Comprehensive

parks and recreation

Master Plan

Village of Pinehurst

North Carolina





TABLE OF CONTENTS

Section One: Introduction

- 1.1 Introduction
- 1.2 Purposes and Goals
- 1.3 Acknowledgements

Section Two: Population Trends and Projections

- 2.1 Demographic Profile
- 2.2 Village of Pinehust's Population Projections
- 2.3 Population Trends

Section Three: Existing Park Facilities

- 3.1 Introduction
- 3.2 Facility Inventory
- 3.3 Village of Pinehurst's Existing Programs and Special Events

Section Four: Recreation Needs Assessment

- 4.1 Introduction
- 4.2 Public Input Needs Assessment
- 4.3 State and National Assessments
- 4.4 Types of Parks and Recreation Facilities
- 4.5 Evaluation of Park Land Needs
- 4.6 Evaluation of Facility Needs

Section Five: Goals and Recommendations

- 5.1 Introduction
- 5.2 Roles of Village of Pinehurst
- 5.3 Roles of Other Recreation Providers
- 5.4 Park Proposals and Recommendations
- 5.5 Priorities for Development



Section Six: Action Implementation Plan

- 6.1 Introduction
- 6.2 Economic Development Initiatives
- 6.3 Funding Comparison
- 6.4 Capital Improvement Program
- 6.5 Proposed Operating Budget
- 6.6 Opportunities and Strategies
- 6.7 Funding/Acquisition sources
- 6.8 Plan Adoption
- 6.9 Conclusion

Appendix

- Item 1 Community Workshop Announcement
- Item 2 Workshop Presentation
- Item 3 Recreation Survey
- Item 4 Map 1 Inventory/Needs Assessment
- Item 5 Map 2 Community Input/Preferences
- Item 6 Map 3 Service Area
- Item 7 Map 4 Greenway System

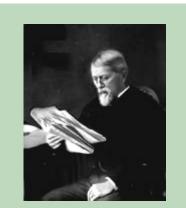


SECTION 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 INTRODUCTION

The Village of Pinehurst is located in Moore County in the south central portion of North Carolina. This resort community is situated in what is often referred to as the Sandhills of North Carolina. The Sandhills consist of a strip of ancient beach dunes in the interior of North and South Carolina (evidenced by a former coastline when the ocean level was higher, or the land was lower) and divides the "piedmont" and the "coastal plain". Approximately 60 miles southwest of Raleigh (Interstate 40), the state capitol, Pinehurst is 75 miles east of the Charlotte metro area (Interstates 77 and 85). The Village spans approximately 14.9 square miles, having 14.3 square miles of land and 0.6 square miles of water. Important resources to the Village of Pinehurst include major thoroughfares NC Highway 5, NC Highway 211, and US Highway 15-501. The Village of Pinehurst is locally recognized as an outstanding residential community; and internationally, as a major golf resort.



James Walker Tufts founded Pinehurst as a private Resort & Spa

In 1895, James Walker Tufts, a Boston resident (who had amassed a considerable fortune as the head of various enterprises), purchased 598 acres of land for \$1.25 per acre to create a health resort in the Sandhills. Mr. Tufts wanted a first-rate, private resort; and thus, hired Frederick Law Olmstead (designer of Central Park in New York and the Biltmore Estate in Asheville) for the project. In 1900, Donald Ross was hired as the developer for golf at the resort. Pinehurst remained a privately-held resort by the Tufts family until 1920 when a corporate form of ownership, Pinehurst, Inc., was obtained. By the late 1960's, the shareholders of Pinehurst, Inc., sold the property to the Diamondhead Corporation, who created 7,000 "membership" lots to sell, accompanied by the appropriate infrastructure - roads, water, sewer, etc. In 1980, pursuant to an Order of Incorporation, the Village of Pinehurst became

an incorporated municipality. The resort property has "changed hands" several times over the years and world-renowned golf courses have been developed and expanded under each owner. In 1996, the Village of Pinehurst and Pinehurst Resort had the distinct pleasure of being given National Landmark status for their historical, significant role in United States golf history.

A STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR



The Village of Pinehurst has long enjoyed its resort status – boasting world-renowned golf facilities and a Village Center filled with the charm of the New England area. The quiet and tranquil atmosphere makes Pinehurst an excellent vacation destination as well as a wonderful place to live. Committed to offering top quality services to residents and visitors alike, the Village of Pinehurst strives to ensure that residents enjoy a wonderful quality of life and visitors have a memorable experience.

Several factors have contributed to major demographic and economic changes to the Village of Pinehurst in recent years. First, the mild temperatures of this historic area attract golfers/vacationers year round; and second, the close working proximity to both the Research Triangle (Raleigh, Durham, Chapel Hill) has made Pinehurst an extremely

desirable place to live and raise a family. From 1990 to 2000, the US Census Bureau indicated that its population grew by 91%, as compared to 27% for Moore County and 21% for North Carolina. This population growth is expected to continue but at a slower rate. The number of families with children represent a growing segment of Pinehurst's growing population.

Because of year-round tourism and rapid population growth, the leaders of the Village of Pinehurst have recognized the need for a recreation plan that addresses both the current and future needs of their residents and visitors. This Parks and Recreation Plan will give them direction and purpose as they strive to meet the recreational needs of their community. The Village of Pinehurst Parks and Recreation Comprehensive Master Plan, 2011-2031 (hereafter called Master Plan) addresses their vision by identifying specific goals and objectives; and, makes recommendations for achieving them.

The Master Plan provides the framework for guiding the Village Council and staff in both its current evaluation of and long-range planning for the Pinehurst Parks and Recreation Department. The framework for this Master Plan is based upon conducting an inventory of the existing park system,



The Village of Pinehurst was recognized as a National Landmark on June 19, 1966

recording the observations, and recommending the addition and/or renovation of parks and recreational facilities. Not only does the Master Plan include recommendations, it also prioritizes specific projects, taking into consideration the identification of user

Page 2



populations and the development of recreation standards. The Master Plan is intended to be action-oriented and designed to provide the Village of Pinehurst with a practical

guide for its enhancement of the parks and recreation system for the next 20 years, while maintaining those unique qualities which make the Village distinct.

In preparing the Master Plan, State and National Parks and Recreation Standards were used as a guide to support the recommendations made for the parks and recreational facilities for the Village of Pinehurst. Using these standard guidelines, the Village developed a plan, which applies specifically to the users of the parks and recreation system.



Master Plan will maintain, reinforce unique character of the Village

1.2 PURPOSES AND GOALS

The Village of Pinehurst Village Council, the Village Staff, and the Village of Pinehurst Parks and Recreation Department have recognized the need to prepare a comprehensive parks

and recreation master plan. McGill Associates, P.A., was selected by the Village of Pinehurst to evaluate its existing park and recreation facilities and to develop a master plan as a guideline for the implementation of recommendations designed to meet the needs of the population for a span of 20 years. In preparing the master plan, McGill Associates, P.A., worked closely with the Village of Pinehurst Staff, the Project Oversight Group and Village of Pinehurst residents. A key objective in the development of the Master Plan was the solicitation of community input in order to identify additional needs for the Village (renovation, construction, land purchase and development) both now and in the future.

After recognizing the present and future needs, the Master Plan serves as a guide for the prioritization of recommended park upgrades, expansion and land acquisition. In order to formulate the Master Plan, a community-wide assessment is required to determine these particular park and facility needs for the Village of Pinehurst. Community input and the comparison to North Carolina's state standards, are the initial steps in the master plan process.

The Master Plan emphasizes the potential for 'connectivity' of proposed projects with existing sites, such as parks, schools, greenways, downtown districts and other government-owned properties. It is not designed to be exclusive, but rather to enhance recreation opportunities in the town and surrounding communities.



Of utmost intent in the Master Plan purpose is the maintenance of the type of venue in the Village of Pinehurst that fosters community spirit, activism and bonding between local citizens. The study of the demographic profile of Village of Pinehurst residents, population ages, race, ethnicity, et cetera, is a key factor in making specific and accurate recommendations.

Not only does the *Village of Pinehurst Parks and Recreation Comprehensive Master Plan, 2011-2031* make recommendations for a 20 year period of time (2011-2031), but it also suggests the means by which the identified objectives might be achieved. Opportunities for grants, partnerships and outside funding are recommended as aids in the establishment of a Capital Improvement Plan and an operating budget. Varieties of land acquisition are explained in detail.

The Master Plan focuses on providing the Village of Pinehurst with an accurate, usable guide for decision-making as the Village of Pinehurst begins to implement items such as the following:

- Park renovations, acquisitions and developments
- Facility renovations, acquisitions and developments
- Recreation programming strategies
- Implementation of improvements

The Master Plan is divided into six major component sections that are listed below:

Section 1 – Introduction

Section 2 – Population Trends and Projections

Section 3 – Existing Park Facilities

Section 4 - Recreation Needs Assessment

Section 5 – Goals and Recommendations

Section 6 – Implementation Plan

1.3 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

McGill Associates, P.A. wishes to express its sincere appreciation for those entities and individuals, who, in any way, contributed to the creation of the *Village of Pinehurst Parks and Recreation Comprehensive Master Plan 2011-2031*, some of whom are identified below. Without the knowledge and expertise of these persons, in both individual and team settings, this document would not be possible.



Page 4



Village Council

George Lane, Former Mayor Virginia Fallon, Present Mayor Joan Thurman Nancy Roy Fiorillo Doug Lapins Mark Parson

Village Staff

Bruce Gould, Planning Department
Andrea Correll, Director of Planning & Inspections
Jeffrey Batton, Assistant Village Manager
Mark Wagner, Parks and Recreation Director
Jay Gibson, P.E., Director of Engineering

Project Oversight Group

Bruce Gould
Jeffrey Batton
Mark Wagner
Virginia Fallon
Tom Campbell
Melissa Watford
Jamie Reed

<u>Pinehurst Long Range Plan Consultant</u> Glenn Chalder, AICP - Planimetics.

Consultant

McGill Associates, P.A. 6 Regional Drive, Suite D Pinehurst, North Carolina 28374 (910) 295-3159

-END OF SECTION-



Section 1: Introduction Page 5



Section 2

Population Trends and Projections

2.1 DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

A review of the demographic information of the Village of Pinehurst has been evaluated to better understand the characteristics of the community and to identify future trends and projections that may influence recreation and park planning. Information concerning the age and gender of the population is an important factor in determining the needs for recreation in the community.

The table (below) contains the general demographic characteristics for full-time residents of the Village of Pinehurst as ascertained from the 2000 Census. It should be noted that the data presented here is almost 10 years old. When the actual 2010 Census data for Pinehurst becomes available for review, the following information should be reevaluated.

CATEGORY	NUMBER	PERCENT
SEX		
Male	4,501	46.4
Female	5,205	53.6
Total:	9,706	100.0
AGE		
Under 5 years	320	3.3
5 - 19 years	886	9.0
20 - 34 years	852	8.7
35 - 54 years	1,970	20.3
55 - 64 years	1,577	16.3
65 and older	4,101	42.2
Total:	9,706	100.0
RACE		
White	9,251	95.3
Black	317	3.3
American Indian/Alaskan	23	0.2
Asian	60	0.6
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	2	0.0
Some other race	26	0.3
Two or more races	27	0.3
*Total:	9,706	100



*Numbers add to more than total population because individuals may report more than one race. Source: American FactFinder, Census 2000 Demographic Profile Highlights

The 2000 census population results revealed significant characteristics of Pinehurst's population. The largest age population division is the 65 and older group (40%), followed by adults aged 35 to 54 years (20.3). The 55-64 age group are the third largest group making up 16.3%.

A large majority of the population is white, while about 3% are of African descent.

2.2 THE VILLAGE OF PINEHURST POPULATION PROJECTIONS

According to the Village of Pinehurst's comprehensive plan, the population of the Village of Pinehurst increased by 28% from 9,706 (US Census data) in 2000 to 12,458 in 2010. Most of this growth is attributed to the growing numbers of retiree's and families with children moving to the Village of Pinehurst. The Village's Comprehensive Plan estimates that the population will increase by approximately 3,202 people between the years 2010 and 2020. Table 2.2-1 shown below lists the Village of Pinehurst Population Projections.

Table 2.2-1 Village of Pinehurst Population Projections*

Year	Village of Pinehurst population	Increase	% Growth
2000	9,706	х	Х
2010	12,458	2,752	28%
2020	15,660	3,202	26%
2030	18,910	3,250	21%

^{*}Estimates were obtained from a service bureau (US Census) for the years 2000 (9,706) and from the Village of Pinehurst's Comprehensive Plan for 2008 (12,331) and 2020 (15,660) and were interpolated for the year 2010 and then projected to the year 2030.





2.3 POPULATION TRENDS

According to the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan 2009-2013 (SCORP), children and senior citizens comprise two of North Carolina's fastest growing groups, who are in need of more recreation opportunities. The largest demographic group in Pinehurst is that between the ages of 65 and older. This age group is growing every

year for nearly every populated area in America. According to SCORP, this group is becoming more involved with outdoor activities. "Increased demand can therefore be expected for activities that have high participation by older Americans." Trends in what activities the growing senior group is participating in are as follows: "...wildlife viewing, attending concerts, nature study, fishing, swimming, motor boating, biking, and golf. Participation in team sports and other physically demanding activities are, as one might expect, considerably higher for the young and middle-aged than for the elderly." (National Survey on Recreation and the Environment, 2000)



Water activities are very popular with the 25 to 44 year old demographic.

While Pinehurst has a history of attracting

a growing number of retirees to the area, a large percent of recent growth has been occurring in the young family with children population. This trend of growth in the number of young families with children indicates a need for programs and facilities within the Village of Pinehurst Parks and Recreation Department that appeal to a wide range of age groups. Traditional park programming and activities should continue to be in demand. However, developing trends are impacting the need for additional recreation services for Village residents. To attract and meet the needs of residents and visitors, the Village will have to continually evaluate its recreation and ancillary facilities and offer an expanding selection of recreation opportunities.

-END OF SECTION-



SECTION 3

EXISTING PARK FACILITIES

3.1 INTRODUCTION

The Village recently performed an inventory of the Village of Pinehurst parks. Site visits were made to each park facility with observations being recorded. A brief analysis of each recreation facility was undertaken, noting any visible improvements needed for that facility. This method of study serves as a guide for The Village of Pinehurst in its efforts to develop a plan for present and future recreation needs.

Residents and visitors of the Village of Pinehurst have some of their recreation needs met through a variety of amenities offered by the Village, local organizations, private resorts and clubs, and neighboring recreational parks. School recreation facilities owned and operated by Moore County also provide some recreational opportunities that may used by the public. This parks and recreation inventory also lists individual municipal park facilities within Aberdeen and Southern Pines which impacts the recreation opportunities for the surrounding area.



Village of Pinehurst Owned and Operated Facilities

Fair Barn
Cannon Park
Rassie Wicker Park/The Arboretum
Pinehurst Harness Track
Pinehurst Greenway System
West Pinehurst Community Park (future facility)
Village Assembly Hall
Village Green

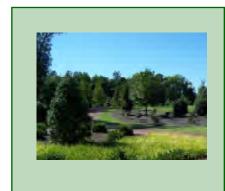


Pinehurst Greenway System

The Village has completed four phases of the greenway system totaling 5.8 miles. The popular greenway trails are used by local residents and the surrounding community for pedestrian and bicycle use. Planning for future phase extensions for connection to residential and neighboring communities has been a priority of the Village.

Site Amenities

5.8 miles of groomed gravel/tar multi-use trails



Moore County Owned Facilities

Old West End Gym
Lake Luke Marion
School Facilities (countywide)
Recreational Trails
Davis Athletic Field/Picnic Shelter
Hillcrest Park/Picnic Shelter

Moore County Schools in Pinehurst

Pinehurst Elementary School West Pine Elementary School

Municipality Owned Facilities

Town of Southern Pines Facilities

Reservoir Park
Downtown Park
Memorial Park
Morganton Road Sports Complex
Pool Park
Rounds Park
Sandhurst Park
Martin Park



Town of Aberdeen Facilities

Aberdeen Lake Park Colonial Heights Park Sharpe Park

State Owned Facilities

Weymouth Woods-Sandhills Nature Preserve, Southern Pines, NC.

3.2 FACILITY INVENTORY

Village of Pinehurst Owned Facilities

Cannon Park

Cannon Park is located on Rattlesnake Trail just off Highway 211. The 15-acre park features two baseball fields, a practice soccer field, picnic shelter, and playground. The park has been the hub for Pinehurst recreation for decades. Camelot playground is a popular attraction and heavily used by children particularly for after school programs. The northwest portion of the property was the former site of Village Hall and presents an area for redevelopment.

Site Amenities

2 baseball/softball fields, Covered picnic shelter, Walking trails (1/4 mile), Small practice soccer field, "Camelot" playground,





Support Facilities

Restrooms/concession Building Restroom/Storage Facility Parking Areas

Rassie Wicker Park/Arboretum

Rassie Wicker Park is Pinehurst's latest park addition. Located near Village Hall, the 89 acre park facility offers passive and active recreation. Amenities include an in-line roller hockey rink, soccer field and a trail system which connects to the Greenway System. The park is also the home of The Arboretum which offers an elegant landscape for Village residents.



Site Amenities

Soccer field, In-Line Hockey rink, Playground, Walking trails (2.3 miles), Arboretum with amphitheater

Support Facilities

Restrooms/concession Building Parking Areas New Comfort Station



Pinehurst Harness Track

The Pinehurst Harness Track is a 111-acre equestrian facility that has been a winter training center for standardbred horses since 1915. The grounds consist of three (3) training tracks and several center aisle barns with approximately 300 stalls, as well as several paddocks. Champion trotters and pacers train on either the 1/2 mile sand/clay track, the 5/8 mile sand/jog track, or the 1 mile clay track, all of which serve as an ideal winter training facility. The tracks are also available for rent when training is not taking place. Typical events include horse shows, car shows, dog shows, rugby matches and also host of the annual 4th of July celebration.



Fair Barn

The Fair Barn is the oldest surviving early twentieth-century fair exhibition hall in North Carolina. It was built in 1917 to be used for the Sandhills Fair, one of the major country fairs in the Southeast from 1915 through 1925. Restored in 2002, The Fair Barn is now a multi-purpose community gathering place. The facility is equipped with a large assembly

area, commercial catering kitchen, dressing rooms, and restrooms. The Fair Barn has been the site of exhibitions, receptions, private parties, auctions, weddings, educational clinics, business seminars, concerts, art and antique shows, and many other functions requiring a large multi-use facility.

Support Facilities

Large indoor gathering space Kitchen/catering Dressing rooms Parking Area

Village Green

The Village Green was a planned green space area when the Village was initially master planned by Olmstead. This area has remained primarily undisturbed and has served as open space for the surrounding area. Over decades the green space has evolved from a meadow into a forest of longleaf pines. Recently, there has been a local interest in reevaluating new opportunities for this area. Given the historic significance of the green, careful planning and discussion should be taken in order to determine the primary function and use for this park space.

State of North Carolina Owned and Operated Parks and Facilities

Weymouth Woods-Sandhills Nature Preserve, Southern Pines

A 900-acre nature preserve, Weymouth Woods Nature Preserve is different from traditional parks. This limited-use area serves to preserve and portray the natural features unique to its region. Weymouth Woods is a place where you can observe a long leaf pine forest and see how human actions have affected the environment. Education is a large component



of the park where you can learn more about rare and endangered species such as the red-cockaded woodpecker, the pine barrens tree frog, and the bog spicebush.

