# KCI Area Development Destination Subcommittee Report

August 2016



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# **BACKGROUND INFO**

In 2015, the Twin Creeks KC Taskforce determined that it had garnered enough preliminary information and moved to form three working groups to help formulate recommendations. A fourth group, Destination Opportunities, was considered, but not activated at that time.

The Taskforce had considered a sub-committee to evaluate Destination Opportunities. Because this item was not fully vetted by the Twin Creeks KC Taskforce, it was recommended that a small committee coordinate meetings to garner input in order to obtain destination ideas.

The goal of the Destination Subcommittee was to develop qualified recommendations to the KCI Area Development full committee as one of the first action items out of the Twin Creeks KC Development Task Force Final Report.

### SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS

At the October 1, 2015 KCI Area Development meeting, it was agreed a small subcommittee should be formed to start working on site identification and related destination opportunities. Brian Nowotny (Platte County Parks) agreed to chair the subcommittee, and the following individuals were then selected to comprise the KCI Area Development Destination Subcommittee:

NAME	ORGANIZATION/COMPANY
Brian Nowotny (Chair)	Platte County Parks
Leslie Johnson (Vice-Chair)	The Land Source
Richard Allen	Kansas City Parks
John DeBauche	Kansas City Planning and Development
Rosemary Salerno	Zona Rosa
Jennifer Goering	Platte County CVB
Sheila Tracy	Northland Regional Chamber
Alicia Stephens	Platte County Economic Development Council
Stephanie Neppl	Platte County Economic Development Council

# **GOALS**

During the November 3 meeting, the following subcommittee goals were identified:

- a. Continue to ensure we have the right destination opportunities on the list to present to the KCI Area Development Action Team. The list should include realistic and attainable opportunities.
- b. Manage funding strategies in alignment with others that are working well, such as the KCI TIF and Platte County Parks tax.
- c. Identify one or a group of destination opportunities in a timely manner.
- d. Identify potential parcels/owners for destination uses



# **FOCUS AREAS**

During the December 1 meeting, the group identified five major focus areas of the destination opportunities:

- 1. Youth Sports
- 2. Healthcare and Wellness
- 3. Education
- 4. Arts and Culture
- 5. Natural Resources

# TIMELINE OF MEETINGS

MONTH	MAIN TOPIC	ORGANIZATIONS/INDIVIDUALS PRESENT
11/3/2015	Initial committee structure	Subcommittee
12/1/2015	Committee goals	Subcommittee
1/5/2016	Youth Sports	Subcommittee
2/2/2016	Youth Sports	Mike Sharp (KC Sports Commission)
		Shane Hackett (Heartland Soccer)
3/1/2016	Healthcare	Lisa Michaelis (Mosaic Life Care)
		Matt Wenzel (Saint Luke's North Hospital)
3/2/2016	Healthcare	Peggy Schmitt (North Kansas City Hospital)
3/28/2016	Education	Jeanette Cowherd (Park Hill School District)
4/5/2016	Education	Erik Bergrud (Park University)
		Mike Reik (Platte County R-3 School District)
5/3/2016	Arts and Culture	Megan Crigger (KCMO Office of Culture and Creative Services)
		Consuela Cruz (KCMO Office of Culture and Creative Services)
		Andrea Robinson (Arts KC)
		Steve McDowell (Arts KC)
		Liz Bowman (KCMO Municipal Art Commission)
5/10/2016	Youth Sports	Ashley Green (Sporting KC)
		Justin Compton (Sporting KC)
6/7/2016	Natural Resources	Wendy Sangster (Missouri Department of Conservation)
		Stephen Van Rhein (Missouri Department of Conservation)
		Kathy Gates (KC Native Plant Initiative)
		Ginger Werp (KC Native Plant Initiative)
		Karen Kerkhoff (Overland Park Arboretum)
6/13/2016	Youth Sports	David Ficklin (Sporting KC)



