



FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY



M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Chairman and Members
Park Authority Board

FROM: Kirk W. Kincannon, Director

DATE: December 2, 2015

Agenda

Committee of the Whole
Wednesday, December 9, 2015 – 6 p.m.
Boardroom – Herrity Building
Chairman: William G. Bouie
Vice Chair: Ken Quincy

1. Needs Assessment 8 SCMDQG6HYFH/ HMD6WQDUGV– Discussion*

*Enclosures



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Needs Assessment Update

Park Authority Board

9 December 2015



Parks

better parks

better living

Count!

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parkscount/>

Tonight

- Quick review
- Approach to the work
- Data
- Presentation of recommendations

Service Level Standards (SLS)

Establish a countywide goal for Fairfax County's public park facility provision.

- Considers entire county population and all public facilities
- A measurable standard helpful in understanding park facility service delivery

2015 SLS Consultant recommendation: Service Level Standard metrics to remain the same.

For market driven and specialty facilities, move toward a market and feasibility approach (Golf, RECenters, Watermine, Horticulture Parks, Nature Centers).

FCPA Contribution Level Approach

- FCPA is one of many public park contributors
- Establishes FCPA service delivery strategies
- Address deficits through:
 - Additions
 - Improvements
 - Modernization

7. Please indicate if YOU or any member of your HOUSEHOLD has a need for each type of Park, Play Areas, Gardens, Trails, Equestrian, Nature or Historic park or facility listed below by circling YES or NO to the right of each type of park or facility.

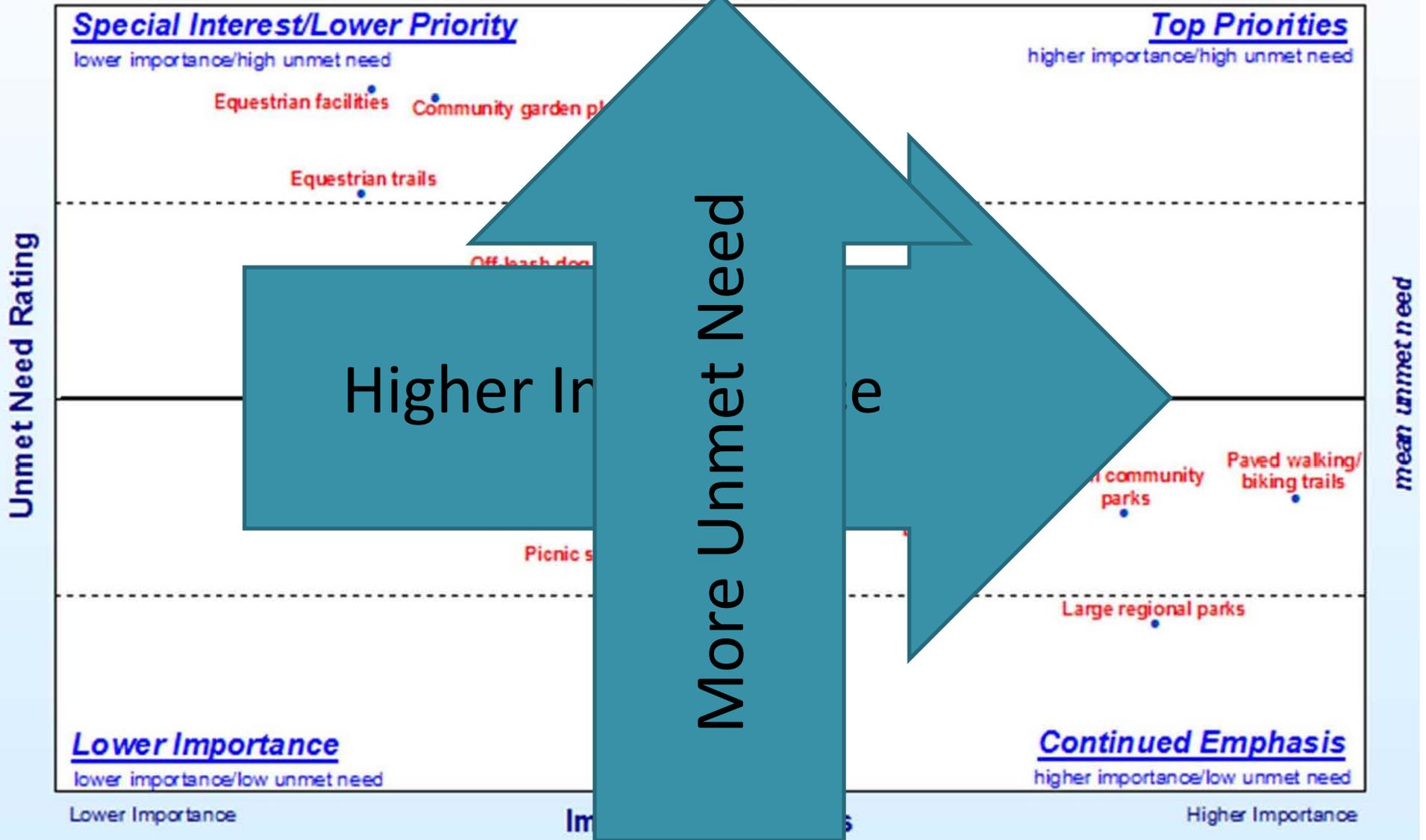
If YES, please answer the questions to the right of the park or facility regarding “How Well are Your Needs Being Met?” and “How Many Times Did You Use this Type of Park or Facility During the Past 12 Months?” If NO, please go to the next type of park or facility.

