



Gahanna

PARKS AND RECREATION

COMPREHENSIVE  
MASTER PLAN



**pros**   
consulting  
INC.

# WHAT IS A COMPREHENSIVE PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN

It is a comprehensive guiding document for a community on how a park system can meet the current and emerging needs of residents and create vibrancy in a community. It should embrace the history of the community, is accountable to the present and looks to the future and includes an internal assessment, community engagement, data collection, and the development of an action plan.

It does **not** focus on one particular asset but provides understanding of the system's parks and recreation landscape both today and in the future.

# PROJECT GOALS

The following goals were identified as key outcomes of this planning process:



Engage the community, leadership, and stakeholders through innovative public input meant to build a shared vision for the Parks and Recreation Department to ensure there is an appropriate balance of programs, facilities, and services.



Utilize a wide variety of data sources and best practices, including a statistically valid survey to predict trends and patterns of use as well as address unmet needs in the community.



Determine unique level of service standards to develop appropriate actions regarding parks, recreation, facilities, and trails that reflect the Department's strong commitment to providing high quality parks and recreational activities for the community.



Shape financial and operational preparedness through innovative and pioneering practices to achieve the strategic objectives and recommended actions.

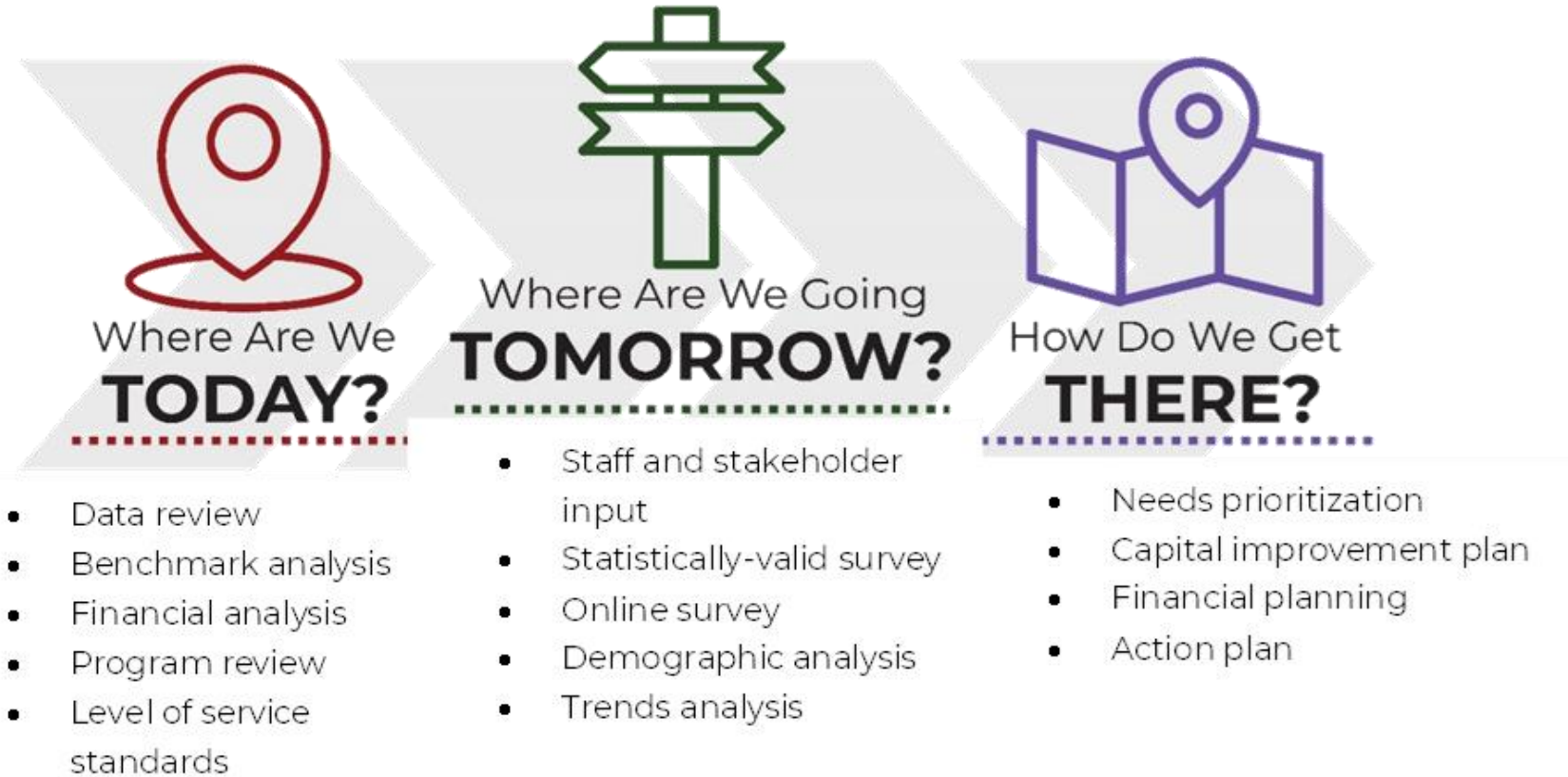


Develop a dynamic and realistic action plan that creates a road map to ensure long-term success and financial sustainability for the Department's parks, recreation programs, and trails, as well as action steps to support the family-oriented community and businesses that call the City of Gahanna home.



# PROJECT PROCESS

The Comprehensive Master Plan followed a process of data collection, public input, on-the-ground study, assessment of existing conditions, market research, and open dialogue with local leadership and key stakeholders. The project process followed a planning path, as illustrated.

