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**ASSESSING PLANNING POLICY FRAMEWORK FOR PUBLIC URBAN  
PARKS: A CASE OF CITY PARK, NAIROBI**

**By**

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## **DECLARATION**

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This research project is my original work and has not been presented in this or any other university for examination or award.

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This research project has been submitted for examination with my approval as the University supervisor.

Signature ..... Date .....

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(Supervisor)

## **DEDICATION**

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This work is dedicated to my parents: Dr. and Mrs. Ndambuki.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

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I would like to thank God for life and this far He has brought me.

I am grateful to the Department of Urban and Regional Planning for the opportunity to undertake my studies in planning in this esteemed university. The experience has been and will always remain invaluable.

I am profoundly grateful to my supervisor Charles Dadu Karisa for his invaluable guidance, salient intellectual input and encouragement towards this project report development and completion.

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I am eternally indebted to my family for their unrelenting guidance, emotional and financial support and without whom I would not have come this far.

Finally I thank the authors whose material I referred to.

## **ABSTRACT**

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Public urban parks provide environmental, economic and social benefits to the urban communities. In Kenya their quality over time has deteriorated resulting in encroachment, lack of attention, poor maintenance, lack of development and under utilization. Kenya lacks a policy framework for urban park planning and management but has legislation dealing with their different aspects and components. Existing loopholes in policy, low priority in planning and management and lack of structured systems of maintenance and monitoring and evaluation has resulted in their vulnerability and dilapidation hence exploitation. Furthermore the lack of full community participation in their planning and management as required by the Constitution of Kenya has resulted in community resistance to rehabilitation efforts.

This study sought to: evaluate the policy framework that guided the provision of City Park as a public urban park in Nairobi; to assess effectiveness of the policy framework with regard to park management of Nairobi City Park; to establish the place of the community in planning and management of City Park; and to propose planning interventions that can be embraced for sustainable creation and management of urban parks such as City Park.

The descriptive study included the use of both primary and secondary data. Purposive sampling was used to select City Park while embracing a case study approach. The target research population consisted of the park's users, informal and formal traders, households within City Park's neighbourhood, park's administration, and relevant institutions. Random and non-random sampling methods were used to select the sampling unit while data collection methods involved observation, interviewing and questionnaire administration.

Study findings derived from collected analysed data indicated that the existing policy framework alluded to certain aspects and components of urban park planning and management and that there is low involvement of the community in planning and management of Nairobi City Park. The study recommends consolidation of existing policies into a coherent co-ordinated urban park policy framework for planning and management of urban parks. It further recommends the development of a structured framework for public participation with regards to urban park planning.

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## ACRONYMS

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AKDN	-	Aga Khan Development Network
AKTC	-	Aga Khan Trust for Culture
CIC	-	Commission for the Implementation of the Constitution
CMA	-	County Member of Assembly
CoK	-	Constitution of Kenya
EA	-	Environmental Assessment
EANHS	-	East African Natural History Society
EIA	-	Environmental Impact Assessment
EMCA	-	Environmental Management and Co-ordination Act
FoCP	-	Friends of City Park
GIS	-	Geospatial Information System
GOA	-	Government Owned Agency
GoK	-	Government of Kenya
IAP	-	International Association for Public Participation
ICLEI	-	Local Government for Sustainability
IFRA	-	International Federation of Parks and Recreation
KFS	-	Kenya Forest Service
KII	-	Key Informant Interview
LA	-	Local Authority
LEED	-	Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design
M & E	-	Monitoring and Evaluation
MLH&UD	-	Ministry of Land, Housing and Urban Development
MOLG	-	Ministry of Local Government
NCC	-	Nairobi City County
NCP	-	Nairobi City Park
NEAP	-	National Environment Action Plan
NEMA	-	National Environment Management Authority
NLC	-	National Land Commission
NMK	-	National Museums of Kenya
NUDP	-	National Urban Development Policy
PPP	-	Public Private Partnership
PPS	-	Project for Public Participation

PUGS	-	Public Urban Green Spaces
RFTA	-	Rehabilitation Funding and Technical Assistance
SAGA	-	Semi Autonomous Government Agency
SEED	-	Social Economic Environmental Design
SPP	-	Scottish Planning Policies
SSI	-	Sustainable Sites Initiative
UPMP	-	Urban Park Management Plan
WHO	-	World Health Organisation

# **1. INTRODUCTION TO THE STUDY**

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## **1.1. Background to the Study**

---

Public urban open spaces are public land that have been developed and are managed by public authorities for the recreational and environmental or visual benefit to the community (City of South Perth, 2012). Public urban parks broadly provide environmental, economic and social benefits to the urban communities. They directly or indirectly define and clarify the form, character and identity of settlements by providing high quality recreation experiences, provide a setting for a wide range of social interactions and pursuits that support personal and community well-being, create attractive settlements, are used by planners as a buffer barring construction beyond certain points or in places considered unsuitable and are essential for liveable and sustainable cities and towns (Arnberger, 2012), (International Federation of Parks and Recreation Administration, 2013), (Scottish Government, 2008), (Heckser, 1977). They in addition support and conserve biodiversity, provide migratory channels for park animals and are used to protect water courses and wetlands (Heckser, 1977), (Scottish Government, 2008).

Over time their quality has continued to deteriorate with current trends observing that in many cities globally there is increasing degradation of existing urban green spaces. (Greenkeys, 2008). Urban parks in Kenya are suffering from lack of attention, poor maintenance, lack of development and under utilization (Rabare, Oketch, & Onyango, 2009). Makworo and Mireri (2011) orate that public open spaces in Nairobi City have been increasingly threatened by congestion and deterioration as a result of the rapid rate of urbanisation (5–7.5%), poor planning, weak management and illegal alienation. Yet in Kenya, urban planning is expected to promote efficient settlements where all people have access to green open spaces (Government of Kenya, 2008). There is hence a growing need to react to rising complexities and uncertainties and the increasing speed of the change processes related to urban park planning.

The provision and management of urban parks globally is guided by set policies, regulations, guidelines and strategies with regard to open space planning as is the case in Australia, Canada, USA, Japan, and South Africa amongst others. Kenya has



identified and gazetted urban parks and other open spaces. The country has legislation relating to urban park planning, design and management but has neither a landscaping policy nor specific planning guidelines and urban park management plans with regard to different urban parks. Due to these loopholes as is the case with City Park, our urban parks remain vulnerable and open to exploitation.

## **1.2. Problem Statement**

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The planner Edward Barnes advocates for the inclusion in planning of public open spaces from the very beginning and not merely left over space after structures have been shaped (Heckser, 1977). Kenya lacks a consolidated policy framework specific to urban park planning but has various legislation and policies which explain different aspects and components. Urban parks in the country often lack an urban park management plan (UPMP) which aids in their sustainable planning and management as is the case with City Park. The illegal alienation of public open spaces in Nairobi to individuals and certain groups seems to be supported by the Nairobi City Council<sup>1</sup>, planning agencies and political leaders. From an original land covering an area 90 hectares only about 66.19 hectares remain with recent accusations being tabled in the press that only 19.45 hectares remain (Ngirachu, 2013), (Friends of City Park, 2012). Makworo and Mireri (2012) orate that the Nairobi City Council had a low priority for the planning, development and management of public open spaces as evidenced by poor solid waste management, pollution of river water and dilapidated park facilities and amenities in City Park. Rapid uncontrolled urbanisation and the abandonment of the implementation of the 1948 Nairobi Master Plan has resulted in overcrowding and insecurity in Nairobi's open spaces denying city residents access to recreation and leisure facilities (Makworo & Mireri, 2011).

The lack of full community and stakeholders participation in planning and management of Nairobi City Park as required in the Constitution has resulted in community resistance to rehabilitation efforts with the most recent being a collaborative project between the Government of Kenya (GoK) and the Aga Khan Trust for Culture (AKTC). A public participation exercise for the Environmental Impact Assessment for this project revealed suspicion and misinformation among the

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<sup>1</sup> Now Nairobi City County Government after the enactment of the Constitution 2010 and County Governments Act 2012

technocrats and the different stakeholders hence questioning the public participation process.

In light of the above, this study sought to evaluate the policy framework that guided the provision of Nairobi City Park as a public urban park in Nairobi; to assess effectiveness of the policy framework with regard to park management of Nairobi City Park; to establish the place of the community in planning and management of City Park; and to propose planning interventions that can be embraced for sustainable creation and management of urban parks such as Nairobi City Park.

### **1.3. Purpose of the Study**

---

Kenya lacks a consolidated policy framework specific to urban park planning but has legislation and policies which explain different aspects and components. Existing loopholes in legislation and policies, and low priority in planning, management and conservation by local authorities result in their vulnerability hence exploitation. This study hence sought to evaluate the existing policy framework i.e. legislation, regulations, standards, policies and guidelines regarding planning of urban parks in Nairobi.

The Constitution of Kenya, (2010) in article 69 recognizes public participation is required in the management, protection and conservation of the environment as it encourages openness, accountability and transparency. Kenya is yet to establish and implement a comprehensive public participation framework to guide the public participation process indicating amongst others who should be involved, how the process should be carried out and for how long. This study sought to establish how the public has been previously engaged in planning, management and conservation of urban parks to determine the effectiveness of used methods and to propose mechanisms to enhance the process.

Lack of structured systems of; maintenance and monitoring and evaluation for urban parks in Kenya and Nairobi has contributed to their dilapidated state. There is hence need to evaluate the institutional management structures in place and which factors contribute to its ineffectiveness. The expected outcome will be the development of a planning policy framework with regards to planning, management and conservation of urban parks such as City Park.

#### **1.4. Research Questions**

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1. Which legal and institutional framework was used in the provision of City Park?
2. How effective is the existing policy framework with regards to management of Nairobi City Park?
3. What is the place of the community in planning and management of City Park?
4. What planning interventions are necessary for sustainable creation and management of urban parks such as City Park?

#### **1.6. Research Objectives**

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1. To examine the legal and institutional framework used in the provision of Nairobi City Park.
2. To assess effectiveness of the existing policy framework with regards to Nairobi City Park management.
3. To establish the place of the community in planning and management of Nairobi City Park.
4. To formulate and propose necessary planning interventions for sustainable creation and management of urban parks such as Nairobi City Park.

#### **1.7. Significance of the Study**

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Urban parks in Kenya are inadequate compared to the areas and population they are meant to serve (Rabare, Oketch, & Onyango, 2009). The survival of Nairobi City Park is unbelievable considering the exponential increase of Nairobi's human population (Friends of City Park, 2012) many of whom cannot afford much living space and tend to live in cramped overcrowded conditions (Government of Kenya, 2008). Relief is hence necessary from the pressure generated by overcrowding and a busy city life and this is provided by Nairobi City Park amongst others. Nairobi's residents are today more mindful of the chronic shortage of urban green space considering that few can afford visiting those open spaces whose management charge entrance fees.

The survival of Nairobi hence depends on the city acknowledging warning signs of ecosystem degradation and building its economy to respect and rehabilitate the ecosystems on which the urban life depends on. The need to draw urban park management plans and planning guidelines and strategies will ensure that we do not

in entirely lose the green spaces that ensure the survival of man in the urban area. The involvement of the public in planning and management of urban parks will increase acceptance of new projects and shared responsibility in the sustainable use and management of the urban park.

## **1.8. Justification of the Study**

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The importance of urban parks is not contestable. Besides their core function as recreation areas, urban parks are an opportunity to preserve the remaining natural areas within cities which includes woodlands and riverine ecosystems. Urban green parks furthermore shape the city's form and enhance its liveability while also giving a city the coherence that allows the urban dweller to have a feeling of the whole. They are seen as a vehicle to guide physical development and are used to bar construction in unsuitable places. Urban parks when integrated into the spatial morphology of the urban areas are more frequently used as part of daily movement and perceived as accessible hence adding to the compactness of the city. Urban parks moreover are a source of income to those who operate businesses within and around them. Their decline in use and quality pose an economic danger to the livelihoods of these urban dwellers.

City Park is closely located to Pangani area with medium to high density housing. It is often used as a pedestrian route linking the residents of Pangani and Mathare to the Parklands region where they are either employed or operate businesses. Moreover City Park is bound to the east and west by Limuru and Murang'a roads respectively. These are very busy roads linking the CBD to Parklands, Limuru, Muthaiga, Kiambu and other neighbourhoods along Murang'a road. This implies that its location is of paramount importance as it acts as a buffer between different land uses.

## **1.9. Scope of the Study**

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### **Geographical Scope**

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The study is designed to focus on urban parks in Nairobi with a specific analysis of City Park. It is specifically designed to evaluate the policy framework in the development of City Park as an urban park as well as establish the role of the community in their planning and management with the aim of developing a planning framework for sustainable planning and management.

City Park is located in Parklands area, Westlands District of Nairobi City County. It is located off Limuru road between Parklands and Muthaiga. It is an urban park occupying an area of about 60 hectares. It is bordered to the north by a hockey stadium and City park estate and Murang'a road to the west. Premier academy and premier club as well as Forest road borders it to the south while to the east is Limuru road.

**Figure 1: Aerial Photograph showing Nairobi City Park and its Environs**



Source: [earth.google.com](http://earth.google.com)

## **Theoretical Scope**

This study focused on the existing policy framework relating to open space planning in Kenya with emphasis on City Park planning policies, regulations and guidelines. In addition the study looked at global and regional policies related to open space planning. Moreover, the study established the role the community plays in planning, and management and the park's management structure overseeing its effective utilization.

Several theories influenced this study: the place theory which dwells on understanding the cultural and human characteristics of the physical space and it becoming a place when given a contextual meaning derived from cultural or regional context (Trancik, 1986); the Landscape ecology theory which links environmental issues with landscape planning and looks at landscapes in three dimensions i.e.

horizontal and vertical structures and time (Rao, 1997) and the community participation theories Arnstein's ladder of participation and the ladder of citizen empowerment in which people are expected to be responsible for themselves and should hence be active in public service decision-making.

### **1.10. Study Assumptions**

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This study assumes that City Park being the largest public green space in Nairobi, serves the largest section of Nairobi residents more so those in the lower income groups who cannot afford to pay park entrance fees to experience a forested environment. It also assumes that this is the most preferred location for both active and passive recreation. The study in addition assumes that planning for and management of public urban parks in Nairobi does not involve the public fully and is often carried out by the government entirely on behalf of the people.

### **1.11. Definition of Terms and Variables**

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#### **Urban Park**

An urban park in a town is an open public area with grass and trees, often with sports fields or places for children to play (Macmillan dictionary, 2009- 2013). For the purpose of this study an urban park is a delineated open space, mostly dominated by vegetation and generally reserved for public use and is defined by local authorities as 'parks'.

#### **Policy framework**

A policy framework is a logical structure that is established to organize policy documentation into grouping and categories that make it easier for one to find and understand the contents of various policy documents and help in the planning and development of policies for an organization. In this study, a policy framework is a set of articulate principles, procedures and long term goals that forms the basis for making rules and guidelines and gives overall direction to planning and management of urban parks and will act as a single point of reference for information relating to urban park planning and management.

#### **Planning guidelines**

A guideline is a general rule, procedure, principle or piece of advice (Oxford university, 2013). For this study, planning guidelines are procedures indicating the

requirements of ecology and the environment, the needs of the varied urban parks user groups and demands of a well-structured and participatory planning process in order to create a well organised and structured urban living spaces and places.

## **1.12. Thesis Organisation**

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### **Chapter 1: Introduction**

This is the introductory chapter to the research study. It addresses the following; the background to the study, problem statement, purpose of the study, study hypothesis, research questions, research objectives, study justification and significance, scope of the study, study assumptions and definition of key terms and variables.

### **Chapter 2: Literature review**

This chapter features a critical review of literature pertaining to planning, development and management of urban parks. It is introduced by a general outlook on the historical development of urban parks. This chapter also focuses on the purpose of urban parks, the different existing typologies and factors contributing to utilization of urban parks. The chapter as well focuses on the process of creating urban parks and the existing guidelines and standards in park planning in the urban realm. Participatory planning involving the community, strategies on sustainable management of parks, theoretical and conceptual frameworks as well as a case study on urban park planning will conclude this chapter.

### **Chapter 3: Research methodology**

This chapter addresses the methodology applied in the research study. The methodology covers the research design, target research population, the sampling plan, sample size and sampling methods, data collection methods and instruments, suggested methods of data inputting, processing, and analysis as well as preferred data presentation techniques.

### **Chapter 4: Study Area**

This chapter focuses on the Nairobi City Park giving a general outlook on its geographical location, the neighbourhood context and surrounding land uses, the

historical development of NCP, the existing park facilities and the park users characteristics.

### **Chapter 5: Study findings and interpretation**

This chapter addresses the study analysis based on the data collected and recorded from the field study. Spatial analysis was carried out to establish the environmental status of the NCP landscape and its eco system. Socio-economic analysis brought out aspects dealing with revenue generation, security, public/ community participation as well as Public Private Partnership in NCP management. A policy analysis enabled a critical review of existing legislative and institutional frameworks and an assessment of their effectiveness in planning and management of urban parks such as the NCP. Statistical analysis was carried out to generate frequencies and display descriptive statistics as percentages or averages. Techniques to present the analysis of findings include use of charts, tables, graphs and photographs. They have been interpreted to give an assessment of the existing policy framework, management of urban parks such as Nairobi City Park and how the community is engaged in urban park planning.

### **Chapter 6: Summary of findings, conclusion and recommendation**

This chapter gives a summary of findings, conclusions and recommendations. It evaluates the effectiveness of the existing policy framework and management of urban parks such as City Park, and studies how citizens are involved in urban park planning. This chapter furthermore draws conclusions from the findings and makes recommendations on planning interventions that can inform development of an urban park planning framework.

### **References and appendices**

This section gives a selected list of references, bibliography and appendices. It also includes; copy of the Nairobi City Park gazetted park land, copy of the Nairobi City County Department of Environment's organization structure, some of the Design drawings of the afore mentioned proposed rehabilitation project, gazette notice for the EIA of the afore mentioned project and copies of the research instruments.



## **2. LITERATURE REVIEW**

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### **2.1. Introduction**

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This chapter features a critical review of literature pertaining to planning, development and management of urban parks. It focuses on urban parks and their historical development; their purpose in our societies, factors contributing to their optimal utilization; the urban park creation process; existing guidelines and standards; the community's role in planning and management of urban parks and the strategies on sustainable provision and management of urban parks.

### **2.2. History of Park Development**

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#### **2.2.1. The Early Urban Park**

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Any common like those in Nineveh in the Middle Ages in New England had fruit and vegetable gardens as well as large open spaces in which cattle was kept and grazed (Kostof & Castillo, 1992). In ancient Rome in the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> century BC, there were large private pleasure parks also known as *horti* such as the gardens of Maecenas of Sallust and the gardens of Lucullus on the Pincian Hill, Portico of Livia on the Esquiline, Portico at the Theatre of Pompey and the wooded grounds of Mausoleum of Augustus which were special gardens of public buildings open to everyone especially during festivals and holidays. Ancient Rome also had private gardens which acted as public parks such as the gardens of Caesar in Trastevere, the gardens of Agrippa in the Campus Martius which had an artificial lake, a canal and grassed open areas. In china under the Sung dynasty (960- 1279), the gardens of public buildings and private gardens of the rich were open to the public during festivals and holidays. This trend continued into the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Kostof & Castillo, 1992).

The early open spaces often lay beyond the city limits and were bitterly contested by the public with different individuals having different interests in the land i.e. for recreation, pastureland, as agricultural fields, cemeteries and military drill grounds. In England, the contestation for public open spaces was experienced in the open fields and crown parks where in the 15<sup>th</sup> century, property leaseholders fenced their fields effectively cutting off access roads and citizens access into the Moorfields. The Act of parliament of 1592 enabled the citizens resist this obstruction and their efforts to keep their open spaces and commons free of enclosure and development enabled customary access to prevail over Crown property. This facilitated the opening to the public of;

Whitehall Palace gardens and bowling green by King Charles I, Hyde Park between 1630 and 1640 as well as Hampstead Heath. After the French revolution, parks formerly owned by the aristocracy of the church e.g. Parc de la Colombière in Dijon and Jardin Thabor at Rennes were permanently incorporated into the public realm (Kostof & Castillo, 1992).

**Plate 1: Jardin Thabor at Rennes**



### **2.2.2. The Modern Park**

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In the late 18<sup>th</sup> century a German concept known as *volksgarten* which presented the park to be a medium for public education and mingling of social classes was adopted. This concept gave rise to the Munich Park in 1804 characterised by; buildings with pictures of national history, heroes statues, monuments of important events and carriage and equestrian traffic. Town Squares in England and America before 1800 were purely hardscaped with no planted vegetation. This was changed by an act of Parliament of 1766 and 1774 allowing Berkeley and Grosvenor squares to impose a tax for maintenance of grass and trees. By mid-19<sup>th</sup> century, trees and other vegetation were introduced in old town squares e.g. Jackson square in New Orleans and the Spanish plaza of Santa Fe in New Mexico. Many squares were redesigned to include planters e.g. Plaça Reial in Barcelona introduced palms on the paved floor and Piazza Vittorio Emanuele in Rome. The Spanish salon for example Jardin de Delicias in Seville was designed for the elite and was filled with elegant furniture, fountains and exotic plants and fostered exclusiveness. It also functioned as an urban social space with an advanced botanical garden which was irrigated using steam power.

**Plate 2: Plaça Reial, Barcelona**



*(Adopted from [www.arrakeen.ch](http://www.arrakeen.ch))*

**Plate 3: Jardin de Delicias, Seville**



*(Adopted from [www.commons.wikimedia.org](http://www.commons.wikimedia.org))*

There was restricted use of urban parks by the general public in Europe. For example, London's Regent Park opened in 1838 favoured those using horse and carriage and did not provide for pedestrians movement and use; St. James Park was only used by those given Royal permission while the Royal garden of Frederiksborg in Denmark had small enclosures reserved for the public.

**Plate 4: Fredericksborg Royal Gardens & Park area**



*(Adopted from [www.copenhagenet.dk](http://www.copenhagenet.dk))*

Birkenhead Park in Liverpool constructed in 1834 and open for use by the poor British peasants is considered as the first genuine public park characterised by separated traffic ways, open lawns and water features. Victoria Park in east London enacted by an act of parliament in 1842 and located in a congested urban area was designed for use by the working class. After 1837 in Britain, all parliamentary enclosure acts were required to contain provision for some public open space. In Paris by mid 1860s, the park had become an integral part of the city with 24 small public gardens or squares and large parks such as Parc Monceau, Parc Montsouris and Butte-Chaumont. Olmstead and Vaux brought the public park to American cities through Central and Prospect Parks. Olmstead wanted towns to be planned around parks to create a parkway system as seen in Buffalo and Boston. The Olmstedian park was for use by all social classes positively influencing the workers' behaviour when they socialised with their superiors by crushing separate ethnic identities and creating a homogenized American society.

The late 1800s enabled the inclusion of organized sports spaces into the urban park. This was previously not allowed as sports were seen as incompatible with the peaceful enjoyment of nature. The public parks in the 19<sup>th</sup> century have seen periods of decline and neglect. Today in the quest to ensure safety of park users some of the parks are fenced off, majority post a list of disallowed use and some e.g. Central park of Sausalito in San Francisco Bay do not allow entry but are viewed from without (Kostof & Castillo, 1992).

**Plate 5: Parc Monceau, Paris**



*(Adopted from [www.commons.wikimedia.org](http://www.commons.wikimedia.org))*

**Plate 6: Emerald Necklace Conservancy, Boston**



*(Adopted from [www.huffingtonpost.com](http://www.huffingtonpost.com))*

The framework for the provision of the urban park has evolved over time. The early urban park was mainly utilitarian enabling agricultural activities with limited leisure. Designed parks and gardens both public and private were mainly targeting the society's elite having limited controlled access for the public. Community efforts and resistance towards restricted access to contested public spaces and existing parks ensured these spaces were accessible to all social classes and remained in the public realm. This was enabled through change in and enactment of new legislation some providing for parks targeting specific social classes e.g. working class. Neglect and safety issues however hamper optimum park use especially in the modern urban park.

### **2.3. Purpose of Urban Parks**

Urban parks have been critical sites of cultural, political, and economic life from early civilizations to the present day by enabling achievement of sustainable urban

development (Greenkeys, 2008). They are culturally constructed as; sites of aesthetic reflection and specific social practices, improve the natural ecological environment and enhance the city's charm (Sirong, 2012), (Stanley et al 2013). They should hence remain in the public domain as they are undeniably a core public service.

**Plate 7: Vondel Park, Amsterdam**



*(Adopted from [www.inaresort.com](http://www.inaresort.com))*

Large patches of natural vegetation protect aquifers and low order streams, provide habitat for small and large home range species, permit natural disturbance regimes such as forest fires to occur in which many species can interact and evolve, maintain a range of microhabitat proximities for multi-habitat species, act as noise buffers and reduce the urban heat islands effect (Rao, 1997), (Wesley et al 2011). Considering the high level of global urbanization urban parks are imperative for maintaining and improving public health by increasing physical activity through recreation which reduces stress and mental disorders besides increasing satisfaction of the living environment and social interaction (Konijnendijk et al 2013), (Wesley et al 2011), (International Federation of Parks and Recreation Administration, 2013).

In Africa, Urban biodiversity found in PUGS contributes to poverty reduction and human well-being in various ways; by providing food security, health improvements through clean air and water, income generation, reduced vulnerability to environmental changes and natural disasters, social networking and social support system (Local government for sustainability & UNEP), (Wesley et al 2011).

**Plate 8: Brooklyn Bridge Park**



*(Adopted from urban land institute)*

**Plate 9: Butchart Gardens, British Columbia, Canada**



*(Adopted from www.worldalldetails.com)*

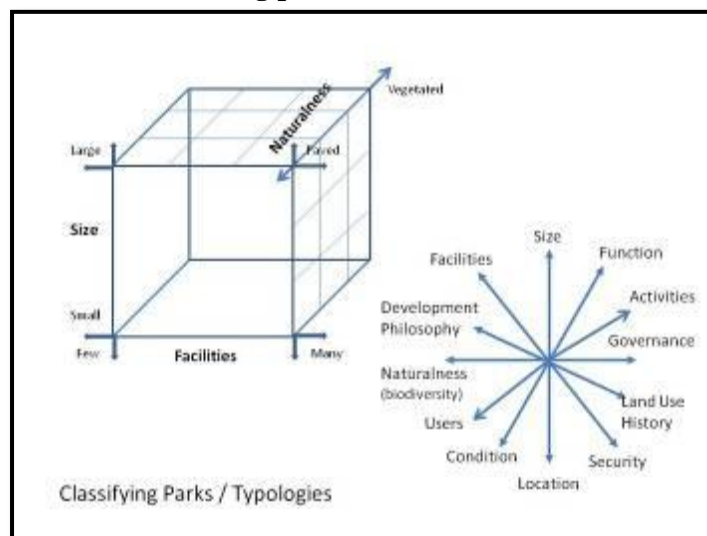
Rabare et al (2009) state that in Kenya, urban parks were created to provide relaxation for the white settlers at different strategic points of interest, which included; residential areas, administration, markets and bus terminals. These parks were expected to transform with the new global trends providing avenues for social, economic, cultural and environmental activities. In addition, the economic benefits of urban parks helps to raise property values as seen in the surrounding land parcels; create quality townscapes; provide a quick and highly visible indicator of whether an area is an attractive and therefore build business and community confidence (Rabare, Oketch, & Onyango, 2009), (Trzyna, 2005).

The roles played by these urban parks require that the framework protects each park ecosystem from degradation and pollution. Furthermore, the framework should allocate spaces and facilitate activities promoting public health, social interaction and income generation while factoring aesthetics as vital in optimum park use.

## 2.4. Urban Parks Typologies

In general, PUGS in cities includes; city squares, neighbourhood parks, small-sized parks, pocket parks and the outdoor space of campuses, elderly residential homes, child’s nurseries and hospitals (Wang & Gao, 2012). Bryne and Sipe (2010) indicate that classification schemas of urban parks can be based upon its size, its deemed function, its geographic location, the facilities types present and the degree of naturalness of the park as indicated in figure 2. Factors such as the activities that occur within the park, the agency responsible for managing the park e.g. national park, city park, the history of the park e.g. heritage rose garden park, the condition of the park, the land use history of the area e.g. Victorian-era park, the types of people who use the park, landscaping and embellishments e.g. sculpture park, bike park and the philosophy behind the park’s development e.g. recreation reserve or civic square also influence urban park classification (Byrne & Sipe, 2010). Kevin Lynch identified greenbelts, green wedges, regional, suburban and city parks, linear parks, plazas, playing fields and lots and playgrounds as well as ‘wastelands’ as various types of urban green/open space (Byrne & Sipe, 2010). Appendix 1 gives a detailed breakdown of the different urban parks classification.

**Figure 2: Factors influencing park classification**





## **2.5. Factors Contributing to Optimum Utilization of Urban Parks**

The utilization of any urban park and their public acceptance and appreciation is dependent on the existing interrelationships between socio-cultural, economical, environmental and physical factors as well as available alternative uses and determinants such as accessibility, availability and management of park facilities (Rabare, Oketch, & Onyango, 2009), (Greenkeys, 2008). Factors associated with a positive utilization of an urban park include; equitable access, accurate knowledge of park features and staffing, specific facilities related to people's recreational interests, community involvement, perception of safety and good overall maintenance.

### **2.5.1. Equitable access**

Urban parks should be accessible to those living or working within the city and on its periphery regardless of residence, physical abilities or financial resources since inequality in accessibility may be a limiting factor in terms of usage (Reyes, Paez, & Morency, 2012). (Harnick, 2003), (Konijnendijk et al, 2013). Accessibility is derived from the transportation systems according to distance, cost, time and activity centre attractiveness (Tabassum & Sharmin, 2012). Planners should factor in physical barriers like uncrossable highways, streams, railway corridors or heavily trafficked roads as well as linkages to community pathways and sidewalks, uninterrupted by non-residential roads hence providing easy access especially for children and senior adults (Tabassum & Sharmin, 2012). Park management agencies should plan for various income levels that cannot afford usage fees and can utilize alternatives such as; scholarships, fee free hours, fee free days and sweat equity volunteer work (Harnick, 2003).

### **2.5.2. Sufficient assets in land, staffing and equipment to meet system goals**

Every urban park should document its natural, physical and historical resources indicating their financial value, know the acreage of natural and designed landscape, indicate maintenance and replacement procedures to manage sustainably and publish these numbers annually to track the growth or shrinkage of the system over time (Harnick, 2003). Park expenditure should be accurately tracked transparently and comprehensively reported to everyone. Land management programs should indicate the operating budget and how much funds are required for major construction, repairs and land acquisition. Effective private fundraising efforts should complement local

government activities in undertaking monumental projects coupled with a high-visibility, citizen- friendly marketing program whereby the public can understand the stewardship of the system and become involved. Adequately provided qualified natural resources professionals to properly oversee the park system and manage the labour force.

### **2.5.3. Safety from physical hazards and crime**

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Every urban park should be safe, free both of crime and of unreasonable physical hazards e.g. sidewalk potholes, rotten branches overhead, polluted streams, piles of waste garbage etc. Mechanisms to avoid and eliminate physical hazards as well as ways for citizens to easily report problems should be put in place. Harnick (2003) observes that the accurate, regular collection of crime data in parks and other neighbouring urban parks is basic to any safety strategy. The ratio of male to female users in each park should be documented since a low rate of female users is a very strong indication of a park which feels unsafe. When there are few actual police or park rangers and infrequent patrols, the perception of order and agency responsibility can be extended by dressing all park workers and outdoor maintenance staff in uniform thereby reassuring park users.

### **2.5.4. Park users and User satisfaction**

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Demographic variables to outdoor recreation activities often divide the population into demand groups based on gender and age with the simplest classification being infants, pre-teens, teenager, young adults, mature adults, and the elderly (Satish, 1975). Each demand group requires specific park facilities to satisfy their recreational needs both passive and active (Satish, 1975). In addition, facilities such as nature trails amongst others that allow all age groups to undertake activities together should be included. Regarding gender, women mainly engage in social activities and passive recreation while most men engage inactive outdoor recreation. Park cleanliness and safety contribute to increased female park usage (Dunnet et al, 2002).

Expensive outdoor recreation activity undertakings influence the income class of park users locking out those who would prefer inexpensive outdoor passive recreation if provided. Level of park use is measured against usage by location, by time of day, by activity and by demographics. Frequent scientific based surveys on paying and non-paying users determines park usage trends allowing park management bodies to

address both efficiency and comfort needs and enable budgeting as a basis for requesting funds (Harnick, 2003).

### **2.5.5. Park maintenance**

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Concerns about better management are mainly focused on the presence of staff and on a desire for quality rather than quantity in urban green space (Dunnet et al, 2002). The acknowledged decline in the quality of care of the urban green space globally can be linked to declining local authority green space budgets which have manifested themselves in lower maintenance standards and failing infrastructure (Dunnet et al, 2002). Park users express concern at the neglect of PUGS and their facilities, particularly areas for children's play, the lack of play equipment or its deterioration and poor condition. It has been noted that if an area looks good it has more value and gets less abuse.

According to Dunnet et al (2002), local authorities should consider transferring park management and maintenance services to a private contractor and itself retaining a policy, strategy, contract and quality-monitoring role. Development of new or innovative evidence based approaches and models for the management and maintenance of PUGS would: promote the effective involvement of local residents, user groups and business communities; extend and improve the 'capacity' of local user and for resident groups; and foster a greater sense of ownership and civic pride among the range of stakeholders (Dunnet et al, 2002).

### **2.5.6. On-going planning and Community involvement**

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An urban park master plan should be substantiated thoroughly, reviewed regularly, and updated every five years (Harnick, 2003). The park plan should contain: an inventory of natural, recreational, historical, and cultural resources; a needs analysis; an analysis of connectivity and gaps; an analysis of the agency's ability to carry out its mandate; an implementation strategy with dates including a description of other park and recreation providers' roles; a budget for both capital and operating expenses and a mechanism for annual evaluation of the plan. Any park plan and its implementation strategy should be coordinated with plans for neighbourhoods, housing, tourism, transportation, water management, economic development, education, and health among other factors.

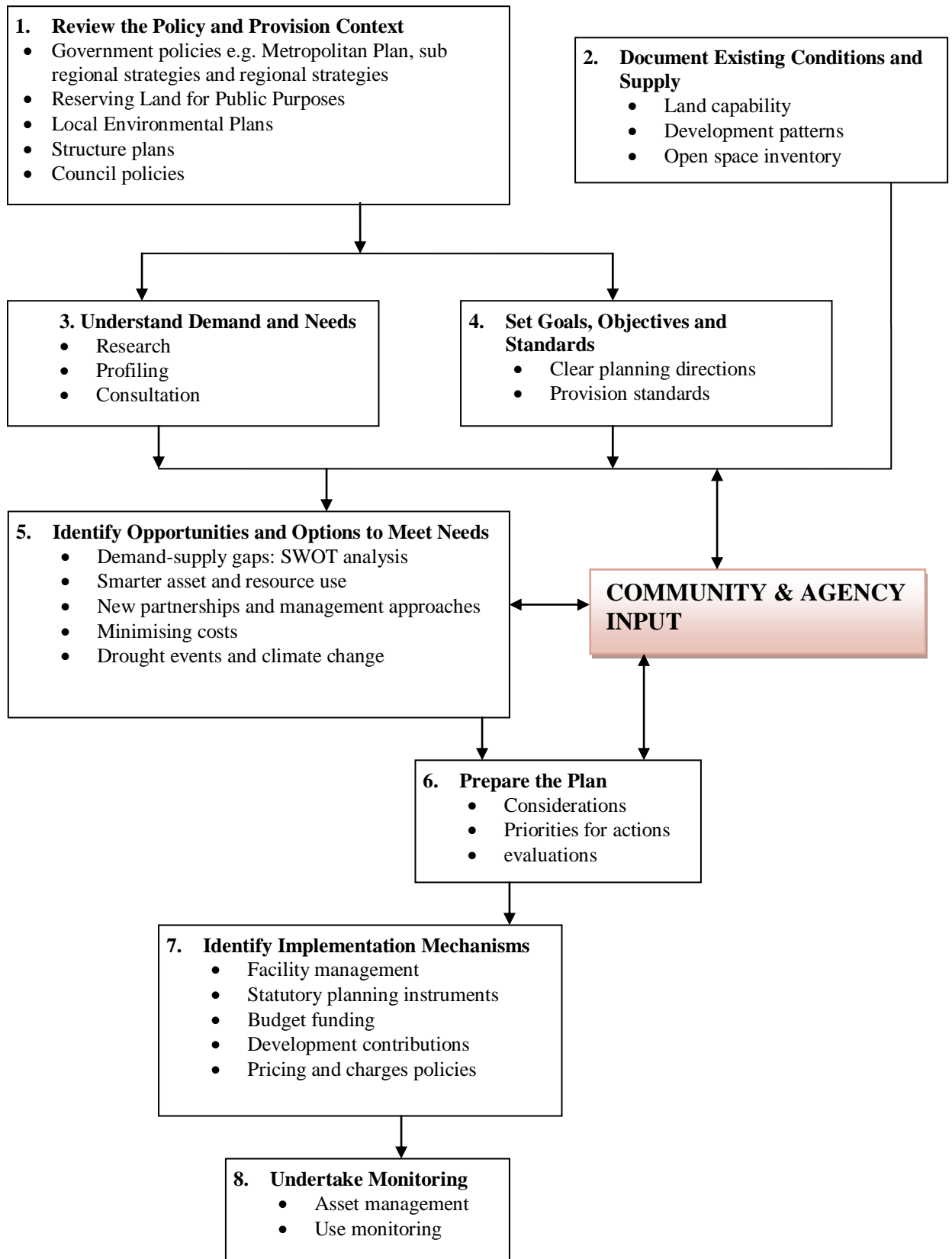
Presence of a formalized citizen advisory board which meets regularly, whose sessions are open to the public and whose role is to provide constructive criticism, helpful advocacy, user feedback, and fresh planning ideas is vital. On certain park projects it might be necessary to have a long public participation process even up to a year in order to solidify community support as was the case in Nashville (Harnick, 2003). Formal relationships with non-profit conservation and service-provider organizations which are explicitly written down and signed, with clear expectations, accountability, and a time limit which requires regular renewal should be established. These relationships not only enable a higher level of service through public-private partnership, but also provide the park management with stronger private-sector political support if and when that is needed (Harnick, 2003).

## **2.6. The Urban Park Creation Process**

A strategic approach by public administrations and other interest groups is requisite for PUGS planning and management (Government of New south Wales, 2010). This study looks at the urban park creation process as carried out in Australia, USA and Europe (figures 3, 4 and 5).

The New South Wales Government has an eight step open space planning process which begins with a summary of the policy framework at national and local government levels and specific agency policies (figure 3). An existing conditions and assets analysis is then carried out acting as an information base to inform the planning process (step 2, figure 3). A survey is carried out to analyse local users' and visitors' interests and understand competing demands and needs plus any shift in community needs and preferences (step 3, figure 3). The plan must clearly articulate intent and direction so that government officials and the community understand what is being proposed by identifying a vision, principles, goals and objectives (step 4 in figure 3). Step 5 involves: the identification of opportunities and options to meet needs; compare supply and demand; and identify gaps opportunities and constraints through environmental scanning. In plan preparation stage (step 6, Figure 3), the desired open space and recreation facilities and services program are subjected to evaluation as part of a feedback process before moving to finalisation. This should reflect the ability to meet needs as expressed in the locally appropriate standards, modified by the understanding of opportunities and constraints as well as identifying priorities as short

**Figure 3: Open space planning process, Government of New South Wales, Australia**



*Adapted from Recreation and open space planning guidelines for local government, Government of New South Wales, 2010*

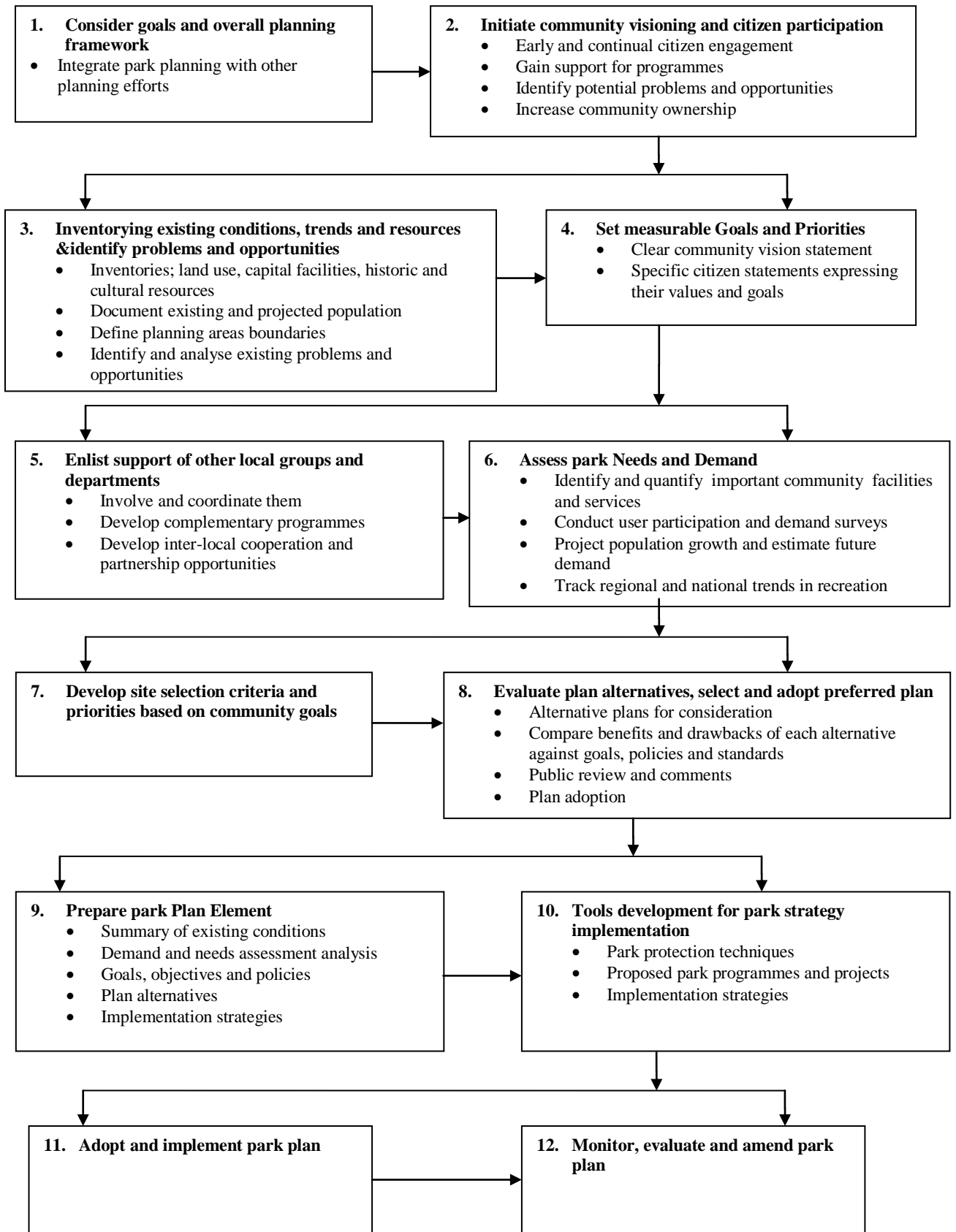
medium or long term resulting in a final draft plan. The resultant comprehensive plan should include references to outcomes and findings of the different park creation process stages. (Government of New South Wales, 2010). The implementation plan should be integrated into the Community Strategic Plan and delivery program and cover capital and operation costs (step 7, figure 3). The operation and management of the urban park maybe outsourced functioning on contract indicating operating standards, a pricing schedule, and performance fees and other incentives for the operator. Step 8 requires the local government maintain a comprehensive database that is linked to a GIS system of relevant data on the urban park and recreation facilities including their income, management, operation and costs to underpin decisions to modify approaches to open space provision or changed maintenance regimes and assist in public communication of these changes. Periodic surveys that consist of; permitted user, casual user and user satisfaction surveys, can monitor and gather feedback on performance (Government of New south Wales, 2010).

In the state of Washington in USA the planning of parks is a twelve step process and is guided by the Growth Management Act (GMA) (Washington state department of community, trade and economic developemnt, 2005). The first step focuses on goals and the overall planning framework to ensure integration of park planning with other planning efforts so that planning policies and implementation work achieve the community vision (Figure 4). Initiation of community visioning and citizen participation then follows aiming at gaining support and increasing ownership for park programs while matching them to community needs. Step 3 which is the foundation on which future decisions are made involves inventorying existing conditions, trends and resources in addition to identifying problems and opportunities. Development of measurable goals and priorities then follows. The planner is then required to enlist the support of other local groups and departments within their jurisdiction in order to develop complementary programs and avoid duplicating efforts (step 5, figure 4). Step 6 involves assessing park needs and demands by identifying the community's most important facilities and services using the Level of Services (LOS)<sup>2</sup> standards.

