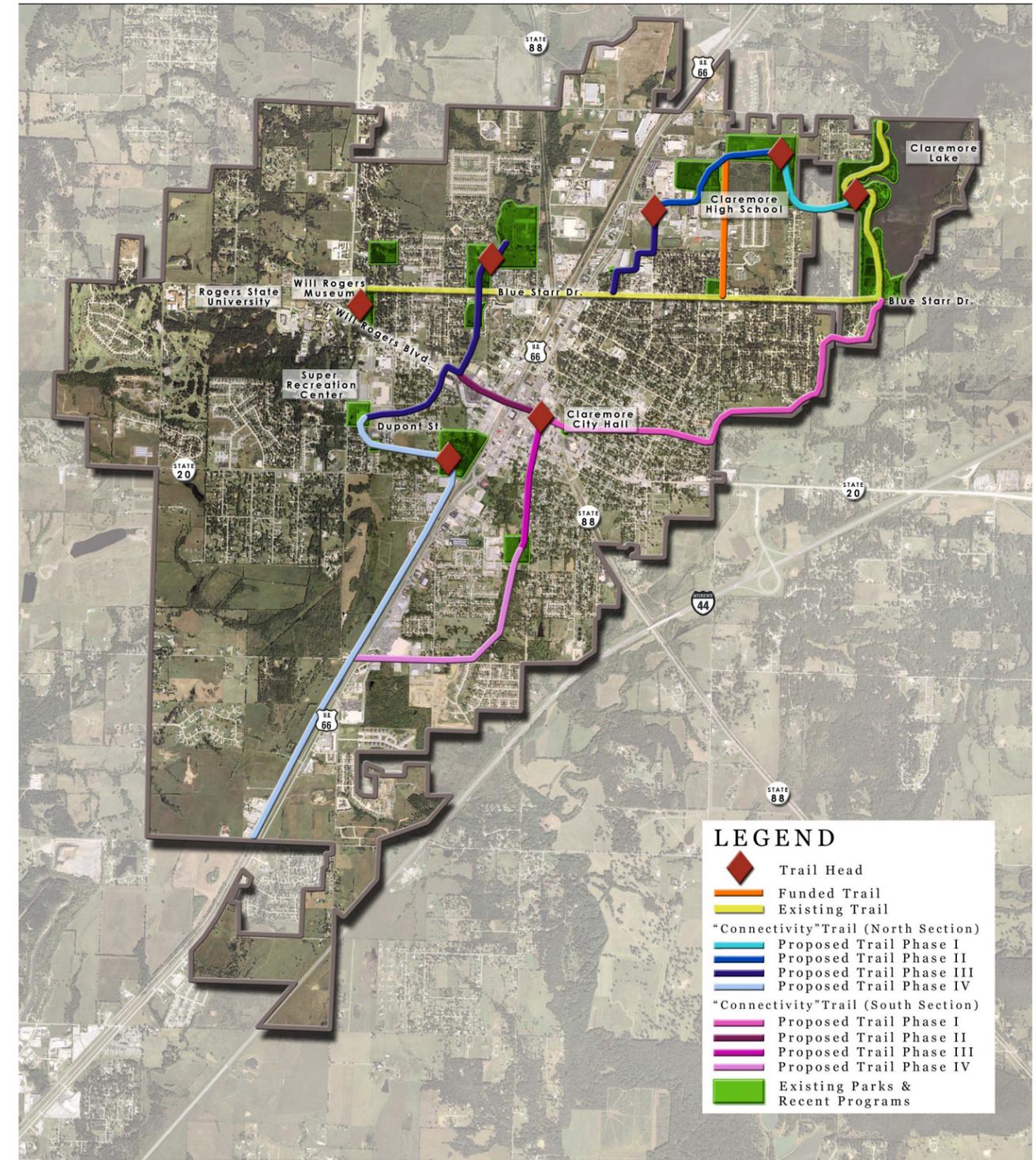
The basic framework for a "connectivity" trail system is depicted below, and although the details of this network are beyond the scope of this Plan, the principles and guidelines for the trail's planning and development should be applied consistently throughout the network to ensure balance and quality throughout (see box for guidelines).

