

# Parks & Recreation Needs Analysis

The purpose of the Needs Analysis is to gain an understanding of the existing association recreation needs and additional needs based on citizen input in Sachse. In terms of existing associations in the City, it should be noted that the Sachse Area Baseball/Softball Association offers youth baseball and softball, as well as adult softball programs at Heritage Park and Salmon Park; the City of Sachse does not offer or provide youth soccer or football leagues, or volleyball or basketball activities – all of these activities are offered by the cities of Wylie and Garland. As stated previously, this plan will utilize four methods of needs assessment: public input, the City of Sachse 2008 Recreation Survey, demand-based, and standard-based.

## PUBLIC INPUT MEETING

The City of Sachse's Parks and Recreation Commission held two (2) public input meetings on October 30, 2008 and November 5, 2008 to receive citizens' comments on the parks and recreational needs within the community. The public hearing meeting was posted on the City's website, and athletic organizations were also notified. The primary topic of interest and discussion was trails, a recreation center and baseball fields. Typical comments included: expansion of the trail system, park land acquisition, additional parking at Heritage Park and linkage of parks to schools. The following is a priority listing (in order of importance) of facilities identified by Sachse citizens. The priority was established based on the number of times the item was mentioned by a citizen participant.

1. Trails
2. Recreation Center
3. Baseball Fields
4. Parking at Heritage Park
5. Landscape Medians
6. Practice Fields
7. Grass Infields
8. Salmon Park Renovation
9. Softball
10. Covered Playground
11. Volleyball
12. Basketball
13. Park Benches
14. Soccer
15. Football
16. Park Distribution
17. Baseball Lighting
18. Community Pool
19. Covered Parking
20. Recycling
21. Tennis Courts

## SENIOR CITIZEN MEETING

On February 24, 2010 a meeting was held with the Sachse Senior Citizens in the Senior Center. There were approximately 22 people in attendance. There were varied comments and requested needs for park land and recreation activities. The following items were discussed:

- Shuffleboard
- Walking Trails with Mile Markers
- Bike Trails
- Walking Trails/Lighted
- Benches
- Water Fountain (Decorative)
- Drinking Fountain
- Outdoor Swimming Pool
- Tennis Courts
- Senior Exercise Stations
- Rest Bars
- Basketball Courts
- Amphitheater
- Music in the Park
- Fishing in Parks
- Restroom Facilities
- Picnic Pavilion
- New Meeting Place for Seniors
- Picnic Tables
- Grills
- Playgrounds
- Skate Park
- Recreation Center
- Lighted Facilities
- Horseshoe Pit
- Trees in the Park
- S.H. 78 Landscaping

# CITY OF SACHSE 2008 RECREATION SURVEY

An online survey was conducted by the City beginning on April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2008 and ending on June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2008. The online survey was included on both the City of Sachse website and on the City of Sachse Chamber of Commerce website. A total of 202 responses were received through the online survey. In addition, 6,500 surveys were distributed in the community water bills on April 28, 2008. All online and paper surveys were recorded through June 2, 2008, with a combined total of 464 written and web surveys collected. A copy of the survey and results can be found in Appendix A of this *Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan*.

An important part of the survey related to this *Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan* pertains to the ranking respondents gave for items they felt were the top public recreational facilities. The survey provided a list of 14 possible facilities, and Table 4 shows how these facilities were ranked by respondents. As can be seen from the table, the top 5 priorities are trails as the number one priority, followed by recreation center, picnic area with pavilion, playground areas, and swimming pool.

<b>Facility</b>	<b>Weighted Score</b>	<b>Rank</b>
Trails	4741	1
Recreation Center	4499	2
Picnic Area with Pavilion	3941	3
Playground Areas	3878	4
Swimming Pool	3567	5
Tennis Courts	2833	6
Soccer Fields	2817	7
Baseball/Softball Fields	2696	8
Basketball Facility	2396	9
Volleyball Courts	2085	10
Football Fields	1855	11
Handball/Racquetball	1782	12
Skateboard Park	1684	13
Frisbee Golf Course	1617	14

Source: City of Sachse 2008 Recreation Survey (refer to Appendix)

## DEMAND-BASED RECREATION ANALYSIS

Demand-based analysis compares existing participation numbers in specific recreational programs or activities to specific fields/facilities. Only three organized activities were considered on the demand-based analysis, because actual participation numbers for an analysis were available. The participation numbers used for this analysis are from the 2009 spring season. The following activities were analyzed:

- ◆ Youth Baseball;
- ◆ Youth Softball; and,
- ◆ Adult Softball.

**TABLE 5**  
**Demand-Based Recreation Activity Field Capacity Analysis**  
 City of Sachse, Texas

Type of Activity	Games Per Week Per Field Capacity	Teams Per Field Per Week	Existing Teams	Existing Number of League Fields	Field Requirements/ Standards	Number of Fields Needed to Meet Standard
Youth Baseball	10	10	42	2	5	3
Youth Softball	6	6	24	1	4	3
Adult Softball	4	8	20	1	3	2

Source: Dunkin Sims Stoffels, Inc.

