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City of Alpine

Parks, Recreation, Open Space & Trails Master Plan, 2019-2030



Mural by Style Read

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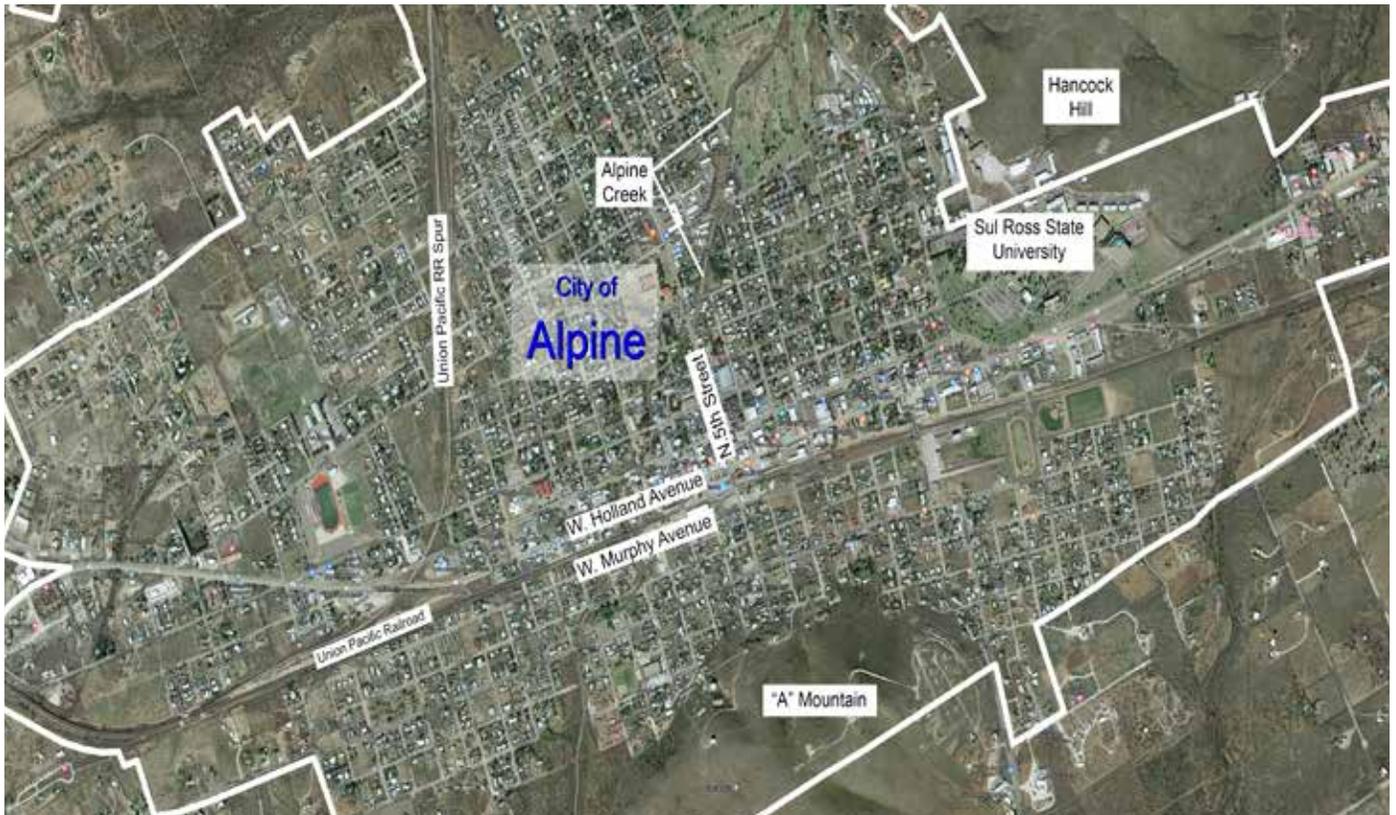


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Chapter 1

Acknowledgements

Acknowledgements

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Chapter 2

Council Resolution

This page is a placeholder for the
Council Resolution or ordinance
documenting the adoption of this
master plan



Chapter 3

Executive Summary

Executive Summary

The Alpine Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Master Plan began in the Fall of 2018 and reached the final adoption in the Summer of 2019. The process began with an intensive city-wide assessment of the existing conditions and the context of the parks in the surrounding areas. Many conversations, both small group and one on one meetings, started in that same time period and coupled with the assessment, many situations and conditions of the parks were revealed early on. As the project gained momentum with more conversations and the public engagement started to expand, a spread sheet was created to capture all thoughts, ideas, dreams into one place for future discussion.

Early on it was evident that the leagues involving baseball and related sports were the most active leagues, especially involving kids. Another apparent fact was the emphasis on children's play spaces and equipment also had champions that worked solely toward children of young ages. Seeing what is provided for also reveals the gaps that need attention. As with most cities, early focus areas included activities for high school and college kids, seniors, and diversity in the offerings with park spaces. Parks were generally divided into three categories in early observations and this was strengthened with the public engagement as well; Parks centered on baseball, parks and park spaces for small kids, and parks that were left fallow and unattended therefore not in use to the level of its potential.



One of the earliest suggestions, and a question put to the consulting team, was to determine if it makes sense to sell off unused space to provide funding for the parks in use. From a parks consulting professional side, we were resistant to the idea of selling park lands. Knowing that a key factor in a successful park system was spatial equity; having nearby access to parks all over the city, the consultants created the strategies to make these spaces valuable for parks again. Coupled with that notion was taking a look at the economics in the City to see how park improvements can have a positive economic impact. This became a first simple framework to move forward with all of the subsequent recommendations.



Three large areas to focus on with the parks were to bring alive the ideas of Alpine Creek as a trail through the City. The second one was finding a way to increase the sustainability of the parks by controlling maintenance through best management practices. Third was expanding the baseball facilities to promote tournaments in Alpine and not exporting this opportunity elsewhere.

An over-riding strategy was to develop ways to increase funding of the overall parks system.

Instead of reductions in parks, the tact taken was to build on economic development through an enhanced selection of park facilities. Knowing that the creek trail would be a great project and an economic stimulator, it became the early centerpiece of recommendations which later grew into the larger city-wide looping trail system connecting exiting trails around the perimeter of the City. Improving the level of maintenance meant better funding which of course is tied to economic development on the deficit side of the budget. The third being baseball, was an obvious economic development tool to take the few steps to bring the baseball infrastructure up to a level so that Alpine could host tournaments, thereby having a big fiscal impact. Coupled with the trail system, the economic expectations were in place. Adding to this was adding a staff position that would be the organizing force over all of the parks system. A parks director or coordinator became another significant recommendation. This position would organize the working projects of the staff, create programming for the city, and write grants for new funding of improvements.

The scope of recommendations spanned a vast amount of large to small projects, purchases, activities, staffing, and economic strategies. The last sections of the report are the recommendations and implementation plan. This is the heart of the report with the final guides for Alpine to move forward in a thoughtful way. The spread sheet with the overall projects list is broken down into staffing, overall parks recommendations, and individual park projects. There is no one #1,



no one #2, but a suite of ones and twos and a high/medium/low ranking as well. There will be changing attitudes and faces, changing budgets, changing arguments as the months go by. This gives the board the freedom and flexibility to weigh in all of the variables at that particular point in time when a decision is needed. Not shown is the column on assigning that task to a particular person. This is intended to be an ongoing worksheet that is reviewed on a bi-annual basis to check progress on any particular item. The items listed as High are the ones that should be assigned, and as these get checked off, Medium priority projects gets advanced to high priority. The spread sheet should be added to continuously and will be provided to the Parks Board for that work.

Large projects that have support should always be added to the master plan. If they are not on the plan then the ideas fall away. One never knows when an institution or foundation, or new residents in a city will come in and pick that large project and get behind it, raise the money and make it happen. No one expects the Master Plan to be a template that stays as is and built out just as it states. The process of developing a first-class parks system is very dynamic and the master planning will continue to evolve with changing culture, economies, and influences.

As encouraged in the planning process, a parks and recreation system should be considered comprehensively. This means that it's not just about active and passive recreation but also includes intellectual stimulation. The discussions regarding tourism are very much a part of that segment of the system with recommendations concerning a Cultural Heritage Center, and interpretive signage discussing the ecology or history of a place. The discussions regarding tourism span into this realm as well. With a strong potential into economic development, tourism in all of its forms is an important theme in support of parks and recreation improvements. Keep in mind that tourism includes sports,

nature (particularly bird watching and hiking), cultural and historical. This supports the local establishments of hotels and restaurants and retail shops.

In conclusion, a balance needs to be struck between developing the parks elements that are directly related to the positive economic impacts, or developing parks that don't contribute as directly to the economy but are necessary improvements as well. The survey did, however point to very high support for a small tax increase for parks improvements. If brought before the voters and it passes, the City should ensure that the funding is strategically put to where the residents can see the direct effects. Any additional tax earmarked for parks should be leveraged with needed infrastructure improvements (sidewalks, ADA, restrooms) to work toward economic development. Then additional parks and recreation improvements with little or no economic impact can be increased. This is a slow, carefully considered process and the economy is the best leader to reduce the direct impacts on the local residents.



Mural by Pauline Hernandez



Chapter 4

Introduction, Community Profile, & Master Plan Process

Introduction

Alpine Parks Moving Forward!

Working on the Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Master Plan in Alpine, Texas has been a real joy! Highlights include meeting the people that are so engaged with the project and getting great input from all corners of the city. Pitching up ideas to a group that is not afraid to think positively about the possibilities and being challenged on topics, economics, strategies and implementation ideas. Everything from 20 year horizon projects to goathead sticker eradication out of the parks where families want to walk barefoot. This project reached for the stars, got down in the weeds and everything in between!

The project got started back in the Fall of 2018 and launched with a city-wide assessment and went through to this final document with hundreds of hours, not just from the consultants, but from a broad range of highly committed individuals and organizations in the city pushing to bring Alpine out into the forefront as the premier city destination and base camp for the whole of the Big Bend Region.

Parks and recreation are truly a broad ranging segment of any city and ideas and dreams were flowing from developing a top-notch baseball complex, capping and taking advantage of a decommissioned landfill, to conversion of fallow parklands into native prairies and butterfly gardens. As with any project of this scope, data was forth coming as long as it could be found. New ideas (to the consultants) came to light toward the end of the project casting one park back into an agenda of a new revived community discussion, as it should be, with plans that were already well designed and with



a previous community discussion. Those plans have been included in the appendices and comments about the future discussions noted.

There were several topics that warranted a broader, longer term discussion and these were noted. Big challenges to significant project were explored in detail and strategies developed. Subtle but important ideas also were brought to light and discussed. All in all, we feel like with a little spit polish, a little saddle oil, that a real jewel will begin to shine in the West Texas desert. Among the trees of Kokernot, the playscapes of Juan Medina, the foot prints along Alpine Creek and the murals of Alpine overlooking it all, that the pride in Alpine in taking on the task of improving their parks system, began long before the consultants came to town.

Parks and Recreation Planning Process

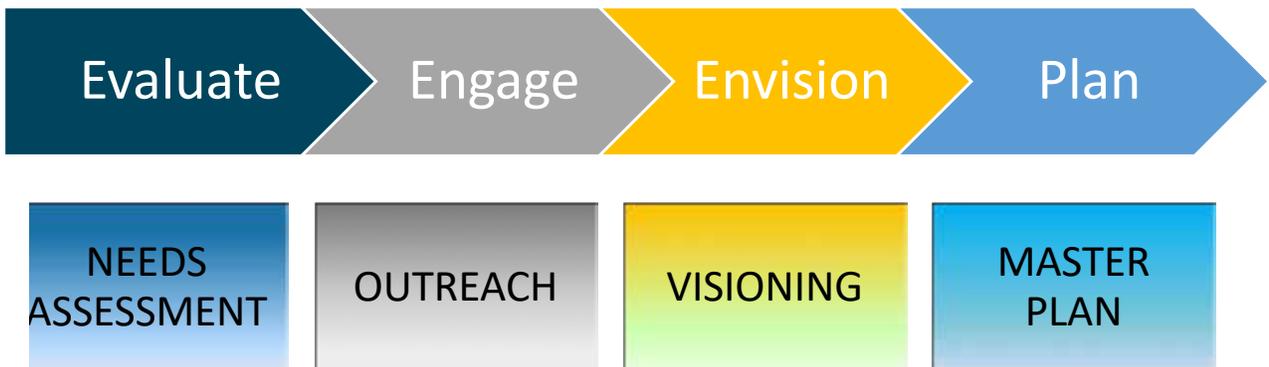
The City of Alpine embarked on a planning process to create Alpine’s Parks, Recreation, Open Space & Trails Master Plan to get guidance for meeting current and future needs around parks, open space and recreational facilities. The City’s goal was to create a vision for having a fiscally and environmentally responsible system of parks and recreation spaces. The City leadership and the City’s Parks and Recreation Board deemed it important to create a plan to better position themselves to not just address needs and effectively manage existing parks but also to seek funding from agencies and organization such as Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, TxDOT, private foundations, and others for park system improvements.

The City of Alpine commissioned for a parks and recreation master plan to be developed and the planning process was led by Kleinman Consultants, a planning, engineering and surveying firm from Presidio, Texas, and Vista Planning and Design, a landscape architecture and city planning firm specializing in park master planning. Consultants worked closely with City of Alpine staff and the City’s Parks and Recreation Board to develop plan.

It was important to engage the public in the planning process so that they learn about the current park system and what it offers, and also have a say on what is needed and where funding should go. During the process, the City sought to identify challenges, issues, opportunities, big ideas and possible solutions to improve the park system in Alpine.

What was the planning process?

The planning process for creating the Parks, Recreation, Open Space & Trails Master Plan included the following:



I. Evaluate Phase

One of the first steps in planning is understanding what you have. This includes reviewing previous park and city plans, collecting data, base planning and evaluation of the existing condition of the park system. One of the key steps used during the evaluation phase of planning is what we call City 101...in this case Alpine 101. In the Evaluate phase information assessed was parcel and ownership data, parks and school locations, sidewalk locations, all existing parks whether public or informal, all other city planning documents such as existing land use, zoning, flooding or inundation maps, rail ownership and other large land owners, special districts, etc. An inventory of areas and facilities was also done in collaboration with the city and student from Sul Ross. The team used Mapper (an interactive mapping web-based mapping deigned by Vertices) that use technology-forward tools to visually display information to a broad audience. This was used to both collect data and visually display it. The team also researched information on socio-economic data, demographics, projected population and growth and other items relevant to parks and recreation. In addition to identifying trends, this evaluation phase also includes a needs assessment, which is further refined in the next phase, through public engagement.

II. Engage Phase

Having an engaged and informed citizenry is critical for the development of a needs assessment and appropriate park plan. Public engagement included:

- a. Interviews
- b. Stakeholder Meetings
- c. Three Public Meetings

March 13, 2019	Public Meeting #1	Public was able to provide input on the vision, needs, ideas, concerns
April 17, 2019	Public Meeting #2	Public reviews and comments on findings
May 22, 2019	Public Meeting #3	Public reviews and comments on findings and draft plan

- d. Joint City Council/Park Board Session
- e. Online Survey

Outreach activities were organized to solicit input from the citizen and users regarding concerns, needs, and opinions about the existing facilities and their future desires. Outreach and engagement was key to gather input and recommendations from the City, stakeholders and the public on what the vision of the park system should be and also an assessment of what is needed, what issues are observed, and what suggestions the public had. It allowed for initial prioritizing of goals and discussion of possible projects. For full summary of outreach, please go to page X.

III. Envision Phase

Once the team collected data, the team began analyzing and evaluating existing parks and amenities, park development guidelines and base map with park locations and recommendations. Once needs were better understood, the team began to develop the vision, goals and objectives, which are the foundation for the Plan. A list of goals was developed and vetted by the City, Board, and public. Furthermore, a list of priorities (ideas) was also created and vetted. This phase is also the phase where time and cost projections are considered, in addition to possible funding resources.

IV. Plan Phase

The last phase of the planning process is the actual development of the plan which includes the refined goals and objectives with specific improvement and big idea recommendations. Park system map was also created here. This phase also included the development of an implementation plan, which outlines a list of needs and prioritizes them. This includes priorities for the outdoors, such as for trails, picnic tables, adult softball fields, etc, and indoor priorities, such as basketball courts, arts and craft room, etc. This can also be done as an official Parks Advisory Board Meeting, open to the public.

The Draft plan was first vetted by the Alpine Parks and Recreation Board, then provided to the public for comments. The draft plan was then updated based on comments and suggested changes, to produce the final Plan. The final step was to present this final plan to city council for adoption and approval. Ensuring passage of a local resolution to accept plan by the executive government was key to the success of the plan development.



Artwork in Alpine's "Mural Alley"

Community Profile

Alpine, Texas is located in the Big Bend region of West Texas. According to the 2010 census, the population of Alpine was 5,905. The estimate from the US Census for 2017 is 6,065. (<https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml>). The region in general is not a region of fast growth and Alpine is typical in that aspect as well. It is, however a popular jumping off place for visitors to the Big Bend and many other wonderful places in this remote region of Texas.

Alpine was founded in 1883 after several years of ranching campsites and then later a railroad camp was established for fresh water from a local spring. The spring was on the land owned by Dan and Thomas Murphy who agreed to a contract including the namesake of the town. The town of Murphyville was established and in 1888. Later the name was changed to Alpine after a petition by the residents of the town was successful.

Sul Ross State University was established in 1917 under the name of Sul Ross State Normal College. As the main campus, SRSU serves a 19 county region of West Texas and offers host of certificate, associate, 28 undergraduate degrees and 21 graduate degree programs. The economic impact to the City of Alpine is undeniable. The Fall of 2014 has an enrollment of 1897 on the Alpine campus alone.

Students	\$ 23.0 million
Faculty & Staff	\$ 10.3 million
University	\$ 3.8 million
Visitors to University	\$ 1.4 million

The Alpine campus is home of the Center for Big Bend Studies, Archives of the Big Bend, Borderlands Research Institute, and the magnificent Museum of the Big Bend. (<https://www.sulross.edu/page/1907/quick-facts>)



Big Bend National Park was established in the 1930s. From Alpine as a close neighbor, the park headquarters is a short 110 miles away competing with Marfa and Marathon as the city best situated to launch into the Big Bend National Park or Big Bend Ranch State Park.

With these developments and rich natural resources in the region, the City of Alpine grew and by 1927 the town had approximately 3,000 residents. Growth in the region and Alpine was slow and by the year 2,000, Alpine had 5,786. With the 2010 census the population rose slightly to 5,905 residents. (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alpine,_Texas).

At 4,475 feet in altitude, Alpine sits on a high plateau between the Davis Mountains and the Chisos Mountains in the Chihuahuah Desert and the city is well situated to be a base for adventuring to natural places such as the Big Bend National Park, Museums of history and natural history in a wide variety of places, and historic picturesque towns.

From the 2013-2017 American Community Survey Estimates (US Census Bureau) there are 474 veterans in Alpine bringing light to the fact that one of the best groomed parks in the city was the Brewster County Courthouse park with memorials and wartime implements on display celebrating our Veterans. Another Veteran's monument is in Veteran's Memorial Park in front of the city jail. Plans developed in years past proposed a magnificent Brewster County Veteran's Memorial Park on the site now known as Pueblo Nuevo Park in SE Alpine.



Alpine Census Data and Statistics
 US 2010 Census Data

Total Population (2010) 5,905
 Age Breakdown

Total Population Estimates (2017) 5,977

0-9 years of age 776 13.2 %
 10-19 years of age 678 11.5 %
 20-39 years of age 1,736 29.4 %
 40-64 years of age 1,825 30.9 %
 65+ 890 15.0 %
 Median Age 36.3

0-9 years of age 825 13.8 %
 10-19 years of age 551 9.2 %
 20-34 years of age 1,337 22.3 %
 35-64 years of age 2,162 36.2 %
 65+ 1,102 18.4 %

Median Age 38.7

Race & Hispanic Breakdown

White	5,042	
Black or African American		85
American Indian or Alaska Native		68
Asian	50	
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander		2
Other	464	
White+ American Indian + Alaskan Native		48
White+ Asian		22
White+ Black or African American		18
White+ Some Other Race		85

Total Population	5,905
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	3,022
Non Hispanic or Latino	2,883

Veterans	474
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Median Household Income	\$37,402
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Median Per Capita Income

Population below poverty level:

Families	9.6%
All people	13.4%

Education: % High School or Higher 84.9%

Alpine Arts & Tourism



Mural by SRSU Art Club & Carol Fairlie;
Design by Amanda Calhoun

The arts community is flourishing with galleries and neat shops in the heart of downtown with a small area south of the tracks, that seems to be a growing artist community section of the city. Interest in evolving the arts community further has spread with thoughts of laying open the ideas of sculpture in city and parks. Other cities such as Keller and Abilene, Texas have been very successful with sculpture throughout the city in parks, railroad ROW, and through the main streets in downtown.

Alpine has this opportunity unlike most cities of this size, being a haven for very talented artists living here. The ARTWALK event already in its 26th year, has emerged as a great tourism destination bringing tourism in mostly regionally. Murals are also proudly on display and Alpine is building a reputation as a city of murals. The topics are regionally and historically based, grounding the city and arts community in their roots. It was said during the planning project that Alpine used to be (or maybe still is) referred to as the true cowboy town. Although not discussed at any length, the hope is that this identity remains as another grounding concept of who Alpine is and where the city came from.

It's easy to see that there is a lot of energy going on in Alpine for a city this size!
There have been sad notes and exciting ones!

Annual Events:

- Big Bend Cowboy Poetry Gathering (Coming Soon)
- Trappings of Texas
- Big Bend Gem and Mineral Show
- Cinco de Mayo
- Alpine Cowboys; Baseball
- Theater of the Big Bend
- Fourth of July; Fiestas Barrios
- Viva Big Bend Music Festival
- Big Bend Ranch Rodeo
- National Intercollegiate Rodeo
- No Country For Old Men
- ARTWALK
- Parade of Lights; December

Local Attractions:

- Museum of the Big Bend
- Turner Range and Animal Science Center
- Historic Walking/Windshield Tour
- Night Life; Music
- Restaurants
- Stillwell Store; Hallie's Hall of Fame Museum
- Blue Creek Trail
- Alpine Country Club Golf
- Arlington Southwest Cemetery managed by Big Bend Veterans for Peace

On the sad note, this was the final year of the Cowboy Poetry Gathering held in Poet's Grove near Kokernot Park. New discussions are underway and project planning anticipates bringing the event back as the Big Bend Cowboy Poetry Gathering in February 2020.

Accomplishments

Exciting news abounds with all the new energy with parks, word has spread about the interest in increasing the trails network and new lands have been purchased and new agreements forming to allow hikers and cyclist to have access to new mountain trails for recreation. Additionally, the UP Railroad spur, previously considered unavailable, (which is jointly owned by TxDOT) may also open up its right of way for a trail adding a significant portion to the western overall city trail loop. New conversations have been taking place, new partnerships emerging, new visions of what the overall parks system could be in a short amount of time.

The work of improving the parks started long before our team's arrival. Good improvements to the swimming pool have been accomplished. Fields have been redressed, agreements with Sul Ross are getting in place for new facilities, a restroom was constructed at Centennial Park, and new playground equipment installed around the City. These are great works by a committed group of city personnel and volunteers because they want improvements and are willing to roll up their sleeves and get it done.

Parks and recreation planning process moving forward

The master planning process *framework* is to be as balanced as possible while realizing that there are many voices left unheard. Our guide was the word EQUITY, and as we defined it, Equity is seen in three parts;

Equity of Location
Equity of Access
Equity of Activities and Place Types

EQUITY OF LOCATION simply means that we want to be sure that there are amenities in every corner of the City. The age old standards that give metrics to a neighborhood park that, 'serves this amount of space' or the community park serves a broader area of the city, is not as useful in a smaller community such as Alpine as in larger cities. We like to think in terms of a five minute walk, but that walk should be from a viewpoint of the walk of a school age child who is old enough to go the park to meet up with friends while their parents are at work. A five minute walk for a child that may not have a parent with a car available to drive them to the nearest park. We want this for sports parks, for passive areas, and for trails.

EQUITY OF ACCESS refers to having spaces that are appropriate for all ages and abilities. One of Alpine's largest challenges is compliance with American Disabilities Act and the Texas Accessibility Standards. This was a number one priority for both the consulting team and most of the participants. The ball fields need these upgrades, the seniors community need these upgrades, and it's the law as well as the right thing to do.

EQUITY OF ACTIVITIES and PLACE TYPES is the discussion regarding the provision of a much wider type of recreation facilities and spaces. Alpine is a wonderfully sports-centric community with so many kids playing baseball, little league, softball, T-ball, traveling teams; boys, girls, college age, and adults; its deeply seated in the culture of Alpine.

What is missing are the natural spaces easily accessed within the city. Places with trees and grass to have a picnic or throw the frisbee. Places that are quiet and reflective. In addition, we need to consider a wider spectrum of activities that specifically address our seniors community and teens or college age young adults. They are in need of places that they can identify with. We suggest that these places are void of Wi-Fi for the particular purpose of creating spaces where kids build their own community without texting to the friend next to them. We believe that with the amazing conversations we have had, that displacing the Wi-Fi activity with more interactive and physical activities will be well received.



Most cities in Texas, particularly rural communities, do not have an overabundance of funding to spend as they wish. Utilities have to be repaired, streets patched and paved, buildings to repair or construct, and new initiatives that generally are very costly. We understand this completely and that's why there is much said about working on parks and recreation improvements that give a return on the investment. The larger projects are just that. Economy stimulating investment projects. Much of the discussions were regarding stimulating the tourism industry into new dynamics and taking advantage of very popular tourism aspects such as history and bird watching. Working across city offices and in tandem with the larger tourism infrastructure is another important aspect to the planning. There is plenty to read within these pages on the topic but in general these are ranked highly in priority for that reason.

A word on priority ranking. It's not easy to prioritize such a vast array and scope of projects. We took the approach to tie the rankings to the overall goals of the master plan and therefore could assign rankings based on what the priority was for each goal. This also gives us a great technique to tie the overall goals to the actual projects listed. There is no one #1, no one #2, but a suite of ones and twos and a high/medium/low ranking as well. There will be changing attitudes and faces, changing budgets, changing arguments as the months go by. This gives the board the freedom and flexibility to weigh in all of the variables at that particular point in time when a decision is needed. Alpine has a strong Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (Parks Board) and we are positive that City Council knows this and will follow their lead. It will be important for the Parks Board to have many seats at the table during the city budget process year after year for this to be a smooth process.

Partnerships need forming or formalizing to have a clear understanding of schedules and maintenance responsibilities so that facilities don't degrade for lack of attention or maintenance assignment. This type of communication is needed across not only all of the institutions and organizations but internally as well. City departments need clear public access points and coordinated departments for the general public so that smooth operations and coordination can happen. The scheduling between sports clubs and ball fields, working parents with access to swimming time after work, and other city to public, and city to city, clear communication can be achieved.

The vision of an overall trail loop system will be amazing when completed and once there, people will come from all over the country to experience Alpine and the trails Alpine offers. There are more challenges than there are easy steps with this project. The flood mitigation work has to be accomplished for the Alpine Creek segment. As we have said over the course of the plan, these are long term projects and Alpine has to keep pushing, taking baby steps or larger one. Just keep moving forward. IT WILL HAPPEN! Even at this writing new trail ideas were coming in, expanding the reach and the challenges. One really cool aspect is that the trail system, primarily Alpine Creek Trail, will connect neighborhoods with schools. The reason this is extra special is that these connections make the trails viable for state funding through the Safe Routes to School program. Having walked along Alpine Creek, I was amazed at how peaceful it was. Right through the middle of downtown, the future trail will allow folks to have a place to stroll, have a seat to read a book, jog, or have coffee before walking up the steps to work. The system will be amazing.

After our assessment of the overall city was completed, many conversations took place through an extensive public engagement process. Even at the time of this writing, new ideas are coming in and new conversations are starting which will continue after the ink is dried on this document. The residents involved with the project are excited! We want all of Alpine to be excited...as it should be! This is not a static document but one that expects to be read and considered deeply, notes scribbled in the margins. Sections crossed out and new words stapled in. The overall parks projects list in the document is expected to have a new column with staff and volunteer assignments and check-in dates so that the document continues to evolve with the twists and turns of citizen sentiments and the ever-moving fiscal targets. This document may be of best service by being in a three-ring binder and not a more formally bound document. Let the pages be punched and added continuously as this document is just the beginning of a new evolving parks and recreation system for all to enjoy.





Chapter 5
***Standards & Their
Application***

Past Parks and Recreation Standards

The standards developed by the National Recreation and Parks Association that have been used over many decades have been reviewed for application to Alpine's particular size and demographics. These standards may be great for larger cities but for Alpine a more thoughtful adaptation has been applied. The table inserted here shows the older standards. These were applied to set a base point of reference for further expansion of criteria better suited for Alpine's needs and requests.

From the outset we can see that Kokernot is the main park garnering the majority of attention with maintenance and funding. Two other important parks; Juan Medina and Baines, are also serving Alpine well. Northwest, west, and southeast are corners of Alpine that are underserved and attention to these areas are warranted to work toward better spatial equity.

Reviewing the central premise of equity; *-Equity of Location*
-Equity of Access
 Work needs to be done for: *-Equity of Activities and Place Types*

- East and west edges of the City
- ADA accessibility
- Differentiation of activities and park types including natural places
- Activities for older residents and teen age to college ages

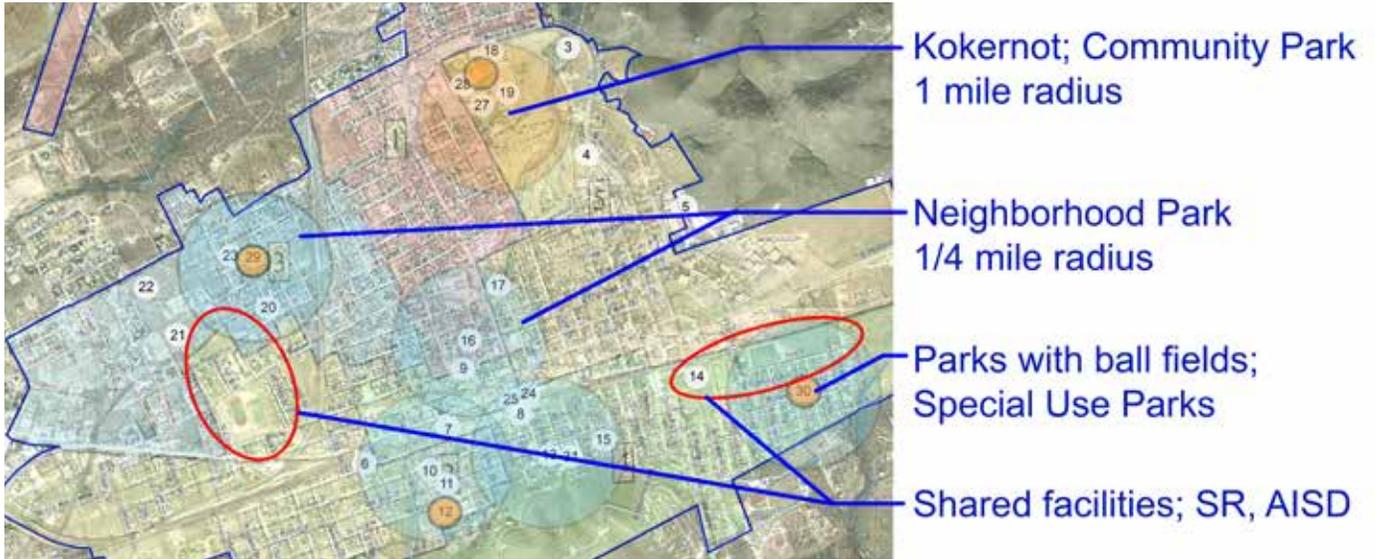
Type	Service Area	Desirable Size	Acres/1000 Residents	Desirable Site Characteristics and Facilities
Neighborhood Parks	¼ to ½ Mile	5-15 Acres	1 to 2 Acres	Serve the surrounding neighborhoods with open space and facilities such as basketball courts, children's play equipment and picnic tables
Community Parks	1-2 Miles	25+ Acres	5 to 8 Acres	May include areas suited for intense recreation facilities such as athletic complexes and large swimming pools. Easily accessible to nearby neighborhoods and other neighborhoods
Regional Parks	Several Communities	200+ Acres	5 to 10 Acres	Contiguous with or encompassing natural resources
Special Use Areas	No Applicable Standards	Variable Depending on use	Variable	Area for specialized or single purpose recreation activities such as campgrounds, golf courses etc.

Newer Parks and Recreation Standards Philosophy

In support of this broader thinking about the right fit for parks and recreation in a city, the following points to the right have been raised in recent discussions regarding how to think about standards:

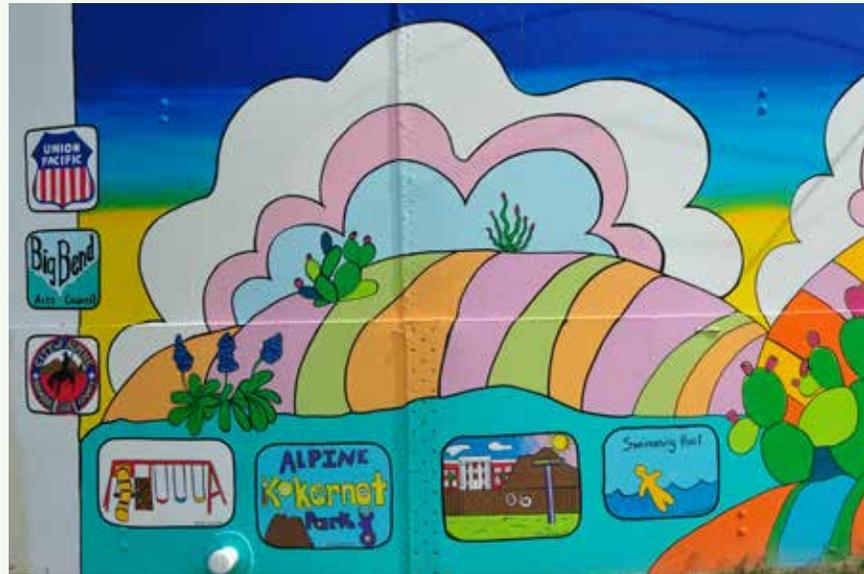
In addition to the comments above, we have considered these points as very valid and are part of the discussion moving forward to the recommendations

- Environmental trends; Pollution, natural resources
- Social trends; wellness activities, diverse cultural heritage, interactivity
- Economic Trends; reduction in leisure spending & increase in O&M
- Demographic trends; young families, senior citizens, teens



The background map in this chart is from the Alpine101 map located in Appendix E. The circle numbers refer to notes also found in that section of the report.





Mural by SFSU Art Club & Carol Fairlie; Design by Amanda Calhoun

Chapter 6

Existing Parks & Recreation System

Alpine Parks

Part of the process of a parks master plan, or of any plan to start with what is existing. For this purpose, an inventory is compiled broken down by each park. This way we can look at existing facilities today balanced against the requests for additions moving forward. As part of the Texas Parks and Wildlife grant process, they, as well, look at the existing conditions of parks to make their determinaitons.

Kokernot Park

Ownership: City, Sul Ross University, AISD
Address: NE part of the City; Inside Loop Road
Acreage: +/- 24 Acres

Uses: Baseball, Softball, batting cage, soccer, sand volleyball, tennis, basketball, golf, walking, jogging, children’s play, dog park, swimming, picnic tables, shelters, grills.

Description:

Kokernot is the only community or even regional park that is the main park for Alpine. The overall Kokernot Park is an assemblage of land with different ownership including the City of Alpine, Sul Ross University, Alpine ISD, and maybe even the Kokernot Family.

Recommendations:

Once ownership is well documented, then a list of improvements can be identified and scheduled. The overall park is in need of a comprehensive master plan that addresses all of the parkland inclusive of all the different owners. Sul Ross is planning their portion and coordinating with this effort will be important. Apparently, there may be some opportunity to work with Sul Ross on the addition of another ball field in the open areas of SR’s portion. It has been mentioned that they are working on an agenda for fine arts for this area inclusive of the amphitheater and Kokernot lodge as well s the west side of Alpine Creek where its open fields and the former Cowboy Poetry festival and Poets Grove are.

The swimming pool facility needs to undergo a comprehensive renovation including the addition of a splash pad. The bathrooms at the ball fields, and swimming pool need repair and maintenance. A new bathroom open to the general public needs to be added in a central location. The consensus seems to be placing it near the sand volleyball along with a person and dog water fountain. The dog park is in need of shade, the gophers need eradicating for safety purposes especially in the sports areas.



There is a loop trail that runs along the north and west edges of the park and then along the golf course and the residential and commercial areas along the south and east sides. It is in need of completing and making ADA compatible.

In conjunction with Sul Ross, the stretch of Alpine



Creek flowing NE from the golf course and under the Loop Road, would make a wonderful nature walk if enhanced and made accessible. Sul Ross did construct a sidewalk that crosses their side and connects to Alpine Creek. If there was another path that connected to the creek on the north edge of the golf course then a much longer creek side walk would be a welcome addition. When walking this area, it became apparent that the walk would benefit greatly if there were trees planted on the side of the walk away from the creek creating a more enjoyable environment. Also with an exposed west orientation, shade during hot times would be a great addition. Being near the creek, Cottonwoods; an iconic tree in the region, may be a nice choice.

The area in between the ball fields has the dog park and the skateboard ramp. An important goal of any parks and recreation planning is to encourage youth and teens to come out and enjoy the outdoors. The skateboard park, although a very nicely developed facility, is lacking in shade and ambience. Further development of this area in ways attractive to youth can help activate this space more. Shade trees, picnic tables, other elements such as a climbing wall, and potable water, with many other options. Encourage a teens gathering, maybe of high school kids to “workshop” ideas to be included in this plan.

Much of the areas and facilities of Kokernot Park are not ADA compliant. A comprehensive ADA review and tasking these improvements through staff where possible should be a priority.

Baines Park

Ownership: City
Address: South central area of the City
Acreage: 1.68 acres
Uses: Children’s play, basketball, open play field, walking paths, raised flower garden, picnic tables, shelters, grills.

Description:
Baines is one of the larger parks in the south side of the City with a blend of uses. It has in the middle a formal raised stone planter with walkways that divides the park into different areas. There are different levels in each area of the park being in the part of the city with a little terrain.



Recommendations:
The park needs formalized parking including an ADA parking area. The site slopes making it difficult for ADA access and some switchback ramps will likely need to be installed. Existing ramps in the park now appear to not meet ADA criteria slopes. Energizing a “friends” group or garden club that can take on the task of the formal beds landscape would be ideal, otherwise the City maintenance crews will be charged with the upkeep which would likely convert to a very low maintenance planting.

This is a nice park. Maybe a small-scale flower festival can happen in the park for the locals that showcase landscape plantings and flower paintings to bring better activity and awareness to the park. If not there already, create a plaque commemorating the Baines family for the gift. Shielded lighting on a timer that cuts off at a certain time may be needed but discuss with the adjacent property owners to gain their perspective on lighting.

Juan Medina Park:

Ownership: City
Address: S. 11th St. and West Gallego Ave.
Acreage: .84 acres
Uses: Children's play, small concrete path, picnic table, grill.

Description:

This park is west of Baines about 6 blocks and sits on the south bank of Alpine Creek. On the wall fronting the park entrance is a sign for the creek trail. The park is

dedicated to children's play with play elements geared to toddlers and a little older. The walking path was observed being used by an elderly resident for exercise as well. Some fencing along the more hazardous sides.

Recommendations:

The parking is on a tract of land is not owned by the City. Meet with the owner and formalize a lease agreement or purchase the lot. ADA upgrades would be welcome improvements. Adding additional fencing for the security of the little ones playing so that wandering into the street can be avoided. It's a very nice park.



Centennial Park:

Ownership: City
Address: S 10th St. & West Avenue H
Acreage: 2.61 acres
Uses: Baseball/ Softball, Basketball, bleachers for game watchers, new restrooms.

Description:

This park is primarily a baseball and softball field and is well kept. There is a basketball court. But this is primarily for ball sports and is well used.

Recommendations:

There is a new restroom that needs the ADA access completed. The parking is along the edge of the park in the street but its an unimproved street edge. ADA assigned parking needs to be designated according to criteria which is best served by an improved street edge and an ADA pathway to appropriate seating. Update the basketball court for the local neighbors. According to discussions, the bathrooms are always locked due to criminal activity. Solutions to this with a focus group can craft an appropriate strategy to allow availability. Maybe this is by replacing the locks with a coded keypad.



Pueblo Nuevo Park:

Ownership: City

Address: E. Gallego Ave & S. Hancock St.

Acreage: 1.7 acres

Uses: T-Ball, small field practice, Two back-stops on opposite corners, Open field play on the alternate corners.

Description:

This park is in the southeast portion of the city directly south of Sul Ross University's Jackson Field. This park is designed for T-ball however trees were planted that interfere with play.



Recommendations:

This park (as are some of the others) is prime for submitting to Texas Parks and Wildlife for funding to upgrade the park. The funding strategy can not use land value since the park has been in park use. However accounting volunteer time, materials, labor and beginning the project with basic efforts can build up a sizable match. Improvements should start with completely scraping the site and disposing of the soil to rid the site of the goathead stickers and to re-establish the T-ball fields. Feedback from public engagement has said that T-ball is still very necessary and fields are definitely needed.

This park is also important to this quadrant of the city and should be kept. The other areas can be replanted in short native grasses and wildflowers and only the edges be mowed to keep a neat appearance and for use as a on-leash dog park. Planting trees (not in the middle but around the perimeter and non-ball field zones) and using the existing irrigation system to provide drip irrigation for the trees would be important. Shade is necessary and valued so choosing native or adapted fast growing trees would be important. A recommendation for the areas not used as ball fields needs to be designed as a very low maintenance passive park. Pathways can be mowed and picnic tables added where trees provide shade. Developing a sidewalk around the entire perimeter of the park might encourage local neighbors to walk laps for health.

A development agreement with Sul Ross is in the works to develop ball fields in adjacent lands to the north. When developing sidewalks, build in the appropriate ADA crosswalk connections to interconnect these ball fields. The Master Trails Plan shows a path or trail passing along the East side of Pueblo Nuevo. On this edge of the park, use 6' wide sidewalks so that everyone has room for passing.

American Legion Park:

Ownership: City

Address: Bounded by W. Marfa Ave and W. Stockton Ave; N.15th St. & N.16th St.

Acreage: 2.13 acres

Uses: The design of this park was intended to be for T-ball games and includes seating places constructed out of rustic wood limbs and logs. A horseshoe pit is there but not maintained, as is the whole park.

Description:

The whole park is in need of better maintenance and as a result is not utilized much. The team un-



derstands that some folks walk their dogs there and other have commented that the goathead stickers are everywhere. There is mention of a group or individuals that would care for the park or at least interest in seeing the park brought back to former conditions.

Recommendations:

The same recommendation for Pueblo Nuevo Park is appropriate here; This park as are some of the others are prime for submitting to Texas Parks and Wildlife for funding to upgrade the park. That funding should be to completely scrape the site and disposing the soil to rid the site of the goathead stickers and to re-establish the T-ball fields. It has been the feedback of this project that T-ball is still very necessary and fields are definitely needed. This park is also important to this quadrant of the city as without them this part of the city would be more underserved. The other areas can be replanted in short native grasses and wildflowers and only the edges be mowed to keep a neat appearance and for use as a on-leash dog park. Planting trees and using the existing irrigation system to provide drip irrigation for the trees would be important. Shade is highly valued so choosing native or adapted fast growing trees would be important. A recommendation for the areas not used as ball fields need to be designed as a very low maintenance passive park. Pathways can be mowed and picnic tables added and trees planted to provide shade. Develop a sidewalk around the perimeter of the park to provide a walking path for folks to get some exercise and to give the park a more finished appearance.

Nopalitos Park:

Ownership: City

Address: W. Lockhart Ave. & N. 7th St.

Acreage: .32 acres

Uses: Idle; This park has no apparent active use. There is a small stone and cast stone bench with the memorial engraving for Captain George Felix Howland.

Description:

This is a small tract of land that sits on the south side of Alpine Creek at the intersection (bend in the road) of N. 7th street and W. Lockhart Ave. The Captain George Felix Howland stone bench is in the southeast corner. Native and adaptive grasses with some wildflowers and native trees sprinkled across the site.



Recommendations:

There has been a considerable amount of discussions regarding this tract as well as other seemingly useless tracts of city owned property. The team contends that small neighborhood parks such as this are highly useful and in the case of Nopalitos, it can one day serve as a trailhead for the Alpine Creek Trail.

The other benefit is that the roads at the frontage of the park are in fact part of the grid of right-of-way that extends across the creek. Even if the Alpine Creek Trail doesn't happen for many years to come, a bridge crossing like what is behind the American Legion Post 79 bldg. on W. Sul Ross Ave. has existing right of way so no land dedication, purchase, or condemnation would be necessary to develop a crossing. Providing the pedestrian crossing would be a more direct access for the neighborhoods to the north and northwest to access downtown in a more pleasant atmosphere with a park anchor, potentially stimulating folks to walk to downtown instead of driving. The use of the park should be passive being embedded in residential uses. Therefore a vigorous replanting with aggressive native plants or native short grasses (no mow) not harmful to children would be best and then a crushed granite pathways. A perfect project for a local chapter of Master Gardeners or Master Naturalists to adopt.

Reposition the bench to a quieter corner near the creek plus adding other seating would then provide the right kind of place that people would use in the middle of the city as a quiet passive low cost park. Regarding the bench commemorating Captain Howland, erect a sign that talks about who he was and his history so that others can learn more. The historic walking trail passes close by on the opposite side of Alpine Creek. All the more reason to have a small foot bridge as both access and additional interest with seeing some history against the backdrop of Alpine Creek.

Old Town Square Park:

Ownership: City
Address: W. Sul Ross Ave. & N.5th St.
Acreage: .6 acres
Uses: Originally envisioned as a town square type of park as noted by the name, this park has become dominated by parking for the patrons and owners of the stores that front the square. 3/4th of the lot is parking.

Description:
Called out as a park, this space has one quarter of it occupied by landscape and some benches. Small stores or businesses wrap two sides of the square. Some ornamental landscape is there and maintained.

Recommendations:
The City needs to sit down with the commercial interests in the square and come to agreements on uses, maintenance, costs, lighting, and other issues. If the stores benefit from the ornamentation then there should be a requirement of picking up the tab for its upkeep. However, it might be a consideration to sell the land to the property owners and use the funds for other parkland projects since this tract of land serves the residents little with parks and recreation.



Railroad Park:

Ownership: Union Pacific Railroad
Address: E. Holland Ave. & S. 5th st.
Acreage: .24 acres
Uses: Passive artsy downtown “park” that is owned by the UP railroad. Uses are sitting and enjoying the day, artistic expression, community engagement through visual art and social gathering.

Description:
This is a space that has basically been developed by certain locals into an interesting space for sitting and enjoying the eclectic fun space in downtown. It is positioned on UP railroad land and has a caboose rail car parked on site as a backdrop and buffer from the railroad.



Recommendations:
Not being city land, there cannot be any formal recommendation for the city but it is encouraged to

maintain the park through public participation as it adds to the character of Alpine. Where support of the park can happen such as the edges through cooperation of TxDOT, then the City should be supportive. It is understood that UP has the right to come and take over the land for the rail use if needed. Open up a dialog with UP to address the situation and gage the likelihood of UP ever needing that land. Work the conversation toward seeing if they would be interested in selling or gifting the property to Alpine.

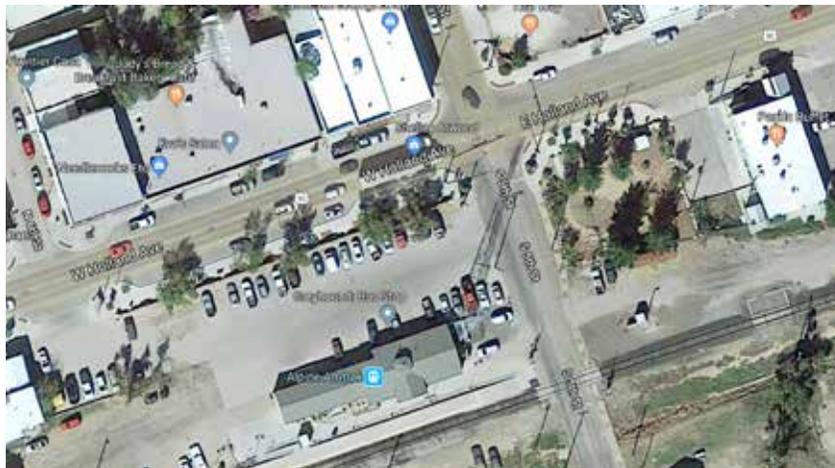
Arbolitos Park:

Ownership: Union Pacific Railroad & TxDOT

Address: E. Holland Ave. & S. 5th St.

Acreage: .17 acres

Uses: Promenade on Holland Street, Sitting, memorial plaques celebrating prominent folks of the region and in the history of Alpine



Description:

This project was a downtown improvement to the pedestrian realm in front of the Amtrak station. When the City had an active Main Street program, they applied for a grant and improved the streetscape.

Recommendations:

Normal regular maintenance of the promenade and the continuance of the plaque program in important. Verify that all connections are ADA compliant. Although subtle, this adds much to the appearance of downtown and should be kept neat and in good repair.

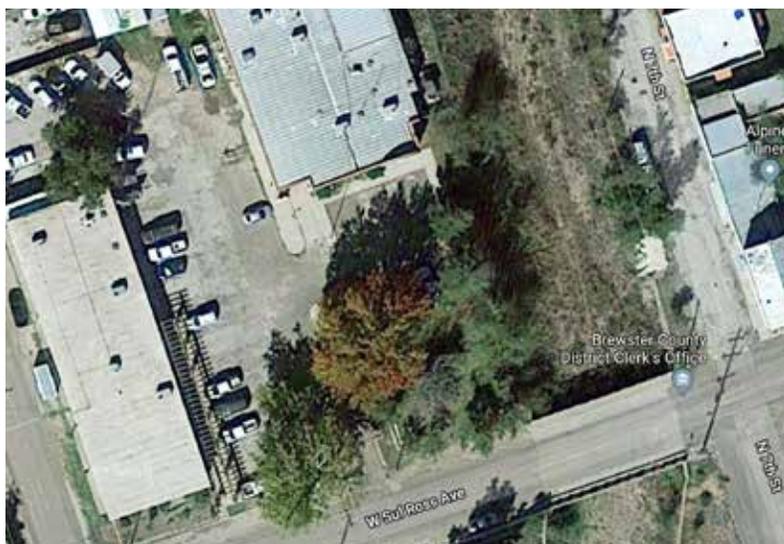
Veterans Memorial Park:

Ownership: City

Address: W. Sul Ross Ave. in front of the City Jail

Acreage: .69 acres

Uses: This is a passive park in the front of the police station and city jail. It is a very pleasant place to sit and relax. On site is a monument for war veterans on the corner.



Description:

This is a small tract of land in front of the police station and jail facing W Sul Ross Ave. that has on its east side the Alpine Creek corridor and American Legion Post 79 across the street. It's a small passive park that likely serves as a place of respite for lunch hours with one picnic table for visitors.

Recommendations:

Additional seating would make a welcome addition, possible two more picnic tables. Treatment along the street edge to dress it up would be a nice improvement. Working on improvements to the creek edge to take advantage of the views up and down would be a nice addition.

County Courthouse Park:

Ownership: Brewster County

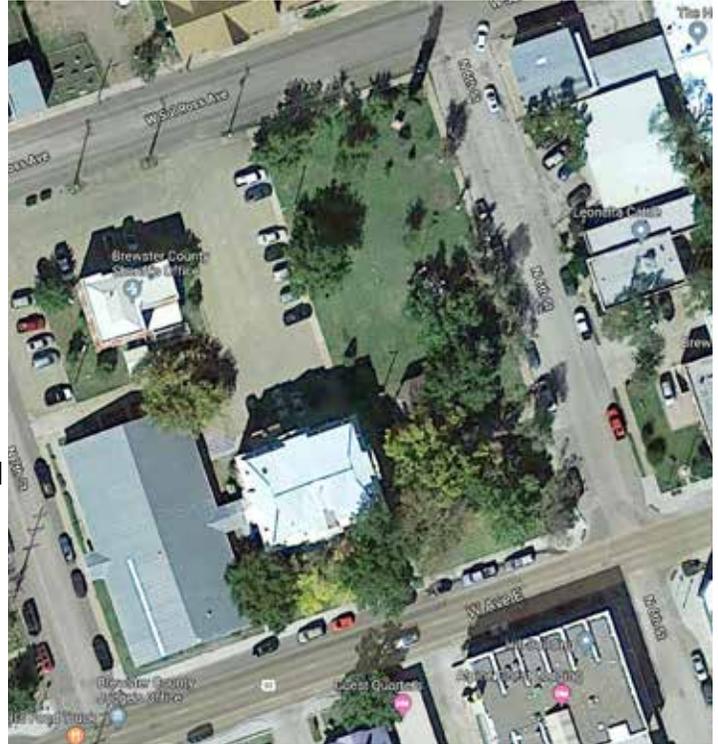
Address: W. Avenue E & N. 6th St.

Acreage: +/-1.5 Acres

Uses: Passive park with war artillery, implements and memorials on display

Description:

This space is not a city park nor is recognized on the city website as a park to visit but there is much value there to be recognized. The site is beautiful with mature trees and the various elements of historical and memorial value are placed around the site. History tourism is an important industry and so even though a county facility, it needs to be called out as a park in the city.



