

## 27. Additional Comments

We need an ice rink!

My biggest complaint is with the Recs Department and how they handle softball at Cosmo, there doesn't seem to be any control of the program, its almost a free for all as far as following the rules is concerned.

Maintain or upgrade what you can without any additional taxes or fees. Updating the web site, a map listing facilities would be a huge help. Very cumbersome right now to find what parks have tennis courts, basketball, trails etc.

The City of Columbia needs an indoor ice skating facility. The revenues that are lost by MU Hockey, youth ice skating and hockey programs paying Jefferson City is crazy. These programs are some of the fastest growing youth sports. I travel most weekends to KC and STL to allow my children to play in these activities. We eat, shop and stay in hotels in these areas instead of spending our money in Columbia. Revenues could also be brought in by having tournaments and ice shows. Please put this as a priority!!!!

Parks and Recreation offers the citizens a great variety of high quality facilities! Keep up the good work.

We would be very supportive of the City of Columbia building a pool like the Boonville Pool, especially in SW Columbia. The City pools are often very crowded and are far away from us (except for Pirates Cove, but my older children don't enjoy that very much.) We made the drive to Boonville about 10 times this year with lots of Columbia friends. It would be great to have a facility like that in Columbia. Also, if this is something the City is considering, please look at the Logan Aquatic Center in Logan, UT - what an amazing City Pool! Well worth the money to swim there and a great community gathering place. We love Columbia's parks, trails and sports fields.

I would really like to see an outdoor swimming complex on the south side of Columbia. I can't afford the private clubs and driving to the north side of town is not always practical.

Need to add a softball/baseball field at Smithton park, where there is already a back stop in the E-Free field.

recently moved from 65202 to 65203

Parks and Rec might consider releasing some varying (perch and sunfish) species into Bethel and Phillips park. The pressure on each of these lakes has caused a decline in these populations - at least it seems that is the case. Also, new species such as Rock Bass (rock perch) and other sunfish keep fishing more interesting. The size of the perch and sunfish I have caught in these lakes has also diminished significantly - they are no longer as big as they use to be in years past. Perhaps new limits (size and/or slot limits) should be established for perch and sunfish in the city lakes.

Main interest/shortfall is soccer training. Would like city to work with Columbia Soccer Club and Pride soccer to develop Pride Park to include 2 turf fields, more lights and indoor facility. Believe 3 way development project including the Kronke Group (complete donation of rest of park property), City (infrastructure, development and maintenance), and CSC and Pride (management) would greatly benefit community by soccer development and tourism (tournaments, etc.).

I play adult softball but the cost is crazy. Do not think I will keep playing due to the rising costs

Pool rules at Oakland pool need to be better enforced and staff needs to keep a more watchful eye. Many times campers come but misbehave and their 'camp leaders' are off in concessions or catching a tan. Or kids come in, show their swimsuit, but 3 hours later are still wearing their street clothes and sneakers. We have been faithfully going to Oakland for several years, but next year are actually considering a private membership. In addition, Oakland could be open at least one hour earlier and one hour later, There also

are not enough chairs for patrons. There needs to be more swimming classes offered as well. Every time I call the classes are all booked. Additional parking at Cosmo and Albert Oakland would be beneficial as well. Albert Oakland is really bad, not enough place to park for for four teams playing. Bleachers at Albert Oakland and retaining wall needs repair. Bleachers need railings. Witnessed several bad falls this summer by Adults who fell on or off the bleachers or slipped from poorly constructed 'retaining wall' Need to maintain what we have before spending more money on 'new locations and new features' If you can't maintain what you have then should not expand.

Question 25 is vague... Assumed it should read "Do you LIVE within Columbia city limits?" when answering NO. Also, 17(i) has a typo (not trying to poke jabs - just thought someone would like to know). Overall, I think we have an amazing P&R Department. In general, I'm most supportive of maintaining the resources we have, as opposed to just buying/creating new. That said, if some of the programs seem to be crowded, I would be supportive of growth to accommodate everyone. I am NOT supportive of webcams in public recreational areas. It's one thing to monitor these places securely... quite another to allow anyone to "check out" a public webcam. Don't want to be subject of anyone's voyeuristic tendencies. Thank you for the opportunity to weigh in on these matters!

I would love to see an ice skating facility and equestrian trails here.

we need horse trails!!!!

An ice arena with basketball and volleyball facilities is greatly needed. Ice hockey would be a tremendous boost for local economy. Also, an ice arena with ample seating will allow for events like winter Show Me Games, minor league and college hockey and special shows. Please consider it. We have 100 kids now playing in Jefferson City as well as an MU team. We need it, and we need it quickly.

I assume Question 25 is Do you LIVE within the Columbia city limits????

25. Do you within Columbia city limits? Change to: 25. Do you LIVE within Columbia city limits?

Mary, the individual who plans the volleyball activities does an excellent job!

Improve batting cages at Cosmo Softball Complex

We are excited to hear about future plans for concession/restrooms at Cosmo/Bethel park near football fields 5 and 6. We spend many, many hours using the outdoor sports facilities and would welcome any improvements (lights on football fields) to them as well as the addition of any indoor basketball/volleyball courts for year round use! Thank you!

I would like to see Summer Kickball come back

We would love to see a rec plex built similar to St. Peters with at least one indoor ice rink.

We need an Indoor Ice Rink in this town. A town this size should offer that type of recreation for their residents.

The park system here is exceptional. We make weekly use of the cosmo skateboard park and twin lakes. Reserving the shelters is easy and very reasonable. I would say our #1 wish is for an outdoor pool nearer to twin lakes area. Thanks for all you do - you do it well

My wife and I live in the far northeast corner of the city, off of Mexico Gravel and Tanzanite. We have Indian Hills park down the road from us--if we choose to drive to the facility. Columbia has the chance to set itself apart from other small cities by implementing a city-wide trail system for citizens who wish to go to parks and facilities but wish to not further murder the environment by driving there. The NE part of

town has zero trails, hardly any sidewalks outside of neighborhood sidewalks, it would 'be awesome' if the City would give at least a little bit of thought to developing a city-wide connected ped-trail system for bikes and walkers, for people who wish to not only walk the trail, but maybe use the trail itself to bike to and from work.

I am an avid runner and live within 2 blocks of bear creek trail. The condition of the trail concerns me, as it seems like areas are ignored. I also occasionally run on the MKT trail and find it to be well maintained. Thank you for your time.

One need we have recently discovered, since our son has taken up Lacrosse, is some sort of practice backboard, against which he could practice stick work. We use the trail network EVERY DAY. Keep up the great work!

As my daughter grows, I expect we'll use more Parks and Rec facilities and programs. I'm looking forward to swimming lessons, for example, and hope to use the Albert-Oakland pool next summer. My husband continues to play recreational softball (I stopped when I got pregnant). Increasing team fees make it hard to get enough people to commit to recreational softball. More competitive types are fine with it. I wish there were public access fields where we could play pick-up softball on a truly recreational, come-when-you-want type of basis.

Since the City of pushing walking and biking as standard modes of transportation, it's critical to keep trails open in ALL weather, including snow. I feel strongly that you should plow the MKT, etc., asap after snows. Other cities get this done, and we can, too. The trail would be frozen, and so risk of gouging it with a plow is minimal. Please figure out how to make this work. Overall, however, I'm happy with your work. Thanks!

I would love to see ice skating in Columbia!!

Trail systems, such as in Denver metro, contribute to high quality of life and property values, so parks should support, but council should also require that developers put in sidewalks to make Columbia more friendly to "bike, walk and wheel" because it current is not. Should not have to drive to someplace to walk safely.

I would love to see more trails for walking/running and biking off of PP for safety and ways to walk to the stores nearby. It would be nice to have softball season schedule shortened over the summer as it runs so long due to weather. It would be nice to have 2 season rather than one all summer long and have a make up schedule that would allow this.

Our family makes good use of Columbia's parks and the ARC. We'd love to see some ice skating facilities in the future - we're from Canada and I'm a bit sad that my kids will likely not grow up skating the way we did!!

Overall I am pleased with the condition of the Cosmo fields. However, a restroom near the football fields would be nice. Also, Oakland park badly needs restroom and concession facilities.

There are currently 2 parks that are set up for pickle ball. I would love to see the ARC allow pickle ball during inclement weather. We have a womens group that meets on monday mornings and co ed play on sunday and wednesday evenings

we live in a subdivision that is just outside of city limits, but other places are around us that are in city limits. we can not afford to participate in the programs and do not get to participate in the assistance program either. I would love to do more, but the cost is still too high for us and the rec places are on the other side of town from us

As I stated in another comment field, I'd like the city to look into salt-water filtration for the ARC swimming pool. It is hazardous for patrons to be breathing chlorine while swimming and exercising. While the pool was emptied this summer for cleaning we all noticed a delightful and dramatically positive difference in our breathing when using the ARC, no chlorine fumes! Thanks you for listening.

Most programs for seniors and disabled are held downtown and at Pacquin Towers. All programs need to be integrated and offered throughout the community. Would love some in southwest area - Forum to Scott Blvd.

