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**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

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# PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

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## PUBLIC PARTICIPATION METHODOLOGY

Public participation was achieved through a variety of methods to ensure a diverse and representative dataset. For this Master Plan update, several methods of public input were used: Parks and Facilities Inventory & Analysis, a Parks and Recreation Staff / Park Board Kickoff Session, a Statistically Valid Survey, Public Open Houses, Online Community Survey, Stakeholder Input Sessions, and regular Parks and Recreation Staff / Park Board input. Summaries can be found below with more complete information and proof of advertisement in the Appendix of this document. These results are used in Chapter 6-Action Plan.

## SUMMARY OF ALL EVENTS

Events were divided into two categories, in-person events and surveys. Surveys were conducted via physical mail as well as online while public input sessions took place at Riverside Park's McHale Complex on June 13th, 2023., and the City Hall Council Chambers on March 13th, 2024. All data gathered from these events and surveys is located in Chapter 8-Appendix

## STAFF ENGAGEMENT

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### PARKS AND FACILITIES INVENTORY & ANALYSIS

The Parks Department and Planning Team conducted site visits for inventory and analysis:

- October 2022 - full documentation of all facilities via site visits with notes and photography.
- Supplemental site visits as needed from October 2022 - March 2023

### PARKS AND RECREATION STAFF / PARK BOARD KICKOFF

The Planning Team led a half-day of input meetings that included the following:

- Review of Inventory Maps for all facilities.
- Input Session topics specifically catered to the Staff and Park Board.
- Discussion of the overall planning process, timelines, and goals of each step.

### PARKS AND RECREATION STAFF / PARK BOARD

The Planning Team has been providing updates and review of "next steps" with the Staff and Board throughout the process.

## PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

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### STATISTICALLY VALID SURVEY

The Parks Department and Planning team worked together to craft, send, and document a statistically valid survey through a third-party consultant: ETC Institute. The survey was released on March 8th, 2023 and accomplished the following:

- Survey was the baseline public input method and provided a starting point for a slightly modified version that became the Online Public Survey.
- A goal of 300 completed surveys - 303 received.
- Overall results were documented in a full report and made available online.
- Various data was documented to assist with additional input and use during the following public input such as open houses, online survey, etc.

An executive summary and results of this survey can be found in Chapter 8-Appendix



## PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT (CONTINUED)

### ONLINE COMMUNITY SURVEY

Based on an alternate version of the Statistically Valid Survey, the Planning Team executed and documented the results of an online survey that was available to the public from June to the end of August, 2023. There were 474 total respondents, with park users were the primary responders. The Parks Department helped promote the survey through community outreach, their website, and their social media platforms.

### YOUTH SURVEY

This document provides a snapshot of the entire online survey offered to Logansport Students at the Logansport Intermediate School and the Logansport Junior High School in December 2023. A total of 730 students completed the survey. It was issued 11/29/2023, and concluded on 12/14/2023.

### PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE

The Parks Department and Planning team worked together to facilitate a public open house at Riverside Park's McHale Complex at 5 p.m. the day of June 13<sup>th</sup>, following 3 Stakeholder sessions held that same day. The event included:

- Refreshments and handouts.
  - Presentation boards outlining the Statistically Valid Survey results.
  - Interactive Facility and Programming boards.
  - Spanish-speaking interpreter.
  - Interactive activities related to Parks for children.
- 23 community members were in attendance.

### STAKEHOLDER INPUT SESSIONS

The Parks Department and Planning team worked together to facilitate 4 sessions with 4 different Stakeholder groups that included a variety of voices from throughout the community. Discussion included:

- Presentation boards outlining the Statistically Valid Survey results.
- Various discussion and input based on targeted topics resulting from the Statistically Valid Survey.

The input meetings began at 9A.M. and ended at 2:30P.M., with each session lasting approximately 1.5 hours.