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<sup>2</sup>Level of Services (LOS) standards is a measure of the amount and quality of park sites and facilities provided to meet community basic needs and expectations as well as measures progress to meet the community's objectives

**Figure 4: Open space planning process, State of Washington, USA**



*Author's elaboration of the park and open space planning process in the State of Washington, 2005*

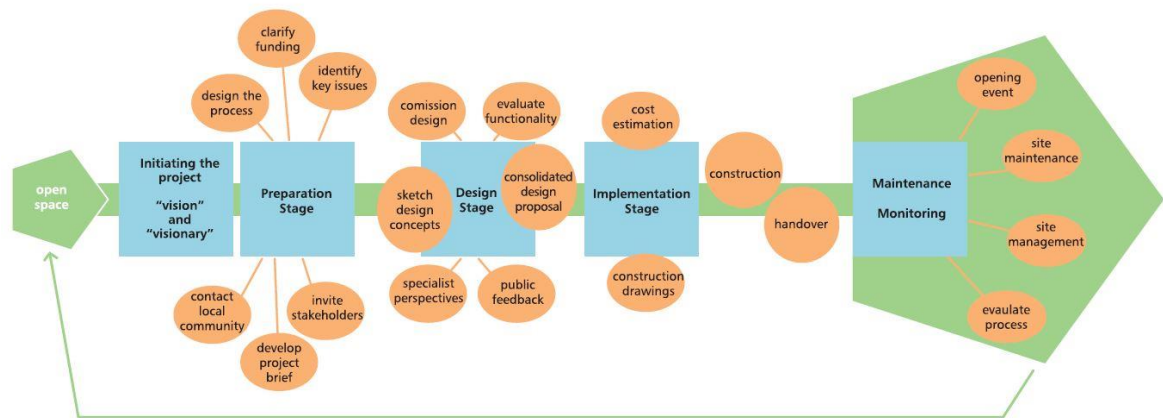
A site selection criteria and priorities based on community goals are then developed. Plan alternatives are next evaluated selecting and adopting the preferred plan (figure 4). Step 9 involves creating a park plan element which clearly establishes community priorities including the plan implementation strategies. Development of tools to implement the strategies then follows leading to full implementation of the park plan. Thereafter there is need for continual monitoring, evaluation and amendment of the park plan (step 12, figure 4).

In Europe having recognised the importance of successful urban open spaces a document providing guidance on planning and design of open spaces was developed as dictated by the European Landscape Convention. The planning and design of urban open spaces is a five stage process as indicated in the guideline (Stiles, 2013). The first stage involves project initiation where the vision of the people is developed involving identification of a committed team to drive the entire process as well as developing and agreeing on the time budget. The second stage i.e. preparation, involves collection of information about the proposed site potentials in addition to users' needs (figure 5). The design stage mainly involving professional designers begins with development of a detailed project brief (figure 5). The professionals based on the project brief then proceed to develop sketch design and alternative proposals: assessed on basis of community local needs in a visual form understandable to all stakeholders. The public provides feedback which is communicated to the professionals to modify the design which is then taken back to the stakeholders to endorse (Stiles, 2013).

In the implementation stage, the agreed design is developed in detail including construction drawings and instructions for building the open space factoring in the cost estimates. Construction is then carried out under the supervision of professionals. Once complete the project is handed back to the 'client'. The last stage involves regular maintenance, management and monitoring (figure 5). Management will include amongst others ensuring that the open space is a centre of local community activities including involving them in maintenance works. Monitoring is undertaken to ensure it achieves the original set goals and meets users' and local authority expectations while enabling flexibility to change to allow modifications. Figure 5 gives a detailed review of the open space planning process.



**Figure 5: Urban open space programming, design and maintenance**



*Adapted from A guideline for making space, 2013*

## **2.7. Existing Guidelines and Standards**

The UN Habitat (2012) indicates that urban activities have direct and indirect impacts on the natural environment in the short, medium and long terms and their scale of influence extends far beyond city boundaries. Managing indirect, distant and obscured impacts of city decision making require appropriate governance mechanisms that improve a city's accountability for the resources they rely on (UN Habitat, 2012). Planning for open spaces requires consideration of environmental, social and economic factors. This has required development and embracement of legislation, regulations, standards or various approaches to guide the process of planning, designing, management and conservation of open spaces. This aids in regulating growth of land uses especially human settlements to ensure that parks and other open space areas are retained for future generations.

Agenda 21 which addresses sustainable development at international and local levels recognises the need to provide social and economic development community needs while conserving and protecting the natural environment. The open space planning guidelines of the Government of New South Wales in Australia cover all aspects of open spaces including amongst others how to prepare open space plans, who the stakeholders are, how to identify implementation mechanisms and how monitoring shall be undertaken (Government of New South Wales, 2010). The Scottish planning policies (SPP) 11, provides direction on a strategic approach to open space by requiring local authorities to undertake an open space audit and prepare an open space strategy for their area, informing the development plan and setting out a vision for new and improved open space (Scottish government, 2008). In addition they have

development plans which safeguard important open spaces from development in the long term and identify spaces that require significant improvement (Scottish Government, 2008).

The ten year City of Edmonton's Urban Parks Management Plan (UPMP) designed to guide future decision making, provides strategic direction for acquisition, design, construction, maintenance and preservation of parks (Government of Canada, 2006). The UPMP moreover outlines parkland management principles for the city and its development partners. The state of Washington has the Growth Management Act (GMA) which promotes wise use of limited land resources helping conserve open space. The GMA aims to reverse the trend towards converting undeveloped land into sprawling low-density land use and encourages the enhancement of recreational opportunities. South Africa guidelines on soft open space planning require factoring in of; location, quantity required, connection of spaces, vegetation and achievement of a balance between pristine and artificial landscapes and be fairly evenly distributed throughout a settlement (Republic of South Africa, 2000). *Appendix 2* gives a detailed review of existing guidelines in the global and regional context.

Kenya does not have a specific legislation or policy document focussing on both planning and management of urban parks. There is however legislation, regulations and policy documents that touch on this as detailed in *appendix 2*. Kenya vision 2030, the country's development blueprint between 2008 and 2030 under the economic and social pillar as indicated in *appendix 2*, indicates that tourism and environment sectors as key in attaining economic gains by: improvement of facilities in underutilised parks; creating high value niche products through marketing and upgrading park standards; promoting environmental conservation; improving pollution and waste management; securing wildlife migratory routes; and mapping land uses nationally (Republic of Kenya, 2007). The Constitution of Kenya provides guiding principles in land management and reinforces sustainable exploitation, utilisation, management and conservation of the environment. It also vests upon the county government the function of managing county parks and recreation facilities (Republic of Kenya, 2010). The County Governments Act requires provision of viable green spaces for conservation and recreation (Republic of Kenya, 2012). The Urban Areas and Cities Act requires the board of a city or municipality to control land use, subdivision,

development and zoning of parks and recreational areas. The National Land Commission is the custodian of all public land categorised as ecologically sensitive or as a protected area with any future development on such land requiring their approval (Republic of Kenya, 2012). EMCA allows for imposition of an environmental order on land for the purpose of ecological preservation in addition to requiring an EIA be carried out on an urban development dealing with establishment or expansion of recreational areas (Republic of Kenya, 1999).

The National Museums and Heritage Act requires the National Museums to provide approval for any restoration or reconstruction works in protected areas. It further lists the Nairobi City Park as a protected area i.e. national monument (Republic of Kenya, 2006). The draft National Urban Development Policy recognizes the role played by gazetted national monuments, historic sites and conservation areas in addition to acknowledging that these some are degraded and poorly managed due to lack of a unified policy on urban heritage and poor collaboration between planning authorities and the National Museums (Republic of Kenya, 2011). The National Forest Policy recognises the need to establish urban forests and recreational parks to enhance environmental, social and economic values (Republic of Kenya, 2014).

## **2.8. The Community in Planning and Management of Urban Parks**

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Participatory planning enables non-experts i.e. users, residents, visitors, or stakeholders, work with planning and design experts to construct open space into valuable places (International association for public participation, 2010), (Meyer, 2011). It can be creatively design-oriented, technically-oriented, or management and policy-oriented with the potential to help all understand a place, engage across differences and design innovative effective changes. When applied to planning and design of landscapes, it is the working application of the justice aspect of sustainability by recognizing and communicating the perceptions, needs and interests of marginalized members of society (Meyer, 2011). Community engagement though contentious allows the local authority and other government officials to directly involve the public in the on-going design, planning, and management of the urban parks resulting in informed and engaged residents that feel better connected to their communities within increased sense of user or community control of the environment (American planning association, 2002), (Francis, 1989), (Smith & Hellmund, 1993).

### **2.8.1. Community engagement tools**

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According to Hodgson (2011), creative tools which promote community engagement by strengthening the process of understanding and exploring community values are engaged to achieve full community participation by different age groups and different members of the society. These tools include; innovative visual-art techniques, storytelling, social-networking technology, informal and formal exhibits, music, performance, festivals, and community gatherings, public design workshops, outdoor projections of visions, and the public revitalization of space (Hodgson, 2011).

### **2.8.2. Standards**

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The most useful standards to evaluate community participation are the ones that direct planning and design process and outcomes most effectively. These standards include; project for public spaces (PPI), sustainable sites initiative (SSI), the international association for public participation (IAP) code of ethics and social economic environmental design (SEED). PPS focuses on “place making” to redress the top-down approach to planning by including excluded voices in decision-making. SSI is used to engage site users and neighbours to reveal local knowledge, cultural legacies, and community needs. The IAP code of ethics seeks to involve all who are affected by a decision in the decision-making process (Meyer, 2011). SEED helps planners measure and realise social impacts of their projects (Meyer, 2011).

### **2.8.3. Guidelines to participatory planning**

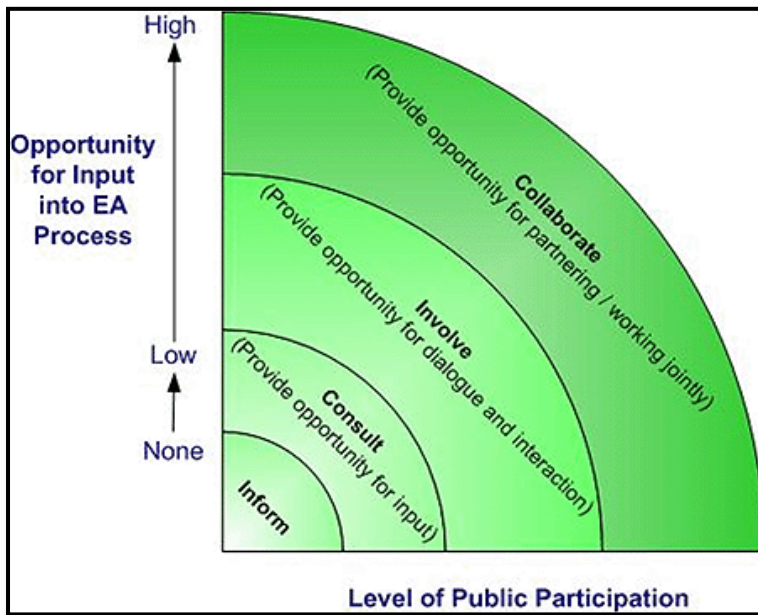
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#### **Framework for public participation**

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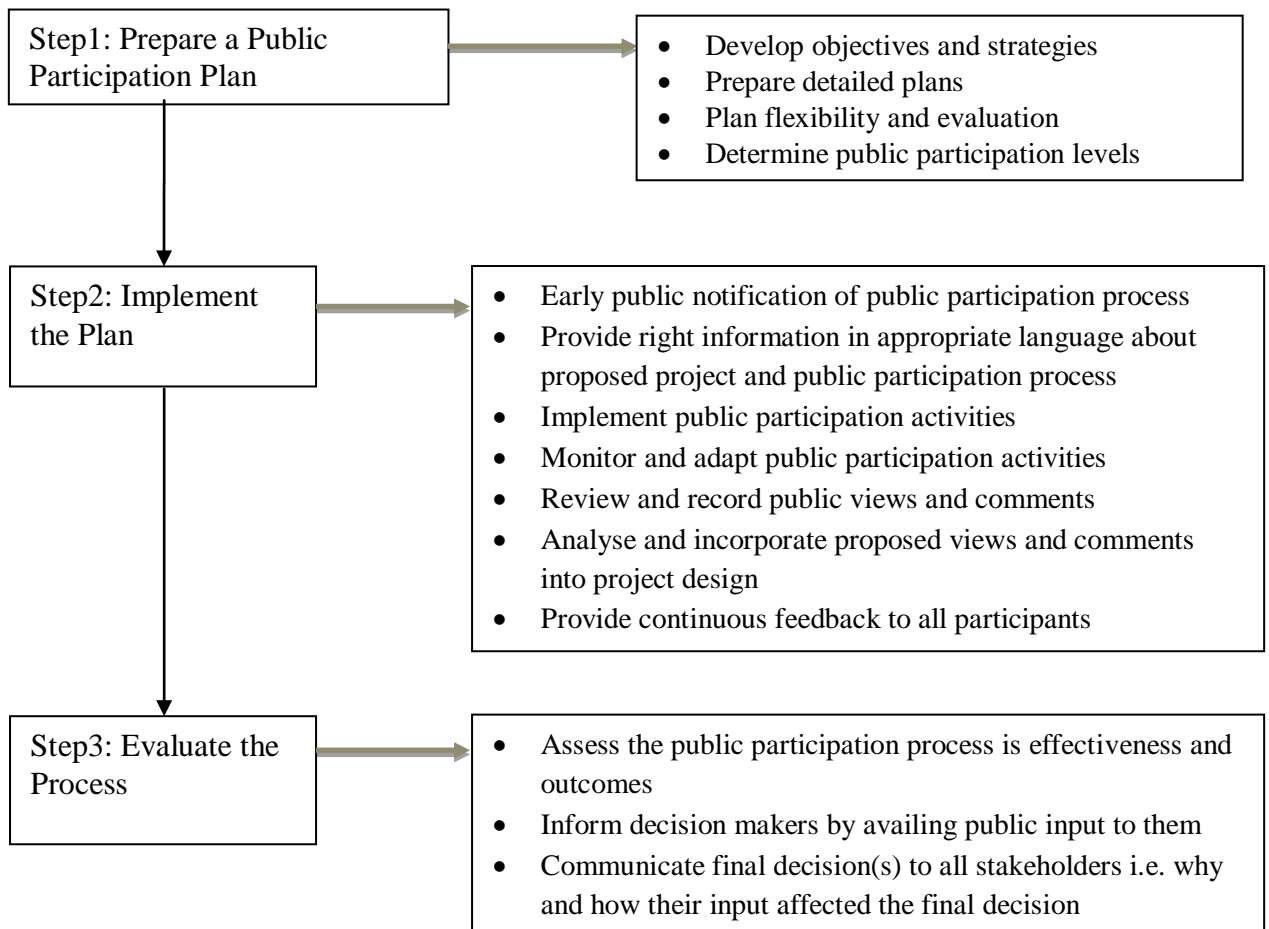
The public participation process in Canada provides for recommendations for best practices and tools and is guided by a three step framework i.e. preparing the public participation plan then implementing the plan and evaluating the process (figure 7), (Government of Canada, 2013). Also included, is the determination of public participation levels (figure 6) which determine the opportunity for public input to influence or impact the environmental assessment (EA) process. The plan implementation process, involves actual participation by members of public as indicated in step 2 (Government of Canada, 2013). The evaluation of the public participation process (Step 3, figure 7) allows for ‘transparent results’ whereby the public’s contribution will be considered in the decision making process. Figure 7 summarises the Canadian public participation process.

**Figure 6: Levels of public participation**



*Adapted from Government of Canada, Public participation guide, 2013*

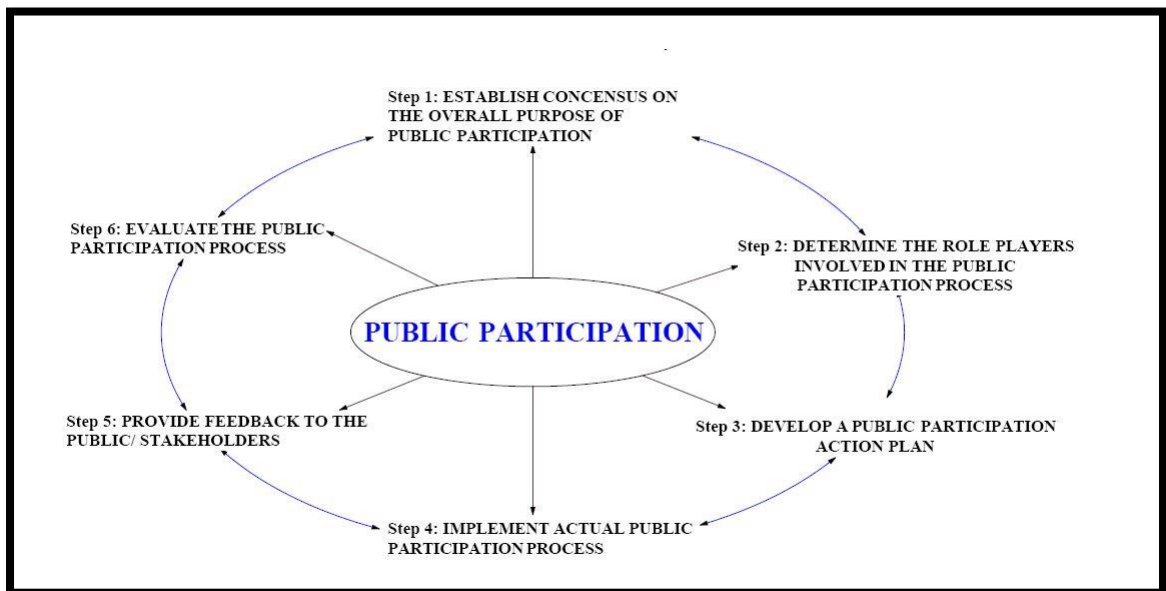
**Figure 7: Canadian public participation framework**



*Source: Author's elaboration of the Government of Canada's public participation framework, 2013*

The Republic of South Africa (2010) has a six step public participation process that is continuous and multidirectional as indicated in figure 8. The first step involves establishing consensus on the overall purpose of the public participation including determining the country’s legislative framework on public participation, clarifying the aim of public participation and identifying the benefits expected from the public participation process. The second step involves determining and identifying the stakeholders and their roles and ascertaining appropriate methods to inform stakeholders about the public participation process. The third step is to develop a public participation action plan which includes the most appropriate approaches to be used, identifying human and financial capacity required to facilitate the process and to develop a detailed action plan. The fourth step involves the conducting the public participation process. The fifth step involves provision of feedback about the outcome of the process to members of the public and other stakeholders. This step also includes informing the public how their input has been factored in the proposed project. The last step involves reviewing the public participation process (Republic of South Africa, 2010).The flow chart (figure 8) summarises the South African public participation process.

**Figure 8: South African Public Participation Process**



*Adapted from template on developing guidelines on public participation in South Africa, 2010*

Meaningful public participation will include a continuous and multidirectional flow of information among the public, key stakeholders, technical professionals, and local

decision makers. Ideally, community participation is an on-going process and the feedback loop is adjusted in both content and intensity to the size and scope of the project at hand. As the scale of the participatory effort increases, the intricacy of methods required for facilitating and organizing citizen input increases as well.

#### **2.8.4. Participatory Planning in Kenya**

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There has been a slow paradigm shift in Kenya from centralized to decentralized form of governance which was necessitated by; administrative bureaucracies and inefficiency, public resources misappropriation and marginalization of local communities in the development process. Citing Wakwabubi and Shiverenje, 2003, Omolo, 2011 states that participatory development in Kenya began with and was for a long time confined to community development projects. The District Focus for Rural Development (DFRD) Strategy of 1983 emphasized involvement of central government field workers in planning and implementation of programmes. In the 1990s, the GoK began devolvement of specific funds and decision making authority to districts and local authorities. This however lacked a coherent coordinated framework resulting in overlaps, duplication and low citizen involvement (Omolo, 2011). The Physical Planning Act of 1996 provided for community participation in the preparation and implementation of physical and development plans but lacked the critical element of community sensitization on their roles. At the local level, the main vehicles of community participation have been the Local Authority Service Delivery Action Plan (LASDAP) and Constituencies Development Fund (CDF) (Omolo, 2011). LASDAP was conceived as a means of enhancing citizen role in planning, budgeting and decision making in local authorities (Murio, 2013). LASDAP however has not been effective because of low awareness levels about citizen participation process by both the citizens and public officers. The CDF Act provides for communities to participate in development by including selected citizens into its various committees but lacks clear mechanisms for the community to participate in decision making.

Constitution of Kenya, (2010) lays the basis for development of a policy framework on citizen participation and in article 10 recognises public participation as a national value and principle of governance. Article 69 requires the state to encourage public participation in the management, protection and conservation of the environment. The

Urban Areas and Cities Act in section 22 on citizen for allows the public to make contribution on the provision of services, national policies and proposed development plans of the county and of the national government. Part 3 obliges the Board to make recommendations on the manner in which issues raised at the Citizen Fora, may be addressed and section 39 allows the public to inspect the integrated development plan. The County governments act 2012 in section 87 outlines the principles of citizen participation in counties while section 91 provides guidelines on the modalities/ structures and platforms for citizen participation.

Kenya however lacks a comprehensive functional approach to public participation resulting in a poorly conceptualised public participatory process and a confused stakeholders' view to the whole participation process (Commission for the implementation of the constitution, 2012). Tools which have been used in public participation include; public meeting (barazas), opinion surveys and recently focus groups discussions (Commission for the implementation of the constitution, 2012).The CIC, (2012) note that Neighbourhood associations such as Karengata enhance citizen participation by advocating and organizing activities within their areas working together for changes and improvement in the neighbourhood such as social activities including recreation, beautification programmes amongst others. Factors which have been noted to undermine public participation in Kenya include: low citizen awareness and understanding of engagement frameworks; lack of access to information; negative public officers' attitude and failure to appreciate participatory methodologies; multiple engagement frameworks; absence of formal citizen engagement frameworks; and absence of feedback and reporting mechanisms (Commission for the implementation of the constitution, 2012).

From the foregoing, it is important to develop a structured framework on public participation that would factor in the following thematic areas that are the core elements of citizen participation: citizen awareness; capacity building; planning and budgeting; implementation; monitoring and evaluation; inclusivity and composition of citizen forums; feedback and reporting mechanisms and financial resource mobilization (Omolo, 2011).



## **2.9. Strategies on Sustainable Management of Urban Parks**

A city's growth in order to reduce its ecological footprint and maximize benefits derived from natural systems, should be planned to achieve appropriate densities and providing alternative forms of mobility to private vehicles to help slow urban expansion into ecologically sensitive land and reduce citizen demand for scarce resources by sharing them more efficiently (UN Habitat, 2012). Generally planning, designing, constructing, and operating sustainable parks often includes: minimizing environmental impacts from the onset through sensitive siting of a park within the landscape and careful consideration of the various uses within the park boundaries; protecting and enhancing habitat areas; educating the public about the value of natural resource stewardship; incorporating rain water reuse, grey water for irrigation, efficient irrigation systems, waste reduction and recycling; minimizing pollution impacts resulting from park features and user activities; utilizing green building techniques to reduce energy costs; promoting alternative forms of transportation, greenways, bike trails; reducing maintenance and operations costs; involving the public; and encouraging partnerships with various organizations (Gallagher, 2012).

An urban park strategic document should be integrated with the city planning system, be within the city's development policies integrating with other policies, lead towards better use of its space potentials and resolve conflicts in advance (Greenkeys, 2008). Involvement and participation of the key users and stakeholders is vital in order to meet the needs and requests of the entire community by bringing together a diverse range of views, values, problems and opportunities and allow a thorough exploration of successes and failures in the current operation. In addition, to reverse the process of degradation of urban parks, sufficient political and financial support is required from all stakeholders (Greenkeys, 2008).

The use of ecological design approaches in sustainable planning and management connects culture and nature, allowing humans to adapt and integrate nature's processes with human creations and provides a learning framework in which to renegotiate, remediate, and reconsider our relationships to the diverse ecologies that characterize the contemporary urbanizing landscape (Lister, 2007).

## **2.10. Theoretical Framework**

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This study in the quest of assessing planning policy framework for urban parks is guided by several theories which include; the place theory, landscape ecology theory and community participation theories.

### **2.10.1. Place Theory**

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The place theory dwells on understanding the cultural and human characteristics of the physical space and it becoming a place when given a contextual meaning derived from cultural or regional context (Trancik, 1986). Trancik observes that each place is unique and takes the character of its surroundings i.e. concrete things and intangible cultural associations given by human use over time. He also indicates that city development fails to create a concept of place that responds to the social, cultural and physical environment, as well as a lack in the continuity of time and the presence of fragments of the past. Kevin Lynch with reference to the Place theory observed that just as each locality should be seen continuous with the recent past, so it should seem continuous with the near future. Every place should be seen as developing charged with predictions and intentions and that space and time however conceived are the framework within which we order our experience.

### **2.10.2. Landscape ecology theory**

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Rao (1997) indicates that landscape ecology links environmental issues with landscape planning and looks at landscapes in three dimensions, i.e., the vertical structure, the horizontal structure, and time. Landscape ecological planning process follows a more integrated approach that links the landscape structure with processes producing them. This theory sets foundation for approaches used in landscape planning whose basis uses several ecological theories which include; that all living systems in the biosphere are open systems; that ecosystems are made up of elements that interact with each other allowing continuous exchange of energy, nutrients and minerals and that these elements are necessary for the overall functioning of the ecosystem. It uses the concept of black boxes (elements from each tropic levels) to analyse functional attributes of any system. The individual structure or function of these elements are not considered for analysis of ecosystems, rather the interactions between these tropic levels are critical for the ecosystem functioning.

Landscape ecology considers ecosystems as holistic entities where the total ecosystem is greater than the sum of its parts. Ecosystems work on the principle of self-stabilization and self-organization. It has negative and positive feedback systems which help maintain the ecosystem in relative equilibrium. The aim of landscape ecology is to achieve a balance between natural ecosystems, agricultural bio-ecosystems, rural-techno ecosystems and urban ecosystems. Every landscape has a distinct vertical and horizontal structure. This three dimensional structure is formed as the result of interactions between energy, materials, and species. Landscape ecology focuses on studying spatial and temporal patterns to help understand how landscapes and ecosystems function and change over time. Rao citing Forman suggests that the Aggregate Outliers Principle may be helpful in planning for and managing sustainable landscapes. This principle states that “one should aggregate land uses, yet maintain corridors and small patches of nature throughout developed areas, as well as outliers of human activity spatially arranged along major boundaries” (Rao, 1997).

### **2.10.3. Public participation theories**

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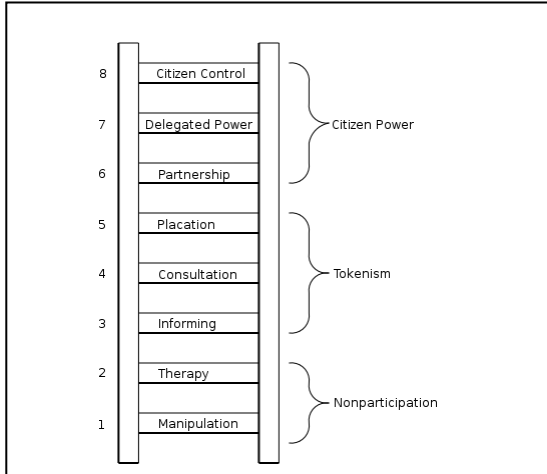
#### **Arnstein’s ladder of participation**

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Arnstein (1969) defined citizen participation as a categorical term for citizen power by redistributing power to the have-not citizens presently excluded from the political and economic processes. She further stated that it is the means by which the have nots can induce significant social reform which enables them to share in the benefits of the affluent society (Arnstein, 1969). She put forward the eight rung ladder of citizen participation as indicated in plate 10. Non participation brought by manipulation and therapy of citizens is put forward as a substitute of genuine participation even though it is far from that. Tokenism consisting of informing, consultation and placation enable citizen views to be heard but leaves decision making to the power holders. Citizen power is brought about by partnership, power delegation and citizen control where the citizenry are the main decision makers and have full managerial power.

The use of a ladder implies that more control is always better than less control. However, increased control may not always be desired by the community and increased control without the necessary support structure may result in failure.

**Plate 10: Arnstein's ladder degrees of citizen participation**



### Ladder of citizen empowerment

Under this model, people are expected to be responsible for themselves and should hence be active in public service decision-making. Burns et al (1994) modified Arnstein's ladder of participation and proposed a ladder of citizen power (plate 11). This is more elaborate than the Arnstein's ladder with further more qualitative breakdown of the different levels describing what involved in that level.

**Plate 11: A ladder of citizen empowerment (Burns et al, 1994)**

<b>CITIZEN CONTROL</b>
12. Independent control
11. Entrusted control
<b>CITIZEN PARTICIPATION</b>
10. Delegated control
9. Partnership
8. Limited decentralised decision-making
7. Effective advisory boards
6. Genuine consultation
5. High quality information
<b>CITIZEN NON-PARTICIPATION</b>
4. Customer care
3. Poor information
2. Cynical consultation
1. Civic hype

*Adapted from Participation: A theoretical context, CAG consultants*

## **2.11. Conceptual Framework**

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The conceptual framework shows the key factors and elements that contribute to the development of a comprehensive policy framework for the planning, development and management of any urban park by showing the interrelationship between these factors. The framework identifies guiding principles in achieving a comprehensive policy framework to include; urban park policy framework at county and national governments, various institutions, park users, environmental and physical factors, eco-development factors, community participation as well as park budgeting and funding.

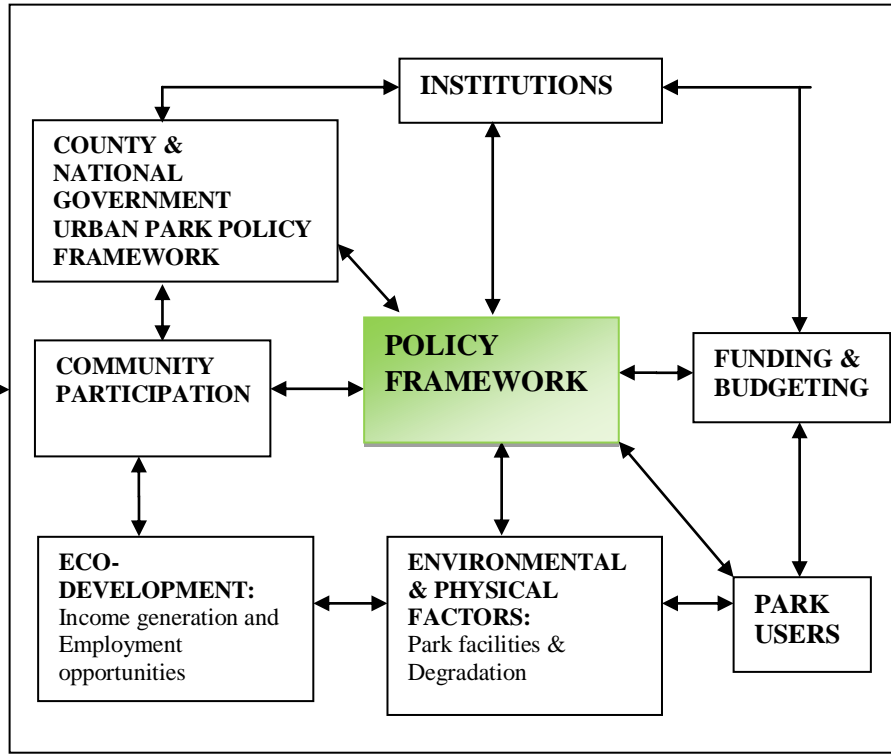
A flawed urban park policy framework is influenced by the use of the Top Down approach to planning where decisions are made by the government for the people with minimal public engagement in decision making. Other resulting factors include; conflicting and replicated institutional mandates by various concerned institutions causing confusion in decision making. Continual alienation of park land as well as unchecked environmental degradation makes long term planning difficult due to the decreasing size and a compromised ecosystem. Limited budget funding compromises on human resource capacity and restricts park's financial self-sufficiency.

On the other hand, the interplay of previously mentioned factors contribute to an all inclusive urban park policy framework. Such a policy framework is guided by using the Bottom Up approach to planning where the public and other interested stakeholders are involved in the decision making process and decisions are not imposed by the government and technocrats. Every concerned institution has specific outlined roles and mandates hence avoiding replication and conflict. Development control within and outside the urban park is enforced and park land boundaries are respected. Conservation practices to uphold the park's ecosystem are embraced in addition to employing use of sustainable management practices. The policy framework also ensures annual park budgets are drawn and innovative ways are used to source for funds including private public partnerships where possible. Constant monitoring and evaluation of park ecosystem and proposed or on-going projects is carried out.

# CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

- Top Down planning approach
- Conflicting & replicated institutional mandates
- Constrained community participation
- Illegal land alienation
- Environmental degradation
- Unsustainable management practices
- Limited budget funding
- Limited monitoring and evaluation procedures

**FLAWED POLICY FRAMEWORK**



**INCLUSIVE POLICY FRAMEWORK**

- Bottom Up Planning Approach
- Specific and clear institutional mandates
- Community engagement
- Development control and boundaries protection
- Respect for the environment
- Available budget funding
- Sustainable management practices
- Constant monitoring and evaluation

## 2.12. Case Study

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### City Park, New Orleans, USA

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#### Location

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Map 1: Map of New Orleans showing City Park location



(Source: [www.planetware.com](http://www.planetware.com))

#### Background

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New Orleans City Park, one of the ten largest urban parks in USA is centrally located in the city covering a recreation area of about 1300 acres in the metropolitan area. It was once the site of Allard Plantation and owned by John McDonogh who upon his death left the estate to the cities of New Orleans, Baltimore, and Maryland. The park hosts 11 million visitors each year (City Park New Orleans, 2005-2013).

#### Park operation and Facilities

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Park users only use the park between the hours of 30 minutes prior to daylight until 11.00 p.m except with permission from the Park Superintendent of police. City Park has general rules prohibiting those actions and activities which are detrimental to the

operations and grounds or which or which would prevent reasonable enjoyment of the Park by others (City Park New Orleans, 2012). The park is distinguished by its diverse recreational activities consisting of; fishing in the lagoons, birding, boating in Big Lake, sports fields, playgrounds, walking, biking, running, couturie forest, disc golf, equest farm and festival grounds and its natural beauty. City Park's attractions include; a botanical garden, carousel garden, city putt, city splash, golf, morning call, storyland, train garden and New Orleans museum of art and sculpture garden. The park directly or indirectly supports over 1,350 jobs, has influenced rise in surrounding property values by a total of nearly US\$400 million and generates annual tax revenue of about US\$ 11 million to the state and local government (City Park, 2005).

**Plate 12: Storyland**



**Plate 13: Couturie Garden**



**Plate 14: Walking**



*(Source: [www.neworleanscitypark.com](http://www.neworleanscitypark.com))*

### **Master plan: City Park 2018**

In March 2005, the Board of Commissioners of the City Park Improvement Association adopted City Park 2018, a comprehensive master plan that details the direction of park projects and programming to be completed or started by the year



2018. The master plan was prepared by a consultants' team comprising of urban planners, landscape architects and economic analysts. Extensive input from the public, comprising a regional telephone survey, an online survey, and two well-attended public meetings in addition to detailed case studies of Central Park in New York City and Balboa Park in San Diego, were examined to learn about trends in park planning and current thinking about programs and facilities appropriate to a great urban park (City Park, 2005). The master plan has been reviewed and updated several times since the original plan was announced in 2005.

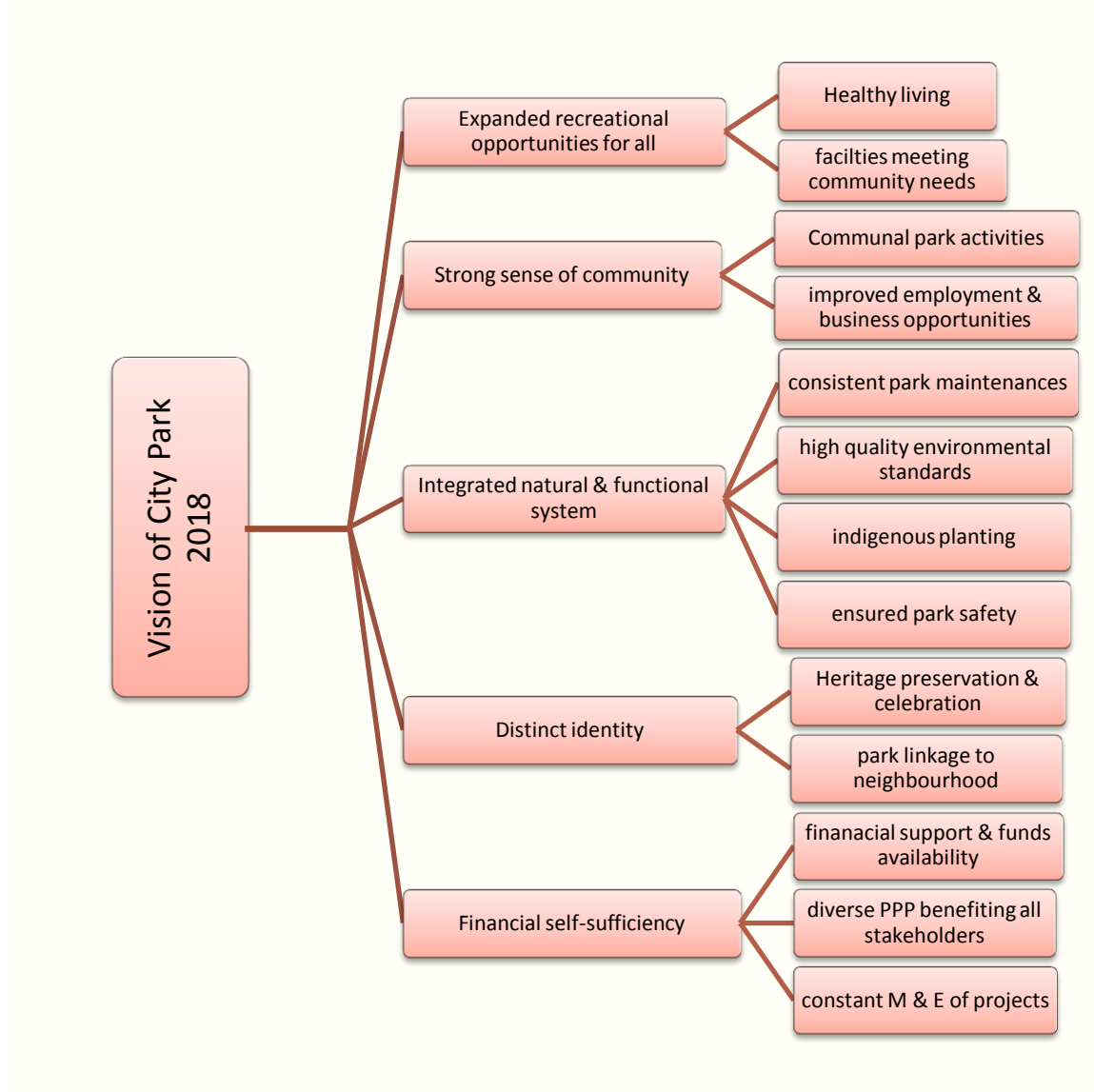
The flow chart shows the structuring of the master plan around five themes. The Master plan (2005) indicates that the park has a significant economic impact on the New Orleans region which will be dramatically threatened if the park does not have a sound financial plan and repairs, modernizes and improves of park facilities. The master plan tracks existing land use as of 2005 and projects land use in 2011 as indicated in table 3.

**Table 1: Land Use in City Park**

<b>LAND USE</b>	<b>2005 MASTERPLAN EXISTING ACRES</b>	<b>2011 MASTER PLAN PROPOSED ACRES</b>	<b>CHANGE (%)</b>
Active and passive recreation uses	53% (691 acres)	41% (540 acres)	-11
Non-related park uses	1% (11 acres)	1% (11 acres)	0
Park support	2% (20 acres)	1% (12 acres)	-1
Vehicular circulation/ parking	5% (70 acres)	6% (80 acres)	1
Water	17% (218 acres)	17% (219 acres)	0
Undeveloped open space	23% (304 acres)	34% (452 acres)	11

*(Source: City Park Master Plan; www.neworleanscitypark.com)*

**Figure 9: City Park New Orleans Master Plan Vision and Themes**



*Source: Author's elaboration of the City Park's Master plan Vision and themes, 2005*

### **Lessons learnt**

An UPMP guides long term planning of any urban park but needs to be continually reviewed and updated after specific time periods e.g. every 5 years to satisfy the ever changing needs of its diverse users. Park entrance fees for the low income groups can be substituted with sweat-equity volunteer work where users work in the park to enjoy it, or having fee free hours or days. Every urban park should strive for financial self-sufficiency to ensure continued sustainability of park development and maintenance activities. An urban park should have a distinct identity be it in natural, cultural or historical heritage which the community identifies with ensuring its protection and survival due to the instilled sense of community.

Figure 10: Proposed City Park New Orleans Restoration and Development



### **3. METHODOLOGY**

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This chapter addresses the methodology applied in the research study. The methodology covers the research design, target research population, the sampling plan, sample size and sampling methods, data collection methods and instruments, suggested methods of data inputting, processing, and analysis as well as preferred data presentation techniques.

Research methodology is the systematic way of solving a research problem using specific methods to obtain results capable of being evaluated (Kothari, 2004). This being a descriptive and qualitative social research study, a survey and fact finding enquiries were made with the aim of describing the state of affairs of the policy framework for planning and management of Nairobi City Park from which findings helped in inferring conclusions from which general recommendations were made.

#### **3.1. Research Design**

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This study focused on urban parks and sought to evaluate whether the existing policy framework safeguarded their existence and survival in a robustly urbanizing city such as Nairobi. The adopted research design aided in conceptualisation of an efficient structure to give an accurate description regarding the policy framework for planning and management of urban parks such as NCP by minimising bias and maximising on reliability of data collected and analysed.

In this study, the chosen descriptive research design enabled the narration of facts concerning the policy framework for NCP from different agencies concerned with park management and a critical evaluation of characteristics of all park users including traders and households (Kothari, 2004). The research study embraced a case study approach by analysing Nairobi City Park as a representative of urban parks in Nairobi. The research studied NCP in detail and holistically to assess its provision, functioning and management in terms of urban park planning and management. This enabled an in-depth study of the research problem through a detailed contextual analysis and understanding of the policy framework for provision of urban parks and provided a basis for proposing the application of a new urban park policy framework (Anastas, 1999). Both quantitative and qualitative research approaches were used in this study whereby inferential quantitative approach was used by carrying out of a

survey to form a database from which characteristics and relationships of the sample population of park users, traders and households were deduced. Qualitative approach enabled subjective assessment of attitudes, opinions and behaviour of park users and park management by use of questionnaires and in-depth structured interviews (Kothari, 2004).

The research design was carried out by: clearly identifying the research problem and justifying its selection; formulating the study objectives; reviewing and synthesizing previously published literature associated with planning and management of urban parks; designing the methods of data collection; selecting the sample population; collecting the required data; describing and undertaking analytical methods for data processing and analysis and reporting findings and drawing conclusions to develop a proposed policy framework for urban parks such as NCP.

### **3.2. Research Population**

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The target population for this study consisted of the users of Nairobi City Park's adjacent land uses i.e. residential, commercial, and public surfaces, park administration and relevant institutions and authorities involved in the management of the Park. The study collected information from respondents who included; individual park users, households in the neighbourhood of NCP, individual businesses both formal and informal, individual park administrators i.e. the Nairobi City Park management office and relevant institutions. These institutions included; the Ministry of Land, Housing and Urban Development, department of Environment within Nairobi City County formerly the Nairobi City Council, Friends of City Park, and the Kenya Urban Roads Authority (KURA). The respondents provided information regarding their opinion in relation to the planning, utilization and management of Nairobi City Park, whether the park meets their recreational needs, which other role the park plays in their urban life and how they can be involved in urban park planning and management.

### **3.3. Sampling Design and Plan**

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This research study set to critically assess the policy framework for planning and management of urban parks. It focussed on sampling an urban park bearing characteristics for the required information. The sample design set to identify the area

of study focus in this case urban parks; to determine the sampling unit; to establish the sampling frame; determine the size of the sample and sampling methods and procedures to be used to obtain the required data.

