COMMUNITY PARK AUDIT TOOL

Instructions

Before you begin, try to locate a map of the park. Next, review the CPAT training guide and audit tool. It is important to make sure each question and response is clear when you are marking your answer. Then, go to the park and fill out this audit tool. The tool (6 pages) is divided into four sections that focus on different parts of the park. Further instructions are at the top of each section.

Tips for Using the Community Park Audit Tool (CPAT)

- Drive, bike, or walk around the park to get a feel for what's in the park and the neighborhood around the park.
- The focus of the audit should include outside environments only. Do not include any indoor facilities. If facilities such as bathrooms are on the outside of the building and freely accessibly to the public, they may be included.
- Please note that there are two sections of the audit that ask similar questions. In Section 2: Access and Surrounding Neighborhood, questions about safety or appearance focus on environments *surrounding* the park. In Section 4: Park Quality and Safety, park quality or safety concerns questions focus on what's *inside* the park.
- Questions on the CPAT are grouped in sections in the order that you might come across them in a park. However, you may need to switch between sections or pages as you complete the park audit. Therefore, it is important to look through the tool before you begin.
- When you are finished, go back and make sure you have completed all the sections and questions.
- There is space at the end of each section where you can write down comments as you complete your audit.
- If you see anything that requires immediate attention, contact the local parks department.

About the Community Park Audit Tool

The Community Park Audit Tool (CPAT) was developed in 2010 in Kansas City, Missouri by Andrew Kaczynski (Kansas State University) and Sonja Wilhelm Stanis (University of Missouri) in collaboration with the City of Kansas City Missouri Parks and Recreation Department. Development of the CPAT was supported by a grant from Active Living Research, a national program of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

| Section 1: Park Informat | atior | n |
|--------------------------|-------|---|
|--------------------------|-------|---|

| Park Name: | Observer Name or ID: |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| Park Address/Location: | |
| Was the park easy to find onsite? No Somewhat | The Yes |
| Date (m/d/yr): / | |
| Temperature: °F | |
| Weather: Clouds Clear Snow Rain D | rizzle 📮 Thunderstorm |
| Start Time: am or pm (circle) End Time: a | m or pm (circle) Length of visit: min |

| Comments on Park Information: | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| | |

Section 2: Access and Surrounding Neighborhood

This section asks about accessing the park and about the neighborhood surrounding the park. Several questions include follow-up responses if you answered yes. There are spaces for comments at the end of the section. When thinking about the surrounding neighborhood, consider all areas that you can see from inside of the park.

When rating the access and surrounding neighborhood, please use the following definition:

- Useable: everything necessary for use is present and nothing prevents use (e.g., sidewalks are passable)
- 1. Can the park be **accessed for use**? (e.g., not locked/fenced, available for activity, etc.) **D** No **D** Yes
- 2. Are there **signs** that state the following (could be same sign)? (check all that are present) \Box None present
 - Park name
 Park hours
 Park contact information
 Park rules
 Park map
 Rental equipment information

Park/facility rental information
 Event/program information

- 3. How many **points of entry** does the park have? More than 5 (or park boundary is open) 2-5 Only 1
- 4. Is there a **public transit stop** within sight of the park? \Box No \Box Yes
- 5. What types of **parking** are available for the park? *(check all that are present)* None Parking lot On street parking Bike rack
- 6. Are there **sidewalks** on *any* roads bordering the park? (could be on opposite side of road) \Box No \Box Yes If yes ... Are they useable? \Box All or most are useable \Box About half \Box None or few useable If yes ... Are there **curb cuts and/or ramps** on *any* sidewalks bordering or entering the park? \Box No \Box Yes
- 7. Is there an external **trail or path** connected to the park? No Yes If yes ... Is it useable? No Yes
- 8. Are there **bike routes** on *any* roads bordering the park? *(check all that are present)* None Marked lane Designated route sign Share the road signs/markers
- 9. Are there nearby traffic signals on any roads bordering the park? (e.g., crosswalk, stop light/sign) \Box No \Box Yes
- 10. What are the main **land use(s) around the park**? *(check all that apply)* INone present Residential Commercial Institutional (e.g., school) Industrial (e.g., warehouse) Natural
- 11. Which of the following **safety or appearance concerns** are present in the **neighborhood surrounding the park**? *(check all that are present in the surrounding neighborhood within sight on any side of the park)*
 - Poor lighting (e.g., low or no lighting on surrounding neighborhood streets)
 - Graffiti (e.g., markings or paintings that reduce the visual quality of the area)
 - □ Vandalism (e.g., damaged signs, vehicles, etc.)
 - Excessive litter (e.g., noticeable amounts of trash, broken glass, etc.)
 - □ Heavy traffic (e.g., steady flow of vehicles)
 - □ Excessive noise (e.g., noticeable sounds that are unpleasant or annoying)
 - Uvacant or unfavorable buildings (e.g., abandoned houses, liquor store)
 - Deorly maintained properties (e.g., overgrown grass, broken windows)
 - Lack of eyes on the street (e.g., absence of people, no houses or store fronts)
 - Lividence of threatening persons or behaviors (e.g., gangs, alcohol/drug use)
 - Other _
 - None present

