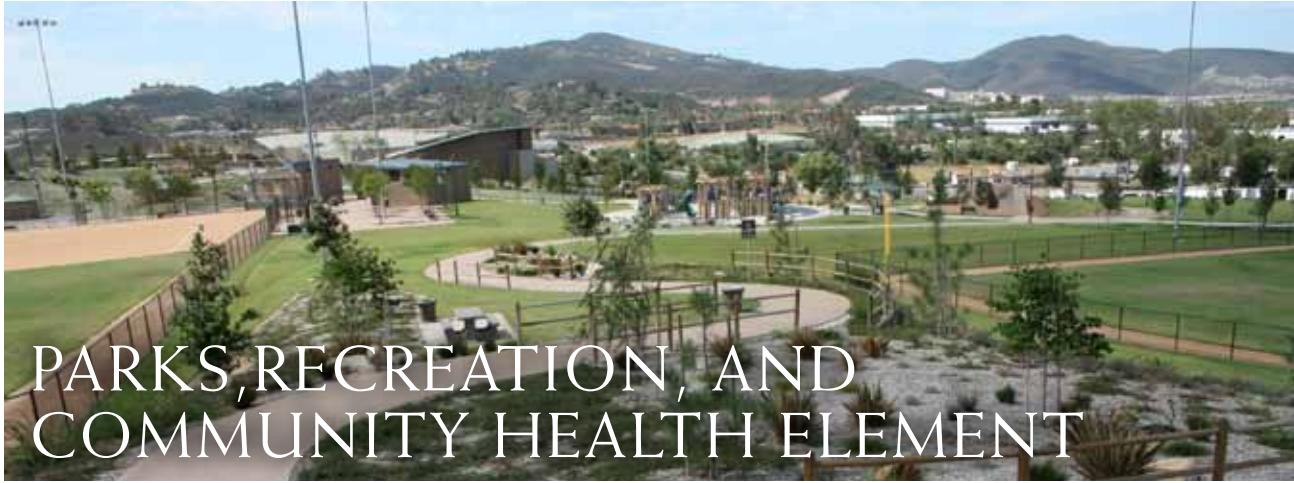


PARKS, RECREATION, AND COMMUNITY HEALTH ELEMENT

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PARKS, RECREATION, AND COMMUNITY HEALTH ELEMENT

5.1 Introduction

The quality of life that residents enjoy in San Marcos is enhanced by many recreational amenities and community service programs. In its effort to create a “healthy community,” the City is continuously working to improve physical and social environments. The City maintains a range of mini-parks, neighborhood parks, community parks, community centers, recreational facilities, and trails to provide a place for relaxation and enjoyment, physical activity, gathering and community building, and entertainment. These facilities are a part of the network of amenities that provide access to physical activity, healthy food, medical services, and community and social networks. The Parks, Recreation, and Community Health Element addresses the importance of these amenities and includes goals and policies that outline the role they play in achieving the City’s vision for the future.

Purpose of the Parks, Recreation, and Community Health Element

The City aims to maintain and increase access to parks, trails, recreational facilities, and community service programs. In addition, it aims to provide a healthy and safe community by taking into consideration community health and family enrichment needs of community members, including older adults, children, persons with special needs, and residents of all ages. Parks and recreation amenities can increase the health and livability of a community, and connect people with places within the City by providing gathering spaces and promoting civic pride.

Scope and Content of the Parks, Recreation, and Community Health Element

The Parks, Recreation, and Community Health Element describes existing parks, trails, and recreation facilities located in the City, and outlines current plans for expansion of these amenities. It also identifies how access to healthy food, medical services, and social opportunities can enhance community health. Over time, the community’s preferences and recreation needs change.

Amenities at parks and recreation facilities are now going beyond the traditional tot-lot and picnic area to include amenities such as lighted sports fields, climbing walls, disc golf courses, and dog runs. The City's ability to continue to provide innovative facilities and services requires a broad range of financial and programmatic support. The information documented here forms the basis for goals, policies, and implementation programs that offer a variety of healthful physical activities and recreational pursuits.

Table 5-1 highlights key facts relevant to parks, recreation, and community health in San Marcos.

Table 5-1
Parks and Recreation Highlights and Facts

The City of San Marcos continues to acquire and maintain parkland throughout the community, which enhances the natural beauty of San Marcos and provides recreation options. In addition to parkland, the City has set aside approximately 2,499 acres of open space and preserve areas within the City.

The City maintains several types of parks: community parks, which serve the entire City; neighborhood parks, which are often located near schools; and mini-parks, which are small public spaces.

San Marcos has private recreational amenities, such as Twin Oaks Valley and Lake San Marcos golf courses, and private trails, greenbelts, open space, and parks. These are often part of planned residential developments.

