

5.14 RECREATION

The six components of the project analyzed herein are:

- 1) Adoption and implementation of the General Plan;
- 2) Adoption and implementation of the revised Zoning Code;
- 3) Adoption and implementation of the revised Subdivision Code;
- 4) Adoption and implementation of an amendment to the Noise Code;
- 5) Adoption and implementation of the Magnolia Avenue Specific Plan (MASP); and
- 6) Adoption and implementation of the Citywide Design and Sign Guidelines.

Of the six project components, projects like the revised Zoning Code, the revised Subdivision Code, Noise Code Amendment, the Magnolia Avenue Specific Plan, and the Citywide Design and Sign Guidelines address site planning, building design and community aesthetics, rather than physical changes to the land and were created for compatibility with the proposed General Plan Update, and are thus not considered to have impacts related to impacts from recreational facilities. These five project components will not be analyzed further in this Section. Impacts related to the adoption and implementation of the General Plan and will be addressed herein.

The Recreation Section of this EIR has been changed from the previously circulated EIR. In addition to the overall changes listed in the Project Description Section of this EIR, background information and analysis was added for the Planning Area. Information for all topics within this Section was verified and updated as necessary. (Parks inventory and sports complex inventory has been updated, etc.)

Since an initial study was not prepared with the issuance of the Notice of Preparation, the focus of the following discussion is related to a potential impact from an increase use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities, and construction or expansion of recreational facilities, which might have an adverse physical effect.

In addition to other reference documents, the following references were used in the preparation of this section of the EIR:

- City of Riverside, *City of Riverside Community Parks and Facilities*, July 2004. (Available at: http://www.riversideca.gov/park_rec/PRGuide.pdf)
- City of Riverside, *Riverside Renaissance Initiative*, accessed 2007, at <http://www.riversideca.gov/pdf2/rivren.pdf>.
- City of Riverside, *City of Riverside Park and Recreation Master Plan Update 2003*.
- County of Riverside County Regional Park and Open Space District, *Parks Directory*, 2006. (Available at <http://www.riversidecountyparks.org/park-directory/>)
- California State Parks, *California Citrus SHP*, August 2004.

Setting

City Parks

Table 5.14-A depicts the categories of parks and recreational facilities located in the City.

Table 5.14-A Park and Recreation Facility Types		
Facility Type	Typical Size Range	Typical Features
Pocket Parks	Generally less than two acres.	Historical features, passive park areas and green spaces. Although Pocket Parks exist in the City’s system they are not a standard park type nor does the City typically pursue acquisition or development of this park type.
Neighborhood Parks	Approximately ten acres but can be as little as six acres when the site adjoins open space area of school facilities.	Similar amenities to pocket parks. Children’s playgrounds, small picnic shelters and non-lighted recreational facilities such as sand lot volleyball, pick up game baseball, basketball, and tennis.
Community Parks	Twenty to thirty acres.	Swimming pools, lighted athletic complexes, community centers, senior centers, social service centers, childcare centers, restrooms, parking, group picnic areas, and other facilities for organized recreation in addition to those facilities provided by a neighborhood park.
Special Use Park	Any size.	Major sports complexes, golf courses and hobbyist parks. This designation can also include joint-use facilities that are private facilities open for public use in exchange for maintenance by the City.
Wilderness Reserve Park	Any size.	Open space or wilderness areas used for hiking, off-road cycling and other selected activities. These parks also support habitat and natural resources conservation.
Regional Park	Any size.	Amenities include those of the typical Neighborhood and Community Parks with additional uses like large bodies of water, amphitheatres, opportunities for boating, bowling greens, large group picnic areas, etc.
Signature Park	Any size.	An Overlay designation that focuses higher quality facilities and more resources to a park. Special historical, natural and/or recreational feature that aids in the definition of the City’s image.
County and Other Parks	Any size.	Parks that are owned and operated by the County of Riverside or the State of California.
Joint-Use Facilities	Any size.	Facilities that are available for public use because of joint-use arrangements that the City makes with other public agencies.

Source: City of Riverside Park and Recreation Master Plan Update, 2003 and further updated by staff 2007.

Current Riverside standards for parkland distribution recommend 3 developed acres per 1000 population. The standards are further broken down to favor parks with 2 acres of neighborhood park per 1000 people and 1 acre of community park per 1000 people for a 2 to 1 ratio.

Riverside’s current distribution has instead evolved toward a 1 to 2 ratio, favoring community parks.

Based on **Table 5.14-B**, the City of Riverside has 48 developed parks totaling approximately 2,517 acres and 11 undeveloped parks which when constructed will add approximately 297 acres making the total approximately 2,814 acres. There are seven Riverside County parks, regional county-owned parks, reserve and State park available for use by residents. In Summary, **Table 5.14-B** lists existing and proposed park and recreation facilities within the City. **Figure 5.14-1, Parks and Recreation Facilities** depicts the park facilities throughout the City.

Table 5.14-B			
Parks Inventory and Acreage Summary			
Park Sites	Location	Amenities	Total Acres
City Owned Parks			
Neighborhood Parks			
1	Arlington Park	3860 Van Buren	Basketball, tennis, and roller hockey courts, picnic areas, swimming pool, restroom and playground
2	Bergamont Park	9229 Bergamont	Basketball half courts, playground, picnic tables, and exercise course
3	Carlson Park	4700 Buena Vista	Picnic tables, off-leash dog area and on-site parking. Historic site
4	Collett Park	10950 Collett Ave	Sandlot volleyball court, playground, horseshoe pit, picnic tables, and covered picnic areas
5	Harrison Park	2851 Harrison	Sandlot volleyball court, basketball half courts, playgrounds and picnic facilities
6	Highland Park	780 Glenhill	Basketball court, two playgrounds, picnic facilities, covered picnic area and on-site parking
7	Islander Park	3794 Mt. Vernon	Community pool, on-site parking and undeveloped park site
8	Don Jones Park	3995 Jefferson	Lighted softball and soccer field, picnic tables, restrooms and snack bar
9	Lincoln Park	4261 Park	Lighted basketball court, horseshoe courts, community center, playground, and picnic facilities.
10	Low Park	7101 Magnolia	Picnic facilities
11	Loring Park	3787 Buena Vista	Open space
12	Mountain View Park	6241 Wiehe	Basketball half courts, playground, picnic tables, Barbeques and exercise course
13	Myra Linn Park	4540 Meredith	Lighted tennis courts, playground, picnic tables, restrooms, on-site parking and Barbeques
14	Newman Park	3780 14 th	De Anza Statue, Sport Hall of Fame – Historic Site
15	North Park	3172 Mission Inn	Historic Site with arbor structure
16	Parent Navel Orange	7101 Magnolia	Developed with trees and fencing, one of two original Parent Washington Navel Orange Trees is preserved at this site
17	Patterson Park	1846 Linden	Lighted softball field and sports field, playground, picnic shelters, snack bar, restrooms and on-site parking
18	Rancho Loma Park	11343 Rancho Loma	Tether ball courts, sandlot volleyball courts, volleyball courts, playground, picnic tables,

