



*Hudson Gardens*

## Appendix A

# Inventory and Level of Service

South Suburban  
Parks & Recreation  
2022 Master Plan

APRIL, 2023





South Suburban  
Golf Course



# CONTENTS

# INVENTORY & LEVEL OF SERVICE

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01 SYSTEM INVENTORY

02 SERVICE AREAS



*Birding Class at  
South Platte Park*

# System Inventory

**123**  
PARKS AND  
OPEN SPACES



**4**  
RECREATION CENTERS



**56**  
MILES OF REGIONAL  
TRAILS





South Suburban Park and Recreation District owns, operates, and maintains a wide variety of parks, open spaces, recreation and trail properties, golf courses, and facilities.

## PARKS AND OPEN SPACE INVENTORY OVERVIEW

South Suburban Park and Recreation District owns/manages 101 publicly accessible parks totaling approximately 979 acres as well as 22 open space parks totaling approximately 1,732 acres. A full listing and a map of these properties can be found on pages 6 and 7 (Map 1 and Table 1). Further detail on park and open space acreage and categories is provided in the Park System Inventory on page 8 (Table 2) and the Open Space System Inventory on page 10 (Table 3).

## OUTDOOR RECREATION AMENITIES

South Suburban offers a variety of outdoor recreation amenities, including six pickleball courts at the regional Cornerstone Park, miniature golf at Colorado Journey and Family Sports Center, and outdoor swimming at Holly Pool, Ben Franklin Pool, Harlow Pool, and Cook Creek Pool. Other amenities include two skate parks, one BMX track, 50 tennis courts, 64 playgrounds, four golf courses, and seven nature play destinations, including Lee Gulch Overlook and Creekside Experience. Passive recreation opportunities exist on trails and are found in open space parks like South Platte Park and RidgeGate Open Space.

## INDOOR RECREATION AND SPORTS CENTERS

In addition to outdoor recreation, South Suburban has indoor facilities and sports centers. Indoor facilities include the South Suburban Sports Complex, Family Sports Center, the Lone Tree Hub and four recreation centers: Douglas H. Buck Community Recreation Center, Goodson Recreation Center, Lone Tree Recreation Center, and the Sheridan Recreation Center. South Suburban Sports Complex features three sheets of ice, two indoor fields, two gymnasiums, a restaurant/bar, party rooms, and a district administration office.

## TRAILS INVENTORY

South Suburban provides over 114 linear miles of regional, local, and internal park trails located within parks and open space properties. There are 13

regional trails comprising 560 acres and 13 local trails totaling 66 acres throughout the parks system.

South Suburban partners with others in managing over 50 miles of regional trails. A few examples of regional trails include Big Dry Creek, Columbine, High Line Canal, Lee Gulch, Mary Carter Greenway, Little Dry Creek, and Willow Creek. South Suburban provides six regional trailheads to access the regional trails. A full trails inventory is on page 12 (Table 5).

### **In addition to the parks and recreation offerings described in this inventory, South Suburban also provides:**

- Four golf courses:
  - South Suburban Golf Course
  - Family Sports Center Golf Course
  - Littleton Golf & Tennis Club
  - Lone Tree Golf Course & Hotel
- 13 school partnerships/shared use agreements for a total of 44 acres
- Two off-leash dog parks:
  - David A. Lorenz Regional Park
  - Wynetka Ponds

















*Photography Camp at the High Line Canal*



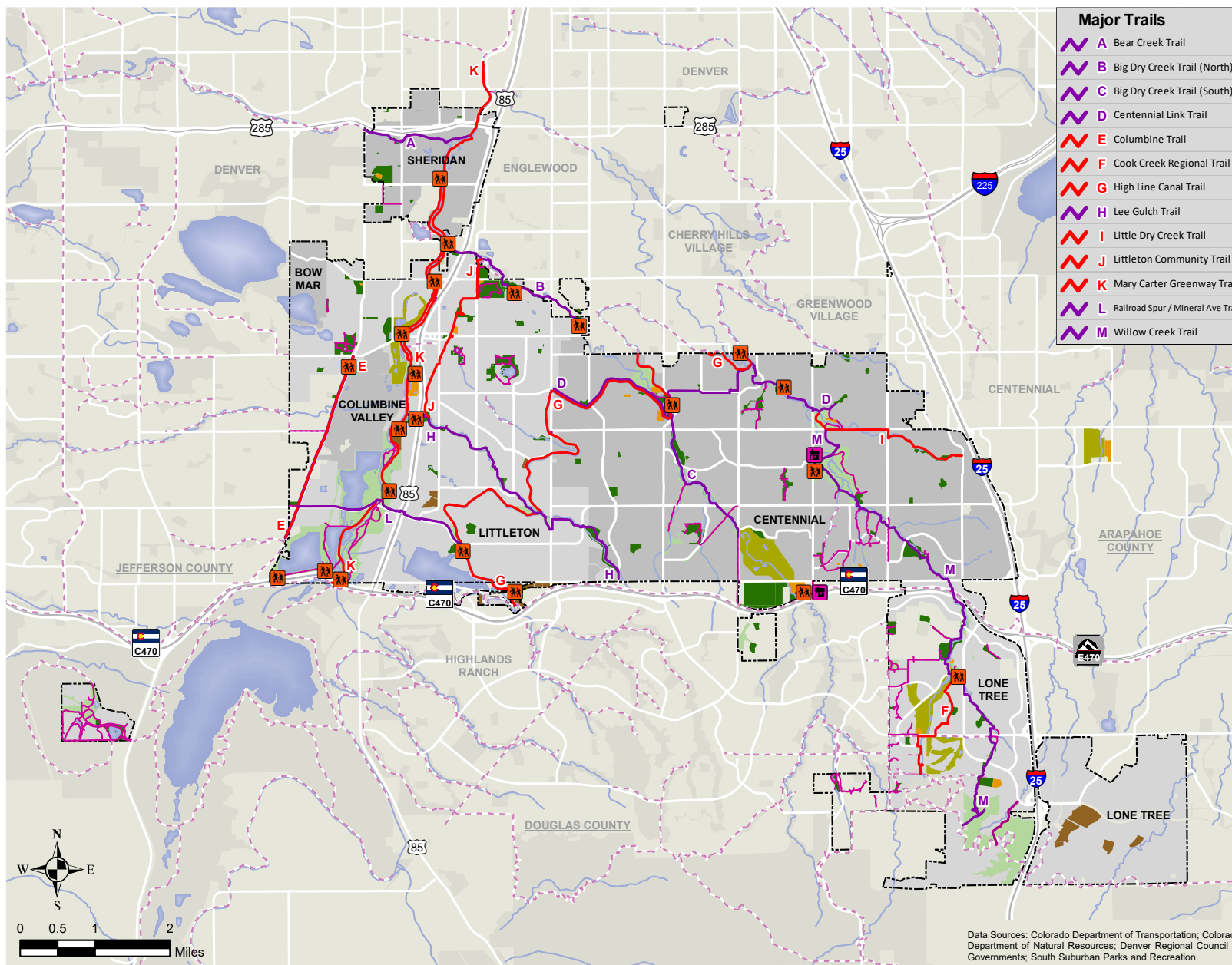
# South Suburban Parks and Recreation System Map

## Legend

-  District Boundary
-  Waterway
-  Lake or Reservoir
-  Facility
-  Golf Course
-  Open Space
-  Park
-  School
-  Undeveloped Park
-  Service Center
-  SSPRD Major Trails
-  SSPRD Local Trails
-  Other Area Trails
-  Trailheads with Parking

## Major Trails

-  A Bear Creek Trail
-  B Big Dry Creek Trail (North)
-  C Big Dry Creek Trail (South)
-  D Centennial Link Trail
-  E Columbine Trail
-  F Cook Creek Regional Trail
-  G High Line Canal Trail
-  H Lee Gulch Trail
-  I Little Dry Creek Trail
-  J Littleton Community Trail
-  K Mary Carter Greenway Trail
-  L Railroad Spur / Mineral Ave Trail
-  M Willow Creek Trail



Data Sources: Colorado Department of Transportation; Colorado Department of Natural Resources; Denver Regional Council of Governments; South Suburban Parks and Recreation.



