# TETON COUNTY
# Recreation and Public Access
# MASTER PLAN

ADOPTED BY TETON COUNTY, ID | JUNE 9, 2014
RESOLUTION NO. 2014-0609

This report was prepared for:
Teton County, Idaho
City of Driggs
City of Victor

Prepared by:

HARMONY
DESIGN & ENGINEERING

110 E Little Avenue, PO Box 369
Driggs, Idaho 83422
(208) 354-1331
www.harmonydesigninc.com

and

BALLARD*KING
& ASSOCIATES LTD

2743 E. Ravenhill Circle
Highlands Ranch, Colorado 80126
(303) 470-8661
www.ballardking.com

Cover and report graphics by:
Powder Mountain Press
110 E Little Avenue, PO Box 1167
Driggs, Idaho 83422

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS


### Project Manager

Doug Self, Community Development Director, City of Driggs

### Advisory Committee

August Christensen, City of Driggs
Barb Dery, Teton Indoor Sports Academy
Brittany Skelton, City of Victor
Brittney Bowser, City of Tetonia
Brody Birch, Teton School District
Cheri Milne, Teton Indoor Sports Academy
Dave Lienert, Teton Valley Baseball and Softball Association
David Treinis, Mountain Bike Teton Valley
David Watson, Teton Science Schools
Dick Weinbrandt, Peaked Sports
Etta Rokes, Teton Valley Recreation Association
Gil Hundley, Teton Valley Foundation
Harley Wilcox, Teton County Fairgrounds
Jason Boal, Teton County Idaho
Jay Mazalewski, Teton County Idaho
Jim Kitchen, Teton Valley Ski Education Foundation
Meg Heinen, Teton Valley Recreation Association
Mike Tomchak, Idaho Department of Fish and Game
Mitch Smaellie, City of Tetonia
Paul Faulkner, Idaho Department of Fish and Game
Scott Bossell, U.S. Forest Service
Tim Adams, Teton Valley Trails and Pathways
Wade Kaufman, Skyliners Motor Club
Zach Smith, City of Victor

### Technical Contributor

Rob Marin, Teton County GIS Department

### Consultants

Jennifer Zung, Harmony Design & Engineering
Randy Blough, Harmony Design & Engineering
Ken Ballard, Ballard*King & Associates

# CONTENTS

Acknowledgements ..... i
Contents ..... ii
List of Tables ..... iii
Executive Summary ..... iv
Chapter 1 Introduction ..... 1
1.1 About Teton Valley ..... 2
1.2 Relationship to Other Plans ..... 2
1.3 Benefits of Recreation and Public Access ..... 4
1.4 Planning Process ..... 7
Chapter 2 Existing Inventory ..... 9
2.1 Organizations ..... 9
2.2 Recreation Facilities ..... 10
2.3 Recreation Programs ..... 24
2.4 Public Access ..... 31
Chapter 3 Needs Assessment ..... 37
3.1 Population and Demographics ..... 37
3.2 Recreation Coordination ..... 40
3.3 Facilities ..... 42
3.4 Programs ..... 55
3.5 Public Access ..... 59
Chapter 4 Funding ..... 65
4.1 Funding Needs ..... 65
4.2 Funding Options ..... 71
4.3 Summary of Funding Needs and Options ..... 78
Chapter 5 Plan and Implementation ..... 81
5.1 Introduction ..... 81
5.2 Priorities and Timing ..... 81
References ..... 85
Appendix – Online Survey ..... 87

# LIST OF TABLES

Table 2-1. Summary of Community Parks....15
Table 2-2. Summary of Neighborhood Parks....16
Table 2-3. Summary of Family-Oriented Facilities....17
Table 2-4. Summary of Multi-Use Separated Pathways....18
Table 2-5. Summary of Road Bike Facilities....19
Table 2-6. Summary of Nordic Trails....20
Table 2-7. Summary of Sport-Oriented Facilities....21
Table 2-8. Summary of Other Recreation Facilities....22
Table 2-9. Summary of Indoor Recreation Facilities....23
Table 2-10. Description of Idaho Fish and Game Sites/Facilities in Teton County....31
Table 2-11. Summary of Forest Service Public Access Points....31
Table 3-1. 2012 Teton Valley Demographic Profile....37
Table 3-2. Teton County Demographics (cont.)....38
Table 3-3. Teton County Household Budget Expenditures....38
Table 3-4. Teton County Age Distribution....39
Table 3-5. Teton County Age Distribution over Time....39
Table 3-6. Teton County Tapestry Segments....40
Table 3-7. Level of Service Analysis Results....53
Table 3-8. Recreation Programs by Area....57
Table 3-9. Sports Participation Trends....58
Table 4-1. Estimated O&M Costs for Existing County and City Facilities....66
Table 4-2. Example of Some Existing Recreation Districts in Idaho....73
Table 4-3. Sample Recreation Departments in Idaho....74
Table 4-4. Summary of Capital Funding Needs....78
Table 4-5. Summary of Potential Capital Funding Sources....78
Table 4-6 Summary of Yearly Operation and Maintenance (O&M) Funding Needs....79
Table 4-7. Summary of Potential Yearly Operation and Maintenance (O&M) Funding Sources....79
Table 5-1. Recreation and Public Access Plan Framework - Administration....82
Table 5-2. Recreation and Public Access Plan Framework - Facilities....83
Table 5-3. Recreation and Public Access Plan Framework - Programs....84

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Hot air balloon rising over Teton Valley.

PHOTO: REED SULLIVAN

Nestled between the Big Hole Mountains and the Teton Mountain Range in eastern Idaho, Teton Valley has abundant natural outdoor recreation opportunities. World class fly fishing, horseback riding, mountain biking, dirt biking, skiing, and snowmobiling are just some of the activities that residents and visitors to the west side of the Tetons enjoy on public lands and rivers. Teton Valley also has a strong nonprofit community that organizes sports programs such as baseball, softball, football, basketball, soccer, hockey, ski racing, and rodeo.

It is precisely this abundance of natural outdoor recreation and organized sports that makes this Recreation and Public Access Master Plan so important. This Plan not only provides an inventory of existing facilities and an analysis of the needs of the community, it also puts forth a plan for incrementally improving existing facilities so they can continue to be positive community attributes. It also provides a framework for making recreation and public access even better, allowing the valley to grow economically, socially, and physically.

## BENEFITS

There are tremendous benefits to having high quality, well maintained, and accessible recreation programs and facilities. Economic benefits include the attraction of new businesses, increased tourism, and the attraction of new residents who desire a high quality-of-life. Social and health benefits include increased physical fitness and the resulting benefits of good health, strengthened community ties, and improving general life satisfaction. Perhaps the most important benefit is the positive and supportive atmosphere that recreation can provide to our kids, resulting in higher self-esteem and reduced likelihood of suicide or experimentation with drugs or alcohol. Having affordable and accessible sports programs and recreation opportunities is vital for physical, mental, social, and emotional development.

HAVING AFFORDABLE AND ACCESSIBLE SPORTS PROGRAMS AND RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES IS VITAL FOR OUR CHILDREN'S PHYSICAL, MENTAL, SOCIAL, AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT.

## Organization and Coordination

There are approximately eleven nonprofit organizations, twelve private businesses, and eight public entities that currently own and maintain recreation facilities and/or run recreation programs. With so many different organizations involved with recreation, there is a strong need for a single coordinating agency that can provide recreation information, manage programs, promote events and activities, and coordinate facility maintenance in Teton Valley.

## Recreation Facilities

Most of the recreation facilities in the valley are owned by public entities, such as Teton County and the cities of Driggs, Victor, and Tetonia. Facilities include community parks, neighborhood parks, paved trails, dirt trails, sports fields, and specialty parks. There are also several indoor fitness facilities that are primarily owned by private businesses. Specialty facilities include a covered outdoor ice rink, a skate park, and two BMX bike parks. The presence of these specialty facilities in an area with a relatively small population is a testament to the importance of recreation to the community.

### Top Desired Facilities

- Recreation center with a pool, gym, and climbing wall.
- Additional play fields and facilities that can support tournaments, especially for soccer and baseball/softball.
- Improvements to and maintenance of access points to public lands and waterways.
- Improvements to the county rodeo grounds, such as an indoor facility and a new outdoor facility.
- Enclosure of the ice rink.

Although the number of existing facilities is generally adequate, the condition of the facilities is poor. Ball fields, tennis courts, and volleyball courts were all facilities identified that are in need of better maintenance. Facilities that need improvements or expansion include the ice rink and the fairgrounds. With a growing, active population, there is the need to develop additional recreation facilities that serve the youth, as well as middle aged and senior populations.

## Recreation Programs

Unlike recreation facilities, recreation programs in the valley are primarily run by nonprofit organizations and the school district. Programs include baseball, softball, soccer, football, basketball, swimming, volleyball, wrestling, gymnastics, judo, rodeo, golf, hockey, figure skating, and skiing. There are several fitness programs run out of private fitness businesses such as yoga, Pilates, dance, and general fitness classes.

The primary and immediate need for recreation programming is coordination between the programs with a central website and application form that can simplify the enrollment process. There is also the need for a coordinating group or organization to promote the existing individual sport and self-directed activities that are available in the valley. This could include a comprehensive trail map for different user groups or organizing open gym times for pick-up games.

Continued growth of recreation programs will be needed in the future to support the increasing population, and there should be a continued emphasis on both summer and winter recreation programs. Promoting and expanding the number of special events that draw people from outside the valley provides economic benefits as well as giving residents and youth "something to do."

### Public access

Access to the beautiful and world class public lands and waterways is one of the most important assets in Teton Valley. There are a total of thirty-six points of access onto Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) land, eight points of access to the Teton River, and one access point to Trail Creek Pond. Most of the river accesses have restrooms available, although very few of the land accesses have restroom facilities. Only one waterway access, to Trail Creek Pond, has American with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant fishing accessibility.

Fishing on the Teton River is world class.

Public access needs, especially for the more heavily used locations, include securing right-of-ways or easements to improve or maintain existing access locations, improving signage and wayfinding, constructing parking facilities, and adding restrooms. There is also a need for improving and coordinating the information that is provided to the public on public access.

### Funding

Operation and maintenance of existing facilities has significant funding needs that are not being met by current county and city budgets. Estimated annual operation and maintenance costs for facilities that are currently the responsibility of the county or cities is $500,000 per year, but less than $200,000 is currently allocated.

There are many volunteers from local nonprofit organizations that contribute significant time and money to help maintain the existing recreation facilities to make up for the current funding short fall.

In addition to maintaining existing facilities, there are several possible capital improvements that are desired by the community that require funding. Capital improvement costs range from $500,000 for public access improvements to $20 million dollars for a recreation facility with an indoor pool.

Fortunately, there are some good funding options for operation and maintenance of recreational facilities, programs, and public access in Teton County. The most favorable is the creation of a recreation district that could provide a stable funding source and approximately $785,000 per year in revenue. Another funding source is a local option tax (resort sales tax) that could be collected by the cities and designated for recreation. Both the recreation district and the resort sales tax would need to be approved by voters in Teton County, with the recreation district requiring 50% majority and the sales tax requiring 60% majority vote to pass. The resort sales tax would also need to be reapproved by the voters after each term expires.

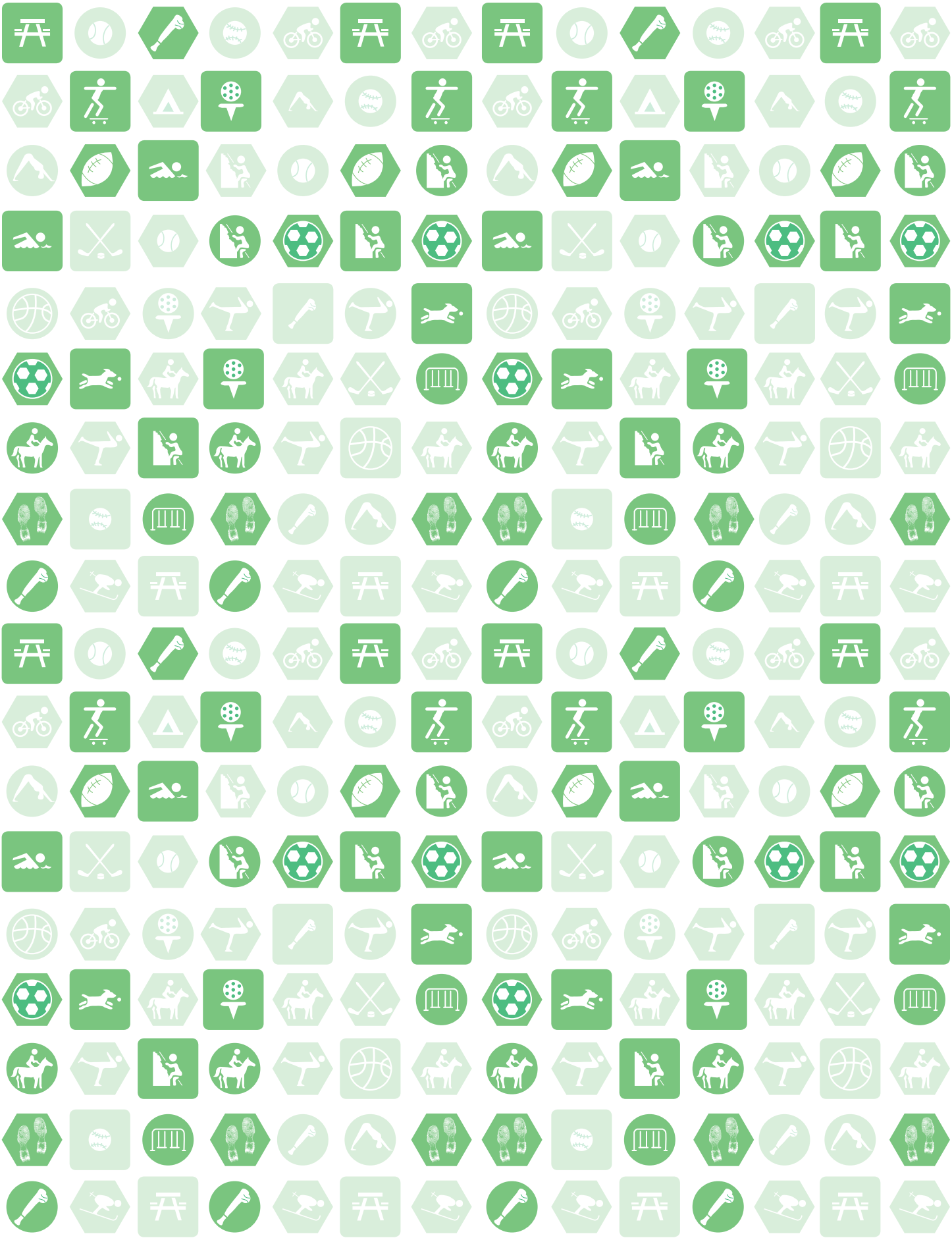
It is likely that a combination of funding will be needed for capital improvements of recreation facilities, as well as operation and maintenance. This includes user fees, taxes, grants, private donations, commissions, and other sources. Additionally, reliance on volunteers will still be needed, such as to provide coaching and other program services.

### Plan Implementation

The framework plan for recreation facilities, programs, and public access includes short term (0-5 years), mid-term (5-10 years) and long term (10+ years) action items and goals. Primary goals for this Recreation and Public Access Master Plan are shown below:

**Master Plan Goals**

- Improve administration and coordination of existing programs and facility maintenance.
- Establish one or more stable funding sources and develop a long-range funding plan for facilities, programs, and access.
- Improve the condition of existing facilities before making investments in new ones.
- Conduct feasibility studies for larger capital improvements, which will require capital campaigns to fund and will not be able to be funded solely by a recreation district or sales taxes.
- Grow and expand recreation programs targeted to youth in the short term and middle aged and senior populations in the long term.



# Chapter 1 INTRODUCTION

This Recreation and Public Access Master Plan for Teton County, Idaho provides a vision and framework for meeting the recreation needs of the community, including recreation facilities and programs and the maintenance and enhancement of public lands access. It is founded on an inventory of existing conditions and a comprehensive needs analysis that was conducted with the assistance of a twenty-four person Advisory Committee with representatives from all recreation program and facility providers in the county.

The geographical scope of this Plan includes Teton Valley, which is bounded on the west by the Big Hole Mountains and the east by the Teton Mountain Range. It includes the jurisdictions of Teton County, Idaho and the cities of Victor, Driggs, Tetonia, and Felt, as well as the town of Alta, Wyoming, and the area of Teton County, Wyoming, located on the western slope of the Tetons.

This plan is focused on developed recreation facilities within the Teton Valley geographical area, but it does not include the trail systems located on Forest Service or Bureau of Land Management lands. Although recreation on public lands is not part of this plan, the access to Forest Service and BLM trails, as well as access to the Teton River, is included. For the purpose of this study, all facilities that are available to valley residents were considered, including those that are publicly- and privately-owned.

USER SAFETY, SATISFACTION, AND COMMUNITY PRIDE ARE TO A GREAT EXTENT RELATED TO ITS PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE.

## 1.1 About Teton Valley

Teton Valley, including Teton County, Idaho, and the community of Alta, Wyoming, is approximately 450 square miles in size with a population of 10,596. The population is somewhat dispersed with the major population clusters within the City of Driggs (pop. 1,627) and the City of Victor (pop. 1,902).

PHOTO: REED SULLIVAN

Sisters getting ready to ride in Teton Valley.

The valley was historically known as Pierre's Hole in honor of "le grand Pierre" Tivanitagon during the fur trapping days of the 1800s. During the late 1800s, the valley became an agriculture community with seed potatoes, alfalfa, wheat, and barley being the predominate crops.

Today, much of the land in the valley is still used for agriculture, although tourism, recreation, and associated support industries, such as construction, accounts for approximately 42% of all sales in Teton County. The creation of Grand Targhee Resort in 1969 by more than 900 local citizens helped create the tourist and recreation base of the local economy. The resort is a key economic driver for the valley, providing employment to valley residents, as well as a recreational amenity for visitors and second home owners.

Teton Valley experiences cold, snowy winters that begin in November and last until April. The fall and spring, locally known as the "shoulder" or "mud" seasons, lasts from September until October and May until June and can also be cold, snowy, and rainy with limited outdoor recreation opportunities. Consistently, the best time for summer outdoor recreation is from late June until August, only about three months of the year. The long, snowy winters have resulted in an abundance of wintertime outdoor activities such as skiing, snowmobiling, and ice skating.

## 1.2 Relationship to Other Plans

There are several existing planning documents that support this Recreation Master Plan, including the Economic Development Report for Teton County (2013), the Teton County Comprehensive Plan Update (2012), the Driggs Comprehensive Plan (2005), and the Victor Comprehensive Plan (2006).

The Economic Development Report for Teton County states that recreational assets will "help attract more people to the area and improve economic development." Recreation infrastructure development is part of Strategy B.1.g: Improve Recreation Infrastructure, and Strategy D.1.a: Enhance Key Recreational Assets, and suggested improvements include basic park facilities, forest access and parking, trails, pathways, motorized routes, groomed winter trails, the Kotler Ice Arena, a riding area, and a future recreation center.

Recreation and public access is addressed in the 2012 Teton County Comprehensive Plan within the "Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation," the "Community Events and Facilities," and the "Youth Group" sections. The Youth Group was composed of members of a social studies class at Teton High School. Their vision included a recreation center with a swimming pool, teen-friendly facilities and entertainment, and well-maintained and accessible trails.

The Driggs and Victor Comprehensive Plans also recognize the importance of recreation facilities and projected that more facilities would be needed in the future. A level of service analysis in Driggs identified sports fields, tennis and basketball courts, group picnic areas, and outdoor events venues as the primary facilities that would be needed in the future. A community survey conducted in Driggs also highlighted the desire for a recreation center, swimming pool, bowling alley, outdoor amphitheater, activities for kids and families, more trails and paths, and more developed parks. The Victor Comprehensive Plan identified the need for new sports fields, courts and picnic areas, a community center with a swimming pool, and space for equipment.

**Policies from the Teton County 2012 Comprehensive Plan**

- *Maintain and improve existing public land and river access.*
- *Establish mechanisms for funding recreation improvements. Opportunities may include:*
  - *Creation of a Recreation District that is revenue generating, job creating, and that is funded through such sources as user fees, program fees, lodging taxes, grants, donations, voter-approved levies, household fees and other methods;*
  - *Grants; or*
  - *Trusts or endowments.*
- *Encourage locating new facilities in existing population centers to maximize efficiency and convenience and minimize costs.*
- *Develop Master Plans for Recreation, Community Facilities, and other Public Services that coordinate and include all providers and users.*
- *Encourage partnerships and working relationships with nonprofit groups in order to expand services and facilities.*
- *Seek funding options (e.g. Recreation District, grants, private donations) to develop and support affordable facilities and activities for all ages (e.g. Recreation Center, 4-H, etc.).*

Other plans or projects that address recreation include the Transportation Plans for the cities of Driggs (2007) and Victor (2009), the Envision Victor Project (2011), and the Southern Valley Trails Project (2010). All of these plans support the maintenance and development of recreation facilities and programs in Teton Valley.

## 1.3 Benefits of Recreation and Public Access

Although Teton Valley has outstanding natural resources and outdoor recreation opportunities on the surrounding public lands, they are not true assets to the community unless there is good access to them. Additionally, there are numerous economic, social, and health benefits from having developed facilities, such as parks, ball fields, and other formal and active recreation spaces.

### Economic Benefits

Money invested in recreation and public access is money that will return to the community multiplied. Having high quality and well maintained recreation facilities and good access to public lands helps support three out of four economic growth goals and strategies identified in the Economic Development Plan for Teton County, Idaho (2013). These are business recruitment, tourism marketing, and protection and fostering of high quality of life.

#### Business Recruitment

Parks, access to trails on public lands, and other recreation facilities are one of the top contributors to "quality-of-life;" and quality-of-life is what attracts tax-paying businesses and residents to communities. According to a report by the Trust for Public Land, corporate CEOs say that employee quality-of-life is the third most important factor in locating a new business. Small company owners say that recreation, parks, and open space are the highest priority in choosing a new location for their business (TPL, 1999).

SMALL COMPANY OWNERS SAY THAT RECREATION, PARKS, AND OPEN SPACE ARE THE **HIGHEST PRIORITY** IN CHOOSING A NEW LOCATION FOR THEIR BUSINESS.

Trust for Public Land, 1999

#### Tourism

Tourists come to Teton Valley and the Yellowstone/Grand Teton area because of its natural beauty. Thus, maintaining access to public land is critical for tourism, and the economic impacts of tourism can be significant. An economic study conducted in Blaine County, Idaho, showed that visitors who used the trails in Blaine County reported spending an average of $1,751 during

their visit. Jackson, Wyoming, has spent an estimated $1.7 million over the past decade on area trail systems and, in return, has benefited from an estimated $18 million annual boost to their economy as a direct result of trail-related goods and services purchased in addition to supporting $3.6 million in jobs and generating $1.8 million in taxes every year (Kaliszewski, 2011). In Almo, Idaho, national park tourism is a significant economic driver in the local economy—returning $10 for every $1 invested in the National Park Service (Thomas, 2014).

Special events and tournaments can also have large economic impacts. For example, a study of the impact of youth sports in the Traverse City area in Michigan showed that two tournaments (soccer and lacrosse) contributed $3.4 million in direct spending in the region and served as a gateway experience for first time visitors who were more likely to make return trips (Smith, 2012). A study of the economic impact of multi-day mountain bike events in Oregon showed that each event had up to a $1.69 million impact to local sales, up to $647,900 in generated labor income, and supported 26 jobs (McNamee, 2013).

#### LIFESTYLE

The Teton County Economic Development Plan (2013) recognized that protecting and developing recreational resources is an important economic strategy because many people move to Teton Valley to open businesses or retire due to its high quality of life. Factors that affect quality of life include wealth and employment, the built environment, physical and mental health, education, recreation and leisure time, and social belonging (Nussbaum, 1993).

### Benefits for Youth and Teens

Almost one-third of the population in Teton County is under 18 years of age, and while the adults in the community may focus on the economic or health benefits of recreation facilities and programs, perhaps the biggest beneficiaries are youth and teens. Two out of three young people nationwide wish there were more places they could hang out where they feel safe and can have fun (Alliance for Youth, 2006), and, in fact, one of the guiding principles developed by the Teton County Comprehensive Plan Youth Group was to "provide productive, engaging, affordable, and positive entertainment." Developing quality recreation facilities is very important for supporting positive growth for our kids.

> ***"We're a rural area, so kids have little to do ... with one afterschool activity, 70% of youth are less likely to get involved in illegal drugs or bad behavior. With two activities, that percentage increases to 90."***
>
> – Shirley Morgan, Village Police Athletic League
> Portland, Oregon area

#### DECREASE DRUG AND ALCOHOL USE

It is between the ages of 12 to 15 that youth develop the patterns of use or non-use of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs (Bailey, 1998), and adding just one after school activity decreases the

likelihood that youth will get involved with illegal drugs or bad behavior by 70% (Puterbaugh 2007). Even in areas with large Mormon or LDS populations, 14.3% of teens report that they have used alcohol in the past month (Bittner, 2012). According to a report by the World Health Organization, there is clear evidence that youths who participate in competitive sports programs are more likely to eat healthier, have lower weight, and are less likely to smoke cigarettes or engage in sexual activity (Jones-Palm, 2012).

### Decrease Suicide

It is a grim fact that Idaho consistently has one of the highest suicide rates in the nation, and Teton County has the 6th highest rate of suicide out of forty-four Idaho counties. In 2010, Idaho's suicide rate was 49% higher than the national average and Teton County has a five-year average annual rate of 30.9 deaths compared to the state average of 18.3 deaths per 100,000 people (SPAN, 2013). News of another teen suicide in the community is always met with a heavy heart and the unanswered question–"why?"

Although the reasons for suicide vary widely, studies have shown that vigorous exercise or participation in organized sports lowers suicidal ideation and suicide attempts, increases body image and self-esteem, and reduces the risk of depression (Girls Inc., 2000; U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 2004; Brown, 2007). Thus, having affordable and accessible sports programs and recreation opportunities is vital for children's physical, mental, social, and emotional development.

PHOTO: COURTESY BALLARD*KING ASSOCIATES

Youth and teens benefit greatly from recreation programs, including creative classes.

## Social and Health Benefits

The obvious benefits of participating in recreation programs and using public lands for recreation are health related. Physical activity is well known to reduce obesity; reduce the risk of diabetes, heart disease, and some cancers; boosts the immune system; and increase life expectancy. Mental health benefits include reducing depression, relieving stress, improving self-esteem, and improving general life satisfaction.

Additionally, there are many social benefits of recreation. These include strengthening the community, encouraging volunteerism, promoting social bonds and family ties, and supporting seniors and youth. Community members that play team sports together form closer ties that can foster understanding on many levels outside of the playing field. Having good recreation facilities helps to build viable, desirable, resilient, and livable communities that benefit everyone.

## 1.4 Planning Process

An Advisory Committee was formed early in the process that included representatives from Teton County, Driggs, Victor, Tetonia, Idaho Department of Fish and Game, the U.S. Forest Service, the Teton School District, and nonprofit and private recreation-focused organizations and companies. The Advisory Committee provided the consultant team with information on existing facilities and also thoroughly reviewed this Master Plan and provided valuable input.

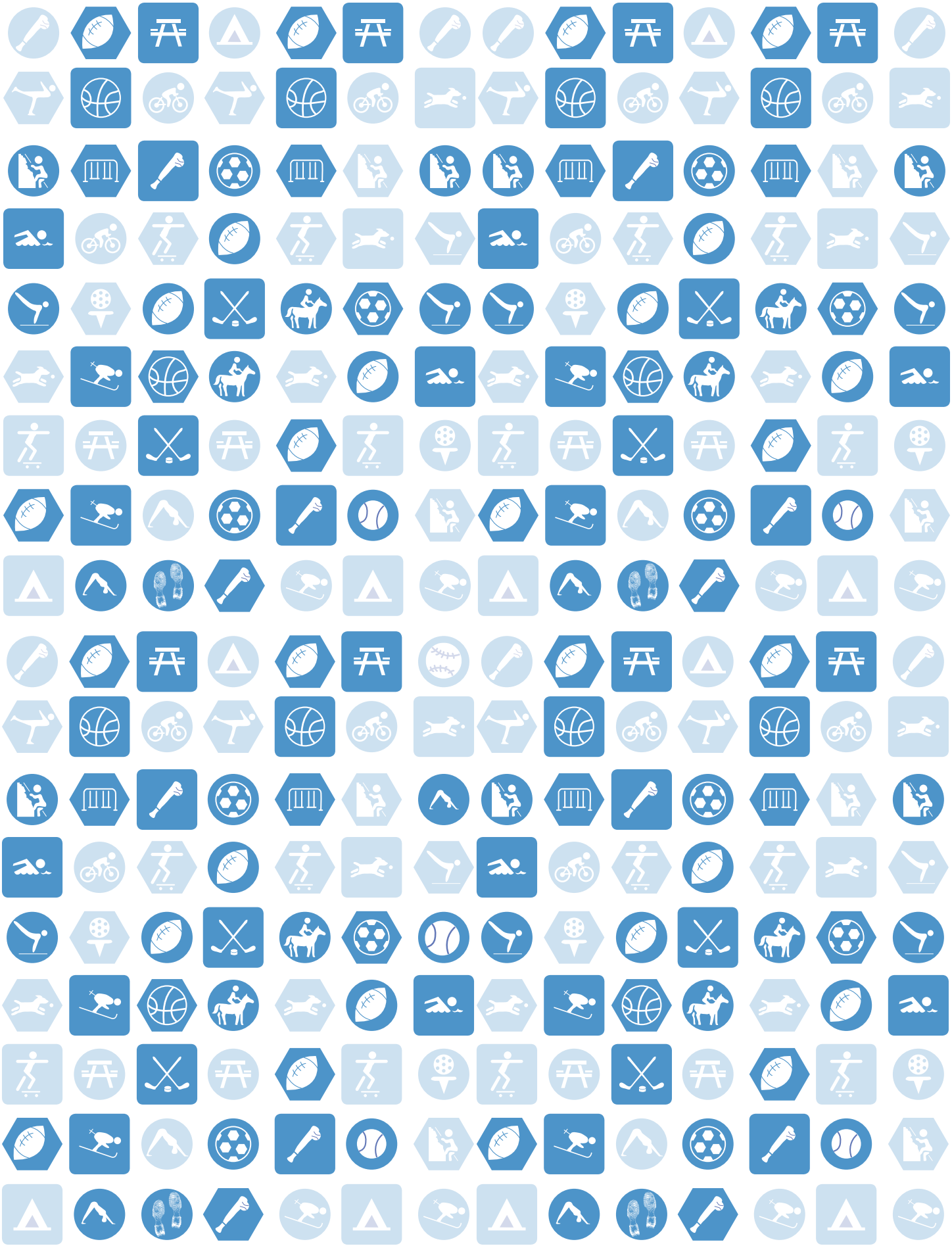
The overall planning process included an initial inventory of existing recreation programs and facilities and a needs analysis that was based on an online survey and supplemented with information gathered by the consultant team. The results of these two steps formed the basis of the resulting plan and recommendations for implementation.