Principles and Guidelines for Trail Planning and Development

1. The key to developing a successful trail network is to reserve the corridor connection as soon as feasible, however informal it may be, and then formalize the agreement as public demand warrants a greater need for the trail system.
2. The recommended trail design should be a minimum of 8 feet wide (10-foot preferred) and set back from the street pavement a minimum of 6 feet per AASHTO Standards (American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials). Trails should be all-weather, slip resistant material such as concrete or even pre-cast pavers that provide texture and visual interest.
3. In the early stages of implementation, some pathways may initially be developed as soft trails by using materials such as crushed rock to serve pedestrians and off-road bicycles. Later, these can be paved to serve skaters and thin-tired bicycles. To accommodate more types of trail users, some corridors that are established initially with a single soft surface trail can later be complemented with parallel paved trail, while maintaining the adjacent trail for uses such as horseback riding or off-road bicycling.

Item	Description	Qty.	Unit	Unit Price	Total	Funding Year
"Connectivity" Trail Network (city matching funds for federal grants)						
1	"Connectivity" Trail (north section)				\$637,500	
1A	- Phase I (Claremore Lake to Soccer)	10000	LF	16.00	\$160,000	2008-09
1B	- Phase II (Soccer to Powers to Library)	4000	LF	40.00	\$160,000	2009-10
1C	- Phase III (Library to Pecan to Super Rec)	9000	LF	17.50	\$157,500	2010-11
1D	- Phase IV (Super Rec to Will Rogers to Catoosa)	10000	LF	16.00	\$160,000	2014-15
2	"Connectivity" Trail (south section)				\$470,000	
2A	- Phase I (Claremore Lake to Will Rogers Blvd)	10000	LF	16.00	\$160,000	2015-16
2B	- Phase II (Will Rogers Blvd to downtown)	8000	LF	20.00	\$160,000	2016-17
2C	- Phase III (downtown to Leaning Elms Park)	5000	LF	30.00	\$150,000	2017-18
2D	- Phase IV (Leaning Elms Park to Catoosa)	10000	LF	16.00	\$160,000	2018-19
Total Costs for "Connectivity" Trail Improvements					\$1,107,500	

The budgets for these "connectivity" trail items represent an estimate of the annual "matching" funds that would be required of the City to leverage federal and state trail dollars. Although this Plan identifies a proposed sequence and location for the city-wide trail system, the final locations, funding amounts and priorities for action should be further evaluated at the time of implementation to ensure the best possible chance for receiving additional funding from other governmental entities.

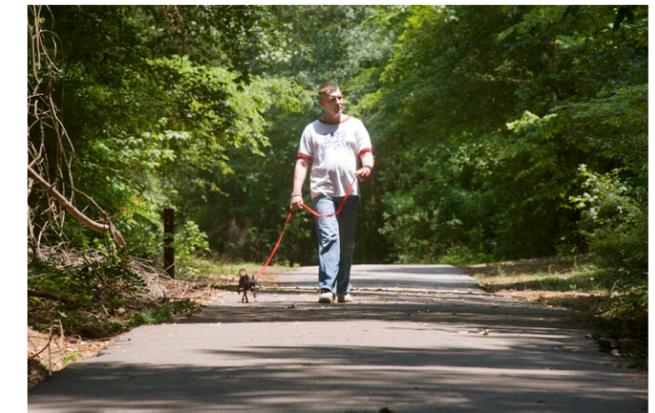
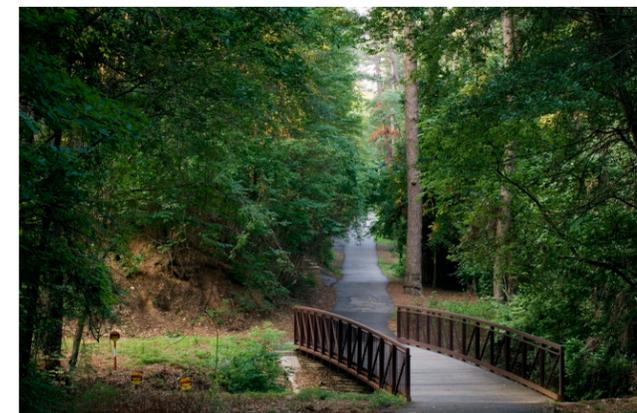


Trailhead Development

The development and maintenance of strategically-located trailheads is an important system component for the “connectivity” trail (see budget on this page). These facilities permit users to enter the network at critical points armed with information about the trail’s path, difficulty, distance, destination points and probable travel times. These items are critical pieces of information to trail users, and each trailhead identified in the budget includes the appropriate amenities and infrastructure to accurately convey the needed information. Prominent trailheads include major facilities at Will Rogers Blvd. (east of town), Claremore Lake Park, a downtown trailhead and urban park at the Senior Center facility, Will Rogers Recreation site and other parks as noted.

