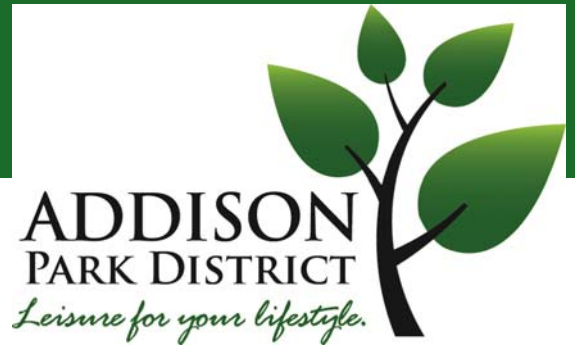


2010 PARK & RECREATION COMPREHENSIVE MASTER PLAN



2010 COMPREHENSIVE MASTER PLAN

prepared for

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June 2010



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2010 COMPREHENSIVE MASTER PLAN

Addison Park District

Board of Commissioners

The Addison Park District 2010 Comprehensive Master Plan is hereby adopted by the Addison Park District Board of Commissioners on this, the 28th day of June in the year 2010.

Donald R. Jessen . President

Michael J. Capizzano . Secretary

Mark McKinnon . Executive Director



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INTRODUCTION

The Addison Park District's 2010 Comprehensive Master Plan is an important document as the District continues a phase where maintaining existing parks and facilities, and improving services to the community, are the highest priorities. With population growth slowing, the economy in a period of decline and demographics changing significantly, APD is poised to face the future utilizing this document as a guide. Initiated in the summer of 2009, APD contracted the offices of Bonestroo to prepare a Comprehensive Master Plan.

In developing the Comprehensive Master Plan, Bonestroo first developed an understanding of the background of the District and the community it serves. One of the most important aspects in the development of a Comprehensive Master Plan is the inclusion of the public in creating a vision and framework. Encouraging user groups, residents, stakeholders and staff in planning promotes a sense of pride and responsibility.

With the overall quality of parks and programs offered by the Addison Park District very good, it is important during this time that the District is able to maintain and enhance the services provided to the community. Maintaining quality parks and facilities requires that daily management of buildings, amenities and grounds be completed in a proactive manner that utilizes state-of-the-art equipment and processes. It also requires that necessary enhancements be initiated in a timely manner that will meet the changing needs and desires of the residents of the District while being fiscally responsible to those same residents.

In developing changes and enhancements to programs and services offered by the District, the key influence is the changes the demographics of the community that have occurred over the past two decades and continue today. The significant influx of immigrants and emigrants to the region will have a lasting effect on future programs and services.

While land acquisition strategies are always important to park and recreation agencies, APD will likely address acquisition as a partnership with the Village and schools as the District works collaboratively for the good of the community.

The Addison Park District Comprehensive Master Plan has been written to provide innovative ideas and recommendations that provide both a global perspective and a local focus.

A photograph of a pond with green algae, reeds, and a wooden walkway in the background under a blue sky. The foreground is dominated by tall, green reeds. The water is covered in a thick layer of green algae. In the background, there is a wooden walkway or bridge, and a house with a brown roof is visible through the trees. The sky is blue with some light clouds.

Executive Summary

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

MASTER PLANNING

The Addison Park District's Comprehensive Master Plan is presented utilizing a series of chapters that provide a detailed look at the District and the community that it serves. This provides an overview of what the master planning document contains. The Comprehensive Master Plan is designed to be a guide for the District in making operational, capital improvement and philosophical decisions over the next five years and beyond.

CHAPTER 1

PARKS AND RECREATION

It is well known that parks and recreation facilities offer many benefits to a community. The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) various other professional associations representing the construction, planning, real estate and health care industries have published papers that espouse these benefits. Improved health, environmental protection, open space preservation and increased property values are just some of the benefits identified. As in many aspects of life in the United States, there are trends that shape park and recreation planning. Many of these trends are due to demographic shifts and lifestyle changes, but others play on such things as increased environmental awareness and on economics that affect the funding of leisure time activities. This chapter describes the benefits of parks and recreation, and presents some of the nationwide trends that are applicable to the Addison Park District.

CHAPTER 2

COMMUNITY PROFILE

Understanding the history, culture and traditions of a community play a key role in planning for the future, as these are underlying principles that help shape a community as do its people. This chapter presents an understanding of the community based on its geography, demographic information and history. This information provides an understanding of the community that allows the exploration of recreation trends in the Addison Park District that will assist in the formulation of recommendations for park and recreation programs, amenities and services.

CHAPTER 3

ADDISON PARK DISTRICT PROFILE

Each park and recreation agency has a unique style and character that come from its geography, history, governance, operations and the cultural diversity of its population. This chapter provides an overview of the Addison Park District that looks at the organizational structure of the agency, its history and the numerous partnerships that APD has developed with the Village of Addison, DuPage High School District #88, Addison Elementary School District #4 and various other agencies and businesses that work with APD toward the common good of the community.

CHAPTER 4

COMMUNITY PROCESS

Encouraging user groups, residents, stakeholders and staff in planning for parks and recreation promotes a sense of community pride and responsibility. The Addison Park District shares in a philosophy of including various points of view to develop a vision for future planning efforts that represent a variety of interests. This chapter describes the various methods used to garner the recommendations and opinions of the public, user groups, organizations and stakeholders with whom APD partners in providing services and facilities. The chapter presents the findings that came from these efforts, including the public workshop, the Community Survey and stakeholder/focus group meetings. The findings of visioning meetings with APD staff and the Board of Commissioners provide an inside view of the District.