Comments on Access or Surrounding Neighborhood Issues:

Section 3: Park Activity Areas

This section asks about the activity areas in the park. For <u>each</u> activity area type:

- i. First, mark the number (#) of areas that are present in the park (if none, write "0").
- ii. Then, respond to questions about **up to three** of those activity areas. If there are more than three areas for a specific activity area type, **rate the first three you come across during the audit**. If there were no activity areas of that type present in the park, move on to the next type.
- iii. Finally, use the space provided to note any additional comments about each type of activity area.

When rating the activity areas, please use the following definitions:

- **Useable**: everything necessary for use is present (excluding portable equipment rackets, balls, etc.) and nothing prevents use (e.g., are there nets up for tennis courts, goals for sport fields, are trails passable, etc.)
- Good condition: looks clean and maintained (e.g., minimal rust, graffiti, broken parts; even surface; etc.)

| 12. Activity Areas | # of Areas | Area 1 | Area 2 | Area 3 |
|------------------------------|--------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| a. Playground | (# :) | | | |
| Useable | | 🗆 No 🕒 Yes | 🗖 No 🗖 Yes | 🗖 No 🗖 Yes |
| Good condition | | 🗆 No 🗳 Yes | 🗖 No 🗖 Yes | 🗖 No 🗖 Yes |
| Distinct areas for diffe | erent age groups | 🗆 No 🗳 Yes | 🗖 No 🗖 Yes | 🗖 No 🗖 Yes |
| Colorful equipment (i | .e., 3+ colors) | 🗅 No 🕒 Yes | 🗅 No 🕒 Yes | 🗖 No 🗖 Yes |
| Shade cover for some | (25%+) of the area | 🗅 No 🕒 Yes | 🗅 No 🕒 Yes | 🗖 No 🗖 Yes |
| Benches in/surroundi | ng area | 🗅 No 🕒 Yes | 🗅 No 🕒 Yes | 🗖 No 🗖 Yes |
| Fence around area (i. | e., half or more) | 🗅 No 🕒 Yes | 🗅 No 🕒 Yes | 🗖 No 🗖 Yes |
| Separation or distance | e from road | 🗆 No 🕒 Yes | 🗆 No 🗖 Yes | 🖬 No 🗖 Yes |
| Comments: | | | | |
| b. Sport Field (football/soo | ccer) (#:) | | | |
| Useable | | 🗅 No 🕒 Yes | 🗅 No 🕒 Yes | 🗖 No 🗖 Yes |
| Good condition | | 🗅 No 🕒 Yes | 🗅 No 🕒 Yes | 🗖 No 🗖 Yes |
| Comments: | | | | |
| c. Baseball Field | (# :) | | | |
| Useable | | 🗆 No 🕒 Yes | 🗆 No 🗖 Yes | 🖬 No 🗖 Yes |
| Good condition | | 🗆 No 🕒 Yes | 🗆 No 🗖 Yes | 🖬 No 🗖 Yes |
| Comments: | | | | |
| d. Swimming Pool | (# :) | | | |
| Useable | | 🗆 No 🕒 Yes | 🗆 No 🕒 Yes | 🗖 No 🗖 Yes |
| Good condition | | 🗆 No 🕒 Yes | 🗆 No 🕒 Yes | 🗖 No 🗖 Yes |
| Comments: | | | | |
| e. Splash Pad | (# :) | | | |
| Useable | | 🗖 No 🗖 Yes | 🗖 No 🗖 Yes | 🗖 No 🗖 Yes |
| Good condition | | 🗖 No 🗖 Yes | 🗖 No 🗖 Yes | 🗖 No 🗖 Yes |
| Comments: | | | | |
| f. Basketball Court | (# :) | | | |
| Useable | | 🗆 No 🕒 Yes | 🗆 No 🗖 Yes | 🖬 No 🗖 Yes |
| Good condition | | 🗆 No 🕒 Yes | 🗆 No 🗖 Yes | 🖬 No 🗖 Yes |
| Comments: | | | | |
| g. Tennis Court | (# :) | | | |
| Useable | | 🗆 No 🕒 Yes | 🗆 No 🗖 Yes | 🖬 No 🗖 Yes |
| Good condition | | 🗅 No 🕒 Yes | 🗅 No 🕒 Yes | 🗖 No 🗖 Yes |
| Comments: | | | | |
| h. Volleyball Court | (# :) | | | |
| Useable | | 🗅 No 🕒 Yes | 🗅 No 🕒 Yes | 🗅 No 🕒 Yes |
| Good condition | | 🗆 No 🕒 Yes | 🗆 No 🕒 Yes | 🗖 No 🗖 Yes |
| Comments: | | | | |