Claremore Lake Trailhead						
Item	Description	Qty.	Unit	Unit Price	Total	Funding Year
1	Master Plan/Engineering	1	LS	12,400.00	\$12,400	2011-12
2	Trailhead Development				\$62,000	
2A	- Signage/Landscaping/Trail Kiosk/etc.	1	LS	50,000.00	\$50,000	2011-12
2B	- Sitework Improvements	1	AC	12,000.00	\$12,000	2011-12
Total Costs					\$74,400	
Former Willow Bend Park (library) Trailhead						
Item	Description	Qty.	Unit	Unit Price	Total	Funding Year
1	Master Plan/Engineering	1	LS	12,000.00	\$12,000	2011-12
2	Trailhead Improvements				\$55,000	
2A	- Parking Lot Improvements	1	LS	5,000.00	\$5,000	2011-12
2B	- Signage/Landscaping/Trail Kiosk/etc.	1	LS	50,000.00	\$50,000	2011-12
Total Costs					\$67,000	
Pecan/Walnut Park Trailhead						
Item	Description	Qty.	Unit	Unit Price	Total	Funding Year
1	Master Plan/Engineering	1	LS	12,400.00	\$12,400	2012-13
2	Trailhead Development				\$62,000	
2A	- Signage/Landscaping/Trail Kiosk/etc.	1	LS	50,000.00	\$50,000	2012-13
2B	- Sitework Improvements	1	AC	12,000.00	\$12,000	2012-13
Total Costs					\$74,400	
Municipal Pool Park Trailhead						
Item	Description	Qty.	Unit	Unit Price	Total	Funding Year
1	Master Plan/Engineering	1	LS	20,000.00	\$20,000	2014-15
2	Trailhead Development				\$100,000	
2A	- Signage/Landscaping/Trail Kiosk/etc.	1	LS	50,000.00	\$50,000	2014-15
2B	-Sitework Improvements	2	AC	25,000.00	\$50,000	2014-15
Total Costs					\$120,000	

Will Rogers Recreation Site Trailhead						
Item	Description	Qty.	Unit	Unit Price	Total	Funding Year
1	Master Plan/Engineering	1	LS	29,800.00	\$29,800	2013-14
2	Trailhead Development				\$149,000	
2A	-Trailhead Facility (restrooms, map room, etc)	500	SF	250.00	\$125,000	2013-14
2B	- Sitework Improvements	2	AC	12,000.00	\$24,000	2013-14
Total Costs					\$178,800	
Will Rogers Blvd. @ Dog Creek Trailhead						
Item	Description	Qty.	Unit	Unit Price	Total	Funding Year
1	Master Plan/Engineering	1	LS	39,000.00	\$39,000	2015-16
2	Trailhead Development				\$195,000	
2A	-Trailhead Facility (restrooms, map room, etc)	500	SF	250.00	\$125,000	2015-16
2B	- Parking Lot/Site Construction	2	AC	35,000.00	\$70,000	2015-16
Total Costs					\$234,000	
Urban Park and Trailhead @ Gazebo Park						
Item	Description	Qty.	Unit	Unit Price	Total	Funding Year
1	Master Plan/Engineering	1	LS	161,850.00	\$161,850	2016-17
2	Trailhead Development/Urban Park				\$454,250	
2A	- Demolition of Tennis Courts	1	LS	7,500.00	\$7,500	2016-17
2B	-Trailhead Facility (restrooms, map room, etc)	1000	SF	250.00	\$250,000	2016-17
2C	- Parking Lot Construction	15	EA	650.00	\$9,750	2016-17
2D	- Urban Park improvements (gardens, etc.)	1	LS	145,000.00	\$145,000	2016-17
2E	- Lighting/Security	1	LS	42,000.00	\$42,000	2016-17
3	Senior Center Renovations				\$10,000	
3A	- Misc. Interior/Exterior Renovations	1	LS	10,000.00	\$10,000	2011-12
4	Miscellaneous Improvements				\$345,000	
4A	- Streetscape and Trail Network Landscaping	2800	LF	100.00	\$280,000	2016-17
4B	- Urban Streetscape Furniture	1	LS	65,000.00	\$65,000	2016-17
Total Costs					\$971,100	



