2025 Report Card for America's Infrastructure

Public Parks

September 29, 2026

ASCE
AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS



2025 REPORT CARD FOR AMERICA'S INFRASTRUCTURE

Agenda

- Overview of ASCE Report Card
- Panel Perspectives
- Q&A



ASCE
AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS



Presentation FYI

- Webinar is being recorded
- Recording and slides will be made available
- Attendee input via typed questions
- Send any technical issues/questions through the chat function

ASCE
AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS

ASCE *Making the Grade: Public Parks*

Panelists



Paul McCormack,
Executive Director, National Association of State Park Directors



Ayanna Williams,
Director of Community and Environmental Resilience, National Recreation and Park Association



Brent Thomas,
Director of Landscape Architecture, Garver



Tim Kellams,
Principal Planner /Landscape Architect, Public Works & Utilities - Engineering Division, City of Wichita, KS



Dennis Randolph
Committee on America's Infrastructure, ASCE

AMERICA'S STATE PARKS

National Recreation and Park Association

GARVER

ASCE
AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS

ASCE
AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS



ASCE 2025 REPORT CARD FOR AMERICA'S INFRASTRUCTURE

2025 Report Card for America's Infrastructure

AVIATION		D+
BRIDGES		C
BROADBAND	NEW	C+
DAMS	↑	D+
DRINKING WATER		C-
ENERGY	↓	D+
HAZARDOUS WASTE	↑	C
INLAND WATERWAYS	↑	C-
LEVEES	↑	D+
PARKS AND RECREATION	↑	C-
PORTS	↑	B
RAIL	↓	B-
ROADS	↑	D+
SCHOOLS		D+
SOLID WASTE		C+
STORMWATER		D
TRANSIT	↑	D
WASTEWATER		D+

America's Cumulative Infrastructure Grade



A	EXCEPTIONAL
B	GOOD
C	MEDIOCRE
D	POOR
F	FAILING

What the Grades Mean



EXCEPTIONAL
Fit for the future



GOOD
Adequate for now



MEDIOCRE
Requires attention



POOR
At risk



FAILING/CRITICAL
Unfit for purpose

Methodology

- CAPACITY
- OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE
- CONDITION
- PUBLIC SAFETY
- FUNDING
- RESILIENCE
- FUTURE NEED
- INNOVATION

Investment Gap

Infrastructure System	TOTAL NEEDS	FUNDED	FUNDING GAP
AVIATION	$310	$197	$113
BRIDGES	$538	$165	$373
BROADBAND	$61	$61	$0
DAMS	$185	$20	$166
DRINKING WATER	$670	$361	$309
ENERGY	$1,886	$1,308	$578
HAZARDOUS & SOLID WASTE	$162	$146	$16
INLAND WATERWAYS & PORTS	$45	$32	$13
LEVEES	$97	$7	$91
PUBLIC PARKS	$106	$62	$44
RAIL	$145	$113	$32
ROADS	$2,233	$1,549	$684
SCHOOLS	$1,100	$671	$429
TRANSIT	$618	$466	$152
WASTEWATER + STORMWATER	$983	$293	$690
TOTALS	**$9,139**	**$5,450**	**$3,689**

$3.7 Trillion needed

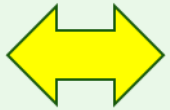
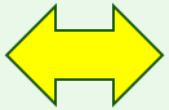


CURRENT FUNDING | FUNDING GAP


Sustaining Investment
Prioritizing Resiliency
Advancing Policy & Innovation

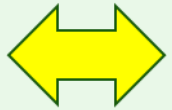
Grading Public Parks

2021 Grade = D+ 2025 Grade = C-

Criteria	Change	Why?
Capacity		National Park Service managed lands increased from along with an increase in state parks which led to a growth in parkland available per 1,000 residents.
Condition		Condition of roads, bridges, and parking pavement condition have largely remained the same in national parks, as have conditions in state parks.
Funding		Influx of federal funding has been significant, state and local funding has increased post-COVID, overall total funding has steadily increased over the past several years.
Operations & Maintenance		Significant workforce challenges continue to be a problem for national and state parks. In addition, increased severe weather events have shifted focus from the existing maintenance backlog.

Grading Parks

2021 Grade = D+ 2025 Grade = C-

Criteria	Change	Why?
Future Need		Significant increases to deferred maintenance at both the national and state levels have led to difficulties maintaining park infrastructure.
Public Safety		Public safety concerns surrounding parks remain consistent, increases in lighting and security cameras have grown safety in some circumstances.
Resilience and Innovation		Parks increasingly being used as a buffer to mitigate effects of severe weather on local communities. New technologies such as drones and GIS are being used to more accurately catalogue resources.

Recommendations to Raise the Grade Public Parks

- Promote public awareness of lesser visited national parks to alleviate stress on the most popular parks
- Increase park accessibility for all ages, abilities, and income levels
- Encourage local, state, and federal parks to partner with other government agencies to assist with asset maintenance
- Increase funding at all levels of government for park projects
- Encourage the use of GIS and other technologies to assist with asset management and enhance park user experience
- Identify and secure new avenues of funding
- Maintain recent federal funding included in the GAOA and IIJA

Making the Grade: Parks

Local Park Operations: *Supporting Parks, People and Community Resilience*

NRPA

NATIONAL RECREATION AND PARK ASSOCIATION

ABOUT NRPA



The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) is the leading not-for-profit organization dedicated to building strong, vibrant and resilient communities through the power of parks and recreation. With more than 60,000 members, NRPA advances this mission by investing in and championing the work of park and recreation professionals and advocates — the catalysts for positive change in service of equity, climate-readiness, and overall health and well-being. For more information, visit www.nrpa.org. For digital access to NRPA's flagship publication, *Parks & Recreation*, visit parksandrecreation.org.



Local Park Infrastructure

Care of our public spaces is a service of stewardship for our communities and the environment.

Parks that operate with environmental responsibility are not just protecting ecosystems — they are…

- Protecting the lungs of maintenance workers
- Protecting the developing brains and bodies of children at play
- Protecting the drinking water of surrounding neighborhoods
- Protecting the mental health of everyone who enters their gates

Greener parks are healthier parks — for people and the planet.

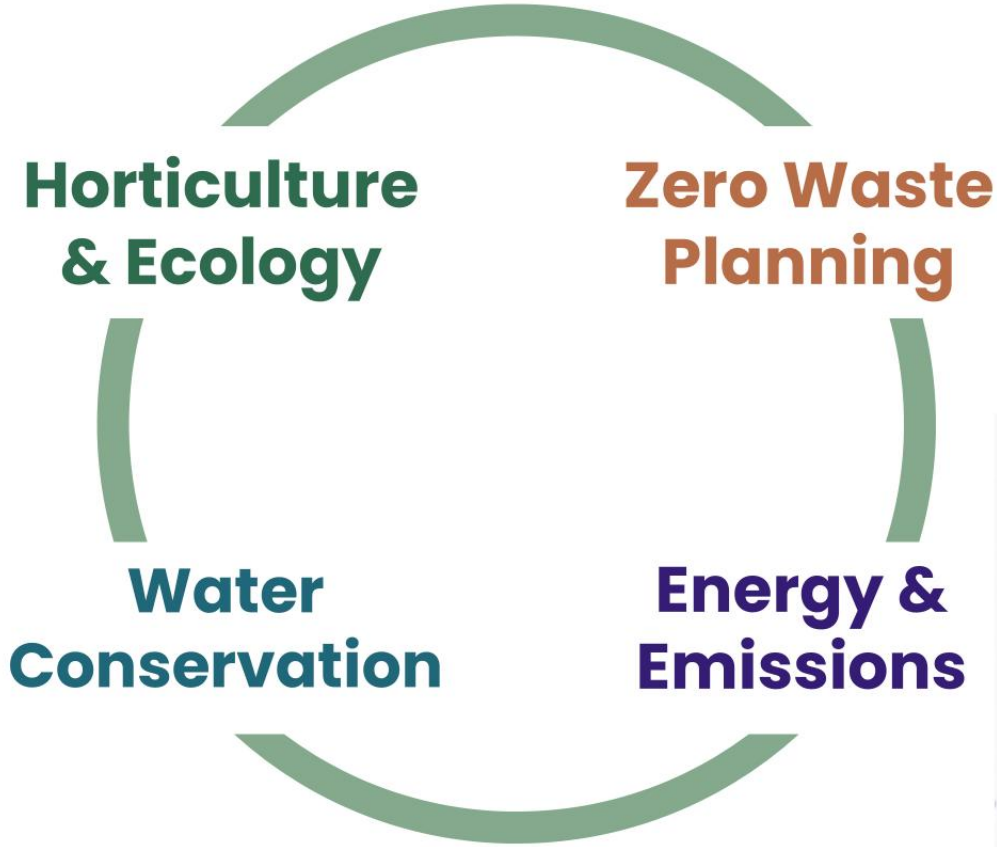
Core Areas for Park Operations

Horticulture & Ecology

- Organic Land Management
- Soil Management
- Tree and Vegetation Protection
- Smart Turf Management
- Urban Forestry and Restoration Ecology
- Plant Procurement

Water Conservation

- Water-Efficient Buildings
- Greywater and Reclaimed Water Reuse
- Smart Irrigation & Xeriscaping
- Sustainable Pool Management
- Environmentally Friendly Cleaning Products



Zero Waste Planning

- Diverted Stream Waste Management
- Circular Economy
- Green Waste & Biomass Management

Energy & Emissions

- Enhance Energy Efficiency in Buildings
- Renewable Energy Production
- Third-Party Renewable Energy
- Lighting
- Maintenance Equipment
- Reducing Embodied Carbon
- Carbon Capture Technologies
- Microgrids
- Energy Modeling, Commissioning, and Tracking



Horticulture & Ecology

Examples from the field

Organic Land Management & Integrated Pest Management

- **City of Boulder, CO:** Eliminates routine chemical use; no herbicides for weed control.
- **Cleveland Metroparks:** Community education and biological controls (trained dogs) manage Spotted Lanternfly without pesticides.

