The Village Parks Plan

JOHNSON

HARRISON

BUMPASS

MEEKER

DUFFNER

WAYNE SCHOOLEY

HEFNER PKWY

MAY

PENN

BRITTON

WA YNE

SCHOOLEY

COMMUNITY

NEIGHBORHOOD

SPECIAL
Through an analysis of existing conditions and input from citizens a new purpose for Bumpass, Duffner, Harrison, Johnson, Meeker, and Wayne Schooley parks has emerged where each individual public space contributes to the holistic goal of improving the quality of life for those who call The Village home.
COMMUNITY INPUT

The Parks Plan is a reflection of the people who make up The Village. Here’s how we got to know them:

ONLINE

Signage in each park, social media, a robocall, an e-newsletter, and a write-up in the Friday paper all directed residents to thevillageparks.com. There they could learn more about the project, take the parks survey, and sign-up for updates.
**BLOCK PARTY**
We set up a booth at The Village Block Party to meet residents and encourage them to take a survey. Post-its were available for quick feedback and kids worked on building their dream playground from straws. Swing sets were a popular element.

**CHATS**
Two Community Chats with the public were held. At the first chat we looked over survey results and established priorities for the parks. At the second chat we reviewed concepts for each of the parks. Two more meetings were held with a steering committee comprised of representatives for each park as well as the library and the YMCA. The steering committee played an essential role in facilitating the dialog between the community and design team.
PROGRAM PRIORITIES

If the community had to pick just three things to do in The Village Parks, what would they be?
STATE OF THE PARKS

We asked Village residents how their parks were performing in 19 different categories. Overall the parks scored a 3.2 out of 5 -- with 1 being awful and 5 being perfect. Not too shabby, but there is room to improve.

**3.2/5**

**STATE OF THE PARKS**

**SPLASH PAD**
Residents love the splash pad in Duffner Park! The only complaints were that it is sometimes too loved and gets crowded. However, consensus from the Community Chat is that an additional splash pad is not needed in The Village.

**LITTER CONTROL**
There are no major problems with litter currently. The Village does a good job keeping the trash cans emptied regularly for park users. Bumpass and Duffner with their parties and visiting children’s programs need the most attention. Litter pick-up is a great volunteer opportunity for residents.

**OPEN SPACE**
Residents are satisfied with the open space currently available in the parks, and it should be preserved as much as possible. With limited space available in the parks, the focus will be on improving the quality of the open space rather than increasing its size.
SAFETY
Perceived safety in the parks is solidly average currently. Residents suggested lighting improvements, barriers along busy streets, and increased night patrol by officers as potential opportunities to make their parks feel more safe.

PLAY EQUIPMENT
While a few new pieces have been added recently, the majority of the play equipment across the parks is over 40 years old. Residents are divided about keeping or replacing vintage equipment. A mixed approach preserving the most beloved pieces would be a suitable compromise.

PAVILION/EVENT SPACE
The rent-able pavilion in Duffner Park is loved for its function, but gets a major points deduction for its appearance. Meeker does provide a pavilion, but the other parks are difficult to plan parties in without cover from Oklahoma’s harsh sun and the rain.

TREES
Trees are another average score from Village Residents. The parks range in tree cover with Bumpass having the most to Wayne Schooley having the least. There are opportunities at all parks to plant additional trees. Residents are looking for more shaded spaces for sitting, gathering, and playing parks wide.

LANDSCAPE
The parks currently offer trees and lawn, but are lacking in other plantings and hardscape that would add beauty to the space.

BENCHES
In benches we start to see some dissatisfaction, yet others are happy. Like trees, benches are not equal across the parks. There is variability in quality, comfort, age, and quantity of benches available between parks.

PICNIC AREAS
The parks’ concrete tables, while durable, break if moved. This has prevented the Village from adapting their picnic areas to the changing tree cover. Picnic tables located along the curbs of parks can create a wall to visitors when private parties block the parks’ entrances.

PARKING
Residents feel more parking is needed at the busier community parks where events happen, but do not want to add off-street parking to neighborhood parks. Meeker Park is an exception, where on-street parking is impractical due to the street configuration.

SPORTS FIELDS
Residents are looking for fields to play ball. Right now soccer is the most popular field sport for Village residents, but there are no soccer goals for them to use. While there isn’t space to devote to full size regulation fields, smooth well drained lawns with goals would better serve the residents’ current needs.
**Tennis Courts**
Tennis is the highest priority sports improvement according to Village residents. Residents are satisfied with the number of courts available (3), but do want them brought up to tip-top playing shape.

