

# PARKS AND PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MINUTES

November 29, 2022

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## **In Attendance**

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Councilman Isiah Hester, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 4:09 p.m. in the Assembly Room of the John P. Franklin, Sr. City Council Building. A quorum was present that also included Council Chair Darrin Ledford, Vice Chair Raquetta Dotley, and Councilpersons Chip Henderson, Carol Berz, Demetrus Coonrod, and Marvene Noel. Councilpersons Jenny Hill and Ken Smith were not present.

Other participants present were Phil Noblett, Interim City Attorney, and Keren Campbell, Council Support Specialist. Recorder for this meeting was Kyana Grady, Administrative Assistant.

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## **Others in Attendance**

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Parks and Outdoors: Scott Martin, Administrator.

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## **Approval of Minutes**

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**On motion of Chairman Ledford** and seconded by Vice Chair Dotley, the minutes of the last meeting (November 15, 2022) were approved as published.

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## **Ordinances (First Reading) – Agenda Items 6H**

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This item had been discussed at previous open meetings. Upon no questions or comments, the issue was closed.

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## **Resolutions - Agenda Item 7E – 7H**

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These items had been discussed at previous open meeting. Upon no questions or comments, the issues were closed.

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## **Chattanooga Parks and Outdoor Plan**

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Councilman Hester opened the floor to a presentation which included information from Mr. Martin on the following topics:

- Photo of Central Park (NYC)
- What If We Get It Right?
- History of Parks
- What's Next?
- Parks & Outdoors System Principles
- Plans Vision
- Outreach So Far
- Current Park Use
- Current Park Barriers
- 25 Year Vision

- Condition of Parks
- Existing Park and Greenways
- Solution
- Types of Parks
- Top of the Pop
- Timeline

After the presentation, Mr. Martin addressed the following questions and comments:

- Chairman Ledford
  - Expression of Gratitude
  - Increasing Partnerships with Agencies
  - Relationship with the County/ Enterprise South
- Councilwoman Coonrod
  - History within Parks
  - Access to All
  - Future Endeavors
- Councilwoman Berz
  - Diversity in Parks
  - Budget Information Request
- Councilman Hester
  - Expression of Gratitude

Upon no further questions or comments, the issue was closed.

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## **Adjournment**

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There being no further business, Councilman Hester adjourned the meeting at 4:44 p.m.

*Attachment: Chattanooga Parks and Outdoors Plan*

**GREAT CITIES  
HAVE  
GREAT PARKS**



Chattanooga  
PARKS & OUTDOORS

Recreation  
Division



PRESENTS

MIDNIGHT BASKETBALL  
SATURDAY NIGHTS

AT THE HOWARD SCHOOL

BOYS AND GIRLS 13-18

SIGN UP TODAY!  
LIMITED TEAMS



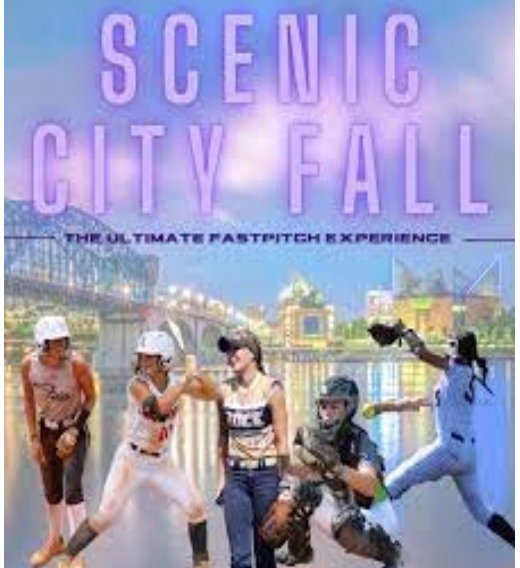
CONTACT RICHARD WEST  
423-643-6055  
RWEST@CHATTANOOGA.GOV  
SECURITY PROVIDED



Chattanooga  
PARKS & OUTDOORS



CHATTANOOGA, TN  
SEPT 10 & 11  
THE MOON RIVER  
MUSIC FESTIVAL  
PRESENTED BY  
DREW HOLCOMB & THE NEIGHBORS









# T Y O F C H A T T A N O O



*Laibson Whitaker*

WHAT IS YOUR

# VISION

FOR CHATTANOOGA'S PARKS AND OUTDOORS?

