

PUBLIC PARK AND RECREATION LAND
AVAILABILITY IN THE CITY OF CHICAGO

An Abstract of

A Thesis

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ABSTRACT

Increased leisure time, income and mobility have caused a sharp rise in the demand for outdoor recreation in the City of Chicago. A total inventory of all public recreation land in Chicago demonstrates that city park acreage per 1000 population falls far behind the suggested national standard. Chicago also has fewer acres of city park land in relation to its population than any other major U. S. city. The population demand on parks and park facilities on any segment of the City for 1970 is shown. Population potential and recreation availability were developed through the use of gravity models and were demonstrated in maps. A Residual Surface Map was developed presenting segments of the City of Chicago that have an abundance or an under supply of park sites available to the population. Recommendations to alleviate deficiencies of park availability in the City of Chicago are presented.