

Parks & Recreation Master Plan

Gaston County, North Carolina

September 26, 2017



Step One: Inventory



George Poston Park



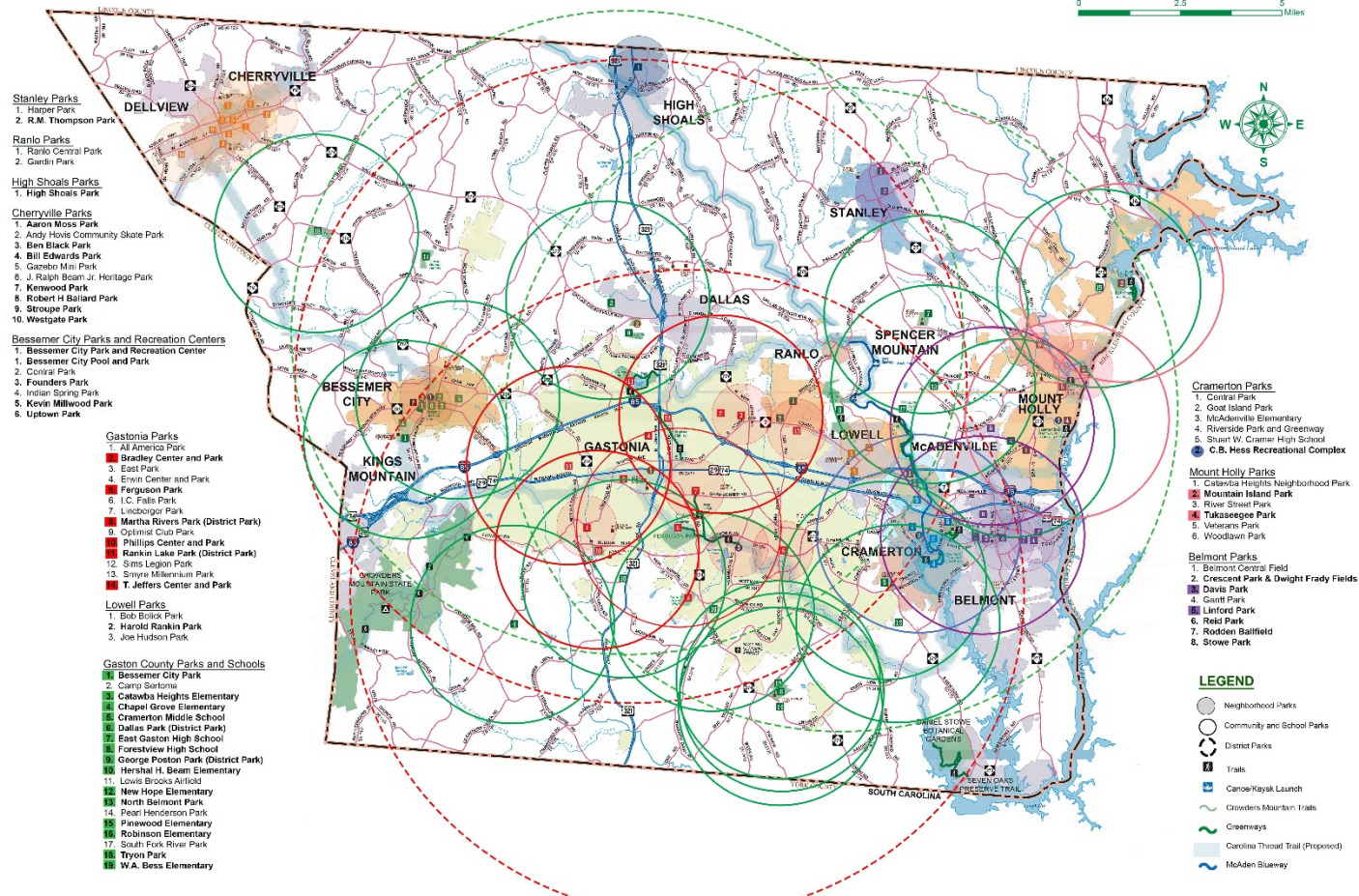
Rankin Lake Park

- Inventory of public parks and open space serving County residents
 - Municipal Parks and Facilities
 - **County Parks and Facilities**
 - State/Federal Parks
 - Private Facilities

