Mission's Parks, Rec+Tree Commission
Top Priorities and Recommendations 2026

1. City-Wide Trail Connections and Accessibility
    - Build upon recent design projects that safely connect residents to city parks, the business district, and neighboring communities
        - Emphasis on beautification, stormwater management, way-finding with clear access points to trail, and cohesion with all parks, Mission Market, Powell Community Center, and Mission Family Aquatic Center
        - Prioritizes gaps in trail system, accessibility at crossings, and way-finding
    - Budget for phases of Rock Creek Trail updates and surrounding corridor
2. Andersen Park Conceptual Design
    - Pursue formal designs for updates to playground and amenities with new art installation and trail access
    - Prioritize cohesion with the Rock Creek Trail
3. Mission Market Park Updates and Planning
    - Finalize conceptual design for the space while stormwater updates begin
    - Integrate a community and/or demonstration garden in the conceptual design
        - Support a partnership with Kansas Master Gardener Program
4. Community Engagement, Education, and Donations
    - Increase publicity of where park sales taxes are being invested in public media as well as park signs
        - Install temporary and permanent signage next to updated amenities stating how the project was funded
    - Expand and advertise opportunities for community members and businesses to financially support Parks and Recreation projects
        - Promote tax deductible legacy planning for continued care and development of Mission park system to the Mission Charitable Trust
    - Pursue corporate sponsors to support projects or phases of improvement
    - Consistently provide content for Mission Magazine and social media pages
5. Public art installations
    - Enhance park aesthetics by adding art, considering existing structures for murals and sculpture rental/sharing programs
    - Engage with artists from our community and KC metro
6. Parks & Rec Staffing
    - Support upgrading two part-time Parks & Rec staff positions to 1 full time staff person
    - Retain full and part-time staffing to support seasonal and routine needs
        - Parks, PCC, and MFAC Staff are imperative to successful operations. Updated park spaces require ongoing maintenance

Areas for Continued Support and Growth

- Maintain current structures, parks, trails, tree canopy, amenities, playgrounds, and all facilities
    - Every Park Every Year: Include each park in yearly capital improvement projects
- Continue to emphasize accessibility and inclusion of all ages, abilities, and communication modes. Support policies that prioritize park safety, equitable access, and community use, regardless of housing status
- Continue social media posts and education for Parks & Rec activities, events, and programs (Arbor Day events, Champion Tree, Celebration Tree, Contain the Rain, sustainable yard practices, etc.)
- Advocate and volunteer for Park & Recreation and City events and initiatives throughout the year including engaging with events surrounding Mission's 75th Anniversary