Session 1: 3 participants                      Session 2: 3 participants  
 Session 3: 6 participants                      Session 4: 1 participants

### Final Public Meeting

The Parks Department and Planning team worked together to facilitate a final public meeting at the City Council Chambers at 4:30 p.m. the day of March 13<sup>th</sup>, and a Parks Board meeting followed at 5:30 p.m. The event included:

- Presentation boards outlining the draft master plan.
- Interactive goals, mission statement, vision, and values boards.
- Public Comment

25 community members were in attendance.





## ONLINE COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS

The following ranking of Facility Features from High to Low Priority was gathered from a public input survey that went public along with the statistically valid survey so that those who were not selected through the mail could participate. The chart below compiles all of the data from the survey into one digestible place.

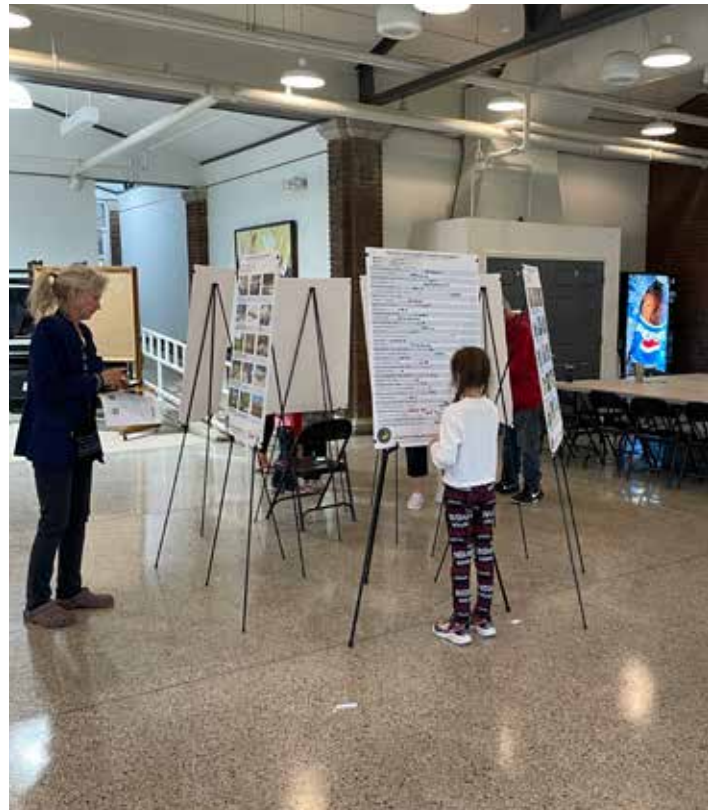
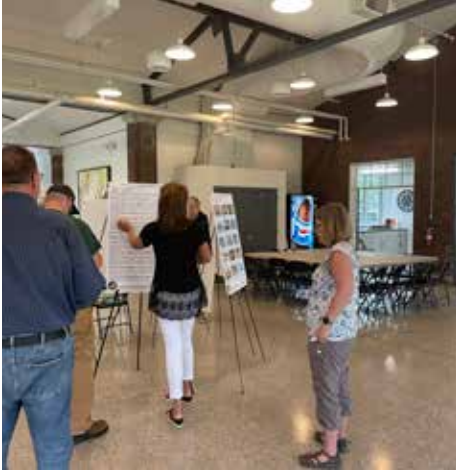
PUBLIC INPUT ONLINE			
FACILITY FEATURES (376 RESPONDENTS)	High (80+)	Medium (50-79)	Low (1-49)
Outdoor Amphitheater	117		
Water Access	111		
Dog Park	100		
Multi-Use Paved Trails	99		
Outdoor Adventure Park	84		
Picnic Areas & Shelters	80		
Social Spaces		79	
Indoor Aquatic Center		73	
Ice Skating Rink		72	
Community Garden		71	
Splash pads		71	
Diamond Sports Field		69	
Downhill Winter Recreation Facility		55	
Playground Equipment for ALL		53	
Indoor Walking / Jogging Track			49
Golf Course			47
Boat Launch			41
Disc Golf			40
Outdoor Aquatic Center			40
Indoor Multi-Purpose Sport Field			39
Indoor Recreational Facility			30
Open Space & Conservation Area			29
Indoor Gym Space			28
Multi-Use Unpaved Trails			26
Large Community Park			21
Indoor Courts for Pickleball			20
Environmental Educational Center			19
Outdoor Multi-Use Courts - Pickleball			19
Skateboard Park			17
Small Neighborhood Park			16
Outdoor Rectangular Sports Field - Soccer			15
BMX Park / Pump Track			12
Soccer on Hard Court (Futsal)			12
Outdoor Multi-Use Courts - Basketball			8
Outdoor Exercise / Fitness Equipment			5
Outdoor Rectangular Sports Fields - Football			1

