



**PARKS AND RECREATION SYSTEM
IMPROVEMENTS PLAN**



CITY OF MOBILE
APRIL 2019



The City of Mobile, through its mission, has pledged to improve the quality of life for its citizens and the Parks & Recreation Department plays an integral role in bringing this mission to fruition. When we invest in our parks and recreation facilities, we strengthen the social, economic, and environmental fabric of our community.

The Parks and Recreation System Improvement Plan stems from a recommendation in the City's comprehensive plan – Map for Mobile – to more closely examine our parks and recreation needs across the City. This plan achieved that goal by analyzing current business practices, assessing existing infrastructure and programming, engaging the public to understand their needs, and identifying trends and best practices from peer cities with similar parks systems.

Community input was a priority in the development of the Parks and Recreation System Improvement Plan. With the support of our consultant, Lose Design, we conducted focus groups, community meetings, staff interviews and workshops, and citywide surveys to gather input from citizens and stakeholders across the City.

The recommendations made by the Parks and Recreation System Improvement Plan will allow us to develop a 3-to-5-year Strategic Action Plan. This will outline the operational improvements and capital investments needed to begin addressing the variety of needs across our Parks and Recreation system and will provide us a clear path to our goal of becoming the first Nationally Accredited Parks and Recreation Department in the State of Alabama by 2021.

Shonnda R. Smith

Senior Director of Parks and Recreation

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