## YOUTH SPORTS – KEY FINDINGS

- There is growing interest in youth soccer and a demand for a new complex in the Northland.
- Heartland Soccer Association (HSA) is the largest youth soccer league in the United States with approximately 30,000 players from three to eighteen years of age. Many of these youth players are coming from the Northland. HSA has approximately 177 smaller "affiliate" clubs that make up the Association, and approximately 380 teams on the Missouri side of the state line. Some of the Northland clubs under the HSA umbrella are Futura, Legacy, and Harambe.
- HSA believes that a new complex in Platte County would not compete with existing facilities or saturate the market, but could be programmed cooperatively to provide a home for local youth play and attract more regional and nation tournaments in partnership with the other complexes.
- Working with local soccer clubs would be key to any destination facility project, including having an
  experienced operational partner who could bring a high level of expertise in organizing leagues and
  tournaments.
- A Platte County soccer complex would need to have eight fields (minimum) and synthetic turf and lighting. Fields would need to be synthetic turf, not grass, and lighting would also be very important for evening programming.
- Heartland Soccer Association would be interested in becoming both a capital investor and programming partner at a new soccer complex facility in Platte County.
- Sporting KC is focused on finding opportunities for locations, partnerships and funding.
- Sporting KC conducted a demand study for youth soccer fields in the past 10 years and found that
  the Kansas City area was underserved by approximately 120 fields. Since that time approximately 25
  new fields have been built, and another 25 or so have been planned, still leaving a significant unmet
  need. None of the new fields have been built or planned for the Northland.



## **HEALTHCARE/WELLNESS – KEY FINDINGS**

- Preventative wellness is becoming increasingly important and offering more services is desired.
- Mosaic Life Care has an interest to create destination health places that would offer a specialty service which is more of a 'life hotel' than a hospital. Mosaic is very interested in the intentional community we are envisioning for Twin Creeks KC.
- Current programs and services for mental health needs is not enough to meet demands. Providers
  are turning away mental health patients due to lack of staff. Saint Luke's North Hospital had to turn
  away 700 mental health patients last year for this reason.
- In addition, educational providers acknowledged that there are limited resources to offer mental health needs at all levels.
- North Kansas City Hospital has a mission to work with community partners and only want this to grow to help change the culture of health and wellness. They already have an abundance of opportunities but are always looking for more.
- Saint Luke's North Hospital advised that when recruiting doctors, the perceptions are that schools
  down south are great, even though Platte County school districts have better test scores. They also
  hear that a lack of diversity and lack of choices in the Northland are concerns for some applicants.
  For example, Overland Park has a Muslim community, whereas there is no temple or mosque in the
  Northland.

### **EDUCATION – KEY FINDINGS**

- Park University, Platte County R-3 School District and Park Hill School District all identified that they have facility needs that are not being met in Platte County.
- Park University holds two graduation ceremonies per year for 1-2,000 people and must hold them in Independence. Their biggest onsite venue is the chapel so they are challenged from basic events to bigger concerts. In the past they've had enquiries from presidential campaigns to hold events on campus but could not accommodate.
- Park University believes a flexible venue that accommodates 2000-5000 would meet their needs.
- Park University is also interested in a conversation regarding its future ability to host events such as big rivalry games to accommodate some of the 11,000 alumni region-wide who may attend.
- Youth sports are important because they could be potential future Park University students and they are regularly asked about space for lacrosse (which they may add soon).
- Platte County R-3 School District identified a need for a large civic enter similar to something like the
  Independence Arena. They also need a large indoor/outdoor fine arts venue with amphitheater that
  could accommodate a large audience. If such a venue existed, they could use it daily for
  programming. Their current 10 gyms don't meet needs.
- Platte County R-3's graduation is held at the KCI Expo Center, which they have outgrown.
- Park Hill School District has a need for a fine arts venue as they do not have enough capacity.