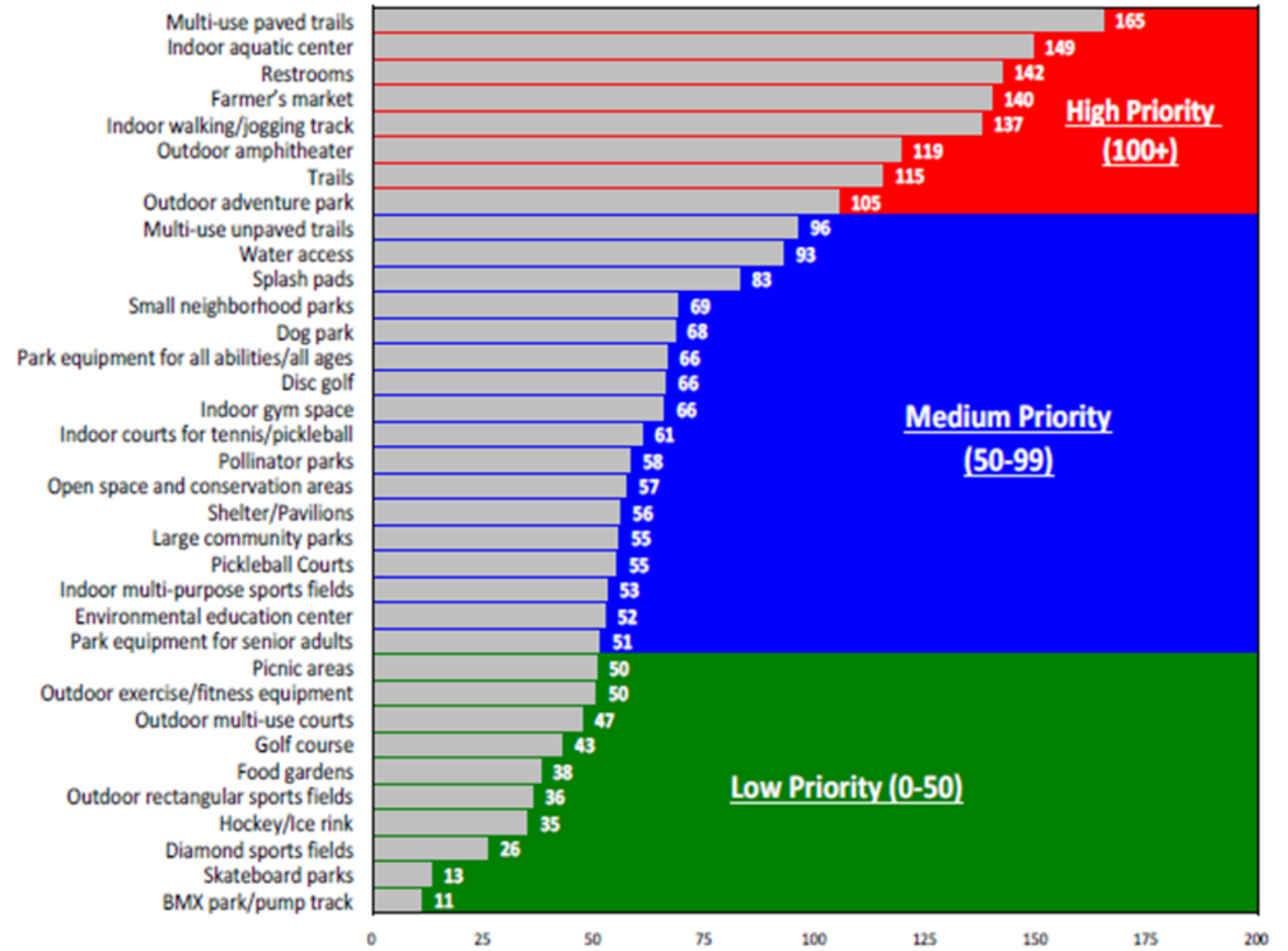


# PIR Ratings

## Top Priorities

- 1) Multi-Use Paved Trails
- 2) Indoor Aquatics Center
- 3) Restrooms
- 4) Farmer's Market
- 5) Indoor Walking/Jogging Track
- 6) Outdoor Amphitheater
- 7) Trails
- 8) Outdoor Adventure Park
- 9) Multi-Use Un-Paved Trails
- 10) Water Access
- 11) Splash Pads