TABLE 1

# Parks and Recreation System Inventory

## PARKS KEY

#	Name	Type
1	Cornerstone Park	Regional
2	David A. Lorenz Regional Park	Regional
3	deKoevend Park	Regional
4	Altair Park	Community
5	Arapaho Park	Community
6	Bowles Grove Park	Community
7	Cherry Knolls Park	Community
8	Gallup Park	Community
9	Harlow Park	Community
10	Ketring Park	Community
11	Prairie Sky Park	Community
12	Progress Park	Community
13	Sheridan Community Park	Community
14	Sterne Park	Community
15	Sweetwater Park	Community
16	Willow Creek Park	Community
17	Writers Vista Park	Community
18	Wynetka Ponds	Community
19	Abbott Park	Neighborhood
20	Barnes Park	Neighborhood
21	Belvedere Park	Neighborhood
22	Berry Park	Neighborhood
23	Carbone Park	Neighborhood
24	Carriage Club Estates Park	Neighborhood
25	Centennial Ridge Park	Neighborhood
26	Charley Emley Park	Neighborhood
27	Cherry Park	Neighborhood
28	Clarkson Park	Neighborhood
29	Columbine Manor Park	Neighborhood
30	deKoevend Tot Lot	Neighborhood
31	Fairways at Lone Tree	Neighborhood
32	Foxhill Park	Neighborhood
33	Foxridge Park	Neighborhood
34	Hamlet Park	Neighborhood
35	Heritage Village Park	Neighborhood
36	Hogback Hill Park	Neighborhood
37	Hunters Hill Park	Neighborhood
38	James A. Taylor Park	Neighborhood
39	Kline Homestead Park	Neighborhood
40	LaQuinta Park	Neighborhood
41	Linksvie Park	Neighborhood
42	Little Dry Creek Park	Neighborhood
43	Little's Creek Park	Neighborhood
44	Lonesome Pine Park	Neighborhood
45	Medema Park	Neighborhood
46	Milliken Park	Neighborhood
47	Palos Verdes Park	Neighborhood
48	Palos Verdes Tot Lot	Neighborhood
49	Powers Park	Neighborhood
50	Promenade Park	Neighborhood
51	Province Center Park	Neighborhood
52	Puma Park	Neighborhood
53	Ridgeview Park	Neighborhood
54	Ridgewood Park	Neighborhood
55	Southbridge Park	Neighborhood
56	Sunset Park	Neighborhood
57	TrailMark Park	Neighborhood
58	Walnut Hills Park	Neighborhood
59	Wildcat Ridge Park	Neighborhood
60	Bobcat Park	Mini
61	Chase Park	Mini

## PARKS KEY CONTINUED

#	Name	Type
62	Elati Park	Mini
63	Footbridge Park	Mini
64	Harmony Park	Mini
65	Ida Park	Mini
66	Nesbitt Park	Mini
67	Persinger Park	Mini
68	Promise Park	Mini
69	Sheridan Square Park	Mini
70	Wildcat Park	Mini
71	Bega Park	Civic
72	Gallup Gardens	Civic
73	Kimmer Plaza	Civic
74	Lincoln Commons	Civic
75	Veteran's Park	Civic
76	War Memorial Rose Garden	Civic
77	Creekside Experience	Nature Park
78	Lee Gulch Overlook	Nature Park
79	Reynolds Landing	Nature Park
80	Ashbaugh Park/Pond	Nature Park
81	Cimarron Trail Park	Nature Park
82	Maximus Trail Park	Nature Park
83	Slaughterhouse Gulch Park	Nature Park
84	Mission Viejo Open Space	Undeveloped
85	Ohlson Acres	Undeveloped
86	Superchi Property	Undeveloped
87	Grandpa's Acres	Undeveloped
88	Jackass Hill Park	Undeveloped
89	Alice Terry Elementary School	School
90	Carl Sandburg Elementary School	School
91	Damon Runyon Elementary School	School
92	Dry Creek Elementary School	School
93	East Elementary School	School
94	Eugene Field Elementary School	School
95	Homestead Elementary School	School
96	Laura Ingalls Wilder Elem. School	School
97	Mark Hopkins Elementary School	School
98	Mark Twain Elementary School	School
99	Park at Lone Tree Elementary School	School
100	Peabody Elementary School	School
101	Walnut Hills Elementary School	School

## OPEN SPACE

#	Name	Type
102	deKoevend Open Space	Regional
103	Ridgegate Open Space	Regional
104	South Platte Park	Regional
105	South Platte Park Reservoir	Regional
106	Cook Creek OS	Community
107	Cypress Greens Open Space (Parcel 6B)	Community
108	Foxridge Open Space	Community
109	Holly Park	Community
110	Horseshoe Park	Community
111	Nevada Ditch Conservation Easement	Community
112	Oxbow Point	Community
113	Prominence Point Open Space	Community
114	Province Center Open Space	Community
115	Sumac Hill Farm Conservation Easement	Community
116	Taos Open Space	Community
117	TrailMark Open Space	Community
118	Watson Lake	Community
119	Willow Spring Open Space	Community
120	Acres Green Drive Medians	Community
121	Forest Park Natural Area	Community
122	Franklin Street Right-of-Way	Community
123	Monterey Open Space	Community

## GOLF COURSES KEY

#	Name
124	Family Sports Center Golf Course
125	Littleton Golf and Tennis Club
126	Lone Tree Golf Course & Hotel
127	South Suburban Golf Course

## FACILITIES KEY

#	Name
128	Ben Franklin Pool
129	Cook Creek Pool
130	Cook Creek Tennis Courts
131	Harlow Pool
132	Holly Pool
133	Otero Tennis Courts
134	Rusty Sun Tennis Courts
135	The Lone Tree Hub
136	South Suburban Ice Arena
137	Carson Nature Center
138	Colorado Journey Miniature Golf
139	Cornerstone Park Batting Cages
140	Douglas H. Buck Recreation Center
141	Family Sports Center
142	Family Sports Dome
143	Goodson Recreation Center
144	Holly Tennis Center
145	Hudson Gardens
146	Lone Tree Recreation Center
147	Sheridan Recreation Center
148	South Suburban Service Center
149	South Suburban Sports Complex
150	Tennis Center and Park at Lone Tree Golf Course
151	Willow Spring Service Center

## MAJOR TRAILS KEY

<b>A</b>	Bear Creek Trail
<b>B</b>	Big Dry Creek Trail (North)
<b>C</b>	Big Dry Creek Trail (South)
<b>D</b>	Centennial Link Trail
<b>E</b>	Columbine Trail
<b>F</b>	Cook Creek Regional Trail
<b>G</b>	High Line Canal Trail
<b>H</b>	Lee Gulch Trail
<b>I</b>	Little Dry Creek Trail
<b>J</b>	Littleton Community Trail
<b>K</b>	Mary Carter Greenway Trail
<b>L</b>	Railroad Spur / Mineral Ave Trail
<b>M</b>	Willow Creek Greenbelt/Trail



# Park System Inventory

Number of  
Neighborhood  
Parks

41

## SOUTH SUBURBAN PARKS

The South Suburban Park and Recreation District offers a wide variety of parks that serve residents in Centennial, Littleton, Lone Tree, Sheridan, Columbine Valley, Bow Mar, and unincorporated areas of Arapahoe, Jefferson, and Douglas counties.

There are currently 101 parks, not including open space/natural lands serving South Suburban residents. These include three regional parks, 15 community parks, 41 neighborhood parks, 11 mini parks, 13 school parks, six civic parks, seven nature parks, and five undeveloped parks. Additionally, South Suburban has future planned parks including Lone Tree Regional Park, Reynold's Landing Expansion, and multiple Neighborhood Parks and Open space areas at Lone Tree's RidgeGate community.

## PARK TYPES

Regional Parks provide recreational programs and amenities intended to serve the community as well as park users throughout the surrounding region. Typically, Regional Parks provide lighted synthetic athletic complexes, lighted sports courts, large or multiple playgrounds, multiple shade pavilions, restrooms, and walking trails. Regional Parks may also support specialty facilities, bicycle and skateboard facilities, public art, outdoor event spaces, plazas, and other unique amenities.

