

Town of Jonesborough

Parks & Recreation

MASTER PLAN 2025 UPDATE

April 2025

Acknowledgements



Town of Jonesborough

Chuck Vest, Mayor

Virginia Causey, Alderwoman

Terry Countermine, Alderman

Adam Dickson, Alderman & Vice-Mayor

Kelly Wolfe, Alderman

Glenn Rosenoff, Town Administrator

Chris Kudera, Parks & Recreation Director



Community Development Partners, LLC

Rachel Conger, Project Manager

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.0 Introduction.....	5
Purpose/Process.....	6
Historical Context.....	7
Vision and Goals.....	8
Other Significant Plans.....	10
SWOT Analysis.....	12
 2.0 Demographics.....	 15
 3.0 Facility Evaluations.....	 22
Map of all Parks.....	22
Jonesborough Facility Evaluations.....	23
Stage Road Park	
Depot Street Park	
Lincoln Park	
Persimmon Ridge Park	
Wetlands Water Park	
Golden Oak Park	
WC Rowe Park	
Mill Spring Park	
Lost State Scenic Walkway	
Jimmy Neil Smith Park	
Barkley Creek Park	
Tiger Park	
 4.0 Ongoing Project Development.....	 52
 5.0 Survey and Community Engagement.....	 63
Jonesborough Public Survey.....	63
Community Public Meeting.....	67
 6.0 Programming.....	 77
Jonesborough Events.....	77
Jonesborough Athletic Programming.....	79

Arts and Culture.....	80
7.0 Local Priorities.....	82
Summary of Town Wide Needs	
8.0 Recommendations.....	84
Priorities.....	92
Stage Road Park	
Depot Street Park	
Lincoln Park	
Persimmon Ridge Park	
Wetlands Water Park	
Golden Oak Park	
WC Rowe Park	
Mill Spring Park	
Lost State Scenic Walkway	
Jimmy Neil Smith Park	
Barkley Creek Park	
9.0 Appendix.....	96
Maintenance Guidelines.....	96
Maintenance for Open Spaces/Landscaped Areas.....	99
Playground Safety Checklists.....	123

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Board of Mayor and Aldermen of the Town of Jonesborough operate under a Charter adopted through private act by the Tennessee State Legislature. The Town Board established the Town's recreation program when it created the Recreation Commission in December of 1976. The BMA appropriated recreation funding for the first time in the 1978-79 fiscal year budget when recreation was included in the Department of Community Services. The next fiscal year (1979-80), a separate Department of Parks and Recreation budget was adopted by the BMA as part of the Town's General Fund Budget. The Parks and Recreation Department has been an integral part of the Town operation and budget ever since.

The Recreation Commission was established in 1976 by ordinance, and in 1996 the BMA amended the body to be the Jonesborough Recreation Advisory Committee (JRAC). The Jonesborough Recreation Advisory Committee is made up of eleven (11) members including: the Jonesborough Mayor, the Washington County Mayor or designee, one Alderman from the Jonesborough Board of Aldermen, the president of the Jonesborough Little League Association, the president of the Persimmon Ridge Soccer Association, and six (6) additional at-large members. Terms for the Recreation Advisory Committee were not formally determined in the 1996 restructuring; however, traditionally members have served five (5) terms as established in the enabling ordinance for the Recreation Commission in 1976. The Recreation Advisory Committee meets monthly, every fourth Thursday of each month at 6:00 pm. All policies and procedures related to the operation of the Jonesborough Parks and Recreation Department are reviewed by the JRAC and recommendations are provided to the Board of Mayor and Aldermen for adoption. The Town Board has authorized the Jonesborough Recreation Advisory Committee to establish and administer the Jonesborough Parks and Recreation Fund. Through procedures approved by the Town Recorder, the Recreation Advisory Board raises money to support recreational activities and they determine how the funds raised are spent. These funds are not part of the Recreation Department's normal operating budget. The Recreation Advisory Committee adopts the five-year work plan for the Department including Mission Statement and Goals & Objectives.



Purpose of the Plan

The purpose of a recreation master plan is to develop a comprehensive vision for a park system, individual parks, open space areas, recreation facilities and programs in context of its location, natural resources, and visions of the community. The vision established by the community will serve as a framework for the long-term use and development of a park or facility. The Master Plan document itself provides an inclusive framework for consistent planning, acquisition, development and administration of the parks and recreation resources, programs, and facilities of the agency that sponsors the master plan.

The goal of the 2025 Parks and Recreation Master Plan Update is to provide a concise and user-friendly guide that incorporates the community's input to assist the Town with decision-making regarding Jonesborough current conditions and needs related to the Recreation Department.

This plan provides details on the current state of the department's facilities and programs and project focus areas based on a comprehensive assessment of community priorities and values. The process sought out community input to identify their visions and expectations for the future growth of the Parks and Recreation Department. Community input was sought out and received via focus groups, open public forums, a community-wide online and paper survey and key stakeholder input. The information gathered from the community engagement process was combined with technical research to produce the final Master Plan.

The Master Plan makes recommendations for Jonesborough Parks and Recreation services in order to achieve the prioritized needs of the community while increasing the value of park facilities, services and programs available to residents.

Historical Context

Jonesborough is known as the oldest town in Tennessee, as the county seat of Washington County, founded in 1779 by settlers from the Watauga Association. When it was founded, the area was part of North Carolina, and settlers in the region were navigating life on the edge of the frontier. The town was named after Willie Jones, a prominent North Carolina statesman who supported the settlers in their push for greater autonomy.

One of the defining moments in Jonesborough's history came in the 1780s, when the region played a central role in the creation of the state of Franklin. Following the Revolutionary War, the settlers were dissatisfied with North Carolina's rule and sought to establish their own state. Jonesborough became the capital of the short-lived State of Franklin, which sought to create an independent state between North Carolina and Virginia.

The State of Franklin was short lived, from 1784 to 1789, and was unsuccessful in its bid for independence. The state was finally dissolved, and the region returned to North Carolina's control. However, the movement helped lay the groundwork for the eventual statehood of Tennessee, which was admitted to the Union in 1796.

Jonesborough also gained recognition for its contributions to the cultural history of the Appalachian region. The Town's focus on the preservation of its historic buildings showed how important it was for them to keep the charm and character of its downtown.

The preservation movement in the 1970s, led by Dr. William Kennedy, is in part, what has made Jonesborough what it is today. In 1969, Jonesborough's Historic District was one of the first towns to be placed on the National Register of Historic Places. In 1973, Jimmy Neil Smith had a vision to bring storytelling to Jonesborough and created an event that attracts thousands annually to the Teller In Residence storytelling performance and the annual National Storytelling Festival. These events are some that set the tone for the small town's future.

Today, Jonesborough stands as a testament to Tennessee's early days, where the struggles for independence and self-determination shaped the course of the region's future. Its historical buildings and landmarks continue to tell the story of a mountain town that was once at the heart of political and social change. While much of its role in shaping Tennessee's history may no longer be widely known, Jonesborough's contributions remain an essential chapter in the story of the state's founding and early development.

VISION AND GOALS

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Department of Parks and Recreation for the Town of Jonesborough is to enhance the quality of life by ensuring diverse recreational opportunities for citizens of all ages and providing the highest quality staff, services, facilities, parks and programs possible.

Importance of Parks and Recreation

a. Economic Value

- Local park and recreation agencies generated more than \$201 billion in economic activity and supported more than 1.1 million jobs in 2021.
- Parks improve the local tax base and increase property values by contributing to the quality of life of a community.
- American Forests, a national conservation organization that promotes forestry, estimates that trees in cities save \$400 billion in storm water retention facility costs.
- Quality parks and recreation are cited as one of the top three reasons that business cite in relocation decisions in a number of studies.

b. Health and Environmental Benefits

- Parks and recreation facilities are the places that people go to get healthy and stay fit.
- According to studies by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, creating, improving and promoting places to be physically active can improve individual and community health and result in a 25% increase of residents who exercise at least three times per week.
- A study by Penn State University showed significant correlations to reductions in stress, lowered blood pressure, and perceived physical health to the length of stay in visits to parks.
- Parks and protected public lands are proven to improve water quality, protect groundwater, prevent flooding, improve the quality of the air we breathe, provide vegetative buffers to development, produce habitat for wildlife, and provide a place for children and families to connect with nature and recreate outdoors together.

c. Social Importance

- Parks are a tangible reflection of the quality of life in a community. They provide identity for citizens and are a major factor in the perception of quality of life in a given

community. Parks and recreation services are often cited as one of the most important factors in surveys of how livable communities are.

- Parks provide gathering places for families and social groups, as well as for individuals of all ages and economic status, regardless of their ability to pay for access.
- Studies show that over the past decade, voter approval rates for bond measures to acquire parks and conserve open space exceeds 75%. Clearly, the majority of the public views parks as an essential priority for government spending.
- Parks and recreation programs provide places for health and well-being that are accessible by persons of all ages and abilities, especially to those with disabilities.
- Research by the Project on Human Development in Chicago Neighborhoods indicates that community involvement in neighborhood parks is associated with lower levels of crime and vandalism
- Access to parks and recreation opportunities has been strongly linked to reductions in crime and to reduced juvenile delinquency.
- Parks have a value to communities that transcend the amount of dollars invested or the revenues gained from fees. Parks provide a sense of public pride and cohesion to every community.

Vision

Jonesborough's Parks and Recreation Master Plan envisions a wide range of recreation opportunities throughout the town that offers community parks and programming, connected to residential areas and Jonesborough's historic downtown through recreation trails and walkways.

Goals

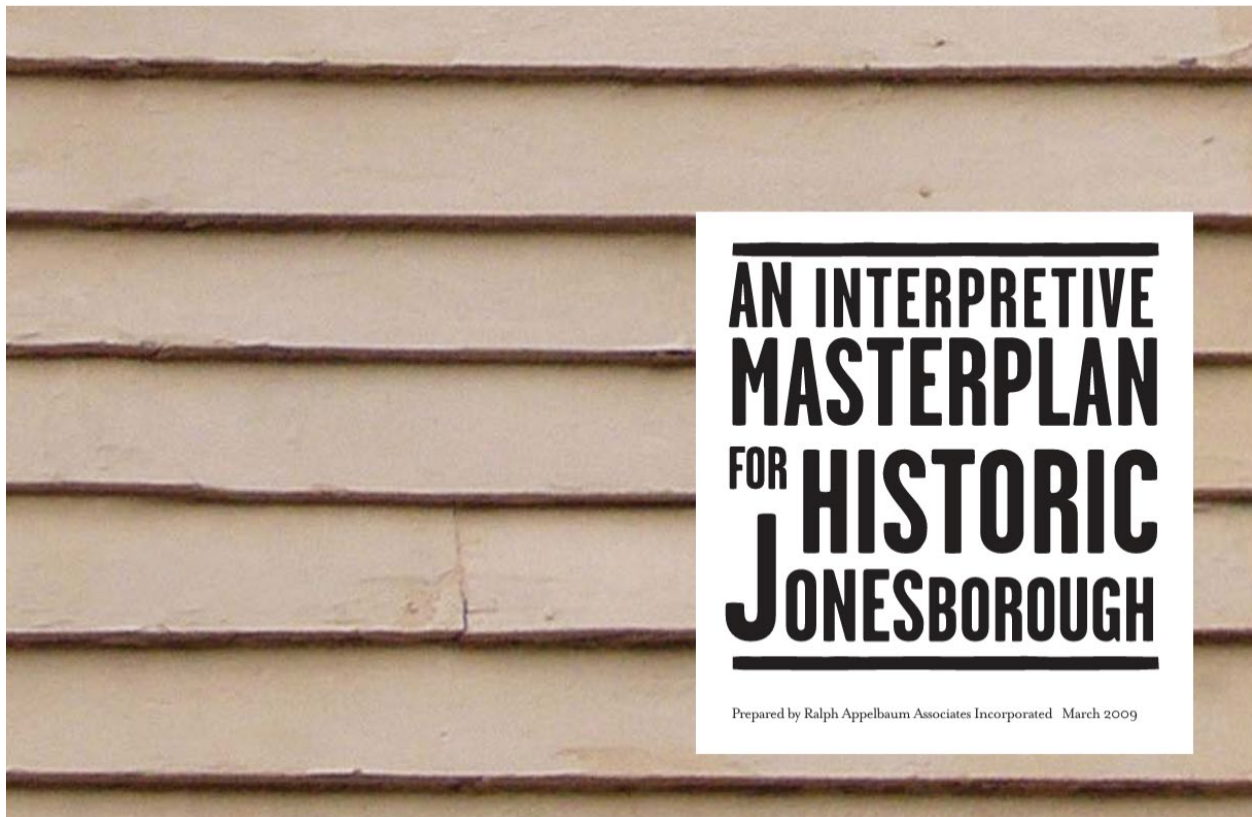
The 2025 Parks and Recreation Master Plan Update lays out goals for the department that supports the vision of the Town and the department:

- Enhance Recreational Infrastructure
- Continue to Strengthen the Town's Quality of Life
- Promote Public Health and Wellness
- Support Economic Growth and Tourism
- Expand Community Programming
- Maintain Existing Facilities

OTHER SIGNIFICANT PLANS

Ralph Applebaum Study

In 2006, the Town of Jonesborough selected Ralph Appelbaum Associates, Inc., to develop a vision for the future that would build on the Town's enormous success as a storytelling venue and model of historical preservation. In the late 1990s, RAA developed a program plan and identity guidelines for the International Storytelling Center — establishing its brand as the premier storytelling institution in the country. At that time, RAA met extensively with the people of Jonesborough, attended the National Storytelling Festival, and gained an understanding of the Town's values and culture. The insights received from this association inspired the promotion of the use of live storytelling as a powerful component of many other projects. RAA often advises their clients to attend the Jonesborough festival to witness the phenomenon for themselves. This undertaking was an intensely collaborative process aimed at bringing together Jonesborough's various interest groups and stakeholders — its residents, its business community, and its cultural organizations — to ensure Jonesborough's continuing success as both a travel destination and a great place to live, work, and raise families.



Branding, Development & Marketing Action Plan

Jonesborough is a charming town with a rich history and great potential for a branding effort that will breathe new life into downtown, creating a place that is enticing for local residents as well as visitors . To this end, Jonesborough worked with Destination Development International (DDI) to create a Branding, Development and Marketing Action Plan to help reach their goals . This plan provides specific steps and action items to bring new vitality to the downtown core, stop the leakage of spending by residents who travel to Johnson City or elsewhere to shop and attract the tourism dollars being spent by those living in the broader region. Branding is the process of setting the city apart from every other region, county and community. The Town's brand is far more than a logo and slogan; it is the perception in people's minds about what that city represents and what kind of experience they will have when visiting. A brand is a promise. Logos and slogans are simply the marketing message to get the word out about what the Town's promise is.



SWOT Analysis

(Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats)

A SWOT Analysis was conducted on Jonesborough parks and programs. The following lists out the SWOT outcomes:

Strengths

- There are a wide variety of high-quality special events in Jonesborough throughout the year, put on by Parks and Recreation Department, Jonesborough Area Merchants and Services Association (JAMSA) and Main Street Jonesborough. In addition, the McKinney Center, Jonesborough Senior Center and Jackson Theatre offer quality programming to all populations in Jonesborough and Washington County.
- Wetlands offers a vital resource for recreation activities for families with young children and summer camp groups as well as employment opportunities for youth.
- Persimmon Ridge Park offers a wide range of activities in an appropriately developed park. The wooded and undeveloped areas of the park offer hiking trails, some disc golf and nature watching. These areas should remain undeveloped.
- Maintenance at Stage Road Park has recently seen a maintenance overhaul with a major cleanup of overlooked areas of the park, connector trails constructed and overall cleanup of the park.
- Depot Street Park is located in close proximity and walking distance to downtown and the Chuckey Depot. It's conveniently located to a residential area that's in an underserved area of Town. It's location makes it a prime park for upgrades to meet the needs of the community.
- Opened in 2023, Lincoln Park is located just behind the Jonesborough Senior Center, setting it up for high usage by members of the Center and within walking distance of over 100 residential homes. It offers a high number of activities for users of all ages including an amphitheater, pavilion and restrooms, walking trail, playground, bocce ball, pickleball court, horseshoes, shuffleboard. An educational area that includes an indoor space for gardening programming and classes and an outdoor raised bed garden area is perfectly situated for programming through the Center.
- Golden Oak Park is situated within the Mill Creek and Meadows Subdivisions, a true community park. The park opened in 2016 and received a maintenance overhaul in 2023. It's situated along the Lost State Scenic Walkway, so park users can walk or ride their bike to/from other parks in Jonesborough, residential areas and even Jonesborough's historic downtown.

- WC Rowe Park is a linear park located in downtown between Second and Third Avenues. It includes a parking lot, offering a trail head of sorts, as well as the Chuckey Depot Museum. The park includes a portion of the Lost State Scenic Walkway, offering a variety of ways for users to get to the park.
- Jimmy Neil Smith Park, a true downtown park, is located just behind the International Storytelling Center. The park is utilized for year-round events, can be rented through the Storytelling Center for weddings, parties, etc. The park is also utilized for the National Storytelling Festival which sees over 11,000 audience members annually. The park recently integrated a Storybook Trail, which was implemented through a small volunteer group, Friends of the Jimmy Neil Smith Park.
- Mill Spring Park, one of the oldest parks in Jonesborough, is located at the corner of Spring Street. The park offers a gazebo, restroom facility and the Slemons House, home of the Storytelling Resource Place. The park operates in more of a passive capacity, but boasts a large amount of green space for visitors in downtown. Little Limestone Creek runs through the park, offering a true tranquil setting. The park is used for a small number of special events downtown, but those events take advantage of what the park has to offer and the park offers the perfect backdrop for downtown events.
- Barkley Creek Park, a passive park located towards the west end of Town, contains a portion of the Lost State Scenic Walkway that connects from Persimmon Ridge Park to downtown. The park includes a large pond, often used for fishing, where Barkley Creek and Little Limestone Creek come together.

Weaknesses

- Persimmon Ridge Park in general needs maintenance attention. In addition, there isn't appropriate ADA access from parking areas to ball fields and in seating areas. Bathrooms need a major overhaul in terms of maintenance and ADA access. The concession and bathroom facility no longer meets the needs of programs and should be assessed to either overhaul the building or tear down and build a whole new facility to meet the needs of users at the park. A plan should be generated to address the maintenance issues, utilizing expertise of individuals outside of Town staff who can give recommendations on what needs to be done (for example, utilizing turf/ballfield maintenance staff with Washington County Schools).
- Wetlands needs to be assessed for an upgrade. The Wetlands Subcommittee should be revived to survey the needs of the users of the Water Park and come up with a short and long term plan to add a feature and other amenities to the park.

- Depot Street Park should be assessed for upgrades. The pavilion and restroom facility are neglected as are some playground components. ADA accessibility to the park and the features within the park is non-existent as is ADA parking.
- A maintenance schedule needs to be developed for park and landscaped spaces so that regular upkeep is something that is outlined and able to be tracked (note: this is already in place and was developed as part of the 2021 Master Plan).
- Not enough programming for community members when school aged kids are out of school; not enough programming for seniors after Jonesborough Senior Center hours (traditionally after 5 p.m.).

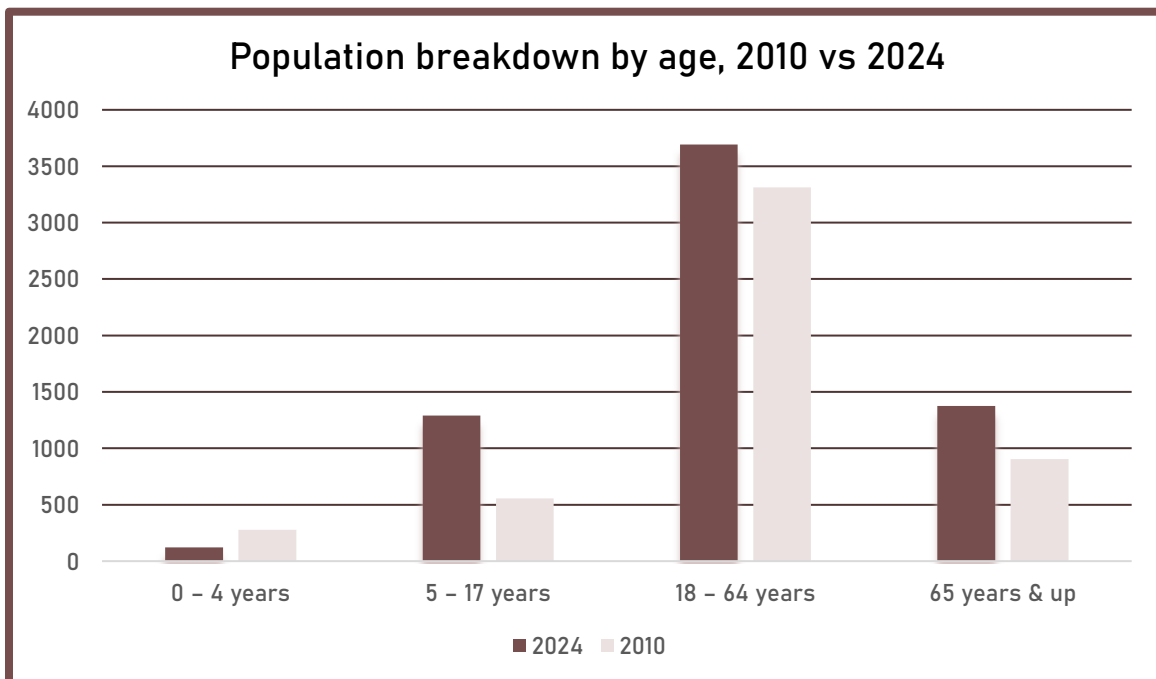
Opportunities

- Persimmon Ridge Park is at maximum capacity for what it can offer to the community. An effort should be made to better promote offerings in the park, including signage. It's the Town's largest park and feedback from community members indicate that the "undeveloped" areas of the park (wooded areas) should remain. Parking opportunities within the park are limited so that should be a consideration when programs are scheduled, particularly those that coincide in timing with each other.
- Look at potential for generating revenue through development of new programming opportunities. With Tiger Park nearly completed, the park will open up possibilities for expanding programming with the development of a football/soccer field, softball field, baseball field, rubberized track, pickleball courts and large lighted field area that can accommodate a large variety of sports programs.
- Depot Street Park is located so close to downtown, but lacks the pedestrian connection. Development of sidewalk access is currently in the works. This is a great opportunity to look at potential upgrades to the park.
- The location of Lincoln Park and its layout is conducive to small programmatic activities. The Senior Center programs activities during the day, so development of programming after work/school hours and the weekends is a great opportunity for use of the park.
- Mill Spring Park is located so close to downtown and presents itself as a passive park. The park sees minimum maintenance, but could be minimally developed to create a gathering space to visitors in downtown. Dining offerings in downtown are increasing and the park offers a great opportunity to provide outdoor seating and gathering space for visitors.

2.0 DEMOGRAPHICS

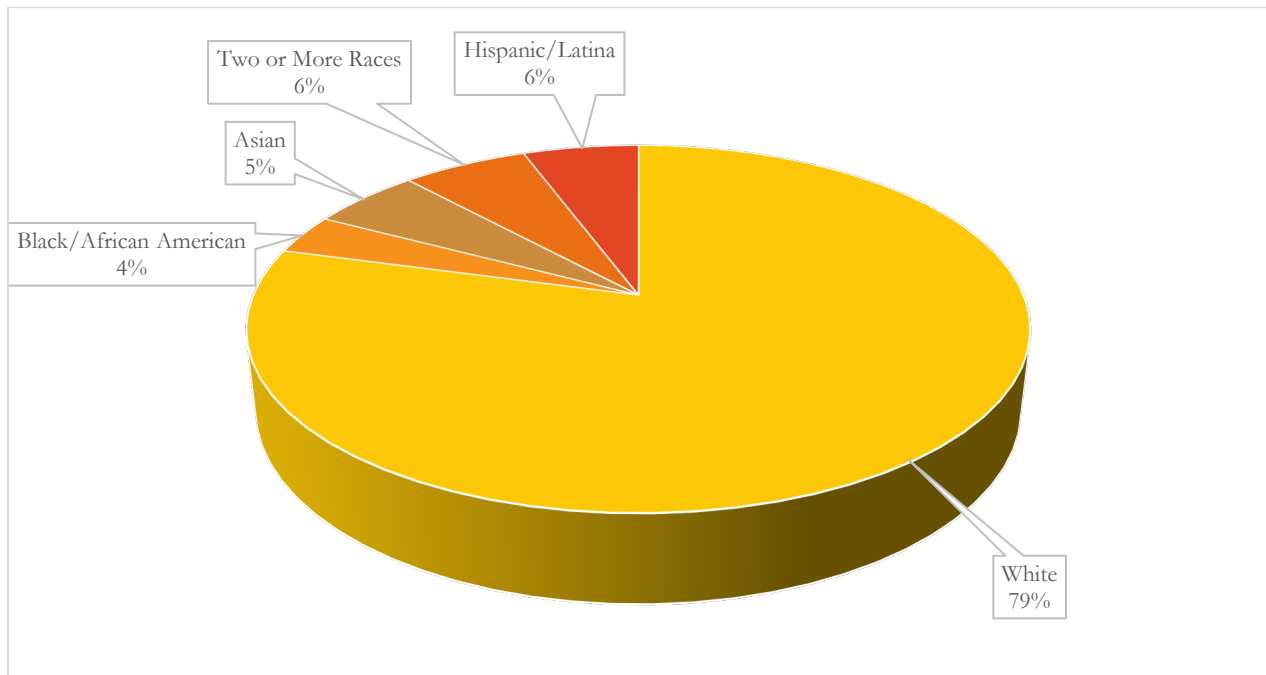
Based on 2020 Census Bureau data, the Town of Jonesborough boasted 5,860 residents, an increase of 16% from 2010. Median household income is \$56,550 compared to \$53,320 statewide and \$62,843 nationally. Population by age in 2020 was 111 persons 0 – 4 years, 885 persons 5 – 17 years, 3,411 persons 18 – 64 years and 1,453 persons 65 years and up. Jonesborough saw a decrease of 60% in persons 0 – 4 years from 2010 to 2020, 59% increase in 5 – 17 years, 3% increase in 18 – 64 years and 60% increase in persons ages 65 years and above.

Age	2024 estimates	2020	2010	% Change from 2010 to 2024
0 – 4 years	123	111	277	-56%
5 – 17 years	1,289	885	555	132%
18 – 64 years	3,694	3,411	3,313	11.5%
65 years & up	1,374	1,453	906	52%
Total	6,480	5,860	5,051	12%



2023 Demographic Comparison		Jonesborough	Tennessee	USA
Population	Annual Growth Rate	2.92%	1.11%	.1%
	Population	6,480	6,910,840	340,111,988
Households	Number of Households	2,644	3,031,605	120,756,048
	Average Household Size	2.07	2.52	2.54
Age Segment Distribution	0 – 4 years	2%	5.8%	5.5%
	5 – 17 years	20%	22%	21.7%
	18 – 64 years	57%	54.8%	55.7%
	65 years & up	21%	17.4%	17.7%
Race Distribution	White	81%	78.4%	75.3%
	Black/African American	4%	17.1%	13.7%
	Asian	6%	2.0%	6.4%
	2 or More Races	3%	2.0%	23.1%
	Hispanic/Latina	6%	5.7%	19.5%
Income Characteristics	Per Capita Income	\$38,031	\$37,866	\$43,289
	Median Household Income	\$63,155	\$67,097	\$78,538

Race	2024	2020	2010	% Change from 2010 to 2024
White	83.4%	94%	92.65%	-9.25%
Black/African American	3.7%	4.3%	4.43%	-.73%
Asian	5.7%	1.3%	.61%	5.09%
2 or More Races	6.5%	.5%	1.45%	5.05%
Hispanic/Latina	6%	1.8%	1.78%	4.22%



Takeaways based on the four charts preceding are below:

- Above Average: Population Growth
- Below Average: Household Size
- Below Average: Age Segment Distribution of 0 – 4 years
- Above Average: Age Segment Distribution of 18 – 64 years
- Above Average: Race Distribution of White Population, however that population has changed by 9.25% since 2010.
- Below Average: Race Distribution of Black/African American Population

Key Demographic Findings:

1. Population growth/annual growth rate is above average in Jonesborough.
2. While population among 0 – 4-year-old and 5 – 17-year-old age groups are reported as below average compared to the rest of Tennessee and the U.S., we’ve seen an increase in the 0 – 4 year-old age group since 2020.