Shipman Tract:

Ownership: Alpine ISD

Address:

Acreage: +/-14 acres

Uses: Vacant land

Description:

Vacant tract of land in the NW portion of the city

Recommendations:

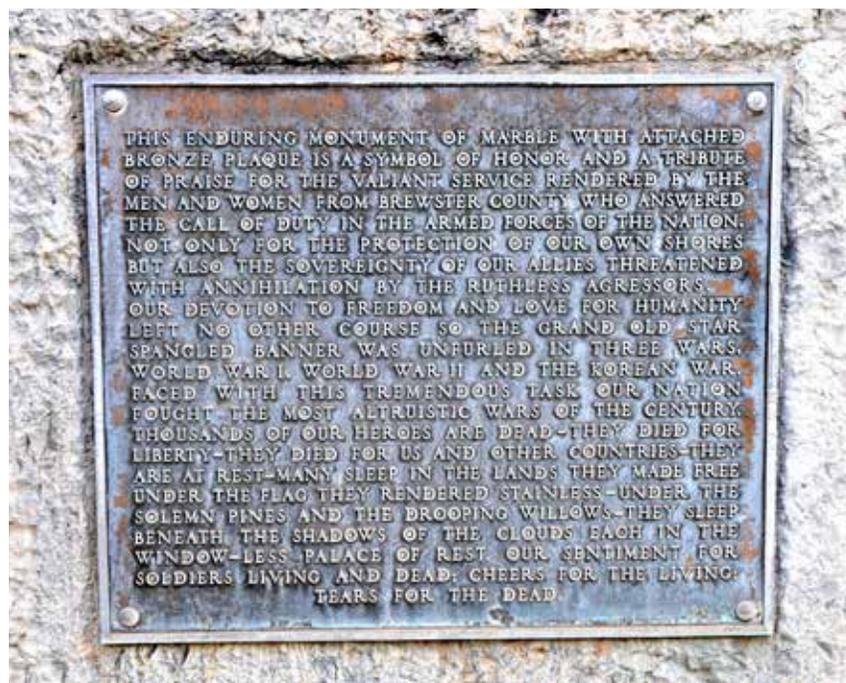
Initial review of parks in Alpine listed this land as a city park. According to records, the land was donated to the city, which in turn was donated to AISD. The future of this land is unknown but it is located in an underserved part of the city in terms of land that could be used as parkland. If the school district chooses to develop the land as recreational assets, then hopefully the city residents will have full utilization of the facility. However the land could be sold to private developers or developed as a future school site.

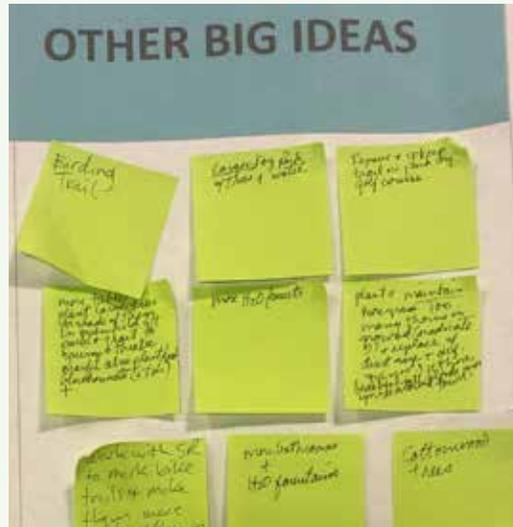


Inventory: City of Alpine Parks & Partnering Institutions

1. Kokernot (See Mapper app), expansive grass park, partially treed with ample shade shelters, seating, and age-appropriate play sets. Access to swimming pool, skate park, dog park, little league playing fields, two parking lots
 - a. Tennis Courts (Alpine ISD) – 3; need resurfacing
 - b. Basketball Court (Alpine ISD) – 1; needs resurfacing
 - c. Skate Park – 1; operational
 - d. Dog park – 1; two sides; three different obstacles; dirt with aluminum fencing
 - e. Little League Baseball/Softball – 3; operational; shade for dugouts and bleachers
 - f. Bathroom – 2; public access near little league fields (N and S), not ADA; men and women
 - g. Concession stand – 1; operational with water and electric; near N little league field
 - h. Jogging trail – 1; half mile gravel/paved path; operational but needs resurfacing
 - i. Fitness stations – 3x; around walking path; pull-up, sit-up
 - j. Swimming facility; operational but no water; has bathrooms but not open to public
 - k. Pavilion – 1; large near to swimming pool; benches available; electric/water available
 - l. Handicap swing set – 1; near swimming pool parking lot; operational
 - m. Sandpit – 1; operational; no equipment, about 12ft in diameter
 - n. Preschool age playground – 1; operational; over 15 stations; recycled rubber flooring; shade shelter
 - o. Benches – 20+; spread across open field, with trees for shade; some with sponsored names, half made of concrete block
 - p. Picnic tables – 10-15; spread across open field with trees for shade; painted red
 - q. Trash cans – 15+; mostly spread across open field next to picnic tables, also near parking lots; also near concession and bathrooms
2. American Legion – wild/native grass, developed park with sections of dirt
 - a. Gazebo – 1; wooden
 - b. Youth baseball/softball fields – 2x; dirt
 - c. Water spigot – 1x; hand pump
 - d. Pump/Well House – 1x; locked; not sure if bathroom
 - e. Sign – 1x; custom signage to label park
 - f. Benches – 4x; partial shade, custom wooden benches
3. Juan Medina – full developed park featuring .1 mile walking path with pre-school through 5th grade appropriate activity stations; art walls featured, mostly in shade under tree canopy
 - a. BBQ pit – 2x; bring own charcoal
 - b. Swingsets – 2x; NE has 3 kids/adults with 1 handicap seat; NW has 2x baby + 2x adult/kid
 - c. Tables – 2x; near to each BBQ pit; metal
 - d. Sand pit – 2x; about 6-8ft in diameter, sunken, operational, no activities
 - e. Kid Activity Stations – 10x; jungle gym, train, climbing poles, parallel bars, monkey bars, straight and curved walking/balance beam, pull-ups,
 - f. Trash Cans – 2x; not close to BBQ pit; needs two more
 - g. Bench/Seating – 8x; concrete seating acts as separating wall
 - h. Walking path – 1x; 0.1mi around kids activities; concrete

4. Centennial – mixture grass and dirt youth playing field; adjacent access to Centennial School (SRSU property with additional amenities – basketball); no trees, shade
 - a. Baseball field – 1x; backstop, two operational field level dugouts, seating on two sides, no lights
 - b. Seating/Bleachers – 2x
 - c. Water spigots – 2x
5. Baines (see Mapper APP)
6. Arbolitos (Amtrak) – This is the public realm streetscape with trees, decorative wall with commemorative plaques
7. Railroad Park- mixture of gravel walking path and planted beds
 - a. Benches – 3
 - b. Shade shelters – 2x
 - c. Flower gardens – 3; newly planted/maintained flower gardens
8. Downtown Square – concrete, pavers with raised concrete planted beds
 - a. Benches – 2
 - b. Trashcan – 1
 - c. Water spigots – 4; operational
9. Veterans Memorial- West Sul Ross Ave. & North 7th St. in front of the police station.
10. Courthouse Park– grass park with concrete walking paths; features wooden gazebo and war memorials; access to Courthouse with parking lot and street parking, partly treed for shade
 - a. Water spigots – 4x; operational
 - b. Path lighting – 4x; operational
 - c. Memorials – 2x; with signage/interpretation
 - d. Benches – 8x; some shaded by trees
 - e. Gazebo – 1x; wooden, custom built; operational
 - f. War machine with flag pole and interpretive plaque
11. Nopalitos – undeveloped land adjacent to creek, has one concrete bench as a memorial to Captain George Felix Howland
12. Pueblo Nuevo – formerly/under-developed (possible past development) native grass, no irrigation, with former dirt baseball fields, no backstops, some trees in center of park between former fields





Chapter 7

Public Engagement

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY

The recommendations of the 2019 City of Alpine's Parks, Recreation, Open Space & Trails Master Plan are designed to reflect the recreational needs and desires of the citizens of Alpine. As part of the process, citizen input provided information regarding the use of current facilities, where key needs exist, and what level of improvements the citizens of the City would like to see in their parks and recreation system.

Various outreach engagement strategies were used to gain a well-rounded understanding of the community's thoughts and ideas. Through the use of a variety of engagement strategies, different user types were provided a chance to voice their thoughts. The public engagement component of this Plan included three (3) public meetings, small group/stakeholder meetings, interviews, a joint City Council/Parks and Recreation Board session, an on-line and printed public survey, and various meetings with the Parks and Recreation Board. The following discusses information gathered from each of the above participatory methods.

Public Meetings

Three public meetings were held over the course of the planning process to solicit public input in the parks master planning process. The purpose of the public meetings was two-fold: A) To offer a method by which the general public could participate in the planning process; and, B) To receive direct public feedback on preliminary findings.

- Public Meeting 1: March 13, 2019 (44 attendees)
- Public Meeting 2: April 17, 2019 (20 attendees)
- Public Meeting 3: May 22, 2019 (19 attendees)

Small Group Meetings

Over the course of two days at the onset of the project (February 2019), a series of four (4) small group stakeholder meetings were held with representatives of community organizations and interest groups from City of Alpine who provide or support recreational services. Ten individuals participated in these initial meetings. Additional small group meetings and /or interviews were held with sports leagues, Big Bend Parks and Recreation for Kids (BB-Parks), a non-profit, and with individuals interested in trails. About 20 individuals participated in these meetings to help identify opportunities and challenges faced by the community. At the stakeholder meetings, attendees were asked their opinion of the current parks system, what they felt the community was lacking, and what the highest priority needs were.

Public Survey

To better understand the parks and recreation needs of Alpine residents, an on-line public survey was conducted. The survey examined residents' opinions of park facilities in the City, their participation in recreational activities within and beyond the

City, desired improvements to the City’s parks, and prioritization of potential improvements. The survey was made available to all residents and interested parties via a link on the City’s homepage website, and through email. The survey ran for about two months in March and April 2019, with a total of 160 responses received.

Brief summary is presented in the following pages and full information on survey can be found in Attachment 17.

City and Parks and Recreation Board

In addition to guidance from the City Council, the Plan was prepared under the direction of the Alpine Parks and Recreation Board. Over the course of the project, the board met to evaluate plan goals and objectives; review preliminary findings, and recommendations.

Key Findings

Key themes and ideas that were heard throughout the public engagement process included, but was not limited to, the following:

- Restrooms (whether it was access to them, location, or more needed)
- Trails (the general idea of new and/or improved hiking/walking trails)
- Splashpad (the need for an outdoor aquatic feature, such as a splashpad), came up in stakeholder meetings and the survey)
- The need for improving accessibility throughout the park system
- The need for providing park features and/or programs aim for all ages, including seniors and teens.
- The need for a coordinator to manage city parks and programming
- Improvements to parks to ensure sports leagues, such as softball and little league, function well and run smoothly



Outreach in General

As the study team began the park planning process in Alpine, Texas, it was imperative that they meet with both city management and the Parks and Recreation Board to ensure that process was aligned with the goals of the city and expectations of the board. The first meeting between study team and the park board was on December 2018.

One of the first steps in the process was creating a contact list of individuals that had been involved in park planning efforts in the past and potential stakeholders. With the assistance of the city and the parks board, a Master Contact List was created and used throughout the planning process. As the team had meetings, emails were collected and added to the master contact list, so it was a working document. Please see Master Contact List (Attachment 1).

Additionally, shortly after meeting with parks board and city manager in early 2019, and upon request, the study team created a FAQ document (Attachment 2) early on to help the public understand the purpose of the park plan, the process and the timeframe. The document was created, posted online, shared at the first public meeting and shared as necessary.

On March 5, 2019, the study team also presented to the City Council what the process and timeline would be for park plan development. Additional presentations/updates to City Council were on April 4th, and May 21st.

For public meetings, the following were methods used to advertise the public meetings and encourage public participation:

- Advertisement was prepared in both English and Spanish (See Attachment 3 for example of all Public Meetings flyer, same design/format for all)
- Email invitations were distributed to a list of 150+ individuals which was compiled by the parks board, city and consultants. We encouraged individuals to share with their networks via email or social media.
- Advertisements were placed in Alpine's *Avalanche* newspaper for all three public meetings.
- Flyers advertising public meetings were placed at Alpine's City Hall, the library, and at various locations throughout Alpine.
- The City of Alpine put a link on their website announcing public meetings.

1.0 Public Meetings
1.1 Public Meeting 1 (PM1)

The study’s first public meeting was held at the Alpine Civic Center on March 13, 2019. There were 44 attendees. See Sign-In Sheets (Attachment 4). This initial public meeting was an opportunity for the study team to provide context on why the City of Alpine is embarking on the development of a park plan, what the team’s park planning process was, and also to gather input on what the public was interested in and initial thoughts on broad goals, visions, and park needs.

The format of the public meeting included both a presentation and open house setting with various stations. Four interactive stations provided an opportunity for members of the public to offer input and ideas on park goals, park needs and park plan ideas.

1. Dot Exercise 1 –Suggested Vision and Goals
2. Dot Exercise 2 –Facility, Amenity and/or Park Feature (Matrix)
3. Big Ideas Board
4. Park Map Tables: Feedback

Individuals were welcomed by City of Alpine Mayor Andy Ramos, and Parks and Recreation Board President Kirsten Moody. A brief presentation was provided by the study team to set the framework about the park plan’s purpose, the planning process, and timeframe. Then, participants were encouraged to visit all the interactive stations to provide input on a variety of topics. Additionally, a paper survey was provided (this paper survey was used to develop the online survey; see Attachment 5). The main goal of the stations and surveys was to get a sense of needs, issues and priorities around Alpine’s park system.

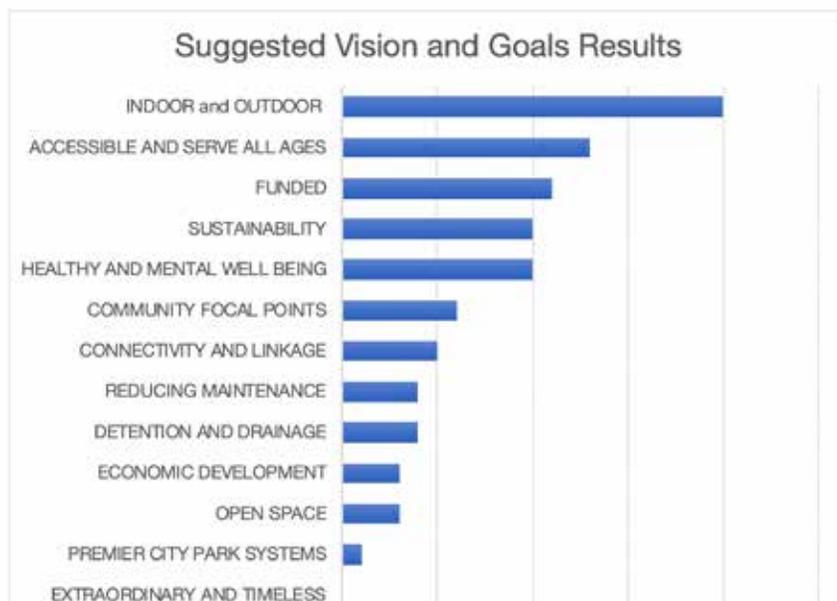


1.1.1 Dot Exercise 1 – Suggested Vision and Goals

During the first public meeting, there were two dot exercises. Dot Exercise 1 was to try to determine what vision and goals were the most important. Participants were given three dots and they were asked to place them on the suggested vision and goals provided, based on what participants interests were. Attachment 6 in the Appendix provides a picture of the results. Below, we have a total count of the results. Categories which received the most dots, meaning the most important to them, based on participants at first public meeting, were (blue arrows):

- Focus on addressing **INDOOR** as well as **OUTDOOR** recreation needs over the next five to fifteen years
- Ensure that the park system will be **ACCESSIBLE AND SERVE ALL AGES** including mobility challenged and seniors
- The system will be well **FUNDED** and will actively pursue partnership opportunities
- Park system will promotes **HEALTHY AND MENTAL WELL BEING**
- The system will focus on **SUSTAINABILITY**

This initial finding guided us as we continued outreach around these main goals/visions selected. It was understood that participants in the first public meeting represent only a segment of the population. Thus, the online survey, along with additional public meetings and outreach, helped craft the proposed goals in Chapter 8.



Dot Exercise 1 -Count Chart

1.1.2 Dot exercise 2—Facility, Amenity and/or Park Feature (Matrix)

For Dot Exercise 2, participants were given three dots and they were asked to place them on any either a facility, amenity or park feature that they felt was most important for them and the park system. The categories which received the most dots, meaning the most important to them, based on participants at first public meeting were **Hiking Trails, followed by Softball Fields, Restrooms, and Baseball fields**, as show in graphic below. Attachment 6 in the Appendix provides a picture of the results.

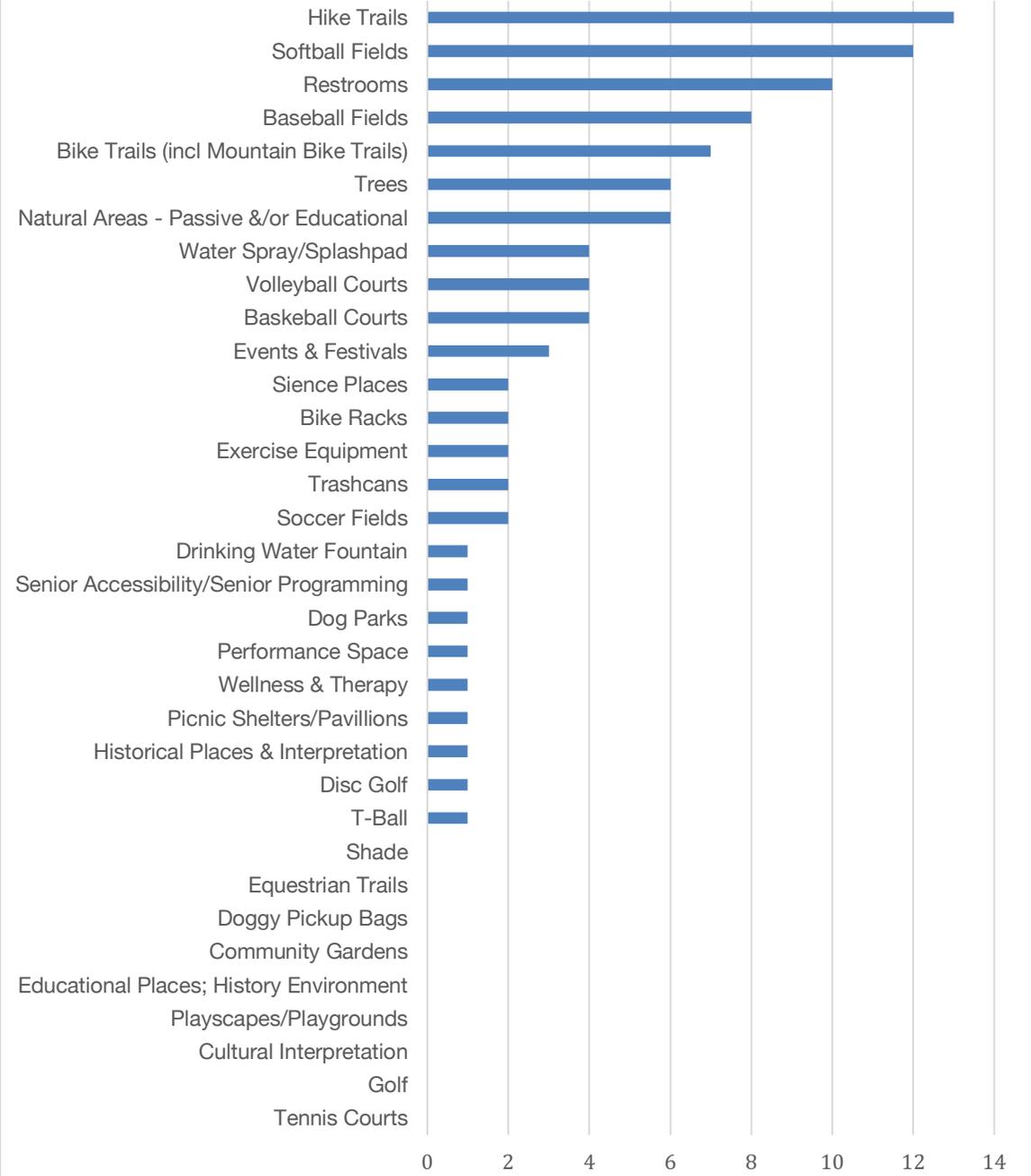


Public Meeting 1—Dot Exercise 2

The categories which received the most dots, meaning the most important, based on participants at first public meeting, were **Hiking Trails, followed by Softball Fields, Restrooms, and Baseball fields**, as show in graphic below.

These were followed by **Bike Trails, Trees, Natural Areas and Water Spray/Splashpad and Volleyball Courts**.

Facility, Amenity, and/or Park Feature Counts



Public Meeting 1, Dot Exercise 2—Count

- Other Comments (post it notes)
- Hike and bike
 - A dark place with electricity to set up
 - Inclusive along trail
 - Working restrooms
 - Indoor rec. center
 - Recycling opportunities!!!!
 - Make larger Kokernot Park plus H2O and trees for shade.

1.1.3 Big Ideas Board

Participants were able to go to a board that had four BIG IDEAS categories. Using post-it notes, participants provided comments and ideas.

The four categories were

- Community/Recreation Center
- Sports Complex
- Creek Trail
- Other



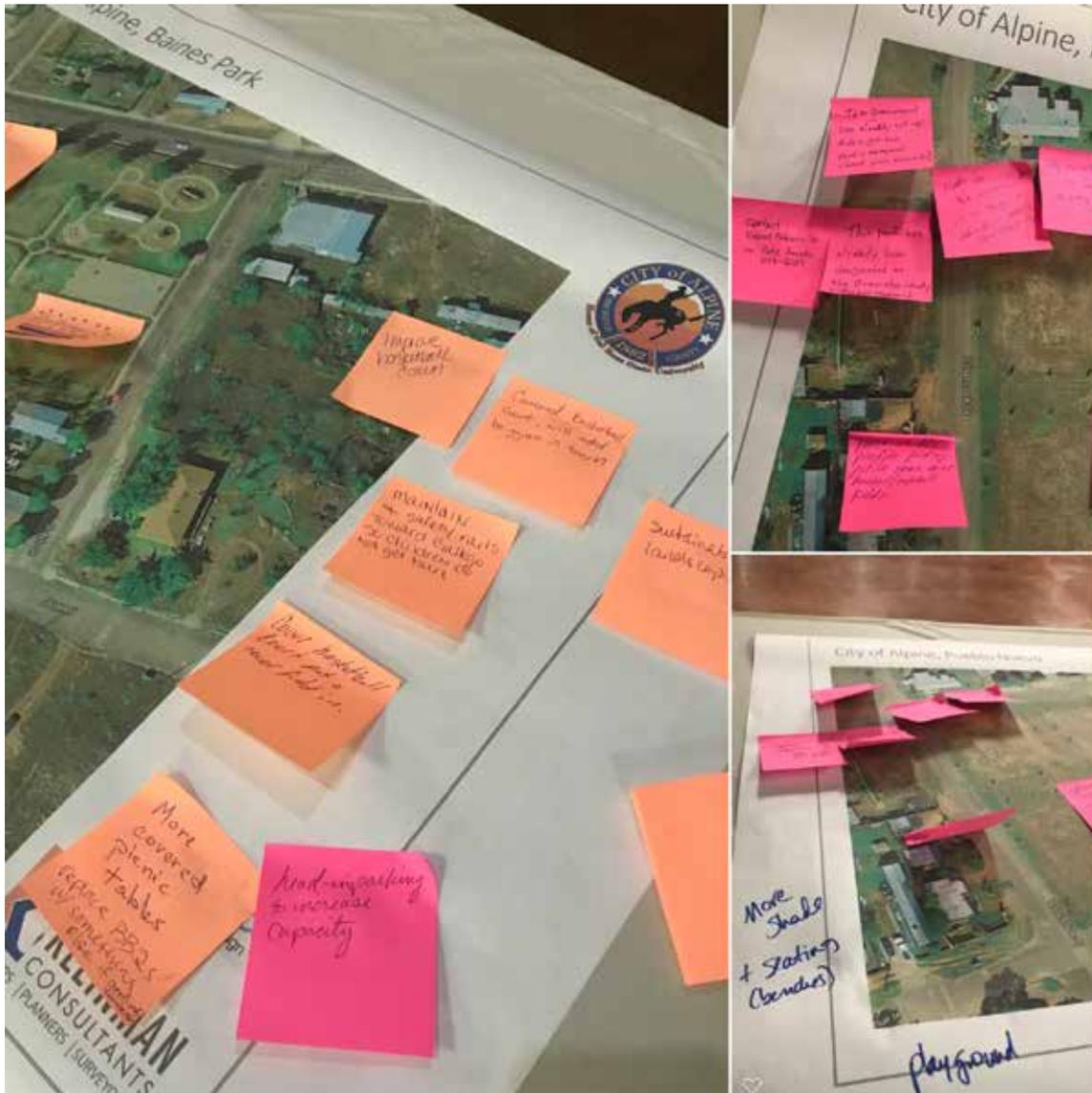
Public Meeting 1—Big Ideas Board Table, Transcribed Post-its:

COMMUNITY/RECREATION CENTER	SPORTS COMPLEX	CREEK TRAIL	OTHER BIG IDEAS
Boys & Girls Club	Turf fields me too a similar	Creek trails is a great idea. I ride my bike thru town on the creek it's a good ride but needs work.	Birding Trail
Indoor facility for our kids	Softball/Baseball, Volleyball, Basketball	Green belt to connect all parks. Green belt loop to go around Alpine.	More tables & plant larger trees for shade w them in open field b/t park & trail to spring & theatre maybe also plant/seed bluebonnets (a ton.)
Boys & Girls Club	Softball/Baseball, Volleyball, Basketball	Connect parks with creek trail & historic walk.	Work with SR to mark bike trails & make them more public & known.
Boys & Girls Club	Love: this multipurpose sports courts x 4. Outdoor fitness Gym	Public hiking please!	Bike, walks path connecting all parks around town.
Yes! Similar to Presidio's multi-use/multi-functional, rentable rec center!	Indoor facility Volleyball, Basketball	More park linkage. Hike, bike please. Along North to South railroad.	Develop recreation Dept. with Hotel Tax.
	Softball & Baseball Complex w/football, basketball and soccer fields	Think beyond "Creek trail" assess other opportunities for connective trails.	Convert all city parks to "conservation status" permanently whereby you (the city) gets big tax breaks!
	Softball Baseball Complex	As many walking/hiking trails as possible, <u>bench</u> rests.	Larger dog parks w/trees & water
	One way or two way bicycles or not walkers & runners yes asphalt on concert	Conect to SRSU Hancock Hill. Involve University.	More H2O faucets.
	Swimming pool, exercise room	Connectivity is important but choosing logical areas & ways & signage to do so. Don't need a Bull trail.	More bathrooms & H2O fountains
	Make SRSU contribute! Good for all.		Xeriscape all parks. Add pavilion with water tank to assist with watering.
	Swimming pool.		Public recycling bins!! (with all planning for paper disposal)
- What is the difference between these two -			Repave & unkeep trail in park by golf course.
			Plant & maintain more grass. Too many thons on ground, eradicate (sp) & replace w/ (sp) cage & dif. Grasses. (sp) beautiful tall (sp) ones (sp) around town.
			Cottonwood trees.
			A larger trail w/exercise stops & how to instructions.
			Protect key scenic vistas from road/housing (A-mt, Hancock Hill, etc.)
			Create plan for circum Alpine trail, require developes to integrate in into city expansion.

See Attachment 7 for the Big Ideas Board Summary

1.1.4 Park Map Tables: Feedback (Sticky Notes on Aerials)

For this interactive station, participants were to go around tables where aerial maps were provided of several city parks. They were provided post-in notes and markers and encouraged to go to each park table/map and provided comments and ideas. Attachment 8 has all the comments, transcribed, of all the post-it's for each park/aerial.



2.2.3 Small Group Discussion

The small group discussion session was organized to request feedback and input on goals, park improvements and suggestions, and priorities suggested thus far. The study team wanted to make sure that there was no key goal/project idea missing. Additionally, the team wanted feedback on barriers and resources, and the goals displayed on table (Attachment 12) and transcribed below.

The participants were split into two groups (Group 1 and Group 2), and each group was asked to discuss three questions:

- Any goals we missed?
- Are there issues of concerns that we haven't addressed nor discussed?
- What resources are available? What local people or groups could contribute?

The following tables provide all the comments shared at the public meeting by the two groups.

One comment, for example, for Question 1, was made for ensuring that there be intergovernmental coordination, and that was added to the overall list of goals. Many other comments were reaffirmation of what the team had been hearing and reinforcement or clarification of ideas.

QUESTION 1: Any Goals We Missed?

Group 1	Group 2
<p><i>Group discussion morphed into what their priorities/interests were</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Hot Funds -Hotel Tax Funds -Sports Events & Tournaments -Movie Nights -Improve parks for Sports events -Create Trail Map -Softball & Volleyball -Little League -Bird Watching Areas -Restrooms -General Supervisor of Parks, Staff, coordinator. -Open Natural Space - Flood Insurance concerns -#3 Well Funds Parks Department. -Trail Signs Hancock Hill River Networks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Enhance local use -Balance for local & tourists -Regional-eg Kokernot & owners <p>Goal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Intergovernmental Coordination *#1 Ballfields-Sports-accessibility & maintenance [ensure that its' mentioned specifically in goals/objectives] *Ownership* need to know [have a goal to review and ensure ownership is evaluated] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -American Legion-Combination of fields (eg. T-Ball, Softball, Baseball) -Kokernot--Remove dog park & add field.

QUESTION 2: Are there issues of concerns that we haven't addressed nor discussed?

Group 1	Group 2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Don't build things that can't be maintained -Future development park plan Future Trail Envision -Organizational recruitment -Weed Control -Have a tax to get funds. SPORTS COMPLEX -Communication Public Participation Ask Sul Ross about using facilities *Ask league representatives on needs. ALPINE CREEK TRAIL -Private Property -Finding Long term Staff Transient 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> --Restrooms -Locked -Maintenance -Vandalism [possible issue] -RR Crossing of Alpine Creek Trail -Private Property (near RR Blues) -Where creek bed is. -Art under bridges-who to coord. With...TxDOT? SRSU? HS? -Field close to K. Park-opportunity, challenge -Parking -ADA Accessible -International Field Tournament ready.

QUESTION 3: What resources are Available? What local people or groups could contribute?

Group 1	Group 2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Tournament Organizers -Mesinda Llanez -Danny Rojo -Linda Morris (Volleyball) -Baseball Traveling Team -Permian Basin Area Foundation -Community Service -Scouts Project -Potts & Sibley-Midland with Alpine member -Rio Grande Joint Venture -Natural Areas -NADBank-BECC [The North American Development Bank (NADB) and the Border Environment Cooperation Commission (BECC)] -Shield Ayres (sp?) -AEP -Moody Foundation. -Kiwaney (Kiwanis) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TPWD-Solar Eg. Who fixes it? -City Solar (guys-volunteer to fix, donate time) -Solar Plant? USDA Rural Dev. Grant for Business Pueblo Nuevo-Julian Gonzalez-Park-[he might have context on history of design or park] -Native Plant Society of Texas

2.3 Public Meeting 3 (PM3)

The third and final public meeting was held at the Alpine City Council chambers (smaller room within the Alpine Civic Center) on May 22, 2019.

There were about 19 participants. See Sign-In Sheets (Attachment 13).

Posters shared included survey findings (graphs, tables), a poster on projects/priorities, created map of park and possible trails, and concept map of Kokernot park.

During the public meeting, a presentation with updates, outreach findings, and key plan concepts was shared, followed by a Q/A.

Handouts of the current goals and objectives were also placed around the room.

The participants wanted to ensure that they were given time for comments, once draft plan was developed. After the third public meeting, a Draft Plan was shared and available for public comment from June 14, 2019 to June 19, 2019.

2.0 Small Group Meetings

2.1 Stakeholder Meetings: February 12-13, 2019

The first set of small group meetings were held in the form of small sessions on February 12 and February 13. See Attachment 14. The study team was available to meet with individuals as a small group or individually during short sessions held throughout both days.

These were observations (ideas, issues, needs) from these meetings, in no order of importance

- Different users and owners (managers) of Kokernot park
- Concerns from sports leagues regarding reserving field with City (timing) and inability of little league to hold All Stars tournaments
- City of Alpine was referenced as “Baseball Town”
- Past Alpine Creek Trail Efforts
- Complex ADA compliance/accessibility
- Reference Keep Alpine Beautiful
- Hancock trail reference as a key recreational space
- Youth cycling club
- Creek-wildlife corridor zone
- Downtown area: tourist attraction
- Expand areas to have cultural historic events
- Art/Music in community
- Baines park (descriptive board and names of park/history)
- Aging population and access to parks and/or programs
- Fiesta del Barrio near Medina Park
- Hispanic Cultural Center
- Water/Splash Pad
- University Master Plan, frisbee golf
- Schools and Internships, Grants for Sidewalks
- US 67 Master Plan and Alpine components
- GIS mapping and park amenities, and city’s tourism website
- Maintenance
- Fitness equipment needs upgrade
- Pueblo Nuevo indoor space?
- Public housing, low income housing
- Locked restrooms

2.2 Sports League Meeting: March 14, 2019

Summary

On March 14, 2019, the study team met with a group of about 15 individuals interested in various Alpine sports leagues. Groups and sports referenced were high school baseball, softball, little league, travelling teams, weight lifting, basketball, soccer and volleyball. While the city does support the leagues as much as they can, it was also noted that Brewster County also supports some leagues. Attachment 15 contain transcribed raw notes captured and copy of the flip charts used during meeting.

Three mayor areas of concern and questions were:

- Need to enhance communication with City. Attention and long waits on responses from city was a issue of concern, especially related to scheduling and use of fields. There is no consistent point person, nor consistent process.
- There was a big question on access to the field before April 1st date. In the past, it seems like courts were available, but in recent two years, the City was not allowing use of some fields prior to April 1. Team was to explore the reason for this.
- Limiting use of field over the fall and winter. Some travel teams practice year round, and they felt that over the winter especially, their access to lighting and/or courts is limited.
- Can HOT funds be used to support athletic events? It was mentioned that if the city had resources/fields to host tournaments, this could generate more economic development.
- The group asked about the land behind the radio station, and if the dog park could be moved to be able to have another field.
- Tournaments: it was mentioned by one travel team that in order for their Alpine team to host a tournament, they had to use the facilities in Iraan instead, given the specific needs that need to be addressed in Alpine, to be able to host some types of tournaments:
 - Need adequate bathrooms
 - Need ADA accessible buildings
 - Need more fields
 - Would like actual facility

The group discussion led to a discussion of 'wants'. If they had something they could have to improve their leagues, what would it be?

- The group overwhelmingly supported the idea of the city having a Recreational Department and/or Youth Sports Coordinator, or a Parks Coordinator that gave attention to various aspects of sports leagues

including field access and scheduling throughout the year. The program/coordinator could help with scheduling fields for practices and/or games, for creating a budget, recreational programs, getting officials, etc.

- Other Wants:
 - Provide options for availability of lights at night, especially for parks that have no lights and during times of shorter days.
 - Ensure that youth leagues are a priority for the city.
 - Create a new field (multipurpose) for both practice/games
 - Have a budget for parks and recreation, that include funding for youth programs/leagues
 - Improve facilities to be able to have tournaments
 - Create an indoor hitting facility, i.e D-BAT
-

2.3 Big Bend Parks and Recreation for Kids (BB-Parks) Meeting: March 26, 2019

Summary

On March 26, 2019, the study team met with a Big Bend Parks and Recreation for Kids, a non-profit very involved in parks in Alpine. Meeting included Dr. Ekta Escovar, Marci Tuck, and City Manager Jessica Garza. Background was provided on the past involvement of the non-profit in improving parks around the City. Attachment 16 contain raw notes captured.

Key highlights from meeting were:

- Priority: take care of existing facilities
- Walking trail at Kokernot needs to be fixed, given it's high usage. Eg. 1 hr = 30 ppl on worse day.
- Splash Pad—they provided details on costs and consistent interest over time
- Utilize golf course more, perhaps coordinate golf classes with schools
- Improve basketball courts at Baines
- Create more programming
- Create safe facilities
- Explore certification for park maintenance
- Create effective system for park rental facilities.
- Explore idea of Alpine Civic Center conversion or use as a recreation center
- They have always tried to have a liaison with the Parks Board. They wondered if there can be an appointed board member representative.
- Create programs such as geo-caches, bag recycling center, library teenage book night, punch card activities, open basketball, 'moving play ground', indoor play space, arts/crafts, yoga spaces, dance/ballet
- Pool: collaborate with SRSU to retain staff/life guards over summer.
- Benches w/built in shade & lights
- Temporary posts @ parking lots-Safety "Look & Feel"
- Concern about vandalism (past experiences)
- Need for coordinator for programming
- Seek funding from health insurances for health & wellness fitness equipment, i.e. Aetna
- Explore "RENTAL" options for current city facilities, i.e. fields, pavilions, community rooms

Questions:

- They wondered if there can be an NGO appointed board member representative.
- Can parks be age rated? i.e. Medina Park is for 7 & under

- Can bottom of pool be treated with black stripes to retain heat?
- Can you put those rental amounts/potential into parks budget?

2.4 Joint City Council/Parks Board Session: April 4, 2019

City of Alpine-Park Planning Joint City Council/Parks Board Session April 4, 2019

Summary

On April 4, 2019, a joint session was held for both the Alpine City Council and the Parks and Recreation board. The purpose of this meeting was to bring these two set of leaders together and provide an update on planning process, and discuss issues, needs and next steps.

After a presentation by the study team, one of the main topics discussed was the issue that had arisen regarding park ownership and deeds. While the city was in the process of providing the study team with deeds of what were considered city park properties, there were concerns about the timeliness of review of deed documentation. It was deemed important to have a better understanding of who owned what park properties, and if there are certain deed restrictions that must be obliged.

While the scope of the park planning process didn't include a detailed analysis of deeds, the city council, the parks board and the study team discussed the idea of encouraging the city to either hire a consultant to review the deeds in detail, or do it in-house. As the park plan moves forward, it's important to continue the final analysis of deeds of all park properties.

Additionally, to allow for more time of survey responses and more review time by parks board and city council, it was decided that the original timeline of the planning process be pushed back 1 month. This would allow for a 3rd public meeting and give an expected final approval of park plan for July 2019, versus June 2019.



3.0 Survey

The City of Alpine's park planning process combines technical analysis with the input of the community to set a direction for the future of the park system. This process is designed to ensure that the study team gathers the input necessary to develop a plan that is technically sound, rooted in the needs of the community and implementable.

The survey is a key tool for broadening participation and validating the input received from other outreach opportunities. It was open for about two months in March/April 2019. Online survey was developed using Google Forms and link was share on city's website and through email. While survey was available online, the study team did have a paper version available at various locations around the city, such as City Hall, the library, Sunshine House, and other locations. All surveys that were submitted as paper surveys were input manually online, so all responses were captured as online surveys.

There was a total of 29 questions on the survey: 21 general questions and 8 additional statistical/demographics questions. Out of the 21 general questions, 11 of those were open-ended questions.

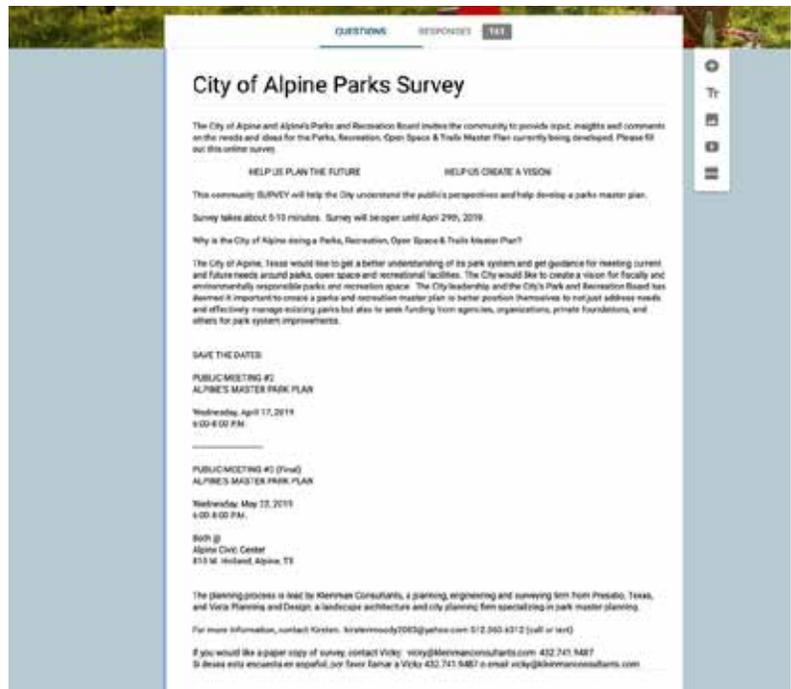
A total of 160 surveys were received. This summary describes the results of some of the question. For a list of all results and raw data, please see Attachment 17.

Data Limitations

The results of this survey cannot be generalized to the entire population of Alpine with any statistical validity. No one public involvement activity is intended to find "the answer" from the public. The common themes, needs or ideas that emerge from various outreach activities, including this survey, are used as guiding direction for the analysis and recommendations in the park plan.

Open Ended Questions

To assist with analyzing open ended, word clouds were used, in combination with the team's analysis of all the responses (words/sentences). Word cloud are a quick way to preliminarily analyze open-ended questions. The text of all responses to one open-ended question are copied and pasted onto an online website (word cloud generator



4. How would you rate the need for any of the following facilities or programming (ITEMS) to be added to existing or future parks in Alpine?

Question Number 4 was a very important question for this study. The team wanted to understand what facilities and/or programming was the most 'needed' in the community. Graphic 1 shows the ratings of each item. Initial analysis suggests that:

- **Restrooms** was the top most 'needed' aspect of the park system. About 80% of survey respondents (126 out of 150) selected Restrooms as an "Important Need". This is consistent with open-ended questions previously summarized.
- The 2nd top item selected by majority as an "Important Need" was **Trees** and **Shade** (111, 77%, and 106, 75%),
- **Water Fountains** (104, 70%), **Hike Trails** (96, 67%).
- Additionally, the following items had at least 50% of participants list them as an important need:

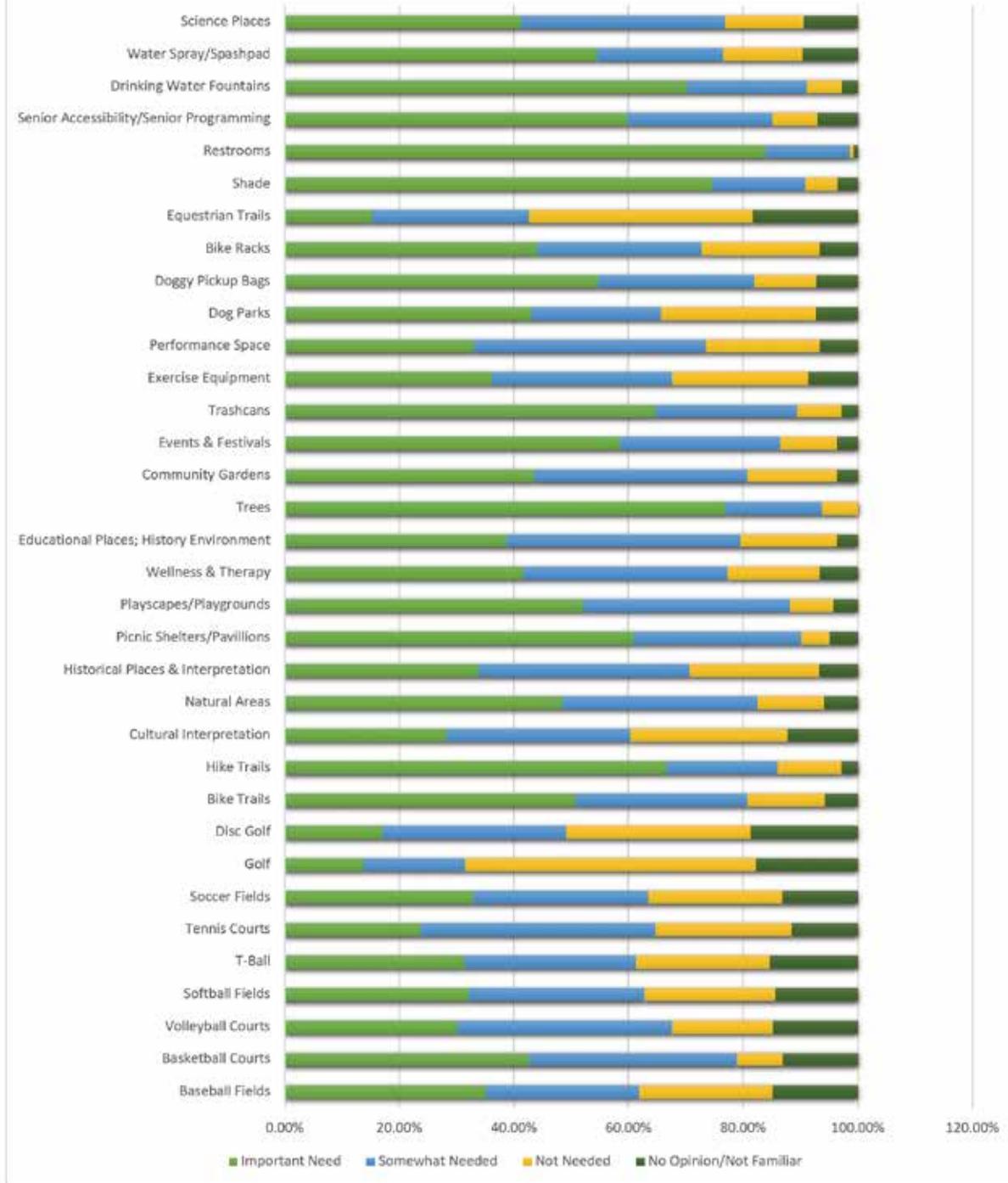
- Picnic Shelters/Pavilions (87, 61%)
- Events and Festivals (82, 59%)
- Trashcans (92, 65%)
- Senior Accessibility/Senior Programming (85, 60%)
- Water Spray/Splashpad (79,54%)

Other categories have somewhat equal ratings as important need and somewhat needed were **ball fields, science places**, (will list additional).

About 51% of respondents (66 out of 130) listed **Golf** as "Not Needed". This is not to suggest that this activity is not important. Rather, it could suggest that it is an activity that is well functioning, and thus might not require improvements or needs.

(%’s are calculated based on number of responses per categories, which varies for each item)

4. How would you rate the need for any of the following facilities or programming (ITEMS) to be added to existing or future parks in Alpine?



5. From the ITEMS listed in Question 4, please indicate the TOP THREE that are the most important to your household? (Write in your preference below.)
(open-ended question)

When asked to identify their top three choices out of the list provided in question 4, initial analysis shows that participants indicated that **restrooms, shade, bike and hiking trails, splashpad and ball fields** were top selections.

- Restrooms
- Activities and Sport Areas
 - Performance, event areas, exercise and sports, playgrounds
- Hiking/Bike Trails
- Shade/Trees
- Water Fountains
- Splash Pad, or water features, though there were also a few comments about use of water in the desert community and water management
- Natural Green Areas, Sitting, Picnic, Maintenance



6. From the ITEMS listed in Question 4, please provide any comments you have for any of the items listed
(Summary of responses, open-ended question)

<p>Splashpad/Spraypad Comments:</p> <p>Negative—</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • would waste of water in a desert community. • No splash pad! We live in the desert. Splash pads are great in places with abundant water. <p>Positive—</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Splashpads would be AMAZING and are more than needed in Alpine where it is incredibly hot during the summer. It can be more than just water spouts too. We have been to splashpads where there are rope courses, slides, dumping buckets, attached 'waterguns', etc. • Splashpads so kids can get wet when it gets really hot. • PLEASE splash pad!!!! The pool is only open for such a brief time. • We live in the desert, so water/splash pads are a great idea! • A splash pad would be brilliant! • There are tons of easy to maintain splash pads/ water features out there. • Splashpads for the younger kids. • More outdoor areas for family such as water park • We really need a splash pad or water area for toddlers as well. • Water spray for kids due to hot summers <p>Other—</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A splashed should also be mindful of waster by recycling water or other methods of resource management.
<p>Trail/Hiking</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Needs maintenance • Walking trails need to have a good surface, not large loose gravel • Hike trails that are available in the west / southwest part of the city (in town there's Kokernot and several other small parks; in the east, there are SRSU facilities; there nothing on the west side) • The loop road trail and Kokernot park trail we're great when first installed, but have degraded and become difficult for people with limited mobility to use and enjoy -- unlevel surfaces, washed out and overgrown areas etc. The concrete sidewalk section seems to be the most durable. • Trails for tourism and health of locals • The parks need walking trails to make it safer to walk than the streets.
<p>Pool</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wasn't mentioned. Needs expanded hours and senior programs • The pool also needs a lot of TLC too. • The pool is not an option for a lot of people because the hours stink. • We have the city pool but not for the littles. The water is freezing cold in the pool.
<p>Golf Course</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Golf course seems underutilized. Can it be turned to multiuse space?

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We've already got a great golf course
<p>Water fountains are important No water fountains but rather water bottle filling stations,</p>
<p>Play Areas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need facilities for under 6 yr olds, 14. • More creative, challenging playgrounds • We need more places for kids to practice all year not just sometimes • We have a lot of little ones at the park and not enough playground equipment for them. The baseball bathroom is a long walk for a toddler plus it's always locked and dirty. • Cohesive play area with better equipment and shade structures to shade the entire area (the playground equipment) would be fantastic! I love the new benches they already put in, but they're in the sun and you fry.
<p>Fields Use</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fields are important and should be upkept and functioning • Many are used for a particular sporting season getting high use and then sit dormant the rest of the year. • The sporting facilities have not been kept up with throughout the years therefore it's been taking a toll and the city has to work harder to bring them "back to life." If they were kept up with throughout the year they would be in decent shape for the upcoming seasons. And that goes for the restroom facilities as well. • All fields could be used on a schedule along with lights. • Why isn't there lights for any basketball courts • open the Baseball/Softball fields I mean come on the kids deserve to play and practice on a real field. • Need more park events and festivals, need better sports complexes • I don't think we need anymore softball or baseball fields.
<p>Parks in General</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New multi-purpose field all kids can use • While all are important, neglect cannot be excused from parks on Southside of town • Perhaps a map or some more information on the website would be useful • Don't concentrate only on sports
<p>Seniors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I think our Seniors could use more things to do that is accessible to them. • More things for seniors to take part in would be great - they give a lot to our communities. • Fitness equipment that is easily accessible for seniors would be a plus. • There is a need for natural settings for seniors to relax and enjoy.
<p>Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community gardens! Fantastic idea to bring them back! • Community gardens are shared purpose and would be very cool! -(Community gardens are actually expensive and never really work well) • Science places • Nighttime star parties • Events: astronomy • Events/festivals enhance a sense of community and bring us all together using our

public space. Would love more of this!

- Wellness and therapy is a good idea so are Community gardens
- Family nights w/movies to involve community.
- events that draw people to the town are important.

Volleyball

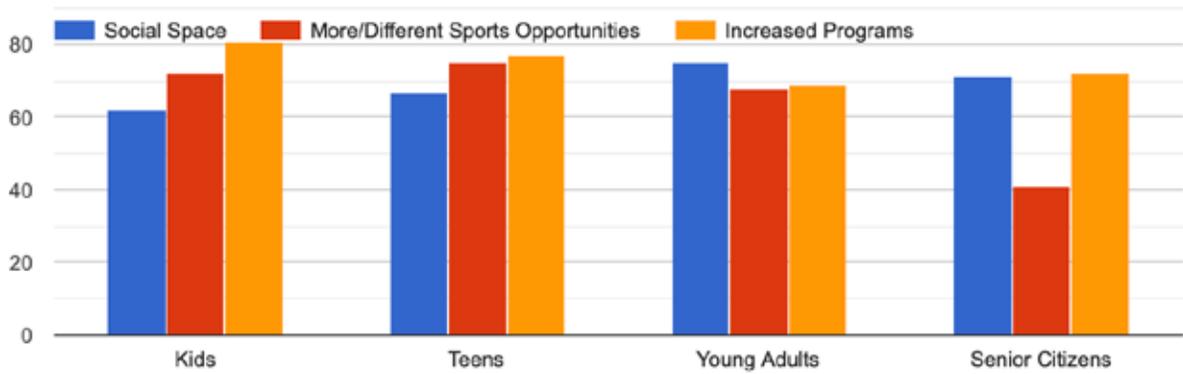
- Love to have volleyball nets back
- The “sand” in the volleyball court at Kokernot is like gravel. Makes it really tough to play
-

Other

- Equestrian trail should be changed to dog friendly hiking trail
- Have recycling bins
- SRSU has a new disc golf
- Dog Park: Needs maintenance, Need a dog park with something other than loose gravel and no shade
- Outdoor performing space-informal, slab, lights, electricy
- Better landscaping at K.
- Have safe bathrooms, and bathrooms in all parks
- Soccer field areas already--we need to make those areas better maintained--maybe move to artificial turf for that area
- Covered tables for smaller group picnics
- One kind of sporting arena, like volleyball or badmitton or t-ball, that is conducive to family use could be fun and should get used
- We’ve made great strides for the younger kids, would be nice to improve for teenagers and up.
- We need adult sports programming!

7. What kind of facilities and activities are most needed for kids, teens, young adults, senior citizens?

Analysis of responses for this question suggest that in general, there is a big need for social space, sporting opportunities and increased programming for kids, teens and young adults. For senior citizens, there is a bigger interest specifically in social space and increased programming. This is consistent to what has been heard in public meetings and other outreach.



8. List other type of facilities and/or programs that would be most beneficial for kids, teens, young adults and/or senior citizens.

(open-ended question)

- Senior Citizens/Adults want more events that are accessible to them and are more program-oriented. This includes sports leagues or clubs for adults.
- Citizens want Teenagers to have some teen clubs and more areas for them to have activities.
- For kids there was a bigger focus on kid’s clubs, along with family events and indoor facilities that could be rented out and keep kids safe.
- For unspecified categories, there was a clear desire for indoor recreational areas, and hiking/walking trails. Additionally, a general need for increasing sporting facilities, exercise and recreational programs, along with more sports facilities.