The City is expanding its trail system for recreation and mobility purposes. Greater connectivity and mobility choices can lead to a reduction in automobile trips and associated greenhouse gas emissions.

The City has embraced emerging trends in community planning that recognize that access to fresh healthy food and medical services can improve the quality of life for residents. This means a greater emphasis is being placed on creating more healthy places, fostering greater physical and social connectivity, and improving environmental conditions, such as air quality.



Parks and facilities provide for a range of active and passive recreation opportunities for people, youth and dogs in the community.

Photo credit all: City of San Marcos

5.2 Background and Structure

Recreational programming and planning within City parks, trails, and recreation facilities are operated and managed by the Community Services Department. The Community Services Department serves the entire community through activity, service, and recreational amenity programming. This scope of service includes preschool programs, children's day camps, holiday celebrations and special City events, special interest classes, club programs, older adult services and programs, family programs, youth and adult sports, cultural and performing arts programs, aquatics programming, liaison work with community groups, trail and nature activities, and park and trail planning.

A seven-member Community Services Commission works with the Community Services Department and is responsible for matters pertaining to the creation, operation, maintenance, management, and control of community recreation programs, playgrounds, activities, and facilities. The Community Services Commission formed the Trails Advisory Committee (TAC) to advise the commission and the City Council about the needs of the multi-use trails in the community and concerning implementation of the Master Trails Plan. Further, the TAC encourages community involvement in development and maintenance of the trail system and bicycle facilities within the City.

Community health and family enrichment programs are developed and implemented by the Community Services Department. In addition, the San Marcos Community Foundation acts as a nonprofit public benefit corporation to provide financial and other assistance to programs that benefit the City. Such programs include services and activities for older adults, children and youth sports, drug and alcohol abuse prevention, day care for preschool and latch key children, and support for cultural events and institutions within the City.

The Student and Neighborhood Relations Commission (SNRC) works with the City Manager's office to foster positive communication and partnerships among San Marcos residents, businesses, and student communities of California State University San Marcos and Palomar Community College. SNRC members engage in discussions; solicit community input; and recommend actions to promote collaboration, tolerance, and mutual respect in the community.

Integrated System of Parks, Recreational Facilities, Trails, and Open Space

Parks

Parks throughout San Marcos provide recreational opportunities, neighborhood gathering facilities, and natural beauty. The City boasts nearly 270 acres of existing developed parkland including approximately 149 acres of neighborhood parks, 98 acres of community parks, and 20 acres of mini-parks, and 3 acres of other recreational facilities (Table 5-2 and Figure 5-1).

Over several years, the City plans to design and build new parkland, trails, recreation facilities and upgrade existing parks. These plans are for South Lake Park, Connors Park (San Marcos Elementary Park), Richmar Park, Bradley Park expansion, La Moree Park, University District Park, and Walnut Grove Park expansion. This will increase the total number of parks located within the City boundaries. The new or expanded parks will include amenities such as lighted soccer fields and arenas, basketball areas, tot-lots, off-leash dog areas, waterplay splash pads, playground equipment, picnicking areas, and walking trails.

Recreation Facilities

In addition to parks, the City maintains 14 recreational facilities (Figure 5-1):

- San Marcos Community Services Center and Community Center: 30,000 square feet (s.f.) of indoor exercise and group activity areas, community buildings, basketball and volleyball courts, picnic shelter, tot-lot, and trail connections
- San Marcos Joslyn Senior Center: 297-person-capacity community meeting rooms for older adult activities, picnic area, and some recreational amenities such as pool tables and a fitness center
- F. H. Corky Smith Gym: 27,000 s.f. with gymnasium and community room for indoor exercise and group activities, and three basketball / volleyball courts
- Fulton House: tennis courts, tot-lot, and community garden
- San Elijo Recreation Center: youth programs, picnic tables and trail connections
- Las Posas Pool: public pool and picnic shelter
- Woodland Pool: public pool, picnic tables and picnic shelter
- Wood House: historic house and grounds for events