Tree and Vegetation Protection

- **Virginia Beach, VA:** Multipronged strategy to protect signature trees: lighting, fencing, special care, flex-paving.
- **Fort Collins, CO:** Public code that requires public trees to be replaced at current ecological value.



Energy & Emissions

Examples from the field

LED lights: First step for many! LEDs have longer lifespan, minimal maintenance, 100% recyclable, solar powered and Dark Sky designated. Dallas uses for sports field and garden park.

Electric Equipment: Dallas and Seattle are adopting electric equipment for maintenance staff, pivoting smaller equipment and other smaller vehicles.

Microgrids: Oak Park, IL produces all power on-site, uses gym treadmills to convert energy to power, on-site solar panels and battery system create microgrid to ensure operations generate more energy than consume.

Health Co-Benefits: Equipment Electrification

Improved worker and resident quality of life

Improved Air Quality

1. Zero direct carbon emissions
2. Reduced combustion-source air pollution means:
    - Respiratory symptoms disappear in weeks
    - Hospitalizations, cardiovascular illness, and premature deaths decrease significantly

Reduced Noise

1. Reduced hearing damage risk for workers
2. Reduced repetitive task injuries for workers from machine vibration
3. Reduced cardiovascular stress, sleep disruption, and cognitive impairment for nearby residents and visitors



Water Conservation

Examples from the field

Smart Irrigation: Denver and Boulder's virtual systems allow for real-time monitoring and repairs – saving time, money and water.

Grey Water & Water Efficient Buildings: Roof rainwater at University Park Community Center in Portland, OR, is collected and used for flushing toilets and irrigation – $100k annual savings.

Pools: Efficiency upgrades in Seattle include pool covers (with HVAC controls), LED lighting, variable speed pool circulation, enhanced ventilation systems, electric heat pumps – with significant cost and energy savings.

NRPA



Zero Waste

Examples from the field

Green Waste and Biomass Management

- **Austin, TX:** Utilizes boulders and tree waste to support nature play programs and community projects.
- **Boulder, CO:** Uses removed invasive aquatic plants, wood, goose poop and other resources as compost.

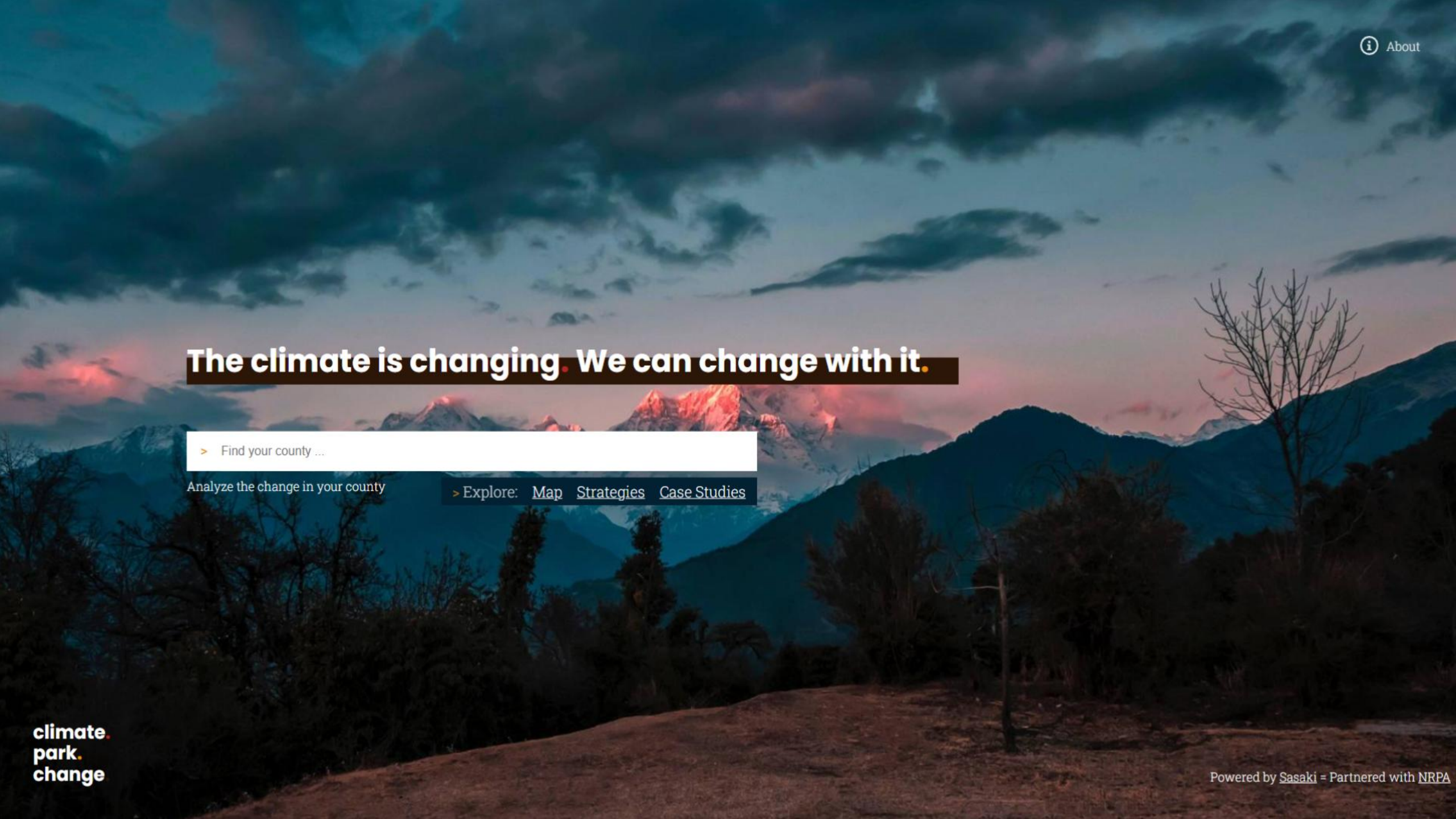
Circular Economy

- **Harrisonburg, VA:** Emerald Ash Borer and consequent need to remove 1,500 trees inspired their Urban Wood Program, using tree waste to train youth, employ community members and create sustainable local business.

Tested Strategies

- **Right place, right activities:** Use different turfs or turf alternatives for different intensities of activity.
- **Right-size the system:** Reduce air-conditioned building space, irrigated lawn, paved areas, etc.
- **Do less:** Less mowing, less fertilizing, fewer chemical inputs, fewer unnecessary trips, fewer over-serviced spaces; smart irrigation (less water)
- **Find the right product:** Water efficient & green cleaning products, durable materials, etc.



