

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Overview

The Columbia Parks and Recreation Department completed an update to the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan in 2002. As the Department evaluates projects for the next ten years, it is important to document the projects that have been accomplished since the *2002 Facility Needs Update* was completed. This chapter highlights the significant accomplishments that were completed since 2002.

The primary source of funding for most of these projects comes from the dedicated Park Sales Tax. Since 2002, voters have approved extending the renewable 1/8-cent Park Sales Tax twice - in 2005 and 2010. This tax allows the department to maintain and enhance existing parks and facilities and keep up with Columbia's growth and expectations for a quality, diverse parks, recreation and open space system.

This chapter is divided into the following four sections:

Section I: New Park Acquisition and Development

This section highlights land that was acquired for neighborhood parks, community parks, and regional parks and designates which of these new parks have been developed.

Section II: New Trail Acquisition and Development

This section highlights trail and greenbelt properties acquired by the Parks and Recreation Department and new destination trails that have been developed. This section also includes trails that were constructed by the Columbia Public Works Department as part of the federal GetAbout Columbia grant.

Section III: Partnerships with Columbia Public School District

This section documents improvements or contributions to facilities owned by the Columbia Public School District and are jointly used by the Parks and Recreation Department. The partnership between the Department and the District allows both agencies to make use of recreational facilities and avoid duplication.

Section IV: Parks, Facilities and Trail Improvements

This section highlights capital and major improvements to existing parks, recreation facilities and trails. These are facilities that the City owned or managed prior to the *2002 Facility Needs Update*. This section also includes work by the Columbia Public Works Department as part of the federal GetAbout Columbia grant. Maintenance items, such as painting, tree and landscape planting, sidewalk repairs, new HVAC systems, and basic repairs are not included.

It is important to note that as the *2002 Facility Needs Update* was being prepared, a key project that was underway was the construction of the Activity & Recreation Center (ARC). Construction of the ARC began in 2001 and officially opened to the public in December 2002. Park planning staff recognized that the ARC would meet the public needs of a community recreation center and did not include it in the *2002 Facility Needs Update*.