Type of Park or Facility		Do You Have a Need for this Facility or Activity?		If Yes, How Well are Your Needs Being Met? (Circle ONE Response)				If Yes, How Many Times Did You Use this Type of Park or Facility During the Past 12 Months? (Circle ONE Response)			
				Fully Met	Mostly Met	Partly Met	Not Met	None	1-10 times	11-25 times	26 or more times
Parks, Play Areas and Gardens											
A.	Small community parks	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	0	1	2	3
B.	Large regional parks	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	0	1	2	3
C.	Lakefront parks and marinas	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	0	1	2	3
D.	Smaller neighborhood playgrounds	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	0	1	2	3
E.	Larger destination playgrounds	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	0	1	2	3
F.	Open play areas	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	0	1	2	3
G.	Picnic shelters/areas	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	0	1	2	3
H.	Amusements (carousels, trains)	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	0	1	2	3
I.	Off-leash dog parks	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	0	1	2	3
J.	Public gardens	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	0	1	2	3
K.	Community garden plots	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	0	1	2	3
Trails, Equestrian, Nature, and Historic Areas											
L.	Paved walking/biking trails	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	0	1	2	3
M.	Unpaved walking/biking trails	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	0	1	2	3
N.	Equestrian trails	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	0	1	2	3
O.	Equestrian facilities	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	0	1	2	3
P.	Historic sites and museums	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	0	1	2	3
Q.	Nature centers	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	0	1	2	3

8. Which FOUR of the parks or facilities from the list in Question #7 are MOST IMPORANT to your household? [Using the letters in Question #7 above, please write in the letters below for your 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th choices, or circle 'NONE']

1st: _____ 2nd: _____ 3rd: _____ 4th: _____ NONE

(points on the graph show deviations from the mean importance and unmet need ratings given by respondents to the survey)
mean importance



Parks
Count!



Playgrounds

CONSIDERATIONS

- 2004 goal of building 2 new destination playgrounds - completed at Clemy and Lee District
- Currently meeting SLS; FCPA provides about half
- Playgrounds mentioned in public input
- Overall survey rank = 5 out of 23
- Backlog of playgrounds needing replacements = \$18 million in next 5 years

Playgrounds

2015-2025 Strategy

Service Level Standard: Retain current, 1 per 2,800

FCPA Contribution Strategy: (1) Reinvest; (2) Maintain

- Match facility type to community needs
- Repair, improve playgrounds
- Maintain existing destination playgrounds
- Where feasible work with private providers, partnerships and grants

Parks
Count!