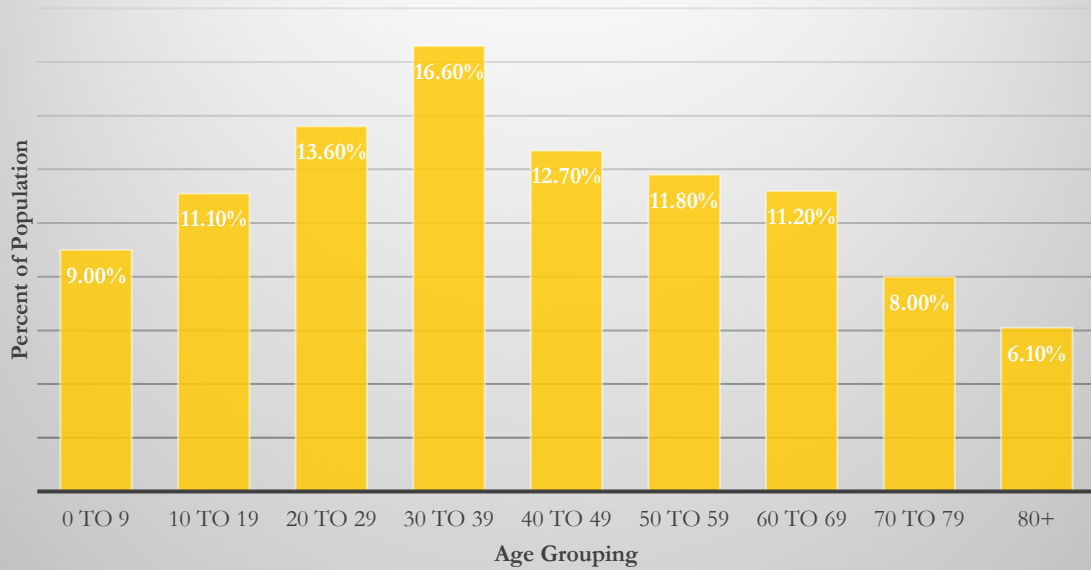
With the opening of the new K – 8 Jonesborough School in 2023, it could be assumed that families with school age youth would be attracted to the Jonesborough School district, which would include Jonesborough corporate limits. As reflected in the 2021 Master Plan, the observation was that at the time, Jonesborough was showing a below average growth in school age youth population and work should be done to prepare for growth in the school age population, including new programming development for Parks and Recreation, in anticipation of that population showing growth with the opening of the new school. You’ll note the increase of the 5 – 17 year-old age group (school age) growth from 2020 to 2024 was 31.34%. The expectation that this trend will continue.

3. Population growth among 18 – 64-year old age group is above average with 7.7% for the period of time from 2020 to 2024 and 3% growth reported from 2010 to 2020.
4. Population among individuals 65-year-olds and above is above average compared to the rest of the state. Typically, that age group has more expendable income.

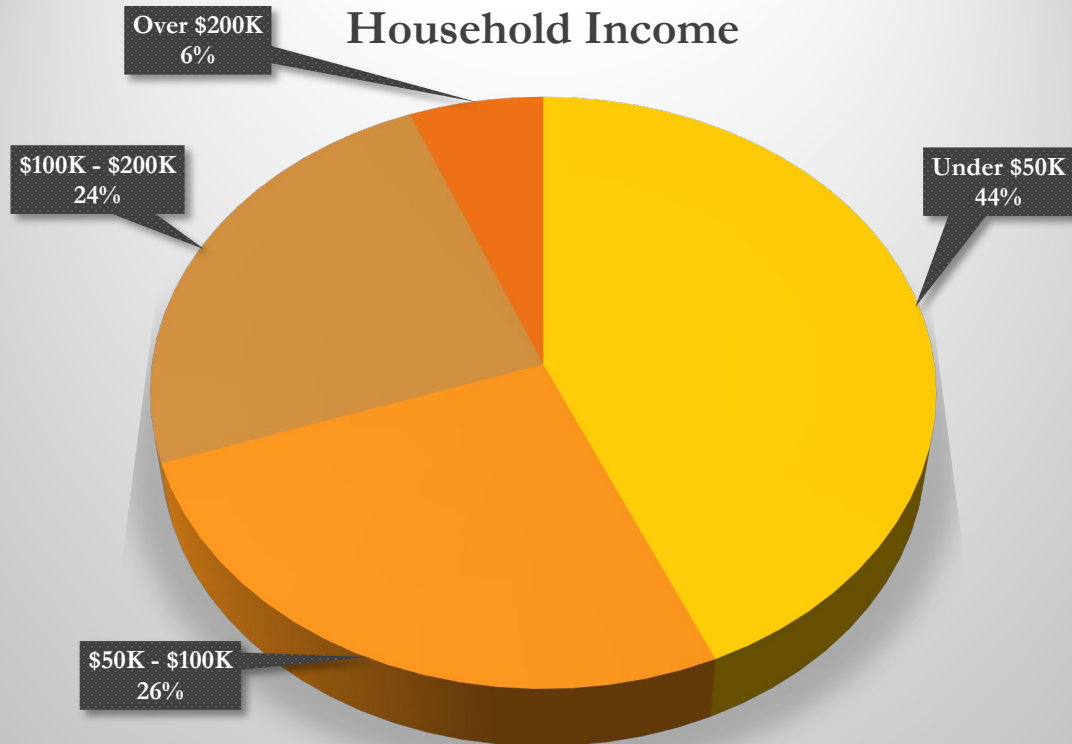
With the opening of the new Jonesborough Senior Center building in December 2015, this has provided additional programming and services for those within the senior population. The Senior Center offers memberships to individuals beginning at 50 years of age. As population in this age category increases, work should continue to develop appropriate programming for this population.

It is important to continue to evaluate programs and services to ensure that participation rates reflect the expected demographic shifts of the service area.

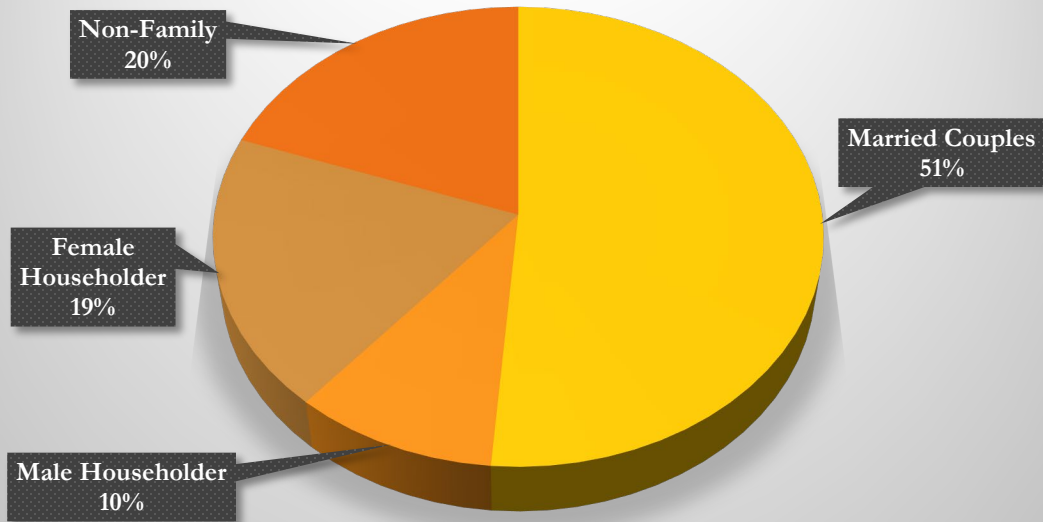
2024 Population Estimates Breakdown By Age Group



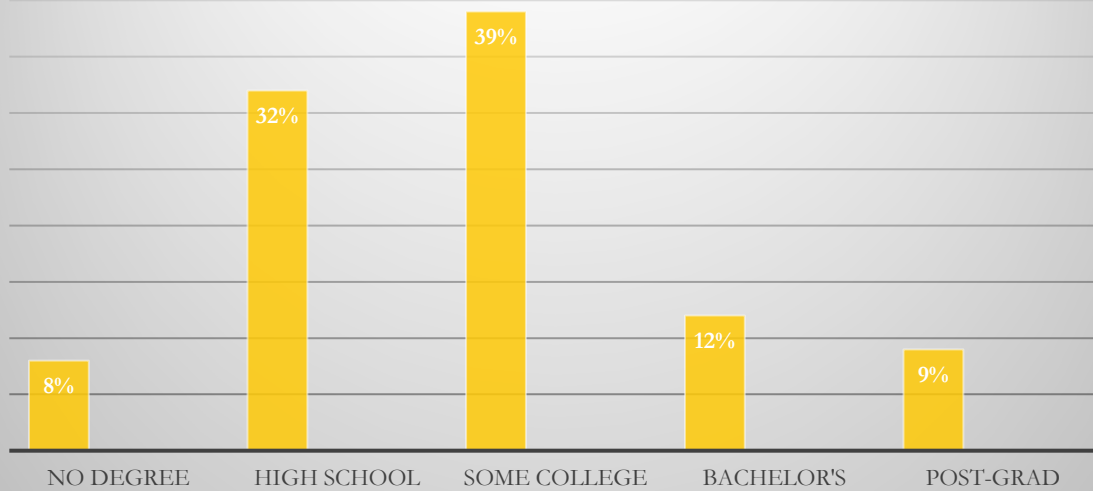
Household Income



Population by Household Type



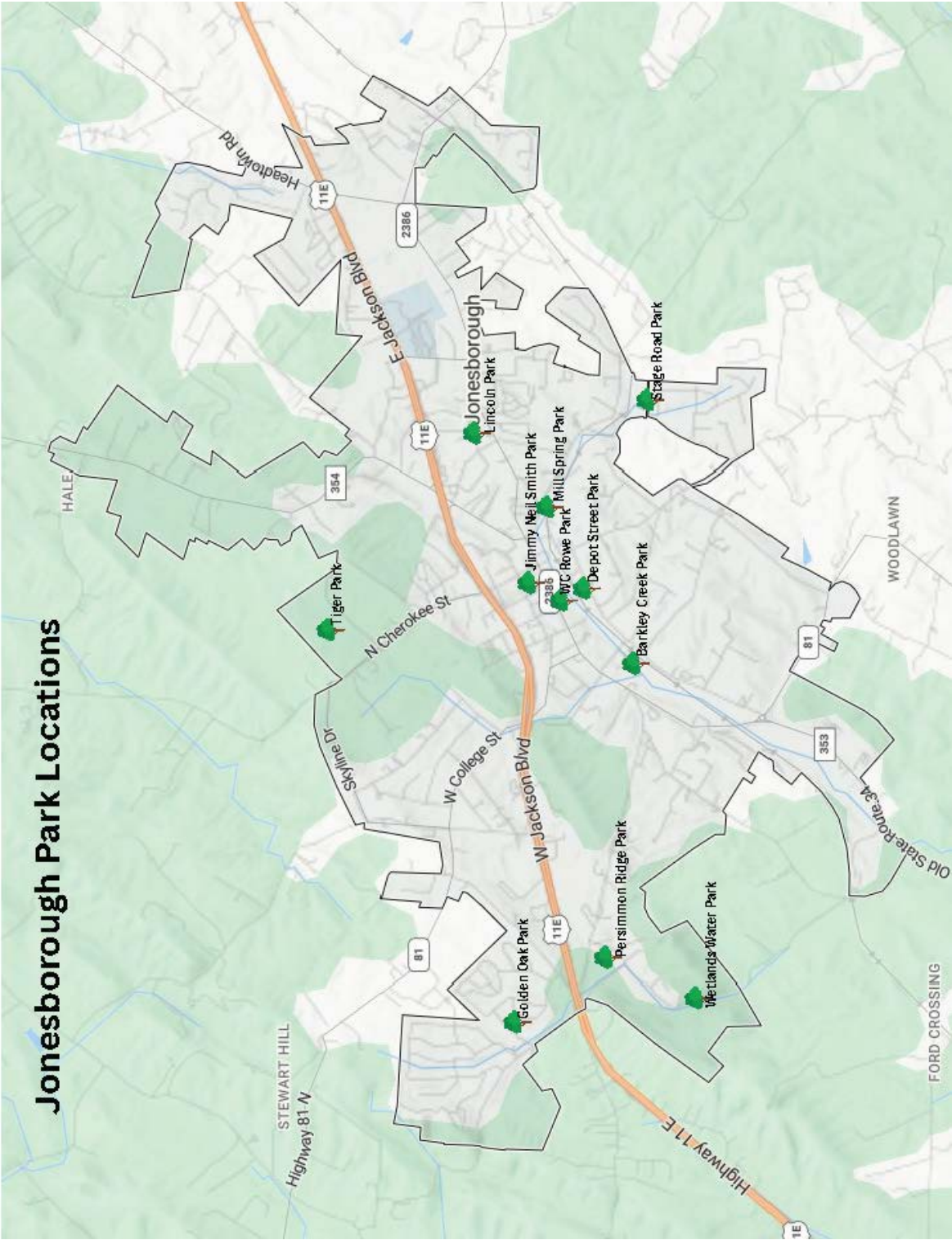
Population by Highest Level of Education



Conclusion

Jonesborough's demographic profile reflects an increasing and changing population, particularly since 2020 at the onset of the pandemic. The opening of the new K – 8 Jonesborough School has also played a large role in demographic change within the Town with an above average growth rate in the school-age population. Based on education and economic data, there is a need for accessible and inclusive recreational programs that are affordable.

3.0 FACILITY EVALUATIONS



Jonesborough Park Facility Evaluations

This section includes a detailed evaluation of all features within Town-owned parks. The intent is to provide an outsider's perspective of the condition of the parks. For those individuals who are responsible for oversight of the parks and their ongoing maintenance, certain details might be overlooked due to the propensity to not see certain details because they see them so often.

Parks and Facilities:

- Stage Road Park
- Depot Street Park
- Lincoln Park
- Persimmon Ridge Park
- Wetlands Water Park
- Golden Oak Park
- WC Rowe Park
- Mill Spring Park
- Lost State Scenic Walkway
- Jimmy Neil Smith Park
- Barkley Creek Park

Stage Road Park

Address: 188 Stage Road

Calculated Acreage: 3.56 Acres

List of Amenities:

- Playground and swings
- Walking Trails
- Pavilion
- Restrooms
- Miscellaneous amenities include trash receptacles and benches
- Tennis/pickleball court
- Landscaped and open spaces

Observations:

- Some trees have been removed as they were maintenance issues. Plans for replacing those trees with appropriate species that can provide shade should be factored into future planting
- The riparian buffer was cut down which previously greatly reduced the filtering of surface water from Mountain View Estates. It is recommended that to the extent possible, nuisance plants be removed in the area along the south side of the creekway where a riparian buffer was intended, and grasses and wildflowers be allowed to grow into mature plants
- There are a couple of sections of the walkway that hold water. Drainage runoff should be facilitated and the walkway area repaved to eliminate standing water
- Engineered Wood Fiber within the playground fall zones should be maintained at 12 inch depth
- Some of the playground equipment has been damaged over time. Even if it's still functional, equipment should be inspected for potential liability issues, and damaged parts or sections should be repaired or replaced.
- Shrubs were removed from around the pickleball courts. These shrubs created substantial wind protection that now affects play on the court. Shrubs should be replaced and it properly cared for and maintained to enhance aesthetics and improve court conditions.
- It is recommended that the Stage Road landscape design plan be reviewed and plantings be initiated to fill in sections of lost or removed plants. Landscape checklists should be

reviewed, then followed, and changes in the landscape plans should be submitted to the Tree and Townscape Board for approval before implementation.

General: Stage Road Park is located off Stage Road at the east end of Jonesborough near Stage Road's intersection with Spring Street. The park lies along the section of Little Limestone Creek close to the railroad tracks. The park includes what is now a pickleball court, a picnic pavilion with restrooms, a fenced-in playground, and walkways that go to the east and west ends of the property. The park was highly landscaped initially with a design plan developed by Equinox Environmental out of Asheville. The plan included a riparian buffer above the creek way of native grasses and wildflowers intended to create a natural filter, pulling sediment and chemicals out of surface stormwater flowing into Stage Road Park and the creek way from the adjacent large subdivision, Mountain View Estates.

The walkways system within the park was developed with the intent in the future that it would be extended to the east through the adjacent Lingo property allowing a walkway connection to Heritage Place Subdivision and future development in that area. The walkway connection across Lingo, if implemented, would facilitate access to the Spring Street railroad crossing where pedestrian and bike traffic across the railroad is possible into Jonesborough's Urban Growth Boundary area.

At the northwest edge of Stage Road Park, the existing walkway stops with the expectation that it could be extended along the north side of Stage Road and then cross Stage Road just above the creek and south side of the railroad to a future walkway along the tracks to Fox Street in downtown Jonesborough. The initial plan also included a fork in the walkway at the Stage Road trail crossing taking the walkway across the creek and railroad to the corner lot owned by the Town at Stage Road and Spring Street. This extension was intended to cross Spring Street to a right-of-way owned by Steve Bacon that extended north across eight acres to New Halifax Subdivision and East Main Street. However, Steve Bacon sold the right-of-way and acreage for a single residence.

Note: Recreation Trail Program – the Town was awarded a Recreation Trails Program grant that will fund the construction of a walkway connection from downtown to Stage Road Park. The walkways will be located along the south side of the railroad from Fox Street to Stage Road. The grant could also potentially fund the connection across the Lingo property as well, if the property owner agreed. Because of the proximity of Little Limestone Creek, there are some creek crossings that would be necessary and possibly some sections of boardwalk with rails in a couple of wet areas to carry out the walkway extension as originally planned. One major goal and

advantage of the original plan is separating the main walkway, that needs to be eight feet wide to be grant eligible, from vehicular traffic on Spring Street.

Use of Financial Resources: If the section of walkway through Stage Road Park that would be the main through route for pedestrians and bikers is not eight feet wide or greater, the RTP grant funding could be used to extend the width of the existing walkway to reach the minimum width requirement of the funding program.

Land Acquisition: No additional property is needed within Stage Road Park. A walkway easement must be³ obtained across the Lingo property for that potential trail, but the Town likely has the right-of-way on the north side of Stage Road to get to the location the walkway needs to cross the street.

Community Awareness and Participation: The Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee, made up of area residents, and the Jonesborough Board of Mayor and Aldermen will hold public meetings to review the Master Plan, including revisions that include Stage Road Park.

Programming: There has been some public comment about changes within Stage Road Park. Positive comments have included repairs to existing walkways, construction of connecting walkway sections, modifications to the basketball court to a pickleball/tennis court, removal of fallen trees and overgrown brush along the creek way, placement of sod around playground areas within the fenced area.

Maintenance of Facilities/Development and Redevelopment: Equipment within the park needs to be closely maintained and landscaping maintenance and care should be consistent. It may be helpful to contract out initial landscape repair and have Town staff maintain a schedule of routine maintenance.

Planning: Walkway connections to Stage Road Park from downtown need to be reviewed, as well as extending the walkway from the east to Spring Street allowing more pedestrian access to residences, existing and future.

Depot Street Park

Address: 400 Depot Street

Calculated Acreage: 1.3 Acres

List of Amenities:

- Playground and swings
- Pavilion
- Restrooms
- Miscellaneous amenities include trash receptacles and picnic tables

Observations:

- Some playground equipment is in disrepair with missing components
- Pavilion structure is in need of maintenance
- Lack of pedestrian connections from parking lot to amenities within the park
- Grass surface throughout the park is uneven, posing hazards for users
- No designated parking spaces or ADA parking

General: The park is located on the south side of the railroad tracks, adjacent to Jonesborough's downtown. It is directly across the railroad tracks from WC Rowe Park and only lacks about 650 linear feet of walkway connection for users to be able to access the park on foot from the Lost State Scenic Walkway. The park property is owned by and leased from the Southern Railway Company. Because of this, the Town cannot apply or receive grant funding to upgrade the park.

Use of Financial Resources: Upgrades to the park need to be funded directly through the Parks and Recreation budget. A Park Subcommittee should be formed to take a look at the needs/desires of residents within the area of the park to see what upgrades should be implemented to meet their needs. This was previously done in the past and recommendations from the Park Subcommittee included a need for new and larger pavilion, upgrades restroom facilities to meet ADA accessibility requirements, features that appeal to individuals 20+ years.

Land Acquisition: No additional property is needed within Depot Street Park. In order to create the pedestrian connection to the existing Lost State Scenic Walkway, the Town could likely construct a walkway within the existing right-of-way.

Community Awareness and Participation: The Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee, made up of area residents, and the Jonesborough Board of Mayor and Aldermen will hold public meetings to review the Master Plan, including revisions that include Stage Road Park.

Programming: Positive comments related to the park include those related to the pavilion and its use by community members and close by churches.

Maintenance of Facilities/Development and Redevelopment: Equipment within the park needs to be closely maintained. A maintenance plan for landscape should be developed and followed. There are number of shrubs and trees growing in the park that create obstructions. Large trees around the playground area create needed shade, but should be limbed up in order to eliminate issues related to maintenance with the playground equipment and to increase sight/vision within the park.

Planning: Walkway connections to Depot Street Park from downtown need to be reviewed, as well as extending the walkway to the west to the potential park space associated with the Town's Municipal Garage, allowing more pedestrian access to residences, existing and future.

Lincoln Park

Address: 307 East Main Street

Calculated Acreage: 3.5 Acres

Observations:

- The general condition of the park is very good, being as it opened in 2023
- There has been some plant loss throughout the park and that should be evaluated
- Many grassed areas in the park are bare and should be overseeded

List of Amenities:

- Pavilion with picnic tables, restrooms, mechanical storage rooms
- Fenced pickleball court, horseshoes, bocce ball and shuffleboard
- Education building with potting tables, instruction area, restrooms
- Gazebo and Arbor
- Water feature with small waterfall into pond
- Multi-generational swings and slope slide
- Walkways through 3.5 acres, highly landscaped areas
- Amphitheater with bricked seating area worked into side of bank
- Raised planting beds at Educational Center
- Terraced steps with layered planting beds
- Shared large parking area with Senior Center and sidewalk connection to Center

General: The Lincoln Park development resulted from the Town's municipal garage facilities being moved from behind the Senior Center to the 19 acre Rosenbaum property at the west end of town between the traffic circle at Five Points. The design of Lincoln Park was developed by landscape architecture students at Virginia Tech in conjunction with Town staff. The timing and complexity of the park project was greatly affected by the fact that the park development could not begin until the new municipal garage property was purchased, facility designed, site prepared, and building constructed and occupied. The park site was prepared by Town staff, and the construction of the pavilion/restrooms, education building (garden/potting shed) and amphitheater were contracted with a construction company from Morristown, TN. The facilities developed included the following:

The end product of the park development has been highly praised and is complimentary and immediately accessible from the Senior Center.

Intergovernmental Cooperation: The Lincoln Park project received a \$500,000 Local Parks and Recreation Fund Grant, the most awarded through that grant up to that time.

Programming: The Senior Center is responsible for the programming at Lincoln Park. The programming established has many senior based activities, but the park is available to the general public.

Maintenance of Facilities/Development and Redevelopment: The park is maintained both by the Recreation department and Senior Center, both Town operations. The surface of the pickleball court had to be removed and returned to just concrete.

Planning: While the park is fully developed, landscaping was implemented with minimal soil preparation, and grassed areas have struggled. It is recommended that landscaped areas receive top dressing and fertilization before additional mulch is added. Grassed areas need attention in early spring, and a detailed improvement plan developed. The surfaces of the pickleball court, bocce ball and shuffleboard courts should be evaluated for potential improvements.

Persimmon Ridge Park

Address: 1521 Persimmon Ridge Road

Calculated Acreage: 130 Acres

List of Amenities:

- Pavilion with picnic tables, restrooms
- Walkways throughout the park that connect to the Lost State Scenic Walkway
- Basketball court
- Baseball, softball and t-ball fields
- Playground associated with ball fields
- Concession/restroom/pavilion associated with ball fields
- Disc Golf Course
- Hiking Trails
- Gillespie Building which houses the Food Pantry and a classroom space for the McKinney Center
- Police Training Center
- Wetlands Water Park

Observations:

- Basketball court is in disrepair with one goal missing
- Lower parking lot is in disrepair and ADA accessible parking is not available
- Parking lines are very faint
- The appearance of the park in general is poor
- General condition of the ball fields are in disrepair with many holes and uneven areas in the outfields and the infields need to be reworked with additional infill brought in
- Three of the four fields need attention related to updated fencing, availability of ADA accessible seating and access
- Athletic field lighting appears to be outdated and in disrepair
- Pedestrian foot bridges appear unsafe
- Lack of signage to direct visitors to amenities within the park
- Restrooms are not ADA accessible and in disrepair
- Playground equipment is damaged and EWF needs to be replenished
- Cleanup of storm debris should be implemented

General: Persimmon Ridge Park was obtained and developed through a number of LWCF and LPRF grant funds over a number of years. This is the Town's largest park and houses the majority

of athletic programming (until Tiger Park is completed) including Little League and Jonesborough Soccer League. The park has also been home to a campground that has closed in the midst of a renovation. At this time, progress of the renovation is at a standstill with no concrete plan in place to continue. The park is also home to the department's maintenance building that houses an office, restrooms and equipment storage for the department's maintenance department.

Intergovernmental Cooperation: The park was obtained and developed through six Local Park and Recreation Fund and Land and Water Conservation Fund grants, beginning in the late 1970s.

Programming: The Town first developed ball fields at the park, previously located in the gateway to Jonesborough's downtown, providing months long recreation opportunities for the community. Later, the Jonesborough Soccer Association was formed by volunteers (now the Jonesborough Soccer Association), and offers spring and fall soccer programming.

Maintenance of Facilities/Development and Redevelopment: Equipment within the park needs to be closely maintained. A maintenance plan for landscape at Wetlands Water Park, including the parking area, should be developed and followed. After severe storms in 2022, the park saw damage in the form of downed trees. These trees still create obstructions along the hiking trails and plans should be made to address this so they do not pose fire hazards during dry periods. The basketball court, ball fields, public restrooms and walking trails should also have maintenance issues addressed.

Planning: Previously, the recommendations from the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee were that the park is at its capacity and should not be further developed. The undeveloped areas, including the forested areas, provide their own recreation opportunities for users, including nature and wildlife watching. Due to parking availability, programming has to be carefully planned so that there is available parking space for all users in the park. Currently, the Water Park operates from Memorial Day to Labor Day and the parking around the Water Park and the overflow field parking is occupied by Water Park patrons. The overflow field parking area is also utilized by sports programming participants, in addition to the lower lot by the ball fields. There is a small parking area by the cabin at the entrance to the park as well as parking up by the Mary B. Martin storage building (next to the campground area). Careful consideration for the available space within the park and future programming should be given before any changes or expansions are made. These recommendations should go through the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee.

Wetlands Water Park

Address: 1521 Persimmon Ridge Road

Calculated Acreage: 3 Acres

List of Amenities:

- Full Concession Café
- Restroom Facilities
- Covered upper deck eating area with picnic tables
- Lounge seating on pool deck
- Three flume slides
- Zero depth entry with water bubblers and dump buckets
- Two “otter” slides
- Lazy River
- Pool deck eating area

Observations:

- General condition of the park is fair
- Maintenance attention should be given to the entire park
- Facilities and amenities are outdated and in poor condition
- Parking availability is poor
- Civitan pavilion is in poor condition, particularly the restroom facilities

General: The park was the first municipally owned water park in the state, generating a profit most years. The park was developed as a community recreation opportunity for Jonesborough residents and has seen regular visitors from the tri-state area, including Western North Carolina and Southwest Virginia.

Intergovernmental Cooperation: Wetlands was partially developed through a Local Park and Recreation Fund Grant.

Programming: The Water Park offers swim lessons that take place before park opening during the week as well as rentals for private parties after regular hours.

Maintenance of Facilities/Development and Redevelopment: Equipment within the park needs to be closely maintained. The Town developed maintenance and safety checklists for the park (daily/weekly/monthly) that should be utilized to appropriately address maintenance and potential safety concerns. In addition, there is a Wetlands Subcommittee whose purpose is to make recommendations for additions within the park. That Subcommittee has not met for

several years, but for subsequent years made recommendations to the Board of Mayor and Aldermen to implement upgrades to the park in the form of installation of an interactive water feature.

