

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes December 2, 2010

Item 1: Meeting Called to Order by Lenna Watson at 12:06 p.m.

Roll Call

Board Members Present: Tawny Espinoza
 Yvette Carnine
 Dr. William Findlay
 Scott Coleman
 Lenna Watson

Board Members Absent: David McInay
 Bart Dickson
 Bruce Hill (Ex-Officio)

Parks & Recreation Staff Present: Rob Schoeber, Director
 Tressa Fisher, Administrative Specialist
 Mike Vendegna, Parks Superintendent
 Traci Wieland, Recreation Superintendent

Item 2: Approve Minutes

Yvette Carnine moved to approve the November 4, 2010 Parks & Recreation Advisory Board minutes. Scott Coleman seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Motion adopted by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board: 5 Yes 0 No

Item 3: Park Survey Results

Rob Schoeber distributed a revised copy of the recent parks survey, stating the original survey's results were skewed, due to someone entering their age in the wrong area. (See attached) The Board members read through the survey results as a group, in effort to determine patterns and/or specific needs. Rob Schoeber stated he manually calculated the responses to Question #6 (Please rate the quality of your experience), determining the following results were rated either "Excellent" or "Good":

Overall Appearance	93%
Trash Picked Up	88%
Restrooms	73%
Playground	92%
Condition of Equipment	88%
Shelter Cleanliness	87%
Other	40%

The Board members discussed the concerns regarding the narrow walking path around the Canyon View soccer fields, numerous concerns regarding transients, and explored the possibility of obtaining smaller picnic tables for people who enjoy eating lunch alone in the parks. The responses to Questions #7 and #11 were discussed, as they appear to contradict themselves regarding the need/desire for more open

space. The results also indicated there is a strong need for parks in the Northern areas, and possibly for an additional dog park in the Eastern part of town. Dr. Findlay stated the requests for exercise areas could easily be integrated, at a low cost, by providing more open space with trails around the outside.

Item 4: Project Updates

Mike Vendegna said the weather has been perfect for crews to work on special projects. The Matchett Park maintenance site is now secure, as the entire area has now been fenced. Plans are still underway for the Lincoln Park maintenance facility to be relocated to the Riverside Parkway building. Crews are in the process of renovating the building and fencing the area; the move is scheduled for March 1, 2011. Parks Crews reduced fencing costs at both facilities considerably by installing the fencing themselves. (Parkway contractor's bid: \$22,000 (for 1/3 of the area), Matchett contractor's bid: \$8,000, both projects completed in house for a total of \$3,500) A CIP plan for the remaining maintenance area in Lincoln Park is in the process of being developed.

The landscaping for the new shop at cemetery is being completed, and will include a display area with benches, boulders, and etc. that are for sale. There will be approximately 1,000 new plots for sale this time next year or early spring 2012, providing the ability for the cemetery to generate additional revenues. Mr. Vendegna stated the entire landscaping project was completed for very little money, as the trees and rocks were donated.

Mike Vendegna provided an update on the Las Colonias Park property, stating the Tamarisk Coalition group has been spearheading the removal project. The National Guard also used the area for a training exercise, and cleared out approximately 5 ½ acres of tamarisk with bulldozers. Discussion ensued regarding the preference of using the bulldozers, as the areas where lawnmowers were used left untreated roots that later created sharp spikes.

Item 5: Other Business

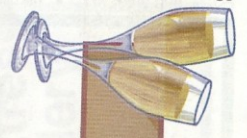
Lenna Watson called attention to the November 19, 2010 "Best of the West 2011" article in the Daily Sentinel, which listed Rocket Park as the "Best 'Listen to the People' Act From A Local Government". (See attached)

Item 6: Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 1:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tressa Fisher
Administrative Specialist



BEST OF THE WEST • 2011

THE WORLD OUTSIDE YOUR DOOR

BEST CHEAP DATE

STAFF PICK: A romantic walk down Main Street admiring the Art on the Corner and making up funny stories about the sculptures. She'll think you're clever and spontaneous rather than broke and desperate.



BEST FASHION STATEMENT AT A LOCAL EVENT

STAFF PICK: polka-dotted rubber rain boots and shorts at the Palisade Bluegrass & Roots Music Festival... Not only did they declare that the wearer was prepared for anything, she was prepared while keeping her sense of fun.

