Part V: Appendix

Implementation Matrix

Maps

Survey Results

Funding Strategies

List of Parks-Related Grant funds received by Hot Sulphur Springs

The following are funding sources that *could easily* be expanded or utilized by the Town of Hot Sulphur Springs to create budgets for capital and operational expenditures.

Traditional Parks and Recreation Operations and Capital Funding Sources

There are a variety of mechanisms that local governments can employ to provide services and to make public improvements. Parks and recreation operating and capital development funding typically comes from conventional sources such as sales, use, and property tax referenda voted upon by the community, along with developer exactions. Operating funds are typically capped by legislation; may fluctuate based on the economy, public spending, or assessed valuation; and may not always keep up with inflationary factors. In the case of capital development, "borrowed funds" sunset with the completion of loan repayment, and are not available to carry-over or re-invest without voter approval. Explained below are the salient points of traditional funding sources.

Traditional Tax and Exactions-Based Funding Resources

General Fund

Parks and recreation services are typically funded by an agency's General Fund, which can be comprised of property tax, sales tax, and other compulsory charges levied by a government for the purpose of financing services performed for the common benefit of a community. These funds may also come from resources such as inter-government agreements, reimbursements, and interest and may include such revenue sources as franchise taxes, licenses and permits, fees, transfers in, reserves, interest income, and miscellaneous other incomes. Common sources of funding for the General Fund are:

- **Sales Tax**

This revenue source often funds municipal park and recreation agencies either partially or fully. Sales tax revenue is very popular in high traffic tourism agencies and with cities, counties, and state parks. Special Districts cannot exact sales taxes, which often calls into question the issue of charging resident and non-resident fee differentials.

- **Property Tax**

Property tax revenue often funds park and recreation special districts and may be used as a dedicated source for capital development. When used for operation funding, it often makes the argument for charging resident and non-resident fee differentials.

Parks and Recreation Independent Taxing District

Independent park and recreation district or a city-wide assessment district serves just the residents of the independent taxing district or may encompass a larger service area. This option provides a stable source of funds, a separate administration, and an elected body that is accountable to the voters residing in the district. This type of special district is often funded through property taxes but could also receive pass-through funding from the City.

Special Improvement District/Benefit District

Taxing districts established to provide funds for certain types of improvements that benefit a specific group of affected properties. Special Districts (or local improvement districts) are the beneficiaries of pass-through funding from cities or counties, which have responsibility for their interests. Special Districts cannot exact or collect the land dedication or the fee-in-lieu on their own. Improvements may

include landscaping, the erection of fountains, and acquisition of art, and supplemental services for improvement and promotion, including recreation and cultural enhancements.

Development Impact Fees and Land Dedication

Development impact fees are one-time charges imposed on development projects at the time of permit issue to recover capital costs for public facilities, including parks, needed to serve new developments and the additional residents, employees, and visitors they bring to the community. State laws, with a few minor exceptions, prohibit the use of impact fees for ongoing maintenance or operations costs.

Park land dedication requirements typically state that all residential subdivisions of land, with some exemptions, are to provide for parks by either dedicating land, paying an in-lieu fee (the amounts may be adjusted annually), or a combination of the two.

Traditional Parks and Recreation Earned Revenue Resources

Fees and Charges

- **Annual and Season Pass Sales**

Agencies sell annual passes (also sometimes referred to as memberships) for specific types of amenities to offset operational costs. These fees can apply to recreational and fitness centers, regional park passes, tennis centers, splash parks, etc. There is movement away from the "membership" concept (because it implies exclusivity and every resident and business is a "member" qualifying for city services) in favor of bulk discount buying of daily admission fees marketed as monthly, seasonal, three-month, six -month and/or annual passes.

- **Program Registration Fees**

This revenue source comes from individuals or groups paying in advance for participation in a scheduled event or program usually involving an instructor, leader, or supervisor.

- **Program Independent Contractor Fees**

An agency may receive a percentage of gross contractor fees for contractor programs held in its facilities. The percentages depend on space, volume, and the amount of marketing the agency does for the contractor.

- **Reservations**

This revenue source comes from the right to reserve specific public property for a set amount of time. The reservation rates are usually set and apply to group picnic shelters, meeting rooms for weddings, reunions and outings or other type of facilities for a special activity.

- **Ticket Sales/Admissions**

This revenue source is for accessing facilities for self-directed or spectator activities such as recreation centers, splash parks, ballparks, and entertainment activities. Fees may also be assessed for tours, entrance or gate admission, and other activities, which may or may not be self-directed. These user fees help offset operational costs or apply to new projects.

Alternative Parks and Recreation Operations and Capital Funding Sources

Alternative funding sources include a variety of different or non-conventional public sector strategies for diversifying the funding base beyond traditional tax-based support. The following is a list of known industry funding practices, potential sources, and strategies, as compiled by GreenPlay.
NOTE: *Not every funding mechanism on this list may be allowable by law, as the laws, regulations, statutes, ordinances, and systems of governance vary from city to city, county to county, and state to state. The authority to put forth referenda or institute exactions must be researched for validity within each agency's local and state jurisdictions, as this list is comprised of the financial practices from across the nation. Some referenda are passed by simple majority of those who vote, while others require a larger percentage to pass. In certain circumstances, referenda are passed by the majority of eligible voters versus just those who vote.*

Loan Mechanisms

Bond Referendum
Bond Referenda are used to fund capital needs, renovations, and new facilities to meet the needs and demands of residents. A bond is a written promise to pay a specified sum of money at a specified future date, at a specified interest rate. These bonds are traditionally general obligation bonds, revenue bonds, or special assessment bonds initiated through agency approval and citizen vote.

General Obligation Bonds
Bond used for indebtedness issued with the approval of the electorate for capital improvements and general public improvements.

Industrial Development Bonds
Specialized revenue bonds issued on behalf of publicly owned, self-supporting facilities.

Revenue Bonds
Bonds used for capital projects that will generate revenue for debt service where fees can be set aside to support repayment of the bond. These are typically issued for water, sewer or drainage charges, and other enterprise type activities.

Special Assessment Bonds
These bonds are payable from the proceeds of special assessments such as local improvement districts.

Alternative Service Delivery and Funding Structures

Annual Appropriation/Leasehold Financing
This is a more complex financing structure that requires use of a third party to act as an issuer of the bonds who would construct the facility and retain title until the bonds are retired. An agency enters into a lease agreement with the third party with annual lease payments equal to the debt service requirements. The bonds issued by the third party are considered less secure than public agency general obligation bonds are therefore more costly. Since a separate corporation issues these bonds, they do not impact the agency's debt limitations and do not require a vote. However, they also do not entitle the agency to levy property taxes to service the debt. The annual lease payments must be appropriated from existing revenues.

Commercial Property Endowment Model – Operating Foundation
John L. Crompton[1] discusses government using the Commercial Property Endowment Model citing two case studies in the United Kingdom and Mission Bay Park in San Diego, California as an alternative structure to deliver park and recreation services. A non-profit organization may be established and given park infrastructure and/or land assets to manage as public park and recreation services along with commercial properties as income-earning assets or commercial lease fees to provide for a sustainable funding source. This kind of social enterprise is charged with operating, maintaining, renovating, and enhancing the public park system and is not unlike a model to subsidize low-income housing with mixed-use developments.

Inter-local Agreements
Contractual relationships established between two or more local units of government and/or between a local unit of government and a non-profit organization for the joint usage/development of sports fields, regional parks, or other facilities.

Privatization – Outsourcing Management
This is typically used for food and beverage management, golf course operations, ballfield, or sports complex operations by negotiated or bid contract.

Community Service Fees and Assessments

FEES

Camping Fees & Hook-Up Fees
These are permits for RV, tent, and primitive camping. Fees may range per site for primitive spaces, full hook-ups, and premium view or location sites. Additional fees may be added for water, electricity, sewer, and cable T.V. access, dump stations, showers, etc.

Capital Improvement Fees
These fees are on top of the set user rate for accessing facilities such as sport and tournament venues and are used to support capital improvements that benefit the user of the facility.

Dog Park Fees
These fees are attached to kennel clubs who pay for the rights to have dog park facilities for their own exclusive use. Fees are on the dogs themselves and/or on the people who take care of other people's dogs.

Earnings Fee
This fee has been applied in communities that have high population of workers who do not live in the City but work in the City. The employees pay ½ percent of their total salary earned to the City to cover safety forces, streets, public works, and park and open space services.

