# archie anderson park Master Plan Update

October 2018



# ARCHIE ANDERSON PARK Master Plan Update

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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We would like to thank all the contributors who assisted in formulating this update, including:

City of Longview Parks and Recreation Staff

**Neighborhood Partners** 

Stakeholders

**SCJ** Alliance

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SECTION 1 Introduction

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## Introduction

In 2011, the Archie Anderson Park Master Plan was a planning effort to introduce new amenities into the park system. The main focus of the 2011 planning process was enhancing the park to accommodate a large baseball facility, although decline in youth baseball participation was already underway in Longview. The 2011 Master Plan proposes the installation of additional baseball features; the provision of a water feature, community garden, and orchard area; and the construction of a community center.

The purpose of this study is to update the existing Master Plan for Archie Anderson Park, which was previously adopted in 2011, to reflect current standards and community needs. SCJ Alliance was hired as a consultant to evaluate the current needs of the City of Longview, stakeholders, and the community.

Assessment of the community's needs took place through a series of engagement efforts to determine the issues and deficiencies in the park's existing amenities, as well as the potential opportunities for improvement. The information gathered through the outreach effort was then put toward the creation of an updated Archie Anderson Park Master Plan that reflects the community's existing needs and wishes.

## Project Vision and Goals

The vision and goals that were established as part of the 2011 Master Plan were used as a baseline for this update. The purpose of this update is not to transform Archie Anderson Park into a totally new environment. Rather, the aim of the current effort is to evaluate the existing facilities, make suggestions for reuse, and propose new elements that will contribute to the park's learning opportunities, everyday functions, and overall success. Thus, based on numerous discussions with the Parks and Recreation Department, the community partners, and the stakeholders, the following goals are applicable:

- » Promote local park identity
- » Connect the park to adjacent neighborhoods
- » Balance the park's active and passive uses
- » Provide a variety of experiences for a range of different age groups
- » Provide accommodations for large groups and events
- » Design the park to function all year round

- » Provide multi-use building for indoor activities
- » Improve pedestrian flows through the park
- » Connect the park to the future Highlands Neighborhood Trail
- » Provide a variety of educational opportunities
- » Encourage outdoor learning
- » Provide more parking

## Existing Conditions

Archie Anderson Park is a 6.38 acre community park located on Alabama Street between 21st and 22nd Avenues. Over the years, Archie Anderson Park has transformed and been redeveloped consistent with the community's activity and recreational needs.

- » Since 1990, the park has been used as an active recreation park with utilizing the need for baseball fields.
- » From 1990 to 2000, an additional baseball field and a playground area were added to the park amenities to further promote active recreation.
- » From 2000 to 2005, the basketball courts were constructed, and improvements were made to the baseball facilities, including equipment storage, fencing, and concession areas.
- » From 2005 to 2013, Archie Anderson Park was at full build out with the addition of bleachers, batting cages, lights for the basketball court, and a connection to the newly constructed Highlands Neighborhood Trail.
- » From 2013 to present, the park has transformed consistent with the decline in use of the baseball facilities – removing 3 of the 4 baseball fields, dugouts, baseball fencing, bleachers, and batting cages.



### | 1990-2000

Additional baseball field and playground area added



### 2000-2005

Basketball courts constructed; improvements made to baseball facilities





**2013**–**present** Three of 4 baseball fields removed, including dugouts, fencing, bleachers, and batting cages



Bleachers and batting cages constructed; lights added to basketball courts; connection to new Highlands Neighborhood Trail constructed

### Figure 1 | Timeline of Recent Park Developments

Currently, the park offers the following amenities:

- » Park entrance sign
- » Lighted basketball courts
- » School age playground equipment
- » Toddler play area
- » Parking lot
- » Youth baseball clubhouse
- » Baseball field
- » Scoreboard
- » Dugouts
- » Baseball fencing
- » Snacks and batting cage area
- » Open lawn area
- » South access road
- » Connection to Highlands Neighborhood Trail
- » Lions' Den boxing club
- » Bleachers



# Existing Master Plan

The 2011 Master Plan was developed through a rich involvement process to ensure it would reflect the local community's needs and values. This planning process, conducted from May–November 2010, included two workshops, draft and final designs, and delivery of the final Master Plan.



