

HOUSTON PARKS MASTER PLAN

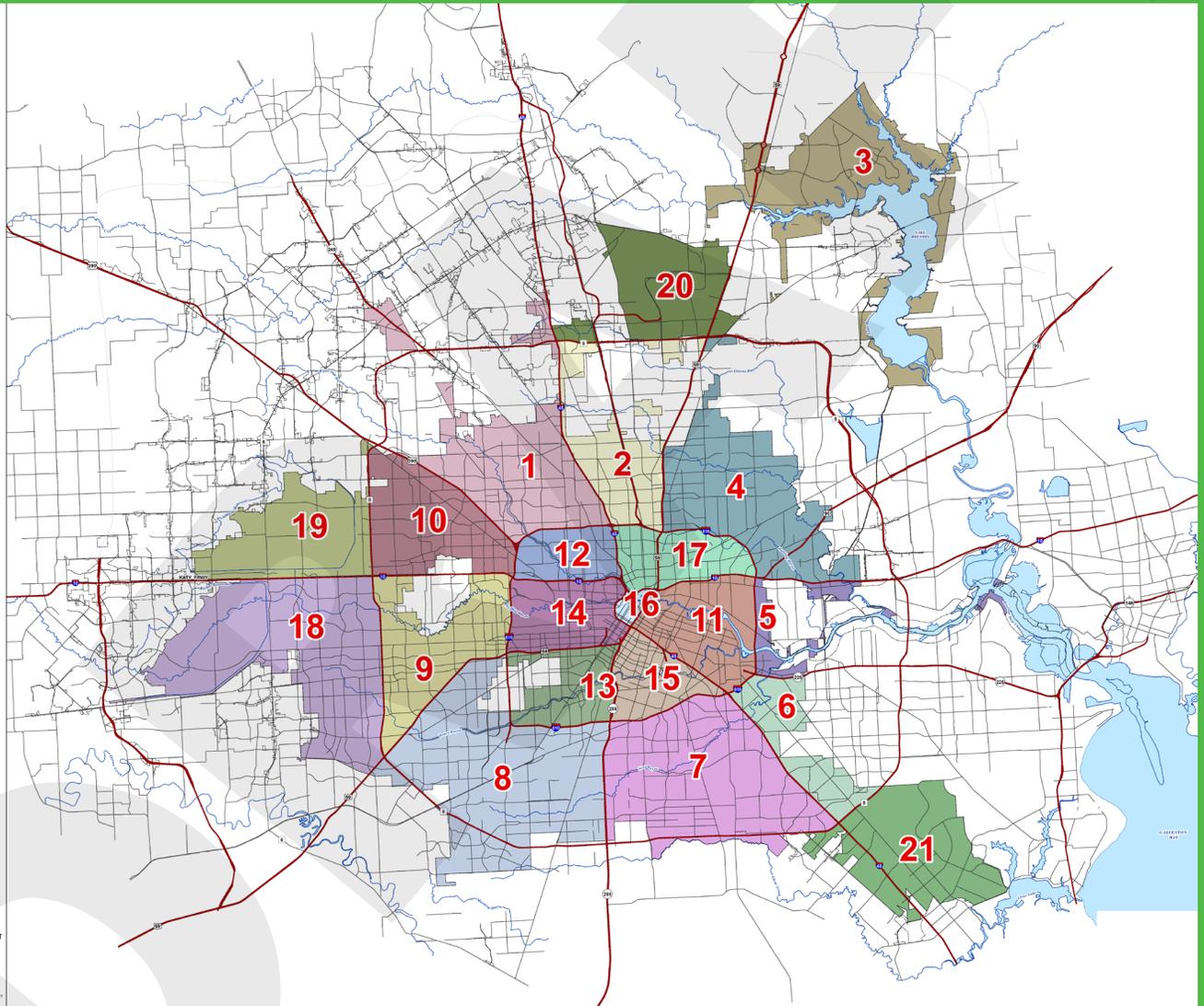
PHASE II



The Houston Parks and Recreation (HPARD) Parks Master Plan presents the vision of the residents of Houston and the goals, or Big Moves, to be made by the Department in the next 20 years. An online survey was conducted from March 2014 through July of 2014. Approximately 1,800 responses were received. Two-thirds of survey respondents identified connecting their neighborhood to hike, bike, and walk trails and revitalizing existing parks as their highest budgetary priority for HPARD.



