

# 2012 PARK, RECREATION, AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

City of Marble Falls

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# **PURPOSE**

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The purpose of the Park, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan is to plan the growth, direction, and agenda for the next five (5) years. More specifically:

- Develop a useful, workable plan to guide decisions that will impact the future growth of the City of Marble Falls' park, recreation, and open space system;
- Examine, analyze, and integrate existing park and recreational opportunities;
- Review and implement governmental policies and ordinances that are consistent with the present and future community needs of the City of Marble Falls;
- Provide and ensure that the City of Marble Falls Park, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan is approved and adopted by Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and other Agencies for local parks grant programs.

The City of Marble Falls Park, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan (Master Plan) is intended to provide guidance on future decisions concerning operations, capital improvement needs, and programs for the citizens of City of Marble Falls. This plan provides the City of Marble Falls with the ability to plan for prioritized short and long-term goals designed to meet community needs. The recreating public is concerned with quality of life issues that are constantly being influenced by changing demographics, dwindling natural resources, and local financial demands. This plan is necessary to meet the growing community needs for parks, recreational programs and open space.

City of Marble Falls does not presently have an updated Park, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan on file with Texas Parks and Wildlife. This Master Plan is needed to qualify for additional points with respect to competing for and securing local park grants. The concept of a Master Plan, initiated by Texas Parks and Wildlife in 1994, directs local governments to complete local park and recreation master plans, to be updated approximately every 5 years. This update of the City of Marble Falls' Park, Recreation, and Open Space Master Plan is designed to guide local decision-making through 2017.

# **INTRODUCTION**

## **INTRODUCTION**

A vital component of any community is the space that is dedicated and devoted to satisfying active and passive recreational needs. The quality and type of park facilities, recreational areas and facilities, recreational programming, and open space should be a direct reflection of the quality of life enjoyed by the residents. A review of the history and current demographics provides a retrospective and current view of Marble Falls, Texas.

The City of Marble Falls (City) is located at intersection of State Highway 281 and the Colorado River. It is approximately 45 miles west of Austin, Texas 190 miles south of Dallas, Texas and 85 miles north of San Antonio, Texas. The city of Marble Falls was created in 1889, and encompasses approximately 12.86 square miles. The city of Marble Falls has a population of approximately 6,077. It is considered a rural community with a tourist and recreational resort-based economy. The elevation varies from 900 feet in the southern part of the city to 400 feet in the northern part of the city.

The City of Marble Falls lies in the heart of Central Texas and the Highland Lakes region of Central Texas. Recreation and tourism provides approximately two-thirds of Burnet County's 19 million dollar annual revenue. Agriculture was the first industry that helped bring pioneers to the area. In the 1880's, cattle were introduced to the region, because water from both streams and rivers was in abundant supply.

The City of Marble Falls is undergoing the same transition as other parts of Central Texas. From 2000 to 2010, Burnet County, Texas (County) experienced a rise in population of about 25.2 percent, while the City of Marble Falls had a population growth of 44.91%. Yet, according to recent State of Texas Data Center estimates, forecasts show a stabilizing of population during the next decade, with significant demographic shifts. These changes will bring additional challenges with respect to providing parks and recreation services over the next ten years.

The Texas State Data Center indicates that the median age in Burnet County is 43.2 years; and, 38.2 years in the City. Preschool children accounted for 5.8% of the population in the County. The Center also indicates that the population for persons under the age of 18 to be approximately 21.5% and persons over the age of 65 to be approximately 24.4%. Over fifty-percent of the population in the City of Marble Falls and surrounding areas will utilize public parks and recreational services. In addition, the U.S. Census Bureau estimates that the median household income in Burnet County is \$46,327, compared to the statewide average of \$48,286. Approximately 13% of the population earns a wage that is below poverty level. The U.S. Census Bureau provides the following data for the City of Marble Falls County with respect to population demographics by race:

White (non-Hispanic)	76.1%
Hispanic or Latino Origin	20.2%
Black or African American	1.8%
American Indian or Native	0.7%
Asian	0.5%
Other	0.7%

It is believed that the City of Marble Falls County population will continue to request and utilize recreational services during the next ten years given population and demographic projections.

The parks and recreation system in the City of Marble Falls has many treasures that are available for utilization by its citizens. To maintain this park system, the City of Marble Falls must look to the future and assess how the community will meet future needs. Development of the parks and recreation system in the City of Marble Falls will require citizen-involved planning, design, and programming. Programs offered to the citizens of the City of Marble Falls will require local development and fiscal support to adequately meet the needs of a growing youth and senior population base.

This Master Plan document attempts to address the needs of the park system users. Challenges such as changing demographics, rural growth and transition, diverse population needs, and resource management will require community leaders to plan accordingly, with respect to providing a broad-based park system. The parks and recreation system with adequate planning and design, will serve the dynamic population of the City of Marble Falls with many resource based opportunities for park and recreation facilities and programs.