Planning: Development of a new feature is important to the continued success of the Water Park. Kingsport now has an indoor/outdoor Aquatic Facility and there are similar facilities in the works for Johnson City and Bristol, TN. Wetlands target demographic is families with small children. As previously discussed, Jonesborough has seen an increase in families moving into Town with school-aged children. This growth should encourage and spur the efforts to implement a new feature(s) at the park. Careful planning and work on the front end to consider the implementation of an interactive water feature should begin now. In addition, attention should be paid to existing amenities within the park and their ongoing maintenance.

Golden Oak Park

Address: 277 Goldenrod Drive

Calculated Acreage: 1 Acre

List of Amenities:

- Pavilioin
- Restroom Facilities
- Playground Areas
- Mini Stage/Performance Area
- Adjacent Walking Trail (Lost State Scenic Walkway)

Observations:

- Some disrepair to playground equipment
- Some maintenance issues related to restroom facilities
- Overall in good condition

General: The park was developed as a community park, between Mill Creek and the Meadows Subdivisions as they were in the early development stages. The park property was deeded from the developer of the Meadows Subdivision, along with the property for the northwest extension of the Lost State Scenic Walkway.

Intergovernmental Cooperation: The park and trail extension were developed through funding provided by the Local Park and Recreation Fund grant.

Programming: There is no formal programming that is offered at the park, but the park can be utilized for private parties such as birthday parties.

Maintenance of Facilities/Development and Redevelopment: Due to lack of ongoing maintenance, the park saw a maintenance overhaul in 2022 where landscaped areas were re-assessed, lost plants were replaced and general maintenance to landscaping was implemented. In addition, the playground area saw a maintenance overhaul.

Planning: Due to its size, future expansion of the park within its boundaries is not possible. However, the park provides a great example of what could be done in the future to plan out similar small community parks.

WC Rowe Park

Address: 277 Goldenrod Drive

Calculated Acreage: 1 Acre (Linear Park)

List of Amenities:

- Walking Trail (Lost State Scenic Walkway)
- Chuckey Depot Museum
- Chuckey Depot Museum Caboose

Observations:

- Generally in good condition
- Landscaped areas should be addressed and lost plant material replaced
- Particular attention should be given to the Chuckey Depot building and a maintenance plan developed for its care

General: This park was developed as part of an effort to relocate the Chuckey Depot from Chuckey, TN. In addition, the implementation of the development of the walkway connector happened just before the Depot was relocated to this area.

Intergovernmental Cooperation: The trail was funded through a T-21 Grant that utilized some federal funding. The Depot was the result of a public/private relationship with the family that owned the Depot, the Town and the Watauga Valley Railroad. The Town undertook the cost of the relocation of the Depot as well as the efforts and cost to restore it. In addition, the Town also took a lead in developing the museum portion of the Depot, including securing artifacts and designing exhibits.

Programming: The museum is, on its own, a programmatic feature and is open throughout the year, with longer hours during the warm seasons and shorter periods of time during the cold season.

Maintenance of Facilities/Development and Redevelopment: Oversight for maintenance is handled by the Chuckey Depot Advisory Committee. The Parks and Recreation Department is responsible for maintenance of the facility and the recreation trail within WC Rowe Park. A maintenance checklist related to the building itself should be developed and implemented use.

Planning: Due to its size, future expansion of the park within its boundaries is not possible. However, there is potential for obtaining additional land on the west side of the Depot in the

future for expansion of the museum with standalone artifacts, a restroom facility and pavilion/picnic area so that tour and school groups can plan trips to the park and Depot.

Mill Spring Park

Address: 115 Fox Street

Calculated Acreage: 1 Acre

List of Amenities:

- Gazebo
- Standalone Public Restrooms
- Slemons House, home of the Storytelling Resource Place
- Pedestrian footbridge

Observations

- Lack of pedestrian connection to gazebo
- Would benefit from opportunities for passive recreation
- Footbridge on east end of park should be removed
- Lack of lines in parking lot
- No designated ADA parking
- Updates needed for park restrooms

General: The park is situated on the east side of the historic downtown commercial district and offers a large green space that is perfectly positioned as a picnic area for visitors. Little Limestone Creek flows through the length of the park.

Intergovernmental Cooperation: The park and restroom facilities were developed and funded through a Local Park and Recreation Fund grant and a Local Water Conservation Fund grant.

Programming: There is no formal programming that is offered at the park. Because of its proximity to downtown, the park is utilized for special events throughout the year including the National Storytelling Festival and two seasonal Makers Faires.

Maintenance of Facilities/Development and Redevelopment: The Slemons House and the gazebo were recently painted, which greatly improved their appearance. A small footbridge on the east end of the property is closed off and should be removed. Landscaping throughout the park is minimal and improvements could be made to lend more of an aesthetic appeal to the park so that it is utilized more regularly for events.

Planning: Because of its use for events, the park should not be heavily developed. There really is not space for playground or game features, but it would make sense for the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee to look at implementing some shaded picnic areas to serve downtown visitors and tourists.

Jimmy Neil Smith Park

Address: 116 West Main Street

Calculated Acreage: 2.2 Acres

List of Amenities:

- Walking Trails
- Storybook Trail
- Landscaped Spaces

Observations

- Some damage to stones along walkway

General: The park was developed in conjunction with the International Storytelling Center building. The park is owned by the Town and is used throughout the year for Town, ISC and private events, such as weddings. This is more of a passive park and has a walking trail and Storybook Trail along the walkway.

Intergovernmental Cooperation: The partnership between the Town and ISC is important to the ongoing use and upkeep of the park. The Friends of the Jimmy Neil Smith Park oversee ongoing support for the Storybook Trail and provide oversight for maintenance.

Programming: The Storybook Trail is in use 12 months out of the year and special events put on by ISC and the Town, including the annual Jonesborough Days Festival and National Storytelling Festival, take place in the park.

Maintenance of Facilities/Development and Redevelopment: Now that the Friends of the Jimmy Neil Smith Park have taken over the oversight for maintenance of the park, the park is much better maintained. The Town works with ISC staff and the Washington County Inmate Crew to implement landscape maintenance. The current need for maintenance is related to the stone that is along the walkway within the park. The stone has been damaged in some areas and should be secured in place.

Planning: Due to its size, future expansion of the park within its boundaries is not possible. However, continued programming to encourage use of the park should be encouraged. Support to ISC and Friends of the Jimmy Neil Smith Park should continue by the Town.

Barkley Creek Park

Address: 615 West Main Street

Calculated Acreage: 2.16 Acres

List of Amenities:

- Walking Trails
- Two pedestrian bridges
- Pond

Observations

- Issue with goose waste along walkways
- Bare turf areas within the park
- Some damage on pedestrian footbridge

General: The park donated by Ben Parrish and Rebecca Isbell and the original intent was to develop the property, along with adjacent property, for soccer fields. However, plans changed due to the presence of wetlands areas and plans were implemented to create more of a passive park and make the connection from Persimmon Ridge Road to downtown via the development of the Lost State Scenic Walkway.

Intergovernmental Cooperation: The development of the property with the trail and pedestrian bridges was provided, in part, by a Local Park and Recreation Fund Grant. A portion of the project, along with the connection from the south side of Little Limestone Creek to Dogwood Lane, was funded through a T-21 Grant.

Programming: The park functions in a more passive capacity and provides the walkway connection from Persimmon Ridge Road to downtown.

Maintenance of Facilities/Development and Redevelopment: One of the pedestrian bridges was recently replaced and a section of the walkway was demolished and repaved. Overall, the property needs to be assessed for ongoing maintenance for the second pedestrian bridge and landscape maintenance. Much of the grass areas of the park are bare and could use overseeding.

Planning: Future plans for the park could include development of a small parking area along with potentially stocking the pond for fishing as there are quite a few individuals who frequent the park to fish.

Lost State Scenic Walkway and Frontier Trail

Calculated Distance: 3 miles

List of Amenities:

- Walking Trails
- Various accessories including benches, lighting and trash receptacles

Observations

- Attention should be given to landscaped areas along the trail
- There is some damage to wooden footbridges and dog-eared fence along the trail
- Approaches to some footbridges has a large lip, impeding ADA access

General: The Lost State Scenic Walkway is Jonesborough's walking and sidewalk system initiated a number of years ago with the intent of providing safe pedestrian and biker connectivity from all major residential areas in Town to area and neighborhood parks and Jonesborough's historic downtown. Currently, Mill Spring Park, Jimmy Neil Smith Park, WC Rowe Park and the Chuckey Depot, Barkley Creek Park, Persimmon Ridge Park, Golden Oak Park, and Lincoln Park are all connected directly or via sidewalk to the walkway system. Grant funding has been obtained and design/easement acquisition is underway to connect the brick sidewalk up Fox Street downtown to a new section of eight foot walkways along the south side of Little Limestone Creek to Stage Road Park, east of downtown. It is the plan to take the walkway from Stage Road Park the short distance to the Town's city limits on Spring Street. In addition, funding through the Governor's budget and the Tennessee Legislature has allowed the sidewalk recently constructed from Oak Hill Cemetery along Main Street to Forest Drive to be expanded eastward to Hometown Road, connecting the adjoining residential areas including newly developed Vines Farm Subdivision, fully connected internally with sidewalks and walkways, to Jonesborough's downtown. Funding exists and planning is taking place to extend the sidewalk along E. Main Street all the way to the Town's city limits past the railroad overpass at Timber Ridge Subdivision.

The Frontier Trail is a multi-government partnership project that will extend Jonesborough Walkway System through the portion of the Old Jonesborough Road through Washington County to the Johnson City city limits and then along Johnson City's West Walnut Street to the East Tennessee State University's campus. When completed, a walkway system will be available to walk or ride a bike from Jonesborough through Johnson City all the way to Elizabethton using the connected Lost State Scenic Walkway, Frontier Trail and Tweetsie Trail.

Intergovernmental Cooperation: The Frontier Trail system is a partnership project involving the three governments of Jonesborough, Washington County and Johnson City, with major funding support from the State of Tennessee. Jonesborough is taking a leadership role in the implementation of the trail through Jonesborough and Washington County, and Johnson City is managing trail construction through its city limits to ETSU.

Use of Financial Resources: Jonesborough has funding in place to carry out two major extensions of the Lost State Scenic Walkway. The Town has a \$490,000 Recreation Trails Program grant to construct an eight foot wide walkway from Fox Street downtown along Woodrow Avenue and then on the south side of Little Limestone Creek to Stage Road Park. If those funds allow, the goal is to extend the walkway the short distance from Stage Road Park to the town limits. On East Main Street, the Town has \$2.5 million of a State Appropriation to construct the sidewalk to Frontier Park (to be located at the old Jonesborough Middle School) along Forest Drive and to extend the sidewalk at Headtown Road out to the Town limits at the entrance to Timber Ridge Subdivision.

In addition to the two walkway extensions eastward, current project goals include extending the Town's walkway system toward the west end of Town from Oak Grove Avenue out College Street to May Drive and along the length of May Drive to Saylor's Place subdivision which is undertaking the construction of their own recreation trails. That trail will create the connection to the existing walkway system at the new Jonesborough School and associated Tiger Park. When these three funded extensions are complete, nine out of Jonesborough's existing 10 parks will be connected to each other and to downtown.

Land Acquisition: To the extent possible, the walkway extensions are planned in existing right-of-way. The walkway extension to Stage Road Park only has existing right-of-way along the short sections of Woodrow Avenue on the downtown end, and Stage Road on the east end. Discussions with most property owners have taken place. With the East Main Street extension, only construction easements are anticipated. With the extension to Saylor's Place, only an easement from the end of May Drive to the Saylor's Place connection is anticipated.

Community Awareness and Participation: Jonesborough's consistent effort to extend walkway connections to downtown is a source of pride for Town residents. All new subdivisions are required to construct sidewalks, and in some zones where sidewalks are required on both sides of the street, the Town allows one side to be swapped for walkways away from vehicular traffic and that connect to the existing walkway system.

Programming: Programming related to the Town's walkway system is largely related to the intent for walkways to connect to downtown, existing parks, commercial areas, schools and other

destinations. The goal is to provide an alternate way to get to relatively close by locations without the use of a vehicle, while also enhancing opportunities for exercise and better health. In some cases, like the walkways at Jimmy Neil Smith Park, there is programming along the walkway like the StoryTrail that can be changed out with different stories, which is done three times a year. A plan has also been discussed to paint murals on the long wooden fence along the walkway from W.C. Rowe Park to Third Avenue.

Maintenance of Facilities/Development and Redevelopment: Concrete sidewalks along Oak Grove Avenue and down the north side of Main Street were totally redeveloped and improved. The Oak Grove sidewalk is intended to be the downtown connection to the walkway that has been funded to go along College Street to May Drive and ultimately connecting to Tiger Park at the new Jonesborough School. The brick sidewalk in front of the Jackson Theatre and Eureka Inn, from the Jackson/Main Street Café alley to First Avenue, has been totally redeveloped with added drainage at the curbs and ADA compliant access to entrances in adjoining buildings. With future development of pedestrian sidewalks and walkways, efforts should be made to develop sidewalks that meet ADA accessibility guidelines.

Planning: Design details are currently being developed with the RTP walkway from downtown to Stage Road Park, the walkway extension from Oak Grove Avenue to Saylor's Place and Tiger Park, and the Frontier Trail extension to Jonesborough's town limits on East Main Street. Conceptual design is also being reviewed on the section of the Frontier Trail in Washington County along the Old Jonesborough Highway.

Other trail extensions being considered or in conceptual planning stages:

Connecting or looping the new walkway constructed to Stage Road Park and possibly to the Town limits on Spring Street at the new railroad tracks to the section of the Lost State Scenic Walkway/Frontier Trail along East Main Street by constructing a walkway connection up Old Turnpike Road and along a section of the Robertson property. This loops at the east end of Jonesborough's walkway system would allow a person to walk or bike from downtown to Stage Road Park, loop up to East Main Street, and return to downtown on Main Street without reversing direction on the same section of walkway. In addition, a possible walkway connection to Vines Farm Subdivision from Spring Street is being considered using the Wolfe property to construct the walkway connection.

The original layout plan for the Town's Lost State Scenic Walkway included a walkway connection from Barkley Creek Park down along Little Limestone Creek under the West Main Street overpass (goes over the railroad and creek) to the 19-acre Rosenbaum property owned by the Town. This property is where the Fleet Maintenance Facility is located, but is also the original location for

the new Dog Park as well as a potential new park area on the west end of the tract, on the southside of the creek from the Dog Park in a heavily treed area. This potential new park area is a good place for a restroom building because both water and sewer lines are immediately present, it is adjacent to the parking area planned for the Dog Park, and it would easily be accessible to numerous residences along both sides of SR-353. When easements were obtained to construct a new large sewer interceptor line up Little Limestone from the Wastewater Plant across the tracks from the Rosenbaum property, there were some property owners that also included the walkway construction in their signed easement. The easements associated with the sewer interceptor should be reviewed to assess how many easements already exist allowing walkway development. One large track of level along the creek, previously owned by Ben Parrish, allowed walkway development. The development of the walkway system to the far west end of the Town limits would complete the main trunk of the walkway system from one end, through downtown, to the other end and connect many more residents to the walkway system.

The planning related to the Frontier Trail connection to Johnson City includes two walkway connections to Johnson City, one continuing out East Main Street through Washington County on the Old Jonesborough Highway, and along Walnut Street in Johnson City to State of Franklin Road. This is Johnson City's preferred initial route and the plan used for seeking additional funding. The other walkway route in the plan extends the walkway along Mill Spring Road in Washington County and up along Cherokee Creek in the County to Johnson City's Willow Spring Park. The walkway system would be used through that Park, and a relatively short section of walkway would have to be constructed to Greenwood Drive at the west end of the East Tennessee State University property that already has a walkway system that on the east side of the campus is accessible to the Tweetsie Trail connecting Johnson City to Elizabethton. This additional route could be constructed with greater width to accommodate bikes and would be mostly through open space absent of close-by motorized vehicles. A more specific plan would likely facilitate coordinated sections of that walkway route being constructed as vacant property in Washington County is developed. This might be especially possible along the creekway where building development is restricted within a certain distance from the creek. Loop connections between both Johnson City walkways could be constructed to allow access to many residence in the area and creating highly desirable pedestrian safe environment between ETSU and Jonesborough.

At Tiger Park and the new Jonesborough Elementary School, the Town has purchased the right-of-way from the Slonaker Farm needed to construct an extension of Skyline Drive located above the school and Tiger Park athletic area across the Slonaker Farm to a traffic circle to be built by the Tennessee Department of Transportation at the intersection of the Boones Creek Road and Parsons Circle. This extension of Skyline Drive creates a major new connection to the school site

spreading out traffic flow. The conceptual design for the street connection to the new traffic circle includes a walkway development that would connect the numerous residences recently constructed along Boones Creek Road to the School and Tiger Park, as well as the walkway connection from the Park to downtown and other park areas.

Tiger Park

Address: 720 North Cherokee Street

Calculated Acreage: 48.51 Acres

List of Amenities:

- Walking Trails
- Baseball and Softball Field
- Open field area for various sports programming
- Athletic Field Lighting
- Four playgrounds
- Football/soccer field
- Pickleball courts
- Concession Stand with Restroom Facilities
- Pavilion with Seating
- Various accessories including benches, trash receptacles and dog waste stations

General: The new Jonesborough Elementary K – 8 School has been constructed and was occupied by students January 4, 2024. The development of the three playgrounds closely associated with the school building was completed in March of 2024, and these three playgrounds are open to the public after school hours. Work on the athletic area of the 48.51 acres started in late fall of 2023 and is on-going with a completion date of spring, 2025.

Intergovernmental Cooperation: The Town of Jonesborough applied for a \$2,445,000 Local Parks and Recreation Fund (LPRF) grant from the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, and the grant was awarded in June, 2023. In order to ensure the required 50% match would be available to take advantage of the significant grant assistance, the Washington County Commission approved up to an additional \$2 million in loan funds from Rural Development-USDA. The approval results in Washington County, adding to the annual lease payment to the Town for the school and athletic facilities that covers the debt service payments and the Rural Development loans associated with the school construction. In addition, when the Town received notification from the State that the grant application had been approved, the Washington County School Board approved \$300,000, the same amount of school system investment in the new Boones Creek Elementary School playground, to be used as matching funds with the three playgrounds around the school included in the LPRF project. With the \$300,000 committed by the School Board and the \$900,000 appraised value of the land involved in the project, the actual cash match required in the LPRF project is \$1,245,000. Remaining funds authorized by Washington County (up to \$2 million) have been used for athletic area

improvements not included in the LPRF grant like baseball and softball infield development, ballfield dugouts, and costs associated with the athletic area playground above the LPRF grant funds available.

Community Awareness and Participation: As the development of the athletic area associated with the new Jonesborough Elementary School nears completion, the following steps are being taken/recommended to inform the general public of the available facilities available for public use:

- A map of the entire 48.51 acre site showing locations of all structures, playgrounds, accessories, and walkways that highlights ADA wheelchair parking and access routes to all features within Tiger Park.
- A website posting of key components of all facilities available to the public during non-school hours, and in some cases during school hours.
- Notification to the residents of Jonesborough and the general public that public use of facilities is now available and when.
- Discussion should start with user groups on the scheduling of games at Tiger Park, the shared use of the concession building, any proposals for additional programming like field hockey, lacrosse, etc., and plans to develop any additional facilities needed like the storage/maintenance building.

Programming: The following facilities are or will be available to the public when the construction is complete:

- Eight (8) pickleball courts – completed and fenced (part of LPRF project)
- Concession/restroom building centrally located – building is completed, (part of LPRF project), concession equipment has been ordered, PA system wiring is in place and equipment ordered through Appalachian Light and Production. Second floor is scorer's area with scoreboard controls and PA system.
- Baseball and softball fencing is completed
- Dugouts on baseball and softball fields will be brick and covered.
- Bleachers with ADA seating spaces are complete and in place (part of LPRF project)
- Pavilion with concrete base is complete next to Athletic Area Playground (part of LPRF project)
- Athletic Area Playground is currently under construction, likely complete by March 2025 (part of LPRF project)
- Fencing of Athletic Area Playground is under contract and will be installed after playground installation.

- Track with rubberized surface is complete around football/soccer field.
- Football goal posts have been received; installation is under contract (part of LPRF project)
- Scoreboards have been received; installation is under contract (part of LPRF project)
- Soccer goals have been ordered and received (part of LPRF project)
- Multi-purpose field has been graded and sown; will need to be re-sown this spring.
- Lighting on 70 foot poles for baseball and softball fields has been installed as well as main electrical panel. Waiting on delivery of six additional poles – 2 for multi-purpose field and football/soccer fields (to be installed with 3 poles and fixtures already on site) and four 40 foot poles lighting pickleball courts when complete, football/soccer, multi-purpose, baseball and softball fields will be fully lit as well as the pickleball courts. Additional poles have been received by contractor and should be installed in April 2025 (part of LPRF project).
- Seps and ADA wheelchair access points from parking lot to sidewalks/walkways are in place.
- Walkways throughout the 48.51 acre site are 98% complete, but need to be checked for ADA compliance. Summers-Taylor will complete walkway construction by March, 2025.
- Walkway and facility benches and trash cans have been placed on concrete pads throughout Tiger Park. Tables need to be placed in pavilion and pad by concession stand (part of LPRF project).
- All utility work is complete.

Maintenance of Facility/Development and Redevelopment: The Town is responsible for maintaining the areas around the school building, including the athletic area during the term of the lease. The Facility Lease payment of \$500,000 could be designated to hire staff, equipment and supplies needed in maintenance and improvement projects in Recreation. The Town has hired additional recreation staff, however, the Town staff's current involvement in Tiger Park maintenance and care is minimal. The following components of the development of Tiger Park are not complete and are underway in implementation and or planning:

1. BurWil Construction has the following tasks in their school, concession building, or "side" contracts with the Town.
 - The asphalt vehicle access lane from the east end of the athletic parking area to the concession building and around to the athletic area transformer needs to be repaved and completed to and around the concession building.
 - Certain walkway connections within Tiger Park need to be implemented when final grading and surface stabilization has been completed.

- The concrete bases for the four dugouts need to be poured.
 - The construction of the four dugouts needs to be priced, and if acceptable, implemented this spring.
 - The concession area sinks needed in the concession need to be installed by BurWil once received by the Town (part of LPRF project).
2. Foster Signs has a contract to install the football goal posts and to install the three scoreboards (football, baseball and softball fields). Power to scoreboards needs to be run (part of LPRF project).
 3. Sammy Brooks needs to complete the infield improvements with the baseball and softball fields when weather allows. He has removed the top spoil 5" deep on both fields and is replacing it with the appropriate infield mixture of clay, sand and silt. The mixture has been ordered and partially delivered to the field site. Deliveries were put on hold due to weather and lack of staging area.
 4. Premier Sports Lighting has installed twelve 70 foot light poles with fixtures around the four field areas, and there are three poles with fixtures on site ready for installation. All 10 foot deep concrete pole bases are in place, and remaining fixtures for additional poles to be delivered are on site as well. Six poles need to be delivered, two 70 foot poles and the four 40 foot poles that go on either side of the pickleball court area. These poles have been delivered to Premier in Gastonia, NC on January 31st and are scheduled to be trucked to Jonesborough and installed sometime in March, 2025. After Premier installs the remaining poles, all poles will be activated and training will take place (part of LPRF project).
 5. After heavy equipment completes work tasks associated with concrete pours, walkway paving, ballfield infield work, goal post and scoreboard installation, etc., the disturbed surface areas need to be fine graded and sown in grass.
 6. Any landscaping intended for the park needs to be planted in spring.
 7. The large detention pond servicing most of the 48.51 acre site is functional, but is not supposed to hold water for extended periods.
 8. Concession equipment needs to be ordered, delivered and put in concession area of the building.
 9. A point-of-sale system needs to be purchased including software and equipment. Once the concession and POS equipment is in place, a training session should be scheduled with booster, school and Town staff.

Note: There needs to be an agreement developed between the Town and the school on how the concession/restroom building is utilized. This agreement must include who orders food products and supplies, revenue sharing, clean-up responsibility, security expectations, use of second floor, key control, etc.

10. Todd Hensley with Appalachian Light and Production needs to finalize the plan and associated cost for installing the PA system associated with the baseball, softball and football fields.
11. Signage needed in areas available to the public should be ordered and installed, including any directional signage for ADA access.

Planning: The Tiger Park Project was developed with the possibility of some additional facilities or components that were not planned out but just conceptual. Those additional components include:

- A maintenance/storage building that might be shared with the school system. There needs to be a building in which soccer goals, hurdles and other track associated equipment is stored; area for grounds keep equipment like mowers, weed eaters, chemical storage like weed killer, lime for field striping, etc. The site for the shared building has been determined and water, sewer pipes and electrical conduit have been extended to the building location. There has, however, been no design developed for the structure and no discussion about specific storage needs. Funding for construction also has not been determined.
- An operating agreement between the Town and Washington County School Board should be adopted by both entities. A proposed Agreement was developed and sent to the Town Attorney for review. It was also sent to the school system for review and comment, and at the time the only point of concern that was brought up by the School Board attorney was related to language to indemnification of liability.
- There needs to be a discussion with the new principal at Jonesborough Elementary School that results in clear and mutually acceptable expectation related to public use and scheduling of the outdoor facilities. All facilities receiving even a portion of grant funding for development must be open to the general public on some regular schedule. The need for signage/communication of expectations/scheduling needs to be discussed. A memorandum of understanding (or similar) should be signed with the principal.
- The original site plan for the 48.51 acres has designated wetlands are at the very southwest corner, at the intersection of Thomson Meadow Lane and North Cherokee Street. This area is always wet and is the point most of the surface water exits the school site. There was no plan developed for constructing the wetlands which was considered to be valuable for water quality and educational purposes. The pros and cons of developing a wetlands where it was planned should be discussed in detail, and if continued to be found desirable, an implementation plan should be developed and approved, and it is likely to require the expertise of a qualified design firm to create a sustainable wetlands plan.

- The formal landscape plan implemented in association with the construction of the school stops at the east end of the main parking area, and along extended Skyline Drive. A reforestation plan was developed along Thompson Meadow Lane and extended Skyline Drive and a 1,000 trees were planted where facility development was not likely to occur. Landscaping should be extended into the athletic area to highlight the excellent facilities being or already constructed.
- The Town could initiate a long-range planning process that includes school system personnel and community stakeholders to determine what programs and any additional facilities should be considered to better serve students and area residents.
- The initial landscape plan did not include the athletic areas because the layout and determination of what facilities were needed and would possibly be developed had not been established at that time.
- The park-like nature of the conceptual plan establishes a very desirable passive and natural character to Tiger Park in spite of its active programming. The landscape plan created by Town staff with Equinox could be extended into the athletic area duplicating species and plant associations used in the formal landscape design plan already created.
- A publicity plan needs to be developed once the facilities, designed for public use, are essentially or nearly complete. This plan should focus on the various measures, including social media, that are available to inform the general public as to what features are available and in what schedule, and possibly and additional programs or facilities planned for the future. This information should include the Tiger Park map highlighting ADA access to various park features.
- Plans for the Agricultural Learning Center at the south side of the Administration Parking Lot/Bus drop off should be included in any revision of the 48.51 acre site plan and could include the proposal crop growing area and equipment shed location discussed in early planning.
- Town staff should consider discussion with school system personnel for the purpose of partnering in the development or recreation of in school and after school programming in the arts. This could include re-establishing the in-school StoryTown program, and use of the Jackson Theatre for various programming opportunities.

4.0 ONGOING PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

Dog Park

General: As Jonesborough continues to grow and urbanize, the need for open space and walkway development for people and dogs also continues to grow. Necessary leash laws drastically limits the ability for dogs to run and exercise within the Town limits. A desirable safe, and designated area for dogs to exercise under the supervision of their owners is highly valued in quality communities and reduces the likelihood pet owners will ignore leash laws in public spaces in an effort to give their pet healthy exercise.

