

9 RECREATION & OPEN SPACE STUDY

Over the past 20 years, population growth in Texas has been accompanied by increases in obesity and natural disasters, as well as a decline in children's connection with nature as the state continues to urbanize. As a result, the State of Texas recognizes the importance of continued support for popular outdoor sports; amenities critical to the use of local parks such as pedestrian connections and safety features; and the strategic construction of park and open space features that will also reduce drainage infrastructure costs, support local economic development, and lead to better health for Texas residents.⁶⁴

In communities like Pearsall recreation areas play a key role not only in the health of the individual but also in the health of the community. Parks and recreation areas provide pleasant places for family reunions, friendly competition, exercise, and socializing.

To encourage healthy living, every city and town has the responsibility of providing adequate parks and open space. However, limited funds for these public uses generally require foresight in planning for future development and expansion of parks and public open spaces. To adequately plan for the future, it is important to understand the community's historical background and demographic profile. Several demographic and cultural factors contribute to increased demand for parks and recreational facilities in many Texas towns and cities (including Pearsall): the increase in life expectancy coupled with earlier retirement ages for many people; the spread of competitive sporting programs to the youngest and oldest age groups; and the understanding that a healthy diet and regular exercise are good for mental and physical well-being.

This Parks Master Plan includes analysis that is based on survey responses as well as on the cultural and economic characteristics of Pearsall's residents. The Parks Master Plan also analyzes the lack of facilities currently available in Pearsall. The City is served by several park with a variety of recreation facilities (detailed in *Section 9.5 - Inventory & Assessment of Existing Resources*).

⁶⁴ Texas Outdoor Recreation Plan (2012)

Most recreation facilities in Pearsall are in good condition however, some facilities are in such poor condition that use is not possible or safe. Currently, residents have sufficient access to several recreational opportunities that allow for quality leisure time pursuits or activities which lead to a healthy lifestyle. Pearsall growth over the planning period will put a strain on these facilities and the City will need to make investments in order to maintain, refurbish, and expand existing facilities.

9.1 Introduction

On the ancestral lands of the Coahuiltecan, Payaya and Pachal's people, Pearsall's modern history began with the construction of the railroad. On February 6, 1882, the International-Great Northern Railroad gained control of 2,000 acres of land surrounding a popular "Waggoner's Well" on the route from Frio Town to Pleasanton. Shortly after, Feb 15, 1882, the townsite of Pearsall was platted and named after the vice president of railroad, Thomas W. Pearsall. The city was incorporated in 1909.

In the 1930s, oil was discovered by the Amarada Petroleum Corporation and, by 1952, over 100 wells operated in the fields of Pearsall and the nearby city of Bigfoot.⁶⁵ Pearsall had an estimated population of approximately 4,500 at the end of 1949. It was also during this period of discovery that natural gas was introduced to the City, and that Pearsall had most its avenues paved. By 1990, the City had an estimated population of 6,924, led by a second oil boom that helped revitalize the economy. Oryx Energy began drilling the Pearsall field in September of 1989, and by 2010 Pearsall's population peaked at 9,146.

Pearsall's population decrease by an estimated 20% over the last decade (2010-2020).

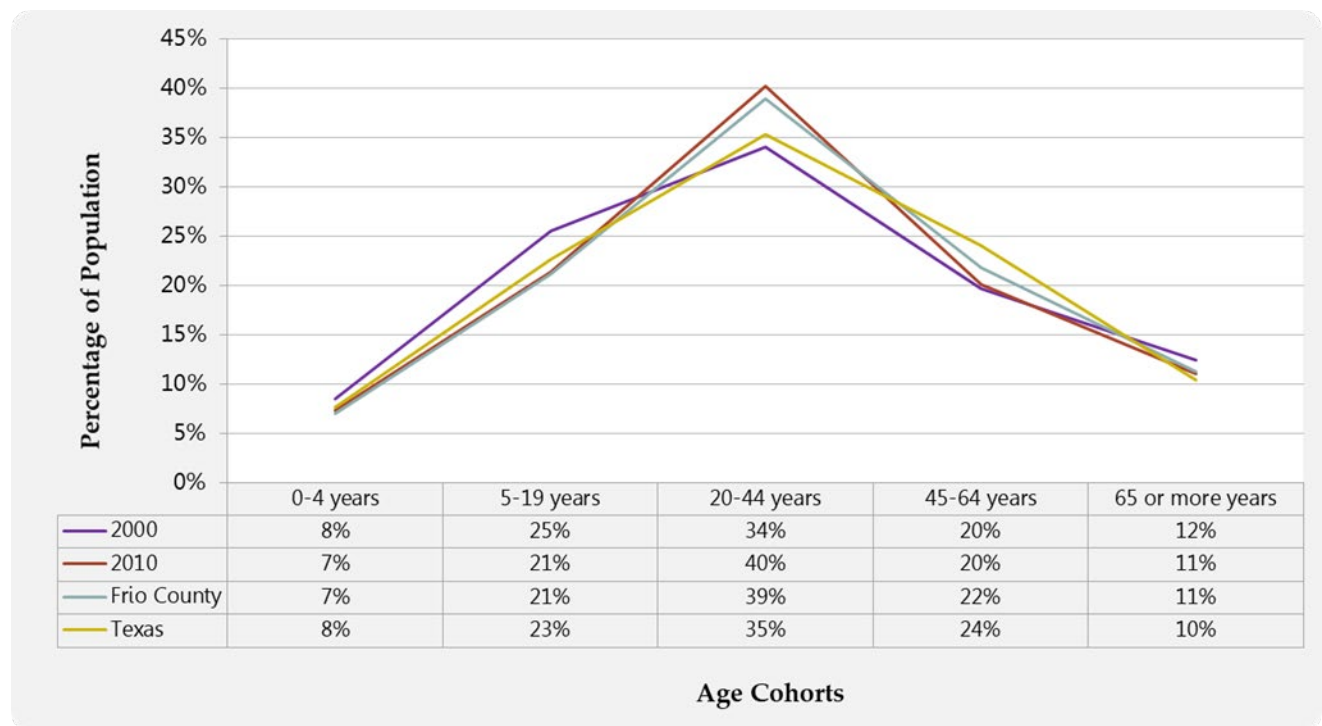
Population Changes (2000-2010) & (2010-2020)

Chart 9A (next page) illustrates age cohort distributions for Pearsall (2000 and 2010), Frio County (2010), and the state of Texas (2010). An age distribution peaked by the 20-to-44-year-old age cohort generally indicates a stable-to-expanding or "healthy" population distribution. The 2010 Texas distribution is an example of "healthy" population change. In contrast, a flatter distribution can indicate relatively stationary or declining population change.

⁶⁵<https://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/entries/frio-county>

As *Chart 9A* demonstrates, demonstrates, the age distribution of Pearsall's residents in both 2000 and 2010 are peaked by the 20-to-44-year-old age cohort. However, this age group represented a larger percentage of the city's population in 2010, leading to a more pronounced peak. It should be kept in mind that, due to the relatively small size of Pearsall's population, the age distribution can fluctuate from minor changes. The 2010 Pearsall distribution indicates a population dynamic that supports a stable-to-expanding population.

Chart 9A: Population by Age Group (2000, 2010)



Source: 2000 and 2010 Census of Population and Housing, Summary Population and Housing

The U.S. Census distinguishes between two minority population groups: "racial minorities" - all non- "White" residents - and "ethnic minorities" - all "Hispanic or Latino" residents.

Table 9A (next page) provides a population profile of residents in the city of Pearsall, as well as Frio County, in terms of race and ethnicity. As *Table 9A* demonstrates, approximately 50.7% of Pearsall's 2020 population identify as a racial minority (non-White), and 87.1% identify as an ethnic minority (Hispanic or Latino). Racial minorities comprised a similar percentage of Pearsall residents in 2020 as in 2010 however, "White" residents saw a major decrease from 78.9% to 39.4% while the population of "Two or More Races" saw an increase of over 20%. *Table 9A* also shows that Pearsall is equally racially and ethnically diverse as the population in Frio County, but less so racially diverse, and more so ethnically diverse than the state of Texas.

Residents of all races and ethnicities in Pearsall were invited to participate in the surveyed about park needs.

Table 9A: Population by Race & Ethnicity (2000, 2010)

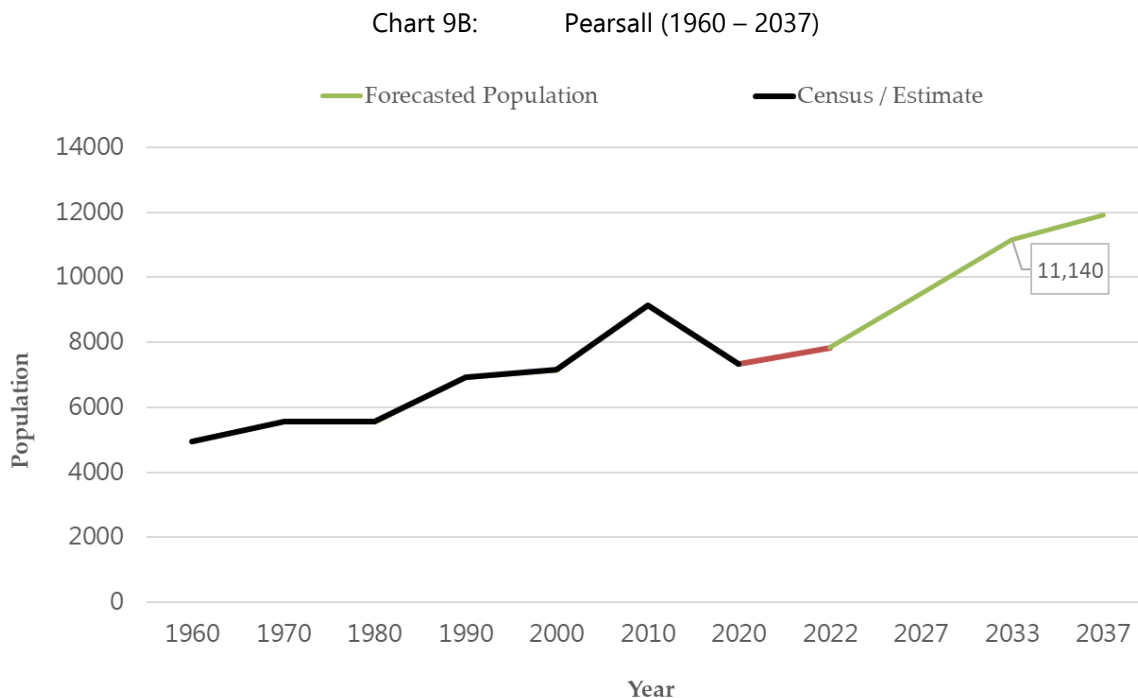
<u>Characteristic</u>	<u>Pearsall</u>				<u>Frio County</u>		<u>Texas</u>	
	2010		2020		2020		2020	
	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#
Total Population	100%	9,146	100%	7,325	100%	18,385	100%	29,145,505
Race								
White	78.9%	7,219	39.4%	3,608	46.3%	8,518	50.1%	14,609,365
Black or African American	1.3%	120	0.5%	49	3.9%	719	12.2%	3,552,997
American Indian, Alaskan Native	0.5%	44	0.7%	68	0.7%	130	1.0%	278,948
Asian	3.3%	305	0.1%	13	1.1%	199	5.4%	1,585,480
Native Hawaiian / Hawaiian / Another Pacific Islander	0.0%	0	0.1%	07	0.05%	9	0.1%	33,611
Other	14.1%	1,291	15.9%	1,457	27.3%	5,020	13.6%	3,951,366
Two or More Races	1.8%	167	23.2%	2,123	20.6%	3,790	17.6%	5,133,738
Ethnicity								
Hispanic or Latino	85.1%	7,784	87.1%	6,377	77.1%	14,171	39.3%	11,441,717
Not Hispanic or Latino	14.9%	1,362	10.4%	948	22.9%	4,214	60.7%	17,703,788

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

Note: Figures may be rounded to next whole number

2022 Population Estimate & 2032 Forecast

Pearsall's estimated 2022 population is 7,840 residents. The population forecast, based on a projection for Frio County from the Texas State Demographic Center, projects that Pearsall will experience significant population growth over the planning period (2023-2033). Based on the forecast, Pearsall's population is expected to increase by 3,300 residents over the next 10 years, reaching approximately 11,140 residents in 2033 (see *Chart 9B*).