Community Parks serve as a focal point for community-wide activities that serve a broad purpose and balance active and passive recreation needs. These parks allow for group activities not feasible nor desirable at the neighborhood level due to noise, lights, traffic, etc. Community Parks may include multiple programmed bluegrass or synthetic turf athletic fields and courts with or without lighting systems, a large playground with multiple structures, community event spaces, walking trails, shade pavilions, public art, or restrooms. Community Parks should maintain a balance between programmed sports facilities and other activity areas to appeal to the broader community. Specialty park amenities may also occur within community parks.

Neighborhood Parks provide both active and passive recreation opportunities and serve as a common area for neighbors of all ages to gather, socialize, and play. They typically include amenities such as a multi-purpose athletic field, sport courts, playgrounds, shade pavilions, looped trails, and non-flushing

TABLE 2

## Park System Totals

Park Category	Acres	Number of Parks
Regional	141	3
Community	353	15
Neighborhood	295	41
Mini	6	11
School	44	13
Civic	15	6
Nature Park	47	7
Undeveloped	77	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>979</b>	<b>101</b>

Source: Design Workshop, SSPRD GIS data

Note: Park totals do not include open space, trails/greenways, recreation centers, sports facilities golf courses, memorials, mini golf, maintenance and administration sites.

restrooms. In most cases, programmed sports in these parks should be limited to youth sports games and practices.

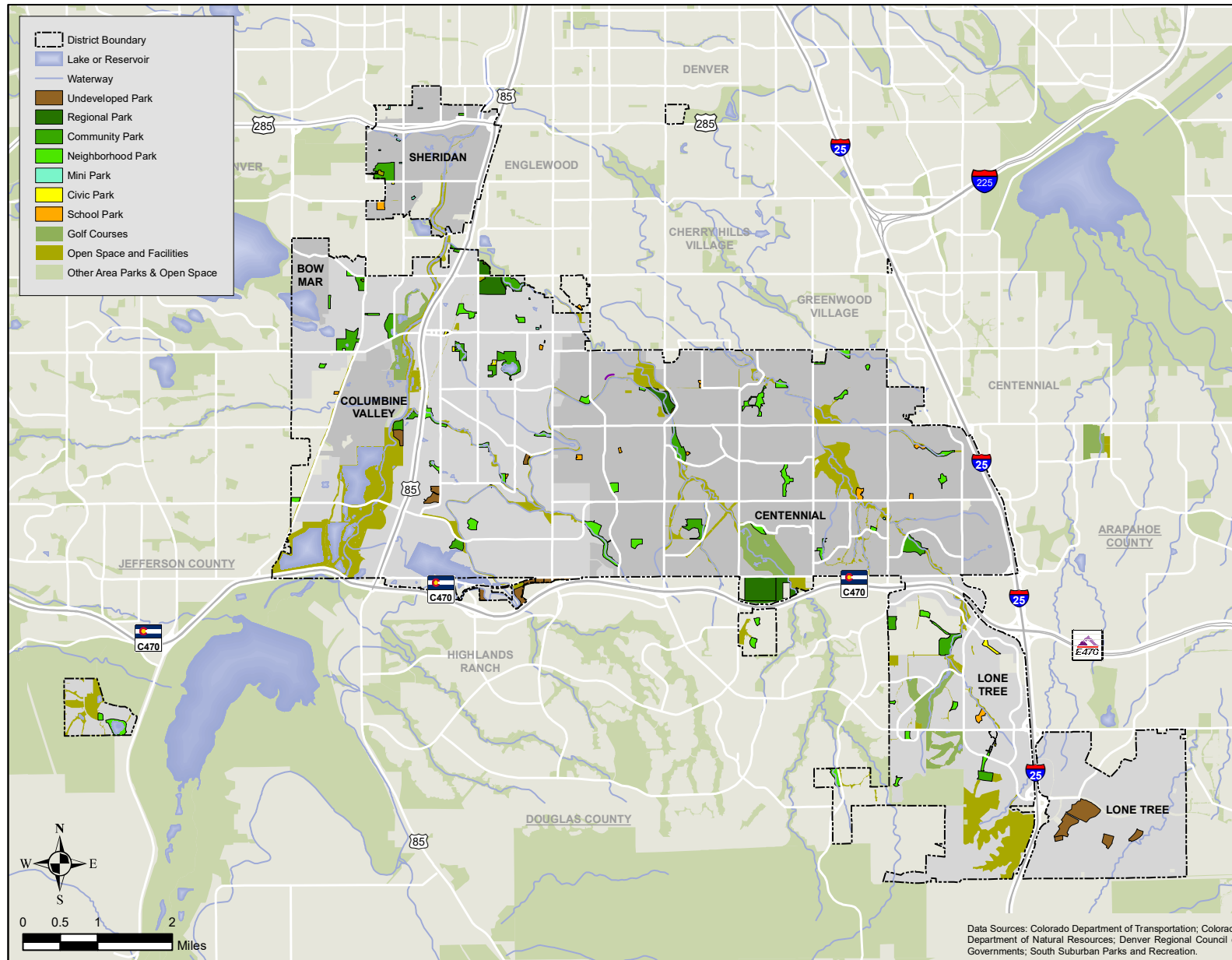
Mini Parks are specialized parks designed to serve a limited area or neighborhood. Park amenities may include a small shade pavilion, picnic area, playground equipment, park benches, and open turf areas for informal play. If space allows, Mini Parks may include a sport court.

Civic Parks are specialized parks that are typically passive and support the surrounding area. Park amenities may include plazas, small, shaded seating areas, display gardens, green areas, public art, or memorials.

School Parks are shared sites with local schools for use by the public when not in use by schools. They provide opportunities for organized and informal sports, and playgrounds.

Nature Parks combine open space parks and built spaces for unstructured play and exploration. These parks may include low impact and recreational features such as educational signage, nature art, and nature play elements. They may also provide shaded seating, walking trails, or native and xeric planting.

# Park System Inventory Map





# Open Space Inventory



## SOUTH SUBURBAN OPEN SPACE

Open Space is generally a publicly accessible area dedicated to the preservation of significant natural resources and open space. These areas are generally maintained in their natural state and help preserve significant views, provide wildlife sanctuaries, and preserve lands. Low impact, nature-based recreation such as trails, interpretive signage, and viewing areas are possible in areas of low environmental sensitivity. Open Spaces should balance human impact and conservation of natural elements. Open Spaces may provide nature education opportunities. South Suburban's Open Spaces also include an expansive network of greenways, or corridors, adjacent to trails and trailheads for parking and accessing trails.

South Suburban manages 22 Open Space properties that fall into two categories: Regional Open Space and Community Open Space. Open Space areas include four Regional and 18 Community Open Space parklands ranging in size from less than one acre to more than 100 acres. Regional Open Spaces provided by other entities are considerable and provide outdoor destinations for the surrounding region and/ or conserve resources of regional importance. South Platte Park is an example of Regional Open Space, providing the largest, contiguous open space area in the South Suburban system.

