Appendix D
Pennsylvania Outdoor Recreation Plan
2014-2019

Pennsylvania Local Park and Recreation Provider Survey

Submitted to the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Submitted by the Department of Recreation, Park and Tourism Management
The Pennsylvania State University
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Over 1,000 local recreation providers took part in this survey. Nearly 500 respondents identified themselves as appointed officials, with almost all of them being township, city or borough managers/secretaries. Over 400 respondents were elected officials, with the majority of them being borough council members. Over 130 of the respondents were park and recreation directors. The majority of providers classified their local areas as rural. The second most common local area was suburban. Finally, the highest percentage of respondents were from the South East region of Pennsylvania.

The majority of appointed and elected officials said that their local government owns a park facility and has a park and recreation advisory board. Park and recreation directors described a wide range of staffing capacity for both full-time and part-time employees. The majority of providers responded that they serve populations of less than 5,000 people, indicating that they represent predominantly small/rural governments. When asked about recent trends in tax support funding (both operational and capital funds), a majority of park and recreation directors reported funding levels as remaining the same. Interestingly, park and recreation directors indicated that tax support for capital funds has fluctuated more than operational funds over the past three years.

Community, social, and child/youth benefits were the top benefits that providers believed their agency or local government delivered to their local communities. Park and recreation directors were more likely than appointed and elected officials to perceive that their services provided benefits to their local area. Although, elected officials were more likely than appointed officials to perceive that park and recreation services provided a range of benefits. The higher the capacity of an agency or local government to provide park and recreation services, the more likely they were to perceive that their services deliver benefits to their community. Interestingly, when compared to the Pennsylvania Resident Survey, residents perceived a higher level of delivered benefits from park and recreation services than did recreation providers (Mowen et al., 2014). This finding speaks to the great value that Pennsylvanians place on park and recreation services.

Playgrounds were identified as the most important priority for facility investment over the next five years. All three provider types agreed that playgrounds were the top facility investment priority. Other priorities included neighborhood and community/regional parks, team sports facilities, and community/regional trail systems. Park and recreation directors gave facility investment greater priority rankings than elected and appointed officials. Those with higher capacity and who served larger populations were more likely to prioritize facility investments over the next five years.

Maintaining existing park and recreation areas was by far the most important funding priority for outdoor recreation and conservation efforts. Other important priorities were related to programming and building greenways/trails and pedestrian/cycling paths. Park and recreation directors again placed a higher level of importance on funding priorities than elected and appointed officials. Although, elected officials placed a higher level of
importance on these priorities than appointed officials. The higher the capacity of an agency/local government to provide park and recreation services, the higher the level of importance they placed on funding priorities. Finally, Pennsylvania residents and providers had major differences in the importance they placed on conservation-related funding priorities. Residents felt much more strongly about the importance of conservation-related priorities than providers. In turn, providers felt more strongly about the importance of maintenance, programming, and the need to build more developed trails/paths.

Providers identified fiscal and funding issues to be the most significant challenges faced when providing park and recreation services to their local communities. The most significant challenge identified was developing alternative/nontraditional revenue sources for parks and recreation. The second most challenging issue identified was creating new park and recreation facilities. Generally, elected officials had the highest percentage of respondents that ranked these issues as significant or major challenges.

The majority of park and recreation directors mentioned issues related to funding as the single biggest challenge their agency faces when providing park and recreation services. When asked if there was anything else the providers wanted to convey to DCNR as they develop the next five-year outdoor recreation plan, a large proportion of all three provider types reiterated the importance of funding. These funding-related statements referred to a need to provide funding for existing park and recreation facilities, as well as maintenance/rehabilitation of park and recreation areas. Other themes mentioned in this final open-ended section related to management problems, marketing outdoor recreation opportunities, cooperation among providers, programming needs, and the safety/security of park areas.

This survey offers valuable insight on the thoughts and opinions of Pennsylvania outdoor recreation providers on providing outdoor recreation experiences for people in their local areas. Additionally, this survey effort enabled the 2014-2019 plan developers to understand future facility investment priorities, general outdoor recreation and conservation funding priorities, and the challenges of providing outdoor recreational experiences. These findings helped shape the 2014-2019 Pennsylvania Outdoor Recreation Plan.

References:
INTRODUCTION

Study Background and Objectives
For the 2014-2019 plan, there was a need to hear from those professionals who have a role in providing local park and recreation services. This was a new approach that represented an opportunity to hear from the “boots on the ground” providers who directly provide or make decisions about local park and recreation services.

Three major groups comprised the sample of local park and recreation providers:
- Appointed officials (i.e. Borough, City and Township Managers/Administrators)
- Elected officials (Supervisors/Commissioners, Council Members, Mayors)
- Park and recreation directors

This provider survey included a number of different types of questions. The first set included a variety of contextual variables such as the providers’ type of position, their type of local government, size of population served, and their area type (urban, rural, suburban, or county). The next set of questions included capacity measures such as park ownership, staffing, and operational/capital budgets. The majority of the questions provided insight on the perceived benefits provided by parks and recreation services, future facility investment priorities, outdoor recreation/conservation funding strategies, and challenges faced by their local government/agency.

Survey Methods
Two online surveys were developed. One survey was designed to be taken by park and recreation directors and included a number of specific questions related to the role and realities of leading a park and recreation agency. A second survey was designed to be taken by both appointed and elected officials. Both surveys were intended to take an average of 10 minutes to complete and were distributed through professional organizations that represented appointed and elected officials as well as park and recreation directors. These organizations included the Pennsylvania State Association of Townships Supervisors, the Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs, the County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania, the Pennsylvania Municipal League, and the Pennsylvania Recreation and Park Society. A series of emails were sent out to the members of these organizations to invite them to participate in this survey.

The online survey data collection occurred from April 21, 2014 to May 12, 2014. After respondents not relevant to the survey purpose were removed from the sample, a total of 1,037 respondents were left to comprise the final study group (appointed, N=489; elected, N=414; and park and recreation director, N=134). A number of park and recreation directors took the elected and appointed official version of the survey. These park and recreation directors who took the elected and appointed official version of the survey were merged with the other park and recreation directors. However, because the two surveys include different questions, the park and recreation directors who took the elected and appointed official version of the survey had missing data for many of the park and recreation director-specific items.
RESULTS

Describing the Sample

A total of 1,037 recreation providers took part in this survey. Nearly 500 hundred respondents identified themselves as appointed officials, with nearly all of them being township, city or borough managers/secretaries. Over 400 respondents were elected officials, with the majority of them being borough council members. Over 130 of the respondents were park and recreation directors. The majority of providers classified their local area as rural, with suburban areas coming in second. Finally, the highest percentage of providers were from the South East region of Pennsylvania.

Type of Park and Recreation Agency
The majority of park and recreation directors stated that their agency was a local or municipal (township, city, borough) park and recreation department. Less than 10% stated that their agency was a multi-municipal recreation authority, commission or organization. Approximately seven percent stated that they represented a county park and recreation agency. Due to the data-merger described in the Introduction, 28% of the park and recreation directors’ responses to this question were classified as unspecified or missing data.

Type of Appointed/Elected Position and the Governments They Serve
In total, 489 appointed officials are included in the overall sample. Nearly all appointed officials were township, city, or borough managers/secretaries (N=475, 97% of all appointed officials). The remaining 3% classified themselves as county chief clerks/administrators (N=14).

414 elected officials were included in the overall sample. The majority of elected officials were borough council members (N=227, 55% of all elected officials). Twenty-one percent of elected officials were township supervisors/commissioners (N=89), 11% were mayors (N=46), and nearly 7% each were city council members (N=27) and county commissioners (N=25). See Table 1 for a complete position description of the sample.

Table 1. Position Description of the Sample

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Township, City, or Borough Manager/Secretary</td>
<td>475</td>
<td>97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County Chief Clerk/Administrator</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total appointed officials</strong></td>
<td>489</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Borough Council Member</td>
<td>227</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Township Supervisor/Commissioner</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mayor</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City Council Member</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County Commissioner</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total elected officials</strong></td>
<td>414</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Park and Recreation directors</strong></td>
<td>134</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total (Full Sample)</strong></td>
<td>1037</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Among elected and appointed officials, the vast majority said that their local government was either a borough (49%) or a township (42%). A smaller percentage of appointed and elected officials described their local government as a city (N=43, 5% of the appointed and elected sample) or a county (N=37, 4% of the appointed and elected sample). These findings indicate the strong representation of smaller governments in this study sample.

Where Providers Are From
There was also an interest in learning where in Pennsylvania providers were from. This data would be useful to better understand priorities and challenges from a regional perspective. Additionally, these regions provided a basis for making comparisons (see Appendix 2). Figure 1 shows the six DCNR planning regions and the two urban areas of Philadelphia County and Allegheny County. Table 2 shows the location of the providers’ recreation agency/local government. The highest percentage of providers were from the South East region (30.4%). The South West and South Central regions had the next highest percentages of providers (18.1% and 17.1%, respectively). The region with the lowest representation within the sample was Philadelphia County (0.1%), with only a single provider (a park and recreation director) who responded. By contrast, the Allegheny County region (Pittsburgh Metro Area) had 86 providers respond to the survey (8.9% of the sample).
Table 2. Regional Representation within the Sample

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>N</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>North West Area</td>
<td>4.98</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South West Area</td>
<td>18.05</td>
<td>185</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Central Area</td>
<td>7.80</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Central Area</td>
<td>17.07</td>
<td>175</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North East Area</td>
<td>13.17</td>
<td>135</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South East Area</td>
<td>30.44</td>
<td>312</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philadelphia</td>
<td>0.10</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pittsburgh</td>
<td>8.93</td>
<td>86</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Appointed and elected providers were also asked to select the response that best described their local community. The majority of the providers said that their community is best described as rural (53.5%, N=480). The second most common type of area represented within the sample was suburban (29.4%, N=264). Finally, urban (13.4%, N=120) and county areas (3.7%, N=33) were the areas least represented within the sample (Figure 1). From this data, it is clear that the sample of providers was primarily composed of officials who describe their areas as rural. These types of area will serve as a critical comparison variable later in this report (See Appendix 2).

![Type of Local Community](image)

**Figure 2. Type of Local Community**
Capacity Measures

The majority of appointed and elected officials said that their local government owns a park facility and has a park and recreation advisory board. Park and recreation directors described a wide range of staffing capacity for both full-time and part-time employees. The majority of providers responded that they serve populations of less than 5,000 people, indicating that many of the providers are from small, rural governments. Operational and capital budgets vary widely across the different providers. Finally, park and recreation directors indicated that tax support for operational and capital funds had remained relatively consistent over the past three years. However, there was much more variability in tax support for capital funding than operational funding.

Park Ownership
Both appointed and elected officials were asked if their local government owned a park facility. Eighty-one percent of officials responded that their local government owns a park facility. As a follow-up, those officials who stated that their local government does own a park facility were asked how many parks their local government owns. Sixty-nine percent of respondents stated that their local government owns between 1-3 parks. Twenty-one percent stated that their government owns between 4-7 parks, and a little over 9% stated that their government owns 8 or more parks.

Recreation Board/Commission
Park and Recreation Directors were asked if their agency has a park and recreation board/commission. Eighty-one percent of responding directors stated that they do, whereas 17.9% stated that they do not, and 1.1% responded that they didn’t know (Figure 3).

![Figure 3. The Presence of Park and Recreation Boards/Commissions](image-url)
Appointed and elected officials were asked a similar question. Fifty-three percent of officials said that they have a park and recreation advisory board that was established by their local government. Forty-five percent of officials said they do not and 1.9% said they didn’t know (see Figure 3). Of those officials who said that they do have a park and recreation board, a follow-up question was asked about how effective they believe their advisory board has been in promoting, planning, and serving the park and recreation needs of their local residents. Sixty-seven percent of responding officials believed that their board was effective (42.7% somewhat effective, 24.1% extremely effective). Only 17.9% of officials thought that their advisory board was ineffective and 15.3% of officials remained neutral.

**Staffing Capacity**

Park and Recreation Directors were asked two questions about staffing. The first question asked if they had part-time or full-time park and recreation staff. Eighty-eight percent of directors said yes, while 12.6% said no. For those who said that they had park and recreation staff, an additional question was asked concerning how many full-time and part-time staff members they employed. For full-time staff, directors indicated that they had an average of 6.7 and a median of 4 employees. The range for full-time staff members was from 0-63. Due to such a large range, the median number of 4 fulltime staff members is the most useful number to consider. The average number of part-time/seasonal staff was 40.8 with a median of 20. The range for part-time staff was 0-430. Again, this large range reflects a wide variety of staffing capabilities. Therefore, the median of 20 part-time staff would be the most appropriate statistic to consider (Table 3).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Staffing</th>
<th>Range</th>
<th>Average</th>
<th>Median</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Full-time staff</td>
<td>0-63</td>
<td>6.73</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part-time/seasonal staff</td>
<td>0-430</td>
<td>40.77</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Size of Population Served**

Both directors and appointed/elected officials were asked to indicate the size of the population that their agency (or local government) serves. This capacity measure was included to better understand the number of residents their park and recreation services cater to (and potentially draw taxes from). Fifty-seven percent of providers responded that their agency/local government serves less than 5,000 people. Thirty-three percent of providers stated that they serve 5,000 to 24,999 people. Finally, 10.2% of providers said that they serve a population of 25,000 or more people. These percentages indicate that the majority of providers serve smaller populations (Figure 4).
Budgetary Capacity
All providers were asked about their agency/local government’s total operational and capital budgets for parks and recreation in 2013 (Table 4). Among park and recreation directors, the operational budgets ranged from $10,000 to $13.3 million, with an average of $1.3 million and a median of $731,000. Capital budgets were noticeably smaller, with ranges from $0 to $6 million, with an average of $376,000 and a median of $70,000.

Among appointed and elected officials, operational budgets ranged from $0 to $73 million with an average of $488,000 and a median of $12,000. Capital budgets ranged from $0 to $5 million, with an average of $117,000 and a median of $2,000. In this case, it is again advisable to refer to the median operational and capital budgets to understand what the typical budgetary capacities are for providers in Pennsylvania.

Table 4. Operational and Capital Budgets for Parks and Recreation in 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Range ($)</th>
<th>Average ($)</th>
<th>Median ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>P&amp;R Director</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operational (N=87)</td>
<td>10,000-13.3 million</td>
<td>1,261,151</td>
<td>731,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital (N=65)</td>
<td>0-6 million</td>
<td>375,895</td>
<td>70,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Appointed/Elected</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operational (N=520)</td>
<td>0-73 million</td>
<td>487,679</td>
<td>12,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital (N=433)</td>
<td>0-5 million</td>
<td>116,905</td>
<td>2,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Tax Support Trends
Park and recreation directors were asked questions about tax support for funding operation and capital expenses (Table 5). Specifically, directors were asked if tax support had declined, remained the same, or increased over the past three years. The majority of directors said that tax support for operational and capital funds had remained the same over the last three years. Of those reporting some change, a higher percentage of directors responded that funding had declined for both operational and capital funds over the past three years. Of interest is the variability in tax support for capital funds. The data shows
that a larger percentage of directors said tax support for capital funds had either increased or decreased compared to changes in tax support for operational funds. This indicates that tax support for capital funds has fluctuated more than operational funds during the past three years.

Table 5. Tax Support Funding Trends for Park and Recreation Directors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tax Supported Funding Has...</th>
<th>Declined (%)</th>
<th>Remained the Same (%)</th>
<th>Increased (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Operational Funds</td>
<td>23.7</td>
<td>64.5</td>
<td>11.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital Funds</td>
<td>29.3</td>
<td>53.3</td>
<td>17.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Specific Programs Offered by Park and Recreation Agencies

Park and recreation directors were asked two questions about if their park and recreation agency offers community walking programs and outdoor programs that connect children with nature. Forty percent of park and recreation directors responded that they do provide community walking programs. Over three quarters (77%) of park and recreation directors stated that their agency offers outdoor programs that connect children with nature.
Benefits Delivered by Local Park and Recreation Services

Community, social, and child/youth benefits were the top benefits that providers believed their agency or local government delivered to their local communities. Park and recreation directors were more likely than appointed and elected officials to perceive that their services provided a range of benefits to their local area. However, elected officials were more likely than appointed officials to perceive that park and recreation services provided a range of benefits. The higher the capacity of an agency or local government to provide park and recreation services, the more likely they were to perceive that their services deliver benefits to their community. Interestingly, Pennsylvania residents perceived a higher level of delivered benefits from park and recreation services than did the recreation providers. This finding speaks to the great value that Pennsylvanians place on park and recreation services.

A major component of this survey was to better understand the perceived benefits of park and recreation services in local areas. Providers were asked to indicate the extent that their agency or local government delivers or provides for 14 different benefits. This was measured on a scale from 1 – not at all, to 5 – a great deal. Additionally, providers were asked to indicate what they believed to be the single most important benefit that their agency/local government provided to their residents and community. Table 6 presents the 14 benefit items sorted by the single most important benefit provided by their agency.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Potential Benefit</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>#1 Benefit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Provides children with a safe place to play</td>
<td>4.14</td>
<td>25.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Makes the community a more desirable place to live</td>
<td>4.00</td>
<td>25.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enhances a sense of community</td>
<td>3.76</td>
<td>10.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provides equitable and accessible recreation opportunities to a broad constituency</td>
<td>3.63</td>
<td>9.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provides opportunities for social interaction</td>
<td>3.78</td>
<td>7.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improves physical health and fitness</td>
<td>3.64</td>
<td>7.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Promotes positive youth development</td>
<td>3.73</td>
<td>5.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protects the natural environment</td>
<td>3.49</td>
<td>3.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Promotes tourism and economic development</td>
<td>2.86</td>
<td>1.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reduces stress/improves mental health</td>
<td>3.45</td>
<td>0.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increases property values in the community</td>
<td>3.53</td>
<td>0.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preserves historical and cultural heritage</td>
<td>3.04</td>
<td>0.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helps reduce crime</td>
<td>2.84</td>
<td>0.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helps attract new residents and businesses</td>
<td>3.20</td>
<td>0.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

“Provides children with a safe place to play” was perceived by providers to be the highest delivered benefit of park and recreation services. It was also the benefit that had the highest percentage of respondents who said that it was the single most important delivered benefit. The second highest delivered benefit was “makes the community a more desirable
place to live,” with 25.3% of provider saying that it was the single most important benefit. The next highest delivered benefits were “provides opportunities for social interaction,” (M=3.78) “enhances a sense of community,” (M=3.76) and “promotes positive youth development.” (M=3.73). Taken holistically, community, social, and child/youth benefits were the top perceived benefits delivered by their park and recreation services.

When broken out by provider type it became clear that park and recreation directors were more likely than appointed and elected officials to perceive that their services provided a range of benefits to their local area. Although, elected officials were more likely than appointed officials to perceive that park and recreation services provided a range of benefits to their local area. Table 7 illustrates this cascading effect where directors perceived the highest levels of delivered benefits and appointed officials perceived the lowest levels. Table 7 also presents the means for delivered benefits across the three provider groups sorted by the highest mean score for park and recreation directors.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Potential Benefit</th>
<th>Mean</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Provides children with a safe place to play</td>
<td>3.96 4.18 4.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Makes the community a more desirable place to live</td>
<td>3.75 4.09 4.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provides opportunities for social interaction</td>
<td>3.59 3.83 4.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enhances a sense of community</td>
<td>3.57 3.78 4.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Promotes positive youth development</td>
<td>3.51 3.80 4.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provides equitable and accessible recreation opportunities to a broad constituency</td>
<td>3.35 3.77 4.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increases property values in the community</td>
<td>3.26 3.63 4.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improves physical health and fitness</td>
<td>3.43 3.72 4.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reduces stress/improves mental health</td>
<td>3.19 3.59 3.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protects the natural environment</td>
<td>3.31 3.56 3.92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helps attract new residents and businesses</td>
<td>2.93 3.29 3.87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helps reduce crime</td>
<td>2.54 2.96 3.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Promotes tourism and economic development</td>
<td>2.60 2.99 3.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preserves historical and cultural heritage</td>
<td>2.79 3.19 3.40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Also, the capacity to provide certain recreation services made a difference in how providers responded to the delivered benefit items. Providers who served larger populations and who had larger budgets and staffing were more likely to perceive that their park and recreation services provided a range of benefits to their community. This makes intuitive sense because those agencies/local governments that have more resources for park and recreation services are likely able to provide more recreational services, and hence greater benefits, to their residents. Table 8 compares provider responses to the delivered benefits questions broken out by the population size that they serve. As shown in this comparison, providers who serve larger populations (i.e. more than 5,000 people) view their park and recreation services to deliver a higher level of benefits than those who serve smaller populations.
Table 8. Provider Response to Benefits Delivered by Population Size Served

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Potential Benefit</th>
<th>Mean</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>&lt;5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provides children with a safe place to play</td>
<td>3.89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Makes the community a more desirable place to live</td>
<td>3.64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provides opportunities for social interaction</td>
<td>3.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enhances a sense of community</td>
<td>3.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Promotes positive youth development</td>
<td>3.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provides equitable and accessible recreation opportunities to a broad constituency</td>
<td>3.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increases property values in the community</td>
<td>3.14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improves physical health and fitness</td>
<td>3.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reduces stress/improves mental health</td>
<td>3.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protects the natural environment</td>
<td>3.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helps attract new residents and businesses</td>
<td>2.83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helps reduce crime</td>
<td>2.58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Promotes tourism and economic development</td>
<td>2.52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preserves historical and cultural heritage</td>
<td>2.80</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Interestingly, providers who serve between 5,000 to 24,999 people had a higher mean score on a number of the benefit items compared to providers serving population sizes on the other two ends of the spectrum, less than 5,000 and more than 25,000 people. These benefit items focus on the two key themes of providing benefits to children and to the community. Therefore, it can be inferred that those who serve a medium-sized population perceive that their park and recreation services provide both community and child/youth benefits at a higher level other providers.

Comparing the Provider Survey Benefit Response to the Resident Survey Benefit Response

The 2014 Outdoor Recreation in Pennsylvania Resident Survey asked nearly identical questions about the delivered benefits of park and recreation services in their local area (Mowen et. al, 2014). Comparing the resident survey response and the provider survey response offers an interesting perspective on the benefits that residents and providers perceive park and recreation services to provide. Table 9 presents the mean scores for residents of Pennsylvania and the aggregate response for the providers.
Table 9. Provider Survey and Resident Survey Response to Benefits Delivered by Local Park and Recreation Services

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Potential Benefit</th>
<th>Means</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Provider Aggregate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provides children with a safe place to play</td>
<td>4.14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Makes the community a more desirable place to live</td>
<td>4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provides opportunities for social interaction</td>
<td>3.78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enhances a sense of community</td>
<td>3.76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Promotes positive youth development</td>
<td>3.73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provides equitable and accessible recreation opportunities to a broad constituency</td>
<td>3.64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increases property values in the community</td>
<td>3.63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improves physical health and fitness</td>
<td>3.53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reduces stress/improves mental health</td>
<td>3.49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protects the natural environment</td>
<td>3.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helps attract new residents and businesses</td>
<td>3.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helps reduce crime</td>
<td>3.04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Promotes tourism and economic development</td>
<td>2.86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preserves historical and cultural heritage</td>
<td>2.84</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


From this comparison, we can see that Pennsylvania residents generally perceived a higher level of delivered benefits from park and recreation services compared to park and recreation providers. Particularly, residents were more likely to state that park and recreation services in their local area provide health benefits such as “improve physical health and fitness” and “reduce stress/improve mental health.” Residents were also more likely than providers to state that park and recreation services “preserve historical and cultural heritage” and “protects the natural environment.” Providers only exceeded residents in one delivered benefit category, “provides children with a safe place to play.” Even then, the difference between the two mean scores was relatively insignificant. These comparisons indicate that Pennsylvania residents perceive a greater amount of benefits delivered by park and recreation services than do the providers entrusted to offer those services. This finding speaks to the value that Pennsylvanians place on their local park and recreation services.
Facility Investment Priorities

Playgrounds were identified as the most important priority for facility investment over the next five years. All three provider types agreed that playgrounds were the top priority. Other priorities included neighborhood and community/regional parks, team sports facilities, and community/regional trail systems. Park and recreation directors placed the highest level of priority on facility investments, followed by elected officials and appointed officials. Those who served larger populations were more likely to prioritize facility investments over the next five years.

Another major component of this survey effort was to understand the level of priority providers place on investing in particular park and outdoor recreation facilities over the next five years. Respondents were asked to rate 16 facilities on a scale from 1 - lowest priority for investment, to 5 - highest priority for investment. Table 10 highlights the facility investment types in order from highest priority to lowest priority (based on mean/average scores).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Facility Type</th>
<th>Mean</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Playgrounds</td>
<td>3.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neighborhood parks</td>
<td>3.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community or regional parks</td>
<td>3.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Team sports facilities</td>
<td>2.98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community or regional trail systems</td>
<td>2.86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor interpretive/educational facilities</td>
<td>2.26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community gardens</td>
<td>2.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swimming pools/water play parks</td>
<td>1.97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On-road bike lanes</td>
<td>1.92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opportunities for/access to water-based recreation (e.g., boating, kayaking)</td>
<td>1.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opportunities for hunting and/or fishing</td>
<td>1.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Off-leash dog parks</td>
<td>1.76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mountain bike trails</td>
<td>1.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skate parks/adventure parks</td>
<td>1.66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trails/parks for motorized activities</td>
<td>1.45</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Playgrounds were the facility type that providers placed the highest level of priority for investment over the next five years. Neighborhood parks and community or regional parks were the next highest facility investment priority among providers. Team sports facilities
and community or regional trail systems rounded out the top five facility investment priorities.

Facility investment priorities were also compared across the three provider types. Table 11 presents the mean (average) scores for the various facility investment priorities across all three types of providers. Playgrounds were identified by all three providers as the most important facility investment priority. For park and recreation directors, team sports facilities were the second most important facility investment priority. Among both appointed and elected officials, neighborhood parks were the second most important facility investment priority. Regardless of these small differences among the providers, the top five facility investment priorities were the same across all the three providers.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table 11. Facility Investment Priorities Across Provider Types</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Facility Type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Playgrounds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Team sports facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community or regional parks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neighborhood parks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community or regional trail systems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor interpretive/educational facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community gardens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swimming pools/water play parks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Off-leash dog parks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On-road bike lanes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opportunities for/access to water-based recreation (e.g., boating, kayaking)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opportunities for hunting and/or fishing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skate parks/adventure parks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mountain bike trails</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trails/parks for motorized activities</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As with the perceived delivered benefits of park and recreation services, directors placed a higher level of priority on various facility investments than appointed and elected officials (see Table 11). Additionally, the difference between elected officials and appointed officials followed a similar pattern; elected officials placed a higher level of priority on facility investments than appointed officials. Additionally, capacity also impacted the priority that providers placed on facility investments. Those with higher capacity were more likely to prioritize facility investments over the next five years than those with lower capacity. A comparison of facility investment priority based on the size of population served is provided below in Table 12. These findings show that providers serving
populations larger than 5,000 people place a higher level of priority on facility investments over the next five years compared to those serving populations less than 5,000 people.