Other Privately Owned Facilities

Country Clubs/Resorts:

Residents living in the Village of Pinehurst are blessed with beautiful natural surroundings and recreational opportunities. Many residents and guests alike have their recreation needs provided by local, private resorts and country clubs. The majority of these organizations are centered on Golf activities. The following are some of the major private recreation options for Village residents.

Country Club of North Carolina

Known for the Dogwood course, which opened in 1963, the Country Club of North Carolina has been the venue for various championship golf events including three Carolinas Amateurs, six Southern Amateurs, the 2010 U.S. Junior Girls Golf Championship and the 1980 USGA Amateur. This facility offers a full golf schedule with events for ladies, men, and juniors. Private lessons and group clinics are available to residents.

The Club lies on approximately 2000 acres of land which include three lakes (the largest, Lake Watson, is sixty acres) and two (2) eighteen-hole golf courses.

Pinewild Country Club of Pinehurst

Primarily a golf-oriented facility, Pinewild Country Club of Pinehurst offers 36 Championship Holes and a 9 Hole Par 3 Course. Golf lessons are also available.

Pinehurst Resort and Country Club

The Pinehurst Resort and Country Club offers its members swimming opportunities at 3 outdoor pools open from May to November as well as access to Lake Pinehurst. Tennis is available on 24 courts. A playground and some walking trails exist. Lawn bowling is practiced but golf is the main recreational activity at the resort.

Pinehurst Resort and Country Club has been the venue of the numerous prestigious events for decades which include the following:

- 1936 PGA Championship
- 1951 Ryder Cup.





- 1999 & 2005 US Open Golf Championships
- 2008 U.S. Amateur
- 2009 U.S. Kids Golf World Championship
- 2010 U.S. Junior Girls Golf Championship
- Former venue of the Tour Championship in 1991 & 1992
- Former home of the World Golf Hall Of Fame

The Resort has also been the chosen venue for the 2014 US Women's Open and the 2014 US Men's Open Golf Championship.

3.3 THE VILLAGE OF PINEHURST'S EXISTING PROGRAMS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

The Village of Pinehurst Parks and Recreation Department offers a variety of year-round recreational programs for all ages. The chart below summarizes their offerings and the number of participants from July 2009 through June 2010.

Youth/Adult Programs	Resident	Non-Resident
Full Day Camp (Youth)	284	166
Half Day Camp (Youth)	246	114
Tai Chi (Adult)	38	9
Watercolor Class (Adult)	180	<u>28</u>
Youth/Adult Programs Totals	748	317

Youth/Adult Athletics	Resident	Non-Resident
Baseball - Optimist (Youth) Basketball League (Youth) Coach Pitch Baseball (Youth)	70 224 121	170 89 49
Co-Ed Softball League (Adult) Golf Lessons (Adult) Inline Hockey League (Adult)	68 19 31	188 0 63
Inline Hockey League (Youth) Jr. Tennis League	109 14	216 12
Lacrosse Camp (Youth) Lacrosse League (Youth) NFL Punt Pass & Kick	39 12 4	29 22 12
Soccer Camp (Youth)	78 12	232

Section 3: Existing Park Facilities
Page 7



Swim Team (Youth)	63	0
Swimming Lessons (Youth)	29	1
Tennis Lessons (Adult)	19	0
Tennis Lessons (Youth)	72	8
Youth Cheerleading	31	11
Youth Soccer - SYSA	39	116
Walking School Bus Program	NA	<u>NA</u>
Youth/Adult Athletics Totals	1,054	1,220

<u>Special Events</u> <u>Estimated Attendance</u>

9th Annual Christmas Card Contest	125
AACA Classic Car Show	200
Adult Tennis Tournament	200
Arboretum Concert	300
Arts in the Park	450
Downtown Planting Day	25
Easter Egg Hunt	650
Fourth of July Fireworks	3,000
Halloween Fall Fest	600
Holiday Hoops	125
Matinee Races	3,000
Moore Jazz and Blues Concert	300
Movie Night	22
MLB Pitch, Hit, & Run (Local)	7
Nature Camp	12
NBA Skills Competition	18
Pinehurst Jr. Tennis Classic	300
Qualifying Races	50
Recycling into Art Camp	21
Senior Games	180
Spring Planting Day	25
St. Patricks Day Parade	3,500
Vince Gill Concert	6,500
Special Events Totals	19,610



Facility Reservation Number of Reservations Arboretum 3 Cannon Park 107 Fair Barn 88 Harness Track 23 Rassie Wicker Park 104 Facility Reservation Totals 325

The Village of Pinehurst Parks and Recreation Department features various special events each year including: the Fourth of July Celebration, the Easter Egg Hunt, the Arts in the Park events, Harness Track events, Fair Barn events, Youth Movie nights, Fall Fest, etc.

The Village of Pinehurst Parks and Recreation Department also works with several athletic associations in the County to provide facilities, assistance, scheduling, and promotion for team sports and events. Some of these associations/groups are:

Pinehurst Tennis Club

Sandhills Tennis Association

USTA Youth Tennis

Pinehurst Kiwanis Club (Spring Coach Pitch Baseball League)

Sandhills Optimist Club (Sandhills Optimist Youth Baseball)

Pinehurst Youth In-line Hockey League

NFL Punt, Pass & Kick (cooperation with Southern Pines/Aberdeen

Recreation departments)

Sandhills Celtic Soccer Club

Youth Lacrosse

Youth Cheerleading

Youth Basketball League

Family Kickball League

FirstHealth Center for Health and Fitness (Swim Team)

Pinehurst, Inc. (Swim lessons)

Pinehurst Driving and Training Club (Spring Matinee Races)

- END OF SECTION -



Section 4

Recreation Needs Assessment

4.1 Introduction

The degree of need for parks/open space is most directly influenced by the expectations of the residents of Village of Pinehurst, related strictly to the 'quality of life' to which they aspire. An important historic dynamic to consider is that the recreation needs of past Village demographics were met by private entities where as today's more diverse population demands public recreation facilities. This Master Plan addresses, as it first priority, the parks and recreation facility needs that are envisioned as appropriate for all the residents of Village of Pinehurst.

Section 3 of this Master Plan inventories the Village of Pinehurst existing park facilities, the recreation facilities available at local schools, local municipalities, County Parks and private recreation facilities near the Village. This detailed inventory includes the facilities; which are available within each park in order to create a better understanding of the existing recreation opportunities within the Village. The demographic and population trends (found in Section 2 of the Master Plan) provide information needed to understand the growth of the Village of Pinehurst for the next twenty years. This Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Master Plan will be used as a department-specific guide for improving recreational opportunities for residents and visitors.

Community input and recreation standards were used as the primary method in determining the adequate types and number of park facilities needed for the Village of Pinehurst. This Master Plan compares standards developed by the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA), an independent, non-profit professional organization for park/recreation departments nationwide. In 1996, NRPA published a manual entitled, Park, Recreation, Open Space, and Greenway Guidelines, which is a widely accepted reference standard for communities.

Standards are guidelines, not requirements, for use by communities in estimating the demand for recreation in their given geographic areas. The NRPA's 1996 guidelines shifted emphasis from rigid park facility standards to more flexible standards that better accommodate unique circumstances and situations that exist in every community. To assure that the Village of Pinehurst's Master Plan contains distinctiveness, yet versatility, public input was sought from its integral components: the Project Oversight Group, Village of Pinehurst Parks and Recreation Department, Village Staff, Village Council, and the public at large.



4.2 PUBLIC INPUT NEEDS ASSESSMENT

The methodology used in establishing a Parks and Recreation Master Plan should always include citizen input. In order to ensure a successful study, it is vital that the public users of recreational facilities be able to share their issues, needs, and desires.

Community Meetings

To facilitate community input, three public workshops were conducted during the Master Plan process. These workshops were held at the Fair Barn on October 10, and November 12, 2009 and at the Village Hall on December 3, 2009. The three workshops were held on three separate days with non-traditional and traditional settings in order to offer multiple opportunities for residents to voice their opinions on the topic of recreation. Approximately 77 people attended the meetings and provided much-needed feedback.

The non-traditional community workshop was held at the Fair barn in conjunction with a scheduled concert event. Participants were given a survey to complete as well as were given the opportunity to participate in map exercises. The questionnaires solicited their opinions on needed improvements and additions to existing and future park facilities and programs in the Village of Pinehurst. The map exercises allowed participants to place colored-coded markers on the Village map identifying a location for a particular improvement.

The traditional community forums began with a short presentation given by McGill Associates about the Master Plan process followed by question and answers. The participants were then divided into small groups to participate in a map exercise. Groups were given a map of Pinehurst, showing the location and size of each existing park facilities. The Group Exercise consisted of each participant noting locations on the map for future parks and/or improvements to existing parks. Group members were also asked to write down a list of activities and facilities that they would like to see provided in the Village of Pinehurst. As part of the needs assessment process, the group exercise maps were consolidated into one map which offers a better understanding to locations for future parks as well as what type of recreational activities are desired for the community.

Page 3



Conclusion

Results of First Meeting, Saturday, October 10, 2009

The first community meeting was held during one of the Arboretum Concert Series concerts. Numerous concert attendees participated in the workshop exercises. Meeting attendees filled out surveys and participated in map exercises that provided the opportunity for both structured and open-ended responses.

Concerns that were addressed included the:

- Need for a community center
- Improved restrooms at Cannon Park
- Outdoor performance stage
- Outdoor pool with special recreation features

Results of the Second Meeting, Thursday, November 12, 2009.

An open question and answer session occurred between meeting participants and members of the Village of Pinehurst Parks and Recreation Master Planning team. Participants were then asked to complete the Master Plan survey and participate in map exercises. The participants of this meeting showed strong support for a new community center as well as improved connections within the Village greenway system. This group of participants also felt that there was a need for more neighborhood parks within the Village of Pinehurst to serve the needs of families with children. There is expected growth in this demographic for the next ten years and so increased demand for family-oriented recreation should also be expected. Participants that represented this demographic group were interested in the development of both passive and active recreational opportunities for children and families.

Results of the Third Meeting, Thursday, December 3, 2009

This meeting was held at the Village Hall in the Village of Pinehurst. Participants were given a brief summary of the Village's effort to create a Parks and Recreation Master Plan. Participants were also shown a presentation outlining Master Plan aims and initial findings from the inventory of existing park facilities.

Next, a question and answer session between meeting participants and members of the Village of Pinehurst Parks and Recreation Master Planning team occurred. Participants mentioned concerns about fishing access locations, and the need for a public swimming pool, a dog park, and a recreation center that accommodated art classes.

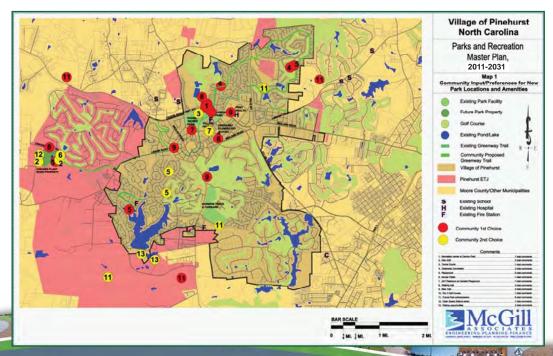


Participants were asked to complete the Master Plan survey and participate in map exercises. The participants of this meeting showed strong support for a new community center. One participant strongly supported 24/7 restrooms to be located at Camelot Playground (Cannon Park).

In addition to attending an advertised community workshop, residents of the Village of Pinehurst were also able to participate via the internet and dropping off hard copy surveys at the Village Hall. The community survey was made available via a link on the Village website. Mention of the survey and a link was provided in the Village newsletter and was e-mailed to those individuals who had provided their e-mail addresses to the Village Parks and Recreation Department during program sign-ups and other events.

Community Workshop - Preferences for Park Development (Group Map Exercise Results)

The following is a compilation of priorities as listed by the participants on the maps during the group exercise. (See Appendix, Map 2) To reiterate, participants were asked to choose two recreational amenities that they would like to see in the Village of Pinehurst. They were each given two markers (red and yellow) and asked to place them on a map of the Village of Pinehurst to mark where they would like to see the amenities provided. Red markers indicated a first choice; yellow markers, a second choice. The participants also described the proposed improvements which corresponded to the location of a proposed improvement. Of the 35 dots placed on the maps, the same proposed recreation center was selected by 7 respondents, which was more than any of the other responses. This improvement was exclusively placed over Cannon Park. In some cases, participants chose existing park lands for their amenities and in other cases; they chose a region of the Village for their priority amenities.





Location	Priority
Cannon Park	 Community Center Development of additional walking trails Tennis Courts 24/7 restrooms at Camelot Playground Parking lot improvements
Greenway Trails	Increased access points/connections Playgrounds at greenway nodes
Pinehurst Harness Track	Increased park amenities / additional recreation opportunities
West Pinehurst Community Park (future park)	 Disc Golf Walking Trails Playground Soccer Fields Open Space/Nature areas

It is very clear from the above remarks that the participants desire a new Community Center in Cannon Park. The participants also support the idea of increased greenway connections, walking trails, and the further development of recreation opportunities in general.

Other facilities that received mentions were the desire for the future park at Chicken Plant Road. Desired amenities to be further developed included a disc golf course, trails, active recreation opportunities, and open space for passive recreation.

Community Survey

Participants in the Community Meetings were also asked to fill out a one-page questionnaire. Answers were written in the space provided, with no options given from which to choose. The questions and results are shown on the following pages:

The active participation of residents in the Village of Pinehurst was crucial in developing a Master Plan that reflects the true needs for the Village. With this in mind, community input was solicited throughout the entire planning process. To gather further public input, the Village of Pinehurst Parks and Recreation Master Plan Surveys were made available throughout the Pinehurst area, including the Village website, distribution at meetings and other methods. Citizens were able to return the surveys in a variety of ways: drop off, mail in, fax, or the Village website survey program. This section summarizes the results of the community survey.



01/01/2011

The Village received a total of 225 completed surveys, which statistically represents approximately 713 people and reflects a representative cross section of Village of Pinehurst in terms of age and household size.

The survey was designed to elicit answers on resident's needs and desires for recreation opportunities. It included a section where respondents rated their participation in existing programs and use of existing facilities. The survey also asked respondents to rank the programs and facilities in order of importance to their household and asked them to list the facilities they would like to see added to the park and recreation system. To determine the profile of respondents, a series of demographic questions were asked.

<u>Village of Pinehurst Parks and Recreation Master Plan Survey</u>

(225 Completed Surveys – Representing approximately 713 Persons)

Demographics

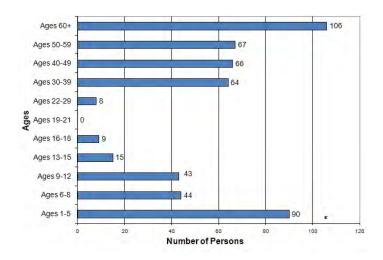
Page 6

Residents vs. Non-Residents of Village of Pinehurst

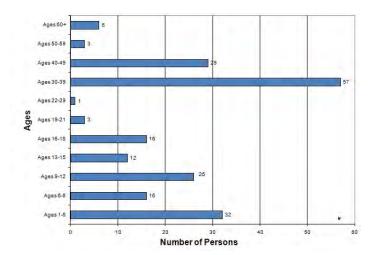
Status	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Total Respondents
Resident	512	72%
Non-Resident	201	28%



Age of Resident Respondents (and members of their households)



Age of Non-Resident Respondents (and members of their households)



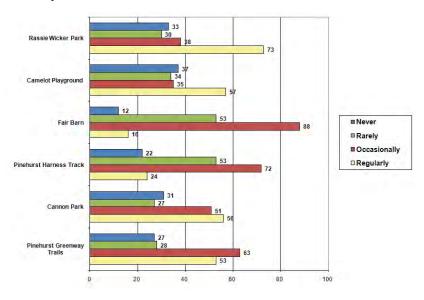
The two largest age groups represented by Village residents in the survey are the 60+ and the 1-5 year olds. Being known as a community of retirees, the Village demographics would seem to be shifting to a more mixed spectrum of residents. This growing population of families with children must be carefully considered in this Master Plan.



Existing Facilities

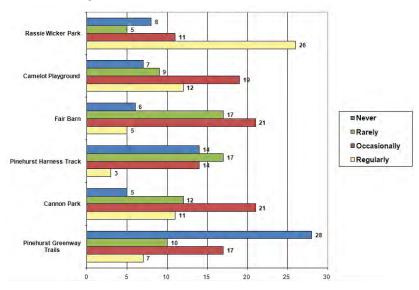
How frequently have you visited each of the following facilities in the past year?

Resident Respondents



Non-Resident Respondents

Page 8

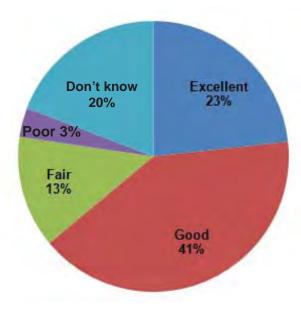


Survey responses indicate the park facilities are used quite often by Village residents. Responses also seem to indicate that the Greenways and trails are not used by nonresidents very often and appear to use Rassie Wicker Park most often. Overall, both residents and non-residents use Village park facilities proportionally to one another.

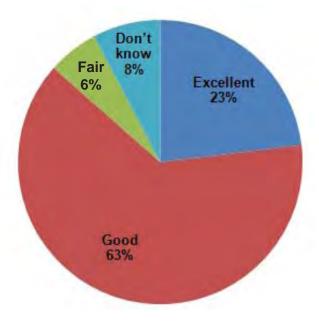


Overall, how would you rate the existing parks and recreational facilities in the Village of Pinehurst?

Resident Respondents



Non-Resident Respondents

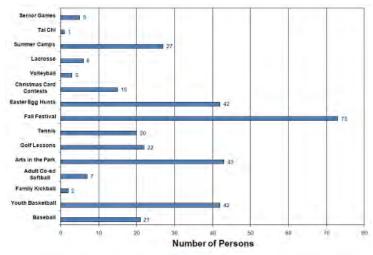


Overall, more than 60% of both Village residents and Non-Residents rate the existing parks and recreation facilities "good" to "excellent".

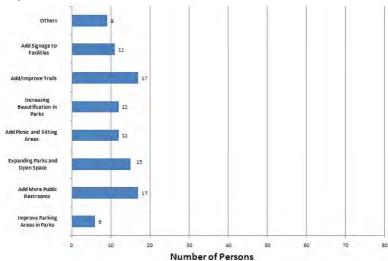


Which of the following recreation programs, activities and special events offered by the Village of Pinehurst do you or other household members regularly participate?