Please build an ice skating rink in Columbia. It is ridiculous that Jefferson City has one and we do not. Thanks.

Please add an additional exit from Cosmo Park onto the Business Loop. Another exit could easily be added by the upper shelter area above the playground and to the right that is closer to Stadium. There needs to be more exits from different areas of the park.

Used to be a member of the ARC and loved it, but really can't afford it right now. Would love to do some of the special programs at the ARC like little swimmers, but it's expensive not being a member, paying the daily one-time admission in addition to the event price per person. That's my main drawback to your program.

Please focus on building an indoor ice skating rink. We really need one. It would be so nice to not have to drive to Jeff City to skate. There also could be skating lessons offered that people would have to pay for...to help the city long term.

When we moved here ten years ago I was very impressed with the parks and trails in Columbia. We made use of many different playgrounds. I find that as my kids get older we do not use the parks as much as we used to except for sports. Columbia is really lucky to have so many family-friendly parks. I REALLY hope Columbia builds an indoor ice skating facility. We would use it for recreation.

Overall, I feel the Columbia P&R department is well run. It's not mentioned in the questionnaire, but you guys make the city wide planters so attractive with all the flower and plant varieties that we see year round. They make our city look so much more beautiful! Thanks for everyone's hard work!!

I like diverse parks and facilities here a lot.

I have asked about donating bench to trails and have never received a response.

I think this survey was a little too long and might result in some people not completing it. I thought about quitting twice. But I appreciate your efforts in gathering real information and hope it is useful.

I used to live by Oakland park and I loved it - I would go 2-3 times a week and walk the trails, take my dog out. Now I live downtown and I don't feel safe walking on the streets or comfortable running on the streets. There are no larger parks for walking, so I have basically stopped exercising as much.

Columbia's excellent parks and trails are one of the best things about this town. Keep up the great work. Our family appreciates all you do.

parks would be used more if you allowed "lap swimming" in Phillips lake and Twin lakes- swim at own risk just like Stephens although the roped off area there is still too short bike lanes need repair and vehicles using bike lanes as parking places need to be ticketed and towed esp on Nifong and West they are dangerous- and the streets need to be swept much more often they are full of glass, wire and debris as well as large rocks and biking, walking and running is dangerous and many of our sidewalks cannot be used due to bushes and trees obstructing the entire walkway esp[ on Broadway-I've watched mothers

pushing strollers with toddlers in tow have to get on Broadway in order to pass due to shrubbery and even trash and other containers obstructing the walkway- some drivers are very conscientious and others think its their right to come as close as they can as fast as possible- plus some of the sidewalk are so broken you can't push a stroller let alone a wheelchair along it

I love our parks and all of the services they provide. I feel they keep Columbia fit and healthy in an age of growing health risks. The P&R team is a great public health tool. I would like to see our existing parks maintained and improved above all else but feel P&R is doing a great job

I bought Columbia Golf Super Card. I like the deal, but suggest having a similar alternative less expensive for golfers that walk, and don't want the cart that's included. Otherwise, a great idea, that I would buy again. Also, make it available for weekend golfing. Original ad didn't say it was restricted use on the weekend, which is pretty much the only time I get to play. Then, when I showed up at Gustin and Nickell, they said I couldn't use it except afternoons on the weekends, or any time weekdays. Thanks.

These things need to be affordable to our children. The ARC is not affordable. I think we should have a grant for children who are GREAT students but low income to allow them a Free membership to reward them for their hard work!

Provide lights and additional courts in Fairview, please, and also maintain them (clean leaves in fall).

We live in the northeast section (near Lake of the Woods) and we can not connect to any of the trails for bike riding. The trail at Indian Hills is very, very short. Please expand the trail system out to the northeast area. thanks!!

We would do more but we cant afford it. We would love to join the jym but cant afford to. Most of the things we go to our free.

Indian Hills park needs some MAJOR renovations. My small daughter and I used this park over Mizzou's Homecoming weekend, and I was VERY dissapointed with the maintenacnce of the equipment. Also, it would be so great to have outdoor tracks in Columbia that are NOT connected to the schools. My final thought, an ice skating rink would be a great addition to Columbia, and also would be a great way to create some more jobs!

The programs such as the summer sports programs are very expensive for the normal family in columbia. It seems that the price is out of reach for the majority of the households that would take part.

We need to give children a place to get out and exercise and get away from television. Youths today spend to much time playing with computers, iphones, etc we needs to find ways to get them outside again.

We are a busy family and I find it hard to utilize your facilities and programs, just because of time issues. BUT we do use you exclusively for our Summer swimming. I live SW and it is a LONG haul to either pool. Twin Lakes was right down the street, but with the age of my kids the pool part is not an option. We actually used the lake to swim in when it was open. I would love to see a community pool South of town. Anything south of town would be good... there really isn't anything offered. Bethel Cosmo, is my fav park also. It is well designed for kids. Parents can literally stay in one spot and see there kids, AND there is SHADE. My husband loves that you stock the pond with Trout in the fall /winter. Cosmo park is fun for the kids, but there is a LOT of blind spots for parents, and it is just terrifying to take small kids there, not relaxing. (Sandpit/the play area above the sandpit and the slide down from there. Kids could just run off and never be seen if they are in that area).

Thank you for asking for input. Keep up the good work!

LOVE THE CITY'S P & R DEPT -- YOU DO A FANTASTIC JOB -- ESP LOW GOLF FOLKS -- EVEN WITH THE ECONOMY MAKING FUNDS SO HARD TO ACQUIRE. LOVE THAT YOU SURVEY YOUR USERS ABOUT WHAT'S IMPORTANT TO THEM. GOOD JOB!!

I love all the biking trails in Columbia. Not only have they allowed me to exercise and have fun, but they have helped me commute to work! Bear Creek trail is nice, but kind of rough for a bike. The MKT trail is much nicer, but the scenery at Bear Creek is BEAUTIFUL. Keep up the good work and thanks!

It seems as though nearly all of the programs and facilities offered by the parks and rec dept. focus on lower income families. Families like mine, who are middle income, are not encouraged to use the programs and even the parks to some extent. It is difficult to support improvements or enhancements when I believe they will not benefit my family. I have personally witnessed the exchange of drugs/money in what is supposedly a family park, so there are certainly places I avoid completely. Webcams would curb that, so I would support surveillance, though there probably would be a number of citizens who would call that an infringement on their rights rather than a protective measure for our children. As it stands, there are only a couple of parks that I choose to go to with my kids, though there are also a couple that I am "forced" to go to, because so many events take place at them. Despite the negativity of my comments, I do want to add that one of my favorite things about Columbia are the parks and trail system. We have a beautiful town, only made more beautiful by the outdoor recreational areas.

I am under the impression that most of your programs are geared towards either families or seniors. As a single & childless person in my 30s who is not into sports, but is interested in nature activities, I don't see a lot of Parks & Rec stuff geared to me. I think there is an interest in that from the groups that I do belong to. You should consider tailoring your Parks & Recreation Twitter/Facebook to specific groups of people, so that if you are having these kinds of programs for people like me, they're not drowned out in a sea of updates about family/children programs. I do read your Facebook updates but I generally don't get much from them, which is too bad. How about a Facebook group for dog park lovers, for instance? I'd love to see more activities for dog park people. I sincerely hope that you do not plan to spend more taxpayer money building golf courses and indoor park facilities that will only be available to those who can pay. It makes me, a liberal tree-hugging vegetarian park-lover, angry. I'd like to see more bathrooms open year-round, existing facilities maintained and upgraded, and more effort put into promoting your existing programs and facilities. That said, the County House Trail is wonderful and a huge boon to my specific neighborhood. I was very glad to see it open. Thank you!

The outdoor pools should be open from 10am-8pm and open until 8pm during the weekdays. Many people would utilize them more. PLUS, keep the hours more uniform. They are so sporadic. I don't know how many times we went to Twin Lakes to see they were closed. We just stopped going and we LOVE that place! Plus it would be so nice to be able to hang out there after work with the kids and relax in the summer.

Thank you for all of the good work that goes into being sure there are neighborhood parks, nature areas, etc. Please make indoor aquatics and ice skating a priority. Wish they would have put in 6 to 8 swim lanes in the ARC so it would be possible to get income from local swim clubs current and future. Having more lanes would have allowed there to be aquatic class and lap swimming at the same time. Since Stephens and Columbia College closed their pools there is a need.

Please improve the fencing of the Twin Lakes dog park so dogs can't escape. I beg of you! :) Thank you soooooooooooooooooooooo much!

