

DYER PARKS AND RECREATION 2022-2026 MASTER PLAN



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SECTION I

PARKS & RECREATION

OVERVIEW





Section I- Parks and Recreation Overview

Dyer Parks and Recreation 2022-2026 Master Overview

The Dyer Parks and Recreation Department consist of 5 full time staff, 2-year-round part-time staff, and various seasonal staff. In order to bring recreational opportunities to the residents of Dyer, each staff member carries a variety of important responsibilities. With the main goal being to provide the residents with quality recreational opportunities that will enhance their quality of life.

At the end of 2021, the current 5-year master plan concludes. During the last five years, many great steps and growth occurred in both the recreation activities and park development. For instance, nine neighborhood parks were reconstructed, Central Park (north end) development, many new program/event offerings, two full time staff were added, and 2 year-round part-time recreation staff were added. Most projects during the past five years were to “catch up” our outdated parks system and become modern. Over the next 5 years, 2022-2026, we will continue with our pervious plan and update our priorities based on resident input and current trends. However, the primary goal of this plan is to enhance our parks system with new recreation opportunities that will benefit the entire Town of Dyer. For instance, providing additional recreational programs for all ages, developing current recreational programs for all ages, finalize development of the north end of Central Park and continue development in our park system.

This master plan identifies achievable goals over the next five years and places the Town of Dyer Parks and Recreation Department in a position where the department can grow at a continuous rate. With growth comes greater expectations for recreational services and acceptable park appearances. The Parks and Recreation Department laid out a path of how to continue reaching each goal and be prepared for continuous growth. First, the planning process started by seeking resident input with an online Community Needs Assessment Survey. The survey was generated using these goal statements:

1. To enhance the overall quality of life for residents through recreation.
2. Further expand and develop recreational and park opportunities by providing quality experiences to attract more participants.

The detailed 16-minute survey consisted of questions within household demographic, recreation offerings, recreation program development, park developments, usage and more. Following the survey, the intent of the Parks and Recreation Department is to revise their current development and program/event schedule. Five years ago, both the current parks development and Central Park development were a priority. Moving forward many priorities will be the same with the desire to complete each original goal while aggressively starting new goals. The foundation has been laid out and we are all excited to see the continued progress.

Overall, this plan will be clear, concise and focus on common sense solutions that can be implemented with notable improvements. Additionally, the plan will provide feedback from the public, be creative in maximizing revenue sources and will allow for growth. With this information, the Dyer Parks and Recreation Department will continue to explore opportunities that will make them financially self-supporting, look for alternative solutions to generate additional revenue and further reorganize within the department to reach full potential.



Section I- Parks and Recreation Overview

Dyer Parks and Recreation Department Mission, Vision, Core Values, and Staff

Mission

To enhance the quality of life through recreation, parks, natural areas and strive to inspire exceptional experiences for the physical, social and emotional well-being of participants.

Vision

To be committed to tradition while enhancing our future and providing resources to revolutionize recreation.

Core Values

- Restore -** Committed to stay true to our roots while building a future that empowers individuals.
- Explore –** Optimizing results by discovering more efficient processes.
- Valiant -** Empowering staff to take risks, grow and learn.
- Revitalize -** To encourage healthy lifestyles and be mindful of our natural resources.
- Everlasting -** Continue to provide recreation, parks and facilities that will create opportunities and encourage camaraderie that will last forever.
- Community -** Providing an environment where all participants feel socially, physically and emotionally secure.

Park and Recreation Board:

President	Nanette Wargo
Vice President	Mark Bolz
Executive Secretary	Michael Berwanger
Member	Marg DeRoo
Town Council Liaison	Bob Starkey

Department Staff:

Director of Parks and Recreation	Michael O'Shea, CPRP
Recreation Manager	Andrea Daliege
Records Clerk	Lorraine Copenhaver
Front Desk Clerk/Recording Secretary	Alice Stone
Recreation Specialist	Barb Januchowski
Recreation Specialist	Caroline Dienes
Recreation Maintenance	Justin Gerbick
Recreation Maintenance	Braden Agee
Town Manager	David Hein

The Parks and Recreation Board meets the second Tuesday of each month at 6pm at Dyer Town Hall. The Board is composed of four members, each appointed by the Dyer Town Council for a 4-year term. The terms are staggered with one seat expiring every year. The Park Board meets monthly at the Dyer Town Hall in the Town Hall Main Meeting Room. The meetings are open to the public and the public is encouraged to ask questions and provide feedback.



Section I- Parks and Recreation Overview

History

In approximately 1830, permanent settlers came to Northwest Indiana, which at that time was home to the Pottawatomie Indians under Chief Pokagon. These early settlers were primarily Prussian farmers, but also included carpenters, millers, masons, shoemakers, saloon keepers and a doctor. Between 1830 and 1910, the Dyer community remained unincorporated. On January 24, 1910, citizens of Dyer decided by a vote of 57-35 to incorporate as a town under the laws of the State of Indiana. The Town of Dyer was formally incorporated on February 8, 1910. The town was divided into three districts or wards so that a trustee might be elected from each of the wards. In 1915, the Municipal Water Utility was established, and the Fire Department was established shortly thereafter. The first Town Meeting was held on March 10, 1919 in a store building at 229 Joliet Street. Population of the town has steadily increased over time. In 1893, it is reported that the town had a population of 250 people. Growth within the town would follow as according to the US Census:

Year	Population Amount
1950	1,556
1960	3,993
1970	4,778
1980	9,555
1990	10,923
2000	13,895
2010	16,390
2019- As of July 1	15,976

In 1972, the Parks and Recreation Department for the Town of Dyer was created by Ordinance 819. Ordinance 819 created a board of Parks and Recreation comprised of four members who were deemed to be residents of the Town of Dyer for at least three years prior to becoming members. The responsibilities of the Board delineated in Ordinance 819 were specified as performing "all acts necessary to acquire and develop sites and facilities and to such programs as are generally understood to be park and recreation functions."

Between 1972 and 2000, the new Parks and Recreation board began its mission of providing services by acquiring and developing the following parks: Northgate, Pheasant Hills, Autumn Chase, Sandy Ridge, Green Meadows, Sheffield Estates, Cottonwood, Veterans and Elmer Miller.

Between 2001-2016, the Parks and Recreation Department had accepted donations of park land, for instance, Mallard Cove Park (on a lease from the Gary Diocese), and properties in subdivisions of Hearthstone and Eberly Park. During this time, the largest new piece of property was the 77-acre Central Park (now 75.6 acres), which was purchased in 2006 by the Redevelopment Commission of Dyer for use as a park. The board also hired a full time Director of Parks and Recreation to administer the department and in 2006 a full time Recreation Supervisor was added to oversee all activities.



Section I- Parks and Recreation Overview

Over the last five years, the Parks and Recreation Department constructed on two park land donations. Both Eberly Park and Hearthstone Park were constructed with a new playground with pour in place surfacing, connecting walking path, proper drainage, and open useable recreational green space. Additionally, the 77-acre Central Park also received major construction on the north section of the park. Construction consisted of building a 4-ball field complex, concession stand and restroom facility, fire station with storage bays for police and parks department, walking paths, retention ponds, playground, and all proper drainage. In 2020, the 14.4-acre Mallard Cove Park lease (which was on lease from the Gary Diocese) was not renewed, so the Parks Department no longer maintains this piece of property. In 2021, a new Town of Dyer Fire Station was constructed at the northwest corner of Central Park. The fire station, named Central Park Fire Station, was constructed on 1.6 acres of park land. This decreased the total park acreage at Central Park to 75.6 acres. Today the Parks and Recreation Department currently oversees 21 parks covering 189 acres.

The need for recreation activities has grown over the last 20 years and the number of programs and events have grown as facilities permitted. Most programs and events use the large open green space in the parks, outdoor athletic fields, and the 100-seat rental facility of Plum Creek Center. To fully maximize the potential and growth, additional indoor event space is needed. Working with the local school districts to share resources is desired and important to continue to maximize potential.

The Dyer Parks and Recreation Department adopted its first five-year Master Plan in 2001. This was to be used as a guide to determine and shape the future of the department. These 2001 park Board members were Pat Schwoegler, Mary McShane, Susan Grelewicz, and Don Schultz. In February of 2007, a new Park Board, Tim Ring, Gary Sprigg, Kelly Jackson, and Sheri Gill approved the 2nd plan for 2007- 2011. The third Master Plan from 2012-2016 was approved by Joe Eagan, Mike Kapitan, Theresa Scherzinger and Cathy Lareau. The fourth plan was adopted by Dane Huebner, Maria Gurtler, Zara Fagen and Mike Kapitan from 2017-2021. The newest plan, 2022-2026 was organized by the latest park board Nanette Wargo, Mark Bolz, Michael Berwanger and Marg DeRoo.

Local communities surrounding Dyer had advanced their parks and recreation services to a position where if the quality of life in Dyer were to remain competitive with other Northwest Indiana communities, a realistic master plan would need to be developed. The 2001-2005 master plan was the spark for acquiring additional parks land and for doing the first ever bond issue strictly for park system capital improvements. A huge step for the Town's park system came when the Redevelopment Commission purchased the previously mentioned 77-acre property that would become Central Park and the Park Board obtaining a \$4.5 million bond. The bond was obtained in large part to make initial improvements at Central Park and included smaller improvements in other neighborhood parks. A variety of delays in the development of Central Park led to monies being allocated to a variety of parks in Dyer. The bond issue funds were spent on much needed improvements at various parks such as: Northgate Park, Pheasant Hills Park, Veterans Park and Plum Creek Center. Improvements were also made by purchasing a mobile stage, a recreation program registration system and technological equipment upgrades.



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Preparations for development of Central Park also occurred which originally included demolition of the former house, barn, other farm structures and the initial seeding of the 77-acre property. That work was followed by construction of a drainage swale along the east and north ends of the park and then followed by development of a 120-space parking lot and three ball fields. Currently, Central Park has seen great improvement with the construction of a concession stand and restroom facility, construction of the fourth ball field, the renovation of the three previous ball fields and north parking lot to meet current needs, construction of a fire station with bay storage for the police and park departments, walking paths, retention ponds, playground, and all proper drainage.

In 2018 the Parks Department received a 2-million-dollar bond that assisted the department instating its capital improvement project list. Veterans Park, Elmer Miller Park, Hearthstone Park and Eberly Park all received new playground equipment, pour in place surfacing, proper drainage, path connections and sidewalk connections for ADA accessibility. Hearthstone and Eberly Park also received a walking path. These parks were chosen based on the age of the playground equipment and standards put in place with the 2016-2021 Master Plan.

The 2016 Park Bond was only the beginning, with help from the Town Manager and Town Council, the Park Board started a 2 million dollar a year park bond for capital improvement projects that will run for a ten-year period ranging from 2018- 2027. This was an important step for the Park Department as they now have the financial backing to start and finish most of their capital improvement project list. Improvement to Sheffield Estates Park, Autumn Chase Park and Green Meadows Park were able to be completed. Like the 2016 Park Bond, the renovation of parks were done, for instance, new playground equipment and walking paths and/or path connection to create better accessibility for everyone.

In section four of this 2022-2026 Master Plan, you will find the continued path of the next and upcoming improvement project list and in section three a progress report of current improvement project list. Additionally, this current Master Plan sets up future improvement project plans and goals for the 2027-2031 Master Plan.

Town Location

The Town of Dyer is in northwest Indiana in the western portion of St. John Township in Lake County. Dyer borders the Illinois communities of Lynwood, Sauk Village and Crete. The Dyer service area consists of the Illinois border to the west, the Town of Schererville to the east, the Town of Munster to the north and unincorporated St. John Township to the south. U.S. Route 30 traverses the Town from east to west. In recent years, Sheffield Avenue/Hart Street has become a secondary north-south corridor through Dyer. The long-awaited Calumet Avenue extension (from Main Street on the north end of Dyer to Route 30 in the middle of Dyer) has become the main north-south corridor with high traffic counts.



ID	Park Name	Acres	Walking Path/ connection within Park	Park Type
1=	VETERANS PARK	5.7	Y	Neighborhood Park
2=	NORTHGATE PARK	23.0	Y	Community Park
3=	HERITAGE PARK	.8	N	Neighborhood Park
4=	SUNSET PARK	.5	N	Open Green Space
5=	BERKLEY DRIVE PARK	.3	N	Open Green Space
6=	WILDFLOWER PARK	1.0	N	Detention Basin
7=	BRIAR CROSSING PARK	9.4	N	Detention Basin
8=	GREEN MEADOWS PARK	3.8	Y	Neighborhood Park
9=	LINCOLN PARK	1	N	Neighborhood Park
10=	PHEASANT HILLS PARK	2.9	Y	Community Park
11=	CHERRY HILL TOT LOT	3	N	Neighborhood Park
12=	SANDY RIDGE PARK	1.8	N	Neighborhood Park
13=	COTTONWOOD TOT LOT	1.5	Y	Neighborhood Park
14=	AUTUMN CHASE PARK	2	Y	Neighborhood Park
15=	SHEFFIELD ESTATES PARK	2.9	Y	Neighborhood Park
16=	ELMER MILLER PARK	4.1	N	Community Park
17=	AMOCO PARK	2.1	N	Open Green Space
18=	ESBERLY PARK	8.5	Y	Neighborhood Park
19=	HEARTHSTONE PARK	8.0	Y	Neighborhood Park
20=	AMEL WALKING PARK	1.5	N	Natural Area
21=	CENTRAL PARK	75.6	Y	Community Park



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Map Location

Dyer is located along the Illinois state line in Lake County, Indiana, 15 miles south of Lake Michigan and 30 miles southeast of downtown Chicago. The town covers approximately six square miles. Neighboring communities include Munster to the north, Schererville to the east, and unincorporated St. John Township to the south. The Illinois state line comprises Dyer's entire western border. Two of Dyer's subdivisions, Briar Ridge and Briar Cove, both span Dyer and adjacent Schererville. U.S. Highway 30 is the main east-west thoroughfare through town. Calumet Avenue is the main north-south thoroughfare. Dyer is within minutes of I80/94, I-294, I-90 (the Indiana Toll Road), I-65, and Illinois 394. Commuter rail service is provided in nearby communities by Metra and the Northern Indiana Commuter Transportation District (South Shore Rail). Within Dyer, Amtrak provides daily service to Chicago and Indianapolis. Freight rail service is provided through town.

Accessibility

Dyer is located 20 miles southeast of Chicago, Illinois. Illinois Route 394 is two miles to the west, Interstate 80/94 is 9 miles to the north and Interstate 65 is ten miles to the east. The St. John Township does offer a transportation program for senior citizens. Triple A Express is an available taxi service to Dyer residents. Air transportation is available from Gary (IN) Regional Airport, Lansing (IL) Regional Airport, Midway International and O'Hare International Airports (Chicago). Dyer is located approximately 15 miles south of Lake Michigan. Amtrak trains from Indianapolis to Chicago stop twice daily in Dyer utilizing the north-south CSX railroad line. Dyer also is crossed by the Canadian National line which runs from east to west.

Natural Features and Landscape

The oldest parts of Dyer are located along US Route 30 also known as Lincoln Highway. This roadway is built upon one of the oldest trails crossing northwest Indiana, Sauk Trail. The trail was used by Native Americans and early settlers to travel east-west across Indiana and Illinois. Any remnants of Sauk Trail were built over long ago when US Route 30 was originally paved and then widened in the 1990's as an alternative east-west corridor to Interstate 80.

The topography of Dyer is generally level to gently sloping with an average elevation of 640 feet above sea level. The soil classification for Dyer lies in the Valparaiso Moraine section in Lake County, Indiana.

The Town of Dyer drains to the Little Calumet River leading to the Des Plaines River in Illinois and eventually into the Mississippi River. There are few bodies of standing water in town. Plum Creek runs North-South through town and there is potential to provide access to it or alongside it. The largest body of water is in Pheasant Hills Park. It functions as a retention pond that absorbs offsite flow through the adjacent neighborhood.

There are no significant geological features known to date. The natural features found throughout the town could be classified as having neutral to no impact on the recreational properties associated with this plan. The natural tree canopy of the town has been varied through the years



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due to many different types of development, including agricultural. The remaining trees are mostly mixed hardwood shade trees with a variety of tree plantings being conducted by Parks Department staff throughout each park. During the last 5 years, 1,562 young trees have been planted in various parks. Of the 1,562 trees, 950 were seedlings that were planted and then transfers to their permanent park location once ready. The other trees ranged from 1" to 2.5" caliber.

Since the previous master plan, two new park implementation projects were completed at Hearthstone Park (north of Route 30) and Eberly Park (south end off Dyer of Sheffield Avenue). Both parks were completed in 2018 and are the last two new parks that were built by the Parks Department and consist of green space, walking paths, proper drainage, and playgrounds with pour in place surfacing. These parks are adjacent to new residential communities that are continuing to build out both north and south of Route 30. During the same timeframe, seven parks (Autumn Chase Park, Northgate Park, Central Park, Sheffield Estates Park, Green Meadows Park, Elmer Miller Park, Veterans Park) have seen major park improvements that included new playground equipment with pour in place surfacing, proper drainage, proper path connection and useable recreation green space.

Opportunities for physical links connecting the Town's north and south area parks across Route 30 are limited due to the roadway design and land uses adjacent to the State Route. Connections at grade across Route 30 occur at signalized intersections, which are not well coordinated with desired routes accessing recreational facilities.

Constructed Features

There are several major constructed features that have affected the town. The largest of these is Lincoln Highway. By the 1920's significant attention was focused on Dyer when an experimental model highway was constructed stretching three miles, traveling east-west from Dyer to Schererville. It was dubbed the "Ideal Section of Lincoln Highway". Currently, U.S. Route 30 traverses the United States and is known as the Lincoln Highway. Dyer is the entranceway to Indiana on this historic highway. The remaining features include the Amoco Pipeline, Calumet Avenue Extension, Railroads and Franciscan Health. The following is a short description of each:

1. **Amoco Pipeline:** A petroleum pipeline traverses the northwest corner of Dyer and could be a corridor for future trail development.
2. **Calumet Avenue Extension:** Calumet Avenue is the major thoroughfare traveling north-south. It has had a significant impact to the town in all aspects of town life from transportation to economic development.
3. **Railroads:** There are two sets of active tracks that cross Dyer and one vacated set which has been targeted for a possible rails-to trails corridor. The east-west vacated line is included on the NIRPC priority corridor system as a potential tie into the Old Plank Road trail in Illinois.



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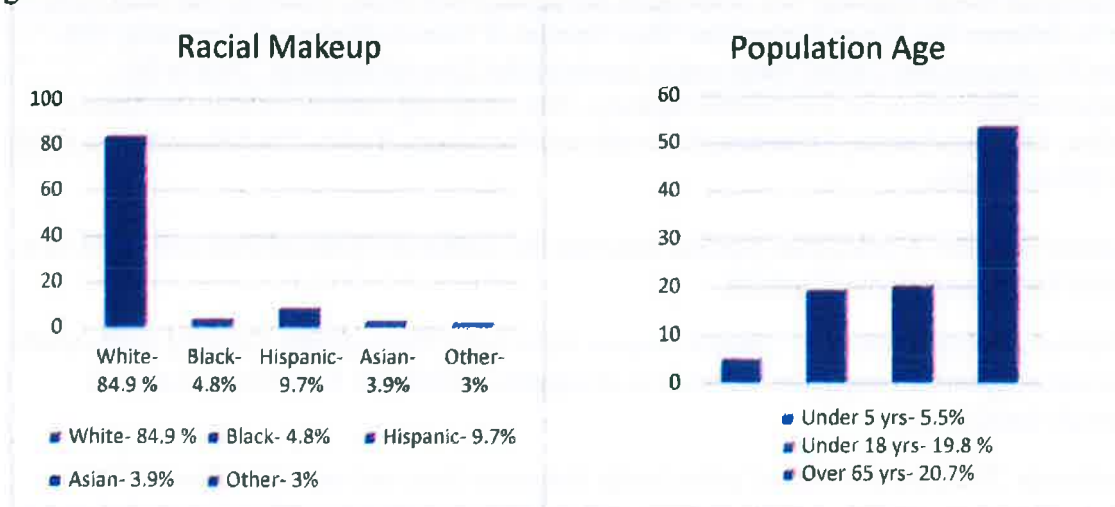
4. Franciscan Health– South Campus: The hospital located in Dyer is a major employer and land holder in the town.

Customers

The main customer base for the Parks and Recreation Department are the residents within the Town of Dyer. The parks, facilities and programs offered by the Parks and Recreation Department also serves non-residents from surrounding communities and unincorporated areas of St. John Township. Since 2017, the normal non-resident fee was removed from programs/events. This was an effort to attract more customers from neighboring communities and the goal within the department was to build participant numbers within its programs and events. Recreation programs, such as summer camps and general interest, may not be able to be offered without non-resident participation. Residents within the Town of Dyer limits (approx. 6,200 household) and residents of St. John (approx. 6,070 households) were mailed a seasonal Leisuregram. Starting in 2020, the decision was made to eliminate the seasonal Leisuregram mailing and instead post the Leisuregram online while using other social media avenues to promote the seasonal programs and events. The Leisuregram, which is developed three times a year, is a long process that takes up to is 2-3-month to complete. Knowledge of past program results, cost analysis, contractors, facility availability and Town current events is needed to offer attractive recreational opportunities.

Demographics- Social/ Economic

According to the Census estimate of July 1, 2019, there are 15,976 people residing in the town of Dyer, which is down 2.4% from April 1, 2010. There are 6,162 housing units at an average, with the median value of owner-occupied housing units of \$212,400. The racial makeup of Dyer, considered a bedroom community in the Chicago Metropolitan area, is made up primarily of Caucasian residents. The following chart gives a description for racial makeup and population age.



The following are other demographic facts of residents with the Town of Dyer according to the US Census as of July 1 2019 :



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- Median income for a household in the town was \$84,202, which is up from \$79,859 median income in 2014.
- Median monthly household owner cost with a mortgage is \$1,431 and without a mortgage is \$590. Median gross rent is \$1,311.
- The estimated per capita income for the town was \$42,206.
- Of the population 3.1% were estimated to be below the poverty line.
- The average persons per household is 2.53 and the education level for persons 25 years of age and older shows 95% hold at least at high school diploma while 31.4% hold a bachelor's degree or higher.
- Transportation time to work, in minutes, of workers aged 16 and over average is 29.9 minutes.

Analysis of Demographics

From a recreation standpoint, the direction of the Parks and Recreation Department has changed over the past years. Previously the priority was to concentrate on youth programs. However, through the previous 2016 Community Needs Assessment Survey and home building being slowed over the past decade, the need for youth and adult programs became a priority. With more adult households, the greater need for adult general programs, trips, senior programs, teen programs, fitness, and athletic leagues are needed. Over the past five years, we have continued to discover new and better ways to generate these programs. At the same time, we need to continue to discover ways on how to develop our current programs and events. All programs are offered by participant fees that cover the cost associated with the programs. Fees are determined based on the type of programs, location, administration services and any contractual services that are required.

As for facilities, Dyer has seen a small decline in population since 2010 when the population was at its height at approximately 16,400. As of July 1, 2019, the Town population was 15,976, which is down 2.4% over 10 years. With the population numbers leveling out, there continues to be a desire for more and improved park and recreation facilities. This desire continues to lead the Town to make big strides in the last 15 years. In 2006, the first ever bond issue strictly for parks was approved. That bond issue amount was for the maximum allowed by the State statute. Since then, the town has invested approximately \$10.5 million in the Dyer Parks and Recreation system through park bond issues. This capital funding helped update 9 of the 16 parks within the Town.

Over the past decade, the Parks and Recreation Department has undergone massive improvements to upgrade the community parks. To keep the upgrades consistent and uniformed, this master plan is an effort to define those continued community needs to support the required funding needed. To enhance recreational opportunities and improve the quality of life, additional resources will be needed to provide the Town of Dyer the best opportunities. One item that has always been an issue for the Parks and Recreation Department is maintenance staffing. Normally relying on the Public Works Department for maintenance, it became apparent that with increased park improvement projects, parks maintenance staff would be needed to keep up with the updated parks standards. A budgeting plan was started in 2017, with one part-time year-round



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staff person. Quickly that changed to three part time staff positions which led to the hiring of one full time staff person in 2020. Currently, parks maintenance staff consists of one full time staff, one part-time year-round staff and one seasonal part time staff. With the continue plan of updating all neighborhood parks and the ongoing construction work at the 75.6-acre Central Park, an increase in full time staff will be needed.

Dyer has long desired a Community Center as a facility to act as a “community gathering place”. Within such a facility, there is a desire for activity space for all ages including possible fitness, aquatic, early childhood, senior, gymnasium and associated office space. Space for such a community gathering place has been set aside at the Central Park property and will need to be more than just a community center to make it survive. A ‘Town Center’ with all the amenities of a community center and a Town Hall might be an even better facility. Such a facility would help meet the need for programming space and the desire for a community center. In the current needs assessment survey for the 2022-2026 Master Plan, desires were noted by residents, such as, indoor gymnasiums, fitness center and indoor track to use in all seasons.

Past Master Plans

In 2001, the Dyer Parks and Recreation Department adopted a five-year Parks and Recreation Master Plan as a guide to determine and shape the future of the department. This plan was to create a spark for acquiring additional parks, developing a capital improvement plan, and creating a foundation for future recreation opportunities to provide increased quality of life. Over the next 19 years various improvement projects were completed within the park system. A huge step for the Towns park system came when the Redevelopment Commission purchased a 77-acre property that would become Central Park. The acquisition of Central Park has become the cornerstone for enhancing recreational opportunities and improving quality of life. However, developing Central Park (purchased in 2006) has taken a long time as initial development included demolition of the former house, barn, other farm structures, initial seeding of the property, construction of a drainage swale along the east and north ends of the park, construction of a 120-space parking lot, three sand-lot style ball fields, dog park, pavilion, walking paths and large open green spaces. Central Parks goal has been to serve the entire community and provide a central place for special activities, festivals, markets, athletics, and community/regional attractions.

During the most recent 2016-2021 master plan, Central Park received the most significant improvements finally setting the foundation of what the complete park will become. The other 15 useable parks have been rapidly ageing over these 19 years and a proper improvement plan schedule would be developed.

The 2016- 2021 Master Plan would be the most successful Parks and Recreation Master. For instance, these following parks all received major construction development: Elmer Miller Park, Sheffield Estates Park, Northgate Park, Eberly Park, Hearthstone Park, Green Meadows Park, Veterans Park, Autumn Chase Park and Central Park. A list of recent developments and future individual park goals will be seen within Section III- Park Inventory, of the 2022-2026 Master Plan.



Section I- Parks and Recreation Overview

2016-2021 Master Plan Parks and Recreation Board Goals

To gauge our process, below is a list of goals that were listed within the 2016-2021 Master Plan with the goal result. This is a quick snapshot of listed goals; however, many other completed achievements were achieved. As mentioned in the last subsection major construction development occurred at: Elmer Miller Park, Sheffield Estates Park, Northgate Park, Eberly Park, Hearthstone Park, Green Meadows Park, Veterans Park, Autumn Chase Park and Central Park. Under Section III Park Inventory, you will find a detailed list of completed goals within each park.

Administrative Goals	Achieved
Develop a user agreement with local athletic groups	Decided not to proceed
Update computer software to include online registration	DONE
Develop a rotating maintenance replacement schedule on all park playgrounds	DONE
Fund the addition of an exclusive park maintenance/inspector worker	DONE
Work with school district to form intergovernmental agreement	Did not achieve
Develop all Dyer parks with each featuring a main recreation attraction	In progress with each park project
Continue to make each park and park activities ADA accessible	In progress with each park project

Park and Recreation Goals	Achieved
Seek alternative revenue sources for necessary park capital dollars	DONE and ongoing progress with additional events/ programs
Establish new recreation programs	DONE
Fund a bus to transport participants to and from camps, programs or events	Did not achieve
Offer additional special events	DONE
Hire part-time staff to work programs and events throughout the year	DONE
Provide accessible facilities with pour-in-place surfaces in playgrounds	DONE and ongoing
Provide Boundless Playground/Miracle Ball field in future park projects	Decided not to proceed within this timeframe

What's Next?

Within Section II are the results of the online 2021 Community Needs Assessment Survey that was available online from March 11- September 9. After reviewing the results, it is the Dyer Parks and Recreation Departments intention to refocus their priorities and to continue making required improvements within all its current parks. Three continuing vision statements that will be used to assist in developing this Master Plan are as follows:

1. Revise park capital improvement plans after each completed project to ensure our long-term development goals are being met.
2. Continue to provide and enhance the quality of life for residents through recreation.
3. Further expand and develop recreational opportunities and to provide quality experiences to attract more participants.

These statements are a common theme through the Dyer Parks and Recreation Department. As you read through this plan, the data will guide where the primary focus will continue to be for the Dyer Parks and Recreation Departments.

SECTION II

COMMUNITY NEEDS





Section II- Community Needs

Community Needs Assessment Survey Results

From March 11, 2021- September 9, 2021, the Community Needs Assessment Survey was available online through Survey Planet. This survey shows a definite interest in the park and provides good feedback for future and current development. This survey was an online only survey, in which 470 online surveys were submitted. Social media, flyer handouts at events, and the town and park e- newsletter were the main avenue for alerting residents of the survey. The 2016 Community Needs Assessment Survey was a paper/ online survey in which the paper surveys were mailed within the resident household utility bills. Overall, for the 2021 Community Needs Assessment Survey, results showed that the survey takers were reasonably happy with the current state of the parks, however there is a desire for more recreation opportunities for all ages and continued park development.

This survey was broken in to six sections. Below is a quick breakdown of each series of questions:

Survey Question Series 1- Demographics: Majority of survey takers, 58%, have lived in Dyer over 10 years and 50% of households consist of 3-4 people. Of the residents who replied, the top three age ranges for those who have registered for a park program or event was 6-10 years at 24%, under 5 years at 23%, and 11-15 years at 12%. 40% of the survey takers said that they didn't sign up for a program or event with the top two reasons being not interested at 38% and other at 37%.

Survey Question Series 2- Recreation Program/ Event Satisfaction: Of the survey takers 51% said they did attend a program or special event. Of those who attend a program or special event 93% said facilities were rated good/excellent, 80% said program fees were rated good/ excellent, 90% said program or event times were rated good/ excellent, 87% said the program information availability was good/ excellent, and 90% said the registration process was rated good/ excellent.

Survey Question Series 3- Specific Larger Recreation Program/ Event Experience: Of the survey takers 51% said they did attend a larger program or special event. Of those who attended a larger program or special event 60% said the Dyer Community Market with the Summer Concert Series experience was good/ excellent, 56% said the Fall Family Fest was good/excellent, 46% said the Movies in the Park series was good/ excellent. When asked about all other programs or special events that were attended, but not listed, 90% said those programs or special events were good/excellent.

Survey Question Series 4- Recreational Opportunities: Of the survey takers 43% said the Parks and Recreation Department offer enough youth general interest programs and 37% said there is a variety of youth athletic programs. There were 35% of survey takers that said more teen programs were needed and 29% said more adult athletic programs were needed. For getting program or event information, 57% of the survey takers said social media was their main source of getting information while 28% said the Parks E-Newsletter was their primary source. The survey takers preferred route of getting program and event information was being mailed the



Section II- Community Needs

seasonal Leisuregram at 39% and 22% said social media. There were 27% of the survey takers that said they preferred the new online only seasonal Leisuregram.

