



DINUBA PARKS & RECREATION MASTER PLAN

December 2020

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction & Overview.....	1
Community Profile.....	7
Goals & Objectives.....	13
Classifications & Inventory	21
Needs Assessment	53
Capital Planning.....	91
Implementation	97
Appendix A: Survey Summary	113
Appendix B: Recreation Trends.....	123
Appendix C: Implementation Tools & Tactics	135
Appendix D: Summary of Past Plans.....	147

BENEFITS OF PARKS, RECREATION & OPEN SPACE

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

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



Physical Activity Benefits

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



Social & Community Benefits

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



Economic Benefits

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

In California, outdoor recreation generated \$92 billion (2017) in consumer spending, created 691,000 direct California jobs, generated \$30.4 billion in wages and salaries and resulted in \$6.2 billion in state and local tax revenue. According to the Outdoor Recreation Economy Report published by the Outdoor Industry Association, outdoor recreation can grow jobs and drive the economy through management and investment in parks, waters and trails as an interconnected system designed to sustain economic dividends for citizens.



INTRODUCTION & OVERVIEW

PURPOSE OF THE PLAN

The citywide Parks and Recreation Master Plan is an update to the 1992 Parks and Recreation Master Plan and incorporates community feedback conducted for this plan update. The 2020 Plan creates a vision for an innovative, inclusive and interconnected system of parks and open spaces that promotes recreation, healthy lifestyles and fiscal responsibility as integral elements of a thriving, livable Dinuba. The Plan will provide a blueprint for the growth, enhancement and management of Dinuba's park and recreation system.

The 2020 Parks and Recreation Master Plan considers the park and recreation needs of residents citywide and establishes a path forward for enabling, maintaining and enhancing high-quality parks and recreational opportunities. It provides updated inventories, demographic conditions, needs analysis, management considerations and capital project phasing. It updates the City's policies, practices and projects and sets a long-range vision for the City with clear action items and strategies for implementation for the next 20 years.

The Parks and Recreation Master Plan is intended to guide City elected and appointed officials, management and staff when making decisions or taking actions regarding planning, acquiring, developing or implementing parks, open space or recreational facilities and programs. The recommendations in this Plan are based on community input, evaluations of the existing park system, site development and operations, and fiscal considerations. The Plan is intended to be updated periodically to remain current with local interests and position the City for state-based grants.

PLANNING PROCESS

The Parks and Recreation Master Plan reflects the community's interests and needs for park and recreational facilities, amenities and programming. The planning process encouraged and enabled public engagement in the choices, priorities and future direction of the City's park and recreation system. The Plan project team conducted a variety of public outreach activities. Community members expressed their interests through an online survey and online engagement.

In addition to community engagement, the actions identified in this Plan are based on:

- An inventory and assessment of the City's existing park and recreation facilities to establish the current performance of the system and to identify needed maintenance and capital repair and replacement projects,
- A level of service and walkability assessment to quantify the system's ability to serve both current and future residents.
- An overarching needs analysis to assess current demands and forecast future demand accounting for population growth.

To guide the implementation of the goals of the Plan, a capital facilities plan was developed with a set of strategies that identified costs and potential funding sources. Together, this process is represented in this planning document, which will guide park and recreation service delivery for the next 20 years.

VISION, MISSION, VALUES

GUIDED BY VALUES

Dinuba's City Council adopted its most recent annual budget in June 2020, and it reinforced the vision, values and priorities for the City's future.

Core Values

The goal of "Together, A Better Community" is achieved by employees working together as an organization and with the community providing services which can be most appropriately provided by local government; achieving goals established by the residents and elected officials; and maintaining order, improving quality of life, and protecting the overall interest of the community.

City Council Strategic Goals

The City Council adopted three-year Strategic Goals in 2015. These are broken down into six general goals with supporting objectives and strategies for each. The six goals are:

- Goal #1: Fiscal Health of Community
- Goal #2: Quality of Life and Neighborhood Improvements
- Goal #3: Capital Projects and Delivery
- Goal #4: Maintaining Organizational Capacity for Service Delivery and Goal Accomplishment
- Goal #5: Community Engagement
- Goal #6: Update Mission Statement to "Enriching the lives of the community"

Within the 19 objectives, the Parks & Community Services Department was assigned to 14 strategies to pursue in support of the noted City Council goals.

Parks & Community Services Department Mission Statement

Enriching the lives of the community.

PARK & RECREATION SYSTEM OVERVIEW

The Dinuba Parks & Community Services Department is responsible for providing recreational and leisure programs and activities for all age groups, as well as sponsoring special events through the year and managing rentals of recreational facilities. The department manages a system of 15 parks that include 75 acres of active use parks and open space, in addition to three indoor recreation centers (Sportsplex, Recreation Center and Senior Center). The department has 10.25 full-time equivalent employees in six service areas.

- **Park Services:** To provide the community with clean, well-groomed park grounds and open spaces; regular maintenance of existing facilities; leadership in the acquisition of land and design and development of new parks and open spaces.
- **Youth Services:** To provide all participants a fun and safe environment to learn and explore through homework assistance, teamwork, sports, crafts, clubs, field trips with equal opportunity.
- **Sports Services:** To strive to create a positive experience for the child, as well as for the sporting accomplishment, and foster the emotional and physical development of the child - recognizing that the competitive aspects of the sport activity should come secondarily.
- **Sportsplex:** To provide an indoor recreation space that enhance the community by promoting health and wellness through different types of sports and activities.
- **Senior Center:** To provide Seniors in the community a safe place to enjoy fellowship with peers, exercise their talents and abilities through arts and crafts, and serve others who require assistance.
- **Special Events:** To assist in the growth and development of Dinuba. Encourage community engagement and attract visitors. To provide the community with opportunities to participate, educate and enjoy themselves.

RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The following represents a short list of the major accomplishments realized since the adoption of the 1992 Plan.

- Partnered to expand youth programs and sports
- Developed and operated the Dinuba Sportsplex and developed the skatepark
- Expanded community special events
- Renovated Gregory Park
- Developed Entertainment Plaza
- Developed several parks, including K/C Vista Park, Nebraska Park, Centennial Park and the Ruiz Park Strip
- Master planned Viscaya Park

In just the prior year, the City continued to enhance its facilities and offerings and accomplished the following:

- Held July 4th Fireworks Show at the Ridge Creek Golf Course with over 8,000 attending
- Held after school programs at 5 school sites with over 300 student served
- Served 7,600 lunches at the Senior Center
- Coordinated introduction of a variety of leisure programs for all age groups (e.g., Zumba, ceramics, yoga, boxing and taekwondo)
- Negotiated new lease with VDA, Inc. for use of College Park Recreation Center as an early child care center providing learning opportunities to a total of 56 children, ages 1 to 5
- Received grants for fitness equipment at Rose Ann Vuich Park and new restrooms at Entertainment Plaza
- Installed 9-hole disc golf course at K/C Vista Park
- Replaced baseball field lighting with LED lights at Roosevelt Park
- Conducted community outreach meetings for the design of the Viscaya Neighborhood Park
- Received donation of 22 trees from Tree Fresno and planted them at several city parks

GUIDING DOCUMENTS

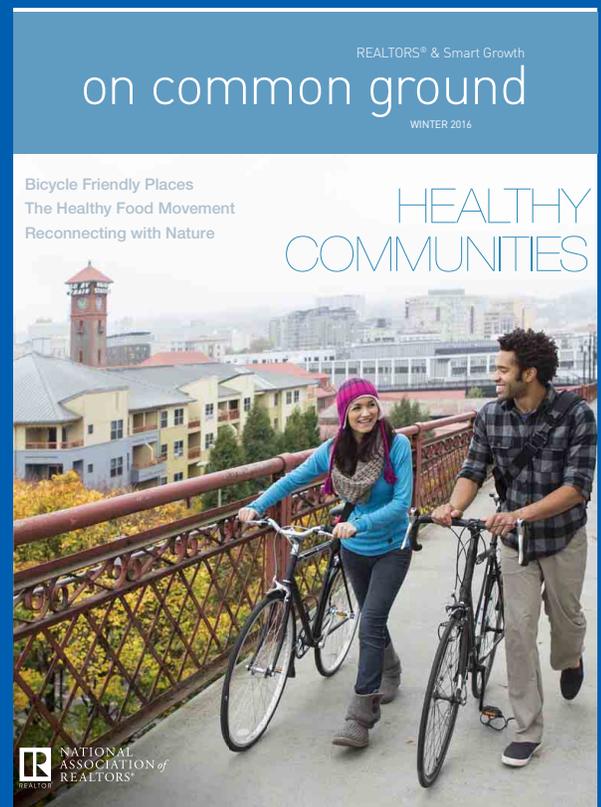
This Parks and Recreation Master Plan is one of several documents that comprise Dinuba’s long-range planning and policy framework. Past community plans and other relevant documents were reviewed for policy direction and goals as they pertain to the provision and

From the winter 2015 issue of the National Association of Realtors (NAR) magazine, the direct link between how communities are built and grow is tied to health and quality of life. More walkable and bike-able environments with better access to nature and parks have become essential for personal well-being and needs to be integrated into community planning. The NAR articles identify walkable communities as a prescription for better health.

Even the U.S. Surgeon General sounded a call to action challenging communities become more walkable to allow more Americans to increase their physical activity through walking. The Center for Disease Control and its Healthy Community Design Initiative focuses on walkability and the need to better integrate into transportation planning.

The NAR magazine issue also reported on the value of bicycle-friendly communities and the direct tie to healthy and sustainable living. Access to healthy, locally-grown food choices is reported with the value of community gardens and urban food hubs for healthy diets, as well as connection to community engagement.

Realtors have long been aware that housing near a good system of parks and trails will hold strong appeal to buyers. The winter NAR issue illustrates the recognition that community design for healthy living goes beyond the single house location. People want choices, and these healthy community design traits of walking, biking, trails and parks all play an important role in housing prices, sales and re-sales.



planning for parks, recreation and trail opportunities across Dinuba. The development of each plan or study involved public input and adoption by their respective responsible legislative body. The following list of plans was reviewed for past policy guidance, and summaries for each appear in Appendix D.

- City of Dinuba General Plan (2015)
- City of Dinuba Parks & Recreation Master Plan (1992)
- City of Dinuba 2020-2024 Capital Improvement Plan
- City of Dinuba Development Impact Fee Study (2015)
- City of Dinuba Pedestrian and Bicyclist Safety and Connectivity Study (2019)
- Tulare County General Plan

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Community engagement and input played an important role in establishing a clear planning framework that reflects current community priorities. Although the planning process occurred during the Covid-19 pandemic, numerous efforts were made to connect with the community, seek their input and provide information about the project. Public outreach methods included:

- Community-wide survey
- Meetings with City Council
- City of Dinuba website with plan information and contact opportunities

COMMUNITY SURVEY

A community-wide, online survey was conducted to assess the recreational needs and priorities of Dinuba residents in the summer of 2020. Overall, 162 responses were completed from the online link published on the City's website and promoted via multiple City Facebook posts and with flyers at city facilities. The survey measured current levels of satisfaction and which facilities were more used by residents. Residents were asked about future improvements and the types of recreational amenities they'd like to see added to the park system.

CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSIONS

The park planning effort was presented at three City Council work sessions to explore Council members' thoughts and directions for the parks and recreation system. The first session occurred in September 2020, and the Council was provided highlights from the community survey. A second session occurred in November 2020, and the Council reviewed and discussed project priorities provided their perspectives on parks and recreation offerings and opportunities. The third session occurred in December 2020 to review the draft plan and consider the plan for adoption.

OTHER OUTREACH

In addition to the direct outreach opportunities described above, the Dinuba community was informed about the planning process through a variety of media platforms. The following methods were used to share information about the project and provide opportunities to participate and offer their comments:

- City website home page
- Project website
- Social media: Facebook

CONTENTS OF THE PLAN

The remainder of the Dinuba Parks and Recreation Master Plan is organized as follows:

- Chapter 2: Community Profile – provides an overview of the City of Dinuba and its demographics.
- Chapter 3: Goals & Objectives – provides a policy framework for the parks and recreation system grouped by major functional or program area.
- Chapter 4: Classifications & Inventory – describes the existing park and recreation system.
- Chapters 5: Needs Assessment – discusses survey results and recreation trends and provides context to the identification of potential park and recreation system enhancements.
- Chapter 6: Capital Planning – details a 10-year program for addressing park and recreation facility enhancement, maintenance or expansion projects.
- Chapter 7: Implementation – describes a range of strategies and alternatives to consider in the implementation of the Plan.
- Appendices: Provides technical or supporting information to the planning effort and includes a summary of the community survey, stakeholder notes, funding options, among others.



LOCATION

Dinuba is a small city of approximately 3.4 square miles located in Tulare County, California, between Route 99 and the Sierra Nevada mountain range. The city consists of single family residential neighborhoods and a downtown business core centered on E Tulare Street. It is bisected by BNSF railroad tracks, with multiple large distribution and manufacturing centers located on the west side and primarily residential neighborhoods to the east. The city is surrounded by agricultural fields and offers easy access to the larger cities of Fresno, located about 25 miles to the northwest, and Visalia, about 15 miles to the south. The city is also within a two hour drive to Sequoia National Park and the other parks of the Sierra National Forest.

HISTORY

The land around Dinuba was originally settled by numerous Native American tribes, including tribes of the Yokuts and Western Mono or Monache. Native resident settled along the rivers of what is now Tulare County, hunting, gathering and trading for centuries. After a series of unfortunate events, the population was forced to relocate to a number of reservations across the San Joaquin Valley.

