



Kiwanis Park Management Plan Public Input Summary

September 2019

Overview

The City collected input on the findings regarding the Kiwanis Park Management Plan that will provide guidelines for future programming, amenities, facilities and operational needs of the park and recreation center. The provided feedback will help guide the management plan to ensure it reflects the needs and desires of the community.

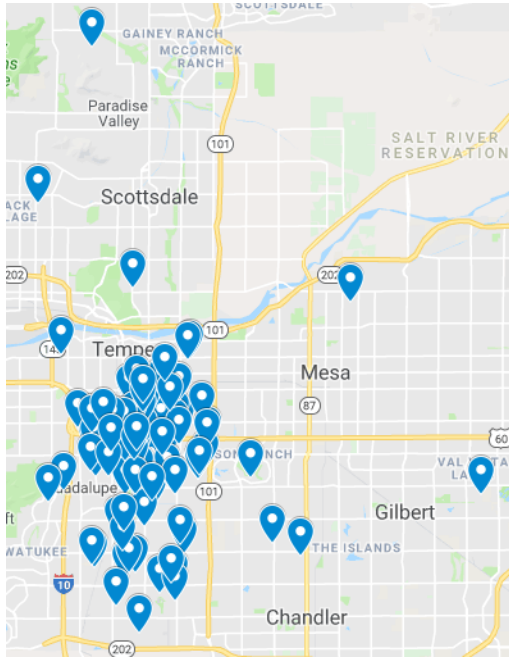
A public meeting was held on Sept. 9, 2019 with 20 attendees and the topic was posted online from Sept. 9 – 23, 2019 through Tempe Forum. A total of 111 unduplicated survey responses were received, 6 at the public meeting and 105 on Tempe Forum.

Outreach

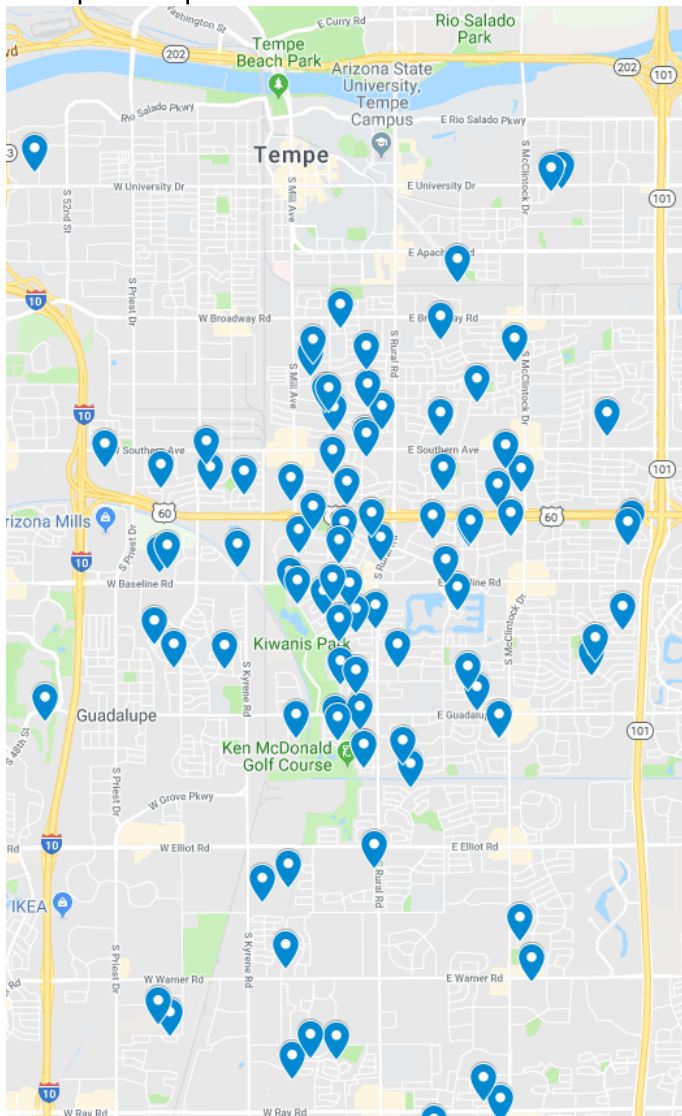
Several methods were used to notify the public about the meeting and online survey.

1. Press Release to local media
2. Social Media
 - Facebook post on Aug. 31, 2019 – 877 reach/167 engagements
 - Facebook post Sept. 13, 2019 – 1,228 reach/243 engagements
 - Nextdoor post on Sept. 6, 2019 - 3,491 impressions
3. Email Notifications
 - City email notification – 1,023 opens
 - Neighborhood and Homeowners' Associations
 - Parks, Recreation, Golf and Double Butte Cemetery Advisory Board
 - Recreation classes list
 - Tempe Forum subscribers
4. Direct mail postcard sent to the Kiwanis Park Neighborhood Association (Rural to Western Canal, Baseline to Guadalupe)
5. Digital reach screens and flyers at City community centers and on Tempe 11
6. Yard signs with meeting and survey information placed throughout Kiwanis Park
7. Project website