Senior Citizens/Adults		Teenagers		Children		Unspecified	
Walking Club	2	Indoor Recreation Facility	3	Enclosed areas to rent for family functions	2	Rock Climbing Facility	2
Night Sky program/night hike	1	YMCA	2	Indoor Toddler Play Area	2	Hiking/Walking Programs/trails	8
Leagues for adults	2	Boys and Girls Club	3	Children’s Museum/Science Facility	2	Art in Parks	1
Sitting Area	1	Supervised Teen Center	1	Little kid pool area	1	Indoor Rec area	14
Accessibility	2	Increased Alcohol awareness	1	Better playground equipment	1	Sports leagues/competitions	9
Singles Mixers	1	Youth Success Center	1	Weekly play date	1	Gardening areas/programs	5
Computer Classes	1	After School & Summer Programs	1	Family nights	3	Exercise Programs	6
				Boys/Girls Club	3	Splashpads	3
				Activity after outgrowing Little league	1	Recreational Programs/Events	7
						Better Equipment	3
						Sport Facilities	8
						Leisure Areas/Shade	5
						Water slide/ new pool	4
						Pavilion/Performance area	3

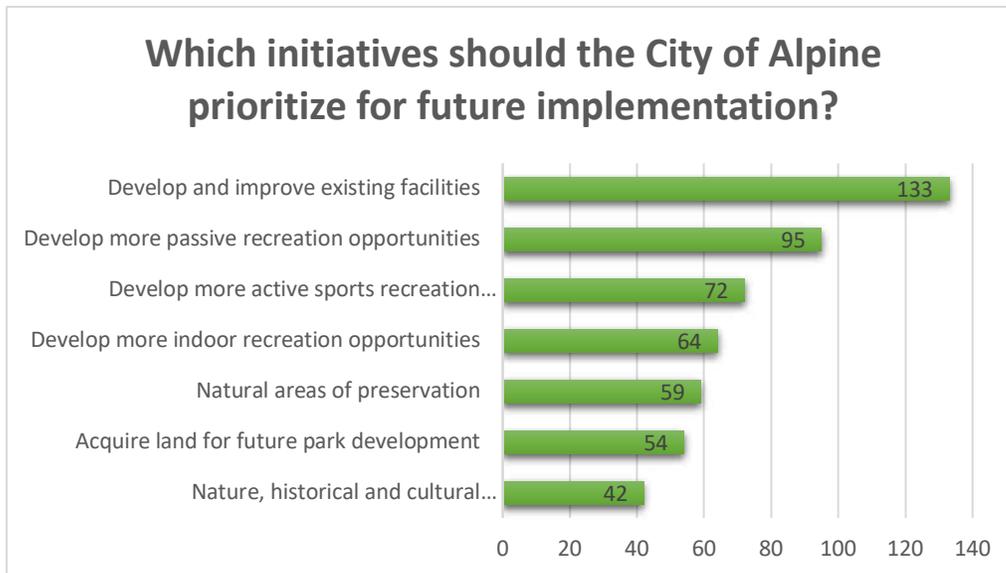
10. At the parks you do visit, what do you like/not like/wish were there?
(open-ended question)

Like	Not Like	Wish
Trees	Broken Sidewalks	Bathrooms: clean and well maintained bathrooms. Need them in all parks, especially Baines, K, and Medina.
Landscape (hilliness)	Dogs	More water fountains
Xeriscape of SRSU cactus garden, trees, and other beautiful specimens of local flora	I don't like how far away the bathrooms are. And j also don't like that there is not enough activities for kids on the other sites of the park.	Trails: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • expansion of trail toward Kokernot Lodge, with landscaping • walking loop around playground are in K. • Current trail needs repaving • More shade and trees along trails • Wayfinding
Open bathrooms	Goat heads	Bird and nature watching More native plants, gardens
Trees and grass	The reputation of Baines that's been acquired from years of neglect and abuse	Areas for toddlers
Open Space	Open Space	Splash Pad
Shaded toddler area at K. including the historical structure	Don't like lack of maintainence	Repair wading pool
New playgrounds and benches	Basketball court at the Kokernot is HORRIBLE	Baines Park: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need new basketball court • Amphitheater (electrical panels) • More shade and trees
Like the attractiveness of Kokernot	Litter and dog feces	Indoor Rec. Center (all ages)
I like the goats, the deer, and the trees.	Lose dogs	Pueblo Nuevo-develop park
Walking trail	Inaccessibility	Better golf facility
	Don't like potholes in paths	More water sources
		Maintain dog park
		Lighted fields/parks
		More swings
		More space for sports practices
		Recycling bins

		More public art. Sculpture gardens, kinetic sculpture, collaborative with community children
		Centennial Park <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Centennial-needs playground equipment for children • Needs protection softball/baseball net to keep balls from private property.
		Kokernot <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More eating areas • Play ground near the sports fields
		Like that fields are close together this keeps the parents and others in the area to watch different games.
		Adult exercise equipment, clean volleyball pit, clean tennis courts

12. Which initiatives should the City of Alpine prioritize for future implementation? Check all that apply.

Of the options provided, the most ‘checked’ initiative that respondents felt the City should prioritize was **improving existing facilities**. This is consistent with what the team has heard in other outreach conversations. There is a strong feeling that caring for and maintaining what is currently in existence should be prioritized. Secondly, a popular initiative was to develop **more passive recreation facilities and programming**. This is followed by providing more active sports recreational and indoor recreation activities.



Results (counts and percentages)

Develop and improve existing facilities 133 (89.3%)

Develop more passive recreation (hiking, picnicking, etc.) opportunities 95 (63.8%)

Develop more active sports recreation opportunities 72 (48.3%)

Develop more indoor recreation facilities 64 (43%)

Natural areas of preservation 59 (39.6%)

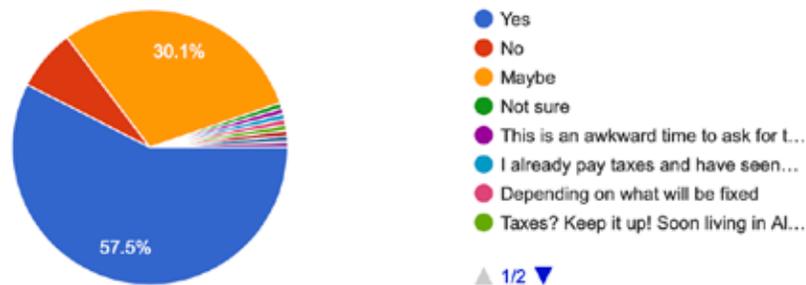
Acquire land for future park development 54 (36.6%)

Nature, historical and cultural facilities/programming 42 (28.2%)

13. Would you support a small tax increase for developing new or improving public parks and recreation facilities in Alpine?

The response to this question was somewhat surprising to the team. More than half of the respondent's state that they would support a small tax increase to help improve public parks and recreation facilities in Alpine. Almost a third say 'maybe'. Some say that it depends on improvement or timing. This is encouraging, if the City ever decides to look into this funding possibility in the future. It is understood that this is only a segment of the population, but it was worth asking to get a general sense of responses, at this moment in time.

153 responses



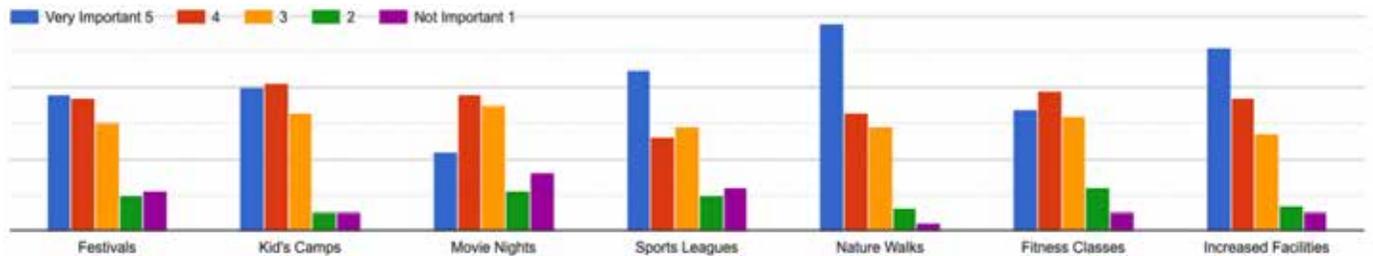
Respondent's comments stated on survey:

- Depending on what will be fixed
- Depends on the improvements
- Get rid of the school bond and I would pay more in taxes for parks.
- I already pay taxes and have seen no additional changes
- Taxes? Keep it up! Soon living in Alpine will be unaffordable!
- This is an awkward time to ask for taxes bc of the passage of the bond
- What about a \$1-10 service charge on hotel rooms and AirBnb? Or a dollar parks and recreation fee added to water and trash bills?

15. Please rate importance of creating or increasing the following:

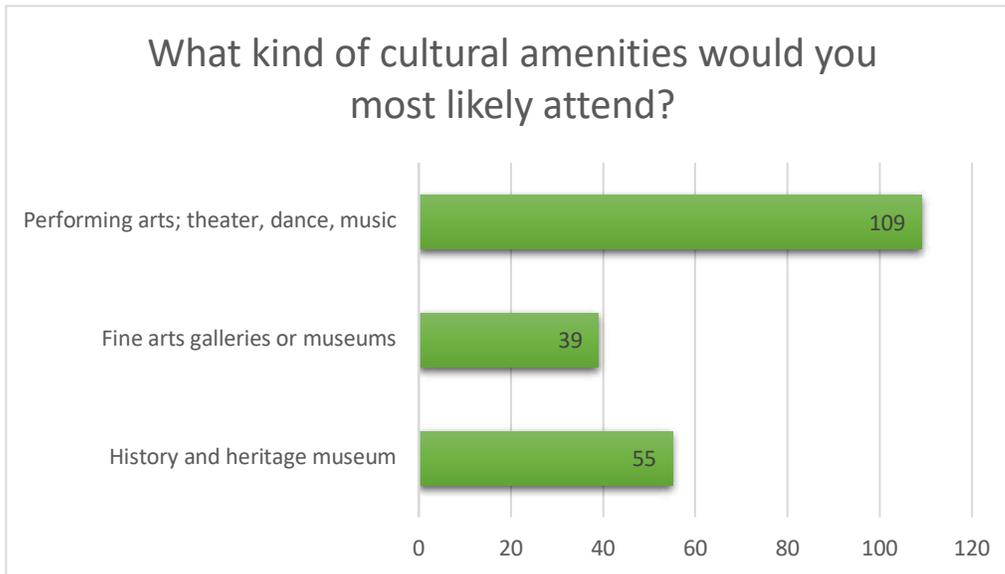
Of the seven items listed, respondents felt that Nature Walks was one of the 'very important' (blue bars) needs for either creating or increasing as part of the park system planning. This was followed by Increasing Facilities, Sports Leagues and Kids Camps.

Of the items noted as 'not important', movie nights stands out. While this might not be popular with survey respondents, in other outreach, movie nights has been something mentioned a few times.



16. What kind of cultural amenities would you most likely attend?

Performing arts (theater, dance, music) was the most popular item of the listed topics. History and heritage museum is also of interest, in addition to fine art galleries and museums.



Respondent's comments stated on survey:

- Mexican-American history
- Movies outdoors
- science and nature programs
- Science center
- Educational facilities to encourage children's learning and valuing local natural areas and resources. Similar to what CDRI does.
- Reunions
- theater has had nothing appropriate for kids
- Softball tournaments
- We have access to the 3 items above already. The history and performing arts are exceptional at Sul Ross. Galleries are abundant in Alpine and Marfa.

For a full list of questions and responses, please see Attachment 18.



Wall & Car Hood Mural by Juliana Johnson

Chapter 8

Recommendations

Goals, Priorities, and Projects; An Overview

The following section starts off with two different charts. The first chart, The Overall Goals, is a set of goals that constitute the guiding framework for Alpine leadership, be it the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, to the City Council. When it is time to decide which projects are to be the focus of funding efforts, the decision should start with these goals in mind. The goals are supported by a few statements to help define the goal for better understanding. This is not an exclusive list of statements but a sampling most often spoken of. A later chart in this chapter will be organized by the goals and will be ranked with general prioritization.

The second chart is a projects list that has a general ranking of priority of High, Medium, and Low. Texas Parks and Wildlife has with their criteria for grant funding, requirements to show some level of prioritization. That scoring does not mean they are ranked 1 through 10 but describing an organization of priorities so that TPWD understands what the city is thinking in terms of priorities; what is important to the city.

The General Projects List was created at the outset of the parks master planning process to capture every thought of improvement that was mentioned with all of the various conversations. It is, by this strategy, a catch-all list of projects from minute to grandiose. The organization starts with “Signature Projects”, those projects that are generally high cost but high benefit to the city. These were discussed at length throughout the planning process. The next section in the chart is “Staffing” then “Overall Parks”, then moves to a park by park list of projects and activities. At the bottom of the chart on page 105 is a list of “Additional Considerations” that don’t fit comfortably in the other categories above. If a person would like to know what has been discussed regarding a particular park then this is the list to go to.

The next section of this chapter takes a deeper look into each of the goals so that it is very clear the importance of each of these goals as an over-riding structure for decision making on funding.



Overall Goals

		Overall Long Term and Short Term Goals
	Goal Category	Goal
1	Achieve a balanced parks and recreation facility throughout the City	Comprehensive ADA access to all parks and related facilities
		Gap closures based on inventory and assessment
		Park improvements in underserved areas
		Safe Routes to Schools + connecting to parks where possible
		Address the needs for ADA and disabilities in all parks and facilities
		Appropriate balance of indoor and outdoor facilities
		Achieve a balance provision of facilities and space for all ages and all abilities.
2	Develop a parks and recreation system that will promote economic development	Develop Tourism Strategic Plan with parks and recreation relationships
		Analyze transient populations
		Identify programming attractive to regional & State-wide populations
		Identify linkages to leverage between specific institutions and facilities
		Identify potential parks facilities and programming related to central city
		Develop a City marketing campaign spotlighting recreation features
3	Maintain a sound and realistic annual budget that tracks with reasonable economic growth. Develop volunteer groups, sponsorships and events that supplement budgets	Review comprehensive maintenance strategies including grass mowing reductions
		Review various locations to be converted from maintained lawn into natural landscapes
		Review maintenance staffing levels and multi-tasking of staff
		Develop multi-year grants application program and assign staff responsible for grant writing and monitoring
		Look for local volunteer partnerships potential with garden clubs, science clubs, cycling and running groups
		Develop relationships with corporate sponsors
		Develop or enhance reoccurring volunteer parks support days such as trash pick up
4	Develop a parks and recreation system that has wide appeal and maximizes shared use facilities	Develop, improve, and identify clearly the shared facilities opportunities
		expand and enhance city-wide "Trails" walking or destination tours
		Make the park enhancements attention getting and attractive for residents and visitors
5	Work in incremental steps to achieve large projects and long term goals	Phases completing a regional trail network
		Alpine Creek Trail
		Old Land Fill Sports Park
		Community Recreation Center
		Enhance Public Swim Center
		trail and path enhancements that connect amenities as priority segments
6	Infuse educational opportunities into as many recreation facilities as possible	introduce educational interpretation signage, monuments, and programs where possible
		Develop a master list of subjects to interpret, both history and sciences
		Address education for all ages within facilities with information and programs appropriate for different ages
		Develop new facilities and programs for children's nature emersion play
		All new facilities to be rated on intelligence stimulation during design phase
7	Infuse physical motion and exercise as well as mental health and well-being for all ages and abilities	Review existing and potential senior access to activities including sidewalks and trails near senior housing
		Promote organized and unorganized sporting activities at all ages
		Look at potential outdoor recreation events in cooperation with ISD and Sul Ross
		Enhance access to natural spaces or parks that are less about sporting activities

8	Encourage a cooperative relationship with all invested institutions as well as intergovernmental cooperation between departments	Work with AISD on formalizing an agreement on shared facilities use, investment, maintenance Work with Sul Ross on formalizing an agreement on shared facilities use, investment, maintenance Work with the County on formalizing an agreement on shared facilities use, investment, maintenance Break down any silos and work cooperatively leveraging work efforts and efficiencies within City departments
9	Promote environmental stewardship and sustainable practices by rethinking methods, systems, and instituting best practices	review mowing practices identifying places that can remain unmowed where stormwater can be naturally filtered review overall city recycling and plastic reduction measures Consider water quality structures integrated into the overall city system Promote demonstrations such as rain gardens, biofiltration, composting and vegetable and pollinator gardening, Interpret natural features that may occur in parks or future trails

General Projects List

This list was gathered over the course of the project to document all thoughts about needs in the parks overall. Where possible as shown, a park by park assessed need was determined. Priorities are general in nature since project comparisons are not apples to apples and need the context of funding and current circumstances to proceed with any year's funding priorities. This provides the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board with flexibility in making choices over time.

Signature Projects	Brief Description	Priority Level
Long Term Funding and Phasing		
Sports Complex	Two locations discussed; Closed Landfill , north or west of town, or expansion of Kokernot fields if possible. The facility needs to be of a quality and standard to attract ball sport tournaments to be an economic stimulus. Project starts with a cost/benefit analysis	H
Alpine Creek Trail	First phase would be Medina Park to Nopolitos Park; Ultimately entire creek through city except golf course.	H/M
Address Flood Control Study	Commission Engineer to review and update if necessary the flood control study and follow recommendations.	H
City Loop Trail	Connecting the Hancock trail behind Sul Ross to Alpine Creek, to "A" mountain trail to Sul Ross would be providing the city with a loop trail for running and cycling races as well as being a significant tourism attraction. Additional segments to be the west side RR spur and a potential trail further on the west edge of town	M
Community & Recreation Center	A center that accommodate all ages, especially teens and young adults & seniors. This would be a separate facility than the Community Center at Medina Park. Discussions have considered converting the community space connected to City Hall into a more robust community center and recreation space.	M
Aquatics Center	The interviewees want the pool and the splash pad. Others have called out for more restrooms in Kokernot Park. By providing all of these as one design, you already have a basic aquatics center.	M
Hispanic Heritage Center	Southside of town on Alpine Creek; may be broader context of a Cultural Heritage Center	M

Priority Projects List (In no Specific Order)	Brief Description	Priority Level
Staffing		
Hire Parks Director or coordinator	Person in place to manage the overall parks department. Create year round calendar of recreation opportunities and programming. Grant writing skills. This could be part time. Work with Chris Herrera to link students in Recreation Program as interns. May be a part time or full time.	H
Add crew member(s) and fund training	1 person for complete crew; 4 persons + additional truck for enhanced servicing and improvements in parks; Training in irrigation, chemical application, horticulture, etc.	H
Overall Parks		
Overall ADA upgrades to all parks	Handicap parking, ramps, compliant sloped sidewalks or trails, connectivity to play elements and seating/picnic areas. Required upgrades phased over 3 year funding cycles	H
Overall Parks;	Identify all park properties and update the appraisal value; Put together a manual with the details of each park including boundary surveys, deeds, resolutions or ordinances, and photos	M
Overall Parks	Research city records to identify any "parks" that have been dedicated and develop full list of non-dedicated "parks"	M
Overall Parks	Maintenance Reduction Strategies; No mow zones to promote wildflower landscapes and less burden on staff	H
Overall Parks- Goat's Head Stickers	Purchase equipment and begin rigorous routine of Goat's Head Sticker eradication starting with kid's parks	H
Overall Parks	Elements and programming for seniors; Add elements for seniors in Kokernot; See community center comments below. More needs to be done in walking trails and programming throughout the city.	M
Overall Parks- Teens and College Kids	Specifically develop spaces attractive for kids that are healthy alternatives in the parks that are appropriate	
Doggy bags and trash cans	Doggy bags and trash cans added to parks where needed; Ensure that they are along trails for easy access	M
Shade In Parks	Created by tree plantings, shade cloth, shelters; To be determined by cost and maintenance	H/M
Any park	Climbing wall(s) or structures, different ones varied by age group	M

Priority Projects List (In no Specific Order)	Brief Description	Priority Level
Specific Parks		
Ball Fields	Determine needs for field renovations including removal of goat head stickers and gophers	H
Ball Fields	determine what is needed to bring Alpine up to tournament grade facilities.	H
Ball Fields	Feasibility study on closed land field redeveloped as sports park	M
Ball Field Lights	Determine the necessity of lighting the additional fields at Kokernot as it relates to tournament play; have agreement with leagues regarding lighting cost shared or not shared payment responsibility	M
Kiddy Play by Ball Fields	Somewhere in the ballfield core area, locate a small kids play area including sand box and climbing elements	M
Alpine Creek Trail Phase 1	Connect Medina Park with Nopolitos Park with trailheads on both ends. Mostly publicly owned land	H
Alpine creek Trail	Work with volunteers groups to get an informal trail beginning to gain awareness and activity.	M
Alpine Creek Trail	Develop strategic plan for accomplishing goal over long term	H
Alpine Creek North of Loop Rd	Establish a botanic garden/Sanctuary/ Nature Education facility as a trail terminus; work with land owner on easements and agreements	L
Kokernot Ball Fields	Add new field on agreement with Sul Ross	H
Kokernot Swim Center	Install splash pad at the swimming pool site	H
Kokernot Senior Activities	Fixed Chess Tables and exercise equipment	M
Kokernot Restrooms	Provide separate bathroom facility central in the park near volleyball; renovate all existing bathrooms at Kokernot.	H
Kokernot Soccer	Renovate fields and add seating. Plant trees for shade safe distance from field edge.	M
Kokernot Sand Volleyball	Replace top 8" of sand and install new net	M
Kokernot	Add water fountain with doggy water next to volleyball and soccer fields next to new bathroom.	H
Kokernot Dog Park	Add shade structure and trees; Determine maintenance agreement with Humane Society	H
Kokernot Loop Trail	Partial trail in place but south and east sides need completion; granite or concrete	H
Kokernot Tennis and Basketball	Work with AISD on upgrades with the tennis courts and basketball court	M
Kokernot Movies in the Park	At the pavilion south side of swim pool; Provide infrastructure and equipment for movies on special nights; If possible create small sitting berms in amphitheater style to promote more attendance and comfort	M
Centennial Park Restrooms (ADA)	Small ramp connection renovation; circulation from around the park for access from bleachers	H
Centennial Park Restrooms	Change lock to a outdoor grade keypad with changeable combination. Install camera; Unlocking protocol	H
Centennial Park Concessions	Add small concessions stand or provide from food trucks	M
Centennial Park Concessions	Renovate the dugouts	M
Centennial Park	Add some mid age kids play elements	M
Centennial Park Basketball	Renovate court; Consider shade structure over the top	H/M
Baines Park	Renovate Basketball court and install shade cover	H/M
Baines Park	Programming for kids' music during Viva Big Bend (Viva Little Bend) or other times of the year	M
Baines Park	Play elements for kids 0-5	M
Baines Park	Convert planters into botanic display; Would require a garden club commitment to maintain	L
Pueblo Nuevo	Community discussion regarding previous plans for this park	H
Pueblo Nuevo	Add playground equipment	M
Pueblo Nuevo	Shaded area with 4 picnic tables and grills	M
Pueblo Nuevo	Remove trees and renovate to meet needs; T-ball? Little League? Walking loop around perimeter	H
American Legion	Under maintained/ utilized; Increase maintenance; Potentially redo entire park	H
American Legion	Childrens Play equipment	M
American Legion	Shaded picnic tables and grills	M
American Legion	Improvements to T-ball fields according to needs assessment, add walking loop around the perimeter.	H
Nopalitos Park	Seating areas and picnic tables	M
Nopalitos Park	Educational signs linked to Cpt Howland? Maybe interpreting the creek or history of downtown	M
Old Town Square	Trail head potential; Bike share program could have a main station there	M
Veterans Memorial Park	Potential for a trailhead once the Alpine Creek is in place	M
Park for small kids SW	Could be on the Housing Authority Site as an upgrade to the existing one.	H
Old Landfill	If not feasible for baseball complex, convert into passive park; native landscape, trees; LOW/NO Maintenance	L
Additional Considerations		
Bird watching Trail	Establish bird watching stations in appropriate places around the City such as north Alpine Creek and other trails	H
Walking paths in non hard paving materials	Crushed granite paths and concrete sidewalks are roughly the same cost /square foot. Difference in Maintenance and crushed granite is more comfortable to walk on and easier on the knees over the longer term.	
Community Center Repurpose (Medina)	Repurpose Community Center adjacent to the Medina Park. Whole site adjacent to park needs plan for site and building function. Transform to senior center functions & connect to kids park for kid's activities	M
Safe Routes to School (TxDOT)	Coordinate with trail alignments	H/M
Wayfinding and Maps	Tourism Wayfinding, Trail wayfinding, and information including City and trail maps	M
Mountain Biking trails	Already on Hancock Hill; Not likely that more would be added to City property but came up in project requests	L
Disc Golf	Existing on Sul Ross campus and additional holes being added in future	L
Flood Control Study; Fighting Buck Bridge	Review the cost impacts of the bridge renovations on Fighting Buck and work into a future CIP	L

Taking a deeper dive into the overall goals of the parks and recreation system

The overall parks and recreation system is necessarily guided by high level goals that represent the framework by which all future decisions will be made in terms of projects to focus on and the related funding efforts. There is some overlap in the goals but that is because there are some things that need emphasis such as providing not just regulatory, but proper access to ability impaired populations. Below is a little closer look at each of the goals and what is behind the statement.

Achieve a balanced parks and recreation facility throughout the City.

A park system needs to be equitable. There are three main ways to think about how equitability is thought about:

- Equitable in the distribution throughout all the city and to be sure that access a short distance away is well provided for.
- Equitable for all ages, making sure that the facilities that are provided serve the youngest of kids, the older kids and teens, young adults and adults and seniors.
- Equitable for all interest groups; sports, passive recreation, dog parks, hiking and biking, etc.

The process of public engagement heard a lot about many different types of recreational interests. The initial assessment of the parks revealed that there is a lot of work yet to be done with compliance with ADA (American Disabilities Act) or TAS (Texas Accessibility Standards). In each case of a code issue the stronger of the two regulations should be complied with. Each of the parks have work to be done. Much of what was observed and discussed was handicap parking assigned spaces coupled with an accessible route. In the case of playgrounds, attention needs to be paid to providing accessible playscape or exercise elements as well. Accessible restrooms are needed in the playgrounds and where ever a restroom is provided, the facility needs to comply with these regulations. Overall it is a recommendation of this review that a Registered Accessibility Specialist (RAS) be hired to review all park facilities and generate a detailed report. This will help guide future decisions on ADA issues.

The master plan project attempts to identify gaps in the provision of parks and recreation. The consultants heard very clearly that shade structures and trees along with water fountains, trashcans, picnic tables, etc were needed in parks, some more than others. The park by park recommendations addresses these needs.



There are two distinct areas of Alpine that are underserved with any parks and recreation facilities. These areas are the western side of Alpine to a lesser extent the southeast corner of Alpine. These areas roughly equate to socioeconomic differences and a desire to congregate investments in the main areas but solutions to balance the inequity are possible with strategic selection of priorities.

Safe Routes To School is an important program that every city should strive for. This is most important for the kids that ride their bikes or walk to school and the safety needed from accidents or crime.

Important about the program is that it is funded by the Texas Department of Transportation and so grant funds are available to develop the system. This is equally important when we discuss the overall trail system in Alpine (one of the larger project goals) in that this major trail system supports the Safe Routes to Schools so that funding from TxDOT will in part fund the trail system. The trail also connects parks to allow kids and adults to use trails to access parks instead of walking to bike riding along roads.

Balancing indoor and outdoor facilities is an important goal for an overall parks system. Alpine has little to offer with indoor recreation facilities so naturally it appears in the public engagement as two

major projects goals; an indoor community and recreation center and a sports complex that also envisions some indoor spaces.



Alpine has a growing senior population that needs to be recognized with special features for seniors. Generally, less than ten years old has been stable in the percentage of the populations whereas 10 years to mid 30s has seen a decrease in the percentage. From approximately mid 30s on through

the senior years has increased in moderate levels. This points to reasons why certain activities were ranked higher in the public engagement like walking trails, exercise, shade, and natural experiences.

Alpine and in particular citizen involvement has made great strides in providing play experiences for children 0-7 years of age. More work needs to pay attention to teens that might otherwise be finding alternative and less desirable avenues of activity. Additionally, with the trend in the decreasing percentage of youth and young adults, providing more variety, more programming and opportunities for a rich parks and recreation experience may entice younger local kids and young adults to stay in Alpine. Sul Ross with its population of students, educators and staff is not only a large economic engine important to the economy of Alpine but also a huge influence to the parks and recreation activities.

Develop a parks and recreation system that will promote economic development.

As with most cities, economic development is usually at the top of the city's priorities for the health, safety, and benefit of the residents. Alpine is not different and with the parks and recreation master plan, it has been a point of focus to be sure that priorities keep an eye on the economic cost and benefit of proposed actions within this master plan.

Many of the parks and recreation features or main projects have a direct effect on the economics in Alpine. Tourism, namely sports, history, and nature tourism, are important industries that Alpine's parks and recreation system can have a tremendous draw from. With sports and sporting tournaments that can be associated with a sports complex, where the child goes, so do the siblings, the parents, and the grandparents. All staying the night in a hotel or RV park, eating in the restaurants, buying souvenirs, spreading the word about how cool Alpine is. The historical and natural interpre-

tive elements discussed in the plan also contribute to Alpine's attraction. The trail system will be a tremendous draw and it has been stated that the industry surrounding birdwatching is not only fast growing but outpaces most other tourism segments combined in economic impact.

Developing a tourism strategic plan that gathers data on transient populations locally and regionally can help capture the interests and promote those areas of interests more keenly. The facilities in parks and recreation overlap greatly the facilities and infrastructure needed for tourism. These need consideration together.

A city that has a great or ambitious parks and recreation system has a much better chance to gain new businesses and entrepreneurs interested in fertile ground to start a business or to retire. Coupled with a great education system, these cities become magnets for families to move to enjoy the relaxed lifestyle. Kids when of age to go to college may decide that Alpine is better than other options or they may return yearning for the mountains and trails of the region.

Maintain a sound and realistic annual budget that tracks with reasonable economic growth. Develop volunteer and sponsorship relations and events for support.

This project started with the conversation regarding selling off parkland to pay for improvements to the main parkland. As we have found, not all that was stated to be "parkland" was actually owned by the City, nor at this point are some tracts completely clear as to if all of it is owned.

In general, to sell off tracts of park used land would be to reduce the strength and potential of the overall system. In fact the three that come to mind, Pueblo Nuevo, and American Legion would be damaging to the need for equity in terms of nearby access and Nopalitos for its potential relationship to Alpine Creek and a neighborhood connection. A better strategy would be to look at ways to convert extra spaces in to shaded natural landscapes for passive uses thereby minimizing maintenance time and expense. It has been said that these larger two parks would be used if maintained for practice and T-Ball games much needed and desired in the city. Prioritization must include the improvement of these two larger parks for both equity and for ball sports practice. More and more cities are looking to volunteer groups and corporate sponsors to help out with maintenance. If through grant funding the parks can be renovated then neighborhood or volunteer groups can assist in maintenance. A city can only do so much. The biggest influence the city can have is focusing on economic development and that is through industry, tourism, and a park system that supports them.

There is a lot of money in grants available and it takes one knowledgeable individual to focus on identifying these and writing the grant applications. One of the big recommendations in this report is to hire either a part time or full time parks director/coordinator to start this process. The cost to the City for this position would be paid for many times over with the improvements and strategic implementation they would provide.

Develop a parks and recreation system that has wide appeal and maximizes shared use facilities.

Alpine already has a history of shared facilities among the public spaces, Sul Ross, and Alpine ISD. Formalizing the shared use policies and working together to pool resources can leverage great works for all in the city. With a formal agreement, better coordination of maintenance and funding can be straight forward and better planning can occur. The larger projects on the list may not be possible

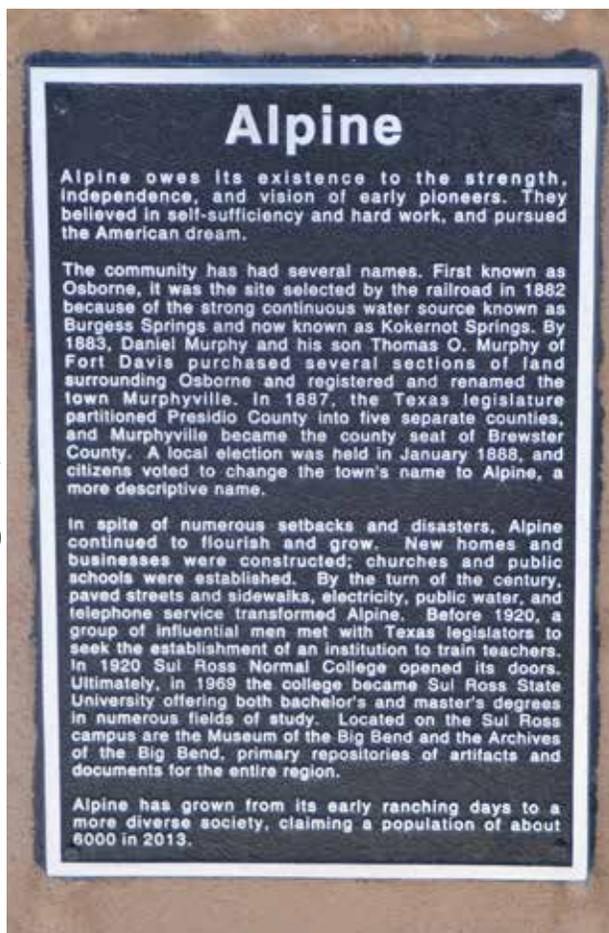
without the whole community pulling together to make them happen. The larger projects are the ones that really send out the message that Alpine is a destination, not just a pass through, but worth spending time here to rest, eat and play. At home, these shared facilities make up the whole recreation picture and extend the goal of equity to more parts of the city especially the middle school being on the western side of the ISD facilities. Tennis and basketball at Kokernot just doesn't happen because the courts are not maintained. Maybe because of responsibility assignments?

Work in incremental steps to achieve large projects and long-term goals.

The larger projects that have been identified will never be constructed if the City as a whole believes they need to find a grant or go out for a bond to build it in its entirety. These projects can be build in phases, even a community rec center can be phased. The Alpine Creek can even start without a review of the engineering study, further revision to that study, and then flood mitigation efforts before building a trail makes sense. Whatever the design of the sports complex, it too can be phased. Working with a cost benefit analysis approach can identify the logical points of phasing and what chips need to fall into place before any phases start. A city cannot stop any other O&M budget measures to swallow a large pill on a single recreation facility. The main element to kick-starting any of the larger programs is truly, having a "champion" for that project emerge that will take the reins and run with it, organizing volunteers, knocking on doors, writing grants, finding corporate sponsors, etc., to make it happen. Status quo, will not make it happen.

Infuse educational opportunities into as many recreation facilities as possible related to the place.

One of the lowest hanging fruit to enhance the cultural/ educational offerings in a system is the inclusion of interpretive signage. A really nice 24" x 36" full color sign on a substantial post mounting system cost roughly \$1,000 installed. Where it makes sense, install these signs to interpret places, environmental systems, bird watching, benefits of exercise at stations, imaginative or investigative games for kids, trail wayfinding. The list goes on. Educational opportunities is also a great partnering opportunity as well with Sul Ross or AISD in creating places for school trips or having access to museum days. Enhancements to the historic walking and driving tour are possible that describe the war machines to youngsters and history buffs alike. Find ways to tell the histories of the various parks and the family names they carry. Already in places like Arbolitos, plaques celebrating locals and dignitaries are on display and more can be done in other parts of the city. How well told is the history of Alpine to the visitor or local resident. How is that story told?



Children's nature play and the stimulation of natural intelligences is an emerging field for young children and teens to get re-engaged in natural environments and get off the electronics. These strat-

gies have been proven to reduce stress and help with attention and critical thinking and problem solving. Working these strategies into all recreation areas will be a good stimulation. As a side note, resist the temptation of installing Wi-Fi in the parks so that kids can interact in positive ways avoiding isolation and strengthening their communities.

Infuse physical motion and exercise as well as mental health and well-being for all ages and abilities.

Alpine is already by appearances in pretty good health relative to more metropolitan regions. Mostly that's attributed to being a smaller city, rural industries, farming and ranching activities, and more. We need to keep Alpine moving! The sports community is alive and well and keeping kids and adults active and healthy. These are organizations that will continue to need support though funding and services. Currently maintenance is needed throughout the sports fields system as has been discussed extensively. As also stated, developing the baseball community system to be able to host tournaments will likely bring in enough economic stimulus to support the increase in budget dollars spent for the upgrades. Reach out to neighboring communities that host sports tournaments and review their cost benefit research on developing a complex and hosting tournaments.

Other sports need to be encouraged as part of the equity of providing for all interests. Tennis and basketball have a following but the courts need rehabilitation. It was heard although not showing up in the surveys that tennis would be played if there were courts to use. With this information, "test drive" the notion by upgrading the existing tennis courts and see what play it attracts. Basketball did rise up in some surveys and the same applies, fix the courts and see how much play it attracts. These are lower budget items that a company might sponsor or a volunteer group might take on.



There are volumes of research that have delved into mental health benefits of access to natural spaces, especially with trees. Providing shade and trees was a high ranking request of all the surveys. Again, low hanging fruit and again, conversion of fallow landscapes on Pueblo Nuevo and American Legion would reap huge benefits to the quality of life to those that live around these parks. There are several opportunities for trees and grants for this kind of improvement.

Encourage a cooperative relationship with all invested institutions as well as intergovernmental cooperation between departments.

Already stated above, it is imperative that the City, Alpine ISD, and Sul Ross all sit down and workshop ideas on how to leverage the strengths and funding by working toward a cooperative environment with all facilities. Animosity can build when a new facility is constructed but no one is allowed to use that facility unless it was a student within an organized activity. Tax payers pay for the facilities but are restricted from using it. It appears that this is NOT the case in Alpine but the City and institutions have informally worked together on sharing facilities. Formalization will help with maintenance responsibilities and cooperative scheduling use times. New envisioned facilities can become a reality when all come together to pitch in with funding or fund raising including reaching out for sponsorships.

Within the City departments, if a street is being resurfaced or curb and gutter added then it makes sense to add the sidewalk to avoid additional costs of mobilization. Having a Safe Routes to School plan explicit, can help identify these priority sidewalks and may influence the prioritization of street improvements as well. Coordination of parks and recreation facilities in terms of scheduling and maintenance should be relegated to a new position of a parks director or coordinator that can also work on larger economic stimulating recreation projects with grant writing at the same time. The coordination of field scheduling is in need of more focused attention. That issue would be solved with a parks coordinator.

Promote environmental stewardship and sustainable practices by rethinking methods, systems, and instituting best management practices.

Alpine is so lucky to be in a region of such amazing beauty. That should almost be motivation enough to instill values of environmental stewardship and sustainable practices. But its not. Growing up in a place can make us complacent to the value of place. We need to teach the value of picking up trash, installing the right kind of plants, watering properly through drip or other methods and timeframes, mowing grass to the right height and planting the right kind of grass, etc.

In part, this is spoken to above with infusing educational elements where it makes sense. A strategy discussed for some park areas is to allow native vegetation to grow and trees to get planted and



use these areas as natural areas much needed for passive landscapes in parks. Reducing mowing practices can reduce times in maintenance allowing crews to be more effective in other areas. This of course needs tempering with the species that may occur.

Knowing that goat head stickers are a problem, some work to remove them and reseeding heavily with natives may be important to begin with. Creating wildflower meadows is important for reduction in maintenance, education, and ecosystem services as pollinators and nutrient cycling. Learning about local “farmer trees” and shrubs; trees and other plants that are particularly good at nutrient cycling such as members of the leguminosae family (legume, pea, bean family), contribute greatly to the ecosystem and educational offering.

Indoor / Outdoor Chart

The organization of this chart is different; instead of a park by park basis, it is organized by each goal and under that goal, differentiation according to indoor/outdoor and short term/long term. This is a criterion of Texas Parks and Wildlife to give them a sense that the city is thinking in terms of the broad spectrum of needs. The importance of dividing by each goal is obvious. Each goal needs to be served with every action of city funding. Tying these together through the lens of goals helps the decision to be grounded in broader needs.

Being grounded that way means that the priorities are not just rankings relative to the whole planning process, but rankings according to what a priority may be for that goal. That may confuse many, but in reality, discussing the rankings of both charts together is what is important.

When the Parks Board comes together to decide on a set of improvements for the year, looking at individual projects to decide what has priority doesn't necessarily serve the goals well. The goals will be best served when the priorities list that is decided upon, is reviewed in terms of the overall goals. Small projects and large projects get addressed; equity get addressed as does economic development. Kids in the SW corner of Alpine become real stakeholders recognized by the board. ADA compliance, natural spaces, shade, water fountains, gopher eradication, all get a more leveled playing field by using the two ways to review priorities.

This chart looks at the projects, activities, or staffing needs in a larger scale. What is listed are not individual water fountains or a park by park detailed recommendation, but looking at the overall system. Some projects are listed multiple times since they are connected to multiple overall goals. When projects are assigned during budget times, both the Indoor / Outdoor Chart and the General Projects List need review and discussion.

The columns that have the "P" heading are the priorities assigned to the project, activity, or staffing needs as seen through the lens of the specific goal. Number "1" being the highest priority and down the line to lower priorities.

Goal #1 Achieve a balanced parks and recreation facility throughout the City

Outdoor Short Term	P	Outdoor Long Term	P	Indoor Short Term	P	Indoor Long Term	P
Fund a Parks and Rec Director/Coordinator Staff position	1	Fund a Parks and Rec Director/Coordinator Staff position	1	Analysis regarding the feasibility of the Civic Center conversion into a community /rec ctr	1	Fund a Parks and Rec Director/Coordinator Staff position	1
Develop seniors' activities and programs	2	Develop seniors' activities and programs	2	Renovations to the bathrooms and changing areas of the swimming pool	2	Develop seniors' activities and programs	3
ADA accessibility All Parks	1	ADA accessibility All Parks	1			Development of a multi-use community and recreation center	1
Restrooms Kokernot Renovations + Additions	1	Alpine Creek Trail Development	2				
Shade + Trees in parks or area most needed including the dog park	1	City-wide Trail loop Development	1				
Develop areas attractive to teens and college kids in the appropriate parks	2	Trail loop around Kokernot and neighborhoods	1				
Community Discussion regarding previous design plans on Pueblo Nuevo Park	1	Improvements to Pueblo Nuevo	1				
Improvements to American Legion	1						
Complete ADA ramp access at Centennial Park and Kokernot Batt Fields	1	Review potential upgrades; housing authority playscape for public use as shared facilities	2				

Goal #2; Develop a parks and recreation system that will promote economic development

Outdoor Short Term	P	Outdoor Long Term	P	Indoor Short Term	P	Indoor Long Term	P
Create staff position for parks director or coordinator that can start part time and begin the task of organizing the parks system with scheduling, programming, and grant writing for improvements	1	Convene an adhoc committee that can look into the potential of elevating the swimming center to a level of income generating with passes sold to out of town visitors. The upgrades would include splash pad	1				

		and overall facilities upgrade					
According to staffing needs discussed at the end of Chapter 9, employ and train adequate staff to enhance the current levels of maintenance beyond sustaining the current state the parks	1						
Develop a cost benefit analysis to study the feasibility of a sports complex that will host tournament level events	1	According to the study, develop a sports complex that is fitting for Alpine and will generate tourism and income	2	Develop formal agreements with Sul Ross, Alpine ISD, and other institutions to facilitate shared uses of existing or future recreation assets	1	Some indoor facilities may be involved with the Sports Complex.	2
Commission engineering review of the previous Alpine Creek Flood Study and move forward with recommendations	1	According to the engineering review, develop the flood mitigation measures in conjunction with coordinating with a trail design and incremental trailheads	2				
Identify what park and recreation features could be leveraged for tourism or as profit centers such as enhanced concessions, visitor passes to swimming pool or other facilities, and tourism attractions	1	Coordinate with the City's overall economic development strategic plan to find synergies and parks board to be involved when this plan is updated	2				
Develop mapping and wayfinding signage for the existing outer trail segments and create agreements with private property owners as needed for access	1	Piece together the missing trail segments including but not limited to the connections along and crossing streets and railroad	2				
Develop a Tourism Strategic Plan that will identify all aspects of the parks and recreation system that can be leveraged for tourism promotion including but not limited to facilities, programming and tourism attractions including festivals and events	1	Develop a first phase Alpine Creek Trail coordinated with acquiring an agreement with the Railroad for either a underpass easement or at grade street crossing. The street crossing would be tied to a quiet zone agreement with RR	3				

Start a new promotional campaign on Bird watching and other tourism activities	1	Complete overall trail and add additional features	4				
Perform a comprehensive review of Alpine's historical stock of buildings, places, events and look at an enhancement strategy for promoting historic tourism in Alpine	1						

Goal #3; Maintain a sound and realistic annual budget that tracks with reasonable economic growth. Develop volunteer groups, sponsorships, and events that supplement budgets

Outdoor Short Term	P	Outdoor Long Term	P	Indoor Short Term	P	Indoor Long Term	P
Review and implement best management practices for maintenance which includes reducing mowed areas and converting to natural areas of passive recreation.	1	With the appropriate staffing of a parks and rec coordinator, begin grant writing activities and set grant award goals annually	1	Analyze space utilization of the Civic Center and draw conclusions as to its highest and best use	1	Seek out larger foundations with interests in large projects and build a relationship while seeking advice on larger projects	1
Work with master naturalist or gardeners for adopting native areas	1	Begin working with Texas Parks and Wildlife on small grants first to build rapport with agency	1	Review existing or potential taxation districts, hotel tax, CVB tax to see utilization efficiency; Rethink long term value building to begin a funding process for larger projects in the future	1		
Develop relationships with potential corporate sponsors to work with on an annual basis for specific projects	1	Work with Council on budget matters involving staffing and a coordinator	1				
Form an adhoc committee to develop a list of potential events or festivals and identify regional calendar events to avoid competition	1	Start a new festival or event with a shoestring budget on a small scale that can grow to celebrate parks.	2				
Organize a annual park clean up day with volunteers for maintenance and couple with a celebration	1	Rethink the entire swimming pool area; adding the splashpad and other renovations. Discuss profit generating or resident only level of upgrades	1				
As in Goal #2, commission an engineering review of the flood study and move	1						

forward with reducing 100 year flood plain in Alpine downtown. Review potential for a TIRZ to capture tax value increases.						
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Goal #4; Develop a parks and recreation system that has wide appeal and maximizes shared use facilities

Outdoor Short Term	P	Outdoor Long Term	P	Indoor Short Term	P	Indoor Long Term	P
Conduct a workshop with representatives of Sul Ross, Alpine ISD, City Staff, and other institutions; discuss issues and synergies with shared uses and maintenance	1	Review and schedule routine maintenance of park elements; repaint playground equip or anticipated replacement schedules of equipment/ furniture	1				
In the strategic plan, assign responsibilities to each category of improvements so that its clear as to who is point on the project. Set benchmarks for achievements	1	Place trash and recycle bins in high use areas and refine staff assignments for monitoring. Utilize low security prison inmates for trash pickup schedules in high trash areas.	2				
Develop a list of shared facilities complete with schedules of users allowed	1						
Continue to push for the goal of trail development as that has broad appeal both in Alpine and abroad	1						

Goal #5; Work in incremental steps to achieve large projects and long term goals

Outdoor Short Term	P	Outdoor Long Term	P	Indoor Short Term	P	Indoor Long Term	P
Commission engineering review of the previous flood control study and begin funding flood mitigation	1	Discuss the swimming pool facility in a much larger vision that can ultimately generate profits to cover the large annual O&M + capital improvements	1			Develop concept and feasibility of a Hispanic or Cultural Heritage Center	4
Convene adhoc committee focused on overall trail to create a strategy and timeline for accomplishing	1	Put in motion the first phase of trail development according to the plan	2	Convene adhoc committee focused on a community and recreation center to	1	Develop concept of an aquatics center and feasibility of indoor components	3

phases over 5 years +/- Include phase, schedule, and funding needed.				create a strategy for accomplishing phases over time: cost benefit analysis, site ID, phasing, schedule, and funding needed.		associated with it. This only assumes an expansion to the existing swimming pool	
Convene adhoc committee focused on the Sports Complex to create strategy and timeline for achieving phases over time. Include cost benefit analysis, site identification, phasing, schedule, and funding needed. End goal being a tournament grade facility serving a large region.	1	If the sports complex is located in a different part of town from Kokernot, then consider adding in a splashpad and other entertainment for all other family members	1			If Sports Complex has indoor or shaded areas then a splashpad and other shade needing facilities may be considered.	2
Parks and recreation strategic plan matrix, assign responsibility for tasks, conduct a periodic review of progress	1						

Goal #6; Infuse educational opportunities into as many recreation facilities as possible

Outdoor Short Term	P	Outdoor Long Term	P	Indoor Short Term	P	Indoor Long Term	P
Convene an adhoc committee to identify all opportunities to educate the public through interpretive signs, programs, monuments	1	Budget small amounts to begin creation of programs or installation of signs over the course of time.	2			Once created, ensure that a complete programming schedule for physical activities are inclusive of educational information	4
Review all facilities to see where enhancements in the facilities can be conductive to a better experiential education	1	Coordinate the information and programs with tourism to insure comprehensive spectrum of services	3			Programming should include mindfulness, yoga, nutrition, etc.	4

Goal #7; Infuse physical motion and exercise as well as mental health and well-being for all ages and abilities

Outdoor Short Term	P	Outdoor Long Term	P	Indoor Short Term	P	Indoor Long Term	P
Create programming and facilities that are comprehensive for seniors exercise and well-being including regular park offerings as well as accessible trails	1	Promote organized and unorganized sports by facilities improvements as well as instruction and coaching	1			Programming should include a suite of yoga, mindfulness, nutrition, etc.	4

Enhance access to natural spaces or parks that are less about sports and more about natural places	1	Workshop with various institutions, look as potential of recreation events with institutions in coop with the City	2			Ensure that facilities as well as programming includes special needs clients	4
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Goal #8; Encourage a cooperative relationship with all invested institutions as well as intergovernmental cooperation between departments

Outdoor Short Term	P	Outdoor Long Term	P	Indoor Short Term	P	Indoor Long Term	P
Conduct a workshop with representatives of Sul Ross, Alpine ISD, City Staff, County, and other institutions to discuss issues and synergies with a shared use and maintenance agreement.	1	Establish an annual workshop to discuss issues of cooperation including leveraging investment, maintenance responsibilities, and scheduled uses	2	Identify what organizations could be a partner in the community and recreation center; BSA, Service organizations, churches, etc	2		
Use strategic plan to assign responsibilities to each improvement so its clear who manages the project. Set benchmarks for achievements	1						
Develop a list of shared facilities with schedules of users allowed	1						
Formalize agreements with the institution to have a clear and documented understanding on shared responsibilities	1						

Goal #9; Promote environmental stewardship and sustainable practices by rethinking methods, systems, and instituting best practices.

Outdoor Short Term	P	Outdoor Long Term	P	Indoor Short Term	P	Indoor Long Term	P
Work toward displacing mowed grass with wildflower meadows, pollinator gardens, tree groves, etc.	1	In parks where grass is to be converted to natural spaces, consider rain gardens positioned to capture stormwater which will filter the water but also hold for longer term infiltration.	2				
Use fast growing trees for shade where trees are appropriate and have been requested.	1	Interpret natural systems especially tied to regional ecosystems	2				

Review the overall recycling systems and look for ways to reduce plastics overall with reusable bottles and bottle filling stations.	1	Review of city-wide gray water reuse for irrigation systems to see how system enhancements can make better use of gray water from the treatment plant.	2			
Divert stormwater away from channelized drainage systems if it can be used for irrigation purposes. Berms and swale systems for future landscape areas will alleviate excessive irrigation needs by trapping and holding rain water.	2					



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The Big ideas:

The Big Ideas listed below have come up in conversation, some more than others. None of these projects are easy or inexpensive. None of these will happen overnight and not all of them have much priority. The ones that are prioritized will take a concerted effort and a champion will need to emerge that can keep pushing and politicking for the project. In some cases, it may take more than a decade to see a project all the way through to completion such as the city loop trail or even Alpine Creek Trail. Most of these ideas are also great economic generators bringing in tourism and tournaments or events; bringing in people and families from all over the state or country staying in hotels, eating at restaurants, and gassing up the cars. In that regard the projects will, over time, pay for themselves.

The ideas came up in conversation with little description. These descriptions are expansions on the ideas and are a product of the team to stimulate Alpine residents' concepts on what these facilities could be. For the City to launch an effort for any of these projects successfully, the launch should embark on a series of public engagement meetings to thoroughly develop what the project concept should be. In the case of the trails, setting the alignments, and trail heads would be that discussion in part.

City Trails

Trails are a very important component within an overall parks and recreation system. From a recreation standpoint they provide a pedestrian or cycling system for exercise, pet walking, spaces of respite to enjoy fresh air and the outdoors, and connecting spaces in the city or with other parks facilities. Many people, including seniors and athletic clubs use trails for jogging and fitness. Baby strolling, dog walking, birdwatching, and so many other activities happen in linear landscapes like trails.



From a mobility perspective, trails can connect places. It has been pointed out in Alpine that kids from the south side of the railroad tracks have been observed walking across the tracks. When trains are parked across the City then the walkers are navigating through the train cars allowing a potential accident to occur. Kids walking to school should be provided with Safe Routes to Schools and a trail can be that pathway. This may result in an expanded trail system of soft paths connecting to hard paths for a more integrated system of connectivity. Promoting walk-

ing in a city is a very important goal to assist in improving the health of the city and redeveloping the habits of walking instead of driving.

In a quote from Stuart Macdonald, Chair, National Association of State Trail Administrators, he says;

“Trails and greenways impact our economy through Tourism, Events, Urban redevelopment, Community improvement, Property values, Health care costs, Jobs and investment, and General consumer spending.”

As a side note, sidewalks are needed to connect neighborhoods to schools and parks thus being a driving force in thinking about a sidewalk master plan and the priorities of which sidewalks need consideration first. Additionally, when roads are being paved or reconstructed, using that mobilization can lessen the cost factor on constructing the sidewalks.