- 1. Main park entrances
- 2. Community garden
- 3. Orchard
- 4. Basketball courts
- 5. Play areas
- 6. Picnic shelter
- 7. Multi-use community building
- 8. Public plaza/water play area
- 9. North parking lot
- 10. Open lawn area
- 11. T-ball field
- 12. Majors-Minors field / rookie field
- 13. Concessions / press box / restroom
- 14. Batting cage / storage
- 15. Majors-Minors field
- 16. South parking lot
- 17. Highlands Neighborhood Trail trailhead

Figure 2 | Existing Master Plan (Adopted 2011)

SECTION 2 Master Plan Update

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# **Project Timeline**

The planning process for this Master Plan Update was public and interactive. It took place over three months between April and July 2018.



# Planning and Public Outreach

## City of Longview Staff Meeting

On April 19, 2018, SCJ Alliance met with the City of Longview Parks and Recreation staff to discuss the existing conditions, existing usage, and projected future of Archie Anderson Park. From this meeting it was understood that youth baseball in the City of Longview is in decline, and therefore usage of the park for baseball games and tournaments is also in decline.

Consequently, the focus was on the future needs for Archie Anderson Park and the amenities that would best serve the Highlands Community. Amenities such as a covered pavilion, additional parking, and internal pedestrian walkways were discussed. The conversation further turned to park usership, maintenance, and security of the users and community.

A conceptual plan was drafted to address these items and is presented in Figure 5 (Concept 1).

## Stakeholder Interviews

On May 24, 2018, stakeholder interviews were held with community businesses, community leaders, City of Longview staff, and community advocates to identify issues, opportunities,

and concerns regarding the existing park and a possible future update to the Master Plan. Discussion topics included:

- » Amenities needed
- » Amenities not needed
- » Public safety concerns/issues
- » Operation and maintenance issues
- » Aesthetic and environmental issues
- » Park facilities and phasing

A categorized summary of the issues, opportunities, and concerns brought up during the stakeholder interviews is shown in Figure 3.

Another conceptual plan alternative was drafted to address the items brought up in this discussion; it is presented in Figure 6 (Concept 2).



Figure 3 | Summary of Stakeholder Input

» The chart above represents the issues, opportunities, and concerns identified by stakeholders, broadly split into six categories for the purposes of plan development. A complete list of stakeholder responses, compiled by category, can be found at right.

**AESTHETIC**/

**ENVIRONMENTAL** 

**ISSUES** (12%)

Aesthetic Suggestions (10%)

Complement buildings with same

Consider rubber internal trails – no gravel – would not look good

Change elevation throughout park

Lighting of the park – use ornamental lighting

Water feature is a good idea (not needed – nice to have)

the idea of a water feature

Rubber chip for playground

Environmental Issues/

Water feature would be nice - I like

Worried about lights and neighbors (light pollution)

Air quality – for mitigation, BMPs, landscaping?

**AMENITIES NOT** 

**NEEDED** (7.5%)

Does the park need all the parking

that's shown, considering there is on-street parking?

Most neighborhood parks do not have restrooms

If Community Center bathrooms are available during events, then no additional bathrooms are necessary

(could have outdoor restrooms attached to Community Center?)

No bathrooms - Portland Loos only

Community Garden/Orchard

Not the right place for an off-leash

Perimeter pathway may not be needed if sidewalks remain

Does the park need all of the internal

No orchard, no garden

Dog Park (<1%)

Pavilion (<1%)

Iffy on pavilion

Pathways (<2%)

dog park

paths?

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Cut down on hard surfaces for

stormwater purposes

Parking (<1%)

Restrooms (2%)

(<1%)

Consider a water feature as an

style, colors, roofing, etc.

Water feature would be nice

Keep trees

Elm trees

Green benches

alternative

#### **PUBLIC SAFETY ISSUES** (29%)

Pedestrian Safety/Traffic Calming (9%)

- Crosswalks
- Crosswalks on Alabama
- Possibly speed bumps or calming features on surrounding streets
- Crosswalks across streets is a must suggest RRFBs
- Speed bumps on 21st and 22nd traffic calming devices community Center will increase traffic on 21st and 22nd
- Crosswalks at intersections and entrances
- Marked crosswalks RRFBs should be used
- Speed limit sign
- Traffic calming
- Dangerous for kids to have "cut-through" access in park (when parking lots go all the way through from 21st to 22nd)

#### Lighting and Visibility (7%)

- Currently inadequate lighting for the park and streets street lighting and park lighting is needed (if electrical work is proposed, can street lighting be included on park side?)
- Street lighting

Buildings (4%)

relocated

- Lighting is an issue light the streets and light the park
- Better lighting on back trail (Highlands Trail) Don't block sight lines
- Too many trees maintain sight lines for safety
- Trees need to have a high canopy height
- Large shrubs can be difficult (for visibility)