Table 12. Facility Investment Priorities by Population Size Served

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Facility Type</th>
<th>Mean &lt;5,000</th>
<th>Mean 5,000 to 24,999</th>
<th>Mean &gt;25,000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Playgrounds</td>
<td>3.38</td>
<td>3.83</td>
<td>3.59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Team sports facilities</td>
<td>2.65</td>
<td>3.44</td>
<td>3.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community or regional parks</td>
<td>2.74</td>
<td>3.39</td>
<td>3.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neighborhood parks</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>3.47</td>
<td>3.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community or regional trail systems</td>
<td>2.45</td>
<td>3.37</td>
<td>3.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor interpretive/educational facilities</td>
<td>1.97</td>
<td>2.54</td>
<td>2.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community gardens</td>
<td>1.97</td>
<td>2.45</td>
<td>2.43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swimming pools/water play parks</td>
<td>1.63</td>
<td>2.30</td>
<td>2.52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Off-leash dog parks</td>
<td>1.47</td>
<td>2.05</td>
<td>2.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On-road bike lanes</td>
<td>1.65</td>
<td>2.24</td>
<td>2.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opportunities for/access to water-based recreation (e.g., boating, kayaking)</td>
<td>1.71</td>
<td>1.91</td>
<td>2.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opportunities for hunting and/or fishing</td>
<td>1.73</td>
<td>1.93</td>
<td>2.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skate parks/adventure parks</td>
<td>1.46</td>
<td>1.87</td>
<td>1.93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mountain bike trails</td>
<td>1.55</td>
<td>1.80</td>
<td>2.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trails/parks for motorized activities</td>
<td>1.38</td>
<td>1.50</td>
<td>1.58</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Outdoor Recreation and Conservation Funding Strategies

*Maintaining existing park and recreation areas was by far the most important funding priority for outdoor recreation and conservation efforts.* Other important priorities were related to programming and building greenways/trails and pedestrian/cycling paths. Park and recreation directors again placed a higher level of importance on funding priorities than elected and appointed officials, and elected officials placed a higher level of importance on these priorities than appointed officials. The higher the capacity of an agency/local government to provide park and recreation services, the higher the level of importance they placed on funding priorities. Finally, Pennsylvania residents and providers showed major differences in the importance they placed on conservation-related funding priorities. Residents felt more strongly about the importance of conservation-related priorities than providers. In turn, providers felt more strongly about the importance of maintenance, programming, and the need to build additional bike and pedestrian paths.

Another major priority for this research was to understand the importance providers placed on various priorities for funding outdoor recreation and conservation efforts in their local community. Providers were asked to respond to nine specific funding priorities for outdoor recreation and conservation on a scale from 1 - not at all important, to 5 - extremely important. Additionally, providers were asked to look at the list of nine priorities and select the single most important funding priority for their community. Table 13 provides the mean (average) scores for the funding priorities as well as the percentage of providers who believed that each item was the #1 priority for their local community.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funding Priority</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>#1 Priority</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maintain existing park and recreation areas</td>
<td>4.35</td>
<td>63.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provide recreation programs at parks and recreation areas</td>
<td>3.51</td>
<td>8.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Build more greenways/trails</td>
<td>2.95</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provide environmental and conservation programs</td>
<td>2.94</td>
<td>1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acquire and protect open space (as undeveloped, conserved land)</td>
<td>2.85</td>
<td>6.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protect wildlife and fish habitat</td>
<td>2.83</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Build pedestrian and cycling paths between places of work, parks, schools, and shopping areas</td>
<td>2.83</td>
<td>7.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restore damaged rivers and streams</td>
<td>2.63</td>
<td>2.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acquire additional land and water areas for developed recreation</td>
<td>2.42</td>
<td>2.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Based on the data above, we can see that “maintaining existing park and recreation areas” was by far the most important priority identified by providers. A resounding 64% of all providers believed that this was the most important funding priority for recreation and conservation. Additionally, across all three types of providers, it was the funding priority
given the highest amount of importance on the five-point scale (see Table 14 below). Other important funding priorities included “providing recreation programs at parks and recreation areas” (Mean = 3.51), “building more greenways/trails” (Mean = 2.95) and “providing environmental and conservation programs” (Mean = 2.94).

Table 13 also reveals what providers believe to be the #1 priority for funding outdoor recreation and conservation efforts in their community. As described above, “maintain existing park and recreation areas” was by far the #1 priority for all providers. After that, the results are more mixed. “Provide recreation programs at park and recreation areas” received 9% of providers who said that this was their community’s #1 priority. Then, even though “build pedestrian and cycling paths between places of work, parks, schools, and shopping” had the seventh lowest mean score, it had the third highest percentage of providers who perceived it to be their #1 priority (7%). Finally, “acquire and protect open space (as undeveloped, conserved land)” and “build more greenways/trails” received the fourth and fifth highest percentages of providers who believed that they were the single most important funding priority for their community (6% and 4% respectively).

Table 14 presents the mean importance ranking of recreation and conservation priorities across the three providers. From the table, a similar response pattern among provider type can again be observed. Directors placed a higher level of importance on these priorities than elected officials and elected officials placed a higher level of importance on these priorities than appointed officials. Also, as seen before, capacity made a difference in how providers responded to these questions. Table 15 presents the mean scores for each recreation and conservation priority based upon the size of the population that each provider serves. As was observed previously, the larger the population that a provider serves, the higher level of importance they placed on funding recreation and conservation efforts in their communities.

### Table 14. Recreation and Conservation Funding Priorities by Provider Type

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funding Priority</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>Appointed</th>
<th>Elected</th>
<th>Director</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maintain existing park and recreation areas</td>
<td>4.26</td>
<td>4.36</td>
<td>4.65</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provide recreation programs at parks and recreation areas</td>
<td>3.27</td>
<td>3.59</td>
<td>4.09</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Build more greenways/trails</td>
<td>2.84</td>
<td>2.94</td>
<td>3.37</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provide environmental and conservation programs</td>
<td>2.81</td>
<td>2.96</td>
<td>3.32</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Build pedestrian and cycling paths between places of work, parks, schools, and shopping areas</td>
<td>2.65</td>
<td>2.94</td>
<td>3.17</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acquire and protect open space (as undeveloped, conserved land)</td>
<td>2.79</td>
<td>2.82</td>
<td>3.13</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protect wildlife and fish habitat</td>
<td>2.77</td>
<td>2.80</td>
<td>3.12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acquire additional land and water areas for developed recreation</td>
<td>2.23</td>
<td>2.52</td>
<td>2.79</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restore damaged rivers and streams</td>
<td>2.56</td>
<td>2.69</td>
<td>2.69</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 15. Recreation and Conservation Funding Priorities by Size of Population

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funding Priority</th>
<th>Mean</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>&lt;5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintain existing park and recreation areas</td>
<td>4.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provide recreation programs at parks and recreation areas</td>
<td>3.14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Build more greenways/trails</td>
<td>2.54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provide environmental and conservation programs</td>
<td>2.66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Build pedestrian and cycling paths between places of work, parks, schools, and shopping areas</td>
<td>2.39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acquire and protect open space (as undeveloped, conserved land)</td>
<td>2.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protect wildlife and fish habitat</td>
<td>2.63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acquire additional land and water areas for developed recreation</td>
<td>2.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restore damaged rivers and streams</td>
<td>2.48</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Finally, the recreation and conservation funding priority items were also included within the 2014 Outdoor Recreation in Pennsylvania Resident Survey effort (Mowen et al., 2014). Table 16 presents the mean scores and Table 17 presents the percent of priorities ranked as the #1 highest priority for both residents and the aggregated providers. From these comparisons, several key differences arise between the two groups. Even though “maintain existing park and recreation areas” received the highest percentage of respondents who said it was the #1 funding priority from both providers and residents, providers clearly placed a higher level of importance on this funding priority (63.8% vs. 32.0%). This difference shows just how important maintaining existing park and recreation areas is to providers.

Additionally, residents placed a higher level of importance on conservation related funding priorities (i.e. “acquire and protect open space,” “protect wildlife and fish habitat”, and “restore damaged rivers and streams”). The mean differences between providers and residents, as well as the percentage difference in #1 priority, shows that residents place a much higher level of importance on conservation related funding than providers. This could be explained by a difference between providers’ and residents’ views on the role of park and recreation services within communities. Residents see park and recreation services as a means for protecting and conserving natural lands. While recreation providers do share a similar vision, the data indicates that they view maintenance, programming, and building developed recreation areas as potentially more important than conservation-related priorities.

This discrepancy might also be a result of wording differences between the two questionnaires. Resident survey respondents were asked about statewide funding priorities for park and recreation. Provider respondents were asked about funding priorities for their local park and recreation services. Regardless, these findings will be of interest to both providers and residents because they illuminate a difference between the two groups’ views of outdoor recreation and conservation funding priorities.
Table 16. Funding Priorities for Providers and Residents (Mean Scores)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funding Priority</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>Aggregate Providers</th>
<th>Residents*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maintain existing park and recreation areas</td>
<td>4.35</td>
<td>4.44</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provide recreation programs at parks and recreation areas</td>
<td>3.51</td>
<td>3.76</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Build more greenways/trails</td>
<td>2.95</td>
<td>3.74</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provide environmental and conservation programs</td>
<td>2.94</td>
<td>3.83</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Build pedestrian and cycling paths between places of work, parks, schools, and shopping areas</td>
<td>2.85</td>
<td>3.71</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acquire and protect open space (as undeveloped, conserved land)</td>
<td>2.83</td>
<td>3.89</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protect wildlife and fish habitat</td>
<td>2.83</td>
<td>4.36</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acquire additional land and water areas for developed recreation</td>
<td>2.63</td>
<td>3.54</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restore damaged rivers and streams</td>
<td>2.42</td>
<td>4.28</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Table 17. Funding Priorities for Providers and Residents (#1 Priority)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funding Priority</th>
<th>#1 Priority (%)</th>
<th>Aggregate Providers</th>
<th>Residents*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maintain existing park and recreation areas</td>
<td>63.8</td>
<td>32.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provide recreation programs at parks and recreation areas</td>
<td>8.9</td>
<td>2.2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Build more greenways/trails</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>3.1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provide environmental and conservation programs</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Build pedestrian and cycling paths between places of work, parks, schools, and shopping areas</td>
<td>6.4</td>
<td>10.5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acquire and protect open space (as undeveloped, conserved land)</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>13.9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protect wildlife and fish habitat</td>
<td>7.2</td>
<td>17.4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acquire additional land and water areas for developed recreation</td>
<td>2.4</td>
<td>4.3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restore damaged rivers and streams</td>
<td>2.9</td>
<td>11.3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Challenges of Providing Outdoor Recreation

Fiscal and funding issues were identified as the most significant challenges providers face when providing park and recreation services to their local communities. The most significant challenge identified was developing alternative and nontraditional revenue sources for parks and recreation. The second most challenging issue identified was that of creating new park and recreation facilities. Generally, elected officials had the highest percentage of respondents who viewed the majority of these issues as significant/major challenges. The overarching challenges providers face are related to funding and fiscal capacity as well as maintenance and management.

Understanding the challenges that local park and recreation providers face was another critical component of this survey effort. Providers were asked to rate the degree to which various issues were a challenge or concern to their agency or local government when providing park and recreation services. A total of 31 challenges were grouped into five basic categories:

1. Partnerships, Collaboration, and Staffing
2. Advocacy
3. Fiscal and Funding Issues
4. Maintenance/Management Issues
5. Emerging Trends

Providers were asked to respond to each challenge on a four-point scale where 1 indicated that it was not a challenge, 2, a minor challenge, 3, a significant challenge, and 4, a major challenge.

Top Overall Challenges
Across all providers, the top four challenges (regardless of category) were: “developing alternative/non-traditional revenue sources for parks and recreation,” “creating new parks and recreation facilities,” “insufficient funds to rehabilitate existing facilities,” and “insufficient funds for land acquisition.” Figure 5 provides a graphical representation of these significant/major challenges.

![Figure 5. The Top Four Challenges of Providing Outdoor Recreation](image-url)
Partnerships, Collaboration, and Staffing Issues
The survey asked about four challenges related to Partnerships, Collaboration, and Staffing (Table 18.). The “ability to properly staff and train employees/volunteers” was the issue that the highest percentage of providers said was a significant/major challenge (46%). “Coordinating with or gaining cooperation from other local governments to provide park and recreation services” was the second most significant/major challenge for providers (37%). Finally, “building relationships with school districts” (27%) and “building relationships with senior citizen centers” (19%) were the two partnership, collaboration, and staffing issues that had the lowest percentage of providers say that they were significant/major challenges.

Table 18. Partnerships, Collaboration, and Staffing Issues

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Not a Challenge</th>
<th>Minor Challenge</th>
<th>Significant/Major Challenge</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ability to properly staff and train employees/volunteers</td>
<td>19.0%</td>
<td>34.6%</td>
<td>46.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coordinating with or gaining cooperation from other local governments to provide park and recreation services</td>
<td>26.3%</td>
<td>36.9%</td>
<td>36.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building relationships with school districts</td>
<td>35.1%</td>
<td>38.2%</td>
<td>26.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building relationships with senior citizen centers</td>
<td>43.4%</td>
<td>37.5%</td>
<td>19.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 19 compares the responses among all three provider types and presents the percentage of each respondent that said the individual item was a significant/major challenge for them. From the data, we can see that appointed and elected officials perceive the “ability to properly staff and train employees/volunteers” to be a much more significant/major challenge than park and recreation directors. Elected officials were more likely to believe that “coordinating with or gaining cooperation from other local governments to provide park and recreation services” is a significant/challenge compared to both appointed officials and park and recreation directors. Overall, with the exception of responses to the “ability to properly staff and train employees/volunteers” item, appointed officials and park and recreation directors were much more similar to each other than to elected officials.

Table 19. Partnerships, Collaboration, and Staffing Issues Across All Three Providers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Appointed</th>
<th>Elected</th>
<th>Park and Recreation Director</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ability to properly staff and train employees/volunteers</td>
<td>46.4%</td>
<td>50.0%</td>
<td>35.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coordinating with or gaining cooperation from other local governments to provide park and recreation services</td>
<td>33.1%</td>
<td>43.5%</td>
<td>28.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building relationships with school districts</td>
<td>23.1%</td>
<td>31.9%</td>
<td>23.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building relationships with senior citizen centers</td>
<td>15.5%</td>
<td>22.8%</td>
<td>19.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Advocacy Issues
Advocacy related challenges were also asked within the survey. Table 20 presents the results for the four items related to advocacy issues. “Mobilizing citizens to support and advocate for park and recreation services” was the issue that had the highest percentage of providers state that it was a significant or major challenge (45%). “Building community awareness of outdoor recreation opportunities to local residents” had the second highest percentage of providers who said that it was a significant or major challenge (35%). Finally, only appointed officials and park and recreation directors were asked about the item “educating elected officials on the benefits and value of local park and recreation services”, resulting in 33% of appointed officials and park and recreation directors indicating that this was a significant or major challenge.

Table 20. Advocacy Issues

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Not a Challenge</th>
<th>Minor Challenge</th>
<th>Significant/Major Challenge</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mobilizing citizens to support and advocate for park and recreation services</td>
<td>15.4%</td>
<td>39.4%</td>
<td>45.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building community awareness of outdoor recreation opportunities to local residents</td>
<td>19.8%</td>
<td>45.1%</td>
<td>35.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educating elected officials on the benefits and value of local park and recreation services (Appointed official and park and recreation director responses only)</td>
<td>29.5%</td>
<td>37.9%</td>
<td>32.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 21 compares the responses among all three provider types and presents the percentage of each provider type that responded that an issue was a significant or major challenge. All three provider types had a similar percentage of respondents that stated “mobilizing citizens to support and advocate for park and recreation services” was a significant/major challenge for them. Elected officials (38%) and park and recreation directors (40%) were more likely than appointed officials (31%) to say that “building community awareness of outdoor recreation opportunities to local residents” was a significant or major challenge. Finally, park and recreation directors were much more likely than appointed officials to say that “educating elected officials on the benefits and value of local park and recreation services” was a significant/major challenge.

Table 21. Advocacy Issues Across All Three Providers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Appointed</th>
<th>Elected</th>
<th>Park and Recreation Director</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mobilizing citizens to support and advocate for park and recreation services</td>
<td>43.4%</td>
<td>47.8%</td>
<td>43.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building community awareness of outdoor recreation opportunities to local residents</td>
<td>30.7%</td>
<td>38.0%</td>
<td>40.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educating elected officials on the benefits and value of local park and recreation services</td>
<td>28.7%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>48.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Fiscal/Funding Issues**

Fiscal and funding issues were also areas of critical interest. Overall, the issues in the fiscal/funding category were identified as the most significant or major challenges faced by providers. Table 22 presents the results for the seven fiscal/funding items. The most significant fiscal and funding issue (as well as the most significant challenge of all 31 issues) was “developing alternative, non-traditional revenue sources for parks and recreation.” A total of 78% of all respondents said that this was a significant/major challenge. Other important fiscal and funding issues providers faced included “insufficient funds to rehabilitate existing facilities” (68% significant/major challenge), as well as insufficient funds for three of the following purposes: “land acquisition” (60%), “programs/activities at parks” (57%), and “operation and maintenance at parks” (57%). “Retaining allocated local government funds for parks and recreation” was also noted by a majority of providers to be a significant/major challenge (57%). Only appointed officials and park and recreation directors were asked about the item “gaining support from local government for local park and recreation funding.” This issue was not seen as a challenge for appointed officials and park and recreation directors, with only 37% responding that it was a significant/major challenge.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table 22. Fiscal and Funding Issues</th>
<th>Not a Challenge</th>
<th>Minor Challenge</th>
<th>Significant/Major Challenge</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Developing alternative, non-traditional revenue sources for parks and recreation</td>
<td>5.3%</td>
<td>17.1%</td>
<td>77.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insufficient funds to rehabilitate existing facilities</td>
<td>9.6%</td>
<td>22.3%</td>
<td>68.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insufficient funds for land acquisition</td>
<td>21.9%</td>
<td>17.7%</td>
<td>60.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insufficient funds for programs and activities at parks</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
<td>30.3%</td>
<td>57.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insufficient funds for operation and maintenance of parks</td>
<td>12.6%</td>
<td>30.3%</td>
<td>57.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retaining allocated local government funds for parks and recreation</td>
<td>12.9%</td>
<td>30.5%</td>
<td>56.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gaining support from local government elected officials for local park and recreation funding (Appointed Only)</td>
<td>22.8%</td>
<td>40.0%</td>
<td>37.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 23 compares the responses among all three provider types and presents the percentage of each provider that said each issue was a significant/major challenge. Compared to the other provider types, elected officials had the highest percentage of respondents who indicated that fiscal and funding issues were significant/major challenges. In general, appointed officials were the group that had the second highest percentage of respondents who identified these fiscal and funding issues as significant/major challenges. Though park and recreation directors did perceive significant/major challenges related to fiscal and funding issues, they did not perceive these challenges to be as significant as elected or appointed officials. Specifically, they
perceived a much lower level of challenge related to “insufficient funding for programs and activities at parks” compared to elected and appointed officials.

Table 23. Fiscal and Funding Issues Across All Three Providers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Significant/Major Challenge</th>
<th>Appointed</th>
<th>Elected</th>
<th>Park and Recreation Director</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Developing alternative, non-traditional revenue sources for parks and recreation</td>
<td>75.3%</td>
<td>80.3%</td>
<td>76.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insufficient funds to rehabilitate existing facilities</td>
<td>64.4%</td>
<td>72.0%</td>
<td>67.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insufficient funds for land acquisition</td>
<td>56.0%</td>
<td>66.9%</td>
<td>54.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insufficient funds for programs and activities at parks</td>
<td>58.1%</td>
<td>63.4%</td>
<td>35.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insufficient funds for operation and maintenance of parks</td>
<td>56.2%</td>
<td>61.0%</td>
<td>48.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retaining allocated local government funds for parks and recreation</td>
<td>55.4%</td>
<td>61.1%</td>
<td>47.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gaining support from local government elected officials for local park and recreation funding (Appointed Only)</td>
<td>36.7%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>39.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Maintenance/Management Issues
The survey also addressed maintenance/management issues. Table 24 presents the results for the eight maintenance/management items. Other than fiscal and funding challenges, maintenance/management issues were also indicated as significant/major challenges by a sizeable percentage of providers. The most pressing maintenance/management issue was “creating new park and recreation facilities,” which 75% of providers acknowledged as a significant/major challenge. This challenge was also identified by providers as the second most challenging issue overall. “Creating and enhancing trail access and connectivity” was identified by 57% of providers as a significant/major challenge. Nearly half of the respondents stated that “lack of acreage or suitable sites for new parks and recreation facilities” as well as “maintaining existing local parks in the community” were also significant/major challenges (48% and 47% respectively). The bottom four maintenance/management items were “addressing ADA issues” (37%), “determining how to best provide services to different user groups and to manage different uses of the same parks (e.g. hiking vs. organized sports vs. nature programs, etc.)” (35%), “ensuring public safety in parks and recreation areas” (25%), and “complaints from citizens about park conditions” (18%).
Table 24. Maintenance/Management Issues

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Not a Challenge</th>
<th>Minor Challenge</th>
<th>Significant/Major Challenge</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Creating new park and recreation facilities</td>
<td>9.8%</td>
<td>15.0%</td>
<td>75.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creating and enhancing trail access and connectivity</td>
<td>15.3%</td>
<td>27.6%</td>
<td>57.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of acreage or suitable sites for new parks and recreation facilities</td>
<td>26.8%</td>
<td>25.1%</td>
<td>48.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintaining existing local parks in the community</td>
<td>13.7%</td>
<td>39.8%</td>
<td>46.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Addressing ADA issues</td>
<td>21.8%</td>
<td>40.7%</td>
<td>37.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Determining how to best provide services to different user groups and to manage different uses of the same parks (e.g., hiking vs. organized sports vs. nature programs, etc.)</td>
<td>19.0%</td>
<td>46.5%</td>
<td>34.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ensuring public safety in parks and recreation areas</td>
<td>25.7%</td>
<td>49.0%</td>
<td>25.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complaints from citizens about park conditions</td>
<td>39.9%</td>
<td>41.8%</td>
<td>18.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 25 is a comparison of the data among all three provider types and presents the percentage of each provider that said each issue was a significant/major challenge. Overall, elected officials perceived the highest levels of challenges related to maintenance/management issues. Park and recreation directors perceived the highest level of challenge related to “creating new park and recreation facilities” and “creating and enhancing trail access and connectivity.” Interestingly, but not surprisingly, elected officials had a higher percentage of respondents who said that “complaints from citizens about park conditions” was a significant/major challenge.

Table 25. Maintenance/Management Issues Across All Three Providers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Significant/Major Challenge</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Appointed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creating new park and recreation facilities</td>
<td>71.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creating and enhancing trail access and connectivity</td>
<td>52.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of acreage or suitable sites for new parks and recreation facilities</td>
<td>43.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintaining existing local parks in the community</td>
<td>45.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Addressing ADA issues</td>
<td>34.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Determining how to best provide services to different user groups and to manage different uses of the same parks (e.g., hiking vs. organized sports vs. nature programs, etc.)</td>
<td>31.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ensuring public safety in parks and recreation areas</td>
<td>25.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complaints from citizens about park conditions</td>
<td>9.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Emerging Trend Issues

Finally, challenges related to emerging trends in outdoor recreation were asked. Table 26 presents the results of the nine emerging trend items. “Responding to emerging or new types of outdoor recreation activities (e.g., dog parks, paddleboarding, pickleball)” received the highest percentage of providers who said that this issue was a significant/major challenge (46%). The second most challenging emerging trend was “addressing the lack of youth engagement in outdoor recreation,” with 45% of providers acknowledging that it was a significant/major challenge. “Providing park and recreation facilities/services that meet the needs of individuals with disabilities,” and “promoting green infrastructure at parks (e.g., native landscaping, grow zones, tree planting, sustainable design)” were both identified by 40% or more of respondents as significant/major challenges (43% and 40%, respectively). “Keeping up with technological changes (e.g., social media, new software, new forms of communication)” was identified by 39% of providers as a significant/major challenge. Similarly, “improving public health (e.g., physical activity, mental health) through outdoor recreation” was identified by 38% of providers. The three emerging trends that had the lowest percentage of providers state that they posed a significant/major challenge were a “decline in team sports,” “adapting to an aging population,” and “adapting to a more ethnically/racially diverse population” (24%, 24%, and 14%, respectively).

Table 26. Emerging Trends Issues

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Challenge</th>
<th>Not a Challenge</th>
<th>Minor Challenge</th>
<th>Significant/Major Challenge</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Responding to emerging or new types of outdoor recreation activities (e.g., dog parks, paddleboarding, pickleball)</td>
<td>17.9%</td>
<td>35.9%</td>
<td>46.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Addressing the lack of youth engagement in outdoor recreation</td>
<td>20.0%</td>
<td>34.7%</td>
<td>45.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Providing park and recreation facilities/services that meet the needs of individuals with disabilities.</td>
<td>15.8%</td>
<td>41.2%</td>
<td>43.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Promoting green infrastructure at parks (e.g., native landscaping, grow zones, tree planting, sustainable design)</td>
<td>21.1%</td>
<td>38.9%</td>
<td>40.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keeping up with technological changes (e.g., social media, new software, new forms of communication)</td>
<td>21.5%</td>
<td>39.6%</td>
<td>38.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improving public health (e.g., physical activity, mental health) through outdoor recreation</td>
<td>18.5%</td>
<td>43.5%</td>
<td>37.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decline in team sports</td>
<td>41.2%</td>
<td>34.8%</td>
<td>24.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adapting to an aging population</td>
<td>32.0%</td>
<td>44.1%</td>
<td>23.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adapting to a more ethnically/racially diverse population</td>
<td>55.6%</td>
<td>31.0%</td>
<td>13.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 27 provides comparison among all three provider types and presents the percentage of each provider that said each issue was a significant/major challenge. Again, elected officials had the highest percentage of respondents who believed that the majority of issues related to emerging trends were significant/major challenges. Specifically, compared to appointed officials and park and recreation directors, elected officials had a higher percentage of respondents who said that “promoting green infrastructure at parks,” “keeping up with technological changes,” and “improving public health through outdoor recreation” were significant/major challenges. Park and recreation directors had the highest percentage of respondents indicate that a specific issue was a significant/major challenge, with 51% indicating that “addressing the lack of youth engagement in outdoor recreation” was a significant/major challenge for them.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Significant/Major Challenge</th>
<th>Appointed</th>
<th>Elected</th>
<th>Park and Recreation Director</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Responding to emerging or new types of outdoor recreation activities (e.g., dog parks, paddleboarding, pickleball)</td>
<td>43.9%</td>
<td>49.8%</td>
<td>42.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Addressing the lack of youth engagement in outdoor recreation</td>
<td>40.7%</td>
<td>48.4%</td>
<td>51.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Providing park and recreation facilities/services that meet the needs of individuals with disabilities.</td>
<td>38.6%</td>
<td>47.0%</td>
<td>45.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Promoting green infrastructure at parks (e.g., native landscaping, grow zones, tree planting, sustainable design)</td>
<td>35.9%</td>
<td>46.5%</td>
<td>33.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keeping up with technological changes (e.g., social media, new software, new forms of communication)</td>
<td>31.9%</td>
<td>46.9%</td>
<td>36.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improving public health (e.g., physical activity, mental health) through outdoor recreation</td>
<td>34.4%</td>
<td>43.0%</td>
<td>34.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decline in team sports</td>
<td>21.1%</td>
<td>26.2%</td>
<td>26.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adapting to an aging population</td>
<td>18.6%</td>
<td>30.0%</td>
<td>22.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adapting to a more ethnically/racially diverse population</td>
<td>12.6%</td>
<td>13.8%</td>
<td>15.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Open Ended Responses

The majority of park and recreation directors mentioned issues related to funding as the single biggest challenge their agency faces when providing park and recreation services. When asked if there was anything else the providers wanted to convey to the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) as they develop the next five year outdoor recreation plan, a large percentage of all three provider types mentioned responses related to funding. These statements referred to a need to provide funding for existing park and recreation facilities, as well as maintenance/rehabilitation of park and recreation areas. Other themes mentioned in this final open-ended section related to management problems, marketing outdoor recreation opportunities, cooperation among providers, programming needs, and maintaining the safety and security of park areas.

