



WYANDOTTE COUNTY/ KANSAS CITY, KANSAS PARKS & RECREATION

2022 YEAR END REPORT



LETTER FROM DIRECTOR

On behalf of the Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas Parks and Recreation Department, I invite you to review our 2022 Year End Report. I am extremely proud of the hard work and dedication of our staff and want to share a few highlights from this year. They work countless hours to offer facilities and programs for all members of the community to enjoy.

This Report provides an overview of facility usage, revenues collected, sports participation, budget, and other aspects of our services. It also highlights many Capital Maintenance and Improvement projects that were funded in 2022. Several free community events that we offered are also captured in the Report.

Through collaboration, the Parks and Recreation Department also revamped our mission and vision and created 7 core values. They can be found on page 4 of this report. The updated mission, vision, and values are reflective of the services our department strives to provide the community daily.

A calendar of events for the 2023 year is featured in the back of the document. We look forward to continuing to serve this community over the next year.

Angel Ferrara
Director of Parks & Recreation



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MISSION STATEMENT

Enriching the quality of life for our community through safe, well-maintained parks and facilities that promote diverse recreation activities, health, wellness, learning, and fun.

VISION STATEMENT

To provide excellent services that create a happy and healthy community where all residents can play, learn, work, and live.

CORE VALUES

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Customer Service | 5. Health & Wellness |
| 2. Teamwork | 6. Safety |
| 3. Integrity | 7. Social Equity |
| 4. Innovation | |

COMMUNITY ACTIVITY & EVENTS HIGHLIGHTS



EDGERTON PARK KABOOM! PLAYGROUND BUILD

The Department partnered with General Motors and KABOOM! to host a three-day building event and ribbon cutting ceremony, from May 5 – 7, for a new playground at Edgerton Park. An estimated 150 volunteers assisted in the build.



FREE SWIM LESSONS AT PARKWOOD

Through a generous sponsorship with GEHA, 176 Wyandotte County youth received free swimming lessons at Parkwood Pool with assistance from the YMCA, USD 500, and other community partners.

After overcoming many barriers, such as the COVID-19 health restrictions, an accidental drowning in 2021, and a national lifeguard shortage, Parkwood Pool was officially able to reopen its gates on May 28 with Midwest Pools as the pool operator.



PARKWOOD CLEANUP EARTH DAY

As a part of the Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, Kansas' 7 Days of Kindness, multiple departments celebrated Earth Day with a clean up at Parkwood Park and Pool. Staff removed litter, fallen limbs, and debris from the pool. Additionally, a playground was mulched.



KIDS TO PARK DAY

Kids to Park Day is a national day of outdoor play occurring annually on the third Saturday in May. On May 21, we celebrated at Emerson Park where a free dance lesson, concert, and Parks & Recreation Swag Bags were provided. Swag Bags included items to encourage outdoor play such as jump ropes, frisbees, and bubbles.



CHALK THE WALK

Chalk the Walk was a facet of the 2022 Summer Kids Series of activities. The event was held at Eisenhower Community Center and allowed families to get creative by decorating a portion of the sidewalk with chalk. Other outdoor games were also available.



ICE CREAM SOCIAL

The Ice Cream Social was also a part of the Summer Kids Series. Families were able to escape the heat and enjoy a free ice cream sundae bar. The event was held at Armourdale Community Center.



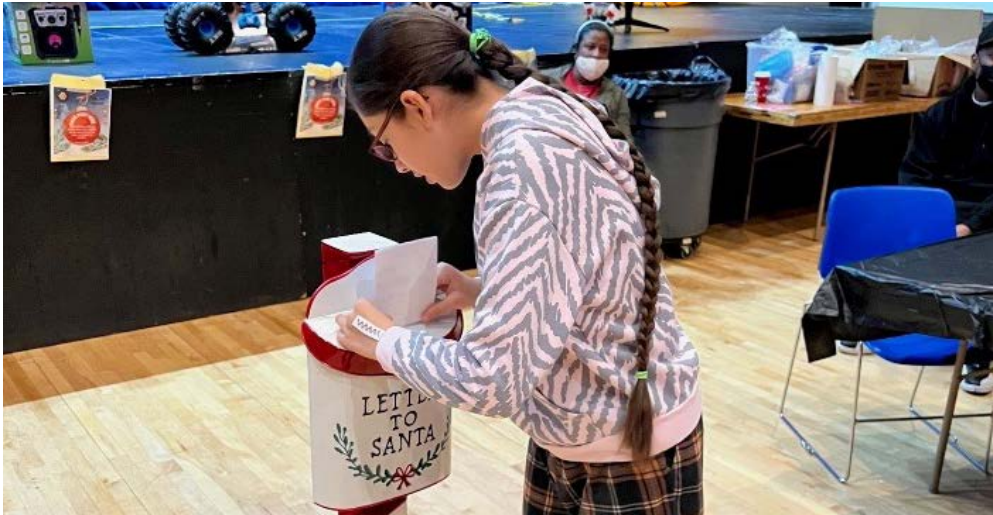
SUMMER CAMP

The Department was able to offer a revamped, six-week summer camp at zero cost to participants thanks to the Child Care Aware Grant. Camp participants engaged in learning, crafts, sports, water activities, and also took weekly trips to the skating rink and bowling alley.



