



Floyd County  
Department of Parks and Recreation  
**2025-2029 Master Plan Update**

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September 2024

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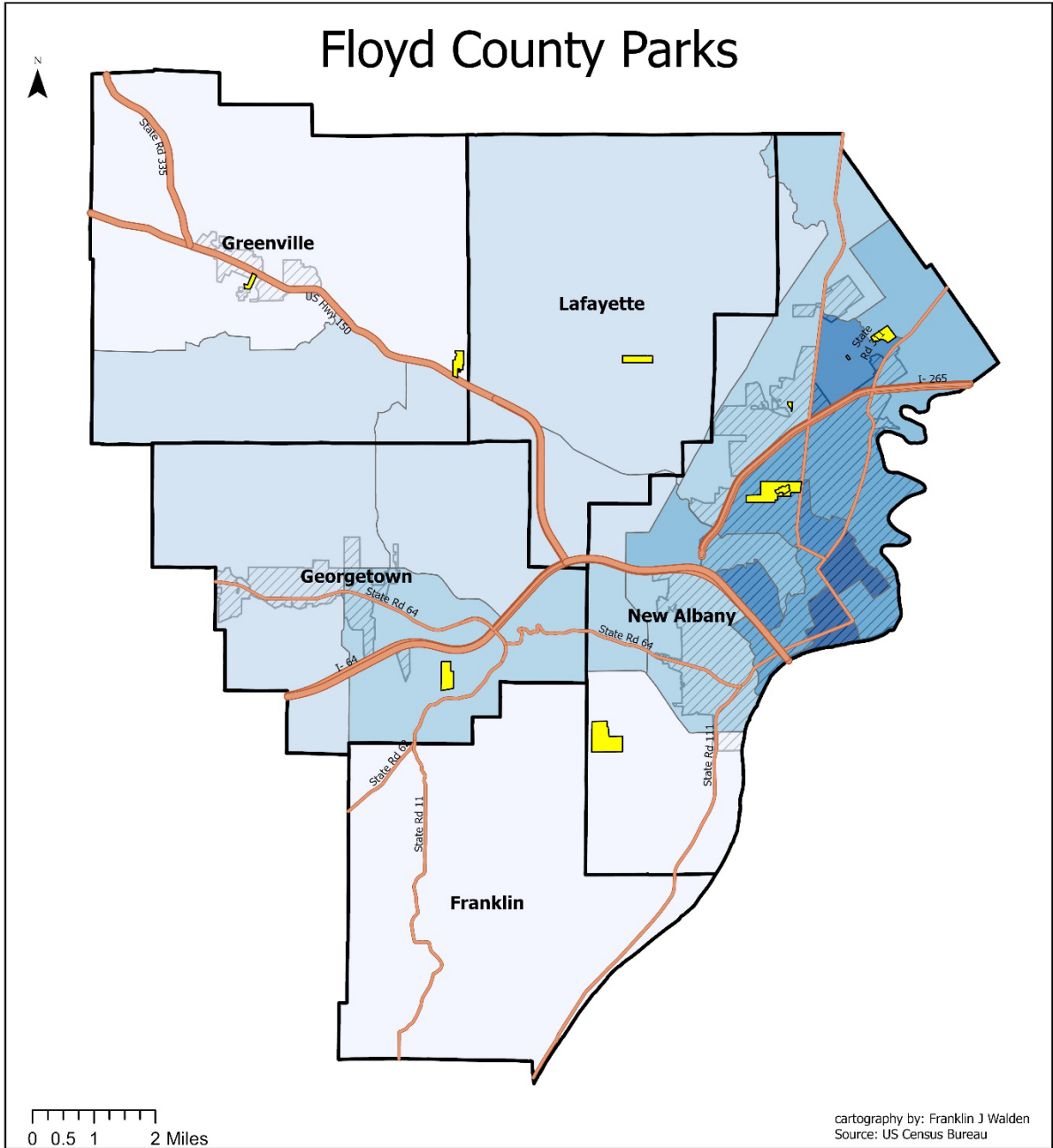


### Introduction

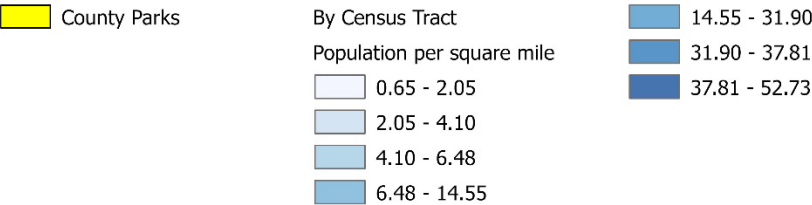
Parks play a role in everyone’s life and are here for everybody to use and enjoy. Every five years, the State of Indiana requires parks departments across the state to develop a five-year master plan to envision what their park system might look like in the future.

The Floyd County Parks and Recreation Five-Year Master Plan is the framework for what the community want our parks system to look like in the next five years and into the future. This plan examines demographics, land use, history, current conditions of parks facilities, and public input to create a useable tool for the parks board to implement these goals and objectives.

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cartography by: Franklin J Walden  
Source: US Census Bureau



## Five-Year Master Plan Overview

Planning for parks and recreation is a vital endeavor to ensure not only the quality of life for a community, but, also enhance its economic development and community development efforts. Using a rational planning methodology, the Floyd County Parks and Recreation Five-Year Plan is divided into the following categories:

1. Examination and defining the current physical, economic, and social conditions of the community.
2. Defining the current level of service for the existing parks facilities.
3. Analyzing the public facilities needs and community recreational programming, presenting financing and budgeting figures, parks and crafting a unique marketing and branding media campaign.
4. Gathering public input through a variety of formats to insure all stakeholders were represented during the planning process.
5. Development of a priorities action plan with implementation goals for the next five-year period for the community parks' system.

The plan encompasses improvements needed to existing facilities, development of new park/recreation areas, and an examination of the fiscal requirements necessary to meet these needs.

The Floyd County Parks and Recreation Master Plan was prepared in conformance with the regulations of the Planning Guidelines for Parks and Recreation published by the Indiana Department of Natural Resources (IDNR), Division of Outdoor Recreation. Approval of the plan by IDNR will make the community eligible for available state and federal funding opportunities.

The Policy Statement and Mission Statement are the foundations of the Floyd County Department of Parks and Recreation Master Plan:

Floyd County Department of Parks and Recreation Policy Statement:

***“The Floyd County Department of Parks and Recreation, provides recreational facilities and programming for use and benefit by all residents within the community.”***

Floyd County Department of Parks and Recreation Mission Statement:

***“The Floyd County Parks and Recreation Department mission statement is to provide a variety of recreational opportunities that can be used by all citizens of Floyd County. Our goal is to engage the citizens through promoting healthy lifestyles provide vibrant recreational programming opportunities and maintain safe park facilities.”***

## Goals of the Master Plan

The 2019-2024 Floyd County Parks and Recreation Five-Year Master Plan's primary goal is:

***“To provide a new paradigm in the approach to recreational programming, capital facilities and parks operations in Floyd County. Its primary focus is to adapt to the new realities of governmental funding and seek out strategic partnerships in an effort to provide the highest quality recreational services to the residents of Floyd County.”***

The purpose of a comprehensive park and recreation plan is to provide an implementable guide for the Parks and Recreation Board. With a clear understanding of existing and future needs, the board's activities can be directed towards the future recreational needs of the community.

The 2019-2024 Floyd County Parks and Recreation Master Plan provides a pro-active framework for implementation of project priorities identified in the plan. This planning process also should become an integral component for land use policies and land use decision-making in the unincorporated areas of Floyd County.

The Floyd County Department of Parks and Recreation utilized the services of the Floyd County Planning staff to update and improve on the master plan. The plan was prepared in consultation with the Floyd County Department of Parks and Recreation Board, public



and staff. The County Operations and Planning staff produced this document. Public participation in the planning process was encouraged throughout preparation of the plan through an on-line survey process, a series of public meetings, a public hearing advertised and held per Indiana requirements, and a planning workshop for board members.

**Planning Area**

The planning area for the Floyd County Department of Parks and Recreation is all of the unincorporated areas of Floyd County and the County-owned facilities within the City of New Albany.

Floyd County includes Franklin, Georgetown, Greenville, Lafayette and New Albany Townships. The population of Floyd County is 80,191 according to the 2022 United States Census.

**Parks Board and Department Organizational Structure**

The Floyd County Parks Board exists under Indiana Parks and Recreation Law (IC-3610-3) and all appointments are made in accordance with the law. The Floyd County Parks Board consists of 6 members. The Park Board elects a President, Vice President and Secretary annually.

Members are selected by the following entities:

- Floyd County Commissioners
- Floyd County Council
- Floyd County Circuit Court
- Mayor of New Albany

Parks and recreation planning is provided by both the professional departmental staff and by professional consultants. Planning and grant applications for small-scale projects are completed by the staff from the County Planning and Parks Departments.

The Board holds public meetings on the first Monday of each month at 2524 Corydon Pike– Pine View Government Center at 6:00 P.M. In New Albany.

**Floyd County Parks and Recreation Department Staff**

As of 2024, eight full time staff members operate the Parks and Recreation Department, with seventeen part time or seasonal employees, and around three reoccurring volunteers. This is up from seven full time employees in 2019 and seven seasonal employees.

According to Indiana Gateway, in 2023 the County Parks and Recreation Department had an employee budget of \$434,477.73 while the city of New Albany had an employee budget of \$1,362,423.02. The City of New Albany spent roughly \$36.24 per resident for its Parks and Recreation Employee budget. Floyd County spent around \$11.63 per non-municipal county resident for its Parks and Recreation Department, or roughly \$5.42 per county resident when including municipal residents.

# Planning Area

## Natural Features and Landscapes

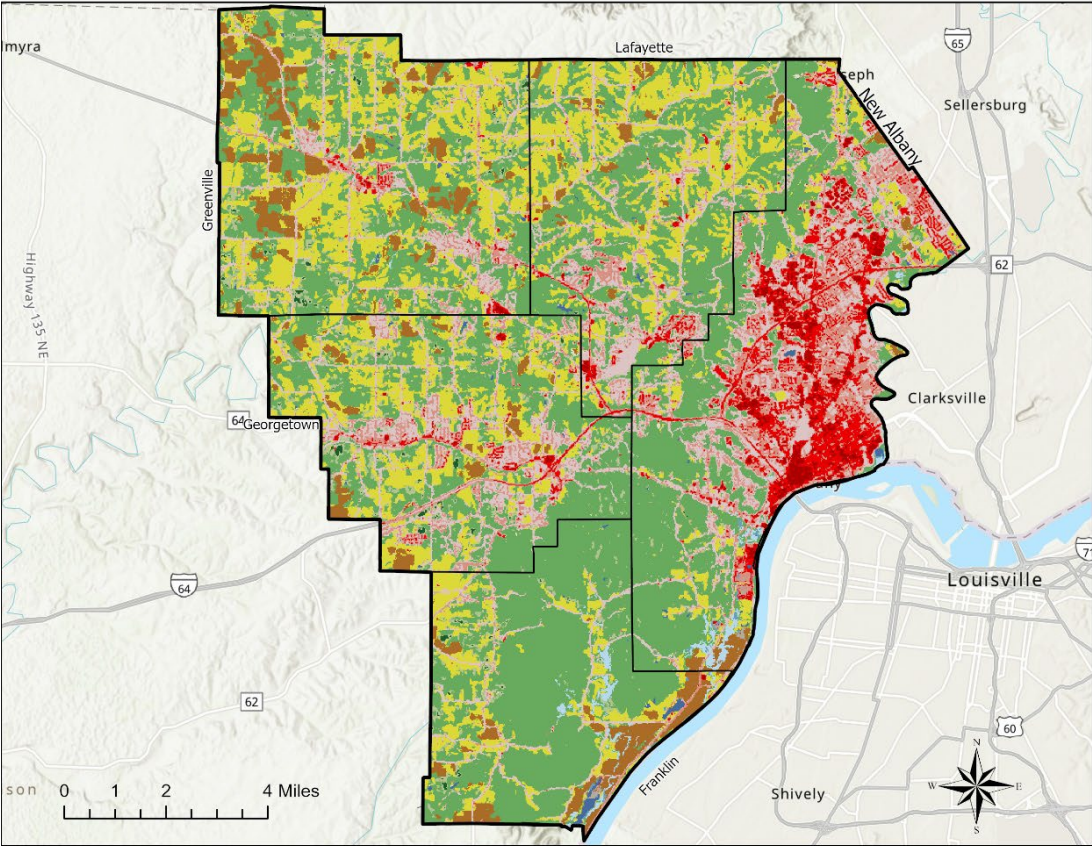
Floyd County is bordered on the south by the Ohio River and to the north, east and west by Washington, Clark and Harrison counties respectively. The County has three municipal governments in addition to the County government. Within Floyd County, there is the City of New Albany, the Town of Georgetown and the Town of Greenville. Additionally, there are several unincorporated areas such as Floyds Knobs, Galena, Navilleton, and Edwardsville which have been focal points for their respective areas.

Ranging from a high elevation of nearly 1,000 feet to a low elevation of less than 380 feet, the topography of the area is characterized by two distinct types. This topography of the County varies from flat lowlands along the Ohio River to expansive knobs overlooking the river valley.

The remainder of the community consists of rolling highlands with areas of steep slopes intersecting the county. The United States Geological Survey 2021 land cover maps depict the two most dominant land covers as deciduous forest and pastures. Forested areas, Deciduous, Evergreen, and Mixed, make up 49 percent of the total land coverage and has the largest uninterrupted area in the southern area of the county and along the knobs. Agricultural uses such as Pasture/Hay and Cultivated Crops makes up just over 27 percent of the total land coverage and is concentrated in the north west of the county. All development intensities combined make up nearly 21 percent of the total land coverage. Wetlands, both Woody and Emergent Herbaceous, make up just under 1 percent of the total land coverage despite the extensive floodplains.

This topography provides for many streams and drainage courses in the planning area. These can be grouped into the following major drainage basins: the Bear Creek Basin, the Big Indian Creek Basin, the Buck Creek Basin, the Ohio River Basin, and the Silver Creek Basin. Two of these basins, Ohio River and Silver Creek, have extensive flood plains. The southeastern portion of the county includes flat lowlands of the Ohio River floodplain.