Beyond Sports! Improvements

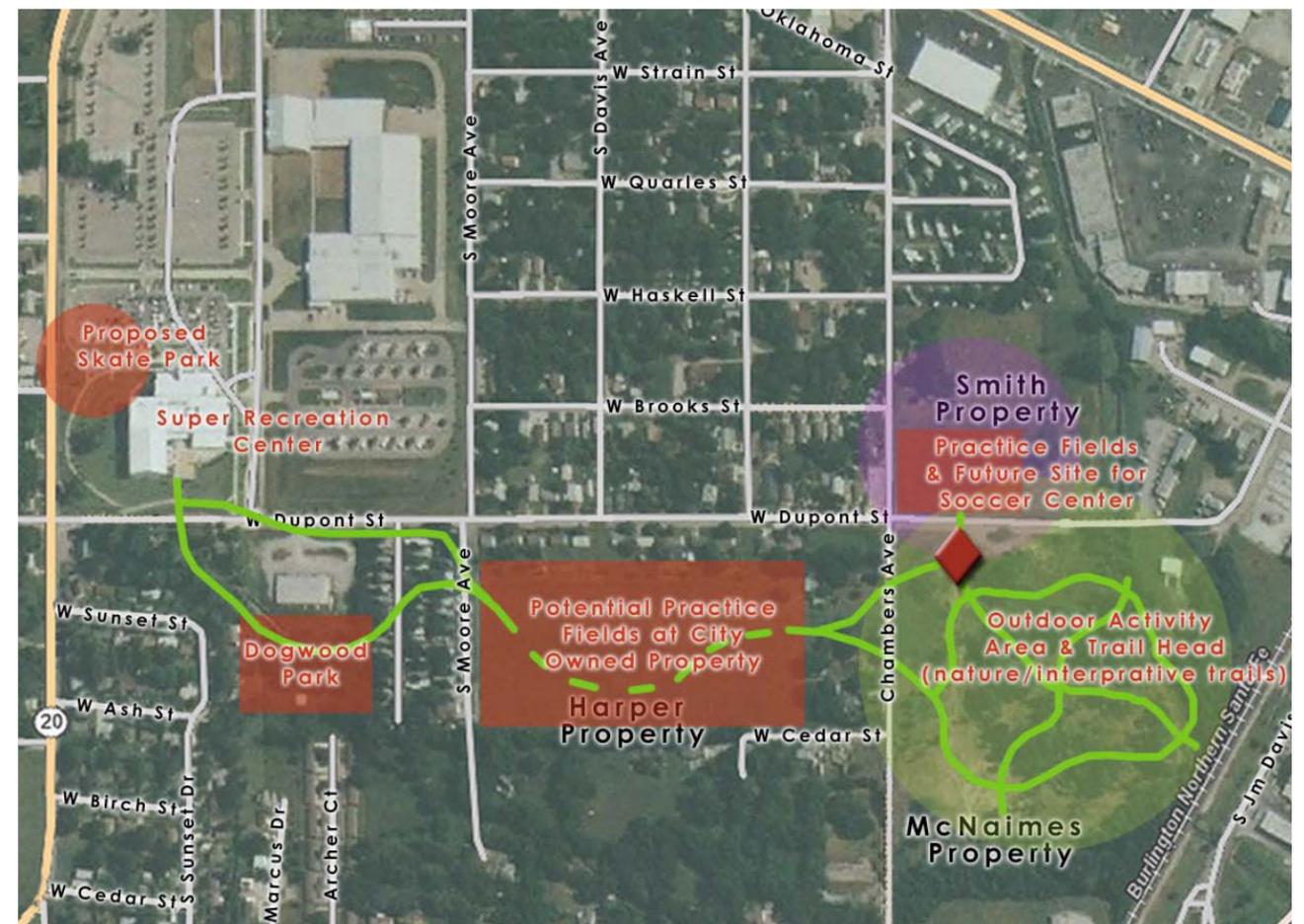
In most communities across the U.S., the quality and effectiveness of their park system is generally measured by the breath and depth of its athletic programs and facilities. Using this standard, it is clear that Claremore rises to the top of the list for communities of a similar size and nature. Increasingly, however, many communities are moving “beyond sports” with their parks system, targeting new and diverse user groups that desire more non-athletic uses and facilities.