**Table 5.14-B
Parks Inventory and Acreage Summary**

Park Sites	Location	Amenities	Total Acres	
		Barbeques, and covered picnic area		
19	Rutland Park	7000 Rutland	Basketball half courts, sand lot volleyball courts, horseshoe pits, playground, picnic tables, Barbeques, and covered picnic area	8.63
20	Sycamore Highlands	5777 Fair Isle Dr.	Playground, picnic tables, Barbeques, covered picnic area, ballfield, butterfly garden, and water spray feature	10.46
21	Swanson Park	5723 Glenhaven	Picnic tables	0.80
22	Taft Park	6826 New Ridge Dr	Basketball half courts, tennis courts, playground, picnic tables, and Barbeques	7.18
23	Thundersky Park	20440 Thundersky	Playground, covered picnic areas, ballfield, picnic tables, and Barbeques	12.65
24	Dario Vasquez Park	2400 14 th	Lighted basketball court, playground, covered picnic area, picnic tables, Barbeques and on-site parking	1.36
25	Washington Park	2769 Mary	Playground, restrooms, picnic tables, Barbeques and on-site parking	3.90
26	Doty Trust Park	Golden & Campbell	Undeveloped	21.31
27	Golden Star	Bradley and Washington	Undeveloped	10.7
28	Mt. Vernon Park	3200 Valencia Hill	Undeveloped	8.25
29	Victoria Cross Park	NWC Victoria Ave and Cross Street	Undeveloped	7.83
Total Existing Neighborhood Park Acreage			181.18	
Community Parks				
30	Andulka	5079 Chicago	Currently undeveloped but funded for lighted baseball fields, group picnic area, children’s playground, tennis courts, tennis pro shop, jogging path, snack bar, restrooms, and on-site parking	36.64
31	Bobby Bonds Park (Cezar Chavez Community Center)	2060 University	Lighted softball field, lighted basketball/tennis courts, sports field, soccer field, social service center, olympic pool, picnic tables, and childcare	13.67
32	Bordwell Park (Stratton Community Center)	2008 MLK	Lighted softball field, lighted basketball court, community center, senior activity area, childcare center, playground, picnic tables, and Barbeques	22.76
33	Bryant Park (Arlanza Community Center)	5950 Philbin	Lighted softball fields, basketball and tennis courts, community center with gym, playground, picnic tables, Barbeques, covered picnic areas, snack bar, child care, and social services center	19.65
34	Castleview Park	1410 Via Vista	Playground and picnic tables	31.46
35	Hunt Park (Joe Renck Community Center)	4015 Jackson	Lighted softball field and basketball court, sports field, volleyball court, community center, playground, pool, picnic tables, Barbeques, and skateboard facility	13.93
36	Hunter Park	1400 Iowa	Softball fields, picnic facilities, miniature steam locomotives (Riverside Live Streamers)	32.20
37	La Sierra Park (La Sierra Community)	5205 La Sierra	Lighted ball fields, community center with gym, covered picnic area, playground, picnic tables,	23.15

**Table 5.14-B
 Parks Inventory and Acreage Summary**

Park Sites	Location	Amenities	Total Acres
		snack bar, Barbeques, restrooms and on-site parking	
38	Nichols Park (Joyce Jackson Community Center) 5505 Dewey	Two lighted softball fields, basketball and volleyball courts, sports field, community center with gym, playground, picnic tables, and Barbeques	14.72
39	Orange Terrace 20010 Orange Terrace	Lighted softball fields, restrooms, snack bar, playground and picnic shelters	29.81
40	Reid Park (Ruth Lewis Community Center) 801 N. Orange	Lighted softball fields, basketball, tennis, and lighted sports field, soccer field, community center with gym, playground, pool, picnic tables, snack bar, Barbeques, restrooms and on-site parking	42.24
41	Shamel Park 3650 Arlington	Lighted ball fields, lighted tennis courts, covered picnic area, horseshoe courts, pool, picnic tables, and BBQs, restroom and on-site parking	9.84
42	Streeter Park (Janet Goeske Senior and Handicapped Citizens' Center) 5257 Sierra	Senior and handicapped citizens' center, patio area includes covered picnic area, basketball half court, arbors, horseshoe courts, and other outdoor areas for use by seniors and handicapped citizens	4.42
43	Villegas Park (Ysmael Villegas Community Center) 7260 Marguerita	Lighted ball fields, lighted soccer field, basketball court, handball courts, covered picnic area, community center with gym, playground, pool, picnic tables, Barbeques, restrooms and on-site parking	17.46
Total Existing Community Park Acreage			311.95
City-Wide/Special Use Parks			
44	Ab Brown Sports Complex 3700 Placentia Lane	16 Soccer fields (2 lighted), restrooms, on-site parking, covered picnic area	55.50
45	Don Derr Park 3003 Monroe	3 Lighted ball fields, with 2 lighted sports field overlays, basketball courts, playground, snack bar, picnic tables, Barbeques, restrooms and on-site parking	21.44
46	Don Lorenzi Park 4230 Jackson	Lighted sports fields, picnic tables, Barbeques, restrooms and on-site parking	9.08
47	Sam Evans Sports Complex (RCC) 4557 Magnolia	Lighted sports fields, playground, picnic tables, restrooms and on-site parking	11.89
48	Riverside Sports Center 1000 Blaine	Baseball stadium, lighted sports fields, restrooms, on-site parking, and bike trail connection	17.50
49	Riverside Youth Sports Complex Van Buren & Cleveland	Currently undeveloped park but funded for baseball fields, soccer fields, restrooms, snack bar, basketball courts, on-site parking, children playground, group picnic area and small maintenance building	34.39
50	White Park (Dale Senior Center) 3936 Chestnut	Senior center, administration offices, Asian garden, picnic tables, restrooms, on-site parking and Botanic Garden (historic site)	5.27
51	Boy Scout Camp (Special Use)	Undeveloped	2.50
52	Hole Lake Site	Undeveloped	61.0
53	Savi Ranch	Undeveloped	37.62