Recreation & Open Space Survey

A demand-based assessment of local recreation facilities was made using results from a survey available to Pearsall residents online (August-October). Sixty-five (65) surveys were completed. Nearly all survey respondents live in the city of Pearsall (see *Chart 9C, next page*). Survey respondents range in age from 21 to 77. The average age of survey respondents were between the ages of 35-44 years old (see *Chart 9D, next page*).

Chart 9C: Do you live within the Pearsall city limits?

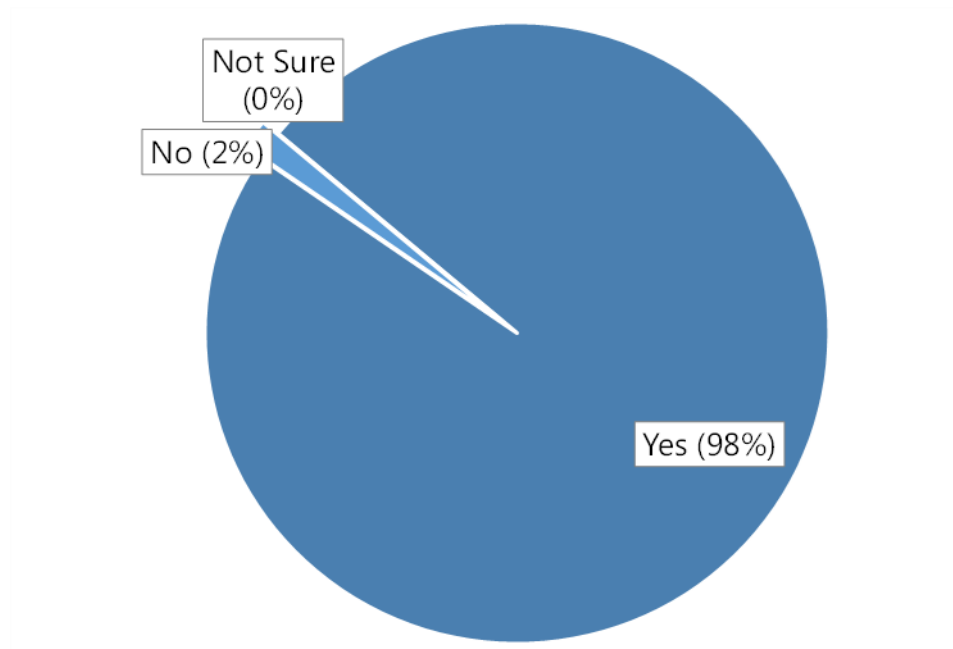
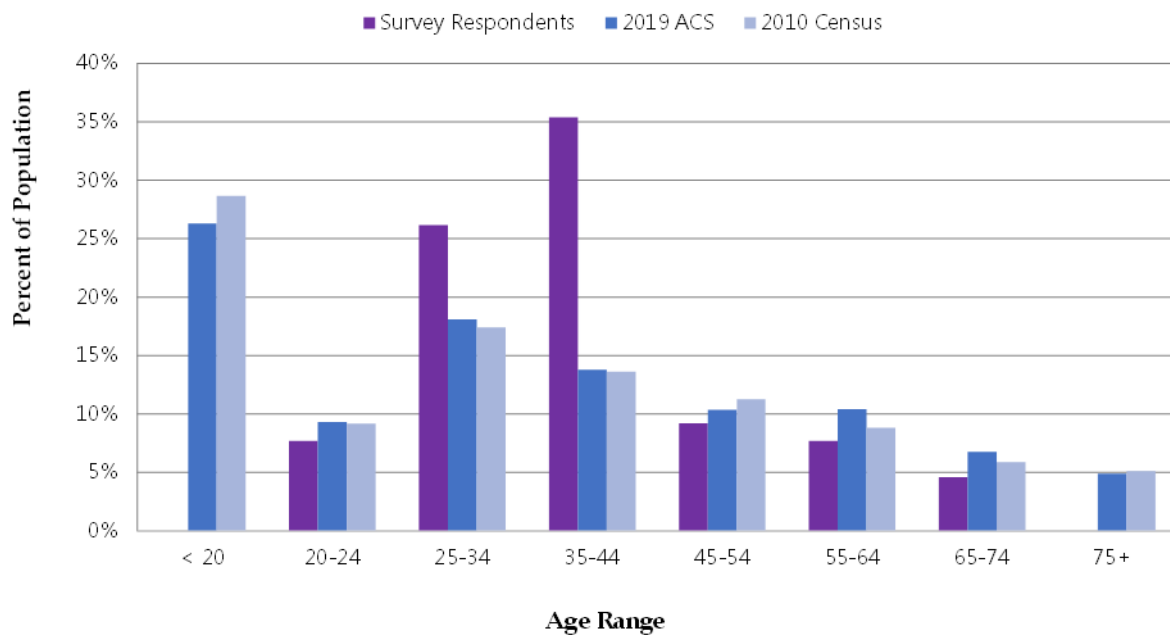


Chart 9D: Survey Respondents by Age Group



Data gathered from the surveys identified common recreational activities of adults and children, favorite parks and needed improvements, and important/prioritized additional recreational facilities. **The City of Pearsall desires to provide recreational activities for all segments of the population regardless of age.**

Anticipated Financial Resources for Parks & Recreation Facilities

An estimated 20% of Pearsall residents live below the poverty level.⁶⁶ The unemployment rate in Frio County is 4.8%, slightly lower than the 5.2% unemployment rate for both the Alamo Workforce Development Area⁶⁷ which includes Frio County, and slightly higher than the 4.3%⁶⁸ unemployment rate for the state of Texas. Average weekly wages in Frio County (\$1,149) are lower than average wages for both the Alamo WDA and the state of Texas (\$1,191 and \$1,376, respectively). However, depending on the employment industry area, average weekly wages range from \$308 to \$4,471.⁶⁹

Based on the above-referenced measures, the City has some ability to fund recreation facilities through increased taxes, bond issues, or user fees. Residents rely on local parks because they have fewer resources to travel outside of Pearsall and less money to spend on private recreation than residents of wealthier municipalities.

9.2 Goals & Objectives

Pearsall's Parks Master Plan provides a foundation for development of future park and recreation facilities and guidance for maintenance of existing facilities in the town. To realize this vision for the future, actions suggested in this plan relate to specific goals that the residents of Pearsall hope to accomplish.

The goals and the objectives presented here were determined through formal surveys of local residents and a public meeting held to discuss town-wide aspirations for recreation facilities and other improvements.

⁶⁶From the American Community Survey 5-year estimates 2016-2020, Table DP03, Poverty level of "All people", accessible from data.census.gov

⁶⁷ The Alamo Workforce Development Area includes Atascosa, Bandera, Bexar, Comal, Frio, Gillespie, Guadalupe, Karnes, Kendall, Kerr, McMullen, Medina, and Wilson counties.

⁶⁸ Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) Labor Market & Career Information Department (LMI) TRACER 2021 Annual Data

⁶⁹ Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) Labor Market & Career Information Department (LMI) TRACER 2021 Q4 Data

Table 9B: Recreation & Open Space Goals & Objectives 2023-2033

Goals & Objectives	Activity Year(s)			Lead Organization	Cost Estimate	Funding Sources
	2023-2026	2027-2029	2030-2033			
Goal 9.1 Maintain recreation facilities in good condition						
Establish a voluntary donation fund to fund maintenance, repair, and upgrade local parks. Solicitation could be added to City utility bill.	X			City	< \$1,000	GEN
Schedule creation of new Parks Master Plan.			X	City	\$10,000	GEN, CDBG
Hold annual “community workday” to support local recreation and open space improvements. Seek volunteers from residents, City staff, community service workers, school, local institutions, religious and civic groups, etc. Tasks might include cleanup of recreation/open space and vacant lots.	X	X	X	City	<\$1,000	GEN, ISD, Local
Budget funds for park maintenance and for on-going facility development.	X	X	X	City	\$700,000±	GEN
Schedule biennial review of the Parks Master Plan and update priority list as needed. Solicit new public input every five (5) years.	X	X	X	City	< \$1,000	GEN
Goal 9.2 Improve existing recreation facilities to permit and encourage additional use and construct new facilities that fulfill residents’ expressed needs and bring the town more up to standard.						
Apply to TPWD Small Community Recreation Grant program to renovate Centennial Park into a dog park.	X			City	Variable	GEN
Develop exhibits at park facilities to foster nature appreciation and to educate visitors about local flora, fauna, and geology. This can include community gardens and/or xeriscaped gardens.	x			City	<\$1,000	GEN, Local
Use grant funds to renovate Centennial Park into a dog park.	X			City	\$75,000 (or 50% match of TPWD grant funds)	GEN; TPWD (Total grant and match not to exceed \$150,000)

Goals & Objectives	Activity Year(s)			Lead Organization	Cost Estimate	Funding Sources
	2023-2026	2027-2029	2030-2033			
Develop policy to educate the public regarding the benefits of private donation of land to be used for parks, greenbelts, and open space.	X	X	X	City	Staff	GEN
Develop a shared resources plan with the ISD to ensure all available area facilities may be used year-round and to support shared facilities development.	X	X	X	City	<\$1,000 (legal)	GEN, ISD
Form a Parks & Advisory Committee to support parks and pathway planning, outreach, and activities.	X			City	Staff	GEN
Continue Parks & Paths Advisory Committee to support parks and pathways planning, outreach, and activities.	X	X	X	City	Staff	GEN
Apply to TPWD Small Community Recreation Grant program to remove aged play equipment from Moreno Park and replace with a playscape. Refinish deteriorated basketball court.		X		City	Variable	GEN
Use grant funds to remove aged play equipment from Moreno Park and replace with a playscape. Refinish deteriorated basketball court.		X		City	\$75,000 (or 50% match of TPWD grant funds)	GEN; TPWD (Total grant and match not to exceed \$150,000)
Encourage development of other indoor activities typically operated by private businesses such as a movie theater, bowling alley, roller-skating rink, gymnastics/twirling center, and indoor rodeo facilities.			X	City	Staff	GEN, Local

Goals & Objectives	Activity Year(s)			Lead Organization	Cost Estimate	Funding Sources
	2023-2026	2027-2029	2030-2033			
Encourage development of other outdoor activities typically operated by private businesses such as a skate park, equestrian facilities, miniature golf, bicycle motor-cross, and a mountain bike trail.			X	City	Staff	GEN, Local
Apply to TPWD Non-Urban Outdoor Recreation Grant Program to further develop Victor Trevino Sport Complex by installing a light activity area with activities pursued by elderly residents such as horseshoes, shuffleboard, ping-pong, or domino/cards game tables. Install inclusive play activities (such as a "scent or sensory garden" and inclusive playground equipment that can be enjoyed by children with physical disabilities). Expand paved walking path and refinish/expand splash pad with new sprinklers.			X	City	Variable	GEN
Use grant funds to further develop Victor Trevino Sport Complex by installing a light activity area with activities pursued by elderly residents such as horseshoes, shuffleboard, ping-pong, or domino/cards game tables. Install inclusive play activities (such as a "scent or sensory garden" and inclusive playground equipment that can be enjoyed by children with physical disabilities). Expand paved walking path and refinish/expand splash pad with new sprinklers.			X	City	Up to \$375,000 (or 50% match of TPWD grant funds)	GEN; TPWD (total grant and match not to exceed \$750,000)