### 3.3.1. Sampling methods

The sampling design used both non-probability (non-random) and probability (random) sampling techniques. In non-probability sampling, purposive sampling was used to deliberately choose Nairobi City Park as the representative case for urban parks to provide the required information and users' characteristics with respect to this research study's objectives (Kothari, 2004) (Mugenda & Mugenda, 2003). Nairobi City Park was moreover purposively selected as the study location because of its location in a rapidly urbanising Parklands area that is changing from a predominantly residential land use to mixed land use of commercial and residential nature. NCP was also deliberately chosen because it is the largest urban park in Nairobi County and has faced numerous challenges to ensure its survival and functionality as a recreation space for Nairobi City residents. Furthermore, purposive sampling was used to select Nairobi County as the study site as it has the widest variety of gazetted urban open spaces in Kenya. Purposive and judgement expert sampling methods were used in selecting institutions related to urban park planning and management to be critically reviewed and interviewed their representative officers.

Simple random sampling technique was the method used for probability sampling. This was used to establish the existing state of affairs at NCP and understand the characteristics of park users, informal and formal traders operating within NCP and in its environs and households in the NCP neighbourhood. Table 2 summarises the different sampling methods used in collecting data from the selected sample.

**Table 2: Sampling methods**

SAMPLING UNIT	SAMPLING METHOD
Park users	Simple random sampling
Households	Simple random sampling
Businesses (market, hawkers and formal traders)	Simple random sampling
Park administration	Purposive and judgement expert non-random sampling

SAMPLING UNIT	SAMPLING METHOD
Institutions and authorities i.e. the Ministry of Land, Housing and Urban Development, Department of Environment at Nairobi City County, Friends of City Park, the Kenya Urban Roads Authority.	Purposive and judgement expert non-random sampling

### 3.3.1. Sampling unit & Units of analysis

The sampling units for this study included; park users, park administration, relevant authorities and institutions, traders of formal and informal businesses within and adjacent to the urban park and housing. The unit of analysis included; individual park users, individual park administrators/ management, households, individual formal and informal business owners and relevant institutions. These institutions included; the Ministry of Land, Housing and Urban Development, the department of Environment within Nairobi City County formerly the Nairobi City Council, City Park management office, Friends of City Park, National Environment Management Authority.

### 3.3.2. Sample size

It was difficult obtaining a sample frame for Nairobi City Park users / visitors as entrance into the park is neither charged nor documented. On average 5,000 persons visit the park monthly. This includes adults, children, education institutions and different social groups such as families, churches, ‘chamas’ amongst others.

Mugenda & Mugenda (2003) quote Gay (1981) indicating that for descriptive studies, 30 cases or more or ten percent of the accessible population is enough to determine the sample size. For this study, a total number of 120 questionnaires were used to obtain research data as indicated in table 3. Structured interviews were carried out with relevant institutions that included the Ministry of Land, Housing and Urban Development, the department of Environment within Nairobi City County, City Park management office, Friends of City Park, National Environment Management Authority and the Kenya Urban Roads Authority.

**Table 3: Sample Unit and Size**

<b>SAMPLING UNIT</b>	<b>NO. OF QUESTIONNAIRES</b>
Park users	60
Businesses (market, hawkers and formal traders)	30
Households	30
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>120</b>

### **3.4. Data Collection Methods and Instruments**

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This research study collected both primary and secondary data. Primary data was obtained through observation, interview schedules and questionnaires while secondary data was gotten through review of literature. Subjects of observation in this study consisted of park users, hawkers and formal traders operating within City Park boundaries, City Park Market traders and clientele, park employees and households and other developments bordering the park. Interview schedules were carried out to collect specific information concerning urban park policy i.e. on legal and institutional framework, participatory urban park planning, planning interventions by planning agencies, NCP management with its challenges and status of NCP facilities.

#### **3.4.1. Data collection methods**

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This study applied the use of observation, interview methods and administration of questionnaires. Observation was used to obtain data concerning: NCP accessibility and circulation; distribution of recreation, business and other activities within NCP; environmental status of the ecosystem; and surrounding land uses, and NCP neighbourhood and their impact to NCP. Administration of questionnaires enabled collection of data to understand park users' characteristics, their usage of NCP facilities, challenges they face using the park, and to determine the extent of their involvement in planning and management of NCP activities or projects. This was similarly applied to both informal and formal traders to determine how they operate within and without NCP, challenges they face and whether they are consulted in proposed rehabilitation projects within NCP. Interviews were carried out with specific officers involved in planning for and management of NCP.



The study also carried out a critical review of both published and unpublished literature and documents related to urban parks, their planning and their management. It involved reviewing national and local/county government publications, publications from foreign governments or international bodies and their subsidiary organisations, journals, books, reports, public records and historical documents and drawing inferences regarding the Kenyan situation concerning urban parks policy framework.

### **3.4.2. Instruments**

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Data collection instruments included observation checklists or forms to enable observation during field visits, interview schedules and structured questionnaires during interviews of park users, park administration, relevant institutions and authorities, businesses and households. The designed instruments used to collect data are attached in *appendix 8* of this report.

### **3.4.3. Data collection process**

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The researcher together with three research assistants collected data from the sampling units. Research assistants were trained before the actual data collection. A pilot study was carried out a week earlier to ascertain the validity and reliability of the research instruments. Adjustments were made where necessary to the instruments prior to the actual data collection. Field survey data was collected over a period of one week to ensure that the different categories of park users were captured.

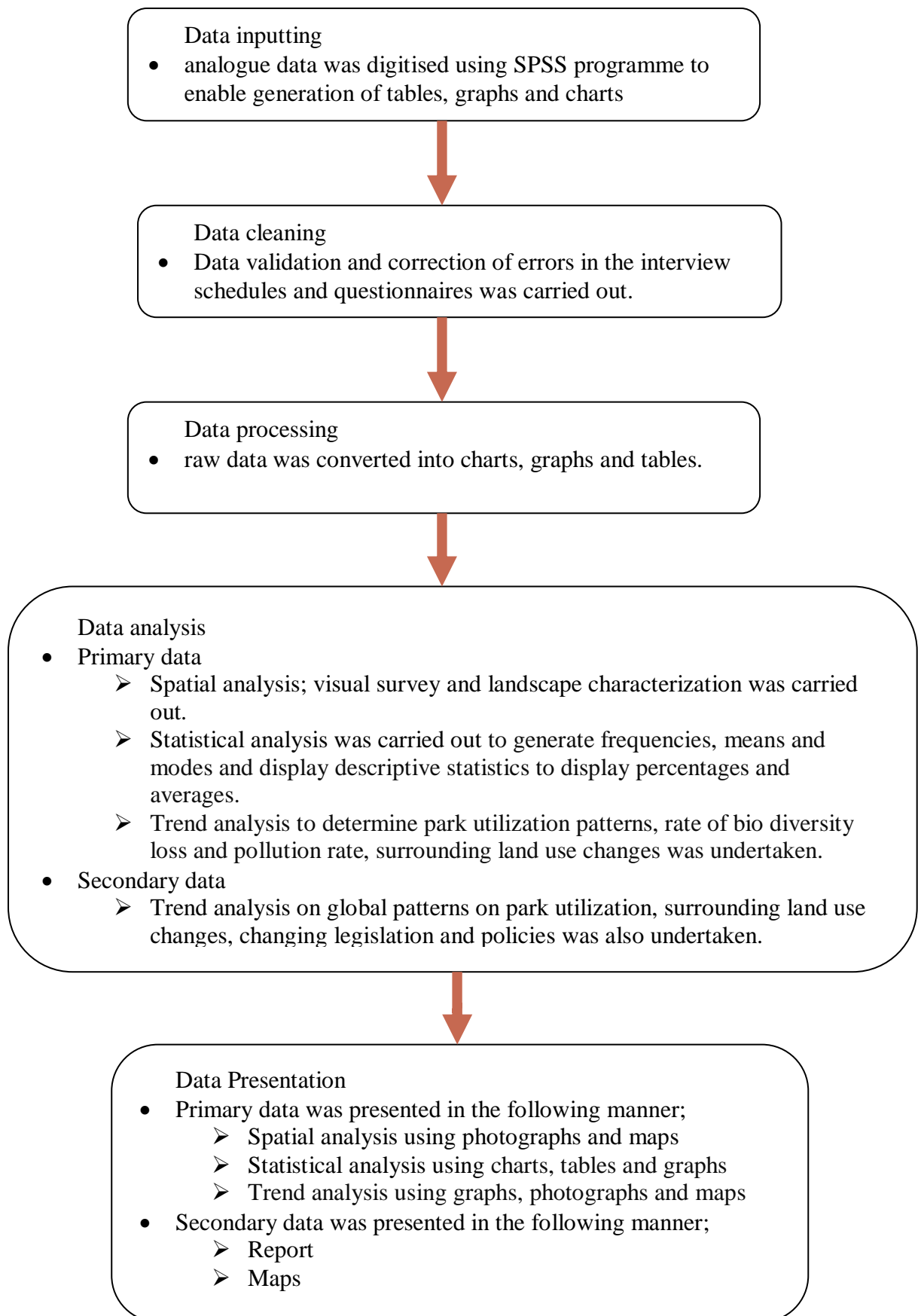
## **3.5. Ethical Implication**

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The study was carried out in such a manner that it respected the respondents' rights and privacy. All respondents were assured of confidentiality i.e. that they provided was purely for academic purposes and that the information would be presented correctly. None of the respondents was coerced into giving any information.

### 3.6. Data Inputting, Processing, Presentation & Analysis

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### 3.7. Analytical Framework

**TABLE 4: Analytical Framework**

Objective	Data needs	Data sources	Data collection method	Data analysis	Data presentation	Expected output
<p>To examine the legal and institutional framework used in the provision of Nairobi City Park</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of existing laws and regulations on urban parks planning and management</li> <li>• Review institutions mandated with planning, development and management of urban parks</li> <li>• Urban park functions</li> <li>• Urban park development and design guidelines</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Publications</li> <li>• Key informants</li> <li>• Department of environment, NCC</li> <li>• NEMA</li> <li>• Ministry of land, housing and urban development</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Literature review</li> <li>• Interviews</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Content analysis</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Report</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comprehensive report on open space legislative and institutional framework</li> </ul>

<b>Objective</b>	<b>Data needs</b>	<b>Data sources</b>	<b>Data collection method</b>	<b>Data analysis</b>	<b>Data presentation</b>	<b>Expected output</b>
To assess effectiveness of the existing policy framework with regards to management of Nairobi City Park.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Urban park management strategies</li> <li>• Review utilization and management of City Park</li> <li>• Assess the level of effectiveness of planning and management guidelines in maintaining the quality of the park</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Publications</li> <li>• Key informants</li> <li>• Department of environment, NCC</li> <li>• NEMA</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Literature review</li> <li>• Interviews</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Content analysis</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Report</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• report on urban parks management structure, roles and guidelines</li> </ul>
To establish the place of the community in planning and management of City Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review literature on community participation and urban park planning and management</li> <li>• Review legislation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Publications</li> <li>• NEMA</li> <li>• Ministry of Land, Housing and Urban</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Literature review</li> <li>• Interviews</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Content analysis</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Report</li> <li>• Photographs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comprehensive report on participatory planning of urban parks like city park</li> </ul>

Objective	Data needs	Data sources	Data collection method	Data analysis	Data presentation	Expected output
	regarding public participation in Kenya	development • Friends of City Park				
To formulate and propose necessary planning interventions for sustainable creation and management of urban parks such as City Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Management of urban parks globally and regionally</li> <li>• Which laws, regulations, guidelines, strategies and standards can be incorporated into our laws</li> <li>• Recommendations from Park users, businesses and relevant institutions and local authorities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Publications</li> <li>• Key informants</li> <li>• Department of environment, CCN</li> <li>• NEMA</li> <li>• Park users</li> <li>• Informal and formal traders</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Literature review</li> <li>• Interviewing park users, businesses, park management and local authorities</li> </ul>	•Content analysis	• Report	• Recommendations on improvement of planning and management of urban parks in Nairobi

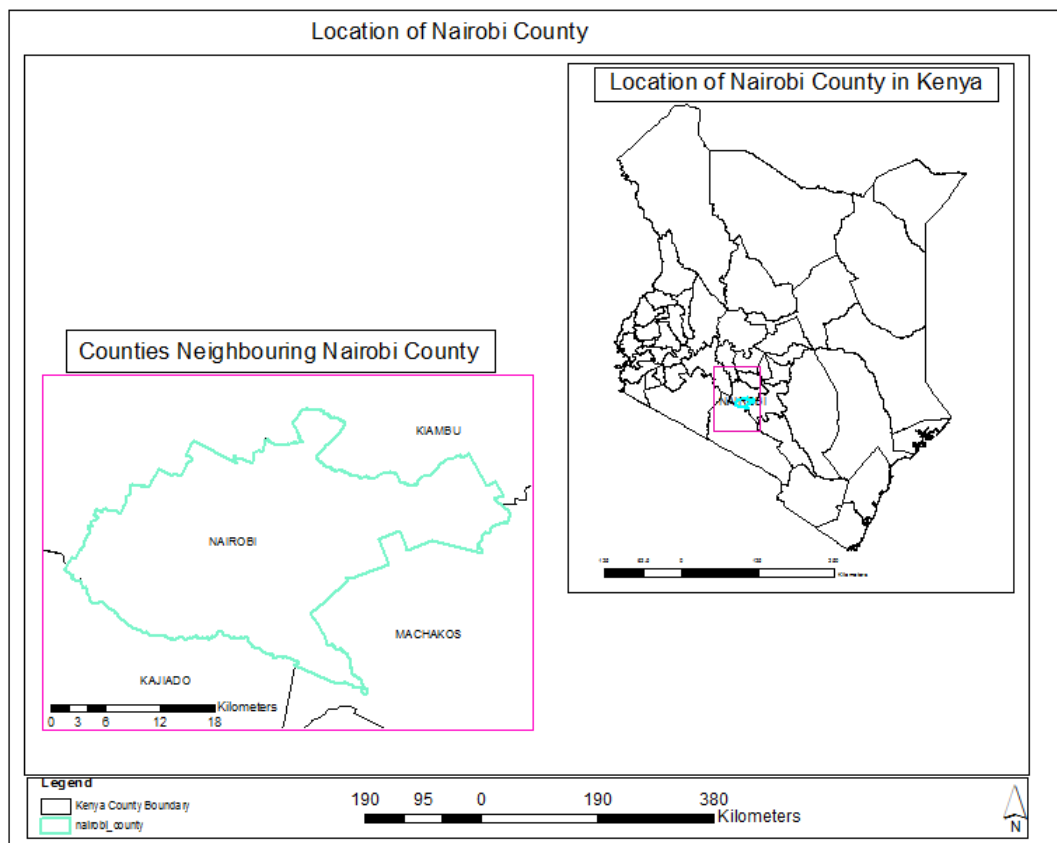
## 4. STUDY AREA

This chapter focuses on the Nairobi City Park giving a general outlook on its geographical location, the neighbourhood context and surrounding land uses, the historical development of NCP, the existing park facilities and the park users' characteristics.

### 4.1. Location and Historical Development

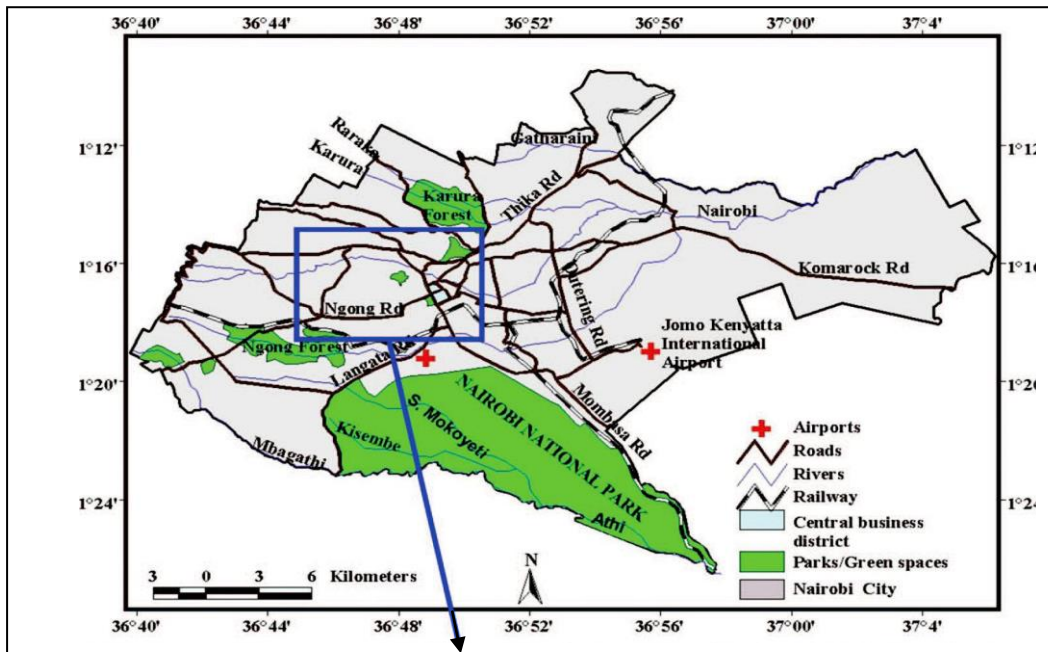
#### 4.1.1. Location, Neighbourhood and Access

Map 2: Administrative Map of Kenya and Nairobi City County

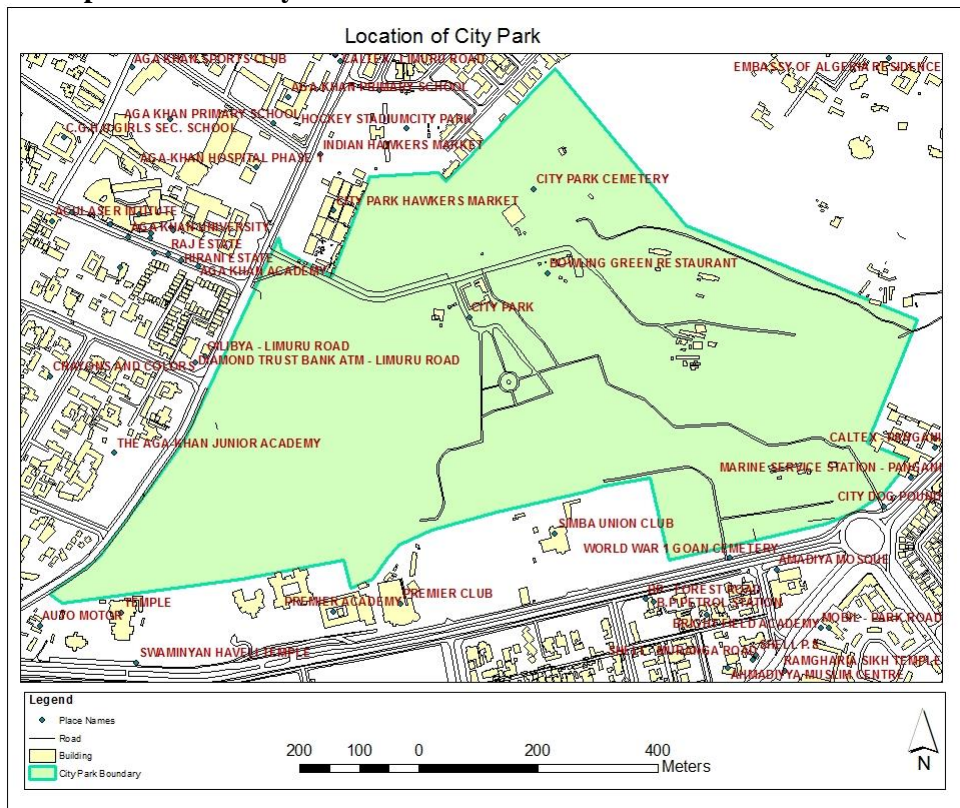


Source: Author, 2014

**Map 3: Map of Nairobi City County showing Location of Nairobi City Park**



**Map 4: Map of Nairobi City Park**



Source: Author, 2014

The study was carried out within Nairobi City County located at 1° 17' S, 36° 49' E. Nairobi occupies an approximate area of 692 km<sup>2</sup>. The selected study site is Nairobi County as it has the widest variety of gazetted urban open spaces in Kenya. The

selected study location in Nairobi is City Park which is a wedge shaped urban park sandwiched between Forest Road and Limuru road in Parklands. It is bordered to the north by a hockey stadium and City park estate and to the south by Premier academy and premier club as well as Forest road. The main park entrance is off Limuru road across from the Aga Khan University Hospital (Refer to map 5).

Nairobi City Park is located in the middle class neighbourhood of Parklands. Parklands formerly a predominantly Indian residential area is slowly changing land use into a commercial and institutional area due to urbanization as illustrated by map 6. NCP is neighboured by several of the Aga Khan institutions i.e. Aga Khan University Hospital, Aga Khan Primary School, Aga Khan Sports Club and Aga Khan Junior Academy. These provide health, education and recreational services to the Parklands residents. They also contribute to the working population found within this area. Other recreational facilities are located to the north i.e. Hockey Stadium and to the south there are the Premier and Simba Union clubs providing mainly active sports facilities. Commercial activities in the NCP neighbourhood include; the City Park Hawkers Market, a petrol station with Pizza Inn outlet and the recently built office block known as Park place. Residential estates include amongst others; Rirani estate, City Park estate and several apartment blocks.

The main NCP park entrance is off Limuru road through City Park Road which is opposite from the Aga Khan University Hospital as shown in map 7. There are however several unmanned access routes puncturing the NCP boundaries from Limuru road, Forest road and from the Thika Super Highway. These pedestrian paths are earth surfaced, some act as nature trails, not monitored and have been not to be insecure. One of them i.e. the one from Pangani side of the Thika Superhighway acts as a transit route for people coming from Pangani and Mathare heading to Parklands and vice versa.



# Map 5: NAIROBI CITY PARK NEIGHBOURHOOD

Plate 16: City Park Hawkers Market



Plate 15: City Park Estate



Plate 19: Hockey Stadium



Plate 18: Premier Academy



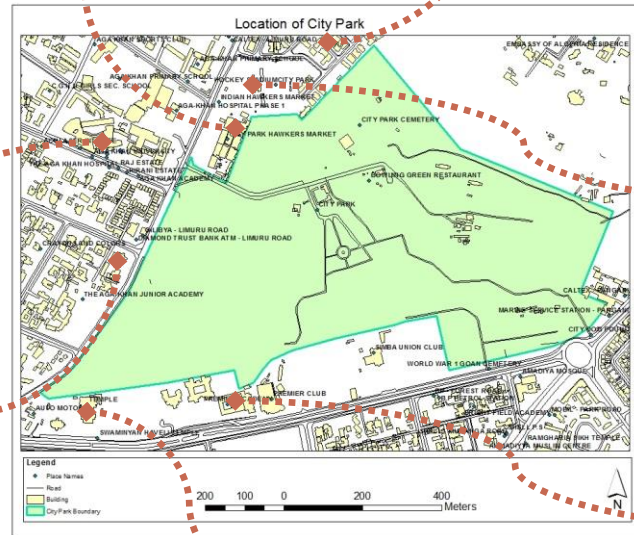
Plate 17: Aga Khan University Hospital



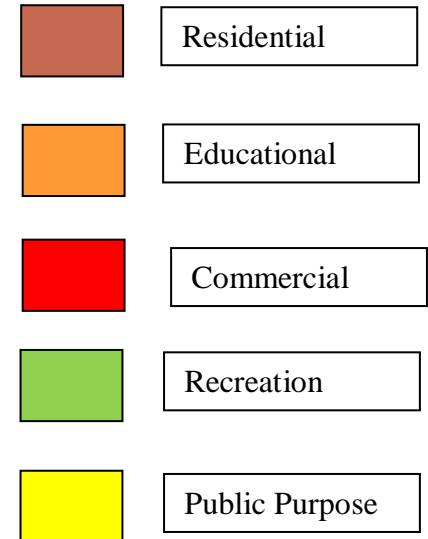
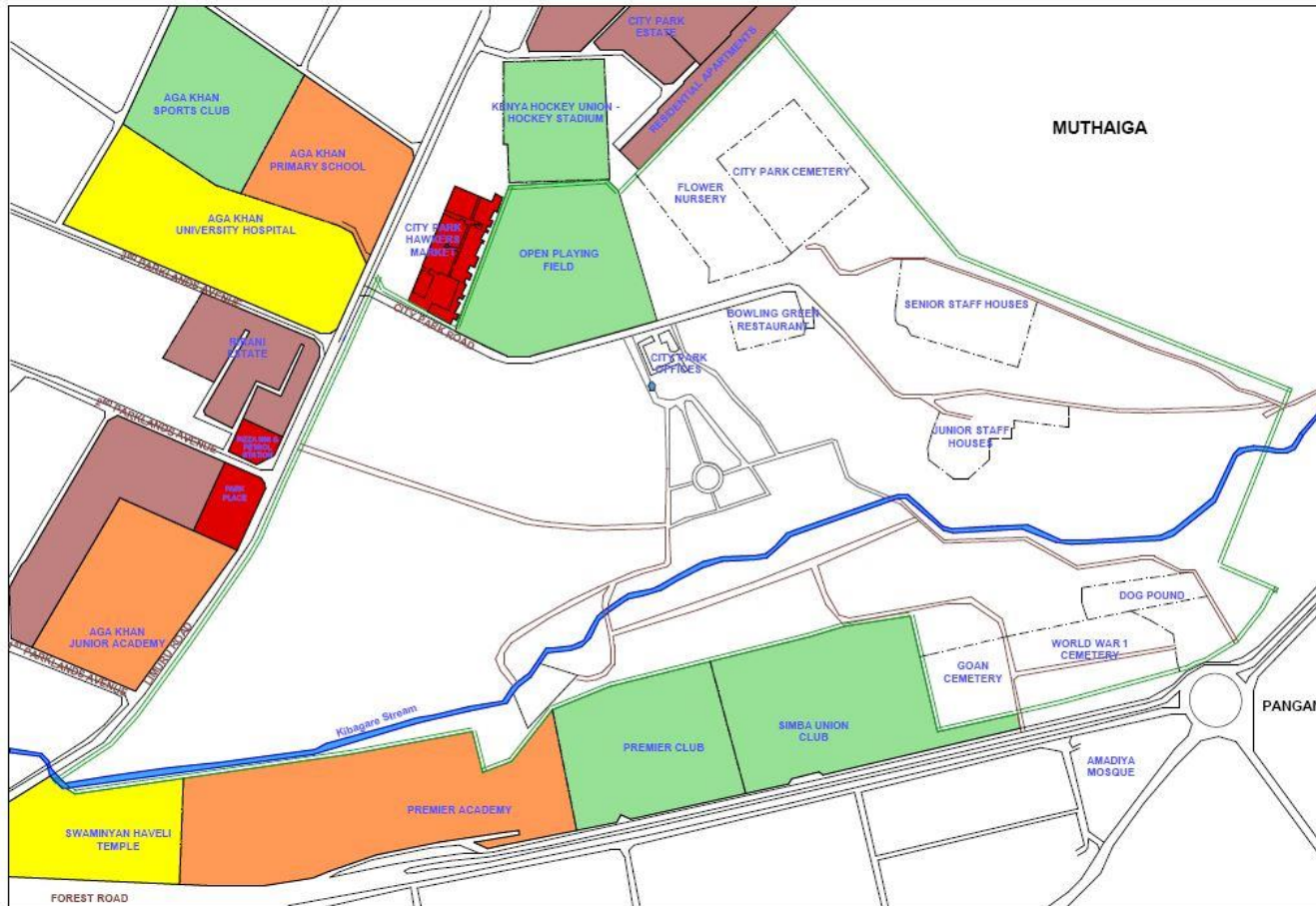
Plate 20: Park Place



Plate 21: Swaminyan Haveli Temple



## Map 6: NAIROBI CITY PARK NEIGHBOURHOOD LAND USES



# Map 7: NAIROBI CITY PARK ACCESS & CIRCULATION

Plate 23: 3<sup>rd</sup> Parklands Avenue



Plate 26: Limuru Road



Plate 27: Limuru Road and Forest Road Interchange

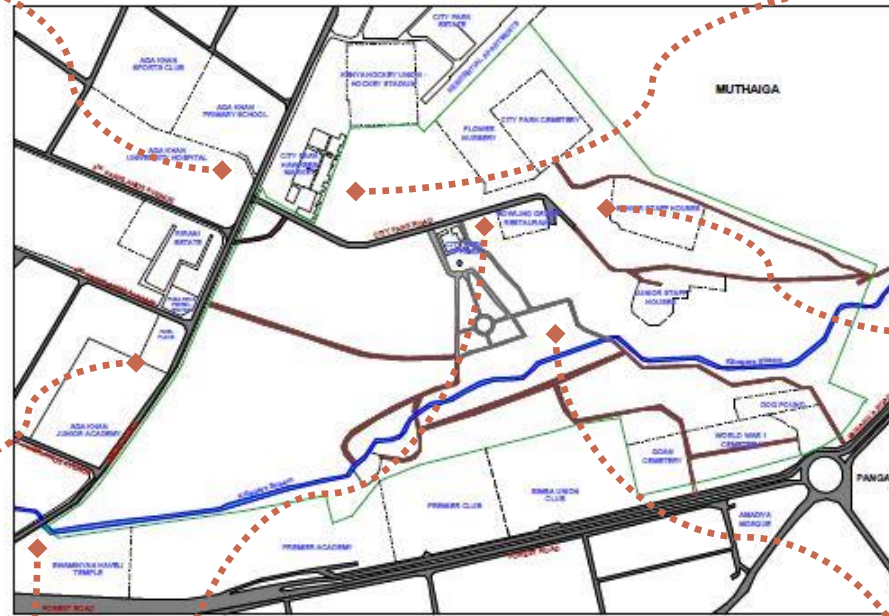


Plate 28: Paved Pedestrian Paths



Plate 22: City Park Road



Plate 25: Pedestrian Paths - Earth



Plate 24: Nature Trail - Earth



#### **4.1.2. Historical development**

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The park started off being known as Nairobi Forest Reserve in the early 1900s then as Municipal Forest in the second decade of the 20<sup>th</sup> century and finally as Nairobi City Park in 1923. In 1903 parklands was zoned off as a European residential area by the Administration Township Committee. 221 acres from this area was declared off limits to white settlers and named the Nairobi Forest Reserve whose use was for the recreation of Nairobi's future residents. The original kikuyu land owners wanted both City Park and Karura forested lands to remain intact however, housing development in present day Muthaiga began the gradual isolation of City Park. The expansion of Nairobi to a municipal status saw the renaming of the park to Municipal Park. In 1923 the park was renamed to 'City Park' after a network of public pathways was established and a built pavilion was advertised for hire to aid in opening up parts of the park for public recreational use. Thereafter several facilities were installed e.g. the Bandstand and Bowling green and the swamp lined river was canalised beginning the gradual change from a completely wild forest character. The park was popular for outdoor leisure and recreation activities in the 1920s. The Great Depression and subsequent World War Two stopped further park development in the 1930s. From 1947, the new Park Superintendent; Henry Greensmith, went on to develop luxuriant formal gardens with diverse plant collections including the kei-apple maze (Mtego wa Panya) and the fish pond until his retirement in 1965.

**Plate 29: Fish pond at City Park**



**Plate 30: Mtego wa Panya Maze**



*Source: Author, Field study 2014*

### **4.1.3. Present Day City Park**

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The late 1980s and early 1990s saw near abandonment of City Park. People were barely visiting the park citing high insecurity exhibited by constant muggings by idlers and thieves. The area was a no go zone after sunset including the pedestrian pathway bordering Limuru road. Several Nairobi residents formed a voluntary group in 1996; Friends of City Park to rally public support for the park's long term preservation and engaged with the then Nairobi City Council and the National Museums of Kenya to secure protected legal status for the entire park and as well ease the financial burden of managing the park by raising funds and resource and expertise mobilization to restore and expand the Park's then dilapidated infrastructure. In September 2009 through legal notice No. 130 in the Kenya Gazette, 60 hectares of Nairobi City Park was gazetted into law as a National Monument under the Government of Kenya's National Museums and Heritage Act (No. 6 of 2006). In the past only small sections of the park enjoyed this status and the extension to include virtually the entire park was recognition of the historic, environmental and recreational significance of the park to the nation.

### **4.2. Park Features and Facilities**

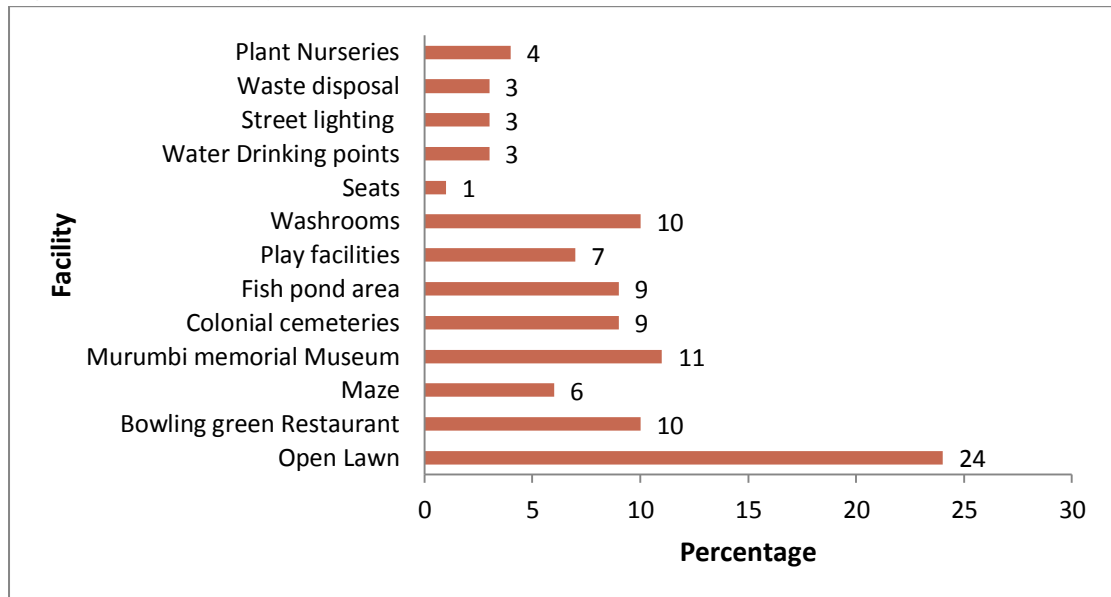
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The park is very popular with for both passive and active recreational activities. Park facilities that attract Nairobi residents and beyond include; the lawn popular, band stand, bowling green restaurant, colonial cemeteries, the Murumbi memorial museum, fish pond, maze, several flower gardens, plant nurseries, nature trails, sports play fields, seating area, children play equipment like swings and wild life as indicated in map 8.



The most popular park facilities amongst park users are the open lawn next to the bandstand as mentioned by 24% of respondents. It is mainly used for: picnicking; children play area; and team building. 11% of respondents indicated the preferred visiting the Murumbi memorial museum. Only 6% indicated using the maze and the main reason for this is its farness from the central lawn area and this isolation encourages insecurity.

**Figure 11: Use of City Park facilities**



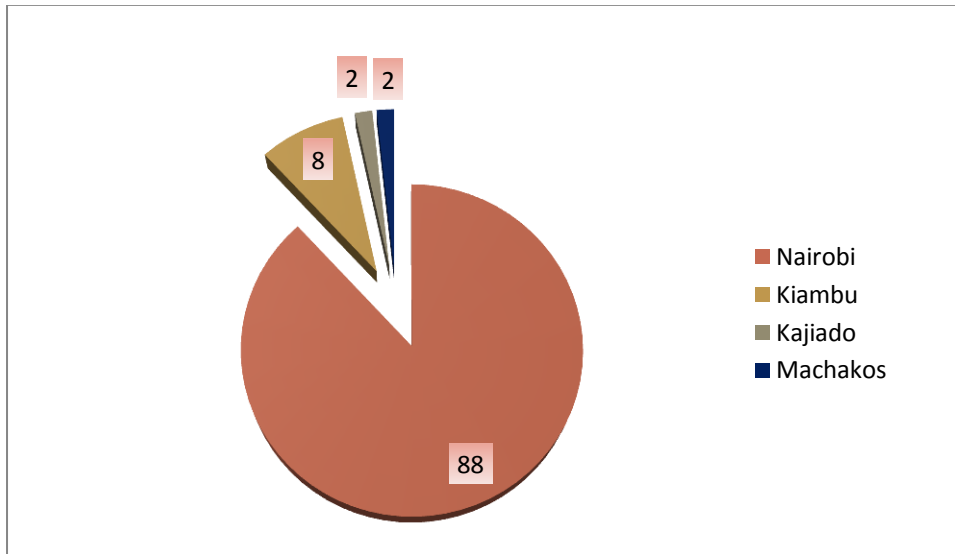
Source: Author, Field survey 2014

### **4.3. Park Users Characteristics and Frequency of Visits**

The dominant gender of the park users was male at 67%, while the females formed 33% of the respondent population. The park is most popular with Nairobi residents i.e. 88% as indicated in Figure 12 with many visiting weekly (figure 13) mainly for recreation purposes. Some of the park visitors from the neighbouring Kiambu, Kajiado and Machakos counties also visit City Park with majority coming from Huruma, Pangani and Mathare areas.

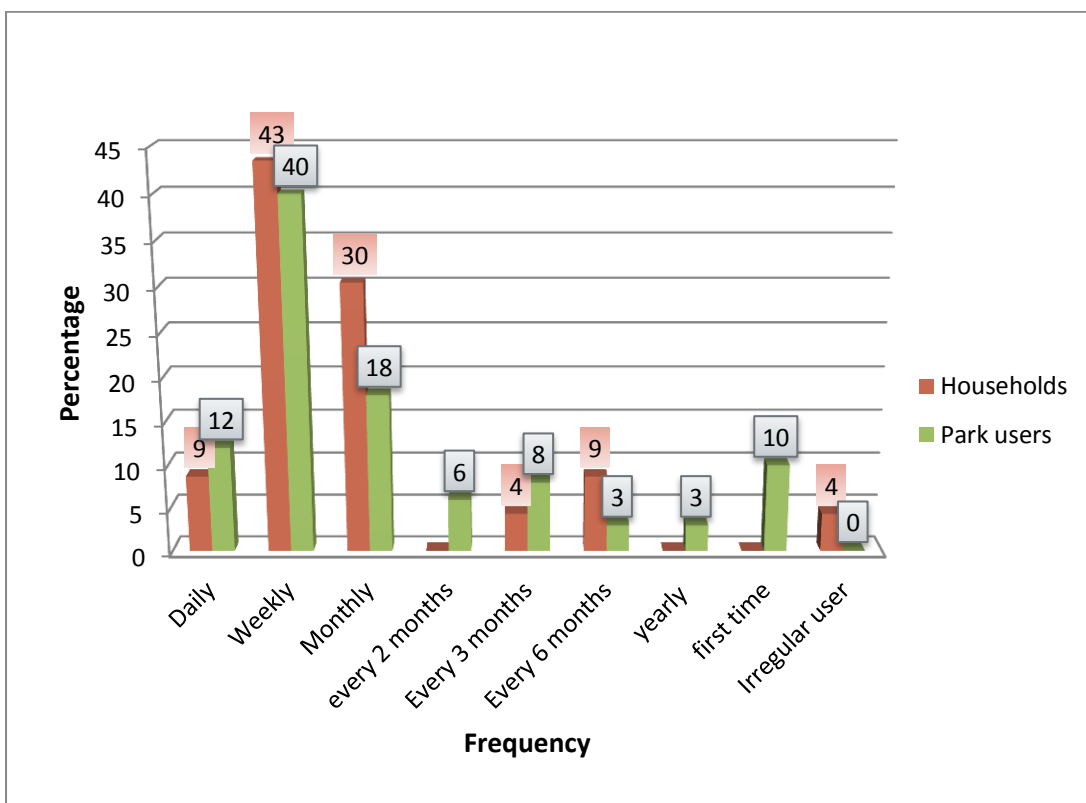
A large proportion of the sampled respondent park users i.e. 58% are married while 38% are single with only 2% accounting for divorced or separated. The dominant age group visiting the park is between 20 to 30 years and most visit the park accompanied by family or friends. The two age groups i.e. 20 to 30 years and 30 to 40 years are the highest in park visitation as the youth frequently engage in recreational activities and these two categories have families with young or teenage children who require recreation as part of their physical growth.

**Figure 12: Park users' county of residence**



Source: Author, Field survey 2014

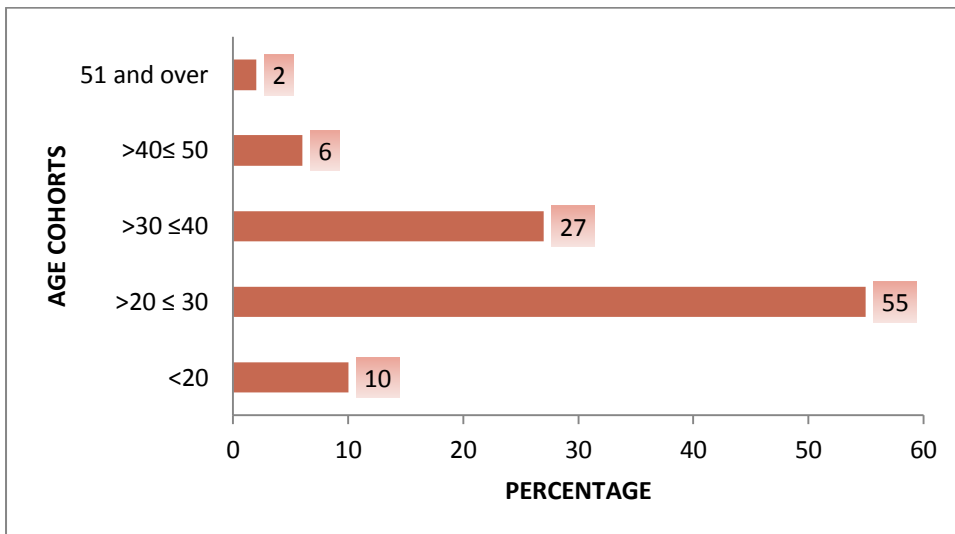
**Figure 13: Frequency of park visits**



Source: Author, Field survey 2014



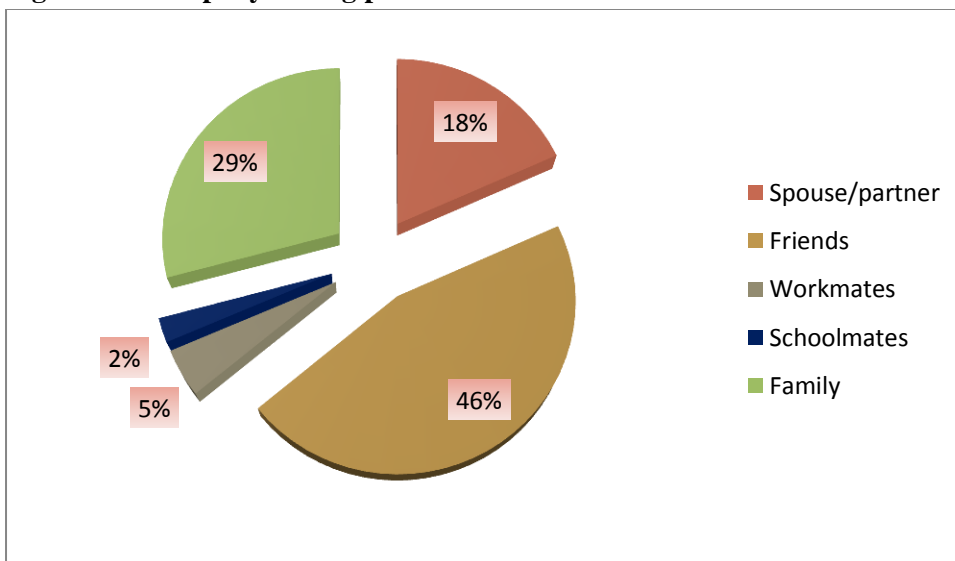
**Figure 14: Age of park visitors**



*Source: Author, Field survey 2014*

Most visitors to the park are accompanied 75% rather than visiting alone 25%. The majority are accompanied by friends while 29% visit with their families. Only 5% go with their workmates as illustrated in figure 15.

**Figure 15: Company during park visit**



*Source: Author, Field survey 2014*

### **Categories of different park users**

Park visitors are grouped into different categories that include; groups of children, students, workmates, friends, couples and families as indicated in plates 38 to 43.

**Plate 38: Children team building**



**Plate 39: Primary pupils' educational NCP visit**



**Plate 41: Couple on a park visit**



**Plate 40: Prayer group at NCP**



**Plate 43: Family outing at NCP**



**Plate 42: Family heading into NCP**



*Source: Author, Field study 2014*

## **5. STUDY FINDINGS AND INTERPRETATION**

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### **5.1. Introduction**

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This chapter addresses the study analysis based on the data collected and recorded from the field study. Spatial analysis was carried out to establish the environmental status of the NCP landscape and its eco system. Socio-economic analysis brought out aspects dealing with revenue generation, security, public/ community participation as well as Public Private Partnership in NCP management. A policy analysis enabled a critical review of existing legislative and institutional frameworks and an assessment of their effectiveness in planning and management of urban parks such as the NCP. Statistical analysis was carried out to generate frequencies and display descriptive statistics as percentages or averages. Techniques to present the analysis of findings include use of charts, tables, graphs and photographs. They have been interpreted to give an assessment of the existing policy framework, management of urban parks such as Nairobi City Park and how the community is engaged in urban park planning.

