

PARK SECTOR 1 SUMMARY

PARK SECTOR 1 PRIORITIES

These priorities were developed by using condition assessment information from site visits, standard-based needs analysis (NRPA standards and data from The Trust for Public Land ParkScore™ Project), and public input via an online survey, park user interviews, community events and Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) meetings.

1. Acquire new park land
2. Revitalize existing parks
3. Develop neighborhood connections to parks and trails
4. Develop partnerships with the school system and other entities
5. Preserve environmentally sensitive areas
6. Develop new park facilities

RECOMMENDATIONS

The parks in Park Sector 1 that have the highest need for renovation and/or redevelopment from greatest need to least need are: Victoria Gardens Park, Forest West Park, Watonga Parkway, and T.C. Jester Parkway.

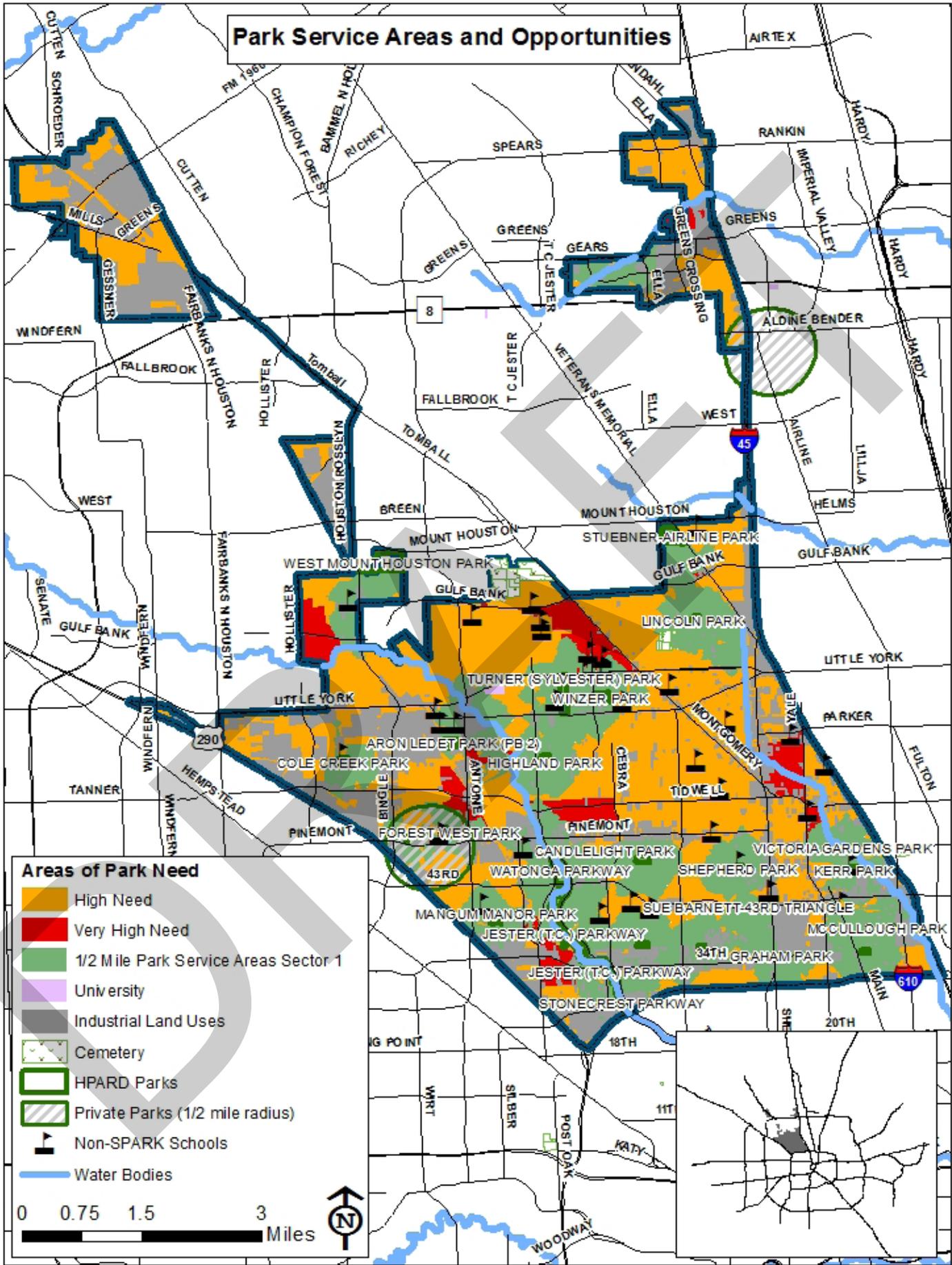
In addition to the existing 12 miles of trails, the Bayou Greenways 2020 (BG2020 Initiative) will add 8.3 miles to the White Oak Bayou trail system which will provide a total of 16 miles of trails on White Oak Bayou, over 3 miles on the MKT trail, and over 7 miles along Buffalo Bayou. Additional on-street and off-street connections to the White Oak Bayou Trail need to be carefully considered to maximize the potential of this public-private partnership investment. Currently, Little White Oak Bayou runs through this Park Sector and is not included in the BG2020 trail development plans. Trail construction could be pursued along this bayou in the future to provide access to Moody Park in Park Sector 17 and connectivity to the METRO light rail.