Table 5.14-B			
Parks Inventory and Acreage Summary			
Park Sites	Location	Amenities	Total Acres
54	Tequesquite	4825 Tequesquite	Undeveloped 43.64
Total Citywide/Special Use Acreage			299.83
Reserve/Open Space Parks			
55	Challen Park	4602 Challen	Undeveloped Park 33.01
56	Fairmount Park	2601 Fairmount	Lighted tennis courts, two playgrounds, horseshoe pits, picnic tables, Barbeques, covered picnic areas, Historic site, Boathouse, Izaak Walton Building, Bandshell nine-hole golf course, 50 acre lake system, fishing, boat launch, rose garden, basketball court, hiking and walking trails, restrooms, and lawn bowling 209.58
57	Mt. Rubidoux	4706 Mt. Rubidoux	Open space with rock formations, jogging/running paths, over three miles of trails and historic site 161.01
58	Quail Run	5020 Quail Run	Natural Open Space 26.93
59	Sycamore Canyon Park	400 Central Ave	Wilderness reserve, SKR habitat (core reserve) with on-site parking (Central Avenue) and over three miles of bike and hiking trails. 1590.06
Total Citywide/Special Use Acreage			2020.59
Non-City Owned/Maintained Regional Parks and Facilities			
County and State Parks			
60	Springbrook Vicinity	Spring Mtn. Ranch SP is annexed	Undeveloped 10.0
61	Box Spring Mountain Reserve	Pigeon Pass Rd off Hwy 60	Equestrian and hiking trails; interpretive trail 1155.0
62	Martha MeLean Anza Narrows Park	5900 Jurupa Avenue	Over 20 miles of hiking and equestrian trails, picnic areas, fishing lakes and playground 40
63	Rancho Jurupa Regional Park	Crestmore Rd off Mission Blvd.	Over 10 miles of hiking and equestrian trails, fishing, horseshoe pits, picnic facilities and campground. 350
64	Santa Ana River Wildlife Area	Santa Ana River, northwest of City limits	Undeveloped 2290.74
65	California Citrus State Historic Park	9400 Dufferin Ave.	Visitor center with gift shop, exhibits, hiking trails, picnic tables, BBQ's, Sunkist Center, and small amphitheater 377
66	Lake Perris State Recreation Area	17801 Lake Perris Dr	Water Skiing, boating, sailing, windsurfing, over 5 miles of trails, and over 12 miles of equestrian and biking trails and campgrounds. 8,800
Total County and State Parks			13,022.74
Total Acreage			
Total City Owned Parks and Recreational Facilities Acreage			2,813.55
Total Non-City Owned Parks and Recreational Facilities Acreage			13,022.74
Total Park and Recreational Facilities Acreage			15,836.29

Source: Financial Strategy Plan, City of Riverside Park & Recreation Department, November 22, 2005, and updated by City staff February 2007.

Riverside Renaissance Initiative

The City’s commitment to its park system can be seen in the Riverside Renaissance Initiative. As part of this Initiative many existing parks are being renovated and new parks are being added. The initiative has already commenced, with project construction scheduled through fiscal year 2010/11 (See Table 5.14-C).

Table 5.14-C Park and Recreation Facilities Funded in the Riverside Renaissance Initiative				
Park	In Design	Out to Bid	Under Construction	Completed
Shamel Park Ballfield Rehabilitation	X	X	X	X
Andulka Park – New	X	X	X	
Bobby Bonds Youth Opportunity Center	X	X	X	
Bryant Park Fitness Center Rehabilitation	X	X	X	
Orange Terrace Community Center/Gymnasium – New	X	X	X	
Orange Terrace Field & Park Expansion	X	X	X	
Bordwell Childcare Center – New	X	X	X	
Ballfield Light Systems Controls	X	X		
Bordwell Stratton Senior Center Room Addition	X	X		
Fairmount Park Lake Rehabilitation	X	X		
Hunter Adult Sports Complex Rehabilitation	X	X		
La Sierra/Norwood Park Expansion	X			
Youth Sports Complex (Cleveland & Van Buren) – New	X			
Mission Ranch Park – New	X			
Carlson Parking Lot & Historic Balustrade Wall Renovation	X			
Alvord Unified School District & City Joint Use Swim Facility	X			

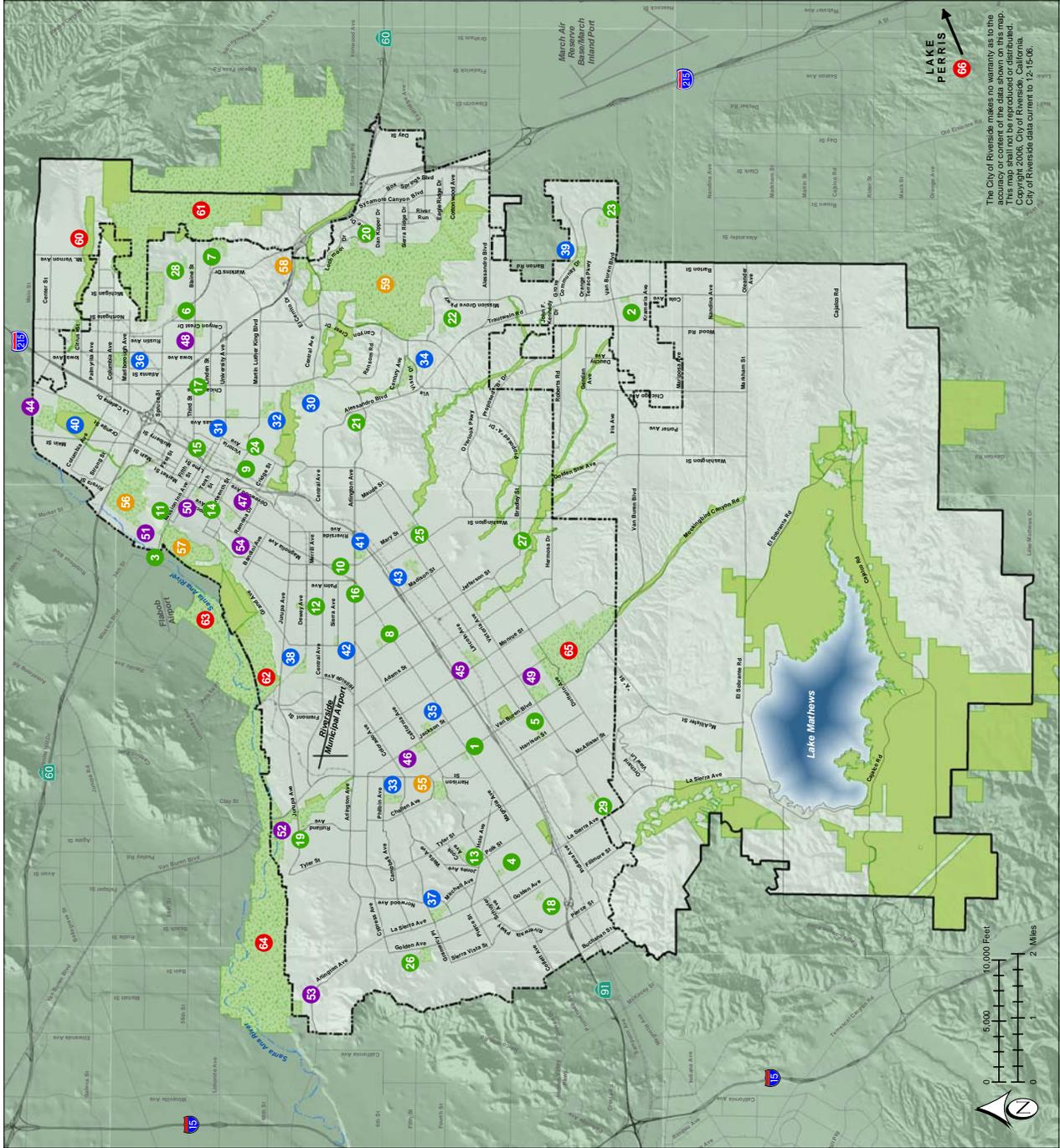
According to the General Plan, neighborhood parks should be located within a one-half-mile radius of every residence and community parks within a two-mile radius. The Park and Recreation Master Plan identifies shortages of neighborhood park coverage throughout the City. The distribution of community parks is more widespread, but neighborhood park deficiencies exist in Arlington Heights, Hawarden Hills, Victoria, Wood Streets, La Sierra Acres, and La Sierra South. Future expansion of the City’s boundaries may create further parkland shortages.



