

RECOMMENDED CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

Overview

The Columbia Parks and Recreation Department has prepared the following lists of capital improvement projects. These projects, based on information gathered during the public input stages and combined with Department recommendations, represent capital needs that exist during the next five to ten years. This information is used to determine annual development and acquisition priorities that are identified in the City's Capital Improvement Program.

Recommended capital improvements are divided into four sections: Existing Facilities, New Neighborhood Parks, New Facilities, and Proposed FY 03 Capital Improvement Program. Section I summarizes needed capital improvement projects for parks and facilities that the City owns or manages and are currently unfunded. Many of these projects consist of repairs, renovations, or construction of new areas and facilities in existing parks. These projects are organized by individual parks in alphabetical order.

Section II is a development list of proposed new neighborhood parks recommended in Chapter 7 - Acquisition.

Section III highlights needs for new parks and facilities. This includes proposed capital improvement projects that require further master planning efforts before a suitable park is selected. For example, the Department is proposing a "dog park" be constructed. There are several existing parks that would be suitable for this project, but further public input and individual park master planning efforts are needed prior to selecting a site. Other new parks and facilities included are large-scale projects that, due to lack of available space in any existing parks or facilities, will need to be constructed on a new acquisition site. Examples of these types of projects include a ten-field baseball/softball complex and an eighteen-hole golf course. Even though the City does not yet own a site large enough to host some of these facilities, the demand for these facilities exist, and the City should plan for future acquisition and development.

Section III also includes projects that could be developed in cooperation with other public or private agencies or organizations. Recently, The Columbia Public School District and the City cooperatively constructed an eight-court tennis complex. Planning efforts, land, and financial resources were shared equally by the two agencies. The final product is an excellent tennis complex that was economically constructed for the benefit of Columbia citizens. The Department is recommending that further joint-use projects be considered.

Section IV is the Capital Improvement Program. This program is the primary method used by the City of Columbia to implement public improvements. The plan is prepared and adjusted annually and serves as a critical component of the comprehensive City budget. It provides an effective planning tool for identifying current and future improvements along

with funding sources. In essence, the Parks and Recreation Department's Capital Improvement Program functions as the "Action Plan" component of this Master Plan.

The Capital Improvement Plan in this chapter is the proposed plan to be included in the *Fiscal Year 2003 City of Columbia's Annual Budget*, pending budget approval.