TABLE 3

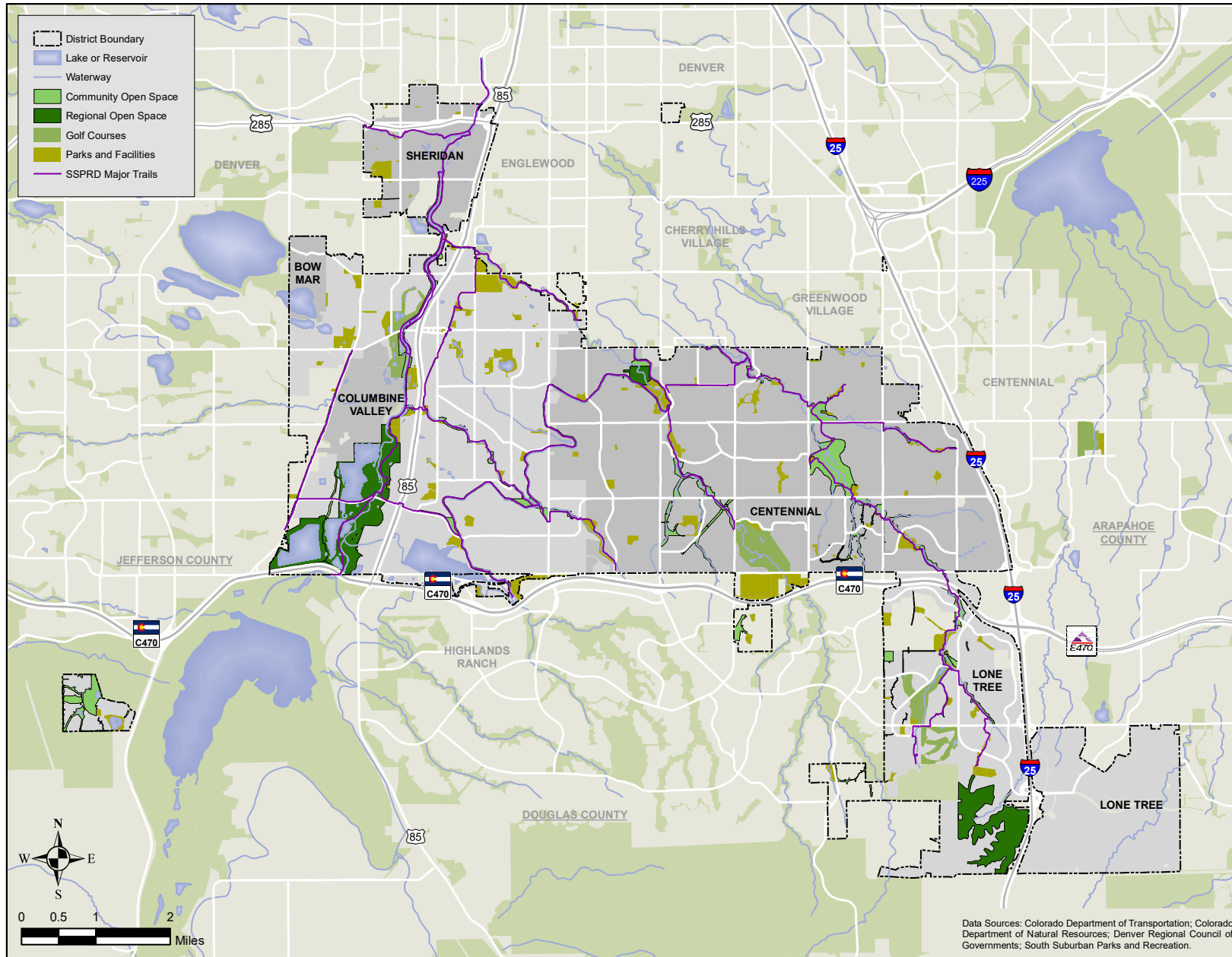
### Open Space System Totals

Park Category	Acres	Number of Parks
Regional	1286	4
Community	446	18
<b>Total</b>	<b>1732</b>	<b>22</b>

Source: Design Workshop, SSPRD GIS data

Note: Open Space totals do not include trails/greenways, recreation centers, sports facilities, golf courses, shared school properties, memorials, mini golf, maintenance and administration sites.

# Open Space Inventory Map





# Trail System Inventory

Number of  
Regional Trails

13

## SOUTH SUBURBAN TRAIL SYSTEM

South South Suburban Park and Recreation District and partners provide a diversity of trail types within their trail systems, which include off-street paved trail experiences, recreational park trails, and soft-surface trails. Municipalities and HOAs within South Suburban's boundaries separately provide walkways and sidewalks that connect to these trails. South Suburban provides over 114 linear miles of regional, local, and internal park trails. Regional and Local Trail classifications are described below.

### TRAIL CLASSIFICATIONS

Regional Trails are part of a comprehensive network that links to local trails and the Denver Metro area. The continuous regional trail type offers diverse experiences, including travel through riparian habitats, neighborhoods, and vegetated open spaces. Most residents in South Suburban can access a Regional Trail within a half-mile of their home. Because these trails typically follow creeks and irrigation canals, they contain relatively flat grades. While Regional Trails are geared for recreational, off-street use, they also provide critical connections for commuters.

Local Trails are typically located within a park or along neighborhood streets. They serve a recreation purpose, although they can provide off-street trail connections to Regional Trails and destinations such as retail areas, schools, recreation centers, and parks.

### TRAIL LEVEL OF SERVICE

South Suburban currently owns 626 acres surrounding Regional and Local Trails (Tables 4 and 5). There are 13 Regional Trails comprising 560 acres and 13 Local Trails totaling 66 acres throughout the parks system. South Suburban currently provides 3.65 acres per 1,000 residents of publicly accessible regional trails and 0.43 acres per 1000 residents of local trails (Table 4). The table below provides a breakdown of the Level of Service by acres of trail type for South Suburban's system.

TABLE 4

### Major Trails Acres Per Population

Trail Category	Number of Trails	Major Trail Acreage	Acres per 1000 people 2021 Service Level (Population 153,251)	Acres per 1000 people 2026 Service Level (Population 162,081)
Regional Trails	13	560	3.65	3.46
Local Trails	13	66	0.43	0.41
<b>Trails Totals</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>626</b>	<b>4.09</b>	<b>3.86</b>

Source: Design Workshop, SSPRD GIS data

TABLE 5

### Major Trail System Totals

Regional	Acres	Miles
Bear Creek Trail	3	2
Big Dry Creek Trail (North)	10	3
Big Dry Creek Trail (South)	56	3
Centennial Link Trail	18	4
Columbine Trail	28	3
Cook Creek Regional Trail	3	1
High Line Canal Trail	117	10
Lee Gulch Trail / Ivan Thomas Greenway	54	4
Little Dry Creek Greenbelt	11	2
Littleton Community Trail	2	3
Mary Carter Greenway	144	12
Railroad Spur (Mineral) Trail	18	3
Willow Creek Greenbelt/Trail	95	7
Local	Acres	Miles
Carriage Club Estates Trail	0.1	0.1
Coal Mine Trail	1	0.5
East/West Trail Connection	3	0.8
Filmore Tributary	10	0.3
Foxridge West Open Space/Trails	7	2
Heritage Hills Trail	1	0.1
Highlands Greenbelt	25	0.8
Quebec Street Greenbelt	3	0.6
Rattlesnake Trail	1	0.1
Sheridan Community Trail	0	0.2
Sweetwater Trail	5	0.9
Terra Ridge Trails	1	1
Wildcat Ridge Trails	10	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>626</b>	<b>101</b>
<b>Total w/ Internal Park Trails</b>	<b>626</b>	<b>114</b>

Source: Design Workshop, SSPRD GIS data





# Recreation Amenities and Facilities Inventory

## SOUTH SUBURBAN RECREATION AMENITIES

South Suburban offers a variety of indoor and outdoor recreation amenities and facilities. Major facilities and amenities are highlighted in Map 5 on page 15 while an inventory of these features can be found in Tables 6 and 7 on page 16.