# National Land Cover Database For Floyd County



Percent Land Cover

0.48% Open Water	3.33% Mixed Forest
13.8% Developed, Open Space	0.04% Shrub/Scrub
8.68% Developed, Low Intensity	0.14% Grassland/Herbaceous
4.32% Developed, Medium Intensity	21.44% Pasture/Hay
1.13% Developed, High Intensity	5.51% Cultivated Crops
0.07% Barren Land (Rock/Sand/Clay)	0.65% Woody Wetlands
40.58% Deciduous Forest	0.12% Emergent Herbaceous Wetlands
0.19% Evergreen Forest	

Map graphic and text data in a web-based Geographic Information System (GIS) are representations or copies of original data sources, and are provided to users as is with no expressed or implied warranty of accuracy, quality, or completeness for any specific purpose or use. These data do not replace or modify site surveys, deeds and other conveyances; original and as built engineering plans; and other drawings and/or legal documents that establish land ownership, land use, or on-site structure location. Please contact your local officials for additional information regarding specific data sets.

Municipality layer and cartography created and maintained by the Floyd County GIS Department  
Source Credit: USGS 2023 National Land Cover Database

The City of New Albany is located in the lowland areas of the County. The proximity to the Ohio River and being downstream from the Falls of the Ohio made the City an attractive location for shipping interested in the 1800s.

## Natural Disasters and Weather

Using the Storm Data and Impacts table from the USDA Farmers.gov website, we identified 65 unique storm impacts in Floyd County. The most frequent storm impact was High Thunderstorm Winds with 21 observations, followed by Hail with 8 observations, Flash Floods with 7 observations, Floods with 6 observations, and Winter Storms with 5 observations. Seasonally, from 2014 to 2024, February had 8 observations, April had 15, and June had 9. Years without a breakdown since 2014 had 4 or fewer storm impact observations.

In 2015 there were 12 observations, with Thunderstorm Winds (4), Flash Floods (3), Floods (2), Heavy Snows (2), and Hail (1).

In 2016, there were 9 observations, with Frost/Freezes (4), Thunderstorm Winds (1), Hail (1), Heavy Snow (1), and High Wind (1).

In 2018 there were 10 observations, with Thunderstorm Winds (3), Winter Storms (3), Floods (2), Flash Flood (1), and Ice Storm (1).

In 2022 there were 8 observations, with Thunderstorm Winds (4), Flash Flood (1), Hail (1), Ice Storm (1), and Winter Storm (1).

In 2023 there were 10 observations, with Thunderstorm Winds (4), Hail (3), Flash Flood (1), High Winds (1), and Tornado (1).

The Parks Department has noticed regular flooding at Letty Walter Park, which has caused severe erosion issues near the pedestrian bridge. Otherwise, the only storm damage affecting the county parks has been minor limb and minor structure damage due to routine storms.

Floyd County’s Stormwater Department and Soil & Water Conservation District along with Purdue’s Extension office are working to mitigate the impacts of erosion and flooding.

## **Tree Management**

Currently, the Floyd County government does not have an adopted tree ordinance or a Tree Advisory Committee. The Parks Department has plans to establish a Tree Advisory Committee in 2025 and is currently seeking citizens to serve on the board.

Several County parks have areas of low shade and high heat such as Garry E. Cavan Park, Greenville Park, Kevin Hammersmith Memorial Park, and Sam Peden Community Park.

The Parks Department has an arborist on contract that is utilized on an as-needed basis.

Under Section 5.13 Landscaping Standards of the Floyd County Zoning Ordinances, Tables 1 and 2 list prohibited trees and species due to their invasive status or, in the case of the Ash tree, their susceptibility to the Emerald Ash Borer Insect.

The Floyd County government currently has no requirement in their zoning ordinance to retain or replace existing trees when a site is being developed.

The City of New Albany, the City of Jeffersonville, and the City of Louisville have all adopted Tree Ordinances and have tree boards that work with Urban Forestry departments at the state level to maintain tree health in their communities. These would be good models to reference as Floyd County puts theirs together.

## Geology/Soils

The geology of an area can dictate the location of infrastructure and the types of structural requirements are required by a community. In Floyd County, certain area in the western section of the county can be depicted as karst or having karst-like characteristics.

Karst geological characteristics consist of layers of limestone and sandstone prone to underground erosion by groundwater. Special consideration should be in place in terms of development in these areas.

The soils of Floyd County have been classified into three general associations:

**Crider-Grayford:** Deep, well-drained, nearly level to steep soils that have a medium textured to fine-textured subsoil and is found over limestone on uplands;

**Cincinnati-Trappist:** Deep and moderately deep, well-drained gently sloping to strongly sloping soils that have a medium-textured to fine-textured subsoil on terraces and flood plains;

**Zanesville-Gilpin-Rardin:** Moderately deep and deep, well drained and moderately well drained, gently sloping to steep soils that have a medium-textured to fine textured subsoil; over sandstone, siltstone and shale on uplands.

These soils represent the predominant soils makeup of Floyd County. They can reasonably support most types of outdoor recreation development. Many scattered tree stands remain throughout the planning area. The most extensive of the wooded areas lies along the Knobs.

## Forest, Vegetation, and Wildlife Resources and Preservation

Since the last plan, the state's Terrestrial Plant Rule has gone into effect, which prohibits the sale of invasive species, a full list can be found on the DNR website. Invasive species are being combatted both at the State level with SICIM (State of

Indiana Cooperative Invasives Management) and locally with the Floyd County Native Habitat Restoration Team, which hosts 'weed wrangling' events to remove invasive species.

There are several preservation efforts going on within Floyd County. The Sam Shine Foundation has the Uplands and Grasslands Forests, the Little Indian Creek Headwaters Forest, and the Buffalo Trail Forest which are used to restore native grassland prairies and hardwood trees as well as being used for research projects such as wildlife tracking, soil restoration, increasing biodiversity, and restoring habitats for declining species. The Indiana Department of Natural Resources has the Brock Sampson Natural Area, The Hardin Ridge Natural Area, the Brock Sampson-Hardin Ridge, the Sherman Minton Nature Preserve, and the Brock Sampson Nature Preserve, which are located in the southern portion of the county.

## Water Resources

The primary water resource is the Ohio River. There is approximately 11 miles of shoreline with the Ohio River in Floyd County. Part of this shoreline has been designated as an Ohio River Greenway. This Greenway project spans from the City of Jeffersonville in Clark County through the Town of Clarksville and along the City of New Albany shoreline.

Throughout the County, there are numerous small streams and creeks, the largest of these creeks would be Little Indian Creek. This creek meanders throughout the heart of Floyd County and serves as an amenity within Letty Walter Park.

A small tributary of the Silver Creek basin has also been identified in the New Albany Township area for more study to incorporate a similar linear park and trail system.

The Silver Creek landing site was recently opened in New Albany which connects to the Ohio River and Loop Island in the Greenway Corridor.

Sam Peden Park has Kiwanis Lake which has been utilized for a 'Go FishIN in the City' event, where the Indiana Department of Natural Resources stocked the lake with catfish and other fish species as part of an urban fishing program.

There are several small private lakes and ponds which serve as fishing spots throughout the county.

There have been 6 Floods and 7 Flash Floods observed by the USDA in Floyd County over the last decade leading to further erosion of several creeks, including Little Indian Creek in Letty Walter Park.

### **Major Regional Trails**

The Ohio River Greenway is a collaborative effort among New Albany, Clarksville, Jeffersonville, Floyd County, and Clark County to connect and develop the riverfront property of these communities along the Ohio River, across from Louisville. The Greenway spans 7.5 miles, connecting the three communities and is considered to be 90% completed to the vision established in 1994. The Jeffersonville end of the trail connects to the Big Four Pedestrian Bridge which extends into Kentucky connecting to the trail networks in Louisville, including the Louisville River walk. Other trails that connect to the Ohio River Greenway are the Clarksville Heritage Trail, Levee Trail, Clarksville Discovery Trail, and the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail.

This also connects the amenities of the New Albany Amphitheater, The Falls of The Ohio State Park, and the downtowns of the three communities.

The Monon South Trail is a proposed 57-mile trail between Mitchell and the Clark/Floyd County border that connects eight local communities in the Lawrence, Orange, Washington, and Clark Counties uplands region of southern Indiana. The greenway trail offers dramatic vistas of the Indiana farmland and linkages to several regional natural destinations, including nearby state parks and recreation facilities.

Building on the unique qualities of the region, the proposed trail amenities highlight several local community destinations and connections to other regional attractions.

The trail uses the former Monon Railroad's South Line and connects to larger communities including Mitchell, Orleans, and Salem, as well as several smaller communities such as Leipsic, Saltillo, Campbellsburg, New Pekin, and Borden. Some of the recreational properties within close proximity to the line are the Hoosier National Forest, Spring Mill State Park, Cave River Valley Natural Area, Twin Creek Valley Nature Conservancy, Jackson-Washington State Forest, and Clark State Forest.

The City of New Albany is working on plans for the South Monon Freedom Trail, which will connect the South Monon Trail to the Ohio River Greenway. Paperwork was filed in December 2017 to initiate the project.

The Knobstone Trail runs through the Clark and Jackson-Washington Forests. Knobstone Trail is the longest continuous natural footpath hiking trail in Indiana and camping facilities are available on the trail. The trail ends at Deam Lake, just north of Floyd County.

Align Southern Indiana is a multi-county regional collaboration effort to connect the various trails and amenities of Clark, Floyd, Harrison, Scott, Washington, and Jefferson Counties. There is a large focus on connecting trails for hiking and biking with local tourism hot spots like Huber Winery, Deam Lake, Clifty Falls, Downtowns, and etc.

Align Southern Indiana hosted an open house in Floyd County on June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023. After hearing from residents, the group has expressed goals of extending the Ohio River Greenway to Caesar's Casino in Harrison County, assisting in the completion of the South Monon Freedom Trail, connect neighborhoods of New Albany with the South Monon Freedom trail, connect Greenville to Huber's Winery and the Knobstone Trail at Deam Lake, and connecting Greenville and Georgetown via trails to the New Albany downtown and Ohio River Greenway.

## **Man-Made, Historical and Cultural Amenities**

### **Historic Context**

One of the smallest counties in the State of Indiana, Floyd County was one of the first areas to be settled in the late 1700s. The City of New Albany was platted in 1813 and named after Albany in the state of New York. The existing Buffalo Trail was a main transportation link. Buffalo Trail was a Native American trail that was used by the settlers to move inland into Floyd County. The actual trail stretched from New Albany to Vincennes.

The County owns two properties that have some historic significance. The Oakes House is a two-acre tract in the Galena community which was donated to the County for public use in 2011. The property was then renovated and opened as a digital branch of the Floyd County Public Library system. The second property is the Sam Peden Community Park and adjoining 4H Fairgrounds complex. These two properties are unique in its past use as a County Poor Farm Complex that has been re-adaptively reused over the past 40 years.

In terms of the unincorporated areas of the County, Floyd County's Historic Properties inventory indicates the county has approximately 82 properties in the unincorporated portions of the county which have been measured as having some degree of historic significant. Additionally, Floyd County also has two historic/scenic by-ways that pass through the community.

Within the incorporated areas, the City of New Albany has a rich inventory of historic homes and buildings located within its downtown area protected by several historic districts. Many of the buildings in the central business district are Italianate and Federal buildings, with Victorian and Renaissance Revival styles also present.

### **Cultural Amenities**

The community has several cultural amenities in the renovated Carnegie Center for Art and History. The Floyd County Library in New Albany hosts several art and historical exhibits throughout the year. One of the permanent exhibits since 2015 is the Yenawine Exhibit, a series of hand carved, animated diorama depicting scenes from early life in Indiana.

Additionally, the Floyd County Library also host several exhibits ranging from model trains to quilting exhibits for the general public. In terms of historic significance, the Culbertson Mansion, a Victorian mansion named for one of the leading Indiana business leaders of the time, William Culbertson is open to the public throughout the year. The Scribner House built by one of New Albany's founders, Joel Scribner, contains artifacts from New Albany's founding family. It is operated by the Piankeshaw Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

### **Festivals**

Honored by the Library of Congress Bicentennial Local Legacies Project in 2000, Harvest Homecoming, a festival drawing hundreds of thousands of visitors to New Albany, Indiana, has been thriving and growing for over 50 years. It was conceived in 1967 as a means of bringing the people of southern Indiana together to share in its wealth of talent, historic background and beauty.

Over 300 booths line the streets of downtown New Albany during the last four days of the festival which is held in early October. A separate Juried Art Show section was added in 2000 and the festival has included other events such as a pumpkin launching contest, a movie night, a beauty pageant, a parade, a haunted house, carnival rides, and live music. It is estimated that over half a million people visit the booth area, which encompasses seven city blocks and featuring crafts, and games. Many charitable organizations, churches and civic groups are able to raise enough money during booth days to support outreach programs year-round.

The County Parks system is an active participant in the community. The County facilities have been used to conduct numerous non-profit programs like 5K runs, Harvest Homecoming events, and other unique community-based activities.

The parks department has also been involved in being a community partner with organizations like Floyd County 4H, New Albany Clean and Green, New Albany Little League, Highlander Youth Little League, Southern Indiana Soccer, and Union Volleyball. These partnerships range from shared facilities for practice and events to hosting programs for the public at the County Parks facilities.

#### **Other Recreational and Cultural Activities**

Floyd County is located between numerous nearby recreational resources in Indiana to the west and Louisville across the river to the east. These include forests such as:

- Harrison-Crawford State Forest
- Jackson-Washington State Forest
- Hoosier National Forest
- Clark State Forest
- Charlestown State Park

All of these areas have a variety of recreational opportunities including swimming, boating, fishing, playgrounds, horseback riding trails, camping and hiking.

Within New Albany are the

- New Albany Amphitheater and Overlook
- Blinford Park
- Silver Street Park
- Fairmont Park, Bicknell Park
- Sertoma Park

- NA River Run Family Water Park
- Anderson Baseball Park
- Falling Run Baseball Park
- Cannon Acres Youth Sports Complex

Southern Indiana has numerous limestone caves. Marengo Cave and Squire Boone Caverns offer regular tours. In addition, there are local groups which explore numerous private caverns throughout the area. There are two major lakes in southern Indiana near Floyd County which provide recreational activity. These are Patoka Lake and Lake Monroe.

There are numerous public and private golf courses in the area including:

- Valley View Golf Club – Floyds Knobs
- Cherry Valley Golf Course – New Albany
- New Albany Golf Course – New Albany
- Wooded View Golf Course – Clarksville
- Elk Run Golf Club – Jeffersonville
- Hidden Creek Golf Club – Sellersburg
- Speed Golf Course – Sellersburg
- Covered Bridge Golf Club – Sellersburg
- Chariot Run Golf Course - Elizabeth
- Cherokee Golf Course – Louisville
- Seneca Golf Course – Louisville
- Crescent Hill Golf Course – Louisville
- Different Strokes Golf Center – Louisville
- Big Spring Country Club – Louisville
- Audubon Country Club – Louisville
- Iroquois Golf Course – Louisville
- Top Golf - Louisville



Within the county, there are several private recreational areas. Mt. St. Francis features multiple hiking trails, a nature preservation effort, a lake, and hosts religious retreats. The Georgetown Drive-in movie theater has two screens, each typically showing two movies per night, and a concession stand stocked with snacks.