### **5.2. Policy Framework for Provision of City Park**

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#### **5.2.1. Legal and policy framework**

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##### **The Constitution**

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As previously discussed in section 2.7 on existing guidelines and standards, The Constitution of Kenya (CoK) provides guiding principles in land management and reinforces sustainable exploitation, utilisation, management and conservation of the environment. It also vests upon the county government the function of managing county parks and recreation facilities (Republic of Kenya, 2010). Indeed as directed by the CoK, Nairobi City Park is under the management of Nairobi City County, Department of Environment which is mandated to regulate its use, provide required recreational and support facilities along with amenities, maintain park lands and its facilities, promote sustainable use and conserve the entire park landscape and its ecosystem. However the overall administrator of public land which NCP is categorised as is the National Land Commission (NLC). The title deed of Nairobi City Park is currently with the NLC as required by law. As regards equitable sharing of accrued benefits from the park, all revenue generated from NCP is collected by the NCC which is used in park management activities. The NCP management office or

the Department of Environment however does not publish annual reports detailing income and expenditure from the NCP during the government budget year. This makes it difficult to ascertain transparency in equitable sharing of accrued resources.

### **Kenya Vision 2030**

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Kenya vision 2030 which is the country's development blueprint as earlier examined in section 2.7, under the economic and social pillar as pointed out in *appendix 2*, indicates that tourism and environment sectors as key in attaining economic. It is however important to note that the Vision 2030 does not include urban parks in the tourism section but focuses more on game parks. Urban parks should also be targeted as new possible resourceful revenue avenues through eco-tourism.

### **Physical planning legislation and regulations**

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The Physical Planning Act mandates local authorities now county governments to reserve and maintain all the land planned for open spaces, parks, urban forests and green belts in accordance with the approved physical development plan. This is further elaborated in *Appendix 2*. The Physical planning Handbook requires that recreation opportunities be provided within a walking distance of all areas with a residential density above 50 persons per hectare. The Handbook estimates 1-2 hectares of recreation space per 10,000 inhabitants' population. With a current Nairobi resident population of over three million and only five gazetted public open spaces/ recreational facilities, the city offers below one square metre of green space to its inhabitants whereas the WHO standard is a minimum of ten square metres per inhabitants.

### **Land legislation and regulations**

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The Land Act, 2012 section 11 and the National Land Commission Act, 2012 section 5 (1) indicates that functions of the National Land Commission (NLC) amongst others is; to manage public land on behalf of the national and county governments (*Appendix 2*). Section 5 (2) (c) of the National Land Commission Act requires the NLC to ensure that public land and land under the management of designated state agencies are sustainably managed for their intended purpose and for future generations. The NLC gives a lease with special conditions to a county government to hold in trust public land including open spaces such as urban parks for the county residents and to oversee the utilisation and management of such public spaces. Currently, the NLC is building

a database of all public land in order to secure them from exploitation and illegal alienation. They however need to move in speed to prevent further encroachment.

### **Legislation regarding open space management in counties, cities and urban areas**

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The County Governments Act requires every county government to maintain a viable system of green and open spaces. Nairobi city does not have a parkway system as there is in Buffalo and Boston. Originally PUGS such as NCP and Karura forest were connected to each other but they have become isolated over the years making these ecosystems function in isolation, cutting off migration channels and interfering with biodiversity systems. Within the Urban Areas and Cities Act 2011, the Board is mandated to control land use, sub-division, development by public and private sectors in recreational areas and urban parks within the specified framework (*Appendix 2*). The board is also allowed to enter into partnership with a utility company either within or outside the county or internationally for the provision of social infrastructural services. This gives room for Public Private Partnerships to enhance management of open spaces such as City Park. The Nairobi City County is looking for partners to rehabilitate and manage NCP to enable it function at optimum level providing adequate affordable services to its residents.

### **Legislation regarding public participation in open space planning and management**

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There lacks specific legislation, regulations or policy for public participation in open spaces planning and management. However several existing legislation imply how the citizenry should be involved. The CoK with regards to environment and natural resources encourages public participation in the management, protection and conservation of the environment. The County Governments Act outlines the principles guiding citizen participation as well as establishment of structures by county governments to facilitate citizen participation as earlier discussed in section 2.8.4 on participatory planning in Kenya. The Urban Areas and Cities Act, on citizen fora allows the public to make contribution on: provision of services; national policies and legislation; proposed development plans of the county and of the national government. The National Museums Open Spaces and Areas of National Heritage protection and management regulations require public participation be undertaken regarding rehabilitation of any protected area or national monument. The absence of a

structured framework on citizen participation is resulting in a poorly conceptualised public participatory process characterised with confused stakeholders on their role in the whole process, marred with suspicion and lacking feedback reporting mechanisms.

## **5.2.2. Institutional framework**

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### **Ministry of Land, Housing and Urban Development**

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The Ministry of Land, Housing and Urban Development (MLH&UD) was established in May 2013 through an executive order no. 2/2013 following the inauguration of the new government which joined together five ministries of; land, housing, works, urban development and Nairobi metropolitan development. The ministry's core mandate is to provide policy direction and coordinate all matters related to lands, housing and urban development. The detailed functions of the ministry include amongst others; land policy management, physical planning, survey and mapping, and administration of public land. The ministry consists of three directorates i.e. directorates of land, housing and urban development, each with distinct mandate and functions. The directorate of urban development includes public works, Nairobi metropolitan and urban development. Public works oversees planning, designing, construction and maintenance of government assets in the fields of built environment and infrastructure development. The mandate of Nairobi metropolitan development is to formulate, coordinate and administer policy in respect to this region. Urban development is responsible for policy formulation and its functions include: urban planning and management; urban policy, research and training; and municipal infrastructure development. of importance is the development of the National Urban Development Policy (NUDP) by the ministry as a means of solving the challenge of rapid urbanization and provide a guideline to the spatial allocation of resources serving as a framework for the governance and management of our urban areas.

From the KII at the ministry's Planning Department, the NUDP is expected to provide guidelines in provision of open spaces in urban areas and develop strategies to rehabilitate and increase their total area. Regarding management of NCP, this function is shared between the national (NMK) and county (NCC) governments considering that NCP is a gazetted national monument. The ministry recognises that NCP is public land leased to the former Nairobi City Council and whose management function is

under the NLC who are required to solve the confusion regarding the park's boundaries and recover illegally alienated land from the original 90 hectares. The ministry recognises that there lacks public participation statutory regulations to guide public involvement in urban park planning and management. Due to this gap, local authorities now county governments carry out public participation case by case using their own procedures already indicated to be shrouded in confusion and suspicion between government officials and the general public. Moreover there also lacks a structured system in maintenance and management of urban parks locking out the public from actively participating. The ministry proposes the development of a GIS database through the NLC for public land of which urban parks are part of at county level and the development of the National Spatial Plan to provide policy guidelines to protect and management open spaces. The ministry furthermore proposes surveying of all parks to secure their boundaries and seal possible loopholes for exploitation.

### **National Land Commission**

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The National Land Commission is an independent government agency established under the Constitution of Kenya whose mandate is drawn from the National Land Policy of 2009, National Land Commission Act 2012 the Land Act 2012 and the Land Registration Act of 2012 to amongst other functions manage public land on behalf of the national and county governments. With regards to the NCP, the NLC has set up a committee headed by Commissioner Abdulkadir Khalif to look into illegal alienation of NCP land. NLC in 2013 revoked all land parcel titles illegally obtained or granted irregularly to private developers and the list was published and the owners were required to appear before the set up committee. The NLC is still reviewing the grants to individual plots at NCP with the aim of recovering the land. The plots were allocated over a decade ago with some plots next to the graveyard already developed with flats and offices. It has been reported that 14 land parcels had been surveyed and given plot numbers; five did not have titles; while two land titles were being held by the Deposit Protection Fund.

### **National Environment Management Authority**

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The National Environment Management Authority (NEMA) established under section 7 of the Environmental management and coordination act (EMCA) of 1999 is charged with general supervision and co-ordination over all matters relating to the

environment including policy implementation. The Authority is a Semi Autonomous Government Agency (SAGA) in the Ministry of Environment, Water and Natural Resource and has been in operation since July 2002. Its functions as listed in section 9 of EMCA include amongst others: examining land use patterns to determine their impact on the quality and quantity of natural resources; undertake surveys to assist in proper management and conservation of the environment, establish and review in consultation with other relevant agencies land use guidelines and advise the government on the legislative management of the environment. NEMA is charged with enforcing EMCA's provisions as well as the subsidiary legislation e.g. regulations on; biodiversity, waste management, environmental impact assessment (EIA) regulations. NEMA is mandated to ensure conservation of all biological diversity as indicated in section 50 of EMCA and is the approving authority of all EIA projects/ study reports. It is mandatory for an EIA to be undertaken on urban development projects proposing establishment or expansion of recreational areas or those relating to forestry activities and natural conservation areas. The EIA should be prepared and submitted to NEMA for approval and licensing as indicated in sections 17 through to 20 of the EIA/EA regulations of 2003.

NEMA has not developed regulations dealing with open spaces as it has done in evolving regulations for biodiversity management. The Authority is not as vocal regarding urban park planning and management yet they are charged with monitoring and examining impact of land use on natural resources and advise on proper environmental management. The EIA for the Proposed Rehabilitation and Improvement Programme of the NCP is yet to get NEMA approval for the EIA license after the proponent was required to carry out a full EIA Study after submitting the first project report in July 2013. The reasons pointed out by NEMA included: the project being in an ecologically sensitive area demanding wider public consultation and in depth coverage of foreseen impacts and mitigation measures; the need for in depth evaluation of potential impacts associated with the proposed project to ensure harmony with affected and interested stakeholders. The EIA Study report was submitted in November 2013.



## **National Museums of Kenya**

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The National Museums of Kenya (NMK) a state corporation established by the National Museums and Heritage Act of 2006, was formed in 1910 by the East African Natural History Society (EANHS) as a place to keep and preserve collections of various specimens. It has since 1910 expanded its services and assets and acquired under its jurisdiction sites and monuments set aside by GoK as monuments of national heritage. NMK was initially functioning under two acts of parliament i.e. National Museums Act and the Antiquities and Monuments Act which were repealed in 2006 to make way for the Museums and Heritage Act which ensures protection of Kenya's rich and diverse heritage and establishes a new legal framework for heritage management. NMK main roles is to collect, preserve, study, document and present Kenya's past and present cultural and natural heritage for the purpose of enhancing knowledge, appreciation, respect and sustainable utilization of the resources. Its main concern is for the welfare of mankind and conservation of biological diversity. The Open Spaces and Areas of National Heritage Protection and Management Regulations under the National Museums and Heritage act list City Park with forestland of about 60 hectares as a protected area of historical interest.

The NMK has previously been unaware of illegal occurrences such as clearing park land to carry out urban agriculture (Kiplagat, 2014) occurring in the NCP without their knowledge. It is important to clearly define the roles of both the National Museums and the NCC in the management of NCP considering it is both a national monument and an urban park in Nairobi County. This will allow ease in coordinating any park programs or rehabilitation efforts avoiding duplication, remove mistrust and enable a concerted effort in sourcing for PPPs to enable optimal NCP use and operation.

## **Kenya Forest Service**

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The Kenya Forest Service (KFS) is a state corporation established in 2007 under the Forest act of 2005 to conserve, develop and sustainably manage forest resources for Kenya's socio-economic development. Some of its core functions related to urban parks include sustainable management of natural forest for socio-economic and environmental benefits; promote efficient utilization and marketing of forest products and develop and maintain essential infrastructure for effective forest management and protection. KFS encourages forest adjacent communities to participate in forest management and are currently working with 325 community forest associations for

sustainable use and management of forest resources. KFS does not oversee the management of the Nairobi City Park but the park being a forested wood lot, KFS can advise the Nairobi City County on the management of their forest resources. To ensure long term survival of NCP, KFS together with NCC can facilitate inclusion of adjacent communities and other stakeholders in forest management especially in the middle and lower income areas such as Highridge, Pangani, Mathare, Huruma to increase community sense ownership. Communities can furthermore be shown how they can benefit from NCP forest resources without damaging existing biodiversity.

### **Kenya Wildlife Service**

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Kenya Wildlife Service is a state corporation established by an Act of parliament with the mandate of sustainably managing and conserving wildlife in Kenya and to enforce laws and regulations. The oversight of wildlife conservation and management includes areas under local authorities now county governments, within communities and in private sanctuaries. KWS works in collaboration with communities living on land essential to wildlife such as wildlife corridors and dispersal lands outside parks and reserves to include communities to take care of the wildlife resources by allowing them to benefit from wildlife and other natural resources. NCP though not being under the care of KWS can work with the Nairobi City County in management of wildlife within the park which includes; the Sykes monkeys whose numbers are exceeding the park's capacity, baboons and vervet monkeys, small forest antelopes, caterpillars, butterflies like blue eyed pansy and birds such as sunbirds and hornbills.

### **Nairobi City County**

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Urban parks in Nairobi City County fall under the Department of Environment, Parks and Open spaces Section whose objectives include: upholding regulations that guarantee sustainability and grounds use satisfaction; continuous maintenance of open spaces in high standards through regular efficient and effective practices; and to promote sustainable and acceptable uses diversification to ensure good relations with all interest groups. Nairobi City Park is public land geographically falling under the jurisdiction of Nairobi City County who holds it in trust for both the county residents and Kenyan citizens to run on their behalf as an open space for public use, and oversee its management. The park's title deed is held by the National Land Commission who administers the land on behalf of the people. Under the Guide for

Nairobi City Ordinances and Zones, NCP falls under zone 20g as a forested recreational area. Nairobi City Park is also a National Monument gazetted into law under the Government of Kenya's National Museums and Heritage Act (No. 6 of 2006) requiring the national and county governments to collaborate in overseeing its protection, management and conservation. The gazetted area of City Park is as indicated in *Appendix 3*.

The roles of the Park and Open spaces Section regarding City Park is; to administer and protect it to ensure that it remains in the public domain and to oversee its daily maintenance and manage its use by the public i.e. groups and individuals or any other stakeholders. City Park's administration falls under the Chief Environment Officer-Conservation and Recreation previously known as the Park's Superintendent. The Chief Environment Officer reports to the Assistant Director (Parks and Open spaces) who reports to the Nairobi City County Director of Environment. A breakdown of the park's management organization structure is as shown in *Appendix 4*. The county government allocates Funds for the management of City Park through the department of environment which in turn allocates to the Parks and Open spaces section its share and the section disburses the funds to NCP's Chief Environment officer. Licenses for undertaking business activities at NCP are issued from County Hall and are guided by the Nairobi City County Finance act 2013.

Administration of NCP by the NCC has improved in the recent years considering that in the 1990s NCP was in a neglected dilapidated state with few or no visitors. Due to limited funds the former Nairobi City Council entered into PPP to enable it undertake rehabilitation projects. The NCP has not achieved financial self-sufficiency partly due to low priority in recognising urban park opportunities and funding, singular approach in park management i.e. NCC dominated, limited publicity, insufficient community participation, little or no monitoring and evaluation mechanisms and lack of an Urban Park Management Plan.

The Assistant Director of Parks and Open Spaces indicates that they face various challenges in management of NCP which include: encroachment by private developers; insecurity enhancing vandalism due to the porous boundary; inadequate staff and inadequate funding). Regarding the park's ecosystem, there is environmental pollution i.e. polluted Kibarage stream and littering of solid waste disposal. He further

indicated that the county intends to enter into more PPPs to be able to raise funds for rehabilitation projects and proposes fencing of NCP to curb insecurity and vandalism. Regarding public engagement in NCP planning and management, he notes that there is limited involvement and they have been following the LASDAP framework. He also notes that it has been difficult for all stakeholders to mutually agree on common goals making public participation difficult.

### **Friends of City Park**

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Founded in 1996, Friends of City Park (FoCP) is a voluntary group operating under the aegis of Nature Kenya and is composed of dedicated volunteers and individuals from various professions living and working within and around Nairobi city. At the time of formation the group's main objective was to rally public support for the park's long-term preservation, engaging with partners i.e. the former Nairobi City Council and the NMK to secure protected legal status for the entire Park. Moreover FoCP noting the neglected state of the park wanted to ease the financial burden of the NCC administrators by raising funds and mobilizing resources and expertise needed to restore and expand the park's otherwise dilapidated infrastructure. Their efforts paid off with the gazettement of 60 hectares (140 acres) out of an original 226 acres of City Park as a protected area under the National Museums and Heritage Act in 2009.

Their dream is to have every Nairobi resident accessing green space. Since gazettement, FoCP has mainly been advocating for greater interaction and use of the park by holding various activities that include; a monthly nature walk, clean-ups and a monthly email newsletter. They as well work in conjunction with the Nairobi City County's Department of Environment to protect, maintain, upgrade and enhance the park amenities. Their comments to the Nairobi Integrated Urban Development Master Plan still undergoing review have advocated for inclusion of a section dealing with public green spaces to cover aspects including; social equity and accessibility, systematic thinking of green space use, green corridors, biodiversity and riparian areas amongst others. FoCP is in support of the revision of the Rehabilitation Funding and Technical Assistance Agreement (RFTA) between GoK and AKTC (refer to section 5.5 for a detailed description of the proposed project) advocating for a framework which integrates community involvement and explicitly protects the unique heritage of the park.

Commending them for their efforts in NCP rehabilitation, they however need to do more in bringing together and on board adjacent park communities especially from the earlier mentioned low income areas. They also need to explore in collaboration with NCC, NMK, GOAs and the general public green ways of income generation towards achieving NCP financial self-sufficiency in addition to contributing to the development of a NCP UPMP and M and E structured framework.

**Plate 44: Nature walk by FoCP**



**Plate 45: Blue eyed pansy butterfly at NCP**



*Source: Author, Field study 2014*

### **5.2.3. Policy framework that enabled provision of Nairobi City Park**

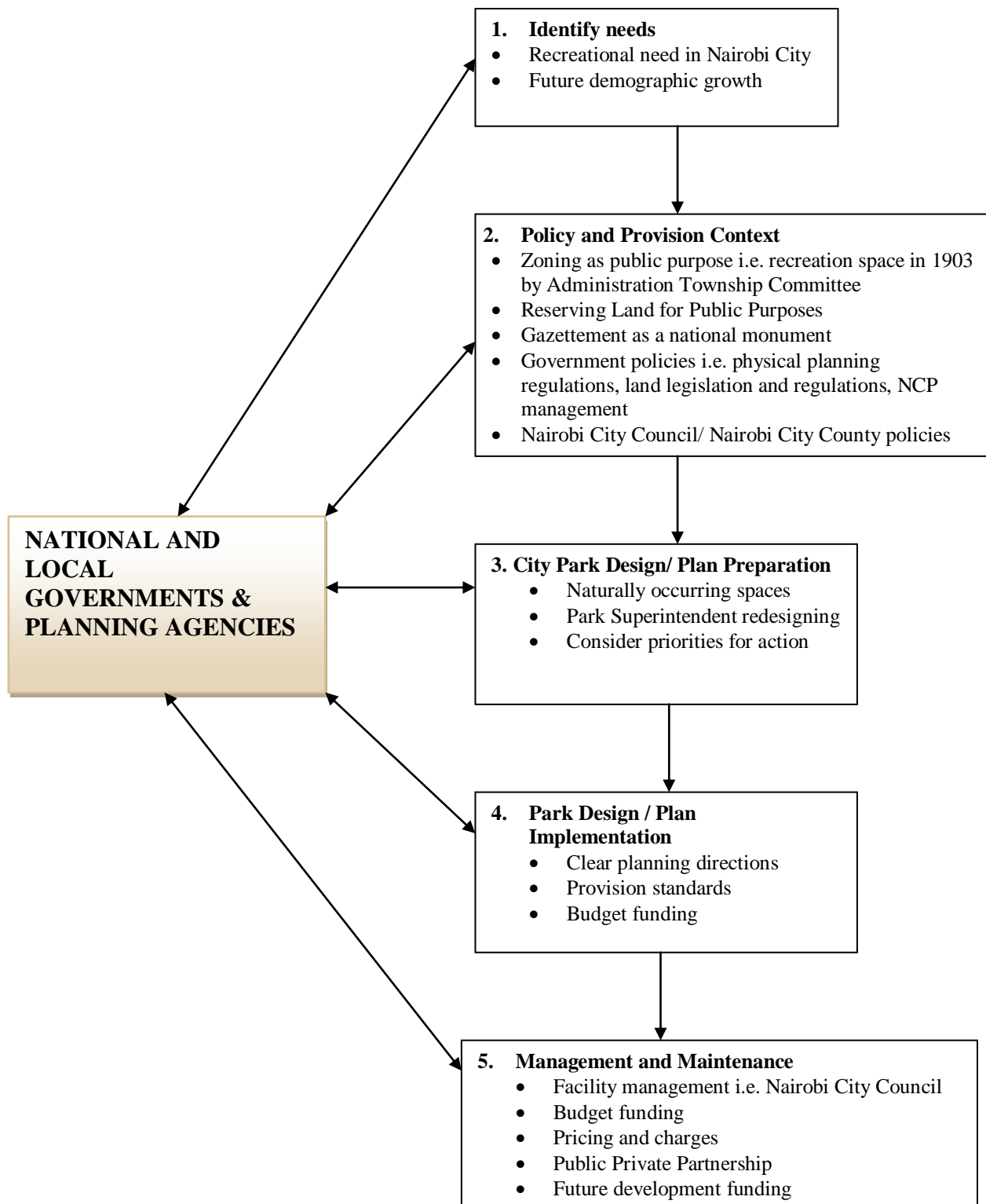
The colonial government identified the need to provide recreational facilities to the Nairobi residents and even anticipated increased future recreational needs. It is this that influenced the Administration Township Committee in 1903 to declare 221 acres of forested land in parklands as public purpose land off limits to white settlers and named it the Nairobi Forest Reserve. This land was to be used for the recreation of Nairobi's future residents. The expansion of Nairobi to a municipal status saw the park renamed to Municipal Park and later to City Park in 1923. Urbanisation, changing land uses and increased Nairobi city demographic population led to encroachment into City Park land reducing it to 148.3 acres which was gazetted into law as a National Monument under the Government of Kenya's National Museums and Heritage Act in 2009 (step 2, figure 16). Since 1963 various government policies i.e. physical planning legislation and regulations, land legislation and regulations and

local government legislation have been evolved focusing on certain components of urban park planning and management. However an urban park policy is yet to be developed (step 2, figure 16).

The Nairobi City Park design plan was mainly influenced by the existing natural woodland and certain spaces were designed by Henry Greensmith, the Park Superintendent from 1947 to 1965 who went on to develop luxuriant formal gardens with diverse plant collections including the kei-apple maze popularly known as 'Mtego wa Panya' (step 3, figure 16). Implementation of design proposals was mainly by park management and funding was sourced from the local government (step 4, figure 16). However after park rehabilitation efforts began in the late 1990s, PPPs were developed between NCC and NMK with FoCP, Chandaria Foundation, Kitengela Glass, Ecotact and the most recent being between the Government of Kenya and the Aga Khan Trust for Culture. The management of NCP rested with the Nairobi City Council who indicated a major challenge in budget funding as pointed out in section 5.3 (step 5, figure 16). There are no entrance fees charged to individual park users however there are identified income generating activities which have fees levied on them.

Community participation was not a priority in the early provision for NCP. The government and its agencies provided the planning direction and implemented proposal(s) with minimal citizenry input i.e. Top Down Planning approach. However a slow paradigm shift began from centralized to decentralized form of governance in the 1990s culminating in the CoK 2010 which lays the basis for development of a policy framework on citizen participation and in article 10 recognises public participation as a national value and principle of governance thereby embracing the Bottom Up Approach to planning.

**Figure 16: Nairobi City Park planning process**



*Author's elaboration of the policy framework for the original provision of Nairobi City Park, 2014*

### 5.3. Management of City Park

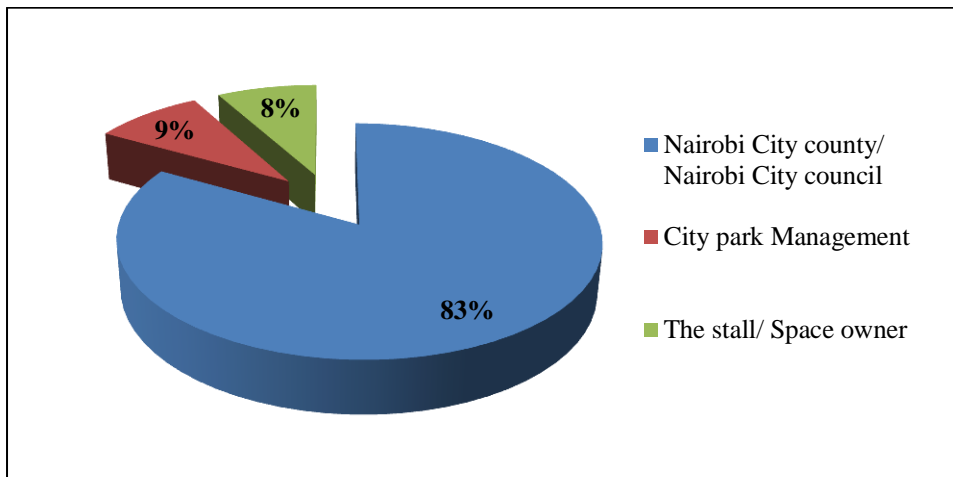
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According to the organisation structure at Nairobi City County, the park is under the administration of the Chief Environment Officer for Conservation and Recreation. Funding for the management of Nairobi City Park comes from the county government as earlier discussed. Both the Assistant Director Parks and Open Spaces and NCP's Chief Environment Officer point out that allocated monies cannot meet the parks needs regarding maintenance of all the gardens, plant nurseries and other park facilities. This has led to the closure of all but two plant nurseries. There are no entrance fees charged to individual park users requiring that alternative means for sourcing extra funds be employed.

The Assistant Director Parks and Open Spaces notes that there are several income generating activities occurring in the park and fees charged for these activities is guided by the Nairobi City County Finance Act 2013 section 3.1 on parks and recreational services under usage of City Park. Section 3.3 of the same Act shows the amount charged on various service providers of amusement or recreation. Section 3.2 indicates the cost incurred from various gardening services offered by the county government. This includes selling and hiring price of various plants, licence and supervision fees for plant nurseries and the selling price of aquatic fish (Republic of Kenya, 2013). The county government manages all business operations within NCP boundaries and receives levies from the vendors (figure 17). The largest percentage of vendors interviewed i.e.33% indicated that they preferred carrying out their business on the open lawn while 17% located their trade next to the hawkers market (figure 18). The open lawn is preferred as it is where most park users congregate for picnicking, team building activities and children games. 89% of interviewed traders indicated paying for their business operation space while 11% did not pay for the space. This indicates that the NCC is losing revenue and should automate levies collection for all vendors but especially for those without designated business space within park boundaries.

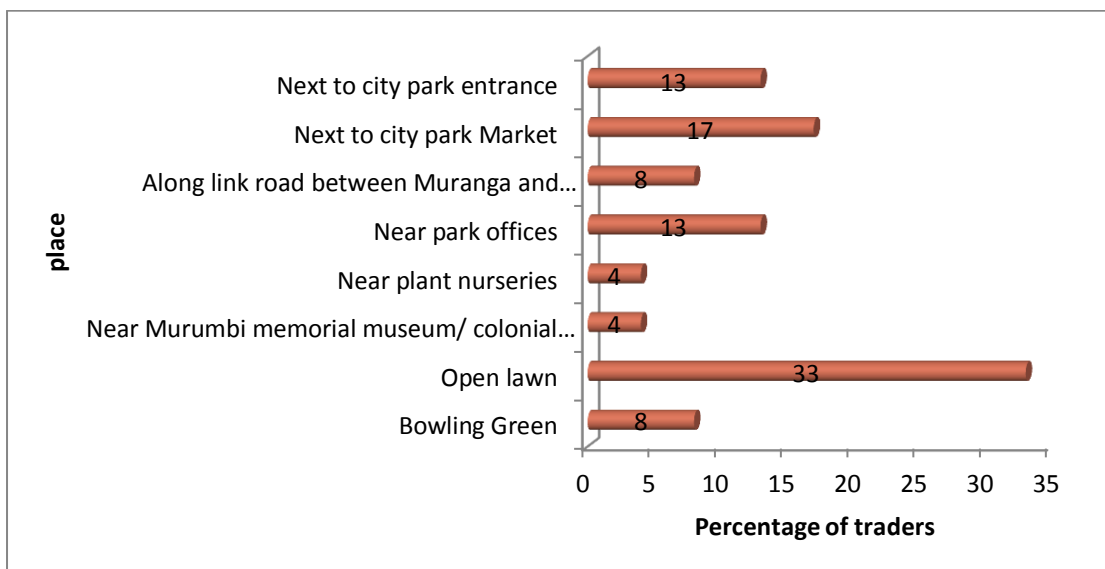


**Figure 17: Levies' collector**



Source: Author, Field survey 2014

**Figure 18: Place of business operation**



Source: Author, Field survey 2014

**Plate 46: Coca cola kiosk**



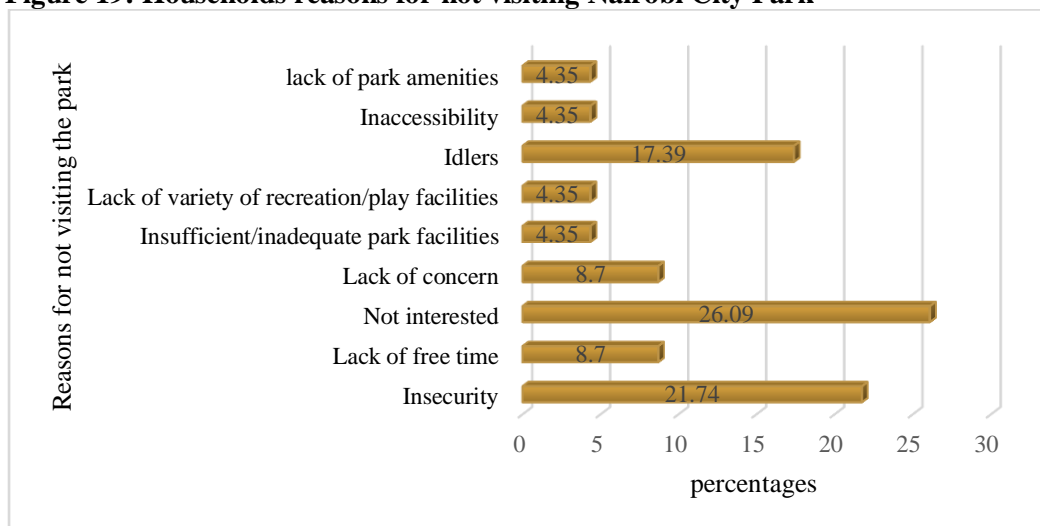
**Plate 47: Children toys' vendor**



Source: Author, Field study 2014

The current human resource capacity employed by the Nairobi City County stands at 56 permanent workers, a marked decline from an original staff number of 300 workers as pointed out by the Chief Environment Officer at NCP management offices. This is considered inadequate by the park management office considering the land area of 60 hectares requiring intensive gardening, plant nursery upkeep and litter gathering and disposal needs. The park is served by a total of eight security officers; five during the day and three at night provided by the County Security and Inspectorate Department. These officers cannot adequately secure the park lands and insecurity is still a major challenge both during the day and at night as indicated by interviewed park users who mentioned this as a very challenging matter while 21.7% of households in the neighbourhood of City Park do not visit the park due to insecurity whereas 17.4% claim that there are many idlers as indicated in figure 19.

**Figure 19: Households reasons for not visiting Nairobi City Park**



*Source: Author, Field survey 2014*

Regarding maintenance of the NCP having diverse park facilities and amenities which is a function of the park management, most interviewed respondents indicated that they seem to be adequate and in good condition as indicated in table 5. However there is need to add more lighting fixtures to enhance safety at night. Between the 1980s and 1990s the park suffered neglect by the former Nairobi City Council. However, there have been efforts to restore City Park which has seen positive changes noted by 58% of park users while 28% indicated that the changes have been negative. The positive changes observed in the park are mainly; better maintenance of park facilities, clean park ground including additional planting of flowers, increased

vegetation cover, establishment of a police camp near the superhighway reducing crime, increased security patrols, expansion of playing fields, increased number of park users, increased number of photography and introduction of videography services, increase in water supply caused by resuscitation of the two boreholes within the park, increased wildlife numbers, revival of plant nurseries leading to more people buying plants, and less pollution of the environment.

**Table 5: Condition and adequacy of park facilities**

Facility	Adequacy	Conditions Status
Open Lawn	Well provided	Very Good
Bowling Green	Well provided	Very Good
Maze	Moderate	Very Poor
Murumbi Memorial Museum	Well provided	Very Good
Colonial Cemeteries	Well provided	Poor
Fish pond area	Well provided	Fair
Play facilities e.g. swings	Well provided	Fair
Plant nurseries	Well provided	Good
Washrooms/toilets	Well provided	Very Good
Water drinking points	Moderate	Very Good
Street lighting	Inadequately provided	Poor
Waste Disposal point	Inadequately provided	Fair
Seating Areas	Moderate	Good

*Source: Author, Field survey 2014*

### **Challenges facing Nairobi City County in Management of City Park**

The Parks and Open spaces section at Nairobi City County states that there have been several attempts to encroach and convert the park land into private use. This has been one of the major challenges in protecting the park land. Already from the original 90 hectares only 60 hectares has been gazetted indicating that thirty hectares of the park land has been encroached upon. The grabbed land is now developed with temples, a school, sports complex, residential housing estate, hockey pitch and a hawkers' market (*refer to Appendix 3 for map showing original and gazetted NCP boundaries*). The NLC is in the process of trying to recover any leases to land parcels within the land known as City Park as and is in dialogue with those having interest in the park's land.

Insecurity is a rampant problem in NCP. The fact that the park remains not fenced leaves the boundary as very porous which prohibits vetting of the people accessing the park and provides many routes for thieves and muggers to escape through. Vandalism of park facilities such as litter bins, children swings, signage, seats etc. is enhanced by the lack of checks and control of those passing through and using the park. This puts to any attempts at improving or rehabilitating any facilities as they would be destroyed or stolen. Vandalism has forced the park management to be innovative in materials used in making park facilities which include; provision of plastic or ceramic litter bins instead of metal ones. They also have mobile swings for children which are installed during the day and removed in the evening over the weekends and public holidays.

There is inadequate funding for management of parks and open spaces from the county government. This has contributed to reduction of the work force to 56 permanent employees as discussed earlier which is shared with the whole of Highridge ward. From an initial five plant nurseries, only two have been rehabilitated and are in operation. Considering that City Park plant nurseries are the main source of plants planted by the county government in the entire county, there is inadequate production of plant seedlings to ensure continued county beautification efforts are sustained. Reduction of funding has required that Public Private Partnerships be formed to ease the management burden. Such partnerships in NCP have included donation of: refuse bins by Chandaria Foundation; seating benches by Kitengela Glass; hygienic new toilet blocks installed with support from Ecotact; and the most recent PPP between the Government of Kenya and the Aga Khan Trust for Culture: Proposed Rehabilitation and Improvement Program of the Nairobi City Park further discussed in section 5.5.

Environmental degradation is still a concern reducing on the aesthetic value of the park's scenic landscapes. Pollution upstream of the Kibagare stream caused by dumping and release of raw sewage into the stream has resulted in the water turning into a greyish colour, emitting odour and having solid waste getting lodged on its canalised banks (plate 47). There are also piles of uncollected solid waste next to the Hawkers market creating an eye sore as presented in plates 48 and 49.

**Plate 48: Polluted Kibagare stream**



*Source: Author, Field study 2014*

**Plate 49: Vandalised Concrete Park seat**



**Plate 50: Uncollected solid waste**



*Source: Author, Field study 2014*

#### **5.4. Participatory Planning for Urban Parks**

Public participation can either be direct or indirect with direct public participation focusing on the role of the public in decision making related to service delivery while indirect participation involves citizens expressing their preferences through their elected and other representatives, also known as political participation. When well executed, it enables citizens to engage in and positively influence service delivery and development outcomes. Section 2.8.3 addressed the framework for public participation process starting from: preparing the public participation plan; identifying stakeholders and their roles; carrying out the actual participation process; providing feedback and finally evaluation of the entire public participation process. The aim is

to involve the public in all stages of urban park management i.e. from planning; design; implementation/ construction; and finally in maintenance, monitoring and evaluation of park management.

The Nairobi City Council now Nairobi City County has been using the Local Authority Service Delivery Action Plan (LASDAP) as a means of engaging the public in decision making according to the Assistant Director of Parks and Open Spaces. LASDAP was conceived in 2001 as a means of enhancing citizen role in decision making in local authorities which was managed by the former Ministry of Local Government. LASDAP taking a bottom-up approach was expected to put greater focus on service delivery especially to the least advantaged in the community, enhance projects ownership hence guaranteeing their sustainability, enhance efficient resource use and equity in allocation and create accountability and responsive mechanisms for local authority officials.

LASDAP however has not been effective mainly because of low awareness levels about citizen participation process by both the citizens and public officers. This lack of education on decision making has made it difficult for stakeholders to agree on common goals and objectives. Other weakness of LASDAP include: it has been abused by Councillors to reward their supporters hence skewing project distribution; suspicion and mistrust between local authority (LA) officials and Civil Society Organizations (CSO) leading to CSOs withdrawal from LASDAP meetings; minimal accountability to citizens by LAs whereby monitoring and evaluation is not a priority; and undertaking of projects in areas already provided with the suggested services e.g. street lighting, beautification of walkways, park while ignoring the poorer areas lacking these services.

The Nairobi City Park management office indicated that they did not really involve the public in park management and maintenance except in the case of interested conservation groups such as Friends of City Park and Nature Kenya who have monthly nature walks and periodical clean-up activities. Nationally there neither exists any statutory regulations nor structured mechanisms regarding public involvement in management of public open spaces. This leaves the government officials and technocrats to structure the participation program as they understand it with little awareness undertaken on the community to understand their role.

**Table 6: LASDAP process framework**

STAGE	KEY PROCESSES/ ACTIVITIES	OUTPUTS
Preparation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Calculation and agreement of resource envelope</li> <li>• Review past performance</li> <li>• Preparation of consultative meetings</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Details of result envelope</li> <li>• Invitations to consultative meetings</li> <li>• Evaluation of previous LASDAP process</li> </ul>
Consultation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Arrange consultative meeting in each electoral ward</li> <li>• Conduct consultative meetings</li> <li>• Analysis of results of consultations</li> <li>• Election of 2 representatives to represent participants at the consensus meeting</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• List of identified projects/ services in order of priority and geographical location</li> <li>• Representatives to the consensus meeting</li> </ul>
Design and agreement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information consolidation on needs of the entire local authority</li> <li>• Hold technical consultative meeting</li> <li>• Prepare and hold consensus meeting (s)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete list of projects to be undertaken in the local authority</li> </ul>
Finalization and submission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LASDAP integration with other planning processes and costing</li> <li>• Hold full Council meeting</li> <li>• Share information widely and submit to documentation to MOLG</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Full local authority budget</li> <li>• Submitted reports to the MOLG</li> </ul>
Implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Design of projects, procurement and community contracting</li> <li>• Contractor supervisions and ensuring transparency and accountability</li> <li>• Provide feedback and updates to the community</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identified contractors / service providers</li> <li>• Implemented projects and services</li> <li>• Feedback to and from citizens</li> </ul>
Monitoring and evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify whether implementation is within the intended plan and design</li> <li>• formation of Monitoring committee including local stakeholders</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• progress on project/ service implementation</li> <li>• recommendations for changes where needed</li> </ul>

*Adapted from Murio, 2013. Decentralized citizen participation and local public service delivery: a study on the nature and influence of citizen participation on decentralized service delivery in Kenya.*

### **Awareness of On-going Rehabilitation/ Park Redesign projects**

From interviews undertaken on park users, households in the NCP's neighbourhood and from traders with regard to involvement of the public in on-going City Park rehabilitation efforts, there is a general lack of awareness as evidenced by 93% of the respondent park users; about 90% of the sampled households population; and about 62% of sampled traders being unaware of any on-going projects. Approximately 60% of the respondent park users found out about the rehabilitation projects when they saw them on going on the ground. Only 38% of the interviewed traders indicated that they were aware of on-going rehabilitation or park redesign projects. Despite this the majority indicated that they would like to be involved in future rehabilitation or park redesign projects i.e. 81% of the respondent park users, 78% of interviewed households and 81% of sampled traders.

These findings indicate that government officials at both county and national levels together with involved GOAs i.e. the NMK do not fully inform, consult, involve and collaborate with the public and other stakeholders about impending rehabilitation projects at NCP despite a desire by the public to be involved.

### **Most effective public participation data collection tools**

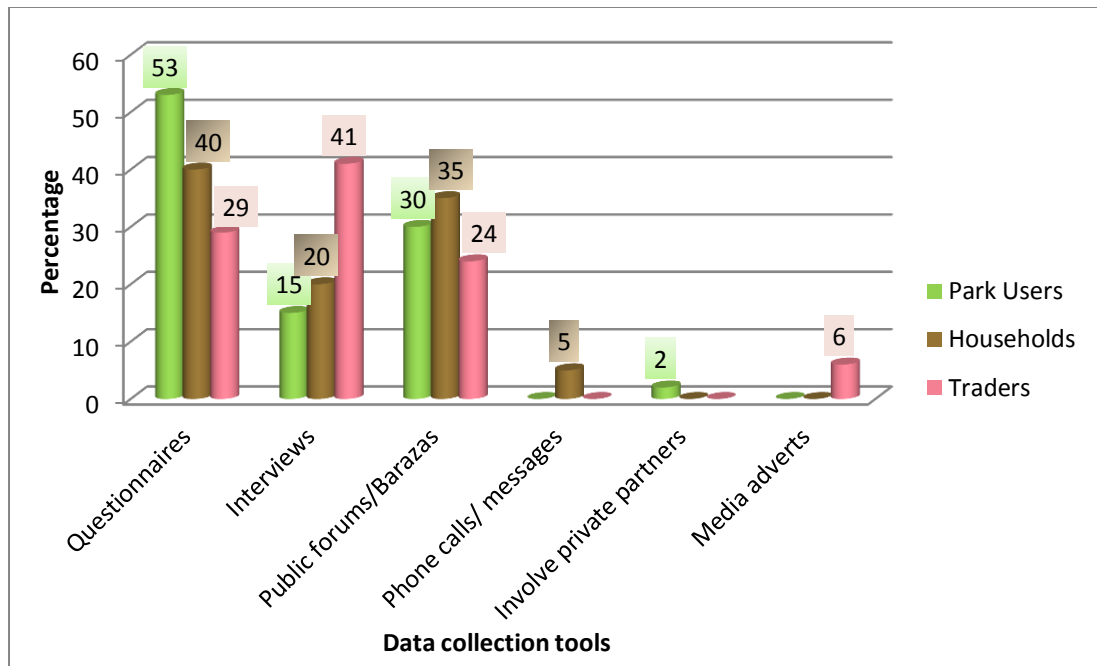
Concerning collection of views and suggestions from the public and other interested stakeholders, the most effective data collection tools according to interviewed park users would be the use of questionnaires accounting for 53% while 30% preferred public forums or barazas (figure 20). About 40% of the households surveyed indicated use of questionnaires as the most effective, while 20% argued that they preferred being interviewed. Only 5% of sampled households preferred telephone interviews this could be due to lack of time to attend a public forum. About 6% of interviewed traders preferred use of media adverts as a way of informing them about proposed NCP projects.

For effective public participation intensive media coverage especially at the initial stage would capture and notify a wider community population about impending both the project and public participation process. It will also enable mass transmission of the right information to the public about the proposed project in addition to the impending public participation process. Structured questionnaires detailing different project aspects and seeking public opinion on project components and eventual



management would enable individuals express in writing their views, opinions and suggestions. Public forums bringing together all stakeholders enable them to hear first-hand about the proposed project from the government officials and other project partners squashing out the problem of information distortion thorough hearsay. The community will also hear different views from the public and be able to weigh different comments and make an informed decision about the impending project.

