

# APPENDIX E: PARK DEVELOPMENT AND RENOVATION GUIDELINES

The provision of quality parks in Sacramento is influenced by standards, guidelines and policies, the availability of funding and resources, and implementation decisions in the field that guide the styles and scale of amenities, facilities, and landscaping provided in parks. **Appendix E. Park Development and Renovation Guidelines** provides directions to guide park acquisition, design, development, and renovation through the year 2040. It supplements the policies, standards, and guidelines presented in *Appendix D*.

Sacramento's parks should reflect the unique cultural, social, and environmental context of the neighborhood or space where developed – while also ensuring some measure of consistency in the quality and level of development residents can expect from City parks. Accordingly, the guidelines presented here are intended to be flexible and should not be applied to support “cookie-cutter” parks. Especially for new parks, site amenity planning and design will identify site and neighborhood characteristics – as well as local community preferences – that will influence the ways these design guidelines are implemented.

## Guideline Sources and Integration

The guidelines are integrated from several key sources to provide a comprehensive, consolidated source of directions:

- Sacramento 2040 General Plan, Ch. 10 Youth, Parks, Recreation, and Open Space
- 2005-2010 Parks and Recreation Plan
- 2018-2023 YPCE Strategic Plan
- YPCE 2018 Park Project Programming Guide (PPPG)
- Additional YPCE park and facility guidelines

These elements are numbered for ease of reference; they do not appear in priority order. For overarching policies on the provision of parks, see Appendix D: Policies. This document distinguishes standards and guidelines as follows:

- **Standards** are minimum requirements that YPCE and the City shall strive to meet. These apply to requirements such as LOS standards.
- **Guidelines** are intended to provide direction in decision-making when providing parks and facilities. The following information is considered to be guidelines unless otherwise noted.

## Systemwide Guidelines For Quality Parks & Facilities

### Long-Range Park Planning

- A. Update the Parks Plan periodically to ensure it reflects current and projected community needs to guide park planning.
- B. Monitor changing community needs to guide new park development. Conduct studies periodically to identify new and emerging trends in recreation, community demographics, park design, and the provision of facilities to determine evolving needs and incorporate these into site planning and design.
- C. Monitor the pace and location of new residential development through the development review process and long-range planning efforts to ensure that development of parks and facilities keeps pace with growth.
- D. Periodically update the park demand/deficiency analysis to identify neighborhoods where new parks or other recreation opportunities are needed.

- E. Take an active role in ensuring sufficient parks, open space, and parkways by participating in the land use planning and development processes of the City and other agencies.
  - F. Through the development conditioning process, encourage the provision of private open space and recreation facilities in high density residential projects, mixed use projects, and employment centers in the vicinity of transit corridors to meet a portion of the open space and recreational needs of residents, employees, and visitors that will be generated by that development
  - G. Regularly update the City’s Park Impact Fee Nexus Study to ensure park dedication or impact fee funding levels support land acquisition and development of “primary” park design elements.
  - H. Coordinate with City Specific Plan development to address park and recreation needs in all residential areas and areas with unique natural/physical barriers opportunities or barriers.
- iii. **Compatible Locations:** Site parks, when geographically feasible, adjacent to compatible use areas such as greenbelts, multi-modal trail corridors, schools, other public and nonprofit facilities (e.g., libraries, cultural facilities, police or fire stations), stormwater detention basins, and natural waterways to facilitate efficient land use, cost sharing, and customer access, and reduced operations and maintenance costs.
  - iv. **Site Adjacencies and Context:** Avoid sites where parks are not compatible with surrounding uses, where adjacent uses may impact the health of park visitors (e.g., noise, pollution), or where park use is impeded by surrounding uses.
  - v. **Development Restrictions:** Avoid elements that restrict the function, development, or usability of the land, such as underground or overhead utilities, unsuitable topography, restrictive easements, or other development restrictions unless the restriction is for the protection of natural or cultural resources.
  - vi. **Development Suitability:** Avoid park sites with extensive or excessive slopes, swales, drainage courses, creeks, wetlands/biological habitat, and similar landscapes, if these prevent recreation uses. Allow natural areas for passive recreation and natural resource protection as defined within the requirements for each park type.
  - vii. **Residential Impacts:** Locate each park site so that it has a minimal negative impact on surrounding residential areas due to park uses, lighting, noise, traffic, etc. Accordingly, residential back-on lots against parks and side-on lots are discouraged.

### Acquisition and Site Selection

- A. Adhere to best practices when selecting sites (or accepting land dedications) for new parks.
  - i. **Size and Shape:** Ensure that each park site is of a sufficient size and shape suitable for park use, functionality, accessibility, and circulation. Follow guidelines by park classification and type.
  - ii. **Centralized Location:** Locate each park so that it is centralized within the area it is intended to serve—unless the site can be co-located with another open space, school, detention basin or similar resource that expands its capacity to serve the local community. (Note the co-located facility does not count toward parkland unless it is intentionally developed for recreation uses.)

## APPENDIX E

- viii. Repurposed Sites: In built-out areas deficient in greenspace, carefully consider the return on investment when acquiring sites already developed for other uses, especially where demolition or redevelopment (if needed) may be costly. Consider developing the following types of spaces as parks: detention basins, trailheads, open space (converted to parkland), school yards, public grounds, areas around City-owned buildings, vacant lands, linear corridors, utility easements, or space in revitalization areas.
  - ix. Health Impacts: Avoid sites adjacent to pollutants (e.g., industrial areas, interstates) that may affect the health of park visitors.
  - x. Resource Protection: Site new parks to leverage desirable natural, cultural, or historic resources that support the purpose and use of the park.
  - xi. Ecological and Environmental Benefits: Recognize mutual advantages and benefits in co-locating greenspace. For example, develop parks and drainage facilities together as joint use projects to maximize stormwater filtration; co-located parks, open space, and trail corridors to expand wildlife habitat.
- B. Focus park land acquisitions in areas of targeted needs.
- i. Needs Identification: Consider park classification, access, residential/workplace density, population vulnerability, environmental characteristics, nearby or adjacent parks and recreation resources, cultural/historic assets, and geographic distribution when identifying park needs.
  - ii. Park Deficient Areas: Acquire land where adopted Service Level Goals are not being met. Strive to provide parks at the Parkland Level of Service (LOS) Standards per Classification as described in Appendix D. Acquire, lease, or otherwise obtain rights to the use of underutilized vacant parcels for park or open space, focusing efforts first in park deficient communities.
- iii. Travel Distance: Site parks within appropriate walking and biking distances of nearby neighbors as noted in the Parkland Access Guidelines per Classification described in Appendix D.
  - iv. Public vs. Private Access: Recognize that parks and recreation facilities provided by others within and in proximity to the city help to fulfill the park and recreation needs of the city residents. However, private parks and fee-based public parks may not be accessible to all residents and private parks and park facilities provided by others do not meet the service level goals for the city park classifications.
  - v. Density: Site public parks in areas with the highest concentration of residential units, if feasible.
- C. Situate parks to support park access and community walkability.
- i. Barrier Mitigation: Recognize the effects of natural or human-caused barriers (e.g., rivers, drainage canals, major thoroughfares, railway lines, etc.) in achieving park access; site and design parks to minimize the obstacles to access that these barriers may present.
  - ii. Transit and Trail Access: Site regional parks, community parks, and community centers where they are accessible by public transportation and shared use paths.
  - iii. Walkability. Promote walkability within neighborhoods and business districts through the siting of parks and recreation facilities and other activity centers.
- D. Coordinate with relevant community partners and organizations when determining site locations.
- i. Waterways: Coordinate with appropriate agencies that monitor flood control and navigable rivers when locating parks adjacent to rivers and creeks to provide a buffer to natural resources and access to public waterways.

- ii. Schools: Engage school districts to establish a plan for surplus school site reuse that considers opportunities to provide parks and other community facilities.
  - iii. Preservation Office: Consult with the City Historic Preservation Office when locating parks adjacent to historic, cultural, and archeological sites.
  - iv. Tribes and Native Nations: Consult with representatives of local tribes and consider unique and historic relationships to land when selecting sites.
- E. In densely built out urban areas where the provision of large parks is not feasible, explore creative solutions to provide neighborhood park and recreation facilities that serve the needs of residents and employees. Such solutions may include:
- Publicly accessible, privately owned open spaces and plazas;
  - Rooftop play courts and gardens;
  - Temporary street closures, micro parks, or parklets along roadsides (in partnership with Public Works);
  - Freeway underpass, utility corridor, and wide landscape medians; and
  - Conversion of rails to trails.
- Local demographics (especially for neighborhood parks);
  - A site evaluation and survey;
  - An evaluation of existing trees and natural resources (for potential protection);
  - An assessment of any existing site development to consider facility condition, access/circulation, and options for better site utilization.
- B. Conduct a financial feasibility study and business plan prior to acquiring, extensively renovating, or building any major facility, such as a recreation center, aquatic facility, or stadium. Specify programming requirements, operations, cost recovery rates, revenue-generation strategies, and market considerations to guide decisions on the types and scale of amenities.
- C. Develop parks and recreation facilities according to the City of Sacramento’s Park Development and Renovation Guidelines. Consider the following when making planning, design, and development decisions:
- Proximity to existing open space, parks, preserves, or parkways;
  - Presence of natural drainages or associated habitat and other environmentally sensitive areas;
  - Potential for improving flood water storage and conveyance, improving ground water recharge, and restoring natural fluvial processes;
  - Integration into an existing or proposed trail/bikeway system;
  - Cultural or historic significance;
  - Scenic vistas;
  - Uniqueness of the site and its natural integrity;
  - Access opportunities and nearby transit stops;
  - Active recreation and potential to support health and wellness;
  - Passive recreation and educational potential; and
  - Sustainability and climate resiliency.

**Parkland Dedication**

- A. Accept parkland dedications that meet specialized neighborhood needs, at the sole discretion of the City. See Park Guidelines by Park Classifications for size minimums.
- B. Encourage developers to enter into credit and reimbursement (turnkey) agreements to design and build parks.