## 1st PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE RESULTS

The following comments were gathered at the June 13, 2023 event at McHale. A “#” next to the comment indicates the total number of people (via a tally system) who chose the amenity, facility, or program as important to them and/or their family. The chart below compiles all of the data from the event into one digestible place.

Public Engagement Event; June 13, 2023			
1. Place a dot(s) next to the FACILITIES that you would like to see in the future Logansport Parks. (Green - High Priority; Blue - Medium Priority; Red - Low Priority)	High (Green)	Medium (Blue)	Low (Red)
Dog Park (Fenced, Off-Leash)	9	4	6
Outdoor Amphitheater	10	9	1
Indoor Walking / Jogging Track	22	6	4
Multi-Use Paved Trails	20	1	2
Picnic Areas and Shelters	14	8	0
Playgrounds Equipment for all abilities / all ages	15	5	0
Social Spaces	10	6	0
Community Garden	8	0	14
Indoor Aquatic Center	8	5	8
Water Access	13	6	2
Outdoor Adventure Park	14	8	2
Ice Skating Rink	8	5	14
Multi-Use Unpaved Trails	6	7	3
Indoor Recreation Facility	4	3	8
Splash Pads	14	9	1
Downhill Winter Recreation Facility	2	13	4
Disc Golf	6	5	19
Boat Launch	14	10	2
Environmental Education Center	4	9	2
Open Space & Conservation Areas	13	4	5
Golf Course	3	4	14
Large Community Parks	9	8	0
Indoor Multi-Purpose Sports Fields	11	2	1
Indoor Gym Space	0	0	1
Small Neighborhood Parks	0	2	1
Diamond Sports Fields	1	0	1
Outdoor Aquatic Center	2	0	0
Outdoor Exercise / Fitness Equipment	0	0	1
Indoor Courts for Pickleball	1	0	2
Skateboard Parks	0	2	1
Outdoor Multi-Use Courts - Basketball	2	0	1
Outdoor Multi-Use Courts - Pickleball	3	0	0
BMX Park / Pump Track	2	0	4
Soccer on Hard Court (Futsal)	2	2	2
Outdoor Rectangular Sports Fields - Football	0	1	2
Outdoor Rectangular Sports Fields - Soccer	5	1	3