| i. Trail | (# :) | | | | | | |
|--|-----------------|------|------------|------|------------|----------------|------------|
| Useable | (| 🗖 No | 🛛 Yes | 🖵 No | 🛛 Yes | 🖵 No | 🖵 Yes |
| Good condition | | | Yes | | Yes | | G Yes |
| Connected to activity areas | | | Yes | | Yes | | G Yes |
| Distance markers/sign | | | Yes | | | | ☐ Yes |
| Benches along trail | | | C Yes | | | | G Yes |
| What is the trail surface? (a | check one) | | | | | | |
| | | | shed stone | | shed stone | | shed stone |
| | | | /mulch | | t/mulch | Dirt, | |
| Trail length (in miles): | | | - | | | miles 🗖 <1 🗖 1 | |
| | | | nsure | | Unsure | | nsure |
| Comments: | | | | | | | |
| j. Fitness Equipment/Stations | (#:) | | | | | | |
| Useable | (****/ | 🗖 No | Yes | 🖵 No | 🖵 Yes | 🗖 No | 🖵 Yes |
| Good condition | | 🛛 No | C Yes | 🖵 No | C Yes | 🖵 No | C Yes |
| Comments: | | | | | | | |
| k. Skate Park | (#:) | | | | | | |
| Useable | ·/ | 🗖 No | 🖵 Yes | 🗖 No | 🛛 Yes | 🗖 No | 🖵 Yes |
| Good condition | | 🗖 No | 🖵 Yes | 🗖 No | 🛛 Yes | 🖵 No | 🖵 Yes |
| Comments: | | | | | | | |
| I. Off-Leash Dog Park | (# :) | | | | | | |
| Useable | (****/ | 🗖 No | 🖵 Yes | 🗖 No | 🛛 Yes | 🗖 No | 🖵 Yes |
| Good condition | | 🗖 No | 🖵 Yes | 🗖 No | 🛛 Yes | 🖵 No | 🖵 Yes |
| Comments: | | | | | | | |
| m. Open/Green Space | (# :) | | | | | | |
| Useable | ·, | 🗖 No | 🖵 Yes | 🗖 No | 🛛 Yes | 🗖 No | Yes |
| Good condition | | 🗖 No | 🖵 Yes | 🖵 No | 🖵 Yes | 🖵 No | Yes |
| What is the approximate a | rea in acres of | | 1 2 🗆 🖓 🧃 | | 1 2 🗆 🗤 2 | acres 🖸 <1 🗖 1 | |
| the open/green space? (1 a | acre $pprox$ 1 | | nsure | | Unsure | | nsure |
| football field without end z | ones) | | Isule | - | Unsule | | Isule |
| Comments: | | | | | | | |
| n. Lake | (# :) | | | | | | |
| Useable | | 🖵 No | Yes | 🗖 No | 🖵 Yes | 🗖 No | Yes |
| Good condition | | 🗖 No | Yes | 🗖 No | Yes | 🗖 No | Yes |
| Is there a designated swim | ming area? | 🗖 No | Yes | 🗖 No | 🖵 Yes | 🗖 No | Yes |
| Comments: | | | | | | | |
| o. Disc Golf | (#:) | | | | | | |
| Useable | | 🖵 No | Yes | 🖵 No | 🖵 Yes | 🗖 No | 🖵 Yes |
| Good condition | | 🗖 No | Yes | 🖵 No | 🖵 Yes | 🖵 No | Yes |
| Comments: | | | | | | | |
| p. Other (fill in a type descriptio | n for each) | | | | | | |
| Useable | | 🖵 No | C Yes | 🗆 No | Yes | | Yes |
| Good condition | | | C Yes | | C Yes | | G Yes |
| Comments: | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |

Comments on Park Activity Areas:

Section 4: Park Quality and Safety

This section asks about factors related to comfort and safety when using the park. Several questions include follow-up responses if you answered yes. There are spaces for comments at the end of the section.

