



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT



DEPARTMENT: Public Services

MEETING DATE: April 17, 2018

PREPARED BY: Tina Cherry, Director

AGENDA LOCATION: AR-1

TITLE: Adoption of the 2018 Citywide Park Master Plan

OBJECTIVE: To adopt the 2018 Citywide Park Master Plan

BACKGROUND: In early 2016, the City participated in the County of Los Angeles' Park Needs Assessment. The County funded two community engagement meetings which were hosted in Monrovia and facilitated by the Community Service Commission and Staff. The objective of these meetings included:

1. Gaining a better understanding of our current park assets; the quality / quantity of park amenities;
2. Gaining a better understating or our communities park needs; and
3. Developing a list of park priorities.

Following these meetings, it was determined that the next step towards providing Monrovia with premier park and recreational opportunities would be to develop a comprehensive Citywide Park Master Plan. Having a comprehensive Park Master Plan will provide the City with a roadmap to upgrade and improve our existing parks, better position Monrovia to be competitive for any available park grant funds, aid Staff in developing a 5-Year Capital Improvement Project list, and provide the community with a planning document for future park development.

In June 2016, staff issued a Request for Qualification to solicit consultants to assist with the development of the Park Master Plan. Six (6) proposals were received and following a comprehensive review process including in person interviews, Conservation Technix, LLC. was selected.

On September 20, 2016, City Council approved the Consultant Services Agreement with Conservation Technix, LLC. Conservation Technix, City Staff, and the Commission worked together over the following twelve months to undertake the several tasks that were used in the development of the plan. Most notable was a thorough review and assessment of the existing park conditions as well as robust Community Engagement which included the following:

- Community Services Commission Discussion
- Community Survey
 - Random selection of 2,500 households surveyed as well as a hearty distribution of the Community Survey electronically
 - 369 Randomized Respondents
 - 240 Online Respondents

AR-1

- Seven (7) Stakeholder Discussions
- Community Workshop – roughly 50 in attendance
- Launch of mySidewalk, a web based community engagement tool

ANALYSIS: On August 8, 2017, a draft of the Citywide Park Master Plan (PMP) was presented to the Community Services Commission during the regularly scheduled meeting. Some of the highlights included in the PMP were as follows:

- Repairing and maintaining existing park amenities was priority for many respondents.
 - 67% requested upgrades to walking and biking trails.
 - 63% requested upgrades to existing neighborhood parks.
 - 57% requested upgrades to picnic shelters and playground.
- 98% of the respondents feel parks and recreation are important or essential.
- 58% of Monrovia residents live within ½ mile of a park.
- Three-quarters of the survey respondents visited a City park as least once per month; with Canyon Park, Recreation Park, and Library Park being the most active.
- Approximately 66% of the respondents reported there are more than enough or about the right number of parks in Monrovia.
- 26% of survey respondents felt there is a need for more parks south of Huntington Drive. The Plan identifies gaps in parkland in four main areas (listed in no particular order):
 - South central Monrovia, south of the I-210
 - Southeast Monrovia, south of Huntington Drive
 - South Monrovia, south of Live Oak Avenue
 - Northwest Monrovia, north of Foothill Boulevard

After reviewing the information, the Commission requested additional time to review the document, while also providing staff with suggested revisions, questions, and comments.

Over the following several months, staff worked to make the requisite adjustments to the overall PMP. In particular, substantial discussion and time was devoted to the analysis of the recommended standard for park acres per 1,000 residents to be included in the PMP. In assessing the proposed recommendation, several of the factors considered by the Commission included the following:

- Currently, the City has 0.9 acres of urban park land per 1,000 people (or 33.5 acres for 37,285 residents).
- The initial PMP recommended a park standard of 1.1 acres of urban park land per 1,000 residents (or 41 acres for 37,285 residents), which would require the addition of around 7 additional acres of new dedicated urban park land.
- The urban park land standard did not take into consideration the +1,400 acres of Hillside Wilderness Preserve owned by the City, nor the open space controlled by the National Forest located within Monrovia’s boundaries.
- According to the *2017 National Recreation and Park Association Agency Performance Review*, a standard of 1.1 acres per 1,000 people is considered “Park Poor” and significantly below the National Standard of 10 acres of land per 1,000 people.

- However, more localized considerations (including the fact that Monrovia is the 4th oldest incorporated city in LA County, and that the City is built out) illustrate that a standard of 1.1 acres of urban park land per 1,000 residents is in-line with regional averages, which totals 1.7 acres of urban park land per 1,000 residents, per the chart below:

| City | Acre / 1,000 |
|---------------------------------|--------------|
| Los Angeles County | 3.3 |
| Arcadia | 1.3 |
| Azusa | 3.2 |
| Covina | 1.0 |
| Duarte | 2.6 |
| El Monte | 0.4 |
| Glendora | 1.8 |
| Pasadena | 1.4 |
| Sierra Madre | 2.3 |
| West Covina | 1.4 |
| Average for reference cities | 1.7 |
| Monrovia (recommended standard) | 0.9 (1.1) |

Source: Los Angeles Countywide Comprehensive Parks & Recreation Needs Assessment

After considering all of the information at hand, on April 10, 2018, the Community Services Commission shared their desire to adopt a higher standard than the initial recommendation of 1.1 acres of urban park land per 1,000 residents. Based on a review of the overall situation, the Commission adopted a recommendation that the City Council approve the Park Master Plan, with an amended ratio of 1.5 acres of urban park land per 1,000 residents as Monrovia's proposed park standard.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT: There is no Environmental Impact associated with this action.

FISCAL IMPACT: There is no fiscal impact associated with this action. However, having the Park Master Plan will make the City more competitive for available grant funding.

OPTIONS: The following options have been developed for City Council consideration:

1. Approve the Citywide Park Master Plan.
2. Do not approve the Citywide Park Master Plan and provide staff with further direction.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends the City Council select Option 1, approve the Citywide Park Master Plan.

COUNCIL ACTION REQUIRED: If the City Council concurs, the appropriate action would be a motion to approve the Citywide Park Master Plan.

City of Monrovia
**CITYWIDE PARK
MASTER PLAN**

STATION SQUARE



APRIL 2018



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HIGHLIGHTS

The Park Master Plan defines the future direction for Monrovia's parks and recreation programs and builds on the community's needs for current and future facilities.



PUBLIC PROCESS Community input played an important role in establishing a clear planning framework that reflects current community priorities. Most residents care deeply about the future of Monrovia's parks system and appreciated the opportunity to offer feedback. Public outreach provided a baseline of demand and need, and outreach methods were varied and extensive.



INVENTORY ANALYSIS The Plan inventories and evaluates existing park and recreation areas and assesses the needs for acquisition, site development and operational improvements. Specific site recommendations and management considerations are provided to guide future park enhancements.



GOALS The Plan reinforces the City's vision for its park and recreation system, proposes updates to park service standards, and addresses departmental goals, objectives and other management considerations toward the continuation of high-quality recreation opportunities to benefit the residents of Monrovia.



STRATEGIES & ACTIONS This Plan outlines a framework for the improvement and growth of the City's outdoor recreation facilities, amenities and parks to the specific needs of the community. This framework will help clarify funding, program objectives, development or resource goals, and it will set a long-range vision for the City and provide clear action items for implementation.

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Welcome to the 2018 City of Monrovia Park Master Plan!

The Park Master Plan was developed through extensive input from the community as well as careful consideration of industry standards and trends. The Plan represents a collaborative effort of our residents, community stakeholders, and staff who together believe in a strategic direction to achieve our goals, while anticipating future community needs. The Plan aims to provide a sustainable and balanced system that is accessible and inclusive for each and every one of our residents to enjoy. We also believe this Plan will continue our commitment to shape the character of Monrovia and enhance the quality of life for our residents.

As staff, we feel privileged to serve this tremendous community, and honored to have supported the Community Services Commission with the development of the Park Master Plan. Monrovia values its parks and deserves a thoughtful plan to enhance its open space.

We are especially grateful to our residents who have voiced their opinions and attended our public meetings. Our promise to the community is to use this plan to continue our efforts to create a community that offers a premier quality of life.

Tina Cherry,
Public Services Director



ON THE COVER Monrovia's Station Square and transit themed play equipment.

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“...to create a community that offers a premier quality of life.”

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

The City of Monrovia began development of its first citywide park master plan in late 2016 to provide a logical blueprint for the management and growth of the City's park system. As a ten-year guide and strategic plan for enhancing park and recreation amenities for the community, the citywide Park Master Plan establishes a path forward for enabling and enhancing high quality, community-driven parks, trails, open spaces and recreational opportunities. This citywide Park Master Plan was developed with the input and direction of local residents and stakeholders, and the process included public meetings and a community survey as baseline data to inform the plan.

The Plan outlines a framework for the improvement and growth of City recreation facilities, amenities and parks to address the specific needs of the community. This framework clarifies program objectives, development or resource goals, and sets a long-range vision for the City with clear action items and strategies for implementation for the next 5 to 10 years.



GUIDED BY VALUES

Monrovia's City Council adopted its 2016 Strategic Goals, and it reinforced the mission, values and priorities for the City's future.

CITY MISSION

We exist to serve the people of Monrovia to create a community that offers a premier quality of life.

CITY VALUES

- Humble
- Hungry
- Loyal
- Smart

STRATEGIC GOALS

- Enhance Community Infrastructure
- Enhance Organizational Capacity
- Enhance Fiscal Sustainability
- Enhance Relationships with the Community

These citywide goals provided a foundation for the policies and recommendations within this Plan.

In addition to other city departments' priorities, Recreation priorities centered on completing the Community Center Needs Assessment and initiating this Park Master Plan. Capital projects included Library Park landscaping improvements. Public Works was tasked with developing routine maintenance plans for parks, streets and facilities.

A SMALL CITY WITH LOTS OF CHARM

Monrovia is a small Southern Californian city of about 37,000 residents. It is nestled into the foothills of the San Gabriel Mountains, with easy access to the urban amenities of the Los Angeles metropolitan area and the natural beauty of the Angeles National Forest. The community's historic downtown and attractive neighborhoods afford a small-town feel for local residents, while its high tech industries provide well-paying local jobs. The city benefits from easy freeway and transit access - US I-210 provides ready access to neighboring communities and the Metro Gold Line Monrovia Station provides commuter rail service connections to Pasadena and Los Angeles.



TOP: Library Park is Monrovia's community living room and the fountain is an iconic gathering place for residents and visitors alike.



Incorporated in 1887, Monrovia was recognized as an All-America City in 1996 and has grown to a community of 37,000.

HISTORY

TREASURED PAST - VIBRANT FUTURE

Native American people, such as the Tongva, originally inhabited the Los Angeles Valley including the Monrovia area. While Spanish explorers initially travelled through the area in 1542, they did not settle in the area until the 1770s after the founding of the Mission San Gabriel Arcángel. Contact between indigenous peoples and Spanish settlers led to severe reductions in the native population.

The Monrovia area became part of Alta California after Mexican independence in 1822, and was later divided into two ranchos in the 1840s. A short time later, these ranchos, Rancho Azusa de Duarte and Rancho Santa Anita, were further subdivided. Some of the parcels were sold to William N. Monroe, after whom the city is named.

Railroad construction through the San Gabriel Valley sparked demand for homes in the area, culminating in the incorporation of Monrovia in 1887. The population in 1890 was



907 people.

By 1930, Monrovia had grown to over 10,000 residents and construction was complete on the city's library and swimming pool. The downtown core, located on Myrtle Avenue, was thriving. Monrovia continued to grow rapidly until 1970, when the population reached over 30,000 people. ■

HOUSING RENAISSANCE

Monrovia is currently experiencing a housing renaissance. With the opening of the Gold Line Transit Station in 2015 and the surge in business development in 2016-2017, Monrovia has become an attractive community for high-density, luxury housing. In fact, Monrovia has two housing developments under construction with a combined total of 415 units. In addition, there are six

developments currently in planning stages with a combined total of another 1,200 luxury units. For a community that is essential built out, this could be a significant impact. This recent growth in housing units by 11% will place more demands on the existing park infrastructure and create the need for a thoughtful acquisition strategy to expand the park system. ■

PARKS PLANNING PROCESS

The citywide Park Master Plan is a reflection of the community's interests and needs for parks, recreational facilities and trails. The planning process was aimed to encourage and enable public engagement in the choices, priorities and future direction of the City's park and recreation system. The Plan project team conducted a variety of public outreach activities to solicit feedback and comments, in concert with a review of the recreation system inventory, level of service review and the current and future needs assessment.

Current community interests surfaced through a series of public outreach efforts that included a mail survey, an open house meeting, stakeholder discussions, online engagement, website content and Community Services Commission meetings. An assessment of the park inventory became the basis for determining the current performance of the system. An overarching needs analysis was conducted for recreation amenities, parks and trails to assess current demands and forecast future demand accounting for population growth.

To guide the implementation of the goals of the Plan, a capital facilities plan was developed with a set of strategies that identified costs and potential funding sources. Together, this process is represented in this planning document, which will be reviewed by the public, Community Services Commission and City Council members. Once adopted, the Plan directs park and recreation service delivery for the next 5 to 10 years.

ECONOMY

DIVERSE - THRIVING - EXPANDING

During the past few years, the City has consciously and deliberately instituted a new economic development strategy geared towards attracting new high-end employers to Monrovia, while also working to develop a biotechnology and science based local economic ecosystem. In 2016-2017, Monrovia has seen the addition of nearly 300,000 square feet of new office users, who have brought with them more than 1,900 professional jobs to town.

On the biotechnology and science front, new businesses calling Monrovia home include:

- Beckman Research Institute (140,000 square feet, 600 jobs)
- Aerovironment (35,000 square feet, 250 jobs)
- City of Hope (20,000 square feet, 150 jobs)
- Oak Crest Institute of Science (10,000 square feet, 45 jobs)

Other significant, new office users that have moved into Monrovia include the following.

- Southern California News Group (33,000 square feet, 200 jobs)

- Cacique (28,000 square feet, 250 jobs)
- Yang Ming Shipping (25,000 square feet, 150 jobs)
- Worley Parsons (consolidated in Monrovia, 300+ jobs)

Monrovia's residents are employed in a variety of industries. Over one-third (36%) of working residents are employed in professional, educational, or health fields. Other sizable industries include retail trade (11% of workers), arts and entertainment (10%), and manufacturing (9%). The largest local employer is the Monrovia Unified School District. Residents also have easy access to the employment centers of the greater metropolitan Los Angeles region. Nearly 11% of employed residents work within the City of Monrovia, while 23% commute to Los Angeles and 10% to Pasadena.

Approximately seven in ten residents over 18 are employed, though 7% are unemployed, and the remaining 23% are out of the work force. Residents are generally well-educated; over 89% of those over 25 years of age have completed a high school degree, and 69% have some college or higher-level education. □

| Demographics | Monrovia | Los Angeles Co. | California |
|--|----------|-----------------|------------|
| Population Characteristics | | | |
| Population (2015) | 37,463 | 10,038,388 | 39,250,017 |
| Population (2000) | 36,929 | 9,519,338 | 33,871,648 |
| Percent Change (2000-16) | 1% | 5% | 16% |
| Persons w/ Disabilities (%) | 7.0% | 9.7% | 10.4% |
| Household Characteristics (2011-15) | | | |
| Households | 13,048 | 3,263,069 | 12,717,801 |
| Percent with children | 29.4% | 30.7% | 31.9% |
| Average Household Size | 2.83 | 3.02 | 2.96 |
| Owner Occupancy Rate | 48.7% | 46.0% | 54.3% |
| Age Groups (2010) | | | |
| Median Age | 37.9 | 34.8 | 35.2 |
| Population < 5 years of age | 6.5% | 6.6% | 6.8% |
| Population < 18 years of age | 23.3% | 24.5% | 25.0% |
| Population > 65 years of age | 11.6% | 10.9% | 11.4% |

Figure 1. Population Characteristics: City of Monrovia, Los Angeles County, State of California

A TRADITION OF PAST PLANS

Past community plans and other relevant documents were reviewed for policy direction and goals as they pertain to the provision and planning for parks and recreation opportunities in Monrovia.

Recreation & Open Space Element to the City General Plan (1966). The 1966 Recreation and Open Space Element is part of the City's comprehensive General Plan and remains as the adopted recreation planning framework for the City to this day. Monrovia had 115 acres at that time and would have needed 320 acres to meet a standard of one acre per hundred people. The Element identified the most critical need for local neighborhood urban parks. The Plan's objectives for Monrovia's future direction were: 1) to make parks, playgrounds and open spaces available to satisfy the cultural, recreational and leisure time needs of the residents; 2) to protect and preserve existing facilities and natural resources of the area; and 3) to encourage use of those areas which have scenic and locational advantages.

Parks Master Plan (1991). The 1991 Monrovia Parks Master Plan included the analysis and evaluation of the physical opportunities and constraints of the City's seven parks. Each park (Canyon Park, Julian D. Fisher Park, Grand Avenue (Kiwanis) Park, Library Park, Olive Avenue (Lucinda Garcia) Park, Recreation Park and Rotary Park) was assessed individually for potential recreation opportunities.

Park Capital Master Plan (2011). The 2011 Parks Capital Master Plan identified improvements for eight park facilities with estimated costs totaling \$13 million. The park facility improvements included new amenities, renovations to existing features and master plans for Grand Avenue (Kiwanis) and

Recreation Parks. Some of the noted park improvements have been accomplished.

Monrovia Bicycle Master Plan (2016). The 2016 Bicycle Master Plan aimed to create a safe and interconnected bicycle transportation network and recommended improvements to the city infrastructure with traffic signal detection, a wayfinding signage program and "end of trip" facilities such as bike racks, bike lockers and repair and hydration stations. The Bike Plan identified programs for helping engage more residents in active bike use, bike safety, bike awareness and specific biking events.

Los Angeles County Parks Needs Assessment (2016). Los Angeles County measured the level of service for park lands within Monrovia's urban area as 0.9 acres per 1,000. The county average was cited as 3.3 park acres per 1,000. The measure of park accessibility showed that 58% of Monrovia's population was living within ½ mile of a park compared to the county average of 49%. The needs assessment proposed a number of projects with associated cost estimates for Monrovia's park system including a new park in the southwest area, expanded pedestrian improvements in Canyon Park, a variety of urban park improvements and deferred maintenance projects totaling \$117 million.

Los Angeles County Urban Forestry Manual. Recognizing the valuable asset that trees provide to the region, the county created an urban forestry program manual to ensure that proper care and protection would be focused on the community's trees. The Manual seeks to preserve and protect existing canyon oak trees and adopt a "no net loss" policy to ensure future retention of native species tree canopy.



BENEFITS OF PARKS, RECREATION & OPEN SPACE

A number of organizations and non-profits have documented the overall health and wellness benefits provided by parks, open space and trails. The Trust for Public Land published a report in 2005 called *The Benefits of Parks: Why America Needs More City Parks and Open Space*. This report makes the following observations about the health, economic, environmental and social benefits of parks and open space:

- Physical activity makes people healthier.
- Physical activity increases with access to parks.
- Contact with the natural world improves physical and physiological health.
- Value is added to community and economic development sustainability.
- Benefits of tourism are enhanced.
- Trees are effective in improving air quality and assisting with stormwater control.
- Recreational opportunities for all ages are provided.



PHYSICAL ACTIVITY BENEFITS ■

Residents in communities with increased access to parks, recreation, natural areas and trails have more opportunities for physical activity, both through recreation and active transportation. By participating in physical activity, residents can reduce their risk of being or becoming overweight or obese, decrease their likelihood of suffering from chronic diseases, such as heart disease and type-2 diabetes, and improve their levels of stress and anxiety. Nearby access to parks has been shown to increase levels of physical activity. According to studies cited in a 2010 report by the National Park and Recreation Association, the majority of people of all ages who visit parks are physically active during their visit. Also, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reports that greater access to parks leads to 25% more people exercising three or more days per week.



SOCIAL & COMMUNITY BENEFITS ■

Park and recreation facilities provide opportunities to engage with family, friends, and neighbors, thereby increasing social capital and community cohesion, which can improve residents' mental health and overall well-being. People who feel that they are connected to their community and those who participate in recreational, community and other activities are more likely to have better mental and physical health and to live longer lives. Access to parks and recreational facilities has also been linked to reductions in crime, particularly juvenile delinquency.



ECONOMIC BENEFITS ■

Parks and recreation facilities can bring positive economic impacts through increased property values, increased attractiveness for businesses and workers (quality of life), and through direct increases in employment opportunities.

In California, outdoor recreation generated \$85.4 billion (2016) in consumer spending, created 732,000 direct California jobs, generated \$27 billion in wages and salaries and resulted in \$6.7 billion in state and local tax revenue. According to the Outdoor Recreation Economy Report published by the Outdoor Industry Association, outdoor recreation can grow jobs and drive the economy through management and investment in parks, waters and trails as an interconnected system designed to sustain economic dividends for citizens.



Identifying opportunities



Planning future trail improvements



Coming together to share ideas

PUBLIC PROCESS

COMMUNITY LISTENING

Community engagement and input played a crucial role in revealing the current demands and needs for park and recreation provision as well as establishing the future recreational framework that reflects community priorities. This planning process leaned on community outreach, stakeholder meetings, surveys and extensive inventorying to provide a baseline of demand and need. Throughout this process, the public provided information and expressed opinions about its needs and priorities for parks, trails and recreation opportunities in Monrovia.

Approximately 50 people attended an open house held in mid-April 2017 and participated in exploring the general needs and interests for park and recreation in Monrovia and proposed recommendations. A brief presentation introduced the planning process, some history about Monrovia parks, current community

MONROVIA PARK MASTER PLAN

needs, and trends from other parks and recreation agencies around the country. Attendees were encouraged to talk to each other, share comments and ideas, and two table-based group discussions focused around two core questions:

IDEAS, THEMES & PRIORITIES

Are there other types of experiences that you'd like to see in Monrovia? What would draw you into our parks more often or for longer?

CONNECTIVITY

What destinations would be better served by direct, safe bicycle and pedestrian trails? What trail improvements would encourage you to walk or bike more frequently?



“Add more shaded playgrounds and sitting areas, water features safe for little ones...”



Prioritizing common ideas.

TOP: Mapping out connections
 BOTTOM: Local youth sharing their vision for improvements



Individuals at each table were asked to write ideas about parks and recreation opportunities and then shared their ideas with others at their table. Each table voted on most important themes at their table. As a large group, all attendees then 'voted' on the most important ideas in the room. The following represents the top ten, highest ranking ideas among attendees.

- Pump Track
- New Trails (includes bike and pedestrian)
- Public Safety

- Trail Maintenance
- Biking (includes mountain)
- Dog Park
- Community Involvement
- Water Theme / Splash pad
- Garden (includes Zen)
- Community Pool

Each table also drew ideas and notes on maps to denote specific project ideas, connections or opportunities.

A more complete summary of public comments is located in the Technical Appendix. [\[Link\]](#)

PUBLIC PROCESS

COMMUNITY SURVEY

In February, 2017, a 20-question survey was mailed to a random sample of 2,500 households. The survey was also posted as an online version. The survey was developed in collaboration with parks staff and the Community Services Commissioners and resulted in 614 completed survey responses. In general, survey respondents were significantly more likely to be older adults as compared to Monrovia’s population in general.

Frequency of Park Use. Three-quarters of respondents visited a City park at least once per month in the past year. Generally, respondents who live near parks are most likely to report using them. However, Canyon Park, Recreation Park and Library Park attract visitors from across the city. Younger respondents were more likely to visit parks frequently - 90% of respondents between 35 and 44 years old visit at least once a month, as compared to 64% of respondents over the age of 65.

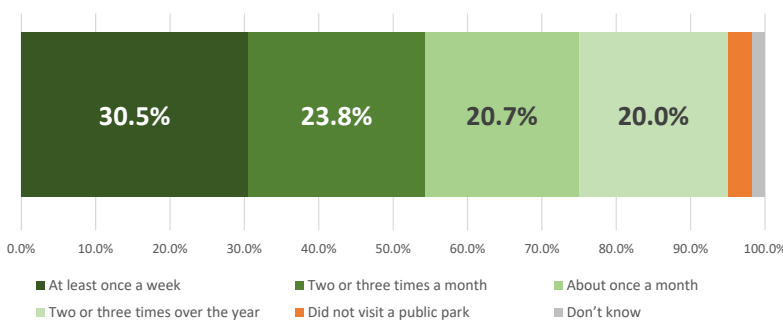


Figure 2: Frequency of Park Usage

Residents of neighborhoods between Foothill Blvd and Huntington Blvd were more likely to be frequent park visitors than residents of other areas: approximately 40% visit a park at least once a week, compared to 30% or fewer for residents in other areas. Residents who live south of Huntington use parks less frequently than residents of other areas.

Need for additional park and recreation opportunities. Over half of residents (59%) feel there are “about the right number” of parks in Monrovia. Approximately 26% believe there are not enough opportunities, while 7% believe there are more than enough. Younger residents (under 34 years old) are significantly more likely to feel there are not enough park and recreation opportunities in the city than older residents. Residents who live in SE Monrovia (southeast of Huntington and Myrtle) are more likely than residents of other areas to feel there are “not enough” parks and recreation opportunities.

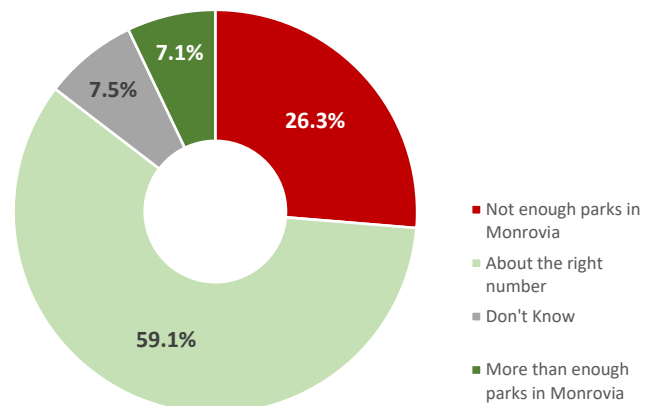


Figure 3: Sentiment about Quantity of Parks

Condition of Existing Parks. Survey respondents were asked to rate the general condition (maintenance and upkeep) of City parks that they had visited. Canyon Park and Station Square Park received the highest ratings for condition with 94% of 392 respondents and 93% of 204 respondents who visited in the past year rating the condition as ‘excellent’, respectively. Residents were most critical of the condition of Lucinda Garcia Park (50% of the 33 respondents who had visited the park rated its condition as either ‘fair’ or ‘poor’), Rotary Park (33% of 61 visitors), and Library Park (32% of 498 visitors).



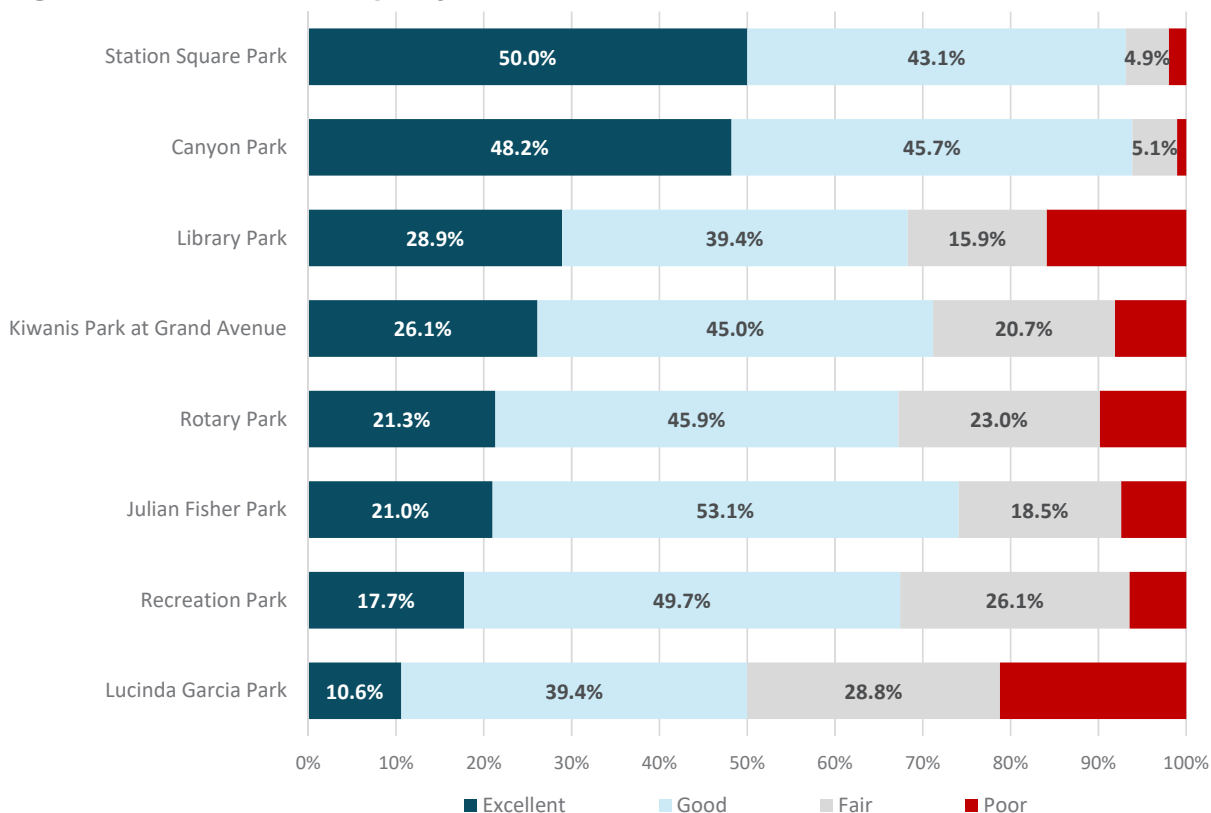
98%

FEEL PARKS & RECREATION ARE IMPORTANT OR ESSENTIAL

75%

VISITED A CITY PARK AT LEAST ONCE PER MONTH IN PAST YEAR

Figure 4: Sentiment about Quality of Park Maintenance



THEMES FROM COMMUNITY STAKEHOLDERS

Lots of activities for younger kids; need more for teens.

Teens want to hang with friends, go swimming, play tennis, hang out – consider programs that engage youth and offer places to sit in the shade.

Add activities for teens, like outdoor workout equipment.

Great for the city to have more small parks where there is higher density.

Add a dog park.

Add more sport fields in parks; schools are currently meeting the immediate field need, but wearing out with the amount of play that they receive.

ADA access for paths. Everyplace there is a step, there needs to be a handrail. Need benches and shade/rain covering.

Nice parks here, but no activity in some to draw people in, like in front of the library park.

Connect biking area on county land that would tie together Kiwanis Park and Canyon Park.