Equipment Rental
This revenue source is generated from the rental of agency equipment such as tables and chairs, tents, stages, bicycles, roller blades, boogie boards, etc. that are used for recreation purposes.

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[1] Spring 2010 *Journal of Park and Recreation Administration*, Volume 28, Number 1, pp 103-111

Flexible Fee Strategies
This pricing strategy would allow an agency to maximize revenues during peak times and premium sites/areas with higher fees and fill in excess capacity during low use times with lower fees to maximize play.

Franchise Fee on Cable
This would allow an agency to add a franchise fee on cable to be designated for parks and recreation. The normal fee is $1.00 a month or $12.00 a year per household. Fees usually go towards land acquisition or capital improvements.

Horsepower Fee
In some county parks, they charge a horsepower fee to use public park reservoirs. The higher the horsepower, the more money the user pays. A basic fee is applied @ $35.00 and horsepower rates are typically $1.00 or $2.00 per horsepower.

Lighting Fees
Some agencies charge additional fees for lighting as it applies to leagues, special use sites, and special facilities that allow play after daylight hours. This fee may include utility demand charges.

Parking Fee
This fee applies to parking at selected destination facilities such as sports complexes, stadiums, and other attractions to help offset capital and operational cost.

Processing/Convenience Fees
This is a surcharge or premium placed on phone-in registration, electronic transfers of funds, automatic payments, or other conveniences.

Recreation Service Fee
The Recreation Service Fee is a dedicated user fee that can be established by a local ordinance or other government procedure for the purpose of constructing and maintaining recreation facilities. The fee can apply to all organized activities that require a reservation of some type, or other purposes as defined by the agency. Examples of such generally accepted activities that are assigned a service fee include adult basketball, volleyball, and softball leagues, youth baseball, soccer, and softball leagues, and special interest classes. The fee, above and beyond the user fee, allows participants to contribute toward the construction and/or maintenance of the facilities being used.

Recreation Surcharge Fees on Sports and Entertainment Tickets, Classes, MasterCard, Visa
This fee is a surcharge on top of the regular sports revenue fee or convenience fee for use of MasterCard and Visa. The fee usually is no more than $5.00 and usually is $3.00 on all exchanges. The money earned would be used to help pay off the costs of improvements or for agency operational purposes.

Residency Cards
Non-city residents may purchase "residency" on an annual basis for the privilege of receiving the resident discounts on fees, charges, tours, shows, reservations, and other benefits typically afforded to residents only. The resident cards can range in price, but are often at least equivalent to what a resident pays in taxes annually to support the agency's operations, maintenance, and debt service.

Room Overrides on Hotels for Sports Tournaments and Special Events
Agencies have begun to keep a percentage of hotel rooms reservation fees that are booked when the agency hosts a major sports tournament or special event. The overrides are usually $5.00 to $10.00 depending on the type of room. Monies collected would help offset an agency's operational costs in hosting the events.

Security and Clean-Up Fees
Charge to groups and individuals for security and clean-up fees for special events other type of events held at facilities.

Signage Fees
Individuals and businesses pay for signage fees at key locations with high visibility for short-term events. Signage fees may range in price from $25-$100 per sign based on the size of the sign and location.

Solid Waste Fee
Cities are able to add cost for land fills and drop stations that are designated to provide space and facilities for both. Once these fees cover the cost of buildings and landfills they can re-dedicate a percentage to other City services and several cities have opted to finance park improvements from solid waste fees.

Trail Fee
These fees are used for access to closed bike trails to support operational costs. Fees for bike trails are typically $35 to $50 a year. This arrangement works for bike trails if the conditions of dedicated use, fencing for control, and continuous patrolling/monitoring are in place. Multi-purpose trails that are totally open for public use without these conditions in place make it difficult to charge fees and are nearly impossible to monitor.

Transaction Surcharge
Some agencies have added a surcharge or every transaction, admission, or registration to generate a self-insured liability fund or to generate an improvement or development fund.

Utility Roundup Programs
Some park and recreation agencies have worked with local utilities on a round up program whereby a consumer can pay the difference between their bill and the next highest even dollar amount as a donation to the agency. Ideally, these monies would be used to support agency utility improvements such as sports lighting, irrigation cost, and HVAC costs.

Water Utility Fee
Cities have added a special assessment on to water utility fees paid by homeowners and businesses to cover the costs of water street trees, landscaping, fountains, and pools. The fee is usually a percentage of the bill (2 or 3%).

ASSESSMENTS/TAXES

Alcohol Tax
A percentage of alcohol tax gained by the state is made available for individual cities and county park systems to retain support efforts to develop programs and services targeted for youth to assist in skill development programs, after-school programs, summer camps, and other family type programs.

Boulevard Tax
Homeowners who live along scenic boulevards based on a lineal foot pay this tax. The City of Kansas City has this tax in place and covers the cost of improvements, fountains and turf and landscape care.

Business Excise Tax
Park Districts in Illinois use a business excise tax as a revenue source, taxing new businesses in the community on products sold, based on the wholesale cost.

Cigarette Tax
In some states the sales tax gain by the state for cigarettes is redistributed to cities and counties for programs to teach and curb youth smoking through effective prevention recreation programs.

Entertainment Tax
This tax is on ticket sales for major entertainment venues, such as concert facilities, golf tournaments, car race, to help pay for traffic control and sports stars that come into the City, based on the earnings they receive from their winnings. This tax also applies to video game machines.

Food and Beverage Tax
The tax is usually associated with convention and tourism bureaus. However, since parks and recreation agencies manage many of the tourism attractions, they receive a portion of this funding source for operational or capital expenses.

Gaming Tax
This tax is very popular in the Midwest and Rocky Mountain states that have gambling. These dollars come in a form of a percentage of what the City and state receive. This is a very popular revenue source that is typically shared with schools, libraries and parks.

Hotel, Motel and Restaurant Tax
Tax based on gross receipts from charges and meals services, which may be used to build and operate sports fields, regional parks, golf courses, tennis courts, and other special park and recreation facilities.

Insurance Tax
Cities can tax insurance payments as it applies to insurance premiums on homes, cars, inventory and equipment. Parks and Recreation Departments can receive a percentage of the city's tax collected on insurance premiums. This tax is for Parks and Recreation and is typically used for dedicated purposes to reduce liability in Parks and Recreation Facilities but some cities have used it for new capital improvements.

Local Option Income Tax
Local option income tax allows cities to levy a quarter to a half cent as income taxes to support parks and recreation services, facilities, and land. This is usually not voted on by the community but within the home rule of the city charter.

Lottery Tax
A percentage of the lottery tax gained by the state is made available for individual cities and county park systems to retain support efforts to develop programs and services targeted for youth to assist in skill development programs, after-school programs, summer camps, and other family type programs.

Real Estate Transfer - Tax/Assessment/Fee
As agencies expand, the need for infrastructure improvements continues to grow. Since parks and recreation facilities add value to neighborhoods and communities, some agencies have turned to real estate transfer tax/assessment/fee to help pay for acquisition and needed renovations. Usually transfer tax/assessment/fee amount is a percentage on the total sale of the property and is assessed each time the property transfers to a new owner. Some states have laws prohibiting or restricting the institution, increase, or application of this tax/assessment/fee.

Rental Car Tax
This tax is designated for land acquisition purposes. Some cities and counties have used a percentage of rental car taxes to support agency land acquisition or improvements in parks.

Sporting Goods Tax
In some states, the states collect a sales tax on sporting goods equipment as it applies to fishing and boating supplies and recreation equipment. This revenue is redistributed to cities and counties on a population basis and from licenses sold.

Wheel Tax on Cars/Vehicles
Many cities have a city sticker tax on vehicles based on the type of vehicle. This allows for park agencies to receive a portion of this money to cover the costs of roads, hard surface paths and parking lots associated with parks.

Contractual Services

Cell Towers and Wi-Fi
Payment for cell towers attached to existing or new light poles in game field complexes. Another type of revenue for a facility or complex can come from providing sites for supporting Wi-Fi technology. In California, the State Park System is providing wireless internet access and is charging $7.95 for 24 hours of connectivity (approximately $.33 per hour) within its service area. They have connected 85 state parks with SBC Communications. For more information, contact California State Parks at www.parks.ca.gov.

Concession Management
Concession management is the retail sale or rental of soft goods, hard goods, or consumable items. An agency can contract for the service and either receive a percentage of the gross sales or the net revenue dollars from the profits after expenses are paid. Net proceeds are generally more difficult to monitor.