Goals & Objectives	Activity Year(s)			Lead Organization	Cost Estimate	Funding Sources
	2023-2026	2027-2029	2030-2033			
Hold annual festivals at local parks like the City of Pearsall's Hispanic Heritage Festival. <i>Festivals and events provide diverse activities not normally available in the park and enhance the usefulness of facilities. These events can also highlight the community's cultural diversity or offer special events such as kite-flying contests or bike-a-thons.</i> Earmark any proceeds from activities for use in park improvements.	X	X	X	City	\$2,000 - \$5,000	GEN, ISD, Local
Hold "community workday" to accomplish a portion of projects related to park improvement.	X	X	X	City	<\$1,000	GEN, Local, ISD
Support both temporary and permanent recreational uses on vacant land such as pocket parks or community gardens.	X	X	X	City	Variable	GEN, ISD, Local
Consider forming a multi-municipal partnership with Frio County, allowing shared services, equipment, and personnel for recreational opportunities. The cooperative partnership can help meet recreational needs, avoid duplication, and help conserve funding more efficiently.			X	City	<\$1,000 (legal)	GEN, County
Goal 9.3 <i>Establish ongoing maintenance and improvements to open spaces and highway right-of-way to demonstrate local pride and attract visitors, investors, and new residents.</i>						
Start annual Tree Planting Campaign; plant five (5) tree per year. Prioritize public spaces and thoroughfares.	X			City	\$500	GEN, Local

Goals & Objectives	Activity Year(s)			Lead Organization	Cost Estimate	Funding Sources
	2023-2026	2027-2029	2030-2033			
Hold annual "community workday" to support local recreation and open space improvements. Seek volunteers from residents, City staff, community service workers, school, local institutions, religious and civic groups, etc. Tasks might include cleanup of recreation/open space and vacant lots.	X	X	X	City	< \$1,000	GEN, ISD, Local
Continue annual Tree Planting Campaign; plant five (5) tree per year. Prioritize public spaces and thoroughfares.	X	X	X	City	\$500 per year	GEN, Local
Support both temporary and permanent recreational uses on vacant land such as pocket parks or community gardens.	X	X	X	City	Variable	GEN, Local, ISD

GEN = City of Pearsall Municipal Funds; **CDBG** = Community Development Block Grant Program; **Local** = Donations from private citizens, organization, and local businesses; **TPWD** = Texas Parks & Wildlife Department; **ISD** = Pearsall Independent School District; **County** = Frio County

9.3 Plan Development Process

Previous Studies

There are no previous studies of parks in the city of Pearsall.

2023-2033 Plan

Development of this plan began in April 2021 when the City of Pearsall hired a professional planning firm, GrantWorks Inc. of Austin, to create a Parks Master Plan as part of a comprehensive planning process.

To begin judging the level of interest in park needs, planners consulted with City staff, City officials, and residents of all ages. An online survey was made available to Pearsall residents (August-October 2021). Twenty-two (65) surveys were completed. Nearly all the of survey respondents live within the city limits (see *Chart 9C, page 9-6*). Survey results are further discussed in *Section 9.6: Needs Assessment & Identification*.

Appendix 9A provides a copy of the survey form.

In addition to community input, this plan evaluates Pearsall's recreation resources in relation to its existing and projected population and an inventory of existing facilities, a method called Standards-based Assessment. The analysis is used to develop a logical and cost-efficient strategy to address the identified needs over a 10-year planning period.

Following adoption of this plan by the City Council, the City's ongoing responsibility will be: to maintain and improve City-managed facilities; to identify funding resources; and to engage in cooperative projects with local volunteer groups and local schools.

Texas Parks and Wildlife recommends that parks and recreation plans be updated every five years to reflect changing realities in recreation trends, participation, area population, and funding. An update would include: revised goals and objectives that raise items of lower priority to higher priority as higher priority items are accomplished; a new facility inventory; and a new survey.

A new plan will be required in 2033.

9.4 Area & Facility Concepts & Standards

Several basic principles guide successful development of parks and recreational opportunities in communities of all sizes and types. These standards and guidelines provide direction to community leaders who know generally what their community's needs are but require more specific information to guide the planning process.

The City's standards for needed recreation and open-space include facility type, size, service area, and needed equipment. The criteria are based on nationwide standards developed by the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA)⁷⁰ and small-community standards developed by the State of Colorado.⁷¹ The standards were tailored to Pearsall based on knowledge about financial capacity, popular sports, community activities, and which facilities would provide participation opportunities to the broadest segments of residents.

The City of Pearsall's standards are as follows:

General Standards for all Facility Development

- Residents should have access to a minimum of five acres and an ideal 15 acres of developed park land per 1,000 residents.
- When possible, active recreation areas should be separated according to the users' ages, primarily to protect younger children from injury. Some areas should be designated for use by all ages so entire families can enjoy being together.
- Residents of all age groups should have access to recreational facilities.
- Recreational areas should be accessible to the age group they are designed to serve. For example, neighborhood playgrounds usually serve an area with a radius of ½-mile, which is a reasonable distance for a child to walk. Safe pedestrian routes should provide access to those facilities.
- All City park facilities will be made accessible to physically challenged and special needs populations when required by applicable laws. The items mentioned as needed for other categories apply equally to special needs populations. Additional special needs facilities may be developed as warranted by local demand.

⁷⁰ NRPA-suggested classification system (Berke, Kaiser, Godschalk and Rodriguez, *Urban Land Use Planning*, University of Illinois Press, Fifth Edition.)

⁷¹ *State of Colorado Small Community Park & Recreation Planning Standards* (2003). RPI Consulting, Inc. and Colorado Heritage Planning Grant program, Office of Smart Growth, Colorado Department of Local Affairs. (Page 16). Accessed at www.dola.state.co.us/osg/docs/Park%20Standards%20Report.pdf

- All facility construction is required to meet the minimums found in the International Building Code.
- Combined municipal and school recreational facilities are recommended. Lack of coordination often leads to the construction of redundant facilities. When possible, school recreational areas, including parking areas, drinking fountains, and restrooms, should remain open on weekends and during the summer months.
- Greenbelts, hike and bike trails, parkways, or paths should be provided to connect large recreational areas to improve access to facilities, scenic views, and recreational opportunities.
- Vehicular routes should be encouraged only when recreational areas are separated by more than one mile.
- Ideally, each recreation area should include public access to restrooms and water fountains and should be equipped with lighting and trash cans.

Standards for Service Area and Park Types

Table 9C describes the size and service area standards for types of park and recreation areas already located in Pearsall or considered possible as future City recreation areas.

Table 9C: Types of Parks: Size & Service Area Standards

Park Type	Use	Service Area	Desirable Size	Desirable Site Characteristics
Minipark	Specialized facilities that serve a concentrated or limited population or specific group such as tots or senior citizens	< 1/4-mile radius	≤ 1 acre	Within neighborhoods and close to apartment complexes, townhouses, housing for the elderly or Central Business District.
Neighborhood Park/playground	Area for intense recreational activities such as field games, court games, crafts, skating, and picnicking; also, for wading pool and playground apparatus area	¼-to-½-mile radius to serve a population up to 5,000.	1-to-15+ acres	Suited for intense development; easily accessible to neighborhoods; geographically centered with safe walking and bike access; may be developed as a school-park facility
Community Park	Includes areas suited for intense recreational facilities, such as athletic complexes, large swimming pools; may be an area of natural quality for outdoor recreation, such as walking, viewing, sitting, picnicking.	Several neighborhoods 1-to-2-mile radius	15-to-25+ acres	May include natural features, such as water bodies, and areas suited for intense development; easily accessible to neighborhoods
Linear Park	Area developed for one or more modes of recreational travel, such as hiking, biking, canoeing, horseback riding. May include active play areas.	N/A	Sufficient width to protect the resources and provide maximum use	Built on corridors, such as utility right of way, bluff lines, vegetation patterns, or roads that link other components of the recreation system or community facilities such as schools and libraries.
Special Use	Areas for single-purpose recreational activities such as golf courses, nature centers, zoos, conservatories, gardens, outdoor theaters. Also, plazas or squares in or near commercial centers, boulevards, and parkways	N/A	Variable	Within city limits
Conservancy	Protection and management of the natural or cultural environment with recreational use as a secondary objective	N/A	Sufficient to protect the resource	Variable, depending on the resource being protected.

Facility Standards

Table 9D presents recommended standards for Pearsall's park equipment and sports fields/courts. The activities and facilities listed are based on existing facilities and feedback from the Parks & Recreation Survey. In the future, as standards are changed or upgraded, part of the Parks Master Plan review process should address any discrepancies. The City's standards should conform to nationally recognized organizations' most recent standards.

Table 9D: Facility Standards

Activity/ Facility	Service Radius	Space Requirements <i>SF = Square feet; Min. = Minimum</i>	Suggested #/ Population	Characteristics
Team Sport Courts & Fields				
General Use / Soccer Field	1-to-2-miles	1.7-to-2.0 acres	1 per 4,000	Usually in school, recreation complex, or neighborhood/community park.
Softball/ Little League Field	¼-to-½-mile	1.5-to-2.0 acres	1 per 4,000	Slight difference in dimensions for 16" slow pitch. May also be used for youth baseball.
Adult Baseball	¼-to-½-mile	3.0-to-3.85 acres	1 per 4,000	Part of neighborhood park. Lighted field part of community park.
Basketball Court	¼-to-½-mile	7,000 SF/ 0.16 acres	1 per 2,000	Usually in school, recreation complex, or church. Safe walking or bike access. Outdoor courts in neighborhoods and community parks.
Tennis Court	¼-to-½-mile	Min. 7,200 SF per court (0.17 acres)	1 per 2,500	Best in batteries of 2-4. Located in community or neighborhood park or near schools.
Volleyball Court	¼-to-½-mile	Min. 3,000 SF	1 per 6,000	Usually in school, recreation, or church facility. Safe walking or bike access. Outdoor courts in neighborhoods and community parks.
Football	¼-to-½-hour travel time	2 acres	1 per 15,000	Usually, part of a sports or school complex
Soccer (dedicated)	1-to-2-miles	1.7-to-2.2 acres	1 per 15,000	Part of neighborhood park. Lighted field part of community park.
Softball (dedicated)	¼-to-½-mile	1.5-to-2.0 acres	1 per 2,500	Slight difference in dimensions for 16" slow pitch
Little League (dedicated)	¼-to-½-mile	1.2 acres	1 per 2,500	Part of neighborhood park. Lighted field part of community park.

Activity/ Facility	Service Radius	Space Requirements <i>SF = Square feet; Min. = Minimum</i>	Suggested #/ Population	Characteristics
Individual & Specialty Use				
¼-mile Running Track	¼-hour travel time	4.3 acres	1 per 20,000	Usually, part of a high school or in community park complex.
Multiuse Trail (per mile)	N/A	N/A	Per mile: Unpaved: 1,000; Paved: 2,000	Capacity: rural trail – 40 hikers per day per mile; urban trail – 90 hikers per day per mile.
Swimming Pool	¼-to-½-hour travel time	Varies with size of pool and amenities. Usually 1/3-to-2-acres	1 per 20,000	Pools for general community use should be planned for teaching, competitive, and recreational purposes with enough depth (3.4m) to accommodate 1m and 3m diving boards. Located in community parks or school sites.
Group & Passive Recreation				
Playground	¼-to-½-mile	3,200 SF	1 per 1,500	Part of neighborhood park.
Family Picnic Area/ Picnic Table	¼-to-½-mile	435 SF	1 per 150	1 garbage can within 150 ft. of every 4 picnic tables; 40 ft. between uncovered picnic tables; Picnic tables within 400 ft. of parking
Group Picnic Area (Covered)	¼-to-½-mile	1-to-2 acres	1 per 2,000	
Park Bench	N/A	N/A	1 per 300	Variable
Light Activity Area	¼-to-½-mile	Estimated 500 SF	1 per 500	Could include facilities for horseshoe pit, shuffleboard, chess, meditation, gardening, or similar activity

9.5 Inventory & Assessment of Existing Resources

This section provides information on the availability of recreation facilities to Pearsall's residents and existing organizations that participate in recreation and open space activities and development. Existing resources are assessed as they relate to opportunities for improvements to each recreation area, Pearsall's demographics, and organizations available to pursue recreation and open space improvements in Pearsall.