The Advisory Committee met several times throughout the planning process and gave valuable input into the Plan.

### Community Survey

More than 400 people took an online survey on recreation and public access that was available during the fall of 2013. This survey included a series of questions regarding the satisfaction with existing facilities, the use of current amenities, and what facilities need to be added. Most respondents were full-time residents (85%) with at least one member of the household younger than 14, with an equal number of respondents from Driggs and Victor.

The survey was distributed by members of the Advisory Committee via email, and it was also posted on various websites. Although the survey was not taken by a random sample of Teton Valley residents, it does provide information on the opinions of a segment of the population. The results also mirrored other community-wide surveys that have been conducted during other planning efforts.



# Chapter 2 EXISTING INVENTORY

## 2.1 ORGANIZATIONS

Recreation facilities and programs in Teton Valley are owned and managed by a wide variety of organizations, including municipalities, private entities, and nonprofit organizations. Organizations that actively provide recreation facilities and programs in Teton Valley include the following:

**Public Entities**

- City of Driggs
- City of Tetonia
- City of Victor
- Idaho Fish and Game
- Idaho Parks and Recreation
- Teton County
- Teton School District 401
- U.S. Forest Service

**Private Entities**

- Anytime Fitness
- Balance Studios
- Curves
- Dreamchasers Fitness
- Grand Targhee Resort
- High Peak Fitness
- Huntsman Springs Resort
- Targhee CrossFit
- Teton Reserve
- Teton Springs Resort
- Yoga on Little
- Yoga Co-op

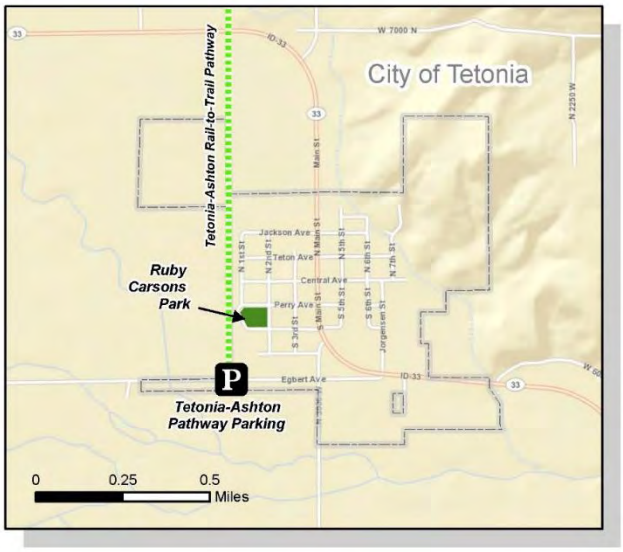
**Nonprofit Organizations or Clubs**

- Mountain Bike the Tetons (MBT)
- Rodeo Club
- Skyliners Motor Club
- Teton Valley Baseball and Softball Association (TVBSA)
- Teton Valley Fair Board
- Teton Valley Foundation (TVF)
- Teton Valley Recreation Association (TVRA)
- Teton Valley Ski Education Foundation (TVSEF)
- Teton Valley Trails and Pathways (TVTAP)
- Teton Indoor Sports Academy (TISA)
- Wrestling Club

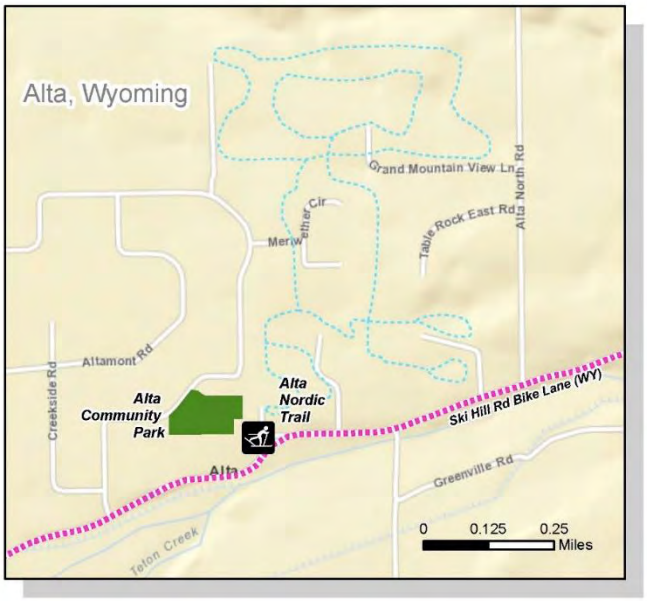
## 2.2 Recreation Facilities

To better understand the existing recreation facilities in Teton Valley, the following asset inventory was compiled using data provided by the Advisory Committee combined with information available from the Teton County GIS database and local knowledge. For this study, facilities that are available to Teton Valley residents were included in the existing asset inventory, including those owned by private entities. Note that the following inventory is based on the best information available and may not represent a complete account of all recreation facilities. The following maps, provided by the Teton County GIS Department, show the location of existing facilities in the county and the cities of Driggs, Victor, Tetonia, and Alta.

MAPS: TETON COUNTY GIS

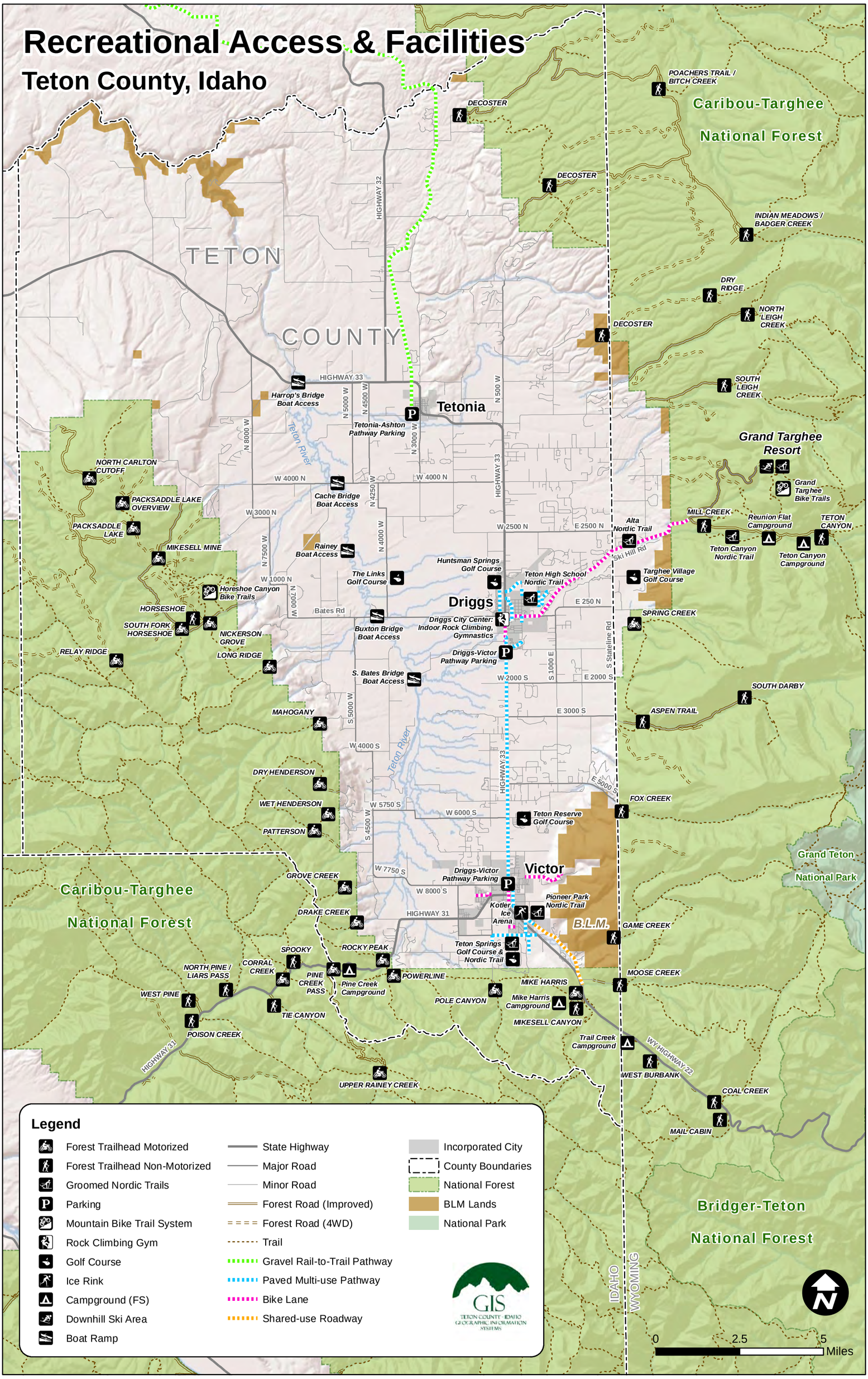



**Tetonia, Idaho and Alta, Wyoming Recreation and Pathways Maps**



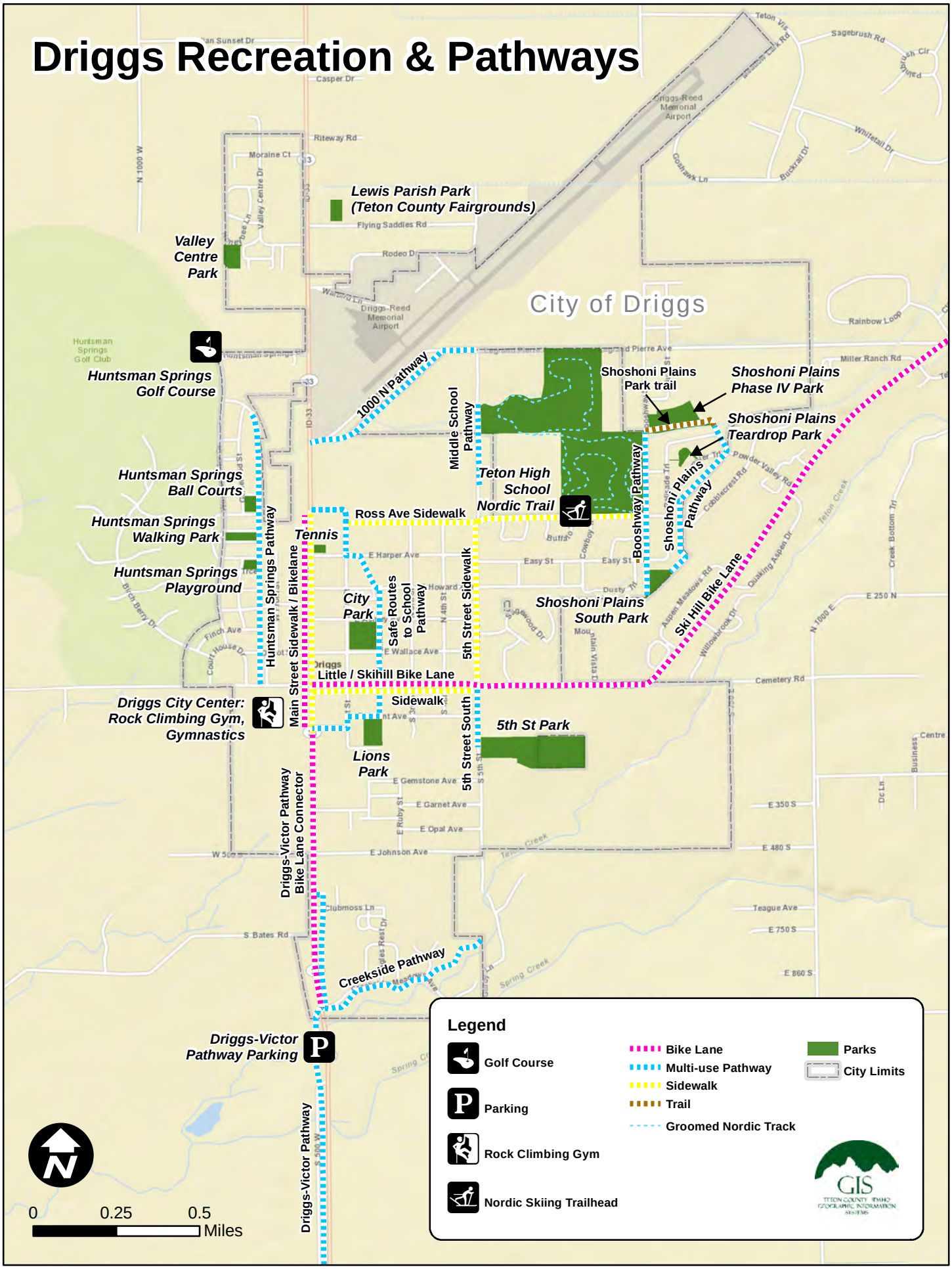
# Recreational Access & Facilities

## Teton County, Idaho

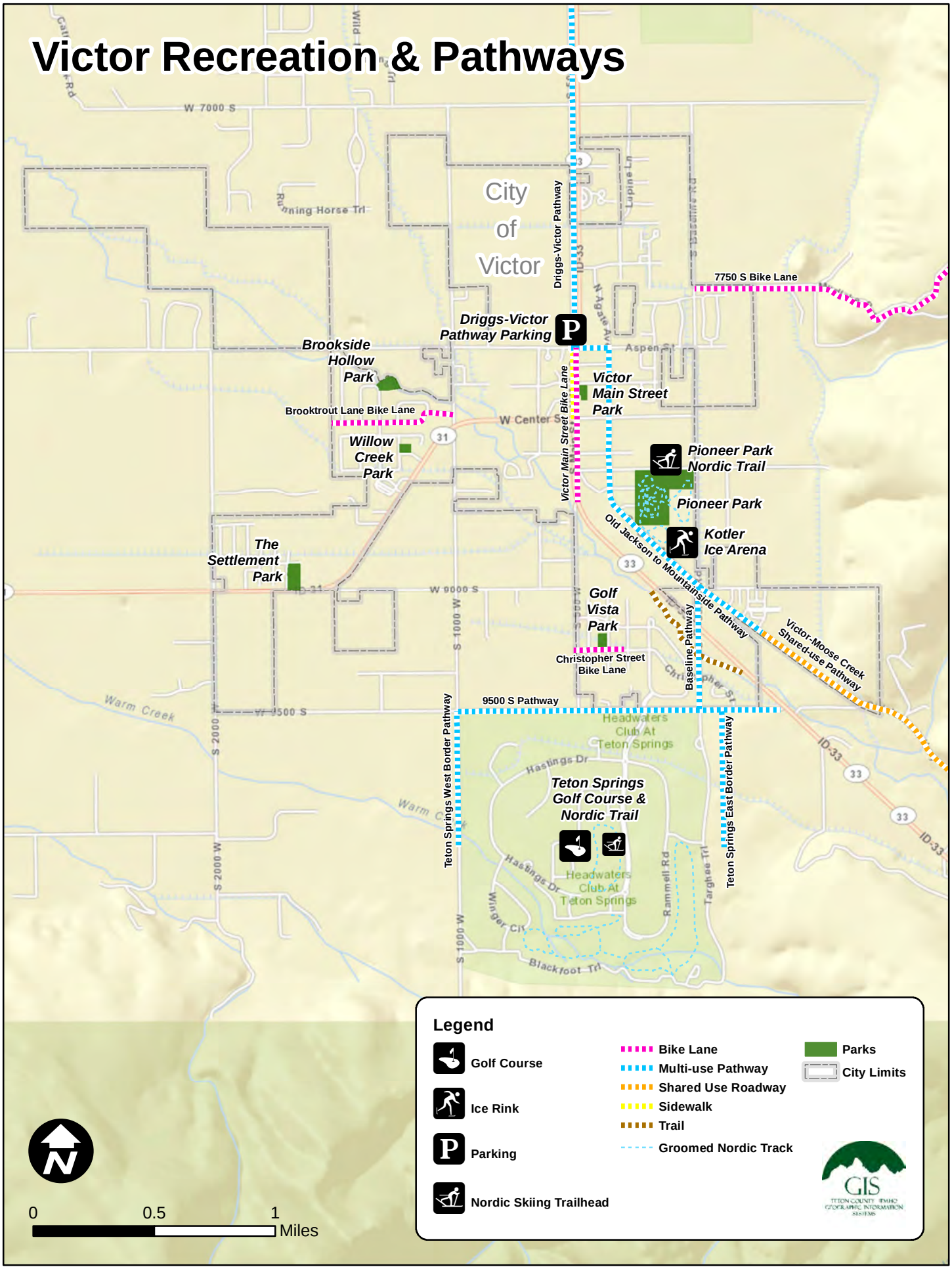


Page left blank for correct double sided printing

# Driggs Recreation & Pathways



# Victor Recreation & Pathways



## Parks

Parks were classified as either community parks or neighborhood parks depending on size and use. All of the parks in Teton Valley are in the cities and are shown on the maps on the preceding pages.

**Community parks** are generally larger than neighborhood parks and include a mix of active and passive recreation areas and facilities that attract people from all over the valley. The general size standard for a community park is larger than 50 acres. However, because Teton Valley does not have any parks that are close to this size, a park was classified as a community park if it regularly attracts people from a wider population than the surrounding neighborhood.

The Driggs City Park is considered a community park since it contains baseball and softball fields that are used by adult and youth sport leagues. The Driggs City Park is owned by the LDS Church but operated and maintained by the City of Driggs under a current lease that expires in 2034 or with a 90 day notice. Lions Park in Driggs is used for ball games and also contains a community garden. The Fifth Street Park includes the only skate park in the valley, as well as a BMX track and a disc golf course. In Victor, Pioneer Park includes a bike pump park and the Kotler Ice Arena, and the Victor City Park has an outdoor stage that is used for very popular free concerts during the summer. A summary of the community parks in Teton Valley is included in Table 2-1.

Children play at the playground in Driggs City Park.

Table 2-1. Summary of Community Parks

| *Park Name* | *Location* | *Size (acres)* |
|---|---|---|
| Driggs City Park* | Driggs | 5.0 |
| Lions Park | Driggs | 3.0 |
| 5th Street Park | Driggs | 8.0 |
| Pioneer Park | Victor | 28.0 |
| Victor Main Street Park | Victor | 1.8 |
| **TOTAL** | | 45.8 |

* indicates the facility is privately owned

**Neighborhood parks** are generally smaller than community parks and primarily serve residents living in the area surrounding the park due to the lack of facilities that would attract people from the entire valley. They are located within walking distance of the neighborhoods they serve (¼ to ½ mile radius) and act as important community gathering places and focal points for neighborhoods.

Table 2-2. Summary of Neighborhood Parks

| ***Park Name*** | ***Location*** | ***Size (acres)*** |
|---|---|---|
| Alta Community Park | Alta | 4.0 |
| Brookside Park | Victor | 1.2 |
| Golf Vista Park | Victor | 1.4 |
| Huntsman Springs Playground | Driggs | 0.8 |
| Huntsman Springs Ball Courts | Driggs | 1.0 |
| Huntsman Springs Walking Park | Driggs | 1.5 |
| Lewis Parish Park | Driggs | 1.0 |
| Ruby Carsons Park | Tetonia | 2.7 |
| Shoshoni Plains Phase IV | Driggs | 6.5 |
| Shoshoni Plains South | Driggs | 2.4 |
| Shoshoni Plains Teardrop | Driggs | 0.8 |
| The Settlement Park | Victor | 3.2 |
| Valley Centre Park | Driggs | 3.0 |
| Willow Creek Park | Victor | 1.0 |
| **TOTAL** | | **30.5** |

Recently installed playground equipment at the Alta Community Park.

## Family-Oriented Facilities

Family-oriented facilities include the playgrounds and picnic areas that often come to mind when one thinks of parks. These are usually available on first-come, first-serve basis. This category also includes swimming pools. There are currently no public swimming pools in Teton Valley and the pools included in the inventory are private pools that can be accessed by members and guests for a fee. The outdoor pool that is currently under construction at Huntsman Springs is not included in the inventory below.

Table 2-3. Summary of Family-Oriented Facilities

| *Park Name* | *Picnic Tables* | *Pavilions* | *Playgrounds* | *Swimming Pools* | *Restrooms* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 5th Street Park | 1 | | | | 1 |
| Alta Community Park | 1 | | 1 | | 1 |
| Brookside Park | 2 | | 1 | | |
| Driggs City Park* | 1 | 1 | 1 | | 1 |
| Grand Targhee Resort* | | | | 1 | |
| Golf Vista Park | 1 | | 1 | | |
| Huntsman Springs Playground | | | 1 | | |
| Lewis Parish Park | 1 | | 1 | | |
| Lions Park | | | | | 1 |
| Pioneer Park | 3 | 1 | 1 | | 1 |
| Ruby Carsons Park | 1 | 1 | 1 | | 1 |
| Shoshoni Plains Phase IV | | | | | |
| Shoshoni Plains South | 1 | | | | |
| Teton Springs Resort* | | | | 1 | |
| The Settlement | | | 1 | | |
| Valley Centre Park | | | 1 | | |
| Victor Main St. Park | 4 | 1 | | | 1 |
| Willow Creek Park | 1 | | 1 | | |
| TOTAL | **17** | **4** | **11** | **2** | **7** |

* indicates the facility is privately owned

## Trails and Pathways

Trails and pathways in Teton Valley are an important part of the recreation system. During the summer, they are used for biking, walking, and motorized uses. During the winter, the groomed Nordic and snowmobile trails provide all-weather access to the outdoors.

**Multi-Use Pathways** are pathways separated from the road that are generally surfaced with asphalt, although a few are surfaced with gravel. The most popular multi-use pathway in Teton Valley runs parallel to Idaho Highway 33 from Driggs to Victor and is 7.1 miles in length. The longest multi-use pathway is an old railroad grade that was converted to a trail and runs from Tetonia to Ashton, Idaho. Multi-use pathways in Teton Valley are used by cyclists, walkers, runners, and rollerbladers. Some pathways are used by snowmobilers in the winter.

Table 2-4. Summary of Multi-Use Separated Pathways

| *Pathway Description* | *Location* | *Surface* | *Length (miles)* |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1000 N Pathway | Driggs | Paved | 0.6 |
| 5th Street South | Driggs | Gravel | 0.2 |
| 9500 S Pathway | Victor | Paved | 1.3 |
| Baseline Pathway | County | Paved | 0.5 |
| Booshway Pathway | Driggs | Paved | 0.5 |
| Creekside Pathway | Driggs | Paved | 0.6 |
| Driggs-Victor Pathway | County | Paved | 7.1 |
| Guardian Peaks Pathway | Driggs | Paved | 0.1 |
| High School-Middle School Pathway | Driggs | Paved | 0.3 |
| Huntsman Springs Pathway | Driggs | Paved | 0.7 |
| Hwy. 33 Driggs Creekside Pathway | Driggs | Paved | 0.4 |
| Old Jackson to Mountainside Pathway | Victor | Paved | 1.6 |
| Ross Street 1st to Highway 33 | Driggs | Paved | 0.1 |
| Safe Routes Main to Ross Street along 2nd | Driggs | Paved | 1.0 |
| Shoshoni Plains Pathway-gravel | Driggs | Gravel | 0.5 |
| Shoshoni Plains Pathway-paved | Driggs | Paved | 0.1 |
| Ski Hill Road | Driggs | Paved | 0.5 |
| Teton Springs East Border Pathway | Victor | Paved | 0.6 |
| Teton Springs West Border Pathway | Victor | Paved | 0.6 |
| Tetonia-Ashton Rail Trail | County | Gravel | 10.5 |
| **TOTAL** | | | 27.8 |

**Bike facilities** located on roads include bike lanes and designated shared use roadways. The number of bike lanes in Teton Valley is limited and the most popular bike lane runs from Driggs to Alta along Ski Hill Road.

Table 2-5. Summary of Road Bike Facilities

| *Bike Facility Location* | *Location* | *Type* | *Length (miles)* |
|---|---|---|---|
| 7750 South | Victor | Bikelane | 1.3 |
| Brook Trout Lane | Victor | Bikelane | 0.5 |
| Christopher Street | Victor | Bikelane | 0.2 |
| Little Avenue /Ski Hill Road | Driggs | Bikelane | 4.0 |
| Rail-Trail Pathway to Driggs | Driggs | Bikelane | 0.8 |
| Main Street | Victor | Bikelane | 0.6 |
| Victor-Moose Creek | Victor | Shared Use Roadway | 2.4 |
| **TOTAL** | | | 9.8 |

**National Forest Service** trails and roads are outside of the scope of this plan, but it is important to note their significance as it relates to public access. The Teton Basin Ranger District contains approximately 427 miles of National Forest System Trails and 340 miles of National Forest System Roads. The system trails include 212 miles designated for motorized use; 99 miles designated for non-motorized/non-wilderness trail (i.e. non-motorized trail open to bicycles and pedestrians); and 116 miles of wilderness trails that are open to horses and pedestrians only. All 340 miles of roads are open to off highway vehicle (OHV) use with the exception of Teton Canyon and Darby Canyon Roads. During the winter, approximately 280 miles of trails are groomed within the Idaho District 33 grooming district for snowmobile use.

Mountain bikers enjoying the popular Forest Service trails in Horseshoe Canyon.

**Winter Nordic trails** in Teton Valley are groomed by Teton Valley Trails and Pathways (TVTAP), a local nonprofit organization. Use of the Nordic trails is free, although donations to TVTAP are encouraged to help fund the grooming program. There are several Nordic trails located throughout the valley, and trail use counts taken during the 2012-2013 winter season showed that an average of almost 15,000 skiers used the Nordic trails with the most popular trail being located in Teton Canyon. The Teton Canyon trail is usually the first to be groomed in the fall and the last to be groomed in the spring and is heavily used by multiple user groups, including skiers, snowshoers, snow bikers, and snowmobilers.

Table 2-6. Summary of Nordic Trails

| ***Nordic Trail Name and Location*** | ***Length (km)*** |
|---|---|
| Alta – north of the Alta Library | 10 |
| Driggs – east of Booshway between High School and Middle School | 5 |
| Grand Targhee Resort – Nordic trails located at the base of the ski resort | 15 |
| Victor – Pioneer Park | 4 |
| Teton Canyon – out and back trail in Teton Canyon | 13 |
| Teton Springs – on the golf course at Teton Springs in Victor | 7 |
| **TOTAL** | 54 |

PHOTO: ERIC HELGOTH

Kids Nordic race on the Alta Nordic trails in 2013.

## Outdoor Sports-Oriented Facilities

Outdoor sports-oriented facilities are those used for team sports such as baseball, softball, soccer, football, and tennis. These facilities usually need to meet standard dimensions and some can be used for multiple purposes. They are often reserved for league games and fees may be charged to cover maintenance costs. Several volunteers from some of the sports programs help maintain some facilities to help keep them in good condition. A strong volunteer and fundraising effort also made the covered ice rink located in Victor a possibility. Although these facilities are most often used for organized team sports, they can also be used for more informal activities.

Table 2-7. Summary of Sport-Oriented Facilities

| *Facility Name* | *Diamond Fields* | *Rectangular Fields* | *Basketball Courts* | *Volleyball Courts* | *Tennis Courts* | *Ice Rinks* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Alta Elementary School | 1 | | | | | 1 |
| Brookside Park | | | 1 (half court) | | | |
| Driggs City Park | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | |
| Huntsman Springs Ball Courts | | | 1 | 1 | | |
| LDS Church in Victor* | 1 | 1 | | | | |
| Lewis Parish Park | | | | 1 | | |
| Lions Park | 1 | 1 | | | | |
| Pioneer Park | 2 | 1 | | | | 1 |
| Ruby Carsons Park | 1 | | | | 1 | |
| Teton School District | 3 | 4 | 5 | | 2 | |
| The Settlement Park | | 1 | | | | |
| **TOTAL** | **10** | **9** | **8** | **2** | **3** | **2** |

* indicates the facility is privately owned

## Other Outdoor Facilities

Other recreation facilities that do not fall into the above categories but are important amenities in the community are inventoried here. This includes traditional facilities for sports, such as golf, as well as non-traditional sports that are increasing in popularity, such as BMX parks, skate parks, and disc golf courses. Although private golf courses are included in the inventory below, the cost to play on the premier courses at Huntsman Springs and Teton Springs may make them unattainable for most of the population. All golf courses are 18-hole courses, and the Targhee Village Golf Course is the only public golf course that does not require a private club membership to use.

Table 2-8. Summary of Other Recreation Facilities

| *Park Name* | *Skate Parks* | *Disc Golf* | *Golf Courses* | *Bike Parks* | *Rodeo Grounds* | *Community Gardens* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 5th Street Park | 1 | 1 | | 1 | | |
| Grand Targhee Resort* | | 1 | | | | |
| Huntsman Springs Resort* | | | 1 | | | |
| Lions Park | | | | | | 1 |
| Pioneer Park | | | | 1 | | |
| Saddleback Vistas* | | | | | 1 | |
| Targhee Village Golf Course* | | | 1 | | | |
| Teton County Fairgrounds | | | | | 1 | |
| Teton Reserve* | | | 1 | | | |
| Teton Springs Resort* | | | 1 | | | |
| Tetonia Rodeo Grounds | | | | | 1 | |
| The Links at Teton Peaks* | | | 1 | | | |
| **TOTAL** | **1** | **2** | **5** | **2** | **3** | **1** |

* indicates the facility is privately owned

## Indoor Recreation Facilities

In addition outdoor amenities, there are also a number of indoor recreation facilities that are available in Teton Valley. These facilities are provided by the public, private, and nonprofit sectors, and they include a variety of elements from active recreation to social focused space.