**Opportunities for All Abilities**
Accessibility is a concern across all parks. Curb ramps and paths are needed for everyone to get into and reach all of the programs the parks have to offer. The existing play equipment and picnic areas do not create inclusive opportunities for recreation and gathering.

**Connection to Nature**
Village residents are missing a connection to nature. A lot of cities can turn to forgotten creeks and streams to restore this connection, but due to major flooding, the Village’s were built into concrete channels. Look for any opportunity to preserve or restore a natural waterway within the Village for residents.

**Dog Facilities**
Village residents love their pups. 67% of survey respondents take their dogs for walks. They want a dog park, but agreed there wasn’t space in the existing parks. There was great support at the Community Chat for using an empty lot as a temporary dog park until it was needed for development.

**Basketball Courts**
Village residents are not satisfied with the two half courts currently available. The courts are located in neighborhood parks rather than in community parks more accessible to all residents.

**Walking Paths**
The highest priority for residents is by far walking paths. The Village has already started the process by planning sidewalks and paths to make city-wide connections. Each park needs its own circulation system with a walking loop as well.

**Bike Facilities**
While not as high of a priority for residents, they do recognize that they are lacking in bicycle infrastructure. Bicycle racks and maintenance stations would serve the current residents who ride to the parks, and would make biking a more feasible way to get to the parks for others.
EXISTING CONDITIONS

We spent time at each park to understand the existing infrastructure and equipment. Here’s what we found:

BENCHES
The parks have an assorted collection of the benches installed over time. The highest concerns for users are that benches are accessible and placed in the shade. However, having so many bench styles and colors increases maintenance, and does not support a cohesive identity for the parks.

PICNIC TABLES
The concrete tables in the parks have lasted for years. Strategically placed in the shade they’ve been nearly indestructible. Once their shade tree dies however, the tables bake in the sun because they break when attempts are made to move them. Their rough surfaces are difficult to remove graffiti from, instead they get painted triggering a maintenance cycle. Meeker has tried thermoplastic coated steel tables, but the coating can crack and peel from the steel.
PLAY EQUIPMENT
Except for three play sets and the scattered equipment at Wayne Schooley Park, the existing play equipment is vintage -- at least 40 years old vintage. There are safety and accessibility compliance issues across the parks from the ground up. Ground surfacing and head entrapment are the most common issues. Some equipment can be saved and incorporated into connected play areas where surfacing would be more cost effective.

The pieces that cannot be brought into compliance with appropriate surfacing will need to be replaced. There is compliant equipment available that is exciting! Super spiral slides and merry go rounds are both available today. Stainless steel tubes are the preferred slide material for new equipment in The Village. The top of the tube will shade the bottom to keep temps from scorching, and they will serve you for more years than a plastic replacement.
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LIGHTING
The parks are lit by street lamps elevated on wooden poles. The tennis courts have additional lighting controlled by the user with a switch. There is a problem with these getting left on at the end of the night, and neighbors come to the park to turn them off.

BASKETBALL
There is a small half basketball court at Meeker park currently. Johnson Park has a similar set-up except for a mysteriously disappearing hoop rendering the space useless for basketball.

STAGE
The stage is solidly built, well fitted with electric outlets, and accessible by stair or ramp.

PAVILION
The pavilion is locked requiring a rental fee for use. The rental space is functional for parties, reunions, etc., but there are complaints about its appearance.

TENNIS
The three existing courts at Bumpass and Harrison parks are in need of resurfacing. The court at Duffner has significant damage warranting replacement. The chain link 'nets' are durable, but Village residents have expressed an interest in fiber nets.
NATURAL AREAS
The only naturalized space within the parks is a drainage creek along the northern edge of Wayne Schooley Park.

WALKWAYS
The parks do not have interior walkways except Wayne Schooley Park with its 1/4 mile walking trail. Engineered to support pedestrian loads, the trail breaks when driven over by service vehicles.

WATER FOUNTAINS
People are asking for a water fountain in each park. This one is in Wayne Schooley Park. People even pick their dogs up to drink from it.