BEST 'LISTEN TO THE PEOPLE' ACT FROM A LOCAL GOVERNMENT

STAFF PICK: Re-naming Rocket Park and leaving the beloved rocket there for all to see and admire. Soon, it will be the stuff of legends, passed down from one generation to another (Say, sonny... when I was a kid, we actually got to climb on that rocket, in the snow, after hiking five miles to get to the park).

BEST ITEM TO TRIM FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT BUDGETS

Salaries, raises and bonuses for administrators and employees

READER PICK: Whatever happened to the idea behind the term "public servant?"

3. Please indicate the number of persons living in your household, including yourself, that are:

#	Answer	Value
1	Under 10	36
2	Age 10-19	47
3	Age 20-24	11
4	Age 25-34	35
5	Age 35-44	45
6	Age 45-54	51
7	Age 55-64	93
8	Age 65+	85

4. Have you or members of your household visited any City parks within the past 12 months?

#	Answer	Response	%
1	Yes	154	91%
2	No	16	9%
	Total	170	100%

5. Please indicate all parks that you or your family have visited:

#	Answer	Response	%
1	Canyon View	113	74%
2	Columbine	15	10%
3	Cottonwood Meadows	2	1%
4	Darla Jean	6	4%
5	Duck Pond - Orchard Mesa	13	9%
6	Eagle Rim	24	16%
7	Lincoln Park	117	77%
8	Paradise Hills	11	7%
9	Pomona	6	4%
10	Pineridge	1	1%
11	Riverside	27	18%
12	Rocket	34	22%
13	Sherwood	72	47%
14	Spring Valley II	8	5%
15	Other	36	24%

Other

Hawthorne

Duck Pond

Hawthorne

Whitman, Emerson

Long's Park

HAWTHORNE!

Hawthorne

HAWTHORNE

Long's park

emerson

West Lake Skate Park

Matchet Park

Hawthorn and Emerson

Longs

Hawthorne, Autumn Ridge

Wingate

Hawthorne Park

machett

hawthorne

Hawthorne

Wingate

Hawthorne park

dog park

Long

ridges tennis courts

wittman & long

Ridges Neighborhood park

Corn Lake

Long

Hawthorne

Hawthorn, Emerson ,Whitman, Colorado West,

Hawthorne and West Lake Park

6. Please rate the quality of your experience:

#	Question	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Responses
1	Overall Appearance	57	83	8	1	149
2	Trash Picked Up	44	88	16	2	150
3	Restrooms	19	58	21	7	105
4	Playground	34	58	6	2	100
5	Condition of Equipment	31	66	14	0	111
6	Shelter Cleanliness	35	79	16	1	131
7	Other	1	3	3	3	10

Other
Homeless people
Picnic table
Dog Park
walks littered with grass clippings and mud from the tire tracks of carts and mowers. This is especially true of Canyon. Longs seemed to be better cared for. The caretakers of Canyon view don't seem to care about the messes they make with equipment and their watering hours are during times when people are walking. The paths around the soccer fields are muddy and the grass is waterlogged and it is impossible to walk after watering. The walking path around the soccer fields at canyon view park are too narrow. Impossible for two people to walk side by side or past each other on the path. One of the parties must always be on the grass. Frequently the weeds at Canyon view are not cut or pulled. It is really not cared for very well. The caretakers do a lot of zooming around on their carts and don't seem to accomplish a lot on anything other than the ball fields.
Places to sit
homeless population
Bleachers dripping from above at Suplizio Field.
Poor parking at Canyon View

7. Typically what are your reasons for visiting a park (check all that apply)

#	Answer	Response	%
1	Playground	35	21%
2	Restrooms	17	10%
3	Open Space	82	50%
4	Part of Exercise Routine	65	40%
5	Shelter Use/Party/Social Gathering	87	53%
6	Other	47	29%

Other

Dog walking/dog park

Event

walk dog, organized functions

Events - symphony concert

Sports Events

Picnic

Dog Park

Picnic

Don't Use

pool

Golf

Cycling

peace and quiet

attend sports event

Radio-control model airplanes

To play golf

Let the dogs run

tennis courts

picnic

Walk my dog

swimming pool

Fishing

soccer

Tall swings

pet exercise

youth games - tea party

walk dogs

walk dog

sport events

feed the ducks

Football, BMX park

Lunch

walk dog

Team Sports

Eat lunch

golf

soccer games

sporting event

Dog Park

Dog walk
 Sporting event
 Grand Kids in Sports @ Canyon View and the little one at Rocket Park.
 community