Research on dog parks has shown that quality dog parks achieve the following:

- Boost dogs' physical and mental health
- Increase socialization among animals reducing aggression and inappropriate dog behavior
- Provide social interactions among dog owners, increasing human interaction and community pride
- Enhance healthy lifestyles in humans and their pets
- Generates better overall pet care
- Enhances sense of community

The original plan for the dog park was developed by staff with community input, based on the following values:

1. There needs to be separation of spaces between large and small dogs
2. Entrances must be double gated
3. A minimum of 3 acres is needed in order to provide enough space for dogs to run
4. It is better to be connected to a walkway system or community trails
5. There should be surface variety with grass area allowing for longer runs
6. Must be properly fenced
7. A restroom nearby is an important enhancement
8. Needs to be ADA accessible, including entrances
9. Parking is needed close-by
10. Trees for shade and plenty of carefully chosen vegetation is ideal
11. Some form of water feature is great. Must have drinking water for dogs and people
12. Plenty of benches for seating, most in shade
13. A pavilion or shade structure is ideal

The site plan along Little Limestone Creek includes all of the above components. The water feature is to be established a swale surface with pond liners creating a shallow pond in the small dog area that flows through fencing, down through the large dog area into Little Limestone Creek. The source of water is a well constantly pumping a small flow that flows gently down the creek. Because the water is not re-circulated, it does not have to be filtered. Trees are present on the site selected. The original selected dog park location is isolated between Little Limestone Creek and Norfolk Southern Railroad on property not likely used for anything else. Noise from people and dogs is a non-factor because facilities somewhat close by are the Town's Fleet Maintenance facility and the Town's Wastewater/Solid Waste facility. The location would be easily accessible close to the intersection of State Routes 353 and 81 (W Main St).

The proximity necessary to construct the dog park has been obtained; approval from TDO for an entrance/exit to parking off of SR-353, and an ARPA permit to construct a vehicular crossing across Little Limestone Creek in order to access the dog park stie (plan developed by DTWood Engineering). No permit for the water feature is required from TDEC because the ground water from the well just flows into the creek and there is no treatment in the pumping or discharge.

The Town has received a PetSafe/Boyd Foundation grant of \$25,000 to construct a dog park in Jonesborough. The balance of the funds is the same because no work to develop the dog park has taken place other than the cost of acquiring needed permits for construction. The Jonesborough Civitan awarded the Town a \$25,000 grant in support of the dog park development but asked that the funding be returned due to the lack of progress on the project. It still may be available if the development of the dog park is actually initiated.

The location of the dog park was reviewed in depth before the 2+ acre site along Little Limestone Creek was selected. Two years later a second review of the site selection for the dog park was undertaken in-depth, and the Town Board determined again that the best location for a quality dog park was the original site near the Town's Fleet Maintenance facility.

Note: Although Little Limestone Creek very occasionally gets out of its creek bank during extremely heavy storm events, any flood water in that area flows towards SR-3553. The highest point in the Town's 19-acre property is the area between the creek and the railroad selected for the dog park which is out of the 100 year flood zone. Parking and walkway connections can be in the flood zone without any expectation of flood damage.

Note 2: The west end of the Town's 19 acre property is forested, and the parking area planned could serve the dog park via walkway to the north, or could serve a park area developed in the forest area. Sewer, water and electricity and natural gas is very close by, and a conceptual plan

for a restroom facility has been conceptually planned off of the parking area near the forested park, if developed.

Community Awareness and Participation: The Board of Mayor and Aldermen needs to determine whether they want staff to go through a third evaluation of the dog park location. As a general rule, communities are normally very favorable of the development of dog parks relatively close-by within a 15 minute or so drive. Many smart developers of quality subdivisional are developing neighborhood dog parks as a very desirable amenity for living in the subdivision. If the BMA determines they still want a dog park developed on the original site planned and approved, the BMA could ask for an implementation schedule sequencing the work to be undertaken. A development sequencing plan has been previously developed, breaking some of the initial work into sequenced implementation steps.

Planning: Some thought needs to be invested in the on-going care and maintenance of the dog park. There needs to be a number of dog waste stations before leaving the dog park. A number of trash cans will also be necessary. Someone should collect trash and monitor the grounds at least each day before the dog park is open. Also, someone should lock the gate access at closing. A utility vehicle with dump bed that can travel on walkways as well as grass would likely be very helpful. A plan for care and security should be developed.

Agriculture Learning Center

General: The Agriculture Learning Center (ALX) is planned to be separate from the Jonesborough Elementary School but on the K-8 campus across the administrative parking lot from the school building. The purpose of the facility is to teach young students skills in gardening and small farming as well as the culinary skills to prepare healthy meals and snacks. With the loss of small farms at a rapid rate, the mission is to teach growing skills in a more urban environment, being more self-reliant while creating healthier food and food products. The ALC is also being designed to be a central food hub where local growers can bring their produce and food products to be inspected and recorded for sale to the Washington County School System. In addition, since the building is designed specifically to facilitate the teaching of agriculture based skills, agencies like the Washington County Extension Service and Natural Resource Conservation Service are excited about using the LAC for their programs when school is not in session.

Use of Financial Resources: The funding of the ALC was originally established with a \$270,000 appropriation from the State, and a \$500,000 appropriation of Washington County ARPA funds. With major increases in the cost of building materials and labor due to the Covid pandemic, however, where design development and value engineering was completed cost predictions

indicated the funding available is about \$300,000-\$400,000 short of the funding needed. Additional funding is currently being sought.

A Rural Development Rural Business development Grant of \$84,300 was obtained to fund a 20' x 12' walk-in cooler and demonstration kitchen equipment needed to teach culinary skills. If the additional funds needed are secured, the intent is to have the ALC under construction by late spring or early summer 2025.

Community Awareness and Participation: With the intent to use the ALC year-round by the school system, area agencies teaching agriculture based skills and concepts, and local growers to sell to the local school system, there is still a lot of support and excitement about the development of the facility despite the delays. Once the construction of the building is under contract, a comprehensive publicity campaign will be initiated to increase awareness and support, and to obtain the donated funds for tables, chairs, technology, materials and supplies.

Programming: Washington County Schools currently does not buy any local produce or food products even though there are a number of growers. The primary reason is that local growers would have to take their products to individual school kitchen and at times those kitchen operators are actively engaged in preparing meals for students. The ALC will be set up to unload produce, weigh and inspect it, prepare necessary documentation on quantity, and cost due to grower, and to store food in the walk-in cooler until it can be delivered to individual schools by existing drivers in the school system's food service.

There is not an agricultural based K-8 curriculum in the Washington County School System (actually not in most school systems), and when construction on the ALC is initiated, a curriculum committee will work to develop a K-8 curriculum to be used in conjunction with the Jonesborough Elementary School. Also when construction is initiated, an effort to move forward with obtaining a "food hub" based point-of-sale software system that allows individual growers to label their product so information related to deliveries is easily scanned into the software program resulting in invoicing and associated payments is easily documented and tracked. Partnering agencies will also start a certification process used with growers that sets guidelines and inspections on the proper growing and handling of the local food products to be sold to the School System.

Planning: Once the ALC construction is initiated, an ALC Advisory Committee will be formed that will establish and oversee the progress of the K-8 curriculum committee, and the agency communications, training and participation guidelines for growers' use of the point- of-sale system. The Advisory Committee will be made up of representatives from the school system, Town and participating agencies. The ALC Advisory Committee will direct additional fundraising

efforts, and seek grant assistance for one full-time ALC Director and for materials associated with the education programming.

Jackson Theatre/JRT

General: The Jackson Theatre and Stage Door renovation are complete and the Jackson is providing an on-going schedule of movies and performances. The quality of the renovations has been praised, and the experience of patrons is continuously expressed very positively. The Stage Door has been set up with concessions on both floors, and a box office window of the Jackson Theatre. The Jonesborough Repertory Theatre changed to a different ticketing system than the system used by the Town and Jackson Theatre, and the JRT wanted to operate their own concessions sales separate from the Jackson Theatre, so the JRT chose to run its box office and concession sales within the JRT building. A Jackson Theatre Advisory Board has been established by the BMA that has the authority to make programming decisions associated with the Theatre, and to establish guidelines associated with use of both the Jackson and Stage Door facilities. The Jackson Theater Advisory Committee has met with consultant Dan Hays and worked on a mission statement, statement of values, measurable goals and priorities that will be adopted to direct the activities in both the Jackson and Stage Door for at least the next five years.

Use of Financial Resources: The Town has applied for Partnership Support from the Tennessee Arts Commission (TAC). This funding is an annual appropriation that is normally approved continuously upon the TAC's receipt of an annual report detailing its appropriation use. The partnership support is only available to arts agencies approved by the TAC, and Jonesborough has been approved as an arts agency because of its on-going funding support of numerous arts activities for a number of decades. A decision of Jonesborough's funding application is expected to be made by the TAC in March 2025. The Jackson Advisory Committee is also looking at the adoption of individual seats within the Theatre as a way to generate a reserve fund balance.

Community Awareness and Participation: The Jackson Theatre staff along with the Town's social media and website managers have developed a comprehensive marketing plan of upcoming performances and events. There are meeting and reception spaces within the Theatre and Stage Door that are marketed as well. The Jackson Theatre Advisory Committee is made up of community members who are engaged in other Jonesborough organizations. The Theatre also has a contract with a marketing specialist who assists with articles and other forms of communication related to Theatre activities, including social media.

Programming: The Jackson Theatre has kicked off its programming in November 2024, and has focused initially on live performances and classic movies. Work is on-going to pursue

independent films on a set schedule, and community performances, birthday movie celebrations, and other local uses are already being scheduled.

The ambiance of the Jackson Theatre has proven to be a highlight. The lighting is wonderful and the sound in the audience area is excellent. The combination use of the second floor of Stage Door along with the mezzanine of the Jackson has established a great reception area, either separately or in combination with an event, film or performance on stage. Furniture selection has been good with most pieces accommodating multiple use situations.

Maintenance of Facilities – Development and Redevelopment

The quality care of restrooms in Stage Door when in use by both the Jackson and JRT is still a work in progress. There are a few fixes needed in the Jackson like light intrusion where the entrance doors to the audience are opened during a movie or performance, light bleeding out of tech booth area, and HVAC noise in the tech booth. Overall functionality is very good, and what needs to be fixed has solutions. Work is underway on the tap floor with closing up the open space above partition walls and sound proofing between rooms and the stage with foam insulations.

A Downtown Improvement Grant from the State was awarded that will fund the redevelopment of the west wall of Stage Door, repainting the entire side of that building along the pedestrian alley, adding sections of fascia, and properly closing windows covered by plywood.

Jonesborough Repertory Theatre: The JRT building was completely renovated as part of the development of the Jackson Theatre and Stage Door facilities. The renovation of the JRT was originally intended to be the third phase of the building complex development because the JRT was operating with a full season schedule. The plan was to shift JRT performances to the Jackson stage after its renovation was complete so the JRT could be improved. When the Covid pandemic closed down the JRT for a number of months, the phasing shifted to get the JRT renovated first. Work was contracted through Don Bacon of Quad Cities Builders.

Use of Financial Resources: The renovation of the JRT was funded through a variety of sources including a donation provided to the Town by Sonia King, funds from Rural Development, work by Wolfe Development, and work undertaken by Town crews.

Maintenance of Facilities/Development and Redevelopment: The following work tasks were undertaken on the JRT renovation:

- The roof of the section of the building between Stage Door and the stage was completely removed along with the second floor. The walls above the block walls were then raise do

eight feet allowing the total use of the second floor, and the floor joists of the second floor were increased to provide the necessary structural support. The roof was rebuilt.

- The entire roof was re-shingled with the assistance of Wolfe Development.
- An ADA accessible (non-public) restroom was developed on the first and second floors.
- A large HVAC unit was installed in a mechanical room on the second floor, and mini-split units were installed on the first floor.
- A large women's dressing room was developed on the second floor, and a small men's dressing room/ADA dressing area was developed on the first floor.
- The first floor green room was developed with steps to both sides of the JRT stage, and a new set of stairs with appropriate lighting was constructed to the second floor.
- An ADA accessible lift was developed to meet code allowing wheel chair accessibility to the stage.
- Electrical and lighting fixtures were completely renovated.
- Door connections to the Jackson stage and both floors of Stage Door were developed.
- A 12 foot extension was added to the front of the JRT creating a foyer entrance/exit to both the JRT and Stage Door. (Stage Door was connected internally to the JRT where patrons did not have to go outside to get from one to the other)
- Large men's and women's restrooms were developed in the back section of Stage Door that were accessible through the new foyer to the JRT.
- The audience area was renovated – new wall treatments, audience flooring was stabilized, new seating installed, new carpet installed, (first floor of JRT was raised to eliminate ramping) technical booth was expanded and cabling brought up to code.
- The outside emergency exit door to Shane Adams' property was eliminated and a new exit door constructed out the back east side of the JRT building. A new deck was built by Town crew on back of JRT to allow emergency exit onto back of Eureka property. With elimination of exit door to Adams' property, the JRT stage was expanded (also allowed for steps onto stage from west aisle to be constructed to meet code.
- The electrical service was rewired to Jackson Theatre panels eliminating overhead electrical service from First Avenue. JRT electrical service was inspected and certified meeting code.
- The alley entrance to the JRT and Stage Door buildings through the new foyer was totally redeveloped by Town staff, correcting drainage issues, building a brick curb protecting the Stage Door from flooding, providing pedestrian lighting, and a brick knee-wall sitting area.

Planning: The JRT requested a reworking of the partnership with the Town resulting in the JRT keeping all revenue generated through their operation including ticket sales, classes, and

concessions in exchange for the JRT being totally responsible for their financial operation. Discussions are currently in progress as to joint use of some spaces in JRT and Stage Door, as well as responsibility for utilities.

First Frontier Park

General: Frontier Park is the initial name for the field area associated with the old Jonesborough Middle School off of Forest Drive in Jonesborough. This property is owned by the Washington County Department of Education, however, through an agreement with the Town of Jonesborough is being improved and used by the general public and maintained by the Town. Currently the area includes a football/soccer field inside an asphalt track. There is plenty of parking between the middle school building and the field that is accessed from Forest Drive. A sidewalk has been constructed from East Main Street down Forest Drive, and plans have been developed to bring that sidewalk into the field area establishing a “trail head” for the Frontier Trail linking Jonesborough to Johnson City. A Local Parks and Recreation Fund grant application is being developed in which trail head facilities will be constructed along with a bike course for young riders. A small playground area is also being considered if it can be properly located.

Intergovernmental Cooperation: frontier Park is an existing green space area owned by the County Schools that through an agreement is being maintained and improved by the Town for community use. The Frontier Trail is a cooperative project involving Jonesborough, Washington County and Johnson City, and is largely funded through an appropriation from the Tennessee Legislature.

Use of Financial Resources: The Town is working on a Local Parks and Recreation Fund grant application to be submitted to TDEC in April 2025. The grant funding, if awarded, would develop trail head improvements including a restroom, easy access to parking, benches, bike racks, etc. In addition, the application would include asphalt resurfacing the existing track, and the development of youth oriented bike course/natural trails that provides the opportunity for young people to learn biking skills. The course would include features like riding over wooden bridges, sloped curves in the trail, alternate surfaces, etc. An age limitation would be established to make it safer and more enjoyable for young children.

Land Acquisition – the Town is currently working with the Washington County Department of Education to have the property deeded to the Town for recreation use.

Community Awareness and Participation – As the LPRF application is developed, a community public meeting including members of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee will be held to communicate the proposed plan for the park and get community feedback. The Frontier Trail

is a project in progress with Jonesborough taking the lead to extend the Town's trail system to the eastern town limits with Washington County. As the trail is developed through Washington County and then through Johnson city to the East Tennessee State University (ETSU) campus, a campaign will be developed that markets the availability of the trail to area residents as well as visitors. Because ETSU is connected by sidewalk to the Tweetsie Trail, that trail and the Frontier Trail will be limited allowing bikers and pedestrians to go to and from Jonesborough and Elizabethton.

Programming: The current plan with Frontier Park is to link the youth bike course to the newly asphalted track and to link the track to the Frontier Trail.

Maintenance of Facilities/Development and Redevelopment: The Town of Jonesborough will be responsible for the cost of the improvements being made and the maintenance and long-term care of the entire Frontier Park. Restrooms will be maintained daily by Town staff.

Planning: The planning of Frontier Park is being undertaken by Town staff in cooperation with Community Development Partners, the firm preparing the LPRF grant application. The park plan will be discussed in detail with the Jonesborough Parks and Recreation Advisory Board to get any ideas from the community to improve the project. Landscaping associated with Frontier Park will be discussed as well.

The establishment of playing field areas in northeast Tennessee is a constant challenge, and over the years Jonesborough has tried to address the need for more fields in a cost effective manner with the only major success being the recent development of Tiger Park. The agreement between the Town and Washington County Department of Education is an important step in establishing one more field area in town that is available for community use. It is recommended that improvements to newly named Frontier Park be located and developed in a manner that does not eliminate the existing field use for typical youth sports in the future.

Additional Projects, Previously Planned

- Park area at West End of Rosenbaum Property – There is an open space area with a number of trees at the west end of the 19 acre tract that is next to the proposed parking area for the Dog Park and very unlikely to be used for any Town facility in the future except for a restroom. This area, if removed of underbrush, and with proper tree pruning and selection would make a nice small park. Utilities are present and there should be minimal investment.
- The section of the Main Walkway – Section of the Lost State Scenic Walkway between Barkley Creek Park and the Dog Park on the Rosenbaum property has been discussed and some easements along Little Limestone Creek obtained. Further planning could

determine feasibility of getting additional easements needed, and a plan for taking walkway under the Main Street overpass or up and over across Main Street near the traffic circle.

- Expansion of W.C. Rowe Park – a site plan was developed expanding W.C. Rowe Park to Steve Bacon’s tract immediately beyond Chuckey Depot. Steve Bacon at one time indicated he would deed the tract to the Town because it is land-locked, but would like a pedestrian bridge across the creek to South Washington Drive and Steve’s house on the north side of the creek. The tract is big enough for a small restroom that could serve the Depot as well as people on the walkway system. Previous discussions also included benches and a small shelter.
- Purchase of 12 Acre “Mauk” Property – Discussions have been ongoing over the possible purchase of the vacant 12 acres that is east of Joe Florence’s property at the end of Woodrow Avenue. The walkway from downtown to Stage Road Park that has been funded must go across the Mauk property near the creek. David Mauk deeded the 12 acres to his nephews who have not committed to date to providing an easement for the walkway or the sewer line that needs to be constructed in order to expand sewer service out to additional tracts off Spring Street. The most usable portion of the 12 acres is at the top of the property which has a 50 foot connection to Duel Lane in John Green Subdivision. Properly designed, the tract could be used for park and would allow for a safe and aesthetic connection from John Green Subdivision to downtown that dangerous South Cherokee Street would not have to be used for that pedestrian access.
- Broyles Building and 4 Acres – The Town has purchased the building once housing Broyles Florist and the four acres behind it that is adjacent to the McKinney Center. The grassed area without the 4 acres has been used infrequently for overflow parking associated with the McKinney Center. One use of the four acres discussed is a live-work area for artists, creating a destination artist collective who have demonstration studios attached to living space. Artists can also teach at the adjoining McKinney Center, could have scheduled art shows at the Center, and could man a sales area in the Broyles Florist building. The Discussions have included the concept of a collective being managed by the Mill Spring Makers Market.
- Ice Skating Rink – Discussions have taken place in the past about an ice skating rink being developed above the Storytelling Center that could be used for outdoor performances during the warm weather months. A skating rink in the downtown area would be another venue drawing people downtown in Jonesborough during the winter months. It would also be an on-going venue generating social interaction and enhancing quality of life in Jonesborough.

- Walkway over 11-E Highway – The Jackson Blvd. four lane is so heavily traveled it creates a major barrier between Jonesborough’s historic downtown and the commercial and quickly expanding residential areas on the north side of the highway. Walkway planning has discussed three ways to get across the busy highway. One has been implemented at the intersection with Persimmon Ridge Road where the walkway goes under Jackson Blvd. to the Meadows Subdivision. One overhead pedestrian walkway across the highway has been discussed close to the intersection with Tiger Way/Hillrise Drive, and the other has been discussed near the Forest Drive intersection with Jackson Blvd. With the high volume of traffic on the four lane coupled with the large number of turning vehicles at each signal, the safest way to connect two major portions of the Jonesborough community is with an overpass dedicated to pedestrian traffic.
- Splash Pad at Wetlands Water Park – A plan for a quality splash pad or interactive water feature designed for young children, within Wetlands Water Park has been discussed at length and determined to be a great way to extend the aquatics season, especially for preschool children and young children while school is in session and the weather is warm. An interactive water feature would require only one attendant, and still would be popular when the main park is operating.

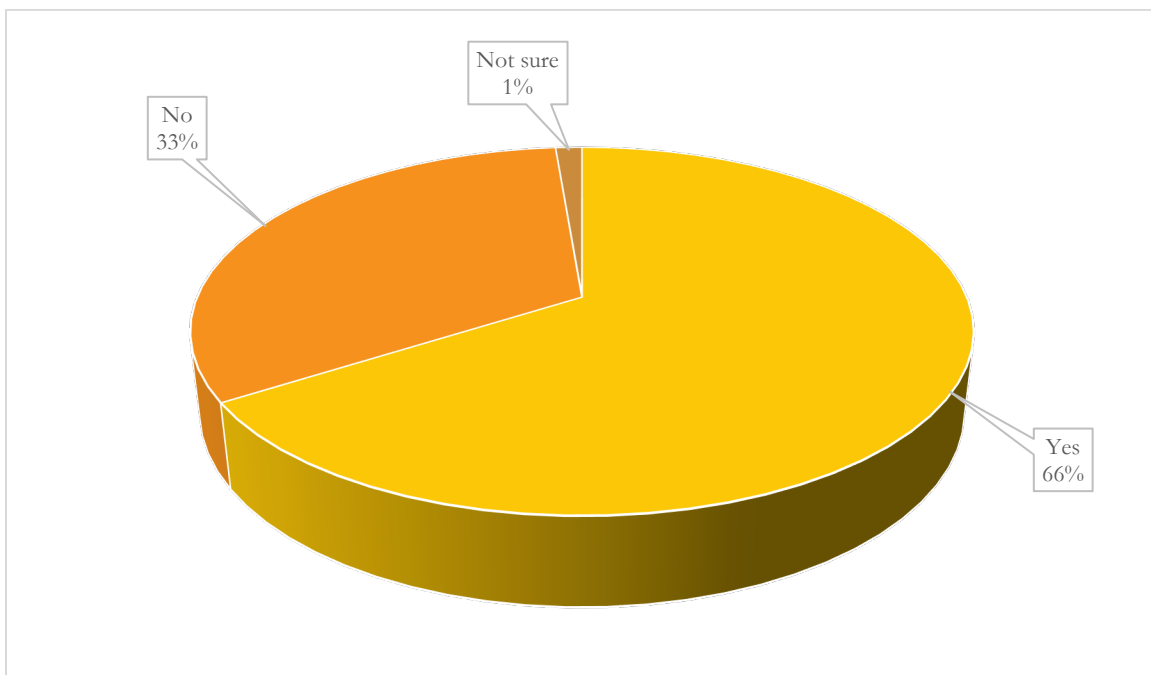
5.0 SURVEY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

As an essential component of the planning process, a series of meetings and evaluations of the facilities and programs that the Recreation Department provides.

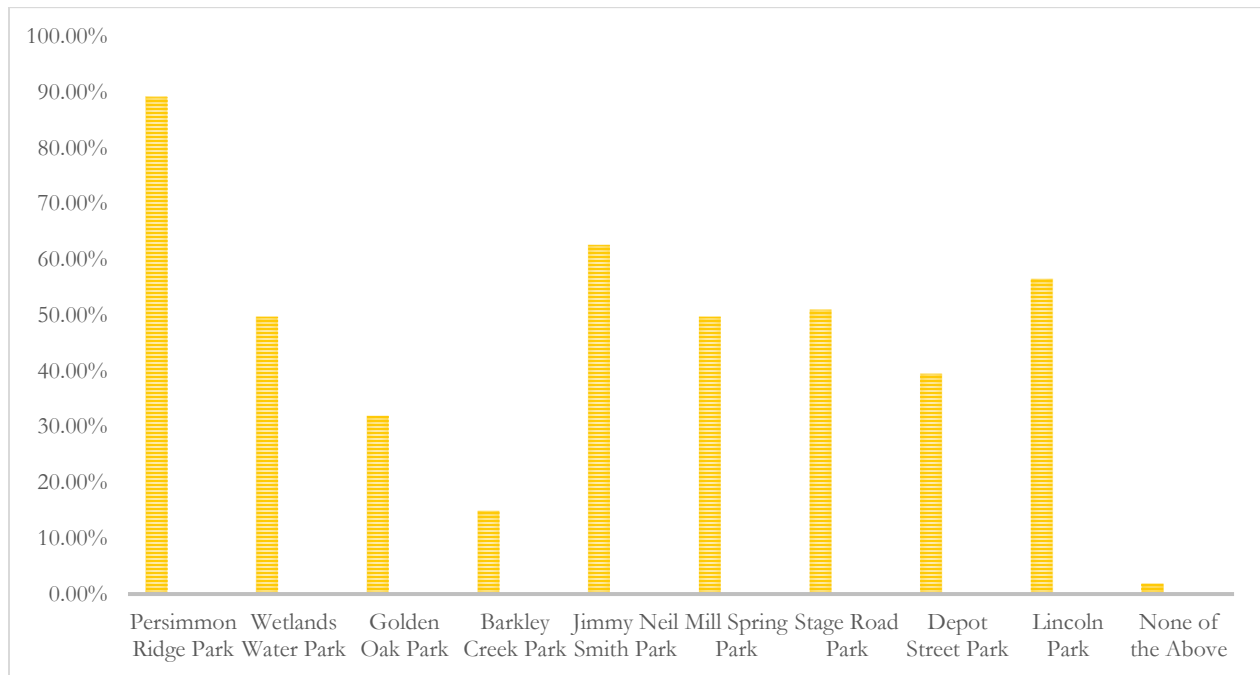
A Community Input Meeting was held at the Jonesborough Visitors Center. The meeting was advertised via press release that was published in the Johnson City Press and Jonesborough's Herald and Tribune. In addition, a notification was posted on the Town's website and through social media avenues and signage was posted throughout well-traveled areas in town.

There were approximately 45 individuals in attendance at the Community Input Meeting. Additionally, 147 surveys were completed online. These individuals represented a wide variety of interests, influence and perspectives within the Town and provided a broad brushstroke of input.

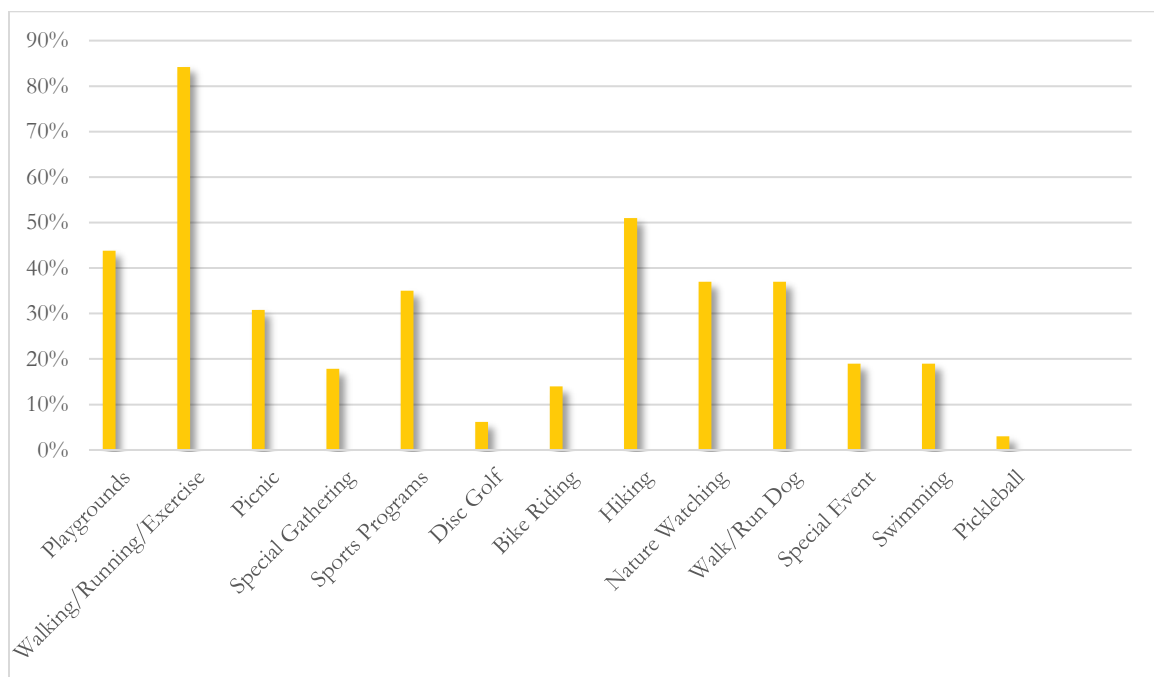
Do you live in the city limits of Jonesborough?



