



**THE CITY OF
LEVELLAND, TEXAS**

Park Plan

May 2010



Park Plan

2010

Levelland City Council

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**CITY OF LEVELLAND
PARK PLAN
TABLE OF CONTENTS**

Introduction.....1

Needs, Goals, & Objectives7

Plan Development Process.....8

Standards for Park Development9

Existing Park System Inventory13

Other Available Public Recreational Facilities23

Public Participation & Public Input24

Needs Assessment.....27

Plan Implementation29

Illustrations, Maps, & Surveys

 Map 1 – Texas with Hockley County35

 Map 2 – Park Locations36

 Map 3 – Parks with Service Area37

 Map 4 – School Facilities with Service Area.....38

 Chart 1 – Park Survey Summary39

 Chart 2 – Park Survey Additional Comments.....44

RESOLUTION 2010 - 9

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LEVELLAND, TEXAS,
ADOPTING THE LEVELLAND 2010 PARK PLAN.

WHEREAS, on November 2, 2009 the Levelland City Council discussed the need for a new Park Plan and at that time directed staff to begin the process of developing a new Park Plan; and,

WHEREAS, citizen input was gathered during stakeholder and public meetings held November 19, 2009, January 25, 2010 and February 10, 2010; and,

WHEREAS, a citizen survey was conducted, including special surveys for youth and elderly citizens; and,

WHEREAS, citizen input was gathered during a public hearing were held before the Levelland Planning and Zoning Commission on April 27, 2010; and,

WHEREAS, the proposed plan has been submitted and reviewed by the Levelland City Council, and an additional public hearing held before the City Council on this date;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LEVELLAND, TEXAS, THAT:

Section 1. The City of Levelland 2010 Park Plan as prepared by staff and the Levelland Planning and Zoning Commission is hereby approved and adopted;

Section 2. Henceforth the Levelland 2010 Park Plan as hereby adopted shall constitute the basic statement of policies of the City of Levelland in those areas addressed by the plan, to be used by the City and all of its departments, agencies, boards, officials and officers in carrying out their duties and offices as they are affected by the Park Plan;

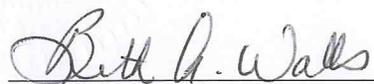
Section 3. The contents of the Levelland 2010 Park Plan as hereby adopted shall not be deemed to revoke or amend any existing ordinances, laws or regulations, but rather may be used as a basis for interpretation and application of those ordinances, laws and regulations now in force or which may be from time to time passed or adopted; and

Section 4. This resolution shall be effective immediately.

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LEVELLAND,
TEXAS ON THIS 3RD DAY OF MAY, 2010.


R. L. "Bo" Bowman, Mayor

ATTEST:


Beth A. Walls, City Secretary

INTRODUCTION

The Need for This Plan

In October of 2009 the Levelland City Council determined it was time to update the City of Levelland's park system plan. In recent years there have been many changes in the needs of the community with regards to the park system. In order to effectively meet the needs of the community the City Council directed that a planning process be initiated with the goal of developing a plan to guide Levelland's park development according to current public needs. This document is the result of that planning effort.

The purpose of the Park Plan is to provide a framework for the development of the existing parks system based on a solid understanding of a number of factors and their impact on parks planning. These factors include:

- Existing and future population projections
- Desires of the community
- Past parks planning, efforts of research
- Existing and future financing
- Accepted standards in park development, types and service areas

This framework will provide a clear picture of the existing status of the parks system from a comparative standpoint, its challenges and the priorities and recommendations that will most accurately address these challenges.

To address these challenges and provide recommendations, it is critical to understand the overall goal of what the parks system is meant to do. The parks system is to contribute to the overall quality of life in the community by providing resources to allow for recreational and social activities and relief from the urban environment. The parks system, from its inception in older and larger industrial cities and beyond, was to be the "lungs of the city": an escape from the built environment, and the associated stresses of modern day life, to the natural environment. Levelland is no exception. The sections below will define, by national standards and the specific concerns of Levelland's citizens, what the most advantageous and achievable parks system will be based on current needs.

Plan Organization

Most charts and tables are included in the plan narrative at the point they are discussed. However, full page figures and graphics, such as maps, are included in the Appendix at the end of the plan.

History

Levelland is a relatively young community, having been incorporated in 1926. Its name comes from the terrain of the area- lots of level land. Levelland is the county seat of Hockley County and home to over 56 percent of the county's 22,716 residents. Originally established as a

farming community, Hockley County is still one of the top agriculture counties in Texas, consistently ranking in the top five cotton producing counties in the state. Located on the Texas South Plains, Levelland's location is near the geographic center of Hockley County.

The growth and diversification of the area began in the late 1930's with the discovery of oil in the western part of the county. The 1940's saw a population increase of 60 percent as the vast petroleum reserves began to be exploited. This prosperity continued until the collapse of the petroleum industry in the mid 1980's. Even with the closing of many petroleum related businesses and the resulting double digit unemployment, Levelland's economy remained relatively strong and Levelland ended the decade with a population increase (see Demographics section). In 1994 the Levelland Knitting Mill added to the development of the Levelland Industrial Park. In 2009, Eco Blue purchased a building in the Levelland Industrial Park and established its business in Levelland. Eco Blue is a cotton fiber insulation manufacturer. Also in 2009, Independent Electric, a locally owned electrical contractor that works throughout the region, broke ground on a new \$500,000 warehouse and training facility in the Levelland Industrial Park.

The discovery of oil was an important event in the modern history of Hockley County, as was the establishment of South Plains College in 1957. In the last 52 years the community college has grown and developed a reputation as one of the premier community colleges in the country. South Plains College is also one of the major reasons for Levelland's positive growth over the past 50 years. During the 1980's while petroleum problems were devastating the local economy, the enrollment of South Plains College almost doubled, taking up much of the slack. In the late 2000's, when the price of oil came off an all time high and many layoffs occurred as a result, South Plains College reached record enrollment of over 10,000 students in 2009.

Future Developments

In 2008 the Levelland Economic Development Corporation set out to develop the Levelland Industrial Rail Park. In 2009, the City of Levelland along with the Levelland Economic Development Corporation received a \$3.3 million grant from the U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration to develop a 300 acre Levelland Industrial Rail Park. The \$8.6 million project will provide future tenants rail access to the Permian Basin Railways which connects to the BNSF Railway providing tenants with quality rail access nationwide. This project also calls for water, sewer, and concrete streets in the rail served lots. According to the Executive Director of the Levelland Economic Development Corporation, the Levelland Industrial Rail Park has the potential to create approximately 1,000 jobs and private capital investment of \$100 million. Construction of the rail park improvements began in November, 2009.

In May 2009, Hockley County voters approved a bond issue for a \$15 million multi-purpose Event Center to be built in Levelland, Texas. The list of anticipated uses include banquet and

reception accommodations for up to 800 people, youth rallies, concerts, car shows, livestock shows, and rodeo events. Construction is expected to begin in the Summer of 2010.

Climate and Environment

Levelland’s location on the South Plains of Texas provides it a very temperate, semi-arid climate. Although the temperature can exceed 100 degrees in the summer and in the winter can dip below 0 degrees, the low relative humidity reduces the effects of these extremes. Pertinent weather related facts include:

	Average	Record
Temperature (°F)	60.0	-16 / 100
Daily High Temperature (°F)	73.5	110
Daily Low Temperature (°F)	46.4	-16
July (Hottest Month) Highs (°F)	91.9	108
January (Coldest Month) Lows (°F)	24.6	-16
Annual Precipitation (inches)	18.2	29.19
Snowfall (inches)	10.2	41.2
Heating Degree Days (Base 65°F)	3416	4150
Cooling Degree Days (Base 65°F)	1770	2169
Wind Speed (MPH)	12.4	72
Prevailing Wind Direction	SSW	
Elevation (Mean Sea Level)	3525'	

Levelland’s name is very descriptive of its terrain, level land. The area has no streams, creeks, or rivers, but drainage is to playa lakes which dot the countryside. This plain has good soil for crops as evidenced by the area’s rich cotton production. Prior to the twentieth century and development of the area for farming, it supported an abundance of wild plants and grasses. This created an excellent habitat for wild life including buffalo, antelope, deer, coyote, badger, rabbits and other assorted fowl and small game. Of course the buffalo have been gone from the area for many decades, but most other animals are still to be found occasionally in unsettled areas of the county.

Demographics

According to the 2000 Census the City of Levelland suffered a population decrease of approximately 8 percent while Hockley County suffered a decrease of 8.25 percent. With the exception of the rapid growth during the 1940’s due to the petroleum industry and the decrease

of population in the 1990's, Levelland and Hockley County have experienced relatively steady growth. A review of Census figures illustrates this:

The latest figures from the U.S. Census Bureau reflect a continued decrease in the population with Levelland's estimated population being 12,450 and Hockley County being 22,205. However, an independent study conducted in 2006 by Gadberry Group reported that Hockley County's population was up approximately 3.5 percent to 23,516 from the year 2000. In 2006 the U.S. Census Bureau had an estimated population for Hockley County of 22,340 showing a decrease of 1.65 percent when compared to the 2000 Census.