This Master Plan provides the citizens of the City of Marble Falls with an inventory of existing park and recreation system facilities, assessment of community needs, and summarizes local park and recreation priorities for the next five to eight years. This Master Plan should provide a guideline for staff, city and county leaders, and citizens as they make decisions on future park system facilities and programs. This plan also serves as a basis for city and county officials to make application for private, state and federal funding, in order to realize the goals and objectives of the community.

The desire for enhancing the quality of life in the City of Marble Falls will continue to grow. There is a demand for recreation programs, parks, sports complexes, nature areas, trails and open space areas. These issues will challenge community leaders in an effort to provide a higher quality of life and a sense of community for their citizens. The Park, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan should never be considered a finished product. The City of Marble Falls will be influenced by the manner in which the goals and objectives and recommendations of this plan are administered and

maintained. This Master Plan is designed to be a broad guide for community growth and development that is always changing and evolving in scope.

# **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

## **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

Goals and Objectives that clearly identify and define necessary actions that meet the City's needs for park and recreational facilities and programs are imperative to the success of a Parks and Recreation Master Plan. Four public meetings were held with local citizens, city, county and school officials to develop the goals and objectives that reflect the community priorities. The following goals and objectives (in no particular order of priority) summarize the public input and vision of the citizens of City of Marble Falls.

**GOAL 1 - Ensure that parks and related facilities are considered an integral part of the infrastructure of a city. A well planned, funded, and operated parks and recreation system will serve to attract quality growth, enhance the health and quality of life of all citizens, and enrich the environment.**

Objectives:

- 1a) Develop and institute a Parkland Dedication Ordinance for the City of Marble Falls;
- 1b) Update and maintain the Park, Recreation, and Open Space Master Plan to address the needs of the community for the next 5 to 8 years;
- 1c) Develop and implement a non-motorized mobility plan, to include hike and bike trails, for the City of Marble Falls; and,
- 1d) Identify and adopt an identity to include standards for architecture, building materials, and signage.

**GOAL 2 - Maintain, update, and enhance existing park and recreation facilities, providing quality resources for the citizens of the City of Marble Falls.**

Objectives:

- 2a) Renovate and replace existing facilities to meet contemporary park and recreational programming needs and standards;
- 2b) Implement and budget for a system-wide minor repair and construction plan that takes into account the aging infrastructure and condition of many recreational facilities;
- 2c) Provide for on-going beautification efforts in city parks, traffic islands and entrance points throughout the City of Marble Falls; and,
- 2d) Develop and support relationships with local service organizations that will assist in maintaining our parks and recreation facilities (e.g. adopt-a-park program).

**GOAL 3 - Plan, develop, and construct diversified and balanced park and recreation facilities and programs based upon the needs of the community and surrounding areas.**

Objectives:

- 3a) Acquire and develop new park and recreation facilities in areas that are presently underserved;
- 3b) Acquire, design, and construct linear parks with hike and bike trails adjacent to Lake Marble Falls and feeder creeks, for future water access and recreational opportunities;
- 3c) Support and develop relationships with athletic and sport associations that will assist in planning, developing, designing, building, and maintaining local sport facilities; and,
- 3d) Dedicate recreation resources and staff to work with local community; youth and adult athletic leagues, volunteer organizations, public schools, universities, private companies and individuals, and agencies in coordinating, developing, and implementing both youth and adult recreational activities and programming; and special events.

**GOAL 4 - Support community efforts to expand recreational activities, events and facilities that are conducive to Marble Falls becoming a regional destination hub.**

Objectives:

- 4a) Provide a large regional park complex of 60 – 100 acres that will adequately provide open space, conservation, natural areas, greenbelts, lighted sports complexes, pavilions, trails, play areas, parking and landscaping;
- 4b) Coordinate efforts and work with the Economic Development Corporation, the Downtown Planning Committee, and other committees and groups, to focus toward becoming a regional destination hub; and, to develop a clear understanding of the impact parks and recreation has on the local economy;
- 4c) Develop programs, activities, and events to meet the needs of the Marble Falls' citizens and visitors from throughout the region.

**GOAL 5 - Ensure that park and recreation facilities are safe and easily accessible for all users.**

Objectives:

- 5a) Budget for and provide safe, well-marked and easy access to all park and recreation facilities. Ensure that all recreational facilities are ADA accessible;
- 5b) Renovate and develop existing city parks, to provide a safe park system; and,
- 5c) Establish programs to provide security measures protecting the park and recreation system and programs through cooperative efforts with law enforcement and citizen awareness groups.

**GOAL 6 - Conserve, protect and enhance the cultural, historical, archeological, and natural resources of the City of Marble Falls.**

Objectives:

- 6a) Identify and enhance cultural, archaeological, historical and natural resources;
- 6b) Plan, research and budget for the conservation and preservation of these sites for citizen enjoyment and educational interpretation;
- 6c) Encourage eco-tourism opportunities through the development of sites to provide enhanced visitation to Marble Falls; and,
- 6d) Focus on energy and natural resource efficiency and conservation when rebuilding or constructing parks and recreation facilities.