There are many variables on trail styles. The idea that comes to most people's mind is the walk through natural areas disconnected to any roadway network. This is often the case. A trail may also be a city sidewalk that has been enhanced (or even just designated). An enhancement may come in the form of extra wide surface striped to indicate cycling from pedestrian paths. Some cities have separated pathways along the roads; sidewalk, cycling, equestrian pathways being accommodated. Most cities that are engaged in retrofitting trails often resort to a hybrid system going into existing neighborhoods to expand and/or improve a sidewalk for a more enhanced pathway connecting to crushed granite or asphalt trails moving back into natural areas. The earlier a trail is envisioned, the easier it is to acquire the appropriate easements or fee simple right of way. Doing so after neighborhoods are established are much more costly. A trail master plan can establish the criteria of dedicating the ROW for trails much like road ROW is established. The dedication of this ROW is most likely to occur at a preliminary plan or subdivision stage. The ordinances need to be on the books at the city to enforce and so that developers have certainty of process and costs.

Alpine Creek Trail

For the team, Alpine Creek Trail is one of the most important developments that the City of Alpine can accomplish. The benefits range from economic development, safety, increased property values equating to higher rents and access to remodeling or redevelopment funding sources. The trail will be an efficient and alternate mobility option that is healthier, increased tourism, engagement with natural systems, and presenting opportunities for environmental education. Additionally, as described in the next section, this section of trail is an integral link to developing a much larger trail looping system coursing several miles around the City and connecting a wide variety of spaces including parks.

This is not a small project by any means but is one that is important enough to work on, bit by bit over the coming years. There should be a budget item to do small amounts of work every year so that over time it becomes a reality. There are lots of funding opportunities for the project including Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and Texas Trails Foundation. The PBS&J study also addresses the Alpine Creek Trail potential. A first phase that has been considered would be a trail that connected Juan Medina Park where there is a trailhead sign and trail fragment already, and connecting north to Nopalitos. This segment of the trail bridges north and south sides of the tracks and allows pedestrians to cross over without the hazard of crossing the train tracks or in the street with busy traffic. Nopalitos would make the perfect trailhead as it is in a juncture of downtown and neighborhoods to the north.

There is one very large hurdle to be overcome; gaining an easement under the UP rail corridor is a monumental task, potentially costing several hundred thousand dollars. An interim solution can be connecting the trail to a grade crossing and then reconnecting to the creek trail once the rail line is crossed. That prospect as well has large expenses to be planned for. The City has investigated working an agreement with UP on a quiet zone through the City which is a reduction in train speed and horn sounding. One stipulation is that pedestrian gates would need to be installed on the sides of the transportation road gates. If the City goes forward with this plan then the pedestrian gates would be installed so it makes sense to take advantage of leveraging the quiet zone for a pedestrian grade

crossing. Additionally, a trail following the creek would be in the creek and there would be a need for regular access points for surface access and emergency services.

It should be noted that the creek corridor is already a de facto trail for some residents. More aggressive work toward the project and with significant participation of the various owners of land along the creek can shorten this timeline dramatically. Part of that solution could contribute to the emerging arts along Murphy Avenue. The long term solution is to work with the railroad on a crossing under the trestle.

There has been some discussion regarding starting the first phase at Fighting Buck Trail and down to Nopalitos or similar downtown place avoiding the Railroad trestle. This brought up a discussion about the appearance of favoring a more economically advantaged population where as the southern considered first phase benefits less advantaged populations. Additionally, there are more residential private ownership tracts that would potentially be opposed to selling or gifting right of way.

The City was given \$215,000 by Energy Transfer Partners (Trans Pecos Pipeline) for a walking path project that was introduced in the 2017 Vision Plan. These funds could be used toward a matching grant and in combination with other grants.

The parks master plan has proposed, with the support of many voices in the community, a trails master plan fitting for a city of this size. The Alpine Creek Trail has been discussed for decades it appears but there has been very little support or funding to begin the process. The team asserts here that projects, as envisioned with this trail master plan, are a very long-term vision and it needs to be worked on incrementally over the course of time. With the case of Alpine Creek the obvious first step is working with the existing flood study produced by PBS&J in November 2001. It's been almost eighteen years since that study has been produced and it is the team's understanding that nothing has been done to act upon the recommendations. The existing gabions in Alpine creek that are there to protect adjacent properties predates the study by a significant amount of time. An Alpine Creek Trail cannot be designed without that study being revisited by a registered engineer to assess the current conditions of the creek and the associated watershed.

City Loop Trail



Trails are among the highest scoring asset in parks and recreation surveys. Some cities are well known for their extensive trails. Research has shown that for every dollar invested in trails, 50 dollars of economic impacts are realized. The economic impact comes from several influences that trails bring. Cycling and running events can bring hundreds of people from all over to compete or enjoy the events. Bird watching or nature tourism is a fast growing industry and far out paces other forms of tourism in terms of economic impact. Serious “Birders” travel all over the world to have a chance to view rare and endangered species in their natural habitat. Photographers come to hike the trails for photo opportunities. Able-bodied seniors with extra leisure time travel around the country look-

ing for adventure in a variety of forms and hiking trails is one of the more popular activities. School clubs use the trails for workouts or education. One aspect of a great trail system is that they bring so much benefit without the intensive maintenance regime required of other recreation assets.

Alpine already has a trail system. Above was discussed the Alpine Creek Trail potential which is primarily a natural experience slicing through the middle of the city. To the north behind Sul Ross is the Hancock Hill trail system. This is a fairly significant trail system that has several points of connection and multiple destinations. The land ownership is in several hands with Sul Ross being the main land owner. The remaining owners should be identified and agreements put in place to protect the land owners. Tying together Alpine Creek, Hancock Hill, "A" Mountain trail, and the potential western railroad trail by implementing connecting segments would provide a significant trail system that would be popular by many. See the longer description on trails below.

The vision is to develop over time a loop or series of loops trail system that will serve all parts of the city. The simple reason for looping is that a trail enthusiast would prefer to hike starting at point "A" and return to point "A" without repetition of any trail sections. The system can work in smaller loops in key areas such as adjacent to senior housing or children's schools but still interconnected to the larger system.

One of the team's key tenets in an overall parks master plan is that each significant or even minor parks and recreation component contribute to the economic vitality of the city. Where there is economic stimulus, there is increased parks and recreation development (hopefully); and where there is increased parks and recreation development, there is increased health and wellness in the city and as a result a higher quality of life. Simple!

An overall looping trail system opens Alpine up for significant running or cycling races or major fund-raising events. Hotel rooms, restaurants, B&Bs, other recreation activities including positioning Alpine to be a more attractive base camp for Big Bend National Park and related parks.

So what does an overall looping system of trail look like in Alpine? There are already legs in place that set the structure but it's a matter of concerted effort and time to connect the strands of trails as well as developing an extended length previously thought not possible. The existing segments are the Alpine Creek Trail, The Hancock Hill Trail, and the "A" Mountain trail. These main segments are made up of many different owners and so the challenge will be to assemble the tracts under city ownership or easement agreements. There is some discussion regarding why is an agreement needed for the owners to approve of outsiders using their land. The most straight forward answer is protection for the property owner from liability in the event of an accident. The team has hiked both part of the Alpine creek alignment and one of the Hancock Hill Trails. The diversity of environments is valuable for the experience and exposure to a multi-varied set of ecosystems. The educational value is undeniable given the large volume of research attributed to natural environment education.

Alpine Creek Trail traverses the City from Southwest to Northeast following the flow of the creek when it does flow. It slices through the city touching Juan Medina Park, crosses the railroad to downtown past the jail, American Legion, and through neighborhoods until it reaches the golf course. Understandably the trail would circle around the course to dodge flying golf balls, but then reconnect through Kokernot Park and continue north to the Loop Road. Reconnecting to Alpine creek north of the Loop Road presents the traveler with a wilder creek ambiance. There is a small foot bridge crossing the creek but there is an additional opportunity on the creek lands north of the loop road

with a more natural and quiet space. As of this writing, the ownership of that land is unknown, but the value of the environmental education and opportunities for bird watching were obvious. It has been speculated that the land was owned by Sul Ross. If that is the case then a Joint venture between the City and Sul Ross could develop this creek riparian system for a short distance, into a nature park. A great terminus for the creek trail portion.

Where the foot bridge is located adjacent to the 223 Loop Road, a path can be identified that guides the traveler toward Sul Ross property to connect with the Hancock Hill Trail. This trail extends northward to an overlook, “The Desk” that looks off to the northeast. Other points there look over the City of Alpine and this hike is already a tourism destination.

Connecting to the “A” Mountain trail is a more challenging path except that the majority of the traverse is through Sul Ross land holdings. Completing the connections would necessarily be through street sidewalk improvements. The trails on “A” mountain are on public and private land (maybe easements). The team knows very little regarding the permissions and access to these trails. Developing the connection between Hancock Hill Trails and “A” Mountain through Sul Ross and city sidewalks can lead past Pueblo Nuevo Park, then at the City Limit on the south side of Alpine, an easement or sidewalk can be developed to take the hiker west toward the “A” Mountain Trail. This connection through the east side of ALpine is labeled as the Urban/ Sul Ross Trail Connection. Moving west on “A” Mountain (labeled “A” Mountain Connecting Trail) a short distance through more access easements reconnects the hikers to the southern point of Alpine Creek Trail connecting the complete loop.



There is another segment being discussed and requires further exploration to some extent, that being the UP Railroad Spur that slices from SW to NE through the City. Earlier reports indicated that this was all UP land and still an active line. More discussion has revealed that the line may be jointly owned by TxDOT and UP and may open up the possibility of aligning a trail along this rail length. The benefit being that it can serve an underserved portion of the City that the other trail loop doesn't reach. Connecting north side and south



side potentially could occur once the hiker surfaces from Alpine Creek to cross the railroad then can turn West on Holland to pick up the railroad trail linkage. Connecting the northern limit of the railroad trail can be accomplished by hiking east on West Harriet Avenue, then East Harriet Ave. which brings the traveler close to the alpine creek trail north of the Loop Road mentioned above and to a beautiful section of Alpine Creek. The complete double loop trail will be approximately 9 miles of trail with additional trail miles available with the Hancock Hill trail network.

Alpine Historic Walking & Driving Tour

Sometime in the past this trail was established, markers placed and an online presence launched. This is a great asset for the City to promote historic tourism in Alpine. There is a significant history here that needs interpretation. The consulting team has not studied the locations in detail but some general recommendations would be to expand the trail to cover more areas and places. It was noticed that the Courthouse site was called out for the buildings but nothing regarding the WWI, WWII, Korean War monuments and other site features. There was very little

information available with just a quick review online of the map and more can be said with possible QR codes and a healthier online presence. Use replaceable stickers for the QR codes since websites change and links get broken. There might be validity in separating the walking trail from the driving trail but only if a substantial amount of sites were added, the driving trail can reach out regionally where Alpine related historically.

Sports Complex

There has been much discussion regarding a sports complex anchored by baseball sports. The options that have been discussed at length have been upgrading the facilities at Kokernot park or developing a completely new complex in another area of the city. On the later, it was specifically discussed to take advantage of city-owned land at the closed city landfill as a site for the complex development. Two investigations are warranted up front; Is the landfill and its cap of a quality that is approved for this kind of redevelopment? And, through a cost/benefit analysis, is it more cost effective to use that land or to purchase additional land for the project. Once these two questions are answered then an informed decision can be made regarding a complex at Kokernot or on a new site.

The cost benefit analysis can also address whether developing the complex at Kokernot makes the best sense assuming the lands needed are available from Sul Ross University. This part of the analysis might have a lot more qualitative thinking with regards to functionality and the kinds of amenities needed to create the appropriate facility. Sul Ross also needs to be amenable to partnering with the city on such a project as their lands would be needed for the necessary field(s) and facilities. If the City chose to work with a corporate ball park complex developer and operator, then that developer/

operator may come with criteria concerning the layout and design as it relates to the tract of land available.

Flood Control Study

In 2001, PBS&J wrote the Flood Protection Planning Study for Alpine Creek that addresses flood protection and trail strategies. It is the team's understanding that none of the recommendations have been followed up on. If the majority of the City is in the FEMA 100 year flood plain, then that is a direct influence on investment in the downtown area. The project team for the parks and recreation master plan reviewed levels of maintenance and the need for improvements necessary to service the citizens adequately. Several of the recommendations in that plan lead directly to increased funding from the City. If the flood study recommendations are prioritized in city budgets and properties are brought out of the flood plain due to a reduction in the flood plain area, then that will stimulate increased investment. That in turn equals to increased budgets for the City to allocate to parks related expenses. If at the same time a new Tax Increment Redevelopment Zone (TIRZ) is in place with the properties affected, then that increased tax income can be directed to improvements in Alpine Creek or other improvements within the defined district. Other funding sources may be available to jumpstart the flood control projects to begin with. Aside from Alpine Creek improvements, bringing downtown out of the flood zone will bring increased prosperity to Alpine with improved buildings and new investments, more commercial tax income for the City, and attracting higher visitation.



http://www.historicalalpine.org/historic_walking_tour.htm

Community and Recreation Center



A project that is popular in many cities is developing a recreation center. These facilities can take on a wide variety of forms and activity provisions. In Presidio, their new Community Center doubles as a recreation center. In Keller their facility, called The Keller Pointe, is a high-end recreation center that has a full agenda of programming, indoor and outdoor aquatics, gym, running track, and so much more. This type of facility is also important since there are very few opportunities for indoor recreation in Alpine.

A discussion has happened regarding a conversion of the Alpine Civic Center connected to City Hall as a location for a Community and Recreation Center. The same functioning of the existing facility would remain but more potential added. Another option not discussed might be located attached to the north and east sides of the swim center. This site has the space without interfering with the childrens' play or the passive areas. Seeing how the swim center is in need of upgrades then it might make sense to combine these agendas. Developing this facility at Kokernot might be the best



possible place since other facilities are already there. These centers can be both indoor and outdoor spaces as Keller has shown to be successful. Leveraging the facilities already in place and developing a strategic plan that phases the development over time will provide Alpine with a facility that will be well used and well loved. Equity should be in the discussion as to the location. West Alpine has fewer facilities of parks and recreation and the first option may help with that issue.

Aquatics Center

The existing swimming center at Kokernot Park is in need of a variety of upgrades, some of which may have already been accomplished. Currently, the pool operations are in jeopardy because the City has a hard time employing enough certified lifeguards, which greatly limits the hours of operation. Additionally, there is no safe water play area for young children or those who cannot swim and also no City water recreation available outside of the summer months. There is also very limited shaded seating within the pool area. The pool facilities need to be reviewed to ensure ADA compliance.

There are several possible improvements that would upgrade the aquatic facilities with various levels of funding required.

- A. Renovate the existing but nonfunctioning toddler wading pool within the pool property.
- B. Add a splashpad to the pool property, possibly outside the current wall so that it could also be used at times the pool is not open. Although splash pads are complicated and come with a potential high cost of construction, operations, and maintenance, many people have expressed an interest in this project.
- C. Add a heated whirlpool component, which would be especially useful for citizens with conditions such as arthritis and musculoskeletal injuries/pain. This could also be designed to be accessible outside of pool hours.
- D. Build a regional-scale water park that would integrate all the above elements and more, such as water slides and indoor/outdoor pool areas. This type of facility would be a long-term project, but would be an income-generating asset for the City.

Due to Alpine's location within the region, an improved aquatics center could be a significant economic generator.

Should the City ever decide to develop a true large commercial scale water park, a water park development corporation might partner with the City to develop and operate a larger tourist-attracting water park. This would not be a priority project and would need a significant cost/benefit analysis to review the potential.

Hispanic Heritage Center

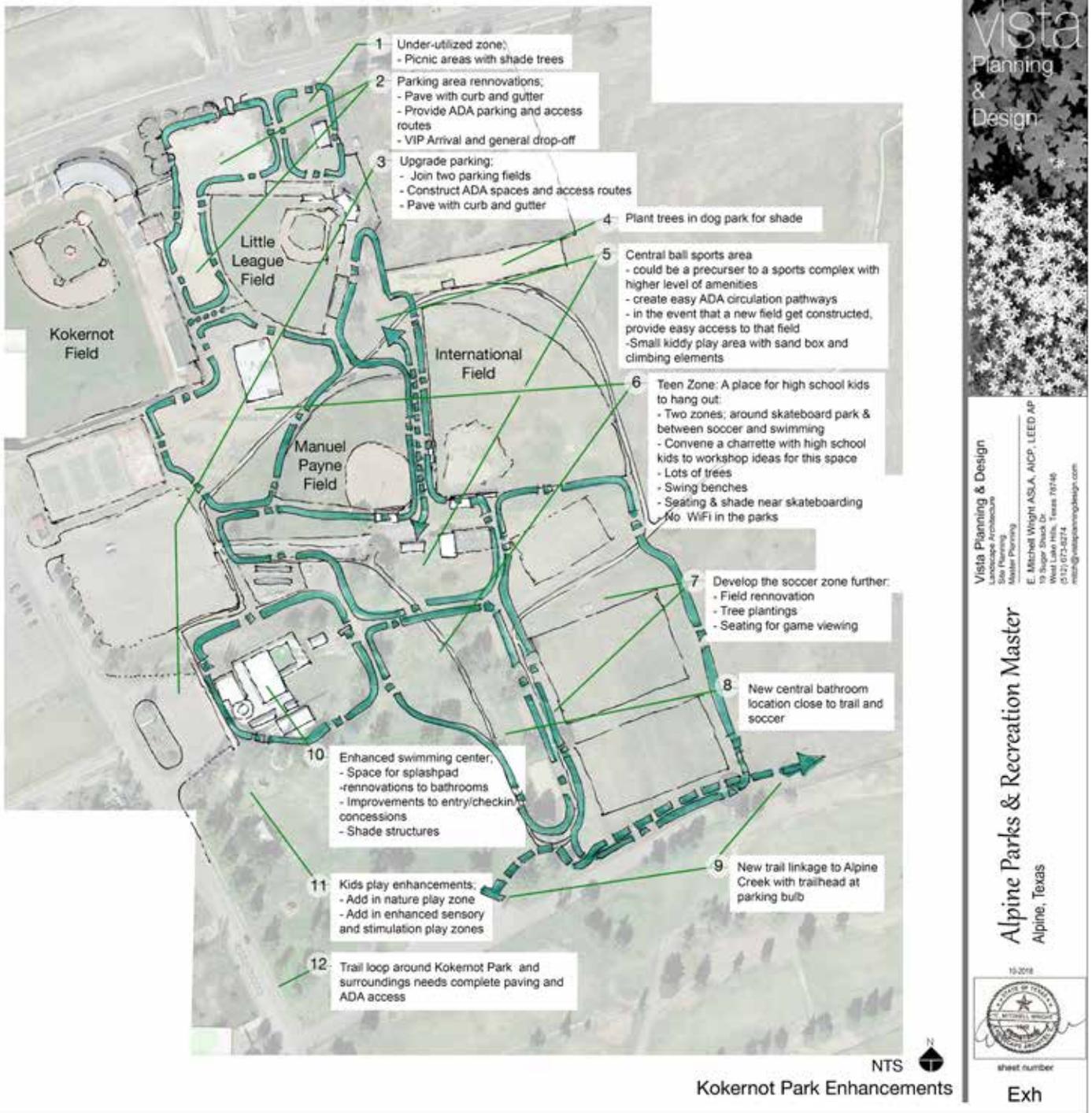
The concept of a Hispanic Heritage Center to celebrate the histories of the Hispanic culture in Alpine came up in one conversation. Understanding the importance of history tourism and the economic stimulus it can foster, the team believes that this concepts and other similar ideas that celebrate the mosaic of Alpine's cultural history are very important narratives contributing to a well-rounded tourism destination in Alpine. The discussion was even more specific in that the Center might be located along Alpine Creek in the southern part of the City to strengthen the burgeoning growth of arts and culture in that part of the City. The cultural community of Alpine may consider starting a discussion group to explore ideas and the team believes that anchoring this conversation at the library might be fertile grounds for this conversation since the Library has made great strides in improvements and likely has a strong community of thought to pull together an agenda regarding the overall cultural picture in Alpine.

It must be said that the discussion regarding this kind of facility only occurred once and therefore not a priority among the survey respondents. The team believes that, if feasible and not overlapping with the Sul Ross museum, its contribution to making Alpine a strong destination by balancing the recreational with the cultural is valid and worth noting here. This is particularly in light of the growing number of senior residents and visitors. The team is not familiar enough with the Museum of the Big Bend, but a review of their offerings will be valuable to leverage strengths and supplement gaps in this overall agenda.



Mural by Style Read

Kokernot Park Concepts



Notes regarding the Kokernot Concept Map

The purpose of this map is to pull together ideas at a high level that bring into a spatial form a sense of some of the conversations that took place in the parks and recreation master plan.

These thoughts are only thoughts. This was created internally and without the fine-tuning of a public forum. The concept is, however taking ideas and putting them on paper for the purpose of seeing how the existing site might accommodate features discussed such as a possible conversion into a more enhanced baseball park complex for hosting tournaments.

1. In the area of #1 & #2, there can be some thought as to how to best utilize this area to perform the various functions it likely needs to handle. The #1 location can be a small staging area for families as visitors park in the overflow parking across the street. Possible turning #2 into a drop-off so that families, coolers, and other baggage can be dropped and wait at picnic tables in this area. Put thought into relocation of the refuse dumpsters to a location that makes more sense and plant additional trees, add tables, and create a welcoming area for gathering on the existing lawn area. Provide handicap parking at the SE corner of this area. It is assumed that the metal building is a maintenance shed that can still service along the eastern edge of the property and access other areas. Develop pathways to accommodate the logistics for this.
2. As mentioned above, this front section of #2 could be a drop-off for drivers unloading passengers and then leaving or parking across the street. Toward the south end of this location can be striped handicap parking with an accessible route into the stadium ball park or the adjacent areas. It is unknown what logistics for the maintenance of the fields or for game day need to occur in this zone but with a thoughtful discussion can be accommodated.
3. It was not clear why the two parking areas were not joined but parking and vehicular movements might flow better with an overall new parking strategy. It is apparent that drainage occurs through there between the parking and this would be an ideal location to demonstrate some rain gardens in sections along this drainage area creating a nicer ambiance with a pathway.
4. The dog park along the south edge of the radio station is in need of trees and shade. Construct a simple pavilion for dog owners and plant lots of trees along the fence lines to provide shade. Choose fast growing indigenous trees which would likely be deciduous losing leaves in the winter. Moving the dog park to construct a new ball field is not likely unless the moving of the radio tower and its associated cabling for support spread across the yard to the south of the station are also relocated.
5. These two connected zones are envisioned to be the central core area for the ball park complex. Regardless of the potential of being the main tournament complex, attention should be paid to creating a central core area for the congregation of families, a central orientation area with wayfinding, concessions, access to bathrooms, ADA accessible walkways leading to all fields including the potential new field to the east on Sul Ross land if that agreement come about. Be sure to plant many large shade trees and some pavilions with grills for reservation. This main area would connect easily to each of the main parking areas including linkages to the parking area across Loop Road to the north. When friends say "lets meet at the ball park" this is the meeting place. It has been suggested as well to add a small child play zone here so that families have that accommodation while gathering. Climbing elements, sand box, and other simple elements will be a welcome addition.
6. This concept discusses the need for two areas to be oriented to teens and college age kids as gathering places more for their needs for a social space. The recommendation listed on the sketch suggest that a gathering of this age group in a workshop setting can shed light on what would be most attractive to make this space theirs. The north zone is centered around the skate park, currently dropped in the middle of an open area without any relationship to

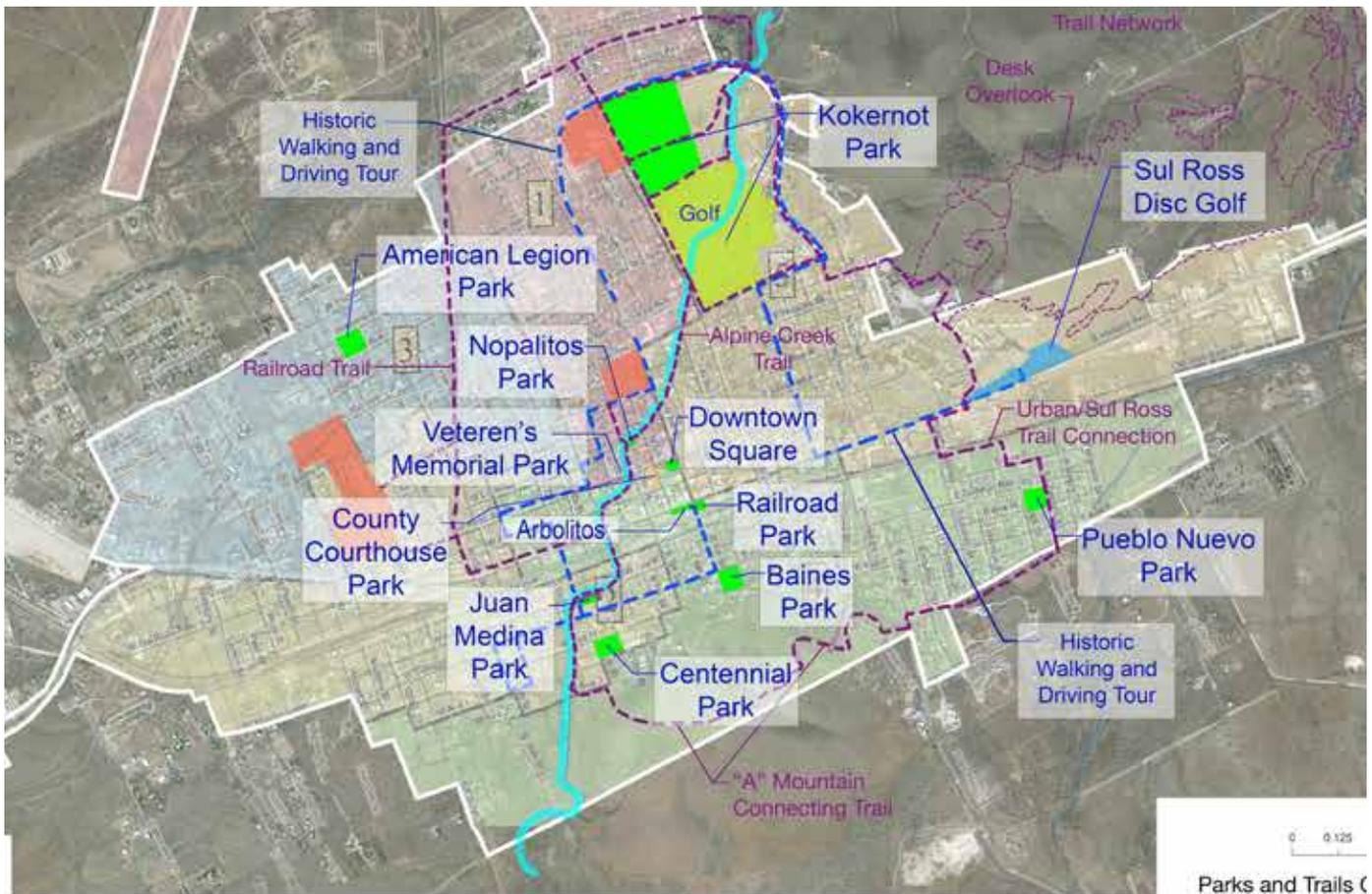
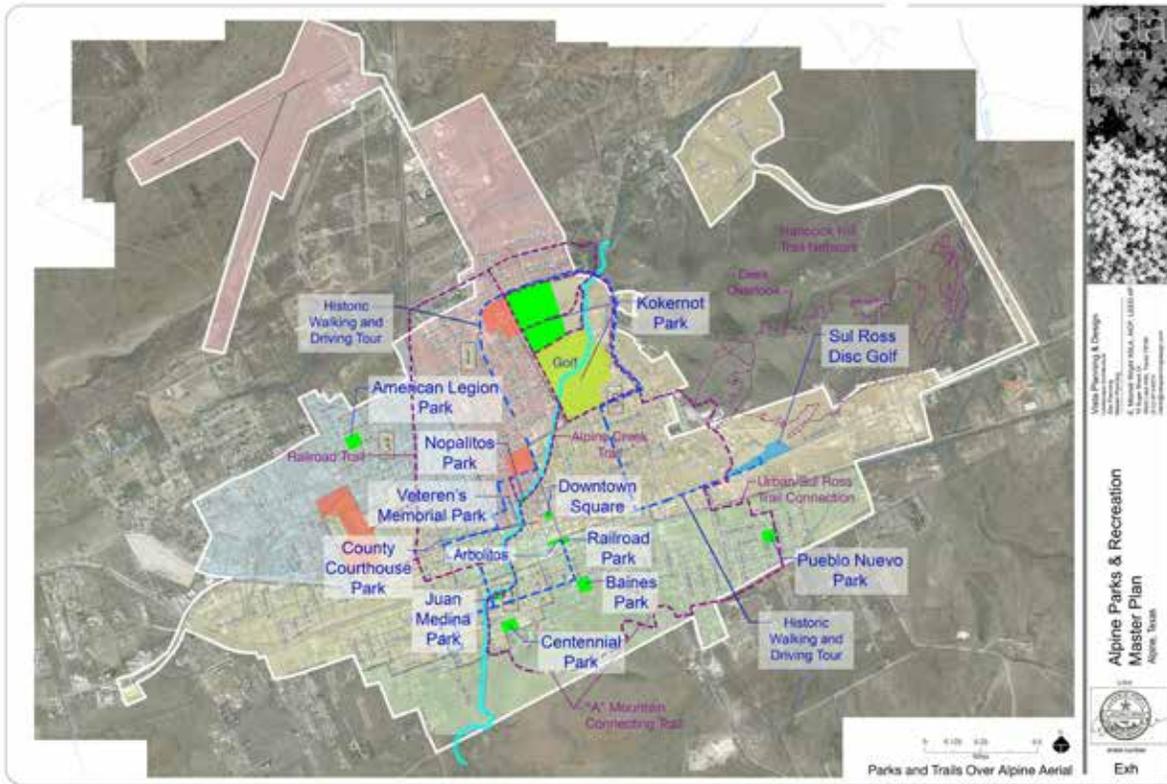
the surrounding uses or areas and without any trees for shade, sitting areas, water fountains. Being adjacent to the tennis and basketball courts, by extension, these facilities may also be perceived as part of this zone increasing activity on these courts. The north zone is also between the ball fields so that between games, it becomes a waystation, or hangout space while waiting or convening celebrations for victorious teams. The southern space east of the swim center has some trees and is close to the sand volleyball and soccer leveraging spaces that has similar age patrons. This zone is where a new bathroom facility has been recommended along with water fountains with a bottle filling station. Some elements to consider in these zones might be climbing elements; large boulders, dead trees laying on their sides (natural elements) climbing walls or structures, swings with single or two seats, plenty of shade trees, maybe a large grassy hill for sunning, observations, highpoint.

7. The soccer fields are in need of renovation and gopher eradication. Small bleachers should be added for game observers, lots of trees at a safe distance away from the field edges, and the new bathroom added that is ADA accessible.
8. As mentioned, This is the choice location for a new bathroom facility based on conversations. Include with it a water fountain that has a dog watering station and a bottle filling station. This zone is adjacent to the existing trail in the park for easy access but new access should be created for the kids to the west so that they also have access along a sidewalk that is ADA compliant.
9. The concept shows a new trail linkage with the trailhead at the small parking area. The trail links up with the existing trail within the park but also goes straight east to Alpine creek along the north edge of the golf course. Once at the creek it then can follow the creek north to connect to the existing creek sidewalk adding an additional loop and length along the creek for nature experience and bird watching.
10. Great improvements have already been made to the swimming pool but more are needed. An aquatics center and splashpad have been discussed in the master plan and this outlines the area that could represent the expansion area for the splashpad and an enhanced swimming pool with waterpark type of features added. The existing out of use splashpad for little kids needs renovation and a larger more exciting splashpad can be in a separate area for small kid safety. The bathrooms continue to need improvements and modernization including changing rooms. The entry point with reception and sign-in is also, in a previous report stated as needing improvements for flow of people coming and going. In the economic development discussions, it is suggested that vouchers could be purchased for families visiting Alpine, this raises the need and potential of major improvements to the swim center for that purpose. Lots of shade is very much needed in a swimming pool site so people can escape the sun. plant trees plentifully around the perimeter being careful about tree litter getting into the pool area. More importantly construct multiple large shade structures within the pool area. The area allocated on the sketch includes significant lawn area and keeping lawn with shade trees would be very welcome especially with picnic tables, grills, ping pong tables, and other amenities, all within the fence line. Two concerns have been raised. Pool hours closing too early for families after work, and challenges hiring lifeguards. With a parks director/coordinator in charge of programming, lifeguard classes and other instruction can take place ensuring a good stock of lifeguards moving forward.

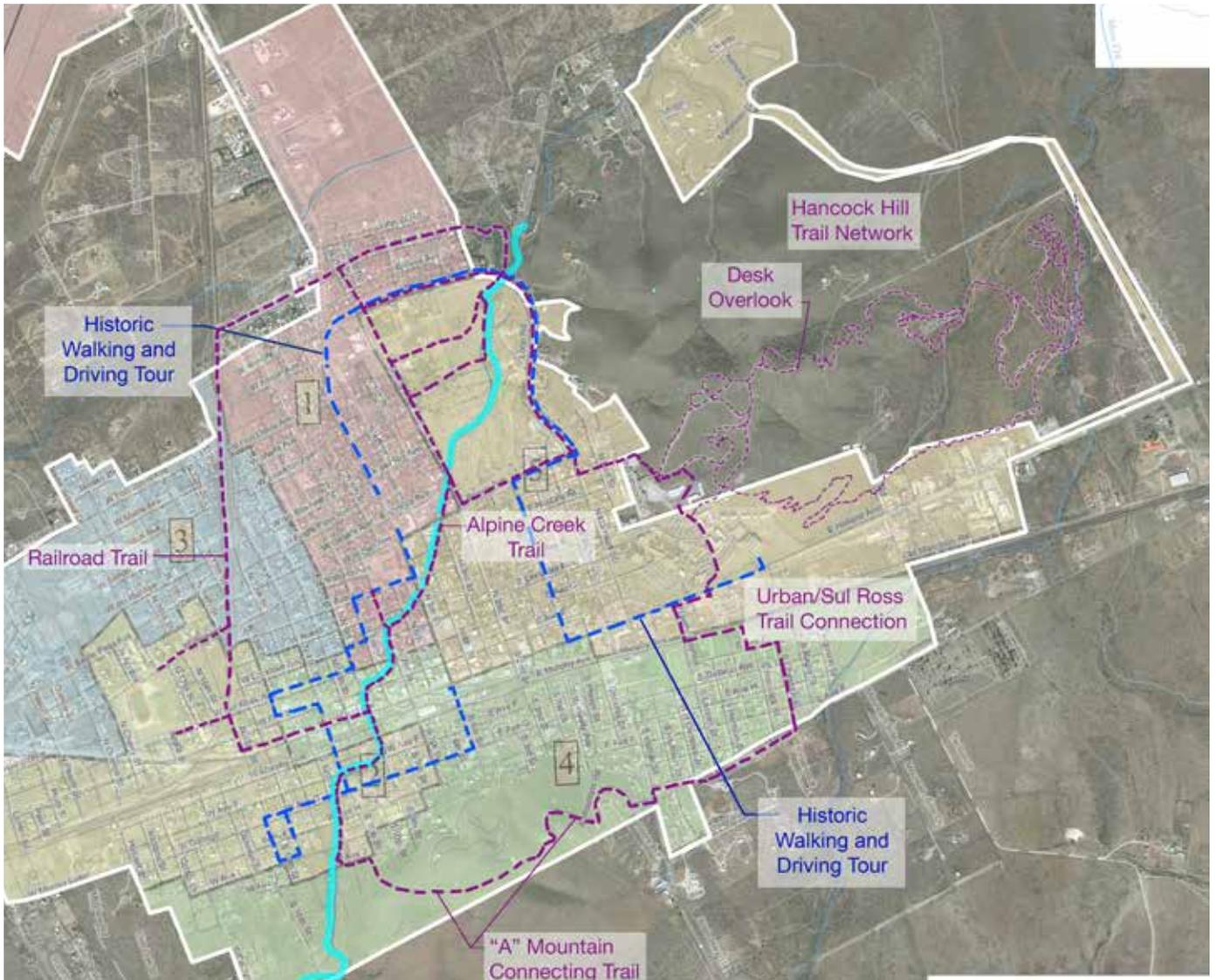
11. The kids play zone appears to be a very popular place. Look at adding natural elements including “moving parts” to this area so that small kids can have greater access to these kinds of experiences and stimulation for their imagination.
12. The loop trail that circles Kokernot park and the surrounding neighborhoods is in need of completing. There are sections that are new, nice, in great shape. There are significant sections that are none other than worn paths in the grass or just walking in the street. This is a highly desired path for people to come and walk and it needs completing and as well as possible meeting ADA criteria.



Overall Parks & Trails



Trails Only Map





Chapter 9

Implementation Plan

Developing a Strategic Implementation Plan

Moving forward, it is important to glean from the information what the goals and priorities may be to advance progress on park implementation. The following goals are derived from all of the public comments as documented within this report.

Goals For City of Alpine Parks Master Plan **Implementation:**

- Establish priorities for funding based on highest ranking feedback from stakeholders and public engagement while ensuring that the facility of activity development serves a broad spectrum of users according to the overall goals of the master plan.
- Since priority one projects are not easily compared as apples to apples, Parks Board must work through the fine-grained priorities as they relate to year to year funding opportunities.
- Recognize that according to the surveys, the majority of residents either agreed to or stated a conditional agreement (maybe) to have a taxation strategy.
- Develop strategies to source multiple funding opportunities recognizing that City budgets are stretched thin and realizing a more rapid pace of development will require alternatives to city budgets and bonds. In so doing, recognize that funding sources may be oriented to sponsoring specific activities such as TxDOT funding Safe Routes to Schools and striping for bike lanes. See note on flood plain study below.
- Incentivize active participation in the parks by volunteerism both in cleanups as well as park element construction and documentation; Adopt A Park program. Celebrate the volunteers. Identify CHAMPIONS that can spearhead important initiatives and projects.
- Work toward partnerships for the park security and potentially prioritize facilities that are less vulnerable and/or conducive to better security monitoring.

Overall Goals of the Alpine Parks & Recreation Master Plan Restated

- Achieve a balanced parks and recreation facility throughout the City. Achieve a balanced parks and recreation facility throughout the City.
- Develop a parks and recreation system that will promote economic development.
- Maintain a sound and realistic annual budget that tracks with reasonable economic growth
- Develop volunteer and sponsorship relations and events for support.
- Develop a parks and recreation system that has wide appeal and maximizes shared use facilities.
- Work in incremental steps to achieve large project and long-term goals.
- Infuse educational opportunities into as many recreation facilities as possible.



- Infuse physical motion and exercise as well as mental health and well-being for all ages and abilities.
- Encourage a cooperative relationship with all invested institutions and well as intergovernmental cooperation between departments.
- Promote environmental stewardship and sustainable practices by rethinking methods, systems, and instituting best practices.

Implementation

There are several aspects to implementation. Most importantly are aspects of funding improvements, volunteer labor from a wide variety of sources, and champions that have the zeal to push hard to see projects move forward. Below is a listing of more specific ways to keep improvements occurring. It is important to keep in mind that as many ways as possible need to be implemented for both active community involvement and for advancing the development more rapidly.

- Financing improvements through City budgeting and CIP process from year to year.
- Bond election where the public elects to impact their taxes through an election that is specifically targeting the improvements.
- Grant sources that are available locally, in the state, and through federal sources as well as non-profit institutions and foundations.
- Grant sources from corporate sponsors such as Porters, Shopko, large industries, etc.
- Leveraging funding and strengths with partnering institutions and organizations.
- In-kind services mostly through the involvement of the local citizens that are eager to see improvements happen. This can be rental donations and volunteering.
- Community service projects; these projects may be required of students, scout groups, and a wide variety of service organizations.
- Identification of “Champions” for specific projects.
- City staff position to coordinate activities; might be a part time job or intern to begin with.

A note on our prioritization of projects

To identify what is the first priority, the board must look to the goals of the overall system as stated at the front of the **Recommendations** chapter and then expanded upon later in that chapter. The master planning *process* framework of **Equity**, introduced in the introduction, may not match up directly for the priority goals of economic stimulation. Likewise, a number one priority maybe to provide hiking trails in some surveys but shade and trees in other surveys. Reaching consensus on what is the very first priority for any given budget year is not a realistic goal. However, using both the General Projects List and its rankings together with the Indoor / Outdoor Chart with rankings, and comparing these to make a decision will be the correct decision path. One organized by parks and one oriented by goals.

It will be the responsibility of the Parks Board to decide year after year what are the specific projects, activities, or staffing requirements. Each year will be different in terms of funding, and sentiments This fine-grained approach will have its influencing conditions year to year with cause and effect actions of other situations in the city such as ramped up ADA improvements in advance of a new major event in the City. This gives the city, Council, and Parks Board flexibility to be proactive in decision making moving forward. Project scale, cost, and timeframe are all part of the decisions. A water fountain and restrooms next to the soccer fields are ranked as a number one priority as is a

flood study and flood mitigation on Alpine Creek, or a community discussion on the different planning options for Pueblo Nuevo. All three with very different agenda, costs, economic development implications, and equity.

Flood Study

There was a flood study performed by PBS&J in November of 2001. Over

17 years have passed and with a quick review on Google Earth, it appears that there are quite a few stock ponds within the reaches of the watershed that feeds Alpine Creek. My speculation is that it is possible that the flood plain could have been altered if there was a significant increase in the impoundment of water. Alternatively, strategies can be implemented to mitigate flooding in the City.

The City of Alpine is a participant of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Insurance Program and a majority of the city is within the FEMA floodplain. Approximately 1,233 people reside in the 100-year floodplain with 125 National Flood Insurance Program policies estimated at a value of \$10,800,000. The estimated value of property in the 100-year floodplain is \$45,832,000 (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers [USACE], 1997).

Excerpt from the PBS&J Study

Why do I bring this up? The simple fact is that the downtown area as well as the majority of Alpine is in the 100 year flood plain. The report by PBS&J has strategies for mitigating the flood and recommend options to mitigate the 100 year flood event. This brings commercial property as well as residential property out of the flood plain. In so doing,

investment can be stimulated creating higher property tax value. If more redevelopment or development happens in downtown Alpine then more people will be visiting and more money can be used in annual budgets.

1.4 EXISTING DATA

This study has attempted to continue the effort that was established during the River Network report, *Alpine Creek Opportunities* (PBS&J, 2000). The report identifies potential creek improvements that are acceptable and realistic to the community. Several of the possible opportunities for the creek include channel improvement for flood protection, walking trails along the creek, and the use of treated effluent water to put low flows back in the creek. It's the focus of this study however, to present several channel improvements for flood protection purposes and present the most economically attainable option.

Excerpt from the PBS&J Study

Using a tax increment reinvestment zone (TIRZ) structure and defining the boundary around the likely areas of value increase, then that tax increase amount can be invested in improvements within the TIRZ district. TIRZ functions on the amount of tax increase. Only that extra value of tax is captured and used in the district. A Public Improvement District (PID) can make the case through a detailed financial analysis, and have money brought in to pay for improvements. This structure is on a payback system as opposed to a TIRZ. The team is only somewhat familiar with these tools for improvements but they are used all over Texas to accomplish significant projects. In one case in Austin, a PID was instigated and then a TIRZ was formed during the improvements leveraging off of the work of the PID. Consulting with an expert on these strategies will shed much more light and detail to going about this process for the reduction of the floodplain downtown.

Partners, Volunteers, Grassroots Activism

The cities that are most effective at advancing the quality of life agenda is a strong network of partnering institutions and organizations and the energy infused with the activism within the residents of the city that are most excited to see the improvements take place. Alpine already has strong community support as demonstrated by improvements around the City. These relationships need to be cultivated and nurtured so that more residents become excited and involved. This is crucial to success. Below are some thoughts on both groups and potential events that can be considered.

Partnering Institutions, Organizations, Land Owners:

- Sul Ross State University
- Alpine Independent School District
- Brewster County
- Big Bend Parks and Recreation for Kids; Alpine Non-Profit, president@bbparks@gmail.com
- Alpine Humane Society
- Alpine Visitor's Center; Alpine Economic Development
- Adult Recreation Leagues
- Youth Recreation Leagues
- Area Ranchers (trails & easements)



Mural by Stylye Read

List of Potential Volunteer Projects and Activities:

- Scouting or Other Community Service Organization Projects:
- Habitat enhancement projects; brush piles in erosion areas, invasive species eradication.
- Bat Houses, Bird viewing stations, signage, and other environmental education projects.
- Trail building and trash pick up.
- Directional signs on paths and trails
- Fund Raising events to support specific projects
- Volunteer grant writing
- Adopt A Park program

Events for Participation:

- Keep Alpine Beautiful (Like so many other cities have twice a year). This is an affiliate of Keep America Beautiful; www.kab.org , Also grant opportunities there at state and national levels.
- "Its My Park Day" Austin's and other cities' model for twice a year park work by volunteers organized by a foundation in conjunction with the parks department
- Fund raising events, again, are major supporters to stimulate patronization of projects.
- Partnering with existing events such as Cowboy Poetry, rodeo, arts events to enhance a wide variety of recreational and tourism elements.
- Event sponsors

Service and Public Organizations:

- University groups
- Professional Service Organizations; Rotary, Lions, Kiwanis, Knights of Columbus
- Main Street Program
- Keep American Beautiful/ Keep Alpine Beautiful
- AmeriCorps
- Boy Scouts of America
- Girl Scouts of America

Grant Sources:

- Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Including the Federal Recreational Trails Program administered by the Federal Highway Administration through TPWD
- US Fish & Wildlife Service <https://www.fws.gov/endangered/grants/index.html>
- Research and Planning Fund Grant for Flood Protection; Texas Water Development Board
- Keep America Beautiful
- National Trails Fund from the American Hiking Society (for members of the Hiking Alliance)
- Local and regional foundations
- ArtPlace; artplaceamerica.org, funding for arts related elements in communities
- US Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration; projects on public highways that include all types of mobility modes including Safe Routes to School; <https://www.transportation.gov/mission/health/Safe-Routes-to-School-Programs>; cycling.
- Texas Department of Transportation; <https://www.txdot.gov/inside-txdot/division/public-transportation/bicycle-pedestrian.html>; TxDOT Administers the SRTS Program, There is also a Transportation Alternative Set-Aside Program through TxDOT for pedestrians and cyclists
- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) may have grants available for parkland improvements.
- Texas Commission on the Environmental Quality; Texas Environmental Excellence Award

Grant Deadlines

Grant Program	Grant Ceiling	Annual Deadline
Local Parks Urban Outdoor Recreation	TBD	December 1
Local Parks Non-Urban Outdoor Recreation	TBD	December 1
Local Parks Small Community Recreation	TBD	December 1
Local Parks Urban Indoor Recreation	TBD	TBD
Local Parks Non-Urban Indoor Recreation	TBD	TBD
Community Outdoor Outreach Program	\$50,000	October 1
Recreational Trails	\$200,000	February 1
Boating Access	\$500,000	October 1
Boating Infrastructure	Competitive	Anytime
Boat Sewage Pumpout	Competitive	Anytime

- National Parks Service Programs including the Land and Water Conservation Fund
- Keep America Beautiful
- DRIVE: Developing a Reliable Innovative Vision for the Economy Act: Federal Funding Program
- Land and Water Conservation Grant Fund
- Major Retailers; Porters, McCoys, True Value, Banks
- Permian Basin Non-Profit Management Center (Resource for granting institutions)
- US Department of Agriculture
- Other governmental agencies
- Numerous local private foundations

Excerpt from the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department

A Note on Staffing:

Implementation requires focused attention on this report, the needs addressed as they arise and the staff resources available to accomplish the tasks needing to be addressed. The current facilities along with the aspirations and needs of the community point to the need for a person at the helm of all agendas related to the overall parks and recreation system.

Hiring a Park Director/Coordinator is a big step for a city the size of Alpine. The right hire, however, can find efficiencies and cost cutting measures as well as push agendas that promote economic development thereby paying for the salary, at least in a significant part. To begin with this staff person needs the skills that can function in an office environment as well as being out checking on project status. The position may be a full-time position or only part time depending on budgets and the scope that the job description ultimately states. Easing into this new salary position might be best suited to a part time position so that finding boundaries between existing staff and the new parks director can be evolved over a period of time. The following is a sample of a job description that could be a fit for Alpine.

Job Duties General Description:

This is both an office administrative position and a field supervisory position. The Parks Director/Coordinator will be responsible for scheduling and coordinating work crews across all of Alpine's Parks and recreation system. This position works as a liaison between City government and the city manager, the work crews, other city departments especially public works where some shared workforce is part of the coordination, and the public. The person in this position needs to have good office and computing skills and be well organized and self-directed although will be taking direct task orders from council and the City Manager. With a new parks and recreation master plan, the parks director/coordinator needs to be completely aware of its contents, priorities, goals, and to use the document to guide all improvements in the parks system. As part of that task, The person will be responsible to submitting parks and recreation budgets to the City Manager and City Council in accordance to the city budgeting cycle.

In addition to the above, the person needs to generate a parks and recreation programming agenda that will develop programs and schedules for the general public to get involved in such as yoga classes or swimming instruction. The programming component will also be in charge of ball fields and other facilities reservations.

The director/coordinator will work toward building a volunteer force in the city and promoting events such as Park Days events for festivities and/or park cleanup and maintenance events. In general, the director/coordinator needs to have leadership qualities so that managing crews, coordinating with various departments and tasks, being the parks face for the City, and reporting to city leaders, builds confidence in the parks department for developing all around improvements in the parks and recreation system offerings on a continuing basis.

Maintenance Crew:

In talking with the maintenance crew leader, the current system is that the crew is shared between the parks department and the public works department. On any given day they may be working on streets or utilities or in the parks doing maintenance. The city currently has two trucks with seats for three crew members. At the time of this conversation, a question was asked of them what was needed for them to be able to do a better job with the maintenance of all of the parks system. The response was hiring one more crew member to fill out the empty seat in one of the trucks. From the teams's perspective, adding another crew truck and hiring four more maintenance crew members appears to be a better answer to go beyond maintaining what the current state of parks currently are. Beyond these staffing needs, certain members of the crew need training and licensing for different trades such as irrigation and chemical applications. Other training such as horticultural practices, arboriculture, soils, would also benefit the crew's ability for a higher level of achievement.

Budget increases to be offset by parks director/coordinator grant activity, parks related economic development, and taxation strategy.





Mural by SFSU Art Club & Carol Fairlie; Design by Amanda Calhoun

Appendices

- A. Alpine 101 Map and Notes***
- B. Greenwood Plans; Pueblo Nuevo***
- C. How to Get Rid of Goat's Head Weeds, Seeds, & Stickers***
- D. Attachments 1-18 Public Engagement***
- E. Council Minutes From 6-7-17 Approving the \$ 215,000 for Trail Improvements***
- F. Existing Parks Inventory 11x17***
- G. Alpine 101 Map 24 x 36***
- H. City Parks Map 24 x 36***
- I. City Trails Map 24 x 36***

Alpine Parks Tour Notes: 11/12/2018

To begin the task of developing a parks and recreation master plan, the first task required is to know what the current plan says and what are the existing conditions on the ground at the beginning of the project. The team has developed a process that builds a knowledge base that is not only useful for the team but also useful for the City as well. The process is to drive all over the city and make extensive notes. With parks master planning, The tour doesn't necessarily need to cover every street but the information needed can be extensive.

The notes needed are the location and conditions of each park. Also collected are topics of connectivity with sidewalks or trails, potential park areas, location of schools so that topics surrounding safe routes to schools can be considered, The quality of the parks including equity of spatial distribution, servicing of a variety of age groups, ADA compliance, socioeconomic equity, variety of spaces from active sports to passive parks, and more.

Note that this process happens prior to any engagement with the city and stakeholder groups. The purpose of that is to avoid political differences, interest groups, and debates that may be happening in the city. The observations are with fresh eyes so that opportunities that may be passed by can be highlighted and considered. Of course an observation may be made that leads the team to a conclusion or a potential opportunity that may not be correct. Regardless, the conversations will bring light to that issue and useful information comes out. By the end of the process Vista is ready to engage in meaningful dialog with residents of the city and ready to contribute fresh ideas regarding places observed.

1. Entering from the north, driving south. The road entering Alpine is very wide; 18.5 paces = +/- 52' wide FOC-FOC.

Is there an active cycling activity to cycle between Alpine, Marfa and Ft Davis? What is the potential of organizing a race and creating a large event out of it as a cooperative effort with the three cities?

How big is the cycling community?

2. RV park; How many RV parks/spaces in the city? What is the need for more as a base camp idea for day trips into the Big Bend Park or other parks?

3. Kokernot Lodge is a Sul Ross Facility that is an events center and an outdoor performance Amphitheatre.

4. Whole Life Wellness Center adjacent to the Kokernot complex and golf course.

5. At the top of the hill above Harrison Street is a large abandoned building. This is part of the University and previously



was a dorm but now boarded up. Talk to Sul Ross about the future plans for this building and see if mutually beneficial programming can be placed there for students and the University. By extension; what does the overall University master plan look like with regards to health, fitness, recreation, and facilities that can be shared? Recreation Center?

6. South 14th and Murphy st. Vacant Land up against the railroad. Could be a nice little parklet but likely private and up against the railroad.

7. Alpine Creek in this area is a significant section. The railroad trellis would accommodate people walking underneath but there is the issue of easements and the cost of shielding.

Could not find the George Felix Howland Memorial.

Much of the elements on the City map point to historic monuments or places, particularly the heart of the city.

8. Murphy Street has section south of downtown that are very artsy. Begin to focus energy into this area as an emerging arts district. Look at zoning to ensure the ability to have in-house gallery space.

9. The creek has gabion walls throughout much of the city portions of the creek to armor against erosion.

10. Medina Park; Adjacent to the creek; Park for small kids, spacious and with bright colors, small 3" wide concrete walking or trike trail. Well maintained. Some trees and shade. Grills, swing sets, picnic tables, a variety of play equipment. Doggy Pot dispenser, exercise equipment, Sand box needing sand, water spicket. Approximately 28,000 sq ft or .6 acres.