I have recently moved to Columbia (but now reside just outside the city limits) and really do enjoy all the amenities there are available through Parks and Recreation. I think the number of facilities are adequate and have tried a number of the walking trails. I was surprised to see how many trails are available and I like that the website gives me distances. My sister and her friend uses the Senior Program A LOT and I am so glad that they have this program available... including the short day trips that they take. My fiance and I recently took one of the dance classes and had a blast... was surprised that was poorly attended

but the instructor made us "old folks" feel welcomed and not foolish :). There are sooo many different parks to take our grandchildren to and they have always been well maintained and of high quality. My teens play soccer at Cosmo and the facilities there again are well maintained. I know that there is an equestrian trail by Bear Creek but another in the Columbia area would be nice (the next closest is Three Creeks, then Guthrie or Rudolf Bennett). But where would a handy trail be... I am not sure :). I have always been interested in another indoor ice skating facility. I know its been tried before, but Columbia's bigger now, and a lot more diverse and could possibly support such a venue now. I use to take my kids to the swimming pools when younger... we went to Twin Lakes and Oakland Pool. The major drawback at that time was how crowded the public pools were and some times it bothered me when the fighting took place between teens.. made me uncomfortable and I would leave with my kids (but that was 10 years ago). My daughter takes her 2 yr old daughter to the ARC a lot and loves it there. Overall, I am very impressed with Columbia Parks and Rec and the facilities and think that what we have so far is superior to what is available in lots of other cities. Good job!!!!!!!!!!

After answering the questions in this survey it is painfully obvious that there is not much support/offering for outdoor volleyball which is my main interest. It would be nice if the existing facilities at Cosmo Park were available for use (no nets) so people could play without going to a bar...guess I'll keep playing at The Deuce.

We look forward to when Cosmo-Bethel park is restored to having the big slides again. Our daughter misses the "big slide" park.

I have been playing softball (mens C league) in Columbia for over 5 years. The structure needs to change. For example, there needs to be double headers. I have several guys from out of town that play on my team and lately, they feel its not worth it to drive 30 minutes to play one game per night. Second, why doesn't the city host weekend tournaments or a tournament after the softball season. I believe it would do well and bring in alot of money. Also, I heard a rumor that the city is raising it's softball fees by a couple hundred dollars. If this is the case, we will not be playing in Columbia next year.

We need another Disc Golf course. Preferably on the west side of town or more centralized location. I think that Stephens would make for a perfect disc golf area due to the fact it's already maintained (mowed). Or the area over by Broadway Farms and Rothwell Heights.

Bring back Twin Lakes swimming area!

The parks and rec program was the tipping factor in our choice to move here 6 years ago. We could have gone anywhere bu were, and continue to be, impressed by the number and ty

Your fees for the indoor fitness is outrageous at the REC center! I really appreciate the very affordable option at the Amory, but the hours of operation make it incredibly difficult to use it when you work a full time job. PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE CONSIDER EXPANDING THE HOURS!! WHEN YOU WANT TO IMPROVE YOUR HEALTH BUT HAVE A LOW INCOME, THIS IS MAKES A TREMENDOUS DIFFERENCE!! CONSIDER ADDING MORE OF THESE LESS FLASHY FITNESS LOCATIONS IN NEIGHBORHOODS AND MAYBE HAVE ACCESS CARDS LIKE THEY USE IN HOTELS, IF YOU NEED TO CONTROL PERSONNEL COSTS!!!!!!

Would love more indoor tennis courts or more tennis leagues

We enjoy and are very proud of our parks!

The skatepark here is not safe because it is constantly over crowded. It also needs lights because it gets to hot for kids during the summer.

As my kids are getting older use parks less than when small. REALLY need an indoor pool you can actually swim in!

I am the only family member living in Columbia and this area is the central living area for my extended family so we have our family reunion at Stephens Park each summer. The kids enjoy the exercise area and we bring other outdoor games with us. It is a nice park but a little noisy with the Broadway traffic. Thanks for a nice park!

Columbia has a wonderful offering of parks. STOP buying more land! Maintain what we have and bring down the cost of the ARC. It's TOO expensive! Pool prices are TOO expensive!

Tou all do a great job. We have used all your services when my children wer younger and I believe my husband and myself will be back using more of your services soon. Thank you for all you do.

My suggestion is that you limit jogging and biking in at least one of the areas that are also identified as off-leash areas for dogs - such a the leash free area of Capen/Grindstone Park. I would also suggest finding a way for dog owners to get to the leash-free area that does not involve crossing the same bridge as bikers & joggers - perhaps a smaller bridge or a "sidewalk" on the side of the existing bridge. ---I was also very disappointed (and continue to be disappointed) with the landscaping that the City did after expanding the paved parking area at the Capen entrance. It looks trashy & downbeaten, when things could have been done to have really added to the entrance of that park. A lost opportunity, I think.

The amount of outdoor spaces, hiking trails, and off leash dog parks are the main reason I stay in the Columbia area, even after divorce and my family living over 500 miles away. I love the outside activities available here.

Thank you for doing this.

Please keep the Lake of the Woods Pool open longer. It is one of the last pools to open and one of the first to close. Instead of building new pools - expand this one and keep it open longer in the Summer.

Love the hiking and biking trails. Because of them im outdoors more often. and the improvements for bikers (trails/roads)it has dramatically increased my bike riding.

I am a resident of Ashland, MO. My family and I prefer to utilize Columbia Parks because they have always been family friendly, clean, and safe for us. Thank you for all the work the city has put into the parks system and we look forward to seeing more improvements.

I am a Hallsville address but within Columbia school district. The North East side of town has little to no park system. With the addition of the new High School it would be nice to see Columbia enhance parks, pools, and programs accessible to those in the north/northeast area. The ARC is amount impossible to get to, and the pool at Lake of the Woods is old, small, with inadequate parking and no snack bar. A NE rec center to compliment the new HS (perhaps leaving the outdoor pool for now and adding an indoor pool that could be shared by HS programming?) would be fabulous! I would buy a membership then! Another thought - I don't mind buying a book of swim tickets in the summer, but we never seem to be able to use them all. Why do you sell books of Adults vs Kids? I always buy a book of Adult coupons and use Adult coupons for my kids (keep the money). Yet these coupons are NOT good at the ARC and do NOT transfer from year to year? I get making money - but come on! - offer more cafeteria style options for levels of membership to the facilities folks ACTUALLY USE and you may find more use becomes greater satisfaction which ultimately results in expanded memberships.

We use the facilities quite a bit but the swimming lessons are hard to schedule but the instructors at Hickman are wonderful

Village Park Square needs to be closed. It is a place for homeless people to gather and drink alcohol. I don't feel safe even passing by, let alone using this facility.

Parks and trails are a big part of what I love about living in Columbia. I make use of them many times a week. Thank you for making them a priority!!

The park and rec facilities are beautiful and well kept. Keep up the good work. This is a key to why Columbia is a livable city.

Thank you for rebuilding the "spaceship" (as my 5 year old calls it) at Bethel Park after the fire! We were glad to have it restored rather than generic, not-as-much-fun equipment go in.

#25 Do you "live" within Columbia city limits?

I attended several of the Bonnie View meetings. I cannot understand why so much of the property has been excavated. I thought it was only supposed to have parking for 40 initially. The entire south half of the property has been excavated. What a shame! Why? The neighborhood would have liked it left as is. I will be calling you and my representative when the parties start in the parking lot. Thanks for ruining our neighborhood park. You will not get further active and vocal support from me as you have in the past.

You deserve a huge thank you from the community for the excellent work you do to create and maintain such wonderful parks. As a daily walker on Parks and REc trails, I thank you for prioritizing such great trails. We need some serious attention to deteriorating quality of life for walkers on our trails, though. It seems the focus has become somewhat commuter-oriented and "cyclo-centric" on the trails, and walkers are routinely blasted by bikes that go too fast and pass way too close to pedestrians on the trail. Seems like the "slow and sound a warning when passing" signs used to work but in the last 2-3 years the walker experience has sharply declined, especially on the MKT. Thank you for all you do for this community. You're the best. Laura Schopp 573-529-6415 schoppL@umsystem.edu

We used to live in Columbia by one of the MKT Trail accesses and loved using the trail. We have moved outside of Columbia so now I only use areas close to my work. Also my children are grown so my family does not use the facilities near as much as we used to, but we are aware of the great value of the Parks and Recreation Programs. I look forward to having more leisure time for nature trails, classes, Senior programs and possibly travel opportunities.

I think Columbia does a great job of keeping the parks maintained. We go to Capen Park and walk our dogs in the leash-free area every day and love the fact that our dogs can get exercise while we walk along a reasonably long circular trail. I'd love another such location. Twin Lakes is nice, but the walk from the parking lot to the leash-free area is filthy, since dog owners do not clean up after their pets and there's no circular trail to take, like at Capen Park. Keep up the good work and don't let the developers gobble up all the open space that makes Columbia such a fantastic place to live!

There is a huge need for bathroom facilities at Cosmo at football fields

Our family are very active users of the softball fields both at Antimi and Rainbow. I Would love to see a comprehensive plan to upgrade these fields and make them more user friendly to the teams that play on them. Would love to see an integrated area by each field set aside for a safe place not only warm up before games, but to allow pitchers and catches to loosen up during a game. Better ease of access to the dugout at Rainbow is needed. Develop a similar size set of baseball/softball fields near the Phillips park would ease the burden of trying to find a place to play/practice during peak times of the year. Develop a few more practice fields similar to Again St. in different neighborhood parks, such as Cascades, Longview, Rock Quarry and better maintain the surface at Bethel. Finally I checked yes for a new indoor multi use building to be separated by netting for many sports, including a place to hit, pitch and short field in. If you have any questions I would be welcome to provide any feed back or other input into future plans. Respectfully Submitted, Mark Sullivan. Mj.Sullivan@centurytel.net

I feel our town would greatly benefit from an expanded sports complex similar to the legacy sports complex in Lees Summit. The complex would greatly fulfill a need for more sports field, allow us to host more tournament therefore bringing more revenue to our town.