Two open ended questions were included at the end of the survey. The first question asked only park and recreation directors to state the single biggest challenge their agency faces when providing park and recreation services. The second question gave all provider types the opportunity to state anything else that they thought DCNR should consider as they develop the next five-year outdoor recreation plan. For both open-ended questions, responses were coded into major themes and sub-themes. The sections below provide an overview of these two open-ended responses. A full listing of themes and sub-themes can be found in Appendix 1 at the end of this report.

Biggest Challenges Faced by Park and Recreation Directors

Park and recreation directors were asked to state the single biggest challenge their agency faces when providing park and recreation services. A total of 65 responses to this question were received. Like the previous findings from the challenges section above, funding issues were identified by over half of the respondents as the biggest challenge their agency faces. Funding issues ranged from general funding concerns to funding for new facilities, maintenance of existing facilities, park acquisition, providing services, and rehabilitation. Besides funding issues, respondents stated that a lack of staff and the challenge of maintaining existing facilities were the primary challenges they face. Finally, many directors identified the issue of educating elected officials about the value of parks and recreation as a primary challenge that their agency faces. Refer to Appendix 1 in this report for a full listing of the open-ended responses.

Other Considerations for Developing the Next Outdoor Recreation Plan

All providers were asked a final open-ended question about from their perspective as a park and recreation director/appointed official/elected official, if there was anything else DCNR should consider as they develop the next five-year outdoor recreation plan for Pennsylvania. Seventy-eight responses were received from park and recreation directors, 77 responses were received from appointed officials, and 124 responses were received from elected officials. Answers were coded into broad themes, and then further coded into subthemes. Table 27 presents the frequency of the themes for each type of provider.
From the data, we can see that funding was the most commonly referenced theme in this open-ended question. Additionally, funding was the most commonly referenced theme among all three provider types (park and recreation directors = 29, appointed officials = 33, and elected officials = 54). Many of the providers wished to ensure that there was funding for existing parks/facilities. Other providers expressed a need for more funding for rehabilitation projects. Providers also expressed a desire to change certain aspects of the grant funding programs and application process. Finally, some appointed and elected officials expressed a desire for more funding to be allocated to smaller rural communities. Regardless of the context, these open-ended findings reinforce the utmost importance of providing sufficient funding for effective local outdoor recreation experiences. For a full listing of the different types of funding comments, please refer to Appendix 1.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Park and Recreation Directors (78)</th>
<th>Appointed Officials (77)</th>
<th>Elected Officials (124)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Funding (29)</td>
<td>Funding (33)</td>
<td>Funding (54)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marketing (7)</td>
<td>No Opinion (7)</td>
<td>New Infrastructure (9)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cooperation (5)</td>
<td>Management Problems (6)</td>
<td>Cooperation (8)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Programming (5)</td>
<td>Cooperation (5)</td>
<td>Management Problems (7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Survey Feedback (5)</td>
<td>Marketing (4)</td>
<td>No Opinion (6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No Opinion (4)</td>
<td>Programming (4)</td>
<td>Safety (4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educating Elected Officials (3)</td>
<td>Education (3)</td>
<td>Congratulatory (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safety (3)</td>
<td>Educating Elected Officials (3)</td>
<td>Marketing (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education (2)</td>
<td>Lack of Land (2)</td>
<td>Opinions (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information Sharing (2)</td>
<td>Maintenance (2)</td>
<td>Policy (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintenance (2)</td>
<td>New Infrastructure (2)</td>
<td>Priorities (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trends (2)</td>
<td>No Parks in Local Area (2)</td>
<td>Programming (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accessibility</td>
<td>Emerging Trends</td>
<td>Staffing (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concern for the Field</td>
<td>Lack of Facilities</td>
<td>Current Facility Inventory (2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facility Planning</td>
<td>Safety</td>
<td>Education (2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Land Needed</td>
<td>Staffing</td>
<td>Educating Elected Officials (2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td></td>
<td>Operation (2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outreach</td>
<td></td>
<td>Regulations (2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planning</td>
<td></td>
<td>Accessibility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Signage</td>
<td></td>
<td>Concerns</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staffing</td>
<td></td>
<td>Maintenance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>No Parks in Local Area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Survey Feedback</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Refer to Appendix 1 for a listing of themes and subthemes

Respondents from all provider types expressed a need to better market and share information about outdoor recreation experiences in Pennsylvania. This type of information sharing would give residents the necessary information about how to seek these kinds of outdoor recreation experiences in the future. Similarly, providers called for a targeted marketing campaign that would better communicate the physical, social, and economic benefits of park and recreation services.
Appointed and elected officials had comments related to management problems. Some of these included adhering to ADA requirements when developing new infrastructure, prioritizing park and recreation services as well as acquiring land for parks in small communities, and managing pests and invasive species.

Elected officials commented on the need to create new park and recreation infrastructure in their local communities. Some of these recommendations included more protected bike lanes, more green space, more accessible streets, sidewalks, and trails, as well as facilities geared towards an aging population. Appointed officials also mentioned the need for more trails and on-road bike lanes.

Cooperation was another theme that appeared frequently among all three providers. Many providers expressed a need for cooperation among surrounding townships/municipalities to provide outdoor recreation services. Volunteers, like-minded recreation groups, and state agencies such as DCNR and the Department of Environmental Protection were identified as specific groups that providers could cooperate with in the future.

Programming was also revealed as an important theme. A number of providers mentioned the importance of programs to engage youth in outdoor/nature experiences. Other programming-related comments encouraged more outdoor recreation experiences for families to participate in together.

Finally, safety was identified as a theme. Some providers felt that more oversight (in the form of staffing and security cameras) was needed to ensure the safety of park and recreation areas. Others stated that more safety measures would help with vandalism and crime in parks. Refer to Appendix 1 in this report for a full listing of the open-ended responses.
STUDY CONCLUSIONS AND IMPLICATIONS

This research effort yielded a number of valuable insights about the state of local park and recreation services in Pennsylvania. The study sample was comprised of three types of local park and recreation service providers including appointed officials, elected officials, and park and recreation directors (N = 1,037). Though over 130 park and recreation directors who serve some of the largest municipalities in the Commonwealth responded to this survey, the study sample was primarily composed of rural, small government appointed and elected official recreation providers who serve smaller populations and own a limited number of park facilities. Additionally, the vast majority of appointed and elected officials describe their local government as either a township or borough. Therefore, the reader is cautioned to consider the sample composition when interpreting the results of the study. Nevertheless, this large and diverse sample provided insight that will prove useful when planning for the future of outdoor recreation in Pennsylvania over the next five years.

Child/youth, community, and social benefits were perceived as the top benefits delivered to local communities through park and recreation services. Additionally, providers overwhelmingly agreed that “providing children with a safe place to play” as well as “makes the community a more desirable place to live” were the two top benefits provided by park and recreation services. These top benefits illustrate the widely-held opinion among providers that park and recreation services deliver benefits that are advantageous to local communities, especially in the realm of positive youth development.

Park and recreation directors were the most likely to perceive that their services provided a range of benefits to their local area, followed by elected officials and then appointed officials. The higher the capacity of an agency or local government to provide park and recreation services, the more likely they were to perceive that their services deliver benefits to their community. Interestingly, when compared to 2014 Outdoor Recreation in Pennsylvania Resident Survey (Mowen et al., 2014), residents perceived a higher level of delivered benefits from park and recreation services than recreation providers. This finding illustrates the great value that Pennsylvanians place on park and recreation services.

The high facility investment priority that providers placed on playgrounds further substantiates the need respondents identified for the provision of recreational opportunities for young people. Overall, the priority for investing in playgrounds was much higher than the level of priority providers placed on any other facility type. However, neighborhood parks were also identified as a facility priority for providers. This finding shows that providers viewed promoting and maintaining close to home recreation areas as critical to providing quality park and recreation services to their local community. Park and recreation directors again placed the highest level of priority on facility investments, followed by elected officials and appointed officials. Those with higher capacity and who served larger populations were more likely to prioritize facility investments over the next five years.
The importance that providers placed on maintaining existing park and recreation areas was a major finding of this study. Sixty-four percent of all providers viewed this as the number one overall priority for funding outdoor recreation and conservation. In the face of shrinking budgets and rising maintenance backlogs, this data indicates that providers would like to see future funding opportunities directed towards maintaining the park and recreation areas that already exist. Besides maintenance, recreation/conservation programming and building greenways/trails were also highlighted as important funding priorities. Being that park and recreation providers are tasked with providing their communities with a wide variety of recreation and conservation related programming, it is not surprising that the need to fund programming was highlighted as a top priority by park and recreation directors. While maintenance was the #1 priority, trails and greenways continue to be central to the people of Pennsylvania, as evidenced by the mean level of importance providers gave to building more trails and greenways.

Park and recreation directors again placed the highest level of importance on funding priorities followed by elected, then appointed officials. The higher the capacity of an agency/local government to provide park and recreation services, the higher the level of importance they placed on funding priorities. Finally, though Pennsylvania residents and providers agreed that maintenance was the most important recreation and conservation funding priority, the two groups had differences in the importance they placed on other funding priorities. Residents felt much more strongly about the importance of conservation-related priorities than providers. In turn, providers felt more strongly about the importance of programming and the need to build more developed trails/paths.

This survey revealed a multitude of challenges that local park and recreation providers face when providing their services. The biggest challenge that providers face is developing alternative/non-traditional revenue sources for parks and recreation. Interestingly, elected officials had the highest percentage of respondents who believed that this funding issue was a significant/major challenge. These findings lend support to prevailing belief that traditional funding sources for parks and recreation are declining. In the face of these lower levels of funding/allocation, recreation providers have to look elsewhere for ways to generate revenues to continue offering quality facilities and services.

The second biggest challenge for providers was creating new park and recreation facilities. This indicates that providers do not have the financial or political support to invest in new park and recreation infrastructure. Considering the level of challenge that creating new facilities poses, it does not seem surprising that providers placed such a disproportionately large amount of importance on maintaining existing facilities as their number one funding priority for outdoor recreation. In light of shrinking budgets and rising costs, park and recreation providers will be challenged to do more with less. This means that the potential to create new park and recreation facilities might continue to be a challenge over the next five years.

The other main challenges faced by park and recreation providers focused on lower levels of funding for a variety of different purposes. These included insufficient funding for:
rehabilitation of existing facilities, land acquisition, programming/activities at parks, and operation/maintenance of parks. These types of fiscal and funding challenges (in addition to the number one overall challenge of developing alternative/nontraditional revenue sources for parks and recreation) were the issues that were identified by the largest percentage of respondents as the most significant/major challenges they face. Knowing this, a major finding of this survey was that the majority of challenges park and recreation providers face are related to a lack of fiscal resources.

These findings provide a unique glimpse of the opinions and perspectives of Pennsylvania park and recreation providers. Additionally, this survey effort helped to understand the delivered benefits of park and recreation services, future facility investment priorities, general outdoor recreation and conservation funding priorities, and the challenges of providing outdoor recreational experiences. The conclusions from this study will undoubtedly influence the planning for outdoor recreation for Pennsylvania’s local governments over the next five years.

References:
Appendix 1
Open-Ended Responses
18. What is the single, biggest challenge your agency faces in providing park and recreation services? (Park and Recreation Directors Only)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Challenge and (Frequency) (65)</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ADA Compliance</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Aging Facilities</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Competition from private recreation providers</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cooperation with other recreational partners (2)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educating elected officials about the value of parks and recreation (6)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Effectively working with elected officials</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Funding (34)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For community activities</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>For more than “green capital projects”</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For new facilities (3)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For operations</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For park acquisition (2)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For rehabilitation (2)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For their budget</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From elected officials (3)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For maintaining existing facilities (6)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To provide services (2)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To match growth in population</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unspecified (11)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indoor Facilities (2)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keeping up with emerging trends</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of Staff (6)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of Space</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land acquisition</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintaining Existing Facilities (6)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programming for Youth</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programming for diverse audiences</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
19. From your perspective as a director of a local park and recreation agency, is there anything else we should consider as we develop the next five-year outdoor recreation plan for Pennsylvania?

**Park and Recreation Directors (78)**

**Category (Frequency)**

**Accessibility**
- For the blind and the disabled

**Concern for the Field**
- Parks and Rec. is being replaced with Hospitality Programs

**Cooperation (5)**
- With surrounding municipalities
- Allow professionals to be in charge of recreation offerings
- Other recreation/parks groups should come together to better our community

**Instead of Argue about Funding (2)**
- Provide programming
- Manage Facilities

**Educate Elected Officials (3)**

**Education (2)**
- Educate children to stop vandalism
- Require colleges to be involved in internships so students know what they are getting into

**Facility Planning**
- Adopt a regional approach

**Funding (29)**
- Increase funding for State Parks
- Making the grant writing process smoother/easier (5)
- Additional grant programs
- For rehabilitation (4)
  - For rehabilitation of playgrounds (2)
  - For rehabilitation – general (2)
- For maintenance (4)
  - Pools
  - Existing facilities (3)

**Charge user fees**
- Tax on bike and other recreation equipment to fund parks and trails
- Allow parks to receive a portion of the tourist hotel tax
- Decrease requirements needed to fund parks and trails
- Provide more funding (3)
- For small communities/townships
- For programs
- State level matching grant programs
- For open space preservation
- Increase state funding
- Funding – general (2)

**Information Sharing (2)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accessibility</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concern for the Field</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cooperation</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instead of Argue about Funding</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educate Elected Officials</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facility Planning</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funding</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information Sharing</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Local governmental websites should include park and recreation content
Communicate the Pennsylvania Outdoor Recreation Plan research findings and provide a tool kit to local staff/board to help implement programs

New Land Needed
For organized sports fields

Maintenance (2)
Maintenance of state roads that provide access to parks
Maintenance - general

Marketing (7)
Voice the benefits of parks and recreation (2)
Advertise the economic benefits of outdoor recreation
Advertise services
Promote parks/recreation as a solution to childhood obesity
Market trail systems
More campaigns about opportunities to reach a larger crowd of people

No Opinion Expressed (4)

Other
Update bathing code as per national trends

Outreach
Establish annual visits to Parks and Recreation Department to see how plan is being implemented

Planning
Include park and recreation professionals in municipal planning

Programming (5)
To get children back outside
Youth engagement
Inexpensive for families
Nature programs
To develop creeks and waterways

Safety (3)
More security staff in parks
Need cameras for surveillance
Safe parking areas along trail systems

Signage
Bi-lingual signage is needed

Staffing
Staff or intern help is needed

Survey Feedback (5)
Too much focus on governmental parks and recreation. Where are the non-profits?
Revealed important information
No focus on indoor recreation (3)

Trends (2)
Incorporate technology into parks and recreation
Emerging trends – general
19a. Is there anything else we should consider as we develop the next five-year outdoor recreation plan for Pennsylvania?

**Appointed Officials (77)**

**Category (Frequency)**

**Cooperation (5)**
- With council and citizens to support initiatives
- Among surrounding townships/municipalities
- Help with upkeep of a county park
- Rely on volunteers for operation
- Have DCNR partner with local governments

**Educate elected officials (3)**
- On sound fiscal management practices
- About the benefits of parks and recreation (2)

**Education (3)**
- Focused on curbing vandalism
- Provide technical assistance about how to manage park/recreation areas (2)

**Emerging Trends**
- Keep up with technology and connect youth to parks through it

**Funding (33)**
- More money for projects (2)
- Lack of money prohibits ability to secure grants
- Supervisors will not raise taxes to support parks and recreation
- DCNR needs to put more focus on funding for rural/suburban municipalities, not just inner-city (2)
- Funding – general (3)
- Recreation is the first to be cut when other mandates come down from state/federal governments
- Continue to provide grant/funding programs
- Dedicated funding through local tax option (2)
- New grant programs for upgrades to existing parks
- For smaller communities (5)
- Have small and large grant opportunities
- For existing parks/facilities (5)
- From the State
  - Make grant funds available to supplement local funds
  - To develop parks
  - More funding with no match requirements for smaller communities
  - More local grants
  - For accessible playgrounds/pavilions
  - Have DCNR continue offering grants...because they work!
  - Have already applied for funds
  - Make the grant process easier

**Lack of facilities**
- Expansion of other park facilities is unlikely

**Lack of land (2)**
Lack of land for suburban municipalities to develop for parks and recreation facilities
Lack of additional land for park and recreation services

Maintenance (2)
For existing facilities (2)

Management Problems (6)
ADA requirements make projects unfeasible (2)
Managing rural areas is difficult. Who has what role; and where?
Pest management is a problem (gypsy moth, ash tree borer, hemlock and oak diseases)
Small communities have difficulty maintaining and constructing new facilities
Do not insist on costly “green initiatives”, they are too expensive

Marketing (4)
Communicate the value of park and recreation services to promote economic development
Communicate the benefits of parks and recreation (2)
Advertise and promote outdoor recreation in Pennsylvania

New Infrastructure (2)
More backpacking/trail systems
New bicycling lanes on roads

No Opinion (7)
No parks in local area (2)

Programming (4)
For school districts and local colleges
Mandate outdoor recreation activities for the public
For activities other than team sports
Programs to keep kids out of trouble

Safety
Playground safety

Staffing
It is difficult to get volunteers

**Elected Officials (124)**
**Category (Frequency)**
**Access**
To Lake Erie and Elk Creek
**Concerns**
Obesity and general health issues
**Congratulatory (3)**
**Cooperation (8)**
With DEP to address plant problems
With Board of Supervisors
Partnerships with volunteers is critical
Successful cooperation story
With private groups such as the YMCA
With DCNR to provide access to the Appalachian Trail
There is a need to involve others in the maintenance and operation of park facilities with rail trail organizations.

Current Facility Inventory (2)

Educating Elected Officials (2)

- Help to convince elected officials about the benefits of parks and recreation services (include statistics) (2)

Education (2)

- Technical assistance along with education of best practices
- Educating bikers on the rules of the road

Funding (54)

- For public access to river
- For water access (3)
- Leaning on their tax base to support programs long-term
- Manageable
- For development of new park facilities
- Currently fundraising to replace existing playground
- Having DCNR helpfully respond to grant application errors
- For towpath walkways that connect communities together
- Off-road bike and pedestrian trails are good for the community, but they are too expensive to develop/maintain

- Assistance in the grant writing process would be helpful
- More funding for affluent communities who have land to purchase and preserve

Funding – general (3)

- For maintenance of trails
- For ADA compliance (3)
- For rehabilitating older infrastructure
- For swimming pools (3)
- In very small municipalities
- From the State (2)

- Streamline the grant funding process (3)
- For urban areas

- Reduce matching dollars required (3)
- Legislature should allow recreation authorities to use local enabling taxes

- For park restoration

- More grants for playgrounds

- Grants for maintaining/developing recreational areas (2)

- Non-entitlement municipalities are at a disadvantage in securing funding

- For maintenance of existing parks (5)
- For rails to trails initiatives

- For small communities (2)

- There needs to be continuity in funding sources

Applied for grants

- Funding opportunities should encourage multi-county projects

- Matching funding sources would be helpful

- More money for mandatory activities
Send a notification when a grant is available, along with a listing of potential grant writers

Maintenance
- Restrooms need major improvements

Management Problems (7)
- It is difficult for small rural communities to prioritize and invest in parks and recreation services
- Keep State Park and Forest roads open all winter
- Cooperation/communication needs to improve to better manage park and recreation services
- Need for more public transportation
- Lack of land for small community to develop park and recreation areas (2)
- Much of the use is from outside the provider’s community

Marketing (3)
- Statewide campaign about the importance of parks/recreation to raise support
- Promoting rails to trails as healthy physical activity
- The role of parks and recreation in helping people exercise and be active

New Infrastructure (9)
- Develop park facilities in flood plains
- Protected bike lines are needed and doable (2)
- Greenspace (2)
- Accessible streets and sidewalks
- More rail-trails
- Docking areas for kayakers/boaters
- Facilities geared towards an aging population

No Opinion (6)

No parks in local area
- We do not have any recreation or parks in our township

Operation (2)
- Reliance on volunteers
- Gifting programs from corporations are effective

Opinions (3)
- Parks and recreation is not a core mission of governments on any level
- Ohio and West Virginia State Parks are of better quality and have better facilities
- Fracking will have a negative impact on my community

Policy (3)
- “Complete Street” policy should be adopted statewide
- Get rid of prevailing wage for contracts
- Enforce bicycling helmet laws for those 12 and under

Priorities (3)
- Indoor recreation is more important for residents in this county than outdoor recreation
- Need more open space
- Resource protection

Programs (3)
- Summer programs for kids, teens, and families (2)
More green activities

Regulations (2)
Reduce the significant amount of government bureaucracy involved in developing parks and trails. This has caused years of delay in projects and is the reason many give up hope of seeing projects through to the end. (2)

Safety (4)
In new park areas
Develop an inexpensive park surveillance system
Access problems
Vandalism and crime in parks

Staffing (3)
Assistance from volunteers is helpful
Lack of staff to complete all necessary duties (2)

Survey
The survey was geared towards urban and suburban areas instead of rural areas.
Appendix 2
Comparisons
Describing the Comparisons

Appendix 2 provides data tables that compare the responses providers had to the survey items across a variety of different variables. These comparison variables include:

1. Position Type
   a. Park and Recreation Directors
   b. Appointed Officials
   c. Elected Officials
2. Type of Local Government
   a. Township
   b. Borough
   c. City
   d. County
3. Type of Local Area
   a. Urban
   b. Suburban
   c. Rural
   d. County
4. Size of Population Served
   a. Less than 5,000
   b. Between 5,000 – 24,999
   c. More than 25,000
5. Regional Comparison Tables
   a. North West Area
   b. South West Area
   c. North Central Area
   d. South Central Area
   e. North East Area
   f. South East Area
   g. Philadelphia
   h. Pittsburgh

These comparisons will be useful to understand how responses to the survey items differs across the variables described above. These analyses will be helpful in understanding relevant differences between groups of respondents.
## Type of Position

1. Which of the following best describes your park and recreation agency? (Park and Recreation Directors Only)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Agency</th>
<th>Park and Recreation Directors</th>
<th>Appointed Officials</th>
<th>Elected Officials</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Local or municipal (township, city, borough) park and recreation department</td>
<td>53.7%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multi-municipal recreation authority, commission, or organization</td>
<td>8.2%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County park and recreation agency</td>
<td>6.7%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-profit organization</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unspecified/Missing Data</td>
<td>28.4%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1a. Which of the following best describes your local government? (Appointed and Elected Officials)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Government</th>
<th>Park and Recreation Directors</th>
<th>Appointed Officials</th>
<th>Elected Officials</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Township</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>58.9%</td>
<td>21.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Borough</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>35.4%</td>
<td>64.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>3.1%</td>
<td>6.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
<td>6.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1ab. Which of the following best describes your elected or appointed position?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Park and Recreation Directors</th>
<th>Appointed Officials</th>
<th>Elected Officials</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Township, City or Borough Manager/Secretary</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>97.1%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County Chief Clerk/Administrator</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>2.9%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Township Supervisor/Commissioner</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>21.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Borough Council member</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>54.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County Commissioner</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>6.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City Council Member</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>6.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mayor</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>11.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. What county is your agency/local government located in?
   (Grouped by DCNR Planning Region)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Park and Recreation Directors</th>
<th>Appointed Officials</th>
<th>Elected Officials</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>North West Area</td>
<td>3.1%</td>
<td>6.2%</td>
<td>4.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South West Area</td>
<td>19.1%</td>
<td>18.9%</td>
<td>16.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Central Area</td>
<td>2.3%</td>
<td>9.0%</td>
<td>8.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Central Area</td>
<td>13.0%</td>
<td>19.3%</td>
<td>16.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North East Area</td>
<td>5.3%</td>
<td>13.6%</td>
<td>15.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South East Area</td>
<td>48.1%</td>
<td>26.5%</td>
<td>29.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philadelphia</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pittsburgh</td>
<td>8.4%</td>
<td>6.6%</td>
<td>10.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2a. Select the response that best describes your local community: (please select one)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Park and Recreation Directors</th>
<th>Appointed Officials</th>
<th>Elected Officials</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Urban</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>10.9%</td>
<td>16.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>61.4%</td>
<td>44.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suburban</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>24.9%</td>
<td>34.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>2.7%</td>
<td>4.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2ab. Does your local government own a park facility?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Park and Recreation Directors</th>
<th>Appointed Officials</th>
<th>Elected Officials</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>76.5%</td>
<td>87.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>23.5%</td>
<td>12.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2ac. About how many parks does your local government own?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Park and Recreation Directors</th>
<th>Appointed Officials</th>
<th>Elected Officials</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1-3</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>71.2%</td>
<td>67.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-7</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>20.4%</td>
<td>22.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 or more</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>8.4%</td>
<td>10.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. Does your agency have a park and recreation board/commission?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Park and Recreation Directors</th>
<th>Appointed Officials</th>
<th>Elected Officials</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>81.1%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>17.9%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don’t Know</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3a. Do you have a park and recreation advisory board that was established by your local government?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Park and Recreation Directors</th>
<th>Appointed Officials</th>
<th>Elected Officials</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>45.5%</td>
<td>61.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>53.0%</td>
<td>36.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don’t Know</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
<td>2.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3ab. How effective do you believe your advisory board has been in promoting, planning and serving the park and recreation needs of your local residents? Select the box that best describes your opinion.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Park and Recreation Directors</th>
<th>Appointed Officials</th>
<th>Elected Officials</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Extremely Ineffective</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>8.1%</td>
<td>8.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat Ineffective</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>12.1%</td>
<td>8.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neutral</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>19.2%</td>
<td>11.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat Effective</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>41.9%</td>
<td>43.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extremely Effective</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>18.7%</td>
<td>28.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. Do you have part-time or full-time park and recreation staff?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Park and Recreation Directors</th>
<th>Appointed Officials</th>
<th>Elected Officials</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>87.4%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>12.6%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4a. We would like to know a little more about your staff capacity. Please enter your best estimate for the questions below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Park and Recreation Directors</th>
<th>Appointed Officials</th>
<th>Elected Officials</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Range</td>
<td>Mean</td>
<td>Median</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full-time staff</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>6.73</td>
<td>4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part-time/seasonal staff</td>
<td>430</td>
<td>40.77</td>
<td>20.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5. Please indicate the size of the population your agency serves (check one).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Population Size</th>
<th>Park and Recreation Directors</th>
<th>Appointed Officials</th>
<th>Elected Officials</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than 5,000 people</td>
<td>7.6%</td>
<td>67.5%</td>
<td>55.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5,000 to 24,999</td>
<td>53.8%</td>
<td>27.8%</td>
<td>33.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25,000 or more</td>
<td>38.7%</td>
<td>4.8%</td>
<td>10.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6. What was your agency/local government’s total operational budget for parks and recreation in 2013?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Park and Recreation Directors</th>
<th>Appointed Officials</th>
<th>Elected Officials</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Range</td>
<td>Mean</td>
<td>Median</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operational Budget</td>
<td>$13,332,699</td>
<td>$1,261,151</td>
<td>$731,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital Budget</td>
<td>$6,000,000</td>
<td>$375,895</td>
<td>$70,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Park and recreation services have the potential to provide a number of benefits for their constituents and local communities. Please indicate the extent that your agency delivers or provides for each of the following types of park and recreation benefits by clicking on the box that best describes your opinion (Sorted by park and recreation director mean score).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Benefit</th>
<th>Park and Recreation Directors</th>
<th>Appointed Officials</th>
<th>Elected Officials</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Provides children with a safe place to play</td>
<td>4.67</td>
<td>3.96</td>
<td>4.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Makes the community a more desirable place to live</td>
<td>4.60</td>
<td>3.75</td>
<td>4.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provides opportunities for social interaction</td>
<td>4.33</td>
<td>3.59</td>
<td>3.83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enhances a sense of community</td>
<td>4.33</td>
<td>3.57</td>
<td>3.78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Promotes positive youth development</td>
<td>4.27</td>
<td>3.51</td>
<td>3.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improves physical health and fitness</td>
<td>4.18</td>
<td>3.43</td>
<td>3.72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provides equitable and accessible recreation opportunities to a broad constituency</td>
<td>4.24</td>
<td>3.35</td>
<td>3.77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increases property values in the community</td>
<td>4.19</td>
<td>3.26</td>
<td>3.63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protects the natural environment</td>
<td>3.92</td>
<td>3.31</td>
<td>3.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reduces stress/improves mental health</td>
<td>3.95</td>
<td>3.19</td>
<td>3.59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helps attract new residents and businesses</td>
<td>3.87</td>
<td>2.93</td>
<td>3.29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preserves historical and cultural heritage</td>
<td>3.40</td>
<td>2.79</td>
<td>3.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Promotes tourism and economic development</td>
<td>3.42</td>
<td>2.60</td>
<td>1.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helps reduce crime</td>
<td>3.55</td>
<td>2.54</td>
<td>1.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
10. Does your agency provide/offer community walking programs?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Park and Recreation Directors</th>
<th>Appointed Officials</th>
<th>Elected Officials</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>40.2%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>59.8%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