# **PLAN UPDATE PROCESS**

## **PLAN UPDATE PROCESS**

The update of the City of Marble Falls Park and Recreation Master Plan process began in the fall of 2010. Led by the Parks and Recreation Commission and City of Marble Falls staff, a determination was made that an update to the Park and Recreation Master Plan is necessary to provide future direction and to focus all necessary resources towards the comprehensive park planning for the City of Marble Falls.

In an effort to provide a comprehensive master plan for the citizens of City of Marble Falls, a series of public meetings were conducted to provide forums for public input. City, county, school, athletic associations, recreational leagues, and other local governmental officials were invited to the meetings to obtain information concerning participation and standards-based analysis.

Goals and objectives are reflective of citizen input with respect to future growth needs and address both existing and future facilities and programs. These goals and objectives acknowledge the future complexity of the City of Marble Falls' park and recreation facilities and program growth trends. They address the need of the park system to meet the growing and expanding needs of the City of Marble Falls community. The goals and objectives, when accomplished, will be a community-wide effort designed to bring together neighborhoods and achieve a partnership with all local entities both private and public.

The plan also addresses a critical need; that is, the development of a current inventory of public and private recreational facilities within the city of Marble Falls. A survey of these facilities was conducted for the Park, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan and is provided herein. The inventory is provided utilizing site visits.

To assist the development of the Park and Recreation Master Plan process, each park and facility is assigned to a classification type defined for the plan. Park classifications are based on type, size and use of a facility or a park. Five classifications of parks exist in the City of Marble Falls. In addition, open space was given a classification and is represented in a separate section of the Master Plan.

Comprehensive park and recreation master plans define and identify needs as they relate to the satisfaction of goals and objectives. It is difficult to define a standard that exactly meets the needs of its users. A commonly used standard measures park acres to population. The National Park and Recreation Association recommends approximately 10 acres of parkland per 1,000 population for local governmental entities. Presently, the city of Marble Falls has approximately of 20.24 acres per 1,000 population, including the City Cemetery.

Comparing the ratio of acres to population is easier than comparing the need to adequately serve the many youth and seniors who might need and could utilize additional services for recreation. However, it is equally important to recognize the need and social profile of the community of the City of Marble Falls that is to be served and the age and composition of the population as well as social needs and educational levels of the citizenship. By understanding these factors, the Master Plan can establish a more integrated approach to serving community needs.

To implement the plan and to provide for future development, meetings were held to identify, classify, and prioritize facilities and programs. These priorities were established by identified need, public input, the existence of a program of facility, and staff recommendations. Recommendations address the unique needs of the City of Marble Falls, with respect to each part of the city. Recommendations also address current services, current programs and current needs expressed at the public meetings.

**AREA AND FACILITY CONCEPTS/  
CLASSIFICATIONS**

## **AREA AND FACILITY CONCEPTS/CLASSIFICATIONS**

The park system in the City of Marble Falls is unique with respect to size, use and type of facilities located within each park. The park system has evolved with the growth of the city and county to provide green space and open space for the citizens. The parks developed where land existed, and when money was available for the development of the park. It is important to analyze Marble Falls' parks or proposed park and recreation facilities to determine how the existing parks meet and fulfill community needs. The nature of each park and facility must be reviewed to see if that park or facility is meeting its intended need or achieving the true potential of the park. Parks and facilities meeting local needs usually can be identified as those that are receiving near maximum use.

Park Classifications are used to help provide an analysis of each type of park. These classifications identify each park based on its predominate facilities or uses. Parks sometimes have several types of facilities that exist in one or more classification.

## Park and Recreation Classification System

Park Category	Description	Site Characteristics	Service Area	Desirable Size	Acres/1,000 Residents	Local Examples
<b>Pocket or Mini Park</b>	Serves a concentrated or limited population within an immediate proximity. Examples are a tot lot in or near an apartment complex or a vacant lot developed as a passive park with sidewalks and benches.	Close proximity to medium/high density residential areas.	Immediate neighborhood	.25 to 1 acre	0.25 to 0.50 acre	Villa Vista Park - 0.7 acres
<b>Neighborhood Park</b>	Provides recreational opportunities within walking distance of residential neighborhoods. Facilities are for local active recreation and playground use, i.e. athletic courts, fields, playground equipment, as well as passive use such as walking trails, park benches, etc.	Evenly distributed throughout the community with easy, safe pedestrian access for nearby residents. Joint school/park facilities are suitable.	¼ to ½ mile radius to serve up to 5,000 persons.	Minimum 5 acres, evenly distributed.	1 to 2 acre(s)	Hays Addition Park – 5.2 acres Park View Park – 11.9 acres
<b>Community Park</b>	Facilities for active and passive recreation and leisure, including athletic fields and courts, swimming pools, picnic areas, walking/jogging paths, open play areas, playgrounds, exercise stations. Provides a venue for community festivals and celebrations.	Geographically located to provide equitable coverage throughout the City.	Primarily for residents within a 1 mile radius, but available to persons throughout the community.	Ranges from 10 to 50 acres, with at least 25 acres being optimal.	5 to 8 acres	Lakeside Park – 13.0 acres Johnson Park – 18.7 acres Childers Park – 6.8 acres Greens Soccer Complex – 8.3 acres VFW (Highland) Park – 5.6 acres Westside Park – 13.0 acres
<b>Special Use Park</b>	For specialized or single-purpose recreation activities specific to the facility such as a golf course, historic site, skate park, arboretum, aquatic facility, nature center, tennis complex, etc.	Varies according to the specific function of the facility—often operated by private enterprise.	City-wide	No minimum standard	No minimum standard	Falls Creek Park – 3.3 acres
<b>School Park</b>	Intended to serve the recreational needs of school students, but when shared with the broader community can fulfill neighborhood park requirements. The Marble Falls Parks and Recreation Master Plan counts school parks as ½ of a facility when determining facility needs due to limited access to the general public during school hours.	Typically well distributed to serve neighborhoods throughout the community. Accessible to pedestrians and cyclists.	¼ to ½ mile radius to serve up to 5,000 persons (same as Neighborhood Parks).	Variable, depends on function.	Variable, depends on function.	