**Site Planning, Design and Development**

- A. Prepare a site amenities plan or design concept for each new park or major renovation. Site design, development, phasing, financing, and maintenance responsibilities should be addressed. The site amenities plan should be informed by:
  - Recent community outreach;

## APPENDIX E

- D. Evaluate facilities, structures, or landscapes of historic, cultural, or environmental significance which may influence site design.
  - i. Foster public awareness of and ensure historic and cultural resources within the City's parks and recreational facilities are identified, protected, preserved, and rehabilitated consistent with the City's overall preservation objectives.
  - ii. Build a sense of place by protecting important environmental and cultural features as well as educating the public on the unique ecological qualities of the region.
- E. Promote individual character in park design.
  - i. Integrate community heritage, history, culture and identity through thematic site design, the use of materials, the inclusion of public art and interpretive elements, programmatic connections to Indigenous tribal and/or local history, and choice of recreation elements and support features.
  - ii. Allow for design variation in the City's most visible, high-use parks to emphasize a unique park theme or identity.
  - iii. Incorporate public art elements in parks and recreation facilities in accordance with the Art in Public Places Ordinance.
- F. Diversify recreation uses through design.
  - i. Provide for both active and passive recreation uses in park design.
  - ii. Consider both traditional and trending uses in park design.
  - iii. Provide a range of recreation elements that support different types of recreational experiences ranging from regional attractions, such as multi-field sports complexes, to neighborhood features including play structures, single-use sport courts, and picnic areas.
  - iv. Provide adaptable, flexible-use facilities that can be redesigned and reused as interests and community needs change.
- G. Provide sufficient support amenities to support inclusive use, comfort, and longer stays within parks.
  - i. Incorporate amenities that invite the use of park facilities by all community members such as seating, accessible park paths and facilities, shade, pathway lighting, parking, wayfinding, and signage.
  - ii. Public restrooms may be considered in regional and community parks, in accordance with the Park Development and Renovation Guidelines.
  - iii. Consider the need for easy-access parking and facility drop-off / pick-up zones through site design.
- H. Provide site-appropriate landscaping and vegetation.
  - i. Ensure plant selections and management practices are appropriate for the proposed park or open space types, site conditions, water conservation, and maintenance considerations.
  - ii. Address climate change and resiliency in park plantings. (See Sustainability and Resiliency.)
- I. Provide amenity plans for community and regional parks that recognize the unique needs and challenges of larger city parks with specialized facilities.
- J. Emphasize the needs of park users from throughout the entire service area while acknowledging the potential interests/concerns of immediate residents.
- K. Design regional parks to include destination attractions and amenities that will attract/retain business, and which generate funds for their ongoing maintenance.
- L. Encourage the establishment of adequate building setbacks from rivers and creeks, increasing them where possible to protect natural resources and increase public access for active and passive recreation.
- M. Design parks and recreation facilities to reduce vandalism, crime, and graffiti, as well as for ease of repair and maintenance.

- N. When siting telecommunications facilities within parks and/or adding telecommunications equipment/accessories within parks, consider the following:
- i. Review park site amenities to ensure proposed location of any proposed telecommunications does not conflict with future park plans.
  - ii. Emphasize that the telecommunications facility location should have the least impact on park purpose and activity, be it passive or active recreation, or nature area, etc.
  - iii. Complete a CPTED review with Park Rangers.
  - iv. Review if telecommunications facility can be located on current infrastructure, such as ball field lights or existing power towers.
  - v. Equipment cabinets should be incorporated into existing restroom facility structure or other accessory structure and should match in design, size, and materials.
  - vi. Avoid having to remove trees or impact roots for proposed telecommunications facility.
  - vii. Comply with YPCE protocols for telecommunications project review, including proposal documentation, staff review, and communications protocols.
  - viii. Consider possibilities for park improvements that can be coupled with the proposed telecommunications construction.
- O. Continue to use Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design landscaping and lighting, and efforts that support the Park Ranger program, to ensure that parks and open spaces are designed and maintained with safety as a priority.
- P. Establish and integrate a consistent furnishing and site amenities palette systemwide for ease of maintenance (including items such as seating, light fixtures, trash receptacles, bike racks, etc.), but allow for variations in the City's most visible, high-use parks to emphasize a unique park theme or identity. Amenity designs should prioritize usability and functionality over form.
- Q. Involve maintenance staff in park and facility design to incorporate maintenance efficiencies in parks and facilities. Ensure development of new facilities and properties includes budgeting for long-term maintenance, operations, and replacement of amenities.

### JEDI Design Considerations

- A. Integrate Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (JEDI) in park and facility acquisition, design, and development. Incorporate the following principles:
- i. **Equity and Access:** Locate parks equitably in all parts of the City in accordance with the parkland Level of Service (LOS) Standards and Parks Access Guidelines. (See 1.9 and Appendix D).
  - ii. **Regulatory Compliance:** Ensure all park elements, facilities, materials, and equipment follow all current safety, ADA accessibility, and design standards, laws, regulations, and any other mandated requirements.
  - iii. **Inclusivity:** Ensure parks are welcoming and engaging for residents and visitors of all ages and multi-generational groups, ethnicities, cultures, family configurations, and incomes.
  - iv. **Diversity:** Provide a mix of active and passive recreation opportunities throughout the park system to serve a variety of recreation interests, activities, and skill levels. Balance energetic, programmed active use sites with spaces designed for contemplation, conservation, and quiet social gatherings.

## APPENDIX E

- v. **Design for All:** In plans for new residential developments, require that plans address the recreational needs of all future residents, including children, youth, older adults, and people with disabilities, and reflect the cultural diversity of the local population.
  - vi. **Universal, All-Inclusive Access:** Create equitable use and experiential opportunities for people of different abilities and ages, considering all options of modality and accessibility. Meet, and where possible exceed, the standards of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and State code to provide parks and facilities that accommodate multigenerational groups and people with mobility issues, sight and hearing impairments, allergies, and other special needs. For example, ensure shared use path, trail, and access path widths are suitable for wheelchairs and strollers, people talking in sign language, and people with mobility concerns.
  - vii. **Family-Friendly:** Design park amenities to be family-friendly. Include changing stations in public restrooms, drinking fountains with lower spigots for children, and ADA compliant features to help bolster YPCE's parks and facilities as family-friendly destinations.
  - viii. **Family and Group Sizes:** Vary the sizes and styles of seating, tables, shelters, restrooms, gathering areas, and other amenities to serve families of different configurations and groups of different sizes.
  - ix. **Gender Identity and Family Configurations:** Provide both family-style and gender-neutral restrooms, locker room space, etc. in parks and facilities.
  - x. **Safety:** Ensure safe opportunities to play by implementing Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) strategies and enhance park safety through playground design, crime prevention technology, night lighting, unobtrusive landscaping, and increased staff, ranger program, police and community-based patrols if needed.
  - xi. **Community Based Organizations (CBOs):** Consider the needs for indoor and outdoor facility space for public serving non-profits and CBOs at the City's discretion.
  - xii. **Youth:** Design "youth-friendly" facilities that address mental, physical, and social needs.
- B. Continue to facilitate the development of new parks or expansion of existing parks and recreational facilities to prioritize disadvantaged communities with an existing deficit of park or recreation facilities.
  - C. Encourage and support private and community-based organizations' development of recreation facilities that complement the City's public recreational system.
  - D. Design parks and recreation facilities for diverse cultural groups, users with varying abilities, and improved accessibility.
    - i. Provide a variety of seating and resting opportunities.
    - ii. Provide opportunities for individual and group recreation such as single and group picnic areas.
    - iii. Add entry points to existing parks to make parks more accessible within walking distance.
    - iv. Improve navigable routes to and within parks by removing physical barriers, installing new or improved multi-use shared paths, wayfinding signage, and enhancements to public transit stops.
    - v. Utilize universal design to support play and recreation for all ages and abilities.
    - vi. Promote shade equity through tree planting and protection and shade elements such as structures and sails.
    - vii. Improve equity and access through extended use of recreation facilities, play areas, and community spaces through lighting and evening safety measures.

- E. Adopt an equity and performance-based system for prioritizing parks and recreation investments that link facility improvement priorities to safety standards, funding availability, disadvantaged communities, the needs of youth and older adults, public health, and recreational goals through a ranking scale that includes public health outcomes.
  - ii. Support climate-adaptive tree canopy, shade structures, drinking fountains, and cooling amenities such as water spray areas, which provide respite from higher temperatures to reduce urban heat islands and overexposure to heat.
- E. Develop parks, trails, and other recreational amenities in a manner that is consistent with flood protection goals.

## Sustainability and Resiliency

- A. Develop and implement “sustainable design” policies and standards for the planting and care of trees, turf, and other vegetation for the reduction of water and energy use (e.g., river-friendly landscape guidelines) and the promotion of natural processes.
  - i. Ensure all new park design and development is in compliance with California’s Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance (WELO).
  - ii. Integrate drought tolerant and native plantings, trees, bioswales to support green infrastructure at targeted sites.
- B. Specify sustainable building materials and products for use in new and renovated park design.
  - i. Integrate energy-efficient fixtures and construction practices to reduce water use and energy consumption in facility design.
  - ii. Encourage the use of recycled materials in park design and recreation element construction.
  - iii. Ensure product selection supports long term use and is in alignment with maintenance practices for cost and environmental efficiencies.
- C. Site parks and recreation facilities along multi-modal routes to encourage non-vehicular transportation methods, reducing greenhouse gas emissions.
- D. Ensure that the design of parks and open spaces balance climate-adaptive design.
  - i. Where feasible, utilize resilient landscaping in place of impervious surfaces.

## Additional Site Specifications

### General

- A. Ensure that all site amenity plans and park names for new park development are subject to a site amenity plan approval process that requires review by the Parks and Community Enrichment Commission and final approval by the City Council.
- B. Ensure that Park Design complies with all Federal, State and local laws and regulations.
- C. Provide a main park entry, which gives a sense of arrival, and entry to the park. Provide the following at the park entry: park name sign placed in a planted area with trees, special paving, and drop-off seating.
- D. Where applicable, locate the park main entrance near a bus stop or crosswalk.
- E. When possible, develop the main entry walkway to accommodate maintenance vehicles and pedestrians with driveway access and proper turning radius to allow for a truck with trailer.
- F. Create a circulation system that leads people past amenities without forcing them to stop. Seating along circulations system should be provided. ADA companion space for a wheelchair shall be provided as required by code.
- G. Provide direct access to the play area, restroom, sports fields from the main entry and parking lot.
- H. Allow large contiguous recreational turf areas.