LEGEND

- PARKS
- NEIGHBORHOOD
- COMMUNITY
- CITY-WIDE/SPECIAL USE
- RESERVE/OPEN SPACE
- COUNTY AND STATE
- SEE TABLE 5.14-B FOR PARK NAMES
- OPEN SPACE AND RESERVES
- RIVERSIDE CITY BOUNDARY
- RIVERSIDE PROPOSED SPHERE OF INFLUENCE

SOURCE: CITY OF RIVERSIDE



**Figure 5.14-1
PARKS AND
RECREATIONAL
FACILITIES**

Trails

According to the Park and Recreation Master Plan, the City currently maintains trails for equestrian, off-road biking, hiking, and other pedestrian-oriented uses. The intent of the multi-purpose recreational trails is to connect the major open space and recreational sites that surround the City; specifically the Santa Ana River, Box Springs Mountain, Sycamore Canyon, the Citrus State Historic Park, and the green belt, and the La Sierra/Norco Hills, to ring the entire City. In addition, the plan is to connect local parks and scenic parkways to the trail system as is feasible. Trails provide connections to open space areas, as well as providing recreational opportunities. Existing trails in the City of Riverside includes primary City trails along the Santa Ana River along the northwestern part of the City, through Sycamore Canyon Wilderness Park, and along sections of Wood Road, Bradley Street and Washington Street in the southwestern part of the Planning Area; and secondary City trails in the south. Several County and City trails are proposed for development. Most of the trails proposed are located in the south and east areas of the City, as shown in **Figure 5.14-2, Trails Map**.

Parkways

Parkways are specialized open spaces that typically allow limited recreational uses. Even though parkways have park-like attributes, they are not parks defined by the Parks and Recreation Master Plan, and therefore, do not belong to an official park category nor are department funds used to build or maintain them, and are often developer-built. However, parkways are considered valuable assets by the City, and they serve primarily as a safe and aesthetically pleasing corridor for pedestrian, cyclists, and equestrians.

Golf Courses

The City also owns two public golf courses: Fairmount Municipal Golf Course, a 9-hole golf course, which is part of Fairmount Park under Parks Department management, and Riverside Golf Club, an 18-hole golf course which is managed by Public Utilities. Also within the City are two private golf courses: Canyon Crest Country Club and Victoria Country Club.

Sports Complex Joint Use Agreements

In addition to City and County facilities, the City has joint-use agreements with, including but not limited to, Alvord Unified School District and Riverside Unified School District, Riverside Community College and University of California Riverside (UCR). These agreements allow resident use of district-owned and/or operated ball fields, tennis courts, and swimming pools, as well as the sports complex. The majority of these agreements are long-term (i.e., 25 year leases). Agreements included are:

- Alvord Unified School District- 4 intermediate Schools, 16 Elementary Schools. This agreement covers the after-school use of the classrooms, multi-use rooms and athletic facilities (outdoor baseball and softball fields and indoor gymnasium). The City also has an agreement for use of La Sierra and Norte Vista School Pools.