Hospitality Centers
These types of recreation facilities are developed by cities and counties for use by the public for wedding, reunions, and special gatherings. The recreation facilities are not subsidized but operate at a profit. Some facilities are surprisingly managed by outside caterers.

Merchandising Sales or Services
This revenue source comes from the public or private sector on resale items from gift shops, pro-shops, restaurants, concessions, and coffee shops for either all of the sales or a defined percentage of the gross sales.

Private Concessionaires
Contracts with private sector concessionaires provide resources to operate desirable recreational activities. These services are typically financed, constructed, and operated by the private business or a non-profit organization with additional compensation paid to the entity.

Permits, Licensing Rights and Use of Collateral Assets

Agricultural Leases
In some agency parks, low land property along rivers, or excess land may be leased to farmers for crops.

Booth Lease Space
Some agencies sell booth space to sidewalk vendors in parks or at special events for a flat rate or based on volume of product sold. The booth space can also be used for sporting events and tournaments.

Catering Permits and Services
This is a license to allow caterers to work in the park system on a permit basis with a set fee or percentage of food sales returning to the agency. Also, many agencies have their own catering service or authorized provider list and receive a percentage of dollars from the sale of food.

Community Gardens
Many agencies will permit out food plots for community gardens as a small source of income.

Film Rights
Many agencies issue permits so that sites such as old ballparks or unique grounds may be used by film commissions. The film commission pays a daily fee for the site plus the loss of revenue the agency would incur during use of the community space.

Fishing License for City or County Lakes
In some cities and counties, they have their own put and take fish operation and safe fishing laws for their own lakes for trout and specialty fish.

Land Swaps
An agency may trade property to improve access or protection of resources. This could include an action for non-payment of taxes resulting in an agency property gain or a situation where a developer needs a larger or smaller space to improve their profitability. The agency would typically gain more property for more recreation opportunities in exchange for the land swap.

Leasebacks on Recreational Facilities
Many agencies do not have adequate capital dollars to build desired revenue-producing facilities. One option is to hire a private investor to build the facility according to the specifications requested with the investment company financing the project. The agency would then lease the property back from the investor over 20+ years. This can be reversed where by the agency builds the facility and leases to a private management company who then operates the property for a percentage of gross dollars to pay off the construction loans through a subordinate lease.

Licensing Rights
This revenue source allows an entity to license its name on all resale items that private or public vendors sell clothing or other items with the entity's name on it. The normal licensing fee is 6 to 10% of the cost of the resale item.

Manufacturing Product Testing and Display
An agency works with specific manufacturers to test their products in parks, recreation facility, or in a program or service. The agency tests the product under normal conditions and reports the results back to the manufacturer. Examples include lighting, playground equipment, tires on vehicles, mowers, irrigation systems, seed & fertilizers, etc. The agency may receive the product for free but must pay for the costs of installation and for tracking results.

Marine Slips/Permits
This revenue source is for a permit to store boats on public property for a set amount based on a lineal foot and service charges on an annual basis.

Patron Cards
This allows patrons of a specific recreational facility to purchase patron cards for a month or a year that allows them special privileges above the general public. These privileges include having rights to early tee times, reservations, and special tours, shows or events. The patron cards can range in price from $15.00 a month to $150.00 a year.

Private Developers
Developers may lease space on agency owned land through a subordinate lease that pays out a set dollar amount plus a percentage of gross dollars for recreation enhancements. These could include sports complexes and recreation centers.

Sale of Development Rights
Some agencies sell their development rights below park ground or along trails to utility companies. The entity receives a yearly fee on a linear foot basis.

Sale of Mineral Rights
Many agencies sell mineral rights under parks, including water, oil, natural gas, and other by products, for revenue purposes.

Special Use Permits
Special permits allow individuals to use specific park property for financial gain. The entity receives either a set amount of money or a percentage of the gross service provided.

Subordinate Easements – Recreation/Natural Area Easements
This revenue source is available when an entity allows utility companies, businesses, or individuals to develop some type of an improvement above ground or below ground on its property. Subordinate easements are typically arranged over a set period of time, with a set dollar amount that is paid to the entity on an annual basis.

Surplus Sale of Equipment by Auction
Agencies often have annual surplus auctions to get rid of old and used equipment, generating additional income on a yearly basis.

Recycling Centers
Some agencies and counties operate recycling centers for wood, mulch, and glass as revenue generators for their systems.

Rentals of Houses and Buildings by Private Citizens
Many agencies will rent out facilities such as homes to individual citizens for revenue purposes.

Enterprise Funds
Some agencies establish business units that are self-sustaining through fees and charges. Debt service and all indirect costs should be allocated or attributed to enterprise funds. Any excess revenue generated is maintained by the fund for future needs and cannot be used by another fund or department. Examples include premier sports tournament complexes.

Hospitality Centers
These types of recreation facilities are developed by cities and counties for use by the public for wedding, reunions, and special gatherings. The recreation facilities are not subsidized but operate at a profit. (This is also listed above under contracted services which is also a possibility.)

Partnership Opportunities
Partnerships are joint development funding sources or operational funding sources between two separate agencies, such as two government entities, a non-profit and a government entity, or a private business and a government entity. Two partners jointly develop park and recreation facilities and share risk, operational costs, responsibilities, and asset management based on the strengths and weaknesses of each partner.

Creating synergy based on expanded program offerings and collaborative efforts can be beneficial to all providers as interest grows and people gravitate to the type of facility and programs that best suit their recreational needs and schedules. Potential strategic alliance partnerships where missions run parallel, and mutually beneficial relationships can be fostered and may include the following:

- YMCA
- School District
- Medical Center or Hospital
- Boys and Girls Club
- Kiwanis, Soroptimists, VFWs, Elks, Rotary, and other service and civic organizations
- Chamber of Commerce
- Convention and Visitor's Bureau
- Homeowner or Neighborhood Associations
- Youth Sports Associations
- Other counties, neighboring cities, and communities
- Private alternative providers
- Churches

Corporate Sponsorships
This revenue-funding source allows corporations to invest in the development or enhancement of new or existing facilities in park systems. Agencies can solicit this revenue-funding source themselves or work with other agencies that pursue and use this type of funding. Sponsorships are often used for programs and events.

Advertising Sales
Advertising sales are a viable opportunity for revenue through the sale of tasteful and appropriate advertising on agency-related items such as program guides, scoreboards, dasher boards, and other visible products or services. Current sign codes should be reviewed for conflicts or appropriate revisions.

Naming Rights
Many agencies throughout the country have successfully sold the naming rights for newly constructed facilities or when renovating existing buildings. Additionally, newly developed and renovated parks have been successfully funded through the sale of naming rights. Generally, the cost for naming rights offsets the development costs associated with the improvement. People incorrectly assume that selling the naming rights for facilities is reserved for professional stadiums and other high profile team sport venues. This trend has expanded in recent years to include public recreation centers and facilities as viable naming rights sales opportunities.

Naming rights can be a one-time payment or amortized with a fixed payment schedule over a defined period of time. During this time, the sponsor retains the "rights" to have the park, facility, or amenity named for them. Also during this time, all publications, advertisements, events, and activities could have the sponsoring group's name as the venue. Naming rights negotiations need to be developed by legal professionals to ensure that the contractual obligation is equitable to all agents and provides remedies to change or cancel the arrangements at any time during the agreement period.

Reverse Sponsorships
This revenue source allows agencies to receive indirect revenue from cross promoting their current sponsors with professional sporting events such as in racing with cars and drivers and significant sports heroes. Indirect sponsorships provide up to 15% of the sponsorship value back to the City for linking their parks and recreation sponsors with professional sports.

Other Options
Numerous federal and state taxation resources, programs, and grants may be available to park and recreation agencies.

Cost Avoidance
Few agencies can financially sustain a position of being everything for everyone. By staying with its core businesses and shifting roles away from being a direct provider of certain facilities, programs, or services, an agency can experience additional savings. This process is referred to as *cost avoidance*. The estimated savings could be realized through partnering, outsourcing, or deferring to another provider in the provision of a service and/or facility.

- **Shared purchasing**

Kent County, Mich. is using a 'reverse auction' process with its venders and saving money in the process, both for the county and its local government partners in a shared services agreement. Using this process, the county saved more than $1 million on the cost of various purchases in 2010 — from toner cartridges to reams of paper. The county sets the top price that it's willing to pay based on what was paid the last time. Vendors then vie to provide the product or service at a lower cost. The county expanded the auctions in 2011 and 2012 to include about 20 other local governments..