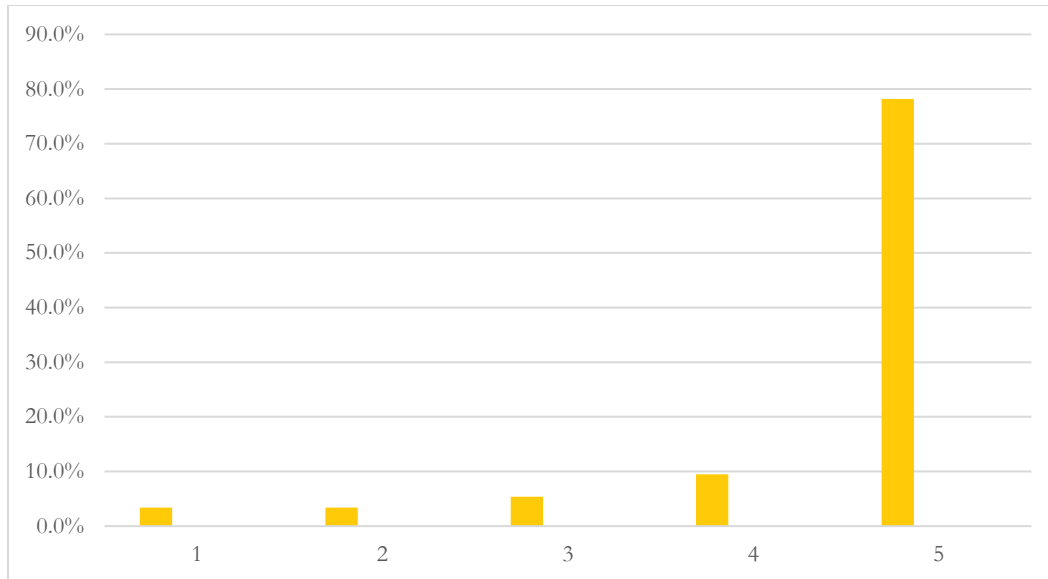
Which Jonesborough parks have you visited in the last year?



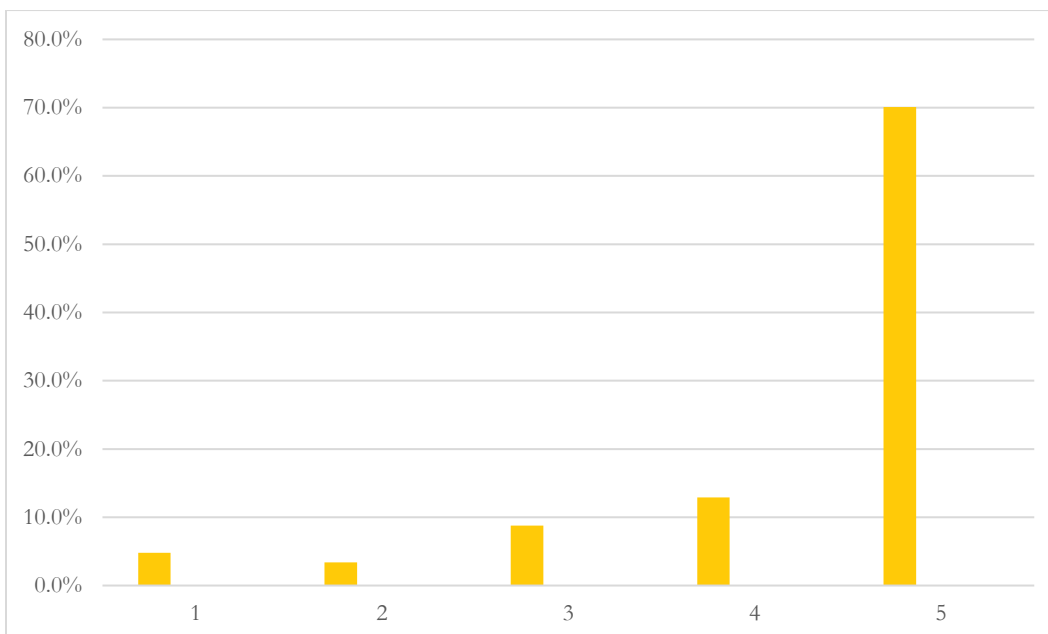
What is your primary purpose for visiting Jonesborough parks?



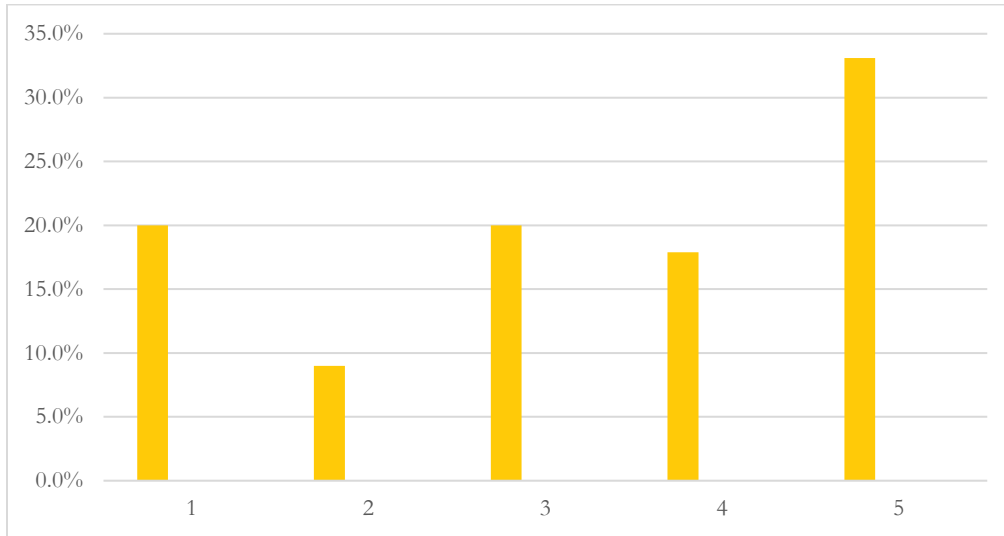
How important to you is walkability of a community (rate 1 – 5, 1 not important, 5 very important)?



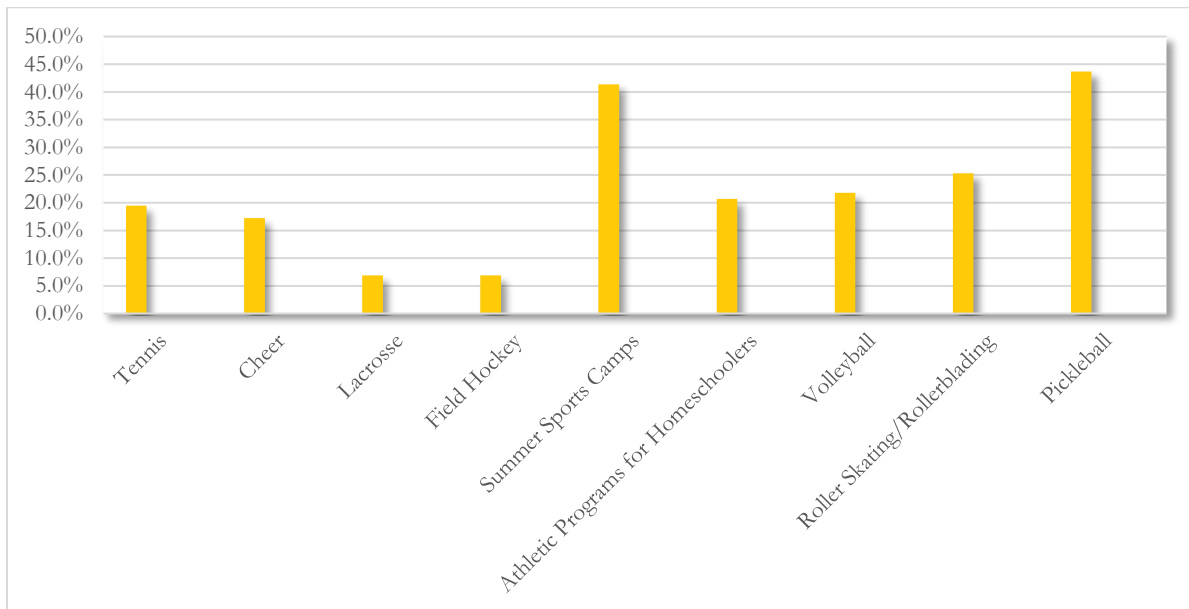
How important is it for you to have a multipurpose recreation trail for walking, riding a bike or running to parks and downtown (rate 1 – 5, 1 not important, 5 very important)?



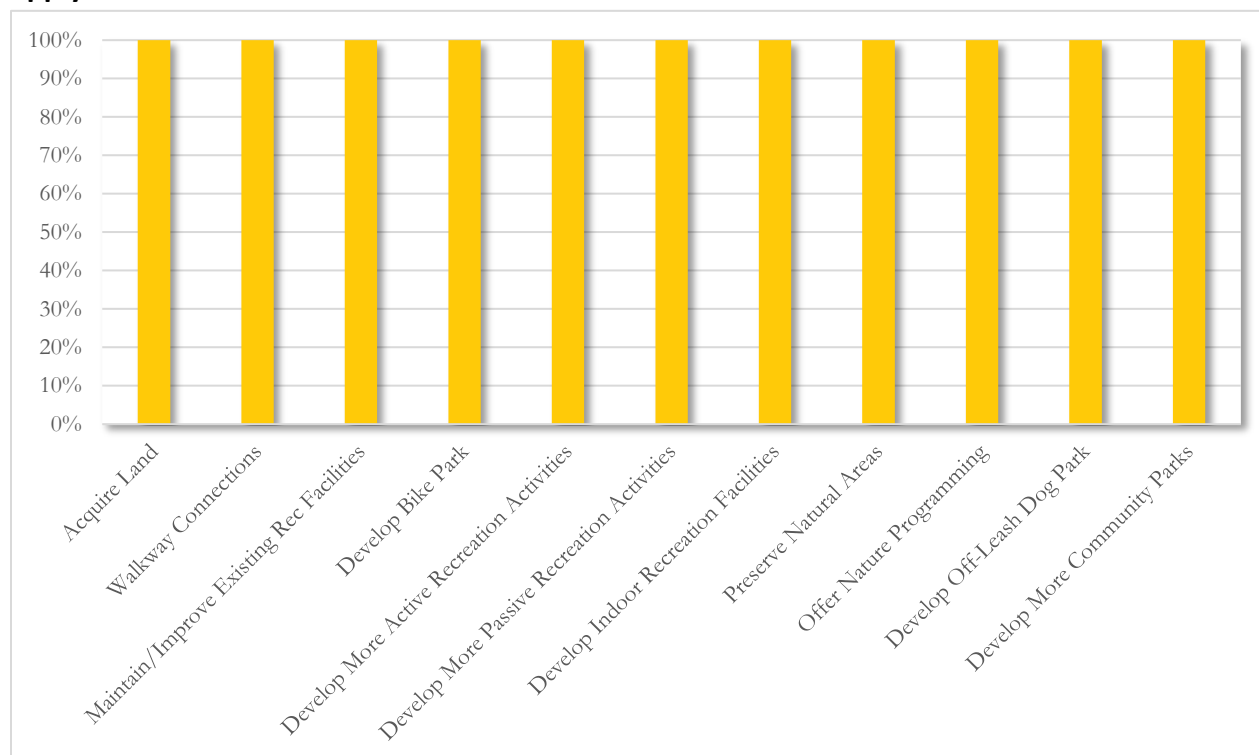
How important is it for you to have a multipurpose recreation trail for walking, riding a bike or running to Johnson City, connecting to the Tweetsie Trail? (rate 1 – 5, 1 not important, 5 very important)?



Currently, Jonesborough Parks and Recreation offers soccer and Little League programming to its residents and are currently adding flag football for 2025. Local organizations offer basketball and football programming for youth in our community. What other athletic programs would your child(ren) participate in if we offered them in Jonesborough?



Which initiatives should Jonesborough prioritize for future implementation? Check all that apply.



Share any comments about the conditions of the parks in Jonesborough

- Would love for the walkways to be better maintained by trimming the bushes and maintaining the plants that are planted along the walkway areas.
- The walkway could use some maintenance. The trails at Persimmon Ridge need tighter restrictions on dog leash laws.
- I would love to see the trails at persimmon ridge cleaned up. Also all the parks need more pollinator gardens and native plants. Better lighting on the walking trails.
- I think JBO park maintenance is amazing and much appreciated.
- Equipment is almost always outdated or broken somewhere.
- Stage Road Park has not been kept up well with maintenance and conditions of the playground items. Depot Street does not have enough playground items for children under 5 years old. Lincoln Park is very pretty but the playground does not have enough items for my grandchildren to play on who are under the age of 5. Plus Lincoln park should have some type of fencing around the playground to safe guard the kids who are playing in that area.
- Jonesborough needs a dog park. Persimmon Ridge park is at capacity in spring, summer and fall months. Parking is challenging. Soccer, baseball, water park, and frisbee golf

occupy the majority of parking and event spaces 9 months out of the year. This leaves little room for families or couples to even find parking for picnicking or accessing the trails. Animal feces becomes an issue in the winter because visitors are not proactive about disposing of animal waste. This is a huge concern for children playing in the park. Animal feces that is not properly contained or disposed of can expose other animals to parvovirus and can expose children to rotavirus.

- Most of the older parks need updated restrooms. All the buildings at Persimmons Ridge Park need to be remodeled. Ball fields are in need of repair and the fence
- I did not even know we had so many parks and I don't know where they are.
- Some pieces of play equipment at Golden Oak Park are broken. The major one is the slide on the tractor. It's been reported and roped off with caution tape several months ago, but the tape was ripped down and the slide was not fixed. The sandbox could also use attention.
- Always clean & seemingly well maintained. My suggestions for addition - let local elementary schools grow their own flowers in their classes, and we could plant them all around downtown. Lots of kinds of flowers? Also, to parks with play grounds, if we have appropriate funding, give it a little update with new things for kiddos to enjoy! Maybe even a gazebo of some kind over the benches where parents sit and watch. Throughout downtown, it would be neat to see more sculptures, or some of our vintage town history things, like statues or something!
- Would be great if Persimmons Ridge Park could have water fountains.
- I admittedly don't access the parks a lot, but they always seem neat enough. The little libraries had fallen into a state of disrepair, but I think those are privately managed.
- Sometimes there's a lot of dog poop on the Persimmon trail
- Crossings for the Lost State Walkways need to be better marked, and further out, so drivers are aware that people might be preparing to cross. The signs on Persimmon Ridge are 3 feet from the crosswalk and the speed limit is 45mph. A pedestrian controlled crossing light, such as the one on Main Street would be perfect here.
- Wooden walkways are rotten and unsafe.
- Persimmon Ridge still has excessive damage from the August, 2023 storm.
- Playgrounds are old. Persimmon Ridge doesn't have much or any amenities. Persimmon should have the best playground in my opinion given how much rec there is here. Can we not roof in the basketball court and update it? Place a pickleball court or something? Almost every park is dated.
- The older ones need updating
- We are super thankful for the updates/clean up that was performed at the Stage Road park.

- The playgrounds and restroom facilities at some of the parks are pretty poor. Stage road park was an embarrassment the last time I was there. Love the walking trail around it but the playground was in poor shape. I occasionally babysit and meet up with friends that have kids to have outside play time with their kids and these parks need serious attention. Would love to have picnics there but I prefer Johnson City options over most of these places. The trails at Persimmon Ridge need a good cleaning up. With that being said, I understand that it's not a top priority with all of the other things the town needs to focus on- this is just my honest opinion of how I perceive our parks. We have a beautiful town and great recreation areas, but it seems like we may need more staff dedicated to keeping these areas up and beautiful so more people would actually spend time at them.
- Please clear past storm debris from Wetlands trails. This poses a fire threat as well as being extremely unsightly
- Improvements at Stage Road park are wonderful! Wetlands was improved this summer although bathrooms remain horrible during the day. It smells like they dump straight Fabuloso cleaner on the floor but don't actually clean.
- It seems that local firewood charity organizations could be awarded permits to clear fallen trees along accessible areas in Persimmon Ridge park. While I applaud the great effort it took to clear the ridge tails of fallen trees, It seems that the excess dead wood is not only an eye sore, but also a fire hazard.
- You guys say that no body comes to the Depot Street Park and that is untrue!! You need better equipment for ALL kids and have the bathrooms in working order!!! And keep the dogs out of the park NOBODY want to go to the park with dog poop everywhere!!! Do better!!!!
- Depot Street park is in need of an update. There is very little activities for children. We have birthday parties but no swings. There is no educational activities for kids like the other parks. Other parks have a theme. Depot Street has nothing.
- Broken playground equipment at Stage Park
- The parks need major updating. Cleaner bathrooms.
- Would like to see the walking trail system expanded
- The trails at Persimmons could be maintained better; love what you are doing with Stage Park
- They are always clean
- Parks need to be upgraded and cleaned
- Golden Oak needs more sand in the sandbox

- I wish Wetlands had an area for grownups who want to cool off in the summer and that the lazy river move a little faster. I also wish the Tweetsie Trail would connect but not via a sidewalk if possible.
- They all seemed not well kept and outdated
- Depot street park needs maintenance.
- I love the new updates to Stage Road Park. The restrooms at Persimmon Ridge Park have never been clean when I visited..
- The parks are in great condition.
- More benches on trail downtown
- Persimmon Ridge is past due for an overhaul. The same dugouts and score keepers tower has been there since I played all stars 25 years ago or more. The bathrooms are horrible, sometimes they work most of the time they don't. Wetlands water park is so out dated as well. I get it, all a kid needs is water on a hot day but come on. The parents are who pay for them to get it. They are the ones who need a chair to sit in but there's never enough chairs NEVER! The bathrooms there are atrocious!
- Need to provide a child free time at Wetlands for Adults
- Children urinating in plain sight of passersby, while caregivers stand guard, is unnecessary.
- Walking to some parks are dangerous. More sidewalks are needed
- We absolutely love persimmon Ridge and are very blessed to live in our town with hiking trails. It's a hidden gem, although a lot more people are finding out about it of course. Also we love the walkways near downtown by the train.
- they're really good. i live right next to stage road park so im here pretty much everyday
- Depot Street Park needed restroom attention on my last visit.
- Usually good. However Golden Oak Park needs the tables cleaned and more bark at the slides
- Stage road parks updates are great!
- The playground equipment at Stage road is could use some repairs. I'm extremely disappointed the native plant habitat there was destroyed and replaced with grass. It served a purpose for not only the native species but for educating those who visited it.
- It would be nice for park maintenance to be scheduled and not reactionary. It seems our parks are allowed to run down before improvements are made.
- Lincoln park is a horrible design and layout. The utilization of the park is bad. Why do you need a "community" garden that isn't for the community. The playground area is very bad layout and design. The fake tree stumps a lose and dangerous. There is no jungle gym. Why are the bathrooms always locked? The picklebal/horseshoe area looks terrible and not kept up. Behind the big stage is wasted unused space. My name is

Dustin Mckale # 704-308-8603. I would love to give my two cents on a way better layout, but I'm not going to go to a big group meeting. Those types of meetings don't put pen to paper to actually get things done. Just a lot of talk and no action.

- Persimmon Ridge has terrible parking and the walking path to the ball fields at in awful condition.
- The train ruins the park- can the train be on limited times or only run at night?
- Some can add more, cleaned up, updated
- Fix Basketball goals
- Updating parks on more of a regular basis
- Depot street park is a mess. Golden oak is becoming unsafe (we live in the neighborhood) adults caught leaving condoms and letting dogs dedicate in the sand box.
- The fields at persimmon ridge look awful . Whoever did the rec fields at the new tiger park did not level the ground and the grass is not safe for sports very disappointed because these fields will have to be re done because they weren't done correctly the first time . Would love to see Bermuda or shorter grass go down so Jonesborough can step up their athletics
- Disc golf park needs to have better upkeep and redesigned
- Stage road park was an absolute JOKE. The last few months it has become AMAZING. Thank you for your hard work!!! PLEASE PUT IN A SPLASH PAD!!!!
- Some sidewalk/walkway repairs are needed in areas showing age/weathering. More native tree planting would be nice, especially with recent storm damage and urban sprawl.
- They are all lack luster when it comes to amenities for young kids and most are poorly maintained. I do appreciate that Stage Road and Golden Oak are fenced. They all seem geared towards elderly people or very small kids. Wish we had a really great park for kids over the toddler age. Kids stocked fishing ponds would be AMAZING, as well as pump tracks for riding bikes, bigger play equipment and slides, splash pads, etc. The Wetlands waterpark although a great amenity for the community, as really let their maintenance and cleanliness slip which makes me not want to take my kids there anymore.
- A local tennis court would be awesome. The bocce ball and pickleball courts are nice, but we would love to play tennis too!
- It has been nice to see the Town working hard to improve Stage Road Park. It would be nice if Persimmon Ridge could get some major upgrades.
- Dugout and fields at Persimmon Ridge need to be updated as was started. 400 Little Leaguers and their families utilize these facilities at least 4 months per year and this should really be 9-10 months.

- Would love to start some sports league, walking running leagues, homeschool activities.
- I would like to follow up about getting some water wheelchairs for wetlands.
- I know the ladies helping with the stray cats at Golden Oak are trying to be helpful but it's a real eye sore. Also the cats use the sand box as a litter box. Could we do something about it? I live in the neighborhood. Also bathrooms at the ball field at Persimmon Ridge look really rough. Also huge shout to the nice parks and recreation people! They are so nice and work so hard!
- I'm concerned about the wooden bridges by the water park at Persimmon Ridge. It's nice to see work on Stage road.,
- Some of the paved sections of the Jonesborough Trail is beginning to heave.
- My only suggestion of giving the bathrooms at persimmon ridge a major deep clean. They're kind of gross and smelly
- While Persimmon Park itself is wonderful, the playground is in pretty bad shape. The slide's steps are torn apart and jagged, as well as the slide itself. Also, it would be WONDERFUL to see a new playground here that is more accommodating to younger children. The equipment on the playground is not usable for toddlers through early elementary age. It would be a great remodel, especially for the siblings of children that play sports on the fields! Or families like mine that would love to spend more time in that park while hiking, picnicking etc

Key Findings

Strengths

Parks: Of individuals who indicated they had visited individual Jonesborough parks in the last 12 months, respondents most frequently indicated they were “neither satisfied nor dissatisfied” with the condition and offering in Town parks. Comments by survey respondents included positive remarks as to the playground equipment within the parks. High marks were also given for the walking trails within the parks and interconnectivity among the parks.

Athletic Programming: Out of 147 respondents to the surveys, 31 indicated that they or they have children in their household who participate in Jonesborough’s athletic programs. In addition, 49 of the respondents indicated that participate in athletic programming outside of Jonesborough (Providence Academy Rec League, Ruritan, Johnson City soccer and Little League, school sports, Jonesborough Senior Center, Johnson City Parks and Rec, etc.).

Survey respondents who participate in Jonesborough athletic programs were generally rated fair to good with the overall quality of athletic programs.

Soccer programming has grown over the years as population increases in Jonesborough and Washington County. With the dual use of the baseball fields at Persimmon Ridge Park for Little League and Persimmon Ridge Soccer Association programming, the fields have been overused and aren't able to be fully rehabilitated during the offseason. Residents want to see additional programming related to soccer outside of fall, during the spring and summer months. The same goes for Little League programming. With the development of Tiger Park nearing completion, the Town will have use of those additional facilities to offer athletic programming.

Partnerships: The Recreation Department would be a fraction of what it is without the ongoing partnerships provided by Jonesborough Little League, Jonesborough Soccer Association, International Storytelling Center, Schubert Club, Jonesborough Civitan Club and Jonesborough Kiwanis. Importance should be placed on fostering and maintaining these partnerships and looking for opportunities for growth and expansion of programs. More efforts should be made on the part of the Town to support the partnerships with the Little League and Soccer Association. The intent, and has historically been the case, is that the Town provides support by offering facilities free of charge, maintaining fields (mowing, lining, dragging fields), providing restroom and concession facilities and all maintenance associated with upkeep of those facilities, offering Town facilities for sign ups free of charge, assisting with sign ups through use of online registration systems, promotion of programs through social media avenues and distribution of flyers at Washington County Schools, promotion of athletic programs through PSAs with the Marketing Department, etc.

Marketing: Some efforts are made to advertise signups, programs, events, etc. through social media which has helped reach many participants in our programs. Efforts are made to advertise signups, programs, events, etc. through social media which has helped reach many participants in our program. More investments in marketing through social media, website, and printed materials is needed to maintain and enhance participation levels.

Challenges

Of the survey respondents, 66% live in the Town limits, 49% have children under the age of 18 who reside in their household and 98% have utilized Jonesborough's parks in the last year.

Parks: Participants indicated the decline of the state of many of the parks and facilities, including landscaped areas, were of concern to them. They identified upgrading and enhancing current inventory as a strong opportunity for the Department due to a combination of facility age/poor functionality, poor maintenance, etc.

Verbal feedback from attendees at the Community Input Meeting related to existing facilities centered around the need for maintenance in many of the parks. Overall, the opinion of

attendees was that parks were not being maintained properly and many areas neglected. There was an overwhelming support for development of pickleball programming in the form of classes and leagues for all ages.

Other feedback from the meeting came from residents who communicated their desire to see Jonesborough more pedestrian friendly. The connection of neighborhoods to parks and to the downtown district was a priority for attendees. There was strong support shown for additional development of walkway connections to neighborhoods and parks, including downtown. There was also strong support for the development of a bike skills park and a recreation trail connection to Johnson City and the Tweetsie Trail.

As it relates to expansion of parks and programming, attendees indicated they want to see development of community parks. There was strong support for Tiger Park and the potential for programming as a result. Attendees commented on the desire to understand better the relationship between the Town and the School on the use of Tiger Park. Attendees voiced their desire to be able to use the park during daytime hours.

Across the board, survey respondents want to see more walkways and sidewalks to connect residences to parks and downtown. They want to see a more pedestrian friendly Town with opportunities to exercise and walk to different areas within the Town.

Outside of the development of walkways, respondents indicated they would like to see maintenance of existing facilities be given a priority, preserve natural areas, acquire land for future development, offer nature programming, develop a splash pad, develop an off-leash park and develop more community parks.

Athletic Programming: Approximately 85% of the nearly 600 participants in athletic programming offered in Jonesborough live outside the Town limits. It happens this way because Washington County doesn't have a Recreation department and therefore does not offer any programming. All athletics are offered through the schools without any recreation leagues available to Washington County residents besides those provided by Jonesborough and Johnson City.

As it relates to athletic programming, survey responses show that communication related to athletic programs (signups, with coaches, etc.) needs more attention. The Town can be instrumental in this area and can facilitate the marketing aspect with signups and can provide guidance on communication with parents and athletes during the program's run. While the Town does provide scholarships to individuals/families who cannot afford the cost of registration in our athletic programs, it isn't widely known that parents can take advantage of this.

Surveys showed that individuals would like to see summer sport camps, homeschool sports, tennis, volleyball, lacrosse, pickleball, cheerleading and field hockey offered in the future.

Partnerships: While Jonesborough has historically taken advantage of partnerships in order to provide programs through the department, there are additional avenues to explore within that area. Many of the parks in Jonesborough are located in close proximity to or within residential areas or downtown. Organizing and implementing Adopt-A-Park programs would help alleviate some of the ongoing maintenance related to landscaping and facilities upkeep. It could also be done in conjunction with a general needs volunteer group who might not just concentrate on one individual park but maybe their own area of expertise such as landscape maintenance.

