



# Department History



*“The County  
can move into  
the future  
without  
destroying the  
past.”*

*– Ann Raab December 3, 2008*

## INTRODUCTION

In 2000, Platte County completed its first Park System Master Plan. As a result of that initial planning document, the County Commission determined that citizens should be asked to support a half cent sales tax, with a sunset of 10 years, to provide funding for the planned improvements that were stated in the master plan. In August 2000, citizens voted favorably for the sales tax initiative, thus the establishment of the Platte County Parks and Recreation Department in 2001. The Department’s Director and staff worked with the County Commission and Park Board during the first ten years to implement the planned improvements which included:

- Acquisition of 880 acres of protected parks and open space
- 15 miles of shared use trails
- 90,000 sq. ft. of indoor recreation
- 22,000 sq. ft. of outdoor aquatics
- \$1.8 Million awarded in Outreach Grants
- \$4.5 Million in clean water/flood control projects
- \$20.6 Million total partnership contributions from other sources to Platte County park projects



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## PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Development of new, and management of, Strategic Partnerships
- Maintenance of the park system
- Pursuit of Grants and in-kind services from strategic partners that are used to leverage Platte County resources
- Development and management of the Platte County Park System which includes the following parks, trails, and recreation facilities.

## PARKS

- Barry-Platte Park
- Platte Ridge Park
- Green Hills of Platte Wildlife Preserve
- Parma Woods Park (county owned- MDC operated park project)
- Platte Purchase Park (partnership project co-owned by Kansas City, Missouri)
- Tiffany Hills Park (partnership project owned by Kansas City, Missouri)
- Land banked future parkland areas near Parkville, Riverside, and Weston
- Local park partnerships with the cities of Dearborn, Edgerton and Camden Point
- Benner Park in partnership with the West Platte School District

## TRAILS

- Missouri Riverfront Trail—3.5 miles
- Weston Bluffs Trail—3.5 miles
- Southern Platte Pass—4.0 miles
- Prairie Creek Greenway—4.0 miles

## RECREATION FACILITIES

- Platte County Community Center North – a 30,000 sq. ft. contemporary indoor recreation facility featuring wellness areas, a family aquatics center, gymnasium and walking track.
- Platte County Community Center South – a 60,000 sq. ft. contemporary indoor recreation facility featuring wellness areas, a family aquatics center, gymnasium, walking track and generational center.
- The Springs Aquatic Center – a 22,000 sq. ft. contemporary outdoor aquatic center featuring a 13,000 gallon family aquatics center with water slides and an eight lane 50 meter competitive pool that was developed in partnership with the Kansas City, Missouri Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners.
- Shiloh Springs Golf Course – an eighteen hole golf course featuring a full service clubhouse and sports grill, practice tees, and driving range.