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City of West Point Recreation Master Plan

Prepared for: West Point, Georgia

Ву:



MACTEC Engineering and Consulting, Inc.
Planning & Design Group
Atlanta, Georgia

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Resolution

Recreation Master Plan

WHEREAS, the purpose of the Recreation Master Plan is to reflect the community's objectives, needs and priorities for the provision of park space and supporting facilities; and

WHEREAS, the Recreation Master Plan is a ten year plan that addresses the active passive recreational needs of the West Point community; and

WHEREAS, the West Point City Council now desires to adopt the City of West Point recreation Master Plan,

Now Therefore Be It Resolved, that the City of West Point City Council finds and declares that the City of West Point Recreation Master Plan is likely to improve existing recreation sites and development new parks.

This	13 th	day of	lune	, 2011.
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CITY OF WEST POINT

A Drew Ferguson IV, May

Richard McCov, City Clerk

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Acknowledgements

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CHAPTER

Introduction

I.I. Purpose of the Plan

A recreation master plan is a reflection of the community's objectives, needs and priorities for the provision of park space and supporting facilities. As such, it serves as a guide for the formulation of local policy and supports the decision-making process to address both the quality and location of recreational opportunities to meet the needs of West Point's population and in the future.

The City of West Point Recreation Master Plan is a ten year plan that addresses the active and passive recreational needs of the West Point community. It includes recommendations for land acquisition, improvements to existing recreation sites, development of new parks and facilities and capital improvements. The plan reflects community input as well as input from Parks and Recreation Department staff, City staff and officials related to needs and goals that are foreseen for the ten years.

1.2. Planning Process

The process that has been used to prepare the plan update (the Plan) was designed to address the following five topics:

- Community Profile
- Facilities Inventory
- Needs Assessment
- Community Vision
- Recommendations

The Community Profile includes a demographic profile, based on the most current U.S. Census data as well as information from the 20-year City of West Point Comprehensive Plan (adopted 2009). Demographic factors affect recreation participation and are therefore included in this section, including population growth, age distribution, race and income and educational levels.

The Facilities Inventory section provides a summary description of the location and types of amenities at each existing facility in the West Point recreation system. Other local facilities under county (Harris and Troup), federal or non-profit ownership are also inventoried, as they contribute to the parks and recreation opportunities available to city residents. This section serves as the basis for the Needs Assessment and for recommendations regarding improvements to existing parks and for new parks and facilities.

In the Needs Assessment section of the Plan, National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) standards for system-wide recreation acreage and facilities are compared with West Point's recreation system. The NRPA standards are used in conjunction with local information to develop specific standards for West Point. This section also summarizes previous planning efforts as they relate to recreation needs, including the West Point Community Parks and Recreation Master Plan (2001), West

Point Charrette (2002), West Point Chattahoochee Corridor River Master Plan (2007), West Point Comprehensive Plan (2008), West Point Quality Growth Resource Team Report (2008), 2008 Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP), and the City of West Point Green Infrastructure Plan (2009).

The Community Vision section is the basis for Plan recommendations. Goals, policies and strategies are intended to guide West Point in the future development and enhancement of its recreation facilities and programs. They are based on demographic trends, an analysis of existing facilities and demand, and input from staff, a steering committee and the public.

The Recommendations section addresses the following topics:

- Improvements to Existing Parks
- New Parks and Facilities
- Land Acquisition
- Multi-Use Trails System
- Staffing and Maintenance
- Estimated Cost of System Wide Improvements

The Recommendations section also includes a conceptual comprehensive citywide parks system master plan that reflects key goals and objectives. The illustrative Conceptual Recreation Master Plan identifies parks and recreation facilities that can be implemented over a ten-year period.

Community Profile

2.1. Population

The city of West Point covers approximately 4.4 square miles of land that is located in both Harris and Troup Counties. According to 2010 U.S. Census figures, West Point's population is 3,474 residents. West Point's population has declined slowly since recording a population of 4,610 in 1960, as shown in Table 2-1. Population losses in the 1970s and 1980s coincided with the closing of numerous plants and the associated loss of manufacturing jobs. By 2000, the population had fallen to 3,382. While there has been a slight increase over the past ten years, based on recent 2010 Census data, the population declined 19% from 1980 to 2010 (see Table 2-2).

Table 2-1 Historical Population, City of West Point

1960	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010
4,610	4,232	4,305	3,571	3,382	3,474

Source: U.S. Census Bureau (Demographic Profile 1, 2010)

Table 2-2 Historical Population Growth Rates, City of West Point

% Change	% Change	% Change	% Change
1980-1990	1990-2000	2000-2010	1980-2010
-17%	-5%	+3%	

Source: U.S. Census Bureau (Demographic Profile 1, 2010)

Population projection methods based on historic population trends would show a continued loss of population for the city over the next 20 years, as shown by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA) projection in Table 2-3. The population losses that define West Point's recent decades are expected to reverse due to the economic impact of the newly opened Kia Automotive manufacturing plant. The plant and the anticipated development of associated suppliers is anticipated to fuel population growth in the city and in the surrounding area for years to come. As such, the City of West Point developed population projections in coordination with Troup County for the purpose of the 20-year Comprehensive Plan. Table 2-3 presents the projected population for the city through the year 2020, consistent with the planning timeframe for the Recreation Master Plan. The projections show a 94% increase in population between 2000 and 2020.

Although the population projections were prepared prior to the 2010 U.S. Census, showing a population for 2010 that is approximately 20% higher than the latest Census count, West Point has the potential to grow consistent with its projected growth rate. This is due in part to a recent announcement by Point University, formerly Atlanta Christian College, that it will relocate its main campus from East Point, Georgia to West Point. Classes at the West Point campus will begin in fall

2012 with an approximate enrollment of 400 students. It is anticipated that enrollment will reach 1,000 students in the short-term.

Table 2-3 West Point Population Projections

Year	DCA	City of West Point
2000	3,382	3,382
2005	3,154	-
2006	-	3,352
2007	-	3,229
2010	2,926	4,198
2015	2,698	5,457
2020	2,470	6,548
Growth Rate 2000-2020	-27%	94%

Source: DCA, the City of West Point and Troup County

2.2. Age Distribution

The age distribution of the population is an important consideration in the recreation planning process. Children/youth age groups impact active recreation facilities and athletic programming, while young and middle-age adults generally impact adult athletic programming as well as less structured opportunities such as jogging trails. Statistics on older adults, who have varying levels of participation and interests, also need to be evaluated in order to estimate demand for desired recreation opportunities. These can range from more active recreation such as swimming, tennis and walking to participation in activities such as crafts and specialized exercise programs.

Table 2-4 shows the historic age distribution for West Point. Children (5-14 years old) and seniors (65+) historically have comprised the largest proportions of the overall population, although the percentage of residents who are over 65 has decreased since 1990. The largest increases from 1990 and 2000 are found with the 45-54 and 55-64 age groups. These increases have implications on senior-oriented recreation options, since these age groups will begin to reach age 65 in the next ten years.

Although the proportion of residents who are teenagers and young adults has remained fairly stable since 1990, the influx of Point University students beginning in fall 2012 will cause the number of residents who fall within the 15-19 and 20-24 age groups to significantly increase in a relatively short period of time. This will impact West Point's recreation system, especially its active recreation facilities, which are centrally located in the city and will be accessible to Point University's students. In addition, the university has indicated it will expand its current athletic programs to include football, softball and cross country.

Age Group	1990		20	2000 2010		
ingo di oup	Total	% of Total	Total	% of Total	Total	% of Total
0 – 4	248	6.9%	245	7.2%	255	7.3%
5 – 14	535	15.0%	581	17.2%	545	15.7%
15-19	251	7.0%	237	7.0%	288	8.3%
20-24	230	6.4%	148	4.4%	189	5.4%
25 – 34	464	13.0%	382	11.3%	360	10.4%
35 – 44	480	13.4%	464	13.7%	418	12.0%
45 – 54	311	8.7%	476	14.1%	470	13.5%

302

547

3,382

8.9%

16.2%

100.0%

441

508

3,474

12.7%

14.6%

100.0%

Table 2-4 Historical Age Distribution, City of West Point

Source: U.S. Census Bureau (Summary File 1, 1990 and 2000; Demographic Profile 1, 2010)

9.9%

19.6%

100.0%

352

700

3,571

2.3. Race and Ethnicity

55 - 64

65 +

Total

African American residents make up the largest share of the population in the city, at 57.7%, as shown in Table 2-6. This percentage has been increasing since 1980, while the percentage of white residents has decreased every ten years over the same time period. In 1980, by contrast, the African American and white populations were almost equal, at 49.6% and 50.0%, respectively, in the city. The Census does not include Hispanic as a race, but accounts for this population under ethnicity. As a group, the number of persons of Hispanic origin comprises a very small percentage of the population (2.5% in 2010); however, the increase in residents of Hispanic origin from 2000 to 2010 represents the largest increase of any racial or ethnic group in West Point in that time period. Ethnicity and culture can impact recreation participation and preferences, as well as how the city serves a diversifying population.

Table 2-5 Race and Ethnicity Composition, City of West Point

			Popula	ition By Race			Persons of	
Year	Total	White	African American	American Indian/ Alaska Native	Asian or Pacific Islander	Other race	Hispanic origin	
1980	Total	2,129	2,145	_	19	0	59	
1700	% of Total Pop.	49.6%	50.0%	0.0%	0.4%	0.0%	1.4%	
1990	Total	1,558	1983	2	26	2	20	
1770	% of Total Pop.	43.6%	55.5%	0.1%	0.7%	0.1%	0.6%	
2000	Total	1,373	1,956	-	30	22	21	
2000	% of Total Pop.	40.6%	57.8%	0.0%	0.9%	0.7%	0.6%	
2010	Total	1,358	2,004	8	38	28	86	
2010	% of Total Pop.	39.1%	57.7%	0.2%	1.1%	0.8%	2.5%	

Source: U.S. Census Bureau (Summary File 1, 1980. 1990 and 2000; Demographic Profile 1, 2010)

2.4. Income, Employment and Education

Income, employment and education figures are useful in recreation planning. Higher levels of each of the characteristics generally indicate a population who has an increased level of mobility and ability to participate in recreation programs and activities, including private facilities and locations farther from home. Conversely, lower levels indicate that residents are generally likely to participate in local, public recreation facilities.

At the present time, income, employment and education statistics for 2010 have not been published by the U.S. Census Bureau. As shown in Table 2-7, median household income (adjusted for inflation) decreased in West Point between 1990 and 2000, while gains were made in Troup and Harris Counties, the state and the nation. Harris County experienced the largest increase, at 37%, from 1990 to 2000. Although the median household income has not kept pace with the region or state, a smaller percentage of households earn incomes in the lower-income brackets, as shown in Table 2-8.

Table 2-6 Median Household Income

Area	1990	2000	% Change 1990-2000
West Point	\$41,235	\$40,498	-1.8%
Troup County	\$40,389	\$45,049	11.5%
Harris County	\$44,306	\$60,662	36.9%
State of Georgia	\$45,712	\$53,417	16.9%
United States	\$48,371	\$53,331	10.3%

Note: Values shown for 1990 and 2000 are adjusted for inflation to year 2010

Source: U.S. Census Bureau (Summary File 3, 1990 and 2000); U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Price Index Inflation Calculator

Table 2-7 Household Income, City of West Point

Category	1990	2000
Cutegory	% of Total	% of Total
Less than \$10,000	34%	19%
\$10,000 - \$14,999	10%	3%
\$15,000 - \$19,999	10%	10%
\$20,000 - \$29,999	15%	15%
\$30,000 - \$34,999	5%	5%
\$35,000 - \$39,999	6%	9%
\$40,000 - \$49,999	3%	11%
\$50,000 - \$59,999	3%	8%
\$60,000 - \$74,999	6%	7%
\$75,000 - \$99,999	2%	7%
\$100,000 - \$124,999	2%	2%
\$125,000 - \$149,999	0%	2%
\$150,000 +	3%	3%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, DCA

2.5. Educational Attainment

The level of education attained by the population is a factor concerning the types of recreational opportunities desired. Typically, individuals and families with higher levels of education have a greater demand for passive use facilities, classes and cultural opportunities. Table 2-9 shows educational attainment levels for 1990 and 2000. Between 1990 and 2000 a smaller percentage of city residents reported attaining a high school degree only, and there were increases in the percent of the population having taken college courses and attaining college and graduate degrees.

Table 2-8 Educational Attainment, City of West Point

Category	1990 % of Population	2000 % of Population	Trend 1990-2000
Less than 9th Grade	17.5%	11.0%	-37.5%
9th to 12th Grade (No Diploma)	19.7%	21.6%	8.3%
High School Graduate (Includes Equivalency)	30.1%	23.0%	-24.2%
Some College (No Degree)	15.3%	16.0%	3.6%
Associate Degree	1.5%	4.7%	221.9%
Bachelor's Degree	11.5%	14.9%	29.0%
Graduate or Professional Degree	4.5%	8.8%	94.9%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau (Summary File 3, 1990 and 2000)

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Facilities Inventory

3.1. West Point Recreation System

The City of West Point owns a variety of park properties and recreational facilities. Maintenance and operation of the parks system is undertaken by the West Point Parks and Recreation Department, which is currently funded by Troup County. To date, the West Point park system does not include any properties or facilities in Harris County.

