

# Ontario Parks

RECREATION & PARKS MASTER PLAN

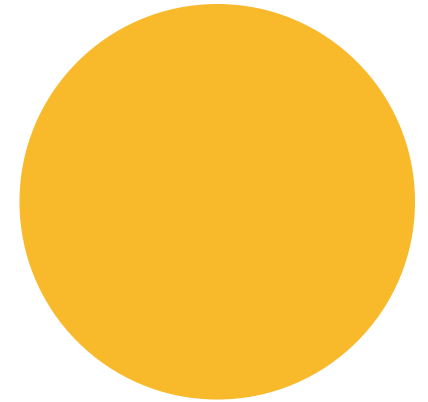
Final August 2021



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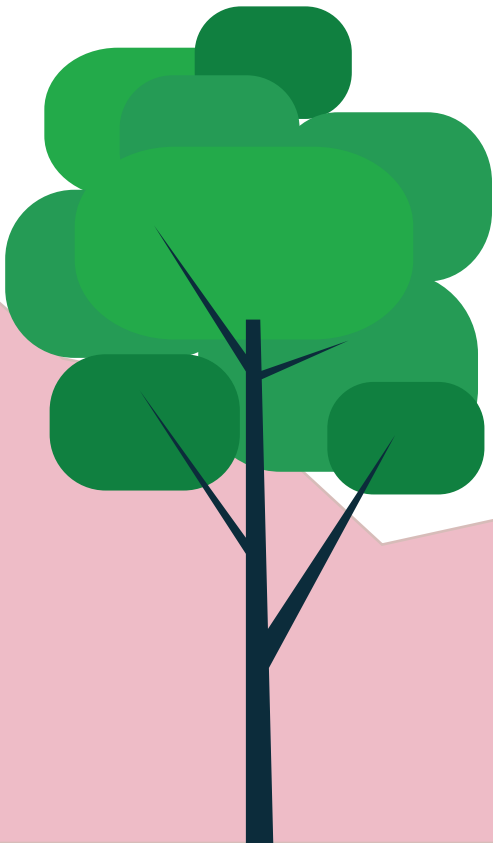
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# 01

## PLANNING CONTEXT



# INTRODUCTION:

## WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

The Ontario Recreation & Community Services Department proudly manages the city’s parks and recreation programs and facilities. Their dedication to providing high-quality and well-balanced recreation facilities for current and future generations is the impetus for the Ontario Recreation & Parks Master Plan (ORPMP).

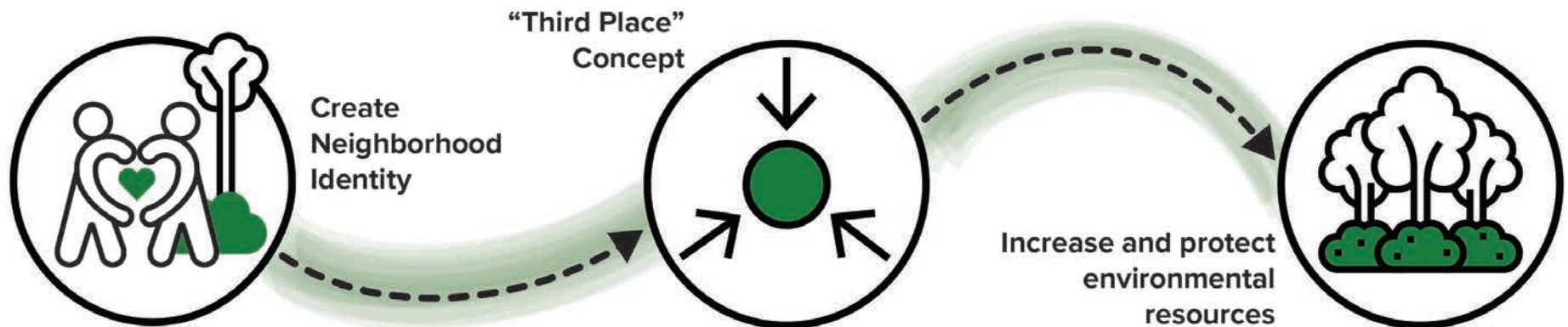
Planning for parks and open space is more important than ever as Ontario continues to experience rapid population and employment growth, social and demographic changes, and residential development. Parks, trails, and recreation facilities will play a critical role in maintaining a healthy well-being balance for the growing population. The Department recognizes that these facilities will allow residents to experience their neighborhoods, culture, and city-at-large in meaningful and healthy manners.

The city’s growth also brings other potential challenges that the ORPMP can help address. Parks and open spaces provide a plethora of environmental benefits such as stormwater capture and cleaning, greenhouse gas sequestration, and reducing the heat island effect. Furthermore, parks and

public spaces play a major role in maintaining mental health. Participating in sports, programs, classes, or simply going for a walk all have numerous mental health benefits that should not be taken for granted.

The city and planning team behind the ORPMP would also be remiss not to mention the impact that the COVID-19 pandemic had on people and outdoor spaces. Our communities experienced how critical it is to have access to trails, parks, and other kinds of outdoor spaces. We heard through commentaries, surveys, and publications how much people needed to go outside to stay both physically and mentally healthy during the pandemic. As stated in a publication by the Trust for Public Land, “People turned to their parks like never before for fresh air, exercise, meditation, solace, and a much-needed break from the stresses of a quickly-changing world.” The pandemic spotlighted every city’s parks system and provided a unique opportunity to learn from this experience.

The timing of the ORPMP was coincidental, and although it presented certain obstacles for the planning process, the final document provides a balanced way forward. The ORPMP assessed existing facilities and programs, engaged with the community through a series of online and in-person outreach strategies, developed a list of recommendations, and outlined a set of actions that will assist with project implementation. The ORPMP is the result of a one-year process that would not have been possible without the involvement and collaboration between city staff, local stakeholders, and Ontario residents.





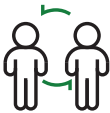
# ORPMP GOALS

The City of Ontario is determined to comprehensively plan for existing and future residents. The city is experiencing dynamic changes, and with appropriate, genuine, and insightful planning, will ensure their parks and recreation needs are met. The following goals guided the master planning efforts:



**Goal 1**

Evaluate Existing Parks and Recreation Programs and Facilities



**Goal 2**

Engage and Listen to the Community



**Goal 3**

Identify Common and Visionary Opportunities



**Goal 4**

Establish Implementation Strategies







## RECREATION & COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

The Ontario Recreation & Community Services Department offers a dynamic range of recreation and community services, programs, and events. These services range from tots to seniors and provide an array of classes and programs for residents to participate in throughout the seven community centers and 35 parks found throughout the City.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the Recreation & Community Services Department implemented additional programs to adapt to the changing times. Services include:

- \* Remote Enrichment Camp (R.E.C.) provides working parents and guardians with a safe environment for their child to complete remote learning.
- \* Tot Enrichment Camps nurture social skills in toddlers and are limited to 10 students per CDC guidelines.
- \* The Ontario Youth Activities league is a free program which hosts fun activities virtually each month geared for youth ages 10-15.

The Recreation & Community Services Department offers a variety of teen services, many of which shifted virtually during the pandemic:

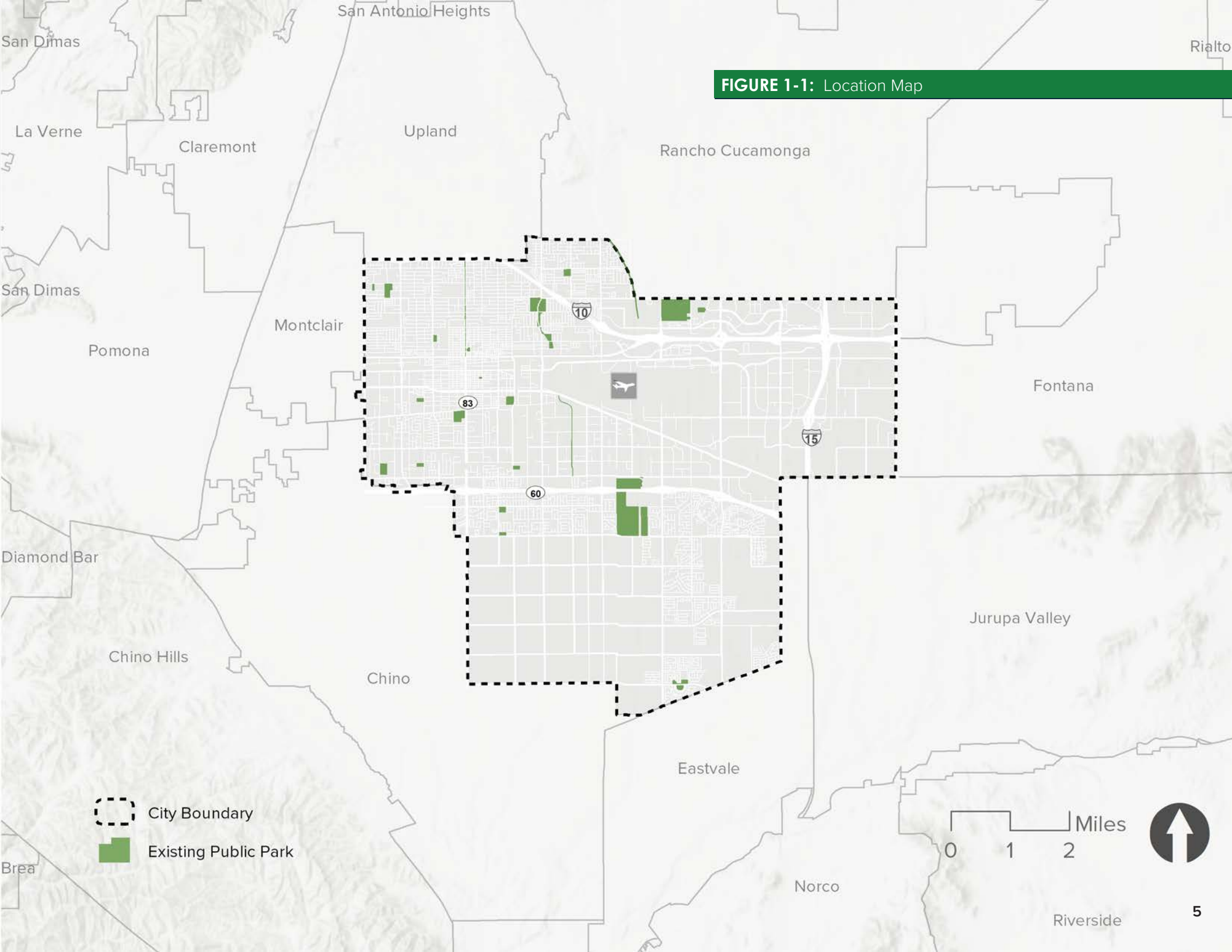
- \* Teen Action Committee addresses community issues in a leadership role and offers virtual networking opportunities and monthly meetings.



- \* The student Representative Program is comprised of non-voting student representatives who serve a 1-year term on the Recreation & Parks Commission.
- \* The G.I.R.L.S. Club brings together a community of young women that empowers teenage girls to develop into confident and independent individuals in our society.
- \* The Teen Studio is where teens with interests in music, podcasting and filming can meet and learn from each other.

Senior services provided by the Recreation & Community Services Department include:

- \* The City of Ontario's Senior Living Newsletter is intended to keep everyone informed with the most up-to-date information on what is happening in Ontario. Enhancing the quality of life and connecting community is an important aspect of the Recreation & Community Services Department by encouraging their senior citizens to stay informed and engaged.
- \* The Silver S.T.A.R.S. Senior Transportation and Recreation Shuttle provides transportation services to and from the Ontario Senior Center or doctor appointments for seniors.
- \* Pre-COVID services included social activities, clubs, and classes at the Ontario Senior Center, located at 225 E. B Street.

**FIGURE 1-1:** Location Map



-  City Boundary
-  Existing Public Park

0 1 2 Miles





# PLANNING CONTEXT:

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## DOCUMENTS, PROJECTS, AND PROGRAMS

The following documents, projects, and programs lay an important foundation for parks and recreation planning. They contribute to the general understanding of the city's existing conditions so that appropriate decisions are made for future parks and recreation planning.

### **PARKS AND RECREATION ELEMENT**

The purpose of the Parks and Recreation Element is to establish goals for the Ontario park system and recreation programs and highlight the vital role parks and recreation programs play in economic development, land use, housing, community health, infrastructure, and transportation goals. The City of Ontario believes that parks promote community engagement, economic investment, and quality aesthetic design and that parks should be distributed throughout the City. It is intended that the City's parks are well planned, managed, and maintained. Parks provide opportunities for physical exercise and relaxation, and provide programs and activities to enrich the lives of members of the community.

The following goals derived from the Parks and Recreation element are designed to establish carefully sited and well-designed parks that serve the community:

1. Create neighborhood identity
2. Serve as focal points for gathering (the "third place" concept) and celebration
3. Increase and protect environmental resources

### **MOBILITY ELEMENT**

Ontario is strategically located within a regional transportation network that includes an international airport with passenger and air cargo operations,

three freeways, three freight rail lines, commuter and passenger rail services, public transit, and a local network of streets and multi-purpose trails. This robust system creates unique opportunities for Ontario as a regional jobs hub and a complete community. Ontario's vision to concentrate growth in key locations will allow the City to capitalize on this transportation system. Ontario's vision of a sustained, community-wide prosperity which continuously adds value and yields benefits emphasizes and encourages the expansion of mobility options as the City and the region grow.

The purpose of the Mobility Element is to provide overall guidance for the City's responsibility to satisfy the local and subregional mobility needs of their residents, visitors, and businesses while maintaining the quality of life envisioned in The Ontario Plan. The City believes that access to convenient local and regional mobility options is essential to the City's growth. Prosperity through a sustained multi-modal mobility system will assist residents with achieving access to jobs, schools, shopping, services, parks, and other key destination points.

### **ONTARIO GREAT PARK**

The Ontario Great Park is one of the city's largest and most exciting park planning endeavors. The Great Park is approximately 340 acres, extends over 3.5 miles in an east-west direction, and has varying widths anticipated between 280-1,600 feet. The Ontario 'Great' Park is envisioned as a focal point for the region, serving the City of Ontario's recreational and open space needs. This park will be developed in phases with preliminary plans to be complete in early 2021 and with final approval shortly after. Construction is anticipated to begin by the end of 2021.

### **HEALTHY ONTARIO**

The Healthy Ontario Initiative is long-term umbrella initiative that aims to improve community health through collective impact. A Healthy Community includes education and job opportunities; safe and vibrant neighborhoods; healthy food choices; access to quality healthcare; and activities and programs to prevent and manage health conditions.

The Healthy Ontario Collaborative strives to improve access and bring resources and information to the community to support individual and community health. The Healthy Ontario Collaborative is coordinated



by the City of Ontario's Planning Department and includes private organizations, non-profit partners, school districts, and the community. The Collaborative understands that maintaining good health is easier when people are surrounded by healthy choices in their schools, workplaces, and neighborhoods.

The Collaborative represents a community-based approach to wellness that seeks to make changes at multiple levels to bring about improved health outcomes. The following goals support the ORMP:

### 1. Prevention and wellness

**Goal 1:** *Environments, systems, and policies that minimize chronic disease and enhance optimal health and wellness.*

**Objective 1.1:** *Increase awareness and consumption of and access to healthy foods and food preparation*

**Objective 1.2:** *Increase opportunities for, and participation in, physical activity*

**Objective 1.3:** *Increase opportunities to support positive mental health*

**Objective 1.4:** *Increase awareness and opportunities for regular health and dental screenings*

### 4. Safe and complete neighborhoods

**Goal 4:** *Safe, complete and distinct neighborhoods that support healthy lifestyles*

**Objective 4.1:** *Create neighborhoods that sustain economic prosperity, safety, physical and mental health, and access to employment and other means of economic prosperity for residents of all ages and income levels.*

**Objective 4.2:** *Create places that provide safe and enjoyable gathering points for the community. (i.e. Health Hubs such as Town Square, Huerte del Valle community garden, parks and community centers, and Farmers Markets).*

## POPULATION STANDARDS

In its simplest form, the existing parks system is analyzed against a ratio that compares park acres per 1,000 people. Local agencies can adopt their own standards, but often agencies tend to look toward national and regional standards. The “3 acres per 1,000” population standard was developed as part of the city's general plan recreational element. Although this ratio is typical of the Southern California region, the ORPMP will explore other methods of evaluating population standards that are tailored to the city based on input, local demographics, and trends. The following chapters take a deeper look into the population standards and communicate how effectively the city is meeting those guidelines.





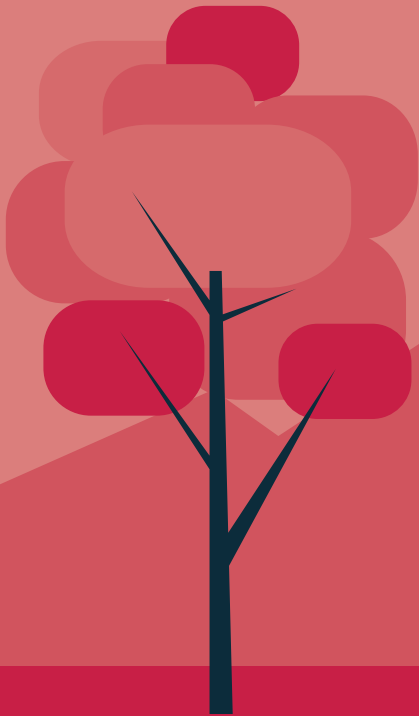


John Galvin Park



# 02

## EXISTING CONDITIONS



# EXISTING CONDITIONS:

## WHERE ARE WE NOW?

The City of Ontario operates 32 public parks, three dog parks, and seven community centers, totaling approximately 453 acres of parkland. These public parks offer ample opportunities for passive and active recreation. Ontario residents also have access to Guasti Regional Park, which is owned and managed by San Bernardino County Regional Parks Department.

This chapter will take a deeper dive into the existing park level of service and explain how this topic can be analyzed in different manners.

## DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

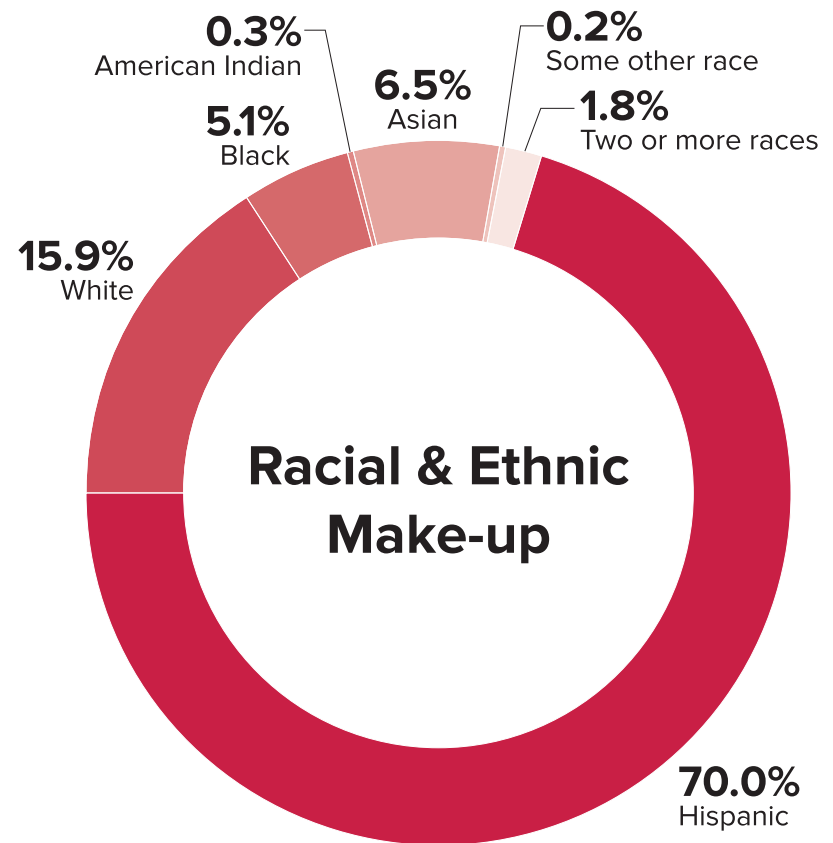
Gaining a clear understanding of the existing and projected demographic character of the city is an important component of the planning process for the Ontario Recreation & Parks Master Plan. By analyzing population data, trends emerge that can inform decision making and resource allocation strategies for the provision of public parks, recreation amenities, and open spaces. For example, if the demand for soccer fields was steadily on the rise and existing public recreation facilities for soccer were barely meeting existing user demand, then the City may want to consider targeting investments to meet the increasing needs of this growing segment of the population.

Key areas were analyzed to identify current demographic statistics and trends that can impact the planning and provision of public parks and recreation services in Ontario. Community characteristics analyzed and discussed consist of:

- \* Existing and projected total population
- \* Age distribution
- \* Racial and ethnic character
- \* Household information
- \* Household income

This demographic profile was completed using the most current data available (as of July 2019) from the U.S. Census Bureau. A summary of demographic highlights is noted in Figure 1-1, followed by a more detailed demographic analysis.

According to the 2019 U.S. Census Bureau latest project, the City of Ontario has a total of 185,010 residents and 52,886 housing units. The racial and ethnic make-up in Ontario is 15.9 percent white, 6.5 percent Asian, 5.1 percent Black, 0.3 percent American Indian, 0.1 percent Pacific Islander, 0.2 percent some other race, and 1.8 percent two or more races. About 70.0 percent of the population identifies as Hispanic or Latino.







**185,010**  
Population



**52,886**  
Housing Units



**32.4**  
Median Age



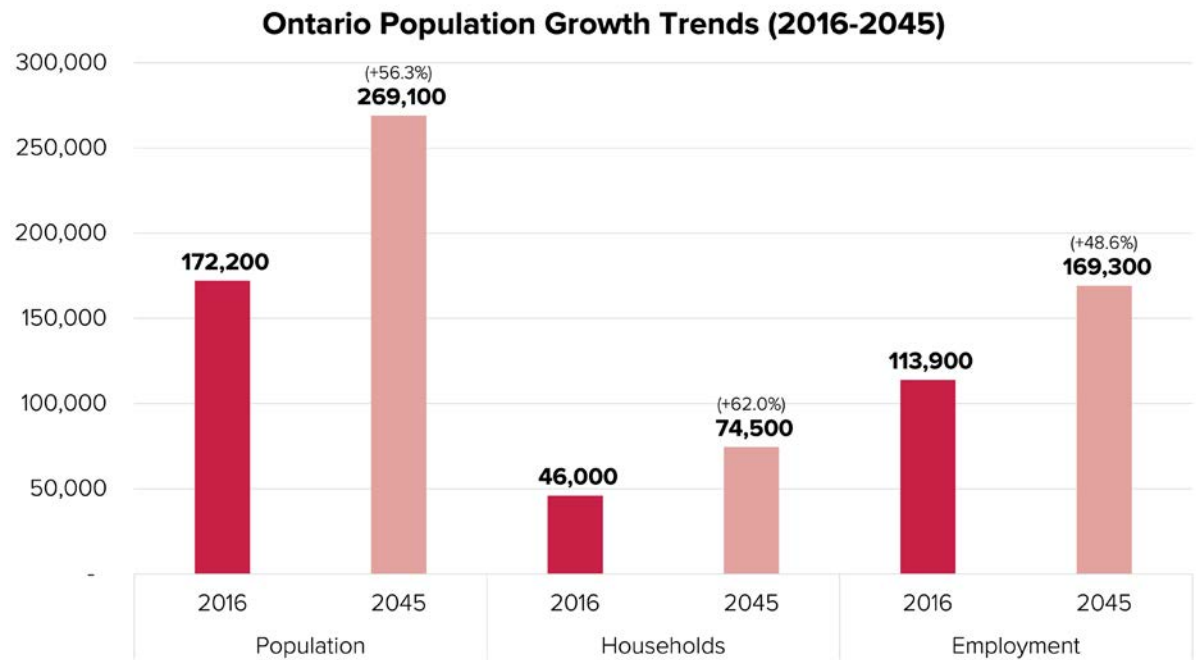
**\$65,046**  
Median Income

Key general 2019 demographic comparisons with other city, state, and national statistics include:

- \* The estimated median age of Ontario residents is 32.4 years, lower than both the median age for California (36.5) and that of the United States (38.5).
- \* The median household income for Ontario in 2019 is estimated to be \$65,046. This is lower than the median household income of \$75,235 in California, but higher than the national median household income of \$62,843.
- \* Ontario’s estimated population was almost evenly split between male (49 percent) and female (51 percent) residents. The populations of California and the United States are also roughly evenly divided between the sexes.

**ONTARIO POPULATION GROWTH TRENDS**

SCAG projects that from 2016 to 2045, the city’s population will increase by 56.3 percent. According to these projections, the total number of households will increase by 62.0 percent. Similarly, employment will rise by 48.6 percent. The projected population growth trends are represented in the graph below.



Source: SCAG Demographic and Growth Forecast, 2020

# PARK CLASSIFICATIONS

The ORPMP classifies the city’s parks into five categories: Mini/Neighborhood Parks, Community Parks, Linear Parks, Regional Parks, and Special Use Parks, as shown in Table 2-1. Each park type provides standard and unique recreation opportunities. The park types should be analyzed both independently and collectively to determine the city’s existing conditions.

## MINI PARKS & NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS

Mini Parks and Neighborhood Parks are generally smaller parks that provide both passive and limited active recreation. Although they tend to focus more on passive recreation, they play an important role in providing outdoor access for neighborhoods. These parks are typically less than 5 acres and serve residents within a 15-minute walkshed. They generally do not include large amenities such as gyms, pools, or sports fields. Open grassy areas, picnic tables, walkways, and playgrounds are typical park amenities.

## COMMUNITY PARKS

Community Parks serve the daily recreational needs of the local neighborhood they are located in, as well as the broader community at large. They are generally between 5 and 30 acres in size, meaning they contain larger park facilities such as multi-purpose fields, pools, and court sports. Community Parks serve both residents within a 15-minute walkshed but also people within a 5-minute drive.

Most of the Community Parks in Ontario also have community centers that provide a wide range of programs and services. These community centers often accommodate special events, recreation programs, offices, and community services.

## LINEAR PARK

Linear Parks are defined as narrow and linear open spaces that typically have limited park amenities. They tend to provide passive linear recreation experiences such as jogging, walking, biking, and some forms of gathering spaces such as benches and picnic tables.

## REGIONAL PARKS

Regional Parks are parks that are larger than 30 acres and provide a wide range of activities for passive and active recreation. Regional Parks can be found within city limits and may be managed by the city or the county. Recreation opportunities include natural open space, sports field and courts, cultural facilities, trails, multi-purpose buildings, playgrounds, aquatic facilities, and many other amenities.

## SPECIAL USE SPACES

Special Use Spaces are park areas that provide unique recreation opportunities. The Special Use Parks in Ontario include the three dog parks, the Ontario Soccer Complex, and Whispering Lakes Golf Course. They often serve the recreation needs of specific groups of people but are always publicly available.

**TABLE 2-1:** Park Acres by Park Type

PARK TYPE	SIZE	ACRES
Mini Parks + Neighborhood Park	Less than 3 acres	97.19
Community Parks	Greater than 3 acres	108.19
Linear Park	Varies	47.44
Regional Park	Greater than 30 acres	75.52
Special Use Park	Varies	200.32
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>528.66*</b>

\* This total includes Guasti Regional Park

**FIGURE 2-1: Park Types**



# EXISTING FACILITIES:

## TAKING A LOOK AT OUR PARKS

The ORPMP inventoried the City's existing park facilities using both data provided by the city and on-site field work. Table 2-2 summarizes these facilities and compares them with the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) guideline service level. The 2020 NRPA Agency Performance Review guidelines were used for this analysis. The numbers are determined by acquiring data from agencies across the country and then averaging them out based on population groupings. The calculations are based on the city's population of 185,010 according to 2019 Census ACS 5-Year Estimates, which places Ontario in the 100,00-250,000 NRPA category.

These guidelines are advisory, allowing the city to compare itself to others. This also allows the project team to make informed and custom decisions that reflect the unique needs of the city in the recommendations section of the ORPMP.

Only public parks were visited and analyzed for the existing conditions analysis. Private HOA parks are reviewed in the following chapter.

### The City of Ontario has:



7 mini-parks



15 neighborhood parks



6 community parks



4 linear and special use parks



1 regional park





**TABLE 2-2:** Park Amenities Inventory

CITYWIDE INVENTORY OF MAJOR PARK AMENITIES	MINI-PARKS						NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS										COMMUNITY PARKS					LINEAR + SPECIAL USE PARKS				REGIONAL PARKS									
	Nugent's Park	MT. View School Park	Sam Alba Park	Conservation Park	Ranch Park	Ontario Town Square	George Gibbs Park	Grove Memorial Park	James R. Bryant	Centennial Park	Cypress Park	Del Rancho Park	James Galanis Park	South Bon View Park	North Celebration Park	South Celebration Park	Ontario Motor Speedway Park	Creekside Park	Kimball Park	Veterans Memorial Park	Vineyard Park	Jay Littleton Ball Park	Bon View Park	Homer Briggs Park	Anthony Munoz Park	De Anza Park	Westwind Park	John Galvin Park	Euclid Avenue Parkway	Ontario Soccer Complex	West Cucamonga Creek Trail	Whispering Lakes Golf Course	Guasti Regional Park		
<b>PARK ACREAGES</b>	0.2	0.5	1.0	1.0	1.8	1.9	2.7	3.1	4.5	4.6	4.7	4.8	4.8	4.8	5.0	5.5	6.2	6.9	7.1	7.5	9.0	9.7	10.3	14.4	15.8	19.2	23.0	25.6	13.4	23.4	34.0	175.9	75.5		
<b>PARK AMENITIES</b>																																			
Amphitheater	3			1		1										1																			
Group Picnic Area	33			2		1	1			1	2	1		1	1	3		2		1	2		1	3		1	1	3		2				4	
Playground	22	1	1	1	1	1			1	1	1	1		1	1		1	1		1	1		1	1	1	1	1							1	
Restroom Building	24		1						1	1	1			1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1		1					3	
Community Garden	2																					1	1												
Dog Park	3								1																		1						1		
Parking Lot	29						1		1		1	1	1	1	1		1	1	1	1	1		2	1	2	3	4	2				1		2	
Aquatic Feature	3			1																														2	
Multipurpose Field	13		1				1			1	1			1	1	1	1	1		1		1	1			1									
Concession Stand	6																1					1	1			1			1						
Exercise Area	10								1	1	1			1						1					1	1	1								
Baseball	10		1																1			1	2			2	2								
Basketball	30		1		1				3	3	3							3			3		1	1	3	2	3	3							
Softball	13		1				1									1		2	1			1		2	1	2	1								
Futsal	3																								1		2								
Pickleball Court	1																									1									
Horseshoe Court	11	6																					1		2		2								
Pool	5																			1		1		1		1								1	
Splash Pad	1																																		1
Equestrian Trail	1																						1												
Equestrian Staging Area	1																						1												
Tennis	9								1									2									3	3							
Soccer	17															2								3	4	2			6						
Walking Path	34			1	1	3		1		1			1	1	3	2	1			2	2		2	3		3	4	1		1	1				
Volleyball	5										1						1								1	1	1								

## Existing Park Facilities

- 1 Anthony Munoz Park
- 2 Bon View Park
- 3 South Celebration Park
- 4 Centennial Park
- 5 Conservation Park
- 6 Creekside Park
- 7 Cypress Park
- 8 De Anza Park
- 9 Del Rancho Park
- 10 Euclid Avenue Parkway
- 11 George Gibbs Park
- 12 Grove Memorial Park
- 13 Homer Briggs Park
- 14 James Galanis Park
- 15 James R. Bryant Park
- 16 Jay Littleton Ball Park
- 17 John Galvin Park
- 18 Kimball Park
- 19 Mt. View School Park



- 20 North Celebration Park
- 21 Nugent's Park
- 22 Ontario Motor Speedway Park
- 23 Ontario Soccer Complex
- 24 Ontario Town Square
- 25 Ranch Park
- 26 Sam Alba Park
- 27 South Bon View Park
- 28 Veterans Memorial Park
- 29 Vineyard Park
- 30 West Cucamonga Creek Trail
- 31 Westwind Park
- 32 Whispering Lakes Golf Course
- 33 Guasti Regional Park
- 34 Schimmel Dog Park
- 35 James R. Bryant Dog Park
- 36 Whispering Lakes Dog Park

**FIGURE 2-2: Existing Park Facilities**





**FIGURE 2-3:** Existing Community Centers

## Existing Community Centers

- 37 Anthony Munoz Community Center
- 38 Armstrong Community Center
- 39 De Anza Community & Teen Center
- 40 Dorothy A. Quesada Community Center
- 41 Ontario Senior Center
- 42 Veterans Memorial Community Center
- 43 Westwind Community Center



According to the park inventory and the NRPA guidelines (see Table 2-3), the City currently meets the LOS needs under the following categories:

- \* Community Centers
- \* Amphitheatres
- \* Basketball Courts
- \* Baseball (adult) & Softball (adult)
- \* Dog Parks
- \* Soccer Fields (adult)
- \* Swimming Pools

Although the following categories are highlighted in red, they are within a small margin and can be considered as meeting the recommended LOS:

- \* Recreation Center
- \* Senior Center
- \* Teen Center
- \* Community Garden
- \* Multi-Purpose Field

The city does not meet the following categories based on the NRPA guidelines.

- \* Bocce Ball
- \* Baseball (youth) & Softball (youth)
- \* Pickleball
- \* Playgrounds (tot lot ages 2-5)
- \* Playgrounds (ages 6-12)
- \* Soccer (youth)
- \* Tennis
- \* Skatepark
- \* Volleyball

**TABLE 2-3:** Level of Service Current Population (NRPA Averages)

LEVEL OF SERVICE FOR 2019 POPULATION (185,010 EST. POP.)		EXISTING CITY FACILITIES	TOTAL EXISTING INVENTORY	NATIONAL GUIDELINE SERVICE LEVEL (1/# POP)	RECOMMENDED CITY STANDARD (1/# POP)	TOTAL FACILITIES NEEDED	TOTAL SURPLUS / DEFICIT
Indoor Facilities	Rec Center	3	3.0	50,000	50,000	3.7	(-0.7)
	Community Centers	7	7.0	54,000	54,000	3.4	3.6
	Senior Center	1	1.0	124,000	124,000	1.5	(-0.5)
	Teens Center	1	1.0	138,100	138,000	1.3	(-0.3)
	Performance Amphitheatres	3	3.0	112,600	112,000	1.7	1.3
	Nature Centers	0	0.0	125,000	125,000	1.5	(-1.5)
Outdoor Facilities	Basketball Courts	30	30.0	8,790	8,800	21.0	9.0
	Bocce Ball	0	0.0	6,250	12,000	15.4	(-15.4)
	Community Gardens	2	2.0	66,645	66,700	2.8	(-0.8)
	Diamond Fields: Baseball (Adult - 230'+)**	5	5.0	47,754	47,800	3.9	1.1
	Diamond Fields: Baseball (Youth - <230')**	6	6.0	12,300	12,300	15.0	(-10.0)
	Diamond Fields: Softball (Adult - 200'+)**	14	14.0	26,714	26,700	6.9	6.1
	Diamond Fields: Softball (Youth - <200')**	0	0.0	23,220	23,200	8.0	(-8.0)
	Dog Parks	3	3.0	99,700	99,700	1.9	1.1
	Multi-Purpose Field*	12	12.0	13,200	13,200	14.0	(-2.0)
	Pickleball	1	1.0	6,250	12,000	15.4	(-14.4)
	Picnic Areas (12+people)	36	36.0	5,000	5,000	37.0	(-1.0)
	Playgrounds (age 6-12)	22	22.0	4,620	6,000	30.8	(-8.8)
	Playgrounds (tot lot / age 2-5)	22	22.0	20,700	6,000	30.8	(-8.8)
	Rectangular Soccer (Adult U14+)**	15	15.0	20,400	20,400	9.1	5.9
	Rectangular Soccer (Youth U6-12)**	4	4.0	12,800	12,800	14.5	(-10.5)
	Skate Parks	0	0.0	107,700	107,700	1.7	(-1.7)
Swimming Pool	5	5.0	64,250	64,200	2.9	2.1	
Tennis Courts	9	9.0	5,580	12,000	15.4	(-6.4)	
Volleyball	5	5.0	22,250	22,000	8.4	(-3.4)	

\* Indicates a shared facility with seasonal use - point included in single purpose facilities

\*\* Indicates a single purpose facility, number includes shared facilities

## PARK LEVEL OF SERVICE

The Park Level of Service analysis is a type of analysis that compares the geographic distribution of parks to the city’s population. This GIS-based analysis examines different types of accessibility modes (walk, bike, and drive) for the city’s existing park types. Instead of using radius circles from parks that only consider a direct distance instead of actual walking, driving, or biking distances, the ORPMP utilizes the actual road network that provides real-world access to park and recreation facilities. This method is more accurate and highlights the importance of a safe and reliable street network to improve access to park facilities. This analysis is directly tied to the park planning principle that people should have convenient walking or biking access to a local park.