### ARTS AND CULTURE – KEY FINDINGS

- Arts KC, who strives to be the voice of the arts community, did an economic prosperity study in 2016 which showed Platte County residents are not spending as much money on the arts as Clay County residents.
- Arts KC are keen to support more arts in the Northland, saying it makes sense to have a larger venue given proximity to the airport.
- If public art pieces are needed, Arts KC can help advocate for this or help identify funding sources.
- Arts KC identified a big issue is the lack of branding of the Northland. They struggle with event attendance in the Northland and believe more marketing needs to be done to attract visitors.
- Arts KC stressed looking at what exists in the Twin Creeks area, such as the natural resources, and building off of that to create vibrant spaces.
- The KCMO Municipal Art Commission is in charge of public art administration and currently has 44 pieces in their collection valued at \$20 million.
- The KCMO Office of Culture and Creative Services was created a year ago and supports creativity.
  They run a loan program for artists and manage the Neighborhood Tourist Development Fund
  (NTDF). They are also working on a cultural tourism initiative and have mapped to see where the clusters are located.
- Stories are important, particularly the history of the Northland so incorporating that where possible is key.



### NATURAL RESOURCES – KEY FINDINGS

- The Missouri Department of Conservation is not looking at acquiring any more land at this stage but they have an internal push to increase their community conservation efforts.
- Combining development with natural resources is a good way forward, and it was suggested to
  consider incentivizing the first development going into Twin Creeks KC and use it as an example.
   MDC could possibly be involved to help reduce the risk. Asking developers to plant a diversity of
  trees would help efforts.
- The MDC has some funding available for partnership opportunities. They suggested finding pockets of higher quality natural resources that we would want to protect and MDC can offer ideas on how to manage landscapes in a more natural way and look for opportunities whether it's exotics management, replanting, how to go forward w/prairies or open fields.
- MDC suggests we push the envelope on the stormwater study side as having a healthy creek in an
  urban area is a huge asset as people will drive for natural amenities. They may have some funds to
  assist here.
- If we are after creating a high-value natural resource destination, the plant community is key. Bird watching, butterflies, streams all come along with that.
- Forested areas are highly sought after as well as open areas that connect to creeks and managed prairies are a draw.
- The Overland Park Arboretum has 620 total acres: 45 acres are manicured gardens, 200 acres are wooded areas, primarily untouched other than trails and 180 acres are prairies that they are trying to restore. The land was purchased in 1991 and they just started charging a \$3 admission in 2013 almost 20 years of not charging one.
- The Arboretum attracts around 110,000 visitors per year factoring in all events. They advise us to choose our vision well, work to that vision immediately and visit as many similar facilities as we can so we can determine early on where we want to go with our vision. They believe offering a high quality destination has to do with people's expectations and how to best meet those expectations. The Arboretum believe they have something for everybody but they have more than they can manage well.
- The Native Plants Initiative just formed as a 501c3 in April 2016. One of their focuses is having more
  open, natural areas. They wish to add value and hope that partners will come together to tell them
  what is needed and what our objectives are. They can help get things funded and coordinate
  meetings.
- Education and training are key issues right now. The Native Plants Initiative is offering seminars and classes for park workers and many who lack the proper training to manage the landscapes.