While I understand this isn't your purview, it would be a lot easier and safer to get to those parks within walking distance of my home if there were more sidewalks in this city.

We live in the county but have always enjoyed the opportunities that Columbia has offered.

I enjoy most parks. I would like to see more challenging playgrounds where kids really use their energy to enjoy. Also twin lakes parks pool needs serious help.

Live in Hallsville. Work in Columbia. Grandchildren use Park & Rev facilities.

I love all the park space and diverse activities to be had in Columbia. The only thing that was very frustrating was when I was told to leave by a park ranger while having a pick up football game at Cosmo. I pay taxes and these fields should be available if not already being used. Finally, really enjoy playing softball and would appreciate some cover over the stands, other cities with them look really nice and make it more family friendly. Also, protects little ones from stray foul balls. Thanks.

Now that my kids are old enough to ride bike trails with us, we are really enjoying the great trails around town. I hope you continue to connect them together so we can use our cars less.

Thank you for collecting comments. We have an excellent Parks and Recreation system given the size of the city. Maintaining and improving the existing facilities while expanding services not currently available to residents will keep our system appealing.

I wish the city had an indoor pool with diving well and also offered diving lessons through the aquatic program. Thanks!

We LOVE Columbia and think you are doing a fine job!

More youth adaptive programs would be great and would be promoted by parents! It is intimidating to some of the younger kids with disabilities when there are older adults with disabilities at some of the events. Or at least my daughter does better with kids closer to her age range and will do more because she feels more comfortable with kids than adults.

I would like to see the Norma Sutherland park developed and include a playground, picnic shelter, and nature trails. It would be a nice addition to have a park this far north of town. I also think it would be utilized often by AHL Elementary school students and the new and up-coming neighborhoods surrounding the Norma Sutherland Park.

This past summer My Husband & I were at Stephens Park walking our dog, it was busy that day and a guy on a skate board went flying by us and bumped into me. He was in his mid 20's. He came back buy us and was rude. He told us to tell the law that he knew them and he could do what ever he wanted to. We also talked to another younger couple, that he had to go off the side walk to keep from running into their two little puppies. He would not give us his name. He told us if we didn't like it we could go somewhere else.

Great parks/trails. Money's tight- keep ones we have in decent shape and no more purchasing. Question why all public pools are on north side of town and people on south side have to pay to join a neighborhood pool. Clearly inequitable.

It would be good if you could add some classes in self-defense for adults/seniors. We need a dog park for small dogs only.

I think that overall the existing parks are great. Brown Station Park could definitely use some upkeep. An off-leash dog park without water would also be nice!

I appreciate the opportunity to give my thoughts on the 2011 Parks and Recreation priorities. However, I feel that this survey will not give an appropriate snapshot of the Parks and Recreation priorities. As a well educated upper-middle class individual I found this survey to be exhausting and complicated, similar to filing my taxes.

I'm curious why equestrian trails made the survey, but not more mountain biking trails? I feel horse trails are more of a rural consideration than urban uses such as mountain biking, hiking, etc. If equestrian trails are permitted, horses should be very limited to avoid unnecessary trail damage. Several parks in Columbia have either existing or potential single-track that could be developed or improved to accommodate both hikers and mountain bikers. Partnership opportunities exist between Parks & Rec and regional mountain bike organizations for trail-building and maintenance. More disk golf courses  More youth martial arts classes would be nice. More practice times for martial arts classes would be helpful.

Consider creating a pedestrian mall in downtown Columbia, on 9th street between Broadway and Elm. Turn the street into a public walking space with trees, benches, public sculpture, fountains, etc.

The permanent bathroom facilities need to be improved so more are accessible in the winter. Please add vending machines at parks for drinks.

I use and enjoy the trails a lot, so trails would be my highest priority for maintaining and expanding.

Far South West Columbia is so neglected when it comes to parks, trails, access to roads that are safe to bike on, access to shopping, access to I-70. There is a GREAT need for more public areas and shopping in this area of town. I feel isolated from the rest of town even though we are in Thornbrook and are in the city limits, it takes 20 minutes minimum to get to any parks, trails, shopping and major highways from this end of town. The city REALLY needs to look at how many people live here and the lack of attention given to improving this area of town! Scott BLVD. improvements are nice but we still can't get over to the interstate as we do not have an overpass on this end of town without having to fight Stadium Blvd. traffic for another 10 minutes in addition to driving across town just to get to ball fields, Lowes, etc.

I would like very much to make more use of the Indian Hills facilities, but the neighborhood seems sketchy, and every time I am at the dog park, it is empty.

To clarify one of the questions: we live just outside city limits off Rt K, don't have a "park" we could safely walk to, but there is plenty of "green space".

There's a word missing from the text of question #25 ("Do you within Columbia city limits?"). I live near the Hinkson Creek Trail access on Old 63. This access is difficult to get to except by car, and the portion of the trail nearest Old 63 is too rough for bicycling on anything other than a sturdy mountain bike.

#1 -- A new activity center that is more centrally located needs to be addressed immediately. #2 -- This survey is far too long for computer! I have no doubt many people who start it do not complete it.

Thanks for all you hard working making our town clean and beautiful.

1. I would like to see outdoor racquetball and / or handball courts. UMC has demolished all of the campus ones. There are no public courts available in Columbia. Indoor raquetball court would also be great. 2. The Oakwood Hills/Lynnwood Drive park is in great need of cleaning and/or repair. The fitness trail equipment is badly deteriorated and the playground equipment is moss and mildew covered and the area is badly overgrown.

In Leisure Times there are a lot of pre-school activities, but not so much for a kid who is 9 years old. I would like to see dance and gymnastic/tumbling offered at Stephens Lake (indoor) for that age group. Especially in the winter months when going outside is not as much of an option.

Shepard Park could use a few safety upgrades because kids always hit their heads on the top of the twisty slide and the bar at the top of the rainbow shaped climber. Rock Quarry Park has a grill that has no bottom any more so it needs replaced. Thanks!

Parks and rec simply needs to pay more attention to detail. Make sure trash is emptied more regularly, make sure there is plenty of TP in the restrooms. Perfect example -- my email to take this survey starts off with the statement that this is a survey to help for "2002". Paying attention to detail in everything that is done will go a long way to further community support.

I think you all do a great job! Try to keep a balance, though, between practical -- serving a higher number -- and costly extras which are nice but not necessary. In this time of budget woes, it doesn't behoove anyone to look as if money is just being spent frivolously, especially when people in our community are suffering with basic needs.

We need a dry off-leash dog park at Stephens Lake Park. Not everyone wants their dogs to get wet at the dog park and the facility could be used year-round.

Perhaps you should work on updating and maintaining the existing park system rather than continuing to try to build and develop new areas.

NEED MORE INDOOR PLAY CENTERS FOR KIDS!!! SOMETHING LIKE A CHILDREN'S MUSEUM OR TUNNEL VOYAGE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

The recreation facilities are one of the most important reasons for living in Columbia for my family. Visitors are amazed at the access to these types of facilities. Without them I fear Columbia would be one apartment complex and strip mall after another. If that were to happen I would seek another community to live in. I am retired and so it would be easy for me to move.

The parks are what makes Columbia a great place to live. We feel that the P&R dept is well managed and responsive to the needs of the city. Bravo!!!!

results influenced by the fact that I am not a resident of the city

I have 2 kids with special needs. Please add MORE adaptive recreation!!! Thanks!

This survey is toooooooooooLong!!!!

I love our parks! You do a great job! Keep up the good work.

You are doing a great job! Keep up the good work. :o)

Plan parks to include bicycle/walking trail connections. Plan and construct parks to allow major roadways to connect, not block them.

Lights at the skatepark would be amazing, as well as expanding it a bit.

It is reprehensible that an active, beautiful, progressive city like Columbia only has one skate park and that it receives such little attention from the department of parks and recreation. It is overused and desperately in need of repair. Since it was built, it has been extremely popular with children and adults. We already have countless tennis courts, basketball courts, & ball fields that go unused. But the Cosmo skate park is always crowded. That should tell you where your priorities should be. The citizens of Columbia deserve better! Skateboarding is one of the fastest growing sports today. Please build more skate parks in Columbia. Thank you for listening!

I'd like to see improvements to the skatepark, including lights for after dark.

I would MOST like to see an indoor recreational multi-use sports facility to support amateur sports leagues. I am a member of the Como Derby Dames, a roller derby league in Columbia who has been active for nearly 5 years, and constantly struggle with finding venues to play our games. We are insured and can draw large crowds, plus we are a non-profit 501 (c)(3) organization dedicated to female empowerment, comraderie, and community involvement. We reach out to the community and promote athleticism and would very much appreciate the support of the City of Columbia Parks & Rec. I am also a nature enthusiast and very much appreciate all the programs available to volunteers, including TreeKeepers, Show-Me Yards & Neighborhoods, and C.A.R.P. I very much enjoy interacting with P&R staff and just want to say thank you for all you do. Keep up the great work!!