12 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Park and Facility Improvement Priorities. Survey respondents were presented with a list of potential improvements to Monrovia’s parks, including upgrades to existing facilities and development of new facilities. Over sixty percent of respondents were very or somewhat supportive of nearly all improvements listed. More than 90% of respondents supported upgrading existing neighborhood parks and walking and biking trails. Developing new trails, upgrading picnic shelters and playgrounds, upgrading Canyon Park, developing additional restrooms, and improving city sports fields and courts were also very popular improvements - over 75% of respondents were supportive of these investments. Respondents were slightly

less supportive of developing new indoor recreation spaces, new sports fields, and upgrading the skate park, though a majority of residents still supported these improvements.

Priorities for Expanding or Improving Recreational Opportunities. More than half of respondents supported expanding or improving walking and hiking trails (71%) and restrooms in parks (57%). Between one-third and one-half of respondents would like the City to expand or improve community gardens, nature/wildlife watching, picnicking, bike riding, community events, arts/dance/music/cultural classes, and off-leash dog opportunities. Less popular responses included gymnasiums for indoor

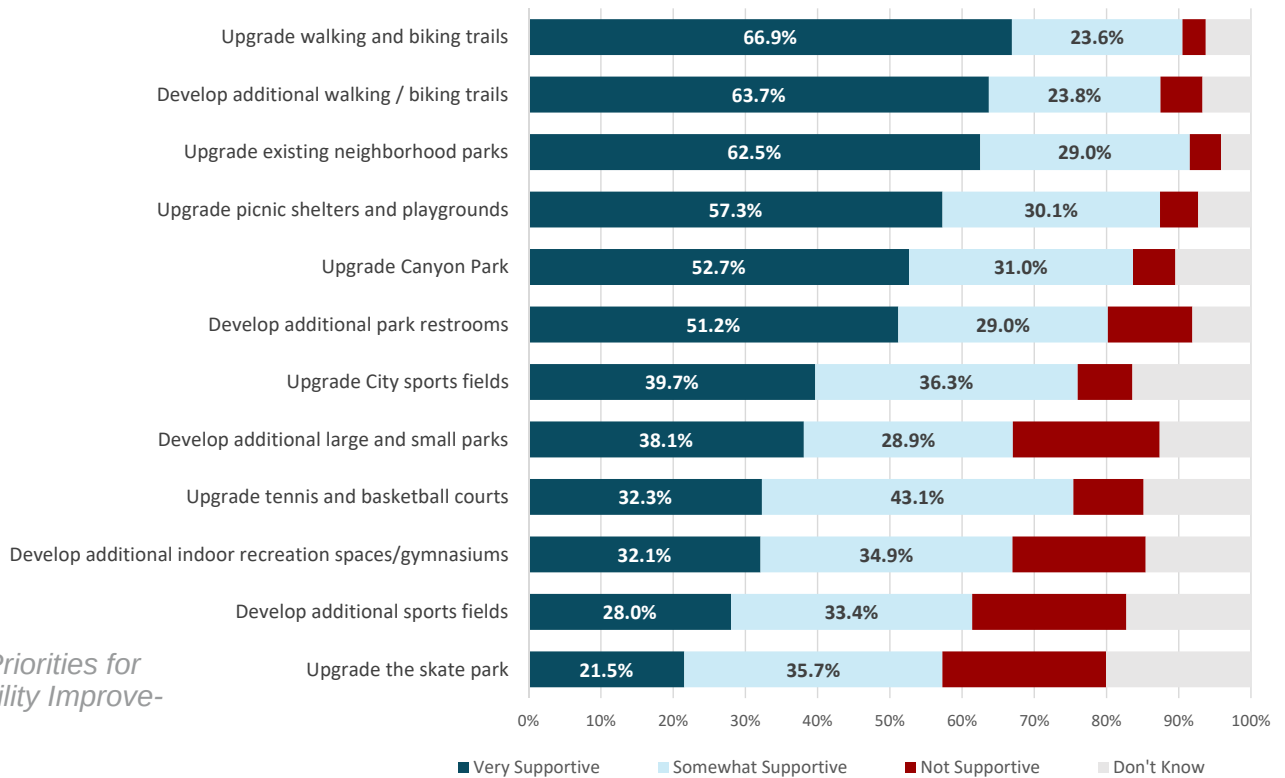


Figure 5: Priorities for Park & Facility Improvements

95%

BELIEVE PARK & RECREATION FACILITIES ARE IMPORTANT TO MONROVIA'S QUALITY OF LIFE

76%

ARE VERY OR SOMEWHAT SATISFIED WITH THE OVERALL VALUE THEY RECEIVE FROM CITY PARKS

sports, playing baseball/softball, playing soccer/lacrosse/football, and skateboarding and BMX - each with less than 20% support.

provide more offerings, with the highest demand for special events, arts programs, and educational classes.

Recreation Program Options. Respondents were asked whether existing recreational programs and activities are adequate, regardless of their current participation. In general, respondents felt that the City should maintain current program offerings. Very few respondents (less than 4%) felt the City should reduce offerings of any of its recreational programs. Approximately 34% to 44% of respondents felt the City should

Respondents were more likely to participate in - and support expansion of - programs that match the demographics of themselves or their families. For examples, older adults participate in and believe there should be more programs for adults 55 and over. Similarly, adults age 35 to 55 - who are most likely to have children at home - are more likely to feel more youth and teen programs are needed. ■

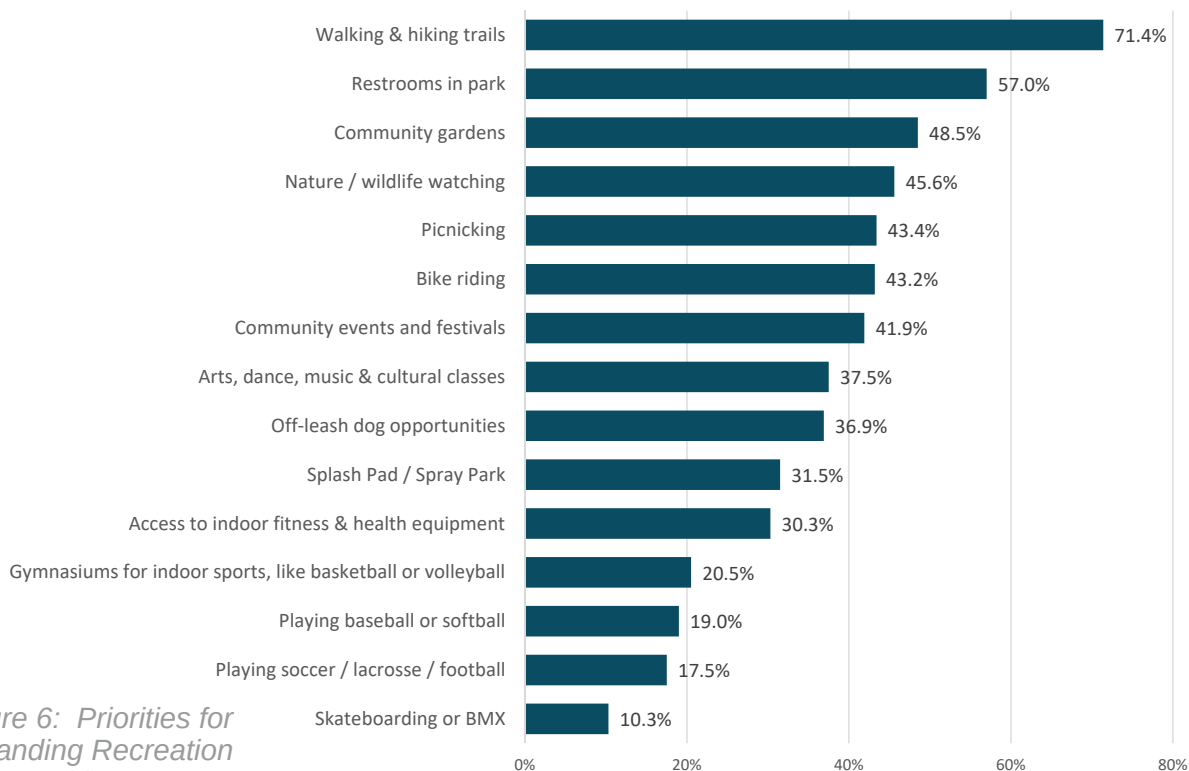


Figure 6: Priorities for Expanding Recreation Opportunities

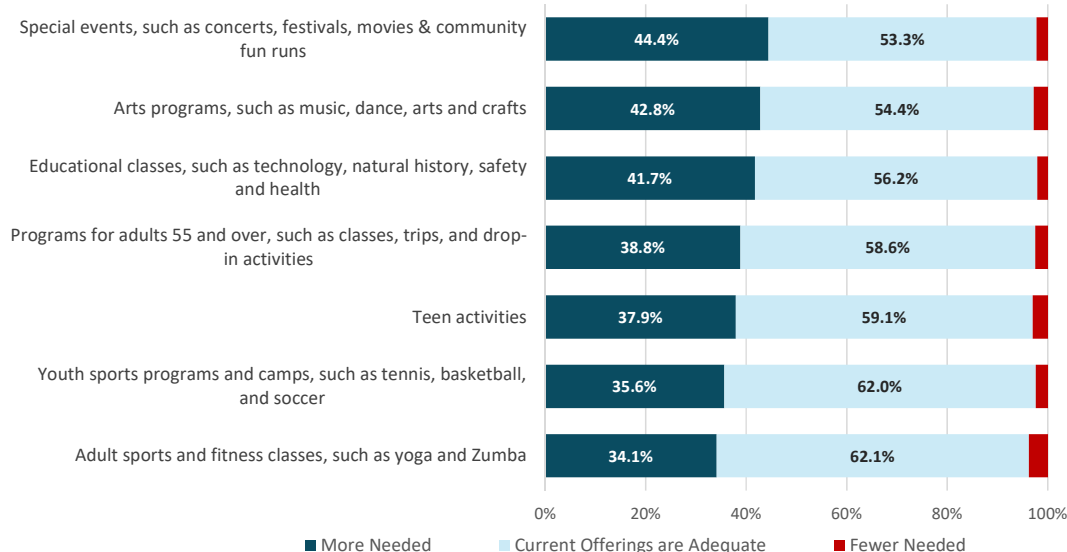


Figure 7: Interest in Recreation Program Areas

PARK SYSTEM OVERVIEW

Monrovia provides and maintains a growing system of parks that supports a range of active and passive experiences. The park and open space inventory identifies the recreational assets within Monrovia. The City provides over 33 acres of urban parks and an additional 80 acres of natural area distributed among nine park sites. The following table summarizes the current park inventory and amenities in Monrovia.

| | | | Recreation Amenities | | | | | | Site Amenities | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|-------|----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|------------|-------------------|------------------|----------|---------|--------------------------------|------------|-----------|-----------------|------------------------|---------------|
| | | | Playgrounds | Paved Courts: Basketball | Paved Courts: Tennis | Baseball / Softball Fields | Pathways / Trails | Skate Park | Other Rec Element | Site Furnishings | Lighting | Signage | Parking Areas (incl on-street) | Public Art | Restrooms | Picnic Shelters | Turf / Open Lawn Areas | Natural Areas |
| PARKS | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Canyon Park | 1200 N. Canyon Blvd. | 80.00 | | | | | ● | ● | ● | | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | | ● | |
| Evergreen Plaza | 1508 S. California Avenue | 0.78 | | | | | | ● | ● | ● | | ● | | | | | | |
| Julian Fisher Park | 915 S. California Avenue | 1.20 | ● | ● | | | ● | | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | |
| Kiwanis Park at Grand Avenue | 340 N. Grand Avenue | 3.50 | ● | | | | | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | | | | ● | |
| Library Park | 321 S. Myrtle Avenue | 4.60 | ● | | | | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | | | | ● | |
| Lucinda Garcia Park | 502 W. Olive Avenue | 1.70 | ● | | | | ● | | ● | ● | ● | ● | | | | | ● | |
| Recreation Park | 620 S. Shamrock Avenue | 18.90 | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | | ● | ● | ● | | |
| Rotary Park | 401 S. California Avenue | 0.92 | ● | | | | | | ● | ● | ● | ● | | | | | ● | |
| Station Square | 1629 S. Myrtle Avenue | 1.70 | ● | | | | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | | | ● | |

Figure 8. Existing Inventory: City-owned Parks

PARK LOCATIONS & CLASSIFICATIONS

Parkland is classified to assist in planning for the community's recreational needs. The Monrovia park system is composed of a hierarchy of various park types, each offering recreation and/or natural area opportunities. Separately, each park type may serve only one function, but collectively the system will serve the full range of community needs. Classifying parkland by function allows the City to evaluate its needs and plan for an efficient, cost effective and usable park system that minimizes conflicts between park users and adjacent uses.

COMMUNITY PARKS

Community parks are large sites developed for organized play, contain a wide array of facilities and, as a result, appeal to a more diverse group of users. Community parks are generally 10 to 40 acres in size and serve residents within a 2-mile drive, walk or bike ride from the site. In areas without neighborhood parks, community parks can also serve as local neighborhood parks. In general, community park facilities are designed for organized or intensive recreational activities and sports, although passive components such as pathways, picnic areas and natural areas are highly encouraged and complementary to active use facilities. Developed community parks typically include amenities such as sport courts (basketball, tennis), covered activity areas, soccer and/or baseball fields and bike and pedestrian trails.

POCKET PARKS

Pocket parks are small parks that provide limited opportunities for active play and passive recreation. They are generally less than 0.5 acres in size and provide modest recreational amenity to residents within a ¼-mile walking distance. Due to their small size, pocket parks may be discouraged in lieu of larger facilities. This Plan recommends against pursuing additional pocket parks due to the higher maintenance costs and lower recreational value.

NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS

Neighborhood parks generally are considered the basic unit of traditional park systems. They are small parks designed for unstructured, non-organized play and limited active and passive recreation. They may range from 0.5 to 5 acres in size, depending on a variety of factors including neighborhood need, physical location and opportunity. To accommodate a typically desired amount of recreational amenities and open areas a minimum size of 1.5 acres is recommended, if possible. Neighborhood parks are intended to serve residential areas within close proximity (up to ½-mile walking or biking distance) of the park and should be geographically distributed throughout the community. Park siting and design should ensure pedestrians do not have to cross a major street or other barrier to get to the site, unless safe crossings are provided.

SPECIAL USE AREAS

Special use facilities include single-purpose recreational areas or stand-alone sites designed to support a specific, specialized use. This classification includes stand-alone sport field complexes and community centers.

NATURAL AREAS

Natural areas are undeveloped lands primarily left in a natural state with only modest improvements for recreation uses. These conserved open spaces are usually owned or managed by a governmental agency and may or may not have public access. Natural areas may provide trail corridors, and offer low-impact or passive activities, such as walking or nature observation, where appropriate.



“Parks, like fingerprints, are unique and give us a sense of identity and belonging”

- Jerah Smith, American Planning Association

CANYON PARK

COMMUNITY PARK

*Location: 1200 N. Canyon Blvd.
80 acres with 22 acres of developed area*



Hikers enjoy the cool waters at end of the Waterfall Trail.

AMENITIES

- Paved entry road
- Entrance gate
- Ranger station (with staff parking)
- Maintenance shop
- Fee kiosk with fee collection container
- Parking lots (for 60 cars + 2 bus + 1 trailer)
- Restrooms – at each parking area
- Remote toilet at Deer Park
- Nature Center
- “Free Library” box
- Rental Cabin – conference center
- Public art
- Cabin (rental) parking lot (10 spots)
- Overnight camping area
- Picnic areas with tables
- Barbecue grills (picnic & cabin areas)
- Drinking fountains
- Benches
- Bike rack
- Mutt mitt dispensers
- Hiking trails & Nature Trail
- Signs
- Lockers
- Water tower
- Natural environment

DESIGN OPPORTUNITIES

- A consistent trail directional signage system would be helpful to guide new visitors and keep park users oriented to the different sites within the park.
- As aging infrastructure and non-ADA compliant amenities need replacement, the park could unify its natural look and integrate better wayfinding signage with a graphic and material design consistency.
- If feasible (without compromising natural terrain and environmental resources), the creation of loop trail options would add to the user experiences.
- The park setting of the San Gabriel Mountains offers a natural recreational setting yet the wide mix of signs, while providing helpful information, tend to detract from the natural aesthetic of the canyon and its hillsides. A unified “brand” with consistent graphic, color and fonts standards could be developed (and tied to the City’s parks as well) to identify all the informational needs within the park and provide a more visually consistent natural park setting.

MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

- Parking lots will need fresh striping for parking stall designations. Handicapped spaces and their aligned accessible travel paths need new striping. More attention is needed to ensure ADA compliance with signage, drinking fountains, curb-cut ramp locations, pavement changes, building access and parking-to-entry connections.
- Vehicle guard rails along the park road need replacement. An opportunity to consider an updated guard rail design, carefully integrated with the natural environment.
- The Nature Center is a well-designed facility that is likely underutilized due to necessary reliance on inconsistent volunteer staffing. The Park could expand its programming and outreach if more consistent staffing resources could be assigned to regular Center hours.
- Asphalt pavement at the rental cabin is breaking up badly in the parking stall closest to the entrance walkway. Repairs are needed.



Trails are used by a variety of hikers.

The Nature Center contains a special array of education displays.

Improvements are needed to parking and pavement.

A unified wayfinding system will help visitors enjoy the park.



- The Hillside Wilderness Preserve (HWP) Resource Management Plan proposed several future trail connections and links that could enhance the recreational trails and public access to both the HWP and Canyon Park. (In 2016, over 4.5 miles of trails were opened for passive recreation in HWP through four access points.) By continuing to provide additional trail options, trail users will have alternative options for reasonable public access while preserving the natural resource values.



Recent improvements along N. Canyon Boulevard have enhanced pedestrian safety.

JULIAN FISHER PARK

NEIGHBORHOOD PARK

*Location: 915 South California Avenue at Almond Avenue
1.8 acres*



Court surfaces were refinished to continue to provide active play.

AMENITIES

- Inclusive playground w/ rubberized surfacing
- Swings (2 tot, 2 child & 1 tire)
- Picnic tables (3)
- Shelter with tables (4)
- Benches
- Basketball courts (3)
- Paved pathways
- Drinking fountains (non-ADA)
- Public art
- Trash cans
- Mutt mitt dispenser
- Restroom
- Interpretive garden
- Shade trees
- Grass lawn
- Perimeter fence
- Lighting

DESIGN OPPORTUNITIES

- The City recently completed a renovation project for this park to include new resurfacing the basketball courts, upgrading the picnic shelter and installing lighting and a restroom.
- The new playground is well laid-out with age-appropriate structures, jungle gym, swings (tot & child) and spring toys.

MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

- Grounds keeping practices should include removing any grass growing at base of new / young trees to avoid repeated mower damage to tree base and trunk.



New amenities have enhanced the park.

The installation of a restroom will allow for longer visits and provide walls for art and community information.



A new shelter will provide for more visitor accommodation.

The recent improvements were celebrated by city dignitaries, the Fisher family and the community.

KIWANIS PARK AT GRAND AVENUE

NEIGHBORHOOD PARK

*Location: 340 North Grand Avenue at Prospect Avenue
3.5 acres*



The playground is hidden from the park entrances.

AMENITIES

- Picnic tables
- Drinking fountain (non-ADA)
- Playground (non-ADA accessible)
- Hard court surface open space
- Concrete circle
- Public art
- Benches
- Irrigation
- Trash cans
- Mutt mitt dispenser
- Solar lighting

DESIGN OPPORTUNITIES

- Due to the tri-level nature of the park property and limited visibility from public streets, the park creates a design challenge for engaging public use and easy access. The view from the upper level does not provide any indication of amenities in the park. The central park area (mid-level) has plenty of room to provide more value and recreational amenities if a complete design is created to integrate the park's varying topography and provide better public visibility. A updated site master plan should be completed in cooperation with neighbors and local park users.
- Lower level of park has a paved court area with limited access and limited use/value, since the residential alley is too tight and neighboring houses very proximate to park spaces. The installation of a replacement basketball court for this part is not recommended due to the proximity of residences and potential impacts to the use of the park. Removing the lower paved court, providing more defined park identity and entrance from alley, recontouring the slopes and re-creating recreational amenities that connect to the main central park area could enhance the overall park functions.
- Due to the slopes, stairs and lack of connecting paved pathway, an effort will be made to gain ADA accessibility.
- Replace and upgrade the play equipment and fall safety surfacing.
- Consider the installation of a restroom for park patron convenience.
- Formalize the access and develop a connection between the park and the planned Sawpit Wash Trail.

MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

- Maintenance vehicle access gate is broken at the alley off Valle Vista Avenue. Unfettered access allows unauthorized vehicle access – site visit witnessed damage from car tires making “donuts” in the park lawn. Consider alternative vehicle control measures (such as removable bollards) if the gate (once fixed) is not operable or convenient.
- Retaining wall at edge of hard court in lower park is deteriorating and will need to be repaired, removed or replaced.



Neighborhood parks are critical for local recreation opportunities.



The upper entrance is separated from the main use areas of the park.



Elements within the park could be better integrated for more active recreation.



Underused park areas could be redesigned for different uses.



A paved perimeter path would be helpful for these users.

LIBRARY PARK

COMMUNITY PARK

*Location: 321 South Myrtle Avenue at Lime Avenue
4.6 acres*



The park provides a central community public space.

AMENITIES

- Rotary Club Band shell
- Picnic tables
- Drinking fountains with dog fountains
- Playground with swings & shade canopies
- Playground fencing
- Park benches
- Paved pathways
- Lighting
- Irrigation
- Trash cans
- Mutt mitt dispensers
- Bike racks
- Landscaped beds
- Shade (& heritage) trees
- Open grass lawn
- Ornamental fountain
- Flag poles
- Veterans Memorial
- Vietnam Memorial
- Retaining walls
- Street side parking
- Mark Twain sculpture
- Public art
- Monrovia Public Library

DESIGN OPPORTUNITIES

- Consider strategic placement of additional shade (canopy) trees, ideally native coast oaks or similar adaptive species.
- Consider the installation of a restroom for park patron convenience.

MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

- Crushed rock pathway to playground needs additional material to address concrete lip at edges (near playground entry & drinking fountain).
- Most picnic tables and benches on west end of park do not meet access for ADA-compliance. Consider better surface connections to avoid tripping hazards for bench users. Curved benches at ornamental fountain do not match the curve of pavement, which poses a potential tripping hazard.



The playground is well-used but beginning to show signs of wear.

Some park users combine playground and library visits.



Interactive water features are very popular.

Recently renovated playground surfacing helps accommodate universal access.

LUCINDA GARCIA PARK

NEIGHBORHOOD PARK

*Location: 502 West Olive Avenue at Mayflower Avenue
1.5 acres*



Local park access provides places for families and neighbors to gather.

AMENITIES

- Playground with sand surfacing (some rubberized)
- Swing set (2 child seats)
- Playground fencing
- Picnic tables (3)
- Drinking fountain (non-ADA)
- Barbecue grills (2)
- Trash cans
- Irrigation
- Lighting
- Shade trees
- Open grass lawn

DESIGN OPPORTUNITIES

- The open space west of the west end wall has been identified as City ownership. This area could expand the public space to add functionality to the park.
- Replace and upgrade the play equipment and fall safety surfacing.
- Install exercise circuit equipment along the pathway.

MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

- Existing perimeter asphalt pathway has numerous root upheavals creating tripping hazards. Edge of pathway has overgrown with grass, narrowing the paved path width.
- New/young trees should have grass removed from base of trunk to limit/avoid repeated mower damage to base of tree trunk.
- Once newly planted trees have been in ground for one year, support stakes and ties should be removed.



An informal walking path accommodates local walkers and runners.

Swings are a timeless playground element that are a source of joy for toddlers, youth (and even adults).



Regular inspections of paths and pavements should identify repair needs.

Exercise for older adults can be as important as play for children.

RECREATION PARK

COMMUNITY PARK

*Location: 620 South Shamrock Avenue at Lemon Avenue
22 acres*



Team sports regularly use the grass fields at Recreation Park.

AMENITIES

- Paved and crushed rock pathways
- Large open shelter/picnic pavilion
- Playground with sand & rubberized surfacing
- Swing set (2 tot, 2 child)
- Playground fencing
- Picnic pavilion in playground
- Restrooms
- Skate park
- Barney Glenn baseball field with concessions
- Multi-purpose sports field with lighting
- Tennis courts (4)
- Sand volleyball courts (2)
- Hardcourt (1/2 court basketball)
- Barbecue grills
- Picnic tables
- Drinking fountains (non-ADA)
- Benches
- Trash cans
- Mutt mitt dispensers
- Shade trees
- Open grass areas
- Rose garden
- Santa Anita YMCA facility
- Options preschool building & play area
- YMCA program office building
- Mary Wilcox Youth Center
- Boys & Girls Club facility
- Monrovia Historical Museum and garden
- Parking
- Perimeter sidewalk

DESIGN OPPORTUNITIES

- The park contains many recreational amenities but lacks a cohesive design to help the park user navigate through all the opportunities. Pathways and other built infrastructure are aging. A new master plan to capture underutilized spaces and pull the park together would be beneficial. The older recreational infrastructure may be technically sound but is missing the visual and functional characteristics that would identify the park as a great community recreational asset. The area between YMCA and Historical Museum is good example of underutilized space.
- Barney Glenn baseball field could be upgraded with safety enhancements such as covers for dugouts and better protection for pitcher warm-up aisles.
- A connecting loop trail (not just the sidewalk) would be a beneficial addition to a future master plan for the park.
- Replace and upgrade the play equipment and fall safety surfacing.
- Install exercise circuit equipment along the pathway.
- Consider the installation of a splash pad for this park.

MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

- Small picnic pavilion in playground is showing carpenter ant damage at base of support posts.



Walking is the most popular recreational activity across the park system.

The baseball field provides opportunities for league and recreation play.



- Handicapped parking needs to be revised to meet ADA compliance (signs, striping, detectable warning strips, etc.).
- In playground, gaps between pavement & rubberized play surface exceeding ADA maximum.
- Consider efficiency and design features for a splash pad. In keeping with statewide water conservation requirements, the splash pad must be a recirculating system and should include an ultraviolet water treatment system. Many jurisdictions across California have successfully managed their splash pads for public enjoyment and water conservation.



ADA compliance includes having stable surfaces for pathways connecting park amenities. .

ROTARY PARK

NEIGHBORHOOD PARK

Location: 401 South California Avenue at Lime Avenue
0.87 acres



Volunteers provide an important resource for keeping parks beautiful.

AMENITIES

- Picnic tables (3)
- Drinking fountain
- Playground with sand surfacing (some rubberized)
- Paved pathway
- Open central lawn
- Perimeter shades trees
- Mutt mitt dispenser
- Trash cans
- Lighting
- Irrigation
- Bench
- Perimeter fence
- Options preschool building and separated play area.

DESIGN OPPORTUNITIES

- Existing play structure has aged beyond desirable play condition. One slide is already boarded up. Former shade structures long removed (missing post holes evident in central platforms). Plastic structure will continue to age and degrade in UV sunlight exposure. Replacement of entire playground provides opportunity to design expanded play opportunities and provide appropriate fall safety surfacing (not sand). Gaps in rubberized play surface create an ADA barrier to play equipment. For playground and surfacing replacement, efforts should be made to create and improve ADA accessibility.
- Park should be evaluated for the possibility of adding more shade particularly around the playground area.

MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

- Open grass lawn has significant clover growth. Consideration of grass-to-clover acceptable levels may warrant some clover control to avoid significant exposure of park users to bees attracted by the clover.
- Park sign at street corner was formerly in a landscaped bed that has long since evolved to mown grass. Consider re-defining the area to be landscaped with low growing shrubs and perennials.
- Walkway has uplifted pavement in several areas near drinking fountain and picnic tables, creating ADA obstacle/barrier.



There is room for additional enhancements in the park since the old structure has been removed.

Dogs are required to be leashed, except for this special demonstration.



The sign planting area awaits some landscape enhancements.

Older play equipment needs to be replaced.

The playground will need new surfacing.



STATION SQUARE

COMMUNITY PARK & SPECIAL USE AREA

*Location: 1629 S. Myrtle Avenue
1.7 acres*



The bandshell supports community concerts.

AMENITIES

- Bandshell with restrooms
- Playgrounds – climbing structure; train set w/ rubberized safety surfacing
- Picnic tables (6)
- Chess/checker tables
- Benches
- Bubbling water feature
- Paved plaza and pathways
- Drinking fountains (1 with dog bowl)
- Seating walls
- Interpretive signs
- Trash cans
- Bike racks (2)
- Irrigation
- Shade trees
- Open grass lawn
- Stormwater plantings
- Parking lot (adjacent)
- Lighting
- Public art

DESIGN OPPORTUNITIES

- Since this is a brand new facility, observations over time will help identify re-design opportunities and needs for addressing maintenance concerns.
- Consider looking at possible options as it relates to providing access to the park from the south side of the Gold Line tracks. Consider opening a platform access at Peck Avenue.

MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

- Cut-thru foot traffic is wearing paths in the landscape areas. Determine where this is acceptable and how to mitigate for where it is not desirable.



Programming should continue to activate this new park.



TOP: Station Square ribbon cutting and dedication ceremony in 2016



The playground follows the train transportation theme.

ACCESS & DISTRIBUTION

WITHIN A 10-MINUTE WALK

PARKLAND GAP ANALYSIS

Monrovia residents are fortunate to have access to great parks, recreation facilities and the Hillside Wilderness Preserve, and a strong core system of parks and natural areas exists today. However, Monrovia's projected growth will place further pressure on access to existing recreational lands. Understanding the known gaps in the park system and re-visiting the City's service standards will provide a foundation for strategic planning to ensure that tomorrow's residents have access to an equitable and distributed system of parks, trails and amenities to stay healthy and active.

Gaps in parkland distribution appear in four main areas of the city, listed in no particular order:

- South central Monrovia, south of I-210 (3 subareas)
- Southeast Monrovia, south of Huntington Dr.
- South Monrovia, south of Live Oak Ave.
- Northwest Monrovia, north of Foothill Blvd.

Parkland Walksheds. To better understand where acquisition efforts should be directed, a gap analysis of the park system was conducted to examine and assess the current distribution of parks throughout the city. The analysis reviewed the locations and types of existing facilities, land use classifications, transportation/access barriers and other factors as a means to identify preliminary acquisition target areas. In reviewing parkland distribution and assessing opportunities to fill identified gaps, residentially zoned lands were isolated, since urban neighborhood and community parks primarily serve these areas.