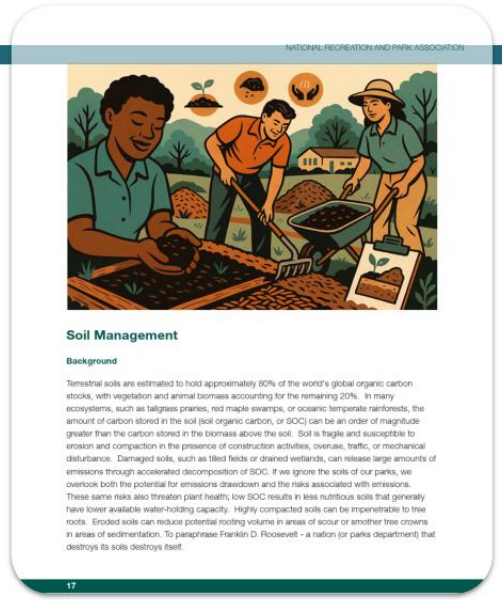

About
The climate is changing. We can change with it.
> Find your county ...
Analyze the change in your county
> Explore: Map Strategies Case Studies
climate.
park.
change
Powered by Sasaki = Partnered with NRPA

Climate.Park.Change Resources

Horticulture & Ecology

- Organic Land Management
- Soil Management
- Tree and Vegetation Protection
- Smart Turf Management
- Urban Forestry and Restoration Ecology
- Plant Procurement

1. Environmentally Friendly Park Best Practice



NATIONAL RECREATION AND PARK ASSOCIATION

Soil Management

Background

Terrestrial soils are estimated to hold approximately 80% of the world's global organic carbon stocks, with vegetation and animal biomass accounting for the remaining 20%. In many ecosystems, such as tallgrass prairies, red maple swamps, or oceanic temperate rainforests, the amount of carbon stored in the soil (soil organic carbon, or SOC) can be an order of magnitude greater than the carbon stored in the biomass above the soil. Soil is fragile and susceptible to erosion and compaction in the presence of construction activities, overuse, traffic, or mechanical disturbance. Damaged soils, such as tilled fields or drained wetlands, can release large amounts of emissions through accelerated decomposition of SOC. If we ignore the soils of our parks, we overlook both the potential for emissions drawdown and the risks associated with emissions. These same risks also threaten plant health; low SOC results in less nutritious soils that generally have lower available water-holding capacity. Highly compacted soils can be impenetrable to tree roots. Eroded soils can reduce potential rooting volume in areas of scour or smother tree crowns in areas of sedimentation. To paraphrase Franklin D. Roosevelt - a nation (or parks department) that destroys its soils destroys itself.

17

2. Case Studies



Case Study: A Teaching Opportunity Along Euclid Creek, Cleveland, OH

By Josh Philipps

Cleveland Metroparks staff & volunteers after planting Euclid Beach bioretention cell. Image attribution: Cleveland Metroparks.
Website:www.clevelandmetroparks.com
Contact: jp@clevelandmetroparks.com

In 2022, Cleveland Metroparks received a property previously occupied by the former Euclid Central Middle School. Through a master planning process, the Park District identified this property as a conservation priority, taking into account the riparian habitat along Euclid Creek and the parcel's connectivity to existing parkland. The property also advanced plans for a future trail that would connect the cities of Cleveland and Euclid, including the more than 36,000 nearby residents to parks, jobs, schools, businesses, and Lake Erie. With the legacy of school demolition and the classification of soils as "Urban land", it was evident that significant disturbance and mass grading had created soil conditions unconducive to reforestation success. To achieve the land management goal of returning the floodplain area to a forested state, Cleveland Metroparks applied for and was awarded a Great Lakes Restoration Initiative grant to improve the site by: Decompacting and amending 5.5 acres of the former athletic fields; Planting 1,150+ native trees and shrubs; Engaging volunteers in 500+ hours of service; Intercepting 122,314 gallons of rainfall/year. The Park District accomplished the above targets and partnered with Dr. Stu Schwartz, soil scientist at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, to monitor soil conditions in the treated and untreated areas, to advise on proper soil amendment and decompaction processes, and to collaborate on technical presentations and workshops for contractors, stormwater engineers, consultants, and land managers. A total of 114 professionals were trained on soil decompaction through this project. Ultimately, the soil decompaction and reforestation project has resulted in improved stormwater management and enhanced long-term survival of trees and shrubs on the banks of Euclid Creek, a tributary to Lake Erie.

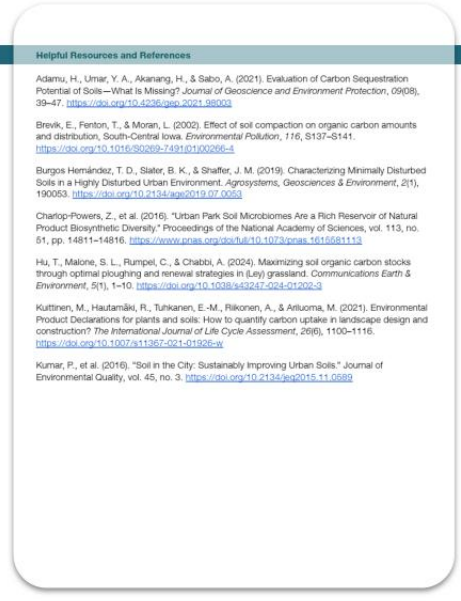
3. Key Strategies & Considerations



Key Strategies & Considerations

- Investigate the existing park soils to understand the distribution, physical, chemical, and biological properties of the soils in the park or park system.
- Develop a soil management plan for park operations that focuses on maintaining plant health, supporting recreational activities, protecting soil organic carbon, and minimizing routine remedial or rehabilitation requirements.
- Develop activity schedules with adequate 'rest periods' for soils to recover
- Include soil protection requirements for natural areas, and consider low-pressure spray maintenance vehicles for those that drive on natural soils.
- For new projects, require designers to submit soil protection plans and include soil management plans, erosion control plans, specifications, and details as part of any proposed works.

4. Helpful Resources and References



Helpful Resources and References

Adamu, H., Umar, Y. A., Akanang, H., & Sabo, A. (2021). Evaluation of Carbon Sequestration Potential of Soils—What Is Missing? *Journal of Geoscience and Environment Protection*, *09*(08), 39–47. https://doi.org/10.4236/gep.2021.98003

Brevik, E., Fenton, T., & Moran, L. (2002). Effect of soil compaction on organic carbon amounts and distribution, South-Central Iowa. *Environmental Pollution*, *116*, S137–S141. https://doi.org/10.1016/S0269-7491(01)00266-4

Burgos Hernández, T. D., Slater, B. K., & Shaffer, J. M. (2019). Characterizing Minimally Disturbed Soils in a Highly Disturbed Urban Environment. *Agrosystems, Geosciences & Environment*, *2*(1), 190053. https://doi.org/10.2134/age2019.07.0053

Charlop-Powers, Z., et al. (2016). "Urban Park Soil Microbiomes Are a Rich Reservoir of Natural Product Biosynthetic Diversity." Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, vol. 113, no. 51, pp. 14811–14816. https://www.pnas.org/doi/full/10.1073/pnas.1616581113

Hu, T., Malone, S. L., Rumpel, C., & Chabbi, A. (2024). Maximizing soil organic carbon stocks through optimal ploughing and renewal strategies in (Ley) grassland. *Communications Earth & Environment*, *5*(1), 1–10. https://doi.org/10.1038/s43247-024-01202-3

Kuittinen, M., Hautamäki, R., Tuhkanen, E.-M., Riikonen, A., & Antuoma, M. (2021). Environmental Product Declarations for plants and soils: How to quantify carbon uptake in landscape design and construction? *The International Journal of Life Cycle Assessment*, *26*(6), 1100–1116. https://doi.org/10.1007/s11367-021-01926-w

Kumar, P., et al. (2016). "Soil in the City: Sustainably Improving Urban Soils." Journal of Environmental Quality, vol. 45, no. 3. https://doi.org/10.2134/jeq2015.11.0589

Themes for Resilience

Ecosystem Thinking
Everything is connected. To be successful, think strategically and comprehensively.

Right “Plant”, Right Place
Not all strategies work in all places. Find the right fit for the challenge you are facing and adapt accordingly.

People Power
Start with those who are already driving change. Support your advocates!

Show Me the Money!
Budgets, policies, and plans drive most actions. Make sure to set the stage for transformation.





ASCE 2025 Report Card for America's Infrastructure: Public Parks

Improvements in Practice

Presenters:

Brent Thomas, PLA, ASLA, CPSI, AICP
Director of Landscape Architecture
Garver

Tim Kellams, PLA, CPSI, ASLA
Principal Planner/ Landscape Architect
Public Works & Utilities- Engineering Division
City of Wichita

GARVER

CITY OF WICHITA

Wichita Foundation Amphitheater at Exploration Place (photo: Exploration Place)

Why public parks matter.

- ✓ Parks are critical infrastructure
- ✓ Economic development benefits
- ✓ Improve public health and quality of life
- ✓ Environmental resilience and stormwater functions

Naftzger Park (photo: Visit Wichita)

GARVER

CITY OF WICHITA

ASCE 2025 Report Card for America's Infrastructure: Public Parks



What drives the score?