Map of Survey Respondents



Tempe Respondents



Survey Responses

1. Please list in order of importance your top 3 priorities for Kiwanis Park from the list below:

- Improve parking
- Add activities/opportunities on the lake
- Communication/signage
- Address aging facilities / infrastructure / trees
- Add shade for users and spectators
- Improve overall maintenance
- Coordination of events, rentals, park use
- Add a dog park
- Additional programs/special events
- Additional amenities
- Reconfigure/repurpose areas of the park

Average priorities over 111 responses:

1. Add shade for users and spectators
2. Address aging facilities/infrastructure/trees
3. Improve overall maintenance
4. Add activities/opportunities on the lake
5. Additional amenities
6. Additional programs/special events
7. Reconfigure/repurpose areas of the park
8. Add a dog park
9. Coordination of events, rentals and park use
10. Improve parking
11. Communication/signage

2. Is there anything we missed related to Kiwanis Park?

1. A pedestrian traffic light for crossing Guadalupe Rd. near police substation. It is hard to cross there on bikes with my kids when riding on the canal bike path.
2. add additional lights to the park and parking lots
3. Add lighting and a pickleball court
4. Add solar where possible. Renewable energy.
5. Adult evening time tennis leagues
6. Biking
7. Connecting paths, bike lanes to other paths, bike lanes in area; Safety
8. Dick & Jane Neuheisel SC park has 50 years of history and is much loved. Currently it cannot be used for formal events because of the deterioration in the area. Would like to see a new design that would still capture the meaning and individuals. It's a very special place.
9. Drinking fountains around the lake do not work.
10. Employees
11. Enforce leash laws for dogs. Off-leash dogs have become a problem. Homeless people have also increased and they generally are not awake/responsive to what their dogs are doing.

12. I love the ducks, herons, and other water fowl on the lake. Making a place where they can nest and places on the shoreline where tiny duckling can get out of the water
13. I'd love to see adult/elderly friendly playground/training type equipment for elderly and special needs adults to interact and engage in unstructured physical activity - it's hard to take older people to the park but they still want to play but are too big.
14. If there's any way of getting rid of homeless or bums...from the area..
15. improve security issues
16. Improve security. It's not fun being approached with death threats by drug dealers or homeless camping out in secluded, ill-patrolled sections of the park.
17. In repurposing part of the park I would include a nature center, possibly with a native plant butterfly garden. Also include sculpture and other art elements as well as a meditative space.
18. increasing hours of operation (ex. Batting Cages)
19. It is important to decrease/eliminate the transients
20. maintain/improve water cleanliness
21. Make amenities more affordable!
22. More plants and flowers would be nice. I wish the crosswalk by the canal on Guadalupe had flashing lights so I'd feel better about my kids crossing Guadalupe.
23. My top priority: All American Way needs to be repaved - especially the bike lanes!
24. n/a
25. No
26. No
27. no
28. no
29. No
30. Noise management
31. Not missed, but another vote for a dog park.
32. Not that I can think of.
33. Problem with thorny weeds in grass
34. Ruben Romero area is in need of replacement trees & toilet remodeling
35. Safety
36. Security
37. Softball fields is my focus
38. Stop allowing huge numbers of people to overtake the park by running 5k's, etc.
39. The only concern I have are the dying trees.
40. Would love an indoor walking track
41. You need to add more pickle ball opportunities.

3. Please list in order of importance your top 3 priorities for Kiwanis Recreation Center from the list below:

- Improve parking
- Communication/signage
- Wave pool – consider replacement
- Address aging facilities/infrastructure/trees
- Coordination of events, rentals
- Additional programs/special events
- Additional amenities
- Reconfigure/repurpose areas of the center

Average priorities over 111 responses:

1. Address aging facilities/infrastructure/trees
2. Additional amenities
3. Additional programs/special events
4. Wave pool - consider replacement
5. Reconfigure/repurpose areas of the center
6. Improve parking
7. Communication/signage
8. Coordination of events, rentals

4. Is there anything we missed related to Kiwanis Recreation Center?

1. (1) increasing hours of operation (ex. Lap Swim), (2) Wave Pool - consider expansion of aquatics amenity
2. Add more pickle ball opportunities improve fitness center
3. Adult evening time tennis leagues
4. Big item noise from outdoor events held in the area to the east of wave pool building.
5. Dog park
6. For additional programs - Monthly fee for lap swimming
7. Have a good spot where Dial A Ride can pick people up without putting the passenger and the driver at risk.
8. I don't use the Center - doesn't offer anything that interests me.
9. I would like to see an improved rec center with new exercise equipment and childcare for the gym.
10. Inadequate water system for trees, nothing else.
11. increase / improve security & safety
12. More programs for other demographics
13. More programs for special needs kids and adults
14. n/a
15. No
16. No
17. No
18. no
19. no
- 20.No

21. Please consider changes to the wave pool. Perhaps indoor and outdoor pools at the same site.
22. The hours to use the wave pool for families with young children are limited and expensive. Consider more programming during the day for families with children who are not yet school aged.
23. Would love the addition of an outdoor pool for my kids.