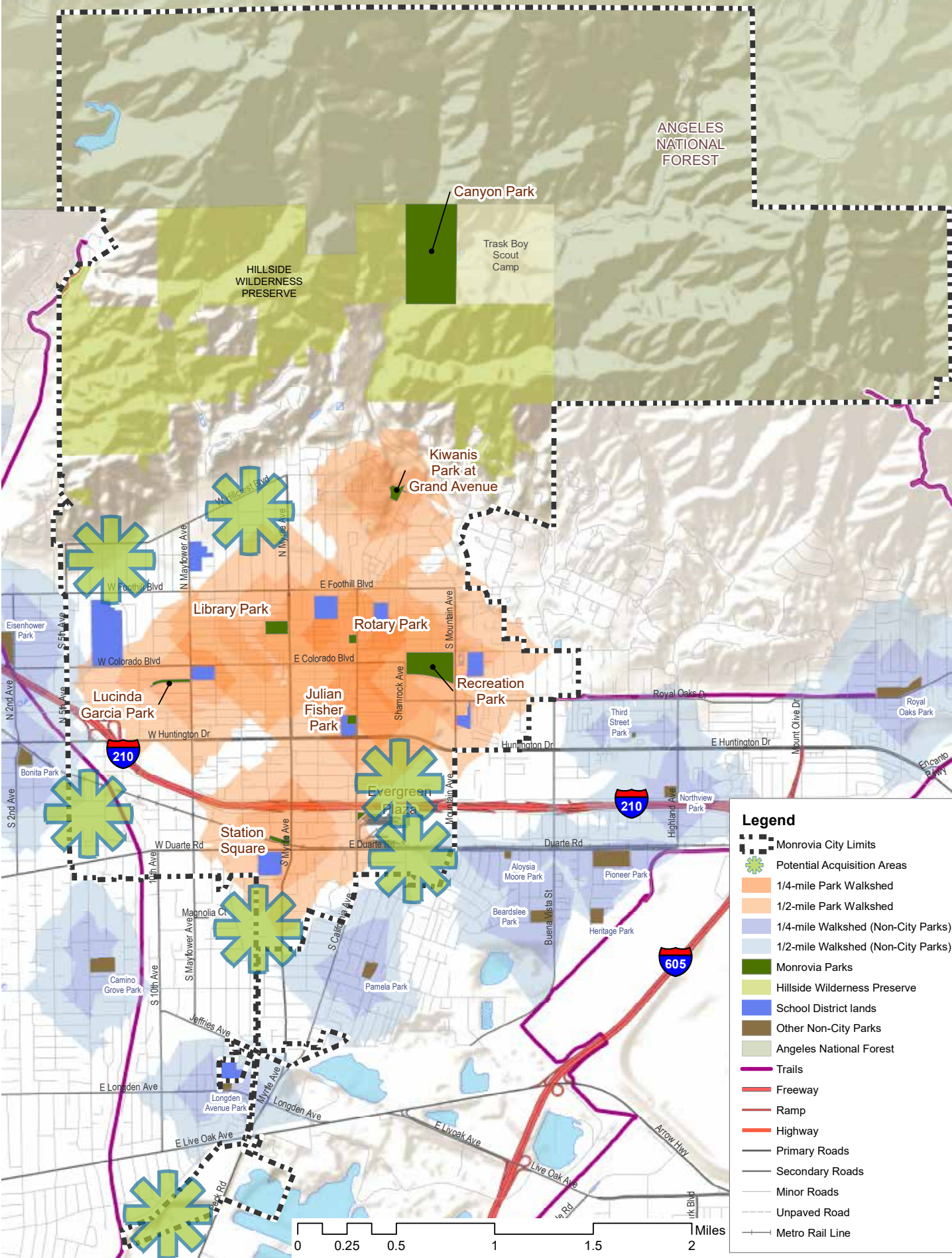
Walksheds were defined for neighborhood parks using a ¼-mile primary and ½-mile secondary service area with travel distances calculated along the road network starting from known

58% of Monrovia's population lives within ½-mile of a park, according to the LA County Parks Needs Assessment

and accessible access points at each park. Walksheds for community parks were derived using ¼-mile, ½-mile, 1-mile and 2-mile travel distances to acknowledge that community parks serve a wider array of users and driving to such sites is typical.

County Needs Assessment. The 2016 Los Angeles County Parks Needs Assessment parkland mapping, which used a standard of 100% of residents should be within a ½-mile of a park, showed that 58% of Monrovia's population was living within ½-mile of a park compared to the county average of 49% of the county population. The mapping of walking distance to local parks and their existing acreage for population density identified the southwestern portion of Monrovia as an area in need of future parkland.

Future Acquisitions. This Plan proposes acquisition of parkland for future neighborhood parks in these areas. While the targeted acquisition areas do not identify a specific parcel(s) for consideration, the area encompasses a broader region in which an acquisition would be ideally suited. These acquisition targets represent a long-term vision for improving parkland distribution throughout Monrovia.



Legend

- Monrovia City Limits
- Potential Acquisition Areas
- 1/4-mile Park Walkshed
- 1/2-mile Park Walkshed
- 1/4-mile Walkshed (Non-City Parks)
- 1/2-mile Walkshed (Non-City Parks)
- Monrovia Parks
- Hillside Wilderness Preserve
- School District lands
- Other Non-City Parks
- Angeles National Forest
- Trails
- Freeway
- Ramp
- Highway
- Primary Roads
- Secondary Roads
- Minor Roads
- Unpaved Road
- Metro Rail Line

FRAMING A PATH FORWARD

Monrovia's adopted General Plan targets the City becoming a regional model for a sustainable, vibrant community with engaged citizens and an accountable government. The Public Services Department is an active contributor to helping the City achieve its vision through a series of action strategies, outlined in this section, to focus resources and accomplish measurable results over the next ten years. In an effort to highlight the overarching strategic directions to enable the Department to meet the City's Vision, the goals and objectives from past plans have been reviewed and enhanced to align with the common themes noted from the public during the planning process for this Plan.

Taken together, the goals and policies provide a framework for the Park Master Plan. A goal is a general statement describing an outcome the City wishes to provide. Goals typically do not change over time unless community values shift. Policies are more specific, measurable statements that describe a means to achieving the stated goals. Policies reflect adopted practices intended to implement and achieve the goals.

These goals are in alignment with the National Recreation and Parks Association's Three Pillars, which are foundational concepts adopted in 2012. These core values (below) are crucial to improving the quality of life for all Americans by inspiring the protection of natural resources, increasing opportunities for physical activity and healthy eating and empowering citizens to improve the livability of their communities.



HEALTH & WELLNESS

Park and recreation departments lead the nation in improving the overall health and wellness of citizens, and fighting obesity.

SOCIAL EQUITY

We believe universal access to public parks and recreation is fundamental to all, not just a privilege for a few.

CONSERVATION

Public parks are critical to preserving our communities' natural resources and wildlife habitats, which offer significant social and economic benefits.

PARK SERVICE STANDARDS

A level of service (LOS) review was conducted to further understand the distribution and acreage needs for parkland to assess how well the community can access and enjoy parks, recreation and open space. Traditionally, the application of numeric standards for the provision of parks has applied an acreage of parkland per thousand residents as a target measurement for adopted benchmark standards. Service standards are the adopted guidelines or benchmarks the City is trying to attain with their parks system; the level of service is a snapshot in time of how well the City is meeting its adopted standards. Without a numeric set of standards the level of service can evaluate how the City and its park system measures up to parks systems across the country with comparable population sizes, population densities and parkland acreages.

Figure 9: Current & Projected Parks Level of Service

| Metric | Measurement | |
|--|--------------------------------|--|
| Proposed Level of Service (LOS) Standard | 1.50 acres per 1,000 residents | |
| 2015 Population (ACS Estimate) | 37,164 residents | |
| 2026 Population (SCAG Projection) | 39,400 residents | |
| Urban Park Acreage (excl. Canyon Park) | 33.3 acres | |

| Level of Service | 2015 | 2035 |
|---|--------|--------|
| Effective Level of Service based on total acreage (acres/1,000 residents) | 0.90* | 0.85* |
| Net LOS to Standard (acres/1,000 residents) | (0.60) | (0.65) |
| Performance to Standard | 59.7% | 56.3% |
| Acreage surplus (deficit) | (22.4) | (25.8) |

* Note: Level of service for Urban Parks only.

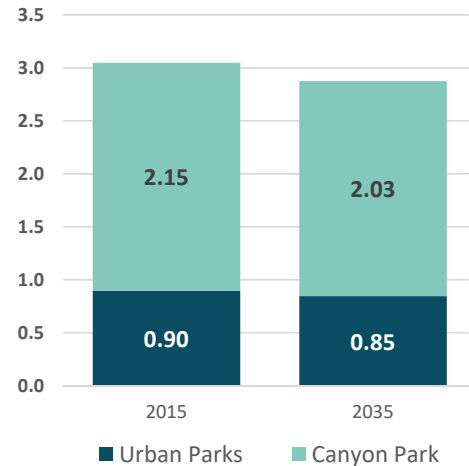


Figure 10: Citywide Level of Service Snapshot

Monrovia currently owns and manages 33.3 acres of developed city parks, 80 acres of open space at Canyon Park and additional natural lands of the Hillside Wilderness Preserve. The measure of level of service (LOS) is applied to developed public parkland within the city. The three community parks (25.2 acres, total) and four neighborhood parks (8.1 acres) provide the most accessible park facilities to most residents. Canyon Park is an important contributor to recreational amenities and is considered after the combined urban park acreage in this LOS review.

At 33.3 acres, the current level of service for Monrovia is 0.90 acres per 1,000 people, which excludes Canyon Park and the Hillside Preserve. Considering the recreational value of Canyon Park and its proximity to the urban population, Canyon Park adds 2.15 acres per 1,000 of parkland for the current population. This Plan proposes a city-specific acreage standard for urban parks of 1.50 acres per 1,000 people, primarily to emphasize the relative importance of these ‘work horse’ parks for providing the land base to accommodate a variety of recreational uses. A current deficit of 22.4 acres of urban parks exists, which is expected to grow to slightly under 26 acres by 2035.

While numeric standards are a useful tool to assess how well the City is delivering park and recreation services, the numeric values alone do not provide adequate recognition of the quality of the facilities or their distribution. The simple use of an overall acreage standard does not match with the citizen input received during this planning process. Residents were particularly interested in the availability of trails and active use parks and amenities (e.g., sport fields, dog parks, splash pads, picnic shelters, pump tracks, etc.) within a reasonable distance from their homes. ■

26% of survey respondents felt there is a need for more parks south of Huntington Blvd; 15% felt the need extends across the entire city; 12% stated areas north of Foothill Blvd.

Strategic direction 01 ENCOURAGE CONNECTEDNESS

GOAL: Monrovia’s Public Services Department fosters and expands the physical and social connections linking the City together and bridging to its neighbors.



1. COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Policies

1.1 Encourage and support active and ongoing participation by diverse community members in the planning and decision-making for parks and recreational opportunities.

| ACTIONS | |
|---------|---|
| 1.1.1 | Involve residents and stakeholders in system-wide planning, park site facility design and recreation program development. Use a diverse set of communication and informational materials to solicit community input, facilitate project understanding and build public support. |
| 1.1.2 | Employ innovative strategies to improve community involvement in park and recreation planning efforts. |
| 1.1.3 | Identify under-represented segments of the community and work to improve their capacity to participate in park planning and decision-making. |
| 1.1.4 | Pursue opportunities to partner with residents and neighborhood groups to improve, maintain and monitor local parks, natural areas and trails. |
| 1.1.5 | Continue to promote and distribute information about recreational activities, education programs, community services and events, and volunteer activities sponsored by the City and partner agencies and organizations. |
| 1.1.6 | Provide clear maps of City parks, trails and recreation facilities online, in Monrovia Today, at trailheads and public counters, and in newspaper articles or notices. |
| 1.1.7 | Encourage and promote volunteer park improvement and maintenance projects from a variety of individuals, service clubs, churches and businesses. |
| 1.1.8 | Survey, review and publish local park and recreation preferences, needs and trends at least once every five years. |



2. PARK CONNECTIONS

Policies

- 2.1 Develop a network of shared-use recreational, pedestrian and bicycle trails to enable connections within parks and between parks, neighborhoods, public amenities and regional trail corridors.
- 2.2 Design and construct trails to serve a variety of users at varying skill levels.
- 2.3 Support other City departments in the implementation of the Multi-Choice Transportation System Plan.
- 2.4 Develop additional non-motorized trails outside of parks to meet a targeted walkability score and promote Monrovia as a “walkable city.”

| ACTIONS | |
|---------|---|
| 1.2.1 | Integrate the siting of proposed trail segments into the development review process; require development projects along designated trail routes to be designed to incorporate trail segments as part of the project. |
| 1.2.2 | Implement trail signage standards, route and wayfinding signage for trails and associated facilities and informational maps and materials identifying existing and planned trail facilities. |
| 1.2.3 | Partner with utilities, agencies and private landowners to secure trail easements and access to open space for planned trail connections. |
| 1.2.4 | Formalize the access and develop a connection between Kiwanis Park at Grand Avenue and the planned Sawpit Wash Trail; Consider the potential to utilize county land as a pump track location. |
| 1.2.5 | Implement the goals and projects noted in the Bicycle Master Plan to strengthen the connections between the on-street infrastructure to existing and planned recreational trails. |
| 1.2.6 | Coordinate with neighboring jurisdictions and Los Angeles County to provide a connected trail network that provide continuous walking and biking access between regional parks, natural areas and other key destinations. |

Strategic direction 02 SECURE LANDS FOR THE FUTURE

GOAL: Monrovia provides a comprehensive system of parks, open space and recreation facilities that serves current and future needs.



3. PARK & OPEN SPACE ACQUISITION

Policies

- 3.1 Acquire additional parklands necessary to adequately serve the City’s current and future population based on adopted service levels.
- 3.2 Plan for the location of parks in the proximity of under-served neighborhoods and/or high-density developments.

| ACTIONS | |
|---------|---|
| 2.3.1 | Provide a city-specific acreage standard for urban parks of 1.5 acres per 1,000 people to reinforce the importance of active-use urban parklands and provide for a land base to accommodate a variety of recreational uses. |
| 2.3.2 | Proactively seek parklands identified within this Plan, in both developed and undeveloped areas, to secure suitable locations for new parks to serve future residents. Evaluate acquisition opportunities based on criteria such as improvement to existing level of service, connectivity, preservation or recreational opportunities for residents. |
| 2.3.3 | Provide equitable park distribution and prioritize park acquisition in under-served areas where households are more than ½-mile from a developed park. |
| 2.3.4 | Prioritize park acquisition in areas of the city facing population growth, and residential and commercial development. |
| 2.3.5 | Pursue acquisition of park-adjacent parcels to provide for needed parking expansion or valuable natural area/open space conservation. |
| 2.3.6 | Periodically update and revise the Open Space Element of the City’s General Plan. |
| 2.3.7 | Evaluate opportunities to acquire lands declared surplus by other public agencies for park and recreation use. |
| 2.3.8 | Consider connecting existing and future parks with stormwater capture elements and the adaptive re-use and/or redesign of large stormwater detention facilities in areas with parkland deficiencies, such that these sites serve dual roles for water detention and dry-season recreation. |

Strategic direction 03 CREATE GREAT PARKS & PUBLIC SPACES

GOAL: Monrovia's parks and open spaces meet local needs for active and passive recreation, enhance the environmental and visual quality of the community, and healthy living.



4. DESIGN, DEVELOPMENT & CONSERVATION

Policies

- 4.1 Design and develop park sites and facilities to maximize recreational value and experience, while minimizing maintenance and operational costs and negative environmental and community impacts.
- 4.2 Strive to reduce barriers to participation and improve safety to provide universal access to facilities and programs.
- 4.3 Establish and operate specialized recreational facilities (e.g. sport facilities, off leash dog areas, skateparks, community gardens) to respond to identified public needs, as appropriate.
- 4.4 Conserve significant natural areas to meet habitat and hillside protection needs and to provide opportunities for residents to recreate and connect with nature, as appropriate.

| ACTIONS | |
|---------|---|
| 3.4.1 | Design new parks and provide improvements to existing parks which promote public safety and security, and provide accessibility to all in accordance with Americans with Disabilities Act standards. |
| 3.4.2 | Develop an ADA Transition Plan to more deeply address and prioritize accessibility in parks and facilities. |
| 3.4.3 | Update and modernize design standards to provide continuity in furnishings (trash cans, tables, benches, fencing) and construction materials to reduce inventory and maintenance costs, standardize maintenance practices, and improve park appearance. |
| 3.4.4 | Incorporate sustainable development and low impact design practices into the design, planning and rehabilitation of new and existing facilities; consider the use of native or drought tolerant vegetation for landscaping in parks and reductions in irrigated turf to minimize maintenance requirements and reduce water demands. |
| 3.4.5 | Develop a master plan for improvements to Recreation Park, including renovation of the sport field and additional amenities. |
| 3.4.6 | Consider local needs, trends and availability of similar facilities within the City and region when planning for specialized recreational facilities, such as pump tracks, off-leash dog areas or others. |
| 3.4.7 | Provide additional picnic shelters for events such as family gatherings, community events and other meetings. |
| 3.4.8 | Assess overall sport fields needs on a regular basis, based on existing inventories and local participation trends. |
| 3.4.9 | Explore options with off-leash area advocates for the creation of a non-profit organization to help support and fund the on-going maintenance of future off-leash dog areas within the city. |
| 3.4.10 | Pursue opportunities to provide appropriate public access (e.g. trails, viewpoints and wildlife viewing areas) within natural areas to support passive recreation and environmental education. |
| 3.4.11 | Continue to provide environmental educational opportunities in natural areas with interpretive signage, nature trails and overlooks. |
| 3.4.12 | Consider the preparation of an Urban Forestry Management Plan to articulate a long-term strategy for tree protection, urban forestry management and public education and outreach. |

Strategic direction 04 FOSTER A HEALTHY, ACTIVE COMMUNITY

GOAL: Monrovia’s parks, recreation facilities and community programming bring residents together, encourage and amplify healthy lifestyles, and foster community pride, identity and livability.



5. WELLNESS & CULTURE

Policies

- 5.1 Provide or partner for programming and services that support recreation and learning for target populations, including youth, teens, adults and older adults.
- 5.2 Maintain and enhance the Monrovia Community Center to provide recreational opportunities, community services and opportunities for residents to connect, learn and play.
- 5.3 Identify opportunities to create public gathering spaces that enable residents of all ages to connect with each other.
- 5.4 Seek opportunities to support and expand heritage facilities.
- 5.5 Reflect the City’s identity by incorporating art, history and culture into the park and recreation system.

| ACTIONS | |
|---------|--|
| 4.5.1 | Continue to support community events that provide opportunities for social engagement and bring families and neighbors together. |
| 4.5.2 | Identify appropriate locations within parks and natural areas for the installation of public art, interpretive signs, or cultural displays. |
| 4.5.3 | Monitor local and regional recreation trends to ensure community needs and interests are addressed by available programming. |
| 4.5.4 | Coordinate for programming and services to meet the needs diverse users, including at-risk communities or those with special needs. |
| 4.5.5 | Partner and coordinate with Monrovia United School District, YMCA, Boys & Girls Club, community partners and sport organizations to offer drop-in and structured programs in sports; art, music and dance; and educational and environmental activities for youth and teens. |
| 4.5.6 | Explore options to expand the quantity and breadth of adult programs offered, in partnership with other recreation providers and organizations. |
| 4.5.7 | Continue to provide and expand opportunities for seniors to engage in social, recreational, educational, nutritional and health programs designed to encourage independence, in partnership with community agencies. |
| 4.5.8 | Continue to plan for and strategize improvements to or replacement of the Community Center. |

Strategic direction 05

ENSURE SOUND MANAGEMENT & MAINTENANCE

GOAL: Monrovia's Public Services Department stewards the community's human, social and physical capital and resources to expand recreational opportunities for residents.



6. ADMINISTRATION & MANAGEMENT

Policies

- 6.1 Provide leadership and sufficient staff resources to maintain the overall parks and recreation system to the City's requirements.
- 6.2 Actively manage Monrovia's park and recreation assets through a regular schedule of maintenance and capital renewal efforts to optimize use, reduce unplanned reactive maintenance and protect public investment.
- 6.3 Pursue and maintain effective partnerships with governmental agencies and private and non-profit organizations to plan and provide recreation activities and facilities in an effort to maximize opportunities for public recreation.
- 6.4 Use traditional and new funding sources to adequately and cost-effectively maintain and enhance the quality of Monrovia's park and recreation system.

| ACTIONS | |
|---------|---|
| 5.6.1 | Promote professional development opportunities that strengthen the core skills and commitment from staff, Commission members and key volunteers, to include trainings, materials and/or affiliation with the National Recreation & Park Association (NRPA) and the California Park & Recreation Society (CPRS). |
| 5.6.2 | Assess the Department's staffing needs and hire adequate staff to manage the City's park and recreation system. |
| 5.6.3 | Use part-time, seasonal and contract employees for select functions to meet peak demands and respond to specialized or urgent needs. |
| 5.6.4 | Amend the Recreation & Open Space Element of the City's General Plan as needed to reflect the recreational needs of the community. |
| 5.6.5 | Annually update the Capital Facilities Plan to reflect the recreational needs of the community. |
| 5.6.6 | Assess park maintenance standards and prepare a routine preventative maintenance program to ensure parks, facilities and equipment are maintained in a manner that keeps them in safe and attractive condition; Repair or remove damaged components immediately upon identification. |
| 5.6.7 | Plan for and finance deferred maintenance projects and upgrades for ADA compliance to ensure a safe, secure and accessible park infrastructure. |
| 5.6.8 | Coordinate with public, private and non-profit providers, such as organized sports leagues and MUSD, to plan for projects to expand specialized facilities. |
| 5.6.9 | Utilize strategic capital investments in parks, trails, open spaces, recreation and art to encourage and support economic development and revitalization. |
| 5.6.10 | Pursue alternative funding options and dedicated revenues for the acquisition and development of parks and facilities, such as through private donation, sponsorships, partnerships and state and federal grant sources, among others. |

RECOMMENDATIONS

The following is a summary list of key project recommendations; however, clear decisions must be made in an environment of competing interests and limited resources. These recommendations are not listed in a particular order. A strong community will is necessary to bring many of the projects listed in this Plan to life, and the Monrovia Community Services Commission and City Council have demonstrated over the last decade their willingness to support parks and recreation, park maintenance and a high quality of life.

ADA ENHANCEMENTS & PARK ENHANCEMENTS Minor improvements to access, such as providing ramped entrances, for site furnishings are necessary to conform to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and ensure universal accessibility. Also, the City should evaluate the play equipment and its signage for code compliance and replace outdated equipment as appropriate. The recommendations in the Capital Facilities Project list provide site-specific suggestions. In general, the City should make improvements to existing parks as needed to ensure proper maintenance, usability and quality of park features and grounds.



PARK CONNECTIONS Recreational path and trail connections, improvements and relationships to streets, sidewalks and bike lanes have been cited in several Monrovia plans. The City should continue to implement the Bicycle Master Plan and coordinate trail-related projects with transportation system planning or related public works projects. Explore trail development opportunities with local user groups and pursue additional trail segments and connections, as appropriate.



WAYFINDING & SIGNAGE Parks, trails, urban plazas and other public open spaces are the primary targets for unifying an urban environment into a cohesive, accessible and connected community through an identifiable wayfinding program. The need for design standards for a unifying wayfinding system have been identified for parks, trails, city center and the community at large. Monrovia should pursue a comprehensive wayfinding program that includes both visual graphic standards and site furnishing standards. Colors, sign types, and information can help park and trail users navigate the outdoor recreation experiences offered by the city.



COMMUNICATIONS To broaden public awareness, the City's website should be expanded to facilitate quick links to popular destinations and be designed with mobile users in mind, either through a mobile-friendly site or a web-based application. The website should include easy-to-access park system and facility maps, trail maps and an up-to-date listing of park sites and amenities to enhance the experience of the on-the-go user. The City should consider introducing and utilizing QR codes on signage as a means to share with or receive information from visitors about maintenance, restoration or monitoring data.





UPGRADES The City should also consider adding the following recreation features to expand recreational opportunities:

- Picnic shelters that allow larger family events.
- Accessible playgrounds that provides play opportunities for people with physical or mobility disabilities.
- Splash pads features to integrate water play into parks at a relatively low cost.
- Sport fields and courts to meet identified shortfalls.
- Acquire and develop the Peck Lake Wetland project for passive recreation and stormwater treatment.
- User conveniences, such as restrooms and playground shade structures.



ALTERNATIVE RECREATIONAL AMENITIES Providing facilities for alternative or emerging sports can offer residents a more diverse range of recreational experiences, while creating destinations that attract local and regional visitors. Monrovia currently has an outdoor, concrete skatepark located in Recreation Park. Opportunities and facilities for other alternative sports are limited in the city. Opportunities may exist to develop alternative sports facilities at existing parks and plan for these facilities in the site design of parks to be developed in the future. The City should also consider incorporating small-scale skateboard (skate spots), bike skills features or pump tracks into urban park sites, as appropriate.

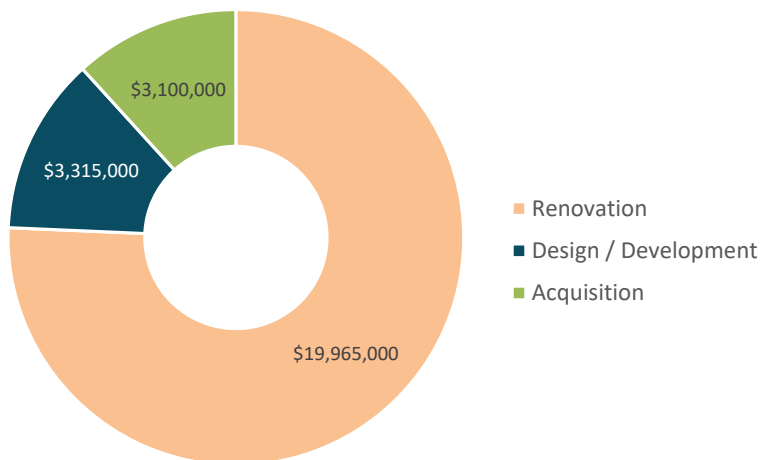


LAND ACQUISITION TO FILL GAPS The City should strive to acquire additional parkland to serve deficient areas and provide land necessary for desired park amenities. As opportunities to acquire large park sites in this urban, growing city are limited, Monrovia must think creatively and foster partnerships to provide desired park amenities. Enhancing existing partnerships with the Monrovia United School District could provide opportunities to improve school facilities in ways that may help meet community park needs. Specific target acquisition areas are noted on the map on page 35.

PLANNED PROJECTS

The Capital Facilities Plan (CFP) sequences the strategic actions to guide the implementation of this Plan. It assigns proposed timeframes and estimated costs for specific projects grouped by project type. The CFP on page 47 lists the park and facility projects considered for the next five to ten years. The majority of these projects entail the acquisition and development of parks, renovating or enhancing existing facilities and expanding path and trail corridors. The following CFP project list provides brief project descriptions and priority ranking to assist staff in preparing future capital budget requests.

Figure 11: Capital Facilities Plan Expenditures Summary



IMPLEMENTATION OPTIONS

MAKING IT HAPPEN

A number of strategies exist to improve park service delivery for the City of Monrovia; however, clear decisions must be made in an environment of competing interests and limited resources. A strong community will is necessary to bring many of the projects listed in this Plan to life. The following considerations are presented to offer near-term direction on implementation and as a means to continue dialogue between the City, its residents and its partners.

Additionally, a review of likely funding options is included in the Technical Appendix (Appendix D), which includes local financing, federal and state grant and conservation programs, acquisition methods and others.

Volunteer & Community-Based Action.

The public process for this Plan has demonstrated that residents want to be involved in improving the City's park system and want to have their energies guided through coordination with the Department. Community sponsored park clean-ups, beautification and planting projects, and park patrols should be considered to engage citizens and maintain a strong sense of community pride and ownership in park facilities.

Partnership & Collaborative Projects.

Specific projects and goals identified in this Plan demand a high degree of coordination and collaboration with other city divisions and outside organizations. Coordination with the Community Development Department will be crucial in reviewing development applications with consideration toward potential parkland acquisition areas and for easement or set-aside requests.

The City should continue to explore collaborative projects that enhance environmental quality and provide recreational opportunities.

One such project is the Peck Lake Wetlands Project that aims to acquire and develop the site for stormwater treatment and passive recreation. Also, the City should continue to facilitate discussions with local sport leagues and staff from the School District for the purposes of sport field planning.

Low Impact Design & Stormwater Capturing Opportunities.

The resurgence of integrated landscape design provides an opportunity to consider options to design and restore parks to naturally capture and filter stormwater to improve watershed health and enable environmental education and interpretation. Wetland restoration, visible stormwater features that collect the nitrogen and detain it prior to reaching the wetlands, and educational signage and design elements could improve watershed health and inform visitors about the impacts of pollutants (dog waste, pesticides and herbicides) and encourage more environmentally-friendly choices. The City should also consider connecting existing and future parks with stormwater capture elements and the adaptive re-use and/or redesign of large stormwater detention facilities in areas with parkland deficiencies, such that these sites serve dual functions for water detention and dry-season recreation.

Future Development. With the recent and projected growth in residential development and redevelopment, the City should encourage open space and recreational elements be included within all future private residential development.

Grants. Several state and federal grant programs are available on a competitive basis, including several offered through California State Parks (Land and Water Conservation Fund, Outdoor Environmental Education Facilities and Habitat Conservation Fund).

Pursuing grants is not a panacea for park system funding, since grants are both competitive and often require a significant percentage of local funds to match the request to the granting agency, which depending on the grant program can be as much as 50% of the total project budget. Monrovia should continue to leverage its local resources to the greatest extent by pursuing grants independently and in cooperation with other local partners.

Measure A Funds. County voters recently approved the Los Angeles County *Safe, Clean Neighborhood Parks and Beaches Measure of 2016* (Measure A) which asked voters to tax themselves for park improvements. The funds will go to local communities to protect, enhance and maintain neighborhood parks, open space, trails and natural habitat, and the measure is designed to respond to the 2016 Countywide Parks Needs Assessment. The City of Monrovia will have an opportunity to pursue funding through Measure A to help finance some of the projects listed in this Plan.

Local Funding. Although a variety of approaches exist to support individual projects or programs, the broader assessment of community needs suggests that additional, dedicated funding may be required to finance upgrades to and growth in the parks system. A short-term bond or levy could be structured to maximize voter support to include

parkland acquisitions and development, trail development and general park element upgrades. This will require additional effort by the Community Services Commission or citizen group to compile a specific funding package, along with an assessment of potential revenue, political willingness and potential voter support.