Resident Respondents



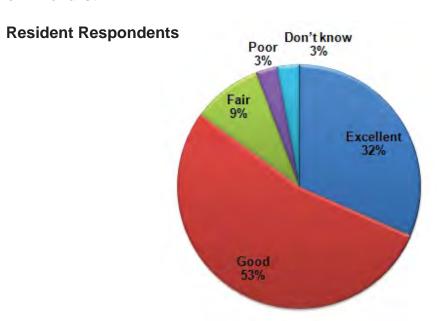
Non-Resident Respondents



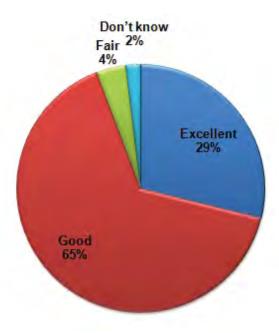
Among the seasonal activities (i.e. festivals), the most popular programs offered by the Village of Pinehurst Parks and Recreation Department are the Arts in the Park, Fall Festival, and Easter Egg Hunt. Arts in the Park is popular with both resident and non-resident respondents while Baseball and Youth Basketball are the most popular athletic recreation programs. An interesting point to come out of the resident responses to this question is the apparent need for a facility to accommodate the basketball programs. The Pinehurst Elementary School is limited in serving as host to this program and the Parks and Recreation Department lacks its own facility to serve this popular and growing activity.



Overall, how would you rate the existing recreational programs offered in the Village of Pinehurst?



Non-Resident Respondents



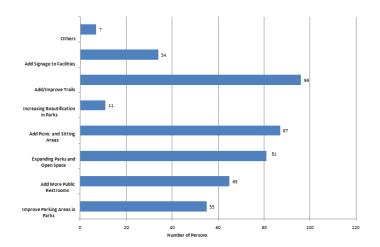
Over 85% of respondents rated the programs and events offered by the Village of Pinehurst Parks and Recreation Department as "Good" or "Excellent".



01/01/2011

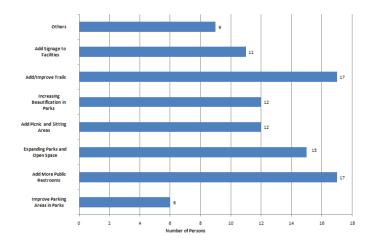
What improvements should be made to existing parks in the Village of Pinehurst?

Resident Respondents



Non-Resident Respondents

Page 12

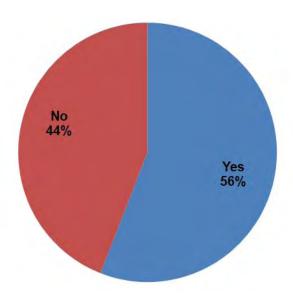


The respondents strongly support the addition of trails and more parks to the park system for the Village of Pinehurst. Other improvements written on the survey forms included the inclusion of more open space; as well as improved restroom and picnic/sitting facilities; and improved lighting and parking at parks.

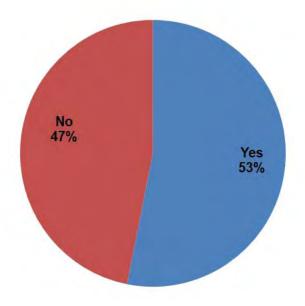


Do you use any school or private facilities for recreation or leisure activities?

Resident Respondents



Non-Resident Respondents





If so, which activities?

Activities residents reported participating in:

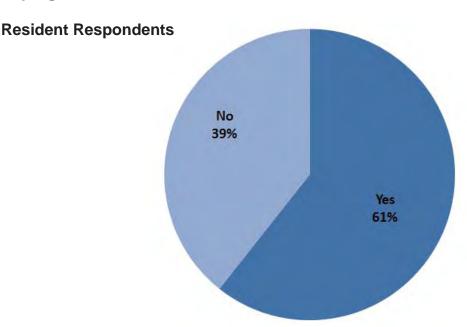
Private Facilities for Recreation or Leisure
Clubs
Fitness Centers
First Health Fitness Center
Pinehurst Elementary School
Fort Bragg
CCNC Pool
Pinehurst Country Club
Walk Areas

Activities non-residents reported participating in:

Private Facilities for Recreation or Leisure
Whitehall Trail
Weymouth Woods
Fair Barn
Cannon Park
Campbell House
Sunrise Theater
Pinecrest Auditorium
Owens Auditorium
Southern Pines Elementary
First Health
Lake Auman
Lawn & Tennis
Southern Middle Basketball Courts
Fitness Center



Within the last year, have you traveled out of the Village to use a recreation facility or program?



If yes, what activities or programs did you use?

Recreation Facility or Program
Fitness Center
Southern Pines Parks
Seven Lakes Parks
Lake Auman
National Park Service
Forest Service
Southern Pines Recreation Center
Tennis Courts
Pullen Park
Raleigh
Southern Pines Machine Pitch Baseball
Aberdeen Women's Softball
Aberdeen Women's Basketball
Hillcrest Park Disc Golf
Aberdeen Lake
Reservoir Park

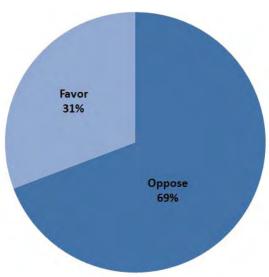
Respondents to the survey listed many locations outside of the Village of Pinehurst where they go to fulfill their recreation needs. Raleigh, Aberdeen, and Southern Pines are just a few of the areas listed. Regional recreational areas are also popular with Village of Pinehurst residents.



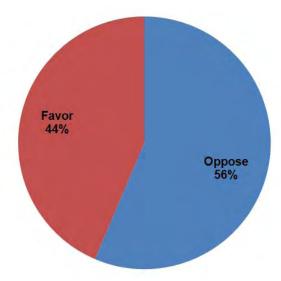
Program/Facility Needs

Would you favor or oppose expanding recreational opportunities in the Village?

Resident Respondents



Non-Resident Respondents

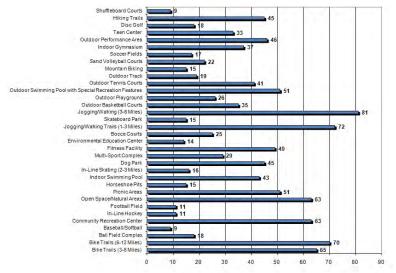


A majority of both residents and non-residents currently oppose the expansion of recreational opportunities in the Village. However, these results differ from the desire of survey respondents to see improvements made to existing facilities. The recent decline in the state and national economy may reflect the respondents' lack of support for recreational expansion. This attitude will most likely improve once the national economy improves.

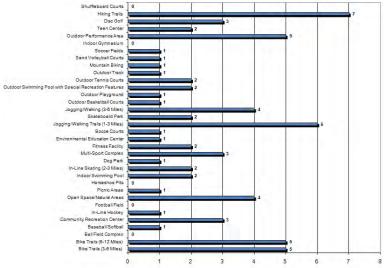


Choose ten desired facilities from the list below that could be developed in Village of Pinehurst. Number your choices 1-10 in order of priority. The total number of priority votes is shown for each facility/amenity.

Resident Respondents



Non-Resident Respondents

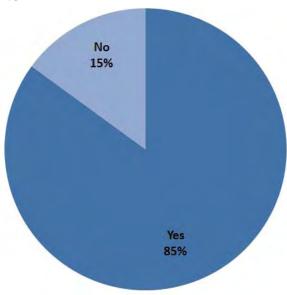


This charts represent the total number of priority votes each amenity received (one through ten) for Village of Pinehurst residents and Non-residents of the Village. It is apparent from the above graphs, that both residents of the Village of Pinehurst and non-residents desire trails for jogging, and walking, biking, and hiking. It is also evident that residents rate the Community Recreation Center, outdoor swimming pool with special recreation features, picnic areas, and open/natural spaces high on their list of priorities. Some of the other high priorities also include a fitness facility, and outdoor performance area, and a dog park.

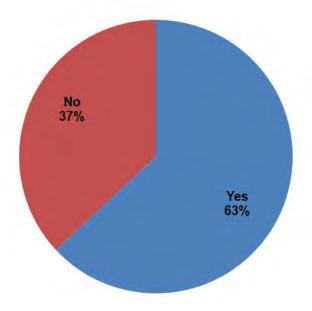


Are you in favor of continued expansion of the Greenways throughout the Village of Pinehurst?

Resident Respondents

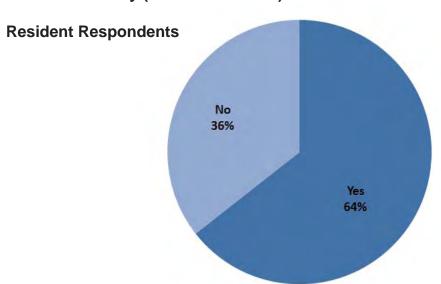


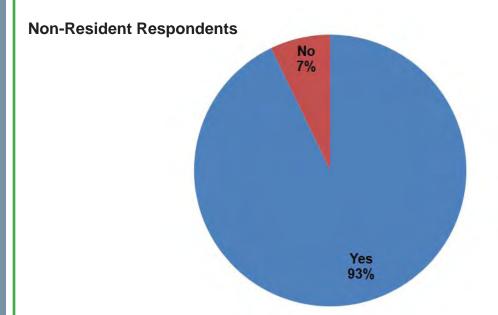
Non-Resident Respondents





Are you or anyone in your household in favor of the development of an indoor recreation facility (recreation center)?

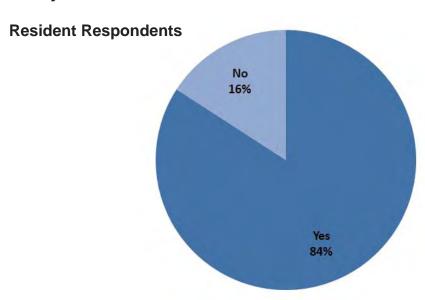






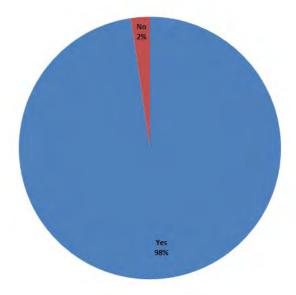
01/01/2011

Would you be willing to pay a reasonable fee to attend an event or use a special facility for recreation?



Non-Resident Respondents

Page 20



Given the survey responses favoring trails and open spaces/natural areas, it is hardly surprising that the vast majority of the respondents favor expansion of the greenway system and the development of an indoor recreation center for the Village of Pinehurst. In addition, most respondents appear to be willing to pay a small fee to use a recreation facility or attend a program.

Page 21



While all the questions yielded important data, question number nine of the survey should stand out as the question which provides the data concerning which facilities respondents want to see further developed in the Village. Respondents were asked to select 10 facilities that could be further developed in the Village. The following is a summary reiterating the top ten facilities chosen by respondents.

Choose ten desired facilities from the list below that could be developed in Village of Pinehurst. Number your choices 1-10 in order of priority. The total number of priority votes is shown for each facility/amenity.

- Jogging/Walking Trails (3-6 Miles) 81 Votes
- Jogging/Walking Trails (1-3 Miles) 72 Votes
- 3. Bicycle Trails (6-12 Miles) 70 Votes
- 4. Bicycle Trails (3-6 Miles) 65 Votes
- Tied Community Recreation Center 63 Votes
- 6. Tied Open Space/Natural Areas 63 Votes
- 7. Tied Picnic Areas 51 Votes
- 8. Tied Outdoor Swimming Pool with Special Recreation Features 51 Votes
- 9. Fitness Facility 49 Votes
- 10. Outdoor Performance Area 46 Votes

Conclusion

As the Village of Pinehurst continues to grow and change into a community of both retirees and families with children, it will become more imperative that the Village offer a strong parks and recreation program to fulfill the true needs of the residents. This survey gives a clear indication of the Village residents desire in the way of recreation amenities and programs. The input from both public meetings and surveys indicate the strong demand for trails - jogging, walking, biking, and hiking. There is also strong support for a variety of other recreation facilities and for open/natural spaces. If the Village is to continue to provide good recreational opportunities to the users of its facilities, expansion of existing parks and facilities will have to be developed in the near future.



4.3 STATE AND NATIONAL ASSESSMENTS

Surveys that were designed to determine the demand for outdoor recreation and facilities have been conducted on both the federal and state levels by the President's Commission on Americas Outdoor and the North Carolina Outdoor Recreation Survey. Significant facts have evolved from these surveys, as follows:

The top ten most popular outdoor recreational activities (nationwide) are:

- 1. Picnicking
- 2. Driving for pleasure
- 3. Swimming
- 4. Sightseeing
- 5. Walking for pleasure
- 6. Playing sports
- 7. Fishing
- 8. Attending sports events
- 9. Boating
- 10. Bicycling

The most rapidly growing outdoor activities (nationwide) are:

- 1. Canoeing
- 2. Bicycling
- 3. Attending sports events
- 4. Camping (all types)
- 5. Sailing
- 6. Hiking/Backpacking
- 7. Walking for pleasure
- 8. Water skiing

The top ten most popular outdoor activities (North Carolina) are:

- 1. Walking for pleasure
- 2. Driving for pleasure
- 3. Viewing scenery
- 4. Beach activities
- 5. Visiting historical sites
- 6. Swimming (in lakes, rivers, and oceans)
- 7. Visiting natural areas
- 8. Picnicking



Page 23



- 9. Attending sports events
- 10. Visiting zoos

Local governments (cities and counties) provide 39% of the public recreational opportunities in the United States.

4.4 TYPES OF PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES

A comprehensive park system is made up of a variety of park types ranging from small neighborhood playgrounds to larger parks with athletic fields, playgrounds, community centers, and open space. They reflect the differing recreational preferences of diverse users. Park models are used as guidelines for fulfilling the future recreational needs of communities. Not all of these types of parks are the responsibility of the Village government; several agencies (federal, state, cities, and/or towns,) play roles in providing recreational opportunities as well. To further understand the Village's role in providing recreation services to its citizens, it is necessary to understand the elements of a comprehensive park system. These types of parks and recreation facilities may/may not be included in comprehensive park systems and are delineated in the following pages of this section:

- Regional Parks
- **District Parks**
- Community Parks
- Neighborhood Parks
- Mini Parks
- Linear Parks/Greenways
- Special Use Facilities
- Open Space



Regional Parks

Regional parks are typically very large sites. On these sites, the unique qualities that exemplify the natural features found there (such as diverse land formation, vegetation, and wildlife) are preserved. Parks containing environmental centers, campsites, nature trails, observation decks, and picnic areas are examples of the types of facilities that are usually provided in regional parks. In addition, open fields for non-structured activities such as Frisbee-throwing or kite-flying, are also generally found there.

When land is acquired for the development of regional parks (or the expansion of existing sites), it should be comprised of the previously-mentioned characteristics and if possible, accompanied by natural water features such as lakes, rivers, or creeks. The majority of the site should be reserved for passive recreation, with the remaining acreage used for active recreation. The acquisition and development of regional parks are typically undertaken by a federal or state agency.

<u>Specific standards/criteria for developing regional parks are as</u> follows:

Service area: Region-wide

<u>Acreage/Population Ratio:</u> 10 acres per 1,000 persons

Minimum Size:

150-1,000 acres minimum with sufficient area to encompass the resources to be preserved and managed (10% of the site may be developed with facilities found in Community Parks.)

Typical Facilities:

Environmental Center Caretaker's House Equestrian Center Primitive Camping

Group Camping Recreational Vehicle Camping

Nature Trails Observation Deck

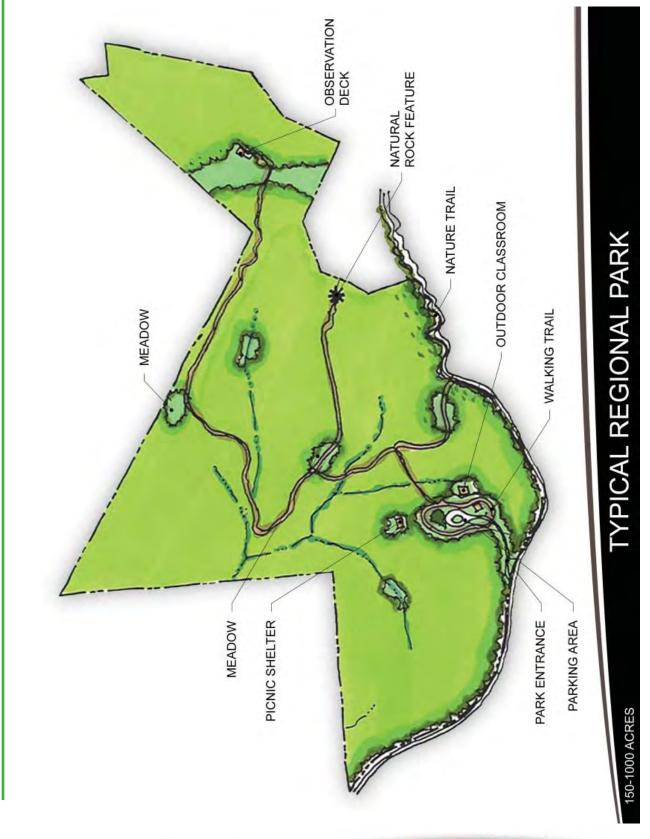
Picnic Shelters and Grills Picnic Tables with Grills (not under

Boating shelter)

Parking Restrooms/Vending Swimming

Fishing Piers/Boat Docks







District Parks

A district park functions as the major source of active recreation for several neighborhoods within a community. District parks are intensely developed, offering a multitude of facilities in order to serve their intended geographic user area. Activities are balanced between active and passive recreation. District Parks are typically developed to accommodate athletic league sporting events and tournament competition. Passive recreation opportunities are found in the undisturbed areas, preferably within surrounding buffers. District parks present great opportunities for non-traditional types of recreation.

Sites for district parks should be relatively level to alleviate excessive grading for the active facilities. Where possible, there should be an equal balance of wooded and cleared areas. If a natural water feature is present, the adjoining land should be developed primarily as passive recreation. Accessibility to neighborhoods should be an important consideration when choosing sites. The development of district parks is typically the responsibility of county or municipal agencies.

Specific standards/criteria for developing district parks are as follows:

Service area: 1 to 2 ½ mile radius

Acreage/Population Ratio: 5 acres per 1,000 persons

Desirable Range: 75-200 acres

Desirable Size: +100 acres

<u>Typical Facilities:</u> Tennis Courts (lighted)

Playgrounds Full or Half Size Basketball Courts
Volleyball Courts Baseball/Softball/Multi-Purpose Field
Soccer/Football Field Soccer Practice Field (movable goals)

Nature Trail Picnic Tables with Grill (with/without shelter)

Restrooms/Concessions Benches or Bench Swings

Parking/Service Yard 50% of Site Remains Undeveloped

*Alternate Facilities: Recreation Center

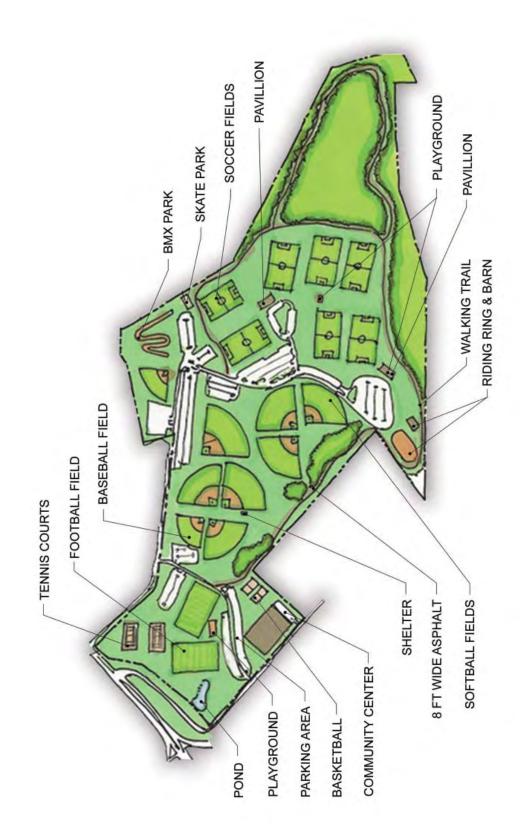
Tennis Center Amphitheater

Observation Decks Fishing Piers/Boating/Boat Dock

^{*} Alternate facilities may be added or substituted.