Observation point at Double Peak Park

Photo credit: City of San Marcos



Civic Center tot-lot

Photo credit: City of San Marcos

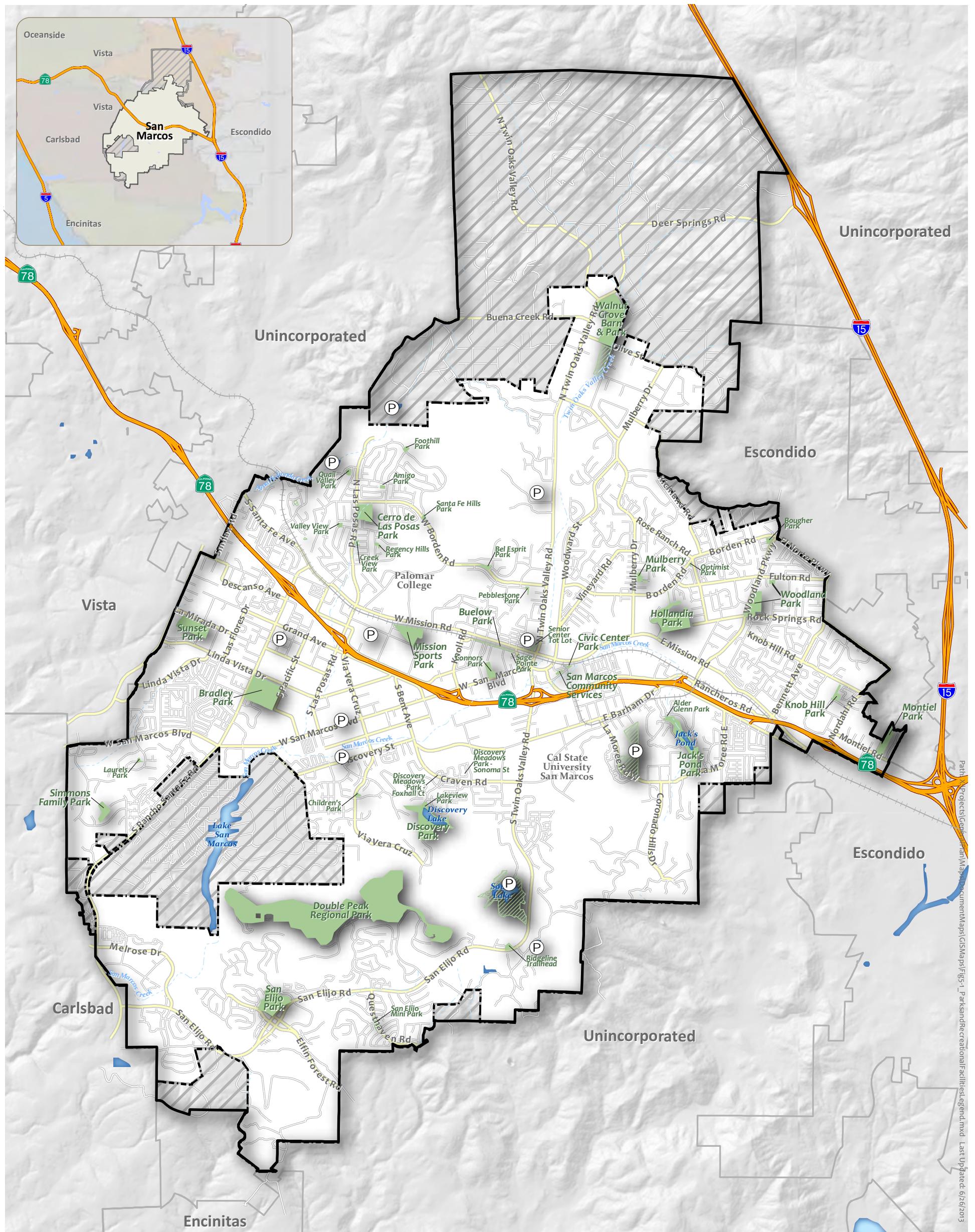


FIGURE 5-1
City of San Marcos
Parks and
Recreational
Facilities



SOURCES OF DATA:
 City of San Marcos 9/12

Every effort has been made to assure the accuracy of the maps and data provided; however, some information may not be accurate or current. The City of San Marcos assumes no responsibility arising from use of this information and incorporates by reference its disclaimer regarding the lack of any warranties, whether expressed or implied, concerning the use of the same. For additional information, see the Disclaimer of the City's website.

- San Marcos City Limits
- Sphere of Influence
- Planning Area
- Major Hydrologic Features
- Creeks
- Railroad
- Freeway
- Highway
- Major Road
- Minor Road
- Existing Park
- Future Park (See Table 5-2, Pg. 5-9 regarding future parkland)
- (P) Future Park (See Table 5-2, Pg. 5-9 regarding future parkland)

Path Projects\Geodatabase\Map\Document\Maps\GISMaps\Figs-1_ParksandRecreationalFacilities\Legend.mxd Last Updated: 6/26/2013

5

PARKS, RECREATION, AND COMMUNITY HEALTH ELEMENT

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Table 5-2 Parkland, Trails, and Recreational Facility Acreage