Monrovia Citywide Parks Master Plan

Parks Capital Facilities Plan

2018-2030

| Park / Location | Project Description | Estimated Cost | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025-2030 |
|---------------------------------|--|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Canyon Park | Roadway / parking repairs | \$750,000 | | \$750,000 | | | | | | |
| | Irrigation system upgrades | \$100,000 | | | \$50,000 | \$50,000 | | | | |
| | Reforestation / native landscape installations | \$60,000 | | | | \$60,000 | | | | |
| | Wayfinding system - design & installation | \$90,000 | | | \$90,000 | | | | | |
| Kiwanis Park at Grand Ave. | Master Plan - site design | \$100,000 | | \$100,000 | | | | | | |
| | Park renovations (playground, pathway circulation, ADA upgrades) | \$1,000,000 | | | \$1,000,000 | | | | | |
| Library Park | Park renovations | \$680,000 | \$680,000 | | | | | | | |
| Lucinda Garcia Park | Path improvements & additions | \$100,000 | \$100,000 | | | | | | | |
| | Picnic shelter - small | \$150,000 | | | \$150,000 | | | | | |
| | Playground enhancement/replacement | \$300,000 | | | \$300,000 | | | | | |
| | Install exercise circuit stations | \$125,000 | | | \$125,000 | | | | | |
| Recreation Park | Master plan - revitalize park design / layout | \$1,500,000 | | | \$1,500,000 | | | | | |
| | Comprehensive park upgrade & renovation | \$15,000,000 | | | | | \$15,000,000 | | | |
| Rotary Park | Pathway repairs/upgrades | \$50,000 | \$50,000 | | | | | | | |
| | New playground (replacement) | \$225,000 | | \$225,000 | | | | | | |
| | New small shelter | \$150,000 | | | \$150,000 | | | | | |
| New South-end Park | Land acquisition (~1 acre) - SW Monrovia | \$2,250,000 | | | | \$2,250,000 | | | | |
| | Master Plan - site design | \$100,000 | | | | | \$100,000 | | | |
| | Phase 1 park development improvements | \$1,000,000 | | | | | | | | \$1,000,000 |
| Peck Lake Wetlands Project | Acquire & develop site for stormwater treatment & passive recreation | TBD | | | | | | | | |
| Neighborhood Park Acquisition | Land acquisition (~1 acre) - SE Monrovia | TBD | | | | | | | | |
| Neighborhood Park Acquisition | Land acquisition (~1 acre) - S of Live Oak | TBD | | | | | | | | |
| Neighborhood Park Acquisition | Land acquisition (~1 acre) - S Monrovia | TBD | | | | | | | | |
| Neighborhood Park Acquisition | Land acquisition (~0.5 acre) - N of I-210 | TBD | | | | | | | | |
| Neighborhood Park Acquisition | Land acquisition (~0.5 acre) - N of Foothill | TBD | | | | | | | | |
| Neighborhood Park Acquisition | Land acquisition (~0.5 acre) - N of Foothill | TBD | | | | | | | | |
| Off-Leash Dog Park | Secure property & construct dog park | \$950,000 | | | | | | \$850,000 | \$100,000 | |
| System-wide ADA Upgrades | Barrier removal, benches, tables, paved paths | \$200,000 | \$20,000 | \$20,000 | \$20,000 | \$20,000 | \$20,000 | \$20,000 | \$20,000 | \$60,000 |
| Capital Repairs (system-wide) | | \$1,000,000 | \$100,000 | \$100,000 | \$100,000 | \$100,000 | \$100,000 | \$100,000 | \$100,000 | \$300,000 |
| System-wide Irrigation Upgrades | | \$500,000 | \$200,000 | | \$150,000 | | \$150,000 | | | |
| TOTALS: | | \$26,380,000 | \$1,150,000 | \$1,195,000 | \$3,635,000 | \$2,480,000 | \$15,370,000 | \$970,000 | \$220,000 | \$1,360,000 |

NOTES:

This CFP identifies planning-level cost estimates and does not assume the value of volunteer or other non-City contributions. Detailed costing may be necessary for projects noted.

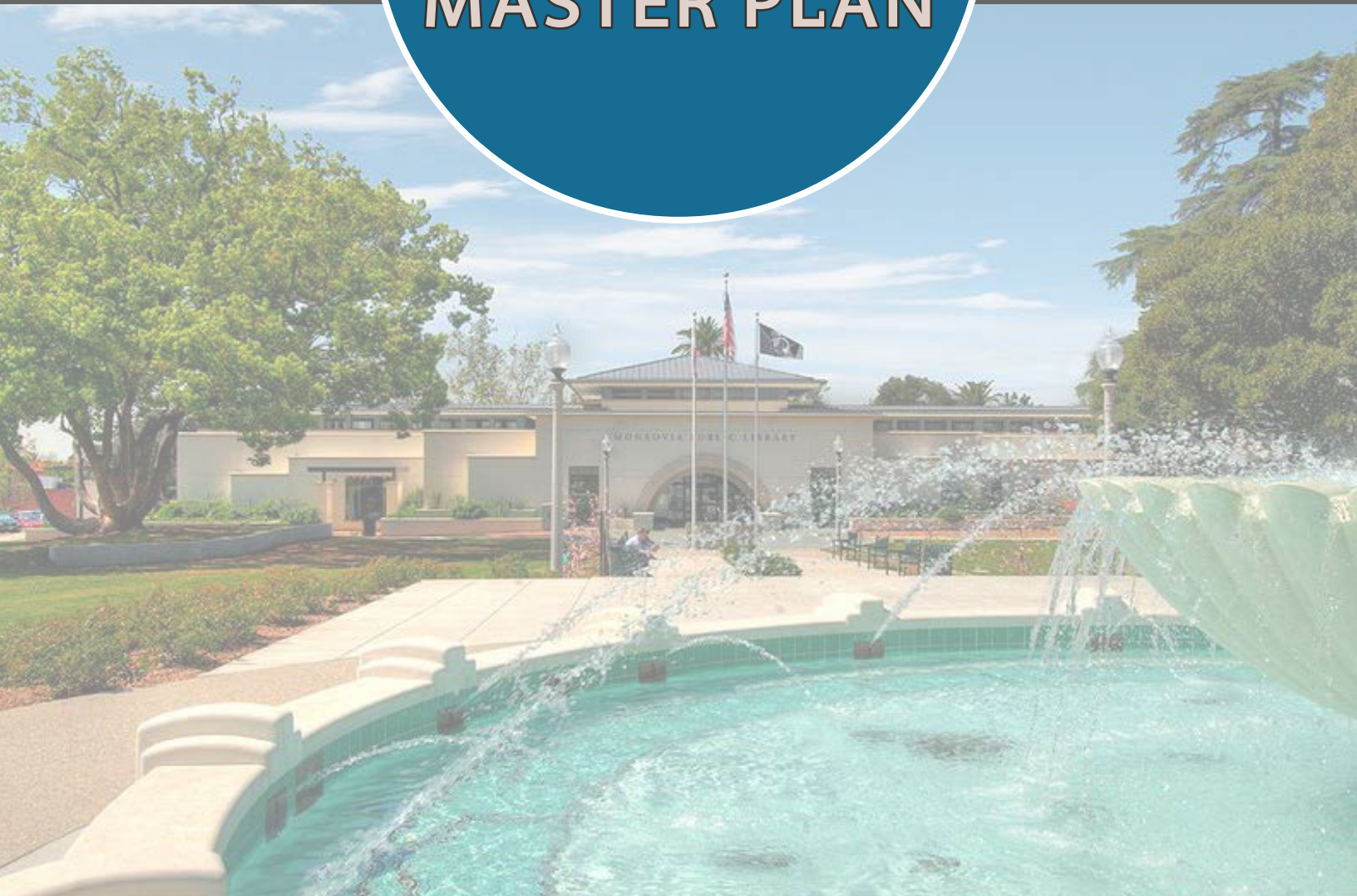
This CFP is not an official budget and intended as a guiding document for City staff in the preparation of departmental budgets.



CITY OF MONROVIA
415 S. IVY AVENUE
MONROVIA, CA 91016
(626) 932-5550



City of Monrovia
**CITYWIDE PARK
MASTER PLAN**



TECHNICAL APPENDIX

Only as far as the masters of the world have called in nature to their aid, can they reach the height of magnificence. This is the meaning of their hanging-gardens, villas, garden-houses, islands, parks, and preserves.

- Ralph Waldo Emerson

COMMUNITY SURVEY

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STAKEHOLDER NOTES

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OPEN HOUSE NOTES

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FUNDING TOOLS

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RECREATION TRENDS

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PUBLIC PROCESS

APPENDIX A: COMMUNITY SURVEY



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To: Tina Cherry, Community Services Director
From: Steve Duh, Conservation Technix, Inc.
Date: April 5, 2017
Re: **City of Monrovia Parks Master Plan**
Community Survey Summary Results

Methodology

Conservation Technix is pleased to present the results of a survey of Monrovia's general population that assesses residents' recreational needs, preferences and priorities. In close collaboration with staff and Parks Commissioners, Conservation Technix developed the 20-question survey. It was estimated to take approximately five minutes to complete. A total of 614 completed surveys were recorded.

The survey was mailed to a random sample of 2,500 households in Monrovia on February 23, 2017. An online version of the survey was posted to the City's website on the same day. Reminder postcards were mailed to the 2,500 households on March 7th. Information about the survey was provided on the City's website home page and on the Community Services - Parks Master Plan subpage. The survey was also promoted in the Spring 2017 issue of Monrovia Today and with fliers at the Community Center. The survey was closed on March 24th, and preliminary data were compiled and reviewed. In all, 369 responses (61%) were completed from the print version mail survey, and 240 responses (39%) were generated via the online link published on the City's website.

This report includes findings on general community opinions. Since the survey was open to the general public and respondents were not selected solely through statistical sampling methods, the results are not necessarily representative of all Monrovia residents. Percentages in the report may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

DEMOGRAPHICS

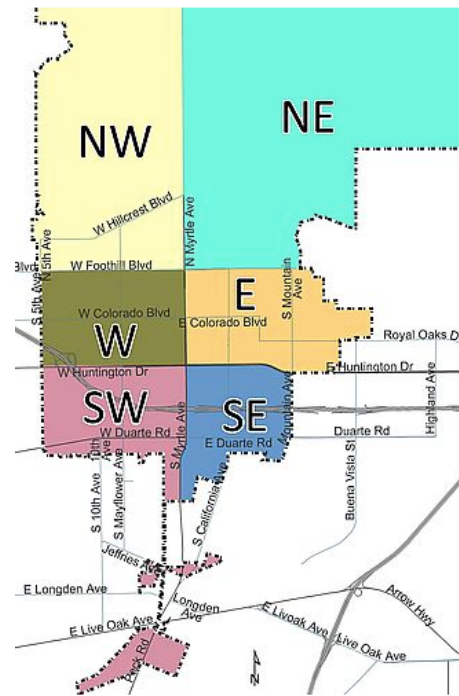
The following table compares Monrovia’s demographics, based on the 2015 American Community Survey, to the respondents to the Monrovia Citywide Park Master Plan Survey. The survey did not feature a controlled collection protocol, so response quotas by age or gender were not included.

Of the 614 residents who completed the survey, 27% were over 65 years old, 44% were between 45 and 65, 28% were between 20 and 45, and less than 1% were under 20 years old. In general, survey respondents were significantly more likely to be older adults as compared to Monrovia’s population in general. Roughly two-thirds of households (65%) have no children at home while the remainder had a single child (15%), two children (14%), or three or more children (6%).

| Demographic group | US Census (2015) 37,164 | Survey Respondents n = 554 |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Age | | |
| Younger than 20 | 24.3% | 0.5% |
| 20 to 34 | 21.9% | 8.3% |
| 35 to 44 | 29.7% | 19.7% |
| 45 to 54 | 15.4% | 20.7% |
| 55 to 64 | 12.3% | 23.4% |
| 65 and older | 11.4% | 27.3% |
| Children Under 18 in Household | | |
| No children | 67.0% | 65.1% |
| 1 child | 33.0% (all households) | 15.0% |
| 2 children | with children under 18 | 14.0% |
| 3 or more children | combined) | 5.8% |

The City received survey responses from residents living in all parts of the city. About four out of five respondents live north of Foothill Blvd (with 18% west of Myrtle and 24.5% to the east). Another 35% live between Foothill and Huntington (18.6% west of Myrtle, 16.5% east). The remaining 20% live south of Huntington. Approximately 2% of respondents live outside the city limits.

Though the survey was offered in Spanish, no responses to the Spanish-language version were received. Approximately 26% of Monrovia residents speak Spanish at home.



KEY FINDINGS**COMMUNITY VALUE OF PARKS**

Nearly all City residents feel that parks are important or essential to the quality of life in Monrovia. More than eight in ten residents feel that parks are essential; while an additional 16% believe that they are important to quality of life, but not really necessary. Approximately 3% believe parks are “a luxury that we don’t need”.

When you think about the things that contribute to the quality of life in Monrovia, would you say public parks are... (Q1)

| Response options | Response Percent | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|-----|
| Essential to the quality of life here | 83% | 98% |
| Important, but not really necessary | 16% | |
| More of a luxury that we don’t need | 1% | |
| Don’t know | 1% | |

Similarly, an overwhelming majority of respondents (95%) feel that Monrovia’s parks are important to the community’s quality of life, regardless of their use of the services. Residents between ages 35 and 44 were more likely to feel that “members of my household use parks and recreation programs on a regular basis, and I believe that these facilities are important to quality of life.” than all other age groups. Residents 65 and older were less likely to agree with this statement than other groups.

Which one of the following statements comes closest to the way you feel about parks in Monrovia? (Q2)

| Response options | Response Percent | |
|---|------------------|-----|
| Members of my household use parks on a regular basis, and I believe that these facilities are important to quality of life. | 50.8% | 95% |
| Although members of my household do not use parks frequently, I believe that they are important to quality of life. | 44.3% | |
| Parks do not currently play an important role in my life or the life of my immediate family members. | 4.8% | |

SATISFACTION WITH MONROVIA PARKS**Satisfaction with parks and recreation services**

More than three-quarters (76%) of respondents indicated that they are very or somewhat satisfied with the overall value they receive from parks and recreation in Monrovia. Less than 20% of respondents are very or somewhat dissatisfied.

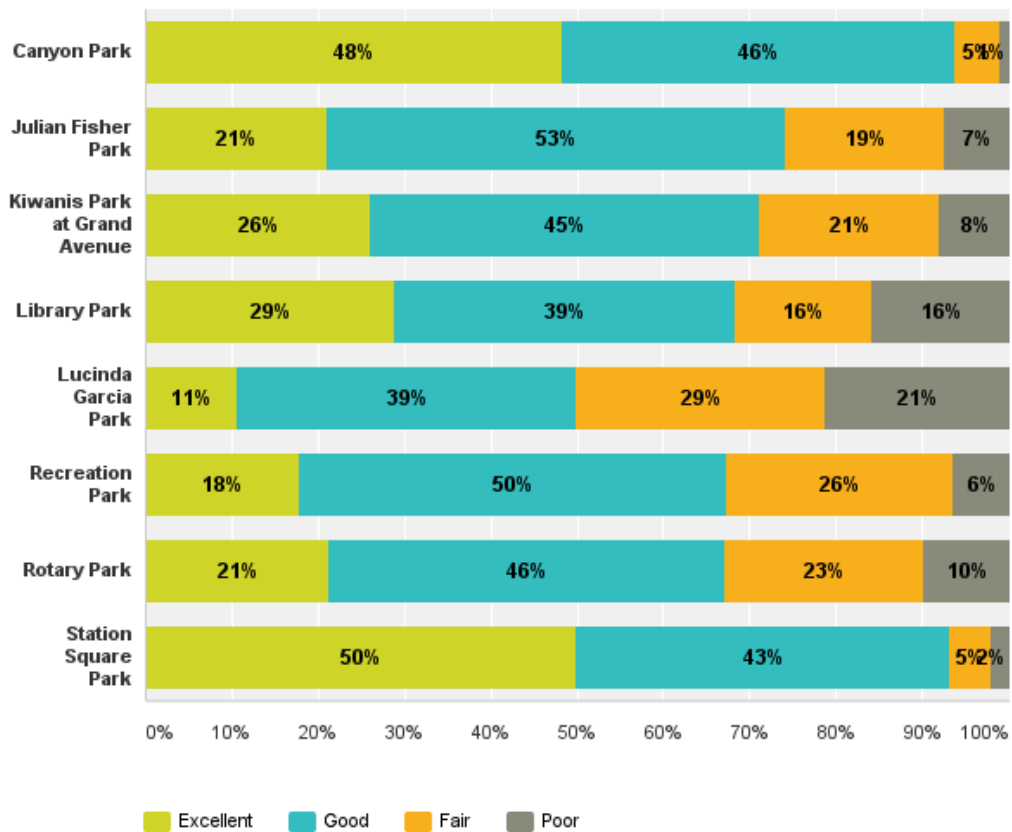
Please rate your satisfaction with the overall value your household receives from Monrovia Parks. (Q5)

| Satisfaction rating | Response Percent | |
|-----------------------|------------------|-----|
| Very Satisfied | 34.4% | 76% |
| Somewhat Satisfied | 42.0% | |
| Somewhat Dissatisfied | 12.2% | |
| Very Dissatisfied | 7.0% | |
| Don’t Know | 4.4% | |

Rating of Park Condition

Survey respondents were asked to rate the general condition of City parks that they had visited. Residents were most critical of the condition of Lucinda Garcia Park (50% of the 33 respondents who had visited the park rated its condition as either ‘fair’ or ‘poor’), Rotary Park (33% of 61 visitors), and Library Park (32% of 498 visitors. Canyon Park and Station Square Park received the highest ratings for condition with 94% of 392 respondents and 93% of 204 respondents who visited in the past year rating the condition as ‘excellent’, respectively.

How would you rate the maintenance and upkeep of the parks you visited? (Q6)



PUBLIC USE OF PARK & RECREATION FACILITIES

The City asked residents a number of questions about respondents use of parks and recreational facilities in Monrovia.

Use of Existing Parks and Recreation Facilities

The City asked residents which parks and recreation facilities they, or members of their household, have visited. Some City parks and recreation facilities were visited more than half of respondents while

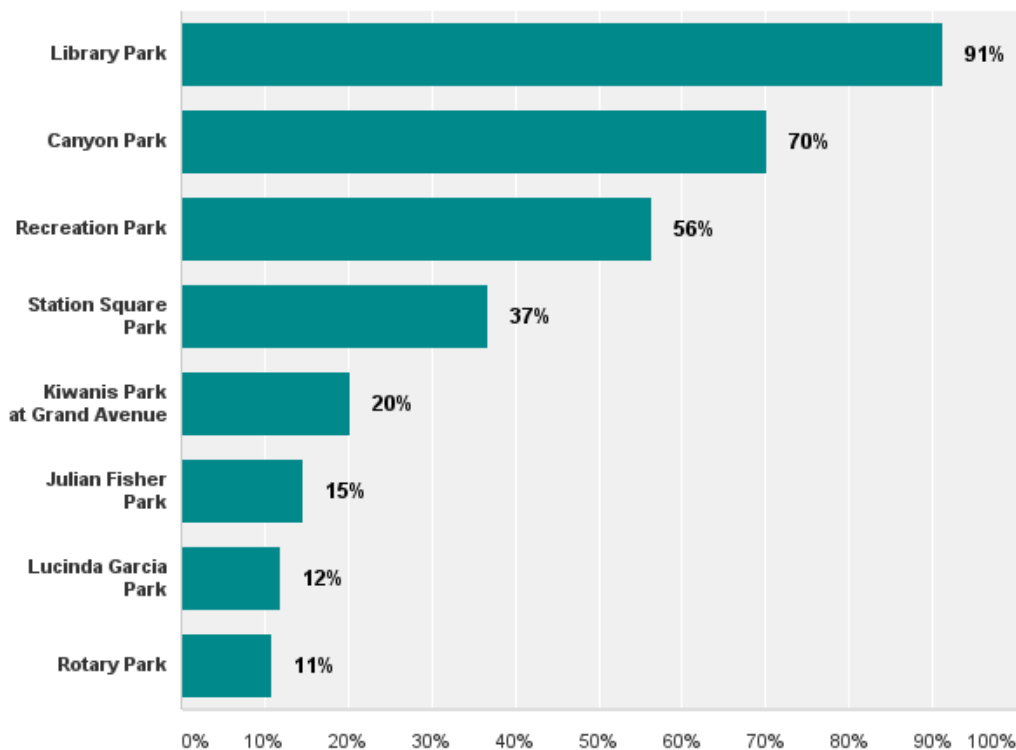
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others were significantly less popular. The most popular parks were Library Park (91% of respondents), Canyon Park (70%), and Recreation Park (56%) - over half of residents have visited at least one of these parks in the past year. Less than one in five residents had visited Kiwanis Park (20%), Julian Fisher Park (15%), Lucinda Garcia Park (12%), and Rotary Park (11%) in the past year.

Generally, respondents who live near parks are most likely to report using them. However, Canyon Park, Recreation Park and Library Park attract visitors from across the city. With the exception of Library Park, older residents (older than 55) are significantly less likely to visit most Monrovia parks.

From the following list, please check all the City of Monrovia parks you and members of your household have used or visited in the past 12 months. (Q6)



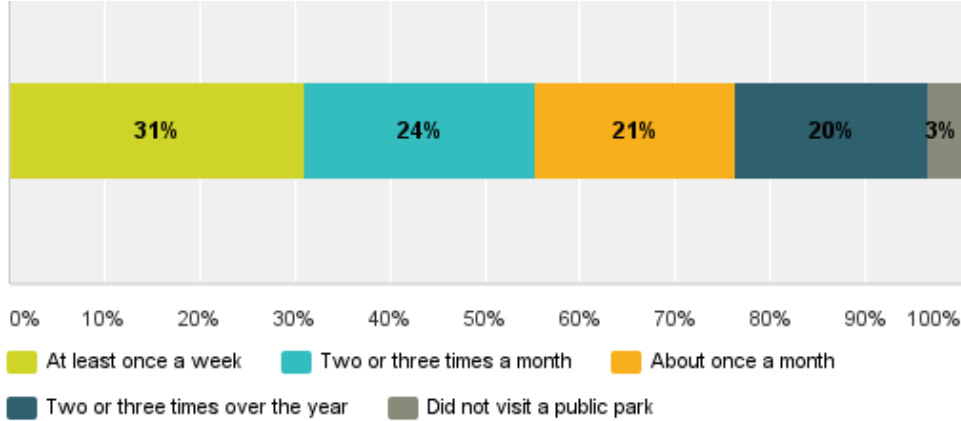
Frequency of Park Use

Respondents were asked how often they, or members of their household, visited a public park in Monrovia over the past year. Three quarters (75.0%) of respondents replied that they, or member of their household, visited a City park at least once per month in the past year. Nearly one in three visited at least once a week (31%). Only 3% of respondents did not visit a park at all.

Younger respondents were more likely to visit parks frequently - 90% of respondents between 35 and 44 years old visit at least once a month, as compared to 64% of respondents over the age of 65. Residents of neighborhoods between Foothill Blvd and Huntington Blvd were more likely to be frequent park visitors than residents of other areas: approximately 40% visit a park at least once a week, compared to 30% or fewer for residents in other areas. Residents who live south of Huntington

use parks less frequently than residents of other areas.

How many times over the past year have you or members of your household visited a public park in Monrovia? (Q7)



Reasons for Not Visiting More Frequently

Residents were asked why they do not use City of Monrovia parks or recreation facilities more often. Over one-third cited safety concerns, with nearly as many selecting “other”. Of the respondents who selected “other”, over half wrote in comments related to safety concerns, drug activity in parks, or homelessness. Time constraints limit visitation by approximately one-quarter of residents. Other issues, including maintenance issues, lack of information, and a lack of desired facilities/programs limit participation by fewer than one in four residents.

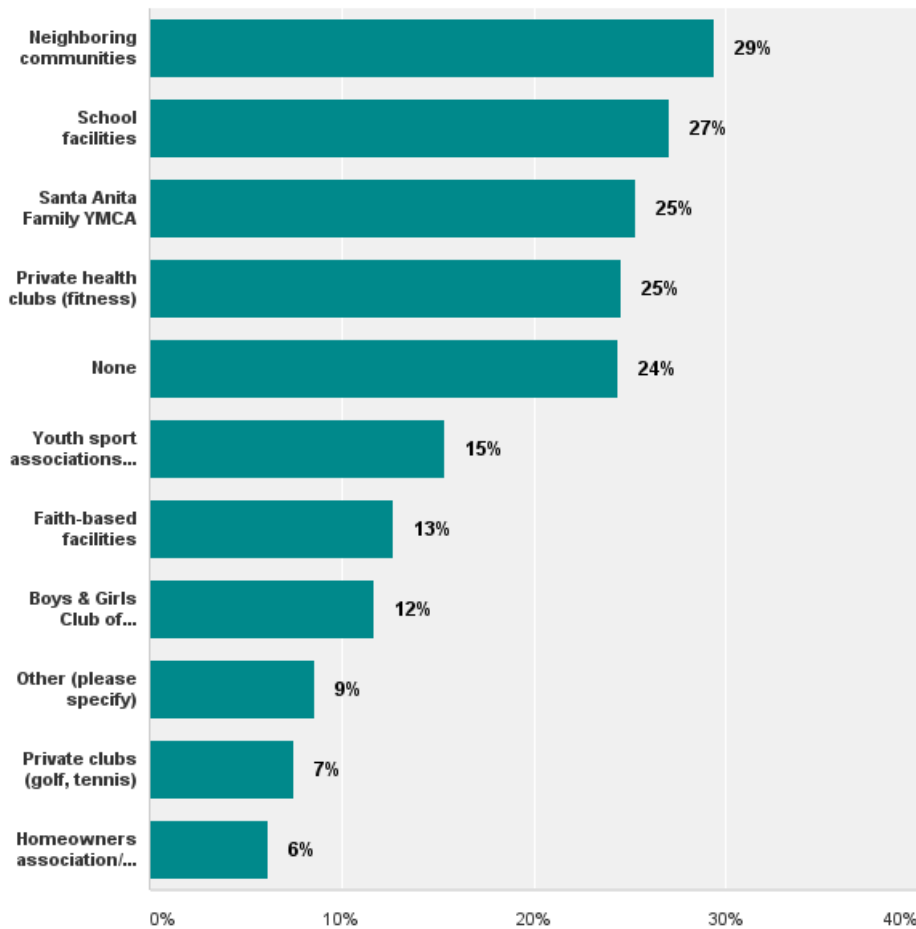
Please CHECK ALL the reasons why your household does not use City of Monrovia parks or recreation facilities more often. (Q11)

| Response Choices | Response rate |
|---|---------------|
| Do not feel safe in park or facility | 36.7% |
| Other (please specify) | 30.9% |
| Too busy to go to parks | 24.2% |
| Parks and facilities are not well maintained | 18.4% |
| I do not know what is offered | 15.3% |
| Use parks or facilities provided by another city or organization (such as Boys & Girls Club, YMCA, private fitness clubs) | 14.0% |
| None of the above | 13.1% |
| Facility or program is not offered | 12.7% |
| Parks do not have the right equipment | 11.2% |
| Parks and facilities are too far from my home | 9.3% |
| Parks and sport courts are too busy | 6.8% |
| Facility operating hours are not convenient | 5.5% |
| Fees are too high | 5.1% |
| Poor customer service by staff | 1.7% |

Use of Non-City Recreational Facilities

Non-City recreation facilities play an important role in meeting Monrovia’s residents’ needs. Over one-quarter of respondents use private health clubs (25%), the Santa Anita Family YMCA (25%), school facilities (27%), and parks or recreation facilities in neighboring communities (29%).

From the following list, please check ALL the organizations that you or other members of your household have used for parks, recreation facilities and program offerings during the past year. (Q12)

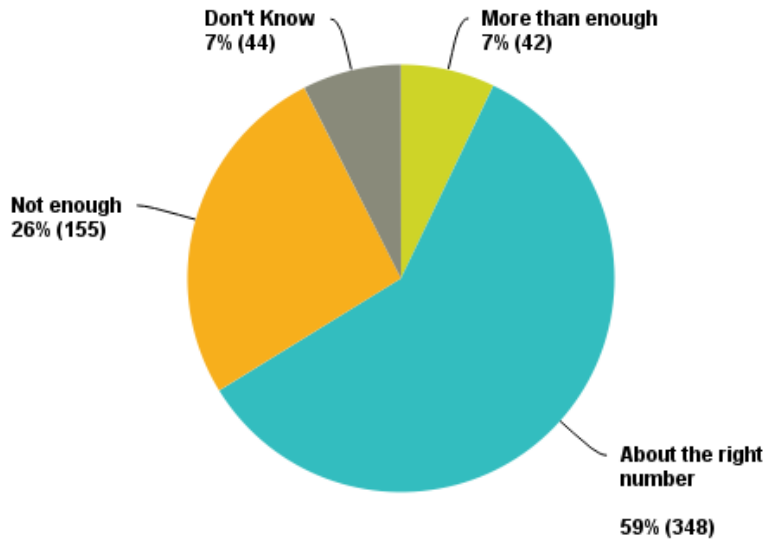


FACILITY & PROGRAM PRIORITIES

Need for additional park and recreation opportunities

Over half of residents (59%) feel there are “about the right number” of parks in Monrovia. Approximately 26% believe there are not enough opportunities, while 7% believe there are more than enough. Younger residents (under 34 years old) are significantly more likely to feel there are not enough park and recreation opportunities in the city than older residents. Residents who live in SE Monrovia (southeast of Huntington and Myrtle) are more likely than residents of other areas to feel there are “not enough” parks and recreation opportunities.

When it comes to meeting the needs of the community, would you say there are... (Q3)



Residents who responded that there are “not enough” parks in Monrovia, were asked “where in Monrovia do you see a need for more parks? Or is there a different kind of park to serve your interests?”. (Q6) Of the 150 people who responded “not enough”, 130 chose to answer this open-ended follow-up question. Approximately one in four respondents (26%) felt there is a need for more parks south of Huntington Blvd; 15% felt the need extends across the entire city; 12% stated areas north of Foothill Blvd; and 2% mentioned areas between Foothill Blvd and Huntington Blvd. Another 39% of write-in responses mentioned specific desired park amenities - frequent responses included dog parks, sports fields or complexes, splash parks, community gardens, trails and smaller ‘pocket’ parks. The remaining 9% of respondents described desired improvements to existing parks, principally Library Park and Canyon Park.