Table 2-9. Summary of Indoor Recreation Facilities

| *Facility Name* | *Multi-purpose Gyms* | *Fitness Classes or Wts* | *Yoga or Pilates* | *Gym-nastics* | *Community Rooms* | *Climbing Gym* | *Horse Arena* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Anytime Fitness* | | 1 | | | | | |
| Balance Studio* | | | 1 | | | | |
| Driggs Community Center | | | | 1 | 1 | 1 | |
| Dreamchasers* | | 1 | 1 | | | | |
| LDS Churches | 3 | | | | 3 | | |
| High Peaks Fitness* | | 1 | | | | | |
| Saddleback Vistas* | | | | | | | 1 |
| School District | 3 | | | | | | |
| Teton County Fairgrounds | | | | | 1 | | 1 |
| Targhee CrossFit* | | 1 | | | | | |
| Teton Yoga Co-op * | | | 1 | | | | |
| LDS Churches | 3 | | | | 3 | | |
| Yoga on Little* | | | 1 | | | | |
| TOTAL | **6** | **4** | **4** | **1** | **5** | **1** | **2** |

* indicates the facility is privately owned

### Recreation Facilities Summary

Teton Valley has a variety of recreation facilities available to its residents, which are owned and managed by the public, private, and nonprofit sector. This includes:

- Parks–both community and neighborhood parks are located in the major communities in the valley.
- Trails and Pathways–there is a good network of trails and pathways that support a variety of summer and winter activities. This also includes National Forest and stream access points. This is a real positive considering the natural features that are present in the area.
- Outdoor Sports-Oriented Facilities–there are a number of sports fields, courts and an ice rink located in the valley. Having a covered ice rink in an area with such a small population is a testament to the commitment the community has to outdoor recreation.
- Family-Oriented Facilities–park amenities such as picnic tables, playgrounds, and restrooms are available in a number of parks. There are a small number of outdoor swimming pools, as well, likely due in part to the high cost of building and maintaining such amenities, as well as the relatively short season of operation.
- Other Outdoor Facilities–these specialty amenities include skate parks, disc golf courses, bike parks, rodeo grounds, and the like. The number of these types of facilities that exist in an area with a limited population base can be attributed to the active focus of the population that lives in the area, which is similar to many mountain resort communities in the western United States.
- Indoor Recreation Facilities–there are also a number of indoor recreation facilities in the valley. The number of indoor recreation facilities is about average for active mountain communities.

## 2.3 Recreation Programs

Although most of the recreation facilities in Teton Valley are owned by public entities, almost all of the recreation programs are organized by nonprofit organizations. Most programs have nominal registration fees from $40 to $100, and many of the programs are completely run by volunteers who coordinate, coach, referee, and schedule the games. One of the primary nonprofit organizations present in the valley is the Teton Valley Recreation Association, which provides both youth and adult sports programs, as well as open gym time in local schools.

A Teton Valley Sports and Recreation Guide was published in 2012 and 2013 by the Teton Valley News. The guide was distributed for free and was the first guide that presented all (to the greatest extent possible) recreation programs in a single place.

## Baseball and Softball

Youth baseball and softball leagues are organized by the Teton Valley Baseball and Softball Association (TVBSA). With approximately 350 to 370 players, it provides summer T-ball and baseball programs for kids ages 5 to 15. The program currently includes:

- 10 co-ed T-ball teams, ages 5-7
- 10 co-ed coach pitch baseball teams, ages 7-9
- 8 boys minor baseball teams, ages 9-12
- 4 girls minor softball teams, 3rd, 4th and 5th grades
- 4 girls major softball teams, 6th, 7th, 8th, and 9th grades

In the past, TVBSA has also had boys and girls all-star teams that travel and a competitive traveling team for boys ages 13-15.

Adult co-ed softball for ages 15 and up is organized by the Teton Valley Recreation Association (TVRA). Currently, the program includes eight teams with 96 players, although in the past, it has been more common for the league to have 10 teams with 120 players. The Teton High School program is for ages 15-18 and includes two baseball teams and two softball teams.

PHOTO: TETON VALLEY NEWS

Little league baseball is popular in Teton Valley.

## Basketball

The youth basketball program, called Junior Jazz, is run by TVRA by a single director with a lot of community support and volunteer coaches. There are currently approximately 250 participants, including boys and girls in 1st to 6th grades. The program is sponsored by the NBA's Utah Jazz and includes instruction and skills development for 1st and 2nd grades and league play for 3rd to 6th grades.

The Teton School District has girls and boys basketball teams for middle school and high school students. Currently, there are three teams for both girls and boys in each school. TVRA also sponsors adult open gym basketball on Monday and Wednesday nights all year, and there are basketball programs that play in the three LDS church gyms in Teton Valley.

## Soccer

Youth recreation soccer for girls and boys ages 5-13 is organized by TVRA. Games are played in the fall from the middle of August until the end of September, and currently there are approximately 400 participants. The program is run by 10 volunteer coordinators and 60 volunteer coaches and supported by local sponsors to help keep fees low ($45 including equipment and jersey).

Teton F.C. soccer is a competitive soccer league that plays in the spring (March to June) and fall (August to October). The program is for players ages 10 and older and is intended to bridge the gap between recreational soccer and high school soccer. Currently, there are two U14 teams and two U12 teams with about 100 kids that participate. Soccer in Teton Valley is rapidly growing and Teton F.C. expects to add at least two more teams this spring, a U10 team and a U15 team.

PHOTO: AIMEE GORMLEY

U15 boys playing soccer in Teton Valley.

## Football

Football programs are run by the Teton School District and include two leagues. Grid Kid football is a competitive, contact football league for all youth, grades 4th through 8th. Currently, there are five teams in the league and play is in the fall from early August to September. The High School football program currently includes three teams.

## Swimming

The Teton Valley Swim Club, Teton Piranhas, is affiliated with the Idaho Falls Piranhas Swim Club and is a year-round competitive swim program for girls and boys ages 6-18. Competitions are held year round and practices are held at Teton Springs Resort during the summer and the Jackson Recreation Center in the winter. Swim lessons are available at Grand Targhee Resort during the summer and at the Jackson Recreation Center year-round for kids ages 6 months and up.

PHOTO: COURTESY OF TETON VALLEY NEWS

Teton youth swimming team gearing up.

## Volleyball

The Volleyball Club of the Tetons is a competitive traveling league for girls and boys ages 8-18. The Teton School District has three high school volleyball teams and two middle school volleyball teams. TVRA also sponsors open gym volleyball for men and women two nights a week during the school year.

## Wrestling

The Teton Wrestling Club is for youth ages 5-18 with tournaments from February through mid-April.

## Gymnastics & Judo

TVRA offers judo instruction by Yama Judo year round. Instruction covers judo technique, as well as sportsmanship, honor, humility, focus, and self-discipline within the traditional Kodokan teachings. Classes are currently being held at the Driggs City Center.

The Teton Indoor Sports Academy (TISA) offers gymnastics programs for boys and girls ages 5 and up. The fall 2013 session was full with 175 kids enrolled and a waiting list for some classes.

Programs include competitive and recreational programs with sixteen girls in its competitive program and thirteen girls on the pre-team. Recreational programs include a toddler open gym with 150 punch card holders, private birthday parties, and summer camps. TISA also offers private lessons and will be offering a ski/fitness/freerider training class in conjunction with TVSEF.

### Rodeo

The Rodeo Club offers rodeo practice for events, including bull riding, saddlebronk, bareback, steer wrestling, calf tie-down, team roping, breakaway, barrel racing, pole bending, and goat tying. Practices begin in February to prepare for the rodeo season from April to May. The Club is available to Junior and High School students who are active members of the National High School Rodeo Association.

The Teton County Fair Board organizes the County Fair, which includes traditional rodeo events and competitions.

### Golf

The Targhee Village Golf Course sponsors mens, womens, and seniors golf leagues. They also offer junior golf clinics and camps for kids ages 6-18. This golf course is the only public golf course in the Valley.

### Hockey and Figure Skating

The "Royal Wolf Pack" is one team that plays adult hockey at the Kotler Ice Arena.

The Teton Valley Foundation sponsors a youth hockey program for kids ages 5-14, including bantom level, and an adult hockey program that includes leagues for pond hockey, broomball, and women's hockey. TVF also offers figure skating lessons for beginning and intermediate skaters taught by local coaches and trainers.

The ice skating season begins in December depending on weather and ice conditions. Participants in TVF ice skating programs are 70% youth and 30% adults and include approximately 95 kids in the youth hockey program, 300 kids in the Teton School District Winter Sports Program, 120 adults in the pond hockey program, 25 women in the women's hockey program, and 45 adults in the broomball league. Approximately 20 kids take skating lessons.

## Skiing

Alpine, Nordic skiing, and snowboarding lessons are offered by Grand Targhee Resort and the Teton Valley Ski Education Foundation (TVSEF) sponsors a variety of ski race programs. Downhill race teams include the Alpine Race Team for intermediate and advanced skiers ages 8-18, the Alpine Development Race Team for intermediate skiers ages 6-10, and the Freeride Team for ages 10-18.

The Teton Nordic Team (TNT) is part of the TVSEF and provides recreational and Nordic ski race programs for youth and adults. The Nordic program has approximately 130 youth participants and 15-25 in the adult master's program. TNT also sponsors dryland training in the fall to prepare for the winter Nordic season. Activities include trail running, weight lifting, rollerskiing, games, and activities. Dryland training is open to kids middle school age and up.

PHOTO: COURTESY OF TETON VALLEY NEWS

Youth GS ski racer at Grand Targhee Resort.

### Fitness

There are a number of nonprofit and for-profit business organizations that provide adult and youth fitness and wellness programs in Teton Valley. This includes the Teton Indoor Sports Academy (TISA), Eagle Orthopedics & Sports, Anytime Fitness, Dreamchasers, Targhee CrossFit, Yama Judo, Yoga on Little, and the Yoga Co-op.

### Other

In addition to the activities noted above, the Teton Rock Gym provides climbing programs and the Community Foundation of Teton County organizes of free summer concerts in Victor. The Senior Center in Driggs also provides a number of programs and services for seniors.

### Recreation Program Summary

There are a number of recreation programs and services being offered in the Teton Valley by a wide variety of providers. This includes:

- Sports–there are a large number of youth team and individual sports programs in place and also a significant number of programs for adults.
- Swimming–there are very limited swimming programs in the valley.
- Ice Sports–there are a variety of hockey and figure skating programs in place.
- Fitness–the fitness options are numerous, especially those offered by the private sector.
- Other–there are rodeo activities and a variety of skiing (alpine, Nordic, snowboarding, and freeriding) that are offered. There is also a strong gymnastics program in place.
- There are a significant number of nonprofit associations and foundations that provide sports programs. This situation is not often found where nonprofit organizations provide actual programs.
- Except for the school district, the public sector, including the cities and the county, are not providers of recreation programs.

## 2.4 Public Access

Public access to the National Forest and the Teton River are valuable assets in Teton Valley and important to its recreation based sector of the economy. There are many public access points into the surrounding forests as inventoried in

Table 2-11. Public access to the Teton River is via boat ramps owned and maintained by Teton County and Idaho Fish and Game. Boat access points are shown on the map on page 11, and all Idaho Fish and Game facilities are summarized in Table 2-10. Forest Service public access points are summarized in

Table 2-11.

PHOTO: COURTESY OF TETON VALLEY NEWS

Snowmobiling on public land around Teton Valley is a popular sport.

Table 2-10. Description of Idaho Fish and Game Sites/Facilities in Teton County

| *Site Name* | *Approximate Location* | *Camping* | *Restrooms* | *Boat Ramp* | *Dock* | *ADA Fishing Access* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Harrop's Bridge | 4 mi W of Tetonia on Hwy 33 – Teton River – E Bank | No | ADA | Yes | No | No |
| Cache Bridge (Packsaddle) | 9 mi NW of Driggs on W 4000 N - Teton River – W Bank | No | Portable | Yes | No | No |
| Rainey | 7 mi NW of Driggs on W 2000 N– Teton River – W Bank | Yes | ADA | Yes | No | No |
| Buxton Bridge (Bates) | 4 mi W of Driggs on Bates Road – Teton River – E Bank | No | Portable | Yes | No | No |
| South Bates Bridge | 5 mi SW of Driggs on South Bates Road – Teton River – W Bank | Yes | Portable | Yes | No | No |
| Fox Creek West | 7 mi NW of Victor on W 4750 S – Teton River – W Bank | Yes | Yes | No | No | No |
| Fox Creek East | 5 mi NW of Victor on W 5000 S – Teton River – E Bank | No | No | No | No | No |
| Trail Creek Pond | 3 mi E of Victor on Hwy 33 | No | ADA | No | No | Yes |

Table 2-11. Summary of Forest Service Public Access Points

| Access Name | Location, Access to | Parking | Rest-rooms | Approach road (good, ok, bad) | Signage | Other Amenities or Notes |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | **Teton County, Idaho** | | | | |
| 060 - Carlton Cutoff North | Grandview Point | disperse | n | b | y | TH kiosk, carsonite |
| 219 South Horseshoe | Horseshoe Canyon Road | gravel lot | n | g | y | Kiosk, carsonite, Road signs |
| 249 Dude Creek | Slightly North of Horseshoe Canyon Road on FS 140 | disperse | n | ok/bad | y | kiosk, carsonite |
| 195 Nickerson Grove | Slightly south of Horseshoe Canyon Road on FS 140 | disperse | n | ok | y | carsonite |
| 195 Twin Creek | West end of 1000S | y | n | ok/bad | -- | -- |
| 220 Mahogany | West end of 3000S | gravel lot | n | ok | y | carsonite, road signage |
| 235 Dry Henderson | West end of 5750 S | y | n | g | y | carsonite, road signage |
| 236/211 Wet Henderson | West end of 5750 S | gravel lot | n | g | y | carsonite, road signage |
| 218 Patterson | West end of 6750 S | -- | n | g | y | carsonite, road signage |
| 239/237 North and South Grove | West end of FS 546 (located just south of western corner of Cedron/8000 S) | gravel lot | n | ok | y | carsonite, road signage |
| 238 Drake | West end of 9000S | disperse, no trailer turn around | n | ok | y | carsonite, road signage |
| 240 Rocky Peak | 1/4 mile past Forest Boundary on Highway 31 | n | n | g | y | carsonite |
| 047 Woods Canyon/Black Grove | 1/2 mile south of highway 31 on FST031 | n | n | g | | carsonite and kiosk |
| 047 Woods Canyon/Black Grove West side | 2 + miles south on FS 253 (Upper Rainey Creek) | disperse | n | ok | y | carsonite and kiosk |

| *Access Name* | *Location, Access to* | *Parking* | *Rest-rooms* | *Approach road (good, ok, bad)* | *Signage* | *Other Amenities or Notes* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 014 Pole Canyon/ 031 BPA line | South end of 1000 West | gravel lot | n | g | y | road signage, kiosk, carsonite |
| 203 Mike Sell | North of Mike Harris CG | disperse | n | g | y | carsonite |
| 033 Rush Hour Trail | South end of Old Jackson highway road | disperse | n | g | y | kiosk and carsonite |
| 039 Plummer Canyon | State line on Moose Creek Road | disperse | n | g | y | carsonite |
| Game Creek | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | trail head and parking is BLM |
| | | **Teton County, Wyoming** | | | | |
| 043 Burbank Creek | 1.5 miles + sw of stateline on highway 22 | gravel lot | n | g | y | road signs and carsonite |
| 044 Mail Cabin Creek | approx. 4 miles sw of stateline on Highway 22 | gravel lot | n | g | y | road sign and carsonite |
| 040 Coal Creek | approx. 4 miles sw of stateline on Highway 22 | paved lot | n | g | y | kiosk and carsonite |
| 038 Moose Crk - 037 Taylor Basin | East end of Moose Creek Road | gravel lot | n | g | y | kiosk, carsonite, road signs |
| 035 Fox Creek | East end of 5000 S | gravel lot | n | g | y | road signage, carsonite |
| 033 Darby Wind Cave Trail | East end of FS 012 | gravel lot | n | ok | y | kiosk, carsonite, road signs |
| 034 Aspen Trail, South End | Less than a mile east of state line on FSR 012 | disperse | n | ok | y | kiosk, carsonite |
| 051 Nelson Springs | Just less than 1.5 miles east of Stateline on FSR 012 | disperse | n | ok | n | -- |
| Rapid Crk-034 North and 032 Spring Creek | .5 miles East and .5 miles South of Stateline on FSR 010 | gravel lot | n | g | y | kiosk, carsonite, road signs |
| Teton Canyon - 132 Mill Crk and 130 Sheep Bridge | Less than 1/2 mile east on FSR 009 | gravel lot | n | g | y | kiosk carsonite |
| Teton Canyon - 024 North Teton | Near Teton Canyon Campground | gravel lot | y | g | y | kiosk, carsonite, road signs |

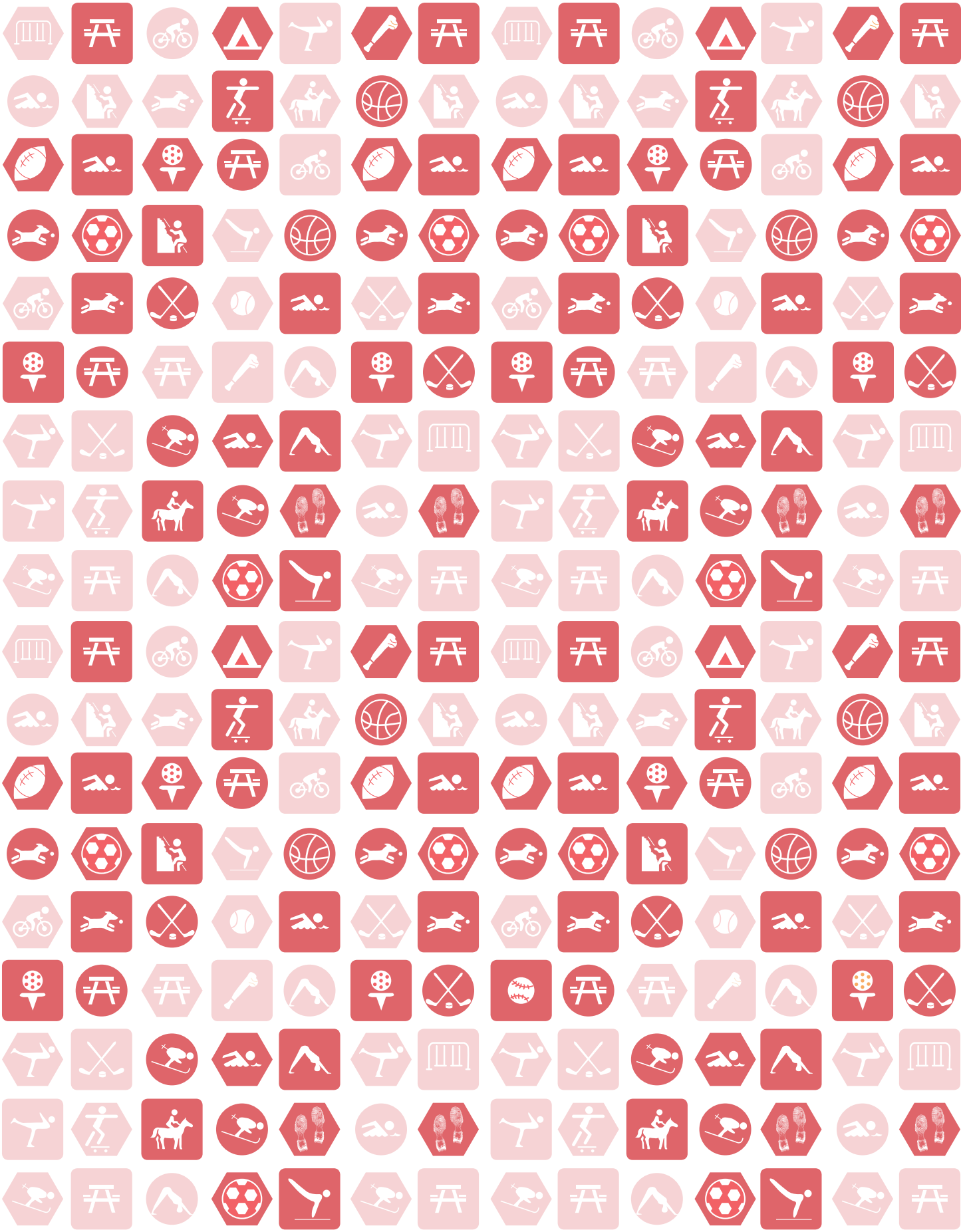
| Access Name | Location, Access to | Parking | Rest-rooms | Approach road (good, ok, bad) | Signage | Other Amenities or Notes |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Teton Canyon - 027 South Teton | Near Teton Canyon Campground | gravel lot | y | g | y | kiosk, carsonite, road signs |
| South Leigh - 021 South Leigh, 022 Beaver Creek | East end of FSR 008 | gravel lot | n | g | y | kiosk, carsonite, road signs |
| North Leigh - 019 Green Mtn. 013 Dry Ridge | East end of FSR 007 | gravel lot | n | g | y | kiosk, carsonite, road signs |
| Indian Meadows TH - 015 Bear Canyon, 017 South Badger | East end of FSR 656 | gravel lot | n | ok | y | kiosk, carsonite, road signs |
| McRenold's Reservoir 164 | Less than three miles from the Forest Boundary on FSR 266 | gravel lot | n | ok | y | road signs and carsonite |

## Public Access Summary

There are several existing public access points for public lands, including U.S. Forest Service and BLM, and for the Teton River. These include the following:

- There are 19 points in Teton County, Idaho and 17 access points in Teton County, Wyoming that access Forest Service and BLM land. Of these, only 2 have restroom facilities, 13 do not have formal parking facilities, and 13 have bad or ok road access.

- There are eight points for accessing the Teton River and one access to the Trail Creek Pond located south of Victor. Of these, only the Trail Creek Pond is ADA accessible and there are no ADA accessible fishing accesses to the Teton River. Five of these access points have boat ramps, six have restroom facilities, and three have camping sites available.



# Chapter 3 NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Needs Assessment is an important step in the planning process where the information gathered from the inventory of existing recreation facilities and programs is paired with the recreation needs and demands of Teton Valley's residents. This was accomplished in a number of ways including evaluating the population demographics, collecting input from the public, reviewing past planning documents that identify recreation needs, recognizing basic national recreation trends, and comparing similar communities.

## 3.1 POPULATION AND DEMOGRAPHICS

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the population of Teton County in 2010 was 10,170. The estimated population for Teton County for 2013 is 10,275 representing an expected 1.0% increase in population since 2010. The population of Alta, Wyoming, was 544 in 2010 and estimated values for 2013 are not currently available. Assuming that the population in Alta is steady from 2010 to 2013, 2013 data for Teton County was combined with 2010 data from Alta and the resulting demographic profile for Teton Valley is summarized in Table 3-1.

Table 3-1. 2012 Teton Valley Demographic Profile

| *Demographic Description* | *Data* |
|---|---|
| Total Population (County + Alta) | 10,819 |
| White | 82.2% |
| African American | 0.3% |
| Hispanic or Latino | 16.2% |
| Population younger than 18 years of age | 29.0% |
| Population below the poverty line (2007 – 2011) | 6.8% |

Teton Valley is sparsely populated with an average density of 22.6 persons per square mile. Assuming that Teton Valley will grow at an average rate equal to the growth rate for the State of Idaho and Teton County, Wyoming, of 1.8%, the expected population in 2030 is 14,652.

Table 3-2 further defines the population in Teton County according to households, ages, and income using information provided by ESRI, a national demographic firm. This information is useful when planning for future recreation demands and needs.

The Teton County demographic characteristics indicate the following:

- A growing population base.
- Households that have children.
- A younger median age than the State of Idaho and the nation.
- A higher median income than the State of Idaho and the nation.

Table 3-2. Teton County Demographics (cont.)

| | Teton County |
|---|---|
| ***Population:*** | |
| 2010 Census | 10,170 |
| 2013 Estimate | 10,275 |
| 2018 Estimate | 11,486 |
| ***Households:*** | |
| 2010 Census | 3,651 |
| 2013 Estimate | 3,896 |
| 2018 Estimate | 4,157 |
| ***Families:*** | |
| 2010 Census | 2,509 |
| 2013 Estimate | 2,659 |
| 2018 Estimate | 2,815 |
| ***Average Household Size:*** | |
| 2010 Census | 2.78 |
| 2013 Estimate | 2.78 |
| 2018 Estimate | 2.76 |
| ***Median Age:*** | |
| 2010 Census | 33.2 |
| 2013 Estimate | 33.9 |
| 2018 Estimate | 34.8 |
| ***Median Income:*** | |
| 2013 Estimate | $55,487 |
| 2018 Estimate | $61,125 |

## Household Budget Expenditures

The percentage of income that Teton County residents spend on housing, entertainment, and recreation is summarized in Table 3-3.

Table 3-3. Teton County Household Budget Expenditures

| | SPI | Average Amount Spent | Percent |
|---|---|---|---|
| Housing | 93 | $19,851.34 | 30.5% |
| Shelter | 93 | $15,106.50 | 23.2% |
| Utilities, Fuel, Public Service | 94 | $4,744.84 | 7.3% |
| Entertainment & Recreation | 99 | $3,210.23 | 4.9% |

Utilizing a national baseline number of 100, the Spending Potential Index (SPI) is slightly lower for the cost of housing, while expenditures for entertainment and recreation are right at the national number. The SPI numbers for Teton County are considerably higher than for the rest of the State of Idaho.

## Age Distribution

The following tables indicate the age distribution within the county and the projected age distribution over time.

Table 3-4. Teton County Age Distribution

| Ages | Population | % of Total | Nat. Population | Difference |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 0-5 | 999 | 9.3% | 6.5% | +2.8% |
| 5-17 | 2,221 | 20.6% | 16.9% | +3.7% |
| 18-24 | 784 | 7.2% | 10.1% | -2.9% |
| 25-44 | 3,480 | 32.2% | 26.3% | +5.9% |
| 45-54 | 1,442 | 13.4% | 13.9% | -0.5% |
| 55-64 | 1,099 | 10.2% | 12.6% | -2.4% |
| 65-74 | 513 | 4.7% | 7.8% | -3.1% |
| 75+ | 282 | 2.5% | 6.1% | -3.6% |

The demographic makeup of Teton County, when compared to the characteristics of the national population, indicates that there are some differences with an equal or larger population in the 0-5, 5-17 and 25-44 age groups and a smaller population in the 18-24, 45-54, 55-64, 65-74 and 75+ age groups. The largest positive variance is in the 25-44 age group with +5.9%, while the greatest negative variance is in the 75+ age group with -3.6%. These statistics indicate younger households with children. This demographic group is a strong user of recreation facilities and programs.

Table 3-5. Teton County Age Distribution over Time

| Ages | 2010 Census | 2013 Projection | 2018 Projection | Percent Change | Percent Change Nat'l |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 0-5 | 983 | 999 | 1,026 | +4.4% | +3.0% |
| 5-17 | 2,040 | 2,221 | 2,490 | +22.1% | -0.7% |
| 18-24 | 668 | 784 | 802 | +20.1% | -0.4% |
| 25-44 | 3,500 | 3,480 | 3,402 | -2.8% | +4.2% |
| 45-54 | 1,330 | 1,442 | 1,553 | +16.8% | -7.7% |
| 55-64 | 985 | 1,099 | 1,157 | +17.4% | +15.7% |
| 65-74 | 392 | 513 | 734 | +87.2% | +39.5% |
| 75+ | 272 | 282 | 322 | +18.4% | +14.8% |

Table 3-5 illustrates the growth or decline in age group numbers from the 2010 census until the year 2018. It is projected that all of the age categories, except 25-44, will see a substantial increase in population, with the 65-74 age group growing the most with a projected 87.2% increase, which is 39.5% more than what is expected nationally.

### Tapestry Segments

In addition to looking at the age distribution, it is important to examine the various tapestry segments in the county. Tapestry segments are target market groups based on socioeconomic and demographic factors. The following table outlines the top three tapestry segments within Teton County and provides definitions for each of the tapestries.

Table 3-6. Teton County Tapestry Segments

| | Teton County | | U.S. Households | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Percent | Cumulative Percent | Percent | Cumulative Percent |
| Up & Coming Families | 49.9% | 49.9% | 4.1% | 4.1% |
| Prairie Living | 28.3% | 78.2% | 1.2% | 5.3% |
| International Marketplace | 21.8% | 100.0% | 1.3% | 6.6% |

**Up & Coming Families**–With an annual household growth rate of 5.2% this tapestry has the second highest growth rate within the various markets with a mix of Generation Xers and Baby Boomers. These households are young, affluent families with younger children.

**Prairie Living**–Small, family-owned farms in the Midwest dominate this stable market nationally. Two-thirds of these households are composed of married couples with or without children. There is very little diversity in this segment.

**International Marketplace**–Located primarily in cities in "gateway" states on both U.S. coasts, these households are developing urban markets with a rich blend of cultures and household types. The population is young, with a median age of 30.3 years. This segment is the second most diverse of all segments.

**Second Home Owners and Visitors**–Although not included in the tapestry segments, it is recognized that the number of second home owners in Teton Valley is increasing, and the valley is also attracting a larger number of visitors to the area. Having attractive recreation facilities and programs is important for these two groups.

## 3.2 Recreation Coordination

One of the broader issues that came to the forefront during the needs assessment process is the fact that there needs to be better coordination and cooperation between the many providers of recreation facilities and programs in the valley.

### Public Survey Results

The survey indicated that after "lack of facilities," "not knowing what is available" was the

second most common reason that respondents had for not using parks and recreation facilities in Teton Valley. In addition, the second highest priority for possible additional funding was "improving coordination and expansion of recreation programs, activities and events." Both of these responses indicate the need for better promotion of what recreational opportunities are currently available in the valley, as well as the need to coordinate efforts between the many providers.

### Project Advisory Committee

A number of comments from members of the Advisory Committee reinforced the need to better coordinate recreation facilities and programs in the valley. Comments from the committee included the following:

> "There needs to be education on what recreational programs, facilities, and access points are available and how to get involved, participate, or access them. There is a concern on how new residents or visitors to the valley effectively gather information on recreation facilities and programs that are in place. There should be a central location to get this information. Collaboration between all of the different groups would be helpful, as well, so as to avoid the duplication of efforts."
>
> "Teton Valley needs a centralized information website for all sports programs with online registration. This could be reinforced with a valley-wide Recreation Department."
>
> "It would be beneficial to have a sports director that would set up all tournaments, prep fields for all sports, etc."

### Key Recreation Coordination Needs

Based on the information from the survey and the Advisory Committee, the following are the key coordination needs that have been identified:

- With an extensive number of recreation service providers in the valley, there is a strong need for improved coordination of efforts to maximize the use of the resources that are available.

- The promotion of activities and events needs to occur on a valley-wide level. This will help increase the knowledge of the facilities and services that are available, as well as who is providing these amenities and programs.

- Developing a universal website to provide information on recreation facilities and programs that are available in the valley is needed. Ultimately, it would be beneficial to be able to register online from the website for all recreation activities.

- There is a need for a group or organization that can act as a coordinating agency or clearinghouse for parks and recreation information, maintenance needs and requirements, facility wants and improvements, and other recreation resources.