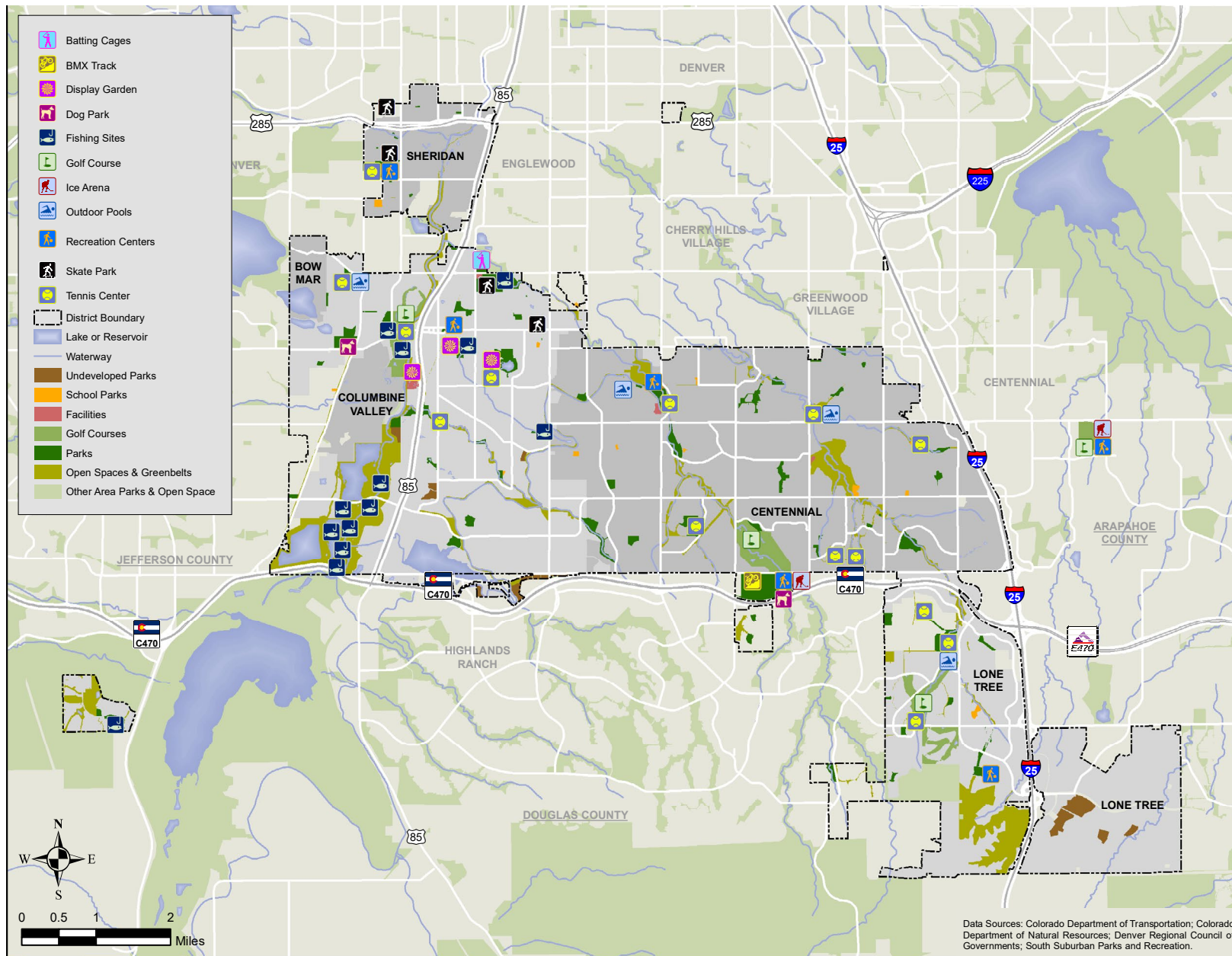
### OUTDOOR RECREATION AMENITIES

South Suburban offers a variety of outdoor recreation amenities, including six pickleball courts at the regional Cornerstone Park, miniature golf at Colorado Journey and Family Sports Center, and outdoor swimming at Holly Pool, Ben Franklin Pool, Harlow Pool, and Cook Creek Pool. Other amenities include two skate parks, one BMX track, 50 tennis courts, four golf courses, and seven nature play destinations, including Lee Gulch Overlook and Creekside Experience. Passive recreation opportunities exist on trails and are found in open space parks like South Platte Park and RidgeGate Open Space. There are also 64 playgrounds in South Suburban, which are highlighted in Map 6 on page 17.

### INDOOR RECREATION AND SPORTS CENTERS

In addition to outdoor recreation, South Suburban has indoor facilities and sports centers. Indoor facilities include the South Suburban Sports Complex, Family Sports Center, the Lone Tree Hub and four recreation centers: Douglas H. Buck Community Recreation Center, Goodson Recreation Center, Lone Tree Recreation Center, and the Sheridan Recreation Center. South Suburban Sports Complex features three sheets of ice, two indoor fields, two gymnasiums, a restaurant/bar, party rooms, and a district administration office.

# Recreation Amenities and Facilities Inventory Map





# Recreation Amenities and Facilities LOS

Number of  
Playgrounds  
**64**

## RECREATION AMENITIES AND FACILITIES LEVEL OF SERVICE

Tables 6 and 7 show an inventory and LOS of South Suburban's amenities and facilities per population. While this form of measurement does not account for demand and trends, it does provide an idea of the amenities that will be needed to maintain the same ratio of population to amenities over the next five years. In addition to the ratio of amenities and facilities per population, it will be important for South Suburban to be aware of changes in trends that may increase or lower the demand for certain types of amenities and facilities.

South Suburban's population is projected to increase by about 8,800 people by 2026 to approximately 162,081 residents. **The red text in Table 7 indicates those amenities that serve 1 per 8,000 people or less currently and may be of interest to add to keep pace with future population increases expected over the next five years.**

TABLE 7

### Outdoor Facilities Totals

Facility Category	Number of Facilities	2021 Service Level (Number Per Person)	2026 Service Level (Number Per Person)
Ballfields	78	1 per 1,965	<b>1 per 2,078</b>
Batting Cages	9	1 per 17,028	1 per 18,009
Outdoor Basketball Courts (Full & Half)*	35	1 per 4,379	<b>1 per 4,631</b>
BMX Tracks	1	1 per 153,251	1 per 162,081
Botanical & Display Gardens	3	1 per 51,084	1 per 54,027
Fishing Sites	15	1 per 10,217	1 per 10,805
Golf Courses	4	1 per 38,313	1 per 40,520
Sheets of Ice	5	1 per 30,650	1 per 32,416
Miniature Golf Course	2	1 per 76,626	1 per 81,041
Off- Leash Dog Parks	2	1 per 76,626	1 per 81,041
Outdoor Pools	6		See Aquatic Master Plan
Playgrounds	64	1 per 2,395	<b>1 per 2,533</b>
Park Restrooms	25	1 per 6,130	<b>1 per 6,483</b>
Shelters	101	1 per 1,517	<b>1 per 1,605</b>
Skate Parks	4	1 per 38,313	1 per 40,520
Pickleball Courts*	20	1 per 7,663	1 per 8,104
Tennis Courts	50	1 per 3,065	<b>1 per 3,242</b>
Multipurpose Fields	106	1 per 1,446	<b>1 per 1,529</b>
Trailheads	20	1 per 7,663	1 per 8,104