8. On a scale of 1 to 10, with 10 being highest, please rate the importance of City Parks to the overall quality of life in Grand Junction:

Average Value (on a scale of 1 to 10)	Responses
8.54	166

9. Please check the statement that best describes your thought about the City Park system in Grand Junction:

#	Answer	Response	%
1	a. The City of Grand Junction should develop more City Parks	55	33%
2	b. The City of Grand Junction offers the right amount of developed parks for our size of community	109	65%
3	c. The City of Grand Junction offers too many developed City Parks	3	2%
	Total	167	100%

10. If there are areas of town where you think more parks should be developed, where are those areas?

Text Response

Redlands

North part of town.

Burkey Park North

I think there are plenty of parks for now...

OM

Redlands

The North area needs a park area so badly. There's the old, dilapidated park in Paradise Hills but not much choice beyond that. The North area of town has grown so much and is home to many growing families. We need a park nearby! It's rumored that the field the City owns across from Holy Family Catholic School is slotted to be a park someday. What an amazing location that would be for a park!

North, the open space dedicated to future park at H Road and 26-1/2 Road.

Northeast - Develop the Matchett property and the other vacant lot east of 30 Rd on Patterson. Complete West Lake Park west of Poplar Dr - What a beautiful greenway that could be!

Purchase more natural areas and open space. You don't need to necessarily develop them with Kentucky blue grass, but providing spaces for people to run and walk dogs are great!

sorry dont know

none

No development at this time is economically feasible.

NorthEast

We need "linear" parks, in other words, trails. Bite the bullet and figure out a way to use the ditch easements even if it means buying and managing the ditch companies.

All subdivisions should include a large park with many trees. Open space everywhere in the city should become city parks (the land at 12th and Patterson would have been great); too much of our land has been paved as it is.

12th & Patterson

I realize it's not GJ, but Clifton needs good parks, too.

28 rd and business loop huge field

Personally, I think that the city has done a good job at placing the parks, and I don't see any need for more at this time.

Between 5th street and 27 1/2 road along the River Front Trail

The already city-owned land on Patterson, between 29 1/2 and 30 Road.

Land city owns on Patterson Road (Berkey property) should be developed. Also the Los Colonis park by the river.

There is a chunk of undeveloped land in the Oxbow Subdivision just waiting to be a park.

East (pearpark/fruitvale) and redlands

Near 12th and Patterson. Anywhere there is vacant unused land.

redlands

Burkey land on 29 3/4 and F Road. Redlands area.

Closer to the rivers.

On the East end of Town, the city seems to forget everything east of 28 Road, including making sure we have sidewalks

and seem to cater to Bums and the newly annexed areas.

river, Patterson rd.

North near 28 1/4

Orchard Mesa and east side of town

Matchett Park

The Redlands has few parks other than schools.

Northeast. There is one undeveloped park that could be finished on Patterson Road.

WE NEED A REC CENTER!!!! I think the City has done an excellent job developing open space parks. We need a place or places to go on rainy or snowy days! We also need more BMX/skate parks with some structured ride times. The big kids are too dangerous to let the little ones ride around.

I think you should develop the land that you already own for parks, such as that property on Patterson. That one is in a great location!

Develop the complex down by the river

No

Redlands area, Crossroads area

Redlands, Matchett property

Redlands

North Area of town - Definitely would like to see a new skate park built - possibly at the 12th & Patterson lot location.

Patterson & 30 Rd

I think that more parks along the river front trail should be developed.

north of Patterson between 1st and 12th

North - Develop the undeveloped ones already designated as future parks.

The city needs to develop a Recreation center. We are the largest town between Denver and Salt Lake and Albuquerque and the Canadian Boarder and we do not have a recreation Center. Fruita will have a great rec center in 3 months and GJ won't. Breckenridge, Avon, Glenwood, Delta, Durango, Cortez all have Rec Centers. This is pathetic and our community should be ashamed of ourselves. Where is the leadership? Who cares about the private gym owners if they can't survive then their product is not needed and they have not marketed themselves well. This is not the reason not have a Rec Center. Rec Center development should be your top priority.