TYPICAL DISTRICT PARK



Community Parks

Community parks focus on meeting community-based recreational needs, as well as preserving unique landscapes and open spaces. Compared to district parks, community parks have a smaller range of recreation facilities. They may host athletic league sports events and provide passive recreation. Fifty percent of the community park property should be developed for only passive recreation, with these relatively undisturbed areas serving as buffers around the park and/or acting as buffers between active facilities.

Community park sites should have varying topography and vegetation. A number of different tree species should also be present in forested areas. Community parks should contain cleared areas for the purpose of locating active recreational facilities. At least one natural water feature (lake, river or creek) is desirable in community parks. The land acquired for use as a community park should be contiguous in nature and strategically located in order to serve all users within the designated community. The development of community parks typically falls within the realm of municipal responsibilities.

Specific standards/criteria for developing community parks are as follows:

Service area: 1 to 2 mile radius

Acreage/Population Ratio: 2-5 acres per 1,000 persons

Desirable Range: 15-50 acres

Desirable Size: 25 acres

Typical Facilities:

Playgrounds Full Size or Half Size Basketball Courts

Swimming Pool Tennis/Volleyball Courts

Nature Trails 50% of Site to Remain Undeveloped

Restrooms/Concessions Soccer/Multi-Purpose Fields

Parking Picnic Tables/Shelter with/without Grills

Benches or Bench Swings

*Alternate Facilities:

Recreation Center Natural Water Features

Disc Golf Amphitheater

Observation Decks

^{*}Alternate facilities may be added or substituted.







Neighborhood Parks

Neighborhood parks offer the public a convenient source of recreation while serving as the social foci of neighborhoods. Usually located within walking distance of the area serviced, neighborhood parks provide both active and passive recreation opportunities that are of interest to all age groups. The smaller size of neighborhood parks, as compared to those previously mentioned, requires intense development with fifty percent of each site remaining undisturbed to serve as a buffer between the park and adjacent property owners.

Specific standards/criteria for neighborhood parks are as follows:

Service area: 34 to 1 mile radius to serve walk-in

Acreage/Population Ratio: 2 acres per 1,000 persons

Desirable Size: 7-15 acres

<u>Typical Facilities:</u> Playground

Softball or Baseball Field

50% of Site to Remain Undeveloped

Multi-Purpose Field Half Basketball Courts

Picnic Tables with Grills (not under shelter)

Picnic Shelter with Grill Benches or Bench Swings

*Alternate Facilities: Tennis Courts

Nature Trails

^{*} Alternate facilities may be added or substituted.







Mini Parks

The function of a mini park is to provide very limited, isolated or unique recreational needs. Mini parks are the smallest classification of parks that exist. They are often served by school and church playgrounds. These parks are located within walking distance of the area served and they provide limited recreational activities. Their very small size requires intense development and there is little or no buffer between mini parks and adjacent property owners.

Specific standards/criteria for mini parks are as follows:

Service area: ¼ to ½ mile radius to serve walk-in recreation

needs of surrounding populations

<u>Acreage/Population Ratio:</u> 0.5 acres per 1,000 persons

Desirable Size: ±1 acre

Typical Facilities: Playground

Half Basketball Courts

Picnic Tables with Grills (not under shelter)

Benches or Bench Swings

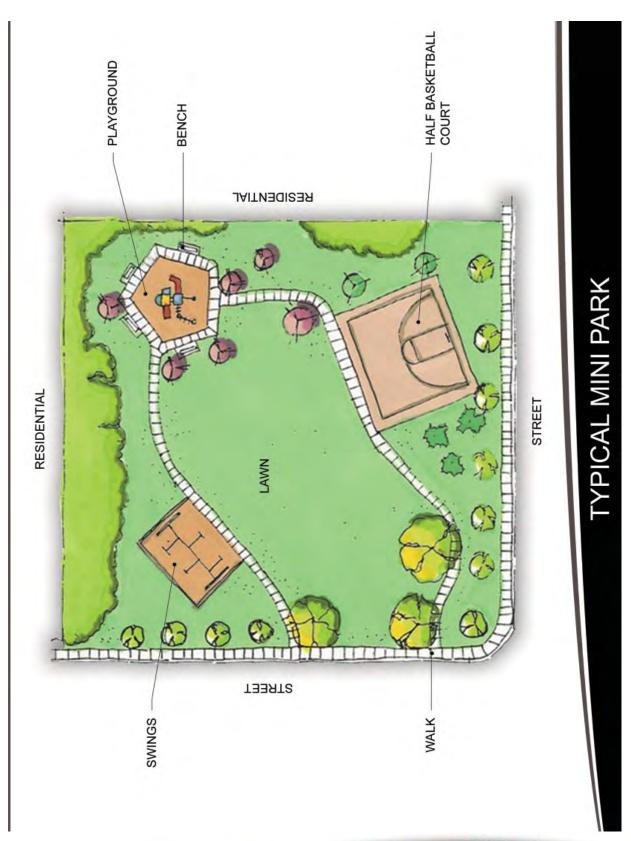
Open Play Area

*Alternate Facilities: Tennis Courts

Nature Trails

^{*}Alternate facilities may be added or substituted.







Linear Parks/Greenways

A linear park is an area developed for one or more varying modes of recreational travel, such as hiking, biking, et cetera. Linear parks are developed for several reasons:

- 1) to connect existing recreational facilities
- 2) to facilitate public right-of-ways
- 3) to connect destination points
- 4) to meet public demand
- 5) to provide a natural corridor enabling connectivity for wildlife habitats

As such, the length and size of linear parks vary considerably, depending on the terrain of the park land and the distance between entities to be connected, such as parks, schools, homes, businesses and cultural/historical resources. In some cases, a linear park is developed within a large land area designated for protection and management of the natural environment, with recreation opportunities being a secondary objective.

Unique or Special Use Facilities

The unique or special use facilities are park types that exist for the sole purpose of enhancing or utilizing a special man-made or natural feature. They can include beaches, parkways, historical sites, sites of archeological significance, swimming pools, conservation easements, flood plains, et cetera. An excellent example of this is Pinehurst's Harness Track. Minimum standards relating to acreage or population have not been established by the park and recreation industry for this category of park. A size that is sufficient to protect and interpret the resource while providing optimum use, is considered desirable.

Open Space

While it is realistic and appropriate to adopt population—based standards for park land and facilities, it is not realistic to establish open space standards. The more reasonable method of establishing appropriate standards for open space is to determine the criteria necessary for the protection of significant natural areas contained therein.

Public open space is defined as any land acquired for the purpose of keeping it in a primarily undeveloped state. The functions of open space include:

- 1) preservation of drainage areas for water supplies (watersheds)
- 2) protection of areas which are particularly well suited for growing crops



Page 35



(farmland preservation)

- 3) protection of communities to prevent urban sprawl (greenbelts)
- 4) protection of wildlife habitat (sanctuaries)
- 5) protection of approach and take-off areas near airports (clear zones)
- 6) protection of undeveloped land (landfills)
- 7) protection of areas aesthetically pleasing for a corridor (viewshed)

While these areas are some of the more common open spaces, many others exist. Moore County's open space is primarily limited to State lands, privately-owned agricultural land and conservation areas.

4.5 **EVALUATION OF PARK LAND NEEDS**

When comparing a park system to national standards, one method is to examine the total acreage of the park system. The NRPA Park land guidelines (in acres) for the total service population of the Village of Pinehurst are provided in this section. Population figures in this analysis, estimated at 12,458, include the estimated population of residents in the Village as of 2011. The acreage requirement is based on the population ratio method (acres of park land per population of 1,000) pre-established for each classification of park.

Table 4.5-1 Village of Pinehurst Parks

VILLAGE OF PINEHURST EXISTING PARK ACREAGE			
Cannon Park (Neighborhood)	15 acres		
Rassie Wicker Park/Arboretum (Community)	103 acres		
Pinehurst Harness Track/Fair Barn (Special Facility)	111 acres		
West Pinehurst Community Park- Planned	67 acres		
Village Green (Special Facility)	7 acres		
TOTAL VILLAGE OF PINEHURST PARK ACREAGE	303 acres		



Table 4.5-2 Village of Pinehurst PARK ACREAGE BY CLASSIFICATION

(Based on NRPA Guidelines)

TYPE OF PARK	Existing** Village of Pinehurst Acreage	Recommended for 2011 Population 12,458	Recommended for 2031 Population 18,910*
REGIONAL PARK (NPS&NC) 1,000 acres or 10 acres/1,000 persons	NA	NA	NA
DISTRICT PARK 200 acres or 5 acres/1,000 persons	0 Acres	62.5 acres	95 acres
COMMUNITY PARK 20-30 acres or 2.5 acres/1,000 persons	89 acres 67 acres (future park) 156 Total Acres	31 acres	47 acres
NEIGHBORHOOD PARK 7-15 acres or 2 acres/1,000 persons	15 acres	25 acres	38 acres
MINI PARK 1-2 acres or 0.5 acres/1,000 persons	0 Acres	6 acres	10 acres

^{*}Figure represents Village Population Projections

At the present time, the Village of Pinehurst does not have any Regional, District, or Mini parks. Regional Park facilities are typically provided by County and State agencies in order to serve a regional area. Although the standards suggest the need for an additional 6 acres for Mini parks, citizen input hasn't expressed a need for this type of park facility. However if the need arises in the future, land acquisition may be difficult.

In addition, recreational standards suggest over 62 acres for District Park acreage. Although there are no District Parks in the park system, the existing Community Parks provide an abundance of parklands totaling 103 acres. The addition of West Pinehurst Community Park will add to the park acreage available in the Park System.

^{**}See Chart 4.5-1 and 4.5-2 for individual park acreage.



The Village should continue to search for opportunities to acquire additional land for parks. As Pinehurst continues to grow demand for recreational opportunities will increase while land will become more limited.

The Village of Pinehurst is not currently deficient in acreage for community parks. NRPA guidelines suggest that 10 additional acres of neighborhood park lands are needed to meet the current population and approximately 23 additional acres to meet the 2031 projected population.

4.6 EVALUATION OF FACILITY NEEDS

The results of local standards established by the North Carolina Department of Environment & Natural Resources, and (foremost) Village of Pinehurst have been compiled (Table 4.6-1) in order to assess the current and future facility needs as follows:

Table 4.6-1: CURRENT AND FUTURE FACILITY NEEDS

Where the Village of Pinehurst standards deviate from the state standards, current demands on Park and Recreation programs have been taken into account.

Facility	NCDENR Standards (Recommended)	Existing Facilities	2011 Demand per Population	2031 Demand per Population
Village of Pinehurst facil	ities*		12,458	18,910
		Fields		
Adult Baseball	1/5,000	1	2	3
Youth Baseball	1/5,000	1	2	3
Softball	1/5,000	0	3	4
Football	1/10,000	0	1	2
Soccer	1/5,000	1	3	4
		Courts		
Basketball	1/5,000	0	3	4
Tennis	1/2,000	0	6	10
Volleyball	1/5,000	1	3	4
Shuffleboard	1/5,000	0	3	4
Horseshoe	1/2,000	2	6	10
Outdoor Areas				
Picnic Shelter	1/3,000	2	4	6
Playground Activities	1/2,500	2	5	8
Amphitheater	1/20,000	1	0	0

01/01/2011 Page 37



Trails				
Walking/Hiking	0.4mile/1,000	9 miles	5 miles	8 miles
Equestrian	0.4mile/1,000	NA	NA	NA
Camping	2.5 sites/1,000	NA	NA	NA
Archery Area	1/50,000	NA	NA	NA
	Sp	pecialized		
Community Center	1/20,000	0	1	1
Swimming Pool	1/20,000	0	1	1
Golf Courses	1/25,000	NA	NA	NA
Bicycling (Urban)	NA	NA	NA	NA
Auditorium	1/20,000	1	1	1
Canoeing/Boating				
Streams/Lakes	0.2 mile/1,000	NA	NA	NA
Streams/Lake Access	1/10 miles	NA	NA	NA

^{*}Existing Facilities include only the facilities owned by Village of Pinehurst

Based on the information contained in Table 4.6-1, the Village of Pinehurst does not meet the state or national standard guidelines for most of their recreational facility needs. Due to the specific needs of the Village, many of the facilities listed above are not necessary for implementation. The community workshops and the recreation survey will be used as primary guides in prescribing the specific needs for the Village of Pinehurst Parks and Recreation Department, both now and for the future. Deficiencies are apparent in almost every category represented in Table 4.6-2. Some of the needed facilities, such as golf courses and swimming, are offered by other entities within the Village of Pinehurst and do not need to be duplicated.

Table 4.6-2 EXISTING AND RECOMMENDED NUMBER OF PUBLIC FACILITIES

Facility	Existing Number of Facilities	Needed to Meet Current Demand	Needed to Meet 2030 Demand
Adult Baseball	1	1	3
Youth Baseball	1	2	3
Softball	0	3	2
Football	0	1	2
Soccer	1	1	3
Basketball Court	0	3	4
Tennis Court	0	6	10
Volleyball Court	1	2	3



Facility	Existing Number of Facilities	Needed to Meet Current Demand	Needed to Meet 2030 Demand
Shuffleboard Court	0	3	4
Horseshoe Pitch	2	4	8
Picnic Shelter	2	2	4
Playground Activities	2	3	6
Amphitheater	NA	NA	NA
Walking/Hiking Trails	9 miles	0 additional	0 additional
Equestrian Trails	NA	NA	NA
Camping	NA	NA	NA
Archery	NA	NA	NA
Community Center	0	1	1
Swimming Pool	0	1	1
Golf Course	NA	NA	NA
Auditorium	1	0	0
Streams/Lakes	NA	NA	NA
Stream/Lake Access	NA	NA	NA

To summarize, the charts above are the result of the recreational facility needs assessment, both current and future, based on NRPA and NCDENR standards; the charts do not consider community input, which is the primary guide for the development of the Master Plan.

- END OF SECTION -

Page 1



SECTION 5

GOALS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 INTRODUCTION

As identified in the inventory portion of this report (Section 3), there are eight (8) separate, existing recreational facilities owned and operated by the Village of Pinehurst. The parks currently offer a mix of active and passive recreation opportunities. This Comprehensive Master Plan serves as a map for the future development of recreation facilities for the Village of Pinehurst Parks and Recreation Department. The plan incorporates recommendations to accomplish the objectives set forth in the Master Plan. These recommendations are divided into the following categories:

- Roles of the Village of Pinehurst Providers
- Roles of Other Recreation Providers
- Park Proposals and Recommendations
- Facility Proposals and Recommendations
- Priorities for Development

5.2 ROLES OF THE VILLAGE OF PINEHURST PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

The goal of the Village of Pinehurst Parks and Recreation Department is to provide a variety of quality leisure services in a clean, safe environment for citizens of all ages. To fulfill this mission, the Parks and Recreation Department offers a wide variety of active and passive recreation opportunities to the residents of Pinehurst and the surrounding area. Pinehurst is a major provider of active and passive recreation opportunities in Moore County. The recent land acquisition off Chicken Plant Road will allow the Parks and Recreation Department to continue in this role by expanding recreation facilities and programming to serve the growing population within this area.

To avoid overextending their staff, the Parks and Recreation Department needs to investigate partnerships with other recreation providers and community groups. Currently, the Department partners with the County School System, the County Health Department, Aberdeen, Southern Pines, and several other organizations. These partnerships should be continued and new partnership possibilities explored, especially with the addition of new recreation facilities and greenways to the park system.



5.3 ROLES OF OTHER RECREATION PROVIDERS

Public Sector

Moore County and Municipal Parks and Recreation Departments

Parks and Recreation Departments within Moore County play an active role in providing recreation opportunities to County residents. The Village should encourage the County and adjacent municipalities to develop greenways that connect to the greenway/trail system developed by the Village of Pinehurst. In addition, as demand for recreational facilities continues to increase, the Village should coordinate future planning efforts with County Recreation Departments in order to identify recreation programming, facility expansion, and potential partnerships. The NFL Punt, Pass, & Kick Program is an excellent example of a cooperative effort between the Pinehurst, Southern Pines, and Aberdeen Recreation departments.

The close vicinity to the Town's of Southern Pines and Aberdeen offers numerous recreation opportunities for the Pinehurst Recreation Department. These opportunities include park facility resources that can potentially reduce the demand for each department. For instance, the Town of Southern Pines' Morganton Road Sports Complex offers multiple soccer field which can accommodate participants which live in Pinehurst and Aberdeen. The Village should continue to not compete but rather compliment the neighboring recreation departments park facilities and programs being offered. Furthermore, as trail facilities continue to expand, it will be important for the departments to coordinate future locations for connectivity to neighboring communities.

Moore County Health Department

In September of 2008, the Moore County Health Department through Moore Health received a Childhood Obesity Prevention Demonstration Project (COPDP) grant from the NC Division of Public Health. As a result of this grant, the Pinehurst Parks and Recreation Department was able to add sidewalks and trails to the Greenway System. The Village should continue to partner with the County Health Department for wellness programs.

Moore County Schools

Moore County Schools offer a number of various recreational facilities that are used by the public, including the Village of Pinehurst. The Parks and Recreation Department should





continue the long-standing partnership with the Moore County Schools and Pinehurst Elementary School in particular for the use of recreational facilities. Such a relationship is mutually beneficial. In addition, the Village should evaluate the potential recreational opportunities as school facilities are developed in the future. Periodic evaluation should also allow for any arrangements to adjust and meet the changing needs of both organizations.

Private Sector

FirstHealth of the Carolinas

The Parks and Recreation Department partners with FirstHealth of the Carolinas and Pinehurst Elementary School for various "Walk to School" days and the popular "Walking School Bus". This effort was funded through a Fit Community Grant, which the partnership received in 2008 to promote healthy lifestyles and fight childhood obesity rates. In addition, the Parks and Recreation Department and FirstHealth Center for Health and Fitness partner together to assemble a swim team, which competes in a local swim league.

Sandhills Optimist Club

The Sandhills Optimist Club sponsors the Sandhills Optimist Youth Baseball program. The baseball programs offer youth baseball for Pinehurst residents.

Kiwanis Club of the Sandhills

The annual Oktoberfest at the Fair Barn is a partnership between the Kiwanis Club of the Sandhills and the Pinehurst Parks and Recreation Department. Food, beverages, music, and dancing are the main attractions to this German-themed festival. The American-German Club assists with dances and contests. In addition, the Pinehurst Kiwanis Club co-sponsors the Coach Pitch Baseball League.

Village Heritage Foundation

The Village Heritage Foundation in cooperation with the municipal government provided funding for the development of the Village Arboretum. The Foundation is currently in the process of developing a pavilion for the Village Arboretum.



