
Policy: Operational Divisions and Core Functions

Adopted by City Council: Annually

In order to achieve the department's mission, BPRYCS is organized into 6 operational divisions with specific scope of responsibilities and core functions.



Administration is responsible for developing a fiscally responsible department budget that meets the changing and dynamic needs of the community. Administration provides stewardship to the many benefactors of the Parks, Recreation, Youth and Community Services Department which include 8 trust and endowment funds, as well as, the Friends of Bristol Parks and Recreation Fund through the Main Street Community Foundation. The division interfaces and

coordinates with dozens of non-profits, sports organizations, and civic groups that utilize park space for events including the Mums Festival, West End Association Summer Festival, and Veterans organizations - drawing thousands of visitors into the city each year. Administration manages the department master/strategic plans, establishes fundraising events, pursues new funding sources and provides direct project management for the pursuit of CAPRA (Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies) accreditation.



Parks, Grounds and Maintenance Division is responsible for over 800 acres of park land which includes two major active parks with over 100 acres each, eight neighborhood parks, a lighted stadium, an indoor aquatics facility, a veteran's memorial park, and four open space, passive parks. The division is responsible for the upkeep of park amenities including 3 splash

parks, 14 tennis courts (5 lighted), 6 lighted sand volleyball courts, 6 pickleball courts, 7 fishing areas, 2 horseshoe pits, 2 bocce courts, 6 basketball courts, 6 pre-school playscapes, an ADA compliant accessible playground, para-fitness course, 4 baseball diamonds, 6 (3 lighted) softball diamonds, jogging path, metered walking path, hiking trails, mountain bike trails, 2 eighteen hole disc golf courses, 2 off-leash dog parks, and a skate park plaza.



Recreation Division is responsible for administering hundreds of recreational programs and special events throughout the year. A variety of programs are offered; serving the varied interests of Bristol residents from pre-school to senior citizens. This includes popular summer camps, sports clinics, after school programs and much more. Recreational programs increase physical, social, and emotional wellness and serve to enhance community spirit, as well as, the quality of life for every resident. The former Pine

Lake Challenge Course was rebranded as the Pine Lake Adventure Park, and re-aligned within the recreation division in order to provide a well-rounded recreational and outdoor adventure-based experiential learning program.



Aquatics Division is responsible for the oversight of the Dennis Malone Aquatics Center and two outdoor park pools at Page and Rockwell. The division offers seasonal memberships and daily passes for thousands of patrons annually. An extensive American Red Cross Learn to Swim program is offered at all 3 facilities; annually teaching thousands of Bristol youth this critical life skill. In addition, the division offers water fitness programs, training classes, recreational swim teams, special events, and more. The Dennis Malone Aquatics Center is also host to Bristol Central High School/Bristol Eastern High School Swim Teams, St. Paul and Lewis Mills Swim Teams, private rentals and Bristol Health for water therapy.



Youth and Community Services Division is responsible for the coordination of a comprehensive community-based youth services bureau and the delivery of essential life services for Bristol residents in need. The Bureau strives to enhance the networking and support between family, school, peer and community environments. Direct services including juvenile diversion programming, individual and family counseling, outreach support, crisis support and case management, youth employment training and positive youth development opportunities. Community Services provides adults with critical information and referrals to available community and state resources. Advocacy and referrals are made for housing, mental/physical health, medical insurance, state benefits, and utilization of the statewide 211 resource. Short term case management and support is provided to individuals in transition and/or emotional distress. One-time assistance is available to residents descending into a long-term crisis or life altering circumstances. The division is also responsible for over \$500,000 of youth services grants including the Drug Free Communities Program and B.E.S.T.-4- Bristol Prevention Coalition. In July 2020 the Parent and Child Center formally housed with Bristol Health merged into the Youth and Community Services Division and became the Parent and Child Program which is supported by the Bristol Exchange Club.



Arts & Culture Division is responsible for administering comprehensive year-round arts and culture programs and events for the community. Launching in the fall of 2023, the division develops high caliber shows through Downtown Live at the Rockwell Theater which features comedy, music, and culture. Division staff work with the City Arts & Culture Commission to implement an annual Cultural District Celebration event, public art projects and initiatives. This division collaborates with the City's Diversity Council, Interfaith Coalition, and local business partners to bolster cultural awareness and celebration throughout the community. Not only is arts and culture a means of communication and creative expression, but also a way of preserving our history.