



*CITY OF SWEETWATER
PARKS AND RECREATION
MASTER PLAN*

PREPARED FOR:

*Sweetwater Parks and Recreation
203 Monroe St
Sweetwater, TN 37874*

PREPARED BY:

*East Tennessee Development District
P.O. Box 249 Alcoa, TN 37701*

Adopted by the City of Sweetwater on February 03, 2023

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SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION & COMMUNITY PROFILE

MISSION STATEMENT: To provide our citizens with options for healthier lives and recreation to promote their quality of life, preserve and protect public assets, and establish unique examples of natural, cultural, and scenic areas and provide a variety of safe, quality experiences through an accessible system of city parks and facilities.

City Background

The City of Sweetwater, Tennessee was founded in the 1850's as a result of a land sale to Isaac Lenoir, son of the founder of Lenoir City. The City was officially incorporated in 1875. Situated along Sweetwater Creek, the City lies in Monroe County, TN and within the Sweetwater Valley. Sweetwater is also near to the largest underground lake in the continental United States, The Lost Sea. This is a major tourist attraction for the area and draws over 150,000 visitors annually. The City was home to the late Harry T. Burn, a local attorney and politician who broke the vote on the 19th amendment that gave women the right to vote. Sweetwater's downtown district is a National Main Street community and proud Tennessee Downtown Designee. The historic downtown area has been revitalized and draws many visitors to its shops and historic locations every year.



The City of Sweetwater

Information and maps sourced from the US Census Bureau & sweetwatertn.net

Table 1-1

Sweetwater Parks and Recreation

Sweetwater Parks and Recreation Department has recently achieved Tier 1 Benchmarking. This department also keeps busy by maintaining all city buildings. The department anticipates that the next several years will bring major renovations and additions to the parks and recreation facilities. Sweetwater Parks & Recreation is proud to have recently completed Phase Two of Engleman Park, which added a splash pad, 3rd pavilion, swing set, additional parking and restrooms, in partnership with the State of TN LPRF Grant program. The Sweetwater Parks and Recreation Department is responsible for maintenance and upkeep of baseball fields, football stadiums, basketball courts, walking trails, public stages, soccer fields, tennis courts, swimming pools, picnic facilities, and meeting rooms. Sweetwater is home to six public parks: Engelman Park, Duck Park, Circle Park, Jones Park, the Sweetwater Recreation Complex, and the newly added Wiggly Field Dog Park.

Community Profile

The community make up is an important aspect to understanding the age and demographics of a community. This allows for a thorough look into what needs and recreational services are likely to be used by the local populace. Lifestyle preferences, financial capability, and social diversity are all things that need to be considered when planning for a recreation project. As of 2022, the City of Sweetwater is home to 6,422 residents. This is an increase over 2020, which was 6,312 residents. The average annual income of residents in Sweetwater was \$52,328 with a poverty rate of 19.48%, which is significantly higher than the national average of 11.6%. The average age of residents is 40 years old. The student population (K-12) of Sweetwater is 1,451 students.



SECTION 2: DEMOGRAPHICS

Demographic data is important because it allows us to analyze the economic and financial situation of the community to better assess and make decisions based on the population. We also look at educational attainment (Table 2-1) and average household income (Table 2-2) to see what economic sectors most of the population participates in.

Income

- Unemployment rate: 9.0%
- Median Income: \$37,721
- Mean Income: \$55,080

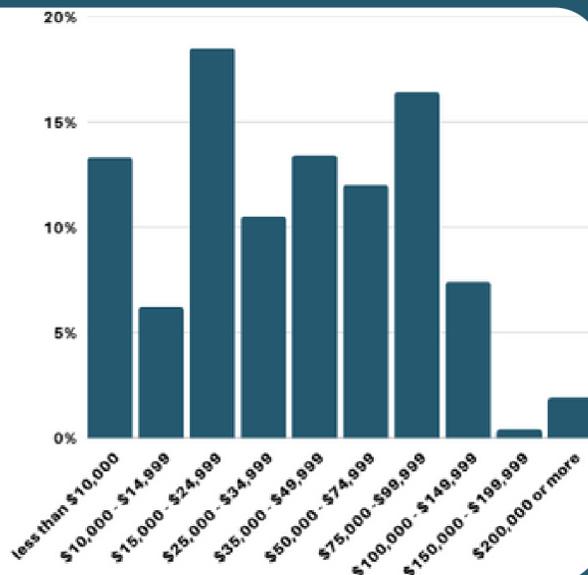


Table 2-1

Educational Attainment

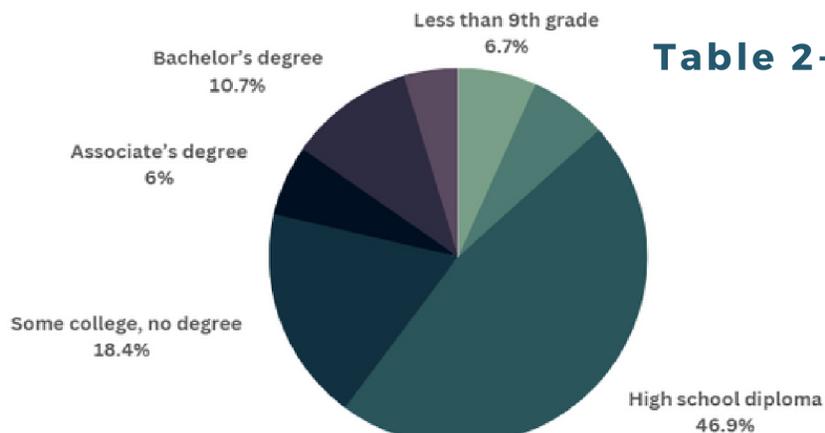


Table 2-2

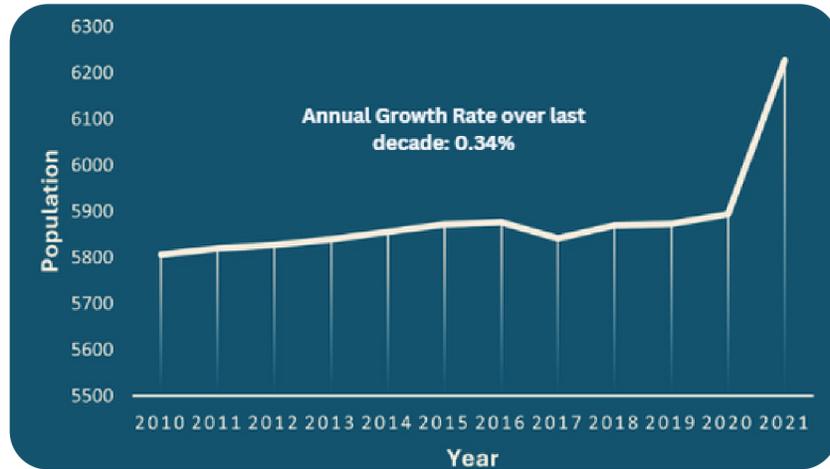
The high school graduation rate is 86.7%



Sweetwater Population

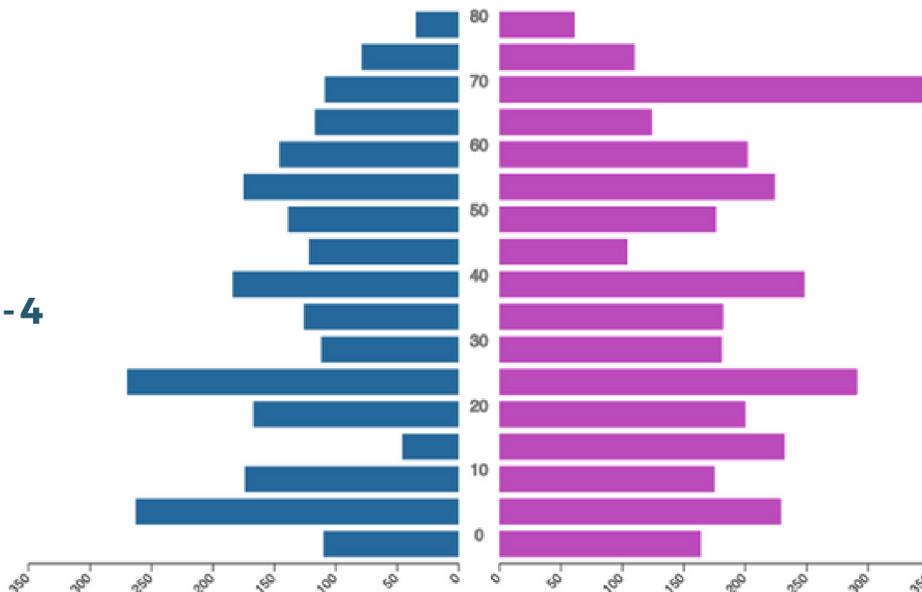
As seen in the Table 2-3 below, the City of Sweetwater has experienced significant growth over the past few years. This migration of people to the area helps indicate that Sweetwater is in need of upgraded facilities such as the newly proposed Sweetwater Community Center. Projects such as this will improve the overall quality of life for citizens within the city as well as the potential to attract new residents.