- Capacity & Condition
- Funding & Future Need
- Operation & Maintenance
- Public Safety & Resilience
- Innovation

The Point at MidCity District, Huntsville, AL (photo: RCP Companies)

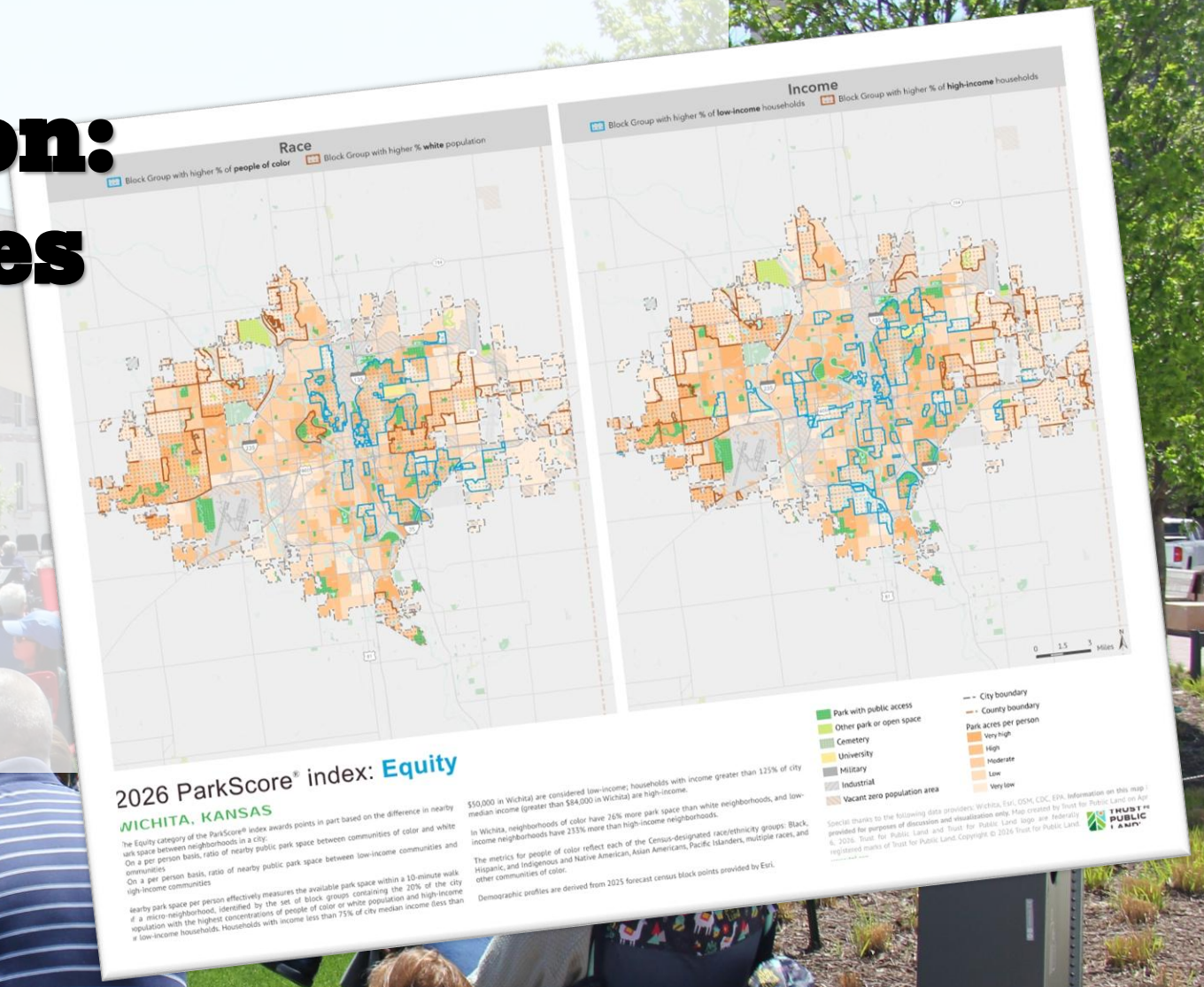
GARVER

CITY OF WICHITA

Capacity & Condition: Wichita's Challenges

- Increased visitation
- Aging park infrastructure
- Deferred maintenance growing
- Access inequities persist

Naftzger Park (photo: Visit Wichita)



GARVER

CITY OF WICHITA

Master Planning for Future Capacity:
Imagine ICT Master Plan

IMAGINE ICT
COMPREHENSIVE PARKS & RECREATION MASTER PLAN

Imagine ICT Master Plan goals:

- Align investments with community needs
- Maximize park land utilization
- Data-driven investment strategies
- Benchmark against national standards

Linwood Park Splash Pad
(photo: City of Wichita)



