Park and recreation agencies across the country provide a vital service to an ever-growing population. Operations and maintenance funding, staffing, access, dedicated funding sources and accreditation all play a role in the success of a park and recreation agency being able to provide high-quality amenities and services. Agencies that do not meet those principles are at risk of being unable to serve all members of their community in the future.

Squareville Park and Rec
Jan 08, 2020

Based on the data you provided, your agency’s ability to continue delivering quality park and recreation amenities and services to all members of your community in the future is at:

LOW RISK

Congratulations! Your agency’s ability to deliver quality park and recreation amenities and services to all members of your community in the future is at LOW RISK. Please review Page 2 to identify the factors leading to your agency’s risk profile.

Learn more about the key principles behind NRPA Park Check at www.NRPA.org/Park-Check

The information presented in this NRPA Park Check report is based on agency data provided by the survey respondent. The validity of the results presented within this report depends on the accuracy and completeness of this data. © National Recreation and Park Association
FACTORS THAT DETERMINED YOUR AGENCY’S RISK

Funding: Communities committed to providing high-quality parks and recreation for all residents ensure that operations and maintenance (O&M) spending is growing at a rate equal to or greater than the rate of the jurisdiction’s population growth.

**Moderate Risk** - Your agency’s O&M spending generally has been growing at a rate greater than your jurisdiction’s population growth, but has failed to do so over the past year.

Staffing: Communities committed to providing high-quality parks and recreation for all residents ensure that park and recreation agency staffing is growing at a rate equal to or greater than the rate of the jurisdiction’s population growth.

**High Risk** - Your agency’s park and recreation staffing growth rate has failed to keep up with your jurisdiction’s population growth.

Access: Everyone deserves having access to a high-quality park that is within a 10-minute walk of where they live.

**Low Risk** - An overwhelming majority of your jurisdiction’s residents lives within a 10-minute walk of at least one park.

**Low Risk** - An overwhelming majority of your jurisdiction’s low-income residents live within a 10-minute walk of at least one park.

Dedicated Funding Sources: Park and recreation agencies in communities committed to providing high-quality parks and recreation for all residents have access to dedicated funding sources (e.g., having their own taxing authority, sales/property taxes dedicated to the agency) to fund at least some part of their annual operating (O&M) budget.

**Low Risk** - Your agency covers most/all of its annual O&M budget through dedicated funding sources.

CAPRA Accreditation: Park and recreation agencies that meet the CAPRA standards demonstrate their commitment to delivering high-quality park and recreation amenities and services to every member of the community.

**Low Risk** - Your agency is currently CAPRA accredited, signifying its dedication to delivering high-quality park and recreation amenities and services to every member of the community.
NRPA Park Check Resources

The National Recreation and Park Association presents the following resources that support increased agency funding and staffing. These resources span from accreditation to research insights that highlight best practices and underscore the highly valued role parks and recreation play in vibrant, healthy communities.

CAPRA
175 park and recreation agencies have demonstrated their commitment to the highest level of service by achieving accreditation by the Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies. The CAPRA accreditation signals to the community that the agency meets the national standards of best practice in the field.

10-Minute Walk Campaign
NRPA, The Trust for Public Land, and the Urban Land Institute have joined forces to ensure there is a great park within a 10-minute walk of every person across America. More than 220 mayors have committed to expanding equitable park access through local policy changes, master planning efforts and increased funding.

NRPA Agency Performance Review
The NRPA Agency Performance Review, powered by NRPA Park Metrics, is the most comprehensive collection of park and recreation-related benchmarks and insights. Beyond funding and staffing data, both resources provide parameters on agency facilities, programming, key responsibilities and policies. Identify opportunities for service improvement by comparing your agency with its peers around the corner or across the United States.

NRPA Facility Market Reports
These customized reports offer essential Census and marketing data about your agency’s current (and potential) customers by providing a greater understanding of the residents served by a park, recreation center or any other facility. There are four types of NRPA Facility Market Reports; including a general Community Profile, a summary focused on Health & Wellness, a report on Older Adults and a Youth profile.

The Economic Impact of Local Parks report
Park and recreation agencies not only make communities great places to live, they are also engines of economic activity. Operations and capital spending at America’s local park and recreation agencies generated more than $154 billion in annual economic activity and 1.1 million jobs in 2015.

Promoting Parks and Recreation’s Role in Economic Development report
High-quality parks and recreation play a pivotal role in attracting and retaining quality businesses. Investments in improving a community’s quality of life create a virtuous cycle: high quality-of-life locations attract workers, which attract employers, which in turn attract even more investments and jobs.

Engagement with Parks report
This annual study examines the importance of public parks in the lives of every adult and child in our nation. Key findings include that nine in ten Americans agree that parks and recreation are an essential local government service and 85 percent of people seek high-quality park and recreation amenities when looking for a place to live.