TREES
The parks have trees in a range of ages and species. Many elms are reaching the end of their life, and there are some younger trees damaged from weather and lawn maintenance. These can be removed as needed for other park elements. The rest of the trees should be preserved in place in properly maintained.
# PARKS MATRIX

A summary of recommendations across the six parks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EVENTS</th>
<th>BUMPASS</th>
<th>DUFFNER</th>
<th>HARRISON</th>
<th>JOHNSON</th>
<th>MEEKER</th>
<th>SCHOOLEY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Large Pavilion</td>
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<td>Electric Hookups</td>
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<td>Picnic Court</td>
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<td>Bathrooms</td>
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| CHILD'S PLAY                  |         |         |          |         |        |          |
| Splash Pad                    |         |         |          |         |        |          |
| Playground                    |         |         |          |         |        |          |
| Nature Play                   |         |         |          |         |        |          |
| Playground Games              |         |         |          |         |        |          |

| SPORTS & FITNESS              |         | FULL    | HALF     | HALF    | ALL-IN-ONE | STATIONS |
| Soccer Goals                  |         |         |          |        |            |          |
| Basketball Court              |         |         |          |        |            |          |
| Tennis Court                  |         |         |          |        |            |          |
| Multi-Use Court               |         |         |          |        |            |          |
| Basic Skills Skate            |         |         |          |        |            |          |
| Fitness Equipment             | ALL-IN-ONE | STATIONS |          |        | ALL-IN-ONE | STATIONS |
## LEISURE FEATURES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Feature</th>
<th>BUMPASS</th>
<th>DUFFNER</th>
<th>HARRISON</th>
<th>JOHNSON</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lawn</td>
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<td>Corn Hole</td>
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<td>Hammock Connections</td>
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<td>Social &amp; Games Court</td>
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## INFRASTRUCTURE

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<th>Feature</th>
<th>BUMPASS</th>
<th>DUFFNER</th>
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<tr>
<td>New Off Street Parking</td>
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<td>Open Fence</td>
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<td>Screening Fence</td>
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<td>Ambient Lighting</td>
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<td>Sport Lighting</td>
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<td>Standard Amenities*</td>
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*Standard Amenities
Benches, Picnic Tables, BBQ Grill, Water Fountain, Small Pavilion, Trash Cans, Bike Racks, Bike Maintenance Station, Dog Bag Station, Device Charging Station
MAINTENANCE

If you build it, you have to take care of it. Village residents consider the maintenance required with park improvements. We’re actually looking to make a shrewd maintenance regime one of the improvements.

THE GRASS IS EVERYWHERE

Without internal walkways in the parks there is no defined edge to delineate recreation space. The entire park is mown. The grass has even crept into the mulched playground areas such that they now have to be mown too. This means going around every structure at every park and using a line trimmer to get close to playy equipment, trees, etc. This not only takes time, but damages your trees.

While there is an upfront investment in walkway and new ground coverings, we have strategically placed them in the parks to facilitate a stepped maintenance schedule. While lawns will require the same regular mowing schedule, playgrounds will no longer need to be mown at all, and park edges will be converted to meadows with reduced mowing needs.

GARDEN BEDS

Garden beds sit empty, except in Johnson Park where a diligent volunteer maintains a bed with seasonal plantings and decoration. We recognize the time commitment it takes to keep garden beds looking nice. Instead, our approach to add flowers will be through wildflower areas. They will take up space currently requiring mowing, and will add beautiful color and habitat function to the parks.
FUNDING MAINTENANCE
While mowing will be reduced, the rest of the parks’ infrastructure will need to be looked after. Residents overwhelmingly think this is essential for The Village’s parks. A few ideas to cover this maintenance cost are increasing rental fees for pavilion space, organizing volunteer days for residents to help, and receiving donations from residents.

$63
Average 1/2 Day Pavilion Rental Cost

97%
Think Increased Maintenance is Worth the Added Costs

$48
Average Annual Park Donation

3.5
Average Volunteer Hours per Season

93%
Think Non-Residents Should Pay More for Rentals
AMENITIES

The furnishings recommended as a standard at every park.
**GROUND MATERIALS**

**Lawn**
Traditional manicured lawn requiring water and regularly scheduled mowing.

**Meadow**
Grasses selected for their sweeping character. The blades lie flat on the ground for a comfortable walking surface that only requires occasional mowing.

**Wildflowers**
A mix of seeds suited to the site will be spread so different flower species will bloom throughout the seasons. You could say it’s a butterfly buffet.

**Concrete**
Concrete walkways are designed to be comfortably wide for people to pass each other, but not so wide they take up valuable recreation space. Multipaths are 10’ wide.

**Rubber Surfacing**
Poured in place rubber is a playground favorite for fall safety, accessibility, and bright colors.

**Playground Mulch**
Engineered wood fiber is a safe play surface that is great for natural play areas, or where rubber surfacing is cost prohibitive.

**Decomposed Granite**
DG is a fine gravel material that is a comfortable walking surface and great for high traffic areas. It’s more pleasant than a lawn for parties after a rain too.