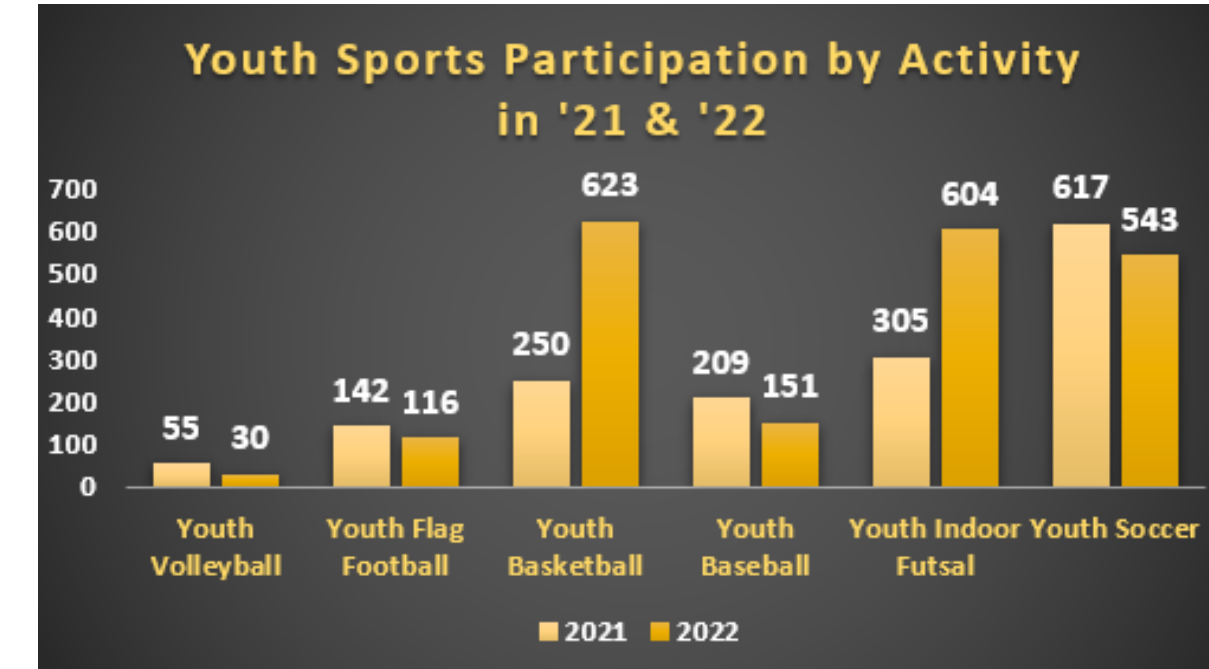
DONUTS WITH SANTA

Santa, who is a big fan of the Department, helped us make the holiday season bright for over 500 area youth on December 10. This free event offered hours of fun, snacks, and activities for the entire family to enjoy. The Wyandotte County Parks Foundation graciously donated age-appropriate toys which allowed each child to receive a gift.