9.5.1 City Owned Recreation Areas

Victor Trevino Sports Complex (21.95 acres)

Located in southwest Pearsall off Loma Vista and West Frio Street, Victor Trevino Sports Complex is the city's primary recreation area. Park facilities include several sport courts and fields including two lighted and dedicated softball/little league fields, two lighted and dedicated baseball fields, a general field for soccer and football, and a grass volleyball court. All sports facilities are in good conditions (see *Figure 9A*). The supporting facilities, like dugouts, backstops, bleachers, announcer's box, restrooms, ticket booth, batting cages, and concessions stands are also in good condition.



Figure 9A: Sports Facilities at Victor Trevino Sports Complex

Victor Trevino Sports Complex also includes a play area with slides, a playscape, swings and a splash pad (see *Figure 9B*). The play facilities are in good condition. The splash pad could be refinished and ideally expanded with new sprinklers and splash equipment. A 0.6-mile walking path lies adjacent to the playground area. The path is paved and in good conditions and provides an excellent opportunity for both running and walking at the park.



Figure 9B: Play Facilities at Victor Trevino Sport Complex

Covered and uncovered picnic tables and benches near the playground and elsewhere in the park provide opportunities for passive recreation (see *Figure 9C*). These facilities are in good condition.



Figure 9C: Passive Facilities at Victor Trevino Sport Complex

Additional facilities that may be appropriate at Victor Trevino Sport Complex include a dedicated soccer field, a light activity area (chess sets, ping-pong tables, etc.), additional play equipment (inclusive play equipment recommended), and an expanded paved walking path.

Polo Patino Park (4.6 acres)

Polo Patino Park is located on the westside of Pearsall bordered by West Davilla Street, North Govea Street, West Gonzales Street, and North Willow Street. Park sports facilities include a covered basketball court and a wooden skate park. All sports facilities are in good conditions and offer an amenity in both a team (basketball) and single-person (skating) sport that attracts people of diverse interest (see *Figure 9D*).



Figure 9D: Sports Facilities at Polo Patino Park

Polo Patino Park also includes a play area with slides, a playscape, swings, see-saws, monkey bars, spring riders and a splash pad (see *Figure 9E*). The play facilities are in good condition and offer a level of service that welcomes children of all ages.



Figure 9E: Play Facilities at Polo Patino Park

Covered and uncovered picnic tables, benches, and barbeque grills near the playground and elsewhere in the park provide opportunities for passive recreation (*see Figure 9F*). These facilities are in fair to good condition. The park offers a variety of amenities that are accessible to people of all ages, interests, and abilities. The focus on this park should be to maintain and replace facilities as they become older and suffer from deterioration.



Figure 9F: Passive Facilities at Polo Patino Park

Centennial Park (0.1 acres)

Centennial Park is in a vacant lot on the corner off West Trinity Street and Power Plant Road. The park offers no facilities and is seldom used by the residents of Pearsall. The park is adorned with small shrubbery and few trees. The park houses a time capsule set to open in the year 2059 (see *Figure 9G*). Because Centennial Park sits mostly vacant residents have expressed the desire for the park to be converted into a dog park.



Figure 9G: Centennial Park

Moreno Park (.69 acres)

Moreno Park is in central Pearsall on the corner of West Brazos and North Mulberry Street, just south of Polo Patino and Centennial Park. Park facilities include a basketball court, jungle gym, playground, spring riders, slides, a merry go round and a swing set. The park also provides picnic tables for passive recreation and a memorial to the 'Waggoners Well', a historical monument honoring Pearsall's founding (*see Figure 9H*). Park facilities are mostly in good condition; however, the basketball court is showing signs of deterioration as the cement floor has cracks with vegetation growing through, and several of the facilities aimed at children are in poor condition – swing set is not in working condition as it is missing all swings. The City should focus on maintaining the basketball court and playground equipment, and replace broken down equipment.



Figure 9H: Moreno Park Facilities

9.5.2 County Owned Recreation Areas

Frio Regional Park (2.2 Acres)

Frio Regional Park is located in southwest Pearsall at the intersection of Interstate Highway 35 and Farm to Market Road 1581. The park is owned and maintained by Frio County. Play area facilities include a playscape and monkey bars. Park facilities also include a basketball court, two sand volleyball courts and a pavilion with picnic tables and barbeque grills (see *Figure 9I*).



Figure 9I: Frio Regional Park Facilities

Most facilities in Frio Regional Park are in good-to-fair condition. Most land in the park is already developed. To avoid overcrowding, the focus on this park should be on adding vegetation to the impervious cement surfaces surrounding the pavilion and barbeque picnic areas.

Frio County Community Fishing Pond (16.6 Acres)

Frio County Community Fishing Pond is located south of Frio Regional Park off Gilliam Road. The park is owned and maintained by Frio County. The park provides a pond that is used by locals for fishing, one of the most popular recreational activities in Pearsall. Park facilities also include covered picnic tables, restrooms, and barbeque grills (see *Figure 9J*). Most facilities in Frio County Community Fishing Pond are in fair-to-good condition, however the benches and picnic tables should be ideally replaced as they are showing signs of deterioration. This park has the most undeveloped land (37.4 acres) in the City. A multi-jurisdictional partnership between the City and Frio County could be formed to help meet recreational needs for residents.



Figure 9J: Frio County Community Fishing Pond Facilities

Firemans Park (3.75 acres)

Firemans Park is centrally located off East Leona Street, adjacent to the historic Frio Pioneer Jail Museum. The park is owned and maintained by Frio County. Park sports facilities include four basketball courts and a tennis court. Most sport facilities are in good condition except for one basketball court that is in fair condition (see *Figure 9K*).



Figure 9K: Sports Facilities at Firemans Park

Frio County's Firemans Park also includes a play area with slides, playscapes, swings and monkey bars (see *Figure 9L*). The play facilities are in good condition. Covered and uncovered picnic tables, benches, and barbeque grills provide opportunities for passive recreation. These facilities are in fair-to-good condition.



Figure 9L: Play Facilities at Firemans Park

9.5.3 Inventory

Table 9E provides the shared inventory for all public parks in Pearsall. Only facilities open to the public are included in the recreation facility inventory.

Table 9E: Recreation Facility Inventory

<u>AMENITIES</u>	Total	<u>CITY-MAINTAINED</u>				County Parks
		Victor Trevino Sport Complex	Polo Patino Park	Centennial Park	Moreno Park	
TEAM SPORT COURTS & FIELDS						
General Use/ Soccer Field	2	2	-	-	-	-
Softball / Little League Field	2	2	-	-		
Adult Baseball	2	2	-	-	-	-
Basketball Court	7	-	1	-	1	5
Tennis Court	3	-	-	-	-	3
Football Field	0	-	-	-	-	-
SUPPORTING AMENITIES						
Announcer’s Box	1	1	-	-	-	-
Batting Cage	2	2	-	-	-	-
Bleachers	1	1	-	-	-	-
Concessions Stand	1	1	-	-	-	-
Dugouts	8	8	-	-		
Ticket booth	1	1	-	-	-	-
Scoreboard	4	4	-	-	-	-
Trashcans	55	-	1	23	-	28
Water Fountain	2	1	1	-	-	-
PLAYGROUND						
Playground	7	1	3	-	1	2
Merry-Go-Round	2	-	1	-	1	-
Monkey Bars/Jungle Gym	11	-	3	-	2	6
Playscape	7	1	2	-	-	4
See-saws	1	-	1	-	-	-
Slides	23	3	7	-	3	10
Spring Riders	3	-	2	-	1	-
Swing sets	6	1	2	-	1	2
WALK – BIKE -RUN						
Paved Multiuse Trail (per mile)	0.6	0.6	-	-	-	-
WATER						
Splash Pad	2	1	1	-	-	-
PASSIVE						
Picnic Tables - Covered	58	14	12	-	-	32
Picnic Tables – Uncovered	37	10	11	-	14	2
Pavilion	1	-	-	-	-	1
BBQ Grill	52	-	16	-	-	36
Park Bench	23	11	7	-	-	5

<u>AMENITIES</u>	Total	<u>CITY-MAINTAINED</u>			Moreno Park	County Parks
		Victor Trevino Sport Complex	Polo Patino Park	Centennial Park		
ADDITIONAL AMENITIES						
Small Skate Park	1	1	-	-	-	-
OTHER SUPPORTING AMENITIES						
Memorial	5	-	1	1	1	2
Restrooms	8	2	2	-	2	2
Water fountain	2	1	1	-	-	-

Source: GrantWorks Field Survey, 2021

9.5.4 Additional Local Areas Used for Outdoor Activities

Open Space

A town's park system often includes dedicated open spaces to provide opportunities for passive recreation, to provide habitat for local flora and fauna, to preserve landmarks or vistas, or to ensure no development occurs in areas where potential hazards exist, such as flooding. Pearsall has land that could be used for dedicated open space. Approximately 36% of land in the city limits is currently semi-developed, undeveloped, or used for farmland (1,496 acres).

9.5.5 Regional Recreation Areas

Choke Canyon State Park

Choke Canyon State Park is located approximately 60 minutes southeast of Pearsall. The park features a 26,000-acre reservoir and an area of over 5,000-acres for wildland preservation. The area offers an array of camping options and locations ranging from primitive, shoreline camping to recreational vehicle areas and cabin rentals. Other popular activities include hiking, hunting, boating, and fishing. Information on reservations and ranger programs is available from Texas Parks and Wildlife (<https://tpwd.texas.gov/state-parks/choke-canyon>).

Government Canyon State Natural Area

Government Canyon State Natural Area is located approximately 60 minutes north of Pearsall near the city of Helotes. The 12,000-acre state park draws visitors to partake in activities including hiking, geocaching, shopping at the park store, and camping. Information on reservations and activities is available from Texas Parks & Wildlife (<https://tpwd.texas.gov/state-parks/government-canyon>).

Privately Owned Recreational Facilities

G2 Ranch. The G2 Ranch is located approximately 7 minutes southeast of downtown Pearsall. The ranch offers over 8,000 acres of both low and high fence trophy hunting, as well as lodging. For more information visit (<https://g2ranch.com/>).

Wilson Whitetail & Wingshooting Ranch. The Wilson Whitetail & Wingshooting Ranch is located approximately 11 minutes southeast of downtown Pearsall. Established in 1998 the ranch offers guided hunting for whitetail deer, exotic game, dove and quail, as well as lodging. For more information visit (<https://wilsonwhitetails.com/>).

Devine Golf Club. Devine Golf Club is approximately 25 minutes north of Pearsall. Club facilities include an 18-hole golf course. For more information visit (<https://devinegc.com/>).

9.6 Needs Assessment & Identification

This section outlines local recreational needs using a standards-based assessment and a demand-based assessment.

9.6.1 Standards-Based Assessment

The standards-based assessment uses three criteria to determine Pearsall's recreational needs:

- the current and future population,
- acreage devoted to parks and open space,
- and the number of households within/outside of a recreational facility service area.

Local parks in Pearsall include opportunities for several age groups. Park facilities include playground equipment for young children and, depending on size, courts and fields offer team sport opportunities for children, teens, and adults. Adults and seniors can walk the walking trail that surrounds Victor Trevino Sports Complex and enjoy fishing at the Frio County Community Fishing Pond. Parks in the City also includes passive recreation opportunities for all residents including benches, picnic tables, and cooking facilities. Most facilities in parks in Pearsall are in good condition, however several facilities are in deteriorated condition and this likely discourages use. Facility conditions are further discussed in *Section 9.5.1* and *Section 9.5.2*.

In addition to removing and replacing existing facilities in substandard condition, and refinishing or rehabilitating facilities that can be salvaged, Pearsall residents would benefit from further developing existing parks in the City. Residents would also benefit from expanded opportunities for all age groups, particularly inclusive play facilities and play facilities for toddlers and younger children, as well as opportunities for senior residents, such as light activity areas and walking paths.

Based on the anticipated population change over the next 10 years and according to a standards-based assessment, Pearsall will need (1) general use soccer field; one (1) full-size basketball court; one (1) softball/little league field; one (1) baseball field; two (2) tennis courts and on (1) playground. However, new park construction is not recommended to meet these needs.