**SUGGESTIONS FOR** 

PARK FACILITIES AND

**PHASING (11.5%)** 

Concession stand could be remodeled

#### ADA Accessibility (2%)

- Internal pathways need to meet ADA
- Build up park for ADA folks
- Is the walking path gravel vs. hard surface? There is an ADA compliant gravel mix that can be used

#### Discourage Illicit Activity (11%)

- Consider a "Block Watch" to look at the park
- Enforce park hours
- Park hours are important
- Pavilion will be turned into homeless shelter
- Needles Homeless activity concerns in
- pavilion
- More activity at park = less criminal activity
- Homeless concerns
- Use loud buzzing lights to discourage sleeping in the park
- Fence in the park ornamental, with gates
- Concerned about pavilion and seedy activity homeless
- Sharps containers needed
- Homeless deterrent amenities Concerns about location of
  - Community Center safety concerns

#### **OPERATIONS**/ MAINTENANCE/ **FUNDING ISSUES** (10%)

### Maintenance Issues/Concerns

- Ease of maintenance is important Inside corners are tough to mow – can be concrete or bark mulch
- Irrigation and water spigots should be provided
- Irrigation of passive recreation
- Gravel is easier to maintain for paths: hard surface is better
- Gravel paths need to be sprayed with weed control
- Maintenance of Community Garden is difficult
- No water feature (maintenance issues)

#### Pavilion Rentals (<2%)

Is the shelter available for rentals? Don't envision pavilion being rented

#### Community Center

- Ownership/Operation (<2%) Who is responsible for operation at the Community Center?
- Concerned who will own/fund/ operate Community Center building hoping the City would be responsible

#### **AMENITIES NEEDED** (30%)

#### Parking (2%)

- Increased parking is better than using
- on-street parking
- The more parking, the better More parking at the Community Center
- building

Where are the restrooms?

Kitchen and Sink (3%)

"certified" kitcher

and sink

(6%)

#### Restrooms (4%)

- Restrooms for patrons Boxing Club does not currently have a
- bathroom Restrooms should be provided – consider putting on outside of Community Center – must have restrooms

Bathrooms and drinking fountains

Summer food program – need a

Sink, refrigerator to continue program

area attached to Boxing Building

Athletic/Recreation Facilities

Soccer fields – more athletic facilities

Increased access to Highlands Trail

Provide an interactive park - exercise

Concrete extension for Lions' Den for

fitness storage and outdoor fitness areas

Frisbee golf consideration

Bocce ball court

Parkour stations

stations

Need for kitchen with sink – wherever the summer programs will be located must have sink and kitchen – could have a sink

Provide an area in pavilion for bathroom

Lions' Den is too small as it exists Expand Lions' Den building

### **Suggestions for Proposed**

The Boxing Building should be demo'ed and rebuilt

Bus stop location shelter to be

and used during basketball tournaments

### Facilities (4%)

- Good idea to have gravel internal path with concrete perimeter path
- Move Community Center to middle of park to utilize a single parking lot
- How do you get pavilion and playground next to each other?
- Put pavilion closer to Community
- Center building or make it an extension to the Community Center Electricity throughout

### Needs for Summer Program

- All buildings should have electricity for summer program
- Summer programs can use Lions' Den and Community Center

#### Phasing Concerns (<2%)

- Master plan should address maximum use while park is phased
- Work needs to be completed all at once

### Community Garden/Orchard

- Community Garden is a great amenity
- Orchard/fruit trees inspire people to eat fresh fruit
- Orchard would be nice

#### Community Center (<2%)

- Community Center is the most important thing
- Community Center is the biggest preference to complete to help the community

#### Signage (3%)

- Signage should be addressed no parking, no sleeping
- Signage welcome to the park, no sleeping
- Signage park rules, history board Gateway signage

#### **Open/Green Space (<2%)**

#### Increase green space

Need open lawn area

#### Dog Park (<2%)

- Fenced in off-leash dog park area
- Off-leash dog park temporary (prior to construction of Community Center)

#### Other (4%)

- Drinking fountains Garbage cans and benches – park amenities
- Spigots with water fountains needed
- Barbecues, benches, waste baskets
- Farmers' Market

## **Community Open House**

On June 25, 2018, a community open house was held at the Highlands Neighborhood Association building. This open house was an opportunity for the community to contribute ideas and suggestions for the update to the Archie Anderson Master Plan. The participants were shown conceptual site plans and asked to comment on their likes and dislikes about each concept. They were also presented with potential park amenities and asked to select those they thought would be most appropriate to the park, and to provide input on any additional needs the community might have.