In addition to the areas mentioned above, there are two areas of special natural interest in the area:

- The Bernheim Forest in Louisville is the legacy of an influential physician, the area features extensive landscaping, native trees, etc. as well as acres of natural woodland with trails and roadways carefully located to avoid intruding on the natural beauty of the area.
- Closer to New Albany is the Falls of the Ohio State Park. This area features an interpretive center and opportunities to understand and see the fossils in the Falls which date into the millennia.
- Finally, recreational opportunities in Louisville include: a state-of-the-art skate park; the Louisville Zoo; Fourth Street Live; University of Louisville athletics; the KFC YUM! Stadium; the Kentucky Center for the Performing Arts; the Waterfront Park and Waterfront Botanical Gardens; the Olmstead Park System; the Kentucky Kingdom Amusement Park; and the Kentucky State Fair and Exposition Center.

### **Historical Context of Parks**

In the 1960's, Sam Peden, director of the Floyd County Parks and Recreation Department, worked with planning officials to establish a County Park Board that would be responsible for park development in the county.

The two Parks Boards met once annually in a joint session and held joint jurisdiction over the system's major park, Sam Peden Community Park, and the Camille Wright Pool. In 1994, the separate Parks Boards and Departments were merged into one unit serving all citizens of Floyd County. In 2012, the City of New Albany decided to end the joint board arrangement and the Floyd County Board of Commissioners and County Council established a Floyd County Parks and Recreation Department on November 7, 2012.

# Demographics

## Demographic Profile

The demographic profile of Floyd County provides the parks department, as well as the parks board, vital characteristics of the community they serve and give insight into who is using the parks and what type of facilities and programming to offer as a result.

The data used for the demographics section is derived from the US Census Bureau and demography maps are compiled using ArcGIS Pro to assist with analyzing data spatially.

## Population, Age, Sex, and Race

In 2022, Floyd County had a population of 80,191 (74,601 in 2012) residing in five different townships: Franklin, Georgetown, Greenville, Lafayette, and New Albany. Floyd County is divided into four local units of government; each with the opportunity to establish their own land use policies. The City of New Albany is the county’s largest municipality with a population of 37,598 people (36,450 in 2012). The second largest municipality, the Town of Georgetown, has a population of 3,749 (2,894 in 2012) while the Town of Greenville has a population of 1,484 (626 in 2012) residents. Floyd County makes up one of five Indiana counties in the Louisville Metropolitan Statistical Area, which has a total population of 1.3 million, with Floyd County making up 6.25 percent of that.

From 2012 to 2022, the county as a whole has grown by 5,590 residents or 7.5 percent. The City of New Albany grew by 1,148 residents or 3.1 percent, the Town of Georgetown grew by 855 residents or 29.5 percent, the Town of Greenville grew by 858 residents or 137.1 percent, and the unincorporated areas of the county has grown by 2,729 residents or 7.9 percent. During this same period the Louisville Metro Area decreased in population by 0.1 percent, and Clark County Increased by 10.3 percent.

The median age for the county as a whole is 39.8 years of age, marginally higher than the state of Indiana’s median age of 38.2. Floyd County’s Median age is roughly equivalent to Clark County, which has a median age of 40 years, but is older than the median age for the Louisville

MSA with a 36.2 median age. Since 2012, the median age of the county has consistently been between 39 and 40 years old.

25 percent of the county population are under the age of 20 and 18.8 percent are aged 20-34. The largest age group is between the ages of 35-64, totaling 39.4 percent of the population. The remaining 16.7 percent are 65 and over.

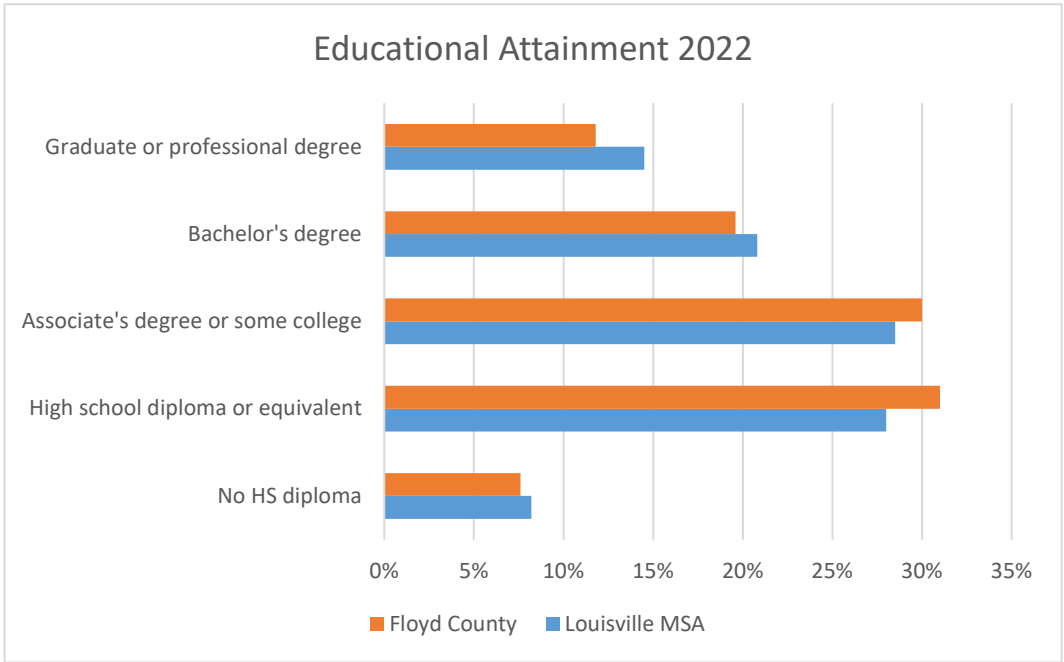
Floyd County is nearly split in terms of sex. The population is 48.9 percent male and 51.1 percent female. This distribution of sex is similar to the state at 49.6 percent male and 50.4 percent female.

As of 2022, 88 percent of Floyd County's population was white, compared to the state of Indiana at 77.5 percent. While the Black or African-American population was the largest minority group within the county at 5 percent. Within the Louisville MSA, 72.7 percent of the population was white, with the largest minority group at 14.8 percent for African-Americans, and a distant third largest population of 2.5 Asian-Americans.

Education

In 2022, there were 55,456 people in Floyd County aged 25 and over. From 2014 to 2022, the county has become better educated as a whole. The percent of people without a high school diploma or equivalent has decreased from 11.6% to 7.6%, the percent of people with only a high school diploma or equivalent has decreased from 33.4% to 31%, the percent of people with some college or an associate’s degree has remained consistent at 30%, the percent of people with a Bachelor’s degree or equivalent certification increased from 16% to 19.6%, and the percent of people with a Graduate degree or equivalent certification has increased from 8.3% to 11.8%.

Floyd County has fewer graduate or professional degrees than the Louisville Metro Area, as well as fewer Bachelor’s degree, but has more Associate’s degree or some college.



Household Type

As of 2022, there are 30,911 total households within Floyd County. Of these households, 64.9 percent are family households. The average household size for the county is 3.2 persons per household, comparable to the state average of 3.1 persons per household. In Floyd County, 29 percent of households are single-person households. Making up the largest number of households are two-person households at 34.8 percent. 15.7 percent are three-person households and 20.5 percent are four or more person households.

Of the total number of households, 15,099 are married-couple households, 1,332 are male householder with no wife present, while 3,616 are female householders with no husband present. There are 9,088 households with children under 18 years of age in Floyd County. Of the households with children under 18 years of age, 5,813 are married-couple family households, 852 are male head of household with children under 18, while 2,452 are female head of household with children under 18.

Income and Poverty

In 2022, the median household income in Floyd County was \$75,686, 13.28 percent higher than the state median household income and 9.15 percent higher than the Louisville Metro area. 29 percent of households within the county have a median income between \$35,000 and \$74,999, While 32.2 percent of households make between \$75,000 and \$149,000 and 18.3 percent earn \$150,000 or more. 14 percent of households make between \$15,000 and \$34,999. In 2022, the percentage of persons living below the poverty level in Floyd County was 9.4 percent, lower than the state poverty rate of 12.3 percent.

## **Housing Stock**

In 2022 there were 34,358 total housing units in Floyd County. Of these housing units, 30,911 units were occupied. Floyd County has a lower occupancy rate compared to the state, 90 percent to the state's 91.6 percent. Of the occupied housing units, 74.4 percent were owner occupied while 25.6 percent were renter occupied. Floyd County has a homeowner vacancy rate of 1.2 percent and a rental vacancy rate of 9.4 percent.

Floyd County has a higher median home value than the state as a whole. The median home value for owner occupied units in the county is \$246,700, compared to the state of Indiana's median home value of \$208,700. This is up 41.3 percent from 2018's median value of \$174,600 for Floyd County, it should be noted that inflation for this same time period was only 16.5 percent. Of the occupied units, 4.3 percent are valued between \$50,000 and \$99,999, 12.8 percent are valued between \$100,000 and \$149,999, 17.3 percent are valued between \$150,000 and \$199,999 and 27.3 percent are valued between \$200,000 and \$299,999.

Of Floyd County's housing stock, 50.5 percent of it was built before 1980, making it over 40 years old. Another 27.7 percent of the housing stock was built between 1980 and 1999. The last 22 percent was built from 2000-2022.

Since 2012, Floyd County has increased its total number of housing units by 7.47%, from 31,969 to 34,358 in 2022. For comparison, Clark County has grown 10.29% from 47,828 to 52,750, Harrison County has grown 1.84% from 16,450 to 16,752, Jefferson County (Louisville) has grown 5.57% from 337,349 to 356,155, and the State of Indiana has grown 4.81% from 2,797,237 to 2,931,710.

## **Affordability**

In 2022, Floyd County had 17,258 occupied housing units with a mortgage. Of these housing units with mortgages, 60.4 percent of all owners spend less than 20 percent

of their income on monthly household costs vs 58.6 percent for the State. 24.3 percent of owners spend between 20 and 29.9 percent of their income on monthly household expenses vs 21.2 percent for the state, while 15.3 percent spend 30 percent or more on housing costs vs 20.3 percent for the state.

Of the 33,328 occupied units, 8,769 were not owner occupied. Renters were paying a median rent of \$987, compared to the state's median rent of \$972. Renters in Floyd County pay significantly more of their household income in rent compared to homeowners with mortgages. In 2022, 32.7 percent of the total number of renters paid 35 percent or more of their income on rent.

## **Commuting**

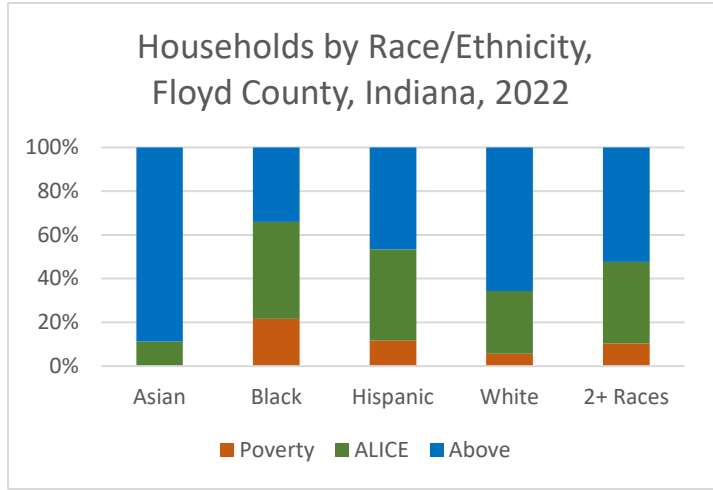
The average time to get to work for a resident of Floyd County is 24.6 minutes, roughly equivalent to the state average of 24.1 minutes. 21 percent of residents commuted less than 15 minutes for work. 49.8 percent of workers commuted between 15 and 29 minutes for work. While the remaining 29.1 percent commute 30 minutes or more for work. Of the working population in Floyd County in 2022, 46.4 percent of the population worked within Floyd County, 23.8 percent in another county within Indiana, while 29.8 percent worked outside of Indiana.

## **Health**

All of these socioeconomic factors play a significant role in determining a community's health. In terms of overall health, Floyd County ranks in the middle of the pack in Indiana at number 45 of 92 counties according to the 2017 County Health Rankings 2017 Report. Floyd County's health strengths are its access to exercise opportunities, education, and access to dental care. While Floyd County struggles with physical inactivity and air pollution particulate matter.

ALICE – Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed

ALICE is an acronym for Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed — households that earn more than the Federal Poverty Level, but less than the basic cost of living for the county. While conditions have improved for some households, many continue to struggle, especially as wages fail to keep pace with the rising cost of household essentials (housing, child care, food, transportation, health care, and a basic smartphone plan). Households below the ALICE Threshold — ALICE households plus those in poverty — can’t afford the essentials.



United for ALICE indicates that 27% of households in Floyd County are ALICE households, which matches the State average. However, some groups are more likely to be ALICE households than others within Floyd County.

Name	Total Households	% Below ALICE Threshold
Franklin township, Floyd County, Indiana	597	35
Georgetown township, Floyd County, Indiana	3894	22
Greenville township, Floyd County, Indiana	2627	22
Lafayette township, Floyd County, Indiana	2931	14
New Albany township, Floyd County, Indiana	20862	45

Conclusions

Highlights from Floyd County’s demographic analysis:

- Floyd County has fewer degrees than the state and metro averages.
- Floyd County is older than State and Metro averages
- Floyd County is more affluent than State and Metro averages
- Floyd County homes are more expensive and have a lower occupancy rate than the state and metro averages. Renters pay significantly more of their household income on rent than homeowners do on mortgages.
- Floyd County is growing slower than Clark County, but faster than the Metro area and faster than the state as a whole.
- The Townships of Franklin and New Albany have higher percentages of population below the ALICE threshold than the state and county average.

For Floyd County Parks and Recreation, the demographic data illustrates a snapshot of the population of Floyd County. It can be described as predominately white, older, and more affluent in comparison to the State as a whole and has some college education. Renters in the community may face financial struggles.

With this data, the Parks and Recreation department should be able to create recreational programming to fit the overall demographic of the community and focus energy also on underserved portions of the population as well.

Costs paid by citizens for events and programming, including access and gear, should be given extra consideration for households in Franklin and New Albany Township.