City Park

City Park occupies 30 acres on the east side of the Chattahoochee River. Its boundaries are, generally, the river to the west, the railroad to the north, U.S. Hwy 29 and Pinewood Cemetery to the east, and East 11th Street to the south. It serves as the location for most of the active recreation opportunities in the city and is in close proximity to area neighborhoods. Almost all existing residential areas in West Point are located within a two-mile radius of City Park.

The following facilities are located in the park:

- Gymnasium (21,750 sq.ft.)
- 2 tennis courts
- Outdoor swimming pool (1,900 sq.ft.)
- I playground
- 3 baseball/softball fields
- 2 batting cages
- I multi-use field
- 4 concession stands
- I football field with equipment room & concession stand
- I picnic pavilion
- 3 storage/equipment buildings
- West Point Parks and Recreation Department office

The park's fields serve multiple functions. The football field is also used for soccer, cheerleading clinics and community events.



City Park Pool



Baseball field



Gymnasium

The multi-use field is primary used as a baseball field but also accommodates youth football, cheerleading and soccer.

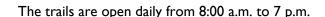
The Parks and Recreation Department office is located in the basement of the former West Point High School, which is otherwise unoccupied. The high school gymnasium is a separate structure that is now part of the city's recreation system. It houses the gym on the upper level and an activity room in the lower level. City Park also contains a small wooden structure at the southern entrance known as the "Boy Scouts Building." Currently unoccupied, the building is in the process of being renovated by the Boy Scouts for their use.

West Point River Park

West Point River Park is a passive recreation area located on 185 acres of land adjacent to the northern boundary of City Park. It can be accessed by a trailhead near the 10th Street Bridge or a vehicular drive off of U.S. 29. It also connects with City Park by a riverfront greenway. Most of the park acreage was donated to the City in 2004 by the national non-profit land conservation organization Trust for Public Land (TPL) as part of the TPL Chattahoochee River Land Protection Campaign. The goal of the campaign is to create a 180-mile greenway along the banks of the river from Helen to Columbus in part to provide recreational opportunities.

West Point River Park has approximately 3,600 feet of river frontage, and its interior includes a five-mile trail system with the following segments for non-motorized use:

- Big Beech Trail
- Muscogee Ridge Trail
- Beaver Pond Trail
- River Trail
- North South Pass
- Heritage Trail



6th Avenue Park

6th Avenue Park is a 3.5 acre park located at the southwest corner of 6th Avenue and W. 14th Street. It abuts a cemetery and is just north of the Fort Tyler Historic Site. The park is largely enclosed by a chain link fence, with an opening near the corner of 6th Avenue and W. 14th Street for access. Parking spaces are not provided. The following amenities are provided in the park:

- Picnic shelter with tables
- 2 outdoor grills
- Walking trail
- I ballfield



Heritage Trail



Picnic shelter



Picnic shelter & walking trail

12th Street Pool

12th Street Pool, built in the 1960's, is on the grounds of West Point Elementary School. The pool is 3,600 square feet in size and is currently closed due to needed repairs.

While the City owns the pool, the school itself is owned by Troup County School District. The West Point Parks and Recreation Department is permitted to use the school's gymnasium to accommodate youth and adult basketball programs. In addition, the school playground is used for a summer playground and lunch program.

West Point Senior Center

The Senior Center is located off of O.G. Skinner Drive on a fouracre campus that includes the West Point Technology Building and the former Boys and Girls Club building. The Senior Center is a 5,024 square feet multi-purpose building with a kitchen, library/lounge, an activity room, and an arts and crafts room.

The center offers a variety of activities including horseshoes, chair aerobics, softball, quilting, crocheting, knitting, games, field trips and a walking club. Walking on-site is made possible by a loop trail located between the Senior Center and O.G. Skinner Drive.



12th Street Pool



Senior Center

3.2. **Other Recreation Systems**

In addition to West Point's Recreation System, residents may utilize facilities and programs provided by Harris and Troup Counties (depending on their county of residence). Valley, Alabama also maintains two recreational facilities within close proximity to West Point: the Sportsplex and Valley Community Center.

Table 3-1 **Summary of Harris County Parks & Facilities**

Park/Facility	Amenities
Carver Gymnasium	Gymnasium, indoor basketball court, meeting room
Charles Moultrie Park	Baseball fields, softball fields, playground, walking trail, pavilion, picnic tables, meeting room
Harris County Soccer Complex	Soccer fields, playground, walking trail, pavilions, picnic tables
EC Pate Park	Baseball fields, softball fields, football field, pavilions, picnic tables, meeting room
Pine Mountain Valley Park	Baseball field, outdoor basketball court, tennis court, playground, pavilions, picnic tables
To be constructed: Community Center	Indoor basketball courts, zero entry competition pool, meeting rooms

Source: Harris County Recreation Department

Table 3-2 Summary of Troup County Parks & Facilities

Park/Facility	Amenities
Callaway Stadium	Football stadium
George F. Harris Baseball Complex	Baseball fields, community building, meeting rooms, walking trail, pavilion
Ann & Doc McCluskey Tennis Center	Tennis courts
Shuford Fields Softball Complex	Softball fields, walking trail
Troup County Recreation Center	Gymnasium, swimming pool, multi-purpose area, meeting rooms, aerobics, exercise equipment, skate park, BMX, in-line hockey
Troup County Soccer Complex	Soccer fields

Source: Troup County Comprehensive Plan

3.3. Other Recreation Sites

The Virginia Cook Day Care and Recreation Center property is located in the historic Eastside neighborhood of West Point. Though no longer in use, the former day care center building and playground have the potential to be rehabilitated and again used for local recreational purposes.

West Point Lake offers numerous recreational activities just north of the city. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers operates and maintains lake amenities that are open to the public, including: five campgrounds, 34 boat launching ramps, three fishing piers, 17 hiking trails, nine picnic shelters and 25 day use parks.

The Fort Tyler Historic Site, located on 6th Avenue, is a reconstruction of a hilltop Confederate fort. The site is owned and maintained by the private, non-profit Fort Tyler Association, Inc. The site is accessible from 6th Avenue and includes a parking area.

3.4. Programs Inventory

Seasonal athletic programs are available through the West Point Parks and Recreation Department, as shown in Table 3-3. Programs are primarily held at City Park fields, the swimming pool and in the gymnasium building. The Recreation Department conducts the Summer Playground program at West Point Elementary School.

Table 3-3 West Point Recreation Programs

Season	Programs			
Winter	Youth basketball, in-line hockey and in-line hockey clinic; adult basketball; group fitness classes			
Spring	Youth baseball and softball; adult softball; group fitness classes			
Summer	Youth swimming lessons, art camp, summer playground; High school football and basketball clinics; adult softball; group fitness classes			
Fall	Youth football, cheerleading, soccer, and soccer clinic; group fitness classes			

Source: West Point Parks and Recreation Department

CHAPTER 4

Needs Assessment

4.1. Introduction

The purpose of a needs assessment is to determine the adequacy of system-wide acreage and facilities and to identify present and future needs. This is accomplished by evaluating existing acreage and facilities, assessing previous plans' findings and recommendations, and identifying needs based on Steering Committee and City staff input as well as public survey results.

4.2. Supply Analysis: ACREAGE

The National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) suggested guideline for system-wide recreation acreage (local, close-to-home space) is 6.25-10.50 acres per 1,000 persons. Local, close-to-home space is defined to include land owned or leased, but excludes pure passive use parks, greenways and undeveloped land. Therefore, local, close-to-home space in West Point totals **33.5** acres (City Park and I 2th Street Pool only).

With **3,474** residents, there are approximately **10** acres per 1,000 persons. If no additional acreage is added to the system, there will be approximately **5.11** acres per 1,000 persons based on the population projection of 6,548 residents for the year 2020. To maintain minimum recommended levels, a total of 41 acres (or **7.5** additional acres) of active recreational space would be needed.

4.3. Supply Analysis: FACILITIES

NRPA guidelines for recreation facilities are shown in Table 4-1. As with the guidelines for recreation acreage discussed in Section 4.2, the recreation facilities standards are intended to be used as a guide when identifying West Point-specific needs and goals. According to the guidelines, existing facilities that could be expanded are soccer fields, tennis courts and outdoor basketball courts. The West Point Parks and Recreation Department currently uses the City Park football and multi-use fields for soccer, and basketball is played indoors in the City Park gymnasium and West Point Elementary gymnasium. Two tennis courts are located on the grounds of City Park.

Table 4-I Inventory and Analysis of Recreation Facilities

Facility Type	NRPA Guideline	Current Inventory	2020 Need (Based on NRPA Guidelines)
Baseball Fields	I Per 5,000	3	0
Football Fields	I Per 20,000	I	0
Soccer Fields	l Per 10,000	0 (soccer is played on multi-use and football fields in City Park)	I
Multi-Purpose Fields	No Guideline	I	0
Tennis Courts	I Per 2,000	2	1
Basketball Courts	I Per 5,000	0	2
Swimming Pools	I Per 20,000	2	0
Playgrounds	No Guideline	1	
Pavilions	No Guideline	3	
Multi-Purpose Trail System	I Per Community	1+	0
Walking/FitnessTrails	No Guideline	5+	
Recreation Center/Gymnasium	l Per 20,000	(however, West Point Elem. Gym is also used)	
Community Center	I per 20,000	0 (however, Senior Center provides a role in the community)	1

4.4. Relevant Plans

Several plans or studies that have bearing on West Point's recreation system have been undertaken in the past several years. Their recommendations are summarized in this section.

City of West Point Community Parks and Recreation Master Plan (2001)

The Community Parks and Recreation Master Development Plan (French & Associates, 2WR / Andras Architects) recommended improvements to City Park and 6th Avenue Park and evaluated the condition of the City Park and 12th Street pools. The plan also included an analysis of the historic CSX Depot building and former West Point High School gymnasium for their potential reuse as a senior center. Since the plan's completion in 2001, the following improvement projects have been undertaken by the City of West Point:

- Addition of two baseball fields to City Park
- Construction of West Point Senior Center at O.G. Skinner Drive
- Development of detailed cost estimates for City Park gymnasium enhancements in order to improve its current function
- Addition of a gazebo and picnic area to 6th Avenue
- Renovation of the Depot building

In addition, the City opened the West Point Riverfront Park and received grant funding from the Georgia Department of Natural Resources' (DNR) Recreational Trail Program to construct an associated trailhead and kayak/canoe lunch just south of the park on the east side of the river. The funds were also awarded to help fund trail maintenance.

West Point Charrette (2002)

In 2002, a design team sponsored by the University of Georgia's College of Environment and Design and the Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA) conducted a week-long, on-site design and visioning exercise called a "charrette." The intention of the charrette was to identify projects that support the goals of downtown revitalization and economic development. The team's recommendations included the addition of local biking and walking trails along the Chattahoochee River, as well as a regional trail and bike path that would connect the West Point Lake dam to the Department of Transportation (DOT) rest area on I-85, south of downtown West Point.

West Point Chattahoochee River Corridor Master Plan (2007)

This master plan, undertaken by jB+a, Inc., addressed over six miles of river frontage between West Point Lake Dam and the Riverfront Park. The plan recommends a network of hiking, biking and boating trails ("blueway"), as well as downtown riverfront redevelopment projects and a pedestrian bridge across the Chattahoochee River. In 2008 jB+a prepared a master plan for the Riverfront Park, consisting of hiking trails, mountain bike trails, picnic areas, camping yurts, viewing platforms, lean-to shelters, fishing/paddling access points, an information kiosk and a visitors center. Illustrative concept sketches and cost estimates were prepared as part of the planning effort.

West Point Quality Growth Resource Team Report (2008)

A DCA-organized Resource Team of planning professionals recommended a series of policies, financing strategies, incentives and regulations intended to enhance the downtown area and accommodate future growth elsewhere in the city. The report's recommendations included downtown riverfront redevelopment activities, reuse of the West Point High School building, trail connectivity across the river utilizing the 10th Street Bridge, and creation of a Green Infrastructure Plan. The report also supported the concepts presented in the West Point Chattahoochee River Corridor Master Plan.

City of West Point Comprehensive Plan 2008-2028 (2008)

The Comprehensive Plan is a policy document intended to guide growth and development over a 20 year period. The plan recommends existing assets such as the Chattahoochee River and public parks be maintained and enhanced to serve existing and future residents. Specific recommendations include development of a Recreation Master Plan to guide investment in existing and new parks, location of new recreation facilities in close proximity to existing or planned residential areas, coordination with adjacent jurisdictions to develop an interconnected greenway/trail system, and the formation of partnerships to protect the natural environment and provide river-oriented recreational opportunities.