The City of Dinuba was originally known as Sibleyville, after John Sibley, a local engineer who, along with W.D. Tuxbury, donated much of the land for the original town site to the improvement company for the Southern Pacific Railroad in the late 1800s. Sibleyville developed around a railroad depot for the Southern Pacific Railroad, which began operation in 1888. The City was then incorporated as Dinuba in 1906.

In the 20th century, Dinuba grew steadily as its agricultural sector grew – its population increased from just over 6,000 residents in 1960 to nearly 26,000 today. The City’s Hispanic and Latinx population has also grown over the past half-century, mirroring trends across California.

In 1990, Ruiz Foods, now the city’s largest employer, relocated to Dinuba. More recently, the Best Buy West Coast Distribution Center, Walmart Super Center were built providing new employment opportunities.

Some of Dinuba’s history has been preserved in various local museums and landmarks, including the Alta District Museum, Reedley Museum, Watsons Antique Farm Museum, Sanger Depot Museum, and Vietnam War Veteran’s Memorial Wall.

DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

Dinuba is a city of nearly 26,000 residents located in Tulare County. While the city has grown steadily for the last half century, its population is expected to grow slowly over the coming decades – reaching approximately 26,400 people in 2042. The city has a youthful population and is home to many families with children. Most residents identify as Hispanic or Latinx. On average, residents generally have lower levels of education and income than statewide residents. Most employed residents work in agriculture, education, health care, retail and manufacturing.

Figure 1. Population Characteristics: Dinuba, Tulare County, and California

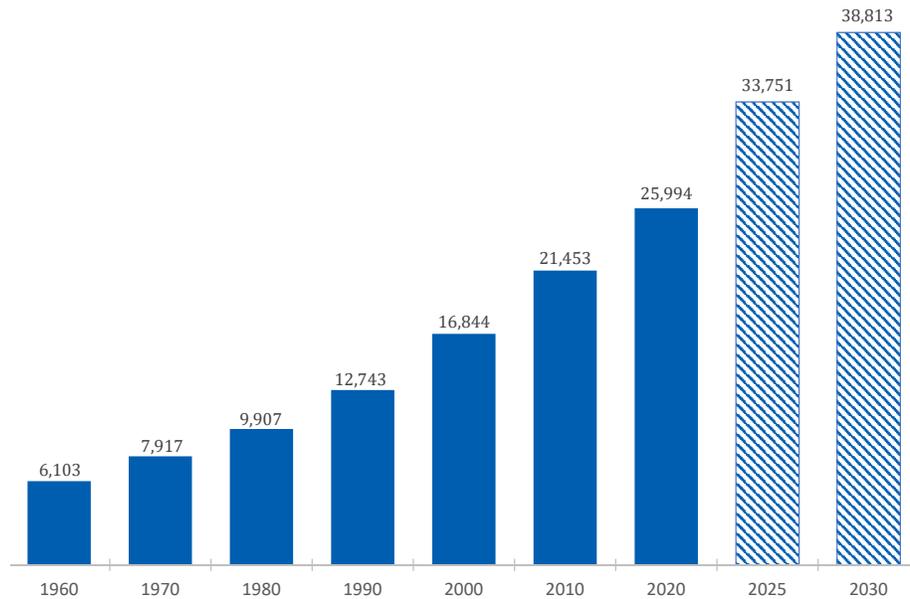
Demographics	Dinuba	Tulare County	California
Population Characteristics			
Population (2020)	25,994	479,977	39,782,870
Population (2010)	21,453	442,179	37,253,956
Population (2000)	16,844	368,021	33,871,648
Percent Change (2010-20)	21.2%	8.5%	6.8%
Persons w/ Disabilities (%)	9.5%	12.1%	10.6%
Household Characteristics (2014-18)			
Households	6,073	136,106	12,965,435
Percent with children	54.3%	45.6%	34.8%
Median Household Income	\$42,145	\$47,518	\$71,228
Average Household Size	3.9	3.34	2.96
Average Family Size	4.14	3.81	3.54
Owner Occupancy Rate	50.1%	56.2%	54.5%
Age Groups (2014-2018)			
Median Age	27.3	31	36
Population < 5 years of age	10.2%	8.4%	6.3%
Population < 18 years of age	35.0%	31.2%	23.2%
Population 18 - 64 years of age	56.6%	57.9%	63.2%
Population > 65 years of age	8.4%	10.9%	13.6%

Sources: California Department of Finance Population Estimates, 2020
 U.S. Census, 2000 Census, 2010 Census, 2014-2018 American Community Survey

POPULATION

The City of Dinuba has grown at a steady rate of about 2.5% to 3% per year on average for the past half century, see Figure 2. The city is currently home to approximately 26,000 residents (2020). The Dinuba General Plan forecasts that Dinuba’s population will grow to be approximately 38,813 by 2030, representing between 2.5% and 3% annual growth. By comparison, the California Department of Finance, which produces population and economic forecasts for counties throughout the state, projects that Tulare County will grow by about 0.57% annually over the same period. Dinuba currently makes up about 5% of the total population of Tulare County.

Figure 2. Population – Actual and Projected: 1970 - 2030



AGE GROUP DISTRIBUTION

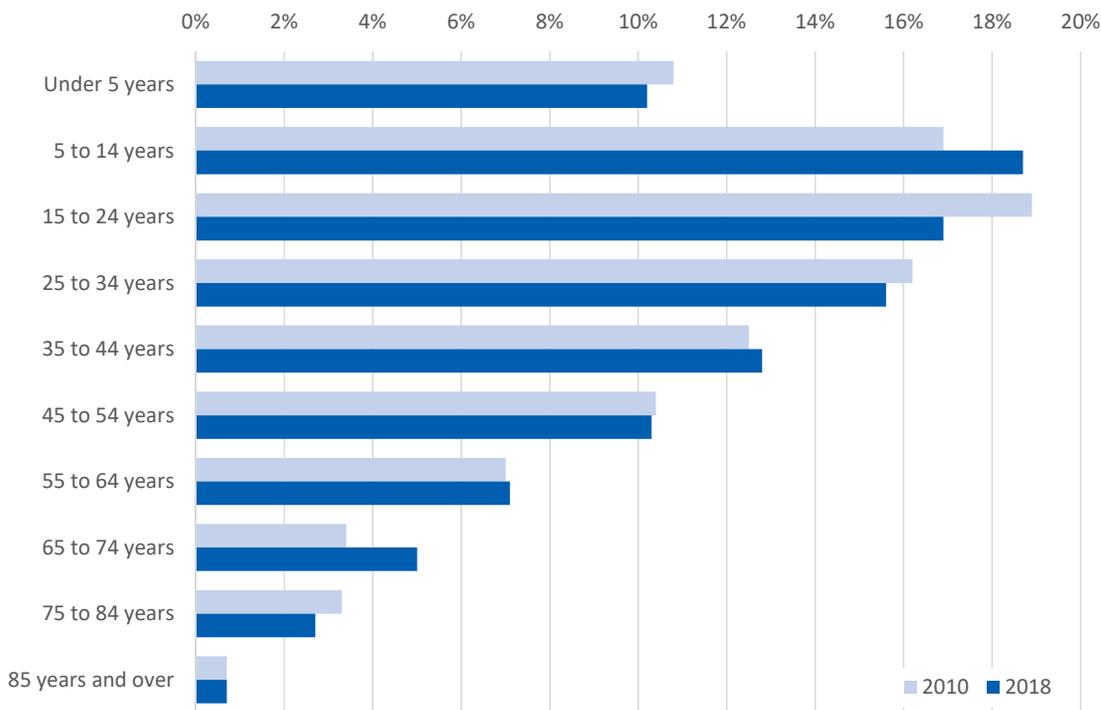
The City of Dinuba’s population has a median age of 27.3 (2018), which is much younger than the median age of Tulare County residents (31) and Californians generally (36). Youth under 20 years old make up the city’s largest 20-year population group, comprising 39% of the overall population in 2018. This has important implications for park and recreation needs.

- Youth under 5 years of age make up 10% of Dinuba’s population, see Figure 3. This group represents users of preschool and tot programs and facilities, and as trails and open space users, are often in strollers. These individuals are the future participants in youth activities.
- Children 5 to 14 years make up current youth program participants. Approximately 19% of the city’s population falls into this age range.
- Teens and young adults, age 15 to 24 years, are in transition from youth program to adult programs and participate in teen/young adult programs where available. Members of this age group are often seasonal employment seekers. About 17% percent of Dinuba’s residents are teens and young adults.

While over four in ten residents are under 24 years of age, 39% are 25 to 54 year olds, and 15.5% are 55 and older.

- Adults ages 25 to 34 years are key users of adult programs. Approximately 16% of residents are in this age category. These residents may be entering long-term relationships and establishing families. Over half of Dinuba’s households are families with children.
- Adults between 35 and 54 years of age represent users of a wide range of adult programs and park facilities. Their characteristics extend from having children using preschool and youth programs to becoming empty nesters. This age group makes up 23% of the city’s population.
- Older adults, ages 55 years plus, make up approximately 16% of Dinuba’s population. This group represents users of adult and senior programs. These residents may be approaching retirement or already retired and may be spending time with grandchildren. This group also ranges from very healthy, active seniors to more physically inactive seniors.

Figure 3. Age Group Distributions: 2010 & 2018



RACE & ETHNICITY

In 2018, Dinuba was 76% White, 2% Asian, less than 1% Black or African American, American Indian, Alaskan Native, Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, 18% some other race, and 2.5% from two or more races. Approximately 87% of people identified as Hispanic or Latinx of any race¹. Dinuba is significantly larger Hispanic and Latinx community than Tulare County (64%) or the state (39%).

According to the 2018 American Community Survey, approximately 70% of Dinuba’s residents speak a language other than English at home – predominantly Spanish . This is a higher percentage of people who speak a language other than English at home than in Tulare County as a whole (51%).

¹ US Census considers race and Hispanic origin to be two separate and distinct concepts. Hispanics and Latinos may be of any race. Thus, the percent Hispanic should not be added to percentages for racial categories.

The City should make sure it provides recreational opportunities, programs and information that are accessible to, and meet the needs of, all community members.

HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS

In 2018, the average household in Dinuba was home to 3.9 people, higher than the average household in the county (3.34) and state (2.96). The average family size was larger, at 4.14 people. Of the 6,073 households in the city, over half (54%) were families with children under 18, and 12% were individuals living alone.

EMPLOYMENT & EDUCATION

Dinuba's economy centers on agricultural production and approximately 23% of residents work in agriculture and related industries. Major crops include cotton, nuts, vegetables, stone fruit and grapes. Notably, the area produces approximately 40% of the world's raisins. Ruiz Foods, a frozen Mexican food manufacturer, is the city's largest employer.

Other employment sectors include education, health care and social services, which employ 17% of working residents; retail (11%), and manufacturing (10%). Major businesses include Best Buy Distribution, Patterson Logistics, Walmart and Ed Dena's GM Auto Center.

In 2018, the work force population (16 years and over) of Dinuba was 16,374 people (69% of the city's total population). Of this population, 62% of residents are in the labor force, 8% are unemployed, and 38% are not in the labor force. Similar percentages of residents are employed or looking for work in Dinuba as in California as a whole, however the unemployment rate in the City is twice the state rate.

According to the 2018 American Community Survey, approximately 30% of Dinuba residents over age 25 have a high school degree or higher, while 27% have completed less than a 9th grade education. Approximately 8% of Dinuba residents over age 25 have a Bachelor's degree or higher and 31% have some college education. This level of education attainment is lower than that of Tulare County and the state (in which 44% and 62% of residents have some college, respectively).

INCOME & POVERTY

A community's level of household income can impact the types of recreational services prioritized by community members as well as their willingness and ability to pay for recreational services. Perhaps more importantly, household income is also closely linked with levels of physical activity. Low-income households are three times more likely to live a sedentary lifestyle than middle and upper-income households, according to an analysis of national data by the Active Living by Design organization.

At \$42,145, the median household income in Dinuba is slightly lower than that of Tulare County generally (\$47,518) but nearly \$30,000 less than the median across California.

Higher income households have an increased ability and willingness to pay for recreation and leisure services, and often face fewer barriers to participation. Approximately 26% percent of City households have household incomes in the higher income brackets (\$75,000 and greater), significantly more than across the state (48%).

Approximately 25% percent of Dinuba households earn less than \$25,000 annually, similar to percentages across Tulare County (26%) but more than across the state (18%). In 2018, 22% of the city's families were living below the poverty level, or \$25,100 for a family of four. This percentage is similar to the level countywide (approximately 21%) about double statewide (10%) levels. Poverty affects 35% of youth under 18 and 12% of those 65 and older.

Lower-income residents can face a number of barriers to physical activity including poor access to parks and recreational facilities, a lack of transportation options, a lack of time, and poor health. Low-income residents may also be less able financially able to afford recreational service fees or to pay for services, like childcare, that can make physical activity possible.

PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

The 2018 American Community Survey reported 9.5% (2,270 persons) of Dinuba's population 5 years and older as having a disability that interferes with life activities. This is lower than county and state averages (12% and 10.6% respectively). Among residents 65 and older, the percentage rises to 34%, which is lower than the percentage found in the general senior population of the Tulare County (43%). The City of Dinuba should consider community needs for inclusive parks, recreational facilities, and programs. Planning, designing, and operating a park system that facilitates participation by residents of all abilities will also help ensure compliance with Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

HEALTH STATUS

Residents of Tulare County tend to be less healthy than residents across the state – the County ranks 53rd of 58 counties in overall health according to the County Health Rankings. Tulare County also ranks near the bottom of California counties for health outcomes, including length and quality of life, and health factors (such as health behaviors, clinical care, social and economic factors, and the physical environment).