**Figure 20: Effective public participation tools**



Source: Field survey, Author, 2014

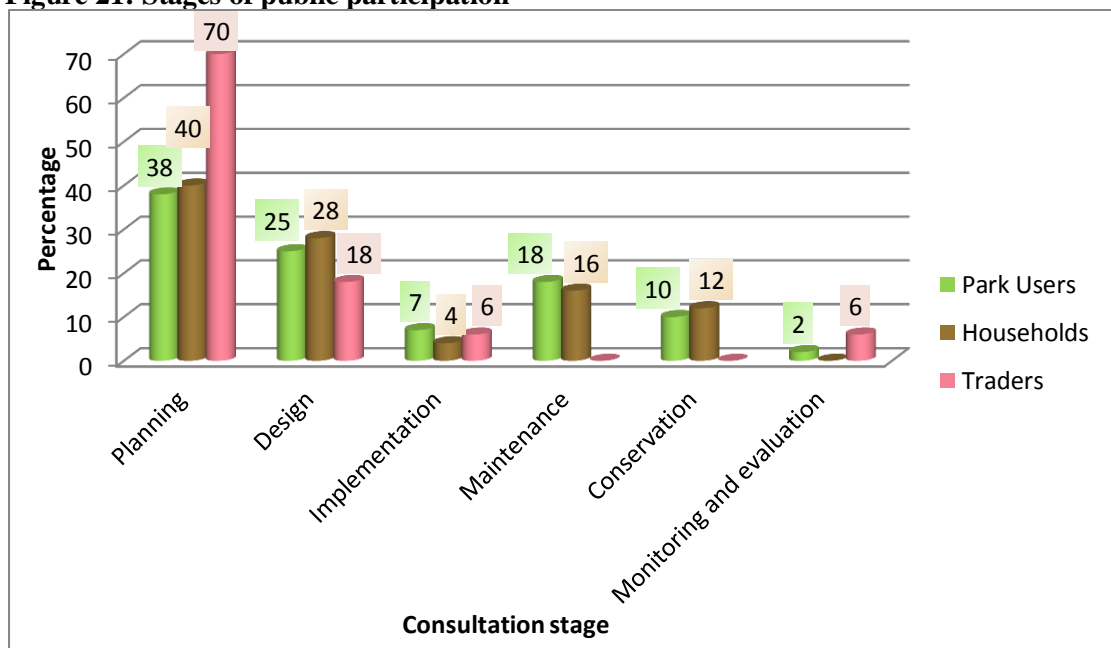
### **Public consultation/ involvement stage**

The urban park creation process involves five stages namely; planning, design, implementation, maintenance and monitoring and evaluation. The initial planning stage involves: contacting the community and briefing them on the project content; identifying key issues the project would solve; developing a project vision and theme(s); clarify on funding; and developing the project brief. The second design stage involves: developing design drawings, getting feedback from both specialists and the public about the proposed design, incorporating these views in the design hence consolidating the design proposal. In the implementation stage, either a contractor is brought on board or the government and its partners collaborate with the public in implementing the design proposal. Maintenance stage involves site management and daily maintenance routines to enable smooth running of activities

also including continuance records updates and book keeping and report writing. Moreover maintenance also included continuance fund raising to enable financial self-sufficiency. The last stage of monitoring and evaluation involves assessment of records and reports, carrying out of surveys on user satisfaction, usage trends, project assets and state of the eco system.

Regarding the stage at which the public would like to be involved in future park projects, 38% of the sampled park users and 40% of interviewed households and 70% of traders preferred being involved at the planning stage while 25%, 28% and 18% preferred the design stage respectively (figure 21). Many preferred involvement at the planning stage because they felt this is where their views would matter most in giving the direction on what they expect as the outcome(s) of the proposed project(s). The design stage was also preferred because the wanted to propose spaces and facilities that would meet their recreational and economic needs. Few wanted to be involved in the implementation stage as they were of the opinion that they lacked the necessary skills to execute the design proposal. However interest was shown in involvement in project maintenance activities with many citing it as an income generation opportunity. It was also seen as a way of fully experiencing the park environment as they would go to areas where naturally they would not have and also gain technical knowledge on the park eco system and park management procedures.

**Figure 21: Stages of public participation**

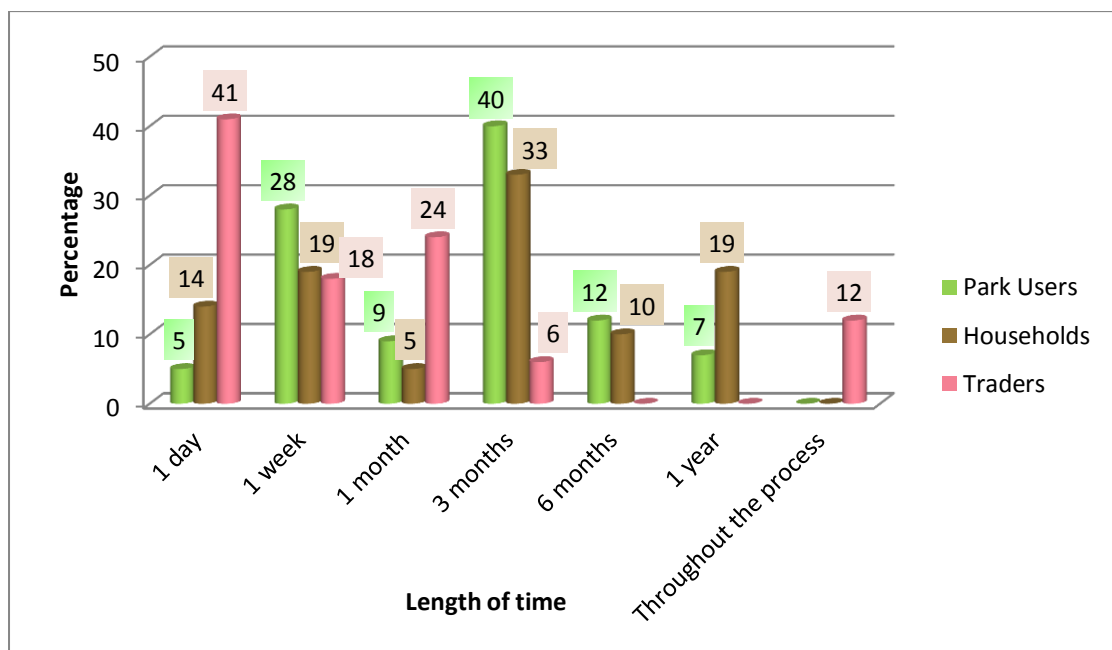


Source: Field survey, Author, 2014

### **Time Period for the Public Consultation Process**

About 40% of the respondent park users and 33% of sampled households prefer a consultation process that will take 3 months while 5% and 14% of households prefer a day's consultation respectively. However 41% of interviewed traders prefer a day's consultation as shown in figure 22. Park users felt a day was a very short time to be well informed and participate in proposed rehabilitation projects. A day was further seen as merely a way of meeting legal requirements without necessarily factoring in public views and providing feedback. This indicates that a day will only allow for the first and maybe second levels of public participation i.e. inform and consult. Most respondents i.e. 28% park users, 19% households and 18% of traders preferred a week involvement. This in their opinion would allow sufficient time for all stakeholders to put forward their views and suggestions. Practically getting feedback on revised design proposals and other raised issues may not be feasible within a week's notice. The public will however have been informed, consulted and maybe involved but not be in collaboration with the government and its partners in project implementation.

**Figure 22: Duration of public involvement**



Source: Field survey, 2014

A three months public participation process as preferred by 40% of park users and 33% of households would provide time for amendments to be made on the proposed project proposal and allow for feedback to both the public and any other stakeholder. However this time does not factor in those who would want to be involved in the

project implementation, maintenance and M and E stages thereby cutting short their participation process. A six month and a year's participation process will ensure that nearly the entire community and interested stakeholder have been brought on board to the proposed project as suggested by 12% and 10% of sampled park users and households and by 7% and 19% of park users and households respectively. This would ensure transparency in the project brief and increase community identification with the project. However the ideal situation is public participation throughout the project life as suggested by 12% of respondent traders. This will fully allow the public to participate in all the four levels of participation process (see figure 6) as well as participate in all stages of public participation as previously discussed.

### **Public opinions on consultation and the methods used in public consultation**

The consultation of the public on park rehabilitation and redesign projects is generally low. From the survey, no household has ever been consulted during any rehabilitation project regarding City Park. About 50% of households interviewed claimed that the methods used were ineffective because of: lack of access to information; some had no interest while others claimed that the consultation methods involved a lot of bureaucracy. Only 29% of the respondent park users have ever been consulted and 40% indicated that the main reason for the failure of public consultation is interference by politicians or bureaucracy. Approximately 63% of interviewed traders considered the methods used as effective while 37% considered them ineffective.

**Table 7: Reasons for failure of public consultation methods**

	<b>Reasons for failure of public consultation methods</b>	<b>Percentage (%)</b>
Households	No access to information	40
	No interest	40
	Politics / bureaucracy	20
Park Users		
	No Access to information	20
	Politics/bureaucracy	40
	Not frequent visitor	20
Traders	Laziness by the facilitator	20
	No interest	34
	No Access to information	35
	Not in agreement with project terms of reference	31

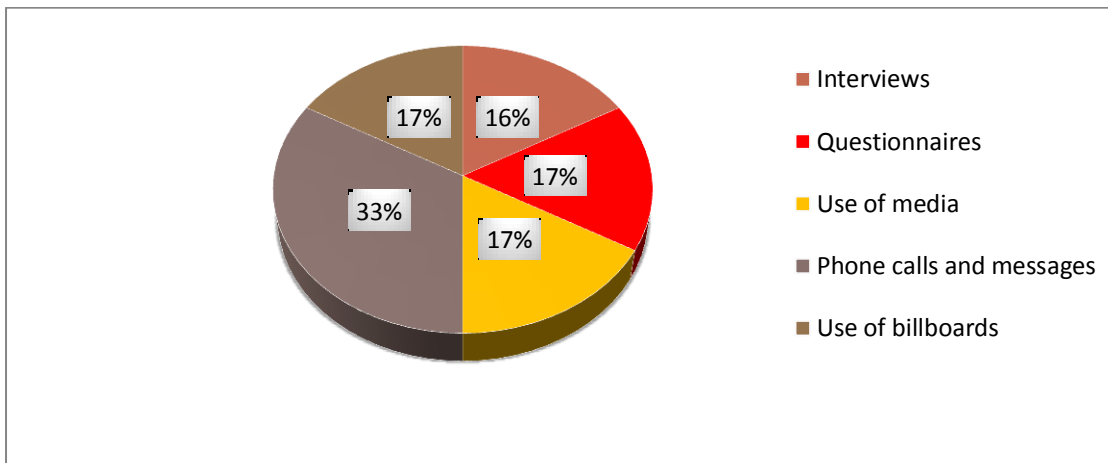
*Source: Field survey, 2014*

Information about proposed projects is normally relayed by use of posters mainly put up within the NCP or fliers normally distributed a few days to the public forum day. This methods do not allow for mass transmission of information as would the use of both mass media i.e. advertisements in radio and television and social media. Furthermore, when questionnaires have been distributed, many community members have not been reached as pointed out by 20% of respondent park users who cited laziness by the facilitator causing skewness in collected information and mistrust on the part of the community towards the project. Whenever too much politics comes to play in a community project, the public tends to keep off as it is assumed that the political agenda of the day will win and their involvement is just routine exercise. A balance is hence required to not let politics overplay its role. Bureaucracy and its jargon are often not understood by the lay man. Government officials and their partners require simplifying this to the public to enhance project understanding allowing for informed decision making. Lack of general interest identified by 40% of households and 34% of traders can be overcome through increased project publicity and indicating how the community is set to benefit from this project. This will prick curiosity from community members hence get them involved in the whole participation process.

### **Recommended methods for public consultation**

The most effective methods suggested for public consultation by sampled households was phone calls and messages (33%) and 17% for the use of questionnaires, media and billboards respectively as presented in figure 23. Respondent household members stated that they lacked time to attend public forums and equally lacked time to complete questionnaires administered to them. Carrying out of interviews through phone calls was hence preferred as this would enable them communicate their views without delay. Use of mass and social media to inform the public early enough about proposed projects was also preferred as they would not have to go to NCP to get this information and they could also arrange early enough to be available to give their comments. The youth being technologically savvy preferred this mode of engagement as they mainly carry out a lot of their communication in social networking sites.

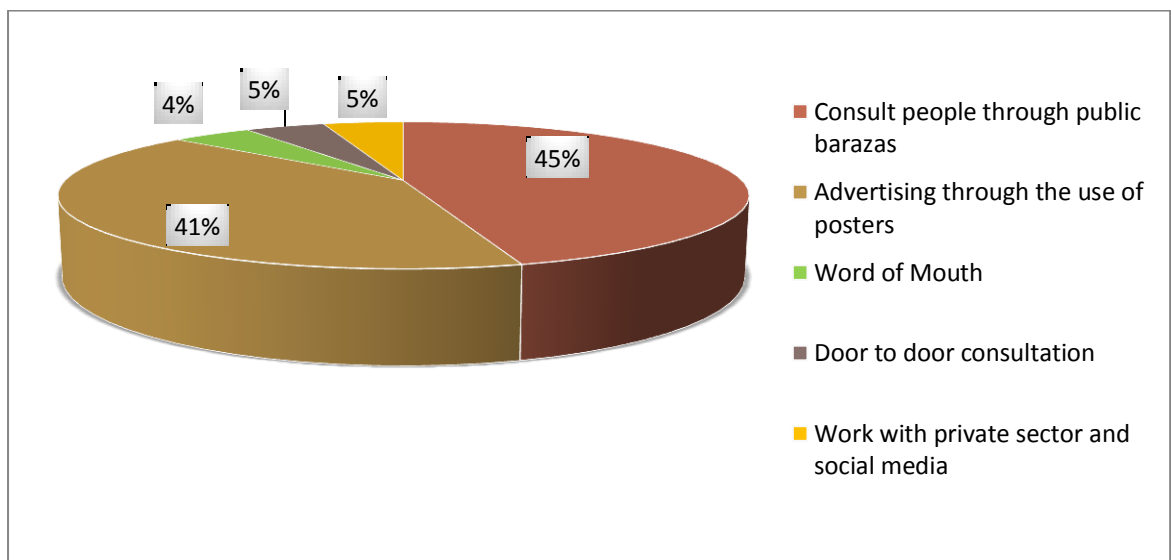
**Figure 23: Recommended methods for public engagement by Households**



*Source: Field survey, Author, 2014*

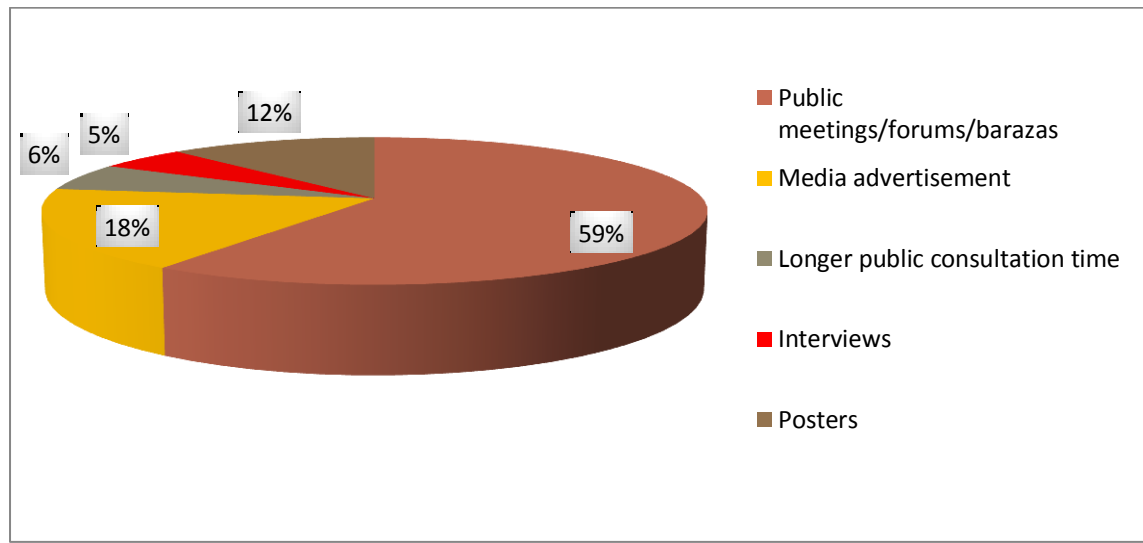
About 45% of respondent park users recommended use of public barazas as the most effective method for public engagement. This was followed closely by 41% recommending advertising by use of posters as a method of informing the public of impending projects. Public forums were viewed as the most suitable avenue to get clear primary information from the government and their partners thereby avoiding miscommunication. Putting up of posters within NCP and in its neighbourhood i.e. in Parklands, Highridge, Pangani, Mathare, Muthaiga would allow reaching out to many people.

**Figure 24: Recommended methods for public engagement by Park Users**



*Source: Field survey, Author, 2014*

**Figure 25: Recommended methods for public engagement by Traders**



*Source: Field survey, Author, 2014*

The majority of interviewed traders i.e. 59% as shown in figure 25 suggested the use of public forums as the most suitable method of engaging the public. As earlier discussed, this allowed first hand communication of project information, enables the public directly ask questions, get answers instantly and communicate their views and suggestions. They are also able to hear diverse views from various community members. 18% of respondent traders suggested media advertisement; both mass and social as an effective way of informing the public about proposed projects. This will ensure that all community members are made aware including other unidentified stakeholders. Mechanisms should also be put in place to allow for online surveys to be undertaken. This will ensure that those who cannot attend public forums can communicate their views and suggestions.

### **Public awareness of the constitutional right of their consultation on proposed development projects**

The majority of respondents know that it is their constitutional right to be involved in any proposed development projects within their county of residence as indicated by 57% of the households, 70% of park users and 73% of interviewed traders as indicated in table 8. Respondents indicated that they expected the government to facilitate their involvement and inclusion in any proposed project and to factor in their comments and suggestions as a way of ensuring that projects meet their end user needs. This indicates that the government and professionals can no longer impose

projects on the citizenry and expect successful implementation without their involvement.

**Table 8: Public awareness of constitutional right to be consulted**

	<b>Public awareness of Constitutional right to be consulted</b>	<b>Percent (%)</b>
Households		
	Aware	57
	Not aware	70
Park Users		
	Aware	70
	Not aware	30
Traders		
	Aware	73
	Not aware	27

*Source: Field survey, Author, 2014*

## **5.5. Park Rehabilitation Project**

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The only currently proposed park rehabilitation project is a Public Private Partnership (PPP) between the GoK and AKTC. Previous rehabilitation projects have touched on specific areas like installation of waste disposal points, rehabilitation of public toilets amongst others as earlier discussed in section 5.3 regarding challenges faced by the NCC in management of Nairobi City Park.

### **5.5.1. Proposed Rehabilitation & Improvement Program of the Nairobi City Park -PPP between GOK & Aga Khan Trust for Culture**

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#### **Project objective**

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The primary objective of the collaboration and the project is to rehabilitate and redevelop Nairobi City Park as a major park recognised internationally for excellence in restoration, environmental practices and financial self-sustainability. The project will also create a prototype of urban park rehabilitation in Kenya and restore NCP such that it complements and enhances the existing environmentally important areas becoming an attraction of great repute.

#### **Project justification**

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With just five parks i.e. NCP, Nairobi Arboretum, Uhuru Park, Central Park and Uhuru Gardens serving a Nairobi population of over three million as of 2009 census,



the city offers below one square metre of green space to its inhabitants whereas the WHO standard is a minimum of 10 m<sup>2</sup> and the UK uses a standard of 25m<sup>2</sup> per inhabitants. The loss of land and general negligence in NCP maintenance over the past four decades has had direct effect on the number of visitors with no more than 20% of the city population visiting the park in 2012. In order to halt and reverse the degradation trend there is need to address loss of habitat for flora and fauna and stop pollution of the Kibagare stream. Failure to address this will lead to further reduced access to green public open space and continued pollution and biodiversity loss.

### **Financing**

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Multiple sources for funding the rehabilitation project will be explored to include; grants, donor funding, donations and unsecured development project loans from reputable local and international organisations and agencies. The GoK will not be required to provide any funding but may do so if it so wishes. AKTC support will be in the form of non-renewable grants directly funding its own cost and seeking project co-funding. Appropriate income generating activities would be included to ensure the project's long-term viability after initial rehabilitation and restoration. All revenue earned shall be used to fund NCP's on-going expenses, improvements and infrastructure development.

### **Project brief**

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The MOU signed in April 2012 and the RFTA signed in November 2012 indicate how the GoK and AKTC intend to rehabilitate and redevelop Nairobi City Park, this will improve the quality of the site, making the park environment safe for visitors and provide the necessary infrastructure, while preserving the natural and cultural heritage of the gazetted area of NCP. The rehabilitation and design criteria to be applied include: appropriate location and design of the missing link M15b Ring Road Parklands extension (currently under realignment by KURA); to include the maze and informal sports fields as part of the gazetted park land; create separate access to the NCP providing adequate peripheral car parking, preserve the indigenous forest and habitats and biodiversity; protect, restore and maintain traditional uses and historic features and buildings, model the design around the existing trees and natural park elements and introduce new facilities responding to area recreational and educational needs as well as create income-generating opportunities.

The proposed land use plan showing the project components is as indicated in table 9 and appendix 5 for the proposed land use plan The project proposes: the installation of a physical boundary around the park’s perimeter; installation of a water purification unit at the entry point Kibagare stream; remove concrete lining along the stream’s bed; rehabilitation of existing sports facilities and creation of additional educational, cultural and recreational facilities and construction of foot paths, bridges and other park facilities.

**Table 9: Project land and physical components**

COMPONENT	AREA (HA)	LOCATION
Forested area within NCP boundaries	41.5	Zone C
Environmental education and exhibits complex and botanic garden	5.1	Zone B
Existing facilities	15.1	Zone A and Zone C
Gazetted area of NCP as of august 2009	62.1	Zone A and C
Enlargement (sports centre)	3.3	Zone B
Enlargement (maze)	1.0	Zone C

*Source: EIA project report for the Proposed Rehabilitation and Improvement of Nairobi City Park, 2013*

### **Project implementation**

This being a long-term undertaking requiring various stages of development and creation of a master plan and management programs, the project implementation will be in three phases: phase 1 comprising of baseline studies, master planning and scheme and detailed design drawings; phase 2 involving project construction; and phase 3 involving project operations in order to ensure the long-term financial and environmental sustainability of the park. The MOU, sections 9, 10 and 11 detail the activities and responsibilities of each party.

A Co-ordination Committee shall be established to monitor and implement the project and the long term strategic development of the park. This committee shall be directed by a Steering Committee whose composition is as indicated in the MOU section 8.

### **Environmental Impact Assessment Project Report**

An EIA project report was prepared for this rehabilitation project in May 2013 and a Gazette Notice No. 15064 published in the Kenya Gazette in November 2013 (Appendix 6) indicating the project components and a summary of the anticipated impacts and the proposed mitigation measures. A public consultation forum was held in October 2013 at the Bowling Green Restaurant and attended by amongst others; the EIA Lead expert, the AKDN/ AKTC (the Proponent), government officers from the national and county governments, the general public, hawkers from both the City Park Hawkers Market and vendors operating within city park, members of Hindu Council, FoCP, GreenBelt Movement, Parklands residents and human rights activists and lawyers.

This meeting established that there was a general impression that the Aga Khan was working in seclusion and not involving all stakeholders. The meeting participants felt they were just being informed about an already approved project and not really being consulted. An MCA representing the Environment Committee of the Nairobi City County government acknowledged that the current government and their partners were discussing revision of the RFTA with recognition for the need for more public participation. The general public, hawkers and parklands residents expressed strong opposition to levying of entrance fees indicating that it will be an economic burden to the majority of Nairobi residents who cannot afford entry fees to parks such as Karura forest and only access the free entry green spaces in Nairobi having no other in their neighbourhoods. There was also opposition to fencing the park which alluded to controlling park use to a selected few i.e. those who can pay to use proposed park facilities.

### **5.5.2. Review of the Proposed Rehabilitation & Improvement Program of the Nairobi City Park**

The requirement by the Constitution of Kenya to undertake public participation was indeed adhered to by the government and AKTC while preparing the NCP rehabilitation proposal. However its success in fully engaging the public remains

questionable as exhibited by the strong public opposition to the project during the EIA public forum by when one would expect all interested parties would be united in passing through the project for implementation. This could be attributed to the fact that Kenya lacks a structured framework detailing a comprehensive functional approach to the public participation process as indicated in section 2.8.4. The public is not fully aware of what their role is and how they should participate resulting in them feeling excluded and ignored even pointing out aspects of favouritism in who is called upon to participate right from the project planning stage.

The ultimate objective of public participation is to achieve citizen control as indicated in the Arnstein's ladder of participation and the ladder of citizen empowerment (see section 2.10.3 on public participation theories). This is only achieved by ensuring that all the public participation levels (figure 6) that provide the opportunity for public input to influence project proposals are undertaken. Regarding this rehabilitation project, it seems not all stakeholders were informed and consulted by the project team indicating that the first two levels of participation were not exhaustively undertaken. The third stage i.e. involvement which allows for dialogue and interaction seemed to have been not well covered as discussions during the EIA public meeting nearly turned explosive to the extent of the public threatening to ensure the project failure during the operation/ management stage once it is complete.

This public participation process did not reach the fourth level of participation i.e. collaboration as the public was not informed how they would be involved during the planning, design, implementation, maintenance and in project monitoring and evaluation stages. Already it seemed they had already planned and fully designed the project and the public were just being informed about how the project will be. It was not clear whether adjustments would be made to accommodate the public and specialists feedback.

It is indeed necessary to fence Nairobi City Park as suggested in the rehabilitation proposal. This is the best way to secure the park boundaries and control access into the park hence improving on safety. The design of the perimeter wall or materials used is what needs to be looked into to ensure that it is complementing the NCP identity of a historical, cultural and forested site. Karura forest had similar security problems like NCP and once an electric fence was installed, security has improved

tremendously thereby increasing number of monthly park visitors to 10,000. Rehabilitation, restoration and addition of NCP facilities as proposed by the project (*appendix 5*) would undeniably ameliorate the existing scenic features in addition to increasing the diversity of active recreation facilities as well as adding to unexplored park opportunities as suggested by inclusion of exhibition, conference spaces and an amphitheatre for hosting performances. Such rehabilitation and restoration works have enabled the once degraded Karura Forest in Kiambu County to generate a monthly income of KShs 3 million from various forest activities like bird watching and from social events (*refer to appendix 7*).

The issue of charging entrance fees is highly debatable since the NCP gets visitors from low income areas such Mathare, Huruma amongst others. A standing entrance fee should be charged in addition to having other income generating activities occurring within NCP in order to sustain park operation and maintenance procedures. The NCC has already indicated that they lack sufficient funds to have the NCP optimally operating harnessing its full potential indicating that they cannot on their own fund the park to achieve financial self- sufficiency. Alternative ways of charging usage fees should be explored for the low income group of park users and this could include; fee free hours, fee free days, special holiday fee packages and sweat equity volunteer work as discussed in section 2.5.1 on equitable access to urban parks. To have such alternatives and include entrance fees charges, the public has to be made aware of why this has to be done and be brought on board i.e. through collaborations to ensure that there shall be no community resistance to such a proposal.

## **6. SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, CONCLUSIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS**

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This chapter gives a summary of findings, conclusions and recommendations. It evaluates the effectiveness of the existing policy framework and management of urban parks such as City Park, and studies how citizens are involved in urban park planning. This chapter furthermore draws conclusions from the findings and makes recommendations on planning interventions that can inform development of an urban park policy framework.

### **6.1. Summary of Findings**

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This study sought to assess the policy framework for public urban parks in Nairobi focussing on City Park as a representative. The objectives that informed the study comprised of; an examination of the legal and institutional framework used in provision of City Park; an assessment of the effectiveness of the existing policy framework with regards to Nairobi City Park management; the establishment of the place of the community in planning and management of City Park; and propositions of planning interventions that can be embraced for sustainable creation and management of urban parks such as City Park.

#### **6.1.1. Findings from objective 1: To examine the legal and institutional framework used in the provision of Nairobi City Park**

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The study established that the Constitution of Kenya is the basis for sustainable utilisation and management of public land for the interest of public safety, order and health. It further is the foundation for sustainable exploitation, utilisation, management and conservation of the environment. The study established that there lacks a specific policy dealing with planning and management of urban parks in Kenya. Existing legislative framework alludes to certain aspects and components of urban park planning such as the; authority to county governments to reserve and maintain urban parks/ forests, citizen participation in urban development projects and preparation of EIA project reports for any urban development projects related to establishment or expansion of recreational projects.

It was further established that one cannot ascertain on equitable sharing of accrued benefits from NCP because the NCC does not publish annual NCP reports to allow for

scrutiny and transparency in park management procedures. There is challenge of enforcement of existing physical planning legislation on creation of recreation areas i.e. the requirement of 1-2 hectares being set aside as recreation space for every urban population of 10,000 inhabitants. Nairobi offers below one square metre of green space to its inhabitants which is below WHO minimum standards of ten square metres per inhabitant. This is attributed to the low priority and importance given to such spaces by the planning agencies and politicians who view retention of these spaces as a waste of land economic potential and has resulted in continual encroachment into NCP land by individuals and certain groups with private interest in developing the land for their own economic gain. Some government officials and politicians as well do not understand the potential of NCP as an income earner. Furthermore, the proposed Nairobi Integrated Urban Development Master Plan has not prioritised PUGS regarding their accessibility, equitable use, ecosystems and management. Moreover the NCP neither has an UPMP nor a structured framework for monitoring and evaluation.

With regard to institutional framework in urban park planning, county governments are the administrators and managers of urban parks/ forests under their jurisdiction. However, there are other institutions that hold a stake in planning and management of urban parks. These include: the national government through the Ministry of Land, Housing and Urban Development who provide policy direction and coordinate matters relating to land and urban development; NLC who are the managers of all public land in Kenya; NEMA being the government's principal agency in implementation of environmental policies; NMK that oversees management of sites and monuments of national heritage; KFS who conserve, develop and manage forested lands nationally; KWS who manage and conserve wildlife; and FoCP who engage the public, government and any other stakeholder of NCP in its long-term preservation, sustainable use and management.

The NLC having already set up a committee to look into illegal alienation of NCP land is still reviewing grants to individual plots within NCP with an aim of recovering land that was improperly allocated. There is hence an urgent need to fully secure the park's land by imposing a ban to any development of any kind within the park until the land issue is solved. There is apparent lack of coordination about management of

NCP from different institutions. This has led to some keeping off despite the requirement of their input. There is need to coordinate afore mentioned institutions to avoid duplication, neglect, remove mistrust and enhance sustainable management and fund raising efforts.

### **6.1.2. Findings from objective 2: To assess the effectiveness of the existing policy framework with regards to management of Nairobi City Park**

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The NCC funds all management activities of City Park having no park entrance fees charged to individuals or groups of less than ten people. The park has several income generating activities which NCC levies recreational service providers as guided by section 3 of the Nairobi City County Finance act. They are nevertheless losing revenue as collection of levies is not automated at the NCP management office. The study established that encroachment of parkland over time has led to thirty hectares being hived off. Insecurity is rampant due to a porous boundary making it difficult to control access and monitor use. Some park spaces are not used due to muggings and vandalism of park facilities is common place. NCP has diverse recreational activities and various attraction sites some of which are dilapidated, vandalised or not in use. The park's human resource capacity of 56 permanent employees is shared with Highridge ward in addition to only eight security officers patrolling the park both during the day and at night is insufficient considering the park land's area of 60 hectares requiring intensive gardening, plant nursery upkeep, waste management and frequent security patrols. Environmental degradation exhibited by poor solid waste disposal, polluted Kibagare stream water and decreased vegetation cover is still of concern. Allocated funds from NCC are insufficient stippling any new development and preventing full infrastructure rehabilitation.

### **6.1.3. Findings from objective 3: To establish the place of the community in planning and management of Nairobi City Park**

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The study found out that LASDAP has been the main avenue of engaging the public in planning, budgeting and decision making in proposed development projects by the former Nairobi City County now Nairobi City County. LASDAP has not been effective because of: low awareness levels about citizen participation process by both citizens and government officers; it has been a means of rewarding political supporters; the process is shrouded with mistrust and suspicion between the different



stakeholders, local authorities officers and CSOs leading to some CSOs withdrawing participation; and there is a general lack of accountability on the part of local authorities to its citizenry. The lack of national statutory regulation and structured mechanisms regarding public participation in PUGS is a major contributor to the ineffectiveness of the public participation project. The city park management office indicated that they did not engage the general public in park management and maintenance affairs with the exception of groups such as FoCP. Few individuals indicated being consulted and involved in proposed park rehabilitation projects. This shows that the four levels of public participation i.e. inform, consult, involve and collaborate are not fully undertaken.

The study also established that little media coverage and limited access to project information is limiting the number of people made aware resulting in a smaller number participating. Intensive political interference is contributing to the public keeping off public participation. Most stakeholders interviewed would want to be involved in future park projects preferring being engaged at the planning and design stages with some preferring to be included in the maintenance stage as an avenue to earn an income or gain technical knowledge of management procedures and ecosystem maintenance. Respondents as well indicated preferring to be engaged for periods lasting longer than a day even up to six months pointing out that the short participation period does not allow for feedback mechanisms. Citizen engagement would be most effective by having public forums and prior advertising of proposed park projects. Generally, the citizenry are aware that it is their constitutional right to be consulted on any proposed development project in their area of residence.

## **6.2. Conclusion**

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The following conclusions were made with regard to the findings from the data collected and analysed.

### **6.2.1. Conclusion for objective 1: To examine the legal and institutional framework used in the provision of Nairobi City Park**

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According to the findings on existing policy framework, Kenya lacks an urban park policy outlining planning, utilisation and management of urban parks at both county and national levels of government. The findings indicate that each of the identified

institutions has a role in planning and management of urban parks and this should not be ignored. Some of their mandates conflict or overlap with each other regarding urban park planning and management resulting in confusion on who should do what, where and at what juncture. Gaps present in the existing policy framework for provision and management of urban parks coupled with the low priority given to PUGS by the NCC and national government enhance their vulnerability to exploitation and negligence. However recent efforts by the Ministry of Land, Housing and Urban Development and the NLC<sup>3</sup> might finally solve the land question of NCP.

### **6.2.2. Conclusion for objective 2: To assess the effectiveness of the existing policy framework with regards to management of Nairobi City Park**

The findings demonstrate that the existing human resource capacity of Nairobi County park employees cannot meet the park's management and maintenance needs putting in question the ability of the NCC to sustainably oversee management of park functions and activities. Furthermore, insecurity being a major problem identified in the survey, does not guarantee increased park use, therefore, hampering optimal operation of Nairobi City Park. Controlled access and monitored utilization of the park is required to guarantee park safety. Continued environmental degradation is furthermore a major blow to the continued sustenance of the rich existing biodiversity and ecosystem. The Nairobi City Park moreover cannot attain financial self-sufficiency due to lack of adequate financial support and funds availability as well as lack of constant monitoring and evaluation of park activities which would aid in transparency in park programmes or projects and accountability of park management.

### **6.2.3. Conclusion for objective 3: To establish the place of the community in planning and management of Nairobi City Park**

The survey demonstrates that the citizen participation process is neither understood by government officers and professionals nor by the general public pointing to a lack of a comprehensive functional approach to public participation resulting in a poorly conceptualised public participatory process and a confused stakeholders' view to the whole participation process. The survey findings indicate that the citizenry want to be engaged and not only consulted in urban park planning. They want to be given an opportunity not only to give their views but to critique proposals as well as participate

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<sup>3</sup> Refer to section 5.2.2 on institutional framework under MLH&UD and NLC

in park design and make decisions on the final agreed product. This according to them will enable them to identify, own, support and conserve urban parks within their neighbourhoods.

#### **6.2.4. Overall conclusion**

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The existing policy framework is hence not comprehensive and has grey areas in both planning and management of urban parks and should be overhauled and redeveloped to include aspects of transparency, accountability, publicity, monitoring and evaluation, and public participation. Vigilance in enforcement of policies by both the national and county governments and the citizenry is wanting. The NCC furthermore needs to decentralize levies collection from County Hall to the park management office and automate the system linking it to the central system at County Hall to enable fast transmission and coordination of information. The LASDAP framework for citizen participation needs revision to curb abuse, enhance transparency and accountability, include more stakeholders and enhance enforcement mechanisms. Limited mass and social media publicity on on-going and proposed PUGS projects limits the number of people aware and engaged in the public participation process.

### **6.3. Recommendations**

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The following recommendations are proposed based on the study findings and conclusions:

#### **6.3.1. Recommendations for objective 1: To examine the legal and institutional framework used in the provision of Nairobi City Park**

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##### **Develop an urban park policy**

There is need to consolidate and develop a coherent urban park policy framework for urban park planning and management. An institutional framework that clearly identifies all institutions involved in urban park planning and management and clearly defines their mandate and roles should be developed in order to avoid overlaps and conflicts resulting in a well-structured co-ordinated system. Vigilance by all institutions, the general public and the business community in enforcing urban park management regulations and policy will ensure long-term survival and use of urban parks. The policy framework should also capture the aspects of sustainability of present resources i.e. natural, recreational, cultural and historical.

The proposed urban park policy should indicate clearly what its components are and at which juncture a specific legislation is in force. The urban park creation process should be based on the developed policy framework including the actors involved at each step. An operation framework for the developed policy indicating the issues being addressed, actors and timeframes for execution should also be evolved.

### **Development of an NCP Master Plan and Urban Park Management Plan**

A comprehensive Urban Park Management Plan (UPMP) and a Nairobi City Park Master plan that are reviewed regularly and updated every five years should be developed. These should detail the park's vision, outlines the goals and objective for the park, indicates its guiding principles and specifies the direction of future park projects and programming. In addition to the above, the UPMP should include: an inventory of existing natural, recreational, historical and cultural resources; carry out a needs analysis; analysis of connectivity and gaps; analysis of park agency's ability to carry out its mandate; an implementation strategy with dates, and indication of roles of each actor; a budget for both capital and operating expenses; and include an annual plan evaluation mechanism. The UPMP should furthermore be coordinated with other neighbourhood plans touching on transport, tourism, water management, housing, economic development, education and health.

### **6.3.2. Recommendations for objective 2: To assess the effectiveness of the existing policy framework with regards to management of Nairobi City Park**

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#### **Equitable access**

It is recommended that the NCP should be equitably accessible to all working within the city and on its periphery regardless of residence, physical barriers, physical abilities and financial capability. The objective is to control and manage movement through the park creating defined access points and routes appropriate for pedestrian and vehicular movement.

#### **Vehicular access**

Vehicular movement within NCP should be limited by providing several evenly distributed 'park and walk' areas on the perimeter at point of greatest access as determined by existing roads and entrances.

### **Pedestrian access**

In order to manage pedestrian movement within NCP, a system of clearly defined, safe access points that are evenly distributed throughout the park should be developed for both recreation and movement purposes. The paths should allow park users access to move through the park and to outside destinations.

### **Park fees**

All new developments within the NCP should be accessible to all population groups including children, physically challenged and the elderly. Even with introduction of park entrance fees, The NCC should explore alternative ways of charging usage fees for the low income group of park users and this could include; fee free hours, fee free days, special holiday fee packages and sweat equity volunteer work. To have such alternatives and include entrance fees charges, the public has to be made aware of why this has to be done and be brought on board i.e. through collaborations to ensure that there shall be no community resistance to such proposals.

### **Inventorying existing assets**

The NCC through the NCP management office should document and develop an inventory of existing natural, recreational, cultural and historical resources indicating their physical condition, financial value, area occupied and required maintenance and replacement procedures which is annually published in order to track the park's system changes.

### **Tracking park expenditure**

The NCP's expenditure should be transparently and comprehensively tracked including indicating operation budgets of all on-going programmes. In order to promote effective involvement of local residents, park user groups and the business community NCP programmes or projects, the NCC should develop innovative evidence based approaches and models for management and maintenance of NCP.

### **Adequate staffing**

The Nairobi City Park should have employees in sufficient numbers who specifically provide the management and maintenance needs of the park bearing in mind the 60 hectares of land that define the park's lands. In addition, numbers of security officers/

policemen and frequency of park patrols should be increased so as to increase safety for all park users.

### **Safety from physical hazards and crime**

Mechanisms for screening all park users and monitoring their usage of the park should be put in place as another security beefing up measure. Crime data should be regularly collected and documented including indicating the ration of female to male park users as an indicator of park safety. Mechanisms to avoid and eliminate physical hazards within park boundaries should be developed and effected. Mechanisms should also be developed to allow for the citizenry to easily report problems encountered within park boundaries.

### **Efficient overall park management practices and facilities maintenance**

The park's management body should maximising use of existing park facilities for community recreation purposes. Moreover, they body should employ efficient park's facilities maintenance and management practices for long-term sustainability and preservation of this public entity. In addition, safety, quality and sustainable operation of park facilities and infrastructure should be of priority. Where the management body is financially unable to fund the park's maintenance budget as is the case of the NCC, they should transfer the park management and maintenance functions to a private contractor and only retain; policy, strategy, contract and quality monitoring roles.

The NCC should bear in mind that sustainable multiple use, management and utilization of natural resources including biodiversity and wildlife conservation, water-catchment functions together with ecotourism development and production of tangible benefits for park adjacent communities is critical to effective park management.

### **Park users and users' satisfaction**

To increase park use by residents, workers and visitors, the facility's service levels should be consumerate with sustainable park's land and facility capacity. Service levels should relate to public needs as determined through periodic park and recreation needs assessment surveys that factors in community input. The community input can be collected by the formation of a formalized citizen advisory board which meets regularly and whose sessions are open to the public. The community will be

able to provide constructive criticisms, give user feedback and present any new planning ideas that they may have.

### **Control environmental pollution**

The status of the environment should be continually checked and a report written annually indicating the status of the environment's biodiversity, water features, measured pollution levels, wildlife capacities and waste management practices. This report should moreover map extent of vegetation cover and different land uses within NCP.

### **Use of Low-Impact Development (LID) techniques**

The park's management body should ensure that proposed designs, redevelopment or rehabilitation of park resources apply appropriate design standards and use low-Impact Development (LID) techniques to reduce on environmental impacts. LID is a simple, flexible and economic approach to managing storm water as close to the source as possible by using urban green infrastructure. The primary goal is to reduce runoff volume by infiltrating rainfall water as ground water and finding beneficial uses of water rather than exporting it as a waste product down sewer lines. Runoff control is aimed at: minimizing disturbance; preserving and recreating natural landscape features; reducing effective impervious cover; increase drainage flow paths; enhance off-line storage; and facilitate detention and infiltration opportunities. This can be achieved by including in the proposed designs: rain gardens and bio-retention systems; rooftop gardens; sidewalk storage facilities; vegetated swales, buffers, infiltration trenches and tree preservation; installation of water harvesting systems; using permeable pavers such as lawn pavers; removing impervious surfaces where possible; and preventing water pollution while enhancing appropriate grey water disposal techniques at household, commercial and industrial levels. Associated vegetation furthermore increases opportunities of greening the neighbourhood and enhancing on aesthetics.

### **Park Edges**

The edges of NCP must be clearly defined to enhance legibility, surveillance and spatial definition. The edges between the natural and built environment should be secured from the very onset to avoid encroachment and destruction of the vegetation. Regarding developments adjacent to the park's lands, the Nairobi City County should

encourage designs that minimize potential for encroachment and adverse environmental impacts but augment on natural resource values. They should as well protect the park from adverse impacts from off site developments and land uses and specifically identify potential developments' negative impacts that may affect the park's lands. Encroachment can be minimized by surrounding building having their balconies opening into the park enabling citizen monitoring of park usage. Enforcement of existing development control measures e.g. specified plot coverage and setbacks will also control encroachment.

Use of LID techniques as previously discussed will reduce environmental impacts. Adjacent development should use green building techniques which check on; waste disposal mechanisms, energy and water management and on construction materials. Dumping of excavated and other construction materials should not be allowed in NCP in order to control land and water pollution and to avoid great alteration of the ecosystem.

To further develop the forest edge, adjacent developments should be required by law to plant a certain percentage of planting in the form of trees, shrubs and vines as a way of mitigating against tree mortality and canopy or trunk damage. Landscape engineering techniques should be used to smoothly transition from the park edge to the adjacent land uses by creating transition spaces such as buffer zones, transport linkages, small kiosk outlets amongst others.

### **Develop Public Private Partnerships (PPPs)**

Public Private Partnerships should be embraced considering that the Nairobi City County lacks the adequate funds for efficient and effective management of the park. MOUs and RFTAs should clearly indicate what each party's role and responsibility is, who will finance the project, who and how the park operate and be managed and how income or accrued benefits will shared.

As for the PPP between the GoK and AKTC ineffective public participation was the main hindrance to the project implementation. Longer time should be factored in to ensure all stakeholders are in agreement. Matters on equitable access and fee levying should be given priority. It is important to highlight how the public stands to gain not only on the recreation front but also on the economic side considering that low



income groups use such urban park and this population group also earn a living from NCP. Priority should moreover be given to publicity and marketing of rehabilitation, maintenance programmes in order to reach a larger resident population and get all stakeholders participating.