Designated License Plate for Parks
Agency improvements or programs could be funded through a designated license plate.

Family Tree Program
Many cities have worked with local hospitals to provide cash to the parks system to buy and plant a tree in honor of every new born in the City. The hospitals invest $250.00 to $300.00 and receive the credit from the parents of the newborns. The parks system gets new trees of ample size.

Fundraising/Friends Associations
Many park and recreation agencies have special fundraisers on an annual basis to help cover specific programs and capital projects. Agencies could sell pavers, bricks, tiles, for example, or consider staging a telethon. Sometimes this kind of fundraising is conducted by a friends group formed to raise money typically for a single focus purpose that could include a park facility or program that will better the community as a whole and their special interest.

Gift Catalogs
Gift catalogs provide organizations the opportunity to let the community know on a yearly basis what their needs are. The community purchases items from the gift catalog and donates them to the agency.

Land Trusts
Many agencies have developed land trusts to help secure and fund the cost of acquiring land that needs to be preserved and protected for greenway purposes. This may be a good source to look to for the acquisition of future park and open space lands.

Maintenance Endowments
Maintenance Endowments are set up for organizations and individuals to invest in ongoing maintenance improvements and infrastructure needs. Endowments retain money from user fees, individual gifts, impact fees, development rights, partnerships, conservation easements, and for wetland mitigations.

Positive Cash Flow
Depending on how aggressively an agency incorporates marketing and management strategies, there may be a positive fund balance at the end of each year The ending positive balance could be used, for example, to establish a maintenance endowment for recreation facilities, to set aside funds for capital replacement and/or repair, or to generate a fund balance for contingency or new programming opportunities.

Product Sales
This is where an agency sells specific products for purchases or consumption by the public. This would include trees, food, maple syrup, livestock animals, fish, plants, etc.

Raffling
Some agencies offer annual community raffles, such as purchasing an antique car that can be raffled off in contests.

Surplus Sale of Equipment by Auction
Agencies have surplus auctions to get rid of old and used equipment that generate some income on a yearly basis.

Grants
Grants often supplement or match funds that have already been received. For example, grants can be used for programs, planning, design, seed money, and construction. Due to their generally unpredictable

nature, grants are often used to fund a specific venture and should not be viewed as a continuous source of funding.

Federal Park and Open Space Funding Sources

- **Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act**

This funding program, commonly called ISTEA (pronounced Ice-Tea) Grants, was authorized by the Federal Government in 1991. It presented an overall intermodal approach to highway and transit funding with collaborative planning requirements. The law provided for significant enhancement revenues available for transportation related projects, including bicycle and pedestrian trails, rail depot rehabilitation, landscaping, and beautification projects. Funds are distributed through the state.

ISTEA expired in 1997. The current version of the law, Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21) was enacted in 2012. Under MAP-21, funding for bicycle and pedestrian transportation is reduced and consolidated into a broader program called "Transportation Alternatives". A new 'Find It, Fund It' chart (http://bit.ly/157kRUt) indicates potential eligibility for pedestrian and bicycle projects under federal highway and transit programs. In each case there are specific requirements that must be met within eligibility criteria and eligibility will be determined on a case-by-case basis.

- **Land and Water Conservation Fund**

These funds are awarded for acquisition and development of parks, recreation, and supporting facilities through the National Park Service and State Park System.

General Purpose or Operating Grants

When a grant maker gives an agency an operating grant, it can be used to support the general expenses of operations. An operating grant means the fund provider supports the agency's overall mission and trusts that the money will be put to good use.

Program or Support Grants

A program or support grant is given to support a specific or connected set of activities that typically have a beginning and an end, specific objectives, and predetermined costs. Listed below are some of the most common types of program or support grants:

- **Planning Grants**

When planning a major new program, an agency may need to spend a good deal of time and money conducting research. A planning grant supports this initial project development work, which may include investigating the needs of constituents, consulting with experts in the field, or conducting research and planning activities.

- **Facilities and Equipment Grants**

These grants help agencies buy long-lasting physical assets, such as a building. The applicant organization must make the case that the new acquisition will help better serve its clients. Fund providers considering these requests will not only be interested in the applicant's current activities and financial health, but they will also inquire as to the financial and program plans for the next several years. Fund providers do not want allocate resources to an organization or program only to see it shut down in a few years because of poor management.

- **Matching Grants**

Many grant-makers will provide funding only on the condition that the agency will raise an amount equal to the size of the grant from other sources. This type of grant is another means by which foundations can determine the viability of an organization or program.

- **Seed Money or Start-up Grants**

These grants help a new organization or program in its first few years. The idea is to give the new effort a strong push forward, so it can devote its energy early on to setting up programs without worrying constantly about raising money. Such grants are often for more than one year, and frequently decrease in amount each year.

- **Management or Technical Assistance Grants**

Unlike most project grants, a technical assistance grant does not directly support the mission-related activities of the agency. Instead, they support the agency's management or administration and its associated fundraising, marketing, and financial management needs.

Program-Related Investments (PRIs)

In addition to grants, the Internal Revenue Service allows foundations to make loans—called Program-Related Investments (PRIs)—to nonprofits. PRIs must be for projects that would be eligible for grant support. They are usually made at low or zero interest. PRIs must be paid back to the grant maker. PRIs are often made to organizations involved in building projects.

Private Grant and Philanthropic Agencies

Many resources are available which provide information on private grant and philanthropic agency opportunities. A thorough investigation and research on available grants is necessary to ensure mutually compatible interests and to confirm the current status of available funding. Examples of publicly accessible resources are summarized below.

- Information on current and archived Federal Register Grant Announcements can be accessed from The Grantsmanship Center (TGCI) on the Internet at: http://www.tgci.com.
- For information on government product news and procurement visit GovPro at www.govpro.com.
- Another resource is the Foundation Center's RFP Bulletin Grants Page on Health at: www.fdncenter.org.
- Research www.eCivis.com for a contract provider of a web-based Grants Locator system for government and foundation grants specifically designed for local government.

Community Resources

The following subsections summarize research findings on potential funding sources that could enhance capital expenditures for capital repair, renovation, and new construction as well as agency operating budgets. These findings do not recommend any particular funding strategy over another. Economic conditions may vary with time and an agency should explore the best means of achieving its goals with regard to agency operations, programs, and facilities on an ongoing basis.

Philanthropic Support

Philanthropy can be defined as the concept of voluntary giving by an individual or group to promote the common good and to improve the quality of life. Philanthropy generally takes the form of donor programs, capital campaigns, and volunteers/in-kind services.

The time commitment to initiate a philanthropic capital campaign can be significant. If this option is pursued by agency decision-makers, the agency may decide to outsource most of this task to a non-profit or private agency experienced in managing community-based capital fundraising campaigns.

Foundation/Gifts
These dollars are received from tax-exempt, non-profit organization. The funds are private donations in promotion of specific causes, activities, or issues. They offer a variety of means to fund capital projects, including capital campaigns, gifts catalogs, fundraisers, endowments, sales of items, etc.

Gift Catalogs
Gift catalogs provide organizations the opportunity to let the community know of their needs on a yearly basis. The community purchases items from the gift catalog and donates them to the agency.

Gifts in Perpetuity

- **Maintenance Endowments**

Maintenance Endowments are set up for organizations and individuals to invest in ongoing maintenance improvements and infrastructure needs. Endowments retain money from user fees, individual gifts, impact fees, development rights, partnerships, conservation easements, and for wetland mitigations.

- **Irrevocable Remainder Trusts**

These trusts are set up with individuals who typically have more than a million dollars in wealth. They will leave a portion of their wealth to an agency in a trust fund that allows the fund to grow over a period of time and then makes a portion of the interest available for agency use to support specific park and recreation facilities or programs that are designated by the trustee.

- **Life Estates**

This revenue source is available when someone wants to leave their property in exchange for their continued residence on the property until their death. The agency can usually use a portion of the property for park and recreational purposes, and then use all of it after the person's death. This revenue source is very popular for individuals who have a lot of wealth and their estate will be highly taxed at their death. Their benefactors will have to sell their property because of probate costs. Life Estates allow individuals to receive a good yearly tax deduction on their property while leaving property for the community. Agencies benefit because they do not have to pay for the land.

Volunteer Programs

Volunteers/In-Kind Services
This is an indirect revenue source in that persons donate time to assist an agency in providing a product or service on an hourly basis. This reduces the agency's cost in providing the service, plus it builds advocacy for the system. To manage a volunteer program, an agency typically dedicates a staff member to oversee the program for the entire agency. This staff member could then work closely with Human Resources as volunteers are another source of staffing a program, facility, or event.