## APPENDIX E

- I. Encourage unique and innovative park designs and promotes individual character of each park site. Sites, facilities, structures or landscapes of historic or cultural significance within each park shall be identified and included where possible in the park design.
- J. Develop a distinct theme for each park when appropriate, to establish a unique character that is consistent with the park's activities and locations. The theme shall be implemented using characteristic architectural details, colors, materials, furnishings, play equipment and plant selection.
- K. Provide a unified park design by providing repeated details, colors and materials throughout the park.
- L. Consider concession or public/private enterprise opportunities in community and regional park plans as appropriate.
- M. Design community and regional parks for night use, as appropriate. Lighting at night shall provide for safety, and anticipated recreational uses, while limiting glare impacts on nearby residents.
- N. Do not provide community centers, swimming pools, wading pools, on-site parking, restrooms or field lighting in neighborhood parks.
- O. Parking shall be considered at community and regional parks to minimize impacts to parking on residential streets.
- P. Provide adequate access for fire, emergency and maintenance equipment in parks, trails, and open space.
- Q. Design park facilities to enhance, preserve, and protect natural site characteristics, designated wildlife habitat, and to minimize water use and maintenance demands.
- R. Include natural landscape features in park designs, which include natural plantings, rock features, or earth forms.
- S. Design naturalized areas to include passive recreation such as picnicking, nature trails with interpretive signage, bikeways, rest areas, horseshoe courts, disc golf or similar activities, as appropriate..

### *Grading*

- A. Grade turf at minimum of 1%, a maximum of 20%, and planter slopes no greater than 25%.
- B. Crown playing fields such as baseball, softball, and soccer at a minimum of 1.5% percent, preferably 2%.
- C. Consider spectator areas when grading the play field sidelines. Provide adequate level areas for spectator seating. Provide an accessible viewing area with paved walkway and seating area.
- D. Ensure that walkways meet the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) regulations and the California Title 24 Building Code.
- E. Ensure compliance with the ADA and California Title 24 Building Code (Title 24) and minimize the need for ramps and curbing whenever possible.
- F. Grade hard court surfaces at 1% minimum and 2% maximum.
- G. Grade the park site to provide topographic relief, including berms where desirable.
- H. Design and grade park sites to balance (cut and fill).

### *Drainage*

- A. Provide a play area catch basin (per City standard) within each play area and slope the play area subgrade at 1% minimum toward play area catch basin.
- B. Do not locate drain inlets or cleanouts within or immediately adjacent to sports courts and fields.
- C. Do not use drop inlets smaller than twelve inches (12") square for planter areas and twenty-four inches (24") for turf areas. Drop inlets shall be concrete with metal traffic rated grates.
- D. Provide bio retention areas or swales for impervious areas as required by the Department of Utilities.
- E. For swales in planted or turf area, ensure a minimum flow line slope of 1 percent.

- F. For storm drain stubs or sewers to future phase of work, install a cleanout in a concrete round box with metal lid as applicable. The lids shall be labeled letter engraved on the lid “sewer” for sewer line stub and “storm” for storm drain stub.
- G. Minimize drainage of planter or turf areas across a paved area or walkway.
- H. Comply with Parks Standard Construction Details and City of Sacramento Standard Specifications. Ensure the plan reference is to the most recent edition.
- I. Provide cleanouts at 100' maximum along storm drain and sewer.
- J. Place a two-foot (2') radius of 4"-8" cobble around drain inlets in planter areas to prevent bark from entering drain inlets.
- G. Use concrete walkways or decomposed granite paths as the separator between a turf area and planter areas. If this is not practical, then a concrete mow-curb shall be used to define the turf area from the native grass areas.
- H. Construct concrete mow strips and or paving under and or around all vertical elements such as fencing, light posts and utility equipment within turf areas. Paving shall extend a minimum of 6" beyond the edge of the vertical element. Separate areas such as turf, planter area, decomposed granite.

#### *Shared Use Paths within Parks*

- A. Coordinate shared use paths with the Public Works Trail Coordinator.
- B. Provide shared use paths that are twelve feet (12') wide, with a two foot (2') wide decomposed granite shoulder and concrete mow strip on each side or with one three foot (3') wide decomposed granite shoulder on one side of the path for joggers/pedestrians.
- C. Locate rest areas in parks and open space along trails and include bike racks, drinking fountains, trees, shade and picnic tables.
- D. Develop a signage system on trails to provides users with trail information, such as safety regulations, wayfinding, interpretative, and mileage markers.

#### *Decomposed Granite (DG) Paving*

#### *Hardscape*

- A. Provide a ten-foot (10') wide main concrete walkway through the park for use by park maintenance and service vehicles. Provide a driveway cut at the entrance and exit of the walkway and a turning radius required to maneuver a maintenance truck and trailer.
- B. Require walkways 8' or wider to have thickened edges.
- C. Require secondary walkways to be five feet (5') wide, meet accessibility standards, and connect to each amenity or spectator area.
- D. Provide a path around perimeter of park.
- E. Finish standard walkways with a medium broom finish perpendicular to the walkway edge, unless identified as a special paving area.
- F. Design concrete walkways and other standard flatwork applications per the Geotechnical Report recommendations, with reinforcement and aggregate base as required.
- A. Grade decomposed granite paving areas between 1% minimum and 2% maximum.
- B. Include a concrete mow strip on the outside edges of a decomposed granite jogging trail when located within landscape areas in the park.
- C. Mix decomposed granite with stabilizer or concrete, compacted per specifications.

## APPENDIX E

Table E-1. Facility Level of Service Guidelines

2018 Population<sup>1</sup> 472,693  
2040 Projected Population<sup>2</sup> 638,433

	Facility Type	Current Number of Facilities	Existing LOS	Proposed Minimum LOS Guideline	Net Future Need for Minimum LOS
<b>ATHLETIC/SPORTS</b>	Baseball / Softball	98	4,823	<b>5,500</b>	<b>18</b>
	Basketball Court (outdoors - full and half size)	82	5,765	<b>5,000</b>	<b>46</b>
	Cricket Field	-	0	<b>150,000</b>	<b>4</b>
	Fitness Equipment (count by pieces)	89	5,311	<b>5,500</b>	<b>27</b>
	Futsal Court	19	24,879	<b>25,000</b>	<b>7</b>
	Pickleball Court	22	21,486	<b>15,000</b>	<b>21</b>
	Soccer / Football Field	137	3,450	<b>3,500</b>	<b>45</b>
	Tennis Court	51	9,360	<b>11,000</b>	<b>8</b>
	Volleyball Court	60	7,878	<b>8,500</b>	<b>15</b>
	Sports Court Variety (i.e., badminton, shuffleboard, bocce ball, etc.)	-	0	<b>30,000</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>Athletic / Sports Subtotal</b>		<b>558</b>			
<b>OUTDOOR RECREATION</b>	Challenge Feature (i.e., climbing wall, zipline)	-	0	<b>250,000</b>	<b>3</b>
	Disc Golf Course	5	94,539	<b>94,500</b>	<b>2</b>
	Dog Park	17	27,805	<b>20,000</b>	<b>15</b>
	Dedicated Event Space	-	0	<b>100,000</b>	<b>6</b>
	Group Picnic Area	151	3,130	<b>3,000</b>	<b>62</b>
	Playground / Play Area	232	2,037	<b>2,000</b>	<b>87</b>
	Bike Pump Track	-	0	<b>300,000</b>	<b>2</b>
	Skate Park	17	27,805	<b>30,000</b>	<b>4</b>
	Water Mister / Spray Area	28	16,882	<b>12,000</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Outdoor Recreation Subtotal</b>		<b>450</b>			
<b>INDOOR/SPECIALIZED</b>	Community Center / Senior Center / Clubhouse	19	24,879	<b>50,000</b>	<b>0</b>
	Golf Course	4	118,173	<b>100,000</b>	<b>0</b>
	Swimming Pool <sup>3</sup>	13	36,361	<b>60,000</b>	<b>0</b>
	Stage (Outdoors) / Amphitheater	14	33,764	<b>30,000</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Indoor/Specialized Subtotal</b>		<b>450</b>			
<b>GARDENS / NATURAL FEATURES</b>	River / Beach Access	18	26,261	<b>30,000</b>	<b>3</b>
	Community Garden	20	23,635	<b>20,000</b>	<b>12</b>
	<b>Gardens / Natural Features Subtotal</b>		<b>38</b>		

1. Source: U.S. Census Bureau 2018, as provided in the Sacramento 2040 General Plan.

2. Source: SACOG 2021.

3. Swimming Pools refers do not include wading pools.

## Site Amenity and Facility Development

- A. Diversify and right-size the provision of recreation facilities by implementing minimum Facility Level of Service (LOS) Guidelines (Table E-1), as well as the site development guidelines by classification that appear in this appendix

### Sport Fields

- A. Provide for the optimum orientation of sports fields.
- B. Ensure that baseball fields include spectator seating in bleachers on concrete pads or lawn areas behind the overthrow fences.
- C. Provide shade structures over dugouts if budget allows.
- D. Install permanent soccer goals in soccer fields. Portable goals will not be provided by City.

### Sport Courts

- A. Locate sports courts along the edges of the park to maximize visibility for security. Provide separation from the street (15' – 20') with a low berm or low landscape buffer.
- B. Orient sports courts with the long axis north south.
- C. Ensure that sport courts have low water-use planters around these courts as a buffer. Turf is not recommended in this buffer area with expansive soils.

### Community Gardens

- A. Comply with City of Sacramento Community Garden Design Guidelines.

### Dog Parks

- A. Comply with City of Sacramento Dog Park Guidelines.
- B. Provide a 3-chamber system if space allows.
- C. Provide 1 acre minimum for a large dog park, and 0.5 acre for a small dog park. Turf areas within dog parks shall be a minimum of 20,000 square feet.
- D. Provide large turf, decomposed granite, or mulch areas for dog runs.
- E. Locate dog parks in Community or Regional Parks.

- F. Provide chain link fencing, not tubular steel fencing, with a 4' minimum height for small dog park and 6' minimum height for a large dog park. Fencing must have top and bottom rail with a concrete mow curb under the fence and 10' wide maintenance gates. The gap at the bottom of the fence fabric or gates should be less than 2".
- G. Provide a fenced double gate entry vestibule, with dog park rules and signage.
- H. Provide trash receptacle at locations shall be easily access by maintenance.
- I. Ensure that dog parks are a minimum of 100' from residential dwellings or active recreation areas of a park (playgrounds, sports courts, etc.).
- J. Provide drain inlets with small opening grates (heal/ADA grates) to prevent paw entrapment.
- K. Provide solid benches and tables, such as concrete, without perforations or slats that could cause paws or nails to get stuck.
- L. Hydroseeded turf areas (not sodded) with a minimum 90-day establishment period.
- M. Shade dog parks with a 20'x20' single post shade canopy.
- N. Provide a drinking fountain with dog bowl and wash-off hose at each chamber, with a drain inlet to catch any runoff within the paved area. Do not allow runoff to drain into grass, decomposed granite or planter area.
- O. Consider aggregate stone finish in dog parks to prevent degradation due to pet urine.