### RECOMMENDATIONS

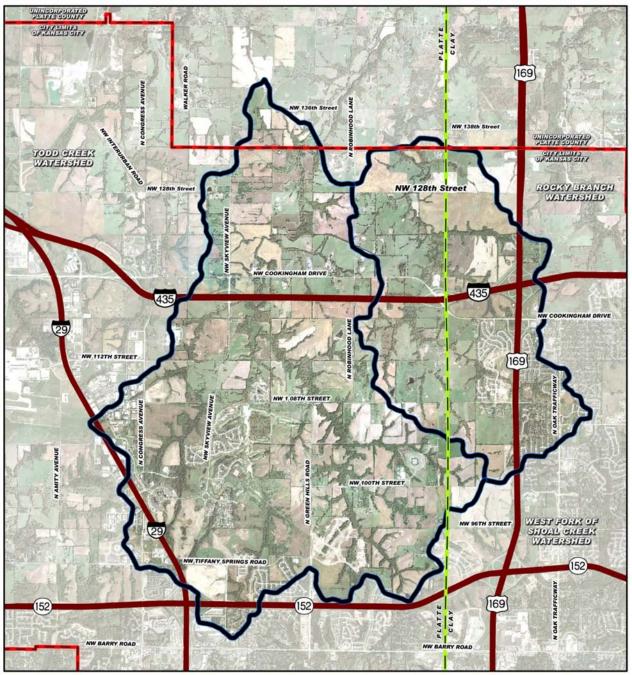
The initial goal of the Destination Subcommittee was to offer a vision for the destination opportunities in the Twin Creeks KC area. What became clear during the process is that such a destination opportunity would be a combination of focus areas and uses, not a standalone facility.

Trails and parks are both amenities people of all ages enjoy, but on their own they are not high impact destinations which draw visitors in from outside the area. Youth sports can be a destination which could bring users from all over the Kansas City Metro Area as well as draw from other states through tournament activities. Alongside youth sports facilities, the arts, natural resources, wellness and education can be amenities.

Therefore, our recommendations to the KCI Area Development Action Team are:

- A youth-focused destination soccer/multi-use facility that would be collaboratively developed by the public and private sectors and connected to a mixed-use center offering access to neighborhood retail, residential, and educational amenities. The mixed use destination facility would be connected to surrounding neighborhoods and developments through greenway trails along First and Second Creek.
- 2. Continue to coordinate with the Big Idea Northland initiative through City of Kansas City staff to maximize efforts and tap into another base of ideas from Northlanders about what amenities they most desire.
- 3. Keep the conversations going with potential partners as we identify strategies going forward.





Map ID	Field Name	Number of Fields	Map ID	Field Name	Number of Fields		48	Part 1			=		
1	Kansas City Soccer Dome (Indoor)	1	25	All American Indoor Sports Inc (Indoor)	5			A		r	Platte		
2	Swope Park Soccer Complex	6	26	Tiffany Athletic Zone (Indoor)	1				A	Tuu			5 435
3	Swope Soccer Park	6	27	KCK Athletic Zone (Indoor)	1				& A				
4	Western Missouri Field Complex	13*	28	Independence Athletic Complex	8				7206	129	A	15	15
5	Blue River Park Athletic Field	3	29	Franke Soccer Fields	4	Leavenu	orth						
6	Tiffany Springs Park	6	30	Heritage Soccer Park	18				<b>一种</b>				12
7	Tiffany Hills Park	2	31	Lone Elm Park	8		1. 1	J. 12 4				37	37
8	Overland Park Soccer Complex	12	32	Highland View Park	2						1		
9	Kenneth Polo Fields	16*	33	Blackbob Park	2		1 435					24	24
10	The Soccer Lot (Indoor)	18*	34	Van Brunt Park	3						THE PARTY OF THE P		144
11	Fountain Bluff Sports Complex	6	35	Belvidere Park	2		Wyano	lotte 170				40	40 42 43
12	Happy Rock Park	4	36	Sycamore Park	1							10 39	10/39 34
13	Rosedale Park	1	37	Frank Vaydik Park	1								38
14	Hidden Valley Sports Complex	7	38	Central Park	1	H. M. P.				16)		46	40
15	YMCA Challenger Sports Complex	1	39	Gage Park	1		18		135				32
16	Roeland Park Dome (Indoor)	2	40	Garrison Park	1				1				3
17	Northeast Athletic Fields	1	41	Heim Park	1			25	/		要		
18	Charles J. Stump Park	7	42	Lykins Square	1		Johnson	X	19	20		5	5
19	Indian Valley Park	1	43	Maple Park	1		101	/		23			
20	Nall Hills Park	1	44	Nicholson Ball Diamond	1								
21	Roe Park	2	45	Platte Purchase Park	1				8 32				十十十十
22	Legacy Park	12	46	Roanoke Park	1		135		# 3 - 3		9		
23	Leawood North Field	1	47	Sheffield Park	1		3133	330					S LIPE
24	Macken Park	2	48	Platte Ridge Park	4								