Love Stephans Lake but the bathrooms are a mess.

Add on to Cosmo Skatepark and provide lights for the skatepark

Please build a multipurpose sports arena the roller derby leagues can use! This is a family friendly sport that empowers people from all demographics (including those under-served in our community).

Would like to see the 37 acres to the west of old Hiway 63 down on the Hinkson stream just below University Veterinary School be developed as part of Columbia Park System. It could be a bird sanctuary and/or a basin to collect overflow of Hinkson.

COSMO Bethel trail needs gravel and leveling. East end of trail near the high school needs clearing and handrails on pedestrian bridge. All existing and proposed parks should have routine inspections.

I would like more walking trails in my neighborhood so I don't have to drive to a walking trail. I wish there were sidewalks along Richland Rd. which is very scenic but somewhat hazardous.

Thanks

Columbia needs more skatepark terrain. It is dangerous for my kids to go out there and learn because it always seems so overcrowded. It would be nice as well if they had lights at the current skatepark just because it would allow more access during the summer when it is too hot during the day, and in the winter because it gets dark so early. More spots to skate around town too so it is more accessible to everyone.

Would love to see more sledding parks. Like the idea of an outdoor ice skating rink. Basketball courts for indoor are a premium. Would like to see indoor exercise facilities in different areas of town...could be smaller than arc.

We really need lights at the skate park. I would like to go skate at night sometimes . Thanks

I would love to see a multi-use indoor athletic facility in CoMo!

25. is don't know because you're missing a verb

We need indoor facilities to support our non-for-profit women's roller derby!

Thanks for all your work

Wish all city departments were as good as Parks & Rec!!!! We love Mike Griggs!

We love that Columbia has so many parks to utilize, and a large variety of types of parks as well. We feel that they are well maintained, but look forward to seeing improvements, especially pertaining to handicap accessibility and leash free dog areas, and increase in the number of parks available. Thank you for your consideration of all these matters in the questionnaire!

My only complaint is we are not allowed to use some facilities, like the soccer fields when no one else is on them!

Need to make add ons to the skatepark to get the youth more involved and keep them out of trouble.

I would love a permanent facility where roller derby could have practices and bouts so the public could more easily attend. Roller skating outside in the rink is great, but we need better facilities that aren't so dependent on the weather.

i would love to see skating considered a way of transportation and allow some sidewalks to be used for skating and skateboarding. i understand the non-desire to have it in the district... but we have a lot of great sidewalks that could be available. it is a great way to shed pounds and it is a SPORT !!

We need a public pool on the south side of town. All the pools on the south side are private and very expensive. I would much rather pay for a season pass at a public pool.

Need to make sure there is plenty of parking for the sport fields. Some times during big tournaments it hard to find parking. There have been cars towed because on not enough parking.

I am a big supporter of the Columbia skate park. I think the facility is wonderful and the more places you give people to practice their sport safely (skateboarding and rollerblading being a SPORT)the better. Put lights out there, lets take care of our local youth, you wont let them on the sidewalks...at least let them be safe!

We need lights at the skateboard park! And better maintenance, fixing of cracks and holes, and more skate terrain, and an indoor facility for snow and rainy days. Thank you!

I am very happy with the parks but I most often use cosmo skateboard park and dearing the fall months it is difficult for me to use this facility do to the lack of lighting during our switch back to standard time

There needs to be a restroom at Grindstone at Capon Park! More leash free areas! Dog people walk every day!

This city NEEDS an ice rink.

Make off leash dog parks without access to swim pond!

The skateboard park at Cosmo is used more than most of your otheir areas combined. The peak hours of the day and weekends it can get so crowded its a little dangerous. The area helps keep our children of the streets and campus in a safe enviroment. It is also a potential draw for MU students and people from

surrounding area's.. It would be money well spent if the area at Cosmo was expanded or another one was added at another park. Thank you for your time.

#25 Do you live within Columbia city limits? "live" is missing from sentence

The south side of town has no aquatic facilities, especially since Twin Lake was drained. This doesn't seem fair.

Thank you for all you do. The parks in Columbia are in general outstanding.

Please add trash cans and spend more time and money on regular trash pick up at playgrounds and spray gardens. Thank you for asking.

I believe the skatepark needs lights and it needs more seating for family members. Maybe designated smoking areas? That would be nice so people aren't smoking directly around the kids. Possibly expand it more back where the open field was? It would be nice if they would put a little play place next to it so when the families want to go out the little ones have something to do so parents aren't trying to keep them from getting run over the whole time.

I was born and raised in Columbia and learned to swim at the old Airport Lake from Sue Gerard. I moved away from Columbia in the late 60's but return several times a year with my wife to bike the MKT and attend class reunions at the various city parks. Columbia has one of the best Parks and Recreation systems in the country and I as Web Shepherd for the U-High Web site, I often upload the links to the P & R digital maps so that classmates can locate which shelter to attend for their reunion. Great web site for out-of-towners to get directions; view the shelter facilities, and even make reservations. Keep up the great work. Bob Luebbers

would love some kind of Skateboard park and or skate spots south side of Columbia

Excellent staff. Beautiful facilities. P&R is an important asset to Columbia.

Our kids are off to college, so mostly it's my husband and I using P&R Facilities. We are runners, so mostly use trails--thank you for great maintenance and year-round water. Also, the ARC is very well run.

Cosmo Skateboard park deserves to have lights. In the hot summer months no one can go there because it's too humid so lights would be of great use for people to use at night when it's cool. Also around fall it gets darker sooner and by the time some of us get off work at 5 it's already dark and we can't enjoy the park.

You need more terrain for skateboarding. Improving the skatepark (increase in area, new ramps/rails/terrain, addition of lights, etc) would make the facility safer by preventing overcrowding and thus heat exhaustion in the summer time. Upgrading the area and adding lights would also attract people from out of town which is a great source of revenue for ANY given city/town.

Cosmo skate park needs more terrain to prevent danger related to overcrowding. There needs to be lights installed so that people can use the skate park during the summer without facing heat exhaustion and other heat-related injuries.

We need more skate parks.

I just feel that the skate park needs lights, some additions to the course and better designs. Let the skaters design the park.

Well myself and Many Many people have been waiting for lights to be installed at the skate park. When you asked about technology and parks. I laughed to myself because we can't even get lights, I do believe this is the longest form of technology and cheapest! Not to knock the internet but maybe we should start with the simple things.

Would like a turf soccer park for cheap rental or indoor soccer facilities

I would like to see lights at the skatepark and more paved trails around Cosmos. A quick fix would be a smoother road/parking lot from the main road to the skatepark. The main road from the skate trail is pretty smooth, but the last 100 yards to the skate park is way too rough. A trail would be better, I can only skate on the road when there are very few cars. Thanks

I think the outdoor roller rink at cosmo needs resurfacing and should be covered and lit/ or at least lit to prevent from weather damage. I play Roller derby and often use this rink with teammates as a non official practice space.

We really enjoy the parks and trails in Columbia. Thank you for making them so nice, we feel they are a big part of why Columbia is such a great place to live and raise a family.

I attend water aerobics at the ARC on a regular basis. It is a great program. I'm in favor of adding water aerobics every evening of the week at the ARC or other Columbia pool.

I see a need for indoor softball facilities. I would be willing to pay a nominal fee to rent such a facility, similar to renting a picnic shelter. Also, I forgot to comment earlier why we don't use the outdoor swimming pools: the water is SO COLD that we can't enjoy it! The kiddie pool at Oakland is particularly miserable: within 15 minutes, my kids had blue lips and wanted to leave!

The main comment is that it is depressing the cost we have to pay for softball registration, yet the fields are only in great condition usually for 3 weeks out of the year ... the first week, then the 2 weeks leading up to the show me state games. Why can't the quality be the same for those of us that play all year and not just for the "out of towners" that come use it for show me state games. Also, area softball places (Jeff City, Moberly, Mexico) have much cheaper prices and just as good of quality fields, so several teams I know are migrating there. We need to keep Columbians in Columbia!

We need an indoor facility for the CoMo Derby Dames women's flat-track roller derby team (a non-profit) to practice and to compete. The Empire Roller Rink is not big enough or safe enough for either. We have outgrown all of the space we rent. We currently have to bout in Jefferson City, and we are called "CoMo"! The Sk8 zone is the only place locally that our national organization (WFTDA) considers suitable for teams that travel here for our competitions. The Fairgrounds has not worked for us because we get horse manure on our skate wheels, as well as because of its management difficulties at present. We have attracted 300 or so people to our bouts at times. This is a community need, as well as a team need. We also need an ice skating facility in town.

Some parks should be developed more to emphasize their unique contributions. P&R should look more into Heritage and Historic park facilities (e.g. St. Charles park system). These can be great reasons for people to visit parks. Also build up our only historic park.