- Adopt-a-Park/Adopt-a-Trail

Programs such as adopt-a-park may be created with and supported by the residents, businesses, and/or organizations located in the park's vicinity. These programs allow volunteers to actively assist in improving and maintaining parks, related facilities, and the community in which they live.

- Neighborhood Park Watch

As a way to reduce costs associated with vandalism and other crimes against property, an agency may develop a neighborhood park watch program. This program would develop a sense of community ownership of the agency's facilities.

Updated –4/3/2015

Total Number of surveys: 63

HOT SULPHUR SPRINGS PARKS, OPEN SPACE AND TRAILS SURVEY

Thank you in advance for taking time to respond to this survey! Your responses will be used to guide the Town as we create a master plan for parks, open space and trails.

1. Basic information:
    a. Are you: Female – **28** or Male – **33**

    Comments:
    - **One person checked both male and female**

    ***1 left this blank**

    b. How old are you?
    0 to 10-0
    11 to 20- 1
    21 to 30- 2
    31 to 40 – 3
    41 to 50 – 12
    51 to 60 – 26
    61 to 70 – 13
    71 to 80- 3
    81 to 90-0
    90+-0

    ***3 left this blank**

    c. Do you live in the Town of Hot Sulphur Springs? **Yes – 51 No- 12**
    If outside the Town, where?
    - **Grand Lake – 1**
    - **Kremmling – 1**
    - **Tabernash – 3**

- **Boulder County – 1**
- **Littleton – 1**
- **Granby -1**
- **Part-time – 2**
- **Evergreen – 1**
- **Parshall - 1**
- **Parker – 1**
- **Texas- 1**
- **Did live in HS back in 1970s for about 5 yrs. on and off**
- **BLM 2755 Road**
- **Summer home**

d. How many people live in your home?

1- 13
2- 28
3- 4
4- 6
5- 4
6- 2
7- 4
8- 1

***One person left this blank**

e. How long have you lived in the Hot Sulphur Springs area if you live here?

0 to 5 – 12
6 to 10- 17
11 to 15- 7
16 to 20 – 4
21 to 25 – 0
26 to 30 – 5
31 to 35 – 0
36 or older – 5

***13 people left this blank**

2. Overall
   a. How many days per week do you recreate outside in the summer? In the winter?

	Summer	Winter
i.	0-1: **1**	0-1: **13**
ii.	2-4: **26**	2-4: **28**
iii.	5-7: **34**	5-7: **20**

***One person left this blank**

3. What is your favorite form of outdoor recreation in Hot Sulphur Springs? (Please circle all that apply)
    a. Walking, hiking, cross-country skiing: **61**
    b. Water activities (swimming, wading, etc.): **21**
    c. 4-wheeling, minibikes: **17**
    d. Hunting and/or fishing: **33**
    e. Downhill skiing: **15**
    f. Team sports: **4**
    g. Spending time in city parks: **33**
    h. Disc golf: **13**
    i. Snowmobiling: **8**
    j. Mountain biking: **27**
    k. Road bicycling: **13**
    l. Tennis: **4**
    m. Other:
        - **Shooting – 1**
        - **Nordic Ski – 1**
        - **Fat Biking – 2**
        - **Snowboarding – 1**
        - **Gardening – 1**
        - **Rafting – 1**
        - **Country Skiing – 1**
        - **Hot Springs – 1**
        - **Horseshoes – 1**
        - **Snow Shoes – 4**
        - **Target Practice – 1**
        - **Basketball – 1**
        - **When maintained (Spending time in city parks)**
        - **Running/Trail Running**
        - **With Dogs**

***2 people left this blank**

4. How well do you feel the Hot Sulphur Springs Parks System (all of the parks, facilities, trails, etc.) meets your needs in the following areas? Rate each response on a scale of 1-5, with 1 indicating your needs are not being met and 5 indicating all of your needs are being met in this area.
    a. Physical (facilities are accessible and offer activities that you are able to participate in and enjoy)

    1- 4
    2- 8
    3- 19

4- 13
5- 15

Comments:

- **Would like to see some paved or graveled trails for use year round. Organized walking tours year round – spotlighted by historical association, newspapers, libraries and other adjunct organizations. Would be helpful once trails are more complete. (Topical Trails: historical, wildflower, nature, dog/kid friendly, etc.)**
- **?**

***3 people left this blank**

b. Proximity to parks and recreation facilities close to where you spend your time (home, school or work)

1- 3
2- 1
3- 12
4- 15
5- 28

Comments:

- **?**

***3 people left this blank**

c. Age (there are facilities and recreation opportunities that are appropriate for you and your family members' ages)

1- 3
2- 6
3- 11
4- 19
5- 16

Comments:

- **?**

***7 people left this blank**

5. Hot Sulphur Springs Parks

a. How frequently do you use and how do you use:

Pioneer Park?

- **Not often – 2**
- **Rarely – 2**
- **Walk-Fish**
- **Walking or snowshoeing**
- **Never**

- Walk dog 3x a week
- A lot of camping and fishing
- Walking 3 day a week
- 2x per week -2
- Weekly – walks/disk golf/fishing
- Sometimes – walking and biking by the river
- 5-10 x annually
- 4x a week – dog walk, jogging, disc golf, mountain bike
- Picnicking, fishing, Frisbee golf
- Occasionally -2
- Walks, disc golf, fishing 2 to 3 times a week
- Access to the river, walking the dog
- 1 x per year
- Walks, picnics. Twice a week in the summer.
- Monthly.
- 3 to 4 times a week.
- Monthly – walking.
- 3 days a week – Cross Country Ski, Bike, Fish, Frisbee
- Cross Country, Bike, Frisbee Golf and Fish – 3x a week
- Summer – 2 days a week
- 2x a month - 2
- None – 5
- Frequently
- 4x a year
- Monthly – Walking, Biking, Skiing
- 1-3 Days a week – Fishing, Walking and XL Skiing
- Close to daily – Walk or ski
- Hiking and biking all summer
- Walk and Ride Mountain bike in park in summer. At least once a week.
- Have not used yet.
- Infrequently – picnics
- 1-3 per week. MTB/Run
- Summer –some
- Daily -2
- 3x/week plus dogwalks, running, riverplay with kids
- 3x a week
- 5x a week
- 10x per year
- 2-3 days in summer
- 0-1 x a month

Town Park?

- **Periodically**
- **Not often – 2**
- **Rarely – 2**
- **Picnic**
- **Community Garden, Hot Sulphur Days**
- **Annually**
- **Walk dog 3x a week**
- **Play in park/horseshoes during summer**
- **Some Horseshoes**
- **Not so much**
- **1-3 x annually**
- **1 time a week – dog training**
- **Kids play gym/swings**
- **Occasionally**
- **Public garden – daily in summer**
- **Horseshoes, HS Days**
- **1x per year**
- **Frequently**
- **Picnic! Twice during summer months.**
- **Seldom**
- **None unless special event.**
- **2 days a week – Basketball, tennis, horseshoes**
- **Horseshoes and Tennis – 2 x a week**
- **Summer – Twice a week**
- **3x a year**
- **Sometimes -2**
- **None – 6**
- **Gardening, Hot Sulphur Days**
- **2 days x month – 2**
- **Community garden all summer**
- **Use community garden. Snowshoe in winter.**
- **Have not used yet.**
- **Infrequently – tennis/horseshoes**
- **Summer – some -2**
- **Summer – weekly**
- **For walks**
- **Kids play basketball, baseball, dog training**
- **1x a week**

- **10x per year**
- **2-3 days in summer**
- **1-2 x a month**

b. How could Pioneer Park be improved?