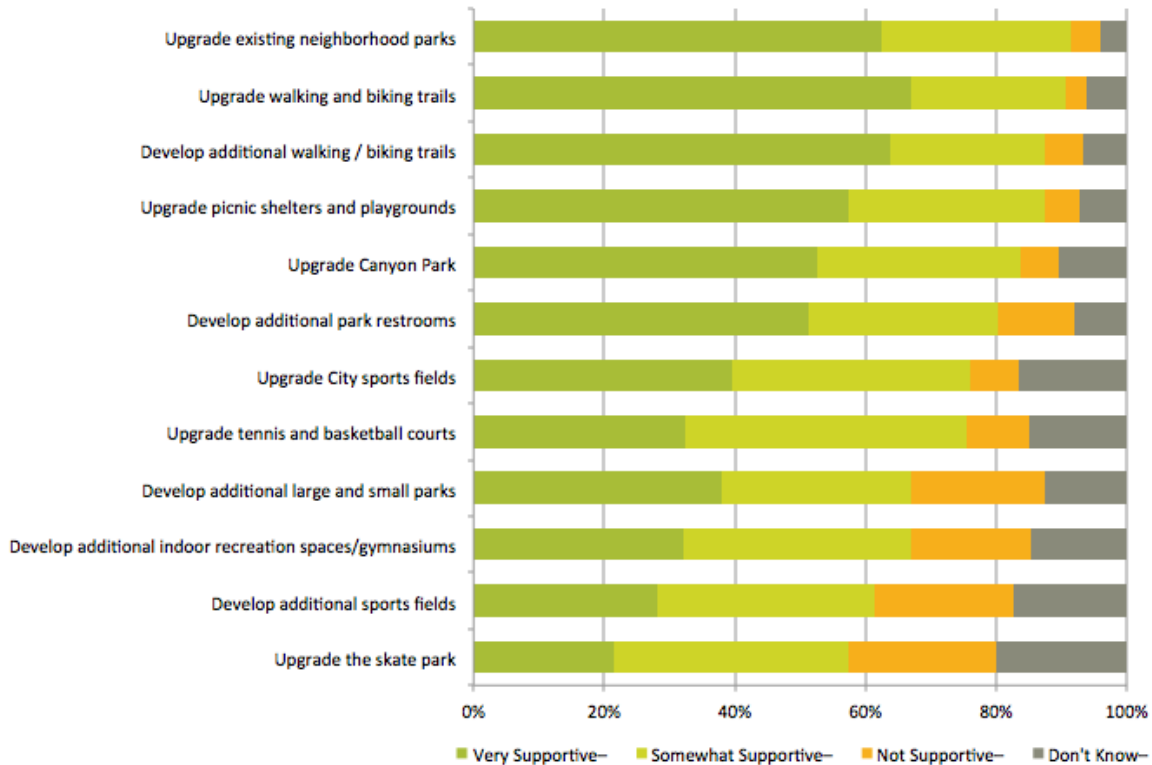
Park and Facility Improvement Priorities

Survey respondents were presented with a list of potential improvements to Monrovia’s parks, including upgrades to existing facilities and development of new facilities. Over sixty percent of respondents were very or somewhat supportive of nearly all improvements listed. More than 90% of respondents supported upgrading existing neighborhood parks and walking and biking trails. Developing new trails, upgrading picnic shelters and playgrounds, upgrading Canyon Park, developing additional restrooms, and improving city sports fields and courts were also very popular improvements - over 75% of respondents were supportive of these investments. Respondents were slightly less supportive of developing new indoor recreation spaces, new sports fields, and upgrading the skate park, though a majority of residents still supported these improvements.

Younger residents – particularly those between 35 and 44 years of age - were generally more than twice as likely to support park and recreation improvements than residents over 55. Residents who live west of Myrtle between Foothill and Huntington Blvd were most supportive of upgrading and expanding a variety of park amenities.

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The following are major actions that the City of Monrovia could take to UPGRADE and DEVELOP parks and recreation facilities. Please indicate whether you would be very supportive, somewhat supportive, not sure, or not supportive of each action by checking the box next to the action. (Q8)



A second question asked about resident priorities for expanding or improving recreational opportunities. More than half of respondents supported expanding or improving walking and hiking trails (71%) and restrooms in parks (57%). Between one-third and one-half of respondents would like the City to expand or improve community gardens, nature/wildlife watching, picnicking, bike riding, community events, arts/dance/music/cultural classes, and off-leash dog opportunities. Less popular responses included gymnasiums for indoor sports, playing baseball/softball, playing soccer/lacrosse/football, and skateboarding and BMX- each with less than 20% support.

Are there types of recreational opportunities you think the city should expand or improve in Monrovia? (Q9)

| Response options | Response Percent | Response options | Response Percent |
|--------------------------------|------------------|---|------------------|
| Walking & hiking trails | 71% | Arts, dance, music & cultural classes | 37% |
| Restrooms in park | 57% | Off-leash dog opportunities | 37% |
| Community gardens | 49% | Splash pad/Spray park | 32% |
| Nature/wildlife watching | 46% | Access to indoor fitness & health equipment | 30% |
| Picnicking | 43% | Gymnasiums for indoor sports | 20% |
| Bike riding | 43% | Playing baseball or softball | 19% |
| Community events and festivals | 42% | Playing soccer/lacrosse/football | 17% |
| | | Skateboarding or BMX | 10% |

Recreational program participation and priorities

A large majority of residents (83%) have participated in a special event, such as a concert, festival, movie, or community fun run, in the past year. Significantly fewer residents (36% or less) have participated in all other types of recreation programs, ranging from arts, sports, and educational programs to specialized programs for teens and seniors.

Regardless of their current participation, respondents were asked whether existing recreational programs and activities are adequate. In general, respondents felt that the City should maintain current program offerings. Very few respondents (less than 4%) felt the City should reduce offerings of any of its recreational programs. Approximately 34% to 44% of respondents felt the City should provide more offerings, with the highest demand for special events, arts programs, and educational classes.

Respondents were more likely to participate in - and support expansion of - programs that match the demographics of themselves or their families. For examples, older adults participate in and believe there should be more programs for adults 55 and over. Similarly, adults age 35 to 55 - who are most likely to have children at home - are more likely to feel more youth and teen programs are needed.

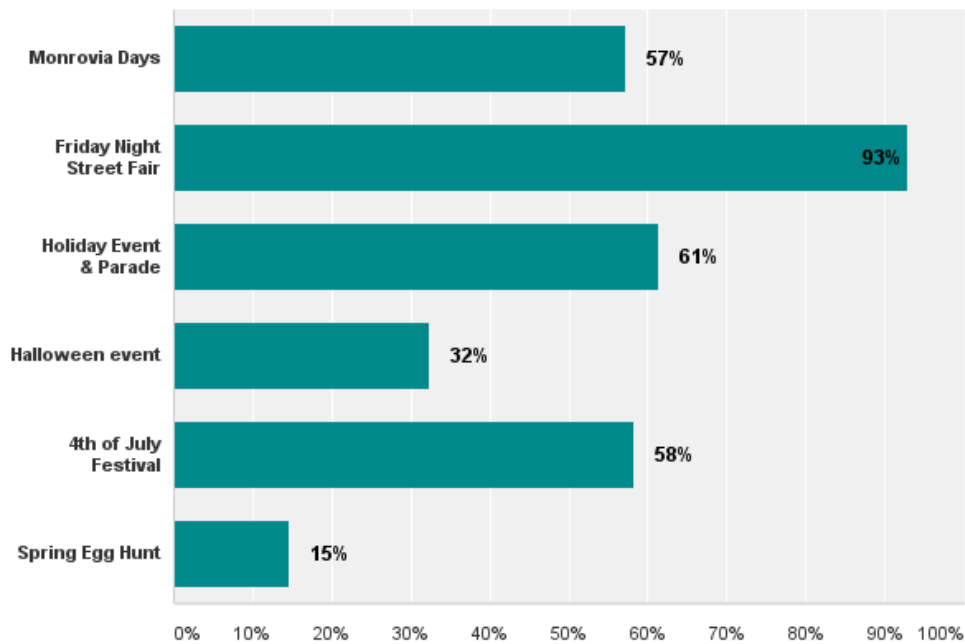
Please indicate all of the programs and activities that you or members of your household have participated in during the past year... please mark whether you think there should be more of this type of activity available, whether the current program offerings are adequate, or whether there should be less of this activity available. (Q10)

| | Participated in the past year | More Offerings Needed | Current Offerings Adequate | Fewer Offerings Needed |
|---|-------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|
| Special events, such as concerts, festivals, movies & community fun runs | 83% | 44% | 53% | 2% |
| Arts programs, such as music, dance, arts & crafts | 36% | 43% | 54% | 3% |
| Adult sports and fitness classes, such as yoga and zumba | 31% | 34% | 62% | 4% |
| Youth sports programs and camps, such as tennis, basketball, and soccer | 27% | 36% | 62% | 2% |
| Educational classes, such as technology, natural history, safety & health | 25% | 42% | 56% | 2% |
| Programs for adults 55 and over, such as classes, trips, and drop-in activities | 19% | 39% | 59% | 3% |
| Teen activities | 14% | 38% | 59% | 3% |

Special Event participation

Monrovia offers a variety of special events and programs throughout the year. One of these events - the Friday Night Street Fair - was attended by virtually all (93%) respondents last year. The Holiday Event and Parade, the 4th of July Festival, and Monrovia Days are also very popular events, attended by over half of residents. The Halloween event and Spring Egg Hunt were less popular.

From the following list, please check ALL the special events you and/or members of your household have participated in over the past 12 months. (Q13)



A copy of the survey instrument follows.

Attachment A. Survey Instrument



City of Monrovia
Community Survey on Monrovia's Parks

Dear Monrovia Community Member:

The City of Monrovia is conducting a short survey to assess the recreational needs of community members to update its citywide Park Master Plan. The new Plan will establish a path forward for providing high quality, community-driven parks and recreation amenities throughout the city. The Plan will establish goals and recommend specific projects for the city's park facilities for the next 5-10 years. Final review of the Plan tentatively is targeted for Summer 2017.

Your participation is crucial to the success of this project. The survey consists of 16 questions regarding current use of facilities, preferred activities, and support for future improvements. It takes on average about 5-6 minutes to complete, and residents of all ages are encouraged to participate.

Take the survey in English or Spanish now online at www.cityofmonrovia.org

Thank you in advance for participating!

1. When you think about the things that contribute to the quality of life in Monrovia, would you say that public parks are... (check one option)

- Essential to the quality of life here
- Important, but not really essential
- More of a luxury that we don't need
- Don't Know

2. Which one of the following three statements comes closest to the way you feel about parks in Monrovia?

- Members of my household use parks on a regular basis, and I believe that these facilities are important to quality of life.
- Although members of my household do not use parks frequently, I believe that they are important to quality of life.
- Parks do not currently play an important role in my life or the life of my immediate family members.

3. When it comes to meeting the needs of the community, would you say there are...

- More than enough parks in Monrovia
- About the right number
- Not enough parks in Monrovia
- Don't Know

4. If you said "Not enough parks" in the question above, where in Monrovia do you see a need for more parks? Or is there a different kind of park to serve your interests?

5. Please rate your satisfaction with the overall value your household receives from Monrovia parks.

- Very Satisfied
- Somewhat Satisfied
- Somewhat Dissatisfied
- Very Dissatisfied
- Don't Know

Save a stamp! Take this survey online at the City's website in English or Spanish:

www.cityofmonrovia.org

Or send it back in the self-addressed envelope provided. You can also drop off the survey at the Community Center.
Thank you in advance for participating!

6. Please indicate if YOU or any member of your HOUSEHOLD has used any of the following parks listed below. If YES, please indicate how you would rate the condition of the park or recreation facility.

| Site Name | Have you visited in the past year? | | If YES, how would you rate the maintenance and upkeep of the park? | | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| | No | Yes | Excellent | Good | Fair | Poor |
| Canyon Park | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Kiwanis Park at Grand Avenue | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Julian Fisher Park | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Recreation Park | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Lucinda Garcia Park | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Rotary Park | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Library Park | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Station Square Park | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

7. How many times over the past year have you or members of your household visited a public park in Monrovia?

- At least once a week
- Two or three times a month
- About once a month
- Two or three times over the year
- Did not visit a public park
- Don't know

8. The following are major actions that the City of Monrovia could take to UPGRADE and DEVELOP park facilities. Please indicate whether you would be very supportive, somewhat supportive, not sure, or not supportive of each action by checking the box next to the action.

| | Very Supportive | Somewhat Supportive | Not Supportive | Don't Know |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Upgrade existing neighborhood parks | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Upgrade the skate park | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Upgrade Canyon Park | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Upgrade City sports fields | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Upgrade walking and biking trails | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Upgrade tennis and basketball courts | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Upgrade picnic shelters and playgrounds | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Develop additional large and small parks | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Develop additional sports fields | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Develop additional park restrooms | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Develop additional indoor recreation spaces/gymnasiums | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Develop additional walking / biking trails | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Community Survey on Park Preferences



9. Are there types of recreational opportunities you think the city should expand or improve in Monrovia?

- Walking & hiking trails
- Playing baseball or softball
- Nature / wildlife watching
- Bike riding
- Playing soccer / lacrosse / football
- Picnicking
- Restrooms in parks
- Off-leash dog opportunities
- Gymnasiums for indoor sports, like basketball or volleyball
- Skateboarding or BMX
- Splash pad / Spray park
- Community events and festivals
- Access to indoor fitness & health equipment
- Arts, dance, music & cultural classes
- Community gardens
- Other: _____

10. Please indicate all of the programs and activities that you or members of your household have participated in during the past year. For each activity, please mark whether you think there should be more of this type of activity available, whether the current program offerings are adequate, or whether there should be less of this activity available.

| Type of Program / Activity | Have you participated in the past year? | | Do you think there should be more or less of this type of activity available? | | |
|---|---|--------------------------|---|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
| | No | Yes | More Needed | Current Offerings are Adequate | Fewer Needed |
| Youth sports programs and camps, such as tennis, basketball, and soccer | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Adult sports and fitness classes, such as yoga and Zumba | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Arts programs, such as music, dance, arts and crafts | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Special events, such as concerts, festivals, movies & community fun runs | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Educational classes, such as technology, natural history, safety and health | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Teen activities | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Programs for adults 55 and over, such as classes, trips, and drop-in activities | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

11. Please CHECK ALL the reasons why your household does not use City of Monrovia parks or recreation facilities more often.

- Facility or program is not offered
- Parks do not have the right equipment
- Parks and facilities are not well maintained
- Do not feel safe in park or facility
- Parks and sport courts are too busy
- Parks and facilities are too far from my home
- Too busy to go to parks
- Fees are too high
- Use parks or facilities provided by another city or organization (such as Boys & Girls Club, YMCA, private fitness clubs)
- Poor customer service by staff
- I do not know what is offered
- Facility operating hours are not convenient
- None
- Other: _____

12. From the following list, please check ALL the organizations that you or other members of your household have used for parks, recreation facilities and program offerings during the past year.

- Boys & Girls Club of Monrovia
- Santa Anita Family YMCA
- School facilities
- Youth sport associations (MYBL, AYSO, swim club, etc)
- Homeowners association/apt. complex
- Neighboring communities
- Private clubs (golf, tennis)
- Private health clubs (fitness)
- Faith-based facilities
- Other: _____
- None

Attachment B. Open Ended Responses

Question 4: If you said “Not enough parks” in the question above, where in Monrovia do you see a need for more parks? Or is there a different kind of park to serve your interests?

- A baseball sports complex is needed. We are the only city around this area that does not have a park baseball field/complex for our all American youth sport.
- A dog park is needed.
- A dog park! And a public swimming pool like Brea and what Sierra Madre used to have.
- A park is needed north of Foothill
- A recycled waterground/playpark. More fitness pasks as well. Splash pad/spray park is awesome idea
- A splash pad for babies and children would be ideal.
- A splash pad park/area with restrooms. A park with a walk (designated) pathway, maybe with exercise stops. More benches or cement tables with 2/4 round seats for lunch stops, games, etc. Nice gathering stop for all ages. Also, need enforcing for no smoking at the parks! Young children are around and buds littered all over is not a nice sight! Thank you!
- above foothill
- Above Foothill Blvd
- All areas of the city could use more parks and updates to existing parks. I think a more modernized master planned sports/activity park for multi-use complex is in order.
- Any vacant land that is owned by the city should be turned into a public park, community garden, a native plant reserve etc.
- Below Huntington and above Duarte Rd.
- Below Huntington Dr
- Below Huntington Drive, east of Myrtle, west of Mayflower. No Parks available below Huntington. I've lived in Monrovia for 50 years. Station Square is Hot, dangerously close to train and a busy Road. I looked forward to it. And thought it would have a walking parimeter path for exerise. We need one.
- Besides the new Metro Station area, I can't think of any Monrovia parks south of 210, south of Huntington for that matter.
- Can't use Library Park due to homeless/drug use
- Canyon Park is overused. More trails and great walks would be a huge improvement
- Community garden park
- Community garden!
- Dog park
- Dog Park
- dog park?
- east of California, between Pomona and Duarte Roads
- East side of Monrovia has very few parks, really just one.
- Everywhere
- Expand Grand Park since library park is disgusting and occupied by homeless and not safe for our kids!
- High quality dog park
- I believe that parks with different types of activities would be of benefit.
- I don't recall any below Duarte Rd.
- I go to the Arcadia park to walk and participate in their facilities. Their park is well-maintained, large and has many different types of activities available. It also feels safer.
- I just want to vote or parks all the time - the more the better

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- I think different kinds of parks are needed - something that older kids/pre teens can play on would be good
- I wish there were bigger parks in Monrovia – larger than Recreation Park.
- It would be nice to have a large park like Arcadia’s Santa Anita Park or Duarte’s Royal Oaks Park. I don’t feel safe at Monrovia’s park at Mountain Ave and never go there. Maybe work on improving that one. Also there is a huge potential with the park at Grand Avenue, but I also don’t feel safe there and people always let their dogs off the leash. My two young kids get really scared.
- I would like library park to be safer to frequent with my toddler, sometimes the drug use and homeless residents make for an uncomfortable situation when I’m alone.
- I would like to see an equine facility but where would you put it. Something like a riding ring.
- I would like to see one or two parks in the southern section of Monrovia
- I would like to see shade awnings put up at Rec Park. It’s the biggest and most used park in Monrovia. During the summer, the equipment gets too hot from the sun to play on. Boys & Girls Club children would benefit from shade as well as other children using the park (decrease sun burns = decrease skin cancer). I haven't had the time to cruise the neighborhoods to spot a new park. Yet.
- In highly residential areas, west side
- In Residential Areas
- It is easier for me to get to the Duarte Parks than to walk the relatively long distance to the park west of the Y and north of the Catholic Church. I prefer having restroom/water supply to refill my water bottles in the parks as the parks had when I was growing up.
- It would be nice to see more park land all over Monrovia. The parks don't have to be large, but it's nice when they're well-kept and provide green space in dense areas. It's also nice if they can be somewhat insulated from city noise.
- It's not that there are not enough, it's that the parks are not good enough.
- Kids park. Duarte/Huntington/Mayflower
- maybe a dog park and maybe one with a bathroom -
- Maybe a park closer to the Plymouth elementary school area.
- Monrovia dogs would love to see an off-leash dog park!
- More green corridors and walking spaces such as trails/paths connecting to Myrtle and between Foothill and Huntington
- More parks are needed south of Huntington. In addition, connections to parks that don't require driving (walking / biking trails) would improve the quality of life.
- More parks north of foothill
- More parks south of Huntington Drive. Parks need to be more accessible to differently abled people. Also sensory items and play structures need to be incorporated.
- More parks with water and grass
- more parks, more trees, less bums in the parks (homeless people)
- More passive neighborhood parks; display gardens and places for contemplation
- More shade at Palm Park. More activities at Grand Park with shade.
- more shaded playgrounds and sitting areas, water features safe for little ones
- more skate parks and walking parks
- More small "pocket" parks.
- More small pocket parks
- More smaller pocket parks needed
- more tennis courts
- More than enough parks, but they are less desirable to visit due to the degenerates, vagrants and bums at the park. We walk through and leave. So what have parks?
- More wilderness parks where we can enjoy and view nature

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- Most of the parks in Monrovia are do not service “ball play” or have evening lighting. I am forced to play pick-up soccer games outside of my hometown.
- Near Mayflower village
- near Monrovia HS
- Need a dog park!
- Need more open spaces and places to play. We need a sports complex for soccer and baseball.
- Need more open trails in Canyon Park
- Need more shade covers and shade trees in the playground areas; more picnic tables (especially in Recreation Park); empty the trash more often and do bee abatement; monitor Julian Park via cameras.
- Need more. Also need to feel safer at library park
- No parks or playgrounds within walking distance of N Alta Vista and Hillcrest. It is not clear if the playground at Mayflower Elementary is open to the public during non-school hours.
- North end of town
- North Monrovia
- North Monrovia
- North of Foothill
- North of foothill. As far as I know, Grand Ave Park is the only one north of Foothill. I could see a more established hiking park at the top of Highland Ave.
- Northern part of city above Foothill
- Not enough safe parks! Drugs, alcohol, mentally unstable people and there is no police presence!
- Not sure. I only know 2, and it would be nice to a park with some water area for kids to play in summer
- Off leash pet/dog park
- Only one park (Grand Avenue) other than Canyon Park north of Foothill? Need more. Also need a dog park.
- Only one park in the area above foothill and it's been neglected
- Park with track and field, well-lit and activities for children. Parks should be and feel safe for families to visit. Pilgrim way in monrovia. Nothing near there. Bike trials too
- Parks are important in residential areas, this gives children a place to meet and play
- Perhaps more where children are safe. Library Park has turned into a dangerous place where I see daily use off drugs, alcohol, theft, etc. I call the police but the problem is getting worse! Additionally, homeless have completely taken over.
- Residents south of Huntington, should have more and/or nicer open space. Grand Ave Park also needs more equipment and shade! All through summer, children are unable to use the play area between 10am and 4:30pm. It's just way to hot!
- Smaller neighborhood parks needed-follow irvine CA
- somewhere close to Myrtle
- South of Huntington; small neighborhood parks scattered throughout the city would be great
- South Monrovia (I felt very park-deprived until Station Square Park came along, and I can't wait until the Depot construction is finished so I can walk straight to it rather than taking the detour.)
- South Monrovia needs a nice park
- South of 210 needs more. Parks need more play areas suitable for children under 4
- South of Colorado and west
- South of Huntington Drive
- South of Huntington Drive and north of Foothill Boulevard
- South of Huntington, West of Mayflower SW
- South of the 210
- Southern Moravia

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- Sports
- SW Monrovia
- Tennis and exercise or basketball courts west of Myrtle that can be used when school facilities in session
- The few parks that there are – are too small. We need a park where we can really walk and have an occasional picnic. The one park off of Shamrock – not too bad – maybe it can be expanded. The only park that I know of above foothill is east of Canyon Ave. The "park" at Mayflower school is not a park. It is locked and dogs aren't allowed.
- The southern part of Monrovia has fewer parks than the northern part. And they tend to be smaller from what I see.
- There are almost no parks south of Huntington.
- There are no parks in NW Monrovia
- There are no real parks in Monrovia, only green areas with trees and benches like the Library Park
- There are not enough parks especially the the south part of the City. Generally, I would like to see more park space allocated city-wide.
- There need to be more parks south of Huntington. We live above Duarte Rd and south of the freeway and don't have any parks nearby.
- There was a park planned for the Metro Station Area. Samuelson & Fetter coerced the City into building more condo units than originally agreed upon.
- Too many parks on California Ave. Lucinda Garcia is not safe and there is no parking. Parks with shade, bike path for kids, clean restrooms, and water needed. Access to the elementary schools is great! But it's not consistent. A dog park would be great!
- W of Monrovia
- Walking Trails
- We are a baseball city, but we need a baseball park/ sports city needs a sports park.
- We could use more parks in economically developing part of city - south of Huntington
- We have so many empty lots, small parks could go there.
- We live on Duarte Rd between Second & Mayflower & have no nearest park except for Acadia parks
- We need a baseball/Sports complex like Duarte has. There are not enough baseball diamonds to suit the communities needs, and the school are charging the leagues an arm and a leg to pay for field use. It is ridiculous.
- We need a dog park
- We need a dog park. All other cities have at least one
- We need a sports complex. Soccer and baseball fields. Recreation Park could be renovated to more effectively utilize that space. We also need a park that offers water play. It is so hot here all summer long.
- We need a well-maintained dog park in Monrovia
- We need an enclosed dog park.
- We need dog parks that are fenced so th dogs can run free in a confined area
- We need more parks in residential areas
- We normally drive to Arcadia or San Marino or Sierra Madre for more choices of high quality parks for children/families
- West side, South side
- Westside north of foothill & south of Huntington.
- What can be done about the vacant lots on Magnolia just north of Huntington? It has been an eyesore for many years. It can be developed or converted into a park. Why has nothing been done?
- What would happen if we considered every public right of way as room for a park? More trees, benches, exercise equipment, native plants...

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- Why need more parks? Am I not required to save water?
- Would be nice if there is a park people can walk, run or bike
- Would like to see 1or2 more in South Monrovia, below metro tracks.
- Would love more green space of any kind in our beloved Monrovia
- Would love to have larger central park that has ballfield, grass, walking path, dog park and kids playground

Question 9: Are there types of recreational opportunities you think the city should expand or improve in Monrovia?

- a golf course
- ADA Compliant!
- Address homeless issue
- All parks need restrooms and water fountains. We couldn't find a water fountain near playground at Recreation park- these are essential during summer. Park placement should be well thought out in terms of nearness to parking, busy streets, shade at various times of day, and natural traffic flow. For example, Library park would be better if closer to a library entrance. And Station park would be better if closer to trains so you could play with kids while waiting for your train. Trees and plants go a long way to making parks feel pleasant and not "ghetto." Low fencing (like that around Library park playground) helps corral little ones- there should be gates instead of openings. You need seating inside those fences- caregivers at library park playground have nowhere to put belongings or sit to observe. It's not practical to sit behind a fence- if our kid needs help we can't get there fast enough, and if we put our belongings on a bench outside the fence, others can take them easily. These should be considered when developing parks.
- better park security at night
- BIKE TRIALS
- Childrens park
- Collective mindfulness activities
- Community events are already awesome. Thank You!
- Connect the city to the Emerald Chain bike path and other bike paths around. A safe road bike path along the Santa Anita wash (or similar) would be a great addition!
- Dog park needed
- Dog parks
- Dont steal from or hassle law abiding homeless people
- equestrian / horse trails
- Equine riding ring in NE Monrovia
- Fewer drug users and criminals in the parks!
- fitness equipment OUTDOORS similar to what Covina and Kaiser Baldwin park offers.
- Fixing broken playground equipment
- four or five checks for community gardens!!!!
- General upkeep of existing spaces (although that's not a recreational activity...)
- Get homeless out of parks
- Get rid of the bums.
- Handicap inclusive both physically and developmentally
- Health and cooking classes; gardening
- Historic structures/landmarks
- Homeless & drug use out of parks

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- I know it's been best to death but we need to address the homeless issue. Specifically at library park.
- I really would like to see better restrooms but I realize the homeless situation is an issue.
- I would like restrooms in the park if you would take care of them. But you don't take care of the parks we have now! Drugs, sex, alcohol, homeless. Why pay for restrooms parents and children won't feel safe using?
- I'll bring my ideas in April
- Ice Arena
- Ice skating rink at Recreation Park
- I'm not clear on what upgrade actually refers to in terms of a park – what: walkway stairs, handrails (no thank you). I really need an example. If skateboard parks are in disrepair, then yes, repair them.
- Improve maintenance at Lucinda Garcia. It's a mess
- Issue of transients in parks
- Just not sure Government is responsible for any of these things. I have mixed opinions and need more information of a City's Responsibility to the General Public.
- More monetary friendly exercise programs. Rent and mortgages are high here in monrovia, at least we should be able to exercise for less than 100 a month. Ymca fees are too high. And not enough classes, over crowded all the time
- More shade
- more walkable commercial areas, like downtown. Mayflower btwn Duarte and Huntington is a brutal walk
- Moving the homeless away from library park
- Native plant gardens, more native trees in parks and on city streets
- No off leash area because people don't pick up their dog poop
- Outdoor adult fitness apparatuses
- Outdoor fitness equipment
- ping pong tables and chess tables
- play ground for kids
- Play spaces for children under 4/toddlers
- Please clean up homelessness under the library tree
- Pool
- public swimming pool
- relocate homeless people at parks
- Removing pile of suitcases in library park
- Restrooms in recreation park are unacceptable and unusable. Library park restrooms desperately needed.
- Roller Hockey Rink!
- Safety- library park is unsafe due to drug use
- Senior team sports (women's volleyball) to compete with other community teams
- Shade sails for playgrounds
- Swimming facilities
- Taking off the homeless that live at our parks
- Tavern-sponsored softball leagues. Bocce leagues. Climbing wall.
- Tennis
- Visible Security at the parks
- water fountains to refill water bottles
- We use Duarte park more because bathrooms are cleaner
- Would like to have access to the raquetball courts or build new ones, either indoor or out

- YMCA

Question 11: Please CHECK ALL the reasons why your household does not use City of Monrovia parks or recreation facilities more often.