The desire and need for these “beyond sports” facilities was clearly demonstrated in Claremore during the development of this Plan. Accordingly, the CIP includes several new facility types that concentrate on: (1) outdoor activity areas; (2) passive use parks; and (3) skate and spray park facilities (see CIP budgets this page). Some of these new park areas may serve as logical locations for other, non-traditional park elements in the future (i.e. dog park, off-road biking and trails, camping, etc.), but the primary intent of the passive use and outdoor activity areas is to remain open space and multi-purpose. All cities need a place to fly kites, run dogs and allow for unorganized “play.”

Proposed Skate Park: Across the U.S., skate parks are becoming as common as water parks and soccer fields. In the past two summers, half-pipes, spines and mini-ramps -- the technical names for ramps -- have popped up in all sizes of cities, some as small as Roanoke, Texas (pop. 3,629) and some as large as Huntsville, Alabama (pop. 168,132). The sport is growing, and not just in suburban areas, there are more than 300 skate parks in the United States, with 300 more on the way, according to the Skate Park Association of the United States. The Plan recommends that the City provide a safe and organized outlet for skaters within the City. The youth participants on the Task Force provided valuable insight into possible locations, nature and extent and operational characteristics of a potential skate park, and **Appendix B** provides additional details regarding the recommendations.



Dupont Avenue Subarea Plan: The location of the “beyond sports” elements proposed in the Plan are distributed fairly evenly across the City, but the nature, quality and size of City-owned land in the Dupont Avenue and Chambers Street area warrants more detailed examination in the Plan. The Concept Plan for this area indicates a ribbon of parkland and facilities along and near Dupont, stretching from the existing Expo/Super Rec Center to the proposed Will Rogers Recreation site. While the details of this Concept Plan are far from complete, the quantity and proximity of these features provides the City with a unique opportunity for recreation uses. It is acknowledged that some of this land may be targeted for more intensive uses, but the nature of the recreation uses proposed in the Concept Plan are such that they still provide an effective and cost efficient recreation “value” even if they use is short term and temporary.



Will Rogers Recreation Site						
Item	Description	Qty.	Unit	Unit Price	Total	Funding Year
1	Master Plan/Engineering	1	LS	18,000.00	\$18,000	2009-10
2	Outdoor Activity Area and Passive Park				\$90,000	
2A	- Site Improvements	4	AC	10,000.00	\$40,000	2009-10
2B	- Senior Citizen Center development	1	LS	0.00	\$0	2015-16
2C	- Nature/interpretive trail	1	LS	50,000.00	\$50,000	2009-10
2D	- Trailhead (see "connectivity" improvements)	1	LS	0.00	\$0	2009-10
Total Costs					\$108,000	

Super Recreation Center						
Item	Description	Qty.	Unit	Unit Price	Total	Funding Year
1	Master Plan/Engineering	1	LS	7,000.00	\$7,000	
2	Miscellaneous Indoor Improvements	1	LS	100,000.00	\$100,000	2014-15
3	Proposed Skate Park				\$143,000	
3A	- Concrete Base and Infrastructure	12000	SF	4.00	\$48,000	2007-08
3B	- Skate Features/Equipment	1	LS	90,000.00	\$90,000	2007-08
3C	- Landscape/Furniture	1	LS	5,000.00	\$5,000	2007-08
Total Costs					\$250,000	

Claremore Lake Park						
Item	Description	Qty.	Unit	Unit Price	Total	Funding Year
1	Master Plan/Engineering	1	LS	15,000.00	\$15,000	2008-09
2	Outdoor Activity Area and Passive Park				\$167,000	
2A	- Lake Ranger Office/Restrooms	1	LS	140,000.00	\$140,000	2008-09
2A	- Miscellaneous Improvements	1	LS	27,000.00	\$27,000	2008-09
3	Special Feature Area (dog park, etc)	1	LS	50,000.00	\$50,000	2014-15
Total Costs					\$232,000	