Figure 2-4 and Table 2-4 illustrate the existing geographic distribution of parks based on the 2019 population level of the city. Parks are distributed well throughout the city, especially when compared to where people reside per the city’s residential land use. The data indicates that the existing park acreage provides 1.41 acres of park per 1,000 population. Service gaps are most apparent in the south-central region of the city.

This analysis also communicates how the city’s existing parks will serve the future population of Ontario using 2045 projections provided by SCAG. Figure 2-5 and Table 2-5 illustrate the existing geographic distribution of parks based on the 2045 population level of the city. The city’s expected 2045 population is estimated to be 269,100 and if no new parks are added to the city, then the park level of service drops significantly to 0.97 acres of park per 1,000 population.

**TABLE 2-4:** Existing Level of Service (2019)

	<b>ACTIVE PARKS (MINI + NEIGHBORHOOD + COMMUNITY)</b>
Existing Park Acreage (Includes part of golf course)	260
Recommended Adopted Standard per 1000 Population	3
Acres per 1000 Population (2019)	1.41
Total Surplus/Deficit Acres per 1000 Population (2019)	-1.59
<b>Acres in Deficit</b>	<b>-294.90</b>

**TABLE 2-5:** Future Level of Service (2045) Existing Parks

	<b>ACTIVE PARKS (MINI + NEIGHBORHOOD + COMMUNITY)</b>
Existing Park Acreage (Includes part of golf course)	260
Recommended Adopted Standard per 1000 Population	3
Acres per 1000 Population (2045)	0.97
Total Surplus/Deficit Acres per 1000 Population (2045)	-2.03
<b>Acres in Deficit</b>	<b>-547.17</b>



**FIGURE 2-4:** Half-Mile Parksheds Existing Residential (2019 Population)



**FIGURE 2-5: Park Acreage with Residential Uses (2045 Population)**





The park level of service analysis also assesses how certain park amenities and facilities service specific populations. The Youth Amenities analysis compares play equipment and sports facilities distribution against specific youth population ages. Figure 2-4 illustrates play equipment distribution throughout the city. Based on 2019 data, approximately 33 percent of youth aged 10 and under are served. Figure 2-5 illustrates specialized sports facilities (courts and fields) and the data suggests that approximately 31 percent of youth and young adults ages 10-24 are served.

The Community Center analysis reviews the distribution of community centers across the city and how well they serve the entire city's population. Figure 2-6 illustrates the travelshed for both a half-mile walk and a 2.5-mile drive distance. The data suggests that approximately 15 percent of the total population is served within a half mile of community centers and approximately 75 percent of the total population is served within a 2.5-mile distance.

The Senior Center analysis examines how much of the senior population is served by the city's sole senior center. Figure 2-7 illustrates the travelshed for a half-mile walk distance. The data suggests that approximately 2 percent of the senior population is served within a half-mile of senior center and approximately 41 percent is served within a 2.5-mile distance.

## LOCAL SCHOOLS

Schools are not classified as park spaces, but they are often used to help address park needs. Schools can provide access to playgrounds, sports fields and courts, restrooms, and walking paths for the general public. The school joint-use analysis in Figure 2-8 depicts the positive impact schools would make in the overall park level of service if each of the schools offered access to amenities previously discussed. Schools provide additional access to recreation, helping close service gaps throughout certain parts of the city such as the south central region.

The ORPMP includes recommendations on how schools can contribute to the city's park level of service through joint-use agreements and other related partnerships.



*Westwind Community Center*

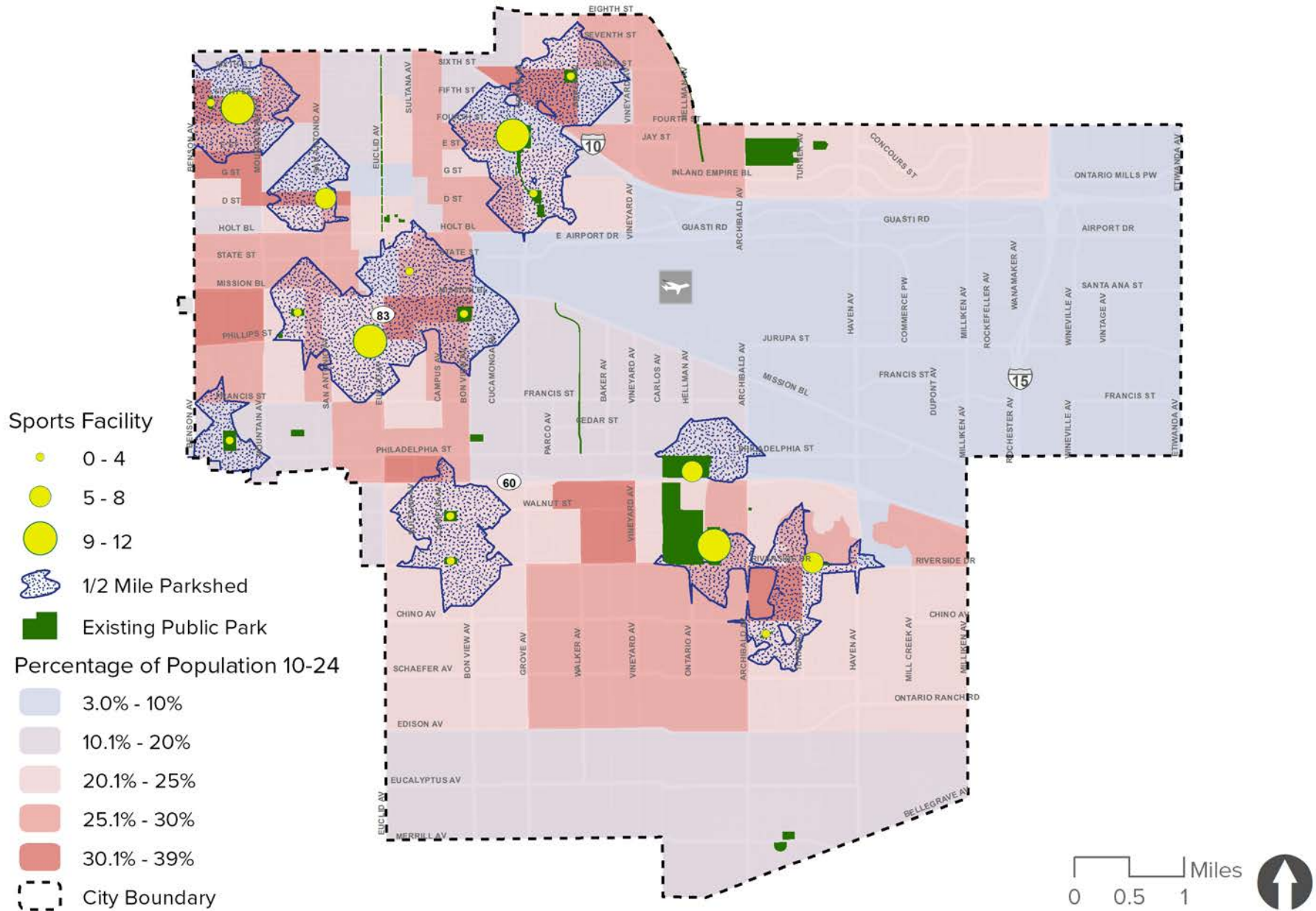


*Dorothy A. Quesada Community Center*

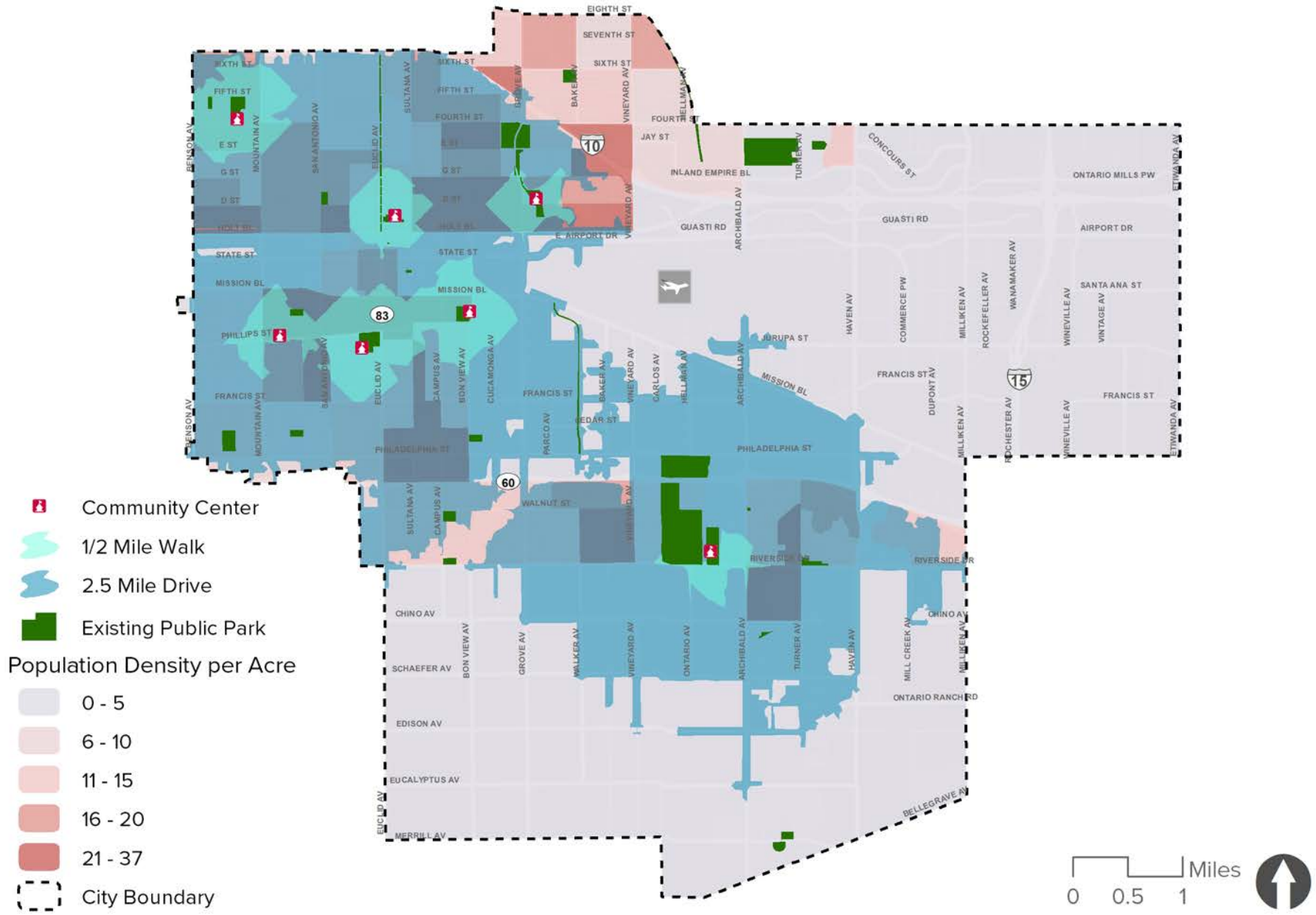




**FIGURE 2-7: Existing Parks (Youth)**

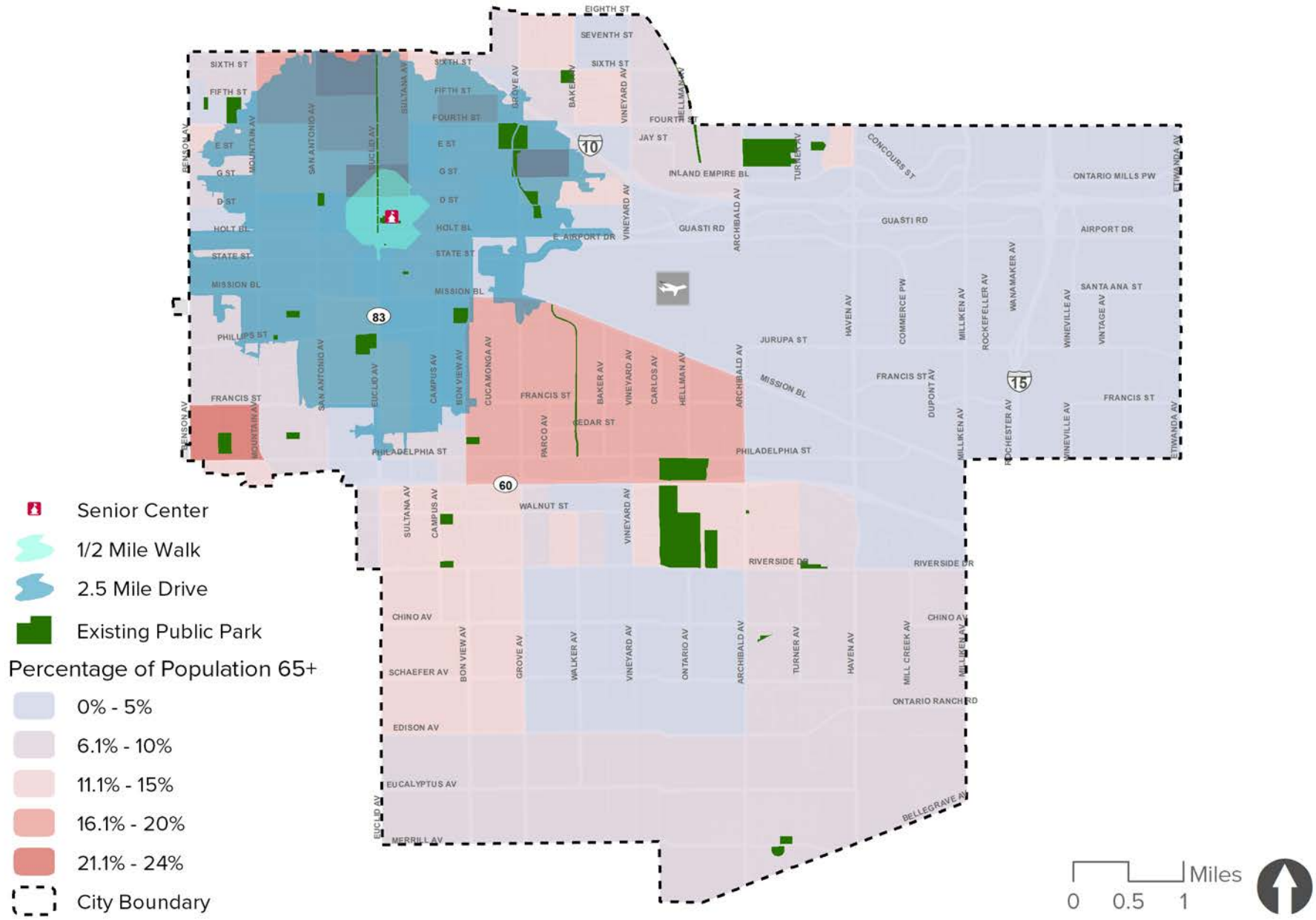


**FIGURE 2-8: Existing Community Centers**

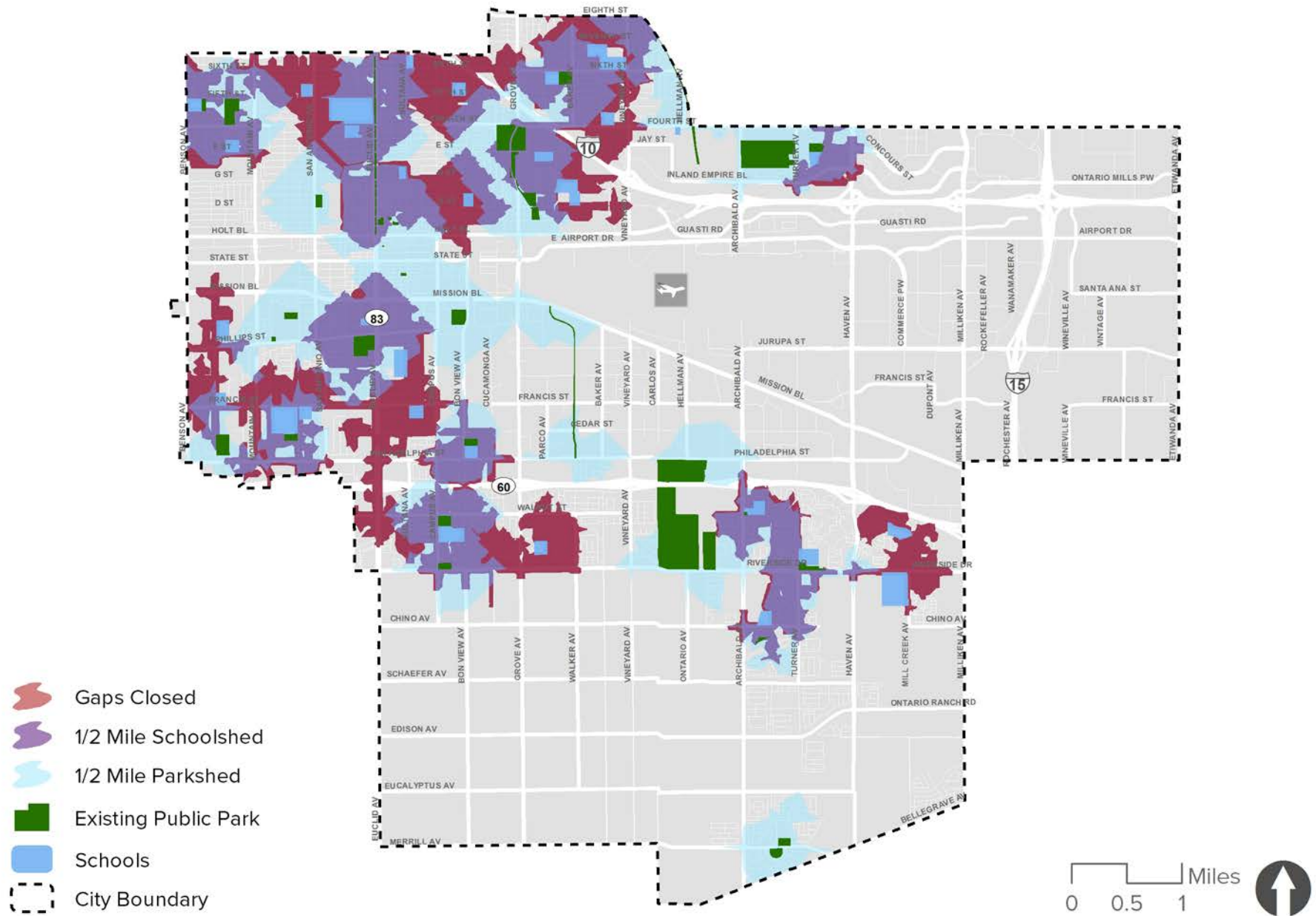




**FIGURE 2-9:** Existing Senior Center



**FIGURE 2-10: School travelsheds**

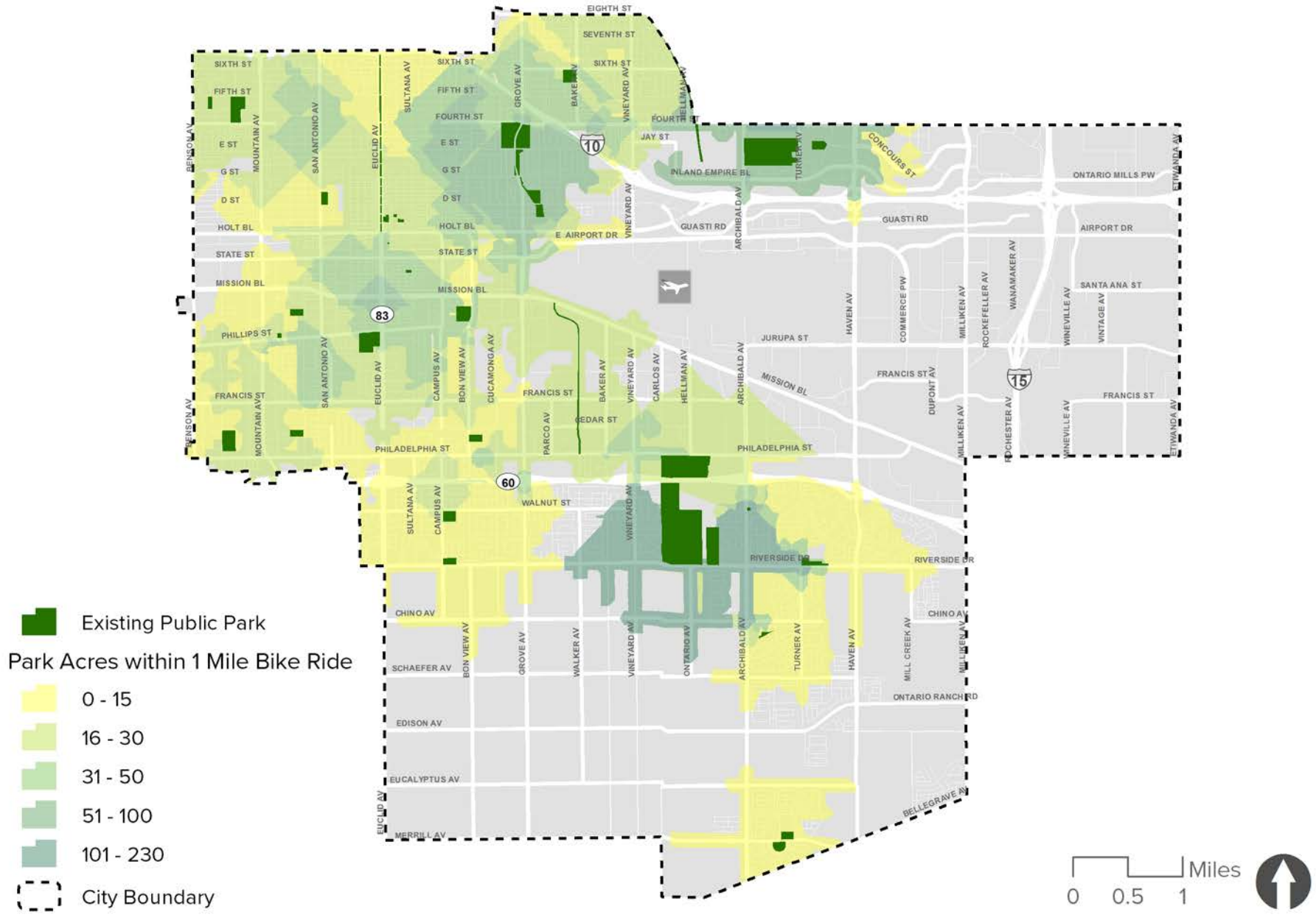


**FIGURE 2-11: Park Quantities- Walking**





**FIGURE 2-12: Park Quantities- Biking**



## PROGRAM OVERVIEW AND ANALYSIS

The City of Ontario currently provides a wide variety of recreation classes and programs. The City purposefully seeks to make participation affordable and financially accessible for all residents. Six City-owned centers are home to City-operated programs.

City-owned Veterans Memorial Community Center is leased and operated by West End YMCA. Programs at non-City owned locations are offered through the City by the means of contracted services. In the case of contracted services, the City typically receives 35 percent of the fee and the contractor receives 65 percent of the fee.

### EXISTING RECREATION PROGRAMS

Ontario Living Magazine is the Agency's seasonal catalog of program, activity, and event offerings. The guide is published four times a year and costs approximately \$130,000 annually to print and distribute to households and businesses. While program and activity offerings vary seasonally, the Agency catalogs programs in the following categories:

- \* Arts & Crafts Classes
- \* Dance & Exercise
- \* Special Interest Classes/Excursions
- \* Tiny Tots
- \* Tot Classes
- \* Sports Classes
- \* Adult Sports
- \* Youth Sports
- \* Adaptive Program
- \* Community Centers
- \* Aquatics

- \* Teen Scene
- \* Senior Center
- \* Library Events
- \* Museum Exhibits & Programs
- \* Arts & Culture Events
- \* Community Events

While these programs are laid out in the Ontario Living Magazine using these categories, the Department does not input all programs in their registration software using these categories.

According to Civic Rec participation and attendance reports, 2,055 programs requiring registration were offered by the Agency and 18,861 registered participants were served in 2019. Of the 2,055 programs offered, 445 activities were offered at a variety of City facilities and private businesses so no correlation between the lack of registrants and location can be assumed.

Friday Night Dance amassed the highest total of registered participants. While the three registration activities available for Ontario 5K Reindeer Run saw the combined highest total (2,811). Rudolph's Dash, a short fun run, had 1,693 registrants. Ontario 5K Reindeer Run had 758 teams registered and 360 individuals registered for the 5K event.

## In 2019, the City of Ontario had:



**2,055** recreation programs



**18,861** registered participants (of those classes entered into Civic Rec)

**TABLE 2-6:** Top Fifteen Activities’s Totals by Registrant Numbers

ACTIVITY	REGISTRANTS
Friday Night Dance Total	2,275
Rudolph's Dash Total	1,693
5K Reindeer Run Team Registration Total	758
Youth Basketball Co-Ed Total	716
Yoga - Seniors 50+ Total	532
Preschool 3s & 4s Total	483
Preschool 4s & 5s Total	428
Tiny Tots Total	398
TAC BBQ Total	390
Chair Yoga - Seniors 50+ & Adapted Total	377
5K Reindeer Run Total	360
Tae Kwon Do @ Westwind - Youth Advanced Total	320
Westwind Community Center - Summer Day Camp Total	313
Mexican Folklore Dance - Beginning Total	312
Tae Kwon Do @ Westwind - Youth Beginning Total	307

**TABLE 2-7:** Ranking of Program Locations: Percent of Total Programs Offered (2019)

ACTIVITY	REGISTRANTS
Westwind Community Center	14.4%
Armstrong Community Center	13.2%
Ontario Senior Center	13.0%
Dorothy A. Quesada Community Center	9.4%
The Dance Shop	7.9%
Anthony Munoz Community Center	6.8%
De Anza Community & Teen Center	6.2%
Westwind Park	6.1%
Rhythm Addict Dance Studio	3.1%
World Elite Gymnastics	2.8%
Colony High School	2.5%
Combined Martial Science	2.4%
Not Available	2.2%
Upland Music School	1.6%
CrossFit Kinnick	1.6%
Ontario Ice Skating Center	1.4%
TriFyft Sports	1.3%
Center Ice Skating Arena	1.1%
Lewis Family Library	0.7%
Ontario Soccer Park	0.7%
Safety Drivers Ed	0.6%
Ovitt Family Community Library	0.3%
Whispering Lakes Golf Course	0.3%
Downtown Ontario	0.2%
Ontario Police Agency	0.1%
Celebration Park South	0.0%



## PROGRAMS FINDINGS

The following list describes the main program findings. These findings are based on what the programs the city currently offers, their associated locations, and the number of registrants. These findings play an important role in determining potential recommendations that may affect the city's future programs.

- \* Youth activities such as Tae Kwon Do, Teen Action Committee BBQs, Youth Basketball, and Preschool appear to be in high demand.
- \* Community events like those surrounding Ontario 5K Reindeer Run are popular.
- \* Senior programming that allows for social interaction and physical activity such as Friday Night Dance and Chair Yoga are well-attended.
- \* Activities that are culturally well-suited to the community and encourage social interaction and physical activity such as Mexican Folklore Dance are also well-attended.
- \* When totaled, pool activities ranked third highest in terms of registrant numbers.
- \* Highest registrations for pool activities were at Westwind Community Center.
- \* Waitlist information showed demand for preschool programming, day camps (most notably in Summer Day Camps), senior van trips, Computer Skills – Adult, Soccer Kicks, Toddler Tales, and Basics of Elementary & Cartoon Drawing.

## NATIONAL, REGIONAL, & LOCAL RECREATIONAL TRENDS

Since the provision of public parks and recreation services can be influenced by demographic preferences, the ORPMP process identified local and national recreation trends that help define what Ontario residents are seeking. This section reviews local and national recreation trends relative to the city's demographic and identified interests. The current trends impacting City services include:

- \* A focus on walking, hiking, and camping in an outdoor setting
- \* Participation in youth activities and sports teams
- \* Swimming and aquatic-based activities
- \* Recreation activities and programs for diverse age-based generations

The city can adapt its park and program requirements by learning from these new shifts in participation in outdoor recreation, sports, and cultural programs.

### HOUSEHOLD PARTICIPATION IN OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

According to the 2020 Sports, Fitness, and Leisure Activities (SFIA) Topline Participation Report, outdoor recreation is an activity group that is continuing to capture the interest and attention of new audiences; besides those older than 55, all other age groups listed camping as the number one activity among non-participants. Outdoor recreation activities that are growing in popularity are indicated with green arrows whereas activities that are losing popularity are indicated with a red arrow. Camping trips, canoeing/kayaking, fresh and saltwater fishing, frisbee, hiking, jogging/running, and road biking were all popular activities; visiting the beach was the number one outdoor recreation activity. Knowing that residents like to visit the beach may be an indication of the community's need for aquatic related programs. Table 4-9 shows the team sports with the highest and the lowest average annual growth from 2012 to 2017. According to the 2018 SFIA, Millennials are more likely than other generations to engage in water sports.

## HOUSEHOLD PARTICIPATION IN TEAM SPORTS

Nationally, according to the 2020 SFIA report, the activity with the most growth over the last five years has been rugby with a more than 16 percent increase. Flag football, indoor soccer, cheerleading, and basketball have all experienced an increase in participation. Ultimate Frisbee, touch football, and fastpitch softball have seen a significant decline in the last five years.

**TABLE 2-8:** Water Sport Average Annual Growth

WATER SPORT	5 YEAR AVG. ANNUAL GROWTH
Stand Up Paddling	⬆️ 5.3%
Kayaking for recreation	⬆️ 5.2%
Surfing	⬆️ 1.8%
Sailing	⬆️ -1.6%
Board Sailing	⬆️ -1.8%
Wakeboarding	⬆️ -2.5%

Source: 2020 Sports, Fitness, and Leisure Activities Topline Participation Report, 2014-2019

**TABLE 2-9:** Team Sport National Average Annual Growth

TEAM SPORT	5 YEAR AVG. ANNUAL GROWTH
Flag Football	⬆️ 4.3%
Indoor Soccer	⬆️ 3.4%
Cheerleading	⬆️ 1.8%
Basketball	⬆️ 1.6%
Volleyball -- Court	⬆️ 0.6%
Outdoor Soccer	⬆️ -1.0%

Source: 2020 Sports, Fitness, and Leisure Activities Topline Participation Report, 2014-2019

## NATIONWIDE FITNESS ACTIVITY TRENDS

According to the SFIA, high impact intensity training (HIIT) and cross-training style workouts, or CrossFit, are two of the top trending aerobic activities. These workouts combine elements of gymnastics, weightlifting, running, rowing, and other sports to create a varied fitness regime.

Concerning individual sports, off-road triathlons have seen a 7 percent average annual growth for the last five years. These races, such as XTERRAs, consist of a competitive combination of swimming, mountain biking, and trail running. Pickleball, a paddle sport mixing badminton, tennis, and table tennis, is still trending, gaining an average of 8 percent growth each year. Growing even slightly faster is Cardio Tennis at 9.1 percent. Cardio Tennis is a fitness program that focuses on combining a full-body workout with elements of tennis.

Engaging individuals who normally do not participate in recreational activities or visit parks is one of the outreach challenges of parks and recreation agencies. Income has been seen to impact activity rates; those households making under \$50,000 are significantly less active than those making more.

## LOCAL AND STATE-WIDE RECREATIONAL EXPENDITURES

Ontario residents spend an average of \$1,504 a year on recreational expenditures, totaling almost \$76 million in 2020 according to available census and recreation use databases. The same reports also suggest that California residents spend an average of \$2,120 a year, totaling approximately \$28 million a year. The data suggests that Ontario residents on average spend much more on recreation when compared to the state’s average. This could help justify increasing and diversifying available parks and recreation resources, amenities, and programs offered by the city.

The expenditure estimates included membership fees for social, recreation, and community clubs, fees for recreation lessons, camping fees, and recreation equipment purchases, and other related recreation expenses. According to the Outdoor Industry Economy Report, in California alone, annual consumer spending in outdoor recreation is \$92 billion, supporting 691,000 direct jobs.

**TABLE 2-10:** Nationwide Fitness Activity Trends

	5 YEAR AVG. ANNUAL GROWTH
<b>AEROBIC ACTIVITY</b>	
Aquatic Exercise	⬆️ 4.3%
Stationary Cycle	⬆️ 3.3%
Treadmill	⬆️ 2.5%
Dance, step & other choreographed to music	⬆️ 2.3%
Swimming for fitness	⬆️ 2.2%
Walking for fitness	⬆️ -0.2%
Running/Jogging	⬆️ -0.3%
<b>STRENGTH ACTIVITY</b>	
Free Weights (Barbells)	⬆️ 2.1%
Free Weights (Dumbbells/Hand Weights)	⬆️ -1.7%
<b>CONDITIONING ACTIVITIES</b>	
Rowing Machine	⬆️ 5.5%
Yoga	⬆️ 3.8%
Barre	⬆️ 2.9%
Tai Chi	⬆️ 2.0%

Source: 2020 Sports, Fitness, & Leisure Activities Topline Participation Report, 2014-2019

### State of California Outdoor Recreation Economy



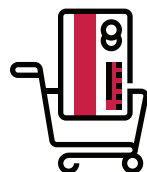
**691,000**

Direct State Jobs



**\$30.4 B**

in Wages and Salaries



**\$92 B**

in Consumer Spending



**\$6.2 B**

in State/Local Tax Revenue

### GENERATIONAL CHANGES

Activity participation and preferences tend to vary based on several demographic factors, but can also differ based on generational preferences.

- \* The Silent Generation began life in difficult conditions, including the Great Depression, World War II, and economic and political uncertainty. The youngest have reached 75 years of age and can be greatly assisted by the social interaction that takes place at senior centers or within senior programs.
- \* As Baby Boomers enter and enjoy retirement, they are looking for opportunities in fitness, sports, outdoor activities, cultural events, and other activities that suit their lifestyles. When programming for this age group, a customized experiences catering to the need for self-fulfillment, healthy pleasure, nostalgic youthfulness, and individual escapes is important.
- \* Many members of Generation X are in the peak of their careers, raising families, and growing their connections within the community. Programming for this age group may revolve around adult sport leagues and outdoor entertainment such as music and arts events.
- \* Millennials tend to be more tech-savvy, socially conscious, and achievement-driven with more flexible ideas about balancing wealth, work, and play. They generally prefer different park amenities and recreational programs from their counterparts in the Baby Boomer generation.
- \* As of the 2010 Census, Generation Z forms about a quarter of the U.S. population, nearly half of the youth population is ethnically diverse.
- \* Generation Alpha are the children of Millennials, they will have no fear of technology. Every effort to accommodate this generation with high quality, state of the art technology in facilities and with programs will be necessary to reach this group.





Conservation Park



03

FUTURE CONDITIONS



# FUTURE CONDITIONS & EXISTING FACILITIES

## WHAT HAPPENS IF WE DON'T ADD NEW FACILITIES FOR A GROWING POPULATION?

This chapter takes a closer look at how Ontario’s existing park facilities will serve the projected 2045 population. This is an important park planning element to highlight because it helps understand if the city’s rapidly-growing population will be equitably served with the city’s existing parks, open space, and community center facilities.

This chapter uses 2045 SCAG population projections as well as data derived from the NRPA’s Agency Performance Review resource. These guidelines are advisory, allowing the city to compare itself to others. This also allows the project team to make informed and custom decisions that reflect the unique needs of the city in the recommendations section of the ORPMP.

## EXISTING AND PLANNED PARKS LEVEL OF SERVICE FOR 2045 POPULATION

The previous chapter analyzed how the city’s parks serve the existing population and this section focuses on park level of service using 2045 projections provided by SCAG. Figure 3-1 illustrates the existing geographic distribution of parks based on the 2045 population level of

the city. The city’s expected 2045 population is estimated to be 269,100 and if no new parks are added to the city, then the park level of service drops significantly to 0.97 acres of park per 1,000 population.