# Facility Inventory and Programming Assessment

## Existing Facilities Conditions

Seven parks and two special use facilities are under the direct jurisdiction of the Floyd County Parks Board. In July 2018, Kevin Hammersmith Memorial Park officially opened as the newest park in the County Parks System. Containing state of the art amenities, Kevin Hammersmith Memorial Park houses ballfields for the New Albany Little League, basketball courts, amphitheater, walking trail, and shelter houses.

The purpose of this section is to document existing Parks and Recreation administration, facilities, and programs in New Albany and Floyd County. The area has 405 acres of parks. The Floyd County Park system is composed of three classifications of parks. These are community, neighborhood, and special. The classification of Floyd County's parks is generally based on the NRPA standards.

While none of the parks fit the NRPA's categories precisely, the system is an excellent basis on which to evaluate existing parks and future needs. Floyd County's parks are functionally defined as follows:

**Community Parks:** By NRPA standards these parks should encompass 10 to 75 acres and serve as a supplement to smaller neighborhood parks. Community parks, by NRPA standards, offer such activities as swimming, lighted ball fields, tennis courts, and are located on or near a major thoroughfare. Cultural and indoor recreation facilities may also be located on community parks.

The Floyd County Parks System has six parks that are located on major thoroughfares and generally meet the size criteria for parks that typically serve people throughout the community and are over ten acres in size. The Floyd County parks that meet Community Park classification are:

- Garry E. Cavan Park
- Galena-Lamb Park
- Greenville Park

- Letty Walter Park
- Sam Peden Community Park
- Kevin Hammersmith Memorial Park

**Neighborhood Parks:** These parks by NRPA standards are less than 10 acres in area and serve a walking population. These parks serve a radius of ½ mile and generally 1,000 to 5,000 populations. These parks serve all age groups with playgrounds, ball fields, shelters, table, benches, and picnic areas. The Floyd County Park that meets Neighborhood Park classification is:

- Herman Collier Park

**Special Use/Special Purpose Parks:** Floyd County has two facilities that have been identified as having a special purpose or use:

- Southern Indiana Sports Center
- Campbell Woodland Nature Trails

### **Management and Budgetary Summary**

The Floyd County Parks and Recreation Department has three budgets:

- Parks Department General Budget
- Parks Department Non-Reverting Operating Fund
- Parks Department Non-Reverting Capital Fund

With the Floyd County Parks and Recreation Department only coming into existence in 2013, prior budget analyzation is limited. However, over the past five years budgets have been relatively consistent.

### **Parks Department Activities Programming**

The parks department has a variety of programming available at several county parks. The Southern Indiana Sports Center offers open gym hours, cardio and weight training equipment, recreational league volleyball and basketball, as well as other opportunities for sports such as Pickleball.

Other parks programming includes working with local schools and recreational organizations to schedule events at facilities.

### **Park Facility Analysis**

Several communities throughout the United States measure the level of service being provided by the adopting the park facility level of service standards set forth by the National Recreation and Park Association.

This national association recommends a series of classification standards and level of service measurements for outdoor activities based on population. In addition to this service measurement standards scheme, the association also employs a classification system includes a hierarchy of park and recreation facilities based on an area to population ratio and a theoretically bounded service area, ranging from small neighborhood facilities to large regional parks.

### **Recreational Facilities Standards Analysis**

Using the National Parks and Recreation guidelines for park facilities analysis, a matrix has been created to analysis the current park facilities versus the national parks and recreation standards for certain facilities. The following matrix determined the national standard for those activities that are present within the Floyd County Parks System



Table IV.3 National Recreation and Parks Association Level of Service

National Recreation and Parks Association				
Level of Service Matrix				
Recreational Facilities	Current LOS Parks Department	Community LOS	NRPA LOS Projection 2020	NPRA Parks LOS Facilities Projected 2020
Basketball Courts	9.5	18	15	+3
Tennis Courts	7	41	39	+2
Volleyball Courts	7	22	15	+7
Baseball/Softball Fields	4**	17	15**	+2**
Football Fields	2	2	4	0
Soccer Fields	6	12	8	+4
Golf Course	0	36 holes	18 holes	+18 holes
Swimming Pools	0	4	4	0
Trails/Paths	3	4	1	+3

Floyd County is designated as a “Critical County” under Indiana’s Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP), meaning it falls short of the recommended supply of outdoor recreation land. SCORP recommends at least 55 acres of outdoor recreation space per 1,000 residents. Based on Floyd County’s 2018 population of 77,781, the target acreage would be approximately 4,278 acres. However, the county only offers 2,997 acres, highlighting a significant shortfall in recreational land.

## **Accessibility and Universal Design**

### **Statement of Accessibility**

Floyd County intends to complete a full ADA self-evaluation and transition plan for our park system in the next 2 years, and begin implementation as opportunities, time and budget permit.

Effective communication is essential to address all the complaints or concerns of all individuals. In order to maintain lines of communication and thereby ensuring effective communication between all parties, Floyd County has designed the County Infrastructure Coordinator as being the ADA Coordinator.

The ADA Coordinator shall coordinate the County's efforts to comply with and carry out its responsibilities under Title II of the ADA, including any investigation of any complaint communicated to the ADA coordinator. Such complaints may take the form of alleging noncompliance with the ADA mandates or alleging any action that would be prohibited under the ADA. The County shall make available to all interested individuals the name, office address, and telephone number of the employee(s) so designated and shall adopt and publish procedures for the prompt and equitable resolution of complaints. Every complaint must be directed in the writing to the ADA Coordinator.

The Grievance Procedure established below is intended to adhere to the standards outlined in the ADA. The procedure must be used by anyone who wishes to file a complaint alleging discrimination on the basis of disability in the provisions of services, programs, or benefits provided by Floyd County.

The complaint should be in writing and contain the information about the alleged discrimination such as name, address, phone number for the complaint and location, date, and description of the problem. Grievance forms must be used to log complaints.

Alternative means of filing complaints, such as personal interviews or recording of the complaint will be made available for persons with disabilities upon request. The complaint should be submitted by the grievant and/or his/her designee as soon as possible but no later than 180 calendar days after the alleged violation.

Within 15 calendar days after the receipt of the complaint, ADA Coordinator or his/her designee will meet with the complainant to discuss the complaint and the possible resolutions. Within 15 calendar days of the meeting, ADA Coordinator or [his/her] designee will respond in writing, and where appropriate, in a format accessible to the complainant, such as large prints, Braille, or audio tape. The respondent will explain the position of Floyd County and offer options for substantive resolution of the complaint.

If the response by ADA Coordinator or his/her designee does not satisfactorily resolve the issue, the complainant and/or his/her designee may appeal the decision within 15 calendar days after receipt of the response to the ADA Coordinator or his/her designee.

Within 15 calendar days after the receipt of the appeal, the ADA Coordinator or his/her designee will meet again with the complainant to discuss the complaint and possible resolutions. Within 15 calendar days after the meeting, the ADA Coordinator or [his/her] designee will

respond in writing, and where appropriate, in a format accessible to the complainant, with a final resolution of the complaint.

All written complaints received by the ADA Coordinator or his/her designee, appeals to the ADA Coordinator or his/her designee, and responses from these two offices will be retained by Floyd County for at least three years.

### **Current Accessibility**

The Department of Parks and Recreation has adopted the ADA Self-Assessment document as part of its action plan. Through this action plan, an implementation schedule and funding sources will be identified to correcting the ADA compliance issues detailed in the self-assessment.

### **System Wide Improvements**

1. Restrooms: All of the County Park Facilities are in need of upgraded, ADA accessible restrooms.
2. Parking: Provided designated spaces as required.
3. Signage: Improve accessibility signage throughout the system as needed.
4. Pathways: Improve accessible pathways from parking lots to tennis courts, basketball courts, and shelter houses.
5. Provide recessed ramp into at least one tennis court.
6. Continue measures to make all parks accessible.
7. Transportation: Provide accessible transportation to off-site locations.
8. Provide TDD accesses.
9. Communicate to agencies that service handicapped that programs are available,

10. Assist in any way possible to allow handicapped individuals to participate, such as helping visually impaired fill out forms.
11. Adapt programs as much as possible to allow participation by handicapped individuals.
12. Provide large print information.

### Transportation Concerns

Given the rural to semi-rural nature of the properties surrounding many of the County Parks, access is often limited to car transportation. To this end, each parking lot for the parks are designed in adherence with ADA compliance.

The following TARC bus stops provide access to or near the following Parks:

- Grant Line @ Hausfeldt Lane. A 13-minute sidewalk walk to the Southern Indiana Sports Center. (There are two additional bus stops at Indiana University Southeast which may be further, but more comfortable to traverse.)
- Grant Line @ McDonald. Located at Sam Peden Community Park.

This is limited since there are only 13 TARC stops within Floyd County, but TARC is currently providing a ride-share service within New Albany. The ride-share is used to connect individuals to the larger bus route.

### ADA Public Notice

Signage is located near the inclusive playground and splash pad at Kevin Hammersmith Memorial Park which includes ADA information. Additional ADA amenities are highlighted on the Parks and Recreation website and social media channels

### Floyd County ADA Transition Plan

In 2022, Floyd County passed the ADA Transition Plan update, which is included in the Appendix of this Plan for reference. Set to be updated every five years, it includes a commitment to an annual sidewalk repair program, a commitment of \$33,000 per year for the sole purpose of installing new curb ramps and reconstructing existing ramps, and identified 132 sidewalk intersections as focus areas.

The following subdivisions located near County Parks have been identified among the ADA Focus Area Intersections:

- The Woodbridge Farm subdivision, E of Garry E Cavan Park.
- The Cherry Grove subdivision, SW of Garry E Cavan Park.
- Glenwood Springs subdivision, W of Herman Collier Park.
- Crestview Estates subdivision, W of Herman Collier Park.
- Jefferson Gardens subdivision, SE of Herman Collier Park.
- Chapel View Estates subdivision, E of Herman Collier Park.
- Glenbrook subdivision, NW of Kevin Hammersmith M. Park.
- Highland Oaks subdivision, N of Kevin Hammersmith M. Park.

# Community Needs Assessment

## Public Participation

The Floyd County Parks and Recreation Department employed several participation methods to ensure public input in the planning process. The department conducted a community-based online survey and held several public input meetings, pictures of one of which—held at Novaparke—is included in the Appendix of this plan.

## Survey

An online survey conducted through Survey Monkey was used to collect public input regarding satisfaction levels with each park as well as areas of improvement and facilities/programs they would like to see in the future. The survey was approved by the Parks Board on June 1<sup>st</sup> and lasted until August 30<sup>th</sup>. The survey was shared to county municipal employees, to most of the churches active in the county, to each school principal, to each school’s Parent Teacher Organization, to many sport and community groups that use the parks, on various Facebook community pages, to various IUS professors, at the Georgetown town hall, and on the Parks and Recreation and Floyd County websites. Flyers with the survey’s QR code were handed out physically at several parks on multiple occasions and the QR code was placed on signs throughout the parks and facilities.

### Survey Conclusion

The online survey received **269** responses (compared to 155 in 2018).

When asked what park they visited the most, 82 respondents favored Kevin Hammersmith Memorial Park and 80 respondents favored Sam Peden Community Park. The parks that received the fewest responses for most visits were Herman Collier Park and Campbell Woodland Nature Trails each with 3 responses.

When asked what other parks they visit in the County, several county parks made it towards the top of the list, though 39 respondents left the answer blank and another 20 responded that they didn't visit additional parks. These respondents most closely match the distribution of the 'Parks that Respondents Visit' graph when answering for their most visited park.

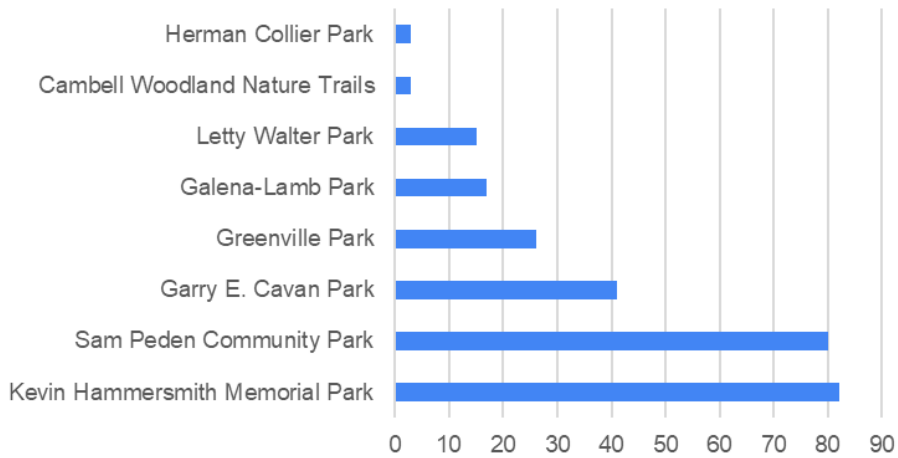
33 respondents listed New Albany Parks, 16 respondents listed the Ohio River Greenway, 10 respondents listed Mount Saint Francis, 7 respondents listed that they visit all of the parks, 6 respondents listed parks in Georgetown.

When adding the parks that are most visited with the count of other parks visited, we see that Sam Peden is by far the most visited park with 165 respondents.

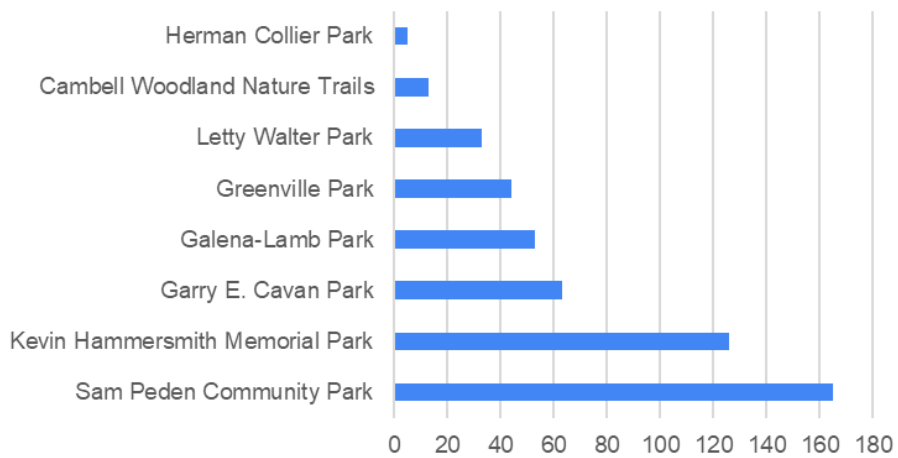
Which park do you visit the most?	Most Visit	Also Visit	Total
Sam Peden Community Park	80	85	165
Kevin Hammersmith Memorial Park	82	44	126
Garry E. Cavan Park	41	22	63
Galena-Lamb Park	17	36	53
Greenville Park	26	18	44
Letty Walter Park	15	18	33
Cambell Woodland Nature Trails	3	10	13
Herman Collier Park	3	2	5

What other parks do you visit in the County?	Count
Sam Peden Community Park	85
Kevin Hammersmith Memorial Park	44
Blank	39
Galena-Lamb Park	36
New Albany Park(s)	33
Garry E. Cavan Park	22
None	20
Letty Walter Park	18
Greenville Park	18
Ohio River Greenway	16
Cambell Woodland Nature Trails	10
Mount Saint Francis	10
All of them.	7
Southern Indiana Sports Center	6
Clark County Park(s)	5
Ashley Mariah Memorial Park	3
Georgetown Park	3
Seldom visit any of the parks.	2
Louisville Park(s)	2
Herman Collier	2
Any with fish	1
Unidentified Park	1
Don't Know Park Names	1
Patoka Lake	1
Parks with Trails.	1
Harrison County Park(s)	1
Grand Total	387

Parks that Respondents MOST Visit



Parks that Respondents visit



Satisfaction Question Responses

When asked ‘How Satisfied are you with the experience at your most visited park?’ respondents were most satisfied on average with Kevin Hammersmith Memorial Park and least satisfied on average with Letty Walter Park.