Table 5 Demand-Based Recreational Activity Field Capacity Analysis above evaluates each sport versus the existing field capacity for each sport. In this evaluation, the age of the participants, length of games, and the number of games per week normally played by a league were taken into consideration. The horizontal section (column headings) of the table can best be explained by the following:

- ◆ **Games Per Week Per Field Capacity** – The number of league games played in a week, as scheduled by the league.
- ◆ **Teams Per Field Per Week** – The number of games a single field will support, based upon length of game and age of participant.
- ◆ **Existing Teams** – The number of teams each league reports to the City for the 2009 season.
- ◆ **Existing Number of League Fields** – The number of league fields available in the City of Sachse’s inventory.
- ◆ **Field Requirement Per Standard** – The number of fields required to serve the number of games per week, based upon existing teams (existing teams divided by games per week per field).
- ◆ **Number of Fields Needed to Meet Standard** – The number of fields required to meet the field requirements (Field Requirements per Standard minus Number of Regulation Equivalent Fields).

Table 5 provides important data which actually demonstrates the needs for each league and/or activity. However, the matrix does not account for “rain-out” games, which must be rescheduled, in the formula for Games Per Week Per Field Capacity, depending upon climatic conditions within any given year.

**Indoor Recreation Activities**

The City provides a variety of indoor recreation activities for their citizens. The City is fortunate to have churches and Wylie Independent School District campuses to host these events and activities. Table 6-A and 6-B on the following page illustrates the facility and recreation activities hosted.

**TABLE 6-A**  
**Indoor Recreation Activities**  
 City of Sachse, Texas

<b>Sachse Library</b>	<b>Sachse Senior Activity Center</b>	<b>City Hall</b>	<b>Parks and Recreation Office</b>	<b>Sachse Fire Station</b>
Gymnastics	Daddy Daughter Dance 2004	Cookies with Santa	Cooking	Spanish
Dance	Karate	Dance 2004-2005	Painting	
Step Aerobics	Jazzercise	Karate 2004	Keyboard	
Keyboard	Step Aerobics	Gymnastics 2004-2005		
Yoga	Drama Class	Cheerleading 2004-2005		
Kindermusik	Organization Class	Preschool Club 2004-2005		
Preschool Club	Kickboxing			
Painting	Zumba			
Drama Class	Tile Painting			
Vocal Camp				
Baton Two				
Floral Design				
Abakadoodle				
Spanish				
Sign Language				
Young Rembrants				
Mystery Shopper				
Red Cross Courses				
Senior Driving Class				
Senior Computer Class				
Summer Camps				

Source: City of Sachse

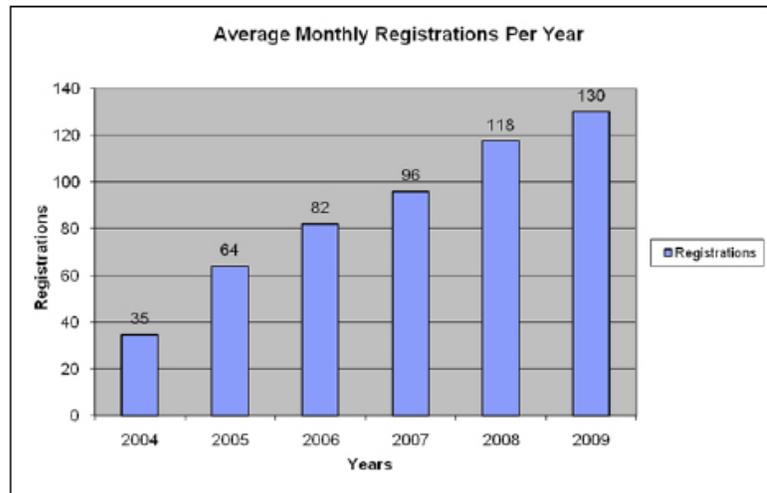
**TABLE 6-B**  
**Indoor Recreation Activities (Private)**  
 City of Sachse, Texas

<b>Woodbridge Indoor Pavilion</b>	<b>Park Lake Church</b>	<b>Sachse Christian Church</b>	<b>Cheri Cox Elementary</b>
Daddy Daughter Dance 2005-2007 & 2009	Daddy Daughter Dance 2008	2006 Easter Egg Hunt	Yoga
	Karate		Line Dancing
			Swing Dancing
			Step Aerobics
			Dance Classes
			Soccer Tots
			Zumba
			Sports Skills

Source: City of Sachse

The graph to the right illustrates the average monthly registrations per year for 2004 through 2009.

This yearly increase illustrates the City's need for a recreation center. The need for a recreation center was mentioned by Sachse citizens and was ranked number 2 on the public input results.



## STANDARD-BASED ANALYSIS

This approach is used to assist in assessing the future recreational needs, and it follows established and recognized standards for assessing the quantity of park land and the number of facilities that are required to meet the needs of a given population.