### **6.3.3. Recommendations for objective 3: To establish the place of the community in planning and management of Nairobi City Park**

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#### **Evolve a structured public participation framework**

It is important to develop a structured framework on public participation for urban parks such as Nairobi City Park that would factor in the following thematic areas that are the core elements of citizen participation: citizen awareness; capacity building; planning and budgeting; implementation; monitoring and evaluation; inclusivity and composition of citizen forums; feedback and reporting mechanisms and financial resource mobilization.

The county government should recognize that participation is more than consultation and that the citizenry want to and should be engaged throughout the project stages from planning up to monitoring and evaluation bearing in mind that this is a constitutional right. This calls for effective identification of all stakeholders and having a longer public participation process period even up to a year in order to cover the four levels of informing, consulting, involving and collaboration.

A common community vision for NCP should be developed during the development of the NCP Master Plan and carried through into the UPMP to guide any future development proposals so as to ensure the sustainability of proposed rehabilitation or redevelopment projects and enhance community project acceptance and ownership.

### **6.4. Proposed Urban Park Planning Policy Framework**

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The proposed urban park planning framework will include both planning and management policies to ensure comprehensive development, use and management of urban parks such as NCP.

### **6.4.1. Desired Outcomes from the Urban Park Planning Policy Framework**

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After a comprehensive review of literature pertaining to urban parks, undertaking a field survey and interviewing key informants, several items were established as the desired outcomes for an urban park policy framework. It was established that there is an overall need for a legislative and policy change concerning urban parks planning and management. The developed policy document should be designed in such a way that it integrates with other existing legislation, regulations and policies. Furthermore, there is need to prepare an integrated urban park planning and management system cutting across the different institutions and agencies by clearly defining the role of each and at which point their input is required. This will improve interaction, coordination and exchange of information between the planning agencies, NCC and other stakeholders regarding the urban park; planning, needs, resources, use and management.

The policy framework should develop a criteria and requirements for urban parks providing guidance to indicative standards in terms of; size, facilities, maintenance, public participation and give clear guidelines regarding what kind of developments should be allowed and where they should be located including specifics on construction materials and design concepts in order to maintain the naturalness and genius loci of the park in this case the NCP woodland. This should as well include adjacent developments to the park outside the gazetted boundary. The framework should furthermore provide a guideline on suitable land uses to be accommodated in the immediate neighbourhood of the urban park.

In addition to protecting the urban park resources and ensuring environmental sustainability of the urban park ecosystem, the policy framework should require continual collection of adequate information on: trends i.e. usage, user demands, safety, biodiversity and public participation and park asset inventories to assist in planning and management. It is important that the framework clarifies and promotes the role and importance of urban parks as being part of the wider development and planning framework by demonstrating their benefit to the communities. This can be enhanced by improving on publicity and marketing economic, environmental and social opportunities present in such parks. To ensure sustainability and financial self sufficiency of urban parks, the policy framework should prioritise and develop a clear

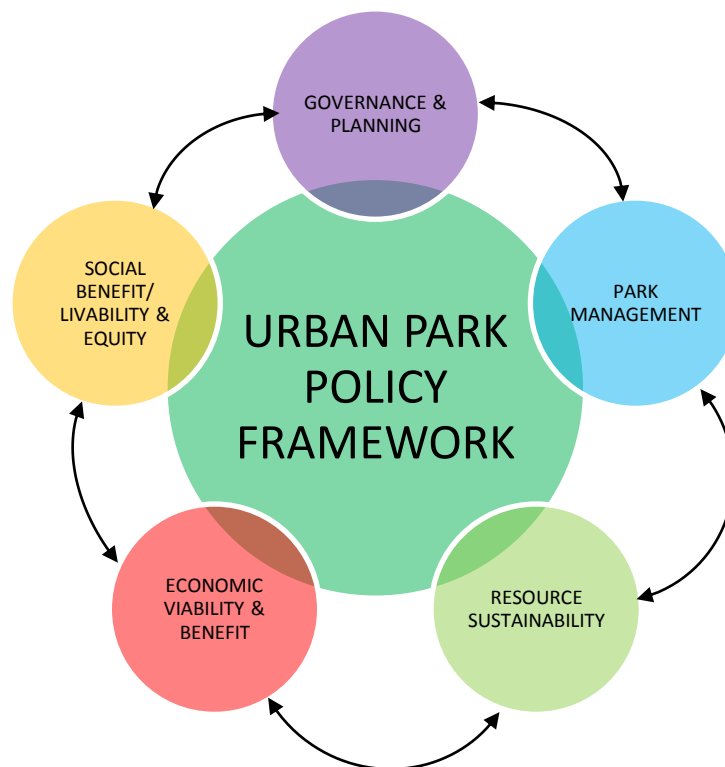
working strategy for getting required resources i.e. human capacity, materials and finances. The public should be involved in this to ensure transparency and accountability through annual financial reports, citizen involvement in fund raising activities and PPPs.

#### 6.4.2. Planning Policy Framework

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The overall objective of this study is to have a comprehensive and sustainable urban park system that provides social, economic and physical benefits to both the communities it serves and the nation. To achieve this, various components have been identified from which objectives are evolved in order to develop a comprehensive urban park planning policy framework. These components include: governance and planning; park management; resource sustainability; economic viability and benefit; and social benefit or liveability and equity as indicated in figure 26.

**Figure 26: Model showing the core elements of the urban park policy framework**



From the identified core elements and the results of the desired outcomes from the proposed urban park policy framework, objectives have been evolved in order to achieve the desired planning policy framework by the institutions and other stakeholders. These objectives are as indicated in table 10.

**Table 10: Core elements and objectives comprising the proposed planning policy framework**

CORE ELEMENT	OBJECTIVE
Governance and planning	To establish a comprehensive and effective policy framework for the planning and management of urban park such as NCP
Park management	To set up structured mechanisms to develop an integrated urban park management system
Resource sustainability	To ensure protection of resources i.e. natural, physical, historical and human capacity and their sustainability
Economic viability and benefit	To evolve an urban park system that is self-sustaining and contributes directly and indirectly to the Nairobi economy
Social benefit/ liveability and equity	To have an urban park system that enhances social inclusion and community well being

In order to achieve these objectives, policies are derived identifying key strategies to support them as shown in figure 27. Table 11 gives a detailed breakdown of the operation of the proposed policy framework detailing how each identified core element and its objective shall be actualised.

**Figure 27: Model showing the proposed urban park planning framework**



*Author's proposal of the Urban Park Planning Framework, 2014*

**Table 11: Detailed breakdown of proposed urban park policy framework showing the proposed policies and strategies**

<b>OBJECTIVE 1 : To establish a comprehensive and effective policy framework for the planning and management of urban park such as NCP</b>
<b>POLICY 1: The urban park policy framework should provide a strategic and wholesome approach to urban park planning and management.</b>
Governance and planning strategies
<p>1.1 Adopt a policy framework clearly outlining vision statements, objectives, policies and recommended strategies.</p> <p>1.2 Review existing legislation, regulations and policies to identify possible gaps</p> <p>1.3 Ensure the framework is recognised and integrated with other related policies focussing on; community health, education, social inclusion, environmental management and transport.</p> <p>1.4 Review existing mechanisms for cross government agencies and other institutions including the public in creating partnerships, sharing information and collaboration in park planning and management.</p> <p>1.5 Develop clear guidelines for Public Private Partnership programmes.</p> <p>1.6 Develop clear guidelines on effective Monitoring and Evaluation mechanisms.</p> <p>1.7 Generate a Master Plan and Urban Park Management Plan (UPMP) that is co-ordinated with other neighbourhood plans, having an implementation framework with dates and roles of every actor and is reviewed regularly and updated every five years.</p>
Skills enhancement strategies
<p>1.8 Have periodic training and skills development amongst government officers in urban park planning and management</p> <p>1.9 Use modern technology to carry out procedures related to urban park planning and management</p>
Resource sustainability strategies
<p>1.10 Develop park utilisation guidelines for the citizenry.</p> <p>1.11 Develop guidelines on tracking park trends e.g. through periodic field surveys, profiling user groups and reports.</p> <p>1.12 Provide qualified and adequate staff within urban parks.</p>

**POLICY 2: The urban park policy framework should foster consistency in adoption of planning tools and processes to support effective urban park planning.**

Governance and planning strategies

- 1.1 Develop guidelines for equitable access to urban parks regardless of the user’s age and physical abilities.
- 1.2 Develop guidelines for assessing current and future park users’ needs and demands
- 1.3 Clearly define the planning components and the process of urban park creation
- 1.4 Provide guidelines for clearly defining park edges to enhance legibility, surveillance and spatial definition.

Resource sustainability strategies

- 1.5 Provide guidance and indicative standards regarding types of allowed developments, their location within the park including specifics on design concepts and construction materials.
- 1.6 Indicate which land uses are allowed within the urban park and on the precincts of the gazetted park boundary.

Design strategies

- 1.7 Encourage building design and site planning that minimize potential for encroachment on park lands
- 1.8 Develop building and facilities design catering for the needs of the different user groups.

**OBJECTIVE 2: To set up structured mechanisms to develop an integrated urban park management system**

**POLICY 1: The urban park policy framework should embrace overall efficient management practices.**

Governance and planning strategies

- 1.1 Develop innovative evidence based approaches and models for maintenance and management of the urban park.
- 1.2 Vigilance in enforcing policy regulations regarding all aspects of and managing parks.
- 1.3 Develop guidelines for equitable access to urban parks regardless of the user’s economic status.
- 1.4 Continual collection of adequate information on: trends i.e. usage, user demands, safety, and public participation to assist in determining and satisfying users’ needs, facility carrying capacity, identifying park problems and possible collaboration methods.

- 1.5 Develop mechanisms for screening all park users and monitoring their usage of the park including collection and documentation of crime data.
- 1.6 Transfer of park management and maintenance functions to a private contractor and NCC only retains; policy, strategy, contract and quality monitoring roles.
- 1.7 Develop a citizen reporting platform to encourage community policing.
- 1.8 Track the urban park income and expenditure including operation budgets by frequently updating and auditing financial accounts.
- 1.9 Have in adequate numbers qualified technical staff and security personnel in the urban parks while increasing security patrols.
- 1.10 Annually develop a State of the Park report covering environmental, financial, park usage, safety aspects accessible to the public.
- 1.11 Develop mechanisms for Monitoring and Evaluation.

Resource sustainability strategies

- 1.12 The park’s management body should maximising use of existing park facilities for community recreation purposes.
- 1.13 Employ safe, efficient and sustainable operation of park’s facilities and infrastructure through maintenance and management practices for long-term sustainability and preservation.

Design strategies

- 1.14 Evolve designs and provide street lighting and surveillance tools to enable night time operation of park activities, monitor park use and beef up security.
- 1.15 Use alternative materials to fabricate street furniture and other park facilities to deter vandalism.

Skills enhancement strategies

- 1.16 Have continued capacity development through frequent training and skills development amongst government officers in urban park planning and management.
- 1.17 Use modern technology to carry out procedures related to urban park planning and management.

**POLICY 2: The urban park policy framework should prioritise and make mandatory publicity, marketing and funding mechanisms for programmes.**

Governance and planning strategies

- 1.1 Develop a clear working strategy for getting required resources i.e. human capacity,

<p>materials and finances so as to ensure sustainability and financial self sufficiency.</p> <p>1.2 Develop clear guidelines for PPPs to ensure all parties involved i.e. county and national governments, public, possible partners are in agreement on the terms of financing and operation.</p> <p>1.3 Develop a publicity programme having periodic updates on park activities, future projects, fund raising, open days amongst others.</p>
<p>Skills enhancement strategies</p>
<p>1.4 Have open days to involve the public in marketing and fund raising as a CSR activity.</p> <p>1.5 Continually build staff capacity through trainings in public relations and marketing skills.</p> <p>1.6 Collaborate with the private sector on staff skill enhancement.</p>
<p>Publicity and Marketing strategies</p>
<p>1.7 Market and promote the uniqueness of the urban park.</p> <p>1.8 Market the urban park as the prime recreation and business location.</p>
<p><b>OBJECTIVE 3: To ensure protection of resources i.e. natural, physical, historical and human capacity and their sustainability</b></p>
<p><b>POLICY 1: The urban park system should protect and enhance all urban park resources, enhance ecological process, biodiversity conservation and environmental services.</b></p>
<p>Governance and planning strategies</p>
<p>1.1 Vigilance in enforcing policy regulations to prevent encroachment on park land.</p> <p>1.2 Advocate for community policing to monitor illegal activities within the park's land.</p> <p>1.3 Inventorying of park assets i.e. natural, historical and physical resources.</p> <p>1.4 Annually assess and document the state of the park's environment.</p>
<p>Skills enhancement strategies</p>
<p>1.5 Have trainings in collaboration with environmental conservation groups and private sector institutions to sensitise park staff and the general public on ways of sustainably using park resources.</p> <p>1.6 Share information across different government agencies involved in environmental management including staff exchange programmes.</p> <p>1.7 Hold frequent nature walks covering various components of the environment as a means of educating the public on environmental systems.</p>



Resource sustainability strategies
<p>1.8 Survey and gazette the park's land to protect it from encroachment and unauthorised use.</p> <p>1.9 Periodically map the different land uses and carry out biodiversity field surveys within the park's lands to aid in tracking their quantity and quality.</p> <p>1.10 Use of LID techniques to control surface run off within the urban park and in its neighbourhood.</p> <p>1.11 Employ use of proper waste disposal mechanisms including; reduce, reuse and recycling.</p> <p>1.12 Removal of concrete lining along waterways in this case Kibagare stream to revamp natural water infiltration and purification processes.</p> <p>1.13 Install a water purification unit at the entry of waterways into the urban park to clean the polluted stream water.</p>
<b>POLICY 2: The urban park system should protect and enhance historical and cultural heritage, local character and aesthetic values.</b>
Governance and planning strategies
<p>1.1 Develop inventory of historical and cultural elements within the urban park.</p> <p>1.2 Develop guidelines for conservation in order to maintain the physical state of the elements to avoid degradation.</p> <p>1.3 Let existing buildings with cultural and historic value inform the form and character of any future development.</p>
Resource sustainability strategies
<p>1.4 Ensure that the level of use, extent of new developments and intended user groups are aware of the cultural heritage values.</p> <p>1.5 Recognise the aesthetic value of the urban park e.g. forest, riparian reserve, and their contribution to the local landscape.</p>
<b>OBJECTIVE 4: To evolve an urban park system that is self sustaining and contributes directly and indirectly to the Nairobi economy</b>
<b>POLICY 1: The urban park system should be rich in diversity and complexity, well planned, developed and managed providing opportunities for a range of sustainable economic benefits to the residents of Nairobi.</b>
Governance and planning strategies
<p>1.18 Develop park infrastructure to match demand for recreation and related goods and</p>

<p>services resulting in income generating opportunities.</p> <p>1.19 Raise community awareness on economic benefits of embracing eco-development activities e.g. in socio-economic benefits of the natural forest resource through efficient utilization and marketing.</p> <p>1.20 Evolve guidelines for carrying out business activities within the urban park.</p>
<p>Skills enhancement strategies</p>
<p>1.21 Carry out trainings for both park management and the public to sensitise them on means of earning a living from eco tourism and on sustainable use and management of forest resources.</p>
<p>Design strategies</p>
<p>1.22 Evolve designs and provide facilities and infrastructure for the urban park system that will service and support the needs of park users and adjacent communities.</p>
<p><b>POLICY 2: The urban park system should be presented as an attractive and competitive business destination by having and endorsing public and private investment in appropriate infrastructure and services.</b></p>
<p>Publicity and Marketing strategies</p>
<p>1.9 Market and promote the uniqueness of the urban park user experience by providing abundant park system information via publications, internet, open days, media.</p> <p>1.10 Market the urban park as the prime event holding location and best place for investing.</p> <p>1.11 Develop an interactive feedback platform easily accessible to; visitors, park employees and business outlets which will enable them to provide information of their park experience in terms of overall condition and state of the environment, facilities, offered services and business support.</p>
<p>Governance and planning strategies</p>
<p>1.12 Have in place a formalized Citizen Advisory Board which meets regularly and whose role is to provide constructive criticism, helpful advocacy, user feedback, fresh planning ideas and is involved in project fund raising activities.</p> <p>1.13 Encourage collaborations and PPPs in park rehabilitation and redevelopment.</p>
<p>Resource sustainability strategies</p>
<p>1.14 Explore opportunities for park users and business operators to contribute towards</p>

<p>sustainable management of the urban park system.</p> <p>1.15 Build greater volunteer involvement in carrying out park activities such as nature walks, cleanups, education trips etc.</p>
<p>Design strategies</p>
<p>1.16 Evolve eco friendly designs and provide facilities and infrastructure for the urban park system that will service and support the needs of park users and adjacent communities.</p>
<p><b>OBJECTIVE 5: To have an urban park system that enhances social inclusion and community well being</b></p>
<p><b>POLICY 1: The urban park system shall be developed and managed in collaboration with the community/ public and other stakeholders.</b></p>
<p>Governance and planning strategies</p>
<p>1.1 Develop a comprehensive framework on public participation for planning and management of urban parks covering the four levels of public participation.</p> <p>1.2 Involve the citizenry in all project stages i.e. at planning, design, implementation, maintenance and in Monitoring and Evaluation.</p> <p>1.3 Have a lengthy public participation process so that all stakeholders are well involved and fully aware of the proposed projects.</p> <p>1.4 The urban park framework should be flexible to adapt to changing community needs and user groups profiles.</p>
<p>Skills enhancement strategies</p>
<p>1.5 Carry out trainings for both government officers and the public to sensitise them on public participation and the role of each stakeholder.</p>
<p>Publicity and Marketing strategies</p>
<p>1.6 Carry out intensive marketing and publicity prior to the beginning of any public participation process.</p>
<p><b>POLICY 2: The urban park system shall be equitably accessible and respond to issues such as impairment or disability, social isolation, economic disadvantage.</b></p>
<p>Governance and planning strategies</p>
<p>1.1 Develop and implement guidelines for physical activities to include all user group profiles</p>

<p>1.2 Develop an urban park system well connected to surrounding residential areas and other land uses by a network of pedestrian paths and public transport and vehicular parking areas.</p> <p>1.3 Develop and implement alternative park user fee charges to enable low income groups access park facilities.</p>
<p>Design strategies</p>
<p>1.4 Design pedestrian paths and buildings to enable comfortable access and mobility to those with any impairment or disability.</p> <p>1.5 Discourage very exclusive spaces that would encourage criminal hideouts or anti social behaviour through design, passive surveillance and increased visitation to all park spaces.</p> <p>1.6 Accommodate multiple use spaces including shared trails catering compatible user groups and consolidate resource input.</p>

*Author's proposal of the Urban Park Planning Framework, 2014*

### **6.4.3. Implementation of the Proposed Planning Policy Framework**

In order to effectively implement the proposed urban park policy framework, one has to put in place the following requirements: establish a clearly defined governance structure in relation to urban park planning and management; adopt correct planning and management tools; and develop sufficient commitment and capacity to ensure effective and sustainable urban park planning and management. The implementation of the policy framework through the identified five objectives is actualised by having various elements being present which include: legislation/regulations/ guidelines; institutions; park users, the public; professionals and developers; budgets and funds and marketing as indicated in figure 28 and table 12. These elements will ensure wholesome integration of identified policies avoiding instances of conflict or neglect or forgetfulness of certain policy components. Different legislation and policies as discussed in section 5.2.1 will influence the actualisation of the different identified policy framework objectives. The Constitution of Kenya and Vision 2030<sup>4</sup> form the basis for the formulation of the urban park policy framework by providing principles in land management and direction on development of the Kenyan economy and Social empowerment of the Kenyan people. Some of the legislation such as the County

<sup>4</sup> Refer to sections 2.7 and 5.2.1 on existing guidelines and legal framework respectively

Governments Act and Urban Areas and Cities Act, cross cut all the objectives providing guidelines on who and how recreation and urban parks should be planned and managed including public participation. Currently the National Museums Act safeguards open spaces in Kenya while the Nairobi County Finance Act stipulates revenue collection at NCP. Both are important in the evolution of the new urban park policy with regards to planning and management. The comprehensive review of all these legislation and policies will enable consolidation of planning and management procedures at both the national and county government levels to remove the confusion and misinformation often shrouding urban parks.

**Figure 28: Elements that actualise implementation of the identified objectives of the proposed policy framework**



*Author’s proposal of the Urban Park Planning Framework elements and actors, 2014*

**Table 12: Elements and legislation & policy documents that enable implementation of the objectives of the proposed policy framework**

OBJECTIVE	ELEMENT	LEGISLATION & POLICY
To establish a comprehensive and effective policy framework for the planning and management of urban parks such as NCP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legislation/ regulations/ guidelines &amp; policies</li> <li>• Institutions</li> <li>• Public/ community</li> <li>• Professionals and</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CoK</li> <li>• Vision 2030 (Economic &amp; Social Pillar)</li> <li>• County Governments Act</li> <li>• Land Act</li> </ul>

<b>OBJECTIVE</b>	<b>ELEMENT</b>	<b>LEGISLATION &amp; POLICY</b>
	developers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National Land Commission Act</li> <li>• Physical Planning Act</li> <li>• Urban Areas and Cities Act</li> <li>• National Museums and Heritage Act (Open Spaces and Areas of National Heritage and Management Regulations)</li> <li>• EMCA</li> <li>• Forest Act</li> <li>• National Forest Policy</li> <li>• National Urban Development Policy (NUDP)</li> <li>• Building code</li> </ul>
To set up structured mechanisms to develop an integrated urban park management system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legislation/ regulations/ guidelines &amp; policies</li> <li>• Institutions</li> <li>• Community/ public</li> <li>• Budget and funds</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• County Governments Act</li> <li>• Nairobi City County Finance Act</li> <li>• Urban Areas and Cities Act</li> <li>• National Museums and Heritage Act</li> <li>• National Urban Development Policy (NUDP)</li> <li>• Forest Act</li> <li>• National Forest Policy</li> <li>• Wildlife Conservation Act</li> </ul>
To ensure protection of resources i.e. natural, physical, historical and human capacity and their sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legislation/ regulations/ guidelines &amp; policies</li> <li>• Institutions</li> <li>• Professionals/ developers</li> <li>• Park users</li> <li>• Community/ public</li> <li>• Business community</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EMCA</li> <li>• Forest Act</li> <li>• National Forest Policy</li> <li>• Wildlife Conservation Act</li> <li>• Water Act</li> <li>• National Museums and Heritage Act</li> </ul>
To evolve an urban park system that is self sustaining and contributes directly and indirectly to the Nairobi economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legislation/ regulations/ guidelines &amp; policies</li> <li>• Institutions</li> <li>• Publicity and marketing</li> <li>• Budgeting and fund raising</li> <li>• Business community</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vision 2030</li> <li>• County Governments Act</li> <li>• Urban Areas and Cities Act</li> <li>• Nairobi City County Finance Act</li> </ul>

<b>OBJECTIVE</b>	<b>ELEMENT</b>	<b>LEGISLATION &amp; POLICY</b>
To have an urban park system that enhances social inclusion and community well being	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legislation/ regulations/ guidelines &amp; policies</li> <li>• Institutions</li> <li>• Community/ public</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Urban Areas and Cities Act</li> <li>• National Museums and Heritage Act (Open Spaces and Areas of National Heritage and Management Regulations</li> <li>• County Governments Act</li> </ul>

*Author's proposal of the Urban Park Planning Framework elements and actors, 2014*

An operation framework indicating how the policies will be implemented is detailed in table 13. This framework includes the identified objectives with its distinct policies indicating the different actors involved at every stage and the time frame required for solving the identified issues.

## Operation Framework

Table 13: Operation framework

OBJECTIVE	ISSUES	POLICIES	ACTORS	TIME FRAME		
				Short term (5 years)	Medium term (10 years)	Long term (20 years)
<b>1. To establish a comprehensive effective policy framework for the planning and management of urban parks such as Nairobi City Park</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lack of a consolidated urban park policy</li> <li>Lack of a NCP Master Plan &amp; UPMP</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The policy framework should provide a strategic and wholesome approach to urban park planning and management</li> <li>The framework should foster consistency in adoption of planning tools and processes to support effective urban park planning</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>National government</li> <li>County governments</li> <li>Relevant government agencies e.g. NEMA, KFS, KWS, NMK</li> <li>Representatives from the private sector</li> <li>Representatives from professional bodies.</li> <li>Representatives from the business community</li> <li>General public</li> </ul>			
<b>2. To set up structured</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encroachment and illegal alienation of Nairobi City</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The framework should embrace overall efficient</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>National government</li> <li>Nairobi City County</li> </ul>			



OBJECTIVE	ISSUES	POLICIES	ACTORS	TIME FRAME		
				Short term (5 years)	Medium term (10 years)	Long term (20 years)
<b>mechanisms to develop an integrated urban park management system</b>	Park's land <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Insecurity</li> <li>• Inadequate human resource capacity</li> <li>• Inequitable access to urban park</li> <li>• Lack of a Monitoring and Evaluation mechanism</li> <li>• Insufficient budgetary funding and financial support</li> </ul>	management practices <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The policy framework should prioritise and make mandatory publicity, marketing and funding mechanisms programmes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Relevant government agencies</li> <li>• Survey of Kenya</li> <li>• General public</li> <li>• Representatives from the private sector</li> <li>• Environmental conservation groups</li> <li>• Professionals</li> <li>• Kenya Police</li> </ul>			
<b>3. To ensure protection of resources i.e. natural, historical and human capacity and their sustainability</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environmental degradation</li> <li>• Vandalism of park facilities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The urban park system should protect and enhance all urban park resources, enhance ecological processes, biodiversity conservation and environmental</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National government</li> <li>• Nairobi City County</li> <li>• General public</li> <li>• Environmental conservation groups</li> <li>• Professionals</li> </ul>			

OBJECTIVE	ISSUES	POLICIES	ACTORS	TIME FRAME		
				Short term (5 years)	Medium term (10 years)	Long term (20 years)
		<p>services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The park system should protect and enhance historical and cultural heritage, local character and aesthetic values</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Representatives from the business community</li> </ul>			
<p><b>4. To evolve an urban park system that is self sustaining and contributes directly and indirectly to the Nairobi economy</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduced revenue from the urban park</li> <li>Insufficient budgetary funding and financial support</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The park system should be rich in diversity and complexity, well planned, developed and managed providing opportunities for a range of sustainable economic benefits to the residents</li> <li>The park system should be presented as an attractive and competitive business</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>County governments</li> <li>Representatives from the private sector</li> <li>General public</li> <li>Representatives from the business community</li> <li>Relevant government agencies e.g. KFS, KWS</li> </ul>			

OBJECTIVE	ISSUES	POLICIES	ACTORS	TIME FRAME		
				Short term (5 years)	Medium term (10 years)	Long term (20 years)
		destination by having and endorsing public and private investment in appropriate infrastructure and services.				
<b>5. To have an urban park system that enhances social inclusion and community well being</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public consultation instead of public participation</li> <li>• Poorly conceptualised public participatory process</li> <li>• Short public engagement period</li> <li>• Ineffective public engagement tools</li> <li>• Disability unfriendly park design</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The park system shall be developed and managed in collaboration with the community/ public and other stakeholders</li> <li>• The park system shall be equitably accessible and respond to issues such as impairment or disability, social isolation, economic disadvantage</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National government</li> <li>• County governments</li> <li>• Relevant government agencies e.g. NEMA, KFS, KWS, NMK</li> <li>• Representatives from the private sector</li> <li>• Representatives from the business community</li> <li>• Environmental conservation</li> </ul>			

OBJECTIVE	ISSUES	POLICIES	ACTORS	TIME FRAME		
				Short term (5 years)	Medium term (10 years)	Long term (20 years)
			organisations e.g. FoCP, Nature Kenya, Greenbelt Movement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• General public</li> </ul>			

*Author's proposal of the Urban Park Operation Framework, 2014*

#### **6.4.4. Planning Framework Process**

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From the previously developed proposed planning policy framework, figure 29 shows the process that could be adopted in implementing the Urban Park Planning Framework in section 6.4.2. The green highlighted boxes indicate what has been added to the planning framework while blue ones indicate what has been modified as compared to the planning framework that enabled the provision of Nairobi City Park as indicated in figure 16. Nothing has been retained as it was in the original planning framework because of; change in land use patterns; challenges caused by urbanisation and population growth; environmental and climate change; and the adoption of the CoK 2010 and new legislation regarding land, planning, forest and wildlife management, environmental management and public participation. These have necessitated enhancement of existing provision measures and at times complete overhaul or introduction of new provision measures.

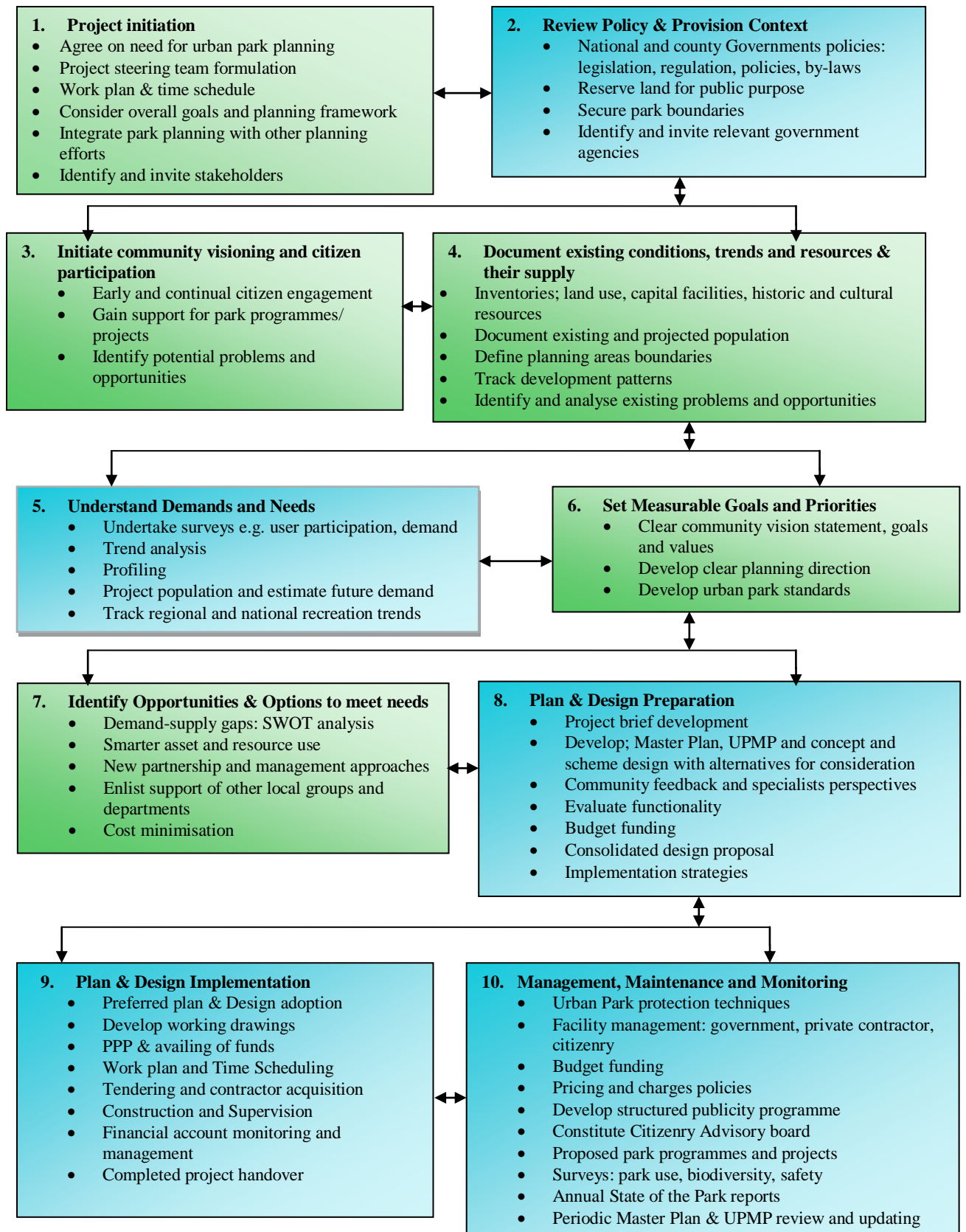
The proposed framework is a ten step process beginning with project initiation where an agreement is reached to carry out urban planning, a project steering team to drive the entire process is constituted as well as develop the work plan, time schedule and identify and invite stakeholders. A review of policy framework at national and local government levels and specific agency policies is then carried out. Initiation of community visioning and citizen participation follows aimed at gaining community support and project ownership while matching them to community needs. An existing conditions, and assets and trends analysis is carried out as the fourth step to create an information base which will inform the planning process. One then needs to understand the target population demands and needs by undertaking surveys, analysing usage trends and estimating future population demands. The plan must clearly indicate intent and planning direction so that government officials and the community understand the proposals by identifying a vision, goals, objectives and principles (step 6).

Step 7 involves the identification of opportunities and options to meet needs, compare supply and demand and identify gaps, opportunities and constraints through environmental planning. In plan and design preparation stage, the developed Master Plan, UPMP and scheme designs are subjected to evaluation by the public and specialists as part of the feedback process before moving to development of the

consolidated design proposal which includes budget funding and possible implementation strategies. The implementation of the plan and design should be integrated into the Community Strategic Plan. Public Private Partnership should be emphasised to aid in project funding. Construction and supervision of works is paramount including management and monitoring of the financial accounts to ensure accountability. The last stage involves regular maintenance, management and monitoring. Management will include procuring private contractor services for direct park facility management and involving the citizenry in maintenance works. Monitoring is undertaken to ensure original set goals and meet users' and county government expectations while enabling flexibility to change to allow modifications.

The key players in this proposed framework are: the Government i.e. national and county governments, planning agency, and relevant government agencies as identified in the planning framework section 6.4.3; Professionals i.e. professional bodies, real estate players, economists, sociologists, environmentalists; and the Community i.e. general public, environmental conservation groups and the business community. All these players should be involved at every planning stage to ensure full public participation thereby ensuring projects' successful execution, sustainability and ownership.

**Figure 29: Proposed urban park planning framework process**



*Author's proposal of the Urban Park Planning Framework Process, 2014*

#### **6.4.5. Comparison of the two Planning Policy Frameworks**

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Comparing the original planning framework for Nairobi City Park (figure 16 and summarised in figure 30) and the proposed planning framework (figure 29 and summarised in figure 31), both identify the need to provide urban residents with urban parks to meet their recreational needs. Both frameworks recognise that rising urban population numbers need to be factored in while planning for urban parks to ensure future city residents' recreational needs are not denied. Furthermore, in both frameworks, legislative and institutional policies are considered and developed to guide the planning and management of urban parks such as NCP. In both, the maintenance and management of NCP is vested on the NCC formerly the local authority governing Nairobi City. Similarly, factors affecting budget funding, development of prices and charges and future developments' funding are vital to ensure sustainability of NCP.

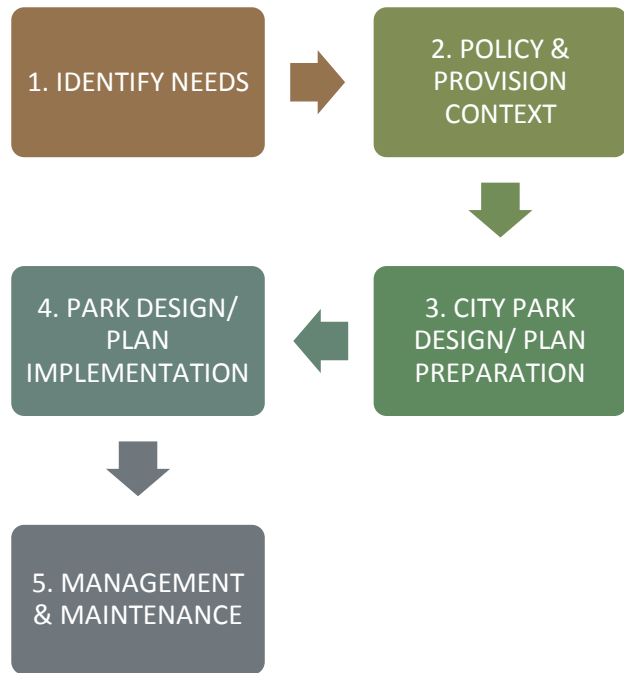
Unlike the original planning framework for Nairobi City Park (figure 16), the proposed planning framework (figures 26 to 29 & table 11) looks in detail to aspects involved in urban park planning and management. The proposed framework provides for the planning of the entire process before starting the actual planning while integrating urban park planning with other planning efforts. It reinforces the necessity to review existing policy and provision contexts something that was not considered in the original framework. The proposed framework is all inclusive involving the public and any other stakeholder with interest in the urban park right from the beginning during stakeholder identification right up to the end during park maintenance, management and monitoring of park programmes and activities. This is unlike the original framework where there was minimal public participation and input in the NCP planning and management besides the government and its agencies provided the planning direction and implemented proposal(s).

The proposed urban park planning framework process has six steps before the preparation of the plan/ design unlike the original framework which has three (figure 16) in order to ensure that the proposed plan: represents the community needs and has their support; has detailed baseline information that informs the planning process; common vision, goals and objectives are developed and carried through to the plan; and that gaps, opportunities and constraints are identified. The proposed framework is

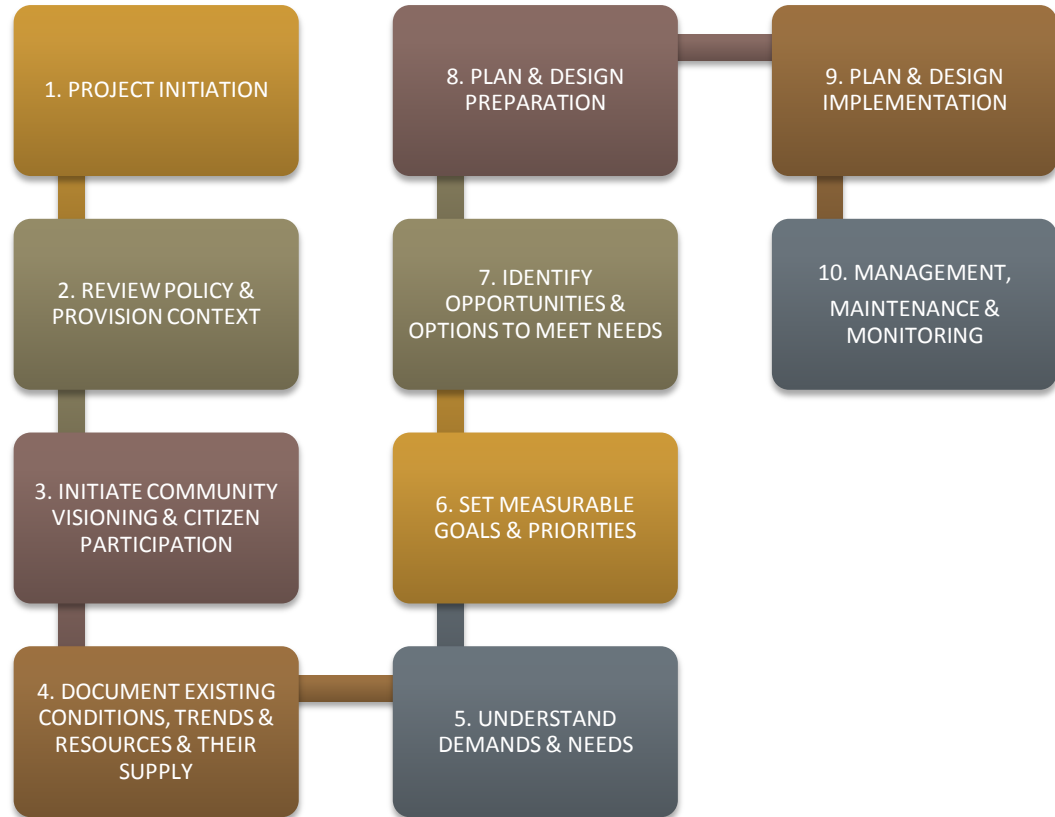


keen on accountability and transparency proposing: financial account monitoring; annual state of the park reports; periodic surveys on park use, biodiversity and park safety, periodic review of the park's Master Plan and UPMP and use of a structured framework for Monitoring and Evaluation. The proposed framework moreover recognises the need of positive publicity about urban parks such as NCP and the need for continual fund raising activities and PPPs to ensure long term survival and sustainability of the urban park.

**Figure 30: Summary of original NCP policy framework process**



**Figure 31: Summary of proposed NCP policy framework process**



## 6.5. Relation of Proposed Urban Park Planning Policy Framework for NCP to other Urban Parks

The proposed urban park policy framework (figures 26 to 29 & table 11) can be replicated to be used on other urban parks countrywide. The difference will be in the kind of resources, facilities and services being offered to the public and the management body under which the urban park is operating. This will hence affect the organisation structure. However, the institutions involved are often the same with only variation in their intensity of involvement or involvement of other institutions due to location factors. For instance, within Nairobi City County under zone 20g, urban parks, forests and recreation spaces are under the jurisdiction of various institutions as indicated in table 14.

**Table 14: Institutions managing urban parks, forests and recreation spaces in Nairobi City County**

URBAN PARK/ FOREST/ RECREATION SPACE	MANAGING INSTITUTION
Nairobi City Park	Nairobi City County & NMK
Uhuru Park	Nairobi City County
Central Park	Nairobi City County
Jeevanjee Gardens	Nairobi City County
Uhuru Gardens	National Museums of Kenya
Arboretum	Kenya Forest Service
Ngong forest	Kenya Forest Service
Karura forest	Kenya Forest Service

*Adapted from Department of City Planning, Nairobi City Council, 2004. Guide of Nairobi City Development Ordinances and Zones.*

The core elements i.e. governance and planning; park management; resource sustainability; economic viability and benefit; and social benefit or liveability and equity, in order to achieve a comprehensive and sustainable urban park system and framework remain the same despite the location of the urban park. This implies that objectives and proposed policies will not differ greatly.

## **6.6. Areas for Further Research**

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It is recommended that further research be undertaken in the following areas:

- The impact of changing land uses in Parklands on the survival of Nairobi City Park
- How urban densification is affecting the existence and utilisation of urban parks.
- Creation of an interconnected park system as a means of ensuring migration channels of wildlife in Nairobi

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## **APPENDICES**

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## **APPENDIX 1: A BASIC PARK TYPOLOGY**

<b>TYPE</b>	<b>SIZE (Ha)</b>	<b>TYPICAL DENSITIES</b>	<b>VISIT LENGTH</b>	<b>FACILITIES</b>	<b>NATURALNESS</b>	<b>IMAGE</b>
Pocket park / Playground / Dog park	<1	<50+ persons per ha	10 minutes to 1 hour	Few facilities; typically just play equipment and may be benches	Few natural features; just a small grassed area with a few shade trees.	
Neighbourhood park	0.11 – 4.9	40 – 100+ persons per ha	30 minutes to 1.5hours	Limited number of sports facilities. Play equipment, picnic sites, BBQ facilities and green-space set aside for organized sport.	Larger areas of lawn, a field or two for organised sports and plantings of ornamental vegetation with shade trees. Some areas of impermeable surface.	

TYPE	SIZE (Ha)	TYPICAL DENSITIES	VISIT LENGTH	FACILITIES	NATURALNESS	IMAGE
Community park	5 to 9.9	50 – 200+ persons per ha	30 minutes to 3 hours	Some active recreation or organized sports facilities. May include community centre.	Large areas of managed landscape, abundant lawn, shade trees and ornamental vegetation. Larger areas of impermeable surface.	
District park	10 to 24.9	50 to 1,000+ persons per ha	1 hour to 5 hours	Many sports facilities. Community centre, sports fields for football, soccer, basketball courts, tennis courts etc.	Generous areas of managed landscape abundant lawn, shade trees and ornamental vegetation. Several grassed areas dedicated to organised sports. Several areas of impermeable surface.	

<b>TYPE</b>	<b>SIZE (Ha)</b>	<b>TYPICAL DENSITIES</b>	<b>VISIT LENGTH</b>	<b>FACILITIES</b>	<b>NATURALNESS</b>	<b>IMAGE</b>
Regional park	25 to 500+	<150+ persons per ha	2 hours to 1 day	Range of facilities e.g. large scale recreational activities; field sports, archery, canoeing, nature trails etc.	Abundant natural features, mixture of managed landscapes and endemic vegetation. Much lower percentage of park is comprised of impermeable surfaces.	
Nature/wilderness park/ National Park	25 to 1000+	<10 persons per ha	½ day to 1 week +	Few if any active recreation or organised Sports facilities.	Few managed features and largely dedicated to preservation of endemic species. May include a landscape feature such as a wetland, hills or canyon(s). May contain interpretative signage.	

