

# PARK SECTOR 18 SUMMARY

## PARK SECTOR 18 PRIORITIES

These priorities were developed by using condition assessment information from site visits, standard-based needs analysis (NRPA standards and the Trust for Public Land ParkScore™ Project), and public input via an online survey, park user interviews, community events and Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) meetings.

1. Acquire new park land
2. Develop new park facilities
3. Revitalize existing parks
4. Develop neighborhood connections to parks and trails
5. Develop partnerships with the school system and other entities
6. Preserve environmentally sensitive areas

## RECOMMENDATIONS

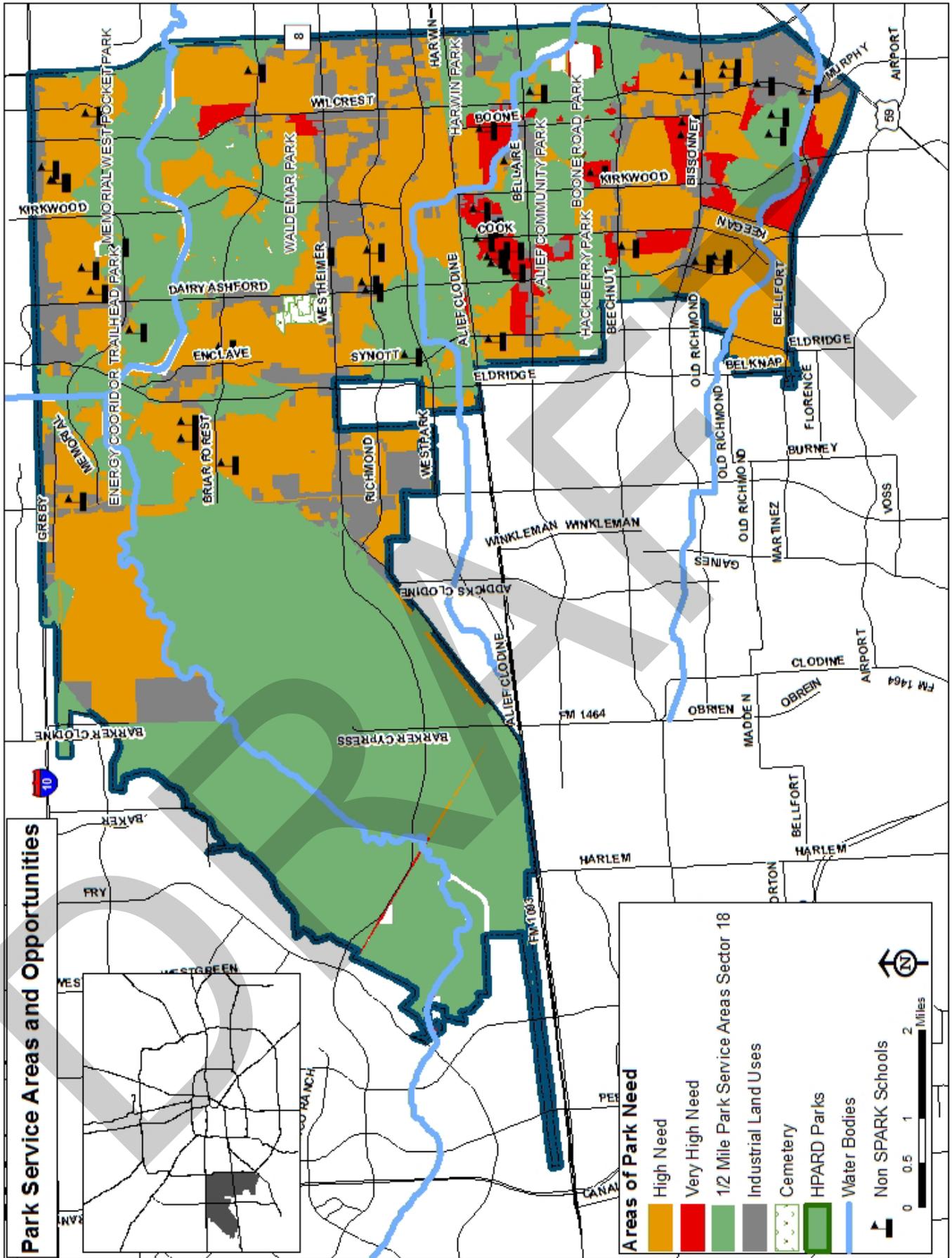
The parks in Park Sector 18 that have the highest need for redevelopment are Boone Road Park and Waldemar Park.

