

Health Sector

- How do you define “park”? There are multiple ways to explain what a park is. There is a very broad approach.
- There is a need to have a good definition of what parks are. It would be very valuable to have that information. However, if the definition is too broad it could work against us as we are trying to develop new open spaces.
- Some places cannot easily be defined as a park. Looking at the Rubicon Trail, that is a place that has a number of visitors but is probably not considered a “park”.
- Do we keep “outdoor recreation” as a part of that definition?
- There are some definitions of recreation; the relationship between the outdoor environment and people.
- Recreation is considered a positive.
- It is hard to come up with a value for recreation. It is an experience that happens. Measure mission statements; that mission drives everything that we do. Instead of looking at things so much in numbers, maybe we need to look at the experiences that people have.
- Why are we doing this, and what are our objectives? How do we identify happiness, well-being, and community?
- How do we define the quality of life for communities?
- Stewart Brown has the Institute of Play, should look there
- Recreation includes programs and structure, but also includes self-directed play.
- Need to include play as a part of recreation. Outdoor play, such as sledding, foot golf, etc. It isn’t about what they are doing; it is about the outcome of what they are doing.
- We build facilities, but they do not always meet what the needs are; needs change. Many of the things that we do may not be facility directed. Funding goes towards new parks, and does not help with recreation changes that come up.
- How much of this data does the health industry already have? That would be a very helpful tool in planning communities; it would help to drive funding.
- Areas of most need may not have data available, and that can be worrisome.

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- Information needs to be quantitative as well as qualitative.
- There is a lot of data about there about the benefits of physical activity and parks as being a solution to the need for physical activity.
- We all need numbers and data, but having personal stories is important as well.
- The conflict is policy driven. Once you get into the position of having to bring in money for your programs, what drives you changes. It has become a revenue generated approach. This is the way to survive. Parks and Recreation departments have merged into other departments as a way to save money.
- These ideas are great, but hard to make happen when this is the reality.
- Parks and rec are competing for the same budget dollars. Parks and rec needs to be 100% self-sufficient in order to survive. No longer a luxury of providing a service when you have to make money.
- Competing against other agencies that do not provide the same services.
- This is where we have to be brave enough to figure out how to understand what we are doing in Parks and Recreation and explain that. We need to be able to evaluate constructs. Demonstrate to policy makers that it is essential. People move to cities for parks.
- Linking health outcomes to parks and recreation is essential.
- Outdoor recreation can be seen as spiritual, ceremonial, and traditional. This is something to keep in mind as well.
- What types of regulations have been put in place that can cause people to perceive a barrier?
- Policies do not always make sense in every place, sometimes that puts you into a box.
- Find ways to partner with departments instead of seeing them as competitors
- Sacramento Native American Health Center
- Is it possible to do surveys beyond just the public? Political audience would have a different perspective, the professionals as well, and the non-government providers that may also have a different perspective. It would be interesting to see what all of these entities have in common. The issues that people tend to address are primarily political. Need to go beyond the traditional.
- Partnered with the Department of Justice

- Department of Water Resources for trail projects, this is a brand new funding source
- How will you use grant funding to get into a partnership that will help you to become self-sustaining?
- Chamber of Commerce is involved in parks
- California League of Cities, CSAC and CTA (teachers' association) may help with health education
- Special events and cultural events can lead to new partnerships.
- How are people inspired based upon these particular events?
- Startup programs in SF that has similar information to what we are looking for.
- How do we even approach the definition of health? Missing environmental health, financial health, cultural health, etc. Spirituality piece is incredibly important. Health is embodied. It happens in us. It doesn't capture how communities value health. Safety and cultural health is a much larger issue in communities than ideas of obesity. We seem to be starting from the wrong place. We are starting from a place where we do not even know what is important to our communities.
- There is no easy answer; but this seems like a good place to start.

Public Survey

- Deeply so! Social environmental and economic health equality socio-economic, gender identity as demographic questions
- Top languages throughout the State are not representative of specific communities
- County structures for reaching wide range of populations within the community
- Social equity using different formats to reach diverse populations
- Programming website to create the entire text into multiple languages at the touch of a button (Bakersfield)
- Ensure the results of the survey serves its purpose;
- Differences between infrastructure and recreation and separating survey to indicate differences
- The data capture is used for various reasons and park & recreation may be a "low level" use compared to other potential users/results

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- The survey has a role in ensuring certain data is captured that may be outside the “normal” realm of parks & rec
- This is not a state park’s document – we recognize that the SCORP serves as a tool to help “fill the gap” for various other entities, we want this to be an inclusive document
- It’s important to understand the reason for the products or resource tools we are developing and emphasize the key factors
- Need to ask other reasons or benefits for why they go to parks
 - What are the primary components for health benefits of parks
- Need to consider reformatting – validate through studies
- Closed questions are not appropriate for survey on persons perception
- Is it important to ask the perspective on something we know already as fact (do you believe parks reduce crime?)
- Multiple things to happen with this survey, need cross section of results, and how they’re used
- How can we make the survey helpful and who do we ask the questions to get the results we need to ensure the results are utilized – there’s a purpose
- Questions regarding the politics to encourage advocacy?
- How do we engage decision makers?
- The survey results can be used to create the vision
- What are we measuring?
- Plans and research/studies that we still need to act on
- Broad state, cross section and scale it, CPRS data and scale it, etc.
- Scale data piece that can’t be discounted; context data points from statewide extrapolated information to indicate specific needs and can represent a specific area/community and scale to illustrate as a statewide issue/concern/trend
- Last survey was not as inclusive as desired
- Change the ethos/perceptions of parks
- Consider process for utilizing data as advocacy tool
- Other methods for capturing data, not just surveys but focus groups, partnerships,
- Tourists should be included
- Methodology – pop ups for questions
- Using new programming for questions and potential
- What about previous survey results?

- Why are we completing this survey? Funding? Outreach/education?
- Need to better inform the purpose of the survey
- Cal Volunteers as potential survey “givers”
- CPRS potential partners in developing the survey
- Why does the state need or what will state do with the information?
- Use the UC system for development of survey
- Survey used as a local tool rather than statewide
- Students are 7% of population that are a potential resource
- State creates, locals do it and return and return to state, state analyzes

Local Needs Assessment

- What will the database be used for? Will the needs determine funding priorities? How are needs identified as priority considering the diversity of need in jurisdictions?
- Difficult for locals to complete without funding (see state flood planning with DWR as example)
- The partnerships developed in completing the needs assessment may be created
- Equal distribution of resources based on the needs identified
- How are needs identified? Local agency administration or residents in each community
- Database needs to be maintained, how to ensure updates. This is a major effort, major funding effort
- Decision are not based on needs assessments, but planning

Potential Solutions Not Already Considered

- Bring together wide range of people/entities for a holistic solution
- Look at outside private sector to research potential trends
- Technology tracking activity that could be tapped into
- Other outside activity trends to determine resources
- Tribal directory as a resource for database
- Note: us census may not be reliable source of data due to underserved communities mistrust of completing or just not reached to participate
- Broaden perception

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- Programming to track usage of facilities and smart park systems that may lead to discontinuing surveys
- Defining health that is culturally sensitive and what the goal is for each community – e.g., pushing certain demographic to participate in activities that are outside the culture