

## **SECTION VII**

### **COMMUNITY FACILITIES**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

The term “community facilities” refers to a range of public amenities serving the health, welfare, recreational, educational, and governmental needs of the population. These are the large and expensive facilities and services which can be available only through the combined contributions of large numbers of people. Community Facilities may include, but are not limited to, such essential utilities as water, sewer and electrical power; police and fire protection; schools, parks, libraries and churches; and public administrative facilities such as the airport, city hall, and the city shops. These and similar facilities, both public and quasi-public, rank high among the reasons why groups of people are willing to band together in cities. Through this means, individuals may avail themselves of protection, services and facilities which would not be available on a singular and uncoordinated basis. The effect and contribution of those amenities is so great that for the most part, they constitute a major basis for judgment about the quality of the community, and the living environment within.

Because of the premier importance of adequate community facilities to the quality of life available to the citizens, review, study and assessment of long range needs ranks high among the central purposes of the Comprehensive Planning process. In this regard, one of the important overall goals of the planning process is to gauge potential long range need for amenities and services so that future facilities may be sized and located to serve the future population and the future areas of urban expansion in an efficient manner within the intent to conserve tax dollars.

The following paragraphs contain reviews and future needs assessments for a range of important community facilities currently serving the Clearwater community.

#### **INVENTORY**

Locations of major community amenities, both public and quasi-public, were recorded during the land use field survey, as were details of facilities available and apparent condition. Utilizing this information source, the following figure depicts locations of a range of amenities currently serving the community. Included are locations of a number of facilities which range from churches, schools, parks and public offices, to utilities, and city shops.

As shown on the figure, the community enjoys a wide range of amenities which are located throughout the incorporated area of the city. It will be particularly important that these facilities, which largely determine the quality of life, be sized and located with regard to emerging patterns of urban development so that all citizens in all areas of the current and future community can continue to enjoy equitable access to the range of facilities.

#### **POTABLE WATER**

Municipal water supply is from groundwater wells which top the sands and gravels of the aquifer associated with the Ninnescah River. Currently there are a total of 6 wells, four of which are in operation. Water from these wells is disinfected at the wellhead and then pumped to a 130,000 gallon elevated water storage tank for subsequent distribution to local points of consumption.

City records indicate that since 1987, annual water consumption has averaged about 73,700,000 gallons total with a low of 62,236,000 gallons in 1988 and a high of 82,563,000 in 2001. Daily consumption during the period has averaged about 202,000 gallons with a low of 183,033 in 1987 and a high of 226,200 in 2001. For 2001, this would equal about 104 gallons per capital per day, which is in a normal range for these latitudes. Other communities across the state can range from about 90 to 150 gallons or more per capita, depending upon location. For the latest year, 2005, there were 841 metered points of water use.

While water supply and distribution characteristics are generally adequate at the present time, there will be continuing need for system upgrading and improvement. Where there are runs of small pipe sizes, the lines should be upgraded to at least a 6" diameter pipe to provide adequate volume and pressure for fire flows. While a line as small as 3" or 4" will sometimes prove adequate quantity for domestic needs, a larger main is necessary for effective fire protection. Fire hydrants should be spaced at intervals of not more than 300 to 400 feet and served by a looped 6" minimum diameter water main. Fire hydrants as well as other valves should be checked and operated on a regular basis to maintain proper functional capability. Additionally, as existing neighborhoods expand, and the City continues to enlarge, there will be needs for corresponding water system extensions.

Within the expectation of continued community expansion, the City should initiate a water system study to include supply, storage and distribution. Through the study, short- and long-term needs will be identified to which can be coordinated within available financial resources to enable system improvement on a phased basis./

Like all other communities, the quality, quantity and distribution of water for the Clearwater community will become increasingly important as a community issue in the years ahead. Maintenance of a planned approach to supply of water will enable the most efficient and cost effective results in all aspects.