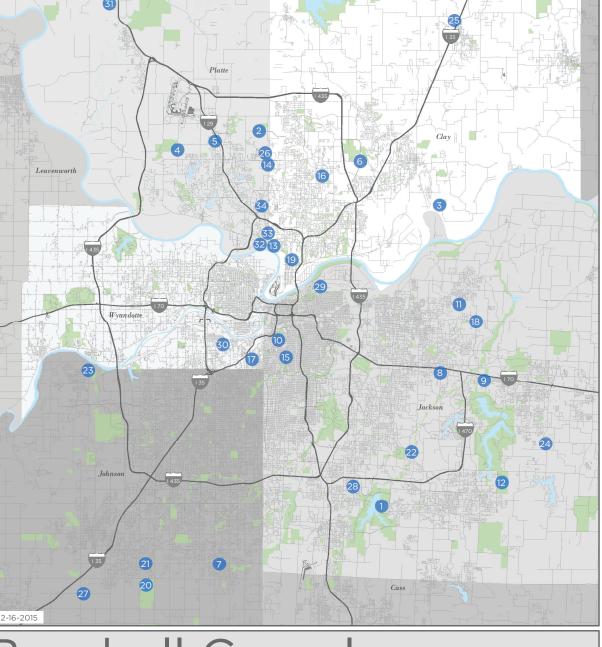
# Metro Area Soccer Complexes

Soccer Complex

Parks



Map ID	Field Name	Number of Fields	Map ID	Field Name	Number of Fields
1	Frank White Jr. Softball Complex	5	18	Clifton Park	3
2	Platte Purchase Park	13	19	Macken Park	4
3	Fountain Bluff Sports Complex	11	20	Heritage Park	4
4	Tiffany Springs Park	7	21	Blackbob Park	8
5	Tiffany Hills Park	8	22	Little Blue Trace Park	4
6	Hodge Park	1	23	Charles J. Stump Park	7
7	Blue Valley Recreation Activity Center	26	24	Young Park	3
8	Adair Park	7	25	Mack Porter Park	6
9	Hidden Valley Sports Complex	12	26	YMCA Challenger Sports Complex	1
10	Penn Valley Park	2	27	Lone Elm Park	5
11	Independence Athletics Complex	5	28	Clark Ketterman Athletic Field	6
12	Legacy Park Softball Fields	22	29	Nicholson Fields	1
13	Waterwell Park	5	30	Silver City Park	1
14	Barry Platte Park	1	31	Platte Ridge Park	4
15	Gillham Park	1	32	English Landing Park	3
16	Happy Rock Park	5	33	EH Young Park	1
17	Rosedale Park	2	34	Frank Vaydik Park	3
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# Metro Area Baseball Complexes

Baseball Complex

Parks



# **Top 10 lists Northland Leadership**

Attraction/Activity
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Berkley Riverfront Park Boulevard Brewery Tour Broadway Theatre