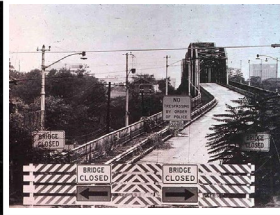
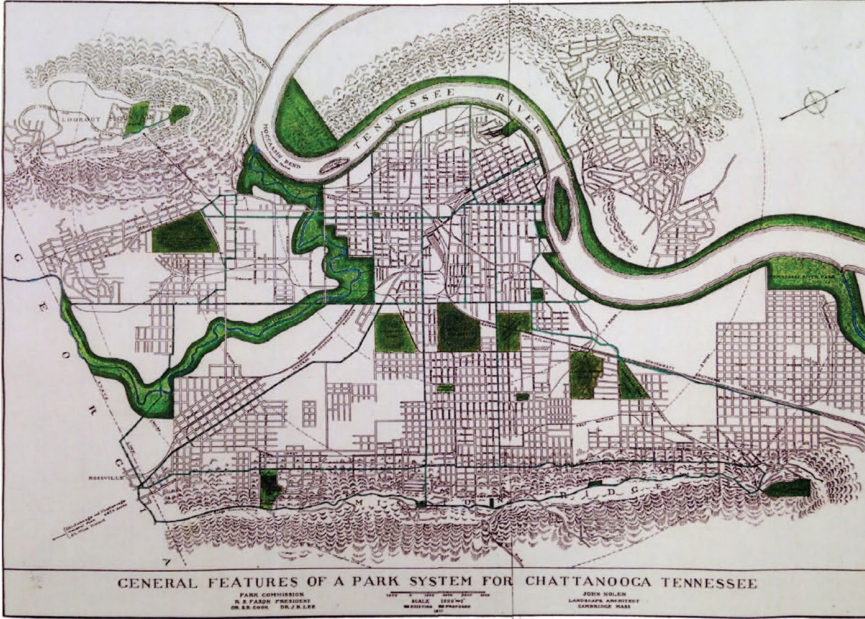
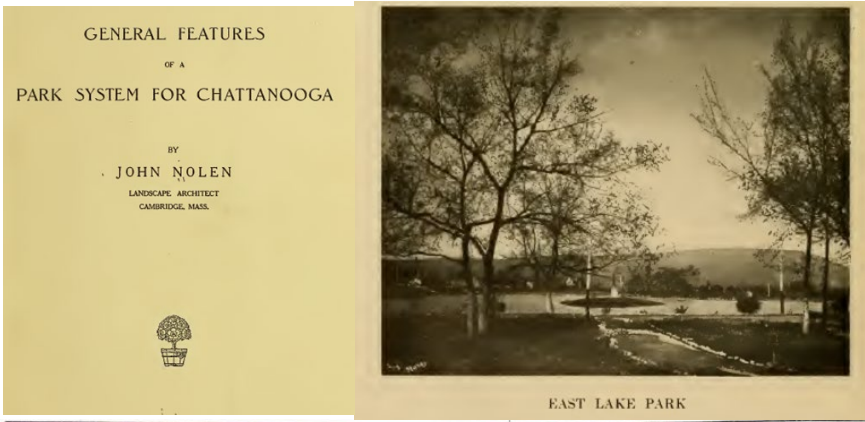


Learn more about the state of Chattanooga's parks and outdoors and take the online survey : [www.chattanoogaparksandoutdoorsplan.com](http://www.chattanoogaparksandoutdoorsplan.com)