In this Park Sector 401 acres of parkland are needed. Even though the need analysis for park land shows a great need for park land, this analysis only accounts for Pocket, Neighborhood and Community parks. This Park Sector is unusual in that it is served by four Regional Harris County parks: Terry Hershey Park, George Bush Park, Art Storey Park and Archbishop Joseph A. Fiorenza Park. Nonetheless there is still a need for smaller scale parks in areas of need. This is the second most populous Park Sector that carries 11.3% of the total population in the City of Houston. There are areas of need throughout almost the entire Park Sector.

Furthermore, the population in west Houston is projected to grow immensely in coming years. Schools not participating in the SPARK School Park Program (Non-SPARK schools) should be explored as potential future partnerships for park space. Schools are located in many of the areas of need and very high need for park land and opportunities seem widespread. Because of the great need for park land and playgrounds in this Park Sector, a partnership with the SPARK Park program and Houston Independent School District (HISD) would be highly beneficial.

This Park Sector is deficient in playgrounds, picnic shelters, trails, outdoor basketball courts, tennis courts, volleyball courts, dog parks, skate parks, community centers, swimming pools, spraygrounds and softball fields. In the 2014 survey, the top three priorities of residents in Park Sector 18 when asked what recreational needs existed in their neighborhood were: hike, bike and walk trails, open space and natural areas, and picnic areas and pavilions. Three bayous, Buffalo, Brays and Keegans Bayous traverse this Park Sector and there are approximately 18 miles of trails planned for these bayous through the Bayou Greenways Initiative (BG 2020). The West Houston Trails Master Plan (WHTMP) proposes a north-south 8.7 mile spine trail along a utility corridor (Wycliff Highline Spine Trail) which would begin north of I-10 and connect the trail along Buffalo Bayou inside Terry Hershey Park to Brays Bayou and would fill a gap in need for park and open space. Other services and amenities that residents asked for in the write-in portion of the survey were: fitness programs, outdoor environmental education and camping, fishing activities, senior programming, archery programs, youth nature programs, tai chi and yoga, community gardens, and youth ages 0-6 programming. Over 28% of the population in this Park Sector is obese. Based on these health metrics, partnerships should be pursued to increase levels of physical activity and programming that promotes healthy living should be explored.

**Sources:** 2010 Census, 2010 Houston Health Survey, American Community Survey 2013, Houston Parks Board, HPARD 2014 Online Survey, Trust for Public Land ParkScore™ Project, 2040 H-GAC population projections by Park Sector



## EXISTING HPARD PARKS

Facility Name	Address	Street	Total Acres	Trail Length
<b>Pocket Parks</b>				
Energy Corridor Trailhead Park		N. Eldridge/ Buffalo Bayou	0.79	N/A
Kendall Community Center	609	N. Eldridge	0.08	N/A
Memorial West Pocket Park (undeveloped)	13922	Memorial Drive	0.72	N/A
<b>Total Pocket Park Acreage</b>			<b>1.60</b>	
<b>Neighborhood Parks</b>				
Harwin Park	11305	Harwin	8.83	0.70
Waldemar Park	11700	Waldemar	3.95	0.19
<b>Total Neighborhood Park Acreage</b>			<b>12.80</b>	
<b>Community Parks</b>				
Alief Community Park	11903	Bellaire Blvd	37.30	0.53
Boone Road Park	7700	Boone Rd.	27.38	1.06
Hackberry Park	7777	South Dairy Ashford	22.44	0.70
<b>Total Community Park Acreage</b>			<b>87.10</b>	
<b>Urban Trails / Shared Use Paths</b>				
West Side Hike and Bike Trail				1.90
<b>Total HPARD Park Acreage</b>			<b>101.40</b>	
<b>Total HPARD Trail Length</b>				<b>5.08</b>

## EXISTING COMMUNITY CENTERS AND POOLS

Community Centers and Pool Facilities	Address	Zip Code	Agency Responsible
Alief Community Center and Pool	11903 Bellaire Blvd	77072	HPARD
Hackberry Community Center	7777 South Dairy Ashford	77072	HPARD
Kendall Community Center	603 East 35th	77079	HPARD

## PARK SERVICE AREAS

The Park Service Area map was produced using data provided by the Trust for Public Land ParkScore™ Project to show areas of park need. The green areas represent a ½ mile service area of public parks (city or county) and SPARK Parks (school parks open to the public after school) or other publicly accessible non-HPARD Parks.

The orange and red represent areas where there is not access to a park within a ½ mile. The degree of need (red is very high need and orange is high need) is based on population density, household income (less than \$35,000), and presence of youth (19 yrs or younger). The office and industrial land uses are represented in grey, to specifically highlight residential and commercial areas of need. Roughly 39% of this Park Sector is not served by a park, which is lower than that of the entire city (55%). Non-SPARK schools are indicated on the map as black flags to explore as potential future partnerships for park space.