*Adapted from Baud-Bovy and Lawson*

## **APPENDIX 2: EXISTING GUIDELINES AND STANDARDS**

### **Global and Regional Context: International policies, standards and approaches to open space planning and management**

<b>POLICY/ STANDARDS/ APPROACH</b>	<b>GUIDELINES/ PROTOCOL/</b>	<b>CONTEXT</b>	<b>YEAR</b>	<b>CONTENT</b>
Agenda 21		International	1992	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Addresses sustainable development at international and local levels focussing on poverty eradication and environmental protection</li> <li>• Provide social and economic development needs of communities while conserving and protecting the natural environment</li> <li>• Failure of sustainable development if policy makers impose decisions from above</li> <li>• Enlist citizen interest and participation to increase community sense of ownership</li> </ul>
Open space planning guidelines		Government of New South Wales, Australia	2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Documents existing open space conditions,</li> <li>• Seeks to understand the community's demands and needs,</li> <li>• Sets goals, objectives and standards,</li> <li>• Identify opportunities and options to meet these opportunities,</li> <li>• Details how to prepare open space plans as well as identify implementation mechanisms.</li> <li>• Indicates how monitoring shall be undertaken and how assets management reviews will be carried out.</li> <li>• Classification system of open space types and</li> <li>• Points out who the open spaces stakeholders are including outlining the relevant government agencies</li> </ul>

POLICY/ STANDARDS/ APPROACH	GUIDELINES/ PROTOCOL/ CONTEXT	YEAR	CONTENT
Scottish planning policies (SPP) 11	Scotland	2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strategic approach to open space planning and management by local authorities</li> <li>• Undertake an open space audit and prepare an open space strategy for their area,</li> <li>• Inform the local development plan and set out a vision for new and improved open space.</li> <li>• plans which safeguard important open spaces from development in the long term,</li> <li>• Identify spaces that require significant improvement and promote high quality open space</li> <li>• Briefs and master plans - identify the type and quality of open space required on a development site and how it should be integrated within the wider network, and</li> <li>• Highlight specific criteria such as maintenance requirements or access for disabled people</li> </ul>
Urban Park Management Plan(UPMP), 2006-2016	City of Edmonton, Alberta, Canada		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ten year plan focussing on urban parks.</li> <li>• indicates the scope, the development process, the status of the parks presently and what is anticipated in the future, current relevant legislative framework, the UPMP's policy statement and visions, the parklands' classification system and individual operation guidelines for different types of parks</li> </ul>
Growth Management Act	State of Washington, USA	1990	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parks and open space planning must be integrated into overall planning.</li> <li>• Classification of parks and open space according to size, shape and type.</li> <li>• Indicates functions and purposes of parks and open space.</li> <li>• Communities require drawing on a variety of tools, resources, and complementary measures to accomplish parks and open space objectives.</li> <li>• Involve all stakeholders to ensure that parks, recreation facilities, and open spaces truly meet community needs</li> <li>• Stewardship is an essential element of any parks, recreation, and open space program.</li> </ul>

POLICY/ GUIDELINES/ STANDARDS/ PROTOCOL/ APPROACH	CONTEXT	YEAR	CONTENT
Guidelines for Human Settlement Planning and Design- Soft open space planning	South Africa		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Roles played by soft open spaces</li> <li>• Soft open space needs for a settlement ecosystems</li> <li>• Soft open space needs of identifiable use groups of different ages i.e. 2-19 years, the elderly, women, wheelchair users, vagrants and workers (Republic of South Africa, 2000).</li> <li>• Guidelines for planning and design of networks of soft open spaces with regard to location, quantity required, connection of spaces, vegetation and achievement of a balance between pristine and artificial landscapes.</li> <li>• Guidelines stipulating planning and design for different generic forms or types of soft open space</li> <li>• Location in areas with no or limited access to natural amenities and be fairly evenly distributed throughout a settlement, and where possible, connected by parkways (Republic of South Africa, 2000).</li> <li>• Smaller urban parks should be located within 300 m to 700 m of users because they are accessed on foot and are likely to be used on a daily basis by children, elderly people and workers. The maximum time spent walking to a smaller park should be approximately 10 minutes (Republic of South Africa, 2000).</li> <li>• Larger urban parks can be put together to incorporate urban agriculture, fuel wood planting, solid waste disposal and nature conservation sites, in order to enhance their multi functionality and visual interest</li> </ul>



## Kenyan Context: Policies, guidelines and standards to open space planning in Kenya

POLICY/ GUIDELINES/ STANDARDS/ PROTOCOL/ APPROACH	CONTEXT	YEAR	CONTENT
Constitution of Kenya		2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Article 60 – principles guiding use and management of all land in Kenya</li> <li>• The N LC is the overall administrator of all public land on behalf of the national and county governments.</li> <li>• The national government is charged to regulate use of any land or any interest in or right over any land in the interest of amongst others public safety, public order and public health. This includes open spaces.</li> <li>• Article 69 - the State ensures sustainable exploitation, utilisation, management and conservation of the environment and natural resources and to ensure the equitable sharing of the accruing benefits.</li> <li>• Fourth schedule - vests upon the county government the function of overseeing cultural activities, public entertainment and public amenities in county parks and recreation facilities (Republic of Kenya, 2010)</li> </ul>
Vision 2030	Policy	2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Economic vision and strategy on adding value to Kenyan products and services under the tourism sector; improve facilities in under-utilised parks and creating new value niche products through marketing little visited parks to increase tourist numbers and to upgrade standards of attractive but seldom visited parks.</li> <li>• Social strategy on investing in the Kenyan people under the environment sector; promote environmental conservation in order to provide better support to economic pillar flagship projects for purposes of achieving MDGs; improve pollution and waste management through design and application of economic incentives; secure by conserving wildlife corridors and migratory routes; and comprehensively map land use patterns nationally.</li> </ul>
County Governments Act	Legislation	2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Part XI section 103 (c) on county planning-maintain a viable system of green and open spaces for a functioning eco-system as an objective of county planning.</li> <li>• Section 110 sub section 2 (j) - the spatial plan, being the spatial development framework for the county, shall show the areas designated for conservation and recreation.</li> <li>• Section 111 (1) - for every city and municipal there shall be plans showing location of recreational areas and public facilities (Republic of Kenya, 2012).</li> </ul>

POLICY/ GUIDELINES/ STANDARDS/ PROTOCOL/ APPROACH	CONTEXT	YEAR	CONTENT
Urban Areas and Cities Act	Legislation	2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Section 20 (d) - a Board of a city or municipality shall control land use, land sub-division, land development and zoning by public and private sectors for any purpose, including amongst others recreational areas, parks, entertainment, within the framework of the spatial and master plans as may be delegated by the county government (Republic of Kenya, 2011).</li> <li>• Any area classified as a city, municipality or town must provide amongst the services recreational parks as indicated in the first schedule.</li> </ul>
Land Act	Legislation	2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Section 11 - the NLC maintains public land having endangered or endemic species of flora and fauna, critical habitats or protected areas.</li> <li>• The Commission - identify ecologically sensitive areas that are within public lands and demarcate or take any other justified action on those areas and act to prevent environmental degradation and climate change.</li> <li>• Approval by the Commission is mandatory for any planned development, management and use of reserved land. The plan is expected to factor in any conservation, environmental or heritage issues relevant to the development, management or use of the public land and submit an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) report.</li> <li>• The management order may be revoked by order in the Gazette due to non-compliance on the part of the management body or due to public interest.</li> <li>• An acquisition request should be submitted to the Commission to acquire public land by the county or national governments on its behalf. A notice shall be published in the Gazette and County Gazette upon approval of the request and all interested persons shall be notified.</li> </ul>
The Environmental Management and Coordination Act	Legislation	2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Part II section 3 (2) - every person is entitled to a clean and healthy environment including access to the various public elements or segments of the environment for recreation, and cultural purposes (Republic of Kenya, 1999).</li> <li>• Part IX section 112 (4) - an environmental order may be imposed on burdened land so as to preserve; flora and fauna, quality of water flow, any outstanding ecological or historical features, scenic view, or open space</li> <li>• Part IV section 37 and 38- establishment of the National Environment Action Plan (NEAP) committee to prepare every five year a NEAP factoring in amongst others an analysis of national natural resources indicating their distribution, change</li> </ul>



POLICY/ GUIDELINES/ STANDARDS/ PROTOCOL/ APPROACH	CONTEXT	YEAR	CONTENT
			<p>in quantity over time, their use and value; set out operational guidelines for the planning and management of the environment and natural resources; and identify actual and likely problems that may affect natural resources and the broader environmental context in which they exist.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Second schedule - an EIA study shall be carried out on an urban development dealing with the establishment or expansion of recreational areas.</li> </ul>
National Museums and Heritage Act	Legislation	2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Open space definition- an open space not built upon in any urban or peri-urban area whether in a municipality or not to which the public has access and which may be used for parks, gardens, recreation grounds.</li> <li>• Protected area - a site which has been and remains declared by the Minister under section 25 (1) (a) or (c) or (f) to be a protected area.</li> <li>• Part IV - the Minister after consultation with the National Museums may by gazette notice declare an open space to be a protected area (Republic of Kenya, 2006).</li> <li>• Section 66 - the Minister may prescribe conditions for the preservation and use of open spaces which may prescribe different conditions for different open spaces. He may also regulate the management of a protected area.</li> </ul>
National Museums and Heritage (Open Spaces and Areas of National Heritage) (Protection and Management) Rules	Regulations	2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Applies to all open spaces, protected areas, national monuments and areas of cultural, natural or national heritage.</li> <li>• Section 6 - restriction to the extent of use of protected areas by the guardian so as to preserve the area's physical character and cultural value.</li> <li>• Sections 7, 8 and 9 - specify on public conduct within these spaces, prohibit littering and other prohibited activities as indicated in. The guardian is to ensure preservation of flora within the protected area. Construction of any infrastructure should not endanger the existing ecological equilibrium or alter the general appearance of the area.</li> <li>• Section 23 - A written approval from the National Museums is required for any restoration or reconstruction works in protected areas. Public participation is mandatory whenever approval of the National Museums is required for the purposes of the rehabilitation of any protected area.</li> <li>• The first schedule - lists City Park as a protected area of historical interest with an area of forest land on L.R. No.</li> </ul>

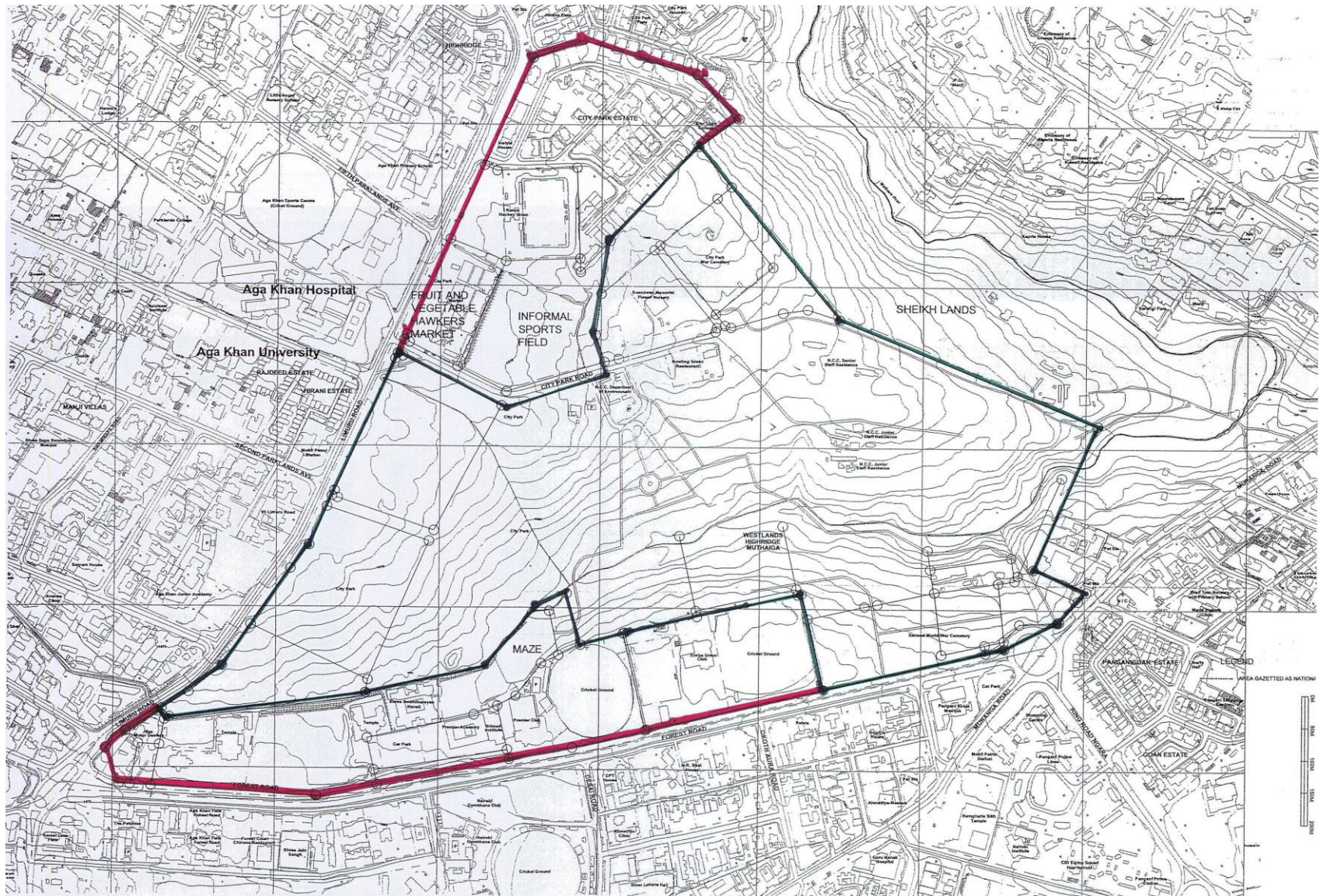
POLICY/ GUIDELINES/ STANDARDS/ PROTOCOL/ APPROACH	CONTEXT	YEAR	CONTENT
			209/6559/6 measuring approximately sixty (60) hectares and set out in part development plan No. CPD and ARCH/FP/20/111/97 known as City Park in Parklands area in the city of Nairobi.
Physical Planning Act	Legislation	1996	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Part IV (A), section 16 (1) - regional physical development plan may be prepared with reference to any Government land, trust land or private land within the area of authority of a county council for the purpose of amongst others securing suitable provision for open spaces.</li> <li>• Part V section 29 (f) - each local authority shall have the power to reserve and maintain all the land planned for open spaces, parks, urban forests and green belts in accordance with the approved physical development plan (Republic of Kenya, 1996).</li> <li>• The second schedule - a plan area can be classified as public or private open space.</li> </ul>
Physical Planning (Subdivision) Regulations	Regulations	1998	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• section 15 (e) - where required by the local authority and the Director of Physical Planning, land suitable and adequate shall be reserved at no cost to the local authority for open spaces, amenities, recreational facilities.</li> </ul>
Physical Planning Handbook, (draft)	Planning guidelines and standards	2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Land shall be reserved as public parks on which recreation activities can be organized.</li> <li>• A majority of the urban population have a low income and recreation opportunities must be found within a walking distance to their homes.</li> <li>• Need to develop a sensitive landscaping policy to produce an urban environment that is attractive to live and work in and provide inexpensive recreational opportunities.</li> <li>• Recreational areas should be identified, planned, gazetted, developed or conserved as nature conservation sites and or as recreational areas (Government of Kenya, 2008).</li> </ul>
Forest act	Legislation	2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Section 29 (1) - every local authority establishes and maintains arboreta, mini-forests or recreational parks for the non-consumptive use of persons residing within its area of jurisdiction.</li> <li>• Sub section 3 -establishment and maintenance of a recreational park in every market centre within the local authority's area of jurisdiction.</li> <li>• Sub section 4 - requires the Service to facilitate and initiate the provision of technical assistance in the establishment and</li> </ul>

POLICY/ GUIDELINES/ STANDARDS/ PROTOCOL/ APPROACH	CONTEXT	YEAR	CONTENT
			<p>maintenance of mini-forests, recreational parks and arboreta by local authorities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sub section 5 prevents conversion of arboretum, mini-forest or recreational park to any other use unless the local authority seeks for and obtains the approval of a majority of the persons residing within its area of jurisdiction for such conversion.</li> <li>• Specification of trees to be planted in a mini-forest, arboretum or recreational park should be done in consultation between the Service and Local authority.</li> <li>• Section 40 (1) - all indigenous forests and woodlands shall be managed on a sustainable basis for purposes of recreation and tourism (Republic of Kenya, 2005).</li> <li>• Section 52 (1) prevents the presence of any person in any forest unless they have a permit or license between the hours of 7.00 pm and 6.00 am.</li> <li>• Part Vi section 52 subsection 2 (c) regulates the use and occupation of state forest land for the purposes of residence, cultivation, grazing, tourism, recreation, camping, picnicking, cultural activities, industrial or any other similar activities.</li> </ul>
Wildlife Conservation and Management Bill	Legislation	2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Section 83 - one shall be liable to conviction to a fine or to imprisonment if they engage in sport hunting or any other recreational hunting.</li> </ul>
National Urban Development Policy (Draft)	Policy document	2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Guide urban development countrywide in, land use planning and management, environmental conservation, urban governance and management, urban investment and delivery of infrastructure services.</li> <li>• Asserts that urban heritage sites which encompass gazetted monuments, cultural, historic sites, and conservation areas, play a key role in the conservation of history and a people's identity.</li> <li>• Urban heritage sites are degraded and poorly managed because of: lack of a unified policy on urban heritage; poor collaboration between planning authorities and the National Museums of Kenya; lack of awareness and appreciation of the benefits of urban heritage; conflict between the economic and intrinsic value of heritage; and inadequate budgetary allocations.</li> <li>• Proposes: Identification and classification of urban heritage sites based on clearly defined criteria; education and awareness campaign on the value of urban heritage; mainstream urban heritage conservation in the urban planning and development</li> </ul>

POLICY/ GUIDELINES/ STANDARDS/ PROTOCOL/ APPROACH	CONTEXT	YEAR	CONTENT
			<p>agenda; develop an integrated urban heritage conservation policy; and domesticate international heritage treaties and conventions on urban heritage.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recognises that urban areas are substantial consumers of natural resources and undermine existing ecosystems. NUDP proposes to: ensure efficiency in resource utilization for urban development; introduce payments for ecosystem services; and Enforce regulations and safety measures in the utilization of natural resources.</li> <li>• Affirms that cities and urban areas have huge ecological footprints due to: encroachment into nature pockets e.g. wildlife habitats, forests and existing status of unprotected and poorly mapped biodiversity areas. It proposes that county governments preserve and conserve biodiversity resources; and promote knowledge on biodiversity conservation.</li> <li>• Notes that despite Green urban spaces acting as carbon sinks besides having aesthetic value, these spaces are continually diminishing due to inadequate development control and densification of settlements. To arrest this problem, county governments will create and preserve ample green spaces; and accelerate the planting of indigenous flora.</li> </ul>
National Forest Policy	Policy document	2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overall goal - sustainable development, management, utilization and conservation of forest resources and equitable sharing of accrued benefits for the present and future generations of the people of Kenya.</li> <li>• Establishment of arboreta, roadside tree planting, botanical gardens, urban forests, recreational parks and mini-forests to enhance environmental, social, and economic values.</li> <li>• The Government pledges to: establish and maintain arboreta, green zones, botanical gardens, recreational parks and urban forests for aesthetic and recreational values; strengthen capacity of County Governments to establish and manage amenity forests and trends</li> </ul>

**APPENDIX 3: GAZETTED LAND OF NAIROBI CITY PARK,  
NAIROBI CITY COUNTY**

-  Area Gazetted as Nairobi City Park Land (62 hectares)
  
-  Original Area zoned as a recreation space originally called Nairobi  
Forest Reserve Nairobi City Park Land (90 hectares)





**APPENDIX 4: ORGANIZATION CHART, DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT, NAIROBI CITY COUNTY**

Scales

2

3

4

5

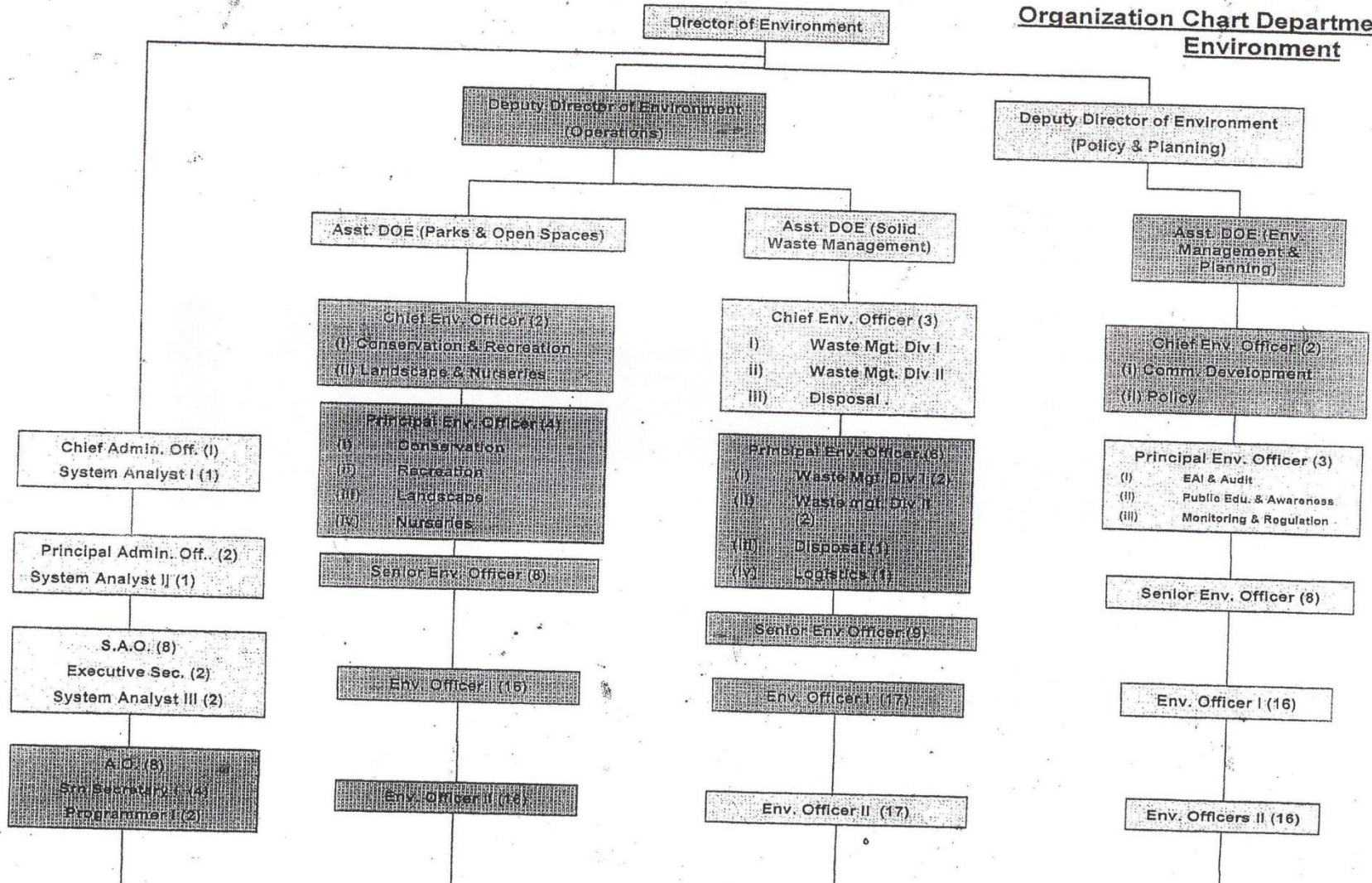
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7

8

9

**Organization Chart Department of Environment**



**Scales**

10

Admin Officer II (8)  
 Snr. Secretary II (4)  
 Programmer II (2)

Snr. Environmental  
 Supervisor (16)

Snr. Environmental  
 Supervisor (16)

Snr. Environmental  
 Supervisor (16)

11

Admin Officer III (8)  
 Secretary I (4)  
 Snr. Comp Operator (1)

Env. Supervisor I (10)

Env. Supervisor I (10)

Env. Supervisor I (10)

12

Snr. Clerical Officer (16)  
 Secretary II (4)

Env. Supervisor II  
 (14)

Env. Supervisor II  
 (14)

Env. Supervisor II  
 (14)

13

Clerical Officer I (11)  
 Copy Typist I (4)  
 Comp. Operator (2)

Env. Supervisor III (60)

Env. Supervisor III (120)  
 Snr. Driver (60)

Env. Supervisor III  
 (20)

14

Ass. Storekeeper (4)  
 Copy Typist II (6)  
 Clerical Officer II (25)  
 Key punch ops I (2)

Artisan I (2)

Driver I (4)  
 Tractor Driver (8)  
 Artisan I (1)

Artisan I (1)

15

Clerical III  
 Copy typist III (8)  
 Key punch Ops. II (2)

Artisan II (8)

Artisan II (6)

Artisan II (2)

16

Messenger I (4)

Artisan III (10)  
 Labourer I (300)

Artisan III (8)  
 Labourer I (700)

Artisan III (2)  
 Labourer I (100)

17

Messenger II (8)

Ungraded Artisan (16)

Ungraded Artisan (12)

Ungraded Artisan (4)

18

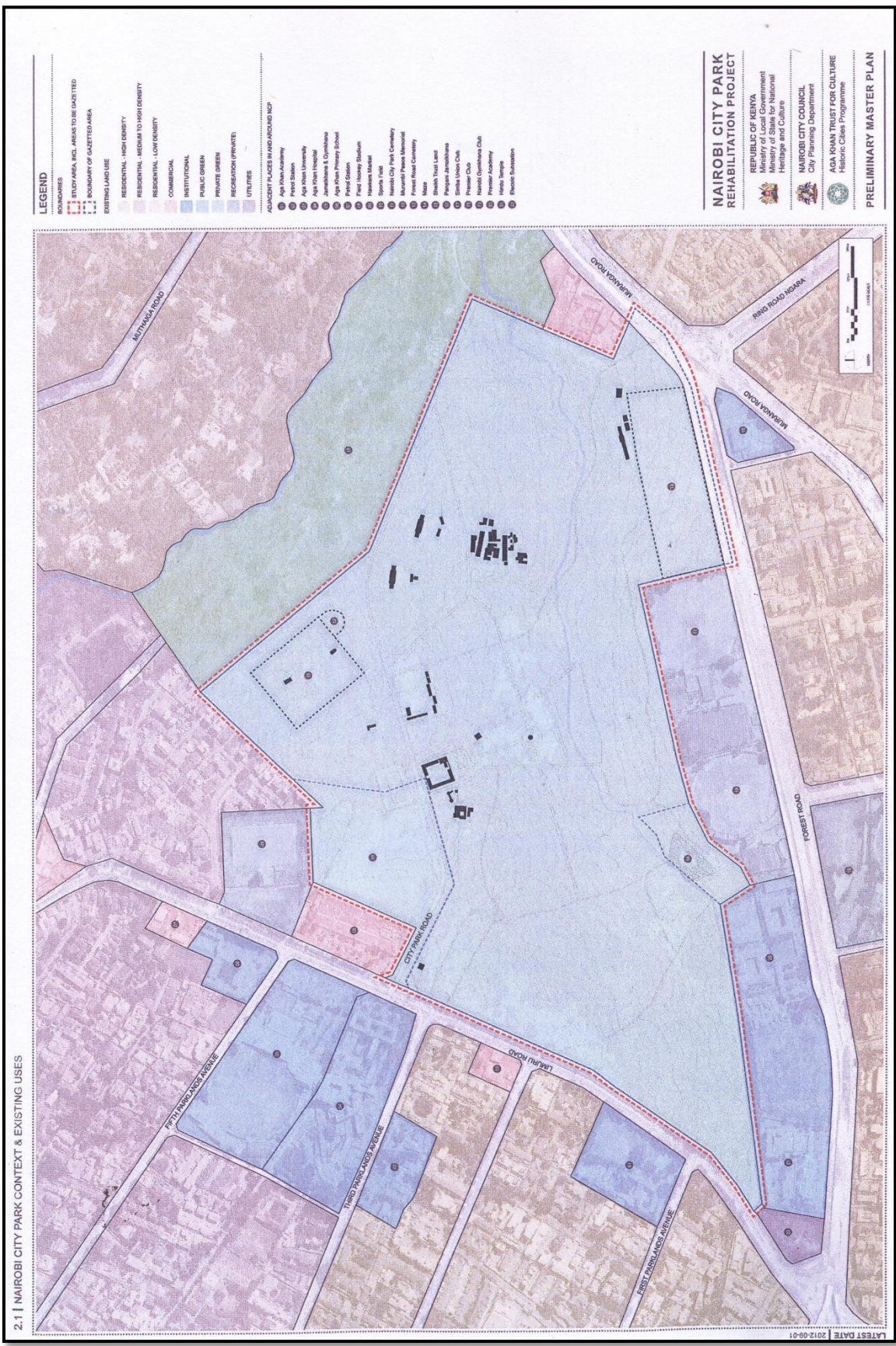
Labourer II (300)

Labourer II (800)

Labourer II (160)

**APPENDIX 5: DESIGN DRAWINGS FOR THE PROPOSED  
REHABILITATION & IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM OF THE  
NAIROBI CITY PARK**

- Existing Context Plan
- Proposed Master Plan
- Proposed Land Use Plan
- Bird's eye view of NCP after rehabilitation



2.1 | NAIROBI CITY PARK CONTEXT & EXISTING USES

- LEGEND**
- BOUNDARIES
    - STUDY AREA, INCL. AREAS TO BE GAZETTED
    - BOUNDARY OF GAZETTED AREA
  - EXISTING LAND USE
    - RESIDENTIAL - HIGH DENSITY
    - RESIDENTIAL - MEDIUM TO HIGH DENSITY
    - RESIDENTIAL - LOW DENSITY
    - COMMERCIAL
    - INSTITUTIONAL
    - PUBLIC GREEN
    - PRIVATE GREEN
    - RECREATION (PRIVATE)
    - UTILITIES
  - ADJACENT PLACES IN AND AROUND NCP
    - 1 Aga Khan Academy
    - 2 Forest Station
    - 3 Aga Khan University
    - 4 Aga Khan Hospital
    - 5 Jamshabadi & Co. Bank
    - 6 Aga Khan Primary School
    - 7 Forest Station
    - 8 Field Hockey Stadium
    - 9 Investors Market
    - 10 Sports Field
    - 11 Nairobi City Park Cemetery
    - 12 Nairobi Sports Ground
    - 13 Forest Road Cemetery
    - 14 Mzee
    - 15 Sheikh Taji Land
    - 16 Progress Jamshabadi
    - 17 Simba United Club
    - 18 Premier Club
    - 19 Nairobi Gymnastics Club
    - 20 Premier Academy
    - 21 Forest Station
    - 22 Forest Station

**NAIROBI CITY PARK REHABILITATION PROJECT**

REPUBLIC OF KENYA  
 Ministry of Local Government  
 Urban and Planning  
 Heritage and Culture

NAIROBI CITY COUNCIL  
 City Planning Department

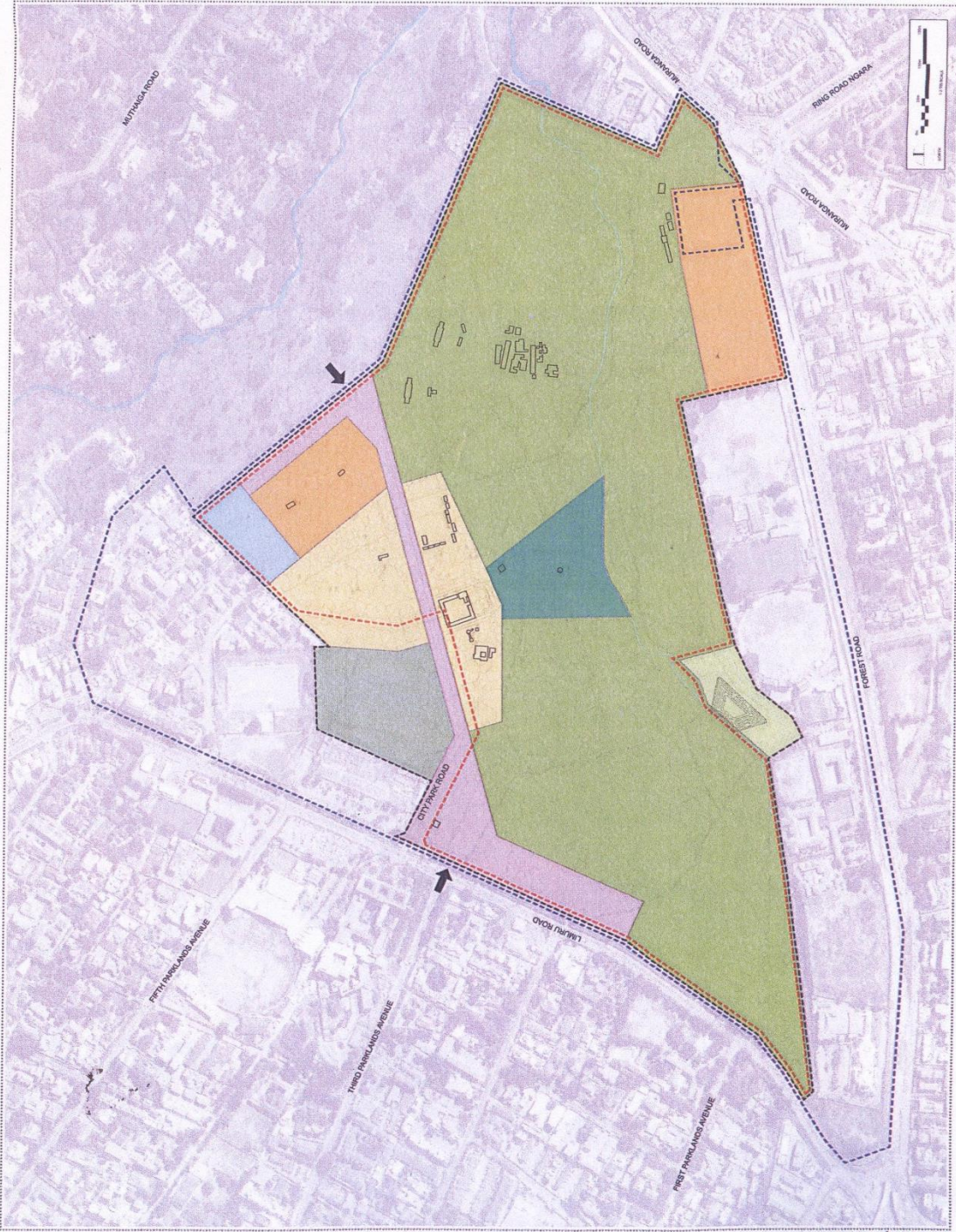
AGA KHAN TRUST FOR CULTURE  
 Historic Cities Programme

**PRELIMINARY MASTER PLAN**

LAST DATE | 2012-08-01



3.2 | PROPOSED LAND USE



- LEGEND**
- BOUNDARIES
  - ORIGINAL BOUNDARY OF NCP
  - BOUNDARY OF GAZETTED AREA (2008)
  - BOUNDARY OF NCP PLANNING AREA
  - PROPOSED LAND USE
  - PROPOSED LAND USE
  - MAIN CIRCULATION SPINE & PARKING
  - FUTURE SPORTS FACILITIES
  - FUTURE INCOME GENERATING FACILITIES
  - SERVICE AREA
  - HISTORIC CEMETERIES
  - ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE AREA
  - LANDSCAPING & NCP CORE AREA
  - MAZE
  - SITE ACCESS
  - FUTURE PARK ENTRANCES

**SUMMARY DATA**

NCP Project Overview		Area (Ha)
Original boundary of NCP		102.5
Original gazetted area		100.0
Boundary of NCP Planning Area		102.5
Proposed Land Use		Area (Ha)
Main Circulation Spine & Parking		2.00
Future Sports Facilities		2.00
Future Income Generating Facilities		2.00
Service Area		1.00
Environmentally Sensitive Area		2.00
Landscaping & NCP Core Area		2.00
MAZE		1.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>65.50</b>

**NAIROBI CITY PARK REHABILITATION PROJECT**

REPUBLIC OF KENYA  
 Ministry of Local Government, Urban Planning and Construction  
 Ministry of National Heritage and Culture

NAIROBI CITY COUNCIL  
 City Planning Department

AGA KHAN TRUST FOR CULTURE  
 Historic Cities Programme

**PRELIMINARY MASTER PLAN**

LATEST DATE | 2012-08-01



*Bird's eye view of the Park after rehabilitation*



**APPENDIX 6: GAZETTE NOTICE NO. 15064, NOVEMBER 2013**  
**ON THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT STUDY**  
**REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED REHABILITATION OF THE**  
**NAIROBI CITY PARK IN NAIROBI COUNTY**

- Waste management
  - Control speed and operation of construction vehicles
  - Sensitize the construction workers on the environmental issues
  - Engines are switched off when waiting refueling.
  - Introduction of unleaded oils and low sulfur diesel as demand raises that has less harm to the environment.
  - Provide refuse waste bins at strategic points.
  - Contract NEMA-licensed third party waste handlers
- Traffic Hazards
  - Encourage waste separation at source
  - Construction of 100 m long acceleration and deceleration lanes.
  - Clear marking of 'Exit' and 'Entry' points.
  - Discourage roadside parking along Embu-Kiriiri highway
- Pollution to surface water
  - Develop a storm water drainage system and linkage to natural drains.
  - Ensure efficiency of drainage structures through proper design and maintenance
  - Construct drains to standard specifications
  - Regular inspection of oil interceptors and drainage channels for any leaks
- Outbreak of fire
  - Underground fuel storage tanks fitted with leakage sensors
  - Install "No smoking" alert signs to avoid accidental ignition of fire.
  - Provision of three fire extinguishers
  - Place 'fire outbreak advisory' notices at strategic locations
  - Regular inspection of fire extinguishers by a registered agency
  - Windows on the buildings should not be fitted with grills
  - Undertaking periodic fire drills for the workers.
- Increased water demand
  - Recycling of wastewater where appropriate.
  - Install water taps which turn off automatically when water is not in use.
  - Provide on-site water storage tanks to harness rainwater
  - Put up notices advising users on need to conserve water e.g. 'turnoff after use.'
- Waste water management
  - Disposal of all liquid waste into septic tanks
  - Proper storage handling and disposal of new oil and used oil and related wastes
  - Maintaining plant and equipment to avoid leaks

(b) Principal Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Mineral Resources, NHIF Building, Community, P.O. Box 30521, Nairobi.

(c) County Director of Environment, Mbeere County.

The National Environment Management Authority invites members of the public to submit oral or written comments within thirty (30) days from the date of publication of this notice to the Director-General, NEMA, to assist the Authority in the decision making process of the plan.

ZEPHANIAH OUMA,  
for Director-General,

MR/3790847

National Environment Management Authority.

GAZETTE NOTICE No. 15064

THE ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT AND CO-ORDINATION ACT

(No. 8 of 1999)

THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT STUDY REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED REHABILITATION OF THE NAIROBI CITY PARK IN NAIROBI COUNTY.

PURSUANT to Regulation 21 of the Environmental Management and Coordination (Impact Assessment and Audit) Regulations, 2003, the National Environment Management Authority (NEMA) has received an Environmental Impact Assessment Study Report for the above proposed project.

The Proponent (Aga Khan Trust for Culture in Public Private Partnership with the Government of Kenya) is proposing to rehabilitate the 65 hectare Nairobi City Park. The rehabilitation will involve the creation of the main circulation spine; establishment of an expanded state of the art sports facilities; creation of a plant nursery, maintenance and operation area; an upper central area on either side of the main circulation spine containing new educational facilities, cafes, small shops restaurant, food and beverage outlets; a passive and recreational leisure core; a conservation zone of about 41.5 ha where only passive activities will be allowed; restoration of the historic maze.

Below is a summary of the anticipated impacts and the proposed mitigation measures:

Impact	Proposed Mitigation Measures
Air pollution and dust generation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Spray of water during construction work</li> <li>• Control of speed and movements of construction vehicles</li> <li>• Building a buffer fence around the construction site</li> <li>• Use of low-sulphur diesel for diesel-operated construction machinery</li> <li>• Avoid burning waste materials at the site</li> <li>• Material drop heights to be kept to minimum</li> <li>• Positioning of stockpiles to minimize effect of wind</li> <li>• Dust sheets over surface of stockpiled materials</li> </ul>
Noise Pollution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Control earthworks and minimal clearance of vegetation</li> <li>• No unnecessary hooting by project and occupants vehicles</li> <li>• Restriction of construction activities to day time</li> <li>• Use of ear protection aids by construction workers</li> <li>• Use of equipment designed with noise control elements</li> <li>• Temporarily fencing off noisy machinery such as vibrators</li> </ul>

The full report of the proposed project is available for inspection during working hours at:

(a) Director-General, NEMA, Popo Road, off Mombasa Road, P.O. Box 67839-00200, Nairobi.

Clearing of vegetation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintaining of some of the existing trees and vegetation at the site</li> <li>Planting of indigenous trees and plants to maintain ecological system integrity</li> <li>Coordination with National Museums of Kenya biologists on habitat impacts</li> <li>Engagement of a supervisory entomologist to check on park flora and fauna</li> <li>Use of attenuated equipment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sprinkling the active construction sites with water to minimize dust</li> <li>Sensitize workers on construction safety measures</li> <li>Maintain cleanliness and organization at the construction site</li> <li>Fencing or covering of risky areas such as deep pits</li> <li>Use of permit-to-work authorizer for risky jobs</li> <li>Engagement of skilled labourers</li> <li>Insurance of workers</li> <li>Ensure children do not go near the swimming pool unaccompanied by adults</li> <li>Safety signage in swimming pool area</li> </ul>
Disturbance of soil structure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Put soil traps around perimeter fence and on steep areas to capture soil that might be washed away</li> <li>Appoint a landscaping company to plant indigenous and ornamental trees and grass once construction is over in Zone B</li> <li>Maintaining specified routes for construction vehicles (no off-road driving)</li> <li>Control earthworks</li> <li>Use of light machinery and equipment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Acquire fire fighting facilities</li> <li>Sensitize workers on fire safety</li> <li>No storage of inflammables at site</li> <li>Keep well stocked first aid box</li> <li>Proper handling and use of tools and machinery</li> <li>Use of correct PPE</li> <li>Initiate fire safety drills</li> </ul>
Destruction of habitat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintaining of indigenous plants and trees.</li> <li>Control of earthworks</li> <li>Commissioning of ecosystem impact study in coordination with National Museums of Kenya to assess construction impact on biodiversity.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fire hazards and accidents</li> </ul>
Generation of solid waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimize generation of waste</li> <li>Re-use of excavated soil for landscaping</li> <li>Re-use of construction debris in other projects like rehabilitation of quarry pits</li> <li>Provision of solid waste collection bins</li> <li>Engaging the services of a licensed waste collection and disposal company at operation stage</li> <li>Sensitizing construction workers and occupants on proper waste disposal and material re-use</li> <li>Re-use of timber off-cuts and wooden supports for fuel</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Security</li> </ul>
Increased demand for water and electricity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conservative use of water and electricity</li> <li>Provision of adequate water storage facilities</li> <li>Re-use of water where possible, mainly at construction phase Explore additional sources like sinking of a borehole</li> <li>Use of energy conserving electrical appliances</li> <li>Switching off appliances whenever not in use</li> <li>Considering sources and use of renewable energy e.g. Solar energy</li> <li>Install facilities for harvesting rain water</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Generation of sewage</li> </ul>
Storm water/run off	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Put in place a storm water drainage system</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Public health and safety</li> </ul>
Occupational health and safety risks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provision of appropriate personal protective equipment to construction workers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Loss of aesthetic value of land and infringement on neighbours' privacy</li> </ul>

The full report of the proposed project is available for inspection during working hours at:

- (a) Director-General, NEMA, Popo Road, off Mombasa Road, P.O. Box 67839-00200, Nairobi.
- (b) Principal Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Mineral Resources, NHIF Building, Community, P.O. Box 30521, Nairobi.

## **APPENDIX 7: NEWS PAPER ARTICLES**

# Land grabs may derail Nairobi City Park spruce-up

The park's 90 acres shrunk to 66.19 hectares when the northern and the southern tips were hived off and allocated in 1997. These areas are now occupied by a mall and the City Park hockey pitch. But as they went about their work, officials from the Aga Khan Trust for Culture discovered that more areas of the park had been allocated and there is now only about 19.45 hectares available

BY JOHN NGRACHU  
@JohnNgrachu  
jngrachu@kenationmedia.com

The Land, Housing, and Urban Development Ministry and the National Land Commission have begun investigations into the manner in which the bulk of City Park was allocated to private developers.

The allocations, which were made between 1997 and this year, are a threat to a plan by the Aga Khan Trust for Culture to rehabilitate and improve the park, one of Nairobi's oldest and largest recreational areas.