Survey Question Series 5- Park, Outdoor Facility or Playgrounds Satisfaction: Of the survey takers 92% said that they have visited a park, outdoor facility, or playground. Of those who visited a park, outdoor facility, or playground 65% said Pheasant Hills Park was rated excellent/ good, 63% said Northgate was rated excellent/ good, and 45% said Central Park was rated excellent/ good. The top neighborhood parks rated excellent/good were Autumn Chase Park and Veterans Park at 14%, Eberly Park at 17% and Hearthstone Park at 13%. Of the survey takers the top age range for individuals who have visited a park, outdoor facility, or playground were age 6-10 at 32%, age 30-39 at 27%, and age 40-49 at 25%. The Plum Creek Center received a rating of excellent/good of 33% with 58% saying they have not visited. Of park amenities, the top usage was walking paths, with the Pheasant Hills Park Walking Path receiving the most usage at 48%, Northgate walking path at 38% and the various parks 15 playgrounds at 37%.

Survey Question Series 6: Parks and Recreation Development: Of the survey takers 67% said it was very important to them to improve community park playgrounds, open spaces or adding new amenities. There were 60% that said it was very important to them to improve existing walking paths by adding connections into parks and to create a connecting path system, 56% said it was very important to them to develop more recreational offerings, 47% said it was very important to them to continue Central Park development to the south and middle sections of the park and to improve neighborhood parks, open green spaces or adding new amenities. There were 51% of the survey takers that said the Parks and Recreation Department were meeting their needs, while 14% said no and 33% were undecided. The following is the complete statistics of the 2021 Community Needs Assessment Survey. All essay or comment answers are not shown on the statistical data:

2021 Dyer Parks and Recreation Community Needs Assessment Survey

Dear Dyer Residents:

The Town of Dyer Parks & Recreation Department current 5 year Master plan is expiring and we're developing a new 5 year master plan for 2022-2026. This master plan is used to guide the Park Board as well as assist in applying for grants to further develop our parks. This survey will take approximately 16 minutes, so please set aside some time and answer these questions. This survey will be available from March 11- September 9th, 2021. Your contribution to the Dyer Parks and Recreation Department is essential to its future success. Please help us plan for the future together.

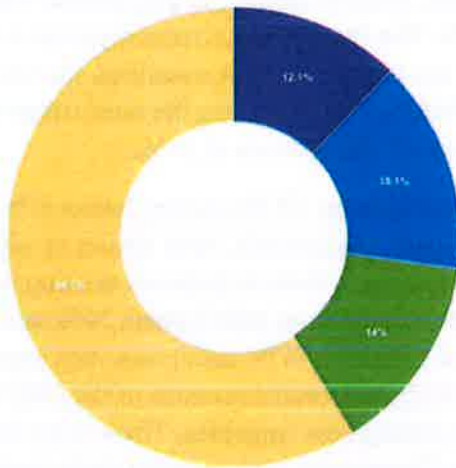
***Sincerely,
The Dyer Parks and Recreation Department***

Section II- Community Needs



The first series of questions had to deal with the demographic of the residents, such as, years living within the Town of Dyer, household family members, ages who registered for a program/event, how many programs/events registered and why an individual didn't register for a program/event.

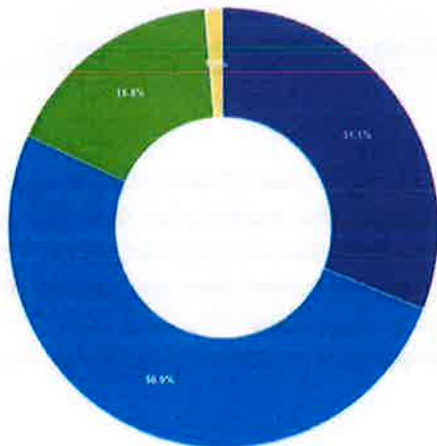
Q1 How long have you lived in the Town of Dyer?



Choice	Response Totals
Less than 3 years	57
3 to 5 years	71
6 to 10 years	66
Over 10 years	276

Responses 470 Answered 470 Unanswered 0

Q2 How many people live in your household?



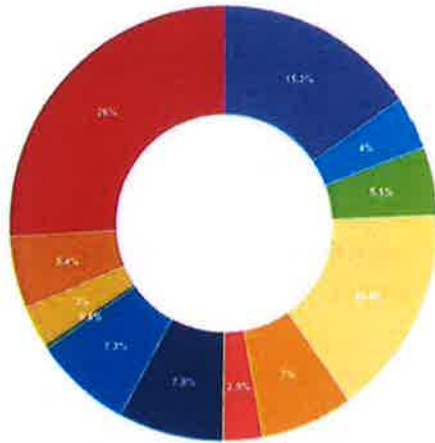
Choice	Response Totals
1 to 2	146
3 to 4	239
5 to 6	79
7 or more	6

Responses 470 Answered 470 Unanswered 0



Section II- Community Needs

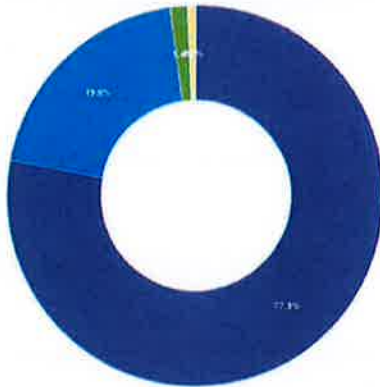
Q3 What are the ages of the people in your household who have registered for a Dyer Park and Recreation program or special event? Please check all that apply. If you didn't register for any programs, please select "I didn't register for any programs or special events" button.



Choice	Response Totals
• Under 5	111
• 20 to 29	29
• 60 to 69	37
• 6 to 10	115
• 30 to 39	51
• 70 to 79	21
• 11 to 15	57
• 40 to 49	53
• 80 and over	3
• 16 to 19	22
• 50 to 59	39
• I didn't register for any programs or special events	189

Responses 470 Answered 470 Unanswered 0

Q4 If you have registered for a Dyer Parks and Recreation program or special event, how many have you attended within the last two years?



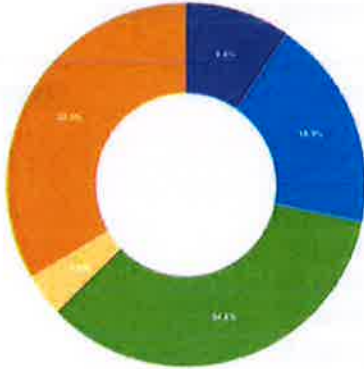
Choice	Response Totals
• Under 5 programs or special events attended	219
• 6 to 10 programs or special events attended	56
• 10 to 15 programs or special events attended	4
• 16 or more programs or special events attended	2

Responses 470 Answered 281 Unanswered 189



Section II- Community Needs

Q5 If you didn't register for a Dyer Parks and Recreation program or special event, please list why you didn't participate? Please check all that apply.

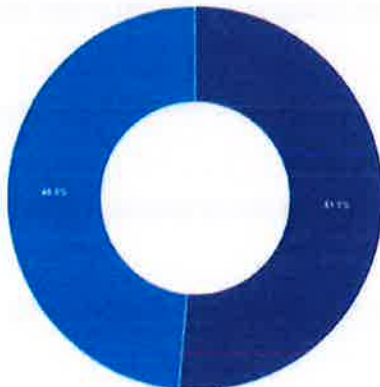


Responses 47() Answered 189 Unanswered 281

Choice	Response Totals
Program or special event fee	20
Program or special event time offering	40
Not interested	73
Unsatisfied with prior program or special event experience	8
Other (please specify)	71

The second series of questions asks for specific reasons for attending a recreation program/event and rating the satisfaction of that specific reason. Survey questions cover facilities, fees, start times, instructors, registration process, information availability and safety. If a survey taker didn't participate in any programs, they were given the option to select "no" on the survey. If they selected "no" then they were taken straight to the next available section.

Q6 The next set of questions are specific reasons for attending a program or special event. Please rate your overall satisfaction for each specific reason. To begin, please select if you did or didn't participate in any programs or special events below.



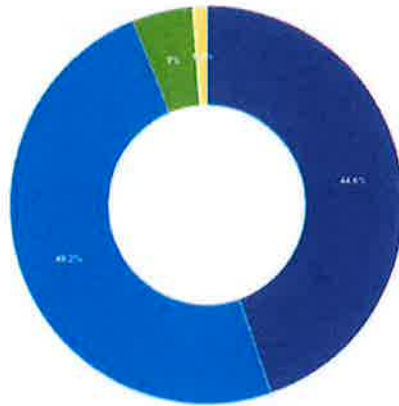
Responses 47() Answered 470 Unanswered ()

Choice	Response Totals
I did participate in programs or special events	242
I didn't participate in any programs or special events	228



Section II- Community Needs

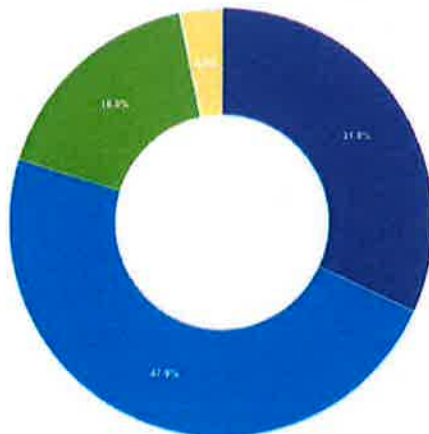
Q7 The general facilities of the program or special event



Choice	Response Totals
• Excellent	108
• Good	119
• Fair	12
• Poor	3

Responses 470 Answered 242 Unanswered 228

Q8 The program or special event fees



Choice	Response Totals
• Excellent	77
• Good	116
• Fair	41
• Poor	8

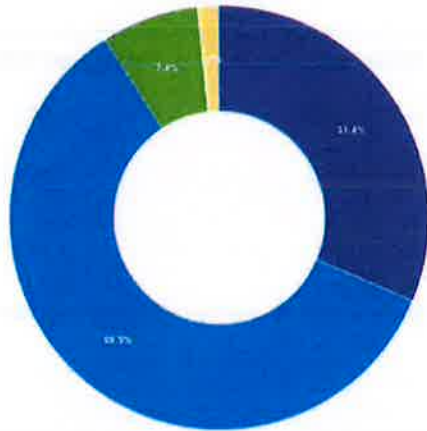
Responses 470 Answered 242 Unanswered 228



Section II- Community Needs



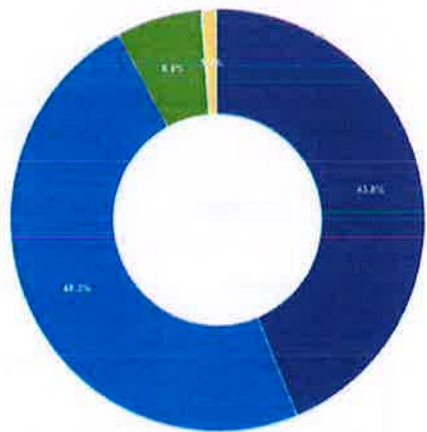
Q9 The program or special event start times



Choice	Response Totals
Excellent	76
Good	144
Fair	18
Poor	4

Responses 470 Answered 242 Unanswered 228

Q10 The program or special event instructors



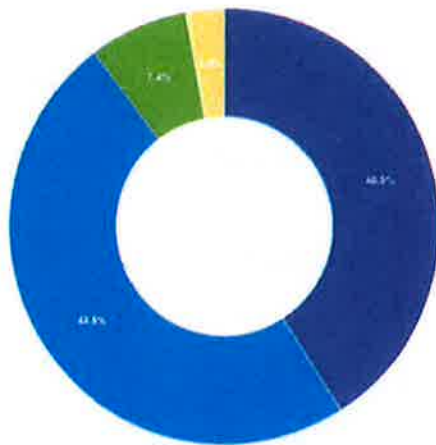
Choice	Response Totals
Excellent	106
Good	117
Fair	16
Poor	3

Responses 470 Answered 242 Unanswered 228

Q11 The program or special event registration process



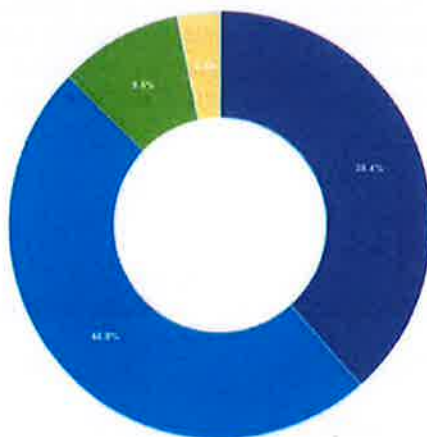
Section II- Community Needs



Choice	Response Totals
Excellent	99
Good	118
Fair	18
Poor	7

Responses 470 Answered 242 Unanswered 228

Q12 The program or special event information availability



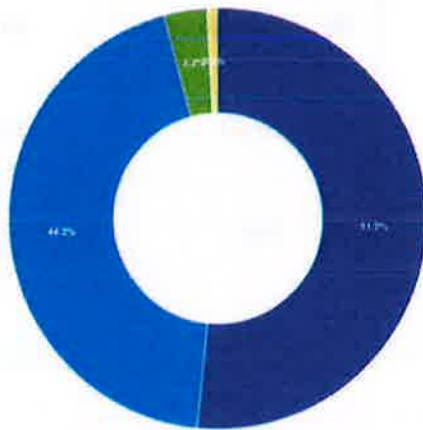
Choice	Response Totals
Excellent	93
Good	118
Fair	23
Poor	8

Responses 470 Answered 242 Unanswered 228



Section II- Community Needs

Q13 The safety of the program or special event

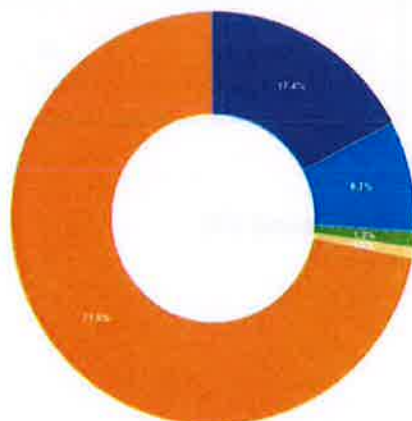


Choice	Response Totals
Excellent	125
Good	107
Fair	8
Poor	2

Responses 470 Answered 242 Unanswered 228

The third series of questions asks participants to rate their experience within a specific recreation program or event. These programs/events are larger events that are organized by the recreation staff. Information for these survey questions will assist staff with the popularity of the specific program/event. A continuous goal within the Parks and Recreation Department is to develop new programs and continue developing established ones. Only survey takers who selected "I did participate in programs or special events" were able to answer these questions.

Q15 Daddy Daughter Dance



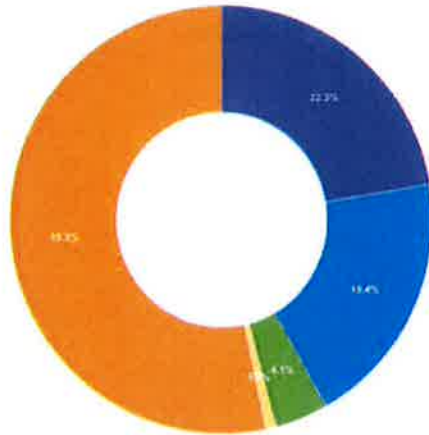
Choice	Response Totals
Excellent	42
Good	21
Fair	3
Poor	2
Didn't Participate	174

Responses 470 Answered 242 Unanswered 228



Section II- Community Needs

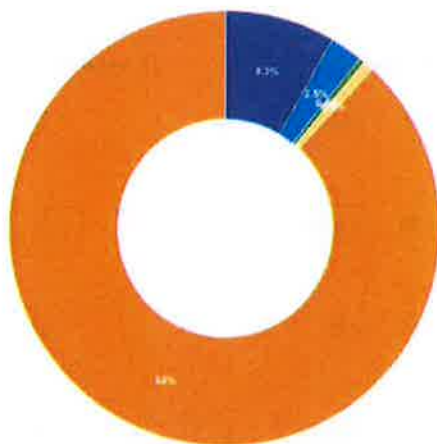
Q16 Easter Egg Hunt



Choice	Response Totals
• Excellent	54
• Good	47
• Fair	10
• Poor	2
• Didn't Participate	129

Responses 470 Answered 242 Unanswered 228

Q17 Royal Princess Ball



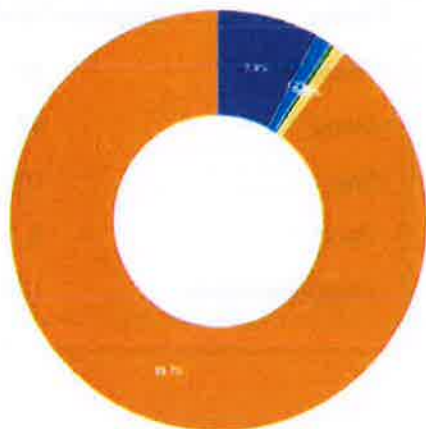
Choice	Response Totals
• Excellent	20
• Good	6
• Fair	1
• Poor	2
• Didn't Participate	213

Responses 470 Answered 242 Unanswered 228

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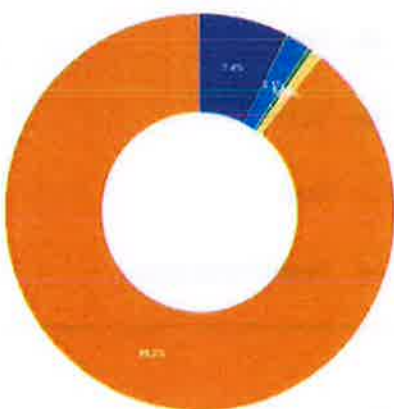
Q18 Mother-Daughter Sock Hop



Choice	Response Totals
Excellent	19
Good	3
Fair	1
Poor	2
Didn't Attend	217

Responses 470 Answered 242 Unanswered 228

Q19 Mother-Son Fun Bowl



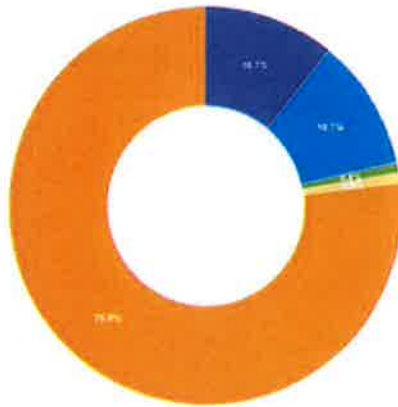
Choice	Response Totals
Excellent	18
Good	5
Fair	1
Poor	2
Didn't Attend	216

Responses 470 Answered 242 Unanswered 228



Section II- Community Needs

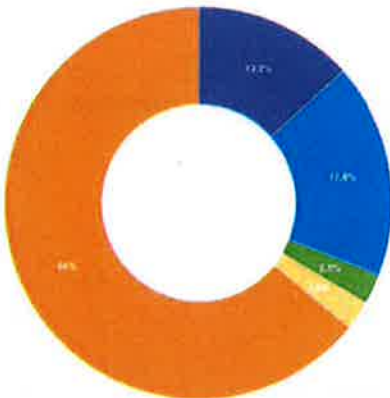
Q20 Youth Summer Camp



Choice	Response Totals
Excellent	26
Good	26
Fair	2
Poor	2
Didn't Participate	186

Responses 470 **Answered** 242 **Unanswered** 228

Q21 Youth Summer Sports Programs



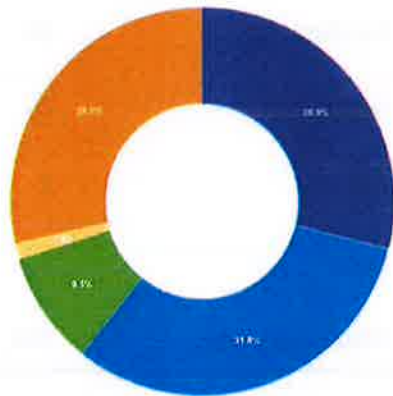
Choice	Response Totals
Excellent	32
Good	43
Fair	6
Poor	6
Didn't Participate	155

Responses 470 **Answered** 242 **Unanswered** 228

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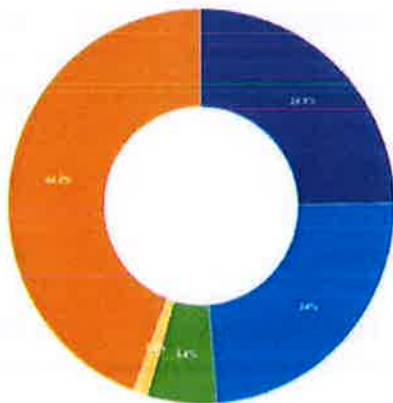
Q22 Dyer Community Market



Choice	Response Totals
Excellent	70
Good	77
Fair	23
Poor	3
Didn't Participate	69

Responses 470 Answered 242 Unanswered 228

Q23 Summer Concert Series at Dyer Community Market



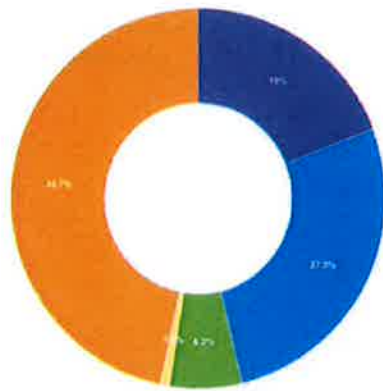
Choice	Response Totals
Excellent	60
Good	58
Fair	14
Poor	3
Didn't Participate	107

Responses 470 Answered 242 Unanswered 228



Section II- Community Needs

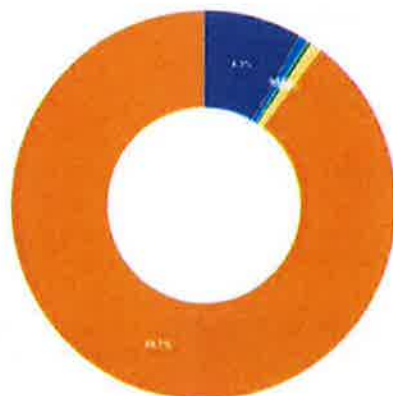
Q24 Movies in the Park



Choice	Response Totals
Excellent	46
Good	66
Fair	15
Poor	2
Didn't Participate	113

Responses 470 Answered 242 Unanswered 228

Q25 Mother-Son Date Night



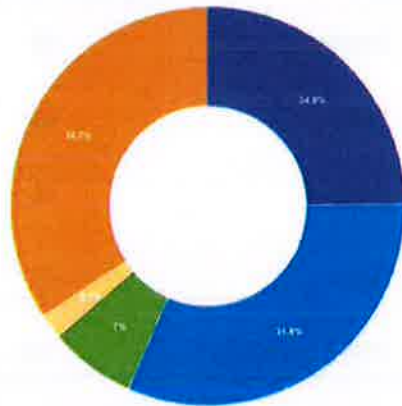
Choice	Response Totals
Excellent	20
Good	2
Fair	1
Poor	2
Didn't Participate	217

Section II- Community Needs



Responses 470 Answered 242 Unanswered 228

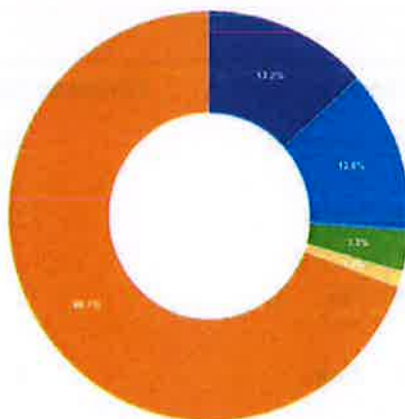
Q26 Fall Family Fest



Choice	Response Totals
Excellent	60
Good	77
Fair	17
Poor	5
Didn't Participate	83

Responses 470 Answered 242 Unanswered 228

Q27 Halloween Parade



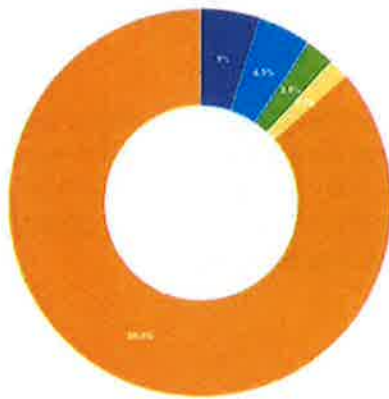
Choice	Response Totals
Excellent	32
Good	31
Fair	8
Poor	3
Didn't Participate	168

Responses 470 Answered 242 Unanswered 228

Section II- Community Needs



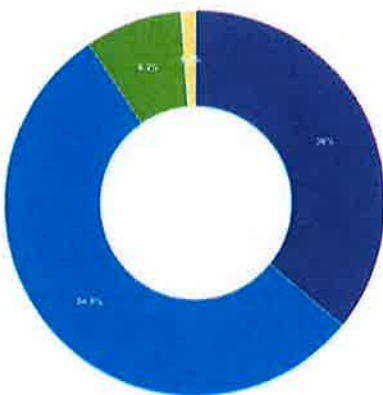
Q28 Adult Fitness Programs



Choice	Response Totals
Excellent	12
Good	11
Fair	6
Poor	4
Didn't Participate	209

Responses 470 Answered 242 Unanswered 228

Q29 How would you rate the overall quality of other programs or special events not listed previously that you or your household have participated in?



Choice	Response Totals
Excellent	87
Good	132
Fair	20
Poor	3

Responses 470 Answered 242 Unanswered 228

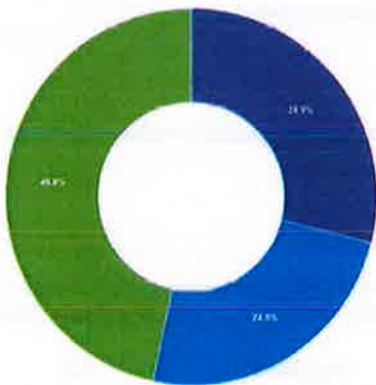
Section II- Community Needs



The fourth series of questions asks if a wide variety of recreational opportunities are being provided for a specific recreation category, preferred method of receiving information for program/event and how a resident is commonly made aware of upcoming recreation opportunities. This will assist recreation staff in knowing which categories need further development and how to efficiently provide recreation information.

Generally, when the recreation staff develops the seasonal Leisuregram, each program/event is put into a category. Not only does this assist the staff in organizing what programs/events are being offered, it provides proper revenue and expense codes for cost analysis within each category. As mentioned in the third series of survey questions, information within these survey questions will assist staff with the popularity of the specific program category.

Q31 Early Childhood Programs



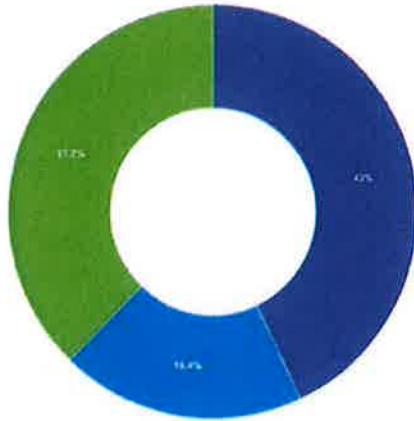
Choice	Response Totals
Yes	136
No	115
I'm not sure	219

Responses 470 Answered 470 Unanswered 0



Section II- Community Needs

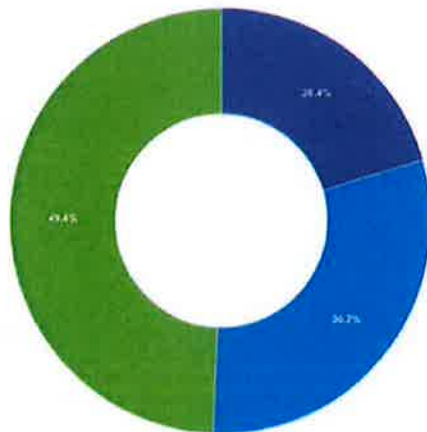
Q32 Youth Programs



Choice	Response Totals
Yes	202
No	91
I'm not sure	177

Responses 470 Answered 470 Unanswered 0

Q33 Teen Programs



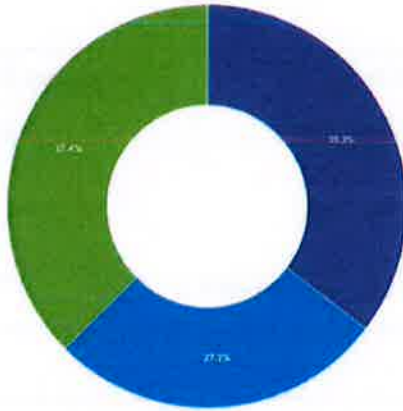
Choice	Response Totals
Yes	96
No	142
I'm not sure	232

Responses 470 Answered 470 Unanswered 0

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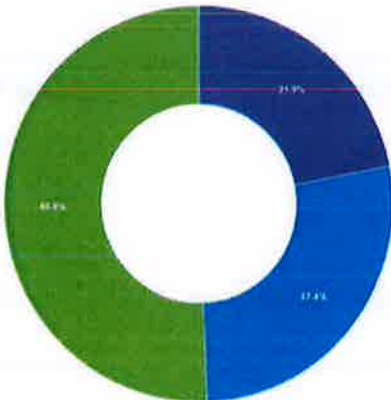
Q34 Adult Programs



Choice	Response Totals
Yes	166
No	128
I'm not sure	176

Responses 470 Answered 470 Unanswered 0

Q35 Senior Programs



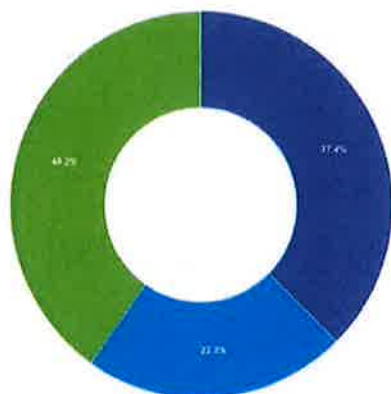
Choice	Response Totals
Yes	103
No	129
I'm not sure	238

Responses 470 Answered 470 Unanswered 0



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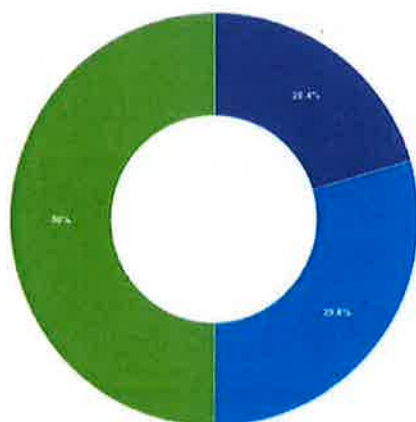
Q36 Youth Athletic Programs



Choice	Response Totals
Yes	176
No	105
I'm not sure	189

Responses 470 Answered 470 Unanswered 0

Q37 Adult Athletic Programs



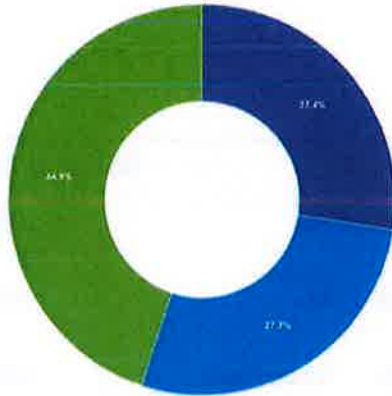
Choice	Response Totals
Yes	96
No	139
I'm not sure	235

Responses 470 Answered 470 Unanswered 0



Section II- Community Needs

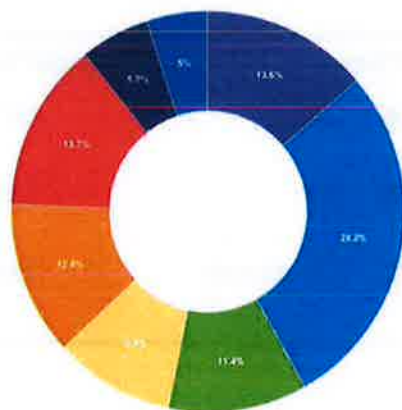
Q38 Adult Fitness Programs



Choice	Response Totals
Yes	129
No	130
I'm not sure	211

Responses 470 Answered 470 Unanswered 0

Q39 How are you aware of upcoming recreational program services being offered? Please check all that apply.



