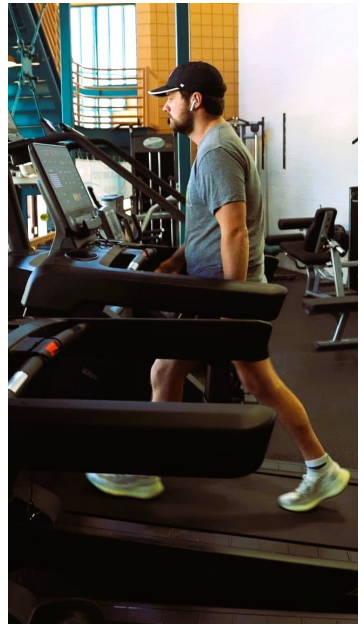


KC PARKS & REC 2024 YEAR IN REVIEW



2024 KC PARKS LEADERSHIP

Our Mission *To improve the quality of life, health and wellness of our community by providing socially equitable, community-driven programming and environmentally sound natural resource management.*

BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSIONERS

Beth Haden-President
Pat Contreras
Michael Meier
DePrice Taylor
Stephenie K. Smith



DIRECTOR

Chris Cotten



MAYOR

Quinton Lucas

CITY MANAGER

Brian Platt



The Year in Numbers:2024

Community Services

Community Center Participants	121,524
Outdoor Swim Pool Participants	64,819
Athletic Program Participants	2,678
Other Program Participants	7,235
Golf Course Participants	264,814
Bruce R. Watkins Participants	6,509
Aquatics Participants - Bay and Springs	57,314

Natural Resources/Conservation Crew

Environmental Education Programs	89
Environmental Education Attendees	6,648
Lakeside Nature Center Animals Rehabilitated	2,400
Lakeside Nature Center Participants	75,250
Loose Park Garden Center Participants	1,600
Acres Mowed	59,254
Native Beds Planted	43
Prescribed Burns	140 acres
Trees Planted in ROW and Parks	2,470
Trees Pruned in ROW	2,162
Trees Removed	1,625
Graffiti Removal Events	380
Houseless Camp Clean-up Events	149
Illegal Dumpsite Removal Events	349
Litter Removal Hours	23,800

Marketing, Communications & Events

Facebook Fans	25,806
Twitter Followers	12,314
Instagram Followers	22,857
E-Newsletter Distribution List	51,377
Website Visits	1,004,497
Permitted Events	277
Photo Permits	479
Wedding Permits	89

KC Parks Ambassadors

Volunteer Projects	343
Volunteers Engaged	5,968
Volunteer Hours	9,776
Volunteer Value	\$312,337
Glass Recycled	3,901 lbs
Compost Collected	3.71 tons
Honeysuckle Removed	3.58 acres

Projects Completed in 2024

- Brookside Park Pickleball Court Resurfacing
- Budd Park Trash Receptacles Installed
- Cliff Drive Gates and Signage
- Columbus Park Playground Renovations
- Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Park Parking and Tennis Courts Resurfacing
- Gillham Park Drainage Improvements
- Heart of America Golf Course Range Tee Expansion
- Hodge Park Golf Course Clubhouse Interior Remodel
- Holmes Park Playground Replacement
- Kessler Park Improvements Plan
- Lakewood Greenway Trail and Exercise Stations
- Major Murray Davis Park Signage
- Marlborough Park Master Plan
- McCoy Park Lighting Upgrade and Sidewalks Installed
- Mulkey Park Restroom & Utility Repair
- Mary Williams-Newl Community Center Waterslide Installed
- North Terrace Lake (Kessler Park) Study and Improvements Design
- Oak Park Signage
- Observation Park ADA Improvements
- Paseo Gateway Intersection
- Penn Valley Ball Field Repair
- Penn Valley Park Security Cameras Installation
- Prospect Plaza Park
- Red Bridge Complete Street from Holmes to Wornall
- Sheila Kemper Dietrich Park Tennis Courts Replacement
- Shoal Creek Golf Course Bunker Renovation
- Southeast Community Center Pool Renovation
- Spring Valley Park Parking Improvements
- Strathbury Trail Improvements
- Tony Aguirre Community Center Mural Repairs & Indoor Renovations
- Waterworks Park Trail and Disc Golf Upgrades
- White Oak Park Signage

Accomplishments and Awards in 2024

Accomplishments

- Added the new water slide to the Mary Williams-Neal Community Center outdoor pool
- Area Superintendents Anthony Barnes and Andrew Fleming completed the Southwest Park & Recreation Training Institute Park Planning and Maintenance Academy (SWPRTI).
- Conducted eight prescribed burns managing over 140 acres of natural areas to control invasive species and promote wildlife habitat.
- Created and filled Event Coordinator position.
- Created and filled Forester Position to expand work on AR 5-7 and Tree Preservation Ordinance.
- Opened the Southeast Community Center Natatorium after years of being shutdown.
- Opened the Flowrider at The Bay Water Park.
- Utilized the Truxor to clean Loose Park, Brush Creek, and Migliazzo Lakes.
- The Recreation Division increased cost recovery from 21% in 2023 to 27% in 2024. And our department is 10% higher than the National Average.