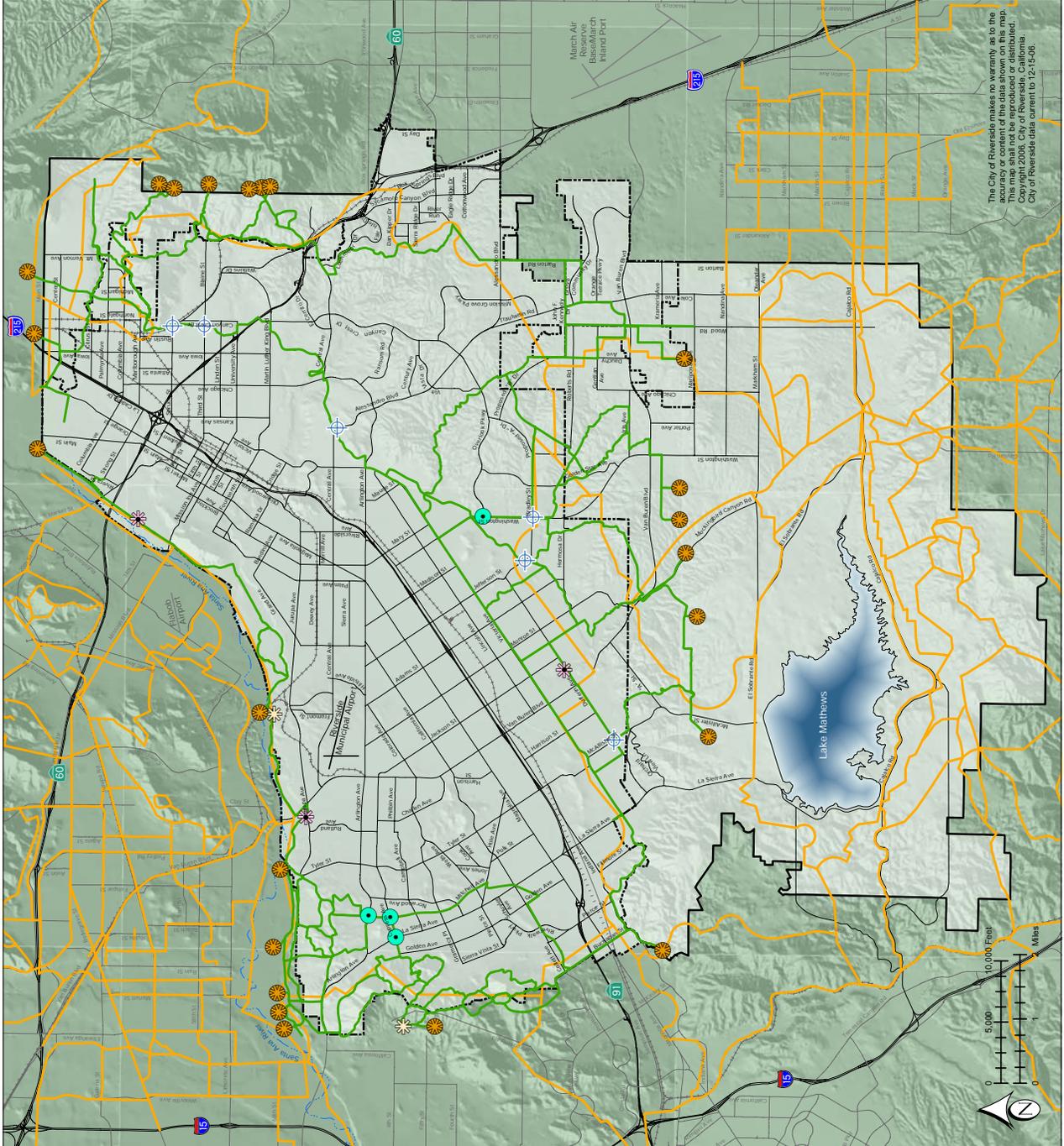
LEGEND

- CITY TRAIL POINTS
- STAGING AREAS EXISTING FACILITIES
- STAGING AREAS PROPOSED FACILITIES
- CONNECTION TO COUNTY DESIGNATED TRAILS
- TRAIL CROSSING PROPOSED STOP SIGN
- TRAIL CROSSING PROPOSED TRAFFIC SIGNAL
- CITY OF RIVERSIDE TRAILS
- RIVERSIDE COUNTY TRAILS
- RIVERSIDE CITY BOUNDARY
- RIVERSIDE PROPOSED SPHERE OF INFLUENCE

SOURCE: CITY OF RIVERSIDE AND RIVERSIDE COUNTY GIS DATA

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NOTE: Currently the City and County trails are not completely coordinated. The County Trails Plan is a conceptual plan at this time and many of the City's trails have not yet been built. An implementation tool of this General Plan is to work with the County to coordinate the RCP and the City's General Plan (Tool #10).



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Figure 5.14-2 TRAILS MAP

- Riverside Unified School District- 6 Middle Schools. This agreement covers the after-school use of the classrooms, multi-use rooms and athletic facilities (outdoor baseball and softball fields (no lights) and indoor gymnasium). There is also an agreement to use the community garden at Emerson Elementary School.
- University of California Riverside- joint use agreement for two lighted softball fields and one lighted baseball field.
- Riverside Community College- joint use agreement to use eighteen lighted tennis courts, one baseball field, one softball field, and one pony field (lighted).

Community Centers

The City of Riverside operates a number of community centers, multi-purpose room, and activity rooms, **Table 5.14-C, Inventory of Existing Community Centers**, below. These facilities allow the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department to provide a wide variety of recreational, educational, and human service programs for a diverse population. To appeal to this diverse population, the programs are tailored to specific age groups, interests, and abilities. As part of the Riverside Renaissance Initiative, the Bobby Bonds Youth Opportunity Center, the Orange Terrace Community Center and the Bordwell Childcare Center are all under construction. In addition the Bordwell Stratton Senior Center room addition has gone out to bid.

Table 5.14-D Inventory of Existing Community Centers		
Center	Address	Square-footage
<i>Community Centers</i>		
Arlanza Center/ Bryant Park	7950 Philbin Avenue	11,739 SF
Joyce Jackson Center/ Nichols Park	5505 Dewey Avenue	8,280 SF
La Sierra Center/ La Sierra Park	5215 La Sierra Avenue	8,280 SF
Lincoln Community Center/Lincoln Park	4261 Park Avenue	1,600 SF
Orange Terrace	20010 Orange Terrace	24,000 SF*
Renck Center/ Hunt Park	4015 Jackson Street	6,337 SF
Ruth Lewis Center/ Reid Park	701 N. Orange Street	8,280 SF
Stratton Center/ Bordwell Park	2008 Martin Luther King Blvd.	9,617 SF
Ysmael Villegas Center/Ysmael Villegas Park	7260 Marguerita Avenue	21,690 SF
<i>Senior Centers</i>		
Dales Senior Center/ White Park	3936 Chestnut Street	10,720 SF
Fairmount Park Adult Center/Fairmount Park	2601 Fairmount Boulevard	1,720 SF
Janet Goeske Senior/ Disabled Center/ Streeter Park	5257 Sierra Avenue	26,000 SF
<i>Service Centers</i>		
Cesar Chavez Center/Bobby Bonds Park	2060 University Avenue	44,710 SF
Eric N. Solander Center/Bryant Park	7801 Gramercy Place, Suite B	8,640 SF

* Estimated square footage, currently under construction

Source: City of Riverside Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department Website, Parks and Recreation Facilities List and communication with Bob Johnson

State and County Regional Parks

Recreational opportunities are available to City residents at nearby State and county facilities. These sites offer natural open spaces, community centers, trails, and educational and historic programs. Although not managed by the City and not included in the City's parkland acreage table in Table 5.14-B, these facilities enrich the recreational opportunities for Riverside area residents. The sites include the:

- California Citrus State Historic Park, preserves some of the cultural landscape of the citrus industry and to tell the story of this industry's role in the history and development of California. The design of the park is reminiscent of a 1900s City park, complete with an activity center, interpretive structure, amphitheater, picnic area, and demonstration groves. The land contained within the park still continues to produce high-quality fruits.
- Hidden Valley Wildlife Area, next to the City of Norco on the northwestern edge of the City along the Santa Ana River is accessible to the City's residents. The HVWA is operated by Riverside County and encompasses 1,500 acres of open space with access to 25 miles of hiking and equestrian trails along the river, bluffs, and many wetlands.
- The Santa Ana River Trail, is a Class 1 bicycle path in the Riverside area parallels the Santa Ana River channel. It starts in Riverside County at the Green River golf course entrance, and extends about 28.8 miles to Huntington Beach.
- Martha McLean-Anza Narrows Park, consisting of 40 acres, located 2 miles east of Van Buren Boulevard on Jurupa Avenue. The park includes picnic facilities, hiking, bicycle, and equestrian trails. Group picnicking available.
- Box Springs Mountain Reserve, consisting of 1,155 acres, adjacent to the University of Riverside Campus, includes both equestrian and hiking trails. The Box Springs Reserve lies on a steep and rugged slope near the top of Box Springs Mountain.

Riverside Renaissance Strategic Investment Plan (SIP)

The Riverside Renaissance SIP, which commenced October 2006, is a program to provide 30 years worth of infrastructure needs, completed over a five-year period. The funding program includes various Certificates of Participation issued that would be repaid over a 30-year period along with a number of other financing mechanisms including land sales, redevelopment monies, General Fund financing, County/State/Federal grant funding, public utility funding, park fee funding, private funding, etc. The project includes:

- New and improved parks
- New and expanded libraries
- Expanded Metropolitan Museum
- Renovation of the Fox Theater
- New public safety facilities

- New railroad grade separations and quiet zones
- New and improved sidewalks
- New senior centers
- Citywide beautification
- Upgrades to sewer, water, electric, and storm drain systems
- Improvement to Airport facilities

Once the Riverside Renaissance work is complete, the City will have added another 198.74 acres of park land to its park system since the 2003 Park Master Plan was adopted. When all other existing park sites are developed, yet another 110.84 acres of local park land will then be available for the public.