Source: Design Workshop, SSPRD GIS data

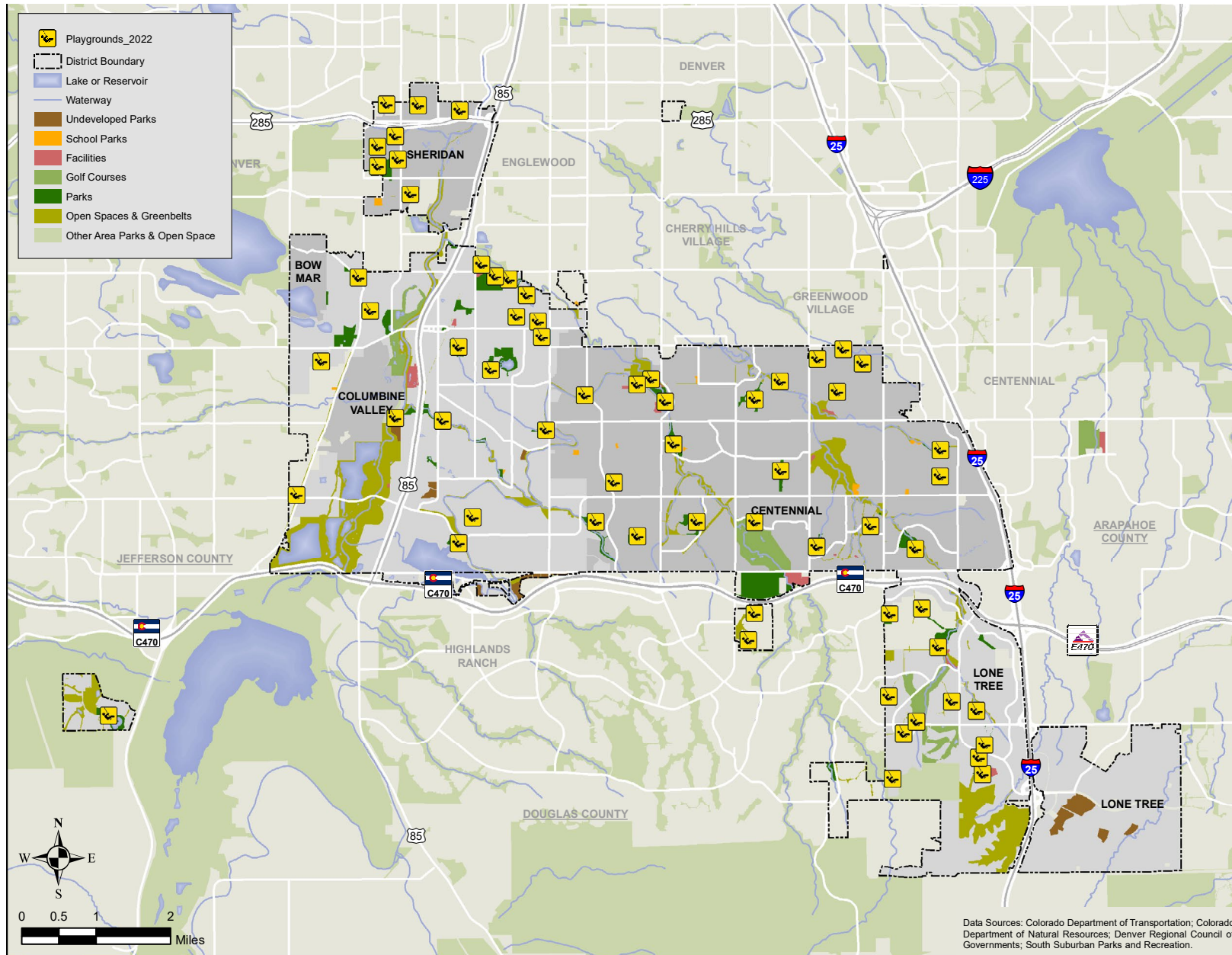
\*Courts overlap and are not playable at the same time.vt

TABLE 6

### Indoor Facilities Totals

Facility Category	Number of Facilities	2021 Service Level (Number Per Person)	2026 Service Level (Number Per Person)
Indoor Basketball Courts (Full)*	6	1 per 25,542	1 per 27,013
Indoor Basketball Courts (Half)*	13	1 per 11,789	1 per 12,468
Sheets of Ice	5	1 per 30,650	1 per 32,416
Indoor Pools	4	1 per 38,313	See Aquatic Master Plan
Recreation Centers	4	1 per 38,313	1 per 40,520
Pickleball Courts*	20	1 per 7,663	1 per 8,104
Tennis Courts	6	1 per 25,542	1 per 27,013
Multipurpose Fields	3	1 per 51,084	1 per 54,027
Arts and Enrichment Spaces	5	1 per 30,650	1 per 32,416
Nature Center	1	1 per 153,251	1 per 162,081
E-sports Lounge	1	1 per 153,251	1 per 162,081

# Playground Inventory Map





Cook Creek Pool

# Service Areas





# Level of Service Evaluation

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Level of Service (LOS) standards for parks and recreation measure how well places serve their current population and anticipate population growth needs. While LOS metrics cannot be used as absolute standards, they can be helpful in determining if there is a deficiency in parkland or facilities by assessing equitable distribution across geographies and populated areas.

Level of service (LOS) is a standard measure that parks and recreation providers nationwide use to monitor the number of services provided to their communities. LOS is a tool used in conjunction with community outreach and can help determine quantity and quality gaps in the system and inform how services are distributed.

The planning team assessed park acres per capita and park distances to homes to identify park provisions and accessibility gaps. Overall, South Suburban is doing well in offering competitive amounts of recreation spaces and close-to-home access to recreation opportunities. Previous plans and community outreach revealed that improving quality and adding capacity to existing spaces and amenities is the top need for South Suburban's five-year outlook.

# Parks Level of Service

## PARK ACRES PER POPULATION

One common LOS metric is to understand if more park space is needed when examining the number of acres of each park provided for every 1,000 residents. South Suburban's parks and open space properties total approximately 2,711 acres (Table 8). With a population of 153,251, South Suburban currently provides 6.39 acres per 1,000 residents of publicly accessible parks and 11.30 acres per 1,000 residents of open space for a total of 17.69 acres per 1000 people. With South Suburban's population projected to increase by about 8,800 people by 2026 to approximately 162,081 residents, roughly another 156 acres are needed to maintain current levels of provision per person.

TABLE 8 Parks System Level of Service

Park Category	Acres	Acres per 1000 people 2021 Service Level (Population 153,251)	Acres per 1000 people 2026 Service Level (Population 162,081)	Acres Needed to Meet Current Level of Service Standards in 2026
Regional	141	0.92	0.87	8
Community	353	2.30	2.18	20
Neighborhood	295	1.93	1.82	17
Mini	6	0.04	0.04	0.3
School	44	0.29	0.27	3
Civic	15	0.10	0.09	1
Nature Park	47	0.31	0.29	3
Undeveloped	77	0.50	0.48	4
Open Space	1732	11.30	10.68	100
<b>Total</b>	<b>2711</b>	<b>17.69</b>	<b>16.72</b>	<b>156</b>

Source: Design Workshop, SSPRD GIS data

## FUTURE LOS PROJECTIONS

Table 8 shows the LOS per park type for South Suburban's park system. The park totals do not include recreation centers, sports facilities, golf courses, mini golf, or maintenance and administration sites. Community parks, neighborhood parks, and open space would need the greatest increase in acreage to maintain the current level of service of park acres per population.

South Suburban will need to add 56 acres of developed park space and 100 acres of open space to their system by 2026 to keep up with projected population growth of 8,830 by 2026 and maintain South Suburban's current level of service. South Suburban is projected to meet these goals, as 109 acres of new developed parks and 213 acres of open space are planned to be added to the system. These proposed parks, trails, and facilities will help to meet future LOS goals listed in Table 8.

In addition, it is recommended that jurisdictional codes be amended to require new development contribute at the rate of the park and open space types listed in Table 8.

## PARK ACCESSIBILITY ANALYSIS

A walkshed analysis helps evaluate the accessibility of the current park system and measures the walking distance between residential addresses and park properties. To better understand South Suburban's park accessibility, a walkshed analysis was conducted that investigates the distance between residential addresses and park properties. The walkshed analysis includes all publicly accessible parks, Nature Parks, and School Parks within South Suburban's boundaries, including public parks from Jefferson County, Arapahoe County, Douglas County, and municipal partners.

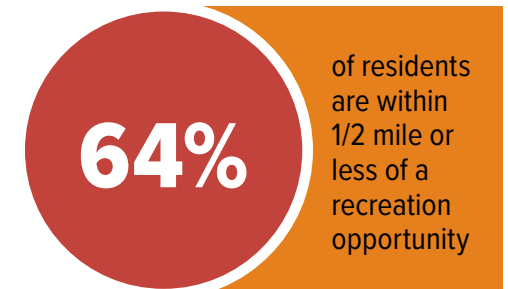
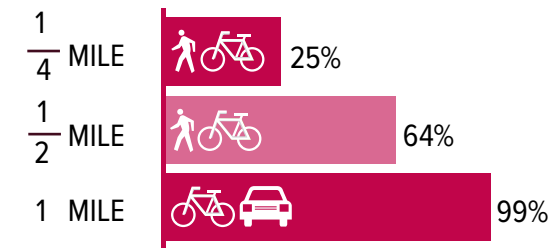
Open space is part of the park system but is not included in the walkshed park analysis because it typically lacks the types of amenities and recreation services a park provides. Additionally, golf courses are not part of the walkshed analysis due to the private/fee-based nature of the facility type.