SPORTS BY THE NUMBERS

YOUTH SPORTS

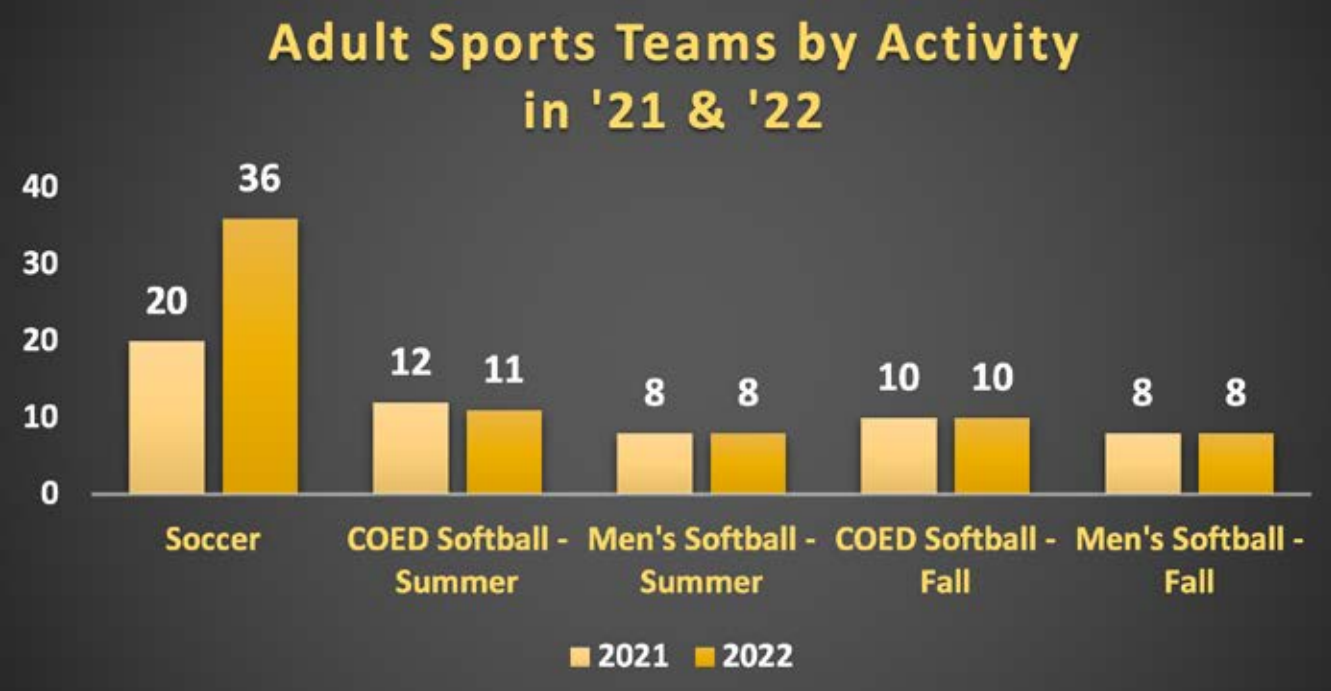


Providing high quality recreational activities for Wyandotte County youth continues to be of the Department's highest priorities. In 2022, we noted a significant increase of participation in basketball and indoor futsal. Stable participation numbers were witnessed in many sports.



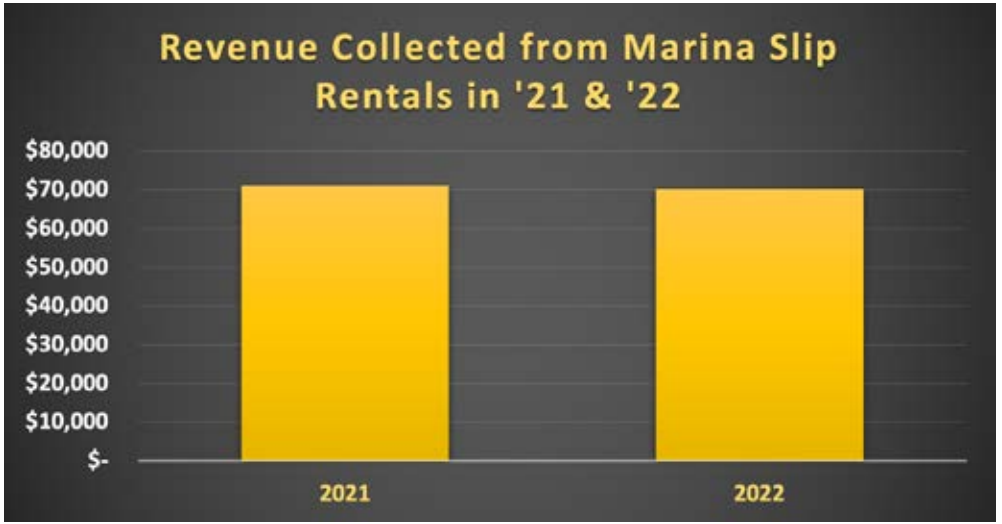
ADULT SPORTS

The Department continues to offer sport opportunities for adults in our community. We witnessed a consistent amount of participation from 2021 through 2022 in most sports, with the exception being in our adult soccer league, whose size nearly doubled in 2022.

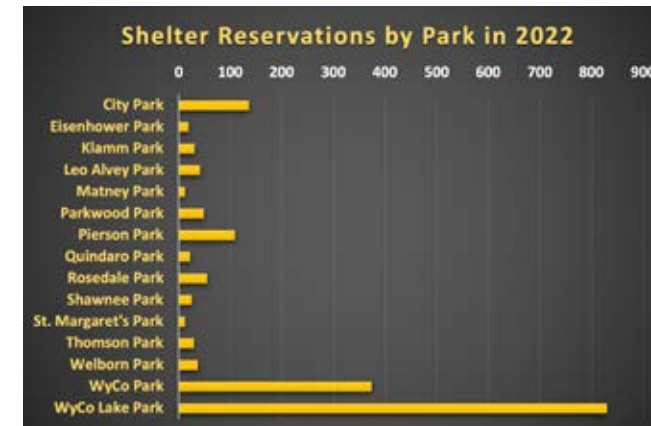


OUTDOOR RECREATION

Is there really any better way to spend a summer day in Wyandotte County than by boating or fishing at one of our lakes? Members of the community can purchase season fishing and boating permits at a rate of \$20 and \$30, respectively, with daily permits being offered for \$10 and \$15. Non-resident permits for boating and fishing are sold at higher rates to maintain equity. Finally, leased boat slips at the Wyandotte County Lake marina continue to be filled each summer.