Picnic Pavilions and Areas, Reservable

CONSIDERATIONS

- FCPA provides just over half
- 2004 FCPA contribution goal of adding 20 new; 8 were completed
- Community/social gathering uses mentioned in public input
- Overall survey rank = 13 out of 23
- Increasing popularity, turning away large groups
- Revenue generation
- Operating costs low

Picnic Pavilions and Areas

2015-2025 Strategy

Service Level Standard: 1 per 12,000

FCPA Contribution Strategy: (1) Construct new (2) Study

- Conduct feasibility to construct 2 new large (1,000+) pavilions
- Complete pavilions based on market feasibility
- Upgrade selected existing sites with additional amenities

Parks
Count!



Horticulture Parks

CONSIDERATIONS

- Currently not meeting SLS; FCPA provides just over half
- Overall survey rank = 8 out of 23
- Horticultural features exist at non-horticultural parks
- Access issues – space for programming and parking considerations
- Revenue potential

Horticulture Parks

2015-2025 Strategy

Service Level Standard: Retain current, 1 per 350,000

FCPA Contribution Strategy: (1) Improve; (2) Implement

- Improve Green Springs per Master Plan
- Expand horticultural programming
- Implement, install community garden plots in parks where master planned
- Phased MP implementation and partnership development at White Garden

Parks
Count!



Golf

CONSIDERATIONS

- FCPA provides over three quarters of publically accessible
- Overall survey rank = 18 out of 23
- Laurel Hill added since 2004; improvements at others
- National Golf Study completed by FCPA
- Revenue generation
- Market driven

Golf

2015-2025 Strategy

Service Level Standard: 1 hole per 3,200

FCPA Contribution Strategy: (1) Reinvest

- Implement remaining NGF study recommendations
- Seize revenue-generating programming trends (e.g. foot golf, etc.)

RECenters

CONSIDERATIONS

- FCPA provides three quarters of public recreation centers
- Overall survey rank = 1 out of 23
- Over 57,000 SF of expansions since 2004
- Consultant identified \$65 million of reinvestment over next 20 years
- Reston Town Center North
- Market driven

RECenters

2015-2025 Strategy

Service Level Standard: 1.1 SF per person

FCPA Contribution Strategy: (1) Reinvest (2) Study

- Conduct system-wide study
- Feasibility and market studies
- Perform needed upgrades

Parks
Count!



Nature Centers

CONSIDERATIONS

- Currently not meeting SLS; FCPA provides over three quarters
- Overall survey rank = 15 out of 23
- Improvements to spaces and exhibits since 2004
- Non-FCPA facilities recently completed, under construction
- Stewardship Center in 2012 Bond

Nature Centers

2015-2025 Strategy

Service Level Standard: Retain current, .04 SF per person

FCPA Contribution Strategy: (1) Implement plans

- Construct and complete Stewardship Center
- Maintain/grow partnerships for program space
- Expand outdoor classroom facilities

Dog Parks

CONSIDERATIONS

- Currently not meeting SLS; FCPA provides three quarters – all are of the neighborhood type
- Overall survey rank = 13 out of 23
- Included in public input
- Four new parks added since 2004 plus added programming
- Countywide dog park study underway
- Partnerships, volunteer support, provision by private developers
- Increase in dog ownership

Dog Parks

2015-2025 Strategy

Service Level Standard: Retain current neighborhood standard, 1 per 86,000; remove Countywide (1 per 400,000)

FCPA Contribution Strategy: (1) Build; (2) Implement

- Build out master planned dog parks
- Implement dog park study recommendations
- Support provision of private dog parks by developers

Parks
Count!



Skate Parks

CONSIDERATIONS

- Currently not meeting SLS; FCPA provides over three quarters
- Overall survey rank = 19 out of 23
- 2004 FCPA contribution goal was to build 9 neighborhood and two Countywide; two Countywide added, improvements made since
- Need for proximity to public transportation, trails, schools

Skate Parks

2015-2025 Strategy

Service Level Standard: Retain current, Countywide - 1 per 210,000, Neighborhood - 1 per 106,000

FCPA Contribution Strategy: (1) Build; (2) Maintain

- Build 9 new Neighborhood skate parks
- Identify reuse opportunities
- Maintain existing Countywide parks

Parks
Count!