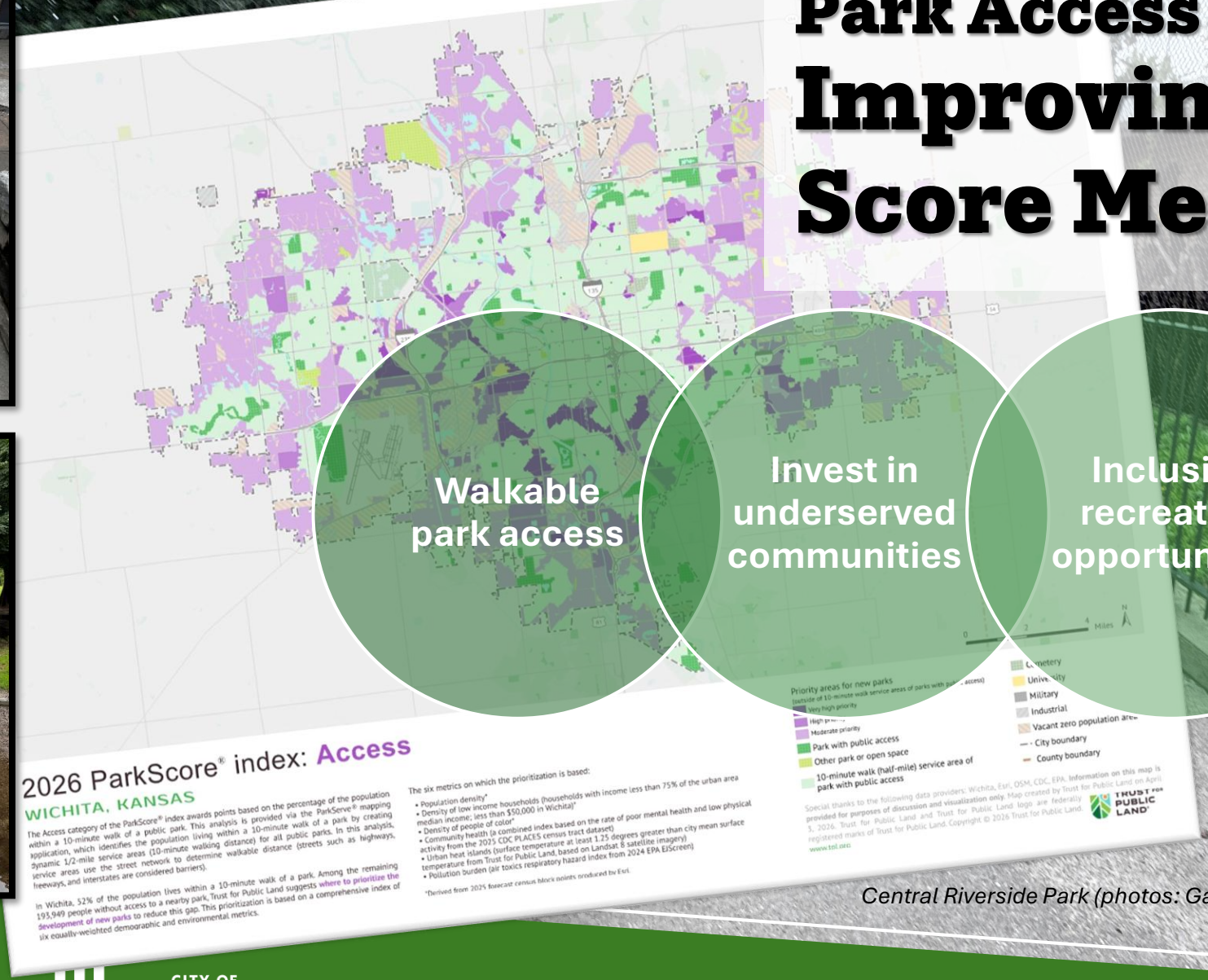
GARVER

CITY OF WICHITA

Park Access & Equity- Improving Park Score Metrics







Walkable park access

Invest in underserved communities

Inclusive recreation opportunities

Improving accessibility within existing parks

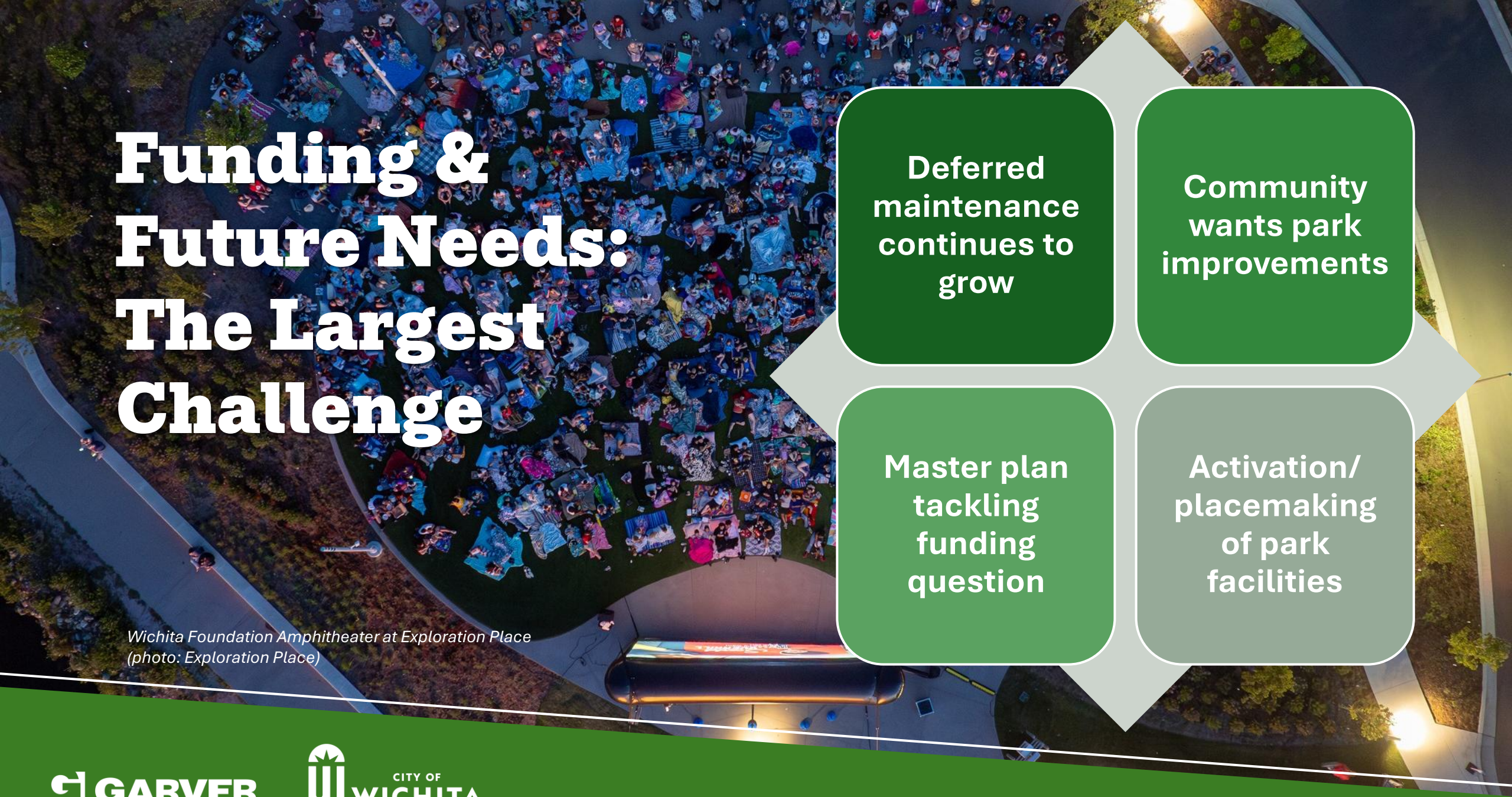
Central Riverside Park (photos: Garver)

GARVER

CITY OF WICHITA

ASCE 2025 Report Card for America's Infrastructure: Public Parks

Funding & Future Needs: The Largest Challenge



- Deferred maintenance continues to grow
- Community wants park improvements
- Master plan tackling funding question
- Activation/ placemaking of park facilities

Wichita Foundation Amphitheater at Exploration Place (photo: Exploration Place)

GARVER

CITY OF WICHITA

Capital Improvement Program

Grants and Alternate Funding Sources

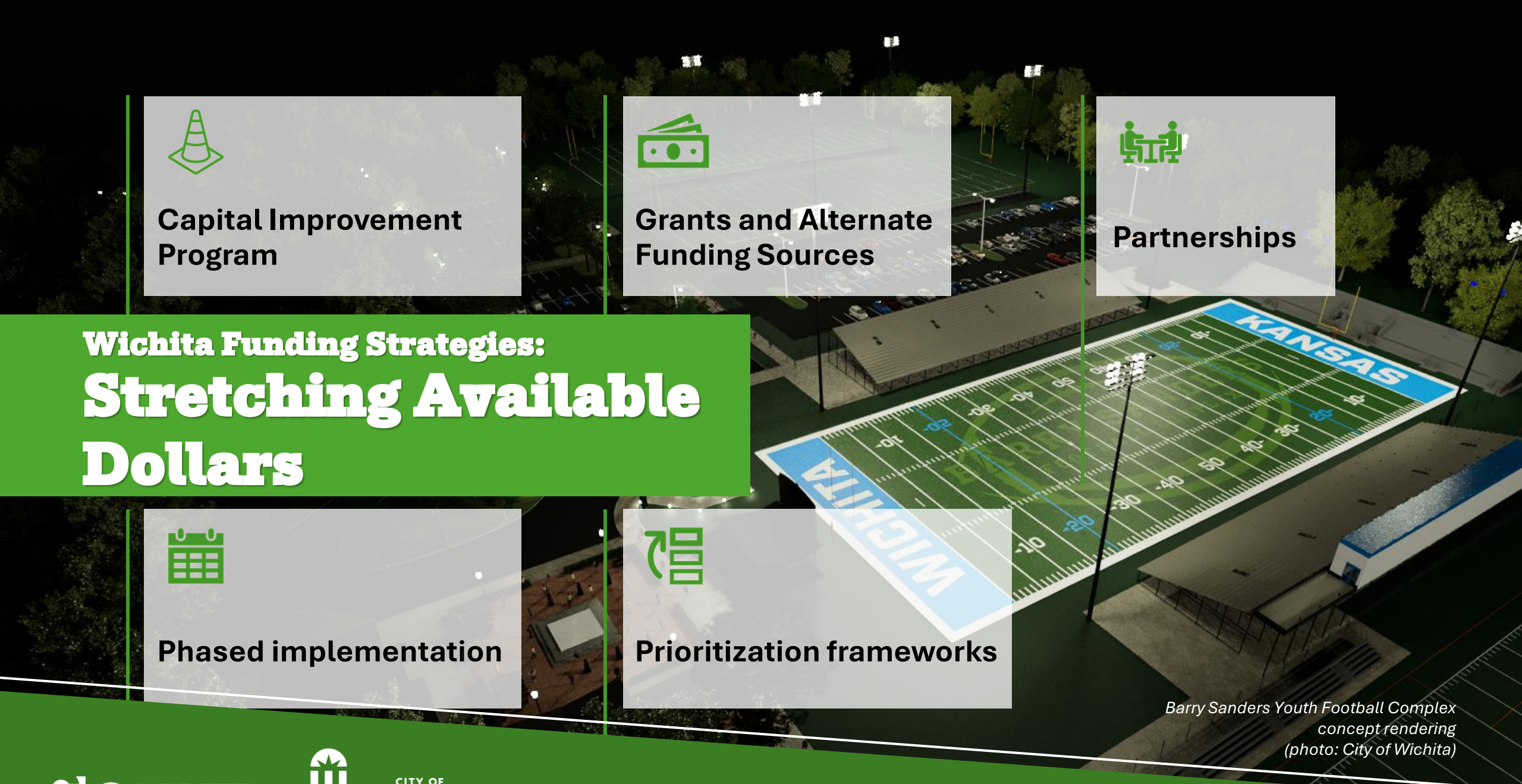
Partnerships

Wichita Funding Strategies:

Stretching Available Dollars

Phased implementation

Prioritization frameworks

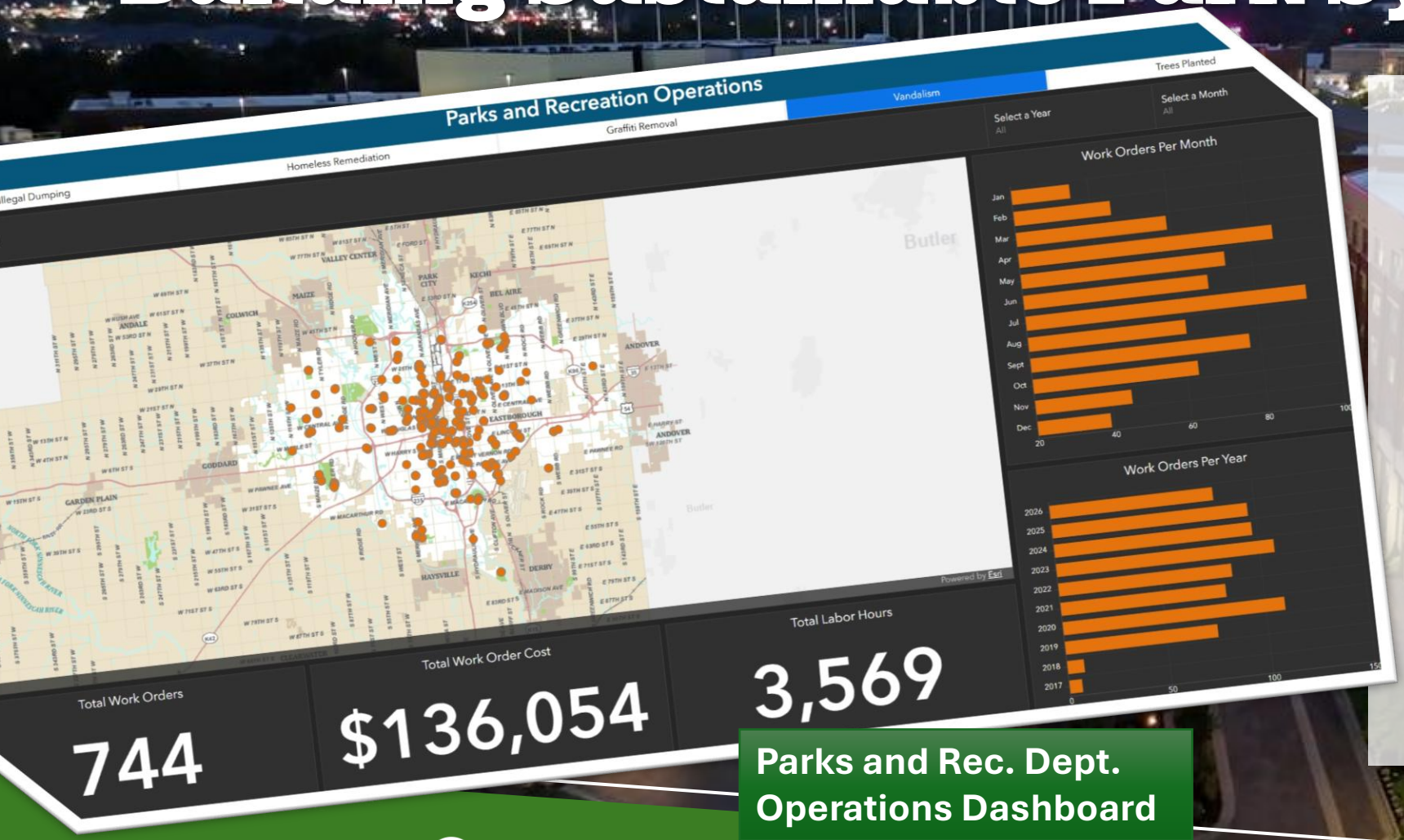


Barry Sanders Youth Football Complex concept rendering (photo: City of Wichita)

GARVER

CITY OF WICHITA

Operation & Maintenance: Building Sustainable Park Systems



Parks and Rec. Dept. Operations Dashboard

- Budget concerns
- Workforce shortages
- Growing maintenance demands on aging facilities
- Increased visitation (*and vandalism*) accelerating wear and tear

GARVER

CITY OF WICHITA

ASCE 2025 Report Card for America's Infrastructure: Public Parks

Asset Management Success Stories: Managing Parks Like Infrastructure



OJ Watson Park (photo: Garver)

PARK ASSESSMENT – CONDITION RATING

Park	Condition Rating
Country Acres Park	5
Delano Park	5
Harrison Park	5
L.W. Clapp Park	5
Nuttzger Park	5
Peacht Wetlands Park	5
Stryker Soccer Complex	5

Park	Condition Rating
Alley Park	4
Alice Wall Memorial Park	4
Boston Park	4
Cessna Park East	4
Chester I. Lewis Reflection Square Park	4
Chisholm Creek Park	4
Chisholm Creek Greenway	4
Chisholm Trail Parkway	4
College Hill Park	4
Cowskin Greenway Park	4
Cypress Park	4
Dr. Glen Dey Park	4
Eastview Park	4
Emporia Park	4
Fairmount Park	4
Friendship Park	4
Glenn Village Park	4
Grandview Heights Park	4
Harvest Park	4
Henry Park	4
Herman Hill Park	4
Hyde Park	4
Lynette Woodard Park	4
McAdams Park	4
McKnight Park	4
Meadows Park	4
Meridian Park	4
Millwood Park	4
Minisa Park	4
North Riverside Park	4
North Woodland Park	4
Osage Park	4
Pat Garcia Veterans Memorial Park	4
Pawnee Prairie Park	4
Redbud Park	4
Riverside Community Garden	4
Schell Park	4

Park	Condition Rating
Barrington Park	3
Buffalo Park	3
Central Riverside Park	3
Chapin Park	3
Chautauqua Park	3
Chisholm Creek Park - North	3
Claude Lamtie Park	3
Columbine Park	3
Dunbar Park	3
Edgemoor Park	3
Elm Neighborhood Park	3
Evergreen Park	3
Fabrique Park	3
Garvey Park	3
Grandparents Park	3
Hellers Park	3
Indian Hills Greenway	3
Kansas Fallen Firefighters Memorial Park	3
Kiwanis Park	3
Leon Robinson Park	3
Linwood Park South	3
Longview Neighborhood Park	3
M. S. Mitchell Floodway Park	3
MacDonald Park	3
Murdock Park	3
Murfin Dog Park	3
NE Sedgwick County Park	3
Oak Park	3
Orchard Park	3
Palisade Park	3
Peach Tree Park	3
Pratt Memorial Park	3
Prospect Park	3
Redbarn Park	3
Schweiter Park	3
Sedgwick County Park - Ball Fields	3
Sim Park	3
Sleepy Hollow Park	3
South Lakes Park	3

Park	Condition Rating
Afton Lake Park	2
Air Capital Memorial Park	2
Brown Thrush Park	2
Cottonwood Park	2
Edgebrook Park	2
Emery Memorial Park	2
Goldenrod Park	2
Hope Park	2
Mayors Pine Grove Park	2
Mead Island	2
Meadowlark Park	2
North Linwood Park	2
O J Watson Park	2
Old Town Square	2
Otis Park	2
Planeview Park	2
Rivera Park	2
Sedgwick County Park	2
Skyline Park	2
South Arkansas River Greenway	2
South Woodland Park	2
Southview Park	2
West Millbrook Park	2
Westlink Park	2
Wichita Skatepark	2
A Price Woodard Jr Park	1
Finley Ross Park	1
K-96 Lake Park	1
Phyllis Hall Memorial Park	1
Riverview Park	1
Bridgeport Soccer Fields	0

Many parks have both newer and older amenities, but this provides an overall indication of each park's condition as well as the health of the system. The parks with highest visitation (over 100k) are highlighted in yellow.

- Current condition assessments associated with Imagine ICT
- Operational benchmarking
- GIS-based maintenance planning

GARVER

CITY OF WICHITA

ASCE 2025 Report Card for America's Infrastructure: Public Parks



Apollo Park (Phase 3) at MidCity District, Huntsville, AL (photo: RCP Companies)

Public Safety & Resilience:

Parks as Community Infrastructure

- ❑ Flexible uses to address needs of a broader spectrum of community
- ❑ Stormwater management
- ❑ Heat island mitigation
- ❑ Community resilience benefits
- ❑ Key to improved quality of life and health metrics

GARVER

CITY OF WICHITA

- Green infrastructure
- Arkansas River Corridor projects
- Native landscapes
- Tree canopy initiatives
- Nature-based solutions



Wichita Resilience Projects: Parks that Work Harder

Pracht Wetlands Park (photo: Visit Wichita)

