

Future Parks, Recreation & Open Space Recommendations

Future parks planning must be capable of responding to the needs of Sachse citizens. To achieve this objective, the *Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan* is comprised of several elements. Two major types of park spaces – neighborhood and community parks – are the basic elements within the *Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan*. When applicable, the neighborhood park is recommended to be used in conjunction with an elementary school, forming a park/school site and environment. Opportunities for walking, jogging and bicycling trails are present in Sachse, principally along the power line easements and street right-of-ways, and the *Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan* suggests that these opportunities be captured when conditions prevail for these types of recreational activities. As discussed below, other elements support these two major components of this *Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan*.

MINI-PARK/POCKET PARK

The City, at its discretion, may acquire any park at any time if there is a special need or circumstance acquiring park land. As mentioned previously, the City should be careful in acquiring mini-parks or pocket parks due to the operation and maintenance required and their recreation value.

NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS

The neighborhood park is the primary element in the Sachse park system. In connection with this type of park, a wide range of recreational activities and amenities can be provided for the residential areas surrounding the park. The City will eventually need five (5) additional sites for neighborhood parks, two (2) in the north service zone of the City and three (3) in the south service zone.

Recommended locations for new neighborhood parks are shown within this *Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan* on the *Future Parks Plan* map, page 29. Unless it is an existing park, the location shown for a future park site is general, and the exact location should be established when that residential neighborhood is developed.

COMMUNITY PARKS

Sachse will need one additional community park for league baseball, softball and future fields. This is based on the future projected population and recreational needs. The site should be 40 to 60 acres in size and, if possible, located north of State Highway 78.

RECREATION CENTER

The City currently does not have a recreation center, although a recreation center has been set as a high priority in Sachse, based on the Needs Analysis.

Currently, the City has a working relationship with the Wylie Independent School District school's located within the City limits of Sachse. Some of the classes offered by the City are: soccer tots, basketball, dance classes, and aerobic classes. For a complete listing of the classes offered, refer to Table 6-A & 6-B. The City does not have a relationship with any of the Garland Independent School District's schools.

Typically a recreation center provides active recreational opportunities such as basketball, volleyball, racquetball, and running trails, but they also provide art and craft opportunities and community meeting space. One recreation center would serve the City. Estimated cost of a recreation center can be between \$5,000,000 to \$10,000,000, depending on program elements and square footage size.

AQUATIC FACILITIES

With a build-out population of 25,000, the need for a family aquatic center should be a low priority. The City should also evaluate the market area for such a facility. Regarding aquatic parks, neighboring cities of Garland and Rowlett currently have such parks. Other aquatic facilities, such as splash pads or spray areas within parks, provide excellent opportunities for water play. These splash pads or spray areas can be built for approximately \$175,000 to \$200,000 and up. They should be installed in community parks which can provide parking and restrooms. Either Heritage Park or Salmon Park would be a good location for this type of recreation facility.