Park Name	Type	Total Park Acreage		Amenities
		Existing*	Future ¹	
Community Parks				
Bradley Park	C	26.00	8.24	Lighted soccer fields, ball fields, picnic tables, picnic shelter, turf play area, tot-lot, on-site caretaker, horseshoe courts
Discovery Lake Park	C	23.00	53.00	Fishing dock; 8 acre lake; fountain; kiosk for posting of relevant community announcements, picnic tables, picnic shelter, tot-lot, on-site caretaker, trail connections
Double Peak Park	C	10.00	--	Kiosk, picnic tables, picnic shelter, tot-lot, on-site caretaker, trail connection, amphitheater
Walnut Grove Barn & Park	C	39.00	17.38	Community buildings, soccer fields, kiosk, picnic tables, barbecues, picnic shelter, benches, turf play area, tot-lot, on-site caretaker, trail connections, equestrian facilities
Total Community Parks		Existing 98.00	Future 75.24	
Total Planned Community Parks 173.24				
Neighborhood Parks²				
Buelow Park	N	1.90	--	Picnic shelters, benches, tot-lot, waterplay area, basketball court, adjacent groundskeeper
Hollandia Park	N	30.00	--	Lighted soccer fields, ball fields, picnic shelter, benches, tot-lot, on-site caretaker, trail connections, horseshoe courts, dog park, skate park
Jack's Pond Park	N	23.00	--	Community buildings, Nature Center; kiosk, picnic tables, picnic shelters, turf play area, tot-lot, on-site caretaker, trail connections, fishing pond
Las Posas Park	N	12.00	--	Lighted soccer fields, ball fields, public pool, fountain, basketball courts, tennis courts, picnic tables, picnic shelter, benches, turf play area, on-site caretaker, trail connections
Knob Hill Park	N	3.00	--	Picnic tables, picnic shelter, benches, turf play area, tot-lot
Mission Sports Park	N	14.00	--	Lighted ball fields, picnic tables, picnic shelter, on-site caretaker
Montiel Park	N	8.00	1.96	Basketball court, picnic tables, disc golf course, dog park
Mulberry Park	N	3.87	--	Waterplay area, picnic tables, benches, turf play area, tot-lot, trail connections
San Elijo Park	N	18.00	--	Community building, lighted soccer fields, ball fields, waterplay area, kiosk, picnic tables, barbecues, picnic shelter, benches, turf play area, tot-lot, on-site caretaker, trail connections, horseshoe courts, dog park
Simmons Family Park	N	6.00	--	Basketball court, picnic tables, barbecues, benches, turf play area, tot-lot, trail connections
Sunset Park	N	18.00	--	Lighted multi-purpose fields, soccer arena, dog park, picnic shelters, tot-lots, waterplay area, kiosks, disc golf course, basketball court, volleyball court, amphitheater, on-site caretaker, trail connections
Woodland Park	N	11.00	--	Community buildings, public pools, tennis courts, kiosk, picnic tables, barbecues, picnic shelter, benches, turf play area, tot-lot, on-site caretaker, community garden
Total Neighborhood Parks		Existing 148.77	Future 1.98	
Total Planned Neighborhood Parks ² 150.73				

Table 5-2 Parkland, Trails, and Recreational Facility Acreage

Park Name	Type	Total Park Acreage		Amenities
		Existing*	Future ¹	
Mini-Parks				
Alder Glenn Park	M	0.40	--	Picnic tables, turf play area, tot-lot, trail connections
Amigo Park	M	0.74	--	Picnic tables, benches, tot-lot
Bel Esprit Park	M	2.03	--	Basketball courts, picnic tables, benches, tot-lot
Bougher Park	M	1.50	0.75	Benches, turf play, Veteran's Memorial Wall
Children's Discovery Park	M	0.92	--	Picnic tables, benches, tot-lot
Civic Center Recreation Area	M	0.62	--	Lighted volleyball court, basketball court, picnic areas, tot-lot
Creek View Park	M	0.96	--	Picnic tables, benches, tot-lot
Discovery Meadows Park	M	1.39	--	Benches, tot-lot
Foothills Park	M	1.11	--	Picnic tables, turf play area, tot-lot, trail connections
Laurels Park	M	0.79	--	Picnic tables, tot-lot
Optimist Park	M	0.34	--	Picnic tables
Pebblestone Park	M	0.77	--	Picnic tables, benches, barbecues, horseshoe pit, sand volleyball area, tot-lot
Quail Hills Park	M	1.28	--	Picnic tables, benches, tot-lot, trail connections
Questhaven Park	M	2.48	--	Tot-lot, picnic tables, turf play area, trail connections
Regency Hills Park	M	0.95	--	Picnic tables, turf play area, tot-lot
Ridgeline Trailhead	M	1.92	--	Picnic tables, picnic shelter, trail connections
Santa Fe Hills Park	M	1.01	--	Picnic tables, tot-lot, trail connection
Valley View Park	M	0.93	--	Picnic tables, benches, tot-lot
Total Mini-Parks		Existing 20.14	Future 20.89	
Trails				
Total Trails	C	Existing 70.30	Future 16.97	Urban, multi-use, and soft-surface trails
		Total Planned Trails 87.27		

*Existing developed parkland does not include private parks (e.g., managed by home owners associations), joint use schools, or agency facilities.