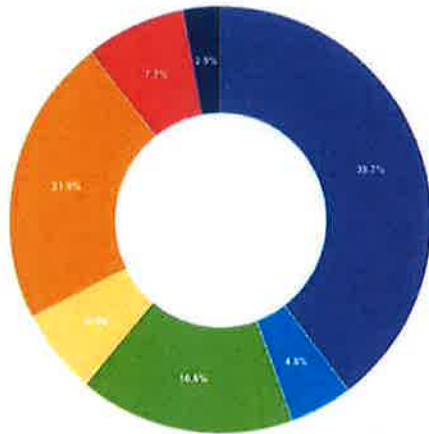
Choice	Response Totals
Online Leisuregram	130
Social Media	269
Park Registration Website- parksregistrion.townofdye.com	109
Friends	94
Flyers	118
Parks and Recreation Department E-Newsletter	131
I don't actively seek out information about upcoming offerings	54
Other (please specify)	48

Responses 470 Answered 470 Unanswered 0

Section II- Community Needs



Q40 How would you prefer to receive program or special event information?



Responses 470 Answered 416 Unanswered 54

Choice	Response Totals
Seasonal Leisuregram that is mailed to you	165
Seasonal Leisuregram that is online only	20
Parks and Recreation monthly e-newsletter	69
Flyer sent through emails	27
Social Media	91
Don't have a preference	32
Other (please specify)	12

The fifth series of questions refer to our parks. The Parks Department oversees 21 parks of various sizes that cover 189 acres, 15 playgrounds, athletic fields, open greenspace, pavilions, and many other amenities. Survey questions below are geared towards household age groups who have visited a park in the last year, amenities used within specific parks, specific parks that have been visited and rating overall experience.

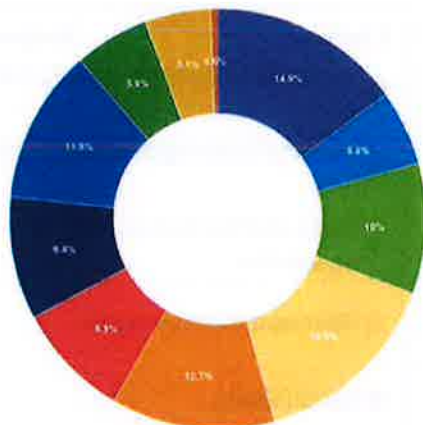
With the 2016-2021 Master Plan, a goal has been to upgrade and develop each park. During this time, 9 parks received either new development or upgrades. Those parks were: Autumn Chase Park, Eberly Park, Hearthstone Park, Northgate Park, Central Park, Elmer Miller Park, Green Meadows Park, Veterans Park and Sheffield Estates Park. Over the next five years many other projects are in line to further develop our park system.

Please note: Only survey takers who selected "I did visit one of our parks, outdoor facilities or playgrounds" were able to answer these questions.



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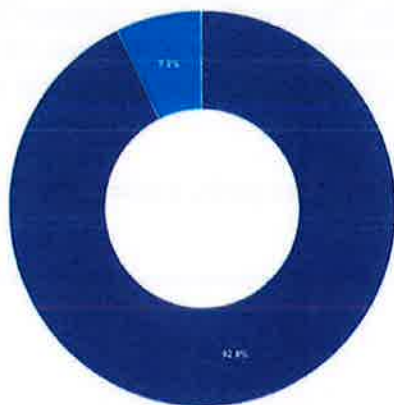
Q43 What are the ages of the people in your household who have visited one of our parks, outdoor facilities or playgrounds in the last year? Please check all that apply.



Choice	Response Totals
Under 5	153
20 to 29	60
50 to 59	103
6 to 10	153
30 to 39	131
60 to 69	91
11 to 15	97
40 to 49	122
70 to 79	60
16 to 19	52
80 and over	6

Responses 470 Answered 470 Unanswered 0

Q44 If you have visited one of our parks, outdoor facilities or playgrounds in the last year, which of the following have you visited? Please rate your overall experience for each visited park. **To begin, please select if you did or didn't visit one of our parks, outdoor facilities or playgrounds. **



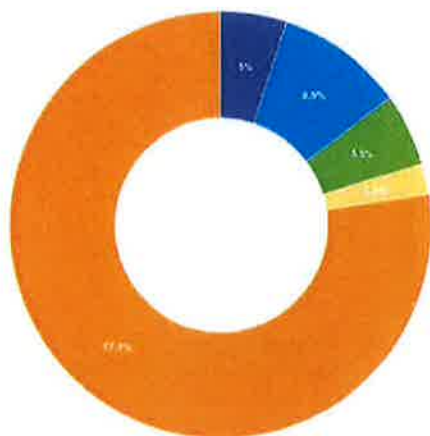
Choice	Response Totals
I did visit one of our parks, outdoor facilities or playgrounds	436
I didn't visit one of our parks, outdoor facilities or playgrounds	34

Responses 470 Answered 470 Unanswered 0



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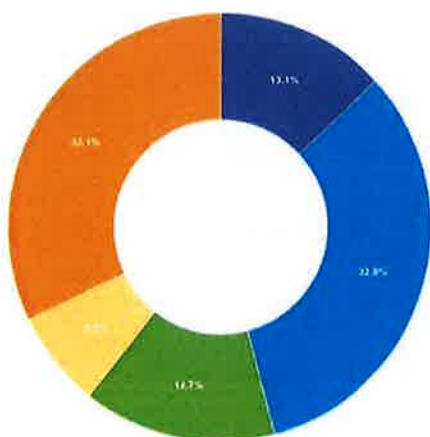
Q45 Autumn Chase Park



Choice	Response Totals
Excellent	22
Good	43
Fair	24
Poor	10
Didn't visit	337

Responses 470 Answered 436 Unanswered 34

Q46 Central Park



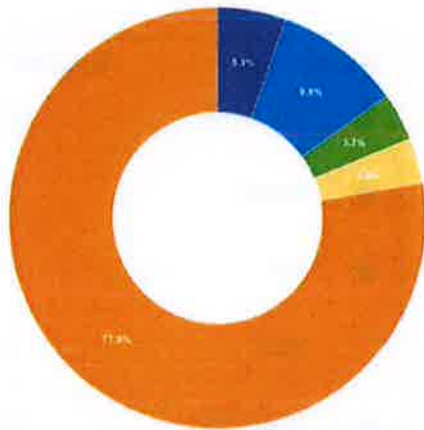
Choice	Response Totals
Excellent	57
Good	143
Fair	64
Poor	32
Didn't visit	140

Responses 470 Answered 436 Unanswered 34



Section II- Community Needs

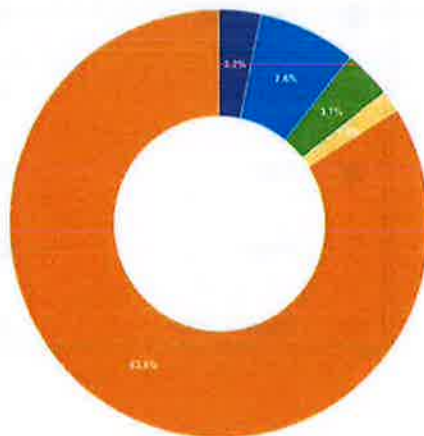
Q47 Central Park: Dog Park



Choice	Response Totals
Excellent	23
Good	43
Fair	16
Poor	16
Didn't visit	339

Responses 470 Answered 436 Unanswered 34

Q48 Cottonwood Park



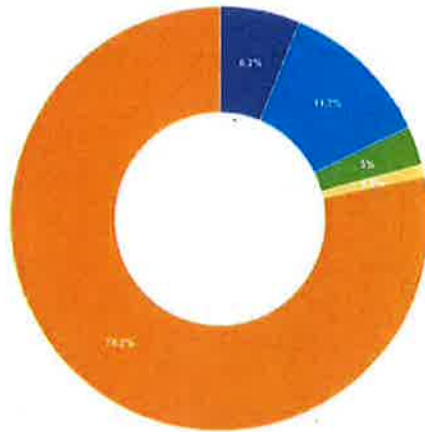
Choice	Response Totals
Excellent	14
Good	33
Fair	16
Poor	7
Didn't visit	366

Responses 470 Answered 436 Unanswered 34



Section II- Community Needs

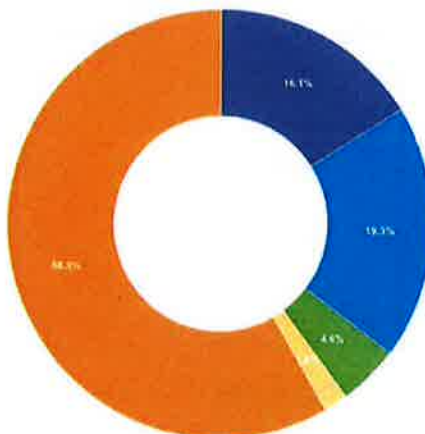
Q49 Eberly Park



Choice	Response Totals
Excellent	27
Good	51
Fair	13
Poor	4
Didn't visit	341

Responses 470 Answered 436 Unanswered 34

Q50 Elmer Miller Park



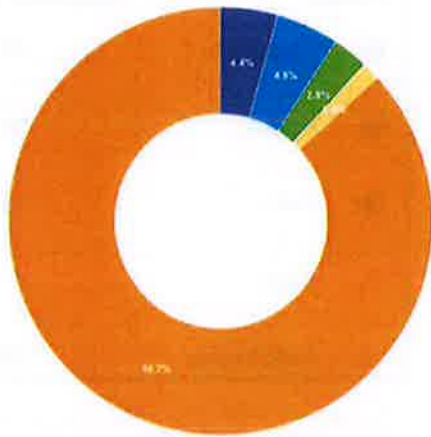
Choice	Response Totals
Excellent	70
Good	84
Fair	20
Poor	8
Didn't visit	254

Responses 470 Answered 436 Unanswered 34

Section II- Community Needs



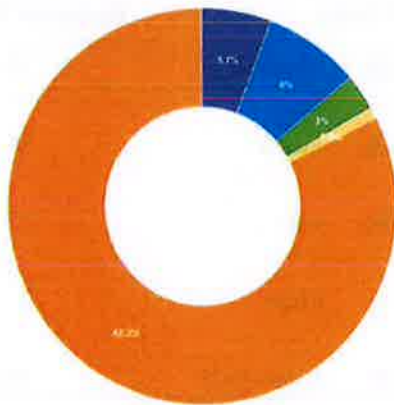
Q51 Green Meadows Park



Choice	Response Totals
Excellent	19
Good	21
Fair	12
Poor	6
Didn't visit	378

Responses 470 Answered 436 Unanswered 34

Q52 Hearthstone Park



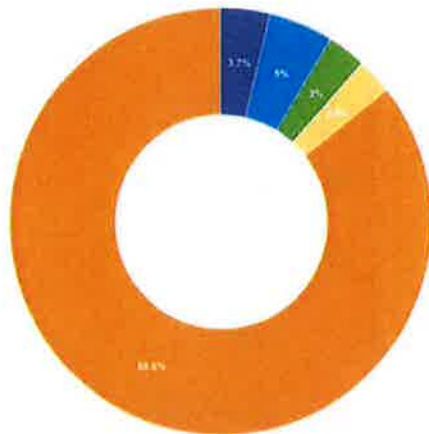
Choice	Response Totals
Excellent	25
Good	35
Fair	13
Poor	4
Didn't visit	359

Responses 470 Answered 436 Unanswered 34



Section II- Community Needs

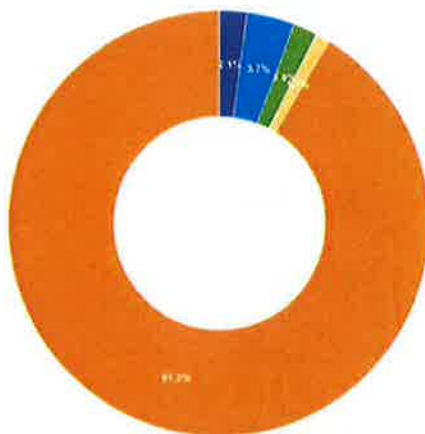
Q53 Heritage Estates Park



Choice	Response Totals
Excellent	16
Good	22
Fair	13
Poor	12
Didn't visit	373

Responses 470 Answered 436 Unanswered 34

Q54 Lincoln Park



Choice	Response Totals
Excellent	9
Good	16
Fair	8
Poor	5
Didn't visit	398

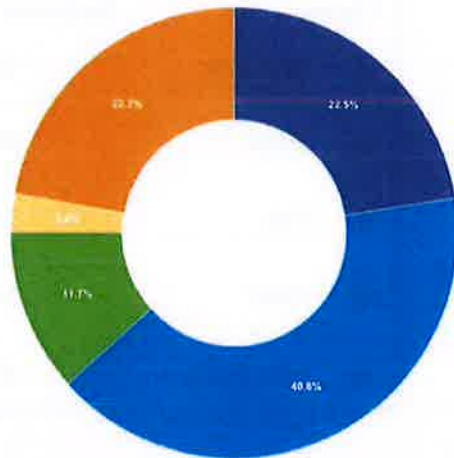
Responses 470 Answered 436 Unanswered 34



Section II- Community Needs



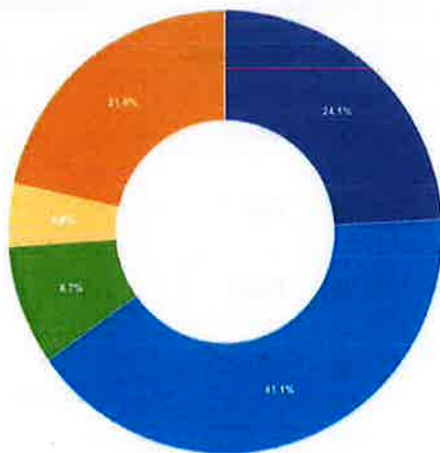
Q55. Northgate Park



Choice	Response Totals
Excellent	98
Good	178
Fair	51
Poor	12
Didn't visit	97

Responses 470 Answered 436 Unanswered 34

Q56. Pheasant Hills Park



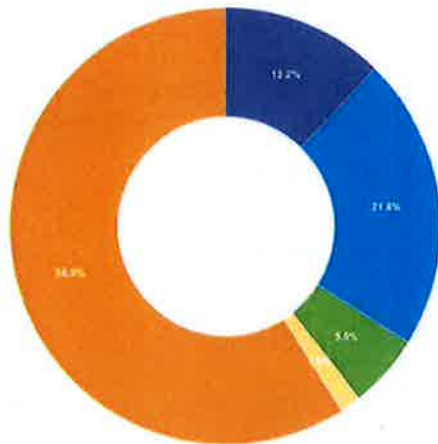
Choice	Response Totals
Excellent	105
Good	179
Fair	38
Poor	20
Didn't visit	94

Responses 470 Answered 436 Unanswered 34



Section II- Community Needs

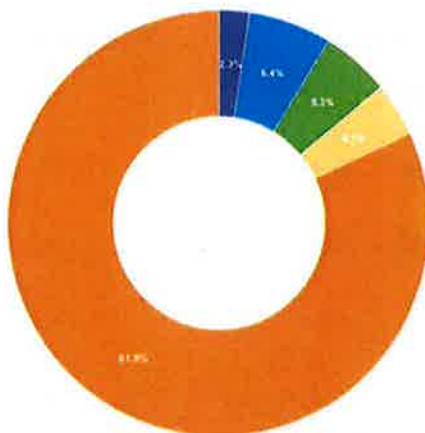
Q57 Plum Creek Center



Choice	Response Totals
Excellent	53
Good	95
Fair	24
Poor	7
Didn't visit	257

Responses 470 Answered 436 Unanswered 34

Q58 Sandy Ridge Park



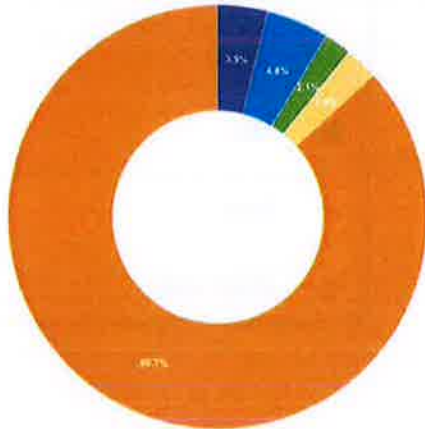
Choice	Response Totals
Excellent	10
Good	28
Fair	23
Poor	18
Didn't visit	357

Responses 470 Answered 436 Unanswered 34

Section II- Community Needs



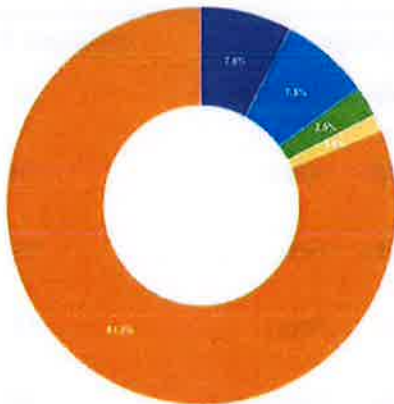
Q59 Sheffield Estates Park



Choice	Response Totals
Excellent	17
Good	21
Fair	9
Poor	11
Didn't visit	378

Responses 470 Answered 436 Unanswered 34

Q60 Veterans Park



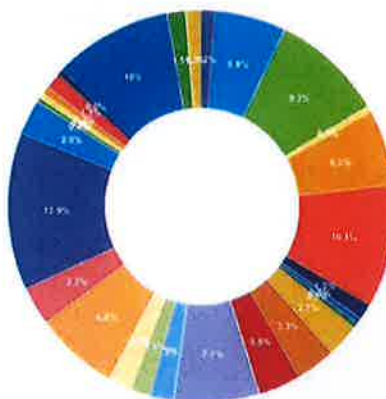
Choice	Response Totals
Excellent	33
Good	32
Fair	11
Poor	6
Didn't visit	354

Responses 470 Answered 436 Unanswered 34



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Q61 Which of the following park amenities has your household used? Please check all that apply.



Choice	Response Totals
Northgate Park-Sand Volleyball Court	19
Northgate Park-Ball Fields	98
Northgate Park-Sled Hill	154
Northgate Park-Bocce Ball Court	9
Northgate Park-Picnic Shelter	103
Northgate Park-Walking Path	166
Northgate Park-Ice Skating Rink	22
Northgate Park-Grass Volleyball Court	8
Northgate Park-Concrete Bags	8
Central Park-Ball Fields	45
Central Park-Picnic Shelter	55
Central Park-Soccer Fields	58
Central Park-Walking Path	117

Choice	Response Totals
Veterans Park-Walking Path	33
Eberly Park-Walking Path	27
Hearthstone Park-Walking Path	35
Pheasant Hills Park-Picnic Shelter	114
Pheasant Hills Park-Skate Park	52
Pheasant Hills Park-Walking Path	213
Elmer Miller Park-Picnic Shelter	48
Elmer Miller Park-Grass Volleyball Court	6
Elmer Miller Park-Bocce Ball Court	7
Elmer Miller Park-Concrete Bags	11
Green Meadows Park-Walking Path	22
Green Meadows Park-Half Concrete Slab Basketball Hoop	8
Various Park Playgrounds	165
None	25

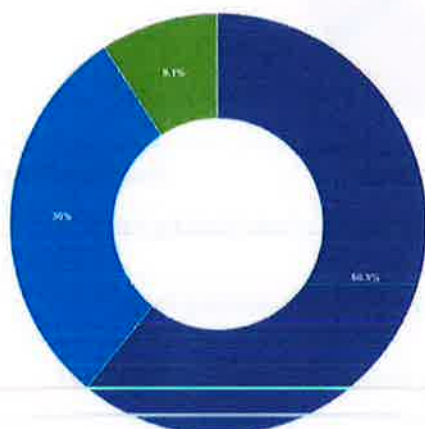
Responses 470 Answered 436 Unanswered 34



Section II- Community Needs

The sixth series of survey questions ask residents to rate the importance of park and recreation development. Specifically, to neighborhood parks, community parks and recreational programming. The information will provide staff the focus areas on what is most important to the residents. This will assist in lining up future park development projects and recreation program development.

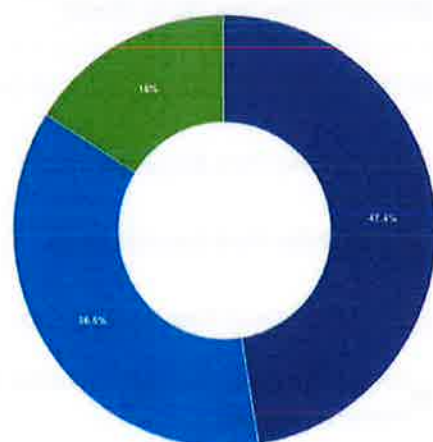
Q63 Improve existing walking paths by adding connections into the parks to create a connecting path system.



Choice	Response Totals
Very Important	286
Somewhat important	141
Not Important	43

Responses 470 Answered 470 Unanswered 0

Q64 Continuing Central Park development to the south and middle sections of the park



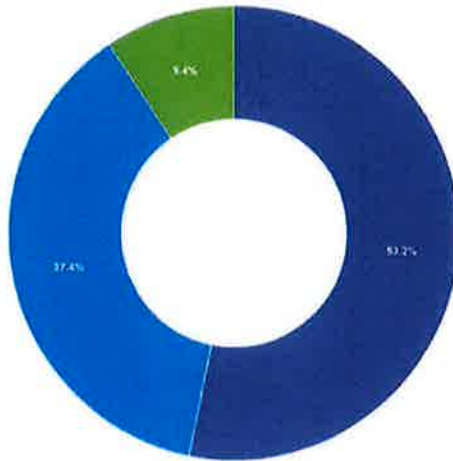
Choice	Response Totals
Very Important	223
Somewhat important	172
Not Important	75

Responses 470 Answered 470 Unanswered 0



Section II- Community Needs

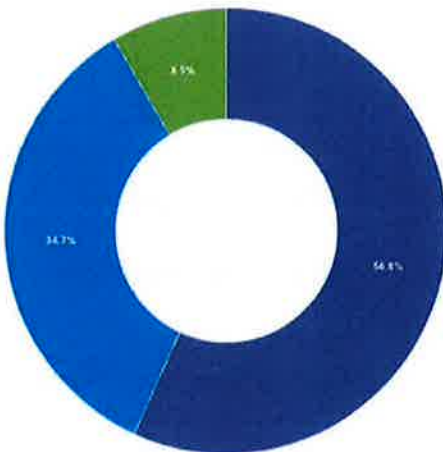
Q65 Developing current recreation offerings



Choice	Response Totals
Very Important	250
Somewhat important	176
Not Important	44

Responses 470 Answered 470 Unanswered 0

Q66 Developing new recreational offerings



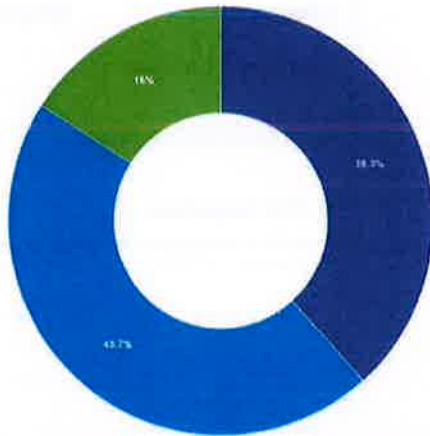
Choice	Response Totals
Very Important	267
Somewhat important	163
Not Important	40

Responses 470 Answered 470 Unanswered 0

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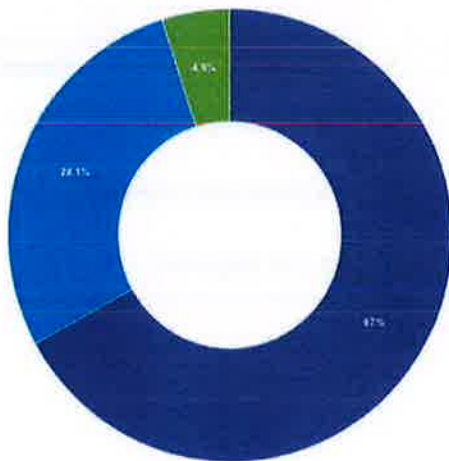
Q67 Improving existing athletic fields/open grass fields



Choice	Response Totals
Very Important	180
Somewhat important	215
Not Important	75

Responses 470 Answered 470 Unanswered 0

Q68 Improving community park playgrounds, open space or adding new amenities. (Example: Northgate Park, Pheasant Hills Park)



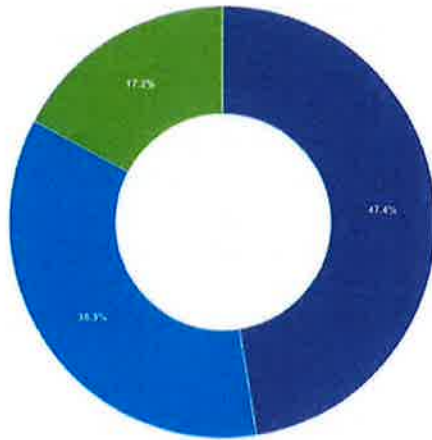
Choice	Response Totals
Very Important	315
Somewhat important	132
Not Important	23

Responses 470 Answered 470 Unanswered 0



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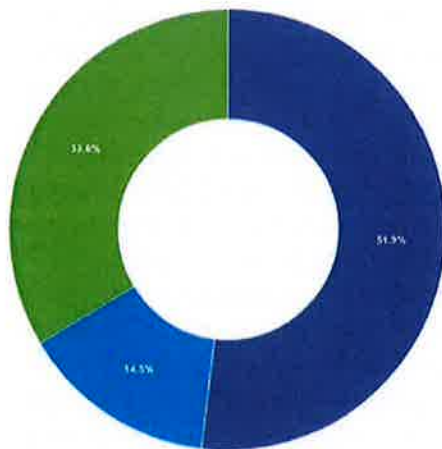
Q69 Improving neighborhood park playgrounds, open space or adding new amenities.
(Example: Autumn Chase Park, Cottonwood Park)



Choice	Response Totals
Very Important	223
Somewhat important	166
Not Important	81

Responses 470 Answered 470 Unanswered 0

Q71 Is the Dyer Parks and Recreation Department meeting your needs?



Choice	Response Totals
Yes	244
No	68
Undecided	158

Responses 470 Answered 470 Unanswered 0



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Public Participation Meetings

The Park Board publicly urged all residents to fill out a needs assessment survey. This was constantly publicized on social media, monthly town newsletter, monthly parks and recreation newsletter, digital town hall marquee, website and in flyers/ handouts in selected larger parks and recreation special events, such as, the Dyer Community Market. Monthly Park Board Study Session Meetings held an agenda item for the 2022-026 Master Plan. These study session meeting dates were held on January 12, April 9, May 11, June 8, July 13, and September 14 all at the Dyer Town Hall. These meetings were advertised on the outdoor town marquee, local paper, and town newsletter. The purpose of these meeting was to give the Park Board and public updates of ongoing results of the survey, give a status report and provide drafting of the information within each section of the Master Plan, for example, new goals, park inventory review, public feedback, park board feedback, prioritizing capital projects, and completed projects. These meetings, as all Town of Dyer public meetings, were opened to the public. No public attended these study sessions, but various Town Council members attended the study sessions.

On Tuesday October 12, 2021, a public meeting was held to present the results of the community needs assessment survey and explain the past progress gained within the 2016-2021 Master Plan. Additionally, this public meeting was designed to gain feedback from residents on recreational programs, park development and what the Dyer Parks and Recreation can continue to do better to serve the residents. For this meeting, public invitation was given to all residents by multiple social media posts, local newspaper, and signage within the Dyer Town Hall digital marquee. All attendees were urged to learn the results of the community needs assessment survey, provide further input, and share ideas on how we can improve the parks and recreation system.

The attendance was small, with four individuals at the meeting. During the meeting, the recent community survey responses were presented and discussed, the inventory of all parks in the system was presented, goals achieved from the last Master Plan, goals for the upcoming Master Plan, and an overall status of the Park and Recreation Department. Additionally, an update of ongoing improvement projects, such as, Central Park was presented and a rundown of completed park improvement projects that occurred from 2016-2021 were discussed (project examples were Autumn Chase Park, Eberly Park, Elmer Miller Park, Hearthstone Park, Sheffield Estates Park, Veterans Park, Green Meadows Park and Northgate Park) and what future projects are being planned. The presentation of the projects was followed by an open discussion opportunity, but no feedback was given back after the presentation. With the meeting being small it allowed the presentation to be more in depth (lasted 45 minutes) with detail on each of the six sections within the Community Needs Assessment Survey. The main question presented was if the Dyer Parks and Recreation Department were meeting the needs of the community and if the current project improvement path is on track with their needs. Based on the results of the community needs assessment survey, it was determined that the current path the Dyer Parks and Recreation Department started on back in 2016 is still current and are meeting the need of most of the Town.

Overall, quality information was given by Dyer residents. With a total of 470 online surveys returned, this shows an interest in the parks and recreation system. All survey information was read and will be used to continue moving the Parks and Recreation forward and shape upcoming



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projects and recreation programs. Survey results show that residents are reasonably happy with the current state of Parks and Recreation Department. As previously mentioned, there has been a lot of progress made within the last five years with improvement projects and recreation programs. However, majority of the progress has been a starting point and has assisted the Parks Department in catching up on overdue projects. Our main goal within this Master Plan has been and will be to continue what we started in 2016 and develop quality recreation destinations for the residents.

Park and Recreation Goals and Planning Efforts

At a time when current economic conditions provide a more optimistic setting across the state of Indiana and especially in Lake County, Dyer residents continue to understand the importance of a strong parks and recreation department to the quality of life in a community. If the town leadership, along with the Park Board, adopt the ideas within this plan and more importantly continue to make parks and recreation a priority by funding it at higher levels, just as recommended in the prior plan (2016 to 2022), this and future plans can succeed. It is only with adequate budgeting that the park and recreation agency envisioned by the public, with enhanced and expanded park and recreation systems, can happen. Although some progress is being made, the Town of Dyer is still below comparable towns in per capita recreational expenditures for the size of its community. This is an area that should continue to be addressed if continued progress is desired.

A continued key component to this plan is the continued development of the 75.6-acre Central Park off 213th Street. The development of the park plan has changed over the previous Master Plan, but now a real footprint of what the park was intended to look like now exists. During the 2016-2021 the park received major work on the north end, such as, construction of a new fire station with bay storage facilities for parks and police departments, construction of a new ball field, renovation of the three existing fields, concession stand and restroom facility, proper drainage, playground with Pour- In- Place Surfacing, adequate large north parking lot, connecting walking path and landscaping. All this new improvement will mesh with the current park features such as, the three-acre dog park, south parking lot, bike paths and 100 seat outdoor pavilion with bathrooms. As we move into the 2022-2026 Master Plan, further focus will be done on the south end and middle sections of the park. With the south end being planned first with engineering design work. Central Park has the potential to be the unifying force for the Town and can help to define the town in the region. To date the town leadership has shown its desire to support and develop all parks with the 10 year 2 million dollar a year bond issues that goes from 2018-2027.