City of West Point Green Infrastructure Plan (2009)

Building on the recommendations of the Quality Growth Resource Team Report, DCA prepared a Green Infrastructure Plan. The plan is intended to show how parks and open spaces can be organized into a "green infrastructure" consisting of four hubs, or large open spaces, that are connected by a network of trails and sidewalks. The four hubs are Riverfront Park, the downtown riverfront, Fort Tyler Historic Site and 6th Avenue Park. The plan's proposed sidewalk and trail network includes the addition or improvement of sidewalks, the addition of trails (including a segment between Fort Tyler and 6th Avenue Park), provision of a pedestrian walkway alongside the CSX Railroad Bridge, and construction of a pedestrian bridge across the Chattahoochee River.

Georgia Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan 2008-2013

Every five years, the Department of Natural Resources' Parks, Recreation and Historic Sites Division (PRHSD) formulates a comprehensive statewide recreation policy. This policy is contained within the Georgia Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP), a plan that also makes the state eligible to receive and distribute federal funds from the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF). LWCF grants support state, county and city outdoor recreation projects in three categories: land acquisition, development and rehabilitation.

SCORP is based on an inventory of local, state and federal outdoor recreation and conservation resources, public input, trends and benchmarks analysis, and connectivity to other state planning documents and initiatives. Its recommendations are grouped into six strategic actions that are intended to be addressed by all stakeholders in outdoor recreation, including county and city governments. Actions that are applicable to local governments are identified in Table 4-2. These actions are being addressed by the City of West Point in the form of park development and planning (including the formulation of goals, policies and strategies in this plan), recreation programming, adoption of appropriate land use and development regulations, and use of alternative funding mechanisms such as SPLOST.

Table 4-2 SCORP Strategic Actions

Topic	Strategic Action			
Health and Livability				
	Provide a variety of outdoor recreation areas and parks in close proximity to where people live and work.			
	Promote the development of residential areas that retain greenspace, include recreation facilities and provide safe pedestrian access to public parks from schools, business and retail centers.			
Economic Vitality				
	Promote outdoor recreation events, programs and facilities that attract day travelers and overnight visitation.			
	Create partnerships with local businesses that provide direct or indirect materials or services for outdoor recreation such as local convention and visitor bureaus, recreation equipment vendors and guide services.			
Conservation				
	Encourage land use planning that includes natural resource conservation and outdoor recreation opportunities.			
	Develop corridors to link recreation sites and residential areas using multi-use pathways.			
Commitment	Commitment			
	Work with DNR to explore: alternate funding sources, ways of improving efficiency in service delivery, and ways to maximize benefits to the community for every dollar spent on outdoor recreation efforts.			
	Seek ways to incorporate the principles of environmental planning into zoning policies and into the construction of buildings and facilities.			
	Stay current with the needs of constituents for outdoor recreation opportunities.			

	Acknowledge the economic and health benefits that outdoor recreation sites provide to communities.			
Education				
	Commit to understanding the value of recreation in their communities.			
	Capitalize on the assistance provided by DNR, including applying for LWCF funding and working with PRHSD to seek other sources of funding and support.			
	Encourage site managers and service providers to attend training sessions and to utilize tools provided by DNR and its partners.			
	Explore ways to collaborate with partners to achieve objectives for recreation (e.g., memoranda of agreement, management agreements, cost-sharing and staff-sharing).			
Funding				
	Pursue the use of special purpose local option sales tax (SPLOST), impact fees, business and industry partnerships and foundation grants as additional funding mechanisms to fund land acquisition, conservation and management as well as facility development, maintenance and rehabilitation.			

10th Street Redevelopment Plan (2011)

The I0th Street Redevelopment Plan, prepared by Market + Main, focused on an area bounded roughly by the Chattahoochee River to the west, the rail line to the north, the Technology Park to the east, and 6th Street to the south. The plan recommends several projects to spur redevelopment of the area, including the addition of new recreation facilities that can accommodate a range of users (youth leagues, high school and collegiate programs). Public input received during the development of the plan expressed a desire for large-scale, centrally located indoor recreation facility and a new swimming pool. These recommendations were focused on City Park and surrounding area, with the intention that the park be enhanced to make it a premier athletic/recreation destination in the region.

4.5. Public Survey Results

To gain a better understanding of residents' recreation needs, a 14-question public survey was created. The on-line survey was posted on the City website, and paper copies were made available through the Recreation Department. A summary of survey responses is provided in this section. The complete results of the survey may be found in the Appendix.

Respondent Characteristics (Question #'s 1, 2, 3, 6)

- Majority have lived in West Point more than five years, are white and drive to parks
- 1/3 don't live in West Point
- Most predominant age groups in households are 26-50 and 6-12

Most Used Parks (#4)

- City Park, followed by Riverfront Park Trails, Gymnasium and Fort Tyler
- 20% don't use West Point parks
- Over half use facilities outside of West Point
 - Valley Sportsplex
 - Troup County facilities
 - West Point Lake

Most Popular Activities (#7):

- Top three are walking/jogging, youth baseball and youth soccer
- Group fitness classes, public swimming, youth basketball, picnicking, youth softball, and free play youth playground "tie" for fourth
- Most common "Others": river activities (kayaking, canoeing, tubing, rafting, fishing) and mountain biking

Top Three Activities Desired (#10):

- Walking/jogging trails/track
- River activities and fitness classes (tie)
- Soccer
- Tennis and swimming also scored high

Additional City Programs Needed (#8):

- Top three are youth camps/instructional programs, group fitness classes and playgrounds
- Senior programs, public swimming and swimming lessons tie for fourth

Additional City facilities Needed (#11):

- Top three are indoor multi-purpose space, picnic areas, and playgrounds
- Multi-purpose fields, walking/jogging trails and gyms tie for fourth
- Also, swimming pools

Program and Facility Ratings (#'s 9, 12):

- Majority rate programs as average (45.9%) or above average (40%)
- Aspects of facilities needing greatest attention (largest combined "fair"+"poor" rating) are parking availability, restrooms and amount of space

Most Important Parks and Recreation Need (#13):

• Improving existing facilities

Community Vision

The Recreation Master Plan represents a ten-year vision for desired enhancements to West Point's park and recreation system to allow it to best serve current and future city residents. The vision is expressed as an illustrative, city-wide Recreation Master Plan and more detailed conceptual plans for specific sites, consistent with a defined set of Goals, Policies and Strategies. **Goals** are the end result toward which a community directs its efforts. They also provide guidance for long-term decision making. **Policies** are used to guide everyday decisions related to achieving the community vision. **Strategies** are the identifiable actions undertaken by the community to accomplish stated goals.

This section states recreation goals, policies and objectives for the next ten years, based on input from the Recreation Plan Steering Committee, City staff, previous plans and studies, the community survey, and coordination with the 10th Street Redevelopment Plan. The identified strategies form the basis of this plan's Recommendations in Chapter 6.

Goal I: Improve Existing Parks

Policy: Maximize existing park space to broaden the range of recreational opportunities for current and future city residents

- **Strategy I:** Expand existing walking trail on the Senior Center campus to encourage walking and/or jogging for patrons as well as employees of businesses along O.G. Skinner Drive.
- Strategy 2: Develop community garden plot(s) to provide outdoor recreation and fresh food opportunities.
- Strategy 3: Utilize available open space at 6th Avenue Park to install a new playground, shade trees and parking.
- Strategy 4: Renovate, reconfigure and expand layout of City Park to result in additional facilities and expanded parking.
- Strategy 5: Replace City Park pool with a larger, enclosed pool (natatorium) to allow use in all seasons.
- Strategy 6: Renovate City Park gym to improve its functionality.
- Strategy 7: Use West Point High School site to develop a recreation center on the City Park campus.
- **Strategy 8:** Provide repairs, as needed, to 12th Street pool to keep it open to the public until a new pool facility (proposed natatorium) is constructed at City Park.

Policy: Enhance pedestrian or multi-use connections between parks and recreation facilities to improve access and create an interconnected recreation system

- Strategy 1: Link facilities in City Park with a network of multi-use trails that also connect to the adjacent Riverfront trail system.
- Strategy 2: Connect 6th Avenue Park/cemetery and Fort Tyler with a pedestrian path.
- **Strategy 3:** Prioritize and implement "Green Street Connections" from the 2009 Green Infrastructure Plan based on those that add new connections.

Strategy 4: Coordinate with Georgia Department of Transportation to improve 10th Street Bridge as an enhanced river crossing for pedestrians.

Goal 2: Expand Recreation Programs

Policy: Expand recreation programs as necessary to meet the needs of all age groups

- Strategy 1: Develop facilities at City Park to accommodate needed athletic and non-athletic programs.
- **Strategy 2:** Continue ongoing efforts to promote Senior Center activities while working to provide a broader range of available activities and improved access (via Troup Transit, the public dial-a-ride service).
- **Strategy 3:** Coordinate with local community organizations to provide activities that can augment existing youth-oriented programs.

Goal 3: Provide New Parks and Facilities

Policy: Utilize City-owned and non-profit properties to expand river-oriented recreational opportunities and to provide new recreation facilities where residential growth is anticipated

- **Strategy I:** Improve downtown riverfront on west side of the river by creating a public gathering space near City Hall.
- **Strategy 2:** Coordinate with private property owners interested in operating for-profit recreational facilities (e.g. campgrounds) at suitable locations.
- **Strategy 3:** Continue to coordinate with non-profit organizations such as the Trust for Public Land to expand recreational facilities.
- **Strategy 4:** Develop recently acquired 21.8-acre site in Harris County as a new park in the West Point recreation system.
- Strategy 5: In the long-term, establish a multi-use trail on the west side of the river to complement the trails on the east side, utilizing City-owned property.

Policy: Support and participate in collaborative efforts to establish new, multi-jurisdictional trail systems

- Strategy 1: Continue to coordinate with the cities of Valley and Lanett (AL) and the Trust for Public Land to promote the concept of a Chattahoochee Blueway Trail.
- Strategy 2: In the long-term, coordinate with the U.S. Corps of Engineers, Troup County, and the Trust for Public Land to encourage implementation of the portions of the State Line Multi-use Greenway (Hardley Creek Park to West Point) that are not inside the city limits.

Policy: Provide new facilities on existing City-owned properties to the extent possible due to their proximity to established neighborhoods and the financial benefit derived from not purchasing property

- Strategy 1: Reconfigure, renovate, reuse, and expand City Park land and buildings to meet community needs (see Strategies under Goal 1).
- **Strategy 2:** Coordinate with the West Point Housing Authority to plan for the rehabilitation and reuse of the Virginia Cook Day Care and Recreation Center property in the historic Eastside neighborhood.

Goal 4: Effectively Maintain and Operate Parks

Policy: Provide a level of system-wide maintenance that will enhance the life of parks and facilities, ensure park user safety and comfort, and realize maintenance cost efficiencies

- Strategy I: Expand maintenance facilities at City Park.
- **Strategy 2:** Update staffing and equipment to meet projected needs.

- Strategy 3: Prepare and adopt a formal Maintenance Schedule for the recreation system.
- **Strategy 4:** Utilize volunteer groups, civic organizations and religious institutions as resources to supplement existing staff.
- Strategy 5: Continue to use minimum-security inmate labor crews to accomplish select park maintenance activities
- Strategy 6: Provide for routine patrolling of parks by City Police.
- **Strategy 7:** Ensure security lighting is in place proximate to activity centers, support facilities and potential crime locations in all parks.
- Strategy 8: Evaluate feasibility of installing emergency telephones along trail systems and within parks.

Goal 5: Finance Enhancements to Recreation System

Policy: Identify innovative methods of funding recreation system improvements that are realistic

- **Strategy 1:** Establish a Recreation Coordination Committee, with representation from West Point, Troup County and Harris County elected leaders and staff, to coordinate future parks and recreation facilities development, maintenance, operations, program administration and finance sharing.
- Strategy 2: Continue to utilize the Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST) as a primary funding mechanism for capital improvements and expansions.
- **Strategy 3:** Utilize Federal and State grant programs to the maximum extent feasible as a means to offset recreation system improvements costs.
- **Strategy 4:** Establish a local fundraising mechanism to solicit contributions from business, industry, and from current program participants.
- **Strategy 5:** Develop and/or promote partnerships with industries and institutions that can make significant contributions to facilities development.