11. Does your agency provide/offer outdoor programs that connect children with nature?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Park and Recreation Directors</th>
<th>Appointed Officials</th>
<th>Elected Officials</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>76.8%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>23.2%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
12. Please rate the level of priority your agency places on investing in each of the following facilities over the next five years (1 = your lowest priority for investment to 5 = being your highest priority for investment).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Facility</th>
<th>Park and Recreation Directors</th>
<th>Appointed Officials</th>
<th>Elected Officials</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Playgrounds</td>
<td>3.70</td>
<td>3.45</td>
<td>3.66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neighborhood parks</td>
<td>3.01</td>
<td>3.09</td>
<td>3.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community or regional parks</td>
<td>3.22</td>
<td>2.91</td>
<td>3.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Team sports facilities</td>
<td>3.25</td>
<td>2.73</td>
<td>3.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community or regional trail systems</td>
<td>3.01</td>
<td>2.75</td>
<td>2.96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor interpretive/educational facilities</td>
<td>2.50</td>
<td>2.15</td>
<td>2.31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community gardens</td>
<td>2.39</td>
<td>1.94</td>
<td>2.43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swimming pools/water play parks</td>
<td>2.22</td>
<td>1.76</td>
<td>2.14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On-road bike lanes</td>
<td>2.03</td>
<td>1.77</td>
<td>2.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opportunities for/access to water-based recreation (e.g., boating, kayaking)</td>
<td>1.99</td>
<td>1.73</td>
<td>1.94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opportunities for hunting and/or fishing</td>
<td>1.88</td>
<td>1.77</td>
<td>1.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Off-leash dog parks</td>
<td>2.20</td>
<td>1.63</td>
<td>1.77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mountain bike trails</td>
<td>1.76</td>
<td>1.60</td>
<td>1.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skate parks/adventure parks</td>
<td>1.81</td>
<td>1.51</td>
<td>1.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trails/parks for motorized activities</td>
<td>1.45</td>
<td>1.41</td>
<td>1.50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
13. Over the last three years, has tax supported funding declined, remained the same, or increased for park and recreation **operational expenses**?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Park and Recreation Directors</th>
<th>Appointed Officials</th>
<th>Elected Officials</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tax Supported Funding has Declined</td>
<td>23.7%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tax Supported Funding has Remained the Same</td>
<td>64.5%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tax Supported Funding has Increased</td>
<td>11.8%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

14. Over the last three years, has tax supported funding declined, remained the same, or increased for park and recreation **capital expenses**?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Park and Recreation Directors</th>
<th>Appointed Officials</th>
<th>Elected Officials</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tax Supported Funding has Declined</td>
<td>29.3%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tax Supported Funding has Remained the Same</td>
<td>53.3%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tax Supported Funding has Increased</td>
<td>17.3%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
15. & 16. How important are each of the following priorities for funding outdoor recreation and conservation efforts in your community? Please click on the box that best describes your opinion (Sorted by park and recreation director mean score).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Priority</th>
<th>Park and Recreation Directors</th>
<th>Appointed Officials</th>
<th>Elected Officials</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>c. Maintain existing park and recreation areas</td>
<td>Mean 4.65, #1 Priority 62.0%</td>
<td>Mean 4.26, #1 Priority 65.5%</td>
<td>Mean 4.36, #1 Priority 62.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Provide recreation programs at parks and recreation areas</td>
<td>Mean 4.09, #1 Priority 11.0%</td>
<td>Mean 3.27, #1 Priority 7.6%</td>
<td>Mean 3.59, #1 Priority 9.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g. Build more greenways/trails</td>
<td>Mean 3.37, #1 Priority 5.0%</td>
<td>Mean 2.84, #1 Priority 4.1%</td>
<td>Mean 2.94, #1 Priority 3.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Provide environmental and conservation programs</td>
<td>Mean 3.32, #1 Priority 2.0%</td>
<td>Mean 2.81, #1 Priority 0.7%</td>
<td>Mean 2.96, #1 Priority 1.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. Acquire and protect open space (as undeveloped, conserved land)</td>
<td>Mean 3.13, #1 Priority 6.0%</td>
<td>Mean 2.79, #1 Priority 7.2%</td>
<td>Mean 2.82, #1 Priority 5.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f. Protect wildlife and fish habitat</td>
<td>Mean 3.12, #1 Priority 0.0%</td>
<td>Mean 2.77, #1 Priority 2.1%</td>
<td>Mean 2.80, #1 Priority 1.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i. Build pedestrian and cycling paths between places of work, parks, schools, and shopping areas</td>
<td>Mean 3.17, #1 Priority 5.0%</td>
<td>Mean 2.65, #1 Priority 7.6%</td>
<td>Mean 2.94, #1 Priority 7.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>h. Restore damaged rivers and streams</td>
<td>Mean 2.69, #1 Priority 0.0%</td>
<td>Mean 2.56, #1 Priority 2.1%</td>
<td>Mean 2.69, #1 Priority 3.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Acquire additional land and water areas for developed recreation</td>
<td>Mean 2.79, #1 Priority 6.0%</td>
<td>Mean 2.23, #1 Priority 1.7%</td>
<td>Mean 2.52, #1 Priority 3.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
17. In this final section, we would like to know a little more about the challenges your agency faces when providing park and recreation facilities and services? For each of the following six areas, please specify the degree to which the following issues are challenges or concerns for your agency by selecting the box that best describes your opinion.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>17a. Partnerships, Collaboration, Staffing (% Significant/Major Challenge)</th>
<th>Park and Recreation Directors</th>
<th>Appointed Officials</th>
<th>Elected Officials</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ability to properly staff and train employees/volunteers</td>
<td>35.2%</td>
<td>46.4%</td>
<td>50.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coordinating with or gaining cooperation from other local governments to provide park and recreation services</td>
<td>28.2%</td>
<td>33.1%</td>
<td>43.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building relationships with school districts</td>
<td>23.1%</td>
<td>23.1%</td>
<td>31.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building relationships with senior citizen centers</td>
<td>19.0%</td>
<td>15.5%</td>
<td>22.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>17b. Advocacy (% Significant/Major Challenge)</th>
<th>Park and Recreation Directors</th>
<th>Appointed Officials</th>
<th>Elected Officials</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mobilizing citizens to support and advocate for park and recreation services</td>
<td>43.5%</td>
<td>43.4%</td>
<td>47.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building community awareness of outdoor recreation opportunities to local residents</td>
<td>40.2%</td>
<td>30.7%</td>
<td>38.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educating elected officials on the benefits and value of local park and recreation services (Appointed Only)</td>
<td>48.1%</td>
<td>28.7%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### 17c. Fiscal and Funding Issues (% Significant/Major Challenge)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Park and Recreation Directors</th>
<th>Appointed Officials</th>
<th>Elected Officials</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Developing alternative, non-traditional revenue sources for parks and recreation</td>
<td>76.9%</td>
<td>75.3%</td>
<td>80.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insufficient funds to rehabilitate existing facilities</td>
<td>67.6%</td>
<td>64.4%</td>
<td>72.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insufficient funds for land acquisition</td>
<td>54.9%</td>
<td>56.0%</td>
<td>66.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insufficient funds for programs and activities at parks</td>
<td>35.3%</td>
<td>58.1%</td>
<td>63.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insufficient funds for operation and maintenance of parks</td>
<td>48.1%</td>
<td>56.2%</td>
<td>61.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retaining allocated local government funds for parks and recreation</td>
<td>47.2%</td>
<td>55.4%</td>
<td>61.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gaining support from local government elected officials for local park and recreation funding (Appointed Only)</td>
<td>39.0%</td>
<td>36.7%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 17d. Maintenance/Management Issues (% Significant/Major Challenge)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Park and Recreation Directors</th>
<th>Appointed Officials</th>
<th>Elected Officials</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Creating new park and recreation facilities</td>
<td>81.8%</td>
<td>71.1%</td>
<td>77.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creating and enhancing trail access and connectivity</td>
<td>65.3%</td>
<td>52.5%</td>
<td>59.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of acreage or suitable sites for new parks and recreation facilities</td>
<td>43.6%</td>
<td>43.7%</td>
<td>54.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintaining existing local parks in the community</td>
<td>45.1%</td>
<td>45.6%</td>
<td>48.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Addressing ADA issues</td>
<td>32.7%</td>
<td>34.8%</td>
<td>41.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Determining how to best provide services to different user groups and to manage different uses of the same parks (e.g., hiking vs. organized sports vs. nature programs, etc.)</td>
<td>32.4%</td>
<td>31.3%</td>
<td>38.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ensuring public safety in parks and recreation areas</td>
<td>15.8%</td>
<td>25.1%</td>
<td>28.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complaints from citizens about park conditions</td>
<td>9.9%</td>
<td>16.5%</td>
<td>22.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### 17e. Emerging Trends (% Significant/Major Challenge)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Emerging Trend</th>
<th>Park and Recreation Directors</th>
<th>Appointed Officials</th>
<th>Elected Officials</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Responding to emerging or new types of outdoor recreation activities (e.g., dog parks, paddleboarding, pickleball)</td>
<td>42.2%</td>
<td>43.9%</td>
<td>49.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Addressing the lack of youth engagement in outdoor recreation</td>
<td>51.0%</td>
<td>40.7%</td>
<td>48.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Providing park and recreation facilities/services that meet the needs of individuals with disabilities</td>
<td>45.1%</td>
<td>38.6%</td>
<td>47.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Promoting green infrastructure at parks (e.g., native landscaping, grow zones, tree planting, sustainable design)</td>
<td>33.7%</td>
<td>35.9%</td>
<td>46.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keeping up with technological changes (e.g., social media, new software, new forms of communication)</td>
<td>36.9%</td>
<td>31.9%</td>
<td>46.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improving public health (e.g., physical activity, mental health) through outdoor recreation</td>
<td>34.0%</td>
<td>34.4%</td>
<td>43.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decline in team sports</td>
<td>26.7%</td>
<td>21.1%</td>
<td>26.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adapting to an aging population</td>
<td>22.5%</td>
<td>18.6%</td>
<td>30.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adapting to a more ethnically/racially diverse population</td>
<td>15.4%</td>
<td>12.6%</td>
<td>13.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Type of Local Government (Appointed and Elected Officials Only)

1ab. Which of the following best describes your elected or appointed position?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Township</th>
<th>Borough</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>County</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Township, City or Borough Manager/Secretary</td>
<td>75.1%</td>
<td>39.2%</td>
<td>34.9%</td>
<td>8.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County Chief Clerk/Administrator</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>24.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Township Supervisor/Commissioner</td>
<td>23.0%</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>2.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Borough Council member</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
<td>50.6%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>2.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County Commissioner</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>62.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City Council Member</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
<td>48.8%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mayor</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>8.9%</td>
<td>16.3%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. What county is your agency/local government located in? (Grouped by DCNR Planning Region)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Township</th>
<th>Borough</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>County</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>North West Area</td>
<td>5.1%</td>
<td>3.6%</td>
<td>17.4%</td>
<td>8.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South West Area</td>
<td>16.8%</td>
<td>16.7%</td>
<td>28.3%</td>
<td>23.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Central Area</td>
<td>8.4%</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
<td>15.2%</td>
<td>13.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Central Area</td>
<td>20.6%</td>
<td>15.4%</td>
<td>8.7%</td>
<td>23.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North East Area</td>
<td>14.2%</td>
<td>13.8%</td>
<td>15.2%</td>
<td>10.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South East Area</td>
<td>29.3%</td>
<td>31.0%</td>
<td>13.0%</td>
<td>19.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philadelphia</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>2.2%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pittsburgh</td>
<td>5.6%</td>
<td>12.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2a. Select the response that best describes your local community: (please select one)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Township</th>
<th>Borough</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>County</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Urban</td>
<td>1.9%</td>
<td>20.3%</td>
<td>55.8%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural</td>
<td>70.8%</td>
<td>41.0%</td>
<td>25.6%</td>
<td>64.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suburban</td>
<td>25.7%</td>
<td>35.7%</td>
<td>18.6%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County</td>
<td>1.6%</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>35.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2ab. Does your local government own a park facility?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Township</th>
<th>Borough</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>County</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>70.1%</td>
<td>91.6%</td>
<td>95.3%</td>
<td>59.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>29.9%</td>
<td>8.4%</td>
<td>4.7%</td>
<td>40.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2ac. About how many parks does your local government own?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Township</th>
<th>Borough</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>County</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1-3</td>
<td>69.2%</td>
<td>77.3%</td>
<td>10.0%</td>
<td>47.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-7</td>
<td>18.5%</td>
<td>20.2%</td>
<td>47.5%</td>
<td>23.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 or more</td>
<td>12.3%</td>
<td>2.6%</td>
<td>42.5%</td>
<td>28.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3a. Do you have a park and recreation advisory board that was established by your local government?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Township</th>
<th>Borough</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>County</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>47.2%</td>
<td>55.8%</td>
<td>66.7%</td>
<td>54.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>52.0%</td>
<td>41.2%</td>
<td>33.3%</td>
<td>43.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don't Know</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>2.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3ab. How effective do you believe your advisory board has been in promoting, planning and serving the park and recreation needs of your local residents? Select the box that best describes your opinion.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Township</th>
<th>Borough</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>County</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Extremely Ineffective</td>
<td>9.3%</td>
<td>6.0%</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
<td>11.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat Ineffective</td>
<td>8.6%</td>
<td>9.3%</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
<td>22.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neutral</td>
<td>17.3%</td>
<td>15.3%</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
<td>5.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat Effective</td>
<td>40.7%</td>
<td>46.5%</td>
<td>33.3%</td>
<td>33.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extremely Effective</td>
<td>24.1%</td>
<td>22.8%</td>
<td>29.2%</td>
<td>27.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5. Please indicate the size of the population your agency serves (check one).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Township</th>
<th>Borough</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>County</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than 5,000 people</td>
<td>62.5%</td>
<td>72.6%</td>
<td>7.7%</td>
<td>5.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5,000 to 24,999</td>
<td>33.3%</td>
<td>26.2%</td>
<td>59.0%</td>
<td>17.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25,000 or more</td>
<td>4.2%</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
<td>33.3%</td>
<td>77.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6. What was your agency/local government’s total operational budget for parks and recreation in 2013?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Township</th>
<th>Borough</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>County</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Operational Budget</td>
<td>Range</td>
<td>Mean</td>
<td>Median</td>
<td>Range</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$18,000,000</td>
<td>$365,920</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>$73,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital Budget</td>
<td>Range</td>
<td>Mean</td>
<td>Median</td>
<td>Range</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$5,000,000</td>
<td>$126,336</td>
<td>$78,840</td>
<td>$1,800,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Park and recreation services have the potential to provide a number of benefits for their constituents and local communities. Please indicate the extent that your agency delivers or provides for each of the following types of park and recreation benefits by clicking on the box that best describes your opinion (Sorted by township official mean score director mean score).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Benefit</th>
<th>Township Mean</th>
<th>Township #1 Benefit</th>
<th>Borough Mean</th>
<th>Borough #1 Benefit</th>
<th>City Mean</th>
<th>City #1 Benefit</th>
<th>County Mean</th>
<th>County #1 Benefit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Provides children with a safe place to play</td>
<td>3.85</td>
<td>25.2%</td>
<td>4.22</td>
<td>30.1%</td>
<td>4.35</td>
<td>19.4%</td>
<td>3.81</td>
<td>20.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Makes the community a more desirable place to live</td>
<td>3.64</td>
<td>21.5%</td>
<td>4.08</td>
<td>22.8%</td>
<td>4.27</td>
<td>33.3%</td>
<td>3.93</td>
<td>29.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provides opportunities for social interaction</td>
<td>3.51</td>
<td>9.8%</td>
<td>3.84</td>
<td>7.0%</td>
<td>4.06</td>
<td>8.3%</td>
<td>3.48</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Promotes positive youth development</td>
<td>3.50</td>
<td>4.9%</td>
<td>3.74</td>
<td>5.8%</td>
<td>4.00</td>
<td>2.8%</td>
<td>3.48</td>
<td>4.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improves physical health and fitness</td>
<td>3.45</td>
<td>7.7%</td>
<td>3.61</td>
<td>6.1%</td>
<td>3.97</td>
<td>8.3%</td>
<td>3.59</td>
<td>4.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enhances a sense of community</td>
<td>3.43</td>
<td>10.2%</td>
<td>3.84</td>
<td>12.6%</td>
<td>4.11</td>
<td>5.6%</td>
<td>3.41</td>
<td>4.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protects the natural environment</td>
<td>3.33</td>
<td>6.1%</td>
<td>3.47</td>
<td>2.0%</td>
<td>3.54</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>3.73</td>
<td>8.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provides equitable and accessible recreation opportunities to a broad constituency</td>
<td>3.32</td>
<td>9.8%</td>
<td>3.64</td>
<td>8.2%</td>
<td>4.16</td>
<td>8.3%</td>
<td>3.74</td>
<td>20.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increases property values in the community</td>
<td>3.26</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
<td>3.57</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
<td>3.68</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>3.11</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reduces stress/improves mental health</td>
<td>3.23</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
<td>3.47</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
<td>3.78</td>
<td>2.8%</td>
<td>3.26</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helps attract new residents and businesses</td>
<td>2.94</td>
<td>0.4%</td>
<td>3.18</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
<td>3.68</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>2.81</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preserves historical and cultural heritage</td>
<td>2.86</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
<td>3.02</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
<td>3.41</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>3.22</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Promotes tourism and economic development</td>
<td>2.61</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
<td>2.81</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
<td>3.42</td>
<td>5.6%</td>
<td>3.37</td>
<td>8.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helps reduce crime</td>
<td>2.53</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>2.88</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
<td>3.08</td>
<td>5.6%</td>
<td>2.46</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
12. Please rate the level of priority your agency places on **investing in each of the following facilities** over the next five years (1 = your lowest priority for investment to 5 = being your highest priority for investment).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Facility</th>
<th>Township</th>
<th>Borough</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>County</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Playgrounds</td>
<td>3.31</td>
<td>3.71</td>
<td>4.11</td>
<td>3.13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neighborhood parks</td>
<td>2.93</td>
<td>3.37</td>
<td>3.86</td>
<td>2.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community or regional parks</td>
<td>2.97</td>
<td>2.98</td>
<td>3.35</td>
<td>3.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Team sports facilities</td>
<td>2.96</td>
<td>2.93</td>
<td>3.51</td>
<td>2.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community or regional trail systems</td>
<td>2.76</td>
<td>2.78</td>
<td>3.35</td>
<td>3.96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor interpretive/educational facilities</td>
<td>2.23</td>
<td>2.15</td>
<td>2.47</td>
<td>2.78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community gardens</td>
<td>1.94</td>
<td>2.27</td>
<td>2.84</td>
<td>2.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swimming pools/water play parks</td>
<td>1.48</td>
<td>2.15</td>
<td>3.24</td>
<td>2.13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On-road bike lanes</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>1.88</td>
<td>2.35</td>
<td>2.26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opportunities for/access to water-based recreation (e.g., boating, kayaking)</td>
<td>1.61</td>
<td>1.86</td>
<td>2.57</td>
<td>2.91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opportunities for hunting and/or fishing</td>
<td>1.85</td>
<td>1.74</td>
<td>2.24</td>
<td>2.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Off-leash dog parks</td>
<td>1.64</td>
<td>1.70</td>
<td>2.03</td>
<td>1.68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mountain bike trails</td>
<td>1.63</td>
<td>1.66</td>
<td>1.78</td>
<td>2.78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skate parks/adventure parks</td>
<td>1.48</td>
<td>1.65</td>
<td>2.36</td>
<td>2.26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trails/parks for motorized activities</td>
<td>1.45</td>
<td>1.39</td>
<td>1.70</td>
<td>1.91</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
15. & 16. How important are each of the following priorities for **funding** outdoor recreation and conservation efforts in your community? Please click on the box that best describes your opinion. (Sorted by township official mean score).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Priority</th>
<th>Township Mean</th>
<th>Township #1 Priority</th>
<th>Borough Mean</th>
<th>Borough #1 Priority</th>
<th>City Mean</th>
<th>City #1 Priority</th>
<th>County Mean</th>
<th>County #1 Priority</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maintain existing park and recreation areas</td>
<td>4.03</td>
<td>56.8%</td>
<td>4.48</td>
<td>72.3%</td>
<td>4.77</td>
<td>50.0%</td>
<td>4.30</td>
<td>47.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provide recreation programs at parks and recreation areas</td>
<td>3.13</td>
<td>8.6%</td>
<td>3.58</td>
<td>8.4%</td>
<td>4.15</td>
<td>11.5%</td>
<td>3.32</td>
<td>5.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acquire and protect open space (as undeveloped, conserved land)</td>
<td>3.08</td>
<td>12.3%</td>
<td>2.61</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
<td>2.49</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>2.83</td>
<td>10.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protect wildlife and fish habitat</td>
<td>2.97</td>
<td>2.7%</td>
<td>2.55</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
<td>3.03</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>3.83</td>
<td>10.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Build more greenways/trails</td>
<td>2.94</td>
<td>5.5%</td>
<td>2.73</td>
<td>2.8%</td>
<td>3.50</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
<td>3.61</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provide environmental and conservation programs</td>
<td>2.91</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
<td>2.79</td>
<td>0.4%</td>
<td>3.23</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>3.43</td>
<td>10.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Build pedestrian and cycling paths between places of work, parks, schools, and shopping areas</td>
<td>2.70</td>
<td>7.7%</td>
<td>2.71</td>
<td>5.3%</td>
<td>3.76</td>
<td>19.2%</td>
<td>3.22</td>
<td>15.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restore damaged rivers and streams</td>
<td>2.64</td>
<td>2.3%</td>
<td>2.55</td>
<td>3.5%</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
<td>3.05</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acquire additional land and water areas for developed recreation</td>
<td>2.45</td>
<td>1.8%</td>
<td>2.30</td>
<td>2.1%</td>
<td>2.47</td>
<td>11.5%</td>
<td>2.30</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
17. In this final section, we would like to know a little more about the challenges your agency faces when providing park and recreation facilities and services? For each of the following six areas, please specify the degree to which the following issues are challenges or concerns for your agency by selecting the box that best describes your opinion.

