

City of Waco Ballfield Updates

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Presentation Overview

1. Strategic Intent / Action Plan
2. Recent and Upcoming Projects
3. Ballfield Portfolio
4. Challenges and Priorities
5. Citywide Plan

Statement of Intent

Department Goals:

- Provide community and recreation facilities to be enjoyed by all residents and visitors to Waco
- Maintain an accessible and equitable inventory of quality ballfields for all levels of play citywide

Action Plan Developed:

- Compiled internal portfolio of fields and reviewed maintenance schedule
- Created short-term improvements, long-term priorities and communication plan

Recent Projects

Challenger / Lake Air Little League Relocation:

- Project in progress
- 2 Challenger Fields, 6 baseball / softball fields
- Estimated Completion – Spring / Summer 2023

Doris Miller Community Center Field:

- Acquisition of property provides an additional baseball / softball field
- Dirt work, turf maintenance
- Repairs to irrigation, bleachers and lights
- Plan to host Eastern Little League T-Ball

Trailblazer and Kendrick Parks

- New backstops in 2021



Recent Projects

Luther J. Mitchell Sr. Eastern Little League Complex:

- ✓ In the Fall of 2021, the league and the Carver Park Neighborhood Association utilized funds from Waco's neighborhood grant program to kickstart \$60,000 of improvements at the complex:
 - ✓ \$50,000 for new driveway and gravel parking lot
 - ✓ \$9,900 for restroom repairs
- ✓ The league and the neighborhood association secured grants for the replacement of the scoreboards
- ✓ City crews also tilled a section of property to create a practice infield; made updates to the two game fields; repaired irrigation systems



Recent Projects

Cotton Palace Park

- Ballfields are a component of the current master plan for Cotton Palace Park
- A variety of maintenance issues were addressed this summer to accommodate usage this fall

Completed Work:

- ✓ Vegetation removal and cleanup of Waco Creek
- ✓ Placement on weekly mowing / maintenance schedule
- ✓ Re-grading of the two infields and addition of dirt
- ✓ Cleaning and repair of restrooms
- ✓ Irrigation, lighting, fencing repairs
- ✓ New bases on both fields
- ✓ Repaired outfield flag poles
- ✓ Removal of trash, concrete and debris



Communication Plan

- Annual Stakeholder Meeting Coming in November
 - This is to review Use Agreements and Requirements
- Monthly Communication with Use Agreement Organizations
 - Maintenance Status/Needs
 - Scheduling and Programming
- Weekly Inspections
- Field Availability on New Website



Current Projects

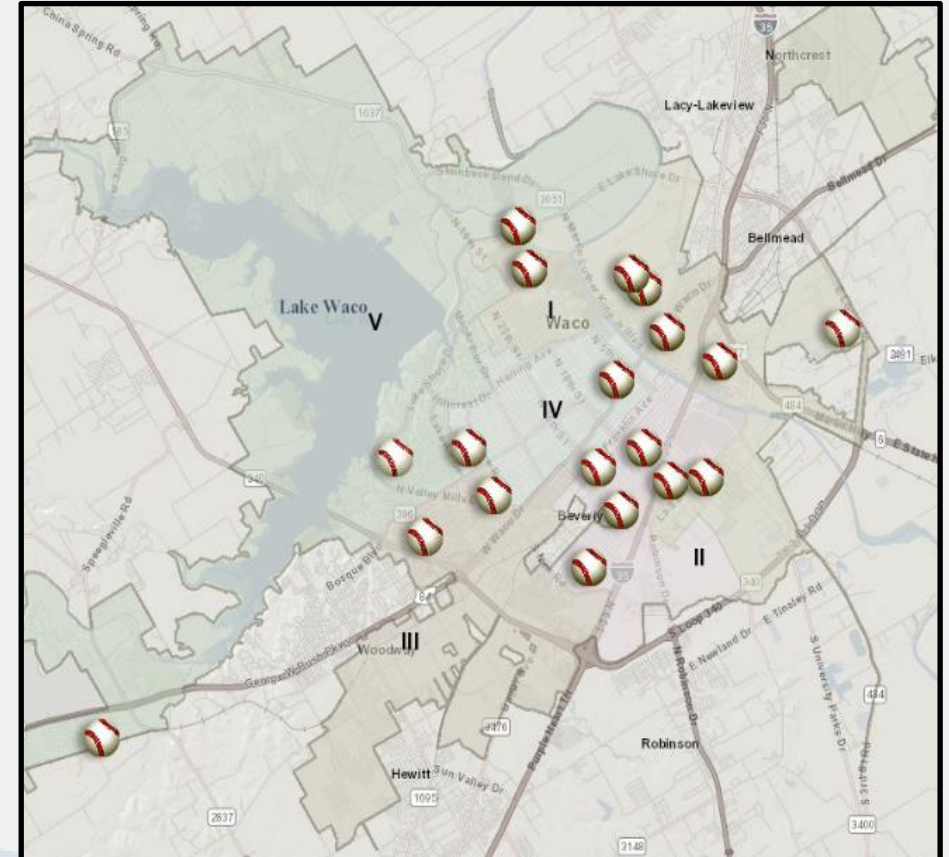
- Continuation of Challenger / Lake Air Relocation Project
- Continuation of improvements at Cotton Palace and Eastern Little League
- Immediate Priorities:
 1. Security Lighting
 2. Parking Areas and Traffic Flow
 3. Improvements to Playing Surfaces (Dirt and Turf Enhancements)
 4. Backstop repairs and replacement
 5. Facility painting
 6. Additional maintenance for fields
 7. Upgrades to spectator areas