The Arts Council of Moore County

The Parks and Recreation Department and the Arts Council of Moore County co-sponsor an on-going series of concerts and events held in the beautiful Arboretum in Rassie Wicker Park as well as "Arts in the Park" in Cannon Park.

Pinehurst, Inc.

The Parks and Recreation Department and Pinehurst, Inc., co-sponsor swim lessons for individuals that wish to continue improving their swimming skills.

Pinehurst Tennis Club

The Parks and Recreation Department and the Pinehurst Tennis Club partner together to provide tennis programs offering adult and youth tennis lessons to the public. These lessons are co-sponsored and held at the Pinehurst Tennis Club.

Sandhills Chapter of the Antique Automobile Club of America

The Sandhills Chapter of AACA and the Parks and Recreation Department co-sponsor an antique car show at the Pinehurst Harness Track.

Pinehurst Driving and Training Club

The Pinehurst Driving and Training Club organizes and manages the Spring Matinee Races, which are open to the public at the Pinehurst Harness Track.

Private Developers

The private sector is an important component for the Parks and Recreation Department in providing resources and opportunities for the Village's recreation system. Developers can assist Pinehurst by the dedication, construction, and/or reservation of future park sites, open space, and/or greenway corridors during the overall development process.

The Village's Development Ordinance has a policy requirement which requires developers to provide parkland or a fee in-lieu of parkland dedication. In many cases, the land offered for dedication by a developer may be in areas which would remain undeveloped or is of a size that is not suitable for inclusion into the park system. In addition, the



location of the dedicated land offered may not be suitable for the Village of Pinehurst's long-term goals for future park or greenway facilities. By establishing this regulation, the Village can apply subject monies from the fee in-lieu for the dedication or development of existing parks, future parks, or trail facilities, which contributes more to the whole community rather than to a single development. The Village should continue to uphold this requirement and reevaluate the fee requirement and amount of land to be dedicated as land values adjust.

In addition, it is recommended that the Village provide language in the Development Ordinance requiring public access for greenways/trails as reflected in the Master Plan. The Parks and Recreation Department should coordinate with the Planning Department to ensure open space or dedication of public access, if applicable.

5.4 PARK PROPOSALS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Village of Pinehurst's Parks and Recreation Department is an important provider of active and passive recreation for the Village of Pinehurst. Cannon Park and Rassie Wicker Park are the traditional sites of active recreational opportunities for the residents of Pinehurst and will continue to be developed further to provide for the Village's recreational needs. The inclusion of a Community Center in Cannon Park would enhance the Recreation Department's ability to provide quality programming for Village residents for years to come. It has been determined that in order to create a complete and balanced recreation system that serves the needs of all its citizens, the Village of Pinehurst Parks and Recreation Department will focus on two (2) major components: (1) active recreation facilities and programming, and (2) a greenways and trails system. The following recommendations address these two (2) facets:

General Recommendations

General recommendations are designed to provide guidance for the operations, goals, administration, and growth of the Village of Pinehurst Parks and Recreation Department. Many of these recommendations depend upon successful collaboration between the Parks and Recreation Department and other Village offices, such as the Planning Department.

Recommendation #1: Facility and Program Accessibility

Every park and recreation facility the Village of Pinehurst Parks and Recreation Department operates will respect and provide the needs of the disabled population through design



and programming. All new facilities will be designed to meet current Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements. Currently, the Parks and Recreation Department is in compliance with these regulations at existing facilities; however, as new facilities are acquired or developed, priority will be given to the continual upgrading of existing facilities that, perhaps, become non-compliant.

Recommendation #2: Design and Daily Maintenance

The facilities owned and operated by the Village of Pinehurst Parks and Recreation Department will appeal to residents of the Village and visitors to the area. Priority will be given to improving the design of facilities such that they are architecturally, functionally, and ecologically progressive. Daily maintenance practices will be continued to improve the cleanliness and longevity of all facilities.

Master planning will always be completed for park improvements or new facilities prior to final budgeting and/or design; thereby, making the phasing/development more transitional and of higher quality. Design (and redesign) of all facilities will embrace ecologically responsible elements and methods such as the use of native plants for landscaping, the incorporation of wildlife habitats, the use of permeable surfaces to reduce stormwater runoff where possible, and "green" building practices for structures.

Recommendation #3: Walkable Communities

The Village of Pinehurst will promote land uses and site designs that make walking and bicycling convenient and enjoyable. They will also encourage the inclusion of public greenways or trails in private developments and the establishment of connectivity to and/ or between public schools, parks, and other public destinations.

Recommendation #4: Greenways/Multi-use Trails

Based on state and national studies, walking and biking are highly desired activities, which are increasing by bounds. The community surveys also indicated the local demand for facilitating these activities, with a majority of the respondents favoring the development of new greenways. The Village will continue with its efforts to expand the greenway system and work with Moore County and neighboring municipalities to develop greenway trails to various destination points within the County.

Recommendation #5: Bike Facilities

Given the high cost of fuel for vehicular transportation, air quality concerns, and the need to increase the health/fitness of the population; a planned network of bike trails, bike lanes, and shared roadways will be developed to support alternative transportation to



recreation facilities and travel within the Village of Pinehurst. Future roadway construction within the Village will include provisions to accommodate pedestrian and bicycle travel. This network will connect both existing, as well as future park facilities and greenways. In addition, bike racks (sheltered at schools and other potential high-use areas) will be installed at all publicly-owned facilities within the Village.

Recommendation #6: Greenway Funding

The Village of Pinehurst will consider including "language" in the Development Ordinance for fee in-lieu of pedestrian facility to fund greenway land acquisition and construction where the need for pedestrian connections cannot rely on the timing of private property development. In addition, the Village will continue to pursue grants for funding trail construction. The Village should also encourage private facilities to develop pedestrian facilities in order to provide connectivity to the Village system.

Recommendation #7: Recreation Easements

The Village of Pinehurst will continue to encourage the coordination and planning for future utility easements with greenway facilities. The easements will be established to allow for the inclusion of recreation facilities where possible. Where new development occurs, the Village will work with the developer to provide right-of-ways or easements for proposed and future greenway facilities.

Recommendation #8: Way Finding

The Village of Pinehurst will continue to implement a uniform system of directional signage for parks and greenways within the Village as facilities are added to the park system. The signs will direct users to the parks and to facilities within the parks. A uniform system of signs will allow users to immediately recognize Village Park signs from among the plethora of signs on the roadways.

Recommendation #9: Intergovernmental Cooperation

The Village of Pinehurst will continue to coordinate planning efforts with the Moore County School System, local municipalities, and Moore County to provide greenway and park facilities. Representatives of the Village and of these agencies will meet periodically to discuss development and recreation projects that are planned or are underway within the County. The purpose of these meetings is to discuss upcoming project opportunities and development trends in demographics and growth, newly identified citizen needs in recreation and open space, and recreation master plan updates for Moore County, local municipalities, and adjacent counties. This will also insure that redundancy in services is prevented and that all opportunities for partnerships and connectivity are being utilized.



Recommendation #10: New Development Opportunities

The Village will require developers to provide connectivity between developments and public facilities - such as parks, schools, and other pedestrian facilities. The inclusion of public greenways or trails in private developments will also be encouraged. If no suitable land for park or greenway development is available, the Village will continue to allow developers to pay into the fee-in-lieu of parkland dedication.

Recommendation #11: Partnership Agreement

It is recommended that the Village Staff meet with existing and potential partners to determine needs and possible partnership opportunities. The Village will begin this process by developing an approach to each potential partner to establish an understanding of each entity's needs; and ultimately, result in a partnership agreement. The process will require periodic progress meetings with each partner to facilitate the partnerships goals and objectives. This may entail presentations to the partner's board or committee.

Recommendation #12: Interpretative Signage

The Village of Pinehurst will consider placing signage that would identify historic and natural landmarks along greenway corridors. This type of signage would not only enhance the pedestrian experience; but also, provide educational and cultural information to greenway users.

Recommendation #13: Educational and Stewardship Programming

The Village of Pinehurst Conservation Commission includes the Greenway Wildlife Habitat Committee which promotes efforts towards conservation, restoration, and eduction of wildlife habitat along the Greenway System. The Recreation Department will continue to partner with this committee as park facilities are added or expanded. Opportunities include environmental education programing and interpretative facilities at park locations and along greenway corridors as opportunities arise for future park development.

Recommendation #14: Green Building

Page 8

It is recommended that the Parks and Recreation Department implement green building components into the existing and future parks facilities. Green building techniques consist of building materials and construction practices which reduce environmental impacts (green house gases, water pollution, and air pollution) and promote energy efficient building materials/methods. These efforts will improve environmental stewardship for park facilities and also educate park users.





Recommendation #15: Contiguous Property Acquisition

When property that is contiguous to existing parks becomes available, all reasonable efforts will be made to acquire the property. Large acreage parks offer recreation amenities that can only be achieved on large sites. The acquisition of contiguous property next to Village Parks will be of high priority to the Village of Pinehurst. Efforts will be made immediately to seek first option on all contiguous properties. At the time these options are sought, other possibilities will be presented to the property owner as well. Some property owners may be receptive to conservation easements while retaining the title to the property. Conservation easements will allow the Village the opportunity to use properties for recreation while providing the immediate benefits of preservation. Numerous grant sources can be used for land acquisition. Extreme care will be exercised in choosing the correct processes and timing for acquisition to meet the full potential afforded by grants.

Recommendation #16: Acceptance of Fee Simple Land Donation

If land is offered to the Village of Pinehurst as donation by fee simple title with no restrictions, the property will be surveyed for natural heritage significance and relationship to existing plans and parks. If the land contains no environmental hazards, restrictive covenants, or restrictive easements; it can be useful and beneficial for the Village to assume ownership. Not all donated land has to be developed into a park in order to be useful. Any land donation to the Village serves a great public need even if it is banked for the future, because the development and public needs of the distant future (over 50 years) is unknown. If donated property were properly managed, the revenue and future significance of the property would far exceed its current contribution to the tax base. If the Village chooses not to accept land donation of a particular property, efforts will be made to assist the property owner with contacting an agency that accepts land donations or conservation easements. Land donations (which the Village has no interest in owning) could be donated to SALT.

Recommendation #17: Parkland Acquisition

The Village should continue to evaluate and monitor the development potential of the Village and surrounding areas. If it appears that new parklands are in the best long term interest, the Village should attempt to acquire land for additional park development that meet the relevant criteria.



Park Recommendations

In Section 4, "Recreation Needs Assessment: Evaluation of Facility Needs", specific facility needs were identified for the Village of Pinehurst by both the recreation guidelines set forth by the National Recreation and Parks Association and the community input process. Subsequently, Section 5 summarizes the Village's needs for their existing/future facilities and makes recommendations for activities to be considered in the future development of their park system.

Cannon Park

Cannon Park is a primary park facility for recreation in the Village of Pinehurst. It provides opportunities for both passive and active recreation. After hearing suggestions at the community meetings, studying the public survey responses, and having discussions with the Parks and Recreation Steering Committee and Village Staff, the following improvements to Village Park are recommended.

The Village of Pinehurst needs an indoor facility for various athletic and general programming activities. There is strong support for the construction of a new Community Center in order to provide an important multi-purpose facility serving the recreational needs of Village residents. This facility should include a gymnasium for basketball, volleyball, and other recreational programming. In addition, the facility should also include large rooms for aerobics, crafts, and multi-purpose uses (such as meetings, senior adult programs, and banquets). Administrative offices, as well as restrooms and storage, must also be integral parts of this facility.

Such a facility (as the one just described) must meet the needs of all the population of the Village of Pinehurst. Youth and senior adults were noted earlier as being user groups that are in the greatest need for more recreation programs and activities. It is critical that this facility be developed as a true community center and not just an athletic facility.

The optimal location for this addition to Cannon Park would be in the general location of the former Village Hall. This area is very visible and would provide a prominent location for the facility. In addition, the area has been previously developed which would cause minimal impact to undeveloped areas as well as existing recreational amenities.

Parking availability is currently not a major concern at Cannon Park. However, with the addition of a new community center, additional parking will be required. The existing parking areas at the park have been evaluated and it is recommended that these areas be improved to provide more efficient areas and maximize the parking that can be accommodated. The existing parking located at the southeastern and western perimeter is compacted sand pavement. These parking areas have parking inefficiencies due



to the inability to provide pavement markings. It is recommended that wheel stops be added to these parking areas in order to delineate individual parking spaces. In addition, landscaped islands added to the southeastern parking area will further delineate parking bays, improve parking inefficiencies, and provide improved aesthetics with additional landscaping.

It is recommended that walking trails be constructed in order to provide connectivity from parking areas to the proposed community center and park amenities. "Adding or improving trails" received the highest number of responses from community meetings and the public survey. A trail extension to Rassie Wicker Park via Woods Road should also be implemented. The two parks are in close proximity to each other and have the opportunity to connect with sidewalks or a multipurpose trial. Continued trail maintenance should ensure that the existing soft-surface park trails remain useful and appreciated.

It is also recommended that the existing storage and restroom facility, which is located on Woods Road, be replaced with a new storage and restroom facility. This facility is out-dated and the restrooms often in need of repair. Simply repairing the facility would be expensive and short-term in duration – problems will continue to occur. A new facility would provide the storage space to meet the need of the park staff and maintenance crew.

Rassie Wicker Park

Rassie Wicker Park is a multi-phased park which began construction of Phase 1 in 2005 and is one of the most recent park additions to be developed by the Parks and Recreation Department. This facility is adjacent to Village Hall, Village Police Station, and Village Fire Station and is within walking distance to Cannon Park. The park facility currently provides a number of recreation amenities which include an in-line hockey rink, soccer field, walking trails, playground, restroom facility, and parking area. The most recent improvement includes the Village Arboretum, which is comprised of a trail system, garden areas, and open meadow for concerts and other special events. The Village Heritage Foundation is in the planning stages for the development of a education pavilion at the Arboretum. In addition, a sidewalk should be implemented along Magnolia and Woods Road to provide a pedestrian connection to Cannon Park. The Master Plan recommends the following additions:

Phase 1

- 1. Two (2) Tennis Courts
- 2. Parking and Landscaped Areas



Phase 2

- 1. More Walking Trails
- 2. Playground Climbing Boulder

Phase 3

- 1. Sand Volleyball Court
- 2. Shuffleboard
- 3. Bocce
- 4. Horseshoe Pits
- 5. Picnic Shelter

Phase 4

- Splash Pad Aquatic Feature
- 2. Two (2) Small Shelters

Phase 5

1. Trail Boardwalk, Fitness Trail Stations

Fair Barn

The Fair Barn is quite a unique facility for the Village of Pinehurst Parks and Recreation Department - providing an excellent venue for social and cultural activities. Based on the age of this building, it should be assessed for needed improvements on a regular basis, including structural stability. The availability of parking is a concern for this facility. Additional spaces should be added to ease existing parking problems.

Pinehurst Harness Track

The Pinehurst Harness Track is a 111-acre equestrian facility which operates as a winter training center (October – April) for standardbred horses. It provides a unique cultural opportunity and special events for residents and visitors to experience. Typical events include horse shows, car shows, dog shows and rugby matches. Improvements to this facility should primarily focus on the repairs and maintenance to existing structures. This facility is large and may be able to accommodate additional recreational activities such as greenway trail linkages. This possibility should be explored by the Parks and Recreation Department. The tracks are currently rented off-season for horse shows, car shows, dogs shows, and rugby matches.

Page 13



The Village Greenway System

The Village of Pinehurst Greenway System has currently completed approximately six (6) miles of trail. The greenway trails are for pedestrian and bicycle access and provide an excellent recreational opportunity to its users. The Greenway system connects several destinations within the Village including the Village Parks. Continued expansion is planned for the Greenway which includes connections to existing trails, popular pedestrian destinations (i.e. schools, assisted living communities, shopping), and neighboring communities. The Village has been coordinating with the Town of Southern Pines on future trail connections. Additional connections to the Greenway should be explored and developed as opportunities arise.

Village Green

The Village Green was a planned green space area when the Village was initially master planned by Olmstead. This area has remained primarily undisturbed and has served as open space for the surrounding area. Over decades the green space has evolved from a meadow into a forest of evergreen pines. Recently, there has been a local interest in reevaluating new opportunities for this area. Given the historic significance of the green, careful planning and discussion should be taken in order to determine the primary function and use for this park space.

Proposed West Pinehurst Community Park

The Village of Pinehurst recently acquired 67 acres off of Chicken Plant Road in the western portion of the Village ETJ. The property is intended to be developed as a community park for both active and passive recreation. This property has rolling topography and provides acreage necessary in order to develop numerous athletic fields, trails, and recreational amenities as well as preserving natural areas. The property also includes a pond, which would provide opportunities for fishing and passive recreation such as picnicking. Restrooms/concession buildings, picnic shelters, parking, and lighting should also be considered as part of the park development.

It is recommended that the Village prepare a park master plan for the property to determine the type and amount of amenities that should be developed for this park. This master plan should engage the community to better understand the true needs of the community and residents of the Village. Future improvements based on this Master Plan should consider the following improvements:



Phase 1

Phase 1 would include the construction of the entrance road, utilities, landscaping, and grading for the athletic fields. Recommended amenities in this phase are:

Two (2) Baseball Fields
One (1) Soccer Field
0.5 Mile Walking Trail
1 Picnic Shelter
1 Playground
1 Restroom/Concession Building

Future Phases

Parking

It is recommended that Future Phases include the construction of additional parking, storm water control, utility distribution, and further landscaping. The recommended amenities for this phase are:

One (1) Soccer Field

One (1) Baseball/Softball Field

One (1) Playground

Two (2) Picnic Shelters

Fishing Pier

Dog Park

Walking Trail Expansion

Disc Golf Course

Additional Parking

5.5 FACILITY PROPOSALS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

In Section 4, "Recreation Needs Assessment: Evaluation of Facility Needs", specific facility needs were identified for the Village of Pinehurst Parks and Recreation Department by both the recreation guidelines set forth by the State of North Carolina and the community input process. This section summarizes the Village's needs for its existing/future facilities and makes recommendations for activities to be considered in the future development of its park system.





Adult/Youth Baseball

Currently, the Village of Pinehurst is deficient of two (2) adult and two (2) youth baseball fields. It is recommended that the two (2) existing baseball fields at Cannon Park remain as programmed. Input from the community and Park Staff indicate the immediate need for an additional field. It is recommended that three (3) additional fields be implemented for the future park at Chicken Plant Road.

Softball

The Village's park system is currently deficient of three (3) softball fields - according to recreation standards. It is recommended that the proposed fields at the future park off Chicken Plant Road be implemented to accommodate both baseball and softball in order to optimize use of the park facilities. This will not only allow for expansion of the Parks and Recreation Department's softball program, but will provide space for other groups such as the popular church league.

Football

Based on state standards there is currently a need for one (1) additional football field; however, community input hasn't expressed a strong demand for this facility. By allowing for football practices to occur at the multi-purpose field at Cannon Park and constructing a multi-purpose (soccer/football) field at the new Chicken Plant Road property, this need can be met.

Soccer

Soccer has become a very popular sport among youth in this country and is a growing trend among young adults. NRPA standards and community input have shown a need for two (2) additional soccer fields for the Village of Pinehurst. Currently, the Parks and Recreation Department has only one (1) designated soccer field which is located at Rassie Wicker Park. Input from Village staff has indicated an immediate need for one (1) additional field. It is recommended that one (1) soccer field be implemented as part of the 1st phase of park development at the Chicken Plant Road property. A second soccer field should be implemented in a future phase at the Park.

