

O'Fallon Parks and Recreation Vision

Values

Community—Determine, evaluate and strive to meet and exceed the expectations of the community.

Communication—Provide open and honest communication with all stakeholders.

Quality Services—Deliver effective parks, facilities and programs that meet or exceed our community's needs.

Innovation—Lead the way in concepts that improve the user experience.

Mission

To enrich the quality of life through People, Parks and Programs and remain one of the premier park and recreation destinations within the greater St. Louis area and the state of Missouri.

Vision

Be recognized as an indispensable community asset and key element in maintaining O'Fallon as one of the best places to live.

Background

The City of O'Fallon has strong community spirit and public support for its parks and recreation programs and services. We believe that our city parks, open spaces, recreation facilities, and programs are key elements to creating a livable, dynamic and economically vibrant city. Furthermore, the values, and mission of Parks and Recreation are vital aspects of the City of O'Fallon's mission and vision.

O'Fallon has seen tremendous growth in population in the last 10-20 years mixing community tradition with age and cultural diversity. Thus, our park and recreation programs must serve the entire community with a strong focus on families, which are the foundation of the O'Fallon community.

Parks have become the only connection many of our residents have with nature and green spaces. The endless opportunities offered within our parks provide places for us to play and enjoy the outdoors with family and friends. Recreation programs provide opportunities to socialize, become healthy, grow and learn new skills. Park and

recreation services add to the vitality of the city and provide significant economic benefit. Perhaps, the most important functions are the intangible ones; family interaction, the friends we make, memories of playing on the playground, visiting Santa, swimming, or teamwork. Park and recreation services bring us together as a people.

Understanding, designing, and meeting public needs and expectations will guide park and recreation planning and program implementation. Consequently, we seek to identify our audience and provide quality, affordable, accessible, and operationally sound services.

Quality

- We visualize high quality, aesthetically appealing, and safe facilities and programs.
- Our park and recreation programs will ensure quality by continuously listening to the public, soliciting feedback, and finding ways to improve the public's experience. From public feedback, we analyze and understand user needs and service delivery effectiveness. Feedback will be solicited broadly and include other entities benefiting indirectly from our park and recreation services.
- Quality includes responsive, competent and courteous service delivery.

Affordable and Accessible

- Programs and services will be reasonably priced and of good value; promoting participation.
- Parkland, facilities and recreation programs will be available to users regardless of age, economic class or ability.

Program and Operational Considerations

- Within O'Fallon, the term "premier" is used to denote the "first-class/value added" impression we want all park and recreation users to feel. The public's impression is more than visual appeal—it's a value comparison to similar programs. Our park and recreation services will be consistently evaluated so we know what to change or improve to maintain our "premier" status.
- Our public wants well-used facilities and programs that have a high return on our community's investment.

To maintain our premier park and recreation facilities and programs, our future focus will be to:

- ✓ increase land acquisition to meet or exceed national standards.
- ✓ provide a variety of parkland that emphasizes multi-functional applications.
- ✓ enhance public communication to provide open dialogue with our stakeholders.
- ✓ maintain, upgrade, and expand facilities according to identified needs and usage patterns.
- ✓ preserve and sustain parkland and build or upgrade facilities that complement the City of O'Fallon's "green" initiatives.
- ✓ emphasize programs of community wellness; expand athletic fields, cultural arts, and family activities.
- ✓ maintain an updated Comprehensive Park and Recreation Plan incorporating this Vision, the Trails Master Plan, and the updated City Comprehensive Plan.