261/2 and G why hasn't it been developed yet?

Redlands

The Redlands

Near downtown (short walk from Main St. shops)

We really need a large open-space camping park that is free but well regulated and safe for travelers, tourists, and the laid-off and poor folks forced to camp illegally throughout the town.

Statistic	Value
Total Responses	54

11. In your opinion, how important are the following potential park improvements?

#	Question	Very Important	Important	VERY IMPORTANT AND IMPORTANT TOTALED	Somewhat Important	Not Important	No Opinion	Responses
1	Renovate Existing Parks	22	46	68	60	33	2	163
2	Add More Playgrounds	6	38	44	50	45	17	156
3	Add Shelters	10	40	50	59	45	6	160
4	Improve Handicap Access	19	38	57	43	37	21	158
5	Expand/Acquire More Park Space	26	31	57	38	56	8	159
6	Develop Undeveloped Area	38	42	80	37	36	7	160
7	Add Dog Parks	21	28	49	41	56	15	161
8	Other (please specify)	11	4	15	1	0	10	26

Other (please specify)

relocate panhandlers

badminton courts

more bike & walking paths

Police the existing parks near downtown so they can be used by the average citizen

Get rid of transients

exercise course

flowers and general maintenance

Trails that connect neighborhoods to parks

maintain current facilities that are offered currently ie: Lincoln Park Tennis Courts

DOG PARKS!!!!!!!!

make parks bum free

discourage vagrancy

Stop looking to spend more money

BMX/skate parks

Build Rec Center

better/more drinking fountains

parking spaces

A Camping Park

Keep play ground equipment repaired or replaced

12. If there are additional park amenities that you believe are missing from our park system, please list them.

Text Response

walking tracks, indoor buildings for classes etc.

A few fountains would be nice.

Badminton courts

none

Hiking trails

Consider "splash pads" at some of the larger parks.

exercise course, bike paths connecting parks.

water fountains create bum hang outs

Running trail

I like the idea of transforming Lincoln Park to more of a multi-purpose facility, sorry golfers!

More dog parks. BBQ grills

none that I can think of at this time.

Dog friendly places where they can run.

Lack of adequate tennis facilities.

The fact that a community this size does not have a recreation center is sorry, pathetic thing.

I hope for a park/playground on Main St. after the renovation this year

Somewhere for bike riders who don't like riding on the streets, but enjoy riding bike for exercise.

Parks on the river for fishing.

more after dark security, ie police patrols, traffic law enforcement.

Tall swings.

open space trails

Information about the habitat in these parks

perimeter benches

REC CENTER!!! Should have a pool with waterslide - a good place for birthday parties!

We need a large indoor facility for events during the winter

Sports facilities, basketball courts, etc

no real playgrounds for kids over age 6 (how about the pirate wood boat in Vail), nothing geared for handicapped kids/adults

As far as expansion, I would focus on acquiring space for building more SKATE PARKS around our valley (primarily north of town if possible).

Recreation Center and Large amphitheater at Los Colonias!

I would like to see more tennis courts

more frisbee golf courses

None

Once again Build A Rec Center!

Amphitheatres - at least one downtown and one in Canyon View
 Camping Park
 More charcoal grills
 Indoor Swimming Pool

Statistic	Value
Total Responses	37

13. If put to a vote, would you support increased tax dollars for park development?

#	Answer	Response	%
1	Yes	83	51%
2	No	81	49%
	Total	164	100%

14. Please check the statement that best describes your thought about funding for City Parks:

#	Answer	Response	%
1	Funding for park development should be concentrated on one park at a time until it is completed.	78	49%
2	Funding for park development should be spread out among several City Parks.	82	51%
	Total	160	100%

15. Do you have any general comments or suggestions?

Text Response

Keep up the great work! I don't use the parks to much but I do enjoy seeing them and seeing them being used for multiple purposes.

I would like parks dept to organize more activities for older people--classes, activities, etc.

I think grand Junction has beautiful parks that add tremendously to our Community. I believe they should all be kept up as they have been and if money is tight I believe volunteers would be happy to help as Parks add to all our lives whether young or old.