How satisfied are you with the experience at your most visited park?	Kevin Hammersmith Memorial Park	Cambell Woodland Nature Trails	Herman Collier Park	Garry E. Cavan Park	Galena-Lamb Park	Sam Peden Community Park	Greenville Park	Letty Walter Park	Grand Total
Dissatisfied (1)						<div><div></div></div> 6	<div><div></div></div> 1	<div><div></div></div> 2	<div><div></div></div> 10
OK (2)	<div><div></div></div> 10		<div><div></div></div> 1	<div><div></div></div> 12	<div><div></div></div> 5	<div><div></div></div> 20	<div><div></div></div> 11	<div><div></div></div> 5	<div><div></div></div> 64
Satisfied (3)	<div><div></div></div> 28	<div><div></div></div> 3	<div><div></div></div> 1	<div><div></div></div> 19	<div><div></div></div> 10	<div><div></div></div> 37	<div><div></div></div> 10	<div><div></div></div> 6	<div><div></div></div> 114
Very Satisfied (4)	<div><div></div></div> 43		<div><div></div></div> 1	<div><div></div></div> 10	<div><div></div></div> 2	<div><div></div></div> 17	<div><div></div></div> 4	<div><div></div></div> 2	<div><div></div></div> 79
Total	81	3	3	41	17	80	26	15	267
Average Rating	3.41	3.00	3.00	2.95	2.82	2.81	2.65	2.53	2.98

When asked ‘How satisfied are you with the cleanliness and maintenance of your most visited park?’ respondents were most satisfied on average with Kevin Hammersmith Memorial Park and least satisfied on average with Sam Peden Community Park.

How satisfied are you with the cleanliness and maintenance of your most visited park?	Kevin Hammersmith Memorial Park	Garry E. Cavan Park	Letty Walter Park	Cambell Woodland Nature Trails	Herman Collier Park	Galena-Lamb Park	Greenville Park	Sam Peden Community Park	Grand Total
Dissatisfied (1)	<div><div></div></div> 1	<div><div></div></div> 2	<div><div></div></div> 1				<div><div></div></div> 1	<div><div></div></div> 5	<div><div></div></div> 10
OK (2)	<div><div></div></div> 8	<div><div></div></div> 8	<div><div></div></div> 4		<div><div></div></div> 1	<div><div></div></div> 5	<div><div></div></div> 6	<div><div></div></div> 26	<div><div></div></div> 58
Satisfied (3)	<div><div></div></div> 20	<div><div></div></div> 15	<div><div></div></div> 4	<div><div></div></div> 3	<div><div></div></div> 1	<div><div></div></div> 8	<div><div></div></div> 13	<div><div></div></div> 32	<div><div></div></div> 96
Very Satisfied (4)	<div><div></div></div> 53	<div><div></div></div> 16	<div><div></div></div> 6		<div><div></div></div> 1	<div><div></div></div> 4	<div><div></div></div> 6	<div><div></div></div> 16	<div><div></div></div> 102
Total	82	41	15	3	3	17	26	79	266
Average Rating	3.52	3.10	3.00	3.00	3.00	2.94	2.92	2.75	3.09

### Individual Park Survey Results

Respondents were asked what activities they enjoyed at their favorite park and what improvements they desired for that park. If someone responded that they liked both the trails and the scenery, then their answers would appear in the following frequency tables once under Trails and once under scenery.

#### Campbell Woodland Nature Trails

The three (3) respondents that claimed Campbell Woodland Nature Trails as their most visited park identified Trails (3) and Scenery (1) as Activities or Amenities that they enjoyed.

When asked about their desired improvements, respondents requested More Trails (2) and Lighting (1).

#### Galena-Lamb Park

The seventeen (17) respondents that claimed Galena-Lamb Park as their most visited park identified the Playgrounds (12) and the Trails (8), and Soccer (3) as Activities or Amenities that they most enjoyed.

When asked about their desired improvements, respondents most requested Maintenance of the Soccer Field (3) which had recently been torn up by a vehicle, had No Answer (3), and requested a Splash Pad/Swim Area (2).

Activities Enjoyed	Count
Trails	3
Scenery	1

Desired Improvements	Count
More Trails	2
Lights	1

Activities Enjoyed	Count
Playground- slides	12
Trails/Walking	8
Soccer	3
Basketball	1
Events	1
No Answer	1
Picnicking	1
Quiet	1
Trees	1

Desired Improvements	Count
Maintenance of soccer field	3
No Answer	3
Splash Pad/Swim area	2
Bathroom Hours	1
Better Playground	1
It's nice enough	1
More activities	1
More art/scenery	1
More for toddlers	1
More Trails	1
Pickleball Courts	1
Tennis Court	1



**Garry E. Cavan Park**

The forty-one (41) respondents that claimed Garry E. Cavan Park as their most visited park identified the Trails/Walking (19), Disc Golf (11), Pickleball (8), the Playground (8), the Shelter/Barn (6), and Tennis (6) as Activities or Amenities that they most enjoyed.

When asked about their desired improvements, respondents most requested Pickleball Courts or Striping (11), More Trails (6), or had No Answer (5).

Activities Enjoyed	Count
Trails/Walking	19
Disc Golf	11
Pickleball	8
Playground	8
Shelter/Barn	6
Tennis	6
Basketball	3
Dog Walking	3
Events	1
No Answer	1
Soccer	1
Stargazing	1

Desired Improvements	Count		
Pickleball Courts or Striping	11	Trash Pickup	2
More trails	6	Activities/Obstacle Courses	1
No Answer	5	Benches	1
Better Playground	3	Better lighting	1
Pickleball/Tennis- Maintenance & Windbreak	3	Dog Park	1
Sidewalk/Path to Tennis Court	3	Fans in shelter house	1
Treat for bugs (yellow jackets, mosquitos)	3	Later park hours for star gazing	1
Water park	3	Maintained Sports Field	1
Bathrooms - maintenance	2	Maintenance shed security	1
Cut Grass near shelter house for weekends	2	More character	1
More Trees	2	Shade	1
NALL needs own entrance and lot	2	Splash Pad	1
None	2		

**Greenville Park**

The twenty-six (26) respondents that claimed Greenville Park as their most visited park identified the Playground (8), the Creek (7) and Basketball (3) as Activities or Amenities that they most enjoyed.

When asked about their desired improvements, respondents most requested an Improved Playground (7), a Splash pad (4), had No Answer (3), or requested Trails (3).

Activities Enjoyed	Count
Playground	8
Creek	7
Basketball	3
Pickleball	2
Tennis	2
Walking	2
Picnic Tables	1
Swings	1

Desired Improvements	Count		
Improved Playground	7	Remove Debris	2
Splashpad	4	Add bases to baseball diamond	1
No Answer	3	Dog park	1
Trails- Biking, paved, maintained	3	Managed Meadow	1
Bathroom	2	Natural Playground	1
Community Events	2	None	1
Improved Safety	2	Pickleball	1
Improved swing area - near playground	2	Shade	1
Remove Baseball field	2	Soccer	1

**Herman Collier Park**

The three (3) respondents that claimed Herman Collier Park as their most visited park identified Basketball, Concerts, Taking their Dogs, the close Location, and the Swing as Activities or Amenities that they most enjoyed.

When asked about their desired improvements, respondents most requested adding a Jungle Gym, More Space, Pickleball, and either Resurfacing or Removing the Basketball Court.

Activities Enjoyed	Count
Basketball	1
Concert	1
Dogs	1
Location	1
Swing	1

Desired Improvements	Count
Add a Jungle Gym	1
More Space	1
Pickleball	1
Remove Basketball Courts	1
Resurfaced Basketball Cort	1

**Kevin Hammersmith Memorial Park**

The eighty-two (82) respondents that claimed Kevin Hammersmith Memorial Park as their most visited park identified the Gated Playground (50), the Splash Pad (37), the Trail (29), and Basketball (10) as Activities or Amenities that they most enjoyed.

When asked about their desired improvements, respondents most requested No Improvement (12) or had No Answer (14).

Activities Enjoyed	Count
Gated Playground	50
Splash pad	37
Trail - paved	29
Basketball	10
Baseball	5
Covered Picnic Area	5
Concerts	5
Story Walk	3
All inclusive park	2
Proximity	2
Restroom	2
Jazzercise	1
Obstacle Course	1
Pavilions	1

Desired Improvements	Count		
None Needed	12	Community Gardens	1
No answer	14	Connect Splashpad and Playground	1
Playground maintenance issue	5	Fence for splash pad	1
Longer Splash Pad Hours	4	Fenced in day play area	1
More Bathroom Availability	4	Fewer invasive species	1
More Parking (over scheduled)	4	Free Wifi near Concert Stage	1
More Shade	4	Less little league control	1
Path flooding/maintenance	4	Longer walking Path	1
Pickleball	4	More family events	1
Fenced soccer goals	3	More outreach to the City	1
Waterfountain availability/locations	3	Pool	1
Community Connected trails	2	Refreshments	1
Control older kids climbing on slides	2	Revamped splash pad	1
More "No Smoking" signs or areas	2	Running Trail	1
Volleyball courts	2	Security - Kids carrying guns	1
Basketball rim needs repaired	1	Something for Tweens (not basketball)	1
Benches along trail	1	Trail safety- Lighting/phones	1
Better seating for Concert Stage	1	Want Trash Can inside of playground	1
Bigger	1	Rock Climbing	1
Changing out Story Walk	1	Skate Park	1

### Letty Walter Park

The fifteen (15) respondents that claimed Letty Walter Park as their most visited park identified the Playground (8), the Creek (7), the Basketball (3), Pickleball (2), Tennis (2), and Walking (2) as Activities or Amenities that they most enjoyed.

When asked about their desired improvements, respondents most requested a Larger Playground (4), Better Pickleball (3), New Bathrooms (2), Shade Trees (2), and a Water Fountain (2).

### Sam Peden Community Park

The eighty (80) respondents that claimed Sam Peden Community Park as their most visited park identified the Trails (55), Pickleball (18), Wildlife Watching (10), and Scenery (8) as Activities or Amenities that they most enjoyed.

When asked about their desired improvements, respondents most requested Cleaning up Goose Droppings (13), Goose Control (9), and Bathroom Cleanliness (8).

Activities Enjoyed	Count
Playground	8
Creek	7
Basketball	3
Pickleball	2
Tennis	2
Walking	2
Picnic Tables	1
Swings	1

Activities Enjoyed	Count
Trails	55
Pickleball	18
Wildlife watching	10
Scenery/tree shade	8
Playgrounds	6
Tennis	6
Pet friendly	5
Fishing	4
Biking	3
No answer	3
Picknicking	3
Basketball	2
Pokeman Go	2
Activities	1
Canoeing	1
Concert	1
General sports	1
Horseshoe	1
Kiting	1
Nojeball	1
Rucking	1
Shelters	1
Soccer	1
Watching grandkids	1

Desired Improvements	Count		
Larger Playground	4	Natural Playground	1
Pickleball/pickleball improvement	3	New Shelter House	1
New/better Bathrooms	2	No Answer	1
Shade Trees	2	Picnic Tables	1
Water fountain	2	Adult Benches near creek and playground	1
Baseball Fields	1	Water Activities	1
Lights on tennis courts	1		
More Amenities	1		

Desired Improvements	Count		
Goose droppings cleanup	13	Allowing everyone on the tennis courts	1
Geese Control	9	Back gate access	1
Bathroom cleanliness	8	Beer Garden	1
More pickleball	7	Better access to shelter house	1
More Trees/Shade	6	Better drainage so water doesnt pool	1
Bathrooms Accessibility- ADA or Hours	5	Distance Markers on trails/paths	1
Fishery efforts	5	Erosion	1
Disc Golf	4	Holiday Events	1
Dog park- 6-8' fence/free	4	Horse Trails	1
Improved/more playground	4	Horseshoe maintenance	1
Archery Range	3	Kid friendly activity near Pickleball court	1
Island Cleanup and Access	3	Lake Fence	1
Community Garden	3	Leave the lake alone to attract waterfowl	1
None	4	Meaningful Artistic Structures	1
Swimming	3	More Events like Movies in the park	1
Beautification	2	More Restrooms	1
Beginner Disc Golf Course	2	Signs to not feed waterfowl	1
Better/more picnic tables	2	More Trash cans	1
Bird Watching areas	2	Outdoor Gym/workout area	1
Flower box maintenance (more native	2	Paved forest trails	1
Level/permanent Pickleball Court	2	Petting Zoo	1
More Free Concerts	2	Soccer	1
More Trails	2	Softer pavement	1
No answer	8	Splash Pad	1
Safety	2	Trash cleanup	1
Wider paved trails	2	Uneven green space	1
Access to Pickleball Courts	1	Upgrade shelter with kitchen for events	1

**Public Forums**

There were Three (3) Stakeholder meetings and Six (6) public input meetings

**May 14th from 4-5:30pm at the Pine View Government Center**

Elected Officials Stakeholder Meeting with planning staff. Included:  
Mr. Schellenberger, Mr. Striegle, Ms. Konkle, and Mr. Knable.

Identified goals were dog parks, Letty Walter’s bridge erosion, additional trails, disc golf, parking, geese cleanliness in Sam Peden, Cross advertisement between parks, more public events to use as additional funding sources, moving 4-H to Novaparke, and more night/evening activities.