## 3.3 FACILITIES

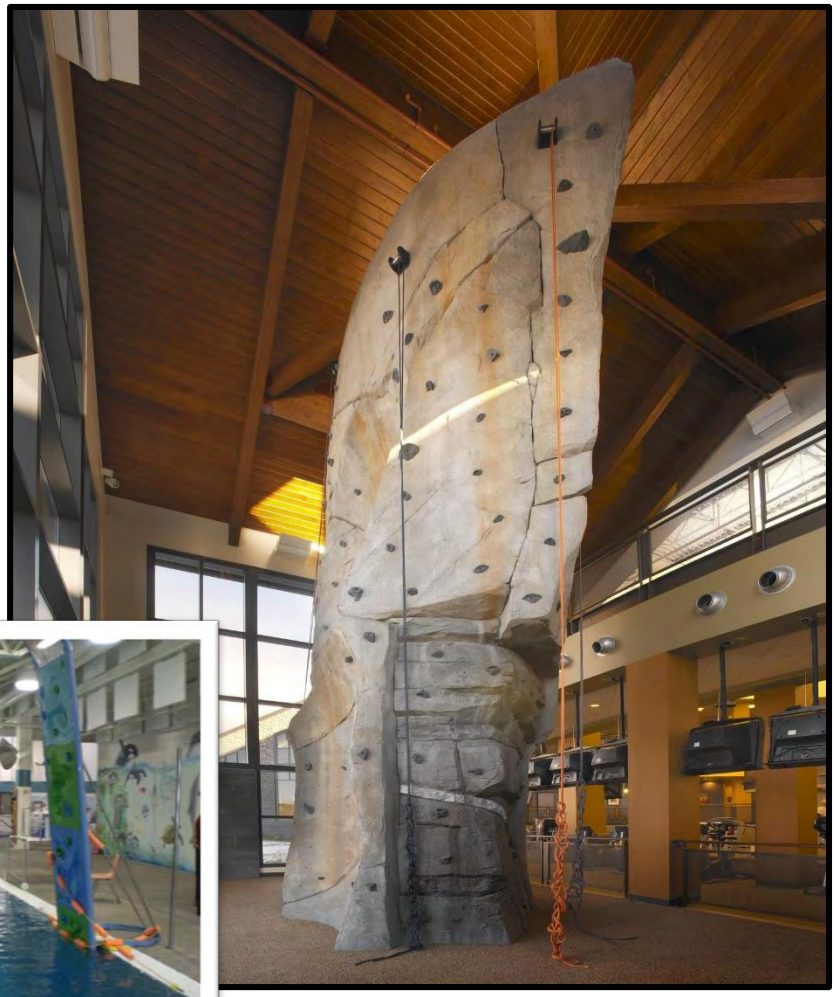
Rather than utilize national standards to determine recreation needs, most communities now place a much higher emphasis on the specific needs of the population that will be served. The following summarizes basic findings from a number of sources regarding the recreation needs in Teton Valley.

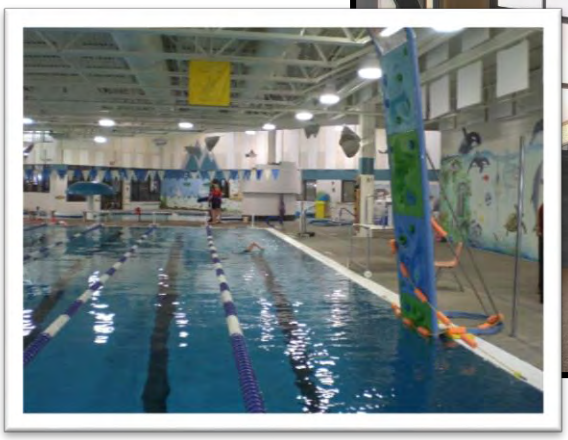
### Public Survey Results

The following statements summarize the survey findings as it relates to facilities:

- The satisfaction with existing facilities varies considerably from high marks for "trails on forest service or BLM land," and "rivers or streams for fishing and boating" to a low for "private swimming pools." The majority of responses were either in the "don't know" column (for facilities that were likely not used by the respondents) or the "somewhat satisfied" category.
- Use of recreation facilities outside of Teton Valley is reasonably minor. Most people rely on facilities in the valley for their recreation needs. The one facility outside of Teton Valley used most often is the Jackson Recreation Center, which has an indoor swimming pool.
- More than 62% of those surveyed did not use parks and recreation facilities in Teton Valley due to lack of facilities. This indicates there is a perception in the public that Teton Valley is in need of more and higher quality facilities.
- The top three priorities for new facilities were:
    - New indoor recreation center–78%
    - Additional paved trails–34%
    - Improved access to public land–28%
- The top three elements to include in a new recreation center were:
    - Indoor pool – 93%
    - Fitness area – 37%
    - Rock climbing facility – 33%

A recreation center with an indoor pool, fitness area, and climbing wall was the top priority for those completing the survey.





PHOTOS: COURTESY OF BALLARD*KING

- More than 64% of respondents indicated that they would be willing to increase user fees to pay for new facilities and programs.
- There was support for increasing property taxes to fund parks and recreation priorities with only 10% indicating that they would not support a tax increase and another 23% being unsure.
- Respondents (nearly 59%) indicated that they were willing to increase their property taxes to form a Teton County Recreation District to manage existing recreation opportunities and build new facilities. About the same number (61%) were willing to increase sales taxes by either 0.25% or 0.50% to fund recreation improvements and facilities.
- The majority of respondents (87%) thought that operation and maintenance of recreation facilities should be funded by a combination of taxes and user fees.

## Project Advisory Committee

There was a great deal of input from different members of the Advisory Committee regarding the recreation needs in Teton Valley. For facilities, this included:

*City of Driggs*–There is some need for expansion of facilities, while others are underutilized or neglected. It is important that each neighborhood has convenient access to playgrounds and multi-use fields. On the community level, there is a need for a larger ball field complex and soccer facility. There is a desire to have either an outdoor or indoor pool in the valley.

*Kotler Ice Arena*–The main issue/goal is completing the rink so that it is a full length, fully enclosed, and refrigerated facility. As of now, they are reliant on the cold weather to make ice (normally by the end of December), which puts their youth hockey teams at a distinct disadvantage playing against other teams that have facilities starting in October.

*Baseball fields*–The fields need improved maintenance for the infields and there is a need for permanent dugouts. The baseball fields in Driggs are also undersized.

*Junior Jazz (youth basketball)* –The greatest struggle is finding enough gym space for all of their teams practices. They try and keep costs low so that they are not excluding children from the program, and they do offer a scholarship program when necessary. It is costly to rent gym space from the school district, with cost ranging from $800 to $1,200 a year.

*Competitive Soccer*–They would like to continue to grow the number of players in their program, but the valley doesn't have adequate fields to do so, and one of the biggest challenges the club faces is not having enough fields to play and practice on. They scramble to use the school fields and the field at the Settlement in Victor for practices and games. They use fields at the high school and the upper elementary school for both of their teams, but generally run into conflicts in the fall with the high school. Having a complex of soccer fields would help the program grow. It would be great to have four soccer fields, two standard size, and two U12 size, with room to expand. The club teams can generate funds by hosting tournaments, so with adequate field space in the future, they could possibly earn funds to help keep the program running.

*Youth Soccer*–TVRA Youth Soccer has adequate fields for the Recreation Youth Soccer program (at this time) but what is really needed is a regulation U12 field and a regulation U14 field for the Teton Football Club Competitive Teams. A soccer complex with two U12 fields and two U14 fields would allow the league to hold tournaments. At a minimum, they need a lighted U14 field. It is a constant struggle to find field time for practices and games. The future development of competitive soccer in the valley depends on it.

*Softball*–There is a need for at least two new softball fields, and it would be even better if there were a tri-plex. With new fields they could attract tournaments and bring in additional revenue.

In addition, tournaments would have a significant economic impact on the valley. There is a willingness to pay for field use with a new complex.

*Teton School District*–Their greatest challenge is gym space and wear and tear on existing outdoor facilities. During the winter they have six basketball teams, a cheer team, a dance team, and a wrestling team just at the high school, as well as other demands on the gym at the high school. Couple this with unlimited requests by travel and youth basketball teams, it is clear that there is a gym shortage. With the long winters, there is a huge demand for school gyms in the spring/ winter for baseball and softball teams. The school's outdoor fields suffer from overuse, and the current demand exceeds what can be easily accommodated.

*Pool*–There is a need for an indoor pool to provide an opportunity for swimming lessons and water exercise programs, as well as lap and recreational swimming. The school district may ultimately be able to start a high school swim team. Meeting the various swimming needs may require several bodies of water at different temperatures, and this will probably add to the cost of operation.

*Teton Fair Board*–The Fair Board master plan includes building an indoor arena, larger outdoor arena, horse stalls, RV camping, a 4H extension office, an expanded park, and grassy areas. There is potential for the facilities at the County Fairground to be used by more people in the community, given that the use is in line with the Fair Board mission of promoting the western heritage and rural traditions in Teton County.

Other comments that were heard from the Advisory Committee included:

- There is a need to strike a balance between nature and the use of natural resources.
- The economic impact of recreation facilities and activities in the valley needs to be measured.
- The Teton County Fairgrounds need improvements.
- An outdoor shooting range would be a great new facility.
- There are a lack of tennis courts in the valley.
- There are still significant gaps in the trail network in the valley.

There is a desire for well-maintained ball fields including these at the Driggs City Park

- Transportation access to parks and recreation facilities via safe bicycle and pedestrian routes is needed.

- There is a need to determine the role of developers in providing recreation facilities in the future.

- Existing facilities need to be better maintained. This includes trails and ball fields.

- The greatest need is for an indoor recreation center that would have an indoor pool and a teen center.

- Funding new or renovated facilities will require additional funding sources. A recreation district should be established for this purpose.

## Other Planning Documents

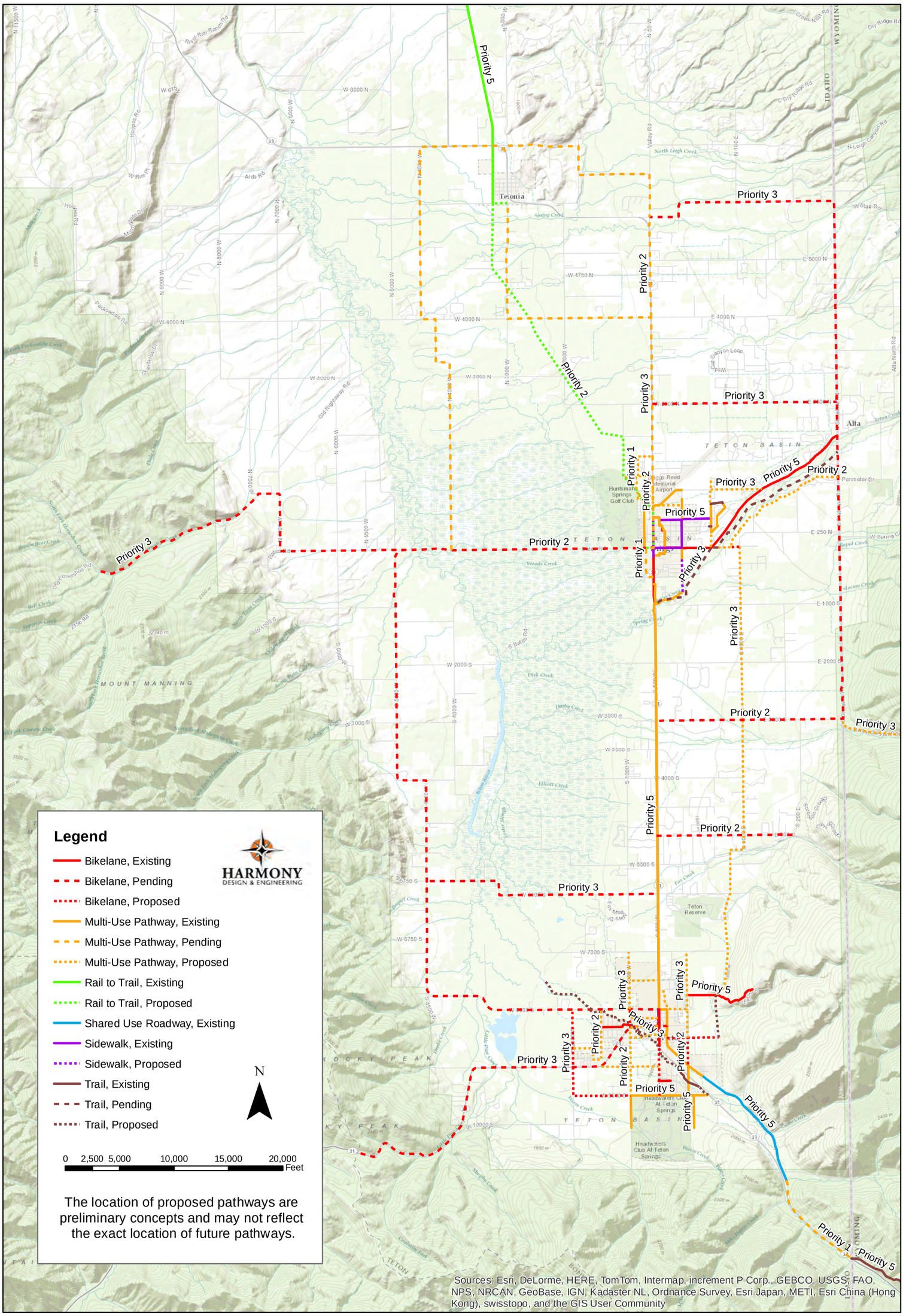
In addition to the public input received concerning recreation facility needs, there are a variety of planning documents that were reviewed as well with respect to facility needs.

*Teton County Comprehensive Plan*–This document emphasizes the importance of natural resources and outdoor recreation. This will improve the quality of life in the county and also drive tourism and economic impact.

*Victor Comprehensive Plan*–One of the key goals of this plan is to encourage recreation and tourism. In addition to completing Pioneer Park, the plan mentions the protection of the wildlife refuge area and the preservation of historical buildings, structures, trails, and roads.

*Teton Valley Trails and Pathways Master Plan*–This document outlines a trails and pathways master plan for the cities of Driggs and Victor and Teton County. The most recent master plan maps are included on the following pages.

*City of Driggs Parks, Open Space, and Pathways Master Plan Survey*–This survey indicated that there is a strong need for an indoor recreation facility and a large outdoor events center in the community, as well as a willingness to support a tax levy for new park facilities. The survey also indicated that just over half of the respondents felt that there was not safe and efficient pedestrian and bicycle access to city parks, only 2-4% were "very satisfied" with the number and quality of parks available, and 53% cited lack of amenities and facilities as the reason for not using parks more often.




# Teton County, Idaho

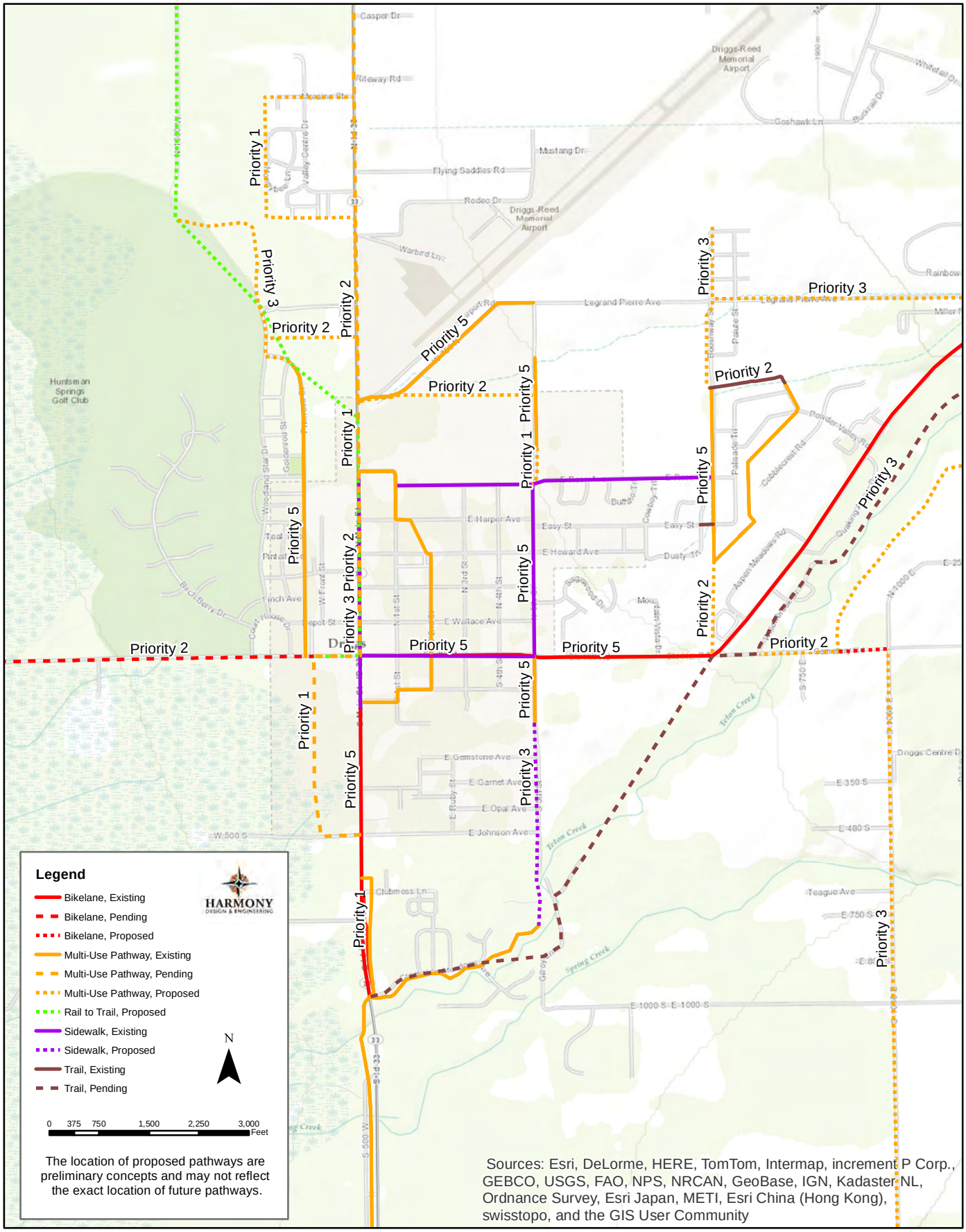
## Pathway Master Plan Map - April 2014

TETON VALLEY TRAILS AND PATHWAYS

Page left blank for correct double sided printing

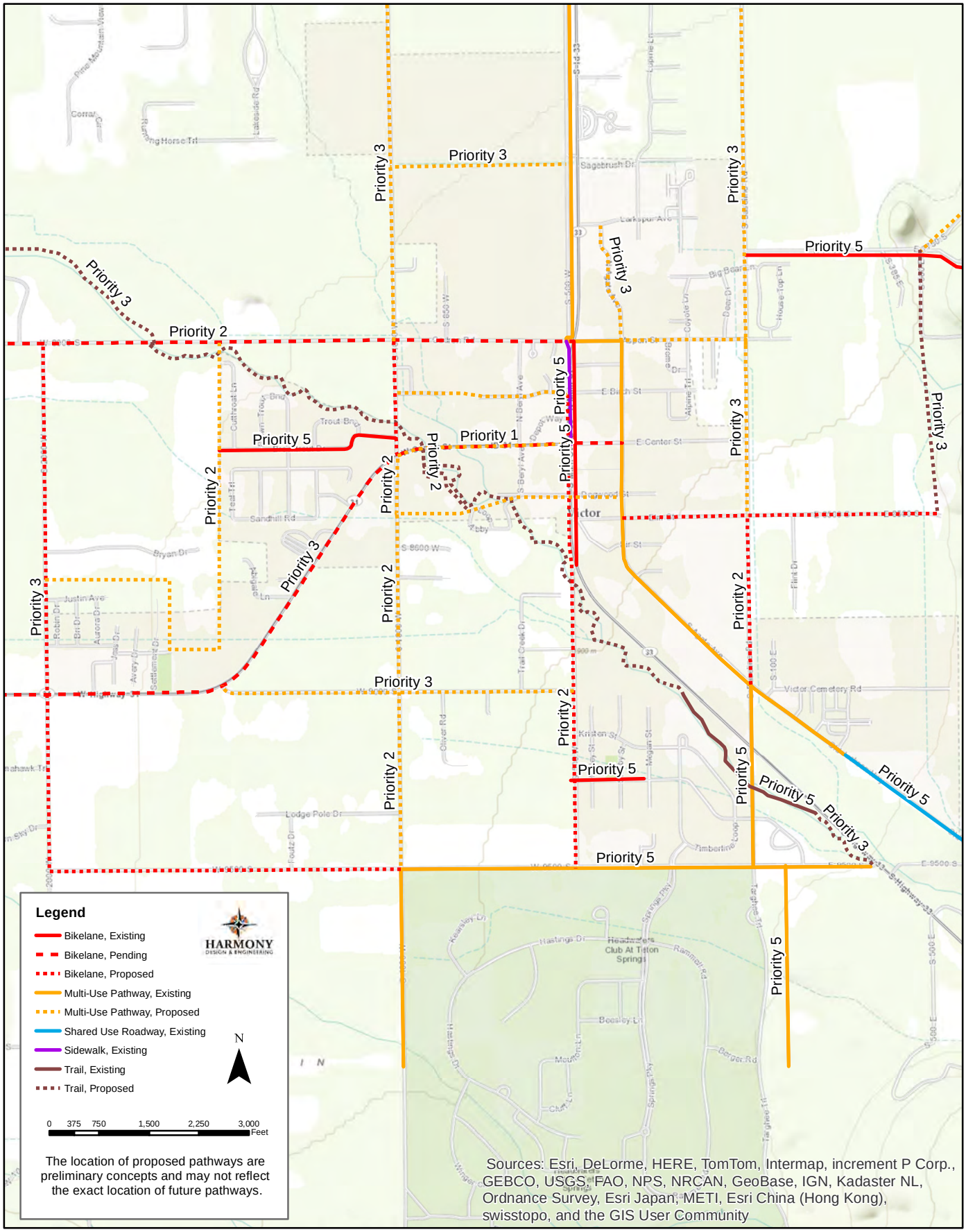
# City of Driggs

## Pathway Master Plan Map - April 2014



# City of Victor

## Pathway Master Plan Map - April 2014



## Facilities Trends

Part of the process in determining the need for recreation facilities in Teton Valley is to understand some of the basic trends that are being seen on a national basis by B*K through their work around the country.

- The types of facilities that are now being provided by parks and recreation organizations have become more diverse and now often include the facilities listed below. It should be noted that Teton Valley already has some of these facilities.
    - Neighborhood parks (less than 15 acres, often provided by developers, HOA's, and others)
    - Community parks (15-50 acres)
    - Regional parks (50+ acres)
    - Open space or preservation areas
    - Trails (both hard surface and soft surface)
    - Specialized facilities such as:
        - Aquatic Centers
        - Ice Rinks
        - Recreation/Community Centers
        - Performing Arts Center
        - Sports Complex
        - Amphitheater
        - Tennis Center
        - Nature/Interpretive Center
        - Adventure Sports (BMX, skateboard park, etc.)
        - Boat Launch/Marina
        - Golf Course
        - Dog Park
- There has been a much stronger emphasis on open space acquisition and trail development in the past 10 years than most other types of facilities.
- There has also been a much stronger emphasis on revenue generation with many agencies now requiring that recreation facilities and programs be 100% self-supporting of all direct costs. Most tax dollars are reserved for parks and facility development, maintenance, and capital improvements.
- Increasingly more operation, administration, and maintenance functions are being contracted to outside vendors to reduce costs and staffing.
- There is a greater emphasis on partnering with other recreation and parks providers to develop and manage amenities and programs.

## Level of Service Analysis

In the past, parks and recreation master plans centered on measuring numbers of park amenities and recreation programs against an established national standard that was developed in part by the National Recreation and Parks Association. However, this methodology proved to be problematic because it did not account for differences in geographic locations in the country, differing community needs, cultural variations, and urban vs. rural locales. As a result, over the last 15 to 20 years, the master planning process has focused much more on establishing specific needs within a community and then developing a specific level of service plan to address those needs, rather than meeting a national standard that may not necessarily reflect the individual community accurately.

A level of service (LOS) analysis should compare the community against three to four selected communities that have similar population, demographic, economic, and geographic characteristics rather than use national averages. However, this requires gathering extensive data from the selected communities, and this level of analysis was beyond the scope of this Master Plan. However, a simplified LOS analysis was conducted using data from a study completed in 2003 for small communities in Colorado with populations less than 10,000 (2003). Keep in mind that this study is over 10 years old and the results should be used in conjunction with the public survey results, information from the Advisory Committee, and national facility trends presented earlier.

The results of the LOS analysis, shown in Table 3-7, generally coincides with the needs expressed by the community. This includes the need for more sports fields (especially rectangular fields), tennis and basketball courts, paved multi-use trails, and a swimming pool. Other identified need areas include additional family picnic areas, general park lands, and an outdoor events venue. Although dirt/gravel multi-use trails is shown as a need, the abundance of these types of trails within the surrounding public lands probably does not warrant this type of facility to be classified as a need for the valley.

Table 3-7. Level of Service Analysis Results

| | # facilities recommended per 1000 residents | # facilities recommended for 2014 population | 2014 existing inventory | Existing surplus (+) or need (-) | Projected # facilities needed in 2030 | Projected additional facilities needed 2030 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| General Park Land Planning and Dedication Standard (per acre) | 14 | 151.5 | 76.3 | -75.2 | 205.1 | -128.8 |
| **Sports Fields** | | | | | | |
| Rectangular fields | 0.95 | 10.3 | 9.0 | -1.3 | 14.0 | -5.0 |
| Diamond Fields | 0.61 | 6.6 | 10.0 | 3.4 | 8.9 | 1.1 |
| **Courts** | | | | | | |
| Tennis Courts | 0.97 | 10.5 | 3.0 | -7.5 | 14.2 | -11.2 |
| Basketball Courts | 0.91 | 9.8 | 8.0 | -1.8 | 13.3 | -5.3 |
| Volleyball Courts | 0.13 | 1.4 | 2.0 | 0.6 | 1.9 | 0.1 |
| **Outdoor Recreation** | | | | | | |
| Small Skate park | 0.16 | 1.7 | 1.0 | -0.7 | 2.3 | -1.3 |
| Full sized skate park | 0.06 | 0.7 | 0.0 | -0.7 | 0.9 | -0.9 |
| BMX track | 0.16 | 1.7 | 2.0 | 0.3 | 2.3 | -0.3 |
| Paved Multi-Use Trail (per mile) | 1.04 | 11.3 | 11.2 | -0.1 | 15.3 | -4.1 |
| Dirt/Gravel Multi-use trail (per mile) | 2.33 | 25.2 | 16.6 | -8.6 | 34.1 | -17.5 |
| Fishing accessible shoreline (per mile) | 0.32 | 3.4 | 10.0 | 6.6 | 4.7 | 5.3 |
| River put-in/take-out with boat ramp (per acre) | 0.07 | 0.8 | 8.0 | 7.2 | 1.1 | 6.9 |
| **Leisure** | | | | | | |
| Playgrounds (per 3200 sf of fully developed area) | 0.16 | 1.7 | 11.0 | 9.3 | 2.3 | 8.7 |
| Family Picnic area | 6.25 | 67.6 | 17.0 | -50.6 | 91.6 | -74.6 |
| Group picnic area | 0.36 | 3.9 | 4.0 | 0.1 | 5.3 | -1.3 |
| **Other** | | | | | | |
| Swimming Pool (outdoor) | 0.12 | 1.3 | 0.0 | -1.3 | 1.8 | -1.8 |
| Ice Hockey Rink (full-sized, refrigerated, covered) | 0.10 | 1.1 | 1.0 | -0.1 | 1.5 | -0.5 |
| Outdoor Events Venue (per acre) | 0.42 | 4.5 | 1.8 | -2.7 | 6.2 | -4.4 |

## Key Facility Needs

Based on the information from the online survey, Advisory Committee, national trends, level of service analysis, and other sources, the following are the key facility needs that have been identified:

- With a growing population base and very active recreation participation rates in the valley, there will need to be additional recreation facilities in the future. The focus should be serving the needs of youth, with a sizeable population in this age group, but there will also need to be a recognition that the fastest growing age group in the future will be middle aged and senior populations. Having recreation amenities to serve all ages will be critical.

- There was a general satisfaction with the existing recreation facilities, but still a concern that there needs to be improvements and better maintenance for these amenities. This includes:
    - Ball field improvements and a higher level of maintenance.
    - Enclosure and expansion of the ice rink.
    - Fairgrounds improvements and additions.
    - Tennis and volleyball court improvements and/or maintenance.

- Despite the fact that the valley has a wide variety of recreation opportunities, there are still additional facilities that are needed and desired by the public. This includes:
    - Recreation center with an indoor pool plus gym space, fitness area, and climbing wall.
    - Additional playing fields especially for soccer and baseball/softball and facilities that can support tournaments.
    - Connecting and improving the trail and pathway system in the valley.

- Based on the public survey results, there is a general willingness to pay through user fees and taxes to use new or improved facilities. This is backed up, in part, by the relatively high household incomes in the area.

- Future recreation facilities in Teton Valley should be developed with an awareness of recreation facility trends that place a greater importance on partnering to develop and operate facilities, as well as an increased focus on revenue generation to reduce operating subsidies.

## 3.4 PROGRAMS

In addition to determining recreation facility needs, it is essential to identify program and service needs in Teton Valley.

### Public Survey Results

The online survey asked a number of questions that dealt specifically with recreation programs and services. A number of the important findings included:

- Most respondents participated in summer-focused programs on only an occasional basis or not at all. The exceptions were "hiking/running," "mountain biking," "concerts/special events," and "fitness" where a significant number of people indicated that they took part in these activities at least once a week.

- The satisfaction with these same summer activities was either in the "very satisfied" or "don't know" category. The one exception was for swimming, where almost 60% indicated they were "not satisfied."

- For winter programs, most respondents participated on only an occasional basis or not at all. The exceptions were "skiing/snowboarding," "Nordic skiing," and "fitness," where a significant number of people indicated that they took part in these activities at least once a week.

- Much like the summer activities, the satisfaction with winter activities was either in the "very satisfied" or "don't know" category. The one exception was indoor swimming where more than 62% indicated they were "not satisfied."

- One of the questions dealt with the top three priorities for how possible additional funding might be used. The second highest response, at nearly 35%, was "improving coordination and expansion of recreation programs, activities and events."

- Again, there was a willingness to pay higher fees for programs and services, as well as a reasonable level of support for increasing taxes for programs and services.