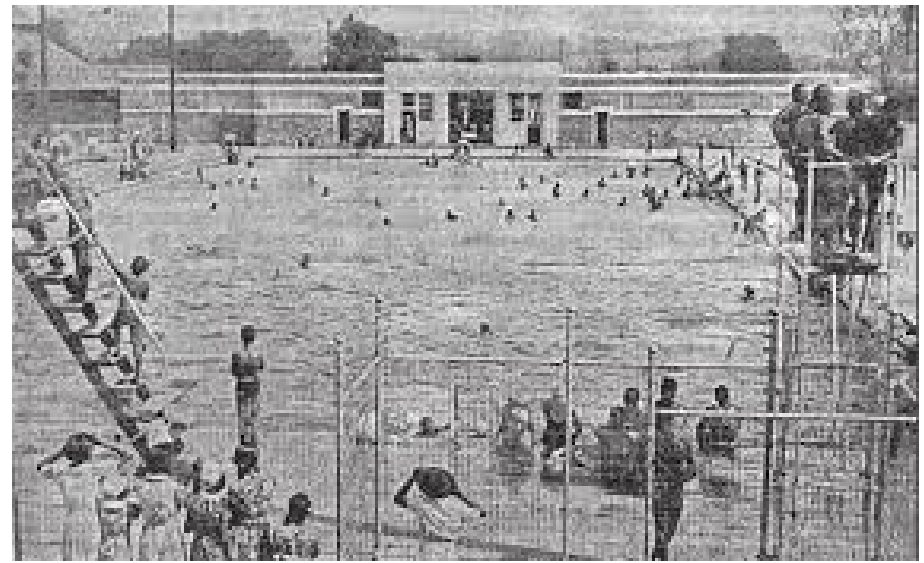
**WHAT IF WE GET IT  
RIGHT?**





Left: Carol Lynne Brinkley standing in front of Ferris wheel and carousel at Lincoln Park.

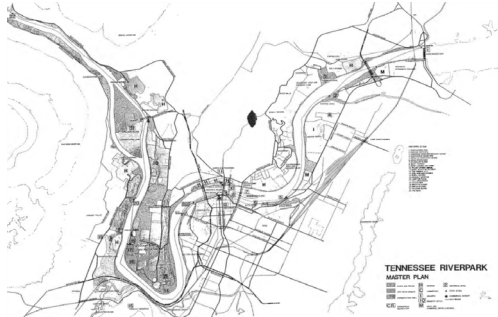
Below: Chattanooga's Roland Hayes Rosenwald School



Above: Lincoln Park Olympic-sized swimming pool in the 1950s



Above: Booker T Washington State Park



## Master Plan

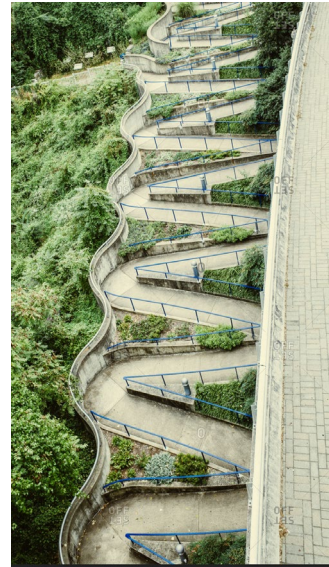
Prepared for the  
Moccasin Bend Task Force  
of the  
Chattanooga/Hamilton  
County Regional Planning  
Commission

By  
Carr, Lynch Associates, Inc.  
Cambridge, Massachusetts

In association with  
Economic Research Associates  
Hensley-Schmidt, Inc.  
Robert Morris

March, 1985

# TENNESSEE RIVERPARK: CHATTANOOGA



# Parks & Outdoors System PRINCIPLES



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EQUITY



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QUALITY



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ACCESS



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PLACE



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NATURE

# Chattanooga Parks & Outdoors Plan Vision

Chattanooga will be a 'city in a park,' where all residents have:

- Just and equitable access to breathtaking natural scenery and rich cultural heritage that is accessible and enjoyable for all.
- Clean and beautiful waterways
- Iconic signature parks
- Authentic and welcoming neighborhood parks
- A greenway and blueway system that knits the whole city together.

