



City of Detroit

Parks & Recreation Strategic Plan

2022-2032

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Land of the Fox, Anishinabewaki, and Potawatomi nations.



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

On behalf of the City of Detroit Parks and Recreation Division, we are pleased to provide a comprehensive Parks and Recreation Strategic Plan to guide our investment and improvement strategies for the next 10 years.

We have come a long way from decades long disinvestment in our parks and recreation system leading up to the City's historic bankruptcy. The 2017 Parks and Recreation Improvement Plan allowed DPRD to refocus on providing high quality public space throughout the city, with a focus on improving quality of life for all Detroiters. A few months after the 2017 plan was released, the Mayor allocated \$12 million to implement the first phase of the PRIP's Capital Improvement Plan. In the first 18-months from the plan's launch, 40 neighborhood parks across the city received full renovations, many of which had not seen improvements since the 1960s. In total, we have improved over 150 parks and added new parks to increase access for residents in neighborhoods across the city. We continue to prioritize community engagement, equity, and access to parks and recreation in our work. We were recently awarded the 2022 National Planning Award for Advancing Diversity and Social Change for the Joe Louis Greenway Framework Plan.

The Covid-19 pandemic showed how important parks are to our communities, providing safe places for people to gather, walk, and connect. Through the 2022 Parks and Recreation Strategic Plan, DPRD aims to be a leader in providing equitable access to parks, green spaces, and other recreational opportunities by utilizing an equity framework to shape decisions and meaningfully prioritize investments.

I would like to thank all of the City staff from departments and divisions across the City who provided their input and expertise in the creation of this plan, but most importantly the community members and park organizations who ensured this plan reflects the needs and priorities of the residents. This plan will enable us to strategically focus on connecting communities with our parks, greenways, recreational programs and facilities, to positively impact quality of life for Detroiters.

Sincerely,



Brad Dick
Group Executive