### **SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM**

The City of Clearwater has a sewage collection system serving the incorporated area of the City. The system consists of a series of 4", 6", 8" and 10" pipes which connect to a 4-cell disposal lagoon located south of the City. The system is designed for gravity flow for the most part with lift stations and force mains where low elevations interrupt the flow gradient. At the present time the City has only 2 lift stations, one on the southwestern flank in a residential development, and the other at the sewage disposal area where effluent from the City is lifted into the disposal lagoons.

City records indicate that yearly sewage flows have ranged from a low of 52,132,220 gallons in 1987 to a high of 65,524,800 gallons in 2001. This represents an average per capital daily volume of 84.66 and 82.42 gallons respectively. A summary of sewage volumes in gallons from City records is outlined in the following table.

**TABLE 26**

**SANITARY SEWAGE VOLUME  
City of Clearwater**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Annual Volume</b>	<b>Average Daily Volume</b>	<b>Per Capita Average</b>
1987	52,132,220	142,828	84.66
1990	53,805,745	147,413	78.62
1995	56,500,175	154,795	78.02
2000	62,010,215	169,891	78.00
2001	65,524,800	179,520	82.42
2002	60,588,905	165,997	76.39
2003	60,810,825	166,605	75.62
2004	58,999,330	161,642	73.40

The figures indicate that while total flowage volumes have fluctuated, per capita daily sewer flows have ranged from 73.40 to 84.66 and averaged 78.4 gallons per person during the period.

The sewage utilizes a lagoon system which was recently improved and upgraded. The facility was designed to handle a flow of up to 258,000 gallons per day at 4 foot depth and up to 315,000 gallons at a 5 foot depth. Based on the population forecasts the sewer system and disposal works appears adequate for current and future service.

Concerning future expansion, the system should be designed for gravity flow to a maximum extent. Line sizes for mains should not be less than 8 inch diameter with larger sizes where the system will eventually handle increased volumes from new development. Manholes should be utilized at intervals of 300 to feet and at locations where the line direction changes angle, or where vertical variations in flow line occur. Because sanitary sewers are critical with regard to size and gradient, major extensions and rehabilitation of existing facilities should be designed by a civil engineer experienced in sewer requirements.

**SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL**

Solid waste generated in the Clearwater community are collected and disposed of by private commercial companies. Residential wastes are collected by Waste Management, Inc. with the cost of service billed by the City on a monthly basis. Commercial wastes are collected and disposed of by other contract haulers. In order to reduce the volume of solid wastes requiring disposal, the City operates a disposal site for limbs and other vegetative yard materials which is available to residents of the community. Additionally, the City maintains a twice monthly volunteer recycling program. Items to be recycled are picked up by the Sunflower Resource and Conservation District which then sells the materials. Left over proceeds from the sale is returned to the City. These efforts annually affect substantial reductions in the annual tonnage solid wastes generated in the City which require collection, transportation and disposal.

Solid waste generation is affected by such factors as the types of dwellings and density of residential development, extent of commercial development, the kind and extent of industrial development, building construction and agricultural activities. Principal wastes generated in most similar communities are household and commercial with lesser volume agricultural refuse. The assumptions used in determining generation rates in the Clearwater community are that due to the current waste stream reduction programs, overall refuse generation will range from 4.0 to 6.0 pounds of solid waste per capita per day.

The higher generation rates are reflective of the need to provide an additional allowance to account for probable future increase in the proportional volume of commercial and industrial waste as the economic base continues to expand. Based on this assumption, the following:

<b>Year</b>	<b>Pounds Per Person Per Day</b>
2005	3.5
2010	3.8
2015	4.0
2020	4.5
2025	5.0

Based on these assumptions for solid waste generation as balanced by the estimates of future community population, an estimate of potential solid waste in tons per year can be prepared.

In this regard, the following table shows estimated solid waste generation in the Clearwater community by volume during the 20-year planning period.