Census Population Figures		
Year	Levelland	Hockley County
1930	-	9,298
1940	-	12,693
1950	-	20,407
1960	10,153	22,340
1970	11,445	20,396
1980	13,809	23,230
1990	13,986	24,199
2000	12,866	22,716

Although the City of Levelland and Hockley County suffered a decrease in population in 2000, there are indicators such as the Gadberry Group study that the steady increase of population will continue in the long run. Major projects such as the multipurpose events center and industrial rail park which are currently under construction will generate significant new economic activity, further spurring population growth. Along with the steady increase shown throughout Levelland's history, there are other statistics which indicate the population of Levelland will be heavy users of City park facilities. Levelland's population seems to be less affluent with the town's median family income of \$28,980 being only 85 percent of the state's median family income of \$33,553. Also, Levelland's median per capita income is \$14,151 which is only 72 percent of the state's median per capita income of \$19,617. This would indicate a population more likely to take advantage of the free recreational opportunities provided by the City park system.

Another indication of recent growth in Levelland has been the need for additional housing. In 2006 a new 60 unit affordable apartment complex was developed and opened. Also in 2006, in an effort to foster single family housing development, a Tax Increment Financing program was also developed with focus on moderate income home development. Both housing projects were immediately successful with the apartment complex filling quickly and the TIF exceeding projections on single family development.

Levelland's population by race and ethnicity is as follows:

Population by Race/Ethnicity				
	2000		2008	
White	9,099	70.7%	8,861	70.5%
Black	670	5.2%	659	5.20%
American Indian or Alaska Native	117	.9%	109	.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	27	.2%	35	.3%
Some Other Race	2684	20.8%	2634	21%
Two or More Races	278	2.2%	274	2.2%
Hispanic Ethnicity	5009	39.90%	5540	44.10%
Not Hispanic or Latino	7868	61.10%	7032	55.90%

Past Park Grant Projects

Levelland has utilized the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) grant program for over three decades in developing the existing park system. In the early 1970's a TPWD grant was used to help develop Lobo Lake Park. This was the direct result of recommendations included in the City's comprehensive plan developed in 1970. In 1984 TPWD funds were utilized to assist in rebuilding the City Swimming Pool. In 1986 the City's first walking track was developed in Breshear Lake Park with the help of a TPWD grant. L.G. Griffin Park was developed in 1992, again with the assistance from TPWD. Also, In 1997 George C. Price Park was developed with the assistance of TPWD. In 2003 the Pavilion at Lobo Lark Park was developed with the assistance of a TPWD grant. In 2009, the Major League Baseball, Baseball Tomorrow Fund invited a full grant application for the Babe Ruth Field Lighting Project. The City has a history of successfully implementing TPWD grants as well as other funding sources to expand and improve City of Levelland park facilities. The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department has been a valuable partner in the city's efforts to improve and expand park facilities.

Previous Park Planning

Levelland developed comprehensive plans in 1970, 1986, and 2004, all of which included recommendations for park development. In 1997 a comprehensive park plan was developed, with an update to the plan in 2002.

Parks and Landscaping				
Need	1970	1986	1997	Implemented
Develop Lobo Lake to Park	X			X
Develop a Regional Park	X			X
Establish a New Park East Side of Town		X	X	X
Improve, Landscape Railroad Right of Way	X	X		Partial
Develop Greenbelt along Magnolia	X			X
Landscape Gateway – Hwy 385 & Hwy 300	X	X		X
Create Mandatory Park Dedication Ordinance		X		
Lobo Lake Park as Focal Point			X	X
Cover for City Pool			X	
Landscape City Pool			X	X
Security Lighting to Provide For Safe After Hours Park Use			X	X
Programs for Adults			X	
Speed Control in City Park			X	X
Reduce Civic Center Rates			X	X
Excavate Playa at L.G. Griffin Park			X	X
Rename City Park			X	
Improve Electrical at R.V. Park			X	X
Enlarge Brashear Lake Park			X	
Improve Walking at Lobo Lake Park			X	X
Install Paving at R.V. Park			X	X

This record on plan implementation reveals two important facts: first, Levelland does follow and implement plans; and second, there is a need to develop a new plan to guide the town's park development for the next decade as the needs have changed in recent years.

Also, in 2004 the City of Levelland updated the City's comprehensive plan for the various departments. This comprehensive plan included a chapter on the City of Levelland park plan.

NEEDS, GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Goal

Provide for the development of park, open space, and recreational activities in Levelland for residents and visitors alike.

Objectives

To identify the needs and desires of the citizens of Levelland in regard to the development and management of City owned and operated recreational facilities.

To consider all relevant factors in the planning process including:

- Existing Recreational Facilities

- Needs and Desires of Recreational Facility Users

- Historical and/or Environmental Sensitive Areas

- Distribution of Recreational Facilities

- The Health, Safety, and Welfare of the Citizens

- The Resources Available for Improvement of Recreational Facilities

- The Community Image Desired

To develop a plan to guide the development of recreational facilities in Levelland well into the next decade.

PLAN DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

This plan was developed by Public Works Director Pat Riley and Administration Services Director Erik Rejino under the guidance of City Manager Rick Osburn, the City Council, Planning and Zoning Commission, and citizens of Levelland. Rick Osburn has been with the City of Levelland for 28 years and has a Masters in City Planning and is a former member of the American Institute of Certified Planners. He was involved with the 1986 and 2004 park plans, and is singularly responsible for development of the 1997 Park Plan, for which the Texas Chapter of the American Planning Association presented the City of Levelland an award. A listing of important dates and events in the plan development process will serve to document the process.

Summer 2009 – Informal discussions among the City Manager, Public Works Director, and Administration Services Director began about the need to develop a new park plan.

November 2009 – The need for a new park plan was formally discussed at a Levelland City Council meeting. At that time City Council authorized staff to proceed with the planning process and develop a new park plan.

November 19, 2009 – First Master Park Plan Stakeholder Meeting occurred. Representatives from the local baseball, softball, soccer, and football organizations were at the meeting to provide input. The various leagues provided input on their respective recreational activities.

January 25, 2010 – Master Park Plan public town hall meeting occurred. Levelland residents were given the opportunity to provide input on the Levelland park system. To publicize the meeting, ads were purchased on the local radio station and in the local newspaper, as well as notice posted on the city website homepage.

January through April 2010 – A citizen survey on park needs was performed in both online and paper formats. Results are discussed later in this plan, including the Appendix.

February 10, 2010 – City of Levelland Staff met with youth sports league officials to discuss preliminary park survey results and financing options to conduct park improvements.

March 25, 2010 – City Manager, Public Works Director, and Administration Services Director met to discuss park plan prior to sending off to TPWD for preliminary review.

March 31, 2010 – The City Manager and Administration Services Director met with Texas Parks & Wildlife Department to discuss park plan and provide a copy to the department to review and provide comments.

April 5, 2010 – The City of Levelland received comments from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department on the preliminary Levelland Park Plan.

April 19, 2010 – May 3, 2010 – The Park Plan was made available for review and comments on the City of Levelland website and at Levelland City Hall. No comments were received.

April 27, 2010 – A public hearing was held at the Levelland Planning & Zoning Commission meeting. The Planning and Zoning Commission gave the park plan a favorable recommendation to Levelland City Council.

May 3, 2010 – A public hearing was held at the Levelland City Council Meeting. The City Council adopted the park plan through a resolution.

STANDARDS FOR PARK DEVELOPMENT

History

The history of development standards goes back to the 1850's and the growth of major cities in the United States. By that time the major cities had grown to the point of causing major health problems because of lack of adequate sanitation systems for dealing with both solid and liquid wastes from cities. This led to the Sanitary Reform Movement and the initial codification of plumbing standards for municipal potable water and waste water distribution systems. Within a few decades this movement for standards spread throughout many areas of development, including the provision of a park system.

The National Park and Recreation Association (NRPA) has been a leader in the development and upgrading of park standards for the past several decades. Their publication, *Park, Recreation, Open Space, and Greenway Guidelines*, has been used as a national standard for many years. The standards and guidelines which follow were derived in large part from the 1997 revisions of that document, some of which are adopted as the standards for the Levelland Park Plan.

Classification

NRPA identifies about 16 different classifications of parks ranging from mini-parks to national parks. Not all classifications are found in all communities or areas. Detailed information on Levelland's park facilities is found in the INVENTORY section. Those park classifications, and accompanying standards, which are found in Levelland are:

Mini-Park - A mini-park is a small area (roughly ½ block) generally used as a children's playground or as a passive or aesthetic area by senior citizens. Mini-parks are designed to serve a very small population area and are often owned or maintained by a property association, such as a homeowners association. These parks normally serve a population base of 500 to 1,000 persons, and although they range in size, they are typically about one acre. The primary function and use of this type of park is generally to provide recreational space for preschool-age children and elementary school-age children near their residences. Where substantial development of high-density apartments is proposed, it is appropriate that mini-parks be incorporated as part of the high-density development. Any future development of mini-parks should be private in

nature, as should ownership and maintenance responsibilities. These parks, although they should be used to calculate the amount of park acreage a community has, are generally not conducive to ownership by municipalities due primarily to required maintenance costs. 4th Street Park and 17th Street Park are both examples of mini-parks.