The Dyer Parks and Recreation Department was created by Ordinance 819 on May 9, 1972. The ordinance assigned the duties of performing “all acts necessary to acquire and develop sites and facilities and to conduct such programs as are generally understood to be park (and) recreation functions.” In addition, the ordinance stated that the board had “the power and duty to: Prepare a plan for parks and recreation purposes in the Town of Dyer.” Several attempts have been made over the past two decades at master planning by the park board, some of which were fruitful and others which were not. The most recent planning efforts included the Five-Year Parks & Recreation Master Plan updates from 2006-2021.



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Those plans identified several ambitious goals and objectives. In section one of this plan, a list of updated 2016-2021 administrative and recreation goals were shown. The following is a set of updated administrative and recreation goals for the 2022-2026 Master Plan. Please note that these goals are always changing based on community needs and funding, however the foundation that was started 5 years ago does not change.

2022-2026 Parks and Recreation Board Goals

Administrative Goals
Continue and complete all neighborhood park upgrading plans
Construct splash pad facility
Walking path connecting system within selected parks
Fund 2 exclusive park maintenance staff member positions
Continue accessible/ inclusive playground plan
Develop and start construction on the south end of Central Park

Recreation Goals
Continuing seeking alternative revenue sources for park activities fund
Secure athletic tournaments at Central Park Ball Field Complex
Fund a bus to transport participants to and from camps, programs or events
Offer/develop additional adult program/ special events
Update recreation computer software to match Town of Dyer financial software
Fund 2 new Recreational Supervisor staff member positions

Site Inventory/Goals/Accessibility

This section is a guide of the current state of the agency to provide a benchmark for all future improvement projects.

Level of Service

In terms of acreage per person, the Town of Dyer does fall short of some standards used to measure this goal. It was noted that the Dyer Parks and Recreation Department adopted NRPA standards for acreage and projected needs. The Town of Dyer population had a 2.4% drop from April 1, 2010 (16,367) to July 1, 2019 (15,976). This was based on the US Census population estimates. However, while an arbitrary standard from a national organization is a good guide; it should not be the adopted standard due to convenience. This plan will provide a custom approach by developing a facility need based on site analysis, relying on survey data, public input, park location and finally capital costs to improve each site. As the town's population seems not to be growing, the need for additional park space will continue to present a constant issue. More park land can be a benefit to the Town and its residents but must be kept up to insure gaps in level of service do not worsen as development occurs. Any additional park land acquisition must only be done with future improvement projects or specific project plans in mind. The town owns 189 acres of parkland. Town ordinances calling for the donation of park land for developments allowed for the acceptance of detention ponds and land that is physically unable to be



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improved/developed for recreational uses. These types of properties, although allowing for more green space in the park inventory, have handcuffed the Parks and Recreation Department and served as a financial drain without much recreational benefit.

Site Inventory & Analysis

The Town of Dyer's existing park system is depicted with this summary. The system is composed of 21 park sites with 15 of those parks holding real recreation value, for instance, playground equipment, open green space, and walking path. The other 6 dedicated parks do not have real recreation value and serve as detention or natural areas. Each park site (section 3- Park inventory) was reviewed during the spring of 2021 when all the park sites were examined and evaluated. The name, size, address, park type, amenities, general park impressions, accessibility and photos of existing conditions are listed on each inventory. In addition, specific goals/objectives for each park property are listed on the inventory sheet and a list of prior completed improvement projects. In the past, the park system has suffered from a lack of comprehensive planning and detailed site design. This is nearly always a symptom of lack of capital budgeting to improve the park spaces. However, this took a major step in the right direction with the 2016-2021 Master Plan and will continue moving in the right direction within this 2022-2026 Master Plan. Nine parks were improved from 2016 and while each project was different it addressed a major need within the 2016-2021 Master Plan. Examples of these projects were new playground equipment, ADA accessible walking paths, athletic fields improvement and drainage. A major reason this was possible is because of the annual 2-million-dollar park bond issue that goes from 2018-2027.

Town of Dyer Parks and Recreation Department Park System

<u>ID</u>	<u>Park Name</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Walking Path/ Connection within Park</u>	<u>Playground *W/Pour in Place Surfacing</u>	<u>Park Type</u>
1	Veterans Park	5.7	Yes	1*	Neighborhood Park
2	Northgate Park	23.9	Yes	2 (1* w/ PIP Surfacing)	Community Park
3	Heritage Estates Park	0.8	No	1	Neighborhood Park
4	Sunset Park	0.5	No	None	Open Green Space
5	Berkley Park	0.3	No	None	Open Green Space
6	Wildflower Park	1.9	No	None	Open Green Space
7	Briar Crossing Park	9.4	No	None	Detention Basin
8	Green Meadows Park	3.8	Yes	1*	Neighborhood Park
9	Lincoln Park	1	No	1	Neighborhood Park
10	Pheasant Hills Park	29	Yes	1	Community Park
11	Cherry Hill Park	3	No	1	Neighborhood Park
12	Sandy Ridge Park	1.9	No	1	Neighborhood Park
13	Cottonwood Park	1.5	Yes	1	Neighborhood Park
14	Autumn Chase Park	2	Yes	1*	Neighborhood Park
15	Sheffield Estates Park	2.9	Yes	1*	Neighborhood Park
16	Elmer Miller Park	4.1	No	1*	Community Park
17	Amoco Park	2.1	No	None	Open Green Space
18	Eberly Park	8.5	Yes	1*	Neighborhood Park
19	Hearthstone Park	9.6	Yes	1*	Neighborhood Park
20	Amel Wilking Park	1.5	No	None	Natural Area
21	Central Park	75.6	Yes	1*	Community Park



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Site Inventory Methodology

The Park Board conducted a site visit and analysis for the comprehensive park & recreation master plan in which each park site was walked to review the existing conditions found. The survey and analysis were conducted as follows:

1. *Observations (Visual Assessment)* –
A visual inspection was conducted examining existing conditions of the park site. No mechanical or physical testing was undertaken.
2. *Photographic Documentation* –
Photographs were taken of existing conditions to document typical areas for reference and possible problem areas.
3. *General Park Impressions* –
First reaction to the park space and characteristics of the site.
4. *Discussion* –
The Park Board then met and reviewed each property and listed goals/objectives/plans for each location. Additionally reviewed past park improvement projects completed on each site. This assisted in prioritizing the future park improvement projects for each park.

Accessibility and Universal Design

In an on-going effort, the Parks and Recreation Department continually evaluates facilities and programs for ways to improve accessibility. For instance, back in 2017, all permanent portable restrooms units at selected parks are handicapped accessible. Another example is for all new playground equipment installation, Pour- In- Place Surfacing material is used under the equipment play area. Purchasing accessible products and ensuring accessibility to newly constructed facilities is a constant task when funding is available.

The current Town of Dyer Town Manager David Hein has been designated as the Town of Dyer's ADA coordinator. The Town has used Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding to help improve accessibility throughout Town over the last 15+ years. In the parks, the Town has provided sidewalk access from the existing neighborhood sidewalks through the park and to the playground areas at several sites where the sidewalks previously ended at the edge of the park property. A couple of parks also used this funding to provide pathway access to park amenities such as multi-purpose courts, playgrounds and two ball fields. This funding also allowed for a retrofit of the washroom facilities at the Northgate Park shelter which previously did not meet ADA standards. Most recently, these funds were used to purchase new playground equipment with Pour- In- Place Surfacing material at Northgate Park (2017), Green Meadows Park (2019) and Central Park (2021). The Pour- In- Place Surfacing greatly improves the accessibility of the playground and meet ADA standards. To date, 9 of the 16 playgrounds have been installed with the Pour- In – Place Surfacing material. The rest of the playgrounds and all swing bays have engineered wood fiber, which meets ASTM standards, as the accessible safety surfacing beneath the amenities. As the Parks Department continues their capital improvement project list, a continued goal is to install new playground equipment with the Pour- In- Place Surfacing material at the remaining 7 playgrounds. Improvements will continue to be made through universal design for newly constructed facilities throughout the park system. A



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continued goal for this plan is to continue to improve accessibility to various existing park amenities. There are amenities that alone may be accessible, but do not have ADA accessible routes to access them.

While accessibility issues have improved greatly with each improvement project, there are still issues within certain parks. As mentioned, the Town has used past CDBG funds to address accessibility issues. CDBG funds should be available in the future to help improve accessibility issues. With CDBG or other park funding these remaining accessibility issues would be planned to be correct within the next 5 years. Most of this improvement will be to providing accessible routes to park amenities such as play equipment, walking paths and athletic fields.

The Town of Dyer Parks and Recreation Department follows the section 504 guidelines of the American with Disabilities Act. That section states that no qualified individual with a disability in the United States shall be excluded from, denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity that receives Federal financial assistance. The Parks and Recreation Department improved all curb cuts for ADA accessibility in the past. Now that those have been brought up to code, the department will begin printing the following statement in each of their three seasonal activity guides:

“Regulations of the US Dept. of Interior strictly prohibit unlawful discrimination in departmental Federally Assisted Programs on the basis of race, color, national origin, age or handicap. Any person who believes he or she had been discriminated against in any program, activity or facility operated by a recipient of Federal assistance should write to Director, Equal Opportunity Program; National Park Service; PO Box 37127; Washington D.C. 20013-7127.”

This statement was not previous included in the seasonal brochures, but in doing the master plan, the Parks Department has been reminded to include it once again. The seasonal brochures are online access only with printed copies available at Town Hall. A summer brochure is available typically in April, a fall brochure is typically available in August and a winter/spring brochure is typically available in December.

Any individual can file an ADA grievance locally with the Town of Dyer. This can be done by submitting in writing an individual's full name, mailing address and phone number along with a brief description about the ADA violation to:

Town of Dyer
Attn: David Hein, ADA Coordinator
1 Town Square Dyer, IN 46311

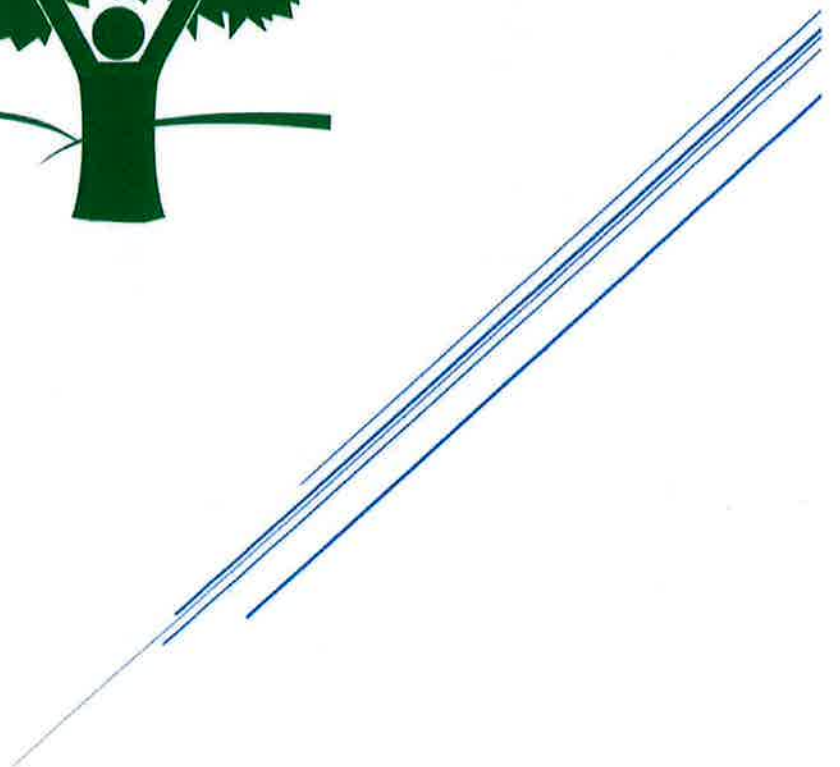
Violations can also be submitted via:

The U.S. Department of Justice Civil Rights Division 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Disability Rights Section NYAV Washington, D.C. 20530
www.ada.gov (800) 514-0301 (voice) (800) 514-0383 (TTY)

SECTION III

PARK SYSTEM

INVENTORY



Section III – Park System Inventory



The Dyer Parks and Recreation system is made up of 21 parks covering 189 acres. Of the 21 parks, 15 parks are useable recreation land and consists of playgrounds, walking paths, pavilions, various park amenities/ recreation opportunities, open green space and more. The remaining 6 parks are either dedicated detention, natural areas or donated pieces of land that is not useable for recreation opportunities.

Below is a snapshot of our current park system with acreage, walking path/ connection, playground, and park type. The park type defines what the park is meant to be, for example, neighborhood parks are generally smaller parks with open useable recreational green space, smaller playgrounds, short connecting walking paths that are meant for the residents in the surrounding area. Community parks are defined as larger parks for variety of recreation opportunities such as, pavilions, bocce ball, tennis court, permanent bathrooms, ball fields, longer walking paths and more.

Town of Dyer Parks and Recreation Department Park System

ID	Park Name	Acres	Walking Path/ Connection within Park	Playground *W/Pour in Place Surfacing	Park Type
1	Veterans Park	5.7	Yes	1*	Neighborhood Park
2	Northgate Park	23.9	Yes	2 (1* w/ PIP Surfacing)	Community Park
3	Heritage Estates Park	0.8	No	1	Neighborhood Park
4	Sunset Park	0.5	No	None	Open Green Space
5	Berkley Park	0.3	No	None	Open Green Space
6	Wildflower Park	1.9	No	None	Open Green Space
7	Briar Crossing Park	9.4	No	None	Detention Basin
8	Green Meadows Park	3.8	Yes	1*	Neighborhood Park
9	Lincoln Park	1	No	1	Neighborhood Park
10	Pheasant Hills Park	29	Yes	1	Community Park
11	Cherry Hill Park	3	No	1	Neighborhood Park
12	Sandy Ridge Park	1.9	No	1	Neighborhood Park
13	Cottonwood Park	1.5	Yes	1	Neighborhood Park
14	Autumn Chase Park	2	Yes	1*	Neighborhood Park
15	Sheffield Estates Park	2.9	Yes	1*	Neighborhood Park
16	Elmer Miller Park	4.1	No	1*	Community Park
17	Amoco Park	2.1	No	None	Open Green Space
18	Eberly Park	8.5	Yes	1*	Neighborhood Park
19	Hearthstone Park	9.6	Yes	1*	Neighborhood Park
20	Amel Wilking Park	1.5	No	None	Natural Area
21	Central Park	75.6	Yes	1*	Community Park

In this section, you will find a breakdown of each park. Details include acreage, park impression, park type, completed/ ongoing projects during the last five years, future goals for the next five years, amenities, playground installation dates and accessibility level. Over the last five years, the Park Board has made great strides in getting our park inventory system up to date with park improvement projects within nine parks. While there is still a way to go until we are fully caught up within all our parks, the proper foundation has been laid out for the Town of Dyer Parks future.

Section III – Park System Inventory



Veterans Park

Park ID: 1

Park Size:	5.7 Acres
Park Address:	Daffodil Court and Sunflower Lane
Park Type:	Neighborhood Park
Park Amenities:	Asphalt Looping Walking Path (1,684 ft.), Playground with Pour in Place Surfacing Material, Open Recreational Greenspace and Portable Restroom Enclosure
Playground Installation Date:	2018

Park Impressions:

Veterans Park is a developed neighborhood park on the north end of Dyer. Entrance into the park can be made off Daffodil Court or Blue Jay Way. The park includes a playground with pour in place material surfacing, a walking path that encompasses a detention basin that is crisscrossed with concrete swales, open recreational greenspace, and street parking only.

Completed/Ongoing projects during 2017-2021 Master Plan:

1. 2017:
 - a. The existing park entrance sign was installed
2. 2018:
 - a. New playground equipment was installed. The playground area includes 1,659SF of pour in place surface material under the play areas, certified playground woodchips under the swing set, concrete border around the playground, connecting pathways for improved accessibility and proper drainage requirements.
 - b. With the assistance of the CommuniTree Grant program, 13 one-inch caliber trees were planted in the park to improve the landscaping aesthetics.
3. 2020:
 - a. One inch of certified playground mulch was poured in the designated area. This is ongoing and planned for future years.
4. 2021:
 - a. With the assistance of the IDNR Urban Forestry Grant, 30 mature 2" – 2.75" caliber trees were planted around the park to improve the landscaping aesthetics.
 - b. Two memorial park benches with stamped concrete were installed off the walking path.
 - c. A second park sign was installed at the Blue Jay Way entrance.

Accessibility Level:

With the recent park improvements done in 2018, accessibility throughout the park has greatly improved. An individual can safely transfer from the nearby sidewalk to the playground, the walking path and throughout the park on a hard surface.

Section III – Park System Inventory



Veterans Park Park ID: 1

Future Goals/Plans for the Park:

1. Additional low maintenance landscaping to improve the overall aesthetics.
2. Current asphalt walking path is cracked in areas and should be repaved.
3. Outdoor fitness station amenities along the walking path.
4. Small pavilion near the playground.

Veterans Park Pictures:



Section III – Park System Inventory



Northgate Park

Park ID: 2

Park Size:	23.9 Acres
Park Address:	613 Northgate Drive
Park Type:	Community Park
Park Amenities:	5 Ball Fields (4 with Fenced Outfields and 3 with Ball Field Lighting), Batting Cage, Asphalt Looping Walking Path (2,440 ft.), 2 Tennis Courts, 2 Volleyball Courts (1 Sand and 1 Grass), Horse Shoe Pit, Bocce Ball Court and Bags Area, Large Pavilion Shelter with Electric, Concession Stand, Permanent Restrooms, Water Fountain, 2 Playgrounds (1 with Pour in Place Surfacing Material), Sled Hill, 2 Parking Lots +/- 160 Spaces, Large Open Recreational Greenspaces, 2 Portable Restroom Enclosures
Playground Installation Date:	Small Playground: 2017 Large Playground: 2010

Park Impressions:

Northgate Park is a developed community park on the north end of Dyer. Entrance into the park can be made off Calumet Avenue or Northgate Drive. Identified in the 2012-2016 Parks and Recreation Master Plan as a park that needed a complete renovation, this park has seen a moderate transformation over the last 5 years. This is an active park for all ages of residents and has many amenities. The park is aging and does need updating within the facility and improved accessibility connections to certain areas within the park. Additional landscaping to define and beautify the park entrances can be improved. The main use of this park is the 5 softball fields used by the Dyer Girls Softball organization.

Completed/Ongoing projects during 2017-2021 Master Plan:

1. 2017:
 - a. The small playground was replaced with new equipment with 1,954SF of pour in place surfacing material under the play areas and certified playground woodchips under the swing set.
 - b. Automatic bathroom locks were installed on the permanent bathrooms.
 - c. With the assistance of the IDNR Urban Forestry Grant, 80 mature 2" – 2.75" caliper trees were planted around the park to improve the landscaping aesthetics.
 - d. Ten 3-row bleachers were purchased for the five ball fields with the construction of concrete bleacher pads.
 - e. One portable 6' x 6' ADA restroom enclosure with concrete pad was constructed.
2. 2018:
 - a. A Thor Guard Lightning Prediction system was installed within the park.
 - b. Windscreens and yellow fence capping were added along the outfield fence of four ball fields.
3. 2019:
 - a. One portable 6' x 6' ADA restroom enclosure with concrete pad was constructed.
 - b. An AED Machine was installed at concession stand.

Section III – Park System Inventory



Northgate Park Park ID: 2

4. 2020:
 - a. One inch of certified playground mulch was poured in the designated area. This is ongoing and planned for future years.
5. 2021:
 - a. The pavilion roof was repaired and re-shingled.
 - b. An outdoor 40' x 80' ice rink was constructed for winter months along with synthetic ice tiles.
 - c. Existing pavilion fireplace was restored to be fully operational.

Accessibility Level:

Good accessibility through the park. There is a hard surface access to the tennis courts, bocce and bag set courts, playground area, pavilion, and walking path. Lacking hard surface accessibility areas are: Ball Fields 1 and 5. Ball Field 1 is located near Northgate Drive in the southwest part of the site, is near a sidewalk, but can use access from the nearby sidewalk to the area behind home plate and connect to the existing pavilion. Ball Field 5 is in the southern corner of the site and is an unfenced small field that does not have accessibility. The sled hill has a very organized layout with access. Sledding is defined by fencing, but the amenity is not ADA accessible. There is a sand volleyball court to the west of the sled hill just south of the main shelter. This amenity is not ADA accessible. On the north end of the park, connecting the north walking path to the existing sidewalk along Calumet Avenue will improve access into the neighborhood.

Future Goals/Plans for the Park:

1. Northgate Park is being planned for a large detention pond in the future. This is to assist the neighbors with ongoing flooding issues. This detention pond would possibly remove 2-3 ball fields and replaced with useable open green space, for example, youth soccer or open recreational activities. Storm water will fill the detention pond only when there is sizeable rainfall.
2. Upgrades to the current 45+ year old pavilion, including improvements to the concession stand, permanent bathrooms, and picnic tables. Residents often rent this space in the summer. This area is used by local sports organizations, Dyer Parks and Recreation programs and events.
3. Connecting walking path that encompass the full park and hard surface pathway connections within areas of the park for improved accessibility.
4. Resurfacing Calumet Avenue Parking Lot.
5. Outdoor fitness station amenities along the walking path.

Section III – Park System Inventory



Northgate Park

Park ID: 2

Northgate Park Pictures:



Section III – Park System Inventory



Heritage Estates Park Park ID: 3

Park Size:	0.8 Acres
Park Address:	1204 Cedar Lane
Park Type:	Neighborhood Park
Park Amenities:	Playground, Open Recreational Green Space
Playground Installation Date:	2000; swings and slides updated in 2010.

Park Impressions:

Heritage Estates Park is a small park with limited open space on the north end of Dyer. Entrance into the park can be made off Cedar Lane. The site has three separate play areas with wood fiber and plastic curbs, a tall chain link fence along the back of the site which borders Illinois, few mature trees and street parking only.

Completed/Ongoing projects during 2017-2021 Master Plan:

1. 2017:
 - a. The existing park sign was installed.
2. 2018:
 - a. A Thor Guard Lightning Prediction system was installed within the park.
3. 2020:
 - a. One inch of certified playground mulch was poured in the designated playground area. This is ongoing and planned for future years.

Accessibility Level:

Poor. Hard surface route is needed from sidewalk to swings, tot swings and playground equipment.

Future Goals/Plans for the Park:

1. This park is next in line to enter a design improvement contract with the Park Board engineer in 2022. Construction plans would be to start in mid-2023. The improvement project plan would be to replace all the playground equipment, install pour in place surfacing material for play areas, certified playground mulch for swing areas, hard surface area for park benches and picnic table, a hard surface pathway connection from sidewalk to play area, proper drainage and maintain the open useable recreational green space.

Section III – Park System Inventory



Heritage Estates Park **Park ID: 3**

Heritage Estates Park Pictures:



Section III – Park System Inventory



Sunset Park

Park ID: 4

Park Size: 0.5 Acres
Park Address: 137 Lilac Drive
Park Type: Undeveloped Open Green Space
Park Amenities: Open Green Space
Playground Installation Date: None

Park Impressions:

Sunset Park is a small piece of open green space that is undeveloped on the north end of Dyer. Currently, there is no recreational program value due to size, location, and street parking. This park is near Sheffield Estates Park.

Completed/Ongoing projects during 2017-2021 Master Plan:

None.

Accessibility Level:

Poor. This site is undeveloped.

Future Goals/Plans for the Park:

1. Small playground equipment area with pour in place surfacing, concrete borders, connecting walking path and proper drainage should be installed. Various park bench area to add along with walking path. Tree plantings to further improve the value of the property.
2. This site can be considered for a small Frisbee Golf area.
3. If not desired to improve, this site would be a candidate to remove from the Dyer Park and Recreation park inventory list to reduce unusable parks

Section III – Park System Inventory



Sunset Park **Park ID: 4**

Sunset Park Pictures:



Section III – Park System Inventory



Berkley Drive Park

Park ID: 5

Park Size: 0.3 Acres
Park Address: 212th Place and Berkley Drive
Park Type: Undeveloped Open Green Space
Park Amenities: Open Recreational Green Space
Playground Installation Date: None

Park Impressions:

Berkley Drive Park is a small piece of open green space that is undeveloped on the north end of Dyer. This site is a half-circle of green space with full, street curb access and surrounded by homes. There is no recreational program value due to size, location and street parking. This park is near Central & Northgate Parks.

Completed/Ongoing projects during 2017-2021 Master Plan:

None.

Accessibility Level:

Poor. This site is undeveloped.

Future Goals/Plans for the Park:

1. With the sites unique shape, a small connecting walking path or sidewalk with proper landscape will improve the area aesthetics.
2. If desired, to reduce unusable parks, this site would be a candidate to remove from the Dyer Park and Recreation park inventory list.

Section III – Park System Inventory



Berkley Drive Park **Park ID: 5**

Berkley Drive Park Pictures:



Section III – Park System Inventory



Wildflower Park

Park ID: 6

Park Size: 1.9 Acres
Park Address: 1630 Sheffield Avenue
Park Type: Open Green Space Detention Basin
Park Amenities: Open Green Space
Playground Installation Date: None

Park Impressions:

Wildflower Park is a detention basin that also serves as open green space on the north end of Dyer. There is a line of evergreen trees along Sheffield Avenue that acts as screening into the site. There is no recreational program value due to size, location, site purpose and street parking. This site is directly south of the Dollar General store. This park is near Sheffield Estates Park.

Completed/Ongoing projects during 2017-2021 Master Plan:

None.

Accessibility Level:

Poor. This site is undeveloped.

Future Goals/Plans for the Park:

1. None. With this site not having any recreational value, this site could be naturalized to reduce mowing expense and improve the aesthetics of the area.

Section III – Park System Inventory



Wildflower Park

Park ID: 6

Wildflower Park Pictures:



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Briar Crossing Park

Park ID: 7

Park Size:	9.4 Acres
Park Address:	213 th Street and Briar Crossing Drive
Park Type:	Open Green Space Detention Basin
Park Amenities:	Open Green Space
Playground Installation Date:	None

Park Impressions:

Briar Crossing Park is a detention basin that has large drainage infrastructure on the north end of Dyer. This site can also serve as an open green space and consists of a few existing trees. Currently, there is no recreational program value due to the site purpose and proximity to Central Park. However, this site does have a flat area to the south that is undeveloped and has potential for recreational value.

Completed/Ongoing projects during 2017-2021 Master Plan:

None.

Accessibility Level:

Poor. This site is undeveloped.

Future Goals/Plans for the Park:

1. On the south flat area: A active recreation area with a small playground or a ropes course area, with pour in place surfacing, concrete borders, connecting walking path, proper drainage, and small parking lot. Additionally, passive sitting area with shade tree plantings to further improve the value of the property.
2. On the north end area: Nothing to improve as this section does not having any recreational value. This section of the park is used for detention, but this section could be naturalized to reduce mowing expense.

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Briar Crossing Park

Park ID: 7

Briar Crossing Park Pictures:



Section III – Park System Inventory



Green Meadows Park

Park ID: 8

Park Size:	3.8 Acres
Park Address:	215 th Street and Greenwood Avenue
Park Type:	Neighborhood Park
Park Amenities:	Asphalt Looping Walking Path (1,523 ft.), Playground with Pour in Place Surfacing Material, Concrete Slab Half-Court Basketball Hoop, Baseball/Softball Fence Backstop with Benches, Open Recreational Greenspace, Portable Restroom Enclosure
Playground Installation Date:	2019

Park Impressions:

Green Meadows Park is a large neighborhood park located on the north end of Dyer. Entrance into the park can be made off 215th Street. This site has only street parking, but opens to a large, quiet park that has great amenities. The park includes a playground with pour in place surface material, a walking path that encompasses a large open useable green space. At the back of the park there is a baseball/softball backstop with benches that can be used for early childhood activities. Young trees are lined along areas of the walking path and playgrounds.

Completed/Ongoing projects during 2017-2021 Master Plan:

1. 2017:
 - a. New fencing was installed on the baseball/softball backstop.
 - b. The existing park sign was installed.
2. 2019:
 - a. New playground equipment was installed with funding assistance from a Community Development Block Grant. The playground area includes 1,732SF of pour in place surface material under the play areas, certified playground woodchips under the swing set, concrete border around the playground, connecting pathways for improved accessibility and proper drainage requirements.
 - b. With the assistance of the CommuniTree Grant program, 8 one-inch caliber trees were planted in the park to improve the landscaping aesthetics.
 - c. One portable 6' x 6' ADA restroom enclosure with concrete pad was constructed.
3. 2020:
 - a. One inch of certified playground mulch was poured in the designated area. This is ongoing and planned for future years.
 - b. With the assistance of the CommuniTree Grant program, 16 one-inch caliber trees were planted in the park to improve the landscaping aesthetics.

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Green Meadows Park

Park ID: 8

Accessibility Level:

With the recent park improvements done in 2019, accessibility throughout the park has greatly improved. An individual can safely transfer from the entrance of the park to the playground, to the walking path and move throughout the park on a hard surface.

Future Goals/Plans for the Park:

1. Expanding the half-court basketball concrete slab to a full court with an additional hoop.
2. Additional low maintenance landscaping to improve the overall aesthetics.
3. Recycled park benches with stamped concrete pads along the walking path.
4. Outdoor fitness station amenities along the walking path.

Green Meadows Park Pictures:



Section III – Park System Inventory



Lincoln Park

Park ID: 9

Park Size:	1 Acre
Park Address:	Church Street and Keilman Street
Park Type:	Neighborhood Park
Park Amenities:	Playground, Open Recreational Greenspace
Playground Installation Date:	1999

Park Impressions:

Lincoln Park is a small neighborhood park with an aging playground located on the north end of Dyer. Entrance into the park can be made off Keilman and Church Street along an alley. The site only has street parking and includes a partial detention pond. The park is bordered with a wooden fence to screen a nearby business parking lot and railroad.

Completed/Ongoing projects during 2017-2021 Master Plan:

1. 2018:
 - a. With the assistance of the CommuniTree Grant program, 3 one-inch caliber trees were planted in the park to improve the landscaping aesthetics.
2. 2020:
 - a. One inch of certified playground mulch was poured in the designated playground area. This is ongoing and planned for future years.

Accessibility Level:

Poor. The site needs an accessible route from park edge to playground area.

Future Goals/Plans for the Park:

1. The playground equipment needs to be removed due to its age. If desired, new equipment with pour in place surfacing, concrete borders, a small walking path and proper drainage should be installed.
2. If new playground equipment is not installed, the park would be a good site to transform into a passive park, for example: garden plots with a connecting path system.

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Lincoln Park

Park ID: 9

Lincoln Park Pictures:



Section III – Park System Inventory



Pheasant Hills Park

Park ID: 10

Park Size:	29 Acres
Park Address:	2301 Hart Street
Park Type:	Community Park
Park Amenities:	Playground, Open Recreational Greenspace, Skate Park, Storm Water Pond (approx. 18 acres), Asphalt Looping Walking Path (2,190 ft.), 2 Pavilions with Electric, Small Parking Lot, 2 Water Fountains and 2 Portable Restroom Enclosures
Playground Installation Date:	2009

Park Impressions:

Pheasant Hills Park is a developed community park located on the south end of Dyer. Entrance into the park is off Mary Street and Andrew Drive. This Park has undergone extensive updating over the past decade. During that time a skate park, pavilion, paved walking path, playground equipment and landscaping were installed. This park has been the main home for all the larger recreational events in recent years. Some examples of events that take place are: Dyer Summer Fest, Bike Parade and the inaugural Dyer Community Market. This site has two soccer goals but is not used for organized soccer. In recent years, residents use Pheasant Hills for passive recreation such as walking, jogging, or pick up style youth recreational games. The current playground is dedicated to SSG David Nowaczyk.