**TABLE 27**  
**ESTIMATED SOLID WASTE GENERATION**  
**City of Clearwater, Kansas**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Population Forecast</b>	<b>Estimated Solid Waste Volume (Tons)</b>
2005	2,483	1,586
2006	2,544	1,625
2007	2,605	1,664
2008	2,666	1,703
2009	2,727	1,742
2010	2,788	1,933
2011	2,849	1,976
2012	2,910	2,018
2013	2,971	2,060
2014	3,032	2,103
2015	3,093	2,258
2016	3,154	2,302
2017	3,214	2,346
2018	3,274	2,390
2019	3,334	2,434
2020	3,394	2,787
2021	3,455	2,837
2022	3,515	2,887
2023	3,576	2,937
2024	3,637	2,987
2025	3,700	3,376

The solid waste generation estimates show that if the City grows as anticipated by the population forecasts and continue to experience increasing levels of commercial and industrial activity the annual solid waste volume requiring collection and disposal could reach as much as 4,700 tons or more by the year 2025. These figures show the importance of waste stream reduction programs such as are currently being operated in the community.

In the future, the City should seek additional recycling opportunities, particularly for plastics, which will comprise an increasing volume in the future due to modern packaging methods for all manner of household and commercial commodities. Through successful recycling practices, growth in solid waste tonnage can be slowed with a resultant financial and environmental benefit to the entire community.

## **CITY HALL**

The Clearwater City Hall, located at 129 E. Ross Avenue in the downtown area, consists of a 3,514 square foot building which accommodates municipal administrative functions as well as the Police Department. The structure is described as being in fair to good condition. Administrative facilities include an 858 square foot council chambers/court room seating up to 40, and 180 square foot Green Room seating 8 to 10, plus 197 square feet of space allocated to City offices. Municipal departments headquartered at City Hall, in addition to police, include City Clerk, Cemetery, Municipal Court Clerk, Building Inspection, Treasurer, and weekly commodities distribution.

The available site at the location contains 7,000 square feet of space overall. There are 2 private off-street parking stalls available plus up to 12 curbside stalls available immediately adjacent to the building on the east and north.

Overall, the existing City Hall is described as adequate for current needs as well as anticipated future needs, at least in the short-term period.

## **LAW ENFORCEMENT**

Law enforcement is provided by the Clearwater Police Department located at 129 E. Ross in a portion of City Hall. The Department occupies about 1,700 square feet of space which is allocated to a chief's office, a sergeants office and an interview room. Each office will seat 3 to 5. The current building condition is described as good with no significant deficiencies at the present time.

The Department is staffed by a Chief of Police, a Sergeant, 4 full-time officers, and a part-time animal control officer. Available equipment includes 3 marked and 1 unmarked patrol vehicles.. Under current conditions, the Department responds to 1,300 to 1,900 calls per year. Through cooperative agreement with Sedgwick County, requirements for booking, photographing and other administrative processing, including detention and dispatch services, are provided by the Sheriff's office. For 2004, there were a total of 114 arrests which required booking. Of these, 73 were adult males, 13 were adult females, and 28 were juveniles.

The Department also participates with Sumner County on a multi-jurisdictional special weapons and tactics unit.

Current deficiencies center around limited office space, which results in lack of capacity for accommodation of more than 3 detainees at a given time.

In the future, if the City grows as anticipated, there will be needs for additional facility upgrading as well as staff and equipment enlargements. Facility needs will include upgraded and expanded evidence and records storage capability, this could be accomplished at the present facility by remodeling the existing space.

Future staff and equipment requirements will likely include up to 2 new officers plus an additional patrol vehicle and personal equipment. As the case load intensifies, there will also be a need for a records clerk and additional filing capability. In general, with the growing requirements for documentation and record keeping,

Comprehensive Community Plan  
City of Clearwater, Kansas

an adequately sized police department will typically require up to three officers per 1,000 population, plus administrative staff and equipment. Personnel expansions and upgrading of equipment and facilities should occur at intervals at a pace matching community growth and development. This is most efficiently accomplished through maintenance of a long-range capital facilities programming process which will assign priorities and initiation dates for all of the needs of municipal operating departments within the scope of the available budget. In this regard, the Planning Commission should play a pivotal role in annually assessing long-range needs and initiation schedules. Such a program will provide invaluable information for the decision making process of the Governing Body.