Neighborhood Park - The neighborhood park, sometimes referred to as a playground, is generally thought of as one of the most important features of a park system, and is often considered to be one of the major cohesive elements in neighborhood design. Its primary function is the provision of recreational space for the neighborhood that surrounds it. When it is possible to combine an elementary school with this type of park, the two features further enhance the identity of the neighborhood by providing a central location for recreation and education, and by providing a significant open space feature within the neighborhood. A neighborhood park should be located near the center of the neighborhood, and should have a service area of approximately one and a half miles. Safe and convenient pedestrian access via sidewalks or trails is important to a neighborhood park location. Generally, the location should not be adjacent to a heavily traveled major thoroughfare. Facilities normally provided at a neighborhood park consist of the following:

- Playground equipment for small children
- A multiple-purpose, surfaced play area
- An athletic area (non-lighted) for games such as baseball, football and soccer, and a surfaced area for such sports as volleyball, basketball and similar activities.

Other desirable elements for neighborhood parks include:

- Pavilions with tables and grills for picnics
- Restrooms
- Drinking fountains
- Tennis courts
- A passive area with landscaping, trees and natural elements.

Neighborhood parks are designed to serve a small population area. An appropriate standard in relation to size and population for this type of park is 1.5 to 2.5 acres per 1,000 persons. These parks normally serve a population base of 1,000 to 2,500 persons, and they generally range in size from five to 10 acres. Lobo Lake Park is considered a Neighborhood Park and features fishing, picnic facilities, a playground and a mountain with a moat.

Community Park - A community park is larger than a neighborhood park, and is oriented toward providing active recreational facilities for all ages. Community parks serve several neighborhood areas, and therefore, they should be conveniently accessible by automobile and should include provisions for off-street parking. Activities provided in these parks generally include:

- Game and practice fields for baseball, football, soccer and softball
- A community building/ recreation center

- Tennis courts
- A surfaced multiple-purpose play area
- Playground structures
- A passive area for picnicking
- Other special facilities like walking/jogging trails

Often community parks are constructed adjacent to, or as a part of, a junior high or high school; this is considered desirable. Community parks are designed to serve a medium population area. An appropriate size standard for these parks in relation to size and population is 3 acres per 1,000 persons, and they generally range in size from 40 acres to 100 acres. Breshear Lake Park, adjacent to South Plains College, is considered a community park.

Large/Regional Parks - Areas that are 100 or more acres in size, which provide both passive and active recreational facilities, are considered to be large/regional (or city-wide) parks. These parks contain facilities that allow for large public gatherings, recreational/sporting opportunities, playgrounds and passive relaxation in open space areas. City Park is a large/regional park of over 116 acres and provides all of the above mentioned amenities. It is a popular destination for family get-togethers and reunions and is one of the well- used parks in the City.

Special Parks - Golf courses, linear parks/greenbelts, trails, country clubs, school parks, botanical gardens and special athletic and community centers, are considered to be special types of recreational facilities. Standards for this type of facility are variable and dependent upon the extent of services provided by the special facility. The Levelland Country Club and its existing nine hole golf course is considered a special park as well as the R.V. Park in the northeastern portion of the City. Many golfers within the community are members.

Parkways & Ornamental Areas - Plazas, street medians, scenic drives and grounds of public buildings and similar facilities are important aspects of the overall park system and should receive careful attention for their development and maintenance. They are also often a pleasant passive place that may be provided as part of a trail system. The park area in which the Hockley County courthouse is situated in downtown is an excellent example and provides a resting and peaceful environment for downtown office workers and shopkeepers.

Sports Complex - A sports complex consolidates heavily programmed athletic fields and associated facilities. The baseball, softball, and soccer complexes within City Park will qualify as a sports complex, as will the swimming pool and bathhouse City Park.

Total Parkland Standard

Often community parks are constructed adjacent to, or as part of, a public school, which is considered desirable. NRPA recommends that local park system contain 6.25 to 10.5 acres of developed open space per 1,000 population. The following chart shows how this recommendation is to be distributed, and also shows how Levelland's current system compares.

Park Type	NRPA Standard	Levelland's Current System
Neighborhood & Mini	1.25 to 2.5 ac/1,000	4.0 ac/1,000
Community	5.0 to 8.0 ac/1,000	9.0 ac/1,000
TOTAL	6.25 to 10.5 ac/1,000	13.0 ac/1,000

Location Standard

As outlined above under Classification there are standards for the location of park facilities. In summary, parks are to be located in proximity to the park users, based upon the type of park facility. Because of Levelland's size the only locational standard which will be applicable is the standard for Neighborhood parks. Under this standard each residence should have a neighborhood park within a ½ mile.

Map 3 shows the ½ mile service areas for each of Levelland's developed parks. From this map one can identify two pockets of residential areas which are not within the service area of a city park. However, since the elementary schools have playgrounds and play areas which are open to the public after school hours, they can also be considered.

Map 4 highlights the Levelland schools that have playgrounds and/or play areas. These circles refer to the ½ mile service areas for the seven Levelland ISD schools that have playgrounds and/or play areas that are available to the public after school hours. Upon further review of this map, there is one small area which is not within a park service area.

EXISTING PARK SYSTEM INVENTORY

The City of Levelland park system is made up of twelve parks each containing 1 acre or more. Of these twelve parks, ten are developed for general park use and two are special use parks. Each parks location is shown on Map 2.

12 Parks Total – 170 Acres

2 Special Use Parks (R.V. & Skatepark) 2.6 Acres

10 Developed Parks – 167.4 Acres

12 Playgrounds with Equipment	4 Walking Tracks
5 All Purpose Play fields	8 Soccer Fields
7 Baseball Fields	4 Softball Fields
7 Volleyball Courts	7 Basketball Courts
4 Horse Shoe Pits	Swimming Pool & Bathhouse
2 Fishing Lakes	6 pavilions

A. City Park (116 acres), McKinley & Ave Q

City Park is Levelland's citywide park and contains the City's sports complexes including baseball, softball, swimming, and disc golf. The swimming pool was developed with TPWD assistance. This park is by far the most heavily used and contains the Park Department offices and maintenance shop. Other facilities include:

- 1 – swimming pool and bathhouse
- 7 – baseball fields
- 9 – soccer fields
- 2 – activity centers
- 3 – volleyball courts
- 1 – basketball court
- 4 – softball fields
- 3 – awnings with playground, BBQ grills,

- and picnic tables
- 1 – public restroom
- 4 – horse shoe pits
- 1 – 22 hole disc golf course
- 1 – walking track
- 1 – city civic center
- 1 – activities building



Covered picnic pavilions, such as this one in City Park, are a favorite of family reunions and other large gatherings.



The City Swimming Pool and Bathhouse are located in City Park.



Playgrounds, such as this one, within the City Park accompany most pavilions.



Various recreational events, such as baseball, occur within the City Park

B. L.G. Griffin Park (9 acres), Jefferson Street & Lucille Ave.

L.G. Griffin Park was developed within a playa lake area using TPWD grant funds. Its facilities include:

- 1 – awning with playground, BBQ grill, and picnic tables
- 1 – volleyball court

- 1 – basketball court
- 1 – walking track



The quality walking track make L.G. Griffin Park a frequently used park.



The pavilion is conveniently located steps away from the basketball court, volleyball court, and playground.



Modular playground units, such as this one in L.G. Griffin Park, have been well received in Levelland.



C. Kauffman Park (3 acres), Lobo Lane and Butch Street

Kauffman Park mainly serves a subdivision somewhat isolated from the rest of the city. Its facilities include:

- 1 – awning with playground, BBQ grill, picnic tables, and playground
- 1 – basketball court

- 1 – baseball and all purpose field
- 1 – volleyball court



Kauffman Park, with its open space and quality facilities, is seconds away from residents that live in the Kauffman edition.



This playground, conveniently located steps away from the awning, makes for a great place to hold a family gathering.



D. Sherman Park (4 acres), Sherman Ave. and Hickory Street

Sherman Park, minutes away from South Plains College, has many features. Its facilities include:

- 1 – awning with BBQ grill and picnic tables
- 1 – basketball field
- 1 – all purpose field

- 2 – playgrounds (one of which is a medium sized wooden play place built in recent years)



This medium sized wooden play place located in Sherman Park, built in recent years, has become one of the top playground spots in Levelland.



Kauffman Park offers an open multi-purpose field.



E. Brashear Lake Park (8 acres) Holly Street and Ash Ave.

Brashear Lake Park is the second community wide park. It was developed in the 1980's with contributions of land and money from South Plains College, as well as TPWD assistance. Its facilities include:

- 1 – walking track
- 3 – picnic areas with BBQ grills, picnic tables

- 1 – all purpose field
- 1 – playground
- 1 – fishing lake



This lake fountain, located at Brashear Lake Park, makes for a great view while local residents participate in recreational activities at the park.



The quality walking track and pleasant surroundings make Brashear Lake Park one of Levelland's most used parks.