# OUTREACH SO FAR

4 - - - 225 - - 1,400 - - - 12 - - -

STEERING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

JUNE COMMUNITY WORKSHOP ATTENDEES

ONLINE SURVEY NO. 1 RESPONSES

FACILITATED FOCUS GROUPS

350 - - - 13 - - - 26 - - - 3,500 - - -

PARK LISTENER INTERVIEWS

NEIGHBORHOOD MEETINGS & POP-UPS

'MEETING IN A BOX' REQUESTS

SURVEYS MAILED TO HOUSEHOLDS

13,200 - - - 100 - - - 560 - - - →

PAGE VIEWS ON POP WEBSITE, STORYMAP AND VIRTUAL WORKSHOP

OCTOBER COMMUNITY WORKSHOP ATTENDEES

SURVEY NO. 2 AND VIRTUAL WORKSHOP RESPONSES

## Current Park Use

62%

of respondents use local parks at least several times per month

The three most popular uses are:



61%

Paved walking/  
biking trails



41%

Unpaved  
walking/biking  
trails



27%

Playgrounds

## 25-Year Vision

Thinking about how the POP could impact what Chattanooga's parks and outdoors look like in 25 years, what is most important to you?



50%

Environmental  
health, natural  
resources



48%

High-quality  
and connected  
greenways



48%

Residents'  
health and  
wellness



47%

Neighborhood  
parks

## Current Park Barriers

What keeps you from using Chattanooga parks and outdoors more often?

Hard to find information	26%
Not enough parking	21%
Hard to reach by foot/bike	18%
Don't feel safe	17%
Not interested in current amenities/activities	16%
Activities/events aren't offered at convenient times	13%
Quality doesn't meet expectations	13%
Don't feel welcome	7%
Amenities/activities I want aren't affordable	7%