Figure 3-2 takes this analysis one step further, taking into account the planned parks in Ontario Ranch such as the ‘Great’ Park and the HOA parks. For the purposes of this analysis, the entirety of the proposed ‘Great’ Park acreage was included, but only 25 percent of the existing and planned HOA parks were added to Table 3-1.

The data suggests that the planned future parks help address future population growth, mostly due to the substantial size of the planned ‘Great’ Park. The ‘Great’ Park alone is estimated to be a 340 acre park. It will serve as a local community park for Ontario residents as well as a regional park for neighboring cities. The 2045 park acrea deficit is estimated to be 164 acres, suggesting that new parks and open space are still needed to equitably serve Ontario’s future population.

**TABLE 3-1:** Future Level of Service (2045) Existing, Planned, and HOA Parks

	<b>ACTIVE PARKS (MINI + NEIGHBORHOOD + COMMUNITY)</b>
Existing & Future Park Acreage (Includes part of golf course)	643
Recommended Adopted Standard per 1000 Population	3
Acres per 1000 Population (2045)	2.33
Total Surplus/Deficit Acres per 1000 Population (2045)	-0.67
Acres in Deficit	-164.71



# EXISTING PARK LEVEL OF SERVICE FOR 2045 POPULATION

Table 3-2 summarizes the park inventory facilities and compares them with the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) guideline service level. The projected 2045 population shifts the city into a new set of guidelines because it passes the 250,000 population threshold.

According to the park inventory and the NRPA guidelines (Table 3-2), the City would meet the future LOS needs with existing facilities under the following categories:

- \* Community Centers
- \* Amphitheatres
- \* Basketball Courts
- \* Softball (adult)
- \* Dog Parks
- \* Multi-Purpose Field
- \* Soccer Fields (adult)
- \* Swimming Pools
- \* Volleyball

Although the following categories are highlighted in red, they are within a small margin and can be considered as meeting the recommended LOS:

- \* Recreation Centers & Senior Center
- \* Teen Center
- \* Nature Center
- \* Baseball (adult)

The city does not meet the following categories based on the NRPA guidelines:

- \* Bocce Ball
- \* Community Garden
- \* Baseball (youth) & Softball (youth)
- \* Pickleball
- \* Playgrounds (tot lot ages 2-5)
- \* Playgrounds (ages 6-12)
- \* Soccer (youth)
- \* Skatepark
- \* Tennis Courts

**TABLE 3-2:** Level of Service Future Population, 2045 (NRPA Averages)

LEVEL OF SERVICE FOR 2045 POPULATION (269,100 EST. POP.)		EXISTING CITY FACILITIES	TOTAL EXISTING INVENTORY	NATIONAL GUIDELINE SERVICE LEVEL (1/# POP)	RECOMMENDED CITY STANDARD (1/# POP)	TOTAL FACILITIES NEEDED	TOTAL SURPLUS / DEFICIT
Indoor Facilities	Rec Center	3	3.0	71,514	70,000	3.8	<b>(-0.8)</b>
	Community Centers	7	7.0	109,089	100,000	2.7	4.3
	Senior Center	1	1.0	275,401	250,000	1.1	<b>(-0.1)</b>
	Teen Center	1	1.0	343,661	250,000	1.1	<b>(-0.1)</b>
	Performance Amphitheatres	3	3.0	341,294	250,000	1.1	1.9
	Nature Centers	0	0.0	361,613	350,000	0.8	<b>(-0.8)</b>
Outdoor Facilities	Basketball Courts	30	30.0	11,632	11,600	23.2	6.8
	Bocce Ball	0	0.0	6,250	12,000	22.4	<b>(-22.4)</b>
	Community Gardens	2	2.0	96,322	95,000	2.8	<b>(-0.8)</b>
	Diamond Fields: Baseball (Adult - 230')**	5	5.0	48,657	48,500	5.5	<b>(-0.5)</b>
	Diamond Fields: Baseball (Youth - <230')**	5	6.0	23,619	23,500	11.5	<b>(-6.5)</b>
	Diamond Fields: Softball (Adult - 200')**	13	14.0	35,875	35,500	7.6	5.4
	Diamond Fields: Softball (Youth - <200')**	0	0.0	43,670	43,500	6.2	<b>(-6.2)</b>
	Dog Parks	3	3.0	129,506	125,000	2.2	0.8
	Multi-Purpose Field*	12	12.0	22,538	22,500	12.0	0.0
	Pickleball	1	1.0	6,250	12,000	22.4	<b>(-21.4)</b>
	Picnic Areas (12+people)	36	36.0	5,000	5,000	53.8	<b>(-17.8)</b>
	Playgrounds (age 6-12)	22	22.0	8,271	8,000	33.6	<b>(-11.6)</b>
	Playgrounds (tot lot / age 2-5)	22	22.0	22,163	8,000	33.6	<b>(-11.6)</b>
	Rectangular Soccer (Adult U14+)**	15	15.0	30,092	30,000	9.0	6.0
	Rectangular Soccer (Youth U6-12)**	4	4.0	32,649	32,500	8.3	<b>(-4.3)</b>
	Skate Parks	0	0.0	247,664	245,000	1.1	<b>(-1.1)</b>
Swimming Pool	5	5.0	72,556	72,500	3.7	1.3	
Tennis Courts	9	9.0	9,997	12,000	22.4	<b>(-13.4)</b>	
Volleyball	5	5.0	70,287	70,000	3.8	1.2	

**FIGURE 3-1:** Existing Parksheds with Future Residential Land Use



**FIGURE 3-2:** Existing & Previously-Planned Parksheds with Future Residential Land Use





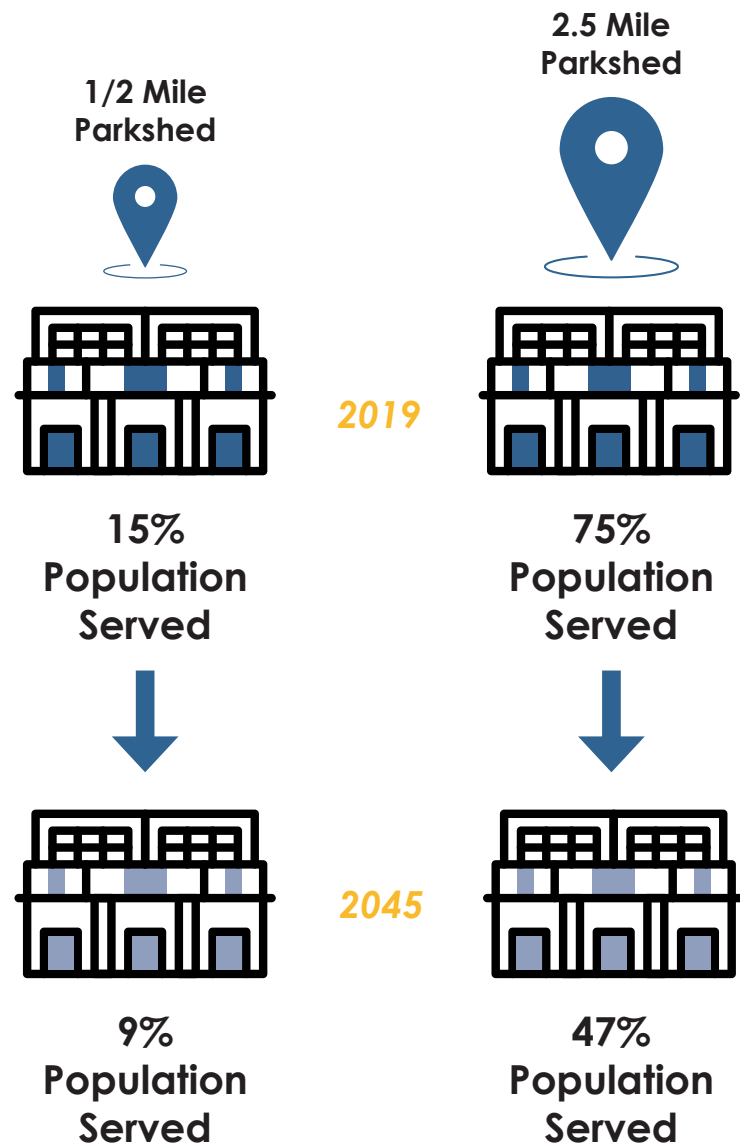
# EXISTING COMMUNITY CENTERS AND 2045 POPULATION

The city places great importance on equitable access to community centers. Figure 3-3 depicts the location of the seven community centers throughout Ontario and the projected 2045 population. The purpose of this map is to communicate the geographic distribution of the existing community centers and how they may serve the growing population.

The level of service indicates that population served drops from 15 percent to 9 percent in 2045 within a half-mile radius. The 2.5-mile radius analysis indicates that population served drops from 75 percent to 47 percent in 2045. This analysis suggests a widening gap if there are no additional community centers added throughout the city.

Gaps in the geographic distribution of community centers are also highlighted in Figure 3-3. The map shows that if no new community centers are added, there will be a deficit in population served in the northern, central, and southwest-central regions of the city.

The rapid growth of southern Ontario and new housing developments that will occur provide great opportunities to address the community center gaps for future residents. The following chapter highlights an exciting opportunity that will help address community center deficiencies as well as provide guidance on other related steps that can help address equitable access.



**FIGURE 3-3:** Community Centers & Future Residential Land Use



# ONTARIO 'GREAT' PARK PHASE 1

During the development of the ORPMP, the city had embarked on another major park-planning and design project. This project is called The Ontario 'Great' Park and it has ambitious goals of becoming a premier park that serves the local community and the region at-large.

The Ontario 'Great' Park is approximately 340 acres, approximately 3.7 miles long, and has varying widths anticipated between 280-1,600 feet. It is located in Ontario Ranch, generally bounded by Ontario Ranch Road on the north, Eucalyptus Avenue on the south, Haven Avenue on the east, and Campus Avenue on the west.

Phase I occurs within the eastern portion of Ontario Ranch, south of Grand Park Street to the north, Eucalyptus Avenue on the south, Haven Avenue on the east, and Archibald Avenue on the west.

## THE IMPORTANCE OF THE 'GREAT' PARK

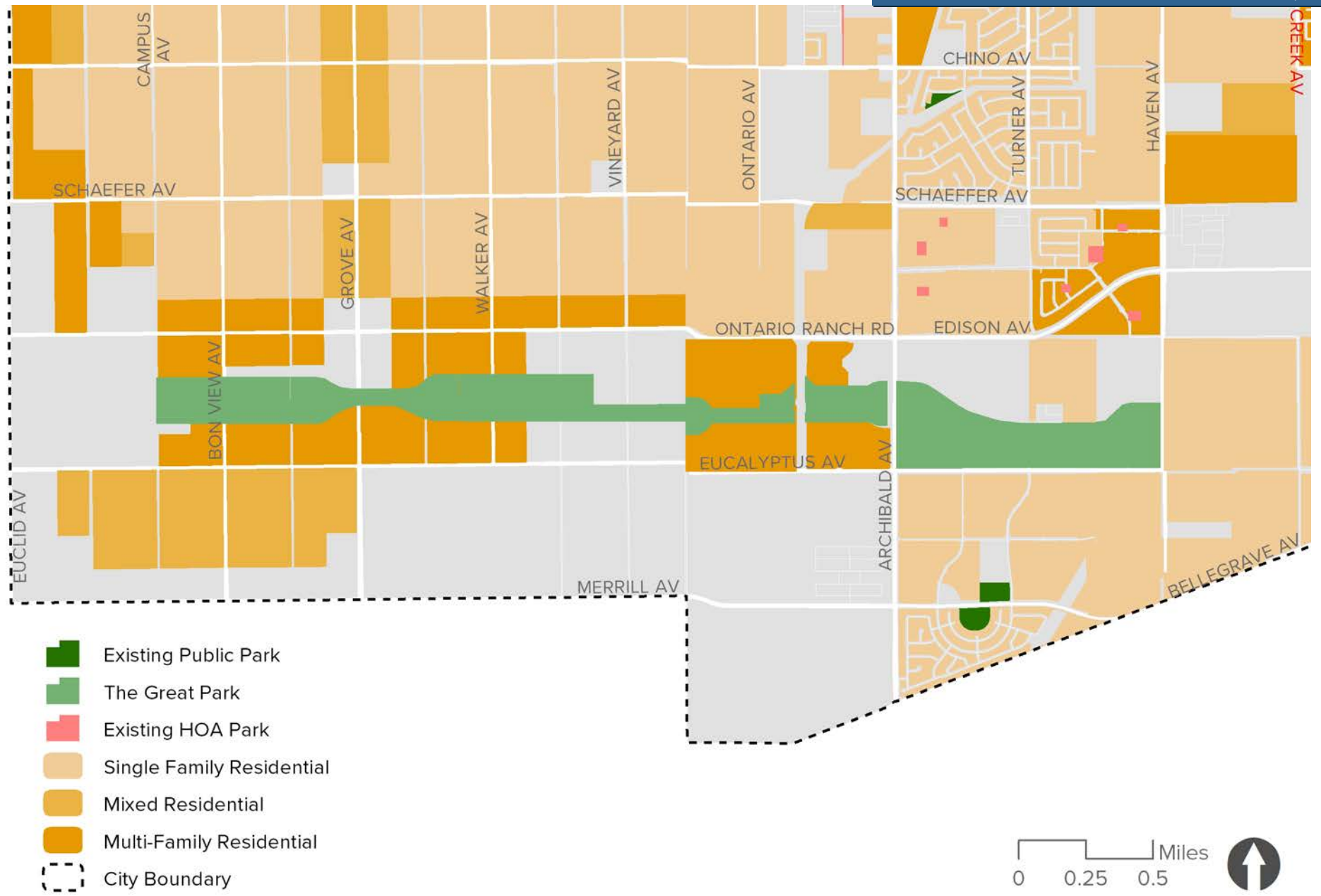
The importance of the 'Great' Park in relevance to the ORPMP is that it serves as one of two major park projects that is working towards addressing open space and park needs for a growing community. The timing of the Phase 1 design process and the ORPMP allows the city to influence certain park elements that reflect community desires shared during the ORPMP planning process.



Ontario "Great" Park Phase 1 Concept Plan, Courtesy of SWA Group



**FIGURE 3-4:** Ontario “Great” Park Context Map



## FUTURE CLASS 1 MULTI-USE PATH NETWORK (ONTARIO RANCH)

The city recognizes the important role that multi-use paths and trails play in park planning. These facilities not only provide safe and comfortable access to parks and open space, they also serve as recreational facilities for people that seek physical activity in the form of linear recreation.

Results from the statistically valid survey indicated that residents would likely walk or ride bicycles to parks and facilities more often (4.1 average/5) if they were accessible and/or made available. Over half of respondents, 51%, indicated that they “definitely would” walk or ride bicycles more often if available. The survey also showed that trails and pathways were ranked as the most important existing facility/amenity out of a list of six categories. These results concur with national recreation trends as the nation sees tremendous growth in walking, bicycling, hiking, and general use of linear recreation.

The city had embarked on an active transportation plan as of the writing of this ORPMP. That planning process will identify opportunities to increase walking and biking throughout the city via facilities such as Class 1 multi-use paths, Class 2 bike lanes, and Class 3 bike routes. Furthermore, the growth of Ontario Ranch and the thoughtful planning that is being completed has led to a preliminary extensive network of Class 1 multi-use paths, as depicted in Figure 3-5. This planned network will serve the future population of Ontario Ranch residents as well as provide recreation and transportation opportunities to the entire city through meaningful connections to existing trails such as the West Cucamonga Trail.

The ORPMP will explore other trail recommendations in the following chapters. It will include guidelines for trail facilities that will assist the city achieve goals related to closing park and open space deficiencies, reducing the city’s overall vehicle miles traveled, and increasing equitable access to recreation facilities.



*West Cucamonga Trail*



*Class 1 multi-use path trailhead on Riverside Drive, across from Whispering Lakes GC*



**FIGURE 3-5:** Ontario Ranch Planned Class 1 Network





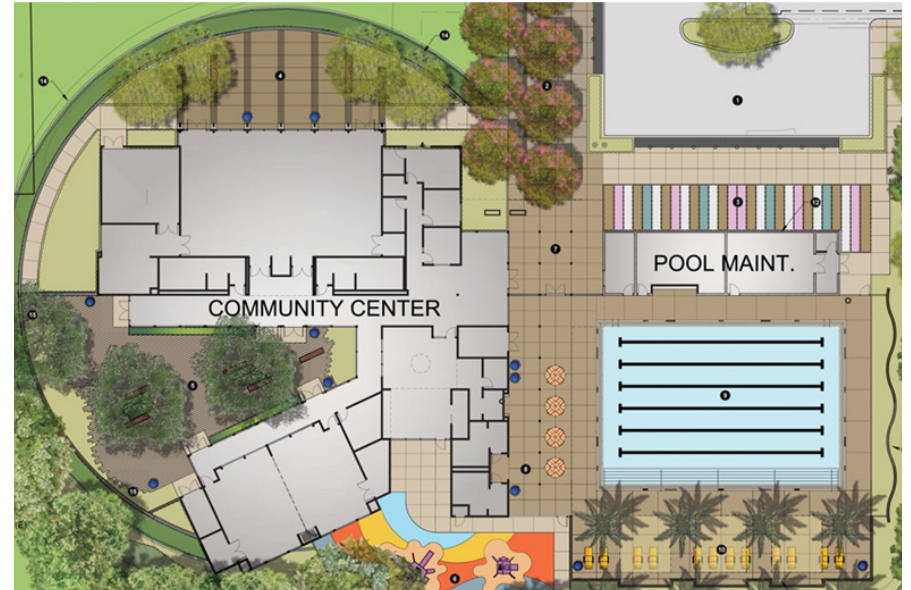
# ANTHONY MUNOZ COMMUNITY CENTER RENOVATION

Access to community centers remains one of the city’s top goals for the ORPMP. City Council members and the community alike have expressed their desires to continue improving existing community centers, and to continue identifying where new facilities can be added.

The renovation of Anthony Munoz Community Center was kicked off in 2018 and has since moved onto the construction phase as of the writing of the ORPMP. Once again, the timing of this project positively supports the ORPMP and the needs of the existing and growing population of Ontario. Figure 3-6 is a context map of Anthony Munoz Park and the surrounding residential land use. The population is expected to grow based on 2045 SCAG population projections, so this project will serve both the immediate needs of the existing community as well as future generations.

The renovation will increase the community center’s size from 2,500 square feet to about 12,000 square feet. It will include a large multipurpose room, a tot classroom, two outdoor courtyards, a kitchen, and a swimming pool. The expanded center will offer more than 50 programs and classes weekly for community members, including dance, art, and music. A Council Member was quoted saying during a community event in 2018, “Improving our community facilities and parks has been and remains a major priority for the City. The Munoz Center expansion is a great example of how we’re investing now in projects that will serve our community well into the future”.

Other community center recommendations will be highlighted, including the addition of a new park with a community center and program recommendations based on trends, local needs, and financial analyses.

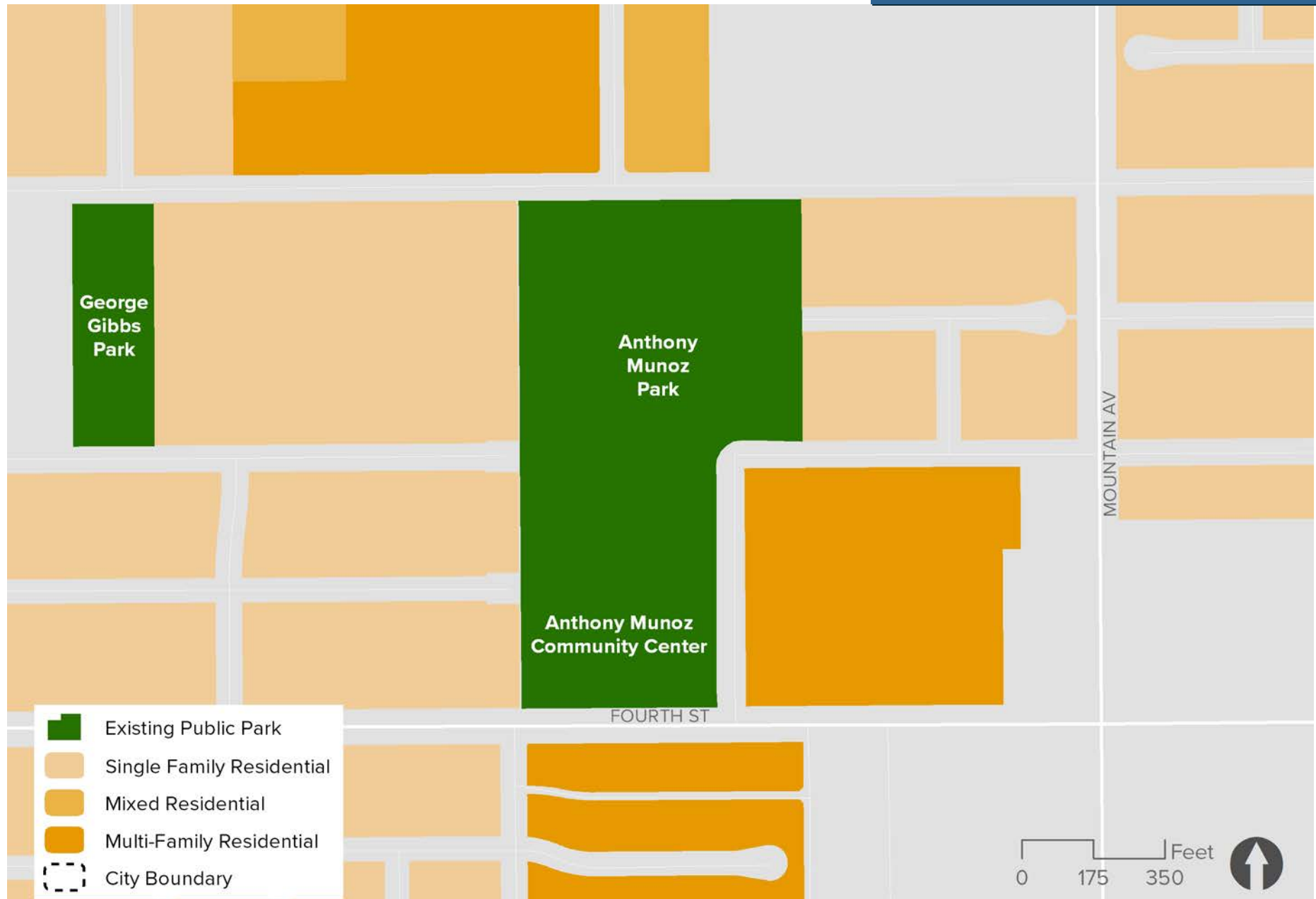


*Anthony Munoz Community Center Site Plan, Courtesy of RCA+A Architects*



*Anthony Munoz Community Center Rendering, Courtesy of RCA+A Architects*

FIGURE 3-6: Anthony Munoz Park Context Map







Bon View Park



04

# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT OVERVIEW

The planning process was conducted in an open and transparent manner to ensure that community members were included throughout the entire course of the project. The community's participation was crucial to identify existing issues, priorities, and goals related to the parks and recreation facilities of the City of Ontario, as well as determining facility and program deficiencies and opportunities. To achieve that, the community engagement process was designed to reach a broad spectrum of stakeholders including residents, city staff, local advocacy groups, the school districts serving Ontario, health organizations, and other community groups.

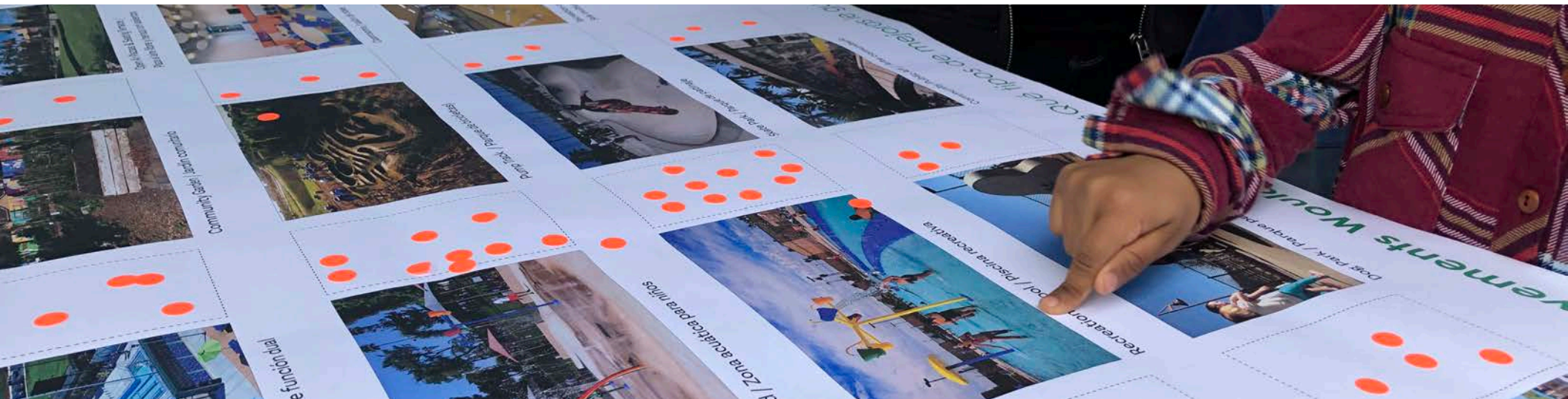
### CONTINGENCY PLAN ADDRESSING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

The team's priority throughout the community engagement process was the safety and welfare of the people they represent and work with. The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic triggered necessary safety measures regarding public gatherings of any size. State and local regulations prohibited large social gatherings which resulted in shifting all community workshops and stakeholder meetings to the online video sharing platform Zoom.

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT STRATEGIES

The primary community engagement strategies utilized for this plan were:

- \* Project branding
- \* Statistically-valid survey
- \* Social media posts
- \* Story map
- \* Pop-up event
- \* Online community workshops
- \* Stakeholder meetings



# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT NUMBERS

<b>1</b> Project Survey	<b>933</b> Completed Surveys	<b>270</b> Invite Sample Surveys
<b>633</b> Open Link Sample Surveys	<b>1</b> Pop-up Event	<b>3</b> Online Workshops
<b>2</b> Stakeholder Listening Sessions	<b>1</b> Online Story Map	<b>10+</b> Social Media Posts



# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT TOOLS

The team utilized friendly and appropriate tools to inform the community about the plan and to maximize participation. The following tools allowed the team to engage the community and other stakeholders throughout the planning process, allowing them to provide meaningful input, despite the pandemic.

## PROJECT BRANDING

Project branding was created for all outreach materials and presentations. The branding was based on the City’s official Brand Guidelines, including approved fonts, colors, and use of the City’s official logo. A unique project logo was used for all outreach materials to promote project familiarity throughout the planning process.

## SOCIAL MEDIA

The City’s Facebook page and Twitter account were primarily used to share updates and events such as the project survey, online story map, and virtual community workshops. This also allowed residents to post questions and comments regarding the ORPMP. Additionally, the City of Ontario used their official city website to post project information, upcoming workshops, and the online survey link.

## STORY MAP

An online comment map was created as a supplemental input method that Ontario residents and stakeholders could use to highlight location-specific deficiencies and opportunities. It also provided the opportunity to categorize the type of issues or improvements identified on the map and allowed respondents to attach photos and include comments. All points were automatically geo-referenced and allowed anyone to see where others had similar issues. This platform allowed the team and the City to efficiently document and analyze comments identified by the community. Additionally, this platform was also used to provide project updates and events.



## STATISTICALLY-VALID SURVEY

In order to gather community feedback on the parks and recreation facilities of the City of Ontario, a survey was distributed during the planning process. The survey consisted of a “statistically valid” invite survey based on a random sampling of residents of Ontario, together with open responses that were obtained from interested residents based on announcements through email lists, newsletters, public meetings, etc. While both sets of responses are important and valid, the invite responses receive particular attention in this report.

Out of the 933 surveys that were completed, 270 surveys were mailed back to the team. Addresses of Ontario residents were acquired by Melissa Data, a commercial vendor. This survey was available in English and Spanish and the underlying data from this invite sample survey was weighted by Hispanic/Latino/Spanish origin and age to more closely match the actual population profile of Ontario’s residents, according to the U.S. Census data. The remaining 633 responses were gathered through an open online survey that was made available to Ontario’s residents through a variety of publicized contacts of the Recreation & Community Services Department of Recreation and Parks, including registration lists, websites, and social media. This survey included the same questions as the mailed version and was also available in English and Spanish.

Survey results indicate that the most used park within the last 12 months was Westwind Park (31 percent), followed by Ontario Town Square (23 percent), De Anza Park (21 percent), and Westwind Community Center (21 percent). The same four facilities were also identified as the most-used facilities by respondents. The greatest share of respondents live closest to Westwind Park, followed by Anthony Munoz Park, and John Gavin Park. For 60 percent of the Invite sample, their closest park/facility is also their most-used park/facility.

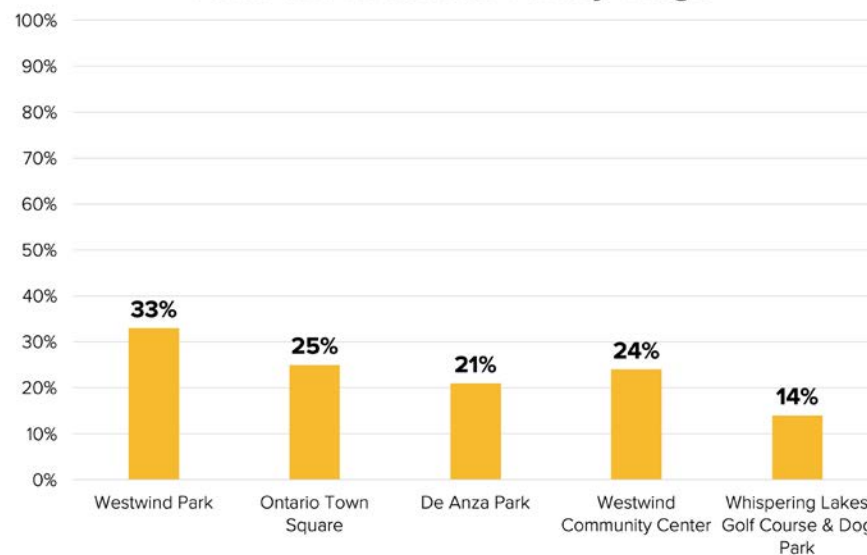
De Anza Park is considered by 11 percent of respondents as the park that is in most need of major improvements to be able to support future recreation needs. It was followed by John Galvin Park (8 percent), Anthony Munoz Park (seven percent), and Whispering Lakes Golf Course & Dog Park (seven percent); all were identified as in relatively higher need of im-

provement. It is notable, however, that about 40 percent of respondents did not know which parks were in most need of maintenance.

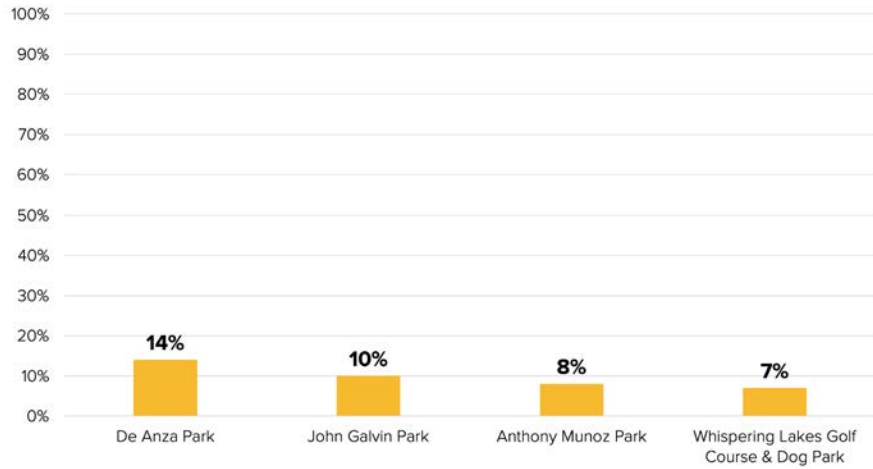
On average, it takes respondents 14 minutes to walk to their closest park, with nearly three-quarters of respondents indicating that it takes them 15 minutes or less. Motor vehicles are the transportation method most typically utilized by respondents (77 percent). About 53 percent of respondents indicated that they walk or run to get to a park, while 16 percent use a bicycle or skateboard. Only two percent of respondents use public transportation to get to a park.

Lastly, when asked about the priorities for community center programs, the majority of participants (58 percent) stated that maintenance, repairs, and security improvements should be increased. Similarly, 47 percent of respondents think that existing community center spaces and rooms throughout the city should be upgraded or retrofitted. About 34 percent of respondents believe that the diversity of available programs and services each community center offers should be increased. In regard to priorities for outdoor park spaces, 63 percent of participants think that maintenance, repairs, and security improvements should be increased, while 44 percent consider that the existing facilities throughout the city should be upgraded or retrofitted.

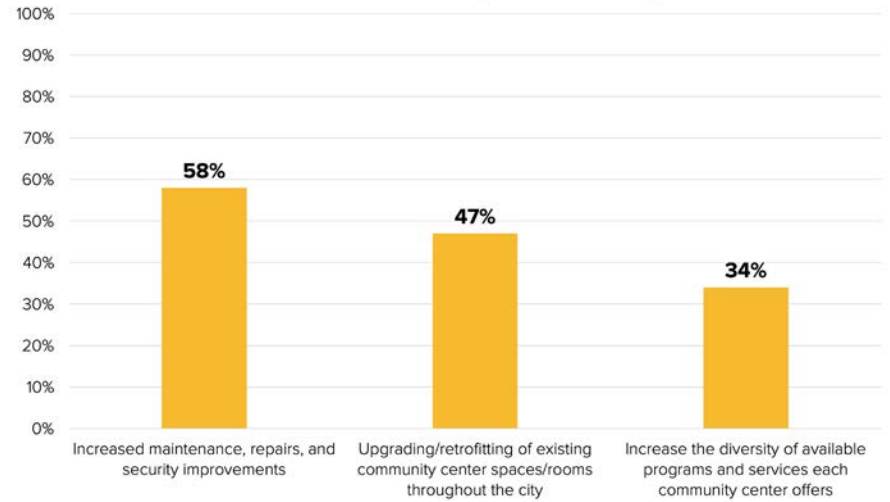
**Parks and Recreation Facility Usage**



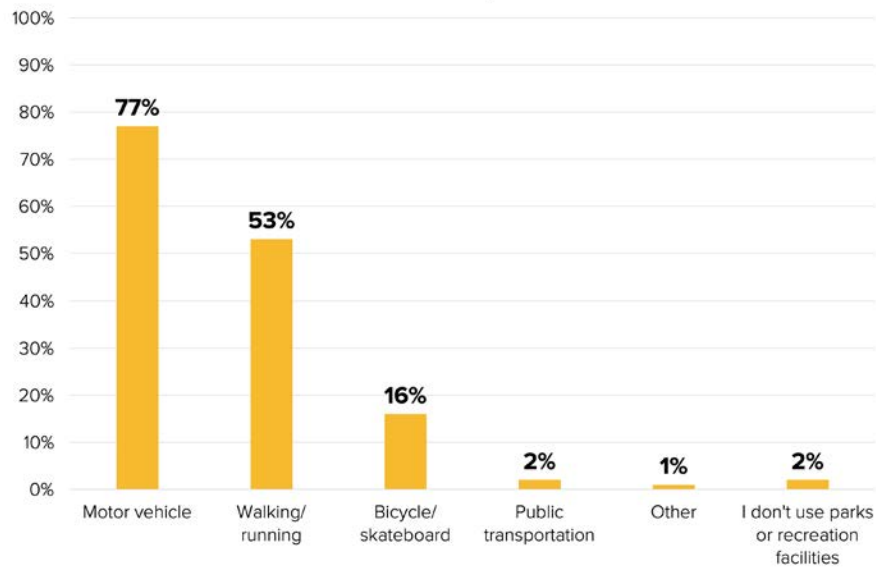
### Parks and Recreation Facilities in Need of Maintenance



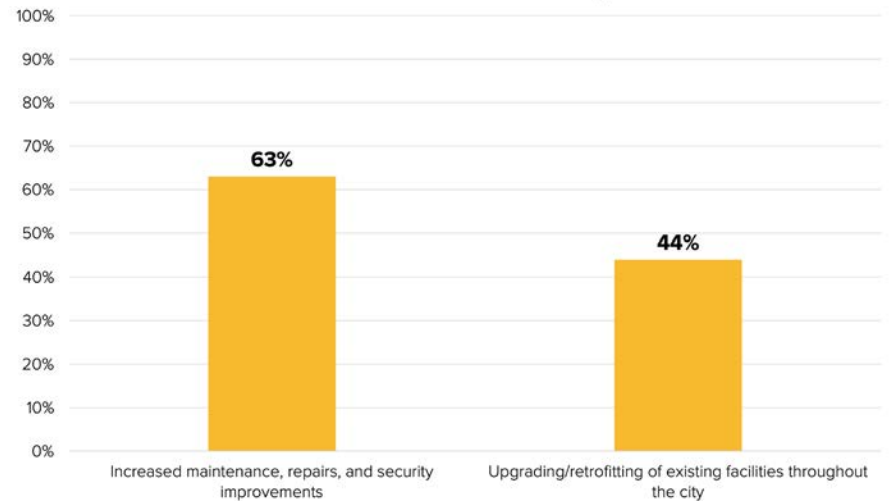
### Priorities for Community Center Programs



### Mode of Transportation



### Priorities for Outdoor Park Spaces





## POP-UP EVENT

The ORPMP team participated in the Ontario Neighborhood Fair on February 29, 2020. The fair was hosted at De Anza Park, a popular and important community park. The Neighborhood Fair was a great opportunity to connect with the community and to introduce the master planning effort.