<b>Park Category</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Site Characteristics</b>	<b>Service Area</b>	<b>Desirable Size</b>	<b>Acres/1,000 Residents</b>	<b>Local Examples</b>
<b>Sports Complex</b>	Consolidates heavily programmed athletic fields and associated facilities in larger and fewer sites strategically located in the community.	Typically developed and designed for programmed athletics.	City-wide	Determined by demand. Usually a minimum of 25 acres with 40 to 80 acres being optimal.	No minimum standard	
<b>Linear Park</b>	Developed for bicycling, hiking, walking, and jogging. Commonly used as a link between two or more park and recreation areas.	Typically follows a linear natural feature, such as a stream, creek, escarpment, abandoned rail line, or road.				Whitman Branch Greenbelt – 5.0 acres
<b>Regional Park</b>	Serves regional parks and recreation needs with a broad range of facilities and activities. Typically includes regionally significant natural resources.	Planned to accommodate large numbers of visitors including regional special events such as fairs, concerts, exhibitions, etc.	50-mile radius	Minimum 150 acres	5 to 10 acres	

Source: *Parks, Recreation, and Greenway Guidelines*, National Parks and Recreation Association, 1996; City of Marble Falls; Wilbur Smith Associates, 2009

**OPEN SPACE**

## **OPEN SPACE**

Open Space serves a variety of important functions with the City of Marble Falls Community. The following represents the functions:

- Protect, Preserve, and Conserve natural formations and features;
- Utilize open space for recreational opportunities and programs;
- Preserve and enhance features within areas or developments that may be protected and secured for quality of life opportunities;
- Protect and enhance the public health, safety, and welfare;
- Conserve and reserve land not adequate for development for commercial and/or residential opportunities.

The Open Space Plan describes the components of an open space inventory and the standards and process to compile a plan that preserves and identifies open space within the City of Marble Falls. The following criteria have been considered, reviewed, and established as areas suitable for open space acquisition, preservation, and planning:

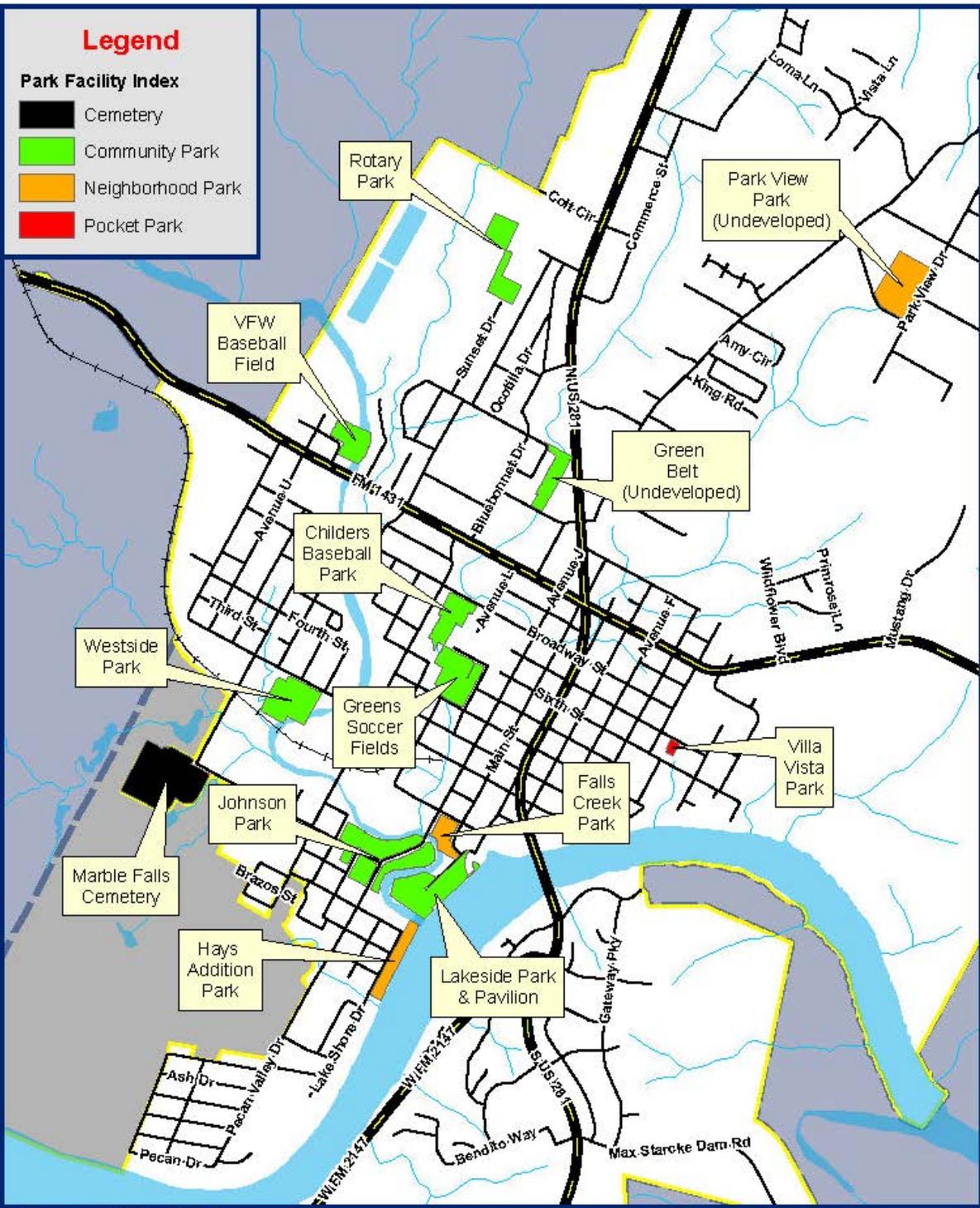
- Areas that completely fall within the flood plains of creeks and significant drainage ways with the City of Marble Falls and the Marble Falls Extra Territorial Jurisdiction or ETJ;
- Areas that are adjacent to or include one acre or more bodies of natural surface water;
- Areas that preserve, enhance, or create views or vistas adjacent to roadways; especially urban corridors and thoroughfares;
- Areas that have historical, botanical, archeological, geological, or environmental significance;
- Areas along utility easements, abandoned railroad corridors, railroad right-of-ways, pipelines, and other right-of-ways;
- Areas with slopes greater than 12%;
- Areas that provide a linkage to open space, parks, community facilities, neighborhoods, schools and other population centers.

Improvements to these areas are contingent upon availability of land and financial resources, as well as local interest in acquiring and developing specific areas.

# **INVENTORY OF FACILITIES**

## **INVENTORY OF FACILITIES**

Current inventory lists the following parks for the City of Marble Falls:



**Legend**

**Park Facility Index**

- Cemetery
- Community Park
- Neighborhood Park
- Pocket Park



# Parks Master Plan Facility Map



This product is for informational purposes and may not have been prepared for or be suitable for legal engineering, or similar purposes. It does not represent an on-the-ground survey and represents only the approximate relative location of proposed parks.

# Facilities Index

	Acreage	Some Accessible Facilities	Restroom	Benches/Bleachers	Picnic Tables	Grills	Concession Stand	Water Fountain	Covered Pavilion	Playground	Amphitheater	Boat Ramp	Canoe Launch	Trail	Disc Golf	Baseball Field	Soccer Field	Swimming Pool	Skate Park	Basketball Court	Volleyball Court	Tetherball	Horseshoes	Tennis Court	Meeting Hall	Kitchen	Columbarium
<b>Parks</b>																											
Childers Park	6.8		1	6	6		1	1						1		2											
Falls Creek Park	3.3		1	2	12	12		1					1	1				1									
Johnson Park	18.7	x	1	13	20	20		3	3	4	1	1		1		1				1		2					
Hays Park	5.2											1															
Lakeside Park*	13.0	x	2	4	7	3		3				1					1		1				1				
Lakeside Pavilion**	0.0	x	1	1		1		2																	1	1	
Park View Park Site (undeveloped)	11.9								Pending Planning and Development																		
Rotary Park***	11.5	x	1	10	4		1									4	1								1		
The Greens Soccer Complex	8.3	x	1	16	2		1	1						1			8										
VFW Park (Highland Park)	5.6		1	1			1									1											
Villa Vista Park	0.7			2						1										1							
Westside Park	13.0	x	1	6	10	10		2	1	1				1	1							2					
Whitman Branch Greenbelt (undeveloped)	5.0								Pending Planning and Development																		
Cemetery	20.0			1																							1
<b>Total Acreage</b>	123.1																										
<b>Total Facilities</b>	248.0		10	62	61	46	4	13	4	6	1	3	1	5	1	8	9	1	1	2	1	2	2	1	2	1	1
Community Park																											
Neighborhood Park																											
Pocket Park																											
Linear Park																											
<b>*Includes Kampers Korner property</b>																											
<b>**Located in Lakeside Park</b>																											
<b>***Facilities not City-owned/leased - City-provided utilities and grounds maintenance</b>																											

Current Inventory also includes the following:

Public Schools

Marble Falls Elementary School  
Colt Elementary School  
Marble Falls Middle School  
Marble Falls High School

The two Elementary Schools have the following amenities: Slides, Swings, Seesaws, Monkey Bars, Wooden Play Equipment, Benches, Fitness Equipment, Backstops, Track, and Basketball Goals.