- Adult classes are not at convenient times. Not all of us want to do classes at night.
- Age
- Arcadia has a much better recreation program for toddlers to adults. Many more classes and variety of classes offered. Facilities are better as well. Parks don't have any equipment for toddlers as well. To many homeless in the park to bring my children, I'd rather keep them inside or go somewhere else than the park.
- Awful upkeep, not safe environment. Too many homeless everywhere. Not enough parks for dogs.
- Bums in Library Park
- Busy with work
- Can't use tables and benches because of homeless encampment
- Cannot readily refill my water bottle(s)
- Cannot stress enough that I dont feel safe at Library or recreation park
- Canyon Park there is no parking!! Work schedule
- Child is too old for park playgrounds
- Children are all grown
- Crowded
- Difficult time using Library Park because of the homeless situation .
- Disheveled and malodorous transients that have commandeered the park(s) as well as aggressive panhandling.
- Dog park needed
- Duarte is free - cost
- Feel unsafe with all the homeless people staying at Library Park. There are more and more each day.
- Fitness, yoga - 10 weeks and a few weeks off. Gyms have continuous classes
- Grand Avenue Park is too hidden from the street. In Library Park you have to step over people sleeping on the lawn. Would take my dog to the park for exercise but not allowed off-leash.
- Having drugs and alcohol being used in the park on a regular basis does not make me feel comfortable bring my grandchildren there.
- Health issues
- High homeless population in Library Park
- Hobos.
- Homeless and drug use in Library Park keeps us from using often
- homeless and open drug use
- Homeless and other loitering activity feels unsafe sometimes.
- homeless are allowed to loiter and clutter area with thier junk
- Homeless at Library Park
- homeless drinking and doing drugs in the open as well as harassment from homeless
- Homeless in Library Park
- homeless in park, lighting
- Homeless in the park can make it unsafe for the family
- Homeless is a big issue
- homeless issue

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- Homeless living in parks
- Homeless living in parks (Library Park)
- Homeless occupying park w/their trash
- homeless people
- homeless people and piles of their belongings in park
- Homeless people by the library
- Homeless people create insecurity
- Homeless people in park!
- Homeless people sleeping at Lucinda Garcia Park – really poorly maintained.
- Homeless people sleeping, really poor maintenance at Lucinda Garcia
- Homeless people under tree have taken over and ate not very nice
- Homeless population drinking and drugs in park
- Homeless population huge and sometimes scary
- Homeless presence, especially in light of the drug use, makes Library Park uncomfortable.
- Homeless problem at Library Park!!
- Homeless problem MUST be addressed and solved
- Homeless should not be living at Library Park - not a safe situation for kids
- Homeless should not be “living” in Mayflower Village, unincorporated Monrovia
- Homeless situation getting out of control
- Homeless situation is getting out of hand. I no longer feel safe relaxing and reading in the parks, especially Library Park Homeless/vagrants in Library Park.
- Homelessness/drugs/crime
- I also do not like the homeless people in the parks
- I am 85 years old
- I am a leg amputee and it's hard for me to get around
- I am disabled
- I do not feel safe in library park anymore
- I go to park daily
- I have found multiple condoms and cigarettes at Lucinda Garcia park, and often teenagers from Monrovia
- High smoke or litter in the park.
- I have signed my child up for classes and the classes have been canceled several times. Can't use much of library park due to homeless people taking over areas, smoking, yelling profanity, etc.
- I have stopped going to the library and the park there. The people who have decided to take over and live there have ruined this community space for our family.
- I just recently moved to Monrovia - 2 months ago
- I like to run/bike outside and facilities aren't accommodating.
- I still use the parks but avoid the homeless encampments.
- I used to go and have lunch at Library Park, but with so many homeless people I cannot even sit down at a table to eat.
- I'm 73; all my granddaughters are grown
- I'm a senior; I use with grandchild
- I'm lazy
- I've lived in Monrovia for 36 years. The park that I walk across sometimes is by the library, and since I'm alone, I get stared at. It seems that some people think that parks are only for children or groups. They need to be for everyone.
- Inadequate parking for HWP and Canyon Park
- increase homeless problem keeps us away

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- It has become increasingly uncomfortable to bring my family to the park. We encounter something each time. Approach for money, feeling unsafe because of a situation, smoking, smell of weed, etc. we'd love to feel secure and safe while out and about in Monrovis. It's feeling less and less safe each day.
- Just moved here
- Kids are grown up and we are working
- Lack of areas for road bicycling and lack of lacrosse fields. Need for more self defence trainers
- Lack of available restrooms, hard to stay long when people can't "go"
- Lack of restroom and shading have turned me off from staying at the park
- lack of restrooms, or poorly maintained restrooms
- Lack of usable restrooms.
- Lazy
- Library park has a homeless loitering problem. They take up all the picnic tables with their junk and they do drugs at night
- Library park has benches OUTSIDE the fenced play area which means parents must stand while their children play to be near them. If a child needs a drink from mom who is on the bench he must go out the entrance to the play area. Those benches need to be inside the play area so moms can sit and watch their kids and be close enough to watch and care for them. ALSO, THE HOMELESS are taking over the parks in Monrovia. Library park and all the grounds around the library and community center is beginning to look like skid row. Monrovia is acquiring a reputation for having an increasingly large population of homeless people. It did not used to be like this. I do not care to go to the library and have to walk past shopping carts, sleeping bags and homeless people sleeping on the grounds. Maybe a shelter isn't a bad idea but at least get it on the outskirts of down and certainly not DOWNTOWN and near our children's play areas. Personally I would like to see all the homeless relocated to somewhere that they may get the help they need. The homeless population in our town is growing and it is NOT something I am proud of in our town and we have lived here for 40 years.
- Library Park homeless population is scary for my kid so we don't go as much as we did before.
- Library Park is full of homeless
- Library Park is now overrun with transients and their belongings take up an entire portion. There are so many cigarette butts by the community center and empty beer cans now. I have seen those same transients do drugs, deal drugs, and this is not okay with me. I hesitate to walk near that portion of the park, so now I never get to enjoy that big tree and picnic beaches because of this HUGE prblem.
- Library Park is unsafe. I feel intimidated by the homeless issue and the drug use.
- Loitering vagrants
- MCP closes before sunset (depending on time of year)Member of YMCA
- Monrovia parks are very small. We need a larger perhaps integrated park system.
- More lighting would help me feel more safe. Jogging trails and/or tracks would be a great benefit. I would love a locally offered adult beginner tennis class at an affordable price.
- My current use fits my work schedule and lifestyle
- nearby parks in Arcadia draw us
- Need more light
- Need to be able to bring son with autism without worrying about his behaviour or safety.
- No Clean bathrooms
- No potties
- No restrooms; The bums at Library Park
- not enough time - working
- Not my bag
- Not safe to park near or go to Library park anymore. Homeless have over populated it. Very

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dissapointing

- Old
- Only seniors in household
- open basketball gym
- our family gets great use from the parks we use
- Our kids are not allowed to use the parks because they are dangerous hot beds of drug activity.
- Over 55 classes are rarely held evenings and weekends
- parking constraints, not enough sometimes
- Parking issue at Canyon Park hiking trail
- parking not always available or convenient
- PARKING!!!!!!!!!!!!
- Parks and waking paths closed due to weather
- Parks are small for jogging so we must jo on the streets which is not nice
- Parks in Duarte, Arcadia and Pasadena are better maintained
- People living at library park and community center
- Picnic tables are not near the playground and are often surrounded by homeless encampment (Library Park)
- at Library Park – not a safe situation for kids/family
- Proliferation of homeless people
- public swimming pool
- Rec Park - You need to rid the park of people that hang out there and drug deal
- Restrooms are dirty. Homeless using drugs and sleeping at park make me feel unsafe
- Restrooms are DISGUSTING! No security. Fields are poorly maintained and people have been hurt playing on fields.
- Security and homeless have scared my children , drug use
- Seems to be a lot of unsavory persons loitering in parks, esp Library Park
- State Leash Laws are not enforced by MPD - UNSAFE parks
- The bench and area under the tree in library park is permanently occupied by trash or personal property and a group of people. Not a safe or appropriate space for children and families to be able to sit, picnic or enjoy the use of.
- The extensive aggressive homeless population
- The homeless and transient population have destroyed the park experience. Camping, trash and general flaunting of the law should NEVER be allowed in taxpayer funded facilities!!!
- The homeless living at the library park
- The homeless problem keeps us away from library park
- The large amount of homeless in library park with their foul language, smoking and unsanitary conditions make me keep my family away from the parks.
- The Library Park picnic area has become a permanent area for homeless people. No one can even use the tables across from the community center because they are constantly occupied by the homeless.
- The vagrants at Monrovia library park keep us away from there.
- There is a big green fence wrapping the Depot construction and making walk to park longer.
- Too afraid to walk by homeless people
- Too many drug users, too much drinking, public urination. The city is not keeping our parks safe or clean!
- Too many homeless and their garbage piling up in library park
- Too many homeless people in Library Park utilizing picnic space
- too many homeless people in the park
- Too many homeless people.

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- too many homeless
- Too many long term homeless
- Too old
- Too old
- Too old.
- uncool vibe at Library Park because of some unruly homeless
- Use Royal Oaks Park in Duarte and (my favorite) Encanto Park, also in Duarte. Wish Monrovia had something similar.
- Vagrancy
- Vagrant people in park using drugs, foul language, exposing themselves etc. I don't feel safe at library park in particular
- Very disappointed in library park. Homeless problem is worse. The longer nothing is done the more will come. How can it be ok to steal shopping carts and leave items overnight.
- was sick this past year
- We are 55+
- We are a retired couple with an adult child. When our child was younger, we used more of Monrovia's parks and recreation facilities.
- We are in our 70s and enjoying our yard and YMCA
- We no longer frequent library park. We used to have picnics on the lawn but I no longer feel safe there. I avoid palm ave all together
- We use the parks
- We use them all the time. Lucinda Garcia can use a little TLC
- When I have time to play it is either the Surfing, Water Skiing, or Snow Boarding.
- would like parkour park
- Would love a dog park

Question 12: From the following list, please check ALL the organizations that you or other members of your household have used for parks, recreation facilities and program offerings during the past year.

- 626 golden streets. Also, I don't fully understand the question.
- Bicycle trails, Santa Fe Dam
- Calvary Chapel Monrovia
- CERT
- Community Center
- Crafts
- curves
- Duarte Parks and Rec programs
- Duarte Senior Center
- Duarte swimming
- Fullerton Arboretum; Huntington Library
- Hiking
- hiking and biking trails
- I go to Arcadia recreation classes because they have better and more offerings of classes. The facility is bigger and nicer as well.
- I use community center
- Indoor playground

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- LA Arboretum
- Library
- Library
- Library, Museum
- Los Angeles Arboretum
- Martial arts
- Monrovia High
- Music class
- my condo
- National Forest
- Old
- Old Town events
- Other (please specify)
- Other parks
- Parks in other cities
- Private club - sailing
- private tennis club
- private yoga classes
- Produce in the Park - Library Park, 1st Saturday
- Public Beaches, Lagoons, and Private Ski Resorts
- Rotary, Library
- Royal Oaks Bike Path
- Santa Fe Dam (Kayaking)
- self defense training
- Sierra Madre Water Works Aquatic Center
- Summer bands in Library Park
- Viva Dance in Duarte
- walk my dog
- Walking (which is what I usually do) I do by myself by my preference. I do not belong to Monrovia-based organizations such as in the examples above.
- We just like to use the parks

Other Comments

- This isn't part of the survey, but please try to rid the parks of homeless. They need to go to shelters. Being in the park creates fear and desire to not use them by residents.
- Not happy about Library Park and homeless problem there.
- Currently under siege by homeless and their belongings – don't feel comfortable using parks. I truly believe there has to be a way to bring the parks back to the citizens of Monrovia whose tax dollars pay for them. Problem is getting out of control.
- Please get the homeless out of the parks.
- Favorite park is the Monrovia Library Park. Excellent playground but honestly too many bums taking it over in the lawn facing Myrtle Ave. I would visit more if I could feel safe at the other parks. Also if I could exercise amidst nicer landscaping (more trees, more grass, more paths). Arcadia's Santa Anita Park has exercise equipment I use all the time and I love to run there.

- I would like more opportunities for my two children to participate in community activities. We often go to neighboring cities due to facilities, opportunities and cleanliness. There are a lot of homeless individuals living around the library making it less attractive and uninviting.
- Need more for the seniors to help them. And more homes where they live, or they be [can] afford to stay in their homes.
- When will we have direct access to Metro through the park instead of adding a 3 block walk. Also why do we not have entrance access or exit on Peak Street? I live 2 blocks away but have to walk 5 blocks. Provide a bus stop bench and cover on Myrtle Ave and El Norte Street, next to Santa Fe School southbound! Monrovia Canyon Park needs shuttle service on weekends – has become overly popular with social media. Would like to see dog or equestrian activities. Concerts in parks, beer/wine festivals, car shows.
- I would like to see braille activity boards attached to equipment. Lower drinking fountains for children and wheelchairs. Update bathrooms. Wheelchair-accessible play equipment. Interactive play equipment for both children and special needs children.

PUBLIC PROCESS

APPENDIX B: STAKEHOLDER NOTES





MEETING NOTES

Project Name: Monrovia Park Master Plan **Project No.:** Proj-# 16-088PLN
Location: City Hall **Meeting Date:** February 14, 2017 **Time:** 7:00 pm
Minutes by: Steve Duh
Attendees: Joannie Yuille, Chair Brian Ulm, Commissioner
Susan Hirsch, Vice-Chair Alex Vazquez, Commissioner
Tom Dittmar, Commissioner Tina Cherry, Community Services Director
Nancy Matthews, Commissioner Katie Distelrath, Recreation Manager
Genia Mills, Commissioner Steve Duh – Conservation Technix

Subject: Monrovia Stakeholder Session – Community Services Commission

Katie offered an overview of the process for the Park Master Plan. Following a brief discussion on revisions to the draft community survey, Steve started with a series of visioning questions for the Commission to help guide the development of the new Park Master Plan.

Value

- Accessibility – designed for all regardless of age or background
- Sense of pride and ownership
- Sense of belonging – that they have grown up with that park. Notion that parks can age with people and can be different over time
- HWP – important to grow up with nature. Preserved for legacy

Future

- Real emphasis on playground improvement
- Pathways with route and mileage markers
- Exercise equipment stations; people are becoming less healthy and we should provide amenities to help abate the downward slide
- Like the work with Julian Fisher Park and universal accessibility of the play equipment. In 10 years, would like to see universal accessibility across all the parks.
- Need a park in the SE or SW; need any parcel in that area to make some space – something around a ½-acre.
- Look at churches and other large parking lots that might be viable for redevelopment for a park.
- Park that allows kids to focus on play and interactions with others – creative spaces

Meeting Minutes (continued)

- Open space and flexible space – nature play, informal space for imagination and creativity (e.g., adventure park with playable mud, rope and moveable elements, like Huntington Park)
- Monrovia has an aging population and folks are very active now; we need to support that to help keep people active; places for walking, relaxing, solace; spectator stations with shade and comfortable seating to watch the kids play
- Weak/no connectivity between places; look at the TSP and the General Plan for ideas on trails and connectivity

Priorities

1. Focus in the SE/SW area for acquisition (Council doesn't want to use eminent domain; look for opportunities and ideas for coordination with area developers to set aside land)
2. Upgrade existing facilities – universal accessibility, enhancements, but pay attention to maintenance demands

More of / less of

- Interest in having a restroom in every park
- Grant success has been good; staff should keep it up
- City of Hope Hospital could be a potential partner for health or trail related improvements
- Look at ways to address homelessness in the parks, which has been negatively impacting Recreation Park and Library Park in particular
- Parks need to be more pedestrian friendly (i.e., Duarte has water fountains with water for dogs and waste stations)
- Do we need a dog park?
- Community gardens? Some non-profits have plots nearby

-- End of Notes --



MEETING NOTES

Project Name: Monrovia Park Master Plan **Project No.:** Proj-# 16-088PLN

Location: Boys and Girls Club **Meeting Date:** February 14, 2017 **Time:** 10:30 am

Minutes by: Steve Duh

Attendees: John Wilson, Director Erin Igoe, Director of Operations
 Amanda Navar, Director of Fund Development Peter Mejia, Monrovia Site Director
 Wes Cram, Mayflower Site Director Steve Duh – Conservation Technix

Subject: **Monrovia Stakeholder Session – Boys and Girls Club of the Foothills**

Steve offered an overview of the process for the Park Master Plan for the group and started with questions.

Comments

The Boys and Girls Club provides afterschool programming during the school year and has about 200 +/- participants daily. During school holidays and summer, they offer camps and special programs and serve about 250 daily. They operate at two sites: the Boys and Girls Club at Recreation Park and at Mayflower Elementary School. During the summers, the City of Monrovia also serves about 150 youth in its programs; this makes Recreation Park a very busy and programmed park throughout the summer.

The Boys and Girls Club (BGC) strives to provide activities that take a whole kid perspective. This includes aspects of healthy lifestyles, teamwork, academic support, responsibility, arts/craft and play. Popular programs now include cheer, tech and athletics. They are at capacity at the current facility and need more space to provide more programming. They have a long waiting list for both facilities, and there is huge latent demand. If more space for programming were available, they would consider adding more sports (i.e., basketball, tennis, softball, skateboarding). Sports, in particular, help by supporting healthy lifestyles, character development/value and teamwork.

In the summer, they do trips to the movie theater, library, Canyon Park. Transportation is a limiting factor; they only have one van and one bus. They coordinate with the Canyon Park rangers about 3-4 times per year.

Regarding improvements at Recreation Park, they offered the following thoughts:

- Consider a walking/running path around the park with decomposed granite with distance markers
- Consider a paved path from the BGC to the Mary Wilson Center
- The access road cuts the park and makes it feel like two parks – not unified
- Consider exercise stations

Meeting Minutes (continued)

- The parking area near the skatepark hasn't been paved in years and shows wear. The trash and recycling dumpsters there create a nuisance with folks leaving trash, and it is an area where staff find broken glass, trash and unsavory behavior. The skatepark is a little hidden too.
- Consider a shade structure at the playground and play equipment improvements
- Improve signage to address dogs on lease, parking areas, speed

Overall, staff were clear that they have great access to a great park, and the park acts as an extension of the center. The park really enables the BGC to host as many kids as they do. The BGC is not inhibited by Recreation Park as it is, and the enhancements noted above would both be beneficial to the community at large and help the BGC with the services.

The relationship between the BGC and the City is positive, but it had been strained in the past due to staff retirements, changing staff and changing roles of staff. Now, things are on the good side. Katie has been great and has played a role in partnering with the BGC. Going forward, there was interest in the City keeping an open mind about recreation service delivery and empowering others to do the services that need to be done. Instead of recreating the wheel with recreation programs, the City should consider how to help the BGC to increase its capacity to serve more local youth.

It was also noted that a large aquatic center would be great, and there few pools in the area.

-- End of Notes --



MEETING NOTES

Project Name: Monrovia Park Master Plan **Project No.:** Proj-# 16-088PLN
Location: Community Center **Meeting Date:** April 13, 2017 **Time:** 4:00 pm
Minutes by: Steve Duh / Jaime English
Attendees: Daniel Verna - Police Department Frances Jimenez - Youth commissioner
Alan Sanvictores – Police Department Kylie Lewis - Youth commissioner
Nelson Santos – Monrovia School District Representative Dianna Baley – Get About Senior Clubs
Aleta Morgan - Library Chair Janette Armstrong – Get About Senior Clubs
Steve Duh – Conservation Technix
Jaime English – Conservation Technix

Subject: Monrovia Stakeholder Session – Small Group Session

Steve offered an overview of the process for the Park Master Plan and asked the group to respond to a few questions. The following are comments given during the meeting.

Initial comments:

- Concerned about kids avoiding parks due to homeless issues
- Schools have opened up properties for recreation; some issues have been the result, including maintenance of fields. The MOU between the City and MUSD includes all schools, which are open until 9pm, and includes the track, lawns and fields. New playground equipment has been installed over the last few years, but there is some vandalism and the rubberized surface needs repairs that are expensive. Please have the City buy more property for parks.

What do you value about Monrovia parks and programs?

- For kids like after school
- Access for kids. Easy to hang out. Need to be maintained (homeless issue)
- Lots of activities for younger kids; need more for teens.
- Concerts and art fairs are good
- Maintenance good
- Could add activities for teens, Bluff Park for example has outdoor workout equipment. Free outdoor workout equipment. Arcadia has them.
- Is the city looking at purchasing property? (Yes it's being considered, but clarified at this stage of the project.)
- Great for the city to have more small parks where there is higher density

Meeting Minutes (continued)

- Like parks because they are a place for the town to come out and meet. Lots of entertainment, parade, and concerts are important to keep community together.
- Value that parks are not gated like prisons. Those that are look like jails and are uninviting, specifically Julian Fisher and Rotary Parks. The fencing style is uninviting. Makes sense at Julian Fisher around basketball court only.
- School grounds have become dog parks and people do not always pick up dog waste.
- Empty lot next to Shamrock on Duarte Road, old wash, could be a great dog park...
- Children's garden at the Huntington Gardens is really neat; it would be great to have in our parks and create a draw.
- Law enforcement side... issues like homeless, areas where visibility is limited. Need open fields of view. Parks are camera-ed now. Make less inviting for late night congregating and camping.
- Place to gather and play chess was lost at the library building. Suggest art in the park life size chess pieces, inspire more activity, landmark attraction.
- Mulching plant beds moves homeless people out; there are dead spaces where items will be hidden and stored. Law enforcement are enforcing every rule...
- People are less and less valuing the public spaces and visiting parks. Reports of needles being found reduces value of space.

What are the things that will draw people into the parks?

- Dogpark
- Jogging and biking trails, smaller loops
- Exercise equipment for teens etc.
- Water play sounds really cool
- Sports activities and programs accommodated
- More fields in parks; schools are currently meeting the field need and wearing out with the amount of play that they receive. There is little time for maintenance. Synthetic turf at the high school needs more care.
- Need to provide lots of community info when maintenance and closures happen.
- Teen hangout - library events, paying for the Y, told to not hang by the bathrooms at the Recreation Park by tennis courts
- Health stations – exercises along walking trail.
- ADA access for paths etc. Everyplace there is a step, there needs to be a handrail. Need benches. Need shade and rain covering. (like the old white shelter that was lost at the library).
- Nice parks here, but no activity in some to draw people in, like in front of the library park. Huge tree needs lighting.
- Lighting can help with security and access.
- Canyon Park costs too much, there is limited parking, and only has trails.
- Recreation Park already has people walking the perimeter; it could be improved.
- Some people walk at high school
- Rotary Park could become a dog off-leash area.
- High school offers water activities / pool

Meeting Minutes (continued)

Improvements to parks

- Parking needed at museum, maybe with a basketball court overlay.
- People can be opposed to taking up green space with parking.
- Kiwanis Park at Grand Avenue is secluded, (law enforcement comment) has some dark corner issues. Have to use night vision to seek out issues.
- Connect biking area on county land that would tie two Monrovia parks together (Kiwanis Park and Canyon Park).
- Station Square needs shade and a place to sit

School District input

- How can city help the school district...? The District needs funding for play equipment and field maintenance
- Homeless issues at schools too. People hang out in closed slides. Play structures create places to sleep.

What are your priorities for the City's park?

- Teens want to hang with friends, go swimming, play tennis, hang out, - programs that engage kids and places to sit in shade.
- Idea about piping music like at outdoor malls. Melodic classical type music... may influence who would use the park.
- Community center for teens (explained needs assessment for a community center)
- Library needs to be open longer/later
- Make everything better, accessible
- Teen space with wifi and shade
- Everything almost free and easy
- Use strategic planning format for people to get involved and help people and local businesses understand why things cost what they do, have some buy-in, consider partnerships with companies, and inform them of what's available
- Golf course and aquatic center
- Age-specific recreation for all ages
- Place to go and be safe with access to wifi etc.
- More green space for sports fields and activities otherwise provided on school grounds.
- All these places need parking; there is not enough parking in Monrovia
- Law enforcement / easy to see and patrol
- Environmental design / landscaping that helps manage where people go hang out.
- Low garden fences that go around historic trees to keep trees safe. Make it beautiful.
- Help police enforce rules through design (CPTED).

-- End of Notes --



MEETING NOTES

Project Name: Monrovia Park Master Plan **Project No.:** Proj-# 16-088PLN
Location: City Hall **Meeting Date:** February 14, 2017 **Time:** 11:30 am
Minutes by: Steve Duh
Attendees: Julie Gentile Steve Duh – Conservation Technix
 Chris Shevlin
Subject: Monrovia Stakeholder Session – Kiwanis

Steve offered an overview of the process for the Park Master Plan and began with questions for Julie and Chris.

Comments

Monrovia Kiwanis was established in 1922 and is a service club with a focus on youth. The current membership is approximately 20 people, and they are affiliated with the high school Key Club. As a group, they support local organizations and events via sponsorships, fundraising and volunteer labor. They have been donors to the Boys and Girls Club, YMCA and the City, among others. They have supported new furniture in the library's children's reading room, the mobile library, Center Stage, movies, Chalk Walk and more.

The Kiwanis have a long history of clean up and improvement projects at the city park at Grand Avenue and appreciate the acknowledgement of their service with the recent renaming of the park to Kiwanis Park at Grand Avenue. They consistently organized volunteer efforts during the City's Make A Difference Day and wanted to improve the overgrown and hard to find park. It used to be a site with unsavory activities, but since firs were removed and vegetation was more aggressively managed, the park has become more of a neighborhood park. The Kiwanis also have hosted movies in the park with hot dogs to encourage neighborhood use.

Before starting the improvement project at this park, the Kiwanis talked with every neighbor around the site to hear their concerns. Most commented on the unwanted usage of the park, and some didn't realize a city park was there because it was so overgrown. Chris suggested that Steve talk with the adjacent owner at the south end of the park whose house looks up the park. Chris said that this neighbor is pro-park but is concerned about too much park development.

There is a concern about the back fence that abuts the county property; it is a safety issue that kids with their BMX bikes climb the fence to ride on the county land. Chris seemed to think that the county was OK with kids riding there, and suggested it would be better to put a cattle-style opening in the fence to facilitate access. The county land could also serve as another accessway to go up to the trails at Canyon Park.

Regarding specific site improvements to Kiwanis Park, they offered the following:

- Replace the chain link fence on the north side of the western access (maybe with black vinyl), since the existing fence is strewn with gnarly segments of old vines and brush.

Meeting Minutes (continued)

- The irrigation needs to be corrected; there is pooling and hard soils. When the maintenance staff empty the trash cans, they drive into the site, compact the soil and damage the irrigation.
- The recently planted Sycamores need consistent watering for establishment.
- Night cameras might help with site surveillance

Overall, Julie and Chris think the Public Works maintenance staff are great, and that Tina has been great to work with. She has been open to working with the Kiwanis and not acting as a roadblock to the group improving the site.

The City might consider starting a challenge grant program to encourage local businesses to adopt parks or support improvements. The AeroVironment company that makes drones was suggested as a business to approach. Also, MUSD needs to implement a community service requirement to have students do civic improvement projects.

-- End of Notes --



MEETING NOTES

Project Name: Monrovia Park Master Plan **Project No.:** Proj-# 16-088PLN
Location: City Hall **Meeting Date:** February 14, 2017 **Time:** 3:30 pm
Minutes by: Steve Duh
Attendees: Jonathan Brusseau, President Steve Duh – Conservation Technix
 Aramis Hernandez
Subject: Monrovia Stakeholder Session – Monrovia Youth Baseball League (MYBL)

Steve offered an overview of the process for the Park Master Plan for Jon and Aramis.

Comments

The league was formed in 1956 and had its own field space at Wyland Way fields for the first 30 years of operation. In the late 1980s, the site was redeveloped, and City structured a 20-year, three-way agreement between the league, MUSD and the City for field usage. The original arrangement assumed that the City would over the costs for the league to use three MUSD fields. Now, MYBL has to coordinate directly and individually with each of the three principals to gain access to the fields on an annual basis. This has resulted in greater uncertainty about the usage of fields into the future because usage could be denied each year. It has added about 30% to registration fees (or about \$300 per player) to cover the costs associated with accessing the three school sites.

The league uses heavily the field at Recreation Park, but only two of six of the leagues division play there due to the size and layout of the field. The league also uses fields at Santa Fe, Plymouth and Monrovia schools. There are no lights or outfield fencing at the school fields. The league has storage bins at each site and a snack bar at Santa Fe. Without lights, the league can only host 1-2 practices at the school fields until sunset. They host 2-3 practices at Recreation Park.

The league currently serves 250-300 families for baseball, and this is the upper threshold for the league due to the limitation in the number of fields. MYBL fundraises between \$10-\$15,000 per year to help cover the costs for playing at the three school fields. These costs include work to improve the fields, such as laser leveling, turf repair, bleachers, etc.

Regarding improvements at Recreation Park to better serve the league, they offered the following:

- Take care of the turf and maintain the grass.
- Sod or see needs to be added to the infield. It has grown to be too large and needs to be restrained
- Ideally, a complete strip and re-do of the field is preferred, plus the addition of enclosed dugouts, bullpens and a batting cage

Meeting Minutes (continued)

- Thinking big, consideration should be given to reclaiming the right of way for Olive Street on the south side of the park and pushing the park to the south. This would give more room for field space and other park needs.

The league would also like to see a framework agreement in place with the City to clarify usage. Since Recreation Park is also used by MUSD freshman baseball, intramural flag football and Boys and Girls Club programming, the league would like clarification of use, so MYBL can start practices on time.

It was also noted that there is sense of perceived conflict with the adjacent skatepark. Some of their families with younger kids do not use that side of the field. There have been instances of calling. Also, there is a concern about homelessness at the park, which also results in the need to pick up trash and check the field for paraphernalia prior to practices and games.

The following content was submitted via email to Katie Distelrath from Jack Taylor, the past president, who was unable to attend the meeting.

Sent: Tuesday, February 14, 2017 3:16 PM
 To: Katie Distelrath <kdistelrath@ci.monrovia.ca.us>
 Subject: Re: Reminder of interview for the Park Master Plan

Jon and Katie,

I am sorry that I could not attend.
 Here are my responses

What has been the trend in participation for your league? What are your current numbers?

Jon has numbers but generally they drop off for kids playing in other leagues with nicer fields (Sierra Madre and Arcadia) and also because of playing in "Travel Ball"

How would you describe the current quality and quantity of athletic fields that serve Monrovia residents?

There is only one field for all levels of play (ages 4 through 14). The players from 4-10 have no fields to play on. Players from 11-14 play at Barney Glen which is a clean but average field. Dugouts aren't covered, no effective bullpens, all dirt infield, seating for first base (visitor) side only.

Are fields well distributed? Where are more needed? Are improvements needed at Barney Glenn Field? See last answer

What types of fields are needed: practice, game, tournament?

Fields for younger players as well as upgrades for Barney Glen to make it available for tournaments.

How is field coordination managed? Are there challenges accessing school district or other fields?

Coordination effectively managed by city between MYBL, Adult League, and MUSD. However, there are times when Boys and Girls Club or After School programs are using the field (outfield) for soccer which makes it hard to schedule practices until games are over.

Meeting Minutes (continued)

Do you have concerns about scheduling, field maintenance or working with the Community Services Department?

I think we should work towards having work done by the 2nd or 3rd week in January which means we should actually meet in November or December to agree on what maintenance needs to be done.

Is there competition for field space from other leagues or sports (overlapping calendars, multiple-use fields, seasonality, etc.)

Coordination effectively managed by city between MYBL, Adult League, and MUSD. However, there are times when Boys and Girls Club or After School programs are using the field (outfield) for soccer which makes it hard to schedule practices until games are over.

Are there opportunities for more collaborative projects between different leagues and City?**Are there improvements you'd like to see to any City parks?**

I would love to see a Soccer designated area (by museum) and a baseball designated area. Eventually, it would be great to put 2 more baseball fields in the same area for younger players as well as expand the current Park area to the south of Barney Glen. I realize this would take extensive work but that is what would be the best use of space. Closing down Olive to just Parking would help the Park Area increase to allow for these extra things.

Hope this helps...

Jack Taylor

-- End of Notes --



MEETING NOTES

Project Name: Monrovia Park Master Plan **Project No.:** Proj-# 16-088PLN
Location: City Hall **Meeting Date:** February 14, 2017 **Time:** 4:30 pm
Minutes by: Steve Duh
Attendees: Heather Greer Steve Duh – Conservation Technix
Subject: **Monrovia Stakeholder Session – Local Resident**

Steve offered an overview of the process for the Park Master Plan and began with questions for Heather.

Comments

Heather currently works for the City of Monrovia in Human Resources, and she used to work in Recreation. She is an active resident and mother of three young children.

When she was in Recreation, she said they didn't use the parks for programming and didn't have third party vendors doing programs in parks.

Parks provide access into the neighborhoods; they are a natural gathering place. Parks are well spaced across the city, but there are fewer on the south side of town. There are a lot of 'Nos' (e.g., don't climb trees).