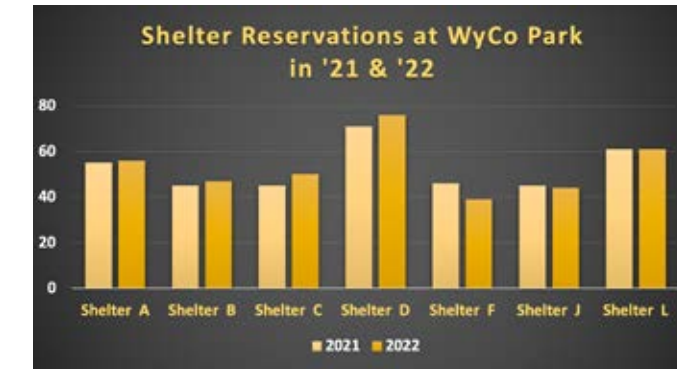
FACILITIES BY THE NUMBERS



Residents may begin renting shelters on the first business day of the calendar year. Shelters are available for rent from mid-April through mid-October, and vary in size, amenities, and pricing. Rental prices range from \$45 to \$120. In 2022, shelters at Wyandotte County Lake Park were the most popular. The 16 shelters located here were reserved 830 times, representative of nearly half of the 1,780 total shelter reservations seen in 2022.



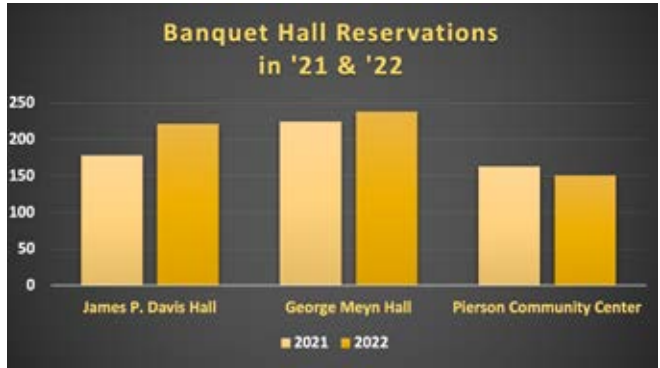
Wyandotte County Lake Park features 16 shelters. In 2022, the Beach Shelter was reserved 92 times. Other shelters were reserved between 30 and 70 times.



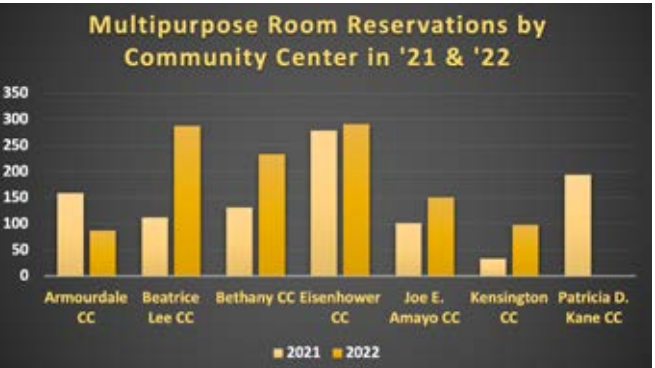
Wyandotte County Park features 7 shelters. Virtually all shelters in this park saw an uptick of usage. Shelter D was reserved the most often (76 times).



Pierson Park is located in central Wyandotte County and features 3 shelters. Shelters 1 and 2 were reserved 53 and 56 times in 2022, respectively. Shelter 3 was not available.



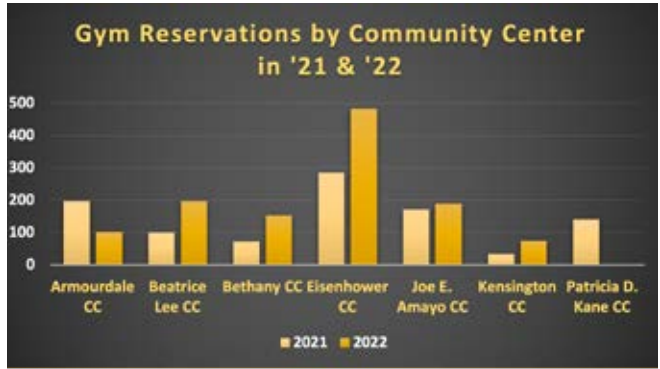
James P. Davis Hall, George Meyn Hall, and Pierson Community Center continue to be some of the most popular event spaces in Wyandotte County. Residents are able to reserve these facilities at lower cost than non-residents. Given its historic and rustic aesthetic, James P. Davis Hall is a very popular wedding venue and revenue north of \$60,000 was generated in 2022 from reservations.



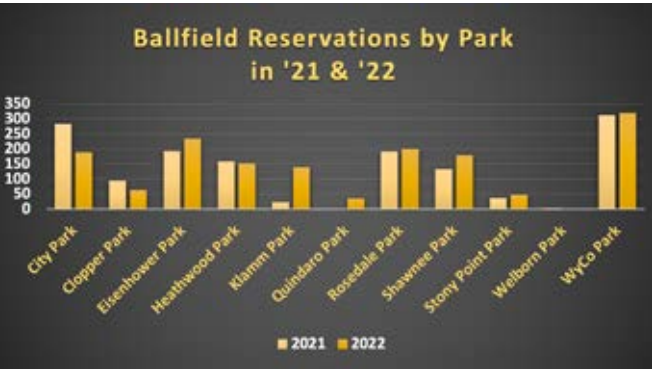
Multipurpose rooms were reserved at an increased rate in virtually every community center in 2022 versus 2021. Of additional note is that the Department ceased operations at the Patricia Diane Kane Community Center at the end of 2021.