It is also the only park within the capital city's boundaries that has an indigenous forest, which is to form the largest part of it and is to be preserved in its pure form.

Officials from the trust told the Lands Committee of the National Assembly on September 4 that the restoration of the park could now depend on whether the commission and the ministry will reverse the allocations.

They spoke after making a presentation of their plans to restore and improve the park, a concept hailed by members of the team as impressive and worth implementing.

"This is a very impressive plan and it is our prayer that it will become a reality," said Moses ole Sakuda (Kajiado West, TNA). MPs Shakila Abdalla (Lamu County, Wiper) and Paul Otuoma (Funyula, ODM) were also in agreement.

From the presentation by Jurjen van der Tas, the deputy director in the Historic Cities Programme, the park was originally 90.25 hectares at its creation in 1932. With a large portion of indigenous forest bordering Karura Forest, the park proved to be an ideal recreational area for Nairobi residents. The designers, keen to go beyond creating just a bulk of green on the fringes of the city, went ahead

to create a maze — known in those days as "Mtego wa Panya" — put in a bandstand, and designed a sitting area where, in the park's better days, families would gather on sunny Sunday afternoon for entertainment.

Although now overgrown with weeds and grass, Francesco Siravo, a senior project officer at the Aga Khan Trust for Culture, said the landscaping is still good and would be spruced up during the planned rehabilitation.

The park's 90 acres shrunk to 66.19 hectares when the northern and the southern tips were hived off and allocated in 1997. These areas are now occupied by a mall and the City Park hockey pitch.

Officials from the trust have found out that more areas of the park have been allocated and that there is now only about 19.45 hectares available.

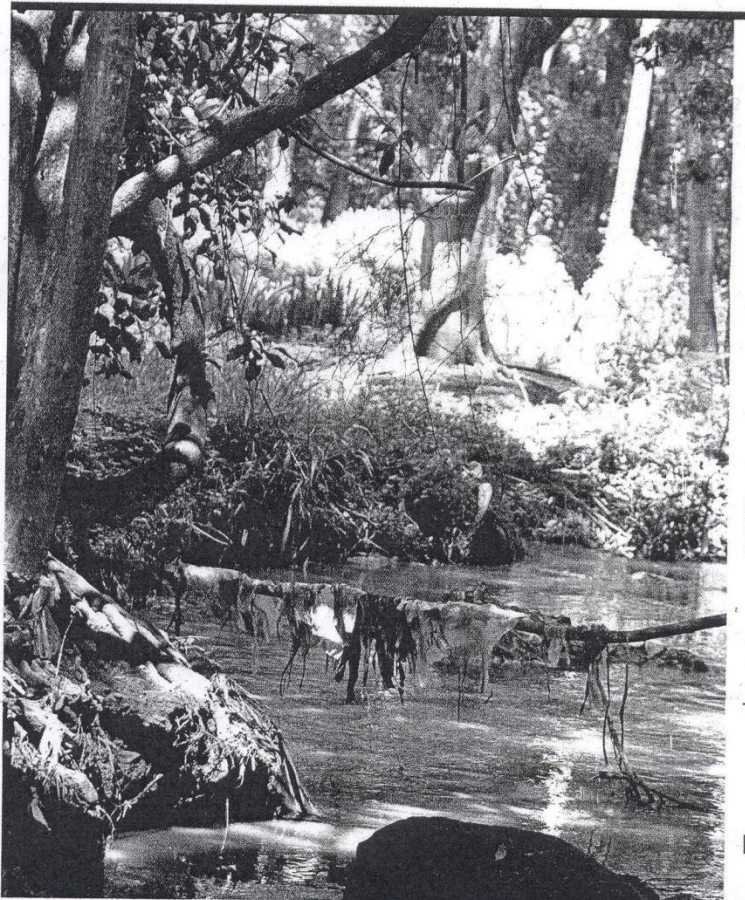
"If the 19 hectares are all that is there, we will walk out," Mr van der Tas told the committee. However, he said the latest allocations were reversible as the developers are yet to start utilising the land.

Confusion has also arisen over the manner in which the land was given out. When the Lands Committee visited the park on an inspection tour, the Nairobi County's chief valuer told them that the title deed for the land was in the possession of the commissioner of lands.

However, there is no longer a commissioner of lands as his role has been taken over by the National Land Commission. And even then, the commissioner does not keep titles as his office usually has a copy of the document.

Mr Otuoma said the committee was of the understanding that the land was acquired by the Housing Ministry, now under the Lands docket, and that the title deed is held by the Treasury on their behalf.

He said the trust was much more aware of the issues around the land than its owners, the Nairobi county



government, as it had been on the ground preparing for the rehabilitation before the issues arose.

Mr van der Tas said they had found out about the allocation of the land as they prepared to start implementing the project for which the trust is providing technical and financial support and expertise.

He said they have held meetings with the National Land Commission and the governor of Nairobi in a bid to resolve the issues before the project can start.

"The National Land Commission believes that most of the title deeds were allocated through an illegal process," the deputy director said.

The project was initially slated to start in September but has been held back by the land issues and a delay in getting a building permit from the county government. The National Environment Management Authority also wants a public hearing held before the environmental impact assessment licence can be issued.

In the planned rehabilitation, the 60-hectare park situated in Parklands is to be transformed under a programme run by the Aga Khan Trust for Culture, which last year signed a memorandum of understanding with the government.

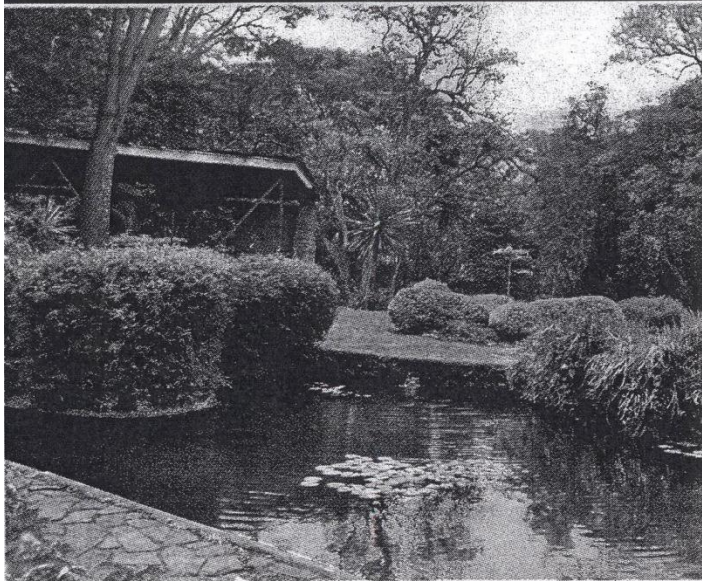
The agreement was reached after negotiations over two years on the

possibility of returning the facility to its original use. This means that the trust will collaborate in the rehabilitation and restoration of the park to international standards in terms of architecture, landscaping, and horticulture.

"The agreement marks the initial steps to give the park a metropolitan face, which will enhance its appeal to Kenyans as well as visiting global citizens," said Prince Hussain Aga Khan at the time. "It is an important step towards ensuring that the historical and cultural heritage, as well as the significant biodiversity of Nairobi City Park, are conserved now and for generations to come."

The project, estimated to cost about Sh2 billion, will create an example of urban park rehabilitation in Kenya and restore it in such a way that it complements the existing environmentally important areas, besides becoming an attraction of repute. The agreement anticipates a partnership through environmental improvements, landscape architectural conservation, and enhancing or creating new facilities. These activities will improve the quality of the site, making the environment safe for visitors to the park while respecting its natural and cultural heritage. The renovations will involve reconstruction of some of the disused facilities such as

FILE | NATION  
Nairobi City Park is threatened by pollution, encroachment and opportunistic woodcutters, grazers and medicinal plant collectors. All these combine to threaten the future biodiversity and recreational value of the park.



“This is a very impressive plan and it is our prayer that it would become a reality”

Moses Ole Sakuda (Kajiado West, TNA)

the bandstand, grooming of the maze, and planting of more indigenous trees to improve shade, besides providing security lighting.

When the recreational facility is completed, it will become the third such project the trust has carried out on the continent. In 1984, the Aga Khan Trust for Culture financed the creation of the Azhar Park for the residents of Cairo, Egypt, at the rundown Darassa site in the central part of the city. The place had been a derelict debris pit for more than 500 years, since the reign of

the Fatmids, the ancestors of the Aga Khan. Specialised plant nurseries were created to identify the best plants and trees for the soil, terrain, and climate. The \$30 million project is now said to rival Egypt's famous pyramids as a tourist attraction.

The trust also helped to elevate the National Park of Mali in 2010, where a forest had been threatened with extinction from loggers. These days, the Malian Park is protected although the public can still enjoy it as before.

ON THAT NOTE...

## What the project is all about

**THE PROJECT:**

The rehabilitation and restoration of Nairobi City Park (NCP) is a collaborative project between the Government of Kenya (GoK) and the Aga Khan Trust for Culture (AKTC), an agency of the Aga Khan Development Network (AKDN). The collaboration is based on the rehabilitation funding and technical agreement signed between the parties on November 29, 2012, following the instructions in a 24 June, 2011, Cabinet memorandum approving the project and instructing the Ministry of Local Government, the Ministry of State for Heritage and Culture, and Nairobi City Council

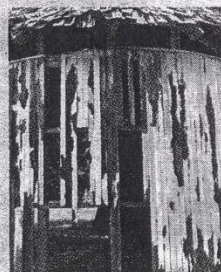
to work with the AKTC to plan and implement the project.

The primary objective of the collaboration is to rehabilitate and redevelop Nairobi's City Park as a major metropolitan park which will be recognised internationally for excellence in restoration, environmental practices and financial self-sustainability. The project will create a prototype of urban park rehabilitation in Kenya and restore the City Park such that it complements and enhances the existing environmentally important areas.

A steering committee and a coordinating committee under the leadership of the GoK and AKTC respectively have already



commenced the planning, with the groundbreaking expected in December 2013. An interim CEO for the project has also been recruited for a three-month period commencing September 2013.



**THE PARK TODAY:**

Nairobi City Park is the only intact piece of forest that is left within the Nairobi city limits. The park was established in 1932 and covers some 60 hectares (now reduced through questionable allocations to about 19 hectares), a surface greatly reduced from the original 91 hectares. The forest is unique for being a refuge within a few minutes of intense Nairobi traffic with an abundance and diversity of living species. However, encroachment and opportunistic woodcutters, grazers, medicinal plant collectors, and petty criminals continue to threaten the future biodiversity and recreational value of the Park. Given its history, central location, natural attractions, and rich bio-diversity, the park has the potential of becoming a unique environmental preserve in the centre of Nairobi as well as a large green space for cultural activities, education, recreation, sport, and leisure.

## **APPENDIX 8: RESEARCH INSTRUMENTS**

**UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI**  
**SCHOOL OF BUILT ENVIRONMENT**  
**DEPARTMENT OF URBAN AND REGIONAL PLANNING**  
**MASTERS OF ARTS PLANNING**  
**KEY INFORMANT INTERVIEW SCHEDULE– PLANNER, MINISTRY OF**  
**LAND HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT**

**Declaration:** I am a student of University of Nairobi currently pursuing post graduate studies in Urban and Regional Planning. This interview schedule is part of my research study on **Assessing planning policy framework for public urban parks: A case of City Park, Nairobi**. The information provided in this survey is confidential and shall be used purely for academic purposes only.

OFFICER NAME	
RANK	
DEPARTMENT	
OFFICE	
AREA OF COVERAGE	



## **LEGAL AND INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK**

1. Which legislation is used for provision of open spaces like City Park in Nairobi
2. The management of such open spaces like City Park which are of National significance are vested on the County or National government?
3. Are there any conflict arising between the two governments regarding the open spaces management?
4. Who owns the land known as City Park?
5. If yes, which one?
6. What land area has been gazetted as falling within the park boundaries?
7. Is there any on going litigation regarding City Park land?
8. Are there any arising land use conflicts with surrounding land uses?

## **PARTICIPATORY PLANNING**

1. How does the public participate in planning, development, and management of open spaces?
2. Is there an existing public participation framework being followed?

## **PLANNING INTERVENTIONS**

1. Which direction is the planning law taking with regard to;
  - Open space planning?
  - Open space management?
  - Open space safeguarding?

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND ASSISTANCE**

**UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI**  
**SCHOOL OF BUILT ENVIRONMENT**  
**DEPARTMENT OF URBAN AND REGIONAL PLANNING**  
**MASTERS OF ARTS PLANNING**  
**KEY INFORMANT INTERVIEW SCHEDULE– NAIROBI CITY COUNTY:**  
**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT (Parks and Open Spaces)**

**Declaration:** I am a student of University of Nairobi currently pursuing post graduate studies in Urban and Regional Planning. This interview schedule is part of my research study on **Assessing planning policy framework for public urban parks: A case of City Park, Nairobi.** The information provided in this survey is confidential and shall be used purely for academic purposes only.

OFFICER NAME	
RANK	
DEPARTMENT	
OFFICE	

## **LEGAL AND INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK**

1. Is City Park under your jurisdiction?
2. Which law gives you the mandate to oversee planning, design and management of City Park?
3. Have there been any conflicts arising due to different institutions having interests in City Park? If Yes, which ones?
4. What is the role your institution in the planning, management and conservation of City Park?
5. How far have you accomplished your role as mentioned above?

## **PARK FACILITIES**

1. How many people visit the park on a daily basis?
2. What challenges do you face in planning and management?
3. What suggestions would you put forward to address afore mentioned challenges?
4. What are the on-going activities at City Park?
5. What are the future plans as regards the development of City Park?
6. How do you collect revenue?
7. From who and how much on a monthly basis?
8. Is there any threat to City Park as regards the park boundaries? If Yes, which one?
9. Is there any threat to City Park as regards the park ecosystem? If Yes which one?
10. Which spin-off activities have resulted due to the presence of City Park?

## **COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION**

1. Do you involve the community in park planning and management?  
If Yes How?
2. Do you have community programs; on going and/ or proposed?  
If yes which ones?
3. Is there any community resistance towards any planning programs?
4. If yes, what is causing the resistance
5. How long do you engage the community before implementing proposals?

## **PLANNING INTERVENTIONS**

1. What is the impact of changing land uses around City Park on the park itself?
2. What is the impact of the proposed road expansion by KURA to City Park i.e.
  - The park design
  - User conflict; motorised and non-motorised traffic
  - Wild life
3. Are there any proposed planning and design interventions for City Park?
4. Are there any proposed management interventions for City Park?

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND ASSISTANCE**  
**UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI**  
**SCHOOL OF BUILT ENVIRONMENT**  
**DEPARTMENT OF URBAN AND REGIONAL PLANNING**  
**MASTERS OF ARTS PLANNING**  
**KEY INFORMANT INTERVIEW SCHEDULE- CHIEF ENVIRONMENT OFFICER,**  
**CITY PARK**

**Declaration:** I am a student of University of Nairobi currently pursuing post graduate studies in Urban and Regional Planning. This questionnaire is part of my field study on **Assessing planning policy framework for public urban parks: A case of City Park, Nairobi**. The information provided in this survey is confidential and shall be used purely for academic purposes only.

OFFICER NAME	
PHONE NUMBER	
DEPARTMENT	
OFFICE	

## **LEGAL AND INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK**

### **Legal**

1. Which legislation provided for the creation of city Park?
2. Which legislation allows for planning and management of city Park?
3. Which are the City Park By-laws specific to planning and design?
4. Are there laws conflicting each other?

### **Institutional**

1. What is City Park's management organisation structure?
2. How many staff members does City Park have permanent and casuals  
Who pays staff?

Who are the key stakeholders involved at

- Planning stage
- Development stage
- Management stage

3. Where do you source for funds for management of the Park?
4. Are there any overlapping management bodies?

Do you face any challenges regarding management of the park or funds to facilitate park management?

## **PARK STATUS & FACILITIES**

1. Which is the original park design?
2. Which is the existing park design?
3. How has it changed over the years?
4. Does the existing park design enable park users to fully utilise the park?

if No why?

5. Is there a proposed park design? If Yes, Which one?
6. Are there any entrance fees levied and who collects?
7. What are the park's operation times?

What facilities are provided within City Park?

8. Are there any income generating activities and who operates/ oversees these activities if they are available?

## **COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION**

1. Do you involve the community in park planning and management? If Yes how?
2. Do you have community programs; on going and/ or proposed?
3. Is there any community resistance towards any planning programs
4. If yes, what is causing the resistance?
5. How long do you engage the community before implementing proposals?

## **PLANNING INTERVENTIONS**

1. What is the impact of changing land uses around City Park on the park itself?
2. What is the impact of the proposed road upgrading by KURA on City Park i.e.
  - The park design
  - User conflict; motorised and non-motorised traffic
  - Wild life
3. Are there any proposed planning design and management interventions for City Park?

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND ASSISTANCE**

**UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI**  
**SCHOOL OF BUILT ENVIRONMENT**  
**DEPARTMENT OF URBAN AND REGIONAL PLANNING**  
**MASTERS OF ARTS PLANNING**

**KEY INFORMANT INTERVIEW SCHEDULE– FRIENDS OF CITY PARK**

**Declaration:** I am a student of University of Nairobi currently pursuing post graduate studies in Urban and Regional Planning. This interview schedule is part of my research study on **Assessing planning policy framework for public urban parks: A case of City Park, Nairobi**. The information provided in this survey is confidential and shall be used purely for academic purposes only.

OFFICER NAME	
RANK	
DEPARTMENT	
OFFICE	

## **LEGAL AND INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK**

### **Legal**

1. Which legislation governs the management of city Park?
2. Is there conflict arising from laws conflicting each other

### **Institutional**

1. What is your role as Friends of City in the park's management and conservation?
2. How far have you accomplished your role as mentioned above?
3. Are there any overlapping management bodies?
4. Who are the key stakeholders involved at
  - Planning stage
  - Development stage
  - Management stage
5. Where do you source for funds?
6. Which challenges do you face in management and conservation of City Park?

## **PARK STATUS & FACILITIES**

1. Which is the original park design?
2. Which is the existing park design?
3. How has it changed over the years?
4. Does the existing park design enable park users to fully utilise the park?
5. Is there a proposed park design?
6. Are there any fees levied for park users? Yes ( ) No ( )
  - (b) If yes, which ones?
7. What recreation facilities are available within City Park?
8. Does Friends of City Park undertake any activities at City Park?

## **COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION**

1. How does Friends of City Park work with the public and other stakeholders with regard to City Park?
2. Do you have programs / events; on going and/ or proposed involving the public, Parklands community or schools?
3. Is there any resistance towards any of your programs/ events / activities at City Park?
  - (b) If yes, what is causing the resistance?
4. Do you engage the public/ Parklands community / other stakeholders before implementing your projects? Yes ( ) No ( )
  - (b) How long do you engage them?

## **PLANNING INTERVENTIONS**

1. What is the impact of changing land uses around City Park on the park itself?
2. Are there any proposed planning design and management interventions for City Park?

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND ASSISTANCE**

**UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI**  
**SCHOOL OF BUILT ENVIRONMENT**  
**DEPARTMENT OF URBAN AND REGIONAL PLANNING**  
**MASTERS OF ARTS PLANNING**  
**KEY INFORMANT INTERVIEW SCHEDULE– KENYA URBAN ROADS**  
**AUTHORITY (ENVIRONMENTALIST, LAND SURVEYOR, ROADS ENGINEER)**

**Declaration:** I am a student of University of Nairobi currently pursuing post graduate studies in Urban and Regional Planning. This interview schedule is part of my research study on **Assessing planning policy framework for public urban parks: A case of City Park, Nairobi**. The information provided in this survey is confidential and shall be used purely for academic purposes only.

OFFICER NAME	
RANK	
DEPARTMENT	
OFFICE	



### **LEGAL AND INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK**

1. Which laws guide road development in ecologically sensitive public land or a protected area?
2. What is the process followed in land acquisition for development of roads in ecologically sensitive public land or protected areas?
3. Who determines the value of the land acquired for the purpose of compensation?
4. Who is compensated for land acquired in such an area?
5. What if the land ownership is under contestation what happens?

### **ROAD DEVELOPMENT**

1. Does the proposed road pass within City Park boundaries? Yes ( ) No ( )
2. If Yes, how much land area will be or has been acquired?
3. If Yes how will it impact
  - The current park boundaries
  - Wild life habitat and movement
4. Have any institutions e.g. Nairobi City County, Friends of City Park, AKDN, expressed resistance to this road development?

### **PARTICIPATORY PLANNING**

1. Do you involve stakeholders in the planning stage of roads?
2. Which stakeholders were involved and how were they involved?
3. Have you carried out an ESIA for this road development?
4. How has it informed the proposed road design?
5. How has the community reacted to this proposed road development?
6. Is there anyone being displaced and which social functions are being affected?
7. How long do you engage the community before implementing proposals?

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND ASSISTANCE**

QUESTIONNAIRE  
NUMBER

.....

**UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI**  
**SCHOOL OF BUILT ENVIRONMENT**  
**DEPARTMENT OF URBAN AND REGIONAL PLANNING**  
**MASTERS OF ARTS PLANNING**  
**CITY PARK: PARK USER QUESTIONNAIRE**

**Declaration:** I am a student of University of Nairobi currently pursuing post graduate studies in Urban and Regional Planning. This questionnaire is part of my field study on **Assessing planning policy framework for public urban parks: A case of City Park, Nairobi.** The information provided in this survey is confidential and shall be used purely for academic purposes only.

AREA OF RESIDENCE	
COUNTY	
DATE OF INTERVIEW	
NAME OF INTERVIEWER	
NAME OF RESPONDENT (OPTIONAL)	
START TIME	

**1. BIO DATA**

Tick (✓) appropriately. The symbol > means greater than and ≤ means less than or equal to.

a. Gender Male ( ) Female ( )

b. Marital status

1. Single	
2. Married	
3. Divorced / separated	
4. Widowed/ Widower	

c. Age (years)

1. below 20	
2. >20≤30	
3. >30≤40	
4. >40≤ 50	
5. 51 and over	

d. Level of education

1. Primary level	
2. Secondary level	
3. College/graduate	
4. None	

e. Occupation

1. Employed	
2. Self employed	
3. Unemployed	

**2. PARK UTILISATION PATTERNS**

a. How often do you visit City Park?

1. Daily		2. Weekly	
3. Monthly		4. Every 2 months	
5. Every 3 months		6. Every 6 months	
7. Yearly		8. First time	

b. If the answer to (a.) above is more than once, what time of the day do you prefer visiting City Park?

1. Before 8.00 am		2. 8.00 am -1.00 pm	
3. 1.00 pm – 5.00 pm		4. After 5.00 p.m	
5. 8.00 am – 5.00 pm		6. 10.00 am – 5.00 pm	

c. Why do you prefer the time stated in (b.) above?

1. Most convenient	
2. Not congested	
3. Presence of other park visitors	
4. Other (specify)	

d. Which days/times do you most visit City Park?

1. Weekends	
-------------	--

2. Public holidays	
3. School holidays	
4. Religious holidays	

e. Why do you visit City Park?

1. Physical exercise	
2. Educational visit	
3. Religious activities	
4. Team building	
5. Recreation/ relaxation/ leisure	
6. Work/ business	
7. Commercial activities	
8. Viewing wildlife e.g. monkeys, birds, insects	
9. Other (specify)	

f. Do you come alone or accompanied to City Park? Alone ( ) accompanied ( )

g. If accompanied state with whom do you come with to the park?

1. Spouse/ partner	
2. Children	
3. Friends	
4. Workmates	
5. Schoolmates	
6. Family	
7. Other (specify)	

### 3. PARK FACILITIES

a. Indicate (√) which park facilities you are aware to be found within City Park and which ones you frequently use

FACILITY	MARK IF FOUND IN CITY PARK	MARK IF FREQUENTLY USED
1. Open lawn		
2. Bowling Green Restaurant		
3. Maze		
4. Murumbi Memorial Museum		
5. Colonial cemeteries		
6. Fish pond area		
7. Play facilities e.g. swings		
8. Plant nurseries		
9. Washrooms / toilets		
10. Water drinking points		
11. Street lighting		
12. Waste disposal points		
13. Other (specify)		

b. Are the park facilities adequately provided and in what condition?

For the **adequacy** of the park facilities, insert numbers as follows;

1. Well provided, 2. Moderate, 3. Inadequately provided 4. None

For the **conditions** of the facilities, insert numbers as follows;

1. Very poor 2. Poor 3. Fair 4. Good 5. Very good

FACILITY	ADEQUACY	CONDITIONS STATUS
1. Open lawn		
2. Bowling green		
3. Maze		
4. Murumbi Memorial Museum		
5. Colonial cemeteries		
6. Fish pond area		
7. Play facilities e.g. swings		
8. Plant nurseries		
9. Washrooms / toilets		
10. Water drinking points		
11. Street lighting		
12. Waste disposal points		
13. Other		

#### 4. CHALLENGES & CHANGES

a. What challenges have you faced while using City Park?

For the **degree of challenge**, insert numbers as follows;

1. Not challenging                      2. Challenging                      3. Very challenging

CHALLENGE	DEGREE OF CHALLENGE
1. Inadequate number of park officers/ employees	
2. Insecurity	
3. Wildlife aggression	
4. Idlers (potential aggressors) / insecurity	
5. Reduced vegetation cover	
6. Soil erosion	
7. Poor management of solid waste	
8. Pollution of river / streams	
9. Inadequate number of eateries	
10. Dilapidated play facilities	
11. Lack of variety of recreation/ play facilities	
12. Poorly maintained plant nurseries	
13. Inadequate provision of water drinking points	
14. Lack of / inadequately provided wash rooms	
15. Inadequate number of sheltered areas/ gazebos	
16. Inadequate street lighting	
17. Lack of / inadequate vehicular parking areas	
18. Other	

b. What changes have you observed since you began visiting City Park?

1. Reduced park size	
2. Environmental pollution	
3. Increased or reduced wildlife population	
4. Expansion of road corridors	
5. Park redesign	
6. Increased number of park users	
7. Increased number of park facilities	
8. Poor maintenance of park facilities	

9. Reduced use of Plant nurseries	
10. Photography/ videography services	
11. Other	
12. None	

c. Have the changes been positive or negative? Positive ( ) Negative ( )

d. Which are the positive changes you have experienced over the years?

1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	

e. Which are the negative changes you have experienced over the years?

1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	

f. How have the changes affected your experience of City Park as a user?

1. Increased use of the park	
2. Reduced use of the park	
3. Increased user satisfaction	
4. Reduced user satisfaction	
5. Other (specify)	

g. What/ Who are the drivers of change?

1. Urbanisation	
2. Real estate development/ expansion	
3. Changing land use	
4. Increased commercial trade within and without City Park	
5. Local authority initiatives	
6. Private companies initiative	
7. Local community initiatives	
8. Other (specify)	
9. Don't know	

h. What aspects would you suggest to be included in future park redesign?

.....  
 .....

**5. COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION**

i. Are you aware of any on-going rehabilitation / park redesign projects? Yes( ) No( )

ii. If no, would you want to be involved in future City Park rehabilitation/ redesign projects? Yes ( ) No ( )

b. If yes to (ii), which method would be the most effective to be used in the public consultation process?

1. Questionnaires	
2. Interviews	
3. Public forums / Barazas	
4. Other (specify)	

c. If yes to (ii), at what stage in the project/ program should you be consulted/ involved?

1. Planning	
2. Design	
3. Implementation	
4. Monitoring and evaluation	
5. Maintenance	
6. Conservation	
7. Other (specify)	

d. If yes to (ii), how long should the consultation/ involvement last?

1. 1 day	
2. 1 week	
3. 1 month	
4. 3 months	
5. 6 months	
6. 1 year	

iii. If yes to (i) which rehabilitation/ park redesign project and by who?

For the **Facilitator**, insert numbers as follows;

1. Member of County Assembly
2. County government / City Council
3. Kenya Urban Roads Authority (KURA)
4. Community Based Organisations
5. Aga Khan Trust for Culture / Aga Khan Development Network
6. Private institutions
7. Non-governmental organisations
8. Other government agencies
9. Other

PROJECT NAME	FACILITATOR
1.	
2.	
3.	

b. If yes to (i), how did you find out?

1. Word of mouth	
2. Questionnaires	
3. Interviews	
4. Public forums / Barazas	
5. Posters	
6. From the media e.g. radio, TV, newspapers	
7. Social media e.g. Facebook, Twitter, Whatsup etc	
8. Other (specify)	

iv. Were you consulted in any way? Yes ( ) No ( )

a. If yes, which method was used in the public consultation process?

1. Questionnaires	
2. Interviews	
3. Public forums / Barazas	
4. Other	

b. If yes how long was the consultation?

1. 1 day	
2. 1 week	

3. 1 month	
4. 3 months	
5. 6 months	
6. 1 year	

v. Have you been involved in any way? Yes ( ) No ( )

a. If yes, at what stage in the project/ program?

1. Planning	
2. Design	
3. Implementation	
4. Monitoring and evaluation	
5. Maintenance	
6. Conservation	
7. Other	

b. If yes how long was the involvement?

1. <1 month	
2. >1 ≤ 3month	
3. >3 ≤ 6 months	
4. >1 ≤ 6 months	
5. >1 year	

vi. In your opinion do you consider the method used in public consultation effective?  
Yes ( ) No ( )

vii. If No, why?

1. No access to information	
2. Gender discrimination	
3. No interest	
4. Politics/ bureaucracy	
5. Other	

viii. Which method would you recommend for effective public consultation?

.....  
.....

ix. Have you previously been involved in any park rehabilitation projects?

Yes( ) No( )

If yes which one and by who?

PROJECT NAME	FACILITATOR
1.	
2.	
3.	

x. Are you aware that it is your constitutional right to be consulted on proposed development projects in your community area? Yes ( ) No ( )

END TIME	
----------	--

**THANK YOU**



QUESTIONNAIRE  
NUMBER

.....

**UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI**  
**SCHOOL OF BUILT ENVIRONMENT**  
**DEPARTMENT OF URBAN AND REGIONAL PLANNING**  
**MASTERS OF ARTS PLANNING**  
**CITY PARK: TRADERS QUESTIONNAIRE**

**Declaration:** I am a student of University of Nairobi currently pursuing post graduate studies in Urban and Regional Planning. This questionnaire is part of my field study on **Assessing planning policy framework for public urban parks: A case of City Park, Nairobi.** The information provided in this survey is confidential and shall be used purely for academic purposes only.

AREA OF RESIDENCE	
COUNTY	
DATE OF INTERVIEW	
NAME OF INTERVIEWER	
NAME OF RESPONDENT (OPTIONAL)	
START TIME	

**1. BIO DATA**

Tick (✓) appropriately. The symbol > means greater than and ≤ means less than or equal to.

a. Gender Male ( ) Female ( )

b. Marital status

1. Single	
2. Married	
3. Divorced / separated	
4. Widowed/ Widower	

c. Age (years)

1. below 20	
2. >20≤30	
3. >30≤40	
4. >40≤ 50	
5. 51 and over	

d. Level of education

1. Primary level	
2. Secondary level	
3. College/graduate	
4. None	

e. Occupation

1. Employed	
2. Self employed	

**6. TRADING ACTIVITIES**

i. What type of commercial activity are you carrying out?

1. Retail shop	
2. Wholesale shop	
3. Groceries	
4. ICT related	
5. Hawking	
6. Child entertainment e.g. clown, face painting etc	
7. Mechanics' work	
8. Other (specify)	

ii. How long have you been in business?

1. ≤ 5 years	
2. >5≤10 years	
3. >10≤15 years	
4. >15≤ 20 years	
5. Over 20 years	

iii. Where do you carry out your business?

Within City Park boundaries ( )

Outside City Park boundaries ( )

iv. If within City Park in which specific space?

1. Bowling green	
2. Open lawn	
3. Near Murumbi Memorial museum / Colonial cemeteries	
4. Near plant nurseries	
5. Near Park offices	
6. Along link road between Murang'a and Limuru roads	
7. Next to City Park market	
8. Next to City Park entrance	
9. Other (specify)	

b. Who manages business operations within City Park?

1. Nairobi City County/ Nairobi City Council	
2. City Park Management	
3. Community Based Organisations	
4. Non-Governmental Organisations	
5. None	
6. Other	

c. How did you obtain this business space?

1. Nairobi City County/ Nairobi City Council	
2. City Park Management	
3. Inherited	
4. Hired	
5. Rented	
6. Own the space	
7. Other	

d. Do you pay for the use of the business space? Yes ( ) No( )

e. If yes to who?

1. Nairobi City County/ Nairobi City Council	
2. City Park Management	
3. Community Based Organisations	
4. Non-Governmental Organisations	
5. None	
6. Other	

f. How much do you pay on a daily basis (KShs)

1. $\leq 100$	
2. $>100 \leq 500$	
3. $>500 \leq 1,000$	
4. $>1,000 \leq 1,500$ years	
5. Over 1,500	

v. If located outside City Park boundaries, where?

.....  
 .....  
 .....

vi. Where do your customers come from?

1. Estate/ Town/ Area	
2. County	

vii. Which are the best days for doing business?

1. Monday	
2. Tuesday	
3. Wednesday	
4. Thursday	
5. Friday	
6. Saturday	
7. Sunday	

viii. Which is the most profitable time/ season for doing business?

1. Weekends	
2. Public holidays	
3. School holidays	
4. Religious holidays	

ix. Does City Park's proximity influence your income volume? Yes ( ) No ( )

x. How?

1. Increased sales	
2. Reduced sales	
3. Increased number of customers	
4. Other (specify)	

### WASTE GENERATION AND DISPOSAL

i. What type of solid waste do you generate?

1. Organic waste	
2. Papers	
3. Plastic	
4. Oil spills	
5. Metal	
6. Other	

ii. Are you provided with waste disposal areas? Yes ( ) No ( )

iii. If yes, which ones?

1. Road side bins / containers	
2. Waste disposal pit	
3. Central collection point	
4. Other (specify)	

### 7. CHALLENGES

i. What challenges have you faced as a trader operating within City park boundaries?

1. Lack of washrooms	
2. Lack of drinking water points	
3. Eviction from business operation space	
4. Lack of specified business operation space / stall / kiosk	
5. Operation fees levied by City park management	

6. Lack of storage facilities	
7. Insecurity	
8. Poor waste management methods	
9. insufficient waste number of disposal points	
10. Other (specify)	
11. None	

ii. What challenges have you faced as a trader operating outside City Park boundaries?

1. Lack of washrooms	
2. Lack of drinking water points	
3. Eviction from business operation space	
4. Lack of specified business operation space / stall / kiosk	
5. Operation fees levied by City County/ City Council	
6. Lack of / inadequate storage facilities	
7. Insecurity	
8. Poor waste management methods	
9. Other (specify)	
10. None	

iii. In your opinion, what can be done to mitigate the identified challenges

1. Lack of washrooms	
2. Lack of drinking water points	
3. Eviction from business operation space	
4. Lack of specified business operation space / stall / kiosk	
5. Operation fees levied by City park management	
6. Lack of storage facilities	
7. Insecurity	
8. Poor waste management methods	
9. insufficient waste number of disposal points	
10. Other (specify)	
11. None	

## 8. COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

i. Are you aware of any on-going rehabilitation / park redesign projects? Yes( ) No( )

ii. If no, would you want to be involved in future City Park rehabilitation/ redesign projects? Yes ( ) No ( )

b. If yes to (ii), which method would be the most effective to be used in the public consultation process?

1. Questionnaires	
2. Interviews	
3. Public forums / Barazas	
4. Other (specify)	

c. If yes to (ii), at what stage in the project/ program should you be consulted/ involved?

1. Planning	
2. Design	
3. Implementation	
4. Monitoring and evaluation	
5. Maintenance	

6. Conservation	
7. Other (specify)	

d. If yes to (ii), how long should the consultation/ involvement last?

1. 1 day	
2. 1 week	
3. 1 month	
4. 3 months	
5. 6 months	
6. 1 year	

iii. If yes to (i) which rehabilitation/ park redesign project and by who?

For the **Facilitator**, insert numbers as follows;

1. Member of County Assembly
2. County government / City Council
3. Kenya Urban Roads Authority (KURA)
4. CommunityBasedOrganisations
5. Aga Khan Trust for Culture / Aga Khan Development Network
6. Private institutions
7. Non governmental organisations
8. Other government agencies
8. Other

PROJECT NAME	FACILITATOR
1.	
2.	
3.	

b. If yes to (i), how did you find out?

1. Word of mouth	
2. Questionnaires	
3. Interviews	
4. Public forums / Barazas	
5. Posters	
6. From the media e.g. radio, TV, newspapers	
7. Social media e.g. Facebook, Twitter, Whatsup etc	
8. Other (specify)	

iv. Were you consulted in any way? Yes ( ) No ( )

a. If yes, which method was used in the public consultation process?

1. Questionnaires	
2. Interviews	
3. Public forums / Barazas	
4. Other	

b. If yes how long was the consultation?

1. 1 day	
2. 1 week	
3. 1 month	
4. 3 months	
5. 6 months	
6. 1 year	

v. Have you been involved in any way? Yes ( ) No ( )

b. If yes, at what stage in the project/ program?

1. Planning	
2. Design	
3. Implementation	
4. Monitoring and evaluation	
5. Maintenance	
6. Conservation	
7. Other	

c. If yes how long was the involvement?

1. <1 month	
2. $>1 \leq 3$ month	
3. $>3 \leq 6$ months	
4. $>1 \leq 6$ months	
5. >1 year	

vi. In your opinion do you consider the method used in public consultation effective?  
 Yes ( ) No ( )

vii. If No, why?

1. No access to information	
2. Gender discrimination	
3. No interest	
4. Politics/ bureaucracy	
5. Other	

viii. Which method would you recommend for effective public consultation?

.....  
 .....

ix. Have you previously been involved in any park rehabilitation projects?  
 Yes( ) No( )  
 If yes which one and by who?

PROJECT NAME	FACILITATOR
1.	
2.	
3.	

x. Are you aware that it is your constitutional right to be consulted on proposed development projects in your community area? Yes ( ) No ( )

END TIME	
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**THANK YOU**

QUESTIONNAIRE  
NUMBER

.....

**UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI**  
**SCHOOL OF BUILT ENVIRONMENT**  
**DEPARTMENT OF URBAN AND REGIONAL PLANNING**  
**MASTERS OF ARTS PLANNING**  
**CITY PARK: HOUSEHOLD QUESTIONNAIRE**

**Declaration:** I am a student of University of Nairobi currently pursuing post graduate studies in Urban and Regional Planning. This questionnaire is part of my field study on **Assessing planning policy framework for public urban parks: A case of City Park, Nairobi.** The information provided in this survey is confidential and shall be used purely for academic purposes only.

AREA OF RESIDENCE	
COUNTY	
DATE OF INTERVIEW	
NAME OF INTERVIEWER	
NAME OF RESPONDENT (OPTIONAL)	
START TIME	



**1. BIO DATA**

Tick (✓) appropriately. The symbol > means greater than and ≤ means less than or equal to.

f. Gender Male ( ) Female ( )

g. Marital status

1. Single	
2. Married	
3. Divorced / separated	
4. Widowed/ Widower	

h. Age (years)

1. below 20	
2. >20≤30	
3. >30≤40	
4. >40≤ 50	
5. 51 and over	

i. Level of education

1. Primary level	
2. Secondary level	
3. College/graduate	
4. None	

j. Occupation

1. Employed	
2. Self employed	
3. Unemployed	

**2. PARK UTILISATION PATTERNS**

i. Do you visit City Park? Yes ( ) No ( )

ii. If No, Why?

1. Insecurity	
2. Insufficient/ inadequate park facilities	
3. Lack of variety of recreation/ play facilities	
4. Lack of park amenities e.g. toilets, drinking water points	
5. Too far	
6. Not interested	
7. Wildlife aggression	
8. Idlers	
9. Lack of / inadequate vehicular parking areas	
10. Environmental pollution	
11. Inadequate number of sheltered areas/ gazebos	
12. Other	
13. None	

iii. If yes, how often do you visit City Park?

1. Daily		2. Weekly	
3. Monthly		4. Every 2 months	

5. Every 3 months		6. Every 6 months	
7. Yearly		8. First time	

b. Do you come alone or accompanied to City Park? Alone ( ) accompanied ( )

c. If accompanied state with whom do you come with to the park?

1. Spouse/ partner	
2. Children	
3. Friends	
4. Workmates	
5. Schoolmates	
6. Family	
7. Other (specify)	

d. Why do you visit City Park?

1. Physical exercise	
2. Educational visit	
3. Religious activities	
4. Team building	
5. Recreation	
6. Work/ business	
7. Commercial activities	
8. Other	

iv. Are you restricted from accessing City Park? Yes ( ) No ( )

b. If yes by when and by whom?

For the **Time** of the restricted access, insert numbers as follows;

1. Before 6.00 a.m
2. Between 6.00 am and 12 noon
3. Between 12 noon and 6.00 p.m
4. After 6.00 p.m

	WHO	WHEN
1. City Park Management		
2. County government / City Council		
3. Kenya Urban Roads Authority (KURA)		
4. People living within City Park		
5. Private institutions		
6. Other government agencies		
7. Other		

### 3. PARK'S NEIGHBOURHOOD IMPACT

i. Does living in the proximity of City Park impact your life?

Positively impact ( ) Negatively impact ( )

ii. What benefit do you derive by living in the City Park's neighbourhood?

1. Serene environment	
2. Clean air	
3. Increased property values	
4. Psychological well being	

5. Proximity to recreational grounds	
6. Controlled neighbourhood development	
7. Aesthetic value	
8. Source of income	
9. None	
10. Other	

iii. What negative impacts arise due to living in the City Park Neighbourhood?

1. Insecurity	
2. Congestion	
3. Environmental pollution	
4. Uncontrolled development	
5. Land conflict	
6. Human wildlife conflict	
7. None	
8. Other(s) (specify)	

#### 4. COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

i. Are you aware of any on-going rehabilitation / park redesign projects? Yes ( ) No ( )

ii. If no, would you want to be involved in future City Park rehabilitation/ redesign projects?

Yes ( ) No ( )

iii. If yes to (ii), which method would be the most effective to be used in the public consultation process?

1. Questionnaires	
2. Interviews	
3. Public forums / Barazas	
4. Other (specify)	

b. If yes to (ii), at what stage in the project/ program should you be consulted/ involved?

1. Planning	
2. Design	
3. Implementation	
4. Monitoring and evaluation	
5. Maintenance	
6. Conservation	
7. Other (specify)	

c. If yes to (ii), how long should the consultation/ involvement last?

1. 1 day	
2. 1 week	
3. 1 month	
4. 3 months	
5. 6 months	
6. 1 year	

iv. If yes to (i) which rehabilitation/ park redesign project and by who?

For the **Facilitator**, insert numbers as follows;

1. Member of County Assembly 2. County government / City Council

3. Kenya Urban Roads Authority (KURA)      4. Community Based Organisations  
 5. Aga Khan Trust for Culture / Aga Khan Development Network  
 6. Private institutions      7. Non governmental organisations  
 8. Other government agencies      9. Other

PROJECT NAME	FACILITATOR
1.	
2.	
3.	

b. If yes to (i), how did you find out?

1. Word of mouth	
2. Questionnaires	
3. Interviews	
4. Public forums / Barazas	
5. Posters	
6. From the media e.g. radio, TV, newspapers	
7. Social media e.g. Facebook, Twitter, Whatsup etc	
8. Other (specify)	

v. Were you consulted in any way? Yes ( )      No ( )

a. If yes, which method was used in the public consultation process?

1. Questionnaires	
2. Interviews	
3. Public forums / Barazas	
4. Other	

b. If yes how long was the consultation?

1. 1 day	
2. 1 week	
3. 1 month	
4. 3 months	
5. 6 months	
6. 1 year	

vi. Have you been involved in any way? Yes ( )      No ( )

a. If yes, at what stage in the project/ program?

1. Planning	
2. Design	
3. Implementation	
4. Monitoring and evaluation	
5. Maintenance	
6. Conservation	
7. Other	

b. If yes how long was the involvement?

1. <1 month	
2. >1 ≤ 3 month	
3. >3 ≤ 6 months	
4. >1 ≤ 6 months	

5. >1 year	
------------	--

c. In your opinion do you consider the method used in public consultation effective?  
 Yes ( )                      No ( )

d. If No, why?

1. No access to information	
2. Gender discrimination	
3. No interest	
4. Politics/ bureaucracy	
5. Other	

e. Which method would you recommend for effective public consultation?

.....  
 .....

vii. Have you previously been involved in any park rehabilitation projects?

Yes( ) No( )

If yes which one and by who?

<b>PROJECT NAME</b>	<b>FACILITATOR</b>
1.	
2.	
3.	

vii. Are you aware that it is your constitutional right to be consulted on proposed development projects in your community area? Yes ( )                      No ( )

END TIME	
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**THANK YOU**