The City's current parks have challenging designs and don't encourage imagination. Park that inspire have elements like open floor plans, variety of configurations to encourage use by every age, hillside slides, large logs for sitting/playing, playable water or a labyrinth.

- Library Park is heavily used, especially before and after reading time. After age 7, the park is boring, and it's not set up for teens and some have been shunned away by parents with younger kids. How can the City be more hospitable to teens to be more welcoming – more experience programming, more 'Yes' friendly places? The front portion of the park goes unused and is wasted space.
- Recreation Park is heavily programmed by the Boys and Girls Club and may not be the park of choice, but you can't really outgrow that park. There is always something to do at that park.
- Rotary Park has the 'idea' of a walking path, and the City needs more of them.
- Inclusive play at Julian Fisher
- Lucinda Garcia is mostly used as a dog walking loop
- Canyon Park is great because it changes with the seasons (wildlife, water, leaves)

Huntington Gardens playground is awesome and offers great nature-play opportunities. The Duarte walking trail is also a great local asset. It would be great to see the City try to connect with and expand upon that trail to lead up to Canyon Park. The Arcadia County Park has a lot of trees to climb and is a fun, open park.

Meeting Minutes (continued)

Local churches have an 'adopt a school' program where they donate time or money to service projects for their adopted schools. Maybe the City should think about an 'adopt a park' program to encourage improvements at local parks.

Accessing the Monrovia Area Partnership (MAP) may be a way to coordinate ongoing care and enhancement to local parks and encourage programming to put people in parks.

There are a lot of active groups in the area, including biking, running and morning groups for exercise. Consider linking the groups or local businesses to park activities, events or programs or maybe encourage them to sponsor a park or hold classes there.

- Three bike shops in town
- Snails Pace running shoe store
- Foothill Gym
- 24 Hour Fitness
- Several crossfit places

-- End of Notes --



MEETING NOTES

Project Name: Monrovia Park Master Plan **Project No.:** Proj-# 16-088PLN
Location: City Hall **Meeting Date:** February 14, 2017 **Time:** 11:30 am
Minutes by: Steve Duh
Attendees: Marlene Jimenez, Ranger Steve Duh – Conservation Technix
Subject: **Monrovia Stakeholder Session – Canyon Park Ranger**

Steve offered an overview of the process for the Park Master Plan and began with questions for Marlene.

Comments

Canyon Park rangers come from a range of backgrounds, and they run interpretive tours, coordinate volunteers, manage the nature center, interact with the public and collect fees (daily rentals, etc.). HWP rangers primarily focus toward patrolling. Land management is a big part of the work and includes invasive species removal and trail building. The City is fortunate to have a great group of volunteers dedicated to Canyon Park. They come and do trail work about three times a week and do brushing, cutting, clearing and cleaning of the trails.

Tuesdays are a major maintenance day, and it the only day of the week when the rangers can focus on repairs without worrying about managing site users. Maintenance items include tree removal, leaf litter removal, cleaning. The closure day has been in practice so long, that it is understood by the community. On a 10-scale, having one day a week for major maintenance is a 9.

Current issues affecting the park include managing smokers, off-leash dogs, trash/litter and parking capacity. Another issue is graffiti inside and near the park and at the County wash site.

Coordinating and interacting with the Police Department is good; they are able to get up to the park very quickly in the event of an emergency. They assist with recovering missing/lost hikers and when patrons have health/medical issues. Most often, the Police are there to inform users, rather than for enforcement or citations.

Parking and parking lot access continues to be a challenge. The park is so popular, especially on the weekends, that by 9:00 or 10:00 am the rangers are turning people back down the road for parking because the lot is full. Many people end up parking along Canyon Boulevard and walk up.

During the late summer days, parking and lingering patrons are more of an issue. The rangers close the restrooms at 4:30p and encourage people to start leaving then. A design improvement to install traffic teeth (to replace the gate) might be a good solution, but it also might encourage folks to linger longer in the park since they know they can always get out of the lot.

Meeting Minutes (continued)

Marlene had a few ideas for improving the site or the user experience; however, she noted that there have been several landslides with the recent rains, so immediate needs for trail repair are more urgent.

- There are no interpretive viewpoints or markers. These could include the view of Catalina Island, information about drought, wildlife, vegetation, and information about William Monroe's pipes along the trail.
- Self-guided tours with an updated brochure would be good, and it should correlate to informative tiles or panels along the trails.
- The park may need a review for ADA accessibility. The restrooms are OK, and some segments of trail are accessible.

The City rangers are a varied bunch with a diversity of backgrounds. Consistent training would be useful and could include the following:

- Interpretive training, and current vocabulary usage
- Volunteer coordination
- Conflict resolution / management
- Life safety (CPR, wilderness first aid)
- Money handling / tracking

-- End of Notes --

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PUBLIC PROCESS

APPENDIX C: PUBLIC MEETING NOTES & ONLINE ENGAGEMENT



Meeting Minutes (continued)

| Group A | |
|---|----------|
| Theme & Ideas | Votes |
| Activity / Action Parks | 6 |
| Frisbee Golf | |
| Parkour / climbing (x2) | |
| Fitness Trails | |
| Natural play area | |
| Hard surface pump track (bikes, scooters & skateboards) | |
| Gardens | 5 |
| Community gardens & food sharing (x2) | |
| Interactive nature trail | |
| Healing Garden | |
| Butterfly Garden | |
| Zen Garden w/ Water Feature | |
| Water Theme | 5 |
| Swimming pool | |
| Splash pad (x3) | |
| Multi Use Trails | 2 |
| Trail Races Local for runners, MTB | |
| Connecting nature trails for hiking and biking (x2) | |
| Trails for a range of abilities | |
| Biking | 6 |
| Bicycle Skills Park & Pump Track (x2) | |
| Bike Borrow Station | |
| More bike friendly lanes | |
| Bike lanes connecting parks | |

Meeting Minutes (continued)

| Group B | |
|---|----------|
| Theme & Ideas | Votes |
| Bike & Trails | 9 |
| Pump track (x3) | |
| Bike Park including safe jumps (x4) | |
| New and Safer Bike Trails (x9) | |
| Ability to work on trails (x6) | |
| Work out Park | |
| Mountain bike races (x2) | |
| Better well put together bike trails (x2) | |
| Easier Trails | |
| Smooth bike trails | |
| Bike riders get respect | |
| Fishing pond | |
| Better understood by community and its citizens | |

| Group C | |
|--|-----------|
| Theme & Ideas | Votes |
| Public Safety | 10 |
| Less of a homeless population (including Library Park) (x3) | |
| Safety | |
| Police foot patrols | |
| Work days in the parks for community members to help repair facilities | |
| lighting | |

Meeting Minutes (continued)

| | |
|--|----------|
| Homeless services, counseling, temp housing, health care, training | |
| Life Style / Ambiance | 6 |
| Lawn bean bag chairs or backyard feel - gated maybe with hours? | |
| Gardens | |
| Community Garden that you can take kids to and grow and plant flowers and food | |
| Property like magnolia grounds (fixer upper hgtv couple created) | |
| Community food truck park that support small businesses and we enjoy eating. | |
| Arts & Recreation | 5 |
| Art shows | |
| Water play area in 50% of parks | |
| Outdoor concerts / performances | |
| Ambiance - creating outdoor theatre area with string lights for plays and park | |
| Ad-hoc performance areas | |
| Basket Ball courts | |
| Climbing walls , at least three areas in parks | |
| Mountain Bike Trails with system of bike paths through urban areas | |
| Walking/ hiking trails | |

| Group D | |
|--------------------------|--------------|
| Theme & Ideas | Votes |
| Safety | 10 |
| Drug free zone | |
| Safety (x3) | |
| shade | |
| Water feature (x2) | |

Meeting Minutes (continued)

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Bike Trails | 16 |
| Better trail access | |
| Bike trails (x2) | |
| Trail maintenance | |
| Open use of trails for biking & hiking | |
| Signs | 5 |
| Poison Oak Warning Signs | |
| Education signs | |
| Signs in parks about what to do if you get poison oak | |
| Landmark points "signs" | |

| Group E | |
|--|--------------|
| Theme & Ideas | Votes |
| Team Sport | 3 |
| Better school sport fields and public sports | |
| Pump tracks (x2) | |
| More sports for schools like biking for 4th - 5th grade. | |
| Sports fields including soccer, football and softball | |
| Water Activities | 2 |
| Water feature (x2) | |
| City pool (x2) | |
| Splash Park | |
| Trails/ Cycling | 6 |
| More Bike Trails (paved, mountain) (x3) | |
| More running trails (x2) | |

Meeting Minutes (continued)

| | |
|--|----------|
| More Bike trails at all level of experience (x2) | |
| Mountain Bike Park | 4 |
| Pump track (x3) | |
| Mountain bike park | |
| Outdoor Fitness | 2 |
| Fitness equipment | |
| Outside exercise equipment | |
| Outdoor workout area | |
| Pickleball | 1 |
| Facilities | 0 |
| More play equipment at Library Park | |
| Bathroom facility at Library Park | |

| Group F | |
|-------------------------------|----------|
| Theme & Ideas | Votes |
| Nature Trails | 7 |
| Nature trails | |
| Mountain bike trails (x2) | |
| Biking trails | |
| Walk/Bike trails (x2) | |
| More accessible trails | |
| Alternative Recreation | 6 |
| Nature Play | |
| Splash pads | |
| Climbing walls | |

Meeting Minutes (continued)

| | |
|--|----------|
| Parkour | |
| Water Play - Shade areas | |
| Community Pool | |
| Community Involvement | 3 |
| Park Clean up | |
| Meet “celebrities” lectures talks etc. | |
| Little Library | |
| We Love Dogs | 4 |
| Dog Park | |
| Dog off leash | |
| Dog off leash park/trails | |
| Dog play area | |
| Bikes in Town | 4 |
| Pump track at Grand Park | |
| Pump track in town (x2) | |
| Bike lanes | |
| Build it and they will come | 2 |
| Sport Fields | |
| Disc Golf | |
| Picnic Facility | |
| Community Garden | |
| More concerts | |
| Community market | |
| Exercise “Rocky” | 5 |
| Exercise Stations (x3) | |
| Fitness track | |
| Fitness facilities | |

Meeting Minutes (continued)

| Amenities | 13 |
|------------------------------|----|
| More shade | |
| More tables | |
| Restroom | |
| More astronomy | |
| Coffee cart | |
| Wifi | |
| More seating & accessibility | |
| Gold line | |
| Adult games non-traditional | |

| Group G | |
|--|----------|
| Theme & Ideas | Votes |
| Pets | 3 |
| Dog park | |
| Art / Water - place where kids can get feet wet | 1 |
| Music and Concerts in the park (x2) | 0 |
| Concerts in the park (x2) | |
| Beer gardens | |
| Community Pool | |
| Craps table | |
| Muscle beach type weight lifting | |
| Outdoor /Trails | 4 |
| Mountain bike trails | |
| Pump track | |

Meeting Minutes (continued)

| Theme Summary & Large Group Vote | |
|---|------------------------|
| Theme | Number of Votes |
| Pump Track | 29 |
| New Trails (includes bike and ped) | 28 |
| Public Safety | 15 |
| Trail Maintenance | 12 |
| Biking! (includes mountain) | 12 |
| Dog Park | 12 |
| Community Involvement | 8 |
| Water Theme / Splash pad | 8 |
| Zen/Garden | 8 |
| Community Pool | 5 |
| Pickleball | 4 |
| Activity action Parks | 3 |
| Lifestyle/ambiance | 2 |
| Arts & Recreation | 2 |
| Amenities | 2 |
| Team Sports Fields | 2 |
| Exercise (Rocky!) | 1 |
| Restrooms | 1 |
| Signage (info) | 1 |

Meeting Minutes (continued)

Activity II. Connectivity Mapping

Meeting attendees were asked to consider the following questions about trails and connectivity in the park system:

Group Discussion Question #2:

What destinations would be better served by direct, safe bicycle and pedestrian trails?

What trail improvements would encourage you to walk or bike more frequently?

Each table was given a map and asked to draw ideas and notes on the map. The following notes were made on those maps or were comments given to the consultants during the activity.

MAP ONE

- (create) destination bike trails in clam shell area. Canyon Park is best for pedestrian trail system.
- Provide water park art park in Library Park

MAP TWO

- Bicycle trails connecting parks schools community centers and shopping centers
- Basics: restrooms (Portland Loo)
- Trail master plan
- Hillside Wilderness preserve, beginner trails
- Improvement Bike lanes through busyish traffic areas for destinations (i.e. Station Square)
- (connect to) destinations: each park in city , Station Square, schools, shopping areas, old town

MAP THREE

- Improve bike trails in preserve. Some need to be pinned and cut and connected. provide pump track at Grand Avenue park or in any unused open space

MAP FOUR

- Improve access and parking to wilderness
- Control and limit access to trails in wilderness preserve
- Gem city trails for each community, Pasadena?
- Foot Patrols by police not just in parks through neighborhoods too.
- Hiking to the "M" sign if not open to vandalism?

MAP FIVE

- Mountain trails accessible for all skills
- Santa Anita wash offer for riding/hiking
- Provide cross city commerce trails in preserve and plentiful trails
- Provide pump track at Kiwanis Park at Grand Avenue

Meeting Minutes (continued)

MAP SIX

- Biking trails to connect the parks
- Biking trail to connect to metro station

MAP SEVEN

- Safe trails more trail access
- Signs warning of poison oak
- Preserve access
- Make preserve open and safe

Closing

Meeting attendees were asked to fill out a comment form at the end of the meeting with any additional information they wanted to convey about the system plan.

After the meeting some continuing conversations included sharing concerns about safety and homelessness issues the parks.

Comment Card Responses

As a representative of the mountain bike community, I would like to thank the City of Monrovia for the contribution to the trail network and it would be awesome if we could connect more trails and allow the mountain bikes of Monrovia to have a trail plan that everyone can agree on. @MHSMTB We would love a pump track for the kids of Monrovia. Also jumps.

Hire CORBA to build proper trails; Perhaps build a bike pump track for community kids to come out and ride (Grand Park); Work out equipment / exercise stations structures in the parks. @MHSMTB

Hire CORBA for trails. @MHSMTB

Biking and hiking trails with connectivity & diversity built by professional trail builders with community help; Pump tracks; Nature play. @MHSMTB

I like riding these local trails, but they aren't very well made or cut. If we would be able to go out and help build trails, it would be awesome. Riding is really fun and really exciting, but it feel good when it's bumpy.

I love riding the local trails, and they help me become a better rider. Without these trails, I wouldn't be able to ride my bike as often as I do right now. It is fun to ride our local trails and great for training.

I love riding our local trails, but I wish we could have more freedom in sense of building trails. Also it would be nice if some of the trails were better taken care of. We would love a pump track. @MHSMTB

Meeting Minutes (continued)

I love riding our local trails, but most of them aren't well cut or managed. I would love it if we were able to manage them ourselves because we be able to tam them to perfections. @MHSMTB

More trails for mountain biking please!!!; Keeping kids involved in outdoor activities has statistically shown to keep kids out of trouble and in good physical shape. We have a unique opportunity to capitalize on our wonderful surroundings! Thank you!

Develop the trail system for cycling and create features such as pump tracks in local parks; Use organizations (such as CORBA) for advice on trail use and creation; Prevent homeless "camps" in parks.

The homelessness – big problem!!!

Mt bike trails; pool and fitness center; pickleball courts; restrooms

Get rid of homeless. We go more to SM parks because of homeless

Library Park is already a wonderful park. However, the homelessness problem dissuades many Monrovia residents from using it. Cleaning up that problem should be priority #1.

Something similar to Magnolia in Waco, TX; Community garden – kids and families help plant/nurture flowers/food; Food trucks – food truck park with string lights, picnic tables, outdoor stage for plays/concerts in parks; Lawn furniture – lawn beanbag chairs and music/speakers that play classy music.

Other comments received after the meeting include:

- How about a disc golf course somewhere in the city. Even in the chaparral wilderness area would do. Look at Oak Grove Disc Golf website. It is in chaparral and is the original in all of the world.
- The Recreation Park Playground is lacking in any shade that covers the play equipment even partially, in my experience. This leads to the play equipment being way way too hot to use in the summer and fall (and much of the spring). I took my 4-year-old son there a few days ago at 2pm last wednesday (April) and it was completely unusable. My son almost burned himself on the slide and we had to leave after just a few minutes. I will not be attempting to use this playground ever again unless it is winter time. It seems way worse than the other Monrovia parks in terms of heat/shade and perhaps that is because many/most of the others have some kind of shade built into the top of the equipment? I ask that you would consider adding some type of shade to the top of the higher equipment (and the swings if that is possible) at Recreation Park. (The one other playground that is also too hot is Kiwanis at Grand Park, and perhaps Lucinda Garcia, but these 2 are smaller and less desirable for other reasons, whereas Recreation Park is a large park that provides great services to many many Monrovia families.) So that is why I focus on Recreation Park in this complaint and feel that it is most deserving of any available resources that can be found. (Also nice at Recreation park playground would be a drinking fountain close to the playground...i think that it is too far away, closer to Boys and Girls club.)

-- End of Notes --

MYSIDEWALK COMMENTS



March 15

Monrovia Citywide Park Master Plan posted

...

What outdoor experiences are important to you...?

#Government, #Livability, #Parks in Monrovia, CA, Duarte, CA, Arcadia, CA

Which of the following recreational opportunities do you think should be expanded or improved in Monrovia, if any? Select up to three.



Vote on this poll 17 people have voted

Like Share 2 people like this



March 7

Monrovia Citywide Park Master Plan posted

...

For Kids Sake: Remembering Play...

#Government, #Parks, #Livability in Monrovia, CA, Duarte, CA, Arcadia, CA

What do you want your kids to remember about growing up in Monrovia?

What sort of play, leisure and healthy activities do you want them to remember? What park experiences will create great memories?

Respond **4** Like Share **1 person** likes this



John . Having safe places to play and walk around and being a neighborhood city. Having schools open for student and kids to play by working with the School District.

Keeping the city clean of trash and graffiti. Less cars on streets. Implement parking restrictions.

March 20 · Edited Like **2 people** like this



Susan Pilcher Having clean, beautiful, natural parks to play in. A safe place to meet family/friends for gatherings.

March 20 Like **1 person** likes this



Heather Stokes Having a sports complex in order for the kids to play baseball so that small leagues do not have to pay ginormous fees to the school district in order to play baseball on their fields. Community parks that are free of public drug and alcohol use.

March 21 · Edited Like **1 person** likes this



Helena Vlahos I'd love to go to the park or library without seeing homeless people and their trash luggage exposed. It makes the city look horrible! I know some of them have mental problems and are drug users. Having them live and hang out where my child likes to play is unsafe! More police driving up and down...

[Read More](#) ✓

April 12 · Edited Like



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TECHNICAL DATA

APPENDIX D: FUNDING & IMPLEMENTATION TOOLS



The City of Monrovia possesses a range of local funding tools that could be accessed for the benefit of growing, developing and maintaining its parks and recreation system. The sources listed below represent likely potential sources, but some also may be dedicated for numerous other local purposes which limit applicability and usage. Therefore, discussions with city leadership are critical to assess the political landscape to modify or expand the use of existing city revenue sources in favor of the parks and recreation program.

LOCAL FUNDING OPTIONS

General Obligation Bond

Cities, counties and some special districts can issue bonds if approved by two-thirds of the electorate (general bond) or by the parties subject to the assessment/fee (limited obligation bonds). Bonds, whether general obligation bonds or limited obligation bonds, provide a revenue stream into ready capital that can be used acquisition or improvement of parks.

1975 Quimby Act

The Quimby Act fees under the Subdivision Map Act (California Government Code §66477) authorizes a city or county to adopt (by ordinance) a program to require the dedication of land or payment of fees in lieu thereof or a combination of both for park and recreation facilities as a condition of approval on new, subdivided residential development. The Quimby fee program must include standards that relate to the proportion of subdivision acreage and its density. Standards must be established for parks and recreation facilities in the jurisdiction's adopted general plan or a specific parks plan and can only be used for developing new or rehabilitating existing facilities that will serve that future population. The Quimby Act authorizes a mitigation rate up to five acres of park area per 1,000 subdivision residents. If park services are provided by an entity other than the city or county (such as a park district), the Quimby Act is applied jointly by the city or county and the entity providing park services. The Quimby Act does not apply to commercial or industrial subdivisions. Quimby fees cannot be used for maintenance or operations. If a developer improves parkland or provides recreational equipment, the value of the improvements and equipment must be counted as a credit toward the total fee or dedication. Fees collected under the Quimby Act must be used within five years or refunded.

1987 Mitigation Fee Act

The 1987 Mitigation Fee Act (AB1600 et seq.) enables the establishment of a development impact fee program that sets a monetary extraction in connection with an approval of a development project for the specific purpose of defraying all or a portion of the cost of public facilities directly related to that development project. The Mitigation Fee Act allows for fees to be charged to all new development that increases the need for capital facilities. These park impact fees can apply to new residential and nonresidential development to fund a share of future parks and recreation capital facilities investments. The fee program must be carefully planned to establish the appropriate formula for calculating the new developments "fair share" contribution to future improvements in parks and recreation capital facilities. Key requirements of

the Mitigation Fee Act for establishing the scope and amount of the fee structure dictate that the fees are only targeted for capital facility and infrastructure improvements, cannot fund existing needs and must be based on a rational nexus to the new development's impact on existing services. The impact fee is set to cover the parks and recreation facilities investments that will maintain citywide capital facilities standards as new growth occurs. Most jurisdictions have developed fee programs that do not impose the maximum allowable fee after making comparisons with other California communities and seeking to balance the cost burdens that new fees place on new development. The Mitigation Fee Act requires that the collected fees must be expended on or designated for planned future park and recreation projects within five years after deposit of the fee or the funds must be refunded.

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires that the environmental impacts of new development be mitigated whenever feasible. Under CEQA, a government agency that does not have approval authority over a development project (such as a park district) can seek to have the development contribute land or funds to mitigate the development's impact on parks. The agency seeking CEQA mitigation does not have the power to decide what or how that mitigation is addressed. Mitigation can be achieved through the payment of fees, the dedication of land or improvement of existing park facilities. The lead CEQA agency has broad discretion so it is best to pursue the terms of mitigation through negotiation.

Special Tax

A special tax is applied to a particular purpose and can provide a secure stream of revenue. A special park district imposes a tax for park purposes, as an example. A special tax requires a two-thirds approval by the electorate rather than a simple majority vote. Parcel taxes are a form of special tax imposed on property owners and collected along with property taxes by a county. The revenue from a parcel tax can be used for operations and maintenance.

Transaction and Use Taxes

These taxes can be imposed by a city or county for local purposes, such as parks, recreation and open space. A two-thirds vote by the elected body is required to put the proposed tax on the ballot. If it is for park purposes, it is considered a special tax and requires approval by two-thirds of the voters. The revenues can be used for park purposes including operations and maintenance. If acquisition or development needs additional capital, the tax revenues can be used to secure bonds.

Utility User Taxes, Transient Occupancy Taxes, and Business License Taxes

These other kinds of special taxes can be imposed by cities or counties for dedicated revenues to parks. Whether the tax source comes from utility users, hotel or other short-term visitors, or business licensing, the revenues from these taxes can be used for any park purposes.

FEDERAL & STATE GRANTS AND CONSERVATION PROGRAMS

Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program

The Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program (RTCA) is the community assistance arm of the National Park Service. RTCA provides technical assistance to communities in order to preserve open space and develop trails. The assistance that RTCA provides is not for infrastructure, but rather building plans, engaging public participation, and identifying other sources of funding for conversation and outdoor recreation projects.

<https://www.nps.gov/orgs/rtca/index.htm>

Recreational Trails Program Grant

The RTP is a state-administered local assistance program of the U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). The program provides funds to maintain trails and facilities that provide a backcountry experience for a range of activities including hiking, mountain biking, horseback riding, motorcycling, and snowmobiling. Eligible projects include the maintenance and re-routing of recreational trails, development of trail-side and trail-head facilities, and operation of environmental education and trail safety programs. Non-motorized RTP Projects are administered by the Office of Grants and Local Services (OGALS). Motorized Projects are administered by the Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division (OHMVR). The RTP provides funds to the States to develop and maintain recreational trails and trails-related facilities for motorized and non-motorized recreational trail uses.

www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=24324

Land and Water Conservation Fund

The Land and Water Conservation Fund is a federal program that provides grants for planning and acquiring outdoor recreation areas and facilities, including trails. The fund is administered by the California State Parks Department. Cities, counties, and districts authorized to acquire and develop park and recreation space are eligible for grant funding. Projects must be consistent with the outdoor recreation goals and objectives stated in the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan and elements of local comprehensive land use plans and park master plans. A 50% match is required from all successful applicants of non-federal funds, in-kind services and/or materials.

https://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=21360

http://www.parks.ca.gov/pages/1008/files/lwcf_application_guide_for_local_agencies_draft_8.24.15_map_incl_revised_12.9.15.pdf

Community Development Block Grants

These funds are awarded to cities and urban counties for housing and community development projects. The major objectives for the CDBG program are to meet the needs of low and moderate income populations, eliminate and prevent the creation of slums and blight and meet other urgent community development needs. The project lead will need to confirm that the project is within an area that is eligible for funding.

https://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/comm_planning/communitydevelopment/programs

Proposition 1 Restoration Grant Programs

Proposition 1 provides funding to meet California Water Action Plan objectives of more reliable water supplies, restoration of important species and habitat, and more resilient, sustainably managed water resources system. The program is administered by the California Department of Fish & Wildlife. The Watershed Restoration Grant Program focuses on water quality, river, and watershed protection and restoration projects of statewide importance outside of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. To date, the CDFW

Proposition 1 Restoration Grant Programs awarded over \$75 million to 68 multi-benefit ecosystem restoration and protection projects.

<https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Watersheds/Restoration-Grants>

California River Parkways Grant Program

This grant is administered by the Californian Natural Resources Agency, Bond Accountability program. The purpose of this program is to support the acquisition, restoration, protection and development of river parkways in accordance with the California River Parkways Act of 2014.

http://resources.ca.gov/bonds_prop50riverparkway.html

The Roads and Trails Program

This program provides education and technical assistance to trail and open space managers and advocates regarding non-motorized trail planning, design, construction, funding and management throughout California.

https://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=1324

Habitat Conservation Fund

The Office of Grants and Local Services (OGALS) administers the state-funded Habitat Conservation Fund grant program which allocates approximately \$2 million each year to cities, counties, and districts. This program requires a 50% match from grantees. Eligible projects: nature interpretation programs to bring urban residents into park and wildlife areas, protection of various plant and animal species, and acquisition and development of wildlife corridors and trails.

<http://www.parks.ca.gov/pages/1008/files/hcf%20fact%20sheet%203.13.13.pdf>

California State Parks Office of Historic Preservation- Local Government Assistance

OHP's Local Government and Environmental Compliance Unit offers guidance and assistance to city and county governments in the following areas: drafting or updating historic preservation plans and ordinances; developing historic context statements; planning for and conducting architectural, historical, and archeological surveys; developing criteria for local designation programs, historic districts, historic preservation overlay zones (HPOZs), and conservation districts; developing and implementing design guidelines using the Secretary of the Interior's Standards; developing economic incentives for historic preservation; training local historic preservation commissions and review boards; meeting CEQA responsibilities with regard to historical resources.

OHP also administers the Certified Local Government Program (CLG). OHP distributes at least 10% of its annual federal Historic Preservation Fund allocation to CLGs through a competitive grant program to assist CLGs in preservation planning activities.

http://ohp.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=1072

Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Funds

The Environmental Enhancement Mitigation Program (EEMP) provides grant opportunities for projects that indirectly mitigate environmental impacts of new transportation facilities. Projects should fall into one of the following three categories: highway landscaping and urban forestry, resource lands projects, or roadside recreation facilities. Funds are available for land acquisition and construction. The local Caltrans district must support the project.

<http://resources.ca.gov/grants/environmental-enhancement-and-mitigation-eem/>

Bicycle Transportation Account Program

The Bicycle Transportation Account (BTA) is an annual program providing state funds for city and county projects that improve safety and convenience for bicycle commuters. In accordance with the Streets and Highways Code (SHC) Section 890-892 - California Bicycle Transportation Act, projects must be designed and developed to achieve the functional commuting needs and physical safety of all bicyclists. Local agencies first establish eligibility by preparing and adopting a Bicycle Transportation Plan (BTP) that complies with SHC Section 891.2. The BTP must be approved by the local agency's Regional Transportation Planning Agency.

www.dot.ca.gov/hq/LocalPrograms/bta/btawebPage.htm

Community Based Transportation Planning Grant Program

The Community-Based Transportation Planning (CBTP) grant program promotes transportation and land use planning projects that encourage community involvement and partnership. These grants include community and key stakeholder input, collaboration, and consensus building through an active public engagement process. CBTP grants support livable and sustainable community concepts with a transportation or mobility objective to promote community identity and quality of life.

<http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/tpp/offices/ocp/cbtp.html>

Environmental Justice Grant Program

The Environmental Justice (EJ) Grant Program promotes the involvement of low-income, minority communities, and Native American tribal governments in the planning for transportation projects. EJ grants have a clear focus on transportation and community development issues to prevent or mitigate disproportionate, negative impacts while improving mobility, access, safety, and opportunities for affordable housing and economic development. Grants are available to cities, counties, transit districts, and tribal governments.

<http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/tpp/offices/ocp/cbtp.html>

URBAN FORESTRY SOURCES

National Urban and Community Forestry Advisory Council (NUCFAC) Grant

The National Urban and Community Advisory Council have overhauled their criteria for the US Forest Service's Urban and Community Forestry challenge cost share grant program for 2009. Grants will be solicited in two categories: innovation grants and best practices grants. As with the previous grant program, a 50% match is required from all successful applicants of non-federal funds, in-kind services and/or materials.

<https://www.fs.fed.us/managing-land/urban-forests/ucf/nufac>

Green Trees For The Golden State Grant

Urban tree planting projects and tree establishment care during the grant period. Preference will be given to the planting of trees to optimize the multiple benefits of urban forests in environmental justice communities with special attention given to greenhouse gas (GHG) sequestration and avoided GHG emissions.

calfire.ca.gov/resource_mgt/resource_mgt_urbanforestry_grants

Urban Forest Management For GHG Reduction Grant

For cities, counties, and districts only. Establishing a new jurisdiction-wide tree inventory, and/or urban forest mapping and analysis, and/or long term management plan or updating existing versions of these

critical management components. May include policy integration and ordinance development. Applicants must show how GHG will be reduced by the project.

calfire.ca.gov/resource_mgt/resource_mgt_urbanforestry_grants

Woods in the Neighborhood Grant

These projects are to assist local entities to purchase and improve unused, vacant urban neighborhood properties in environmental justice communities or to serve such communities for purposes consistent with the Urban Forestry Act. These projects must demonstrate how GHG will be reduced.

calfire.ca.gov/resource_mgt/resource_mgt_urbanforestry_grants

OTHER GRANTS & SOURCES

Private Grants, Donations & Gifts

Many trusts and private foundations provide funding for park, recreation and open space projects. Grants from these sources are typically allocated through a competitive application process and vary dramatically in size based on the financial resources and funding criteria of the organization. Philanthropic giving is another source of project funding. Efforts in this area may involve cash gifts and include donations through other mechanisms such as wills or insurance policies. Community fund raising efforts can also support park, recreation or open space facilities and projects.