# 1st PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE



## STAKEHOLDER INPUT SESSION 1

### Session 1 (9-10:30):

- Liquor from event center in the parks
  - Open container laws??
- Dog park, needs rules and regulations because some dogs havent been around other dogs before.
  - Funding privately for the softball field repurpose
- Are Logansport parks safe?
  - Little turtle water way is scary
    - Safety, one way in and one way out, security problems or camera problems
    - Added signs for being watched
    - Delphi is not that far from them
    - Suicide, murder, at spencer at Ittww
  - Police don't get a lot of calls, no one is there.
    - Riverside park drugs
    - Police don't patrol / show up around the parks, maybe park near the parks and not gas station.
    - Purchase old police cars and park near parks and schools.
    - Bike patrol but they don't understand community policing
- Is alcohol prohibited in the parks?
- Use social media to promote park features
- Is the safety perception due to the new demographic?
- HUGE VANDALISM PROBLEM, ESP. BATHROOMS
- A lot of poverty causes issues with the parks?
- Is the system too broad?
  - Concrete prevents vandalism??
- Free tagging walls for street art, controlled vandalism.
- Jan relies on the y for events and do we need to hire a retired police man
- Riverside needs lighting
- More activity means not a lot crime or vandalism
- Kara's programs needs more support.
- Foodtrucks?!
- Schools integrated into the parks systems
  - How do we go about this? We need to better connect and prioritize students in the parks.
  - Day camp?
  - Using the girls Scouts camp
  - Berry patch connected to the highschool for outdoor education
- The city pool lifeguards act as a form of childcare.
- Spencer park pavilion
  - We need to take care of the children
  - Historic preservation is significant because there aren't pavilions like it anymore
  - People have memories there but have not been there since they were little
  - To renovate the whole pavilion will take too long and take too much money
  - Misinformation and ignorance on the actual conditions of the pavilion.
  - It will not just be gone, there are a bunch of opportunities to upgrade it all.



## STAKEHOLDER INPUT SESSION 2

### Session 2 (11-12:30):

- Partnerships that can bring a lot to help the community grow.
- Parks department's priority should
- FFA opportunities
- Recreational programs every day in the summers for kids, parents, families in the parks
- The students in the community love the identity of the community.
- SAFETY
  - Perception versus reality
  - Rumors and one or two incidents cause the whole community to not go to the parks
  - Schools police officers patrol the parks?
  - Logansport parks and schools are safe and a lot of people don't understand
- Park ranger?! Police presence or someone with authority to volunteer to patrol
- "if you see something, say something"
- Dog park
  - Funding campaign to pay for the park
- "where two rivers meet"
  - Use the rivers to our advantage.
  - Access to the rivers and homes on the rivers?
  - Transportation on the water, pollution.
- Riverside park – trackless train.
- Little turtle water way
  - No restrooms and no one downtown do not let you go.
- Total number of parks to maintain – too many parks
  - But what do we do without them?
- Riverside is the foundation park
  - Too many pocket parks?
  - All the money is spent on maintenance.
  - The venue and amphitheater serves a lot of different people and can maybe take away other areas.
- Schools plan far in advance, parks system needs to know if they should be involved with them.
  - September or October.
  - Migrant community out of Jasper Indiana could be integrated in the programs as well.
- Community calendars
- Drug free community grants
  - Use for program funding
  - Youth services alliance partnership and they will pay for youth activities
  - 10 year grant to keep kids away from drugs and alcohol
  - They can help with security and cameras in well lit areas.
- Transportation – work with transit
- Free walls and give them spaces to hangout.
- Reach out to children to see what THEY want.
  - Best way to get input from them; at riverside
  - Give them questions for when school starts in august.
  - Start surveying the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade groups every year for their input.
- Dances?
  - Shaperones.
- Lu kokomo
  - Has programs within the city.
- Libraries
  - Summer reading programs

- Who is in charge of the libraries.
- The y, a lot of kids are at the y
  - Kids get dropped off
- Volunteering
  - Most kids work multiple jobs
- Signage??
  - Are the rules posted at every park for the community rules
- Skating rink
  - Officer presence