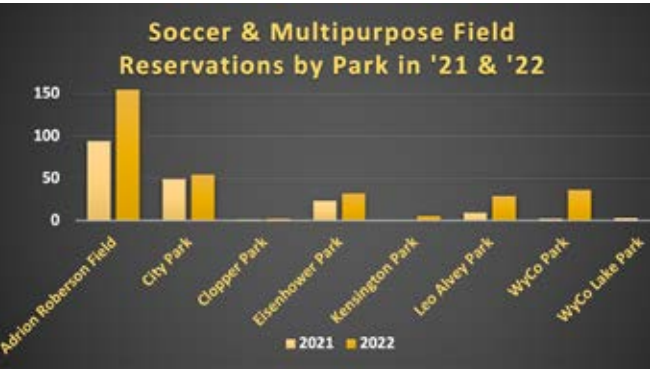
George Meyn Community Center



Community center gyms are generally reserved for sports team practices and tournaments. Occasionally, gyms are rented for private events such as birthday parties or community meetings



Residents are able to reserve ballfields for practices and tournaments. The Department maintains ballfields at 11 parks, with certain parks containing multiple fields. Overall, a slight increase in ballfield reservations was seen from 2021 (312) to 2022 (320).



In addition to ballfields, residents may also reserve soccer and multipurpose fields. These sort of fields are maintained at 8 different parks throughout the County. Similarly to the trend seen with ballfields, an increase of reservations from 181 in 2021, to 313 in 2022, was witnessed.

CAPITAL PROJECTS

MARSHALL CREEK DREDGING

The cleaning and dredging of approximately 900 feet of channel in Marshall Creek was performed as a function of Wyandotte County Lake maintenance operations. Continued dredging of the Lake is planned to occur in the next 5 – 10 years.



WYCO LAKE MARINA DOCKS & RESTROOM

The boat slips available at Wyandotte County Lake Park’s marina are one of the most utilized amenities in the county. As of 2022, interested renters were likely to spend 6 to 8 years on a wait list before a slip may become available. A new covered dock, consisting of fourteen slips, was added in spring 2022 to increase utilization of this resource and generate additional revenue to support park and recreation initiatives! The dock shared by Parks & Recreation and the Sheriff’s Office was also replaced. Additionally, new restrooms were installed.



FOUR NEW RESTROOMS

The Department continues to prioritize the construction of new restrooms and water fountains in parks. With appropriate funding, staff was able to complete four new bathrooms with water fountains in St. Margaret’s Park, Quindaro Park, Rosedale Park, Kensington Park, respectively, in 2022. Funding for these facilities was made available through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act).



FITNESS COURT

An outdoor fitness court was installed at Wyandotte County Lake Park to bring free fitness access to residents in western Wyandotte County. This was funded in part through a grant offered by the National Fitness Campaign, the same organization that aided in constructing a comparable venue at St. Margaret’s Park in 2018.

PICKLEBALL COURTS

Pickleball is a popular sport among all age groups. There has been a desire from the community to install pickleball courts in parks. Two regulation pickleball courts were installed at Wyandotte County Lake Park, one of the U.G.’s most utilized parks, to provide the community with a new place to play!



DISC GOLF COURSE

The usage potential of City Park was further diversified in 2022 with the installation of an 18-hole Dynamic Discs disc golf course. It was purchased via funds from the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), a program managed by the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD).

KAW POINT PARK BUILDING

Aside from being an aesthetically pleasing riverfront park, Kaw Point Park carries the historical significance of being where the Lewis and Clark Expedition landed on June 26, 1804, before continuing north up the Missouri River. To ensure its continued viability as a historical landmark, much of the Kaw Point maintenance building was replaced in 2022. The facility suffered significant damage in 2020 when a motorist drove through it with their vehicle.



**JAMES P. DAVIS HALL
RENOVATIONS**

Due to its traditional beauty, James P. Davis Hall is one of the most popular banquet facilities in the Kansas City metro area. It generated a significant amount of revenue that is used to fund U.G. operations, including those performed by our Department. A kitchen renovation occurred in 2022 and a fire suppression update will be completed in 2023 to ensure the facility’s viability for years to come!

**AZURA AMPHITHEATER
DREDGING**

Azura Amphitheater is truly an entertainment gem in Wyandotte County. World-renowned artists have performed at this venue for more than 30 years. As a U.G.-owned property that is leased, it is our responsibility to maintain it and preserve structures from harm. In 2022, the creek that flows through the site was dredged to reduce costs associated with flood damage.



**BEATRICE LEE COMMUNITY
CENTER RENOVATION**

Preservation of community centers is critical to our ability to provide welcoming spaces for residents to live and play. In 2022, structural damage was mitigated when the Beatrice Lee Community Center’s north wall was repaired.