While many areas closer to I-610 currently have sufficient parkland, as the population increases land acquisition must be pursued to serve the growing number of residents. Development is also increasing in the southern areas of the Park Sector, with some development occurring as far north as Tidwell Road. At the current population, an additional 32 acres of park land are needed in this Park Sector. There is also a high percentage of undeveloped land in this Park Sector which could be purchased and conserved for future park use. Schools not participating in the SPARK School Park Program (Non-SPARK schools) should be explored as potential future partnerships for park space.

This Park Sector is also deficient in playgrounds, picnic shelters, trails, outdoor basketball courts, volleyball courts, community centers, softball fields, and soccer fields. In the 2014 online survey, the top three priorities of residents in Park Sector 1 when asked what recreational needs existed in their neighborhood were: hike, bike and walk trails (60%), open space and natural areas (45.5%), and playground areas (43.4%). Other services and amenities that residents asked for in the write-in portion of the survey were: adult volleyball, facilities for tweens and teens, yoga, community garden, programming for kids 0 to 6 year olds, swim lessons, arts and crafts programming, youth nature programs, and fitness programs. The current parks in this Park Sector are not able to support these amenities; their development should be pursued as new land is acquired.

Sources: 2010 Census, 2010 Houston Health Survey, American Community Survey 2013, Houston Parks Board, HPARD 2014 Online Survey, Trust for Public Land

Park Service Areas and Opportunities



Areas of Park Need

- High Need
- Very High Need
- 1/2 Mile Park Service Areas Sector 1
- University
- Industrial Land Uses
- Cemetery
- HPARD Parks
- Private Parks (1/2 mile radius)
- Non-SPARK Schools
- Water Bodies