Completed/Ongoing projects during 2017-2021 Master Plan:

1. 2017:
 - a. With the assistance of the CommuniTree Grant program, 25 one-inch caliber trees were planted in the park to improve the landscaping aesthetics.
 - b. The existing park sign was installed.
2. 2019:
 - a. With the assistance of the CommuniTree Grant program, 3 one-inch caliber trees were planted in the park to improve the landscaping aesthetics.
 - b. Two memorial park benches with stamped concrete were installed off the walking path and near the playground.
3. 2020:
 - a. One portable 6' x 6' ADA restroom enclosure with concrete pad was constructed.
 - b. One inch of certified playground mulch was poured in the designated area. This is ongoing and planned for future years.
 - c. With the assistance of the CommuniTree Grant program, 8 one-inch caliber trees were planted in the park to improve the landscaping aesthetics.
 - d. A Thor Guard Lightning Prediction system was installed within the park.
4. 2021:
 - a. Two memorial park benches with stamped concrete were installed off the walking path.

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Pheasant Hills Park Park ID: 10

Accessibility Level:

Good. An individual can safely transfer from the entrance of the park to the playground, skate park, pavilions, to the walking path and move throughout the park on a hard surface.

Future Goals/Plans for the Park:

1. The Park Board has entered a design contract for the completion of a walking path that encompasses the current storm water pond. This path will connect to Cherry Hill Park to create a small path connection system. Construction for the project is anticipated for 2023.
2. Outdoor fitness station amenities along the walking path.
3. Replacement plan for the skate park featured items. Equipment was originally installed in 2009.
4. Work with appropriate Town Boards to assist in improving the pond water quality.
5. Upgrade electrical panels for improved recreational programs and special events.

Pheasant Hills Park Pictures:



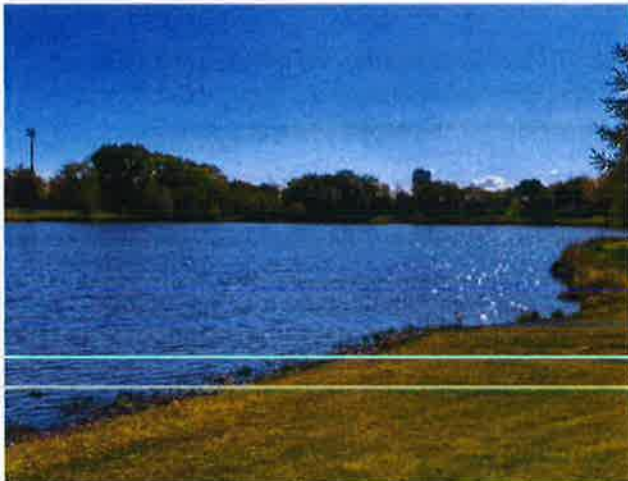
Section III – Park System Inventory



Pheasant Hills Park

Park ID: 10

Pheasant Hills Park Pictures:



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Cherry Hill Park

Park ID: 11

Park Size: 3 Acres
Park Address: 601- 18 Cherry Hill Road
Park Type: Neighborhood Park
Park Amenities: Playground, Open Recreational Green Space
Playground Installation Date: 2000

Park Impressions:

Cherry Hill Park is a small neighborhood park located on the south end of Dyer. Entrance for the park can be gained off Cherry Hill Road. This park includes an aging playground, separate swing set, street parking and a large open green space area. This park is located on the Pheasant Hill Pond and near the Pheasant Hill Park.

Completed/Ongoing projects during 2017-2021 Master Plan:

1. 2017:
 - a. With the assistance of the CommuniTree Grant program, 3 one-inch caliber trees were planted in the park to improve the landscaping aesthetics.
 - b. The existing park sign was installed.
2. 2019:
 - a. With the assistance of the CommuniTree Grant program, 2 one-inch caliber trees were planted in the park to improve the landscaping aesthetics.
3. 2020:
 - a. A connecting gap sidewalk was installed at the front of the park.
 - b. One inch of certified playground mulch was poured in the designated area. This is ongoing and planned for future years.

Accessibility Level:

Poor. With the gap sidewalk installed, the accessibility has improved. A hard surface connection from the sidewalk to the playground equipment is needed.

Future Goals/Plans for the Park:

1. The Park Board has entered a design contract for park improvements. This consists of new playground equipment, pour in place surfacing, concrete border, proper drainage, connecting pathway to the current sidewalk and future Pheasant Hills Pond path. Construction for the project is anticipated by 2023.

Section III – Park System Inventory



Cherry Hill Park

Park ID: 11

Cherry Hill Park Pictures:



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Sandy Ridge Park

Park ID: 12

Park Size: 1.9 Acres
Park Address: 2310 Rolling Hills Drive
Park Type: Neighborhood Park
Park Amenities: Playground, Open Recreational Green Space
Playground Installation Date: 2004

Park Impressions:

Sandy Ridge Park is a small neighborhood park located on the south end of Dyer. Entrance for the park can be accessed off Rolling Hill Drive. This park includes an aging playground, street parking and a large area for open green space that serves as a detention basin. The parks open green space can also be accessed off Boulder Road.

Completed/Ongoing projects during 2017-2021 Master Plan:

1. 2017:
 - c. The existing park sign was installed.
2. 2018:
 - a. With the assistance of the CommuniTree Grant program, 3 one-inch caliber trees were planted in the park to improve the landscaping aesthetics.
 - b. A Thor Guard Lightning Prediction system was installed at a water tower near the park area.
3. 2019:
 - a. With the assistance of the CommuniTree Grant program, 3 one-inch caliber trees were planted in the park to improve the landscaping aesthetics.
4. 2020:
 - a. One inch of certified playground mulch was poured in the designated playground area. This is ongoing and planned for future years.

Accessibility Level:

Good. The current playground can be accessed from the Rolling Hill Drive sidewalk. Additional access is needed for the Boulder Road sidewalk.

Future Goals/Plans for the Park:

1. New playground equipment with pour in place surfacing, concrete border and proper drainage is needed for the park. This project timeline is planned for 2024. Site is a good location for a small Frisbee Golf Course.
2. Adding a walking path within the open green space that encompasses the new playground and connects the Rolling Hill Drive entrance to the Boulder Road entrance. This will improve the overall accessibility and add more recreational value to the park.

Section III – Park System Inventory



Sandy Ridge Park

Park ID: 12

Sandy Ridge Park Pictures:



Section III – Park System Inventory



Cottonwood Park

Park ID: 13

Park Size:	1.5 Acres
Park Address:	718 Cottonwood Dr
Park Type:	Neighborhood Park
Park Amenities:	Playground, Open Recreational Green Space
Playground Installation Date:	2004

Park Impressions:

Cottonwood Park is a small neighborhood park located on the south end of Dyer. Entrance for the playground can be accessed off Cottonwood Drive. This park includes an aging playground, street parking and a large area for open, useable green space. The parks open green space can also be accessed from Osage Drive.

Completed/Ongoing projects during 2017-2021 Master Plan:

1. 2017:
 - a. The existing park sign was installed.
2. 2019:
 - a. With the assistance of the CommuniTree Grant program, 3 one-inch caliber trees were planted in the park to improve the landscaping aesthetics.
3. 2020:
 - a. One inch of certified playground mulch was poured in the designated playground area. This is ongoing and planned for future years.
 - b. A path connection was installed from the Osage Drive sidewalk to the back end of the playground.

Accessibility Level:

Good. With the addition of the path connection an individual can gain access to the playground on a hard surface from Osage Drive and Cottonwood Drive.

Future Goals/Plans for the Park:

1. New playground equipment with pour in place surfacing, concrete border and proper drainage is needed for the park. This project timeline is planned for 2024.
2. Adding a small walking path within the open green space that encompasses the existing amenities. This will improve the overall accessibility and add more recreational value to the park.
3. Recycled park benches with stamped concrete pads along the walking path.

Section III – Park System Inventory



Cottonwood Park

Park ID: 13

Cottonwood Park Pictures:



Section III – Park System Inventory



Autumn Chase Park

Park ID: 14

Park Size:	2 Acres
Park Address:	2988 Hawthorne Lane
Park Type:	Neighborhood Park
Park Amenities:	Asphalt Looping Walking Path, Playground with Pour in Place Surfacing Material, Water Fountain, Open Recreational Greenspace
Playground Installation Date:	2021

Park Impressions:

Autumn Chase Park is a small neighborhood park located on the south end of Dyer. Entrance for the playground can be accessed off Hawthorne Lane and Forest Park Drive. This park was part of a major improvement project in 2021. With the assistance of an IDNR Land and Water Federal Grant program, the park updates included a new playground, walking path, pour in place surfacing, water fountain, street parking with an ADA parking spot.

Completed/Ongoing projects during 2017-2021 Master Plan:

1. 2018:
 - a. A Thor Guard Lightning Prediction system was installed within the park.
2. 2020:
 - a. One inch of certified playground mulch was poured in the designated playground area. This is ongoing and planned for future years.
3. 2021:
 - a. A new playground was installed with pour in place surface material under the play areas, certified playground woodchips under the swing set, concrete border around the playground, asphalt looping walking path and proper drainage requirements.
 - b. A second park sign was installed at the Forest Park Drive entrance.

Accessibility Level:

Good. With the completed park improvement plan, an individual can walk through the entire park from the Hawthorne Lane entrance to the Forest Park Drive entrance on a hard surface. An ADA parking spot was installed at the front of the park entrance off Hawthorne Lane.

Future Goals/Plans for the Park:

1. Trees and low maintenance landscaping will be needed around the playground and walking path.
2. Recycled park benches with stamped concrete pads along the walking path.
3. Installation of a portable restroom enclosure with concrete pad.

Section III – Park System Inventory



Autumn Chase Park **Park ID: 14**

Autumn Chase Park Pictures:



Section III – Park System Inventory



Sheffield Estates Park

Park ID: 15

Park Size:	2.9 Acres
Park Address:	Rosemary Court and Gardenia Drive
Park Type:	Neighborhood Park
Park Amenities:	Small Asphalt Connecting Walking Path, Playground with Pour in Place Surfacing Material, Open Recreational Greenspace Detention
Playground Installation Date:	2019

Park Impressions:

Sheffield Estates Park is a small neighborhood park located on the north end of Dyer. Entrance for the playground can be accessed off Rosemary Court with a second entrance off Capri Lane. This park was part of a major improvement project in 2019. This park includes a new playground with pathway connections, street parking and a large area for open green space that serves as a detention basin.

Completed/Ongoing projects during 2017-2021 Master Plan:

1. 2019:
 - a. New playground was installed with pour in place surface material under the play areas, certified playground woodchips under the swing set, concrete border around the playground, connecting pathways for improved accessibility and proper drainage requirements.
2. 2020:
 - a. One inch of certified playground mulch was poured in the designated playground area. This is ongoing and planned for future years.
 - b. With the assistance of the CommuniTree Grant program, 11 one-inch caliber trees were planted in the park to improve the landscaping aesthetics
3. 2021:
 - a. A second park sign was installed at the Capri Lane entrance.

Accessibility Level:

Good. With the completed park improvement plan, an individual can walk through the entire park from the Capri Lane entrance to the Rosemary Court entrance on a hard surface. Additionally, residents from Rokosz Lane can now use the easement access to enter and walk through the park on a hard surface.

Future Goals/Plans for the Park:

1. Additional low maintenance landscaping to improve the overall aesthetics.
2. Recycled park benches with stamped concrete pads along the existing path.

Section III – Park System Inventory



Sheffield Estates Park

Park ID: 15

Sheffield Estates Park Pictures:



Section III – Park System Inventory



Elmer Miller Park & Plum Creek Center

Park ID: 16

Park Size:	4.1 Acres
Park Address:	1 Town Square & 2142 Moeller Street
Park Type:	Neighborhood Park
Park Amenities:	Bocce Ball, 2 Checker Board Game Tables, Concrete Bags Court Area, Playground with Pour in Place Surfacing Material, Grass Volleyball Court, Picnic Shelter with Electric, Drinking Fountain, Parking Lot, Storage Building, Open Recreational Greenspace, Portable Restroom Enclosure
Playground Installation Date:	2018

Park Impressions:

Elmer Miller Park is a neighborhood park located on the south end of Dyer behind the Town Hall. Entrance for the playground can be accessed off Route 30 or Schulte Street within the permanent parking lot. A second entrance can be accessed off of Moeller Street by way of the Plum Creek Bridge. This park was part of a major improvement project in 2018. This park includes a new playground with pathway connections and a large area for open green space.

The Plum Creek Center is a 100-seat rental hall that is ADA accessible and attached to Elmer Miller Park. The building consists of an open space, kitchen, small seven car parking lot, bathrooms and an outdoor patio with tables for additional seating. Recreation programs are held on site weeknights Mondays- Thursdays.

Completed/Ongoing projects during 2017-2021 Master Plan:

1. 2017:
 - a. Pavilion lighting fixtures were updated.
 - b. One portable 6' x 6' ADA restroom enclosure with a concrete pad was constructed.
 - c. Plum Creek WIFI was installed.
2. 2018:
 - a. New playground with above mentioned park amenities installed.
 - b. With the assistance of the CommuniTree Grant program, 11 one-inch caliber trees were planted in the park to improve the landscaping aesthetics.
 - c. Plum Creek had a Thor Guard Lightning Prediction System installed and new carpet was installed in the hall.
 - d. An AED Machine was installed at the Plum Creek Center.
3. 2019:
 - a. New concrete floor was poured in the current pavilion.
4. 2020:
 - a. One inch of certified playground mulch was poured in the designated playground area. This is ongoing and planned for future years.

Section III – Park System Inventory



Elmer Miller Park & Plum Creek Center

Park ID: 16

- b. The current storage building took part in a community mural project. A park landscape was painted throughout the four walls of the exterior of the building.
- c. Two memorial park benches with stamped concrete were installed off the walking path and near the playground.

Accessibility Level:

Good. With the completed park improvement plan, an individual can walk through the park from the parking lot to the pavilion and access the Plum Creek Bridge and Plum Creek Center. Starting at Elmer Miller Park, a small park connection system has been put in place, so an individual can access Elmer Miller Park, Plum Creek Center, Pheasant Hills Park, Cherry Hill Park and Cottonwood Park on a hard surface by street, sidewalk, or path,

Future Goals/Plans for the Park:

1. For Elmer Miller Park, in 2020 the Park Board entered a design contract to build a splash pad. Project plans are being worked on through 2021 with the construction being planned to start in 2022. A permanent bathroom/bath house is being planned as part of this project.
2. Additional low maintenance landscaping to improve the overall aesthetics for both sites.
3. Pavillon Upgrades for Elmer Miller Park.
4. Additional technology equipment for Plum Creek Center to attract more business rentals.

Elmer Miller Park Pictures:



Section III – Park System Inventory



Elmer Miller Park & Plum Creek Center

Park ID: 16

Elmer Miller Pictures:



Section III – Park System Inventory



Elmer Miller Park & Plum Creek Center

Park ID: 16

Plum Creek Center Pictures:



Section III – Park System Inventory



Amoco Pipeline Park **Park ID: 17**

Park Size:	2.1 Acres
Park Address:	Heritage Drive and Cambridge Lane
Park Type:	Open Recreational Greenspace
Park Amenities:	Open Recreational Greenspace
Playground Installation Date:	None

Park Impressions:

Amoco Pipeline Park is an open greenspace that has a petroleum pipeline that lays underneath. This property is located on the north end of Dyer, does not have any recreational programming value and not ideal for any significant amenity development.

Completed/Ongoing projects during 2017-2021 Master Plan:

None.

Accessibility Level:

Site is not developed, so there is not accessibility through site.

Future Goals/Plans for the Park:

1. None. This site does not have any recreational programming value and not ideal for any significant amenity development.

Section III – Park System Inventory



Amoco Pipeline Park

Park ID: 17

Amoco Pipeline Park Pictures:



Section III – Park System Inventory



Eberly Park

Park ID: 18

Park Size: 8.5 Acres
Park Address: 216 Trillium Drive
Park Type: Neighborhood Park
Park Amenities: Asphalt Looping Walking Path (1,308 ft.), Playground with Pour in Place Surfacing Material, Open Recreational Greenspace
Playground Installation Date: 2018

Park Impressions:

Eberly Park is a neighborhood park located on the south end of Dyer. Entrance for the playground can be accessed off Sheffield Avenue by way of a sidewalk. This park was developed in 2018 and includes a new playground with a walking path and large area for open green space.

Completed/Ongoing projects during 2017-2021 Master Plan:

1. 2018:
 - a. A new playground was installed with pour in place surface material under the play areas, certified playground woodchips under the swing set, concrete border around the playground, asphalt looping walking path and proper drainage requirements.
 - b. Park Sign was installed at the Sheffield Avenue entrance.
 - c. With the assistance of the CommuniTree Grant program, 17 one-inch caliber trees were planted in the park to improve the landscaping aesthetics.
 - d. A Thor Guard Lightning Prediction system was installed within the park.
2. 2019:
 - a. With the assistance of the IDNR Urban Forestry Grant, 30 mature 2" – 2.75" caliper trees were planted around the park to improve the landscaping aesthetics.
3. 2020:
 - a. One inch of certified playground mulch was poured in the designated playground area. This is ongoing and planned for future years.
4. 2021:
 - a. The open lot, 216 Trillium Avenue, was purchased by the Park Board. This was purchased to create a second entrance into the park from within the subdivision.
 - b. Two park benches with stamped concrete installed along walking path.

Accessibility Level:

Good. Currently, a resident would have to use the sidewalks and exit the High Point Prairie subdivision by way of the Sheffield Avenue sidewalk to enter the park. Once in the park, an individual can walk through the entire park on the existing hard surface. With the purchase of 216 Trillium Lane, the accessibility will improve greatly and serve as a second park entrance from within the subdivision.

Section III – Park System Inventory



Eberly Park **Park ID: 18**

Future Goals/Plans for the Park:

1. The Park Board will enter a development contract with the engineer to construct a second entrance access from within the High Point Prairie Subdivision.
2. Small parking lot off Sheffield Avenue.
3. One Portable restroom enclosure.
4. Park benches with stamped concrete pads along the walking path.
5. Outdoor fitness station amenities along the walking path.
6. Small pavilion near the playground.

Eberly Park Pictures:



Section III – Park System Inventory



Hearthstone Park

Park ID: 19

Park Size:	9.6 Acres
Park Address:	Rockview Road and Corinne Drive
Park Type:	Neighborhood Park
Park Amenities:	Asphalt Looping Walking Path (1,885 ft.), Playground with Pour in Place Surfacing Material, Open Recreational Greenspace, 16 Car Parking Lot, Portable Restroom Enclosure
Playground Installation Date:	2018

Park Impressions:

Hearthstone Park is a neighborhood park located on the north end of Dyer. Entrance for the playground can be accessed off Rockview Road and a second entrance is off Westridge Drive. This park was developed in 2018 and includes a new playground with a walking path and a large area for open green space.

Completed/Ongoing projects during 2017-2021 Master Plan:

1. 2018:
 - a. A new playground was installed with pour in place surface material under the play areas, certified playground woodchips under the swing set, concrete border around the playground, asphalt looping walking path and proper drainage requirements.
 - b. With the assistance of the CommuniTree Grant program, 40 one-inch caliber trees were planted in the park to improve the landscaping aesthetics.
 - c. A Thor Guard Lightning Prediction system was installed within the park.
2. 2019:
 - a. A 16-car parking lot was installed.
3. 2020:
 - a. Twenty-five 1.75" caliber trees were planted throughout the park.
 - b. Second Park Sign was installed at the Westridge Avenue entrance.
4. 2021:
 - a. Two park benches with stamped concrete were installed off the walking path.

Accessibility Level:

Good. An individual can access from both entrances of the park, walk along the path, and access the playground and parking lot. This can be done all on a hard surface.

Section III – Park System Inventory



Hearthstone Park **Park ID: 19**

Future Goals/Plans for the Park:

1. Outdoor fitness station amenities along the walking path.
2. Small pavilion near the playground.
3. Hard court areas for tennis and pickle ball.

Hearthstone Park Pictures:



Section III – Park System Inventory



Amel Wilking Park Park ID: 20

Park Size: 1.5 Acres
Park Address: 636 Sheffield Avenue
Park Type: Natural Area with Wildlife
Park Amenities: Open Natural Space, Advertisement Billboard
Playground Installation Date: None

Park Impressions:

1. Amel Wilking Park is a natural area with wildlife located on the north end of Dyer. There is no entrance for the park and the site is a triangular piece of land with railroad tracks to the west side and Sheffield Avenue to the east side. This site consists of an advertisement billboard. This generates a small revenue that assists in paying for the summer concert series.

Completed/Ongoing projects during 2017-2021 Master Plan:
None.

Accessibility Level:
Park is left in its natural condition.

Future Goals/Plans for the Park:
1. None. Park site is not a usable site, and the best option is to leave natural.

Section III – Park System Inventory



Amel Wilking Park **Park ID: 20**

Amel Wilking Park Pictures:



Section III – Park System Inventory



Central Park

Park ID: 21

Park Size: 75.6 Acres
Park Address: 942- 213th Street
Park Type: Community Park
Park Amenities: 4 Irrigated Lighted Ball Fields, Soccer Fields, Dog Park with Agility Equipment; Pavilion with Electric, Permanent Restrooms, Asphalt Walking Paths (3,412 ft.), 2 Large Parking Lots, 2 Story Concession Stand/Storage/Press Box Facility with Permanent Restrooms, Playground with Pour in Place Surfacing, Central Park Fire Station #2, Open Recreation Greenspace, Tree Nursery

Playground Installation Date: 2021

Park Impressions:

Central Park is a community 75.6-acre park on the north end of Dyer. This park has seen major development over the last five years with the primary focus on the north end. Development has consisted of a fourth ball field, concession stand/restroom/storage facility, additional walking paths, playground, retention pond for proper drainage and fire station in the northwest corner. Entrance for the park is off 213th street for the north end and off Calumet Avenue on the south end.

Completed/Ongoing projects during 2017-2021 Master Plan:

1. 2017:
 - a. Renovated two existing ball fields from dirt ball fields to limestone ball fields and condensing the ball fields to appropriate play sizes (60' and 70' base length).
2. 2018:
 - a. Outfield fences were added to the Northwest and Southeast ball fields.
3. 2019:
 - a. With the assistance of the CommuniTree Grant program, 15 one-inch caliber trees were planted in the park to improve the landscaping aesthetics.
 - b. Tree Nursery was installed.
4. 2020:
 - a. A Thor Guard Lightning Prediction system was installed within the park.
 - b. Seventy-eight trees were moved from the north end to the east end.
 - c. Retention pond, forth irrigated ball field and additional connecting walking paths installed.
 - d. Construction of Central Park Fire Station #2.

Section III – Park System Inventory



Central Park

Park ID: 21

5. 2021:

- a. New playground with pour in place surfacing and concession stand/press box/storage facility installed.
- b. Construction of the north end core area including new north parking lot with roundabout park entrance, concrete and pavers inside the ball fields/concession stand area, batting cages, lights for the four ball fields and low maintenance landscaping beds.

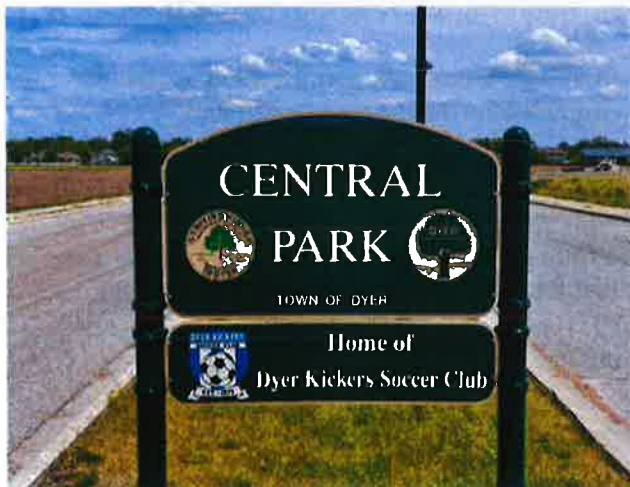
Accessibility Level:

Good. With the north end improvement projects, accessibility has greatly improved. The south pavilion and the north parking lot can be accessed by an individual on a hard surface using the long walking paths.

Future Goals/Plans for the Park:

1. Master plan development for the middle section to include parking, small pavilions around the walking paths, recreation center building, amphitheater, town plaza, splash pad and open green space.
2. Master plan development for the south section to include upgrades to current dog park, large open recreational greenspace, multipurpose synthetic turf field, additional parking, tennis court, pickle ball courts, walking pathway connection, sand volleyball court and small pavilions around walking paths.

Central Park Pictures:



Section III – Park System Inventory



Central Park **Park ID: 21**

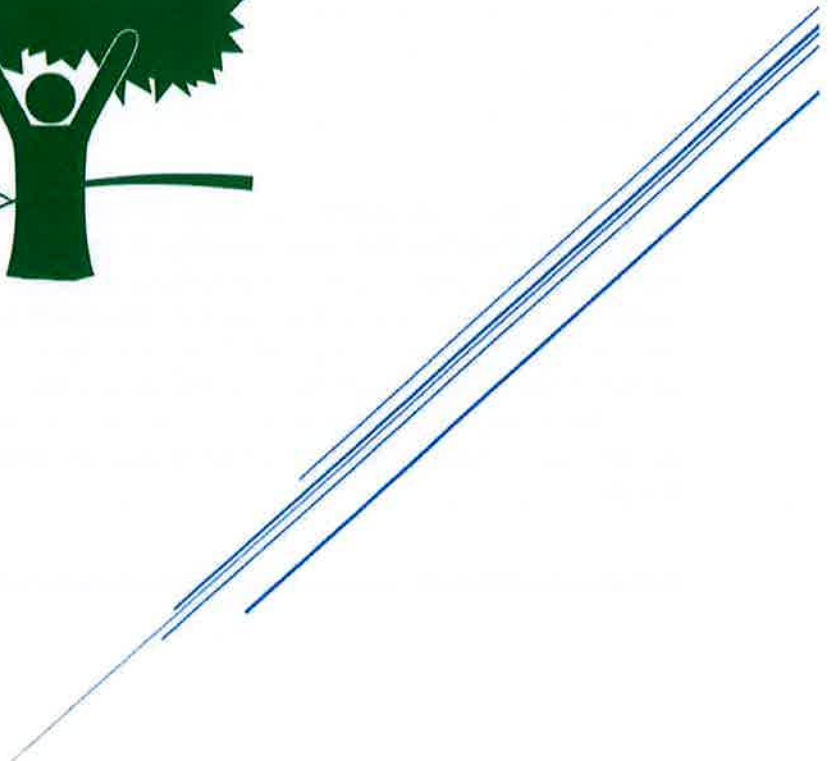
Central Park Pictures:





ID	Park Name	Acres	Walking Path/ connection within Park	Park Type
1=	VETERANS PARK	5.7	Y	Neighborhood Park
2=	NORTHGATE PARK	23.9	Y	Community Park
3=	HERITAGE PARK	.8	N	Neighborhood Park
4=	SUNSET PARK	.8	N	Open Green Space
5=	BERKLEY DRIVE PARK	.3	N	Open Green Space
6=	WILDFLOWER PARK	3.9	N	Detention Basin
7=	BRIAR CROSSING PARK	9.4	N	Detention Basin
8=	GREEN MEADOWS PARK	3.8	Y	Neighborhood Park
9=	LINCOLN PARK	1	N	Neighborhood Park
10=	PHEASANT HILLS PARK	28	Y	Community Park
11=	CHERRY HILL TOT LOT	3	N	Neighborhood Park
12=	SANDY RIDGE PARK	1.9	N	Neighborhood Park
13=	COTTONWOOD TOT LOT	1.5	Y	Neighborhood Park
14=	AUTUMN CHASE PARK	2	Y	Neighborhood Park
15=	SHEFFIELD ESTATES PARK	2.5	Y	Neighborhood Park
16=	ELMER MILLER PARK	4.4	N	Community Park
17=	AMOCO PARK	2.1	N	Open Green Space
18=	EBERLY PARK	8.5	Y	Neighborhood Park
19=	HEARTHSTONE PARK	9.5	Y	Neighborhood Park
20=	AMEL WILKING PARK	1.5	N	Natural Area
21=	CENTRAL PARK	75.6	Y	Community Park

SECTION IV PRIORITIES, ACTION PLAN, CONCLUSION



Section IV- Priorities, Action Plan, Conclusion



Over the next five years, priority projects for the Parks and Recreation Department will continue with a similar plan that was started five years ago for both park development and recreational opportunities.

In the 2016-2021 Master Plan, great strides were taken thanks to the efforts of the Parks and Recreation Department and staff. Within our new plan, the Parks and Recreation Department will be caught up with the highest priority improvement development projects. A total of nine parks received an improvement project that increased the value and usage of our parks.

Within our recreation side, continuing to develop programs/events will remain our main priority. Goals were set to increase offerings, developing new and current opportunities, adding quality full and part time staff and how to increase funding. Recreation revenue increased from \$145,000 in 2016, \$178,000 in 2017 and the highest \$183,000 in 2018. The increase was due to the additional offerings and the great amount of time and hard work the limited staff inputted. In 2020, the Covid- 19 pandemic hit, and our recreational programs were majorly affected both financially and by what opportunities could be provided. Majority of our programs/events were cancelled in 2020 and the beginning of 2021. However, the recreation staff continued to work hard to figure out a successful plan that would offer some type of unorthodox recreational opportunities. While these offerings were limited and low key, they were offered in a safe way that residents appreciated. It is always the goals of the Parks and Recreation Department to offer opportunities for residents that will increase their quality of life.

Within the park development side, continuing the priority project list will continue. Park projects are split into Central Park Projects and Park Projects. For Park Projects all parks with playground, except Central Park, were put into a list according to playground age and overall review of park and equipment to determine if immediate priority action would be needed. Immediately, the installation date informed us that many of the parks with playgrounds needed equipment upgrades.

Using this information, the Park Board selects the next Park Projects based on the age of the play equipment, immediate needs of the park and available funding. The goal has been to upgrade every park with new equipment and more accessibility. The chart on the next page will serve as an example of the priority list based on the current play equipment age. Additionally, the chart will provide an estimate when possible, construction and engineering design planning would occur.

For Central Park, it was determined within the last five years to focus on a third of the park at one time. The Park Board selected to start with the north end of the park first because of the existing park amenities on site. In this instance, three ball fields existed. As the north end finishes construction in early 2022, the Park Board will move to the design plans of the south end. Like Park Projects, Central Park Projects are prioritized separately but due to the nature of the park being a large community park will usually take priority over the Park Projects. The goal within this Master Plan will be to continue all our park improvement projects based on need, priority, and available funding. The need to continue improving existing parks is still a high priority.

Section IV- Priorities, Action Plan, Conclusion



The following is the path the Parks and Recreation Department will take within our next 5-year master plan:

- **Park Improvement Schedule:**

The need to continue improving existing parks is still a high priority. Playground and walking path improvements have been the top priority. Since 2017, nine parks have seen major construction. These parks (Northgate Park, Sheffield Estates Park, Hearthstone Park, Eberly Park, Autumn Chase Park, Green Meadows Park, Elmer Miller Park, Veterans Park and Central Park) all received a new playground with pour in place surfacing, improved walking paths, proper drainage requirements and other amenities. This has assisted the Parks Department in reintroducing the positive values a park system can provide. As we move into the next five years, the last five parks (Cherry Hill Park, Lincoln Park, Heritage Estates Park, Sandy Ridge Park and Cottonwood Park) will be the focus to improve the playground and walking path areas. Additional park amenities are also being considered by the Parks and Recreation Department. For instance, two amenities being planned soon are pickle ball courts and a splash pad along with the development of the south end of Central Park.