F. Country Club Park (9 acres) Beechwood Street and Parkwood Lane

This park is located near the Levelland Municipal Airport. Its facilities include:

1 – basketball court

1 – playground

1 – walking track

1 – volleyball court

1 – all purpose field



Country Club Park, one of the larger neighborhood parks in Levelland, offers a great multi-purpose field in addition to the other recreational activities offered.

G. Levelland Skate Park/Tennis Courts (1.1 acres)

This park was developed in 2009.

-ramps

-grind bars

-grinding picnic table



Levelland's newest park and first of its kind, offers skateboarders various ramps and grind bars in which they can navigate through.



H. Levelland R.V. Park (1.5 acres) Brownfield Highway S385

One of Levelland's special use parks includes seven paved spots with water and electricity.

1 – sewage dump

2 – picnic areas



Approaching the Levelland R.V. Park on Highway 385 from the South



North side of Levelland R.V. Park

I. 17th Street Park (3 acres) 17th Street and Ave. G

This park is considered a mini-park primarily used by residents in this area. Its facilities include:

- 1 – small pavillion
- 1 – basketball court

- 1 – picnic area
- 1 – playground



J. Lobo Lake Park (11.5 acres) Ave. H and 13th Street

This Park was developed in the early 1970's with TPWD assistance. In 2003, a pavilion for Lobo Lake Park was built with TPWD assistance.

- 1 – large pavilion/amphitheater
- 1 – playground
- 1 – mountain with moat
- 1 – picnic area

- 1 – fishing lake
- 1 – mountain with a moat
- 1 – walking track



This pavilion, located at Lobo Lake Park and constructed with assistance from TPWD, is a great place to host community events.

K. 4th Street Park (1.9 acres) 4th and Ave. L

- 1 – small pavilion
- 1 – basketball court

- 1 – all purpose field
- 1 – playground equipment



This playground is one of many features offered at the 4th Street Park.



The 4th Street Park basketball court is steps away from the playground and pavilion.

L. George C. Price Park (2 acres)

This park was developed in 1997 with TPWD assistance.

- 1 – playground
- 1 – medium pavilion and grill
- 1 – volleyball court

- 1 – walking track



George C. Price Park, constructed with TPWD assistance, has been a great addition to the Levelland Park System by offering various recreational activities.



OTHER AVAILABLE PUBLIC RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

Levelland ISD and South Plains College

The Levelland Independent School District (LISD) has eight campuses with recreational facilities. Although some of these facilities are for LISD use only, many are available for public use during hours when school is not in session and when other organized school activities are not utilizing the facilities. Also, South Plains College (SPC) has a number of recreational facilities which are available to the public as well. Following is a chart of all LISD and SPC recreational facilities:

Recreational Type:	Name of School:								
	Cactus	Capitol	South	ABC	Carver	Intermediate	Middle	High	SPC
	Elem.	Elem.	Elem.		Center	School	School	School	
Indoor gymnasium	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Playground w/ equip.*	1	1	1	1	2	1	1		
multi-purpose fields*	2	2	2		1	1	1	2	2
basketball courts outside*	1	1	1						
basketball courts inside*						1	2	2	4
tennis courts		1						8	12
Track						1		1	1
football field						1	1	1	1
weight lifting rooms						1	1	1	2
baseball field or backstop	1	1	1					1	3
softball fields*								1	
picnic area w/ covers*							1	1	1
multi-purpose field	1	1	1					1	1
racket ball courts									4
indoor swimming pool									1
indoor walking track									1

Private Recreational Facilities

Levelland has one private country club with a 9 hole golf course and swimming pool.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND OTHER INPUT

One of the most important steps in the planning process is public participation. This step involves determining what the public feels the current day needs are for the Levelland park system. This assessment was done through a series of meetings, as well as receiving input on an individual basis.

Park Plan Stakeholder Meeting 1

On November 19, 2009 a stakeholder meeting was held with organized groups which use the park system for organized activities. Groups invited to this meeting included representatives from the local baseball, softball, soccer, and football leagues. The various leagues provided input on their respective recreational activities. The following items were discussed:

Baseball:

- Baseball is a priority due to the regional tournaments that have been held in recent years and the Babe Ruth World Series that will be held in 2010 in Levelland.
- Baseball has developed a year round league for which tournaments cannot be held in Levelland due to the lack of facilities.
- Having fields that can accommodate multiple age groups is also in need.
- Approximately 600 kids are involved in baseball in Levelland each year.
- A quadplex with centralized concession stands and restrooms could be a possible solution for baseball.

Softball:

- Softball has approximately 450 youth involved in the program each year.
- Over recent years softball has grown approximately 50-100 kids per year.
- The three softball fields in the Levelland City Park could be reformatted in the area they are in and four fields could be created with centralized concession and bathrooms.
- A quadplex would also help meet the needs of softball.
- Softball currently lacks the ability to host high school level tournaments.
- Softball fields that accommodate multiple age groups are in need.

Soccer:

- Soccer is in need of concession stands, restrooms, and lighting.
- There is a need for fields to accommodate kids 10 and older; currently these kids must play out of town and as a result this age group has a low turnout.
- A solution to meet one of the needs of soccer is to remove the Church League Softball Field and turn it into a soccer field which would already have lights. A field this size would also accommodate kids that are 10 and older.

Football:

- Football has fewer kids than the recreational activities mentioned above.
- Football can utilize the soccer fields and any improvements made in the future such as concession and restrooms.

General Thoughts:

- A Quadplex that accommodates both baseball and softball would help in meeting the needs of both of these leagues.
- A second Quadplex is of interest if the first one is built.
- Adequate Parking for the above mentioned facilities.

Possible Funding Sources:

- Sales Tax Increase
- Property Taxes
- User Fees

Public Townhall Meeting

On January 25, 2009 a public hearing was held for the general public in order to give Levelland residents an opportunity to provide input on the Levelland park and recreation system. A total of 20 people were present at the public hearing. An overview of the current Levelland parks and recreation system was presented at the beginning of the hearing. A number of good comments and suggestions came out of this meeting. The following items were discussed:

- Lack of fencing along parks such as Sherman Park.
- Security at local parks.
- The need to prevent people from driving on grass.
- The City of Levelland should recruit more events such as the Babe Ruth World Series after improving current facilities.
- Levelland does a good job of recruiting events for the Disc Golf Course, which is one of the best in the region.
- Baseball and Softball fields are in need of improvements; baseball has approximately 600 participants per year and softball has approximately 300 participants per year. A way to solve this issue would be to build a quadro-plex with a mixture of baseball and softball fields.
- In the year 2011 there will be a 9 and 10 year old regional baseball tournament in Levelland.
- The need for an indoor recreational center. Ways to operate the center were also discussed. The addition of a Parks and Recreation Director is a possibility as the director would coordinate use and volunteers at the center.
- An increase in the sales tax is a possible way to fund any improvements made and maintain the improvements.
- The amount of fish in both Lobo and Brashear Lakes was discussed. The City mentioned that the TPWD stocks the fish.
- The idea of turning the “church league” softball field into more soccer and football fields so that the field could get more usage.

Public Participation

Staff also developed and distributed a citizen survey to gather public input. Of the 339 surveys received, 78 were completed online, 38 were paper copies, 202 were a modified version

distributed through the public school to middle school and high school children, and 21 were a modified version distributed directly to senior citizens. Summary results of the survey are discussed in the Needs Assessment section with detailed results shown in the Appendix.

Financing Meeting

On February 10, 2010 City of Levelland Staff met with league officials to discuss preliminary park survey results and financing options to conduct park improvements.

Park Plan Available for Review

The Park Plan was made available for review through the City of Levelland website and at Levelland City Hall from April 19, 2010-May 3, 2010. This was published in the local newspaper and on the local radio station. No comments were received.

First Public Hearing

A Public Hearing was held on April 27, 2010 at the Levelland Planning & Zoning Commission meeting. The Planning & Zoning Commission gave the park plan a favorable recommendation to Levelland City Council.

Second Public Hearing

A Public Hearing was held on May 3, 2010 at the Levelland City Council meeting. The City Council adopted the plan through a resolution.

City Staff Input

Working daily with the park system's maintenance and operation gives City staff some insight into the park system and its use which would not otherwise be seen by others. Based upon this City administration and park personnel feel the most needed items are:

- Replacement of the concrete pad at the basketball court at Sherman Park.
- Playground equipment needs to be upgraded and or replaced at city parks.
- Replacement of the curb around the playground at 17th Street Park.
- Installation of a sprinkler system at the Country Club Park and the softball fields located in the City Park.
- Replacement of fences on the baseball and softball fields as well as the Country Club Park.
- Replacement of gravel with mulch on the playground at 4th Street Park.
- Additional trees are needed on the west side of the City Park and at the Country Club Park.

NEEDS ASSESSMENT

There are three main approaches utilized in determining parks and recreational needs. These are:

Demand-based – Based upon what the population wants

Resource-based – Based upon available resources

Standard-based – Based upon established standards

Elements of all three of these approaches were considered throughout the development of this plan. However, the needs assessment is based strictly on a demand and resource based approach. The developers of this plan felt that the demand and resource based approach strongly outweighed the standard-based approach.