Additional partnerships could include the Junior Pioneers football program or the Junior Pioneers basketball program. With each of these, at the present time, facilities might not be an issue, but the Town could assist in areas such as marketing, signups, background checks and more. Other potential programs include swimming which could be offered at the pool associated with Country Inn & Suites.

Potential future partnerships with Washington County School via Jonesborough Elementary and Middle School exist where the Town might offer athletic programming at the school site. Many parents work until at least 5 p.m. and aren't available to transport their children from school to another activity right after school. If the Town was able to partner with the school to offer some athletic programming directly after school at the school site, this might help reach more students whose parents might not be able to otherwise manage an evening sports activity.

Marketing: At the present, there is not a solid marketing strategy for the department. Specific to Wetlands, there was a plan developed, but has not been utilized for several years. The incorporation of the Marketing Team is instrumental in these efforts. But the effort has to be initiated by the Parks and Recreation staff to get the work started.

Related to athletics, parks and programming, there isn't a specific marketing plan in place. Most of the efforts in the area of marketing are initiated by the Parks and Recreation Director. Again, including the Marketing Team in on this is vital.

Survey respondents (83%) indicate they receive information regarding the parks, facilities and programs from Facebook. Nearly 54% indicate they receive information from the Town's website. With that being said, it's important that the information on the website is reviewed and updated regularly and that the information provided is thorough and accurate. At the moment, the description and content is sparse with pictures of other parks outside of Jonesborough included in the current descriptors of the parks.

Conclusion and Recommendation

When analyzing the facilities that Jonesborough offers, the highest priority was given to walkway development. Nearly 85% of respondents indicated they utilize Jonesborough parks for walking/running/exercising. In addition, 78.2% of survey respondents graded walkability of the community at the highest importance (rating a 5 out of 5) and 70.1% graded the importance for being able to walk or ride their bike to parks and downtown as highest importance (again, rating 5 out of 5). Thirty three percent of respondents rated 5 out of 5 for the desire for a walkway connection to Johnson City and the Tweetsie Trail. In terms of initiatives that the Town should prioritize for future implementation, 71% indicated that neighborhoods and parks should be connected via walkways.

Expanding athletic programs to both youth and adults is a priority to residents. With the development of Tiger Park, both the Little League and Soccer programs could expand their offerings into the spring/summer/fall. In addition, the opportunity to expand soccer and baseball programs to adults is possible. With the new pickleball courts developed at Tiger Park, a huge opportunity for pickleball programming is now available.

6.0 PROGRAMMING

One of the attractive features of Jonesborough that residents and visitors comment on is that there's always an event or something going on. Many of the special events in Jonesborough are planned and implemented by the Town with different departments working together to plan and execute the events. Parks and Recreation Department sponsored events include Music on the Square, Easter Eggstravaganza, Jonesborough Days, Halloween Haunts and Happenings and Christmas in Olde Jonesborough. These events have been taking place for 30 – 50 years each and have seen their share of changes during that time period. The Department assists the Special Events Coordinator in the planning and implementation of the events.

As Jonesborough is considered a tourism destination, the goal for these events is multi-fold: provides a recreation activity for families and residents and brings in visitors to Town as well as attracts visitors and residents alike to the downtown district, promoting local businesses. At one time, some events were held in various parks in Town. An increase in participation was observed once the events were moved to the downtown area.

Jonesborough Special Events

Music on the Square—Friday night concert series takes place May through September in the downtown district. The streets are closed for the 7 p.m. event and sees an average of 500 attendees each week. The event planning and execution are handled by a contractual employee who is responsible for sound, talent and execution of the event. The Town underwrites the cost of the event with the event budgeted in the Parks and Recreation budget in its own line item. In addition, the Town is responsible for the marketing of the event which includes a poster and social media.

Easter Eggstravaganza—This event is held on the Saturday, a full week before Easter at Jimmy Neil Smith Park and through areas downtown. The event includes activities for children including free cotton candy, offered by Jonesborough Kiwanis, free popcorn, free pictures with the Easter bunny, provided by Jonesborough Walgreens, an egg hunt for children 0 – 12 years, face painting plus a craft, offered by the McKinney Center.

Sponsors for the event are obtained with in-kind donations and cash donations to cover the cost of the program so the event can be offered free to the public.

Marketing for the event is strategized among the Marketing Team and includes a poster that is distributed throughout downtown businesses and a social media campaign. Due to the tremendous response in attendance at the event with about 1,500 people, a minimal amount of marketing is needed.

Jonesborough Days—The event is celebrated as part of the July 4th holiday and is typically a 2 – 3 day event held the weekend closest to the July 4th date. This event is held within the downtown district on Main Street from Fox Street to Second Avenue. The streets are closed for the event to provide a safe area for the 25,000 event goers to enjoy the event.

The event includes a parade to kick off the event, main stage performers each night, Doc's Front Porch with music and storytelling, a children's area, crafters, food vendors, eating contests, watermelon social and ends with a large fireworks display. Due to limited downtown parking, the local elementary school lawn is utilized for additional parking and a shuttle bus is provided from that location to the Visitors Center downtown.

The Special Events Coordinator obtains sponsorships from local businesses to cover the cost of the event. Registration fees for the crafters and food vendors also go towards overhead costs. Total cost for the event is typically around \$25,000 and varies from year to year, particularly depending on the number of days the event runs.

Halloween Haunts and Happenings—This Halloween themed event takes place the Friday evening closest to Halloween, often in conjunction with the Haunted Half Marathon, in downtown Jonesborough. Main Street is closed from Fox Street to Second Avenue to accommodate event goers. The event is scheduled for 6 – 8 p.m. and sees about 6,000 individuals in attendance during the short duration.

The free event offers a multitude of activities for adults and children including a costume contest, a pet costume contest, trick-or-treating, live music, free cotton candy, provided by the Jonesborough Kiwanis Club, a putt putt course, haunted cabin and games. Downtown merchants participate in the event by passing out candy at their store fronts.

Cost for the event is covered by donations from local businesses as well as local civic groups. The event is free to the public and expenditures are covered by in kind donations and sponsorships.

Christmas in Olde Jonesborough—The Christmas celebration takes place every Saturday from Thanksgiving to Christmas. Each weekend sees a different themed event and encompasses Small Business Saturday.

The event series begins the Saturday after Thanksgiving with Small Business Saturday and the Lighting of the Tree that evening. Small Business Saturday is planned and executed by the Main Street Director and Special Events Coordinator while the Lighting of the Tree is organized by the Recreation Department. Santa comes to downtown each weekend to sit in his sleigh next to the courthouse for children to have their pictures taken with him.

Whoville overtakes the downtown area as children come dressed as their favorite Whoville character. Little bits of the whimsical storyland can be found throughout downtown as old Jonesborough transports itself into Seuss' imagination.

Lighting of the Tree includes musical entertainment provided by local elementary school students and JRT performers with a Christmas story told by a local Storyteller. The punctuation of the event is when the lights turn on the Frasier fir tree and the tree is lit.

The second weekend includes Doggone Christmas, a celebration for dogs and their owners. Activities include free pictures with Santa, a pet costume contest, pet parade and more. For the humans, a free gingerbread house workshop is offered where pre-registered children are able to come and decorate their own gingerbread house at the Storytelling Center.

The third weekend of the series sees Fun With Frosty and Friends held throughout downtown. Children are given the opportunity to enjoy games and activities at the Visitors Center as well as visit Santa's Workshop to purchase low-cost items for friends and family and have them wrapped by volunteers. Santa is also in attendance with free pictures provided by Walgreens, cookie decorating, and much more. The event is free to the public.

This weekend is also host to the annual Christmas Parade. With approximately 2,000 in attendance, the parade takes place downtown at 6 p.m. along oil lantern lit brick sidewalks. Downtown is decorated in its finest seasonal attire, and if you're lucky, the snow (albeit fake) might fall during the evening.

The fourth and final weekend closes out the series with the Christmas Church Tour. Downtown churches open their doors to event goers, welcoming them with refreshments, a tour of their sanctuaries and the audible sounds of choirs signing Christmas carols.

The Christmas Series varies each weekend in attendance from 500 – 4,000.

Athletics

Youth Sports Leagues—The Parks and Recreation Department works with two organization within Jonesborough to provide and facilitate recreational youth sports leagues. The Jonesborough Little League (JLL) and Jonesborough Soccer Association (JSA) are responsible for registration, creating teams, designing and ordering shirts, recruiting volunteers, game officials, communication and setting a practice and game schedule. The Parks and Recreation Department provides the fields/facilities, maintains the fields/facilities, provides lights, utilities and concession stands, takes on the cost of and runs background checks. This partnership works well

as it provides the individuals necessary to operate the program as well as the organizational structure while the Town takes on the operating cost of the program.

Adult Sport League—The sole adult league that the Town offers is Adult Co-Ed Softball. Typically around 12 teams, made up of around 15 individuals, participate each season. The department is responsible for marketing the program, recruiting teams, scheduling the games, lining up officials and scorekeepers as well as providing lights, baseball field and maintaining the facility.

Flag Football – The department has initiated the implementation of flag football programming for this first time this season. While it's still in the early stages of implementation, the hope is that it is successful and the program will take place at Tiger Park.

Partnership should be evaluated for both JLL and PRSA. The Parks and Recreation Department should take more of a leadership role in both programs. There is a lack of communication between the organizations and the Department. More work can be done on the end of the Town to facilitate sign-ups, put a solid marketing plan in place, assist in organizing training for coaches and volunteers and add a little more flair to the program.

Feedback from participants in the youth programs show that there isn't much of an instructional component to the program. More work could be done on the front end with recruiting coaches and ensuring that athletes are receiving instruction that is built on each year, providing consistency from age group to age group. Providing an incentive in recruitment of coaches may be necessary.

Aquatics

Wetlands Water Park—Currently, the Parks and Recreation Department operates the entire facility. Though it is a seasonal facility, it requires quite a bit of attention, even in the off season.

The facility includes the main building structure which houses public restrooms, offices, lifeguard break room, upstairs dining area, ticketing office, full service café, first aid room, locker room, customer service office plus the pump/filtration area for the pool itself. The park is made up of a zero depth entry pool with a lazy river, large and small Otter swim slides, three large fiberglass slides (360 Slide, Big Slide and Tube Slide) as well as an attractive area for young children offering a rain tree, dump buckets, lemon water sprayers and more. The park also offers seating around the deck of the pool with chairs and loungers.

Arts and Culture

Jonesborough Repertory Theatre—The Town partners with the Jonesborough Repertory Theatre Board of Directors in a partnership to offer performances and education classes through JRT. The

JRT Board owns the theater building while the Town is responsible for the salary of the JRT Artistic Director as well as maintenance, utilities and general upkeep of the facility. The relationship is in the process of a change.

McKinney Center/Mary B. Martin Program—The McKinney Center is the former Booker T. Washington School which originally opened as a school for African American students as part of the Washington County School System. The Town of Jonesborough purchased the building from the School Board and restored the building to utilize it as an arts education center which houses the Mary B. Martin Program for the Arts.

The facility is multi-use and is rented out for special events such as weddings and reunions. The McKinney Center staff is responsible for planning and implementing arts education classes (art, music, dance, film, theater, writing), workshops in addition to art exhibits, the StoryTown program and a student film festival.

7.0 LOCAL PRIORITIES

During the planning process, certain topics, requests and comments were frequently mentioned. A summary of the most common comments are listed below:

In general, residents are concerned with the upkeep and maintenance of existing parks. They want to see the needs of the parks attended to before the development of new parks occurs. They also expressed a desire to additional pedestrian connections made to residential areas, parks and downtown, including to Johnson City. The desire for additional programming for youth was voiced in both the online surveys and in the in-person public meetings with the highest priority given to development of pickleball programming. In general, there was concern expressed over the condition of playground equipment in the parks and safety issues associated with disrepair. One responded summarized the general feeling well: it would be nice for park maintenance to be scheduled and not reactionary.

Stage Road Park

General feeling of satisfaction with recent upgrades to the park. Some comments related to re-establishing the landscaping in areas where they were previously present.

Depot Street Park

Desire to see upgrades to the entire park, including a needs assessment, overhaul of the restrooms.

Lincoln Park

General feeling of satisfaction with the park. Some mention of desire to see programming scheduled after regular hours of the Senior Center. Some comments related to the educational building and implementing programming from that building.

Persimmon Ridge Park

Overall dissatisfaction with the park, from the ball fields to the bathrooms and concessions to the basketball court area. Respondents are happy with the undeveloped areas that provide opportunities for nature watching and hiking. There is a desire to see the campground area re-established. Respondents want to see all dugouts, press boxes, concession stand and restrooms updated.

Wetlands Water Park

General consensus that respondents want to see the park upgraded from the water features to the restroom facilities to the concession stand. People have indicated they would like to see a splash pad.

Golden Oak Park

There seems to be an issue related to cats in the park, something some respondents mentioned. In general, people are happy with the park and would like to see repairs made to playground equipment.

WC Rowe Park

This park seems to be well-used and liked by community members.

Mill Spring Park

This park seems to be well-used and liked by community members.

Lost State Scenic Walkway

Jimmy Neil Smith Park

This park seems to be well-used and liked by community members, one of the most highly used parks in Jonesborough.

Barkley Creek Park

This park seems to be well-used and liked by community members.

8.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION

Background:

The Town of Jonesborough has been successful in its recreation program through creating partnerships. A small town with a relatively small recreation staff, Jonesborough has been able to create many leisure service opportunities by combining our efforts with others to achieve common goals. Examples of partnering relationships include the following:

Jonesborough Little League Association In 1979 the Board of Mayor and Aldermen entered into an agreement with the Jonesborough Baseball and Softball Association to undertake a comprehensive baseball /softball program for youth. The town built new ball facilities and provided staff for mowing, etc. This partnership has continued for almost thirty years. Additional ballfield facilities have been developed and there are a large number of Washington County youth involved in Jonesborough's program. The Association finds coaches and umpires, provides equipment, develops sponsors, and establishes the schedule under the oversight of Recreation staff. Jonesborough prepares fields and undertakes on-going maintenance and improvements with facilities. This relationship is stronger than ever, and the Little League President is a member of the Jonesborough Recreation Advisory Board. The Town of Jonesborough also has a side agreement with the Little League Association for use of the Town's concession stand at the ballfields.

Jonesborough Soccer Association The Recreation Department has an agreement with the Jonesborough Soccer Association similar to the Little League Association (Baseball & Softball Association). Over 500 youth participate in a soccer program in which the Association provides equipment, coaches, referees, etc. and the Recreation Department provides facilities and the on-going care of fields. The Town also has a concession agreement with the Soccer Association in an effort to help them generate revenue to support the program. Programming will soon move to Tiger Park at the new Jonesborough School.

Jonesborough Repertory Theatre The Parks and Recreation Department has developed a long range relationship with the Jonesborough Repertory Theatre. The Town has leased the Theatre building in downtown on a long-term basis and the Recreation Department provides utility costs, routine maintenance and assists with improvements. The Department also budgets funding for the Artistic Director as a contractual employee. The relationship has resulted in an exciting resurgence of the Jonesborough Repertory Theatre, a variety of theatrical and musical offerings,

and an on-going training program for youth. The relationship with the JRT is currently evolving, with major changes to the agreement and partnership occurring.

International Storytelling Center The Town of Jonesborough has entered into a long term lease of what use to be Christopher Taylor Park with the International Storytelling Center (ISC). The Town has leased over 2 acres to ISC and the property was combined with two tracts owned by ISC to develop the larger Storytelling Park. The 3-acre park property has been totally relandscaped with walkways, open space areas, and has become a dynamic asset in downtown Jonesborough to both residents and visitors. The Park area is open to the public on the same basis it would be if run by the Town. The partnership expanded leisure opportunities and allowed for more comprehensive funding through TDOT's T-21 Enhancement Grant Program.

Other Programs Jonesborough has been asked to partner with other organizations like the Historic Jonesborough Heritage Alliance in the sponsorship of events like Jonesborough Days, Halloween's Booze and Boos and the Friday night concert series, Music on the Square. The free concerts on Main Street run every week from May through September. These important activities are directed by Recreation staff or contractual employees, but are undertaken in cooperation with other organizations. Annual activities like At Home with Santa, Halloween Haunts and Happenings, Easter Eggstravaganza, etc. are all undertaken with a variety of partnering organizations like the Civitan Club, Kiwanis Club, Heritage Alliance and others.

The Jonesborough Recreation Department has established long-standing partnerships that have provided quality recreational opportunities for residents for many years. Many special event activities like Jonesborough Days, Halloween Haunts and Happenings, the Easter Eggstravaganza have been annual events for almost 30 years.

Goal: Establish cooperative relationships to expand recreational opportunities, promote and enhance services and preserve open space areas. Look for new opportunities to develop partnerships and maintain existing partnerships to improve programming.

USE OF FINANCIAL RESOURCES

Background: As Jonesborough is a small Town with Parks and Recreation expenditures budgeted out of the General Fund, there are not a lot of dollars available outside of the minimum to maintain and build on existing Recreation programs and facilities. As such, the department relies heavily on grant dollars, sponsorships, donations and partnerships in order to implement new projects and programs. In addition, many of the existing programs, such as the Little League and Jonesborough Soccer Association, special events and other activities are supported through sponsorships and donations from local businesses and Civic groups.

With the development of the partnership with Washington County and Tiger Park development, the County has entered into an agreement to lease the property associated with the park for 12 years for a \$500,000 annual payment. Those funds can be utilized for the Parks and Recreation Department, including development of programs, improvement of park facilities and support for the McKinney Center and Jackson Theatre.

LAND ACQUISITION

Background: Jonesborough has been forward-thinking in acquiring land for Recreation purposes, be it for development of parks and recreation spaces, preserving natural spaces, developing self-sufficient and low maintenance landscaped areas and more.

Early on, Jonesborough developed an ordinance that requires contractors who are building new residential subdivisions, as part of the process, to install sidewalks on both sides of the streets within the subdivision. The developer can opt out and install sidewalks on one side of the street and make an “in lieu of” payment to the Town for the value of the remaining sidewalk and that payment will be designated for the development or maintenance of walkways and sidewalks. In addition, developers are also required to designate an open space or recreation area for residents within a new development. The developer has the opportunity to dedicate that area to the Town who is able to develop as they see fit (as a park, open space, install recreation trails, etc.).

While only just a little over five (5) square miles, Jonesborough offers eleven (1) parks within the Town limits and is currently working on development projects associated with Recreation. The largest park is Persimmon Ridge Park at just over 130 total acres. The various parks are strategically planned around Town within residential areas and downtown with the goal of connecting the parks to each other via recreation walkways as well as connect them to Jonesborough’s historic downtown.

Goal: Acquire and preserve open space and high-quality natural areas to meet existing and future recreation needs of Jonesborough residents. Continue to connect recreation spaces to residential areas to increase ease of access and use of parks.

COMMUNITY AWARENESS AND PARTICIPATION

Background: Jonesborough has long been a community-oriented Town with many residents who volunteer or are involved in some capacity with Town Boards, Commissions, programs and events

or who actively serve non-profit organizations such as the Washington County/Jonesborough Library, Heritage Alliance, Jonesborough Locally Grown, Jonesborough Food Pantry and others. As long as Jonesborough is helping drive this interconnectivity amongst these groups, and communication is a priority, it naturally enhances awareness and thus promotes participation of programs and events.

Goal: Integrate programs and facilities into the lifestyle of residents through public input and enhanced awareness of the Jonesborough Parks and Recreation Department, its facilities, programs and services.

PROGRAMMING

Background: The Town employs a Special Events Coordinator whose responsibility is to plan and implement special events for the Town. The Recreation Department provides support staff who help in the planning and execution of the events. In addition, the Special Events Coordinator also assists in planning and implementing events as part of the Main Street Program and the Jonesborough Area Merchants Association. Those events related directly to the Parks and Recreation Department include: Easter Eggstravaganza, Jonesborough Days, Halloween Haunts and Happenings and Christmas in Olde Jonesborough.

Athletic programming is executed through local partnerships. Both the Jonesborough Little League and Jonesborough Soccer Association run their ball programs at Jonesborough's Persimmon Ridge Park and soon to be moving to Tiger Park. The Town provides the facility, utilities (lights, water), field maintenance, concession stands free of charge and assists with sign ups as well as conducts free background checks for all volunteers and coaches involved in the programs. Any assistance needed by the organizations is provided by the Town.

The Town runs its own adult softball league in the summer at Persimmon Ridge Park. The program has seen an average of 12 teams who participate in the program, each with about 16 adults participating on each team. The Town pays umpires and scorekeepers who work each game, the payment of which is covered by team registration fees.

Jonesborough offers arts programming through the Jonesborough Repertory Theatre and Mary B. Martin Program for the Arts at the McKinney Center. The JRT is host to 8 stage shows a year, selling out to crowds of over 100 at about 10 performances of each show. In addition, the JRT also offers on site theatre programming, including voice, children's acting classes that include a final performance, stage fight, tap and much more.

The McKinney Center offers arts programming each semester, including summer camps, plus workshops throughout the year to children and adults. Programming includes pottery, painting, mosaics, ballet, guitar, and much more. The McKinney Center also organizes several events throughout the year, some of which serve as fundraiser for the Center, including Soups and Songs, Jonesborough Juried Art Show, Art in the Park, and more.

Goal: Provide recreational opportunities and facilities to meet the physical, social, environmental and cultural programming needs of Jonesborough residents. Look at developing more programming for seniors, working with the Senior Center, that takes place after regular Senior Center hours.

MAINTENANCE OF FACILITIES, DEVELOPMENT AND REDEVELOPMENT

Goal: Preserve and enhance the historical landscape and heritage of Jonesborough's facilities and downtown while anticipating needs and recognizing trends and innovations. Plan and program facilities that can flexibly and efficiently accommodate a variety of uses and programs as future needs dictate. Initiate a facility assessment program that reviews user survey results and considers neighborhood and community input to identify modifications to existing facilities necessary to meet anticipated recreation needs. Continually consider the connectivity of the community. As developers continue to develop new residential neighborhoods, factor in connecting those residential areas to downtown and parks.

PLANNING

Goal: Maintain and update on an annual basis, Jonesborough Parks and Recreation Department Five-Year Plan, and maintain a Comprehensive Recreation and Parks Master Plan that can be included in the Comprehensive Growth Plan.

Stage Road Park

- Some trees have been removed as they were maintenance issues. Plans for replacing those trees with appropriate species that can provide shade should be factored into future planting
- The riparian buffer was cut down which previously greatly reduced the filtering of surface water from Mountain View Estates. It is recommended that to the extent possible, nuisance plants be removed in the area along the south side of the creekway where a riparian buffer was intended, and grasses and wildflowers be allowed to grow into mature plants
- There are a couple of sections of the walkway that hold water. Drainage runoff should be facilitated and the walkway area repaved to eliminate standing water
- Engineered Wood Fiber within the playground fall zones should be maintained at 12 inch depth
- Some of the playground equipment has been damaged over time. Even if it's still functional, equipment should be inspected for potential liability issues, and damaged parts or sections should be repaired or replaced.
- Shrubs were removed from around the pickleball courts. These shrubs created substantial wind protection that now affects play on the court. Shrubs should be replaced and it properly cared for and maintained to enhance aesthetics and improve court conditions.
- It is recommended that the Stage Road landscape design plan be reviewed and plantings be initiated to fill in sections of lost or removed plants. Landscape checklists should be reviewed, then followed, and changes in the landscape plans should be submitted to the Tree and Townscape Board for approval before implementation.

Depot Street Park

- Some playground equipment is in disrepair with missing components
- Pavilion structure is in need of maintenance
- Lack of pedestrian connections from parking lot to amenities within the park
- Grass surface throughout the park is uneven, posing hazards for users
- No designated parking spaces or ADA parking

Lincoln Park

- There has been some plant loss throughout the park and that should be evaluated
- Many grassed areas in the park are bare and should be overseeded

Persimmon Ridge Park

- Basketball court is in disrepair with one goal missing
- Lower parking lot is in disrepair and ADA accessible parking is not available

- Parking lines are very faint
- The appearance of the park in general is very poor
- General condition of the ball fields are in disrepair with many holes and uneven areas in the outfields and the infields need to be reworked with additional infill brought in
- Three of the four fields need attention related to updated fencing, availability of ADA accessible seating and access
- Athletic field lighting appears to be outdated and in disrepair
- Pedestrian foot bridges appear unsafe
- Lack of signage to direct visitors to amenities within the park
- Restrooms are not ADA accessible and in disrepair
- Playground equipment is damaged and EWF needs to be replenished
- Cleanup of storm debris should be implemented

Wetlands Water Park

- General condition of the park is fair
- Maintenance attention should be given to the entire park, particularly the concession and restroom facilities
- Facilities and amenities are outdated and in poor condition
- Parking availability is poor
- Civitan pavilion is in poor condition, particularly the restroom facilities

Golden Oak Park

- Some disrepair to playground equipment
- Some maintenance issues related to restroom facilities
- Overall in good condition

WC Rowe Park

- Generally in good condition
- Landscaped areas should be addressed and lost plant material replaced
- Particular attention should be given to the Chuckey Depot building and a maintenance plan developed for its care

Mill Spring Park

- Lack of pedestrian connection to gazebo
- Would benefit from opportunities for passive recreation
- Footbridge on east end of park should be removed

- Lack of lines in parking lot
- No designated ADA parking
- Updates needed for park restrooms

Jimmy Neil Smith Park

- Some damage to stones along walkway

Barkley Creek Park

- Issue with goose waste along walkways
- Bare turf areas within the park
- Some damage on pedestrian footbridge

Lost State Scenic Walkway

- Attention should be given to landscaped areas along the trail
- There is some damage to wooden footbridges and dog-eared fence along the trail
- Approaches to some footbridges has a large lip, impeding ADA access

Prioritization of Needs

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee discussed issues that were identified in the Public Input Meeting and through the online survey. From those items that were identified, the Committee discussed a prioritization of each of the items and assigned a timeline for addressing those items, whether it be maintenance, future program development, etc. Priority was assigned a value: 1 – High/Immediate Need; 2 – Moderate Need; 3 – Low Need.