Happy Lake Park						
Item	Description	Qty.	Unit	Unit Price	Total	Funding Year
1	Master Plan/Engineering	1	LS	38,550.00	\$38,550	2017-18
2	Infrastructure Improvements				\$192,000	
2A	- Utilities at future development site	1	LS	25,000.00	\$25,000	2017-18
2B	- Development of rural Campground sites	12	EA	5,000.00	\$60,000	2017-18
2C	- Development of Outdoor Activity Center	750	SF	100.00	\$75,000	2017-18
2D	- Trail System (off road bike trail)	4000	LF	8.00	\$32,000	2008-09
3	Miscellaneous Improvements				\$65,000	
3A	- Parking Lot Improvements	1	LS	20,000.00	\$20,000	2017-18
3B	- Signage, Site Furniture, etc.	1	LS	45,000.00	\$45,000	2017-18
Total Costs					\$295,550	

Powers Park Community Center						
Item	Description	Qty.	Unit	Unit Price	Total	Funding Year
1	Miscellaneous Improvements	1	LS	50,000.00	\$50,000	2012-13
Total Costs					\$50,000	

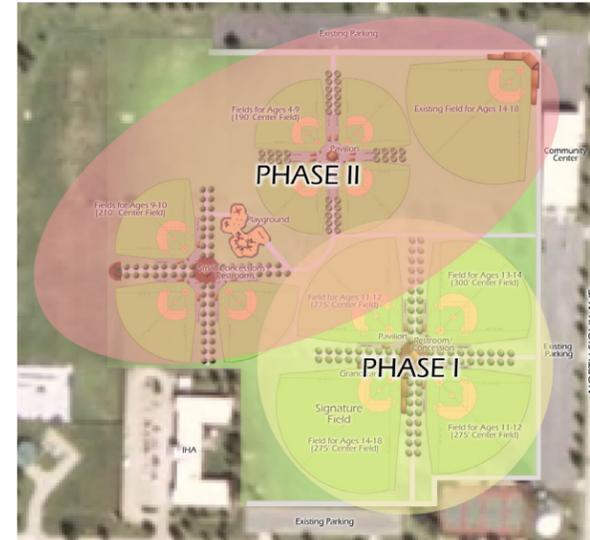
Splash Pad @ Municipal Pool Park						
Item	Description	Qty.	Unit	Unit Price	Total	Funding Year
1	Master Plan/Engineering	1	LS	11,250.00	\$11,250	2011-12
2	Splash Pad Complex				\$88,750	
2A	- Site Improvements (pad/landscaping/etc)	1	LS	5,000.00	\$5,000	2011-12
2B	- Building Upgrades (restrooms/etc.)	750	SF	25.00	\$18,750	2012-13
2C	- Splash Pad and Equipment	1	LS	65,000.00	\$65,000	2012-13
Total Costs					\$100,000	



Powers Park Baseball Complex

Claremore's position as a leader in the development and operation of youth baseball activities and leagues warrants the reinvigoration and renovation of their hallmark facility, Powers Park. The conceptual master plan, phasing plan and detailed budgets for this multi-phased project are included on this page. In general, phase I improvements to Powers Park includes the comprehensive renovation and upgrade of the existing 4 field, youth baseball (ages 11-18) complex. These improvements would then set the standard for quality for the remainder of the renovation and development efforts throughout the park, as well as creating a very competitive and enticing facility for future youth baseball tournaments. Phase I improvements would fully develop a older youth baseball complex, and then Phase II would be instituted to fully develop the remainder of the Park into separate baseball complexes for the varying age groups. In this way, the age groups are separated, but yet still retain enough proximity to facilitate major multi-age group tournament play at one location.

Phase I total costs approximate \$1.0 million, and Phase II costs total almost \$1.5 million(2007 dollars). The particular items and scope of renovation efforts for each field complex is included in the detailed budget below.



