



Parks and Recreation Comprehensive Master Plan Development Summary



May 2003	Park District and Village of Oak Park agree to cooperatively develop a Parks and Recreation Master Plan.
June 2003	Bids are opened, 4 consulting firms are interviewed, and Leisure Vision of Olathe, Kansas, a nationally recognized consulting firm, is selected by a joint Village and Park District staff committee to develop the Parks and Recreation Comprehensive Plan.
September 2003	<p>In order to provide opportunities for key decision makers, stakeholders, community organizations, and the general public to have early input regarding the Master Planning process, Leisure Vision conducts 31 individual Stakeholder Interviews, seven Focus Groups and two Public Forums.</p> <p>The Park District of Oak Park and Village of Oak Park jointly appoint 11 resident volunteers to the Park District Citizen Committee with 2 alternates. The PDCC holds their first meeting.</p>
October 2003	Leisure Vision presents a Strategic Directions Workshop to report the findings of the stakeholder interviews, focus groups and public forums to the PDCC, Village of Oak Park, and Park District of Oak Park. Four priorities are identified including: funding, citizen priorities/needs, governance, and a unified approach/intent among governmental entities.
November 2003	<p>A Community Survey subcommittee is formed to oversee the development and distribution of the survey.</p> <p>A Benchmark Subcommittee is formed to identify communities that are similar to Oak Park who will receive benchmark surveys.</p>
December 2003	The PDCC, Park District, Village and Leisure Vision work cooperatively to develop the community survey and a benchmark survey. The selection of benchmark communities is finalized.
January 2004	<p>Leisure Vision mails community surveys to 3,500 residents and benchmark surveys to 18 park and recreation agencies in the Midwest. Leisure Vision guarantees a response rate of 800 community surveys.</p> <p>Governance Subcommittee is formed to evaluate 4 governance models provided by Leisure Vision.</p>
February 2004	<p>Leisure Vision presents information regarding governance structures and best practices to representatives from the PDCC, Park District and Village. Additionally, Leisure Vision presents the preliminary results of the citizen survey based on 802 responses.</p> <p>The Governance Subcommittee meets with Park District and Village representatives to discuss the current joint Park District/Village intergovernmental agreement. The Subcommittee receives a list of 15 criteria of successful community parks and recreation organizations from Leisure Vision. By reviewing and ranking the criteria, the Subcommittee establishes a list of the most important criteria for successful community parks and recreation here in Oak Park. They evaluate each of the 4 governance models, provided by Leisure Vision, based on this list of criteria.</p> <p>An Interior Spaces Subcommittee is organized to evaluate current Oak Park facilities and parks and recreation trends.</p>
March 2004	A total of 827 citizen surveys are received.
April 2004	<p>Leisure Vision presents preliminary results to representatives from the PDCC, Park District and Village from the 13 benchmarking surveys completed and returned.</p> <p>A conference call between Leisure Vision and members of the Governance Subcommittee takes place to review evaluation criteria and governance models.</p>
May 2004	<p>Leisure Vision presents information to the PDCC, Park District and Village regarding interior spaces issues.</p> <p>A Communications Subcommittee is formed to develop a communications plan to inform the public of the Comprehensive Plan Final Report.</p>