## STAKEHOLDER INPUT SESSION 3

### Priorities Group (1-2:30):

- Riverside park
  - DNR needs to approve and rezone
  - Dr sweeten about fish habitat
  - Look at changing the floodplain
  - The roundabout taking away from store front areas.
  - Loves taking the road out of the park.
  - Carousel not being used.
- Safety
  - Does the survey have clarifying questions about safety
  - Add to the survey: safety questions
- Instagram being boosted
  - Reaching people who are going around the area
- Safety with department heads
  - Police on bikes
- Huston and Michigan avenue
  - Camps – shut down
- East of Ittww
  - Homeless people camping – death and drugs in the river
- The trains bring in travelers that will camp around woods
  - Can get scary at night
- Getting rid of parks??
  - In the 5 year plan
- Add Burkhart park
- Mayor is looking at patriot park.
- The maintenance team taking good care of the plant beds
- Flory cant be given away.
- “4 main parks”
- 5 year masterplan is having communication issues
  - Should be appropriating funding and the plans
- SOCIAL MEDIA!!!!!!!!!!
  - THE LOGANSPORT REIMAGINE PLANS GOT 7,000 RESPONSES.
- Spencer park shelter
  - It needs to be taken down
  - The amount of money that will need to go into it will be way too much, might as well build something new and save a few items from it.
  - People do not come around for the pavilion.
- Partnerships
  - Use franklin’s facilities
- Renting temporary facilities to prove the need

- Ice skating rink would be well appreciated.
- Looking at apartments and enhancing downtown.
- Name park typologies.
  - Identifying what the parks are used for to determine what the park needs.
- E sports for free wifi
- Futsal??

## YOUTH SURVEY RESULTS AND FINDINGS

This document provides a snapshot of the entire online survey offered to Logansport Students at the Logansport Intermediate School and the Logansport Junior High School in December 2023. A total of 730 students completed the survey. It was issued 11/29/2023, and concluded on 12/14/2023.

**Q1 How do you currently find out about programs & activities offered by LPRD? Please select all that apply. (720 Answered)**

- Word of Mouth- 41%
- Facebook - 32%
- Email- 25%
- Posted fliers 19%
- Other: Other responses include teachers at school, parents and other social media

**Q1 Conclusion: Efforts to provide information to students (ages 10-14) through school, social media and direct emails are working, and should be enhanced. A printed parks guide was also a trusted source of information, but we have resisted providing that piece due to cost and environmental concerns regarding wasting paper. It may be something to consider in the future.**

**Q2 From the list of activities listed below, please select the activities you are involved in. Please select all that apply. (677 Answered)**

- Arts 28%
- Basketball 27%
- Soccer 24%
- Computer Games/Internet 23%
- Shopping 21%
- School Activities (not athletics) 19%

Q3 From the list of activities listed below, please select up to four (4) activities you would like to see Logansport Parks and Recreation provide. (694 answered)

- Basketball 26%
- Soccer 25%
- Arts 23%
- Football 16%
- Watch Movies 15%
- Parkour 15%
- Computer Games 13%
- Volleyball 13%
- Running 12%
- Ice Skating 12%
- Shopping 12%

Q2 & Q3 Conclusion: The activities that students would like, are the same activities they would like us to provide more of. It suggests that they aren't going to put themselves into doing something that they will be uncomfortable with. It would be appropriate for us to introduce other activities/program ideas during programs they are already comfortable with. OR, we can presume that the things that kids enjoy already are being provided through other agencies or the schools. Perhaps our direction should be providing things that ARE NOT available through others....finding a different path?

Q4 What is the main reason you do not participate in Logansport Parks and Recreation programs? This question is limited to one response. (665 answered)

- Nothing I am interested in 21%
- Not aware of programs 19%
- Other Responsibilities/no time 12%
- Cost 10%
- Age Limits 6%
- No experience/instruction to the activity 6%

Q4 Conclusion: Even a little more promotion of our programs & facilities would increase participation by students. Utilizing the information in Q1, we know where to put more efforts - Facebook and Email. This survey is the start of providing activities that Logansport students would be interested in being a part of. We should do this survey more frequently.



