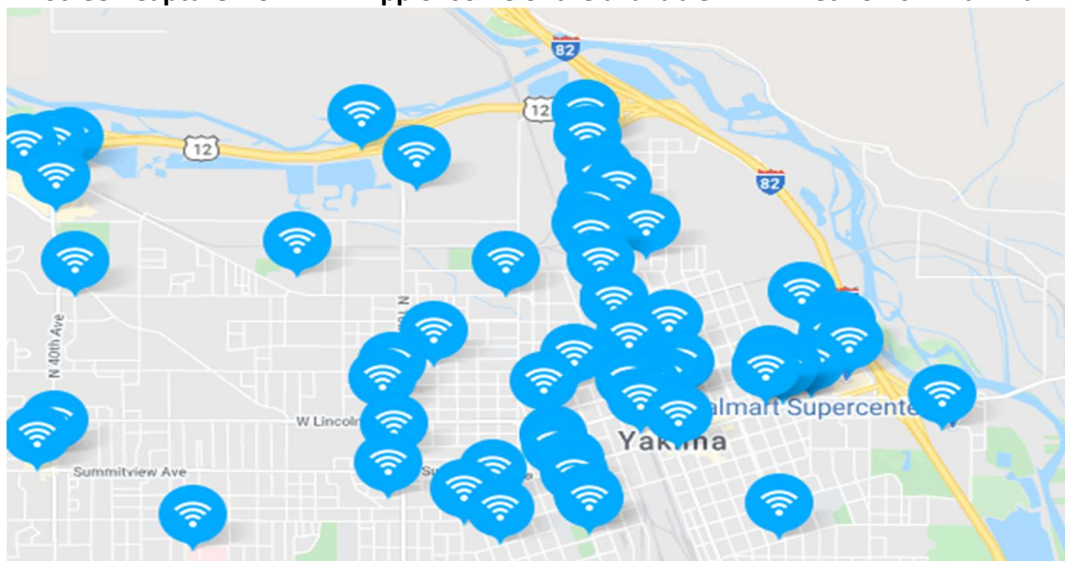




The concept of free Wi-Fi in parks has been discussed various times over the past few years. City staff has identified considerations for implementing free Wi-Fi in our parks:

1. Money: We approached one vendor about putting together a proposal to add Wi-Fi to Gilbert, Miller and MLK parks. They came back with a very rough guesstimate of \$5,000+ to put together a plan and proposal for a Wi-Fi mesh in three of our parks. We expect Miller Park to be the most inexpensive of our major parks. At this time, we estimate an upfront cost of \$50,000 to \$60,000. Approximately 1/3 of this is for the required technical equipment and internet service with the rest to cover electrical and other expenses. Additionally, we estimate an ongoing annual equipment replacement fund of \$3,500 to \$5,000.
2. Security: One of the major disadvantages of public Wi-Fi lies in its inability to:
 - a. Offer proper security to the users. Public Wi-Fi networks are often a target of hackers. This opens up other Wi-Fi users to attacks from these potential hackers.
 - b. Properly shut down malicious or illegal activity of the Wi-Fi users. This could include, pornography, illegal downloading of media, etc. While we have the ability to restrict this to a degree, we would not be able to completely do so.
3. Total number and physical size of the Parks: The Yakima Parks and Recreation Division maintains 41 parks and City owned properties covering 375.41 acres. Some of these parks, like Randall Park and Kiwanis Park, are large areas that would be difficult to provide free Wi-Fi.
4. Wi-Fi in the parks may be overlapping existing free Wi-Fi services. Yakima already has several free Wi-Fi locations available: Yakima Regional Library, Yakima Transit Buses, North Town Coffeehouse, Dutch Brothers, Starbucks, McDonald's, Panera Bread, Target, Best Buy, etc. According to WiFi App, a free mobile app tested by IT Services, there are over 200 free or crowd sourced Wi-Fi networks in Yakima.