### 17a. Partnerships, Collaboration, Staffing (% Significant/Major Challenge)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Township</th>
<th>Borough</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>County</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ability to properly staff and train employees/volunteers</td>
<td>42.6%</td>
<td>53.2%</td>
<td>51.4%</td>
<td>34.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coordinating with or gaining cooperation from other local governments to provide park and recreation services</td>
<td>29.7%</td>
<td>43.2%</td>
<td>60.0%</td>
<td>30.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building relationships with school districts</td>
<td>22.1%</td>
<td>31.0%</td>
<td>34.3%</td>
<td>26.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building relationships with senior citizen centers</td>
<td>16.2%</td>
<td>21.7%</td>
<td>22.9%</td>
<td>8.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 17b. Advocacy (% Significant/Major Challenge)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Township</th>
<th>Borough</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>County</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mobilizing citizens to support and advocate for park and recreation services</td>
<td>44.6%</td>
<td>46.4%</td>
<td>51.4%</td>
<td>45.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building community awareness of outdoor recreation opportunities to local residents</td>
<td>28.7%</td>
<td>37.6%</td>
<td>50.0%</td>
<td>30.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educating elected officials on the benefits and value of local park and recreation services (Appointed Only)</td>
<td>27.5%</td>
<td>30.8%</td>
<td>42.9%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### 17c. Fiscal and Funding Issues (% Significant/Major Challenge)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Township</th>
<th>Borough</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>County</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Developing alternative, non-traditional revenue sources for parks and recreation</td>
<td>67.6%</td>
<td>84.6%</td>
<td>77.1%</td>
<td>87.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insufficient funds to rehabilitate existing facilities</td>
<td>56.3%</td>
<td>75.4%</td>
<td>79.4%</td>
<td>73.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insufficient funds for land acquisition</td>
<td>59.2%</td>
<td>61.1%</td>
<td>73.5%</td>
<td>69.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insufficient funds for programs and activities at parks</td>
<td>50.4%</td>
<td>67.3%</td>
<td>73.5%</td>
<td>60.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insufficient funds for operation and maintenance of parks</td>
<td>47.3%</td>
<td>65.6%</td>
<td>71.4%</td>
<td>63.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retaining allocated local government funds for parks and recreation</td>
<td>49.8%</td>
<td>63.1%</td>
<td>57.1%</td>
<td>78.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gaining support from local government elected officials for local park and recreation funding (Appointed Only)</td>
<td>33.9%</td>
<td>40.3%</td>
<td>57.1%</td>
<td>20.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 17d. Maintenance/Management Issues (% Significant/Major Challenge)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Township</th>
<th>Borough</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>County</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Creating new park and recreation facilities</td>
<td>72.5%</td>
<td>74.6%</td>
<td>75.8%</td>
<td>82.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creating and enhancing trail access and connectivity</td>
<td>55.3%</td>
<td>55.4%</td>
<td>55.9%</td>
<td>69.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of acreage or suitable sites for new parks and recreation facilities</td>
<td>37.9%</td>
<td>57.1%</td>
<td>57.1%</td>
<td>28.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintaining existing local parks in the community</td>
<td>36.4%</td>
<td>51.9%</td>
<td>65.7%</td>
<td>60.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Addressing ADA issues</td>
<td>30.0%</td>
<td>43.6%</td>
<td>38.2%</td>
<td>47.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Determining how to best provide services to different user groups and to manage different uses of the same parks (e.g., hiking vs. organized sports vs. nature programs, etc.)</td>
<td>32.9%</td>
<td>36.4%</td>
<td>29.4%</td>
<td>43.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ensuring public safety in parks and recreation areas</td>
<td>20.9%</td>
<td>30.0%</td>
<td>37.1%</td>
<td>26.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complaints from citizens about park conditions</td>
<td>13.6%</td>
<td>24.3%</td>
<td>25.7%</td>
<td>8.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### 17e. Emerging Trends (% Significant/Major Challenge)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Challenge</th>
<th>Township</th>
<th>Borough</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>County</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Responding to emerging or new types of outdoor recreation activities</td>
<td>35.9%</td>
<td>56.0%</td>
<td>45.7%</td>
<td>31.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(e.g., dog parks, paddleboarding, pickleball)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Addressing the lack of youth engagement in outdoor recreation</td>
<td>33.5%</td>
<td>51.2%</td>
<td>54.3%</td>
<td>56.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Providing park and recreation facilities/services that meet the needs of</td>
<td>35.3%</td>
<td>47.9%</td>
<td>48.6%</td>
<td>33.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>individuals with disabilities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Promoting green infrastructure at parks (e.g., native landscaping, grow</td>
<td>31.0%</td>
<td>49.1%</td>
<td>41.2%</td>
<td>27.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>zones, tree planting, sustainable design)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keeping up with technological changes (e.g., social media, new software,</td>
<td>30.0%</td>
<td>45.1%</td>
<td>45.7%</td>
<td>47.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>new forms of communication)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improving public health (e.g., physical activity, mental health) through</td>
<td>28.0%</td>
<td>43.1%</td>
<td>57.1%</td>
<td>60.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>outdoor recreation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decline in team sports</td>
<td>17.6%</td>
<td>28.5%</td>
<td>24.2%</td>
<td>21.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adapting to an aging population</td>
<td>15.4%</td>
<td>29.3%</td>
<td>28.6%</td>
<td>43.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adapting to a more ethnically/racially diverse population</td>
<td>12.6%</td>
<td>13.7%</td>
<td>14.3%</td>
<td>8.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Type of Local Area (Appointed and Elected Officials Only)

1a. Which of the following best describes your local government? (Appointed and Elected Officials)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Urban</th>
<th>Rural</th>
<th>Suburban</th>
<th>County</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Township</td>
<td>5.8%</td>
<td>55.6%</td>
<td>36.9%</td>
<td>18.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Borough</td>
<td>73.3%</td>
<td>37.1%</td>
<td>58.9%</td>
<td>39.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City</td>
<td>20.0%</td>
<td>2.3%</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>5.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>39.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1ab. Which of the following best describes your elected or appointed position?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Urban</th>
<th>Rural</th>
<th>Suburban</th>
<th>County</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Township, City or Borough Manager/Secretary</td>
<td>44.2%</td>
<td>60.0%</td>
<td>45.1%</td>
<td>33.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County Chief Clerk/Administrator</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>2.1%</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
<td>6.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Township Supervisor/Commissioner</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
<td>11.3%</td>
<td>11.4%</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Borough Council member</td>
<td>29.2%</td>
<td>19.4%</td>
<td>35.2%</td>
<td>15.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County Commissioner</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>2.9%</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
<td>27.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City Council Member</td>
<td>10.8%</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
<td>2.7%</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mayor</td>
<td>13.3%</td>
<td>3.1%</td>
<td>4.2%</td>
<td>12.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2. What county is your agency/local government located in?  
(Grouped by DCNR Planning Region)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Urban</th>
<th>Rural</th>
<th>Suburban</th>
<th>County</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>North West Area</td>
<td>4.9%</td>
<td>7.1%</td>
<td>2.2%</td>
<td>2.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South West Area</td>
<td>17.1%</td>
<td>19.1%</td>
<td>13.8%</td>
<td>31.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Central Area</td>
<td>3.3%</td>
<td>13.8%</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
<td>10.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Central Area</td>
<td>17.9%</td>
<td>22.6%</td>
<td>9.5%</td>
<td>7.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North East Area</td>
<td>13.0%</td>
<td>17.3%</td>
<td>8.0%</td>
<td>15.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South East Area</td>
<td>30.9%</td>
<td>18.9%</td>
<td>44.7%</td>
<td>31.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philadelphia</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pittsburgh</td>
<td>12.2%</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
<td>20.7%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2ab. Does your local government own a park facility?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Urban</th>
<th>Rural</th>
<th>Suburban</th>
<th>County</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>89.2%</td>
<td>70.7%</td>
<td>96.2%</td>
<td>87.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>10.8%</td>
<td>29.3%</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
<td>12.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2ac. About how many parks does your local government own?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Urban</th>
<th>Rural</th>
<th>Suburban</th>
<th>County</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1-3</td>
<td>52.8%</td>
<td>84.4%</td>
<td>56.7%</td>
<td>70.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-7</td>
<td>26.4%</td>
<td>13.2%</td>
<td>29.4%</td>
<td>18.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 or more</td>
<td>20.7%</td>
<td>2.4%</td>
<td>13.8%</td>
<td>11.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3a. Do you have a park and recreation advisory board that was established by your local government?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Urban</th>
<th>Rural</th>
<th>Suburban</th>
<th>County</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>58.0%</td>
<td>44.3%</td>
<td>64.9%</td>
<td>65.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>40.3%</td>
<td>54.0%</td>
<td>33.2%</td>
<td>28.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don’t Know</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
<td>1.9%</td>
<td>6.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3ab. How effective do you believe your advisory board has been in promoting, planning and serving the park and recreation needs of your local residents? Select the box that best describes your opinion.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Urban</th>
<th>Rural</th>
<th>Suburban</th>
<th>County</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Extremely Ineffective</td>
<td>8.5%</td>
<td>8.5%</td>
<td>7.0%</td>
<td>11.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat Ineffective</td>
<td>11.9%</td>
<td>9.5%</td>
<td>9.6%</td>
<td>11.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neutral</td>
<td>13.6%</td>
<td>19.0%</td>
<td>11.5%</td>
<td>16.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat Effective</td>
<td>42.4%</td>
<td>43.9%</td>
<td>42.7%</td>
<td>27.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extremely Effective</td>
<td>23.7%</td>
<td>19.0%</td>
<td>29.3%</td>
<td>33.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5. Please indicate the size of the population your agency serves (check one).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Urban</th>
<th>Rural</th>
<th>Suburban</th>
<th>County</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than 5,000 people</td>
<td>47.3%</td>
<td>75.3%</td>
<td>46.2%</td>
<td>46.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5,000 to 24,999</td>
<td>40.0%</td>
<td>20.1%</td>
<td>46.6%</td>
<td>17.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25,000 or more</td>
<td>12.7%</td>
<td>4.6%</td>
<td>7.2%</td>
<td>35.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6. What was your agency/local government’s total operational budget for parks and recreation in 2013?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Urban</th>
<th>Rural</th>
<th>Suburban</th>
<th>County</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Range</td>
<td>Median</td>
<td>Median</td>
<td>Median</td>
<td>Median</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operational Budget</td>
<td>$73,000,000</td>
<td>$1,543,359</td>
<td>$30,000</td>
<td>$12,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital Budget</td>
<td>$3,000,000</td>
<td>$203,868</td>
<td>$2,450</td>
<td>$2,000,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Park and recreation services have the potential to provide a number of benefits for their constituents and local communities. Please indicate the extent that your agency delivers or provides for each of the following types of park and recreation benefits by clicking on the box that best describes your opinion (Sorted by urban officials mean score).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Benefit</th>
<th>Urban Mean</th>
<th>#1 Benefit</th>
<th>Rural Mean</th>
<th>#1 Benefit</th>
<th>Suburban Mean</th>
<th>#1 Benefit</th>
<th>County Mean</th>
<th>#1 Benefit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Provides children with a safe place to play</td>
<td>4.17</td>
<td>22.8%</td>
<td>3.85</td>
<td>32.0%</td>
<td>4.33</td>
<td>22.1%</td>
<td>4.38</td>
<td>22.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Makes the community a more desirable place to live</td>
<td>4.11</td>
<td>21.7%</td>
<td>3.63</td>
<td>17.7%</td>
<td>4.26</td>
<td>32.9%</td>
<td>4.13</td>
<td>31.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enhances a sense of community</td>
<td>3.86</td>
<td>15.2%</td>
<td>3.40</td>
<td>8.7%</td>
<td>4.01</td>
<td>11.7%</td>
<td>4.04</td>
<td>13.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provides opportunities for social interaction</td>
<td>3.83</td>
<td>6.5%</td>
<td>3.52</td>
<td>8.7%</td>
<td>3.94</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
<td>3.83</td>
<td>4.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Promotes positive youth development</td>
<td>3.80</td>
<td>3.3%</td>
<td>3.43</td>
<td>5.6%</td>
<td>3.89</td>
<td>5.6%</td>
<td>4.08</td>
<td>4.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provides equitable and accessible recreation opportunities to a broad constituency</td>
<td>3.73</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>3.31</td>
<td>1.9%</td>
<td>3.81</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>3.96</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increases property values in the community</td>
<td>3.65</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>3.11</td>
<td>0.6%</td>
<td>3.86</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
<td>3.58</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improves physical health and fitness</td>
<td>3.64</td>
<td>10.9%</td>
<td>3.38</td>
<td>7.1%</td>
<td>3.79</td>
<td>5.2%</td>
<td>4.13</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reduces stress/improves mental health</td>
<td>3.54</td>
<td>2.2%</td>
<td>3.16</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
<td>3.64</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
<td>3.71</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protects the natural environment</td>
<td>3.45</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
<td>3.24</td>
<td>3.7%</td>
<td>3.69</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
<td>3.74</td>
<td>9.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helps attract new residents and businesses</td>
<td>3.31</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
<td>2.82</td>
<td>0.6%</td>
<td>3.43</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
<td>3.54</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preserves historical and cultural heritage</td>
<td>3.14</td>
<td>7.6%</td>
<td>2.81</td>
<td>10.2%</td>
<td>3.15</td>
<td>8.0%</td>
<td>3.54</td>
<td>13.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Promotes tourism and economic development</td>
<td>3.05</td>
<td>4.3%</td>
<td>2.64</td>
<td>1.6%</td>
<td>2.83</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
<td>3.54</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helps reduce crime</td>
<td>3.02</td>
<td>3.3%</td>
<td>2.55</td>
<td>0.6%</td>
<td>2.90</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
12. Please rate the level of priority your agency places on **investing in each of the following facilities** over the next five years (1 = your lowest priority for investment to 5 = being your highest priority for investment).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Facility</th>
<th>Urban</th>
<th>Rural</th>
<th>Suburban</th>
<th>County</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Playgrounds</td>
<td>3.76</td>
<td>3.32</td>
<td>3.84</td>
<td>3.59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neighborhood parks</td>
<td>3.61</td>
<td>2.85</td>
<td>3.56</td>
<td>3.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community or regional parks</td>
<td>3.06</td>
<td>2.86</td>
<td>3.22</td>
<td>2.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Team sports facilities</td>
<td>2.93</td>
<td>2.76</td>
<td>3.32</td>
<td>2.52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community or regional trail systems</td>
<td>2.89</td>
<td>2.61</td>
<td>3.18</td>
<td>3.43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor interpretive/educational facilities</td>
<td>2.38</td>
<td>2.08</td>
<td>2.38</td>
<td>2.43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community gardens</td>
<td>2.56</td>
<td>1.93</td>
<td>2.38</td>
<td>2.13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swimming pools/water play parks</td>
<td>2.52</td>
<td>1.69</td>
<td>2.08</td>
<td>2.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On-road bike lanes</td>
<td>2.19</td>
<td>1.69</td>
<td>2.10</td>
<td>2.13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opportunities for/access to water-based recreation (e.g., boating, kayaking)</td>
<td>2.09</td>
<td>1.73</td>
<td>1.82</td>
<td>2.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opportunities for hunting and/or fishing</td>
<td>2.02</td>
<td>1.86</td>
<td>1.72</td>
<td>2.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Off-leash dog parks</td>
<td>1.80</td>
<td>1.58</td>
<td>1.83</td>
<td>1.74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mountain bike trails</td>
<td>1.85</td>
<td>1.64</td>
<td>1.65</td>
<td>2.26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skate parks/adventure parks</td>
<td>1.77</td>
<td>1.58</td>
<td>1.67</td>
<td>1.83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trails/parks for motorized activities</td>
<td>1.56</td>
<td>1.48</td>
<td>1.32</td>
<td>1.77</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
15. & 16. How important are each of the following priorities for **funding** outdoor recreation and conservation efforts in your community? Please click on the box that best describes your opinion. (Sorted by urban officials mean score).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Priority</th>
<th>Urban Mean</th>
<th>#1 Priority</th>
<th>Rural Mean</th>
<th>#1 Priority</th>
<th>Suburban Mean</th>
<th>#1 Priority</th>
<th>County Mean</th>
<th>#1 Priority</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maintain existing park and recreation areas</td>
<td>4.58</td>
<td>64.6%</td>
<td>4.05</td>
<td>61.7%</td>
<td>4.59</td>
<td>67.1%</td>
<td>4.59</td>
<td>68.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provide recreation programs at parks and recreation areas</td>
<td>3.71</td>
<td>9.8%</td>
<td>3.13</td>
<td>8.5%</td>
<td>3.76</td>
<td>8.7%</td>
<td>3.81</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Build pedestrian and cycling paths between places of work, parks, schools, and shopping areas</td>
<td>3.15</td>
<td>6.1%</td>
<td>2.47</td>
<td>6.4%</td>
<td>3.11</td>
<td>10.4%</td>
<td>3.36</td>
<td>6.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Build more greenways/trails</td>
<td>3.05</td>
<td>6.1%</td>
<td>2.64</td>
<td>3.5%</td>
<td>3.19</td>
<td>3.5%</td>
<td>3.23</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provide environmental and conservation programs</td>
<td>2.96</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
<td>2.70</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
<td>3.15</td>
<td>0.6%</td>
<td>3.05</td>
<td>6.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restore damaged rivers and streams</td>
<td>2.77</td>
<td>3.7%</td>
<td>2.58</td>
<td>4.3%</td>
<td>2.66</td>
<td>0.6%</td>
<td>2.64</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protect wildlife and fish habitat</td>
<td>2.73</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>2.78</td>
<td>2.8%</td>
<td>2.82</td>
<td>0.6%</td>
<td>3.05</td>
<td>6.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acquire and protect open space (as undeveloped, conserved land)</td>
<td>2.69</td>
<td>2.4%</td>
<td>2.67</td>
<td>8.5%</td>
<td>3.09</td>
<td>4.6%</td>
<td>2.77</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acquire additional land and water areas for developed recreation</td>
<td>2.39</td>
<td>2.4%</td>
<td>2.16</td>
<td>1.8%</td>
<td>2.72</td>
<td>3.5%</td>
<td>2.36</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
17. In this final section, we would like to know a little more about the challenges your agency faces when providing park and recreation facilities and services? For each of the following six areas, please specify the degree to which the following issues are challenges or concerns for your agency by selecting the box that best describes your opinion.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>17a. Partnerships, Collaboration, Staffing (% Significant/Major Challenge)</th>
<th>Urban</th>
<th>Rural</th>
<th>Suburban</th>
<th>County</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ability to properly staff and train employees/volunteers</td>
<td>52.7%</td>
<td>50.7%</td>
<td>45.1%</td>
<td>21.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coordinating with or gaining cooperation from other local governments to provide park and recreation services</td>
<td>48.4%</td>
<td>42.3%</td>
<td>29.3%</td>
<td>15.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building relationships with school districts</td>
<td>30.4%</td>
<td>25.7%</td>
<td>29.0%</td>
<td>21.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building relationships with senior citizen centers</td>
<td>18.7%</td>
<td>20.8%</td>
<td>17.0%</td>
<td>15.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>17b. Advocacy (% Significant/Major Challenge)</th>
<th>Urban</th>
<th>Rural</th>
<th>Suburban</th>
<th>County</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mobilizing citizens to support and advocate for park and recreation services</td>
<td>45.7%</td>
<td>53.0%</td>
<td>35.8%</td>
<td>30.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building community awareness of outdoor recreation opportunities to local residents</td>
<td>42.4%</td>
<td>36.7%</td>
<td>29.1%</td>
<td>15.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educating elected officials on the benefits and value of local park and recreation services (Appointed Only)</td>
<td>36.1%</td>
<td>33.5%</td>
<td>18.6%</td>
<td>16.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### 17c. Fiscal and Funding Issues (% Significant/Major Challenge)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Urban</th>
<th>Rural</th>
<th>Suburban</th>
<th>County</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Developing alternative, non-traditional revenue sources for parks and recreation</td>
<td>85.9%</td>
<td>78.8%</td>
<td>73.8%</td>
<td>68.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insufficient funds to rehabilitate existing facilities</td>
<td>78.3%</td>
<td>68.5%</td>
<td>64.2%</td>
<td>61.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insufficient funds for land acquisition</td>
<td>71.7%</td>
<td>60.3%</td>
<td>58.9%</td>
<td>57.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insufficient funds for programs and activities at parks</td>
<td>72.8%</td>
<td>64.0%</td>
<td>51.0%</td>
<td>52.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insufficient funds for operation and maintenance of parks</td>
<td>73.4%</td>
<td>61.8%</td>
<td>47.4%</td>
<td>52.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retaining allocated local government funds for parks and recreation</td>
<td>73.1%</td>
<td>60.8%</td>
<td>47.2%</td>
<td>70.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gaining support from local government elected officials for local park and recreation funding (Appointed Only)</td>
<td>40.0%</td>
<td>41.4%</td>
<td>28.1%</td>
<td>16.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 17d. Maintenance/Management Issues (% Significant/Major Challenge)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Urban</th>
<th>Rural</th>
<th>Suburban</th>
<th>County</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Creating new park and recreation facilities</td>
<td>80.9%</td>
<td>75.4%</td>
<td>71.1%</td>
<td>55.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creating and enhancing trail access and connectivity</td>
<td>67.0%</td>
<td>54.6%</td>
<td>53.4%</td>
<td>52.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of acreage or suitable sites for new parks and recreation facilities</td>
<td>71.3%</td>
<td>41.7%</td>
<td>50.0%</td>
<td>47.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintaining existing local parks in the community</td>
<td>57.4%</td>
<td>48.4%</td>
<td>39.5%</td>
<td>45.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Addressing ADA issues</td>
<td>37.6%</td>
<td>40.1%</td>
<td>35.1%</td>
<td>38.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Determining how to best provide services to different user groups and to manage different uses of the same parks (e.g., hiking vs. organized sports vs. nature programs, etc.)</td>
<td>35.5%</td>
<td>36.4%</td>
<td>32.7%</td>
<td>26.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ensuring public safety in parks and recreation areas</td>
<td>26.9%</td>
<td>29.0%</td>
<td>23.0%</td>
<td>26.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complaints from citizens about park conditions</td>
<td>19.4%</td>
<td>22.4%</td>
<td>15.8%</td>
<td>15.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### 17e. Emerging Trends (% Significant/Major Challenge)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Challenge</th>
<th>Urban</th>
<th>Rural</th>
<th>Suburban</th>
<th>County</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Responding to emerging or new types of outdoor recreation activities (e.g., dog parks, paddleboarding, pickleball)</td>
<td>52.1%</td>
<td>47.9%</td>
<td>43.55%</td>
<td>36.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Addressing the lack of youth engagement in outdoor recreation</td>
<td>49.5%</td>
<td>46.7%</td>
<td>38.0%</td>
<td>47.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Providing park and recreation facilities/services that meet the needs of individuals with disabilities</td>
<td>41.9%</td>
<td>46.0%</td>
<td>38.7%</td>
<td>27.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Promoting green infrastructure at parks (e.g., native landscaping, grow zones, tree planting, sustainable design)</td>
<td>52.2%</td>
<td>39.2%</td>
<td>39.0%</td>
<td>36.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keeping up with technological changes (e.g., social media, new software, new forms of communication)</td>
<td>44.7%</td>
<td>39.2%</td>
<td>36.9%</td>
<td>36.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improving public health (e.g., physical activity, mental health) through outdoor recreation</td>
<td>41.3%</td>
<td>39.2%</td>
<td>35.8%</td>
<td>42.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decline in team sports</td>
<td>33.3%</td>
<td>26.7%</td>
<td>14.2%</td>
<td>26.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adapting to an aging population</td>
<td>24.7%</td>
<td>25.6%</td>
<td>20.9%</td>
<td>26.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adapting to a more ethnically/racially diverse population</td>
<td>16.0%</td>
<td>15.4%</td>
<td>7.8%</td>
<td>20.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Size of Population Served (All Providers)

1. Which of the following best describes your park and recreation agency? (Park and Recreation Directors Only)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Less than 5,000</th>
<th>5,000 to 24,999</th>
<th>25,000 or more</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Local or municipal (township, city, borough) park and recreation department</td>
<td>85.7%</td>
<td>81.3%</td>
<td>62.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multi-municipal recreation authority, commission, or organization</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>14.6%</td>
<td>9.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County park and recreation agency</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>25.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-profit organization</td>
<td>14.3%</td>
<td>4.2%</td>
<td>3.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1a. Which of the following best describes your local government? (Appointed and Elected Officials)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Less than 5,000</th>
<th>5,000 to 24,999</th>
<th>25,000 or more</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Township</td>
<td>42.8%</td>
<td>47.6%</td>
<td>24.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Borough</td>
<td>56.1%</td>
<td>40.7%</td>
<td>6.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City</td>
<td>0.6%</td>
<td>8.8%</td>
<td>19.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County</td>
<td>0.6%</td>
<td>2.2%</td>
<td>45.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
<td>3.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1ab. Which of the following best describes your elected or appointed position?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Less than 5,000</th>
<th>5,000 to 24,999</th>
<th>25,000 or more</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Township, City or Borough Manager/Secretary</td>
<td>57.6%</td>
<td>39.1%</td>
<td>13.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County Chief Clerk/Administrator</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
<td>0.6%</td>
<td>6.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Township Supervisor/Commissioner</td>
<td>6.9%</td>
<td>12.1%</td>
<td>5.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Borough Council member</td>
<td>27.8%</td>
<td>17.4%</td>
<td>5.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County Commissioner</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
<td>18.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City Council Member</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
<td>5.0%</td>
<td>6.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mayor</td>
<td>4.5%</td>
<td>4.7%</td>
<td>1.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2. What county is your agency/local government located in? (Grouped by DCNR Planning Region)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Less than 5,000</th>
<th>5,000 to 24,999</th>
<th>25,000 or more</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>North West Area</td>
<td>5.3%</td>
<td>4.3%</td>
<td>3.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South West Area</td>
<td>19.4%</td>
<td>14.9%</td>
<td>24.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Central Area</td>
<td>11.7%</td>
<td>2.8%</td>
<td>5.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Central Area</td>
<td>16.9%</td>
<td>16.8%</td>
<td>21.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North East Area</td>
<td>16.0%</td>
<td>10.6%</td>
<td>3.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South East Area</td>
<td>23.2%</td>
<td>39.1%</td>
<td>37.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philadelphia</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pittsburgh</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
<td>11.5%</td>
<td>4.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2a. Select the response that best describes your local community: (please select one)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Less than 5,000</th>
<th>5,000 to 24,999</th>
<th>25,000 or more</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Urban</td>
<td>9.9%</td>
<td>16.8%</td>
<td>19.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural</td>
<td>65.3%</td>
<td>35.5%</td>
<td>33.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suburban</td>
<td>22.3%</td>
<td>45.8%</td>
<td>27.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
<td>1.8%</td>
<td>19.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2ab. Does your local government own a park facility?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Less than 5,000</th>
<th>5,000 to 24,999</th>
<th>25,000 or more</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>75.0%</td>
<td>94.5%</td>
<td>84.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>25.0%</td>
<td>5.5%</td>
<td>15.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2ac. About how many parks does your local government own?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Less than 5,000</th>
<th>5,000 to 24,999</th>
<th>25,000 or more</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1-3</td>
<td>89.6%</td>
<td>45.9%</td>
<td>26.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-7</td>
<td>9.6%</td>
<td>37.8%</td>
<td>23.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 or more</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
<td>16.2%</td>
<td>50.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. Does your agency have a park and recreation board/commission?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Less than 5,000</th>
<th>5,000 to 24,999</th>
<th>25,000 or more</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>66.7%</td>
<td>85.4%</td>
<td>87.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>16.7%</td>
<td>14.6%</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don't Know</td>
<td>16.7%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3a. Do you have a park and recreation advisory board that was established by your local government?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Less than 5,000</th>
<th>5,000 to 24,999</th>
<th>25,000 or more</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>44.5%</td>
<td>67.9%</td>
<td>55.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>53.1%</td>
<td>31.8%</td>
<td>42.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don't Know</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
<td>0.4%</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3ab. How effective do you believe your advisory board has been in promoting, planning and serving the park and recreation needs of your local residents? Select the box that best describes your opinion.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Extent of Effectiveness</th>
<th>Less than 5,000</th>
<th>5,000 to 24,999</th>
<th>25,000 or more</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Extremely Ineffective</td>
<td>9.9%</td>
<td>6.2%</td>
<td>2.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat Ineffective</td>
<td>10.4%</td>
<td>7.9%</td>
<td>22.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neutral</td>
<td>18.9%</td>
<td>11.8%</td>
<td>7.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat Effective</td>
<td>42.8%</td>
<td>43.8%</td>
<td>31.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extremely Effective</td>
<td>18.0%</td>
<td>30.3%</td>
<td>36.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. Do you have part-time or full-time park and recreation staff?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Have Part-Time/Full-Time Staff</th>
<th>Less than 5,000</th>
<th>5,000 to 24,999</th>
<th>25,000 or more</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>71.4%</td>
<td>83.0%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>28.6%</td>
<td>17.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4a. We would like to know a little more about your staff capacity. Please enter your best estimate for the questions below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Staff Capacity</th>
<th>Less than 5,000</th>
<th>5,000 to 24,999</th>
<th>25,000 or more</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Range</td>
<td>Mean</td>
<td>Median</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full-time staff</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part-time/seasonal staff</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>12.4</td>
<td>8.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6. What was your agency/local government’s total operational budget for parks and recreation in 2013?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Budget Type</th>
<th>Less than 5,000</th>
<th>5,000 to 24,999</th>
<th>25,000 or more</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Operationa l Budget</td>
<td>Range</td>
<td>Mean</td>
<td>Median</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$4,000,000</td>
<td>$79,117</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital Budget</td>
<td>$1,600,000</td>
<td>$18,069</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
8/9. Park and recreation services have the potential to provide a number of benefits for their constituents and local communities. Please indicate the extent that your agency delivers or provides for each of the following types of park and recreation benefits by clicking on the box that best describes your opinion (Sorted by less than 5,000 people served mean score).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Benefit</th>
<th>Less than 5,000</th>
<th>5,000 to 24,999</th>
<th>25,000 or more</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Provides children with a safe place to play</td>
<td>3.89 33.8%</td>
<td>4.47 18.6%</td>
<td>4.27 10.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Makes the community a more desirable place to live</td>
<td>3.64 15.2%</td>
<td>4.42 35.1%</td>
<td>4.36 39.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provides opportunities for social interaction</td>
<td>3.55 9.3%</td>
<td>4.03 6.5%</td>
<td>4.10 5.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enhances a sense of community</td>
<td>3.47 12.9%</td>
<td>4.13 10.4%</td>
<td>3.95 3.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Promotes positive youth development</td>
<td>3.42 4.9%</td>
<td>4.09 6.5%</td>
<td>4.02 5.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improves physical health and fitness</td>
<td>3.32 7.5%</td>
<td>3.99 6.5%</td>
<td>4.05 9.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provides equitable and accessible recreation opportunities to a broad constituency</td>
<td>3.30 7.0%</td>
<td>3.97 9.3%</td>
<td>4.14 16.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protects the natural environment</td>
<td>3.18 4.4%</td>
<td>3.84 2.2%</td>
<td>3.85 3.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reduces stress/improves mental health</td>
<td>3.18 0.5%</td>
<td>3.76 1.4%</td>
<td>3.79 1.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increases property values in the community</td>
<td>3.14 0.5%</td>
<td>4.00 0.7%</td>
<td>3.94 1.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helps attract new residents and businesses</td>
<td>2.83 0.5%</td>
<td>3.60 0.7%</td>
<td>3.64 0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preserves historical and cultural heritage</td>
<td>2.80 1.5%</td>
<td>3.27 0.0%</td>
<td>3.40 0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helps reduce crime</td>
<td>2.58 1.3%</td>
<td>3.06 0.4%</td>
<td>3.33 0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Promotes tourism and economic development</td>
<td>2.52 0.8%</td>
<td>3.18 1.8%</td>
<td>3.46 4.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
10. Does your agency provide/offer community walking programs?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Less than 5,000</th>
<th>5,000 to 24,999</th>
<th>25,000 or more</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>33.3%</td>
<td>38.6%</td>
<td>43.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>66.7%</td>
<td>61.4%</td>
<td>56.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

