

**TO:** Park & Recreation Advisory Committee  
**FROM:** Parks & Rec Director  
**DATE:** October 11, 2022  
**SUBJECT:** Core Values Discussion

---



**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

At the August work session, the Committee developed a list of priorities for the next couple years. One of those priorities was to create a list of Core Values. These Core Values will be used when discussing and developing all parks and recreation items moving forward. At the work session members began to discuss some options for the core values including:

- Accessibility
- Community
- Equity
- Safety
- Environmental Aspects
- Fiscal Responsibility

At the September meeting, members continued the discussion and decided to remove fiscal responsibility, since it is a given already. Member Bellows has provided some initial thoughts (below) on defining each core value:

**Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee CORE VALUES**

Once the values are defined, our committee can decide how to make sure we use them as we make decisions and provide recommendations to City Council.

**ACCESSIBILITY:**

- The quality of being able to be reached or entered, of being easy to obtain or use
  - Easier to get there
  - Programs for everyone
  - Age and ability appropriate

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT:**

- Pertains to the process by which a third sector organization and individuals work to build permanent, continual relationships to create an overarching vision for the benefit of the community as a whole.
  - Knowing the demographics of area
  - Maintaining Communication with residents
  - Regular gatherings
  - Direct interaction

**EQUITY:**

- Refers to fairness and justice; it means recognizing that we do not all start from the same place and must make adjustments to imbalances.
  - We must really know the community and where the barriers are
  - Everyone has the same access to opportunities

**SAFETY:**

- Is a state in which hazards and conditions leading to physical, psychological or material harm are controlled in order to preserve the health and well-being of individuals and the community
  - Regular maintenance of trails, equipment
  - Rules for conduct in parks and for celebrations

**ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY:**

- Is the community's duty to protect and improve their environment; a environmentally responsible community assesses their environmental sustainability and applies this knowledge to its decision-making.
  - preservation of green space
  - Pollinator plantings
  - Decisions should be made with environmental considerations

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

Continue the discussion of Core Values for the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee to use for all future discussions.