### Project Advisory Committee:

The following input was gathered from the Advisory Committee regarding recreation program needs of the Teton Valley:

*City of Driggs*–The TISA will eventually need a different location and larger space. There is a need for more cohesively managed programs and services (unified programming, scheduling, information services, etc.).

*TVRA Competitive Soccer*–There is not an adequate number of referees for their program. They could also use more sponsors and help from the community to keep the program going.

The popular TISA gymnastics program is in need of better facilities.

*TISA* – The gymnastics program is very popular. The location in the Driggs Community Center is adequate, but far from ideal. If TISA had the financial means, they would build a state of the art facility, or be involved in the design process for a recreation center that could accommodate their business. TISA would love to be able to host gymnastics meets, inviting gymnastics teams from not only Idaho, but the surrounding states as well. However, at this time there is not a facility that can accommodate that type of event.

## Other

Other comments that were gathered from the Advisory Committee and others included:

- Emerging action/adventure sports need more emphasis.
- Having adequate transportation to programs and services (as well as facilities) can be an issue, especially for seniors and youth.
- It is important that programs are available to people of all abilities, including special needs, and income levels.

## Other Planning Documents

While there was a focus in the planning documents on recreation facilities, the impact on possible recreation programs can also be extracted. Taking advantage of the natural resources to promote outdoor recreation opportunities and activities was emphasized. Also, having activities (concerts, tournaments, etc.) that would draw users from outside the valley to the area were also noted.

## Program Trends

It is helpful to understand some of the national trends in recreation programs and services and how that might influence programs in Teton Valley.

- Recreation programming has become very diverse with offerings in the following main areas. Most communities attempt to have programming available in each of these areas, regardless of who provides the activity.

Table 3-8. Recreation Programs by Area

| Programs |
| --- |
| ***Youth Sports*** |
| Team, Individual, Camps, Tournaments, Adventure |
| ***Adult Sports*** |
| Team, Individual, Tournaments, Adventure |
| ***Fitness*** |
| Classes, Personal Training, Education, Special Events |
| ***Cultural Arts*** |
| Performing Arts, Visual Arts, Instruction, Events |
| ***Education*** |
| Language, ESL, GED, Math, Science, Preschool |
| ***Aquatics*** |
| Lessons, Fitness, Competitive, Therapy, Specialty |
| ***General Interest*** |
| After School, Camps, Safety, Seminars |
| ***Special Needs*** |
| Sports, Cultural Arts, Education, Fitness, Aquatics, Outdoor |
| ***Special Events*** |
| Concerts, Festivals, Holiday, Sports |
| ***Teen*** |
| Sports, Cultural, Education, General Interest, Fitness, Aquatics, Events |
| ***Outdoor Recreation*** |
| Outdoor Education, Outdoor Adventure, Environmental Events, Eco-Tourism |
| ***Seniors*** |
| Fitness/Wellness, Cultural Arts, Social Services, Education, Self-Improvement, Sports |
| ***Self-Directed*** |
| Activities that are organized and conducted by the participant |

- Many of these programs are offered with shorter sessions (two to three classes) or on a drop-in pay-as-you-go basis (especially fitness). In addition, there has also been a concerted effort to integrate conventional recreation programming with community-based social service programs. Most of the social service programs are offered by other community-based agencies.

- Providing such a wide variety of recreation programs and services has required public recreation providers to contract for a significant number of services and/or act as a clearing house or community organizer of other organizations that provide recreation programs and services. Public agencies simply have been unable to provide all the demanded programs and services to a community on their own.

- The following chart shows the trends in participation in a variety of sports activities over the last ten years. This information is based on Sporting Goods Association statistics.

Table 3-9. Sports Participation Trends

| *Sport/Activity* | *2011 Participation** | *2002 Participation** | *Percent Change* |
|---|---|---|---|
| Lacrosse | 2.7 | 1.2 | 125.0% |
| Yoga | 21.6 | 10.7 | 101.9% |
| Running/Jogging | 38.7 | 24.7 | 56.7% |
| Aerobic Exercising | 42.0 | 29.0 | 44.8% |
| Workout @ Club | 34.5 | 28.9 | 19.4% |
| Tennis | 13.1 | 11.0 | 19.1% |
| Exercising w/ Equipment | 55.5 | 46.8 | 18.6% |
| Exercise Walking | 97.1 | 82.2 | 18.1% |
| Weightlifting | 29.1 | 25.1 | 15.9% |
| Football (tackle) | 9.0 | 7.8 | 15.4% |
| Soccer | 13.9 | 13.7 | 1.5% |
| Basketball | 26.1 | 28.9 | -9.7% |
| Volleyball | 10.1 | 11.5 | -12.2% |
| Swimming | 46.0 | 53.1 | -13.4% |
| Baseball | 12.3 | 15.6 | -21.2% |
| Softball | 10.4 | 13.6 | -23.5% |
| Skateboarding | 6.6 | 9.7 | -32.0% |

***Participation is shown in millions**

## Key Program Needs

Based on the information from the survey, Advisory Committee, national trends, and other sources, the following are the key program needs that have been identified:

- The growing population base in the valley and very active recreation participation rates of its residents will require a continued growth of recreation program opportunities in the future. The focus will need to remain on serving the needs of youth, with a sizeable population in this age group, but serving the needs of the burgeoning middle age and senior populations will need to be considered as well.

- Currently, there is a wide range of recreation program providers in the valley and coordinating these efforts to maximize resources is needed.

- Promoting individual sports activities and opportunities is critical. This is due, in part, to recreation programming trends that show continued strong growth in fitness-related programs, a greater emphasis on self-directed activities, and an explosion in individual

and adventure sports participation (skateboarding, BMX, free skiing, etc.).

- There should be a continued emphasis on outdoor recreation programs that can take place either in the summer or winter.

- Providing opportunities and information for people to recreate on their own (self-directed activities) without a specified program being in place is important. This could include making trail maps available, coordinating open gym time, etc.

- A much stronger emphasis on aquatic and swimming programs is desired by the community.

- Sports leagues, especially for youth, are already strong in the valley. The current program demand is exceeding the capacity of the facilities available. A continued focus in this area is expected in the future.

- There is a need for an emphasis on special events that will draw people from outside of the valley. This could include sports tournaments, concerts, festivals, and other events.

- Fitness and wellness activities are important to the residents and should be a major focus for recreation efforts in the future.

- Recreation programming should serve the needs of the entire community, including:
    - Preschool-aged youth
    - School-aged youth
    - Teens
    - Adults
    - Families
    - Seniors
    - Special needs population
    - Low income population

## 3.5 Public Access

An important recreation issue is the need to ensure that there is continued and improved public access to Forest Service and BLM land and to local streams and rivers. This includes having good trails for motorized and non-motorized users, as well as good access points that have adequate parking and restroom facilities (either permanent or portable).

Another identified concern is establishing right-of-ways and easements to secure historic access points and to make additional accesses available. This may be difficult to accomplish as part of a recreation master plan and will certainly involve partnerships with local government, the federal land managers, and private land owners.

## Project Advisory Committee

A sub-committee focused on public access met to discuss desired improvements to public lands and river access points. Improvements were also identified by the Southern Valley Trails Project (2010), which was a grass roots effort between dirt bikers, equestrians, hikers, mountain bikers, skiers, snowmobilers, and wildlife enthusiasts to work with the Forest Service in developing trails adjacent to Victor. Improvements identified by the sub-committee and by the Southern Valley Trails Project are highlighted on the map on the opposite page and listed here.

### Teton River Access

- White Bridge at Fox Creek East (W5750S)–in need of land for improvements
- S. Bates Bridge Boat Access–in need of land for improvements
- End of old RR Right-of-way, just south of the Cache Access–road could be improved to provide access
- Buxton Bridge Boat Access–in need of land for improvements
- Cache Bridge Boat Access–upgrades are currently being planned
- Additional pedestrian access is desired to the Teton River north of the Cache Bridge. Access to accommodate productive fishing

### West Side Access (Big Holes)

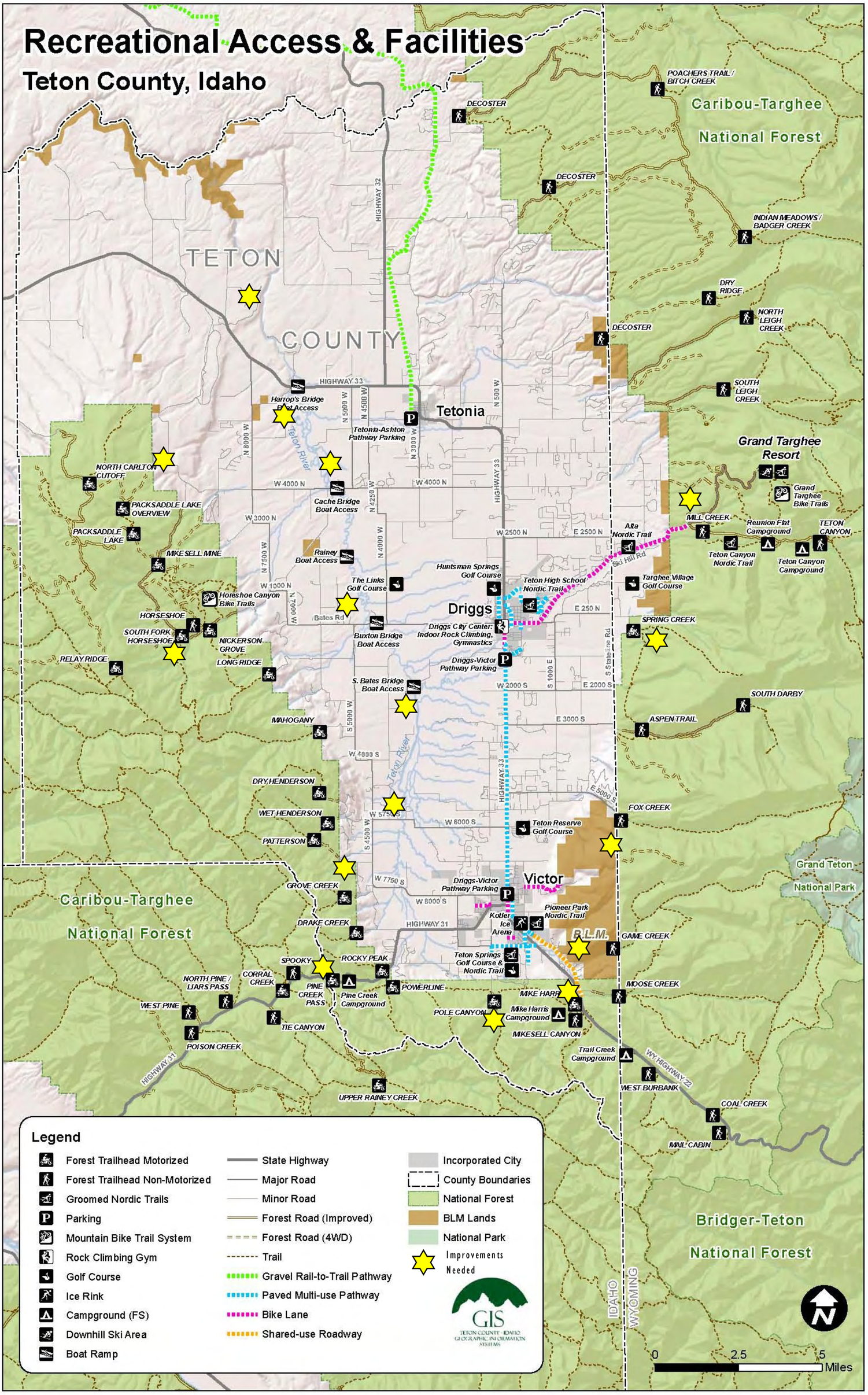
- Pine Creek Pass–restrooms and parking improvements
- South Fork of Horseshoe–restrooms and parking improvements
- Carlton Cutoff–small parking area at the end of W6500N
- Pole Canyon–additional parking with hitching rails for equestrians
- Grove Creek–additional parking with hitching rails for equestrians

### East Side Access (Tetons)

- Mike Harris–restrooms
- BLM Game Creek–access at Edgewood Estates, need land for trail head parking with hitching rails for equestrians
- BLM Baldy Knoll–need land for reroute to access Mud Lake due to steep grades
- Pinnacle–signage and wayfinding needed for new access point off of the South Darby Road. There is desire to restore the historic access that would require land acquisition or easements.
- Spring Creek–restrooms and parking improvements
- Mill Creek–restrooms

# Recreational Access & Facilities

## Teton County, Idaho



Page left blank for correct double sided printing

## Key Public Access Needs

Based on information from the online survey and the Advisory Committee, the following are key public access needs:

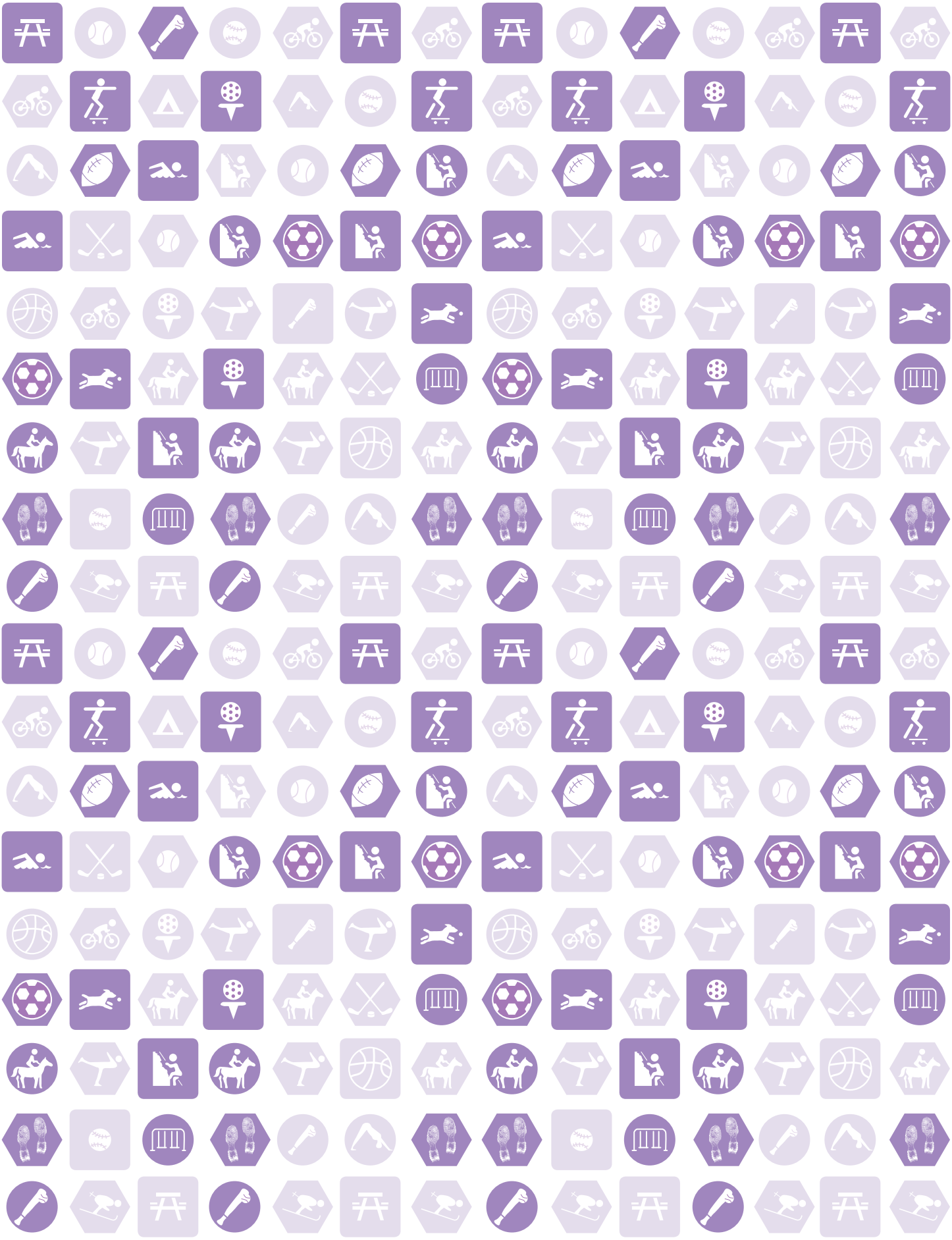
- Securing right-of-ways to existing and historic access points to Forest Service and BLM land is important for motorized and non-motorized users. This may include requiring new subdivisions to accommodate access during the entitlement process.

- Physical improvements and amenities at heavily used access points are needed, including:
    - Signage;
    - Parking; and
    - Restrooms.

- Information needs to be provided to the public in a clear and accurate way. This could include distributing the existing motor vehicle access maps, better signage to help visitors find access locations, and better online information.

- Wayfinding for recreation should be comprehensive and consistent throughout the valley.

- Better education and communication is needed between different user groups and the Forest Service to help avoid user conflicts with regard to stock behavior and controlling dogs.



# Chapter 4 FUNDING

## 4.1 FUNDING NEEDS

Currently, there are many areas that need funding as identified in the previous section. This includes proper operation and maintenance of existing facilities, as well as larger possible capital improvements. Currently, a large number of volunteer hours from members of local nonprofit organizations goes towards operation and maintenance of the existing facilities and programs.

### Existing Facility Maintenance

Proper and adequate maintenance of parks, playing fields, pathways, and other recreation facilities is important to increase their useful life and reduce operational expenses. It is less expensive to properly maintain a facility than to rebuild it when it becomes unusable. Table 4-1 lists the estimated operation and maintenance (O&M) costs for existing facilities that are owned and/or maintained by Teton County and the cities of Victor, Driggs, or Tetonia. The park acreage does not include parks in Alta or areas within the parks that are used for playing fields. Typical annual O&M costs were obtained from various sources, including a report entitled Small Community Park & Recreation Planning Standards (2003) and B*K Associates experience.

Table 4-1. Estimated O&M Costs for Existing County and City Facilities

| *Facility* | *Quantity* | *Unit* | *O&M Cost per Unit* | *Total O&M Costs* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Parks | 49.5 | acres | $ 6,000 | $ 297,000 |
| Playgrounds | 10 | each | $ 1,800 | $ 18,000 |
| Diamond fields | 4 | each | $ 5,000 | $ 20,000 |
| Rectangular fields | 4 | each | $ 4,000 | $ 16,000 |
| Rodeo grounds | 2 | each | $ 20,000 | $ 40,000 |
| Boat ramps | 6 | each | $ 5,000 | $ 30,000 |
| Tennis courts | 1 | each | $ 1,400 | $ 1,400 |
| Sand volleyball courts | 2 | each | $ 1,100 | $ 2,200 |
| Skate parks | 1 | each | $ 3,200 | $ 3,200 |
| Bike parks | 2 | each | $ 8,000 | $ 16,000 |
| Trails - paved | 17 | miles | $ 3,000 | $ 49,800 |
| Trails - dirt | 11.2 | miles | $ 1,000 | $ 11,200 |
| | | | **TOTAL** | **$ 504,800** |

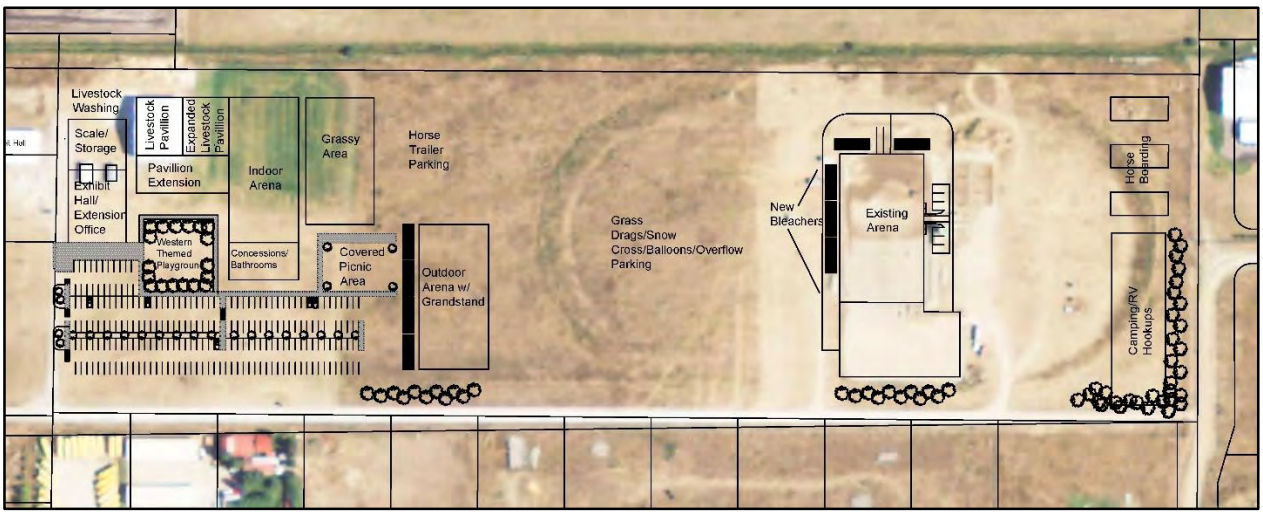
## Possible Capital Improvements

Whether or not the capital improvements identified in this plan are feasible depends on both the available funding and costs associated with the improvements. The following are conceptual estimates of the capital and operational costs for some of the larger improvements identified in the Plan. It should be noted that these are very general cost estimates that could change dramatically depending on the scope and timing of the projects. Before any large capital improvement is initiated, a full feasibility study should be completed that includes a market analysis, site analysis, facility amenities, capital cost projection, operational costs and revenues, funding sources, and partnerships analysis.

***Fairgrounds Improvements***–There are several improvements to the Teton County Fairgrounds that are being considered by the county and the Fair Board. As of this date, long range improvements have been presented to the county commissioners, although they have not yet been approved by the board, and include an extension to the livestock pavilion, an indoor arena, a new outdoor arena, new exhibit halls, camping, horse boarding, and parking lot improvements.

| | |
|---|---|
| Approximate Size: | Located within the existing Fairgrounds property |
| Capital Cost Range: | $5 to $11 million |
| Operational Requirements: | An expanded rodeo ground could require up to $200,000 to $300,000 for operations and maintenance, outside of user fees, concessions, and other income from the facility. |
| Funding: | A capital funding campaign will need to raise money outside of any potential tax revenue from a recreation district or resort tax. Additional operations funding may also be necessary. |
| Other: | Estimated capital costs provided by the Fair Board includes $2.5 million for an indoor arena, concessions, and bathroom and $5 million for a new outdoor arena with covered grandstand, grassy area, and covered picnic area. |

IMAGE: TETON COUNTY FIAR BOARD




Conceptual Master Plan for Teton County Fairgrounds (March 2014)

***Kotler Ice Arena Improvements***–The Teton Valley Foundation, which operates the Kotler Ice Arena, has phased plans to expand and enclose the ice arena. The phases include extension and build-up of the existing facility to make the ice regulation size; adding side "saddle bags" for bleachers, locker rooms, storage and concession areas; installing a refrigeration system; and improving the exterior landscaping and adding outdoor storage. Plans are to operate as an ice arena during the winter and as a multi-use sports and events facility during the summer.

| | |
|---|---|
| Approximate Size: | An additional 8,500 to 13,500 square feet added on to the existing facility. |
| Capital Cost Range: | $3.5 million for all phases. |
| Operational Requirements: | A seasonal ice facility could require up to $100,000 to $300,000 for operations and maintenance outside of user fees, concessions, and other income from the facility. |
| Funding: | A capital funding campaign will need to raise money outside of any potential tax revenue from a recreation district or resort tax. Additional operations funding may also be necessary. |

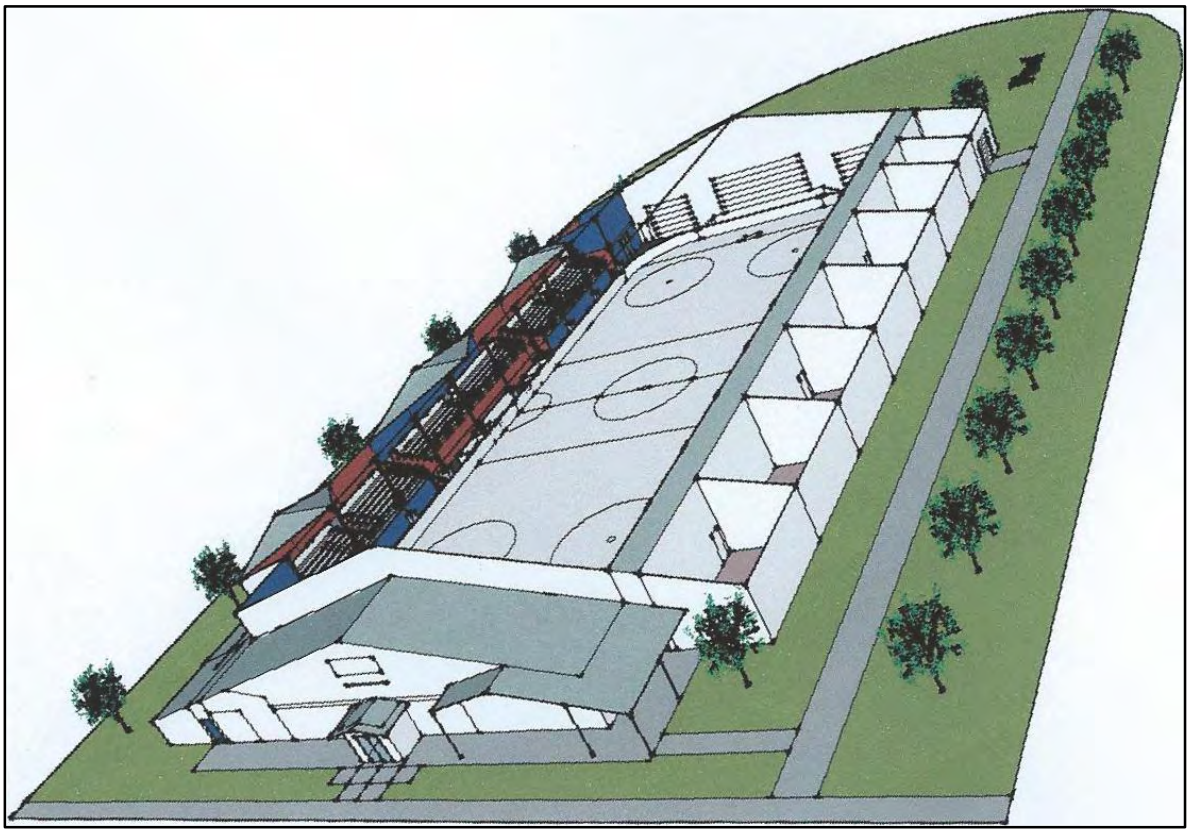


IMAGE: TETON VALLEY FOUNDATION AND RICK BALDWIN

Bird's Eye view of the planned expansion for the Kotler Ice Arena

***Public Access Improvements***–Nine public land access points and six river access points have been identified as needing improvements, ranging from better signage to acquiring land for parking and restroom facilities.

| | |
|---|---|
| Capital Cost Range: | $500,000 to $1 million, depending on the cost of right-of-ways, easement acquisition, and project scope. |
| Operational Requirements: | Restroom facilities would either be portable toilets or pit type toilets. Both types will need to be maintained on a regular basis, especially during periods of peak use. |
| Funding: | A capital funding campaign may need to raise money outside of any potential tax revenue from a recreation district or resort tax. The Forest Service is not able to build or maintain permanent pit toilets, but could allow another entity, such as a recreation district, to build and maintain toilets. Operation funding could potentially come from a recreation district or user fees. |

***Recreation Center*** – A key facility identified for development is an indoor recreation center that could contain an indoor or outdoor pool, gym, fitness area, and other amenities.

| | |
|---|---|
| Approximate Size: | 30,000 to 40,000 square feet |
| Capital Cost Range: | $12 to $20 million (with indoor pool)<br>$8 to 14 million (with outdoor pool) |
| Operational Requirements: | The center with an indoor pool could require up to $500,000 in additional funding beyond fees and charges generated from the center. A center with an outdoor pool could require up to $150,000 in additional funding. The average national cost recovery for indoor aquatics-only community facilities is approximately 25%. |
| Funding: | It will be very difficult for a recreation district to fund both the capital and operational requirements of a recreation center. The primary role of the district should be in operations, which would mean that other funding sources would likely be necessary for a significant portion of the capital development. |
| Other: | The facility will need to be located at a central site in Teton |

Valley that is easily accessible for most of the population base as well as visitors to the area.

As a comparison, the Recreation Center in Jackson, Wyoming, is approximately 38,000 square feet in size and includes a gym, multipurpose room, and an aquatic center, featuring a lap pool, water slide, and kid-friendly leisure pool.

***Field Complex***–Another major facility identified for development is an outdoor field complex with diamond and rectangular fields to support youth and adult team sports, as well as tournaments and other events.

| | |
|---|---|
| Approximate Size: | 30 to 50 acres (depending on the number of fields) |
| Capital Cost Range: | $5 to $15 million |
| Operational Requirements: | The field complex could require up to $250,000 in additional funding beyond fees and charges generated from the complex. |
| Funding: | A capital funding campaign will need to raise money outside of any potential tax revenue from a recreation district or resort tax. Additional operations funding may also be necessary. |
| Other: | The complex will need to be located at a central site in Teton Valley that is easily accessible for most of the population base, as well as visitors to the area. |

The 30-acre ball field complex in Louisville, Colorado accommodates tournaments.

## 4.2 Funding Options

Some funding is currently provided by the City of Driggs, the City of Victor, and Teton County to maintain parks and recreation facilities. The maintenance budget for recreation facilities for all of these governmental entities combined is approximately $198,000 per year. The City of Driggs allocated $44,000 for capital improvements for a park within the city, which was funded by selling property that was given to the city. Other than this small amount, none of the governmental entities or nonprofit organizations have reserve funds available to pay for capital expenses.

For this reason, funding the construction of new facilities or extensive renovations of existing facilities will be a challenge in Teton Valley and will require a well thought out funding plan that utilizes a variety of funding sources. The burden of funding new recreation facilities should not be wholly on the cities and other governmental entities in the valley nor on the private sector.