11. City of Alpine Neighborhood Center adjacent to Medina Park.

12. Centennial School Park; dedicated January 5th 1998; Baseball field, bleachers, fenced, new restrooms, Approximately 1.3 acres of land. The access to the new restrooms need some adjustments to the ramp connections to allow ADA access. Trees planted around it with

a 6' chainlink fence. Adjacent is a basketball court with two goals. The court also has a small amount of bleachers. Nice entry with seating and dedication sign. A doggy pot dispense was there as well. The adjacent building says on the sign; "Sul Ross State University Centennial School Building" So this is University land; is the park owned by the university?? Well maintained.

13. Baines Park; Nice park that has a series of steps up through the main opening. Shaded swing sets, picnic tables are mostly in need of a fresh sanding and paint job, grassy areas, trash cans, play equipment. Nice park. Geometric landscape raised beds are in need of care. Need to address ADA

accessibility, The handicap ramp going up into the basketball court is non compliant. Some of the ramps are not compliant. Features in the park are not compliant and no handicap parking. Power Pole with light. Enclosed with chain link fence, irrigation. Open play area. Approximately 1.6 acres of land area.

14. Jackson Field; Sul Ross University Facility; 1929

Ensure that all of the lights are shielded for dark skies requirements. What is the potential for other uses outside of University functions?

15. Alpine Community Center; Private non-profit daycare center with a playground.

16. Lockhart and 7th street is a nice gap in the buildings with a small park that turns out to be Nopalitos Park. There is not sign but the space is peaceful with a small stone bench.

Team Opportunity: If the land rights either through fee simple or access easement can be secured on both sides of the creek at Nopalitos Park then this would be a great asset for the neighborhoods to the north and west. A small foot bridge could cross the creek to give walking access to commercial places for the neighborhoods. It would also function as a significant trail head for the future trail following the creek.

17. There are several low water crossings on the north side toward the golf course and as I move more north following the creek the section appears to be more shallow. On the north end of Alpine where the 223 Loop road circles around the golf and country club, the Alpine creek continues north into a really nice natural area. This would be a wonderful addition to the park for natural experiences and trails if available. The creek continues on and ultimately pass by the city's wastewater treatment plant. The creek ultimately joins the Pecos River.



18. Poet's Grove: I see a sign for this but not sure what the ownership is or the function.

19. Kokernot Park: Research the history of the ranch and develop some interpretation. Baseball, tennis, basketball, skate park, soccer, picnic tables and ½ mile jogging/walking trail. 3

Tennis courts with two nets seem to be run down so not much call for tennis here. The basketball is one court with 4 goal posts. Nice playscape area, swimming pool. Across Hendrix ave from Koker-not field is a vacant lot area that serves as overflow parking for games. None of the parks except for Kokernot Park (and maybe not all of it) are dedicated as parkland.

20. NW portion of the City. Neighborhoods developed for Border Patrol. This portion of the City has fewer recreation assets than other parts.

21. South of Shipman Park is a AISD Bonfire site north of the Middle School

22. Shipman Park is nothing other than a large tract of land that is undeveloped and left natural.

Mostly scrubland. There is much need for a park in this portion of the city and this would be an ideal spot. It may be started by simply grading to trap stormwater drainage and planting of trees and kept natural but some areas mowed.

23. American Legion T-ball Park:

Sitting areas with rustic frames; horseshoe pits, t-ball, gazebo, restrooms, small fire pit. Apparently no one plays T-ball anymore. Sparse grass, none seems like landscape. Trees had some irrigation bubblers .

Meeting with Jessica Garza: Talked about balancing the needs of having parks in underserved areas. Also looking at the consolidation of features to help with budgets but also people moving around to different locations for different activities. Budgets are constrained.

24. The park that are on Union Pacific RR land is developed as a park but the railroad owns it so public investment would not be recommended until the city controlled the land through purchase or agreement. The RR park was adopted by a resident that wanted to improve that space. The railroad has the right to remove improvements if they saw a need.

25. The park in front of Amtrak is on TxDOT &/or UP land and so the same conditions apply like the railroad park. If at any point TxDOT sought a need to redevelop the site then no reimbursement would be granted for any improvements by the city unless an agreement was in place.

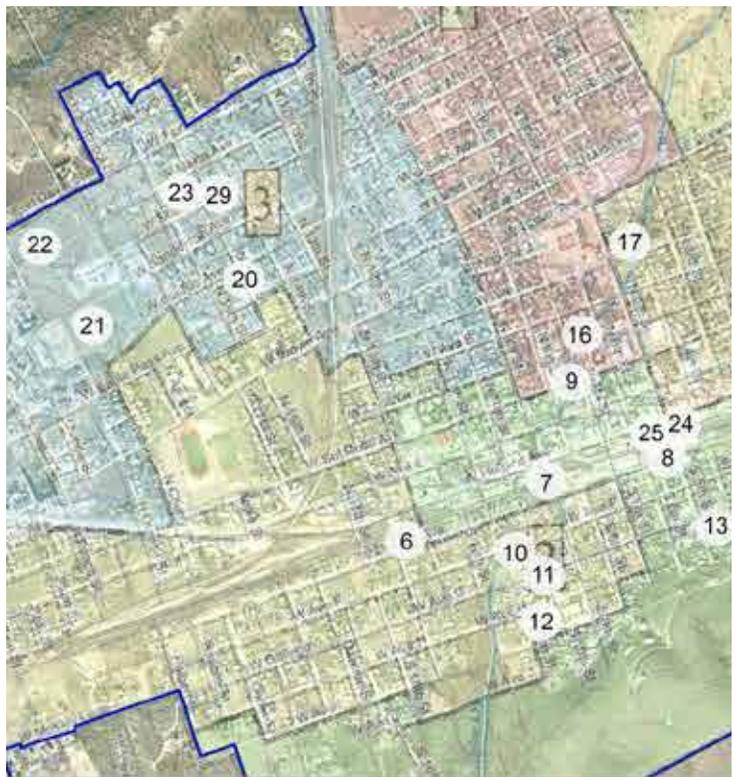
What this led me to believe is that these non parkland parks could be targeted for improvements through TPWD grants by dedicating the land as the match. Thereby officially changing the land to parks and getting improvements at the same time.

26. The landfill that has been decommissioned in 2004 (?) does not have venting or a cap but it does have topsoil over the top. According to Jessica, the landfill does not have any hazardous waste so that the simple capping with topsoil and no venting was acceptable. I believe that this all have to be certified by TCEQ prior to development.

Under some consideration is looking into bringing in a private company to develop and operate a tournament grade facility that could be in the old landfill.

Check TCEQ on the viability of that proposal and what are the requirements to get the old landfill certified to support that type of development. Obviously structural elements would be required.

Baseball and softball at the high school level are the only active sports teams. All other sports do not seem to be organized after middle school, soccer in particular was highlighted.



Team Notes. Need to get more specific information on this so that underserved populations in age groups can be appropriately catered to.

27. The city has a difficult time hiring lifeguards, nor the budgets to maintain the operations and maintenance of the pool. On the other hand there is a push to develop a splash pad, which does not require a lifeguard but is very expensive to develop, operate and maintain.

New information; upon research by the Parks Board, a recirculating system is much more expensive to construct and maintain due to the higher level of maintenance. The alternative is a system that does not reuse water but disposes it. What is the cost and implications of single use water for the City as opposed to recirculated water use and higher maintenance costs? Can a new recirculating system serve both the pool and the splash pad? If so the price per unit of benefit may be much lower contributing a much more attractive “swim center” destination that can attract tourism and potentially accommodations for visitors to the city along Loop 223 or elsewhere.

28. The three tennis courts in the main Kokernot Park were in poor condition and not utilized. It may be that they are still in good enough shape to refurbish if the slab is sound. This will need to be addressed in the public surveys and comments to gather the level of interest and the cost/benefit of tennis as part of the diversity of sports.

Comments have been made that having diversity of sports opportunities was important for the community including for economics.

Funding for anything is a problem; there is a push in the city to sell off land used as parks which is doable since none of them except Kokernot is actually parkland. Team’s instinctual reaction to this was to consider conversions of parkland areas into passive recreation areas with trees for shade and park benches to minimize the maintenance.

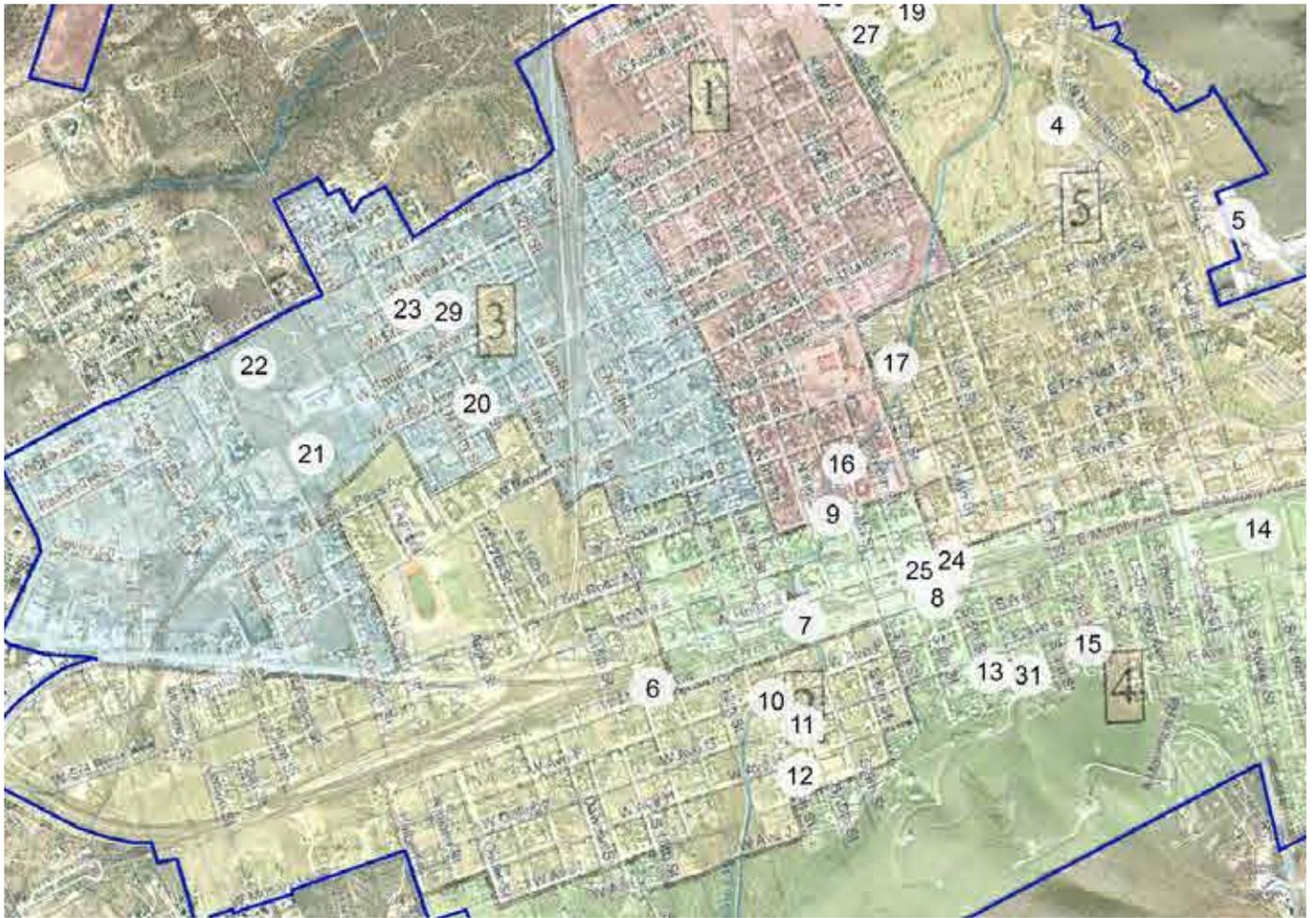


29. Legions Park was one example since the facilities are not used as they were intended but only for people to walk their dogs. Some of the elements; rustic benches, horseshoes, etc, could be relocated to a park where enhanced maintenance is already occurring.

30. The Pueblo Nuevo Park was set up for T-Ball but the tree planting was a limiting factor that restricted the play. This would be a great candidate to go for TPWD grant to dedicate the parkland as the grant match and upgrade the park with the matching funding and redevelop T-Ball as a sport for the younger kids.

If the city started a parks foundation then they could start raising funds with events that could, over time, become an endowment to help defray the maintenance costs.

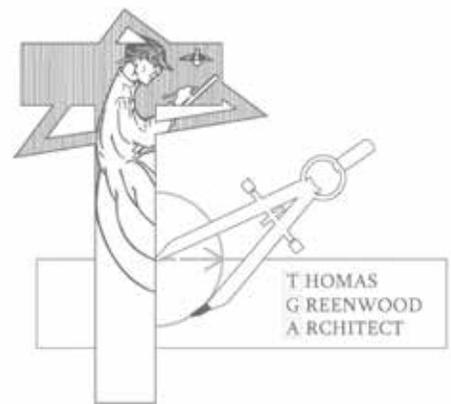
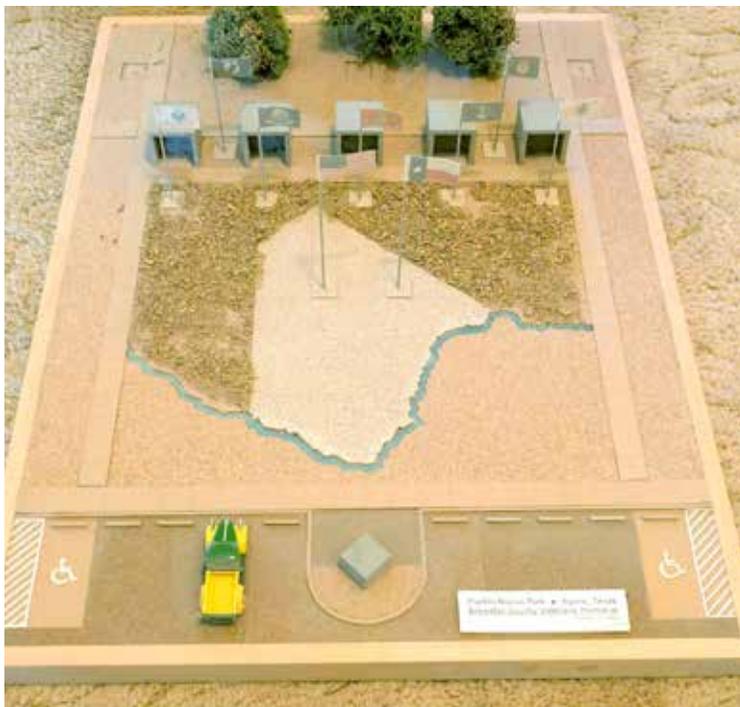
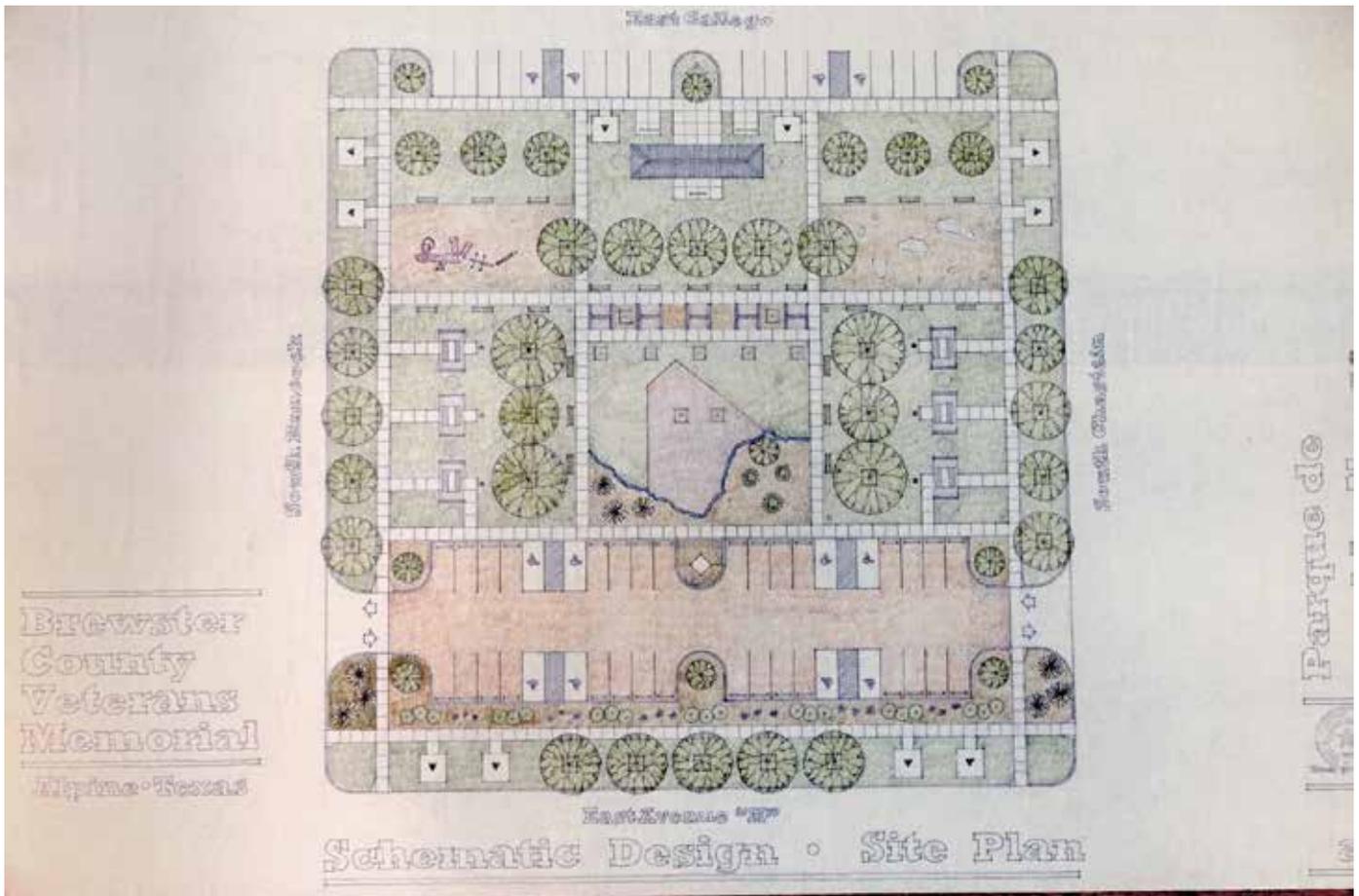
31. At Baines Park there use to be park lighting and the adjacent neighbors complained that the lights were a nuisance so the lights were removed. When touring the city it was suggested that the lights need to be replaced so that the park could be more active later in the day.



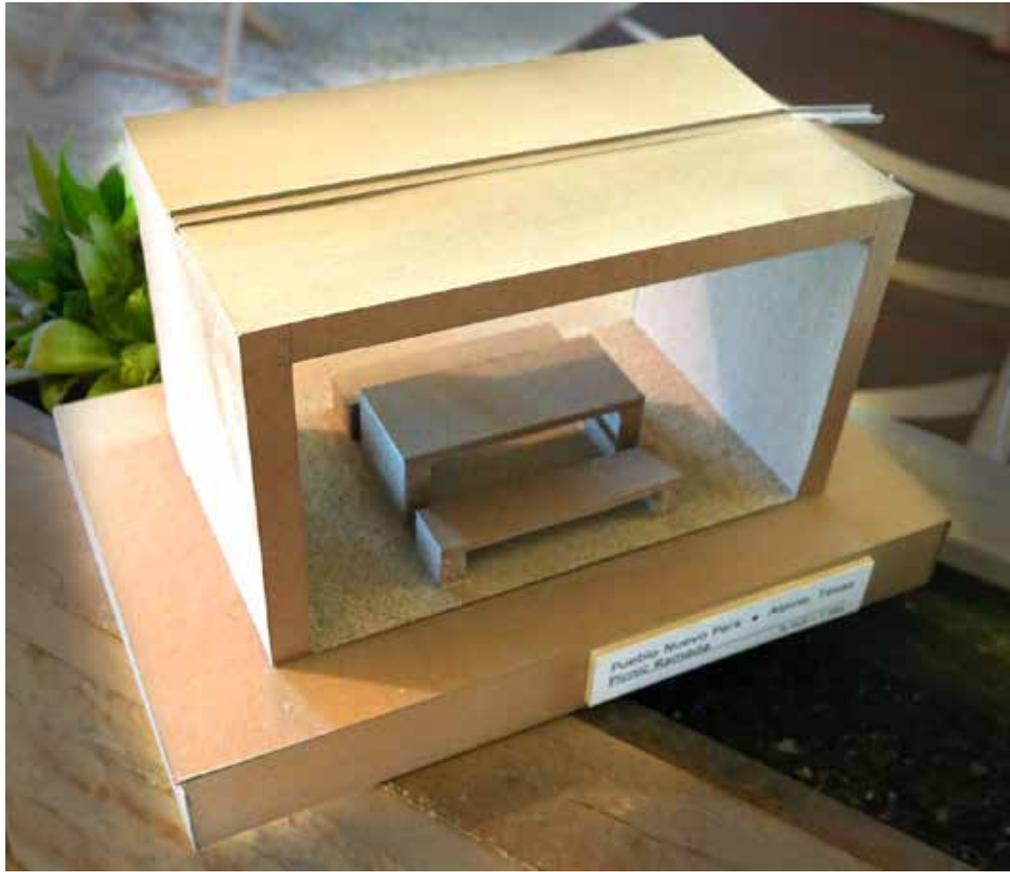


***Thomas Greenwood Plans for
Pueblo Nuevo Park***

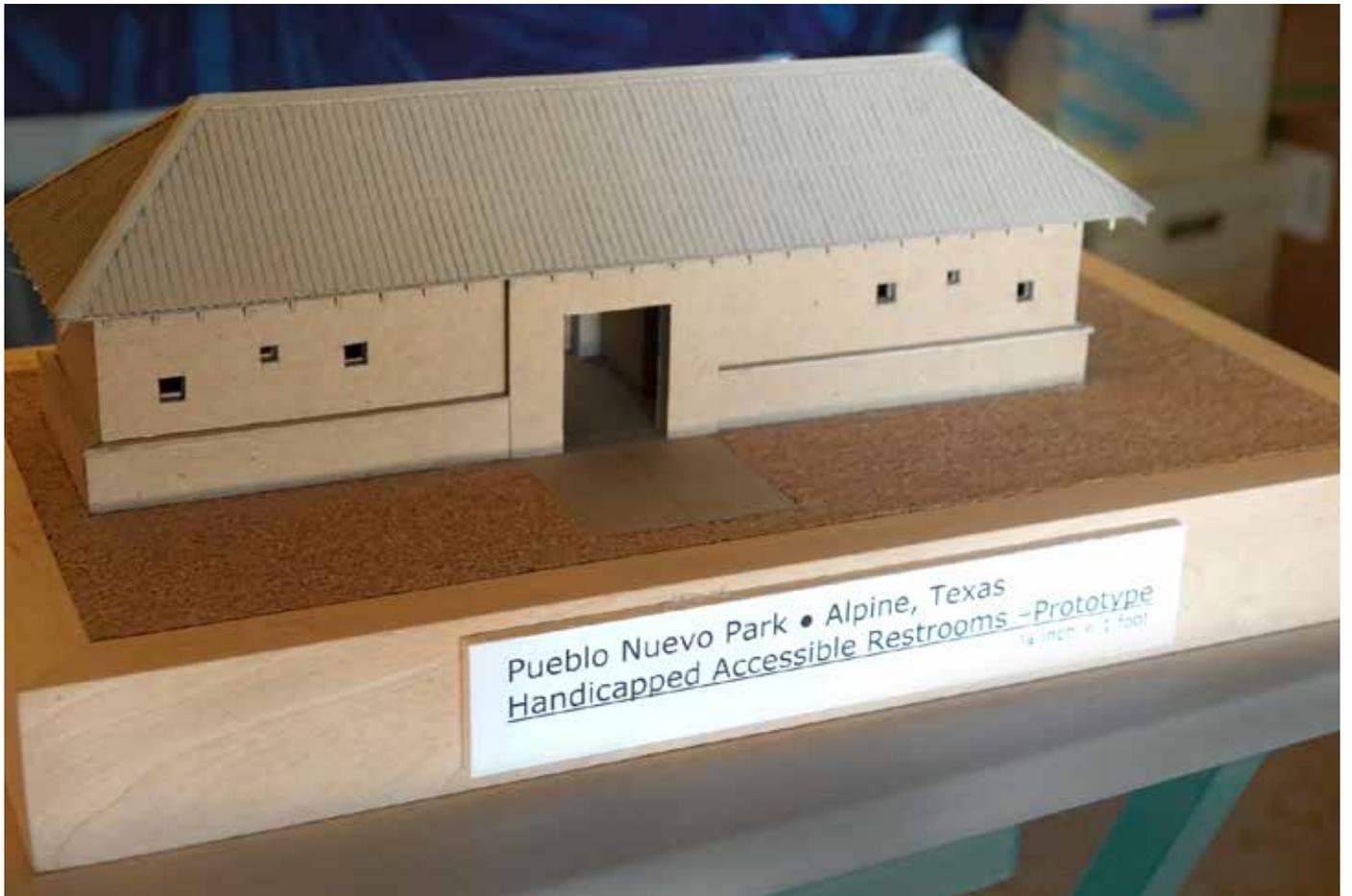
Plan and models by Thomas Greenwood



Alpine, TX vitruvius@atishcglobal.net 432.837.9419



Pueblo Nuevo Park • Alpine, Texas
Pueblo, Sanabala



Pueblo Nuevo Park • Alpine, Texas
Handicapped Accessible Restrooms - Prototype
1/4 inch = 1 foot



How to Get Rid of Goat's Head Weeds, Seeds, and Stickers



L Olson (lgOlson)

Joined 4 years ago from Northern Arizona

Contact L Olson

61

About Articles Activity Following Followers Fan Mail

Professional Buyer for 30 years, semi retired, I research and recommend the best current buys on some of my favorite topics, including instruments, gardening, film and books.

Accolades



Dengarden > Gardening > Weeds

How to Get Rid of Goat's Head Weeds, Seeds, and Stickers

Updated on May 10, 2019



L Olson > more

A retired professional plant grower, I tried many methods to get rid of the goat's head that took over my yard. I finally found what works.

Contact Author

Get Rid of Goat's Head Weed for Good (so it never comes back)



Here's how to get rid of *Tribulus terrestris*, or goat's head, in your yard. | Source

My Battle Against Goat's Head Weeds

I moved to beautiful Northern Arizona about 22 years ago and loved it immediately. After having lived for years in the southern desert, the area offered welcome relief from the extreme heat and the vigilance we had to keep up against harmful natural creatures.

When I moved into the new house with its large, fenced yard, I thought I would be able to create gardens full of happy plants. As a retired professional plant grower, I couldn't wait to create my own picturesque garden scape. Then I had my first encounter with a goat's head plant (Latin name is *Tribulus terrestris*). It also goes by name other names (see below for a list), but to me, this plant is quite simply "The Enemy" and I am at war with it!

It went like this: I was out in the yard and I reached down to pull a weed from an area I was clearing. I felt what I was feared might have been a sting by an unknown bug, but instead of a stinger, I saw a roundish, odd, hard thing stuck in my skin. I went to pull it out and was immediately impaled again on my other finger. I had not seen that there were several barbs on it.

After I got it out, I looked around and to my horror, saw that this plant was everywhere in my yard, and spreading rapidly! Goat's head weeds are like flypaper stuck to your hands and killing them seems impossible. My friends, you can control and kill goat's head weed and keep it from taking over your yard, but it takes

patience, perseverance, and some good tools.

In this article, I'll share:

- What you'll need to get rid of goat's head weed forever
- What I tried that didn't work
- Season-by-season steps to kill goat's head weed stickers
- My recipe for a homemade weed killer (that works)
- How to safely use a propane vapor torch
- Chemicals that kill goat's head weed and how to use them
- What to do if you step on a thorn (and how to keep them out of your house)
- Plants that choke out goat's head weed
- Goats and goat's head weed
- Weevils that eat goat's head weed
- Other names for goat's head weed
- How this weed spreads so quickly

How to Get Rid of Goat's Head Forever

Here's what you'll need:

- Propane weed-burning torch (for large infestations; check your local laws regarding use of these devices)
- Protective gloves
- Epsom salts and white vinegar (diluted 1/2 cup each per gallon of water)
- Chemical weed killer containing Oryzalin (follow safety precautions)
- Good upright weeder/extractor
- Tarps to lay down after you spray
- Weed collection bin
- Weed puller (hoe, claw hammer, or lawn jaws)
- Rake
- (Optional) Mulch to lay over treated and weeded area

Note: I Do Not Recommend Roundup

The main ingredient in Roundup is the herbicide Glyphosate. I do not recommend using this product as some research links Glyphosate to cancer.

What Doesn't Work to Get Rid of Goat's Head

Here's what I tried first: I sprayed the plants with my regular weed killer, but that didn't work. Then I spent the rest of the summer pulling them out of my front yard, one by one, by the roots. My back nearly broke, but I had cleared away a good area and was sure they would not return. Sadly, I was mistaken.

We had a monsoon in August so severe that the yard behind ours flooded and overran the small berm separating our properties. The result was that my yard was immersed in water for several days, leaving millions of goat's head seeds on the land around my house.

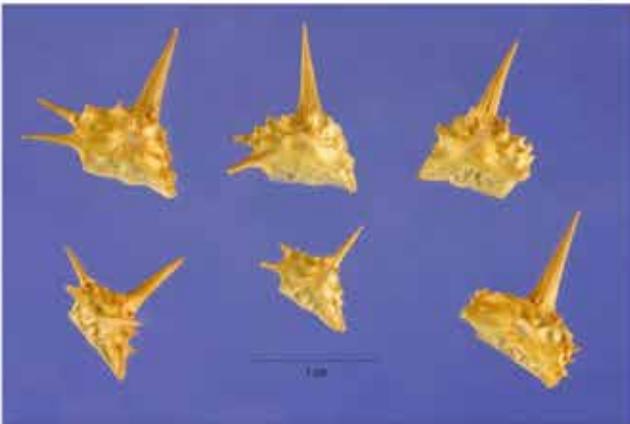
After All That, the Goat's Head Came Back

The next spring the plants all emerged again, I knew I had to refine my tactics. Now, after several more seasons of battle, I am a goat's head warrior!





The green *Tribulus terrestris* "fruit" is surrounded by long spines. | Source



Once dry, the spikes sharpen and can puncture bicycle tires (and feet). | Source

Season-by-Season Steps to Get Rid of Goat's Head Stickers

Late Winter/Spring (March–June)

Lay down a pre-emergent weed killer like Surrflan, which contains cryzalin and trifluralin, as a preventative. I have also successfully used a home remedy weed killer: Dilute 1/2 cup each of Epsom salts and vinegar in a gallon of water and spray thoroughly. Avoid spraying any "good" ground covers, as you want them to flourish and take space away from the Evil One.

Summer

- If you have large infestations, sweep with your propane weed burner, staying close to the ground to burn out as much of the roots as you can. Follow your burn with a weed killer that will get to the roots still living underground. Note: If you use a weed burner, you won't need to rake.
- At the first sign of their little green bodies, spray with weed killer. Tip: Spray and then cover with a sun-blocking tarp for about a week. I start this process close to my house and move outward. Peek under the tarp, and when the plants have turned yellow/brown, remove the tarp and move on to the next step. (Note: You can spray these at any time of the year, but beginning the following year, start on schedule to fully get them out of your yard.)
- Remove the goat's head plants, including the roots, with your upright weeder. If you are limber enough and don't have many plants to remove, you can pull them out by hand, but make sure you wear protective gloves. Grasp the entire plant as close to the ground as possible and slowly pull sideways to get the entire root system out. Pulling straight up usually snaps the plant off, leaving the roots still underground.
- Rake the area, removing all goat's head debris, and put it into the trash. Finally, sweep the area you cleared to pick up any thorns. Remember to always put goat's head weeds and thorns in your trash or burn them. They reseed like crazy, if you don't.

- If you have not used chemicals, plant wildflowers and cultivate any other ground covers you can to choke the goat's head plants out.
- Sit back and have a cool one!

Fall/Early Winter

If you live in an area with cold winters, the first freeze will kill goat's head weed. But, as stated earlier, the plant reseeds aggressively, so be sure to clear your property of any thorns, stems, leaves, and roots. Dispose of these in the trash or by burning.

How to Kill Goat's Head Weed Naturally

Dilute 1/2 cup of Epsom salts and 1/2 cup vinegar in a gallon of water. Spray thoroughly.



It looks pretty here, but this plant will drive you insane if it gets established on your property. | Source

How to Safely Use a Propane Vapor Torch

Moist fall and winter weather is the perfect time to attack large patches of goat's head weeds by burning. I have had so many readers rave about using the Red Dragon VT 2-23 C Propane Vapor Torch in their yards. It makes chemicals unnecessary and is easier than the physical work involved with pulling and raking methods.

- **Pros:** The burner destroys both plant and its seeds immediately.
- **Cons:** It won't always kill the roots so they might come back again.

So, for those of you with large areas to clear who and don't mind burning areas down to the soil, this is a very good option. I would recommend following with a weed root killer that I have listed in this article.

Safety tips:

1. First, you must check with your local fire department or city for regulations on its use. Some will require a burn permit, and some do not allow them at all.
2. Always have a watering hose ready.
3. Pre-water the boundary areas to prevent the burning from getting away from you.
4. Never burn in windy conditions!

Follow these precautions and you should be fine.

Chemicals That Kill Goat's Head Weed and How to Use Them

Chemicals are harsh but necessary. In your battle with goat's head weed, you must have chemicals in your arsenal. I know chemicals are not always friendly to the environment, but used properly and chosen carefully, they are very helpful weapons in fighting this scourge. They won't do it all, but combined with the other methods, chemicals will reduce the weeds.

These are the chemicals I have found to be effective when used as directed and in conjunction with the other tactics.

- *Oryzalin* and *Trifluralin* (Surflan) Pre-emergents to be applied in late winter/early spring.
- *Glyphosate* (Roundup) and *Dicamba* Post-emergents to be applied to growing plants. * Note: I no longer use Roundup for health reasons.

Safety tips: Make sure your pets do not walk on these chemicals when still wet. I cover the areas I have sprayed with a cheap tarp until they are dry. This helps the product be more effective. It deprives the plants of sun, allows the chemical to penetrate fully, and protects my cats from coming into contact with the chemical.

Will it kill every plant you spray? No, nothing does, but it will kill a lot of them. After they are dead, rake the plants and sweep up any thorn heads.

- Caution! Read all labels as some of these can kill other plants you do not want to be harmed!



Dried goat's head thorns embedded in a foot. Pull them straight out with a finger on each side. | Source

Stepped on a Goat's Head Thorn?

1. Scream. It does help.
2. Do not just grab under your foot to yank it out.
3. Carefully put a finger to each side of it and pull it straight out.
4. Limp to your medicine cabinet/first aid kit and douse the wound in antiseptic, such as hydrogen peroxide or medicinal alcohol.
5. Apply a layer of antibiotic cream and cover with a sterile bandage.
6. Check it periodically and watch for any sign of infection.

Keep Thorns Out of Your House

For those of you who walk on areas of your property that have or have had these weeds, be sure to thoroughly wipe your shoes off on a rough surface or mat before entering your home. If you don't, you will carry the burrs inside and they will come off on your carpet and you run the risk of stepping on them in bare feet.

The thorns can easily penetrate soft-soled shoes and slippers (not to mention tires, in some cases) so it's important to take care to scour your carpeting and floors for them. Animals can bring them in as well. Sometimes I think they make their way in my house on their own!

If you have small children, make sure they always wear shoes in the house, to protect their little feet.



Desert Mallow is a great wildflower that will grow and propagate in your yard, especially if you live in the Southwest.

Plants That Choke Out Goat's Head Weed

For those of you who live in the southwestern U.S., Desert Mallow is a great natural wildflower to promote in your yard. These perennial desert plants flower all summer long. The best part is that if allowed to grow and propagate, these beauties will help choke out goat's head weed. They require nothing: no watering and no fertilizer. Just let them flourish and you will have wonderful orange flowers that last and last. They are easily propagated by cuttings and they reseed each year, naturally multiplying.

I took this picture in mid-May.

Do Goats Eat Goat's Head Weed?

Some goat farmers say that their goats will eat burrs and other thorny plants, in some cases the animals eat everything *but* the thorns. If you try using goats to eradicate goat's head weed, make sure to rake up and dispose of all plant debris the goats leave behind. These plants can reseed from thorns on the ground.

Weevils That Eat Goat's Head (Puncture Vine)

There are also commercially available weevils that kill goat's head. The weevils are called *Microtarinus lareynii* and *Microtarinus lypriformis*.

Together they are known as puncture vine weevils. *Microtarinus lareynii* works by eating away the side of a green goat's head burr. Then it lays its eggs inside the cavity and seals it up. As adults, these weevils do eat goat's heads, but the real damage is when the female uses the burr as an incubator for her eggs.

Microtarinus lypriformis lays its eggs in goat's head stems. Once hatched, the larvae feed on the plant.

Both weevils have been used in the U.S. to control goat's head weeds since the early 1960s. Interestingly, both the weevil and the goat's head plant are native to Europe, so one can only assume that goat's head isn't as big a problem in its original habitat!

At this time, I cannot say how effective weevils are, but I suggest you look into it. I do not believe it would work in my area as I am in a high wind location. The weevils would be blown away from my yard, helping out my neighbors downwind perhaps, but leaving me open to a rear attack again. I cannot say more than to suggest that you research them. Check with the agriculture department in your county to see if they are legal to use!

Other Names for Goat's Head Weed

These invasive weeds go by many names:

- *Tribulus terrestris*
- puncture vine
- caltrop or small caltrops
- bullhead
- cat's-head
- devil's eyelashes
- devil's-thorn
- devil's-weed

How Goat's Head Spreads So Quickly

Rapidly, it begins to spread, sending out tentacles. Then it produces little yellow or purple flowers. The roots grow deep very quickly and spread underground. From

those roots more evil plants grow, reproducing at an alarming rate.

After they produce their little flowers, the thorns begin to grow, nestled under the leaves and vines, all but invisible until the unwary come near. Moisture will cause it to either hug the ground (less moisture) or grow more upright, with more spreading vines (more moisture).



This article is accurate and true to the best of the author's knowledge. Content is for informational or entertainment purposes only and does not substitute for personal counsel or professional advice in business, financial, legal, or technical matters.

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Ask the author a question

Ask

Question: I pulled every single one of these Goat Head Weeds out of my yard as soon as it showed one flower. None of them went to seed. This year I have just about as many, and am following the same program. I thought they were annuals, but I suppose the seeds stay fertile for several years. How many years does it take?

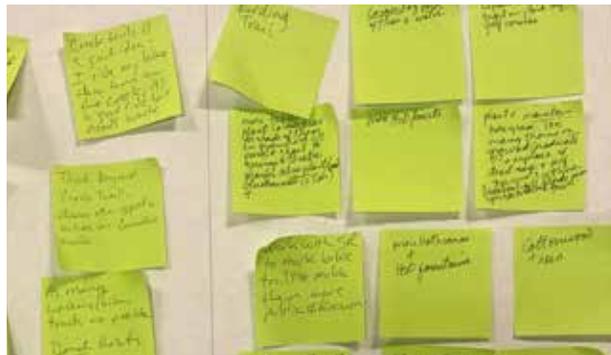
Answer: If you follow up the pulling of the weeds with something that will really penetrate the soil, and get up the loose old seeds you should have less and less each year. However, if the land around you have lots of them, they will make their way into your area again via wind, animals, etc.

Helpful 63

Question: I have a round pen for training my horses with WASHED SAND. How do I get the actual stickers out, do I burn it?

Answer: I would do that, but you would have to rake to expose those underneath the top layer of sand, and depending on how big the pen is you could sift as many out as you can.

Helpful 29



Stakeholder Meeting Notes

List of Attachments

1. Master Contact List
2. Frequently Ask Questions (FAQ/Informational Document)
3. Public Meetings Advertisement
4. Public Meeting 1 Sign In Sheets
5. Survey (Paper)
6. Public Meeting 1 Dot Exercises
7. Big Ideas Board Summary
8. Park Maps (Sticky Notes on Aerials) and Transcriptions
9. Public Meeting 2 Sign In Sheets
10. Public Meeting 2 Agenda
11. Public Meeting 2 Displays
12. Draft Goals Table
13. Public Meeting 3 Sign In Sheets
14. Stakeholder Meetings: February 12-13, 2019
15. Sports League Meeting: March 14, 2019, Transcribed Notes & Flip Chart Pictures
16. Big Bend Parks and Recreation for Kids (BB-Parks) Meeting: March 26, 2019, Notes
17. Survey Information

Attachment 1

Master Contact List

Aaron Rodriguez	Cheryl Eakens Chris	Gilbert E. Valenzuela
Adam Llanez	Lacy	Ginger Moore
Adelina Baell	Chris Hardin Chris	Grayson Anderson
Adrian Billings, MD	Herrera Chris	Gwynne Jamieson
Aimee Roberson	Ruggia	Heidi Wasserman
Alex Galvan	Clint Weber	Hugh Garrett
Amy Struthers	Cory Llanez	J.T. Maroney
Andy Ramos	Cynthia Salas	Jacob Helesic
Anna Ybarra	Dale Christophersen	Jason T. Miller
Anne Calaway	Daniel Brian Rojo	Jay Miller
Areli Perez	Danny Rojo	Jean Zimmer
Audrey Painter	Darin Nance	Jeanine Bishop
Austin Stolite	Dave Dumas David	Jessica Garza
Avinash Rangra	Winslow David	Jim "Fitz" Fitzgerald
B. Mesker (sp)	Busey Denis Foley	Jim Street
Becky Watley	Dick Zimmer	Joann Sanchez
Becky McCutchen	Don Wetterauer	Joe Esparza
Betse Esparza	Dona Ward	Joe Torres
Betsy Evans	Ekta Escovar, MD	Joel Gormcey
Bill Kibler, Ph.D.	Eleazar R. Cano	John Ray, MD
BJ Gallego and Linda Gallego	Elizabeth Mesker	John Waters
Bobby Mesker	Ellen Melvin Estela	Joseph Parker
Brian Shugent	Vega	Joyce Downing
Bridgett Gonzales	Gail D. Yovanovich	Judy Ford
Carol Fairlie	Gail Shugurv	Julian Gonzales
Carol Morrow		
Caroline Luna		

Karen Little	Mike Latta	Scott Grubitz
Katie Ray, MD	Mike Pallanez	Sgt. Nava
Keith Nixon	Mistie McBride	Shawna
Keri Blackman	Mistie McBride	Stacey Yanez
Kevin Geehan	Mitch Wright	Stephanie Elmore
Kevin Mueller	Mo Morrow	Stephen Wood
Kevin Urbanczyk, MD	Nancy Davila	Steve Lang
Kirsten Moody	Norma Hinojos Olivo	Susan Billings
Kloey Cargill	Oscar Cobos	Tom
Kristin (Lacy) Cavness	Patty Manning	Tom Kennedy
Kurt & Margaret Mannchen	Pete Smyke	Tom Lancaster
Larry Rodriguez	Ramon Olivas	Troy Canaba
Lauren	Rawles Williams	Vicky Carrasco
Lee Sneed	Ray Ellis	Will Juett
Lena Lyons	Raymond Skiles	Witlock
Leo Dominguez	Reece Blincer	Zion Schaeffler
Liz Sibley	Rhonda Cole	
Lucy Escovedo	Rich Portillo	
Manny Granado	Richard Portillo	
Marci Tuck	Rick Stephens	
Maria Curry	Robert Alvarez	
Mark	Robert Llanez	
Martha Latta	Robert Vasquez	
Martin Benovich	Robie Golden	
Mary Beth Garrett	Rod Ponton	
Mary Bones	Ronny Dodson	
Megan Antro	Rosie Pallanez	
Megan Wilde	Ruben Ortega	
Melina Cobos	Russell	
Mesinda Llanez	Rusty Moore	
Mesquite Maxwell	Ruth Hucke	
Michael Janis	Sarah Vasquez	

Attachment 2 Frequently Asked Questions

City of Alpine’s Parks, Recreation, Open Space & Trails Master Plan Background Information on Purpose and Planning Process

Why is the City of Alpine doing a Parks, Recreation, Open Space & Trails Master Plan?

The City of Alpine would like to get a better understanding of its park system and get guidance for meeting current and future needs around parks, open space and recreational facilities. The City would like to create a vision for fiscally and environmentally responsible parks and recreation space. The City leadership and the City’s Park and Recreation Board has deemed it important to create a parks and recreation master plan to better position themselves to not just address needs and effectively manage existing parks but also to seek funding from agencies and organization such as Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, private foundations, and others for park system improvements.

What is the planning process?

The planning process for creating the Parks, Recreation, Open Space & Trails Master Plan includes the following:

1. Needs Assessment—this includes analysis of the parks, park inventories, review of past studies/reports/efforts and other existing conditions.
2. Outreach and Visioning—this includes interviews, stakeholder meetings, public meetings and other outreach strategies for gathering input and recommendations from the City, stakeholders and the public on what the vision of the park system should be and also assessment of what is needed, what issues are observed and prioritizing goals and possible projects. This also contributes to the needs assessment above.
3. Plan Development—this includes compilation of all information into one document. The public will have a chance to comment on contents of the plan.

Who is doing the Parks, Recreation, Open Space & Trails Master Plan?

The City of Alpine, Texas has commissioned for a parks and recreation master plan to be developed, and they are working with the City of Alpine’s Park and Recreation Board. The planning process is led by Kleinman Consultants, a planning, engineering and surveying firm from Presidio, Texas, and Vista Planning and Design, a landscape architecture and city planning firm specializing in park master planning. Consultants are working closely with City of Alpine staff and the City’s Park and Recreation Board to develop plan.

What is the timeline for the Parks, Recreation, Open Space & Trails Master Plan development?

Date	Milestone	Description or Activity
Winter 2018/2019	Needs Assessment	Park Evaluation, Inventory
Feb/March 2019	Outreach	Outreach to stakeholders via interviews, small group meetings, etc.
March 13, 2019	Public Meeting #1	Public is able to provide input on the vision, needs, ideas, concerns
April 4, 2019	Joint City Council/Park Board Session	Group work session to discuss vision/objectives for plan.
April 17, 2019	Public Meeting #2	Public reviews and comments on findings
May 22, 2019	Public Meeting #3	Public reviews and comments on findings and draft plan
Early Summer 2019	Final Plan	Plan is Adopted by City in early June

Why should the public be involved and how?

The public should be involved in the planning process so that they learn about the current park system and what it offers, and also have a say on what is needed and where funding should go. It is also a good way to participate in community efforts. Now is the chance to bring up challenges, issues, opportunities, big ideas and possible solutions to improve the park system in Alpine. This is a unique opportunity to influence the future of parks in Alpine.

To that end, the City of Alpine is hosting three public meetings (March 13, April 17 & May 22) to hear ideas from the public on ways to improve the park system in Alpine. At these meetings, the public can provide input on goals, objectives and priorities for the plan and suggest improvements. All public meetings are from 6 PM to 8 PM at Alpine’s Civic Center.

Who can I contact for more information?

For more information on the park planning process, please contact Kirsten Moody, Parks and Recreation Board President at 512.560.6312 (call or text) or via email at kirstenmoody2003@yahoo.com.

Attachment 3 Public Meeting Advertisement

YOU ARE INVITED

(ESTÁ INVITADO)

PUBLIC MEETING ALPINE'S MASTER PARK PLAN

(JUNTA PÚBLICA PARA EL PLAN MAESTRO DE LOS PARQUES DE ALPINE)

Wednesday

March 13

Miércoles, 13 de Marzo

6:00-8:00 P.M.

Alpine Civic Center

810 W. Holland, Alpine, TX

The City of Alpine and Alpine's Parks and Recreation Board invites the community to provide input, insights and comments on the needs and ideas for the Master Park Plan currently being developed. Please join us!

La ciudad de Alpine y la mesa directiva del comité de parques y recreación invita a la comunidad para aportar sus comentarios, necesidades e ideas para el Plan Maestro de Parques de Alpine. Acompáñenos!

**HELP US PLAN THE
FUTURE**

Ayúdenos a planear un futuro

**HELP US CREATE A
VISION**

Ayúdenos a crear una visión

For more information | Para más información:



kirstenmoody2003@yahoo.com



512.560.6312 (call or text)



ALPINE TX



Attachment 4 Public Meeting 1 Sign In Sheets

CITY OF ALPINE
 MASTER PARKS PLAN 2019
 SIGN IN SHEET PM 1-03/13/19

FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	PHONE	EMAIL
Joann	Sanchez	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Larry	Rodriguez	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Chris	Hardin	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Aimee	Roberson	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Darin	Nance	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Sarah	Vasquez	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Amy	Struthers	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Jim	Stree	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Dale	Christophersen	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Marci	Tuck	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Zion	Schaeffler	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Grayson	Anderson	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Keith	Nixon	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Gail	Shugurv	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Will	Juett	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Rich	Portillo	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Tom	Kennedy	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Rawles	Williams	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Jason	T. Miller	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Justin	Gonzales	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Gwynne	Jamieson	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Kevin	Geehan	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Robert	Vasquez	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Mesinda	Llanez	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Elizabeth	Mesker	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Raymond	Skiles	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Estella	Vega	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Kurt	Mannchen	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Reece	Blincer	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Pete	Smyke	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Stacey	Yanez	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Richard	Zunmer	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Lucy	Escovedo	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Kirsten	Moody	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Denis	Foley	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Mistie	McBride	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Lena	Lyons	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Cynthia	Salas	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Brian	Shugent	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Betsy	Evans	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Jacob	Helesic	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Joseph	Parker	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

DATE: 03/13/2019

GROUP/MEETING: _____

SIGN IN SHEET
City of Alpine
Master Parks Plan 2019

Name	Phone	Email
Jocelyn Sanchez	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Larry Rodriguez	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Chris Harris	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
* Aimee Roberson	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
DARIN WANCE	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Sarah Vasquez	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Amy Struthers	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
JIM STREE	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Dale Christopherson	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Maria Tuck	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
S Zion Schaeffer	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Grayson Anderson	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Heith Nixon	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
*Liz Meyer	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
(sports) Will Juehl	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

(Software
PASA)

(sports)
14

DATE: 03/13/2019

GROUP/MEETING: _____

SIGN IN SHEET
City of Alpine
Master Parks Plan 2019

Name	Phone	Email
Tom Kennedy		
* RAYES Williams		
Jason T. Miller		
Sp. Justin Gonzalez		
Gwynne Jamieso		
KEVIN GREEN		
Sp. Robert Vasquez		
Sp. Mesinda Llanez		
Sp. Elizabeth Meskee		
* Raymond Skiles		
Estrella Vega		
SP Kurt Magonchen		
Roece Blincoe		
Pete Smyke		
Stacey Yanez		

2015
Special
Group
Meeting

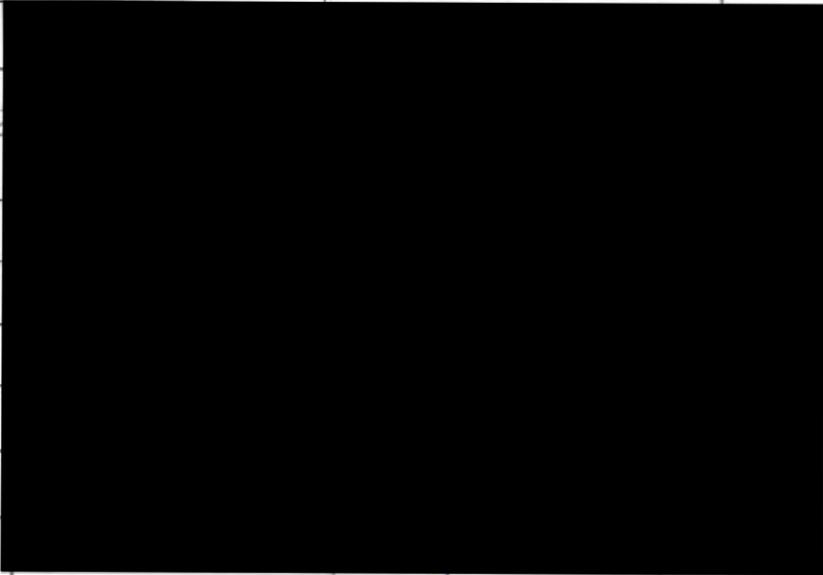
Pueblo
Nueva

15

DATE: 03/13/2019

GROUP/MEETING: _____

SIGN IN SHEET
City of Alpine
Master Parks Plan 2019

Name	Phone	Email
Richard Zimm		
Lucy Escovedo		
Kirsten Moody		
Denise Foley		
Mistie McBride		
Tena Lyons		
Dunithia Sabo		
Brian Shugart		
Betsy Evans		
Jacob Helosic		
Joseph Parker		

10

Attachment 5 Survey (Paper)

Place in envelope or return to City of Alpine City Hall (100 N. 13th St., Alpine, TX 79830)



Scan QR Code for
Online Survey or go to:

<https://bit.ly/2CtluOL>

City of Alpine Survey (2019) Parks, Recreation, Open Space & Trails Master Plan

1) What are your two favorite things about parks in Alpine?

2) What two things do you not like about parks in Alpine?

3) What enhancements would you improve your experience in Alpine parks?

4) How would you rate the need for any of the following facilities or programming to be added to existing or future parks in Alpine?

This need is:	Important Need	Somewhat Needed	Not Needed	No Opinion / Not Familiar
Baseball Fields				
Basketball Courts				
Volleyball Courts				
Softball Fields				
T-Ball				
Tennis Courts				
Soccer Fields				
Golf				
Disc Golf				
Bike Trails (including Mountain Bike Trails)				
Hike Trails				
Cultural Interpretation				
Natural Areas- Passive &/or Educational				
Historical Places & Interpretation				
Picnic Shelters/Pavilions				
Playscapes/Playgrounds				
Wellness & Therapy				
Educational Places; History/Environment				
Trees				
Community Gardens				

Place in envelope or return to City of Alpine City Hall (100 N. 13th St., Alpine, TX 79830)



Events and Festivals				
Trashcans				
Exercise Equipment				
Performance Space				
Dog Parks				
Doggy pickup bags				
Bike Racks				
Equestrian Trails				
Shade				
Restrooms				
Senior Accessibility/Senior Programming				
Drinking Water Fountains				
Water Spray/Splashpad				
Science Places				

5) From the ITEMS listed in Question 4, please indicate the top three that are the most important to your household? (Write in your preference below.)