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Recommendations

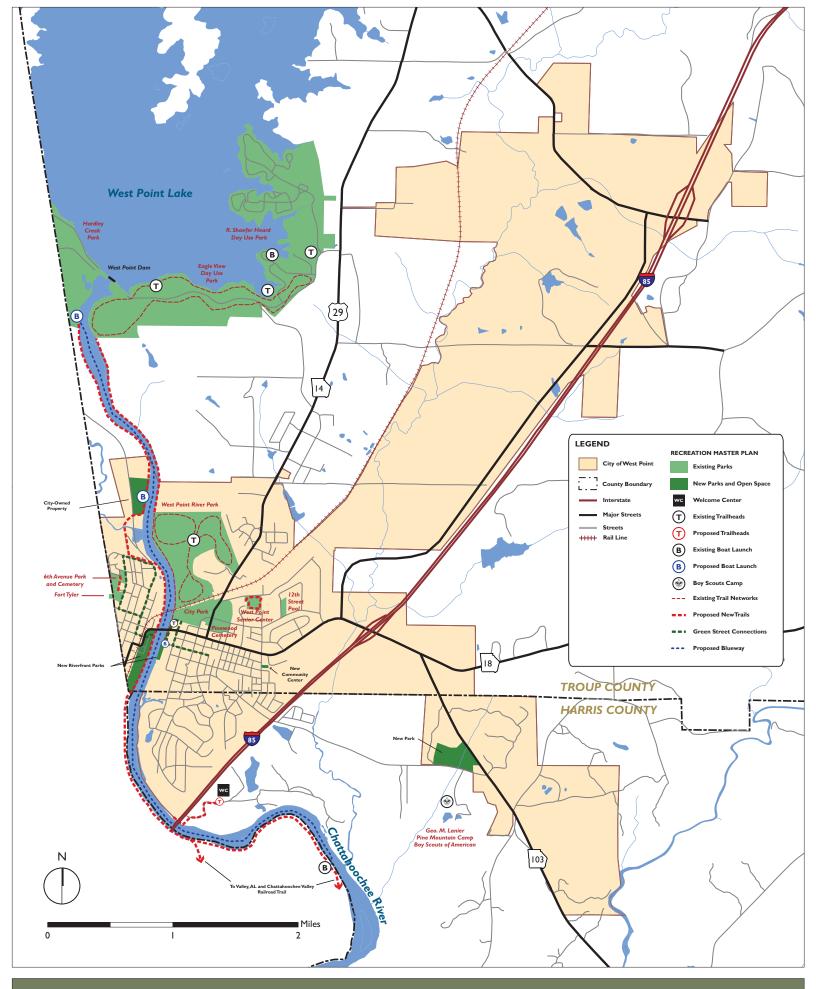
6.1. Introduction

The recommendations identified in this section support the goals, policies and strategies of Chapter 5. They are based on input from the Recreation Plan Steering Committee, City staff, previous plans and studies, the community survey, coordination with the 10th Street Redevelopment Plan, as well as an assessment of the existing recreation system. The recommendations are intended to be implemented within the ten year planning horizon. They are categorized by the following major initiatives: Existing Parks Improvements, New Parks and Facilities, Land Acquisition, Multi-use Trail System, and Staffing and Maintenance. Table 6-1 summarizes the recommendations that will be further described in this chapter.

Table 6-I Summary of Recommendations¹

Facility Type	NRPA Guideline	Current Inventory	2020 Need (Based on NRPA Guidelines)	2020 Proposed
Baseball Fields	I Per 5,000	3	0	+3, Harris Co. park site
Football Fields	I Per 20,000	1	0	0 , existing field in City Park to be renovated
Soccer Fields	I Per 10,000	0	I	I, to be played on new multi-use field
Multi-Purpose Fields	No Guideline	I	0	+1, City Park
Tennis Courts	I Per 2,000	2	I	+2 (4 total, in City Park)
Basketball Courts	I Per 5,000	0	2	+2, in proposed City Park Rec Center
Swimming Pools	I Per 20,000	2	0	I new in City Park to replace 2 existing
Playgrounds	No Guideline	I		+2, 6th Ave. Park & Harris Co. park site
Pavilions	No Guideline	3		+2, 6 th Ave. Park & Harris Co. park site
Multi-Purpose Trail System	I Per Community	1+	0	Extend existing system
Walking/FitnessTrails	No Guideline	5+		See above; also expand Senior Center path
Recreation Center/Gym	I Per 20,000	I		+I, City Park
Community Center	I per 20,000	0		+1, in proposed City Park Rec Center

¹ Based on concept plans for City Park, 6th Avenue Park, and Harris County Park Site



6.2. Existing Parks Improvements

Proposed improvements are identified in Table 6-2. They include needed repairs to the 12th Street Pool so that it is functional until a new pool facility is constructed at City Park, extension of the existing walking trail at the Senior Center, and enhancements to 6th Avenue Park to better accommodate children and families and to strengthen physical connections with adjacent Fort Tyler. In addition, several improvements to City Park are proposed to both maximize existing space and to provide new facilities in an expanded area in order to meet the needs of existing and future residents (see City Park Conceptual Site Plan).

Park Proposed Improvements New playground, shade trees and parking 6th Avenue Park Pedestrian path to Fort Tyler West Point Senior Center Extend existing walking trail 12th Street Pool Provide needed repairs Renovate existing gym Renovate existing field Renovate existing ball field Trails and sidewalks (142,500 linear feet) Tennis courts (4) Multi-use field (1) Recreation center (I @ 30,000 sq. ft.) City Park Aquatic center (I @ 22,000 sq. ft.) Multi-use stadium (I @ 3,000 capacity) Field house (I @ 20,000 sq. ft.) Kiosk/call boxes (2) Picnic shelters (6) Park furniture (benches, cans, etc.) Parking spaces (580)

Table 6-2 Existing Parks Improvements

6.3. Land Acquisition

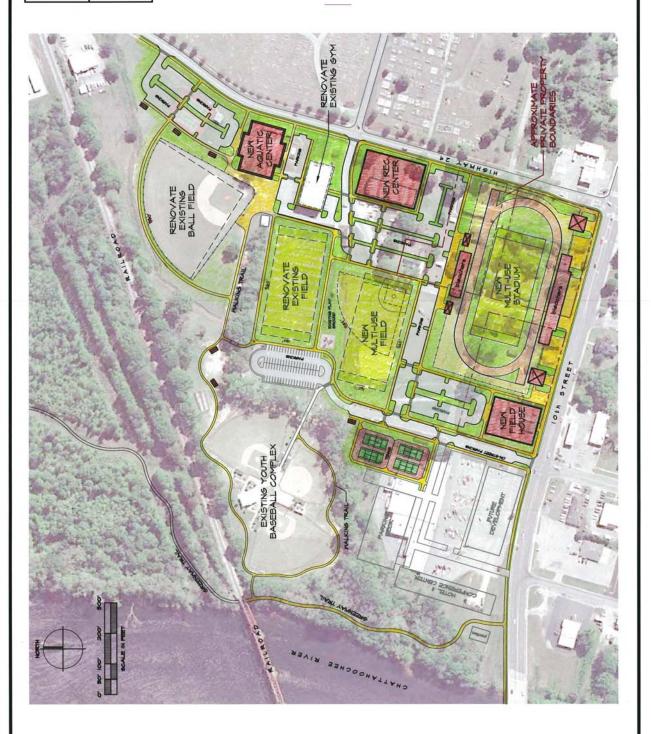
Based on population projections in Chapter 2, West Point should add approximately 7.5 acres of active recreational space to its inventory by the year 2020. The city recently entered into a sales agreement to acquire 21.8 acres in the Harris County portion of the city to develop for recreational purposes. There is the potential to utilize SPLOST funds to make initial improvements to the site so that it is accessible to the public with a defined entrance, minimal parking, and a trailhead for informal trails. As additional funds become available the property could be further developed for either passive or active recreation uses, including baseball/softball fields, a playground and picnic areas (see Table 6-2 and Harris County Park Concept Plan).

In addition to the 21.8 site, or as an expansion of that site, there is the longer-term potential to construct a multi-use community park in the Harris County portion of West Point to serve new residential growth. The park would require a total of approximately 50 acres of land; there is no



CITY PARK

Conceptual Site Plan



recommended location, however possible park features are identified in Section 6.4 under "Generic 50 Acre Park."

6.4. New Parks and Facilities

As described in Section 6.3, new parks and facilities are recommended to be placed in Harris County, where there is greater availability of undeveloped land and potential for residential growth that will place additional demands on the West Point recreation system. One site, situated on 21.8 acres on Old West Point Road north of the Boy Scout Camp, has recently been secured by the City. Proposed park features are identified in Table 6-3.

Table 6-3 also includes, for comparison, the proposed features of a "Generic 50 Acre Park." Should City officials identify a need for a community park of this scale (comparable to City Park) to serve the Harris County portion of West Point, then a decision could be made whether to expand the land area and facilities potential at the Old West Point Road property, or alternatively to establish a new park at a different location.

Table 6-3 New Parks and Facilities

Park/Facility	Proposed Features
	6' wide multi-purpose trails (5,000 linear feet)
	10' wide concrete trails (2,750 linear feet)
	Baseball/softball fields (3)
	Picnic area
Harris County Site	Park furniture (benches, cans, etc.)
Harris County Site	Playground
	Restroom building
	Restroom and concessions building (1,000 sq. ft.)
	Park maintenance facilities
	Parking (160 spaces)
	Recreation Center
	Baseball fields (5)
	Football field
	Soccer fields (2)
	Multi-purpose fields (2)
Generic 50 Acre Park	Parking spaces (400)
	Picnic areas (2)
	Playground
	Restroom/concession building
	Walking trails
	Maintenance building



HARRIS COUNTY PARK CONCEPT PLAN

West Point Recreation Master Plan

MACTEC

6.5. Multi-Use Trail System

This plan recommends a continuation of the multi-use trail system that has been established in West Point, taking advantage of the Chattahoochee River in terms of pedestrians and cyclists enjoying the views, and canoes/boats/kayaks traversing the river itself. The conceptual Recreation Master Plan (see insert) includes a trail on the west side of the river utilizing city-owned property where possible, as well as an on-river "blueway." These concepts were first identified in the 2007 West Point Chattahoochee River Corridor Master Plan, which provides associated cost estimates.

6.6. Staffing and Maintenance

Maintenance Staffing Standards

The National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) has developed staffing standards for parks maintenance personnel. These standards may need to be modified to reflect local conditions but provide guidelines to the level of service needed to provide acceptable parks maintenance. Table 6-4 lists examples of representative yearly standards.

Facility Type	Representative Staffing Standards
Athletic Fields	300 hours per field
Courts	35 hours per court
Playgrounds	50 hours per playground
Picnic Areas	30 hours per acre
Landscape Areas	0.5 hours per 1,000 square feet
Turf Areas	25 hours per acre
Buildings	1,500 hours per year per building
Walks/Trails	25 hours per 1,000 linear feet
Parking Areas	30 hours per 50 spaces
Administrative Support	I staff per 10 maintenance personnel

Table 6-4 NRPA Annual Staffing Standards for Parks Maintenance

Principals of Maintenance Management

- Maintenance objectives and standards must be established.
- Maintenance should be performed with economy of time, personnel, equipment and materials.
- Maintenance operations should be based on sound, written maintenance plans.
- Scheduling maintenance work must be based on sound policies and priorities.
- All maintenance programs should be developed with high emphasis on preventative maintenance.
- Park agencies must be provided with adequate fiscal resources to support the maintenance program.
- Park agencies must provide adequate personnel to carry out the required maintenance functions.
- The maintenance program must be designed to protect the natural environment.
- Maintenance should be one of the primary considerations in the design and development of new park facilities.
- Employees in the maintenance program are responsible for the public image of their associated agency.
- The maintenance program must assume the responsibility for both public and employee safety.

Planning and Organizing a Maintenance Program

There are several steps necessary to develop a successful maintenance program. Steps in this process include:

- Development of a complete inventory of the parks system.
- Development of a written routine maintenance plan that includes:
 - I. Maintenance standards for all areas, facilities, and equipment items identified in the inventory.
 - 2. Identification and listing of specific routine maintenance tasks necessary to achieve the maintenance standards set by the county for each facility.
 - 3. Procedures describing efficient work methods.
 - 4. Maintenance task frequency.
 - 5. Personnel necessary to accomplish identified tasks.
 - 6. Tools and equipment required to accomplish tasks.
 - 7. Material and consumable supplies necessary for task accomplishment.
 - 8. Accurate task time estimates.
- A method should be created to systematically accomplish high priority, non-routine, non-recurring maintenance work (i.e. repair work, special events).
- Preventative maintenance should be determined by a systematically scheduled inspection program established by the Recreation Department.
- A schedule should be developed for assigning responsibility for each maintenance job. The schedule should include designation of individual, crew, contractor, and supervisory staff to determine that the work is done properly.
- A system should be developed for job design and planning, accurate scheduling of maintenance work, and work load controls.
- Large equipment (tool boxes) should be accommodated on service vehicles.

Staffing and Maintenance Recommendations

- Develop a maintenance plan and maintenance standards manual for all parks.
- Develop a maintenance facility within each community park.
- Add two additional maintenance personnel for each new community park, and .5 for each neighborhood park.
- Establish a 'volunteer coordinator' position to facilitate volunteer effort for routine maintenance.

6.7. Estimated Cost of System Wide Improvements²

Working opinions of probable construction costs for proposed enhancements to existing parks and for proposed new parks and facilities are provided in Tables 6-5 through 6-8.