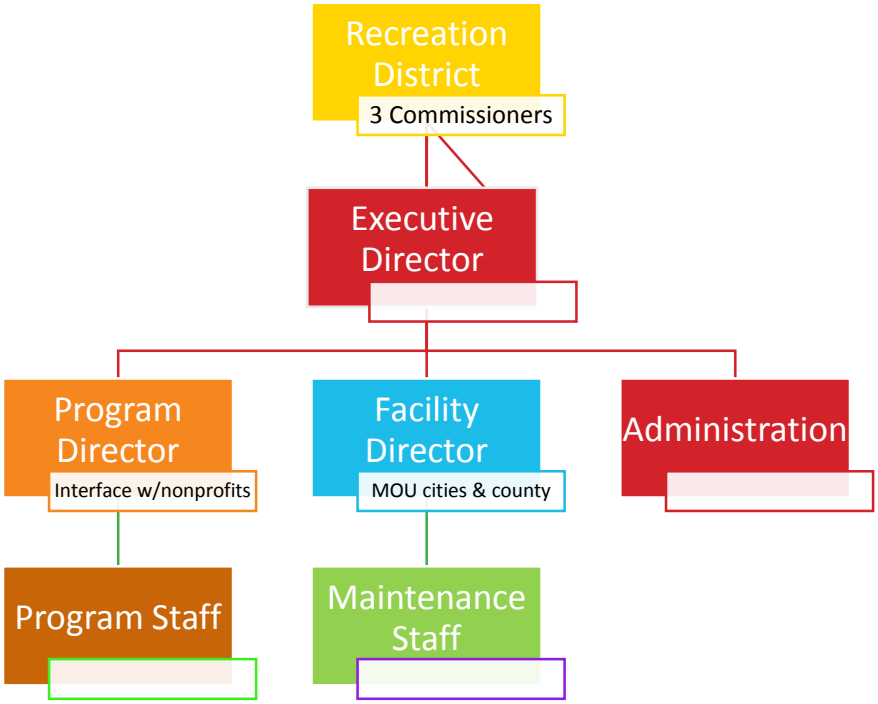
### Recreation District

The creation of a Recreation District can provide a stable funding source and serve as a lead, coordinating entity for recreation. Idaho state law permits the establishment of recreation districts, recognizing that recreation facilities provide public benefits by enhancing the value and quality of life, which "materially assists in correcting or eliminating many social ills such as delinquency, crime, excessive use of alcohol, drug abuse, and discrimination" (Idaho Code Title 31, Chap. 43–Recreation Districts). Formation of a recreation district requires that a petition be signed by 20% of registered voters within the proposed district for its formation to be placed on an election ballot, and then a simple majority vote of the residents of the district is needed to pass the establishment of a district.

Although the minimum information required by statute for the petition and ballot question includes the designation of the proposed district boundaries, the name of the district, and the maximum property tax rate, it is recommended that additional information be available to the voters prior to the election. This includes a clear mission statement, identifiable long range goals, and how the district would coordinate with the cities and county governments. Additionally, as much information as possible on projected budgets and initial recommendations that would be made to the governor for district commissioner appointments would help voters feel confident in voting in favor of the district.

The mission and goals of a recreation district can be derived largely from this Master Plan. It should include recreation coordination, operation and maintenance of facilities, and delivering recreation services, as well as working towards long range capital improvements, such as a community recreation center, ball fields, and public lands access facilities. One example of an organizational structure for a recreation district is shown in Figure 4-1.

Figure 4-1. Example Recreation District Organizational Structure




While the establishment of a Teton Valley Recreation District should be a top priority, it also must be realized that the level of funding that is possible from a district is limited and will not be able to fund all recreation services and facilities in the future. The following outlines the estimated income that can be generated from a property tax or household fee based on 2013 statistics:

- Teton County's 2013 net taxable value is $1,308,185,937.
- The maximum levy rate allowed for a recreation district is 0.06%, unless a higher rate is specified on the ballot. This represents a tax of $60 per $100,000 of assessed value; a homeowner of a house with $250,000 assessed value would pay $150 per year.
- At a 0.06% tax rate, a recreation district tax would generate approximately $785,000 per year. A 0.03% tax rate would generate approximately $392,500 per year.
- As an alternative, a fee in lieu of taxes could be used. This would be a uniform fee from the residents of the district and would be $180 per household to generate the same $785,000 per year (based on 4,357 households according to the Teton County Assessor's Office). A $90 per household fee would generate approximately $392,500, which is equivalent to the 0.03% property tax levy.

This annual $785,000 tax source would need to cover costs for managing the district, which includes staff and operations costs, as well as pay for facility maintenance and development. In reality, this amount of funding will not be able to accommodate all of the recreational needs in the valley. Thus, other funding mechanisms, such as user fees and private donations, will need to be utilized to supplement recreation district tax dollars.

There are several other counties in Idaho that have established recreation districts. Each district is unique with respect to programs, facilities, and funding. For example, on one end of the spectrum is the Blaine County Recreation District with a $3.6 million yearly budget that is used to manage year round trails and sports facilities with a staff of nineteen. On the opposite end is the Troy Recreation District that has no employees and a budget of $40,000 per year, which is used to provide recreation focused grants to a variety of organizations. A Teton County Recreation District will need to be tailored to meet the unique needs of the community. For comparison, however, Table 4-2 provides information for some of the other recreation districts in Idaho. Other areas in Idaho with recreation districts not included in the table include the cities of Potlatch (pop. 812), Deary (pop. 506), Juliaetta and Kendrick (J-K Recreation District, pop. 885), and Genesee (pop. 905), all located in Latah County, Idaho, and the Eastern Elmore County Recreation District that serves the Glenns Ferry area (pop. 1,264).

Table 4-2. Example of Some Existing Recreation Districts in Idaho

| ***Recreation District*** | ***Description & Notes*** | ***Tax or Fee*** | ***Approximate yearly budget*** |
|---|---|---|---|
| Jerome Recreation District | Population 11,027. Manages a 32,000 sq. ft. rec facility and outdoor pool. Created in 1976. | 0.054% tax | $885,000 ($450,000 from taxes) |
| Blaine County Recreation District | Serves Sun Valley, Hailey, Ketchum, Bellevue area with population of 21,146. Is a government district and also a nonprofit. Created in 1976. | 0.014% tax | $2.5 mil ($1.1 mil from taxes) |
| Gem County Recreation District | Serves the City of Emmett, north of Boise. Gem County population 16,673. Manages an outdoor pool. Created in 1992. | $46 per household | $472,000 |
| Western Elmore County Recreation District | Serves the Mountain Home area (pop. 15,000). Created in 2000. Also has an associated 501(c) 3 foundation. | 0.06% tax | $400,000 |
| Oregon Trail Recreation District | Located in Cassia County and serves the Burley area (pop. 10,345). Created in 2006. | $36 per household | $160,000 |
| Southern Valley County Recreation District | Serves the Cascade area (pop. 902) south of McCall in Valley County. | Not available | $230,000 |
| Troy Recreation District | Serves City of Troy (pop. 862) located south of Coeur d'Alene. Created in 2006. Only provides recreation improvement grants (up to $7,500). | 0.049% tax | $40,000 |

## Recreation Department

A Teton County Recreation Department could serve the purpose of coordinating recreation programs and maintaining facilities. However, funding of a recreation department would need to come from existing tax revenues, which are already strapped. Idaho residents pay 39% less property tax than the national average and 32% less than residents of other western states (Idaho State Tax Commission, 2013). Idaho's property tax rate is ranked 41st out of 51 states in the U.S. Not only does Idaho have low tax rates when compared to other states, but Teton County's property tax rate is ranked 40th out of 44 counties in Idaho. As a result, Teton County and its cities generally have less revenue per person available to provide public services compared to other counties in Idaho and the rest of the nation. For comparison, some cities in Idaho with similar populations to Teton County that have recreation departments are listed in Table 4-3.

Table 4-3. Sample Recreation Departments in Idaho

| ***Recreation Department*** | ***Description & Notes*** | ***Approximate yearly budget*** |
|---|---|---|
| McCall Parks and Recreation | City of McCall (pop. 2,991). Maintains 68 acres of parks, 14 acres of non-parks, 7 miles of pathways. | $795,000 ($727,000 from taxes and inter-fund transfers) |
| Mountain Home Parks and Recreation | City of Mountain Home (pop. 15,000). Also lies within a county recreation district. | $1.4 mil ($750,00 from general fund) |
| Rathdrum Parks and Recreation | City of Rathdrum (pop. 7,024) | Info not available |
| Sandpoint Parks and Recreation Department | City of Sandpoint (pop. 7,403) | $975,000 ($667,000 from general fund) |
| Ketchum Parks and Recreation | City of Ketchum (pop. 2,680) | $1.1 mil ($810,000 from general fund) |
| Hayden Community Services Department – Recreation Division | City of Hayden (pop. 13,549) | $645,000 |

## Local Option Sales Tax

Another possible funding source for recreation programs and facilities is a non-property local option tax as allowed by Idaho Code (Sections 50-1044 to 50-1049). The local option tax, also knows as a resort tax or a sales tax, can be applied to lodging, alcohol sold in restaurants and bars, and/or general sales and can only be levied by cities. Currently, both Driggs and Victor have existing local option taxes in the amount of 0.5%. An ordinance establishing a new local option tax for the purpose of funding recreation would need to be approved by at least 60% of the voters and would need to specify the rate and duration of the tax.

Estimated revenue from a resort tax was generated based on sales data for Teton County because sales data is not available from the Idaho Tax Commission for the individual cities. If

an additional local option tax were created for both Driggs and Victor at a rate of 0.25%, an estimated $156,000 could be generated annually based on total taxable sales in the County for December 2012 to November 2013.

The local option tax could also be applied only to certain categories of sales that will most likely be paid by visitors. As a comparison, other cities in Idaho that have resort taxes on visitor related services include City of Sun Valley (3-4%), City of Ketchum (2-3%), Donnelly (3%), Hailey (1-4%) and Stanley (2.5%). Based on the most recent 12 month period for Teton County, a 3% tax only on sales from hotels, rental houses, camp & RV parks, and air service would generate approximately $92,000 per year. If a 1% tax on sales from eating and drinking places were added, the resort tax would generate approximately $166,000 per year.

There are some drawbacks to the local option tax when compared to a recreation district. The first is that it requires 60% voter approval vs. 50%, and it will need to be renewed and approved by voters after each term expires. Revenues will also vary with the economy, potentially making budgeting more difficult.

It should be noted that the local option tax can only be levied by cities and, ideally, a recreation department or district needs to be county-wide so that it can appropriately coordinate recreation programming. Having separate recreation departments in Driggs and Victor will not solve the existing problems with coordination and having the ability to have a one-stop shop.

## Other Funding Sources

Other possible funding sources for capital improvements and operations for recreational facilities in Teton Valley include the following:

### Capital Funding

- ***Supplemental Tax Levy***–A short term supplemental tax levy is an option for funding capital improvement projects. The levy would specify the amount and time that it applies. This funding mechanism requires 50% voter approval to pass.
- ***Bond Issue***–A recreation district, the county, or cities could put a general obligation bond issue on the ballot to fund large capital improvements, but this will require a 2/3 majority to pass and there are limits to the overall tax level and amount. This may be a difficult funding option to pursue as a result. Additionally, the cities could pledge sales tax revenue and place a revenue bond issue on the ballot, which would require a 50% majority to pass.
- ***Partnerships***–The realistic possibility of including equity partners (public agencies, nonprofits, community based organizations, and for-profits) in a project will need to be determined. If a true equity partner(s) is found, a more detailed partnership assessment will be necessary to determine a realistic level of financial support to build recreation facilities.

- ***Inter-local Agreements***–Establishing agreements with other governmental agencies (Teton County, Idaho; Teton County, Wyoming; and/or local cities), as well as other community organizations, to provide capital funding for projects should be explored. This could involve a bond issue and/or a tax levy overlay as well.
- ***Fundraising***–A possible source of capital funding could come from a comprehensive fundraising campaign in the valley and the surrounding area. Contributions from local businesses, private individuals, and social service organizations should be targeted. To maximize this form of funding, a private fundraising consultant may be necessary. Incorporating any equity partners in this effort will be essential. It is recognized that there are a number of organizations and foundations in the valley that fundraise for a variety of recreation facilities and programs already.
- ***Grants***–There are a number of grants that are available for parks and recreation projects. It is more difficult to fund active recreation facilities than parks and open space from these sources, but an effort to acquire funding from grants should be strongly pursued. Key areas that should be targeted for grants are serving youth, teens, seniors, and families. In addition, green building technology and energy conservation grants could be available.
- ***Foundation/Gifts***–Capital dollars can be raised from these tax exempt, nonprofit organizations if the amenity meets their stated goals and interests. Currently, there are two significant foundations in the valley that are already active in funding recreation projects.
- ***Teton Recreation Foundation***–Many public agencies are now forming 501 (c)(3) foundations or friends groups to specifically fund recreation projects. The public agencies in the valley should seriously consider forming such a foundation. This can also serve as a conduit for other funding opportunities (grants, gifts, etc.) that are dedicated to a specific project.
- ***TEA 21 Grants***–Often known as Rails to Trails, this federal transportation grant helps fund trail systems that are utilizing old railroad beds.
- ***Land and Water Conservation Fund***–LWCF is a long standing federal program to fund the acquisition and development of outdoor parks and recreation facilities.
- ***Land Trust***–The Teton Regional Land Trust (TRLT) may be able to help with the funding of land acquisition for recreation, open space, or public access. The TRLT could also handle potential land swaps and life estates that will later result in the acquisition of land.
- ***Developers***–Working with local developers of new residential and/or commercial areas to dedicate land, build recreational amenities, or contribute funding for new facilities should be strongly pursued. Existing impact fees in the county and cities should include some amount dedicated to maintaining the existing level of service for recreation facilities.

- ***Naming Rights and Sponsorships*** – Although not nearly as lucrative as for large stadiums and similar high profile facilities, the sale of naming rights and long term sponsorships could be a source of some capital funding as well. It may be necessary to hire a specialist in selling naming rights and sponsorships if this revenue source is to be maximized to its fullest potential. No lifetime naming rights should be sold; only 20 year maximum rights should be possible. Determining the level of financial contribution necessary to gain a naming right will be crucial. This could mean a contribution for up to 25% of the total cost of an entire project for overall facility naming rights or 50% to 100% for individual spaces within the facility itself.

### OPERATIONS FUNDING

- ***Fees and Charges***–Recreation facilities are increasingly reliant on the ability of fees and charges paid by users to pay a considerable portion of the cost of operations and maintenance. It is realized that the ability to charge fees for use varies significantly from amenity to amenity; however, it should be recognized that very few recreation amenities are able to cover their total cost of operations with fees. User fees should be higher for residents that live outside of Teton County, Idaho in the case that a recreation district or recreation department is formed for the County. Additionally, reduced fees could be charged for seniors or low-income families to help make recreation accessible to a wide audience.
- ***Recreation District Tax Dollars***–The utilization of district-generated tax dollars for operations and maintenance of recreation amenities should be expected. This will likely need to be the primary operational funding source, after fees and charges.
- ***Partnerships***–If equity partners are found for a project, then it should be expected that the cost of operating or maintaining the amenity will also be shared with the other partner(s). This could include ongoing funding of some programs and services and/or operations and maintenance funding. A detailed partnership assessment will be necessary to determine a realistic level of financial support for each project.
- ***Inter-local Agreements***–Establishing agreements with other governmental agencies (county and/or cities, including Teton County, Wyoming) and/or community organizations to fund the ongoing operation or maintenance of facilities is possible. However, unless the other organization(s) are the actual owners or are directly responsible for operations, it is unlikely that any significant operational dollars will be generated from this source.
- ***Sponsorships***–The establishment of sponsorships for different programs and services, as well as funding for different aspects of a facility's operation, is possible. But in most cases, this provides a relatively low revenue stream for funding day to day operating costs for recreation amenities.
- ***Grants***–There are grants that are available for programs and services that serve the disadvantaged, youth, teens, and senior populations. In addition, ongoing energy conservation efforts, public health initiatives, and other social service-oriented programs

may be funded as well.

- ***Endowment Fund***–This would require additional fundraising to establish an operational endowment fund that would be designed to fund capital replacement and improvements at valley recreation facilities. It is often difficult to raise funds for operational endowments and the level of initial principal funding that is required is very high.
- ***Foundation/Gifts***–In addition to funding capital development, specific programs and services can often be funded in whole or in part by foundation grants or gifts.
- ***Teton Recreation Foundation***–A 501 (c)(3) foundation or friends group can also be utilized to fund specific recreation programs or services. The nonprofit status can also increase eligibility for other grants if they are administered through the foundation, itself.
- ***Fundraising***–Funds can be raised for specific recreation programs and services from a comprehensive fundraising campaign in the valley and the surrounding area. Contributions from local businesses, private individuals, and social service organizations should be targeted. It is recognized that there are currently a number of organizations and foundations in the valley that fundraise for a variety of recreation facilities and programs.
- ***Private Concessionaires***–Contracts can be signed with private (or even nonprofit organizations) to operate or manage facilities and/or provide specific programs. This may reduce operational costs or even enhance revenue opportunities.

## 4.3 Summary of Funding Needs and Options

A summary of the funding needs and possible funding sources is included in Table 4-4 through Table 4-7. Note that these are very general estimates and the amounts could vary dramatically based on what new or improved facilities and programs are implemented.

Table 4-4. Summary of Capital Funding Needs

| *Capital Funding Needs* | *Estimated Amount* |
|---|---|
| Enclosure of Existing Ice Rink | $1.5 - 2.5 mil. |
| Public Access Improvements | $500K - $1 mil. |
| Rodeo Grounds Improvements | $5 - 11 mil. |
| Recreation Center with Aquatic Facility | $8 - 20 mil. |
| Ball Field Complex | $5 - 15 mil. |

Table 4-5. Summary of Potential Capital Funding Sources

| ***Potential Capital Funding Sources*** | ***Estimated Amount*** | ***Notes*** |
|---|---|---|
| Supplemental Tax Levy | $130,000 | Requires 50% majority voter approval |
| General Obligation Bonds | $0 – 10 mil. | Requires 2/3 majority voter approval |
| Revenue Bonds | $0 – 3 mil. | Requires 50% majority voter approval |
| Private Donations | $1 – 300,000 | |
| Corporate Sponsors | $10 – 100,000 | |
| Grants | $5 – 500,000 | Must meet grant conditions/intention |
| Other sources | Varies | Partnerships with other municipalities, private entities, developers |

Table 4-6 Summary of Yearly Operation and Maintenance (O&M) Funding Needs

| ***Yearly O&M Funding Needs*** | ***Estimated Amount*** |
|---|---|
| Existing Facilities | $500,000/yr. |
| Enclosed Ice Rink | $100 - 300,000/yr. |
| Indoor Rodeo Arena | $200 - 300,000/yr. |
| Recreation Center with Aquatic Facility | $150 - 500,000/yr. |
| Ball Field Complex | $250,000/yr. |

Table 4-7. Summary of Potential Yearly Operation and Maintenance (O&M) Funding Sources

| ***Potential Yearly Funding Sources*** | ***Estimated Amount*** | ***Notes*** |
|---|---|---|
| Existing Recreation O&M Budgets | $198,000/yr. | Includes Teton County, Idaho; Driggs; and Victor |
| General Tax Levy | $130,000/yr. | Requires 2/3 majority voter approval |
| Recreation District (0.06% tax = $60 per $100K value or $180/household) (0.03% tax = $30 per $100K value or $90/household) | Up to $785,000/yr. | Requires petition of 20% voters to be placed on ballot. Requires 50% majority voter approval. |
| Local Option (Resort) Sales Tax | $92 - 166,000/yr. | Can only be implemented in the cities. Requires 60% majority voter approval |
| User Fees | $300 - 550,000/yr | Possible lower user fees for low income families and seniors, higher user fees for non-residents |
| Sponsorships & Fundraising | $20 - 90,000/yr | |
| Events and Tournaments | $50 - 100,000/yr | |
| Other Sources | varies | Partnerships, endowment fund, private concessioners |

# Chapter 5 Plan and Implementation

## 5.1 Introduction

The following implementation plan for future recreation facilities, programs, and administration is based on the existing inventory analysis and needs assessment and was created to help guide the future development of recreation amenities in Teton Valley. The basic goals of the plan address the major recreation issues that Teton Valley faces and include the following:

### Plan Goals

1. Coordinate existing recreation service providers in Teton Valley to maximize available resources.
2. Improve the utilization and maintenance of existing parks and recreation amenities.
3. Continue to improve public access to National Forest land, BLM land, rivers, and streams.
4. Work to establish a Teton County Recreation District to fund, coordinate, and manage existing and future recreation facilities, programs, and services.
5. Develop a long-range funding plan for recreation facilities and programs.
6. Promote the development of equity partnerships with recreation organizations for the delivery of parks and recreation programs and facilities.
7. Grow the opportunities for year round indoor and outdoor recreation participation.

## 5.2 Priorities and Timing

The plan for implementation is divided into action items that address administration, facilities, and programs and are further divided into short term (0-5 years), mid-term (5-10 years), and long term (10+ years) tasks, as shown in the following frameworks.

Table 5-1. Recreation and Public Access Plan Framework - Administration

| ADMINISTRATION | | |
|---|---|---|
| ***SHORT TERM (0-5 YEARS)*** | ***MID-TERM (5-10 YEARS)*** | ***LONG TERM (10+ YEARS)*** |
| A lead coordinating entity for recreation (e.g. Recreation District or Recreation Department) should be established. All jurisdictions and recreation providers in Teton Valley should cooperate in establishment of this lead entity. The lead entity should be responsible for updating and implementing this recreation master plan. | Establish a basic fee policy for recreation programs and facilities that ensures that the costs for these activities and amenities can be supported primarily by the revenues generated from this source. | Develop a grant program for small seed grants for recreation programs and services. |
| Once established, the lead coordinating entity should hire an executive director and develop comprehensive intergovernmental agreements with the county, cities, and other agencies, as appropriate, to manage and develop recreation facilities and services. | Develop a comprehensive sponsorship and fundraising plan. | Establish a transportation plan for recreation programs and facilities that focuses on youth and senior needs. |
| Establish a universal website for recreation facilities and activities. | Establish a marketing plan for recreation activities and facilities in the valley. | |
| Complete an economic impact study for events and activities that draw visitors to the valley. | Update the Recreation and Public Access Master Plan, if necessary. | |

Table 5-2. Recreation and Public Access Plan Framework - Facilities

| FACILITIES | | |
|---|---|---|
| ***SHORT TERM (0-5 YEARS)*** | ***MID-TERM (5-10 YEARS)*** | ***LONG TERM (10+ YEARS)*** |
| Improve conditions of existing facilities through proper maintenance and making repairs to equipment. | Complete improvements to existing facilities that can be completed within the recreation district budget. | Construct long-term capital improvements with funds raised during mid-term timeline. |
| Develop a maintenance plan and capital replacement schedule for major parks and recreation amenities in conjunction with all facility providers. | Construct capital improvements, such as access improvements, ice arena expansion, recreation center, or ball fields, with funds raised during short-term timeline. | |
| Complete feasibility study(ies) for mid-term capital improvements and pursue capital and operations funding for projects. This could include an indoor recreation center and/or ball field complex. | Complete feasibility study(ies) for long-term capital improvements. This could include the expansion of the fairgrounds or others not completed during the short-term timeline. | |
| Develop a playground development and replacement plan for the valley that strives to increase the LOS. | Based on results of feasibility studies, pursue capital and operations funding for long-term capital improvements. | |
| Identify and prioritize smaller capital improvement projects, such as those for existing facilities like the ice arena expansion and public access improvements. | | |

Table 5-3. Recreation and Public Access Plan Framework - Programs

| PROGRAMS | | |
|---|---|---|
| ***SHORT TERM (0-5 YEARS)*** | ***MID-TERM (5-10 YEARS)*** | ***LONG TERM (10+ YEARS)*** |
| Coordinate all existing programs and activities by working with existing non-profit organizations that provide these programs. | Expand and develop the opportunities for self-directed activities, education and nature based programs, fitness and wellness activities, and emerging sports. | Add additional programs and activities focused on adults, seniors, teens, and special needs populations. |
| Transition appropriate programs from non-profits to the recreation district. A non-profit foundation associated with the rec district may be needed to continue to provide funding. Volunteer coaches will still likely be needed to help with programs. | Expand and develop programs for youth and families. | Develop a series of tournaments, events, and activities that will draw visitors to the area. |
| Track program trends on a regional and national basis. Utilize this information to develop a long range recreation program plan. | Develop and/or expand programs associated with mid-term capital improvements. | Develop and/or expand programs associated with long-term capital improvements. |

# REFERENCES


America's Promise, The Alliance for Youth. A report from America's Promise Alliance: Every child, every promise, turning failure into action. 2006.

Bailey, W. J. Indiana Prevention Resource Center. Critical Hours and Critical Years: Precision Targeting in Prevention. 1998. Retrieved from http://www.drugs.indiana.edu/publications/iprc/newsline/indiana_data.html.

Bittner, Terrie Lynn. 2012. Teens and Alcohol Use on LDS Blogs. Accessed March 10, 2014. http://ldsblogs.com/11321/teens-and-alcohol-use

Brown Dr, et. al. "Psychobiology and behavioral strategies. Physical activity, sport participation, and suicidal behavior: U.S. high school student." *Medical Science Sports Exercise Journal.* 2007.

City of Victor Comprehensive Plan. 2006.

Comprehensive Plan – A Vision and Framework 2012 – 2030. Teton County Idaho Comprehensive Plan Update. 2012.

Girls Incorporated. Facts: Girls in Sports. Accessed on Jun 2, 2004. http://www.girlsinc.org/ic/content/GirlsandSports.pdf

Idaho Code. http://legislature.idaho.gov/idstat/TOC/IDStatutesTOC.htm.

Idaho State Tax Commission. "Cents and Sensibility - 2013 Annual Report." Accessed on March 7, 2014. http://tax.idaho.gov/reports/EPB00033_12-20-2013.pdf.

Idaho State Tax Commission. "Reports and Statistics – Sales/Use Tax by County." Accessed on March 7, 2014. http://tax.idaho.gov/search-reports.cfm?ch=EPB00075.

Jones-Palm, Prof. Dr. Diane H. Physical Activity and Its Impact on Health Behavior Among Youth. Trim and Fitness International Sport for All Association. Accessed on March 8, 2014. https://www.icsspe.org/sites/default/files/PhysicalActivity.pdf.

McNamee, Jeff, PhD, Katie Main, and Kadin Hashimato. "Project Brief: The Economic Impact of Mountain Bicycle Events in Oregon." Linfield College, McMinnville, Oregon. 2013.

National Survey of American Attitudes on Substance Abuse VIII: Teens and Parents. 2003. The National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University. Retrieved on March 22, 2007. http://www.casacolumbia.org/pdshopprov/files/2003_Teen_Survey_8_19_03.pdf

Nussbaum, Marth and Amartya Sen. *The Quality of Life*. Oxford Scholarship Online. 2003.

Pennsylvania State University. "The Benefits of Local Recreation and Park Services-A Nationwide Study of the Perceptions of the American Public." 1992.

Puterbaugh, C. "PAL aims to be friendly, safe haven for children." The Oregonian. 2007.

RPI (RPI Consulting). *Economic Development Plan for Teton County, Idaho*. Prepared for Teton County, Idaho. 2013.

Smith, Sherwood B. "Game On! The Impact of Youth Sports on a Regional Economy." Traverse City Area Chamber of Commerce. September 18, 2012. http://tcchamber.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/10/YouthSportsReport.pdf

*State of Colorado Small Community Park & Recreation Planning Standards.* 2003.

Suicide Prevention Action Network of Idaho (SPAN). Suicide in Idaho: Fact Sheet October 2013. Accessed on March 10, 2014. http://www.spanidaho.org/docs/factsheet.pdf.

Thomas, Catherine Cullinane, Christopher Huber, and Lynne Koontz. *2012 National Park Visitor Spending Effects - Economic Contributions to Local Communities, States, and the Nation.* Natural Resource Report NPS/NRSS/EQD/NRR-2014/765. 2014.

TPL (Trust for Public Land). The Economic Benefits of Parks and Open Space. 1999.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Healthy Youth: Health Topic: Physical Activity. Atlanta, GA: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion. 2004. Accessed on June 1, 2004. http://www.cdc.gov/HealthyYouth/physicalactivity/publications.htm.