The following chart lays out the current park playground improvement project schedule:

Parks with Playgrounds Equipment	Playground Equipment Installed	Construction Replacement Est Dates	Engineering Design Services Est Dates
Lincoln	1999	TO BE REMOVED	None
Cherry Hill	2000	Fall 2022	Summer 2020
Heritage Estates	2000	Summer 2023	Fall 2022
Sandy Ridge	2004	Summer 2024	Fall 2023
Cottonwood	2004	Summer 2025	Fall 2024
Pheasant Hills	2009	Spring 2029	Summer 2028
Northgate – Large Playground	2010	Spring 2030	Summer 2029
Northgate – Small Playground	2017	Spring 2037	Summer 2036
Hearthstone	2018	Spring 2038	Summer 2037
Eberly	2018	Fall 2038	Summer 2037
Elmer Miller	2018	Spring 2039	Summer 2038
Veterans	2018	Fall 2039	Summer 2038
Green Meadows	2019	Spring 2040	Summer 2039
Sheffield Estates	2019	Fall 2040	Summer 2039
Autumn Chase	2021	Fall 2042	Summer 2041
Central	2021	Fall 2043	Summer 2042

Section IV- Priorities, Action Plan, Conclusion



- **Central Park:** The Central Park master plan has received many revisions dating back to 2017. At that time, the Parks and Recreation Department decided that development should be done in phases (split into thirds) and so full focus was put on the first third, the north end. This development was done primarily within 2016-2021 Master Plan. It's currently planned that the north end development will finish by the start of 2022. The Parks and Recreation Department priorities will then shift to revising the south and middle section master plans and reevaluate the planned amenities and attractions. The plan is to fully focus on the south end first to reflect on a variety of recreational activities followed by the middle section to reflect a community atmosphere. Currently, the south end of Central Park is being used by the local soccer club, Dyer Kickers. The soccer club uses this due to the large open grass area that does hold all their age levels in one area. This is ideal for families with multiple children. In conversations with Dyer Kickers representatives, an effort is being made to make this possible for the future seasons. To make the south end a destination recreation location, relocating the soccer fields may be needed. However, plans for the south end of Central Park consist of walking paths, pickle ball courts, tennis courts, pavilions, accessible playground, synthetic multipurpose turf field and open green space that could be used for any type of recreation or soccer fields.
- **Northgate Park:** For many years, the residents of Northgate subdivision have experienced flooding. To help assist this issue, portions of Northgate Park is being planned to serve as a large detention basin that will double as useable recreational greenspace, for instance, soccer fields. The Stormwater Board has been working on a plan on how this detention basin will impact the current look of the park. During the next 5 years, the Parks and Recreation Department will work with the Stormwater Board to come up with a construction plan for the detention basin and develop a design for a full park improvement project. Most likely, Northgate Park and Central Park (south and middle sections) progress will work simultaneously. This will allow for the planned replacement/relocation of any open green space recreation activity areas from Central Park if needed.
- **Staffing:** Currently the Parks and Recreation Department has five full time staff and three part time staff. Seasonal part time staff is added for the summer to assist with camps and other programs. To improve programming and event offerings, an additional full-time recreation person is needed. This person would give the Parks Department the ability to focus on different areas, for example, Recreation Supervisor I, would focus on all youth programming and events while Recreation Supervisor II would focus on all adult, senior programming, and trips. With the recent improvement developments, an additional full-time maintenance staff is needed. In 2020, the Parks Department was able to obtain its first full time maintenance employee. Another 1-2 full time staff members will be needed to keep its beautification and value within all 21 parks. This has been an ongoing issue in recent years. While this has been improving, continued support is needed from the Town Council.

Section IV- Priorities, Action Plan, Conclusion



- **Programming/Events:** The continued need to develop new trending programs is required while continuing to develop existing successful programs. With the development of the north end of Central Park, focus will start with youth and adult athletics and operating the concession stand. Additionally, development of larger community events, such as the Dyer Community Market and Family Fall Fest. As previously mentioned, a second full time recreation person is needed, and the department will not fully achieve its full potential without it. Two quality year-round part-time staff and a Recreation Specialist were hired within the last 5 years to assist in developing our programs. While this has greatly helped, a full-time staff person would provide permanent, fully focused, staff hours that is needed. Support from the Parks and Recreation Board is adequate, however as mentioned previously continued support is needed from the Town Council.

Park Project Development Action Plan

As we move into the 2022-2026 Master Plan, below is a list of current active park improvement contracts the Parks and Recreation Department has with its engineer with a cost estimate for each project. Majority of the costs estimated were based on pervious park improvement projects. Funding for these projects primarily will be used within the Park Bonds. These projects below are a main priority for development.

The Park and Recreation Department has an annual \$2 million capital Park Bond budget over a ten-year period that started in 2018. Additional contracts will be added as current projects are completed and as further development is required. All projects are subject to change and available funding will dictate when certain projects could begin.

- **Cherry Hill Park Improvements-** Project consists of new playground with pour in place surfacing, proper drainage, landscaping, asphalt walking path and pathway connections.

Cherry Hill Park	Est Cost (based on past projects)	Est Target Date	Est Funding
Improvement Design Plan/Misc.	\$44,000	2020	2020 Park Bond
Construction Estimate Cost	\$290,000	2022	2021 Park Bond
Construction Engineering/Misc.	\$20,000	2022	2021 Park Bond
Total	\$354,000		

- **Pheasant Hills Park Improvement-** Project consists of asphalt walking path that will encompass the entire existing pond and connect to current paths within Pheasant Hill and Cherry Hill Park, improve electrical panels, skate park upgrades, outdoor fitness equipment stations along the existing walking path.

Section IV- Priorities, Action Plan, Conclusion



Pheasant Hills Park	Est Cost (based on past projects)	Est Target Date	Est Funding
Improvement Design Plan/Misc.	\$22,000	2021	2020 Park Bond
Construction Estimate Cost	\$115,000	2022	2021 Park Bond
Construction Engineering/ Misc.	\$20,000	2022	2021 Park Bond
Total	\$157,000		

- **Elmer Miller Park Improvements-** Project consists of installing splash pad, permanent restrooms, proper drainage, landscaping, and pathway connections within the recently updated park.

Elmer Miller Park	Est Cost (based on past projects)	Est Target Date	Est Funding
Improvement Design Plan/Misc.	\$62,000	2021	2020 Park Bond
Construction Estimate Cost	\$450,000	2022	2021 Park Bond
Construction Engineering/ Misc.	\$65,000	2022	2021 Park Bond
Total	\$577,000		

- **Eberly Park Improvements-** Project consists of developing a 2nd park entrance within the High Point Prairie subdivision (216 Trillium Drive- Open Lot). Development consists of a connecting pathway into the current walking path and playground area, landscape screening, proper drainage, portable restroom enclosure, small parking lot off Hart Street, outdoor fitness equipment stations along the existing walking path.

Eberly Park	Est Cost (based on past projects)	Est Target Date	Est Funding
Improvement Design Plan/Misc.	\$40,000	2021	2020 Park Bond
Construction Estimate Cost	\$210,000	2023	2022 Park Bond
Construction Engineering/ Misc.	\$275,000	2023	2022 Park Bond
Total	\$205,000		

- **Central Park South End Improvements-** Project consists of walking paths, pickle ball courts, tennis courts, pavilions, accessible playground, synthetic multipurpose turf field and open green space, sand volleyball courts, upgrades to the existing pavilion, technology upgrades with WIFI throughout the park, additional parking lots.

Central Park South End	Est Cost (based on past projects)	Est Target Date	Est Funding
Improvement Design Plan/Misc.	\$170,000	2022	2021 Park Bond
Construction Estimate Cost	\$1,250,000	2023/24	2022/23 Park Bond
Construction Engineering/ Misc.	\$100,000	2023/24	2022/23 Park Bond
Total	\$334,000		

The Parks and Recreation Department has been moving at a fast pace to complete each park improvement project. To achieve this, a plan has been laid out for all the parks. While the

Section IV- Priorities, Action Plan, Conclusion



timelines, funding options, and park improvement plans are forever changing, the Parks and Recreation Department wants to be ready to start a project when funding becomes available or bids for previous projects are favorable and will allow for other improvements.

Below is a priority list for all other parks with estimated funding cost:

- **Heritage Estates Park Improvements-** Project consists of new playground with pour in place surfacing, proper drainage, asphalt walking path and pathway connections.

Heritage Estates Park	Est Cost (based on past projects)	Est Target Date	Est Funding
Improvement Design Plan/Misc.	\$44,000	2022	2021 Park Bond
Construction Estimate Cost	\$270,000	2023	2022 Park Bond
Construction Engineering/ Misc.	\$20,000	2023	2022 Park Bond
Total	\$334,000		

- **Autumn Chase Park Improvements-** Future projects may consist of landscaping, portable restroom enclosure, stamped concrete pads along the walking path for benches.

Autumn Chase Park	Est Cost (based on past projects)	Est Target Date	Est Funding
Improvement Design Plan/Misc.	\$2,000	2023	CEDIT
Construction Estimate Cost	\$6,000	2023	CEDIT
Construction Engineering/ Misc.	\$1,000	2023	CEDIT
Total	\$9,000		

- **Sheffield Estates Park Improvements-** Future projects may consist of landscaping, portable restroom enclosure, stamped concrete pads along the walking path for benches.

Sheffield Estates Park	Est Cost (based on past projects)	Est Target Date	Est Funding
Improvement Design Plan/Misc.	\$1,000	2023	CEDIT
Construction Estimate Cost	\$5,000	2023	CEDIT
Construction Engineering/ Misc.	\$2,000	2023	CEDIT
Total	\$8,000		

- **Northgate Park Improvements-** Future projects may consist of landscaping, large detention area that doubles as useable greenspace/soccer fields, required infrastructure, outdoor fitness equipment stations along the existing walking path, pavilion upgrades, technology upgrades for WIFI access in concession stand, parking lot resurfacing.

Section IV- Priorities, Action Plan, Conclusion



Northgate Park	Est Cost (based on past projects)	Est Target Date	Est Funding
Improvement Design Plan/Misc.	\$50,000	2024	2023/24 Park Bond
Construction Estimate Cost	\$325,000	2024	2023/24 Park Bond
Construction Engineering/ Misc.	\$25,000	2024	2023/24 Park Bond
Total	\$400,000		

- **Plum Creek Center Improvements-** Future projects may consist of technology upgrades, new tables and chairs, outdoor patio upgrades.

Plum Creek Center	Est Cost (based on past projects)	Est Target Date	Est Funding
Improvement Design Plan/Misc.	\$2,000	2024	CREDIT
Construction Estimate Cost	\$8,000	2024	CREDIT
Construction Engineering/ Misc.	\$2,000	2024	CREDIT
Total	\$12,000		

- **Hearthstone Park Improvements-** Future projects may consist of landscaping, portable restroom enclosure, stamped concrete pads along the walking path for benches, outdoor fitness equipment stations along the existing walking path.

Hearthstone Park	Est Cost (based on past projects)	Est Target Date	Est Funding
Improvement Design Plan/Misc.	\$1,000	2024	CREDIT
Construction Estimate Cost	\$5,000	2024	CREDIT
Construction Engineering/ Misc.	\$2,000	2024	CREDIT
Total	\$8,000		

- **Cottonwood Park Improvements-** Future projects may consist of new playground equipment with pour in place surfacing, connecting pathways, small walking path, landscaping.

Cottonwood Park	Est Cost (based on past projects)	Est Target Date	Est Funding
Improvement Design Plan/Misc.	\$44,000	2023	2023 Park Bond
Construction Estimate Cost	\$300,000	2025	2024 Park Bond
Construction Engineering/ Misc.	\$22,000	2025	2024 Park Bond
Total	\$366,000		

Section IV- Priorities, Action Plan, Conclusion



- **Sandy Ridge Park Improvements-** Future projects may consist of new playground equipment with pour in place surfacing, connecting pathways, small walking path, landscaping.

Sandy Ridge Park	Est Cost (based on past projects)	Est Target Date	Est Funding
Improvement Design Plan/Misc.	\$44,000	2023	2023 Park Bond
Construction Estimate Cost	\$300,000	2025	2024 Park Bond
Construction Engineering/ Misc.	\$22,000	2025	2024 Park Bond
Total	\$366,000		

- **Green Meadows Park Improvements-** Future projects may consist of landscaping, outdoor fitness equipment stations along the existing walking path, expanding the half-court basketball court to full court.

Green Meadows Park	Est Cost (based on past projects)	Est Target Date	Est Funding
Improvement Design Plan/Misc.	\$25,000	2025	2025 Park Bond
Construction Estimate Cost	\$65,000	2025	2025 Park Bond
Construction Engineering/ Misc.	\$10,000	2025	2025 Park Bond
Total	\$100,000		

- **Veterans Park Improvements-** Future projects may consist of resurfacing asphalt walking path, small pavilion near playground, landscaping, outdoor fitness equipment stations along the existing walking path.

Veterans Park	Est Cost (based on past projects)	Est Target Date	Est Funding
Improvement Design Plan/Misc.	\$25,000	2026	2026 Park Bond
Construction Estimate Cost	\$75,000	2026	2026 Park Bond
Construction Engineering/ Misc.	\$10,000	2026	2026 Park Bond
Total	\$110,000		

- **Lincoln Park Improvements-** Future projects may consist of landscaping, removing existing playground equipment, garden plots.

Lincoln Park	Est Cost (based on past projects)	Est Target Date	Est Funding
Improvement Design Plan/Misc.	\$10,000	2026	2026 Park Bond
Construction Estimate Cost	\$65,000	2026	2026 Park Bond
Construction Engineering/ Misc.	\$8,000	2026	2026 Park Bond
Total	\$83,000		

Section IV- Priorities, Action Plan, Conclusion



- **Central Park Improvements-** Future projects may consist of the middle section: landscaping, tennis courts, pickle ball courts, town plaza area, small pavilions, additional parking lots, amphitheater, community center, required infrastructure, proper drainage.

Central Park- Middle	Est Cost (based on past projects)	Est Target Date	Est Funding
Improvement Design Plan/Misc.	\$75,000	2026	2025 Park Bond
Construction Estimate Cost	\$2,500,000	2027/2028	2026/27 Park Bond
Construction Engineering/ Misc.	\$40,000	2027	2026/27 Park Bond
Total	\$2,615,000		

Recreation Programs

While most of this plan has focused on park development, it is crucial for recreational programs to have park facilities to continue to be successful. The community has a residential population of 15,953 based on the July 1, 2020, United States Census estimate. That is down 2.4% from the 2010 United States Census estimate. Dyer is primarily a bedroom community providing homeowners easy access to the Chicago metropolitan area, has excellent schools and established housing in all categories for families of various income levels. Dyer is an attractive place to call home. Furthermore, the Town's investment in parks and recreation projects and recreational offerings is another asset to attract families to Dyer. However, recreation programs are limited due to the lack of indoor recreational facility space and staffing.

The Town does have some challenges that limit participation in recreational programs. The Town is physically divided by US Route 30, a five-lane highway which is the primary east/west alternative to Interstate 80/94. This division has been cited by some residents for making it more difficult to get to a site for recreational programs. A lack of indoor space for programs is limiting the department's program offerings. The Town Hall has two small activity rooms which are used for various programs. However, the size of the two rooms limits the number of participants and what type of classes that can be held.

The Plum Creek Center is used primarily for programs (for example karate, adult fitness classes) Monday - Thursday while Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays are available to the public for rentals. For a banquet hall it is relatively small. It can hold up to 100 people for events. The room has provided the department with a larger indoor space where several youth and adult fitness and general interest classes have been offered.

The department still lacks a large indoor space, specifically a gymnasium, fitness center, walking track and indoor classrooms. Indoor recreational space, under the direct control of the parks and recreation department would provide the best flexibility for the department to offer programs at times that are desired by the public. Additionally, this would give the opportunity to provide a second option of recreation activities, for example, youth athletics. Dyer normally has one local

Section IV- Priorities, Action Plan, Conclusion



sports organization for softball, soccer, and baseball for its residents. The Parks and Recreation Department would be able to provide a second opportunity for residents who are looking for multiple options. This same example also includes all types of program categories, such as, general interest and large events.

Using space at the local schools, churches or hospital is only available after their programs and activities have been satisfied which is not always the most convenient times and days. While most of this plan has focused on developing properties to meet the needs of residents, it is crucial to recreational programs to have such park facilities as well to continue to be successful.

The recreation demand is different for each neighboring town. Below is a chart representing the population and parks for neighboring towns.

Recreation Demand Analysis	Dyer	Highland	Munster	Schererville	St. John
Population	15,953	22,581	22,689	28,590	17,426
Park Acreage	189	230	345	260	120
Indoor Recreation Facilities	1	1	2	1	0
Number of Parks	21	22	25	28	28
Recreation Programming Staff	1	4	2	2	0

The data that generated the table above provides an interesting comparison to the way parks and recreation agencies operate. Each of the communities offers some level of recreational programming. The main difference being indoor recreation facilities. Dyer's facility is the Plum Creek Center which seats 100 people and the main purpose is for rentals, but that facility does not compare favorably to the ones within Munster, Schererville, and Highland. Munster's Centennial Park is similar, but the clubhouse/banquet facility is approximately four times larger. In Schererville, the Community Center includes a cardio room and a large banquet room that can be turned into multiple sizes for classes, events, or rentals. In Highland, the Lincoln Community Center includes a field house, a fitness center, multipurpose classrooms, day care rooms, administrative offices and a 300-person banquet facility, the Plum Creek Center is approximately 1/12th the size. Dyer has a place holder for an indoor facility within the current Central Park master plan. However, funding the building has not been decided yet. Consistent funding is needed to be able to run the building day to day. Expanded year-round programming and rentals are ways to bring in revenue to pay for the operations of the facility.

The desire for indoor recreation space has been noted many times over the past decade. As the Parks Department catches up on their outdoor park improvements, additional meetings on development and funding will be held to work out a serious plan on constructing a facility. A high-quality indoor facility will provide ample space for additional recreational opportunities to enrich the resident's wellbeing and serve Dyer as the identifiable landmark.

The Parks and Recreation Department continues to be committed to its tradition while enhancing our future by providing resources to revolutionize recreation. They will provide programs based

Section IV- Priorities, Action Plan, Conclusion



on facility availability, community needs, and current trends. The Parks and Recreation Department is always looking to add new programs that will enhance the community and develop long lasting memories.

Conclusion

Dyer Parks and Recreation is becoming noticed and has made a huge impact within the last five years. Many of those improvements were to begin the “catch up” process of bringing other parks up to date. While many of the park improvements have been visible, they may not have been as noticeable by our residents. The main reasoning being most of our projects were upgrading neighborhood parks. Now, residents should begin to see the overall larger park improvements projects which have been long waiting.

Moving into 2022, continued progress must be visible to the town leadership and most importantly the residents. Many projects have been completed during the last master plan, but there is still much that needs to be done in terms of continued financial support, staffing, recreational opportunities, and capital development. Like all plans, this new master plan does not provide every answer, but it does give recommendations based on the Community Needs Assessment Survey and experiences of pervious development projects. The plan must be used frequently in the next five years to make sure our mission, vision and values stay on target. We must keep the development momentum moving forward, keep our project schedule consistent and keep the Town of Dyer making significant strides. By the time 2022-2026 Master Plan ends, we should be near the end of our improvement projects list. However, to continue moving forward, the ownership of this master plan, leadership to implement the plan must continue and visible progress with a detailed plan laid out for the residents.

A few key conclusion recommendations to be noted over the next five years to continue development progress:

1. Continue to invest in the Town of Dyer Parks and Recreation capital improvement plan.
2. Be financially responsible with the current bond structure and aggressively pursue new funding opportunities.
3. Develop current recreational offerings, constantly stay on top of new trends and continue to seek additional avenues for the park activities fund.
4. Restructure the organization chart, when the opportunities arise, to add quality staff to further maximize staff skills.
5. Keep the public and town leaders informed of progress.

Section IV- Priorities, Action Plan, Conclusion



Resolution Adopting 2022-2026 Master Plan

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

RESOLUTION NO.: 2021-06

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING A COMPREHENSIVE PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN FOR THE YEARS 2022 THROUGH 2026

WHEREAS, the Dyer Parks and Recreation Board has studied the park and recreational needs of the residents of the Town of Dyer; and

WHEREAS, the Dyer Parks and Recreation Board is desirous of providing aesthetic and functional park and recreational facilities and programs to the residents of the Town of Dyer to meet their needs; and

WHEREAS, the Dyer Parks and Recreation Board realizes the importance of sound planning in order to meet the future needs of its citizens; and

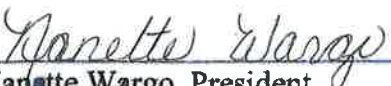
WHEREAS, the Dyer Parks and Recreation Board is aware of the value and importance of leisure opportunities and recreational programs and facilities to the future of the Dyer Parks and Recreation Department and its programs and to the residents of the Town of Dyer.

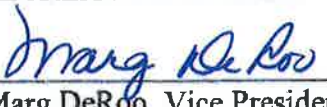
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN OF DYER PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1: That attached hereto and made a part hereof as Exhibit "A" is the Town of Dyer, Indiana, Parks and Recreation Master Plan for the years 2022 through 2026, which is hereby adopted as the official plan for the growth and development of parks and recreational opportunities within the Town of Dyer, Indiana, over the next five year period of time.

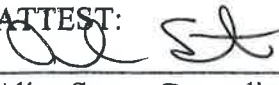
Section 2: That the town of Dyer, Indiana, Parks and Recreation Board shall conduct an annual review and provide an update of the goals and objectives of said master plan.

ALL OF WHICH IS PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 9th DAY OF November, 2021, BY
THE TOWN OF DYER, INDIANA, PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD.


Nanette Wargo, President


Marg DeRoo, Vice President


Michael Berwanger, Executive Secretary

ATTEST: 
Alice Stone, Recording Secretary

Section IV- Priorities, Action Plan, Conclusion



Assurance of Accessibility Compliance

ASSURANCE OF ACCESSIBILITY COMPLIANCE WITH: ARCHITECTURAL BARRIERS ACT of 1968 (As Amended); SECTION 504 OF THE REHABILITATION ACT OF 1973 (As Amended); AND TITLE II OF THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT OF 1990 (As Amended)

The Dyer Parks Board (Applicant) has read the guidelines for compliance with the Architectural Barriers Act of 1968 (As Amended); Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (As Amended); and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (As Amended) and will comply with the applicable requirements of these Acts.

SIGNATURE Nanette Wargo
APPLICANT PRESIDENT

Nanette Wargo
(President's printed name)

SIGNATURE Alice Stone

Alice Stone
(Secretary's printed name)

DATE 11/9/21

SECTION V

COMMUNITY NEEDS

ASSESSMENT SURVEY

COMMENTS



Town of Dyer Survey 2021

	ice cream outing	Better communication before the event- I often find out at the last minute
	More trips to Chicago events	
	Like I mentioned earlier designated bicycle lanes with bicycle racks..additional bike path to access the Penssey Greenway trails and outdoor recreational areas for winter activities.	
	Live music,	

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

Electronic Billboard in front of town hall I used to see them in the mail. I think that stopped. They should be at wait's and jewell too.	Encourage Residents to put up Christmas lights and have a competition.	Christmas light competition
	Carnival!	After clean up.
I don't have a way that I regularly get upcoming event/class info. I'd like it on an app on my phone though	More sports for the 5-8 range	More options for littles (5 and younger) or more days offered. We have loved toddler time but hard with the day offered.
Water bill	Trips for seniors	More variety for adult options

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

Mailed information	More teen programs that are not sports related	More options
It's hard to find	Bus trips, senior bingo, senior meetings.	N/A
The Leisuregram that comes with the water bill	Stop spending and be satisfied with what is currently available.	Better organizational have more information on the programs they are offering. Also stop canceling the activities
Town newsletter included with water bill	I took my girls pre covid to a couple munster programs. Tennis and then an art class. Their program was nice. We lived near west lafayette and could use there programs and went to several art classes there. They seem to have a pretty cool program. Cooking for teens maybe, maybe sewing or other arts for teens. Maybe guitar or ukelele . Possibly fitness that teens could go to with me.	N/a
Water bill striving higher issues	Bike Trails	Offering more events in the winter to get my kids active, maybe a nerf gun competition, or indoor basketball, dodgeball...

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

I liked the mailed catalog	Couples nights out like games in the park, movie date in the park for couples, competitions, scavenger hunt etc couples don't get out interacting would be nice way to meet people	Men's softball and basketball league
Dyer calendar	More movies in the park, summer activities.	Increased senior activities.
Water bill inserts	Adult Water Aerobics	Rain in your spending!!!!
Town newsletter with water bill.	I would like to see the Corn Roast return. We also need better sidewalks/walking trails (especially down 77th, Hart, and Calumet). A public pool would be nice. I know these are more infrastructure things. Programs...food fests, car shows, markets, concerts are all good family events.	Keep costs as low as possible. An enhanced summer teen program. Maybe an adult or teen ultimate frisbee or some other pick up type of sport.
Bryan Lane	In the park yoga and rock bands with younger people.	Purchase the Dyer Auto Auction land create a nice park area, add Bike trails, add some land for forest preserves

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

Hui	My son absolutely loved the improv/acting class that was offered a few summers ago. I would love to see more classes like that!	Some couples activities
Sending out texts would be nice!	Connect to bike path by paving a path on Main Street. Risk life crossing and riding along Main Street to get to path.	Holiday events
Water bill	Put in a sidewalk in at sunset park. Level the ground. Make a walk path or gardening area there.	N/A
I don't get parks notice	Nothing more.	Hard to say at this time since our family's current schedules prevent us from participating in regular programs, but special events on weekends or specific dates with enough notice work better.

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

Flyer in water bill	Sports for high school age kids. Because so many of them can't make a sports team at school. It would be great to have other options	n/a
Water bill	Card games for seniors	Please don't put the port-a-pottys in front of the lake at Summer Fest. It ruins the view of the lake. People will go to them if placed off to the side.
Wtf is a leisuurgram?	Dyer Girls Travel Softball	More educational classes or clubs, less sports for kids
The leisuuregram that comes in the mail	Bike trails... recreational facilities such as a ywca	X
Town of dyer site text too small to see	Events or programs for seniors Adult softball Teen sports camp Bike trail Sled race	More activities for early childhood/toddlers
Striving Higher		Sidewalk is needed at sunset park!

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

parks and Rec. Leisuregram mailed to my home.	Something geared for couples maybe.	More staff to help direct people at events.
Newsletter with water	More programs for kids with Special Needs.	Move the farmers market to Central Park
Facebook	Enhance dog park	Include more at special events like Fall Fest, Tree lighting.
Water bill	bags tournament. Bocce ball	While it is not even mentioned in your survey (why not?), maintenance of the Dyer dog park needs to be expanded.
Sign on Calumet	1. Pickleball courts 2. Bike paths or safe access to existing bike paths in neighboring areas.	Better care of dog park all the way around

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

Water bill accompanying news letter	More bus trips to places like Michigan Wineries or maybe Frankinmuth, Michigan.	Dog park upkeep = fencing needs to be looked at overall I counted at least 50 pieces of fencing sticking out near the posts when the dogs are running near the fence they get scrapped I know my dog has gotten gouged by his eye leaving a scar. As well as another that needed stitches. Not safe with metal pieces sticking out. I have at least 30 pictures I have taken fence just needs to be maintained.
Booklet	Perhaps a Dog Park near the skate park.	Maintain dog park and gate
Uti	More movies in the park.	an active move to get people to volunteer. Obviously thats always an issue (especially in these stupid times), but there needs to be a more active approach to getting parents involved and explaining to them what volunteering to coach, teach or help entails. People are so fricken afraid of everything nowadays that anything that could be iffy is immediately ruled out. Be thorough
Water bill	Bus trips	1. Pickleball Courts 2. Bike paths

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

TRUE	Adult softball leagues	At our Festivals it would be nice to see more local bands, there are a few I know if and they never seem to be asked to play at any of our festivals.
TRUE	More fitness classes, game days for adults, more adult classes overall	Was disappointed that the walking paths weren't plowed during the bad snow. I'm speaking particularly about the path that is near the skate park. Only a portion of the path was plowed.
	Splash pad	Change amusement vendor for summer fest.
	Community garden, cooking classes, young adult get-togethers, glow in the dark party	I would like to see the book mailed again
	I have no idea	Adult softball leagues.
	I would like to see bingo opportunities and some activities for our teenagers would be great.	more adult programs community farmers market

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

	None that I can think of at this time	Painting Art class for adults or seniors
	tween/teen events.... bowling, skate event at skate park, art in the park (chalk murals), community bonfire night, learn a tik tok dance, We need more activities for our older youth who are not drawn to athletic camps.	Doing great, keep up the good work!
	Continue with the summer concerts and free events.	I have no idea
	things for 2 year olds!!	More activities for everyone.
	More for the teenage kids	You are doing a pretty good job.

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

	Host more concerts and events in general like griffith - need more night life beside bars in other towns	See previous comment Keep up the quality of the neighborhood parks.
	Bands in pheasant hill once a week like Wicker Park does in the summer	
	Somethings for the toddler age group, under 3.	Pickle ball courts
	Free family things	Great job
	I think you have a great variety of programs and look forward to being involved more as my son gets older.	It would be nice to have a facility similar to Highland's Lincoln Center.
	Adult co Ed softball Bowling Zumba Yoga Cooking classes Baking classes Santa pictures Easter pictures 5ks	More adult & senior offerings perhaps done jointly with the town of Munster

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

	Disc golf course	More parks for kids and a community pool
	Motorcycle awareness, baseball/softball hitting & fielding clinics, football clinics, soccer clinics. Adult organized sports	Adult athletic sports.
	NWI symphony concerts. Movies in the park.	More affordable things
	I would like to see golf lessons again.	I have zero complaints
	town sports for both youth and adult. expanded exercise/yoga programs	I just don't want their to be less programs, I've been waiting for my kids to get old enough!
	Toddler classes. During day	I'd like the soccer field that was shown to me that was going to be installed in our neighborhood park installed. Main reason we bought house.

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

			More gardening events or programs. Can we have a clean up your park day? Citizens should help clean up the parks once a year.
	Market, craft shows or charity fundraisers		Nothing
	Environmental... what's in the creek/pond, what wildlife do we have, what are those birds, what trees do we see, invasive plants, etc.		Improve the push of information
	exercises for senior citizens		Farmers market on the weekends.
	Senior crafts like leather working, amateur radio etc.		

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

	D	A indoor rec center
	Safe places to walk/ride bikes. Ways to bev active on our own time.	The town needs to get the park up and running. If you could hold baseball/soccer tournaments there it will pay for itself! Kills me to drive down Calumet through Munster and see what they have when we could have that here too but seems Dyer does not put people in place that know what they are doing to get projects executed in a timely fashion!
	Couples nights.	Better/more vendors
	My four children grew up in Dyer and we utilized Dyer kickers program, they also played Dyer Little League and Dyer softball(but not run by the park dept). I'm envious of other communities parks (Munster and Crown point) are much nicer than Dyer Parks. Unfortunately, I'm sorry to say there's really nothing that draws me to our Dyer Parks.	Awareness. Opportunities for volunteers.