Detailed Standard-Based Assessment Data

Facility Needs by Population Size

Table 9F identifies Pearsall's existing and future needs based upon the population projection and standards for facilities described earlier in the chapter.

Table 9F: Facilities Standards & Existing Facilities Comparison

<u>Facility</u>	<u>2022</u>		<u>Additional Facilities Needed</u>	
	<i>Existing within service area</i>	<i>Suggested (#/population)</i>	<i>Currently needed</i>	<i>Total needed by 2033</i>
<i>Facilities needed locally (within 2 miles)</i>				
General-Use / Soccer Field	2	1 per 4,000	n/a	0.8
Softball / Little League Field	2	1 per 4,000	n/a	0.8
Adult Baseball	2	1 per 4,000	n/a	0.8
Basketball Court	7	1 per 2,000	n/a	N/A
Tennis Court	3	1 per 2,500	0.1	1.5
Volleyball Court	3	1 per 6,000	n/a	n/a
Soccer Field (dedicated)	-	1 per 15,000	-	-
Playground	7	1 per 1,500	n/a	0.4
Picnic Tables	95	1 per 150	n/a	n/a
Group Picnic Area (Covered)	8	1 per 2,000	n/a	n/a
Benches	23	1 per 300	3.1	14.1
Multiuse Paths/Trails	Actual Mileage	Pop Per Mile		
Multiuse Trails (Dirt/Gravel)	N/A	1,000	7.8	11.1
Multiuse Trails (Paved)	N/A	2,500	2.5	3.9
<i>Facilities needed within region (< 30 min. drive time; golf and hike/bike trail < 1hr.)</i>				
Football	1	1 per 15,000	n/a	n/a
Swimming Pool	1	1 per 20,000	n/a	n/a
Golf (9-hole) [1]	-	1 per 25,000	n/a	n/a
Golf (18-hole) [1]	-	1 per 50,000	n/a	n/a
Hike / Bike Trails [2]	Numerous	1 system per region	n/a	n/a

Notes: **[1]**: Standards met by existing, dedicated fields. **[2]** See regional recreation areas (see Section 10.5.5)

Source GrantWorks Fieldwork 2021

Acreage Needs by Population Size

Level of Service (LOS) is the term used to describe the park system's role in the community. The LOS for parks and open space is based on useable space per 1,000 residents; therefore, undeveloped parkland is not included. As expressed in the City's facility standards, Pearsall's residents should have access to a minimum of five (5) acres and an ideal 15 acres of developed park land per 1,000 residents. Due to policies restricting the availability of use by the public, the acreage of private recreational facilities and areas of school campuses not open to the public or open only on a limited basis are not included.

The city of Pearsall's current Level of Service (LOS) exceeds the ideal park acreage. Public parks provide a LOS of 6.4 acres of developed parkland per 1,000 residents.

Table 9G: Existing Parks, Level of Service

<u>Facility</u>	<u>Park Type</u>	<u>Acreage</u>			<u>Service Area (Miles)</u>	<u>City Households Served</u>	<u>% Of Houses</u>
		<i>Desirable</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Developed</i>			
Victor Trevino Sports Complex	Community	15-25	25.17	21.95	1-2 miles	2,643	86%
Polo Patino Park	Neighborhood	1-15	4.6	4.6	1/4 - 1/2	1,049	34%
Centennial Park	Minipark	<1	2.0	0.1	<1/4	175	6%
Moreno Park	Neighborhood	1-15	0.69	0.69	1/4 - 1/2	1,018	33%
Frio Regional Park	Neighborhood	1-15	3.4	2.2	1/4 - 1/2	30	1%
Frio County Community Fishing Pond	Community	15-25	53.96	16.6	1-2 miles	1,326	43%
Firemans Park	Neighborhood	1-15	4.3	3.8	1/4 - 1/2	659	21%
Total Acreage			94.1	49.9	-	-	-
Population – 7,840 (est. 2022); 11,140 (est. 2032)							
<i>Level of Service 2022</i> (acres per 1,000 residents)		<i>12.0</i>		<i>6.4</i>			
<i>Level of Service 2032</i>		<i>8.4</i>		<i>4.5</i>			

Source: GrantWorks Fieldwork, 2021

Acreage Needs by Park Location

The standards-based assessment also determines recreation needs based upon park service areas. The service area refers to the area formed by a predetermined radius extending out from the park that would typically serve the surrounding population. The service area of existing parks is described in *Table 9G (above)* and in *Figure 9F (next page)*.



Figure 9M: Park Service Areas

9.6.2 Demand-Based Assessment

The demand-based assessment of local recreation facilities is based on the results from a survey made available to Pearsall residents for approximately three months between August through October 2021. Sixty-five (65) surveys were completed. Data gathered from the surveys identified common recreational activities, favorite parks and recreation spaces, priority improvements to local parks, and desired new recreational facilities.

Table 9H summaries key assessment results:

Table 9H: Top Five: Recreation Activities, Locations & New Facilities

Top 5:	Activities	Locations	New Facilities
1.	Bowling	Home/Friend's House	Sidewalks
2.	Swimming	Outside/Just Around	Recreation Center
3.	Walking	Victor Trevino Sports Complex	Hiking/Jogging/Bike Trails
4.	Fishing	School/Church	Outdoor Picnic Area
5.	Dance	Polo Patino Park	Covered Picnic Area

Source: GrantWorks Parks & Recreation Survey, 2021

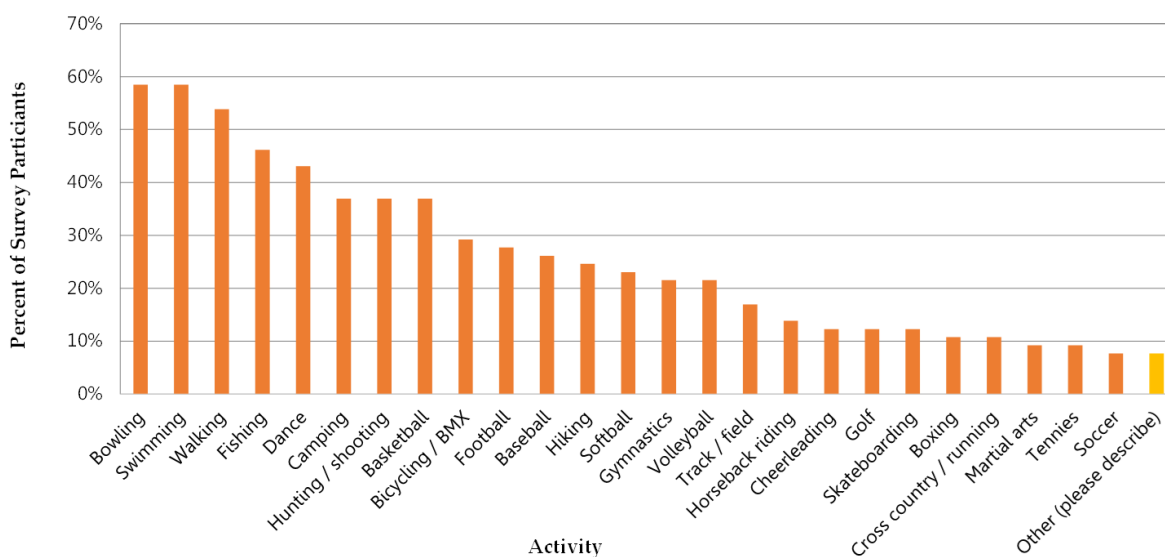
Detailed Demand-Based Assessment Data

Resident Activities & Activity Locations

The survey asked respondents to share their household recreational activities and where those activities take place.

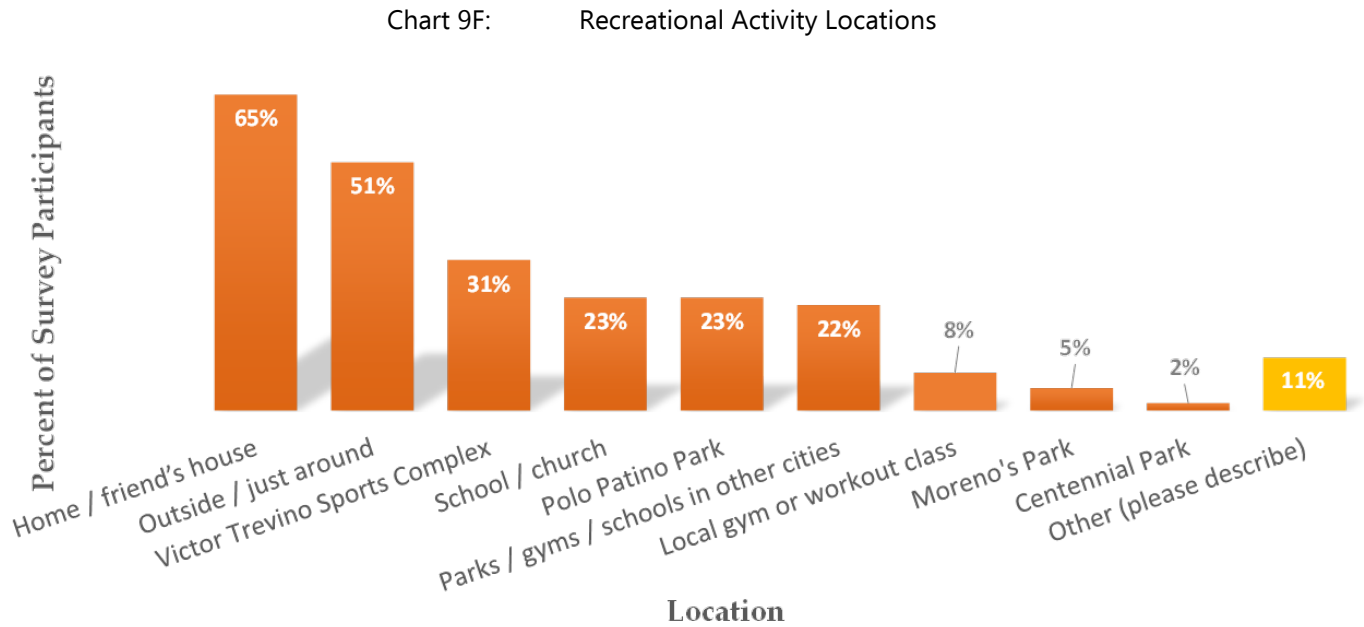
Bowling, swimming, walking, fishing, and dance were the five most popular reported activities. The most popular team sports were basketball, football, baseball, softball, and volleyball (see *Chart 9E*).

Chart 9E: Top Activities



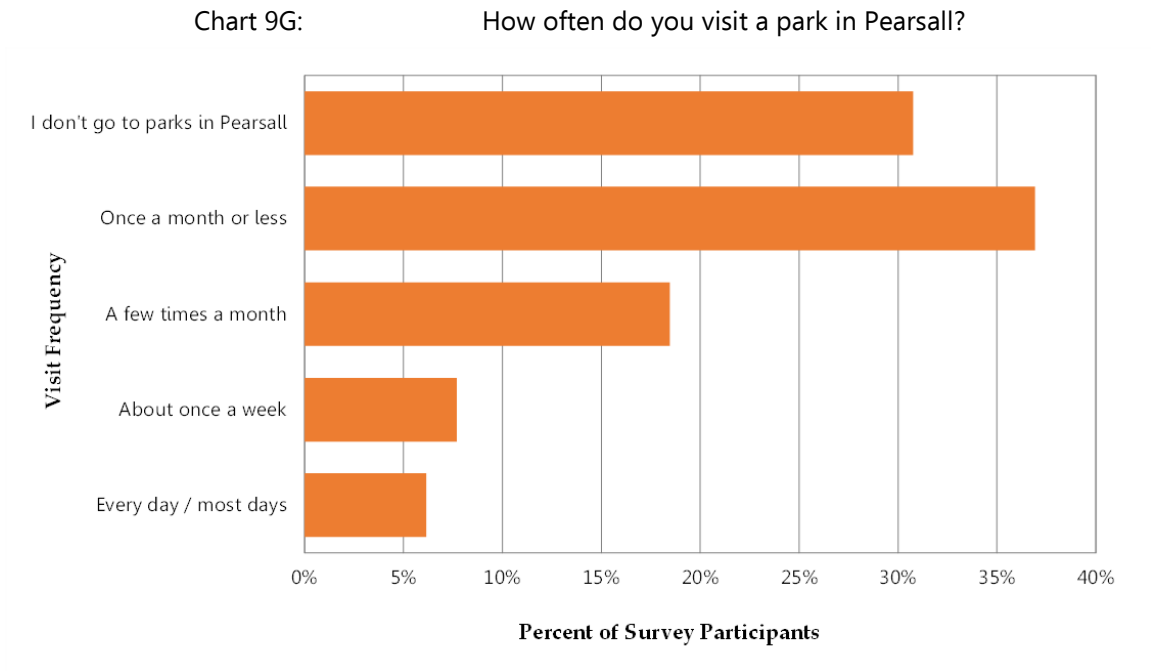
Source: GrantWorks Parks & Recreation Survey, 2021

As *Chart 9F: Recreational Activity Locations* shows, most of the activities are based at home/friend's house, outside/just around, Victor Trevino Sports Complex, school/church and at Polo Patino Park.