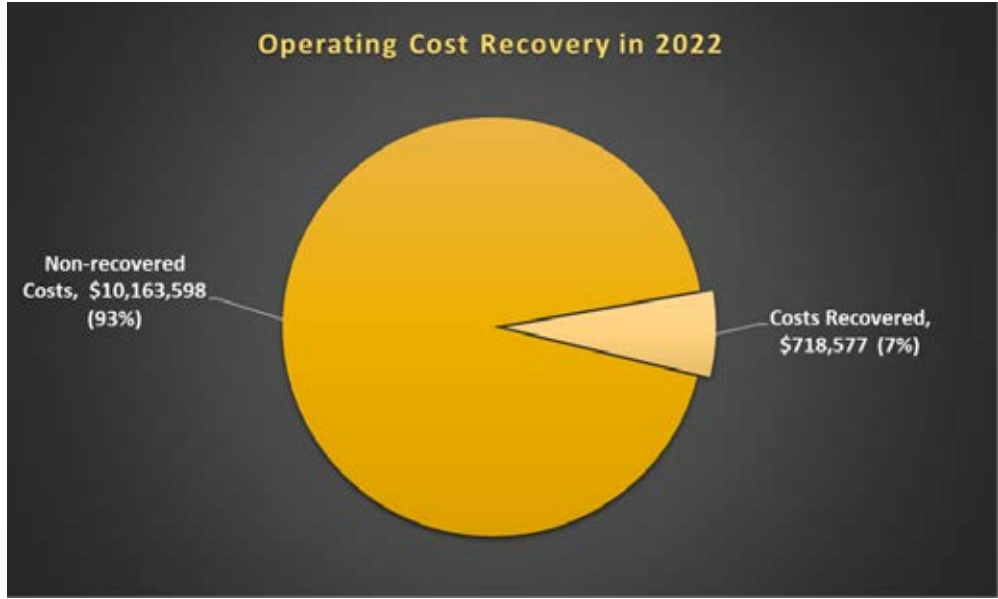
CLIFTON PARK

Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) issued by the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD) continue to play a vital role in supporting the building of infrastructure in our parks. In 2022, Clifton Park witnessed a major face lift consisting of a new sidewalk loop, parking lot, and park entrance. The upgrades did not stop last year though as a new spray park and playground will be operational in the coming months!

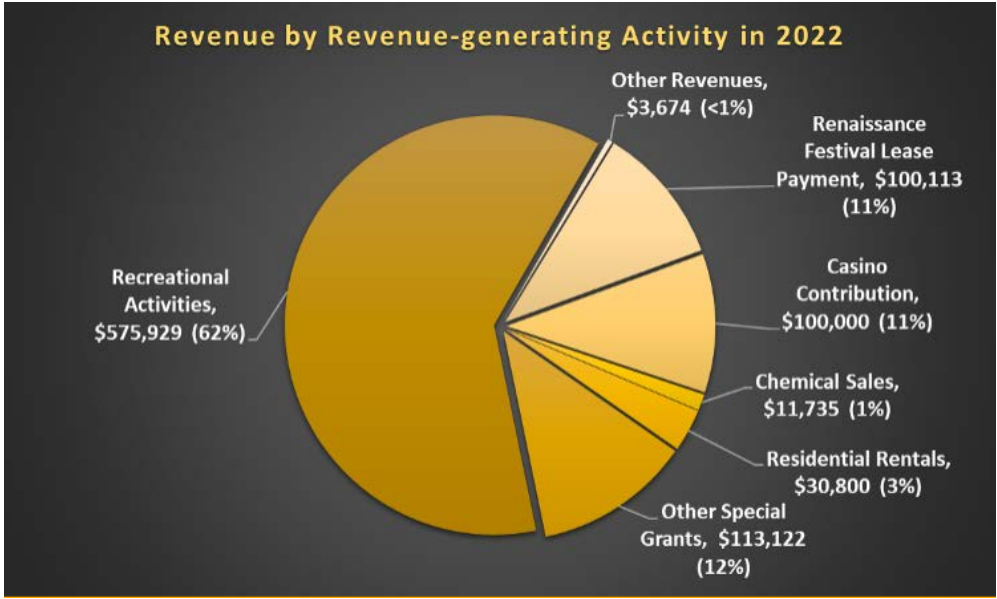


FISCAL REVIEW

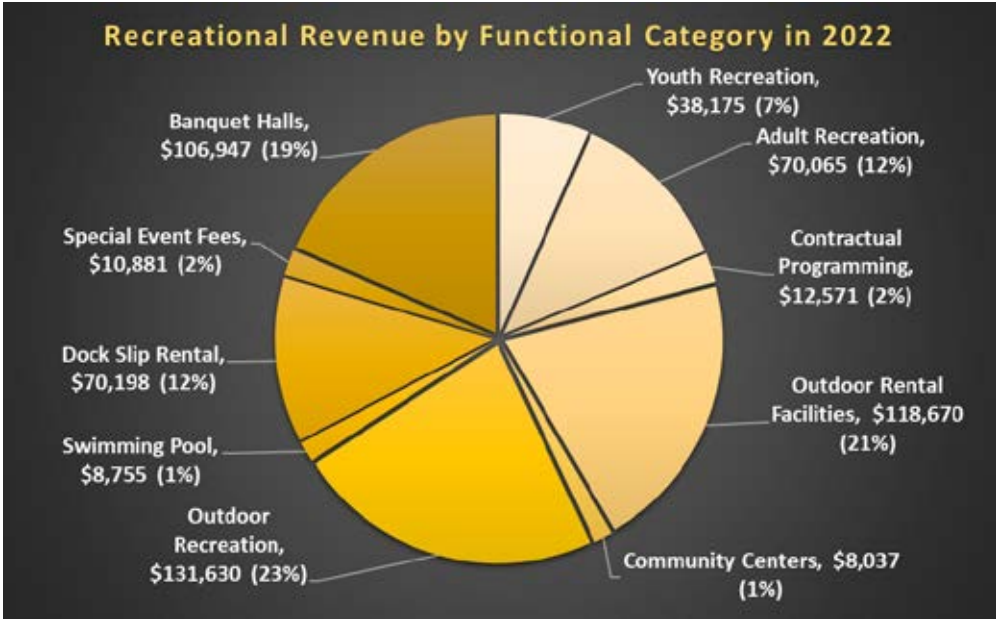
The 2022 Amended operating budget for the Parks and Recreation Department was \$10,882,175. This amount accounted for the personnel costs, contractual services, and commodity expenses necessary to provide a high quality of parks and recreational services to Wyandotte County.