**Private mini-parks not accessible to the public are not included in the City's park acreage calculations.

¹Future parks to be completed within 2 years.

²See Chapter 2 for future neighborhood parks in Focus Areas 1, 2 and 3; the size, design, and amenities of each future park shall be determined at the time of development. A future mixed use neighborhood park shall be located in Focus Area 1 per Figure 2-7 and 2-8; a future linear park shall be located in Focus Area 2 per Figure 2-7 and 2-9; a future mixed use neighborhood park shall be located in Focus Area 3 per Figure 2-7 and 2-10. This future neighborhood park acreage has not been included in this table or the "Total Citywide planned Parkland, Trails, and Recreational Facilities" acreage.

³Buena Park is located approximately half within the City limits and half within the SOI.

Table 5-2 Parkland, Trails, and Recreational Facility Acreage

Park Name	Type	Total Park Acreage		Amenities
		Existing*	Future ¹	
Recreational Facilities				
Community Center	C	0.69	--	Community building; tot lot; picnic tables; turf play
F.H. Corky Smith Gym	C	0.62	--	n/a
San Marcos Community Services	M	0.83	--	Community building; tot lot; picnic tables; turf play
San Marcos Joslyn Senior Center	M	0.45	--	Community building; picnic tables; fitness room
Senior Center Tot-Lot	M	0.25	--	tot lot
Total Recreational Facilities		Existing 2.84	Future --	
Total Existing Developed Parkland, Trails, and Recreational Facilities		340.05		
Total Undeveloped Parkland & Trails (Planned Improvements to Existing Parkland, Trails, and Recreational Facilities)			156.92	
Future (New) Parkland				
Agua Hedionda Park	C	--	20.00	Playground, tot lot, picnic tables, barbecue facility, trail staging area, fishing, wilderness area, on-site caretaker, concessions, restrooms
Buena Neighborhood Park ³	N	--	16.00+	Water play area, open field play area, playground, tot lot, picnic tables, barbecue facility, fishing, restrooms
Connors Park (San Marcos Elementary)	N	--	3.63	Lighted multi-purpose field, tot-lot, sports courts, skate plaza
Creek District Park	N	--	16.45	To be determined
La Moree Community Park	C	--	20.00	Basketball courts, open field play area, playground, tot lot, picnic tables, barbecue facility, community services complex
Richmar Park	M	--	2.86	To be determined
San Elijo Mini Park	N	--	6.00+	Tennis courts, playground, tot lot, picnic tables, barbecue facility, fishing, restrooms
San Marcos Creek	N	--	20.60	Multi-use trail, plaza, gardens, amphitheater seating, trash receptacles
South Lake Park ¹	C		54.00	To be determined
Twin Oaks Valley Neighborhood Park	N	--	16.00+	Softball fields, tennis courts, basketball courts, playground, tot lot, picnic tables, barbecue facility, restrooms
University District Park	N	--	25.33	Sport court, playground structure, picnic facilities
Total Future Undeveloped Parkland (Future – not part of existing parkland)-			200.87	
Total Citywide Parkland, Trails, and Recreational Facilities		Existing 340.05	Future 357.79	
Total Citywide planned Parkland, Trails, and Recreational Facilities			697.84	

Source: City of San Marcos 2011

M=Mini-Park; N=Neighborhood Park; C=Community Park; n/a=information not available or yet to be determined

- Woodland Modular: youth programs
- Jack's Pond Nature Center: nature center
- Jack's Pond Recreation Center: youth programs
- Westside Senior Center
- Heritage Park and Museum (Walnut Grove Park)
- Williams Barn: events center
- Walnut Grove Park Sports Barn: group meeting hall



Mission Hills Park

Photo credit: City of San Marcos.



San Marcos Senior Center

Photo credit: City of San Marcos.



Trails occur throughout the community, contributing over 70 acres of park/recreation area.

Photo credit: City of San Marcos.

Recreational Trails and Open Space Connections

The trail system throughout San Marcos provides recreational opportunities and serves as an alternative means of pedestrian and bicycle circulation. The trail system connects residential neighborhoods, parks, schools, colleges, stores, restaurants, movie theaters, and other destinations within the City. The system is also designed to connect with the wider regional trails system as planned by the adjacent cities of Carlsbad, Vista, Escondido, and Encinitas, and the County of San Diego.

Within the trail system, there are two types of trail corridors: urban trail corridors and multi-use trail corridors. Urban trails, which provide alternative circulation for pedestrians and bicyclists, are located along side roads. These trails go through the developed sections of the City's core and provide access to commercial, retail, cultural, and social activities.