The height on the water slide is 44 inches. My daughter who can swim cries everytime she goes to the ARC. I am a lifeguard instructor trainer and very aware of water safety. I feel there should be a swim test so if your short but can swim, you can use the slide.

I would suggest adding tennis courts at Fairview park (without reducing the natural ambiance). Also 10-and-under tennis courts smaller courts for kids, are gaining in popularity throughout the country. We should have some here.

My main concern, along with a lot of other people, is that the Cosmo skatepark needs lights.

We love our neighborhood park (Westwinds), its playground equipment and picnic shelter. However, the grill rusted and fell off, which is sad. It is somewhat frequently utilized inappropriately by teenagers, but we usually chase them off without trouble. The trail is a little creepy if you're by yourself, because it is so isolated and does not link to anything but itself. We flew a kite out at Cosmo this spring, and that was cool. We love the parks, spraygrounds, and nature areas in Columbia.

I really love Columbia parks and trails. We need more small neighborhood parks that are safe spaces for children 10-14. I live in Capri Estates and would love a small park there. There is a space behind the church on Smiley, near Riviera Drive.

We love Columbia parks and trails. Definitely one of the cities many jewels. Thanks!

My not sure answers were the best option since there was no "neutral" option. For example, I don't personally care about equestrian trails since I doubt I would use them, but I'm sure there are others that would and their opinions on that particular subject matter more than mine. Also, with regard to placing a higher priority on maintenance. Yes, but the question is to the detriment of what? Can the sales tax revenue be used to repair and upgrade the parks that need it? City budget is tight, how do you prioritize maintenance and upgrades? There is concern that we have more park property than we can appropriately maintain. But preserving land and creating more trails would be great.

BMX bikes should be allowed to use the skate park during honored hours. Also, because of bikes needing to be facilitated, lights and improvements to the skate park are a must have with the growing demand of bmx and skateboarding.

Columbia parks and rec is the reason we decided to relocate ten years ago. The size of the parks and the opening of the skateboard park made the decision easy for us. I have been disappointed to see that they didn't expand on the skate parks and build more facilities around town. I thought with the size of Columbia they would build more for better access from other parts of town or expand the one we have to allow access for the large crowd that regularly use the facility.

I think Columbia P&R does a great job. One thing that was not mentioned was raquetball courts. When I lived in StL, we had outdoor raquetball courts that could be used almost all year round.

You really need to asphalt the bike paths. I know runners dislike this but in any major city of note, you'll find asphalt and with this you'll find greater useage by all, runners included.

Good parks keep good families involved and active - and small neighborhood parks help property values - if they're nice. But that doesn't mean I want more taxes for more stuff. We have enough trails, green space, Arcs and Cosmos. I and my taxes are good, and we vote to maintain what we got.

Keep up the good work!

I think we have acquired enough land now. I do think maintenance of the present facilities is key. As to development, sometimes less is better.

I'd like to see P&R be more supportive of the skateboarding community. We recently traveled to Chyenne, WY where there have a large skate/bike park equipped with lights (and financially supported by Tony Hawk). I'd like to see ours expand, so it is not so crouded at times and safer for night skating!! Glad skateboarding downtown is no longer a crime!

we were told that since we are raising three children we would get a special rate at the ARC but when applying we were told something different. They kids get free lunch a the state only supports us for two of

the three I find it very interesting when two are three family's live in a household but they file seppert they pay lille are nothing.

I highly support any actions that would improve COSMO skatepark including lights and or expansion. thanks.

Columbia skatepark needs lights! It is to hot to take my kids during the day alot of the summer, and this time of year it is dark by the time i get off work. It would make it much more accessible. Also need to expand because it is always overcrowded.

Great job overall by P & R Dept. Would like to see more development of Nifong Park, clear edges of brush for better visibility; maybe walking trails through the park.

I think we have a great park system, however, the maintenance of the open spaces needs to be addressed. Low limbs and branches of trees need to be trimmed, sidewalks need to be edged, maybe cut the grass a bit shorter . .more trimming around fences and sign posts . .

We need lights at the skate park and it wouldn't heart to expand

Really enjoy the community parks in Columbia. Wish they had a few other facilities for swimming and winter activities for kids. Love the special events. We moved out of town recently and will likely only utilize special events and occassions at Stephens Lake Park. Would recommend focusing on current parks versus building new parks at this point. Thanks for the opportunity to provide input.

Upgrade skateboard facilities, or maybe get an indoor skateboard park.

I feel very strongly in particular about the Columbia Cosmo Skateboard Park. I think that the installation of lights is a must, mainly for the reason of the hot Missouri Summers. In the summer months it is often to hot to go out and skateboard and lights would be very beneficial in allowing skateboarders to still use the skateboard park at night during the more mild temperatures. I also approve of expansion of the skateboard park, as to make it a more enjoyable and exciting environment for the skateboarders and to reduce the risk of collision and overcrowding. Thank you for your time.

continue to maintain current parks; don't spend any more on bike lanes on streets!

I think Columbia Parks and Rec is one of the greatest assets of our community! People who move here from other communities always comment on what a great city Columbia is because of the parks and recreational activities, and the CONTINUED development and interest the citizens of Columbia have. Keep up the great work! Keep expanding your facilities... future citizens will look back someday and thank you for it.

Hope to see an indoor aquatic center at Gans Creek/Phillips

Thanks for asking!! And thanks for all your work.

Invest more in Douglass Park Baseball. Very important social program for poor children and families.

We love Parks & Rec so much in our house. Our only real complaint is that there was ice skating in Columbia!!!! Also, we'd love to have swimming at the ARC open earlier on the weekends -- especially Sunday. Also, it's great to have the Tues & Thurs Little Swimmers program, but I wish it started at 10am, not 11am. For little ones, it's hard to get them home in time for a nap when its so late!

I would like to emphasize that upkeeping older parks/playgrounds is of much greater importance in my opinion than building new ones. While the larger parks in Columbia are fantastic, more attention should

be given to the small parks as well. Our neighborhood park- Oakwood Hills- could use some major renovations! There are a lot of families that would use it more often if the park equipment was updated and/or a shelter & bathroom were built. thanks!

We most definitely need indoor volleyball courts and a few youth soccer fields in better shape than the ones we have at cosmo. Some of them are pretty rough. We could also use more nice park facilities in the North East area of Columbia.

I believe the Columbia Parks and Recreation department could serve its skateboarding community well with the addition of another skateboarding area at the southern end of town and / or by installing lights at the COMO park location. For adults who drive their children to the COSMO park location from the south side of town, a closer park would relieve them of the rush hour traffic dash to try to get their kids some play time in before dark. In addition, installing lights at the COSMO location would help with the limited daylight park time in the fall and winter. Lights would also allow skating to take place on summer evenings, when the temperatures are lower and people are less likely to suffer from heat stroke and other ill effects from the heat.

We live within driving distance of Albert-Oakland Park and have swam there for the last 3 years, but go less each summer and will probably not go at all next year, but will look to a private club to swim. The language by patrons and some staff is inappropriate for our kids as well as the inappropriate public displays that occur at the pool. We are concerned by the consistent police presence at this pool also.

Of all of the facilities/activities listed in this survey, Columbia currently has at least one EXCEPT for an ice skating facility. Columbia is big enough to support an public ice rink and can host numerous figure skating, ice hockey, speed skating events in addition to public skating times.

Overall I think Columbia for it's size does an excellent job at providing a wide variety of parks, trails, programs, etc. I think the City did an excellent job with the ARC and keeping the costs low for citizens and making it accessible to everyone. I love that it has been kept in good shape and rules have been maintained to keep it nice for everyone. I would love to see newer equipment though and more variety of equipment. It's almost all treadmills and bikes for cardio. What about some treadclimbers...why did they remove them? They were the most used cardio equip. I think even another facility like the ARC on the other side of town could be useful since it is always so crowded. I love all the trails in Columbia and I think for the most part they are kept in good shape. A few need maintenance but they City usually gets to it eventually such as now at Twin Lakes...it would have been nice if they could have had this completed at the beginning of the season rather than starting at the end of the season and not let it go so long and get so bad before repairing. I love the dog parks, but it would be nice if someone checked them every so often when they are busy to be sure people are following the rules as many do not pick up after their dogs and allow aggressive dogs into the parks. Overall I feel lucky to live in Columbia since they provide so many options for residents.

Good job in the past few years...Was not a supporter of paying too much for Stephens Lake, but now appreciate the space for our community. It seems to be very well supported by the public.

indoor ice rink would be a nice addition to the city system. I do not play basketball and no one in my family does. There is nothing for us to do in the winter time.

We desperately need an ice rink in this town. The fact that we lose all business to Jefferson City is ridiculous considering the size of Columbia compared to Jefferson City.

Columbia desperately needs an ice rink. The city loses revenue each year as ice skaters head to Jefferson City to use their facilities. Ice skaters, figure skaters, hockey players and speed skaters all drive the 30 minutes to Jeff City to take advantage of their rink. We also spend our discretionary income their on food and in their stores while we are their.