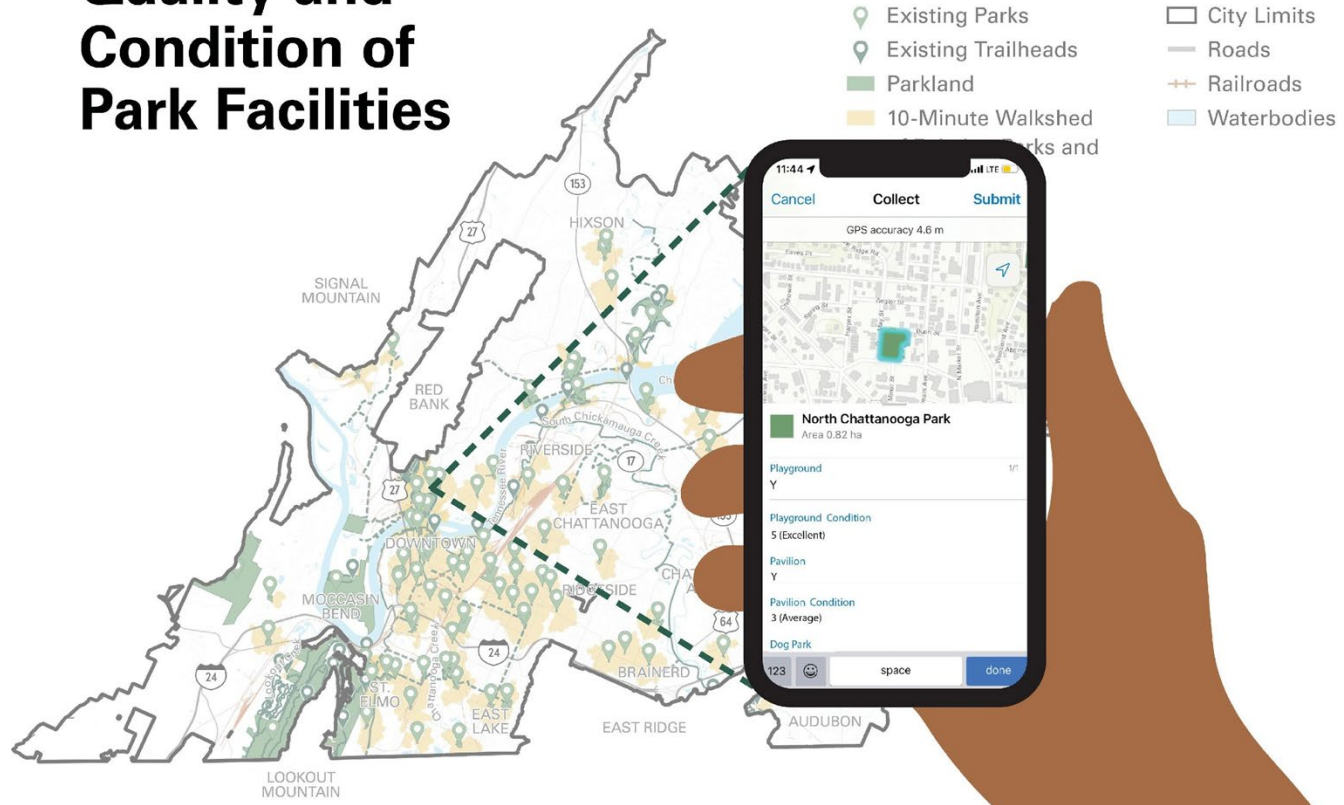
# CONDITION OF PARKS

## Quality and Condition of Park Facilities



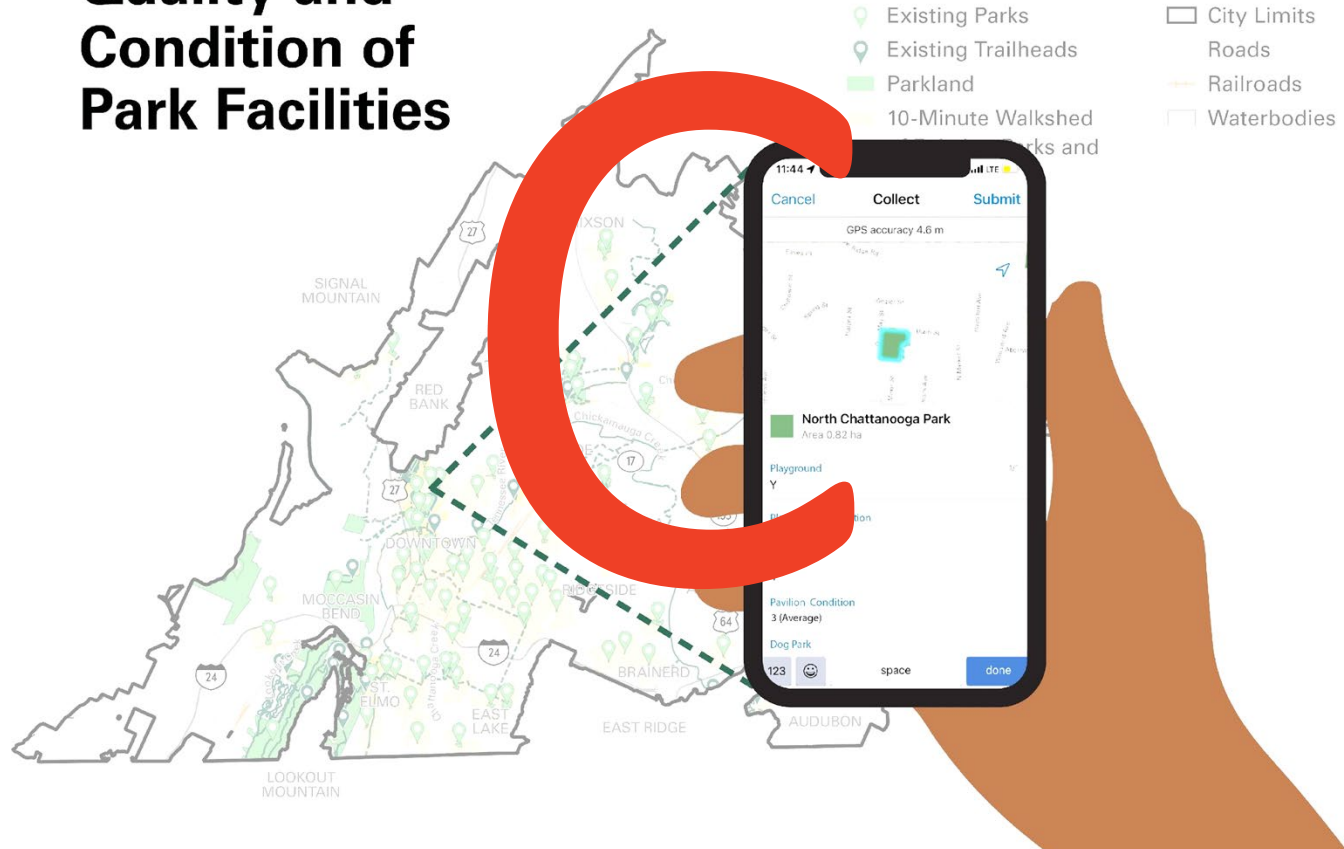
# CONDITION OF PARKS

## Quality and Condition of Park Facilities



# CONDITION OF PARKS

## Quality and Condition of Park Facilities



# EXISTING PARKS & GREENWAYS

Chattanooga  
Today\*

National Average\*\*

6.0

park acres per  
1,000 residents

10.4