Thresholds of Significance

The City of Riverside has not established local CEQA significance thresholds as described in Section 15064.7 of the State CEQA Guidelines. Therefore, significance determinations utilized in this Section are from Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines. A significant impact will occur if implementation of the Project:

- increases the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated; or
- includes recreational facilities or requires the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment.

Related Regulations

Federal Regulations

There are no Federal regulations applicable to parkland or recreational facilities.

State Regulations

The Quimby Act

The Quimby Act was established by California legislature in 1965 to provide parks for the growing communities in California. The act authorizes cities to adopt ordinances addressing parkland and/or fees for residential subdivisions for the purpose of providing and preserving open space and recreational facilities and improvements. The Act requires the provision of 3 acres of park area per 1,000 persons residing within a subdivision, unless the amount of existing neighborhood and community park area exceeds that limit, in which case the City may adopt a higher standard not to exceed 5 acres per 1,000 residents. The Act also specifies acceptable uses and expenditures of such funds. The City of Riverside is a Charter City and is therefore, not subject to the Quimby Act, but the City does base their analysis and imposition of appropriate Park Development Impact Fees from the requirements of the Quimby Act.

State Street and Highway Code

The State Street and Highway Code assists in providing equestrian and hiking trails within the right-of-way of County roads, streets, and highways.

Proposition 40 Park Bond Act

Proposition 40 is intended to maintain a high quality of life for California's growing population by providing a continuing investment in park and recreational facilities. Specifically, it is for the acquisition and development of neighborhood, community, and regional parks and recreation land, and facilities in urban and rural areas. Eligible projects for the funding include an acquisition, development, improvement, rehabilitation, restoration, enhancement, and the development of interpretive facilities, or local parks and recreational land and facilities, and funds are distributed based on the City's population.

Local Regulations

Municipal Code

Chapter 16.60, *Local Park Development Fees*, in the City's Municipal Code was created to enable the acquisition, development, or improvement of neighborhood and community parks to provide both passive and active recreational opportunities to the residents of the City of Riverside in order to improve the quality of life for the public. New development within the City generates a need for added facilities and an increased demand upon existing facilities, and the imposition of the Local Park Development Fee for new development provides funding for new and improved facilities to meet established standards.

Park and Recreation Final Master Plan Update 2003

The Park and Recreation Master Plan is a comprehensive report addressing the adequacy of Riverside's park and recreation facilities, as well as future needs and opportunities. The report also addresses the Trails Master Plan and makes recommendations to the trails system as it pertains to park, recreation, and open space conditions. The purpose of the Master Plan is to:

- Provide an inventory and assessment of existing park components and resources;
- Examine the existing park system and its ability to meet community needs;
- Function as a decision-making tool for the City and the public by setting forth goals, objectives, and implementation programs regarding parks and facilities;
- Provide general recommendations for park and recreation services throughout the City;
- Establish policies and directives for implementation of the Master Plan; and
- Provide funding goals and strategies for park and recreation development.

To address the issues of parkland shortage, overuse of facilities, deferred maintenance, and negative public perception, the Parks and Recreation Master Plan calls for the following primary actions:

- Revise the City’s park standards to reflect the current ratio of 1.0 to 2.0 in favor of community parks;
- Establish new park designations and categories to eliminate redundancy and confusion;
- Acquire key remaining open space areas, including La Sierra/Norco Hills, Alessandro and Prenda Arroyos, and wildlife corridors;
- Create seven new park sites in underserved areas of the City;
- Revitalize existing parks, including Fairmount Park;
- Consider Tequesquite Arroyo for a potential neighborhood park site and Arlington Heights for a potential community park site;
- Partner with schools to increase the areas served by recreation programs; and
- Improve and create connections between park facilities and increase the safety of the bicycle, equestrian, and pedestrian trail systems.

The City is committed to alleviating parkland shortages and providing park facilities in underserved areas of the City. The City also strives to preserve its natural resources and open spaces of the highest quality and in a cost-effective manner to enhance the living environment of all residents.

Related General Plan Policies

Implementation of the following General Plan policies will assist in minimizing adverse conditions to recreation for the benefit of the City. In addition to anticipated population-related demand increases, the following Project policies are expected to increase usage and demand on the City’s park and recreation facilities, potentially resulting in substantial physical deterioration of facilities and significant impacts.

Community Centers

Policy PF-10.1: Provide every neighborhood with easy access to recreation and service programs by decentralizing community centers and programs. Promote the development of shared facilities and satellite offices in each Riverside neighborhood.

Policy PF-10.4: Ensure that youth activities and programs are provided or are accessible by all neighborhoods, either in City facilities or through joint-use or cooperative agreements with other service providers.

Overarching Objectives – Open Space Element

- Policy OS-1.2: Establish an open space acquisition program that identifies acquisition area priorities based on capital costs, operation and maintenance costs, accessibility, needs, resource preservation, ability to complete or enhance the existing open space linkage system and unique environmental features.
- Policy OS-1.9: Promote open space and recreation resources as a key reason to live in Riverside.
- Policy OS-1.11: Develop a program for City acquisition of identified open space land and encourage land donations or the dedication of land in lieu of park fees for the acquisition of usable land for public parks, open space and trail linkages.
- Policy OS-1.12: Ensure that areas acquired as part of the Open Space System are developed, operated and maintained to provide the City with a permanent, publicly accessible open space system.

Our Arroyos and Biological Resources

- Policy OS-7.1: Focus river improvements on the following areas: Fairmount Park and Mt. Rubidoux, Tequesquite Avenue and the Old Landfill, Martha McLean Park, Van Buren Bridge and the Hidden Valley Wildlife Area.
- Policy OS-7.2: Give initial priority to the Fairmount Park wetlands enhancement project and the completion of the Santa Ana River Trail.
- Policy OS-7.4: Interconnect the Santa Ana River Trail with other parks, cultural and community centers throughout the City through trails and linkages to encourage more pedestrian and bicycle usage and reduce automobile traffic.
- Policy OS-7.7: Explore implementation of the Santa Ana River Task Force’s ideas for the five focus areas, such as:
- 1) Work with private interests to develop a restaurant or coffee bar in Fairmount Park near the river with views of the open water impoundment.
 - 2) Establish trail linkages between Mt. Rubidoux and Fairmount Park and generally improve trails in and around the area.
 - 3) Explore the development of water treatment wetlands that can be used for bird watching and improving water quality inputs adjacent to the river course.

- 4) Recapture the former glory of Fairmount Park as a recreational area. Provide picnic areas, bathrooms, and other attractions such as pony rides and carousels.
- 5) Improve linkages to other parts of the City via an improved walking/biking trail along Market Street and/or Mission Inn Avenue. Improve signage to direct visitors from other parks and other parts of the City to the parkway.

Policy OS-7.5: Improve the perception of public safety at authorized recreation locations along the river.

Housing Strategies

Policy AC-1.5: Continue to develop and support coordinated school district/City arts programs with community centers, museums, libraries and schools.