Table 2-3



The Sweetwater population pyramid (Table 2-4) balances itself to show that many elderly people will find use of walking trails while new parents in their 20's will make use of the splash pads, dog park, and youth programs for the significant portion of children under 10 years old. With a growing population, it is important to have adequate facilities to accommodate their needs.

Table 2-4



SECTION 3: INVENTORY, PROGRAMS, AND BUDGET

Sweetwater Parks Inventory

While maintaining a constant inventory of its facilities and amenities along with their conditions, the City of Sweetwater is able to efficiently target which spaces are in need of rehabilitation. This data is displayed in Table 3-1 and Table 3-2.

Sweetwater Parks Inventory Sheet			
Name of feature	Extra information	Condition of feature	Which park
Pavilion		Average	Engelman Park
Restrooms		Average	Engelman Park
Playground set		Excellent	Engelman Park
Pavilion		Average	Engelman Park
other	Horseshoes	Average	Engelman Park
Pavilion		Average	Engelman Park
Swing set		Average	Engelman Park
Bench		Average	Engelman Park
Picnic table		Average	Engelman Park
Pavilion		Excellent	Engelman Park
Picnic table		Average	Engelman Park
Restrooms		Excellent	Engelman Park
Splash pad		Excellent	Engelman Park
Picnic table		Average	Engelman Park
Picnic table		Average	Engelman Park
Pavilion		Average	Engelman Park
other	Monument statue	Poor	Engelman Park
Picnic table		Average	The Duck Park
Picnic table		Average	The Duck Park
Pavilion		Average	The Duck Park
other	Monument	Average	The Duck Park
Picnic table		Average	The Duck Park
Picnic table		Average	The Duck Park
Bridge		Poor	The Duck Park
Pavilion		Excellent	Circle Park
Water fountain		Average	Circle Park
Bench		Excellent	Circle Park
other	Flag pole memorial stand	Excellent	Circle Park
other	Memorial	Excellent	Circle Park
other	Memorial	Excellent	Circle Park
other	Memorial	Excellent	Circle Park
Pavilion		Excellent	Jones Park
Bench		Average	Jones Park
Bench		Average	Jones Park
Water fountain		Average	Jones Park
Bench		Average	Jones Park
Bench		Average	Jones Park
Picnic table		Average	Jones Park
Picnic table		Average	Friendship Park
Grill		Average	Friendship Park
Grill		Average	Friendship Park
Picnic table		Average	Friendship Park
Storage shed		Poor	Sweetwater Rec. Complex
Basketball court		Average	Sweetwater Rec. Complex
Softball field		Average	Sweetwater Rec. Complex
Bleachers		Poor	Sweetwater Rec. Complex
Concession stands		Poor	Sweetwater Rec. Complex
Softball field		Poor	Sweetwater Rec. Complex
Bleachers		Poor	Sweetwater Rec. Complex
Swing set		Average	Sweetwater Rec. Complex
Swing set		Average	Sweetwater Rec. Complex
Playground set		Average	Sweetwater Rec. Complex
Bench		Average	Sweetwater Rec. Complex
Bench		Average	Sweetwater Rec. Complex
Scoreboard		Poor	Sweetwater Rec. Complex
other	Track	Average	Sweetwater Rec. Complex
Storage shed		Poor	Sweetwater Rec. Complex

Table 3-1

Sweetwater Parks Inventory

Sweetwater Parks Inventory Sheet

Name of feature	Extra information	Condition of feature	Which park
Walking path		Average	Sweetwater Rec. Complex
Playground set		Excellent	Sweetwater Rec. Complex
Pavilion		Average	Sweetwater Rec. Complex
Bench		Average	Sweetwater Rec. Complex
Bench		Average	Sweetwater Rec. Complex
Restrooms		Poor	Sweetwater Rec. Complex
Walking path		Average	Sweetwater Rec. Complex
Storage shed		Average	Sweetwater Rec. Complex
Bleachers		Poor	Sweetwater Rec. Complex
Bleachers		Poor	Sweetwater Rec. Complex
Bleachers		Average	Sweetwater Rec. Complex
Concession stands		Poor	Sweetwater Rec. Complex
Restrooms		Average	Sweetwater Rec. Complex
other	Aquatic center/pool	Average	Sweetwater Rec. Complex
Tennis court		Average	Sweetwater Rec. Complex

Table 3-2

Sweetwater Budget

The City of Sweetwater manages a municipal budget in which the maintenance of recreation spaces are taken into account. See Table 3-3 which breaks down this current budget as well as Parks and Recreation allotments.

10-44400		RECREATION & PARKS	ACTUAL	ESTIMATED	BUDGET
			6-30-21	6-30-2022	6-30-23
111		Wages	250,980	254,403	269,413
112		Overtime	14	1,000	1,000
114		Summer Staff	36,642	25,000	25,000
124		Litter Control	7,027	25,000	39,098
132		Merit Pay Program			4,788
134		Christmas Bonus	1,500	2,100	2,500
141		OASI	22,606	21,451	22,790
142		HEALTH INS	54,594	59,050	59,050
143		RETIREMENT	17,734	7,662	13,521
145		LIFE INSURANCE	294	275	275
147		UNEMPLOYMENT	154	1,000	1,000
148		Disability	784	750	750
152		DENTAL	1,760	1,750	1,750
153		Vision	412	375	375
230		Publicity	0	500	500
235		License Fees	1,100	800	800
241		Utilities	48,178	48,000	50,000
245		Telephone & Internet	6,060	6,000	6,000
251		Medical / First Aid supplies	0	1,500	1,500
254		Planning	0	500	500
256		Swimming lessons	0	800	800
261		Truck Maint.	3,188	3,000	3,000
262		Equipment Maintenance	2,899	2,500	2,500
280		Travel	2,477	1,500	1,500
292		Feeding Prisoners	19	0	0
299		Miscellaneous	354	0	200
320		Repair Supplies- Pool	6,714	4,000	5,000
322		Chemicals	3,357	2,000	2,500
326		Uniforms	1,872	1,500	1,700
329		Operating Supplies	5,473	1,000	2,000
330-10		Baseball	5,873	1,500	1,500
330-11		Football	874	1,500	1,500
330-12		Soccer	1,500	1,500	1,500
330-13		Softball	801	1,500	1,500
330-14		Playground	20	2,500	5,000
330-15		Splash Pad/Fitness Court Maintenance	954	2,500	2,500
331		Gas	8,778	8,000	11,000
341		Tools	1,586	1,000	1,000
342		Signage	575	500	600
350		Concessions at Pool	6,031	3,000	3,000
740		Vandalism cost	1,140	500	1,000
922		Landscaping	208	1,000	1,000
930		Dog Park			30,000
937		Improvements	14,566	183,000	222,000
939		Equipment	11,451	31,000	4,000
		DO NOT USE			
		TOTAL RECREATION	530,549	712,416	806,910

Table 3-3

Sweetwater Parks and Recreation Programs

Sweetwater offers several programs within its parks and recreation department. The department offers two youth sporting organizations: The Sweetwater Dixie Youth Baseball League and the American Youth Soccer Association. Sweetwater Parks and Recreation is also a member of the Playful City USA community. Current programming can be found below in Table 3-4

Recreation Complex:

City Pool

- Summer swimming lessons
- Summer Mommy & Me swimming lessons
- Summer water aerobics classes
- Annual Dive-In movies event
- Pool Parties by reservation

Outdoor Fitness Court

- Fitness programming for all levels via NFC App
- Certified Fitness Court Trainers available for free classes

Pickleball/Tennis

- Local adult league pickleball
- Local adult league tennis

Little Leagues

- Softball ages 4-14
- Baseball ages 4-14
- Soccer 4-18

Football ages 5-14

Cheerleading ages 5-14

School-led programming at the Complex

- Field Day annually
- Jr High baseball, softball, soccer, cross-country
- County High School tennis programming
- SHS cross-country training

Visitor's Center

- Tai Chi classes weekly

City-sponsored fitness events

- Annual Independence Day 5K
- Annual Rocky Top Run 5K

Table 3-4

Staffing

Name	Position
Tim Crawford	Parks and recreation director
Lamar Hughes	Commissioner
Michael Jenkins	Laborer, Playground inspections training
Scott Duckworth	Laborer, field maintenance
Toby Bellamy	Laborer, field maintenance
Randy Miller	Building Maintenance
Will Vineyard	Laborer, field maintenance
Angie Borden	Litter control

Table 3-5

Maintenance Review

Pool Maintenance Plan

Purpose: To outline the guidelines for maintenance of the city-owned pool & Splash Pad

Financial Resources: The City of Sweetwater provides a line item in the annual budget within the parks and recreation department for pool & splash pad maintenance. The Parks and Recreation Director or his designee shall have authority to disburse the budgeted funds for routine playground maintenance as needed. The city also employs a full time parks and recreation department with at least one employee trained specifically for pool inspection.