**May 21st from 11am-12pm at the Pine View Government Center**

Foundations stakeholder meeting with SWT and planning staff. This included:  
Linda Speed, J.D., President and CEO, Community Foundation  
Crystal Gunther, Vice President of Community Philanthropy, Community Foundation  
Rudy Spencer, Blue Sky Foundation, Samtec Cares  
Bill White with BZA, IN Members Credit Union, FC Legacy, etc.

The Community Foundation discussed the grants that they have available, detailed later in this plan. The group as a whole discussed connectivity between amenities and the population, the work that ALIGN Southern Indiana did to identify where trails could go, collaborating with universities to perform studies and implement projects, the Sam Shine conservation campus being built in Greenville, the Indiana Natural Heritage Data Center, and the Parks Alliance in Louisville.

**May 28th from 11am-12pm at the Pine View Government Center**

Local Organizations stakeholder meeting with SWT and planning staff. Included:  
Katie Davidson (Purdue), Chris Redden (4-H), Svend Jansen (Little League), Garrett Blackman (FC Cross Country), JC Hyde (Building and Development), Travis Andres (Little League), Jeremy Schumate (Little League), Justin Endres (NA Cross Country), Bud Seidenfaden (Little League), Brian Harvey (Southern Indiana United), Kathleen Ickek (SIU), Rebekah Robinson (SIU)

Much of this discussion revolved around the master plans for Sam Peden Community Park and the New Regional Park which will show up in those plans. A need for trails and multi-use fields was identified, including a need for massive parking lots to host regional events. Most of the organizations present wanted a large chunk of the new regional park dedicated to their use. There may be room for the parks department to help advertise schedules and events for the different organizations.

- June 5th from 4-6pm at St. Mary of the Knobs Gym** Three members of the public
- June 12th from 6-9pm at Novaparke** Eighteen members of the public
- June 19th from 4-7pm at Galena Library** Six members of the public
- June 26th from 2-4pm at Kevin Hammersmith Memorial Park** No members of the public, so we passed around twenty survey flyers to people using the park.
- July 10th from 6-8pm at Herman Collier Park** Three members of the public.
- July 30th from 11am-12pm “Lunch and Learn” at Carnegie Library**
- October 7th from 2-4pm Open House to review Final Draft** One member of the public.
- October 7th 6pm Parks Board meeting to adopt Final Draft** No members of the public.

# Priorities and Recommendations

## Park Board—Parks & Recreation Department—Master Plan Goals

The setting of goals is the most important process in any community planning endeavor. Through the establishment of goals and objectives, a community is setting its priorities and standards. While the planning process is an on-going process, the planning goals help to establish a long-range vision for the community in its relationship to parks and recreation. The development of these goals and the creation of a financially feasible implementation action step are critical to the success of this process.

The Floyd County Master Parks and Recreation Plan is divided into two parts: a set of recommended action items to be undertaken within a five-year period labeled immediate, intermediate and long range. The second part is the creation of a conceptual cost matrix for the implementation cost of these recommended action items. The short-range five-year plan is designed to meet the requirements set forth from the Indiana Department of Natural Resources in terms of the development of an action plan with estimated costs and potential funding sources identified.

## Planning Comments and Recommendations

Floyd County Parks and Recreation Department has a professional staff interested in the betterment of the department and its facilities. The Department does an excellent job of maintenance and general operations of the programming and parks facilities. The staff is also driven to provide the best possible service to the residents of Floyd County.

## Continuing Goals Statement

The statements below represent the goals identified in the Floyd County Parks and Recreation Master Plan prepared in 1975. Included in each park’s plan since 1975, they continue to be applicable today.

1. Continue to **assess** the recreation needs and interests of the community on a **regular basis** so as to guide decisions on how best to meet these needs.
2. Develop a park or playground system that will provide a recreational facility within a reasonable commuting distance of the residents of rural Floyd County.
3. Reserve and/or acquire park space in the growing areas within Floyd County in advance of expected development assuring future residents' accessible open space and protecting significant natural features.
4. Integrate school property and facilities into the park system.
5. Continue to strengthen intergovernmental and interagency relationships to achieve increased cooperation.
6. Prioritize the expansion of parks according to their importance in a particular classification and the difficulty of expansion opportunities. Development of a decision matrix is essential. Give preference to maintenance over expansion when limited resources are available.
7. Pursue park expansion through the development of a park's foundation which will solicit donations and other private/public funds.
8. Accept or acquire new parks only if they are of the desirable size, meet an underserved area or population of the community, and provide a unique recreational opportunity. Desirable park sizes for parks are as follows: i.e., one to five acres to; ten acres for neighborhood parks; 30 acres for community parks and 250+ acres for regional parks.
9. Accept park land as a conservation easement if funds for public maintenance cannot be identified.
10. Maintenance of existing facilities and the expansion of maintenance capabilities will be the top priority for the next five years.
11. Coordinate security with the local police and sheriff's departments to ensure visitors feel safe in all parks.

## **Recommendations**

Below are the recommended action items for the Parks to pursue within the next five-year time period. These recommendations are designed into three formats:

### **Short-Term Recommendations (0-2 year time frame)**

The short-term recommendations are those that are easily implemented and have a low-cost factor. These were determined to be ones that could be done quickly and have the most return on investment for the department in relation to the findings of the public participation component of the plan.

### **Intermediate Recommendations (0-4 year time frame)**

These recommendations are more time intensive and also have a moderate cost factor associated with implementation. These recommendations deal with the core preferences made by the public in terms of facilities and programming.

### **Long Range Recommendations (3-5 year time frame)**

The final sets of recommendations are generally geared towards the major capital projects associated with the park in the next three to five years. Other capital projects may become a priority and be included in this timeframe if plans accelerate from the intermediate stage.

### **Recommendations by Parks Facility**

The following pages will provide short term, intermediate, and long-range recommendations for each park's facility.

## **Executive Summary of Recommendations**

### **1. Walking, Hiking and Biking**

Walking, Hiking and Biking facilities top the list of requests and have been at the top of County recreational surveys over the past fifteen years. Now is the opportunity to develop a comprehensive approach to provide these facilities. Promoting this opportunity and availability is also key in the development of a superior system of walking trails with the County park system.

Creating a system of more advance hiking and biking opportunities also needs to be developed as part of this comprehensive strategy. The County has three underutilized facilities (Campbell Woodlands, Letty Walter, and Galena Lamb) that would could be easily fitted to provide these opportunities.

Existing trails should be upgraded with shade trees, paved paths (as appropriate), benches, and mile markers.

### **2. Community Engagement; Programming and Marketing**

The County Parks Department needs to develop a comprehensive recreational programming schedule for the community. This should include a calendar of upcoming events posted on the website and a pamphlet that can be emailed out to interested members of the community. It is recommended to work with the Library and take notes on the success of their program schedule, ideally cross advertising where possible.

To help facilitate the development of community programs, the County Parks Department should also look into developing community partners that can organize events for specific interests, developing a Parks Foundation to assist with planning and funding, and market the Parks and Recreation website once completed.

### **3. Maintenance Survey**

Survey respondents expressed concerns over the maintenance, cleanliness, and safety of several individual parks. It is recommended that the Parks Department implement a year-round survey that allows park visitors to report issues with maintenance, cleanliness, and safety. Showing the concerns residents have with these issues may assist in getting additional resources for the already limited maintenance staff.

Further, it is recommended to implement gardens, trees, and managed forests where possible to help cut down on the amount of mowing that is required for many of the parks. It is recommended to add additional trash cans at specific locations for people to more conveniently dispose of their trash. It is also recommended to add emergency call boxes at several of the parks.

### **4. Popular Sports**

Disc Golf and now Pickleball have seen major increases in popularity within the county, it is recommended to continue the work that is being done to keep these facilities maintained and to implement new facilities where feasible.

### **5. Natural Amenities**

An emphasis was placed on water-based activities. Combined with requests for scenery, nature playgrounds, and camping, this indicates that the Parks Department should be on the lookout for opportunities to develop a lake, pond, or creek for the purposes of boating and swimming and potentially have a camp site located nearby.

# Campbell-Woodland Nature Trails

**Inventory:** This unique area offers beauty and nature at its finest and is one of the few handicap accessible nature trails in Southern Indiana. Located in the 3300 block of Budd Rd. this park has 122 acres of land with one paved trail. The paved trail starts a third of a mile from the parking lot. The completed path is approximately three-quarters of a mile with additional paths to be opened as early as fall 2024. Benches are located along the path to rest and a covered gazebo is near the entrance. There are foot bridges over creeks and a waterfall. Dogs are welcome on the trails, but must be leashed at all times and owners are responsible for waste removal. There is a solar powered automated system that tells the history of the site. The hours are from dawn to dusk 7 days a week.

**Short-Term Recommendations (0-2 year time frame)**

**Estimated Cost: \$25,000**

- Marketing of the trail through various media platforms.
- Partner with Floyd County Soil and Water, Purdue Extension/4H, NAFCS to establish nature education programming.

**Intermediate Recommendations (0-4 year time frame)**

**Estimated Cost: \$35,000**

- Design and construct a series of new hiking and mountain biking trails with varying degrees of difficulties.
- Consider feelings of safety throughout the property.

**Long Range Recommendations (3-5 year time frame)**

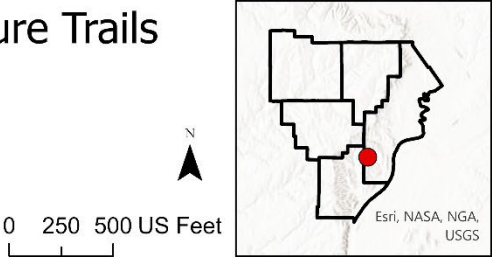
**Estimated Cost: \$20,000**

- Consider primitive nature observation and educational pavilion for programming if not feasible at Regional Park/Jensen Trails.



## Campbell Woodland Nature Trails

Park Type: Special Use  
Size: 122 Acres  
Park Address: 3300 Budd Road  
Census Tract: 712





# Galena-Lamb Park

**Inventory:** At 35.5 acres, this park offers 1 covered shelter with tables, restroom facilities, a softball field, a basketball court, a football and soccer field, and playground equipment. Galena-Lamb serves mostly people in the Floyd Knobs area.

**Short-Term Recommendations (0-2 year time frame)**

**Estimated Cost: \$80,000**

- Determine paths for additional trails.
- Ensure that playground and trails are consistently maintained.
- Develop nature and senior programming opportunities with other partners.
- Develop new basketball court and determine proper rehabilitation for old court.
- Develop beginner level disc golf course.

**Intermediate Recommendations (0-4 year time frame)**

**Estimated Cost: \$200,000**

- Install art features, community gardens, and/or landscape features.
- Consider permanent soccer field for practices and games.
- Construct additional trails.

**Long Range Recommendations (3-5 year time frame)**

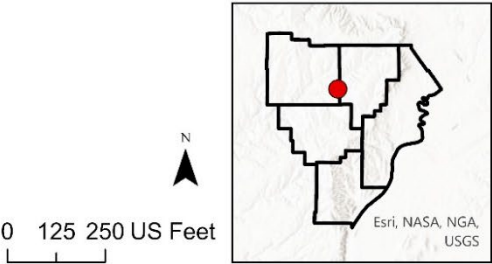
**Estimated Cost: \$35,000**

- Determine feasibility of nature and wildlife facility. If not feasible at New Regional/Jensen Property or Campbell Woodlands, construct additional hiking and biking facilities within park.
- Review playground to ensure it is up to date.
- Talk with State DOT to encourage intersection safety.



## Galena-Lamb Park

Park Type: Community  
Size: 35 Acres  
Park Address: 6220 Highway 150  
Census Tract: 710.04



# Garry E. Cavan Park

**Inventory:** This Park has 53.5 acres and serves people mainly in the Georgetown area of the county. The park offers 3 covered shelters with tables, 2 playground areas, 1 horseshoe pit, 3 restroom facilities, 3 lighted tennis courts, 2 basketball courts, and plenty of multipurpose areas of green space for citizens to enjoy.

This park is home to the Pat Graham Basketball Court! Graham is a 1989 Floyd Central graduate, the 1989 Indiana Mr. Basketball and a McDonald's All-American!

Seviren Lang Disc Golf Course is located here. It is the one of the highest rated courses in the state of Indiana! The Seviren Lang Memorial Tournament boasts one of the largest Disc Golf Tournaments in the area.

**Short-Term Recommendations (0-2 year time frame)**

**Estimated Cost: \$8,000**

- Plant additional shade trees along road and walking paths.
- Identify locations for additional benches throughout the park.
- Consider restriping of one tennis court to add two Pickleball courts.

**Intermediate Recommendations (0-4 year time frame)**

**Estimated Cost: \$30,000**

- Review playground and Disc Golf course to ensure they're maintained and up to date.
- Study an addition of a paved multi-use path.

**Long Range Recommendations (3-5 year time frame)**

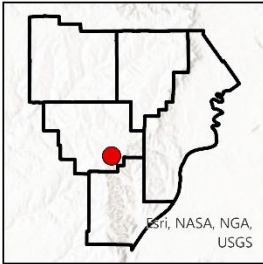
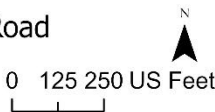
**Estimated Cost: \$15,000**

- Ensure Trails, Disc Golf, and Playground are maintained and up to date.
- Determine feasibility of adding a splash pad.
- Determine feasibility of adding a gated dog park (several dog walkers).



## Garry E. Cavan Park

Park Type: Community  
Size: 5.35 Acres  
Park Address: 6485 Corydon Ridge Road  
Census Tract: 711.04





# Greenville Park

**Inventory:** Greenville Park is a resource to many in the Greenville, Indiana and surrounding area. This 14-acre park is convenient to Highway 150 and includes two softball fields, 1 basketball court, 1 covered shelter with tables, restroom facilities, and playground equipment. The park is now home to a .75 mile pedestrian walkway! The basketball court is lined for pickle ball, you'll have to bring your own net to play.

**Short-Term Recommendations (0-2 year time frame)**

**Estimated Cost: \$65,000**

- Evaluate potential improvements to playground.
- Continue to develop community programming series for park, inclusive to seniors and children.
- Plant shade trees along pedestrian walkway.