Persimmon Ridge

1. Hiking Trail, Maintenance needed along the trails, including removal of fallen trees – Moderate, 2 – 3 years
2. Parking is insufficient – High, 3 – 5 years
3. Buildings at ball fields in disrepair – High, 2 – 3 years
4. The area by the t-ball field is messy – the yellow building appears unkept and messy with all of the items around the building – Low, 1 year
5. Ball fields need work: dugouts, press boxes, fields, concession stand, bathrooms – High, 2 – 5 years
6. Updated restrooms/ADA accessibility is needed – High, 3 – 5 years
7. Addition of water fountains throughout park – Low, 3 – 5 years
8. Need Dog Waste Stations – Low, 1 year
9. Pedestrian bridges are unsafe, in need of repair – High, 1 year
10. Needs new playground – Moderate, 3 – 5 years
11. Parking lots aren't maintained and lined, so cars park wherever they want. Striping would help to alleviate some of the parking availability – High, 1 year
12. Maintenance for disc golf course – Low, 1 year

Wetlands

1. Bathrooms need to be updated – High, 1 – 2 year
2. A plan for addressing cleanliness should be developed – Moderate, 1 year
3. Need more seating for visitors – Low, 3 – 5 years
4. Needs a more updated and professional look – High, 3 – 5 years

Golden Oak

1. Broken playground equipment – High, 1 – 2 years
2. Ongoing maintenance is poor – Moderate, 2 – 3 years
3. More sand needed in sand box – Low, 1 year
4. EWF needed in playground areas – Already addressed

Barkley Creek

1. Stock fishing pond – Low, Not necessary
2. Maintenance issues addressed on pedestrian bridge – High, 1 year
3. Muddy/dirt areas where there should be grass need to be seeded – Moderate, 2 – 3 years

JNS Park

1. Broken stones along the walkway create a tripping hazard – Low, Being addressed now

Mill Spring

1. ADA access to the bathrooms is lacking – High, 3 – 5 years
2. Bathrooms need to be updated. Some of the facilities in the restrooms don't work, leak or are in bad condition – Moderate, 3 – 5 years
3. ADA access to gazebo – Moderate, 2 – 3 years
4. Parking lot should be striped for parking/ADA parking – Moderate, 1 year

Stage Road

1. Needs to be better Maintained – High, Immediate
2. Planted areas/bioretenction area should be replaced on the north side of the park between the main parking lot and the creek – Low, May be addressed

Depot Street

1. More playground equipment for children under 5 years – Moderate, 3 – 5 years
2. More activities for children in general – Moderate, 3 – 5 years

3. Bathrooms in poor condition, need upgrades – High, 2 – 3 years
4. Pavilion needs to be enlarged and taken better care of – High, 2 – 3 years
5. Striped parking should be implemented in the lot along with ADA parking – High, 1 year
6. ADA access to features within the park should be developed – High, 1 year

Lincoln

1. More playground equipment for children under 5 years should be added – Low, Not necessary
2. Development of community garden, not just for seniors – Moderate, 2 years
3. Tree stumps in playground area are loose and need inspected – High, 1 year
4. Bathrooms locked and cannot be used all the time – High, 1 year
5. Education building should be open for other programming besides the Senior Center – Moderate, 1 year
6. Game area should be cleaned up and maintained on a regular basis – High, 1 year

Walkways

1. Lighting should be implemented for use after dark – Low, parks are dawn to dusk
2. Walkways need to be better maintained – High, 1 year
3. Walkways along Persimmon Ridge Road have pine needle/leaf debris that haven't been removed in years. The buildup is causing narrowing of the trail. – High, 1 year
4. Crossings signage/crosswalks should be better marked, signage should be placed further ahead of crossings so that drivers have enough notice before approaching crosswalk – High, 1 year
5. Walking trail should be expanded – High, In progress
6. Walkway extension to Tweetsie through the County – High, In progress
7. Walkway/sidewalk connections needed to access parks – High, In progress
8. Walkway in disrepair in some areas such as Persimmon Ridge Rd, behind Wetlands – High, 1 year

General Comments

1. Outdated/not maintained playground equipment in general in parks – Moderate, 5+ years
2. Dog Park Development should be prioritized – Moderate, 2 – 3 years
3. Updated restrooms for ADA compliance – High, 3 – 5 years
4. Integrate school-age programming – High, Hire a full-time programmer
5. Little Free Libraries need Maintenance - Completed
6. Development of bike skills park is needed – High, In progress
7. More benches along trails in areas where it makes sense to have a bench – Moderate – ongoing as budget allows
8. Park maintenance should be scheduled, not reactionary – High, In progress
9. Pickleball programming should be developed for youth and adults – leagues and instructional classes – High, Hire a full-time programmer
10. Additional programs for children – High, Hire a full-time programmer

9.0 APPENDIX

Landscaping: General

Jonesborough invests a substantial amount of money in landscaping and its care and maintenance. The Town in the current fiscal year hired an Open Space Coordinator full-time, and there is an assistant that she supervises. In addition, the Town contracts with one or more landscape crews that have the knowledge and skills to properly care for landscaped areas belonging to the Town that have a high visibility impact. Jonesborough has a reputation of having beautiful, landscaped areas that are well maintained, and the recent efforts to improve care and maintenance, through contracted labor, have resulted in much praise.

The key to minimizing the time and effort to keep highly visible landscaped areas looking wonderful is knowledge and timing. It is important to know what plants you want to save are in the ground and what they look like when they emerge out of the ground. It is also important to know what you do not want and to take the time to remove them as soon as possible when they germinate and start to grow. When weeds are two feet high, they are 10 times more difficult to get out of the ground and when you get them out, they are likely to pull up good flowering plants with them. Not to mention they've likely gone to seed at that point. When weeding is not timed properly, what area might take a few hours to weed often takes days with many good plants lost.

The Town has increased the number of highly landscaped areas with the development of Tiger Park and Lincoln Park. More landscaped areas will need care with the development of the Dog Park and field area associated with the old Middle School (Frontier Park) and its intended association with the Frontier Trail. There will likely be areas along the development of the Frontier Trail and Lost State Scenic Walkway in Jonesborough that will receive quality landscaping that will need to be maintained. Fortunately, however, with the Facility Lease Agreement with Washington County for the new elementary school property, the Town has the financial ability to provide the proper manpower and equipment necessary to keep landscaped areas developed by the Town properly maintained.

Checklists: Landscape checklists should be developed for each major landscaped area. While there will be a number of common steps and schedules reflected in the checklist, they need to be individualized based on the plant material involved and their location. These checklists should include sequenced schedules of care, and they should be included in individual landscape manuals.

Area Landscape Manuals: While there is expertise and staff available with knowledge of almost all of the landscaped areas developed and maintained by the Town, it is highly recommended that

the Town, through staff engagement, contracted involvement, or a combination of both, develop detailed landscape manuals for each of the parks and open space areas maintained by the Town that have substantial landscaping. These manuals could be in binders to make it easy to add and take out pages, and should include schematics and planting plans for the area, a landscape maintenance checklist noting important schedules and work tasks based on the plants in the area, photos or catalog pages showing plants planted, and to the extent possible, photos of what the plants and leaves look like shortly after they come out of the ground – at the best time to undertake weeding. This would help eliminate accidental pulling of plant material, instead of weeds. Contractors and staff change and it is important to have accurate information and expectations available as change takes place or at the very least, as reminders of what is on the ground and how it should be maintained. These manuals should be developed shortly after areas are landscaped, while the details are “fresh”. Any expense involved is well worth the investment. Note: catalog photos are most often shown, plant species in their adult form. Early spring is a great time to start taking photos of the early stages of plant growth when removal of weeds saves a tremendous amount of time and labor.

Maintenance Checklists – Playgrounds: General

The Town of Jonesborough has established a priority to trying to have quality playgrounds associated with every neighborhood park area. As a result, playgrounds exist at Persimmon Ridge Park, Golden Oak Park, Stage Road Park, Lincoln Park, Depot Street Park and Tiger Park. Tiger Park has four playground areas that are available to the public after school hours. There is a pre-school playground, a playground specifically designed to meet the abilities of special needs youth, a large playground area oriented for children ages 5 – 12 years, and a playground in the athletic area that includes ziplines, swings, and a large climbing oriented structure with slides, designed for children ages 5 – 12 years. The playground in the field area of Persimmon Ridge Park and the playground in the Tiger Park athletic area are or will be heavily used and are located so that parents can keep track of their children while attending and watching youth sports practices and games.

While playgrounds are very important in park and open space development, they can be a major liability issue if they are not properly inspected and maintained. The more recent comprehensive update of Jonesborough’s Master Plan (2021) includes individual playground checklists associated with each Town playground. These maintenance checklists must be used consistently on the schedule recommendation in order to ensure that playground equipment and surface safety conditioning is safe for children, and protects the Town at the same time from liability issues related to neglect.

While certified Engineered Wood Fiber (EWF) is used to cushion playground surfaces in less expensive than artificial turf on cushioned matting, it is important that the EWF is reconditioned regularly to the required 12 inch depth using certified playground mulch. When certified playground mulch is purchased, a certificate of certification must be obtained upon delivery and the certificate is maintained on file. Because mulch will break down over a period of time, eliminating the cushioning capability, there are periods where broken down mulch should be removed and totally replaced.

Playground Maintenance checklist should be established for the new playgrounds at Lincoln and Tiger Parks and undertaken on a schedule that is recommended in playground maintenance standards and provide the best protection for young participants as well as the Town.

Other Maintenance Checklists: In the previous 2021 Parks and Recreation Master Plan, maintenance checklists were developed for restrooms and pavilions in each park area. It is important that these checklists are utilized regularly to ensure residents have access to quality and well-maintained facilities. Similar checklists should be developed for restrooms and facilities developed in new park areas.

MAINTENANCE GUIDELINES FOR JONESBOROUGH PARKS AND OPEN SPACES

Maintenance of all items listed below includes all standards of performance, which help guide staff members and volunteers to the level of performance expected in the performance of all maintenance duties. This will allow for consistent, high quality upkeep of parks.

Annual Flowers and Downtown Decorations

Flowers and seasonal decorations provide seasonal color and interest to high visibility landscaped areas. To do this, summer annual flower planters are established and maintained in these areas throughout the town from approximately beginning of May through October. Fall plants and decorations are implemented mid-September through Halloween. Christmas green cuttings are implemented in the planters beginning in November along with Christmas wreath installation. Winter annuals (pansies) are planted January through April. Live plants will be watered on a daily basis unless adequate rainfall is received.

May – October—downtown planters will have two assorted color sweet potato vines and three assorted color profusion zinnia plants. Upon planting, flowers will be fertilized.

Mid-September – Halloween—Addition of bundles of corn fodder are installed around light poles along Boone Street, Main Street, downtown parking areas, Town facilities. In addition, light poles are flanked with two straw bales, a pumpkin and 12” mum plant. Planters are also given a 12” mum. Removal of all of these fall decorations as well as plants in the planters takes place after Halloween.

Mid-November through December—All planters along Boone and Main Streets will be topped off with mulch compost. Each planter will then be filled with evergreen cuttings gathered from parks to include ornamental grass flowers, red stem dogwood, magnolia and holly. At the same time, the Christmas wreaths will be erected along Boone and Main Streets in existing areas.

January – April—All Christmas decorations will come down and planters will be filled with assorted colors of winter pansies.

Maintenance of planters is done on a weekly basis, and includes watering, weeding, inspection for insects and disease and dead blooming. Watering is completed sometimes on a daily basis,

depending on rainfall. The heat from a combination of passing vehicles, brick sidewalks and asphalt roadway contributes to the quick evaporation of water.

Maintenance of flowering daffodil bulbs in tree wells along Main Street will be done on a regular basis. In spring, beds will be fertilized and topped with 2" of mulch. Once flowering is complete, bulbs are to be left alone. Trimming of the green leaves cannot be completed until the leaves are yellowed indicating all nutrients from the plant have moved to the bulb of the plant.



Fall decoration setup at Fox Street green space



Fall decoration setup at Fox Street green space



Fall decoration setup at downtown street lights



Fall decoration setup at downtown courthouse



Fall decoration setup at downtown courthouse



Fall decoration setup at downtown light poles



Fall decoration setup at Senior Center



Fall decoration setup at Senior Center



Fall decoration setup at McKinney Center, main door entrance



Fall decoration setup at McKinney Center, gym door entrance

Athletic Fields

The primary focus of athletic field maintenance is to maintain and ensure safe and uniform playing conditions. Maintenance is scheduled with a close eye on field wear and unsafe playing conditions throughout the scheduled sports year. Top-dressing, rolling, and reseeding are performed as needed. A field may be totally renovated if it is deemed to be in unplayable or unsafe condition. Bermudagrass may be used on athletic fields. This aggressive turf grows best in the hot, humid summer months. While Bermudagrass requires higher maintenance levels, it rewards the user with a carpet-like uniform surface. From May through September, Bermudagrass should be mowed two times per week, which helps force horizontal growth, keeping the grass full and thick. In the fall and early spring, mowing once per week is sufficient. In the early fall (about mid to late September), raise mowing height for Bermudagrass to about 1.5" to help store additional carbohydrate reserves, and retain turf canopy as growth slows and the turf cannot recuperate. Bermudagrass should be vertically mowed during the middle of summer, beginning in the second to third year after installation to keep thatch to a minimum. In other areas, Tall Fescue, Kentucky Bluegrass, Perennial Ryegrass or a blend of two or more of these seed types may be utilized, depending upon location, wear and use patterns, and funding available.

Athletic fields are maintained "in season" as follows:

- All fields with lines painted in grass are marked once per week with white lines, with lines painted and clearly visible to referees/umpires. Strings are pulled to assure straight lines
- All infields are marked day of game with 4" lines of white marking lime. Strings are pulled to assure straight lines.
- All divots and holes are fully filled and tamped
- Bermudagrass is mowed up to 2 times per week during peak growing season, (usually May through September) and once per week in April and October.
- All goals are securely anchored, nets fully attached and foul posts straight
- All damaged nets, base anchors, toeplates and homeplates are replaced as needed if safety or functionality is compromised.
- Infield lips are removed prior to start of spring practices to facilitate smooth transitions from skinned infield to outfield grass.
- All game fields are aerated two times per year, with a core aerator. Cores are allowed to dry and are then dragged in to the field.
- All playing fields are scheduled for applications of fertilizer herbicide, pesticide or fungicide treatment each year as needed.

Basketball Court

Once weekly, the basketball courts are either swept or blown off, nets are inspected and replaced if needed, and visible damages are repaired. In addition, the areas around the courts are policed for glass and/or trash.

Regularly scheduled maintenance includes:

- Courts are pressure-washed once each year in the spring.
- Routine maintenance is primarily done between March 1 – November 30, and includes sweeping/blowing off of all courts, general inspection, and removal of any trash, graffiti, and inspection for damage to surfaces and fences.
- Fallen leaves are removed between November and January
- Net inspection is done each month, year-round. Any problems are repaired or nets/hardware replaced.
- Surfaces are crack filled when conditions warrant, and re-sealed approximately once every 10 years, if funding is available. For maximum effectiveness, crack filling can only be performed during warm weather months; primarily between the months of May and September.

Drinking Fountains

Drinking fountains are available for use from approximately mid-March through mid-November. Facilities Maintenance staff are responsible scheduling the draining and winterizing of fountains. Some units are “frost free” and may be available year-round.

- Drinking Fountains are cleaned once each week and as needed before any reservations or scheduled activity at a specific park location. Routine cleaning includes wiping down the bowl with cleaning solution, removing any contaminants, and removal of any trash at or around the area.
- Inspection is done by operating the fountain and looking for any leaks, broken equipment, damage, and/or graffiti.
- These tasks are performed on a regular basis between March and November.

Gates/Fences/Bollards

The goal is to provide and maintain appealing and functional gates/fences/bollards in the park and walkway areas, which restrict access to vehicles, therefore potentially reducing vandalism while increasing safety for all park patrons. To do this, gates/fences/bollards are inspected on a

routine basis. Parks are open year-round; therefore, inspection and maintenance is done throughout the year.

- Gates/fences/bollards are inspected with each park cleaning visit and during all park inspection visits. Inspection is done to check for stability, broken equipment, damages, and/or vandalism. If such problems are noted, the Parks and Recreation Director is notified, a work order generated and the problems scheduled for repair or replacement. These tasks are performed on a regular basis year-round on all parks and greenways.

Wooden Footbridges

Wooden footbridges within the parks and the downtown area create access from one location to another typically over a stream or creek. Foot paths should be inspected on a monthly basis for rotted or loose boards that could cause a trip or fall hazard. Hand-level rails should be inspected for rotted or loose boards as well as splinters.

Greenway Trails – Hard Surfaces

The goal is to provide safe, attractive, and functional pathways for recreational, alternative transportation and fitness uses. Users will be provided with smooth, level, and hard surfaces on which to walk, run, skate, and bicycle. These trails will be maintained to allow for travel by individuals of all abilities where appropriate. Maintenance activities will prevent deterioration of the hard surface and will remove obstructions.

- Hard surface trails are inspected every other week, with obstructions such as litter, fallen tree debris, stones, gravel, sand, and grass clippings are removed from the surface.
- Trails should be inspected at least twice a week during the fall when leaves and branches may fall on the trails. They should be blown off during these inspections. Leaves pose a high risk of slip hazard or could disguise or cover other debris that could pose a danger.
- Trails should be inspected post-storms when the likelihood of falling debris might cause trip hazards.
- Snow and mud are removed as soon as possible following completion of other assigned snow routes.
- Entry gates and bollards are maintained and kept secure to prevent unauthorized access to the trail by motor vehicles or other equipment that could damage trail surfaces or interfere with the experience of the trail user.
- Painted lines, signs and other trail markings are inspected and repaired/renovated as needed.

Greenway Trails – Natural Surfaces

The goal is to provide safe and functional pathways for recreational and fitness uses. Trail surfaces are typically dirt, stone or mulch pathways maintained to a width sufficient enough to allow two individuals to pass by one another without having to step off the trail. Due to existing terrain and other conditions, some trails may be narrower, and be designated as single-directional trails. These trails will be maintained to allow for foot travel. Maintenance activities will prevent erosion of the path surface and vegetative overgrowth of the pathway.

- Inspection of natural greenway trails will be performed by department personnel.
- Erosion control designs and devices such as outsloped surfaces, drainage dips, and water bars will be installed and maintained to protect the integrity of the trail and to prolong its useful life.
- Pruning of encroaching vegetation will be performed in a natural manner on an as needed basis. Trail signage will be inspected, maintained and replaced in a timely manner as needed.

Landscaped Areas (Shrubs, Perennials, Ornamental Grasses)

The goal is to ensure that all landscapes in medians, rights-of-way, open spaces and on other public property are maintained in an aesthetically pleasing manner. When new landscapes are planned, trees, shrubs and other plants are chosen that will provide the needed shape, form and size for the area. When the landscapes are in median strips, rights-of-way or near intersections, plant material must be chosen that will not get too tall as to create sight clearance problems. Shrubs, trees and other plant material can be planted in spring between February and June. Fall planting can be accomplished from early September until late December in most years. Once the plant material is installed, (according to standard horticultural methods), a pre-emergent herbicide and mulch is added. These practices should provide optimum growing conditions to provide landscapes that will provide interest for many years.

Perennial plants and ornamental grasses are used in permanent landscapes as companion plants to trees and shrubs. These may include native species, and are usually very hardy and require lower maintenance levels than many shrubs. All landscapes will be maintained in the following manner during the growing season and includes watering (until established), weeding, pruning, mulching, inspection and pest management.

- Landscaped areas are considered properly maintained when they are free or relatively free of weeds, and all plant material kept appropriately pruned so as to avoid sight clearance/lane impediment throughout the growing season. Pruning may include selective cutting or shearing. Plant material will be pruned or renovated at the appropriate time of the year, using correct horticultural pruning practices. When properly trimmed, the plant material will look natural, and be proportionate to the area in which it is growing. If a plant produces blooms, it must be determined whether it is a spring, summer or fall flowering plant in order to prune at the appropriate time so as to not disturb the bloom period.
- Perennials and ornamental grasses will be cut to the ground (or close to the ground) in late winter (typically January) to rejuvenate them for the next season.
- Mulching is completed annually at a depth of not more than 2". Mulch should not be piled at the base of shrubs or trees; mulch rings shall be utilized on all newly planted shrubs and trees to help collect and hold rainwater and supplemental water.
- Inspection for insects and disease is done by trained staff members. Frequency is based upon type of shrub(s) or trees and their propensity for harboring insects or disease, general condition of the planting, and location. All problems are noted and discussed with the Horticulturist at the UT Extension Office, with recommendations for corrective action made within a timely manner.
- Spraying for weeds, insects or disease is done on an as needed basis by qualified personnel only, and must be done when the temperature is below 85° F, and the wind is not blowing.

Mulching

The goal is to ensure that all landscapes in medians, rights-of-way and on other public property are mulched in an aesthetically pleasing manner. Mulch reduces weed growth, insulates during cold and hot weather, conserves moisture and adds aesthetic beauty to provide a finished look to landscapes. When new landscapes are installed, mulch will be added after planting. Existing landscapes will be re-mulched on a regular basis based upon maintenance needs.

Proper techniques include:

- Mulching is completed annually, using mulch approved by the Horticulturist at a depth of not more than 2".
- *Mulch should not be piled at the base of shrubs or trees; mulch rings shall be utilized on all newly planted shrubs and trees to help collect and hold rainwater and supplemental water.*

Parking Areas

The goal is to provide clean, safe, and accessible parking areas for the public to use. To do this, parking areas are cleaned of any trash on a routine basis. Parks are open year-round; therefore, routine maintenance and cleaning are done on the parking areas throughout the year. Cleaning schedules are based upon park size, frequency of use, and number of amenities within the property.

Routine maintenance includes:

- Emptying trash cans, and replacing the trash can liner
- General cleaning of all trash in open spaces
- graffiti removal and glass removal.

Playground Areas

Playgrounds provide clean, safe and enjoyable experiences for children between the ages of 2-12. To do this, playground areas are cleaned, inspected and maintained on a regular basis.

Playgrounds are open year-round; therefore, routine maintenance and cleaning are done throughout the year, which includes:

- Loose trash pick-up, graffiti and glass removal in and around all play surfaces and fall zones at least once per week; more on high use areas.
- Casual Playground Inspections (checking the play equipment for obvious safety hazards and vandalism) by staff when collecting/checking for trash and hazards.
- Mulch is maintained within the fall zone to a minimum depth of 12" (compacted).
- Mulch is raked back into swing areas, slide exits, and fall zones at least once per month; more frequently if time allows.
- Playground mulch is "fluffed" at least once per year.
- Thorough safety inspections are done on each playground area once per month, following a prescribed checklist for entrapment and entanglement hazards.
- Safety violations and hazards are documented and then immediately addressed and repaired by staff. If an item cannot be immediately addressed, the playground is marked closed with caution tape, or specific (damaged) parts are removed.
- Appropriate signage indicating the target age group for the apparatus is required at each location, and should be clean and easy to read without graffiti or defacing present.
- All playground inspection records are maintained
- Sand boxes are cleaned on a regular basis. Debris such as leaves and sticks should be removed and sand should be topped off at least annually.

Restrooms

The goal is to provide clean, sanitary, appealing and well-supplied restrooms for the public. To do this, restroom cleaning is performed daily from May – September and every weekday each year in all locations. Some restroom locations are open earlier in the spring, close later in the fall, or are open year-round to provide the best possible level of customer service. Ultimate opening/closing dates should take athletic and other events and shelter reservations into consideration, as well as the average temperature to provide maximum customer service, but minimize damage to the facility through the freezing of pipes.

Public use restrooms in parks and public areas are open year-round with the exception of Depot Street Park restrooms, Wetlands Water Park restrooms, Persimmon Ridge Park ball field restrooms and Civitan Pavilion restrooms. Seasonal use restrooms are open April through October every year.

Cleaning standards include:

- Restrooms must be cleaned, sanitized and stocked on a regular basis (Monday through Saturday during May through September and Monday through Friday the rest of the year).
- Cleaning involves sweeping the floor and behind the doors, removing cobwebs, sanitizing all surfaces (toilet, sink, handrails, doors, and walls) and washing the floors. If toilets or sinks are stopped up, and can be unstopped by plunging. Burned-out light bulbs are to be replaced upon notification or inspection. Broken fixtures and other problems should be addressed in a timely manner. All restrooms shall be stocked with toilet paper, soap and paper towels.

Additional restroom maintenance completed by Park Division staff includes:

- Graffiti removal-removed within five (5) days of notification of its existence.
- Spot painting of any graffiti is accomplished upon inspection, with full painting completed as soon as possible.
- Restrooms located near a shelter are spot-checked for cleanliness and toilet paper by the park maintenance crews prior to any shelter reservations at that location. Toilet paper is added if levels are insufficient for the event(s) scheduled at that location.
- Interior of restrooms are pressure washed on an annual basis.
- Upon pressure washing, restroom interiors are painted once every two years
- Fixtures are inspected upon cleaning for any repair needs

- Restrooms are cleaned on a daily basis April through October and on weekdays the rest of the year.

Pavilions and Gazebo

Pavilions and gazebo shall be barrier-free to all patrons and conform to all ADA standards, and be safe, clean and inviting. To do this, pavilions are cleaned on a routine basis, as well as prior to reservations. Pavilions are available for use on a first come first served basis year-round with the exception of the Civitan Pavilion at Persimmon Ridge Park. It can be reserved Memorial Day – Labor Day through the Wetlands Water Park.

Maintenance at pavilions and gazebo include:

- Pavilion, gazebo and picnic tables are pressure-washed at least once a year, more often at high use locations
- Wooden picnic tables are either painted or stained once a year.
- Routine cleaning (as well as cleaning prior to reservations) includes sweeping/blowing off the floor, raking around the perimeter of the pavilion, emptying and wiping off trash cans, picking up loose trash, removing graffiti, cleaning grills and wiping off picnic tables. These tasks are performed on a regular basis between May through September.
- Pavilions and gazebo should be inspected monthly for maintenance and safety issues
- Pavilions and gazebo should be painted once every two years

Sidewalks and Walkways

Sidewalks and walkways may be constructed of concrete, asphalt, or natural materials such as stone. They should be barrier-free and conform to all ADA standards where feasible. Routine maintenance is done on sidewalk areas throughout the year.

Routine Maintenance includes:

- Emptying trash cans in the area (with the exception of the trash cans along Main Street), loose trash pick-up, graffiti and/or glass removal, and checking for vandalism or damage.
- Any damages and/or concerns found during inspections are reported, a work order is generated, and repairs are scheduled.
- Spraying of weeds on the sidewalks in the historic district and throughout downtown should be done once a month.

Signs

The goal is to provide attractive, consistent and correct informational signage throughout the park and greenway network.

Signs are inspected on a routine basis throughout the year. Inspection includes:

- Check for stability, damage and/or vandalism. If such problems are noted, the Parks and Recreation Director is notified.
- Repairs, graffiti removal and/or painting are to be completed by department staff when feasible, giving this work a high priority for completion within 1-5 days when feasible. All sign damage that cannot be completed with in-house staff is contracted to a local sign fabricator for completion.

Tennis/Pickleball Courts

Courts should be safe, clean, and in good condition for the public to use. To do this, tennis courts are cleaned and inspected on a routine basis. Courts are available for use year round, and may be reserved for special events.

Maintenance tasks performed by staff include:

- Courts are pressure washed every year as time allows.
- Routine maintenance is completed weekly April through September, and includes sweeping/blowing off the courts, removal of any trash or graffiti, and checking for damages to surfaces, fences and benches. Damage is to be reported for remedy.
- Net inspection is done each month, year round.
- Net tightening is completed during net inspections, and if needed between inspections as needed.
- Court surfaces are checked annually each spring for cracking which would impede play. Cracks are filled annually between May and September, as the material requires warm-hot weather for proper adhesion.
- Courts are overlayed on an approximate 10-year schedule, depending upon funding. Overlays include crack filling, adding several layers of sealant and colorant, and repainting of all lines.
- Leaf removal is done on a bi-weekly basis from November– December, and once in the early spring to remove leaves accumulated during winter. Lastly, the areas around the courts are policed for glass and/or trash. Cracks within the court surfaces are repaired on a priority basis. It is the goal of maintenance personnel to provide safe and aesthetically pleasing playing surfaces at all times.

Trash Cans, Dogipots and Park Litter

Parks and green spaces should have adequate, clean trash cans for the public to use. Trash cans are provided in all parks, near pavilions, along walkways, in park parking lots and near athletic fields and playgrounds. Trash is picked up within parks and trash cans are emptied and cleaned on a routine basis year-round, every weekday April through October and weekly the rest of the year.

Routine maintenance includes:

- Removal of trash can liner, and replacement of liner. Unless there is very little trash in the can, the plastic bag is changed each time the trash is emptied. Small amounts of trash may be picked out of the can, and the plastic bag left.
- Trash cans are wiped down with a cleaner such as Greased Lightning on a monthly basis in high use parks; once every two months in low use locations
- Graffiti is removed within five (5) days of notification of its existence.
- Loose litter in turf areas is picked up according to schedule, as well as just before mowing.
- Staff members involved in picking up trash are supplied with gloves to protect their hands. Appropriate hand washing shall be completed after completing trash collection.
- DogiPot bags are checked on a bi weekly basis and replenished.

Trees

The goal is to provide healthy shade and ornamental trees to city property. Trees maintained by department staff are located in parks, along residential streets, in medians, and in other public spaces. Trees are planted as replacement plantings or as new plantings. Often, as trees die or have to be removed, replacement trees will be ordered and planted. Locations and tree types are selected by the Capital Projects Manager, with input from a variety of sources. Trees are obtained, on the most part, from commercial nurseries and are planted by town personnel. Trees can be dug during dormancy and planted during both spring and fall seasons, ideally from March 1 through May 31 in the spring and from November 1 to December 30 in the fall. Once trees are planted, mulch is added and trees are staked. Pruning is typically not recommended during the first growing season following planting. Trees are watered at the time of planting and during the first growing season following planting on a daily basis or as needed. Fall planted trees require less watering than trees planted in Spring, but should be monitored and watered as needed during the first year of establishment. Watering may be necessary during the second growing season, particularly for trees on dry sites or during times of drought or very dry conditions.