After evaluating the 339 park surveys, the input from the various public meetings, input from the staff, the previous park plan needs, and evaluating possible funding sources, Levelland planners determined a list of the current needs of the Levelland Parks and Recreation System.

- Addition and/or improvement to baseball and softball fields
- Addition and/or improvement to soccer and football fields
- Expansion and/or improvement to walking/jogging trails
- Improvements to playgrounds
- Improvements to basketball court at Sherman Park
- Addition and/or improvements to picnic facilities
- Addition and/or improvements to children's play areas
- Additional and/or improvements to benches/seating
- Installation of sprinkler systems at the Country Club Park and softball fields at City Park
- Improvements to landscaping in Levelland City Park and Country Club Park
- Addition/improvements to neighborhood parks
- Addition of bicycle traffic lanes
- Addition/improvement to landscaping around railroad right of way
- Addition of programs for adults
- Rename City Park

The results presented above are primarily based on demand and resources available. These were items that had a high level of public support which were the results of the 339 park surveys received as well as the park plan public meetings that were held.

While various other comments and recommendations were received, none of the additional comments and recommendations had nearly as much public support as the items mentioned above. Many of the additional comments and recommendations given were routine in nature. Some of the items such as security lighting and field maintenance are items that can be worked into the Parks Department's budget and work program which can be accomplished as time and

resources become available. Other items mentioned did not have an adequate amount of public support to be considered a priority. Also, when Levelland ISD and South Plains College facilities are considered, many of these additional comments and recommendations are suited with these outside facilities. Please refer to the “Illustrations, Maps, and Surveys” section to see all additional comments and recommendations given to City staff throughout the development of this plan.

PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

Based upon the needs assessment in the previous section, the City of Levelland Park Plan has prioritized the identified needs. The highest priority needs are the needs that the park survey determined to be the top three recreational facilities to be expanded. These were also consistent with comments received at public input meetings. The high priority needs are needs that the park survey determined to be the next three priorities. The moderate priority needs are needs that the park survey determined to be the last three priorities. All other identified needs are in the lowest category. Some of these items were in the previous park plan but have not been accomplished yet as some of these items were lower priorities. These items will be done as financing becomes available.

Highest Priority

- Addition and/or improvement to baseball and softball fields
- Addition and/or improvement to soccer and football fields
- Expansion and/or improvement to walking/jogging trails

High Priority

- Improvements to playgrounds
- Improvements to basketball court at Sherman Park
- Addition and/or improvements to picnic facilities

Moderate Priority

- Addition and/or improvements to children's play areas
- Additional and/or improvements to benches/seating
- Installation of sprinkler systems at the Country Club Park and softball fields at City Park

Priority

- Improvements to landscaping in Levelland City Park and Country Club Park
- Addition/improvements to neighborhood parks
- Addition of bicycle traffic lanes
- Addition/improvement to landscaping around railroad right of way
- Addition of programs for adults
- Rename City Park

Financing

Recommendations are only valuable if they are feasible for the party responsible for carrying out the recommendations. In the case of the Levelland Park Plan, as with many ventures and projects, recommendations and their feasibility are inextricably linked to financing. The ability of the City of Levelland to access existing public funds and gain new funding is the single largest

determinant to what the parks system may become. It is the responsibility of the Levelland Park Plan planning staff to make recommendations regarding improvements and expansions based on what might reasonably be expected in terms of funding. Although not necessarily easy to access, there are a number of methods to finance park development.

Local funds

Using local government funds is one way to finance park development. These funds can come from fees, property taxes, sales taxes, or other sources of funds for the general operation of the local government. Since these funds are paid, for the most part, by local residents, and require visible increases in taxes and/or fees, there needs to be a real commitment on the part of local taxpayers to fund any major park development in this way.

Other Local Government Funds

Other local governments can also assist in park development. The Levelland R.V. Park is owned jointly by the City of Levelland and Hockley County. Funds from both entities have been used to develop and maintain the park. South Plains College has also helped the local system by contributing heavily in both land and funding to assist in the development of Brashear Lake Park.

State and Federal Funds

Both the state and federal governments fund local park improvements through park grant programs administered by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD). However, these programs are very competitive and require a match of local funds. These programs are an excellent way to leverage local funds to get more for the money. Levelland has utilized Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) grant programs for over three decades in the development of six parks and recreation projects. In the early 1970's a TPWD was used to help develop Lobo Lake Park. In 1984 TPWD funds were utilized to assist in rebuilding the City Swimming Pool. In 1986 the City's first walking track was developed in Brashear Lake Park with the help of a TPWD grant. Also, in 1997, George C Price Park was developed with the assistance of TPWD. Most recently in 2003 the Pavilion at Lobo Lake Park was developed with the assistance of a TPWD grant. The city has a history of successfully implementing TPWD grants as well as other funding sources to expand and improve City of Levelland park facilities.

Private Foundations

Some private foundations have been known to fund park improvements. The City of Levelland is currently waiting for a response from the Major League Baseball, Baseball Tomorrow Fund. They invited a full application in 2009 for the Babe Ruth Field Lighting Project.

Private Donations

In the past, individuals have donated to the development of the park system. Most recently, in 2009, the Levelland Skate Park was developed with the majority of the contributions being private donations from local businesses and citizens. On may 16,1989 the Levelland City

Council created the Voluntary Park Donation Fund. With this program city residents may contribute \$1 per month toward park improvements by allowing it to be added to their water bill. About 40 percent of City residents participate in the program generating approximately \$24,000 annually for park improvements. To date these funds have been used for improvements which include:

- 5 volleyball courts
- Public Restroom-City Park
- Drinking Fountains-Breshear
- 25 Trees-Airport Park
- Restrooms-Babe Ruth Field
- Walking Trail-Airport Park
- Sprinkler Systems-Lobo, 4th, 17th, Sherman
- Lights-Babe Ruth and Little League Fields
- Soccer Complex
- Improvements on Activities Building
- 2 playgrounds
- Irrigation
- Levelland Play Place
- Levelland Skate Park
- Lobo Amphitheater, security lights, walking trail
- Kaufman Park Pavilion
- Disc Golf
- George C. Price Park

Implementation Schedule

The actual rate at which this plan can be implemented is based upon several factors, the most important of which is financing. The first items on the plan that should be addressed are those considered highest priority. However, many times less important items can be accomplished much more quickly because they cost less. All of these factors play into the development of the implementation schedule.

10 YEAR PLAN IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE FOR MAJOR ITEMS

PARK IMPROVEMENT	YEAR	FUNDING
Addition and/or improvements to baseball and softball fields	2011-2012	Local/Grant
Addition and/or improvements to soccer and football fields	2011-2012	Local/Grant
Expansion and/or improvements to walking/jogging trails	2011-2012	Local/Grant

Improvements to playgrounds	2012-2013	Local/Grant
Improvements to basketball court at Sherman Park	2013-2014	Local/Grant
Addition and/or improvements to picnic facilities	2014-2015	Local/Grant
Addition and/or improvements to children's play areas	2015-2016	Local/Grant
Additional and/or improvements to benches/seating	2016-2017	Local/Grant
Installation of sprinkler systems at the Country Club Park and softball fields at City Park	2017-2018	Local/Grant
Improved landscaping in Levelland City Park and Country Club Park	2018-2019	Local/Grant
Addition of bicycle traffic lanes	2019-2020	Local/Grant
Improve landscaping around railroad right of way	2019-2020	Local/Grant/Railroad Company

The highest priority item is the addition and/or improvement of baseball and softball fields. This was the prevailing item in the park survey as well as at the public meetings that were held. Baseball and Softball have experienced an increase in the number of participants that participate each year and are in need of additional up to par facilities. The City of Levelland has also hosted various outside events such as regional Babe Ruth tournaments and the Babe Ruth World Series which will occur in 2010. As a result of the public input and this trend, improvements to the baseball and softball fields are the top priority.

While, improvements to the baseball and softball fields are the highest priority, the addition or improvement of the soccer and football fields can be accomplished by reorganizing facilities in the Levelland City Park or by adding additional fields in a new area. The expansion of walking and jogging trails can also be accomplished at the same time as the addition of baseball and softball fields.

Aside from the highest priority items, Levelland park planners feel that the remaining high priority items as well as the priority items are also achievable in a ten year period assuming the financing is available.

Plan Review

Any plan, if it is to be used and be of value, must be a dynamic document, constantly changing to meet new challenges and needs as they arise. Although the basic recommendations in this plan should carry Levelland for more than a decade, as implementation occurs and times change, a review will be necessary. It is recommended that a mini review of this plan occur during budget development each year to be sure that implementation is occurring. In about 5 years, a more formal review should take place with special emphasis on implementation and creating a revised implementation schedule. The new schedule should take into consideration the activities which have been accomplished, and include items which are not included in the schedule above.