11. Does your agency provide/offer outdoor programs that connect children with nature?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Less than 5,000</th>
<th>5,000 to 24,999</th>
<th>25,000 or more</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>50.0%</td>
<td>75.0%</td>
<td>86.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>50.0%</td>
<td>25.0%</td>
<td>13.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
12. Please rate the level of priority your agency places on **investing in each of the following facilities** over the next five years (1 = your lowest priority for investment to 5 = being your highest priority for investment).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Facility</th>
<th>Less than 5,000</th>
<th>5,000 to 24,999</th>
<th>25,000 or more</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Playgrounds</td>
<td>3.38</td>
<td>3.83</td>
<td>3.59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neighborhood parks</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>3.47</td>
<td>3.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community or regional parks</td>
<td>2.74</td>
<td>3.39</td>
<td>3.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Team sports facilities</td>
<td>2.65</td>
<td>3.44</td>
<td>3.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community or regional trail systems</td>
<td>2.45</td>
<td>3.37</td>
<td>3.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor interpretive/educational facilities</td>
<td>1.97</td>
<td>2.54</td>
<td>2.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community gardens</td>
<td>1.97</td>
<td>2.45</td>
<td>2.43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swimming pools/water play parks</td>
<td>1.63</td>
<td>2.30</td>
<td>2.52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On-road bike lanes</td>
<td>1.65</td>
<td>2.24</td>
<td>2.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opportunities for access to water-based recreation (e.g., boating, kayaking)</td>
<td>1.71</td>
<td>1.91</td>
<td>2.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opportunities for hunting and/or fishing</td>
<td>1.73</td>
<td>1.93</td>
<td>2.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Off-leash dog parks</td>
<td>1.47</td>
<td>2.05</td>
<td>2.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mountain bike trails</td>
<td>1.55</td>
<td>1.80</td>
<td>2.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skate parks/adventure parks</td>
<td>1.46</td>
<td>1.87</td>
<td>1.93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trails/parks for motorized activities</td>
<td>1.38</td>
<td>1.50</td>
<td>1.58</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

13. Over the last three years, has tax supported funding declined, remained the same, or increased for park and recreation **operational expenses**?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tax Supported Funding</th>
<th>Less than 5,000</th>
<th>5,000 to 24,999</th>
<th>25,000 or more</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Declined</td>
<td>25.0%</td>
<td>17.1%</td>
<td>33.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Remained the Same</td>
<td>50.0%</td>
<td>73.2%</td>
<td>53.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increased</td>
<td>25.0%</td>
<td>9.8%</td>
<td>13.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
14. Over the last three years, has tax supported funding declined, remained the same, or increased for park and recreation capital expenses?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Less than 5,000</th>
<th>5,000 to 24,999</th>
<th>25,000 or more</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tax Supported Funding has Declined</td>
<td>25.0%</td>
<td>26.8%</td>
<td>31.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tax Supported Funding has Remained the Same</td>
<td>75.0%</td>
<td>61.0%</td>
<td>41.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tax Supported Funding has Increased</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>12.2%</td>
<td>27.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

15. & 16. How important are each of the following priorities for funding outdoor recreation and conservation efforts in your community? Please click on the box that best describes your opinion (Sorted by less than 5,000 people served mean score).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Priority</th>
<th>Less than 5,000</th>
<th>5,000 to 24,999</th>
<th>25,000 or more</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maintain existing park and recreation areas</td>
<td>4.11</td>
<td>4.62</td>
<td>4.63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#1 Priority</td>
<td>66.5%</td>
<td>61.0%</td>
<td>62.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provide recreation programs at parks and recreation areas</td>
<td>3.14</td>
<td>3.93</td>
<td>3.93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#1 Priority</td>
<td>6.3%</td>
<td>11.2%</td>
<td>12.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provide environmental and conservation programs</td>
<td>2.66</td>
<td>3.18</td>
<td>3.49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#1 Priority</td>
<td>0.6%</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protect wildlife and fish habitat</td>
<td>2.63</td>
<td>2.99</td>
<td>3.26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#1 Priority</td>
<td>2.1%</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acquire and protect open space (as undeveloped, conserved land)</td>
<td>2.55</td>
<td>3.23</td>
<td>3.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#1 Priority</td>
<td>5.1%</td>
<td>8.7%</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Build more greenways/trails</td>
<td>2.54</td>
<td>3.36</td>
<td>3.58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#1 Priority</td>
<td>3.6%</td>
<td>5.0%</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restore damaged rivers and streams</td>
<td>2.48</td>
<td>2.79</td>
<td>2.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#1 Priority</td>
<td>3.9%</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Build pedestrian and cycling paths between places of work, parks, schools, and shopping areas</td>
<td>2.39</td>
<td>3.30</td>
<td>3.46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#1 Priority</td>
<td>5.7%</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
<td>12.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acquire additional land and water areas for developed recreation</td>
<td>2.11</td>
<td>2.83</td>
<td>2.63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#1 Priority</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
<td>3.3%</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
17. In this final section, we would like to know a little more about the challenges your agency faces when providing park and recreation facilities and services? For each of the following six areas, please specify the degree to which the following issues are challenges or concerns for your agency by selecting the box that best describes your opinion.

### 17a. Partnerships, Collaboration, Staffing (% Significant/Major Challenge)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Less than 5,000</th>
<th>5,000 to 24,999</th>
<th>25,000 or more</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ability to properly staff and train employees/volunteers</td>
<td>52.0%</td>
<td>42.7%</td>
<td>33.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coordinating with or gaining cooperation from other local governments to provide park and recreation services</td>
<td>38.5%</td>
<td>38.0%</td>
<td>25.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building relationships with school districts</td>
<td>25.4%</td>
<td>28.4%</td>
<td>27.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building relationships with senior citizen centers</td>
<td>21.4%</td>
<td>16.5%</td>
<td>16.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 17b. Advocacy (% Significant/Major Challenge)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Less than 5,000</th>
<th>5,000 to 24,999</th>
<th>25,000 or more</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mobilizing citizens to support and advocate for park and recreation services</td>
<td>49.6%</td>
<td>39.3%</td>
<td>44.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building community awareness of outdoor recreation opportunities to local residents</td>
<td>34.6%</td>
<td>34.1%</td>
<td>39.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educating elected officials on the benefits and value of local park and recreation services (Appointed Only)</td>
<td>35.0%</td>
<td>26.9%</td>
<td>38.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 17c. Fiscal and Funding Issues (% Significant/Major Challenge)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Less than 5,000</th>
<th>5,000 to 24,999</th>
<th>25,000 or more</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Developing alternative, non-traditional revenue sources for parks and recreation</td>
<td>79.1%</td>
<td>76.8%</td>
<td>73.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insufficient funds to rehabilitate existing facilities</td>
<td>71.3%</td>
<td>63.4%</td>
<td>68.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insufficient funds for land acquisition</td>
<td>63.9%</td>
<td>56.6%</td>
<td>57.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insufficient funds for programs and activities at parks</td>
<td>65.6%</td>
<td>50.2%</td>
<td>41.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insufficient funds for operation and maintenance of parks</td>
<td>62.2%</td>
<td>50.9%</td>
<td>53.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retaining allocated local government funds for parks and recreation</td>
<td>60.2%</td>
<td>51.8%</td>
<td>56.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gaining support from local government elected officials for local park and recreation funding (Appointed Only)</td>
<td>44.5%</td>
<td>26.7%</td>
<td>37.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### 17d. Maintenance/Management Issues (% Significant/Major Challenge)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Less than 5,000</th>
<th>5,000 to 24,999</th>
<th>25,000 or more</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Creating new park and recreation facilities</td>
<td>75.3%</td>
<td>75.0%</td>
<td>74.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creating and enhancing trail access and connectivity</td>
<td>54.7%</td>
<td>56.6%</td>
<td>69.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of acreage or suitable sites for new parks and recreation facilities</td>
<td>51.7%</td>
<td>45.1%</td>
<td>41.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintaining existing local parks in the community</td>
<td>46.0%</td>
<td>45.7%</td>
<td>51.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Addressing ADA issues</td>
<td>42.3%</td>
<td>31.0%</td>
<td>34.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Determining how to best provide services to different user groups and to manage different uses of the same parks (e.g., hiking vs. organized sports vs. nature programs, etc.)</td>
<td>35.5%</td>
<td>33.7%</td>
<td>33.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ensuring public safety in parks and recreation areas</td>
<td>29.6%</td>
<td>20.1%</td>
<td>23.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complaints from citizens about park conditions</td>
<td>21.5%</td>
<td>15.0%</td>
<td>14.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 17e. Emerging Trends (% Significant/Major Challenge)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trend</th>
<th>Less than 5,000</th>
<th>5,000 to 24,999</th>
<th>25,000 or more</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Responding to emerging or new types of outdoor recreation activities (e.g., dog parks, paddleboarding, pickleball)</td>
<td>49.9%</td>
<td>45.1%</td>
<td>32.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Addressing the lack of youth engagement in outdoor recreation</td>
<td>50.3%</td>
<td>39.6%</td>
<td>41.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Providing park and recreation facilities/services that meet the needs of individuals with disabilities.</td>
<td>46.8%</td>
<td>37.4%</td>
<td>42.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Promoting green infrastructure at parks (e.g., native landscaping, grow zones, tree planting, sustainable design)</td>
<td>45.4%</td>
<td>36.2%</td>
<td>27.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keeping up with technological changes (e.g., social media, new software, new forms of communication)</td>
<td>41.4%</td>
<td>36.6%</td>
<td>35.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improving public health (e.g., physical activity, mental health) through outdoor recreation</td>
<td>41.5%</td>
<td>33.0%</td>
<td>37.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decline in team sports</td>
<td>29.3%</td>
<td>18.0%</td>
<td>18.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adapting to an aging population</td>
<td>24.9%</td>
<td>21.1%</td>
<td>28.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adapting to a more ethnically/racially diverse population</td>
<td>13.6%</td>
<td>13.4%</td>
<td>12.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### By Region (All Providers)

Total Responses to the Survey by Region

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Valid Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>North West Area</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>5.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South West Area</td>
<td>185</td>
<td>18.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Central Area</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>7.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Central Area</td>
<td>179</td>
<td>17.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North East Area</td>
<td>135</td>
<td>13.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South East Area</td>
<td>312</td>
<td>30.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philadelphia</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pittsburgh</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>8.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missing/Unspecified</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>1,037</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Which of the following best describes your park and recreation agency? (Park and Recreation Directors Only)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Agency</th>
<th>North West Area</th>
<th>South West Area</th>
<th>North Central Area</th>
<th>South Central Area</th>
<th>North East Area</th>
<th>South East Area</th>
<th>Philadelphia</th>
<th>Pittsburgh</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Local or municipal (township, city, borough) park and recreation department</td>
<td>3 (100%)</td>
<td>10 (55.6%)</td>
<td>1 (100%)</td>
<td>10 (71.4%)</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>39 (86.7%)</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>6 (100.0%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multi-municipal recreation authority, commission, or organization</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>1 (5.6%)</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>4 (28.6%)</td>
<td>3 (50%)</td>
<td>3 (6.7%)</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County park and recreation agency</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>7 (38.9%)</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>2 (4.4%)</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-profit organization</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>3 (50%)</td>
<td>1 (2.2%)</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unspecified/Missing Data</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1a. Which of the following best describes your local government? (Appointed and Elected Officials)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>North West Area</th>
<th>South West Area</th>
<th>North Central Area</th>
<th>South Central Area</th>
<th>North East Area</th>
<th>South East Area</th>
<th>Philadelphia</th>
<th>Pittsburgh</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Township</td>
<td>41.7%</td>
<td>39.8%</td>
<td>41.8%</td>
<td>49.1%</td>
<td>43.4%</td>
<td>43.1%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>28.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Borough</td>
<td>33.3%</td>
<td>44.6%</td>
<td>41.8%</td>
<td>41.2%</td>
<td>47.3%</td>
<td>51.3%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>68.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City</td>
<td>16.7%</td>
<td>7.8%</td>
<td>8.9%</td>
<td>2.4%</td>
<td>5.4%</td>
<td>2.2%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County</td>
<td>8.3%</td>
<td>6.6%</td>
<td>7.6%</td>
<td>6.7%</td>
<td>3.9%</td>
<td>3.4%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.6%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1ab. Which of the following best describes your elected or appointed position?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>North West Area</th>
<th>South West Area</th>
<th>North Central Area</th>
<th>South Central Area</th>
<th>North East Area</th>
<th>South East Area</th>
<th>Philadelphia</th>
<th>Pittsburgh</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Township, City or Borough Manager/Secretary</td>
<td>58.8%</td>
<td>47.6%</td>
<td>51.2%</td>
<td>52.0%</td>
<td>48.1%</td>
<td>40.1%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>36.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County Chief Clerk/Administrator</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>2.2%</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
<td>0.6%</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Township Supervisor/Commissioner</td>
<td>3.9%</td>
<td>5.9%</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
<td>11.2%</td>
<td>10.4%</td>
<td>9.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>9.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Borough Council member</td>
<td>13.7%</td>
<td>18.9%</td>
<td>22.5%</td>
<td>17.3%</td>
<td>25.9%</td>
<td>23.4%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>32.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County Commissioner</td>
<td>5.9%</td>
<td>1.6%</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
<td>4.5%</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
<td>0.6%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>2.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City Council Member</td>
<td>9.8%</td>
<td>5.4%</td>
<td>6.3%</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
<td>0.6%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mayor</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>4.9%</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
<td>3.4%</td>
<td>5.2%</td>
<td>4.8%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>5.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*The one respondent from Philadelphia was classified as a Park and Recreation Director who took the Appointed/Elected Official Survey*
2a. Select the response that best describes your local community: (please select one)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>North West Area</th>
<th>South West Area</th>
<th>North Central Area</th>
<th>South Central Area</th>
<th>North East Area</th>
<th>South East Area</th>
<th>Phila-delphia</th>
<th>Pitts-burgh</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Urban</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
<td>12.7%</td>
<td>5.1%</td>
<td>13.6%</td>
<td>12.4%</td>
<td>14.3%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
<td>19.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural</td>
<td>72.9%</td>
<td>57.0%</td>
<td>86.1%</td>
<td>68.5%</td>
<td>65.9%</td>
<td>35.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>6.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suburban</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
<td>23.0%</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
<td>16.0%</td>
<td>17.1%</td>
<td>46.2%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>74.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County</td>
<td>2.1%</td>
<td>7.3%</td>
<td>5.1%</td>
<td>1.9%</td>
<td>4.7%</td>
<td>4.5%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2ab. Does your local government own a park facility?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>North West Area</th>
<th>South West Area</th>
<th>North Central Area</th>
<th>South Central Area</th>
<th>North East Area</th>
<th>South East Area</th>
<th>Phila-delphia</th>
<th>Pitts-burgh</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>68.8%</td>
<td>81.3%</td>
<td>67.1%</td>
<td>73.3%</td>
<td>80.6%</td>
<td>91.7%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
<td>96.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>31.3%</td>
<td>18.7%</td>
<td>32.9%</td>
<td>26.7%</td>
<td>19.4%</td>
<td>8.3%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>3.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2ac. About how many parks does your local government own?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>North West Area</th>
<th>South West Area</th>
<th>North Central Area</th>
<th>South Central Area</th>
<th>North East Area</th>
<th>South East Area</th>
<th>Phila-delphia</th>
<th>Pitts-burgh</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1-3</td>
<td>65.6%</td>
<td>73.1%</td>
<td>79.2%</td>
<td>66.9%</td>
<td>80.6%</td>
<td>60.9%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>60.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-7</td>
<td>31.3%</td>
<td>19.4%</td>
<td>18.9%</td>
<td>15.3%</td>
<td>16.3%</td>
<td>22.6%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>32.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 or more</td>
<td>3.1%</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
<td>1.9%</td>
<td>17.8%</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
<td>16.5%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
<td>6.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. Does your agency have a park and recreation board/commission?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>North West Area</th>
<th>South West Area</th>
<th>North Central Area</th>
<th>South Central Area</th>
<th>North East Area</th>
<th>South East Area</th>
<th>Phila-delphia</th>
<th>Pitts-burgh</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>64.7%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
<td>83.3%</td>
<td>86.7%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>77.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>66.7%</td>
<td>35.3%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>16.7%</td>
<td>13.3%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>22.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don’t Know</td>
<td>33.3%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3a. Do you have a park and recreation advisory board that was established by your local government?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>North West Area</th>
<th>South West Area</th>
<th>North Central Area</th>
<th>South Central Area</th>
<th>North East Area</th>
<th>South East Area</th>
<th>Philadelphia</th>
<th>Pittsburgh</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>36.2%</td>
<td>52.4%</td>
<td>32.9%</td>
<td>45.1%</td>
<td>49.2%</td>
<td>67.7%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
<td>57.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>63.8%</td>
<td>45.7%</td>
<td>65.8%</td>
<td>52.5%</td>
<td>48.4%</td>
<td>30.5%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>41.6%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Don't Know</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>1.8%</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
<td>1.9%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3ab. How effective do you believe your advisory board has been in promoting, planning and serving the park and recreation needs of your local residents? Select the box that best describes your opinion.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>North West Area</th>
<th>South West Area</th>
<th>North Central Area</th>
<th>South Central Area</th>
<th>North East Area</th>
<th>South East Area</th>
<th>Philadelphia</th>
<th>Pittsburgh</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Extremely Ineffective</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
<td>11.0%</td>
<td>8.3%</td>
<td>9.2%</td>
<td>10.0%</td>
<td>3.7%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>9.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat Ineffective</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
<td>14.6%</td>
<td>8.3%</td>
<td>6.2%</td>
<td>8.0%</td>
<td>9.3%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>17.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neutral</td>
<td>25.0%</td>
<td>9.8%</td>
<td>37.5%</td>
<td>12.3%</td>
<td>14.0%</td>
<td>15.4%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>12.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat Effective</td>
<td>37.5%</td>
<td>39.0%</td>
<td>33.3%</td>
<td>49.2%</td>
<td>50.0%</td>
<td>43.2%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>29.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extremely Effective</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
<td>25.6%</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
<td>23.1%</td>
<td>18.0%</td>
<td>28.4%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>31.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. Do you have part-time or full-time park and recreation staff?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>North West Area</th>
<th>South West Area</th>
<th>North Central Area</th>
<th>South Central Area</th>
<th>North East Area</th>
<th>South East Area</th>
<th>Philadelphia</th>
<th>Pittsburgh</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>66.7%</td>
<td>88.9%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
<td>40.0%</td>
<td>95.6%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>55.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>33.1%</td>
<td>11.1%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>60.0%</td>
<td>4.4%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>44.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6. What was your agency/local government’s total **operational budget** for parks and recreation in 2013? (Range, Mean, Median)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>North West Area</th>
<th>South West Area</th>
<th>North Central Area</th>
<th>South Central Area</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Operational Budget</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Md</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$453,749</td>
<td>$48,890</td>
<td>$1,600</td>
<td>$13,342,699</td>
<td>$455,962</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital Budget</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$75,000</td>
<td>$7974</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$2,500,000</td>
<td>$167,353</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6. What was your agency/local government’s total **operational budget** for parks and recreation in 2013? (Range, Mean, Median)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>North East Area</th>
<th>South East Area</th>
<th>Philadelphia</th>
<th>Pittsburgh</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Operational Budget</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Md</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$7,000,000</td>
<td>$194,388</td>
<td>$5,713</td>
<td>$8,299,900</td>
<td>$572,644</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital Budget</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$572,000</td>
<td>$29,416</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$6,000,000</td>
<td>$176,256</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
8/9. Park and recreation services have the potential to provide a number of benefits for their constituents and local communities. Please indicate the extent that your agency delivers or provides for each of the following types of park and recreation benefits by clicking on the box that best describes your opinion.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Benefits</th>
<th>North West Area</th>
<th>South West Area</th>
<th>North Central Area</th>
<th>South Central Area</th>
<th>North East Area</th>
<th>South East Area</th>
<th>Philadelphia</th>
<th>Pittsburgh</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Makes the community a more desirable place to live</td>
<td>M: 3.79</td>
<td>M: 4.03</td>
<td>M: 3.55</td>
<td>M: 3.97</td>
<td>M: 3.68</td>
<td>M: 4.21</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>M: 4.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provides opportunities for social interaction</td>
<td>M: 3.71</td>
<td>M: 3.76</td>
<td>M: 3.27</td>
<td>M: 3.77</td>
<td>M: 3.60</td>
<td>M: 3.97</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>M: 3.96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enhances a sense of community</td>
<td>M: 3.57</td>
<td>M: 3.80</td>
<td>M: 3.14</td>
<td>M: 3.72</td>
<td>M: 3.54</td>
<td>M: 3.94</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>M: 4.04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Promotes positive youth development</td>
<td>M: 3.45</td>
<td>M: 3.75</td>
<td>M: 3.32</td>
<td>M: 3.72</td>
<td>M: 3.55</td>
<td>M: 3.90</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>M: 3.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improves physical health and fitness</td>
<td>M: 3.45</td>
<td>M: 3.68</td>
<td>M: 3.21</td>
<td>M: 3.72</td>
<td>M: 3.42</td>
<td>M: 3.79</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>M: 3.68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provides equitable and accessible recreation opportunities to a broad constituency</td>
<td>M: 3.62</td>
<td>M: 3.61</td>
<td>M: 3.17</td>
<td>M: 3.59</td>
<td>M: 3.42</td>
<td>M: 3.87</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>M: 3.64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increases property values in the community</td>
<td>M: 3.33</td>
<td>M: 3.54</td>
<td>M: 2.92</td>
<td>M: 3.48</td>
<td>M: 3.25</td>
<td>M: 3.78</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>M: 3.78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3.38</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>3.45</td>
<td>2.9%</td>
<td>2.83</td>
<td>1.8%</td>
<td>3.40</td>
<td>3.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protects the natural environment</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reduces stress/improves mental health</td>
<td>3.36</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>3.41</td>
<td>1.4%</td>
<td>3.03</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>3.40</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helps attract new residents and businesses</td>
<td>3.12</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>3.23</td>
<td>1.4%</td>
<td>2.47</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>3.21</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preserves historical and cultural heritage</td>
<td>2.98</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>3.02</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
<td>2.56</td>
<td>1.8%</td>
<td>2.99</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Promotes tourism and economic development</td>
<td>3.12</td>
<td>2.8%</td>
<td>3.02</td>
<td>2.1%</td>
<td>2.53</td>
<td>1.8%</td>
<td>2.90</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helps reduce crime</td>
<td>2.52</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>2.89</td>
<td>2.9%</td>
<td>2.52</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>2.93</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
10. Does your agency provide/offer community walking programs?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>North West Area</th>
<th>South West Area</th>
<th>North Central Area</th>
<th>South Central Area</th>
<th>North East Area</th>
<th>South East Area</th>
<th>Phila-delphia</th>
<th>Pitts-burgh</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
<td>31.3%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>46.2%</td>
<td>50.0%</td>
<td>37.8%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>42.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>68.8%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
<td>53.8%</td>
<td>50.0%</td>
<td>62.2%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>57.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