Awards

- Missouri Chapter of the American Planning Association 2024 Outstanding Plan Award for the KC Parks and Recreation Master Plan 2032
- Missouri Chapter of the American Planning Association 2024 Outstanding Public Outreach, Program, Project, Tool, Community Initiative Award for the Kessler Park Improvement Plan
- Public Employee Recognition Community Service Award: Rob Loya, Events Administrator

Grants/ Donations

- Bruce R Watkins Museum & Cultural Center Programming and Strategic Plan: \$150,000
- Housing and Urban Development Grant for Bruce R. Watkins Connector Park \$4,000,000
- IRA Tree Grant for Tree Planting and Maintenance \$12,000,000
- Kansas City Hockey Youth Association New Scoreboard at Line Creek Community Center: \$10,000.
- Martin Luther King Jr. Pedestrian Bridge Federal Grant Design Implementation: \$2,800,000
- Missouri Department of Conservation Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Grant for North Terrace Lake in Kessler Park Heavy Infrastructure Project: \$300,000
- Missouri Department of Conservation Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Grant for North Terrace Lake in Kessler Park Planning & Design: \$125,000

2024 Special Events

January 5: Celebration of New Gym Equipment at all Community Centers
March 27: "Kansas City" Art Exhibition Opening at Buttonwood Art Space
April 7: First Sunday Concerts in Theis Park begin (first Sunday thru September)
April 13: Arbor Day in Loose Park
April 16: Fountain Day at the Northland Fountain
April 19-21: Great Kansas City Clean Up for Earth Day
May 7: Mobile Music Box Concert at Indian Mound
May 8-9: Public Service Recognition Week Olympics and KC Parks Services Awards
May 9: Book Walk Opening in Gillham Park
May 9: Brush Creek Film Festival in Theis Park
May 15: Garment District Grooves Concert Series begins (third Wednesday thru October)
May 21: Mobile Music Box Concert in Gillham Park
May 22: Opening of new slide at Mary Williams-Neals Community Center Pool
June 8: Ribbon Cutting for Swimming Pool at Southeast Community Center
June 14: Flag Day Observance in Washington Square Park
June 15: KC International Dragon Boat Festival & Races in Brush Creek
June 21: Make Music Day KC
June 24: Mayor's Nights Kick-Off
June 25: Mobile Music Box Concert in Westwood Park
July 12: Groundbreaking for Ashland Square Park Sprayground
July 12: The Teddy Bear Picnic in Swope Park
July 21: KC's Lawn Party in Theis Park
July 27: Celebrate AMER'KANA at The Concourse
August 3: Run for the Raptors at Camp Lake of the Woods
August 16-18: 45th Annual Ethnic Enrichment Festival
September 6: Mobile Music Box Concert in Westwood Park
September 8: Jazz in the Roses in Loose Park
September 13-15: Brush Creek Art Walk
September 14: BRW's 35th Anniversary Legacy Concert
September 25: Garment District Grooves After Hours
October 1: Brush Creek Art Walk Awards Reception
October 3: Unveiling for Historic Markers Battle of Westport Battlefield
October 5: Great Kansas City Clean Up
October 6: Walktober in Jerry Smith Park
October 14: Mobile Music Box Concert in Gillham Park
October 20: Walktober in Penn Valley Park
October 21: Mobile Music Box Concert in Loose Park
October 23: Groundbreaking for Children's Memorial in Hibbs Park
October 28: Mobile Music Box Concert in Roanoke Park
October 31: Scare-It Halloween
November 1: Swope Park Grant Announcement
November 1-December 31: Winter Magic in Platte Purchase Park
November 11: Wilderness Run in Hodge Park
December: Holiday Parties sponsored by the Mayor's Christmas Tree Fund
December 7: Santa Paws in the Park in Loose Park
December 12: Employee Holiday Party and City Service Awards

Preview 2025

City Wide

- Approve Community Center Master Plan
- Fill Manager of Recreation - Community Center position

Council District 1

- Hodge Park Pickleball Courts, waterline, field lighting
- Golf Course Cart Path Resurfacing Hodge
- Platte Purchase Park Pickleball Courts
- Romey Hills Playground Replacement

Council District 2

- Buckeye Greenway Park Improvements
- Frank Vaydik Park Restroom

Council District 3

- Ashland Sprayground
- Blue Valley Park Master Plan
- Blues Park Restroom
- Lykins Square Park Restroom

Council District 4

- Davidson Park Restroom
- Tony Aguirre Outdoor Pool

Council District 5

- Heart of America Golf Course Top Tracer installation
- Swope Memorial Golf Course Renovation

Council District 6

- Blue River Trail Martha Truman Road Connector
- Golf Course Cart Path Resurfacing Minor
- Minor Park Golf Course Driving Range Net Replacement