

Recreation, Park and Tourism Sciences Extension

Citizen Input Processes

Making a Difference

Urban & Municipal Parks

Improving Communities through Citizen Input

- Local parks provide community members with places to recreate, exercise, seek restoration, and socialize.
- Research understanding use demands for local parks is a major priority for Park Directors (TPWD).
- Large cities are also concerned about how to select and develop accessible, preferred park spaces in land-locked settings (TPWD).
- 93% of survey participants indicate they have used at least one Texas municipal park (TPWD).
- Planners, managers, and policymakers need citizen input resources and technical assistance in order to meet the complex demands of diversifying and densifying populations.



Educational programs of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service are open to all people without regard to race, color, sex, disability, religion, age, or national origin.
The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating

AgriLifeExtension.tamu.edu

Extension Response

- Texas AgriLife Extension provides educational and technical assistance for developing and conducting citizen input and planning processes.
- From 2011 through 2013 Extension has produced over **7,200** indirect contacts with citizens requesting input.
- From 2011 through 2013 Extension has produced approximately **1,068** direct citizen input contacts.
- Additionally, Extension has facilitated over 50 community input sessions and provided **technical assistance to 17** communities/non-profits/schools/Extension county offices.

Economic Impact

- Engaging citizens increases the likelihood of park use and park support.
- From 2002-2011 bond election results have approved \$1,817,570,084 for Texas local Parks, Recreation, and Open Space (TPL).
- Texas has received \$175 million in matching grants for parks since the development of the LWCF (TPWD).
- The total economic impact of Texas local parks in 2006 was \$5.51 billion in spending and 38,390 jobs created statewide (The Perryman Group, 2006).

TEXAS A&M
AGRI LIFE
EXTENSION

Contact:

Jamie Rae Walker
Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service
ph. 979.862.8819
fx. 979.845.0446
<http://rpts.tamu.edu/extension-programs>