park acres per  
1,000 residents

Chattanooga Today\*

~900 acres

How to fill the gap today?

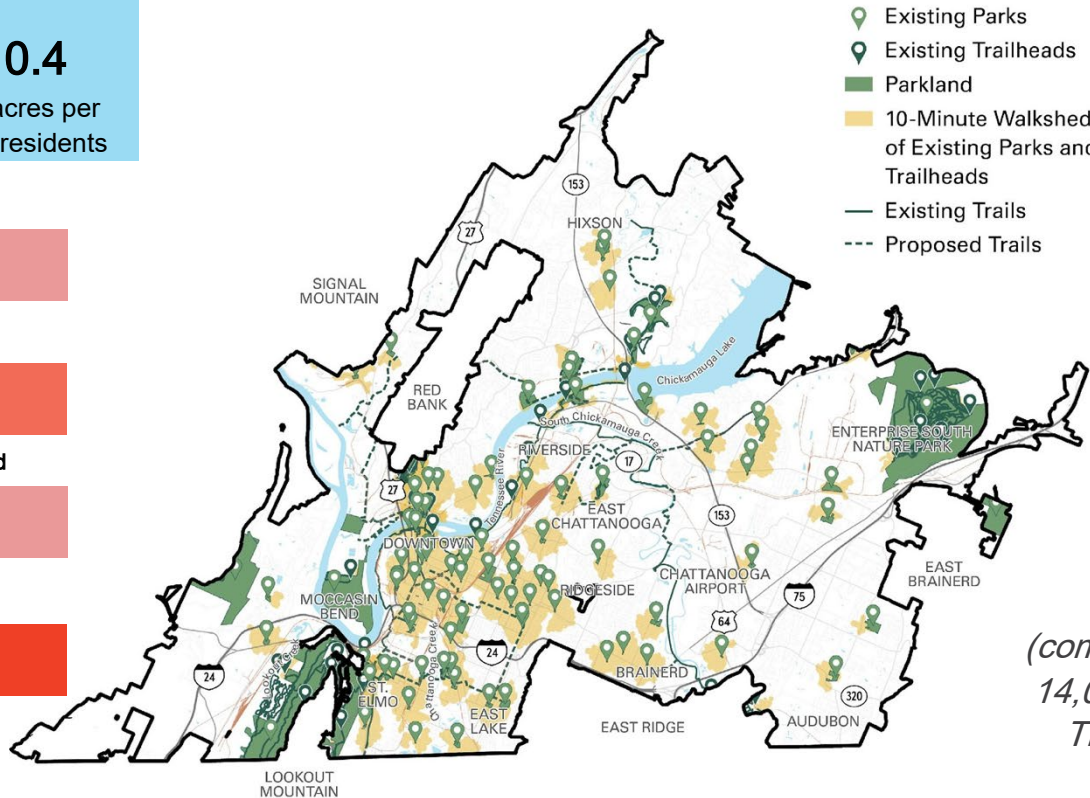
+644 acres

Suitable City -Owned Vacant Land

~550 acres

How to fill the gap in 2050?\*\*\*

+1,423 acres



35%

of Chattanooga  
live within a  
10-minute walk of a  
park or trailhead

(compared to 55% across the  
14,000 cities and towns in the  
TPL ParkServe database)