The Middle School has the following amenities: Football Field, Track, Gymnasium, Fitness Equipment, and Benches.

The High School has the following amenities: Football Stadium, Tennis Courts, Baseball Stadium, Soccer Field, Softball Field, Track, and Gymnasium.

Golf Courses/Resorts

Horseshoe Bay Country Club  
(3) 18 hole golf courses, tennis courts, swimming pools, marina, horse stables, and meeting rooms

Meadowlakes Country Club  
18 hole golf course, tennis courts, swimming pool, and meeting rooms

Tropical Hideaway Resort  
Umbrellas and lounge chairs, palapas and picnic tables, BBQ grills, tennis courts, swimming pools, roped swim area, swim platform, childrens' playgrounds, marina, volleyball, and meeting facilities

Private Recreational Facilities

Rotary Park (located on school property) 11.5 Acres  
Soccer field and 4 baseball fields

Pecan Valley Hometown Association Park 2 acres  
Picnic pavilion, boat ramp, trees and picnic tables

Highland Lakes Boy's and Girl's Club 4 acres  
Recreation Center with basketball, fitness rooms, offices, volleyball, and playground

State Parks and Lakes (within 50 mile radius)

Parks

Blanco State Park  
Inks State Park  
LBJ Lake State Park

Enchanted Rock State Park  
Longhorn Cavern State Park  
Pedernales State Park

Lakes

Lake Marble Falls  
Lake Buchanan  
Inks Lake

Lake Lyndon B. Johnson  
Lake Travis  
Canyon Lake

# **NEEDS ASSESSMENT AND IDENTIFICATION**

## **NEEDS ASSESSMENT AND IDENTIFICATION**

The needs of each city and community are generally unique. To meet local needs, local governments need to review existing inventories, and gather public opinion to identify and provide opportunities that are structured to provide a means of solving local recreational, open space, and programming demands. The City of Marble Falls' community is unique in that the local government units of the City, County, and School District work well together and communicate their needs to each other on a regular basis. This local cooperation and participation should be recognized and encouraged to continue.

In an effort to provide input opportunities for the City of Marble Falls' community, a series of public meetings were held. The public meetings were held February 21, 2011, April 13, 2011, July 19, 2011 (joint meeting with City Council) and August 23, 2011. Those attending indicated a strong appreciation for recreational opportunities; as well as, for their environmental, geological, archeological, and cultural opportunities. The citizens of Marble Falls enjoy a low crime rate, good schools, great climate, and a sense of community and vision. There were discussions with respect to additional soccer and athletic fields (some in the form of a regional sports complex), upgrades to existing athletic facilities, a new swimming pool/splash/water park complex, a hike and bike trail system, recreational programming, indoor recreational opportunities to include a competitive swimming facility, a sandy beach area, open space, and landscaping and beautification efforts within the community.

In addition, as part of the 2009 Comprehensive Plan, a community survey was administered within the city to obtain input from the citizens of Marble Falls on various aspects of the city's growth and development as well as the current state of affairs. There was a strong return on surveys, showing how this community is quite committed to its development and taking part in its future.

Common to all responses was the importance of Lake Marble Falls to the community. It is seen and appreciated as a community asset and one that should be preserved and taken full advantage of without disruption of the lake itself and neighboring areas. Trails and connections were given high priority for future planning. Trail systems are becoming more and more important to community quality of life due to the social, recreational, educational, economic, and health benefits they offer, as well as an alternative means of movement. Also, these are systems that can be used by all segments of the community. For Marble Falls, it is also seen as a tourist draw to the community. Lakeside Park and Johnson Park are the most visited and used parks in Marble Falls. These two parks are adjacent to Lake Marble Falls and offer the most amenities to the community

Key issues from the Comprehensive Plan and at all of the Public Hearings included: the need to improve public access and better utilize Lake Marble Falls; the need for hike and bike trails; the need to repair and upgrade our existing parks; the need to develop and construct additional parks to include pocket parks, parking lots for existing parks, and basketball and tennis courts, a regional sports complex, a new swimming pool/splash/water park complex, competitive swimming facility; and the development of recreational programming.

The National Parks and Recreation Association has recommended recreational and facility standards to for municipalities. These standards are primarily based upon population. Other necessary factors may apply, such as: indoor/outdoor facilities, lighted/unlighted, accessibility, popularity of an activity or particular facility, and surrounding area served.