# APPENDIX – ONLINE SURVEY

# Teton County Recreation & Public Access Survey

## 1. Do you live (either full-time or part-time) in Teton Valley? Teton Valley includes all of Teton County, Idaho plus the community of Alta, Wyoming

| | Response Percent | Response Count |
|---|---|---|
| **Yes** | **93.1%** | **379** |
| No | 6.9% | 28 |
| | **answered question** | **407** |
| | **skipped question** | **4** |

## 2. Which city is closest to your home?

| | Response Percent | Response Count |
|---|---|---|
| Driggs | 39.7% | 162 |
| **Victor** | **41.2%** | **168** |
| Tetonia | 13.5% | 55 |
| Home not in Teton Valley | 5.6% | 23 |
| | **answered question** | **408** |
| | **skipped question** | **3** |

## 3. What is your residency?

| | Response Percent | Response Count |
|---|---|---|
| **Full-time resident** | **85.3%** | **347** |
| Part-time resident | 7.6% | 31 |
| Visitor | 7.1% | 29 |
| | **answered question** | **407** |
| | **skipped question** | **4** |

## 4. How many members of your household are in each of these age categories?

#

| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Under 5 | 26.5% (40) | **49.0% (74)** | 23.2% (35) | 0.7% (1) | 0.7% (1) | 0.0% (0) | 0.0% (0) |
| 5-9 years | 28.1% (36) | **52.3% (67)** | 18.0% (23) | 1.6% (2) | 0.0% (0) | 0.0% (0) | 0.0% (0) |
| 10-14 years | 33.0% (35) | **45.3% (48)** | 21.7% (23) | 0.0% (0) | 0.0% (0) | 0.0% (0) | 0.0% (0) |
| 15-19 years | **46.8% (37)** | 39.2% (31) | 13.9% (11) | 0.0% (0) | 0.0% (0) | 0.0% (0) | 0.0% (0) |
| 20-24 years | **63.8% (37)** | 29.3% (17) | 6.9% (4) | 0.0% (0) | 0.0% (0) | 0.0% (0) | 0.0% (0) |
| 25-34 years | 21.8% (27) | 36.3% (45) | **39.5% (49)** | 0.0% (0) | 2.4% (3) | 0.0% (0) | 0.0% (0) |
| 35-44 years | 15.6% (33) | 36.8% (78) | **47.2% (100)** | 0.0% (0) | 0.0% (0) | 0.0% (0) | 0.5% (1) |
| 45-54 years | 21.8% (34) | **48.1% (75)** | 29.5% (46) | 0.0% (0) | 0.6% (1) | 0.0% (0) | 0.0% (0) |
| 55-64 years | 30.3% (30) | **38.4% (38)** | 30.3% (30) | 1.0% (1) | 0.0% (0) | 0.0% (0) | 0.0% (0) |
| 65+ years | **44.3% (31)** | 35.7% (25) | 20.0% (14) | 0.0% (0) | 0.0% (0) | 0.0% (0) | 0.0% (0) |

**5. During the summer, how often do you or members of your household participate in the following types of recreation programs and activities in Teton Valley?**

| | Never | 1x/month | 1-3x/week | Every day | Rating Count |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Baseball/Softball | **76.3% (255)** | 9.3% (31) | 12.6% (42) | 1.8% (6) | 334 |
| Soccer | **71.1% (239)** | 10.7% (36) | 17.0% (57) | 1.2% (4) | 336 |
| Volleyball | **87.9% (284)** | 7.4% (24) | 4.6% (15) | 0.0% (0) | 323 |
| Tennis | **76.4% (249)** | 17.5% (57) | 6.1% (20) | 0.0% (0) | 326 |
| Swimming | **36.1% (125)** | 25.1% (87) | 35.8% (124) | 2.9% (10) | 346 |
| Rodeo & Equestrian Activities | **74.1% (243)** | 13.7% (45) | 10.1% (33) | 2.1% (7) | 328 |
| Hiking / Running | 4.6% (17) | 16.5% (61) | **61.8% (228)** | 17.1% (63) | 369 |
| Golf | **55.8% (188)** | 27.6% (93) | 15.4% (52) | 1.2% (4) | 337 |
| Mountain biking | 28.5% (100) | 20.2% (71) | **42.2% (148)** | 9.1% (32) | 351 |
| BMX or cyclocross | **84.7% (272)** | 8.4% (27) | 6.2% (20) | 0.6% (2) | 321 |
| Road cycling | **38.8% (131)** | 22.2% (75) | 34.9% (118) | 4.1% (14) | 338 |
| Motorized trail riding on 4 wheelers | **79.6% (261)** | 10.1% (33) | 9.5% (31) | 0.9% (3) | 328 |
| Motorized trail riding on dirt bikes | **79.1% (258)** | 9.8% (32) | 9.2% (30) | 1.8% (6) | 326 |
| Rock climbing | **72.4% (236)** | 20.9% (68) | 5.5% (18) | 1.2% (4) | 326 |
| Fishing | 30.8% (109) | **39.0% (138)** | 25.4% (90) | 4.8% (17) | 354 |
| Shooting | **58.0% (193)** | 29.7% (99) | 11.1% (37) | 1.2% (4) | 333 |
| Hunting | **63.3% (209)** | 25.8% (85) | 10.3% (34) | 0.6% (2) | 330 |
| Skate boarding | **85.0% (277)** | 9.8% (32) | 3.4% (11) | 1.8% (6) | 326 |
| Disc golf | **69.7% (223)** | 22.5% (72) | 5.9% (19) | 1.9% (6) | 320 |
| Concerts and other special events | 12.4% (44) | 40.0% (142) | **46.2% (164)** | 1.4% (5) | 355 |
| Fitness (weight lifting, cardio, etc) | 26.6% (91) | 21.1% (72) | **40.6% (139)** | 11.7% (40) | 342 |
| Play in playgrounds | **46.3% (161)** | 18.7% (65) | 29.3% (102) | 5.7% (20) | 348 |

| | |
|---|---|
| **answered question** | **381** |
| **skipped question** | **30** |

## 6. Please rate your overall satisfaction with these summer programs and activities in Teton Valley.

| | Don't Know | Very Satisfied | Somewhat Satisfied | Not Satisfied | Rating Count |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Baseball/Softball | **72.8% (251)** | 7.8% (27) | 16.2% (56) | 3.2% (11) | 345 |
| Soccer | **70.2% (243)** | 9.8% (34) | 16.8% (58) | 3.2% (11) | 346 |
| Volleyball | **84.7% (287)** | 2.4% (8) | 9.7% (33) | 3.2% (11) | 339 |
| Tennis | **69.5% (237)** | 1.8% (6) | 12.9% (44) | 15.8% (54) | 341 |
| Swimming | 27.1% (96) | 2.8% (10) | 11.3% (40) | **58.8% (208)** | 354 |
| Rodeo & Equestrian Activities | **70.1% (235)** | 13.4% (45) | 13.1% (44) | 3.3% (11) | 335 |
| Hiking / Running | 9.8% (35) | **72.5% (259)** | 16.2% (58) | 1.4% (5) | 357 |
| Golf | **49.3% (168)** | 39.3% (134) | 10.9% (37) | 0.6% (2) | 341 |
| Mountain biking | 24.5% (86) | **53.3% (187)** | 19.7% (69) | 2.6% (9) | 351 |
| BMX or cyclocross | **77.7% (258)** | 11.7% (39) | 9.3% (31) | 1.2% (4) | 332 |
| Road cycling | **39.4% (134)** | 22.1% (75) | 31.2% (106) | 7.4% (25) | 340 |
| Motorized trail riding on 4 wheelers | **73.6% (248)** | 11.6% (39) | 9.8% (33) | 5.0% (17) | 337 |
| Motorized trail riding on dirt bikes | **71.6% (240)** | 12.5% (42) | 11.6% (39) | 4.2% (14) | 335 |
| Rock climbing | **64.0% (213)** | 13.5% (45) | 14.4% (48) | 8.1% (27) | 333 |
| Fishing | 24.6% (86) | **56.6% (198)** | 16.3% (57) | 2.6% (9) | 350 |
| Shooting | **62.6% (209)** | 14.1% (47) | 12.6% (42) | 10.8% (36) | 334 |
| Hunting | **62.5% (212)** | 17.1% (58) | 16.5% (56) | 3.8% (13) | 339 |
| Skate boarding | **74.3% (249)** | 13.7% (46) | 9.6% (32) | 2.4% (8) | 335 |
| Disc golf | **63.3% (209)** | 16.4% (54) | 17.9% (59) | 2.4% (8) | 330 |
| Concerts and other special events | 10.0% (35) | **58.7% (206)** | 25.6% (90) | 5.7% (20) | 351 |

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Fitness (weight lifting, cardio, etc) | **34.1% (118)** | 30.9% (107) | 25.1% (87) | 9.8% (34) | 346 |
| Play in playgrounds | **38.8% (133)** | 24.2% (83) | 31.5% (108) | 5.5% (19) | 343 |
| | | | | **answered question** | **373** |
| | | | | **skipped question** | **38** |

## 7. 6. During the winter, how often do you or members of your household participate in the following types of recreation programs and activities in Teton Valley?

| | Never | 1x/month | 1-3x/week | Every day | Rating Count |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Tubing/sledding | 31.2% (108) | **53.5% (185)** | 15.0% (52) | 0.3% (1) | 346 |
| Ice hockey/figure skating | **53.1% (181)** | 20.8% (71) | 25.2% (86) | 0.9% (3) | 341 |
| Skiing/snowboarding | 9.9% (35) | 16.7% (59) | **59.2% (209)** | 14.2% (50) | 353 |
| Nordic Skiing | 21.2% (74) | 17.5% (61) | **53.3% (186)** | 8.0% (28) | 349 |
| Snowshoeing | **47.5% (160)** | 31.8% (107) | 18.7% (63) | 2.1% (7) | 337 |
| Snow biking | **85.0% (284)** | 8.4% (28) | 5.7% (19) | 0.9% (3) | 334 |
| Snowmobiling | **68.2% (234)** | 17.2% (59) | 13.4% (46) | 1.2% (4) | 343 |
| Indoor Rock climbing | **89.5% (298)** | 8.4% (28) | 1.5% (5) | 0.6% (2) | 333 |
| Indoor Swimming | **67.9% (228)** | 21.1% (71) | 9.8% (33) | 1.2% (4) | 336 |
| Basketball (indoors) | **83.3% (279)** | 9.0% (30) | 6.9% (23) | 0.9% (3) | 335 |
| Volleyball (indoors) | **91.0% (302)** | 5.1% (17) | 3.9% (13) | 0.0% (0) | 332 |
| Indoor Rodeo & Equestrian Activities | **94.9% (317)** | 4.2% (14) | 0.6% (2) | 0.3% (1) | 334 |
| Fitness (weight lifting, cardio, etc) | 34.5% (118) | 15.5% (53) | **41.8% (143)** | 8.2% (28) | 342 |
| Gymnastics | **74.6% (250)** | 9.3% (31) | 15.2% (51) | 0.9% (3) | 335 |
| Martial Arts | **94.6% (314)** | 2.1% (7) | 3.0% (10) | 0.3% (1) | 332 |
| | | | | **answered question** | **357** |
| | | | | **skipped question** | **54** |

## 8. Please rate your overall satisfaction with these winter/all season programs and activities in Teton Valley?

| | Don't Know | Very Satisfied | Somewhat Satisfied | Not Satisfied | Rating Count |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Tubing/sledding | **31.5% (106)** | **31.5% (106)** | 30.1% (101) | 6.8% (23) | 336 |
| Ice hockey/figure skating | **42.6% (142)** | 28.2% (94) | 26.1% (87) | 3.0% (10) | 333 |
| Skiing/snowboarding | 7.8% (27) | **83.8% (289)** | 7.8% (27) | 0.6% (2) | 345 |
| Nordic Skiing | 18.2% (62) | **66.0% (225)** | 13.8% (47) | 2.1% (7) | 341 |
| Snowshoeing | 39.1% (129) | **50.9% (168)** | 9.1% (30) | 0.9% (3) | 330 |
| Snow biking | **74.4% (241)** | 14.8% (48) | 9.6% (31) | 1.2% (4) | 324 |
| Snowmobiling | **60.1% (200)** | 25.5% (85) | 12.0% (40) | 2.4% (8) | 333 |
| Indoor Rock climbing | **67.3% (218)** | 3.1% (10) | 4.6% (15) | 25.0% (81) | 324 |
| Indoor Swimming | 32.2% (107) | 0.9% (3) | 4.5% (15) | **62.3% (207)** | 332 |
| Basketball (indoors) | **74.2% (242)** | 6.4% (21) | 10.7% (35) | 8.6% (28) | 326 |
| Volleyball (indoors) | **81.1% (261)** | 4.0% (13) | 6.2% (20) | 8.7% (28) | 322 |
| Indoor Rodeo & Equestrian Activities | **85.0% (278)** | 4.0% (13) | 5.8% (19) | 5.2% (17) | 327 |
| Fitness (weight lifting, cardio, etc) | **33.7% (112)** | 28.3% (94) | 28.6% (95) | 9.3% (31) | 332 |
| Gymnastics | **66.0% (217)** | 19.5% (64) | 12.8% (42) | 1.8% (6) | 329 |
| Martial Arts | **85.3% (273)** | 5.0% (16) | 5.6% (18) | 4.1% (13) | 320 |
| | | | | **answered question** | **353** |
| | | | | **skipped question** | **58** |

## 9. Please rate your overall satisfaction with existing recreation FACILITIES in Teton Valley.

| | Don't Know | Very Satisfied | Somewhat Satisfied | Not Satisfied | Rating Count |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Parks & playgrounds | 11.5% (39) | 24.7% (84) | **53.5% (182)** | 10.3% (35) | 340 |
| Paved paths or trails in the County | 3.6% (12) | 27.6% (93) | **55.8% (188)** | 13.1% (44) | 337 |
| Trails on forest service or BLM land | 4.4% (15) | **49.6% (168)** | 38.1% (129) | 8.0% (27) | 339 |
| Sports fields | **37.2% (123)** | 16.3% (54) | **37.2% (123)** | 9.4% (31) | 331 |
| Tennis / basketball / volleyball courts | **42.0% (140)** | 6.3% (21) | 24.0% (80) | 27.6% (92) | 333 |
| Tubing/sledding hills | 28.4% (95) | 19.8% (66) | **36.2% (121)** | 15.6% (52) | 334 |
| Private Swimming pools (Teton Springs, Targhee) | 27.9% (94) | 8.9% (30) | 16.9% (57) | **46.3% (156)** | 337 |
| Rodeo arenas, horse arenas | **69.7% (232)** | 11.7% (39) | 12.6% (42) | 6.0% (20) | 333 |
| Rivers or streams for fishing, boating, etc. | 9.8% (33) | **66.9% (226)** | 20.7% (70) | 2.7% (9) | 338 |
| Ice rink | 31.4% (105) | 29.6% (99) | **33.5% (112)** | 5.4% (18) | 334 |
| Private fitness centers (High Peaks, Anytime Fitness, etc) | **34.4% (116)** | 29.4% (99) | 26.1% (88) | 10.1% (34) | 337 |
| Private yoga, dance studios | **45.2% (152)** | 23.8% (80) | 25.9% (87) | 5.1% (17) | 336 |
| School gyms and facilities | **51.2% (171)** | 11.4% (38) | 26.9% (90) | 10.5% (35) | 334 |
| | | | | **answered question** | **344** |
| | | | | **skipped question** | **67** |

## 10. What other recreation facilities and programs OUTSIDE of Teton Valley do you use and how often do you use them?

| | Never | 1x/month | 1-3x/week | Every day | Rating Count |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Jackson Recreation Center | **42.0% (139)** | 39.6% (131) | 17.8% (59) | 0.6% (2) | 331 |
| Pinedale Recreation Center | **96.6% (311)** | 2.8% (9) | 0.6% (2) | 0.0% (0) | 322 |
| Rexburg Water Park | **75.2% (245)** | 22.7% (74) | 2.1% (7) | 0.0% (0) | 326 |
| Green Canyon Hot Springs | **69.7% (230)** | 27.9% (92) | 2.4% (8) | 0.0% (0) | 330 |
| Idaho Falls Aquatic Center | **93.8% (304)** | 5.6% (18) | 0.6% (2) | 0.0% (0) | 324 |
| | | | | Other (please specify) | 47 |
| | | | | **answered question** | **335** |
| | | | | **skipped question** | **76** |

## 11. If you do not currently use parks and recreation facilities in Teton Valley, what are your reasons?

| | Response Percent | Response Count |
|---|---|---|
| No time | 9.4% | 19 |
| **Lack of facilities** | **62.9%** | **127** |
| Don't know what is available | 13.4% | 27 |
| Not interested | 9.4% | 19 |
| Poorly maintained | 3.5% | 7 |
| Not safe | 0.0% | 0 |
| Too crowded | 1.5% | 3 |
| | Other (please specify) | 29 |
| | **answered question** | **202** |
| | **skipped question** | **209** |

## 12. If additional funding was available what would be your TOP THREE priorities for how the money would be used?

| | Response Percent | Response Count |
|---|---|---|
| Improving or constructing FORMAL PARKS | 19.9% | 68 |
| Improving ACCESS TO PUBLIC LAND | 28.2% | 96 |
| Improving ACCESS TO RIVERS | 14.4% | 49 |
| Improving the ICE RINK | 22.6% | 77 |
| Improving RODEO AND EQUESTRIAN facilities | 9.4% | 32 |
| Building additional PAVED TRAILS in the County | 34.3% | 117 |
| **Building a new INDOOR RECREATION CENTER** | **78.6%** | **268** |
| Building new SPORTS FIELDS | 11.1% | 38 |
| Building new TUBING/SLEDDING HILLS | 8.2% | 28 |
| Building new TENNIS COURTS | 11.4% | 39 |
| Improving and building new BMX / CYCLOCROSS COURSES | 3.5% | 12 |
| Improving COORDINATION AND EXPANSION of recreation programs, activities and events | 34.6% | 118 |
| | Other (please specify) | 63 |
| | **answered question** | **341** |
| | **skipped question** | **70** |

## 13. If building a new indoor recreation center is one of your top three priorities, what are the TOP THREE elements you feel should be included?

| | Response Percent | Response Count |
|---|---|---|
| Gymnasium/ball courts | 29.4% | 91 |
| Rock climbing facility | 33.3% | 103 |
| **Indoor pool** | **93.5%** | **289** |
| Outdoor pool | 19.7% | 61 |
| Fitness area | 37.2% | 115 |
| Indoor track | 14.2% | 44 |
| Gymnastics area | 8.7% | 27 |
| Teen center | 18.8% | 58 |
| Community rooms | 13.9% | 43 |
| Racquetball courts | 12.9% | 40 |
| Indoor playground | 16.8% | 52 |
| Outdoor playgrounds | 3.2% | 10 |
| | Other (please specify) | 24 |
| | **answered question** | **309** |
| | **skipped question** | **102** |

## 14. Would you be willing to increase the user fees or start paying fees to help pay for maintenance of facilities as well as programs and services?

| | Response Percent | Response Count |
|---|---|---|
| **Yes** | **64.6%** | **221** |
| No | 5.6% | 19 |
| Not sure, need more information | 29.8% | 102 |
| | **answered question** | **342** |
| | **skipped question** | **69** |

## 15. How much, if any, would you be willing to increase your property taxes to help fund your parks and recreation priorities including better maintaining existing facilities as well as build additional facilities?

| | Response Percent | Response Count |
|---|---|---|
| $250 / yr | 16.9% | 58 |
| $200 / yr | 8.7% | 30 |
| $150 / yr | 10.2% | 35 |
| $100 / yr | 17.4% | 60 |
| $50 / yr | 13.4% | 46 |
| $0, would not support a tax increase | 9.9% | 34 |
| **Not sure, need more information** | **23.5%** | **81** |
| | **answered question** | **344** |
| | **skipped question** | **67** |

**16. One of the possible options for managing existing parks and recreation opportunities and constructing new facilities is to form a Teton County Recreation District. A Recreation District is run by an elected Board of Directors and is able to issue bonds to fund construction of new facilities. Would you be willing to increase your property taxes for this purpose? Or, if you are a renter, would you be willing to see your rent increase to offset the tax increase?**

| | Response Percent | Response Count |
|---|---|---|
| **Yes** | **58.8%** | **200** |
| No | 11.8% | 40 |
| Not sure, need more information | 29.4% | 100 |
| | **answered question** | **340** |
| | **skipped question** | **71** |

**17. Another option for funding improvements and new facilities is an increase in sales tax within the cities, which would affect both residents and visitors. How much, if any, would you be willing to increase sales tax to fund recreation improvements and facilities? The current total local sales tax rate is 6.5% within Driggs and Victor.**

| | Response Percent | Response Count |
|---|---|---|
| **0.25%** | **30.8%** | **106** |
| **0.50%** | **30.8%** | **106** |
| None, I don't support sales tax increase | 19.2% | 66 |
| Not sure, need more information | 19.2% | 66 |
| | **answered question** | **344** |
| | **skipped question** | **67** |

## 18. How do you feel the operation and maintenance of recreation facilities should be funded?

| | Response Percent | Response Count |
|---|---|---|
| 100% from taxes | 2.1% | 7 |
| **Mostly taxes, a little from user fees** | **45.9%** | **155** |
| Mostly through user fees, a little from taxes | 41.7% | 141 |
| 100% from user fees | 10.4% | 35 |
| | **answered question** | **338** |
| | **skipped question** | **73** |

## 19. Any other comments?

| | Response Count |
|---|---|
| | 104 |
| **answered question** | **104** |
| **skipped question** | **307** |

| Page 5, Q10. What other recreation facilities and programs OUTSIDE of Teton Valley do you use and how often do you use them? | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Teton pass trails, Jackson trails, JHMR trails | Nov 13, 2013 1:51 PM |
| 2 | Rigby Lake | Nov 12, 2013 11:47 AM |
| 3 | Heisie | Nov 9, 2013 8:19 AM |
| 4 | We use the Jackson Rec Center 1-3x/month. We use the bike pathways in Jackson and within GTNP. | Nov 7, 2013 1:33 PM |
| 5 | Heise Hot Springs - 1x per month | Nov 6, 2013 8:05 AM |
| 6 | Ashton has great swimming lessons for kids, enclosure climbing gym in Jackson and skiing at the village | Nov 5, 2013 10:23 PM |
| 7 | Heise Hot Springs | Nov 3, 2013 7:15 PM |
| 8 | spinning classes in Jackson | Nov 2, 2013 7:29 AM |
| 9 | Heritage Arena | Nov 1, 2013 2:44 PM |
| 10 | national forests @ rivers outside teton valley | Nov 1, 2013 9:52 AM |
| 11 | Enclosure Rock Gym 1x/month | Oct 31, 2013 6:58 PM |
| 12 | hiking/cross country in GTNP.... monthly | Oct 31, 2013 3:39 PM |
| 13 | Heise hot springs | Oct 31, 2013 11:05 AM |
| 14 | Heise Hotsprings | Oct 31, 2013 9:55 AM |
| 15 | Grand Teton National Park | Oct 31, 2013 9:05 AM |
| 16 | Nampa Recreatino Center | Oct 31, 2013 7:27 AM |
| 17 | artificial geyser = in my dreams (not really) | Oct 30, 2013 7:13 PM |
| 18 | Heise | Oct 30, 2013 6:28 PM |
| 19 | Heise, Granite Hot springs | Oct 30, 2013 6:07 PM |
| 20 | Heise Hot Springs 1x/month | Oct 30, 2013 3:03 PM |
| 21 | heise hot springs | Oct 30, 2013 3:03 PM |
| 22 | Heise | Oct 30, 2013 12:09 PM |
| 23 | Fat cats, Rexburg rapids, pathway system in Jackson | Oct 30, 2013 12:09 PM |
| 24 | Granite hot springs,lava,heise, | Oct 30, 2013 12:00 PM |
| 25 | Heise Hiot Springs | Oct 30, 2013 11:49 AM |
| 26 | Targhee Swimming pool - summer only | Oct 30, 2013 11:32 AM |

| Page 5, Q10. What other recreation facilities and programs OUTSIDE of Teton Valley do you use and how often do you use them? | | |
|---|---|---|
| 27 | heise hot springs | Oct 30, 2013 9:03 AM |
| 28 | Snow King SEC(Ice Arena) | Oct 29, 2013 3:24 PM |
| 29 | Heise Hot Springs | Oct 29, 2013 10:05 AM |
| 30 | Jackson Golf and Tennis for the tennis bubble | Oct 28, 2013 8:54 PM |
| 31 | Enclosure, Climbing Gym, Jackson | Oct 28, 2013 7:34 PM |
| 32 | Heisse hot springs 2x winter | Oct 28, 2013 4:35 PM |
| 33 | heise hot springs | Oct 28, 2013 3:49 PM |
| 34 | I use pools wherever they are . We need an indoor pool in this valley | Oct 28, 2013 1:56 PM |
| 35 | I use Granite Canyon hotsprings year round. | Oct 28, 2013 11:58 AM |
| 36 | Heise Hot Springs | Oct 28, 2013 11:20 AM |
| 37 | Idaho falls hockey rink, Jackson hockey rink | Oct 28, 2013 8:48 AM |
| 38 | nordic ski trails in Jackson, West Yellowstone and Sun Valley | Oct 28, 2013 6:25 AM |
| 39 | Enclosure rock gym 3-5 times per wk | Oct 27, 2013 10:43 AM |
| 40 | Swimming | Oct 26, 2013 3:25 PM |
| 41 | Ashton/ North Fremont outdoor pool | Oct 25, 2013 9:43 PM |
| 42 | Granite hot springs, Heise hotsprings, rock gym in jackson | Oct 25, 2013 9:07 PM |
| 43 | Heise Hot Springs - 1x/month | Oct 25, 2013 8:08 PM |
| 44 | Teton Sports Club - Wilson, WY | Oct 25, 2013 5:17 PM |
| 45 | Dancers workshop jackson | Oct 25, 2013 4:53 PM |
| 46 | iJUMP, National Parks | Oct 25, 2013 3:32 PM |
| 47 | Fitness facility at work | Oct 25, 2013 3:23 PM |

| Page 5, Q11. If you do not currently use parks and recreation facilities in Teton Valley, what are your reasons? | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | A public, indoor swimming facility is really needed. | Nov 11, 2013 12:42 PM |
| 2 | Swimming pool | Nov 6, 2013 11:33 AM |
| 3 | too much alcohol. overserving. | Nov 5, 2013 8:39 PM |
| 4 | We need a pool, period. | Nov 4, 2013 11:56 AM |
| 5 | wish there was more in town of Driggs or Tetonia | Nov 4, 2013 11:40 AM |
| 6 | I Coach & Play w/ Teams and Friends - I wish our Fields and Facilities were better Maintained | Nov 3, 2013 7:24 AM |
| 7 | do most activities at home | Oct 31, 2013 6:29 PM |
| 8 | Mixture of all of these reasons. | Oct 31, 2013 1:46 PM |
| 9 | We use what is available, as often as possible | Oct 31, 2013 9:12 AM |
| 10 | Too many 4-wheelers poaching trails | Oct 31, 2013 7:36 AM |
| 11 | Mostly bike paths, ski trails maintained by TVTAP | Oct 30, 2013 1:22 PM |
| 12 | Wish we had more stuff for kids and adults to share | Oct 30, 2013 12:09 PM |
| 13 | Don't have kids | Oct 30, 2013 12:00 PM |
| 14 | Too far away | Oct 30, 2013 11:12 AM |
| 15 | We find our own recreation | Oct 30, 2013 3:35 AM |
| 16 | Swimming Pool would be great, but would need to be self-sustaining. Not sure feasible. | Oct 29, 2013 10:00 AM |
| 17 | Would love to use public pool, indoor climbing and basketball/volleyball/tennis courts here if they existed! Green Canyon pool is close enough but too scuzzy for us to enjoy, so we basically don't swim. | Oct 29, 2013 9:56 AM |
| 18 | Too costly--private facilities (pools/fitness centers) | Oct 29, 2013 9:19 AM |
| 19 | Need a pool and rec center | Oct 28, 2013 4:28 PM |
| 20 | There is no pool here | Oct 28, 2013 1:56 PM |
| 21 | No need | Oct 27, 2013 11:45 AM |
| 22 | There is no indoor climbing or swimming | Oct 27, 2013 10:43 AM |
| 23 | My children are too old. They play school sports now and really only use school facilities. | Oct 26, 2013 2:10 PM |
| 24 | Too far away | Oct 25, 2013 6:52 PM |
| 25 | Live out of state (Georgia) and visit in May and October | Oct 25, 2013 4:29 PM |

| Page 5, Q11. If you do not currently use parks and recreation facilities in Teton Valley, what are your reasons? | | |
|---|---|---|
| 26 | what parks and recreation facilities ? theres two parks and a crowded soccer field. | Oct 25, 2013 4:21 PM |
| 27 | nothing really close enough for our busy family | Oct 25, 2013 3:48 PM |
| 28 | Need a pool!!!' | Oct 25, 2013 3:17 PM |
| 29 | dont live here | Oct 25, 2013 2:58 PM |

| Page 6, Q12. If additional funding was available what would be your TOP THREE priorities for how the money would be used? | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | motorized access for disabled | Nov 15, 2013 7:06 AM |
| 2 | More snow biking trails available | Nov 12, 2013 6:32 PM |
| 3 | Improving Forest Service access for motorized vehicles | Nov 12, 2013 11:49 AM |
| 4 | Would prefer a flexible pool facility that allowed it to be outdoors in the summer and under a bubble in the winter in hopes that it would be less of a germ fest. I would also like it to be a salt water vs. a chlorinated pool. | Nov 11, 2013 9:04 AM |
| 5 | POOL | Nov 7, 2013 10:02 PM |
| 6 | More mountain bike trails. | Nov 7, 2013 1:35 PM |
| 7 | Hiring full time rec staff. | Nov 6, 2013 4:18 PM |
| 8 | Swimming pool | Nov 6, 2013 11:36 AM |
| 9 | Specifically trails leading from town and connecting to fs/blm land and trails. | Nov 5, 2013 10:25 PM |
| 10 | more open trails for snowmachining | Nov 5, 2013 8:41 PM |
| 11 | Swimming Pool PLEASE | Nov 5, 2013 8:29 AM |
| 12 | TOWN POOL OR WATER PARK!!!!!!!(in Driggs, not Victor) | Nov 4, 2013 11:45 AM |
| 13 | Ice rink & indoor recreation are about the same category | Nov 4, 2013 7:12 AM |
| 14 | A swimming pool | Nov 3, 2013 9:21 AM |
| 15 | building a public indoor pool | Nov 2, 2013 7:31 AM |
| 16 | An indoor aquatic center would be a tremendous asset for youth and adults alike | Nov 1, 2013 6:04 AM |
| 17 | Rock Gym | Oct 31, 2013 6:59 PM |
| 18 | More extensive nordic trails with better grooming equipment | Oct 31, 2013 6:09 PM |
| 19 | Improving mountain bike trails | Oct 31, 2013 11:01 AM |
| 20 | Pave roads instead of paved paths. Then you have options instead of riding the same ole rail trail crap. | Oct 31, 2013 10:29 AM |
| 21 | mountain bike trails, bike paths | Oct 31, 2013 10:08 AM |
| 22 | Public swimming pool | Oct 31, 2013 9:13 AM |
| 23 | Priority 1 - more non motorized trails | Oct 31, 2013 7:38 AM |
| 24 | Trail Signage and Parking - Trails are great but you have to know the risks and where you are going and where you are for that matter...real trail signage! | Oct 31, 2013 7:29 AM |
| 25 | shooting range | Oct 31, 2013 6:50 AM |

| Page 6, Q12. If additional funding was available what would be your TOP THREE priorities for how the money would be used? | | |
|---|---|---|
| 26 | Indoor swimming pool | Oct 30, 2013 9:29 PM |
| 27 | Adopting current disc golf coarse and adding 9 more holes. Also deal with the noxious weed and mosquito breeding ground that the current disc golf coarse harbors, possibly with controlled burns and ground high ground water management in lat | Oct 30, 2013 3:50 PM |
| 28 | SWIMMING | Oct 30, 2013 3:19 PM |
| 29 | skateboard park | Oct 30, 2013 12:29 PM |
| 30 | Need indoor pool big enough for laps | Oct 30, 2013 12:04 PM |
| 31 | PUBLIC swimming pool! | Oct 30, 2013 11:58 AM |
| 32 | Indoor swimming pool | Oct 30, 2013 11:33 AM |
| 33 | Large outdoor facillity for music (Like Music on Main) | Oct 30, 2013 11:24 AM |
| 34 | more motorcycle single track trails | Oct 30, 2013 10:50 AM |
| 35 | I would not want more funding | Oct 30, 2013 3:36 AM |
| 36 | Pool/ Climbing Gym | Oct 29, 2013 11:14 PM |
| 37 | swimming pool and rec center for youth | Oct 29, 2013 1:52 PM |
| 38 | Creating and coordinating after school programs for kids (and working parents!) | Oct 29, 2013 10:15 AM |
| 39 | like outdoor ice...pls do not make an indoor only rink! | Oct 29, 2013 10:07 AM |
| 40 | Swimming poo, swimming pool, swimming pool. 1,2, 3. | Oct 29, 2013 9:58 AM |
| 41 | Building a swimming pool | Oct 29, 2013 9:38 AM |
| 42 | building expanding trails system (not necessarily paved) | Oct 29, 2013 9:22 AM |
| 43 | Swimming facility that is affordable | Oct 29, 2013 9:13 AM |
| 44 | Fis the roads before you spend money on things we have. | Oct 29, 2013 7:59 AM |
| 45 | Stop intruding on private land owners | Oct 29, 2013 7:20 AM |
| 46 | Indoor pool | Oct 28, 2013 9:37 PM |
| 47 | Swimming pool for laps and rehab | Oct 28, 2013 8:37 PM |
| 48 | Indoor Climbing | Oct 28, 2013 7:35 PM |
| 49 | INDOOR SWIMMING POOL | Oct 28, 2013 5:21 PM |
| 50 | swimming pool | Oct 28, 2013 4:13 PM |