Financial Administration: The pool is currently located on city-owned property, which includes the Recreation Complex. The pool is funded and maintained through the city's budget, according to the city's purchasing and accounting policies. Funding is ultimately determined by the Mayor and Board of Commissioners. The City covers both property and casualty coverage on their blanket policies.

Staff Qualifications: The parks and recreation department has at least one staff member trained for pool maintenance. Currently, the pool supervisor is Scott Duckworth. The Pool Manager is hired annually by the Parks and Recreation Director and Commissioner. The pool manager, city recorder, parks director, and parks commissioner hire the seasonal staff of lifeguards. Each lifeguard is certified bi-annually by a certified instructor. The city is pursuing having one employee certified to train lifeguards to help lower the cost of certification and relieve scheduling issues. Lifeguards are hired seasonally, but typically serve multiple years.

General Maintenance Procedure: During the offseason, the pool is drained, cleaned, and inspected for cracks and damage to the surface. Any cracks or damage are repaired with hydraulic cement and marble dust. The pool is usually painted annually.

When pool season is open, the Pool Supervisor inspects the pool and area daily. Prior to opening hours, he checks the chemical levels and adjusts as needed. He vacuums both pools to remove debris. He inspects the general area for any maintenance issues. At the end of each pool operation day, the lifeguards and manager pick up trash, left items for the Lost and Found, and clean the bathrooms. Twice a week, the sand filter is backwashed to remove grass and debris. He also maintains the chemical inventory and reorders when necessary. MSDS information is stored with chemicals.

At the end of the pool season, the pool level is lowered so that freezing doesn't damage the pool surface and skimmer. The water is turned off and lines and tanks are drained and winterized.

Routine Inspections: The parks and recreation department's director, Tim Crawford, conducts weekly formal inspections. Records are kept on file by Mr. Crawford and kept available for public inspection in the Parks office. An annual inspection is conducted by Tennessee Municipal League Loss Control specialist. Informal weekly inspections are performed by various staff who work in the recreation areas, primarily looking for signs of vandalism. Any damage or potential safety hazards will be addressed as soon as possible by parks and recreation staff. Minor damage may be repaired by qualified city staff, using available funds. When necessary, a contractor may be used to repair damages or replace equipment, following the city's standard purchasing procedures. Damage that requires an insurance claim or police report shall be reported to the City Recorder. The Pool is monitored by security cameras.

Restricted Access: If at any time any piece of equipment is deemed unsafe, it is immediately lined off with police or construction tape until the problem is remedied. Access is not permitted until the problem is resolved.

Trash Receptacles: Trash receptacles are available near the area and are emptied daily during pool season, and sometimes more often depending on usage. A volunteer removes litter from the area three times per week. City staff also remove litter when necessary.

Licensing: The pool, kiddie pool, and concession stand are all inspected annually by the Department of Health and licensed by the State of Tennessee. The city recorder renews the license. The license is displayed at the pool in public view.

Playground Equipment Purchasing and Warranty: Any new equipment purchases, or repair needs will follow the city's purchasing procedures for quotes, bidding, records, and accounting. When new equipment is purchased, a copy of the applicable warranty will be kept with the purchasing documents in the Recorder's office. Significant damage or vandalism shall be reported to the City Recorder upon discovery. If a police report is deemed necessary, witness reports should be obtained by recreation staff or the police department.

Field Maintenance Plan

Purpose: To outline guidelines for maintenance of city-owned ballfields

Financial Resources: The City of Sweetwater provides a line item in the annual budget within the parks and recreation department for field maintenance for baseball, football, softball, soccer, playgrounds, and "other". The Parks and Recreation Director or his designee shall have authority to disburse the budgeted funds for routine playground maintenance as needed. The city also employs a full time parks and recreation department with all employees trained to inspect.

Financial Administration: The fields currently located on city property include the Recreation Complex and the softball complex and the Jr. High field. All are funded and maintained through the city's budget, according to the city's purchasing and accounting policies. Funding is ultimately determined by the Mayor and Board of Commissioners. Donations for fields are placed in a restricted account dedicated to parks and recreation improvements. The City covers both property and casualty coverage on their blanket policies.

Staff Qualifications: The parks and recreation department has all staff members trained for field maintenance. The majority of the training is done on-the-job. No formal training program exists, but we have at times brought in field maintenance authorities for advice.

General Maintenance Procedures: The Parks and Recreation employees all work on the fields throughout the year. Grass fields include the football field and 3 soccer fields. General maintenance for soccer fields, which are a Bermuda mix, includes mowing twice a week during soccer season, The nets are checked weekly. The area is inspected for vandalism at least weekly. General maintenance for the football field, which is Bermuda grass, includes mowing three times a week during the season with a reel mower. All grass fields have a dormancy period when no use is allowed with signs posted for maintenance. The grass fields are aerated once annually. Dirt fields include the 3 baseball fields and 3 softball fields. These fields have grass outfields and dirt infields. At the start of the season, the fields are drug with spikes, conditioned, and if necessary, sand is added. During season, the infields are spike dragged twice a week and wire-drug every day. The outfields are mowed twice a week. Fences are inspected twice weekly during the season for vandalism and/or wear.

Routine Inspections: The parks and recreation department's director, Tim Crawford, conducts monthly informal inspections. An annual inspection is conducted by Tennessee Municipal League Loss Control specialist. Informal weekly inspections are performed by various staff who work in the recreation areas, primarily looking for signs of vandalism. Any damage or potential safety hazards will be addressed as soon as possible by parks and recreation staff. Minor damage may be repaired by qualified city staff, using available funds. When necessary, a contractor may be used to repair damages or replace equipment, following the city's standard purchasing procedures. Damage that requires an insurance claim or police report shall be reported to the City Recorder.

Restricted Access: If at any time any facility is deemed unsafe, it is immediately lined off with police or construction tape until the problem is remedied. Access is not permitted until the problem is resolved.

Trash Receptacles: Trash receptacles are available near the area and are emptied daily during the season. City staff also remove litter when necessary. Several locations are covered by security cameras.

Playground Maintenance Plan

Purpose: To outline the guidelines for maintenance of city-owned playgrounds

Financial Resources: The City of Sweetwater provides a line item in the annual budget within the parks and recreation department for playground maintenance. The Parks and Recreation Director or his designee shall have authority to disburse the budgeted funds for routine playground maintenance as needed. The city also employs a full time parks and recreation department with at least one employee trained specifically for playground inspection.

Financial Administration: The playgrounds currently located on city property include the Recreation Complex playground and the Engleman Park playground. Both are funded and maintained through the city's budget, according to the city's purchasing and accounting policies. Funding is ultimately determined by the Mayor and Board of Commissioners. Donations for playground funds are placed in a restricted account dedicated to parks and recreation improvements. The City covers both property and casualty coverage on their blanket policies.

Staff Qualifications: The parks and recreation department has at least one staff member trained for playground maintenance. Currently, the playground supervisor is Tim Crawford. Tim has attended the Playground Safety Inspector course, sponsored by National Recreation and Parks Association, both in 2011 and 2012. Director Tim Crawford and Laborer Michael Jenkins have both attended the Parks & Recreation Maintenance Management School in Wheeling, WV in 2013 and 2015 respectively.

Routine Inspections: The parks and recreation department's director, Tim Crawford, conducts monthly formal inspections, using an approved checklist, attached as Appendix A. Records are kept on file by Mr. Crawford and kept available for public inspection in the City Recorder's office. An annual inspection is conducted by Tennessee Municipal League Loss Control specialist. Informal weekly inspections are performed by various staff who work in the recreation areas, primarily looking for signs of vandalism. Any damage or potential safety hazards will be addressed as soon as possible by parks and recreation staff. Minor damage may be repaired by qualified city staff, using available funds. When necessary, a contractor may be used to repair damages or replace equipment, following the city's standard purchasing procedures. Damage that requires an insurance claim or police report shall be reported to the City Recorder.

Restricted Access: If at any time any piece of equipment is deemed unsafe, it is immediately lined off with police or construction tape until the problem is remedied. Access is not permitted until the problem is resolved.

