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Plans are Underway for a New Denton Parks, Recreation, and Trails 2020 Master Plan

Community Input will be Essential to the Planning Process

DENTON, TX, Feb. 5, 2019 – The City of Denton Parks and Recreation Department has started development of a new comprehensive Parks, Recreation, and Trails Master Plan. The plan will serve as a road map for long-range priorities for existing and future parks, trails, recreation facilities, programs, operations, preservation, and maintenance.

The current Parks, Recreation, and Trails Master Plan was adopted in 2001 and updated in 2009. Changes in the City's Strategic Plan, development and demographic trends, community growth, and emerging innovation are some of the many reasons that make it necessary for the Department to revisit the needs of the community and redevelop the master plan.

Community engagement and public input will be essential to the planning process and represents one of three phases that will help identify needs, explore strategies, and establish plans and priorities for the next 10 to 20 years. The final phases of the process will include recommendations, approval, and implementation strategies, all of which will require Parks, Recreation, and Beautification Board and City Council approvals.

Initial efforts in the planning process will include a call for community input via a Needs Assessment Survey to be shared in the March/April edition of the City's *Resident Update* newsletter. Community engagement will begin Monday, Feb. 11 at a Skate Park Planning Focus Group Meeting that will be one of many public and stakeholder meetings that will serve to supplement the Needs Assessment Survey and future master plan considerations. More opportunities for community engagement and a schedule of public meetings will be released in early March.

The Parks and Recreation Department currently oversees a collection of 80 ballfields and courts, 32 parks, 31 trail miles, 27 playgrounds, three aquatic facilities, three recreation centers, two senior centers, two cemeteries, Water Works Park, Denton Civic Center, North Lakes Driving Range, and Wiggly Field Dog Park.

Residents unable to participate or attend public meetings are welcome to provide feedback via email at parksnrec@cityofdenton.com.

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