Columbia Parks and Rec is, for the most part, very well developed compared with other facilities around the state and country. I feel funds would best be used to improve existing facilities/trail maintenance/etc prior to new developments.

I love Columbia's parks and use them more than 3 times a week. This survey was in a format that I do not like. Make it simple by asking more questions on each topic. Skateboarding is a form of transportation. I personally bike and love the cities bike lanes. I took a bike class before riding on the streets.

Keep you the great work!

My two biggest requests for funding would be: 1. Large indoor sports complex with wood floor space for basketball, volleyball, and sport-court type surfaces for roller-sports. We have a large roller derby organization and numerous speed skaters in town who have to practice in a tiny church basement and drive to Jefferson City to use/practice on/play \*legal\* games on a full sized rink (Empire is too small). 2. Lights at the skate park/outdoor hockey rink (both for safety and security- and to extend the usage hours. I'm sure numerous parents would appreciate this, especially during fall and spring when the daylight hours are short but the weather is nice)

Indoor roller skating facility would be so so awesome

Two things. 1) Would love to see the scoreboards out at Rainbow fields updated or serviced so they work properly. 2) This survey was kind of a pain at some points...specifically making me choose "none" from a drop down menu for the 3rd or 4th choices, when I didn't even check a 3rd or 4th item from the above list. Would be nice to have it default to 'none' if nothing checked, simply for ease of the survey taker. This will generate less frustration and more thorough/honest answers from the participants.

we need more skatepark space,im only 13 but i think its not fair how there are lots of walking trails but only one skatepark...

I think that there is a significant need for racquetball courts (indoor and outdoor). it is a relatively cheap sport that may interest a lot of lower income residents.

My grandkids and I miss MUDFEST!!! The newer grandkids have seen the photos and feel left out! \*\* We are thrilled with the new trail to Twin Lakes -- thanks so much!

ICE RINK!! ICE RINK!! ICE RINK!! Youth, adult, and College Hockey players have to go to Jeff City. You are missing out on \$100,000 of ice time expense going to Jeff City plus concessions, public skates, and the possibility of KC and STL teams playing games halfway between their homes. With a local ice arena these programs would grow just because of population alone. Also hotel and restaurant revenue from teams coming in from out of town to play local teams. Mizzou hockey is on the rise and having a local rink would enhance that. Figure skating, speed skating are also additional sports that have to held in Jeff City.

I believe that Columbia parks and rec should spend more of their money to maintain the facilities they currently have and less on building new. For example, use the Audubon building at Martin Luther battle gardens on stadium for education and expo for birds. Don't spend the taxpayer's money and huge donations from 3M on "Urban Ecological Restoration". I use the MKT in that area the most of any parks and rec facility and that is one place you see a lot of wildlife. The reason you could see the deer and turkeys acting natural is because the trail is raised and you look down on it. You don't need PEOPLE walking IN it. Nothing is being restored, only spoiled, and at a huge expense. The money could have been used to keep the docks and slides at twin lakes in a better state of repair as well as clean up the water. I think that when one of Columbia parks and rec facilities lacks a bit of simple maintenance then fewer people use it and then even less attention is given to it. Thus the cycle begins and soon it is dilapidated and subsequently closed. I was at twin lakes with 5 family members one of the set of steps had a screw that had broken and let the board come loose. I notified the life guard and he made sure that

it was roped off with caution tape. that slide and steps never saw use again. I could have fixed all discrepancies in the entire place in a day; instead the answer is to abandon the idea of maintenance all together. Bottom line is a poorly maintained facility is sure to fall short of self sustaining revenue. Spend our tax money as if it were yours. I think an ice rink (indoor or outdoor) would be a great use of Parks and rec funds and if ran properly, it could easily be self sustaining after initial expense of building it Over all I like and enjoy the facilities the Columbia parks and rec and I see need for some new property and facilities as long as they are done with proper consideration not just based solely on want or popularity but with need and practicality in mind.

As an ARC user with a daughter with developmental disabilities we are frequent users of the Family Locker Room. The use of that locker room needs to be monitored better or restricted in some way so that it does not continue to be used as the shortcut to the pool, the alternate lobby restroom, or the locker room of choice of persons looking to either avoid the crowds in the single sex locker rooms or find privacy for inappropriate locker room activities.

I would like to see the Bethel Park playground equipment restored. It is such a nice park and it is sad that someone destroyed the huge playground equipment there. Maybe put cameras on some of your more expensive playground equips at night to help prevent this from happening. There could also be some more goose removal from that park. It is one of our absolute favorites and we also like the small park just off Gillespie Bridge. It would be nice to see a few swings placed there if affordable. We also love Oakland Aquatic area but am concerned with it being in such a bad area of town. It is a wonderful facility. I think for such a large city, you do a great job keeping areas clean and in good repair. We enjoy the parks esp with small children. Stephens is also a great place to walk and play. Our son loves the youth camps every summer.

I think Columbia would benefit from having more Disc Golf facilities available. The number of people joining in on the sport is and has grown significantly over the last 5 years with the sport, as well as it being a game played world wide. There are many times that the courses available are so crowded it is hard to play a round without long waits. We need courses to kind of follow the lines of a compass as in North, South, East, and West courses. The CDGC has proven that it's Mid America tournament brings over 150 players alone. With more courses we could easily offer better tournaments as well as bring some of the supertour events to the area as well as added revenue through what they spend while here. If you think Soccer is big, build some really good disc golf parks and see what happens. World sports bring the most people out of the woods

Lights at the skatepark, please!

I grew up in Springfield. Moved here in my 20s in 1995. We love Columbia because of its dedication to outdoor space and providing opportunities for non-motorized transportation.

The high quality system of parks and trails in Columbia, and the access to high quality recreational facilities and programs is a huge contributor to the wonderful quality of life that we enjoy here. I wish that we had a pool somewhere on the southwest side, especially since we lost the Twin Lakes recreation area. I also continue to hope for an indoor ice skating facility at some point in the future! Keep up the good work Parks and Rec!

The best thing about the Gans Creek is it's wildness. Please don't over develop it.

M grandson is in a hockey league. We compete mainly in the St Louis area and there in door facilities are great. It is a disgrace that the only one in central Missouri is in Jeff City. Even the university of MO has to use that facility for practice and games. Ice time is at a premium and is even used during the night. An ice rink in Columbia certainly would be used. Children travel from many areas in Central Mo just to use the only existing facility in Jefferson City. This activity would be used by families, and hockey leagues. Perhaps a joint program with the University could be a consideration. An indoor ice rink is way past its

time of need and would round out the activities to youths as well as adults. My son even had to go to Warrensburg to play in ice hockey leagues. Please seriously consider my plea.

keep upkeep on parks and trails

Doing a great job.

We are very supportive of allowing dogs on leash to walk with masters on the new Scott Branch Trail and Bonnie View Trail.

I always try and take my kids to the skatepark but it is always super over crowded. Need more skateparks. Lights would be nice too. Every one else gets to still play after the sun goes down. Why not the skaters?

While I don't use a lot of the facilities and available programs, I appreciate all that is available. Since I choose to be car-free, it limits my access to many of the boundary parks, but I enjoy the ones close to home. It'd be nice to have an inner city dog park. And I'd LOVE to see some empty lots turned into community gardens. Thanks!

Columbia has a nice skatepark that my children always want to be taken to, but it is out of the way and so crowded. I think we need more skate parks that are in town more so we can keep an eye better on our children. I think it essential they have lights as well considering how hot it gets during summer months.

really enjoyed treekeepers

Fix up the skateboard park! It's the only place that we're allowed to skate in. :(

I appreciate surveys such as this, and would like more ideas for ongoing comments to be channeled to appropriate forums--the city council members? Parks and rec staff? Having more info about where concerns are best addressed would be nice. ;-) Thanks!

I would love to see Columbia have a indoor and outdoor bike park. Thanks, keep up the good work.

I'm part of the ultimate frisbee community (not disc golf) and would like to see more options for fields/lighted fields.

I am impressed with our system, but a few areas seem to be under the radar. I live next to Againn Street Park and use it the least because it is so poorly maintained and bad people still hang out at night here.

More ramps and obsticals at the skatepark would be great. Seating would make it easier too. Lighting in the evening would draw more people and make me really happy.

Lights for the Cosmo skatepark and maybe an expansion of the park as well as neighborhood skate parks.

Adding an indoor ice arena should be the park district's top priority

Would like more shelters in the dog park area to block sun and wind while watching our dogs and exercising :)

I am very supportive of the installation of lights at the columbia skateboard park at cosmo park. Thanks

Please support skateboarding in all Columbia Parks and trails.

I would like to either see another skatepark or additions to the Cosmo Business Loop one.

BMX Bikes should be allowed at all times in the Skate Park. If the city is worried about safety risks, they should do what the skaters and bikers have wanted for years and put up lights and extend the parks hours. We could then have separate hours to use the skate park. It is costly, but the skate park would see more regular use.

Why race and sex is at the end of this survey or on it at all.. you should be ashamed. I'm a white 21 year old, but my voice should not be heard over someone who is just as concerned about the park facilities they make use of. Our country is still struggling with gender, class, and racial divides and it won't improve with those questions still being slapped onto surveys. Equal rights. Equal voices. Period.