When rating the quality and safety features of the park, please use the following definitions:

- **Useable**: everything necessary for use is present and nothing prevents use (e.g., can get into restrooms, drinking fountains work, etc.)
- Good condition: looks clean and maintained (e.g., minimal rust, graffiti, broken parts, etc.)

| 13. Are there public restroom(s) or If yes | portable toilet(s) at the park? \Box N | No 🛛 Yes | |
|--|--|--|--|
| Are the restroom(s) useable? | All or most in good condition No Yes | About half About half | None or few are useable None or few in good condition |
| 14. Are there drinking fountain(s) at If yes | t the park? 🗖 No 🗖 Yes | | |
| - | are there? (i.e., units, not spouts) All or most are useable All or most in good condition All or most are near | About half About half About half | None or few are useable None or few in good condition None or few are near |
| 15. Are there bench(es) to sit on in t If yes | he park? 🛛 No 🗳 Yes | | |
| Are the benches useable? Are they in good condition? | All or most are useable All or most in good condition | About half About half | None or few are useable None or few in good condition |
| 16. Are there picnic table(s) in the p If yes | ark? 🔲 No 🛄 Yes | | |
| Are the tables useable? Are they in good condition? Is there a picnic shelter in the particular particular in the particular p | | About half About half | None or few are useable None or few in good condition |
| 17. Are there trash cans in the park? If yes | P 🗆 No 🗖 Yes | | |
| Are they overflowing with trash Are they near activity areas? Are recycling containers provid | All or most are near | About half About half | None or few overflowing None or few are near |
| 18. Is there food/vending machinesIf yesAre fruits and/or vegetables ava | |) Yes) Yes | |
| 19. If the sun was directly overhead, | how much of the park would be s | haded? □ <25% | □ 25-75% □ >75% |
| 20. Are there rules posted about an | imals in the park? (e.g., dogs must | be leashed)? | No 🛛 Yes |
| 21. Is there a place to get dog waste If yes Are bags available at any o | | □ No □ Yes □ No □ Yes | |

22. Are there **lights** in the park? (not including neighborhood street lights) \Box No \Box Yes If yes ...

How much of the park could be lit? $\Box < 25\%$ $\Box 25-75\%$ $\Box >75\%$ Are the activity areas lit? \Box All or most are lit \Box About half \Box None or few are lit

- 23. Is the **park monitored**? (e.g., volunteer or paid staff, patrolled by police, cameras, etc.) Unsure Yes
- 24. Are there **any emergency devices** in the park? (e.g., phone, button, emergency directions) **D** No **D** Yes
- 25. From the center of the park, how visible is the surrounding neighborhood? Fully Partially Not at all
- 26. Are there **road(s)** of any type through the park? \Box No \Box Yes
- 27. What other buildings or structures are present in the park? (check all that are present)
 - Community/recreation center
 - Amphitheater
 - Other _
 - □ None present
- 28. Which of the following park quality or safety concerns are present in the park? (check all that are present)
 - Graffiti (e.g., markings or paintings that reduce the visual quality of the area)
 - □ Vandalism (e.g., damaged signs, buildings, equipment, etc.)
 - □ Excessive litter (e.g., noticeable amounts of trash, broken glass, etc.)
 - □ Excessive animal waste (e.g., noticeable amounts of dog waste)
 - □ Excessive noise (e.g., noticeable sounds that are unpleasant or annoying)
 - Deor maintenance (e.g., overgrown grass/weeds/bushes or lack of grass in green areas)
 - □ Evidence of threatening persons or behaviors (e.g., gangs, alcohol/drug use)
 - Dangerous spots in the park (e.g., abandoned building, pit/hole)
 - Other _
 - None present

29. What aesthetic (i.e., beautiful/pleasing) features are present in the park? (check all that are present)

- Like Evidence of landscaping (e.g., flower beds, pruned bushes)
- □ Artistic feature (e.g., statue, sculpture, gazebo, fountain)
- □ Historical or educational feature (e.g., monument, nature display, educational signs, etc.)
- Uvoded area (e.g., thick woods or dense trees)
- □ Trees throughout the park (e.g., scattered trees)
- UWater feature (e.g., lake, stream, pond)
- □ Meadow (e.g., natural, tall grassy area)
- Other _
- None present

Comments on Park Quality and Safety Issues:

General Comments/Notes:

Before you are finished, please make sure you have answered all questions in the tool.