The analysis further identifies the travel distances to each park through existing transportation and pedestrian networks to reveal residences that are not within a one-quarter-mile, a half-mile, or a one-mile walking distance. Layering residential address points over the walkshed indicate specific homes which are not within a walkable distance of a park. These residential areas are in parks gaps and are considered "underserved" for this study.

### PARK ACCESSIBILITY

Ninety-nine percent of households in South Suburban are within a one-mile walking distance of a park. Areas that do not fall within a one-mile walking distance are highlighted in yellow, which represent locations within the one-mile park gap (see Map 7 on page 23). Note that most of southern and eastern Lone Tree is not within one mile of walking distance. These service gaps are primarily due to undeveloped areas. The community of Lone Tree is expected to expand over the following years, and new parks and open spaces are currently being planned to serve future residents.

## HOW FAR DO RESIDENTS LIVE FROM A SOUTH SUBURBAN PARK?





# Park Accessibility

## GAP ANALYSIS

The summary below describes residential areas within South Suburban by municipality that do not have access to a park within a one-mile distance.

### Centennial

- Most Centennial residents are within one mile of a park. However, there is a service gap on the eastern side of Centennial, west of I-25, where homes are outside walking distance of a park. HOA parks, such as those in The District (previously known as the Jones District), might serve homes within the identified gap. Access to park features and spaces in these areas could be strengthened by connecting them to existing parks with new and/or enhanced trails.

### Littleton

- Almost all Littleton residents are within one mile of a park. There is a parks gap in the southern portion of Littleton along CO-470 and in southwest Littleton along Hwy 85. There are currently no homes in this area and plans are in-progress to develop a metro district trail connecting future residents to South Platte Park. South Suburban could supplement parks gaps in this area by developing or creating services and/or amenities in the two existing undeveloped parks.
- Park gaps in the southeast portion of Littleton appear to primarily consist of apartment complexes that might be served partially or entirely by HOA parks. Many of these apartment complex neighborhoods are next to commercial centers. Over time, these centers might experience infill to accommodate mixed-use commercial and residential growth, providing opportunities for neighborhood pocket parks to be integrated into the new developments.
- Improved trail connections to nearby parks and trails, such as the Highline Canal Trail, Writers Vista Park, and Southbridge Park, would strengthen the service gaps in these areas. South Suburban might consider adding park-like amenities such as nature play features, picnic areas and shade shelters to South Platte Park and open space surrounding the High Line Canal Trail, forming small linear park areas. Additional amenities could create multiple uses for existing open spaces while filling some needs within service gaps.

### Lone Tree

- Most north and central Lone Tree residents are within the parks watershed. However, almost all southern and eastern Lone Tree is not within a one-mile distance and has the largest service area gap within South Suburban. These service gaps are primarily due to undeveloped areas and will be resolved once proposed Lone Tree Regional and Neighborhood parks are completed alongside developing neighborhoods.
- Lone Tree is expected to expand over the following years, providing new development opportunities. There is an opportunity to provide services and amenities within the open space surrounding developing neighborhoods and recommend linear trails to connect to existing and proposed parks. South Suburban is anticipating a new Regional Park to help fill the park gaps. South Suburban may need to continue to increase green space to keep up with the demand for further development and provide adequate park provisions.

### Columbine Valley

- Most Columbine Valley residents are within a one-mile distance of a park. Service gaps in Columbine Valley are primarily to the east and southeast. Park gaps in these areas are partially due to Hwy 75 and S. Platte Canyon Rd acting as barriers and South Platte Park Open Space to the south. The Columbine Manor neighborhood within this area does not have a direct, walkable access point to South Platte Park, however, this is not something they desire. If community sentiment changes in the future, South Suburban could explore creating a connection to South Platte Park and adding park-like amenities such as nature playgrounds, additional shelters or picnic areas to help fill park needs in these service gap locations. Other improvements could include linear parks which would create connections to existing parklands.

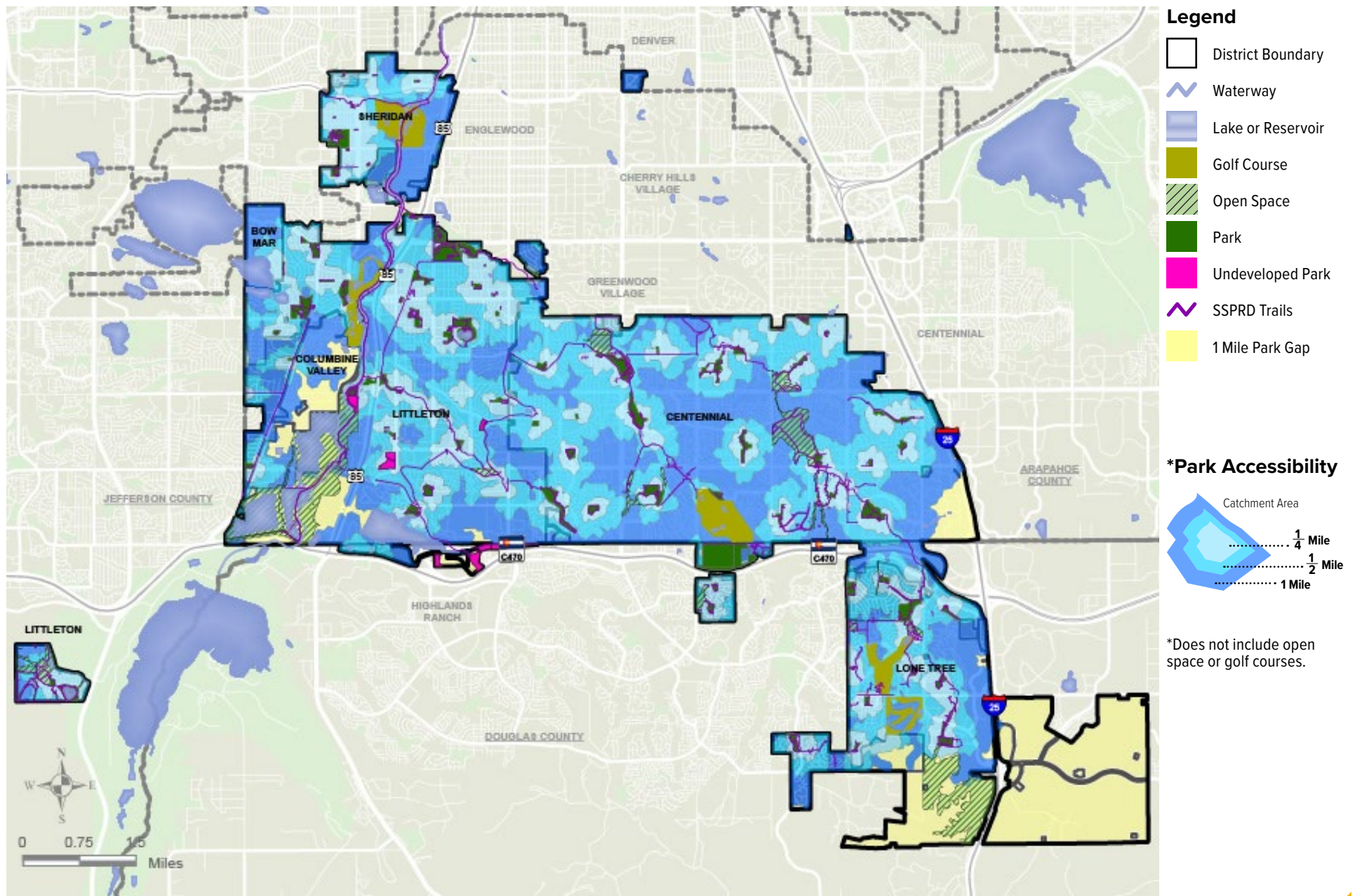
### Sheridan

- All Sheridan residents are within a one-mile distance of a park. However, most of eastern Sheridan is not within a half-mile walking distance of a park. Limited accessibility in this area might be due to commercial and industrial areas.

### Bow Mar

- All Bow Mar residents are within one-mile distance of a park and have adequate access to parklands.