### Playgrounds

- A. Place play areas a minimum of fifty feet (50') from the street or parking lot. Play areas closer than fifty feet (50') shall be surrounded by a three-foot (3') high tubular steel fence, with separate pedestrian and maintenance gates.
- B. Provide play equipment for 2- to 5-year-olds that is 3,500 S.F. minimum and has a maximum deck height of 48".

## APPENDIX E

- C. Provide an adventure area for 5- to 12-year-olds that is 5,000 S.F. minimum and has deck heights beginning at 48" and rising to 72" or higher.
- D. Provide combination play areas that are 5,000 S.F. minimum and designed for 2- to 12-year-olds. Design one half of play structure to accommodate 2- to 5-year-olds with accessible components, and the other half for 5- to 12-year-olds.
- E. Locate play areas near the main circulation route and adjacent to group picnic and open lawn areas. Playgrounds in regional and community parks should be placed 100' from residents.
- F. Approve play equipment vendor by City Project Manager.
- G. Provide 2" (two inch) clearance between the finished surface of the engineered wood fiber and the top of adjacent play area curb.
- H. Include age-appropriate play area signage at the entry to each play area. The text should indicate the age group intended for use and note the following: "Adult Supervision is Recommended" and "Accessible Playground" (if applicable).
- I. Orient the transfer deck to relate directly to the accessible play area entry. Provide a play area access ramp in compliance with ADA regulations, Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) Guidelines, and ASTM. Refer to Park Standard Details.
- J. Orient the swing area away from the active play area to avoid conflicts in play circulation. Swings can be either visually or physically separated from the active play area. Rubber mats must be installed under all belt swings and tire swings. Tot swings do not require a swing mat.
- K. For play structures with less than 20 elevated components, require a transfer station. A minimum of 50% of elevated play components must be accessible.
- L. For play structures with 20 or more elevated components, a minimum of 25% of the elevated components must be accessible by a transfer station, and a minimum of 25% of elevated play components must be accessible by a ramp.
- M. For ground-level play components, at least one of every type of play component provided must be accessible, including sand diggers. The number and variety is also determined by the number of elevated play components provided.
- N. Provide the appropriate number of accessible elevated and ground level play components. For example, if a play area has 10 elevated play components, at least 5 must be accessible. In addition, at least 3 accessible ground level components are required, each of a different type.
- O. Provide an additional two feet (2') between the required fall zone of a play components and the play area containment edge.
- P. Do not overlap fall zones, except between spring riders and other ground level components in compliance with accepted standards and requirements.
- Q. Apply engineered wood fiber as the preferred surfacing. Rubber surfacing may be used at community parks when feasible. Do not include rubber tiles or crumb rubber fill in the play area.
- R. Place grouped seating area and individual benches for direct supervision of play areas. These seating areas should be placed in shaded areas with existing or proposed trees. Seating areas must include space for wheelchair parking.
- S. Provide a play area access ramp into the play area; refer to the Park Standard details.
- T. Provide an accessible route to playground that is a minimum of 60" in width with a cross slope not exceeding 1:50 and a maximum running slope of 1:16.

### *Play Equipment*

- A. Ensure that playground equipment and design meet current U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) guidelines and standards as set forth in the Handbook for Public Playground Safety, as intended by SB 2733; and shall meet or exceed ASTM standards.
- B. Ensure that playground design complies with the latest requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) for public agencies. Strive to provide all inclusive, universal destination play areas in targeted regional or community parks where appropriate so that these are available within a reasonable travel distance.
- C. Consider the durability and the long-term maintenance requirements of the specific equipment, as well as the potential occurrence of vandalism and graffiti. (Play equipment is expected to be in place for twenty years.)
- D. Avoid wood play equipment.
- E. Avoid high-maintenance and vandal-prone items such as bubble panels, Lexan panels, tic-tac-toe panels, enclosed slides and cubes, and rotationally molded climbers.
- F. Include a variety of play elements that have a high overall play value.
- G. Encourage unique, themed, and innovative play equipment.
- H. Ensure that play equipment is inclusive and meets the various developmental needs of users.
- I. Ensure that all playground installations or renovations be certified by 3rd party playground safety inspector.
- D. Provide either in-ground mounted or surface-mounted footings that are twelve inches (12") below the finished playground surfacing.
- E. Do not provide support posts within fall zones of any play equipment, to be verified by a certified playground inspector.
- F. Ensure the shade canopy fabric is fire retardant, offers 97% UV protection, and is 80% water repellent.
- G. Install a tension adjustment mechanism at corners of shade canopy framework for tension adjustment with a tool for easy installation, adjustment, or removal of shade canopy.

### *Picnic Areas, Shade, and Seating*

- A. Allow fabric structures may be allowed over playgrounds and dog parks only.
- B. In neighborhood parks, provide small picnic areas with minimum 4 tables with BBQ, along with individual picnic tables spaced throughout the park.
- C. Ensure that community and regional parks have large picnic areas w/ minimum 10 tables, serving table, group BBQ, bike rack, and drinking fountain with jug filler. Parks should also have individual and small groupings of picnic tables spaced throughout the park.
- D. Ensure that picnic areas and tables are ADA accessible with a concrete pad.
- E. Provide metal shade structure over picnic areas. Shade structure edge should be 8' or higher above ground level, and not reachable by standing on tables.
- F. Provide a motion activated light, programmed to go on when the picnic area is occupied. No exposed conduits allowed, and all electrical must be run through structure frame.
- G. Verify electrical cut outs on engineer's drawings. Avoid electrical outlets on structure.

### *Playground Shade Structures*

- A. Provide a standardized 35'x35' fabric shade canopy over play areas when feasible, referring to standard equipment list.
- B. Ensure that fabric structures over play areas are a minimum of 7' from top of the highest rail or climbable play component.
- C. Refer to the standardized manufacturer list to standardize maintenance of fabric.

## APPENDIX E

### Restrooms

- A. Provide restroom facilities within high-use community and regional parks.
- B. Locate restroom buildings for optimal visibility from the roadway and allow easy access for maintenance vehicles. When possible, the restroom doors should face towards the street.
- C. Construct sewer connections of ABS. Install a cleanout or manhole within 10' of restroom building.
- D. Design restrooms with the following: stainless steel fixtures, metal solid core doors, adequate ventilations, masonry walls with graffiti coating, sheet steel roof, and sealed concrete floor with area drain.
- E. Ensure restrooms have a minimum of two gender neutral, single occupancy stalls.
- F. Use programmable magnetic locks with panic button, LED lighting, sealed floors, hand dryer, no mirrors or paper towel dispenser.
- G. Verify required PSI with restroom vendor to allow the restroom fixtures properly function. If the PSI in the water line is lower than what is required, then a booster pump will need to be included with the restroom building.

### Signage

- A. Ensure that park identification (naming) signs include park name, address, and City logo and are placed at the main entrance to the park, in a planter area.
- B. Place park regulatory (rules) signage at all park entrances and main gathering locations.
- C. Install sports fields, courts, and playground rules signs and picnic area signs.
- D. For park monument signs, refer to standardized manufacturers list.
- E. Consider customized signs where needed.
- F. Review all signage thoroughly for spelling and grammatical errors.

### Drinking Fountains

- A. Provide drinking fountains that are accessible with a Hi/Low profile. Additional features such as jug filler, dog bowl or bottle filler are acceptable. Provide a surface drain on jug-filler side of drinking fountain.
- B. Place drinking fountain to be conveniently located near playgrounds, group picnic areas, restroom, and sports facilities.
- C. Ensure that drain lines are tied into sewer when feasible. When unfeasible, a drywell sump may be used.
- D. Provide a minimum of one drinking fountain per park.
- E. Connect drinking fountains to potable water lines with a separate point of connection from the irrigation point of connection.

### Tables and Benches

- A. Provide tables and benches that are eight feet (8') long. Benches may have center arm rest. Tables and benches shall be made of powder-coated metal or concrete. No wood, recycled plastic, or plastic-coated metal furniture will be used.
- B. Select furniture in compatible colors with the play components and other site features.
- C. Provide six inches (6") clearance between hardscape edges and site furnishings.
- D. Provide tables and benches at various locations around the park such as at the park entry, along the main circulation path, alone and grouped to support conversation and gathering, for viewing activities or views, and for direct supervision of children.
- E. Place benches near specific facilities (play areas, sport fields and courts, etc.).
- F. Place benches with back toward a wall, plantings or trees to increase a sense of security.
- G. Set benches back from circulation paths so that pedestrian's legs do not protrude into the walkway. Benches shall be placed to maximize shade in the summer and sun in the winter.

**Trash Receptacles**

- A. Ensure that trash receptacles match site furniture and have a 32-gallon capacity, with lockable side-opening access.
- B. Place trash receptacles for ease of access for maintenance along major walkways, adjacent roads, picnic areas, play areas, sports fields, and all other high use areas or at trailheads along bikeways.
- C. Avoid placing trash receptacles along the main walkway/ service route. These shall be placed no greater than a 30' from the street surrounding the park to the trash receptacle.

**Grills**

- A. Provide group grills that are a Deluxe Pedestal Grill with side utility shelf.
- B. Provide individual grills that are a pedestal grill with side utility shelf.

**Bike Racks**

- A. Provide bike racks near park and building entries and gathering areas.
- B. Ensure bike racks comply with Public Work standards and do not encroach into the path of travel.

**Other**

- A. Consider decorative boulders in planter areas, decomposed granite areas, and along planter edges park perimeter to control vehicular access.
- B. Apply tack-weld or peen surface-mounted bolts on all site furnishings, except on drinking fountains.
- C. Avoid removable and permanent bollards.
- D. Ensure that parking lots have vehicle access control with signage, either pipe gates or programmable automatic parking gates.

**Fencing**

- A. Refer to the Park Standard Details.
- B. Refer to Standard Specifications for Public Works' Construction, latest edition.
- C. Ensure that fencing around playgrounds meets the requirements ASTM Designation: F 2049-09b.

