



PARK
DISTRICT
OF OAK PARK

2014 Comprehensive Master Plan

Park District of Oak Park

Adopted December 18, 2014

Planning Process

The Park District of Oak Park completed a Comprehensive Master Plan in 2004 with many of the plan's recommendations being implemented. The District recognizes that there is a compelling need to continuously improve parks and facilities throughout the District. Therefore, an updated Comprehensive Master Plan will guide the attainment of this goal as well as set a course for the future of the organization.

At the end of December of 2013, the Park District engaged a team of consultants led by The Lakota Group. The project team has engaged community stakeholders and reviewed and evaluated every one of the Park District's programs, parks, facilities, and Park District operations. This evaluation will help the project team formulate up-to-date, community-relevant recommendations for the next ten years and beyond. These recommendations will guide the facility and programming decisions that will shape the future of the Park District and ensure future generations of Oak Park are well served.

The project team organized the Comprehensive Master planning process into four phases: Engage, Analyze, Envision, and Implement. Throughout the Engage project phase, the project team focused on community outreach, project promotion, and dialogue facilitation. During the second project phase, Analyze, the project team conducted a comprehensive inventory of parks, facilities, and programs owned or managed by the Park District noting needs and opportunities for further study. The Envision and Implement project phases will include an evaluation of a potential master plan.

This document represents a summary of the project team's first two phases of work. It includes a summary of community engagement and outreach, and an inventory and evaluation of Park District park land, facilities, programs, and operational practices.

Mission, Vision, and Values

The Park District's mission statement, vision statement, and core values statement were updated during the 2012 strategic planning process. These statements describe the purpose of the Park District as an organization; describe aspirations for the organization's future, and describe the Park District's organizational values. This mission, vision, and values guided the master planning process and support this plan's recommendations.

Mission Statement

In partnership with the community, we enrich lives by providing meaningful experiences through programs, parks, and facilities.

Vision Statement

We strive to exceed the needs of our diverse community with a collaborative and innovative approach

Values

Values identify the main tools that will be used to accomplish the mission and vision:

- Partnerships: We will work collaboratively with others in our community
- Responsible Leadership: We will create a high performing, engaged, and accountable organization
- Integrity: In all that we do, we will adhere to moral, honest, and ethical principles and work toward accessibility and inclusion
- Innovation: We will continuously try new methods and ideas, adapt services according to trends, and continuously improve processes in order to exceed the needs of our customers
- Sustainability: the District will endure through renewal, maintenance, stewardship and stability in all aspects of operation