- Established trees are inspected on average every four years and pruned by town personnel on this same cycle on an as needed basis.
- Downtown trees are inspected and pruned on a yearly cycle.
- Pruning is performed in compliance with the national pruning standards.
- Trees are pruned for the purposes of removing large dead limbs, raising to keep clear of vehicular and pedestrian traffic, and for sight clearance at intersections.
- Topping is not an acceptable pruning method, is injurious to the tree, and is not practiced by the town.
- Cabling, bracing, bark tracing, cavity work and other tree surgery practices will be performed by professional paid contractor.
- Trees will be removed in a safe and expeditious manner and stumps will be removed in a timely manner following tree removal. Stumps will be ground out below grade and the area regraded and seeded by town personnel.
- Remove sucker growth annually

Turf Maintenance

The goal is to ensure that all turfgrass areas are properly mowed and maintained at the highest quality level possible. Turf may be replaced via sod or seed. Proper fertility and pest, weed and plant disease management is important to maintain proper turf health. Regular visual inspections identify pest and disease issues.

Routine maintenance of turf includes:

Mowing heights are established based on area.

- Persimmon Ridge Walkway
Minimum grass height: 4"
Maximum grass height: 6"
- Wetlands Water Park
Minimum grass height: 2"
Maximum grass height: 4"
- Persimmon Ridge Park Ball Fields
Minimum grass height: 2"
Maximum grass height: 3.5"
- Persimmon Ridge Park
Minimum grass height: 3"

- Maximum grass height: 5"
- e. 11E Medians
 - Minimum grass height: 3"
 - Maximum grass height: 5"
- f. Senior Citizen Property
 - Minimum grass height: 3"
 - Maximum grass height: 4"
- g. Stage Road Park
 - Minimum grass height: 3"
 - Maximum grass height: 4"
- h. Mill Spring Park
 - Minimum grass height: 3"
 - Maximum grass height: 4"
- i. Downtown Courthouse Parking Lots
 - Minimum grass height: 3"
 - Maximum grass height: 4"
- j. Parson's Table Bank
 - Minimum grass height: 3"
 - Maximum grass height: 4"
- k. Depot Street Park
 - Minimum grass height: 3"
 - Maximum grass height: 4"
- l. Main Street Village Pavilion
 - Minimum grass height: 3"
 - Maximum grass height: 4"
- m. Old Jonesborough Cemetery, African American Cemetery
 - Minimum grass height: 4"
 - Maximum grass height: 5"
- n. Detention Ponds
 - Minimum grass height: 6"
 - Maximum grass height: 8"
- o. Library, Oak Hill Schoolhouse, Duncan House, Visitors Center and Town Hall
 - Minimum grass height: 3"
 - Maximum grass height: 4"
- p. Vines Farm Subdivision Park

Minimum grass height: 3"

Maximum grass height: 4"

q. Tiger Park

Minimum grass height: 3"

Maximum grass height: 4"

r. Lincoln Park

Minimum grass height: 3"

Maximum grass height: 4"

- Mowing and edging of all turf perimeters should occur once week
- Mowers shall have blades that are sharp.
- Mulch mowing is performed in open areas each fall between September and October to grind up fallen leaves, helping to increase organic matter and nutrient levels in the soil
- Aeration: Aeration is most successful after receiving rainfall. Most open spaces are aerated once per year, in spring or fall.
- Renovations/seeding: Most open space areas will use a 90% tall fescue/10 % Kentucky Bluegrass blend. Seed should be applied at a rate of 5-8 pounds/1000 square feet, with a starter fertilizer (10-20-10 or similar) applied at seeding. All seed should be raked/dragged in, with a thin cover of straw to help conserve moisture.
- Edging and string trimming helps detail proper turfgrass maintenance. All curbs, sidewalks, shrub beds and trees should be maintained without damaging the obstacles in which you are edging. Never utilize a string trimmer directly against a tree, especially young trees, as it will damage and likely kill the tree.
- Clippings are cleared and blown from sidewalks, roadways back into the turf to complete the mowing process. All fertilizing should be done in the fall within parks and landscaped areas.

Concessions Area

Concession stands are operated by athletic organizations during their designated season. It is the responsibility of Parks Maintenance crew to open and close the concession area after each athletic season.

Opening

- Concession facilities cleaned, wiped down, and sanitized before handing over to athletic groups at the beginning of the season
- Electrical appliances checked for compliance and repaired if damaged
- Lights checked and repaired as needed
- Appliances cleaned thoroughly before opening

- Circuit breakers tested prior to opening
- Pick up debris daily

Closing

- Equipment cleaned thoroughly
- Electricity should be turned off
- Refrigerators and cables turned off and sealed
- Facility floors, sinks, and counters cleaned thoroughly
- Hoses cleaned and drained
- Kitchen cleaned thoroughly

Miscellaneous Department Responsibilities

Maintenance of Park and Athletic Field Lighting Lights are maintained by Parks staff. Many of the decorative post lights, all flood lights within parks, as well as all of the street lights along roadways and within parks are maintained BrightRidge. The Jonesborough Police Department is to be notified for maintenance of lights or bulb replacement.

Park Preventive Maintenance Calendar

Certain park maintenance tasks take place routinely over the course of the year. In addition to routine maintenance, park crews assist recreation programs with setup and breakdown for special events.

January

- Schedule landscape projects for late winter/early spring
- Prepare late winter annual planters

February

- Prepare ball fields for spring/summer use
- Edge landscape beds along hwy 11-E, Boone Street and in all landscaped areas with an edger
- Spray pre-emergent herbicide

March

- Spray pre-emergent herbicide
- Fertilize turf areas, as needed
- Top off sand for playground sandboxes
- Aerate and dethatch turf areas, as needed
- Add mulch to mulched areas in landscaped spaces
- Add certified playground mulch to fall zones within playgrounds

April

- Continue aeration and dethatching
- Begin weekly mowing schedule
- Spot spray weeds as needed

May

- Prepare and plant annual planters
- Spot spray weeds as needed
- Conduct tree trimming in parks and pedestrian areas

June

- Top off mulch areas as needed
- Aerate turf as needed
- Spot spray weeds as needed

July

- Spot spray weeds in all landscape areas as needed

August

- Spot spray weeds as needed
- Schedule landscape projects for fall

September

- Overseed and topdress turf areas
- Blow off building roofs, clean rain gutters for winter preparation
- Prepare fall annual planters
- Spot spray weeds as needed

October

November

- Prepare holiday annual planters

December

- Cut ornamental grasses along highway 11-E, Boone Street and pedestrian walkways

Preventive Maintenance Schedule for all Park Sites

All Parks: Adding topsoil to dry spots and depression in turf twice annually. Adding perennial ryegrass seed blend to sparse turf areas as needed.

Renovation and Maintenance

Task	Frequency
Picking up litter throughout park	Daily
Restroom cleaning and restocking	Daily
Planter maintenance	Daily
Building inspection and maintenance	Weekly
Mulch bed maintenance	Weekly
Weed management	Weekly
Mowing, edging and line trimming	Weekly
Inspection and repair of play equipment	Monthly
Park tree maintenance	Monthly
Power wash play courts	April and September
Spray pre-emergent herbicide	February – March
Blow debris off rooftops and rain gutters	September – October
Add topsoil to turf dry spots and depressions	Twice annually
Add perennial ryegrass seed blend to sparse turf areas	April, September
Trim trees	Once annually

Work Orders

Park Maintenance staff are asked to observe the conditions of buildings, fields, lights, parks and surroundings within parks to ensure that issues that may need attention are reported.

Weekly Routine Tasks

Park Maintenance

- Pick up loose litter throughout the park
- Report park damage, vandalism, graffiti, etc. to Supervisor
- Spray or manually remove weeds in sidewalk/walkway cracks and planter/mulch beds
- Maintain clean restrooms and report vandalism, damage, graffiti present in restrooms

Maintenance of Landscaped Areas

- Mulched areas and garden beds should be maintained with a clear delineation between the turf and mulch/soil areas at all times. This is accomplished by weed eating with a vertical string.
- Spot spraying with herbicides on a regular basis: fence lines, curbs, sidewalk/walkway cracks, around poles and borders to maintain them in a weed-free condition.
- Monitor staking of newly planted trees for proper support and sufficient irrigation
- Monitor watering of newly planted trees, shrubs and perennials

Playgrounds

- Raking and tilling playground wood-chip surfacing and backfilling low spots around the equipment
- Report damage, vandalism, graffiti, etc. to Supervisor

Depot Street Park

Monthly Safety Inspection Report

Date of Inspection _____

Inspected by _____

Reviewed by Director (Signature) _____

Date _____

Playground Surface	Compliant	Not Compliant	Needs Repair	Date Repaired
Mulch is to the top of the playground border				
Mulch material is raked to eliminate compaction and free of debris				
Adequate protective surfacing under and around the equipment				
Area is free of standing water				
Playground borders are free of chipping paint and cracks, in good repair and stakes are flush with top of border				
Comments				
Playground Equipment	Compliant	Not Compliant	Needs Repair	Date Repaired
Check for jagged, exposed or loose screws, bolts or nuts (max of two threads showing on screws, nuts must be curved head)				
Check for broken supports, anchors, rails, steps, rungs, seats, bolts or nuts				

Check that footings are stable and buried, free of jagged areas				
Check that hooks, hangers, shackles, links, ropes and cables are in good repair, free of rust				
Check that equipment is free of rust, corrosion and chipping paint				
Comments				
Climbing Equipment	Compliant	Not Compliant	Needs Repair	Date Repaired
Check that handrails are secure				
Check that footholds are not worn or slippery				
Comments				
Swings	Compliant	Not Compliant	Needs Repair	Date Repaired
Check that seats are in good repair, free of pinch points, cracks				
Check that S Hooks, chain links and brackets are in good repair, free of rust				
Check that posts are stable and in good repair				
Check that overhead brackets where swings attach are not loose and affixed to the post				
Comments				
Slide	Compliant	Not Compliant	Needs Repair	Date Repaired
Check for gaps and rough edges				

Check that there are not any objects protruding from the slide surface				
Check the ladder for slick spots due to algae/dirt and that it is in good repair				
Check that slide sections are tight				
Check slide surface for debris, cracks				
Comments				
Stepping Structures	Compliant	Not Compliant	Needs Repair	Date Repaired
Individual steppers are secure and solid in the ground				
Check that step surfaces are free of algae and dirt that might make the surface slippery				
Comments				
Signage	Compliant	Not Compliant	Needs Repair	Date Repaired
Restroom signs are appropriately located at entrance to respective bathrooms and are damage free				
Park sign is free of damage				
Comments				
Restrooms and Pavilion	Compliant	Not Compliant	Needs Repair	Date Repaired
Walls and ceilings are in safe condition and good repair				
Lights are in working order				

Electric outlet covers are in place				
Floors are inspected for unsafe conditions				
Paper towel and toilet paper dispensers are secured to the wall and in safe, working condition				
All plumbing fixtures are securely fastened to the walls or floor, in a safe and operable condition				
Picnic tables are in good repair, free of refuse and other unfavorites				
Comments				
Other	Compliant	Not Compliant	Needs Repair	Date Repaired
Parking lot area is clear of debris and trash and has been blown off				
Trash cans and benches are in good repair, free of rust, and are stable				
Fence is in good repair, free of openings, sharp edges				
Comments				

Stage Road Park

Monthly Safety Inspection Report

Date of Inspection _____

Inspected by _____

Reviewed by Director (Signature) _____

Date _____

Playground Surface	Compliant	Not Compliant	Needs Repair	Date Repaired
Mulch reaches the top of the playground border				
Mulch material is raked to eliminate compaction and free of debris				
Adequate protective surfacing under and around the equipment				
Area is free of standing water				
Playground borders and ramps are free of chipping paint and cracks, in good repair and stakes are flush with top of border				
Comments				
Playground Equipment	Compliant	Not Compliant	Needs Repair	Date Repaired
Check for jagged, exposed or loose screws, bolts or nuts (max of two threads showing on screws, nuts must be curved head)				
Check for broken supports, anchors, rails, steps, rungs, seats, bolts or nuts				

Check that footings are stable and buried, free of jagged areas				
Check that hooks, hangers, shackles, links, ropes and cables are in good repair, free of rust				
Check that equipment is free of rust, corrosion and chipping paint				
Comments				
Climbing Equipment	Compliant	Not Compliant	Needs Repair	Date Repaired
Check that handrails are secure				
Check that footholds are not worn or slippery				
Comments				
Swings	Compliant	Not Compliant	Needs Repair	Date Repaired
Check that seats are in good repair, free of pinch points, cracks				
Check that S Hooks, chain links and brackets are in good repair, free of rust				
Check that posts are stable and in good repair				
Check that overhead brackets where swings attach are not loose and affixed to the post				
Comments				
Slides	Compliant	Not Compliant	Needs Repair	Date Repaired
Check for gaps and rough edges				

Check that there are not any objects protruding from the slide surface				
Check the ladder for slick spots due to algae/dirt and that it is in good repair				
Check that slide sections are tight				
Check slide surface for debris, cracks				
Comments				
Sandbox	Compliant	Not Compliant	Needs Repair	Date Repaired
Check sand for hidden dangerous objects				
Sand must reach the depth of the sandbox				
Area around the sandbox has been blown off and cleared				
Sandbox has been cleaned of mulch, sticks, leaves and other debris				
Comments				
Restrooms and Pavilion	Compliant	Not Compliant	Needs Repair	Date Repaired
Walls and ceilings are in safe condition and good repair				
Lights are in working order				
Electric outlet covers are in place				
Floors are inspected for unsafe conditions				
Paper towel and toilet paper dispensers are secured to the wall and in safe, working condition				

All plumbing fixtures are securely fastened to the walls or floor, in a safe and operable condition				
Picnic tables are in good repair, free of refuse and other unfavorites, clean				
Comments				
Signage	Compliant	Not Compliant	Needs Repair	Date Repaired
Restroom signs are appropriately located at entrance to respective bathrooms and are damage free				
Park sign is free of damage				
Handicap parking signs are appropriately placed and free of damage				
Park rules sign is appropriately located and free of damage				
Comments				
Other	Compliant	Not Compliant	Needs Repair	Date Repaired
Parking lot area is clear of debris and trash and has been blown off				
Pathways are clear of debris and trash and have been blown off				
Trash cans and benches are in good repair, free of rust, and are stable				
DogiPots are in good repair, stocked with bags and trash can has been emptied				

Comments

Golden Oak Park

Monthly Safety Inspection Report

Date of Inspection _____

Inspected by _____

Reviewed by Director (Signature) _____

Date _____

Playground Surface	Compliant	Not Compliant	Needs Repair	Date Repaired
Mulch reaches the top of the playground border				
Mulch material is raked to eliminate compaction and free of debris				
Adequate protective surfacing under and around the equipment				
Area is free of standing water				
Playground borders and ramps are free of chipping paint and cracks, in good repair and stakes are flush with top of border				
Comments				
Playground Equipment	Compliant	Not Compliant	Needs Repair	Date Repaired
Check for jagged, exposed or loose screws, bolts or nuts (max of two threads showing on screws, nuts must be curved head)				
Check for broken supports, anchors, rails, steps, rungs, seats, bolts or nuts				

Check that footings are stable and buried, free of jagged areas				
Check that hooks, hangers, shackles, links, ropes and cables are in good repair, free of rust				
Check that equipment is free of rust, corrosion and chipping paint				
Comments				
Climbing Equipment	Compliant	Not Compliant	Needs Repair	Date Repaired
Check that handrails are secure				
Check that footholds are not worn or slippery				
Comments				
Swings	Compliant	Not Compliant	Needs Repair	Date Repaired
Check that seats are in good repair, free of pinch points, cracks				
Check that S Hooks, chain links and brackets are in good repair, free of rust				
Check that posts are stable and in good repair				
Check that overhead brackets where swings attach are not loose and affixed to the post				
Comments				
Slide	Compliant	Not Compliant	Needs Repair	Date Repaired
Check for gaps and rough edges				

Check that there are not any objects protruding from the slide surface				
Check the ladder for slick spots due to algae/dirt and that it is in good repair				
Check that slide sections are tight				
Check slide surface for debris, cracks				
Comments				
Sandbox	Compliant	Not Compliant	Needs Repair	Date Repaired
Check sand for hidden dangerous objects				
Sand must reach the depth of the sandbox				
Area around the sandbox has been blown off and cleared				
Sandbox has been cleaned of mulch, sticks, leaves and other debris				
Comments				
Restrooms and Pavilion	Compliant	Not Compliant	Needs Repair	Date Repaired
Walls and ceilings are in safe condition and good repair				
Lights are in working order				
Electric outlet covers are in place				
Floors are inspected for unsafe conditions				
Paper towel and toilet paper dispensers are secured to the wall and in safe, working condition				

All plumbing fixtures are securely fastened to the walls or floor, in a safe and operable condition				
Picnic tables are in good repair, free of refuse and other unfavorites, clean				
Comments				
Stepping Structures	Compliant	Not Compliant	Needs Repair	Date Repaired
Individual steppers are secure and solid in the ground				
Check that step surfaces are free of algae and dirt that might make the surface slippery				
Comments				
Signage	Compliant	Not Compliant	Needs Repair	Date Repaired
Restroom signs are appropriately located at entrance to respective bathrooms and are damage free				
Park sign is free of damage				
Handicap parking signs are appropriately placed and free of damage				
Park rules sign is appropriately located and free of damage				
Comments				
Other	Compliant	Not Compliant	Needs Repair	Date Repaired

Parking lot area is clear of debris and trash and has been blown off				
Pathways are clear of debris and trash and have been blown off				
Trash cans and benches are in good repair, free of rust, and are stable				
DogiPots are in good repair, stocked with bags and trash can has been emptied				
Comments				

Persimmon Ridge Park Playground

Monthly Safety Inspection Report

Date of Inspection _____

Inspected by _____

Reviewed by Director (Signature) _____

Date _____

Playground Surface	Compliant	Not Compliant	Needs Repair	Date Repaired
Mulch is to the top of the playground border				
Mulch material is raked to eliminate compaction and free of debris				
Adequate protective surfacing under and around the equipment				
Area is free of standing water				
Playground borders are free of chipping paint and cracks, in good repair and stakes are flush with top of border				
Comments				
Playground Equipment	Compliant	Not Compliant	Needs Repair	Date Repaired
Check for jagged, exposed or loose screws, bolts or nuts (max of two threads showing on screws, nuts must be curved head)				
Check for broken supports, anchors, rails, steps, rungs, seats, bolts or nuts				

Check that footings are stable and buried, free of jagged areas				
Check that hooks, hangers, shackles, links, ropes and cables are in good repair, free of rust				
Check that equipment is free of rust, corrosion and chipping paint				
Comments				
Climbing Equipment	Compliant	Not Compliant	Needs Repair	Date Repaired
Check that handrails are secure				
Check that footholds are not worn or slippery				
Comments				
Slide	Compliant	Not Compliant	Needs Repair	Date Repaired
Check for gaps and rough edges				
Check that there are not any objects protruding from the slide surface				
Check the ladder for slick spots due to algae/dirt and that it is in good repair				
Check that slide sections are tight				
Check slide surface for debris, cracks				
Comments				

Lincoln Park

Monthly Safety Inspection Report

Date of Inspection _____

Inspected by _____

Reviewed by Director (Signature) _____

Date _____

Playground Surface	Compliant	Not Compliant	Needs Repair	Date Repaired
Mulch reaches the top of the playground border				
Mulch material is raked to eliminate compaction and free of debris				
Adequate protective surfacing under and around the equipment				
Area is free of standing water				
Playground borders and ramps are free of chipping paint and cracks, in good repair and stakes are flush with top of border				
Comments				
Playground Equipment	Compliant	Not Compliant	Needs Repair	Date Repaired
Check for jagged, exposed or loose screws, bolts or nuts (max of two threads showing on screws, nuts must be curved head)				
Check for broken supports, anchors, rails, steps, rungs, seats, bolts or nuts				

Check that footings are stable and buried, free of jagged areas				
Check that hooks, hangers, shackles, chain links, ropes and cables are in good repair, free of rust				
Check that equipment is free of rust, corrosion and chipping paint				
Comments				
Climbing Equipment	Compliant	Not Compliant	Needs Repair	Date Repaired
Check that boulders and stepping stumps are secure and in place				
Check that footholds are not worn or slippery				
Comments				
Swings	Compliant	Not Compliant	Needs Repair	Date Repaired
Check that seats are in good repair, free of pinch points, cracks				
Check that S Hooks, chain links and brackets are in good repair, free of rust				
Check that posts are stable and in good repair				
Check that overhead brackets where swings attach are not loose and affixed to the post				
Comments				
Slides	Compliant	Not Compliant	Needs Repair	Date Repaired

Check for gaps and rough edges				
Check that there are not any objects protruding from the slide surface				
Check the ladder for slick spots due to algae/dirt and that it is in good repair				
Check that slide sections are tight				
Check slide surface for debris, cracks				
Comments				
Sandbox	Compliant	Not Compliant	Needs Repair	Date Repaired
Check sand for hidden dangerous objects				
Sand must reach the depth of the sandbox				
Area around the sandbox has been blown off and cleared				
Sandbox has been cleaned of mulch, sticks, leaves and other debris				
Comments				
Restrooms and Pavilion	Compliant	Not Compliant	Needs Repair	Date Repaired
Walls and ceilings are in safe condition and good repair				
Lights are in working order				
Electric outlet covers are in place				
Floors are inspected for unsafe conditions				
Paper towel and toilet paper dispensers are secured to				

the wall and in safe, working condition				
All plumbing fixtures are securely fastened to the walls or floor, in a safe and operable condition				
Picnic tables are in good repair, free of refuse and other unfavorites, clean				
Comments				
Signage	Compliant	Not Compliant	Needs Repair	Date Repaired
Restroom signs are appropriately located at entrance to respective bathrooms and are damage free				
Park sign is free of damage				
Handicap parking signs are appropriately placed and free of damage				
Park rules sign is appropriately located and free of damage				
Comments				
Other	Compliant	Not Compliant	Needs Repair	Date Repaired
Parking lot area is clear of debris and trash and has been blown off				
Pathways are clear of debris and trash and have been blown off				
Trash cans and benches are in good repair, free of rust, and are stable				

DogiPots are in good repair, stocked with bags and trash can has been emptied				
Comments				

Tiger Park

Monthly Safety Inspection Report

Date of Inspection _____

Inspected by _____

Reviewed by Director (Signature) _____

Date _____

Playground Surface	Compliant	Not Compliant	Needs Repair	Date Repaired
Turf is blown off, free of debris				
Area is free of standing water				
Turf is in good condition, free of damage				
Comments				
Playground Equipment	Compliant	Not Compliant	Needs Repair	Date Repaired
Check for jagged, exposed or loose screws, bolts or nuts (max of two threads showing on screws, nuts must be curved head)				
Check for broken supports, anchors, rails, steps, rungs, seats, bolts or nuts				
Check that footings are stable and buried, free of jagged areas				
Check that hooks, hangers, shackles, links, ropes and cables are in good repair, free of rust				

Check that equipment is free of rust, corrosion and chipping paint				
Comments				
Climbing Equipment	Compliant	Not Compliant	Needs Repair	Date Repaired
Check that handrails are secure				
Check that footholds are not worn or slippery				
Comments				
Swings	Compliant	Not Compliant	Needs Repair	Date Repaired
Check that seats are in good repair, free of pinch points, cracks				
Check that S Hooks, chain links and brackets are in good repair, free of rust				
Check that posts are stable and in good repair				
Check that overhead brackets where swings attach are not loose and affixed to the post				
Comments				
Slide	Compliant	Not Compliant	Needs Repair	Date Repaired
Check for gaps and rough edges				
Check that there are not any objects protruding from the slide surface				
Check the ladder for slick spots due to algae/dirt and that it is in good repair				

Check that slide sections are tight				
Check slide surface for debris, cracks				
Comments				
Stepping Structures	Compliant	Not Compliant	Needs Repair	Date Repaired
Individual steppers are secure and solid in the ground				
Check that step surfaces are free of algae and dirt that might make the surface slippery				
Comments				
Signage	Compliant	Not Compliant	Needs Repair	Date Repaired
Restroom signs are appropriately located at entrance to respective bathrooms and are damage free				
Park sign is free of damage				
Comments				
Restrooms and Pavilion	Compliant	Not Compliant	Needs Repair	Date Repaired
Walls and ceilings are in safe condition and good repair				
Lights are in working order				
Electric outlet covers are in place				
Floors are inspected for unsafe conditions				
Paper towel and toilet paper dispensers are secured to				

the wall and in safe, working condition				
All plumbing fixtures are securely fastened to the walls or floor, in a safe and operable condition				
Picnic tables are in good repair, free of refuse and other unfavorites				
Comments				
Ball Fields	Compliant	Not Compliant	Needs Repair	Date Repaired
Check for divots/holes, rocks in field areas to eliminate any danger in trip hazards.				
Signage is in working order				
Dugouts, benches, bleachers are in good order with no loose bolts, seats or other equipment failure				
Dugouts, bleacher areas are blown off, free of debris and trash				
Other	Compliant	Not Compliant	Needs Repair	Date Repaired
Parking lot area is clear of debris and trash and has been blown off				
Trash cans and benches are in good repair, free of rust, and are stable				
Fence is in good repair, free of openings, sharp edges				
Comments				

Inventory of Parks

Mill Spring Park

Gazebo

Restrooms

Slemons House

Parking lot

Footbridge

Stage Road Park

Playground

Walking trail

Pavilion

Restrooms

Fencing

Signage

Parking lot

Extensive landscaping

Tennis/Pickleball court

Playground

Wetlands Water Park

Fencing

Signage

Parking lots

Extensive landscaping

Building

1. Admissions

2. Breezeway

1. Café

2. Customer Service Office

3. Locker Room

4. Tube Room
5. Exterior Storage Room
6. Pump Room
7. Exterior Pump Area
8. Women's Restroom
9. Men's Restroom
10. First Aid Room
11. Dining Area
12. Lifeguard Room
13. Lifeguard Restroom
14. Storage Room
15. Administrative Office
16. Administrative Restroom
17. Extensive Landscaping
18. Deck Area and Chairs
19. Five Slides
20. Pool
21. Lazy River
22. Footbridge
23. Volleyball Court
24. Parking lot

Persimmon Ridge Park

Hiking trails

Parking lots

Walking trail

Walking trail culvert

Athletic Fields

Civitans Pavilion and Restrooms

Footbridges (3)

Athletic fields concessions stand and pavilion

Athletic fields men's restroom

Athletic fields women's restroom

Athletic organization's storage

Field 3 press box

Field 2 press box

Parks Maintenance office and storage

Parks Maintenance men's restroom

Parks Maintenance women's restroom

Basketball court

Employee fitness center

Campground caretaker cabin

Campground

Disc golf course

Signage

Barkley Creek Park

Walking trail

Pond

Footbridges (2)

Landscaping

Signage

WC Rowe Park

Parking lot

Chuckey Depot

Chuckey Depot caboose

Walking trail

Extensive landscaping

Fence

Signage

Jimmy Neil Smith Park

Extensive landscaping

Walking trail

Signage

Wooden staircase

Golden Oak Park

Signage

Fence

Parking lot

Walking trail

Pavilion

Restrooms

Playground

Depot Street Park

Fence

Signage

Restrooms

Pavilion

Playground

Parking lot

Basketball half court

Horseshoe pits/

Lincoln Park

Signage

Fence

Parking lots

Pavilion

Pavilion men's restrooms

Pavilion women's restroom

Pavilion family restroom

Bocce ball courts

Horseshoe courts

Pickleball court

Shuffleboard court

Amphitheatre

Education Center

Education Center men's restroom

Education Center women's restroom

Community garden beds

Extensive landscaping

Playground

Walking trail

Tiger Park

Signage

Fencing

Parking lots

Pavilion

Men's restrooms

Women's restroom

Family restroom

Soccer Fields

Football field

Pickleball court

Shuffleboard courts

Benches, trash receptacles, tables, bleachers

Rubberized Track

Playgrounds – Athletic area, K – 5, CDC and Pre-K

Walking trails

Inventory of Facilities

Chuckey Depot

Signage

Parking lot

Caboose

Wooden platform and ramp

Wooden stairs (2)

Walking trail

Extensive landscaping

McKinney Center

Signage

Parking lot

Extensive landscaping

Jonesborough Repertory Theatre

Employee Fitness Center

Parking lot

Jackson Theatre

Downtown Courthouse Parking Lot Restrooms

Parking lot

Signage

Landscaping

Fence

Landscaped Open Spaces (Outside of Parks)

Medians on 11-E

Triangle at Town Gateway

Town Hall

Post Office

Veterans Park

Visitors Center

Washington Co/Jonesborough Library

Lost State Scenic Walkway

Downtown Courthouse Parking Lot

Dogwood Lane