# **PRIORITY PROJECTS**

## **PRIORITY PROJECTS**

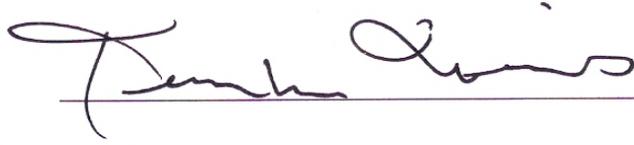
The City of Marble Falls has utilized all data from public meetings, applicable comparison standards, and other necessary factors such as those referenced in the previous section, to reach the following categorized priority project list. The categories are: 1.) Park Repairs/Upgrades; 2.) Park Development; and, 3.) Major Park Development. All of the individual items listed in the following list are in no particular order; however, are all achievable in the next 5 to 8 years.

Project Category	Project Description	Description
<b>Park Repairs/Upgrades</b>		
	Pool Deck Resurfacing	Repair and resurface pool deck area
	Lakeside Pavilion HVAC Ductwork	Replace flexduct with standard rigid duct to improve cooling efficiency
	Skatepark Restroom/Building Renovation	Renovate restrooms and group room to be rented for group gatherings
	Johnson Park Restroom/Concession Building	Replace Johnson Park restroom with restroom/concession building combination
	Pocket Park Project (2 locations)	Replace/Install playground equipment and benches
	Johnson Park/Falls Creek Park Improvements	Install new picnic tables, grills, paths and landscaping
	Lakeside/Lakeshore Ramp Improvements	Upgrade ramps to include pier and boat tie-ups
	The Greens Park Improvements	Install playground equipment, pavilion, picnic tables, bleachers, and shade structures
	Lakeside Park Electrical Upgrades	Upgrade electrical system to better accommodate events and possible future amphitheater
	Sun Shading (Cloth)	Install sun shades at The Greens soccer fields
	Lakeside Pavilion Patio Cover	Install sun cover over Lakeside Pavilion patio
	Automated Field Lighting	Replace ball field lighting with more modern efficient lighting
<b>Park Development</b>		
	Backbone/Whitman Creek Trailway (Gravel - Phase 1 - Johnson to Westside)	Construct 5200' of 10' wide gravel hike and bike trail from Johnson to Westside Parks
	Non-Motorized Mobility (Hike and Bike Trail) Plan	Plan to identify needs, feasibility, safety concerns, engineering challenges, and costs associate with a phased approach to hike and bike trail system
	Johnson Park Trails (Gravel)	Construct hike and bike trails in and immediately around Johnson Park
	Backbone/Whitman Creek Trailway (Gravel - Phase 2 - Westside to The Greens)	Construct hike and bike trail to connect Westside and The Greens Parks
	Lakeside Trails (Gravel)/Boardwalk	Construct hike and bike trails in and immediately around Lakeside Park
	Middle School Trailway (Gravel - Phase 3)	Construct hike and bike trail from The Greens to Marble Falls Middle School
	Mormon Mill Trailway (Gravel - Phase 4)	Construct hike and bike trail from Marble Falls Middle School to Marble Falls High School
	Westside Park (Phase 2 - Back 9 Disc Golf)	Expand disc golf course by 9 holes
	Kamper's Korner Park Improvements	Construct restroom, reservable day-use sites with sandy beach area, shaded picnic tables, and boat tie-ups
	Mormon Mills Park Site (Nature/Dog)	Construct walking trails, picnic sites, restroom, and open activity area for dogs
	Johnson Park Court Complex	Construct multi-court complex at Johnson to replace Lakeside courts
	Park Parking (SW Johnson St. and Ave L; SW Ave J and Yett; The Greens/Childers; 4th and Ave K)	Construct parking to alleviate on-street parking safety issues
	RV Park (Site to be determined)	Construct 10 full hookup RV sites
	RV Dump Station	Construct RV dump station for visitors at easily accessible location
	Adult Soccer Field	Identify location and construct adult soccer field
	Skatepark Shade Structure	Construct sun shade structure at skatepark
	Backbone Creek Bridge	Construct walking bridge connecting Lakeside Park to Johnson Park
	Amphitheater	Construct Lakeside Park Amphitheater
<b>Major Development</b>		
	Sports Complex	Construct sports complex for softball/baseball/soccer (field sports only)
	Pool/Water Park	Construct competition pool/water park

# **PROOF OF ADOPTION**

# PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

Kendra Lewis



Commissioner, Place 1

Pamela Parsons



Commissioner, Place 2

Royce Smith



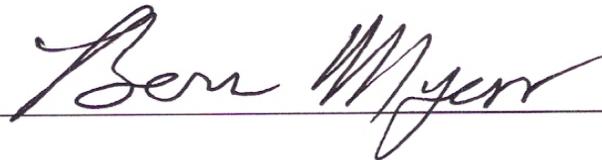
Commissioner, Place 3

Bob Fallis



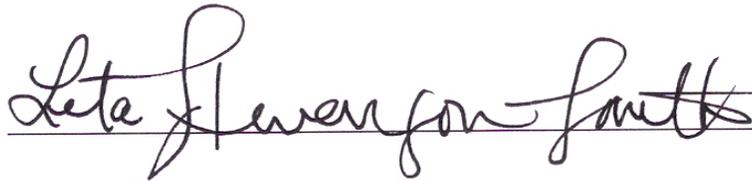
Chair, Place 4

Bern Myers



Vice Chair, Place 5

Leta Stevenson-Smith



Commissioner, Place 6

Dave Rhodes



Commissioner, Place 7

**ORDINANCE NO. 2012-O-01A**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF MARBLE FALLS, TEXAS,  
ACCEPTING THE 2012 PARK, RECREATION, AND OPEN SPACE  
MASTER PLAN; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, REPEALER,  
EFFECTIVE DATE, AND PROPER NOTICE AND MEETING.**