Approximately 37% of Tulare County adults are overweight or obese, compared to 24% of Californian adults. About 27% of Tulare County adults age 20 and older report getting no leisure-time physical activity – higher than the statewide average of 18%. This may be due, in part, to the relative lack of places to participate in physical activity, including parks and public or private community centers, gyms or other recreational facilities. Approximately 60% of residents in Tulare County have access to adequate physical activity opportunities, which is much lower than the 93% average for all California residents.



The goals and objectives described in this chapter define the park and recreation services that Dinuba aims to provide. These goals and objectives were derived from input received throughout the planning process and from city staff.

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Taken together, the goals and objectives provide a framework for the city-wide Parks and Recreation Master Plan. A goal is a general statement describing an outcome the City wishes to provide. Goals typically do not change over time unless community values shift. Objectives are more specific, measurable statements that describe a means to achieving the stated goals. Objectives may change over time. Recommendations are specific actions intended to implement and achieve the goals and objectives and are contained in other chapters of the Plan.

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

- **Conservation** – Public parks are critical to preserving our communities' natural resources and wildlife habitats, which offer significant social and economic benefits. Local park and recreation agencies are leaders in protecting our open space, connecting children to nature and providing education and programs that engage communities in conservation.

- **Health and Wellness** – Park and recreation departments lead the nation in improving the overall health and wellness of citizens, and fighting obesity. From fitness programs, to well-maintained, accessible, walking paths and trails, to nutrition programs for underserved youth and adults, our work is at the forefront of providing solutions to these challenges.
- **Social Equity** – We believe universal access to public parks and recreation is fundamental to all, not just a privilege for a few. Every day, our members work hard to ensure all people have access to resources and programs that connect citizens, and in turn, make our communities more livable and desirable.

The following goals and policies support the City’s vision and planning for its parks and open space system





PARKS & OPEN SPACE

Goal 1: Provide an inclusive, diversified system of parks and open spaces that delivers a variety of active and passive recreational opportunities and reflects the community's changing recreational needs.

Objectives

- 1.1 As funding allows, pursue acquisition and development of sites for passive and active, organized and informal recreation opportunities that accommodate a variety of users and activities with a focus on underserved areas of the City, to the following guidelines:
 - 1.1A Provide a parks service standard of 5 acres per 1,000 persons, which may include school district property available through cooperative agreements.
 - 1.1B Park facilities should be provided in each quadrant of the City and should be within a $\frac{1}{4}$ -mile walking distance of most residents.
- 1.2 Identify and prioritize lands for inclusion in the parks system based on factors such as contribution to level of service, connectivity or recreational opportunities for residents.
- 1.3 Consider the acquisition of additional neighborhood parklands in areas with a noted deficiency and where redevelopment is unlikely in the foreseeable future to fill existing distribution gaps and provide equitable access to active parklands.
- 1.4 Improve the park system through a balance between revitalization of existing facilities, parkland acquisition and development of new parks.
- 1.5 Provide an appropriate ratio of passive and active uses in each park type, and provide active recreation facilities in multiple locations in the city to accommodate community needs.
- 1.6 Where possible, acquire and develop parks in conjunction with school property to create a larger combined open space and recreation facility and to reduce the costs for parks and recreation facilities.
- 1.7 Where possible, develop parks in conjunction with existing and future drainage basins to create a larger combined open space along with additional space for active and passive recreation.
- 1.8 Protect parks from intrusion by other uses and designate areas for future park sites through zoning or the specific plan process.
- 1.9 Coordinate with private development for the siting and development of parklands in deficient areas, as identified in this Plan.



TRAILS & PATHWAYS

Goal 2: Develop a network of shared-use trails and bicycle and pedestrian corridors to enable connectivity between parks, neighborhoods, commercial areas and other destinations.

Objectives

- 2.1 Support coordinated implementation of the Pedestrian and Bicycle Plan in partnership with Public Works and Planning & Development Developments to provide a comprehensive pedestrian and bicyclist network.
- 2.2 Coordinate with the City of Reedley to connect the Dinuba city-wide bicycle/pedestrian trail system with a similar path system in Reedley.
- 2.3 Integrate the siting of proposed trail segments into the development review process; require development projects along designated trail routes to be designed to incorporate trail segments as part of the project.
- 2.4 Work with local agencies, utilities and private landholders to secure trail access and rights-of-way for open space for trail connections.
- 2.4 Utilize existing or future railroad right-of-way and water courses, such as Traver Creek, to expand the bicycle/pedestrian path system, where feasible.
- 2.5 Develop clear and consistent wayfinding signage and information materials for regional bike routes, trails and associated facilities.
- 2.6 Provide trailhead accommodations, especially along major trail and walking routes, to include parking, wayfinding signage, benches, restrooms and other amenities.
- 2.7 Support the installation of bicycle parking racks at public and private places of assembly such as parks, schools, office buildings, churches, and retail commercial developments.



RECREATION & EVENTS

Goal 3: Offer a diverse array of recreational activities and programs that promotes the health and well-being of residents of all ages, abilities and interests.

Objectives

- 3.1 Provide recreation programs that meet the needs of children, adults and senior citizens in the City.
- 3.2 Consider local needs, recreational trends and changes in demographics to meet the needs of diverse users, including under-served residents who may have limited access to recreation.
- 3.3 Provide recreation programs that complement services provided by other organizations, such that unfulfilled needs are met in a self-sustaining and fiscally-responsible manner.
- 3.4 Leverage City resources by forming and maintaining partnerships with other public, non-profit and private recreation providers to deliver recreation services and events.
- 3.5 Where a county-wide recreation need is demonstrated in an area adjacent to the City, cooperative park development programs shall be encouraged on a cost-sharing basis. Joint power agreements between Dinuba and County agencies may be developed to implement such parks with financial aid management obligations in proportion to each agency's responsibilities.
- 3.6 Promote, sponsor and/or partner for community events, family programs, educational activities, and other social events that serve general and special populations of the community and foster civic pride.
- 3.7 Consider the development of recreation facilities and specialized venues that generate revenues to offset the cost of their operation and maintenance.
- 3.8 Explore opportunities to use existing and new sports fields most efficiently, such as through multi-use design, lighting and effective scheduling.



MAINTENANCE & OPERATIONS

Goal 4: Maintain and operate a modern, efficient park system that provides a high level of user comfort, safety and aesthetic quality, and protects capital investments.

Objectives

- 4.1 Enhance maintenance programs that protect public property, preserve its value, and ensure its intended function or use, life expectancy, safety, security and appearance.
- 4.2 Maintain an inventory of assets and their condition; update the inventory as assets are added, updated or removed from the system and periodically assess the condition of park and recreation facilities and infrastructure.
- 4.3 Improve existing parks for the purpose of reducing maintenance cost, water use, improving safety and aesthetics.
- 4.4 Design and maintain parks and facilities to offer universal accessibility for residents of all physical capabilities, skill levels and age as appropriate; in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Standards for Accessible Design.
- 4.5 Balance the development of recreation facilities and amenities across different park sites based on community need and the capacity of each park site.
- 4.6 Provide lighting for extended hours of use of active community sports facilities when it does not conflict with adjacent land uses.
- 4.7 Maximize the multiple-use aspects of stormwater detention facilities, utility easements, etc., such that these sites serve dual roles for water detention and dry-season recreation.
- 4.8 Standardize the use of graphics and signage to establish a consistent identity at all parks and facilities.
- 4.9 Maintain a revolving replacement fund for capital repairs and replacements over time.
- 4.10 If a subdivision, site plan, general amendment or rezoning is proposed on land which is designated for potential park use, prior to entitlements, permits or other approvals, the City Council shall determine the feasibility of accelerating public acquisition of the property, or re-designate alternative areas.
- 4.11 When a site designated for a park is part of a subdivision map, the City may require the subdivider to dedicate the park area and prepare plans for its phased development, consistent with this Plan and the General Plan.
- 4.12 Require plan review, final inspection and acceptance (including as-built drawings) of all developer-provided park projects installed per City guidelines and standards.



PARTNERSHIPS

Goal 5: Pursue and maintain effective partnerships and provide volunteer opportunities to support the parks and recreation system.

Objectives

- 5.1 Seek public/private agreements to help offset operations and maintenance of park system facilities or the operational cost of providing recreational programs, where appropriate.
- 5.2 Continue to partner with public, private and non-profit providers, such as organized sports leagues, to plan for projects and expand specialized facilities.
- 5.3 Explore partnership opportunities with regional health care providers and services, such as Advantis Health, Kaweah Delta and the Tulare County Health & Human Services Department, to promote wellness activities, healthy lifestyles and communications about local facilities and the benefits of parks and recreation.
- 5.4 Support the establishment of public non-profit corporations or foundation with the purpose of promoting and supporting City park and recreation services and facilities.
- 5.5 Encourage and promote volunteer park enhancement and beautification projects from a variety of individuals, service clubs, school groups, churches and businesses.



ADMINISTRATION & MANAGEMENT

Goal 6: Provide leadership and fiscal responsibility in the management of the park and recreation system.

Objectives

- 6.1 Involve residents and stakeholders in park and recreation facility planning, design and recreation program development to solicit community input, facilitate project understanding and build public support.
- 6.2 Consider the formation of a Parks and Recreation Commission or Board as a City advisory body and a forum for public discussion of park and recreation issues.
- 6.3 Continue to provide sufficient financial and staff resources to maintain the overall parks and recreation system to high standards.
- 6.4 Maintenance costs should be within the City's financial ability. Where necessary, the City may require the developer to establish financing mechanisms.
- 6.5 Aggressively seek State, Federal and local grants to improve and enhance City recreation services and facilities.
- 6.6 Consider and pursue alternative funding options and dedicated revenues for parks, facilities and programs to include private donations, partnerships, sponsorships, dedicated local taxes and local bonds or levies.
- 6.7 Consider developing additional rental facilities, such as reservable picnic areas or sports fields, to meet community needs and generate additional operating resources.
- 6.8 Update fees and charges periodically for park facilities and recreation programs.
- 6.9 Promote professional development opportunities that strengthen the core skills and commitment from staff and key volunteers, to include trainings, materials and/or affiliation with the National Recreation & Park Association (NRPA) and the California Park & Recreation Society (CPRS).
- 6.10 Prepare, publish and promote a park and recreation facilities map for online and print distribution to highlight existing and proposed sites and improvements.
- 6.11 Update the Parks and Recreation Master Plan every ten years to ensure facilities and services meet current and future community needs and to implement the General Plan.



CLASSIFICATIONS & INVENTORY

This chapter is segmented into two sections. The first section defines the various facility classifications in use in Dinuba, and the second is an inventory of existing facilities.

PARK CLASSIFICATIONS

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

As a growing city, the classifications are intended to provide a framework regarding the usage and utility of existing and future sites. Dinuba does not currently have properties that fall within each classification. The following five outdoor recreation classifications are in effect in Dinuba and are defined as follows.

- Community Parks
- Neighborhood Parks
- Mini Parks
- Special Use Facilities
- Open Space

COMMUNITY PARKS

Community parks are larger sites developed for organized play, contain a wider array of facilities and, as a result, appeal to a more diverse group of users. Community parks are generally six to 40 acres in size, should meet a minimum size of 8 acres when possible and serve residents within a one to three mile drive, walk or bike ride from the site. Community parks can also serve as local neighborhood parks for their immediate areas, and they may be connected to schools or other community facilities. Community parks are generally located on or adjoining a collector street and may also be connected with a trail system.

In general, community park facilities are designed for organized or intensive recreational activities and sports, although passive components such as pathways, picnic areas and natural areas are highly encouraged and complementary to active use facilities. Developed community parks typically include amenities such as water play, court sports (basketball, tennis, pickleball), covered activity areas, soccer and/or baseball fields and bike and walking trails. Since community parks serve a larger area and offer more facilities than neighborhood parks, parking and restroom facilities should be provided.

NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS

Neighborhood parks are generally developed for a range of activities meant to be within walking distance of residential neighborhoods. They are small park areas designed for unstructured, non-organized play and limited active and passive recreation. They are generally one to five acres in size, depending on a variety of factors including neighborhood need, physical location and opportunity.

Neighborhood parks are intended to serve residential areas within close proximity (generally up to ½-mile walking or biking distance) of the park and should be geographically distributed throughout the community. Access to neighborhood parks is mostly pedestrian, and park sites should be located such that people living within the service area can reach the park safely and conveniently. Park siting and design should ensure pedestrians do not have to cross a major arterial street or other significant natural or man-made barrier to get to the site, unless safe crossings are provided. Neighborhood parks should be located along road frontages to improve visual access and community awareness of the sites. Connecting and frontage streets should include sidewalks or other safe pedestrian access. Additionally, street plans should encourage maximum connectivity and public access to park sites.

Generally, developed neighborhood parks typically include amenities such as pedestrian paths, picnic tables, benches, play equipment, a multi-use open field for informal play, sport courts or multi-purpose paved areas and landscaping. Restrooms may be provided where feasible. Since neighborhood parks are meant to be within walking distance, parking is not always provided; however, on-street, ADA-accessible parking stall(s) may be available.