California Trails and Greenways Foundation

The foundation assists California State Parks with the Annual State Trails and Greenways Conference, we sponsor the Trail Champion Award, and our “Grant Program” provides funds to non-profit groups for trail and greenway projects.

<http://www.ctgf.org/>

Wells Fargo: National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF): Environmental Grant Program

This program builds partnerships with local environmental nonprofits that have projects that focus on strengthening the resiliency of our communities. This includes efforts focused on climate mitigation and adaptation, sustainable agriculture and forestry, water quality, land conservation, and support for building healthy urban ecosystems. The programs operate as a closed RFP, invitation-only process where Wells Fargo engages specific organizations whose work aligns with our giving priorities.

<https://www.wellsfargo.com/about/corporate-responsibility/community-giving/environmental-grant-program/>

REI in the Community - Non-Profit Partnerships and Grants

Partnerships begin with store teams who may connect with nonprofits by promoting or partnering for events and service projects, raising visibility with REI customers, offering product donations, and inviting and selecting organizations for an REI grant.

<https://www.rei.com/stewardship/community/non-profit-partnerships-and-grants.html>

Kaiser Permanente Healthy Environments - Community Benefit Programs

These programs work with community-based organizations, public agencies, businesses and residents to translate their vision for healthy communities into visible, concrete changes — and ultimately healthier

neighborhoods. Kaiser has several assistance programs that encompass support for Environmental Stewardship, Community Health Initiatives, Every Body Walk!, and Physical Activity Guiding Principles.

[https://share.kaiserpermanente.org/category/about-community-benefit/Community Health Initiatives factsheet](https://share.kaiserpermanente.org/category/about-community-benefit/Community%20Health%20Initiatives%20factsheet)

Business Sponsorships/Donations

Business sponsorships for programs may be available throughout the year. In-kind contributions are often received, including food, door prizes and equipment/material.

Interagency Agreements

State law provides for interagency cooperative efforts between units of government. Joint acquisition, development and/or use of park and open space facilities may be provided between parks, school districts, other municipalities and utility providers.

ACQUISITION TOOLS & METHODS

DIRECT PURCHASE METHODS

Market Value Purchase

Through a written purchase and sale agreement, the city purchases land at the present market value based on an independent appraisal. Timing, payment of real estate taxes and other contingencies are negotiable.

Partial Value Purchase (or Bargain Sale)

In a bargain sale, the landowner agrees to sell for less than the property's fair market value. A landowner's decision to proceed with a bargain sale is unique and personal; landowners with a strong sense of civic pride, long community history or concerns about capital gains are possible candidates for this approach. In addition to cash proceeds upon closing, the landowner may be entitled to a charitable income tax deduction based on the difference between the land's fair market value and its sale price.

Life Estates & Bequests

In the event a landowner wishes to remain on the property for a long period of time or until death, several variations on a sale agreement exist. In a life estate agreement, the landowner may continue to live on the land by donating a remainder interest and retaining a "reserved life estate." Specifically, the landowner donates or sells the property to the city, but reserves the right for the seller or any other named person to continue to live on and use the property. When the owner or other specified person dies or releases his/her life interest, full title and control over the property will be transferred to the city. By donating a remainder interest, the landowner may be eligible for a tax deduction when the gift is made. In a bequest, the landowner designates in a will or trust document that the property is to be transferred to the city upon death. While a life estate offers the city some degree of title control during the life of the landowner, a bequest does not. Unless the intent to bequest is disclosed to and known by the city in advance, no guarantees exist with regard to the condition of the property upon transfer or to any liabilities that may exist.

Option to Purchase Agreement

This is a binding contract between a landowner and the city that would only apply according to the conditions of the option and limits the seller's power to revoke an offer. Once in place and signed, the Option Agreement may be triggered at a future, specified date or upon the completion of designated conditions. Option Agreements can be made for any time duration and can include all of the language pertinent to closing a property sale.

Right of First Refusal

In this agreement, the landowner grants the city the first chance to purchase the property once the landowner wishes to sell. The agreement does not establish the sale price for the property, and the landowner is free to refuse to sell it for the price offered by the city. This is the weakest form of agreement between an owner and a prospective buyer.

Conservation Easements

Through a conservation easement, a landowner voluntarily agrees to sell or donate certain rights associated with his or her property – often the right to subdivide or develop – and a private organization or public agency agrees to hold the right to enforce the landowner's promise not to exercise those rights. In essence, the rights are forfeited and no longer exist. This is a legal agreement between the landowner and the city (or private organization) that permanently limits uses of the land in order to conserve a portion of the property for public use or protection. Typically, this approach is used to provide trail corridors where only a small portion of the land is needed or for the strategic protection of natural resources and habitat. The landowner still owns the property, but the use of the land is restricted. Conservation easements may result in an income tax deduction and reduced property taxes and estate taxes. The preservation and protection of habitat or resources lands may best be coordinated with the local land trust or conservancy, since that organization will likely have staff resources, a systematic planning approach and access to non-governmental funds to facilitate aggressive or large scale transactions.

LANDOWNER INCENTIVE MEASURES

Density Bonuses

Density bonuses are a planning tool used to encourage a variety of public land use objectives, usually in urban areas. They offer the incentive of being able to develop at densities beyond current regulations in one area, in return for concessions in another. Density bonuses are applied to a single parcel or development. An example is allowing developers of multi-family units to build at higher densities if they provide a certain number of low-income units or public open space. For density bonuses to work, market forces must support densities at a higher level than current regulations.

Transfer of Development Rights

The transfer of development rights (TDR) is an incentive-based planning tool that allows land owners to trade the right to develop property to its fullest extent in one area for the right to develop beyond existing regulations in another area. Local governments may establish the specific areas in which development may be limited or restricted and the areas in which development beyond regulation may be allowed. Usually, but not always, the “sending” and “receiving” property are under common ownership. Some programs allow for different ownership, which, in effect, establishes a market for development rights to be bought and sold.

IRC 1031 Exchange

If the landowner owns business or investment property, an IRC Section 1031 Exchange can facilitate the exchange of like-kind property solely for business or investment purposes. No capital gain or loss is recognized under Internal Revenue Code Section 1031 (see www.irc.gov for more details).

OTHER LAND PROTECTION OPTIONS

Land Trusts & Conservancies

Land trusts are private non-profit organizations that acquire and protect special open spaces and are traditionally not associated with any government agency. The Los Angeles Neighborhood Land Trust is the regional land trust serving the Monrovia area (www.lanlt.org). Other national organizations with local representation include the Nature Conservancy, Trust for Public Land and the Wetlands Conservancy.

Public/Private Utility Corridors

Utility corridors can be managed to maximize protection or enhancement of open space lands. Utilities maintain corridors for provision of services such as electricity, gas, oil, and rail travel. Some utility companies have cooperated with local governments for development of public programs such as parks and trails within utility corridors.

TECHNICAL DATA

APPENDIX E: RECREATION TRENDS



RECREATION TRENDS

The following summaries from recognized park and recreation resources provide background on national, state and local trends that may reflect potential recreational activities and facilities for future consideration in Monrovia's park system. Examining current recreation trends can help inform potential park and recreation improvements and opportunities that may enhance the community and create a more vibrant parks system as it moves into the future.

NATIONAL TRENDS

National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) PRORAGIS

In 2013, the National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) issued its first report using PRORAGIS, a geographic information system, to establish industry trends. The 2013 report gathered data from 383 park and recreation agencies across the country and compared changes over the last three years. According to the report, park and recreation agencies typically provide management of park and open space lands and operate recreational facilities and programs. Within these areas of responsibility, some growth occurred from 2010 to 2012 among the agencies participating in the survey, including conducting major special events, maintaining public jurisdiction areas and administering community gardens.

The NRPA report indicated that public park and recreation service providers continue to suffer from reduced funding levels. Agencies receiving higher funding levels generally experienced greater reductions, while smaller agencies (in smaller communities) were more stable over the last three years. Recreation programming experienced a significant drop in attendance from 2010 to 2011. While a slight rebound had begun in 2012, the NRPA 2013 report indicates that program offerings have declined in every major category since 2010.

The 2016 State of the Industry Report

Recreation Management magazine's 2016 State of the Industry Report listed the top 10 program options most commonly planned for addition over the next three years, along with the frequency (in parentheses) noted by survey participants:

- Educational programs (planned by 27.1 % of those who will be adding programs)
- Fitness programs (26.1 %)
- Mind-body/balance programs (25 %)
- Teen programming (24.2 %)
- Programs for active older adults (19.8 %)
- Environmental education (19.7 %)
- Arts & crafts (18.8 %)
- Day camps and summer camps (18.3 %)
- Sports tournaments and races (18.1 %)
- Holiday events and other special events (17.7 %)

For most programming types, community centers are the ones most likely to be planning to add such programs. There was an increase of at least 2 percent from 2014 to 2015 in the number of respondents whose facilities included: playgrounds, Wi-Fi services, open spaces, park shelters, walking and hiking trails, bike trails, skateparks, fitness trails or outdoor fitness equipment, disc golf courses, and dog parks.

The 2016 Outdoor Participation Report

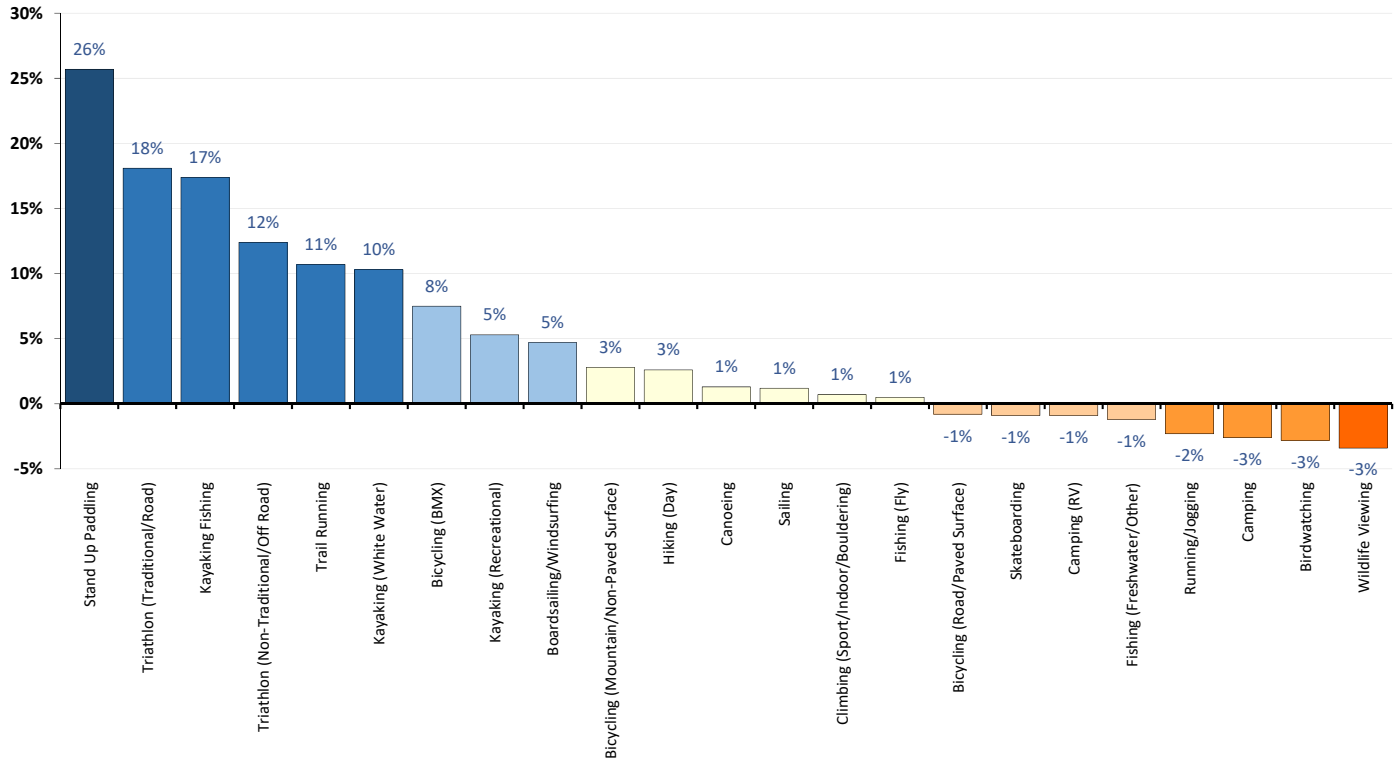
According to 2016 Outdoor Participation Report, published by the Outdoor Foundation in Boulder, Colorado, more than 142 million Americans (48.4%) participated in an outdoor activity at least once in 2015. These outdoor participants went on a total of 11.7 billion outdoor outings. Participation in outdoor recreation, team sports and indoor fitness activities vary by an individual's age. Recent trend highlights include the following:

- Young adults, ages 18 to 24, experienced a five-percentage point increase, the biggest boost in participation among the age groups.
- Twenty percent of outdoor enthusiasts participated in outdoor activities at least twice per week.
- Running, including jogging and trail running, was the most popular activity among Americans when measured by number of participants and by number of total annual outings.
- Running was the most popular outdoor activity for all ethnic groups.
- Although Hispanic Americans made up a small percentage of total outdoor participants, those who did participate averaged the most annual outdoor outings per person.
- Walking for fitness is the most popular crossover activity.
- The biggest motivator for outdoor participation was getting exercise.

Figure E1. Fastest Growing Activities Nationwide

| Fastest Growing Activities Nationwide | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|
| Activity | 3-Year Growth |
| Adventure Racing | 38% |
| Non-traditional/Off-Road Triathlon | 34% |
| Stand Up Paddling | 31% |
| Kayak Fishing | 20% |
| Traditional/Road Triathlon | 19% |
| BMX Bicycling | 16% |
| Traditional Climbing | 16% |
| White Water Kayaking | 15% |
| Boardsailing/Windsurfing | 13% |
| Sea/Touring Kayaking | 13% |

Figure E2. 3-Year Change in Outdoor Recreation Participation of Youth (6-24)



Favorite activities and participation rates range with demographics. Running was the most popular outdoor activity for Americans regardless of age, ethnic or racial affiliation. Outdoor participation is highest among Caucasians and lowest among African Americans. While Hispanic Americans make up a small percentage of total outdoor participants in a national basis, those who did participate averaged the most annual outdoor outings per person.

2016 Sports, Fitness, and Leisure Activities Topline Participation Report

Prepared by a partnership of the Sports and Fitness Industry Association (SFIA) and the Physical Activity Council (PAC), this 2016 participation report establishes levels of activity and identifies key trends in sports, fitness, and recreation in the US. Overall there was a slight increase in measures of activity from 2014 to 2015 with fluctuations in sports showing an increase in team, water, winter, and fitness sports while individual sports declined slightly. A slight decrease in inactivity in the last year from 28.3% of Americans (age six and older) in 2014 to 27.7%. Inactivity rates remained higher in low income households: 28.4% of households with combined incomes under \$25,000 and 28.1% of households in the \$25,000-\$49,999 income range. These levels of inactivity have been increasing slight over the last five years.

In terms of interest, all age groups continue to look at swimming as a means for future fitness followed heavily by outdoor activities (such as camping and biking). The trend shows that more Americans are interested in getting outside and being in natural settings. Most adult age groups focus on fitness activities while team sports are more attractive to youths. Participants in the surveys conducted for this report shared that having someone else participating in any fitness activity was a strong motivator. A shortage of available time and current health issues were cited as the biggest obstacles to more participation in active lifestyles.

Another revealing trend was the effect of PE during school years on physical activities during school and post-school years. Participation in physical exercise during grade and high school influenced degree of engagement in team sports, outdoor recreation and fitness activities both during school years and after age 18. Those who did not have PE, only 15% also participated in team sports and outdoor recreation. 80% of adults ages 18+ who had PE in school were active compared to 61% of adults who didn't have PE in school.

The report surveyed spending on wearable devices for fitness tracking. Fitness trackers that sync with smartphones/tablets/computers increased from 8.4% of participants in 2014 to 12.9% in 2015. The interest in purchasing and using wearable technology in the future increased by 3.2% over the last year among active individuals.

National Survey on Recreation and the Environment (2012)

The National Survey on Recreation and the Environment (NSRE) is a comprehensive survey that has been collecting data and producing reports about the recreation activities, environmental attitudes and natural resource values of Americans since the 1980s. The NSRE core focus is on outdoor activity participation and personal demographics. The most recent 2012 NSRE reports the total number of people participating in outdoor activities between 2000 and 2007 grew by 4.4% while the number of days of participation increased by approximately 25 percent. Walking for pleasure grew by 14% and continues to lead as the top favorite outdoor activity.

Nature-based activities, those associated with wildlife and natural settings, showed a discernible growth in the number of people (an increase in 3.1% participation rate) and the number of days of participation. American's participation in nature-based outdoor recreation is increasing with viewing, photographing, or otherwise observing nature clearly measured as the fastest growing type of nature-based recreation activity.

Americans Engagement with Parks Survey (from NRPA)

The vast offerings of the local park and recreation agency improve the lives of people throughout our nation. From the fact that Americans on average visit their local park and recreation facilities approximately 29 times a year to the majority of Americans identifying parks and recreation as an important service provided by their local government, the general public is an untapped advocate to spread the public park and recreation story.

This annual study probes Americans' usage of parks, the key reasons that drive their use and the greatest challenges preventing greater usage. Each year, the study probes the importance of public parks in Americans' lives, including how parks compare to other services and offerings of local governments. The survey of 1,000 American adults looks at frequency and drivers of parks/recreation facilities visits and the barriers to that prevent greater enjoyment. Survey respondents also indicate the importance of park and recreation plays in their decisions at the voting booth and their level of support for greater funding.

Key Findings:

- Americans on average visit their local park and recreation facilities approximately 29 times a year, with 3 in 5 saying their most recent visit was within the past month.
- Three in four Americans agree that the NRPA Three Pillars of Conservation, Health and Wellness, and Social Equity represent what they see as the priorities for their local park and recreation agency.
- Nine in 10 Americans agree that parks and recreation are important services delivered by their local government.

- Seven in 10 Americans say they are more likely to vote for local politicians who make park and recreation funding a priority.
- Three-quarters of Americans support increased local government spending for park and recreation agencies with solid support for a nearly 30 percent increase in funding for local park and recreation agencies.

STATE TRENDS

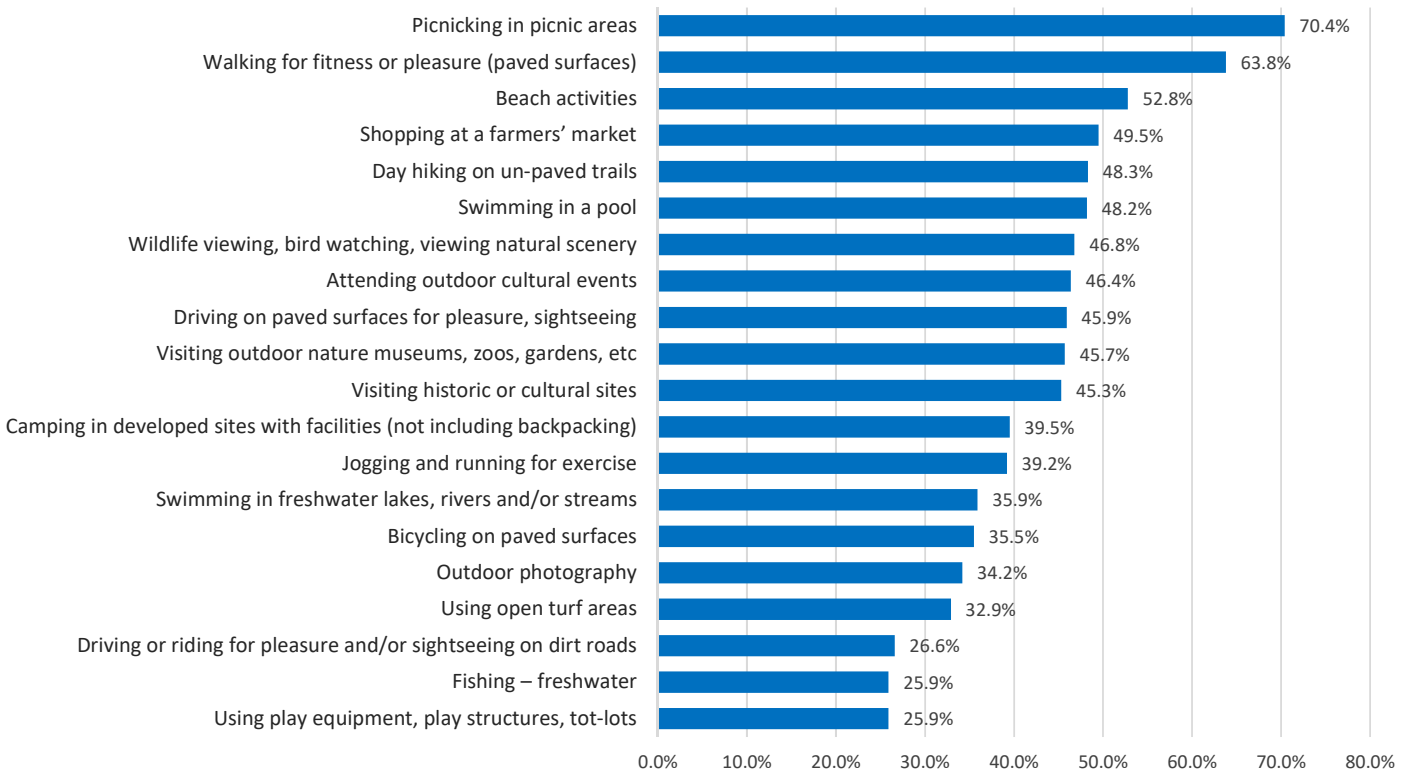
2015 California Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan

The 2015 California Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) provides a statewide framework for actions to meet the state’s outdoor recreation needs. The SCORP is developed by the California Department of Parks and Recreation and is based on public input and an assessment of statewide park assets and needs. The SCORP recognizes that parks and recreation:

- Support healthy, affordable, physical and social activities
- Improve the quality of life in communities as a form of social equity and environmental justice
- Provide venues for cultural celebrations that can anchor communities
- Are economic engines that fuel tourism, provide jobs, and enhance the value of neighborhoods
- Preserve historic sites that connect Californians to the past and safeguard its future
- Protect California’s inspiring vistas, natural resources, habitats, watersheds, forests, and wetlands.

The SCORP also surveyed Californians about their recreational activities. Across the state, the survey found that walking was the most popular activity in parks, taking both adults and youth into consideration. Other popular activities include playing, hiking, and picnicking, see Figure ___.

Figure E3. Top 20 Recreational Activities by Participation Rates (2015 CA SCORP)



The California SCORP approached its needs assessment based on regional differences due to the State's diverse geography, demography, and economies and recognized that this diversity presents both opportunities and challenges to the state's outdoor recreation providers. The SCORP region approach divides regions along county lines to aid both state and local planning efforts.

The Los Angeles Region (6) with its beaches and mild climate includes Los Angeles and Ventura counties and is known for film and television industries. The largest cities are Los Angeles (pop. 3,825,297) and Long Beach (pop. 464,662).

As in all regions, unemployment increased overall from 1999-2009. With 10,641,923 residents in 2010, the region is the most densely populated among regions. By 2060, population is projected to increase by less than the statewide average. Ethnically, the region's population in 2010 was about 50% Hispanic and about 30% white; by 2060, Hispanics will represent almost 60% of the population by 2060.

Age-group distribution in 2010 was about the same as statewide; in 2060 the percentages of youth aged 5-17 and those 65+ will be about the same as statewide, with a slightly lower percentage of residents aged 65 and over. Annual household income distribution closely matched the statewide average; average median annual household income was above the statewide average.

Despite a significant amount of protected land when combining public and non-profit land ownership (see Figure E5) the LA region has the second lowest number in the state of acres of protected land per resident.

Figure E5. Protected Land by Agency Type

| Region | Federal | | State | | Local | | Non-profit | | Region Total | |
|-------------|------------|-------|-----------|------|-----------|------|------------|------|--------------|------|
| | Acres | % | Acres | % | Acres | % | Acres | % | Acres | % |
| Los Angeles | 1,232,783 | 86.9% | 11,217 | 0.8% | 125,841 | 8.9% | 48,190 | 3.4% | 1,418,031 | 100% |
| Statewide | 21,447,398 | 86% | 1,396,131 | 5.6% | 1,616,808 | 6.4% | 618,520 | 2.5% | 25,078,864 | 100% |

Accessibility to protected land (measured by the percentage of residents living within ¼ mile of such land) is slightly lower than the statewide average.

Figure E6. Comparison of LA County & State for Residents Living within ¼ mile of Protected Land

| Region | Residents living within 1/4 mile of protected land | | | |
|-------------|--|------------|----------------|------------|
| | In region overall | | In urban areas | |
| | Number | Percentage | Number | Percentage |
| Los Angeles | 4,442,284 | 40.4% | 4,409,826 | 40.5% |
| Statewide | 17,108,581 | 45.2% | 16,738,624 | 46.8% |

To help inform the current state of outdoor recreation in California, numerous surveys were conducted on public opinions and attitudes. Highlights from those surveys revealed how far people were typically willing to travel for recreation and their means of travel. Respondents were asked how long it takes to get from their home to the place where they recreate most often. They were also asked the mode of transportation used. Driving and walking emerged as the two most popular modes of transportation.

Figure E6. Travel Time from Residence to Place of Recreation

| Distance in Minutes | 5 minutes or less | 6-10 minutes | 11-20 minutes | 21-60 minutes | More than 60 minutes |
|-----------------------|-------------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|----------------------|
| Driving | 17.2% | 16.3% | 23.2% | 31.2% | 12.0% |
| Walking | 33.5% | 21.7% | 26.7% | 16.0% | 2.6% |
| Biking | 9.2% | 42.6% | 28.9% | 17.5% | 2.4% |
| Public Transportation | 9.1% | 13.6% | 13.6% | 54.6% | 9.1% |
| Horseback | 1.0% | 0.0% | 1.0% | 1.0% | 0.0% |
| Wheelchair Cart | 50.0% | 12.5% | 25.0% | 12.5% | 0.0% |
| Skateboard | 50.0% | 0.0% | 50.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% |

Respondents were asked how long it takes to get from their home to the place where they recreate most often. They were also asked the mode of transportation used. Driving and walking emerged as the two most popular modes of transportation.

The survey findings also explored the places where youth were most likely to participate in their favorite outdoor activities. When asked where they participated in their favorite outdoor activity, 29.8% of respondents answered that they do their favorite activity in an area or park in their neighborhood. An additional 24.9% cited a place or park in their town. This demonstrates the importance of parks and recreation spaces to youth respondents whether in their neighborhood or outside of it.

Figure E7. Places Where Youth Participate in Their Favorite Outdoor Activities

| Place | % |
|--|-------|
| My Yard | 9.3% |
| My School | 14.4% |
| Other area or park in my neighborhood | 29.8% |
| Other area or park outside my neighborhood by within my town | 24.9% |
| Other area or park outside my town | 12.9% |
| Other place | 8.0% |

When asked where they participated in their favorite outdoor activity, 29.8% of respondents answered that they do their favorite activity in an area or park in their neighborhood. This demonstrates the importance of parks and recreation spaces to youth respondents whether in their neighborhood or outside of it.

Additional surveys revealed specific regional demand for outdoor recreation, including the Los Angeles region. Survey respondents from this region report their current top five activities as walking, playing, hiking, eating/picnicking and jogging/running. Specifically, this region demonstrates the highest latent demand for picnicking, unpaved trails, and pool and beach facilities and activities.

Figure E8. Current Outdoor Recreation Demand in Los Angeles Region

| Top Facilities Used | % | Top Activities | % | Top Latent Demand for Activities | % |
|--------------------------------|-------|--------------------------|-------|--|-------|
| Picnic table, picnic pavilion | 56.1% | Walking | 51.1% | Picnicking in areas with tables, grills or fire pits | 56.2% |
| Unpaved trail | 53.6% | Playing | 26.3% | Walking for fitness or pleasure on paved surfaces | 40.0% |
| Open space to play | 52.8% | Eating/picnicking | 22.8% | Swimming in a pool | 38.9% |
| Paved trail | 43.1% | Hiking on unpaved trails | 21.5% | Beach activities (swimming, sunbathing, surf play, wading, etc.) | 36.2% |
| Playground | 42.6% | Jogging/running | 21.0% | Day hiking on unpaved trails | 34.1% |
| Beach or water recreation area | 40.3% | | | Visiting outdoor nature museums, zoos, gardens or arboreta | 33.5% |

Based on the survey findings and outdoor recreational trends, the California Statewide Outdoor Recreation Plan proposed priority actions for implementation in the Los Angeles region:

- Fund outdoor recreation opportunities that meet the activity preferences of Hispanic participants.
- Fund projects that create opportunities for low- to no-cost outdoor recreation activities.
- Fund incorporated area recreation facilities proportionate to incorporated area populations - specifically, aquatic centers, ball fields, basketball courts, community centers, picnic/BBQ areas, playgrounds, skate parks and tennis/racquet courts.
- Fund protected land for outdoor recreation throughout the region and in urban areas.

California Outdoor Recreation Economy (2016)

The Outdoor Industry Association produces reports on the outdoor recreation economy for the entire country and for each state. The most recent OIA report reveals that at least 59% of California residents participate in outdoor recreation each year. This figure does not include the participants in hunting, fishing and wild-life viewing which are estimated separately. The report states “Americans want and deserve access to a variety of quality places to play and enjoy the great outdoors. Outdoor recreation can grow jobs and drive the economy if we manage and invest in parks, waters and trails as an interconnected system designed to sustain economic dividends for America.” In California, outdoor recreation generates \$85.4 billion in consumer spending, creates 732,000 direct California jobs, generates \$27 billion in wages and salaries and results in \$6.7 billion in state and local tax revenue. The report demonstrates that outdoor recreation can grow jobs and drive the economy through management and investment in parks, waters and trails as an interconnected system designed to sustain economic dividends for citizens. Preserving access to outdoor recreation protects the economy, the businesses, the communities and the people who depend on the ability to play outside.



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