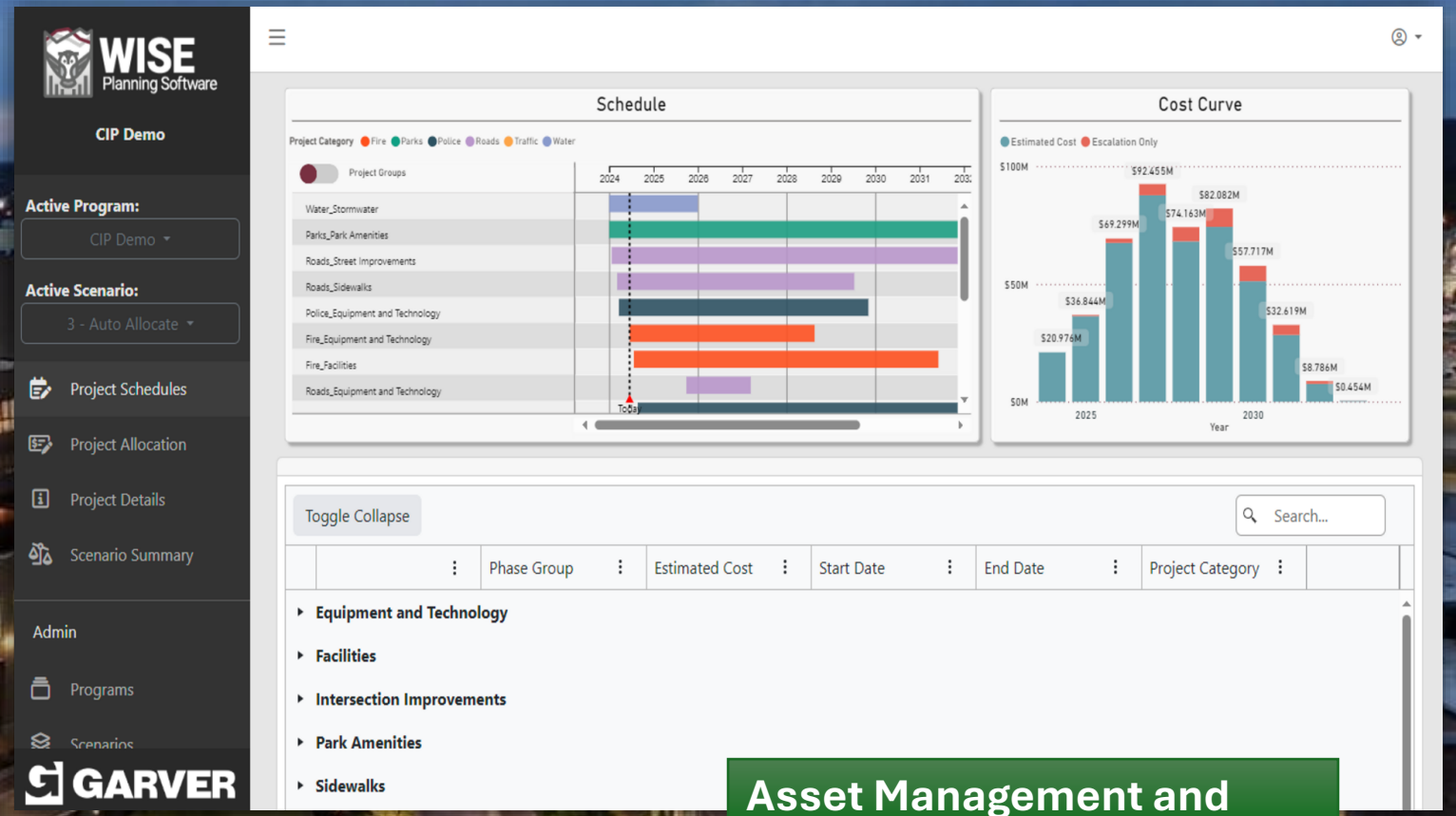
GARVER

CITY OF WICHITA

ASCE 2025 Report Card for America's Infrastructure: Public Parks

Innovation: Technology Is Changing Park Management

- ✓ GIS
- ✓ Asset management platforms
- ✓ Digital mapping
- ✓ Data-driven planning



Asset Management and Capital Planning Tools

The Point at MidCity District, Huntsville, AL (photo: RCP Companies)

GARVER

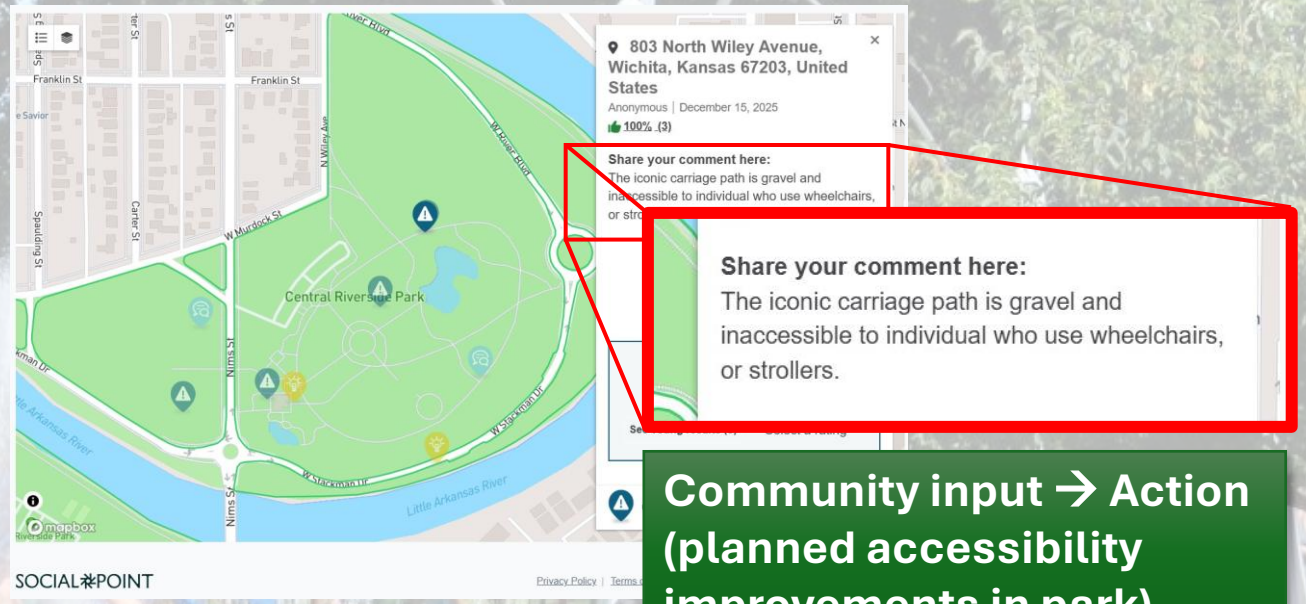
CITY OF WICHITA

ASCE 2025 Report Card for America's Infrastructure: Public Parks

Wichita Innovation in Action: ImagineICT Planning Tools



Central Riverside Park
(photo: Visit Wichita)



Community input → Action (planned accessibility improvements in park)

- GIS mapping
- Community engagement mapping
- Facility assessments
- Benchmarking and performance evaluation

GARVER

CITY OF WICHITA

ASCE 2025 Report Card for America's Infrastructure: Public Parks

ASCE Recommendations Applied Locally

ASCE Recommendations	Wichita's Response
Improve access	Trail connections, access enhancements, service-area analysis
Increase resilience	Green infrastructure projects
Leverage GIS	Asset management systems
Build partnerships	Public-private collaborations
Address maintenance	Master plan and CIP prioritization



Naftzger Park (photo: Garver)

GARVER

CITY OF WICHITA



Chisholm Creek Park (photo: City of Wichita)



Pracht Wetlands Park (photo: City of Wichita)

What Will Raise the Grade? Looking Ahead

- Master plan implementation
- Asset management maturity
- Equitable access improvements
- Sustainable funding
- Resilience investments

SCHEELS Stryker Soccer Complex (photo: Visit Wichita)

GARVER

CITY OF WICHITA

Moving Parks from a C- to B

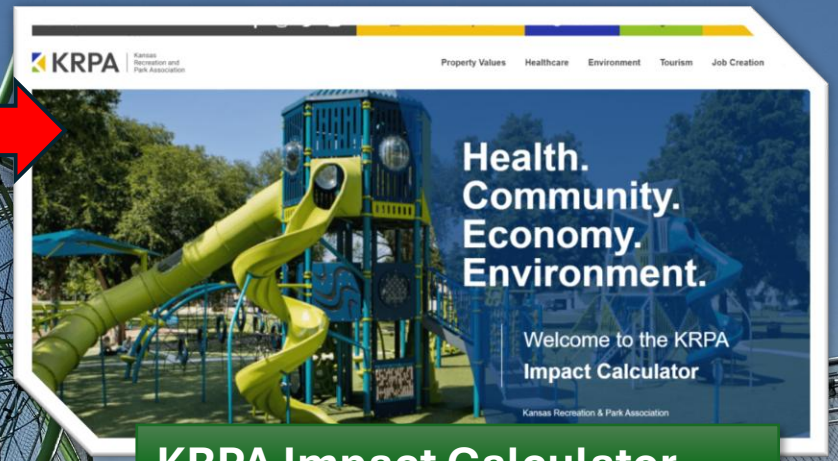
Parks are critical infrastructure.

Planning matters.

Asset management matters.

Partnerships matter.

Local action drives national improvement.



KRPA Impact Calculator

Clapp Park

GARVER

CITY OF WICHITA

ASCE 2025 Report Card for America's Infrastructure: Public Parks



Thank you!