Trash Receptacles: Trash receptacles are available near the area and are emptied weekly, and sometimes more often depending on usage. A volunteer removes litter from the area three times per week. City staff also removes litter when necessary.

Playground Equipment Purchasing and Warranty: Any new equipment purchases or repair needs will follow the city's purchasing procedures for quotes, bidding, records, and accounting. When new equipment is purchased, a copy of the applicable warranty will be kept with the purchasing documents in the Recorder's office. Significant damage or vandalism shall be reported to the City Recorder upon discovery. If a police report is deemed necessary, witness reports should be obtained by recreation staff or the police department.

Court Maintenance Plan

The basketball and tennis courts are inspected weekly for vandalism or wear. Items such as net replacement and surface maintenance are addressed as needed. Windbreakers are secured at least weekly.



Building Maintenance

Daily:

- Check city truck for supplies, tires look good, odometer for next oil change, any damage
- Make and file a record of all maintenance work completed for insurance & OSHA documentation

Weekly:

- Check supplies:

Monthly:

- Air filters
- Bulbs
- Drill bits
- Fridge filter at City Hall
- Walk through library
- Walk through City Hall including basement
- Walk through Parks & Rec building
- Walk through the Depot
- Clean the stairwell at City Hall
- Clean the breakroom at Parks & Rec
- Inspect exterior of all city buildings for damage, leaks, guttering and roof issues
- Inspect city properties for termite issues

Projects:

- Make a list of lightbulbs for each building
- Make a list of air filter sizes for each building
- Replace ceiling tiles at City Hall- John Cleveland's office, board room, hallway
- Work orders as submitted

Painting:

- Pressure washing all exteriors once per year.

SECTION 4: PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT AND SURVEY

As part of the planning process, citizens of Sweetwater were asked to partake in strategic planning through a public meeting to discuss the usage of the city's parks. During the meeting, citizens of Sweetwater engaged with public officials and East Tennessee Development District staff. Individuals were asked to take a sticky note and pin their thoughts onto a satellite map of each park. Meeting attendees also completed a survey to provide input on the current state of recreation in Sweetwater and the level of public engagement with existing facilities. This same survey was conducted both in person and online via SurveyMonkey. The results of the public engagement were analyzed and provided direction for Sweetwater and ETDD to move forward with the development of the parks plan utilizing public input and suggestions. Survey results are presented in Table 4-1.

Table 4-1

Question 1	1	2	3	4	5+														
	7	34	13	17	14														
Question 2	0-4 years	5-9 years	10-14 years	15-19 years	20-29 years	30-39 years	40-49 years	50+ years											
	9	16	19	11	13	22	30	45											
Question 3	Dance	Volunteering	Creative Arts Hobbies	Gardening	Swimming	Theater/Drama	Soccer	Baseball	Football	Basketball	Tennis	Skateboarding	Pickleball	Walking/Hiking	Cycling	Fishing	Other		
	30	40	25	45	34	16	19	13	11	13	10	4	7	57	20	30	11		
Question 4	Time	Transportation	Don't Know What's Available	Not Interested	Cost	Proximity to Home	Other												
	35	1	16	1	11	13	3												
Question 5	Wiggly Field	Engleman Park	Duck Park	Sweetwater Recreation	Circle Park	Jones Park	Outdoor Fitness												
	25	64	73	63	50	40	35												
Question 6	Bowling Lanes	Community Center	Golf-Mini-Putt	Indoor Pool	Pickle Ball Courts	Skateboard Park	Splash Pad	Disc Golf	Volleyball Court	Indoor Walking Track									
	34	51	26	28	21	16	10	12	3	8									
Question 7	Festivals	Parades	Social Gatherings	Cultural Events															
	38	4	43	44															
Question 8	Too High	Just Right	Too Low																
	0	40	4																

Public Meeting Photos



Image 1: Citizens of Sweetwater seen interacting with local officials while commenting on maps of the parks that were provided.

Image 2: Sweetwater Recreation Complex Map as seen with suggestions from the public.



Image 3: Attendee analyzing given map

Image 4: Jessica Morgan (Sweetwater City Recorder) engaging with residents



Image 5: Stakeholders participating in public engagement process

Parks Survey

The City of Sweetwater is conducting this survey to get a better understanding of community needs in respect to recreation and leisure activities. The information gathered will help us develop a long term strategy to support and develop social, recreation, and cultural opportunities accessible to all. Leisure activities, facilities, parks and green spaces are essential to our quality of life, to the environment, and our economic sustainability.

Thank you for participating in our survey. Your feedback is important!

1. How many people are in your household?

1	3	5+
2	4	

2. . Age range of people in your house:

0-4 years	15-19 years	40-49 years
5-9 years	20-29 years	50+ years
10-14	30-39 years	

3. What types of leisure activities do you participate in? (check all that apply to you)

Dance/Fitness	Soccer	Walking/Hiking
Volunteering	Baseball	Cycling
Creative Arts	Football	Fishing
Hobbies	Basketball	Other (Please specify)
Gardening	Tennis	_____
Swimming	Skateboarding	
	Pickleball	

4. Are there ^{Theater/Drama} barriers preventing you from participating in leisure activities? (Select the primary reason)

Time	Transportation	Other (Please
Don't know	Not interested	specify)
what's available	Proximity to	_____
Cost	home	

5. Have you ever visited or participated in an activity at one of these outdoor facilities? (Select all that apply)

Wiggly field	Sweetwater	Jones Park
Engleman	Recreation	(Library)
Park	Complex	Outdoor
Duck Park	Circle Park	Fitness Court
	(Train Car)	

Parks Survey

6. If money were no object, what types of facilities, services or new amenities would you like to see in the city? (Please number your priority)

Bowling Lanes	Indoor Pool	Splash Pad
Community Center	Pickle Ball Courts	Disc Golf
Golf-Mini-Putt	Skateboard Park	

7. What kinds of services would you like to see the City offer to the community that are not offered now?

More festivals	More social gatherings	More cultural events
More parades		

8. The only user fee the city currently charges is at the city pool. If you are a user of the pool, do you think the fee is:

Too High	Just Right	Too Low
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9. Do you have any other suggestions/ideas that you would like to share? Place answer in the "Other" box.

Other (Please specify)

Final Public Meeting

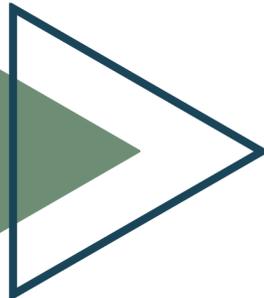
The City of Sweetwater held its final public meeting on February 3, 2023 at 9 am at the city hall. 8 members of the community were in attendance. During this meeting, no new comments were suggested from the public or local officials. The City of Sweetwater passed the Resolution to adopt the Recreation Master Plan on February 3, 2023. Documented minutes from the meeting as well as the resolution can be found located within the Appendix of this Master Plan.



SECTION 5: AERIAL MAPS

The City of Sweetwater maintains six parks:

- Engleman Park
- Circle Park
- Duck Park
- Jones Park
- Sweetwater Recreation Complex
 - Wiggly Field (Dog Park)



ENGLEMAN PARK

35.601276, -84.475668

Park Features:

- Bench
- Pavilion
- Picnic table
- Playground set
- Restrooms
- Splash pad
- Swingset
- 9-12 yr old playground
- Other
 - Horseshoes
 - Monument



Map prepared by:
East Tennessee Development District
Geographic Information Systems
Pilot, TN
Map revised: December 22, 2022
This is not an engineering resp.

CIRCLE PARK

35.599789, -84.462137

Park Features:

- Memorial
- Informational sign
- Bench
- Pavilion
- Water fountain



Service Level Credit: Vaziri Blue Sky Incubator (UTMSI, 2022).
TM Department of Process and Mobilization, Strategic
Technology Solutions, GIS Services and TN Emergency
Communications Board

Also prepared by:
East Tennessee Development District
Geographic Information Systems
Pilot, TN
Also dated: December 21, 2022
This is not an engineering resp.

DUCK PARK

35 59803, -84.462795

Park Features:

- Bridge
- Event stage
- Memorial
- Picnic table
- Walking path
- Public art -
Mural located
underneath
Old HWY 68
overpass



Services: **Level One** - Visual Blue Sky Imaging (UTWMS, 2020),
TM Department of Parks and Recreation, Strategic
Technology Solutions, GIS Services and TN Emergency
Communications Board

Also prepared by:
East Tennessee Development District
Geographic Information Systems
Pilot, TN
Also revised: December 22, 2022
This is not an engineering resp.