A plan for Lincoln Park should be finalized and started. The street cutting the park in two should be removed ASAP. The golf course is fine but could be improved some. Stocker and Suplizio will be renovated so that is great. I believe a nice outdoor amphitheatre or concert venue would be a welcome addition. Maybe use some of the Matchett property to build one or find an area in the Redlands that could resemble Red Rocks.

Parks does a good job for our city

While I don't make use of such facilities as playgrounds; marble courts, tennis courts, basketball courts, and disk golf fields, I'm glad that these exist and I'm happy to pay my tax share for their creation, and maintenance. It is important to get people of all ages and abilities out enjoying the fresh air and getting exercise. I think badminton courts would add to the variety of choice in the area. At a competitive level badminton is a tough sport, but it has the advantage of also being fun when played at a casual pace.

THE QUESTION IS WHAT IS COMPLETED. THERE ARE MANY BALL FIELDS, PLAYGROUND SETS, PICNIC TABLES, ETC THAT ARE UNUSED MUCH OF THE TIME EVEN WHEN THERE IS NO SCHOOL. OPEN SPACE, RESTROOMS, ARE IMPORTANT. KIDS & ADULTS WILL FIND GAMES TO PLAY IF THE SPACE IS THERE.

Develop Burkey first, Matchett second.

The parks are fine during the day, but one in particular on 28 1/4 rd is not to safe towards evening...I can only imagine what goes on after dark...

I have not visited all of the city parks, but the ones I have are very nice and user friendly. With the growlth of the city, we may need new parks to service new housing areas. Some of the older parks, may need to be revamped to service the neighbors now living in the area.

Any increased funding should be on the conservative side in terms of total dollars asked for. Now is not the time for big increases.

Continue to do a good job of Park upkeep.

Whitman and Emerson parks are unusable. It is a shame to have these parks where the majority of citizens cannot use them.

As a resident of the North area of town, I know the need for a good park in that area. We love many parks in Grand Junction but need one closer to this area of town where there's such population growth and lots of growing families. Outdoor play space and free space is crucial to healthy development, keeps folks happier, creates community closeness, and beautifies our city. Everyone wins! Parks in Grand Junction are an excellent investment to be used year round because of the gorgeous weather and active population that resides here. Our family is a huge supporter of the parks in beautiful Grand Junction!

If the general economy was better I would support the vote for increased funding.

I think we currently have several parks that offer multiple choices to people who want to go to the park. All of these parks are in reasonably good condition and there is no need at this time to spend additional tax money on improvements.

Next major park development should be the Machette (sp?) property north of Patterson and 28 1/4 Rd.

Purchase more natural areas and open space. You don't need to necessarily develop them with kentucky blue grass, but providing spaces for people to run and walk dogs are great! Open natural space improves our quality of life!

need to make a budget to see what the upkeep water sewer mowing pruning cleaning. If the budget is cutting more jobs creating more parks is NOT the answer thing that need to be cut back are subcontractors. good luck

There are too many parks now and high maintenance costs with our poor economy.

Lincoln Park is the heart of the city...and should be the focus of funding...for maintenance.

We have good parks and we have enough of them. We can't just keep spending money for every whim that comes along. There is ample areas and things to do around our city.

I think the City of Grand Junction has some wonderful park facilities and the parks employees do a great job of keeping them clean. We used to use the two parks downtown at Whitman and Emerson and now are scared to even go there. Now I am concerned because the last park in the downtown area, Hawthorne Park, is getting full of homeless also. It just seems a shame to have such nice parks that are only utilized by those who don't pay a dime to the city but can take over our facilities.

Again, connecting neighborhoods to parks via safe, non-motorized routes is an essential component for a successful park system. There need to be more connections to the River Trail. There need to be viable North/South routes that are frequent enough to be convenient from all neighborhoods. These routes will be expensive and difficult, grade-separated crossings are required at the major obstacles including the Colo. River, minor drainages, major streets and highways, and the railroad tracks. Using the ditch easements will certainly help achieve this goal. Visionary leaders steer infrastructure development based on the reality of high fuel prices in the future and a need for alternatives to the private automobile. Grand Junction is lagging behind other communities in this regard.

Regarding the above item, I trust the City Parks Department (not the City Council or Manager) to make the best decision.

GJ parks are great...and it amazes me just how many people use them. They always seem to be full and overall they're great parks. I especially like Lincoln Park because it's old and has lots of beautiful, big, old trees.