Alliacion/Activity			
Arrowhead/Kauffman Stadiums	9	Celebration at the Station	1
Plaza	9	Community festivals	1
Kansas City Zoo	8	Dinner Theatre	1
Nelson-Atkins Museum	7	Fountains	1
Zona Rosa	7	Hallmark Visitors Center	1
Kauffmann Center	6	Happy Rock Park	1
City Market/River Market	5	Harley-Davidson tour	1
Crown Center	5	Irish Festival	1
Sporting KC games	5	Jazz Museum	1
Starlight	5	KC Airshow	1
Union Station	5	KC Auto Show - Barthel Hall	1
Legends	4	KC Fringe	1
Power and Light District	4	Knuckleheads	1
Worlds of Fun/Oceans of Fun	4	Lakes - Blue Springs, Smithville, Jessmo	1
First Fridays at the Crossroads	3	Neighborhoods (River Market, Liberty, Lee's Summit)	1
Line Creek Trail	3	Nicky's Pizza - Liberty	1
Local parks	3	NKC Snake Parade	1
Plaza Art Fair	3	New Theatre	1
Restaurants	3	Oak Park Mall	1
Sprint Center	3	O'Mally brewery tour and pub	1
Westport	3	Red Barn Farm/Weston in the Fall	1
Argosy	2	Renaissance Festival	1
Deanna Rosa Farmstead	2	River Bottoms - Antiquing	1
Loose Park picnic	2	Roasterie	1
Microbrewery/distillery tours	2	Science City	1
Missouri Mavericks	2	Sea Life/Lego Land	1
Movies/AMC Theatre	2	Smithville Lake	1
Negro League Museum	2	Steamboat Arabia	1
West Bottoms	2	Waldo Pizza	1
Alamo Drafthouse	1	Waldo Pub Tour	1
Anita B Gorman Discovery Center	1	WWI Museum	1
Aquatic Centers	1		
Bass Pro Shop/Cabelas	1		
BBQ restaurants	1		

### **Top 10 lists Northland Leadership**

### Activities/attractions

Plaza (9)

Kansas City Zoo (8)

Nelson-Atkins Museum (7)

City Market/River Market (6)

Crown Center (5)

Union Station (5)

Power and Light (4)

Worlds of Fun/Oceans of Fun (4)

West Bottoms (3)

Westport (3)

Deanna Rosa Farmstead (2)

Negro League (2)

Anita B Gorman Discovery Center (1)

Aquatic Centers (1)

Arabia Steamboat Museum (1)

Fountains (1)

Hallmark Visitors Center (1)

Harley-Davidson tour (1)

Jazz Museum (1)

Red Barn Farm (1)

Science City (1)

Sea Life/Lego Land (1)

Weston in the fall (1)

WWI Museum (1)

### Parks/Recreation

Line Creek Trail (3)

Local Parks (3)

Loose Park (2)

Smithville Lake (1)

Lakes - Blue Springs, Smithville, Jacomo (1)

Berkley Riverfront Park (1)

Happy Rock Park (1)

### **Events**

First Fridays at the Crossroads (3)

Plaza Art Fair (3)

Irish Festival (1)

KC Auto Show - BartleHall (1)

KC Fringe (1)

NKC Snake Parade (1)

Renaissance Festival (1)

KC Airshow (1)

Celebration at the Station (1)

Community festivals (1)

### Dining/drinking

Microbrewery/distillery tours (2)

Alamo Drafthouse (1)

BBQ restaurants (1)

Boulevard Brewery Tour (1)

O'Mally brewery tour and pub (1)

Roasterie (1)

Waldo Pub Tour (1)

Waldo Pizza (1)

Nicky's Pizza - Liberty (1)

### **Sporting**

Arrowhead/Kauffman Stadiums (9)

Sporting KC games (5)

Missouri Mavericks (2)

### **Entertainment**

Kauffmann Center (6)

Starlight (5)

Restaurants (3)

Sprint Center (3)

Argosy (2)

Movies/AMC Theatre (2)

New Theatre (1)

Broadway Theatre (1)

Dinner Theatre (1)

Knuckleheads (1)

### **Shopping**

Zona Rosa (7)

Legends (4)

Bass Pro Shop/Cabelas (1)

Oak Park Mall (1)

City

Omaha

**Top Attractions** 

Trip Advisor Top 10 Henry Doorly Zoo

Joslyn Art Museum

Old Market

The Durham Museum

Lauritzen Gardens Omaha's Botanical Center

Bob Kerrey Pedestrian Bridge Omaha Children's Museum

TD Ameritrade Park

Centurylink Center Omaha

First National's Spirit of Nebraska Wilderness & Pioneer Courage Park

Other Interesting Attractions Escape Games (Entrap Games & The Escape Omaha)