Tennis Courts

According to park standards (Section 4), the Pinehurst Parks and Recreation Department currently has a deficit of six (6) tennis courts. There is a perceived need (public input) for more public courts in the Village; however, there are tennis courts at nearby Pinecrest



High School and West Pine Middle School that would meet the demand. In addition, two (2) tennis courts are proposed to be developed at Rassie Wicker Park in the future.

Picnic Shelters and Tables

The need for additional picnic areas received a moderate amount of interest from the public. According to park standards, there is a need for at least two (2) additional picnic shelters in the Pinehurst park system. It is recommended that a picnic shelters be added both to the Rassie Wicker Park and the future park off Chicken Plant Road in order to meet the needs of the Village Residents.

Playground Activities

According to recreation standards, Pinehurst needs three (3) more public playgrounds. This amenity was also expressed as a need by a large number of participants in the public meetings. Currently, Rassie Wicker Park and Cannon Park provide playground activities for park users and a new playground addition is planned for Rassie Wicker Park. Additional playgrounds should be implemented at the future park and should include activities for various age groups and abilities. Mini Parks offer an excellent opportunity to provide playground activities with minimal land needed. These parks should be considered as opportunities arise and the community is supportive of the park facility.

Walking /Hiking Trails and Urban Bikeways

Currently, the Village has approximately nine (9) miles of various trail types in the park system, 5.8 of which are part of the Greenway. With the completion of the proposed park at the Chicken Plant Road property, additional trails and paths will be provided for the Village. The current mileage of trails for the estimated 2010 population is sufficient. However, continued development of the Village's Greenway and pathway system should occur.

Splash Pad Aquatic Feature

There is support within the community for the construction of a pool with special recreation features or splash play facility in the Pinehurst Parks and Recreation system. These facilities will provide a recreation opportunity that, as one community meeting attendee stated, "will allow children and grandparents to participate together". The Rassie Wicker Park Master Plan proposed an aquatic feature to be developed, which the Village has planned as a future phase for the Park. It is recommended the Village continue with the future development of this facility.



Staffing and Maintenance

This Master Plan covers a planning period of twenty (20) years. The facilities to be implemented during that time as part of the recommendations will require some level of additional staffing and additional funding for facility operation and maintenance. Consideration of these budgetary impacts should be made prior to facility implementation.

5.6 PRIORITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT

Priority Methodology

The park system for the Village of Pinehurst is a growing network of facilities that will be implemented incrementally. This section describes how the recommended facilities for the Village are prioritized. The following factors guided the prioritization of individual segments of the Master Plan and were derived from input and desires specified by the residents of Pinehurst:

- Needed improvements to existing Pinehurst facilities
- Development of planned facilities to meet the current needs of recreation for Village residents
- Development of planned facilities to meet the future needs of recreation for Village residents
- Connectivity of greenway system to destination points including parks, village center, commercial centers and adjacent greenways.

Priorities for Development

The park facility prioritization is an essential tool that provides the Village of Pinehurst's Parks and Recreation Department with a breakdown of the priority for each capital improvement. Given the magnitude of the budgets for improvements to existing parks and for new park and greenway facilities, prioritization of these needs is clearly important. The Parks and Recreation Department should reevaluate the proposals and recommendations annually and adjust as necessary to reflect the changing trends of the community. The following is a list of priorities based upon the needs assessment process:



Prioritized Projects

2010-2015

Development of Community Center at Cannon Park.

Rassie Wicker Phase 2

Rassie Wicker Phase 3

Expand Greenway Facility

Expand Parking at Fair Barn

Build Restroom/Storage Facility at Cannon Park

2015-2020

West Pinehurst Community Park Phase 1

Rassie Wicker Phase 4

Rassie Wicker Phase 5

Rassie Wicker Phase 6

Expand Greenway Facility

2020-2030

West Pinehurst Community Park Phase 2 Expand Greenway Facility

- END OF SECTION -



Section 6

Action Implementation Plan

6.1 INTRODUCTION

This section describes how Pinehurst can implement a safe, convenient and usable park and recreation system through the execution of the established goals in the Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Master Plan. The strategy for achieving goals involves the recommended park, recreation and greenway facilities/programs discussed in Section 5: Goals and Recommendations. Section 6: Action Implementation Plan, focuses on strategies and opportunities, key implementation steps (implementation policies), necessary staffing and methods for developing facilities. Together, these sections fit together to form the implementation program.

The results of the *Village of Pinehurst Parks and Recreation Comprehensive Master Plan 2011-2031* are based on the following discovery methods:

- 1) a review of the study area, which is within the Village limits
- 2) an analysis of the existing parks and facilities
- 3) community input
- 4) recreation standards which have been generically developed for municipalities and Village governments.

The Master Plan is designed to be an action-oriented tool for the improvement and enhancement of the park system for the Village of Pinehurst.

6.2 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES

Bicycle and Pedestrian-Based Tourism

According to the Nation Trails Training Partnership's <u>Economic Values of Greenways</u>, <u>Trails and River Protections</u> (1995) economies are impacted *very positively* where bicycle and pedestrian tourism is fostered and promoted and where investments are made in bicycle and pedestrian facilities. The number of people who feel comfortable walking or riding bicycles is a measure of the quality of life in that area.

A STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR



Trails and Greenways

Trails and greenways are extremely popular amenities for vacationing bicyclists and pedestrians. Tourists and visitors to the area often return to communities that provide places (which are safely removed from busy roads) for walking and bicycling. Trails offer scenic recreation which is suitable for a wide range of ages and abilities. Many times,

lodging is in close proximity popular trails. thereby increasing occupancy for the owner. For residents in these locales, investments in trails and greenways can increase property values and improve the overall livability of a community, as well as attracting, retaining values and expanding tourism and the associated revenues.

Investing dollars in greenways yields substantial communitywide returns. These returns are in the form of increased property values. attraction of businesses, recreation revenue and reduced water treatment

Page 2



Trails can have a positive economic impact upon a community.

and flooding costs. Not only are tourists attracted to these areas, but business leaders are selecting sites for the relocation and expansion of industries and corporations where the quality of life is high and recreation opportunities are abundant. Increasingly, corporations are recognizing the benefits of convenient fitness and recreation for their employees and are seeking these greenway amenities for potential locations.

Greenways, as vegetated buffers located adjacent to waterways, act as filters to clean the water, trapping nonpoint source pollutants. These pollutants, which include sediment, pesticides, fertilizers, oil, gas and other chemicals, are transported into streams, rivers and lakes by stormwater when rain or snow events occur. Greenways can reduce the need for expensive pre-treatment of the water supply by cleaning it before it reaches municipal water sources.



On-Road Bicycling

Bicycle tourism often occurs with little or no investment in facilities or the infrastructure which is normally required to sustain motor vehicle-based tourism. In areas where networks of lightly traveled back roads and accommodations are prevalent, on-road bicycle routes can provide both visitors and residents an ecologically sound alternative to vehicular travel for sightseeing and recreational travel. When bicycle tourists are attracted to such regions, they become potential customers for bed and breakfasts, restaurants and other service providers in the community.

Trail Development

The ongoing construction of bicycle and pedestrian facilities is proving to be a very wise economic investment for the communities through which they pass. Trails and pathways have a positive effect on nearby property values with homebuyers and business



Lightly traveled back roads can attract bicycle tourists.

owners realizing the effect that such facilities bring to a community. According to research by the *Rails to Trails Conservancy, "Economic Benefits of Trails and Greenways"*, there are vast amounts of people, who are using 'rail' trails. It is easy to understand how communities can profit economically by meeting the needs of trail users; restaurants, convenience stores, bicycle and other merchandise shops, campgrounds and alternative lodgings are all potential businesses that cater to trail users. All of these types of entrepreneurs attribute the location of a nearby trail to at least a portion of their success. Realtors and homebuyers alike are recognizing the benefits of properties located near trails. Both locally and nationally, the construction of trails has proven to be a cost effective use of public funds. In particular, multi-use trails allow more visitors and residents to replace automobile trips with non-motorized trips, thereby moving the citizenry closer to achieving public health objectives, including increased opportunities for physical exercise.

Parks

Research has substantiated the direct correlation between economic growth and the existence of parks and open space in communities and municipalities around the country. This growth includes increased property values in residential, urban and industrial communities, and increased revenue from tourists (<u>Economic Values of Greenways, Trails and River Protections</u>).



Increased Property Value

The real estate market consistently demonstrates that residents throughout the country are willing to invest larger amounts of money in properties that are located close to parks and open space areas than they would for homes that do not offer these types of amenities. The higher values of these homes produce higher property taxes in the affected area. In some instances, additional property taxes are sufficient to recoup the annual debt charges on bonds that were originally used to finance park acquisition and development.

Studies have also concluded that the positive relationship between park proximity and property value also holds true in low-income urban areas. In dense, urban neighborhoods, the value effect of nearby green space can be stronger than the resident's lot value, increasing the lot value and yielding higher property taxes that could help to fund the cost of the park.

As farmland and forests are consumed at the edges of fast-growing municipalities, developers have come to realize that preserving open or natural space within new communities can increase the value of home lots. Thus developers advocate designing around and preserving natural and rustic features such as meadows, orchards, fields, pastures, stream valley habitat and woodlands.

The values of commercial properties also increase when parks or outdoor facilities (outdoor festivals, movies, restaurants, etc.) are in the immediate locale. Studies indicate that "commercial asking rents" near park property exceed rents in surrounding submarkets.

Revitalization of Businesses and Residents

In recent years, there has been a trend to revitalize inner-city and urban areas to improve their quality of life. The success of this revitalization has included the addition of parks and recreational activity in downtown areas. Generally speaking, people do not want to live or work in an environment where they have no refuge from downtown city buildings, without having any place to go out for a stroll, walk the dog, or just enjoy some sunshine. In studies of downtown revitalizations, the top recommendations include "the dramatic expansion of parks and open spaces".



Tourism

A park often becomes the signature attraction for a community or municipality. It is often used as a marketing tool to attract residents, tourists, conventions and businesses. Parks often shape the identity of the area and give residents a sense of pride. For example, Virginia's Creeper Trail, a 34 mile rail trail, was named for the train that climbed Iron Mountain, with a native plant (bearing the same name) growing alongside the route; likewise, the Outer Banks of North Carolina lures cyclists from all areas, due to its reputation for expansive bicycle trails as well as wide, paved shoulders along its roads.



Parks and green spaces provide needed relief in urban areas.

Organized events held in public parks, arts festivals, athletic events, food festivals, concerts, plays, et cetera, often bring substantial positive economic impacts to their communities by filling hotel rooms and restaurants, and bringing customers to other local business enterprises.



6.3 FUNDING COMPARISON

Identification of sufficient funding is a crucial element that is required to implement the Master Plan especially considering the Village's budget constraints. The North Carolina Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan is a guide by which inadequate funding for park and recreation facilities may be identified. Insufficient funding will be a key issue that will need to be addressed in the upcoming years if governments continue to provide basic minimum services. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, North Carolina and its local governments are 33% below the national average in the funding of parks and recreation services.

To meet the existing and future needs of the Village of Pinehurst Parks and Recreation Department, the goals and objectives, which are identified in the Master Plan, must be seriously considered for implementation. The Village will need to continue to establish annual budgets for the Parks and Recreation Department based on projected capital improvement costs, staffing needs and operations/maintenance costs. The operating budget should include costs for staff, operations and general maintenance requirements similar to those being performed by the Parks and Recreation Department. From table 6.3.1 it is clear that Pinehurst's per capita expenditure for Parks and Recreation is in the median range of communities of similar population size.

Park and Recreation Capital Expenditures

The population estimates used in this report were certified Village and municipal estimates in July, 2008. The estimates were provided by the 2008-09 MCPRSS (North Carolina Municipal and Village Parks and Recreation Services Study Executive Report The figures were provided online at http://cnr.ncsu.edu/rrs/services_study.html. The per capita expenditure figures are also from the North Carolina Municipal and Village Parks and Recreation Services Study, Fiscal Year 2008-2009.

The following government entities represent North Carolina municipalities with populations between 8,000 and 14,000 people. The Village of Pinehurst is in the middle of that range of populations.



Table 6.3.1

Municipalities with populations between 8,000 and 14,000	Population estimate 2008	Ranking by Expenditure	Per Capita Expenditure 2008-2009
Mount Holly Parks and Recreation	10,020	1	\$310.25
Mount Airy Parks and Recreation	9,461	2	\$194.90
Oak Island parks and Recreation	8,093	3	\$184.72
Morehead City Parks and Recreation	8,390	4	\$175.22
Davidson Parks and Recreation	9,099	5	\$169.97
Waynesville Parks and Recreation	9,623	6	\$159.88
Spring Lake Recreation and Parks	8,227	7	\$149.06
Morrisville Parks & Rec. & Cultural Res.	13,501	8	\$148.09
Archdale Parks and Recreation	9,530	9	\$115.80
Clayton Parks and Recreation	12,126	10	\$114.50
Washington Parks and Recreation	9,938	11	\$107.96
Pinehurst Parks and Recreation	11,316	12	\$103.96
Knightdale Parks and Recreation	8,877	13	\$101.72
Tarboro Parks and Recreation	10,585	14	\$99.48
Mebane Recreation and Parks	8,296	15	\$97.04
Smithfield Parks and Recreation	12,456	16	\$90.92
Newton Parks and Recreation	13,229	17	\$84.92
Winterville Parks and Recreation	8,192	18	\$74.27
Southern Pines Recreation and Parks	11,990	19	\$68.98
Rockingham Parks and Recreation	9,463	20	\$54.60
Oxford Parks and Recreation	9,313	21	\$51.75
Belmont Parks and Recreation	9,470	22	\$51.28
Hope Mills Parks and Recreation	12,536	23	\$49.75

Estimates provided by the 2008-09 MCPRSS Executive Report

As seen in Table 6.3.1, expenditures for park and recreation departments in the Class population category, range from \$49.75 to \$310.25 per resident. The 2004/2005 spending levels of Pinehurst for parks and recreation are in the median range.

Page 8



CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

The Capital Improvement Program for the development of park facilities is designed to encompass the first ten year period of the Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Master Plan. The proposed costs are based on 2010 material/labor costs, with a 5% inflation rate for yearly increments. Capital improvement costs include general expenditures such as site preparation, building structures, access, site utilities and parking, along with specific recreation improvements. The capital improvement plan also includes estimates for planning or design fees.

The Capital Improvement Program from 2011–2021 can be summarized into the following components:

	Total Capital Improvement Cost	\$9,796,041
•	Greenway Acquisition and Development	\$2,541,000
•	Park Development Program	\$5,929,541
•	Renovation/Improvement Program	\$1,325,500

This Total Capital Improvement Cost represents the proposed, cumulative figure to be spent for park and greenway facility development, improvements and renovations by the year 2020. The total figure equates to approximately \$12,644,226 with a 5% inflation rate over a 10 year period through the year 2020. It is recommended that the Village allocate a budget of \$275,000 per year from 2012 to 2020 for capital improvements of greenway development. This funding will provide a continuous funding source for greenway land acquisition and construction as opportunities develop.

The proposed Capital Improvement Program for the Parks and Recreation Department has been projected for the planning period as shown on the following table:

Table 6.4.1. VILLAGE OF PINEHURST - PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN/2011-2021 10 Year Capital Improvements Plan Summary YEAR 1 YEAR 2 YEAR 3 YEAR 4 YEAR 5 YEAR 6 YEAR 7 YEAR 8 YEAR 9 YEAR 10 2020 **CATEGORY / IMPROVEMENT** COST 2012-2013 2010-2011 2011-2012 2013-2014 2014-2015 2015-2016 2016-2017 2017-2018 2018-2019 2019-2020 **AND AFTER** CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS SUMMARY \$62,500 \$341.000 \$70,000 \$47,000 \$16.500 \$45,000 \$100,000 Fair Barn Cannon Park \$25,000 \$17,500 \$25,000 General Improvements Phase I \$3,427,141 \$925.822 \$2,501,319 Phase II \$30,000 \$30,000 \$126,000 Phase III \$126,000 \$734,500 \$81,500 \$85,000 \$153,000 \$110,000 \$200,000 Harness Track Rassie Wicker Park \$25,000 General Improvements \$25,000 \$255,000 \$255,000 Phase II \$199,000 \$199,000 Phase III \$200,000 Phase IV \$200,000 \$279,000 Phase V \$279,000 \$123,000 \$123,000 Phase VI *West Pinehurst Community Park \$25,000 General Improvements \$25,000 Phase I \$1,240,400 \$1,240,400 Phase II \$538,020 \$538,020 Phase III \$762,500 \$762,500 Phase IV \$268,400 \$268,400 Downtown Comfort Station \$225,000 \$225,000 Greenway Development \$2,541,000 \$126,500 \$214,500 \$275,000 \$275,000 \$275,000 \$275,000 \$275,000 \$275,000 \$275,000 \$275,000 TOTAL PROJECT IMPROVEMENTS \$11,364,961 \$513,000 \$419,500 \$601,000 \$1,607,322 \$3,250,319 \$575,000 \$554,000 \$1,638,400 \$275,000 \$275,000 PROJECT IMPROVEMENTS w/n 10 yr. CII \$9,796,041 \$12,644,226 \$538,650 \$462,499 \$695,733 \$1,953,710 \$4,148,322 \$770,555 \$779,534 \$2,420,663 \$426,615 \$447,946 *Inflated costs using 5% cumulative \$500,000 \$150,000 \$500,000 **Projected Matching Grant Monies** \$1,150,000 TOTAL CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS \$11,321,280 \$538,650 \$462,499 \$695,733 \$1,453,710 \$4,148,322 \$770,555 \$629,534 \$1,920,663 \$426,615 \$275,000 PARTF PARTF PARTF PARTF PARTF **Potential Grant Options** NCDOT NCDOT NCDOT NCDOT NCDOT NCDOT RTP NCDOT NCDOT NCDOT NCDOT PARTF - PARTF Grants allow a dollar for dollar match up to \$1,000,000 for Land Acqusition, Park Develop and Improvements. NCDOT - NCDOT Grants allow a 20%(governing agency)/80%(NCDOT) match for Multi Use Trail Projects, and Support Facilities. RTP - Recreation Trails Program Grants allow a 25%(governing agency)/75% (RTP) match for greenway trails up to \$75,000. The CIP reflects a 5% inflation *Park Development Costs are based upon previous comparible projects with related construction