None

No new taxes until we have a significant turn around in the economy of the western slope!!!

In any growing community, especially one that tends to sprawl outwards - such as GJ - it is essential to maintain a sense of "open space" adjacent to residential areas, but well away from commercial/industrial zoning.

Develop vacant land that the city owns for parks.

I am at Lincoln Park and Canyon View park approx. twice a week. Canyon View is beautiful and always maintained excellently. Lincoln Park appears to have been forgotten. Stocker Stadium and Suplizio Field are state of the art, but little effort is put into the existing Tennis Courts.

My family visits recreation center on the front range and mountain regions when we travel, which is several times per year. We go for ice skating rinks, indoor water play parks, gym/weights and indoor soft play places. We have done this for 14 years. If Grand Junction had a rec center with these features, it would get heavy use by people visiting the area, who would pay higher fees for non-resident use. These things could pay for themselves. What kind of visionary momentum would it take to get the old people in this city to see the long term benefit? Every time we drive past the senior center my kids grumble that we have a senior center but no rec center. Says a lot about our community's values.

See comments re: Canyon View. Really feel that the watering system is poorly monitored. Dogs are allowed to run free in areas other than the dog park. Park workers seem to waste a lot of time and care only for how the baseball, softball fields look. They need to keep the walks cleaner, clear of grass clippings and dirt/mud/rocks most of which are deposited by park machinery. Need to spend time pulling weeds around plants, trees, etc. Sometimes it looks as if the employees are spinning their wheels trying to look as if they are working. Most of them I would not employ if I were running a landscape maintenance company.

I've lived in Mesa County 64 of my 69 years except for time in the Army. I've only lived in Grand Junction City limits about 10 of those years and I live in Gunnison County now. Just wanted you to know that I do not pay tax in Grand Junction (except sales tax occasionally) but I come to Grand Junction a lot and really need some place to walk my dog.

Thanks for asking!

I don't know all the names of most of the parks, so I put other on the question about which parks I've visited in the past 12 months. I may very well have visited some of the parks listed, I just didn't pay attention to the name. Thank you, for the surveys.

We should not spend one more penny on parks until the issue of vagrants making parks theirs can be properly addressed.

The shorter swings and tiny slides are great for children, but parks and playgrounds are also enjoyed by adults. If planning for the taller, older person were included, I think the overall quality and value of the parks would increase. Things like tether ball poles, taller swings (with longer ropes), tables for reading at that are shady and comfortable, walking paths, just for example. We're not just supervisors: we like to play and hang out, too.

Some parks could use some attention to transient population. I don't have solutions, but I don't think the purpose of any park should be to serve as a campground or hangout for those who abuse it and make it unfit and unsafe for the general population.

I think the Swimming Pools could have adult "Happy Hour" (not a drinking type) on Friday's From 4-8. You can then still have the family time on Sat. Or you could do a adult time Sat afternoon from 1-4 and then do the fam time on Sat. afterward. I am just getting tired that there is always a break for the families and no good swim time for adults. The early morning times are unrealistic for working adults.

I would support increased tax dollars for increased security at the parks

The parks are a great part of our lives, but I would love to see better maintenance. I feel like there are only certain parks that are safe to take my children to play. I would also like to see new play equipment added little by little.

Do to your actions to deny all marijuana stores, and spend money we don't have. I am beginning to think that you don't really consider public opinion to be of much importance. That you think you know better than the people you serve. Sound familiar, it's the mantra of most city, county, state and federal governments.

The dog play area at canyon view is gross. My dog always cuts her paws and gets giardia, the interstate is really loud and the grass doesn't grow.

We have to drive several miles to find suitable parks for exercise. I would like to see more neighborhood parks.

I would like to see the city acquire some of the vacant commercial land along the edges of north avenue by the school and funeral home (near 4th and 5th) and link sherwood park with hawthorne park to create a greenway corridor. This would increase the attractiveness of the area and assist in increasing the quality of life in downtown grand junction

I think we need a rec center rather than more parks. At Long Park I think the dog bags must be cheaper and they are adequate. In Broomfield there are tubes on the trash cans for people to put their newspaper and grocery bags for dog walkers to use. Put in the top and take out the bottom. Seems to work.

Build another high school before investing any money in parks, this area desperately needs another high school.