\* City-owned parks

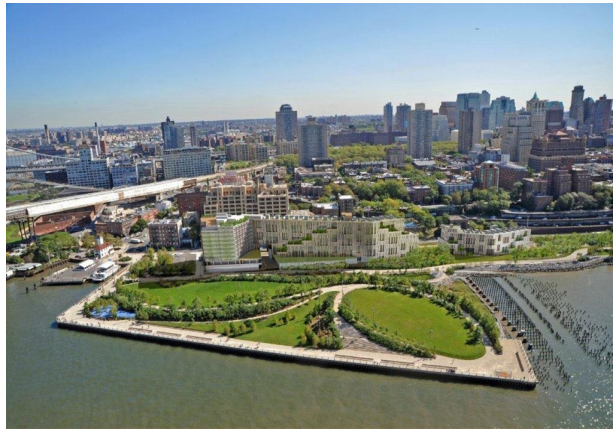
\*\* Based on national median figures from  
National Recreation and Parks Association

\*\*\* Based on population projections from the  
Regional Planning Association

# Solution

**Shape the City Through  
Systemic, Rational,  
Predictable Park Network**





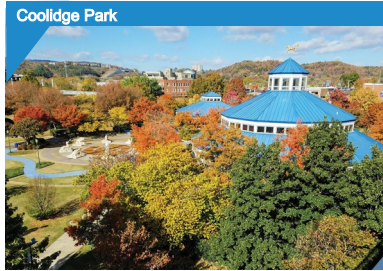




# TYPES OF PARKS

## Signature Park

Parks that are unique and serve the whole community in addition to tourists. These parks belong to everyone, bring people together at community-wide events, and promote economic development.



## Neighborhood Park

Relatively small parks located in residential neighborhoods, with amenities selected and designed to reflect their neighborhoods' characteristics and needs.



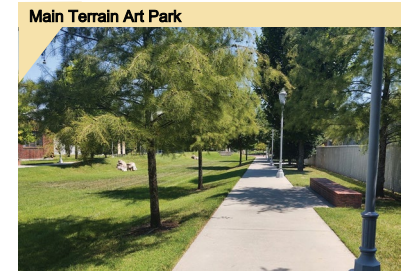
## Preserve

Parks with protected natural scenery and unique features, with outdoor recreational opportunities and environmental benefits for people across the city and region.



## Pocket Park

Parks that are tucked into urban or neighborhood contexts, offering passersby a break from their immediate surroundings and a place to engage with art, gardens or nature.



## Community Park

Parks that meet the day-to-day park and recreational needs of Chattanooga—with facilities such as community centers, play structures and sports fields that serve diverse needs and interests.



## Special Use Facilities

Parks with amenities that serve specific types of recreational users from across the region—such as soccer teams, disc golf players and skateboarders.