Photos on the following pages show participants' written responses and additional input. A categorized summary of these responses is shown in Figure 4.

An additional conceptual plan alternative was drafted to address the issues and concerns discussed at the open house; it is presented in Figure 7 (Concept 3).





Community members providing input at the June open house



What do you dislike most about this site plan? Is there anything you woul add to (or take away from) the plan to improve it?

Where are the security survellience cameras Multi-purpose lawn round be bester-used for more specific needs . Int very detailed · no community bldg- leave open green space for soccor, laeconse, events See MULTIPLE ACTIVITIES FOR KIDS ALL AGES STATES ENTERTHMENT THIS ISN' A EXTERIENT CONDICHTY THERE HERE UPON AT ENE PUT ODE HUNERY THREE

Community input on Conceptual Site Plan 1

INPUT. What do you like most about this site plan? to unbraction with Decking, and with LED Solving Size HINA Long out partners in this New Cabler: lighting the curity dog-walking aveas Ditto . drinking bowthins / forbage coms . restrooms and water access for visitors Ditto Multipurpour lan- augstron the paring an · potential for sports yields L'ettine Ks community building What do you dislike most about this site plan? Is there anything you would Po Not put in a community Gardan - Does Not work. add to (or take away from) the plan to improve it? security cameras NECS Sorvellinge Water pork, Deing want by dogs . aesthetics are good but shouldn't be items that cald potentially be vandadized or sto for · Use concrete for paths hot gravel · community gurden already exists at current Highlands community Organization which may relocate according to plan Porting so far down at the other endof the park. 0 rchie Anderson Park Master Plan Update RECREATION OMMUNITY OPEN HOUSE | Monday, June 25, 2018

Community input on Conceptual Site Plan 2



Community input on potential park amenities

I YOUR INPUT: PARK AMENITIES Are there any other amenities you would like to see at the park? What would get you to use the park more frequently? IF COMMONITY BUILDING 13 POTIO The Archie Anderson Bunch Should Be broagt Dow atothe Park! MULTIPLE ACTIVITIES FOR KIDS IN THEM NOT ODE DOOS!! Baseball Back Stop FIRST AID ONTER ONSITE SECURITY ALL Ages Activilies modern ACTIVITES Inside ACTIVITIESO . A Rude Home AFTER HRJ. achindren. . Roof over the basket Ball Court oncer Howros Being Open. · All-purpose sports field > w/ sign-up board so prople can reserve & use it Bumpout by Park for ADA parking Security KOU Carols-Photo ID. For Security 国利 PARKS &

Community input on potential park amenities



### Figure 4 | Summary of Community Input

» The chart above represents the issues, opportunities, and concerns identified by community members during the open house, broadly split into six categories for the purposes of plan development. A complete list of stakeholder responses, compiled by category, can be found at right.

#### **PUBLIC SAFETY ISSUES** (27%)

Pedestrian Safety/Traffic Calming (7%) Crosswalks (x11)

Lighting and Visibility (13%) Lighting (x20)

- ADA Accessibility (<1%)
- Curb cut-out by playground to provide ADA parking

#### Discourage Illicit Activity (6%)

- Where are the security/surveillance cameras?
- Need surveillance/security cameras
- Security/surveillance system Onsite security
- Security key cards
- Photo ID for security
- Security (x2)
- Bathrooms should be kept locked at night

#### **AMENITIES NEEDED** (49%)

#### Parking (1%)

More parking

#### Restrooms (11%)

#### Restrooms (x17)

#### **Athletic/Recreation Facilities**

- Basketball courts
- Playground
- Like the potential for sports fields in Site Plan 2
- Baseball back stop Need to keep at least one baseball field to promote youth activity – city needs to get kids active
- All-purpose sports field with sign-up board so people can reserve and use it
- Instead of having a community building, leave open green space for soccer, lacrosse, events

#### Community Center (<1%)

Community building [is what I like most about Conceptual Site Plan 2]

#### **OPERATIONS**/ MAINTENANCE/ **FUNDING ISSUES (<1%)**

#### Maintenance Issues/ Concerns (<1%)

Aesthetics are good, but shouldn't be items that could potentially be vandalized or stolen

#### **AESTHETIC**/ ENVIRONMENTAL **ISSUES** (2%)

- Aesthetic Suggestions (2%)
- Trees (like the number of trees in Site Plan 1)
- Water feature (x2)

Dog Park (1%)