**Irrigation****General**

- A. Ensure that irrigation systems comply with MWEL0 and City Water Conservation Ordinance.
- B. Provide irrigation calculations for sizing of irrigation tap.
- C. Design irrigation systems to water the entire park in an 8-hour water window, 5 days a week.
- D. Group booster pump, central irrigation controllers and electrical service together in one location adjacent to the property fence. Install these on a single concrete pad. See Standard Details for layout.
- E. Install irrigation equipment and utility boxes in a planter area and shall be screened with plant material.
- F. Irrigate trees by a two-bubbler per tree. Tree irrigation should be on their own valves.
- G. Apply an irrigation loop mainline (preferred).

**Backflow Preventers (BFP)**

- A. Size BFP the same size as the meter.
- B. Contact the Department of Utilities for selected/ accepted backflow prevention device and/or refer to the Public Works Construction Standards.
- C. Provide a lockable, insulated cage.

**Booster Pump Assembly**

- A. Complete a pressure calculation for each park site.
- B. Coordinate power requirements on electrical plans.



## APPENDIX E

### Controller

- A. Install a central irrigation controller in all parks that meets the Park Standard Specifications. Controllers must communicate via cellular. Traditional irrigation wiring is preferred. Two wire systems shall be used for phased projects.
- B. Coordinate Power requirements on electrical plans.

### Meter

- A. Ensure parks have separate water taps for irrigation and domestic water.
- B. Ensure the meter installation is a part of the construction contract and can be purchased through the City Department of Utilities. For sites dedicated to YPCE by developers the water development fee and meter fees should be paid for by the developer prior to parcel acceptance.

### Piping

- A. Provide gate valves along mainline to isolate areas as needed.
- B. Sleeve all wiring and waterlines under paving and supply a spare three inch (3" sleeve capped at both ends. Pipe sprinkler heads following grade contours.
- C. Place irrigation main lines ten feet away from trees
- D. Use schedule 80 pipe on all nipples and connectors upstream from valve. Use schedule 40 piping on fitting downstream of valves.

### Quick Couplers and Valves

- A. Place one-inch (1") quick coupling valves adjacent to large paved areas or at 150' along the irrigation main line and at the end of main line runs.
- B. Install turf and planter area irrigation valves at grade in a locking valve box.
- C. Avoid placing irrigation main lines or irrigation valves shall in sport fields or future paved areas.

- D. Provide valve boxes at grade in planters, one-half (1/2) inch below grade in turf and native areas.
- E. Design irrigation valves per function (i.e., sports field turf isolated separately from passive turf areas).
- F. Place wire splices in a valve box with the irrigation valves when possible. If this is not possible the wire splices should be place in their own valve box and the location noted on the irrigation as built plans.

### Sprinkler Heads

- A. Match precipitation rates if using full, half, or quarter rotors or spray valves on the same valve.
- B. Ensure the total number of turf heads per valve and GPM flow rate does not exceed 75 percent maximum flow rate of the irrigation valve.
- C. Space rotors at 75% listed radius and 85% of listed radius for spray heads.
- D. Use turf rotary heads that have a six-inch stainless-steel riser.
- E. Lay out irrigation heads in a triangular pattern where possible.

### Baseball/Softball Infield Irrigation

- A. Install manual brass valve and rotors around the perimeter of the infield to wet the infield mix.
- B. Set infield rotors a minimum of four inches (4") and a maximum of six inches (6") away from backboards or hardscape.
- C. Install two quick couplers near dug outs for cleaning or wetting field.

### Other

- A. Provide a complete irrigation schedule outlining water needs per valve by month for a twelve-month period. The water table shall be included in the project manual as a part of the specifications (appendix) or on the plans.
- B. Do not irrigate within dripline of existing mature oak trees.

## Plantings

- A. Community or regional parks include low maintenance naturalized areas with any combination of either a 4" layer of mulch, non-irrigated native grass, irrigated no-mow tall fescue, decomposed granite paving areas or low-maintenance groundcover, planted with native tree groves wherever possible to limit mowing and irrigation requirements.
- B. For neighborhood parks, include a low maintenance landscape area where possible.
- C. Reduce aesthetic turf areas outside of active sports fields or passive recreation areas. Turf can be replaced with either a 4" layer of mulch, non-irrigated native grass, irrigated no-mow tall fescue, decomposed granite paving areas or low-maintenance groundcover.
- D. Obtain soils fertility test and report as required in the project specifications. Amend soils as recommended by the soil's fertility test. If mass grading occurs and the top 6" of soil is removed a soils test shall be completed after the mass grading is completed.
- E. Adopt planting sizes:
  - 15-gallon minimum for trees
  - 5-gallon minimum for major shrubs
  - 1-gallon minimum for minor shrubs, vines and groundcovers
  - Plants in flats or plugs may be considered
- F. Promote the use of drought tolerant native, low maintenance plants and landscape materials in all parks.
- G. Design parkways and open space with the majority of the site in non-irrigated native grasses and trees, or mulch and trees and limited planter areas at entry points. Turf shall be limited and only used to enhance active use gathering areas, picnic areas, or to providing a recreational turf area.
- H. Include natural landscape features in park designs, including tree groves, natural plantings, dry streambeds, rock features, and earth forms to enhance the natural character of the site.
- I. Plants shall be planted in mass groupings of similar plant types, to reduce maintenance and increase visual appeal.
- J. Ensure plant material (trees, shrubs and groundcover) is low maintenance and drought-tolerant or native species.
- K. At playgrounds, plant trees in a planter area, tree wells, mulch area, or decomposed granite paving immediately to the south and west side of a playground in sufficient quantity to shade 50% of the playground at full maturity.
- L. Plant parking lot trees as required in the Parking Lot Tree Shade Design and Maintenance Guidelines.

## Planters

- A. Locate planter areas at park entries, focal points, gathering areas, and to screen irrigation equipment and utility boxes.
- B. Plant planter areas with low maintenance, low water using, dwarf, naturally compact, and hardy perennials, shrubs and low-growing groundcover that require no routine pruning or dead heading. Shrubs planted next to property line fences shall be selected from species that naturally grow less than six feet (6') high and shrubs planted elsewhere in the park shall grow less than three feet (3') high. Planters should be designed to allow for visibility into the park.
- C. Provide an entry planted (non-turf) area to locate the park name sign. Provide low maintenance trees, and plant material to accent the sign.
- D. In planted areas along streets, parking lots and tree cutouts in pavement, provide root barrier along the pavement edge. Appropriate use of natives will be encouraged in park design to reduce maintenance and add interest.
- E. Install landscape fabric in all planter beds with four inches (4") of walk-on bark mulch.

## APPENDIX E

### *Trees*

- A. Trees planted in turf areas shall be a minimum of twenty-foot (20') from other trees or vertical elements to allow use of commercial mower.
- B. Trees planted in turf areas next to the street shall be set back fifteen feet (15') from the front of the curb face to allow use of commercial mower.
- C. When providing tree cutouts within hardscape areas, provide a minimum six-foot (6') diameter round or square cutout.
- D. Plant trees planted in native grass area, no-mow fescue areas, mulch, decomposed granite or planters a minimum of twelve-foot (12') apart.
- E. Provide biological diversity in tree species and age. Twenty percent (20%) of all trees planted in the park shall be California native species.
- F. Maximize trees within new and existing parks to the extent feasible while providing for other desired recreational amenities.
- G. Avoid trees with excessive fruit, branch or litter drop, such as Purple-leaf plum, Liquidambar, and Chinese Elm. Trees in community gardens may have fruit.
- H. Select trees appropriate to the site-specific environment as approved by the project manager to fulfill the following criteria:
  - Tolerate heavy soil conditions;
  - Tolerate freeze;
  - No heavy litter or lengthy dropping of leaves, fruit or debris;
  - Be disease and pest resistant;
  - Have a deep rooting system (not shallow rooted); and
  - Tolerate heat (is not susceptible to sunburn).
- I. Consider tree species with shallow root systems if located within a planter area and/or planted with root barrier panels.
- J. Plant trees to buffer the street frontage, to organize and define use areas on the park site, to provide protection from wind and sun, and as a visual amenity to the park.
- K. Prioritize tree plantings in parks where tree canopy coverage is low to provide a greater access to greenery and shade.
- L. Do not plant summer flowering trees next to the picnic areas or play area to reduce allergens and insect problems.
- M. Establish a sight triangle at the park corners or park entry to maximize visibility from the street.
- N. Ensure that trees planted in turf areas have a four-foot diameter bark mulch around their base.

### *Turf*

- A. Select turf types that require less mowing and water.
- B. Avoid turf in separate sidewalk planters or within areas less than ten feet wide.
- C. Provide turf where it has a recreational purpose, such as placed adjacent to a picnic area or playground or within a dog park. Turf areas are to be minimized where possible to reduce maintenance and water requirements.

Table E-2. Guidelines for Lighted Facilities

	Existing % of Lighted Facilities	Current % Standard for Lighted Facilities	Proposed Minimum % Standard for Lighted Facilities
<b>Sports Courts</b> (e.g., basketball, futsal, tennis, pickleball)	15%	None	15%
<b>Sports Fields</b> (e.g., baseball, softball, soccer, football, rugby)	9%	20%*	15%
<b>Other Active Uses</b> (e.g., disc golf and skateparks)	3%	None	5%

Note: The original plan standard was 16% for baseball, 16% for softball, and 25% for soccer.

### Electrical

- A. Sports Field, Court, and Recreation Facility Lighting
- B. Reference the City’s guidelines for Lighted Facility Standards (Table E-2) when developing recreational facilities, with the aim of providing lighting to extend play in suitable sites and facilities. Lighted facilities should consider surrounding land uses, residential proximity, user groups, and improvements to equity and access.
- C. Consider sport field and court lighting at regional or community parks. Lighting must be environmentally cleared. If parking lots are provided, the parking lot must also be lit, as well as the pathway from parking to lighted fields.
- D. Provide sport court lighting that has a 1-hour push button operation with a 5-minute warning system to allow players to reactivate the lights for one additional hour prior to shut-off.
- E. Ensure that all lighting projects (sports fields and courts, parking lot, restroom, shade structures and park lights) are LED and energy efficient.
- F. Include lighting controls for sports field and courts that have cellular communications.

### Park Lighting

- A. Provide security pathway lighting throughout the park to existing streetlights along the park sidewalks.
- B. Direct lighting away from light sensitive areas.
- C. Provide lights on astronomical clock or photocell.
- D. Provide lights outside a restroom or building entrance for security.
- E. Provide electrical pedestals in special use parks only and must be in secure vandal resistant cabinet.