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Citywide Field Portfolio

- The City owns more than 40 fields and park areas that are used for baseball and softball
- **Field Classifications**
 - Tournament, league/game, practice, backstop areas
- **Amenity Inventory**
 - Shade areas, dugouts, fencing, concession area, irrigation, lighting, scoreboards



City of Waco Ballfield Inventory											
	ADA Sidewalks	Concession Stand	Covered Bleachers	Covered Dugouts	Dirt Infield	Grass Infield	Field Fencing	Field Lights	Irrigation	Parking Lot	Restroom
Tournament Complexes											
Riverbend Park (District V)	X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X
League and Game Fields											
Luther J. Mitchell Eastern Little League Complex (District I)		X		X			X	X	X	X	X
Doris Miller Community Center (District I)	X			X			X	X	X	X	X
Waco Rampage Fields at Cotton Palace Park (District II)				X			1 OF 2	X	1 OF 2	X	X
Southern Little League (District II)		X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X
Lake Air Little League Fields (District IV) - <i>under construction</i>	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Challenger Fields (District IV) - <i>under construction</i>	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Practice Fields											
Northern Gateway at Cameron Park (District I)				X	X		X	X	X	X	X
Jaycee Park (District III)	X	X		X		X	X	X	X		
Practice Backstops											
Brooklyn Park (District I)				X		-				X	(PORTABLE)
Buena Vista Park (District I)						-					(PORTABLE)
Oscar DuConge (District I)						-				X	X
Bell's Hill Park (District II)				X	X						
Park Backstops											
Oakwood Park (District I)						-				X	
Council Acres Park (District II)						-				X	
Kendrick Park (District II)						-				X	
South Waco Park (District II)						-				X	(INDOOR)
Chapel Park (District III)						-				X	
Crestview Park (District III)						-				X	
Dewey Park (District IV)						-				X	(INDOOR)
Mountainview Park (District V)						-					
Trailblazer Park (District V)						-				X	(PORTABLE)



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Challenges and Priorities

- **Organization Use Agreements and Field Use**
 - Five active use agreements for facilities in 2022
 - Overall set of user groups include Little Leagues, Challenger League, Select Teams, Public and Private Schools, Colleges, Amateur Baseball, Adult Softball
- **Maintenance Standards**
 - Consistency of maintenance efforts for different types of fields
- **Infrastructure Upgrades and Replacement**
 - Facilities vary in age and condition
 - Amenity comparison

Creating a Citywide Plan

- Contract with a third-party consulting firm to perform analysis and provide recommendations for ballfield improvements and usage
- Examples of scope of work:
 - Structure of contracts and use agreements
 - Facility needs assessment
 - Potential inventory replacement and upgrades
 - Equitable maintenance standards
 - Maintenance options and staffing capacity
 - Field use patterns and scheduling
 - Cost and fee analysis