JONES PARK

35.6092421, -84.461181

Park Features:

-  Bench
-  Bridge
-  Monument
-  Pavilion
-  Picnic table
-  Water fountain



Services: Lazenby, Venzel Blue Sky Energy (UTWMS, 2020).
TM Department of Parks and Recreation, Strategic
Technology Solutions, GIS Services and TN Greenway
Communications Board

Also prepared by:
East Tennessee Development District
Geographic Information Systems
Pilot, TN
Also dated: December 21, 2022
This is not an engineering resp.

SWEETWATER RECREATION COMPLEX

35.598328, -84.45619

Park Features:

- Basketball court
- Bench
- Bleachers
- Concession stand
- Ball field
- Pavilion
- Playground set
- Restrooms
- Scoreboard
- Storage shed
- Swingsset
- Tennis court
- Walking path
- Off-leash dog park
- Outdoor fitness center
- Other
 - Aquatic Center / Pool
 - Running Track

Services Layer Credit: Maxar Data Sky Imagery (LTM/MS), 2021.
 TN Department of Finance and Administration, Strategic
 Technology Solutions, GIS Services, and the Emergency
 Communications Board



Wiggly Field Dog Park Inset Map

Off-leash Dog Park



SECTION 6: GOALS

Outreach and Development

Following the surveying of residents and how residents interact with the public spaces provided by Sweetwater Parks and Recreation, the City of Sweetwater compiled a list of goals to reflect the needs of the community. These goals can be seen displayed in Table 6-1 below.

Timeline

Short-term	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Begin implementing Parks & Recreation Master Plan.• Resurface walking track at Complex.• Resurface tennis and pickleball court.
Mid-term	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Construct community center.• Renovate pool facility by adding a liner or resurfacing pool floor and walls.
Long-term	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Allocate funding for new land acquisition.• Locate and purchase property for recreational development, to include play structures and ballfields, targeting the western side of Sweetwater due to recent growth.• Add third play structure to Engleman Park.• Complete trails system along Highway 11 North and South.• Identify and Apply for grants to assist with funding identified goals.

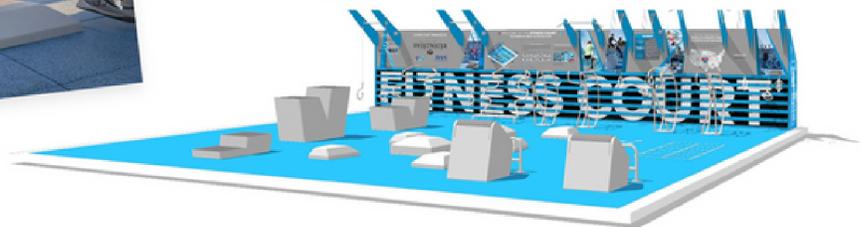
Table 6-1

New Facilities

The Sweetwater Parks and Recreation Department with the help of City government and East Tennessee Development District, is currently in the process of constructing a brand new Community Center that will be a fitness jewel to the city. The facility will include multisport courts for a variety of games, classrooms, kitchen, and event space.

Along with the construction of the center, the NFC Fitness Court (compatible with mobile app) was unveiled in Fall 2021 at the Sweetwater Recreation Complex. The construction of this facility is in alignment with the recreation goals of the city as well as a huge accomplishment as it is the first city in Tennessee with a NFC Fitness Court!

National Fitness Campaign Court





1 NORTHWEST ELEVATION
Scale: NTS

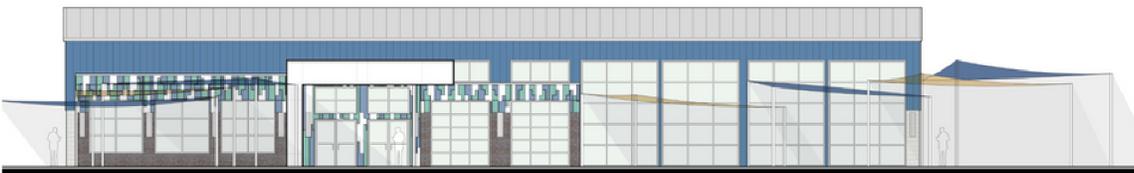
Sweetwater Community Center Front Entrance



2 NORTHEAST ELEVATION
Scale: NTS

Sweetwater Community Center Rear Entrance

Sweetwater Community Center



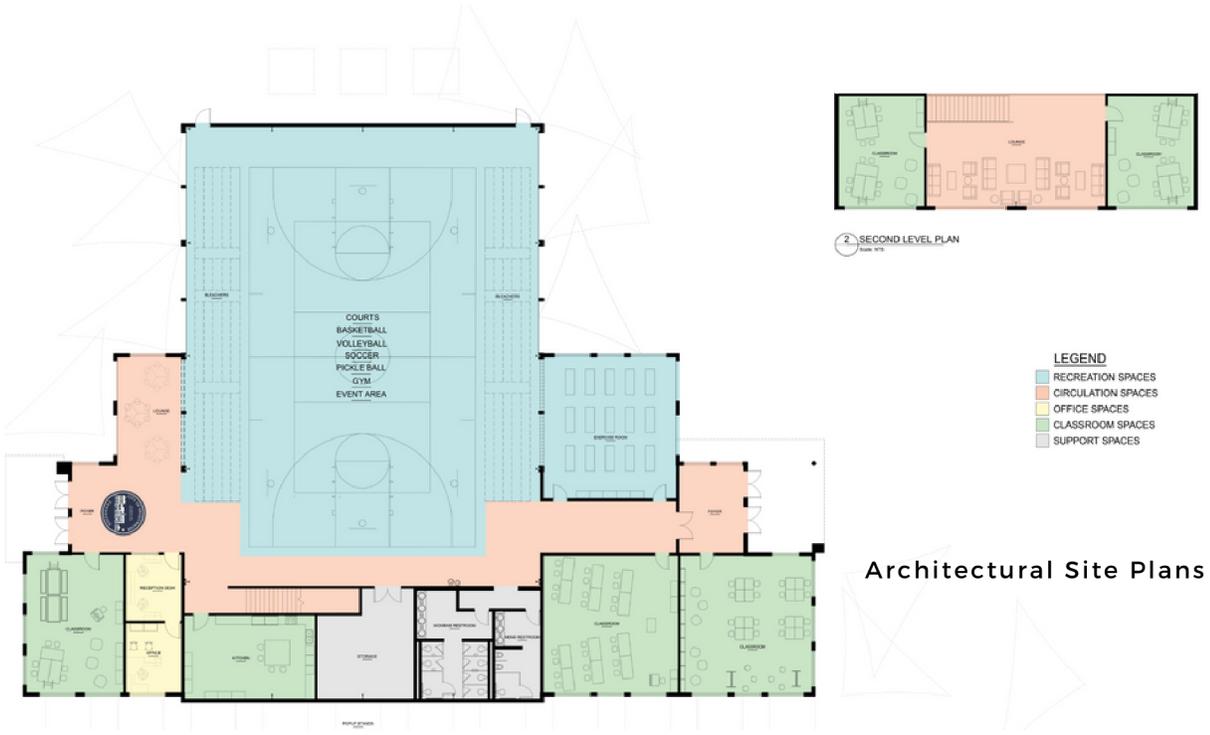
1 SOUTHEAST ELEVATION
Scale: NTS

Sweetwater Community Center Southeast Side



2 SOUTHWEST ELEVATION
Scale: NTS

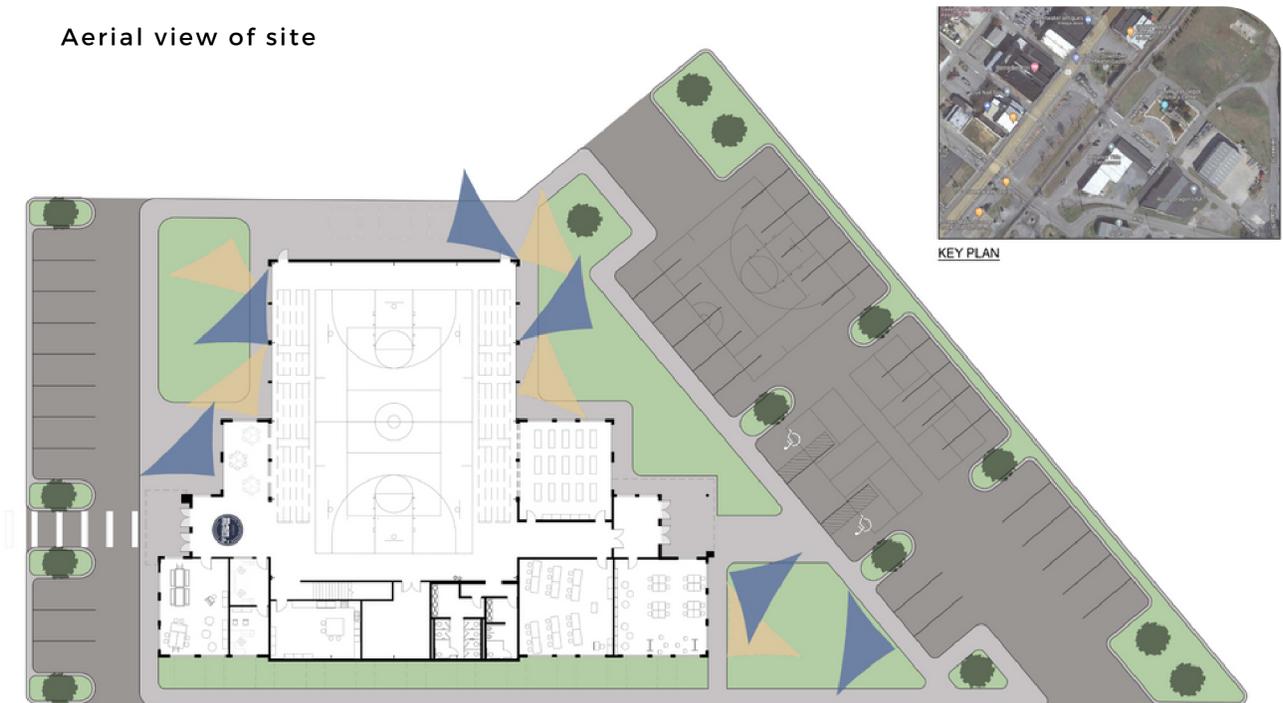
Sweetwater Community Center Southwest Side