# Park Service Areas



# Trail Accessibility

## TRAIL ACCESSIBILITY ANALYSIS

A watershed analysis for the South Suburban trail system measures the walking travel distances to each trail access point through existing transportation and pedestrian networks. The geographic distribution of trail access points helps assess the accessibility of the current trail system. Innovations in analytical software enable a more comprehensive analysis of access to trails within a community, providing a better understanding of the accessibility of the trail system.

The watershed analysis (Map 8 on page 25) indicates the distance to trails within a one-quarter-mile or a half-mile walking distance. The result of the trail accessibility analysis helps provide an understanding of areas well served by the South Suburban trail system. Note that the watershed analysis considers barriers to access such as highways, roads, waterways, and rail.

## GAP ANALYSIS

A deeper look into the watershed analysis gives a better understanding of trail access gaps in South Suburban. The following provides a summary of residential areas within the South Suburban Park and Recreation District by municipality, that do not have access to a trail within one-quarter-mile, a half-mile, or a one-mile walking distance. It is important to note that many trail service gaps align with the park gaps shown in Map 7. Recommendations for these gaps could work to serve the needs of both the parks and trail systems.

### Centennial

- Most Centennial residents, specifically in the central areas, are within a half-mile of trail access. There is only one small section just west of I-25 that does not have trail access.

### Littleton

- All Littleton residents are within a half-mile of trail access.

### Lone Tree

- Much of Lone Tree is not within a half-mile of trail access, specifically to the south and east regions of the city. These service gaps are primarily due to undeveloped areas and will be resolved as trails such as Happy Canyon Trail and Badger Gulch Trail are completed alongside developing parks and neighborhoods

### Sheridan

- All Sheridan residents have trail access within a half-mile walking distance.

### Columbine Valley

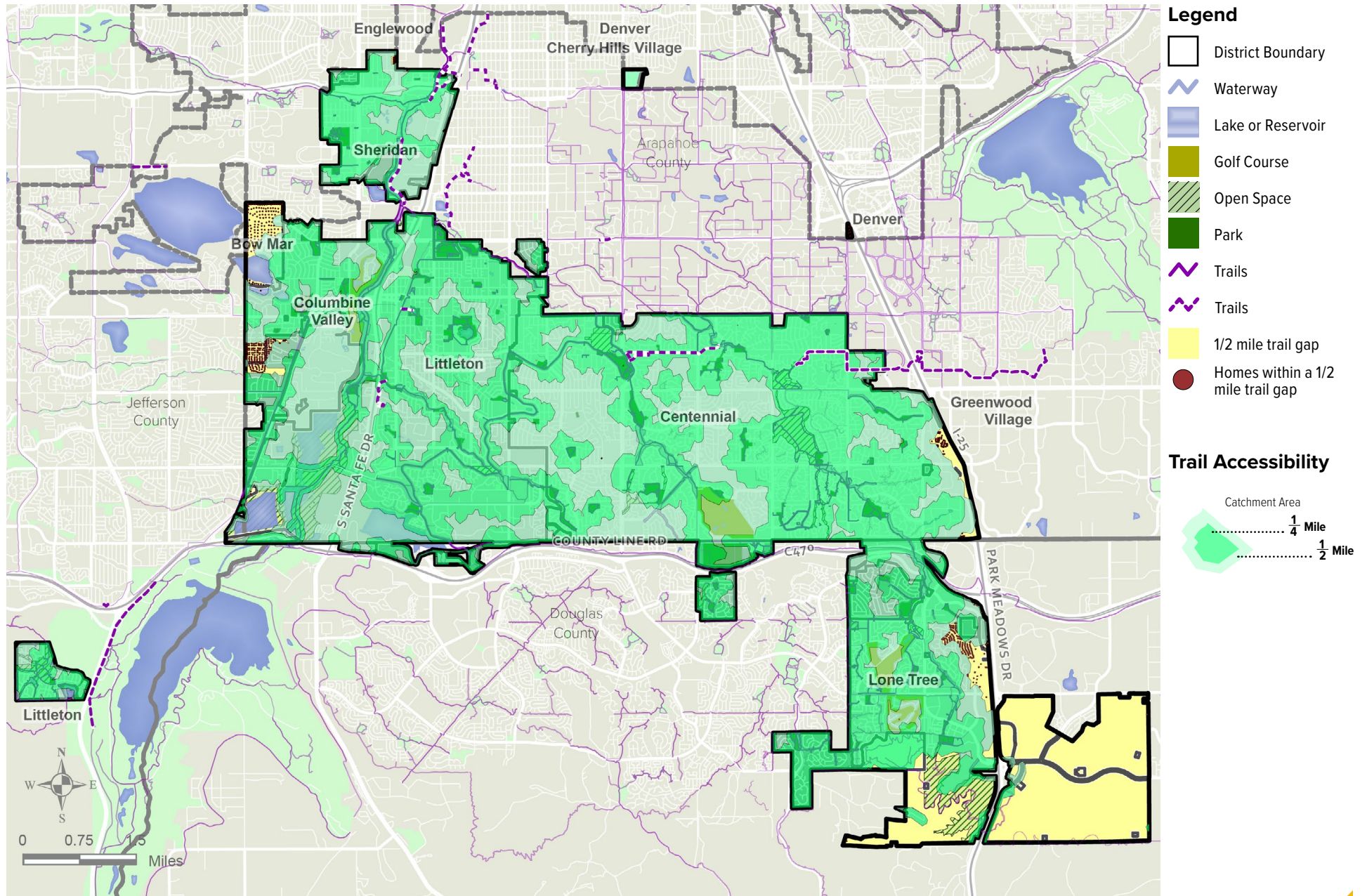
- Most Columbine Valley residents are within a half-mile of trail access. Areas in Columbine Valley where residents are not within a half-mile of trail access are along the west edges of the city. Some service gaps might be filled by an HOA or private trails along Johnson reservoir.

### Bow Mar

- Bow Mar's southeast region is the only area within a half-mile of trail access. The rest of Bow Mar is not within a half-mile of trail access. Some service gaps might be filled by an HOA or trails along Marston Lake to the west.



# Trail Service Areas



# Recreation Center Distribution

## RECREATION CENTER ACCESSIBILITY ANALYSIS

The South Suburban Park and Recreation District offers six major indoor facilities including the South Suburban Sports Complex, Family Sports Center, and four recreation centers: the Douglas H. Buck Community Recreation Center, Goodson Recreation Center, Lone Tree Recreation Center, and the Sheridan Recreation Center.

### GAP ANALYSIS

A deeper look into the service area analysis gives a better understanding of recreation center access gaps in South Suburban. The following provides a summary of residential areas within the South Suburban Park and Recreation District by municipality that have access to a recreation center or sports complex within a two or five-mile driving distance. Map 9 on page 27 shows that nearly all residents in South Suburban can access a recreation center within five miles of their homes. Homes not within a five-mile travel distance include residents living in Trailmark.

#### **Centennial**

- All Centennial residents are within a five-mile driving distance of a recreation center. Around half of Centennial residents are within a two-mile driving distance of a recreation center.

#### **Littleton**

- Nearly all Littleton residents are within a five-mile driving distance of a recreation center. Areas in Littleton where residents are not within five miles of access are south of County Line Rd directly above the C-470 Highway. Other homes not within a five-mile driving distance include residents living in TrailMark. However, residents of TrailMark use Foothills Park and Recreation District facilities which South Suburban partially funds.

#### **Lone Tree**

- Most residents to the north and west of Lone Tree are within a five-mile driving distance of a recreation center and almost all residents are within a two-mile driving distance of a recreation center. Recreation center gaps to the south and east are primarily due to undeveloped areas and these gaps will be filled in the next five to ten years, depending on the pace of development, with the creation of a new recreation center.

#### **Sheridan**

- All Sheridan residents are within a five-mile driving distance of a recreation center, and most residents are within a two-mile driving distance of a recreation center.

#### **Columbine Valley**

- All Columbine Valley residents are within a five-mile driving distance of a recreation center. Most Columbine Valley residents are within two-mile driving distance of a recreation center.

#### **Bow Mar**

- All Bow Mar residents are within a five-mile driving distance of a recreation center. However, Bow Mar residents are not within a two-mile driving distance of a recreation center.



# Recreation Center Service Areas