- **Water**
- **Water Park**
- **Better signs that are consistent. Maintain natural state; no new developments**
- **Picnic sites, dog park (either park)**
- **Add dog waste cleanup**
- **Better space to camp. Get rid of pow. Water tap.**
- **Doggie bags for poop. Too much poop in winter time.**
- **More accessible for physically impaired disk golf trail and bridges/fishing platforms**
- **Its fine by me**
- **Off road walking paths**
- **Defined trails and connecting trails to other areas**
- **Larger area (other side of railroad tracks) for more sports/camping**
- **Trimmed up. New trees in the central area by the river, fishing dock near bridge or on the other side downriver. Fishing docks and better access upriver.**
- **Closer camping at disc golf course. Human waste. Big issue.**
- **Good as is for the most part, more camp sites around the Frisbee golf area.**
- **Leave it alone.**
- **Town maintenance or supervision.**
- **Close the area, past the gate to overnight camping. Pioneer Park best as "wild park".**
- **Access public land somehow.**
- **Trim/Mow Frisbee golf course and add mountain bike trails.**
- **Trim Frisbee golf course and "freshen" it up**
- **Leave gate open year round**
- **A trail into B. Canyon**
- **More camping facilities, get rid of Frisbee course and utilize it for something else.**
- **Better roads**
- **Improve campgrounds. Supply fish to river.**
- **More upkeep**
- **Road Maintenance**
- **East End: maintain as natural as possible, minimize development and emphasize trails. Cleanup campground on west end – replace damaged/missing sings, remove or restore old picnic tables, enforce day use vs. camping designations, at water source**
- **More outdoor picnic area and games**

- **Cleaning up dog poop by dog owners! Campers leaving no trash behind.**
- **More trails**
- **Not allow camping in body of park. Kiosks need to show what plants, flowers kinds can be found.**
- **Beef up existing camping facilities, make it a place campers want to stay**
- **More kid friendly.**
- **More single track.**
- **Connect a bike trail to Granby and beyond.**
- **Exercise stations would be a nice addition. Pet friendly insect mitigation**
- **Close campsites near foot bridge (not newer campsites by main road), close road to vehicles if fishermen are okay with that. Dog and horse poop management.**
- **More toilet facilities = less poop in parks. More signage for disc golf course.**
- **Tennis courts refurbished.**
- **More accessible bathroom**

***18 people left this blank**

c. How could Town Park be improved?

- **Continue Community Garden**
- **Improve Tennis Courts**
- **Better rest room is critical. Replace existing picnic structure with something that is more attractive and could also be used for band concerts.**
- **Better signage, new playground, seating for visits, usable facilities, better landscaping, art!**
- **Add dog waste cleanup**
- **Better horseshoe pits and bathrooms**
- **Tennis court repair.**
- **Not too familiar with town park.**
- **Less construction**
- **Newer play equipment, bathroom, ball field improved, add football/soccer fields**
- **More trees, better access to bridge, plant trees/shrubs in front of water plant, border the park with trees and shrubs**
- **Better summer maintenance – trim around playground. Fill gopher holes and continue pest control.**
- **Maintain the turf better – lots of holes where you can twist an ankle are present.**
- **Resurface tennis courts and replace the nets.**
- **Just leave as is and maintain baseball field.**
- **Maintenance of existing facilities.**
- **Trimming weeds – this, if done on a regular basis, will improve the playground areas greatly**
- **Find a use for the tennis courts.**

- **Fix tennis courts.**
- **Water the grass more.**
- **Educate people on how to use and respect it.**
- **Better bathrooms, updated children areas**
- **Organize the garden area. Clean playground area.**
- **Manicure**
- **Remove concrete structures and bathroom, and replace with attractive facilities. Rustic/western style – picnic pavilion, bandstand, bathroom. Restore tennis courts, improve ballfield, upgrade playground.**
- **Improve/replace old and poor condition items**
- **Upgrade tennis courts**
- **Fix tennis courts, basketball courts, more restroom facilities**
- **New tennis court. Redo kids' playgrounds.**
- **Better kid equipment, new restrooms, water area and re-do tennis courts.**
- **Improved basketball and tennis courts**
- **Add a dog park**
- **Get rid of holes. Updated equipment for safety.**
- **A caretaker – looks neglected and lakes pride.**
- **A pump track for kids. Improves balance without speed.**
- **Keep all the equipment, don't make it so "safe safe" that kids can't even have fun.**
- **Improved trash clean up, maintain structure**
- **Tennis courts and softball field kept up**
- **Turf improvement. Take out or fix water fountain**

***19 people left this blank**

6. The Town has limited resources to provide for parks, recreation and trails. How should they spend funds to best take advantage of opportunities to maintain and grow the existing outdoor recreation system?

- **Access to fishing and trails**
- **Fix tennis courts if there is some kind of multi-use surface material available; upgrade bathroom; replace picnic structure; upgrade playground.**
- **Trail system connecting both sides of town or facilities on south side (HiHo)**
- **Create and maintain fewer but designated trails. Provide adequate signage with education/encouraging message to help keep park nice! Promote volunteer clean-up projects every year! Keep the contract with CPW for a Wildlife Area.**
- **Keep our free camping.**
- **Funds should be targeted to provide for economic development. More accessible would allow and bring people to HSS.**
- **A great idea is to put a post at each trailhead with plastic bags. Encourage all hikers to pick up trash as they hike out. "Pack it in, pack it out" on a sign and have a trash**

can by the post. People trash nature, but it only takes a few people to clean it up if you make it easy to do.

- Start volunteer programs, adult and kid activities
- Paint and general clean up by volunteers. Disc golf course needs maintenance.
- Pioneer Park pretty much takes care of itself – all natural, Town Park needs turf repair.
- More fishing opportunities.
- Fix up/Keep up in good shape – Town Park.
- Do not apply for grants. Parks are fine.
- Don't expand beyond the ability to use.
- Trails deteriorate quickly and take constant work to maintain. Reducing impact is more important than adding trails or equipment. Reducing impact by stopping the overnight camping past the gate will save money and beautify the park.
- Basic maintenance, fund raisers – obstacle dog course in Town Park for $5.
- I would need to see the budget to answer.
- Build bathrooms in Pioneer Park
- Appoint responsible committee
- Update what they have.
- Up Keep – Trails
- Promotion.
- Use funds to maintain existing facilities. Do not grow and increase the burden.
- Restore tennis courts, designate trail system with trail map in town and parks, improve ball field and playground, new bathroom.
- New kids area and nature center in pioneer park
- Connect pioneer park trails to those in surrounding BLM areas
- Use GoCo grants to help get more funds and match these funds.
- Focus on proper maintenance of existing facilities, and only add on as funds/time allows. Don't overextend.
- Recreation and parks
- GoCo, fundraisers
- Wisely.
- Would like to see HSS connected to the HTA bike system, so a ride to Granby on a trail other than HWY 40.
- Volunteer system does work. Use natural elements in parks.
- Maintain, people can find simple pleasure and I think that's the beauty that people appreciate about HSS.
- Take care of what is already in place – charge for camping in Pioneer Park
- Maintain cleanliness
- Trails. Improve sidewalk on south side of highway.

*24 people left this blank

7. If the Hot Sulphur Springs parks were added to, would you be interested in the following: (please circle all that apply)
    a. Outdoor exercise equipment - **12**
    b. Bike pump track (a small looped dirt track used by mountain, BMX or kids bikes. - **24**
    c. Dog park - **13**
    d. "Nature play" areas (space for kids to dig in dirt, climb logs and play in water) - **26**
    e. More or different community garden space - **8**
    f. Skateboarding - **2**
    g. Ice skating - **25**
    h. Bouldering/rock climbing equipment - **6**
    i. More walking or bike trails - **46**
    j. Additional river features for fishing, kayaking and tubing - **40**
    k. Other
    - **Make community garden space look more friendlier**
    - **Weed Control, expand on wildflower gardens. Fishing platforms. Disk golf trails.**
    - **Improve access to the river. Outdoor curling. Include fishing/ sitting docks on the riverside**
    - **The river could use habitat improvement. P&W can help with grants and permits.**
    - **Raquet Ball/Hand Ball**
    - **Bike pump track, dog park, skateboarding, ice skating – in town park**
    - **Paved or graveled and maintained year round (more walking/bike trails)**
    - **Cross Country Ski Trails**

***7 left this question blank**

8. Town Park
    a. The tennis courts surface in Town Park is deteriorating. Identify the activities you would use the area for if it were resurfaced and more readily available:
        i. Tennis - **26**
        ii. Basketball - **21**
        iii. Pickle ball - **5**
        iv. Roller Hockey - **5**
        v. Roller Blading - **3**
        vi. None of the above - **14**
        vii. Other
            - **Open it up for a better venue location**
            - **Maintain existing**
            - **?**
            - **Ice Rink (open air)**
            - **Handball or racquetball if one wall could be built**
            - **River improvements. Call Trout Unlimited for help and ideas to improve stream bed.**
            - **Sand box for kids.**
            - **Basketball already exists.**