Step One: Inventory

Gaston County Parks, Recreation and Greenways Map

benesch
May 15, 2017



Step One: Inventory

Review of current and projected population and demographic information

All Topics ▼	Gaston County, North Carolina ✕	UNITED STATES ✕
Population estimates, July 1, 2016, (V2016)	216,965	323,127,513
PEOPLE		
Population		
Population estimates, July 1, 2016, (V2016)	216,965	323,127,513
Population estimates base, April 1, 2010, (V2016)	206,101	308,758,105
Population, percent change - April 1, 2010 (estimates base) to July 1, 2016, (V2016)	5.3%	4.7%
Population, Census, April 1, 2010	206,086	308,745,538
Age and Sex		
Persons under 5 years, percent, July 1, 2016, (V2016)	6.0%	6.2%
Persons under 5 years, percent, April 1, 2010	6.4%	6.5%
Persons under 18 years, percent, July 1, 2016, (V2016)	22.9%	22.8%
Persons under 18 years, percent, April 1, 2010	23.9%	24.0%
Persons 65 years and over, percent, July 1, 2016, (V2016)	15.5%	15.2%
Persons 65 years and over, percent, April 1, 2010	13.2%	13.0%

Step Two: Public Input

- Public Workshops
- County-Wide Survey
- Meetings with community stakeholders



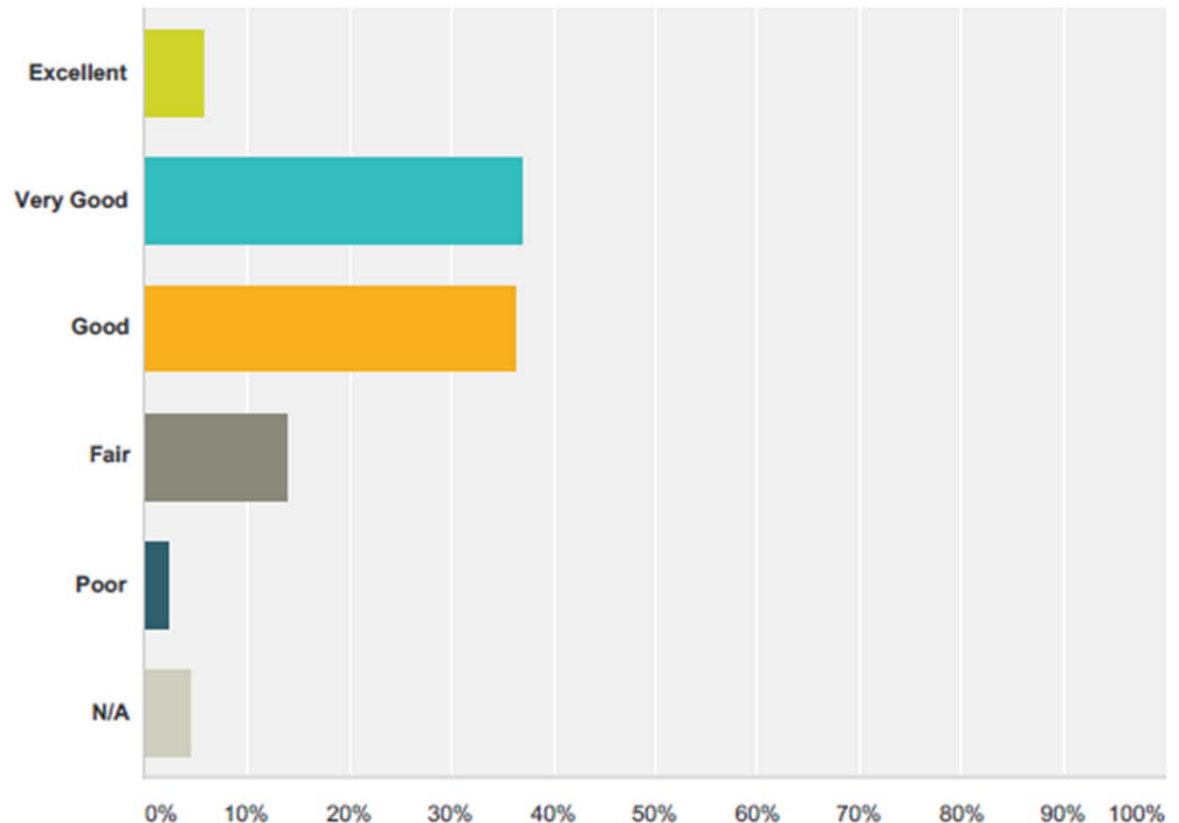
Step Two: Public Input

Key Findings

- Existing parks are heavily used and valued
- Dallas Park and George Poston Park are the most used facilities
- Strong demand for expansion/improvement of facilities, especially:
 - Walking & Biking Trails
 - Open Space/Passive Recreation
 - Family Recreation
 - Playgrounds
 - Picnicking
- Willingness to pay for improvements

Q2 How would you rate the overall quality of the Gaston County Parks and Recreation's facilities which you or members of your household have visited?