Naftzger Park (photo: City of Wichita)

GARVER

CITY OF WICHITA

ASCE 2025 Report Card for America's Infrastructure: Public Parks


AMERICA'S
STATE
PARKS®
WILDERNESS
Pamlico135

AMERICA'S STATE PARKS®



$1.8B

REVENUE REPORTED · AIX, FY24

All-time high, up 3% vs FY23

844.5M

ANNUAL VISITS

Across all 50 state systems

50

STATES REPORTING

Every year since 1979

9,920

PARK UNITS

Parks, trails, and historic sites

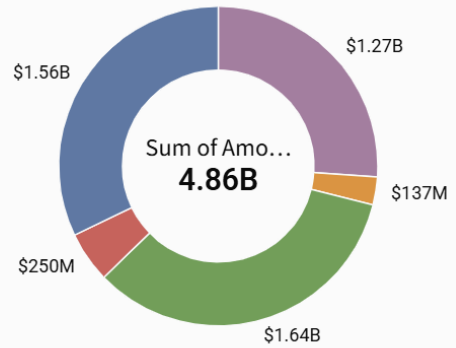
21.1M

ACRES PROTECTED

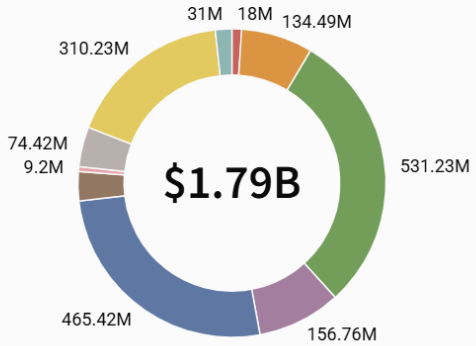
Parks, forests, and wildlife areas

AMERICA'S STATE PARKS

Fiscal Year Operating Expenditures



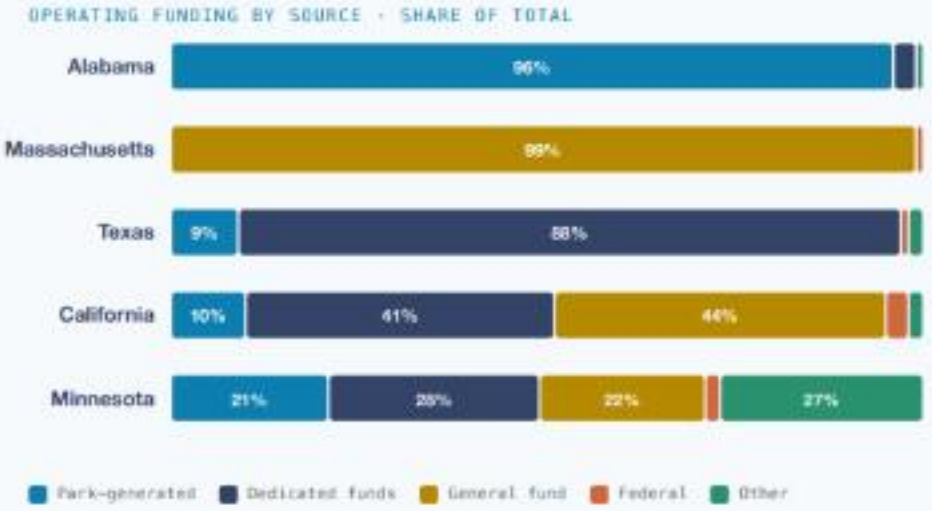
Fiscal Year Revenue Generated



AMERICA'S STATE PARKS

How operations are funded.

Where the operating dollars come from. Some states run almost entirely on what parks generate; others lean on appropriations.



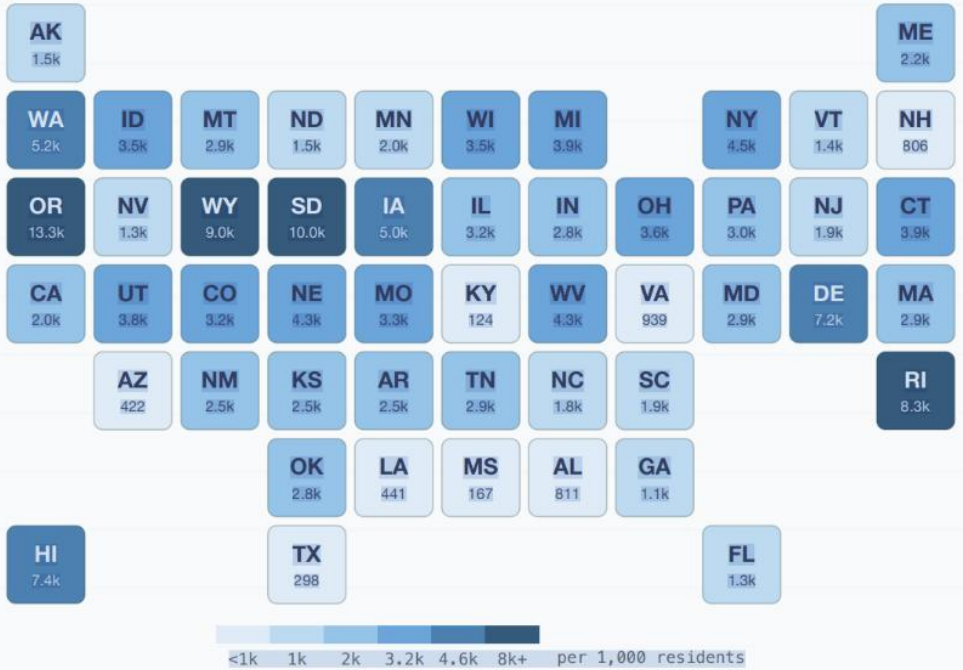
AMERICA'S STATE PARKS®

VISITATION STORY / PER RESIDENT

Visits, adjusted for population.

Visits per 1,000 residents, FY24. Adjust for population and the leaderboard reshuffles: smaller states claim the top ten.

VISITS PER 1,000 RESIDENTS · FY24 · FIND YOUR STATE



Regional read: the Mountain West, Upper Midwest, and northern New England over-index. The South and Southwest run lower. This is total visits divided by population, a measure of intensity relative to state size; many visitors come from out of state.

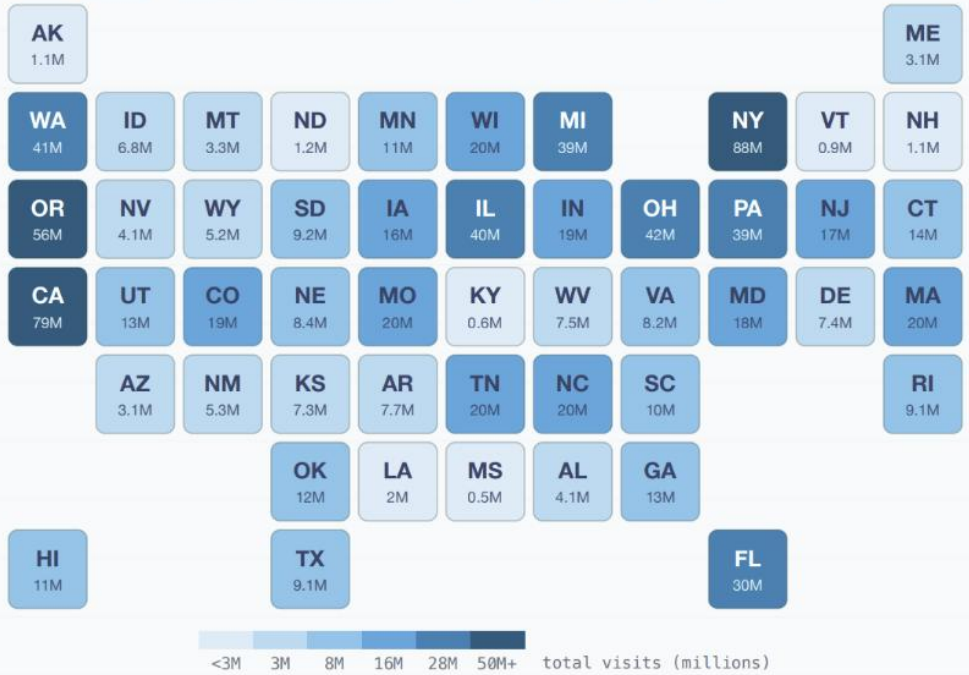
AMERICA'S STATE PARKS®

VISITATION STORY / TOTAL VISITS

Total visits by state.

Now shade the states by total visits, not by visits per resident. The big-population states surge back to the top and the per-capita leaders recede. Two ways to read the same country.

TOTAL ANNUAL VISITS (MILLIONS) · FY24 · FIND YOUR STATE



Read it against the last map: per resident, small states like Oregon, the Dakotas, and Rhode Island run darkest. In raw numbers, scale wins: New York, California, and the big Midwest and Northeast systems carry the national total.


AMERICA'S
STATE
PARKS
NORTH TRAIL

Questions?



ASCE
AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS

Thank you to today's sponsor!



ASCE
AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS



Find more details, please visit InfrastructureReportCard.org.