Multi-use trail corridors are designed to provide access to less developed areas within the City. They allow hikers, mountain bikers, and equestrian enthusiasts to access the City's rural and scenic areas. These trails are located throughout the City, totaling 60 miles (70+ acres) of recreational trails with plans for expanding the trail network to 72 miles (87+ acres). While they provide a means to get from one place to another as a mode of transportation, they are also designed to provide enjoyment and recreational activity.

Refer to the Mobility Element (Chapter 3) for a discussion of the Bikeway Master Plan and bicycle facilities on paved roadways.

Trails Master Plan

The San Marcos Trails Master Plan envisions a 72-mile-long interconnected trail system with three main types of trails:

- 21 miles of Urban Trails, 10-foot-wide paved trail)
- 36 miles of Multi-Use Trails, 10-foot-wide paved and 10-foot-wide decomposed granite (D.G.), soft-surface trails
- 15 miles of Soft-Surface Trails, 6- to 12-foot-wide D.G. soft-surface trails.



Groundbreaking ceremony for Hollandia Park, which includes an amphitheater, lighted soccer field, two lighted softball fields, adventure playground, climbing wall, horseshoe pits, dog park, skate park, multi-use trails, picnic areas, and a caretaker residence. Hollandia Park opened in 2008.

Photo Credit: City of San Marcos, Community Services Department.



Urban trails connect neighborhoods, shops, schools, and other destinations, and provide scenic vistas of the City.

Photo credit: AECOM.

The City currently owns and manages 60 miles of completed trails; an additional 6 miles of trails are designated on approved building plans. Trails that are planned or under construction will connect key recreational destinations throughout the City such as Richmar Park, San Marcos Creek, Owens Peak, Discovery Park, Twin Oaks Valley Road, Sunset Park, and the Inland Rail Trail. Figure 5-2 illustrates the existing and planned trails within the community.

When completed, the inter-linked Citywide system of trails will provide greater connectivity between residential neighborhoods, recreational areas, employment areas, schools, and colleges. The trail system will form loops and connections for recreational use, and will provide access to the natural landscape of San Marcos and neighboring cities.

Open Space

Open space areas and preserves within San Marcos protect the area's natural beauty and contribute to a regional system of hiking, biking, and equestrian trails. In addition, the open space areas within the community preserve habitat for a variety of plants and animals.

The City contains 2,499 acres of dedicated open space, which is approximately 12 percent of the City's acreage. Figure 4-1 in the Open Space and Conservation Element shows the location of open space in San Marcos and describes open space amenities in greater detail.

Community Health and Family Enrichment

A healthy community is defined as a community that is continuously creating and improving physical and social environments and expanding those community resources that enable people to mutually support each other in performing all the functions of life and in developing to their maximum potential. Healthy places are those designed and built to improve the quality of life for all people who live, work, learn, and play within the City.

Emerging trends in community planning are changing the quality and character of cities. In general, greater emphasis is being placed on creating more healthy places, fostering greater physical and social connectivity, and reducing environmental impacts, all of which enhance the quality of life in a community. The City has embraced many of these planning trends, which are evident in the adopted San Marcos Creek Specific Plan and the University District Specific Plan, and throughout the General Plan.

These practices are still evolving, and tend to overlap and reinforce other themes in the General Plan, rather than being distinctive topics. The Parks, Recreation, and Community Health Element defines goals and policies to provide more

opportunities for community health and family enrichment in the City for four major topics: physical activity, access to healthy foods, access to health care and medical services, and community involvement and social networks.

Physical Activity

San Marcos residents, business owners, and visitors recognize the importance of having a variety of recreation choices throughout the community to create more opportunities for physical activity. The City already provides a robust community services program where residents of all age can engage in a broad range of activities, from swimming to belly dancing lessons. Continuing these programs and expanding them to reach the entire spectrum of users—children, teens, adults, and older adults—is supported in the Parks, Recreation, and Community Health Element.

Access to Healthy Foods

Access to healthy food—fresh fruits and vegetables, whole grains, and unprocessed meals—is not guaranteed for the entire community. Whether due to limited transportation options, economic hardship, or simply lack of good choices, some residents may struggle with consistent access to a wide range healthy food options. The City recognizes the importance of expanding options for residents through providing more community gardens and farmer's markets, better access to fresh foods at grocery corner and convenience stores, and encouraging restaurants to provide healthy options.

Access to Health Care and Medical Services

Without access to health care and medical services, residents cannot maintain a high quality of life. The City can help provide better access by ensuring that public transit connects to medical services and by identifying locations where new medical services are a priority. In addition, the City can build relationships with Kaiser Permanente, North County Health Services, Palomar Medical Center, and other local and regional hospitals and clinics and community organizations to ensure equitable access to medical care.