## APPENDIX E

### Park Guidelines By Park Type

#### Multi-Use Regional Parks

**Classification:** Regional Park

**Definition:** Multi-use regional parks (RP) are large parks that provide greenspace, natural areas, and a mix of specialized recreation and cultural facilities such as recreation and aquatic centers, golf courses, beaches, marinas, museums, zoos, multi-field sports complexes, destination play areas, amphitheaters, and event spaces.

**Park LOS:** All regional parks, inclusive of multi-use regional parks and regional recreation and cultural attractions, should be provided at 2.75 acres per 1,000 residents.

**Service Area:** Citywide and beyond, with a typical travel distance of at least 3 miles. These parks may also meet needs for nearby parks within a 10-minute walk.

#### **Site Character:**

- Is a highly visited, high traffic, and popular park
- Has customized design(s) to attract visitors to unique recreation, cultural, and natural attractions and specialized uses
- Includes art and elements that reflect and promote city identity, character, nature, and culture.
- May have revenue-generating, fee-based facilities
- Provides varied and unique facilities to attract people from across the city
- Has lighting to serve visitors extended hours
- Receives the highest level of maintenance, caretaking, and landscaping to support aesthetics and use

#### **Size and Configuration:**

- Typical minimum size: 100+ acres
- At least 50% of the site should be developable for recreation uses except for areas designated for natural resources conservation.

- Contiguous, usable shape; shape may be influenced by natural features
- Natural Resources Protection

#### **Access:**

- Highly accessible site, emphasizing universal accessibility and perimeter access at one or more bike, pedestrian, and auto entries
- Park frontage on an arterial street
- Accessible by vehicle, bicycle, and foot
- Along a major transit and/or bus route
- Accessible via a Class I or Class IV trail
- Sufficient parking for site use
- Wider paths for emergency vehicle access

#### **Prioritized Recreation Elements:**

- Major recreation facilities or cultural attractions to draw visitors from across the City and beyond, such as recreation centers, aquatic facilities, golf courses, marinas, beaches, museums, and zoos
- Events space, such as a pavilion, amphitheater, multi-use event field with hookups, farmers market, or food truck venue
- Large group picnic areas and shelters with barbecues or group grills, sink, food preparation areas, utilities
- Destination play area or all inclusive, universal play area
- Game or tournament-quality sports field complex with lighting
- Looped walking path
- Art, cultural, historical, or natural interpretive features
- Natural features including rivers, creeks, beaches, ponds, lakes, and wildlife viewing areas
- Trails

***Additional Elements to Consider:***

- Dog park or dog beach
- Destination splash pad, spray area, or water play area
- Group event and programming space or plaza with utilities
- Additional group picnic areas (medium or small; covered and uncovered)
- Small or medium unique recreation features (e.g., skate park)
- Game and tournament quality sports courts, including diverse or multi-use sports (e.g., volleyball, pickleball, badminton, bocce)
- Larger footprint challenge facilities (e.g., BMX track, 18- or 36-hole disc golf course, climbing spire, velodrome)
- Smaller footprint challenge facilities (e.g., par course, outdoor fitness equipment, climbing wall, skate park, skate spot, bike pump track)
- Activity stations (e.g., giant chess, giant Jenga, outdoor ping pong, game tables, etc.)
- Demonstration and community gardens
- Plaza or unique seating/social areas (e.g., rounded seatwalls)
- Trailhead
- Additional hard and soft-surfaced trails (loop, jogging path, nature trail)

***Prioritized Support Amenities:***

- Permanent restrooms
- Additional portable restrooms for events only
- On-site parking
- Facility access paths
- Tables, seating, drinking fountains, bike racks, trash receptacles, and dog waste stations
- Water and power connections at picnic shelters and event spaces

- Individual barbecues or group barbecue area
- Shade features including trees, shelters, canopies, and sails
- Park identification signage near main parking lot, street entry, or visible frontage
- Wayfinding and interpretive signage
- Pedestrian-scale lighting throughout, as well as facility lighting
- Maintenance/storage facilities
- Fencing for safety, separation from incompatible perimeter uses, and to discourage access to sensitive natural areas
- Art elements to reflect identity, nature, and culture

***Landscaping and Vegetation:***

- High maintenance seasonal plantings are appropriate, but should be kept to a minimum to reduce maintenance needs
- Low-to-medium maintenance plantings and functional landscaping for much of the site
- Manicured sports field grass or synthetic turf
- Manicured lawn for informal play
- Mix of evergreen and deciduous trees for shade, habitat, and seasonal interest
- Drought-tolerant landscaping with drip irrigation, in accordance with California's Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance (WELO)
- Bioswales for stormwater filtration

***Additional Considerations:***

- Portions of these sites may be leased to another operator to provide a public destination or specialized facility
- A buffer may be needed between regional scale facilities and surrounding uses due to crowds, noise, and lighting

## Regional Recreation and Cultural Attractions

**Classification:** Regional Park

**Definition:** Regional recreation and cultural attractions (RCA) are single-purpose major recreation facilities or cultural venues that serve as citywide attractions. They may include venues not located in larger parks, such as golf courses, beaches, marinas, museums, zoos, cemeteries, and Camp Sacramento that offer specialized recreation or cultural opportunities.

**Park LOS:** All regional parks, inclusive of regional recreation and cultural attractions, should be provided at 2.75 acres per 1,000 residents.

**Service Area:** Citywide and beyond, with a typical travel distance of at least 3 miles. These parks may also meet needs for nearby parks within a 10-minute walk.

**Site Character:**

- Popular programmed park dedicated to a specific use that may attract people from across the city
- Customized design to attract visitors to unique recreation, cultural, and natural attractions and specialized uses
- Includes art and elements that reflect and promote city identity, character, nature, and culture
- May have revenue-generating, fee-based facilities
- Lighting to serve visitors extended hours
- Highest level of maintenance, caretaking, and landscaping to support aesthetics and use

**Size and Configuration:**

- Typical minimum size: 20+ acres, but varies depending on scale of attraction
- Configuration varies per single-purpose cultural attraction
- Contiguous, usable shape; shape may be influenced by natural features

**Access:**

- Highly accessible site, emphasizing universal accessibility and perimeter access at one or more bike, pedestrian, and auto entries

- Park frontage on an arterial street
- Accessible by vehicle, bicycle, and foot
- Ideally along a major transit and/or bus route
- Along a Class I or Class IV shared use path
- Sufficient parking for site use
- Wider paths for emergency vehicle access

**Prioritized Recreation Elements:**

- A single recreation facility or cultural attraction—or coordinated group of similar facilities—that draw visitors from across the City and beyond such as golf courses, environmental camps and centers, cemeteries and memorials.
- Support buildings and facilities for the intended use (e.g., clubhouses, driving ranges, restaurants, visitor center, cabins, lodge, etc.)
- Art, cultural, or historical interpretive features
- Natural features

**Additional Elements to Consider:**

- Event or tournament space, such as a pavilion, amphitheater, multi-use event field with hookups, food truck venue, or large group shelter
- Thematic, nature play, or water play area suited to intended site use
- Plazas, gardens, memorials or other respite spaces
- Cultural arts facilities
- Sculpture gardens or interactive art displays
- Hard and soft-surfaced trails (loop, jogging path, nature trail)
- Compatible or seasonal uses
- Facilities to support outdoor recreation, nature interpretation and environmental education, such as interpretive kiosks, self-guided educational trails, wildlife viewing areas and bird blinds, non-motorized boat launch, swimming beach, signage

## APPENDIX E

### *Prioritized Support Amenities:*

- Permanent restrooms
- Additional portable restrooms for events only
- On-site parking
- Facility access paths
- Tables, seating, drinking fountains, bike racks, trash receptacles
- Water and power connections at event spaces
- Shade features including trees, shelters, canopies, and sails
- Park identification signage near main parking lot, street entry, or visible frontage
- Wayfinding and interpretive signage
- Pedestrian-scale lighting throughout, as well as facility lighting
- Maintenance/storage facilities
- Fencing for safety, separation from incompatible perimeter uses, and to discourage access to sensitive natural areas
- Art elements to reflect identity, nature, and culture

### *Landscaping and Vegetation:*

- High maintenance seasonal plantings are appropriate, but should be kept to a minimum to reduce maintenance needs
- Low-to-medium maintenance plantings and functional landscaping for much of the site

- Manicured sports field grass or synthetic turf
- Manicured lawn for informal play
- Mix of evergreen and deciduous trees for shade, habitat, and seasonal interest
- Drought-tolerant landscaping with drip irrigation, in accordance with California's Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance (WELo)
- Bioswales for stormwater filtration

### *Additional Considerations:*

- A buffer may be needed between regional scale facilities and surrounding uses due to crowds, noise, and lighting.
- The site may not be intended for recreation and may be limited to protection of historic and cultural features.
- Site use may be restricted to programming and reservations.
- Dogs may not be allowed on site.

## Multi-Use Community Parks

*Classification:* Community Park

*Definition:* Multi-use community parks (CP) are medium to large sites, typically 10-40 acres in size, which provide a mix of recreation facilities, greenspace and large group gathering space. Typical facilities include a mix of facilities such as playgrounds, sports fields, sports courts, picnic areas, skate parks, dog parks, community gardens,



Camp Sacramento



Haggin Oaks Golf Complex



community centers, senior centers, swimming and wading pools, open lawn areas, natural areas, and looped trails. These parks include on-site parking, restrooms, shade, and similar support amenities for longer site visits.

**Park LOS:** All community parks, inclusive of multi-use community parks, should be provided at 2.0 acres per 1,000 residents. Approximately 80%-85% of community parks shall be multi-use community parks.