CHAPTER 5

CLASSIFICATION OF PARKS

There are a variety of different types of parks within any park system that serve various functions within a community. Each of these types of park serves a distinct geographical base that ranges from a few blocks surrounding a mini-park to several miles for parks that offer amenities that are unique to a region. The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) has developed a classification system that can be used as a base to describe most types of parks. These standards can be modified to address a specific agency and the unique types of parks that an agency offers. This chapter describes the various classifications of parks and facilities in the Addison Park District along with a listing of parks falling within each classification. Maps are provided that illustrate the services area of the parks and the overall service coverage provided to the community.

CHAPTER 6

COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS

Comparing park and recreation agencies provides an understanding of how well an agency provides amenities and facilities for its residents. The rationale behind this comparison is that a localized comparison offers a more accurate analysis of the needs and deficiencies of an agency. This chapter provides a comparison of the Addison Park District to sixteen other park districts in the region, providing quantitative comparison of many of the more common elements found within parks in this region. Conclusions are offered that look at this comparison with respect to public needs.

CHAPTER 7

PARK & FACILITY EVALUATION

One of the most important steps in the comprehensive planning process is the inventory and assessment of the existing land, building and site improvements owned and operated by the park and recreation agency. An on-site evaluation of existing parks and facilities provides the basis for formulating recommendations for improvements to each park and facility. This chapter describes the process used for site and facility evaluations. The chapter also presents a series of recommendations for park and facility improvements that are common throughout the Addison Park District. These recommendations include consideration for future design and capital improvements to the parks and facilities, including ways to create a branding of the agency as well as quality and safety improvements that should be implemented District-wide.

CHAPTER 8

PARK ASSESSMENT

The chapter includes the assessments of each individual park as developed during the on-site evaluation of each property. Each park assessment includes a brief overall description of the site, discussions regarding the individual amenities and features of each park, photographs of the parks and recommendations for improvements that are specific to each site. The Addison Park District's *2008 Repair and Replacement Plan* factors into the recommendations for park improvements. These recommendations are prioritized in a manner that will allow APD to implement them over a multi-year process. Flexibility is built into the recommendations to provide for unforeseen circumstances and for opportunities that present themselves during the course of implementation.

CHAPTER 9

FACILITY ASSESSMENT

The chapter includes the assessments of key District facility as developed during the on-site evaluation of the facility properties. Each facility assessment includes a brief overall description of the facility, discussions regarding the individual amenities and features of each facility, a series of photographs documenting existing conditions and recommendations for improvements that are specific to each facility. The Addison Park District's *2008 Repair and Replacement Plan* factors into the recommendations for facility improvements. These recommendations are presented to allow implementation to be flexible to provide for unforeseen circumstances and for opportunities that present themselves during the course of implementation.

CHAPTER 10

PROGRAM ASSESSMENT

Evaluating program offerings to determine their viability and need is another important step in the master planning process. This chapter includes review and analysis of the existing operation of APD programs/services. Program fees and funding opportunities are discussed, along with the migration of residents to other recreation agencies. Strategies for recreation programming are developed, including new and expanded program offerings, and potential for collaborative efforts for program offerings and space/facility use.

CHAPTER 11

MARKET ANALYSIS

Understanding the resident population and how it compares nationally is another component of developing programs, facilities and services that meet local needs. This chapter provides a detailed analysis of the demographics of the community and identifies common recreation and aquatic trends that can affect the direction and prioritization of future District initiatives.

CHAPTER 12

MARKETING

In order to maintain resident interest in APD, a thorough evaluation of current marketing efforts and recommendations for new marketing initiatives are presented in this chapter. Community outreach, print and broadcast media, APD publications and other community-wide opportunities are identified and discussed for implementing a comprehensive program to attract residents and visitors to APD.

CHAPTER 13

RECOMMENDATIONS

The development of recommendations is a key component of the master planning process. Based on all of the research, analysis, visioning and evaluation that is completed, and on the vision of an agency that is expressed in its Mission Statement, recommendations have been formulated that expand on the philosophies of the agency and provide direction for management and operations. This chapter presents recommendations on numerous subjects, including administrative, communications and customer service areas. The recommendations are expressed as action items that will work toward realization of APD's long-term goals.

CHAPTER 14

CAPITAL PRIORITIZATION

Based on the park and facility recommendations found in Chapters 8 & 9, a listing of capital improvements and associated budgets will be presented as a guide for determining future capital expenditures for the District. The projects are given first, second, third and fourth priority ratings, with some recommended projects dependent upon the completion of other projects prior to initiation. While most of the recommendations will be small to medium-scale capital projects, there are some larger-scale projects included that should be considered and implemented as funding becomes available and needs become more evident. Additional projects will be included that may be considered as 'maintenance' or as capital projects should their scope warrant such designation. The projects are presented by park and by overall priority.

APPENDICES

A - SOURCES

A listing of information sources that provided information that was utilized in the preparation of the Comprehensive master plan.

B – COMMUNITY SURVEY

A copy of the 2009 Community Survey as was sent to 1500 households within the Addison Park District.

C – PARK PLANS

Site plans for specific park sites that were prepared to guide future redevelopment and assist in acquiring public grant funding.