St. Louis

Trip Advisor Top Ten Missouri Botanical Garden

Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis

St. Louis Zoo City Museum Busch Stadium Forest Park

Missouri Civil War Museum

The Fox Theatre Gateway Arch

St. Louis Art Museum

Other Attractions Grants Farm

Magic House

Laumeier Sculpture Park

Denver

Trip Advisor Top Ten Denver Botanic Gardens

**Mount Evans** 

Denver Museum of Nature & Science

Coors Field

Denver Art Museum

Mount Evans Scenic Byway

Denver Zoo

Kirkland Museum of Fine & Decorative Art

**Denver Public Library** 

Sports Authority Field at Mile High

Other Attractions Denver Center for the Performing Arts

Red Rocks Park & Ampitheater

San Jose

Trip Advisor Top Ten Municipal Rose Garden

Rosicrucian Egyptian Museum Winchester Mystery House Children's Discovery Museum The Tech Museum of Innovation

Happy Hollow Park & Zoo Cathedral Basilica of St. Joseph

**SAP Center** 

California Theatre

Almaden Quicksilver County Park

Other Attractions Lick Observatory on Mt. Hamilton

**Minneapolis** 

Trip Advisor Top Ten Minneapolis Institute of Art

Target Field
Guthrie Theater
Minnehaha Park
Lake Harriet
Mill City Museum
Lake Calhoun

Minneapolis Sculputure Garden

Chain of Lakes Lake of the Isles

Other Attractions Walker Art Center

Mall of America Minnesota Zoo

*Indianapolis* 

Trip Advisor Top Ten Children's Museum of Indianapolis

Victory Field

Indianapolis Motor Speedway & Hall of Fame

Indianapolis Museum of Art

Lucas Oil Stadium
The Eiteljorg Museum
Indiana War Memorial

Central Canal

White River State Park Monument Circle

Other Attractions Indianapolis Zoo

**Des Moines** 

Trip Advisor Top Ten Capitol Building

Iowa State Fairgrounds Downtown Farmers Market Pappajohn Sculpture Park

Blank Park Zoo

Des Moines Civic Center

Principal Park Grays Lake Park

Des Moines Art Center

**Greater Des Moines Botanical Gardens** 

Other Attractions Better Homes & Gardens Test Garden

Salisbury House & Gardens

**Sacremento** 

Trip Advisor Top Ten California State Railroad Museum

Crocker Art Museum

California State Capitol & Museum American River Bicycle Trail

Capitol Park
Old Sacremento

Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrement California Automobile Museum

Sacremento Zoo

Sutter's Fort State Historic Park

Other Attractions Fairytale Town

Tulsa

Trip Advisor Top Ten Philbrook Museum of Art

Gilcrease Museum

BOK Center Tulsa Zoo ONEOK Field

Woody Guthrie Center

**Woodward Park** 

Tulsa Performing Arts Center

The Cave House

Boston Ave. Methodist Church

Other Attractions Linnaeus Teaching Gardens

Mary Oxley Nature Center

Turkey Mountain Urban Wilderness Area

Oklahoma City

Trip Advisor Top Ten Oklahoma City National Memorial & Museum

National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum

Museum of Osteology Oklahoma City Zoo

Oklahoma City Museum of Art Myriad Botanical Gardens Chesapeake Energy Arena 45th Infantry Division Museum Science Museum of Oklahoma Chickasaw Bricktown Ballpark

Other Attractions Escape Games

Orr Family Farm

Oklahoma History Center

Austin

Trip Advisor Top Ten State Capitol

Lady Bird Lake Hike-and-Bike Trail

LBJ Presidential Library

**Bullock Texas State History Museum** 

**Barton Springs Pool** 

The Driskill

Zilker Metro Park

Town Lake Mount Bonnell

South Congress Avenue

Other Attractions Zilker Botanical Gardens

Umlauf Sculpture Garden