The team made available interactive photo boards that allowed participants to place stickers on the park amenities they'd like to see implemented throughout the city. The team also made available printed maps for each park that allowed people to comment on issues and opportunities. A general park-planning survey was also available for community members to complete. The event was a great success. People were eager to talk about their local parks and provided valuable existing conditions feedback.



Community members adding stickers to preferred park amenities



Community member participating in a park-planning survey



Community members adding stickers to preferred park amenities

## ONLINE WORKSHOPS

Three community workshops were conducted using the online video sharing platform Zoom due to COVID-19 health restrictions. The team and city worked together to ensure that the online workshops were announced to as many people as possible using all available social media and other online channels. The three workshops were scheduled to coincide with different project milestones to ensure the community and the planning team received the feedback needed to move the ORPMP forward. The following section summarizes the overarching goals of each workshop and key takeaways.

### ONLINE WORKSHOP #1 JULY 28, 2020

The first workshop was held on July 28, 2020. This workshop served as the official kickoff and introduction of the ORPMP to the community at large. The presentation included the ORPMP's key goals and objectives, the project's timeline, a summary of the team's site visits, preliminary parksheds analyses, a summary of the comments received at the pop-up event, and an overview of all the upcoming community outreach methods the community could look forward to.

### ONLINE WORKSHOP #2 OCTOBER 1, 2020

The second workshop was held on October 1, 2020. There were four main goals for this workshop: to update the community on "to-date" results from the statistically-valid survey, to present park level of service analyses, to update the community on the Great Park Master Plan (separate consultant), and to participate in an interactive activity.

This workshop was critical to the planning process because it provided a baseline understanding of the city's park and program planning status and it allowed community members to engage with the team in a direct format to share feedback. Zoom's breakout room feature allowed participants to be organized into smaller rooms that were moderated by team members.

The moderator asked the following questions:

1. Which three parks would you prioritize improvements for and why?
2. What are the top three park amenities you would add?
3. What are the top three recreation programs you would add or expand?

A final debrief from each room allowed all participants to hear a summary of the discussions that took place in the other breakout rooms.

### ONLINE WORKSHOP #3 MARCH 18, 2021

The final workshop was held on March 18, 2021. There were four main goals for this workshop: to update the community on the final results of the statistically-valid survey, to present updated and more detailed park level of service analyses, to provide an overview of top park amenity and programs recommendations, and to participate in an interactive activity. This exciting workshop was a great opportunity for the community to learn about and comment on the types of recommendations that would be included in the master plan.

Breakout rooms were once again used to divide attendees into smaller groups to discuss park facility and program recommendations. Special emphasis was placed on a proposed new community park large enough to host many types of park facilities and programs. The moderator asked the following questions:

1. What are your thoughts on the park amenity recommendations presented (infrastructure)?
2. What are your thoughts on the park program recommendations presented (city-sponsored activities and programs)?

The final debrief allowed all attendees to hear that there was positive consensus on the proposed new park and the features that it would one day provide. Attendees were informed of the final steps of the planning process that would lead to a final adopted plan that would serve the city for the next decade and beyond.

## TWO STAKEHOLDER LISTENING SESSIONS

The ORPMP's comprehensive stakeholder and community engagement process included stakeholder meetings with focus groups. These focus group meetings were designed to gather detailed information on two unique elements of the ORPMP: planning for the city's first skatepark and re-envisioning the future of Whispering Lakes Golf Course.

### STAKEHOLDER MEETING (SKATEPARK) OCTOBER 7, 2020

The team conducted a skatepark focus group meeting on October 7, 2020. The meeting was well-attended by local residents, skatepark advocates, members from the Teen Center, and other influential skaters from the Southern California region. The goal of this meeting was to communicate that Ontario is ready to pursue the steps needed to plan, design, and construct a skatepark in the near future.

Attendees shared feedback on topics related to potential locations, desired design features, and good examples of local skateparks the city could reference. The following list includes key highlights:

- \* Skatepark should have high visibility
- \* City should engage the youth demographic and hold special events
- \* Add elements that will work well with a proposed space that ranges from 15,000 – 20,000 square feet
- \* Good examples include Ayala Skatepark (Chino), Alga Norte Skatepark (Carlsbad), and Fontana North Skatepark (Fontana)

Three potential locations for a skate park:

- \* De Anza Park (preferred)
- \* John Galvin Park
- \* New community park in Ontario Ranch



### STAKEHOLDER MEETING (GOLF COURSE) MARCH 9, 2021

The team conducted a focus group meeting with the current golf course operators on March 9, 2021. The goal of this meeting was to discuss the kinds of short, mid, and long-term improvements that could be made to the golf course to ensure its success for both the city and the community. Topics of discussion included:

- \* State of maintenance and repairs
- \* Programs and activities offered
- \* Accessibility and awareness
- \* New park and recreation amenities that would complement the current golf course operations

The key highlights from this meeting included:

- \* Updates needed to maintenance equipment and irrigation system
- \* Opportunity for a multi-purpose venue that can host 150-200 people which can be used by the public and golf course
- \* Opportunity to add new public park amenities in the southwest area of the golf course adjacent to Riverside Drive (near the current location of the dog park)





De Anza Park

# 05

## RECOMMENDATIONS







# RECOMMENDATIONS:

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## WHAT DOES THE FUTURE OF PARKS AND RECREATION LOOK LIKE FOR ONTARIO?

The ORPMP process allowed the planning team to take a comprehensive look at the existing parks and recreation program the city offers. The park level of service analysis for existing and projected populations, the community engagement process, focus group discussions, and NRPA guidelines provided valuable insight into prioritizing citywide recommendations.

This chapter provides a guided vision for how Ontario can continue planning, designing, and implementing park-related projects and programs. A section is dedicating to outlining overarching priorities city staff can use to plan short, mid, and long term projects. This chapter also includes guidance for under-utilized areas within several parks and what kinds of park features can be added based on square footage approximations. This is accomplished through adding and enhancing amenities, as well as a commitment to partner with schools to lower the deficiencies and improve the geographic distribution of neighborhood and community parks. The affordability of services and programs, upgrading programs and service delivery, improving organizational efficiencies, and augmenting financial opportunities will expand the efficiencies for the parks system. The intention is to provide the City of Ontario the flexibility it needs to address both citywide and park-specific recommendations when funding opportunities present themselves.

The following strategies and objectives can help improve the quality, diversity, and efficiency of the city's parks and recreation system:





Facilities & Amenities

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Programs & Services

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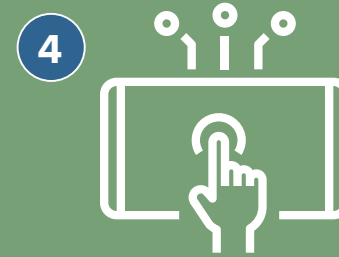


Financial Resources



Linear Parks & Connectivity

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Technology

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Administrative



## Facilities and Amenities

1

The different kinds of facilities and amenities a park offers are essential to a person’s experience. Park features such as recreational fields, sports courts, playgrounds, and restrooms are typical but important park elements people seek out; however, it’s just as important to account for other supportive park elements such as park benches, picnic shelters, trash cans, or other furnishings that users engage with on a small scale.

Maintaining the right balance between active and passive park elements is critical for the success of the city’s park system. It requires a close understanding of these systems so that they do not fall into disrepair or so that the city doesn’t fall behind on a park asset that is trending. Active maintenance, management, repair, and replacement of park features is especially important considering the growing demand on outdoor recreation and the city’s projected population growth over the next few decades.

The following recommended objectives can help Ontario prioritize how to sustain as well as improve park facilities and amenities for existing and future residents.

### ADDRESS DEFERRED MAINTENANCE THROUGHOUT THE CITY

Prioritize funding for deferred maintenance to ensure that all parks are safe and functional.

- \* Consider outsourcing service repairs as needed to meet the demand for deferred maintenance.
- \* Utilize a modern park asset management program such as Cartegraph, Central Square (Powered by Lucity), Dude Solutions, Productive Parks, or PlanIt Geo.

### CONSIDER IMPROVEMENTS THAT ADDRESS PARK LEVEL OF SERVICE GAPS FOR EXISTING AND FUTURE POPULATIONS

Improving the current LOS in the City includes making sure that the current level of service can be improved to meet the future needs for Ontario. These improvements would also provide access to open space for more residents of Ontario if converted into parks.

- \* Explore ways to include facilities within existing City owned properties, specifically facilities that may help increase Level of Service and mitigate park needs in park poor areas.
- \* Find opportunities to include small plazas and passive recreational elements at city facilities or park spaces such as the Euclid Avenue center median.
- \* Consider divesting from properties that don’t provide relevant or profitable benefits for the city such as re-purposing or downsizing certain areas of Whispering Lakes Golf Course and converting them to public park spaces with features the city is lacking.
- \* Reference the “Infill Opportunities” section of this chapter to identify areas that can be redesigned with new park features.
- \* Reference the “Special Recommendations” chapter of the ORPMP to implement park features for the six Concept Plans.
- \* Create a phased plan for the high-priority infill opportunity areas, the six Concept Plans, or the linear park features along the Cucamonga/ West Cucamonga flood control channel trail system.

### EXPLORE OPPORTUNITIES TO ADD MORE INDOOR FACILITIES SUCH AS COMMUNITY CENTERS

Additional public indoor facilities for Ontario residents can help foster a larger sense of community within the city while also addressing level of service or recreation program gaps.

- \* Find underutilized areas within the key growth areas of the city for additional indoor facilities.
- \* Consider adding a community center in south-central Ontario (near Riverside Drive/Grove Avenue) to accommodate the growing population and alleviate pressure off Westwind Community Center.

## PROVIDE FLEXIBLE USE AREAS SUCH AS MULTI-PURPOSE FIELDS/COURTS AND COMBINE SELECTED COURT STANDARDS TO ACCOMMODATE TRENDS AND MORE VARIETY IN COURT SPORTS

Multi-purpose spaces are critical to providing flexibility for certain park spaces in Ontario. Sports fields and courts with overlay striping allows for a variety of sports to be played within the one larger footprint, increasing sports use and allowing different park spaces to be programmed for other activities.

- ✦ Identify and prioritize existing fields and courts that can be converted to multi-purpose fields/courts in areas where LOS is lacking. Identify construction funding and implementation strategies.
- ✦ Continue to follow sports trends so that field and court adjustments can be made in a timely manor such as the city's existing futsal/ pickleball court overlays at De Anza Park.

## INCLUDE NEW POCKET PARKS AND MINI PARKS

Pocket parks and mini parks are a great way to provide accessible park space to the public. These park types allow for parks on small or irregular piece of land.

- ✦ Study unused lots to find areas for new pocket parks and mini parks.
- ✦ Look at including pocket parks and mini parks specifically in park poor areas.



An example of a center median trail in Burbank, CA





Linear parks and urban spaces have a tremendous impact on how a city’s park system functions aside from the traditional neighborhood, community, and regional park typologies. Linear corridors can connect the various park components of a city to each other and into the neighborhoods and community’s they serve. Additionally, linear connections can serve as recreational elements. Features and amenities can be intertwined into a linear park and become experiences that thrive off the activity of the linear park feature. For example, fitness nodes can be used along a walking/jogging trail or educational signage or entry node areas can be included to enhance the linear path.

Linear parks also have the ability to serve as green networks within a city or community. They can help to enhance the urban greening aspects of a corridor by introducing life such as birds, pollinators, and other fauna within an urbanized area. There are various studies that show the benefits of having trees within urban areas and linear green corridors that function as recreational spaces are a great way of achieving these considering roadways typically wind throughout neighborhoods and cities, whereas parks tend to be more nodal experiences. Furthermore, these corridors can help with carbon sequestration and cleanse the air of our urban areas. Here are specific objectives and actions to enhance the linear parks and urban spaces of Ontario:

## DEVELOP LINEAR PARKS

Linear parks increase open space in places throughout an urban setting by reclaiming and transforming under-utilized land.

- \* Expand and explore opportunities for linear parks.
- \* Find areas where linear parks may occur such as the Euclid Avenue center median.
- \* Reclaim underutilized streets and/or infrastructure within the City.

## CREATE AND ENHANCE UNIQUE LINEAR TRAILS ALONG THE CUCAMONGA AND WEST CUCAMONGA FLOOD CONTROLS CHANNELS

The excess right-of-way along the Cucamonga and West Cucamonga flood control channels offers a unique opportunity for recreational trails and linear park elements.

- \* Expand the Cucamonga trail system.
- \* Incorporate trail connections between neighboring cities such as Upland and Rancho Cucamonga and within new development areas such as Ontario Ranch.
- \* Include an urban trails signage program that connects corridors and trails within the City to other regional trails.
- \* Develop an urban greening master plan to further study potential corridors and to prioritize improvements.

## ESTABLISH MAJOR “GREEN CORRIDORS” WITHIN THE CITY

Connections between parks in Ontario could be improved by exploring and establishing “green corridors” along major streets.

- \* Look into enhancing arterial and collector streets such as Euclid Avenue, Riverside Drive, Mission Boulevard, Mountain Avenue, and Francis Street.
- \* Study each corridor to find areas of opportunities.
- \* Consider an urban greening project that specifically studies these corridors and others for linear park/green corridor opportunities.

## CONNECT TO URBAN TRAILS OUTSIDE OF THE CITY

Neighboring cities can also provide parks and recreation opportunities to Ontario residents by improving transportation and trails system into the city where adjacent boundaries meet.

- \* Explore improved connections along north Euclid Avenue at the Upland/Ontario city boundaries.
- \* Explore street and trail connections along Chino/Eastvale/Ontario city boundaries to improve access to Prado Regional Park.
- \* Explore improvements to the Cucamonga Flood Control Channel to increase northern access through Rancho Cucamonga to the foothills of the Angeles National Forest.

## PROVIDE WALKABLE AND BIKE FRIENDLY NETWORKS THROUGHOUT THE CITY

Implementing active transportation improvements throughout Ontario can encourage residents to access park facilities.

- \* Encourage construction of Transit Oriented Developments.
- \* Provide protected bike lanes and bike facilities where feasible.
- \* Provide walking trails where feasible.
- \* Continue implementing the City's Active Transportation Plan projects to improve bike and pedestrian safety.

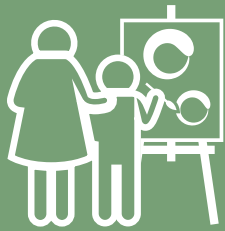
## EXPLORE OPPORTUNITIES TO INCREASE EQUESTRIAN TRAILS AND EQUESTRIAN AMENITIES AT PARKS

The City of Ontario provides a variety of recreational opportunities that include recreational equestrian trails. City and private equestrian trails are localized in the western portion of the City within the Agriculture Residential (AR-2) zoning district. The AR-2 zoning district implements the Rural Residential of the Policy Plan (General Plan) component of The Ontario Plan (TOP). There are more than four miles of equestrian trails in the neighborhoods north of Philadelphia Street, south of Mission Boulevard, west of Magnolia Avenue, and east of Benson Avenue. To seek out opportunities to increase and enhance the City's equestrian network and amenities, the City will implement the following policies:

- \* Create Equestrian Master Plan (TOP Policy PRI-16) that uses Homer Briggs as the primary focal point for the development of a Master Plan of Equestrian Trails in the Rural Residential area.
- \* Improve access to equestrian trails and upgrade amenities offered at Homer Briggs Park and seek equestrian opportunities at other parks to help address the need for this unique but special recreational activity.
- \* Create partnerships between the City and property owners of private equestrian trails for joint use and the maintenance and upkeep of the trails, fencing, trail entries, trail signage, and street crossings.
- \* Explore programs that connect Ontario equestrian riders to neighboring cities and future multi-purpose trails within Ontario Ranch.



*Walking path that connects to the adjacent neighborhood; Del Rancho Park, Ontario*



## Programs and Services

3

A vital component to a comprehensive parks and recreation department are the programs and services that are offered year-round. It's important for a city to offer a broad range of programs and events to keep the community engaged and healthy. Programs should also include monthly, seasonal, and annual event services.

A thorough understanding of the city's current programs and services is fundamental to make appropriate recommendations. Ontario currently offers an exceptional variety of events, classes, and services through its seven community centers, including the senior and teen center. The Ontario Living Magazine is the Department's seasonal catalog of program, activity, and event offerings. The guide is published four times a year and is distributed to households and businesses in addition to being shared digitally through the city's social media channels.

According to Civic Rec participation and attendance reports, 2,055 programs requiring registration were offered by the Agency and 18,861 registered participants were served in 2019. Friday Night Dance amassed the highest total of registered participants. While the three registration activities available for Ontario 5K Reindeer Run saw the combined highest total (2,811). Rudolph's Dash, a short fun run, had 1,693 registrants. Ontario 5K Reindeer Run had 758 teams registered and 360 individuals registered for the 5K event. It is important to note that all free programs are not listed in the Department's Civic Rec database.

Changes such as adding programs and services that are typically overbooked and in high demand while removing programs with budgetary or staffing challenges can balance out the city's offerings. The following recommendations can help the city achieve desired program goals:

## MAKE ADJUSTMENTS BY ADDING OR ELIMINATING PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Expanding programs and services in Ontario while reducing or eliminating those not used can improve the city's annual offerings.

- ✦ Programs that are in high-demand such as preschool programming, day camps (most notably in Summer Day Camps), senior van trips, computer skills adult classes, Soccer Kicks, Toddler Tales, and Basics of Elementary & Cartoon Drawing should be expanded while programs that have lower participation and service a narrower target market segment (i.e., Belly Dancing) should be divested from.
- ✦ Expand youth sports programs, camps, and activities as facility space and staffing allows using community member input; continue to enable the Teen Action Committee (TAC) to help shape youth programming.
- ✦ Pool activities ranked third highest in terms of registrant numbers. Expand aquatic exercise and fitness programs where possible.
- ✦ Expand sports programs to include soccer, baseball, basketball, and softball for youth and adults.



Ontario Living Magazine, Summer 2021 Edition



## EXPLORE MORE DIVERSE PROGRAMS

Exploring more diverse programs that every resident in Ontario could participate in.

- \* Install outdoor fitness and exercise equipment in programmable spaces in neighborhood parks.
- \* Activities that are culturally well-suited to the community such as Mexican Folklore Dance are well-attended. Consider expanding these kinds of cultural programs and events.
- \* Using contracted instructors, offer enhanced fitness programming in parks across the City.
- \* Increase and enhance programs for individuals with disabilities. Consider programmatic ADA inclusion requirements.
- \* Consider developing a walking/hiking/bicycling program that aims to increase awareness of programs, parks, trails, and park amenities.
- \* Work with transportation partners and advocates of alternative transportation to create marketing campaigns and related programs aimed at getting people comfortable using non-motor vehicle transportation methods.



*Mexican folklorico group; UCLA, Los Angeles, CA*

## ENHANCE SPECIAL EVENT PROGRAMMING

Enhancing special event programming will provide the city with an efficient way to inform the public about the events that occur in Ontario.

- \* Registration data suggests that running events such as the Ontario 5K Reindeer Run and Rudolph's Dash are well-attended. Expand running events to meet the demand.
- \* Offer special events in each neighborhood that will help contribute to a sense of community and make each park the hub of each neighborhood.
- \* Develop a special events advisory group for each neighborhood to assist with planning special events in parks.
- \* Invest in a formal sponsorship program for events and activities. At a minimum, develop a policy and tools to assist staff with recruiting program sponsors.
- \* Enhance and offer Spanish language programs, cultural programs, and outdoor movies in Spanish.

## CONTINUE TO WORK WITH OTHER SERVICE PROVIDERS TO DEVELOP PROGRAMS AND SERVICES TO MEET DEMAND AND TRENDS

The City can improve community needs by continuing to work with other service providers to develop programs and services that meet demands and trends.

- \* Demand for adult sports may be met through private business services. These activities could be provided through partnerships with existing providers; or, the Department should provide programs for adults which are not being offered by private providers.
- \* Develop joint use agreements with the school districts serving Ontario to expand access to recreation and programs.
- \* Invest in and develop an automated and real-time sports field reservation system.

## INCLUDE EDUCATIONAL, NATURE, AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS

Offer educational programs that highlight environmental topics such as native flora, fauna, and other nature-related local themes.

- \* Establish walking programs that highlight nature interpretation opportunities.
- \* Develop partnerships with environmental advocacy groups to offer environmental education programs and camps.
- \* Establish community gardens in convenient locations to promote gardening and local food production.
- \* Collaborate with schools and educators to create outdoor “classroom” space in parks near schools.

## CONTINUE TO MONITOR AFFORDABILITY OF PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Monitoring the affordability of programs and services to ensure that the City can sustain the programs and services offered.

- \* Develop and enhance scholarship opportunities.
- \* Evaluate non-resident program participation to ensure non-resident participants are paying appropriate and equitable fees.
- \* Develop a resource allocation and cost recovery policy to ensure equitable use of City resources for recreation.

## EXPAND INDOOR PROGRAMS AND INCREASE OPPORTUNITIES FOR SENIORS AND TEENS

Continue supporting teen and senior center programs.

- \* Offer additional enrichment classes for seniors, using contract or volunteer instructors to maintain affordability.



Outdoor classroom activities



Huerta del Valley Garden; Ontario, CA



- \* Review and enhance, where needed, senior center activities that focus on social services, social activities, transportation, and information for healthcare and other services.
- \* Review and enhance, where needed, enrichment programs targeted at teens and young adults related to job skills, personal improvement, and academic success.

### **CONTINUE TO EVALUATE THE QUALITY AND MIX OF PROGRAMS AND SERVICES**

Monitoring and evaluating programs on a regular basis can assist the city with making adjustments to programs offered.

- \* The program information entered into Civic Rec should be consistent across all recreation staff. Develop a process for entering program information that establishes consistent protocols for setting minimum participants, maximum participants, session information, and percent full data. This will allow for comparisons to be more easily analyzed and decisions better informed.
- \* Consider expanding program assessment criteria. An important consideration is the location of activities provided. There often are opportunities to activate non-traditional parkland sites in areas where residents are farther away from traditional sites. Criteria should also include an understanding of the activities alternate providers offer. This will help maximize coverage while minimizing duplication of services and reducing competition. Criteria should also include confirming that activities align with agency goals and objectives and that they are benefits-focused and result in customer satisfaction.
- \* Ensure engagement processes include residents who live in the south part of the City.
- \* Conduct an annual on-line survey to establish trends in participant satisfaction.
- \* Expand patron evaluation process, emphasizing aquatics, adult sports, and youth sports to include post program surveys and comment cards.
- \* Establish customer service response goals to ensure patrons receive timely responses to complaints or suggestions.

### **COMMUNICATE RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES TO CITY RESIDENTS**

Informing Ontario residents about recreation programs and events should continue to be a top priority.

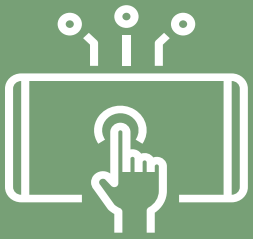
- \* Develop a marketing plan aimed at improving communications with the public regarding Department services and facilities.
- \* Include strategies that continue to leverage Ontario Living Magazine; improve the use of email; increase awareness of improvement projects happening at facilities; program offerings; facility hours; and celebrate the value parks and recreation brings to Ontario citizens
- \* Share participant testimonies to motivate people to attend future events.
- \* Utilize email on a regular basis (i.e., monthly) from the City/Department to communicate with patrons/residents and market Department programs and services.
- \* Continue the city's excellent use of social media channels and the city's webpage to inform residents of resources available to them.
- \* Continue to use and enhance an equity lens when marketing programs, with specific emphasis on program promotion in Spanish.

### **ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS**

New recreation trends may also indicate the need for adjusting current program offerings. Changing program offerings requires careful consideration, planning, and proper communication with the community. Programs need to be continually assessed for viability. Decisions regarding changes, expansions, enhancements, and/or program eliminations need to be made carefully and with proper data. Starting new programs, based on community demand and/or trends, needs to be well researched, planned, and advertised to ensure their success. If new program interest seems high enough based on a survey or community input, then the new programs should be developed, advertised, and implemented.

Collectively, the Department should develop and maintain a Recreation Programming Plan that covers three to five years of programs and addresses the breadth of activities offered in the Department. This plan should describe program objectives, enrollment data, why a program was provided, and an analysis of recreation trends.





## Technology

4

Technology continues to be an important aspect of our day-to-day lives. It's important to recognize that technology is here to stay and that there are elements that can be leveraged to positively impact an individual's experience at a park facility. In addition, city staff can also take advantage of the constantly evolving suite of software and related systems to improve internal operations.

Technology has revolutionized how we access, distribute, and convey data. It has also set the standards high in terms of how the public expects information to be delivered. Technology can be leveraged to allow for communication to the community by social media or a reservation system for recreation fields. It can also be used to help understand how users perceive or use a space, allowing for data mining of an agency to better inform them on what items should be addressed.

Other technologies have further revolutionized how we operate on a daily basis. Geographic information systems allow cities and agencies to store information in a geographic database, allowing for assets to be better recorded and distributed. Asset management systems take this one step further by allowing geotagging while also allowing for a user-friendly interface that is customized to the use. An example of this is an asset management system for park facilities that provides the ease of running reports on life cycle conditions, annual budget needs, and other critical data. Security systems allow for our spaces to be better monitored and improves access for first responders and citizen patrol groups to respond to situations. The following objectives outline how Ontario can leverage technology to improve internal and external aspects related to parks and recreation.

### ORGANIZE DIGITAL FILES AND DEVELOP A CITYWIDE GIS DATABASE

Having digital files and a citywide GIS database readily available for use for contractors and residents will allow for more efficient services to be provided to and by the City.

- \* Develop a technology plan that establishes a digital record system for CAD and BIM files.
- \* Continue maintaining and improving the city's GIS database for all mapped data.

### INCREASE USAGE OF SECURITY SYSTEMS WITHIN THE PARK SYSTEM

Safety can be improved with the increased use of security systems within park facilities.

- \* Develop a technology plan to increase security camera use.
- \* Prioritize parks where safety concerns and issues were mentioned.
- \* Increase the presence of security officers in parks of concern.

### CONTINUE IMPROVING THE DIGITAL SCHEDULING AND FACILITY MANAGEMENT SUITE

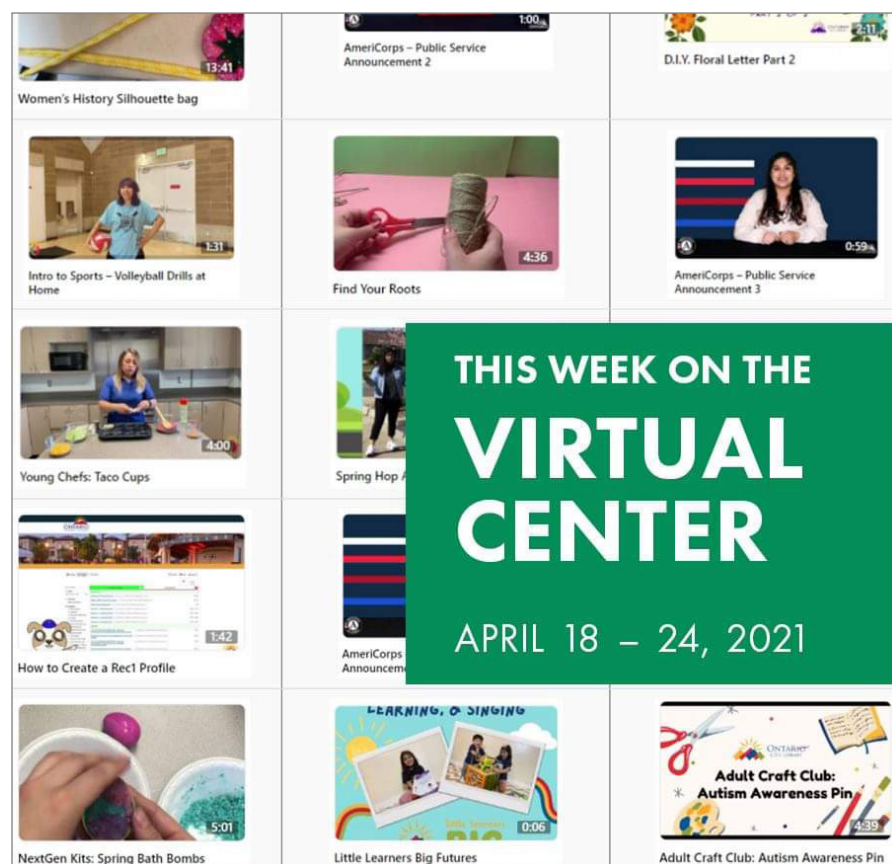
Increased productivity, cleanliness, and utilization of the city's park system could be achieved with an effective digital scheduling and facility management suite.

- \* Research and explore new platforms if existing systems no longer meet the department's standards.
- \* Assess digital workflows between systems periodically to ensure efficiencies are being met.

## INCLUDE VIRTUAL PROGRAMS, EVENTS, AND ACTIVITIES

COVID-19 highlighted the need for digital programs and activities. Continue hosting virtual meetings, activities, and lessons to keep people engaged and excited about city-related events.

- \* Work with existing community center classes to incorporate virtual programming.
- \* Research and explore emerging platforms for virtual activities.
- \* Establish recurring online events and activities in conjunction with in-person activities.



Ontario's social media presence has been critical to the department's success

## TRENDS TO CONSIDER

### 1. Esports

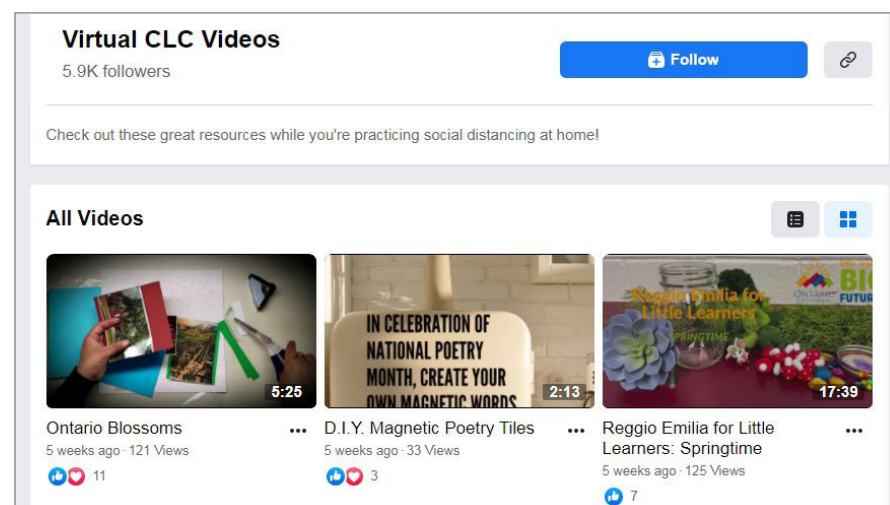
Esports have grown in popularity as the pandemic has curtailed youth team sports activities. In 2021, dozens of park and recreation agencies will begin to stream live youth sports events. Parents and families can drop off their kids and watch from the parking lot, fully maintaining a physical distance, but being able to honk at will when a goal is scored.

### 2. Smart Parks

A Smart Park goes far beyond just giving connected generations what they want. By creating Smart Parks, park directors can begin to harness the energy of people and groups who over the years may have become disconnected from public spaces and the outdoors.

Smart Park Strategies:

- \* Add public park Wi-Fi.
- \* Include Smart Furniture which can have access to electrical plugs.
- \* Consider interactive 'Smart Phone' signs with QR codes that engage the user both virtually and physically in a park.



Ontario's social media includes online media and activities for residents



## Financial Resources 5

A successful parks and recreation system is dependent on a generous yearly budget as well as other financial resources. Various items must be analyzed to understand the vast nature of a financial system.

For this analysis and set of recommendations, the planning team broadly assessed the organizational and management structure of the Recreation & Community Services Department and staffing to determine effectiveness and efficiency in meeting current and future departmental responsibilities as related to the community's needs. The needs assessment – including input from staff interviews, community and key stakeholder engagement, and level of service analysis, along with the consultant's expertise – has identified a few areas for operational enhancement.

These key organizational issues identified and observed as areas for improvement include:

- \* Address deferred maintenance and the aging infrastructure.
- \* Address wayfinding and signage at parks and facilities.
- \* Address staffing for maintenance to meet current and future demands for services.
- \* Address staffing for facilities operations to meet future demand for use of future facilities.
- \* Increase marketing and communication of services, programs, and activities.
- \* Increase community relations.

## CURRENT CIRCUMSTANCES

Parks and recreation facilities, programs, and services are essential to maintaining Ontario's diverse and desirable community. However, not all facilities, programs, and services are equal. In general, the more a facility, program, or service provides a community benefit to its citizens as a whole, the more that element should be paid for by all citizens as part of the City's general fund. The more a facility, program, or service provides individual benefits, the more that element should be paid for by user fees.

This funding and cost recovery philosophy acknowledges the tremendous public benefits of parks and recreation to the community. Parks and recreation services also promote and support a community's economic development, crime prevention, and community health. The City should seek to leverage partnerships wherever possible to help fund the facilities, programs, and services that it provides to the community.

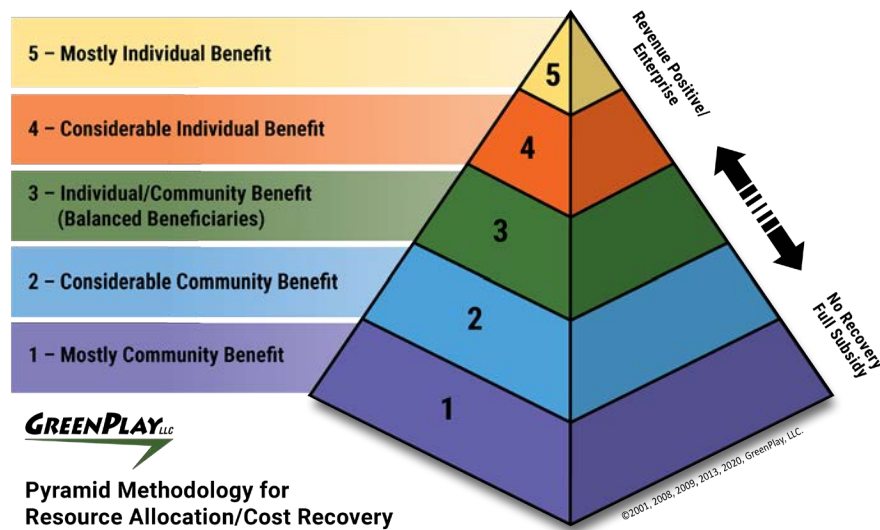
Focus group participants and survey respondents wanted to maintain the access and affordability of programs and services. Overall, only 11 percent of survey respondents indicated that price or user fees hindered their participation. Parks and Recreation staff need to continue to work diligently to control expenses and improve revenues to maintain the access and level of affordability to which residents of Ontario and participants of the various programs and services have become accustomed.

## FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY FOR PROGRAM DELIVERY

It is important for the City to develop a resource allocation and pricing philosophy that reflects the values of the community and the responsibility it has to the community. This philosophy will be especially important if the City moves forward in the development of new programs and additional and/or expanded facilities, and as it strives for sustainability and determines how much it is willing to subsidize operations with tax dollars.

One means of accomplishing this goal is by applying a process using an industry tool called the "Pyramid Methodology." This methodology develops and implements a refined cost recovery philosophy and pricing policy based on current "best practices" as determined by the mission of the agency and the program's benefit to the community and/or individual.





Critical to this philosophical undertaking is the support and understanding of elected officials, and ultimately, citizens. Whether or not significant changes are called for, the agency wants to be certain that it is philosophically aligned with its residents. The development of the core services and cost recovery philosophy and policy is built on a very logical foundation, using the understanding of who is benefiting from recreation services to determine how the costs for that service should be offset.

Recreation programs and services are sorted along a continuum of what delivers the greatest individual benefit to what delivers the greatest community benefit. The amount of subsidy for each level (not necessarily each individual program) is then determined to create an overall cost recovery philosophy.

Developing effective ongoing systems that help measure success in reaching cost recovery goals and anticipate potential pitfalls are dependent on the following:

- \* Understanding of current revenue streams and their sustainability.
- \* Tracking all expenses and revenues for programs, facilities, and services to understand their contributions to overall Department cost recovery.
- \* Analyzing who is benefiting from programs, facilities, and services and to what degree they should be subsidized.

- \* Acknowledging the full cost of each program (those direct and indirect costs associated with program delivery) and where the program fits on the continuum of who benefits from the program or service to determine appropriate cost recovery targets.
- \* Defining direct costs as those that typically exist purely because of the program and the change with the program.
- \* Defining indirect costs as those that would typically exist anyway (like full-time staff, utilities, administration, debt service, etc.).
- \* Program fees should not be based on ability to pay, but an objective program should be in place that allows for easy access for lower income participants, through availability of scholarships and/or discounts. In many instances, qualification for scholarships and/or discounts can mirror requirements for free or reduce cost lunch in schools.

## POTENTIAL FUNDING SUPPORT

Revenue enhancement was a key priority for focus groups and stakeholder participants, as well as survey respondents. The Department should continue to pursue funding strategies that provide alternative funds from the City's General Fund:

- \* Explore alternative funding sources that strategically align with targeted services.
- \* Expand alternative funding for strategic initiatives through grants.
- \* Explore additional community partnerships.
- \* Explore the opportunities for (and use of) sponsorships.
- \* Consider a bond referendum for expanded and new facilities.
- \* Establish a state of the industry cost recovery and financial sustainability program.

The Department should consider a bond referendum as a source of funding for new facilities that will increase patronage of the City of Ontario. Additionally, the Department reviewed and adjust user fees in March 2020. This was the first time in almost 20 years, these fees should be reviewed every two to three years or as the economy requires. A cost recovery study will be a helpful next step to assess resource allocations and cost recovery levels are in line with community values.

## COST RECOVERY AND PER CAPITA SPENDING

Ontario currently does not have a pricing and cost recovery policy. However, measurement of cost recovery is a useful metric. As a result of a community process, an overall cost recovery goal can be established for the Department related to the program or service. The cost recovery goals can then be used to develop new programs and service, establish facility usage goals and priorities for those uses, and help to define partnerships and community priorities.

The National Recreation and Park Association tracks key indicators of an agency’s financial health and efficiency which can guide agency staff to better meet the important park and recreation needs of their community. The 2020 NRPA Agency Performance Review presents an excellent collection of park and recreation benchmarks to gauge the level of investment the City of Ontario is currently making in its park and recreation system. While this is a good tool, it is not intended to be a set of national standards, but simply one way of evaluating available resources and financial performance. Unique park and recreation agencies across the United States (1,053) contributed by reporting their data. The review presents data for typical, similarly sized organizations as Ontario using ranges from low to high and the median data available.

The results of the 2020 NRPA Agency Performance Report show that the typical parks and recreation agency recovers about 26 percent of its operating expenses from non-tax revenues. For the Fiscal Year 2019/2020, the City of Ontario Recreation & Community Services Department recovered 14 percent for all services including administration. Because of the way expenses and revenues are collected and reported, only an overall comparison was available. Figure 5-1 illustrates the three-year trend for cost recovery by the Department. It should be noted that the COVID-19 pandemic occurred the last quarter of FY 19-20 and impacted revenues.

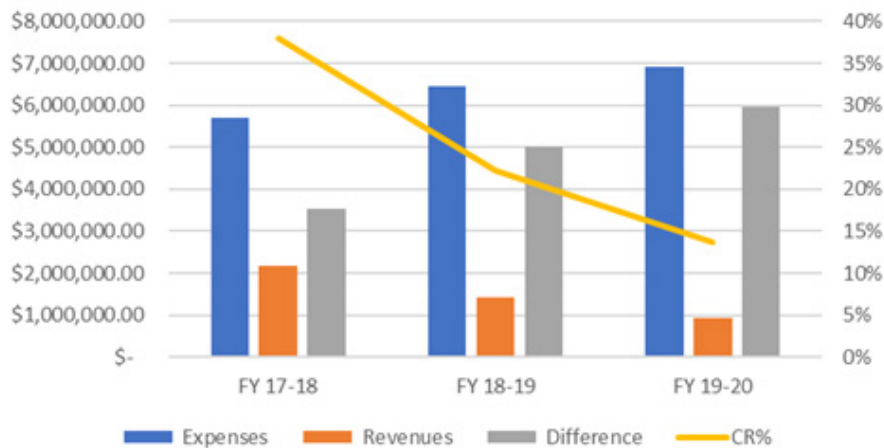
Another way to look at revenues and expenses is on a per capita basis. Using the DATA USA estimates for the population of Ontario of 173,580, the City spent \$39.77 for recreation service expenses per capita while generating \$5.42 in revenues from programs and services in FY 19-20. However, using FY 18-19, a non-COVID year, the City spent \$37.12 while generating \$8.26 in revenue. This is compared to the national average of communities of \$81.19 for expenses and \$41.95 per capita for cities under 250,000 residents.

## EXPLORE ADDITIONAL FUNDING OPTIONS

Find additional ways that the city can gain financial support to help the city grow and flourish.

- \* Consider pursuing bond referendums to help fund multiple/capital projects, especially those whose costs are high and/or can provide multiple benefits to more than one park facility.
- \* Evaluate the non-resident fee structure and consider adjusting fees to ensure non-residents are paying the entire cost of programs, rentals, and activities they participate in.
- \* Reevaluate current contracts with partners and seek out new and creative public/private partnerships as a means to enhance the variety of recreational amenities available to the community. Consider opportunities with developers to incorporate needed enhancements through new development and recreational attraction.

**FIGURE 5-1: 2017-2020 Expenses to Revenue Diagram**



- \* Explore opportunities to increase cost recovery at the Whispering Lakes Golf Course. Evaluate current fee structure, ongoing expenses, and options for new revenue streams.
- \* Continue to seek alternative funding sources that includes donations, grants, and others forms of sponsorship.
- \* The Department should use the results of the alternative funding exercise completed during the master planning process as a guide for exploring new funding opportunities.
- \* Seek increased General Fund allocations to address recommendations from the master plan.
- \* Develop a nonprofit foundation for parks and recreation to pursue grant opportunities and philanthropic donations.

### EXPLORE OPPORTUNITIES TO INCREASE SPONSORSHIPS

Increasing sponsorships can create exposure for participants in Ontario and surrounding cities.

- \* Build on existing sponsorships as well as pursue local entities to support events and a scholarship fund within the foundation.
- \* Ensure all existing and future sponsorships are accurately portrayed in a signed sponsorship agreement.
- \* Create a friends' groups for each neighborhood park that hosts summer events and partner to recruit and enter agreements with the local business community.
- \* Establish media sponsors and multi-year agreements as a priority.

### TRACK GRANTS AND CHARITABLE OPPORTUNITIES

Grants and charitable opportunities can assist the city reach funding goals or help initiate/complete a phase in a park project.

- \* Consider contracting with a dedicated grant writer to research, submit, and track federal, regional, state, and local grants.
- \* Continue to research, submit, and track federal, regional, state, and local grants.

- \* Follow NRPA's grant web page that includes up-to date opportunities in areas like climate resilience, adaptive recreation, health care, Replay Grants, out of school time program grants, Keep America Beautiful, and more.
- \* Utilize NRPA's Foundation Center for links to thousands of grant opportunities, grant education, and training.

### CONSIDER CHANGING/ADOPTING A NEW ASSET MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

It is recommended that the city pursue an asset management software system to efficiently maintain and monitor the current conditions of park assets. There are many software programs available so the city should have detailed discussions between their departments to ensure requirements are met.

- \* Establish an asset management system to manage and track equipment and inventory to improve budget planning.
- \* Create and update a data-driven plan for identifying, evaluating, and managing park assets.
- \* Conduct an annual inventory and create a condition assessment for each asset in the parks and recreation system. Establish photo-inventory and GIS mapping if available. The inventory must include cost, installation year, and a lifecycle for each asset.
- \* Complete an annual risk assessment to determine the cost of maintenance and operations, replacement, and consequences if each asset fails. Determine maintenance and operations cost at each year of the asset's lifecycle (based on the level of service for each asset).
- \* Incorporate data annually from the asset management plan and process needs and priorities into capital and operating budgets.





## Administrative

6

The administrative elements of a park and recreation system are the “behind the scenes” operations that determine the success of a park facility or program. Administrative responsibilities range from how the system operates current leases or agreements with other recreational providers to how school joint use agreements are created and managed. Other administrative items may include staffing levels within the park and recreation system or other partnerships, volunteering, or management items.

Recommendations may explore various partnerships and agreements, or how to appropriately staff and maintain the park system. It may further examine how communication with other city departments can be improved or how information is conveyed to the community. It may include ways of how rentals, purchase agreements and other administrative items are executed as to better suggest ways to operate or explore other actions to further enhance the park and recreation department.

### STAFFING CONSIDERATIONS

After considering all of the organizational observations and staffing assessments, the team determined that the Recreation & Community Services Department does not have an adequate number of staff to operate its current system. The positions lost to early retirement have left a hole in the staffing and those positions will need to be replaced once full operations resume again.

One hurdle the Department must deal with is getting an appropriate pool of qualified applicants for open positions. This is a national issue and reflects the changing workforce of both the Millennial and Baby Boomer Generations. To combat this trend, organizations need to be willing to

allow for flexible scheduling, continue allowing for remote work places, part-time and “gig” positions, and second career applicants. This has worked during the pandemic and will alter the way cities operate their facilities, services, and programs.

To operate more effectively in the future and to implement the ORPMP, Recreation & Community Services will need to hire additional positions to supplement existing staff. This will ensure that staffing resource levels can maintain existing and new facilities at or above acceptable standards as the ORPMP is implemented.

### IMPROVE PARTNERSHIPS AND JOINT USE AGREEMENTS

Maintaining current partnerships and establishing joint use agreements will increase recreation opportunities for the city and its residents.

- \* Develop joint use agreement plans with the various school districts that serve Ontario.
- \* Look at strategic partnerships with organizations such as the YMCA and others.
- \* Generate partnerships with organizations that help with park security, maintenance, and cleanup.

### EXPLORE ADDITIONAL PARTNERSHIPS TO ASSIST WITH FUNDING, VOLUNTEERING, AND MARKETING

Identifying additional partnerships that can assist the city with funding, volunteering, and marketing can expand resources that are not currently available.

- \* Develop relationships with local businesses, clubs, and organizations to seek funding, volunteers, and marketing support to expand programs and facilities.
- \* Find volunteers to help operate and run programs.
- \* Reevaluate current contacts with partners and seek out new public/private partnerships to enhance amenities.
- \* Identify partnerships with other organizations that can provide additional programming space.

## EVALUATE AND ADDRESS STAFFING LEVELS

Evaluate if staffing levels can meet the current needs of the City and address accordingly.

- ✱ Consider comparison for staffing levels through NRPA Standards.
- ✱ Identify current performance standards.

## IMPROVE INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL COMMUNICATION ABOUT DIVISION ACTIVITIES, EVENTS AND SERVICES

Improving internal and external communications about division activities, events, and services to allow for increased involvement from Ontario residents.

- ✱ Utilize diverse marketing tools and strategies to actively promote parks and recreation services.
- ✱ Continue the use of the city's social media presence, increase promotion at schools, and hire teens or interns to assist with social media marketing and promotions.



*School track and fields are great community resources when JUAs are in place*

## FIND THE RIGHT BALANCE BETWEEN MAKING THE FACILITY AND PARK RENTAL FEE EQUITABLE WHILE STILL GENERATING FUNDS TO HELP MAINTAIN PARK PROGRAMS/FEATURES

Exploring facility and park rental fee options that are accessible to all residents and are user friendly.

- ✱ Review fees annually to ensure they are equitable and the collection of fees is resulting in appropriate cost recovery.
- ✱ Consider conducting a resource allocation cost recovery study to determine a goal for cost recovery, cost of operations, and how resources are currently allocated and could be reallocated.



*Park volunteers help build a fitness park*

## UNDERUTILIZED PARK SPACES RECOMMENDATIONS

The following section discusses potential park recommendations that could be explored in Ontario parks. Potential recommendations are based on underutilized areas that were identified during the park inventory phase of the ORPMP as well as a desktop aerial exercise.

Underutilized park areas were based on a few criteria such as unprogrammed grassy open space, areas with deferred maintenance that would benefit from new park features, and feedback from city staff. The park spaces were mapped and approximate square footage totals were calculated. Potential park features and amenities were then identified that could be placed in these areas based on square footage of the opportunity site and the square footage of the amenity.

Each park has an amenities table associated with the opportunity areas depicted on the accompanying park map. These recommendations are solely based on what may fit within the park and are meant to educate and provide guidance as the city moves forward with park-specific implementation projects.

Please refer to Chapter 6 of the ORPMP to review customized conceptual site plans for six city parks. The concepts plans in that chapter build upon this section's set of recommendations, showcasing the progression in the park-planning and design process.



**Research parks  
with potential  
opportunity areas**



**Identify specific  
opportunity areas  
for each park**



**Provide list of  
potential features  
based on area (sq ft)**





*Underutilized picnic area at Homer Briggs Park*



*Underutilized picnic area at De Anza Park*



*Underutilized picnic area at Mt. View School Park*



*Underutilized picnic area at George Gibbs Park*

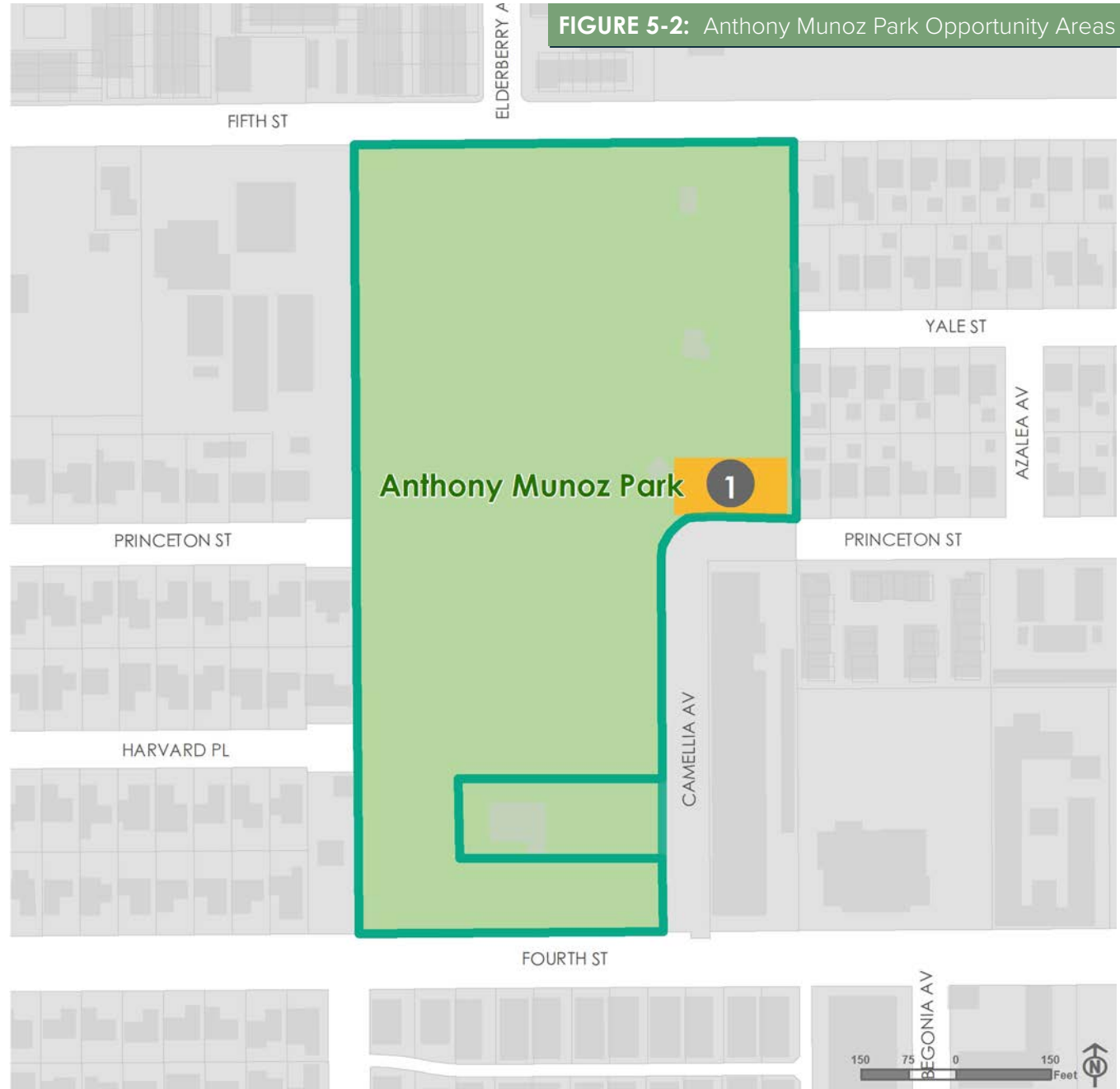
## ANTHONY MUNOZ PARK

Anthony Munoz Park is located in northwestern Ontario. The park is surrounded by residential, commercial, and civic land uses. Key destinations within walking distance include Elderberry and El Camino Elementary Schools, Walmart Supercenter, U.S. Post Office, and other shopping plazas accessible via Mountain Avenue.

One opportunity park area is identified for Anthony Munoz. This area currently accommodates a group picnic area, is near a restroom facility and parking lot, and has good visibility from Princeton Street. Although small, the opportunity area could accommodate a number of items identified in the following table. It is recommended that the city conduct additional community engagement to determine which park features to implement.

Other priority recommendations for Anthony Munoz Park include the design and installation of a walking path to provide visitors a “loop experience” for linear recreation. Additionally, the City has identified opportunities to expand the community center to include a large multi-purpose gymnasium, fitness center, and teen lounge when funding becomes available. This expansion would provide the spaces and programs needed to enhance Anthony Munoz Park and make it a premier community hub.

		Area 1
Traditional Recreation Facilities for Infill		Typical SF
Ball Field		16,126
<i>Sml Softball Field (170'-200')</i>	20,000-100,000	
<i>Lrg Softball Field/Sml Baseball Field (200'-230')</i>	20,000-27,750	
<i>Med Baseball Field (300'-350')</i>	25,000-35,000	
<i>Lrg Baseball Field (350'-400')</i>	39,500-61,500	
Basketball Court	83,000-105,500	
Bocce Ball/Shuffleboard	4,700	•
Community Center/Gym	5,000-10,000	•
Futsal Court	25,000-70,000	
Dog Park	5,000-7,000	•
Outdoor Gym and Exterior Exercise Areas	10,000-75,000	•
Pickleball	5,000-20,000	•
Picnic Areas	2,500-3,500	•
Playgrounds	500-1,500	•
Soccer Field	4,000-6,000	•
<i>Sml Soccer Field (6U &amp; 8U)</i>	4,000-75,000	
<i>Med Soccer Field (10U &amp; 12U)</i>	4,050-11,250	
<i>Lrg Soccer Field (14U &amp; 16U+)</i>	25,200-36,000	
Tennis (60'x120')	54,000-86,400+	
Volleyball (70'x40')	7,200-28,000	•
	4,000-16,000	•
Other Recreation Facilities for Infill		
Multi-Purpose Path	Varies	•
Adventure Playgrounds	4,000-6,000	•
Skatepark	15,000-20,000	•
Skate Spot	4,000-10,000	•
Community Garden	2,000-40,000	
Disk Golf Course	50,000-200,000	
Pump Track/Bike Skills Course	10,000-20,000	•
Rope/Adventure/Skills Course	5,000-50,000	•





## ARMSTRONG COMMUNITY CENTER

The Armstrong Community Center is located in western Ontario. The center is primarily surrounded by residential and civic land uses. Key destinations within walking distance include Campus Kids School and Cypress Park.

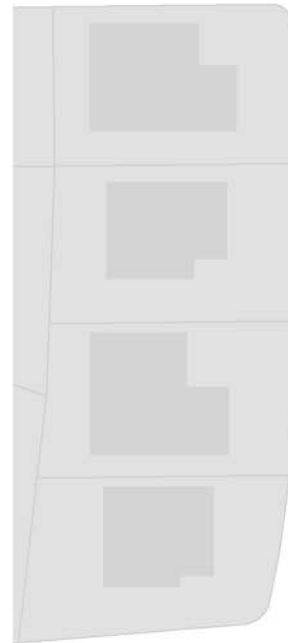
One opportunity park area is identified for Armstrong Community Center. This area currently accommodates a small grassy area that is enclosed by a locked fence and gate.

The area could accommodate a few new park items identified in the following table due to the small space it encompasses. Improvements to ADA access should also be considered due to the lack of an access ramp from the sidewalk on Phillips Street. It is recommended that the city conduct additional community engagement to determine which park features to implement.

		Area 1
Traditional Recreation Facilities for Infill		Typical SF
Ball Field		4,328
<i>Sml Softball Field (170'-200')</i>		
<i>Lrg Softball Field/Sml Baseball Field (200'-230')</i>		
<i>Med Baseball Field (300'-350')</i>		
<i>Lrg Baseball Field (350'-400')</i>		
Basketball Court		
Bocce Ball/Shuffleboard		
Community Center/Gym		
Futsal Court		
Dog Park		
Outdoor Gym and Exterior Exercise Areas		
Pickleball		
Picnic Areas		•
Playgrounds		•
Soccer Field		
<i>Sml Soccer Field (6U &amp; 8U)</i>		
<i>Med Soccer Field (10U &amp; 12U)</i>		
<i>Lrg Soccer Field (14U &amp; 16U+)</i>		
Tennis (60'x120')		
Volleyball (70'x40')		
Other Recreation Facilities for Infill		
Multi-Purpose Path		
Adventure Playgrounds		
Skatepark		
Skate Spot		
Community Garden		•
Disk Golf Course		
Pump Track/Bike Skills Course		
Rope/Adventure/Skills Course		



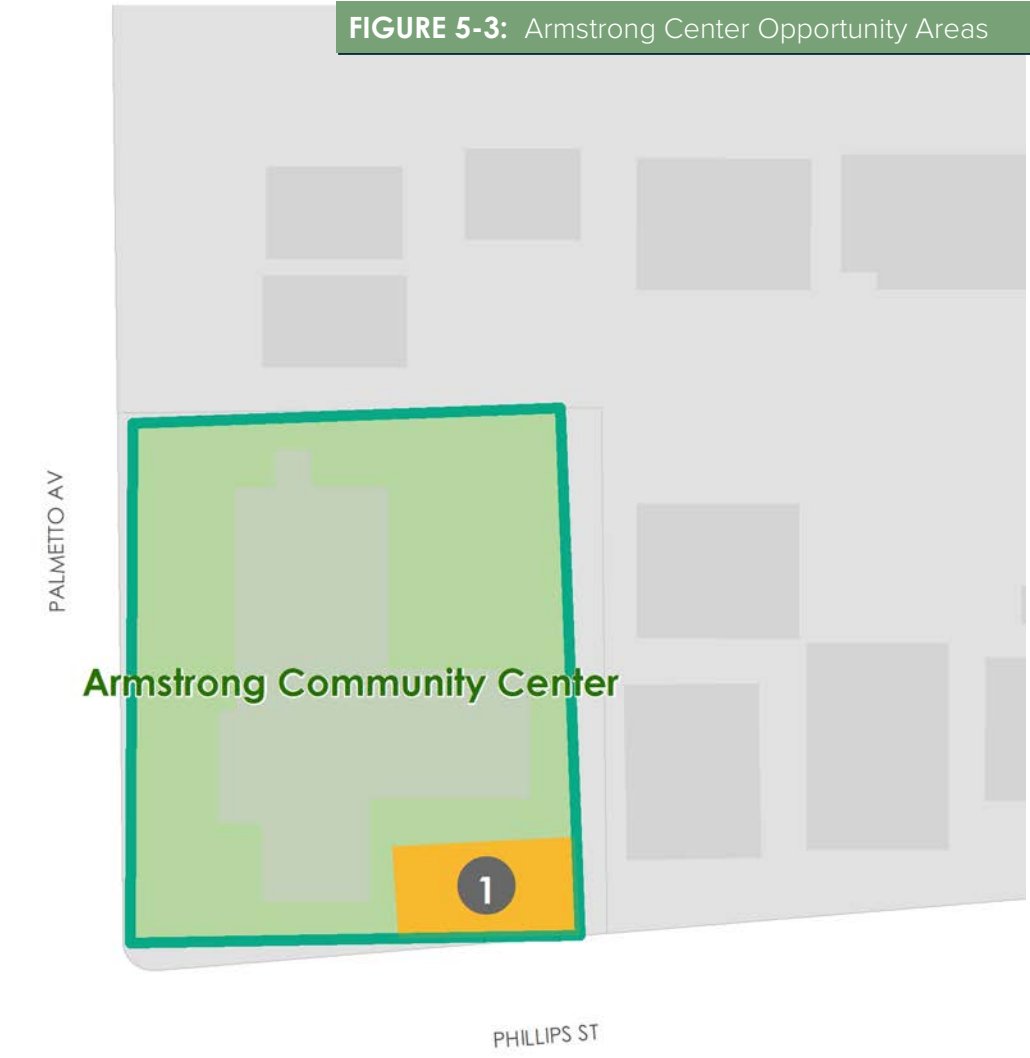
WOODLAWN ST



PALMETTO AV

Armstrong Community Center

FIGURE 5-3: Armstrong Center Opportunity Areas



PHILLIPS ST



## BON VIEW PARK

Bon View Park is located in central Ontario, primarily within an area with residential, commercial, and industrial land uses.

This community park is a major park asset to the community and is home to the Dorothy A. Quesada Community Center as well as many other park features such as a community pool, playgrounds, a basketball court, and group picnic areas.

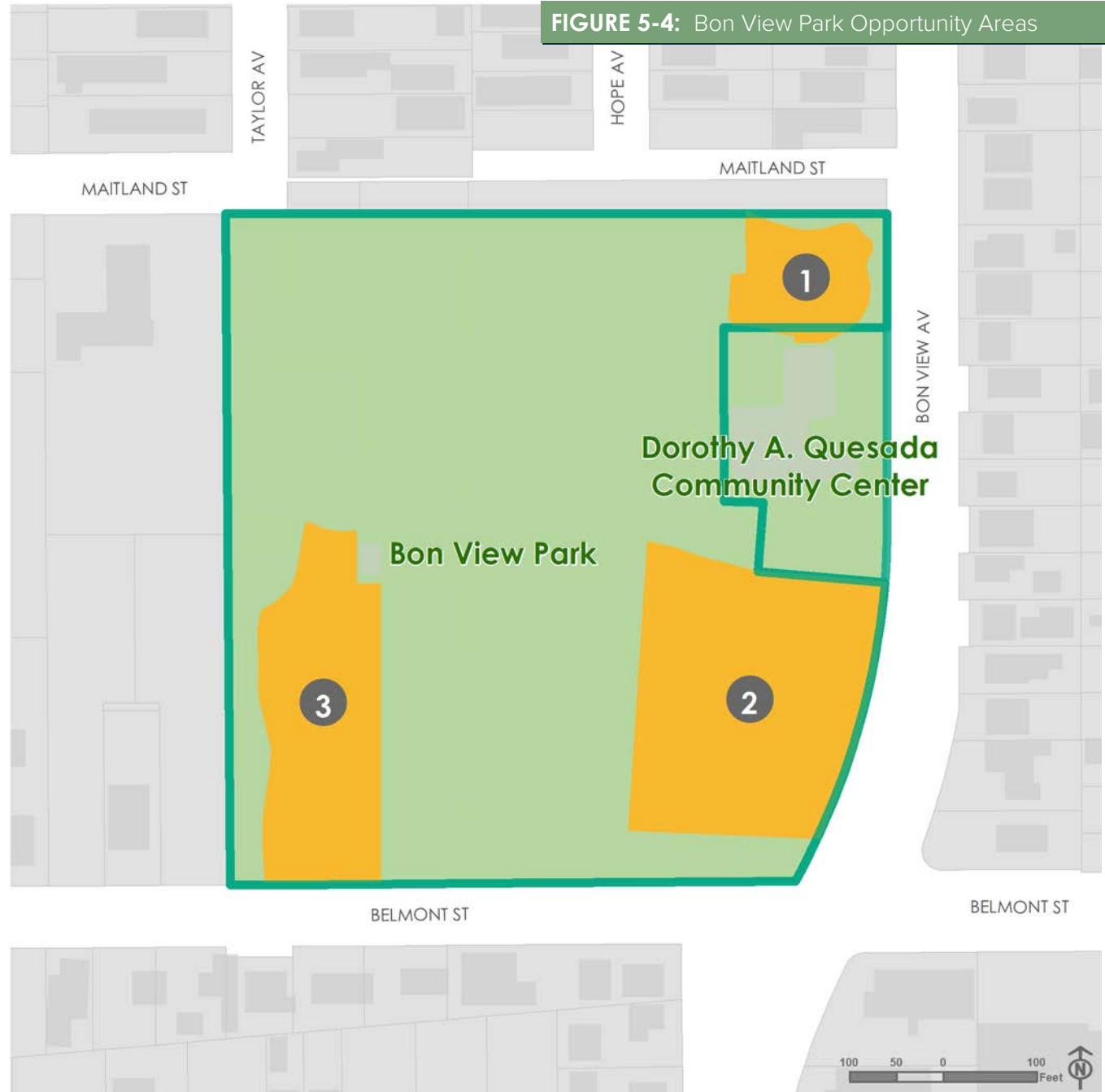
Three opportunity park areas are identified for Bon View Park. These areas vary in size and can accommodate many potential park features that would diversify the park options currently available. These opportunity areas have good visibility, easy access from the neighborhood, and can accommodate many potential items highlighted in the following table.

Please refer to Chapter 6 to view the concept plans developed for Bon View Park. The concept plans provide a vision for how these opportunity areas can be transformed into useful and fun spaces for the community.

		Area 1	Area 2	Area 3
<b>Traditional Recreation Facilities for Infill</b>		<b>16,227</b>	<b>69,515</b>	<b>43,515</b>
Ball Field	20,000-100,000			
<i>Sml Softball Field (170'-200')</i>	20,000-27,750			
<i>Lrg Softball Field/Sml Baseball Field (200'-230')</i>	25,000-35,000			
<i>Med Baseball Field (300'-350')</i>	39,500-61,500			
<i>Lrg Baseball Field (350'-400')</i>	83,000-105,500			
Basketball Court	4,700		•	
Bocce Ball/Shuffleboard	5,000-10,000	•		•
Community Center/Gym	25,000-70,000			
Futsal Court	5,000-7,000		•	
Dog Park	10,000-75,000		•	
Outdoor Gym and Exterior Exercise Areas	5,000-20,000			
Pickleball	2,500-3,500		•	
Picnic Areas	500-1,500	•	•	•
Playgrounds	4,000-6,000	•	•	
Soccer Field	4,000-75,000			
<i>Sml Soccer Field (6U &amp; 8U)</i>	4,050-11,250		•	
<i>Med Soccer Field (10U &amp; 12U)</i>	25,200-36,000		•	
<i>Lrg Soccer Field (14U &amp; 16U+)</i>	54,000-86,400+		•	
Tennis (60'x120')	7,200-28,000		•	
Volleyball (70'x40')	4,000-16,000		•	
<b>Other Recreation Facilities for Infill</b>				
Multi-Purpose Path	Varies	•	•	•
Parking Lot Improvements	Varies			•
Adventure Playgrounds	4,000-6,000		•	
Skatepark	15,000-20,000		•	
Skate Spot	4,000-10,000		•	
Community Garden	2,000-40,000		•	
Disk Golf Course	50,000-200,000			
Pump Track/Bike Skills Course	10,000-20,000		•	
Rope/Adventure/Skills Course	5,000-50,000		•	



FIGURE 5-4: Bon View Park Opportunity Areas



## CENTENNIAL PARK

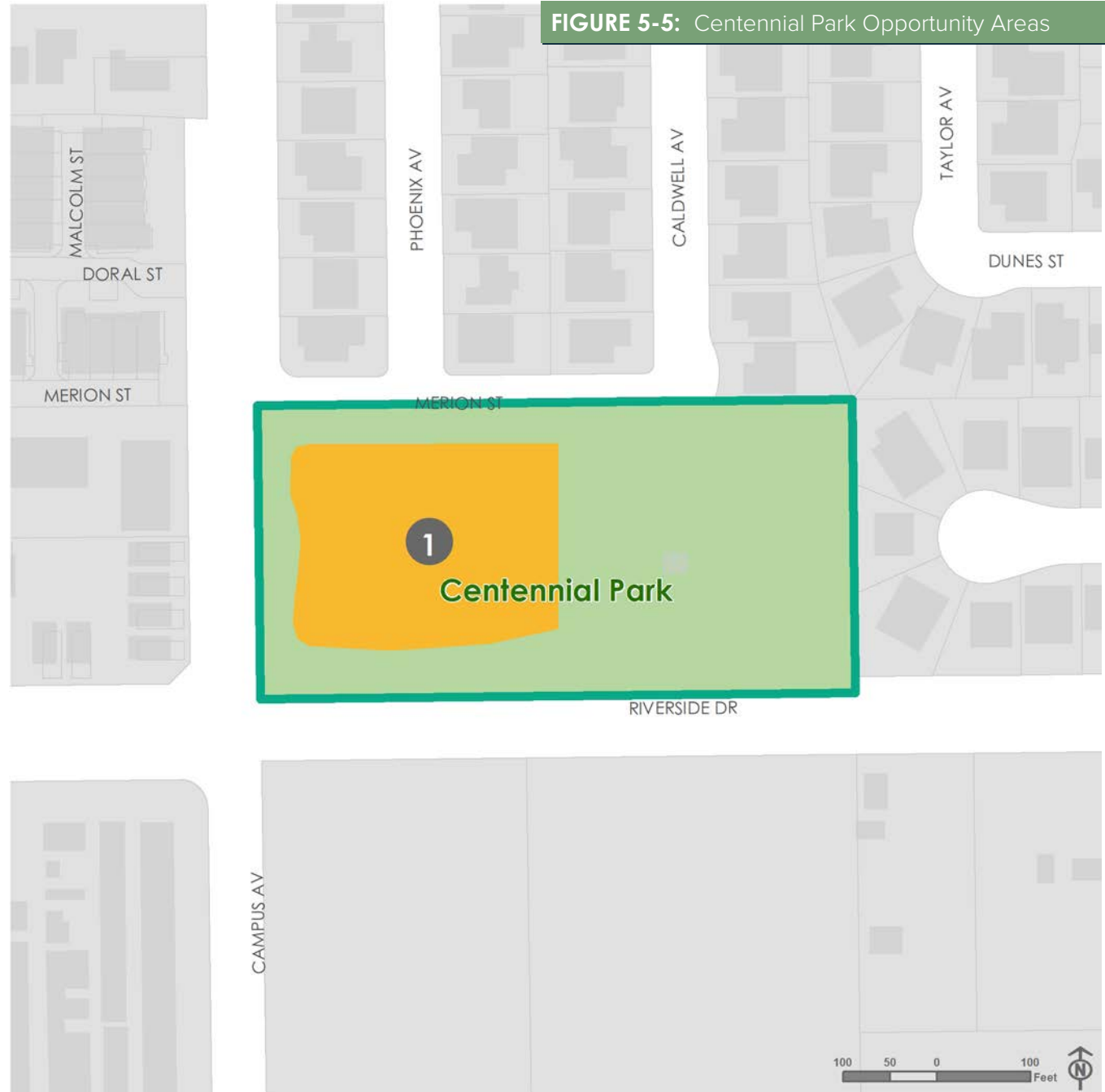
Centennial Park is located in west-central Ontario. The park is surrounded by residential, agricultural, and civic land uses. Key destinations within walking distance include Woodcrest Junior High School, Liberty Elementary School, and several commercial destinations along Riverside Drive.