- **Shuffleboard**

***11 people left this blank**

b. The horseshoe pit area of Town Park appears to get a fair amount of use. If this area could be more multi-use, would you use this area for :
   i. Bocce Ball - **15**
   ii. Other
      - **Horseshoe Pits – 2**
      - **No**
      - **Archery**
      - **Outdoor Exercise Equipment**
      - **Shuffle Board**
      - **None**
      - **Close it during hot Sulphur days**
      - **Shuffle Board?**
      - **Leave as is.**
      - **? – 3**
      - **N/A to me**

***37 people left this blank**

9. What should the top maintenance priorities be for the Town Park: (circle the top 2)
   a. Lawn maintenance – **25**
      Comments:
      - **liability as it is now**
   b. Restroom maintenance - **40**
   c. Baseball/Softball field maintenance - **12**
   d. Playground maintenance - **23**
   e. Tennis court maintenance – **8**

Comments:

- **Horseshoes**
- **Spray the town to control mosquitos**
- **Improve existing pits, expand use. They get used.**
- **For years after tennis courts built they had much use – among the best in the county.**
- **You're in a "catch 22". All of these areas are a priority or there's no reason to have them. If you don't have them, there's no reason for people to use the park.**
- **Trail clearing/winter grooming**
- **Weed/sticker control**

***7 people left this blank**

10. Please share ideas you have for activities or programs that would better serve any of the following populations in our community. Feel free to indicate that there is a need even if you

don't have a particular idea. (People with disabilities, kids under 5, preteens, teens, young adults, adults, seniors.)

- **Kids need safe place to play/hang out**
- **Not sure**
- **Dog Families! Also an on-going educational program (arts, crafts, tech.,etc.)**
- **A clean, attractive, well-maintained park will appeal to most everyone! Must get word out among town residents to take care of our park! It is NOT a place to take your dog to "go"- keep it clean. When the ball field was in really nice condition – a lot of people wanted to be "at the park".**
- **Preteens – Bike park needed**
- **Fishing/Disk Golf/Trails (wheel chair friendly)**
- **Community bonfires in the park (kids love that), fireworks in the summer, outdoor movies in the park on a large projector screen 0 bring your own blankets and foot, arts and crafts fairs in the summer where artisans/craftsmen/woodworkers can show and sell.**
- **Mountain biking/hiking trail circling HSS with varying difficulty for all ages and families**
- **Kids under 5: basketball, baseball programs, outdoor education. Preteens and Teens: volunteer work programs, basketball. Seniors: free coffee and cin. buns once a week**
- **There is a need – but I have no specific ideas.**
- **Adult and Senior: Possibly game night, craft night. Kids under five: nature walks, crafts with things found in nature. Preteens: fishing lessons, nature walk, teachings of being smart with natural resources, astronomy night.**
- **Bring back defrost Olympics. Celebrate HSS winter heritage.**
- **People want space and nature more than equipment. Equipment is for urban areas.**
- **More benches for sitting in Town Park and Pioneer Park for seniors or people with young kids.**
- **More bike trails/better bathrooms**
- **Soft ball. Senior activities.**
- **Community Center space for art/crafts. Seniors, preschoolers and general education – open the library more!**
- **Year round flat/maintained trails provided opportunities for everyone**
- **More hiking and biking rails for seniors and those with disabilities.**
- **For seniors – a walk track around Town Park. A place to do exercises – outdoor and indoor.**
- **Kids under 5 and teens.**
- **The town needs to provide active, safe areas for all ages.**
- **Groomed Nordic trails in pioneer and town park, thru the alleys and possibly on private property south of town.**
- **Wheelchair accessible trail**
- **River walk trail maintenance – both sides of river. Could incorporate bake stabilization. Historical data sign along river.**
- **Some towns have movie night for all ages. Sense of community . Or maybe "ranger" series once a week. Programs for naturalists land management agencies (USFs/BLM/CO State FS/CPAW).**
- **Doing fine – it seems that programs/group activities are better left to other towns.**
- **Sidewalks repaired, maintained, built. Occasional benches for people to rest. Flowers. People like to walk around our town. We could make it more pleasant. (I'm thinking of the highway).**

***36 people left this blank**

11. Providing information in parks and on trails is an opportunity in the system. How important are the following topics for you to learn about when visiting parks in Hot Sulphur Springs? Rate each answer choice on a scale of 1-5, with 1 being not important and 5 being very important.
    a. Natural habitats and how preservation, including restricted access in some cases, may benefit species
        1- 10
        2- 5
        3- 5
        4- 5
        5- 25

        ***11 people left this blank**

        Comments:
        - **5 for Pioneer Park. 1 for Town Park**

    b. Names and characteristics of species (flora and fauna) in the area
        1- 5
        2- 5
        3- 15
        4- 10
        5- 13
        ***14 people left this blank**

        Comments:
        - **Mostly in Pioneer park**

    c. History, including conservation of the area and the park
        1- 3
        2- 4
        3- 8
        4- 14
        5- 24
        ***8 people left this blank**

    d. How to get to connecting trails and other recreational opportunities
        1- 2
        2- 1
        3- 8
        4- 16
        5- 23
        ***12 people left this blank**

        Comments on part d:
        - **Good maps showing routes and rules**
        - **Trail Maps**

        Comments on whole question:

- **All good but shouldn't be an overload of signs**
- **Hours of use, motorized vs. non-motorized, "neighborhood watch" to help cut down on vandalism! Plenty of trash receptacles. "Doggie Bags", etc.**
- **Stronger connection to shooting range**
- **Map of pioneer park showing location of facilities and trails**
- **These are all "nice to have" that should be adopted by local service groups and clubs. The Town's focus should be on facilities.**
- **As long as the signs are just fact – not political.**
- **Like them all.**
- **All of the above.**

12. Should dispersed camping be allowed to continue in Pioneer Park east of the newly installed pedestrian bridge across the river?
    Yes – 32
    No – 14
    No Opinion – 11

    ***6 people left this blank**

    Comments:
    - **How popular is it, does it degrade the area or cause problems, what's the benefit for closing it?**
    - **Human waste is an issue.**
    - **Sometimes campers seem not trustworthy, I want the trail to be as safe as can be.**
    - **Should have permit system for all campers. Too crowded and stay too long. No squatters!**
    - **Day use only**
    - **Limited**
    - **If monitored**
    - **Keep it well maintained and beautiful.**

13. What recreational opportunities do you feel the town is missing out on? Respond Y or N.
    a. Public art
       Yes-21
       No-20
       Comments:
       - **3**

    ***21 people left this blank**

    b. White water park
       Yes – 24
       No- 24
       Comments:
       - **1**
       - **?**

***13 people left this blank**

c. Horse trails
Yes – 12
No- 30
Comments:
- **2**

***20 people left this blank**

d. Hockey rink
Yes – 21
No – 23
Comments:
- **1**
- **Outdoor for all ice skating**

***18 people left this blank**

e. No new facilities needed. Maintain existing:
Yes – 28
No- 11
Comments:
- **1**
- **Do not need more facilities. Trick question.**

***23 people left this blank**

f. Historic or cultural markers and information
Yes – 34
No- 6
Comments:
- **1**

***23 people left this blank**

g. Skate Park
Yes – 9
No- 21
Comments:
- **3**

***32 people left this blank**

h. More local festivals and events
Yes- 32
No- 7
Comments:

- **3**
- **Hispanic, German, Italian, etc.**
- **Winter carnival**

***23 people left this blank**

i. Other

- **Outdoor Curling Rink**
- **Mountain Man Rendezvous**
- **More flowers. More walking trails.**

14. Which do you prefer for park landscaping? Please circle the best choice for you and the Town:
    a. Parks that have green grass and are well manicured in all open areas - **17**
    b. Parks that are more natural with minimal amounts of manicured grass – **31**

    ***10 people left this blank**

    Comments:

    - **A for town park, B for pioneer park - 5**
    - **A – This if you can try and if it's just a bust, go to a more natural scheme. More trees in open areas.**
    - **Each of these parks has its own intended use. Town park need maintained turf. Pioneer Park is a natural setting. It doesn't need maintained turf.**
    - **Designated horse and/or snowmobile trails.**
    - **Sad there is no literature that I know of that speaks directly about or has mapped out recreational activities for HSS or how those opportunities connect to the VAST opportunities in the rest of Grand County.**
    - **I prefer more natural areas – Pioneer Park. But I think it's easier for town park to have and to be more manicured grass. Easier to maintain.**
    - **Somewhere in between**
    - **This is a mountain, dry land environment. Maintian well the grass areas that are necessary (ball field, picnic areas), but keep it focused and confined. Keep the remainder natural, but neat.**
    - **Manicured areas – just where playground/small children play**
    - **Beautify Hot Sulphur!**

15. Do you use trails in and around Hot Sulphur Springs, including County or BLM trails?
    Yes- 33
    No- 5

    ***17 people left this part blank**

    If so, what recreational activity do you use them for?

