

Agency Comparisons

Greer's Role in Recreation Planning & Agency Comparisons

A cooperative recreation planning and oversight structure should be adopted to manage the development of major recreation resources. Because of Greer's location, this cooperative structure should include both Greenville and Spartanburg Counties. The joint recreation planning and oversight structure should be established as soon as possible to provide a mechanism to ensure that facilities are developed in an effective and efficient manner while avoiding duplication. As Greer continues to grow, the demand for recreation programs and services will increase dramatically. Potential residents and businesses will evaluate their decision to locate or relocate in Greer based on schools, health care, and recreation opportunities. New residents will demand these services and the investments necessary to meet those demands will increase as quickly or quicker than the population is growing. Therefore, being proactive in developing and maintaining these opportunities is of utmost importance. The following table contains benchmarking information from recreation agencies identified as a peer group for the City of Greer's Parks and Recreation Department. Where the % of Budget from Taxes and % of Budget from User Fees do not add up to 100% an additional revenue source is available which may include donations, grants, etc.

| City/County | Population | Full-Time Staff | P/T-Seasonal Staff | Sq. Feet Indoor Space | Acres of Outdoor Space | Total Yearly Budget | General Fund Allocation | % of Budget from User Fees |
|-----------------------|------------|-----------------|--------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| Goose Creek | 50000 | 22 | 30 | 50000 | 100 | 2.4m | 50 | 40 |
| City of Orangeburg | 15000 | 32 | 30 | 10000 | 250 | 1.95m | 98 | 2 |
| City of Greenville | 58000 | 92 | 123 | 128000 | 402 | 5.2m | 78 | 18 |
| Irmo-Chapin | 48000 | 59 | 157 | 104000 | 450 | 7.9m | 42 | 58 |
| City of North Augusta | 17500 | 29 | 85 | 108000 | 350 | 2.81m | 91.76 | 8.24 |
| City of Rock Hill PRT | 64000 | 54 | 90 | 107824 | 392 | 6.8m | 86 | 14 |
| City of Aiken | 30000 | 51 | 54 | 237521 | 250 | 4.81m | 85 | 15 |
| Town of Cheraw | 5525 | 12 | 7 | 30000 | 112 | .885m | 77 | 18 |
| City of Myrtle Beach | 25000 | 123 | 128 | 247000 | 645 | 13.47m | 78 | 22 |
| City of Greer | 26000 | 18 | 22 | 113000 | 140 | 3.52m | 74 | 26 |

Greer Compared to Average of Peer Agencies in Previous Table

| | FULL-TIME STAFF/ RESIDENT | PART-TIME STAFF/ RESIDENT | SQUARE FT INDOOR/ RESIDENT | ACRES OF OUTDOOR SPACE/ RESIDENT | EXPENDITURES/ RESIDENT |
|---------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|---|---------------------------|
| AVERAGE | 867.05 | 657.79 | 4.15 | 0.01 | \$169.39 |
| City of Greer | 1444.4 | 1181.8 | 4.35 | 0.005 | \$135.50 |

The City of Greer ranked 9th of 10 comparable agencies in the Full-Time and Part-Time Staff per Resident categories; 6th of 10 in the Square Feet of Indoor Space per Resident category; and 6th of 10 in the Expenditures per Resident category. Recommendations based on this research will be provided in the “Recommendations” section beginning on page 35.

To reach peer agency average:

- Add at least 12 full-time staff positions
- Add at least 18 part-time positions
- Add at least 130 acres of outdoor space
- Add at least \$881,062 to recreation department’s annual budget