Screen Capture from WiFi App of some of the available Wif-Fi networks in Yakima



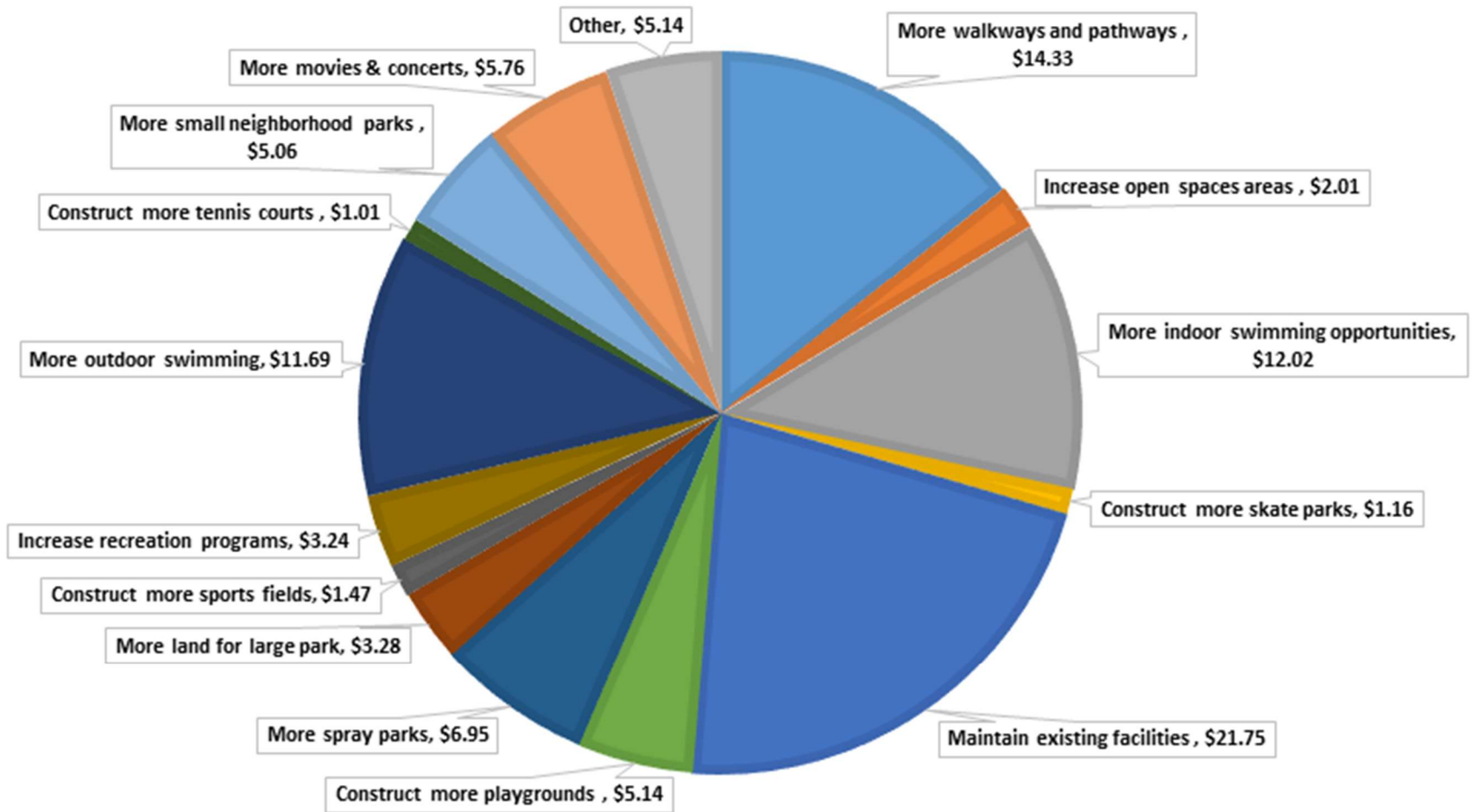
Should the City Council decide that providing Wi-Fi to the general public is a necessity, it is the recommendation of staff that we look into providing Wi-Fi only at existing community serving locations such as: The Henry Beauchamp Jr. Community Center, Washington Fruit Community Center and the Harman Center as a more cost-effective route that provides the means to monitor usage and potentially lessen the liability. However, we do not if these centers are interested in this service and do not have a true cost estimate at this time.

Should Council decide that providing Wi-Fi to the general public within our parks, it is the recommendation of staff to test this service at one of these parks.

Park	Address	Acres	Current Amenities
Gilbert Park	N. 50 th & Lincoln	10.9	Parking lot, open space, picnic tables
MLK Jr. Park	S. 8 th Street & Race Street	3.48	Spray park, playground, picnic shelter, picnic tables, mini soccer, basketball courts
Miller Park	N. 4 th Street and E “E” Street	3.96	Picnic shelter, performance area, playground, picnic tables, basketball courts

During the 2017 – 2022 Comprehensive Master Planning process for Yakima Parks and Recreation, a community wide survey was conducted. Surveys were sent to 4,500 homes. A survey for our next Comprehensive Plan will be conducted in early 2021 and a specific question could be asked about the level of interest in free Wi-Fi in the parks.

YOU HAVE \$100 TO SPEND AS YOU LIKE ON THE ITEMS LISTED BELOW



2019 Master Plan for Lions & Franklin Pools Survey

If funding can be found for the renovations at Franklin Pool, what improvements are needed? Rank 1 to 14

1.5	Waterslides
1.5	Family Restrooms
3	Spray Toys
6	Beach Entry
6	Concessions
6	Picnic Area
7.5	Lobby/Waiting area
9	Lap Lanes
9	Lazy River
9	Water Playground
10	Shaded Grass Area
11	Climbing features
11.5	WiFi
14	I Don't Know
15	Other

If funding can be found for the renovations at Lions Pool, what improvements are needed? Rank 1 to 14

1	Waterslides
2	Floatables
3	Family Restrooms
4	WiFi
6.5	Spray Toys
6.5	Lap Lanes
7	Concessions
7.5	Climbing features
7.5	I Don't Know
10.5	Beach Entry
10.5	Water Playground
12	Lobby/Waiting area
13	Lazy River
14	Other