

Mission's Parks, Recreation + Tree Commission Priorities and Recommendations 2024

Top Priorities

1. Future Project Budgeting, Fundraising, and Grant Applications
 - Community Engagement:
 - Expand and advertise opportunities for community members and businesses to financially support Parks and Recreation projects
 - Consider corporate sponsors to expedite improvement projects
 - Broadmoor Park Funding and Grant Options
 - Consider applying for Kansas Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant
 - City-Wide Trail Connections and Accessibility
 - Build upon recent design projects that safely connects residents to city parks and business district as well as neighboring communities
 - Rock Creek Corridor trail upgrades including storm-water management, way-finding and cohesive access to trail from neighborhoods, businesses, and Mission Market
2. Maintenance
 - Provide needed annual city budget funding to support current and future parks and facility maintenance, staffing operations, annual tree trimming, and capital expenditures
 - Maintain current structures, parks, trails, tree canopy, amenities, playgrounds, and all facilities
 - Every Park Every Year: Include each park in yearly capital improvement projects
 - Staffing of Parks & Rec Department
 - Sustaining a sufficient team is a high priority
 - Recommend one additional full time staff member
 - Recommend retention strategies (with emphasis on seasonal/part-time staff) including competitive pay
3. Park Engagement, Experience, and Education
 - Secure more City of Mission social media postings for PRT Commission Activities and Programs (Arbor Day events, Champion Tree, Celebration Tree, etc.) and Community Events
 - Public art installations
 - Locations: Mohawk and Water Works Parks
 - Consider existing structures for murals
 - Native landscaping that supports plant diversity, pollinators, and sustainable water management e.g. rain gardens, drought resistant plants, and perennials
 - Include interactive play and educational features for all ages and abilities

Commission Tasks and Goals

- Update the Tree Plan, due April 1, 2024
- Yearly addition of Tree I.D. Plaques
- Research community opportunities for partnerships to establish and maintain landscaping and gardens (Master Gardeners, volunteer groups, and butterfly and pollinator gardens)
- Investigate feasibility of a dog park and plan for Streamway Park

Areas for Continued Support and Growth

- Support Water Works Park Project Completion
- Support Mohawk Park Phase II Completion
- Continue partnership with schools via programs including the Arbor Day Poster Contest
- Continue to emphasize accessibility and inclusion and consider language diversity
- Birch Park and Cross Roads Plaza distinction and appreciation