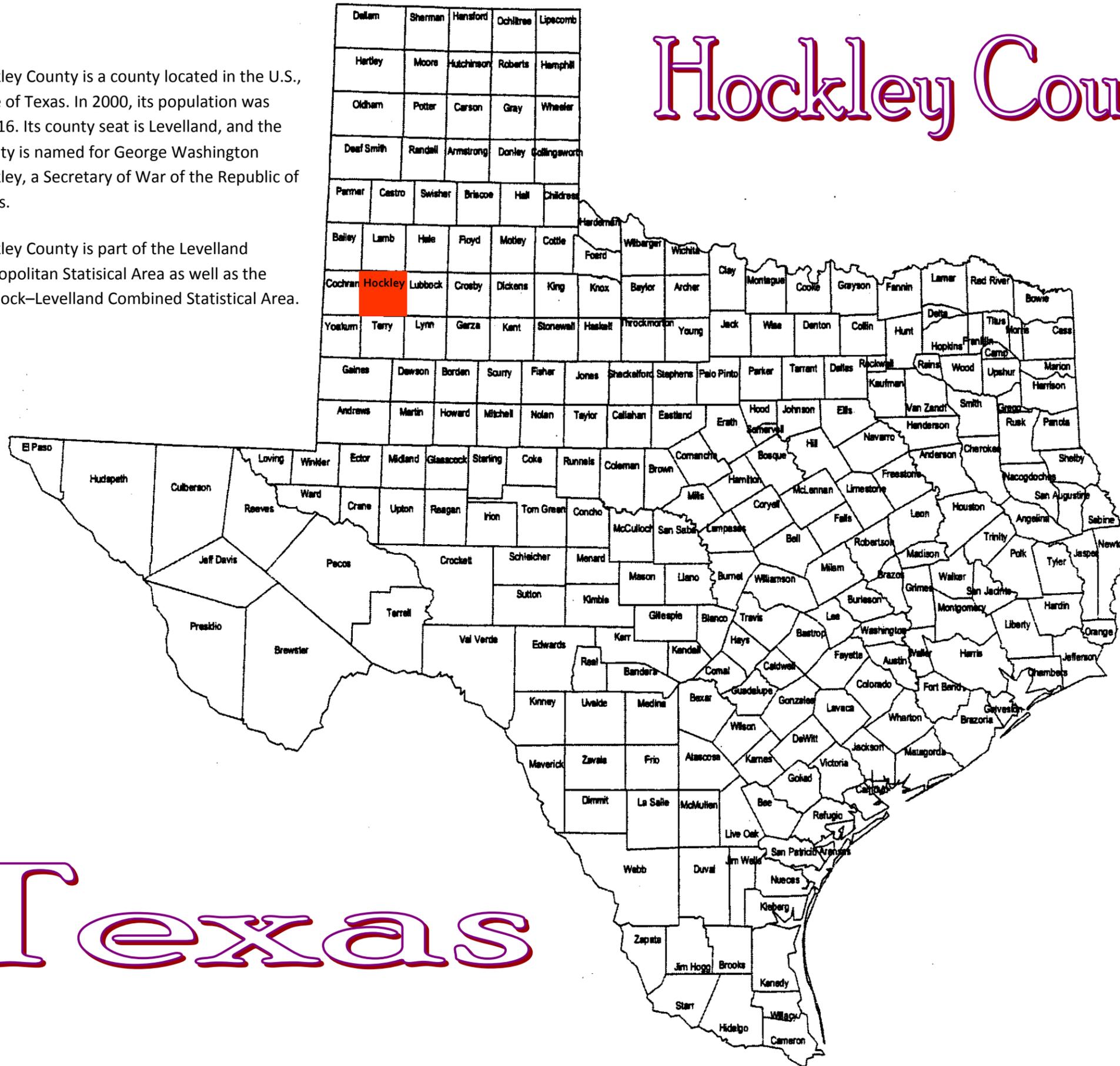
ILLUSTRATIONS, MAPS, & SURVEYS

Hockley County

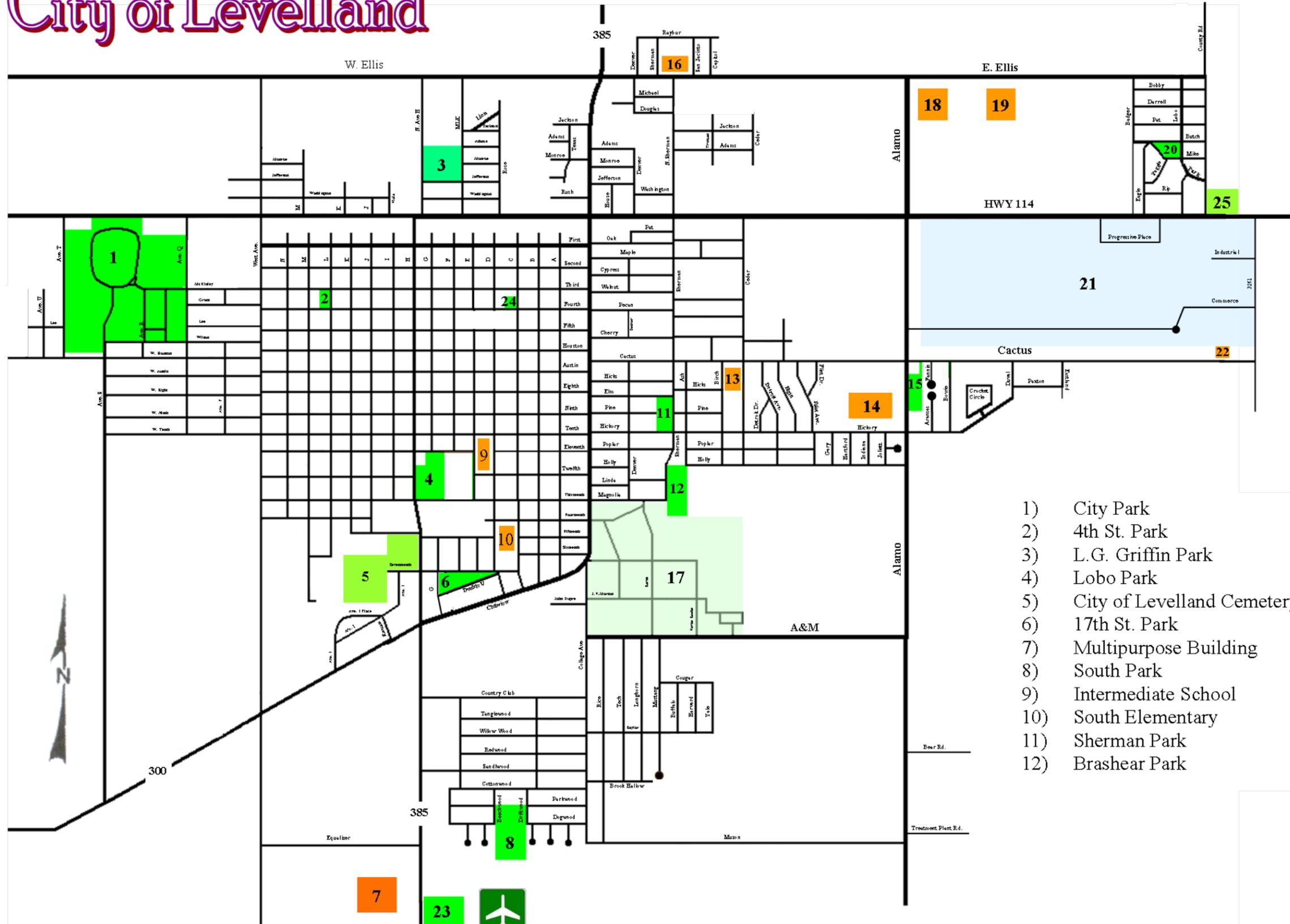
Hockley County is a county located in the U.S., state of Texas. In 2000, its population was 22,716. Its county seat is Levelland, and the county is named for George Washington Hockley, a Secretary of War of the Republic of Texas.

Hockley County is part of the Levelland Micropolitan Statistical Area as well as the Lubbock–Levelland Combined Statistical Area.