Table 6-5 Estimated Costs, 6th Avenue Park Concept Plan

ITEM	UNIT	QTY	UNIT COST	ITEM TOTAL
Parking	Space	27	\$2,000	\$54,000
Picnic Shelter	Allowance		\$20,000	\$20,000
Playground	Allowance		\$150,000	\$150,000
Lighting	Allowance	4	\$3,500	\$14,000
Landscaping	Allowance		\$30,000	\$30,000
			Subtotal	\$268,000
			Engineering (5%)	\$13,400
			Contingency (25%)	\$67,000
			Estimated Total	\$348,400

Table 6-6 Estimated Costs, City Park Concept Plan

ITEM	UNIT	QTY	UNIT COST	ITEM TOTAL
Multi-Use Stadium	Allowance	1	\$500,000	\$500,000
Field House	S.F.	20,000	\$125	\$2,500,000
Tennis Courts	Allowance	4	\$50,000	\$200,000
Multi-Use Field	Allowance	I	\$200,000	\$200,000
Recreation Center	S.F.	30,000	\$150	\$4,500,000
Aquatic Center	S.F.	22,000	\$225	\$4,950,000
Parking & Pavement	Space	580	\$2,100	\$1,218,000
Existing Gym Renovation	Allowance		\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000
Existing Field Renovation	Allowance	- 1	\$50,000	\$50,000
Existing Ball Field Renovation	Allowance	1	\$50,000	\$50,000
Trails & Sidewalks	S.F.	142,500	\$6	\$855,000
Kiosks/Call boxes	Allowance	2	\$5,000.	\$10,000
Picnic Shelters	Allowance	6	\$15,000	\$90,000
Park Furniture	Allowance	I	\$50,000	\$50,000
'S.F.' = Square Feet			Subtotal	\$17,173,000
			Engineering (5%)	\$858,650
			Contingency (25%)	\$4,293,250
			Estimated Total	\$22,324,900

² Working Opinions of Probable Construction Costs are made on the basis of MACTEC's judgment as experienced and qualified professionals generally familiar with recreation development projects. Cost items and estimated quantities were determined for the Recreation Master Plan. Quantities are based on the concept plans that were developed for the Recreation Master Plan, with the exception of those for "Generic 50 Acre Park." Unit costs were based on pricing from product suppliers, data published in the RS Means publication "Site Work and Landscape Cost Data", and GDOT published costs. The expected accuracy for these Working Opinions of Probable Construction Costs is in the range of ±20%. However, since MACTEC has no control over the cost of labor, materials, equipment, or services furnished by others, or over the construction contractor's methods of determining prices, or over competitive bidding or market conditions, MACTEC cannot and does not guarantee that proposals, bids, or actual construction cost will not vary from MACTEC's prepared Working Opinion of Probable Construction Costs or the above stated accuracy range.

Table 6-7 Estimated Costs, Harris County Site Concept Plan

ITEM	UNIT	QTY	UNIT COST	ITEM TOTAL
Ball Fields	Allowance	3	\$300,000	\$900,000
Concession/Restroom Building	S.F.	1,000	\$200	\$200,000
Restroom Building	Allowance	2	\$75,000	\$150,000
Playground	Allowance		\$100,000	\$100,000
Park Maintenance Area	Allowance	I	\$100,000	\$100,000
Parking & Pavement	Space	160	\$2,100	\$336,000
10' Wide Concrete Trails	L.F.	2,750	\$60	\$165,000
6' Wide Multi-Purpose Trails	L.F.	5,000	\$25	\$125,000
Picnic Area	Allowance	1	\$50,000	\$50,000
Park Furniture (benches, cans, etc.)	Allowance	I	\$50,000	\$50,000
'L.F.' = Linear Feet, 'S.F.' = Square Feet			Subtotal	\$2,176,000
			Engineering (5%)	\$108,800
	Contingency (25%)			\$544,000
		l	Estimated Total	\$2,828,800

Table 6-8 Estimated Costs, "Generic 50 Acre Park"

ITEM	UNIT	QTY	UNIT COST	ITEM TOTAL
Land	AC	50	\$20,000	\$1,000,000
Rec Center	Allowance	1	\$4,000,000	\$4,000,000
Ball Fields	Allowance	5	\$350,000	\$1,750,000
Football Field	Allowance	I	\$300,000	\$300,000
Soccer Fields	Allowance	2	\$300,000	\$600,000
Multi-Purpose Fields	Allowance	2	\$150,000	\$300,000
Parking	Space	400	\$2,100	\$840,000
Picnic Areas	Allowance	2	\$50,000	\$100,000
Playground	Allowance	1	\$175,000	\$175,000
Concession/Restroom Building	Allowance	I	\$250,000	\$250,000
Walking Trails	L.F.	7,920	\$50	\$396,000
Utilities/Infrastructure	AC	50	\$10,000	\$500,000
Maintenance Building	Allowance	I	\$100,000	\$100,000
'L.F.' = Linear Feet, 'AC' = Acre			Subtotal	\$10,311,000
	Engineering (5%)	\$515,550		
	Contingency (25%)	\$2,577,750		
	\$13,404,300			

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Funding Sources

The following are some examples of alternative funding sources³ which may assist the City in financing projected capital and operational budgets for this plan's proposed recommendations.

At the Federal and state levels, these funding sources typically take the form of grants, matching grants programs and loan programs. At the local level, funding sources may include the capital portion of the general fund, impact fees, Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST), dedicated millage rates, user fees, donations, bond referendums, foundation grants and public/ private partnerships.

Federal Funding Sources

There are several available programs that offer potential for funding recreation projects in West Point. These are the Community Development Block Grant program, the Land and Water Conservation Fund, the Urban Park and Recreation Recovery Program the Recreational Trails Program, and the SAFETEA-LU Program (formerly TEA-21 and ISTEA).

Other smaller programs exist which could be applicable during the planning period, although it should be noted that funding amounts may be considerably less than the larger programs mentioned above. The publication "Guide to Federal Funding and Assistance for Rivers, Trails and Open space Conservation" published in 1996 by the National Park Service is a good source for these other programs.

Community Development Block Grant

The Department of Housing and Urban Development sponsors the Community Development Block Grant program (CDBG). CDBG provides 100% grants for the acquisition, rehabilitation or construction of certain public facilities. Grants are highly competitive and use of the funds is restricted to projects that would benefit lower and moderate-income persons. Though funds are more commonly expended for water and sewer projects, the CDBG program can be a viable funding source for community centers, and also potentially for recreation centers, trails and pedestrian facilities, and other recreation facilities.

Land and Water Conservation Fund

The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) sponsored by the Department of the Interior has been an intermittent source of funding for outdoor recreation system improvements over the past decade. The LWCF provides 50% matching grants, which can be used for land acquisition and site

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³ Application cycles and funding levels for grant and loan programs are subject to change based on availability of funds.

development. The program is administered by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources (DNR), and is highly competitive.

In 2008, the guidelines for awarding LWCF grants were modified to align with the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP). Criteria for LWCF disbursements will favor jurisdictions that:

- Have developed a thoughtful recreation plan;
- Demonstrate awareness of the outdoor recreation and natural resource conservation priorities in their communities;
- Show a direct relationship between proposed projects and their affect on health, fitness and livability, economic vitality and resource conservation;
- Create alternative approaches to funding and develop partnerships that leverage and supplement requested state and federal funds, and
- Demonstrate a need, but have little opportunity, to invest in outdoor recreation due to their economic condition.

Recreational Trails Program

The Recreational Trails Program (RTP) is a federal program created through the National Recreational Trail Fund Act (NRFTA) as part of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (ISTEA). This program was reauthorized under the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) in 1996. This program provides funding assistance for acquisition, development, rehabilitation and maintenance of both motorized and non-motorized recreation trails. By law, 30% of each state's RTP funding must be earmarked for motorized trail projects, 30% for non-motorized trail projects and the remaining 40% for multi-use (diversified) motorized and non-motorized trails or a combination of the two.

The RTP program is administered in Georgia by the DNR, provides up to 80% federal funding on approved projects, and requires a minimum 20% non-federal funding match. Applications for grant assistance must be received by the DNR no later than October 31st of each year, typically.

Awards are generally announced within 180 days following the application deadline date. Examples of eligible project activities include:

- Trail construction and rehabilitation;
- Restoration of areas adjacent to trails damaged by unauthorized uses;
- Construction of trail- related support facilities and amenities; and
- Acquisition from willing sellers of trail corridors through easements or fee simple title.

Transportation Enhancement (TE) Program

Ten percent of each state's Surface Transportation Program (STP) funds authorized annually under SAFETEA-LU are reserved for Transportation Enhancement (TE) projects. The reimbursable matching (80% federal/20% local) TE Program makes available funding for non-vehicular projects that are related to the surface transportation system. The program is administered by GDOT. Projects implemented under the TE Program must be one or more of the following activities:

- Provision of facilities for pedestrians and cyclists
- Provision of safety and educational activities for pedestrians and cyclists
- Acquisition of scenic easements and scenic or historic sites including historic battlefields
- Scenic or historic highway programs including the provision of tourist and welcome center facilities

- Landscaping and other scenic beautification
- Historic preservation
- Rehabilitation and operation of historic transportation buildings, structures, or
- facilities including historic railroad facilities and canals
- Preservation of abandoned railway corridors including the conversion and use thereof for pedestrian or bicycle trails
- · Inventory, control and removal of outdoor advertising
- Archaeological planning and research
- Environmental mitigation to address water pollution due to highway runoff or reduce vehiclecaused wildlife mortality while maintaining habitat connectivity
- Establishment of transportation museums

State Funding Sources

Recreation User Fees

This is a dedicated user fee which can be established by a local ordinance or other local government procedures for the purposes of constructing and maintaining recreation facilities. The fee can apply to all organized activities which require a reservation of some type, or other purposes as defined by the local government. Examples of such activities include adult basketball, and softball leagues, and special interest classes. The fee allows participants an opportunity to contribute toward the upkeep of the facilities being used.

Annual Appropriation/Leasehold Financing

This is a more complex financing structure which requires use of a third party to act as issuer of the bonds, construct the facility and retain title until the bonds are retired. The local government enters into a lease agreement with the third party with annual lease payments equal to the debt service requirements. The bonds issued by the third party are considered less secure than general obligations bonds of the city, and therefore more costly. Since a separate corporation issues these bonds, they do not impact the city's debt limitations and do not require a vote. However, they also do not entitle the city to levy property taxes to service the debt. The annual lease payment must be appropriated from existing revenues.

Interlocal Agreements

Contractual relationships may be entered into between two or more local units of government and/or between a local unit of government and a profit organization for the joint usage/ development of sports fields, regional parks or other facilities.

Private Concessionaries

Contracts may be initiated with a private business to provide and operate desirable recreational activities financed, constructed, and operated by the private sector with additional compensation paid to the city.

Land Trust

Many local governments have developed land trusts to help secure and fund the cost for acquiring land that needs to be preserved and protected for passive or resource conservation purposes. This could be good method for acquisition of future lands.

Local Funding Sources

Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST)

SPLOST is an optional one percent county sales tax used to fund capital outlay projects proposed by a county government and participating qualified municipal governments. County and municipal governments may not use SPLOST proceeds for operating expenses or maintenance of a SPLOST project or any other county or municipal facility or service. Troup County SPLOST funds have been a funding source for recreation capital projects in West Point, including the youth baseball complex at City Park. Some SPLOST funds remain available for recreation under the Harris County SPLOST, and the Troup County SPLOST will be considered for renewal at the end of 2011.

Recreation Impact Fees

Impact fees are payments required by local governments of new development for the purpose of providing new or expanded public capital facilities required to serve that development. The fees typically require cash payments in advance of the completion of development, are based on a methodology and calculation derived from the cost of the facility and the nature and size of the development, and are used to finance improvements offsite of, but to the benefit of the development. A special Impact Fee Study could be conducted to define the range of fees, set the rate and to establish collection procedures.

Dedicated Millage

Dedicating a portion of the millage rate for recreation operating budgets and capital projects is an additional method of funding system-wide improvements. A dedicated millage has not been used to fund recreation projects. This funding source should be applied to capital improvements projects. This rate of return would also adjust with population growth and increasing property values.

Hospitality Tax

In addition to property taxes, the City could use a hospitality tax (placed on prepared meals and beverages served) to generate funds for recreation. The funds could be used to promote tourism or development.

General Obligation Bonds

General tax revenue bonds for parks and recreation is usually devoted to current operation and maintenance of existing facilities. For the purpose of paying debt on these bonds, the local government is empowered to a levy a special tax. Total bonding capacities would be limited to parks and recreation to a maximum percentage of assessed property valuation.

Revenue Bonds

Revenue Bonds have become a popular funding method for financing high use specialties like golf courses, aquatic centers, ice rinks, tennis centers, and complexes for softball and soccer. The user and other revenue sources on-site pay for the revenue bonds.

