



Goals - Fiscal Year 2020-21

“The Mission of the Worth Park District is to offer our residents opportunities to enjoy life through quality programs, services, and facilities”

Agency

- To offer quality recreation programs and services for all ages.
- To continue the Park District’s commitment to updating and improving all parks and facilities.
- To continue to provide areas with play and recreational value that are safe and suitable for all users.
- To continue to strive to provide outstanding customer service that meet residents’ expectations and requests.
- To continue the commitment of safety training as a priority for employees and their development in implementing safety practices in their jobs.
- To continue the commitment to responsibly and appropriately acquire Altman Park for the purpose of improving park and recreation services to its residents; and to continue to achieve the goal of meeting the NRPA standards for park acreage based on population.
- To continue to maintain and improve the Park District’s internal and external communication to the community.
- To continue sound and ethical financial practices.
- Identify financial funding sources for the Park District (i.e. sponsors, donors, grants).
- Maintain safe parks and facilities.
- Develop improved external relationships with special interest groups.
- Invest in staff and board continued education and/or development opportunities.
- To provide and continue to provide a work environment that is comfortable and free of harassment.
- To make environmentally conscious decisions regarding parks and facilities.
- Continue to work towards being an “accident-free” workplace.
- To continue to be a member agency of the South West Special Recreation Association (SWSRA); and support its mission of serving individuals with special needs.

Administration/Finance

Long Term (2-5 years)

- Successful passing of a referendum to support operations and improvements.
- Consistent use of excess Corporate and Recreation funds for capital development purposes.
- Conduct leadership training and provide staff training in leadership topics.
- Evaluate and revise employee performance evaluation tools and training program.
- Develop core competencies for leadership positions and provide training development program.
- Continue to update files, maps, surveys, etc. of all park sites.

Short Term (1 year)

- Begin grassroots approach and identifying capital needs for a referendum.
- All full-time staff to become CPRP certified.
- To assist with the Worth Parks Foundation in becoming a viable organization in the community.
- Continue educational opportunities (HR/Finance) to improve position.
- Continue the development of new ideas to get staff involved within the workplace.
- Build stronger relationships with employees from other districts to see what ideas and concepts they succeed with, and possibly apply to the Worth Park District.
- To combine recreation program and facility rental registration into one system.
- Continue to research methods of efficiency in presenting financial data and reporting.
- Establish a closer working relationship with the School District Administration and staff, along with other units of local government. Meet informally with each unit at least once per year.
- Paint the Front Office, Gymnasium and RAS/Tot Lot hallway.
- Start a new newsletter for all staff and Board.
- Evaluate effectiveness of All-Staff training by conducting a survey following training session.
- Utilize office space adjacent to lunchroom.
- To continue the process that will guide the Park District in renewing its Distinguished Park and Recreation Accreditation in 2025.

Recreation

Long Term (2-5 years)

- Offer online registration for programs and special events.
- Continue to develop methods to connect with and deliver services to diverse markets.
- Update carpeting in RAS room.
- Establish softball/baseball leagues to utilize ballfields.
- Offer new hands-on/educational programs and events.
- Create co-op early childhood/youth/teen programs with surrounding Park Districts to help enrollment numbers grow.
- Attend a conference or educational opportunities that are focused on more specific areas in Recreation (ex. Athletic Business Conference)
- Update tables/electronic systems in RAS room.
- Partner with more local businesses for marketing opportunities.
- Increase all Recreation staff involvement in programming and events.
- Update RecTrac to utilize the facility management tool.
- Installation of a Splash Park.
- Update the structures and flooring in the Indoor Playground.
- Increase Tot Lot time by ½ hour.

Short Term (1 year)

- Upgrade current registration software or replace it with a new software program that incorporates facility rentals.
- Continue to offer quality programs and events.
- Create an effective marketing plan that involves all full-time/permanent part-time recreation employees.
- Continue District-wide training of all employees (i.e. safety, sexual harassment, interviewing basics for supervisors, managers, non-supervisory employees).
- All RAS and Day Camp staff to be trained for severe weather and active shooter events.
- Offer more outside activities/games.
- Offer healthy snacks/drinks (less processed/sugary foods and drinks).
- Improve advertising strategies for classes/events.
- Improve attendance of programs and events.
- Utilize RecTrac more as a marketing tool (i.e. email blasts, contacting past participants).
- Increase youth enrichment programs and enrollment (cooking, hands-on experiences).
- Receive more sponsorships from local businesses to support youth programs and leagues.
- Create more diverse programs for adults (i.e. cooking, language classes, dance classes).
- Hold a variety of input meetings before each seasonal brochure.
- Yearly Fire/Tornado and Active Shooter Drill for Preschool.
- Increase facility rental revenues by a minimum of 10%.

Parks

Long Term (2-5 years)

- Continuous work to update site amenities (i.e. playgrounds, fencing, turf, benches, etc.)
- Improve the abilities of staff - initiative/skills/training.
- Continued management classes through PDRMA/NRPA/IPRA.
- Continue to attain certifications (i.e. IL Pesticide Licensing; CPSI; CPRP).
- Pursuit of grants for capital improvement projects, when available.
- Stahlak Park Site Development - development of area with site amenities to meet needs of users. (i.e. Dog Park).
- Continue improvements and maintenance to the Veterans Memorial Park.
- Construction of new parks maintenance facility.
- For the Parks Department to provide input in the maintenance facility design and construction.
- Develop plan to install aesthetic landscaping at parks.
- Develop habitat areas for native plants and animals.
- Remove Fields 2 and 3 at Peaks Park and utilize space for other athletic activities (ie. soccer, football).
- Renovate Peaks Park Skate Park.
- Remove “at-risk” trees from Gale Moore Park to prevent hazards and damage.
- Update playground equipment.

Short Term (1 year)

- To continue department meetings for good communication and transparency.
- Develop a recycling program.
- Accident/Injury Free Year
- Increased attendance of professional development (PDRMA/IPRA/NRPA) for front line employees.
- Maintain PDRMA standards in line with the Loss Control Review process.
- Continue to attain certifications appropriate for the Parks and Recreation field. Both front line employees and management: (i.e. IL Pesticide Licensing; CPRP; CPSI).
- Improve or devise cost appropriate solutions to improve the maintenance of specialized equipment/motor vehicles.
- Continue to monitor ADA regulations through the Park District’s ADA Transition Plan.
- Maintain safe parks and facilities.
- Review RecTrac facility rental and park reservations on a weekly basis to prevent potential ongoing scheduling conflicts and plan maintenance assistance accordingly.
- Continue to work with PDRMA to update/maintain the Park District’s safety standards to comply with OSHA.
- Replace F-150 truck.
- Develop a tree planting program.
- Install ADA ramp at Peaks Park playground.
- Declutter bus barn and install shelving units to fit needs and maintain a clean area.