## Top Priorities for Investment for Parks and Recreation Facilities Based on the Priority Investment Rating

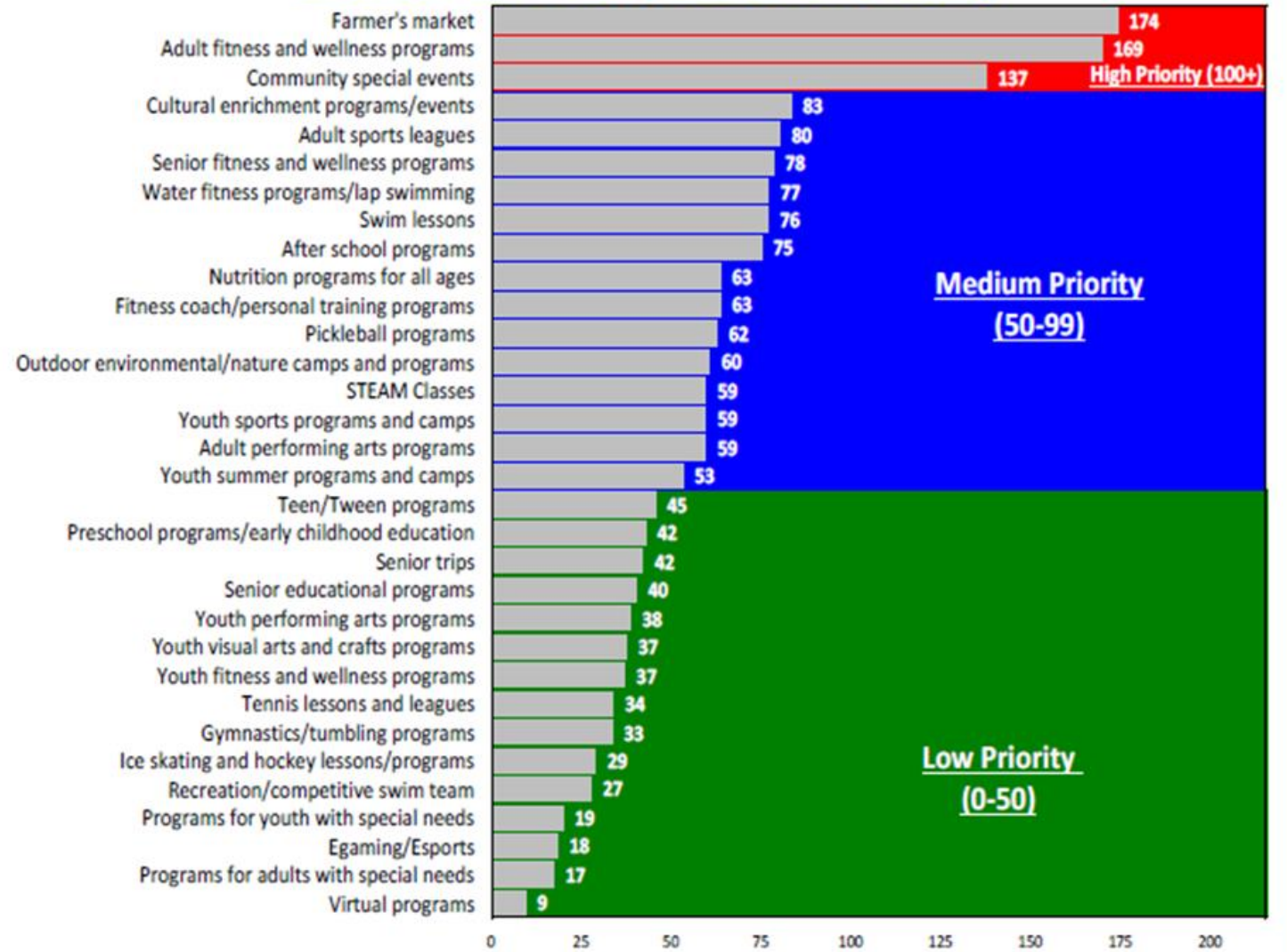


# PIR Ratings

## Top Priorities

- 1) Farmer's Market
- 2) Adult Fitness & Wellness
- 3) Community Special Events
- 4) Cultural Enrichment
- 5) Adult Sports Leagues
- 6) Senior Fitness/Wellness
- 7) Water Fitness/Lap Swimming
- 8) Swim Lessons
- 9) After School Programs
- 10) Nutrition Programs
- 11) Fitness/Personal Training
- 12) Pickleball Programs

## Top Priorities for Investment for Gahanna Programs Based on the Priority Investment Rating



# DEFINING GAHANNA PARK AND RECREATION

MISSION STATEMENT	"Provide parks, trails and recreational opportunities to all people of Gahanna so they can be healthy and well while they explore and learn in the community."
VISION STATEMENT	"To enhance and preserve parks and recreation services, lands and facilities through high standards and innovation that positions Gahanna as a leading community and a great place to live, work and play."
CORE VALUES	Integrity - Safety - Respect - Service - Teamwork - Exploration - Sustainability
THEME	"Explore and grow with Gahanna Parks & Recreation."

# PRIORITIES

The action plan is an execution of Gahanna Parks & Recreation priorities:

## Update and Add

Update and add existing parks, trails, and amenities across the City.

## Replace or Build

Replace or build new recreation facilities and attractions in the City to support all age groups.

## Seek

Seek a dedicated funding source for operations and capital improvement needs to meet the community's needs and expectations via a combination of funding sources to support the department for the next 20 years.

## Develop

Develop an indoor community center to house senior services, aquatics, sports, fitness, and youth programs to meet the community's expectations for quality of life in the City.