Texas

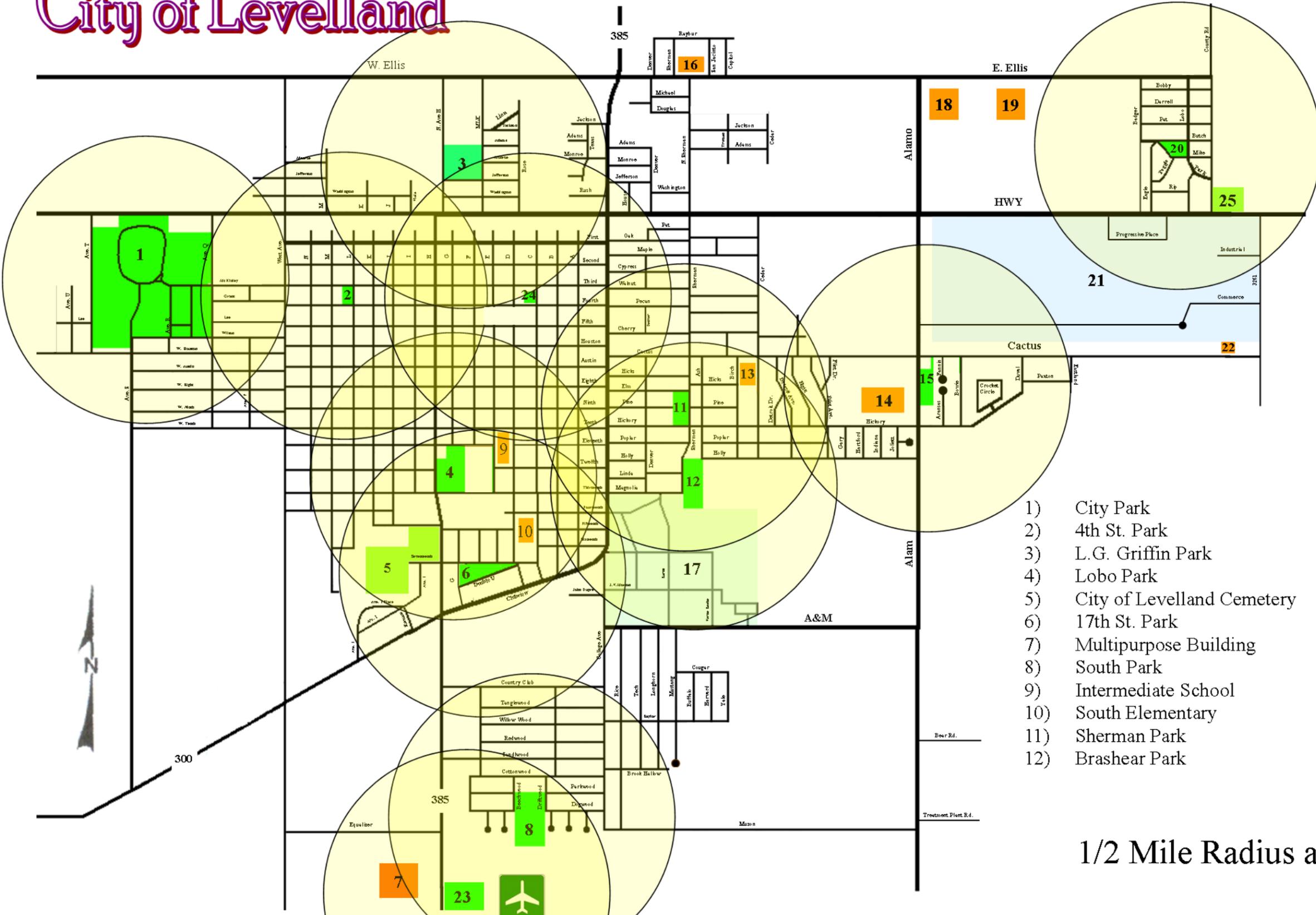


City of Levelland



- 1) City Park
- 2) 4th St. Park
- 3) L.G. Griffin Park
- 4) Lobo Park
- 5) City of Levelland Cemetery
- 6) 17th St. Park
- 7) Multipurpose Building
- 8) South Park
- 9) Intermediate School
- 10) South Elementary
- 11) Sherman Park
- 12) Brashear Park
- 13) Cactus Elementary
- 14) Levelland High School
- 15) George C. Price Park
- 16) Capitol Elementary
- 17) South Plains College
- 18) Middle School
- 19) ABC Early Childhood
- 20) Kaufman Park
- 21) Industrial Rail Park
- 22) Levelland Christian School
- 23) City owned RV park
- 24) Skate Park/Tennis Courts
- 25) Memorial Gardens Cemetery

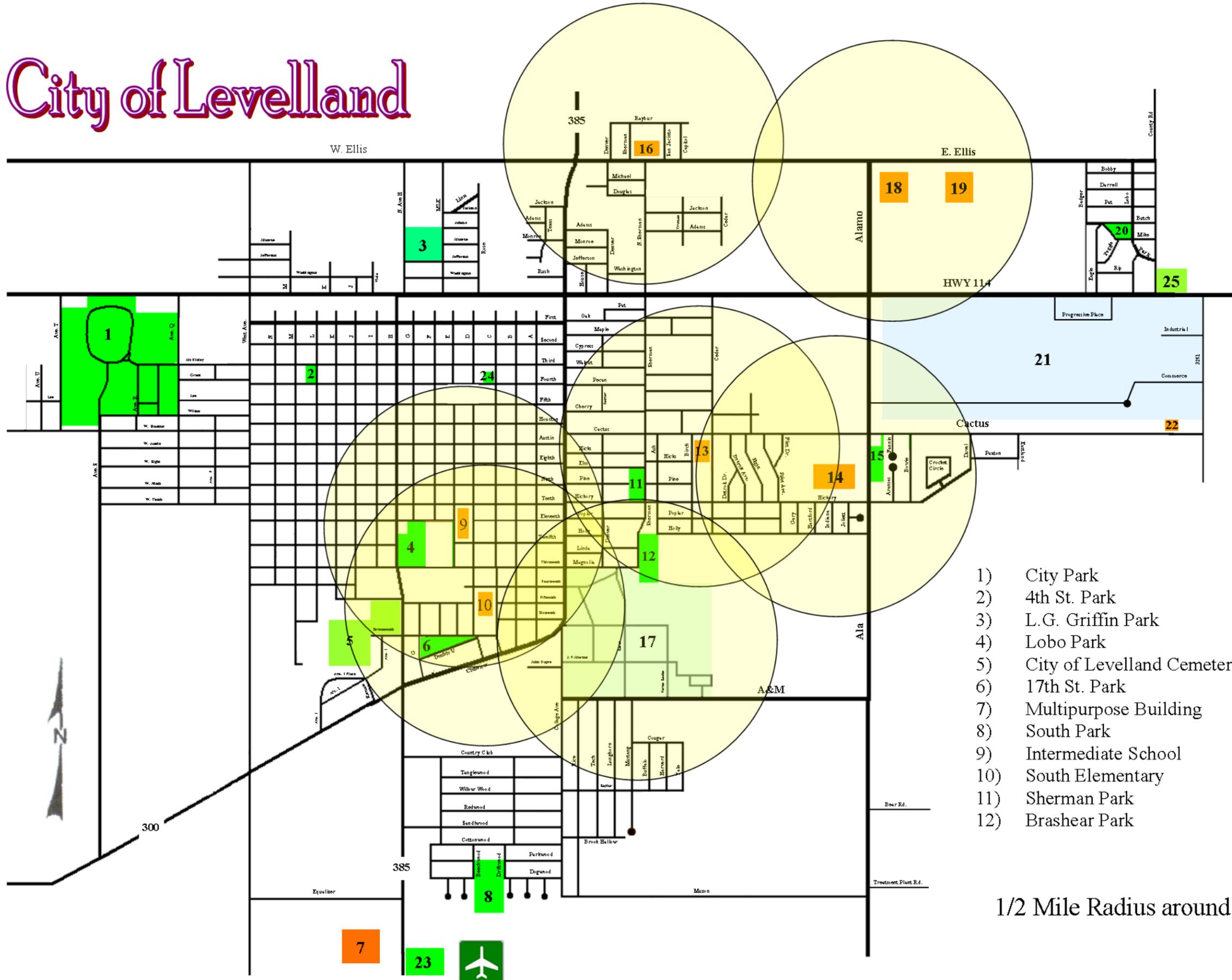
City of Levelland



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1/2 Mile Radius around City Parks

City of Levelland



- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1) City Park | 13) Cactus Elementary |
| 2) 4th St. Park | 14) Levelland High School |
| 3) L.G. Griffin Park | 15) George C. Price Park |
| 4) Lobo Park | 16) Capitol Elementary |
| 5) City of Levelland Cemetery | 17) South Plains College |
| 6) 17th St. Park | 18) Middle School |
| 7) Multipurpose Building | 19) ABC Early Childhood |
| 8) South Park | 20) Kaufman Park |
| 9) Intermediate School | 21) Industrial Rail Park |
| 10) South Elementary | 22) Levelland Christian School |
| 11) Sherman Park | 23) City owned RV park |
| 12) Brashear Park | 24) Skate Park/Tennis Courts |
| | 25) Memorial Gardens Cemetery |

1/2 Mile Radius around each School with a Play Area

City of Levelland Park Survey Summary

Please check the top 3 recreational facilities you would like to see added or expanded in the Levelland Park System.

	General Park Survey (116 surveys)	Percentages	High School/Middle School Survey (202 surveys)	Percentages	Senior Citizen Survey (21)	Percentages	Overall Totals (339)	Overall Percentages
Trail for walking, jogging	52	44.8%	72	35.6%	11	52.4%	135	39.8%
Children's play areas	37	31.9%	48	23.8%	9	42.9%	94	27.7%
Soccer and football fields	40	34.5%	107	53%	4	19%	151	44.5%
Baseball/s oftball fields	50	43.1%	102	50.5%	6	28.6%	158	46.6%
Picnic areas	32	27.6%	55	27.2%	8	38.1%	95	28%
Benches/s eating areas	27	23.3%	57	28.2%	11	52.4%	95	28%
Neighborhood parks	31	26.7%	49	24.2%	8	38.1	88	26%
Playgrounds	23	19.8%	67	33.2%	5	23.8%	95	28%
Bicycle traffic lanes	23	19.8%	25	12.4%	4	19%	52	15.3%

Has anyone in your household participated in Levelland's park system including sponsored recreation activities (like leagues) in the past year?