Source: GrantWorks Parks & Recreation Survey, 2021

Approximately 7/10 of survey respondents report visiting the public park in Pearsall (69%). Of the respondents who visit the public park, most visit at least once a month (see *Chart 9G*).

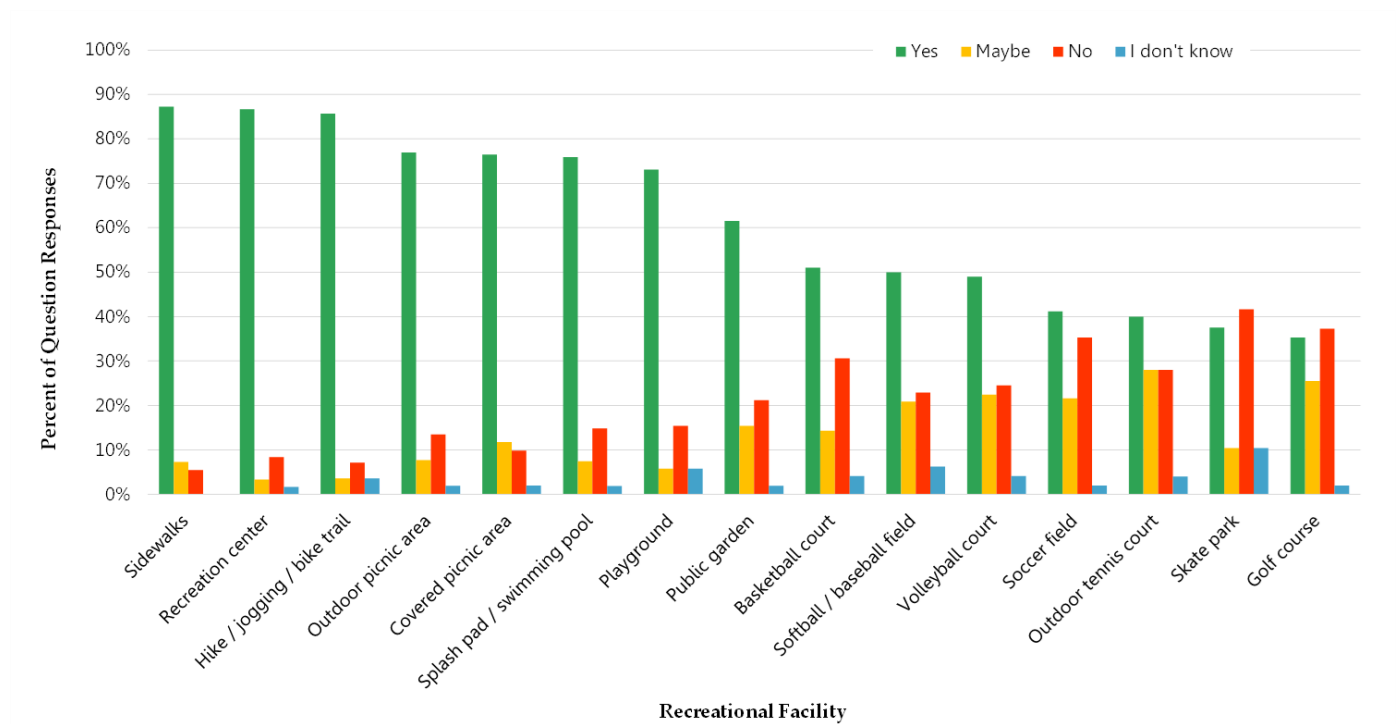


Source: GrantWorks Parks & Recreation Survey, 2021

New Facilities

Question 14 asked respondents to review a list of potential new facilities and indicate whether they want the facility ("Yes"), may want the facility "Maybe"), do not want the facility ("No"), or are unsure ("I don't know"). *Chart 9H* shows the resulting scores. Top important facilities are sidewalks, a recreation center, hike/jogging/bike trails, outdoor picnic areas, and covered picnic areas.

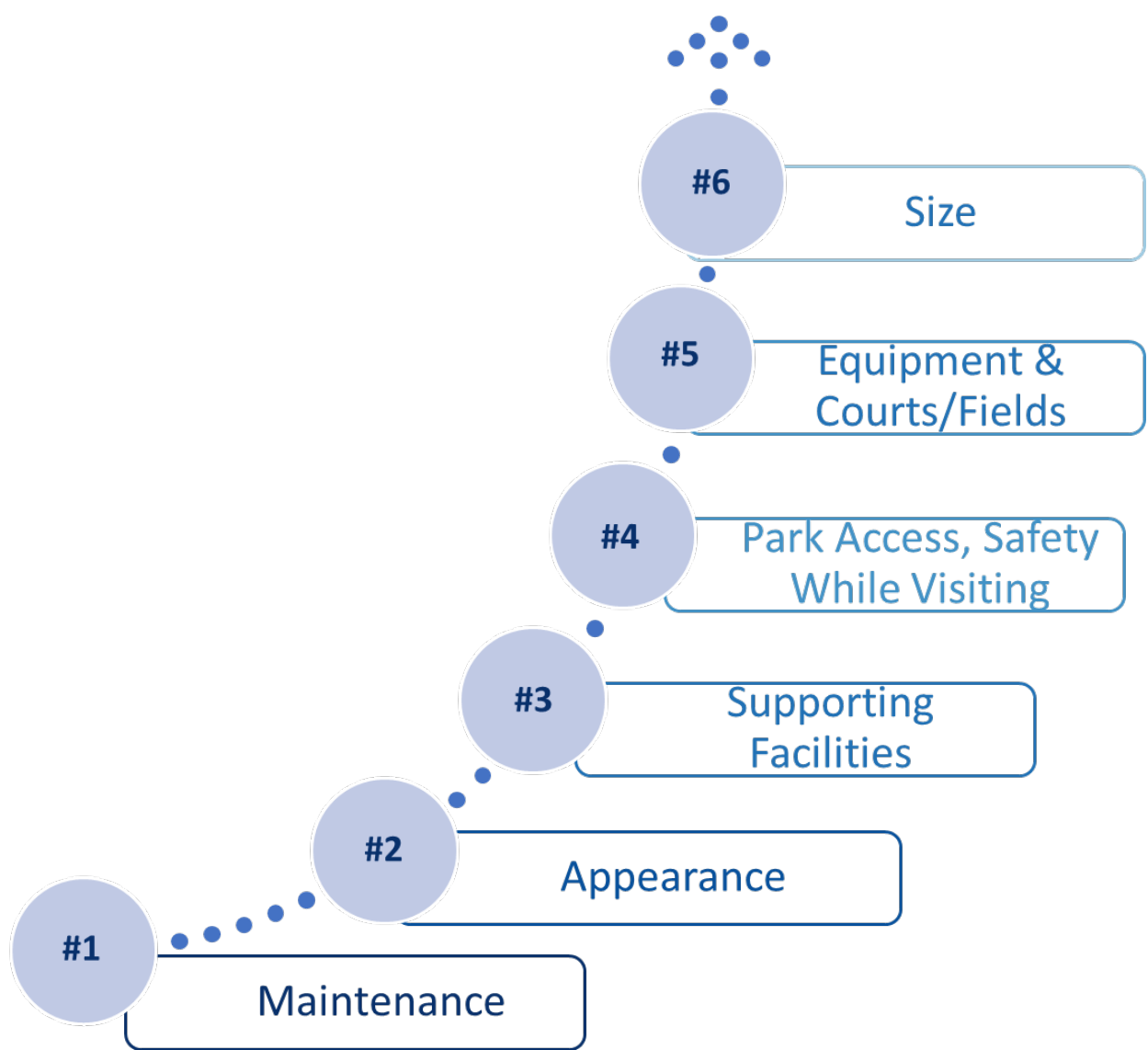
Chart 9H: Desired New Facilities



Park Improvements

The survey asked respondents to rank priorities for park improvements/updates. A Chart 9I shows, maintenance was the top selected priority, followed by appearance, and support facilities.

Chart 9I: Rank Your Priorities for Park Improvements/Updates



9.7 Prioritization of Needs

A review of public comments, survey results, and established standards indicates the need for the City of Pearsall to remove and replace existing facilities in deteriorated and dilapidated condition and make targeted investments in new facilities to expand recreational opportunities in Pearsall.

Park planners realize that establishing priorities based solely on the public's numerical ranking of activities may not give appropriate consideration to the most logical and efficient use of limited available cash and may not provide the widest range of activities to the broadest possible target audience. When establishing priorities to direct future investment it is important to strike a balance between community preferences, standards-based assessments, and the ability of the City to fund construction and maintenance of proposed facilities.

Park Priorities by Type

The City of Pearsall has established the following development priorities.

Outdoor Construction-related Priorities (OC):

Priority 1:	Renovate Centennial Park into a dedicated dog park.
Priority 2:	Remove aged play equipment from Moreno Park and replace with a playscape. Refinish deteriorated basketball court.
Priority 3:	Further develop Victor Trevino Sport Complex by installing a light activity area with activities pursued by elderly residents such as horseshoes, shuffleboard, ping-pong, or domino/cards game tables. Install inclusive play activities (such as a "scent or sensory garden" and inclusive playground equipment that can be enjoyed by children with physical disabilities). Expand paved walking path and refinish/expand splash pad with new sprinklers.
Priority 4:	Conduct annual tree planting campaign; plant five (5) trees per year.
Priority 5:	Develop exhibits at park facilities to foster nature appreciation and educate visitors about local flora, fauna, and geology. This can include community gardens and/or xeriscape gardens.
Priority 6:	Encourage development of other outdoor activities typically operated by private businesses such as a skate park, equestrian facilities, miniature golf, bicycle motor-cross, or a mountain-bike trail.