## Maximize

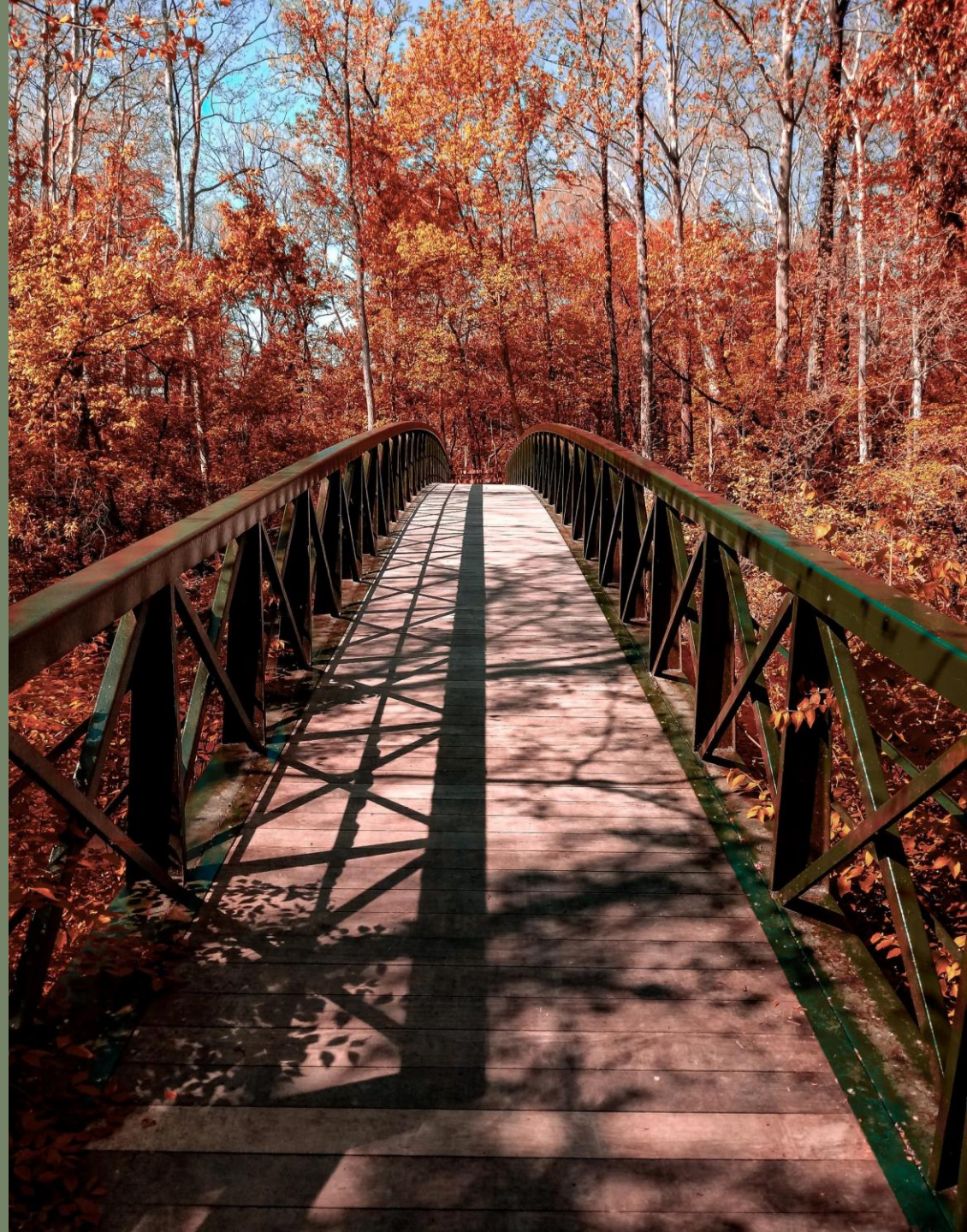
Maximize program options to activate parks, increase use of recreation facilities and generate more earned income to support operational costs.



# EXAMPLE: PARKLAND AND TRAIL ACTION PLAN

“The **vision** for park land and trails is to create exceptional experiences for all age segments in every park and on every trail in the City.”

**Goal:** “Enhance existing parks and trails to maximize enjoyment for fun, safe and memorable experiences for all users.”



# EXAMPLE: PARKLAND AND TRAILS ACTION PLAN

- Continue to update neighborhood and community parks when needed with updated design standards and new park amenities that create a strong sense of place in the City for all residents to enjoy.
- Finish development of Big Walnut Creek Trail throughout the City.
- Maximize the use of existing sports complexes in the City through effective design and drainage.
- Remove unused or outdated park amenities and provide new amenities that meet the park user needs for people of all ages to experience Gahanna's Parks.
- Incorporate updated design standards for sports fields, playgrounds, trails, specialty amenities, and group gathering spaces in the parks for the future.
- Follow through on the updating and relocating the Parks Maintenance Shop Operations at Friendship Park with a new location and site plan for indoor workspace and outdoor covered space as well as at the Golf Course to maximize efficiency and productivity of all maintenance staff in the system.
- Adopt a land management plan for park natural areas in the system to manage them properly.
- Complete a Forestry master plan and expand a street tree program.
- Develop an activation plan for waterway access for kayakers in the City to enjoy the resources available, while also protecting and restoring the Big Walnut Watershed including the streams feeding into the creek way.
- Establish a snow removal priority program for park roads, parking lots and trails across the system.



QUESTIONS