Equestrian Facilities

CONSIDERATIONS

- Currently meeting SLS; FCPA provides all public
- Overall survey rank = 19 out of 23
- Included in public input
- Improvements, increase in programming since 2004
- Influence of market forces

Equestrian Facilities

2015-2025 Strategy

Service Level Standard: Retain current, 1 per 595,000

FCPA Contribution Strategy: (1) Maintain

- Maintain improvements
- Create/Strengthen partnerships for implementation of planned improvements

Parks
Count!



Waterfront Parks

CONSIDERATIONS

- Currently meeting SLS; FCPA provides about half
- Overall survey rank = 11 out of 23
- Waterfront parks often cited as favorites in public input
- Upgrades, increased programming since 2004
- Several lakefront parks remain in natural state

Waterfront Parks

2015-2025 Strategy

Service Level Standard: Retain current, 1 per 90,000

FCPA Contribution Strategy: (1) Maintain (2) Reinvest

- Maintain and Reinvest in lakefront and riverfront parks
- Update master plans for Lake Accotink and Lake Fairfax
- Expand programming and trail networks

Parks
Count!



Outdoor Family Aquatics

CONSIDERATIONS

- FCPA provides half
- Overall survey rank = 4 out of 23
- Waterparks and spray grounds mentioned in public input
- Expansion of the Water Mine since 2004
- Addition of Lee District spraypark
- Private providers installing spray parks

Outdoor Family Aquatics

2015-2025 Strategy

Service Level Standard: 1 per 570,000

FCPA Contribution Strategy: (1) Maintain; (2) Monitor

- Encourage private providers/partners to create spray parks with redevelopment
- Maintain destination water parks
- Monitor recent expansion of Water Mine and use as model for other improvements, if market supports

Parks
Count!



Trails

CONSIDERATIONS

- FCPA provides half
- Overall survey rank = 2 out of 23
- Trails Development Strategy Plan
- New construction (approx. 35 mi) and improvements since 2004
- Connections/connectivity is key
- Can be most accessible/equitable facility

Trails

2015-2025 Strategy

Service Level Standard: N/A, retain FCPA Strategy

FCPA Contribution Strategy: (1) Reinvest; (2) Connect

- Reinvest in maintenance
- Focus new construction on missing links
- Encourage provision of connections through the development process
- Foster partnerships to assist with maintenance and construction (as appropriate)
- Connect people to parks

Parks
Count!



Sports Courts

CONSIDERATIONS

- Currently not meeting SLS (basketball); FCPA provides almost half
- Overall survey rank = 12 out of 23 (basketball); tennis is 8 out of 23
- Public input touched on, pickleball
- Limited new construction since 2004
- 2004 goal of building a basketball complex not yet met
- Provision of multi use courts by private providers
- Consideration given to repurposing underused courts
- Court usage by multiple sports

Sports Courts

2015-2025 Strategy

Service Level Standard: Retain current, 1 per 2,100 (basketball)

FCPA Contribution Strategy: (1) Upgrade; (2) Construct

- Install lights at selected courts
- Build one multi-court (6-12) complex
- Encourage provision through development process
- Focus maintenance on high use sites
- Identify opportunities for reuse at low use sites
- Conduct additional study on tennis court usage, any geographical variations

Indoor Gyms

CONSIDERATIONS

- FCPA provides little
- Overall survey rank = 3 out of 23
- Mentioned in public input
- Spring Hill expansion since 2004
- Issues of use/access with some other provider facilities
- Wide variety of activities use

Indoor Gyms

2015-2025 Strategy

Service Level Standard: 2.8 SF per person

FCPA Contribution Strategy: (1) Maintain (2) Study

- Continue to consider providing with RECenter expansions/improvements
- RECenter system study
- Market driven

Thank you

Parks
Count!