## **FIRE PROTECTION**

Located at 319 West Ross, in a 9,200 square foot building, the Clearwater Fire Department is an all-volunteer unit consisting of a Fire Chief plus about 40 others. There are typically from 15 to 20 volunteers available per individual fire call. The department provides coverage for Clearwater and the surrounding township, plus parts of two others, for an overall fire district coverage of over 50 square miles. The Department typically responds to up to 75 fire calls per year.

Operating equipment includes 2 tankers, 2 square units, a communications van, and a brushfire unit. One of the tankers is a relatively new unit.

Although Department quarters, staff and equipment are described as adequate for current conditions, continuing urbanization of the area will likely result in requirements for 1 to 2 new trucks, including a tanker and a pumper, plus improved and upgraded communications and personal protective gear. At some point as the level of activity increases, it will also become desirable to consider full and/or part-time paid staff to manage and administer the volunteer staff and department operational details. In this respect, it is likely that activities of all types which directly affect the Fire Department will increase substantially over the course of the 20-year planning period.

Like other operating departments of the city, short- and long-range needs of the Fire Department should be scheduled and prioritized as part of an ongoing capital improvements programming process linked to the annual budgeting cycle of local government.

## **EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE**

The medical first responders are located on west Ross Avenue in the same building as the Fire Department. Overall staff consists of a paid director who also serves the Fire Department, plus 20 volunteer EMS personnel. There are a total of 4 trained paramedics locally available. Operating equipment includes 2 fully equipped ambulances.

The EMS Department annually responds to an average of 5 to 6 calls per week, and the number is increasing. If the community continues to grow as anticipated, the number of emergency calls will increase substantially, exceeding 1 call per day in the near future. Due to county regulations which require a paramedic to accompany all hospital runs, the increase in the number of emergency response requests will result in demand for additional trained paramedics as well as equipment upgrading on a progressive basis. It will be important that the local EMS service be continually improved and progressively upgraded, both equipment and staff, at a rate commensurate with the continuing growth and expansion of the service district.

## **CITY LIBRARY**

Located at 109 East Ross in a recently remodeled single-story building containing 4,000 square feet of space, the City Library is situated in the downtown area on a 14,000 square foot lot. The facility is staffed by a Librarian plus 5 other workers.

In its current configuration, the library does not have separate facilities for children and adults although the open floor plan allows for a degree of separation. The facility has available 9 tables and 66 chairs and 329 linear feet of shelving. Staff work space consists of a 337 square foot circulation area plus a 100 square foot office and a 100 square foot work room.

With respect to circulation of library materials, for the most recent year there were 1,119 card holders in the City, plus 992 others, which together checked out 10,176 volumes in total.

Concerning general facility adequacy, the following table compares current library characteristics with generally accepted minimum library standards.

**TABLE 28**  
**CLEARWATER CITY LIBRARY**  
**COMPARISON TO MINIMUM STANDARDS \* 2005**

Item	Planning Standard	Existing Requirement	Current Facilities	Deficiency	2025 Requirement
Book Stock					
Volumes per capita	5	10,890	13,327	---	18,500
Circulation per capita	9	19,602	10,176	-9,426	33,300
Seats per 1,000 Pop.	3	7	66	---	12
Square foot per capita	0.55	1,198	4,000	---	2,035

\* *Source: Volume, Space and Circulation Standards, American Library Association*

\*\* *Based on 2000 population of 2,198*

\*\*\* *Based on 2025 population of 3,700*

The comparison shows that there are no current deficiencies with regard to basic library space and function, except for circulation, and that these basic items of comparison will likely remain adequate in the future as well. However, within the goal of providing high quality service for library users, facility staff note several considerations which will require attention in the future.