_____ 1st _____ 2nd _____ 3rd

6) From the ITEMS listed in Question 4, please provide any comments you have for any of the items listed. _____

7) What kind of facilities and activities are most needed for kids, teens, young adults and seniors?

___ Social Space ___ More/Different Sports Opportunities ___ Increased Programs

8) List other facilities and or programs that would be most beneficial for kids, teens, young adults or senior citizens.

9) Which parks do you usually visit/use, and what do you do at each of them?

10. At the parks you do visit, what do you like/not like/wish were there?

11) How often have you visited any of the city parks/trails?

___ At least once a week ___ A few times a month ___ Once a Month
 ___ Several Times a Year ___ Haven't visited in the past year

12) Which initiatives should the City of Alpine prioritize for future implementation? Check all that apply. ___ Acquire land for future development. ___ Develop and improve existing facilities

___ Develop more active recreation opportunities
 ___ Develop more passive recreation (hiking, picnicking, etc.) opportunities
 ___ Develop more indoor recreation facilities ___ Natural areas preservation
 ___ Nature, historical and cultural facilities/programming ___ Other _____

Place in envelope or return to City of Alpine City Hall (100 N. 13th St., Alpine, TX 79830)



13) Would you support a small tax increase for developing new or improving public parks and recreation facilities in Alpine?: Yes No Maybe

14) In what other ways should the city raise or allocate funds for parks?

15) Please rate importance (1-5) of creating or increasing the following. 5 is Very Important is, 1 is Not Important.

Festivals Movie Nights Nature Walk Fitness Classes
 Kids Camps Sports Leagues Increased Facilities

16) What kind of Cultural amenities would you most likely attend?

History and heritage museum Fine arts galleries or museums
 Performing arts; theater, dance, music

OTHER: _____

17) Would you use bike lanes in the street if they are marked?

Yes No Maybe I don't ride a bike

18) Even if you do not ride a bike, would you support the addition of bike lanes on existing roads?

Yes No Maybe

19) If you answered "No" or "Maybe" to question above (#18), what are your reservations?

20) Do you attend City of Alpine festivals, local craft shows, garden shows, and fairs when they occur?

Yes No

21. What have you not been asked in this survey that you would like us to know about your hopes for Alpine's parks?

22) Statistical information (All responses are confidential and optional)

Single Married Single with kids Married with kids

What part of town do you live? <http://www.cityofalpine.com/Ward%20Map.pdf>

Ward 1 Ward 2 Ward 3 Ward 4 Ward 5 Outside the City

How long have you lived in Alpine? 10+ years 6-10 years 2-5 years 0-1 years I don't live in Alpine

Are you a student at SRSU? Yes No

Age group: 18-20 21-30 31-50 51-65 66 and over

Ethnicity: Caucasian Hispanic Asian African American Other

Resident status: Home owner Home lease Apartment Student housing

Income bracket; Please indicate your approximate income per year:

\$0-\$20,000 \$21,000-\$40,000 \$41,000-\$60,000

\$61,000 and above

Thank You!

Attachment 6

Public Meeting 1 Dot Exercises

City of Alpine's Parks, Recreation, Open Space & Trails Master Plan

Suggested Vision and Goals	Priority Dots
Focus on addressing <u>INDOOR</u> as well as <u>OUTDOOR</u> recreation needs over the next five to fifteen years.	15 dots
Aim to establish Alpines park system as one of the <u>PREMIER CITY PARK SYSTEMS</u> in the Big Bend region of Texas.	1 dot
Ensure that the park system will be <u>ACCESSIBLE AND SERVE ALL AGES</u> including mobility challenged and seniors.	12 dots
The system will be well <u>FUNDED</u> and will actively pursue partnership opportunities.	10 dots
Park system will promotes <u>HEALTHY AND MENTAL WELL BEING</u> .	10 dots
Parks in Alpine will be <u>EXTRAORDINARY AND TIMELESS</u> .	0 dots
Parks will be <u>COMMUNITY FOCAL POINTS</u> .	6 dots
The City will focus on <u>CONNECTIVITY AND LINKAGE</u> .	6 dots
The City will continue to value and preserve <u>OPEN SPACE</u> .	3 dots
<u>DETENTION AND DRAINAGE</u> will be used as a green opportunity.	4 dots
The system will focus on <u>SUSTAINABILITY</u> .	12 dots
The system will continue to focus on <u>REDUCING MAINTENANCE</u> .	4 dots
The overall parks system as well as individual elements will also lend strength to <u>ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT</u> .	2 dots
Other:	0 dots





Public Meeting 1, Suggested Vision and Goals—Dot Exercise 1

Suggested Vision and Goals	Dot Counts
INDOOR and OUTDOOR	20
PREMIER CITY PARK SYSTEMS	1
ACCESSIBLE AND SERVE ALL AGES	13
FUNDED	11
HEALTHY AND MENTAL WELL BEING	10
EXTRAORDINARY AND TIMELESS	0
COMMUNITY FOCAL POINTS	6
CONNECTIVITY AND LINKAGE	5
OPEN SPACE	3
DETENTION AND DRAINAGE	4
SUSTAINABILITY	10
REDUCING MAINTENANCE	4
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	3

Public Meeting 1, Suggested Vision and Goals—Dot Exercise 1 Count

Other Comments (post it notes), Dot Exercise 1

Trails

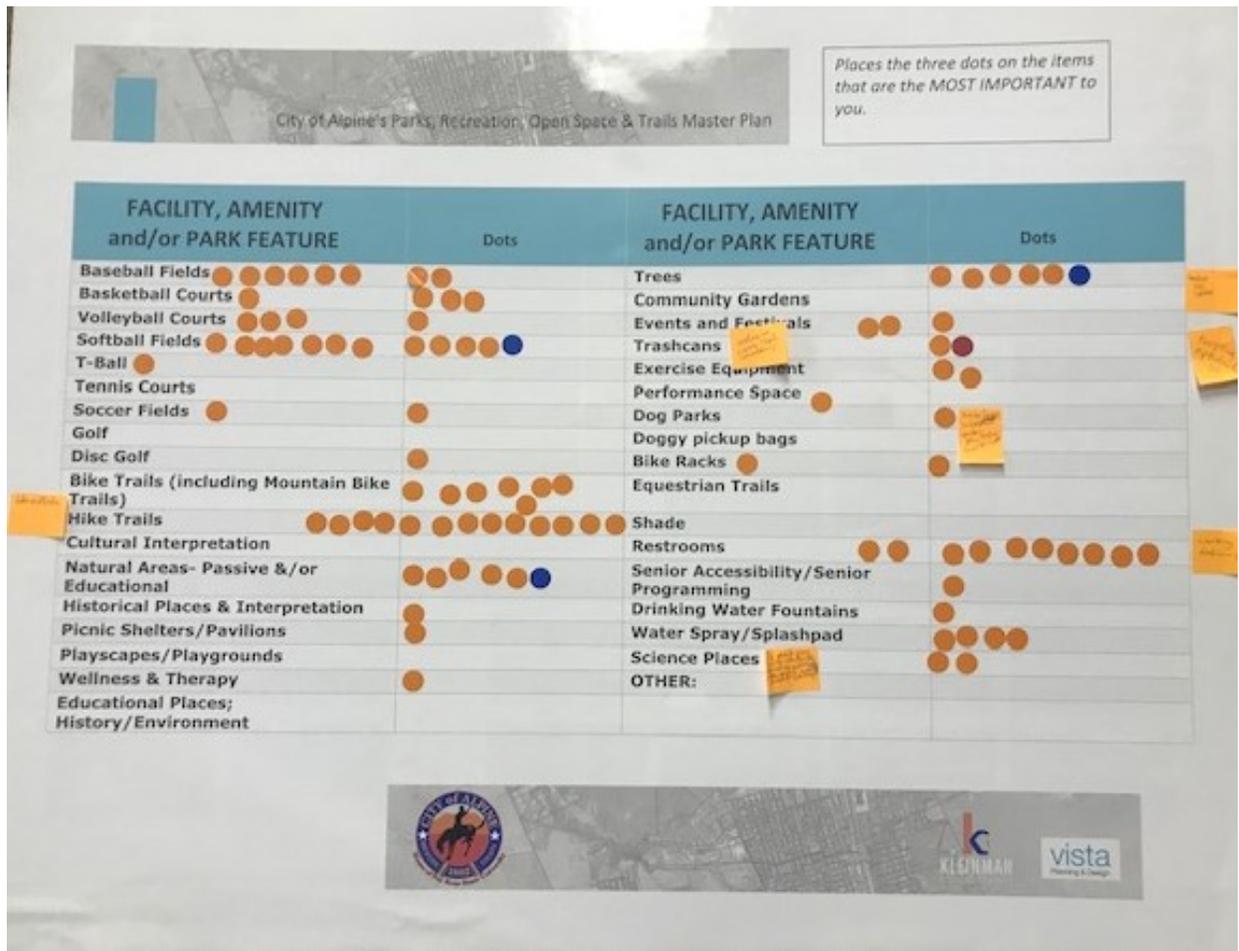
Bike walk paths

Natural areas s/native plants in NE Kokernot

Use native plants only and provide native wildlife habitat when possible.

What is "Connectivity linkage"? (Re-word those)

Kokernot Park section Alpine Creek Restoration/Trail



Public Meeting 1, Facility, Amenity and/or Park Feature —Dot Exercise 2

Other Comments (post it notes), Dot Exercise 2

- Hike and bike
- A dark place with electricity to set up (sp)
- Inclusive along trail (sp)
- Working restrooms
- Indoor rec. center
- Recycling opportunities!!!!
- Make larger Kokernot Park plus H2O and trees for shade.

Facility/Amenity and/or Park Feature	Count
Baseball Fields	8
Basketball Courts	4
Volleyball Courts	4
Softball Fields	12
T-Ball	1
Tennis Courts	0
Soccer Fields	2
Golf	0
Disc Golf	1
Bike Trails (incl Mountain Bike Trails)	7
Hike Trails	13
Cultural Interpretation	0
Natural Areas - Passive &/or Educational	6
Historical Places & Interpretation	1
Picnic Shelters/Pavillions	1
Playscapes/Playgrounds	0
Wellness & Therapy	1
Educational Places; History Environment	0
Trees	6
Community Gardens	0
Events & Festivals	3
Trashcans	2
Exercise Equipment	2
Performance Space	1
Dog Parks	1
Doggy Pickup Bags	0
Bike Racks	2
Equestrian Trails	0
Shade	0
Restrooms	10
Senior Accessibility/Senior Programming	1
Drinking Water Fountain	1
Water Spray/Splashpad	4
Sience Places	2
OTHER:	0

Public Meeting 1, Facility, Amenity and/or Park Feature —Dot Exercise 2 Count

Attachment 7

Big Ideas Board Summary

Public Meeting 1—Big Ideas Board Table, Summary

In summary:

- Participants envision that there be a **Boys and Girls Club** in Alpine (written three times).
- They referenced an indoor facility [**Community/Recreation Center**] for kids. Perhaps a multi-use/multi-functional, rentable center (Presidio's Activity Center was referenced)
- In regards to a **Sports Complex 'big idea'**, participants would like to see a complex that has:
 - softball fields
 - baseball fields
 - basketball courts
 - indoor volleyball courts
 - outdoor fitness gym
 - some fall fields possibly with turf?
 - football/soccer fields
 - swimming pool
 - exercise room
- In regards to a **Alpine Creek Trail**, participants commented the need to
 - Create something useable by cyclists
 - Create linkages:
 - a 'greenbelt' that connects all parks
 - loops around city
 - connect with SRSU Hancock Hill (engage University)
 - connectivity, but with logical areas
 - Combine creek trail with historic walk
 - Have bench rests on trail
 - Don't need to build trail
- In regards to OTHER BIG IDEAS, the following was mentioned:
 - Trails:
 - Specifically have Birding Trails
 - Collaborate with SRSU to mark biking trails and having them more public and known
 - Connect all parks with paths/trails
 - Repave and upkeep trail in park near golf course
 - Have exercise stops along trail
 - Protect key scenic vistas
 - Alpine trail around city (integrate with city expansion)
 - Public spaces with tables, trees, in open field, planting bluebonnets
 - Convert cities parks to 'conservation status, to get tax breaks
 - Facilities
 - More water faucets
 - More bathrooms
 - Create larger dog parks with trees and water
 - Have pavilion and watertank to help with watering

- Have public recycling bins
- Vegetations
 - Plant and maintain more grass
 - Xeriscape all parks
 - Planting bluebonnets
 - Remove thorns
 - Plant cottonwood trees

Public Meeting 1—Big Ideas Board Table, Transcribed Post-its

COMMUNITY/RECREATION CENTER	SPORTS COMPLEX	CREEK TRAIL	OTHER BIG IDEAS
Boys & Girls Club	Turf fields me too a similar	Creek trails is a great idea. I ride my bike thry town on the creek it's a good ride but needs work.	Birding Trail
Indoor facility for our kids	Softball/Baseball, Volleyball, Basketball	Green belt to connect all parks. Green belt loop to go around Alpine.	More tables & plant larger trees for shade w them in open field b/t park & trail to spring & theatre maybe also plant/seed bluebonnets (a ton.)
Boys & Girls Club	Softball/Baseball, Volleyball, Basketball	Connect parks with creek trail & historic walk.	Work with SRO mark bike trails & make them more public & known.
Boys & Girls Club	Love: this multipurpose sports courts x 4. Outdoor fitness Gym	Public hiking please!	Bike, walks path conecting all parks around town.
Yes! Similar to Presidio's multi-use/multi-functional, rentable rec center!	Indoor facility Volleyball, Basketball	More park linkage. Hike, bike please. Along North to South railroad.	Develop recreation Dept. with Hotel Tax.
	Softball & Baseball Complex w/football, basketball and soccer fields	Think beyond "Creek trail" assess other opportunities for connective trails.	Convert all city parks to "conservation status" permanently whereby you (the city) gets big tax breaks!
	Softball Baseball Complex	As many walking/hiking trails as possible, <u>bench</u> rests.	Larger dog parks w/trees & water
	One way or two way bicycles or not walkers & runners yes asphalt on concert	Conect to SRSU Hancock Hill. Involve University.	More H2O faucets.
	Swimming pool, exercise room	Connectivity is important but choosing logical areas & ways & signage to do so. Don't need a Buil trail.	More bathrooms & H2O fountains
	Make SRSU contribute! Good for all.		Xerisape all parks. Add pavilion with water tank to assist with watering.
	Swimming pool.		Public recycling bins!! (with all planning for paper disposal)
- What is the difference between these two -			Repave & unkeep trail in park by golf course.
			Plant & maintain more grass. Too many thons on ground, eradicate (sp) & replace w/ (sp) cage & dif. Grasses. (sp) beautiful tall (sp) ones (sp) around town. Cottonwood trees.
			A larger trail w/exercise stops & how to instructions.
			Protect key scenic vistas from road/housing (A-mt, Hancock Hill, etc.)
			Create plan for circum Alpine trail, require developes to integrate in into city expansion.

Attachment 8

Park Maps (Sticky Notes on Aerials) and Transcriptions

**City of Alpine, Centennial Park
Public Meeting # 1
Comments**

Needs lighting
Turf
Cover Basketball Court
Turf like SRUS, multi rec field
Keep dogs off
Take care of it!!
Build a pavilion, improve parking.

**City of Alpine, Medina Park
Public Meeting # 1
Comments**

Improve Sidewalk for safe access, volleyball court.
Drinking H2O & bathrooms. Reseed grass
This park is probably one of the best in our town. Small but very well taken care of.
Improve trail and pathways to park
Add (small) playground w/slide
Benches/play
Make a XXX walks trail a dog park here. More trees shades w/picnic tables with electricity for Mexican festivals (dances, birthday parties) & lights like we have @ Kokernot Park

**City of Alpine, Baines Park
Public Meeting # 1
Comments**

Bike lanes!
Bathrooms
Improve baseball court.
Covered Basketball court; will add to gyms in town
Maintain & safety rails toward Gallego so children do not get hurt.
Cover Basketball court, put a Soccer field in.
Sustainable landscaping.
More covered picnic tables, replace BBQ's w/something else if grilling dangerous.
Head in parking to increase capacity.

**City of Alpine, Pueblo Nuevo
Public Meeting # 1
Comments**

Tom Greenwood has already set up a design for Park & Memorial. Check your records!
Contact Robert Polanco Sr. or Pete Smyke 837-9087
This park has already been designated as the Brewster County Veterans Memorial.
Needs to be more inviting. Shade, seating, landscaping.
Cottonwood trees!
More shade & seating (benches)
Playground
Add more backstops
Shaded picnic tables
Dog park, playground
Turn 1/4 of it into Mexican-style playa XXX trees, benches central bandstand.
Maybe add walking trail all around the park. Put play equipment for children & volleyball & basketball for young teens.

**City of Alpine, Kokernot Park
Public Meeting # 1
Comments**

Sidewalks for wheelchairs access, at softball & baseball fields
Bathrooms are awful!! Fields are awful. Not taken care of.
Bathrooms do not work properly @ Little League
Sidewalk from entrance to fields.
Better trail @ fighting Buck Ave. & maintain pat holes in current trail many elders use it.
City needs a shed for City maintenance, working space, storage space.
Park linkage
Handicap restrooms.
Indoor/covered batting cages.
Designated soccer fields, Soccer concessions.
Mosco lights for the international
More playground equipment for children.
Keep trail maintained plus reservice.
Plant & maintain native grasses & riparian vegetation for native wildlife.
Outdoor event area. Outdoor movies in NW corner.
Turf Baseball and softball fields.
Cover basketball court to add gyms to the town.
Create trail connections/options across end of Kokernot Park to summer theater area of loop Rd.
XXXX the XXX in town have access to field and light.

**City of Alpine, American Legion
Public Meeting # 1
Comments**

Shaded picnic tables
Needs color & the restrooms to work or be opened
Needs basketball court covered would be nice.
Soccer fields bathrooms parking. Awful property.
Trees, bathrooms, trail walk, bike safe for little kids XXX tables for adults/picnic & water fountains bathrooms
Needs landscaping to make more inviting and less dusty.
Grass , baseball fields & keep mowed & lights walk. Close this and focus on bigger pc for park.

**Attachment 9
Public Meeting 2
Sign In Sheets**



**SIGN IN SHEET
Public Meeting # 2
April 17, 2019**

Name	Phone	Email
Richard Lamm	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Kirsten Hood		[REDACTED]
Stacey Yanez		[REDACTED]
DARIN NANCE		[REDACTED]
Kurt Manches		[REDACTED]
Cody Llanez		[REDACTED]
Robert Llanez		[REDACTED]
Chris Ruggia		[REDACTED]
Mara Tuck		[REDACTED]
Will Trett		[REDACTED]
Susan Balling		[REDACTED]
Raymond Skiles		[REDACTED]
Pete Christopher		[REDACTED]
David Busby		[REDACTED]
ARIEL PEREZ		[REDACTED]

Trails-
★



SIGN IN SHEET
Public Meeting # 2
April 17, 2019

<i>Name</i>	<i>Phone</i>	<i>Email</i>
JOHN WARRS	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
		[REDACTED]
Melina Cobos	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Jessica Garza	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Ellen Melvin	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Geo Calderon	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

Attachment 10 Public Meeting 2 Agenda

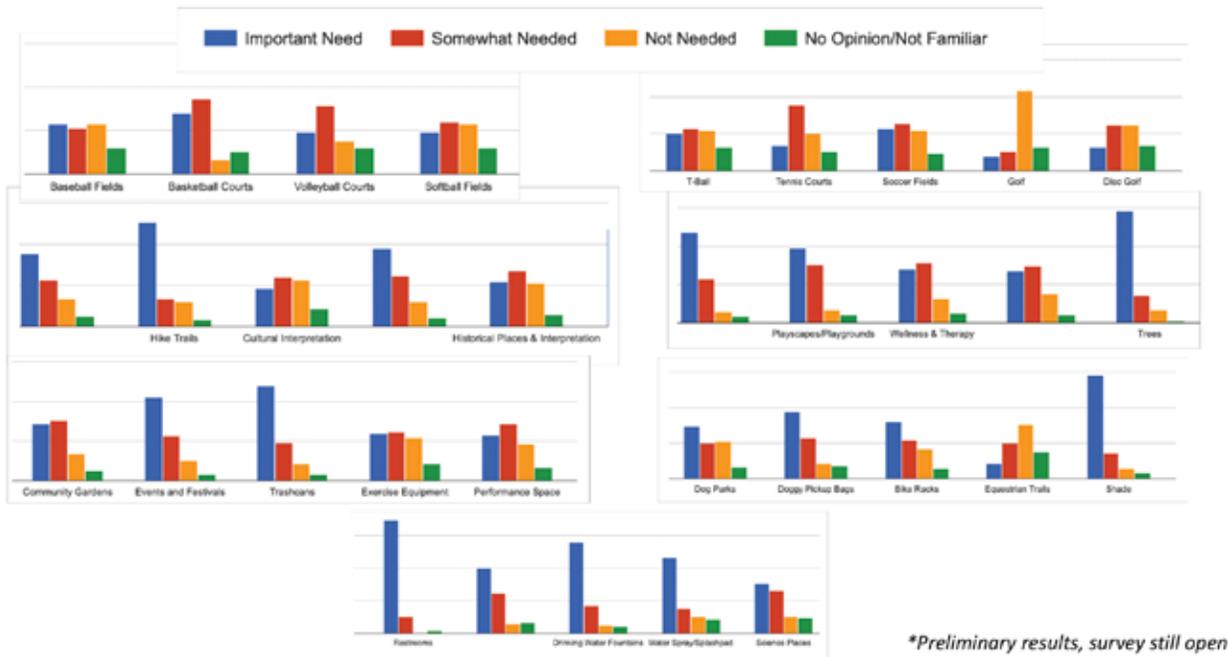
City of Alpine
Parks, Recreation, Open Space & Trails Master Plan
Public Meeting #2

April 17, 2019
6:00 – 8:00 PM
Alpine Civic Center

1. Table Displays
2. Welcome--Introduction and Purpose
3. Presentation
 - a. Process
 - b. Outreach Summary--What we have heard thus far
 - c. Alpine Parks 101
4. Group Discussion--request feedback and input on goals, park improvements/suggestions, priorities
 - a. Goals/Project Ideas
 - b. Barriers Discussion
 - c. Resources Discussion
5. Next Steps and Adjourn

PM2 AGENDA

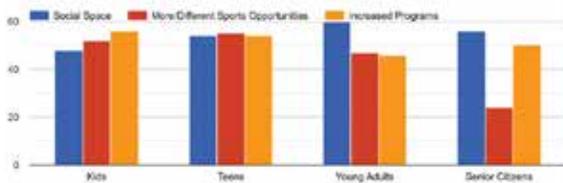
4. How would you rate the need for any of the following facilities or programming (ITEMS) to be added to existing or future parks in Alpine?



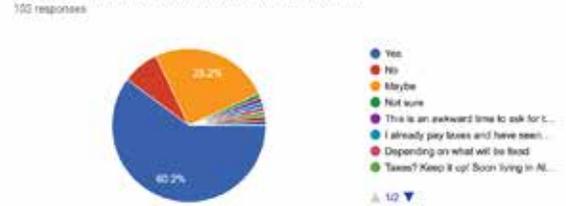
*Preliminary results, survey still open

PM2 Table Displays—Select Survey Questions and Results

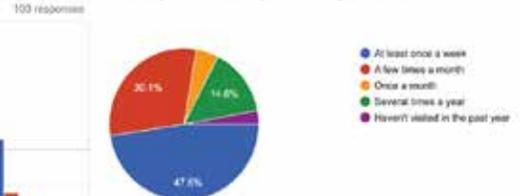
7. What kind of facilities and activities are most needed for kids, teens, young adults, senior citizens?



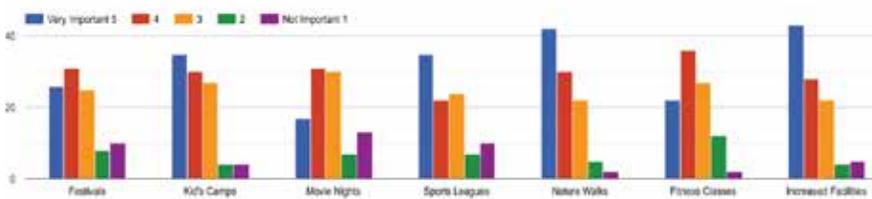
13. Would you support a small tax increase for developing new or improving public parks and recreation facilities in Alpine?



11. How often have you visited any of the city parks/trails?



15. Please rate importance of creating or increasing the following:



Public Meeting 2 Table Displays—Select Survey Questions and Results

Attachment 12

Draft Goals Table

	Goal Category	Goal
1	Achieve a balanced parks and recreation facility throughout the City	Comprehensive ADA access to all parks and related facilities
		Gap closures based on inventory and assessment
		Park improvements in underserved areas
		Safe Routes to Schools + connecting to parks where possible
		Address the needs for ADA and disabilities in all parks and facilities
2	Develop a parks and recreation system that will promote economic development	Develop Tourism Strategic Plan with parks and recreation relationships
		Analyse transient populations
		Identify programming attractive to regional & State-wide populations
		Identify linkages to leverage between specific institutions and facilities
		Identify potential parks facilities and programming related to central city
		Develop a City marketing campaign spotlighting recreation features
3	Maintain a sound and realistic annual budget that tracks with reasonable economic growth. Develop volunteer and sponsorship relations and events for support	Review comprehensive maintenance strategies including grass mowing reductions
		Review various locations to be converted from maintained lawn into natural landscapes
		Review maintenance staffing levels and multi-tasking of staff
		Develop multi-year grants application program and assign staff responsible for grant writing and
		Look for local volunteer partnerships potential with garden clubs, science clubs, cycling and runi
		Develop relationships with corporate sponsors
4	Develop a parks and recreation system that has wide appeal and maximises shared use facilities	Develop, improve, and identify clearly the shared facilities opportunities
		expand and enhance city-wide "Trails" walking or destination tours
5	Work in incremental steps to achieve large projects and long term goals	Phases completing a regional trail network
		Alpine Creek Trail
		Old Land Fill Sports Park
		Community Recreation Center
		Enhance Public Swim Center
6	Infuse educational opportunities into as many recreation facilities as possible related to the place	introduce educational interpretation signage and monuments where possible
		Develop a master list of subjects to interpret, both history and sciences
		Address education for all ages within facilities
		Develop new facilities for children's nature emersion play
7	Infuse physical motion and exercise for all ages and abilities	All new facilities to be rated on intelligence stimulation during design phase

Attachment 13 Public Meeting 3 Sign In Sheets

SIGN IN SHEET City of Alpine Park Planning May 22, 2019

Name	Email/Phone
Audrey Painter	
Joe Torres	
DARIN NANCE	
Martha Latta	
Mike Latta	

SIGN IN SHEET
City of Alpine
Park Planning
 May 22, 2019

Name	Email/Phone
Amy Struthers	
Kurt Maunochen	
Jeanie Bishop	
Keith Nixon	
Chris Piggia	
Raymond Skiles	
Alex Galva	
Dan Chris Johnson	
David Buse	
Marc Tuck-Havlik	

★ See note below

rc
 2
 4

★ Please use these emails to inform participants of planning events!

SIGN IN SHEET
City of Alpine
Park Planning
May 22, 2019

<i>Name</i>	<i>Email/Phone</i>
HUGH GARRETT	
JOEL GORMCEY	
Kirsten Moody	

Attachment 14

Stakeholder Meetings: February 12-13, 2019

Participants

NAME	LAST NAME	PHONE NUMBER	E-MAIL
STAKEHOLDER SESSION # 1-Feb 12			
Mesinda A.	Llanez	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
David	Busey	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
		[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
STAKEHOLDER SESSION # 2-Feb 12			
Chris	Herrera	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Martha	Latta	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Ekta	Escovar	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Chris	Ruggia	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
		[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
STAKEHOLDER SESSION # 3-Feb 13			
Leo	Dominguez	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Marci	Tuck	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
		[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
STAKEHOLDER SESSION # 4-Feb 14			
Ramon	Olivas	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Kevin	Urbanczyk	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

Attachment 15

Sports League Meeting: March 14, 2019, Transcribed Notes & Flip Chart Pictures

RAW NOTES

Adam- JV/V Baseball HS -
Mesinda-Little League-- 20+teams (Until May 31st mid June All Stars)
Joann & Estela-Softball-14 teams
-All Stars?
Larry-"
Dawyne-“ even in fall @ SRSU
Rodrick-Coach no access of field by city
TC-travel-S Travel -S, 2 teams, 10 & 12
Angela-Travel S & LL
Will-travel & rec-S
Jason-travel
Justin-football-Youth, BB, B
Sergio-9U-B-travel B
Kurt-weight lifting
Bobby-various-SRSU

General Notes/Group Discussion

- 1) Access- eg.-Winter (short days) -lights- travel year round (Why not) Little/No-response from city.
- 2) April 1- why not earlier?
Why an issue now, if before they were allowed to use the courts
- 3) Later-busier, students not avail.
Lights @ Manuel Pa. field eg. Games concern (international-no lights-would be nice)
Jay-& city budget-storage (concession stand-who uses? Who owns?)
- 4) Are Youth sports a priority?
Boys & Girls Club-interest.

-
- Hotel tax- can rec. use it?
 - Soccer- Jay Miller-use int. field - gopher holes. \
 - Concession-closed (near int. field)
 - Have a Rec. Dept. -BB league eg. Fort Stockton
 - No coordinator & point person.
 - ALL STARS-can't host

- no bathrooms
- not ADA
- no fields
- no facility
- porta potty OLD

Eg. team hosts tournament in Iraan b/c of no facility here.

- M.P. fields-can't use lights
 - Field
 - power issue
- Improved main @ M.P. fields-over last 2 yrs.
- Lack of explanations
 - why "no"
 - Lack of communications -why no response
 - New staff
- Access to practice fields
- Cent. Field-nice but can't use-lights.
- Updating bath cages.
- Land behind-Radio
 - Plans before?
 - Move dog park?
 - big field
 - Who owns it?
 - Different age groups close by.
- No adult baseball field for >12 yrs.
 - Eg. past pony league.
 - T-ball several teams but no fields/facilities for as they get older.
- Volunteers but positive for youth.
- County \$ for LL used to maintained.
- Lights (free from Terlingua) refused by city.
- M.P. Investments b/w schools, leagues, etc.
- nonprofit manage facilities owned by city.
- -Sidewalks-from parking to fields
- Strollers & ADA
- Adrienne Reyes & Linda Morris >Vball club, Elena Ramirez

WANTS

1. Youth Sports Coordinator*** (7)

(-practices -budget -rec program -officials)

2. LIGHTS – for use @ night* -for park w/no lights
3. ACCESS-little league (now)-future larger
4. Make youth league a priority.*
5. Complete NEW FIELDS -multipurpose.
6. Practice-avail/access/coordinate**
7. Budget for recreation
8. -> better facilities for tournaments-any destination-Alpine
9. Indoor hitting facility
D-BAT-helps coordinate Different cages-hitting practice
10. Big Rec Centn.
Parents & volunteers.

1

Adam - JV/V B^{HS}

Mesinda - LL 20+

Joann - S - 14 - Estela

Larry - "

Dawyne - "

Rodrick - coach

TC - travel - S

Angela - " + LL

Will - travel - + rec - S

Jason - trav

Justin - football - youth, BB, B

Sergio - QU - B - travel B

Kurt - weight lifting

Bobby - various - SRSU

- with May
June mid/1st
All state

- grad
All state
All state?

even in fall
@ SRSU - no access
of field by
city

Travel - S
2 teams
10 + 12

Storage

be nice

priority?

Club - interest

① Access - eg. Winter (short days)
(why not) - lights -
travel-yearround

Little/NO-response to from city

② April 1 - why not earlier
Why an issue now?

③ Later - Busier, students not avail.

Lights @ Manuel Pa. field eg. Games-concern
Jay + city budget - storage

International - no lights - would be nice

④ Are Youth sports a priority?

Boys + Girls Club - interest

Concession
Stand -
Who owns?

Hotel tax - can Rec use it?

Soccer - Jay Miller - Use int. field
gopher holes -
near int field -
Concession - closed

- have a Rec Dept - BB league -
eg. Fort. Stockton.
- no coordinator + point person -

- ALL STARS - can't host
- no Bathrooms, ADA - no fields -
- park/potty VOLD - no facility

- eg. team hosts tournament in Iraan
b/c of no facility here.

land behind Radio - ?
- big field
Who owns it?
Age groups close by

- M.P. fields - can't use lights
- field -
- power issue
- improved Main @ M.P. fields - over last 2 yrs.
- Lack of Explanations - why "no" of Communications - why no response -
- new staff
- access to practice fields
- cent. field - nice but can't use - lights -
- updating battery cages
- land behind - Radio - ? Plans before? move dog party
- big field Who owns it?
Δ age groups close by

- 5
- NO adult bb baseball field for > 12yr - eg. past Pony League
 - T ball several teams but no fields/facilities for as they get older
 - Volunteers but positive for youth
 - County \$ for LL used to maintained
 - Lights - (free from Terlingua) refused by City
 - M.P. Δ investments b/w schools, leagues, etc.
 - nonprofit manage facilities owned by city.

6
- Sidewalks - ~~pro~~ from parking to fields

~~Adrianna~~ ^{strollers - + ADA} Reyes + Linda Morris > Vball Club -
Celena Ramirez

WANTS

- Youth Sports Coordinator ^{practices - budget - fee program - officials} ★★★★★

- LIGHTS < for use @ night
for park w/ no lights

- ACCESS - little league (now) - future larger

- Make youth league a Priority ★

- Complete NEW FIELD - multipurpose

- Practice - avail / access / coordinate ★★

- budget for recreation

- > better facilities for tournaments - any
- destination - Alpine -

- indoor hitting facility -
D-BAT - helps coordinate Δ cages - hitting practice

- Big Rec Center

parents + volunteers -

Attachment 16

Big Bend Parks and Recreation for Kids (BB-Parks) Meeting: March 26, 2019, Notes

Practice

Game field only for games

Dr. Kibbler-legal description-
w/volunteer w/League

Indoor & outdoor recreation ne

Accessible all ages

Funded

Sustainably

Healthy and well being

Parks board-Dormant for 1 years 2016

Kirsten w/Staff

Baines-Kirsten improvement

Kirk- walks- concrete?

Torres-bathrooms

Liasion b/w board & NGO- can there be a board member appt.

“taint”- Financially separately

Eg. Keep Alpine Beautiful” receipts

Fundraising w/approval-purchasing equip-

In-kind

City installs; placement of X

No \$ exchange hands

Robert Llanez-helpful that he is @ meetings-Reality Check.

Lock

1.- Facilities/Amenities

Country Club Pool-not working?

Take care of existing things

Baines Park-Bad Basketball Courts.

Why a walking trail when you can't use?

***Walking trail-needs to be fixed first. Eg. 1 hr = 30 ppl on worse day.**

Deterioration- maintain & improve

DIP in budget

ETP-(Improve existing trail w/ ETP \$)

Loop is TxDOT concrete path.

Bathroom @ NW Kokernot to see kids safety.

KULF-Bathroom access to fixing.

Pool bathrooms-not

Soccer fields too far form amenities b/c they are so far away.

Roberts-answer-Why not to go out.

SRSU- connection SRTS -TAP

-SRTS

Eg. Ponchy – principal of H.S.

Deferred maintenance for parks-

Chain net @ BB Courts-

- 1) Take care of what we have first.
- 2) Low hanging fruits-
 - Inventory behind recycle yet?
 - Not safe? Pilfered?
 - \$
 - Splash pad-weather

Eg. Outlet splashpads-ppl volunteers.

Programming movie nights > Rec. program -Boys Scouts.

Civic Center-can be an indoor community rec. Center.

Use as movie night.

Eg. Polar Express

Storage @ Civic Center

Eg. indoor play space.

Eg. neighborhood Center-Medina Trax

Programming center

-arts & crafts

-Yoga spaces

-Dance/ballet

* **Internship**-from SRSU-(1)

“Moving Play grounds” trailer s/ toys & set up.

Justify Need of staff.*

1 ½ person-sports leagues-programming- Rec. play.

-Boys scouts/girls scouts benefit w/program

* Service programming.

ROI-for staff

Need

*Parks Gym-certified in parks -Maintenance Issues & safety

Inspections & pools- irrigation

Code enforcement: Every quarter-

Education & Maintenance

Eg. Marfa-donation Park-Comm. Build Day

Regional Training

Justification

Eg. Vinton rehab project-City pd 80k b/c of plan TPWD, CDBG—

“Community Build” DAY- * Home Health, Nursing, School, SRSU, early childhood ??

Eg. Kaboom grant-can justify it for equipment.

- 3) Hospital-Health & wellness-fitness equipment-great pr health AETNA programs.
?? Ins. Companies Ages.
- 4) How to increase “rental” options for some items? Fields? Canopies or pavilions
Eg. Centennial pic-idea pavilion-?
Eg. Comm. Room @ Medina rental Pavilion -low hang group. Can you put those amts. Into parks
budget eg. 30K-
- 5) Splash pad (Mama Curry?) card pad access for outside hours.

Parks & Pool revenue: 22K
Expenses: 343 k
City to put up money buy in? (County)
Civic Center used to be a bar.
Multiuse- 3 tier amphitheater -NW quadrant
-Grass area full of stickers.
Pool is > \$ drain but expensive-drain?
Music-Eg. Viva Big Bend-plays-
Baines ? RR tho-

Big Concern: Vandalism

Graffiti? Educational-security cameras-

Signage "monitor"

"Commercial solar powered lighting"

'Dark sky'

Eg. Solar panel @ pool-offset cost @ pool but now don't work anymore

Why not fix them? Hard to get repair ppl out & too expensive

Maybe now roof panels > out of them than solar @ pool

Sustainable energy-someone ?? for smell BR.

Benches w/built in shade & lights-temporary posts @ parking lots-Safety "Look & Feel"

6) Bottom of Pool to retain heat of water

-? Black strips b/c it retains heat.

7) Concession Pool w issues

J/T Marooney-Friends of the pool.

>2 yrs ago-follow up

Programming for staff-justify finding & keeping life guards

16 LG -> GLG & IP

Paying to go to use it

Hours of the pool?

-Can you attract part time workers?

Advertise? Outside?

Formal program-train @ SRSU

Internship -help parks & programming "housing" @ SRSU-Work Force Commission

Area Agency or ??-Funds? for seniors

"comment"

Intern T Parks. USDA healthcare

Judy-senior-sunshine house

*Programming @ pool for A ages lessons or coordination.

Who teaches?

Eg. Open gym-BBball twice a day.

Vandalism-Older kids busy-programms?

Eg. Pool table, bowling alley?

Nov. disc golf

Country club- Joe

Eg. look into golf lessons

Collaborate w/teacher-summer morning for kids.

SRSU & AISD no golf b/c no teachers?

How to use golf course more
Donations? Free clubs
Non profit status?
Group lesson- no mind fees?
*7. Punch card-activities @ town (**Inform**-Sonic-Donuts)
Free x-library, pool 4th, 5th & 6th grade.
Library teenage book night
Coordinate w/ activity center/tourism
Collect bag-recycling center "Goal Oriented"
Alpine -Geo caches? Gems
Eg. Pokemon go?
*State Parks- geo coaches??
Alan coordinated by HOT Funds
Eg. Chris-signage-parks
Brochure
Tourism widget-APP GIS-events
Chris Weber-signage for 16 parks
Museum-16 signs- consistent
Color coordinated
WAYFAIR- to X parks-tourism-\$
Parents: Rating of age Park
Medina 7 & under parks
Comments/Motes/other
Dog parks-Amenities
"Flow thru" 60x60
"Recycled H2O"-Loss H2O
"Tiered Cost"
Near pool-**large structure 20x30 area- \$280K**-plumbing
< 20 gpm -> 300 k
Eg. Arizona—Autotimer
Divide cost of H2O use & added to H2O bill
Low flow-
April 15th-School Day
20 g/m 5 hrs-30 day-180,000 gal/month
\$1.50/1000 gal-2700/month? Max?

Attachment 17

Survey Information

--Online Survey

--Responses (Raw Data and/or Graphics organized for report)

--Files not included in Attachments, but submitted to City Secretary and City Manager

1. Excel File with Responses

File Name: 2019 City of Alpine Parks Survey Raw Data

2. PDF's of Printed and Online Survey Responses (Individual)

File Name: 2019 City of Alpine Individual Survey Responses

City of Alpine Parks Survey

The City of Alpine and Alpine's Parks and Recreation Board invites the community to provide input, insights and comments on the needs and ideas for the Parks, Recreation, Open Space & Trails Master Plan currently being developed. Please fill out this online survey.

HELP US PLAN THE FUTURE

HELP US CREATE A VISION

This community SURVEY will help the City understand the public's perspectives and help develop a parks master plan.

Survey takes about 5-10 minutes. Survey will be open until April 29th, 2019.

Why is the City of Alpine doing a Parks, Recreation, Open Space & Trails Master Plan?

The City of Alpine, Texas would like to get a better understanding of its park system and get guidance for meeting current and future needs around parks, open space and recreational facilities. The City would like to create a vision for fiscally and environmentally responsible parks and recreation space. The City leadership and the City's Park and Recreation Board has deemed it important to create a parks and recreation master plan to better position themselves to not just address needs and effectively manage existing parks but also to seek funding from agencies, organizations, private foundations, and others for park system improvements.

SAVE THE DATES:

PUBLIC MEETING #2
ALPINE'S MASTER PARK PLAN

Wednesday, April 17, 2019
6:00-8:00 P.M.

PUBLIC MEETING #3 (Final)
ALPINE'S MASTER PARK PLAN

Wednesday, May 22, 2019
6:00-8:00 P.M.

Both @
Alpine Civic Center
810 W. Holland, Alpine, TX

The planning process is lead by Kleinman Consultants, a planning, engineering and surveying firm from Presidio, Texas, and Vista Planning and Design, a landscape architecture and city planning firm specializing in park master planning.

For more information, contact Kirsten: kirstenmoody2003@yahoo.com 512.560.6312 (call or text)

If you would like a paper copy of survey, contact Vicky: vicky@kleinmanconsultants.com
432.741.9487

Si desea esta encuesta en español, por favor llamar a Vicky 432.741.9487 o email
vicky@kleinmanconsultants.com

Untitled Title 

1. What are your two favorite things about parks in Alpine?

Your answer

2. What two things do you not like about parks in Alpine?

Your answer

3. What enhancements would improve your experience in Alpine parks?

Your answer

4. How would you rate the need for any of the following facilities or programming (ITEMS) to be added to existing or future parks in Alpine?

Somewhat

No Opinion/Not

	Important Need	Needed	Not Needed	Familiar
Baseball Fields	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Basketball Courts	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Volleyball Courts	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Softball Fields	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
T-Ball	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Tennis Courts	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Soccer Fields	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Golf	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Disc Golf	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Bike Trails (including Mountain Bike Trails)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Hike Trails	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Cultural Interpretation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Natural Areas-Passive &/or Educational	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Historical Places & Interpretation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Picnic Shelters/Pavillions	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Playscapes/Playgrounds	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Wellness & Therapy	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Educational Places; History/Environment	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Trees	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Community Gardens	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Events and Festivals	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Trashcans	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Exercise Equipment	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Performance Space	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Dog Parks	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Doggy Pickup Bags	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Bike Racks	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Equestrian Trails	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Shade	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Restrooms	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Senior Accessibility/Senior Programming	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Drinking Water Fountains	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Water Spray/Splashpad	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Science Places



5. From the ITEMS listed in Question 4, please indicate the TOP THREE that are the most important to your household? (Write in your preference below.)

Your answer

6. From the ITEMS listed in Question 4, please provide any comments you have for any of the items listed

Your answer

7. What kind of facilities and activities are most needed for kids, teens, young adults, senior citizens?

	Social Space	More/Different Sports Opportunities	Increased Programs
Kids	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teens	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Young Adults	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Senior Citizens	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

8. List other type of facilities and/or programs that would be most beneficial for kids, teens, young adults and/or senior citizens.

Your answer

9. Which parks do you usually visit/use, and what do you do at each of them?

You can include intersection/street name/other description if you don't know park name. Park can be city park, Sul Ross State University park, or school property/park.

Your answer

10. At the parks you do visit, what do you like/not like/wish were there?

Your answer

11. How often have you visited any of the city parks/trails?

- At least once a week
- A few times a month
- Once a month
- Several times a year
- Haven't visited in the past year

12. Which initiatives should the City of Alpine prioritize for future implementation? Check all that apply.

- Acquire land for future park development
- Develop and improve existing facilities
- Develop more active sports recreation opportunities
- Develop more passive recreation (hiking, picnicking, etc.) opportunities
- Develop more indoor recreation facilities
- Natural areas of preservation
- Nature, historical and cultural facilities/programming
- Other:

13. Would you support a small tax increase for developing new or improving public parks and recreation facilities in Alpine?

- Yes
- No
- Maybe
- Other:

14. In what other ways should the city raise or allocate funds for parks?

Your answer

15. Please rate importance of creating or increasing the following:

	Very Important 5	4	3	2	Not Important 1
Festivals	<input type="radio"/>				
Kid's Camps	<input type="radio"/>				
Movie Nights	<input type="radio"/>				
Sports Leagues	<input type="radio"/>				
Nature Walks	<input type="radio"/>				
Fitness Classes	<input type="radio"/>				
Increased Facilities	<input type="radio"/>				

16. What kind of cultural amenities would you most likely attend?

- History and heritage museum
- Fine arts galleries or museums
- Performing arts; theater, dance, music
- Other:

17. Would you use bike lanes in the street if they are marked?

- Yes
- No
- Maybe
- I don't ride a bike

18. Even if you do not ride a bike, would you support the addition of bike lanes on existing roads?

- Yes
- No
- Maybe

19. If you answered "No" or "Maybe" to question above (#18), what are your reservations?

Your answer

20. Do you attend City of Alpine festivals, local craft shows, garden shows, and fairs when they occur?

Yes

No

21. What have you not been asked in this survey that you would like us to know about your hopes for Alpine's parks?

Your answer

22. STATISTICAL INFORMATION: 

All responses are confidential and optional.

Martial Status:

- Single
- Married
- Single with Kids
- Married with Kids
- Other:

In what part of town do you live? For a map of the wards, you can go to this URL:

<http://www.cityofalpine.com/Ward%20Map.pdf>

- Ward 1
- Ward 2
- Ward 3
- Ward 4
- Ward 5
- Brewster County (Outside of City/not in a Ward)
- Outside the City/Outside of Brewster County

How long have you lived in Alpine?

- 10+ years
- 6-10 years
- 2-5 years
- 0-1 years
- I don't live in Alpine

Are you a student at SRSU?

- Yes
- No

Age group:

- 18-20
- 21-30
- 31-50
- 51-65
- 66 and over

Ethnicity:

- Caucasian
- Hispanic
- Asian
- African American
- Other:

Resident Status:

- Home owner
- Home lease
- Apartment
- Student Housing
- Don't live in Alpine
- Other:

Income Bracket; please indicate your approximate income per year:

- \$0 - \$20,000
- \$21,000 - \$40,000
- \$41,000 - \$60,000
- \$61,000 and above

SUBMIT

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Google Forms

1. What are your two favorite things about parks in Alpine?

Complete responses

1. The parks are accessible and safe.
2. The trees, the pathways
3. Able to have large event. And there are several parks to choose from
4. The accessibility and convenience of Kokernot Park and the effective routine maintenance of it and Baines and Medina Parks.
5. Grass and trees.
6. size and peacefulness
7. Relaxing outdoor area and walking trail
8. 1, Alpine RR Park Gardens add local garden lore; 2. The Park behind baseball fields is nice for walking and shade in spots
9. Birds and native vegetation
10. Trees and picnic areas
11. Safety and cleanliness
12. Walking paths and shade trees
13. Open space areas
14. Shade trees and sticker-free grassy areas
15. The space
16. The shade and play equipment at kokerknot.
17. The trees, the walking trails
18. Covered play areas and age separated areas
19. Open spaces, easy access
20. Clean and open
21. Kids swings/forts, the pavilion
22. Walking trails, shade
23. They're big, have lovely trees and my kids love them.
24. 1. A natural environment where friends, family, and friends can gather for a fun, educational, and safe experiences. 2. Safe natural environment for kids to play and an aesthetic environment for families and seniors.
25. Playgrounds and walking trail at Kokernot
26. The equipment for toddlers/young children at Kokernot is great. Shade (natural and shade structures) is good as well.
27. Swings/monkey bars

28. Scenery and sports
29. The primary ones have nice equipment and are well maintained. The city has a nice pool.
30. Space and grass
31. Beautiful trees swimming pool
32. Sticker free areas, open spaces along with playgrounds for different kinds of use
33. they are safe places and accessible
34. Recent improvements to playground equipment and general accessibility
35. opportunity for hiking/ being in nature close to town
36. Dog space, hiking trails
37. Trees and grass
38. shade structures and the toddler area
39. provide space for walking and for community events
40. The small play area for younger kids, Walking trail.
41. Easy access location on south and northside
42. Available fields, somewhere safe for our kids to go play
43. Dog park, walking trails
44. walking trails, picnic areas
45. Maintained and clean
46. The basketball courts, only thing the kids now a days play on
47. the open space
48. Trees at Kokernot Park, extended walking trail (with creek bridge) at Kokernot Park
49. Grass, location
50. The playground equipment for a wide range of ages and the picnic areas
51. trees and a trail, parks in various areas
52. Green grass and shade at Kokernot
53. They provide a nice place for outdoor activities for citizens and visitors.
54. You provide "doggie bags" for those of us that sometimes forget but do pick up after our dogs. I also love that you have so many trash receptacles. there is no excuse to not keep our beautiful parks clean.
55. I like the playground equipment.
56. Trees and socializing
57. Trees, open space
58. Walking path large shade trees.

59. Jumping over pot holes
60. walking trails and dog park
61. Paths, pool
62. New equipment and benches
63. The grass is always green and there is lots of shade in the picnic area.
64. Trees & Kokernot lodge
65. That for the most part they have something for everyone of all ages. and that they are almost always kept up with.
66. The walking trail
67. Cleanliness and Location
68. 1. They are spread out over different parts of the city. 2. They have community options like swimming, BBQ's, etc. to get people outside.
69. updated playgrounds
70. Walking areas and shade
71. The trees
72. I like walking barefoot in the park. I like wide open spaces.
73. Views of surrounding area, quiet
74. The view, very spacious
75. I love the big trees and huge green lots. I like the picnic areas too.
76. The variety of interactive activities at the Juan Medina Park. The open green space at the Kokernot City Park.
77. Cleanliness and trees
78. I love the trees at Kokernot Park. I love the new play structures at Baines and Kokernot.
79. Gives the kids a place to play Family friendly
80. Trees and cleanliness
81. grass, and something for everyone
82. grass, shade
83. grass, shade
84. The trees and picnic at tables
85. 1. I love close to the parks 2. They are kept clean and neat!
86. proximity and availability
87. Location, trees
88. Locations and grass

89. The grass, and the trees
90. Big Trees and lots of open space
91. Trees and open space
92. They are clean well maintained
93. Walking track and the new equipment
94. Trees and paths
95. I like that we have several parks throughout town and that they are all getting updated
96. The weather of Alpine and the trail
97. Great for walking & I use the park benches for push-ups & sit-ups.
98. Views and landscaping — green grass and pretty trees
99. new equipment recently installed, grounds look good most of the time
100.They are local with very little public land in the area. Big Bend NP, Davis Mountains and Guadalupe Mtns NP and BB Ranch State Park are awesome but a drive.
101.1. Location 2. Shade
102.Recreation space at Kokernot Park Tables at Kokernot Park
103.The space, and pavilion
104.Kids can play. A place for Family gatherings
105.Walking trails and safe play for the kids
106.Walking paths (that you can push a stroller on) and Swimming Pool
107.the open space and clear view of surrounding mountains
108.Trees, grass
109.Walking Trails, Views
110.Clean and green
111.How clean and green the city is maintaining it
112.That dog park are allowed at the park
113.Trees
114.Great place to get away, enjoy family gatherings, playgrounds
115.Space, cleanliness
116. Accessibility, shade
117.There lots for the kids to do and plenty of equipment for them to play on
118.Their placement and playgrounds
119.Jungle gym and kiddie area

120. Trees and fifteen grass
121. dog parks, walk track
122. clean and safe
123. you can take pets
124. cleanliness, play areas for the young
125. Nothing
126. View Location
127. Multiple locations, love walking trail @ Kokernot
128. Grass, picnic tables, H2O fountains & bathrooms
129. Conveniently located, some have nice grass and trees
130. That we still have open spaces; the feral open space in NE corner @ Kokernot Park
131. Clean & Safe
132. Greenspace, trails-Kokernot Park, wildlife/birds
133. Views, Location
134. Shade, open space
135. 1) Large space (Kokernot) 2) Variety of location, never far from one
136. Clean & well maintained
137. The people=> better parks facilities= more people=good time, trees and grass in Kokernot
138. The hike-bike trails & paths. Open, undeveloped space in & around town
139. View
140. View
141. Health activities possibilities, meeting friends here
142. Well kept & well used
143. Quantity! The outdoors are special
144. The swingset, kid play area
145. Locations and locations!