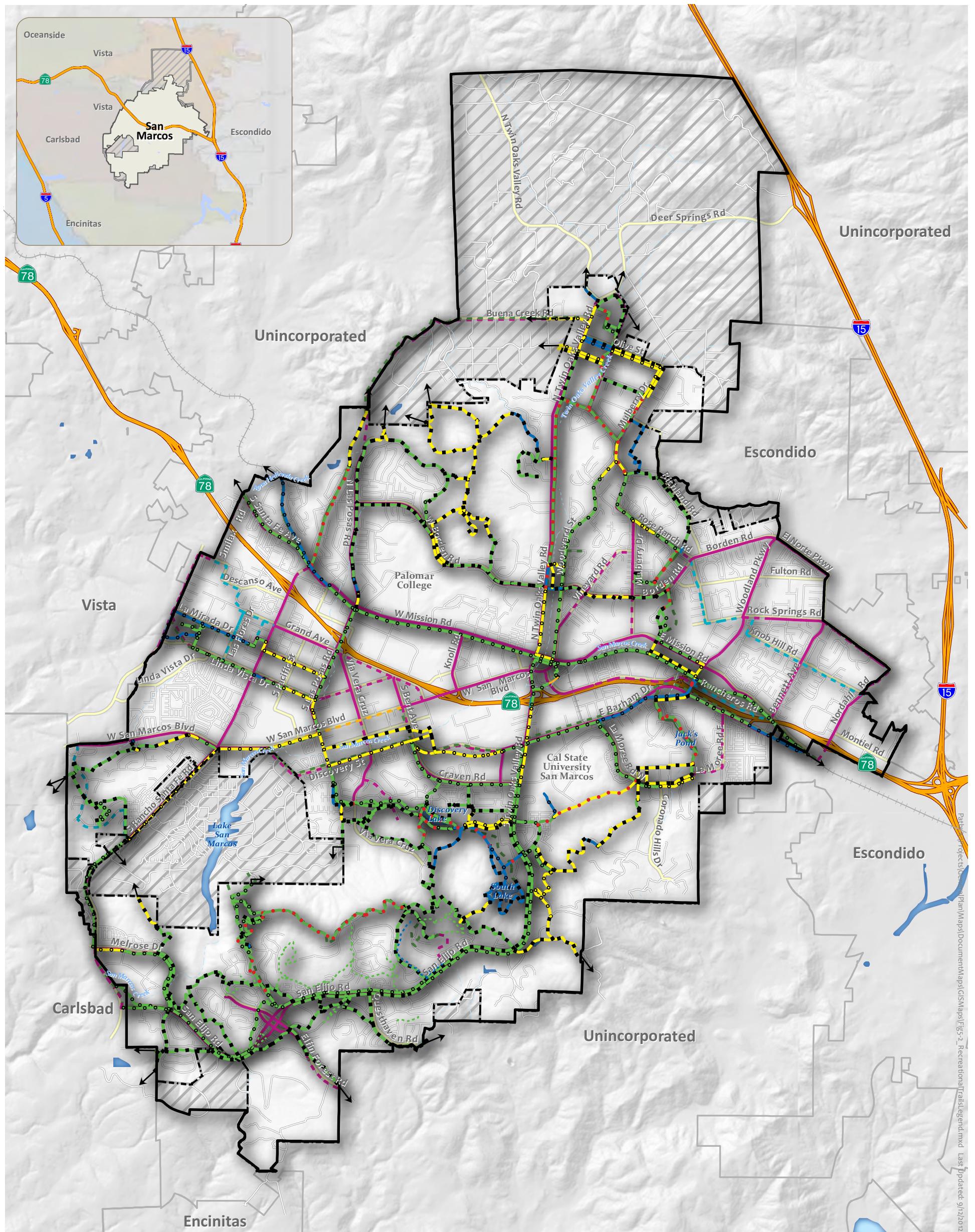
Community Involvement and Social Opportunities

The General Plan process has helped foster an understanding of the major challenges and opportunities faced in San Marcos. From the dedicated members of the General Plan Advisory Committee to workshop participants and children in the youth program, a diversity of opinions helped to develop the City's vision for the future. The City will continue to develop social and community organizations (e.g., Friends of San Marcos Parks and Trails), youth sports groups, business groups, educational institutions, and residents to ensure support for General Plan implementation.



City programs work to expand access to activities and healthy foods.

Photo credit: City of San Marcos.