**Intermediate Recommendations (0-4 year time frame)**

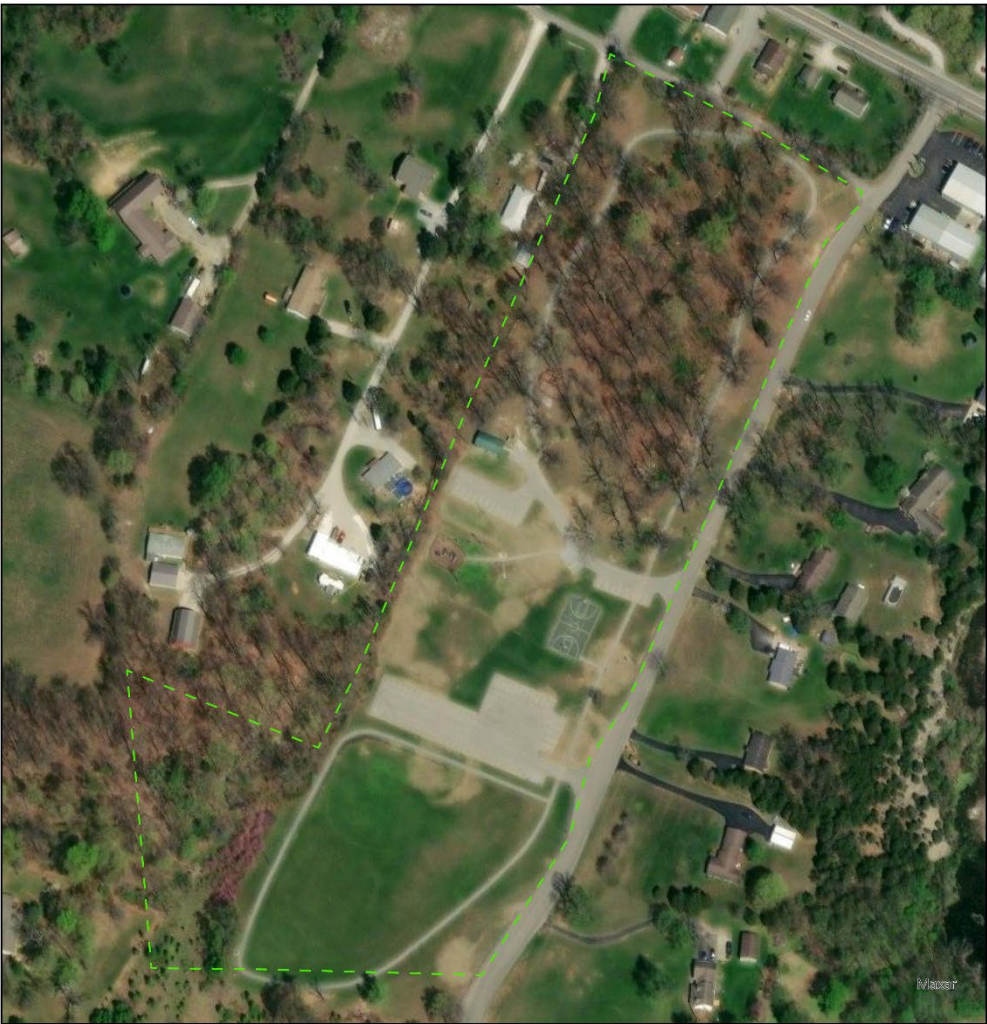
**Estimated Cost: \$25,000**

- Determine feasibility of adding a managed wildlife meadow.
- Determine feasibility of adding a splash pad.
- Add benches along pedestrian walkway.

**Long Range Recommendations (3-5 year time frame)**

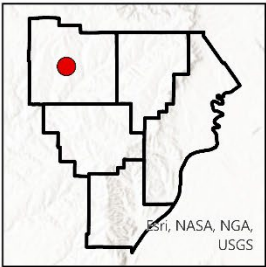
**Estimated Cost: \$125,000**

- Implement results of feasibility determinations for meadows, splash pads, and playground improvements.



## Greenville Park

Park Type: Community  
Size: 14 Acres  
Park Address: 6455 Buttontown Road  
Census Tract: 710.04



# Herman Collier Park

**Inventory:** This is one of the smallest parks in the county. It offers 1 basketball court, restroom facilities, a covered picnic shelter, and 1 horseshoe pit. This park mainly serves the immediate, surrounding neighborhood.

**Short-Term Recommendations (0-2 year time frame)** **Estimated Cost: \$55,000**

- Develop neighborhood programming.
- Find a community partner to maintain a flower garden in open areas near the shelter.

**Intermediate Recommendations (0-4 year time frame)** **Estimated Cost: \$20,000**

- Total rehabilitation of basketball court, including base and pavement.
- Evaluate playground to ensure it is up to date.

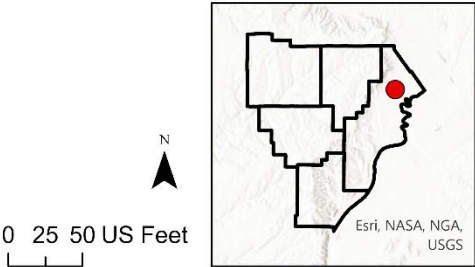
**Long Range Recommendations (3-5 year time frame)** **Estimated Cost: N/A**

- No park specific long-range recommendations at this time.



## Herman Collier Park

Park Type: Neighborhood  
Size: 1.6 Acres  
Park Address: 3905 Fiske Ave  
Census Tract: 710.06





# Kevin Hammersmith Memorial Park

**Inventory:** Our newest park in Floyd County comes with 35.5 acres. This park is home to our largest shelter that can be split in half and holds 11 tables on each side. Major features inside our park are: Romeo Langford Basketball Court (received the "Court of the Month" from Nova Sports in July 2019), Elliott and Sue Phillips Pavilion (a basketball court that is covered by a roof and has lighting), KFC Amphitheater, and is the Headquarters of Floyd County Parks and Recreation Maintenance Building. It also currently has 1 playground and 3/4 a mile walking trail. Future plans are to add a splash pad, and an all-inclusive playground.

**Short-Term Recommendations (0-2 year time frame)                      Estimated Cost: \$15,000**

- Ensure long term maintenance for playground, splash pad, and trails.
- Plant shade trees and look into alternative shade options.
- Consider installing benches along trail and addition of bike rack.

**Intermediate Recommendations (0-4 year time frame)                      Estimated Cost: \$45,000**

- Continue looking into security improvements including security officer.

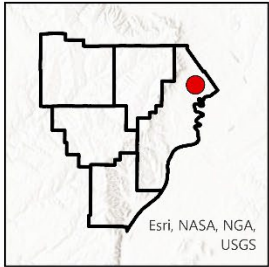
**Long Range Recommendations (3-5 year time frame)                      Estimated Cost: \$400,000**

- Partner with local foundations interested in connectivity to determine a connection to Charlestown Crossing Apartments and other nearby neighborhoods, this increases use without increasing needed parking spaces.



## Kevin Hammersmith Memorial Park

Park Type: Community  
Size: 35.5 Acres  
Park Address: 4400 Lewis Endres Parkway  
Census Tract: 710.05



# Letty Walter Park

**Inventory:** Little Indian Creek runs through Letty Walter Park, containing 500 linear feet of bank within the park boundaries. Contained in its 34.5 acres are 1 full court basketball court, a football and soccer fields, a covered shelter with tables, 1 baseball field, 2 tennis courts, and playground equipment.

**Short-Term Recommendations (0-2 year time frame)    Estimated Cost: \$60,000**

- Design walking, hiking and biking trail system within park.
- Determine feasibility of adding a dedicated pickle ball court(s).
- Work with community partners to determine what conservation, wildlife, and agriculture education efforts could be placed here.

**Intermediate Recommendations (0-4 year time frame)    Estimated Cost: \$750,000**

- Design and construct new pedestrian and emergency access bridge to access western portion of park.
- Construct walking, hiking and biking trail system within park.
- Evaluate updating and renovate restroom facilities.
- Once trails are completed, add picnic tables and benches.

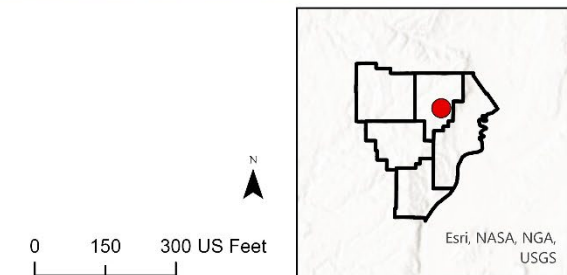
**Long Range Recommendations (3-5 year time frame)    Estimated Cost: \$15,000**

- Determine feasibility of using natural terrain to create a scenic overlook structure located in the middle to back of the property.



## Letty Walter Park

Park Type: Community  
Size: 34.5 Acres  
Park Address: 5345 St. Mary's Road  
Census Tract: 710.03





# Sam Peden Community Park

**Inventory:** Sam Peden Community Park, the largest park in Floyd County at 104.5 acres (including 15 acres of water), offers fishing and boating on Kiwanis Lake, 5 shelters, 4 playgrounds, 3 restrooms, 3 basketball courts, 11 tennis courts, a sand volleyball court, 6 horseshoe pits, a 1.25-mile trail, and multiple soccer fields used by the Southern Indiana United Soccer Association. Cost estimates for Recommendations are included in the Sam Peden Community Park Master Plan.

## Short-Term Recommendations (0-2 year time frame)

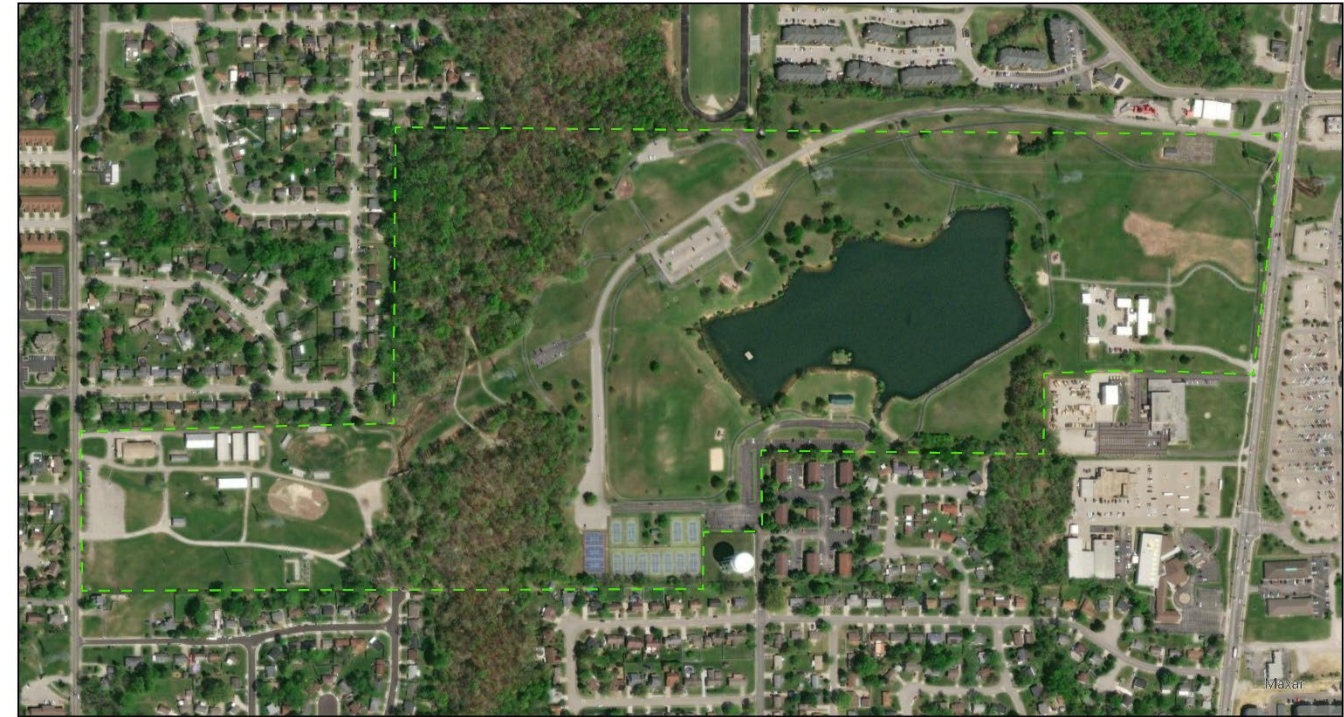
- See the Sam Peden Community Park Master Plan.
- Ensure maintenance of trails, walking paths, and restrooms.
- Plant shade trees.
- Consider adding distance markers to trails and paths.

## Intermediate Recommendations (0-4 year time frame)

- See the Sam Peden Community Park Master Plan.
- Expand Pickleball- # of courts, programming.
- Consider Disc Golf Feature that fits space– range, putting course, etc.
- Dedicate more land to expand 4H Club community garden efforts.
- Develop a gardening and beautification club in conjunction with Master Gardeners to maintain flower beds and trees throughout the park.
- Update playgrounds and ensure location near other park uses.

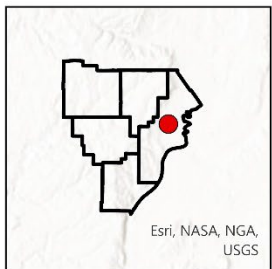
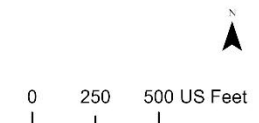
## Long Range Recommendations (3-5 year time frame)

- See the Sam Peden Community Park Master Plan.
- Dredge Kiwanis Lake and use it for water based activities.
- Address Goose control and waste issue.



## Sam Peden Community Park

Park Type: Community  
Size: 104.6 Acres  
Park Address: 3037 Grant Line Road  
Census Tract: 708.02



# Southern Indiana Sports Center

**Inventory:**

Southern Indiana Sports Center (SISC) is a multi-purpose sports facility complex. There are 4 courts that are used year-round for volleyball and basketball tournaments, adult leagues, practices, recreational play, as well as special events throughout the year. In addition, various open gym time is available through the year as well as a mezzanine and commons area that can also be rented for special events. Also, SISC offers daily and yearly passes to our second floor weight/exercise room. There are men’s and women’s locker rooms available with showers. The Floyd County Parks and Recreation Department headquarters is located at this facility.

**Short-Term Recommendations (0-2 year time frame)    Estimated Cost: \$10,000**

- Continue to develop community programming.
- Introduce new senior (60-and-over) programming during daytime.
- Expand marketing of programs and activities.

**Intermediate Recommendations (0-4 year time frame)    Estimated Cost: \$25,000**

- Consider introduction of additional adult sports and league opportunities.
- Continue with facility improvements.

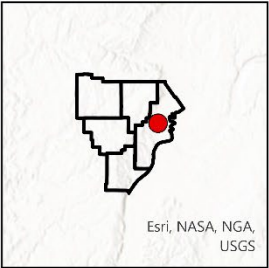
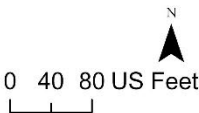
**Long Range Recommendations (3-5 year time frame)    Estimated Cost: \$500,000**

- Consider opportunity for building expansion to allow for additional recreational programming.