**Service Area:** 3 miles. These parks may also meet needs for nearby parks within a 10-minute walk.

#### **Site Character:**

- Designed to reflect community identity and culture
- Safety and noise mitigation are supported through buffers at parks along busy streets
- Sight lines are maintained into parks from adjacent streets
- Specialized facilities and programmable areas receive enhanced level of maintenance
- General landscaping may receive standard level of maintenance

#### **Size and Configuration:**

- Typical minimum size: 10+ acres, but parks may be larger
- At least 75% of the site should be relatively developable for recreation uses
- Contiguous, usable shape

#### **Access:**

- Highly accessible, emphasizing universal accessibility and perimeter access
- Park frontage on a primary collector street
- Accessible by vehicle, public transportation, bicycle, pedestrian – ideally along a transit and/or bus route
- Ideally located on a Class I or Class IV shared use path or accessible via on-street bike lanes
- Sidewalks connected to interior park paths for pedestrians
- Sufficient parking for site use, including specialized and sport facilities
- Wider paths for emergency vehicle access
- If adjacent to a school, park should be accessible from the school

#### **Prioritized Recreation Elements:**

- Thematic playground (medium to large-scale play area with shade and universal play features)
- Small to medium-size picnic shelter(s)
- Medium or large group picnic shelter with barbecues
- Open lawn for programming, sitting, and informal play
- Specialized or unique facilities that support programming such as swimming and wading pools, recreation/community centers and senior centers



Camp Sacramento



Camp Sacramento

## APPENDIX E

- Game-quality sports fields (grass or artificial turf, multi-use rectangular, baseball/softball; fields may be lighted and include overlays)
- Game-quality sports courts (basketball, pickleball, tennis; may be lighted)
- Walking path or loop trail

### *Additional Elements to Consider:*

- Universal design features
- Splash pad or spray area
- Group event and programming space or plaza with utilities
- Amphitheater/stage (outdoor)
- Various specialized and multi-use facilities to support drop-in and programmed activities (e.g., community center, swimming pool, park buildings, concessions, disc golf course)
- Additional group picnic areas (medium or small; covered and uncovered)
- Small or medium unique recreation features (e.g., skate park, dog park)
- Additional sports courts, including diverse or multi-use sports (e.g., volleyball, pickleball, badminton, bocce)
- Smaller footprint challenge facilities (e.g., par course, outdoor fitness equipment, climbing wall, skate park, skate spot, bike pump track)
- Activity stations (e.g., giant chess, giant Jenga, outdoor ping pong, game tables, etc.)
- Pump track, big wheel or tricycle track
- Demonstration and community gardens
- Plaza or unique seating/social areas (e.g., rounded seatwalls)
- Trailhead
- Additional hard and soft-surfaced trails (loop, jogging path, nature trail)
- Art, cultural, or historical interpretive features
- Natural features

### *Prioritized Support Amenities:*

- Permanent restrooms
- Additional portable restrooms for events only
- On-site and off-street parking
- Facility access paths
- Tables, seating, drinking fountains, bike racks, trash receptacles
- Water at picnic shelters and event spaces
- Individual barbecues or group barbecue area
- Shade features including trees, shelters, canopies, and sails
- Park identification signage near main parking lot, street entry, or visible frontage
- Wayfinding and interpretive signage
- Pedestrian-scale lighting throughout, as well as facility lighting
- Maintenance/storage facilities
- Fencing for safety, separation from incompatible perimeter uses, and to discourage access to sensitive natural areas

### *Landscaping and Vegetation:*

- Low-to-medium maintenance plantings and functional landscaping
- Manicured sports field grass
- Manicured lawn for informal play
- Mix of evergreen and deciduous trees for shade, habitat, and seasonal interest
- Drought-tolerant landscaping with drip irrigation, in accordance with California's Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance (WELo)
- Bioswales for stormwater filtration

### *Additional Considerations:*

- Citywide or regional-scale facilities, such as sports complexes, golf courses, and zoos should be avoided.
- High noise uses, such as pickleball and basketball courts, should be situated away from nearby housing.

## APPENDIX E

### Special-Use Community Parks

**Classification:** Community Park

**Definition:** Special-use community parks (SU) are single-purpose sites that vary in size and support specialized uses such as urban plazas, promenades, waterfront parks, stand-alone community centers, community gardens, skate/bike parks, disc golf courses, single-use sports complexes, and other sites with community appeal. They may have minor supplemental facilities, along with support amenities such as on-site parking, restrooms, shade, and similar support amenities for longer site visits.

**Park LOS:** All community parks, inclusive of special-use community parks, should be provided at 2.0 acres per 1,000 residents.

**Service Area:** 3 miles. These parks may also meet needs for nearby parks within a 10-minute walk.

**Site Character:**

- Designed to reflect community identity and culture
- Safety and noise mitigation are supported through buffers at parks along busy streets
- Sight lines are maintained into parks from adjacent streets
- Specialized facilities and programmable areas receive enhanced level of maintenance
- General landscaping may receive standard level of maintenance

**Size and Configuration:**

- Typical minimum size varies depending on size and scale of special use feature
- Contiguous usable shape, but configuration by vary per single-purpose use

**Access:**

- Highly accessible, emphasizing universal accessibility and perimeter access
- Park frontage on a primary collector street

- Accessible by vehicle, public transportation, bicycle, or pedestrian– ideally along a transit and/or bus route
- Ideally located on a Class I or Class IV shared use path or accessible via on-street bike paths
- Sidewalks connected to interior park paths for pedestrians
- Sufficient parking for site use, including specialized and sport facilities
- Wider paths for emergency vehicle access
- If adjacent to a school, park should be accessible from the school

**Prioritized Recreation Elements:**

- Specialized or unique facilities that support programming such as single-use sports complexes recreation/community centers and senior centers, and community gardens

**Additional Elements to Consider:**

- Universal design features
- Group event and programming space or plaza with utilities
- Outdoor amphitheater/stage
- Various specialized and multi-use facilities to support drop-in and programmed activities (e.g., community center, swimming pool, park buildings, concessions, disc golf course)
- Group picnic areas (medium or small; covered and uncovered)
- Small or medium unique recreation features (e.g., skate park, dog park)
- Additional sports courts, including diverse or multi-use sports (e.g., volleyball, pickleball, badminton, bocce)
- Smaller footprint challenge facilities (e.g., par course, outdoor fitness equipment, climbing wall, skate park, skate spot, bike pump track)
- Activity stations (e.g., giant chess, giant Jenga, outdoor ping pong, game tables, etc.)
- Demonstration and community gardens

- Plaza or unique seating/social areas (e.g., rounded seatwalls)
- Trailhead
- Additional hard and soft-surfaced trails (loop, jogging path, nature trail)
- Art, cultural, or historical interpretive features
- Natural features

**Prioritized Support Amenities:**

- Permanent restrooms
- Additional portable restrooms for events only
- On-site and off-street parking
- Facility access paths
- Tables, seating, drinking fountains, bike racks, trash receptacles, and dog waste stations
- Water and power connections at picnic shelters and event spaces
- Individual barbecues or group barbecue area
- Shade features including trees, shelters, canopies, and sails
- Park identification signage near main parking lot, street entry, or visible frontage
- Wayfinding and interpretive signage
- Pedestrian-scale lighting throughout, as well as facility lighting
- Maintenance/storage facilities

- Fencing for safety, separation from incompatible perimeter uses, and to discourage access to sensitive natural areas

**Landscaping and Vegetation:**

- Low-to-medium maintenance plantings and functional landscaping
- Manicured sports field grass
- Manicured lawn for informal play
- Mix of evergreen and deciduous trees for shade, habitat, and seasonal interest
- Drought-tolerant landscaping with drip irrigation, in accordance with California’s Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance (WELO)
- Bioswales for stormwater filtration

**Additional Considerations:**

- Special-use community parks may be provided to leverage an existing opportunity (such as repurposing a stand-alone building) or in an Environmental Justice area or park deficient area where specialized facilities are needed, but larger park spaces aren’t available.
- Citywide or regional-scale facilities, such as sports complexes, golf courses, and zoos, should be avoided.
- High noise uses, such as pickleball and basketball courts, should be situated away from nearby housing.



Cesar E. Chavez Plaza



Army Depot Park

## APPENDIX E

### Multi-Use Neighborhood Parks

**Classification:** Neighborhood Park

**Definition:** Multi-use neighborhood parks (NP) are small to medium sites, typically 2-8 acres, which support a mix of play, picnicking, sports, and leisure activities for nearby neighbors that live within walking or biking distance. Typical facilities include playgrounds, unlighted sport fields or sport courts, individual or small group picnic areas, smaller outdoor facilities, open lawn areas, and amenities to support local use. Some neighborhood parks may include additional natural open space.

**Park LOS:** All neighborhood parks, inclusive of multi-use neighborhood parks, should be provided at 1.5 acres per 1,000 residents. All neighborhood parks in new developments shall be multi-use neighborhood parks.

**Service Area:** 0.5-mile

#### **Site Character:**

- Family and neighborhood-friendly sites
- Designed to reflect neighborhood identity and culture
- Should not be located adjacent to busy arterial routes unless uses are buffered from traffic and noise
- Site receives standard level of maintenance
- If the site includes specialized facilities and programmable areas, these may receive enhanced level of maintenance

#### **Size and Configuration:**

- Typical minimum size: 4 acres
- Contiguous usable shape
- 100% of the site should be relatively level and developable for recreation uses

#### **Access:**

- Typical service area is ½ mile (10-minute walk)
- Siting on secondary streets within a residential area
- May be located along a trail, bike route, or bikeway
- Pedestrian and bicycle-oriented wayfinding and visibility

- Accessible from local or collector streets
- Sidewalks connect to park paths
- If adjacent to a school, park should be accessible from the school

#### **Prioritized Recreation Elements:**

- Medium play area, ages 2-5 and 5-12 (shaded; may be thematic)
- Sports field (soccer, softball/backstop)
- Full-size sport courts (basketball, tennis/pickleball overlay, other diverse courts)
- Additional use elements such as challenge feature, activity station, or other elements
- Family-size or small group picnic area (shaded)
- Open lawn for leisure and informal play

#### **Additional Elements to Consider:**

- Additional group picnic areas (medium or small; covered and uncovered)
- Additional full or half sports courts, including diverse or multi-use sports (e.g., volleyball, pickleball, badminton, bocce, futsal)
- Smaller footprint challenge facilities (e.g., par course, outdoor fitness equipment, climbing wall, skate park, skate spot, bike pump track)
- Activity stations (e.g., giant chess, giant Jenga, outdoor ping pong, game tables, etc.)
- Additional hard and soft-surfaced trails (looped path, jogging path, tricycle track)
- Natural areas in select site locations
- Interpretive signage

#### **Prioritized Support Amenities:**

- Street parking
- Facility access paths
- Perimeter path or sidewalks

- Tables, seating, drinking fountains, bike racks, trash receptacles, and dog waste stations
- Water and power connections at picnic shelters
- Individual barbecues or group barbecue area
- Shade features such as trees, shelters, canopies, and sails
- Park identification signage near main parking lot, street entry, or visible frontage
- Fencing for safety or separation from incompatible perimeter uses

**Landscaping and Vegetation:**

- Low maintenance plantings
- Trees for shade, habitat, and seasonal interest
- Drought-tolerant landscaping with drip irrigation, in accordance with California’s Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance (WELO)
- Manicured sports fields and lawn areas for informal play

**Additional Considerations:**

- Community or regional scale facilities, including lighted sports fields and tournament-style courts, community centers, swimming pools, wading pools, on-site parking, and restrooms, should be avoided in neighborhood parks.
- High noise uses (e.g., pickleball and basketball courts) should be situated away from nearby housing.
- Ideally new residential areas will provide multi-use neighborhood parks to provide diverse, close-to-home recreation options for nearby neighbors.