School grounds play a role in Dinuba's overall park system, and they can serve as proxies for neighborhood parks in some cases. While school sites may offer an open field or play equipment, daytime access is restricted by school use and limited for security concerns. School facilities do provide access to recreational opportunity, but that access is limited and priority is given to the student population.

MINI PARKS

Mini parks are small parks, less than ½-acre in size and are often designed as play lots to serve nearby young children and their parents. Mini parks are the smallest park classification and are used to address limited or isolated recreational needs. These parks serve a limited radius (generally up to ¼-mile) from the site and provide passive and play-oriented recreational opportunities. Amenities are usually limited to small playground facilities, small open grass areas, and minimal site furnishings. Passive uses may include picnic areas and sitting areas. Parking is not typically provided at mini parks.

SPECIAL USE FACILITIES

Special facilities include single-purpose recreational areas or stand-alone sites designed to support a specific, specialized use. This includes stand-alone recreation centers, golf courses, sites of historical or cultural significance, such as museums, historical landmarks and structures, and public plazas in or near commercial centers. Specialized facilities may also be provided within a park of another classification. No standards exist or are proposed concerning special facilities, since facility size is a function of the specific use.

OPEN SPACE

Open Spaces are usually owned or managed by a governmental agency or non-profit conservation organization and may or may not have public access. This type of conserved land often includes wetlands, wildlife corridors, rivers, or other natural or environmentally sensitive spaces. Open spaces may serve as trail corridors, and low-impact or passive activities, such as walking and nature observation may be allowed, where appropriate. Open spaces may be public or private and may not always be “protected” through regulations or other property mechanisms and may not provide for public access. No standards exist or are proposed for open space areas.

Parks for Health

Parks are an important destination for people engaging in outdoor physical activity. Physical activity is one of the most important behaviors that reduces chronic diseases and improves health incomes for all age groups. Numerous studies have demonstrated that public parks contribute to health even beyond physical activity. The NRPA report *Quantifying the Contribution of Public Parks to Physical Activity and Health* outlines several variables for parks' role in improving both community and individual health. An important variable for promoting community health is the provision of parks which are accessible through safe walking routes and contain elements that create an attractive destination.



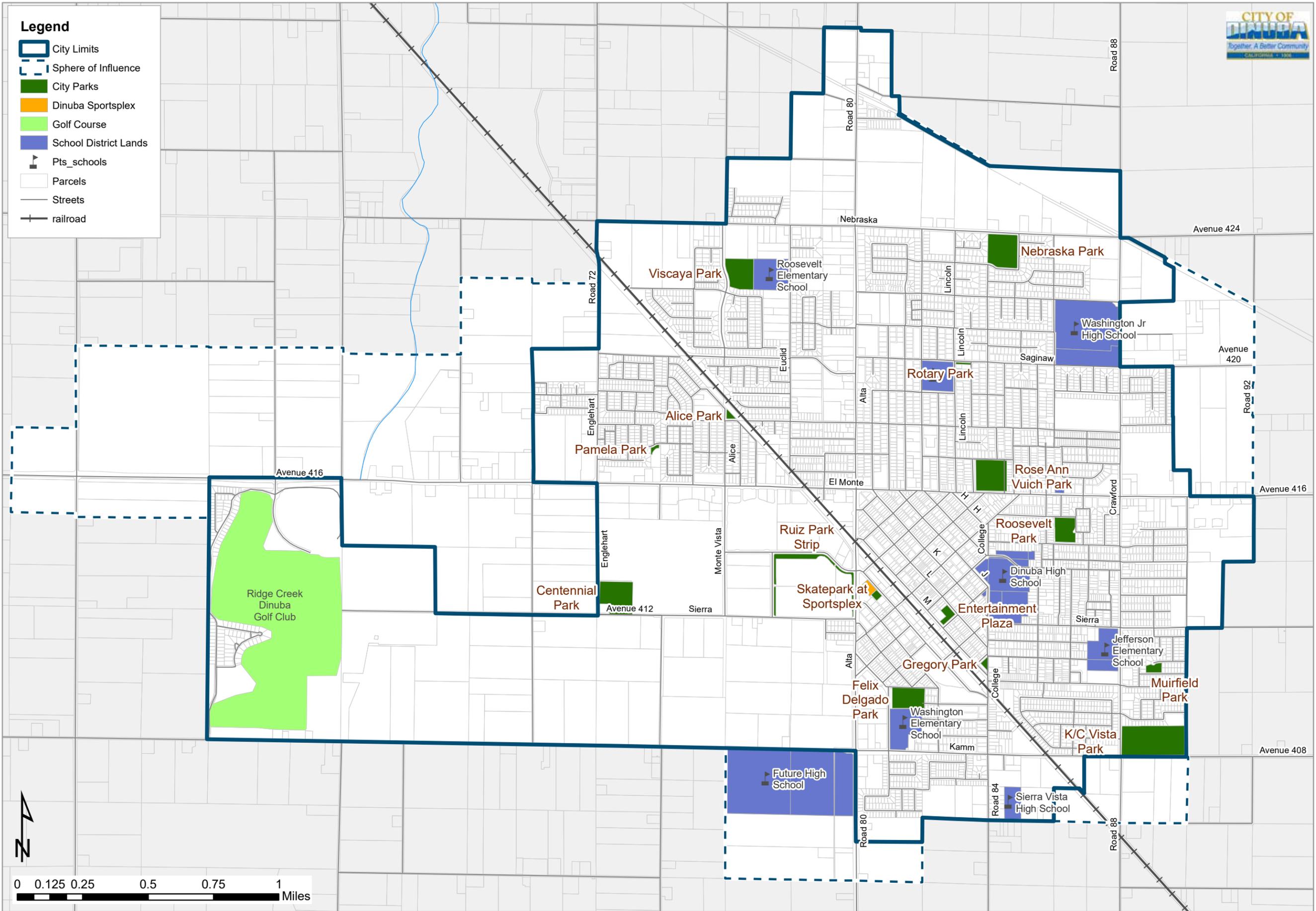
FACILITY INVENTORY

The park and open space inventory identifies the recreational assets within Dinuba. The City provides approximately 75 acres of public parks and recreation facilities distributed among 15 sites. The following list depicts the available parkland inventory in Dinuba.

Figure 4. Existing Inventory: City-owned Park Lands

NAME	CLASSIFICATION	ACRES	AMENITIES												
			RESTROOM	SPLASH PAD / FOUNTAIN	AMPHITHEATER / EVENT SPACE	WALKING / HIKING TRAIL	PICNIC TABLE	PLAYGROUND	PICNIC SHELTER	SKATEBOARD	BASEBALL FIELD	BASKETBALL	SOCCER	DOG PARK	DISC GOLF
Centennial Park	Community	8.00					●	●	●			●			
Felix Delgado Park	Community	6.00	●				●	●	●	●					●
K/C Vista Park	Community	18.18	●				●	●	●	●		●			●
Nebraska Park	Community	9.00					●	●	●				●		
Roosevelt Park	Community	4.20	●				●	●	●	●	●				●
Rose Ann Vuich Park	Community	8.00	●		●	●	●	●	●						●
Viscaya Park	Community (undeveloped)	8.81													
Alice Park	Neighborhood	0.73					●	●	●		●				
Entertainment Plaza	Neighborhood	3.00	●	●	●		●								
Gregory Park	Neighborhood	0.80	●					●							
Pamela Park	Neighborhood	0.50					●		●						
Rotary Park	Neighborhood	0.30													
Ruiz Park Strip	Neighborhood	5.00					●		●						
Muirfield Park	Neighborhood	1.25						●							
Skatepark at Sportsplex	Special Use	1.17								●					
TOTAL ACRES		74.94													

The following map shows the location of existing parks and recreation areas within and around the City.



Map I: Existing Parks & Open Space



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PARK CONDITIONS ASSESSMENT

The condition of park infrastructure and amenities is a measure of park adequacy and a required assurance of public safety. General park infrastructure may include walkways, parking lots, park furniture, drainage and irrigation, lighting systems and vegetation. Deferred maintenance over a long period can result in unusable amenities when perceived as unsafe or undesirable by park patrons.

The existing conditions within parks were assessed to identify issues and concerns and opportunities for future improvements. The condition assessment matrix shown on the below summarizes the results of these assessments and can be used to help prioritize needed park improvements. The matrix uses a rating system that ranks the condition of the park element based on the following scale:

-  **1 – Good Condition:** In general, amenities in good condition offer full functionality and do not need repairs. Good facilities have playable sports surfaces and equipment, working fixtures, and fully intact safety features (railings, fences, etc.). Good facilities may have minor cosmetic defects. Good facilities encourage area residents to use the park.
-  **2 – Fair:** In general, amenities in fair condition are largely functional but need minor or moderate repairs. Fair facilities have play surfaces, equipment, fixtures, and safety features that are operational and allow play, but have deficiencies or time periods where they are unusable. Fair facilities remain important amenities for the neighborhood but may slightly discourage use of the park by residents.
-  **3 – Poor:** In general, amenities in poor condition are largely or completely unusable. They need major repairs to be functional. Poor facilities are park features that have deteriorated to the point where they are barely usable. Fields are too uneven for ball games, safety features are irreparably broken, buildings need structural retrofitting, etc. Poor facilities discourage residents from using the park.

Generally a feature with a rating of “3” should have higher priority for resolution through maintenance, capital repairs or as a new capital project. Park amenity conditions were also averaged across park elements to indicate which types of elements are in greater need for significant upgrades, renovations or overall improvements. Based on this assessment, the City’s restrooms, sport courts, sport fields, site furnishings and signage are in the greatest need of rehabilitation or repair.



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Park & Facility Condition Assessment

RATING SCALE

Playgrounds:

1	In good condition: no drainage issues; 0-10% material deterioration safety surfacing with a border at the site.
2	In fair condition: drainage issues; 10-25% material deterioration; some small compliance issues that could be spot fixed.
3	In poor condition: drainage issues; 25% or greater material deterioration; needs repair or replacement (but workable).

Paved Courts:

1	In good condition: no cracks in surfacing; fencing is functional, free of protrusions, and free of holes/passages; painting and striping are appropriately located, whole, and uniform in color.
2	In fair condition: hairline cracks to ¼", surfacing required; fencing has minor protrusions, or holes/passages that do not affect game play; painting and striping have flaking or color fading.
3	In poor condition: horizontal cracks more than ½" wide, surfacing required; fencing has large protrusions, holes/passages or defects; painting and striping are patchy and color has faded dramatically.

Spray Park:

1	In good condition: spray pad has little or no cracking; spray furnishings have little or no damage; no vandalism; good drainage.
2	In fair condition: spray pad has some cracking; spray furnishings have signs of wear, but are in working condition; color fading.
3	In poor condition: drainage issues with clogging or sinking pad; large cracks; spray furnishings broken.

Signage:

1	In good condition: a signage system for the site, appropriate signs, no damaged signs.
2	In fair condition: multiple signage system within one site, a few damaged signs (0-10%), need maintenance.
3	In poor condition: multiple signage systems within one site, signs that are not legible from a reasonable distance, some damaged signs (10-25%), old logos, deteriorated materials, no signage.

Public Art:

1	In good condition: no vandalism; no signs of weathering.
2	In fair condition: minor signs of weathering or wear.
3	In poor condition: metal leaching/concrete efflorescence/paint peeling/wood chipped or carved into or warping; vandalized.

Park Structures (Restrooms, Picnic Shelters, Concession Building):

1	In good condition: roof has no leaks; floor shows little sign of wear; finishes are fresh with no graffiti or vandalism; all elements are in working order.
2	In fair condition: roof shows signs of wear but is structurally sound; floor shows some wear; finishes show some wear with some marks or blemishes.
3	In poor condition: roof leaks or otherwise needs repair; floor show significant wear and is difficult to maintain; finishes are dull or discolored, have graffiti, or are not easily maintained; some elements not working or in need of repair (e.g., non-functioning sink).

Park Trees:

1	In good condition: trees overall have good form and spacing; no topping; free of disease or pest infestation; no vandalism; no hazard trees.
2	In fair condition: some crowding may exist but overall health is good; less than 5% of trees show signs of topping, disease or pest infestation; vandalism has not impacted tree health (graffiti, not girdling).
3	In poor condition: Form or spacing issues may exist; evidence of disease or pests; vandalism affecting tree health; some hazard trees or trees in danger of becoming hazard trees.

ADA Compliance:

1	Appears to comply with ADA standards.
2	Some items appear to not comply, but could be fixed by replacing with relative ease.
3	A number of park assets appear not to comply, including large-scale items like regrading.

Sports Fields:

1	In good condition: thick grass with few bare spots; few depressions; no noticeable drainage issues, proper slope and layout; fencing if present is functional, free of protrusions, and free of holes.
2	In fair condition: grass with bare turf areas in high-use locations, some drainage issues in overuse areas, slope is within one percent of proper field slope, infields have grading problems (bump) at transition to grass and have no additive, may not have proper layout and/or orientation, fencing if present has minor protrusions, or holes/passages that do not affect game play.
3	In poor condition: bare areas throughout the year, uneven playing surface that holds water in certain places, drainage issues, slopes not uniform and/or more than one percent from proper field slope, improper layout and/or orientation; fencing has large protrusions, holes/passages or defects.

Pathways / Trails:

1	In good condition: surface generally smooth and even; proper width and material for type of pathway; proper clearances; minimal drainage issues.
2	In fair condition: uneven surfaces in places; some drainage issues; some cracking; narrow widths in some places.
3	In poor condition: uneven surfaces; inadequate width; significant cracking or heaving; clearance issues.