Parks

	OVERALL RANK
REC Centers (Square Feet)	1
Trails (miles)	2
Indoor Gyms (Square Feet)	3
Outdoor Family Aquatics	4
Local Parks (acres)	5
Playgrounds	5
District & Countywide Parks (acres)	7
Rectangle Fields (All)	8
Tennis Courts	8
Horticulture Parks	8
Waterfront Parks	11
Basketball Multi-Use Courts, Outdoor	12
Picnic Pavilions & Areas, Reservable	13
Dog Parks, Neighborhood / Dog Parks, Countywide	13
Nature Centers (Square Feet)	15
Community Garden Plots (individual plots)	16
Resource Based Parks (acres)	17
Golf (Holes)	18
Skate Parks, Neighborhood / Skate Parks, Countywide	19
Equestrian Facilities	19
Diamond, Softball 60 ft Fields (Youth) / Diamond, Softball 65 ft Fields (Adult)	21
Diamond, Baseball 90 ft Fields (Youth, Adult)	22
Diamond, Baseball 60 ft Fields (Youth)	23



9. Please indicate if YOU or any member of your HOUSEHOLD has a need for each type of Outdoor or Indoor facility listed below by circling YES or NO to the right of each type of facility.

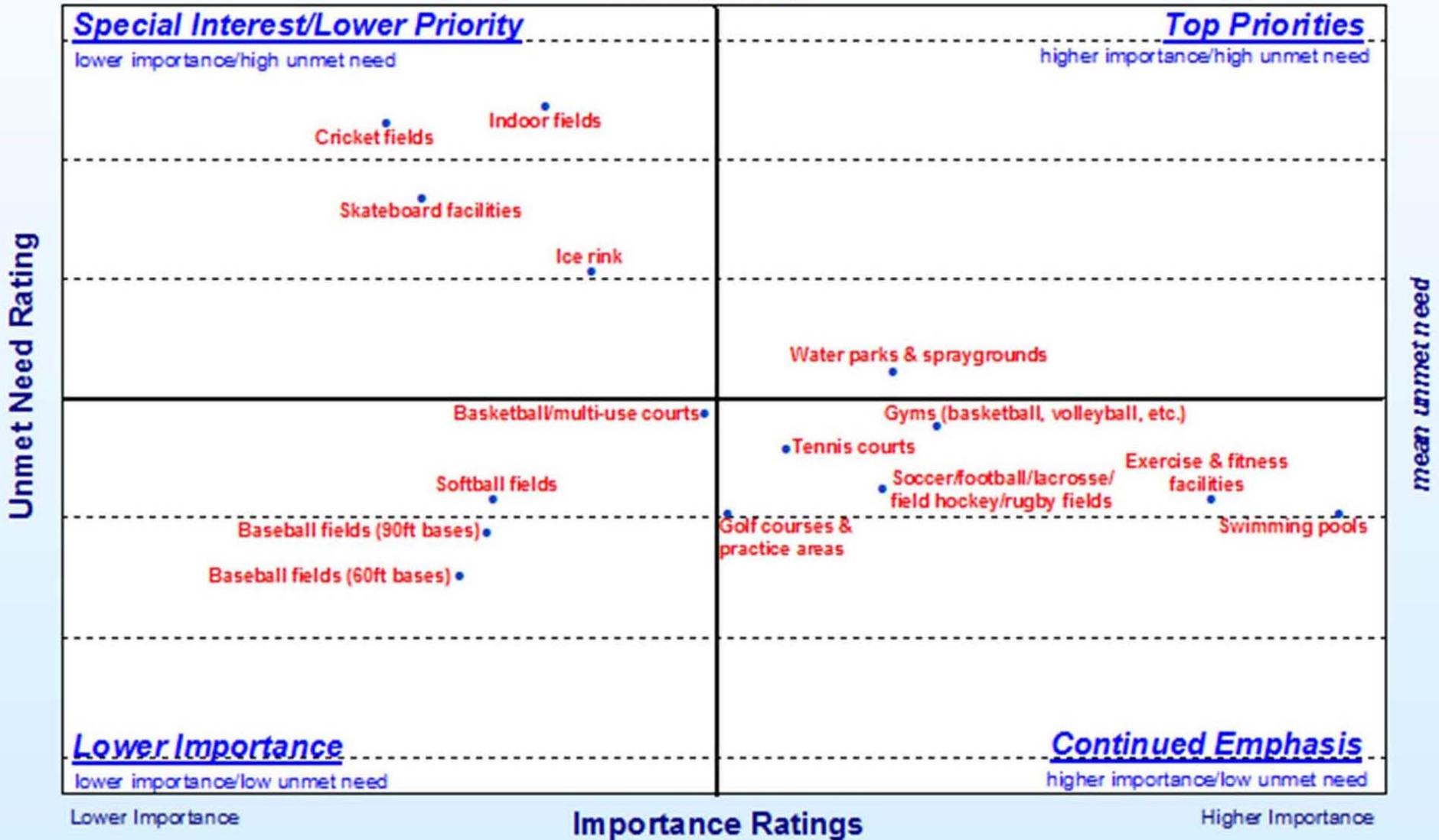
If YES, please answer the questions to the right of the facility regarding “How Well are Your Needs Being Met?” and “How Many Times Did You Use this Type of Park or Facility During the Past 12 Months?” If NO, please go to the next type of facility.