0 0.75 1.5 3 Miles

N

EXISTING HPARD PARKS

Facility Name	Address	Street	Total Acres	Trail Length
Pocket Parks				
Poppy Avenue Future Park Site	0	Poppy Avenue	0.29	N/A
Rosslyn Park	6500	Pinemont	0.53	N/A
Total Pocket Park Acreage			0.82	
Neighborhood Parks				
American Legion Park	3621	Golf Dr.	4.74	N/A
Aron Ledet Park (PB2)	6323	Antoine Dr.	13.44	0.38
Candlelight Park	1520	Candlelight	9.53	0.45
Cole Creek Park	7200	Drowsy Pine	6.97	0.35
Forest West Park	5915	Golden Forest Dr	6.16	0.30
Graham Park	540	West 34th St	2.50	N/A
Highland Park	3316	DeSoto	5.78	N/A
Independence Heights Park	601	East 35th St	3.10	0.31
Kerr Park	4620	Arlington	6.20	N/A
Lincoln Park* (joint maintenance agreement with Harris County)	979	Grenshaw	8.60	N/A
Mangum Manor Park	5235	Saxon	6.82	0.29
McCullough Park	901	E. 40th St	1.30	N/A
Oak Forest Park	2100	Judiway	5.80	N/A
Shepherd Park	4725	Brinkman	7.89	0.25
Stonecrest Parkway	2701	East T.C. Jester	4.66	N/A
Sue Barnett-43rd Triangle	750	43rd St	1.23	N/A
Victoria Gardens Park	4900	Werner	1.87	N/A
West Tidwell Trailhead	4700	West Tidwell	1.43	N/A
Winzer Park	7300	Carver/Dolly Wright	12.03	0.60
Wortham Island Reserve		White Oak Bayou/Tulsa	2.75	N/A
Total HPARD Neighborhood Park Acreage			112.80	
Community Parks				
Alabonson Park	9650	N. Houston Rosslyn	50.21	N/A
Stuebner – Airline Park	9201	Veteran’s Memorial Blvd	27.44	0.50
Turner (Sylvester) Park	2800	West Little York	26.01	1.02
West Mount Houston Park	10300	N.Houston-Rosslyn	50.22	N/A
Total HPARD Community Park Acreage			153.88	
Corridor/Linear Parks and Greenways				
Jester (T.C.) Parkway	4201	West T.C. Jester	68.00	1.00
Watonga Parkway	4100	Watonga Blvd	30.00	N/A
Total HPARD Linear Park Acreage			98.00	
Total HPARD Park Acreage			365.50	
Total HPARD Trail Length				5.60

EXISTING COMMUNITY CENTERS AND POOLS

Community Centers and Pool Facilities	Address	Zip Code	Agency Responsible
Candlelight Community Center	1520 Candlelight	77018	HPARD
Highland Community Center	3316 DeSoto	77091	HPARD
Independence Heights Community Center and Pool	603 East 35th	77022	HPARD
Lincoln Community Center and Pool	979 Grenshaw	77007	HPARD
Jester (T.C.) Park Pool	4201 West T.C. Jester	77018	HPARD
Oak Forest Park Pool	2100 Judiway	77018	HPARD

PARK SERVICE AREAS

The Park Service Areas map was produced using data provided by the Trust for Public Land ParkScore™ Project to identify areas of park need. The green areas represent a ½ mile service area of public parks (city or county) and SPARK Parks (school parks open to the public after school) or other publicly accessible non-HPARD Parks.

The orange and red represent areas where there is not access to a park within a ½ mile. The degree of need (red is very high need and orange is high need) is based on population density, household income (less than \$35,000), and presence of youth (19 yrs or younger).

The office and industrial land uses are represented in grey, to specifically highlight residential and commercial areas of need. Approximately 50% of the area in this Park Sector is in need of park land accessible within a ½ mile, as compared to the 45% of the population of the City of Houston who need park access. Non-SPARK schools are indicated on the map as black flags to explore as potential future partnerships for park space.

PARK SECTOR FACTS

- This Park Sector contains 370 acres of parkland (Harris County, HPARD and other providers). Of the 24,739 acres in this Park Sector, 1.5% of this acreage is parkland.
- There are approximately 150,000 residents. Over 34% of the population is African American (higher than the 23% in the City of Houston).
- The Health of Houston Survey 2010 shows that 34% of the population is obese compared to 31% for the City of Houston as whole.
- An additional 32 acres of park land are needed in this Park Sector. The map on page 3 shows high need in the north and central portion of the Park Sector. This is based on the current population (2010 US Census) of the Park Sector and needs assessment completed for Pocket, Neighborhood and Community parks (number of acres per 1,000 people).
- H-GAC population projections estimate that this area will add over 50,000 residents by 2040. To meet the estimated population, a total of 133 acres of park land will be needed.