Skate Park:

1	In good condition: little to no signs of cracking; little or no erosion; elements target a diversity of age groups.
2	In fair condition: some cracking, but still usable; furnishings (i.e. - metal rails) might need spot fixes.
3	In poor condition: parts of the structure are damaged or deteriorated, chipped off or broken; edges of the structure are eroded possibly causing safety issues; elements target a specific / narrow age range.

Site Furnishings:

1	In good condition; not damaged; free of peeling or chipped paint; consistent throughout park. Trash receptacles, drinking fountain, picnic tables, benches on paved surface.
2	In fair condition; 0-20% furnishings are damaged and require replacing parts; some peeling or chipped paint; furnishings are not consistent, but are operational.
3	In poor condition; 20% or more are damaged and require replacing parts; significant peeling or chipped paint; multiple styles within park site require different maintenance.

Parking Areas:

1	In good condition: paving and drainage do not need repair; pavement markings clear; pathway connection provided to facility; proper layout.
2	In fair condition: paving needs patching or has some drainage problems; has wheel stops and curbs.
3	In poor condition: surfaces (gravel, asphalt, or concrete) needs repair; uneven grading; limited signage; no delineation for vehicles.

Natural Areas:

1	In good condition: barely noticeable invasives, high species diversity, healthy plants.
2	In fair conditions: Noticeable invasives, fewer species but still healthy.
3	In poor condition: Invasives have taken over, low diversity, unhealthy plants.

Amphitheater/Stage:

1	In good condition: paving, stage and stair materials have little to no cracking or peeling; vegetation that is present is healthy; seating and other furnishings show modest signs of wear; views to stage from all seating vantage points.
2	In fair condition: paving, stage and stair materials have some cracking or peeling; vegetation that is present is healthy, but some soil compaction might be present; seating and other furnishings show signs of wear, but are still usable; stage orientation not be ideal for all viewers.
3	In poor condition: paving, stage and stair materials have significant cracking or peeling; vegetation is unhealthy (pests, disease, topped trees), compacted soil; seating and other furnishings need repair or replacement; redesign of space is needed for proper viewing and access.

Landscaped Beds:

1	In good condition: few weeds; no bare or worn areas; plants appear healthy with no signs of pest or disease infestation.
2	In fair condition: some weeds present; some bare or worn spots; plants are still generally healthy.
3	In poor condition: many weeds present; large bare or worn areas; plants show signs of pests or disease; compacted soils.

Turf:

1	In good condition: lush and full, few weeds, no drainage problems.
2	In fair condition: some bare spots, some drainage problems.
3	In poor condition: irrigation problems, bare spots, weeds, soil compacted.

Detailed inventories and assessments for each individual park are located on the following pages; however, the following summary offers a composite from on-site observations and recommendations that will contribute to the enhancement of the City's park system, character and sustainability.

Wayfinding, Identity & Signage

As part of the overall park and trail system, there were opportunities to help navigate visitors and inform them about the public spaces they were entering. A good wayfinding system can provide a consistent identity and display effective and accessible information to orient the user. This guidance system ensures efficient use of the park or public space and conveys safety to the user by translating the environment into a known geography. Signs, symbols, mapping, color, standardized site amenities combined with good design of the physical environment (i.e., trail or park) helps the user navigate the space and stay comfortably oriented.

Dinuba could expand its wayfinding program to include both visual graphic standards and site furnishing standards. The use of consistent graphics and a coordinated hierarchy of sign types and sizes can provide park and trail users with wayfinding information to enhance their access and knowledge of the recreational system available for their enjoyment. A good wayfinding system applies the "simpler is better" concept.

ADA Accessibility and Compliance

As with many older parks, some architectural barriers were present in the park system. Updating and providing ADA accessibility and compliance with federal guidelines should be part of a regular capital repair schedule to ensure the reasonable access on older pavements, parking, playgrounds, picnic amenities, restrooms and recreational elements. The Dinuba park system has some ADA compliance issues with park access at parking areas, barriers to access into playground areas, as well as non-complaint benches and picnic tables lacking accessible routes. The City will want to develop an ADA Compliance Checklist to identify and prioritize these deficiencies and develop a methodology for bringing all their parks into compliance.

Site Furnishings

Standards for park furnishing such as benches, picnic tables, drinking fountains, bike racks, trash receptacles and other common amenities used throughout the park system can be instrumental in assuring consistent ADA compliance and streamlined maintenance and repairs. Picnic tables routinely did not provide for wheelchair seating, and many tables were located under shelters in grass areas with no accessible route from paved paths. Park benches should have backs and armrests and be located along accessible routes with adjacent wheelchair spaces at one end of the bench pad. Choosing a consistent style and installation design could help simplify park development and future maintenance for site furnishings.

Playgrounds

The majority of playground equipment was in good condition. A regular schedule of playground equipment inspections should continue to be incorporated into the park maintenance routine to ensure continual play-safe structures.

Access to playground areas was not always barrier-free. Several parks were noted to lack any ramps or provisions to transfer from park pathway pavement to the lower surfacing of the playground. The drop-off edges varied from 3-6 inches, far exceeding the maximum ½-inch tolerance.

Play equipment, particularly slides, was noticeably hot on sunny days – too hot for safe or comfortable use. Incorporating shade structures that cut the number of hours and angle of direct sunlight on play equipment can enhance the park user experience and extend the amount of play value provided at many parks, including Alice, Centennial, Felix Delgado, Muirfield, K/C Vista, Nebraska and Rose Ann Vuich Park.

Turf Management

Grass playing fields for organized sports require a higher level of maintenance and expected quality to ensure safe and continual team play during the baseball, softball, soccer and lacrosse seasons. Typically these athletic fields with natural grass must be fertilized and mowed more often than typical open grass areas in public parks. Field areas that have significant clover coverage can reduce the durability of field play and allow for uneven and eroded surfaces in the field of play. The higher level of required maintenance can be subsidized by reservation and use fees for organizations that regularly schedule those fields for the season. Turf areas need to be re-graded or replaced at Centennial Park, Felix Delgado Park and Roosevelt Park.

Park standards can be established that specifically identify the tolerance for weed growth within natural grass sports fields and the approved methods for weed control in the public arena. Timing and notification methods should also be incorporated into adopted park standards to ensure safe application and public use.

Safety

Much of the park layouts and landscapes seemed to meet the basic Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles of good visibility and overall positive perceptions of public safety. Park safety conditions were generally good throughout the park system.

Detectable (tactile) warning strips were missing at some junctions where park pathways intersected with parking lots or traffic lanes. As part of an ADA transition plan, the City should schedule the addition of warning strips in locations where they are missing.

Buildings and Structures

Dinuba parks contain a variety of structures with variable ages. Restrooms, picnic shelters and gazebos compose the building mix in most parks. In general, the structures were in good repair. Restrooms should be replaced or refurbished at Felix Delgado Park and Rose Ann Vuich Park. The addition of picnic shelters could expand park usage, and Alice Park is one site that would benefit from the installation of an additional shelter. Annual inspections should occur to ensure continual integrity of any buildings, structures and retaining walls.

Trails and Pavement

Pavement maintenance should address cracks and root upheavals, as well as seams where different pavement types meet (curbs, sidewalk-to-trail, path-to-play areas, etc.) and have a tendency to settle at different rates to create architectural barriers to universal access. For example, Rotary Park had some lifting pavement that has been ground down, and Entertainment park has a minor spot of lifting pavement that will need to be addressed.

Parking area should have regularly scheduled repainting to ensure retention of identified parking stalls, and the parking lot at K/C Vista Park needs repainting. Some cracks were noted in the basketball court at Alice Park and should be monitored to anticipate the eventual need for resurfacing.

Trees and Landscape Maintenance

In general, the trees and landscapes in Dinuba parks were in good condition. In a few parks, additional attention may be warranted for shade trees under stress, and a transition to more drought-tolerant tree species could provide long-term benefits. Centennial Park and Alice Park are two sites where drought-tolerant trees can be added. Also, ensuring that park trees do not have grass growing at the base of their trunks can help to protect their trunks and roots from mower damage.

Several parks could benefit from additional tree planting to provide more extensive shade for park users and tree canopy for environmental benefit. Playground and picnic areas would benefit from more shade trees and/or shade structures to provide comfort during sunny days when play equipment can easily heat up to be unusable. K/C Vista, Muirfield and Centennial Parks could all be destinations for additional tree plantings.

Dinuba should consider involvement in the Tree City, USA program, which would demonstrate the City's commitment to the value of trees for protecting water quality, cleaning air and adding beauty to streets, parks and neighborhoods. In addition, the City could consider establishing a tree canopy replacement plan for its parks and provide a capital pruning schedule to ensure proper attention and longevity.



Alice Park

0.73 acres

Neighborhood Park

500 Alice Ave.

Design Opportunities as Funding Allows

- Add a park name monument sign where Pacific Circle intersects Alice Avenue
- Consider adding a restroom
- Add ADA Path to park amenities and transfer station at playground
- Add shade over the playground
- Add benches by playground and basketball court for spectators and parents
- Add paved path with benches around the perimeter of north basin
- Add benches around future walking trail
- Add exercise station(s) around path
- Consider adding another pavilion/picnic area on the northern basin area of the park
- Add a few native trees in fenced basin to provided bird habit
- Add a more tree around park perimeter
- Consider purchasing the property surrounded on three sides by the park (located on the corner of Alice & Lily Ave)

Management Considerations

- Consider replacing the fencing near the railroad tracks with something other than chain link and that does to not warp and cannot be cut easily
- Adjust irrigation to eliminated 'donuts' in turf
- Consider transitioning to more drought tolerant trees



Amenities

- Picnic tables
- Playground
- Picnic shelter
- Basketball court



CENTENNIAL PARK

8.0 acres

Community Park

1591 W. Sierra Way

Design Opportunities as Funding Allows

- Add paved path around the perimeter with benches periodically
- Add ADA accessible paths to the lower level of the park
- Add shade over playground
- Add permanent restrooms
- Add drinking fountain at lower level
- Add more pavilions/picnic tables & BBQs
- Consider adding site security lighting and sport field lighting, if warranted
- Consider planting additional trees specifically around the lower level by the sport fields and some midway around the slope
- If additional land can be acquired to establish a large event park/facility, consider broadening the range of amenities (e.g., amphitheater, pavilions, splash pad, disc golf, etc.) along with support infrastructure (e.g., parking restrooms, etc.).
- Add a bus stop

Management Considerations

- The soil around the perimeter is extremely compacted, future planting should address these conditions
- There are some areas that pool water on the site; regrading should be done to correct those issues
- The sports fields should be regraded, reseeded and have irrigation repairs/upgrades where necessary.
- Consider transitioning to more drought tolerant trees



Amenities

- Picnic tables
- Playground
- Picnic shelter
- Soccer fields



ENTERTAINMENT PLAZA

3.0 acres

Special Use

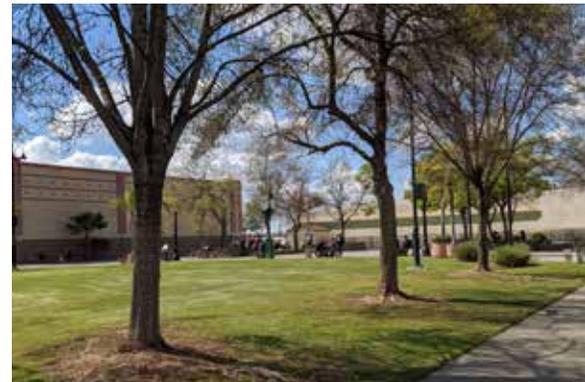
289 S. L Street

Design Opportunities as Funding Allows

- Add park name monument sign at corner of W. Ventura and L Street
- Repurpose the former skatepark area
- Potential for large mural on building adjacent to former skatepark
- Add some benches around perimeter
- Add more trees to fill gaps and around the perimeter of the green space directly in front of the movie theater

Management Considerations

- Turf has a few bare spots that need to be reseeded
- The gazebo needs minor renovations
- Consider removing existing fence at the former skatepark to open up the free space



Amenities

- Restroom
- Splash pad
- Gabezo
- Bleacher seating



FELIX DELGADO PARK

6.0 acres

Community Park

1350 Greene Ave.

Design Opportunities as Funding Allows

- Add another pavilion/picnic and BBQ area
- Add shade over the playground
- Extend walking path to wrap around the park with benches periodically
- Add ADA paths to the various site amenities
- Add more picnic tables
- Add more trees to this site
- Add a scoreboard for the ballfield

Management Considerations

- Refurbish or replace the restrooms
- Refurbish the concession building
- Strip and replace the turf; it has a high percentage of invasive species mixed in
- Consider future replacement of the irrigation system
- Sand and repaint the bleachers in entirety
- Consider adding safety cap on baseball fencing



Amenities

- Restrooms
- Picnic tables
- Playground
- Picnic shelter
- Baseball field
- Parking



GREGORY PARK

0.8 acres

Neighborhood Park

1133 College Ave.

Design Opportunities as Funding Allows

- Add another piece of playground equipment to existing playground
- Add benches at playground
- Consider adding a couple picnic tables
- Add ADA access and transfer station to playground

Management Considerations

- Turf and structures in good condition
- Remove or repurpose concrete slab



Amenities

- Restroom
- Playground



K/C VISTA PARK

18.18 acres

Community Park

1851 E. Kamm Ave.

Design Opportunities as Funding Allows

- Add a park name sign at corner of East Kamm Avenue and South Crawford Avenue
- Add sidewalks near roadway
- Add walking path connection to neighborhood and sidewalks, create continuous path around the entire park
- Add more picnic/ pavilions & BBQs
- Consider adding amenities for another sport, such as pickleball and/or a 9-hole disc golf course
- Add shade over playground
- Consider adding a second playground and/or a splash pad
- Consider adding site security lighting and sport field lighting, if warranted
- Add trees in parking areas, around perimeter and near proposed walking path
- Add a bus stop

Management Considerations

- The main building (announcer's box, restrooms etc) should be repainted soon
- Consider adding more parking to accommodate larger events
- Plant parking islands and fill planting voids
- The existing playground and picnic area will need refurbishment or replacement of some items in the near future



Amenities

- Restrooms
- Picnic table
- Playground
- Picnic shelter
- Baseball fields
- Soccer field
- Parking



MUIRFIELD PARK

1.25 acres

Dunbar Way and Harriman Ave.