Current needs include a separate enclosed room which is large enough for meetings, performances, presentations with seating for the audience. Also needed is more shelf and storage space, and improved staff work space. Additionally, as the community expands and library usage grows,, it will be necessary to continually add to the material collections, particularly those items of current public interest such as electronic media, computer materials and internet service. These needs will add to overall facility space and staff size requirements.

Accommodation of current deficiencies and future needs will require either a major building remodeling and expansion, or relocation to a new location, as well as substantial additional funding. Also, as the library is a service oriented facility, there will be on-going requirements for alterations and changes in operational patterns as technology and demands and interests of the public continue to expand. Some of these requirements will indicate need for additional change in physical facilities while many will necessitate changes in methods and details of providing library service. For these reasons, library planning must be a continuing process of evaluation and capital improvements programming. Where the planning process is dynamic and continuous, the library as a primary public facility can be maintained as a functional and viable community asset.

**EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES**

Educational facilities available in Clearwater are operated by Unified School District Number 24, which covers parts of both Sedgwick and Sumner Counties. Centered in Clearwater, District boundaries are located approximately 7 miles east, 6 1/2 miles north, 6 miles west, and 7 1/2 miles south of town. On the south, the district boundary reaches approximately 5 1/2 miles into northern portions of Sumner County. Educational facilities operated by USD 264 include 2 elementary schools, an intermediate school, a middle school, and a high school. Descriptions of these facilities are as noted below.

**Clearwater Elementary East**

Located at 615 E. Ross, this 11,000 square foot single-story school was completed in 1951. The building contains 14 classrooms, a gymnasium seating 100, and a library with seating for 25. A well-equipped playground is available on site. The playground offers the following:

- |                  |                |
|------------------|----------------|
| Basketball Court | Ball Shoot     |
| Swings (12)      | Monkey Bars    |
| Merry-go-round   | Play Structure |
| Climbers (2)     |                |

Full-time equivalent staffing available at the school includes:

- |                 |              |
|-----------------|--------------|
| .5 Principle    | 2 Dieticians |
| 7.5 Teachers    | 1 Custodian  |
| 1.5 Secretaries | 2.25 Others  |

The location provides space for 28 off-street parking stalls.

The school accommodates the Kindergarten class only, which for the 0405 school year had an enrollment total of 70.

The facility is described as being in good condition with no currently planned renovations or enlargements.

**Clearwater Elementary West**

This school, which accommodates grades 1 through 3, is located at 100 S. Prospect. The single-story structure, which contains 54,000 square feet of space, was completed in 1987. The building contains 28 classrooms, a gymnasium with seating for 150, a lunch room with seating for 150, and a library with seating for 40. Off-street parking for up to 40 is provided on-site. The structure is described as being in good condition with no current plans for either renovation or expansion.

Recreational equipment available on-site includes:

- Basketball Courts (2)
- Swings (8)
- Tetherball (2)
- Play Structures

Full-time equivalent staff includes the following:

- |                 |              |
|-----------------|--------------|
| .5 Principal    | 3 Custodians |
| 16.5 Teachers   | 4 Dieticians |
| 1.5 Secretaries | 3.5 Others   |

For the 2004-2005 school year, there were 205 students enrolled, which included 63 in Grade 1, 59 in Grade 2, and 83 in Grade 3.

**Clearwater Intermediate Center**

Located at 801 East Ross, the Intermediate Center consists of 3 single-story school structures, totaling 98,000 square feet, all in currently good condition, which were completed in 1960, 1977 and 1991. In addition to the primary school structure, the site also contains off-street parking for up to 200 vehicles. In addition to a number of classrooms, the school contains a gymnasium with seating for 200, a lunch room seating 200, and a library which offers seating for up to 40. The buildings are all described as being in good condition with no current plans for renovations or enlargements.

Ancillary facilities available at the location include an athletic field with running track.