Table 6.4.1. VILLAGE OF PINEHURST - PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN/2011-2021 10 Year Capital Improvements Plan Summary YEAR 1 YEAR 2 YEAR 3 YEAR 4 YEAR 5 YEAR 6 YEAR 7 YEAR 8 YEAR 9 YEAR 10 2020 **CATEGORY / IMPROVEMENT** COST 2016-2017 2019-2020 2010-2011 2011-2012 2012-2013 2013-2014 2014-2015 2015-2016 2017-2018 2018-2019 AND AFTER **CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS BREAKDOWN** Fair Barn Parking Lot Improvements \$163,500 \$47,000 \$16,500 \$100,000 Overflow Palrking Lot Improvements \$70,000 \$70,000 \$45,000 \$45,000 HVAC System Replacement \$45,000 \$45,000 Floor Resurfacing \$17,500 Repairs/Renovations to Service Pkg. Lot \$17,500 PARK TOTAL \$341,000 Cannon Park \$25,000 Irrigation Improvements \$25,000 Cannon Park Fence Replacement \$17,500 \$17,500 Phase I Community Center \$3,427,141 \$2,501,319 \$925,822 Phase II \$30,000 Parking Area Improvements \$30,000 Phase II \$10,000 Buidling Demolition \$10,000 Restroom/Storage Fieldhouse \$116,000 \$116,000 \$3,625,641 PARK TOTAL Harness Track Roof Replacement - Barn 8 \$25,000 \$25,000 All Weather Show Rings \$50,000 Barn 5 Demolition \$5,000 \$5,000 Barns 1&2 Structural Improvements \$31,500 \$31,500 Sewer Hookups - Barns 9 &10 \$20,000 \$20,000 Barns 3, 6, 7, 8, and 9 Structural Improvements \$25,000 \$25,000 Reconstruct 1/2 and 5/8 mile tracks \$35,000 \$35,000 Barn Roof Replacment - Barn 18 \$25,000 \$25,000 \$20,000 Barn Roof Replacment - Barn 3 \$20,000 \$15,000 \$15,000 Sewer Hookups - Barn 11 Water Quality Enhancement Project \$55,000

\$89,500 \$28,500

Road Improvements - Restaurant Entrance

Barns, 11, 12, 14, 15 Structural

Barns, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 Structural

Sewer Hookups - Barns 15 & 16

Barn Roof Replacment - Barn 7

PARK TOTAL

nterior Support Repair - Barns 12 & 16

Building for staff & maintenance shop

Sewer Hookups for Barns 19 & 20

Roof Replacement - Barn17

\$89,500 \$28,500

\$20,000

\$30,000

\$30,000

\$30,000

\$20,000

\$30,000

\$150,000

\$734,500

\$20,000

\$30,000

\$30,000

\$30,000

\$20,000

\$30,000

\$150,000

Table 6.4.1. VILLAGE OF PINEHURST - PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN/2011-2021 10 Year Capital Improvements Plan Summary

CATECORY / IMPROVEMENT	COST	YEAR 1	YEAR 2	YEAR 3	YEAR 4	YEAR 5	YEAR 6	YEAR 7	YEAR 8	YEAR 9	YEAR 10	2020
CATEGORY / IMPROVEMENT		2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	AND AFTER
Rassie Wicker Park												
Longleaf Pine Forest Restoration	\$25,000		\$25,000									
Phase II												
Comfort Station Parking	\$108,000				\$108,000							
(2) Tennis Courts	\$95,000				\$95,000							
Design/Demo/Grading	\$52,000				\$52,000							
PHASE II TOTAL	\$255,000				\$255,000							
Discoului												
Phase III	\$05,000					#05.000						
1/2 Mile Walking Trail at Arboretum	\$65,000					\$65,000						
Small Climbing Boulder	\$15,000					\$15,000						
3/4 Mile Walking Trail	\$99,000					\$99,000						
Design Fees	\$20,000					\$20,000						
PHASE III TOTAL	\$199,000					\$199,000						
Phase IV												
Shuffleboard	\$30,000						\$30,000					
Horseshoes	\$10,000						\$10,000					
Sand Volleyball	\$25,000						\$25,000					
Small Shelter	\$93,000						\$93,000					
Demo Grading	\$20,000						\$20,000					
Design Fees	\$22,000						\$22,000					
PHASE IV TOTAL	\$200,000						\$200,000					
Phase V												
Spray Ground	\$258,000							\$258,000				
Demo/Grading	\$238,000							\$21,000				
PHASE V TOTAL	\$279,000							\$279,000				
THASE VIOTAL	Ψ21 3,000							Ψ213,000				
Phase VI												
Trail Boardwalk	\$73,000								\$73,000			
Fit Trail Stations	\$34,000								\$34,000			
Design/Grading	\$16,000								\$16,000			
PHAŠE VI TOTĂL	\$123,000								\$123,000			
PARK TOTAL	\$1,081,000											
IAM IOIAL	φ1,001,000											

Table 6.4.1. VILLAGE OF PINEHURST - PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN/2011-2021 10 Year Capital Improvements Plan Summary

											T	
CATEGORY / IMPROVEMENT	COST	YEAR 1	YEAR 2	YEAR 3	YEAR 4	YEAR 5	YEAR 6	YEAR 7	YEAR 8	YEAR 9	YEAR 10	2020
	0001	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	AND AFTER
West Pinehurst Community Park												
Park Master Plan	\$25,000				\$25,000							
Phase I (1 Soccer Field, 1 Baseball												
Field, & Walking Trail)												
Entrance Road Paving	\$40,000								\$40,000			
Parking Area Paving- 100 Sp. (3,800 sy)	\$75,000								\$75,000			
Clearing and Grading	\$300,000								\$300,000			
Storm Drainage	\$100,000								\$100,000			
Grassing in common areas	\$30,000								\$30,000			
Site Lighting	\$16,000								\$16,000			
Electrical Distribution	\$20,000								\$20,000			
Irrigation water tap/backflow/main	\$8,000								\$8,000			
Soccer Field												
Laser grading	\$12,000								\$12,000			
Irrigation	\$20,000								\$20,000			
Field lighting	\$100,000								\$100,000			
Bermuda sprigs and growth-in	\$12,000								\$12,000			
Baseball Field												
Infield clay and calcined clay conditioner	\$10,000								\$10,000			
Laser grading	\$12,000								\$12,000			
Irrigation	\$15,000								\$15,000			
Field lighting	\$100,000								\$100,000			
Bermuda sprigs and growth-in	\$8,000								\$8,000			
Field fencing - 300' field	\$50,000								\$50,000			
Equipment (foul poles, bases, benches,	\$4,000								\$4,000			
Dugouts	\$7,000								\$7,000			
1/4 mile 8' asphalt walking trail	\$25,000								\$25,000			
Sub-total	\$964,000								\$964,000			
Contingencies - 10%	\$96,400								\$96,400			
Survey, Design, Const. Admin. Fees	\$180,000								\$180,000			
PHASE I TOTAL	\$1,240,400								\$1,240,400			

Table 6.4.1. VILLAGE OF PINEHURST - PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN/2011-2021 **10 Year Capital Improvements Plan Summary** YEAR 1 YEAR 2 YEAR 3 YEAR 4 YEAR 5 YEAR 6 YEAR 7 YEAR 8 YEAR 9 YEAR 10 2020 **CATEGORY / IMPROVEMENT** COST 2011-2012 AND AFTER 2010-2011 2012-2013 2013-2014 2014-2015 2015-2016 2016-2017 2017-2018 2018-2019 2019-2020 Phase 2 (Restroom Concession Bldg., Walking Trail, Playground, & Shelter) Septic Field \$10,000 \$10,000 Well System \$25,000 \$25,000 Waterline 2" \$15,000 \$15,000 New concrete walks/plazas \$6,000 \$6,000 Landscaping (trees and shrubs) \$30,000 \$30,000 Restroom/Concession Building \$250,000 \$250,000 Minor Pavilion/Shelter (20'x24') \$30,000 \$30,000 1/4 mile 8' asphalt walking trail \$25,000 \$25,000 \$50,000 \$50,000 Playground Sub-total \$441,000 \$441,000 Contingencies - 10% \$44,100 \$44,100 Design, Const. Admin. Fees \$52,920 \$52,920 PHASE 2 TOTAL \$538.020 \$538,020 Phase 3 (1 Soccer Field, 1 Baseball Field, & Walking Trail) Parking Area Paving- 100 Sp. (3,800 sy) \$75,000 \$75,000 Clearing, Grading and Drainage \$100,000 \$100,000 Grassing in common areas \$15,000 \$15,000 \$16,000 Site Lighting \$16,000 Irrigation water tap/backflow/main \$8,000 \$8,000 \$6,000 New concrete walks/plazas \$6,000 andscaping (trees and shrubs) \$30,000 \$30,000 Soccer Field \$12,000 \$12,000 Laser grading Irrigation \$20,000 \$20,000 Field lighting \$100,000 \$100,000 Bermuda sprigs and growth-in \$12,000 \$12,000 Baseball Field Infield clay and calcined clay conditioner \$10,000 \$10,000 \$12,000 \$12,000 Laser grading \$15,000 \$15,000 Irrigation \$100,000 \$100,000 Field lighting Bermuda sprigs and growth-in \$8,000 \$8,000 Field fencing - 300' field \$50,000 \$50,000 \$4,000 \$7,000 Equipment (foul poles, bases, benches, \$4,000 \$7,000 Dugouts \$25,000 \$625,000 1/4 mile 8' asphalt walking trail \$25,000 Sub-total \$625,000 Contingencies - 10% \$62,500 \$62,500

\$75,000

\$762,500

Design, Const. Admin. Fees

PHASE 3 TOTAL

\$75,000

\$762,500

Table 6.4.1. VILLAGE OF PINEHURST - PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN/2011-2021 10 Year Capital Improvements Plan Summary												
CATEGORY / IMPROVEMENT	COST	YEAR 1 2010-2011	YEAR 2 2011-2012	YEAR 3 2012-2013	YEAR 4 2013-2014	YEAR 5 2014-2015	YEAR 6 2015-2016	YEAR 7 2016-2017	YEAR 8 2017-2018	YEAR 9 2018-2019	YEAR 10 2019-2020	2020 AND AFTER
Phase 4												
2 Small Shelters (20'x24')	\$50,000											\$50,000
8' wide Fishing Pier	\$15,000											\$15,000
8' asphalt walking trails	\$75,000											\$75,000
Basketball Courts	\$60,000											\$60,000
Disc Golf	\$20,000											\$20,000
Sub-total	\$220,000											\$220,000
Contingencies - 10%	\$22,000											\$22,000
Design and Const. Admin. Fees	\$26,400											\$26,400
PHASE 4 TOTAL	\$268,400											\$268,400
D1												
Downtown Comfort Station		2222										
Comfort Station and Sandlot	\$225,000	\$225,000										
Greenway Development												
Greenways Construction	\$2,541,000	\$126,500	\$214,500	\$275,000	\$275,000	\$275,000	\$275,000	\$275,000	\$275,000	\$275,000	\$275,000	



PROPOSED OPERATING BUDGET

The proposed operating budget includes costs for staff, operations and general maintenance requirements for a parks and recreation system.

Table 6.2.1 - VILLAGE OF PINEHURST - COMPREHENSIVE PARKS MASTER PLAN, 2011-2021 10 YEAR OPERATING BUDGET

CATEGORY	Year 1 2010/2011	Year 2 2011/2012	Year 3 2012/2013	Year 4 2013/2014	Year 5 2014/2015	Year 6 2015/2016	Year 7 2016/2017	Year 8 2017/2018	Year 9 2018/2019	Year 10 2019/2020
Number of Park Facilities in Operation	3	3	3	3	4	4	4	4	5	5
Number of Employees (SPT - Seasonal Part Time)	14 FT, x 33 PT	15 FT, x 33PT	15 FT, x 33PT	15 FT, x 33 PT	16 FT, x 34 PT	16 FT, x 34 PT	18 FT, x 34 PT	18 FT, x 34 PT	19 FT, x 34 PT	19 FT, x 34 PT
Requested Additonal Personnel		(1) Grounds Specialist			(1) Adminstrative Asst., (1) PT- Gym/Event		(1) Custodial Staff, (1) Custodial Staff Asst.		(1) Grounds Specialist	
Parks & Recreation Annual Operating Budget	\$894,915	\$951,506	\$980,052	\$1,009,453	\$1,186,237	\$1,221,824	\$1,322,479	\$1,362,153	\$1,432,762	\$1,475,744
Harness Track Annual Operating Budget	\$493,706	\$508,517	\$523,773	\$539,486	\$555,670	\$572,341	\$589,511	\$607,196	\$625,412	\$644,174
Buildings and Grounds Annual Operating Budget	\$774,350	\$797,581	\$821,508	\$846,153	\$871,538	\$897,684	\$924,614	\$952,353	\$980,923	\$1,010,351
Fairbarn Annual Operating Budget	\$265,235	\$273,192	\$281,388	\$289,829	\$298,524	\$307,480	\$316,704	\$326,206	\$335,992	\$346,072
Total Annual Operating Budget	\$2,428,206	\$2,530,796	\$2,606,720	\$2,684,922	\$2,911,969	\$2,999,328	\$3,153,308	\$3,247,907	\$3,375,089	\$3,476,341
Inflated costs using 3% cumulative	\$2,501,052	\$2,606,720	\$2,684,922	\$2,765,469	\$2,999,328	\$3,089,308	\$3,247,907	\$3,345,345	\$3,476,341	\$3,580,632
* \$100,000 budget has been included for Year 5 (2014/2015) for the Proposed Community Center at Cannon Park										



6.6 OPPORTUNITIES AND STRATEGIES

In order to meet the proposed recommendations from Section 5, increases in operating and capital funding will be required. Over the 10-year period (2011-2021), the Village will not be able to support the proposed capital improvements and operations solely through the current level of funding from Village appropriations. The Village will need to use a combination of revenue sources from various means to accomplish the recommendations of the Master Plan. Fortunately, there are numerous funding strategies and opportunities that will need to be explored and implemented by the Village.

Capital Improvement Budget

In addition to the general operation funding for parks, it is recommended that the Village allocate a budget for capital improvements of parks. This funding will provide ongoing improvements to existing facilities and land acquisition, and will allow development for new facilities. To generate the funding necessary to develop the recommended improvements (an estimated \$9,796,041, as depicted on the Capital Improvements Plan), the Village will need to pursue an aggressive funding program utilizing a variety of revenue sources. If the Village is successful in obtaining other funding sources such as grants, the financial impact on the Village's general fund could be substantially reduced. An annual allocation of capital improvement funding by the Village, supplemented with grants and other funding sources, will allow renovation of existing facilities, land acquisition and construction of new facilities on a more consistent basis.

6.7 FUNDING/ACQUISITION SOURCES

Implementing the recommendations of this Comprehensive Parks Master Plan will require a combination of funding sources that include local, state, federal and private monies. This Section provides a listing of the most commonly used funds for park and greenway facility projects in North Carolina. Fortunately, the benefits of protected greenways and parks are many and varied. This allows programs in Pinehurst to access money earmarked for a variety of purposes including water quality, hazard mitigation, recreation, air quality, alternative transportation, wildlife protection, community health and economic development. Competition is almost always stiff for state and federal funds. It becomes imperative that local governments work together to create multi-jurisdictional partnerships and to develop their own local sources of funding. These sources can then be used to leverage outside assistance. The long term success of this plan will almost certainly depend on the dedication of local revenue stream for park and greenway projects.



01/01/2011

It is important that Pinehurst fully evaluate its available options and develop a funding strategy that can meet community needs, maximize local resources, improve quality of life and leverage outside funding. Financing will be needed to administer the continued planning and implementation process, acquire parcels or easements and manage and maintain facilities. Further research into these programs is recommended to determine requirements for specific grants.

McGill Associates advises Pinehurst to pursue a variety of funding options. Below is a list of park and greenway funding opportunities that have typically been pursued by other communities. Creative planning and consistent monitoring of funding options will likely turn up new opportunities not listed here.

Grants

Page 18

State and federal agencies offer numerous grants to assist municipalities in the financing of their parks and recreation projects. This source of funding should definitely be investigated and pursued by Pinehurst for present and future park/recreation improvements.

North Carolina Parks and Recreation Trust Fund (PARTF):

PARTF was established for local governments and the North Carolina Division of Parks and Recreations in 1994 as a funding source for the development and/ or improvement of parks and recreation facilities, as well as for the purpose of land acquisition. A state-funded program, PARTF matches monies spent by municipalities on parks and recreation, with each sharing 50% of the cost. In 2004, the fund request was elevated from a maximum of \$500,000 to \$1,000,000. The Recreational Resources Service should be contacted for additional information at (919) 515-7118.

Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF):

Afederally-funded program, LWCF was established for local and state governments in 1965 as a funding source for outdoor recreational development and land acquisition. LWCF monies are derived from the sale or lease of nonrenewable resources, primarily offshore oil/gas leases and surplus federal land sales. Acquisition and development grants may be used for a wide variety of outdoor projects such as town parks, tennis courts, bike trails, outdoor swimming pools, and support facilities (roads, water supply, et cetera.) Facility design must be basic rather than elaborate and must remain accessible to the general public. No more

Page 19



than 50% of the project cost may be federally funded by LWCF, although all or part of the project sponsor's matching share may be obtained from certain other federal assistance programs.

North Carolina Natural Heritage Trust Fund

The North Carolina Natural Heritage Trust Fund (NHTF) provides supplemental funding to select state agencies for the acquisition and protection of important natural areas, to preserve the state's ecological diversity and cultural heritage and to inventory the natural heritage resources of the state. Eligible agencies include the Dept. of Environment and Natural Resources, the Wildlife Resources Commission, the Dept. of Cultural Resources and the Dept. of Agriculture and Consumer Services. Although Pinehurst cannot be the applicant, there are state agencies, which could acquire properties, institute programs, et cetera in the Village for preservation and/or education purposes. Grants are awarded for the following:

- The purchase of lands that represent the state's ecological diversity to ensure their preservation and conversation for recreational, scientific, educational, cultural and aesthetic purposes.
- The purchase of additions to state parks, state trails, aesthetic forests, wild and/or scenic rivers and fish/wildlife management areas.
- The development of a balanced state program of historic properties.
- The inventory and conservation planning of natural areas by the Natural Heritage program.

Federal Aid Construction Funds

These funds are included in the National Highway System (NHS) Surface Transportation Program (STP), and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAW). The funds provide for the construction of pedestrian and bicycle transportation facilities. The primary source of funding for bicycle and pedestrian projects is STP Enhancement Funding.

Safe Routes to School Program (SRTS)

The Safe Routes to Schools Program is a Federal-Aid program of the U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). The Program was created by Section 1404 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation



Equity Act: A Legacy for Users Act (SAFETEA-LU). The SRTS Program is funded at \$612 million over five federal fiscal years (FY 2005-2009) and is to be administered by State Departments of Transportation (DOT's).

The Program provides funds to the States to substantially improve the ability of primary and middle school students to walk and bicycle to school safely. The purposes of the program are:

- To enable and encourage children, including those with disabilities, to walk and bicycle to school.
- To make bicycling and walking to school a safer and more appealing transportation alternative, thereby encouraging a healthy and active lifestyle from an early age.
- To facilitate the planning, development and implementation of projects and activities that will improve safety and reduce traffic, fuel consumption and air pollution in the vicinity (approximately 2 miles) of primary and middle schools (Grades K-8).

North Carolina Ecosystem Enhancement Program

The N.C. Ecosystem Enhancement Program (EEP) combines a wetlandsrestoration initiative by the N.C. Dept. of Environment and Natural Resources with ongoing environmental efforts by the Dept. of Transportation to restore, enhance, and protect its wetlands and waterways. EEP provides:

- High-quality, cost-effective projects for watershed improvement and protection.
- Compensation for unavoidable environmental impacts associated with transportation, infrastructure and economic development.
- Detailed watershed-planning and project-implementation efforts within North Carolina's threatened or degraded watersheds.