### Facility-Recreation Standard

One source is the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA). The NRPA has functioned as a source of guidance for park standards and development for a number of years. The NRPA's standards are suggested to be a guide for determining park and open space needs. From community to community, differences will be found in the socio-economic and cultural characteristics, as well as in climatic conditions. Therefore, the range of demands and

FACILITY	NRPA Standard	Current Sachse Inventory	Recommended Metroplex Standard <sup>(2)</sup>
Basketball	1/5,000	0	1/4,000 = 5
Tennis Courts	1/2,000	0	1/4,000 = 5
Youth Baseball	1/20,000	2	1/5,000 = 4
Youth Softball	1/5,000	1	1/5,000 = 4
Adult Softball	1/5,000	1	1/5,000 = 4
Football	1/20,000	0	1/65,000 = 1
Soccer	1/10,000	1	1/5,000 = 4
Playgrounds <sup>(1)</sup>	NS	5	(1)
Picnic Tables	NS	28	1/300 = 63
Swimming Pool	1/20,000	0	1/30,000 = 1
Volleyball	NS	0	1/10,000 = 2
Trails	NS	1.5 miles	As many as possible*
Recreation Center	1/20,000	0	1/25,000 = 1

NOTES: This table assumes lighted facilities  
 NS = No Standard  
 NRPA = National Recreation and Parks Association  
 \* As many as possible in order to provide a comprehensive system of pedestrian trails that connect residential areas to parks, schools and open space  
<sup>(1)</sup> One playground should be installed in each neighborhood and community park  
<sup>(2)</sup> The term "Metroplex" represents cities in the Dallas/Ft. Worth region

preferences for recreational activities will vary with these differences. Obviously, these variances will directly influence a uniform standard for all locations. NRPA is very specific in pointing out that their data is to be used only as a guide for the development of local standards. Therefore, the NRPA provides input on the formation of local needs.

The standard analysis has been prepared for the current City population of approximately 18,750 (as shown on Table 7 previous page) and for the future projected build-out population of 25,000 (Table 8 below) in the year 2020. This is a standard comparison which illustrates the level of services provided at 18,750 and what the projected facilities needed would be for a population of 25,000. Again, it is important to note that these are national standards and the comparison will vary from city-to-city.

<b>TABLE 8</b> <b>Park Facility Standard Analysis Using Build-Out Population of 25,000</b> City of Sachse, Texas			
FACILITY	NRPA Standard	Current Sachse Inventory	Recommended Metroplex Standard <sup>(2)</sup>
Basketball	1/5,000	0	1/4,000 = 6
Tennis Courts	1/2,000	0	1/4,000 = 6
Youth Baseball	1/20,000	2	1/5,000 = 5
Youth Softball	1/5,000	1	1/5,000 = 5
Adult Softball	1/5,000	1	1/5,000 = 5
Football	1/20,000	0	1/65,000 = 1
Soccer	1/10,000	1	1/5,000 = 5
Playgrounds <sup>(1)</sup>	NS	5	(1)
Picnic Tables	NS	28	1/300 = 80
Swimming Pool	1/20,000	0	1/30,000 = 1
Volleyball	NS	0	1/10,000 = 3
Trails	NS	*0	As many as possible*
Recreation Center	1/20,000	0	1/25,000 = 1

NOTES: This table assumes lighted facilities  
 NS = No Standard  
 NRPA = National Recreation and Parks Association  
 \* As many as possible in order to provide a comprehensive system of pedestrian trails that connect residential areas to parks, schools and open space  
<sup>(1)</sup> One playground should be installed in each neighborhood and community park  
<sup>(2)</sup> The term "Metroplex" represents cities in the Dallas/Ft. Worth region

## PARK LAND ANALYSIS

Park land analysis is also evaluated on the basis of Sachse's current population, as shown in the table below. This evaluation is a reliable guide and analysis for park land comparison. The acreage required per 1,000 populations varies for each park classification. For long-range planning, this is a useful tool for determining future park land acreage acquisition.

**TABLE 9**  
**Park Land Acreage Analysis per 1,000 Persons**  
 City of Sachse, Texas

Park Type	Recommended Acres per 1,000 Persons	Existing Sachse Parks	Acreage for 18,750 People Existing Population	Acreage for 25,000 People Build-Out Population 2020
Mini-Park/Pocket Park	.5	.25	9.5	12
Neighborhood	2.5 acres	12.67 acres	45 acres	60 acres
Community	5 acres	43 acres	90 acres	120 acres
Special	2 acres	0 acre	36 acres	48 acres
Open Space/Greenbelts	6-8 acres	184.07 acres	144 acres	192 acres
<b>Acres per 1,000 Persons</b>	<b>18.0 acres</b>	<b>239.99 acres</b>	<b>324.5 acres</b>	<b>432 acres</b>

Source: Dunkin Sims Stoffels, Inc.