Architectural Site Plans

Sweetwater Community Center (aerial view and site plan)

Aerial view of site



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APPENDIX

Community Survey Results

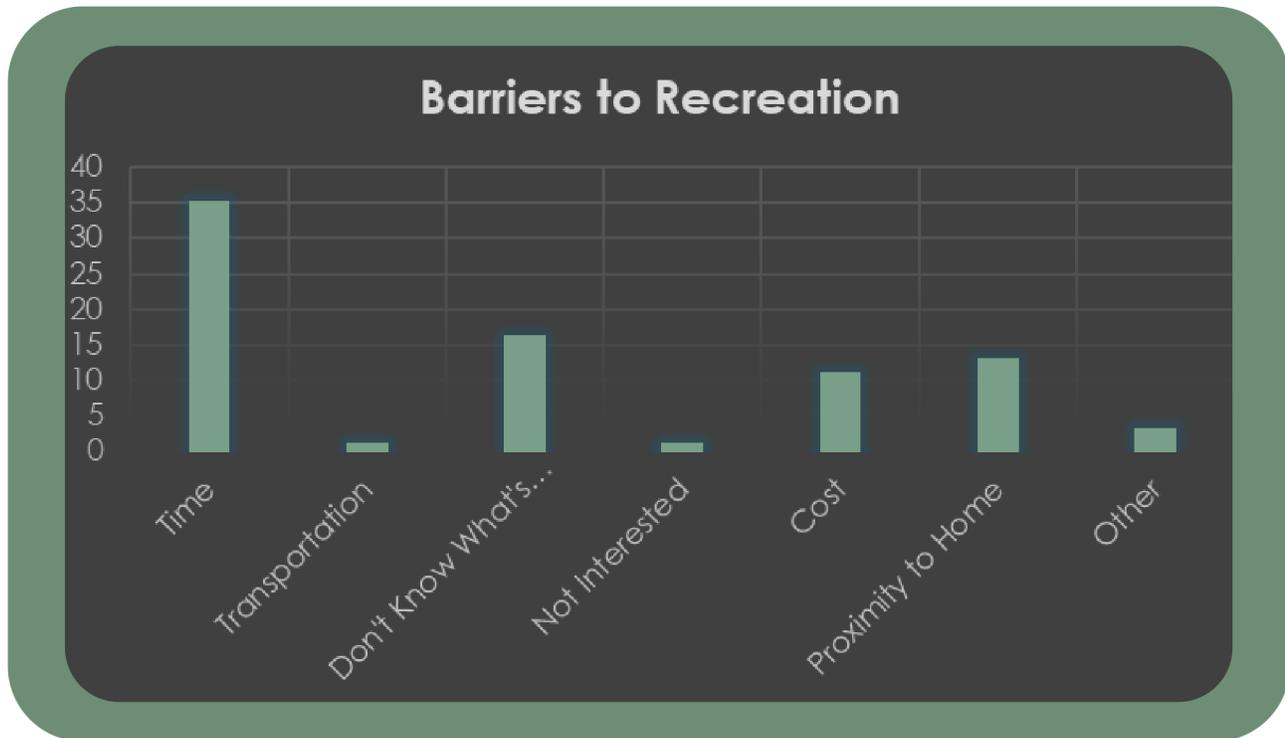


Table A-1

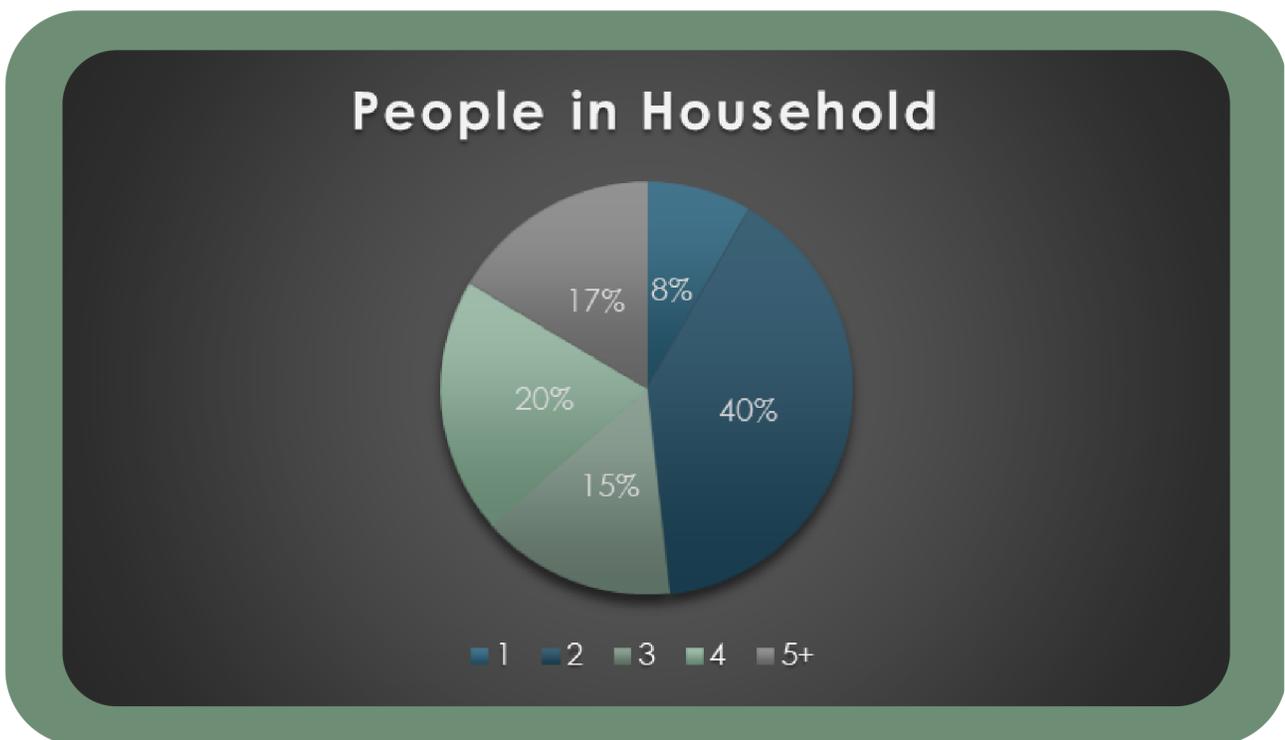


Table A-2

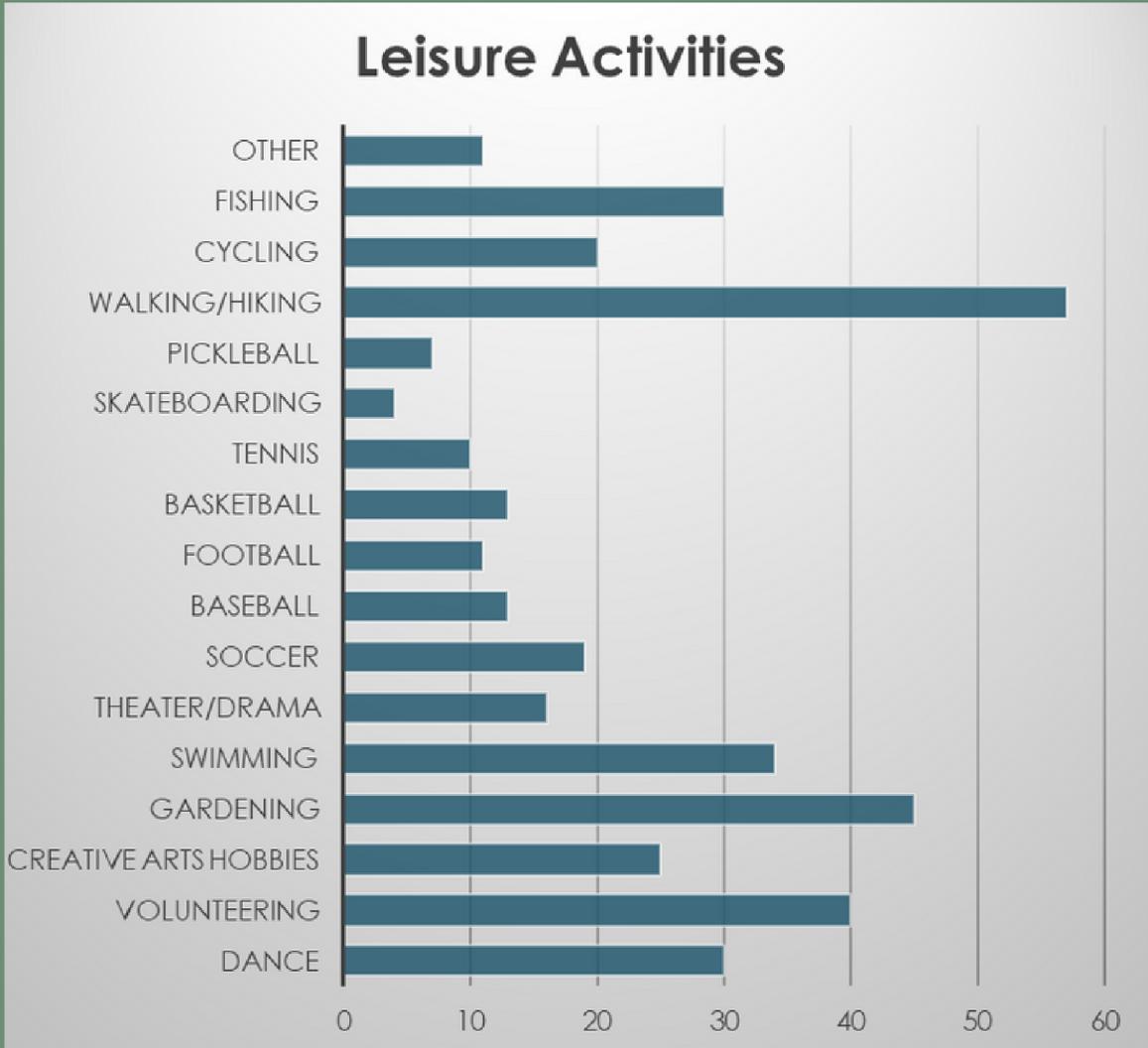


Table A-3

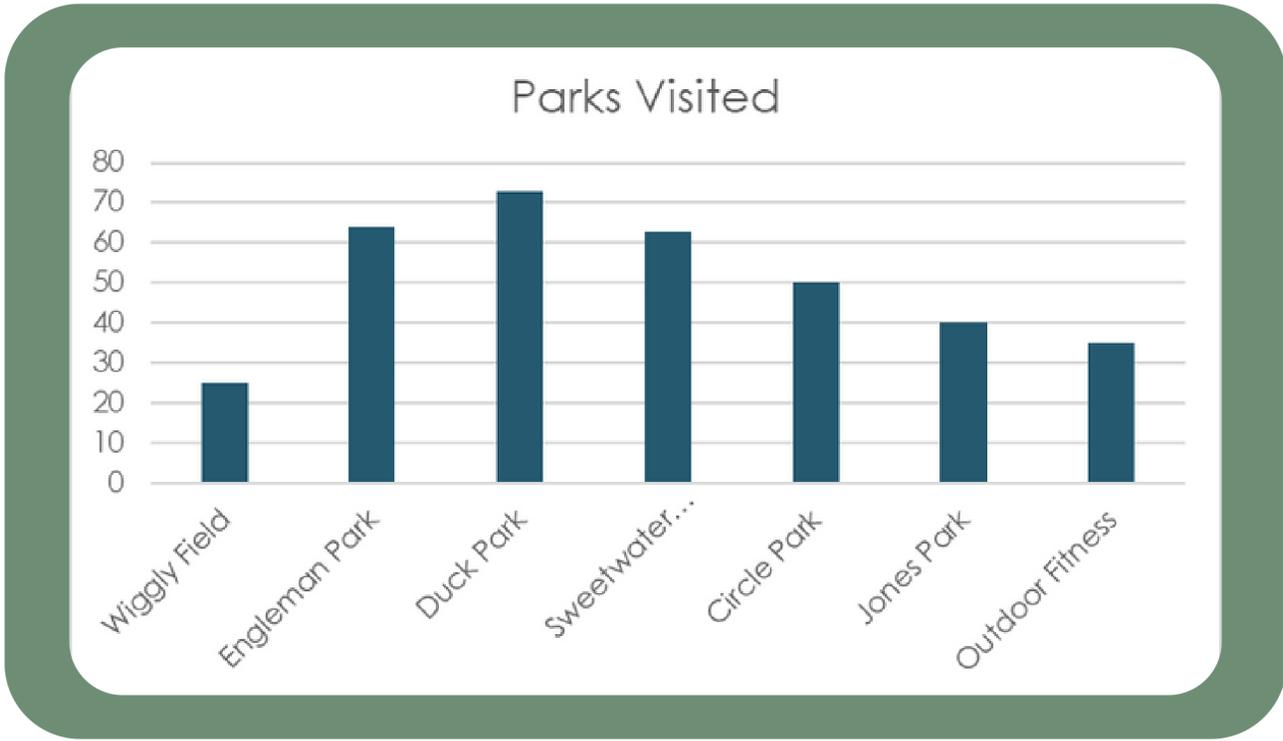


Table A-4

Public Engagement Documentation

Public Meeting Sign-In Sheet (Jan 3, 2023)

RECREATION MASTER PLAN

Tuesday, January 3, 2023

PUBLIC HEARING

Sweetwater City Hall

05:00 P.M.

NAME	ADDRESS or EMAIL
Kelly West	Sweetwater TN
Mark R. ...	Sweetwater, TN
Earl R. ...	SWEETWATER, TN
Dee & ...	MAYOR of Sun - Oklawe@Sweetwater.net
James ...	Sweetwater, TN
Diana ...	ETDD
Quinn ...	Sweetwater TN
Julio ...	Sweetwater, TN
Ed ...	Sweetwater, TN
Blair ...	Sweetwater, TN
John ...	Sweetwater, TN
Tracy ...	Sweetwater, TN
Don ...	Sweetwater, TN
Classical ...	Sweetwater, TN