Item	Description	Qty.	Unit	Unit Price	Subtotal	Comments
Phase I Improvements - Southern 4 Plex					\$1,000,050	
1	Infrastructure Improvements				\$50,500	
1A	- Phase I drainage improvements	1	LS	40,000.00	\$40,000	- to provide better field and common area drainage
1B	- Phase I utility improvements	1	LS	10,500.00	\$10,500	- utility upgrades to service main 4-plex and entire site
2	Ballfield Complex Improvements				\$797,000	
2A	- Rehab fields	4	EA	\$25,000.00	\$100,000	- irrigate, underground drainage, turf & fencing improvements
2B	- Renovate Concessions/Restroom Bldg.	2,500	SF	\$150.00	\$375,000	- add 2nd story for scoring/meeting areas, rehab bottom floor
2C	- Landscape/Hardscape at Common Areas	15,000	SF	\$10.00	\$150,000	- reduce paving & add landscape, rework netting and shade covers
2D	- Construct warm-up areas	1	LS	\$10,000.00	\$10,000	- add grassed areas at end of common areas for team warm-up
2F	- New Bleachers and shade covers	6	EA	\$5,000.00	\$30,000	- install new at-grade bleachers at fields (except for signature field)
2G	- Grandstands & dugouts for signature field	1	LS	\$132,000.00	\$132,000	- dugouts w/ metal roofs, fixed bleachers w/ fabric shade cover
3	Design and Construction Contingency	1	LS	\$152,550.00	\$152,550	-20% contingency to deal with design costs and unanticipated
Phase II Improvements					\$1,449,925	
1	Park-wide Infrastructure Improvements				\$592,750	
1A	- Drainage Improvements	1	LS	116,000.00	116,000	- extensive work on east side and park-wide system
1B	- Walking Trail System	6,900	LF	7.50	51,750	- Asphalt-paved trail throughout park
1C	- New Playground Area	1	LS	125,000.00	125,000	- ADA accessible equipment/furniture for targeted park age groups
1D	- Additional Concession/Restroom Building	1,500	LS	200.00	300,000	- ADA accessible equipment/furniture for targeted park age groups
2	Renovate Ballfield Complex (Ages 9-10)				\$211,000	
2A	- Rehab fields	3	EA	25,000.00	75,000	- irrigate, underground drainage, turf & fencing improvements
2B	- Landscape/Hardscape at Common Areas	8,000	SF	12.00	96,000	- reduce paving & add landscape, rework netting and shade covers
2C	- Construct warm-up areas	1	LS	10,000.00	10,000	- add grassed areas at end of common areas for team warm-up
2D	- New Bleachers and shade covers	6	EA	5,000.00	30,000	- install new at-grade bleachers and shade covers at fields
3	Construct New Baseball Complex (Ages 4-9)				\$385,000	
3A	- Field Construction	4	EA	\$45,000.00	180,000	- includes drainage, turf, field mix, grading, fencing, irrigation, etc
3B	- Field Lighting	1	LS	\$75,000.00	75,000	- includes new lights, & re-aiming/re-circuiting of existing lights
3C	- Pavilion/Common Area	1	LS	\$45,000.00	45,000	- small shade structure and amenities for common area gathering
3D	- Landscape/Hardscape at Common Areas	8,000	SF	\$10.00	80,000	- includes common area paving, shrubs and trees
3E	- Site Furnishings/Signage	1	LS	\$5,000.00	5,000	- includes benches, trash receptacles, and directional signage
4	Upgrades at Existing Field (north end)	1	LS	\$40,000.00	\$40,000	- upgrades (bleachers, dugouts, etc.) to field near community center
5	Design and Construction Contingency	1	LS	\$221,175.00	\$221,175	-20% contingency to deal with design costs and unanticipated



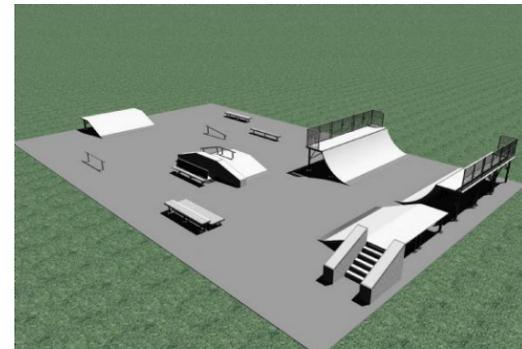
Proposed Skate Park

In the development of the Parks and Recreation Plan, no single element or issue engendered more discussion and passion than that of the need for a skate park in Claremore. Based on the results of the public meetings and Task Force deliberations, the need and desire for a Skate Park within the City limits is clear. Additional research (see box) indicated that several communities across Oklahoma and the United States now view skate parks as a commonly-accepted element of an overall, comprehensive park system. Indeed, as reported by the Skate Park Association of the United States, the sport of skateboarding is growing and there are more than 300 skate parks in the United States, with 300 more on the way. Understanding that this "fad" has now become a "trend" and is now on its way to becoming a "foundation" element for parks programs, this Plan should determine the most appropriate location, type and nature of this proposed use for the City of Claremore.