Type of Outdoor or Indoor Facility		Do You Have a Need for this Facility or Activity?		If Yes, How Well are Your Needs Being Met?				If Yes, How Many Times Did You Use this Type of Park or Facility During the Past 12 Months?			
				Fully Met	Mostly Met	Partly Met	Not Met	None	1-10 times	11-25 times	26 or more times
Outdoor Facilities											
A.	Baseball fields (90ft bases)	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	0	1	2	3
B.	Baseball fields (60ft bases)	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	0	1	2	3
C.	Softball fields	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	0	1	2	3
D.	Soccer/football/lacrosse/field hockey/rugby fields	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	0	1	2	3
E.	Cricket fields	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	0	1	2	3
F.	Tennis courts	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	0	1	2	3
G.	Basketball/multi-use courts	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	0	1	2	3
H.	Golf courses & practice areas	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	0	1	2	3
I.	Skateboard facilities	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	0	1	2	3
J.	Water parks & spraygrounds	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	0	1	2	3
Indoor Facilities											
K.	Gyms (basketball, volleyball, etc.)	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	0	1	2	3
L.	Swimming pools	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	0	1	2	3
M.	Exercise & fitness facilities	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	0	1	2	3
N.	Ice rink	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	0	1	2	3
O.	Indoor fields	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	0	1	2	3

10. Which **FOUR** of the outdoor or indoor facilities from the list in Question #9 are **MOST IMPORANT** to your household? [Using the letters in Question #9 above, please write in the letters below for your 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th choices, or circle 'NONE'.]

1st. _____ 2nd. _____ 3rd. _____ 4th. _____ NONE

mean importance



Parks Count!



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Parks
Count!



Board Agenda Item
December 16, 2015

INFORMATION

Needs Assessment Update and Service Level Standards

The purpose of the Needs Assessment Study is to determine countywide park and recreation needs and determine how best to meet those needs through service level standards, contribution levels, and development of a long range capital improvement plan. The PROS Consulting team has been engaged to assist in conducting the Needs Assessment.

Staff last provided the Park Authority Board with an overall update in September 2015. Since that meeting on survey results, staff has continued to work with the PROS consulting team. This update will be the second in a multi-part update in which staff will present proposed service level standards and FCPA contribution levels, as recommended and developed by PROS and staff. This process sets facility provision goals for FCPA, recognizing that we are not the sole provider in many cases.

Staff anticipates returning to the Board in February 2016 for final approval of the service level standards and contribution levels.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None

ENCLOSED DOCUMENTS:

None

STAFF:

Kirk W. Kincannon, Director
Sara Baldwin, Deputy Director/COO
Aimee L. Vosper, Deputy Director/CBD
David Bowden, Director, Planning & Development Division
Cindy Walsh, Director, Resource Management Division
Todd Johnson, Director, Park Operations Division
Barbara Nugent, Director, Park Services Division
Judy Pederson, Public Information Officer
Sandy Stallman, Manager, Planning & Development Division
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