Tom ...	Sweetwater, TN
Mark ...	ETDD

Table A-5

Public Meeting Sign-In Sheet (Jan 19, 2023)

RECREATION MASTER PLAN

Thursday, January 19, 2023
 PUBLIC HEARING
 Sweetwater City Hall
 08:30 A.M.

NAME	ADDRESS or EMAIL
Judith Jinks	405 Beardsline St Sweetwater
Josh classac	1022 Tellico St. Madisonville
Brian Garner	77c Diamond R. Rd. Dorr. Chudon TN
Angie Kyle	107 Dogwood Ln Angie.Kyle@scoth.net
Mark Hillland	M.Hillland@peoplesbank-tn.com
Kerry D McKeever	kerry@mckeeveriv.com
NANCY J MCKEEVER	Nancyjm@mckeeveriv.com
Paige Wilson	beyondblessedcakes@gmail.com
John G. Mason	705 WEST MORRIS ST.
Heather Carroll	heather@sweet-stay.net.
Tim Crawford	tcrawford@sweetwatertn.net
Randy Hatfield	randy.hatfield@redstagfulfillment.com
Brian Levinson	bklevinson@gmail.com
Jay Riordan	Jay@ProcessingForGood.com
Christina Spitzer	Willow Creek
Paul Wilk	1144 Light, 152 Old Athens Pike, Switz
Barbara Bradley	cvepins@yahoo.com
Sherry McKee	sherry.Choateprinting@gmail.com
Kathy Maniscalco	katman444@gmail