5. Additional Comments

1. A pump track or slalom course for mountain bikes would be my personal wish.
2. Easier access getting to the park
3. Great park and recreation center!
4. Great presentation. We enjoyed the time spent.
5. I had to pay an annual membership, with no adjustment, in June and then was asked for it again in August. Wish I had been made aware of the calendar when I paid the original fee.
6. I have held events at Kiwanis park for my agency for the past 13 years. It is a wonderful park!
7. I love walking around the lake for exercise. Marking the length of a walk: quarter mile, half mile, etc clearly would be nice. Perhaps a sign indicating path options and the length of each would be useful Thanks for asking.
8. I've seen an increase in homeless people, not good. Better communication with residents regarding events at the park. Lights and soccer at south end along Guadalupe.
9. Kiwanis Park used to be the go-to facility for adult evening time tennis leagues. But ever since the coordinator left (Jackie, who maintained a communication list of league players), all the leagues have been discontinued due to lack of participation, which is strange. As other city tennis centers (Chandler, Mesa, Scottsdale) have numerous adult leagues which get filled with waiting lists the day registrations were open. With the brand new facility at Kiwanis park, we would like to see more actively managed adult leagues, with communication/reminding e-mail list to get more people aware of the leagues being offered, more league time options, instead of the "flex" leagues which are not too popular, and maybe lower fees or more matches each league(preferably, but not as important).
10. Love the splash pad and shaded park areas.
11. Maybe create mommy and me swim times or more family friendly times to swim?
12. Most of the drinking fountains around the lake don't work.
13. My backyard backs to the park and the trees do not get enough water. I get hundreds of dead pine needles in my yard. I will show you the browning needles and several trees that are half dead. Grassy areas have many dead areas from lack of water. Several trees have died and have been removed. Please consult an arborist or tree expert to evaluate trees and the watering systems. There are huge pine trees directly behind my house. These pine trees are over 50 ft. tall. They are being watered by a narrow PVC tubing about half of an inch opening. These trees are dying and I get hundreds of needles

dropping in my yard. All the trees have inadequate watering systems. There are several trees that are dead and several have been chopped down after they died. There are many patches of dead grass due to inadequate watering. I have checked the amount of water these pine trees are getting and there are only a couple of small wet spots from the PVC tubing. Large bubblers for trees need to be installed before these trees die.

14. Our aging population needs additional parking and access.
15. Please don't fill the park in with additional "specific activity" areas and do keep some open green space. Tempe will be filling in over the next few years and this open space will be desperately needed. Also, the Sister Cities Garden is a nice, quiet, park within the park. Yes, it needs revamping, but please don't completely tear down the berms and homogenize it into the rest of the park. And, I have seen and played on upright xylophone type structures that seem to attract participants of all ages, simultaneously. I don't know if this is the place to input specific ideas, but wanted to share it. Thank you for the opportunity for us to give some input into the future of our park!
16. Renting a field from Tempe is the biggest pain in the ass. Its by far the most expensive than any of the other cities. The fields are always in lousy condition. Just to get a reservation you usually have to leave a voicemail and wait for a call back. Then they want a written request. Call up Mesa or Chandler and see how easy it is to rent a field. You guys have the most inefficient system I have ever seen. All the club softball coaches complain about.
17. Shade trees would make the park more inviting.
18. Tempe had created neighborhood areas with their own colors and design elements. For the park design, please keep that in mind.
19. Tempe provides recreational activities far and above other cities in variety, quality and accessibility..I feel fortunate to live in Tempe to be able to have access to these resources. There is something for everyone.
20. The lake needs to be cleaned more often most of the time when I go walking there are dead fish and dead ducks in the water.
21. The new tennis courts are appreciated. Additional classes particularly for advancing youth in tennis would be good. Important to keep an emphasis on swimming lessons for children of all ages. Family movies nights should be planned for more temperate weather. Adequate security at night.
22. The park is aging but that is the norm... consistent monitoring and maintenance will keep it healthy. it is a good park and recreation center
23. There are not enough activities appropriate for developmentally disabled kids and adults. We'd love to enroll our son in different programs but he would need an aide or a class tailored to the needs of an autistic. I also saw an article about a "playground" for the elderly that gave them a place to go to be active and socialize. It would be awesome to have something like that in Tempe.
24. Toddler playground gets overrun by older kids, camps, groups when splash pad is running. Really wish splash pad was by older kids playground. Regardless, I don't suggest moving toddler playground near older kid playground because toddlers will always go to the harder equipment if they can see it. I do like that it is far from the big playground.

25. Tumbleweed Recreation Center is a great facility. Would love something like that in Tempe, particularly for the rec classes for kids and adults!
26. upgrade and expand gym
27. Why do hours of inside pool decrease during winter months when that is the time we would use the pool more. It doesn't make sense. We would use it in the winter months when we can't use our outdoor pool. Consider making a large workout facility. I could see this as a draw to your other facilities....include childcare. Love the newer outdoor kid park although the super tall climbing apparatus looks like a bad accident waiting to happen.
28. Would love to have more rooms for classes