Reduce Vehicle Miles Traveled

Policy AC-2.4: Use community facilities (e.g., parks, schools, community centers, churches, senior centers, libraries) to increase opportunities for visual and performing arts throughout the City.

Policy AC-2.6: Identify, recognize and support existing concentrations of arts facilities/venues and build upon these concentrations to generate more neighborhood identity and recognition throughout the City.

Reduction of Particulate Matter

Policy AC-4.26: Collaborate on strong joint-use arrangements between the public and private sectors to promote Riverside's arts and cultural events, attract new events and develop more spaces for art and cultural events in the City.

Energy Conservation

Policy AC-5.1: Aggressively market Riverside, including the Downtown, as a regional, national and international destination.

Policy AC-5.3: Encourage the utilization of municipal resources to package and publicize Riverside's rich and diverse offerings of art and cultural facilities and programs.

Policy AC-5.7: Promote Riverside's arts and cultural attractions to attract businesses and employees to Riverside.

Policy AC-5.10: Market the programs like the Downtown Riverside Art Walk to bring people into Downtown, and increase cross promotion and partnering with local businesses, restaurants, and shops for this event.

Public Education

Policy AC-6.2: Expand access to all museum resources from the Downtown area to include the entire Riverside community.

Multi-Jurisdictional Cooperation

Policy AC-7.1: Explore the feasibility of creating a contemporary museum for Riverside through construction of a didactic facility that mirrors Riverside’s cultural and natural history while providing authentic, tangible, educational resources for all Riversiders.

Park and Recreation Master Plan

Policy PR-1.1: Implement the policies of the City of Riverside Park and Recreation Master Plan. Revise the neighborhood/community park ratio standard to two acres of community park and one acre of neighborhood park per one thousand residents.

Policy PR-1.2: Distribute recreational facilities equally throughout Riverside’s neighborhoods.

Policy PR-1.3: Encourage private development of recreation facilities that complement and supplement the public recreational system.

Policy PR-1.4: Work with the County in sphere areas to require sites for parks as an integral component for new residential development, particularly in Riverside’s Sphere of Influence.

Policy PR-1.5: Locate parks adjacent to compatible use areas, such as residential uses, greenbelts, bicycle corridors, schools, and natural waterways to minimize the negative impacts of adjacent land uses.

Policy PR-2.1: Integrate public transportation routes when locating regional reserve parks, community parks, and community centers.

Policy PR-2.3: Improve and create more connections and increase the safety of the bicycling, equestrian, and pedestrian trail system within the City.

Policy PR-2.4: Create a primary trail loop to connect signature parks, County and State open spaces and parks.

- Policy PR-2.5: Develop more recreational opportunities for the secondary trail and pedestrian system in Riverside. Opportunities could include walk-a-thons, 10K-and-over runs, triathlons and bike races.
- Policy PR-2.6: Provide greater amenities at access points and trail hubs, including identification and directional signs, marked parking stalls, water facilities for equestrians, cyclists and pedestrians, hitching posts, shade and trash receptacles. Additional amenities at trail hubs could include picnic tables and rest rooms.
- Policy PR-3.1: Consider the needs of all age groups, abilities, disabilities, and special interest groups in park and recreation planning and design.

Santa Ana River

- Policy LU-2.1: Cooperate and collaborate with Riverside County in developing recreational opportunities along the Santa Ana River.
- Policy LU-2.2: Utilize the 2004 Santa Ana River Task Force Report in planning, programming and implementing environmental and recreational improvements to the River area.

Walking and Biking

- Policy CCM-10.1: Ensure the provision of bicycle facilities consistent with the Bicycle Master Plan.
- Policy CCM-10.2: Incorporate bicycle and pedestrian trails and bicycle racks in future development projects.
- Policy CCM-10.7: Maintain an extensive trails network that supports bicycles, pedestrians and horses and is linked to the trails systems of adjacent jurisdictions.
- Policy CCM-10.8: Maximize links between trails and major activity centers, residential neighborhoods, schools, shopping centers and employment centers.
- Policy CCM-10.9: Provide adequate connections between elements of Riverside Park.

The following additional policies specifically aim to offset potential impacts to park and recreation facilities from ongoing and anticipated usage:

Our Arroyos and Biological Resources

- Policy OS-7.3: Preserve and expand open space along the Santa Ana River to protect water quality, riparian habit and recreational uses.

Park and Recreation Master Plan

- Policy PR-2.2: Implement the revisions to the City's trails system as identified in the 2003 Park and Recreation Master Plan.
- Policy PR-3.2: Establish programs that allow local residents and neighborhood organizations to "adopt" and take pride in protecting and maintaining local parks.
- Policy PR-3.3: Continue to work with the Office of Neighborhoods and hold planning meetings at the neighborhood level to review, evaluate and adopt designs for new park and recreation facilities.
- Policy PR-3.4: Periodically review the City's existing community center programs and infrastructure to ensure that the facilities are safe and adequately meet the need of the neighborhood served.
- Policy PR-3.5: Continue to promote community awareness and stewardship of parks, open spaces and trails through activities such as the Adopt-A-Park program, public outreach and education, beautification projects, neighborhood watch, and other special events.

Implementation of the following Implementation Plan Tool will also assist in minimizing adverse conditions to park and recreation facilities for the benefit of the City.

- Tool 42: The Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department shall revisit the Parks Master Plan and the standards set within it to determine whether its standards appropriately reflect the recommendation of the 2003 Parks Master Plan and evolving public needs and preferences for recreational facilities.

Environmental Impacts Before Mitigation

Threshold: *Increases the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated.*

Development pursuant to the Maximum w/PRD land use densities proposed in the General Plan LU-3 could potentially result in approximately 176,143 new residential dwelling units and approximately 580,166,990 square feet of non-residential construction within the current City boundaries. Using the Maximum densities, a projected population of 528,429 people could live within the City boundary, with an approximate 585,926 people living within the entire Planning Area over the 20-year horizon of the General Plan. The potential population increase as a result of an increase in facilitating development from the General Plan implementation could result in

the increase use of the park and recreational facilities listed in **Table 5.14-B** and on **Figures 5.14-1** and **5.14-2**.

In anticipation of the increased use and potential deterioration of parks and recreational facilities, the proposed General Plan provides goals and policies to address these issues. For example, Goal PR-1 requires a diverse range of park and recreational facilities that are responsive to the needs of Riverside residents.

As of 2004, the City’s parkland standard is 3 developed acres per 1,000 residents. As shown in **Table 5.14-D, Future Parks and Recreational Facilities**, below, with the added population under a Maximum density scenario, as long as future development is required to provide 3.0 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents, there will not be a deficit of parkland in the Planning Area. **MM Rec 1** below is required in order to ensure there will not be a parkland deficit in regard to any new development.