318 surveys	Overall Totals	Overall Percentages
YES	201	63.2%
NO	79	24.8%
NOT SURE	24	7.5%

Have you or anyone in your family including children, grandchildren, etc., utilized the Levelland park system?

21 surveys	Overall Totals	Overall Percentages
YES	13	62%
NO	6	28.6%
NOT SURE	0	0

To which of the following groups, if any, does Levelland need to provide more recreational opportunities?

158 surveys	Total	Percentages
Pre-school (under 5 years old)	30	19%
Children (5-12 years old)	51	32.2%
Teens (13-19 years old)	53	33.5%
Active young adults (20-40 years old)	49	31%
Adults (41-65)	34	21.5%
Senior Citizens (over age 65)	28	17.8%
Persons with disabilities and special needs	23	14.6%

How many times each year do you or other members of your household participate in the following recreational activities, whether in Levelland or elsewhere?

116 surveys	(16+)	(11-15)	(6-10)	(1-5)	Never
Fishing	(10) 8.6%	(5) 4.3%	(11) 9.5%	(35) 30.2%	(36) 31%
Soccer	(14) 12.1%	(7) 6%	(5) 4.3%	(20) 17.2%	(48) 41.4%
Canoeing/Kayaking/Sailing	(0) 0%	(2) 1.7%	(2) 1.7%	(8) 6.9%	(75) 64.7%
Football	(15) 12.9%	(12) 10.3%	(12) 10.3%	(17) 14.7%	(41) 35.3%
Passive recreation (Sitting, picnicking, bird watching, etc)	(20) 17.2%	(7) 6%	(19) 16.4%	(29) 25%	(15) 12.9%
Jogging	(32) 27.6%	(4) 3.4%	(11) 9.5%	(23) 19.8%	(26) 22.4%
Basketball	(28) 24.1%	(8) 6.9%	(9) 7.8%	(24) 20.7%	(27) 23.3%
Hiking	(12) 10.3%	(3) 2.6%	(12) 10.3%	(17) 14.7%	(47) 40.5%
Tennis	(6) 5.2%	(2) 1.7%	(4) 3.4%	(13) 11.2%	(63) 54.3%
Skateboarding/Rollerblading	(9) 7.8%	(0) 0%	(4) 3.4%	(8) 6.9%	(65) 56%
Walking	(56) 48.3%	(9) 7.8%	(18) 15.5%	(13) 11.2%	(6) 5.2%
Baseball/softball	(26) 22.4%	(9) 7.8%	(10) 8.6%	(16) 13.8%	(31) 26.7%
Swimming	(23) 19.8%	(9) 7.8%	(12) 10.3%	(24) 20.7%	(27) 23.3%
Horseback riding	(6) 5.2%	(4) 3.4%	(4) 3.4%	(16) 13.8%	(59) 50.9%
Bicycling	(25) 21.6%	(12) 10.3%	(9) 7.8%	(18) 15.5%	(31) 26.7%
Playgrounds	(30) 25.9%	(16) 13.8%	(12) 10.3%	(15) 12.9%	(20) 17.2%
Outdoor events	(19) 16.4%	(11) 9.5%	(23) 19.8%	(19) 16.4%	(21) 18.1%

Please check the following recreational activities you participate in whether in Levelland or elsewhere.

202 surveys	Total	Percentage
Fishing	48	23.8%
Soccer	41	20.3%
Canoeing/Kayaking/Sailing	21	10.4%
Football	51	25.2%
Passive recreation (Sitting picnicking, bird watching, etc)	51	25.2%
Jogging	67	33.2%
Basketball	72	35.6%
Hiking	28	13.9%
Tennis	32	15.8%
Skateboarding/Rollerblading	41	20.3%
Walking	84	41.6%
Baseball/softball	94	46.5%
Swimming	89	44.1%
Horseback riding	41	20.3%
Bicycling	36	17.8%
Playgrounds	45	22.3%
Outdoor events	73	36.1%

I am willing to pay an increase in the following fee and taxes in order to fund increased recreational opportunities and facilities.

116 surveys	Total	Percentages
User Fees	46	39.7%
Property Taxes	30	25.9%
Sales Tax	66	56.9%

Park Survey: Additional Comments

Park Survey 1 (116 surveys):

Question 2: Please check the top 3 recreational facilities you would like to see added or expanded in the Levelland Park System.

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| (3) Recreational center | (4) Concerts |
| (3) Restrooms/drinking facilities | (1) Archery Shooting Range |
| (3) Skatepark improvements | (1) Playground improvements |
| (2) Swimming | (1) Concern for trees being cut down, some have affected disc golf course |
| (1) Basketball | (1) Current system needs to be maintained better |
| (2) Picnic Tables | |
| (3) Dog Park | |
| (2) Landscaping | |
| (1) Additional fountains in Lakes | |

Question 3: To which of the following groups, if any, does Levelland need to provide more recreational opportunities?

- | | |
|---|---|
| (1) City league softball, volleyball, etc | |
| (1) Volleyball | (1) All purpose lot/field 1 |
| (1) Dog Park | (1) Our parks have always been pretty good. |

Question 4: How many times each year do you or other members of your household participate in the following recreational activities, whether in Levelland or elsewhere?

- | | |
|---|-----------------------------|
| (1) Volleyball | (1) Baseball/Soccer |
| (1) Picnic areas | (2) Car Show |
| (1) Improvements to current facilities. | (2) Bathrooms |
| (1) Dog Park | (1) Shooting/hunting sports |
| (3) Disc Golf | (1) Movies on the square |

Question 5: I am willing to pay an increase in the following fee and taxes in order to fund increased recreational opportunities and facilities.

- (1) Use current funds collected (currently 1/4 cent collected- use 1/8 cent)
- (1) Only after current parks have been properly maintained

- (1) All charges should be voluntary
- (1) None of the above
- (1) No sales-tax
- (1) Only if I am able to use it, my main activities are jogging and horseback
- (1) Why would I pay more when no improvements are being made
- (1) No, not in this economy
- (1) Use fundraisers such as a Chili Cookoff, BBQ contest, Car or Motorcycle shows, Marathon/Bicycle event.
- (1) If we can't afford new schools we don't need new parks
- (1) Use grants to fund
- (1) I need to see improvements first, I currently pay the park donation fee and have seen no improvements to the Country Club Park/Other Parks
- (1) Do not put more burden on the property owners
- (1) Extra fees on water bill or something of that sort
- (1) Please do not increase property taxes
- (1) We can raise money to help improve disc golf as we have already
- (1) As long as they are fair to everyone
- (1) None

Park Survey II (High School & Middle School 202 surveys)

Question 2: Please check the top 3 recreational facilities you would like to see added or expanded in the Levelland Park System.

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| (1) Shooting range | (1) Baseball fields |
| (1) Swimming | (1) Skate park |
| (4) Dog park | (2) Movie theater |
| (1) Aquarium | (1) Lighting at parks |
| (1) Water fountains | (1) Snow cone stand |
| (1) Volleyball courts | (1) Workout gym |
| (6) Tennis courts | (1) Swings |
| (1) Indoor tennis | (1) Coke machine |
| (14) Basketball | (2) More lakes |
| (1) Recreational center | (2) Water Park |
| (1) Mary go round | |

Question 3: Please check the following recreational activities you participate in whether in

Levelland or elsewhere.

- (2) Dog Trails
- (1) Basketball
- (1) Party
- (1) Hunting
- (2) Track
- (4) Volleyball
- (2) Golf
- (1) Hacky sack
- (1) Thursday Night Live

Question 4: If you could have anything you wanted in the Levelland park system, what would your top three choices be?

- (1) Something that no other park has
- (2) Horseback riding
- (6) Dog trails
- (9) Volleyball
- (1) Monkey bars
- (16) Clean restroom area w/locks and w/sinks
- (10) Path/Trails
- (1) Beer garden
- (1) Larger play areas
- (1) Building like the one for older kids for the smaller ones
- (11) Water park
- (20) Football
- (9) Seating
- (1) More play areas
- (1) Neighborhood parks
- (21) Baseball/Softball
- (3) Swings
- (1) Passive recreation
- (18) Swimming
- (2) Shooting range
- (2) Lakes
- (1) Bigger place for concerts
- (1) Hill
- (3) Golf Course
- (2) Aquarium
- (4) More picnic areas
- (11) Water fountains
- (7) Concession stand
- (5) Movie theater
- (1) Gym
- (1) Fencing
- (1) Multi-purpose field
- (1) Music stores
- (1) Drag strip for drag racing
- (2) Better equipment
- (3) Skatepark improvements
- (2) Indoor track/park
- (1) Toddler sections
- (2) Neighborhood Park
- (1) Area for hacky sack
- (1) Mary go round
- (1) Obstacle course
- (1) Outdoor events
- (1) More ducks at the lakes
- (1) Playgrounds
- (1) Cleaner parks
- (1) Zoo
- (5) Landscaping
- (5) Tennis courts
- (1) Indoor tennis court
- (3) Weight room
- (1) Roads
- (3) Lighting
- (1) Free sports equipment

- (1) Teen activities/place
- (1) Dance floor
- (1) Amusement park
- (1) Miniature park