Corporate Sponsorships

This funding source allows corporations to invest in the development or enhancement of new or existing facilities in the park system. Sponsorships are also highly encouraged for programs and events. Kia Motors Manufacturing Georgia, Inc. (KMMG) is one local example; KMMG has donated funds to the West Point Parks and Recreation Department.

Partnerships

Partnerships can result in a joint development funding source or an operational funding source between two separate agencies, such as government entities, a non-profit and a city department, or a private business and a city agency. Two partners jointly develop revenue producing park and recreation facilities and share risk, operational costs, responsibilities, and asset management based on the strengths and weaknesses of each partner.

Foundation/ Gifts

These funds are raised by a tax-exempt, non-profit organization established with private donations in promotion of specific causes, activities or issues. There are a variety of means to raise capital for projects, including capital campaigns, gift catalogs, fundraisers, endowments, sales of items, etc. A local example is the Troup County Parks and Recreation Endowment Fund, which was established with a \$7 million grant from the Callaway Foundation, Inc. The grant is designed to cover the operating and maintenance costs for the most recently constructed, SPLOST-funded parks and recreation facilities in the county. In West Point, it covers a portion of the Senior Center's budget. The fund is structured to provide annual proceeds to the county equal to 5% of the December 31st fair market value averaged over the last five-years at December 31st.

Establish a Linear Park/Greenway Utility

Linear Park/greenway utilities are used to finance acquisition of greenways and development of the greenways by selling the development rights for the installation of underground utilities.

Naming Rights

Many cities and counties have turned to selling the naming rights for new buildings or renovation of existing buildings and parks to finance the development cost associated with the improvement.

Cell Towers

Cell towers attached to existing light poles or cellular tower ground leases in game field complexes is another source of revenue that the city could seek. Lease agreements vary but can be approximately \$500.00 per site per month. If five or six sites were leased in city parks, the revenue could approach \$30,000.00 per year.

Private Developers

Private developers lease space from city-owned land through a subordinate lease that pays a set dollar amount plus a percentage of gross dollars for recreation enhancements. These could include restaurants, sports complexes, recreation centers and ice arenas.

Licensing Rights

This revenue source allows the city to license its name on all resale items that private or public vendors use when they sell clothing or other items with the city's name on it. The normal licensing fee is six to ten percent of the cost of the resale item.

Capital Improvement Fees

These fees are on top of the set user rate for accessing facilities (such as golf courses, recreation centers and swimming pools) to support capital improvements that benefit the user of the facility.

Merchandising Sales

This revenue source comes from the public or private sector on resale items from gift shops and pro shops for either all of the sales or a set gross percentage.

Concession Management

Concession management is derived from retail sales or rentals of soft goods, hard goods, or consumable items. The city either contracts for the service or receives a set gross percentage or the full revenue dollars incorporating a profit after expense.

Friends Association/ "Friends of the Park"

These groups are formed to raise money typically for a single purpose that could include a park facility or program that will better the community as a whole and the group's special interest.

Advertising Sales

This revenue source is for selling tasteful and appropriate advertising on park and recreation related items such as the program guides, scoreboards, dasher boards and other visible products or services that are consumable or permanent.

Easements

An easement is typically concerned when the city allows utility companies, business or individuals to develop some type of an improvement above ground or below ground on city property for a set period of time and a set dollar amount to be received by the city on an annual basis.

Irrevocable Remainder Trusts

These trusts are set up with individuals who typically have more than a million dollars in wealth. The individuals would leave a portion of their wealth to the city in a trust fund that allows the fund to grow over a period of time. The city is then able to use a portion of the interest to support specific park and recreation facilities or programs that are designated by the trustee.

Life Estates

This source of money is available when someone wants to leave their property to the city in exchange for the right to live on their property until their death. The city may use a portion of the property for park purposes while the person is living and then all of it after the person's death. This revenue source is an appropriate option for individuals whose estate will be highly taxed upon their death. This allows the individual to receive a tax deduction yearly on their property while leaving a life estate. The benefit to the city is the land is donated.

Permits (Special Use Permits)

These special permits allow individuals to use specific park property for financial gain. The city either receives a set amount of money or a percentage of the gross service that is being provided.

Catering Permits and Services

This is a license to allow caterers to work in the park system on a permit basis with a set fee or a percentage of the food sales returning to the city. Also, many cities have their own catering service and receive a percentage of dollars off the sale of their food.



Survey Results

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1. How long have you	lived in West Point?		
		Response Percent	Response Count
Less than 3 months		0.0%	0
3-12 months		0.0%	0
1-5 years		4.6%	4
More than 5 years		57.5%	50
I do not live in West Point		37.9%	33
	answere	ed question	87
	skippe	ed question	1

2. How many people in each age group live in your household?						
	0	1	2	3	4 or more	Response Count
0-5 years old	28.0% (7)	64.0% (16)	8.0% (2)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	25
6-12 years old	8.9% (4)	48.9% (22)	33.3% (15)	8.9% (4)	0.0% (0)	45
13-18 years old	19.2% (5)	57.7% (15)	15.4% (4)	7.7% (2)	0.0% (0)	26
19-25 years old	35.3% (6)	41.2% (7)	23.5% (4)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	17
26-50 years old	4.0% (2)	22.0% (11)	72.0% (36)	2.0% (1)	0.0% (0)	50
51-64 years old	19.4% (7)	27.8% (10)	50.0% (18)	2.8% (1)	0.0% (0)	36
65+ years old	35.3% (6)	29.4% (5)	35.3% (6)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	17
				answe	red question	86
				skipp	ped question	2

3. What racial/ethnic group best describes you?				
			Response Percent	Response Count
African American			13.1%	11
Hispanic			0.0%	0
White			85.7%	72
Other			1.2%	1
		answere	ed question	84
		skippe	d question	4

4. Which park or recreation facilities in West Point does your household use? (Please check all that apply)

		Response Percent	Response Count
City Park - 1205 U.S. Hwy 29		59.3%	51
Hwy 29 Pool (in City Park) - 1205 U.S. Hwy 29		19.8%	17
Hwy 29 Gym (in City Park) - 1205 U.S. Hwy 29		31.4%	27
West Point Senior Center - 1114 Skinner Drive		4.7%	4
12th Street Pool - 1701 East 12th St. (at West Point Elementary)		5.8%	5
6th Avenue Park - Corner of 6th Avenue and Lucille Street		4.7%	4
Fort Tyler (next to 6th Avenue Park)		30.2%	26
River Park Trails		41.9%	36
We do not use park or recreation facilities in West Point		19.8%	17
	answere	ed question	86
	skippe	ed question	2

5. Are there park and recreation facilities not located in West Point that your household uses?					
		Response Percent	Response Count		
No		42.0%	34		
Yes		58.0%	47		
	If yes, please provide the name and location of	of the facility	44		
	answere	ed question	81		
	skippe	ed question	7		

6. How do you current all that apply)	ly get to a park or recreation facility?	(Please	check
		Response Percent	Response Count
Bike		10.7%	9
Car		97.6%	82
Walk		14.3%	12
	Other (ple	ease specify)	0
	answere	ed question	84
	skippe	ed question	4

Are there park and recreation facilities not located in West Point that your household uses?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
No		42.0%	34
Yes		58.0%	47
	If yes, please provide the name and location of	of the facility	44
	answere	ed question	81
	skippe	ed question	7

	If yes, please provide the name and location of the facility			
1	Sportsplex pool in ValleyWest Point pool is REALLY outdated.	Jul 15, 2010 9:20 PM		
2	New Horizons Theater	Jul 16, 2010 4:09 AM		
3	Troup County Rec Center; West Point Lake Day use areas	Jul 19, 2010 6:00 AM		
4	McCluskey Tennis Center	Jul 21, 2010 12:08 PM		
5	Pyne Road Park Hwy109 Pyne Road Equestrian Arena Hwy109 Hardley Creek Park State Line Road at Dam Anderson Park	Jul 22, 2010 7:32 PM		
6	Pyne Road Park Hwy 109 Pyne Road Equestrian Park Hwy 109 Anderson Park Hardley Park West Point Dam Visitor Center Southern Harbor/West Point Landing	Jul 22, 2010 8:04 PM		
7	all the parks on the lake along the river in Westpoint and Lanett	Jul 23, 2010 6:06 PM		
8	Valley Sportsplex	Jul 30, 2010 7:08 PM		
9	Splash Pad, Bay Minette, AL	Jul 30, 2010 7:10 PM		
10	Community Center, Valley AL Community Center, Opelika AL	Jul 30, 2010 7:15 PM		
11	West Point Lake Callaway Gardens	Jul 30, 2010 7:17 PM		
12	West Point Dam Chattahoochee River Divorce Lake Lake Harding	Jul 30, 2010 7:26 PM		
13	Parks in Columbus, Georgia	Jul 30, 2010 7:32 PM		
14	Valley Sports Plex	Jul 30, 2010 7:35 PM		
15	Various golf courses, Loyd Presbyterian walking track, Corps parks on West Point Lake	Jul 30, 2010 7:56 PM		
16	Coweta County Fair Ground center. It has lots of space for multuple events to be held there.	Jul 30, 2010 8:01 PM		

	If yes, please provide the name and location of the facility			
17	Bike "Lake Side Trails" located at the dam.	Jul 30, 2010 8:22 PM		
18	LaGrange tennis, Pine Rd.	Jul 30, 2010 8:27 PM		
19	Saugahatchee Country Club Lake Harding	Jul 30, 2010 8:44 PM		
20	Valley Sportsplex and Community Center	Jul 30, 2010 9:09 PM		
21	Riverside Country Club in Lanett - Golf	Jul 30, 2010 9:18 PM		
22	Chattahoochee river, West Point lake	Jul 30, 2010 10:22 PM		
23	LaGrange, Dance for children	Jul 31, 2010 12:31 AM		
24	Valley Recreation Center	Jul 31, 2010 12:45 AM		
25	Riverside country Club	Jul 31, 2010 12:45 AM		
26	Granger Park, LaGrange, GA Hickory Dickory Park, Auburn, AL Lakeside Trail, West Point Dam	Jul 31, 2010 3:10 AM		
27	Veasy Creek Lake West Point Hardley Creek Lake West Point Anderson Park Lake West Point.	Jul 31, 2010 9:00 AM		
28	parks around west point lake	Jul 31, 2010 1:27 PM		
29	west point lake	Jul 31, 2010 6:02 PM		
30	Lake Martin, Troup Recreation Ctr, Valley Sportsplex	Jul 31, 2010 7:51 PM		
31	Valley Sportsplex for VAST	Aug 1, 2010 11:35 PM		
32	lake	Aug 2, 2010 3:07 PM		
33	Tennis Courts-Valley and Country Club Also use West Point Tennis courts not listed above	Aug 2, 2010 3:53 PM		
34	West Point Lake Parks	Aug 2, 2010 8:01 PM		
35	Valley Community Center	Aug 3, 2010 1:40 PM		
36	West Point Lake parks and the park below the dam.	Aug 5, 2010 1:14 PM		
37	We use Troup Parks and Rec in Lagrange also	Aug 9, 2010 12:28 PM		
38	Corps of Engineers parks at West Point Lake	Aug 9, 2010 7:17 PM		
39	Mountain bike trails at lake West Point	Aug 14, 2010 12:43 PM		
40	dog park and GROUP biking for youth and adults	Aug 23, 2010 9:17 PM		
41	Opelika parks Valley Sports Plex	Aug 27, 2010 1:26 PM		
42	Troup County Park and Recreation	Aug 27, 2010 7:19 PM		
43	Troup County Lagrange Facilites	Sep 15, 2010 1:33 PM		
44	valley,al	Sep 15, 2010 1:44 PM		

7. Please indicate the recreational activities in which members of your household currently participate or would like to participate. (Please check all that apply)

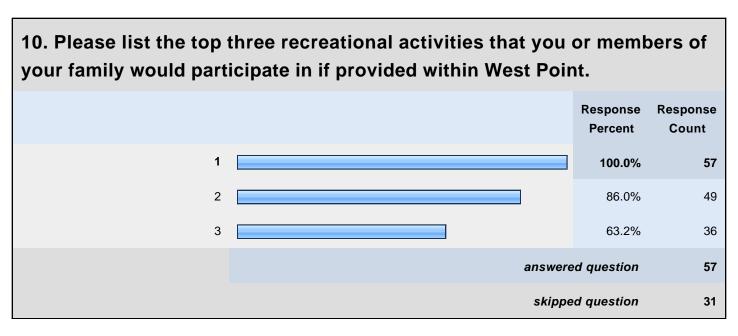
		Response Percent	Response Count
Youth baseball		42.9%	36
Youth softball		23.8%	20
Adult softball		4.8%	4
Youth basketball		25.0%	21
Adult basketball		2.4%	2
Youth football		16.7%	14
Youth soccer		36.9%	31
Youth cheerleading		4.8%	4
Swimming lessons		14.3%	12
Public swimming		26.2%	22
Free play tennis		19.0%	16
Youth in-line hockey		7.1%	6
Group fitness classes		28.6%	24
Free play youth playground		22.6%	19
Picnicking		25.0%	21
Walking/jogging		57.1%	48
Youth camps/instructional programs		21.4%	18
Senior programs/activities		8.3%	7
Other (please specify)		16.7%	14
	answere	ed question	84
	skippe	d question	4