## Southern Indiana Sports Center

Park Type: Community  
Size: 4 Acres  
Park Address: 620 Park E Blvd  
Census Tract: 710.07





# Parks System-Wide Recommendations

## Walking Trails

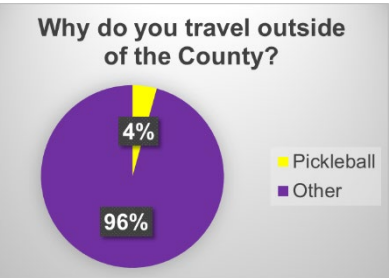
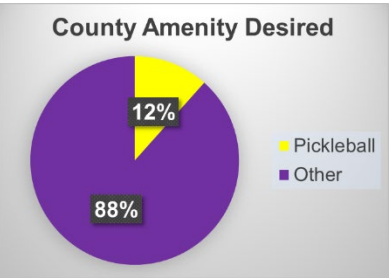
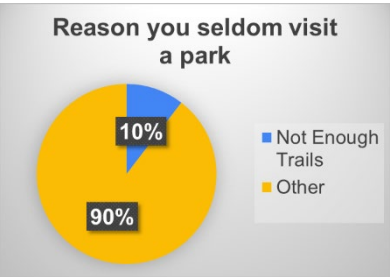
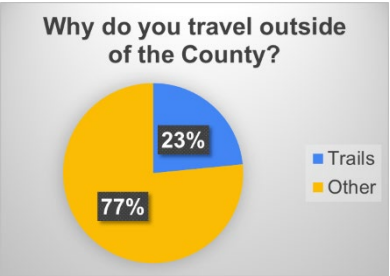
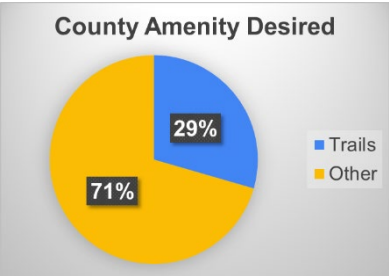
A great focus was placed by respondents on walking trails. It topped the list for desired amenities in the county, was second behind No Answer for why people travel outside of the county, and a Lack of Walking Trails was the second reason after Location for why respondents rarely visit a park. This indicates an overwhelming desire for trails within the county. Within individual answers, respondents requested a variety of trails that are shaded, have scenery, are safe, and are well maintained. Some expressed an interest in rugged hiking terrain, while others wanted paved paths. A greater emphasis should be placed county wide.

## Biking Trails

The third most requested amenity within the county was bike trails, which was also the fourth most popular answer for why respondents travel outside of the county. Biking Trails can often be created in conjunction with Walking Trails, meaning that both can often be satisfied without a duplication of efforts. A greater emphasis should be placed county wide.

## Pickleball

The second most requested amenity within the county was pickleball, which is also the sixth most popular answer for why respondents travel outside of the county. It was also a commonly requested amenity for several individual parks. The quick popularity of the sport has been responded to by the Parks and Recreation Dept. at multiple parks with either new courts or a repainting of a tennis court. This should continue to be monitored to determine ongoing interests and availability of courts. Consider cost-feasibility of windscreens for individual parks.



### Water Feature Activities

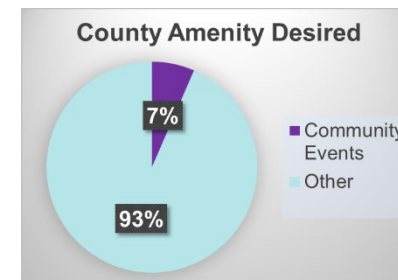
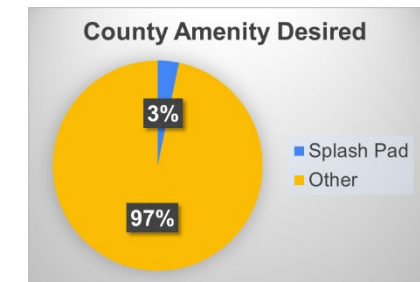
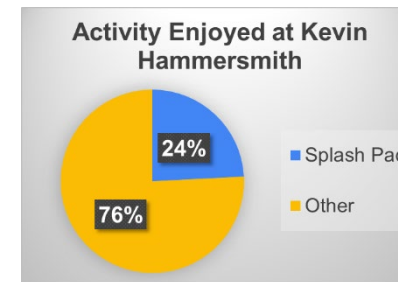
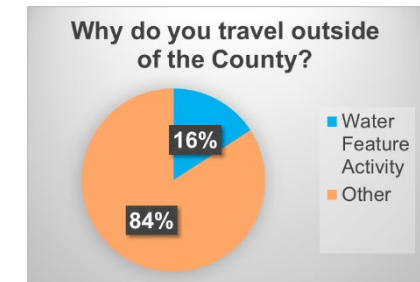
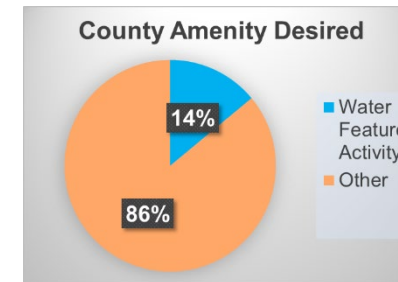
For amenities desires, water activities showed up as the 5<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, and 11<sup>th</sup> most popular responses with Swimming, Fishing, and Boating. This also showed up as a common answer for why people travel outside of the county as the 5<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, and 9<sup>th</sup> most popular responses of Boating, Bodies of Water, Fishing, and Swimming. This indicates that there is a strong interest in water based activities, but few opportunities to do so within the county. If feasible, this need could be met in either the Sam Peden or New Regional Park plans. Alternatively, a partnership could be made with one of the privately owned bodies of water in the county.

### Splash Pads

The Kevin Hammersmith Splash Pad has been a major success and is very popular with respondents. Many individual parks had respondents ask for their own splash pad and the Splash Pad was the 8<sup>th</sup> most popular answer for County Amenity Desired. If feasible, a Splash Pad would be a major attraction for the New Regional Park, but a partnership with Greenville or Georgetown could be considered for a park near their corporate bounds to service residents who live further into the county.

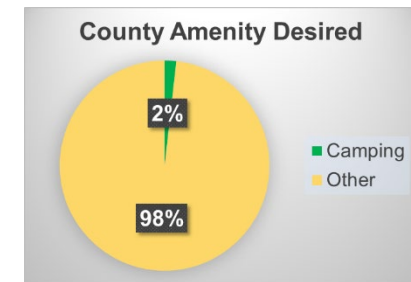
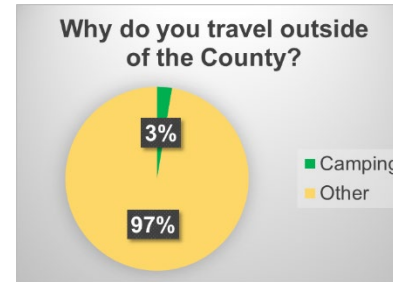
### Community Events

The fourth most popular answer for Desired County Amenity was an agglomeration of various requests for community events such as beer gardens, art shows, car shows, events for seniors, events for kids, events for sports or races, picnic events, etc. While each of these individual requests would not have placed very high, there was a consistent desire to connect with the community that showed up in survey responses. To address this, a greater emphasis could be placed on facilitating active community members who would be willing to organize these events themselves. The newly updated website could also include a link to draw in such individuals and guide them through the process of approving community events. Additionally, emphasis should be placed on developing a yearly program for community events and creating a third party nonprofit that is able to host tournaments on behalf of the Parks and Recreation Department.



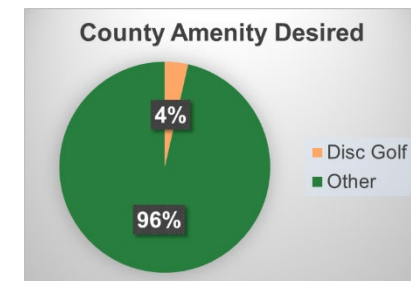
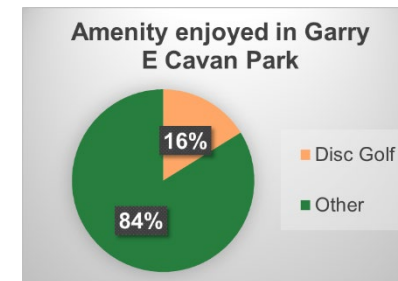
### Camping

Lower on the priority for respondents was a desire to camp in the county. The 10<sup>th</sup> most popular response for traveling outside of the county was for Camping and Cabins, while it was the 12<sup>th</sup> most popular response for Desired Amenity. A campgrounds should be located in close proximity to other attractions, such as the Ohio River, an elevated view from the top of a knob, a municipal downtown that may draw crowds for events, the Horseshoe Casino, walking or biking trails, or a water feature. There are various costs associated with maintaining a campground, but an emphasis could be placed on identifying a community partner to maintain a campgrounds and potentially generate additional revenue.



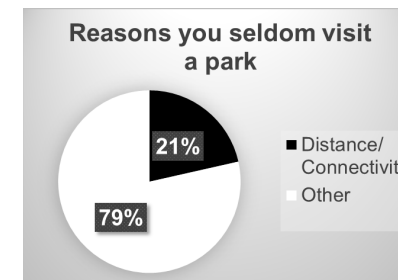
### Disc Golf

Floyd County is home to one of the highest rated Disc Golf courses in the region with the Seviren Lang course. Similar to the current surge in Pickleball, Disc Golf experienced a sudden rise in popularity several years ago. Floyd County is even home to an entrepreneurial business for custom discs located in downtown New Albany. Respondents expressed a consistent desire for disc golf courses in most individual parks and an emphasis should continue to be placed on maintaining disc golf courses throughout the county.



### Distance, Connectivity, and Neighborhood Parks

The number one response for why respondents seldom visit a park is due to Distance/Location. At the same time, a desire for connectivity between places was a common desire for answers regarding trails or in praise for individual parks. An emphasis should be placed on working with development to ensure connection for pedestrian corridors between neighborhoods, places, and the park system.



### Indoor Facilities

Several respondents requested additional indoor facilities for their recreation activities. The department should look for community partners to assist in funding, while a marketing effort should be made to inform residents of existing indoor facilities.

### **50m Competitive Swimming Pool**

When requesting feedback from the community for the draft of this plan, we received a letter from the Riverside Aquatic Club (RAC) requesting a 50-meter competitive swimming pool. This was accompanied by 251 signatures supporting this request. The scope of such a project is beyond the regular operating budget of the parks department, but with this strong support, the parks department should work with the organization and community partners to determine how such a facility could be funded and maintained.

## Potential funding sources and projects:

**Holiday events** such as Jack-O-Lantern Spectacular or community events like the Georgetown Drive-In. These events charge an admission fee, provide a unique experience, and can utilize park space. The Jack-O-Lantern Spectacular is organized at least in part by the Parks Alliance of Louisville, a non-profit organization. This effort would be compatible with survey responses requesting community events.

**University projects.** The University of Louisville, Indiana University Southeast, and Purdue Extension, among other local education institutions are great partners for implementing projects or studies. UofL performed a tree study for the city of Charlestown and performed a heat island study for the Trager Microforest project. The IU McKinney School is currently performing research on tree canopies. Purdue Extension has a community garden operating in Sam Peden Community Park. Partnering with educational institutions allows for more events, activities, and amenities in the park system without the parks department having to foot the entire bill.

**Duke Energy Foundation.** In the past Duke Energy has partnered with the community to build Rain and Butterfly Gardens at Kevin Hammersmith Memorial Park and has various charitable grants available for the community.

**Foundations.** During the Foundation stakeholder meeting, many of the representatives were excited by ideas of multi-modal interconnectivity between trails and parks and could be excellent partners for facilitating an increase in pocket parks and pedestrian corridors.

**Community Foundation.** There are three grants available; a small funding grant that activity or event groups utilizing park space may benefit from, a medium capacity building grant focused on training and upgrading equipment for community groups, and the Quality of Place grant which can focus on larger park projects.

**Theater or Movie events** in the park. While several theater or movie in the park events should be free for kids and families, they could be accompanied by food trucks or concessions to help raise some funds. Certain movie showings could also have a fee for entry. This effort would be compatible with survey responses requesting community events.

**Campgrounds/RV Park.** The county currently is missing this kind of space and this could be a source of revenue, charging for spots. This effort would be compatible with survey responses requesting various camping based activities.

**Community Garden plots.** Similar to the Purdue extension parks and the community garden parks in Louisville. Individual lots can be rented out for use. 4-H, community, and educational groups could be great partners for this. This would be compatible with survey responses requesting additional scenery, beautification, and community gardens.

**Conservation efforts.** There may be many opportunities for funding from the Sam Shine Foundation and the DNR Division of Nature Preserves for conservation efforts. This effort has the potential to be compatible with survey responses desiring additional trails, scenery, and wildlife/bird watching.

**Tournaments.** Various tournaments could be hosted which charge an entry fee to cover the cost of personnel and potentially raise additional funds. This may need to be done through a partnered non-profit since government agencies are limited in how they can reward participants. This effort would be compatible with survey responses requesting additional community events.

**Shelters available for rent.** While these have a sizeable up-front cost, shelters, lodges, and structures can serve as gathering spaces for reunions, weddings, and parties. This effort would be compatible with survey responses requesting additional community events.

**Alcohol permits.** Tournaments, events, and shelters would see more demand if alcohol is allowed to be served, issuing temporary alcohol permits with fees can serve as an extra revenue stream. This could include taped off evening events or music concerts that allow

adults to utilize the parks. This effort would be compatible with survey responses requesting additional community events.

**Reservoir/lake activities.** Outside of kayaking on Silver Creek in New Albany, there are few to no opportunities to kayak or boat in Floyd County. A launching platform for the Ohio River could be a way to generate revenue, while reservoirs and ponds or lakes could be created or identified for kayaks, canoes, and paddle boats made available for rent. This effort would be compatible with survey responses requesting various water based activities.

**Marina.** Caesar Casino being near the river at the southern border of the county makes for an excellent opportunity. A marina, boat ramp, and boat dock could be placed near Caesar Casino as a potential funding partner, especially if there is an RV park/campground nearby. The marina may be a regular source of funds for the rest of the parks department, while Caesar Casino may be willing to help cover some of the upfront costs. This effort would be compatible with survey responses requesting various water based activities.



Appendix A – Novaparke Public Meeting



Parks Superintendent Matt Dennison and Floyd County Planning Technician Frank Walden engage with community members during a public input meeting at Novaparke, gathering valuable feedback on proposed changes and improvements to the park.





## Appendix B – Links to Resources

**Floyd County ADA Transition Plan:** [www.in.gov/counties/floyd/](http://www.in.gov/counties/floyd/)

**Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP):** [2021-2025 Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan \(SCORP\)](#)