11. Does your agency provide/offer outdoor programs that connect children with nature?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>North West Area</th>
<th>South West Area</th>
<th>North Central Area</th>
<th>South Central Area</th>
<th>North East Area</th>
<th>South East Area</th>
<th>Phila-delphia</th>
<th>Pitts-burgh</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
<td>68.8%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>92.3%</td>
<td>66.7%</td>
<td>78.4%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>71.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>31.3%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
<td>7.7%</td>
<td>33.3%</td>
<td>21.6%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>28.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
12. Please rate the level of priority your agency places on **investing in each of the following facilities** over the next five years (1 = your lowest priority for investment to 5 = being your highest priority for investment).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Facility</th>
<th>North West Area</th>
<th>South West Area</th>
<th>North Central Area</th>
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<th>North East Area</th>
<th>South East Area</th>
<th>Phila-delphia</th>
<th>Pitts-burgh</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Playgrounds</td>
<td>3.53</td>
<td>3.53</td>
<td>3.32</td>
<td>3.40</td>
<td>3.52</td>
<td>3.65</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>3.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neighborhood parks</td>
<td>2.97</td>
<td>3.14</td>
<td>2.71</td>
<td>3.15</td>
<td>2.68</td>
<td>3.38</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>3.69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community or regional parks</td>
<td>3.03</td>
<td>3.09</td>
<td>2.56</td>
<td>3.10</td>
<td>2.73</td>
<td>3.18</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>3.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Team sports facilities</td>
<td>2.44</td>
<td>2.85</td>
<td>2.71</td>
<td>2.94</td>
<td>2.91</td>
<td>3.25</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>3.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community or regional trail systems</td>
<td>2.97</td>
<td>2.82</td>
<td>2.67</td>
<td>2.63</td>
<td>2.54</td>
<td>3.22</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>2.68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor interpretive/educational facilities</td>
<td>1.76</td>
<td>2.23</td>
<td>2.10</td>
<td>2.27</td>
<td>2.10</td>
<td>2.50</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>2.04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community gardens</td>
<td>2.08</td>
<td>2.15</td>
<td>1.92</td>
<td>2.13</td>
<td>1.98</td>
<td>2.33</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>2.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swimming pools/water play parks</td>
<td>2.26</td>
<td>2.03</td>
<td>2.02</td>
<td>2.22</td>
<td>1.69</td>
<td>1.85</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>1.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On-road bike lanes</td>
<td>2.00</td>
<td>1.90</td>
<td>1.75</td>
<td>1.98</td>
<td>1.68</td>
<td>1.99</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>1.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opportunities for access to water-based</td>
<td>2.41</td>
<td>2.01</td>
<td>1.87</td>
<td>1.96</td>
<td>1.93</td>
<td>1.63</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>1.58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>recreation (e.g., boating, kayaking)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opportunities for hunting and/or fishing</td>
<td>2.23</td>
<td>2.06</td>
<td>2.10</td>
<td>1.78</td>
<td>1.87</td>
<td>1.74</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>1.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Off-leash dog parks</td>
<td>1.26</td>
<td>1.97</td>
<td>1.57</td>
<td>1.82</td>
<td>1.45</td>
<td>1.78</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>1.89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mountain bike trails</td>
<td>1.55</td>
<td>1.73</td>
<td>1.77</td>
<td>1.77</td>
<td>1.77</td>
<td>1.59</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>1.82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skate parks/adventure parks</td>
<td>1.54</td>
<td>1.68</td>
<td>1.90</td>
<td>1.67</td>
<td>1.65</td>
<td>1.65</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>1.51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trails/parks for motorized activities</td>
<td>1.43</td>
<td>1.56</td>
<td>1.64</td>
<td>1.33</td>
<td>1.45</td>
<td>1.40</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>1.38</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
13. Over the last three years, has tax supported funding declined, remained the same, or increased for park and recreation **operational expenses**?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>North West Area</th>
<th>South West Area</th>
<th>North Central Area</th>
<th>South Central Area</th>
<th>North East Area</th>
<th>South East Area</th>
<th>Phila-delphia</th>
<th>Pitts-burgh</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tax Supported Funding has Declined</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>40.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>30.8%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>22.2%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tax Supported Funding has Remained the Same</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>46.7%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
<td>61.5%</td>
<td>80.0%</td>
<td>66.7%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>83.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tax Supported Funding has Increased</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>13.3%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>7.7%</td>
<td>20.0%</td>
<td>11.1%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>16.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

14. Over the last three years, has tax supported funding declined, remained the same, or increased for park and recreation **capital expenses**?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>North West Area</th>
<th>South West Area</th>
<th>North Central Area</th>
<th>South Central Area</th>
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<th>South East Area</th>
<th>Phila-delphia</th>
<th>Pitts-burgh</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tax Supported Funding has Declined</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>26.7%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
<td>23.1%</td>
<td>20.0%</td>
<td>34.3%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>16.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tax Supported Funding has Remained the Same</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>40.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>61.5%</td>
<td>60.0%</td>
<td>51.4%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>83.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tax Supported Funding has Increased</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>33.3%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>15.4%</td>
<td>20.0%</td>
<td>14.3%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### 15. & 16. How important are each of the following priorities for funding outdoor recreation and conservation efforts in your community? Please click on the box that best describes your opinion.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Priority</th>
<th>North West Area</th>
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<th>South West Area</th>
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<th>South East Area</th>
<th></th>
<th>Philadelphia</th>
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<th>Pittsburgh</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>c. Maintain existing park and recreation areas</td>
<td>M 4.55 #1 60.0%</td>
<td>M 4.36 69.0%</td>
<td>M 4.07 62.5%</td>
<td>M 4.17 63.1%</td>
<td>M 4.06 63.1%</td>
<td>M 4.51 60.5%</td>
<td>N/A 0.0%</td>
<td>N/A 0.0%</td>
<td>M 4.62 71.4%</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Provide recreation programs at parks and recreation areas</td>
<td>M 3.44 13.3%</td>
<td>M 3.52 6.9%</td>
<td>M 3.30 2.1%</td>
<td>M 3.35 12.6%</td>
<td>M 3.26 10.7%</td>
<td>M 3.68 7.6%</td>
<td>N/A 0.0%</td>
<td>N/A 0.0%</td>
<td>M 3.74 10.7%</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>g. Build more greenways/trails</td>
<td>M 3.19 3.3%</td>
<td>M 2.92 4.3%</td>
<td>M 2.75 4.2%</td>
<td>M 2.88 1.8%</td>
<td>M 2.45 3.6%</td>
<td>M 3.21 6.2%</td>
<td>N/A 0.0%</td>
<td>N/A 0.0%</td>
<td>M 2.90 0.0%</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Provide environmental and conservation programs</td>
<td>M 2.92 0.0%</td>
<td>M 3.05 0.9%</td>
<td>M 2.74 4.2%</td>
<td>M 2.82 0.9%</td>
<td>M 2.70 1.2%</td>
<td>M 3.12 1.0%</td>
<td>N/A 0.0%</td>
<td>N/A 0.0%</td>
<td>M 2.81 0.0%</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. Acquire and protect open space (as undeveloped, conserved land)</td>
<td>M 2.43 0.0%</td>
<td>M 2.70 2.6%</td>
<td>M 2.33 4.2%</td>
<td>M 2.94 7.2%</td>
<td>M 2.55 7.1%</td>
<td>M 3.22 10.5%</td>
<td>N/A 0.0%</td>
<td>N/A 0.0%</td>
<td>M 2.67 1.8%</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>f. Protect wildlife and fish habitat</td>
<td>M 2.97 0.0%</td>
<td>M 2.82 1.7%</td>
<td>M 2.86 4.2%</td>
<td>M 2.78 1.8%</td>
<td>M 2.63 2.4%</td>
<td>M 2.99 0.5%</td>
<td>N/A 0.0%</td>
<td>N/A 0.0%</td>
<td>M 2.49 1.8%</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>i. Build pedestrian and cycling paths between places of work, parks,</td>
<td>M 3.00 10.0%</td>
<td>M 2.75 6.0%</td>
<td>M 2.80 10.4%</td>
<td>M 2.86 9.9%</td>
<td>M 2.26 0.0%</td>
<td>M 3.12 8.6%</td>
<td>N/A 0.0%</td>
<td>N/A 0.0%</td>
<td>M 2.71 5.4%</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>h. Restore damaged rivers and streams</td>
<td>M 2.46 10.0%</td>
<td>M 2.52 2.6%</td>
<td>M 2.97 6.3%</td>
<td>M 2.40 0.0%</td>
<td>M 2.66 3.6%</td>
<td>M 2.86 1.4%</td>
<td>N/A 0.0%</td>
<td>N/A 0.0%</td>
<td>M 2.17 1.8%</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Acquire additional land and water areas for</td>
<td>M 1.70 0.0%</td>
<td>M 2.38 5.2%</td>
<td>M 2.02 0.0%</td>
<td>M 2.38 0.9%</td>
<td>M 2.22 3.6%</td>
<td>M 2.74 2.9%</td>
<td>N/A 0.0%</td>
<td>N/A 0.0%</td>
<td>M 2.44 5.4%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>developed</td>
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<tr>
<td>recreation</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
17. In this final section, we would like to know a little more about the challenges your agency faces when providing park and recreation facilities and services? For each of the following six areas, please specify the degree to which the following issues are challenges or concerns for your agency by selecting the box that best describes your opinion.

### 17a. Partnerships, Collaboration, Staffing (% Significant/Major Challenge)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>North West Area</th>
<th>South West Area</th>
<th>North Central Area</th>
<th>South Central Area</th>
<th>North East Area</th>
<th>South East Area</th>
<th>Philadelphia</th>
<th>Pittsburgh</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ability to properly staff and train employees/volunteers</td>
<td>51.4%</td>
<td>55.7%</td>
<td>45.0%</td>
<td>42.4%</td>
<td>46.9%</td>
<td>43.6%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>43.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coordinating with or gaining cooperation from other local governments to provide park and recreation services</td>
<td>38.9%</td>
<td>42.9%</td>
<td>54.4%</td>
<td>41.1%</td>
<td>38.8%</td>
<td>29.3%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>25.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building relationships with school districts</td>
<td>25.0%</td>
<td>29.3%</td>
<td>32.8%</td>
<td>23.4%</td>
<td>24.5%</td>
<td>25.6%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>30.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building relationships with senior citizen centers</td>
<td>17.1%</td>
<td>20.9%</td>
<td>19.3%</td>
<td>18.9%</td>
<td>19.4%</td>
<td>18.8%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>17.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 17b. Advocacy (% Significant/Major Challenge)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>North West Area</th>
<th>South West Area</th>
<th>North Central Area</th>
<th>South Central Area</th>
<th>North East Area</th>
<th>South East Area</th>
<th>Philadelphia</th>
<th>Pittsburgh</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mobilizing citizens to support and advocate for park and recreation services</td>
<td>50.0%</td>
<td>51.8%</td>
<td>53.3%</td>
<td>49.2%</td>
<td>45.0%</td>
<td>40.9%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>32.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building community awareness of outdoor recreation opportunities to local residents</td>
<td>38.9%</td>
<td>45.1%</td>
<td>36.7%</td>
<td>38.2%</td>
<td>29.3%</td>
<td>32.1%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>24.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educating elected officials on the benefits and value of local park and recreation services (Appointed Only)</td>
<td>47.1%</td>
<td>44.4%</td>
<td>29.0%</td>
<td>34.9%</td>
<td>37.8%</td>
<td>23.8%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>25.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### 17c. Fiscal and Funding Issues (% Significant/Major Challenge)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>North West Area</th>
<th>South West Area</th>
<th>North Central Area</th>
<th>South Central Area</th>
<th>North East Area</th>
<th>South East Area</th>
<th>Philadelphia</th>
<th>Pittsburgh</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Developing alternative, non-traditional revenue sources for parks and recreation</td>
<td>88.9%</td>
<td>83.0%</td>
<td>81.0%</td>
<td>76.6%</td>
<td>77.3%</td>
<td>74.2%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>61.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insufficient funds to rehabilitate existing facilities</td>
<td>79.4%</td>
<td>71.1%</td>
<td>82.5%</td>
<td>70.7%</td>
<td>70.4%</td>
<td>61.0%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>53.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insufficient funds for land acquisition</td>
<td>48.5%</td>
<td>68.1%</td>
<td>67.8%</td>
<td>65.3%</td>
<td>59.8%</td>
<td>55.2%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>47.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insufficient funds for programs and activities at parks</td>
<td>82.4%</td>
<td>65.7%</td>
<td>65.6%</td>
<td>63.1%</td>
<td>59.2%</td>
<td>45.6%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>48.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insufficient funds for operation and maintenance of parks</td>
<td>77.8%</td>
<td>68.1%</td>
<td>65.6%</td>
<td>66.7%</td>
<td>59.2%</td>
<td>42.6%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>48.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retaining allocated local government funds for parks and recreation</td>
<td>58.3%</td>
<td>66.7%</td>
<td>66.7%</td>
<td>57.3%</td>
<td>54.5%</td>
<td>50.4%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>50.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gaining support from local government elected officials for local park and recreation funding (Appointed Only)</td>
<td>47.1%</td>
<td>47.9%</td>
<td>43.3%</td>
<td>40.3%</td>
<td>40.9%</td>
<td>28.0%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>29.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17d. Maintenance/Management Issues (% Significant/Major Challenge)</td>
<td>North West Area</td>
<td>South West Area</td>
<td>North Central Area</td>
<td>South Central Area</td>
<td>North East Area</td>
<td>South East Area</td>
<td>Phila-delphia</td>
<td>Pittsburgh</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creating new park and recreation facilities</td>
<td>65.7%</td>
<td>75.9%</td>
<td>79.9%</td>
<td>77.9%</td>
<td>73.2%</td>
<td>75.8%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>71.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creating and enhancing trail access and connectivity</td>
<td>71.4%</td>
<td>57.8%</td>
<td>57.6%</td>
<td>61.3%</td>
<td>48.0%</td>
<td>55.8%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>57.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of acreage or suitable sites for new parks and recreation facilities</td>
<td>17.1%</td>
<td>46.7%</td>
<td>45.8%</td>
<td>53.2%</td>
<td>42.9%</td>
<td>50.4%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>58.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintaining existing local parks in the community</td>
<td>60.0%</td>
<td>56.5%</td>
<td>47.5%</td>
<td>50.0%</td>
<td>49.5%</td>
<td>37.9%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>40.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Addressing ADA issues</td>
<td>40.0%</td>
<td>43.9%</td>
<td>47.5%</td>
<td>35.5%</td>
<td>43.8%</td>
<td>32.2%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>25.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Determining how to best provide services to different user groups and to manage different uses of the same parks (e.g., hiking vs. organized sports vs. nature programs, etc.)</td>
<td>42.9%</td>
<td>35.9%</td>
<td>45.0%</td>
<td>37.7%</td>
<td>35.8%</td>
<td>28.6%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>30.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ensuring public safety in parks and recreation areas</td>
<td>36.1%</td>
<td>32.4%</td>
<td>36.7%</td>
<td>27.6%</td>
<td>25.5%</td>
<td>16.9%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>21.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complaints from citizens about park conditions</td>
<td>31.4%</td>
<td>22.8%</td>
<td>35.6%</td>
<td>13.8%</td>
<td>24.5%</td>
<td>10.2%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>15.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### 17e. Emerging Trends (% Significant/Major Challenge)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Emerging Trend</th>
<th>North West Area</th>
<th>South West Area</th>
<th>North Central Area</th>
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<th>North East Area</th>
<th>South East Area</th>
<th>Philadelphia</th>
<th>Pittsburgh</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Responding to emerging or new types of outdoor recreation activities (e.g., dog parks, paddleboarding, pickleball)</td>
<td>64.7%</td>
<td>54.7%</td>
<td>42.4%</td>
<td>44.6%</td>
<td>43.9%</td>
<td>42.1%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>44.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Addressing the lack of youth engagement in outdoor recreation</td>
<td>51.4%</td>
<td>53.3%</td>
<td>51.7%</td>
<td>48.8%</td>
<td>43.8%</td>
<td>36.5%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>46.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Providing park and recreation facilities/services that meet the needs of individuals with disabilities.</td>
<td>50.0%</td>
<td>47.4%</td>
<td>45.8%</td>
<td>36.3%</td>
<td>50.5%</td>
<td>41.2%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>35.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Promoting green infrastructure at parks (e.g., native landscaping, grow zones, tree planting, sustainable design)</td>
<td>31.4%</td>
<td>53.3%</td>
<td>45.8%</td>
<td>40.8%</td>
<td>37.1%</td>
<td>32.3%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>42.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keeping up with technological changes (e.g., social media, new software, new forms of communication)</td>
<td>32.4%</td>
<td>45.9%</td>
<td>45.8%</td>
<td>35.8%</td>
<td>34.7%</td>
<td>36.5%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>42.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improving public health (e.g., physical activity, mental health) through outdoor recreation</td>
<td>40.0%</td>
<td>46.3%</td>
<td>46.7%</td>
<td>41.8%</td>
<td>37.1%</td>
<td>31.0%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>29.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decline in team sports</td>
<td>24.2%</td>
<td>34.6%</td>
<td>28.8%</td>
<td>24.2%</td>
<td>26.8%</td>
<td>15.9%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>23.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adapting to an aging population</td>
<td>26.5%</td>
<td>31.8%</td>
<td>32.2%</td>
<td>17.2%</td>
<td>24.5%</td>
<td>20.5%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>22.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adapting to a more ethnically/racially diverse population</td>
<td>14.3%</td>
<td>13.4%</td>
<td>22.4%</td>
<td>10.5%</td>
<td>16.3%</td>
<td>11.0%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>14.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Appendix 3
Survey Instrument with Summary of Responses
Section A. Basic Agency/Local Government Information

1. Which of the following best describes your park and recreation agency? (please check one)

53.7% (72) Local or municipal (township, city, borough) park and recreation department
8.2% (11) Multi-municipal recreation authority, commission, or organization
6.7% (9) County park and recreation agency
3.0% (4) Non-profit organization
28.4% (38) Unspecified/Missing Data

1a. Which of the following best describes your local government? (please select one)

41.9% (378) Township
48.7% (439) Borough
4.8% (43) City
4.1% (37) County
0.6% (5) Other (please describe) __________________________

1ab. Which of the following best describes your elected or appointed position? (please select one)

53.6% (475) Township, City or Borough Manager/Secretary
1.6% (14) County Chief Clerk/Administrator
9.9% (89) Township Supervisor/Commissioner
25.1% (227) Borough Council member
2.8% (25) County Commissioner
3.0% (27) City Council Member
5.1% (46) Mayor

2. What county is your agency/local government located in?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>N</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>North West Area</td>
<td>4.98</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South West Area</td>
<td>18.05</td>
<td>185</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Central Area</td>
<td>7.80</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Central Area</td>
<td>17.07</td>
<td>175</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North East Area</td>
<td>13.17</td>
<td>135</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South East Area</td>
<td>30.44</td>
<td>312</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philadelphia</td>
<td>0.10</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pittsburgh</td>
<td>8.93</td>
<td>86</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2a. Select the response that best describes your local community: (please select one)
- 13.4% (120) Urban
- 53.5% (480) Rural
- 29.4% (264) Suburban
- 3.7% (33) County

2ab. Does your local government own a park facility?
- 81.4% (733) Yes
- 18.6% (167) No

2ac. About how many parks does your local government own?
- 69.4% (502) 1-3
- 21.2% (153) 4-7
- 9.4% (68) 8 or more

3. Does your agency have a park and recreation board/commission?
- 81.1% (77) Yes
- 17.9% (17) No
- 1.1% (1) Don’t Know

3a. Do you have a park and recreation advisory board that was established by your local government?
- 52.8% (469) Yes (Go to Question 6a)
- 45.3% (402) No (Skip to Question 7)
- 1.9% (17) Don’t Know (Skip to Question 7)

3ab. How effective do you believe your advisory board has been in promoting, planning and serving the park and recreation needs of your local residents? Select the box that best describes your opinion.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Extremely Ineffective</th>
<th>Somewhat Ineffective</th>
<th>Neutral</th>
<th>Somewhat Effective</th>
<th>Extremely Effective</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percentage</td>
<td>8.0% (34)</td>
<td>9.9% (42)</td>
<td>15.3% (65)</td>
<td>42.7% (181)</td>
<td>24.1% (102)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. Do you have part-time or full-time park and recreation staff?
- 87.4% (83) Yes
- 12.6% (12) No
4a. We would like to know a little more about your staff capacity. Please enter your best estimate for the questions below.

How many staff, including yourself, are full-time?
How many staff are part-time/seasonal?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Staffing</th>
<th>Range</th>
<th>Average</th>
<th>Median</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Full-time staff</td>
<td>0-63</td>
<td>6.73</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part-time/seasonal staff</td>
<td>0-430</td>
<td>40.77</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5. Please indicate the size of the population your agency serves (check one).

56.97% (531) Less than 5,000 people
32.83% (306) 5,000 to 24,999
10.19% (95) 25,000 or more

6. What was your agency/local government's total operational budget for parks and recreation in 2013? $________
7. What was your agency/local government's total capital budget for parks and recreation in 2013? $________

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Range ($)</th>
<th>Average ($)</th>
<th>Median ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>P&amp;R Director</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operational (N=87)</td>
<td>10,000-13.3 million</td>
<td>1,261,151</td>
<td>731,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital (N=65)</td>
<td>0-6 million</td>
<td>375,895</td>
<td>70,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appointed/Elected</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operational (N=520)</td>
<td>0-73 million</td>
<td>487,679</td>
<td>12,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital (N=433)</td>
<td>0-5 million</td>
<td>116,905</td>
<td>2,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Section B. Perceived Benefits of Outdoor Recreation for Your Local Area

8. Park and recreation services have the potential to provide a number of benefits for their constituents and local communities. Please indicate the extent that your agency delivers or provides for each of the following types of park and recreation benefits by clicking on the box that best describes your opinion (Sorted by mean).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Potential Benefit</th>
<th>Not at All</th>
<th>Some-what</th>
<th>A great deal</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>#1 Benefit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Provides children with a safe place to play</td>
<td>6.5%</td>
<td>2.8%</td>
<td>10.7%</td>
<td>30.1%</td>
<td>49.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Makes the community a more desirable place to live</td>
<td>6.6%</td>
<td>3.2%</td>
<td>15.9%</td>
<td>32.8%</td>
<td>41.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provides opportunities for social interaction</td>
<td>6.1%</td>
<td>4.7%</td>
<td>22.0%</td>
<td>38.9%</td>
<td>28.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enhances a sense of community</td>
<td>7.3%</td>
<td>6.3%</td>
<td>20.4%</td>
<td>35.3%</td>
<td>30.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Promotes positive youth development</td>
<td>8.0%</td>
<td>8.0%</td>
<td>19.8%</td>
<td>32.1%</td>
<td>32.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improves physical health and fitness</td>
<td>8.8%</td>
<td>5.6%</td>
<td>24.7%</td>
<td>34.2%</td>
<td>26.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provides equitable and accessible recreation opportunities to a broad constituency</td>
<td>8.5%</td>
<td>8.5%</td>
<td>24.2%</td>
<td>28.7%</td>
<td>30.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increases property values in the community</td>
<td>9.4%</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
<td>27.1%</td>
<td>32.1%</td>
<td>23.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protects the natural environment</td>
<td>8.9%</td>
<td>10.0%</td>
<td>28.0%</td>
<td>29.4%</td>
<td>23.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reduces stress/improves mental health</td>
<td>8.2%</td>
<td>10.2%</td>
<td>28.2%</td>
<td>34.5%</td>
<td>18.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helps attract new residents and businesses</td>
<td>12.9%</td>
<td>12.7%</td>
<td>34.0%</td>
<td>22.6%</td>
<td>17.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preserves historical and cultural heritage</td>
<td>15.2%</td>
<td>17.5%</td>
<td>31.5%</td>
<td>20.1%</td>
<td>15.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Promotes tourism and economic development</td>
<td>18.8%</td>
<td>20.0%</td>
<td>30.8%</td>
<td>17.1%</td>
<td>13.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helps reduce crime</td>
<td>18.4%</td>
<td>17.4%</td>
<td>34.8%</td>
<td>20.6%</td>
<td>8.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential Benefit</td>
<td>Mean</td>
<td>Appointed</td>
<td>Elected</td>
<td>Director</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>-----------</td>
<td>---------</td>
<td>----------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provides children with a safe place to play</td>
<td>3.96</td>
<td>4.18</td>
<td>4.67</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Makes the community a more desirable place to live</td>
<td>3.75</td>
<td>4.09</td>
<td>4.60</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provides opportunities for social interaction</td>
<td>3.59</td>
<td>3.83</td>
<td>4.33</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enhances a sense of community</td>
<td>3.57</td>
<td>3.78</td>
<td>4.33</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Promotes positive youth development</td>
<td>3.51</td>
<td>3.80</td>
<td>4.27</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provides equitable and accessible recreation opportunities to a broad constituency</td>
<td>3.35</td>
<td>3.77</td>
<td>4.24</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increases property values in the community</td>
<td>3.26</td>
<td>3.63</td>
<td>4.19</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improves physical health and fitness</td>
<td>3.43</td>
<td>3.72</td>
<td>4.18</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reduces stress/improves mental health</td>
<td>3.19</td>
<td>3.59</td>
<td>3.95</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protects the natural environment</td>
<td>3.31</td>
<td>3.56</td>
<td>3.92</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helps attract new residents and businesses</td>
<td>2.93</td>
<td>3.29</td>
<td>3.87</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helps reduce crime</td>
<td>2.54</td>
<td>2.96</td>
<td>3.55</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Promotes tourism and economic development</td>
<td>2.60</td>
<td>2.99</td>
<td>3.42</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preserves historical and cultural heritage</td>
<td>2.79</td>
<td>3.19</td>
<td>3.40</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

9. From the list above, please select the SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT benefit that you feel your agency provides to your residents and community. See above

10. Does your agency provide/offer community walking programs?
40.2% (33) Yes
59.8% (49) No

11. Does your agency provide/offer outdoor programs that connect children with nature?
76.8% (63) Yes
23.2% (19) No
Section C. Outdoor Recreation Facility Needs

12. Please rate the level of priority your agency places on **investing in each of the following facilities** over the next five years (1 = your lowest priority for investment to 5 = being your highest priority for investment).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Facility Type</th>
<th>Lowest Priority</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th>Highest Priority</th>
<th>mean</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Playsgrounds</td>
<td>10.3%</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
<td>23.3%</td>
<td>33.9%</td>
<td>25.1%</td>
<td>3.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neighborhood parks</td>
<td>17.5%</td>
<td>13.4%</td>
<td>24.2%</td>
<td>24.6%</td>
<td>20.2%</td>
<td>3.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community or regional parks</td>
<td>19.8%</td>
<td>14.0%</td>
<td>25.9%</td>
<td>24.7%</td>
<td>15.6%</td>
<td>3.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Team sports facilities</td>
<td>23.8%</td>
<td>12.3%</td>
<td>22.4%</td>
<td>25.1%</td>
<td>16.4%</td>
<td>2.98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community or regional trail systems</td>
<td>27.5%</td>
<td>14.0%</td>
<td>19.7%</td>
<td>22.3%</td>
<td>16.5%</td>
<td>2.86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor interpretive/educational facilities</td>
<td>37.7%</td>
<td>22.0%</td>
<td>22.2%</td>
<td>12.7%</td>
<td>5.3%</td>
<td>2.26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community gardens</td>
<td>38.8%</td>
<td>22.2%</td>
<td>24.1%</td>
<td>10.7%</td>
<td>4.1%</td>
<td>2.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swimming pools/water play parks</td>
<td>62.0%</td>
<td>8.1%</td>
<td>9.1%</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
<td>8.3%</td>
<td>1.97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On-road bike lanes</td>
<td>54.0%</td>
<td>17.1%</td>
<td>16.0%</td>
<td>8.8%</td>
<td>4.0%</td>
<td>1.92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opportunities for/access to water-based recreation (e.g., boating, kayaking)</td>
<td>61.9%</td>
<td>12.0%</td>
<td>10.7%</td>
<td>10.3%</td>
<td>5.1%</td>
<td>1.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opportunities for hunting and/or fishing</td>
<td>57.4%</td>
<td>15.6%</td>
<td>15.6%</td>
<td>7.1%</td>
<td>4.3%</td>
<td>1.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Off-leash dog parks</td>
<td>60.6%</td>
<td>16.0%</td>
<td>14.2%</td>
<td>5.7%</td>
<td>3.6%</td>
<td>1.76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mountain bike trails</td>
<td>63.2%</td>
<td>15.9%</td>
<td>11.8%</td>
<td>6.0%</td>
<td>3.2%</td>
<td>1.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skate parks/Adventure parks</td>
<td>64.5%</td>
<td>15.4%</td>
<td>11.6%</td>
<td>6.2%</td>
<td>2.2%</td>
<td>1.66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trails/parks for motorized activities</td>
<td>74.0%</td>
<td>13.2%</td>
<td>7.7%</td>
<td>3.7%</td>
<td>1.4%</td>
<td>1.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facility Type</td>
<td>Appointed</td>
<td>Elected</td>
<td>Director</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------</td>
<td>---------</td>
<td>----------</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Playgrounds</td>
<td>3.45</td>
<td>3.66</td>
<td>3.70</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Team sports facilities</td>
<td>2.73</td>
<td>3.20</td>
<td>3.25</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community or regional parks</td>
<td>2.91</td>
<td>3.11</td>
<td>3.22</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neighborhood parks</td>
<td>3.09</td>
<td>3.30</td>
<td>3.01</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community or regional trail systems</td>
<td>2.75</td>
<td>2.96</td>
<td>3.01</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor interpretive/educational facilities</td>
<td>2.15</td>
<td>2.31</td>
<td>2.50</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community gardens</td>
<td>1.94</td>
<td>2.43</td>
<td>2.39</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swimming pools/water play parks</td>
<td>1.76</td>
<td>2.14</td>
<td>2.22</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Off-leash dog parks</td>
<td>1.63</td>
<td>1.77</td>
<td>2.20</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On-road bike lanes</td>
<td>1.77</td>
<td>2.05</td>
<td>2.03</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opportunities for access to water-based recreation (e.g., boating, kayaking)</td>
<td>1.73</td>
<td>1.94</td>
<td>1.99</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opportunities for hunting and/or fishing</td>
<td>1.77</td>
<td>1.95</td>
<td>1.88</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skate parks/adventure parks</td>
<td>1.51</td>
<td>1.80</td>
<td>1.81</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mountain bike trails</td>
<td>1.60</td>
<td>1.80</td>
<td>1.76</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trails/parks for motorized activities</td>
<td>1.41</td>
<td>1.50</td>
<td>1.45</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Section D. Funding and Investment Needs Related to Parks and Recreation