NEEDS ASSESSMENT FOR AMENITIES IN PARK SECTOR

The table below shows the total existing amenities (including, HPARD, County and SPARK School Parks) as of 2015, the target goal per amenity, and the amenities needed based on population standards for each amenity using 2010 US Census Population data. The last row shows the estimated number of amenities needed based on the H-GAC population projections for 2040 and standards used in the 2007 Parks Master Plan.

AMENITY	PLAYGROUNDS	PICNIC SHELTERS	TRAILS (MILES)	OUTDOOR BASKETBALL COURTS	TENNIS	VOLLEYBALL	DOG PARKS	SKATE PARKS	COMMUNITY CENTERS	SWIMMING POOLS	OUTDOOR SPRAYGROUNDS	BASEBALL (LIT and UNIT)	SOFTBALL (LIT and UNIT)	SOCCER (LIT and UNIT)
2015 Goal	37	15	30	12	15	3	1	1	5	4	2	9	5	15
2015 Existing	22	7	18*	9	15	1	1	1	4	4	2	9	4	0
2015 Needed	15	8	12	3	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	15
2040 Needed	13	5	10	4	5	1	1	1	2	1	1	2	2	5

* This number includes miles of trails currently planned along White Oak Bayou to Beltway 8 under the Bayou Greenways 2020 (BG2020)

GUIDE FOR ESTIMATED COST OF NEW AMENITIES, PARK LAND, AMENITY RENOVATIONS AND OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE FOR PARK SECTOR

The table below contains costs estimates (in 2015 dollars) based on the needs assessment using 2010 US Census population and population projections provided by H-GAC per Park Sector for 2040, for both amenities and land in this Park Sector. In addition, the cost estimates (in 2015 dollars) for renovation of existing facilities and operation and maintenance are listed. A general explanation of each figure and its source is listed below:

- 1. Cost of New System Amenities:** This is the estimated cost for amenities based on the needs assessment above. Costs are estimated for 2015 and 2040 based on costs of 2014 HPARD projects. These costs are a guide and do not include site specific constraints such as utility extensions, flood mitigation or the purchase of land if expansion of the park was needed for these amenities.
- 2. Cost of Park Land:** This is the land needed to meet the park land standards for 2015 and 2040 based on the 2010 US Census and the H-GAC estimated population projections respectively. Land costs are based on land values by Park Sector, provided by H-GAC, from 2014 HCAD values for properties greater than 5,000 sqft in size and with no structures.
- 3. Cost of HPARD Amenity Renovation:** The 2015 cost estimate is based on the assessment that 30% of the existing facilities in this Park Sector need renovation. The 2040 cost estimate is based on the assessment that the remaining 2/3 of the facilities from 2015 and 30% of the new facilities will need renovation to meet the population growth. Costs are estimated for 2015 and 2040 based on costs of 2014 HPARD projects.
- 4. Annual Operation and Maintenance:** This figure is based on the national average for parks and recreation operational spending amount (\$63) per resident in 2013 according the Trust for Public Land publication "2014 City Park Facts." Houston spent \$29 per resident on parks and recreation in 2013. This figure shows what the cost of spending this average amount per resident would be based on the current population and the projected population in 2040.

	1	2	3	4
	COST OF NEW SYSTEM AMENITIES	COST OF NEW PARK LAND	COST OF HPARD EXISTING AMENITY RENOVATION	ANNUAL COST OF OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE
2015	\$40,000,000	32 Acres- \$5,000,000	\$26,000,000	\$9,000,000
2040	\$52,000,000	101 Acres- \$15,000,000	\$80,000,000	\$3,000,000
TOTAL 2040	\$92,000,000	133 Acres- \$20,000,000	\$106,000,000	\$12,000,000