One opportunity park area is identified for Centennial Park. This area currently accommodates an unprogrammed open grassy area that is near a restroom facility, parking lot, and a basketball court. It has good visibility from all three surrounding streets it faces.

The area could accommodate a number of items identified in the following table due to its medium-sized space and easy access. It is recommended that the city conduct additional community engagement to determine which park features to implement.

		Area 1
Traditional Recreation Facilities for Infill		60,270
Ball Field	20,000-100,000	
<i>Sml Softball Field (170'-200')</i>	20,000-27,750	•
<i>Lrg Softball Field/Sml Baseball Field (200'-230')</i>	25,000-35,000	•
<i>Med Baseball Field (300'-350')</i>	39,500-61,500	•
<i>Lrg Baseball Field (350'-400')</i>	83,000-105,500	
Basketball Court	4,700	•
Bocce Ball/Shuffleboard	5,000-10,000	•
Community Center/Gym	25,000-70,000	•
Futsal Court	5,000-7,000	•
Dog Park	10,000-75,000	•
Outdoor Gym and Exterior Exercise Areas	5,000-20,000	•
Pickleball	2,500-3,500	•
Picnic Areas	500-1,500	•
Playgrounds	4,000-6,000	•
Soccer Field	4,000-75,000	
<i>Sml Soccer Field (6U &amp; 8U)</i>	4,050-11,250	•
<i>Med Soccer Field (10U &amp; 12U)</i>	25,200-36,000	•
<i>Lrg Soccer Field (14U &amp; 16U+)</i>	54,000-86,400+	
Tennis (60'x120')	7,200-28,000	•
Volleyball (70'x40')	4,000-16,000	•
Other Recreation Facilities for Infill		
Multi-Purpose Path	Varies	•
Adventure Playgrounds	4,000-6,000	•
Skatepark	15,000-20,000	•
Skate Spot	4,000-10,000	•
Community Garden	2,000-40,000	•
Disk Golf Course	50,000-200,000	
Pump Track/Bike Skills Course	10,000-20,000	•
Rope/Adventure/Skills Course	5,000-50,000	•

FIGURE 5-5: Centennial Park Opportunity Areas





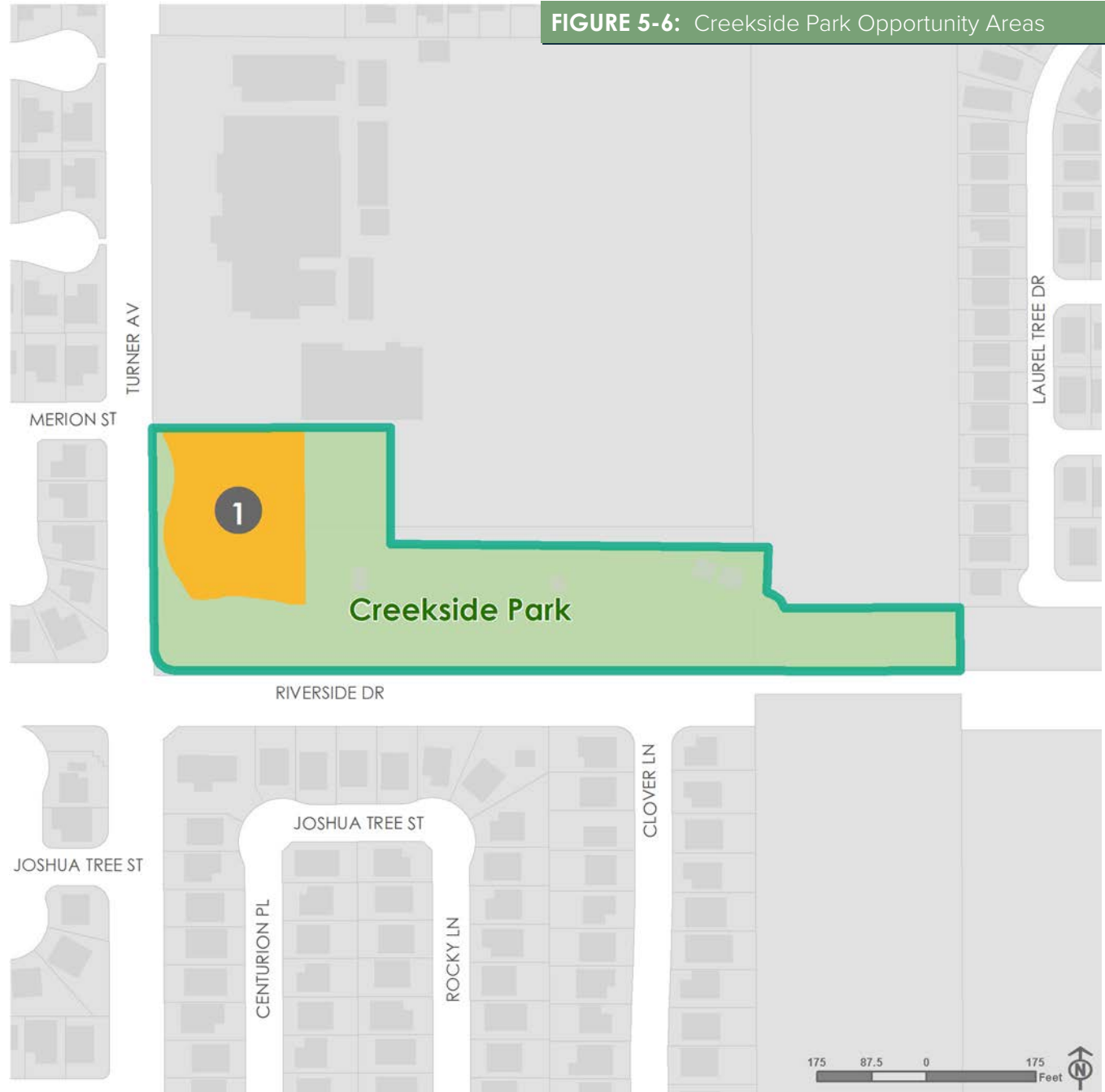
## CREEKSIDE PARK

Creekside Park is located in east-central Ontario. The park is surrounded by residential, agricultural, and civic land uses. Key destinations within walking distance include Grace Yokley School, Colony High School, and several commercial destinations along Riverside Drive.

One opportunity park area is identified for Creekside Park. This area currently accommodates an unprogrammed open grassy area that is near a restroom facility, tennis courts, and a basketball court. It has good visibility from the two surrounding streets it faces.

The area could accommodate a number of items identified in the following table due to its medium-sized space and easy access. It is recommended that the city conduct additional community engagement to determine which park features to implement.

		Area 1
Traditional Recreation Facilities for Infill		58,679
Ball Field	20,000-100,000	
<i>Sml Softball Field (170'-200')</i>	20,000-27,750	•
<i>Lrg Softball Field/Sml Baseball Field (200'-230')</i>	25,000-35,000	•
<i>Med Baseball Field (300'-350')</i>	39,500-61,500	•
<i>Lrg Baseball Field (350'-400')</i>	83,000-105,500	
Basketball Court	4,700	•
Bocce Ball/Shuffleboard	5,000-10,000	•
Community Center/Gym	25,000-70,000	•
Futsal Court	5,000-7,000	•
Dog Park	10,000-75,000	•
Outdoor Gym and Exterior Exercise Areas	5,000-20,000	•
Pickleball	2,500-3,500	•
Picnic Areas	500-1,500	•
Playgrounds	4,000-6,000	•
Soccer Field	4,000-75,000	
<i>Sml Soccer Field (6U &amp; 8U)</i>	4,050-11,250	•
<i>Med Soccer Field (10U &amp; 12U)</i>	25,200-36,000	•
<i>Lrg Soccer Field (14U &amp; 16U+)</i>	54,000-86,400+	
Tennis (60'x120')	7,200-28,000	•
Volleyball (70'x40')	4,000-16,000	•
Other Recreation Facilities for Infill		
Multi-Purpose Path	Varies	•
Adventure Playgrounds	4,000-6,000	•
Skatepark	15,000-20,000	•
Skate Spot	4,000-10,000	•
Community Garden	2,000-40,000	•
Disk Golf Course	50,000-200,000	
Pump Track/Bike Skills Course	10,000-20,000	•
Rope/Adventure/Skills Course	5,000-50,000	•



## CYPRESS PARK

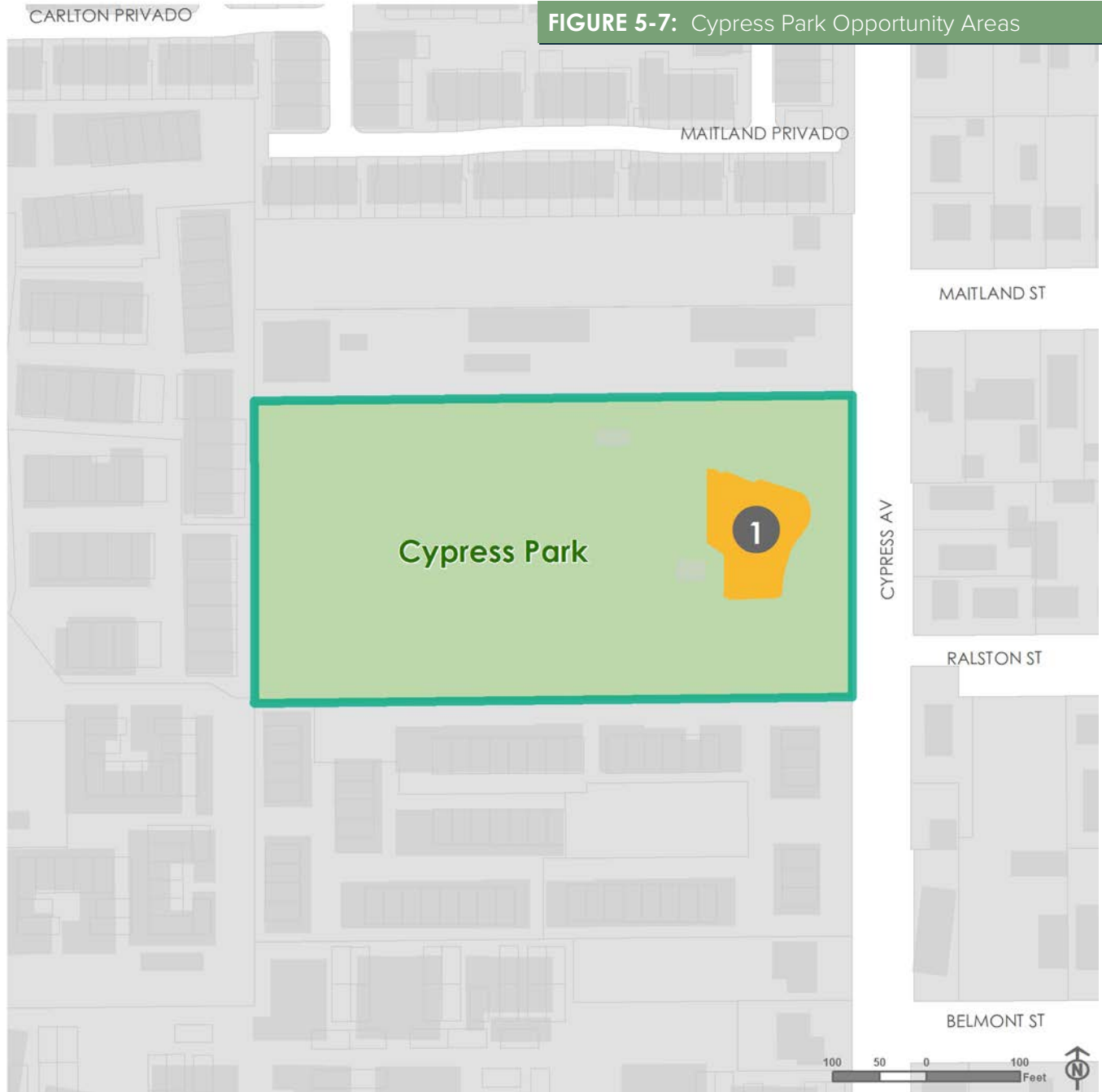
Cypress Park is located in central Ontario. The park is surrounded by residential, industrial, and commercial land uses. Key destinations within walking distance include commercial centers found along Mission Boulevard.

One opportunity park area is identified for Cypress Park. This area currently accommodates an unprogrammed open grassy area with park trees and is near a restroom facility and parking lot. It has great visibility from Cypress Avenue.

The area could accommodate a few park items identified in the following table due to its small size. It is recommended that the city conduct additional community engagement to determine which park features to implement.

		Area 1
Traditional Recreation Facilities for Infill		Typical SF
Ball Field		11,151
<i>Sml Softball Field (170'-200')</i>	20,000-100,000	
<i>Lrg Softball Field/Sml Baseball Field (200'-230')</i>	20,000-27,750	
<i>Med Baseball Field (300'-350')</i>	25,000-35,000	
<i>Lrg Baseball Field (350'-400')</i>	39,500-61,500	
Basketball Court	83,000-105,500	
Bocce Ball/Shuffleboard	4,700	•
Community Center/Gym	5,000-10,000	•
Futsal Court	25,000-70,000	
Dog Park	5,000-7,000	•
Outdoor Gym and Exterior Exercise Areas	10,000-75,000	•
Pickleball	5,000-20,000	•
Picnic Areas	2,500-3,500	•
Playgrounds	500-1,500	•
Soccer Field	4,000-6,000	•
<i>Sml Soccer Field (6U &amp; 8U)</i>	4,000-75,000	
<i>Med Soccer Field (10U &amp; 12U)</i>	4,050-11,250	
<i>Lrg Soccer Field (14U &amp; 16U+)</i>	25,200-36,000	
Tennis (60'x120')	54,000-86,400+	
Volleyball (70'x40')	7,200-28,000	•
	4,000-16,000	•
Other Recreation Facilities for Infill		
Multi-Purpose Path	Varies	•
Adventure Playgrounds	4,000-6,000	•
Skatepark	15,000-20,000	
Skate Spot	4,000-10,000	•
Community Garden	2,000-40,000	•
Disk Golf Course	50,000-200,000	
Pump Track/Bike Skills Course	10,000-20,000	
Rope/Adventure/Skills Course	5,000-50,000	•





## DE ANZA PARK

De Anza Park is located in west-central Ontario primarily within a residential neighborhood. Key destinations within walking distance include Euclid Elementary School, De Anza Middle School, Linda Vista Kindergarten School, and other commercial destinations located along Euclid Avenue.

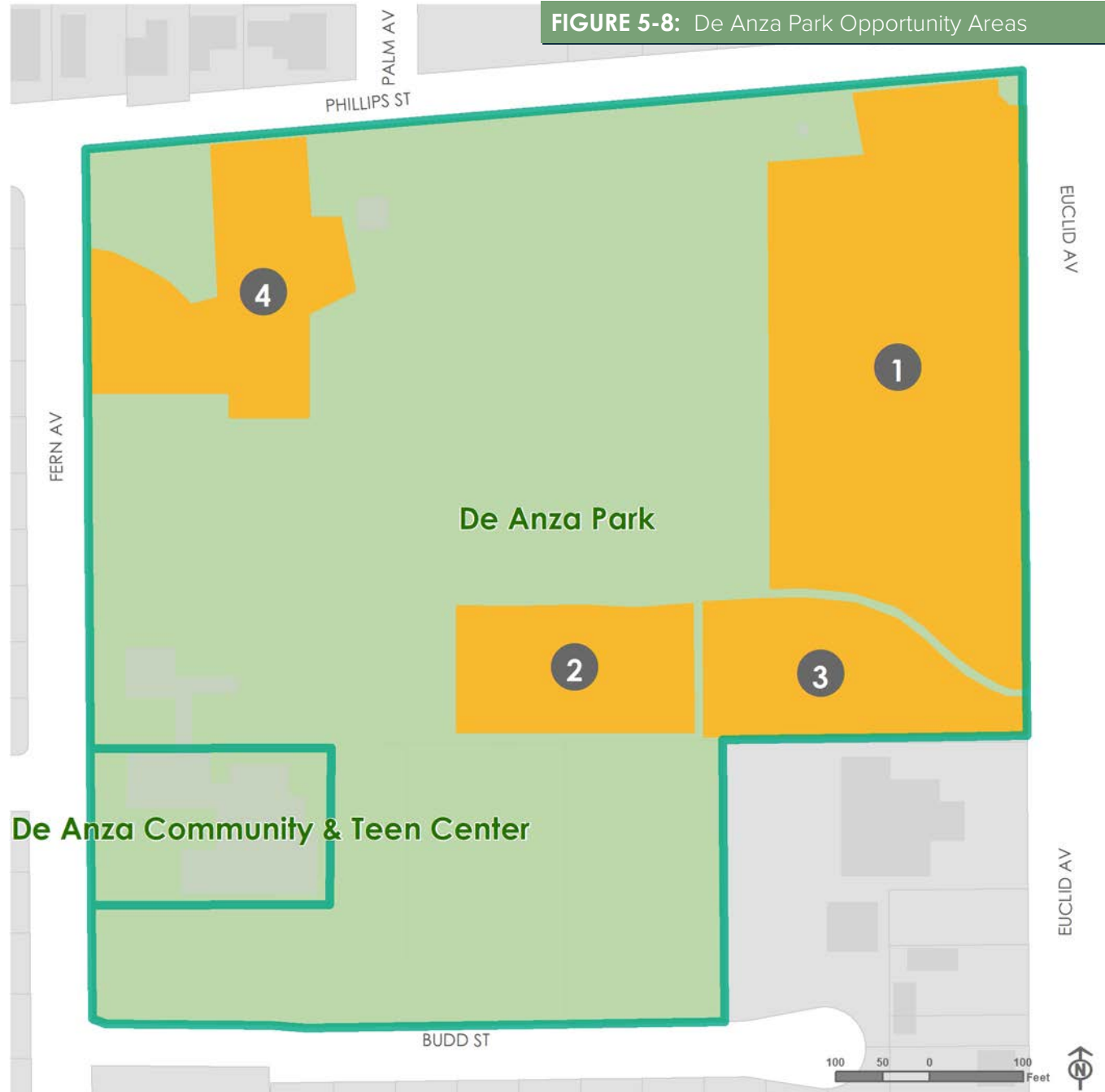
This community park is a major park asset to the community and is home to the De Anza Community & Teen Center. It is home to many other active and passive park amenities such as sports fields, sports courts, playgrounds, outdoor exercise equipment, and group picnic areas.

There are four opportunity areas identified within De Anza Park. These areas vary in size but they can accommodate a vast number of potential upgrades to the park that can help close park level of service gaps.

Please refer to Chapter 6 to view the concept plans developed for De Anza Park. The concept plans provide a vision for how these opportunity areas can be transformed into useful and fun spaces for the community.

		Area 1	Area 2	Area 3	Area 4
<b>Traditional Recreation Facilities for Infill</b>		<b>151,304</b>	<b>34,886</b>	<b>40,138</b>	<b>50,713</b>
Ball Field	20,000-100,000				•
<i>Sml Softball Field (170'-200')</i>	20,000-27,750				•
<i>Lrg Softball Field/Sml Baseball Field (200'-230')</i>	25,000-35,000				•
<i>Med Baseball Field (300'-350')</i>	39,500-61,500				•
<i>Lrg Baseball Field (350'-400')</i>	83,000-105,500				•
Basketball Court	4,700	•	•	•	•
Bocce Ball/Shuffleboard	5,000-10,000	•	•	•	•
Community Center/Gym	25,000-70,000				
Futsal Court	5,000-7,000	•	•	•	•
Dog Park	10,000-75,000	•	•	•	•
Outdoor Gym and Exterior Exercise Areas	5,000-20,000	•	•	•	•
Pickleball	2,500-3,500	•	•	•	•
Picnic Areas	500-1,500	•	•	•	•
Playgrounds	4,000-6,000	•	•	•	•
Soccer Field	4,000-75,000	•			•
<i>Sml Soccer Field (6U &amp; 8U)</i>	4,050-11,250	•	•	•	•
<i>Med Soccer Field (10U &amp; 12U)</i>	25,200-36,000	•	•	•	•
<i>Lrg Soccer Field (14U &amp; 16U+)</i>	54,000-86,400+	•			•
Tennis (60'x120')	7,200-28,000	•	•	•	•
Volleyball (70'x40')	4,000-16,000	•	•	•	•
<b>Other Recreation Facilities for Infill</b>					
Multi-Purpose Path	Varies	•	•	•	•
Adventure Playgrounds	4,000-6,000	•	•	•	•
Skatepark	15,000-20,000	•	•	•	•
Skate Spot	4,000-10,000	•		•	•
Community Garden	2,000-40,000	•		•	•
Disk Golf Course	50,000-200,000			•	•
Pump Track/Bike Skills Course	10,000-20,000	•		•	•
Rope/Adventure/Skills Course	5,000-50,000	•	•	•	•

FIGURE 5-8: De Anza Park Opportunity Areas





## DEL RANCHO PARK

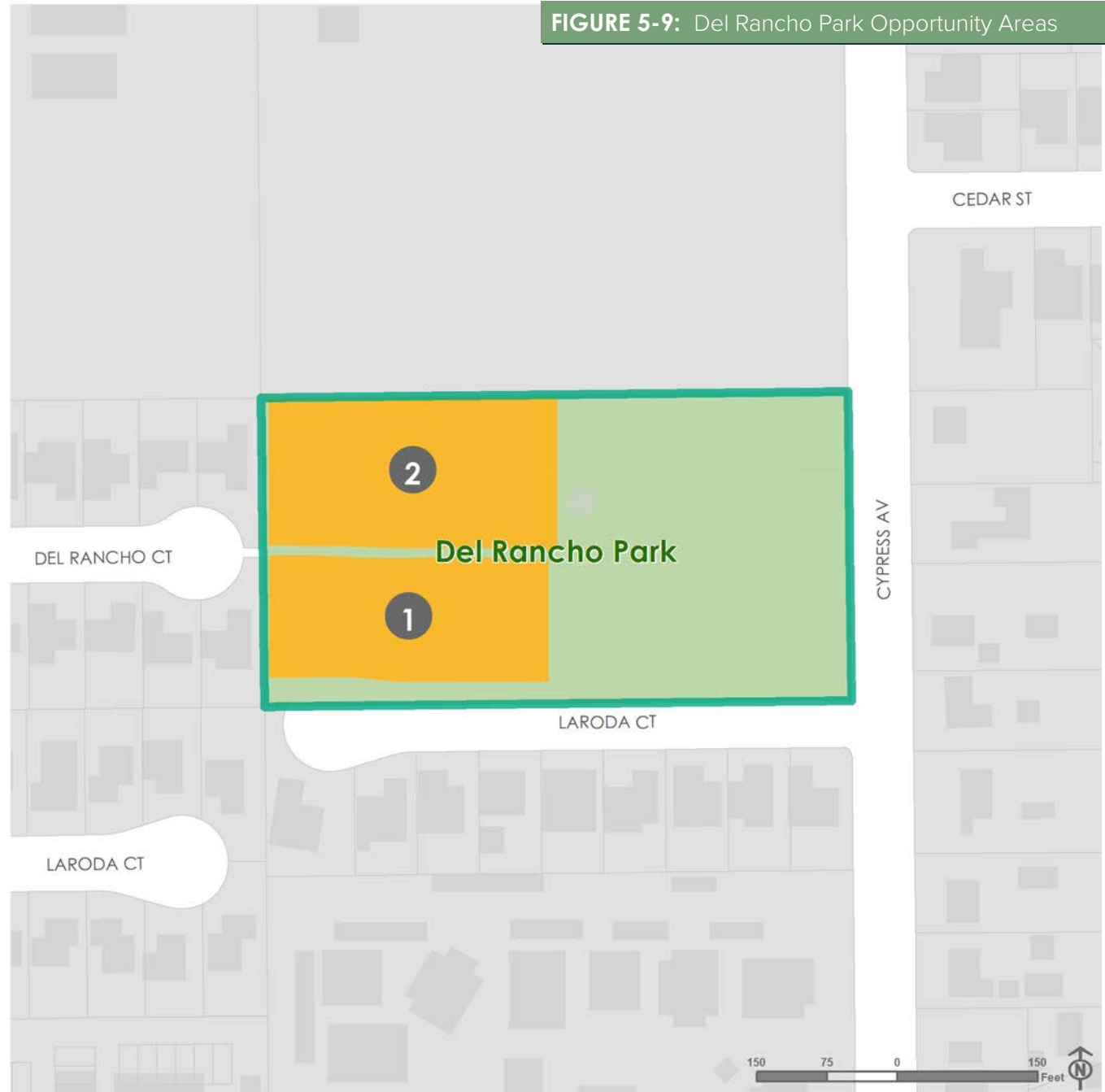
Del Rancho Park is located in west-central Ontario within a residential neighborhood. Key destinations with walking distance include Ontario High School, Richard E. Haynes Elementary School, and several commercial destination located along Francis Street and Philadelphia Street.

This neighborhood park is an important park asset to the immediate neighborhood it serves due to ease of access and the current passive park features. There are two medium-sized opportunity areas identified for Del Rancho Park. The spaces currently encompass passive grassy areas and a central walkway. There are several potential park features highlighted in the following table that can be implemented.

Please refer to Chapter 6 to view the concept plans developed for Del Rancho Park. The concept plans provide a vision for how these opportunity areas can be transformed into useful and fun spaces for the community.

		Area 1	Area 2
Traditional Recreation Facilities for Infill		39,053	49,623
Ball Field	20,000-100,000		
<i>Sml Softball Field (170'-200')</i>	20,000-27,750		
<i>Lrg Softball Field/Sml Baseball Field (200'-230')</i>	25,000-35,000		
<i>Med Baseball Field (300'-350')</i>	39,500-61,500		
<i>Lrg Baseball Field (350'-400')</i>	83,000-105,500		
Basketball Court	4,700	•	•
Bocce Ball/Shuffleboard	5,000-10,000	•	•
Community Center/Gym	25,000-70,000		
Futsal Court	5,000-7,000	•	•
Dog Park	10,000-75,000	•	•
Outdoor Gym and Exterior Exercise Areas	5,000-20,000	•	•
Pickleball	2,500-3,500	•	•
Picnic Areas	500-1,500	•	•
Playgrounds	4,000-6,000	•	•
Soccer Field	4,000-75,000		
<i>Sml Soccer Field (6U &amp; 8U)</i>	4,050-11,250		•
<i>Med Soccer Field (10U &amp; 12U)</i>	25,200-36,000		•
<i>Lrg Soccer Field (14U &amp; 16U+)</i>	54,000-86,400+		
Tennis (60'x120')	7,200-28,000	•	•
Volleyball (70'x40')	4,000-16,000	•	•
Other Recreation Facilities for Infill			
Multi-Purpose Path	Varies	•	•
Adventure Playgrounds	4,000-6,000	•	•
Skatepark	15,000-20,000		
Skate Spot	4,000-10,000	•	•
Community Garden	2,000-40,000	•	•
Disk Golf Course	50,000-200,000		
Pump Track/Bike Skills Course	10,000-20,000		
Rope/Adventure/Skills Course	5,000-50,000		

FIGURE 5-9: Del Rancho Park Opportunity Areas



## GEORGE GIBBS PARK

George Gibbs Park is located in northwest Ontario primarily within a residential neighborhood. The park is surrounded by residential, civic, and commercial land uses. Key destinations within walking distance include El Camino Elementary School, Anthony Munoz Park, Walmart Supercenter, and many other commercial destinations along Mountain Avenue.

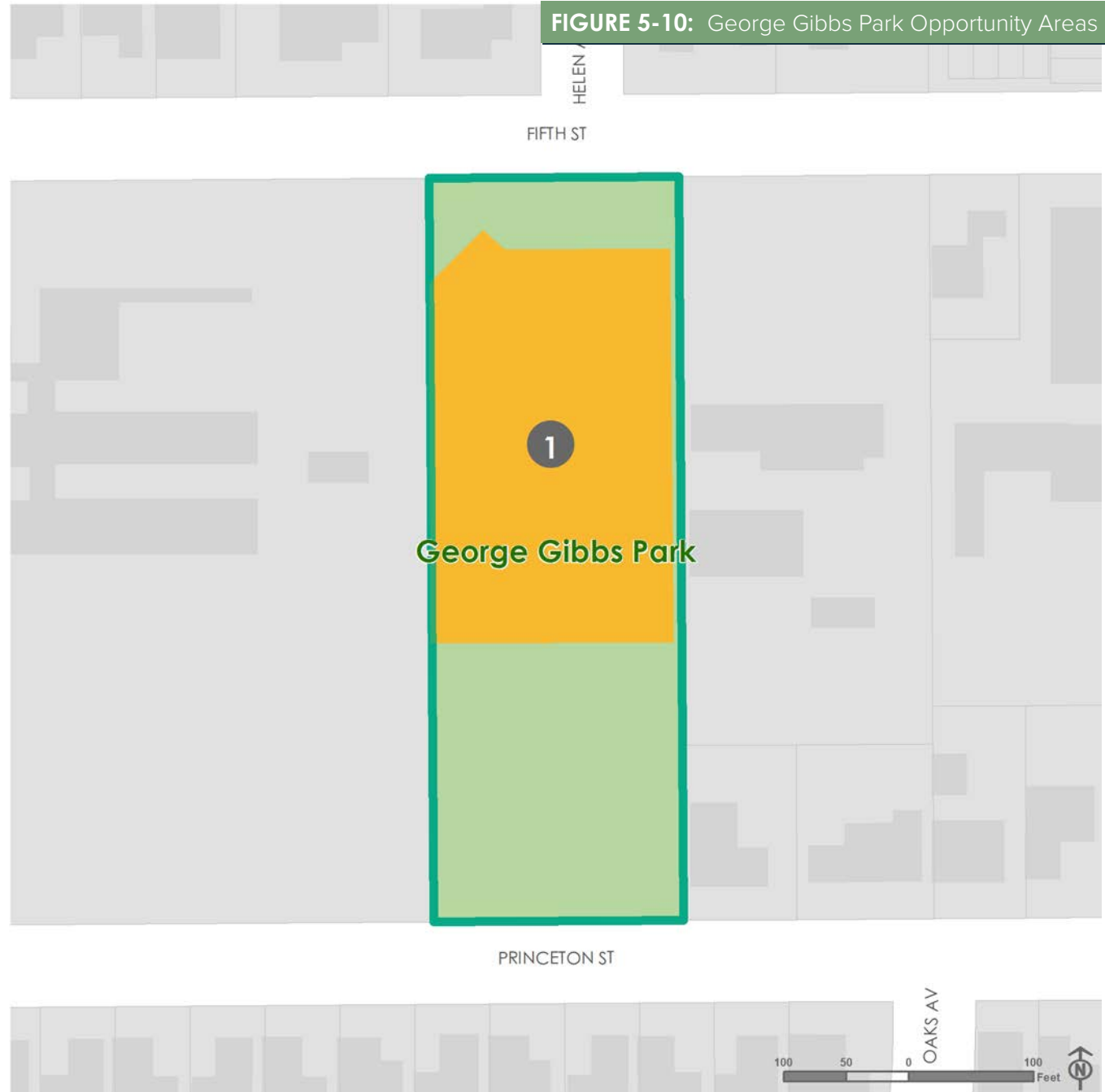
One opportunity park area is identified for George Gibbs Park. This area currently accommodates an open grassy area that is used for multiple sports activities such as youth soccer. The area has great visibility from 5th Street and is adjacent to a parking lot.

The area could potentially accommodate several park items identified in the following table due to its medium size. It's recommended the city conduct additional community engagement to determine which park features to implement.

		Area 1
Traditional Recreation Facilities for Infill		61,047
Ball Field	20,000-100,000	
<i>Sml Softball Field (170'-200')</i>	20,000-27,750	•
<i>Lrg Softball Field/Sml Baseball Field (200'-230')</i>	25,000-35,000	•
<i>Med Baseball Field (300'-350')</i>	39,500-61,500	•
<i>Lrg Baseball Field (350'-400')</i>	83,000-105,500	
Basketball Court	4,700	•
Bocce Ball/Shuffleboard	5,000-10,000	•
Community Center/Gym	25,000-70,000	
Futsal Court	5,000-7,000	•
Dog Park	10,000-75,000	•
Outdoor Gym and Exterior Exercise Areas	5,000-20,000	•
Pickleball	2,500-3,500	•
Picnic Areas	500-1,500	•
Playgrounds	4,000-6,000	•
Soccer Field	4,000-75,000	
<i>Sml Soccer Field (6U &amp; 8U)</i>	4,050-11,250	•
<i>Med Soccer Field (10U &amp; 12U)</i>	25,200-36,000	•
<i>Lrg Soccer Field (14U &amp; 16U+)</i>	54,000-86,400+	•
Tennis (60'x120')	7,200-28,000	•
Volleyball (70'x40')	4,000-16,000	•
Other Recreation Facilities for Infill		
Multi-Purpose Path	Varies	•
Adventure Playgrounds	4,000-6,000	•
Skatepark	15,000-20,000	•
Skate Spot	4,000-10,000	•
Community Garden	2,000-40,000	•
Disk Golf Course	50,000-200,000	
Pump Track/Bike Skills Course	10,000-20,000	•
Rope/Adventure/Skills Course	5,000-50,000	•



FIGURE 5-10: George Gibbs Park Opportunity Areas



## GROVE MEMORIAL PARK

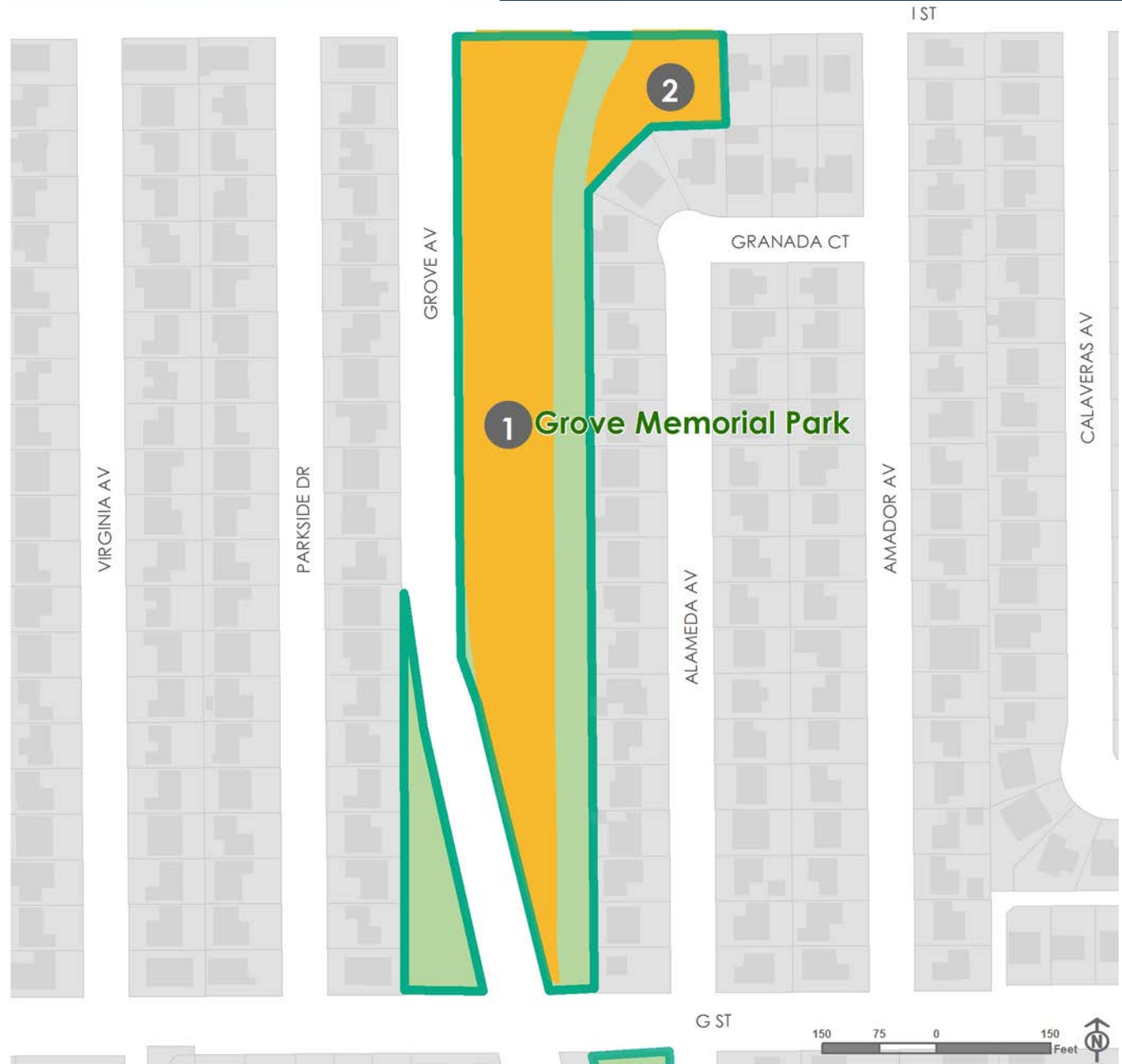
Grove Memorial Park is located in north-central Ontario, primarily within a residential neighborhood. Key destinations within walking distance include other city parks such as John Galvin Park, Veterans Memorial Park, and James Galanis Park.