**Ground Materials**

1. **Lawn**
2. **Meadow**
3. **Wildflowers**
4. **Concrete**
5. **Rubber Surfacing**
6. **Playground Mulch**
7. **Decomposed Granite**
The Village Parks Plan

**BUMPASS PARK**

- Inclusive Playground
- Toddler Playground
- Nature Playground
- Picnic Court
- Pavilion
- Fit Station
- Off Street Parking
- Tennis Court
- Social Court
- Hammock Corner
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MEEKER PARK

- Playground
- Fit Station
- Social Court
- Basketball
- Hammock Corner
- Off Street Parking
- Pavilion
- Small Soccer Field

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WAYNE SCHOOLEY PARK

NATURAL PLAYGROUND

PAVILION

HAMMOCK CURVE

SOCIAL COURT

SEAT WALL

MOWN LABYRINTH

CONSISTENT DRAINAGE

CROSSWALK

DISC GOLF BASKETS

FIT STATIONS

LAWN

0' 25' 50' 100' 200'

1"=100'

KERRY LN

LAKESHORE DR

THE VILLAGE PARKS PLAN

Wayne Schooley Park

1"=100'

0' 25' 50' 100' 200'

KERRY LN

LAKESHORE DR

THE VILLAGE PARKS PLAN

Wayne Schooley Park
The Village Community Signage Conceptual Plan

10-31-18
The Village Community Signage Plan is meant to provide a conceptual framework for the creation of physical gateways, destination markers and information kiosks across the city. Creating a cohesive set of signs with typical materials and architectural style will help to brand the city and mark clear boundaries for those entering and leaving the Village.

Architectural Style:
The architectural style of the signage is intentionally minimal and modern. When looking for the dominate architectural character of The Village, the design tenants of mid-century modern stand out. From unique churches and schools to public buildings, The Village lacks the ornamentation found in classical architecture. Rather, a forward and progressive architecture represents the time in which The Village sprang forth into post-war America.

The clean and minimal nature of the community signage pays homage to this dominant style and the energy expressed in the built form. This new set of signs and identity for The Village is meant to pick up the torch of optimism and modernism. The Village is a City on the move and the architecture contained herein is the signifier of this ethos.

Branding:
Keeping with the minimal and striking nature of the architecture, a simple V has been chosen to brand The Village. The V symbol has been integrated into the structure of signs in such a way as to be subtle yet very bold. A strong geometrical mark such as the V as a brand allow for clever variants to be produced. Within the suite of signs the V has been turned sideways to indicate and arrow or forward thinking. Additionally, the geometry of the V allows for numerous patterns to be created capable of subtly reinforcing the brand.
GATEWAY SIGNAGE

INTENT: Gateway signs are meant to be large in scale in order to be visually impactful.

LOCATIONS: Located at City Limits Along Britton, May, Penn and Hefner

MATERIALS: Powder coated 1/4” steel plate
3Form KodaXT exterior polycarbonate
Brushed Aluminum Lettering

Cast Aluminum Lettering  Optima Font

The Village

Britton Avenue Gateway

Polycarbonate Accent

Cilantro G-40 color

Translucent panels.
INTENT: Destination signs are meant to identify a particular place within the Village.

LOCATIONS: Located at Buildings, Parks and other civic locations.

MATERIALS: Powder coated 1/4" steel plate
3Fiorm KodaXT exterior polycarbonate
Brushed Aluminum Lettering
Optima Font
Cast Aluminum Lettering
Bumpass Park
F-4 Aluminum
Clear anodized face, matte edges
PM-1A Mount
b bolted from rear
Polycarbonate Accent
Cilantro G-40 color
INTENT: Directional signs are human scaled and meant to assist in wayfinding.

LOCATIONS: Located at Buildings, Parks and other civic locations

MATERIALS: Powder coated 1/4” steel plate
3Fiorm KodaXT exterior polycarbonate
Direct applied vinyl lettering

Optima Font

City Hall
INFORMATION KIOSK/COMMUNITY BOARD

INTENT: Kiosks are meant to be a place to post community events, lost pet fliers, etc.

LOCATIONS: Located at Buildings, Parks and other civic locations

MATERIALS: Powder coated 1/4” steel plate
3Fiorm KodaXT exterior polycarbonate

locking notice board

Polycarbonate Accent

Cilantro G-40 color
VILLAGE COMMUNITY SIGNAGE

INTENT: Variations of the V structure in various materials

LOCATIONS: Useful for unique locations.

MATERIALS: Powder coated 1/4" steel plate
3Fiorm KodaXT exterior polycarbonate
Cast concrete
Stone