Dog walking areas

Off-leash dog park

Picnic Shelter (5%)

Multi-Use Pavilion (9%)

Multi-use pavilion (x13)

Picnic shelter (x8)

Benches (3%)

Benches (x5)

#### **SUGGESTIONS FOR PARK FACILITIES AND PHASING** (14%)

### Suggestions for Existing

- Provide roof over the basketball
- court Longer hours being open (for park in general)

#### Suggestions for Providing Youth Activities (5%

- Need multiple activities for kids of all ages
- Kids need things to do
- All ages activities
- Multiple activities for kids Provide modern activities for kids not just arts and crafts
- Provide inside activities on rainy/bad weather days after hours to 6:00 pm
- Provide safe ride home after hours for children
- Need sports, entertainment this isn't a retirement community – there are youth at risk, put our money there

#### Suggestions for Proposed Facilities (7%)

- Multipurpose lawn could be better used for more specific needs
- Put recreation on one end of park No community building – police satellite building only
- Multipurpose lawn away from the parking area (like in Site Plan 2)
- Use concrete for paths, not gravel
- Include first aid center (maybe as part of community center)
- Don't like parking so far down at the other end of the park (like in Site Plan 2)
- Provide coffee shop or some community gathering space in community building to draw people in
- Like the idea of community interaction with parking, and with LPD joining with HNA and having all partners in the new community center
- If community building is put in, the Archie Anderson bench should be brought down to the park (from its current location at the LPD satellite office)! (x2)

#### **AMENITIES NOT NEEDED (7%)**

- Community garden already exists at current Highlands Community Organization which may relocate according to plan (x2)
- Community gardens won't last 6 months

#### Dog Park (<1%)

Water Play Area (2%)

 Would be used by dogs (x2) Would become a public toilet

### Drinking Fountains (<1%)

No drinking fountains

#### Community Building (1%)

- No community building leave open green space for soccer, lacrosse, events
- Drop community building and use a smaller one for police satellite office

- Community Garden/Orchard (3%)
  - Do not put in a community garden does not work

Invest in our kids, not our dogs!!

Drinking Fountains (7%) Drinking fountains (x11)

BBQ Areas (3%) BBQ areas (x4)

Garbage Cans (2%) Garbage cans (x3)

Water Access (2%)

Water access/play area for visitors (x3)

## Alternative Master Plan Updates

As mentioned above, community concerns and suggested amenities were addressed and channeled into three concepts that have been vetted through the planning process.

An initial plan concept, Concept 1, was developed based on early input from City of Longview Parks and Recreation staff (Figure 5).

After meeting with Parks and Recreation staff, stakeholders were consulted. Their input was used to expand on the initial concept, leading to the creation of Concept 2 (Figure 6).

Finally, after input from both the City of Longview Parks and Recreation staff and community stakeholders, Concepts 1 and 2 were presented at a community open house. Comments reflective of that meeting are outlined in Concept 3 (Figure 7).

#### Master Plan Update



Figure 5 | Concept 1 – City Parks Staff Input



Figure 6 | Concept 2 – City Parks Staff and Stakeholder Input



Figure 7 | Concept 3 – City Parks Staff, Stakeholder, and Community Input

## Recommended Master Plan Update

Through this planning and community involvement process, concepts have been created and commented upon by staff, stakeholders, and community members. In total there are four concepts to consider:

- » Original Master Plan from 2011
- » Concept 1 City Parks Staff Input
- » Concept 2 City Parks Staff and Stakeholder Input
- » Concept 3 City Parks Staff, Stakeholder, and Community Input

From these options, Concept 3 has emerged as the preferred option. This concept addresses all the concerns, issues, and opportunities that were identified during the planning process.



Figure 8 | Preferred Master Plan Option

SECTION 3 Update Implementation

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# Opinion of Construction Cost

## **Action Items**

As part of the planning process opportunities and implementation action items were identified to promote the new design of the Archie Anderson park.

- » Coordination with the Longview Police Department to house a police substation at the park.
- » Invest in the community by supporting the community groups who use and occupy the Archie Anderson Park.
- » Invest in the community by supporting the school system by constructing a gazebo along Alabama Street to be used as a bus shelter and a barbeque picnic area.
- » Phasing of the construction may allow for temporary uses such as an off-leash dog park to be implemented until such phase would eliminate the temporary use.
- » Consider bleachers, either temporary or permanent, for the basketball tournaments throughout the year.
- » Determine if the internal pedestrian walkways will be gravel, asphalt, or concrete.