Two opportunity park areas are identified for Grove Memorial Park. One space is characterized by a long and narrow open grassy area with high visibility from Grove Avenue. Due to the unique shape of this park, special attention should be paid to the potential park features identified in the table. This park also has the potential to serve as a resource-based park by implementing urban greening and stormwater features such as bioswales, rain gardens, and native plantings.

It is recommended that the city conduct additional community engagement to determine which park features to implement.

		Area 1	Area 2
Traditional Recreation Facilities for Infill		128,223	21,886
Ball Field	20,000-100,000		
<i>Sml Softball Field (170'-200')</i>	20,000-27,750		
<i>Lrg Softball Field/Sml Baseball Field (200'-230')</i>	25,000-35,000		
<i>Med Baseball Field (300'-350')</i>	39,500-61,500		
<i>Lrg Baseball Field (350'-400')</i>	83,000-105,500		
Basketball Court	4,700	•	•
Bocce Ball/Shuffleboard	5,000-10,000	•	•
Community Center/Gym	25,000-70,000		
Futsal Court	5,000-7,000	•	•
Dog Park	10,000-75,000	•	•
Outdoor Gym and Exterior Exercise Areas	5,000-20,000	•	•
Pickleball	2,500-3,500	•	•
Picnic Areas	500-1,500	•	•
Playgrounds	4,000-6,000	•	•
Soccer Field	4,000-75,000		
<i>Sml Soccer Field (6U &amp; 8U)</i>	4,050-11,250	•	•
<i>Med Soccer Field (10U &amp; 12U)</i>	25,200-36,000		
<i>Lrg Soccer Field (14U &amp; 16U+)</i>	54,000-86,400+		
Tennis (60'x120')	7,200-28,000	•	•
Volleyball (70'x40')	4,000-16,000	•	•
Other Recreation Facilities for Infill			
Multi-Purpose Path	Varies	•	•
Adventure Playgrounds	4,000-6,000	•	•
Skatepark	15,000-20,000	•	•
Skate Spot	4,000-10,000	•	•
Community Garden	2,000-40,000	•	•
Disk Golf Course	50,000-200,000	•	
Pump Track/Bike Skills Course	10,000-20,000	•	•
Rope/Adventure/Skills Course	5,000-50,000	•	•

FIGURE 5-11: Grove Memorial Park Opportunity Areas





## HOMER BRIGGS PARK

Homer Briggs Park is located in west-central Ontario, primarily within a residential neighborhood. Key destinations within walking distance include Vista Grande Elementary School, places of worship, and commercial destinations along Mountain Avenue and Philadelphia Street.

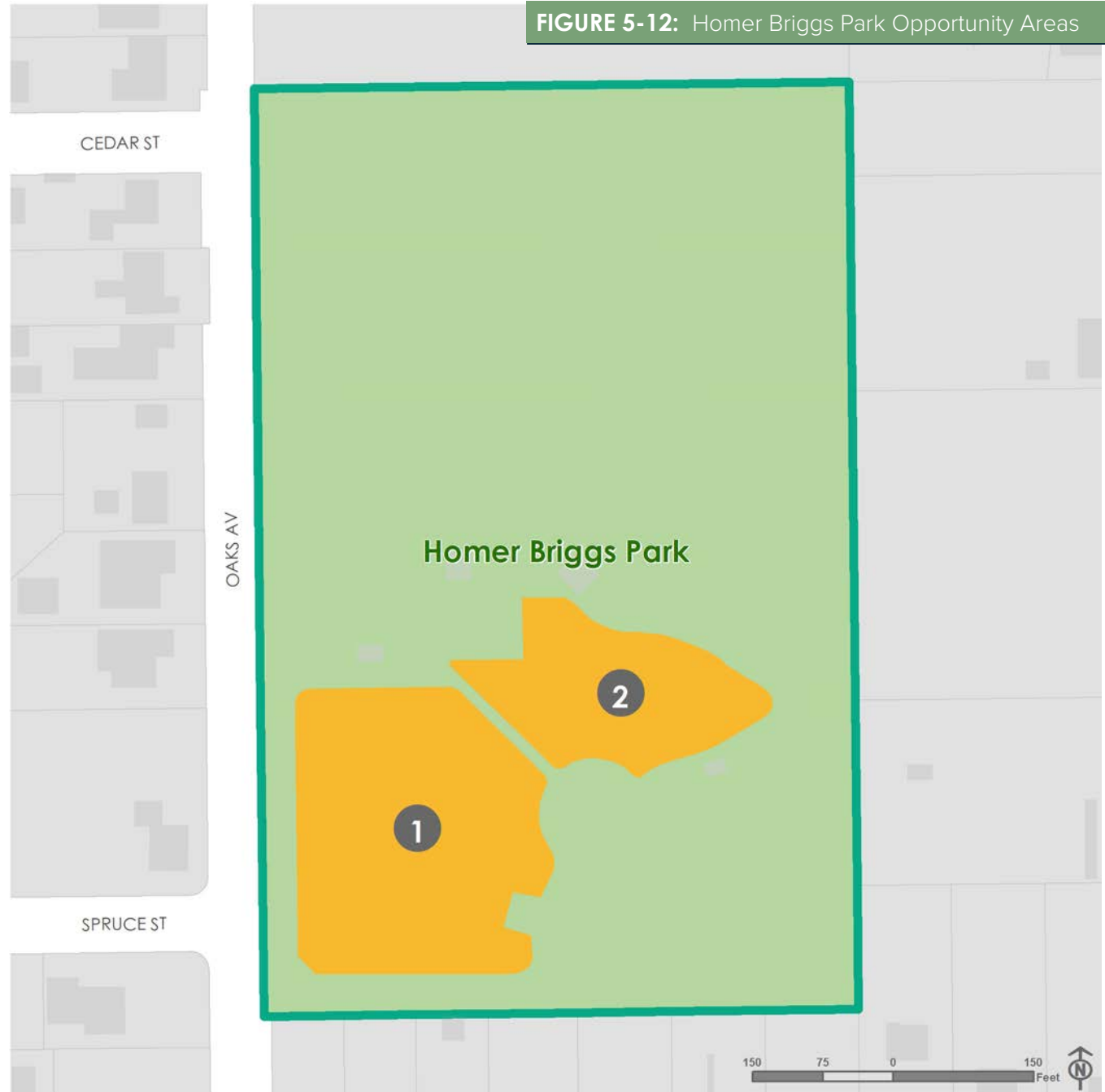
Two opportunity park areas are identified for Homer Briggs Park. Both areas are characterized as open grassy areas that provide both passive and active recreation activities. The spaces have easy access to group picnic areas, walkways, and restrooms. Both areas can accommodate many kinds of potential park features due to the flat terrain and their medium-sized boundaries.

In addition, this park could also benefit from equestrian trail enhancements to and from the staging area and horse arena. Ongoing maintenance, signage, and related amenities could be installed to improve the equestrian experience for the surrounding community.

It is recommended that the city conduct additional community engagement to determine which park features to implement.

		Area 1	Area 2
Traditional Recreation Facilities for Infill		74,286	37,062
Ball Field	20,000-100,000		
<i>Sml Softball Field (170'-200')</i>	20,000-27,750	•	
<i>Lrg Softball Field/Sml Baseball Field (200'-230')</i>	25,000-35,000	•	
<i>Med Baseball Field (300'-350')</i>	39,500-61,500	•	
<i>Lrg Baseball Field (350'-400')</i>	83,000-105,500		
Basketball Court	4,700	•	•
Bocce Ball/Shuffleboard	5,000-10,000	•	•
Community Center/Gym	25,000-70,000	•	•
Futsal Court	5,000-7,000	•	•
Dog Park	10,000-75,000	•	•
Outdoor Gym and Exterior Exercise Areas	5,000-20,000	•	•
Pickleball	2,500-3,500	•	•
Picnic Areas	500-1,500	•	•
Playgrounds	4,000-6,000	•	•
Soccer Field	4,000-75,000		
<i>Sml Soccer Field (6U &amp; 8U)</i>	4,050-11,250	•	•
<i>Med Soccer Field (10U &amp; 12U)</i>	25,200-36,000	•	•
<i>Lrg Soccer Field (14U &amp; 16U+)</i>	54,000-86,400+	•	
Tennis (60'x120')	7,200-28,000	•	•
Volleyball (70'x40')	4,000-16,000	•	•
Other Recreation Facilities for Infill			
Multi-Purpose Path	Varies	•	•
Adventure Playgrounds	4,000-6,000	•	•
Skatepark	15,000-20,000	•	•
Skate Spot	4,000-10,000	•	•
Community Garden	2,000-40,000	•	•
Disk Golf Course	50,000-200,000	•	
Pump Track/Bike Skills Course	10,000-20,000	•	•
Rope/Adventure/Skills Course	5,000-50,000	•	•

FIGURE 5-12: Homer Briggs Park Opportunity Areas



## JAMES R. BRYANT PARK

James R. Bryant Park is located in north-central Ontario. The park is surrounded by residential, commercial, and civic land uses. Key destinations within walking distance include places of worship and several shopping centers along Euclid Avenue and Holt Boulevard.

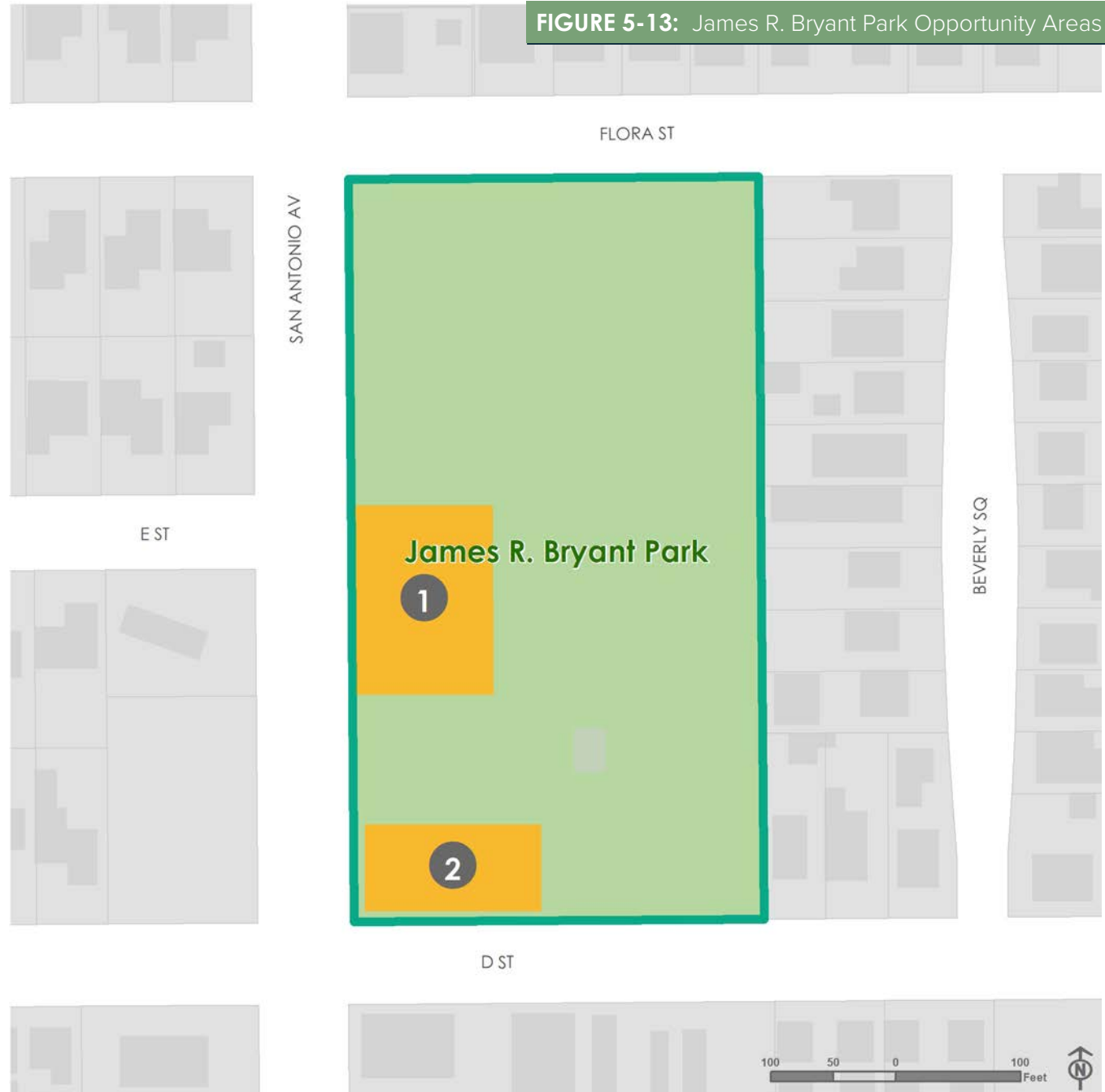
Two opportunity park areas are identified for James R. Bryant Park. Both areas are relatively small, but they can accommodate useful new park features that can help address level of service gaps such as playground expansion or additional picnic areas. The areas have great visibility from San Antonio Avenue and D Street, both of which have on-street parking.

It is recommended that the city conduct additional community engagement to determine which park features to implement.

		Area 1	Area 2
Traditional Recreation Facilities for Infill		16,739	9,811
Ball Field	20,000-100,000		
<i>Sml Softball Field (170'-200')</i>	20,000-27,750		
<i>Lrg Softball Field/Sml Baseball Field (200'-230')</i>	25,000-35,000		
<i>Med Baseball Field (300'-350')</i>	39,500-61,500		
<i>Lrg Baseball Field (350'-400')</i>	83,000-105,500		
Basketball Court	4,700	•	•
Bocce Ball/Shuffleboard	5,000-10,000	•	•
Community Center/Gym	25,000-70,000		
Futsal Court	5,000-7,000	•	•
Dog Park	10,000-75,000	•	•
Outdoor Gym and Exterior Exercise Areas	5,000-20,000	•	•
Pickleball	2,500-3,500	•	•
Picnic Areas	500-1,500	•	•
Playgrounds	4,000-6,000	•	•
Soccer Field	4,000-75,000		
<i>Sml Soccer Field (6U &amp; 8U)</i>	4,050-11,250	•	
<i>Med Soccer Field (10U &amp; 12U)</i>	25,200-36,000		
<i>Lrg Soccer Field (14U &amp; 16U+)</i>	54,000-86,400+		
Tennis (60'x120')	7,200-28,000	•	•
Volleyball (70'x40')	4,000-16,000	•	•
Other Recreation Facilities for Infill			
Multi-Purpose Path	Varies	•	•
Adventure Playgrounds	4,000-6,000	•	•
Skatepark	15,000-20,000	•	
Skate Spot	4,000-10,000	•	•
Community Garden	2,000-40,000	•	•
Disk Golf Course	50,000-200,000		
Pump Track/Bike Skills Course	10,000-20,000	•	•
Rope/Adventure/Skills Course	5,000-50,000	•	•



FIGURE 5-13: James R. Bryant Park Opportunity Areas



## JOHN GALVIN PARK

John Galvin Park is located in north-central Ontario, primarily within a residential neighborhood with nearby commercial destinations. Key destinations within walking distance include Jay Littleton Ball Park, Schimmel Dog Park, Del Norte Elementary School, other city parks such as Grove Memorial Park, and several commercial destinations along 4th Street.

This Community Park is a major park asset to the community due to the diverse park features it is currently home to. There are five opportunity areas identified that vary in size. This park has the potential to greatly address park level of service gaps due to the varying sizes of the areas outlined and their easy accessibility from adjacent streets.

Please refer to Chapter 6 to view the concept plans developed for John Galvin Park. The concept plans provide a vision for how these opportunity areas can be transformed into useful and fun spaces for the community.

		Area 1	Area 2	Area 3	Area 4	Area 5
<b>Traditional Recreation Facilities for Infill</b>		<b>89,676</b>	<b>61,892</b>	<b>47,975</b>	<b>133,523</b>	<b>94,257</b>
Ball Field	20,000-100,000				•	
<i>Sml Softball Field (170'-200')</i>	20,000-27,750				•	
<i>Lrg Softball Field/Sml Baseball Field (200'-230')</i>	25,000-35,000				•	
<i>Med Baseball Field (300'-350')</i>	39,500-61,500				•	
<i>Lrg Baseball Field (350'-400')</i>	83,000-105,500				•	
Basketball Court	4,700	•	•	•	•	•
Bocce Ball/Shuffleboard	5,000-10,000	•	•	•	•	•
Community Center/Gym	25,000-70,000	•	•	•	•	•
Futsal Court	5,000-7,000	•	•	•	•	•
Dog Park	10,000-75,000	•	•	•	•	•
Outdoor Gym and Exterior Exercise Areas	5,000-20,000	•	•	•	•	•
Pickleball	2,500-3,500	•	•	•	•	•
Picnic Areas	500-1,500	•	•	•	•	•
Playgrounds	4,000-6,000	•	•	•	•	•
Soccer Field	4,000-75,000	•			•	•
<i>Sml Soccer Field (6U &amp; 8U)</i>	4,050-11,250	•	•	•	•	•
<i>Med Soccer Field (10U &amp; 12U)</i>	25,200-36,000	•	•	•	•	•
<i>Lrg Soccer Field (14U &amp; 16U+)</i>	54,000-86,400+	•			•	•
Tennis (60'x120')	7,200-28,000	•	•	•	•	•
Volleyball (70'x40')	4,000-16,000	•	•	•	•	•
<b>Other Recreation Facilities for Infill</b>						
Multi-Purpose Path	Varies	•	•	•	•	•
Adventure Playgrounds	4,000-6,000		•	•	•	•
Skatepark	15,000-20,000	•	•	•	•	•
Skate Spot	4,000-10,000	•	•	•	•	•
Community Garden	2,000-40,000	•	•	•	•	•
Disk Golf Course	50,000-200,000		•	•	•	
Pump Track/Bike Skills Course	10,000-20,000	•	•	•	•	•
Rope/Adventure/Skills Course	5,000-50,000		•	•	•	•

FIGURE 5-14: John Galvin Park Opportunity Areas





## MT. VIEW SCHOOL PARK

Mt. View School Park is located in central Ontario. The park is surrounded by residential, civic, industrial, and commercial land uses. Key destinations within walking distance include several shopping and employment centers found along Archibald Avenue and Philadelphia Street.

The entire park has been identified as an opportunity area. The park itself would benefit from major improvements that would help address park needs for the school and the surrounding community. This area currently accommodates an open grassy area, picnic tables, and older playground equipment.

The area could potentially accommodate several park items identified in the following table. It is recommended that the city conduct additional community engagement to determine which park features to implement.

		Area 1
Traditional Recreation Facilities for Infill		21,332
Ball Field	20,000-100,000	
<i>Sml Softball Field (170'-200')</i>	20,000-27,750	
<i>Lrg Softball Field/Sml Baseball Field (200'-230')</i>	25,000-35,000	
<i>Med Baseball Field (300'-350')</i>	39,500-61,500	
<i>Lrg Baseball Field (350'-400')</i>	83,000-105,500	
Basketball Court	4,700	•
Bocce Ball/Shuffleboard	5,000-10,000	•
Community Center/Gym	25,000-70,000	
Futsal Court	5,000-7,000	•
Dog Park	10,000-75,000	•
Outdoor Gym and Exterior Exercise Areas	5,000-20,000	•
Pickleball	2,500-3,500	•
Picnic Areas	500-1,500	•
Playgrounds	4,000-6,000	•
Soccer Field	4,000-75,000	
<i>Sml Soccer Field (6U &amp; 8U)</i>	4,050-11,250	
<i>Med Soccer Field (10U &amp; 12U)</i>	25,200-36,000	
<i>Lrg Soccer Field (14U &amp; 16U+)</i>	54,000-86,400+	
Tennis (60'x120')	7,200-28,000	•
Volleyball (70'x40')	4,000-16,000	•
Other Recreation Facilities for Infill		
Multi-Purpose Path	Varies	•
Adventure Playgrounds	4,000-6,000	•
Skatepark	15,000-20,000	•
Skate Spot	4,000-10,000	•
Community Garden	2,000-40,000	•
Disk Golf Course	50,000-200,000	
Pump Track/Bike Skills Course	10,000-20,000	•
Rope/Adventure/Skills Course	5,000-50,000	•

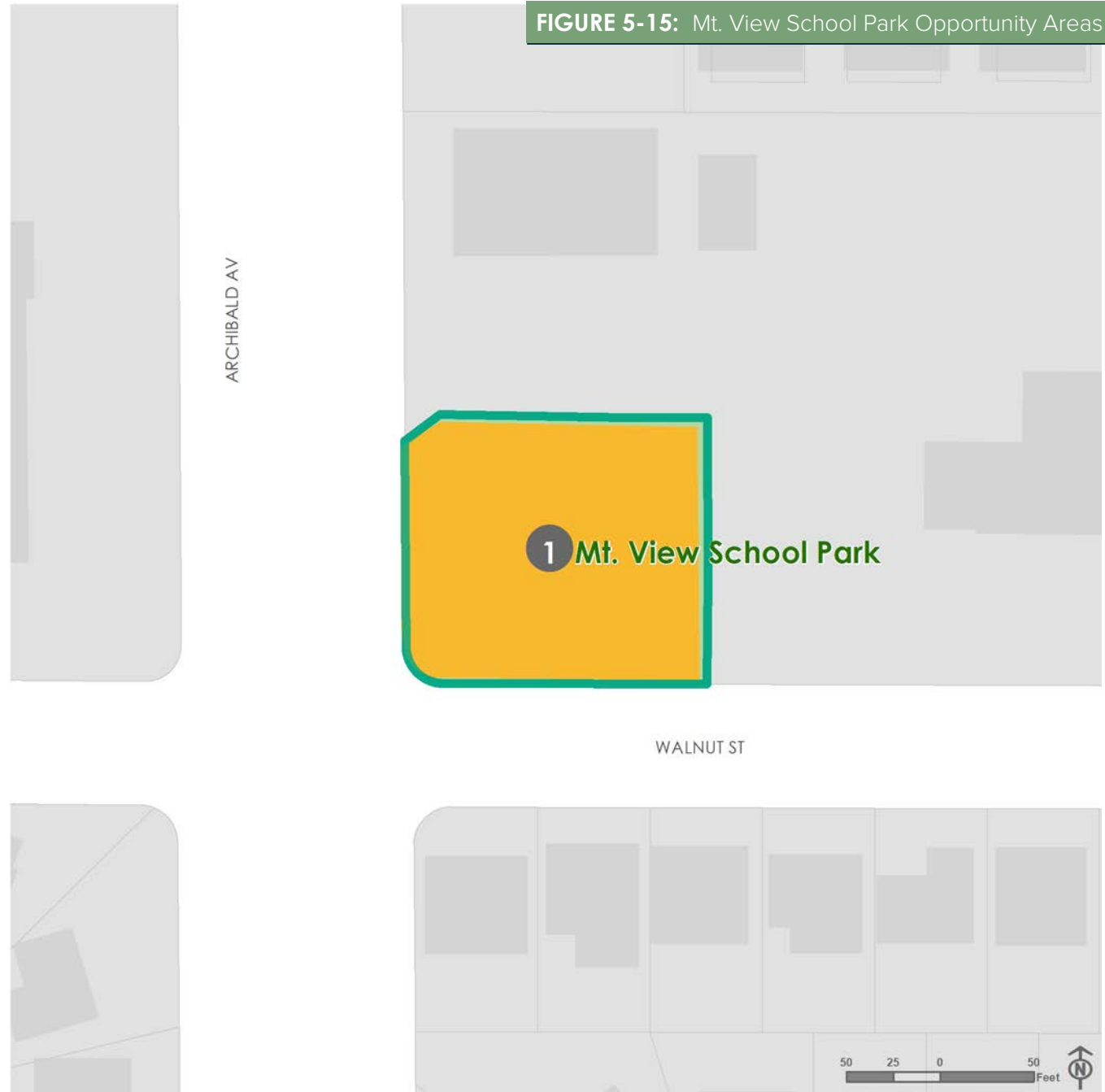


FIGURE 5-15: Mt. View School Park Opportunity Areas

## SAM ALBA PARK

Sam Alba Park is located in west-central Ontario. The park is surrounded by residential, industrial, and commercial land uses. Key destinations within walking distance include the Ontario Amtrak train station, places of worship, and several commercial and employment centers along Euclid Avenue, Mission Boulevard, and Sultana Avenue.

The majority of the park has been identified as an opportunity area. The space is characterized by an open grassy area surrounded by a low fence. Other adjacent park features include a basketball court, a restroom, and a playground.

The area could potentially accommodate several park items identified in the following table. It is recommended that the city conduct additional community engagement to determine which park features to implement.

		Area 1
Traditional Recreation Facilities for Infill		29,550
Ball Field	20,000-100,000	
<i>Sml Softball Field (170'-200')</i>	20,000-27,750	•
<i>Lrg Softball Field/Sml Baseball Field (200'-230')</i>	25,000-35,000	
<i>Med Baseball Field (300'-350')</i>	39,500-61,500	
<i>Lrg Baseball Field (350'-400')</i>	83,000-105,500	
Basketball Court	4,700	•
Bocce Ball/Shuffleboard	5,000-10,000	•
Community Center/Gym	25,000-70,000	•
Futsal Court	5,000-7,000	•
Dog Park	10,000-75,000	•
Outdoor Gym and Exterior Exercise Areas	5,000-20,000	•
Pickleball	2,500-3,500	•
Picnic Areas	500-1,500	•
Playgrounds	4,000-6,000	•
Soccer Field	4,000-75,000	
<i>Sml Soccer Field (6U &amp; 8U)</i>	4,050-11,250	•
<i>Med Soccer Field (10U &amp; 12U)</i>	25,200-36,000	
<i>Lrg Soccer Field (14U &amp; 16U+)</i>	54,000-86,400+	
Tennis (60'x120')	7,200-28,000	•
Volleyball (70'x40')	4,000-16,000	•
Other Recreation Facilities for Infill		
Multi-Purpose Path	Varies	•
Adventure Playgrounds	4,000-6,000	•
Skatepark	15,000-20,000	•
Skate Spot	4,000-10,000	•
Community Garden	2,000-40,000	•
Disk Golf Course	50,000-200,000	
Pump Track/Bike Skills Course	10,000-20,000	•
Rope/Adventure/Skills Course	5,000-50,000	•



FIGURE 5-16: Sam Alba Park Opportunity Areas



## VINEYARD PARK

Vineyard Park is located in north Ontario, primarily within a residential neighborhood with nearby commercial and school destinations. Key destinations within walking distance include Vineyard Elementary School, Arroyo Elementary School, Valley View High School, and places of worship.

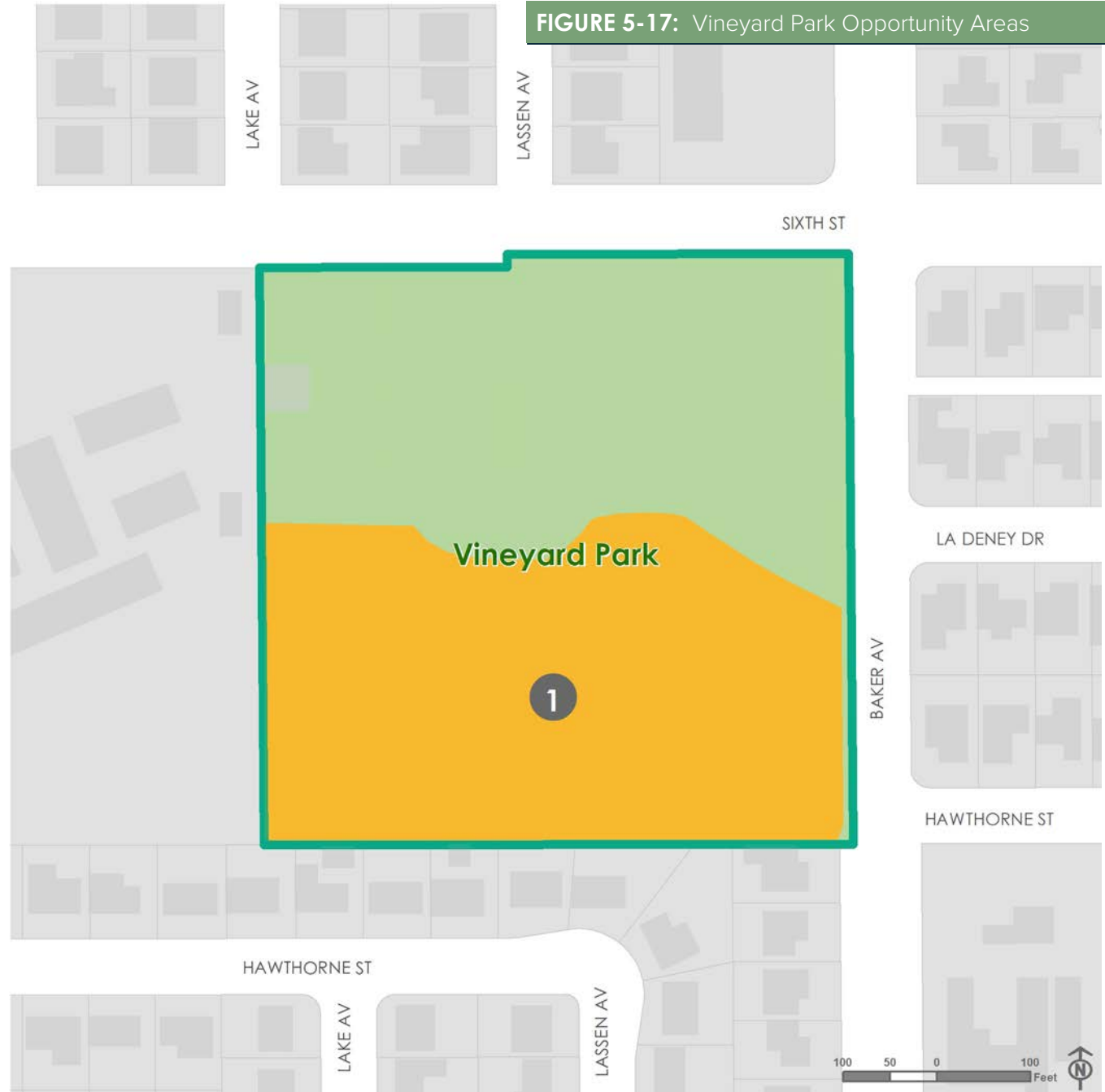
This community park is a major park asset to the community due to its central location within the neighborhood and easy access. The park is home to a community pool and other park amenities such as playgrounds, a basketball court, and group picnic areas.

There is one major opportunity area identified for Vineyard Park. The space currently encompasses passive grassy areas and park trees. There are several potential park features highlighted in the following table that can be implemented due to the large opportunity area boundary identified.

Please refer to Chapter 6 to view the concept plans developed for Vineyard Park. The concept plans provide a vision for how these opportunity areas can be transformed into useful and fun spaces for the community.

		Area 1
Traditional Recreation Facilities for Infill		Typical SF
Ball Field	20,000-100,000	•
<i>Sml Softball Field (170'-200')</i>	20,000-27,750	•
<i>Lrg Softball Field/Sml Baseball Field (200'-230')</i>	25,000-35,000	•
<i>Med Baseball Field (300'-350')</i>	39,500-61,500	•
<i>Lrg Baseball Field (350'-400')</i>	83,000-105,500	•
Basketball Court	4,700	•
Bocce Ball/Shuffleboard	5,000-10,000	•
Community Center/Gym	25,000-70,000	•
Futsal Court	5,000-7,000	•
Dog Park	10,000-75,000	•
Outdoor Gym and Exterior Exercise Areas	5,000-20,000	•
Pickleball	2,500-3,500	•
Picnic Areas	500-1,500	•
Playgrounds	4,000-6,000	•
Soccer Field	4,000-75,000	•
<i>Sml Soccer Field (6U &amp; 8U)</i>	4,050-11,250	•
<i>Med Soccer Field (10U &amp; 12U)</i>	25,200-36,000	•
<i>Lrg Soccer Field (14U &amp; 16U+)</i>	54,000-86,400+	•
Tennis (60'x120')	7,200-28,000	•
Volleyball (70'x40')	4,000-16,000	•
Other Recreation Facilities for Infill		
Multi-Purpose Path	Varies	•
Adventure Playgrounds	4,000-6,000	•
Skatepark	15,000-20,000	•
Skate Spot	4,000-10,000	•
Community Garden	2,000-40,000	•
Disk Golf Course	50,000-200,000	•
Pump Track/Bike Skills Course	10,000-20,000	•
Rope/Adventure/Skills Course	5,000-50,000	•

FIGURE 5-17: Vineyard Park Opportunity Areas





## WHISPERING LAKES GOLF COURSE

Whispering Lakes Golf Course is located in south-central Ontario. It is surrounded by residential, commercial, industrial, and open space land uses. Key destinations within walking distance include Westwind Park and several shopping centers found along Riverside Drive.

This city-owned golf course is a major park and open space asset to the city due to its large size, history, and the potential to one day be re-envisioned into a multi-purpose golf course and community park. The space is home to standard golf course features as well as the Whispering Lakes Dog Park. A private golf course operator manages all program-related golf activities.

For this particular study, there is one major opportunity area identified for Whispering Lakes Golf Course. The space currently encompasses passive grassy areas and park trees. There are several potential park features highlighted in the following table that can be implemented due to the large opportunity area boundary identified.

Please refer to Chapter 6 to view the concept plans developed for this opportunity area. The concept plans provide a vision for how these opportunity areas can be transformed into useful and fun spaces for the community.

		Area 1
Traditional Recreation Facilities for Infill		Typical SF
Ball Field		449,333
<i>Sml Softball Field (170'-200')</i>	20,000-100,000	
<i>Lrg Softball Field/Sml Baseball Field (200'-230')</i>	20,000-27,750	
<i>Med Baseball Field (300'-350')</i>	25,000-35,000	
<i>Lrg Baseball Field (350'-400')</i>	39,500-61,500	
Basketball Court	83,000-105,500	
Bocce Ball/Shuffleboard	4,700	•
Multi-Purpose Venue	5,000-10,000	•
Futsal Court	25,000-70,000	•
Dog Park	5,000-7,000	•
Outdoor Gym and Exterior Exercise Areas	10,000-75,000	•
Pickleball	5,000-20,000	•
Picnic Areas	2,500-3,500	•
Playgrounds	500-1,500	•
Soccer Field	4,000-6,000	•
<i>Sml Soccer Field (6U &amp; 8U)</i>	4,000-75,000	
<i>Med Soccer Field (10U &amp; 12U)</i>	4,050-11,250	
<i>Lrg Soccer Field (14U &amp; 16U+)</i>	25,200-36,000	
Tennis (60'x120')	54,000-86,400+	
Volleyball (70'x40')	7,200-28,000	•
	4,000-16,000	•
Other Recreation Facilities for Infill		
Multi-Purpose Path	Varies	•
Adventure Playgrounds	4,000-6,000	•
Skatepark	15,000-20,000	•
Skate Spot	4,000-10,000	•
Community Garden	2,000-40,000	•
Disk Golf Course	50,000-200,000	•
Pump Track/Bike Skills Course	10,000-20,000	•
Rope/Adventure/Skills Course	5,000-50,000	•



# WHISPERING LAKES GOLF COURSE ANALYSIS

The city-owned Whispering Lakes Golf Course has been a park asset to the community and visitors for many decades. The space is an 18-hole, par-72 course that is characterized as a “throwback” layout with plentiful trees and a relatively flat terrain.