    - **Hiking – 4**
    - **Hike/Bike/Ski - 3**
    - **Hunting**
    - **Walking/Snowshoeing**

- Walking-Hiking-Fishing
- ATV use, mountain biking, snowshoeing and hiking
- Snowmobiling
- Hiking/Walking dog
- Hiking, Cross Country Skiing, Hunting and Fishing Access and some ATV use
- Snowshoe on Parshall, Divide and Cottonwood Pass. Road bike and Mountain Bike on Cottonwood Pass.
- Four Wheeling, Snowmobiling, Hiking, Fishing, Camping and Horseshoes.
- Walking, Mountain biking, Cross Country Skiing
- Target practice, snowshoes, mountain biking, fishing, rockhounding
- Biking/Hiking, Picknicking, Berry picking, watching wildlife
- Just HSS trails – walking
- ATV, Hiking, Biking, Driving
- ATV/Dirt Bikes
- Hiking/Biking – 3
- Four-Wheeling, Cross Country Ski, Hike, Walks
- Hiking/Skiing/Snowshoeing
- I use them for hiking.
- Mountain bike/Cross Country Ski
- Mountain Biking/Four Wheeling/Snowmobiling/Camping
- Walking – Snow Shoeing – Biking
- Fishing
- I enjoy fishing along the river bank
- Hiking/Biking/Walks/Cross Country Skiing/Snow Shoeing
- Walking/Hiking - 2
- Hiking, Biking
- I hike, XC ski, and ride mountain bike on the Forest Service and BLM roads and logging roads. Cottonwood pass/ Big Meadows, Parshall Divide/Smith Mesa, Helambaugh Gulch put access on south side of town. Public access via the Heimbaugh Gulch Road would be good to provide public access to Forest Service.
- Hiking, XC skiing and snowshoeing, County and USFS trials and BLM land
- Hiking, biking (both road and mountain), cross country skiing, snowshoeing, especially parshall divide and cottonwood pass areas.
- Parshall divide and cottonwood road areas. Use these areas for hiking and mountain biking in summer and back country skiing in winter.
- 4-Wheeling and Snowshoeing and Hunting
- Hiking, ATVs, picnics
- Walking, biking – my husband likes to off-road.
- Mountain bike. Jeep. Running/Hiking
- Hiking, Biking, Picnics, Hunting and Fishing
- Not familiar with these trails
- Dog Walks
- Snowshoeing/XC skiing in winter, Mountain biking in summer
- Biking/Running
- Biking
- Walking dog

- **Walking dog. Fireworks in the park.**

***7 people left the whole question blank**

16. Hot Sulphur Springs has not yet discussed how to fund parks facilities improvements, but one way to do it would be to raise property taxes. How much additional property tax would you be willing to pay to support additional recreational options in Hot Sulphur Springs on a **yearly** basis?
    - None - **11**
    - $1 - $50 - **20**
    - $51 - $100 -**13**
    - $101 - $150 -**2**
    - $150 - $200 - **5**
    - More than $200 – **1**

    Comments:
    - **Till we see how it's being spent**
    - **Either $1-$50 or $51-$100, depends on how it is used**

***10 people left this blank**

17. Please add any additional comments, thoughts or suggestions you have about the Hot Sulphur Springs parks, and opportunities for recreation in the area and trails.
    - **We need to fix the road in town properly, park later.**
    - **Charge a use fee. Ne new tax. Let the people who use it pay for it.**
    - **An overall cohesive look and brand for our town with great signage getting people where we want them.**
    - **There was some discussion about adding trees to the Town Park? Where? How Many? Put the word out to locals to clean up after their dogs!**
    - **Get grant funding for this rural district. We already pay high property tax and water bills.**
    - **I like this area, steps have been taken already to make things better. A skate park would be good. A field for snowmobiling for kids. Lower our H20 bills. We love our river! How about a tubing hill! And snowboarding hill. Our kids need more to do! Skate Park or whatever! Dirt track, Four wheeler, Bicycles, Motor Cycles!**
    - **Pioneer Park could be a major draw for veterans, especially disabled if promoted to be dedicated to those who have served.**
    - **The first thing you do with any budget is slash it by ten percent. Make everything work on 90% then spend the 10% you saved to work on the parks. No tax increased (people love you), things get done (people love you) and lives are amped.**
    - **The river stream bed really needs some help for fish and aquatic insect habitat. Deeper channels, large boulders etc. and pools. Contract Trout Unlimited and Colorado Department of Park and Wildlife – might be able to help. The river is the crown jewel of the HSS parks system. Needs attention.**
    - **Keep it small, maybe a small climbing wall for kids if insurance allows it, keep it mountain – not city themed, keep it family based.**

- The parks have been developed over a period of years, assess current use and take a vote on changes to serve the greater population. Don't assume you know better than the people how live in HSS.
- Pioneer Park camping area west of the gate is sufficient. Camping east of the green gate causes damage and is unsanitary. Human waste liters the disc golf course, not from gophers, from campers. Maintaining the disc golf course teeboxes and guide makers is worthwhile.
- A ski track for Pioneer Park that makes a loop with Town Park may be fun. It could also be a snowshoe track.
- Stop closing off everything – let us use it!!
- As there is no police it will be hard to stop vandalism which will harm any upgrading.
- Historical martyrs take funds away from them. Where the money could be better spent.
- Promote HSS as a great place to live.
- I would not support any additions to our park until existing needs are met.
- Pioneer Park – East side! Manage the area to emphaizse its natural setting, with low density relocation, eliminate camping. Maintain as non-motorized winter. Clarify access on Heimbaugh Road – is it public or private? Consider obtaining public easement for non-motorized access. Identify potential "pocket park" areas on south side of town.
- More and better signage encouraging responsibility for trash disposal – including dog poop.
- By offering improved parks and recreation opportunities, everyone wins and property values increase.
- More trails for hiking and biking and especially connect new trials to existing ones to make a network of trails. Also connect our Hot Sulphur trails to others in surrounding towns. Example: Granby to Fraser Trail could become Granby to Fraser to Hot Sulphur to Kremmling to Grand Lake Trail.
- Take better care of what you've got! Don't get drawn off on a tangent until you have that under control. We and our family used to use the park facilities a lot, but have gotten away from it as the care and maintenance deteriorated.
- Increase recreational opportunities in Pioneer Park by providing a white water park and skate park located at camping area. Either take out the camping or turn it into a fee campground. Work with land owners to build a connecting bike trail across Grand county. Town park should have basketball, tennis, baseball, etc.
- Poma/T-Bar on the skill hill that ran on weekends. Family movie night in town park.
- I would just like to see maintenance and prideful care in what already exists, not necessarily more of anything – maintenance and improving on existing on priority. See #7. I believe our town recreates in the public lands and therefore doesn't need more opportunities except for small children where a natural playground and pump track could draw local and other families to our uniqueness.
- More local access to forest service trails. A local town map could help out hot sulphur on the radar. Perhaps some more business could be generated with increased traffic. This is a good town, it just needs something.

*28 people left this blank

We very much appreciate you taking the time to fill out and return this survey. It will help us understand better what the community's interests are for parks, open space and trails! Please return the survey to Hot Sulphur Springs Town Hall, located at:

513 Aspen Street @ Byers Ave/US 40
PO Box 116
Hot Sulphur Springs, CO 80451-0116

Grants Awarded to Projects in Hot Sulphur Springs

Grant Type	Year	Project Title	Grant Amount
GOCO - Planning	2014	Master Plan for Parks, Recreation and Open Space	$18,750.00
CDOT – Enhancement Grant	2012	Colorado River Pedestrian Bridge	$232,000.00
GOCO - Local Government	2012	Pioneer Park Pedestiran Bridge Area Enhancements	$25,000.00
GOCO - Local Government	2008	Camp Relocation in Pioneer Park	$23,632.84
GOCO - Planning	2007	Pedestrian Bridge Planning	$13,940.62
GOCO - Planning	2004	Pioneer Park River Corridor Restoration and Access Trails	$8,068.00
GOCO - Open Space	1996	Pioneer Park Acquisition	$81,900.00
		Total:	**$403,291.46**