The Intermediate Center is staffed by the following full-time equivalent employees:

1 Principal	2 Custodians
14 Teachers	4 Dieticians
1.5 Secretaries	3 Others

The Intermediate Center accommodates grade 4.5 and 6, which for the 2004 – 2005 school year had a total enrollment of 274, including 84 in grade 4, 100 in grade 5, and 90 in grade 6.

**Clearwater Middle School**

This 65,000 square foot, single-story building which was completed in 1974, is located at 140 S. 4<sup>th</sup> Street. The school accommodates grades 7 and 8 and has available in addition to 22 classrooms, an auditorium seating 335, a gymnasium providing seating for up to 750, a lunch room seating 175, and a library seating up to 40. School staff includes the following full-time equivalent:

1 Principal	2 Custodians
16 Teachers	5 Dieticians
2 Secretaries	17.5 Others

The facility, which is described as being in good condition, had a total enrollment for 2004 – 2005 of 211, which included 98 in grade 7, and 113 in grade 8.

**Clearwater High School**

The High School, located at 1201 East Ross, consists of a single-story, 160,000 square foot building which was completed in 2005. The building features 37 classrooms, an auditorium with seating for 650, a gymnasium seating up to 1,550, a lunch room with seating for 250, a library which provides seating for 40, and a second smaller gymnasium offering seating for up to 400. The building is in new condition and no structural additions are currently planned. On the school site, however, there are plans to add a practice football field and a soccer field. In its present configuration, the site currently provides off-street parking for up to 555 vehicles.

The High School, which accommodates grades 9, 10, 11 and 12, is staffed by the following full-time equivalent employees:

2 Principals	3 Custodians
30 Teachers	3 Dieticians
3.5 Secretaries	2.5 Others

Enrollment at the High School for the 2004 – 2005 school year totaled 403, which included 106 in grade 9, 119 in grade 10, 81 in grade 11, and 97 in grade 12.

**School District Enrollment Trends**

Based on past records, present school enrollment patterns, and present demographic evidence, the school district maintains estimates of potential future enrollments by grade. A summary of this information is outlined in the following table.

**TABLE 29**  
**PUBLIC SCHOOL ENROLLMENT TRENDS\***  
**USD 264, 1996 – 2013**  
**Clearwater, Kansas**

<b>School Year</b>	<b>K</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>Total Enrollment</b>
96-97	76	61	83	69	95	84	98	68	84	105	89	61	67	1,060
97-98	65	94	67	93	75	101	91	98	75	97	99	87	77	1,119
98-99	73	81	92	78	101	76	101	98	100	76	88	85	81	1,148
99-00	74	71	87	93	84	103	88	105	95	108	83	74	83	1,155
00-01	72	78	72	81	95	81	104	91	103	103	112	74	66	1,153
01-02	79	71	79	75	78	99	84	110	90	108	89	101	72	1,129
02-03	61	82	74	81	86	93	106	95	114	92	110	87	103	1,184
03-04	95	58	81	78	88	66	92	112	105	123	89	100	84	1,161
04-05	70	63	59	83	84	100	90	98	113	106	119	81	97	1,169
05-06	73	74	65	63	86	87	104	93	101	121	103	109	79	1,175
06-07	75	77	76	69	65	89	90	107	95	111	118	93	105	1,170
07-08	77	80	80	81	72	67	92	93	110	106	107	107	90	1,162
08-09	79	82	82	84	84	74	90	95	95	103	102	98	104	1,152
09-10	81	84	84	87	88	87	77	72	98	101	100	93	95	1,147
10-11	83	86	86	89	90	90	90	79	74	116	98	91	90	1,162
11-12	85	88	88	91	93	93	94	93	81	93	113	89	89	1,190
12-13	87	90	91	94	95	95	97	97	96	103	90	103	87	1,228

*\*Source: Office of the Superintendent, Unified School District 264, Clearwater, Kansas*

The enrollment trend forecast developed by the school district indicates yearly fluctuations in enrollment, but a general expansion overall. The figures indicate the potential for a gain in total school district enrollments of over 5 percent between 2004 – 2005 and 2012 – 2013, which would equal an enlargement of nearly 16 percent between 1996 – 1997 and 2012 – 2013.