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

	Mother and daughter spa	Environmental programs that may inspire us to appreciate and care for our unique area.
	I would love to see toddler activities and maybe some painting activities for adults also fitness programs.	have more benches in parks
	Not knowing what you do now, I have no idea what else to suggest.	No opinion
	Perhaps organize some run/walk events, races or volksmarches. For a volksmarch, you could have bands/refreshments/rest areas in different parks. Say, for instance, start as a group at Northgate, walk to Central, then to Pheasant Hill. Since running/walking isn't the safest, in the street, it would be great if the lights at the Kahler track were lit for an hour or two after sundown.	D
	Bingo. Fish fry. Town pub crawl. Adult Scavenger hunt. 21 & over themed parties. Co Ed softball and other coed teams, keep the summer markets, maybe a weekly farmers market, offer bike gatherings and map of trails gatherings with discounts at local restaurants and bars	Safety and masking enforced when needed during the pandemic
		An indoor facility would be nice.

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

	Events to once again be held at Northgate park and not just Pheasant Hills	Unsure
	More senior programs Youth/teen baseball "Survival camp" for middle/high school Advanced art classes for middle/high school A weekend fourth of July event with vendor booths and food.	Gauge towards mid age. Not only old and young.
		Not sure.
		More adult programs.
	More senior programs or trips	Some more modern thinking/planning. Concerts in the park that are t classical music...
	Don't know	I think communication is poor. You need to advertise more and get the word out
	Can't think of anything	More events be held again at Northgate Park
	Contact to the Dyer/Schererville bike path.	Splash pad

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

	Splash pad Bingo Fish fry during lent Community planting flowers (town beautification)	More senior programs
	Town recreation center!	More programs for the preschool age group
	Young Professionals Networking opportunities (20s-40s) Volunteer events/Give Back days Surplus Food Donation programs that take left over food to donate to nonprofits like this program https://www.gobeyondhunger.org/programs/surplus-project	Already answered
	Varied adult and senior activities	More senior events

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

	more activities for children under 3yrs old. excursions for all ages, not just seniors adult focused activities. ex: muster offers the adult easter egg hunt. doesn't have to be seasonal but more opportunities for adults 25 - 50 to get together Could you incorporate the dog park into some of your activities? many residents have dogs and may be willing to do meet up with their dogs	No idea
	A community pool like Munster's.	Can't think of anything
	More music programs	More green space for walking. Dyer had a great opportunity to make the Centennial Park a very nice walking path but instead build a field and another nursery home there.
	The PARKS are what need massive improvements	Just wider variety of events

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

	Na	Recreation center, continued farmers markets
	More events for families with 3-5 yr. old. More offerings at different times	Events and opportunities for young adults.
	N/a	More variety
	I previously answered this question (no "Back" key provided in this survey). Would like to see live music in the park, as our neighboring Towns provide for their residents	Adult programs timed for people who work.
	Family events	Not sure since there hasn't been any I've attended

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

		Events for teenagers. They feel there is nothing to do in the area except for Dyer summerfest. 1. Music events, maybe DJ with video screen, pizza and popcorn. 2. Paint ball event or laser with different sessions. 3. Scary movies in parks for 13 and up with concession.
More programs geared toward seniors: bike path, painting lessons, book clubs, etc		More adult programming meant for those without kids and not yet seniors.
	Corn Roast, Octoberfest, a better summer fest	Nothing comes to mind.
	I don't know. I think you do a good job already 🍷	
	Not sure but would like to see bike paths or lanes that tie into other paths	Special need playgrounds, the current parks having more accessible equipment.
	Animated movies for young children need to start earlier please. Many are in bed when you typically start them.	Better safety for pedestrians crossing to go to the parks

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

	Splash pad	if possibly expand the selection of course offerings.
	Need more tennis courts. There s lots of room for that at Central Park. Would be great if they put two or more there.	Not sure
	A	I miss the carnival in different parks
		More programs for our youngest residents. Training for staff regarding how to work and be more inclusive to all families and their children.
	Craft shows, farmers markets, community events	Sinks with soap
	Concerts in the park	
	Youth tennis lessons would be great!! And I know there was an adult softball that just started, but that would be fun, too! Maybe a fall league (I forget when it actually was). Pickleball or Badminton as well!	Absolutely, who wouldn't!
	We are satisfied. Keep up the good work.	Staff attitude needs improvement. Act annoyed whenever I interact with them. Please hire someone with better customer service and is courteous and respectful toward customer.

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

	Maybe a number of children discount. Or, a capped price for families with more than x# of kids. Or sign up for three activities and get % discount. \$25/30 for an adult fitness sound good but when it comes to prying yourself out of the house each week for only four classes, it sometimes doesn't seem worth the huge amount of effort.	Better communication. summer festivals that include music and vendors. Seasonal market in late summer. The July 4 festival is hard to get to and limited parking. As a senior in Dyer, I am disappointed in Dyer's lack of concern for the health and well being of their residents. They had the opportunity to develop a great outdoor space but they sold to a nursing home.
	Plant trees for shade near the neighborhood parks. 35 year old Autumn. Chase park should have had some awesome shade by now, but you neglected to plant them when park was built.	Bike lanes or paths that tie in the town to other paths
	sign language course , horse shoe club back again	Lower fees on exercise classes a pool would be nice for Dyer but then again fees would be out of sight lower or get rid of fees for dog park (already paid taxes for it but can't use it with out fees) I understand you have to have all shots for the animal - we do!
	Self defense classes for moms and daughters Zumba classes should not be held on carpet because of the increased chance of knee injury during twisting motions.	More tennis courts, please.
		A

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

	Just more weekday	More opportunities	
	Adult Coed Softball and Adult mens and women's basketball.	The instructor is have been kind. I wouldn't mind if they were a little more firm with our kids.	
	Fall corn roasts, winter ice sculpting, summer ice cream truck festivals, etc	Family costs. The cooking program seems cool, but again, paying for multiple kids at a time just shoots the cost up too high.	
	I own the local dog grooming salon in Dyer. Love My Pet. I have had alot of people tell me they wish they had a class to show them how to clean their dogs ears. How to brush their dog correctly. How to trim the nails . What shampoos to use at home. What to do if your dog has allergies. What does an ear infection look like ect.	They're good	
	walking/biking paths that connect to other town trails	More adult fitness programs during the day.	

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

	Move the skate park to Northgate	Easier wheelchair grounds to move immobile residents
	pickleball lessons, open play and leagues	N/A
	Adult tennis, running, barre, cake decorating classes, acrylic and watercolor painting, and gardening.	We haven't gone to the little kids egg hunt since the first year trying it after we moved to the area. It might have changed since but our little one was 2 ish and it seemed chaotic and like a race and parents were competitive and it was no longer fun or cute.
	More outdoor sports options for ages 7-13. Excited for tennis this summer!	More mother and son activities and more father daughter things to do. Even if they are just going to a local Dyer restaurant and getting a burger and fries. It help support local. One example might be White Rhino. They have an entire room upstairs that can be used for maybe a special mom son dinner. Or dad daughter dinner. Just to spend time focusing on your child away from work and home.
	All	senior programs/special events
	Splash pad or public pool	Times where adults can still work and take classes

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

	I once went to an outdoor concert at The Sherwood Club, more events like that would be great.	We enjoy every event that we attend!
	Support the programs that could use your help, Dyer Little League and Dyer Babe Ruth.	More programs for senior citizens
	See my comments prior to this space	Everything

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

	Pickle Ball court	More outdoor concerts
	Would love to see a swimming pool put in. I know munster has one but one in our town would be great. It might be far stretched but it would provide jobs for high school kids and other oportunities for seniors, special needs people and maybe outdoor swim meet?	Better use of the various parks in town. Draw attention to them, and bring them closer to neighborhoods. These are your parks after all!
	Something for seniors	More all around fun and learning for adults
	More short term childrens programs--we loved the 4-5 yr old soccer peogram that was only Monday nights for 4 weeks. Perfect for families who cant commit to a multi-night per week program.	Pickle ball court
	Volleyball, tennis for adults	Mike O'Shea is a hell of a guy. Standup man and great person. Glad he is with our community.

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

	Better roads so you can get to the events safely	Both	I feel that Dyer has spent more than enough on parks.
	More outdoor ice skating		
	They are all good		They are all good
	I have two grand children with special needs they need to do more equipment for kids with special needs in their parks they should have a few programs for kids with autism		More activities for kids with autism....making the parks have more for kids with special needs...
	Teaching classes regarding: cooking, exercise, healthy eating, and how to classes (DIY).		Making Fall Festival a little bigger and a little more different than the Market nights.
	A community pool would be nice! More outdoor fests!		More walking paths or bicycle friendly routes.

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

	Town wide race or run Car cruise night	More tractors and Freedom Fests
	Self defense courses.	Lees creepy family events
	More Freedom Fest's.	more events, better communication to show it's happening
	More trees, sustainable transport and workout areas.	n/a
	Father son outings, Nature camps, early childhood camps/activities, outdoor youth camps, Winter workshops/programs, biking/scooter/walking clubs or events at some of the trails, fishing club/event at some of the ponds, family outings, community vegetable gardens	Fees for programs under age 3/babies are steep
	More adult fitness	Communication
	More youth sports, more adult fitness, more programs for stay at home parents with little children	I would like to see the addition of pickleball courts.
	Mentioned before having more inclusive programs for special needs community and it being advertised that they are available. There is definitely a need .	Keep the parks cleaner and free from litter, keep the parks quiet after dark.

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

	N/A	Communication of events and offering more programs from younger kids
	More youth sports options to give kids exposure and just have fun. Dyer Little League is very expensive and too competitive. My son just wants to play for fun. Also, more sports offerings for SUMMER months when Little League and Dyer Kickers are in off-seasons.	
	Better walking & bicycle paths	Senior activities. Where are they?
	Early childhood programs (for small children younger than 3)	Do not know yet
	Music, crafts, gymnastics, athletics	More scheduling options for Seniors in the theatrical arts.
	Seniors events, programs, crafts. See my text earlier in this poll	Nothing
	Do not know yet	more outside music concerts with Latin music not just rock
		less focus on kids' sports--there are organizations for that
	Theatrical events offered by community theatre groups, college/university theatre groups, and other groups that put on theatrical productions in and around our general vicinity. I would be interested in such day or evening trips.	Traffic control, pick up litter from events not just in park but in people's yard tht people throw in our yards and supply cones or barricades for our driveways , and cut festivities at a decent hour not 11pm like 930-10pm
	None. Should leave things how they are.	I have found that the crafts, goodie bags, or other gifts that come with many of the events are very cheaply put together. Also, the dances/balls come with dinner in nearby neighborhoods for very similar costs of admission. Dyer is highly priced for what you get.
	Public pool	Splash pad

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

	already mentioned in a earlier question more adult parks -- fewer ballparks--meet needs of all citizens	Central Park needs to be made as originally planned.
	and homeowners/ residents tht surround the park Senior program	More of them Cost of events lowered Food vendors
		Dog park with pool/bathing units or splash pad. Splash pad or pool for people. Use a better park for festivals then the one always used. Get some shade and a playground at central park. Tired of going to crown point and valpo to fulfill these lacking areas of Dyer. ,eep up with the dog park waste boxes& bags.
	Bike events Tennis club Duck races Offer Saturday and Sunday options. Get us a pool or our own YMCA please.	More programming for teens and adults.
	Dyer should strive to better maintain some of their existing programs, such as the Dyer Dog Park. Many times the "poop boxes" are overfilled, with the only option to either leave the poop bags on the ground or throw the bags in the waste cans provided by the park. Also, many times we run out of the poop bags, which means if the dog owner didn't bring their own bags, the waste is left on the ground	Senior events

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

	Adult walking club Papercrafting/Cardmaking/Scrapbooking Adult coloring club Adult/teen canvas painting Teen arts/crafts Book clubs for teens/adults Bus trips to Chicago sporting events Museum bus trips Teen cooking classes Adult meal prep classes Monthly bunco game Low impact aerobics Monthly park meet-ups	Updated buildings
	More programs for children younger than three. Please also stop mask wearing for young children as it is bad for their development and health.	Senior citizens programs
	Senior/Adult social events	See prior responses
	N/A	Everything you already have set up is great. I just wish Dyer had there own town community building. I believe it would allow
	Senior volleyball, boccey ball, car show, pickle ball,	It would be great to have a rec center with pool and work out facilities
	Splash pads, add local park on city property on	
	I wish we had a community center with a walking trail and gym for kids to do gymnastics.	More available info
	Love to see some bike trails	Some special events happen in Northgate Park instead of Pheasant Hills Park all the time. In past I believe it was shared between the 2 parks

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

		I would like to see Central park improved. I'm sure it's on the list but I have gone walking there several times and just feel it needs a little attention (grass mowing, weed maintenance, etc.).
	I would like to see the building of pickleball courts. Board or table games	
	Knitting or crocheting Bat gammon or checkers or chess	Great!
	Getting better with the addition of The Market. Events for 40-50 up and older teenagers	I think you do a very nice job with your events. I think a bike path connecting Munster and St. John would be wonderful for the town. So many people like to bike, but it's difficult to find a place in Dyer. Wish that Dyer would have more bike paths, especially those that connect with other, long trails.
	I would love for there to be a farmer's market with fresh produce. I haven't been able to attend the community market due to the time it is scheduled.	Also wish that Dyer would build a community swimming pool. Not a program, but, Central Park is a joke. There's plenty of room for a community pool. A waste of space.
	Volleyball, sleepover camp, I really think Dyer needs a community center similar to Highland. That has been such an asset to Highland. Central park would be a great location. It can start out small and build upon it. A place to workout, walk, play pickle ball or tennis, swim, have community events, basketball for teens, give the teens of Dyer something to do in winter months, stay active and healthy. A bike path also	More programs for seniors. Build a rec center such as the Lincoln Center.
	Pickle ball for seniors	No comment at this time.

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

	Clean up the pond at Pheasant Hill Park for fishing and other activities. Turn a liability into an asset. More events in the evening.	Variety of offerings pie eating contest
	More events for kids under 5 More activities for adults Themed events to bring community together on smaller scale Events to unite seniors and kids Pet themed events - promote local adoption and promote the dog park	To improve outdoor recreational activities all seasons and things to make Dyer a greener and healthier community.
	Nothing to add	Cheaper summer kids programs

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

Q5 - If you didn't register for a Dyer Parks and Recreation program or special event, please list why you didn't participate? Please check all that apply. (Other (please specify))	Q14 - The next set of questions is a list of specific programs or special events. If you attended, please rate your experience. If you didn't attend, then please click the "Didn't Participate" button on the question. Please rate for each program or special event listed. Comment below to provide further feedback if desired.	Q30 - The next set of questions is a list of specific program categories. Does the Dyer Parks and Recreation Department offer a wide enough variety of recreation programs in the following categories? Please rate for each category. Comment below to provide further feedback if desired.
TRUE	Some events were too expensive for young children. When you have a few kids it makes it unaffordable. Free events are great but they really need more awards for the Halloween event as it has become very crowded and everyone goes through a lot of effort.	Yes
Too busy but will likely as our daughter gets older. She's only 4 months at the moment.	Would prefer if the Halloween parade was a little later in day.	Yes
Teens and adults in my household and little offered	We live all the events. We do wish, however they would spend a little time cleaning up garbage left after the events. Easter egg hunt Children bowling ok Lego bricks program Signed up for class at midwest	Would you to see more movies in the park
COVID-19 and government orders to huddle in my basement		None

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

Have not seen anything for seniors	Love the grab and go crafts for my grandchildren. The Farmers Market A+++++ Fall Festival and Halloween Parade Fun Times!!! Love the family time in a hometown setting	The only think I don't like about the easter egg hunt is all the parents who run onto the area with the kids and start picking up candy. I think having it in the enclosed softball area is a wonderful idea so the kids can't wander off. I think the parents should remain along the fence line and let the kids go at it. When my son was 4 , he was trampled by parents running out with their kids.
TRUE	No feedback	Y
Didn't know what programs were available.	Flashlight trick or treat	Not enough events or activities for seniors.
TRUE	Dyer Girls Softball, Soccer, both programs were good.	Yes till they cancel the class which happens all the time

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

Didn't pay attention child is under 2 and covid has put a damper on most things this past year	Would like to see some evening kids classes as my husband and I both work all day and can't make a lot of the day programs with our 4 yo family is the dog park which we go to nearly every day, excluding rainy or frigid weather days. We	I think Dyer Parks and Rec does a decent job with what they offer. We're not a big town. I've lived here 20 years and it's gotten better from when we first moved in. Dyer much more then I do instead of going to Schererville, Munster or Crown Point. It would
Work schedules	Need to have better care of fence and gate to get in to park first priority. Second the cost of joining the dog park for non resident is way to high . Maybe a few more shelters or at least one added to the big side for th park . Also the upkeep of park for people who do not pick up after their dog is essential. Some do not care . I've seen many a resident walk and pick up old Pooh yes old Pooh	More senior programs needed. Bingo?
Just moved to dyer in 2019. Then the pandemic hit.	ok	I see no categories

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

No programs appealing, child too young New to town. Haven't taken advantage of the programs yet.	Great experience overall	Ok	
I've been too busy	All the events and programs awesome!! Every event we have attended has been well ran and enjoyed.	Need programs for adults in the evening In the park yoga would be a great option. Having younger bands at Summer Fest and the Tuesday night offerings would be an improvement.	
Just moved to town and spent time working on the house, no time. The house is done, so we may have more time now.	Dyer parks is embarrassing	I would really love to see more geared towards 10-12 age group for boys	
TRUE	D	X	

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

Full time employment left little time, but recently we retired and are looking forward to using activ	Daddy daughter dance, great experience. Would gladly psy extra for real dinner. Summer camp and loved it. Two girls have participated in these programs. We participated in all free events and attended festivals or fireworks	Yes	Bridge or some other card games for senior
Not around in the summer			
TRUE	Everything has been really good for us.	Good	
Recently moved to Dyer	Always had great experiences. My kids loved all the programs they attend.	When my children were younger I signed them up for several camps and programs. They just have outgrown the programs.	
No events I am interested in.	Loved the mother/son dance and the bonding it gave me with my son. Always enjoy the egg hunts and any summer programs. We are all about getting the kids outside and the bike parade normally for 4th of July is one of our favorites.	More/better Biking trails, recreational facility...similar to a ywca	

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

Don't know what's coming up. Need a dyer news letter.	I have registered my grandson for many of your programs and have enjoyed all of the,	I don't think they offer enough variety for people over 50.
COVID hit	NA	Dog park, while very much needed, needs to be better maintained. The "Pooh boxes" are frequently full/overloaded, the fencing almost always has the steel fencing broken & sticking out at the bottoms, resulting in frequent injuries to the dogs who run along the fences. I know of two dogs who had to stitches because of fencing that was sticking out & resulted in deep lacerations to their legs.
No activities interested anyone in my family.	Dog park	Not a resident
No time currently	Ok	Yes

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

Forgot	Instructors need better training to work with all children and families.	I wish there was a better musical option for toddlers and pre-school kids
Nothing for teenagers. Everything is for little kids or seniors.	Park and Rec. programs should be inclusive unless stated for specific safety reasons.	I'm not especially interested in the programs being offered. I'm interested in the facilities being offered. I don't know if I can comment on this later in the survey or not. My #1 interest is pickleball. Currently we have to go to Munster or Griffith to play. This is a growing sport and Dyer needs pickleball courts. My #2 interest is bike paths. Dyer has none and has no safe access to any.
Haven't found any of interest.	Egg hunts, and cooking class for kids	Programs offered are of no interest to me
Covid	So good	
	We did not participate in any fee based programs	Need more adult programs
Our son is still young, but we are interested when he's age approp	Father daughter dance and mom and son dance	ok
We have attended events that did not require registration	A	No there is not a lot offered. I have nieces that are teenagers in Dyer also and I don't ever seen anything for our teenagers in our community.

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

Not interested in what was offered	bring back the horse shoe club and pits in elmer miller park.	I believe they do offer enough variety.
Nothing has caught my eye, but haven't really found one that I'd really wants to take. Nothing against Dyer.	N/A	We use the parks in Munster, and Griffith since we haven't found any courts in Dyer to play pickle ball and are really hoping that the new park has pickle ball courts added
Nothing of interest. I attended the Summer fest/farmers market events. Food choices were limited. it was not a farmers market with one vendor selling produce. Bands were TERRIBLE! Weird to have a chiropractor there trying to get business.	The events I've been to have been good.	I would like to see things for kids young as 2 years old! Most stuff is 3 and up and my 2 year old has so much energy!
Sometimes it's very hard to find stuff or sports that are happening.	Besides the excellent instructors I don't think the younger members of the council know how to do anything.	Absolutely not, refer to what Munster offers.
I've been signing up thru Schererville Park dist because of Josh	All three of my kids have attended the programs through Dyer Parks and Rec through the years .All have been wonderful . My youngest is currently registered for the Adventure Camp . He has special needs that need to be accommodated .the Dyer Parks have been wonderful in letting him have his therapist come with him to help	Yes

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

The covid pandemic	My kids were absolutely blown away with the Easter bunny showing up at our home! I attended the Lunch and the "Young Elvis" entertainment following lunch at the White Fence Farm Restaurant. The event was very enjoyable and would like to see more of this type of entertainment scheduled by the parks Dept. going forward. I would also like to see our Parks Dept. search out and plan for other events in the theatrical and musical genre with or without lunch or dinner included.	Things for kids with special needs.
More interested in Dyer addressing hiking/biking trails; getting around the Town more accessible on foot or by bike		My children have been to young to participate yet.
Did not know about them	None at this time.	There needs to be more evets/recreation programs for older people. Not everyone has children.
Work conflict	Chicago Christmas tour program interesting and convenient. Christmas program to see Santa was a big surprise. Much more than I expected and very well run.	I don't believe they do

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

Son is not old The fee is fine if you only have one child, but multiply that fee by multiple children and the cost is way too much to do a single program much less a few. Think of the holiday events. \$10-15 for an event is fine but spending \$30+ for a craft or hot chocolate event is too much. I get there a overheard costs and people to pay to do the event, but it's just too much for multiple kids in one family.	I like the Dyer free parks nighta	Yes
		No. Would be great if there were more offerings for 40-50 age group.
Locale of event		I have not really paid attention to the offerings.
Nothing of interest to me.		I'm honestly not too sure what is offered
Unaware		I need more information on the programs. I live in unincorporated Dyer.
Too busy		I don't feel they hit the middle age people very well.

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

Did not see a program that fit my children		Not much for teens to do.
Busy with other things		Need more programs for seniors
kids of older age		The coronavirus has been the main deterrent to participating in programs the past year. My daughter will be four this summer; so most of the programs we would participate in were not open to her until age three mid-coronavirus.
COVID. times did not work with my schedule		Yes
Our son has been too young up until this point/also was in therapy for a sensory disorder and youngest programs would not have been beneficial		Would love to see additional walking, biking trails. Connecting them to neighboring towns paths would be wonderful. Also additional parks with basketball hoops would be nice for my grandchildren when they visit. Valparaiso has a beautiful park that was built by volunteers. I believe it is called Valiplayso.

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

I work, so I choose not to commit to programs at this time.	Yes	
Unaware	What I see yes	
I only keep an eye on things that my grandson may find fun. As I get older, this is likely to change as I expect to begin looking for social outlets.	No, the town needs to connect to the Munster/Schererville bike path. STOP with the baseball and softball fields. We have enough of those. Give the empty nesters something to do! I attended the Summer fest/farmers market. Not much of a farmers market with one vendor selling produce. Why is there a chiropractor drumming up business at a farmers market? Bands were terrible.	
Recently moved, still scoping things out	Need splash pad and to consider redoing parks with no woodchips and more stable equipment.	
My son has outgrown programs	I'm sure they do, but I have a hard time finding what's going on.	
Amount of options for under 3 years old	Sometimes	

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

We moved here a year ago and are just settling in and exploring Dyer's offerings.		Please offer more adult programming for those who don't have kids and aren't yet seniors.
Dates and times are usually impossible unless you are a stay at home mom.	Unk	
Daughter too young	Na	
Recently moved here	No	
Need more adult events	No.	
Need senior art programs	Yes	

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

Never really researched any specific item.			Would like to see "live" music in the park, as our other neighboring Towns provide for their residents.
too busy			It is hard to judge this year when we did not participate in any group activities due to COVID.
I have teenagers			I did register for events but they were canceled due to small number of participants and instructor became ill.
Working			From what I've seen in town news letter, Yes

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

No time		Not sure, need to read the newsletter. Install a splash pad for Dyer residents!
		I enjoy playing tennis with other Dyer residents. Unfortunately, the only Dyer tennis courts we know of are in North Park, and that is two. If busy when we get together, we've even had to go to Munster to find a tennis court.
		A
		Yes

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

		Yes, lots of programs sound interesting and fun to do! But with a tight budget, paying for three kids to do events is too much. I can't agree to pay \$100 for a day for my kids to play legos or create an art project. And if I do, they can't do a second event because it would also cost another \$100.
		need a sign language class
		Kinda just wish as a single parent they had 2 different times for kids one on weekdays instead of weekends
		N/A
		We need walking paths
		I think some new fresh ideas would be nice. The mother and son night might be nice to open up for TEENAGER at AMC with mom! A pg-13 movie

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

		Not enough adult and teen programs
		Yes
		Need more programs for Senior Citizens
		Yes, but more often would be nice It seems like you offer plenty; we just haven't found ones to take part in. Wish Dyer would help support Dyer Little League and Babe Ruth like it does girl's softball.
		I would participate however opportunities for subject matter of fun/interest lacks for adults. I would love to attend many of the younger programs and their subject matter. How can we create more for adults..horses. music, golf, get to know your neighborhood, welcome wagon, tennis, simple fun local stuff, try local eateries .. breakfast club, chit chat Java, lovin lunch, din din destinations...
		Need pickle court. Tennis courts, playground equipment
		Looking for volleyball

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

			We do attend sporting events for children
			Yes the events are good
			Yes
			Would love to see more things for older people to do such as: more painting classes, yoga, field trips, and teaching (DIY) around the house projects.

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

		What are the questions first? Most of these events were very creepy. Maybe calm the parent child weirdness.	
		Had a suggestion, though Dyer has teamed up with CSRI to offer special needs community events , I feel that it can be expanded more . It would be great if child/adults with special needs could be provided with accommodations to participate in the programs offered (such as recreational aide / para, or as my son have this therapist attend) basically have more inclusive programs.	
		From what I can tell, the scope of the programs seems to be good.	

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

			Yes
			Need more programs for under 3
			Dyer doesn't seem to have any type of programs for seniors. Fun Painting class, crafts, yoga.... Anything for seniors. And why no senior center? Seems like a heavy senior population
			I am a senior and love the theatrical arts most particularly plays, musicals. I have relatives living in the North suburbs of Chicago and know that their parks and recreation depts. offer a full range of theatrical events four and five times each year. Some include lunch or dinner. These types of events are more likely to interest senior citizens who don't feel comfortable attending by themselves.
			would like outside yoga during the summer months. Would like to see more outside music concerts would like to see a farmers market would like to see more flowers in Central Park. would like to see all business have outside flowers/bushes or flower containers to beautify the area, esp on route 30 in Dyer

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

		The music at the Baseball games is HORRIBLE! How disgusting that some of those songs are played for small children to hear. We opted out of Baseball for our son because we choose to protect him from your influence. Obviously, no one listened to those songs before playing them, or you are trying to groom small boys for some nefarious purpose. Shame on you!
		Yes
		G
		Where is the splash pad?
		How can I provide feedback for this next part of the survey BEFORE reviewing this next part of the survey? My suggestion is that you, or the final approval of this survey, take a serious review of the structure of your survey(s).

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

		I would have liked to see more programs geared towards children younger than 3
		Yes. But don't rent out the park to nonresident. It only brings in trash because they leave and don't care.
		Senior citizens programs
		Not enough for active seniors
		0
		Interested in senior art and exercise or yoga classes
		What category? Need knitting and or crocheting
		Bad gammon - chess - checkers - other board or table games

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

			I think you do a good job of offering programs for all ages. I would watch demographics of town to help decide this. As the town ages, offer a few more things for older adults. Maybe a gardening class, pickle ball courts, bike path
			Pickle ball courts and tennis courts would be nice
			None.
			Nothing to add. Still working so maybe when not more participation.
			I live at Cedarhurst of Dyer Senior living, please keep us in mind. thank you.

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

			Dyer needs designated bike lanes around and spot to park bicycles for a greener and healthier community. Add bike path from townhall to access the Pennsey Greenway trail would be great!! Also a good idea to have outdoor recreational area even in the winter time...such as a lighted cross country ski trail in one of the parks (lighted coz it gets dark earlier in the winter) a sledding area etc.....
			No

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

Would love to see an update at autumn chase park	Adding zip lines and more swings or different type of climbing structures for older children, pre-teens. The park in The Meadows subdivision is nice but very small. Would be nice to add more since there is so much space there.
ok	Would love less goose poop on the Pheasant Hills walking path!
More connected walking trails	I would love a bike path connecting the neighborhoods!
Ok	Must concentrate on Central Park and Northgate. Mortgage gets a lot of use and needs updating again. It's getting run down.
Love our parks and want to see them get better.	Pheasant Hills. Put airrators in each end and open it up for fishing.

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

Would love a tennis court at pheasant hills	We live on church street in dyer and we have a small community playground. It is creepy. If my kids were of the age to want to go there on their own it would be a hard no. We most commonly use pheasant hills. Anything to get rid of the goose poop would be great. I know you have tried. We would love other walking paths/ biking paths. Behind the hospital would be a
I didn't even know 1/2 of the previously listed parks existed! Where are they all located? I didn't know about the amenities either!	SandyRidge Park does not really look like a park, needs some nice amenities added, not just cheap playground equipment
Please put a playground at central park	All is great
Special needs park and equipment	Na

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

Cherry Hill Park needs desperate help, I understand that it is supposed to be redone this year	Pool
Sandy Ridge Park is extremely outdated.	I think at the bigger parks like Northgate and Pheasant Hills it would be nice to have a concession stand with refreshments for sale. In other communities, in summer, the parks with heavier traffic had teenagers employed as "parkies" and they had various crafts and activities set up throughout the week on a drop-in basis. Some were free, some cost very little. But that would be nice to see.
Ok	Splash pad in either Northgate park or Central park.
I live in Sandy Ridge. Compared to the other parks, this one is the worst.	Connecting bike/walking paths
Lighting on walk path of pheasant hills	An updated park is needed in Sandy Ridge Park. I've taken my grandkids there & it's the same as when my kids were small. The park could use some new modern equipment. I see other parks getting updates when is it time for Sandy Ridge?
Please do something with Central Park besides sports fields. It is embarrassing	SUNSET PARK NEEDS A SIDEWALK, GROUND LEVELED. PUT IN A WALK PATH, FLOWER/VEGIE GARDEN BY THE WOMANS CLUB

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

Need equipment upgrade in various parks, especially Pheasant Hills	Mountain biking course
Need more tennis courts	Central Park — Fido stations along by the walking/running path so dog owners pick up their dog's crap!
Unsure	Heartstone Park could use a picnic shelter.
Please put a sign that dogs must be leashes by the Ralph Bennett pavilion. I walk my dog there and many Park and let their dogs run out without being leashed. There needs to be more awareness brought to this being required.	Love the new equipment brought into the parks in the last couple of years. Just keep up the good work of keeping them clean and safe
Would be nice to have a splash pad available	Better softball fields, bike trails

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

Already answered	Connecting bike trails
K	Central Park water attraction North gate park basketball
I would love safe connected walking/biking paths throughout the town.	I would like to see some exercise swings for those of us that are a bit older!
We have attended the fest in Pheasant park. Enjoyed the bands	I would like to see playground equipment for elementary age students added to Cottonwood Park. Right now it is great for younger children.