<u>The Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient, Transportation Equity Act of 2004 (SAFETEA).</u>

The Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient, Transportation Equity Act of 2004 (SAFETEA), approved by the federal government in 2004, is a primary source for financing bicycle, pedestrian and greenway projects throughout the country, at both the local and state levels. Providing as much as 80% for development and construction costs, this grant is earmarked for facilities such as sidewalks,





rail-trails, bike-lanes and greenways. The Enhancement Program (a section of SAFETEA) is used primarily by municipalities since this section focuses on bicycle and pedestrian corridors, environmental mitigation, historic preservation and scenic byways. 20% matching funds are required by the applying entity and applicants must meet several other criteria as well. Prior to applying for this grant, a thorough engineering assessment should be performed to determine construction costs.

Recreation Trails Program

The Recreation Trails Program (RTP) is an assistance program of the Department of Transportation's Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). RTP makes recreation funds available for state allocation to develop and maintain recreation trails and trail-related facilities for both non-motorized and motorized recreation trail users. RTP funds are distributed to states by a legislative formula: half of the funds are distributed equally among all states and half are distributed in proportion to the estimated amount of non-highway recreational fuel used in each state. (Non-highway recreational fuel is the type which is typically used by snowmobiles, all-terrain vehicles, off-road motorcycles and off-road light trucks.) The RTP grants are administered by the State Trails Program of the North Carolina Division of Parks and Recreation. A 25% match, either cash or of in-kind contributions, is required.

Clean Water Management Trust Fund (CWMTF)

Created in 1996 by the North Carolina General Assembly, the Clean Water Management Trust Fund (CWMTF) grants monies to local governments, state agencies and not-for-profit conservation groups. The money is to help finance projects that specifically address water pollution issues. CWMTF will fund projects that contribute toward a network of riparian buffers and greenways for environmental, educational and recreational benefits. There is no match required by local municipalities, however, the 'suggestion' of a match is highly recommended.

Watershed Protection and Flood Protection

The USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) assists state and local governments in their operation and maintenance of watersheds whose areas are less than 250,000 square acres. The NRCS provides both financial and technical assistance to eligible projects for the improvement of watershed protection, flood prevention, sedimentation control, public water-based fish and wildlife enhancements and recreation planning. The NRCS requires a 50% local match for public recreation and fish/wildlife projects.



State Construction Funds

These funds (not including the Highway Trust Fund for Urban Loops and Interchanges) may be used for the construction of sidewalks and bicycle accommodations that are a part of roadway improvement projects.

The North Carolina Conservation Tax Credit

This program provides an incentive (in the form of an income tax credit) for landowners that donate interests in real property for conservation purposes. Property donations can be fee simple or in the form of conservation easements or bargain sale. The goal of this program is to manage stormwater, protect water supply watersheds, preserve working farms and forests and set-aside greenways for ecological communities, public trails and wildlife corridors. (Go to http://ncctc.enr.state.nc.us/ for additional information,)

Farmland Protection Trust Fund

Ranging from only a couple hundred thousand dollars to millions of dollars over the last several years, this program is funded through an allocation by the NC General Assembly to the NC Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. It is a voluntary program designed to protect farmland from development by either acquiring property outright or acquiring conservation easements on the property. The program is administered by the Conservation Trust Fund for North Carolina (CTNC). Questions about available funding should be directed to CTNC.

Contributions

The solicitation of contributions is an acceptable method of fund-raising for recreation departments. These donations, typically in the form of land, cash, labor and materials, can be solicited to assist Pinehurst with its enhancement program. Corporations, civic organizations, individuals and other groups generally donate to a specific park project; donations may also be solicited for multiple project improvements or additions. The National Recreation and Park Association recommends the use of private, not-for-profit, tax-exempt foundations as a means of accepting and administering private gifts to a public park system.



Partnerships

To implement the recommendations contained in the comprehensive master plan, Pinehurst will most certainly have to continue to expand their partnership agreements with other public agencies and private-sector organizations. There are many different types of partnerships that can be formed to achieve the goals established by the Village. In fact, many local governments throughout the nation are utilizing partnerships with public and private-sector interests to accomplish community goals.

Listed below are the various types of partnerships that the Village should consider in its efforts for the improvement and addition of parks and recreational facilities:

- Programming partnerships to co-sponsor events and facilities or to allow qualified outside agencies to conduct activities on properties which are owned by the Village.
- Operational partnerships to share the responsibility for providing public access and use of facilities.
- Development partnerships to purchase land and/or build facilities.
- Management partnerships to maintain properties and facilities.

Pinehurst is currently participating with partnerships in other related endeavors and should evaluate forming additional partnerships which address the needs of a comprehensive park system. Direct requests should be made to potential partners, asking them to meet and to evaluate the possible benefits of partnering. This step should be made to generate interest and agreement prior to solidifying any responsibilities for each participating party.

Land Acquisition and Development

There are many different types of land acquisition available to Pinehurst for park system expansion and/or future development. Due to the land costs, as well as land availability, it is recommended that the Village prioritize the property to be acquired for park and greenway facilities. Listed below are several methods for acquiring and developing parks:



Life Estate

A life estate is a gift, whereby a donor retains the land during his/her lifetime and relinquishes title of the property after his/her death. In return, the owner (or family) is relieved of property tax for the given land.

Local Gifts

Donations of land, money, labor and construction can have significant impact on the acquisition and development of park property. The solicitation of local gifts is highly recommended and should be organized thoroughly, with the utilization of very specific strategic methods. This often untapped source of obtaining funds requires the contacting of potential donors such as individuals, institutions, foundations, service clubs, et cetera.

Easement

Page 24

An easement is the most common type of 'less-than-fee' interest in land. An easement seeks to compensate the property owner for the right to use his/her land in some way or to compensate for the loss of his/her privileges to use the land. Generally, the land owner may still use the land and therefore continue to generate property tax revenue for the Village.

Fee Simple Purchase

Fee simple purchase is the most common method used to acquire property for park facilities. Although it has the advantage of simplifying justification to the general public, fee simple purchase is the most difficult method to pursue due to limited monetary resources.

Fee Simple with Lease-Back or Resale

This method allows local governments to acquire land by fee simple purchase; yet allows them to either sell or lease the property to prospective users with restrictions that will preserve the land from future development. The fee simple with leaseback or resale method of development commonly results from situations in which land owners who have lost considerable monetary amounts in property value, determine that it is more economical to sell the land to the Village (with a leaseback option) than to keep it.



Long-Term Option

Long-term options allow governments to purchase property over a long period of time. This method is particularly useful because it enables the Village to consider a particular piece of land that may have future value, though it is not currently desired or affordable at the time. There are advantages to this method of property acquisition. The Village can protect the future of the land without purchasing it upfront. Meanwhile, the purchase price of the land will not increase and the Village will have the right to exercise its option.

The disadvantage to the Village is that all privileges relinquished by the land owner require compensation in the form of securing the option.

Dedicated Source of Local Funding

In order to leverage and provide matching funds for many of the programs listed above, Village of Pinehurst should enhance their dedicated park funds with:

- Property/sales tax
- Bonds
- Fee in-lieu of contributions
- User fees/registration fees

Property/Sales Tax Revenues

General tax revenues traditionally provide sources for general operations and maintenance of park systems for local governments. The parks department is scheduled along with health, public safety, utilities, et cetera in regular budgets established by the Village. Assessed valuation of real and personal property tax and sales tax provides the framework for the major portion of the tax base for the Village.

Traditionally, ad valorem tax revenue has been the primary source of funding for the park and recreation enhancement of properties/facilities owned by local governments. 'Recreational opportunities' are considered a public service and often are a standard line item on general fund budgets. Creative financial opportunities are possible; however ad valorem taxes will continue to be the major revenue source to support the system. As such, communities often vote to raise their local tax rate temporarily in support of their park and recreation systems.



General Obligation Bonds

Many communities issue bonds, which are typically approved by the shareholders, to finance site development and land acquisition costs. The State of North Carolina grants local governments the authority to borrow funds for parks and recreation through the issuance of bonds. The amount of the bond is not to exceed the cost of acquisition or the cost for the improvement of park and recreation facilities. Total bond capacities for local governments are limited for parks and recreation to a maximum percentage of assessed property valuation. Since the issuance of bonds relies on the support of the voting population, the implementation of awareness programs is absolutely essential prior to a referendum vote.

General Obligation bonds are the preferred financing approach by the North Carolina Local Government Commission and the general securities market, because these instruments are backed by the full faith and credit of the issuer. That simply means that the bonds represent an encumbrance against the property tax base of the issuing jurisdiction and therefore offer the best available security to the bond holder. The State of North Carolina gives the issuance of bonds that are not to exceed the total cost of improvements, including land acquisition. In view of the recommended capital improvements suggested in this plan, the borrowing of funds to develop new facilities may be necessary. Total bonding capacities for local governments is limited for parks and recreation to a maximum percentage of assessed property valuation.

The following are key factors to consider when evaluating the use of this financing instrument:

- In North Carolina, the issuance of General Obligation bonds requires a referendum of the voters within the issuing jurisdiction.
- The term of the debt may be extended to 20-30 years.
- The debt is publicly sold. Therefore, there are costs associated with the sale that generally total 3% to 5% of the total bond principal. The issuance costs offset the lower interest rate so this instrument becomes more attractive as the size of the issuance increases and the issuance costs are spread over the larger debt. It has been found that this financing option becomes financially superior as the debt principal exceeds \$10-\$12 million.
- Prepayment of the debt can generally not be accomplished until reaching a call date, which is generally around 75% of debt retirement.



Failure of the General Obligation Bond to be ratified by referendum could mean that the Village could not go forward with an alternative approach to financing without substantially changing the scope of the project.

Fee in-lieu of contributions

Under the zoning ordinances, developers have an option to pay a 'fee in lieu of' rather than dedicate open space within conventional subdivisions. To date, this program has proven to be successful as a dedicated source of revenue that can be earmarked for park development. The Village may choose to revisit this source of revenue to study the feasibility of enhancing the fee in-lieu formula.

User fees/registration fees

Communities throughout the nation employ a wide variety of user fees for public use of recreational programs and services within their recreation departments. The amount of the fee is usually determined by a portion of the recreation costs needed for improvements or operation. These user fees are typically levied for such special facilities as water parks and golf courses; however, they can also be charged for the use of trails and ball fields. Pinehurst should consider generating revenue by charging user fees for the use of facilities such as picnic shelters and athletic fields in order to cover operation and administrative costs. As the park system continues develop, the Village should examine their fee structure to identify opportunities for additional revenue. Elected officials should determine the fees and charges; the fees should not be so high that persons of modest income would ultimately be denied the use of park facilities.

6.8 PLAN ADOPTION

The first step in implementation of the Comprehensive Parks Master Plan is adoption of the plan by Pinehurst. By adopting the Comprehensive Parks Master Plan, the community is able to shape larger decisions so that they fit within the goals of the plan. The Village also gives itself greater authority in shaping local land use decisions so that they achieve the goals and vision of this plan. In addition, the adoption of this Master Plan is essential in order to maximize available grant opportunities.

Among the opportunities available to promote the recommendations contained in the Master Plan is the ability to <u>build upon</u> an already committed and active base of residents, visitors and enthusiasts in the area. Through their organizations, institutions, publications



and networks, Pinehurst can promote the improved or new parks and greenway facilities and programs.

Second among the opportunities is the <u>availability</u> of the existing park facilities (amenities, programs, existing trails, et cetera.) Though some changes are being suggested in the short-term and an expanded network is suggested for the long-term, the presence of an existing network provides a strong foundation from which to build. Many Village residents are already accustomed to using the existing recreation programs and should become used to seeing new park amenities, programs, signage and other improvements. Building on their existing awareness is much easier than building on no awareness.

Action Steps

Upon adoption of this plan, implementation of specific recommendations can begin. Many of these will occur simultaneously and include policy and facility improvement changes. The key steps are:

- Coordinate the implementation of recommendations and proposals from the Parks and Recreation Master Plan into the policy requirements of other Village Departments.
- Secure a dedicated source of revenue to address the 10-year and beyond Capital Improvement Program and address the goals of the Master Plan.
- Provide staffing necessary to support and oversee the implementation of this plan and the proper maintenance and operation of the facilities that are proposed; for example, the Village may designate or hire an employee to oversee this task.
- Begin working on the proposed facilities that are listed in the 10-year and beyond Capital Improvement Program. From these opportunities comes the framework for an initial implementation strategy:
 - Acquiring land for future greenway corridors should be a high priority. It will be essential to acquire land as opportunities become available.
 - Acquire funding and construct the proposed Community
 Center. This facility will accommodate numerous recreation
 programs and other activities for the Village that currently cannot
 be provided.



- 3) Expand and modify the existing park system into a comprehensive, multi-use system, distributed so that it better meets the needs of the community, provides opportunities to all and enhances the current park system.
- 4) Begin making the critical greenway connections between destination points that will allow for preservation of open space and offer an alternative mode of transportation. Ensure that park and greenway planning is integrated with other regional planning efforts at the County and local levels, and with long-range and current land use, economic development, parks, environmental and community planning.

These four steps represent the core of the implementation strategy. As the individual policy recommendations and physical recommendations are addressed, they should each fit with one of these four primary strategies.

The following are mechanisms to achieve this action step:

- Expand local capital improvements program for yearly appropriation for greenway and park development.
- 2) Set aside money for land acquisition, construction and maintenance of parks and greenway facilities in the annual operating budget.
- 3) Pursue and request pedestrian/bicycle projects to be added to NCDOT TIP.
- 4) Pursue developing and expanding existing and new partnerships.
- 5) Apply for PARTF Grants and other related recreation grants for park projects and improvements.
- 6) Seek other sources of revenue funding for parks and greenway improvements such as including local assessment districts, developer exactions, et cetera.
- 7) Pursue funding from other sources listed in this section.
- 8) Evaluate the enhancement of the existing 'fee in lieu' funding formula in Pinehurst Subdivision Regulations.



6.9 CONCLUSION

This Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Master Plan has laid out a set of strategies for expanding/developing a safe, convenient and usable park system as reflected in the following:

- Utilizing funding opportunities
- Expansion and enhancement of existing facilities; and
- Creation of new facilities in areas of demand.

The plan has assessed the study area, analyzed the existing facilities, received community input, reviewed recreation standards, developed recommendations and provided strategies for implementing the plan. The Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Master Plan is a comprehensive guide to be used in the improvement and enhancement of the park system for Pinehurst Parks and Recreation Department.

- END OF SECTION -



Appendix

- Item 1 Community Workshop Announcement
- Item 2 Workshop Presentation
- Item 3 Recreation Survey
- Item 4 Map 1 Inventory/Needs Assessment
- Item 5 Map 2 Community Input/Preferences
- Item 6 Map 3 Service Area
- Item 7 Map 4 Greenway System



COMMUNITY WORKSHOP ANNOUNCEMENT Item 1





WORKSHOP PRESENTATION Item 2

Village of Pinehurst Parks and Recreation Master Plan

Community Needs Assessment Public Information Meeting

November 12th





RECREATION SURVEY Item 3



VILLAGE OF PINEHURST PARKS AND RECREATION SURVEY

The Village of Pinehurst Parks and Recreation Department is in the process of creating a Parks and Recreation Master Plan for the Village and would like your input. Please take a moment to complete the following survey. The information that you provide will help determine park and recreation priorities in our community. Please limit one completed survey per household.

Thank you for your time and your interest in continuing to improve the Parks and Recreation opportunities in the Village of Pinehurst.				
Resident of Village Zip Code:		□ Yes □ No E1	「J: □ Yes □	No
List the number of persons brackets below:	in your house	ehold including you	ırself who are	in the age
1-5 <u> 6-8_ 9-12</u> 40-49 <u> </u>		_ 16-18 19-21	22-29	30-39
Check below how frequent facilities in the past year. Pinehurst Greenway trails Cannon Park Pinehurst Harness Track Fair Barn Camelot Playground Rassie Wicker Park	□ Regularly□ Regularly□ Regularly□ Regularly□ Regularly	□ Occasionally□ Occasionally□ Occasionally□ Occasionally□ Occasionally	□ Rarely □ Rarely □ Rarely □ Rarely □ Rarely	□ Never □ Never □ Never □ Never □ Never
Overall, how would you rat Pinehurst?	J	parks and recreati ☐ Good ☐ Fair		· ·



Overall, how would you rate the recreational programs offered in the Village of Pinehurst?
□ Excellent □ Good □ Fair □ Poor □ Don't know
In which of the following recreation programs and special events do you (or others in your Household) regularly participate? Please check all that apply: Baseball Golf Lessons Volleyball Spring In-line Hockey Fall In-line Hockey Youth Basketball Tennis Lacrosse July 4th Fireworks Swimming Lessons Family Kickball Fall Festival Summer Camps Vouth Cheerleading Watercolor Adult Co-ed Softball Easter Egg Hunts Tai Chi Youth Coach Pitch Baseball Movie Night Arts in the Park Christmas Card Contest Senior Games NFL Punt Pass & Kick
Check below improvements that could be made to EXISTING parks and list facilities Add lighting to facilities Improve parking areas in parks Add more public restrooms Expanding parks and open space Add picnic and sitting areas Increasing beautification in parks Add/Improve Trails Add signage to facilities Others:
Please check the top TEN facilities from the list below that could be further developed in the Village of Pinehurst. Please consider other members of your household as well.
Bicycle Trails (3-6 Miles) Bicycle Trails (6-12 Miles) Ball field Complex Baseball/Softball Community Recreation Center In-Line Hockey Outdoor Swimming Pool with special recreation features Football Field Open Space/Natural Areas Picnic Areas Horseshoe Pits Indoor Swimming Pool In-Line Skating (2-3 Miles) Jogging/Walking Trails (1-3 Miles) Skateboard Park Jogging/Walking Trails (1-3 Miles) Skateboard Park Jogging/Walking Trails (1-3 Miles) Skateboard Park Jogging/Walking Trails (1-3 Miles) Outdoor Basketball Courts Outdoor Playground Shuffleboard Courts Outdoor Tennis Courts Outdoor Track Mountain Biking Sand Volleyball Courts Indoor Swimming Pool Indoor Gymnasium

Village of Pinehurst, North Carolina Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Master Plan, 2011-2031



Dog Park Multi-Sports Complex Fitness Facility, e.g. cardio/strength training Environmental Education Center Bocce Courts	Outdoor Performance AreaTeen CenterDisc GolfHiking Trails					
(Other Specify):						
Please list below, any recreation programs or spec offered in the Village of Pinehurst:	cial events that you would like to see					
Are you or anyone in your household in favor of the recreation facility (recreation center)? □ Yes □ No	e development of an indoor					
Would you be willing to pay a nominal fee to attend an event or use a special facility? \Box Yes \Box No						
Would you favor or oppose expanding recreational Pinehurst? □ Favor □ Oppose	opportunities in the Village of					
Are you in favor of continued expansion of the Greenways throughout the Village of Pinehurst?						
Do you use any school or private facilities for recreation or leisure activities? If so, which ones?						
Within the last year have you traveled out of the Vi facility or program? ☐ Yes ☐ No	llage of Pinehurst to use a recreation					
If so, what facility?	ad, Village of Pinehurst, NC 28374; by					



Department; or by email to – parks&rec@villageofpinehurst.org Please check the Village website's Calendar of Events for dates of future community meetings.

Optional	
Name:	Phone #:
Address:	
Fmail:	