Indoor Construction-related Priorities (IC):

Priority 1:	Encourage development of other indoor activities typically operated by private businesses such as a movie theater, bowling alley, roller-skating rink, gymnastics/twirling center, and indoor rodeo facilities.
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Ongoing Non-Construction Priorities (NC):

Action Item 1:	Budget funds for park maintenance.
Action Item 2:	Budget funds for on-going facility development.
Action Item 3:	Schedule biennial reviews of Parks Master Plan to update inventory and priority needs lists. Solicit new public input every five years.
Action Item 4:	Form a Parks & Paths Advisory Committee to support parks and pathways planning, outreach, and activities.
Action Item 5:	Develop guiding visions for local park design and improvements.
Action Item 6:	Hold an annual festival at local parks like the City of Pearsall's Hispanic Heritage Festival. Festivals and events provide diverse activities not normally available in the park and enhance the usefulness of the facilities. These events can also highlight the community's cultural diversity or offer special events such as kite-flying contests or bike-a-thons. Earmark any proceeds from activities for use in park improvement projects.
Action Item 7:	Establish a "community workday" to support local recreation and open space improvements. Seek volunteers from residents, City staff, community service workers, schools, local institutions, religious and civic groups, etc.
Action Item 8:	Develop a policy to educate the public regarding the benefits of private land donation for development of parks, greenbelts, and open space.
Action Item 9:	Establish a voluntary park donation fund to maintain, repair, and upgrade local parks. Solicitation could be added to the City utility bill.
Action Item 10:	Support both temporary and permanent recreational uses on vacant land such as pocket parks or community gardens. For example, maintain a library of reference materials for public use encourage use through public outreach; (co)sponsor a temporary use, etc.
Action Item 11:	Develop a shared resources plan with the ISD to ensure all available area facilities may be used year-round and to support shared facilities development.
Action Item 12:	Consider forming a multi-municipal partnership with Frio County, allowing shared services, equipment, and personnel for recreational opportunities. The cooperative partnership can help meet recreational needs, avoid duplication, and help conserve funding more efficiently.
Action Item 13:	Schedule creation of new Parks Master Plan

9.8 Recreation & Open Space Plan

This plan is designed to be implemented during a 10-year period starting with fiscal year 2023-2023 and ending with fiscal year 2033-2033. The plan addresses the full spectrum of the City's new construction, maintenance, and operation needs to ensure that the highest quality park, recreation, and open space opportunities are available.

The following implementation plan sets forth the most reasonable development timeline assuming funding resources are available. The items are identified as Construction (C) priorities or as non-construction (NC) action items. Outdoor activities are identified as OC. Indoor activities are identified as IC.

Potential methods of funding for these projects are identified. These potential sources include:

- Local general funds;
- General obligation bonds;
- Certificates of obligation (CO's);
- Sales tax revenue;
- Local in-kind labor;
- Donations of land, cash, materials and labor from private individuals; and
- Grants from Texas Parks & Wildlife Department (TPWD) through the outdoor, indoor, trails, and small community programs, and the TPWD Community Outdoor Outreach Program (COOP).

The following plan outlines projects the City should strive to achieve on a short-term basis within the first five years of the planning period and on a long-term basis. The plan derives from the above analyses: the inventory of existing conditions, including physical and social resources; the standards-based assessment; and the needs-based assessment.

Table 9L: Implementation Plan: 2023-2033

FY 2023-2024 (10/1/23 to 9/30/24)			
Implementation Item	Action Item	Estimated Cost	Funding Source(s)
Apply to TPWD Small Community Recreation Grant program to renovate Centennial Park into a dog park.	OC 1	Variable	GEN
Develop guiding visions for local park design and improvements.	NC 4	Staff	GEN
Develop a policy to educate the public regarding the benefits of private land donation for development of parks, greenbelts, and open space.	NC 8	Staff	GEN
Support both temporary and permanent recreational uses on vacant land such as pocket parks or community gardens. For example, maintain a library or reference material for public use; encourage use through public outreach; (co)sponsor a temporary-use project, etc.	NC 10	Variable	GEN, Local
Develop a shared resource plan with ISD to ensure all available area facilities may be used year-round and to support shared facilities development.	NC 11	< \$1,000 (legal)	GEN, ISD
Establish a voluntary park donation fund to maintain, repair, and upgrade local parks. Solicitation could be added to the City utility bill.	NC 9	Variable	GEN
Annual: Budget sufficient funds for park maintenance and for ongoing facility development.	NC 1 NC 2	\$700,000 ±	GEN, Local
Annual: Form a Parks & Paths Advisory Committee to support parks and pathways planning, outreach, and activities.	NC 4	Staff	GEN
Annual: Conduct a Tree Planting Campaign (five trees per year). Prioritize public spaces and thoroughfares.	OC 4	\$500	GEN, Local
Annual: Develop annual programming and festivals at local parks like the City of Pearsall's Hispanic Heritage Festival. Festivals and events provide diverse activities not normally available in parks and enhance the usefulness of the facilities. These events can also highlight the community's cultural diversity or offer special events such as kite-flying contest or bike-a-thins. Earmark any proceeds from activities for use in park improvements	NC 6	\$2,000-\$5,000	GEN, ISD, Local

Annual: Hold a community workday” to support local recreation and open space improvements. Seek volunteers from residents, City staff, community service workers, schools, local institutions, religious and civic groups, etc. Tasks might include cleanup of recreation/opens space and vacant lots, tree planting, and/or other improvements to property with frontage on thoroughfares.	NC 7	< \$1,000	GEN, ISD, Local
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FY 2024-2025 (10/1/19 to 9/30/20)			
Implementation Item	Action Item	Estimated Cost	Funding Source
Develop exhibits at park facilities to foster nature appreciation and educate visitors about local flora, fauna, and geology. This can Include community gardens and/or xeriscape gardens.	OC 5	< \$1,000	GEN, Local
Use grant funds to renovate Centennial Park into a dog park.	OC 1	Up to \$75,000 (or 50% match of TPWD grants)	GEN, Local, TPWD
Review Parks & Recreation Master Plan to update inventory and priority needs lists.	NC 3	< \$1,000	GEN, Local
Annual: Continue to budget funds for park maintenance and for on-going facility development.	NC 1 NC 2	\$700,000 ±	GEN
Annual: Continue Parks & Paths Advisory Committee to support parks and pathways planning, outreach, and activities.	NC 4	< \$1,000	GEN
Annual: Continue Tree Planting Campaign (five trees per year). Prioritize public spaces and thoroughfares.	OC 4	\$500	GEN; Local
Annual: Continue programming and festivals at local parks. Earmark any proceeds from activities for use in park improvements projects.	NC 6	\$2,000-\$5,000	GEN, Local, ISD
Annual: Continue “community workday” to support local recreation and open space improvements. Dedicate annual “community workday” activities to support the upcoming parks project.	NC 7	< \$ 1,000	GEN, ISD, Local
Annual: Support both temporary and permanent recreational uses on vacant land such as pocket parks or community gardens.	NC 10	Variable	Gen, ISD, Local

FY 2025-2026 (10/1/20 to 9/30/21)

Implementation Item	Action Item	Estimated Cost	Funding Source
Review Parks & Recreation Master Plan to update inventory and priority needs lists.	NC 3	<\$1,000	GEN, Local
Annual: Continue to budget funds for park maintenance and for on-going facility development.	NC 1 NC 2	\$700,000 ±	GEN
Annual: Continue Parks & Paths Advisory Committee to support parks and pathways planning, outreach, and activities.	NC 4	< \$1,000	GEN
Annual: Continue Tree Planting Campaign (five trees per year). Prioritize public space and thoroughfares.	OC 4	\$500	GEN, Local
Annual: Continue programming and festivals at local parks. Earmark any proceeds from activities for use in park improvement projects.	NC 6	\$2,000-\$5,000	GEN, Local, ISD
Annual: Continue "community workday". Conduct cleanup of recreation/open space and vacant lots, tree planting, and other improvements to property with frontage on thoroughfares.	NC 7	< \$ 1,000	GEN, ISD, Local
Annual: Support both temporary and permanent recreational uses on vacant land such as pocket parks or community gardens	NC 10	Variable	GEN, ISD, Local

FY 2026-2027 (10/1/21 to 9/30/22)

Implementation Item	Action Item	Estimated Cost	Funding Source
Apply to TPWD Small Community Recreation Grant program to remove aged play equipment from Moreno Park and replace with a playscape. Refinish deteriorated basketball court.	OC 2	Variable	GEN
Annual: Continue "community workday". Conduct cleanup of recreation/open space and vacant lots, tree planting, and other improvements to property with frontage on thoroughfares.	NC 7	< \$1,000	GEN, ISD, Local
Annual: Continue to budget funds for park maintenance and for on-going facility development.	NC 1 NC 2	\$700,000 ±	GEN
Annual: Continue Parks & Paths Advisory Committee to support parks and pathways planning, outreach, and activities.	NC 4	<\$1,000	GEN

Annual: Continue programming and festivals at local parks. Earmark any proceeds from activities for use in park improvement projects.	NC 6	\$2,000-\$5,000	GEN, Local, ISD
Annual: Continue Tree Planting Campaign (five trees per year). Prioritize public spaces and thoroughfares.	OC 3	\$500	GEN; Local
Annual: Support both temporary and permanent recreational uses on vacant land such as pocket parks or community gardens	NC 10	Variable	Gen, Local

FY 2027-2028 (10/1/22 to 9/30/23)

Implementation Item	Action Item	Estimated Cost	Funding Source
Solicit public input and conduct biennial review of Parks & Recreation Master Plan to update inventory and priority needs lists.	NC 3	< \$1,000	GEN; Local
Annual: Continue to budget funds for park maintenance and for on-going facility development.	NC 1 NC 2	\$700,000 +	GEN
Annual: Continue Parks & Paths Advisory Committee to support parks and pathways planning, outreach, and activities.	NC 4	<\$1,000	GEN
Annual: Continue programming and festivals at local parks. Earmark any proceeds from activities for use in park improvement projects.	NC 6	\$2,000-\$5,000	GEN, Local, ISD
Annual: Continue "community workday". Conduct cleanup of recreation/open space and vacant lots, tree planting, and other improvements to property with frontage on thoroughfares.	NC 7	< \$ 1,000	GEN, Local, ISD
Annual: Continue Tree Planting Campaign (five tree per year). Prioritize public spaces and thoroughfares.	OC 4	\$500	GEN; Local

Annual: Support both temporary and permanent recreational uses on vacant land such as pocket parks or community gardens	NC 10	Variable	Gen, Local, ISD
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FY 2028-2029 (10/1/23 to 9/30/24)

Implementation Item	Action Item	Estimated Cost	Funding Source
Use grant funds to remove aged play equipment from Moreno Park and replace with a playscape. Refinish deteriorated basketball court.	OC 2	Up to \$75,000 (or 50% match of TPWD grants)	GEN, TPWD, Local
Annual: Continue to budget funds for park maintenance and for on-going facility development.	NC 1 NC 2	\$700,000 ±	GEN; EDC
Annual: Continue Parks & Paths Advisory Committee to support parks and pathways planning, outreach, and activities.	NC 4	<\$1,000	GEN
Annual: Continue programming and festivals at local parks. Earmark any proceeds from activities for use in park improvement projects.	NC 6	\$2,000-\$5,000	GEN, Local, ISD
Annual: Continue "community workday". Conduct cleanup of recreation/open space and vacant lots, tree planting, and other improvements to property with frontage on thoroughfares.	NC 7	< \$ 1,000	GEN, Local, ISD
Annual: Continue Tree Planting Campaign plant (five trees per year). Prioritize public spaces and thoroughfares.	OC 4	\$500	GEN, Local
Annual: Support both temporary and permanent recreational uses on vacant land such as pocket parks or community gardens	NC 10	Variable	GEN, Local, ISD

FY 2029-2030 (10/1/24 to 9/30/25)

Implementation Item	Action Item	Estimated Cost	Funding Source
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Solicit public input and conduct biennial review of Parks & Recreation Master Plan to update inventory and priority needs lists.	NC 3	< \$1,000	GEN, Local
Annual: Continue to budget funds for park maintenance and for on-going facility development.	NC 1 NC 2	\$700,000 ±	GEN; EDC
Annual: Continue Parks & Paths Advisory Committee to support parks and pathways planning, outreach, and activities.	NC 4	<\$1,000	GEN
Annual: Continue programming and festivals at local parks. Earmark any proceeds from activities for use in park improvement projects.	NC 6	\$2,000-\$5,000	GEN, Local, ISD
Annual: Continue "community workday". Conduct cleanup of recreation/open space and vacant lots, tree planting, and other improvements to property with frontage on thoroughfares.	NC 7	< \$ 1,000	GEN, Local, ISD
Annual: Continue Tree Planting Campaign (five trees per year). Prioritize public spaces and thoroughfares.	OC 4	\$500	GEN, Local
Annual: Support both temporary and permanent recreational uses on vacant land such as pocket parks or community gardens	NC 10	Variable	GEN, ISD, Local

FY 2030-2031 (10/1/25 to 9/30/26)