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

Dyer's Doggie Park is the best in the area. People from surrounding communities come to Dyer's Dog Park	Autumn chase needs a much bigger park, a different ground bc the mulch is awful. Also a walking path around the park would be great! My kids would love spinners and/or a merry go round.
The tiny tot park off of sycamore Dr is in DIRE need of updating. It is broken, rusted, and dirty.	Hearthstone Park needs a baseball field, football/soccer field.
Terrible parking lots No bathrooms or water fountains Full of trash Dyer Parks are horrible	More parks that are accessible for kids with special needs.
Na	A community garden and composting center at Eberly or Central.
D	Eberly park - shelter
Ok	Improving existing dog park, specifically turning water on a little earlier.

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

Sandy ridge can use some updating. Surround is falling apart. Would be nice to get a small shelter area or some trees. The soft foam ground makes it much nicer	Central Park dog park more development
Dyer needs a place for residents, young and old, can walk and exercise. Not every resident has a skate boarder or baseball player.	The dog park needs better maintenance
A	I feel like all the new parks are the same or similar. Please pick a different company.
The access to Eberly Park is terrible. You have to walk thru an empty lot which might be built on someday, or walk along Hart Street with cars speeding by. Would not allow my grandchildren to go that way. Why can't there be a few parking spots along Hart Street, there is plenty of room	Hearthstone Park is our most visited. It needs a shelter from the sun. The trees wont be big enough to help with that for at least a decade. And if there was a bathroom, that would be above all expectations. But somewhere to get out of the elements for a bit would go a long way. And I hope there is a plan for that open field. A baseball field would be great.
N/A	Northgate Park- splash pad, playground equipment age appropriate for under 5 years, more landscaped beautification of trees, lake, flowers, garden

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

Wish Mallard cove had playground. Also wish sidewalk connected through on Hart from 77th to pheasant hills too on east side of street. Safer walking and biking access for neighbors on east side of Hart St.	Central Park - Pickleball courts
I don't understand what goes here	Pheasant Hills, better walking trail
Sandy ridge needs some help	Bike paths between parks and connecting to existing bike paths in the region
All good I use Green Meadows Park almost every day I wish there was more for kids with special needs in the park because it's not used very much by kids in general....there is no where close to park ur car there if you are handicapped as I am....	Dog Park at Pheasant Hills Park. Cherry Hill Park is in need of some playground repairs. It is missing a few pieces, including a clear plastic dome which could potentially be a safety issue.
How do I predict the future?	Northgate playground equipment

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

Less concrete bags would be preferable	bicycle paths that connect to Pennsey Greenway
Playground equipment needs to be more well rounded in ages it serves. My family has started going to the St. John park on 77th near 41 due to it serving our younger kids needs better. The Autumn Chase park is very close to our house, but with the equipment that is there our kids are unable to use most of it without us participating all of the time due to their age and the type of equipment.	Autumn chase playground update, walking path around it like eberly
I wish all of the walking paths had quarter mile markings	Autumn chase park-picnic shelter, walking trail loop
More tree's/landscaping would improve hearthstone. We love going there but it very minimal. Lots of dog poop gets left unpicked up by owners. I've actually witnessed people let their dogs poop and not pick it up. My dog has rolled around on dog poop the wasn't picked up, let me tell you not fun.	Veterans Park is a little scarce on landscaping, it seems to get missed on the equipment cleaning
We go to Munster Parks because Dyer parks Are HORRIBLE. THEY STINK	Rope climbing apparatus at heritage estates Park Northgate park, to me Northgate is just a park. Nothing special about it. In the summer moths a splash pad would be a nice idea. Northgate park is a great park but definitely is lacking the wow factor.

want more benches, blooming flowers, music, walking paths	
Get some shade! Get us a park like Griffith on broad st. Now THAT'S a park! Shaded cool area great to walk and FANTASTIC playground. Valplayso is also better then all of these lame playgrounds.	More walking paths. Super happy that the path at Central Park was extended. Let's do more to get people outside and moving.
	Swimming pool at Central Park. Connection to local biking trails. Safe way to walk or bike across Rt. 30
Don't rent out to nonresident. Brings in trash Splash pads Add local park on James North of Roy on town owned property. Most parks are in towns name anyway. Lack of sidewalks along 77th limits walkto park facilities in area just north of 77th.	Special needs equipment and splash pads Please add pickle ball courts. They must face north,south due to sun rise or sun set

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

Northgate park ball fields #1 Northgate pavilion #2 Northgate playground #3 Northgate sled hill #4 Northgate volley ball sand #5 Central Park ball parks not conveniently located #6	For all ages
None	More sand volleyball courts
Shaded shelter and picnic tables at Veteran's Park. Flag pole would be appropriate. The park is kept up well.	Public washrooms, benches, bike repair station, solar powered usb charging station like Crown Point offers.
This is the first time I've heard of some of these parks. An easily accessible map of where they are would likely make them get more use.	Northgate Park: improve pavilion area; if ball fields are leaving then expand playground area.

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

	Central park needs play ground equipment
	Pheasant Hills Park-I would love to see special needs playground equipment so a child can access the equipment like the park in Valparaiso. I would love to see it be an all inclusive park. Also to add a bathroom for here.
	We love the Elmer Miller Park! We also live by Pheasant Hills and love that one too! I don't have any complaints for the parks department! I think they do a great job!
	More soccer fields and softball fields
	Walking areas
	Sandy Ridge Park- update the equipment and provide a solid safety surface.

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

	Northgate or any of the parks Disc golf baskets
	Improving the ball fields and maybe adding in some water park/splash pad. Especially near Northgate.
	Anything, Central Park is an embarrassment Clean and sanitize park equipment weekly... hotsy them off
	Fitness equipment on walking path.
	Better equipment, more up to date facility. More amenities, picnic benches or a shelter.
	More lighting
	Maintain existing. No need for more parks.

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

	Connect ming bike paths
	I would like benches where available -= walking area
	Lights along the walking paths at Central Park. Some art, gardens, and benches as well. Places to meet up. Centennial in Munster is an excellent example to look to. It's pretty useless for average residents, just geared to sports teams.
	Better seating at events attended by adults to watch relatives children participate.

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

	Pheasant Hills - all new equipment
	More tennis courts, especially south of 30.
	Rest room facility at Castlewood park
	Cottonwood tot lot main playground equipment feels unsafe for little toddlers and I have to constantly be right next to kids. There are many drop off areas they can fall off that playground equipment that playground is on of the most unsafe feeling playgrounds in the town of dyer and it's the closest one to my house that's walking distance.

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

	We need an inclusive Park in this town. It is embarrassingly past due.
	Walking paths, new playground equipment
	A large play area for the kids at central park. With good equipment and soft area for kids.
	Not important fix our roads!!! Stop filling them in.
	Using Plum Creek and branching off to connect Pheasant Hills to Elmer Miller to Central to Northgate parks for biking/walking/running. Purchase the land between the hospital and the state line to make that an exercise park, especially now that the hospital isn't maintaining the trail/path.

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

	Handicap accessible facilities. Solid surfaces to roll a wheelchair. Benches and tables.
	Water park, better equipment, clean lawns without weeds, lights — we need to keep these parks clean and protected so others don't come in for drug deals — patrol the paths that lead to the forest preserves in subdivisions — lots of shady activity goes on there Sandy Ridge - too many baby swings, not enough big kid swings. Equipment gets filled with water, does not drain.
	None you replaced all the play ground equipment in our neighborhood.
	Splash pad for the kids

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

	Swimming pool
	Sandy Ridge, trees as there s no shade, a solid surface ground as the mulch gets fungus ever year I would like to see more parks added on the south end of Dyer. We live in unincorporated Dyer, and there are very few parks by us.
	Splash pads, tennis courts, basketball court, baseball fields. We most utilize hearthstone park as it is in our neighborhood, and we would love to see Central Park made more functional for all. Already answered
	Something for all kid ages. Sheffield Estates had both that the kids liked. Honestly don't know if the park still has two areas
	Central Park needs trees and shade from the hot summer sun. This should have been planned years ago as trees take a long time to grow to shade heights. This is moreimportant now that there are softball fields being built Northgate park sled hill could use a shelter too for the adults accompanying their children. maybe when the softball field is gone a shelter could be built there

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

	Sandy Ridge Park has been neglected for years. There is an open space that can be used for a volleyball court of bocce ball court.
	Bathroom and shelter at hearthstone park
	Concession stands Autumn chase: remove woodchips and redo surround that is wobbling and falling apart (wall that separates the grass from the park. Add a tree for some shade on the equipment during summer. Newer equipment overall.
	Restroom facilities at pheasant hills

	community centers, meeting rooms, pavilions, scenic views, ice rink
	Regular maintenance and cleaning
	I haven't used parks
	Ice skate rink at Northgate was great for those who owned ice skates. Not for those that don't have. I was hoping the concession stand would be open to rent skates, hot chocolate and snacks. Have a family night and teen night. Walking paths with resting benches, trash cans, doggie waste bags,

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

	More native plantings. A small conservatory/botanical garden would be awesome in Central Park. Something other than ballfields and soccer fields. More trees. Pheasant Hills park with a better and bigger skateboard park.
	We would like to see, more restrooms and more climbing walls.
	Central Park needs a playground maybe even splash pad area. This park should be the towns main park. Summer Freedom fest should be hosted here to keep people out of the Pheasant hills neighborhood. There is no parking for Pheasant hills during a festival it is not safe for the subdivision and homeowners. One way parking should be enforced. Cherry Hill Rd. Is to narrow to accommodate all the cars.
	Better walking path options. Bike trail through town. City pool!!!

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

	FYI - it would be wise to put a sign by the standing teeter totter at Northgate park. I wasn't sure how to use it and fell off that thing and tore my ACL. Had surgery on October 2nd and it still isn't back to normal. A sign should tell people what it is and how to use it. There are not food traction pads on the bottom, hence why I slipped. none of us could tell if you were supposed to sit or
	Community swimming pool at any park where there is sufficient space.
	I have seen other parks in the neighboring communities with exercise equipment.

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

	Please update the tiny tot park on Cherry Hill (Cherry hill Park). It has been broken, rusted, and very dirty for many many years.(definitely over six years) I had to complain before due to multiple condoms& garbage scattered in the wood chips and the plastic globe being broken and dangerous. It has been missing it's mushroom top as long as I can remember. The swings squeal and are dated.
	Northgate - parking lots in horrible condition Not enough lighting Central Park - ballfield a in horrible condition No parking no bathrooms
	How about a community pool with a splash pond for younger bathrooms that are open and not locked like to walk at parks but bathrooms never open
	Better parking. Cameras, security, monitoring Please improve the skate park. It is outdated and parks have come a long way since it was first built. There is a huge skate scene in the area and everyone would appreciate a new/improved park. Do not use asphalt.

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

	More equipment for all ages
	Na
	Northgate Park: unless I've been misinformed, a portion of Northgate Park is targeted to be revamped to accommodate the flooding in this area. Hopefully, there is a plan to keep a safe area for the kids to play and for those of us who use the walking path. Would also like to see an area designated for neighborhood dogs.
	Better lighting, accessible walking paths, more playground or open space and more sheltered picnic areas
	Sandy Ridge needs to be re mulched or different ground. The mud hornets that make hives everywhere. Between 7 kids we had over 27 stings last year. We sprayed often and ended at urgent care twice
	Community park needs to have a 2-3 mile waking path. Benches, picnic tables and trees. A water feature would be a welcoming addition.

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

	sun shelter, more seating - Veteran's park
	Splash pad
	Would be great to have tennis courts at Central Park
A	
	More walking trails, parks for children
	It would be wonderful if Central Park could have something like a community pool, or even just a splash pad! I heard it's finally getting a play ground, but that's going to be by the baseball fields, which isn't too helpful for soccer game attendees. But yes- a community splash pad (charge some admission) would be amazing and I know it would be very popular!!
	If possible, it would nice to have a drinking fountain added to Eberly or Autumn Chase.
	Trees at autumn chase

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

	Good paths, splash pad! Playground equipment at Central Park!
	horse shoe pits back in elmer miller park
	A pool at Central Park
	A park like highland has with a splash pad or even munster with a pool
	N/A
	Splash pad with rubber floor
	Bigger trash cans that are emptied often
	Definitely not another million dollar dog park that nobody uses and nobody wants to PAY to use. Definitely wasn't money well spent. It is ALWAYS empty because you can walk your dog for free, or let them run in your own yard without being charged. I might bring my dog there if I wasn't charged.
	I would love to see a bike trail from Central Park to the Pennsy Greenway in Schererville and access to Central Park from south of 30 by foot or bike.
	Toilet facility

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

	Playground for Mallard cove Park. Connecting sidewalks on south side of Hart st. From 77th to pheasant hills park. Would LOVE a bike trail in Dyer, but that's probably even more out of budget.
	Northgate- walk ways need to be paved and widened
	Walking path
	Happy with the playgrounds and fields
	Cherry Hill (pheasant hills). Take down the newly planted trees that will now block views of the pond. Get fireworks out of this neighborhood and out to Central Park as was promised
	Splash pad or pool
	Hearthstone Park was supposed to get soccer fields and a baseball field. Will that happen?
	Northgate, central parks. Better use of open space. Updated facilities at Northgate, cleaner, neater, Better maintained at Northgate,!!

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

	Maybe turf a few baseball/softball diamonds so kids can play all the time and not worry about breaking their ankles on uneven ground?
	A few picnic tables
	Sandy ridge
	Pavilion or atleast a few picnic tables. The rock wall is just a huge bee hive. The rocking toys dont have any drainage.
	Outdoor swimming facility
	As I said before, I think Dyer has already spent to much on parks.
	Central Park ice skating in winter
	All good

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

	Sandy Ridge park needs an update... it is very busy and the equipment is old
	Green meadows park needs handicapped parking and more for kids with special needs
	A walking path around a pond.
	I like the new benches going in at Veterans park. I feel the park update didn't consider the older kids like it used to be, only for the little ones.
	Paved walking path around pheasant hills pond
	More parks and bicycles Cycling trails

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

	Updated playground equipment to serve all ages, so we can supervise all the kids we have while they play on their own. Open areas with well maintained fields for playing. A small splash pad type feature that can be ran for a little bit at each park is a nice feature that works great in the summer. Community park needs the field flattened and more activities for the family, splash pad?
	Pickle ball court and a picnic shelter
	Hearthstone has plenty of room for a pickle ball court or two. I think the area has seniors who would use it. These courts are generally not problem areas. All that is needed is to put nets up in April and take them down the end of October.

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

	Sandy Ridge Park has very old equipment that doesn't seem well maintained. Newer playground equipment there would be greatly appreciated. Maybe even a small walking path if possible and/or a sidewalk that connects the Boulder Road side of the park to the playground. It stinks having to walk through the uneven, often muddy grassy area to get to the playground. It often stops us from going to play. lots of trees and greenspace landscaped gardens and walking paths
	I would like to see better connecting bicycle paths
	Hearthstone - this is small. Some more for the kids to do. A few additional benches. There needs to be more plant life or make more like a nature preserve. Pheasant hills a basket court A free dog park. We go to Munster because the dyer park is stupidly set up Where are the nice parks in Dyer like centennial park Munster. Take your budget and beg to join up with Munster Upgrade children's area at Autumn Chase Park None. I think the town is fine the way it is Central Park should look more like Centennial Park in Munster with a music shell and walking paths, fountains, landscaping. C.P is boring sports other than baseball and basketball

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

	If holding festivities such as craft fair, movie in park, fireworks, Dyer days ect ... more parking spots and no parking allowed on residential streets during festivities and traffic control.
	Splash zone, even if a membership or entry fee were required. Connected bike path (connect with rails to trails).
	Splash pad
	Tennis courts
	Bike trails
	Veterans park had a splash pad in the original plans, where is it? It should be run like the FREE one that is in st john on Osage road. Also the walking path at veterans park needs to be repaved as well as a covered picnic area needs to be added.
	Griffith huge playground lots to choose from plus SHADE.
	Valplayso huge playground with a ton to choose from.
	Central Park should have a playground and basketball courts added.
	A disabled playground
	Central Park; improve parking near dog park! When the kids teams play sports during spring & summer, those of us who pay to use the dog park do not have parking to take our dogs to the dog park.
	General improvements and updates to Sandy Ridge park.

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

	Hearthstone to have more benches, trash stations and shade/covering by play ground. Tennis/pickle ball court. Bocce court. Mini ball field with a backstop. See Hammond/wicker park body weight workout station. Walking path painted divider and direction markings. Central Park take lessons from centennial park very under used and sub par. Mini dog parks and smaller parks.
	Update equipment to ensure safety and add soft surface to the playground areas instead of mulch
	In my opinion, all parks should have a toddler play ground. Too many only have playgrounds for big kids.
	Splash pads More volleyball courts More random seating Pickle ball courts
	We have updated equipment in Sandy ridge. Thank you! Could that big field space be used for something else? It's rarely used as is.
	Splash Pad at Central Park Cherry hill could use some shade. And it would be cool if you could put in a splash pad a cottonwood or maybe at another park.
	Hearthstone.
	Need some sort of shelter there. Also, the grass area has LOTS of large stones throughout.
	Hearthside: pickleball courts
	A water park such as a splashpad.
	Maintenance of the Veteran's park walking path. It's crumbling apart in sections.
	Outdoor pool, indoor recreation center

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

	some parks have workout equipment around their walking paths. This would be great at Central Park. I realize there are train tracks, but it would be nice of Central park could connect to the Rockwell and/or Hearststone subdivisions. I do not like walking over the bridge on calumet.
	A wider variety of playground amenities like zip lining and other innovative climbing structures
	I would like to see an improvement to the existing northgate park pavilion, as well as an improvement to the ball fields at northgate. I would also like to see some additions to the walking paths at northgate connecting to the existing t ball field and bicentennial monument. I would also like to see improvements to the parking lot at northgate as well as more trees.
	Nice walking paths, pickle ball court, tennis court, more trees and flowers to beautify the parks, sand volleyball court for teens
	Pheasant Hills - improved surface. Perhaps expanded playground with equipment for more ages. Walking path around the lake.
	Central Park - swimming pool
	Biking trails that connect with other towns
	Pheasant Hills - allow fishing or have fishing derby's days
	Residents near Hearststone park are still waiting for the baseball diamond. The grassy area is terrible.
	Central Park needs a community pool like Munster
	Pickle ball and tennis courts

Town of Dyer Survey 2021

	Pheasant Hill Park
	Dig out the pond to support fishing and other water activities.
	Add fountains to circulate the water and some swans to keep the geese away.
	Bathrooms and water fountains.
	More biking/walking paths
	Add kids playground to central park so families with dogs and kids have a place to go for both
	see above. Ice skating in the retention pond area would be fun.
	Autumn park is just run down. Change out the questionable wood chips. Add a path from the driveway on the west side as well
	I live near pheasant hills and wish it was easier/safer to cross hart st. Some sort of signage with a flashing pedestrian light (like the crown point square crossings) would be perfect.
	Outdoor fitness
	Walking trails

Q72 - What additional comments do you have for the Dyer Parks and Recreation Department?
Great work!
Rip the dead trees out and don't plant any more because to don't take care of them. The trees are a disaster.
None
More for Seniors

The staff does a wonderful job and I am very satisfied with the park and recreation department. We are looking forward to Summer Camp this year!

Improve Central Park. It could be so much better .

When have signed my children up for activities they always get canceled almost the day before And I'm left scrambling to find a activity for them or dealing with them being disappointed. Also a splash pad would be great right now we go to other towns and end up doing activities there.

Add a pool where swimming lessons can be offered. That would be amazing! There is so much wasted space/open land here...

We travel to munster for walking/biking. We have an avid teen fisherman who we drive to munster almost weekly. A place to fish would be awesome. He does walk himself to the pond off of 30 kind of behind car lot that was sold (dont know if that is legal or not but lots of kids and adults doing it). That could be developed. If I had younger kids I'd be looking for splash pads and bigger play gr..... plants, grasses, etc strategically. Playground equipment should be maintained better, so that it

Doing a fantastic job keeping hometown feel.....

Love living in Dyer!

Just be cognizant of the fact that everyone is struggling financially, so be mindful of how much things cost. At this time, I don't look at much that costs more than \$20, so I don't do a lot.
X
I love Dyer!
Please consider bike paths thru Dyer. Dyer is not always walker/bike friendly compared to our neighbors.
Develop Sunset Park.sidewalk And ground leveled. At the least.

Need pathways to connect to neighboring communities including to the Old Plank Road trail in Illinois and trails in Munster. Would love to have some good bike paths that could connect with other trails
All of the neighborhood parks should have a small picnic shelter where people can sit out of the sun or out of the rain while their children play
I grew up in a neighborhood that only offered the kids little league. I am so glad my son's childhood has been here with all your programs, kindermusic, camps, sports, art class, karate, cooking class, bowling Easter egg hunts, Halloween parades, movie in the parks, competitions, etc. Love everything and love everyone in the dept. They really care about my son and make us feel special.
Keep upgrading and improving for the younger generation, we have too many retirement facilities

Thank you. We have enjoyed the programs and parks with our family. Seems like the town cares for its residents.

There could be a few more trees planted at Northgate Park. The walking path is very hot with little or no shade in most parts. Also when girls softball is going on they take up the path and use it for practice and get it full of gravel. Oh and get some adult outdoor exercise equipment!

Splash pad at Central Park would be nice too

Staff is great and does alot for the kids and families

My life is so much better because of the Dog Park!
Again, improve maintenance of dog park.
Take care of central dig park better
I walk by the skate park all the time. It's filled with kids of all ages playing really well together. It makes me happy. I wonder if there could be a better use for all that space in the middle of pheasant hills park, though.
Never stop improving. Not everything can be the best, but keep up the effort that is most definitely noticed and appreciated.
None

Hope to see you much more this year. Last year we missed a lot due to COVID concerns!
Good program but Munster has more options
Bike paths!!
Great work!
NOPE

Northgate, pheasant hills and Central parks always get more upgrades than the smaller parks.
More activities to bring out the community/neighbors.
More walking paths and bike paths. Especially a bike path would be really nice to see.
Good job! Keep up the good work. Would love to see more biking trails that connect to the major ones in Schererville, Highland, and Munster.

I just retired and am willing to "help" layout areas for pickle ball courts

Thanks for all you do!!

Need to better communicate where the walking trails are. There are several Local runners, walkers & cyclists who stick with the Pennsy Greenway trail or Centennial Park.

Instead of improving the parks I would prefer you take care of our roads. Edgewood is awful and it has been for the past 10 years. Filling potholes doesn't help and before you know it Schilling will need to be done also. It's pretty bad when you have to drive on the opposite side of the street.

Refer to the programs Munster offers.

Love to see adventure activities, scavenger hunt things for nature, learning about things in nature, how to care for a garden, planting seeds and caring for it etc.

You're doing a great job!
I think I will have more of an opinion after I see the improvements that are supposed to take place this year
Add more soccer nets around the parks
None
You guys suck.

Clean he graffiti of equipment come in with a pressure washer once per week and clean the equipment

Would like to be able to enjoy the parks as adults without children.

I also think the soccer fields need to be more important to the town. Just look at the differences between the baseball fields and the soccer fields. I know that Dyer Kickers have contributed money for upgrades. The inequities between the two are glaring.

Need to execute things quicker!

How do I get involved in environmental programs?
I'd love to help develop anything around plum creek, plant identification, bird walks, etc.

The parks in surrounding neighborhoods are so much more developed than any Dyer park, we have nothing to be proud of. I personally frequent Centennial. Pheasant Hills has potential but is still very average. Beautify and create seating areas.

More tennis courts.
I don't use dire parks. We go to other communities such as Centennial Park and Munster which is nicely landscaped and a nice walking path.
The parks meet our needs as long as we don't plan to play with our friends in wheelchairs. Then we have to travel to other towns. Check out Hannah's Hope Playground.
Some of the parks need better parking
Fix our roads...
It would be great if we had something to rival the Sparta dome in CP

The town needs to modernize their thinking. It feels like the town just does the same old stuff over an over. Make some events that are fun! Chili cook off Bean bag leagues/tournaments Bingo Pub crawls Adult softball league Walking/biking Club Family bike ride events Adult Easter egg hunt Modern bands in the park with beer tent Teen dances Teen bowling night Family dance Bunco	
Signs for dogs being on leash visibly posted from different access points to the path and in parking areas. I have called on this before. Please consider	
I am an avid walker but usually go to Wicker Park or Wolf Lake so I can get distance without walking in a circle getting bored.	
Would like to see more senior programs and a splash pad for the kids	

When putting in new play equipment, please vary the options. Going to a new or different park is a treat but when they have the almost exact setup, it is disappointing.

Definitely in need of walking/biking paths. We walk or bike nearly every day when weather permits. We have memorized every bit of landscape, homes, etc. as there are so few areas that we can go to. I have written the same thing the last time you had a survey and have only seen minor changes. We lived in Highland for over 40 years and enjoyed the paths and the events they held.

Keep up the good work, i know it is hard to please everyone and things always need updating. i am a little disappointed in the progress of Central Park. The trees do need to be addressed ASAP. Summer sun is hot

WALKING/BIKE PATH

Continue to ask community their input! Visit spaces that need more love to see what people are talking about. Get more people involved in making the events great by including local businesses !
The improvements over the last 28 years have been wonderful. Keep up the good work!
We enjoy music and concerts. Have gone to Highland Griffith and Schererville to listen to concerts
Love dyer parks and rec for young families. Looking for new ideas, try seeing other areas such as crown point and Valparaiso. Need fun stuff for teens too.
The Central Park dog park is a disgrace. I no longer pay for membership since it is so filthy.
None

We absolutely love our parks department, our kids have enjoyed the opportunities that the parks department has offered, we feel very fortunate to have a parks dept that is so devoted to the kids and community.
Put a park at central park for kids to play, make this park the towns focus.
I would just love to see a splash pad or a city pool in Dyer.
They do a great job. Impressed with their service.
None
Thank you for all you do!!! I truly love all your programs. It is obvious that alot of care has gone into these programs and that is what makes them great and fun! I missed the easter bunny house visit this year and was very disappointed.. what an AMAZING idea! Kudos to all!!!! ♥
More painting classes with wine
Love our town!

Na
Please improve the skate park. It is outdated and parks have come a long way since it was first built. There is a huge skate scene in the area and everyone would appreciate a new/improved park. Do not use asphalt.
With any need.. As areas, availability, families need change the department will meet most need never all.
The department can stay on top of things like offerings, training, and up keep of areas. Working with families is a start.
I love using the programs

Already addressed this issue: biking/hiking paths.
Looking for more walking paths and bike paths
Improve employees customer service skills with customers.
The town board need to put some effort into community needs. Not just kids,

In the past we have participated in several bus trip opportunities. I thought they were done well, easy to register for and had good guides. Hopefully, opportunities can be offered again when conditions permit.	
More options for bikers to get around Please add larger trees to our parks, and add picnic tables. Autumn Chase is lacking in these. With no shade, it's hard for the littles to enjoy the playground; and it's hard to stand in the sun to supervise them. I've seen sun sails used in other parts of the country. Would these be a feasible option?	
A	
Those are basically our recommendations. :) A big splash pad, youth tennis, maybe adult/youth pickleball/badminton or a combination. We are sending our money to other park districts to get these needs, but it would be great to support our own town.	

The walking path behind the hospital could use some maintenance.

More beautification of the town is needed - i.e. flowers/flower boxes in various places and the intersections cleaned up and weeded. Autumn Chase entrance is in need of work. It is just old rocks and mostly weeds. The dog park is too costly, in my opinion, and there are too many vaccine demands. Dogs walk daily all over town with other dogs and they're all fine without all those requirements.

None

I had to answer the most recent question about the park at Central Park but I have no idea where that is so please disregard. Same with some of the other specific parks questions besides Elmer and northgate.

There is nothing for a female in her mid 40s to sign up to do. Maybe add a scrapbook introduction class or add a scrapbooking crop night. Moms love a night out. Having a night out and a glass of wine and working on pics of your family with your friends is alot of fun.

See comments 2 questions ago

Thank you for creating so many fun opportunities for our family over the years!

Focus more on adult programs. Allow interesting kids programs for adults (music, outings, holiday events, sports

Pickle ball court

Bike lane for walking trail

A friend of mine has a recreational degree and would like to join the park dept. He can't because he is not a Republican. It looks like party over a very eligible person.

Dyer parks should be for the people of Dyer not for Illinois people to take advantage of.

This is very long.....
Thanks for all your hard work!.....
You are doing a great job!.....
Refer to my previous suggestions.....
More parks and bicycles. Less Bob.

Central park needs more parking and a turn lane off of Calumet going north, the corner is not the proper radius for turning and seems dangerous with the speed of traffic behind you. Also, the amount of money spent on the softball amenities seems to be excessive considering how it could have been invested for all sports. We need more trash cans at Central Park especially in parking areas. People are lazy and don't seem to care about trash laying around. Big problem at Northgate as well.
I would also like to add that adult sports leagues are lacking.
I appreciate all that you have done at Hearthstone park. I walk there every day. I'm looking forward to the new benches. I love all of the trees that have been planted.
N/A

A playground area near the south end of Central Park, clean bathrooms and more parking at that end. Parking on soccer Saturdays has been crazy this spring. So much effort and upgrading is going into the north end for baseball but soccer kids/families would like to see some of the love on the south end, too!	Keep up the good work
My kids hated living in Dyer. We had no neighborhood park 20 yrs ago. No pool. The dog park is a joke. There is nowhere just to take a walk. I think they're coming to The Meadows because there are many groups of walkers here	None. I do not have enough experience here.
Again, as I have clearly stated in my previous comments, more opportunities for attending plays, musicals and other theatrical events with or without dinning would serve older folks like me.	none

stated earlier in another question	
As I stated traffic control especially on grieving and other surrounding neighborhoods, more parking and move dyer days where my neighbors and I are not dreading it and can enjoy it ... we stay home to watch our property can't even go to get groceries cause we will be blocked in or can't get back home and the litter omg it's horrible	
Fix the dog park it's always a flooded muddy mess and therefore not worth the fee. Let's get some water playground here! Literally every near town has better facilities worth traveling to. St John-slaph pad Munster-pool Highland/Munster splash pad wicker park CP pool/YMCA/downtown experience Valpo-downtown experience/splash pad/Valplayso Griffith downtown shopping experience/better park Etc...	

Update community by each park of plans/what is in the works and maybe send out votes or have a scheduled visit for people to meet the park/town organizers to shares thoughts or visions of what to work towards when adding to a park.

Toddler playgrounds!!!!

Be responsive to community needs and desires, not political wish lists.
Maximize state and federal funding sources
Look closely at what other communities have that Dyer does not.
Think out of the box.

I find all your employees always happy and helpful!

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We need some things in central park...actually most recreation events should be at central park. All that open space should be utilized for older kids to hang out in a safe place.

Keep up the good work!!

Focus on improving existing parks over new development.

Keep up the good work!

I think Dyer is doing well with events/activities and park equipment upgrades have been very nice. I would like to see more park infrastructure like a community center, bike path connections to other towns, and at least 1 pickleball court like Munster has. Dyer has a lot of health conscious people, we need a little more to support that. Remove trees/weeds from sled hill- eyesore

Keep upgrading the playgrounds. Add bike paths. Consider a swimming pool. Add more walking paths.
Good job asking for recommendations and trying to keep people enjoying the outdoors.

None at this time.
Spend less on the darn Central Park ball fields and more on other parks and other facilities that can be used by more people than just ball fields....
Put a sign at the standing Teeter totter in Northgate Park so people know what it is. I tore my ACL on that device last fall
Bicycle lanes around town, add a bike path leading to the Pennsey Greenway trails, add more opportunities for outdoor winter activities at the parks.
We moved here in December 2019- likely would have tried more things if not for covid! I really hope the interconnecting trails in the strategic plan are made a priority.