2. What two things do you not like about parks in Alpine?

Complete responses

1. Only one bathroom facility at Kokernot Park; need more drinking fountains
2. disconnected, (try walking the loop), parking (people park anywhere)
3. Lack of restrooms for events, parking issues (but that's everywhere in Alpine)
4. Loose dogs and limited restrooms.
5. Loose dogs; lack of benches
6. Space not being utilized and lack of landscaping in those underutilized areas
7. The dog park needs help and I am happy to tackle that sorry spot!
8. Regular mowing and not enough trails
9. dog mess not picked up and some parks are just dirt
10. Ground safety
11. dogs running off lead, no enforcement of rules
12. Lack of play areas for the kids too big for the baby area but not ready for the larger structures.
13. The pool is awful and not useful to all ages (need a splashpad) AND need more walking trails/loops INSIDE parks
14. No covered tables and power sources or lighting
15. Not enough trees and overall lack of care for public areas.
16. The too small dog park, too much feces in park
17. Not enough covered pavilions
18. Na
19. No maintenance of sand pit at Kokernot, not enough picnic tables
20. Need more/better walking trails with water fountains and seating. Too many parks, proper upkeep is impossible
21. Lack of easy bathroom access and dogs running loose. The city should enforce the leash laws at kokernot! It terrifies me when my toddlers can be just a few feet from a potentially aggressive breed and off its leash!
22. There appears to be inequality in size, services, and facilities at parks located in the poor sector(s) of the city.
23. Lack of shade at some parks; restrooms too often closed at kokernot
24. Aside from Kokernot, they're limited and small
25. Unleashed dogs around young children! Unmaintained walking path.
26. No big slides/ water splashpads
27. Small and need more options
28. There are too many parks for a city our size. The signage for the main parks could be improved.
29. No restrooms and not able to use fields when needed

30. We need a pond in which we can go fishing.
31. No bathrooms, sometimes no working water fountains
32. not enough trees, no water features
33. Lack of formal/designated walking trail along Alpine Creek and drought-tolerant/native landscaping
34. not enough public land
35. Goat heads
36. They are not open to the public and facilities are not kept up.
37. The accessibility to the fields and the use of the lights. This goes for all fields.
38. No access to water for slides
39. No restrooms available
40. Kokernot gets watered all the time so the equipment is all wet
41. walking path is deteriorating; watering takes place during prime walking time
42. Need more little league baseball fields, Need a restroom
43. More skate park utilization's.
44. Location and beauty
45. Need more cleaning and maintenance
46. gopher holes, lack of public bathroom facilities
47. The poor reputation that parks on Southside of town have earned from years of neglect and abuse
48. Not well taken care and very few activities
49. the poor maintenance
50. What's not to like?
51. Restrooms, holes on soccer fields
52. not enough going on to draw interest
53. The care/maintenance of the Athletic fields
54. When sprinklers are on during the day and when city workers drive over the grass
55. I don't like that we can't use the ball fields and I wish there was more opportunity for baseball/softball teams to utilize the facilities.
56. The sign at Kokernot needs to be redone. I can't think of too much else.
57. I wish the kid's area had a secure fence to keep the kids in. I have two small toddlers and they always want to go in different directions-the only time I can take them to the park is if I have help.
58. Trees not well pruned and species of trees not good selection
59. There are not enough basketball courts or baseball fields.
60. Not enough public restrooms and not well maintained walking path.
61. Potholes and potholes
62. Not enough seats along walking trails and not enough tables through out the park
63. Crowded with too many things too close, people with loose dogs, better pool hours

64. Ground hog holes
65. The sports areas (fields and courts) are bad.
66. Weeds and cleanliness
67. The baseball/softball fields shouldnt be locked all the time parents want to have a chance to practice with the kids on a real field not on the high school football practice field where anyone that is walking on there can break an ankle on the wholes. Second the track needs to be redone alot of people enjoy walking out here why not keep up with it?
68. The lack of water fountains and shade, and not having soap in the bathrooms.
69. Small outdated facilities and bad infrastructure.
70. 1. Lack of connectedness to get from one park to the other.
71. 2. Some items not maintained.
72. only one location for restrooms
73. Too many dogs off leash, trails needs major maintenance
74. Maintenance and outdated
75. I don't like trash everywhere.
76. Nothing to really dislike
77. Not much to do. Need more events
78. The bathrooms need repair and updating, and more of them. The playground is set up haphazardly with nothing defining the spaces (wood chips, sand, rubber padding, etc.) or shade structures.
79. The griminess of the toddler area at the Kokernot City park. The pool bathrooms are not always clean.
80. Lack of playground equipment at all parks.
81. No restrooms at the smaller parks, only nasty Port a Cans at Kokernot. Sitting areas would be much nicer if they had shade covers.
82. Not enough shade
83. Not enough tables/cooking equip.
84. Not enough water fountains
85. Lack of Bathroom facilities near play areas (Soccer fields and playground equipment, not enough picnic tables
86. Goat heads, no shade
87. Goat heads, no shade
88. Practice fields being maintained
89. Not enough for the kids to do. I wish we had a splash pad so the little ones can enjoy themselves. Summer days and littles would love a splash pad
90. The parks near Gallego are not shaded.
91. access and varietyt
92. Hike and bike trails, events
93. Lack of activities, shade
94. It stinks and we need a splash pd

95.	Need more maintained baseball fields
96.	No bathrooms and lack of playground equipment
97.	Only one park has a pavilion & bathrooms
98.	condition of the walking track and condition of bathrooms
99.	No bins for recyclables and antiquated children's play equipment
100.	Dogs off leashes (and the associated poop), equipment isn't as fun for older kids (need more stuff for older kids)
101.	The playground that doesn't have a slide and more options for bigger kids
102.	Old, uncomfortable seating, especially picnic tables. Too many off-leash dogs
103.	need more variety of play options, need more programming (movie nights, etc)
104.	Need work and updates
105.	1. Walking trails 2. Sustainability options
106.	No trail system anywhere in alpine
107.	Non-native vegetation being used
108.	No play things for older kids, and no lights for the nights
109.	No clean restrooms
110.	Picnic tables need to be covered - a few more BBQ pits
111.	That the swimming pool is closed for most of the year and in the mornings. That there isn't much shade.
112.	I don't care for the space devoted to sports; much prefer a more natural landscape
113.	lack of shade structures
114.	Some need to be prettier
115.	To few
116.	Limited hours
117.	1. The amount of holes on the ground.
118.	2. In my opinion there isn't enough equipment
119.	1. No restrooms
120.	Not much to do for older kids
121.	The pool is closed?
122.	Areas for older kids needed, volleyball pit not maintained, what about game areas? Checkerboard table? Or adult exercising equipment?
123.	open containers, messy people
124.	Crowed at some points not really a lot of shade
125.	Parking and dog park
126.	The walking path is horribly beaten up and uneven, and the pool has no place to buy bottled water, which would be so nice!
127.	dog poop
128.	more trees are needed, more picnic tables, not enough activities, events for teens

129.	Does poop everywhere cracked walking trails
130.	Not maintained Does not allow kids to play year around
131.	No resting benches, not enough walking trails
132.	upkee lacking, letting things go, trails upptholes too many weeds encroaching
133.	Some not well kept, note very green
134.	Unmaintained, neglected
135.	All parks need improvements
136.	Not enough restrooms or restrooms are not working
137.	Non-native plants, mowing the field in Kokernot Park-please plant native grasses & wildflowers an let it be for wildlife
138.	Not enough fields/courts etc. for the amount of kids
139.	No sidewalks
140.	1) Non linkage 2) Non-native plants (mulberry, etc.)
141.	Better sidewalks to + from and around parks
142.	Not enough trails. No preservation of scenic mountainsides we all benefit from.
143.	Not maintained properly, not enough shaded benches
144.	Not maintained well, need better accessibility
145.	No restrooms or very dirty ones ????? No first aid stations
146.	Some are over grazed/underutilized
147.	Restroom not close, pavillion
148.	Not accesible after dark, not enough restrooms

3. What enhancements would improve your experience in Alpine parks?

Complete responses

4. solar lit pathways,
5. Outdoor large scale events accessibility and comfortability
6. Animal control to include dog feces clean-up
7. benches; water fountains; lights at night; maps
8. A dedicated trail for bicycles and a natural area with pond for bird watching.
9. I don't visit many other parks so my only comment is seating & SHADE! and nearby parking and restrooms
10. Bird-friendly maintenance, removal of exotic species to be replaced with native trees
11. playground equipment
12. Turf, wood chips and new equipment
13. more flowering plants/trees
14. Adding a splash pad area for all kids or repairing the wading pool area for the infants and toddlers would make the city pool more attractive to families.
15. Ability to walk loops while kids play - walk around, within close distance to playgrounds. Also a splashpad.
16. Covered tables and power sources
17. Care and upkeep to existing things(benches, paths, baseball fields, basketball courts, parking lots, etc.) A new park path at kokerknot. Trees in all parks. Park benches in parks.
18. Just more upkeep
19. Splashpad, covered patios, markers telling you how far you have you walked in the trail at kokernot park
20. More or bigger or better water features for summer play.
21. Bigger dog park
22. Better restrooms
23. Splashpad for any non-swimmer to enjoy year-round. Bathrooms near playground at Kokernot, also needed at Baines and Medina
24. More bathrooms, enforcement of leash laws, and city employees not mowing during park busy hours.
25. Allow parks to be utilized for cultural, artistic, entertainment, sporting, and educational events.
26. Shade at city pool and little kid swim/splash area; keep adding playground equipment; new trees and shade structures for shade; repair/upgrade old asphalt part of Kokernot walking trail; increase restroom access near kokernot playground; add shade structures at dog park; indoor recreation opportunities
27. Bicycle trail/path
28. Restrooms most of the time are close and far.
29. As taxpayers we pay for the school facilities, but none of them are open for public use. The

claim is liability and cost to maintain. This needs to be fixed!
30. More bathroom facilities and more game complexes
31. more picnic tables
32. Bathrooms
33. reliably open restrooms, more walking trails, enforced on-leash laws
34. See q2
35. Native wildflowers
36. Better facilities.
37. New restrooms and accessibility to use all fields in a schedule.
38. Picnic tables and clean restrooms at kokernot Park
39. Splash Pad!
40. improved walking trail
41. More picnic areas
42. I use the trails
43. Baseball recreational fields or one big multipurpose field all our youth activities can play
44. Maintenance. More hiking trails!
45. good bathroom facilities, maintenance of city pool
46. Parks on Southside of town need more attention and care.
47. More sport opportunities for kids
48. paint and general maintenance
49. More interconnecting walking paths would be nice
50. Better Restrooms, parking lot
51. Drinking fountains, a splashpad, more shaded areas to play
52. offer educational programs, make it an interesting place to be
53. Adding or updating Softball Field /Basketball Court / Baseball Field/ Soccer Field
54. Develop other city owned parks to the same standard as Kokernot as for as landscaping
55. More facilities for softball teams to use city fields.
56. More benches along the green belt?
57. Secure fence around the playground.
58. More hiking trails
59. More tables; more sports fields
60. More public restrooms and better dog leash usage enforcement.
61. Potholes, in the streets you drive on to get to the parks.
62. better dog area
63. More open space with trails
64. More flowers
65. The Softball, T-ball, Baseball and Soccer fields needs to updated/redone and be well kept.

66. Upgrade the lodge
67. New Playground equipment for the kids. Open baseball fields.
68. Bigger play areas and equipment for the kids
69. Better playground equipment
70. Upgrade park facilities and roads.
71. 1. More desert oriented species and xeroscaping to ease maintenance. Provide walk or bike options to get from one park to another.
72. a second pavillion space
73. Better enforcement of leash laws and more funds/personnel for maintenance
74. A pond and newer activites
75. I would love to see a disc golf course. It is a great sport for all ages that promotes kindness and comradery.
76. More trees and flowers
77. More activities to attend at the park.
78. More greenery! I'd love to see plants, flowers, more trees, etc. Its one of the major green spaces in town and it could use more green. Better play structures. Actual cleaning of the toddler lot. More shade structures, bigger pavilion, the walking path needs repair. Also, seating for the soccer fields would be nice if possible.
79. More community activities.
80. Kokernot Park is in desperate need of bathrooms.
81. A splash pad that is available 24/7 once temps are above 80.
82. Tables and cooking areas
83. Water play for kids
84. Add water fountain
85. More bathrooms closer to play areas, better bathrooms, and spraying for flees more often.
86. Plant grass and trees in all parks.
87. Plant grass and trees in all parks.
88. Splash pad baby pools and maybe a decent volleyball court.
89. Better walking trails - sometimes there are potholes.
90. a mountain bike trail
91. Have more park events, add hiking trails
92. More events, adult sports leagues, better shade at some
93. Splash pad
94. More shade
95. Bathrooms and more playground equipment
96. pavilions & bathrooms at Baines & Medina
97. Updated bathrooms, repaired walking track, and open green spaces kept
98. Create a trail system throughout the town, plant more trees, add recycle bins, play areas that encourage children's creativity rather than limit (while body of research on this), replace grass

	with drought resistant grasses (buffalo, feather, etc) and desert xeriscaping, water bottle filling stations.
99.	More equipment items for older kids and a city ordinance with penalties for off-leash dogs and their messes
100.	SPLASH PAD
101.	Make dog park more attractive and more pleasant to use with trees and shade structures. Newer, more accessible picnic tables.
102.	more shade /seating/ family gathering areas (for rent or not), diversity of recreation options- disc golf, splashpad, a couple of more developed parks in key areas of town that don't have one (near recycling plant, playground near middle school...), exercise equipment at different parks - not just Kokernot.
103.	The Alpine Trail.
104.	Solar lighting
105.	Native vegetation
106.	Bathrooms at Kokernot Park
107.	Lights,more picnic tables,and a play thing for older kids
108.	clean restrooms near. Many parks in other places have small ponds or lakes which would be a cool addition. Also more infant/toddler areas
109.	Family night - with family friendly movies (portable blow up big screen)
110.	More shade structures and extended opening hours for the swimming pool for exercise, not just kids
111.	walking or biking trails, especially ones that connect parks, areas with native vegetation that are semi wild to promote wildlife viewing
112.	shade structures
113.	More athletic, fitness, walking options
114.	Hiking areas
115.	Possibly more play equipment options
116.	Add more equipment for kids to play on
117.	Splash pads
118.	Indoor/outdoor pool and jacuzzi for year round swimming
119.	Adult equipment, like elliptical s -interactive stations for kids
120.	more education on the importance of parks to the city
121.	Better restrooms and more shaded spots
122.	I would like to see park exercise equipment (walk and work out), safe walking area's away from the streets, adult programming for sports (softball, basketball, flag football, kickball, etc)
123.	More shade and closer picnic tables to the playground.
124.	Bathrooms @ kokernot park
125.	Bathrooms @ kokernot park
126.	Facilities for programs and events
127.	Better paths, organization in placement of fields in conjunctions w/open spaces

128.	More sports activities available & maintained
129.	Benches to rest, "Cross" city longer trails to walk
130.	I wrote a bunch of suggestions on your tables
131.	Ensure all have healthy grass and trees
132.	Increase natural areas with native trees, trails, and sitting areas
133.	Softball & baseball fields need to be worked on
134.	Improved maintenance
135.	More trails, more native plants & wildlife habitat
136.	Maintenance
137.	Linkage with hike/bike paths
138.	Trees in dog park along with dog bathing facility
139.	Sports fields increased accessibility
140.	More trails (hike/bike)
141.	Maintain!!
142.	Turf
143.	More walking trails from ???? To park
144.	More bike trails (work w/SR)
145.	Recycling, native plants, sustainable implementation of whatever is deemed valuable to most.
146.	Bigger, even walkways
147.	More playground equipment for older children in Kokernot park

4. How would you rate the need for any of the following facilities or programming (ITEMS) to be added to existing or future parks in Alpine?

	Important Need	Somewhat Needed	Not Needed	No Opinion/Not Familiar
Baseball Fields	35.21%	26.76%	23.24%	14.79%
Basketball Courts	42.75%	36.23%	7.97%	13.04%
Volleyball Courts	30.15%	37.50%	17.65%	14.71%
Softball Fields	32.14%	30.71%	22.86%	14.29%
T-Ball	31.39%	29.93%	23.36%	15.33%
Tennis Courts	23.74%	41.01%	23.74%	11.51%
Soccer Fields	32.85%	30.66%	23.36%	13.14%
Golf	13.85%	17.69%	50.77%	17.69%
Disc Golf	17.16%	32.09%	32.09%	18.66%
Bike Trails	50.71%	30.00%	13.57%	5.71%
Hike Trails	66.67%	19.44%	11.11%	2.78%
Cultural Interpretation	28.24%	32.06%	27.48%	12.21%
Natural Areas	48.55%	34.06%	11.59%	5.80%
Historical Places & Interpretation	33.83%	36.84%	22.56%	6.77%
Picnic Shelters/Pavilions	60.84%	29.37%	4.90%	4.90%
Playscapes/Playgrounds	52.08%	36.11%	7.64%	4.17%
Wellness & Therapy	41.61%	35.77%	16.06%	6.57%
Educational Places; History Environment	38.69%	40.88%	16.79%	3.65%
Trees	77.08%	16.67%	6.25%	0%
Community Gardens	43.57%	37.14%	15.71%	3.57%
Events & Festivals	58.57%	27.86%	10.00%	3.57%
Trashcans	64.79%	24.65%	7.75%	2.82%
Exercise Equipment	35.97%	31.65%	23.74%	8.63%
Performance Space	33.09%	40.44%	19.85%	6.62%
Dog Parks	43.07%	22.63%	27.01%	7.30%
Doggy Picky Bags	54.68%	27.34%	10.79%	7.19%
Bike Racks	44.12%	28.68%	20.59%	6.62%
Equestrian Trails	15.27%	27.48%	38.93%	18.32%
Shade	74.65%	16.20%	5.63%	3.52%
Restrooms	84.00%	14.67%	0.67%	0.67%
Senior Accessibility/Senior Programming	59.86%	25.35%	7.75%	7.04%
Drinking Water Fountains	70.27%	20.95%	6.08%	2.70%
Water Spray/Spashpad	54.48%	22.07%	13.79%	9.66%
Science Places	41.30%	35.51%	13.77%	9.42%

Question 4, Results Table

5. From the ITEMS listed in Question 4, please indicate the TOP THREE that are the most important to your household? (Write in your preference below.)

Complete responses

1. shade, restrooms, hiking trails
2. hiking areas, performance areas and Trees (interested in Senior programming)
3. Events & Festivals, Restrooms, Picnic Shelters, Hiking/Walking trails
4. trees, hiking trails,
5. Trees, restrooms, and fountains
6. water fountains/rest rooms/dog park
7. Natural area, hike and bike trails, trees
8. shade, drinking fountains, seating
9. 1Bird-friendly parks would assist the tourist economy and contribute to wellness, 2. Trees, 3. Natural space
10. exercise equipment shade trees water
11. Water, bathrooms, trash cans, shade
12. Hike trails, shade, dog park
13. Splash pad, science, playscapes
14. Splashpad, hike trails, restrooms
15. Basketball and picnic shelters
16. Trees, trails, and restrooms as far as "new" things are concerned.
17. Splashpad, pavilions, restrooms
18. Water features, restroom facilities,
19. Dog park, hiking trail, shade structure
20. Softball/baseball field complex, splashpad/swimming pool facilities, events and festivals.
21. Splashpad, water fountain, more walking trails
22. Shade, restrooms, playscapes
23. Drinking water fountains, restrooms, and picnic facilities.
24. Playgrounds; walking trails; trees
25. Hike trails, bike trails, playscapes (not playground)
26. bike trails, wellness and therapy, water (water spray/splashpad and drinking)
27. Softball, baseball fields, tball
28. Splashpads/ exercise equipment/shade
29. Community garden, hiking trails, and wellness/fitness equipment

30. Restrooms, Drinking Fountains, Ballfields
31. Baseball, basketball, play ground
32. trees fishing pond more play equipment
33. Bathrooms, water, shade of some sort
34. Shade, trees, walking trails
35. Splashpad, hiking trails, and natural areas
36. Hiking Trails, Trees, Community Gardens
37. Hiking trails, dog park, nature exhibit
38. All sporting facilities for the kids, restrooms, and splash pad
39. Restrooms fields all sports senior accessability
40. Picnic tables
41. Splash pad
42. Restrooms
43. Splash Pad, water fountains, shade
44. bike trails, hike trails, shade
45. Restroom, volleyball courts, shade, picnic with shelter
46. Picnic areas, rest rooms, golf course
47. Baseball, recreational field, workout running
48. Hiking, community garden, history
49. hiking, restrooms, water
50. Trashcans, restrooms, and field care
51. Baseball, softball, golf, basketball
52. mountain bike trails, trees, shade
53. Walking/Hiking, Natural Areas, Shade
54. Restrooms, Splashpad, and bigger shade for outdoor performances.
55. Splashpad, playground, and shade
56. educational places, senior accessibility/programming, science places
57. Basketball Courts, Baseball Fields, Softball Fields
58. Sports fields, senior access, restrooms, shade
59. Softball fields, equestrian trails, water pad
60. Dog pickup bags, Restrooms, Educational Historical sites
61. Splash pad, playground, restrooms
62. Hiking trees restrooms
63. Baseball fields, basketball courts, softball
64. Nature areas, Educational areas, Community gardens, Science places
65. None
66. Trails, sports fields and courts, shaded picnic areas

67. Restrooms, trees, playgrounds, water spray splash pad
68. Baseball, Softball and Soccer fields
69. Trees restrooms equestrian
70. Splashpad, playgrounds, sports fields.
71. Splash Pad, Tball Field, shade
72. Water fountains, bike trails, and ridding the soccer fields from mole burrows. So many kids play and risk themselves from breaking their ankles.
73. Trash cans, events, gardens
74. Excercise Equipment, hiking trails, trash cans
75. Hike Trails, Bike Trails, Events and Programs
76. fields, pavillion, restrooms
77. Hike trails, natural areas, safe running surfaces
78. Disc golf, bike trails and shade
79. natural areas, shade, hiking trails
80. Disc golf, splash pad, performance space
81. Playscapes/playground, trees/natural spaces, splash pad
82. Playgrounds, natural areas, hiking trails
83. Restrooms, excersise equipment, basketball courts
84. Restroom, splash
85. Pad/ water feature, play space
86. Shade
87. Playground and splash pads for parks
88. Eating areas
89. Bathrooms, work out equipment and water fountains
90. Restrooms, Drinking fountains, picnic tables
91. Grass, shade, water
92. Grass, shade, water
93. Baseball
94. Field, basketball courts, and splash pad
95. Splashpad, restrooms and playgrounds
96. Mountain Bike Trails, hike trails, natural areas
97. mountain bike trails, hiking trails, events and festivals
98. Events, sporting activities, hiking
99. Events/festivals, hiking, community garden
100. Splash pad, Ealing trails and seating areas with shade
101. Baseball fields, community gardens, hiking trails
102. Restrooms, playground equipment, shade, splashpad

103.	restrooms, pavilion, shade
104.	Splashpad, shade, and trees
105.	Trees, trails, water
106.	bathrooms, exercise equipment, splash pad
107.	Play grounds, splash pads, restrooms
108.	Shade, splash pad, picnic shelters
109.	Splash pad, natural/interp areas, trail connections
110.	Hiking trails, mtn biking trails, and although not mentioned above swimming pool!!
111.	Trees, restrooms, community gardens
112.	Bathrooms
113.	Trails
114.	Community garden
115.	Tennis,Bathrooms,play place
116.	Restrooms. Splash pad .. Drinking fountains.
117.	Restrooms, Trails (walking), Family Events
118.	Picnic shelters, trees, restrooms
119.	hike and bike trails, natural areas, historical or science interpretation
120.	shade, dog park, restrooms
121.	Bike Teauls, Hike Trails, Excersize equipment
122.	Hiking trails, natural areas and trees
123.	Trash cans, bathrooms and dog parks
124.	Events, hiking trails and picnic areas
125.	Events, hiking trails and picnic areas
126.	Equipment, fields and dog parks
127.	1st baseball feild 2nd softball feild 3rd wellness/therapy center
128.	1. Wellness and therapy 2nd events and festivals 3rd in/outdoor pool and jacuzzi
129.	Tennis, exercise equipment, water
130.	trees, shade, hiking trails
131.	Softball bike trailer hiking
132.	softball fields, exercise equipment, events and festivals
133.	Waterpad/waterpark, restrooms, picnic tables
134.	Restrooms, fields, and trails
135.	Restrooms, fields, and trails
136.	Bathrooms shelters playscapes
137.	1. dog parks 2. rest rooms 3. Trashcans
138.	restrooms
139.	1. senior accessibility, 2. performances/ events and festivals , 3. shade

140.	Trails
141.	Volleyball
142.	Wellness
143.	Baseball
144.	Volleyball
145.	Basketball
146.	Trails
147.	Benches
148.	Restrooms/ ???
149.	Real bathrooms & water
150.	Trails
151.	Trees
152.	Natural Areas
153.	Natural areas
154.	Trails (hike & bike)
155.	Native trees
156.	Softball
157.	Baseball
158.	T-Ball
159.	Senior Programming
160.	Natural Areas
161.	Community Gardens
162.	Natural Areas
163.	Hiking trails
164.	Native Trees
165.	Maintenance
166.	Sports
167.	Shade
168.	Softball
169.	Hike trails, Bike trails, Performance space
170.	Exercise equipment, restrooms, senior accesibility
171.	Trails, open space
172.	Softbal, BAseball, VOLleyball
173.	Kokernot field
174.	Manuel Payne field
175.	Medina
176.	Bike trails, hiking

177.	hike trails, native trees, native shade plants.
178.	Exercise equip., restrooms, volleyball
179.	Events for revenue, restrooms, water fountains

6. From the ITEMS listed in Question 4, please provide any comments you have for any of the items listed

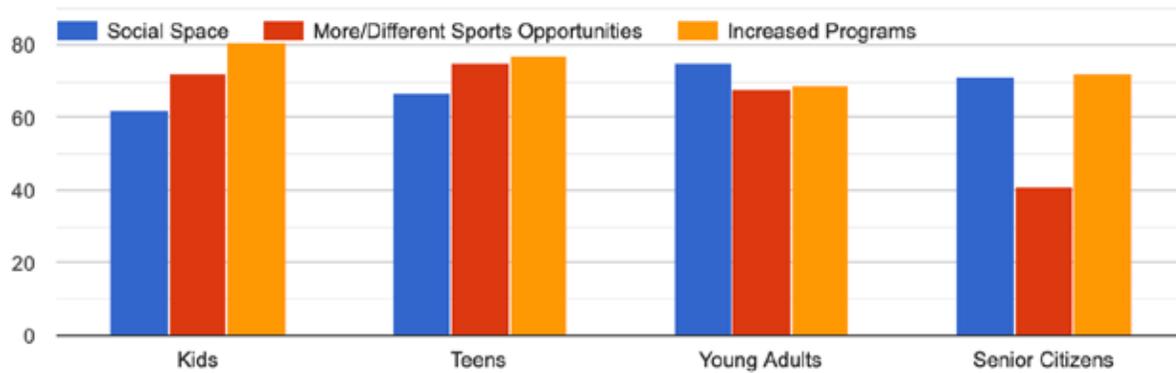
Complete responses

1. A water spraypad would waste water in a desert community
2. I think Hiking areas would be great, with different levels
3. Be great to have an informal outdoor performing space - slab, lights, electricity
4. There is a lot of underutilized space at Alpine's main city park that need to be thoughtfully landscaped
5. Did not mention the pool, which needs expanded hours and senior programs. The golf course seems underutilized, meaning it serves too few and should be turned into multiuse space
6. Water fountains are important, safe bathrooms
7. maintaining the trails and dog parks is necessary if you expect people to use them
8. There is a lack of small child activity areas in Alpine. There are several nice facilities for the 6 and up group, but a real deficiency for the under 6 group.
9. I don't think "big" or "new" items are needed to show progress. Maintenance is huge to me. Keep up what we already have! The fields are all super important to those sports and should upkept and functioning.
10. Splashpads would be AMAZING and are more than needed in Alpine where it is incredibly hot during the summer. It can be more than just water spouts too. We have been to splashpads where there are rope courses, slides, dumping buckets, attached 'waterguns', etc.
11. Question 5 answers would all bring in revenue
12. No splash pad! We live in the desert. Splash pads are great in places with abundant water.
13. There is a need for natural settings for seniors to relax and enjoy.
14. More creative, challenging playgrounds. Hike trails that are available in the west / southwest part of the city (in town there's kokernot and several other small parks; in the east, there are SRSU facilities; there nothing on the west side)
15. Splashpads so kids can get wet when it gets really hot.
16. The current city parks have everything listed about. Many are used for a particular sporting season getting high use and then sit dormant the rest of the year.
17. We need more places for kids to practice all year not just sometimes
18. walking trails need to have a good surface, not large loose gravel
19. Equestrian trail should be changed to dog friendly hiking trail
20. The sporting facilities have not been kept up with throughout the years therefore it's been taking a toll and the city has to work harder to bring them "back to life." If they were kept up with theough the year they would be in decent shape for the upcoming seasons. And that goes for the restroom facilities as well.
21. All fields could be used on a schedule along with lights.
22. PLEASE splash pad!!!! The pool is only open for such a brief time.
23. New multi purpose field all kids can use
24. We've already got a great golf course, SRSU has a new disc golf
25. While all are important, neglect cannot be excused from parks on Southside of town

26. Why isn't there lights for any basketball courts
27. don't provide them if you're not going to take care of them
28. Restrooms seem to be #1 issue
29. I'm not sure that I know of all the facilities Alpine Parks already offers. Perhaps a map or some more information on the website would be useful.
30. don't concentrate only on sports
31. Drinking fountains are available but are often locked.
32. More softball!!
33. We live in the dessert, so water/splash pads are a great idea! I think our Seniors could use more things to do that is accessible to them. Community gardens! Fantastic idea to bring them back!
34. Would love to have hiking trail around perimeter of alpine
35. We don't need soccer fields since our school district doesn't compete in that sport.
36. It would be nice to have more recycling collection containers available with each trashcan. Along the far side of the walking path (closest to Poet's Grove) it would be nice to have a bench and trashcan available there.
37. Priority... Priority... FIX THE STREETS!
38. shelters, water fountains, shade
39. It's a park what does cultural interpretation have to do with anything. Kids will be kids.
40. Kokernot Park has a lot of space why not fill it with things people will enjoy. And also open the Baseball/Softball fields I mean come on the kids deserve to play and practice on a real field.
41. The loop road trail and kokernot park trail we're great when first installed, but have degraded and become difficult for people with limited mobility to use and enjoy -- unlevel surfaces, washed out and overgrown areas etc. The concrete sidewalk section seems to be the most durable.
42. Science places: nighttime star parties. Events: astronomy
43. I've already stated it, but a cohesive play area with better equipment and shade structures to shade the entire area (the playground equipment) would be fantastic! I love the new benches they already put in, but they're in the sun and you fry. A splash pad would be brilliant! The pool also needs a lot of TLC too. Trees trees trees! And can we please add some beautiful flowers/shrubs/ etc. I'd love to be able to go to the park and just love being there. Can you imagine walking down the walking path and just being engulfed by beautiful plants?? The psychological benefits of green outdoor spaces is huge, not to mention environmentally. Plus it'd be a great science resource for environmental biology/soil/plants/entomology/etc.
44. There are tons of easy to maintain splash pads/ water features out there. The pool is not an option for a lot of people because the hours stink.
45. More over head shade More fields More up keep
46. Community gardens are actually expensive and never really work well
47. Splashpads for the younger kids. We have the city pool but not for the littles. The water is freezing cold in the pool.
48. Need more park events and festivals, need better sports complexes
49. Events/festivals enhance a sense of community and bring us all together using our public space. Would love more of this! More things for seniors to take part in would be great - they

give a lot to our communities. Community gardens are shared purpose and would be very cool! The "sand" in the volleyball court at Kokernot is like gravel. Makes it really tough to play
50. More outdoor areas for family such as water park
51. We have a lot of little ones at the park and not enough playground equipment for them. The baseball bathroom is a long walk for a toddler plus it's always locked and dirty. We really need a splash pad or water area for toddlers as well.
52. Fitness equipment that is easily accessible for seniors would be a plus. Picnic shelters should only be used in places where trees are not able to be planted for natural shade. Trees need to be water friendly for West Texas. A splashed should also be mindful of waster by recycling water or other methods of resource management.
53. Trees will provide shade and reduce need of picnic shells, no water fountains but rather water bottle filling stations, trails for tourism and health of locals
54. I don't think we need anymore softball or baseball fields. They take up too much space, and create issues for people having to watch for balls flying at them. The league needs to just let people practice on the darn fields we have there already. It's so silly that they don't. We do technically have soccer field areas already--we need to make those areas better maintained--maybe move to artificial turf for that area, although I don't know if gophers will dig that up too. We definitely need bathrooms and just more stuff to make it appealing to all ages. I think the younger ages are pretty well covered with what we have offered now. Also, in general, we should look at the spaces we have and try to improve those first before investing more in building something new (tennis courts, volleyball courts).--More trees are needed around the soccer and softball/baseball areas.
55. I believe things like trees & benches can be taken care of by the community over time. The City should focus on larger cost items.
56. Wellness and therapy is a good idea so are Community gardens
57. Water spray for kids due to hot summers, Family nights w/movies to involve community. Covered tables for smaller group picnics
58. One kind of sporting arena, like volleyball or badminton or t-ball, that is conducive to family use could be fun and should get used
59. shade, trees, and better care of current dog park would be great.
60. Would love to have more hiking, walking, fitness options
61. Trash and everywhere are a must
62. Restrooms are needed at all parks
63. We've made great strides for the younger kids, would be nice to improve for teenagers and up.
64. IMO, public parks are not supposed to all inclusive, there are things that shouldn't be in the park(like disc golf - they have that at Sul Ross)
65. Love to have volleyball nets back
66. The parks need walking trails to make it safer to walk than the streets. They need a dog park with something other than loose gravel and no shade, shade and restrooms are important, and events that draw people to the town are important. We need adult sports programming!
67. more restrooms
68. commence listed above

7. What kind of facilities and activities are most needed for kids, teens, young adults, senior citizens?



8. List other type of facilities and/or programs that would be most beneficial for kids, teens, young adults and/or senior citizens.

Complete Responses

1. Senior outdoor exercise (walking club), rock climbing facility
2. group walks and hikes at set times.
3. Art in parks?
4. Seniors are left out. Night sky programs would be nice. Maybe nite hikes under the full moon.
5. Enclosed areas to rent at a reasonable rate for family functions.
6. Indoor rec area with basketball court, climbing wall, homework area/seating, Indoor toddler play area. Rentable for bday parties, etc
7. Sports competitions
8. There could be exercise programs for all ages, like yoga. Help with the current sports programs. Maybe someone to oversee those programs. There could be gardening areas/programs. An indoor sport facility, like a YMCA.
9. Splashpads are great for ALL ages!!!
10. Yoga, scavenger hunt
11. Recreational--arcade, bowling alley, put-put, basketball courts
12. 18-hole disc golf, park tai chi, fitness a
13. Equipment, better walking trails with proper water and benches
14. As a young Mom with kids: For kids: Indoor play areas. Children's museum or science facility. Young adults, indoor recreation facilities not connected to the university.
15. Indoor recreation center; shade and little kid pool/splash area at city pool
16. I would like to see a city wide trail where people can walk, run, ride bikes; landscaped with native vegetation
17. Nature walk/computer classes/gym
18. Fitness
19. Batting cages or basketball courts to hang out
20. a rec center building
21. Usage of fields. Own soccer fields
22. Splash pad
23. More organized sports. Children's museum
24. educational/science/environmental programs: exercise programs
25. Multi purpose field with basketball courts and baseball markings
26. Leagues for adults, group led tours
27. nature programs
28. More exercise equipment is the best coverall
29. Relaxing places

30. shaded seating areas for small groups that are not far away
31. Indoor space
32. indoor activities for bad weather.
33. I think volley ball for all (seniors could play with a beach ball)
34. Batting cages
35. Nature/water conservation programs that are specific to this area.
36. A better pavilion
37. Indoor rec center
38. For school aged kids/teens: YMCA, Boys and Girls Club. For everyone: entertainment place/putt putt.
39. Water slide and new pool.
40. for the kids some playground equipment that they would actually enjoy. more slides swings maybe even a rock climbing wall. Basketball courts that are shorter for the younger kids.
41. Soccer for high school
42. Supervised teen center
43. More sports no matter how small or unpopular they might be.
44. Rec sports
45. If we had a bigger pavilion/performance space we could host outdoor exercising for all ages when the weather permits, have craft fairs/science fairs/fairs of all sorts. We could do outdoor sports leagues in the summer if anyone was interested. A weekly play date for younger kiddos could be in the works too. All sorts of ideas!
46. Day camps. Educational programs. If you want to look at another city for a great example of what a city can offer it's citizens look at Deer Park. The city had tons to offer through its parks and community center, from day care to senior programs. Alpine could do so much more, it's a shame that there is nothing here for kids to do except sports and the few activities at the library. Sports for adults of all ages like flag football or Co ed softball
47. Activity center
48. Swim team
49. Covered misting areas to cool off for all ages
50. A recreational center. Where city of alpine games can be held and gym for kids to hang out during the summer. A place for kids to go and hang out.
51. Yoga in the park, organized hikes, gardening
52. Clubs, outdoor programs
53. A rec center
54. Water park, community garden
55. A fun center or a place where teens can hang out. Our movie theater really needs to have movies throughout the day and on weekends.
56. More collaboration with library and schools for family nights, game nights, and movie nights. Increased alcohol awareness for teens and young adults. Splash-in movie night at the pool geared toward each age group.
57. Encourage socialization, creativity, and learning

58. Obstacle course, zip line, bigger climbing wall, more exercise equipment around the walking trail that is updated and useful to all ages.
59. Recreational classes
60. I think a single MULTI USE indoor space would solve many of the challenges/opportunities listed above.
61. NA
62. Youth success center. After school recreational center programs.
63. See answer for 6
64. Rec Center
65. Group activities, exercise programs ect. easy ways to acces information on activities-website or facebook
66. Group activities, exercise programs ect. easy ways to acces information on activities-website or facebook
67. Programs children and adults can socialize and families can spend more time together
68. Recreational center
69. Indoor pool, jacuzzi, outdoor for year around swimming, exercising and therapy
70. Parent/child interactive?
71. a sitting area for seniors
72. Community garden
73. Basketball facilities in the parks for all ages. More covered stage areas for rental or park events. Adult and Senior sports activities such as softball, basketball, or even soccer. Geo Cache programming for all ages. County Fair for all ages.
74. Singles mixers
75. Shade trees
76. Music
77. swimming pool spende more often, senior accessibility, health,
78. Better organized sports leagues/sports complexes
79. Sports, attractive facilities
80. afternoon & evening activities
81. Boys/Girls Club
82. After School & Summer programs
83. Recreation Dept
84. Movie night, dances
85. Connectivity trails to schools/neighborhoods/parks
86. Boys & Girls Club, YMCA
87. Indoor Gym, Better baseball/softball fields
88. Sport field
89. Splash pad
90. Hiking, waste management education

91. Swimming, Volleyball, softball/baseball

92. some kind of activity for when they outgrow softball little league

9. Which parks do you usually visit/use, and what do you do at each of them?

Complete Responses

1. Hancock Hill (hike, trail run, picnic) Baines Park (picnic, play basketball) Kokernot Park (picnic, practice sports if on a team, relax, read)
2. Kokernot; sitting reading
3. Kokernot Park
4. Kokernot - walk
5. Alpine city park
6. Alp RR Pk Garden
7. Kokernot and the hills around town
8. kokernot
9. Kokernot Park - walking the trails, rarely use the dog park. The Middle School has lots of open property as well as a sign that says "NO PETS" but I (and several other people) walk my dogs there (always picking up after them), the American Legion is the only park on the west side and it has lots of goatheads, no paths and no doggy pickup bags but I do enjoy the open space and the greenery that has been planted there as well as the gazebo and I walk by there most days. I don't understand the point of having bathrooms that are always seem be locked when I try to use one.
10. Krokernot park and pool
11. Kokernot park: playground, soccer and baseball fields, walking loop, dog park, pool but not a lot bc the children are too little and water too cold. Baines Park: playground, basketball court. Medina Park: playground, walking loop
12. Kokernot park
13. Kokerknot/sul Ross, walk/run/sit/play/sports/bathroom/
14. Kokernot because of the shaded areas and walking trails but other parks are much closer to my home.
15. Kokernot: play areas practice sports
16. Kokernaut- walk around and over to the lodge
17. Kokernot Park
18. Kokernot, Baines, and Medina. I enjoy walking the walking trails at Kokernot and Medina. I walk my dog along the walking trail outside Kokernot/golf course and wish there were places to sit and water for myself and my dog.
19. Kokernot and Baines.

20. Medina and Baines parks. Do attend special events held at Kokernot and/or Sul Ross Parks.
21. Kokernot — walking, dog park, playground, picnics; Baines and Medina — playgrounds; SRSU hill hiking trail
22. Kokernot, use the playground and open areas, attend parties
23. Kokernot; toddler area (with grandbabies)
24. Kokernot park/medina park
25. Kokernot, Private hiking trails, Golf Course
26. Kokernot when available to practice if not SR rec field but usually has lots of students
27. Kokernot park
28. Kokernot Park; trails, playground equipment and attend or host birthday parties
29. Kokernot, walking trail
30. By high school
31. I hike with my dog at Hancock Hill at Sul Ross almost every day
32. Kokernot and hancock hill
33. Kokernot Park/Pavilion to have birthday parties. And the softball fields (when allowed).
34. We. Visit all and practice softball and baseball.
35. Kokernot Park
36. Birthday parties get together
37. Sports
38. Baines Park
39. Birthday parties
40. Basketball
41. Kokernot - playgrounds, Medina - playgrounds, Sul Ross practice field
42. Kokernot Park
43. city park
44. City park
45. Kokernot, international, Payne and Valentino fields
46. Kokernot & SRSU
47. Kokernot Park
48. Kokernot, but Medina is the closest to the heart of the older community in that area
49. Baines to play basketball. kokernot to play baseball
50. city park, Sul Ross park
51. We do some walking at Kokernot Park and some walking on Hancock Hill
52. Kokernot Park
53. we eat lunch at the park at the swimming pool but sit in our truck
54. City Park Koekernot- sport activites, Playground
55. Kokernot- variety of uses, Baines-playground, Centinnial (sports practice)

56. Play softball: games, practice
57. Kokernot-the green belt, doggie pick up bags, tables, and bbq pits
58. City park
59. Kokernot to watch sports and walk/hike
60. SRSU field is the only place my kids can go to in order to prepare for their sports.
61. Kokernot Municipal Park by HS,my family uses the play ground area, swings, open grass area shade from trees to read, relax, or picnic, have BBQ's, and toddler birthday parties, walking on path, playing catch on baseball fields. We also use Kokernot Lodge park area to walk and play as a family.
62. Kokernot park
63. Kokernot walking path,
64. All of them
65. Kokernot park: Sports, picnics/family gatherings, birthdays, playground, walk/run Baines Park: Basketball, family gatherings/picnics, playground
66. Kokernot Park , Kokernot o6 ballpark
67. Kokernot sports and leisure
68. Kokernot park is our main park we usually walk the trail or take our son to the baseball field to hit a few balls (havent been able to lately since well there all locked)
69. Kokernot—hike, bike, play
70. Main city park
71. Kokernot
72. kokernot playground or fields
73. Kokernot Park and loop road trail
74. City park
75. The City Park. I like playing catch, throwing the frisbee, BBQing and enjoying the sunshine/shade.
76. Kokernot: walk
77. All of them. Basic park stuff
78. Kokernot by far. The playground equipment and baseball fields.
79. Juan Medina, kokernot
80. Kokernot Park, kids playing and parties
81. Kokernot, the kids play while we walk the path. We go to Baines once in a blue moon, but we don't stay long, because there are no restrooms. We go to Medina only if there is an activity going on.
82. Kokernot-pic niks and walking
83. Centennial- basketball and softball
84. Kokernot park and baseballs field and also hiking Hancock hill
85. all parks, let the kids run and play on the equipment.
86. Kokernot- play with grandson, Medina- Birthday parties

87.	Kokernot- play with grandson, Medina- Birthday parties
88.	Baseball fields at Kokernot park
89.	Kokernot park. The kids love playground stuff. I've seen some amazing playgrounds in a catalog I was sent. It's very reasonable and I think it would be perfect in Alpine
90.	I walk every day in the city park
91.	city park,
92.	Kokernot, walk the dog
93.	We visit Kokernot most since we live nearby. We run with our dog on the paved trails and sit on the benches in the shade.
94.	City
95.	Medina park, afternoon hours kids can play on weekend and the kokernot park weekdays before lunch baby can play in baby zone
96.	Kokernot
97.	Kokernot family gatherings
98.	Sul Ross track; Kokernot baseball fields, playgrounds, green space, walking track; Baines playgrounds; Medina playgrounds and bike loop; AES playgrounds; AMS baseball field
99.	Kokernot, SRSU
100.	Kokernot--walk, play at the older kid play area, soccer, run, attend parties
101.	Kokernot
102.	Kokernot- playground equipment, parties at pavilion, trails, pool.
103.	Baines- Playground equipment and picnic tables.
104.	Medina- trail, play equipment. Fenced park is great for small kiddos! Needs a traditional playground for older than 5yr old kids though.
105.	Kokernot
106.	Kokernot Park and the trails behind Kokernot Lodge- birding
107.	Kokernot Park, and the baseball fields
108.	Kokernot. Baines. Alpine Elementary playgrounds. Kokernot Lodge.
109.	Kokernot Park - walk, birthday celebrations
110.	Park behind the Baseball field / Kokernot
111.	walk, view the mountains or sky, jog, bike
112.	kokernot and dog park
113.	Kokernot, walking
114.	Kokernot mostly, swing, walk, dog park
115.	Kokernot municipal park
116.	Kokernot- cook out
117.	Dog park, sidewalks around parks, playground for grandchildren
118.	Kokernot- walk, soccer time w/ daughter, hang out and read, picnic bbq, tennis
119.	Kokernot Park, Baines Park. At Kokernot I like to have lunch under the trees. Baines park is smaller but more personal.

120.	Kokernot and Medina park
121.	Kokernot Park
122.	City park
123.	Kokernot playscapes
124.	Kokernot playscapes
125.	Relax
126.	kokernot almost exclusively
127.	more trees, activity areas for teens/seniors, a pool more accessible and open more often
128.	Kokernot, Medina, SRSU
129.	Kokernot
130.	I live by Kokernot & I like the park by trax
131.	Kokernot
132.	Kokernot primarily
133.	Kokernot
134.	Kokernot
135.	Kokernot
136.	Baines, Medina, Kokernot
137.	Kokernot, NW part of Town (Dirt lot park)
138.	Kokernot
139.	Kokernot, Baines
140.	Kokernot, loop road sidewalks, Baines Park
141.	Kokernot
142.	Kokernot, Manuel Payne field
143.	Kokernot, Baine
144.	One by baseball field on fighting buck
145.	Baines, Medina, Kokernot
146.	Kokernot
147.	Kokernot, Baines

10. At the parks you do visit, what do you like/not like/wish were there?

Complete Responses

1. broken sidewalks
2. Like the attractiveness of Kokernot
3. love the trees, don't like the dogs, like the variable hilliness
4. I enjoy the walking trail and would like to see it expanded toward Korkernot lodge in a more creative way with additional landscaping
5. More bird and nature watching
6. see above
7. As stated earlier, areas for toddlers and Splash pad or repairs to the wading pool would be great.
8. I really wish there was a splashpad. The weather is so hot, and the pool water is too cold and too deep for my little kids to swim in well. I wish there was a walking loop around the playground area at Kokernot so I could walk loops while the kids played - the current walking trails are too far for supervision. At Baines, we need a new basketball court - the current one is cracked and the rims are not regulation height. Also, I'd love a small amphitheater at Baines - bring in some electrical panels and it would-be a great place for concerts or Viva Big Bend. Pueblo Nuevo needs development. We NEED an indoor rec center somewhere - for all ages to use.
9. Cover picnic tables
10. I'd like a new path and more trees. I'd like the old/outdated things taken out or replaced. I love when the bathrooms are open!
11. The walking trail needs to be repaved. It is not in good condition and I would prefer the entrance to be more than pebbles. It makes it hard to push a stroller.
12. Medina park needs rr facilities
13. More shade along trail, more trees
14. Love the trees and grass
15. I need more water sources for myself and my dog. The dog park needs A LOT of work. We Need bathrooms in all parks.
16. "I love the toddler play area at Kokernot, love the historical play structures like the wagon and stagecoach. We love the new equipment, just wish there was another slide and more swings. And although we're not handicapped in any, it seems a shame that if you were handicapped your play swings are isolated from all the others.
17. At Baines, we wish the basketball courts were better maintained. The concrete lends itself to serious injuries because it's damaged in so many places. My husband and his friends used to play basketball there once a week but too many people got hurt due to gravel dumped on the courts."
18. Love all the new playgrounds and benches; wish there were bathrooms at Baines and Medina; wish the restrooms (not portapotties!) were open more at Kokernot; wish there were more trees and shade structures at all parks and pool

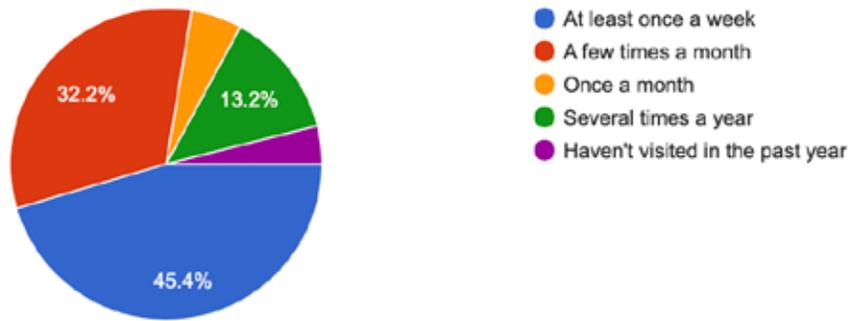
19. I would like a walking path/bike path that did not wind around the ball fields.
20. Not like that the track is to far from playground and old.
21. It's not always accessible
22. Access to bathrooms
23. better walking surface, water the park at night, leashed dogs
24. I wish there was even more space to explore. And a dog poop trash can would be nice.
25. Don't like goat heads
26. Use of all fields of lights with use of lights. Also be able to use them with my family without them being locked
27. Love the shaded toddler area at Kokernot. Wish there were more public bathrooms and water fountains - at any of the parks.
28. improved walking paths, more shaded areas
29. City park. Nice trail
30. Turf fields, cleaner restrooms
31. Shade needed, more trails and wayfinfing on hike trails like Hancock hill
32. wish for bathrooms
33. The reputation of Baines that's been acquired from years of neglect and abuse
34. Like basketball courts, don't like open space, and a better golf facility
35. like the open space, don't like the lack of maintenance
36. City park needs better Restrooms
37. More shade, seat swings, more swings, splashpad
38. more seating, better parking and accessibility
39. Basketball court at the koekernot is HORRIBLE
40. Wish there was more space for sports practices
41. Not very much for bathrooms.
42. I wish the sign was updated. It is in poor shape. I think more exercise equipment as well.
43. Fencing around the playground
44. Trees
45. I do not like the amount of litter and dog feces. At Kokernot lodge there are a tremendous amount of goatheads. I wish there were more public restrooms available, composting toilets like in the National park would be very cool. The toddler play ground area flooring is very slimmy and slippery when wet. Maybe if it were power washed the build-up would be cleaned off? I do wish there were recycle buns next to each trashcan. I would love to see more public art. Sculpture gardens, kinetic sculpture, collaborative with community children?
46. Trees and dog park. Wish there was more sitting spots
47. Bathrooms at Bain's park
48. Kokernot park: updated/new fields and benches, splash pad, play ground near the sports fields would be great. Baines Park: More shade/trees
49. Watch ballgame
50. There is too many weeds and they are not being kept clean.
51. More playground equipment less stickers and holes in the ground

52. Shade
53. Peaceful shade and nice views are beneficial. Too many loose dogs are scary.
54. More native plants, gardens
55. I like it all.
56. Need restrooms!
57. Restrooms. Shaded sitting areas in the smaller parks.
58. "Centennial-needs playground equipment for children
59. Centennial-needs protection softball/baseball net to keep balls from private property. Balls cause structure damage or broken windows to homes.
60. Kokernot-more eating/cooking areas
61. Kokernot-need more shade "
62. Wish there were water fountains
63. bathrooms close by!
64. Wish all parks had grass, trees, water fountain and restrooms.
65. Wish all parks had grass, trees, water fountain and restrooms.
66. I like that the fields are close together this keeps the parents and others in the area to watch different games.
67. I don't like how far away the bathrooms are. And j also don't like that there is not enough activities for kids on the other sites of the park.
68. I like the goats, the deer, and the trees. I do not like the potholes in the path
69. Same as above
70. The smell
71. Wish had more seating area and shade. Also wish have more interesting kids play zone
72. Need more bathrooms and playground equipment
73. like shade trees, play grounds
74. Clean restroom and water.
75. Xeriscape of SRSU cactus garden, trees, and other beautiful specimens of local flora
76. Bathrooms
77. Walking trail is nice
78. "Kokernot- splashpad
79. Baines- basic performance area
80. Medina- playground for 5-12 year olds"
81. Solar lighting at night/early mornings
82. "There's is too much trash on the trails behind Kokernot Lodge
83. Teen play place
84. covered picnic tables
85. I wish there was an outdoor swimming pool with decent hours for exercise
86. goat heads and grass burrs
87. I wish there were more walking trails. Other parks need beautification
88. Like it all
89. More dog equipment

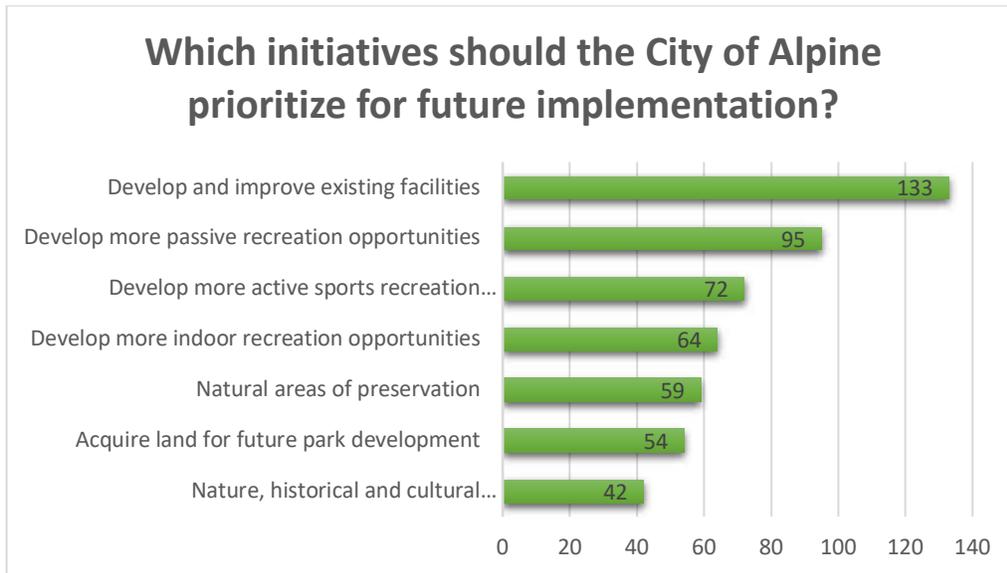
90. Trees, would be nice if there was a splash pad
91. Adult exercise equipment, clean volleyball pit, clean tennis courts
92. Play basketball Picnics
93. Better dog park, places to walk in the park
94. Restrooms
95. Restrooms
96. Clean area+ bathrooms
97. kokernot park- walk, forth of July, other activities

11. How often have you visited any of the city parks/trails?

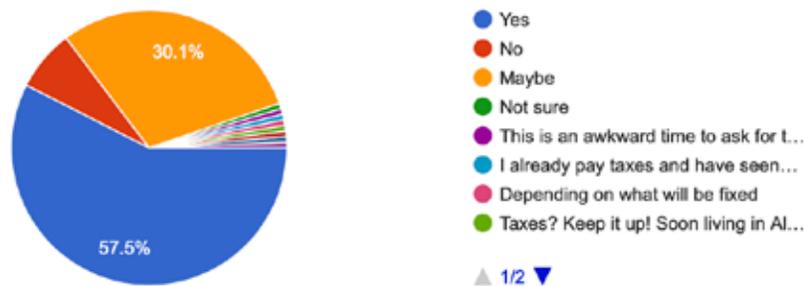
152 responses



12. Which initiatives should the City of Alpine prioritize for future implementation? Check all that apply.



13. Would you support a small tax increase for developing new or improving public parks and recreation facilities in Alpine?