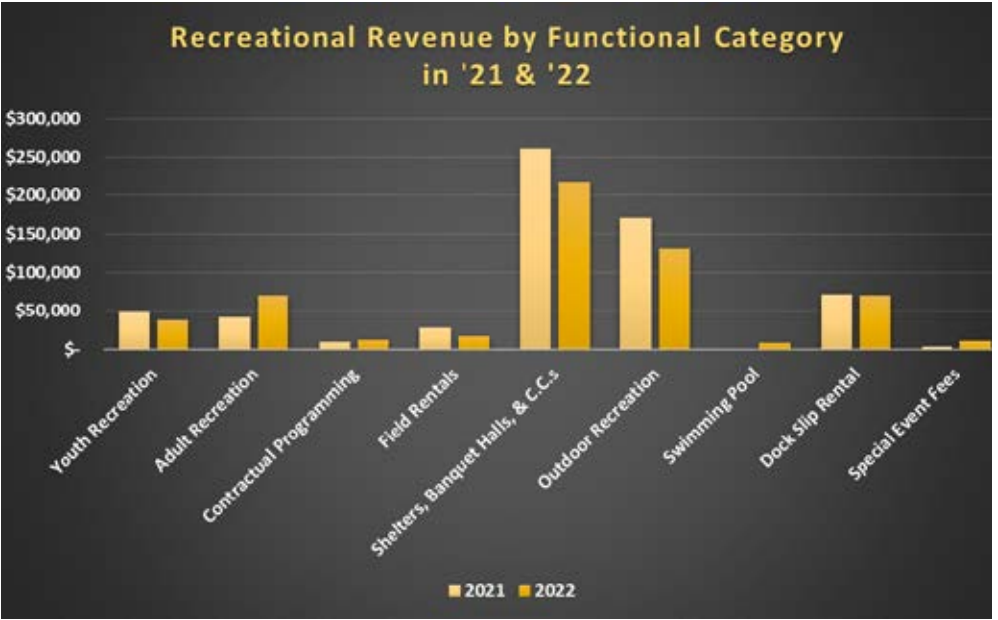
7% of operating costs, or \$718,577, were recovered in 2022. It should be noted that this figure does not account for grants received, the casino contribution, or minimal miscellaneous revenues. Additionally, revenue incurred by the Sunflower Hills Golf Course was not considered since the entity is supported through its own enterprise fund.



A variance of sources made up the total amount of costs recuperated in 2022. The greatest category was Recreational Activities which contributed 62% of all costs recovered. The 2nd highest category was Other Special Grants (12%), followed by the Renaissance Festival Lease Payment (11%), Casino Contribution (11%), Residential Rentals (3%), Chemical Sales (1%), and Other Revenues (1%).



The highest generating category in 2022 was Outdoor Recreation Fees (23%), which represents proceeds incurred via the sale of fishing and boating permits. Other high revenue categories included Outdoor Rental Facilities (21%), i.e., shelters and park field rentals, Banquet Halls (19%), i.e., James P. Davis Hall, George Meyn Hall, and Pierson Community Center, Marina Dock Slip Rentals (12%), and Adult Recreation (12%).



A slight decline in recreational costs recovered was witnessed in 2022 (\$575,929) versus 2021 (\$636,333). However, this is not an indicator that the Department underserved its constituents. On the contrary, since staff was able to secure the Child Care Aware Grant, Summer Camp was offered free of charge. Other notable items include the fact that the adult soccer league gained 16 teams and that Parkwood Pool reopened for the 2022 aquatic season.



MOWING PROGRAM

A key responsibility that the Department maintains is mowing. In 2022, internal and external mowing crews ensured that parks, vacant lots, trails, paths, medians, Buildings and Logistics sites, Water Pollution Control pump and manhole sites, and cemeteries were maintained. To ensure that all assigned sites are mowed on a regular basis, mowing tasks are split between internal Parks & Recreation staff and multiple contractors.