Neighborhood Park
(Partially developed)

Design Opportunities as Funding Allows

- Add a park name sign at Dunbar Way
- Add shade over playground
- Add benches at playground
- Add a drinking fountain
- Add some planting in non-play areas
- Add ADA access and transfer station to playground
- Add pavilions/picnic areas & BBQs

Management Considerations

- Park is new and appears to be in very good condition



Amenities

- Playground



NEBRASKA PARK

9.0 acres

1000 Nebraska Ave.

Community Park

Design Opportunities as Funding Allows

- Add park name sign on Nebraska Avenue
- Extend walking path to wrap around the park with benches periodically
- Add benches around park path
- Add shade over playground
- Add park restrooms
- Add another group picnic area
- Add riparian trees near the retention basin
- Consider adding pathway and site security lighting, if warranted
- Add a bus stop

Management Considerations

- Consider opening part of the retention pond in the dog park to allow for a dog swim area



Amenities

- Picnic tables
- Playground
- Picnic shelter
- Dog park



PAMELA PARK

0.5 acres

Neighborhood Park

1106 W. Pamela Lane

Design Opportunities as Funding Allows

- Add a small playground
- Add a bench
- Add ADA access to playground and picnic table
- Consider adding the water retention area to the park, along with a perimeter walking path
- Add plants to screen utilities and fencing

Management Considerations

- This park appears to be in good condition overall
- The turf on this site is relatively weed free and has good coverage
- Stump removal needed at this site
- Some trees at this site have surface roots, consider modifying tree planting practices to prevent this with future tree planting



Amenities

- Picnic shelter



Roosevelt Park

4.2 acres

1390 E. Elizabeth Way

Community Park

Design Opportunities as Funding Allows

- Add a few bench
- Add an exercise station
- Add ADA path to baseball areas
- Consider repurposing the racquetball courts, potential for climbing walls or another sport
- Add paved walkways and planting areas in non-recreational turf areas

Management Considerations

- Consider replacing or refurbishing announcer building
- Replace screening and netting around field
- Consider paving or adding decomposed granite around baseball areas that receive substantial foot traffic
- Refurbish bullpen
- Restrooms at this park are in great condition and seem well maintained
- Consider replacing lower portion, if not all of the baseball fencing
- Turf area needs to be regraded and replaced
- Infill planting areas



Amenities

- Restrooms
- Playground
- Picnic shelter
- Basketball courts (2)
- Baseball field
- Parking



ROSE ANN VUICH PARK

8.0 acres

Community Park

855 E. El Monte Way

Design Opportunities as Funding Allows

- Create continuous walking path around the park with benches periodically
- Modernize or rebuild the amphitheater area and structure
- Add another group picnic pavilion
- Add a shade to the playground and exercise area
- Add an ADA transfer station to the playground

Management Considerations

- Refurbish or replace restrooms
- Replace paving at group picnic area
- Replace site furnishings
- Consider future replacement of the irrigation system



Amenities

- Restroom
- Amphitheater
- Paved walkway
- Picnic tables
- Picnic shelter
- Playground
- Parking



ROTARY PARK

0.3 acres

Saginaw and Lincoln

Neighborhood Park

Design Opportunities as Funding Allows

- Add interpretive signs
- Consider adding an art piece

Management Considerations

- Infill planting beds



Amenities

- Walking path



RUIZ PARK STRIP

5.0 acres

Surabian Drive and Samantha Way

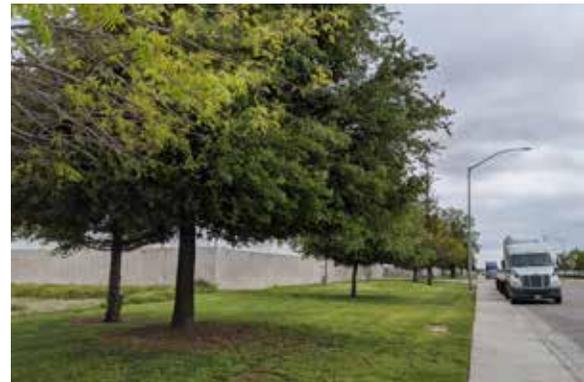
Neighborhood Park

Design Opportunities as Funding Allows

- Add a few benches
- Add an exercise station

Management Considerations

- None noted



Amenities

- Picnic shelter



SKATEPARK AT SPORTSPLEX

1.17 acres

201 N Uruapan Way

Special Use

Design Opportunities as Funding Allows

- Add shade sails over skatepark
- Add another street element
- Add plant screening from alley and screen utilities

Management Considerations

- The skatepark is clean overall, and the concrete and railing are generally in good condition
- Check and clear drainage; some areas appear to accumulate water
- Top off mulch in existing planting areas or consider extending shoulder in bioswale area
- Infill planting in planting beds



Amenities

- Skatepark elements
- Picnic tables
- Picnic shelter
- Parking
- Lighting



VISCAYA PARK

8.81 acres

Viscaya Way and Rosemary Ave.

Community Park
(Undeveloped)

Design Opportunities as Funding Allows

- Develop the site as shown in the Master Plan

Amenities

- None



OTHER RECREATIONAL RESOURCES

Dinuba Community Services Center

The Dinuba Community Services Center provide indoor space for fitness classes, parties and gatherings. It is located at 1390 Elizabeth Way, adjacent to Roosevelt Park. .

Dinuba SportsPlex

The Dinuba Sportsplex is located at 201 N. Uruapan Drive, and City's skatepark is located adjacent to the building. The Sportsplex indoor recreation center offers basketball courts, volleyball courts, turf area for indoor soccer, fitness area and batting cages. The center provides opportunities to host birthday parties and special events.

Dinuba Senior Center

Located at 437 N. Eaton Avenue, the Dinuba Senior Center provides activities, classes and meals for local seniors. Classes include exercise, ceramics, line dancing, quilting and crafting. Educational and enrichment opportunities include presentations, classes and trainings, such as blood pressure clinics, safety, elder abuse and resource clinics.

College Park Recreation Center (VDA Inc)

The College Park Recreation Center is used as an early child care center and operated via a lease with VDA, Inc. It is located across the street from Gregory Park at 920 S. College Avenue. The center provides learning opportunities children ages 1 to 5.

Tulare County Parks & Recreation Sites

Tulare County Parks' mission is to improve the quality of life for county residents and visitors by providing recreational and public learning opportunities, and to preserve natural resources.

Ledbetter Park

Ledbetter Park in Orosi is an 11-acre, day-use county park without entrance fees that provides restrooms, playgrounds, baseball/soccer field, a skate park, bandstand, picnic shelters and veterans memorial. Reservations for picnic arbors are taken throughout the year. The park is maintained by the Tulare County Parks and Recreation division. The park was a gift donation to the county in 1971, and initial park improvements were dedicated in 1973. The park has hosted major concerts and events, firefighters' training exercises, baseball and soccer games, numerous celebrations, picnics and barbecues.

Kings River Nature Preserve

The Kings River Nature Area, a day-use park located along the banks of the Kings River on Road 28, charges a \$5 daily fee per person. The Nature Area provides parking, restrooms, school environmental programs, an 18-hole pro-caliber disc golf course and dove hunting. The Nature Area is maintained by the Tulare County Parks and Recreation division.

Other Recreational Lands

Kings Canyon National Park

With mountains, forests, and giant sequoias in lands that are mostly wilderness, Kings Canyon National Park supports a wide range of outdoor recreation including backpacking, bicycling (on-road only), birdwatching, camping, educational activities, fishing (license required), hiking (all-abilities-accessible trail at Grant Grove and Zumwalt Meadow), horseback riding, horse packing, lodging, photography, picnicking, scenic drives, snow play (seasonal), and wildlife viewing. Dogs are allowed (on leash) in campgrounds and parking areas only; not allowed on trails. Approximately 20% of Kings Canyon National Park is within Tulare County.



Sequoia National Park

Triggered by the need to protect the amazing giant sequoia trees of the southern Sierra Nevada and the forests in which they grew, the mountain forests in the headwaters of the Kaweah River were protected as the Sequoia National Park in 1890. The first national park established in the series of federal protected lands, Sequoia National Park offers outdoor recreation including archaeological sites, backpacking, birdwatching, camping, caving, cross-country skiing, educational activities, fishing, hiking, historical sites, horseback riding, museums, photography, picnicking, snow play, and visitor centers.



Sequoia National Forest

The 1891 Forest Reserve Act gave authority to set aside lands as “forest reserves” withdrawing them from sale to private interests. The Sequoia National Forest, managed in the public interest by the US Forest Service consists of mountains, oak woodlands, giant sequoias and conifer forests. The USFS organizes the outdoor recreation opportunities by three districts within the national forest. The Hume Lake Ranger District (closest district to Dinuba) contains 195,606 acres with elevations from 1,000 feet along the Kings River to 11,000 feet (Mt. Harrington peak). This District contains 13 Sequoia Groves and Kings Canyon. Approximately 113 miles of trails, 150 miles of OHV trail, 2 wilderness areas 18 developed campgrounds, 2 rental cabins, and day use areas, support a range of outdoor recreation including backpacking, bird watching, camping, dog walking (on a 6’ leash; scoop poop), fire lookouts, fishing, hiking, horseback riding, hunting, pack trains, photography, picnicking, mountain biking, scenic drives, whitewater rafting and kayaking, and wildlife viewing. The Forest is open daily, year-round, weather permitting, with free admission.





Giant Sequoia National Monument

Giant Sequoia National Monument, a US Forest Service public land comprising over 300,000 acres in Tulare County offers outdoor recreation activities that include backpacking, birding, camping, educational activities (Trail of 100 Giants), dog walking (on 6' leash; scoop poop), fishing, hiking (all abilities on the Trail of 100 Giants), horseback riding and camping, hunting, mountain biking, OHV (off-highway vehicle) riding and camping, photography, picnicking, scenic drives, skiing, snowshoeing, snowmobiling, snow play, and wildlife viewing. The designation of national monument separated the giant sequoia forest area from the rest of the Sequoia National Forest to protect the giant trees from commercial logging.



Colonel Allensworth State Historic Park

Colonel Allensworth State Historic Park contains a museum and visitor center (the only state park in Tulare County) is a historic town site managed by the California Department of Parks and Recreation. In 1974 California State Parks purchased land within the historical townsite of Allensworth, and it became Colonel Allensworth State Historic Park. The historic town is a collection of restored and reconstructed early 20th-century buildings—including the Colonel's house, historic schoolhouse, Baptist church, and library. The park's visitor center features a film about the site. A yearly rededication ceremony reaffirms the vision of the pioneers. The historic town site is bicycle friendly and includes a day-use picnic area. Fifteen campsites, open all year, will accommodate RVs or tents. Each site includes a picnic table and a fire ring; flush toilets and showers are nearby. Facilities for disabled people are available. Turf, trees, and shade ramadas are other features. The park is north of Bakersfield; 20 miles north of Wasco on Highway 43; seven miles west of Earlimart on County Road J22.



Mountain Home Demonstration State Forest

Mountain Home Demonstration State Forest, a 4,807-acre demonstration forest located east of Porterville, where timberland is managed for forestry education, research and recreation. As a demonstration forest located at 4800'-7600' elevation, Mountain Home is dedicated to demonstrating the compatibility of recreation uses with timber growing and harvesting. The development of sustainable cutting practices; regeneration of the sequoias; implementation of tree planting, natural fertilization and thinning techniques; creation of beneficial burn practices; the study of animal and human effects; all are part of the experimental studies of the forest. Recreation activities at the Forest include archaeological sites, backpacking, birding, camping (fee*), dog walking (under owner's restricted control or on 6' leash; scoop poop), fishing, hiking, historical sites, horseback riding, hunting, pack station, photography, picnicking, rock climbing, scenic drives, viewing logging operations, and wildlife viewing. Campsites are open May through October, depending on snow conditions.

Lake Kawaeh USACE Recreation Area

Lake Kawaeh is owned and operated by the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and was created as a flood-control measure to limit repeated flood damage downriver. The Terminus Dam was constructed between 1959 and 1961. Lake Kawaeh, the open-water reservoir formed by the dam provides water for agricultural irrigation, power generation and outdoor recreation. Boating, water-skiing, swimming, fishing hiking, horse-back-riding and camping are activities available on the site. More than five miles of trails can be used by visitors. Picnicking can be enjoyed at all accessible areas of the park. Lemon Hill, Kaweah, Slick Rock and Horse Creek recreation areas have tables and potable water. The Lake Kaweah Marina at Lemon Hill offers boating and camping supplies, fishing tackle, a snack bar, boat rentals and fuel. Lake Kaweah sits in the southern Sierra Nevada foothills, 20 miles east of Visalia, and 8 miles west of the Sequoia National Park Gate on Highway 198.