City	City Population	Constructed	User Fee	Location
Oklahoma Skate Parks: Owasso Norman Chickasha Broken Arrow Mustang Okmulgee	Varies from 5,000-50,000	All within the last 5 years	None at this time	Varies but all stand alone and have limited supervision
Mathis Skate Park Edmond, Oklahoma	75,000	2002	No	Located adjacent to the community park (separate parking, and entrance). Lighted, 17500 s.f., open till 10 p.m.
GPX Grand Prairie, Texas	156,000	2002	Yes	Adjacent to a City Facility, but is supervised by a private company (Alliance Skate Park) offer programs
Roanoke, Texas	3,629	2007	No	Near Library and Community Center, open from 8 a.m. till dark, no lights
The Edge @ Allen Station Park Allen, Texas	73,298	2005	No	Adjacent to the Youth Center, open to the public from 8 a.m. til 11 p.m., lighted
Sk8-Cary Cary, North Carolina	112,414	2002	Yes	Built in an existing Park, near tennis facility, has a pro-shop, managed by the Town of Cary, have programs, open from 3 p.m. to 10 p.m. on weekdays, and 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. on weekends. lighted have to wear pads
Prairie Village Skate Park Prairie Village, Kansas	21,511	2005	No	Adjacent to City Hall, Police Station and the City pool, open from 8 a.m. to 11 p.m., lighted
Huntsville Sk8park Huntsville, Alabama	168,132	2002	No	Located in downtown Huntsville, must wear helmets, gated park, parks department open gates every morning at 8 a.m. park closes at 5 p.m., stand alone park
Florence Skatepark Florence, Kentucky	26,900	2003	No	Stand alone park. Open from Dawn to dusk, no lights, 20,000 sq ft, has emergency telephone, shelter, and parking
Conway Skate Park Conway, Arkansas	43,167	2003	No	Located near City's Recreation Center, open Sundays from 10:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.(bikes only), Monday - Saturday 7:30 a.m. till Dark

What Type of Facility?

The images and budgets on this page indicate that the proposed skate park is planned to be approximately 10-12,000 square feet in size with a variety of skate features and elements. These elements are proposed to be non-stationery in order that any future additions to the park can be accommodated with minimum disturbance or re-working of the overall pad configuration. The facility is planned to be fenced and lighted so that it can operate during the same hours as the existing Super Recreation Center, but at the same time, be secured during off hours.



Item	Description	Qty.	Unit	Unit Price	Total
1	Master Plan/Engineering	1	LS	8,500.00	\$8,500
3	Proposed Skate Park				\$141,500
3A	- Concrete Base	12000	SF	4.00	\$48,000
3B	- Infrastructure (drainage/electric requirements)	1	LS	5,500.00	\$5,500
3C	- Landscape/Furniture/Fencing	1	LS	8,000.00	\$8,000
3B	- Skate Features/Equipment	1	LS	80,000.00	\$80,000
Total Costs					\$150,000

Where Should it be Located?

Table 1 details a location analysis completed for the proposed skate park. While there were many possible locations within the City, our research indicated that the choices evolved to a review of a stand-alone site (i.e. Will Rogers Recreation site) versus a site that is adjacent to or in combination with an existing park facility or building. The Super Rec Center facility was viewed as the best possible alternative for this type of location choice, and 2 alternative locations were identified at this site (see illustration 1). Table 1 details each site's rating according to each of the ranking factors, with the higher rating being more advantageous to the City. For a number of reasons, the Super Recreation Center site "A" was determined to be the highest ranked site, primarily due to its proximity to the Recreation Center, yet it still offered a "stand alone" component that would permit the City to post a "Skate at your Own Risk" policy at the facility. Site "B" offered the greatest potential for the effective collection of user fees, but the research indicated that most communities did not charge admission to these types of facilities.

Factors/Characteristics	Will Rogers Recreation site	Super Rec Center Site "A"	Super Rec Center Site "B"
Proximity to & Ability for Supervision	2	4	3
Ability to Effectively Charge Admission	2	3	5
Incremental Impact on Department Manpower	2	5	3
Relationship/Impact to Adjacent Uses	4	3	3
Flexibility in Size & Configuration	5	3	2
Cost Factors (sitework and infrastructure)	3	5	4
Overall Rating (Higher Rating is Better)	3.0	3.83	3.33