Respondent's comments stated on survey:

- Depending on what will be fixed
- Depends on the improvements
- Get rid of the school bond and I would pay more in taxes for parks.
- I already pay taxes and have seen no additional changes
- Taxes? Keep it up! Soon living in Alpine will be unaffordable!
- This is an awkward time to ask for taxes bc of the passage of the bond
- What about a \$1-10 service charge on hotel rooms and AirBnb? Or a dollar parks and recreation fee added to water and trash bills?

14. In what other ways should the city raise or allocate funds for parks?

Complete Responses

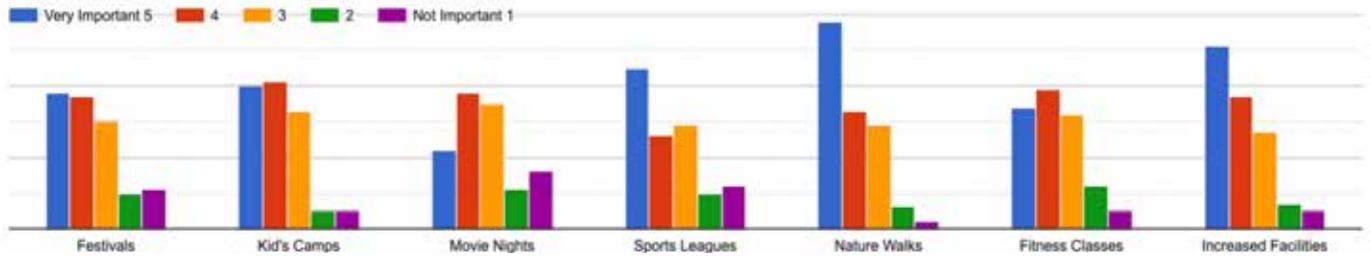
1. rentable pavillions?
2. Event fundraising, at the parks
3. hotel tax; sales tax - not property tax
4. Hotel motel monies
5. enlist local users to fundraise/help physically
6. Fees on developers
7. cut some salaries of over paid employees
8. Asking people to donate for a specific park or specific equipment, etc using multiple media - radio, newspaper, internet
9. Grants and fundraisers
10. Get grant writers, apply for grants, put up city mkneu to fund improvements
11. Fundraising and bakes sales or dances
12. The city should have a budget and plans for parks and development of programs. Our taxes make sense but that should already be happening.
13. Keep doing mom prom! Maybe a father, daughter dance.
14. Events like the one on Holland a couple years ago
15. Building a softball/baseball complex, recreational place woulf bring revenue in to the city.
16. They need to make parks a priority. They keep using hundreda of thousands of dollars for things other than improving and maintaining what is already here! Fix what we have!
17. I'd be happy to donate more for park improvement! But we just voted for a school bond so everyone's taxes have already gone up.
18. Grants and support other parks and recreation sources at state and national levels.
19. BBParks is a fabulous partner! Business sponsors
20. Fundraising, private-public partnerships
21. Grants, donations
22. Bake sales
23. Fundraising events
24. Grants
25. Fundraisers; great way for the community to come together
26. grants
27. Hotel tax
28. TPWD Grants
29. I believe that the city, of they don't already, get some of the money from hotel taxes and use

that money help out our city.
30. Grants and charge for use of lights at a reasonable cost
31. State grants
32. Grants, proper use of city budget
33. Grants?
34. fundraisers
35. How much does the city Manager make?
36. Yes
37. raise taxes and provide a reasonable budget for parks without relying on "bake sales" and other fund raisers
38. Put into youth progams
39. festivals at the parks to campaign for funds, productions to solicit funds
40. Applying for Grants.
41. Grants
42. I think that a percentage of fines maybe a "friends of local parks" group that would annually donate or sponsor our parks. Maybe live music events as well?
43. Grants? Donations
44. Eliminate unneeded positions.
45. Fund raising events, grants, donations, could tax alcohol sales and use the money for improvement.
46. Grants
47. Donations
48. Hot funds
49. "I'm honor of ..." names on pavers, playground equip,
50. Fundraising
51. Bike lanes
52. Marfa has a small percent of the sales tax that goes to Parks & Rec; I believe it's a 0.25% and they have used that to add playground equipment, build a softball field, build a sand volleyball court, etc.
53. Donations, fundraisers, use fees
54. grants
55. Host fundraiser
56. Perhaps a big raffle/carnival where all proceeds go towards the park. We could set up deals with food vendors, and have people donate time to man little carnival booths where you can purchase tickets to play the games.
57. Wasted money on unneeded city projects should be managed better.
58. Sell merchandise, like shirts and hats. Tourists like buying items from places they visit. Locals may like wearimy shirts that say I support Alpine Parks or I love my Big Bend. Host Co ed games like flag football or softball. Have a strongest person contest or fun run. Do a silent auction, have local artist donate for the cause

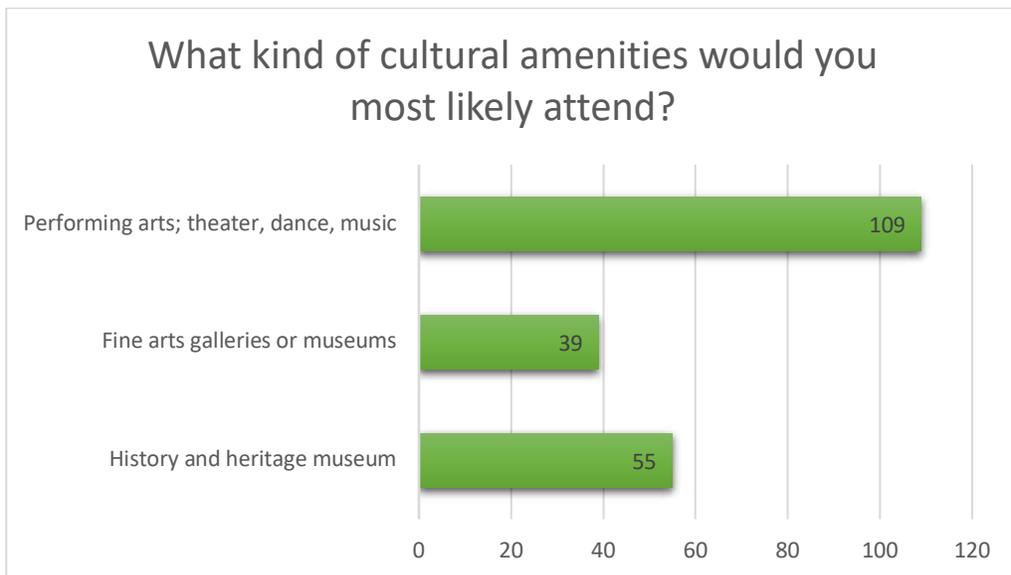
59. Grants
60. Fundraisers
61. reduce waste, stop embezzling money, prosecute those that do so that the funds don't disappear! Hold fundraisers, Gun auctions, ask for donations that don't require a name on a bench! (those at the park are very tacky)
62. Grants and fundraising
63. Grants and fundraising
64. Fundraisers
65. More having a bench, etc in your name. Having a festival to raise funds for parks
66. Grants, donations
67. Unsure how that works / what the options are. Consider obtaining benefactors.
68. Fundraising
69. Grants or donations
70. If people saw where the money is going it might help.
71. fund raising activities
72. Grants and ensure that funds and rules of grants are properly applied to make sure Alpine stays eligible for all grant options. ETP money should have been applied to current parks and facilities.
73. Develop a sustainable recycling program for our city and local area including composting and collaborate with other cities' to resolve recycling and landfill challenges.
74. Use fines from things like dogs off leashes and people caught letting dogs poop in the park to support additions. Local sports leagues should use part of the participation fees to donate to the park maintenance. This does not mean the price of participation should go up more (as it is already exclusive for many families). It just means we should have less of the fee go toward fancy uniforms and participation trophies/medals for everyone (just get plain T-shirts and only the youngest league and winners get the individual awards).
75. Fundraisers-family events
76. Grants; USDA matching funds
77. Friends groups
78. Bake Sales,Car wash,etc
79. city wide 5K runs (each runner pays a fee or acquires a sponsor, BBQ meals sold by the plate, possibly a dance - pay at the door.
80. A bbq or fish fry or festival in the park would be appropriate
81. grants, fundraisers, private donations
82. Fundraisers
83. Grants and endorsements
84. Fundraisers
85. Bake sales, fund raisers
86. Fundraisers
87. Fundraising

88. Sponsorship's for some equipment (allow name place on donated piece of equipment or field). Benefit concert or event for the parks.
89. Be practical about what's really needed and not just what's "political".
90. Grants
91. Grants
92. Raise property taxes
93. bands?
94. grants, private donations, companies and citizens

15. Please rate importance of creating or increasing the following:



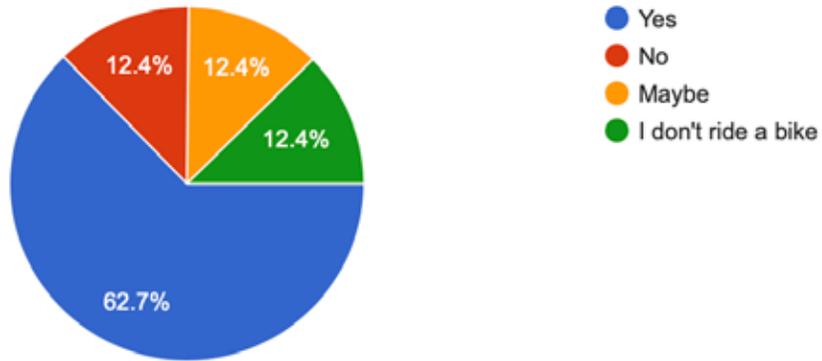
16. What kind of cultural amenities would you most likely attend?



- Mexican-American history
- Movies outdoors
- science and nature programs
- Science center
- Educational facilities to encourage children’s learning and valuing local natural areas and resources. Similar to what CDRI does.
- Reunions
- theater has had nothing appropriate for kids
- Softball tournaments
- We have access to the 3 items above already. The history and performing arts are exceptional at Sul Ross. Galleries are abundant in Alpine and Marfa.

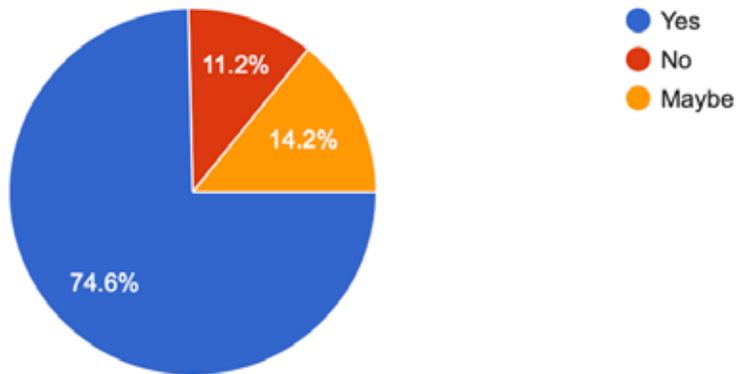
17. Would you use bike lanes in the street if they are marked?

153 responses



18. Even if you do not ride a bike, would you support the addition of bike lanes on existing roads?

134 responses



19. If you answered "No" or "Maybe" to question above (#18), what are your reservations?

Majority of responses to this question were about safety and interference with car traffic. Both driver awareness and bike rider safety were mentioned.

List of Complete Responses:

1. Interference with auto traffic
2. our roads a a safety hazard - dangerous conditions, poor lighting, pot holes, no curbs
3. safety
4. Ive been riiding a bike in town since the 80s and dont think there is a problem with the current situation, but i might be convinced otherwise.
5. Waste of resources, our pace is already slow enough here
6. Limited room on city streets
7. Too many drivers in Alpine are not aware of how to share the roads with cyclists
8. Driver awareness; too many 18-wheelers; numerous pickups with stock trailers (which is an important part of our local economy and history)
9. No necessary in a city our size
10. Are roads are wide and we do not have the traffic like a big city does we also have plenty of sidewalks
11. depends on how much more large truck traffic Alpine gets in the future
12. Tourists don't play attention to the bicyclists already on the road.
13. need to widen roads
14. safety, at present most bike riders are careless in riding in traffic
15. Some one will fall into a pothole and never be seen again!
16. Bike do not obey the rules of the road now why would they with their own lane?
17. I have lived in Big city's and they never use them anyways
18. Roads in the city are already in a poor to bad state in most areas. This will increase the likelihood of biking injuries as well as possible injuries due to vehicles hitting bikers due to the pot holes / avoiding road imperfections.
19. Bikes are cool. Please add them!
20. street parking, bad drivers in alpine
21. City streets are already in disrepair. Any added responsibility would not be maintained.
22. Parking along Holland and E makes visibility tough at times at many intersections on both roads.
23. I do not have reservations but would help with reducing accidents and encourage lower carbon footprint activity in a town where people drive a couple of blocks instead of walking.
24. Crazy drivers here do not respect cyclists
25. Scared of hitting a biker, need to decrease speed limits

26. NA
27. Safety for the rider - they would need to adhere to the rules of staying in the bike lane.
28. I didn't answer no, I think proper bike lanes in the city and on Sul Ross campus would be excellent and encourage sustainability. In addition, there are a lot of cyclists travelling through town, they would enjoy them too. Modelling the biking life style that exists in Davis, CA would be a great idea for Alpine.
29. Bike riders do what they want regardless of lanes, in my opinion.
30. cars drive to fast
31. 1. bike lanes have been added in other cities but rarely used
32. 2. since we are a small community , let people ride on the sidewalks
33. 3. streets need to be replaced

20. Do you attend City of Alpine festivals, local craft shows, garden shows, and fairs when they occur?

153 responses



21. What have you not been asked in this survey that you would like us to know about your hopes for Alpine’s parks?

Complete responses

1. a creek pathway!
2. Examine utilization of existing parks and concentrate on doing a few things well
3. Please forget about putting a hike and bike in the creek. The creek is not taken care of properly - bulldozing encourages erosion, there are trees growing in parts of the creek; a hike and bike would impinge on private property and many people don't want strangers walking close to the backs of their property. It's an idea that keeps coming up and failing. We should get to work on something that people can back and use - trails on Hancock hill, A mountain, etc.
4. I hope that in the planning and development of an improved parks system, that imminent domain is NOT used to add additional lands
5. a video of the 17? parks might help educate re what we have now
6. I really hope the city quits mowing kokernot park so much.
7. The watering system at kokerknot should be adjusted. They water so late and waste water. I do see the improvements happening to get more areas watered and I applaud it but someone might need to be the “early” crew to get that done before 9am.
8. Free swimming classes
9. I was born and raised in alpine and have only seen 2 major changes in the park in 30 years. Play area for kids and a skate park
10. would like a greenbelt that ties the city together
11. I would like for the city to be there to help the kids. I grew up in Alpine and would go to the parks with friends without having to worry if we were allowed to be there.
12. City budget transparency
13. Ask me about the "park" between E ave H and E Gallego
14. Everything is fine
15. What is the best way to know all of what's going on in Alpine? The website calendar appears to just have City meetings listed. It's hard to get to events that I struggle to find.
16. redevelop the trails through the parks and add historical statues on the routes
17. More water areas for swimming and escaping the heat plus exercise.
18. I hope you consider the fact that our athletes in town deserve better. New people in town need to quit pushing the arts and realize that this is a sports town.
19. If there is a way to address issues with parking during busy times that would be good. Littering and dog feces is really a problem at the parks. I feel like this needs to be addressed.
20. What do we not want in the park system.
21. I would like for the parks to be maintained better. The new toddler park is really dirty which is not good since it is meant for kids that are crawling and barely walking. They are coming into constant contact with germs and bacteria. The weeds are overgrown in most of the parks.
22. More of everything Alpine parks need big improvement in all areas
23. Encouraging funds towards emergency services for these upgraded areas

<p>24. Rails to Trails is an organization that takes unused tracks and turns the area around them into walk/bike paths. I would like to pursue making the track that goes north - south into something like this. The only crossing on that path is Del Rio St so it would allow people to walk and bike a long way quickly without bothering traffic or yielding. I believe that train track is owned by TxDOT.</p> <p>I am also interested in providing movie night programs or other outdoor programs at the parks. I also would love to increase connectedness between parks or have bike paths on roads with fewer stop & yield signs to allow them to move with traffic quickly.</p> <p>*Side Note* If the city moves forward with a convention center I would like to see it build in town and not outside of town. I think that construction project would allow a redevelopment of in town areas to increase walking and commerce around that project. If it's placed out of town (like up north of the Fort Davis Hwy), then it would only be used as a convention center but not help redevelopment or other business surrounding the convention center. Off topic, but wanted to put my two cents in. Thanks for the vision and planning on this! It's great to see the city implementing plans to make our lives better. Appreciate it!</p>
25. We need to set aside funds to properly and regularly maintain what we already have.
<p>26. Parks need more attention when it comes to upkeep during summer months.</p> <p>The city of alpine needs a lot of cleaning. There are streets, vacant lots, and private properties that are dirty, trashy, and nasty looking. We also have many businesses and public buildings that do not keep their property clean and presentable(for one, the federal post office) We should have strict ordinances for property AND business owners.</p>
27. Please allow the citizens to be on a committee to help with the work.
28. More city-organized events/festivals. Would love to see the town come together more frequently!
29. Need better maintained baseball fields and access to them year round
30. I feel that current parks and facilities should be cared for and updated when financially prudent instead of creating new facilities that will add more maintenance costs to the city budget.
31. Recycling, landfill, and judicious use of water resources are critical and a self limiting for the growth and success of our town, therefore it behooves us to be as thoughtful and efficient in strengthening programs that manage these precious resources. And we need to collaborate with our neighbors as we are interconnected in whatever we do, especially in this area of scarcity.
32. Possibility of having an "Art In The Park" show.
33. That trails thing from pipeline money was poorly planned.
34. No questions about the city swimming pool. Great pool and needs more attention from the city.
35. I would like signs specifying where dogs are allowed off leash and where they aren't and for this to be policed. My friends and I ALWAYS get approached by dogs when we are exercising in the park (walking, running, and even biking), they chase us, bark at us, and often jump on us and are out of control. It is enough to turn people off going in these public areas.
36. Alpine should absolutely NOT SELL city land without careful thought; some has been sold to commercial businesses that ruined an otherwise great park location on Murphy Street
37. More information about parks and activities accessible and easy to find
38. More information about parks and activities accessible and easy to find
39. Adult Sports Programming!
40. alpine parks will be regularly used by all citizens throughout the year
41. The one thing that makes all of this BS is the complete lack of respect that the Alpine City

government shows for the actual culture that makes Alpine the place that it is (an example was the effort to place public housing at 11th & Ave. J in the middle of Alpine's most historic neighborhood). We don't need folks from ant of town to bring big city ideas here, XXX for parks, planning, or other commercial ideas. We need the city government to take the time and effort to understand and appreciate the culture of the regular folks of Alpine, not try to turn us into El Paso, or Austin, or wherever. You all are failing the citizens of Alpine by trying to make us into your version of what we should be. People love this place for what it already is, not what you think it should be.

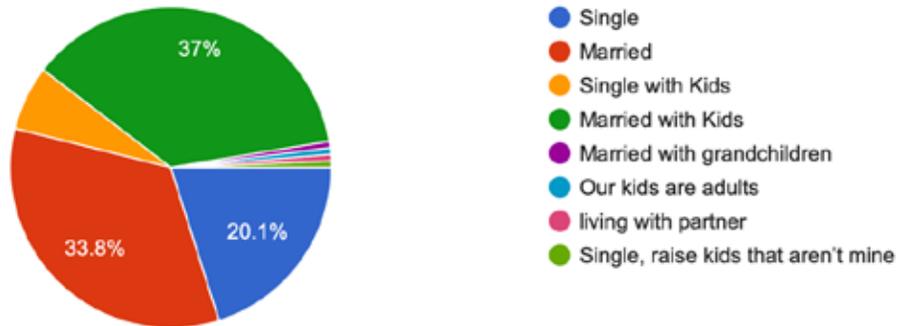
Statistical and Demographic Survey Questions and Results

The following pie charts represent the results of the demographic questions that were asked in the survey.

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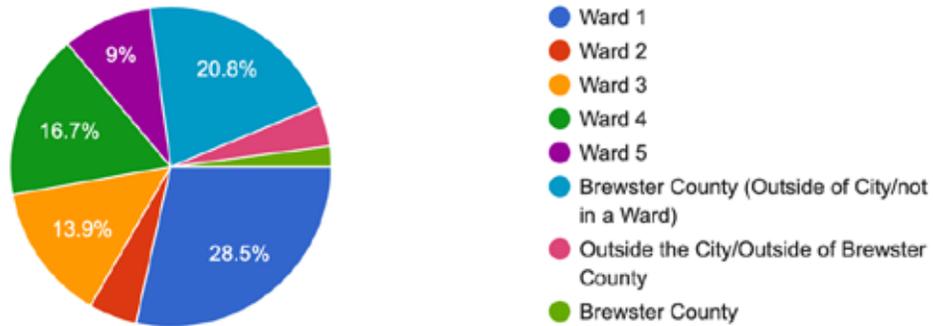
Martial Status:

154 responses



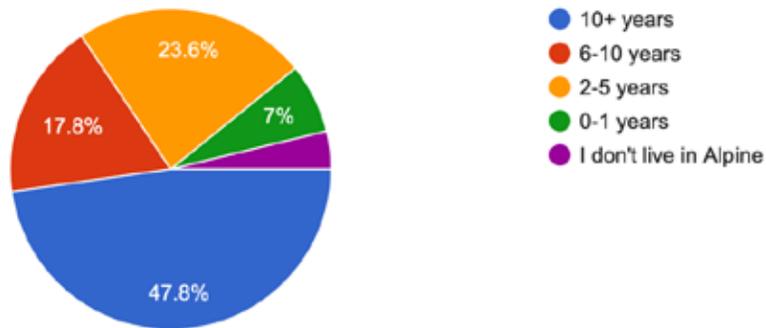
In what part of town do you live? For a map of the wards, you can go to this URL: <http://www.cityofalpine.com/Ward%20Map.pdf>

144 responses



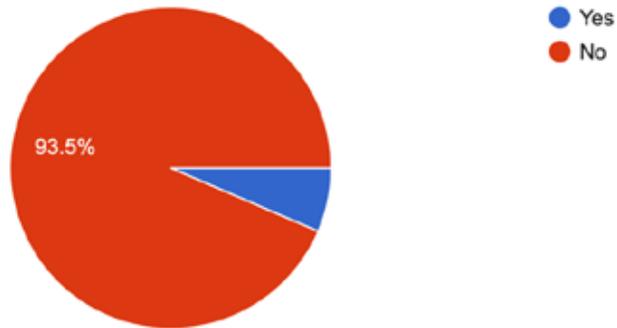
How long have you lived in Alpine?

157 responses



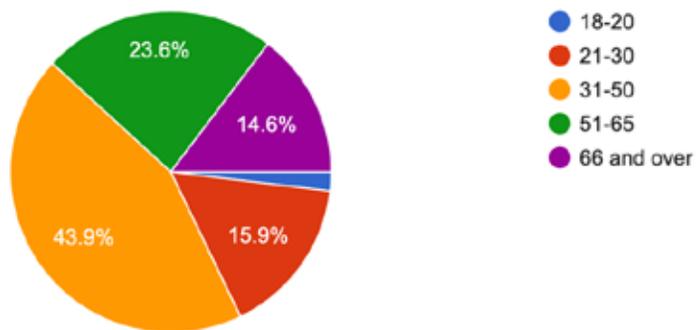
Are you a student at SRSU?

155 responses



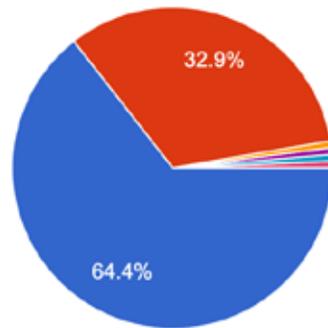
Age group:

157 responses



Ethnicity:

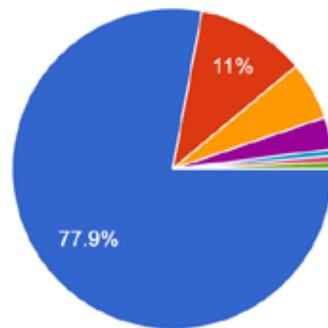
149 responses



- Caucasian
- Hispanic
- Asian
- African American
- Native American
- Not applicable!
- American

Resident Status:

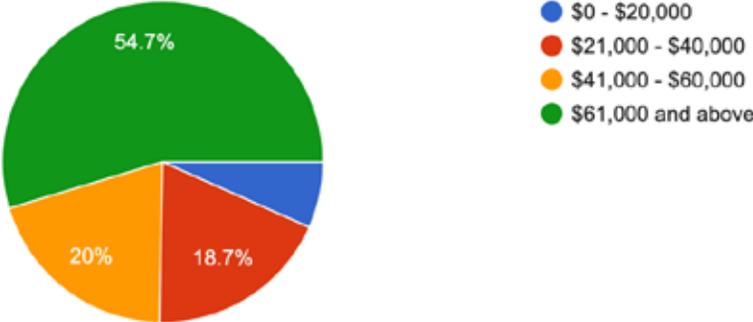
154 responses



- Home owner
- Home lease
- Apartment
- Student Housing
- Don't live in Alpine
- Living with parents
- Own rental property in alpine
- Live in parsonage

Income Bracket; please indicate your approximate income per year:

150 responses



City of Alpine

Regular City Council Meeting
Tuesday, June 20, 2017, 5:30 P.M.

MINUTES

1. Call to Order, Invocation, and Pledge of Allegiance.

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM by Mayor Andres "Andy" Ramos. The invocation was led by Wendel Elliot pastor of the Big Bend Cowboy Church. The Pledge of Allegiance was let by Mayor Ramos.

2. Determination of a Quorum and Proof of Notice of City Council Meeting.

A quorum was determined with Andy Ramos, Rick Stephens, Lucy Escovedo, Cynthia Salas, Maria Curry, and Jim "Fitz" Fitzgerald. Notice was posted at 10:00 AM on June 16, 2017; proof of notice was given by Kalea Cotton.

3. Presentations, Recognitions and Proclamations –

Additional non-related items removed for brevity

14. Discuss and consider accepting monetary gift from TransPecos Pipeline and establishing two reserve accounts, 01-103-0518 and 01-104-0518 to track specific expenditures relative to the constructs of the gift. (E. Zimmer, City Manager)

Introduction – City Manager, Erik Zimmer detailed that TPP gave other monetary gifts to governing entities as well as the Alpine Library. The money will be used for constructing a walking path that has been introduced previously in the Vision Plan, and the other is to supply material for the Alpine Volunteer Fire Department.

A motion was made by Rick Stephens to accept the monetary gift from TransPecos Pipeline and establishing two reserve accounts, 01-103-0518 and 01-104-0518 to track specific expenditures relative to the constructs of the gift. The motion was seconded by Jim Fitzgerald.

Discussion – Cynthia Salas stated that she noticed also that Brewster County is funding the Fire Department with equipment and supplies as well. Erik Zimmer said that County Commissioner Hugh Garrett has requested an Executive Director to analyze the local fire division in Alpine, and give feedback specific to where they see us needing to fill in the gaps. Mr. Garrett will take the report and give it to the City council. The County will take a similar position, and utilize the money. Now that Mr. Fitzgerald is back, he will be working with Mr. Garrett on the inter-local agreement that will be forthcoming. Cynthia Salas asked Mike Scudder (who was in the audience) if he would like to say anything. Mike Scudder stated that he wasn't aware of anyone coming to help analyze the fire department or list what they need. Wendel Elliot – Religious Organization – asked if there was a reason the money wasn't given directly to the Fire Department. Mr. Zimmer stated that the monetary gift was given under the pretense that it would be used for fire related equipment. Jim Fitzgerald stated that this will also be a way for the City to be transparent with the money. Lee Smith – Ward 1 – asked if there were two reserve accounts. Erik Zimmer stated that \$215,000.00 would be for the walking path, and \$185,000.00 would be given to the Fire Department. There was no further discussion.

The motion passed unanimously with a vote of 5-0.

Mitch Wright and Vista Planning & Design wishes to thank everyone that made this project possible. So many institutions, groups, companies, individuals, patrons, city staff and city leaders worked diligently to make sure that the project, at completion, was the most comprehensively developed master plan that has reasonable goals and concepts for both short term and long term.

A master plan by definition, has to address a timeframe that looks at the immediate needs but also the long term needs. If potential, more idealistic goals are not expressed on the plan through a long term vision, then there is no possibility of achieving more lofty goals.



Mitch Wright, Staking out trail alignment

Existing Parks Inventory Matrix

The chart below is a current envintory of all of the park provisions broken down by each park. A larger format version

Park Facility Inventory																																													
Parks	Dedicated Parkland	City Land	AlSD, TxDOT, RR	Sul Ross Land	Brewster County	Acreage	Baseball/ Little League/ TBall	soccer	Basketball	Vollyball	Concessions	Tennis	Golf Course	Children's Playground Play Equipment	Swingsets	Sand Pit	natural spaces	picnic tables	grills	Pavilion/ Shelter	Horseshoes	exercise equipment	Aquatic	Amphitheater/ performance areas	History	Nature Play	Education	Skate Park	Disc Golf	Equestrian	Trails	Restrooms	Area Lights	Water Fountains	Benches	Flower Garden/ Planters	Wayfinding	Monuments	Trash Cans* includes street edge	Dog Park	Open Play Field	Bike Racks	Parking Lot		
Kokernot	1	*	*	*	*	24	4	2	1	1	1	3	1	1	2	1	1	10	4	1		3	1	1	1			1			1	3		2	17				15	1	2		3	84	
Medina	2	*	*			0.84								1	2	1		3	3											1			1					2				1	15		
Centennial	3		*			2.61	1		1																					1		1				1	4						9		
Baines	4		*			1.68			1					1	2	1		3	3	5		1			1						1	2	2	1			4		1		1		30		
Pueblo Nuevo	5		*			1.7	4																																				4		
American Legion	6		*			2.13	2													1	1									1		1	4	1			2						13		
Nopalitos	7		*			0.32											1																1			1							3		
Veteran's Memorial	8		*			0.69												1							1							1				1	1							5	
Old Town Square	9		*			0.6																											2										2		
							11	2	3	1	1	3	1	3	6	3	2	17	10	7	1	4	1	1	3			1			2	5	1	8	26	2		3	28	1	3		5		
Alpine Little League Baseball Fields	-		*																																										
Manuel Payne Complex	-		*																																										
Alpine International Field	-		*																																										
Alpine Soccer Field	-		*																																										
Alpine Municipal Pool	-		*																																										
Alpine Country Club	-		*																																										
George Felix Howland Memorial	Located in Nopolitos																																												
Railroad	10			*		0.24												2		3				1								2		5	1		1	2					17		
Arbolitos	11			*		0.17																		1							4		3				2	2						12	
Courthouse Park	12			*		+/- .8																											8			1	3						12		
Trails																																													
Hancock (Sul Ross) Trail																																													
Mountain "A" Trail																		*																											
Alpine Creek Trail (Informal)																		*																											
																		2		3					2							6		16	1		4	7					41		

Inventory: City of Alpine Parks & Partnering Institutions

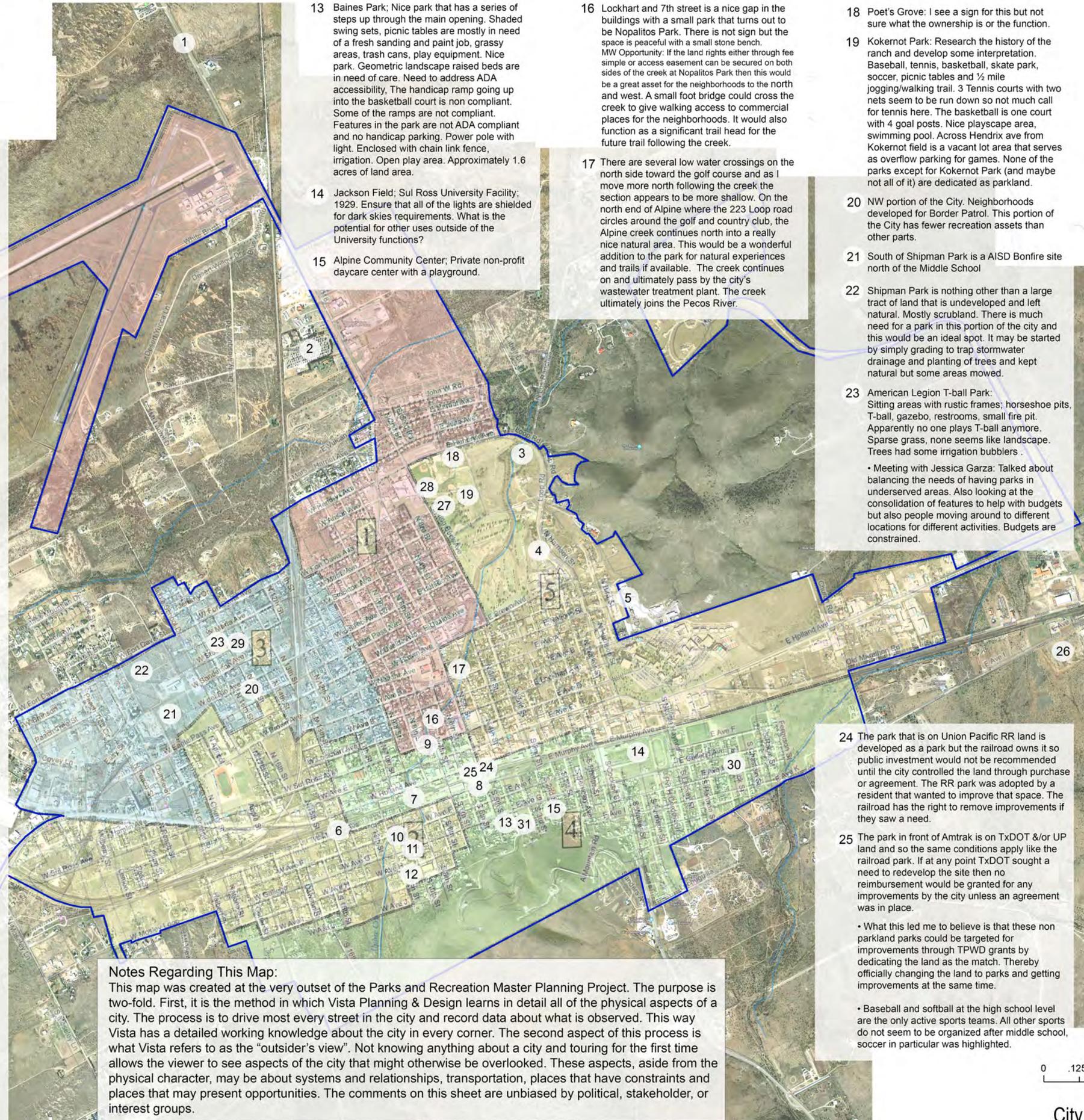
- Kokernot (See Mappler app), expansive grass park, partially treed with ample shade shelters, seating, and age-appropriate play sets. Access to swimming pool, skate park, dog park, little league playing fields, two parking lots
 - Tennis Courts (Alpine ISD) – 3; need resurfacing
 - Basketball Court (Alpine ISD) – 1; needs resurfacing
 - Skate Park – 1; operational
 - Dog park – 1; two sides; three different obstacles; dirt with aluminum fencing
 - Little League Baseball/Softball – 3; operational; shade for dugouts and bleachers
 - Bathroom – 2; public access near little league fields (N and S), not ADA; men and women
 - Concession stand – 1; operational with water and electric; near N little league field
 - Jogging trail – 1; half mile gravel/paved path; operational but needs resurfacing
 - Fitness stations – 3x; around walking path; pull-up, sit-up
 - Swimming facility; operational but no water; has bathrooms but not open to public
 - Pavilion – 1; large near to swimming pool; benches available; electric/water available
 - Handicap swing set – 1; near swimming pool parking lot; operational
 - Sandpit – 1; operational; no equipment, about 12ft in diameter
 - Preschool age playground – 1; operational; over 15 stations; recycled rubber flooring; shade shelter
 - Benches – 20+; spread across open field, with trees for shade; some with sponsored names, half made of concrete block
 - Picnic tables – 10-15; spread across open field with trees for shade; painted red
 - Trash cans – 15+; mostly spread across open field next to picnic tables, also near parking lots; also near concession and bathrooms

- American Legion – wild/native grass, developed park with sections of dirt
 - Gazebo – 1; wooden
 - Youth baseball/softball fields – 2x; dirt
 - Water spigot – 1x; hand pump
 - Pump/Well House – 1x; locked; not sure if bathroom
 - Sign – 1x; custom signage to label park
 - Benches – 4x; partial shade, custom wooden benches
- Juan Medina – full developed park featuring .1 mile walking path with pre-school through 5th grade appropriate activity stations; art walls featured, mostly in shade under tree canopy
 - BBQ pit – 2x; bring own charcoal
 - Swingsets – 2x; NE has 3 kids/adults with 1 handicap seat; NW has 2x baby + 2x adult/kid
 - Tables – 2x; near to each BBQ pit; metal
 - Sand pit – 2x; about 6-8ft in diameter, sunken, operational, no activities
 - Kid Activity Stations – 10x; jungle gym, train, climbing poles, parallel bars, monkey bars, straight and curved walking/balance beam, pull-ups,
 - Trash Cans – 2x; not close to BBQ pit; needs two more
 - Bench/Seating – 8x; concrete seating acts as separating wall
 - Walking path – 1x; 0.1mi around kids activities; concrete
- Centennial – mixture grass and dirt youth playing field; adjacent access to Centennial School (SRSU property with additional amenities – basketball); no trees, shade
 - Baseball field – 1x; backstop, two operational field level dugouts, seating on two sides, no lights
 - Seating/Bleachers – 2x
 - Water spigots – 2x

- Baines (see Mappler APP)
- Arbolitos (Amtrak) – This is the public realm streetscape with trees, decorative wall with commemorative plaques
- Railroad Park- mixture of gravel walking path and planted beds
 - Benches – 3
 - Shade shelters – 2x
 - Flower gardens – 3; newly planted/maintained flower gardens
- Downtown Square – concrete, pavers with raised concrete planted beds
 - Benches – 2
 - Trashcan – 1
 - Water spigots – 4; operational
- Veterans Memorial- West Sul Ross Ave. & North 7th St. in front of the police station.
- Courthouse Park– grass park with concrete walking paths; features wooden gazebo and war memorials; access to Courthouse with parking lot and street parking, partly treed for shade
 - Water spigots – 4x; operational
 - Path lighting – 4x; operational
 - Memorials – 2x; with signage/interpretation
 - Benches – 8x; some shaded by trees
 - Gazebo – 1x; wooden, custom built; operational
 - War machine with flag pole and interpretive plaque
- Nopolitos – undeveloped land adjacent to creek, has one concrete bench as a memorial to Captain George Felix Howland
- Pueblo Nuevo – formerly/under-developed (possible past development) native grass, no irrigation, with former dirt baseball fields, no backstops, some trees in center of park between former fields

City 101:
An Outsider's Observations in City Parks and Recreation

- 1 Entering from the north, driving south. The road entering Alpine is very wide; 18.5 paces = +/- 52' wide FOC-FOC.
 - How big is the cycling community? Is there an active cycling activity to cycle between Alpine, Marfa and Ft Davis? What is the potential of organizing a race and creating a large event out of it as a cooperative effort with the three cities?
- 2 RV park; How many RV parks/spaces in the city? What is the need for more as a base camp idea for day trips into the Big Bend Park or other parks?
- 3 Kokernot Lodge is a Sul Ross Facility that is an events center and an outdoor performance Amphitheatre.
- 4 Whole Life Wellness Center adjacent to the Kokernot complex and golf course.
- 5 At the top of the hill above Harrison Street is a large abandoned building. This is part of the University and previously was a dorm but now boarded up. Talk to Sul Ross about the future plans for this building and see if mutually beneficial programming can be placed there for students and the University. By extension; what does the overall University master plan look like with regards to health, fitness, recreation, and facilities that can be shared? Recreation Center?
- 6 South 14th and Murphy st. Vacant Land up against the railroad. Could be a nice little parklet but likely private and up against the railroad.
- 7 Alpine Creek in this area is a significant section. The railroad trestle would accommodate people walking underneath but there is the issue of easements and the cost of shielding.
 - Could not find the George Felix Howland Memorial.
 - Much of the elements on the City map point to historic monuments or places, particularly the heart of the city.
- 8 Murphy Street has section south of downtown that are very artsy. Begin to focus energy into this area as an emerging arts district. Look at zoning to ensure the ability to have in-house gallery space.
- 9 The creek has gabion walls throughout much of the city portions of the creek to armor against erosion.
- 10 Medina Park; Adjacent to the creek; Park for small kids, spacious and with bright colors, small 3" wide concrete walking or trike trail. Well maintained. Some trees and shade. Grills, swing sets, picnic tables, a variety of play equipment. Doggy Pot dispenser, exercise equipment, Sand box needing sand, water spicket. Approximately 28,000 sq ft or .6 acres.
- 11 City of Alpine Neighborhood Center adjacent to Medina Park. Look at expansion of functions or repurposing.
- 12 Centennial School Park; dedicated January 5th 1998; Baseball field, bleachers, fenced, new restrooms, Approximately 1.3 acres of land. The access to the new restrooms need some adjustments to the ramp connections to allow ADA access. Trees planted around it with a 6' chainlink fence. Adjacent is a basketball court with two goals. The court also has a small amount of bleachers. Nice entry with seating and dedication sign. A doggy pot dispense was there as well. The adjacent building says on the sign; "Sul Ross State University Centennial School Building" Apparently this is University use, is the park owned by the university? Well maintained.



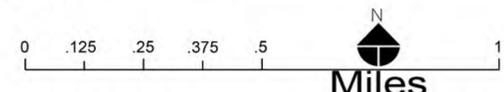
- 13 Baines Park; Nice park that has a series of steps up through the main opening. Shaded swing sets, picnic tables are mostly in need of a fresh sanding and paint job, grassy areas, trash cans, play equipment. Nice park. Geometric landscape raised beds are in need of care. Need to address ADA accessibility, The handicap ramp going up into the basketball court is non compliant. Some of the ramps are not compliant. Features in the park are not ADA compliant and no handicap parking. Power pole with light. Enclosed with chain link fence, irrigation. Open play area. Approximately 1.6 acres of land area.
- 14 Jackson Field; Sul Ross University Facility; 1929. Ensure that all of the lights are shielded for dark skies requirements. What is the potential for other uses outside of the University functions?
- 15 Alpine Community Center; Private non-profit daycare center with a playground.

- 16 Lockhart and 7th street is a nice gap in the buildings with a small park that turns out to be Nopalitos Park. There is not sign but the space is peaceful with a small stone bench. MW Opportunity: If the land rights either through fee simple or access easement can be secured on both sides of the creek at Nopalitos Park then this would be a great asset for the neighborhoods to the north and west. A small foot bridge could cross the creek to give walking access to commercial places for the neighborhoods. It would also function as a significant trail head for the future trail following the creek.
- 17 There are several low water crossings on the north side toward the golf course and as I move more north following the creek the section appears to be more shallow. On the north end of Alpine where the 223 Loop road circles around the golf and country club, the Alpine creek continues north into a really nice natural area. This would be a wonderful addition to the park for natural experiences and trails if available. The creek continues on and ultimately pass by the city's wastewater treatment plant. The creek ultimately joins the Pecos River.

- 18 Poet's Grove: I see a sign for this but not sure what the ownership is or the function.
- 19 Kokernot Park: Research the history of the ranch and develop some interpretation. Baseball, tennis, basketball, skate park, soccer, picnic tables and 1/2 mile jogging/walking trail. 3 Tennis courts with two nets seem to be run down so not much call for tennis here. The basketball is one court with 4 goal posts. Nice playscape area, swimming pool. Across Hendrix ave from Kokernot field is a vacant lot area that serves as overflow parking for games. None of the parks except for Kokernot Park (and maybe not all of it) are dedicated as parkland.
- 20 NW portion of the City. Neighborhoods developed for Border Patrol. This portion of the City has fewer recreation assets than other parts.
- 21 South of Shipman Park is a AISD Bonfire site north of the Middle School
- 22 Shipman Park is nothing other than a large tract of land that is undeveloped and left natural. Mostly scrubland. There is much need for a park in this portion of the city and this would be an ideal spot. It may be started by simply grading to trap stormwater drainage and planting of trees and kept natural but some areas mowed.
- 23 American Legion T-ball Park: Sitting areas with rustic frames; horseshoe pits, T-ball, gazebo, restrooms, small fire pit. Apparently no one plays T-ball anymore. Sparse grass, none seems like landscape. Trees had some irrigation bubblers.
 - Meeting with Jessica Garza: Talked about balancing the needs of having parks in underserved areas. Also looking at the consolidation of features to help with budgets but also people moving around to different locations for different activities. Budgets are constrained.

- 26 The landfill that has been decommissioned in 2004 (?) does not have venting or a cap but it does have topsoil over the top. According to Jessica, the landfill does not have any hazardous waste so that the simple capping with topsoil and no venting was acceptable. I believe that this all have to be certified by TCEQ prior to development. Under some consideration is looking into bringing in a private company to develop and operate a tournament grade facility that could be in the old landfill. Check TCEQ on the viability of that proposal and what are the requirements to get the old landfill certified to support that type of development. Obviously structural elements would be required.
- 27 The city is looking to close the swimming pool since they cannot afford to hire lifeguards, nor the budgets to maintain the operations and maintenance of the pool. On the other hand there is a push to develop a splash pad, which does not require a lifeguard but is very expensive to develop, operate and maintain. New information; upon research by the Parks Board, a recirculating system is much more expensive to construct and maintain due to the higher level of maintenance. The alternative is a system that does not reuse water but disposes it. What is the cost and implications of single use water for the City as opposed to recirculated water use and higher maintenance costs? Can a new recirculating system serve both the pool and the splash pad? If so the price per unit of benefit may be much lower contributing a much more attractive "swim center" destination that can attract tourism and potentially accommodations for visitors to the city along Loop 223 or elsewhere.
- 28 The three tennis courts in the main Kokernot Park were in poor condition and not utilized. It may be that they are still in good enough shape to refurbish if the slab is sound. This will need to be addressed in the public surveys and comments to gather the level of interest and the cost/benefit of tennis as part of the diversity of sports.
 - Comments have been made that having diversity of sports opportunities was important for the community including for economics.
 - Funding for anything is a problem; there is a push in the city to sell off land used as parks which is doable since none of them except Kokernot is actually parkland. Vista's instinctual reaction to this was to consider conversions of parkland areas into passive recreation areas with trees for shade and park benches to minimize the maintenance.
- 29 Legions Park was one example since the facilities are not used as they were intended but only for people to walk their dogs. Some of the elements; rustic benches, horseshoes, etc, could be relocated to a park where enhanced maintenance is already occurring.
- 30 The Pueblo Nuevo Park was set up for T-Ball but the tree planting was a limiting factor that restricted the play. This would be a great candidate to go for TPWD grant to dedicate the parkland as the grant match and upgrade the park with the matching funding and redevelop
 - If the city started a parks foundation then they could start raising funds with events that could, over time, become an endowment to help defray the maintenance costs.
- 31 At Baines Park there use to be park lighting and the adjacent neighbors complained that the lights were a nuisance so the lights were removed. When touring the city it was suggested that the lights need to be replaced so that the park could be more active later in the day.

Notes Regarding This Map:
This map was created at the very outset of the Parks and Recreation Master Planning Project. The purpose is two-fold. First, it is the method in which Vista Planning & Design learns in detail all of the physical aspects of a city. The process is to drive most every street in the city and record data about what is observed. This way Vista has a detailed working knowledge about the city in every corner. The second aspect of this process is what Vista refers to as the "outsider's view". Not knowing anything about a city and touring for the first time allows the viewer to see aspects of the city that might otherwise be overlooked. These aspects, aside from the physical character, may be about systems and relationships, transportation, places that have constraints and places that may present opportunities. The comments on this sheet are unbiased by political, stakeholder, or interest groups.



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Alpine Parks & Recreation Master Plan
Alpine, Texas





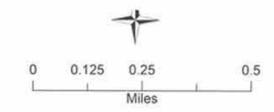
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Alpine Parks, Recreation, Open
Space, & Trails Master Plan
Alpine,

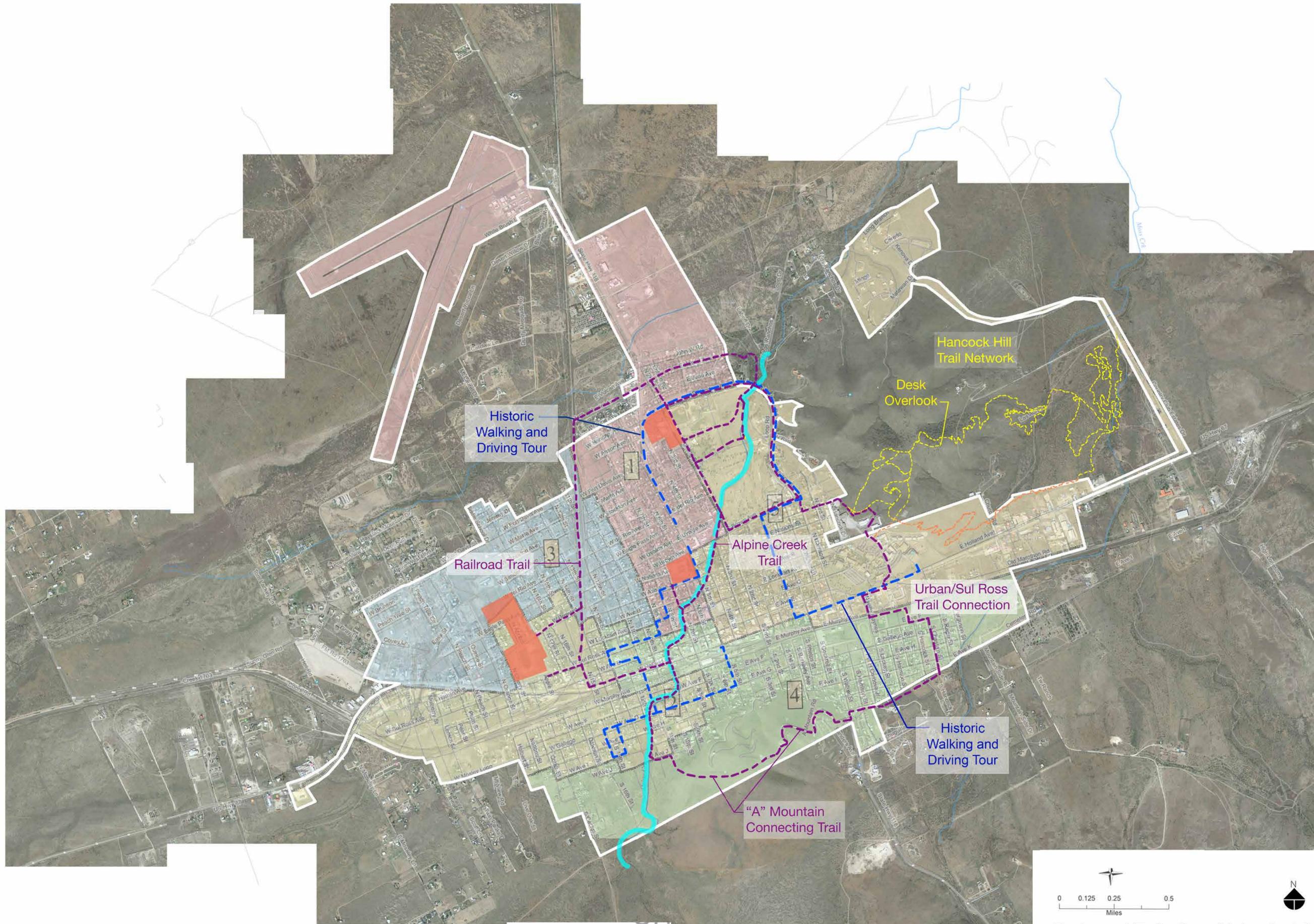


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Exh 1



Parks and Trails Over Alpine Aerial

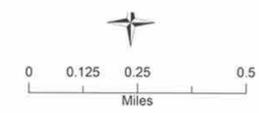


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sheet number



Parks and Trails Over Alpine Aerial