**WHEREAS**, due to certain changes, growth, and development of the City of Marble Falls, it has become necessary, due to the passage of time and the needs of the community, to update the Park, Recreation, and Open Space Master Plan of the City of Marble Falls, Texas; and

**WHEREAS**, the Parks and Recreation Commission has prepared an updated Park, Recreation, and Open Space Master Plan for the City of Marble Falls; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Marble Falls has followed all procedures and done all things required by its Charter and State law for the update of its Park, Recreation, and Open Space Master Plan; and

**WHEREAS**, it is intended that this Park, Recreation, and Open Space Master Plan will replace the Parks Plan approved in the City's Comprehensive Plan approved in Ordinance 2009-O-10C on November 23, 2009; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council of the City of Marble Falls, Texas, desires to accept the recommendations of the Parks and Recreation Commission to approve the updated Park, Recreation, and Open Space Master Plan;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MARBLE FALLS, TEXAS:**

**SECTION 1.** That all of the above and foregoing recitals and preambles are found to be true and correct, and made a part of this resolution for all purposes.

**SECTION 2.** That the City Council of the City of Marble Falls, Texas, does hereby accept, as advisory and as a guide, the 2012 Park, Recreation, and Open Space Master Plan, a copy of which is attached hereto as Attachment "A" and incorporated herein for all purposes, the same to be the 2012 Park, Recreation, and Open Space Master Plan of the City of Marble Falls, for all purposes.

**SECTION 3.** That the City Council of the City of Marble Falls, Texas, hereby submits this 2012 Park, Recreation, and Open Space Master Plan to all citizen groups and committees, city boards and commissions, and all citizens interested in the orderly growth and progress of the City of Marble Falls, for use as a guide in the planning of future growth and development of the City of Marble Falls.

**SECTION 4.** That the 2012 Park, Recreation, and Open Space Master Plan, attached as Attachment "A", shall replace the Parks Plan approved in the 2009 Comprehensive Plan.

**SECTION 5. PROVIDING FOR A SAVINGS CLAUSE.** The repeal of any ordinance or part of ordinances effectuated by the enactment of this ordinance shall not be construed as abandoning any action now pending under or by virtue of such ordinance or as discontinuing, abating, modifying or altering any penalty accruing or to accrue, or as affecting any rights of the City under any section or provisions of any ordinances at the time of passage of this ordinance.

**SECTION 6. SEVERABILITY CLAUSE.** If any provision, section, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance, or the application of the same to any person or set of circumstances is for any reason held to be unconstitutional, void, invalid, or unenforceable, the validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance or its application to other persons or sets of circumstances shall not be affected thereby, it being the intent of the City Council of the City of Marble Falls in adopting, and of the Mayor in approving this ordinance, that no portion thereof or provision or regulation contained herein shall be come inoperative or fail by reason of any unconstitutionality or invalidity of any portion, provision or regulation.

**SECTION 7. REPEALER CLAUSE.** The provisions of this ordinance shall be cumulative of all other ordinances or parts of ordinances governing or regulating the same subject matter as that covered herein, provided, however, that all prior ordinance or parts of ordinances inconsistent or in conflict with any of the provisions of this ordinance are hereby expressly repealed to the extent that such inconsistency is apparent. This ordinance shall not be construed to require or allow any act which is prohibited by any other ordinance.

**SECTION 8. EFFECTIVE DATE.** This ordinance shall take effect immediately from and after its passage and publication as may be required by governing law.

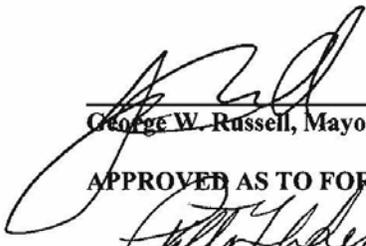
**SECTION 9. NOTICE AND MEETING CLAUSE.** It is hereby officially found and determined that the meeting at which this Ordinance was passed was open to the public and that public notice of the time, place and purpose of said meeting was given as required by the Open Meetings Act, Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code.

**READ, PASSED, AND ADOPTED THIS 3<sup>rd</sup> DAY OF JANUARY, 2012.**

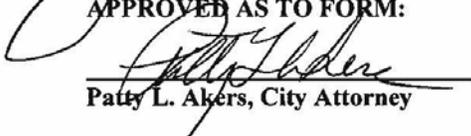


ATTEST:

  
Christina Laine, TRMC  
City Secretary

  
George W. Russell, Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

  
Patty L. Akers, City Attorney

Ordinance 2012-O-01A - Page 2 of 2