### **SOUTH-CENTRAL KANSAS EDUCATIONAL SERVICES**

South Central Kansas Educational Service Center (SCKESC), located at 13939 Diagonal Road, provides a multitude of services to school districts in the state for the purpose of enhancing educational opportunities and improving student achievement. The population of the Service Center includes a student base of approximately 25,000 students and 2,000 certified staff members.

Leveraging a budget of nearly \$12 million, SCKESC seeks to add value to school districts through cost savings on purchases, exceptional professional training, and networking opportunities. The Service Center is made up of unified school districts, special education interlocals and cooperatives, and community colleges. With more than 200 employees statewide, the Service Center at Clearwater partners with organizations providing services to families of preschool children, provides courses for online schooling and training opportunities, and operates over 20 sites where adults can earn a high school diploma.

Although recent demand has seen an increase in delivering services within the individual school districts and buildings, SCKESC still offers workshops on a regular basis at the center. During the 2006-2007 school year, the Service Center hosted training sessions for groundskeepers, paraprofessionals, administrative assistants, teachers and administrators, totaling hundreds of visitors to the Clearwater community. Typically smaller groups are invited to take advantage of the local eating establishments during lunch breaks.

The Service Center is equipped with a variety of meeting facilities. Rooms are available to rent for groups of 5 to 400. Space is available for breakout sessions, and all rooms can be set up to meet individual needs. Future utilization of the Service Center will include groups from private business and industry as the location is ideal for corporations in the Wichita metro area at a more reasonable cost than typical hotel conference settings. The SCKESC facility offers:

- |                           |                              |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| Wireless Internet         | Presentation equipment       |
| High tech video equipment | Video conferencing equipment |
| Satellite downlinks       | Catering options             |

In order for business to utilize cutting edge technology and provide state of the art assistance to school districts, plans are currently in progress to expand bandwidth thereby increasing the center’s capability to receive and transmit the highest quality digital and video connections. SCKESC will continue to seek opportunities to broaden and enrich learning experiences for students in this region of Kansas. Hiring a teacher from China to provide classes in Mandarin Chinese and Chinese culture is but one avenue for accomplishing this goal.

## **OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION**

Among the public amenities having a direct and significant impact upon the living environment and the quality of life available in the community are the park and recreation facilities. Although difficult to quantify definitively, park and recreation facilities also impact the social and economic environments and are among the factors of influence in the long-range economic development process. For these reasons, current and future need for park and recreation facilities is an important aspect of planning for continued community development in the years ahead.

## **EXISTING PARK AND RECREATIONAL AREAS**

The community land use inventory recorded two public park areas plus a museum and public school playground. While the school grounds do contribute to the overall neighborhood recreational opportunity, they are not available to the public year-round on an unrestricted basis, and so do not count toward calculation of short and long-term needs. Similarly, the museum also contributes to recreational opportunity, but does not count toward assessment of outdoor recreational needs.

The two currently available park areas include the following:

### **Chisholm Trail Park**

Located on east Ross between the public schools, this large 41 acre facility is designed for active recreation and is the primary ball park for the community and the surrounding area. The park contains the following:

Lighted Baseball Diamonds	Playing Fields	Picnic Shelters
Restrooms		Historical Marker
Snack Bar		Walking Trail
Bleachers		Water Hydrants
Score Boards		
Miniature Plane Flying Field	Refuse Receptacles	
Vehicle Parking	Landscaping	

Chisholm Trail Park is easily accessible via the major street network and is situated so as to provide opportunity for the adjacent schools as well as the general public.