Table A-6

Final Public Meeting Notice

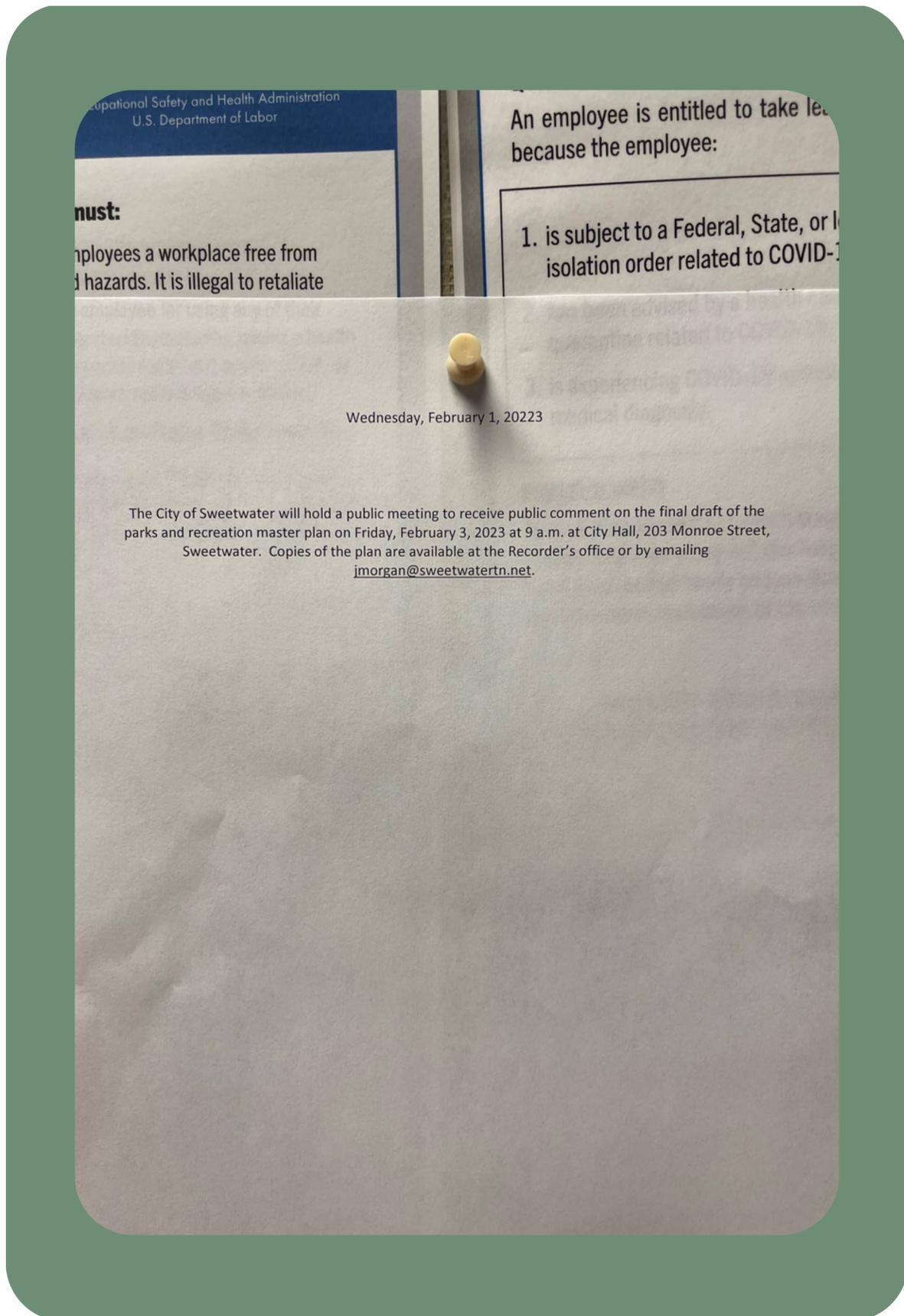


Table A-9

Final Public Meeting Minutes

**Sweetwater Recreation Services Master Plan
Sweetwater, Tennessee
Sweetwater City Hall Council Room
Friday, February 3, 2023
09:00 a.m.**

Minutes of Meeting

Jessica Morgan, City Recorder along with Mitch Loomis, ETDD presented the final Master Plan to the public for final input. The final plan was presented page by page and each page was addressed with the public before going to the next page. There were no comments in regards to changes that needed to be updated in the Master Plan. Savannah Frank said that she was impressed with the Master Plan and has confidence that the City will address those needs in the Master Plan in a timely fiscally prudent manner.

Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes and Resolution Adoption

Meeting Minutes
February 6, 2023

The Mayor and Board of Commissioners of the City of Sweetwater met in their regular monthly meeting on Monday, February 6, 2023 at 5 p.m. at City Hall. Mayor Lowe called the meeting to order with the Lord's Prayer, followed by Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Stutts moved to approve the minutes for the meetings of January 3, 2023 and January 23, 2023. The motion was seconded. All voted in favor, with none opposed. The motion was carried.

After the Recorder's report, Commissioner Moser moved to approve the distributions for the month of December, 2023. The motion was seconded. All voted in favor, with none opposed. The motion was carried.

A public hearing was opened to take comment on the following items:

LPRF Grant Project for improvements at the Sweetwater Recreation Complex
Ordinance No. 1012 to amend Title 4

Ordinance No. 1013 to amend Title 14

Ordinance No. 1014 to amend Title 11

No written or oral comments were given. The public hearing was closed at 5:08 p.m.

In Old Business, Commissioner Richeson moved to approve Ordinance No. 1009 to amend beer regulations on first reading. The motion was seconded. Upon Roll Call Voting, the Ayes were as follows: Commissioners Hughes, Moser, Richeson, and Stutts. Nays being none. The motion was carried.

Commissioner Moser moved to approve Ordinance No. 1012 to amend Title 4, Municipal Personnel, Chapter 2 and Chapter 4 on second and final reading. The motion was seconded. Upon Roll Call Voting, the Ayes were as follows: Commissioners Hughes, Moser, Richeson, and Stutts. Nays being none. The motion was carried.

Commissioner Hughes moved to approve Ordinance No. 1013 to amend Title 14, Zoning and Land Use Control, Chapter 8 on second and final reading. The motion was seconded. Upon Roll Call Voting, the Ayes were as follows: Commissioners Hughes, Moser, Richeson, and Stutts. Nays being none. The motion was carried.

Commissioner Richeson moved to approve Ordinance No. 1014 to amend Title 11, Municipal Offenses, Chapter 3 to add Section 11-303, Disorderly Houses on second and final reading. The motion was seconded. Upon Roll Call Voting, the Ayes were as follows: Commissioners Hughes, Moser, Richeson, and Stutts. Nays being none. The motion was carried.

In New Business, Commissioner Moser moved to approve Ordinance No. 1015 to accept title to the Biggs House on first reading. The motion was seconded. Upon Roll Call Voting, the Ayes were as follows: Commissioners Hughes, Moser, Richeson, and Stutts. Nays being none. The motion was carried.

Commissioner Moser moved to table Ordinance No. 1016 to amend the zoning map 023 Parcel 42.00 to R-2 until the city attorney could be present in the workshop to verify that the property owner's deed restrictions would be enforceable.

City Recorder Jessica Morgan gave the quarterly financial report for December 31, 2022.

Commissioner Moser moved to appoint John Cleveland as the city's Title VI Coordinator. The motion was seconded. All voted in favor, with none opposed. The motion was carried.

Commissioner Hughes moved to adopt the Master Plan for Parks and Recreation. The motion was seconded. All voted in favor, with none opposed. The motion was carried.

Commissioner Hughes moved to approve the Resolution to apply for an LPRF grant with matching funds. The motion was seconded. All voted in favor, with none opposed. The motion was carried.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the well-being of the citizens of the City of Sweetwater is of the greatest importance; and

WHEREAS, all efforts shall be made to provide a safe, healthy play area for the citizens of the City of Sweetwater and surrounding areas; and

WHEREAS, the addition of play spaces increases a community's livability and attractiveness to new investors, businesses, industries, and residents; and

WHEREAS, the City of Sweetwater now seeks to enhance the lives of citizens through exceptional parks and recreation facilities.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITY OF SWEETWATER, TENNESSEE THE FOLLOWING:

SECTION 1: That the City of Sweetwater is hereby authorized to submit application for a 2023 Local Parks and Recreation Fund grant not to exceed \$1,000,000.

SECTION 2: That the City of Sweetwater is further authorized to provide a matching sum to serve as a match for any monies provided by this grant, up to \$500,000 to be provided by an appropriation in the general fund budget.

SECTION 3: That the City of Sweetwater owns the proposed location and acknowledges the Notice of Limitation of Use to be placed upon the land so that it will be used for public recreation.

SECTION 4: That the City of Sweetwater acknowledges the project must be completed within 2 years if the contract is awarded.

Resolved this 6th of February 2023.

MAYOR

ATTEST: _____
RECORDER