5

PARKS, RECREATION, AND
COMMUNITY HEALTH ELEMENT

FIGURE 5-2

City of San Marcos

Recreational Trails (Equestrian, Bicycle and Pedestrian)



0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles

SOURCES OF DATA:
City of San Marcos 9/12

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San Marcos City Limits
Sphere of Influence
Planning Area
Major Hydrologic Features
Creeks
Railroad
Freeway
Highway
Major Road
Minor Road

Trails Master Plan

- Multi-Use - Existing
- Multi-Use - Future - Not On Development Plans
- Multi-Use - Future - On Development Plans
- Private - Existing
- Private - Future - On Development Plans
- Sidewalk - Existing
- Soft Surface - Existing
- Soft Surface - Future - Not On Development Plans
- Soft Surface - Future - On Development Plans
- Urban - Existing
- Urban - Future - Not On Development Plans
- Urban - Future - On Development Plans

→ Trails Master Plan Continuations

Bikeways

- Class I - Existing
- Class I - Future
- Class II - Existing
- Class II - Future
- Class III - Existing
- Class III - Future

* See Figure 3-4 for full Bicycle Network

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PARKS, RECREATION, AND COMMUNITY HEALTH ELEMENT

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Community building and social opportunities start at an early age in San Marcos.

Photo credit: City of San Marcos.

5.3 Parks, Recreation, and Community Health Plan

Beautiful, accessible, and well-maintained parks, trail, and recreation facilities are essential amenities in San Marcos. They help foster a closer community atmosphere and make San Marcos more livable and attractive. They encourage physical activity and health, and provide a forum for gathering and interaction. Active and passive recreational resources consist of designated parks, trails, and recreational facilities. Continued provision of recreational opportunities through preservation and maintenance of existing parkland and trails, new park and trails development, and the creation of new recreational facilities will ensure improved quality of life for residents.

Responsive System of Local Parks, Trails, and Recreational Facilities

Connection to Guiding Themes

Sustaining Environmental Quality; Connecting People to Places; A City of Choices; A Healthy and Safe Community

San Marcos has a diversity of parks, trails, and recreational facilities that provide recreational opportunities for neighborhoods, schools, and visitors. As the City continues to grow, these parks must be continually maintained and updated to meet the community's needs. The following goals and policies direct the City of San Marcos to develop and maintain a connected network of facilities that are safe and relevant to resident's needs.

Goal PR-1

Plan for, acquire, develop, and maintain a system of local parks connected through an integrated network of trails and high quality recreational facilities.

Policy PR-1.1: Develop and maintain a complete system of public parks and recreational amenities that provide opportunities for passive and active recreation at a minimum standard of 5 acres per 1,000 residents. Parks, trails and recreational facilities will enhance community livability, public health, and safety; should be equitably distributed throughout the City; and be responsive to the needs and interests of residents, employees, and visitors.

Policy PR-1.2: Update and maintain a Master Parks Plan and a Trails Master Plan that implements the City's long term vision for a complete system of parks, trails, and recreation facilities.

- Policy PR-1.3: Ensure that the development of parks, trails, and recreation facilities and services keeps pace with development and growth within the City.
- Policy PR-1.4: Promote increased access to parks and open spaces, pedestrian- and bike-oriented routes to parks and open space, greening of public rights-of-way, and a variety of active and passive uses of parks and open space.
- Policy PR-1.5: Require new development to be designed and constructed in accordance with the approved Master Trails Plan to meet or exceed the City's parkland standard of 5 acres per 1,000 residents.
- Policy PR-1.6: Require new infill development to provide plazas, mini parks, or other civic spaces, as part of their parkland requirement.
- Policy PR-1.7: Promote park and facility design that discourages vandalism, deters crime, provides natural surveillance and creates a safe and comfortable environment.

Community Health and Family Enrichment

Connection to Guiding Themes

A Healthy and Safe Community; A City of Choices

A safe, secure, and healthy environment is the cornerstone of a successful community. The following goals and policies address quality of life in the City by supporting active lifestyles, safe routes to schools, access to nutritious foods, access to health care and medical services, and community and social connectivity.

Goal PR-2

Become a leader in building healthy communities by supporting recreation and community service programs that promote well-being, fun, lifelong learning, skill development, personal enrichment, and positive relationships.

- Policy PR-2.1: Provide programs at City-owned facilities for people of diverse cultures, backgrounds, ages, gender, interests, languages, lifestyles, abilities, and socioeconomic status.
- Policy PR-2.2: Implement the trail network per the Trails Master Plan to increase opportunities for physical activity (e.g., walking, biking), healthy lifestyles, and to reduce reliance on cars.
- Policy PR-2.3: Facilitate safe, convenient access to healthy foods through increasing access to locally grown food, fresh produce, and healthy meal options. Attract a wide range of healthy food sources such as full-service grocery stores, ethnic food markets, farm stands, community gardens, school-yard gardens, healthy restaurants, and farmers' markets.
- Policy PR-2.4: Promote the public health benefits of healthy eating and lifestyle choices.
- Policy PR-2.5: Increase rates of participation in community events such as youth activities, adult education, senior activities and family-oriented programs.
- Policy PR-2.6: Accommodate new health care facilities (e.g., medical clinics, doctors offices, emergency care facilities, hospitals) to allow for equitable access to primary and emergency health care and medical services.

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PARKS, RECREATION, AND COMMUNITY HEALTH ELEMENT

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