Lake Success USACE Recreation Area

Success Lake and Dam is a multi-purpose facility built in 1961 to provide flood control and irrigation. The US Army Corps of Engineers also manages the public land and water for wildlife and recreation has provided many opportunities for outdoor activities. Success Lake offers opportunities for water-skiing, sailing, and pleasure boating. Launch ramps are located in the Tule and Rocky Hill Recreation Areas. Success Marina, located in the Tule Recreation Area, has a complete inventory of boating supplies, rentals, and fuel. The Tule Campground has 103 sites and is open year-round. Each site has a parking spur, table, fire pit, and grill. Conveniently located restrooms provide flush toilets and showers. The Tule Recreation Area provides picnic sites, several group picnic shelters, and a playground. Just downstream of the dam is Bartlett Park with picnic tables, group picnic shelters, playgrounds, and a softball field. This county-operated park also has large fishing ponds for youngsters to try out their fishing skills. There is also a nature trail located below the dam. Hunting is permitted in the 1,400 acre Wildlife Management Area in accordance with California Hunting Regulations. The most popular game species in the area are pheasant and dove. Success Lake is situated in the Sierra Nevada foothills, 8 miles east of Porterville.





5 NEEDS ASSESSMENT

The planning process assesses park and recreation activity, facility and programming needs and priorities and relies heavily on public input, park inventory conditions and gives consideration to state and national recreation trends. This planning assessment concludes with a detailed discussion of specific, local needs and how they might be considered within the broader parks, trails and recreation system with an eye toward fiscal responsibility and funding constraints.

By considering the location, size and number of facilities by type and use, along with community interests and priorities, this plan evaluates the current and future demand for park and recreation amenities. The six-year Capital Facilities Plan which identifies and prioritizes crucial upgrades, improvements and expansions is founded on this work of assimilating the park system assessment, safety and maintenance priorities and the needs expressed by residents.

TRENDS & PERSPECTIVES

The following summaries of state trends and local insights reflect potential recreational activities and facilities for future consideration in Dinuba's park system. Examining current recreation trends can help inform potential park and recreation improvements and opportunities that may create a more vibrant parks system as it moves into the future. Additional trend data and summaries are provided in Appendix B.

STATEWIDE TRENDS

California Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan

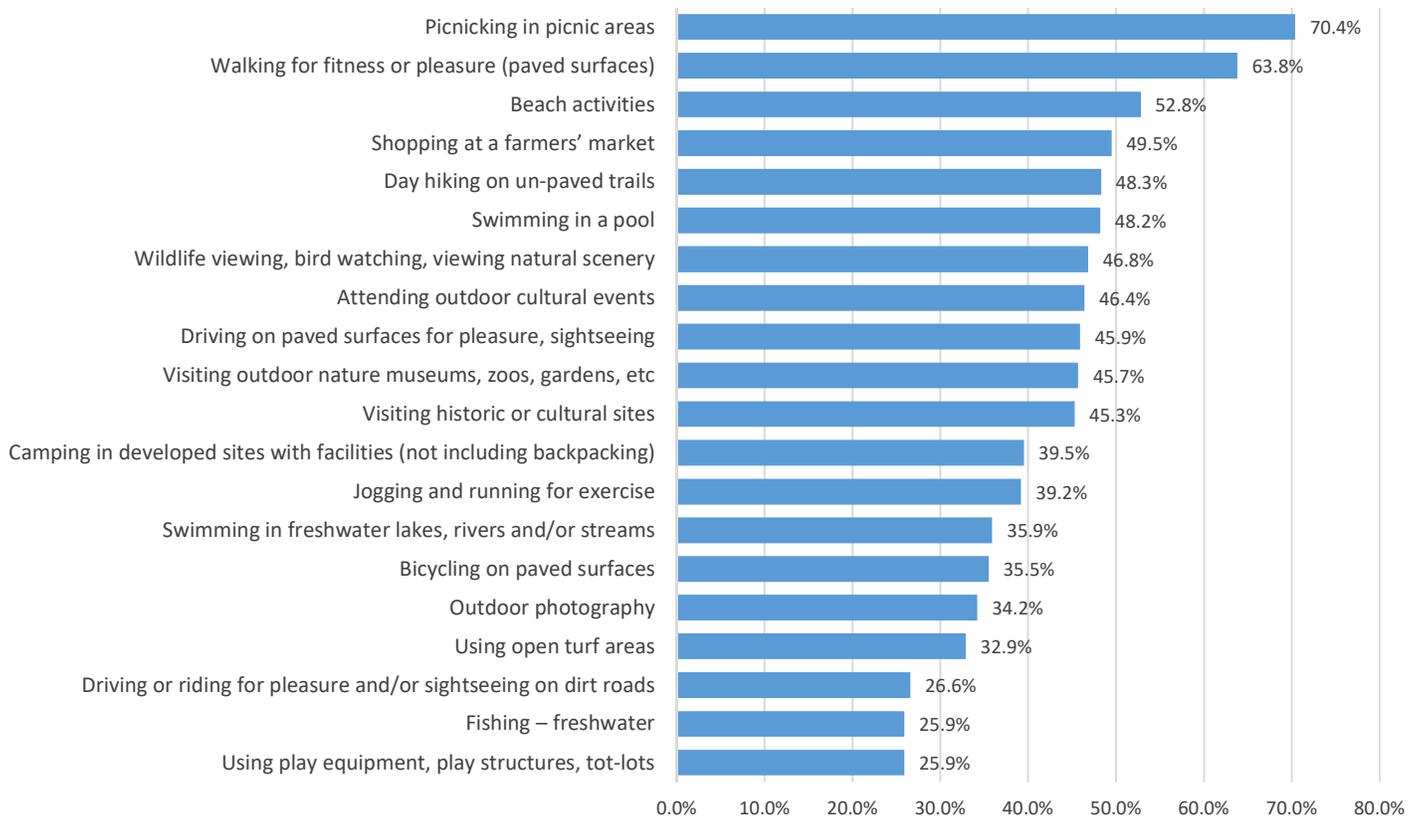
The most recent California Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) provides a statewide framework for actions to meet the state’s outdoor recreation needs. The SCORP is developed by the California Department of Parks and Recreation and is based on public input and an assessment of statewide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

The SCORP recognizes that parks and recreation:

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

The SCORP also surveyed Californians about their recreational activities. Across the state, the survey found that walking was the most popular activity in parks, taking both adults and youth into consideration. Other popular activities include playing, hiking, and picnicking, see Figure 6.

Figure 6. Top 20 Recreational Activities by Participation Rates (2015 CA SCORP)



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

The 14-county Central Valley Region with dry Mediterranean climate, includes Tulare and Fresno counties and is known for its productive agriculture of fruits, vegetables and nuts.

As in all regions of the state, unemployment increased overall from 1999-2009. The 2010 population of nearly six million is expected to almost double by 2060, representing the biggest increase in sheer numbers as well as percentage among regions.

Ethnically, the region's population in 2010 was about 40% Hispanic and about 42% white. By 2060, Hispanics will represent almost half of the population, and about one-third will be white.

Age-group distribution in 2010 was about the same as statewide; by 2060, the region is projected to have the highest percentage of residents aged 5-17 among regions.

Actions assigned the top rank of "1" in the Central Valley region are to:

- Fund outdoor recreation opportunities that meet the activity preferences of youth participants.
- Fund sufficient recreation facilities in anticipation of population growth.
- Fund projects that create opportunities for low- or no-cost outdoor recreation activities.

An additional action priorities for the Central Valley included:

- Projects that address the factor of "projected youth population percentage in 2060"

LOCAL INSIGHTS

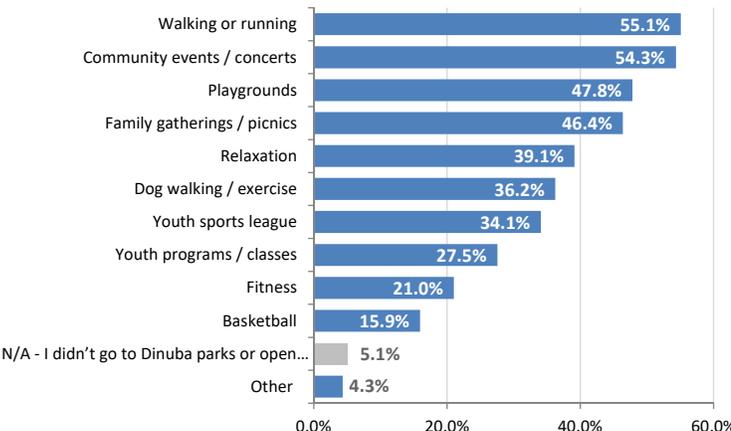
Local recreation demands and needs were explored through a variety of public engagement to gather feedback on strengths and limitations of existing park and recreational resources available to Dinuba residents. Public outreach notification to generate interest in the Parks and Recreation Master Plan project included a two-month long online community survey, stakeholder discussions, an open house to review opportunities across the park system, and pop-up displays at several community events during the summer of 2019.

Community Survey

A community survey was conducted from April to August 2020 and was available in English and Spanish. The 17-question online survey was designed to measure the level of satisfaction with existing parks and recreation opportunities in Dinuba and the priorities for future improvements and services. Information about the survey was provided on the City's website home page and on the Parks System Master Plan project page. In all, 162 survey responses were received. Since the survey was open to the general public and respondents were not selected through statistical sampling methods, the results are not necessarily representative of all City residents.

Major Findings

QUALITY OF LIFE	PARK USAGE	SENSE OF VALUE
94%	71%	70%
SAID PARKS AND RECREATION ARE ESSENTIAL OR IMPORTANT TO THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN DINUBA	SAID THAT THEY VISIT PARKS AT LEAST ONCE A MONTH; 36% VISIT PARKS ONCE A WEEK OR MORE	SAID THAT THEY ARE SATISFIED WITH THE VALUE THEY RECEIVE FROM DINUBA

TOP REASONS FOR VISITING	TOP COMMUNITY NEEDS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">  85% SAID THERE ARE NOT ENOUGH TRAILS  64% SAID THERE ARE NOT ENOUGH INDOOR RECREATION FACILITIES  56% SAID THERE ARE NOT ENOUGH PARKS WITH PLAYGROUNDS & ACTIVE-USE SPACE  37% SAID THE LACK OF RESTROOMS WAS REASON FOR NOT USING PARKS MORE

Dinuba residents strongly value their parks and recreation facilities.

- Nearly all residents (94%) think parks and recreation are essential or important to quality of life in Dinuba.

Residents use the City’s existing parks for a variety of reasons.

- The most popular activities are walking or running (55%) and participating in community events and concerts (54%).

Residents are generally satisfied with existing parks and recreation facilities.

- A large majority of respondents (70%) are somewhat to very satisfied with the value they receive from the City of Dinuba for parks and recreation amenities.
- The most significant reason for not using parks more often is the feeling that there are not enough restrooms available (37%).
- However, over half of respondents selected a reason that could be addressed by the City, including lack of desired equipment (14%), crowding (9%), maintenance issues (15%), safety concerns (15%), and accessibility issues (2%).

Residents would like to see improvements made to the parks and recreation system.

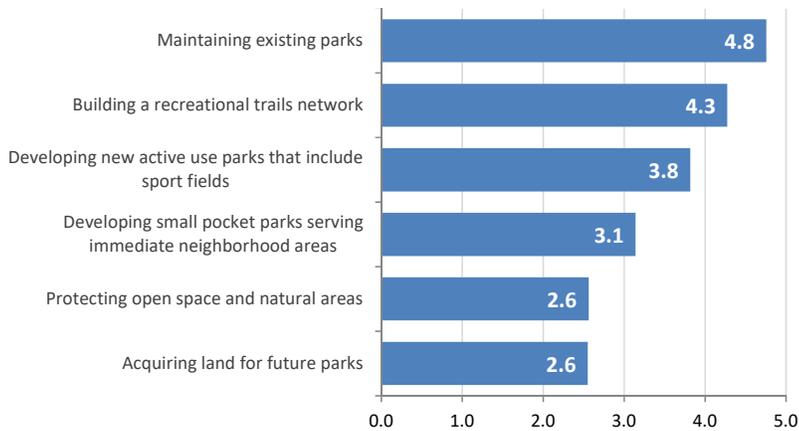
- A large majority of respondents (90% or more) were supportive of expanding and improving multi-use walking and biking trails, shade structures at playgrounds, picnic areas or shelters for group gatherings community events or festivals, and splash pads.
- Majorities of respondents showed the highest level of interest for special events (97%), adult activities (87%), and arts programs (79%).

Dinuba respondents visit local parks and recreation facilities for a variety of reasons. The most popular activities are walking or running (55%) and participating in community events and concerts (54%). Other popular activities include using playgrounds (48%) and visiting parks for family gatherings and picnics (46%).

