Quality provision of parks and recreation resources involves many components. One component is to ensure there is sufficient land dedicated to parks and recreation to meet the existing and future demands of the community. Another important component is to ensure there is sufficient distribution and access to parks and recreation facilities, amenities, and services throughout the City.

In this regard, parks and trail systems are often analyzed to determine if there is sufficient “service area” coverage in all parts of the community. These analyses often times identify both gaps and overlaps in the system. Different types of parks and recreation amenities serve different functions and consequently have different service areas.

- Neighborhood parks are daily-use parks and typically have a 1/4-mile (ideal) to 1/2-mile (standard) service area. These areas represent practical walking distances for children and other park users. Since the City’s community and regional parks have potential to serve the function of a daily-use neighborhood park for residents in the vicinity, they are also illustrated with the 1/4-mile and 1/2-mile neighborhood park service areas.

- Community parks have a greater number of amenities and typically serve multiple neighborhoods. They are intended to serve users who may walk, bike, or drive to the park within a 1-mile (ideal) to 2-mile (acceptable) service area. The City’s regional parks have potential to fulfill community park needs for nearby residents.

- Regional parks are typically greater in size and often include large natural areas which provide excellent destinations for regional tourism. These parks are meant to serve an entire city, surrounding communities, and greater region. Regional parks have a larger service area of 4-miles.

Nearly 85 percent of the City has nearby access to a neighborhood park.

Nearly 100 percent of the City is located within two miles of a community-serving park.

Over 99 percent of the City is located within the regional park four-mile service area.