Implementation Item	Action Item	Estimated Cost	Funding Source
Apply to TPWD Non-Urban Outdoor Recreation Grant Program to further develop Victor Trevino Sport Complex by installing a light activity area with activities pursued by elderly residents such as horseshoes, shuffleboard, ping-pong, or domino/cards game tables. Install inclusive play activities (such as a "scent or sensory garden" and inclusive playground equipment that can be enjoyed by children with physical disabilities). Expand paved walking path and refinish/expand splash pad with new sprinklers.	OC 3	Variable	GEN
Annual: Continue to budget funds for park maintenance and for on-going facility development.	NC 1 NC 2	\$700,000 ±	GEN

Annual: Continue Parks & Paths Advisory Committee to support parks and pathways planning, outreach, and activities.	NC 4	<\$1,000	GEN
Annual: Continue programming and festivals at local parks. Earmark any proceeds from activities for use in park improvement projects.	NC 6	\$2,000-\$5,000	GEN, Local, ISD
Annual: Continue "community workday". Conduct cleanup of recreation/open space and vacant lots, tree planting, and other improvements to property with frontage on thoroughfares.	NC 7	< \$ 1,000	GEN, Local, ISD
Annual: Continue Tree Planting Campaign (five trees per year). Prioritize public spaces and thoroughfares.	OC 4	\$500	GEN, Local
Annual: Support both temporary and permanent recreational uses on vacant land such as pocket parks or community gardens	NC 10	Variable	GEN, ISD, Local

FY 2031-2032 (10/1/26 to 9/30/27)

Implementation Item	Action Item	Estimated Cost	Funding Source
Encourage development of other outdoor activities typically operated by private businesses such as a skate park, equestrian facilities, miniature golf, bicycle motocross, and a mountain bike trail.	OC 5	Variable	GEN, Chamber?
Encourage development of other indoor activities typically operated by private businesses such as a movie theater, bowling alley, roller-skating rink, gymnastics/twirling centers, and indoor rodeo facilities.	IC 1	Variable	GEN, Chamber?
Solicit public input and conduct biennial review of Parks & Recreation Master Plan to update inventory and priority needs lists.	NC 3	< \$1,000	GEN, Local
Annual: Continue to budget funds for park maintenance and for on-going facility development.	NC 1 NC 2	\$700,000 ±	GEN; EDC
Annual: Continue Parks & Paths Advisory Committee to support parks and pathways planning, outreach, and activities.	NC 4	<\$1,000	GEN
Annual: Continue programming and festivals at local parks. Earmark any proceeds from activities for use in park improvement projects.	NC 6	\$2,000-\$5,000	GEN, Local, ISD
Annual: Continue "community workday". Conduct cleanup of recreation/open space and vacant lots, tree planting, and other improvements to property with	NC 7	< \$ 1,000	GEN, Local, ISD

frontage on thoroughfares.			
Annual: Continue Tree Planting Campaign (five trees per year). Prioritize public spaces and thoroughfares.	OC 4	\$500	GEN, Local
Annual: Support both temporary and permanent recreational uses on vacant land such as pocket parks or community gardens	NC 10	Variable	GEN, ISD, Local

FY 2032-2033 (10/1/27 to 9/30/28)

Implementation Item	Action Item	Estimated Cost	Funding Source
Use grant funds to further develop Victor Trevino Sport Complex by installing a light activity area with activities pursued by elderly residents such as horseshoes, shuffleboard, ping-pong, or domino/cards game tables. Install inclusive play activities (such as a "scent or sensory garden" and inclusive playground equipment that can be enjoyed by children with physical disabilities). Expand paved walking path and refinish/expand splash pad with new sprinklers.	OC 3	Up to \$375,000 (or 50% match of TPWD grant funds)	GEN, Local, TPWD
Schedule creation of a new Master Park Plan.	NC 13	\$10,000	GEN, CDBG
Consider forming a multi-municipal partnership with Frio County, allowing shared services, equipment, and personnel for recreational opportunities. The cooperative partnership can help meet recreational needs, avoid duplication, and help conserve funding more efficiently.	NC 12	< \$1,000 (legal)	GEN, County
Annual: Continue to budget funds for park maintenance and for on-going facility development.	NC 1 NC 2	\$700,000 ±	GEN, Local
Annual: Continue Parks & Paths Advisory Committee to support parks and pathways planning, outreach, and activities.	NC 4	<\$1,000	GEN
Annual: Continue programming and festivals at local parks. Earmark any proceeds from activities for use in Save Our School campaign and park improvement projects.	NC 6	\$2,000-\$5,000	GEN, Local, ISD
Annual: Continue "community workday". Conduct cleanup of recreation/open space and vacant lots, tree planting, and other improvements to property with	NC 7	< \$ 1,000	GEN, Local, ISD

frontage on thoroughfares.			
Annual: Continue Tree Planting Campaign (five trees per year). Prioritize public spaces and thoroughfares.	OC 4	\$500	GEN, Local
Annual: Support both temporary and permanent recreational uses on vacant land such as pocket parks or community gardens	NC 10	Variable	GEN, ISD, Local

GEN = City of Pearsall Municipal Funds; **CDBG** = Community Development Block Grant Program; **Local** = Donations from private citizens, organization, and local businesses; **TPWD** = Texas Parks & Wildlife Department; **ISD** = Pearsall Independent School District; **County** = Frio County

9.9 Appendix 10A: Survey

City of Pearsall

The city of Pearsall wants to collect information from its residents that will be taken into account when making a Comprehensive Plan for the next 10 years. The Plan will review existing conditions and provide recommendations on housing, land use, the central business district, parks and recreation, zoning and subdivision ordinances, and infrastructure opportunities (water, sewage, gas, thoroughfares).

For more information, please contact:

Nathalie Booth at GrantWorks, Inc.

512-420-0303 ext. 406

nathalie@grantworks.net

1. Why is Pearsall is your home? (check all that apply)

- | | |
|---|--|
| ☐ The city is growing | ☐ It is affordable |
| ☐ Friendly/welcoming people | ☐ Location (close to highways, bigger cities) |
| ☐ Location (rural) | ☐ For the local school district |
| ☐ Work | ☐ I'm from here |
| ☐ Close to family | |
| ☐ Other reason (please describe) | |

2. How much do you agree or disagree with each statement about the kind of community Pearsall should be?

Ranking

A retirement community – a place where residents can live out their retirement

A pedestrian- and bicycle-friendly community – a place where people can safely walk and bike

A bedroom or residential community – a home base for people who work outside of Pearsall

A family-oriented community – a place where people can safely raise families

Ranking

A *rural*

community – a place where people can “get away from it all”

An *environmentally friendly*

community – a place where people care for and preserve the natural environment

An *urban*

community – a place with lots of housing and commercial development

3. Please rate the quality and reliability of these systems in Pearsall.

Sewer System

Gas System

Rating

If you rated a system “Bad”, please share your concern(s).

4. In your opinion, what are the most important transportation issues in Pearsall? (select up to three)

- ☐ Connections between local streets and neighborhoods
- ☐ Connections from Pearsall to highways
- ☐ Lack of access to public transit
- ☐ Increased traffic
- ☐ Physical conditions of transportation infrastructure (roads, bridges, etc.)
- ☐ Lack of pedestrian and/or bicycle infrastructure (sidewalks, bike lanes, crosswalks, etc.)
- ☐ Other (please specify)

5. How important are bike lanes to you?

- ☐ Extremely important
- ☐ Very important
- ☐ Somewhat important
- ☐ Not so important

☐ Not at all important

6. What is the general condition of houses in Pearsall?

- ☐ Excellent
- ☐ Normal
- ☐ Not sure
- ☐ Bad (Please share your concerns in the box below)

7. How important are these types of housing?

	Importance
For seniors	
For renter	
For first-time homebuyers	
Histoic	
Affordable	
Luxury	
Market rate	

8. Do you rent or own your home?

- ☐ Rent
- ☐ Own
- ☐ Not Sure

9. How often do you visit Pearsall's central business district? Defined as E Brazos St to E San Antonio St between Elm St and Ash St.

- ☐ Every day / most days
- ☐ About once a week
- ☐ A few times a month
- ☐ Once a month or less
- ☐ I don't go to the central business district in Pearsall

10. Which of the following businesses would

you like to have, or have more of, in
Pearsall?

- | | |
|---|--|
| ☐ Banking | ☐ Pharmacy |
| ☐ Bar / pub / tavern | ☐ Clothing store |
| ☐ Food Truck Park | ☐ Tailor / dry cleaners |
| ☐ Small craft / artisan
gallery | ☐ Doctor / dentist |
| ☐ Child care | ☐ Restaurant |
| ☐ Hotel / Motel | ☐ Theaters / Entertainment
(bowling alleys, arcades,
etc) |
| ☐ Liquor store or wine shop | ☐ Salon / Beauty |
| ☐ Book store / newspaper
stand | ☐ Farm stand |
| ☐ Coffee shop / cafe | ☐ Florist / plant nursery |
| ☐ Automotive repair | ☐ Gas station |
| ☐ Hardware / general store | ☐ Lawyer / legal services |
| ☐ Food co-op / grocery
store | ☐ Downtown Living |
| ☐ Other (please describe) | |

11. What types of activities do you and your
family like to do?

- | | |
|--|---|
| ☐ Skateboarding | ☐ Martial arts |
| ☐ Soccer | ☐ Bicycling / BMX |
| ☐ Track / field | ☐ Softball |
| ☐ Football | ☐ Swimming |
| ☐ Camping | ☐ Boxing |
| ☐ Basketball | ☐ Horseback riding |
| ☐ Cross country / running | ☐ Walking |
| ☐ Volleyball | ☐ Gymnastics |
| ☐ Dance | ☐ Hunting / shooting |
| ☐ Tennes | ☐ Bowling |
| ☐ Golf | ☐ Hiking |
| ☐ Fishing | ☐ Baseball |
| ☐ Cheerleading | |
| ☐ Other (please describe) | |

12. Where do you and your family go to

play? (check all that apply)

- | | |
|---|---|
| ☐ Home / friend's house | ☐ Victor Trevino Sports Complex |
| ☐ School / church | ☐ Centennial Park |
| ☐ Local gym or workout class | ☐ Outside / just around |
| ☐ Polo Patino Park | ☐ Parks / gyms / schools in other cities |
| ☐ Moreno's Park | |
| ☐ Other (please describe) | |

13. How often do you visit a park in Pearsall?

- ☐ Every day / most days
- ☐ About once a week
- ☐ A few times a month
- ☐ Once a month or less
- ☐ I don't go to parks in Pearsall

14. Which of the following facilities would you like to have in Pearsall?

Answer

Recreation center	
Sidewalks	
Softball / baseball field	
Outdoor tennis court	
Golf course	
Splash pad / swimming pool	
Covered picnic area	
Volleyball court	
Hike / jogging / bike trail	
Soccer field	
Basketball court	

	Answer
Public garden	
Outdoor picnic area	
Playground	
Skate park	

15. What should Pearsall park priorities be?
Please rank the below challenges from 1-to-6, with 1 being the most important.

	Maintenance	☐ N/A
	Apperance	☐ N/A
	Equipment and sports courts/fields	☐ N/A
	Access to park, and safety while visiting	☐ N/A
	Size	☐ N/A
	Supporting facilities (restrooms, water fountains)	☐ N/A

16. Do the parks in Pearsall need to be improved?

- ☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Not sure

If you answered 'Yes', what kind of improvements?

17. What are Pearsall's top challenges?
Please rank the below challenges from 1-to-6, with 1 being the most important.

	Housing and yard conditions (structures need repair, debris in the yard)	☐ N/A
	Water / wastewater services / gas services	☐ N/A
	Street conditions (pot holes, cracks, poor drainage)	☐ N/A
	Affordability (housing costs and affordability in general)	☐ N/A

☐	Local business (need more local businesses, more support for local businesses)	☐ N/A
☐	Amenities / attractions	☐ N/A

18. Pick one word to describe the Pearsall you would like to see in 10 years.

19. Do you live in Pearsall?

- ☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Not sure

20. How old are you?

Done

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