

One: Introduction

Residents of Cave Junction are full of ideas and enthusiasm for further developing their natural and recreational resources. The City of Cave Junction has never had an official Parks and Recreation Master Plan—as the community grows and changes, the City wants to have a guiding vision for the park system. In 2017, the City therefore worked with the University of Oregon’s Community Service Center (CSC) to develop this Parks and Recreation Master Plan. The plan provides a practical 10-year outline for developing, coordinating, and managing parks and recreation programming and facilities in Cave Junction. It presents the community’s park and recreation vision and goals, and will give Cave Junction a competitive edge when seeking funding for parks projects.

The Parks and Recreation Master Plan is the culmination of six months of inventory and outreach with community members and stakeholders, and is focused around seven goals:

- Coordination and Administration
- Safety and Security
- Maintenance
- Connectivity Between Parks
- Recreation Classes and Events
- Facility Improvements
- Long Term Funding and Partnerships

The Plan provides a roadmap for creating parks and recreation resources that will meet the needs of residents of Cave Junction. When implemented, it will promote the area’s recreational amenities, adding to livability, health, and quality of life in our city.

Planning Process

The City of Cave Junction contracted with the University of Oregon’s Community Service Center (CSC) to help facilitate the parks and recreation planning process, which included research, inventory, and extensive public engagement. These activities were designed to capture the priorities of community members with various socioeconomic backgrounds and experience, making this plan responsive to the entire Cave Junction community.

Socioeconomic Profile: The CSC team looked at data from the United States Census, American Community Survey, Oregon Employment Department, and other reports to develop a basic understanding of the context of parks and recreation in Cave Junction.

Inventory: The CSC team visited and documented the assets and constraints of Cave Junction’s parks and recreation facilities, including Jubilee Park, the Cave Junction Swimming Pool, Old Stage Park, and some school facilities. A team of landscape designers later visited Jubilee Park again to conduct a more in-depth site analysis in preparation for developing a new design concept for the park.

Stakeholder Interviews: Working with local point-person Roger Brandt (of the Illinois Valley Community Development Organization - IVCandO), the CSC team identified and contacted active community stakeholders of various backgrounds. The CSC team interviewed each stakeholder to better understand some of the main issues and opportunities for the Cave Junction park system. Several stakeholders suggested other important community members to interview, and the team conducted follow-up conversations with these stakeholders as well.

Project Advisory Committee Meetings: Several of the stakeholders interviewed by the CSC team agreed to serve on a project advisory committee for the Parks and Recreation Master Plan. The group met twice. During a project kickoff meeting in January, the committee reviewed the key themes from the stakeholder interviews and began to define priorities for the master plan. The committee met again in May to discuss the findings from the community outreach and to refine the goals and actions included in this plan. Committee members also assisted the CSC team with many of the community outreach events.

Community Workshops: The CSC team, with assistance from Project Advisory Committee members, conducted four main community outreach events:

- Initial community workshop in late March designed to explore community members' needs and desires for the Cave Junction park system.
- Booth at an emergency preparedness fair in April to provide updates on the parks planning process.
- Easter Egg Hunt activity in April to distribute surveys and gather additional input about preferred park system amenities.
- Youth outreach workshops at Lorna Byrne Middle School, Illinois Valley High School, and the Cave Junction Boys and Girls Club to gather input from Cave Junction's young people about their priorities for the park system.

Community Surveys: Based on the themes from the stakeholder interviews and early community outreach events, the CSC team developed an online community survey aimed at getting broad feedback on park system priorities. The survey received a total of 193 complete responses and 66 partial responses. See Appendix B for community survey methodology and results. The CSC team also administered a short survey during the workshop with high school students. These results can be found in Appendix C in the Memo 4: Youth Outreach Summary.

In addition to these activities, the CSC team worked with two landscape designers to develop a concept plan that further visualizes and explores the Jubilee Park facilities options. The team also researched and developed a swimming pool memo that details the logistics and cost of renovating and running an annual pool.

For more detailed information about planning and outreach activities, please see Appendices A, B, and C.