	Other (please specify)			
1	Theater	Jul 16, 2010 4:09 AM		
2	wildlife observation; gardens	Jul 19, 2010 6:00 AM		
3	Special Programs at Fort Tyler	Jul 22, 2010 7:32 PM		
4	Fort Tyler Day use and Special Programs West Point Visitor Depot & Museum Day use and Special Programs	Jul 22, 2010 8:04 PM		
5	Community Theatre	Jul 30, 2010 7:10 PM		
6	Kayaking	Jul 30, 2010 7:26 PM		
7	golf	Jul 30, 2010 7:56 PM		
8	Skate park. walking track.	Jul 31, 2010 1:27 PM		
9	rafting, canoing, fishing	Jul 31, 2010 6:02 PM		
10	bike trails	Jul 31, 2010 7:44 PM		
11	Kayaking on the river, bicycling the trails. I have lived in West Point 38 of my 54 years on this earth and we have tubed on the river. We have fished the river, West Point Lake and other tributaries in the area and generally enjoyed outdoors and the natural beauty of our hometown since childhood.	Aug 5, 2010 1:14 PM		
12	Mountain biking and kayak	Aug 14, 2010 12:43 PM		
13	Canoeing/tubing Kayaking Chattahoochee and various area creeks	Aug 14, 2010 6:38 PM		
14	We as a race of black people enjoy basketball. The city of West Point have 5 baseball fields, and no decent place for the black citizens to play basketball. What a shame. I have lived in West Point all my life and the black citizens are neglected. You want to perserve that southern way of doing buisness. Look around you, America is changing. We have a black president now and the city of West Point still wants to neglect their black citizens. We are striving for a black Mayor next year. Its time for all citizens to enjoy this city.	Sep 15, 2010 1:05 PM		

8. Please indicate your feeling about the availability of each recreational program currently offered by the City of West Point.

	Have enough	Need more	No opinion	Rating Average	Response Count
Youth baseball	56.4% (44)	10.3% (8)	33.3% (26)	1.23	78
Youth softball	50.0% (38)	6.6% (5)	43.4% (33)	1.07	76
Adult softball	18.3% (13)	14.1% (10)	67.6% (48)	0.51	71
Youth basketball	37.0% (27)	11.0% (8)	52.1% (38)	0.85	73
Adult basketball	21.4% (15)	15.7% (11)	62.9% (44)	0.59	70
Youth football	40.0% (28)	12.9% (9)	47.1% (33)	0.93	70
Youth soccer	45.9% (34)	17.6% (13)	36.5% (27)	1.09	74
Youth cheerleading	26.1% (18)	13.0% (9)	60.9% (42)	0.65	69
Swimming lessons	31.0% (22)	21.1% (15)	47.9% (34)	0.83	71
Public swimming	28.6% (20)	22.9% (16)	48.6% (34)	0.80	70
Free play tennis	33.3% (24)	13.9% (10)	52.8% (38)	0.81	72
Youth in-line hockey	22.4% (15)	4.5% (3)	73.1% (49)	0.49	67
Group fitness classes	20.0% (14)	35.7% (25)	44.3% (31)	0.76	70
Free play youth playground	22.9% (16)	32.9% (23)	44.3% (31)	0.79	70
Youth camps/instructional programs	12.7% (9)	43.7% (31)	43.7% (31)	0.69	71
Senior programs/activities	17.2% (11)	23.4% (15)	59.4% (38)	0.58	64
			answered	question	85
			skipped	question	3

9. How would you rate the recreational programs offered by the City of West Point?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Above average		40.0%	34
Average		45.9%	39
Below average		11.8%	10
No opinion		2.4%	2
	answere	ed question	85
	skippe	ed question	3



Please list the top three recreational activities that you or members of your family would participate in if provided within West Point.			
		Response Percent	Response Count
1		100.0%	57
2		86.0%	49
3		63.2%	36
	answere	ed question	57
	skippe	ed question	31

	1	
1	Free excercise equipment or for a small fee, like Valley and Lanett have	Jun 9, 2010 7:16 AM
2	Cool swimming pool	Jul 15, 2010 9:20 PM
3	football	Jul 15, 2010 9:29 PM
4	walking track	Jul 15, 2010 10:59 PM
5	Theater	Jul 16, 2010 4:09 AM
6	wildlife observation and appreciation	Jul 19, 2010 6:00 AM
7	Summer camps	Jul 19, 2010 6:53 PM
8	Fort Tyler Programs	Jul 22, 2010 7:32 PM
9	Fort Tyler Day Use & Special Activities	Jul 22, 2010 8:04 PM
10	Family Day in the park on Westpoint lake with entertainment/ music, country and r&b	Jul 23, 2010 6:06 PM
11	Early Morning(6:00am or before) Physical Fitness Classes	Jul 30, 2010 7:09 PM
12	Community Theatre	Jul 30, 2010 7:10 PM
13	youth softball	Jul 30, 2010 7:12 PM
14	Picnics	Jul 30, 2010 7:14 PM
15	Swimming	Jul 30, 2010 7:15 PM
16	Yoga	Jul 30, 2010 7:17 PM
17	Soccer	Jul 30, 2010 7:22 PM
18	Kayaking	Jul 30, 2010 7:26 PM
19	Indoor Swimming Facility	Jul 30, 2010 7:35 PM
20	n/a	Jul 30, 2010 7:56 PM
21	Soccer	Jul 30, 2010 8:22 PM
22	soccer	Jul 30, 2010 8:27 PM
23	golf	Jul 30, 2010 8:44 PM
24	Walking/jogging track	Jul 30, 2010 9:18 PM
25	tennis club	Jul 30, 2010 9:21 PM
26	baseball	Jul 30, 2010 10:14 PM

1		
27	Dance	Jul 31, 2010 12:31 AM
28	Safe inside walking track	Jul 31, 2010 12:45 AM
29	better playground area that is SHADED	Jul 31, 2010 3:10 AM
30	Tennis	Jul 31, 2010 4:23 AM
31	Tantric Yoga	Jul 31, 2010 9:00 AM
32	kayaking on the river	Jul 31, 2010 1:27 PM
33	boating	Jul 31, 2010 6:02 PM
34	flag football	Jul 31, 2010 7:44 PM
35	Youth camps/instructional programs	Jul 31, 2010 7:51 PM
36	fishing	Aug 2, 2010 3:07 PM
37	walking/jogging	Aug 2, 2010 3:08 PM
38	Fitness Classes	Aug 2, 2010 3:53 PM
39	Group fitness class	Aug 2, 2010 8:01 PM
40	Tennis	Aug 3, 2010 10:47 AM
41	Youth Volleyball	Aug 3, 2010 1:40 PM
42	Walking/biking trails	Aug 5, 2010 1:14 PM
43	We need an outdoor amphatheater	Aug 6, 2010 3:49 AM
44	We need an outdoor amphatheater	Aug 6, 2010 3:49 AM
45	baseball	Aug 9, 2010 12:28 PM
46	Biking	Aug 14, 2010 12:43 PM
47	Canoeing	Aug 14, 2010 6:38 PM
48	sports	Aug 23, 2010 9:17 PM
49	ADULT SWIMMING LESSONS	Aug 24, 2010 2:14 PM
50	Youth Softball	Aug 27, 2010 1:26 PM
51	walking jogging	Aug 27, 2010 7:19 PM
52	Senior Exercise Programs for women	Aug 28, 2010 12:05 PM
53	Martial Arts	Sep 15, 2010 12:58 PM
54	Basketball	Sep 15, 2010 1:05 PM
55	Softball	Sep 15, 2010 1:17 PM
56	Public Swimming	Sep 15, 2010 1:31 PM
57	walking trails	Sep 15, 2010 1:40 PM

	2			
1	More availabilty to rent spaces for personal use	Jun 9, 2010 7:16 AM		
2	River Park bike trails, fishing, and jogging	Jul 15, 2010 9:20 PM		
3	river activities	Jul 15, 2010 9:29 PM		
4		Jul 15, 2010 10:59 PM		
5		Jul 16, 2010 4:09 AM		
6	botanical gardens	Jul 19, 2010 6:00 AM		
7		Jul 19, 2010 6:53 PM		
8	Trails	Jul 22, 2010 7:32 PM		
9	River Park Trails	Jul 22, 2010 8:04 PM		
10	The lake is a huge access to the greater Valley area, just have more activities on it to promote our town. lets utilize what we have!	Jul 23, 2010 6:06 PM		
11	Batting Cages or batting facility	Jul 30, 2010 7:09 PM		

	2	
12	Local pool	Jul 30, 2010 7:10 PM
13	youth tball	Jul 30, 2010 7:12 PM
14	Walking/Jogging	Jul 30, 2010 7:14 PM
15	Baseball Youth	Jul 30, 2010 7:15 PM
16	Pilates	Jul 30, 2010 7:17 PM
17	Baseball	Jul 30, 2010 7:22 PM
18	Group Fitness-YMCA type gym	Jul 30, 2010 7:26 PM
19	River Activities	Jul 30, 2010 7:35 PM
20	n/a	Jul 30, 2010 7:56 PM
21	Baseball	Jul 30, 2010 8:22 PM
22	biking	Jul 30, 2010 8:27 PM
23		Jul 30, 2010 8:44 PM
24		Jul 30, 2010 9:18 PM
25	horseshoe tourny	Jul 30, 2010 9:21 PM
26	soccer	Jul 30, 2010 10:14 PM
27	Gymnastics	Jul 31, 2010 12:31 AM
28	Tennis	Jul 31, 2010 12:45 AM
29	picnic areas/pavilions near playground(s)	Jul 31, 2010 3:10 AM
30	Youth Soccer	Jul 31, 2010 4:23 AM
31	Bull Fighting	Jul 31, 2010 9:00 AM
32	walking/jogging track	Jul 31, 2010 1:27 PM
33	swimming	Jul 31, 2010 6:02 PM
34	Adult Tennis Leage	Jul 31, 2010 7:44 PM
35	Adult special insterest/instructional programs	Jul 31, 2010 7:51 PM
36		Aug 2, 2010 3:07 PM
37	fitness class	Aug 2, 2010 3:08 PM
38	Tennis	Aug 2, 2010 3:53 PM
39	picnicking	Aug 2, 2010 8:01 PM
40	Any community wide event (downtown especially)	Aug 3, 2010 10:47 AM
41	Fall outdoor activities	Aug 3, 2010 1:40 PM
42	kayaking/using the river-need more access along the river	Aug 5, 2010 1:14 PM
43	, , ,	Aug 6, 2010 3:49 AM
44		Aug 6, 2010 3:49 AM
45	softball	Aug 9, 2010 12:28 PM
46	river activities	Aug 14, 2010 12:43 PM
47	Model Rocketry	Aug 14, 2010 6:38 PM
48	classes	Aug 23, 2010 9:17 PM
49	MORE SUMMER ACTIVITIES	Aug 24, 2010 2:14 PM
50	Youth Soccer	Aug 27, 2010 1:26 PM
51	spring soccer	Aug 27, 2010 7:19 PM
52	Exercise equipment for seniors with instructors	Aug 28, 2010 12:05 PM
53	Gymnastics	Sep 15, 2010 12:58 PM
54	Basketball	Sep 15, 2010 1:05 PM
55	Basketball	Sep 15, 2010 1:17 PM
56	Youth Football	Sep 15, 2010 1:31 PM

	2	
57	aqerobics	Sep 15, 2010 1:40 PM

	3				
1		Jun 9, 2010 7:16 AM			
2		Jul 15, 2010 9:20 PM			
3	baseball	Jul 15, 2010 9:29 PM			
4		Jul 15, 2010 10:59 PM			
5		Jul 16, 2010 4:09 AM			
6	day use picnicing; nature walks	Jul 19, 2010 6:00 AM			
7		Jul 19, 2010 6:53 PM			
8	Senior Activities	Jul 22, 2010 7:32 PM			
9	Kayaking from Dam to West Point	Jul 22, 2010 8:04 PM			
10	A river walk would be real great and to join in with lanett and valley	Jul 23, 2010 6:06 PM			
11		Jul 30, 2010 7:09 PM			
12	Live Music in the Park	Jul 30, 2010 7:10 PM			
13		Jul 30, 2010 7:12 PM			
14	Sports	Jul 30, 2010 7:14 PM			
15	Soccer	Jul 30, 2010 7:15 PM			
16		Jul 30, 2010 7:17 PM			
17	Softball	Jul 30, 2010 7:22 PM			
18	Walking Clubs	Jul 30, 2010 7:26 PM			
19	Hiking Trail Acivity	Jul 30, 2010 7:35 PM			
20	n/a	Jul 30, 2010 7:56 PM			
21	Football (possibley)	Jul 30, 2010 8:22 PM			
22	tennis	Jul 30, 2010 8:27 PM			
23		Jul 30, 2010 8:44 PM			
24		Jul 30, 2010 9:18 PM			
25	bocce ball tourny	Jul 30, 2010 9:21 PM			
26	fitness	Jul 30, 2010 10:14 PM			
27		Jul 31, 2010 12:31 AM			
28	Inside exercise classes	Jul 31, 2010 12:45 AM			
29	spring soccer	Jul 31, 2010 3:10 AM			
30	Fitness Classes	Jul 31, 2010 4:23 AM			
31	Midget Tossing	Jul 31, 2010 9:00 AM			
32	skate park	Jul 31, 2010 1:27 PM			
33	walking on paved trails or walks	Jul 31, 2010 6:02 PM			
34	Outdoor Concerts / Family Events	Jul 31, 2010 7:44 PM			
35	skate park	Jul 31, 2010 7:51 PM			
36		Aug 2, 2010 3:07 PM			
37		Aug 2, 2010 3:08 PM			
38		Aug 2, 2010 3:53 PM			
39	walking	Aug 2, 2010 8:01 PM			
40	More river activities (canoeing, kayaking, etc)	Aug 3, 2010 10:47 AM			
41		Aug 3, 2010 1:40 PM			
42		Aug 5, 2010 1:14 PM			