There is only one dog park and it is ruined from over use.

I think the City is doing a very good job. One thing just try to keep the various fees and admission costs low enough for the people to use the facilities. I know this is difficult.

I think we have a great Parks & Rec department. I love the seasonal guides. The only thing we're missing is a Rec Center!

I think the park amenities at the larger parks like Canyon View and the one next to CHS are quite impressive. Good job on those and the redevelopment you've recently done on some of the smaller parks. Before purchasing additional park land I think you should develop what you have. I really like the idea of slowly building several parks at a time because there are immediate benefits for people in different locations and it just gets better with time. I mostly go to parks to walk, so a nice sidewalk and some trees and grass are what I like.

In general for a small city GJ has many more parks than expected - we have always used the parks when our children were younger and thoroughly enjoyed the convenience of the neighborhood parks (rocket, columbine)

Parks and Recs does a great job with what they have. They can always use more funds but take it one project at a time and do it right rather than 3 or 4 half baked.

Why should tax dollars be spent on dog parks? This is just another one of those wasteful uses of tax dollars! We have

been dog owners for over 20 years and have never felt a need to have or use a park to exercise our pets. Pet ownership is a responsibility of those choose to have pets and should not be a cost to the city. City parks should be for the citizens - not special groups. We would also prefer to have our tax dollars spent to rid parks of transients and keep them free of these people. Their presence deters the public from using those areas. It is a discouraging sight to enter our city from Highway 6 & 50 and be greeted with the sight of the transient groups at the park next to Pitkin Ave. When we have programs to clean up ur parks lets include cleaning out those people too.

The parks in Grand Jct are beautiful. We could use a few more in other parts of the city such as the Redlands and in the Crossroads area. There is no place to go for a quick lunch and a walk in those areas.

Get the homeless out of the parks so people aren't afraid to go there with their kids

The playgrounds I see have equipment sized only for small children. Not all kids get their exercise on sports teams. I know of no park with equipment or trails for handicapped children. How about some imaginatoriums -- sculptures, trails with hidden hideaways -- where kids can imagine other places. One place I lived had a long slide thru woods, with kids exiting from a dragon's mouth. Maybe have a birthday party center -- with volunteers to read stories, play games, etc?

Parks add to the quality of life. Our city is not always considered attractive and improving parks would help. I also believe strongly in supporting the Riverfront Trail and the completion of that project.

I liked the improvements you made to the Rocket park. Also, I'm not a fan of using our public pool at Lincoln Park for a Dog Swim "Bath" day on the last day of the season... I've been here since Mr. Moyer helped create the first pool (and free day for the kids of our community), and I'd much prefer to see Dogs have a designated lake type spot to swim... as they do at Canyon View. I don't feel our public pools can really be cleaned properly after allowing dogs in the water - not to mention possible long-term hair issues with the filtering systems. Surely, we can come up with a better alternative for our beloved 4-legged pets.

go easy on "park development" for this year and 2011, just use our common sense!

The City has lost sight of how vital parks, their planning and design are to making this a community that is desirable to companies that bring high paying jobs to the valley. No one comes to visit a city looking for a new location and leaves saying, "What a fantastic public safety building!"

keep up the good work. Relative to police and fire, parks have suffered unduly in recent years; higher percentage of overall budget should be focussed on parks, not the recreation side.

slider did not work on quality of parks to grand junction I would say 10

Parks and Rec does an outstanding job for the citizens of Grand Junction. We citizens do not realize how lucky we are. Just keep going forward!!!!

Overall parks are great. Canyon View is great however parking was not planned for all the events that take place there.

Parks are not being utilized properly because the homeless have been allowed to take over. I would not allow my kids or grandchildren to go to any of those parks. The city parks should be for the benefit of all not taken over by a very small group who in a lot of cases have made the decision to be homeless. I truly believe that a good percentage of the homeless have chosen that lifestyle and we are now catering and supporting that lifestyle.

Parks are such a great asset to a community. I would LOVE to see more parks added to Grand Junction! I would be willing to pay more in taxes if it means more parks!

Thanks for seeking our opinions. Although we live in Redlands we love coming to city parks.

Some of the rules especially with the closing of the riverfront trail are really stupid. People catfish at night on the river and its illegal to use the trail thier tax-dollars went towards.

Statistic	Value
Total Responses	71