Answered: 407 Skipped: 98



Step Three: Development of Standards



Mini & Neighborhood
Parks



Community Parks &
District Parks



Regional Parks &
Greenways

Special Use Facilities: Indoor Recreation Facilities,
Senior/Teen Centers, Aquatic Facilities

Step Three: Development of Standards

Parks by Classification

Park Types	Currituck County	Elizabeth/ Pasquotank County	City of Fayetteville/ Cumberland County	Iredell County	Cabarrus County	Yadkin County	Old NRPA Standards	Gaston County 2007 Master Plan	Gaston County 2017 Proposed Standards
Mini Parks	NA*	1-3 Acres/Park (.25 Acres/ 1,000)	.5-3 Acres/Park (.5 Acres/ 1,000)	1-2 Acres/Park (.25-.5 Acres/ 1,000)	.25-3 Acres/Park (.1 Acres/ 1,000)	NA*	.25-1 Acres/Park (.25-.5 Acres/ 1,000)	NA*	1-5 Acres/Park (.1 Acres/ 1,000)
Neighborhood Parks	5- 10 Acres/Park (1 Acres/ 1,000)	7-15 Acres/Park (1 Acres/ 1,000)	7-15 Acres/Park (2.5 Acres/ 1,000)	10-15 Acres/Park (1-2 Acres/ 1,000)	3-25 Acres/Park (1 Acres/ 1,000)	NA*	5-10 Acres/Park (1-2 Acres/ 1,000)	5-15 Acres/Park (2 Acres/ 1,000)	5-15 Acres/Park (1 Acres/ 1,000)
Community Parks	30-50 Acres/Park (3 Acres/ 1,000)	40-100 Acres/Park (5 Acres/ 1,000)	30-50 Acres/Park (1.25 Acres/ 1,000)	30-50 Acres/Park (5-8 Acres/ 1,000)	25-70 Acres/Park (2.5 Acres/ 1,000)	30-50 Acres/Park (1.5 Acres/ 1,000)	30-50 Acres/Park (5-8 Acres/ 1,000)	40+ Acres/Park (4 Acres/ 1,000)	40+ Acres/Park (4 Acres/ 1,000)
District Parks	50 -100 Acres/Park (3 Acres/ 1,000)	±60-100 Acres/Park (2.5 Acres/ 1,000)	40-80 Acres/Park (1 Acres/ 1,000)	100-200 Acres/Park (5-10 Acres/ 1,000)	100-300 Acres/Park (3 Acres/ 1,000)	100-150 Acres/Park (2.5 Acres/ 1,000)	+75 Acres/Park (5-10 Acres/ 1,000)	200-400 Acres/Park (10 Acres/ 1,000)	100+ Acres/Park (3.5 Acres/ 1,000)
Regional Parks	150-1,000 Acres/Park (3 Acres/ 1,000)	NA**	100-250 Acres/Park (3.25 Acres/ 1,000)	NA**	750 Acres/Park (5 Acres/ 1,000))	150-1,000 Acres/Park (5 Acres/ 1,000)	NA**	1,000 Acres/Park (10 Acres/ 1,000)	1000+ Acres/Park (10 Acres/ 1,000)

Step Four: Needs Assessment

Current and Projected Facility Needs

	2017 Standard	Existing Facilities	Current Demand (215,000*)		Current Need (215,000*)	2026 Demand (235,000*)		2026 Need (235,000*)
Fields								
Adult Baseball	1/20,000	76	11	83	7	12	90	14
Youth Baseball	1/6,000		36			39		
Softball	1/6,000		36			39		
Rectangle Fields	1/3,500	47	61		14	67		20
Courts								
Basketball (outdoor)	1/7,000	24	27		3	34		10
Tennis	1/3,500	51	61		10	67		16
Volleyball	1/20,000	6	11		5	12		6
Horseshoes	1/6,000	32	36		4	39		7
Shuffleboard	1/40,000	1	5		4	6		5
Outdoor Areas								
Playgrounds	1/4,000	43	54		11	59		16
Picnic Shelter	1/3,000	60	72		12	78		18
Trails								
Hiking/Fitness/Jogging	1 mile/4,000	±15 miles	±54 miles		39 miles	59 miles		44 miles
Specialized								
Amphitheater	1/20,000	5	11		6	12		7
Community Garden	1/20,000	2	11		9	12		10
Swimming Pool	1/20,000	9	11		2	12		3
Recreation Center w/ Gym	1/25,000	6	9		3	9		3
Dog Park	1/35,000	3	6		3	7		4
Skate Park	1/50,000	3	4		1	5		2
Disc Golf	1/35,000	3	6		3	7		4
Bicycling/Urban	1 mile/2,000		108		108	178		118
Sprayground	1/50,000	1	4		3	5		4