While there seems to be abundant empty Basketball and tennis courts every where, there is only one skatepark the is always dangerously over crowded. Except this time of year when it is dark before we even get the chance to go. Need lights and more accessible skateparks.

love going to the skate park but notice some people just drop their kids off n leave they cuss and i have seen the teenagers drink or smoke and some are rude to the younger kids, they ride bikes until they see the park ranger it needs to be checked on more or have someone watch it close to see what they do just dress in reg clothes and go see what they do

Question #25 - is it wanting to know if I "live" within Columbia city limits? That is what I assumed.

I was born and raised in Columbia, and only live an hour away at Lake of the Ozarks. I visit my home town often and have all my close friends and family still there. These issues are very important to me as I care about the city and still take part in the community.

I would love to see the skate park worked on and more water fountains to prevent over heating!!

My boys love to skate at our park and if we had more skate terrain with lights they would visit more often. The skate park has brought much joy into their lives and has given them a great source of exercise. Maybe even an indoor skate facility so they could skate during rain, snow, excessive heat.

Please consider putting lights at the skatepark. My son and his friends love to skateboard and putting lights at the park will give them a positive athletic sport to do in the evenings. Thank you.

Our family is looking forward to more development of the Philips Lake/Gans Creek area, and any way to connect to that area with biking trails.

Like what your doing with the survey Have a good day

PARKS & REC NEEDS TO SHOW MORE FLEXIBILITY AND CREATIVITY. IN EXAMPLE, LAST YEAR OFFERED "E" LEAGUE IN MEN'S SOFTBALL. WHEN ONLY TWO OR THREE TEAMS SIGNED UP, CANCELLED OPTION. INSTEAD SHOULD HAVE APPROACHED WEAKER TEAMS FROM PREVIOUS "D" LEAGUE TO FILL "E" AS OFFERED. THIS SURVEY NEEDS A "PREVIOUS PAGE " FUNCTION. I HAD ANOTHER COMMENT BASED ON EARLIER QUESTION AND NOW CAN'T REMEMBER IT (SEE AGE GROUP!)

Cosmo skate park would be more utilized and we would come to Columbia more often if we had the option to use the park at night. We love to eat at some of the great restaurants in town as well as support MU.

I am very interested in the growing sport of skateboarding as all my boys skateboard. I do have a hard time getting them to the skatepark in the hours of daylight often, and there definitely is no place for them

to skateboard near our house. Though i would like other things such as golf courses and tennis courts for myself and my husband, i realize that there are plenty of those. The boys often complain that park was so crowded they were afraid to skate. They also complain that they only get to skate for an hour of daylight and wish the park had lights. If their skatepark had lights, they could get in extra hours of exercise like all the other boys playing on columbia fields or parks. Thank you

I live in the Cascades subdivision. Many of my neighbors would use the park more if there was a shelter that provided more shade. It is a tiny shelter and if more than one family is there seeking shade, it's a tight fit. Other than that, we love the park!

more indoor and outdoor multi use sports facilities; support COMOPOLO!

I'd like P&R to develop more multi-purpose courts, much like the hockey court at Cosmo. Two would be ideal, and lights on one or both of them would be incredible. It's hard to make use of that court at Cosmo during the winter months because there's such little sunshine after work hours. Lights there would be ideal, too. So more multi-use courts and lights would be the best. I understand the budget is what it is, but these things being a priority would thrill me as a Columbia resident and spur interest in activities designed for these courts, such as bike polo (my sport of choice).

A new skatepark in my area would be very beneficial. There are tons of skaters and they mostly skate in the street. I think if we got a new skatepark out here, it would be safer for them.

The skatepark needs lights!!!!!!! And needs more park, it get sooooo crowded and is dangerous! It's super important that you guys add lights because in the winter time it gets dark at 5 and there is no time to skate and in the summer usually it's too hot to skate until later at night.

I would love to see a new skate park made or an expansion on the current one. The park is dated, and it's time for an upgrade. An improved park would greatly benefit the skateboarders in Columbia, but also throughout the rest of Missouri, as there are not very many quality parks in the state. An addition of lights would also greatly help for park usage, especially through all the summer months when it is almost too hot to be skating in the sun. In general, skateboarders are fairly responsible (for mostly teenage boys), and are good at self-policing.

Build more Skatepark facilities

skatepark improvements expansion and lights

skateboarding is a fun and very fulfilling sport, but it makes it so much more entertaining, and safe when skateboarders have more, and better places to pursue this passion for thier hobby.

please add lights and new terrain to the skateboard park, its always crowdred and columbia should be the best scene for skaters in missouri.

I would like if there was lights at the cosmo skatepark so people could skate longer in the fall and winter seasons when the sun sets earlier.

I would like to see more skateboard parks. I can play basketball or tennis throughout Columbia, why not skateparks? Skate plazas or downtown parks, south side parks or any additional parks. Thanks

The skate park at cosmo is a decent facility but there is just not enough room it is almost always over crowded an i dont feel comfortable for my safety or my children safety becauase we are always in danger of getting run over. so more skatepark would be the best and some lights aswell for the winter season when it gets dark so early so we have a place to skate. over all decent park but overcrowded more skatepark is needed!

I WOULD LOVE A ICE RINK IN THIS CITY!!!!!!

Look at Cosmo park and find the dark spot next to the large amount of lit baseball fields and you find the skatepark. Wouldn't you rather see kids at the skatepark at night rather than on the streets.

the skateboard park needs lights, a pool, and more seating in the shaded areas

It would be amazing too see a skateboard facility in a better part of town, I would feel more comfortable letting my children attend! Also the lighting factor at current skateboard park makes me feel uncomfortable, thanks for all you do!

1. Lights for the skate park/hockey rink. 2. Bikes should be allowed to use the skate park during specified hours. Thank you for making this survey.

Would love to see an indoor multi-use facility that could host such things as Roller Derby! Needing only 40,000 square feet of playing area with no poles would be a dream! Thank you for your consideration!

I would like to see bathroom facilities along the longer trails. And at each parking lot, at the very least.

I would like to know more ways to find out what activities are going on and where. I frequently stumble onto things but would have loved to plan for them, I'm not sure of the best resource to find out about the activities.

please consider improving, expanding and PUTTING UP SOME LIGHTS at cosmo skatepark. it would be much appreciated.

i think the skatepark needs to be bigger and it also needs some lights and i feel that the city should construct a hand ball court at an existing park, i know people who would love a handball court. Thanks

We drove from the Kansas City area. Skatepark was great. Problem was that it is overcrowded and needs lights installed to accommodate everyone.

My family loves to visit the skate park. We frequently get together with my inlaws and spend time there. I feel that often we cut our visits short due to the fact that is often overly crowded and it is inconvenient for us to spend time helping our small children learn due to the overwhelming amount of people. I would love it if there were to be more space for all the visitors.

Due to the 10 + years of sustained popularity I would urge improvements to the skatepark at Cosmo Park as well as additional skateboard facilities in Columbia.

I would urge you to consider improvements and additional facilities for skateboarding in the parks.

avid bike polo player and member of COMOPOLO. love the cosmo hockey facility, but cannot use it after dark. also would love to be allowed to ride bikes on the skatepark facility.

Please build a new indoor olympic size swimming pool. Please allow metal detecting in city parks.

The skatepark really needs some lights so our kids can see at night and also could expand the times that the park could be used during summer and when it gets darker earlier. I really think after 10 or so years that the park hasn't had lights and every other field has lights is a downside to its full potential. Thanks so much for your services and call to public duty! I envy you guys so much to help the community and thanks again. Have a great day!

development of indoor pools and recreation facilities are a must for the city to move forward, to attract new uses and have places for all age groups to go and be part of a variety of sports- swimming, basketball, racquet ball etc.

please add lights to the skatepark

I would like to see more sturdy park benches throughout the parks and baseball fields. The bleachers in Douglas Park were so tiny and low setting, that adults could not enjoy the game. I would love a community park similar to the Peace Park on the MU campus.

Columbia really needs to look at it's swimming facilities. For a City this size, it is embarrassing that the only pool that is fit for a real swimming competition is that owned by the Univ. of MO. Columbia is really missing out on what is really one of the best, both physically & mentally, sports activities for children, teens & adults, Swimming!!! We have a really good club swim program but it is almost ignored by the city administrators and media. Hopefully with the revamping of the high school swimming coaching staff residents will begin to see the importance of this sport.

Just wanted to say THANK YOU - I think your parks are beautiful and a special thanks to the work done in Wilson (Rockhill) park. I have used it since 1996 and the trails now are safe and fantastic. I would love to see access to Cliff Drive park in the future. Thanks! Keep up the good work!

we need lights at the skatepark!! We also ask that we get an extension because the park gets extremely over crowded

Need additional skatepark/expand the current one; lights at the skate park

I would like the March Drystore torn down and the little neighborhood park at Wilkes and Rangeline enhanced after removal. I understand Columbia College will NOT consider acquiring that property. Columbia P & R is doing a great job. Especially the commissioners. :-)

**Total: 337**