Within the City, approximately 50,000 residents are students at University of California Riverside, Riverside Community College, California Baptist University and La Sierra University. Recreational facilities are provided at these colleges and students primarily use the recreational facilities provided at the campuses. Strict adherence to the standards established in the 2003 Parks Master Plan may no longer be relevant taking into account the university recreational facilities that reduce dependence on current public recreational facilities. Implementation Tool 42 requires that the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department revisit its threshold to adequately address current means of providing recreational facilities to its residents.

Table 5.14-E Future Parks and Recreational Facilities				
	Population	Park Acreage Required^A	Available Acreage from Existing and Planned Parkland	Parkland Deficit
2000	262,140	786	513	273 acres
Existing^F	287,321 ^B	862	2,517 ^D	None- 1,655 additional acres
Future^G (Typical)	346,867 ^C	1,041	2,814 ^E	None- 1,773 additional acres
Future^G (max. w/PRD)	528,429 ^C	1,585	2,814 ^E	None- 1,229 additional acres

Notes:

A Based on standard of 3.0 developed acres per 1,000 people.

B Existing population as reported by the California Department of Finance, 2003.

C Estimated build-out population of the proposed General Plan using the Maximum w/PRD for City for worst-case scenario.

D Only acreage from City-owned developed parkland is included in this total. No County or State Parks or undeveloped parks are included in this total. From Table 5.14-B.

E All the acreage from the City owned parks as listed on Table 5.14-B, developed and undeveloped, but not including County or State Parks.

F Based off of 2005 Department of Finance.

G Based off of Maximum with PRD City projections.

However, according to the General Plan, there is a deficiency in neighborhood and community parks, and there is a need for additional recreational facilities according to a needs assessment that was done for the Park and Recreation Master Plan. Due to the recognized neighborhood and

community parkland shortage already existing in the City, further deterioration of existing neighborhood and community parks could be expected with General Plan implementation. Continued implementation of the Renaissance Project has been and will continue to address deterioration within existing parks throughout the City limit. With the future projected deficiencies, accelerated deterioration can be expected to continue into the future until park needs balance out with available facilities. **Table 5.14-E** below describes the community and neighborhood park deficiencies analyzed for both the Typical and Maximum w/PRD projections for potential General Plan Buildout within the City boundaries.

Table 5.14-E Existing Parkland Deficiencies				
Community Parks (2 Acres per 1000 Residents)				
Future	Population	Park Acreage Required ^A	Future Acreage	Parkland Deficit
Typical	346,867	693	312	381 acres of Community Parks
Max. w/PRD	528,429	1057	312	745 acres of Community Parks
Neighborhood Parks (1 Acre per 1000 Residents)				
Typical	346,867	347	181	166 acres of Neighborhood Parks
Max. w/PRD	528,429	528	181	347 acres of Neighborhood Parks

Notes: A Based on standard of 2 developed acres per 1,000 residents for community parks and 1 developed acre per 1000 residents for neighborhood parks.

Where the City will stand in relation to its adopted standards to community and neighborhood parks will depend upon when the additional park development work is complete and the change in Riverside’s population that will occur between General Plan implementation and that future point in time. Without the provision of new park and recreational facilities to serve projected new residents, the population increase anticipated over time has the potential to cause increased demand for existing park and recreation facilities, such that substantial physical deterioration of existing facilities may occur or be accelerated. Implementation of **MM Rec 1 and 2** below will reduce impacts from new development, but does not correct the existing shortage. Compliance with the City Park Development Impact Fees, as adopted January 2007, the Riverside Renaissance SIP, General Plan policies and implementation of the Park and Recreation Master Plan will decrease impacts to existing parks, as well as require that in the future, adequate parks are provided, but it is possible that the required improvements will not be constructed in time to mitigate the project’s cumulative impacts to below the level of significance. **Therefore, after mitigation, the project’s cumulative impacts will remain significant.**

Threshold: *Includes recreational facilities or requires the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment.*

Implementation of the proposed General Plan would entail maintenance, enhancement and continued funding for existing open space and recreational facilities to suit the needs of current and future City residents. The proposed General Plan could result in population increases through infill development and intensification of existing uses. Therefore, the demand for recreation facilities will grow. In addition, the proposed General Plan allows for higher density

development within the City, where opportunities for different types of park and recreational facilities may arise.

In order to meet the growing parkland needs of Riverside, the General Plan proposes park sites that would attempt to meet these needs. Below, as also listed on Table 5.14-B as undeveloped park sites, the following park sites include City-owned undeveloped lands and total approximately 297 acres:

1. Victoria/Cross Park Site – 3 acres
2. Mt. Vernon - 8 acres
3. Mission Ranch - 11 acres
4. Andulka - 37 acres
5. Savi Ranch - 38 acres
6. Riverside Youth - 34 acres
7. Boy Scout Camp - 2.5 acres
8. Hole Lake - 61 acres
9. Tequesquite - 44 acres
10. Challen - 33 acres
11. Quail Run - 27 acres

The above listed parks are a recommendation and proposed for future development, but the General Plan update does not directly approve their development or include the construction or expansion of recreational facilities, whose construction might have adverse environmental impacts. The specific environmental impacts associated with park construction and implementation will require subsequent CEQA review at a project-level case-by-case basis.

The General Plan does contain policies, which do propose maintenance, enhancement and continued funding for existing facilities. None of these policies would result in the substantial increase in demand for parks or facilities, create the need for more parks in underserved areas of the City, or result in the removal of a neighborhood park or open space area. Rather, implementation of these policies will allow for the development of new facilities over time in response to population growth. Additionally, all significant new development of recreational facilities would be subject to the City's environmental review process, which includes project-specific environmental review under CEQA. Consequently, through the requirement of the environmental review process on a case-by-case basis, the adoption and implementation of the General Plan with potential population growth in the City requiring new or physically altered parks or recreational facilities would not result in substantial adverse physical impacts, and therefore **impacts are considered less than significant.**

Proposed Mitigation Measures

An Environmental Impact Report is required to describe feasible mitigation measures, which could minimize significant adverse impacts (CEQA Guidelines, Section 15126.4). Mitigation measures were evaluated for their ability to eliminate the potential significant adverse impacts upon recreational facilities or to reduce impacts to below the level of significance.

MM Rec 1: All future development shall provide developed parks as part of their project approvals at the discretion of the City Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department, or pay applicable Park Development Impact Fees to the City of Riverside Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department prior to issuance of building permits.

MM Rec 2: Park Development Impact Fees shall be re-evaluated on an annual basis to insure that the fees collected from new development appropriately pay for the development of the required park acreage.

Summary of Environmental Effects After Mitigation Measures Are Implemented

With adherence to and implementation of MM Rec 1 and 2, General Plan Policies, the Park and Recreation Master Plan, the Renaissance SIP, and the collection of appropriate Park Development Impact Fees the Project's impacts related to recreational facilities are decreased. However, the actual construction of park and recreational facilities to meet City requirements cannot be determined with certainty. Thus, it is possible that the required improvements to park and recreational facilities will not be constructed in time to mitigate the project's cumulative impacts to below the level of significance. Therefore, after mitigation, the project's cumulative impacts will remain **significant**.