### **Clearwater City Park**

Containing approximately 9 acres, City Park is located in the east-central portion of the community at the intersection of Ross and Fourth Streets. The park is immediately adjacent to the water tower and the museum and contains a wide range of recreational equipment, including the following:

Lighted Ball Diamond	Basketball Court
Snack Bar	Picnic Shelters
Restrooms	Slide/Climber
Bleachers	Combination Climber
Score Board	Benches
Aquatic Center	Charcoal Grilles
Merry-go-round	Spring Toys

The park is equipped to provide recreational opportunity for the entire community and all age groups. With both active and passive recreation, the park is a good example of a full range community facility which can continue to serve a growing resident population in the years ahead.

### **Fishing Ponds**

Located on East Ross Avenue, north of the school and south of a growing residential neighborhood, the fishing ponds consist of two large stormwater runoff basins which are immediately adjacent to the street and separated by a subdivision entrance. The ponds are kept stocked through the Kansas Game and Parks Department's Urban Fisheries program and feature channel cat and bass. The ponds provide an easily accessible recreation area for the growing residential area in the eastern portion of the community with the unique opportunity for fishing as well as a range of passive recreation possibilities.

This small area is an excellent example of how required drainage accommodations can also be designed and utilized for public recreation.

### **FUTURE PARK AND RECREATION REQUIREMENTS**

Potential future requirements for recreational land may be determined through application of appropriate space standards. When balanced with current and future population levels, growth patterns and usage trends, this process provides an indication of current and future requirements which may be compared with the present development levels to determine likely need for future recreational opportunity.

The general space standard for the overall recreation area of a city is a minimum of 10 acres per 1,000 population or one acre per 100 population. Using this standard and applying it to the current population indicates a present community need for about 22 acres of park land

Existing municipal parks as described above, contain approximately 50 acres of land. Comparing this figure with the statistical need shows that the current park system is more than adequate in terms of acreage. Additionally, when the current acreage of municipal park land is compared to the statistical need of the potential future population, the overall space remains adequate through the year 2025. The exception to this is the continuing need for small playgrounds easily accessible by small children in all residential neighborhoods.

Concerning future needs, within the general standard of having outdoor recreational opportunity available within a ¼ mile distance for all residents of the City, the following figure illustrates existing and potential future locations of park facilities as well as the associated neighborhood service areas.

The figure shows that if the community expands as anticipated by the population forecast and current annexation pattern, there will be a long-range need for additional opportunity on the north, and at regular intervals within the future expansion area. Together, these general locations would help assure that neighborhood park space will be reasonable available throughout the community.

In addition to the long-range requirements of developing neighborhoods, an additional current need in the park planning process is to provide recreational opportunity for small children in all existing neighborhood areas. At the present time, some of the older developed areas of the community are without playground opportunity close at hand. Ideally, such facilities should be present in all neighborhood areas, and well-developed municipal park facilities should be available within a one-quarter mile distance of all residential development.

### **IMPLEMENTING THE PARK PLAN**

Implementation of the park and open space improvements will be expensive and should be undertaken on a phased basis. The proposals developed by the analysis are long-range considerations which should be provided at a rate commensurate with the actual growth and development of the community. However, acquisition and reservation of drainage and catchment area green space should proceed development to assure adequate level of protection for such areas.

The Planning Commission can provide valuable assistance with implementation of the long-range proposals through maintenance of a Capital Improvements Plan and a Capital Budget which will develop the methodology and time sequencing necessary to implement the proposals in a prudent and reasonable manner.

Concerning financing of the future park system, some measure of participating funding may continue to be available from Federal and State sources through the various grant processes. Over the years, participating funding from the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund has made a significant contribution to the establishment of parks through provision of 50 percent matching funds grants, while the Community Development Block Grant process also contains provision for limited application where recreation development is a vital part of neighborhood renovation.

These sources of funding have been extensively utilized by many communities in the planning and development of all types of outdoor recreation facilities. It will remain important for the community to continue to pursue all available sources of funding in order for the resulting development to reflect the highest possible quality standard