| Page 6, Q12. If additional funding was available what would be your TOP THREE priorities for how the money would be used? | | |
|---|---|---|
| 51 | POOL | Oct 28, 2013 3:57 PM |
| 52 | indoor pool | Oct 28, 2013 1:57 PM |
| 53 | There aren't enough options for specified classes like child dance classes, swimming lessons, rock climbing, jr jazz program, ballet, child art classes etc. | Oct 27, 2013 3:33 PM |
| 54 | Indoor Pool | Oct 27, 2013 12:44 PM |
| 55 | 25 meter swimming pool | Oct 27, 2013 9:20 AM |
| 56 | Indoor swimming | Oct 26, 2013 3:26 PM |
| 57 | quit spending money | Oct 26, 2013 6:16 AM |
| 58 | Black box theater | Oct 25, 2013 9:08 PM |
| 59 | Swimming pool | Oct 25, 2013 8:51 PM |
| 60 | Indoor salt water pool | Oct 25, 2013 8:19 PM |
| 61 | Library in Driggs | Oct 25, 2013 4:54 PM |
| 62 | SWIMMING POOL | Oct 25, 2013 4:22 PM |
| 63 | We need a POOL! | Oct 25, 2013 3:20 PM |

| Page 6, Q13. If building a new indoor recreation center is one of your top three priorities, what are the TOP THREE elements you feel should be included? | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | motorized use for disabled | Nov 15, 2013 7:06 AM |
| 2 | I'm against a tax payer funded recreation center | Nov 12, 2013 11:49 AM |
| 3 | see previous other above | Nov 11, 2013 9:04 AM |
| 4 | Swimming Pool PLEASE | Nov 5, 2013 8:29 AM |
| 5 | I'd love an indoor/outdoor pool if possible or indoor pool and outdoor water park | Nov 4, 2013 11:45 AM |
| 6 | i am very apposed to building a recreation center at this time. | Nov 3, 2013 10:02 PM |
| 7 | NOT A PRIORITY, REPEAT, NOT A PRIORITY! | Nov 3, 2013 2:58 PM |
| 8 | indoor tennis courts | Nov 2, 2013 10:07 PM |
| 9 | My children are now grown but the lack of venues for them as teenagers was the one thing lacking from this beautiful valley. I would love to see an indoor recreation center that facilitated healthy and fun activities for teenagers. | Nov 1, 2013 6:04 AM |
| 10 | It's a no brainer - Go look at the Nampa Rec Center - Outstanding work there and they started with the above 3 - http://www.nampaparksandrecreation.org/RecCenter/Index.aspx | Oct 31, 2013 7:29 AM |
| 11 | Indoor tennis courts | Oct 30, 2013 9:29 PM |
| 12 | public showers | Oct 30, 2013 7:15 PM |
| 13 | Table tennis tables | Oct 30, 2013 3:50 PM |
| 14 | indoor rink | Oct 30, 2013 3:04 PM |
| 15 | gym/ball and rock climbing a close 4th! | Oct 30, 2013 12:03 PM |
| 16 | Indoor horse arena. Like Jackson's | Oct 30, 2013 11:15 AM |
| 17 | Outdoor tennis and basketball courts | Oct 30, 2013 11:10 AM |
| 18 | I don't support more funding | Oct 30, 2013 3:36 AM |
| 19 | Riding Arena for inclement weather-yearound | Oct 29, 2013 9:01 PM |
| 20 | This is NOT a sustainable investment for Teton Valley | Oct 29, 2013 9:46 AM |
| 21 | background checks for all workers and volutneers | Oct 29, 2013 9:14 AM |
| 22 | WE DON"T NEED THIS!!!! Improve what we have and can be done easily for a huge return, please. | Oct 28, 2013 12:21 PM |
| 23 | use what we have and quit spending money | Oct 26, 2013 6:16 AM |
| 24 | Martial arts | Oct 25, 2013 8:19 PM |

| Page 8, Q19. Any other comments? | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | no more closure of motorized trails | Nov 15, 2013 7:07 AM |
| 2 | We do not need another taxing district!!! It will only grow and become out of control like our fire district has become. | Nov 13, 2013 4:16 PM |
| 3 | Connect the 'bathtub ring' multi use trail system ASAP. Thanks! | Nov 13, 2013 1:53 PM |
| 4 | We need a recreation center and sports facilities here...I dream of a rec center similar to Jackson's where my family can participate in wholesome activities! | Nov 13, 2013 1:19 PM |
| 5 | indoor pool top improvement for teton valley. More pathways well. | Nov 12, 2013 8:47 PM |
| 6 | I would like to see more snow biking areas / opportunities. Additionally, I would be interested in curling opportunities at the ice rink. | Nov 12, 2013 6:33 PM |
| 7 | I'm opposed to a tax payer funded recreation center. | Nov 12, 2013 11:50 AM |
| 8 | In regards to user fees, I feel there should be delineation between local and visitor fees. It is possible that more money could be generated from visitor user fees that could help to offset an increase in taxes. It would be nice to spread the impact instead of the residents getting hit twice - tax increase and higher user fees. | Nov 11, 2013 12:47 PM |
| 9 | The biggest need/want is probably an indoor pool, which this community may not yet be able to afford, but should be a goal for the future. | Nov 7, 2013 1:39 PM |
| 10 | I found the question about satisfaction with trails, paved paths, etc. to be confusing. I like what we have, but see huge room for improvement. | Nov 7, 2013 8:23 AM |
| 11 | As my kids are getting older and becoming more involved with sports, we are finding a big shortage in both outdoor fields ( in the fall - soccer, football, etc), and gymnasium space ( basketball, volleyball, indoor soccer, etc.). Even now I have to drive my kid to basketball practice at the Tetonia school gym twice a week, and it isn't even peak "Indoor season." A " rec center" - would need to include gym space, and hopefully a pool, as I drive to Jackson, Green Canyon, or Idaho Falls for a pool now. It would be a good draw for the community to have better rec facilities - indoor and outdoor. Nice facilities could draw in more visitors to the Valley - especially if facilities were adequate to allow tournaments (baseball/ softball, soccer, basketball, volleyball, swimming?, etc). | Nov 6, 2013 11:06 PM |
| 12 | An official rec district would help enhance the attraction of our valley for residents, potential residents and visitors. This would carry over into jobs and more business opportunity. It is a vital social service in this day and age. | Nov 6, 2013 4:25 PM |
| 13 | I think it is important to keep the user fees reasonable so that low-income families and seniors would have access to the facility and its programs. | Nov 6, 2013 11:39 AM |
| 14 | We need to form a recreation taxing district to fund a facility similar to Jacksons. The youth in this valley need more opportunities for organized sports, and the adult will benefit too. This may help decrease the horribly high rate of youth suicides. | Nov 6, 2013 8:16 AM |
| 15 | I would be very interested to know what sites would be considered for a rec center but would love to have one in Teton Valley. | Nov 6, 2013 6:45 AM |

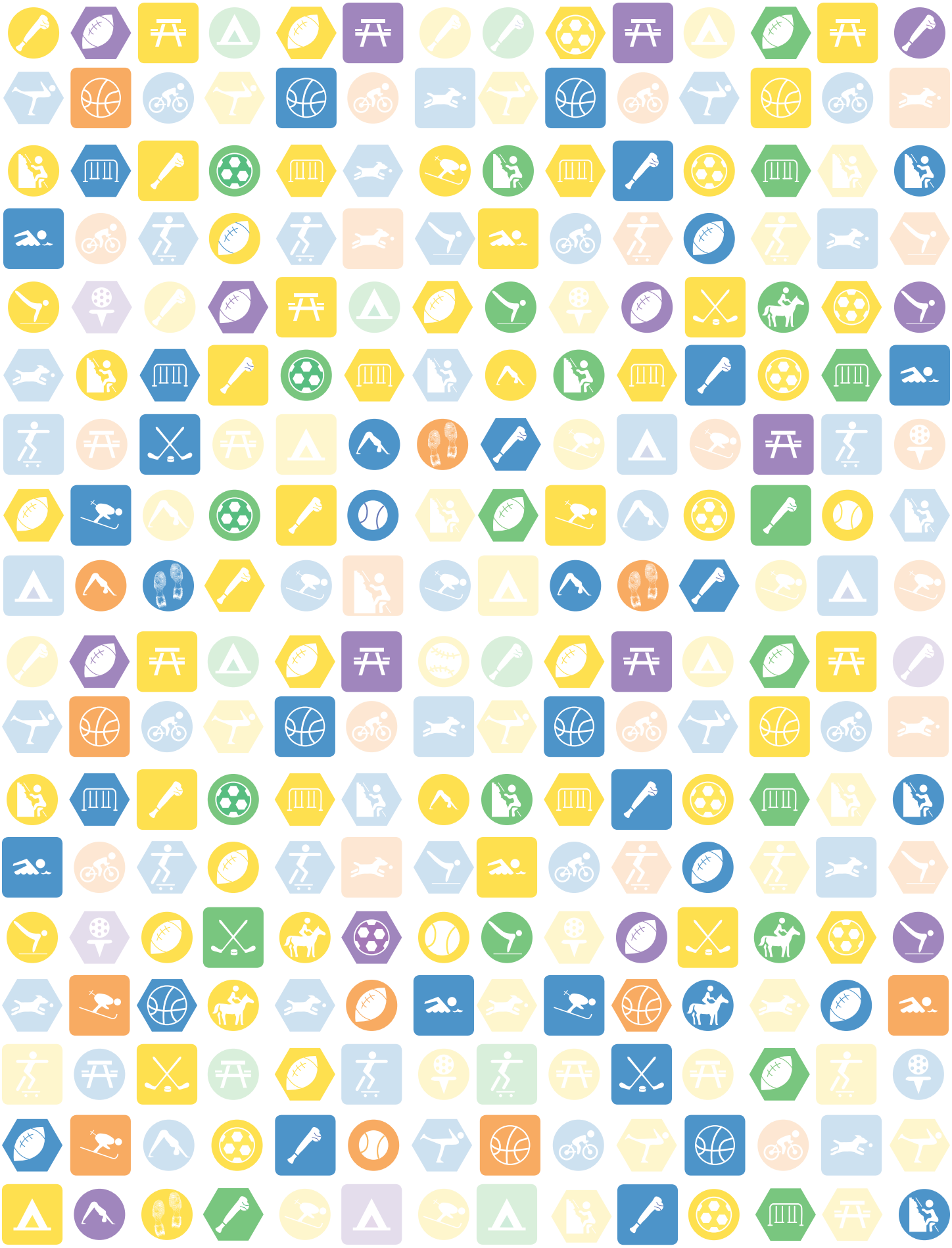
| Page 8, Q19. Any other comments? | | |
|---|---|---|
| 16 | We live in a great outdoor playground already, with access to swimming pools, rock walls in Jackson, and nearby areas. I am barely making it financially now as it is. I can't afford to subsidize other people's recreation, when recreation exists all around. | Nov 5, 2013 8:44 PM |
| 17 | The lack of indoor recreation facilities is very poor in Teton Valley. We have a very active community with many families that need more indoor options especially during the winter months. Our summer pathways are fine. All though I love them, less money needs to go into summer activities (pathways, parks, music...) and more NEEDS to go into indoor facilities like a pool, gym, track, courts, etc. These poor kids have no options and is why they get into trouble. Please, please build an indoor pool and rec center. WE NEED IT to have a healthy community. | Nov 5, 2013 10:51 AM |
| 18 | Just get it done. Teton Valley is embarrassing when it comes to recreation opportunities for you youth. It makes me sick that we can't even teach your children how to swim without paying an arm and a leg to a private resort. | Nov 5, 2013 8:31 AM |
| 19 | I like the idea of a sales tax to cover the costs as there is a shared burden. when it is just property owners carrying the cost of community services a strong resentment builds that can rip apart a community. as many of these services will be used by day trippers, a sales tax will capture some of their funds to cover their share. a smart idea. | Nov 5, 2013 8:17 AM |
| 20 | I didn't mark teen center, but do believe it would be a great use of the facility. I assume if there were rooms built - teen activities could be implemented. | Nov 4, 2013 12:01 PM |
| 21 | Thank You!!!!!!! | Nov 4, 2013 11:47 AM |
| 22 | If this ends in a board that oversees recreation, I would hope it would be structured such that all interests are fairly listened to and the BOCC cannot derail projects or put through their pet projects for their buddies. | Nov 4, 2013 8:45 AM |
| 23 | Due to to the slow growth in the valley economy an additional tax is a very bad idea now. | Nov 3, 2013 10:09 PM |
| 24 | Plenty of recreational opportunities without a Rec. Center. NO REC CENTER, PLEASE! | Nov 3, 2013 3:00 PM |
| 25 | If a tax increase could not support ALL of the different recreation categories, then I would probably be more in favor of user fees and less in favor of tax increases. (It would be frustrating to see a large increase in one's property taxes and not see improvements in one's specific interests.) I guess I would like to see the results of this survey showing the breakdown of peoples' interests and priorities before deciding if I would be more in favor of user fees or tax increases. | Nov 2, 2013 10:10 PM |
| 26 | Focus on improving the ice rink and building a pool. | Nov 2, 2013 9:04 PM |
| 27 | Swimming pool!!!!! | Nov 2, 2013 6:03 PM |
| 28 | Can we put something pleasing into the city center adjacent to TISA? A climbing wall would be great. A Teen Center is also needed in the valley. | Nov 2, 2013 7:36 AM |

| Page 8, Q19. Any other comments? | | |
|---|---|---|
| 29 | We drive to jackson to use their recreation facilities; here in Teton valley we use the BMX cyclocross, skatepark, ice rink, and gymnastics in Driggs. We live in Teton springs but swimming is too cost prohibitive (in order to be a member). | Nov 2, 2013 6:31 AM |
| 30 | There are resources available to public agencies who are trying to start parks & recreation programs. Go to www.nrpa.org. Also, TVRA tried to pass a Recreation District some years ago. You might want to check their files to see the analysis of why it was defeated. | Nov 1, 2013 11:16 AM |
| 31 | You blew it for question 5. You did not include boating. You have fishing only. This misleads the value and importance of River use (other than fishing) and river access. | Nov 1, 2013 7:25 AM |
| 32 | Thank you for asking for input, and good luck with the project! | Nov 1, 2013 6:05 AM |
| 33 | Thanks for doing this survey | Oct 31, 2013 6:47 PM |
| 34 | too many questions survey should be sreamlined | Oct 31, 2013 6:33 PM |
| 35 | I am somewhat reluctant to see a separate authority or district with its own taxing authority as this can hurt school funding and other basic services. | Oct 31, 2013 3:46 PM |
| 36 | The steel hanger north of the middle school would be a great location to schools and would repurpose a huge eyesore. Just an idea, but an indoor pool would be an amazing asset for our valley and would save the hundreds of trips over the pass for parents. Keep up the good work! This is an important initiative! Lane Valiante | Oct 31, 2013 11:25 AM |
| 37 | Can we take all of that rodeo arena money and use it to build a recreation center instead? | Oct 31, 2013 10:38 AM |
| 38 | Do a better job with what you have instead of trying to create everything and do it half way. | Oct 31, 2013 10:33 AM |
| 39 | Building a rec center and corresponding rec district with fuller programs would be an important part of an economic development strategy for Teton Valley, would increase property values and create revenue. It would give our kids more to do year-round and could also help teens find meaningful things to do. A win-win for everyone! | Oct 31, 2013 10:00 AM |
| 40 | We travel a lot throughout Idaho and California for bike races, when we leave Teton Valley we wonder if we'll find something better. Yet, upon returning, we always agree that Teton Valley is our home, that we live here because it's the most beautiful place we've been. However, because we've taken the oppurtunity to be in some very cool places, what we see is lacking in our Valley is an Honor of Community. The infrastructure and policies inplace here are going further backwards in time than forward. What we love about places we visit are the obvious pride in community they posses; clean parks, trailer homes in trailer parks (vs. scattered throughout town limits), REC CENTERS, swimming pools, weedless tennis courts. Teton Valley is an UNBELIEVABLY beautiful place that we feel very lucky to call home, but quite frankly the towns are an embarrasment. Tourism is what keeps us alive as a viable community and business owners, let's give residents and visitors a place to be proud of!!!! | Oct 31, 2013 9:25 AM |

| Page 8, Q19. Any other comments? | | |
|---|---|---|
| 41 | We don't need another elected committee in the valley. The existing elected officials are a joke. The Chamber is run like a knitting circle and is ridiculous inefficient. If we can take our limited resources to put together a indoor recreational facility that is first rate and maintained through user fees it would be outstanding! I can't swim at Teton Springs or Targhee at their affordable prices. Trail riding, running and walking will be a significant tourist opportunity in the coming years. This was created by Teton Pass and has grown through the Jackson and Teton Valley significantly in the past 5 years. What we need is professional signage and parking for visitors. There is a website http://tetonmtb.com, shops, there are maps, there is lodging, dining, there are events...the trail signage is the worst I have ever seen anywhere! Considerations at some trails for this to be viable and maintainable in the near future. Look at what Targhee has done, it is going to be amazingly helpful beyond the existing recreational opportunities that have been here for a long time. This is new...put your best foot forward. | Oct 31, 2013 7:37 AM |
| 42 | Recreation facility with weight rooms and pool are high priority. Most progressive and healthy cities support them | Oct 31, 2013 7:34 AM |
| 43 | What about talking with the YMCA and trying for an Idaho Falls branch here in the Tetons? | Oct 31, 2013 7:07 AM |
| 44 | Good luck! | Oct 31, 2013 6:51 AM |
| 45 | I think we pay too much for our Fire District and that money should be shifted toward a recreation district. | Oct 31, 2013 5:29 AM |
| 46 | Good start. Keep the momentum up and moving forward. | Oct 30, 2013 11:01 PM |
| 47 | Top priority should be connected Driggs to Tetonia bike path (paved or unpaved). This be great for the valley and for the future expansion over the pass to make a greater Yellowstone loop. Thanks! | Oct 30, 2013 7:19 PM |
| 48 | Thanks! | Oct 30, 2013 6:09 PM |
| 49 | Great survey! | Oct 30, 2013 5:05 PM |
| 50 | Rail-trail link between Driggs and Tetonia should be priority. Also protect rail corridor to Horseshoe. | Oct 30, 2013 4:25 PM |
| 51 | A swimming pool should be top priority with long winters and to teach kids how to swim without breaking the parents wallet. | Oct 30, 2013 3:56 PM |
| 52 | We need for the Caribou-Targhee NF to reopen their travel plan and change the formula by which they calculate appropriate trail densities. We need more trails/ better trails and connectivity, especially in the BigHoles. | Oct 30, 2013 3:40 PM |
| 53 | Swimming is for all ages, from baby to grave-which you may achieve faster without good swimming skills. It also works for Familys as well as individuals and can be part of the school curriculum. Swimming is also for the infirm and healthy alike. | Oct 30, 2013 3:28 PM |
| 54 | can't hunt in the summer, it is more of a fall activity | Oct 30, 2013 3:08 PM |

| Page 8, Q19. Any other comments? | | |
|---|---|---|
| 55 | swimming and ice skating seem to be the most popular choices without alternatives in the valley. | Oct 30, 2013 3:07 PM |
| 56 | pool, pool, pool! Could the school district be part of having a pool? | Oct 30, 2013 2:06 PM |
| 57 | there needs to be more opportunity for recreation for kids especially in the winter. A lot of kids in the area don't know how to swim because there aren't opportunities to learn in the valley except a few months in the summer which is not sufficient. | Oct 30, 2013 1:57 PM |
| 58 | Public pool (indoor) is the main amenity we really lack here and would add great value to the community. Would also LOVE to see great effort put toward continuing the bike/walk pathway between Driggs & Tetonia. | Oct 30, 2013 1:08 PM |
| 59 | We need an indoor pool!! | Oct 30, 2013 1:00 PM |
| 60 | We need to increase our population, business friendly zoning, tax incentives, and recreational opportunities across the valley | Oct 30, 2013 12:52 PM |
| 61 | I would like to see what a .5 tax increase would raise, then see where we could obtain more financial support | Oct 30, 2013 12:14 PM |
| 62 | thanks for asking our opinion and exploring these options. lots of ideas and ways to do it- best of luck! | Oct 30, 2013 12:04 PM |
| 63 | Pool!! | Oct 30, 2013 11:52 AM |
| 64 | As part time resident I pay lots of taxes (no homeowner exemption) and use tax supported facilities, roads and schools etc only 20% of a full time resident. Heavy supporter of 501c3 groups like Tin Cup but dislike more taxes like education or other bonds. | Oct 30, 2013 11:34 AM |
| 65 | It would be great to see a rec center established in Driggs. Also improving the bike-ability of the valley would be great. | Oct 30, 2013 11:23 AM |
| 66 | Rec commissioners should be appointed not elected and no more than 5 members. Easier to get qualified people if they don't have to run a campaign | Oct 30, 2013 11:20 AM |
| 67 | Get rid of Parks/Kunz! | Oct 30, 2013 10:51 AM |
| 68 | I feel that more than enough has been done for bicyclists in this area. I would not support any money going towards more bike paths when all roads are empty to ride on anyway. I would like other sports to get the facilities they need. | Oct 30, 2013 10:36 AM |
| 69 | We need a public pool and workout facility in Teton Valley that is affordable for the general public and offers drop-in day rates for visitors (and not private like Teton Springs or Targhee, which are cost prohibitive and exclusive for many people in Teton Valley; the private gyms like Anytime Fitness are also expensive for many). Further, there was only one section in this long survey about yoga (in the existing facilities section). Having fitness classes like yoga, Zumba, etc. (similar to the Jackson Rec Center) seems like a great way to generate user fees and offer more options for the community. | Oct 30, 2013 8:54 AM |
| 70 | don't feel I need to pay more taxes for maintaining bike paths. | Oct 30, 2013 8:35 AM |

| Page 8, Q19. Any other comments? | | |
|---|---|---|
| 71 | I do not support a recreation district, or a recreation master plan | Oct 30, 2013 3:37 AM |
| 72 | Need more info...this is a good starting point. Tax increases have been very steady lately. Care should be used in saddling property owners with more. Bonds keep happening after the fact. Maintenance and upkeep should definitely be factored during this process. | Oct 29, 2013 9:04 PM |
| 73 | Don't forget facilities like DreamChasers. It might not be as "permanent" as some other facilities, but it is a good exercise outlet. I would really really like an indoor pool, but don't think it is a cost-effective proposition at this point. There are basically three places to road bike: to Targhee, the Cedron Loop, and to Horseshoe. Those three are great, but it'd be better if there were other safe places for riding in the County. HWY 33 is not safe for biking, in my opinion. | Oct 29, 2013 10:46 AM |
| 74 | I've long thought a rec center would be a great benefit to many people here. Won't happen though, since a certain large segment of the valley populace gives 10% off the top of their income to a certain entity, leaving no concern for the benefit of the community as a whole. | Oct 29, 2013 10:31 AM |
| 75 | How would a recreation district meld with the fair board and other entities in the county that already exist? Important to not reinvent things, but to move to a higher level of maturity and a broader view. | Oct 29, 2013 10:03 AM |
| 76 | Boy do I hope this amounts to something! It would be so great for our community to have a common, public indoor rec space, particularly a pool - for both rec purposes and social cohesion. Godspeed to you! | Oct 29, 2013 10:01 AM |
| 77 | We have a treasure of outdoor recreation opportunities. This is the beauty of Teton Valley. This is the foundation of what should be promoted, and encouraged for private investment to build on. The idea of investing in huge tax dollars into indoor recreation is foolishness. That is not why people move or live here. Let's not try to be like everyone else. Let's make ourselves unique. If people want indoor recreation, they should be the ones investing in it and paying for it, not the majority who would rarely use such facilities. | Oct 29, 2013 9:53 AM |
| 78 | Offering quality year-round rec opportunities aimed at the residents of our community (especially the youth) is SO important. We already have enough parks and outdoor facilities. It's time to have a winter option that promotes healthy lifestyle choices and gives youth an after-school option (ie; swim team or climbing club). | Oct 29, 2013 9:26 AM |
| 79 | we are in desperate need for a lap pool specifically for rehab from sports injuries. | Oct 28, 2013 8:38 PM |
| 80 | We live here, we want this, let's pay for it and do it right. It's time for all of us as a community to step up and invest in recreation and access infrastructure. Community infrastructure benefits all of us, especially those of us owning property and paying sales tax. Keep user fees to a minimum, they can never be high enough to build or maintain the cost of public infrastructure, but they are almost certain to create a barrier to entry for those who need access the most. This is an incredibly generous community. See the Tin Cup. Let's extend that spirit of giving across the board and build something we can all believe in! | Oct 28, 2013 4:34 PM |
| 81 | Please include Tetonia | Oct 28, 2013 4:15 PM |

| Page 8, Q19. Any other comments? | | |
|---|---|---|
| 82 | I have been coaching swimming in this valley for two years and in Jackson hole for longer . Pool time in Jackson is very valuable . I have also worked at the TCPR center and know a little about how the pool time is programed , a critical element when building a pool . I also have information on a three day workshop put on by usa swimming ( the largest swimming organization in this country on how to build a pool, budget for a pool and make it sustainable with cost of construction and programming . I am interested in helping in this effort but do not know who to contact . | Oct 28, 2013 2:02 PM |
| 83 | Take as long as you need. DO NOT HURRY this. It is too important to be done quickly. Know that things will change and have a plan for the good or bad of this whole thing. Be honest with us all about what you find and do the right thing. We don't need to look like Jackson to keep folks coming. Just improve what we have first and get the basics right. Good luck, this no small task. Thank you for asking for our preferences. | Oct 28, 2013 12:27 PM |
| 84 | I can't help but notice that there is already public funding/County support for a horse arena And there is a County-run fair board. I don't think any additional support is needed for that facility. Ino other words, please don't use a recreation district to just give more money to horse recreationalists who want an outdoor AND an indoor arena. That is a redundant use of public funds. | Oct 28, 2013 12:03 PM |
| 85 | a community recreation center is long overdue in this valley! Kids need healthy places to play in winter, and schools and church facilities have limited access. | Oct 28, 2013 6:29 AM |
| 86 | TAX BUSINESSES MORE, THE ONES THAT ARE ALREADY SELLING A BAG OF SUGAR FOR $7.39. THIS PLACE IS GOUGING PEOPLE BECAUSE OF THE SKI DISTRICT, HIGHLY OUT OF THE NORM FOR OTHER AREAS WHERE PEOPLE ARE JUST TRYING TO SURVIVE. PRICES IN THE ONLY GROCERY STORE WITHIN THE IMMEDIATE AREA ARE OUTRAGEOUSLY HIGH ALREADY, ONLY BECAUSE OF THE VACATION DEMOGRAPHICS, AND IT'S VERY TOUGH FOR THE AVERAGE PERSON HERE, THE AVERAGE SUPPORT STAFF TO LIVE, WITH THE HIGH COSTS OF FOOD AND CLOTHING, IT'S DIFFICULT AT BEST TO SURVIVE, ONLY TO PROVIDE SERVICES FOR THOSE WHO THIS DOESN'T MATTER TO. IT'S HIGHWAY ROBBERY AT IT'S FINEST. TAX THE VISITORS OR THE NON PERMANANT RESIDENTS MORE, AND GIVDE SUBSIDIES TO THOSE WHO LIVE HERE THE ENTIRE YEAR, THE ONES THAT MAKE VACATIONING HERE POSSIBLE FOR THE SUPER RICH. | Oct 27, 2013 6:05 PM |
| 87 | no | Oct 27, 2013 5:34 PM |
| 88 | Swimming is a growing sport among youth in Teton Valley. We need an indoor pool for fitness and access to swimming. | Oct 27, 2013 12:46 PM |
| 89 | Thank you for doing this! | Oct 27, 2013 10:45 AM |
| 90 | Pool, pool, pool! | Oct 27, 2013 9:26 AM |
| 91 | As most will say, an indoor rec center is a huge priority in my book. I think this would benefit the greatest amount of residents. Most children in our area Dont know how to swim. This is extremely sad. Teton springs and targhee are too expensive for the majority of residents. Teens also need more rec opportunities, | Oct 26, 2013 7:08 PM |

| Page 8, Q19. Any other comments? | | |
|---|---|---|
| | especially in winter. An indoor sports center could provide that. I would also like to see a paved path from Tetonia to driggs. I realize this is difficult with property rights, but the highway is too dangerous to ride on. | |
| 92 | With school financing shaky,at best, and so much of the funding of education put on the taxpayers, I don't feel that my family can also pay for recreation at this time. I need to see what's happening in the near future with education before I can possibly commit to funding anything else. | Oct 26, 2013 2:13 PM |
| 93 | Effective property tax rates in Teton County are quite low in comparison to other Idaho counties. That said, the tax should only apply to improved properties. | Oct 26, 2013 8:34 AM |
| 94 | thank you for starting this process! | Oct 26, 2013 8:15 AM |
| 95 | We already taxed to death, quit spending money | Oct 26, 2013 6:17 AM |
| 96 | Thanks for asking. | Oct 25, 2013 9:10 PM |
| 97 | Really would like to see a publc multi-use indoor arena for equestrian events, conventions, etc. | Oct 25, 2013 6:28 PM |
| 98 | We've been waiting for years for a proper Rec Center - let's get one going! | Oct 25, 2013 5:42 PM |
| 99 | None | Oct 25, 2013 4:55 PM |
| 100 | We need something for kids to do in the winter where they don't always have to be outside in snow clothes to play | Oct 25, 2013 4:14 PM |
| 101 | Rather than 1 big, all encompassing indoor rec facility located in either Driggs or Victor, I'd rather see smaller facilities in both communities. | Oct 25, 2013 3:58 PM |
| 102 | Please build a pool in Teton valley! Thanks ! | Oct 25, 2013 3:26 PM |
| 103 | We need a pool | Oct 25, 2013 3:22 PM |
| 104 | I am very supportive of an indoor pool and fitness facility. | Oct 25, 2013 2:58 PM |