## PARK SECTOR FACTS

- This Park Sector contains 9,060 acres of parkland (Harris County, HPARD & other providers). Of the 37,443 acres in this Park Sector, 24% of this acreage is parkland.
- There are approximately 240,000 residents, making this the second most populous Park Sector that carries 11.3% of the total population in the City of Houston. It also has the second largest concentration of Asian-Americans (14%) in the city.
- Even though this Park Sector is served by George Bush Park there is a need for 401 acres of Neighborhood and Community parks. This is based on the current population (2010 US Census) of the Park Sector and needs assessment done for Pocket, Neighborhood and Community parks (number of acres per 1,000 people).
- The Trust for Public Land ParkScore shows high need in northwest and central portion of the Park Sector.
- Park Sector 18 has a total of 32 miles of trails.
- H-GAC population projections estimate that this area will add over 58,000 residents by 2040. To meet the park land needs for the estimated 2040 population an additional 175 acres of park land will be needed.

## NEEDS ASSESSMENT FOR AMENITIES IN PARK SECTOR

The table below shows the total existing amenities (including, HPARD, County and SPARK Parks) as of 2015, the target goal per amenity, and the amenities needed based on population standards for each amenity using 2010 US Census Population. The last row shows the estimated number of amenities needed based on the H-GAC population projections for 2040 and amenity standards used in the 2007 Parks Master Plan.

AMENITY	PLAYGROUNDS	PICNIC SHELTERS	TRAILS (MILES)	OUTDOOR BASKETBALL COURTS	TENNIS	VOLLEYBALL	DOG PARKS	SKATE PARKS	COMMUNITY CENTERS	SWIMMING POOLS	OUTDOOR SPRAYGROUNDS	BASEBALL (LIT and UNIT)	SOFTBALL (LIT and UNIT)	SOCCER (LIT and UNIT)
2015 Goal	60	24	50	20	24	5	2	2	8	5	2	8	8	55
2015 Existing	24	18	37*	3	6	0	0	0	3	1	1	8	0	55
2015 Needed	36	6	13	17	18	5	2	2	5	4	1	-	8	-
2040 Needed	15	6	12	5	6	1	1	-	2	1	1	2	2	-

\* This number includes 5 miles of trails inside the city limits along Brays Bayou under the Bayou Greenways 2020 (BG2020 Initiative).

## GUIDE FOR ESTIMATED COST OF NEW AMENITIES, PARK LAND, AMENITY RENOVATIONS AND OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE FOR PARK SECTOR

The table below contains costs estimates (in 2015 dollars) based on the needs assessment using 2010 US Census population and population projections provided by H-GAC per Park Sector for 2040, for both amenities and land in this Park Sector. In addition, the cost estimates (in 2015 dollars) for renovation of existing facilities and operation and maintenance are listed. A general explanation of each figure and its source is listed below:

1. **Cost of New System Amenities:** This is the estimated cost for amenities based on the needs assessment above. Costs are estimated for 2015 and 2040 based on costs of 2014 HPARD projects. These costs are a guide and do not include site specific constraints such as utility extensions, flood mitigation or the purchase of land if expansion of the park was needed for these amenities.
2. **Cost of Park Land:** This is the land needed to meet the park land standards for 2015 and 2040 based on the 2010 US Census and the H-GAC estimated population projections respectively. Land costs are based on land values by Park Sector, provided by H-GAC, from 2014 HCAD values for properties greater than 5,000 sqft in size and with no structures.
3. **Cost of HPARD Amenity Renovation:** The 2015 cost estimate is based on the assessment that 30% of the existing facilities in this Park Sector need renovation. The 2040 cost estimate is based on the assessment that the remaining 2/3 of the facilities from 2015 and 30% of the new facilities will need renovation to meet the population growth. Costs are estimated for 2015 and 2040 based on costs of 2014 HPARD projects.
4. **Annual Operation & Maintenance:** This figure is based on the national average for parks and recreation operational spending amount (\$63) per resident in 2013 according the Trust for Public Land publication "2014 City Park Facts." Houston spent \$29 per resident on parks and recreation in 2013. vThis figure shows what the cost of spending this average amount per resident would be based on the current population and the projected population in 2040.

	1	2	3	4
	COST OF NEW SYSTEM AMENITIES	COST OF NEW PARK LAND	COST OF HPARD EXISTING AMENITY RENOVATION	ANNUAL COST OF OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE
2015	\$123,000,000	401 Acres- \$100,000,000	\$11,000,000	\$15,000,000
2040	\$46,000,000	175 Acres- \$42,000,000	\$74,000,000	\$4,000,000
TOTAL 2040	\$169,000,000	576 Acres- \$142,000,000	\$85,000,000	\$19,000,000