	3		
43		Aug 6, 2010 3:49 AM	
44		Aug 6, 2010 3:49 AM	
45	soccer	Aug 9, 2010 12:28 PM	
46	weight traing, gym	Aug 14, 2010 12:43 PM	
47	Radio Controlled aircraft	Aug 14, 2010 6:38 PM	
48	biking groups	Aug 23, 2010 9:17 PM	
49	VOLLEYBALL	Aug 24, 2010 2:14 PM	
50	Tennis	Aug 27, 2010 1:26 PM	
51	group fitness	Aug 27, 2010 7:19 PM	
52	Instructors for different senior programs	Aug 28, 2010 12:05 PM	
53		Sep 15, 2010 12:58 PM	
54	Basketball	Sep 15, 2010 1:05 PM	
55	Swimming	Sep 15, 2010 1:17 PM	
56		Sep 15, 2010 1:31 PM	
57		Sep 15, 2010 1:40 PM	

11. Please indicate your feeling about the availability of each recreational facility currently provided in West Point.

	Have enough	Need more	No opinion	Rating Average	Response Count
Walking/jogging trails	28.6% (22)	59.7% (46)	11.7% (9)	1.17	77
Picnic areas	15.6% (12)	64.9% (50)	19.5% (15)	0.96	77
Multi-purpose fields	21.3% (16)	60.0% (45)	18.7% (14)	1.03	75
Gymnasiums	23.0% (17)	58.1% (43)	18.9% (14)	1.04	74
Baseball/softball fields	54.7% (41)	28.0% (21)	17.3% (13)	1.37	75
Football fields	38.7% (29)	36.0% (27)	25.3% (19)	1.13	75
Playgrounds	21.1% (16)	63.2% (48)	15.8% (12)	1.05	76
Tennis courts	35.1% (27)	33.8% (26)	31.2% (24)	1.04	77
Swimming pools	31.9% (23)	44.4% (32)	23.6% (17)	1.08	72
Indoor multi-purpose space	9.2% (7)	72.4% (55)	18.4% (14)	0.91	76
			answered	l question	81
			skipped	question	7

12. How would you rate the following with regard to existing park and recreation facilities in West Point?

	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	No opinion	Rating Average	Response Count
Hours of operation	23.2% (19)	43.9% (36)	11.0% (9)	3.7% (3)	18.3% (15)	2.50	82
Cleanliness	17.3% (14)	51.9% (42)	13.6% (11)	3.7% (3)	13.6% (11)	2.56	81
Condition of equipment	9.9% (8)	45.7% (37)	24.7% (20)	3.7% (3)	16.0% (13)	2.30	81
Availability of equipment	10.1% (8)	44.3% (35)	13.9% (11)	6.3% (5)	25.3% (20)	2.08	79
Amount of space	6.2% (5)	32.1% (26)	32.1% (26)	12.3% (10)	17.3% (14)	1.98	81
Safety conditions	13.9% (11)	53.2% (42)	12.7% (10)	2.5% (2)	17.7% (14)	2.43	79
Physical attractiveness	8.5% (7)	39.0% (32)	36.6% (30)	6.1% (5)	9.8% (8)	2.30	82
Variety of programs	8.6% (7)	50.6% (41)	24.7% (20)	3.7% (3)	12.3% (10)	2.40	81
Helpfulness and attitude of staff	26.3% (21)	38.8% (31)	10.0% (8)	10.0% (8)	15.0% (12)	2.51	80
Parking availability	6.2% (5)	24.7% (20)	30.9% (25)	27.2% (22)	11.1% (9)	1.88	81
Restrooms	3.7% (3)	31.7% (26)	28.0% (23)	19.5% (16)	17.1% (14)	1.85	82
Convenience to your home	31.7% (26)	53.7% (44)	3.7% (3)	1.2% (1)	9.8% (8)	2.96	82
Amount of supervision	19.8% (16)	44.4% (36)	9.9% (8)	4.9% (4)	21.0% (17)	2.37	81
					answered	question	83
					skipped	question	5

What do you feel is the most important need regarding parks and recreation in West Point?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
Providing more facilities		21.1%	16
Providing more programs		14.5%	11
Buying more land for future needs		19.7%	15
Improving existing facilities		32.9%	25
Other (please specify)		11.8%	9
	answere	ed question	76
	skippe	ed question	12

	Other (please specify)					
1	The city needs to build a sports complex like other neighboring cities have. There are not activities going on in our community to keep these kids occupied and out of trouble, it's not the city's responsibility but this would benefit the city if we had this action in place	Jun 9, 2010 7:16 AM				
2	The pool building and pool needs to be completely demolished and done over. The gym also needs an overhaul.	Jul 15, 2010 9:20 PM				
3	the need to serve all citizens of all ages- look at Troup county for example	Jul 19, 2010 6:00 AM				
4	No opinion.	Jul 21, 2010 12:08 PM				
5	parking	Jul 30, 2010 8:17 PM				
6	Finish and implement the long term plan for the river area. Improve signage at the ball fields identify the fields by the field's numbers with signs. Improve line if sign signage from hwy 29 to river access.	Jul 30, 2010 8:22 PM				
7	Community meeting facility needed to host dinners, banquets for large numbers.	Jul 30, 2010 9:18 PM				
8	need amphatheater. There is a knoll across the drainage ditch next to the RR that appears to be higher ground that will possibly work in case of high water.	Aug 6, 2010 3:49 AM				
9	need amphatheater. There is a knoll across the drainage ditch next to the RR that appears to be higher ground that will possibly work in case of high water.	Aug 6, 2010 3:49 AM				

Please add any additio	nal comments here.	
		Response Count
		28
	answered question	28
	skipped question	60

	Response Text	
1	We are so lucky to have such a great Rec staff that runs wonderful programs. The softball/baseball/basketball/soccer is bar none. Excellent in every way. The pool just needs to be completely torn down and started over. The gym needs to be rehabbed. And of course a pipedream would be to have a facility similar to the Mike Daniels Rec Center in LaGrange or the Valley Sportsplex.	Jul 15, 2010 9:20 PM
2	paved walking trails that's easily accessiable and usable in all weather (not muddy/flooded at times).	Jul 15, 2010 10:59 PM
3	Need more theater and arts opportunities for those not adept at sports	Jul 16, 2010 4:09 AM
4	More opportunities need to be given to citizens to work for the recreational department if enough help is not available. The same people work most of the jobs.	Jul 19, 2010 6:53 PM
5	"No opinion" was marked on this survey because we no longer use the youth programs in WPt. I would like for Parks and Recreation to investigate the possibility of including a walking/jogging oval track similar to the one in LaGrange's Granger Park. It provides a safe, flat and accessible means of walking for exercise that attracts all ages. I am frequently at the tennis center and the track is always being used by a wide variety of people. It is my opinion that this would be a great asset to our recreation facility and community.	Jul 21, 2010 12:08 PM
6	I do not live within the city but we share the same town. Although Westpoint is growing due to Kia, we are in need of more retail stores, more variety. Rumor has it developments are in the future near exit 6(Kia) we lose a lot of would be residents to our neighbors north and south of us due to the lack of retail, entertainment, and resturants.	Jul 23, 2010 6:06 PM
7	We need a community arts center,,	Jul 30, 2010 7:10 PM
8	We lived in West Point for 31 years and have part of the recreation program for over 30 years. it is a good program but could be made better. Sometimes the staff is not open for any suggestions or ways to improve. As there are so many kids involved in this program there should be some extraordinary efforts applied to keep these kids and families involved.	Jul 30, 2010 7:10 PM
9	I would like to see River Trails and Park more connectedand more programs involving River Activities included in recreation programs.	Jul 30, 2010 7:26 PM
10	There needs to be better parking at the ball fields. We need additional multipurpose ball fields. Upgrades need to be done to the gym and multipurpose room below the gym. Also, the rec departments equipment needs to be in a covered area out of site of the general public. Parking at the rec office is awful and the building and general area is an eye sore, but the office staff is very helpful. The beginning of each season could be organized a little better - we've played soccer, tball, & baseball.	Jul 30, 2010 7:56 PM

	Response Text	
11	The west point rec members have always made you feel like family.	Jul 30, 2010 8:17 PM
12	West Point has a good staff that works really hard and it is appreciated!	Jul 30, 2010 8:22 PM
13	We have been very pleased!!	Jul 31, 2010 12:45 AM
14	Ran out of room in listing things we would use/participate in if providedone other important one is an indoor and outdoor walking track with the outdoor track being in a visible, open, & safe area.	Jul 31, 2010 3:10 AM
15	Regarding the youth soccer program, the youth need more practice time and more experienced help. The clinic involves too may youth at one time and too few clinicians.	Jul 31, 2010 1:27 PM
16	I'd like to see a diversification of the concept of "recreation" to include activities beyond baseball and basketball, including adults as well as children. How about rehabing WP high school to house classes in flyfishing (how to tie flies) so dads and sons can participate in something besides team sports. Or quilting classes for mothers and daughters. Let's make the most of the facilities we've got but expand the programs to broaden interests of the entire community, Maybe if we can start developing common interests, we'll figure out "white" is not an ethnicity!	Jul 31, 2010 7:51 PM
17	while improving existing facilities is important, providing more facilities is equally as important	Aug 2, 2010 3:08 PM
18	As you can see, I do not use the facilities mentioned because I am elderly, and there are no young people in my household. I do hear, however, of the excellent sports program that West Point has. I certainly want that to continue and meet the needs of our citizens.	Aug 2, 2010 8:30 PM
19	I am sorry, I can't respond to this survey because I am.not a resident of West Point	Aug 4, 2010 2:29 AM
20	Taking more advantage of the river and adjacent lands to promote people's involvement with helping to beautify and share the joy of being outdoors and having a healthier lifestyle. The wonder of seeing all the various wildlife around the river is staggering. Such as bald eagles, Ospreys, otters, turtles, fish, herons, kingfishers and many more that you see when on the river. If we had a trail near enough to the river, like the Columbus Riverwalk but not concrete, due to restrictions, we would be able to share the same wildlife experience with people who don't swim or boat on the river for whatever reason. Thank you, G. Marshall Sapp life long resident	Aug 5, 2010 1:14 PM
21	More events that push kids to things other than playing games, like Model Rocketry, Radio Controlled aircraft, classes on woodworking, pottery, things like that.	Aug 14, 2010 6:38 PM
22	the staff at the rec dept are wonderful always helpful and postive, would like to see them have a new bldg to work in ~ the fields are great and this is one reason new families have come to WP from Valley, also the affordable pricing.	Aug 27, 2010 1:26 PM
23	We have to pay to go to Valley Sportsplex. We should have these facilities here. We don't feel safe walking on the trail.	Aug 28, 2010 12:05 PM
24	I am glad that WPPR Dept provide activities for kids to do during the summer, but I think that they forget that some parents do have jobs and can not take off in the middle of the day to drop off/pick up their child. Most of the activities start at 9 when most working people are already at work. And the activities are over at 1:00. The only people that that is good for is ppl on 2nd or 3rd shift. What about the parents that work first shift and can not find any transportation for their child to get to and from the activities while they are at work. I believe West Point really needs something similar to the Boys and Girls Club	Sep 15, 2010 12:58 PM
25	Give all citizens a fair shake at things that intrest them. Stop using our city resources for Chambers County, Al. SpringWood School system. They are not true citizens of West point. Let Chambers County or Lanett, Al. provide their recreational services.	Sep 15, 2010 1:05 PM
26	Need new pools asap	Sep 15, 2010 1:36 PM
27	need a new office- critical like yesterday	Sep 15, 2010 1:40 PM
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Response Text				
it is not that we need more sports activities. the activities we have just need to be improved.	Sep 15, 2010 1:42 PM			

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