The purpose of this analysis is to explore potential changes to the city-owned open space that the golf course resides on. The options outlined below are planning-level ideas that would require additional feasibility studies and community engagement. It’s worth noting that the space has the potential to be re-imagined into a multi-purpose, welcoming, and engaging park space. The options explore keeping all or part of the golf course operations and considers the entire area as park space (per its land use designation) that can be redesigned with many active and passive park features.

## OPTION 1- EXPAND LEVEL OF SERVICE- ADD FUN ELEMENTS

Option 1 is the most conservative of the options outlined in this section. In this scenario, the city would keep the full 18-hole golf course but it would explore adding level of service amenities currently not offered. This option is about reinvigorating the activities and amenities that could take place at this traditional golf course to maintain and attract new visitors. By modernizing the golf course and adding trending golf events, this option has the potential to continue the legacy of the golf course while also introducing newer generations to the sport.

Major elements may include:

- \* Keep 18 holes
- \* Expand level of service by adding entertainment and diverse food and drink service
- \* Add public events (daytime and nighttime)
- \* City reclaims only the south portion of golf course site and adds park amenities

## OPTION 2- HYBRID 9-HOLE WITH PARK AMENITIES

Option 2 explores downsizing from the full 18-hole golf course into a hybrid 9-hole executive course. This option also calls for adding level of service amenities currently not offered, such as food and drink service. This option is also about reinvigorating the activities and amenities that could take place at a golf course to maintain and attract new visitors. By modernizing the golf course and adding trending golf events, this option has the potential to continue the legacy of the golf course while also introducing newer generations to the sport.

By reclaiming golf course space back as traditional park space, the city could add major park features that would help address level of service gaps. Items such as walking trails, sports fields, and resource-based features such as bioswales and rain gardens could transform this space into a valuable, multi-purpose public asset to the community and visitors alike.

Major elements may include:

- \* Downsize to a 9-hole executive course
- \* Keep Par 4 and Par 5
- \* Expand level of service by adding entertainment and diverse food and drink service
- \* Add public events (daytime and nighttime)
- \* City reclaims space and adds park amenities such walking trails, sports fields, sports courts, playgrounds, and other resource-based green features.

## OPTION 3- CITY RECLAIMS ALL SPACE FOR PARKS AND RECREATION PURPOSES

Option 3 can be considered the most comprehensive of the three options because it explores removing golf course operations and replacing it entirely with park features. By reclaiming the golf course space back as traditional park space, the city could add major park features that would help address level of service gaps.



Items such as walking paths, a large sports complex with softball and baseball fields, playgrounds, or large expanses of “nature-themed” open space could be imagined here. The entire park space could help address park level of service gaps for Ontario residents and it could also drive revenue-generating activities and events that would benefit both residents and visitors alike.

Major elements may include:

- ✦ Re-envisioning the entire site as a public park with open space
- ✦ Opportunities for several sports fields such as softball/baseball fields, futsal, and/or sports courts
- ✦ Passive “nature” open space, trails, and bike paths
- ✦ Playgrounds, splash pads, and family game zones
- ✦ Resource-based green features such as bioswales and rain gardens



Option 2: Potential spaces to reclaim



Option 1: Potential spaces to reclaim



Option 3: Potential spaces to reclaim



## PROPOSED COMMUNITY PARK

The community engagement and park level of service analyses provided detailed insight into potential recommendations. It was determined through this process that finding a location for a new community park that would serve existing and future Ontario residents would be essential.

The timing of the ORPMP was serendipitous in that the city was also working on their General Plan update. The planning team collaborated with the associated departments and were able to select a suitable location for a new park. This effort cemented future planning and design efforts that will one day lead to a new community park.

The proposed community park would be strategically located in south-central Ontario and be bound by Chino Avenue, Cucamonga Avenue, and Grove Avenue. The location was selected because it would address a major park level of service gap within this region of the city. The existing residential land uses that house a large number of Ontario residents would benefit from a park that is within walking, biking, and a short driving distance. In addition, this area’s population is expected to grow substantially as other Ontario Ranch housing developments are planned and constructed. The proposed location would create a nexus of activity near a proposed mixed-use center and would serve residents living along the proposed Grove Avenue corridor and the surrounding planned neighborhoods.

The park would be designed with high-visibility, easy access, and a diverse collection of park amenities and features. The parcels selected would allow for park size ranging from 18-25 acres, large enough to accommodate major park elements that would be typically found within a designated community park such as a community center, multi-purpose fields, courts, playgrounds, a skatepark, trails, and many more.

Figure 5-19 depicts the parkshed analysis over the projected 2045 residential population centers. The data suggests that the proposed location would help close a park gap that currently exists. Furthermore, Table 5-1 depicts that the deficit in available acres is reduced when approximately 22 acres are added to the total available park acres.

The proposed park is undoubtedly a critically-important project for the city to pursue to ensure that the parks needs of Ontario residents in this region of the city are met.



**TABLE 5-1:** Future Level of Service (2045) with Proposed Community Park

	ACTIVE PARKS (MINI + NEIGHBORHOOD + COMMUNITY)
Existing & Future Park Acreage (Includes part of golf course)	664
Recommended Adopted Standard per 1000 Population	3
Acres per 1000 Population (2045)	2.33
Total Surplus/Deficit Acres per 1000 Population (2045)	-0.67
Acres in Deficit	-143.59

FIGURE 5-19: Proposed Community Park Parkshed Analysis



- Community Center
- 1/2 Mile New Parkshed
- 1/2 Mile Parkshed
- Existing Public Park
- Future Public Park
- Existing HOA Park
- Future HOA Park
- Single Family Residential
- Mixed Residential
- Multi-Family Residential
- City Boundary

# ONTARIO RANCH RECOMMENDATIONS

The community engagement and level of service results highlighted several major park amenities and resources that are needed to meet the needs of the existing and rapidly-growing population of Ontario. It is also serendipitous that the City is planning new mixed-use development projects for undeveloped lands throughout Ontario Ranch, as of the writing of the ORPMP.

The timing of this master plan and ongoing planning projects in Ontario Ranch presents many great opportunities for addressing parks and recreation amenities and program deficiencies. It is rare to be in a situation where a city has undeveloped land that can be planned out thoughtfully to meet the needs of existing and future Ontario residents. It is also fortunate that many of the areas of Ontario Ranch that can make a positive and meaningful impact to the entire city are geographically located along the northern region of Ontario Ranch. Lastly, the current master planning effort for the Great Park, a 340-acre park, also presents substantial opportunities to implement many park features the city is currently deficient in.

With proper planning, new parks and recreation resources in this region could have a substantial impact to the City, such as the proposed community park mentioned in the previous section of this chapter.

The following section highlights several recommendations the city should consider to address parks and recreation gaps.

## FACILITIES AND AMENITIES

The level of service analysis from Chapter 3, Table 3-2 suggests that the city is deficient in the following facilities and amenities. Please note that the proposed community park discussed in the previous section would address several of the following facility and amenity gaps:

### Facilities

- \* Recreation center
- \* Community center
- \* Teen center

### Park Amenities

- \* Bocce ball
- \* Community gardens
- \* Adult and youth baseball fields
- \* Youth softball fields
- \* Pickleball courts
- \* Grouped picnic areas (w/ shade canopies)
- \* Playgrounds ages 6-12
- \* Playgrounds (tot lots) ages 2-5
- \* Youth soccer fields
- \* Skate park
- \* Tennis courts

### Other Amenities

- \* Multi-use paths and trails
- \* Splash pads
- \* Technological improvements i.e. WiFi and QR codes

**06**

**SPECIAL STUDIES  
RECOMMENDATIONS**





# CONCEPTUAL PARK SITE PLANS

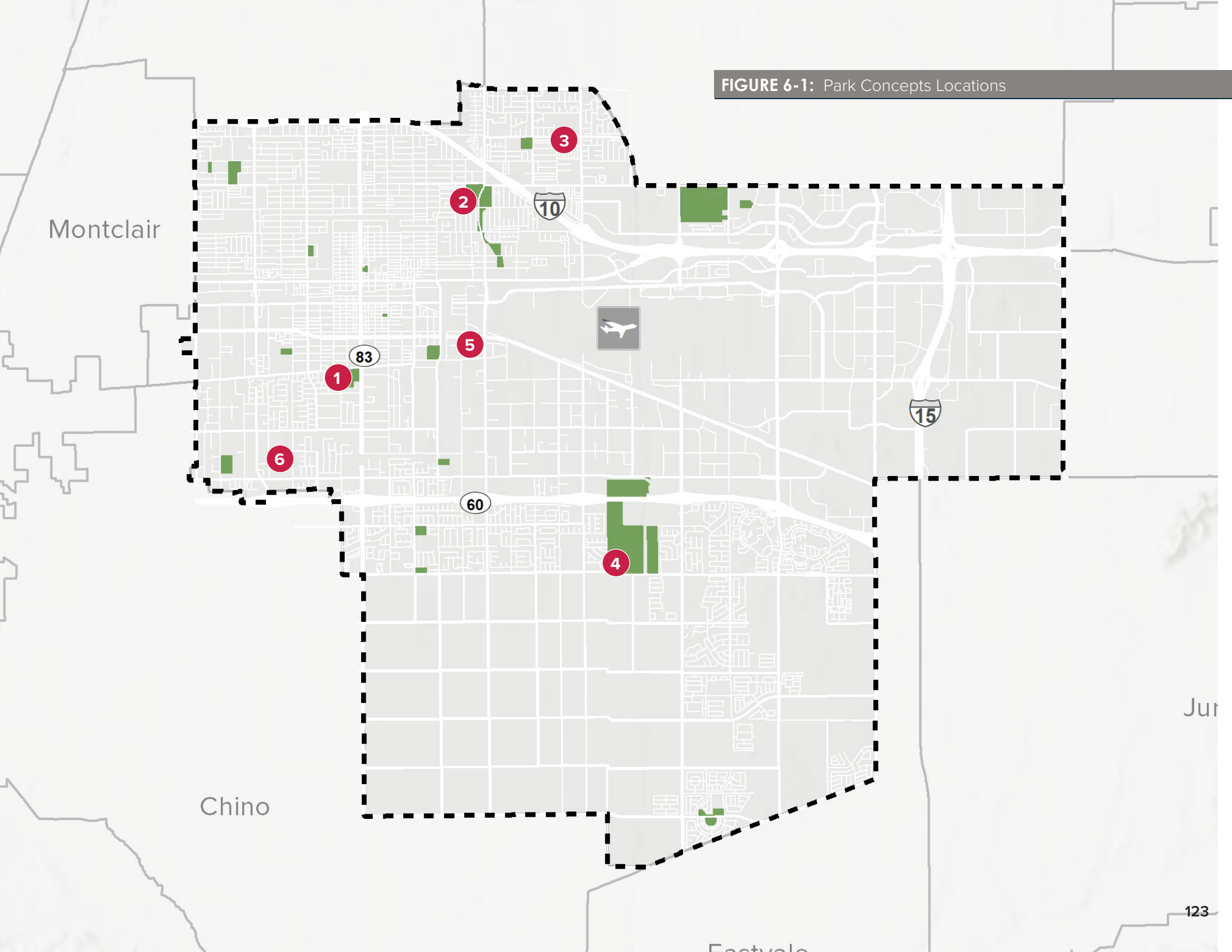
The following section highlights six conceptual site plans that showcase how under-utilized areas within a park can be redesigned to accommodate new park features. The concepts rely heavily on feedback collected during the community and stakeholder engagement process, results from the statistically-valid survey, findings from the park level of service analysis, and conversations with staff members, Recreation & Park Commissioners, and City Council members.

A major influence in the park features included in the concept plans was understanding that Ontario falls short in certain park features based on National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) guidelines. These national NRPA guidelines are based on the city's existing and future population and they can help the city prioritize further design and implementation processes. The concept plans can be used in Ontario's yearly discussions for CIP development as well as when pursuing local, state, and federal grants.

- 1 De Anza Park
- 2 John Galvin Park
- 3 Vineyard Park
- 4 Whispering Lakes Golf Course
- 5 Bon View Park
- 6 Del Rancho Park



FIGURE 6-1: Park Concepts Locations



## DE ANZA PARK

De Anza Park is located in west-central Ontario, primarily within a residential neighborhood. Multi-modal access to the park is available via the local streets and the major thoroughfares such as Philips Street, Fern Avenue, and Euclid Avenue. A transit stop is located on the eastern side of the park at the Acacia Street/Euclid Avenue intersection.

This community park is a major park asset to the city and the residents due to the vast number of amenities present. De Anza Park serves as a great example of a community park because it includes the major facilities and amenities that a resident would need to meet most of their recreation needs. The city regularly programs the park with special events, providing year-long opportunities for the community to interact with each other.

The park is home to the De Anza Community & Teen Center and many other active and passive park amenities such as sports fields, sports courts, playgrounds, outdoor exercise equipment, and group picnic areas.

### Park Concept

The conceptual improvements to De Anza Park are presented in Figure 6-2. They reflect comments collected during the community engagement process and the park level of service. The team identified underutilized areas within the park that could be redesigned with new park features and amenities. Notable recommended park features include transforming the existing soccer fields into synthetic turf fields. This investment could be an excellent way to ensure longevity and increase use of the space. The proposed skatepark would also be a major park asset. This location was discussed during the skate park focus group meeting that was held during the stakeholder engagement process. This facility would address the major need of a skatepark and allow the city to program more special events related to this sport.

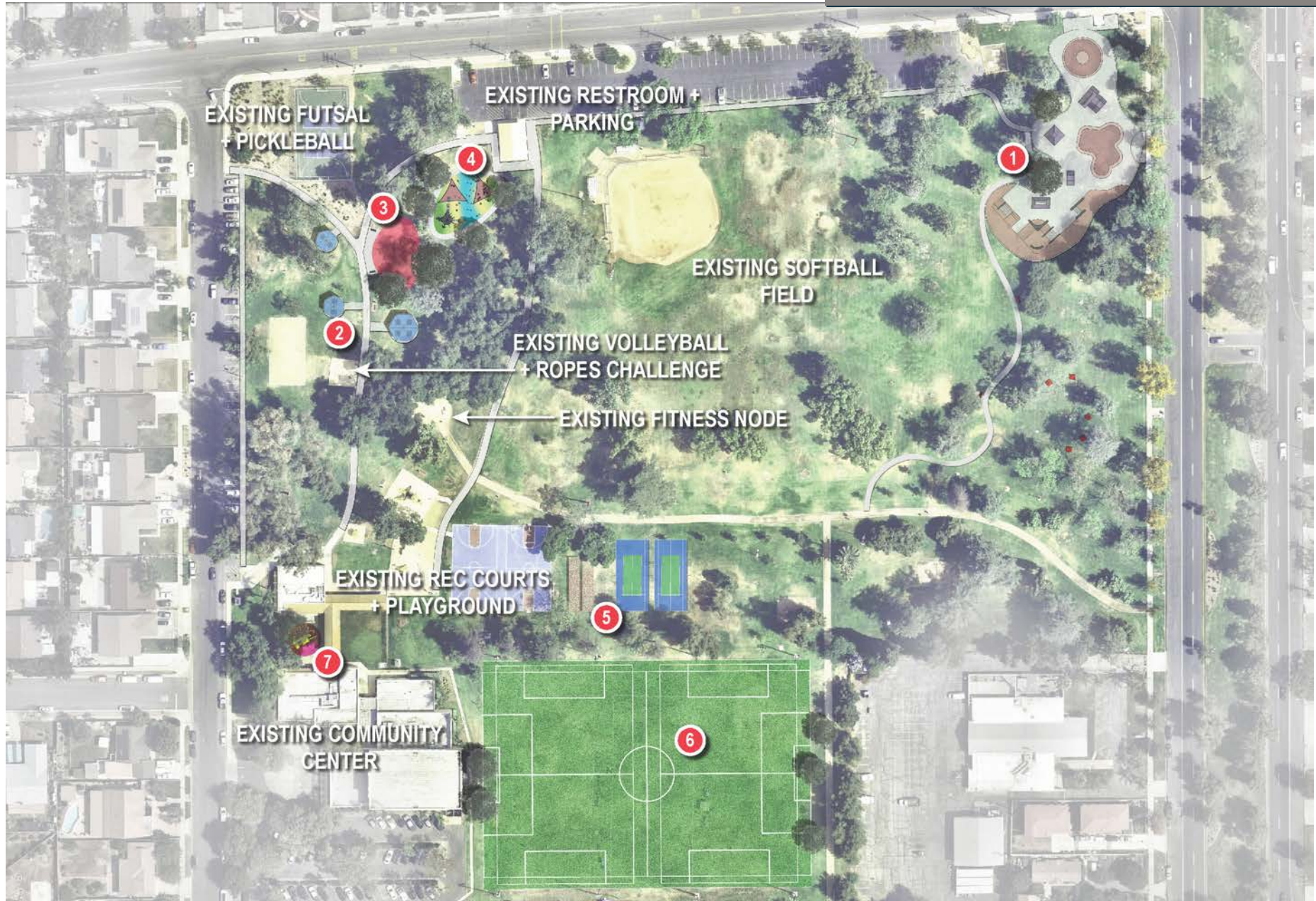
Additional design and engineering will be needed as funding becomes available to implement the concept.

## LEGEND

- 1 PROPOSED SKATE PARK [ 15,000 - 20,000 SF ]
- 2 PROPOSED PICNIC AREA
- 3 FAMILY / SOCIAL GAME ZONE
- 4 PROPOSED SPLASH PAD
- 5 PROPOSED BOCCE, TENNIS, & PICKLEBALL COURTS
- 6 SYNTHETIC TURF MULTI-PURPOSE FIELDS
- 7 PROPOSED PLAY STRUCTURE (TOT LOT)



FIGURE 6-2: De Anza Park Concept





## JOHN GALVIN PARK

John Galvin Park is located in north-central Ontario, primarily within a residential neighborhood with nearby commercial destinations. Multi-modal access to the park is available via local streets and major thoroughfares such as 4th Street and Grove Avenue. A transit stop is located nearby the park at the 4th Street/Calaveras Avenue intersection.

Although this community park does not have a community center or recreation center, it is a major park asset due to the vast number of outdoor park spaces and amenities currently offered. The park is also home to the Jay Littleton Ball Park, a baseball stadium built in 1937 that serves amateur baseball, little leagues, and numerous tournaments.

Schimmel Dog Park is located on the southwest corner of the park. Other park amenities include futsal, playgrounds, tennis and basketball courts, softball, and group picnic areas.

### Park Concept

The conceptual improvements to John Galvin Park are presented in Figure 6-3. They reflect comments collected during the community engagement process and the park level of service. Improvements to John Galvin Park have the potential to close many recreation gaps presented in the level of service analysis. The underutilized areas identified within the park can be thoughtfully redesigned to offer new and exciting park amenities. One notable recommendation is the proposed pedestrian crossing on Grove Avenue at the approximate half-way point of the park. This would provide a much-needed convenient and safe pedestrian access point to supplement the long distance needed to travel to a signalized crossing at 4th Street and I Street.

Additional design and engineering will be needed as funding becomes available to implement the concept.

## LEGEND

- 1 PROPOSED SKATE PARK [ 15,000 - 20,000 SF ]  
+ BASKETBALL COURT PAVING EXPANSION
- 2 PROPOSED PICNIC SHELTERS
- 3 PROPOSED NATIVE GARDEN
- 4 PROPOSED FENCING
- 5 PROPOSED MULTI-USE FIELD
- 6 PROPOSED SPLASH PAD
- 7 PROPOSED PARKING
- 8 PROPOSED STREET CROSSING

FIGURE 6-3: John Galvin Park Concept



## VINEYARD PARK

Vineyard Park is located in north Ontario, primarily within a residential neighborhood with nearby commercial and school destinations. Multi-modal access to the park is available via local streets and major thoroughfares such as 6th Street and Baker Avenue. A transit stop is located at the northeastern edge of park at the 6th Street/Baker Avenue intersection. The park's western boundary is shared with Vineyard Elementary School.

The park is home to a small community pool and other park amenities such as playgrounds, a basketball court, and group picnic areas.

### Park Concept

The conceptual improvements to Vineyard Park are presented in Figure 6-4. They reflect comments collected during the community engagement process and the park level of service analysis. The proposed recommendations could have major positive impacts to the community surrounding Vineyard Park because they address many existing park amenity needs such as youth soccer fields, skate parks, aquatic facilities, and picnic areas. The park's large grassy areas provided opportunities for amenity infill, although careful thought was used to not "over-design" and remove all of the grassy areas.

Notable features include an expanded aquatic facility that would allow for general pool play, exercise and programs in the new lap pool, and spectator viewing and relaxation in the pool picnic areas. A proposed skate park would also help activate the park more and allow the city to host special events related to the sport.

## LEGEND

- 1 EXPANDED AQUATIC CENTER (ADDED LAP POOL, SEATING, & SCREENING)
- 2 PROPOSED WALKING / JOGGING LOOP WITH FITNESS NODES
- 3 NEW PICNIC AREA
- 4 PROPOSED MULTI-USE FIELD
- 5 PROPOSED SKATE PARK (15,000 - 20,000 SF)



FIGURE 6-4: Vineyard Park Concept



## WHISPERING LAKES GOLF COURSE

Whispering Lakes Golf Course is located in south-central Ontario within an area with mixed land uses that include residential, commercial, industrial, and open space. Multi-modal access to the park is available primarily through Riverside Drive, a major east-west thoroughfare. A transit stop is located at the south-central point of the park near the Riverside Drive/Ontario Avenue intersection.

This city-owned golf course is a major park and open space asset to the city due to its large size, history, and the potential to one day be re-envisioned into a multi-purpose golf course and community park. The space is home to standard golf course features as well as the Whispering Lakes Dog Park. A private golf course operator manages all program-related golf activities.

### Park Concept

The conceptual improvements to Whispering Lakes Golf Course are presented in Figure 6-5. They reflect comments collected during the community engagement process and the park level of service. The team identified underutilized areas only within the southern region of the golf course that could be redesigned with new park features while minimizing impacts to the existing golf course activities.

All of the proposed recommendations would transform the underutilized areas into spaces that greatly benefit Ontario residents as well as the golf course operators. The recommendations are designed to bring people to the park and allow them to enjoy this great resource. Notable recommendations include a multi-purpose event building that could be used by the golf course operator and the general public. The approximate 20,000 SF space could be designed to accommodate public and private celebrations such as birthdays, tournaments, or small conferences. The proposed playgrounds and splash pad would help lessen the impact to the neighboring Westwind Park and provide exciting new play opportunities for the community.

## LEGEND

- 1 PROPOSED EVENT BUILDING (20,000 SF) & TERRACE (10,000 SF)
- 2 PROPOSED PLAYGROUND
- 3 PROPOSED SPLASH PAD
- 4 PROPOSED PICKLEBALL COURTS
- 5 PROPOSED FITNESS NODES
- 6 NEW PARKING
- 7 PROPOSED PICNIC AREAS
- 8 DOG PARK EXPANSION
- 9 PROPOSED FAMILY / SOCIAL GAME ZONE
- 10 PROPOSED STREET CROSSING



FIGURE 6-5: Whispering Lakes Concept





## BON VIEW PARK

Bon View Park is located in central Ontario, primarily within an area with residential, commercial, and industrial land uses. Multi-modal access to the park is available via local streets and major thoroughfares such as Bon View Avenue and Mission Boulevard. A transit stop is located at the northeastern edge of park at the Maitland Street/Bon View Avenue intersection. The park's western boundary is shared with the Huerta del Valle Community Garden.

Similar to De Anza Park, Bon View Park is another great example of a community park because it includes the major facilities and amenities that a resident would need to meet most of their recreation needs. The park is home to the Dorothy A. Quesada Community Center as well as many other park features such as a community pool, playgrounds, a basketball court, group picnic areas, softball field, and an outdoor exercise area.

### Park Concept

The conceptual improvements to Bon View Park are presented in Figure 6-6. They reflect comments collected during the community engagement process and the park level of service. The team identified underutilized areas within the park that could be redesigned with new park features and amenities.

The most notable park recommendation includes replacing the little league field with a multi-purpose field. This would also include new picnic areas and opportunities for spectator viewing. By replacing the under-utilized little league field with a multi-purpose field, the city is helping close soccer and multi-purpose fields gaps that were highlighted in the level of service analysis.

## LEGEND

- 1 NEW SHADE STRUCTURE
- 2 PROPOSED MULTI-USE FIELD
- 3 ENHANCED PICNIC AREA WITH WALKWAYS
- 4 PROPOSED GROUP PICNIC AREA
- 5 UPGRADED PARKING LOT WITH STORMWATER AND ADA ENHANCEMENTS

FIGURE 6-6: Bon View Park Concept



## DEL RANCHO PARK

Del Rancho Park is located in west-central Ontario, primarily within a residential neighborhood. Multi-modal access to the park is available via local streets and major thoroughfares such as Francis Street and Cypress Avenue. A transit stop is located within walking distance at the Francis Street/Mountain Avenue intersection. The park's northern boundary is shared with Ontario High School.

Del Rancho Park is a classic example of a neighborhood park because it serves its surrounding neighborhood with basic park amenities, is easy to access, and has pleasant passive park areas. The park is home to park features such as a playground, a group picnic areas, benches, and passive grassy areas.

### Park Concept

The conceptual improvements to Del Rancho Park are presented in Figure 6-7. The team identified a couple of underutilized areas within the park that could be redesigned with new park features and amenities. The recommendations for Del Rancho Park are straightforward, and while small in scale, they could have a positive impact to the neighborhood by expanding the types of recreation activities that people can participate in. Notable recommendations include a combination futsal/pickleball court similar to the one currently enjoyed at De Anza Park and a nature-play area located within the “meadow” created by the mature trees just west of the existing playground. Additional design and engineering will be needed as funding becomes available to implement the concept.

## LEGEND

- 1 PROPOSED WALKING / JOGGING LOOP WITH FITNESS NODES
- 2 PROPOSED FUTSAL / PICKLEBALL COURTS
- 3 PROPOSED PICNIC AREA
- 4 PROPOSED NATURE/ADVENTURE PLAY AREA
- 5 NEW RESTROOM FACILITIES



FIGURE 6-7: Del Rancho Park Concept



## LINEAR PARK AND MULTI-USE PATH OPPORTUNITIES

Residents indicated that they place a high value on linear recreation such as walking, jogging, and hiking. These survey results support Ontario’s goals of adding linear recreation facilities where possible within underutilized areas in city parks and along existing trails throughout the city. This section focuses on the creative opportunities that can help transform flood control channels, such as the existing West Cucamonga Trail, into diverse, multi-purpose facilities.

An important element of this exercise was to determine where the city can add recreation elements in areas with excess right-of-way. Many times, the service roads have excess space along the shoulders that can accommodate additional amenities. Enhancements to these underutilized spaces provide new opportunities for recreation, exercise, or comfortable connections to and from parks and other local destinations. These features will also help reduce the City’s overall vehicle miles traveled and help reduce the carbon footprint. Furthermore, they help close park deficiencies identified in the level of service analysis discussed in Chapter 2.

The following examples highlight successful linear park projects from Southern California and communities across the country. They showcase how multi-disciplinary efforts between planners, engineers, landscape architects, grassroots organizations, and residents can transform linear spaces throughout their communities into vibrant, utilitarian, and fun places to enjoy.

### 1 CITY OF SANTA ANA, PACIFIC ELECTRIC TRAIL

The Pacific Electric Trail is a two-mile, multi-use path found in central-east Santa Ana that provides residents recreational and transportation opportunities. Additional amenities along the trail include playground equipment and outdoor exercise stations. The trail provides connections to Downtown Santa Ana, the Pacific Electric Park, and other trail connections at its southern terminus.

### 2 CITY OF BREA, THE TRACKS AT BREA

The Tracks at Brea is a 50-acre, four mile long linear park that provides Brea residents recreational and transportation opportunities. The corridor features a two-way bike path, pedestrian path, outdoor exercise equipment, bike repair stations, seating areas, shade structures, themed gardens, and green infrastructure, among other amenities. The corridor was created with the help of a volunteer community task force.

### 3 CITY OF CHICAGO, THE BLOOMINGDALE TRAIL (THE 606)

The 606 is a linear park and greenway trail network found throughout northwest Chicago. The Bloomingdale Trail is the backbone to this network, providing residents recreation and transportation opportunities along its 2.7 miles. The trail was originally a railroad that was converted into a greenway after the City partnered with local neighborhood groups and The Trust for Public Land.

### 4 CITY OF ATLANTA, THE BELTLINE

The BeltLine is a planned 22-mile loop of multi-use paths and parks that will eventually connect 45 neighborhoods in Atlanta along railroad corridors that once serviced the city. As of 2019, the BeltLine consists of five trails and seven parks that welcome approximately two million visitors each year. The BeltLine was a grassroots initiative of local citizens and leaders to create a comprehensive approach to transportation, land use, open space, and sustainability.





Exercise equipment and playground features along Santa Ana's PE Trail



Outdoor exercise equipment along The Tracks at Brea



Site furnishings and lighting along Chicago's Bloomingdale Trail



Art installations along the Atlanta BeltLine path



# WEST CUCAMONGA AND CUCAMONGA CHANNEL CLASS I MULTI-USE PATH IMPROVEMENTS

The linear park and multi-use path opportunities identified in Figure 6-8 showcase the potential transformation of the West Cucamonga Channel and the Cucamonga Channel flood control network. The West Cucamonga Channel is located from Mission Boulevard to Philadelphia Street between Grove Avenue and Baker Avenue. The Cucamonga Channel begins in the foothills by Upland and Rancho Cucamonga and travels south through Ontario from 4th Street to the southern county boundary.

The exhibit depicts improvements that can be designed for trailhead locations along the existing path. The improvements are designed to both upgrade the existing multi-use path for transportation purposes as well as add linear park elements to help address passive and active park needs.

Enhancing trailhead locations along the trail network creates a welcoming sense of arrival and encourages people, both residents and visitors of Ontario, to enjoy this resource. Additional improvements include urban greening elements such as trees, rain gardens, drought-tolerant landscaping, passive elements such as seating and education, and active elements such as exercise nodes.

## Potential Improvements

1	Class I multi-use path
2	Amenities (trash bins, water bottle stations and bike fix-it stations)
3	New trees and drought-tolerant landscaping
4	Recreation elements (exercise equipment)
5	Enhanced fencing and lighting
6	Enhanced crossing w/ pedestrian signal or rectangular rapid flashing beacon



Trailhead Example: Fourth Street near Hellman Avenue

FIGURE 6-8: W. Cucamonga Trailhead Concept





## LINEAR PARK AND MULTI-USE PATH AMENITIES

The following section describes amenities that are commonly found along linear parks and multi-use paths. These amenities can vary in design but they may incorporate a theme to reflect the area's history or culture. The local context and community of Ontario should be considered when selecting amenities.

- \* Benches/rest stops
- \* Picnic tables
- \* Trash and recycling receptacles
- \* Small plazas or gathering spaces
- \* Shade trellis/shade structures
- \* Restroom
- \* Pedestrian-scale lighting
- \* Small playground features/play pockets
- \* Exercise equipment
- \* Bicycle parking
- \* Bicycle fix-it stations
- \* Public art
- \* Green infrastructure such as rain gardens
- \* Trees
- \* Themed gardens such as butterfly gardens
- \* Demonstration gardens
- \* Interpretive signage
- \* Wayfinding signage
- \* Geocaching markers
- \* Mile markers
- \* Drinking fountains/dog bowls
- \* Emergency call boxes



*Small playground, City of Santa Ana*



*Benches and trash receptacle, City of Brea*





Bicycle parking, City of Brea



Interpretive signage, City of Brea



Rain garden, City of Brea



# CONCEPTUAL WAYFINDING SIGNAGE

A cohesively-branded wayfinding and monument signage program is an excellent method of showcasing a city’s park system. Replacing and upgrading a citywide signage program can seem daunting to a city as large as Ontario, but the end result is one that the community and visitors alike can benefit from.

There are many forms and styles that can be designed, such as the ones depicted to the right. The important thing is finding the right balance between aesthetics and function. The primary focus of wayfinding signage should be to efficiently direct people to their park destination. The wayfinding program should include designs scaled for the pedestrian as well as those moving at faster speeds such as bicyclists and motorists. When possible, educational elements can be added to provide secondary benefits such as a city’s history, cultural importance, or unique environmental themes.

The conceptual wayfinding signage program depicted in Figure 6-9 explores two options that embrace the city’s existing branding. The concepts build upon the mountain silhouette and the sun that are found in the city’s logo. The concepts include monument signs that serve as the premier welcome sign for a park as well as wayfinding signs that would direct people to the park and throughout the park.

The City of Ontario can pursue a comprehensive signage program in the future that builds upon these concepts. The goal would be to create a modern and unified signage system that reflects the department’s parks and recreation enthusiasm.



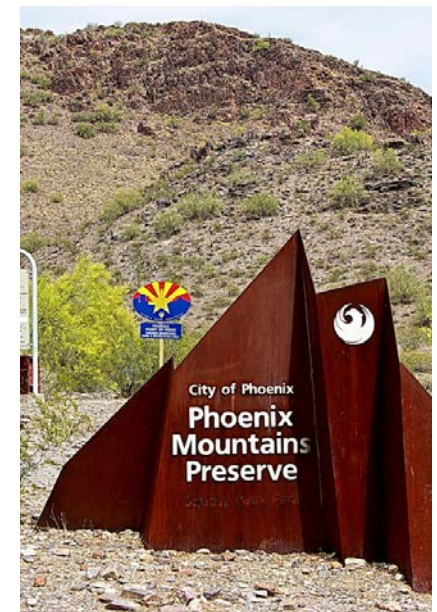
*Free Standing Interpretive Post*



*Interpretive Post*



*Monument Sign*



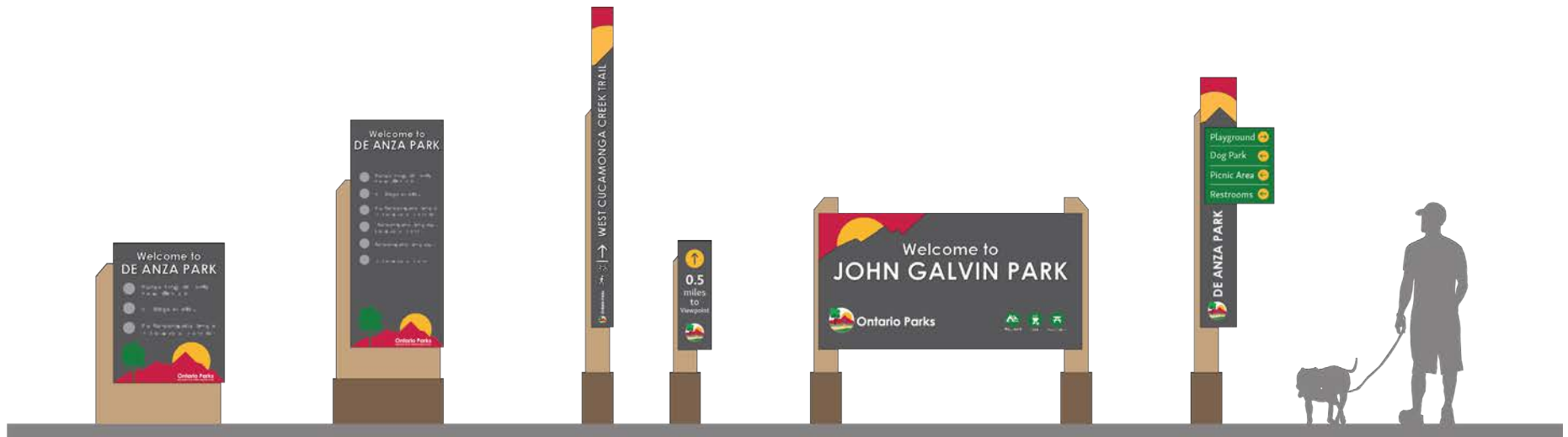
*Monument Sign*

# Wayfinding Signage Concept #1

FIGURE 6-9: Conceptual Wayfinding Signage Program



# Wayfinding Signage Concept #2







Ontario Town Square