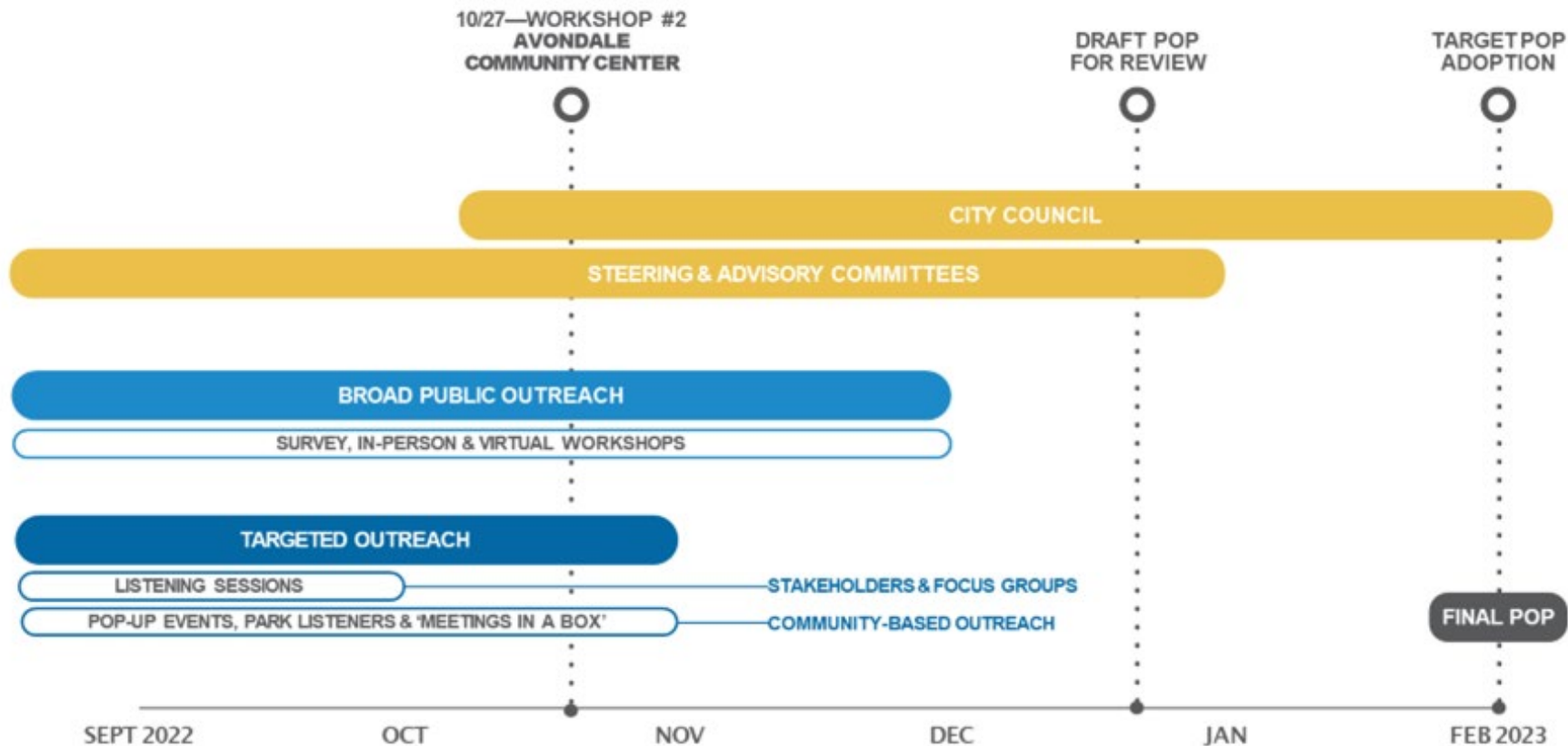




# TOP OF THE POP

- 1 **Initiate a neighborhood park initiative** to upgrade existing parks, add new parks to serve underserved populations, setting aside land in anticipation of population growth and development
- 2 Continue to invest in Signature Parks **as essential for Chattanooga's regional economy and iconic identity.**
- 3 **Build safe greenways and trailheads** to put 55% of residents within a 10-minute walk of the park and outdoor system
- 4 Sustain **healthy urban ecological systems** and protect our **shared cultural landscapes and stories.**
- 5 Make rapid targeted improvements and create partnerships that **improve the quality of, and activity in, existing parks** serving our most vulnerable communities and residents.
- 6 Dedicate adequate resources to care for high quality public parks that are well loved, and well used.

# [www.ChattanoogaParksandOutdoorsPlan.com](http://www.ChattanoogaParksandOutdoorsPlan.com)



**Reflections, Conversations,  
Curiosities, Homework  
Assignments**

WHAT IS YOUR

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