

*PARKS AND RECREATION*



## PARK AND RECREATION PLAN

The Lexington Parks and Recreation portion of “*The Lex-Plan 2013*” will create a tool for the City for developing priorities regarding the improvement of existing facilities and the expansion of the overall parks system.

An estimated 100 acres of land in the City of Lexington are currently used for parks and recreational complexes. This acreage does not include school parks described herein but represents only 1.02 acres of park land per 100 people in the community currently. Based on the 2010 census population of 10,230, the current park land is about 50 percent less than the planning standard of two acres per 100 people. The City maintains a wide range of park types from natural reserves to dedicated parks with playground equipment and ball fields, however, an increased effort to expand park and recreation land area needs to remain a continued focus during the next 20-30 year planning period.



Throughout the planning period of this Comprehensive Plan, the City of Lexington must develop additional park and recreation facilities in conjunction with population increases and, at the same time, upgrade existing facilities. Planning Standards indicate that the City will need to develop at least 100 more acres of park and recreational land by 2030. Such parks and recreational land should be linked to each other and the various public facilities in the community by linear trails.

During the discussions about an updated Lexington Comprehensive Plan, a desire was expressed to go into greater detail regarding the park and recreation system and the City’s Parks and Trails Plan. This plan was developed under the direction of the Comprehensive Development Plan Steering Committee, with the assistance of a special focus group made up of local athletic and recreation organizations, as well as the ideas and comments that came out of the Town Hall meetings, a charrette process and other various focus groups.

Based upon public input, current conditions, notable deficiencies, and future growth projections of Lexington, a Park Service Area Map (Figure 45) and Trails Concept Map (Figure 52) have been created, along with a list of recommendations for each existing and proposed park and recreational facility.