13. Over the last three years, has tax supported funding declined, remained the same, or increased for park and recreation operational expenses? (select one box below)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tax Supported Funding has Declined</th>
<th>Tax Supported Funding has Remained the Same</th>
<th>Tax Supported Funding has Increased</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>23.7%</td>
<td>64.5%</td>
<td>11.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

14. Over the last three years, has tax supported funding declined, remained the same, or increased for park and recreation capital expenses? (select one box below)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tax Supported Funding has Declined</th>
<th>Tax Supported Funding has Remained the Same</th>
<th>Tax Supported Funding has Increased</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>29.3%</td>
<td>53.3%</td>
<td>17.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
15. How important are each of the following priorities for *funding* outdoor recreation and conservation efforts in your community? Please click on the box that best describes your opinion (Sorted by mean)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Priority</th>
<th>Not at all Important</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>#1 Priority</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maintain existing park and recreation areas</td>
<td>5.2</td>
<td>2.8</td>
<td>6.9</td>
<td>22.1</td>
<td>63.0</td>
<td>4.35</td>
<td>63.8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provide recreation programs at parks and recreation areas</td>
<td>11.7</td>
<td>13.9</td>
<td>16.9</td>
<td>27.0</td>
<td>30.6</td>
<td>3.51</td>
<td>8.9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Build more greenways/trails</td>
<td>24.6</td>
<td>13.6</td>
<td>22.0</td>
<td>21.9</td>
<td>17.9</td>
<td>2.95</td>
<td>4.0</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provide environmental and conservation programs</td>
<td>16.0</td>
<td>18.8</td>
<td>32.5</td>
<td>20.5</td>
<td>12.2</td>
<td>2.94</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acquire and protect open space (as undeveloped, conserved land)</td>
<td>23.5</td>
<td>20.3</td>
<td>21.7</td>
<td>17.1</td>
<td>17.4</td>
<td>2.85</td>
<td>6.4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protect wildlife and fish habitat</td>
<td>25.1</td>
<td>16.3</td>
<td>24.1</td>
<td>19.5</td>
<td>15.0</td>
<td>2.83</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Build pedestrian and cycling paths between places of work, parks, schools, and shopping areas</td>
<td>29.6</td>
<td>15.6</td>
<td>16.7</td>
<td>18.1</td>
<td>20.0</td>
<td>2.83</td>
<td>7.2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restore damaged rivers and streams</td>
<td>29.8</td>
<td>18.4</td>
<td>23.4</td>
<td>15.4</td>
<td>13.0</td>
<td>2.63</td>
<td>2.4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acquire additional land and water areas for developed recreation</td>
<td>34.6</td>
<td>22.5</td>
<td>18.7</td>
<td>14.6</td>
<td>9.6</td>
<td>2.42</td>
<td>2.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Service Description</td>
<td>Mean</td>
<td>Appointed</td>
<td>Elected</td>
<td>Director</td>
<td></td>
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<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Maintain existing park and recreation areas</td>
<td>4.26</td>
<td>4.36</td>
<td>4.65</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provide recreation programs at parks and recreation areas</td>
<td>3.27</td>
<td>3.59</td>
<td>4.09</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Build more greenways/trails</td>
<td>2.84</td>
<td>2.94</td>
<td>3.37</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Provide environmental and conservation programs</td>
<td>2.81</td>
<td>2.96</td>
<td>3.32</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Build pedestrian and cycling paths between places of work, parks, schools, and shopping areas</td>
<td>2.65</td>
<td>2.94</td>
<td>3.17</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acquire and protect open space (as undeveloped, conserved land)</td>
<td>2.79</td>
<td>2.82</td>
<td>3.13</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protect wildlife and fish habitat</td>
<td>2.77</td>
<td>2.80</td>
<td>3.12</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acquire additional land and water areas for developed recreation</td>
<td>2.23</td>
<td>2.52</td>
<td>2.79</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restore damaged rivers and streams</td>
<td>2.56</td>
<td>2.69</td>
<td>2.69</td>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

16. From the list above what is the single most important (or number one) funding priority for your community?  

*See Appendix 1*
Section E. The Challenges of Providing Outdoor Recreation

17. In this final section, we would like to know a little more about the challenges your agency faces when providing park and recreation facilities and services? For each of the following six areas, please specify the degree to which the following issues are challenges or concerns for your agency by selecting the box that best describes your opinion.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>17a. Partnerships, Collaboration, Staffing</th>
<th>Not a Challenge</th>
<th>Minor Challenge</th>
<th>Significant/Major Challenge</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ability to properly staff and train employees/volunteers</td>
<td>19.0</td>
<td>34.6</td>
<td>46.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coordinating with or gaining cooperation from other local governments to provide park and recreation services</td>
<td>26.3</td>
<td>36.9</td>
<td>36.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building relationships with school districts</td>
<td>35.1</td>
<td>38.2</td>
<td>26.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building relationships with senior citizen centers</td>
<td>43.4</td>
<td>37.5</td>
<td>19.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>17b. Advocacy</th>
<th>Not a Challenge</th>
<th>Minor Challenge</th>
<th>Significant/Major Challenge</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mobilizing citizens to support and advocate for park and recreation services</td>
<td>15.4</td>
<td>39.4</td>
<td>45.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building community awareness of outdoor recreation opportunities to local residents</td>
<td>19.8</td>
<td>45.1</td>
<td>35.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educating elected officials on the benefits and value of local park and recreation services (Appointed Only)</td>
<td>29.5</td>
<td>37.9</td>
<td>32.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>17c. Fiscal and Funding Issues</th>
<th>Not a Challenge</th>
<th>Minor Challenge</th>
<th>Significant/Major Challenge</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Developing alternative, non-traditional revenue sources for parks and recreation</td>
<td>5.3</td>
<td>17.1</td>
<td>77.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insufficient funds to rehabilitate existing facilities</td>
<td>9.6</td>
<td>22.3</td>
<td>68.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insufficient funds for land acquisition</td>
<td>21.9</td>
<td>17.7</td>
<td>60.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insufficient funds for programs and activities at parks</td>
<td>12.5</td>
<td>30.3</td>
<td>57.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insufficient funds for operation and maintenance of parks</td>
<td>12.6</td>
<td>30.3</td>
<td>57.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retaining allocated local government funds for parks and recreation</td>
<td>12.9</td>
<td>30.5</td>
<td>56.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gaining support from local government elected officials for local park and recreation funding (Appointed Only)</td>
<td>22.8</td>
<td>40.0</td>
<td>37.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17d. Maintenance/Management Issues</td>
<td>Not a Challenge</td>
<td>Minor Challenge</td>
<td>Significant/Major Challenge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creating new park and recreation facilities</td>
<td>9.8</td>
<td>15.0</td>
<td>75.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creating and enhancing trail access and connectivity</td>
<td>15.3</td>
<td>27.6</td>
<td>57.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of acreage or suitable sites for new parks and recreation facilities</td>
<td>26.8</td>
<td>25.1</td>
<td>48.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintaining existing local parks in the community</td>
<td>13.7</td>
<td>39.8</td>
<td>46.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Addressing ADA issues</td>
<td>21.8</td>
<td>40.7</td>
<td>37.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Determining how to best provide services to different user groups and to manage different uses of the same parks (e.g., hiking vs. organized sports vs. nature programs, etc.)</td>
<td>19.0</td>
<td>46.5</td>
<td>34.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ensuring public safety in parks and recreation areas</td>
<td>25.7</td>
<td>49.0</td>
<td>25.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complaints from citizens about park conditions</td>
<td>39.9</td>
<td>41.8</td>
<td>18.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>17e. Emerging Trends</th>
<th>Not a Challenge</th>
<th>Minor Challenge</th>
<th>Significant/Major Challenge</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Responding to emerging or new types of outdoor recreation activities (e.g., dog parks, paddleboarding, pickleball)</td>
<td>17.9</td>
<td>35.9</td>
<td>46.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Addressing the lack of youth engagement in outdoor recreation</td>
<td>20.0</td>
<td>34.7</td>
<td>45.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Providing park and recreation facilities/services that meet the needs of individuals with disabilities.</td>
<td>15.8</td>
<td>41.2</td>
<td>43.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Promoting green infrastructure at parks (e.g., native landscaping, grow zones, tree planting, sustainable design)</td>
<td>21.1</td>
<td>38.9</td>
<td>40.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keeping up with technological changes (e.g., social media, new software, new forms of communication)</td>
<td>21.5</td>
<td>39.6</td>
<td>38.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improving public health (e.g., physical activity, mental health) through outdoor recreation</td>
<td>18.5</td>
<td>43.5</td>
<td>37.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decline in team sports</td>
<td>41.2</td>
<td>34.8</td>
<td>24.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adapting to an aging population</td>
<td>32.0</td>
<td>44.1</td>
<td>23.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Providing park and recreation facilities/services that meet the needs of individuals with disabilities.</td>
<td>55.6</td>
<td>31.0</td>
<td>13.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Appendix 4
Park and Recreation Director Survey Instrument
Hello:

The Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and PRPS are requesting your participation in a brief survey regarding local park and recreation services in Pennsylvania.

This study is being conducted as part of the 2014-2019 Pennsylvania Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan and will assess the needs and opinions of Pennsylvania's park and recreation directors. The information you provide in this survey will inform the strategies developed in the plan's update for federal and state agency policies, funding and programs.

One key component that will be highlighted in the upcoming plan will be local parks and recreation. Park and recreation agencies like yours play an important role in providing close-to-home recreation services to local residents. We are reaching out to you to assess key issues your agency faces as well as your views on outdoor recreation trends in your local area. For more information on the plan, draft documents, and research findings visit http://paoutdoorrecplan.com/index.htm. We expect results from several surveys to be posted by early June.

Your participation in this survey is voluntary, but very important if we are to have representative information from across Pennsylvania. The survey should take about 10 minutes to complete. Survey responses will be confidential. This study is being administered by the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources working in cooperation with Penn State's, Department of Recreation, Park and Tourism Management. Questions about this survey can be forwarding to Dr. Andrew J. Mowen at amowen@psu.edu. We sincerely appreciate your time and effort in completing this important survey!
Section A. Basic Agency Information

Pennsylvania Outdoor Recreation Plan Survey

Section A. Basic Agency Information

1. Which of the following best describes your park and recreation agency? (please check one)
   - Local or municipal (township, city, borough) park and recreation department
   - Multi-municipal recreation authority, commission, or organization
   - County park and recreation agency
   - Non-profit organization
   - Other (please describe)

2. What county is your agency located in?

3. Does your agency have a park and recreation board/commission?
   - Yes
   - No
   - Don’t Know

4. Do you have part time or full time park and recreation staff?
   - Yes
   - No

4a. We would like to know a little more about your staff capacity. Please enter your best estimate for the questions below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>People</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>How many staff, including yourself, are full time?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How many staff are part time/seasonal?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5. Please indicate the size of the population your park and recreation agency serves (select one).
   - Less than 5,000 people
   - 5,000 to 9,999
Section B. Perceived Benefits of Outdoor Recreation for Your Local Area

8. Park and recreation services have the potential to provide a number of benefits for their constituents and local communities. Please indicate the extent that your agency delivers or provides for each of the following types of park and recreation benefits by clicking on the box that best describes your opinion.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Not at all</th>
<th>Somewhat</th>
<th>A great deal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- a. Improves physical health and fitness
- b. Helps reduce crime
- c. Makes the community a more desirable place to live
- d. Increases property values in the community
- e. Reduces stress/improves mental health
- f. Provides opportunities for social interaction
- g. Helps attract new residents and businesses
- h. Enhances a sense of community
- i. Provides children with a safe place to play
- j. Promotes positive youth development
- k. Promotes tourism and economic development
- l. Protects the natural environment
- m. Preserves historical and cultural heritage
- n. Provides equitable and accessible recreation opportunities to a broad constituency

9. From the list above, please select the SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT benefit that you feel your agency provides
to your residents and community.

10. Does your agency provide/offer community walking programs?
   - Yes
   - No

11. Does your agency provide/offer outdoor programs that connect children with nature?
   - Yes
   - No

**Section C. Outdoor Recreation Needs**

**Section C. Outdoor Recreation Facility Needs**

12. Please rate the level of priority your agency places on investing in each of the following facilities over the next five years (1 = your lowest priority for investment to 5 = being your highest priority for investment).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Facility</th>
<th>Lowest Priority</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>Highest Priority</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mountain bike trails</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community or regional parks</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Off-lease dog parks</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Team sports facilities</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>On-road bike lanes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swimming pools/water play parks</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Playgrounds</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Community or regional trail systems</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Opportunities for hunting and/or fishing</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Trails/parks for motorized activities</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor interpretive/educational facilities</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Skate parks/adveture parks</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Neighborhood parks</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Community gardens</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Opportunities for/access to water-based</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>recreation (e.g., boating, kayaking)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Other (please specify)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Section D. Funding and Investment Needs Related to Parks and Recreation**
Section D. Funding and Investment Needs Related to Parks and Recreation

13. Over the last three years, has tax supported funding declined, remained the same, or increased for park and recreation operational expenses? (select one box below)

- Tax supported funding has declined
- Tax supported funding has remained the same
- Tax supported funding has increased

14. Over the last three years, has tax supported funding declined, remained the same, or increased for park and recreation capital expenses? (select one box below)

- Tax supported funding has declined
- Tax supported funding has remained the same
- Tax supported funding has increased

15. How important are each of the following priorities for funding outdoor recreation and conservation efforts in your community? Please click on the box that best describes your opinion.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Not at all Important</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>Extremely Important</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. Acquire and protect open space (as undeveloped, conserved land)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Acquire additional land and water areas for developed recreation</td>
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<tr>
<td>c. Maintain existing park and recreation areas</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Provide environmental and conservation programs</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>e. Provide recreation programs at parks and recreation areas</td>
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<tr>
<td>f. Protect wildlife and fish habitat</td>
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<tr>
<td>g. Build more greenways/trails</td>
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<tr>
<td>h. Restore damaged rivers and streams</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i. Build pedestrian and cycling paths between places of work, parks, schools, and shopping areas</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>j. Other (please specify)</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

16. From the list above, what is the single most important funding priority for your community?

Section E: The Challenges of Providing Outdoor Recreation

Section E: The Challenges of Providing Outdoor Recreation

17. In this final section, we would like to know a little more about the challenges your agency faces when providing park and recreation facilities and services. For each of the following six areas, please specify the degree to which the following issues are challenges or concerns for your agency by selecting the box that best
describes your opinion.

### 17a. Partnerships, Collaboration, Staffing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Challenge</th>
<th>Not a Challenge</th>
<th>Minor Challenge</th>
<th>Significant Challenge</th>
<th>Major Challenge</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Coordinating with or gaining cooperation from other local governments to</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>provide park and recreation services</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building relationships with school districts</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building relationships with senior citizen centers</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ability to properly staff and train employees/volunteers</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 17b. Advocacy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Challenge</th>
<th>Not a Challenge</th>
<th>Minor Challenge</th>
<th>Significant Challenge</th>
<th>Major Challenge</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mobilizing citizens to support and advocate for park and recreation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>services</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educating elected officials on the benefits and value of local</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>park and recreation services</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building community awareness of outdoor recreation opportunities to local</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>residents</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 17c. Fiscal and Funding Issues

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Challenge</th>
<th>Not a Challenge</th>
<th>Minor Challenge</th>
<th>Significant Challenge</th>
<th>Major Challenge</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Retaining allocated local government funds for parks and recreation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Developing alternative, non-traditional revenue sources for parks and</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>recreation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gaining support from elected officials for local park and recreation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>funding</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insufficient funds for land acquisition</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insufficient funds to rehabilitate existing facilities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insufficient funds for operation and maintenance of parks</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insufficient funds for programs and activities at parks</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

17. (Continued) In this final section, we would like to know a little more about the challenges your agency faces when providing park and recreation facilities and services. For each of the following six categories, please specify the degree to which the following issues are challenges or concerns for your agency by selecting the box that best describes your opinion.

### 17d. Maintenance/Management Issues

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Challenge</th>
<th>Not a Challenge</th>
<th>Minor Challenge</th>
<th>Significant Challenge</th>
<th>Major Challenge</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maintaining existing local parks in the community</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creating new park and recreation facilities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of acreage or suitable sites for new parks and recreation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Facilities

| Creating and enhancing trail access and connectivity | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| Complaints from citizens about park conditions | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| Ensuring public safety in parks and recreation areas | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| Addressing ADA issues | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| Determining how to best provide services to different user groups and to manage different uses of the same parks (e.g., hiking vs. organized sports vs. nature programs, etc.) | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |

### 17e. Emerging Trends

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Emerging Trend</th>
<th>Not a Challenge</th>
<th>Minor Challenge</th>
<th>Significant Challenge</th>
<th>Major Challenge</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adapting to a more ethnically/racially diverse population</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adapting to an aging population</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keeping up with technological changes (e.g., social media, new software, new forms of outdoor recreation)</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improving public health (e.g., physical activity, mental health) through outdoor recreation</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Addressing the lack of youth engagement in outdoor recreation</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decline in team sports</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Responding to emerging or new types of outdoor recreation activities (e.g., dog parks, paddleboarding, pickleball)</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Promoting green infrastructure at parks (e.g., native landscaping, grow zones, tree planting, sustainable design)</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Providing park and recreation facilities/services that meet the needs of individuals with disabilities</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

18. What is the single, biggest challenge your agency faces in providing park and recreation services?


19. From your perspective as a director of a local park and recreation agency, is there anything else we should consider as we develop the next five-year outdoor recreation plan for Pennsylvania?


Please click the right arrow below to submit your survey.

Thank you for your participation!
Appendix 5
Appointed and Elected Official Survey Instrument
Hello:

The Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) and the (insert: PA State Association of Township Supervisors, PA State Association of Boroughs, PA County Commissioners Association, or PA Municipal League) are requesting your participation in a brief survey regarding local park and recreation services in Pennsylvania.

This study is being conducted as part of the 2014-2019 Pennsylvania Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan and will assess the needs and opinions of Pennsylvania's county and local government appointed and elected officials. The information you provide in this survey will help us to develop the strategies for federal and state agency policies, funding and programs.

One key component that will be highlighted in the upcoming plan will be local parks and recreation. Local governments play an important role in providing close-to-home park and recreation services to residents. We are reaching out to you to assess key issues your local government faces as well as your views on outdoor recreation trends in your local area. For more information on the plan, draft documents, and research findings visit http://paoutdoorrecplan.com/index.htm. We expect results from several surveys to be posted by early June.

Your participation in this survey is voluntary, but very important if we are to have representative information from across Pennsylvania. The survey should take about 10 minutes to complete. Survey responses will be kept confidential. This study is being administered by DCNR working in cooperation with Penn State's Department of Recreation, Park and Tourism Management. Questions about this survey can be forwarded to Dr. Andrew J. Mowen at amowen@psu.edu. We sincerely appreciate your time and effort in completing this important survey!
Section A. Basic Agency Information

Pennsylvania Outdoor Recreation Plan Survey

Section A. Basic Agency Information

1. Which of the following best describes your local government? (please select one)
   - Township
   - Borough
   - City
   - County
   - Other (please describe)

2. Which of the following best describes your elected or appointed position? (please select one)
   - Township, City or Borough Manager/Secretary
   - County Chief Clerk/Administrator
   - Township Supervisor/Commissioner
   - Borough Council member
   - County Commissioner
   - City Council Member
   - Mayor
   - Other (please describe):

3. What county is your local government located in?

4. Select the response that best describes your local community: (please select one)
   - Urban
   - Rural
   - Suburban
   - County

5. Does your local government own a park facility?

Q5a. About how many parks does your local government own?
- 1-3
- 4-7
- 8-11
- 12 or more

6. Do you have a park and recreation advisory board that was established by your local government?
- Yes
- No
- Don't Know

6a. How effective do you believe your advisory board has been in promoting, planning and serving the park and recreation needs of your local residents? Select the box that best describes your opinion.
- Extremely Ineffective
- Somewhat Ineffective
- Neutral
- Somewhat Effective
- Extremely Effective

7. Please indicate the size of the population your local government serves (please check one).
- Less than 2,500
- 2,500 to 4,999
- 5,000 to 9,999
- 10,000 to 24,999
- 25,000 to 49,999
- 50,000 to 99,999
- 100,000 or more

8. What was your local government’s total operational budget for parks and recreation in 2013?
- Operational budget: [ ]
- Don't know

9. What was your local government’s total capital budget for parks and recreation in 2013?
- Capital budget: [ ]
- Don't know

Section B. Perceived Benefits of Outdoor Recreation for Your Local Area
Section B: Perceived Benefits of Outdoor Recreation for Your Local Area

10. Park and recreation services have the potential to provide a number of benefits for their constituents and local communities. Please indicate the extent that your local government delivers or provides for each of the following types of park and recreation benefits by clicking on the box that best describes your opinion.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Benefit</th>
<th>Not at all</th>
<th>Somewhat</th>
<th>A great deal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. Improves physical health and fitness</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Helps reduce crime</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Makes the community a more desirable place to live</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Increases property values in the community</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Reduces stress/improves mental health</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f. Provides opportunities for social interaction</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g. Helps attract new residents and businesses</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>h. Enhances a sense of community</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i. Provides children with a safe place to play</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>j. Promotes positive youth development</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>k. Promotes tourism and economic development</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>l. Protects the natural environment</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>m. Preserves historical and cultural heritage</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>n. Provides equitable and accessible recreation opportunities to a broad constituency</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

11. From the list above, please select the SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT benefit that you feel your local government provides to your residents and community through parks and recreation.

Section C: Outdoor Recreation Facility Needs

Section C. Outdoor Recreation Facility Needs

12. Please rate the level of priority your local government places on investing in each of the following facilities over the next five years (1 = your lowest priority for investment to 5 = being your highest priority for investment).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Facility</th>
<th>Lowest Priority</th>
<th>Highest Priority</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Skate parks/adventure parks</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Team sports facilities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opportunities for hunting and/or fishing</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community gardens</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Section D. Funding and Investment Needs Related to Parks and Recreation

13. How important are each of the following priorities for funding outdoor recreation and conservation efforts in your community? Please click on the box that best describes your opinion.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Priority</th>
<th>Not at all Important</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>Extremely Important</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. Acquire and protect open space (as undeveloped, conserved land)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Acquire additional land and water areas for developed recreation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Maintain existing park and recreation areas</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Provide environmental and conservation programs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Provide recreation programs at parks and recreation areas</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f. Protect wildlife and fish habitat</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g. Build more greenways/trails</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>h. Restore damaged rivers and streams</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i. Build pedestrian and cycling paths between places of work, parks, schools, and shopping areas</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>j. Other (please specify)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

14. From the list above what is the single most important (or number one) funding priority for your community?
Section E. The Challenges of Providing Outdoor Recreation

15. In this final section, we would like to know a little more about the challenges your local government faces when providing park and recreation facilities and services. For each of the following six categories, please specify the degree to which the following issues are challenges or concerns for your local government by selecting the box that best describes your opinion.

15a. Partnerships, Collaboration, Staffing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Not a Challenge</th>
<th>Minor Challenge</th>
<th>Significant Challenge</th>
<th>Major Challenge</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Coordinating with or gaining cooperation from other local governments to provide park and recreation services</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building relationships with school districts</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building relationships with senior citizen centers</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ability to properly staff and train employees/volunteers</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

15b. Advocacy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Not a Challenge</th>
<th>Minor Challenge</th>
<th>Significant Challenge</th>
<th>Major Challenge</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mobilizing citizens to support and advocate for park and recreation services</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educating elected officials on the benefits and value of local park and recreation services</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building community awareness of outdoor recreation opportunities to local residents</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

15c. Fiscal and Funding Issues

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Not a Challenge</th>
<th>Minor Challenge</th>
<th>Significant Challenge</th>
<th>Major Challenge</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Retaining allocated local government funds for parks and recreation</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Developing alternative, non-traditional revenue sources for parks and recreation</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gaining support from local government elected officials for local park and recreation funding</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insufficient funds for land acquisition</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insufficient funds to rehabilitate existing facilities</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insufficient funds for operation and maintenance of parks</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insufficient funds for programs and activities at parks</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

15. (Continued) In this final section, we would like to know a little more about the challenges your local government faces when providing park and recreation facilities and services. For each of the following six categories, please specify the degree to which the following issues are challenges or concerns for your local government by selecting the box that best describes your opinion.
### 15d. Maintenance/Management Issues

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Not a Challenge</th>
<th>Minor Challenge</th>
<th>Significant Challenge</th>
<th>Major Challenge</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maintaining existing local parks in the community</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creating new park and recreation facilities</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of acreage or suitable sites for new parks and recreation facilities</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creating and enhancing trail access and connectivity</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complaints from citizens about park conditions</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ensuring public safety in parks and recreation areas</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Addressing ADA issues</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Determining how to best provide services to different user groups and to manage different uses of the same parks (e.g., hiking vs. organized sports vs. nature programs, etc.)</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 15e. Emerging Trends

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Not a Challenge</th>
<th>Minor Challenge</th>
<th>Significant Challenge</th>
<th>Major Challenge</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adapting to a more ethnically/racially diverse population</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adapting to an aging population</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keeping up with technological changes (e.g., social media, new software, new forms of outdoor recreation)</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improving public health (e.g., physical activity, mental health) through outdoor recreation</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Addressing the lack of youth engagement in outdoor recreation</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decline in team sports</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Responding to emerging or new types of outdoor recreation activities (e.g., dog parks, paddleboarding, pickleball)</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Promoting green infrastructure at parks (e.g., native landscaping, grow zones, tree planting, sustainable design)</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Providing park and recreation facilities/services that meet the needs of individuals with disabilities</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

16. Is there anything else we should consider as we develop the next five-year outdoor recreation plan for Pennsylvania?

Please click the right arrow below to submit your survey.

Thank you for your participation!