Mowed by Parks & Recreation Staff	Mowed by Contractors
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Various Park Sites• Trails & Paths• Various Ball Fields• Playgrounds• Vacant Lots* <p>*It is anticipated that all vacant lots will be mowed by contractors in 2023.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cemeteries• Various Ball Fields• Various Park Sites• Water Pollution Control Sites• Medians• Buildings & Logistics Sites• Vacant Lots

In addition to the **24** parks, trails, and paths that staff maintained, they also performed **5** rounds of mowing on over **700** parcels. Five different mowing contractors were utilized to complete the rest of the mowing.

Contractor Mowing Statistics for 2022		
Type of Mowing	Number of Parcels	Number of Mowings
Cemeteries	13	156
Ball Fields	13	528
Parks, Recreation Centers, & Other Sites	44	968
Water Pollution Control Pump Sites & Manholes	32	192
Medians	51	2,193
Buildings & Logistical Sites	24	456
Vacant Lots	2,342	16,394

SAVE THE DATES

Department staff accomplished many priorities to support the community in 2022 and appreciates the opportunity to continue enriching the quality of life for our community through safe, well-maintained parks and facilities that promote diverse recreation activities, health, wellness, learning, and fun, in 2023. Here is a glimpse of how we plan to do so! We look forward to seeing you again soon in our parks and community centers!

Save The DATES

@WYKOPARKS

Wyandotte County/KCK Parks and Recreation

2023



PARKS & RECREATION

(All Holidays Community Centers Closed)

JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
1/2. NEW YEARS DAY OBSERVED 1/14. YOUTH B-BALL STARTS 1/14. YOUTH FUTSAL STARTS 1/16. MLK DAY 1/21. EAGLE DAYS 1/22. EAGLE DAYS	2/1. LOVE LETTERS (BL),(E),(J) 2/1. SPRING BREAK CAMP REGISTRATION OPENS 2/10. SOMEONE SPECIAL DANCE (J) 2/6. Spring Youth Sports registration opens (soccer and baseball) 2/6. Adult Sports registration opens (softball and soccer) 2/20. PRESIDENTS DAY 2/24. MOVIE & GAME NIGHT (BL)	3/2. MEDIA DAY 3/4. OPENING DAY 3/7. MARCH MADNESS (A) 3/14. MARCH MADNESS (B) 3/13 - 3/17. SPRING BREAK CAMP
APRIL	MAY	JUNE
4/1. BUBBLES AND BALLOON (J) 4/3. SUMMER BREAK CAMP REGISTRATION OPENS 4/3. Youth registrations ends 4/7. Adult softball registration ends 4/7. SPRING HOLIDAY 4/8. EASTER EGG HUNT (BIG 11) 4/8. BUBBLES AND BALLON (K) 4/8. FITNESS CHALLENGE STARTS (VEGA PARK) 4/10. Adult Soccer registrations ends 4/28. ARBOR DAY	5/1. Youth Summer night hoops registration opens 5/1. Adult softball co-ed registration opens 5/13. BUBBLES AND BALLONS (E) 5/20. KIDS TO PARK DAY (K) ★ 5/27. FITNESS CHALLENGE ENDS (VEGA PARK) 5/29. MEMORIAL DAY	6/2. Adult Softball co-ed registration ends. 6/2. Youth Summer night hoops registration ends. 6/3. FISHING DERBY 6/5. SUMMER CAMP STARTS 6/6. POPSICLE IN THE PARK (A) 6/17. CHALK THE WALK (E) 6/19. JUNETEENTH
JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER
7/4. INDEPENDENCE DAY 7/7. STORY TIME IN THE PARK (J) 7/8. EVERYONE'S BIRTHDAY (E) 7/10. Youth Fall sports registration opens (volleyball, soccer, nfl flag football, and futsal) 7/10. Adult co-ed softball registration opens 7/15. MEMORIAL BALLOON RELEASE (BL) 7/22. CHRISTMAS IN JULY ★ 7/30. SUMMER CAMPS ENDS	8/5. POPSICLE IN THE PARK (B) 8/12. ART IN THE PARK (E) 8/19. DONUTS WITH DIRECTOR (BL) 8/25. Youth Fall sports registration ends (volleyball, soccer, NFL flag football, and futsal) 8/25. Adult Softball co-ed registration ends	9/4. LABOR DAY 9/5. CHESS 101 (A) 9/12. CHESS 101 (B)
OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
10/24. PUMKING PAINTING (A) 10/21. FALL FESTIVAL 10/31. TRICK OR TREAT VILLAGE (J)	11/4. THANKSGIVING FAMILY NIGHT (K) 11/10. VETERANS DAY 11/11. VETERAN LUNCH (J) 11/23. THANKSGIVING 11/24. THANKSGIVING	12/2. GINGER BREAD HOUSE (E) 12/5. STORY W/ MRS.CLAUS (A) 12/9. DONUTS WITH SANTA ★ 12/12. STORY W/MRS.CLAUS (A) 12/25. CHRISTMAS

For more information, locations, and details check out our website. www.wyandotte.org/wyandotte

(A) = Armourdale (B)=Bethany (BL)=Beatrice Lee (E)= Eisenhower (J)=Joe Amayo (K)=Kensington