Step Five: Plan of Action

Park Needs (Ten Year Plan)

Develop several new Mini Parks

- ± 1-2 Acres
- Playground, Shelter, Bench, Etc.
- Located in underserved areas of towns/cities
- Developed and maintained by municipal agencies



Develop several new Neighborhood Parks

- 5-8 acres
- Family oriented facilities (playgrounds, shelters, etc.)
- Located in underserved areas of the towns/cities
- Developed and operated by municipal agencies



Step Five: Plan of Action

Park Needs (Ten Year Plan)

Existing Community Parks are meeting needs of County residents

District Park

- Acquire land and develop new District Park
- ± 100 Acres
- Located in northeast area of county
- Active and passive recreation
- Phase One in next 10 years



Step Five: Plan of Action

Recreation Facility Needs

- Ballfields
- Multi-purpose Fields (Rectangle Fields)
- Playgrounds
- Picnic Areas/Shelters
- Court Games
- Disc Golf Course
- Mountain Bike Trails
- Community Gardens
- Splash Pads/Spraygrounds



Step Five: Plan of Action



Dallas Park Splashpad®, NC
Revision 00 - Phase 01 - 26470

View 1



Special Use Facilities

- Develop additional spray grounds
- Expand greenway trails



Step Five: Plan of Action

Park Needs (Ten Year Plan)

- Renovate existing park areas (District & Community Parks)
- Make improvements to Senior Center
- Encourage development of additional infrastructure/facilities at Crowders Mountain State Park
- Expand building and grounds staff to maintain growing park system
- Work collaboratively with municipalities throughout county



Step Five: Plan of Action

Park Development Priorities

- Renovations to several existing parks
- ADA improvements to existing parks
- Acquisition of land for a new District Park in the northeastern section of the county
- Construction of 3-5 miles of new greenways
- Development of additional spraygrounds



Step Five: Plan of Action

**Table 5-1
GASTON COUNTY
PARKS AND RECREATION COMPREHENSIVE MASTER PLAN
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN**

Capital Improvement and Land Acquisition	10 Year Total	2016-2020	2021-2026
Existing Parks Renovation/Improvements			
Dallas Park	\$4,275,000*	\$2,775,000	\$1,500,000
George Poston Park	\$500,000	\$500,000	
Bessemer City Park	\$325,000	\$325,000	
North Belmont Park	\$650,000	\$650,000	
Tryon Park	\$550,000	\$550,000	
Pearl Henderson Park	\$625,000	\$625,000	
South Fork River Park	\$500,000	\$500,000	
Camp Sertoma	\$100,000		\$100,000
Lewis Brooks Airfield	\$150,000		\$150,000
Planning & Design (10%)	\$767,500	\$592,500	\$175,000
Renovation Total	\$8,442,500	\$6,517,500	\$1,925,000
Land Acquisition			
Northeastern District Park (100 acres @\$12,500/acre)	\$1,250,000	\$1,250,000	
Land Acquisition Total	\$1,250,000	\$1,250,000	
Park Development			
Northeastern District Park (Phase One)	\$2,500,000		\$2,500,000
Planning and Design (10%)	\$250,000		\$250,000
Park Development Total	\$2,750,000		\$2,750,000
Senior Center			
Senior Center Improvements	\$250,000		\$250,000
Planning and Design (10%)	\$25,000		\$25,000
Senior Centers Total	\$275,000		\$275,000
Special Use Facilities			
Greenway Trail Development/Acquisition	\$5,000,000	\$1,500,000	\$3,500,000
Planning & Design (10%)	\$500,000	\$150,000	\$350,000
Special Use Facilities Total	\$5,500,000	\$1,650,000	\$3,850,000
Total Capital Improvement Budget Cost	\$18,217,500	\$9,417,500	\$8,800,000

* Includes \$1.5 million for multi-purpose building

Questions?