Cove Park



Artivio Guerrero Park



Dogwood Park



Levar Burton Park

## APPENDIX E

### Pocket Parks

**Classification:** Neighborhood Park

**Definition:** Pocket parks (PP) are small sites, typically less than 2 acres in size, which provide manicured greenspace for nearby neighbors. Sites may support neighborhood aesthetics and leisure, with amenities such as art, benches, or a picnic table. Some are located as rest stops adjacent to trail corridors.

**Park LOS:** All neighborhood parks, inclusive of pocket parks, should be provided at 1.5 acres per 1,000 residents. Pocket parks may be considered in an Environmental Justice area and/or built-out park deficient area where large parcels are not available for development.

**Service Area:** Varies

#### **Site Character:**

- Small greenspace to support neighborhood character
- Passive space that lacks active use amenities
- May be located near homes or along trails and less busy roadways

#### **Size and Configuration:**

- Typically less than 1 acre in size with a minimum size of 0.15 acres
- 100% of the site should be relatively level and developable for recreation uses

#### **Access:**

- Siting should be on secondary streets within a residential area
- May be accessible via sidewalks

#### **Prioritized Recreation Elements:**

- Small open lawn area or greenspace
- Gathering areas – picnic tables, benches, seating

#### **Additional Elements to Consider:**

- Art
- Interpretive signage

#### **Prioritized Support Amenities:**

- Access paths
- Table, seating, trash receptacle
- Shade features such as trees, canopies, and sails
- Park identification signage near entry or visible frontage

#### **Landscaping and Vegetation:**

- Low-maintenance landscaping such as now-mow lawn
- Trees for shade and seasonal interest
- Drought-tolerant landscaping with drip irrigation, in accordance with California's Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance (WELo)
- Small, multi-use lawn

#### **Additional Considerations:**

- Restrooms, community-scale facilities, lighting, buildings/storage, barbecues, and high-maintenance elements or landscaping such as art or ornamental plantings should be avoided.
- Recreation features may not be needed where a neighborhood, community, or regional park is provided within ¼ mile.
- Play and active uses at these sites may be desired to meet neighborhood needs in park deficient areas. These could be added if appropriate given the proximity to housing and roadways. This redevelopment would effectively reposition the site as a neighborhood play lot.
- Pocket parks and neighborhood play lots do not provide much variety in recreation activities given their small size. They may be considered in an Environmental Justice area and/or built-out park deficient area where large parcels are not available for development.

## APPENDIX E

### Neighborhood Play Lots

**Classification:** Neighborhood Park

**Definition:** Neighborhood play lots (NPL) are small sites, typically less than 2 acres in size, which support single-use recreation opportunities for nearby neighbors. Examples include tot lots, play elements for all ages, multipurpose sports courts, and small footprint recreation facilities.

**Park LOS:** All neighborhood parks, inclusive of neighborhood play lots, should be provided at 1.5 acres per 1,000 residents. Neighborhood play lots may be considered in an Environmental Justice area and/or built-out park deficient area where large parcels are not available for development.

**Service Area:** 0.5-mile

**Site Character:**

- Youth-friendly play spaces and respite spaces for all ages
- Small greenspace to support neighborhood character
- May be located near homes or along trails and less busy roadways

**Size and Configuration:**

- Typically less than 2 acres in size with a minimum size of 0.3 acres
- 100% of the site should be relatively level and developable for recreation uses

**Access:**

- Siting should be on secondary streets within a residential area
- May be accessible via sidewalks

**Prioritized Recreation Elements:**

- Single-use recreation elements such as sport courts and play elements for all ages
- Small open lawn area or greenspace
- Gathering areas – picnic tables, benches, seating

**Additional Elements to Consider:**

- Additional stand-alone play elements (e.g., climbing structure, boulders, swings, nature play)
- Basic neighborhood park features if no neighborhood or community park is within walking distance
- Interpretive signage

**Prioritized Support Amenities:**

- Access paths
- Table, seating, trash receptacle
- Shade features such as trees, canopies, and sails
- Park identification signage near entry or visible frontage

**Landscaping and Vegetation:**

- Low-maintenance landscaping such as now-mow lawn
- Trees for shade and seasonal interest
- Drought-tolerant landscaping with drip irrigation, in accordance with California's Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance (WELo)
- Small, multi-use lawn

**Additional Considerations:**

- Restrooms, community-scale facilities, lighting, buildings/storage, barbecues, and high-maintenance elements or landscaping such as art or ornamental plantings should be avoided.
- Recreation features may not be needed where a neighborhood, community, or regional park is provided within ¼ mile.
- Pocket parks and neighborhood play lots do not provide much variety in recreation activities given their small size. They may be considered in an Environmental Justice area and/or built-out park deficient area where large parcels are not available for development.



## APPENDIX E

### Parkways

**Classification:** Parkway

**Definition:** Parkways are linear parks designed primarily for trail use and secondarily for passive recreation, open space, wildlife habitat, and flood control. Most include hard-surfaced trails for pedestrians and bicyclists, linking residential areas to schools, parks, and trail systems. These corridors may be situated along waterways, abandoned railroads, transportation or utility corridors or other linear features. Parkways may be landscaped, turf, native plantings, or natural landscaping.

**Park LOS:** Parkways should be provided at 1.5 acres per 1,000 residents.

**Service Area:** 0.5-mile

**Site Character:**

- Off-street linear corridors typically with shared use paths that connect parks, schools, and community destinations
- May be located along waterways, transportation and utility corridors, or other linear features

**Size and Configuration:**

- Typical minimum size: none, since the acreage depending on the length of the parkway
- Width, including trail and surrounding buffer, depends on parkway use and location; shared-use paths must adhere to City transportation minimum requirements.
- Shape may be irregular or linear, following natural features and topography.

**Access:**

- Siting should be on corridors for pedestrian and bicyclists, linking residential areas to schools, parks, and trail systems
- Ideally along a Class I or Class IV trail or accessible via on-street bike paths
- Accessible from local or collector streets as well as sidewalks

**Prioritized Recreation Elements:**

- Wide multi-use bicycle/pedestrian path – Class I shared use path, with wayfinding and safety signage
- Amenities for rest, such as tables, benches, seating

**Additional Elements to Consider:**

- Trail identification and mileage markers, directional signage
- Bollards to slow bikes at intersections and prevent vehicle access; removable bollards may be needed to provide utility or maintenance access
- Interpretive signage
- Bike repair station

**Prioritized Support Amenities:**

- Fencing to discourage access to sensitive natural areas
- Shade features such as trees
- Park identification signage near entry or visible frontage
- Trail maps and signage along the shared use path

**Landscaping and Vegetation:**

- Landscaping and trees for shade, habitat, and seasonal interest
- Drought-tolerant landscaping with drip irrigation, in accordance with California's Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance (WELO)
- If located along utility corridors, landscaping must comply with utility provider rules, including height restrictions, horizontal clearances from lines, and approved species

**Additional Considerations:**

- Amenities better suited to trailheads (e.g., drinking fountains, trash receptacles, restrooms) should be avoided along the trail corridor.

## APPENDIX E

### Open Space

**Classification:** Open Space

**Definition:** YPCE manages several open space areas to provide river access, ensure access to other natural features, or protect habitat, conserve natural resources, and promote urban greening and ecological functions. While most sites provide accessible greenspace, passive recreation opportunities, and/or trails, some open space areas do not have any recreation amenities and are not intended for public access. Some open space sites offer opportunities for expansion of nature based recreation, restoration of habitat, and conservation of wildlife and habitat. Unlike multi-use parks (which may include natural resources, beaches, marinas, and habitat areas within them), these stand-alone parks are managed primarily as greenspace.

**Park LOS:** Open space should be provided at 0.75 acres per 1,000 residents.

**Service Area:** 0.5-mile

**Site Character:**

- Sites typically are natural, with recreation supported as secondary use

**Size and Configuration:**

- Size varies depending on extent of natural area; larger sites are preferred for enhanced wildlife habitat and ecological functions
- Shape may be irregular or linear, following natural features and topography

**Access:**

- Service area varies
- Siting should be within and between urban growth areas
- Accessibility varies; may be accessible by vehicle, public transportation, bicycle, or foot
- May be accessible via sidewalks, Class I or Class IV trails, or on-street bike paths
- May provide parking if consistent with recreation needs
- May include wide paths may be provided for emergency vehicle access

**Prioritized Recreation Elements:**

- Stewarded natural areas for connections to nature
- Interpretive features (e.g., signage, kiosks, self-directed trails, plant identification plaques)
- Gathering areas – picnic tables, benches, seating
- Additional recreation features compatible with size and use (see additional elements to consider)

**Additional Elements to Consider:**

- Protected natural areas (for sensitive areas if applicable)
- Trailhead (with seating, shade, drinking fountain, bike rack, trash receptacle, table; with or without permanent or portable restroom) with access to rivers and creeks
- Viewpoints, habitat viewing areas, ecological and cultural interpretive signage
- Hard and soft-surfaced trails (looped path, jogging path, nature trail)

**Prioritized Support Amenities:**

- Access paths
- Table, seating, bike rack, trash receptacle, and dog waste station
- Park identification signage near entry or visible frontage
- Wayfinding signage
- Paved or gravel parking (if applicable) to support intended use

**Landscaping and Vegetation:**

- Trees for shade and seasonal interest
- Stewarded natural areas
- Where appropriate, low-maintenance landscaping, no mow lawn, or drought-tolerant landscaping with drip irrigation, in accordance with California's Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance (WELO)

**Additional Considerations:**

- Avoid lighting; encourage quiet, serene uses.
- Avoid community-scale or major facilities, sports, splash pads or spray areas, buildings/storage, barbecues, and intensely developed uses.
- Avoid high-maintenance elements or landscaping such as art or ornamental plantings.