CITY OF HOUSTON PARK SECTORS



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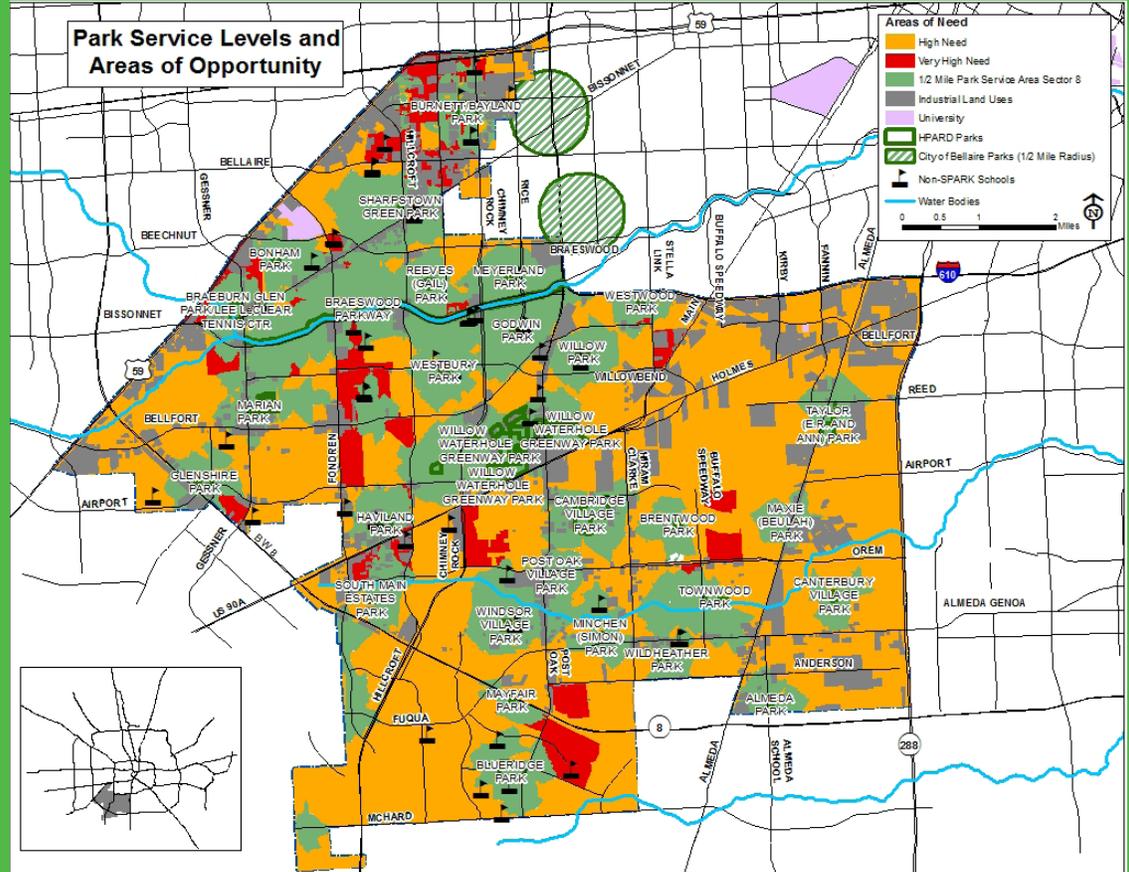


HPARD performed a year-long initial assessment of each Park Sector in the City with support from the Planning and Development, the Health and Human Services and the Housing and Community Development Departments of the City of Houston, The Houston Parks Board, The Houston-Galveston Area Council and the Center for Sustainability at Rice University. Volunteer Interns from St. Thomas University, Texas A&M University, Lone Star College, and Texas Southern University were indispensable in this effort. Maps of areas of park need were created using data provided by the Trust for Public Land ParkScore™ Project; HPARD continues to partner with the Trust for Public Land to improve the methodology and assess park needs specific to Houston.

PARK SECTOR 8:

This Park Sector contains 1,513 acres of park land (Harris County, HPARD & other providers). There are approximately 293,586 residents living in this Park Sector; this is most populated Park Sector with almost 14% of the population of the city. There is a high percentage of elderly & youth. An additional 155 acres of park land (neighborhood parks) are needed in this Park Sector. The Health Houston Survey shows that 14.5% of the population has been diagnosed with diabetes, compared to 11.4% for the City of Houston as a whole.

The map above was produced using data provided by the Trust for Public Land ParkScore™ Project to show 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 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, so as to specifically highlight residential and commercial areas of need. Approximately 54% of the area in this Park Sector is in need of park land accessible within ½ mile, as compared to 45% of the population of the City of Houston who need park access.



OPPORTUNITIES

Non-SPARK schools are indicated on the map as black flags to explore as potential future partnerships for park space. There is a north-south utility corridor west of Hiram Clarke that could be explored for trail development. A trail along Sims Bayou is planned according to the Bayou Greenways Initiative (BG2020).

PARK AMENITIES

The table below shows the total existing amenities (including, HPARD, County and SPARK Parks), the target goal per amenity, and the amenities needed based on population standards for each amenity.

AMENITY	PLAYGROUNDS	PICNIC SHELTERS	TRAILS (MILES)	OUTDOOR BASKETBALL COURTS	TENNIS	VOLLEYBALL	DOG PARKS	SKATE PARKS	COMMUNITY CENTERS	SWIMMING POOLS	OUTDOOR SPRAYGROUNDS	BASEBALL (LIT & UNIT)	SOFTBALL (LIT & UNIT)	SOCCER (LIT & UNIT)
GOAL	73	29	58	30	58	6	3	3	10	6	4	29	10	29
EXISTING	44	21	29*	30	58	2	0	0	8	3	4	29	2	25
NEEDED	29	8	29	-	-	4	3	3	2	3	-	-	8	4

*This number includes 7 miles of trails currently planned along Sims Bayou under the Bayou Greenway Initiative, BG2020.