Q5 What mode of transportation is available to you to get to programs or parks? Please select all that apply. (622 answered)

- Parents 67%
- Walk 33%
- Bike 28%
- Carpool w Friends 18%
- Personal Vehicle 14%

Q5 Conclusion: Provide programs when parents are available to get their children to the park OR provide some transportation for students to get to different places. For example.... kids on the west side, meet at Fairview Park at Noon, and the bus would transport them to the Aquatic Center, then pick them up at 4 and return them to Fairview Park? Maybe create a route of pick up's and drop offs?

Q6 Where do you spend most of your free time? Please select your top three locations. (633 answered)

- Home 78%
- On computer/video games 31%
- Watching TV 27%
- Friend's House 25%
- School(extracurricular) 16%
- Church 13%
- YMCA 12%
- Riverside Park 9%
- Logansport Trails 2%

Q6 Conclusion: Again, developing a transportation system to activities &/or parks would be ideal to get students out of their homes and into our parks.

Q7 Why do you go to the places identified in the previous question? Please select all that apply. (625 answered)

- Enjoyment 65%
- Friends are there 49%
- Location 28%
- Available transportation 19%
- Cost 16%

Q8 Do you visit the parks and recreation facilities... (527 answered)

- With an adult 41%
- With friends 29%
- I do not visit park & recreation activities 26%
- By yourself 4%

Q7 & Q8 Conclusion: We need to tap into groups of kids...go with school grade groups?

**Q9 Please select all of the locations you have visited in the last year. (571 answered)**

- Riverside Park 73%
- Spencer Park 49%
- Huston Park 44%
- Fairview Park 42%
- Eel River Run 22%
- Little Turtle Water Trail 20%
- YMCA-not park facility 35%

**Q9 Conclusion: When I look at these numbers, I see that these students are using the trails. Perhaps a walking club would be an activity that encourages and reinforces a habit of walking or running. Students are using Huston Park for soccer as well as trails.**

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**Q10 Please select the top three (3) recreation facilities, other than those located at school, you feel are most important to you and your friends. (594 answered)**

- Open Space/Natural areas 33%
- Outdoor basketball courts 32%
- Trails 26%
- Outdoor swimming pools 24%
- Rectangular athletic fields 23%
- Neighborhood Parks(< 10 acres) 20%
- Community Parks(10+ acres) 15%

**Q10 Conclusion: Complete the soccer complex at Huston Park; enhance & improve our basketball courts, enhance and improve our trails; Provide a great aquatic center for kids (bigger slides, lazy river, climbing activities over the water) Make our smaller neighborhood parks more relevant to the youth activities, perhaps build a “teen” playground somewhere? An indoor “park” would also be an ideal for youth to gather and be together in a supervised atmosphere.**

**Q11 What level of school are you currently in? (584 answered)**

- Intermediate, Middle or Jr. High 97%
- Elementary School 3%

**Q12 Please select al of the following you have access to at your home. (585 Answered)**

- Internet 87%
- Smart phone 78%
- Computer 72%
- Video Game System 71%
- Cable/Satellite TV 61%
- Tablet 52%

## FINAL PUBLIC MEETING RESULTS

The following comments were gathered at the March 13, 2024 event at City Council Chambers. There were 25 residents in attendance. The chart below compiles all of the data from the event into one digestible piece.

Public Engagement Event; March 13, 2024	
1. Place a dot next to the Vision Statement you would like to see in the new master plan.	Votes
Proposed Vision 1: "Transforming Communities"	3
Proposed Vision 2: "First Choice in Recreation"	9
2. Place a dot next to the Mission Statement you would like to see in the new master plan.	
Current Mission Statement	3
Proposed Mission 1: "Enriching Lives Through Recreation"	2
Proposed Mission 2: "Fostering Community Well-being"	8
3. Write any extra comments about Vision/Mission statements on a post-it note.	
"Please don't leave out education in the mission statement, and future generations and natural heritage. It's why I'm moving to Logan"	
4. Additional Comments	
"Will Dentzel Dr be closed?"	





# FINAL PUBLIC MEETING