Park & Facility Improvements Priorities

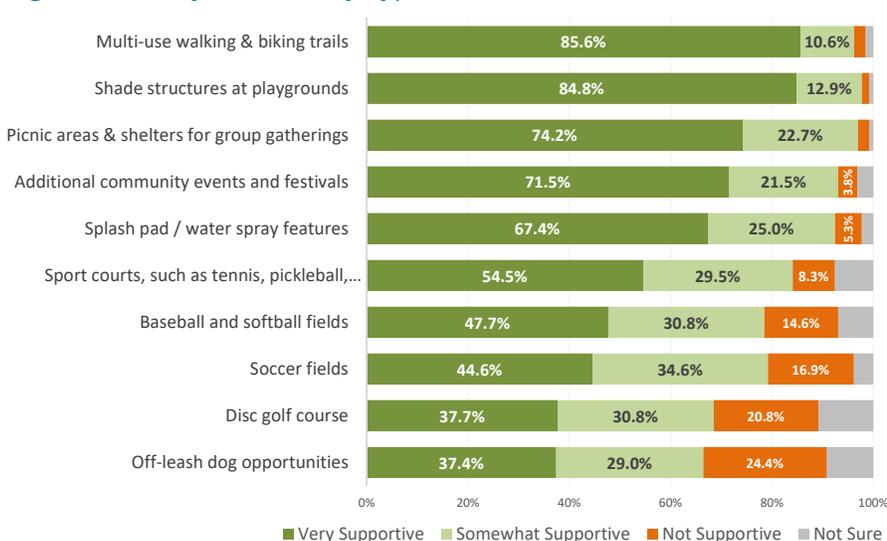
When asked which park and recreation improvements they would like to see the City focus on, maintaining existing parks was noted as the highest priority, with 48% saying it should be the highest priority and 82% saying it is one of the top three priorities. In looking at the weighted averages of the priority rankings on a five-point scale, respondents identified that building a recreational trail network as a priority (71%) and developing active use parks as a priority (61%).

Figure 8. Facility Priorities by Type



The survey also asked about residents' support for park and recreational improvements. A majority of respondents were very or somewhat supportive of expanding or improving all facilities listed. A large majority of respondents (90% or more) were supportive of expanding and improving multi-use walking and biking trails, shade structures at playgrounds, picnic areas or shelters for group gatherings community events or festivals, and splash pads. More than half of respondents were very or somewhat supportive of all other improvements listed.

Figure 9. Facility Priorities by Type

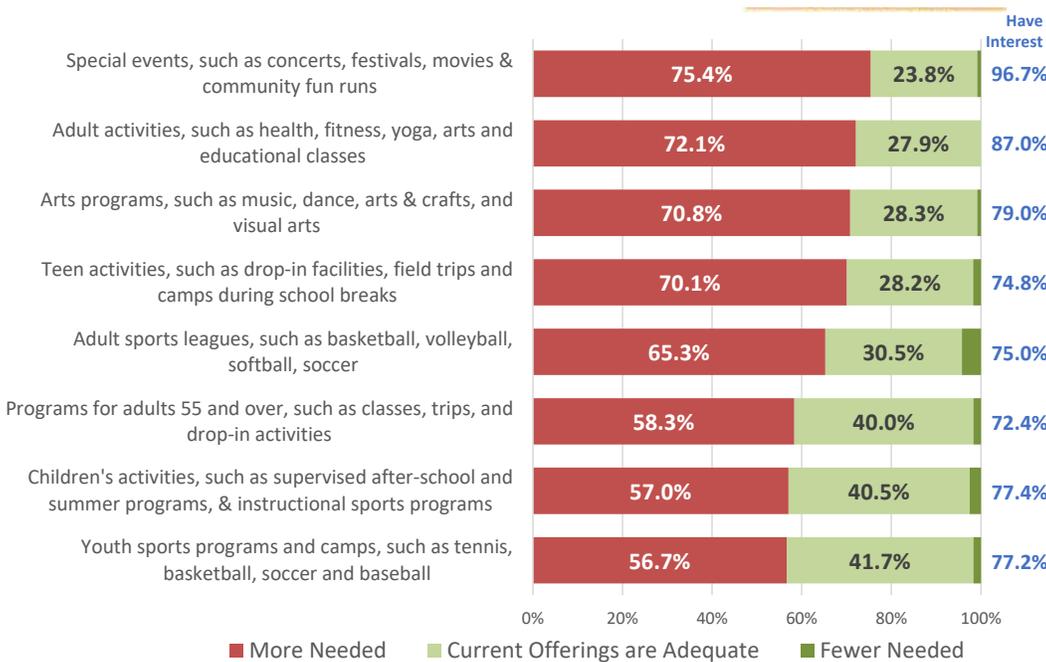


Recreation Program & Events of Interest

Respondents were asked about their overall interest for each recreational program or amenity type, as well as how well met their need is being met locally. Majorities of respondents noted an interest every item listed, with the highest level of interest for special events (97%), adult activities (87%), and arts programs (79%).

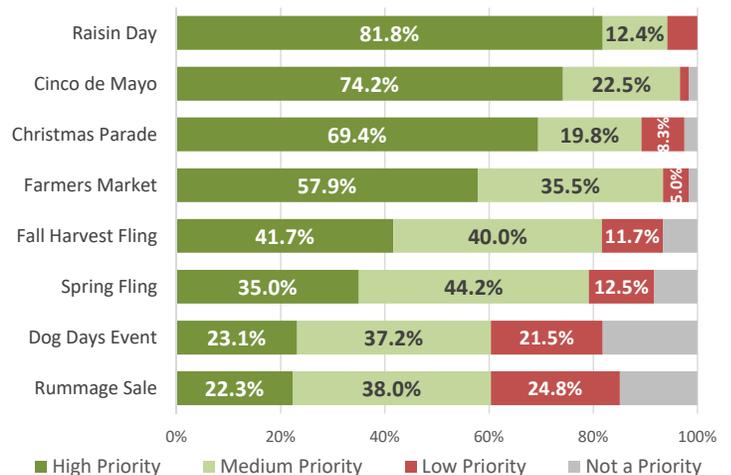
Regarding needs for recreation programs being met, majorities of respondents identified that their needs were not met for all items listed. The program areas showing the large gaps in need are for special events (75%), adult activities (72%), arts programs (71%) and teen activities (70%). The program types serving the most needs include youth sports (43%), children's activities (43%) and programs for adults 55 and over (42%).

Figure 10. Prioritizing Park & Facility Improvements



Community events are popular among Dinuba residents. Over 90% of respondents rated Raisin Day, Cinco de Mayo, the Farmers Market and the Christmas Parade as high or medium priorities. The Raisin Day event was ranked as the highest priority (82%) of the eight events listed. The Fall Harvest Fling and the Spring Fling had roughly equal support between high priority and medium priority. The Rummage Sale event was identified as the lowest priority with nearly 25% of respondents noting it as a low priority.

Figure 11. Prioritizing Park & Facility Improvements



PARK SYSTEM NEEDS

PARK DISTRIBUTION – GAP ANALYSIS

Dinuba residents are fortunate to have access to great parks serving many of the residential areas of the city. Continued growth and development in Dinuba may create new demands for additional recreational lands. Understanding the known gaps in the park system and evaluating the City's existing levels of service for parks will provide a foundation for strategic planning as a basis for a balanced distribution of parks, trails and recreation amenities in the future.

To better understand where acquisition efforts should be considered, a gap analysis of the park system was conducted to examine and assess the current distribution of parks throughout the city. The analysis reviewed the locations and types of existing facilities, land use classifications, transportation/access barriers and other factors as a means to identify preliminary acquisition target areas. In reviewing parkland distribution and assessing opportunities to fill identified gaps, residentially zoned lands were isolated, since neighborhood and community parks primarily serve these areas. Additionally, walksheds were defined for neighborhood parks using a ¼-mile primary and ½-mile secondary service area with travel distances calculated along the road network starting from known and accessible access points at each park. Walksheds for community parks were derived using ¼-mile, ½-mile, and 1-mile travel distances to acknowledge that community parks (including athletic fields) serve a wider array of users and driving to such sites is typical.

Maps 2 through 4 illustrate the application of the distribution criteria from existing parks. Areas in white do not have a public park within reasonable walking distance of their home. The illustrated 'walkshed' for each existing Dinuba park highlights that certain areas within the city do not have the desired proximity to a local park.

Striving to provide a neighborhood or community park within a reasonable walking distance (e.g., ½-mile) may require acquiring new park properties in currently under-served locations, improving multi-modal transportation connections to allow local residents to safely and conveniently reach their local park, and evaluating the potential use of school sites as proxies for local neighborhood parks. As Dinuba grows and acquisition opportunities diminish, the City should consider taking advantage of acquisition opportunities in strategic locations and as funding allows to better serve City residents. In concert with the search for developable park land, the City should continue to coordinate with proposed residential land development projects to consider when and how a public park could be incorporated into the planning of new residential communities.

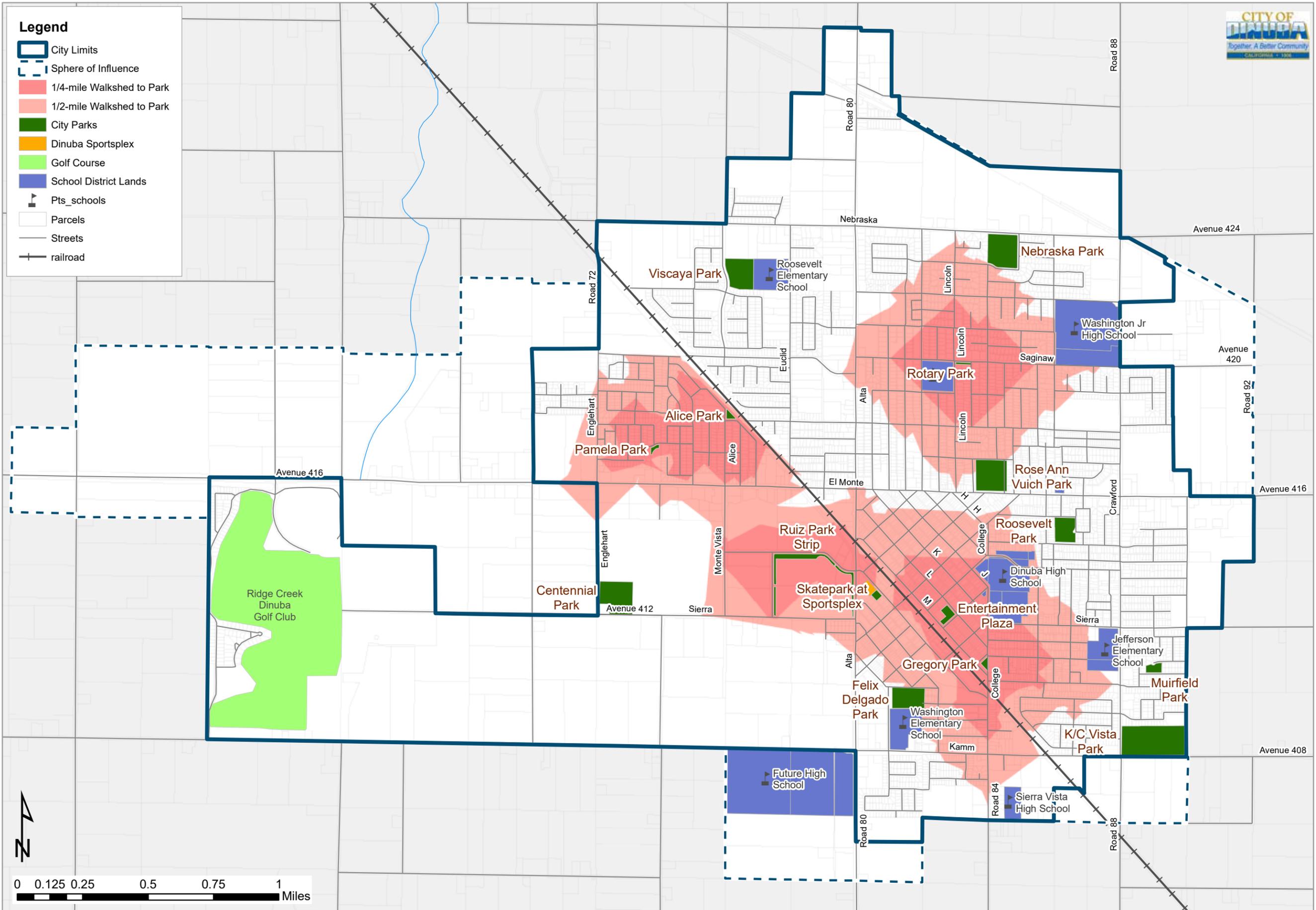
Resulting from this assessment, potential acquisition areas are identified for future parks (Map 5) and are noted in the Capital Planning chapter of this Plan. The mapping targeted five sites for future parks for the near- to long-term within the current city limits:

- Target area A (city-owned, 50 acre site near golf course for events grounds)
- Target area B (2-3 acre site in north-central Dinuba)
- Target area C (school district-owned, 0.2 acre site as possible downtown park or plaza)
- Target area D (city-owned, 0.36 acre site as possible downtown park or plaza)
- Target area E (3-4 acre site in northern Dinuba)

Also, another set of future acquisition target areas is noted on the map to fill existing service gaps located within the Dinuba Sphere of Influence (SOI) area.

- Target area F (3-4 acre site in east-central Dinuba SOI)
- Target area G (2-3 acre site in northeast Dinuba SOI)
- Target area H (3-4 acre site in west-central Dinuba SOI)
- Target area I (3-4 acre site in west-central Dinuba SOI)
- Target area J (2-3 acre site in west-central Dinuba SOI)
- Target area K (2-3 acre site in north-central Dinuba SOI)

While the targeted acquisition areas do not identify a specific parcel(s) for consideration, the area encompasses a broader region in which an acquisition would be ideally suited. These acquisition targets represent a long-term vision for improving parkland distribution across Dinuba and its Sphere of Influence area.



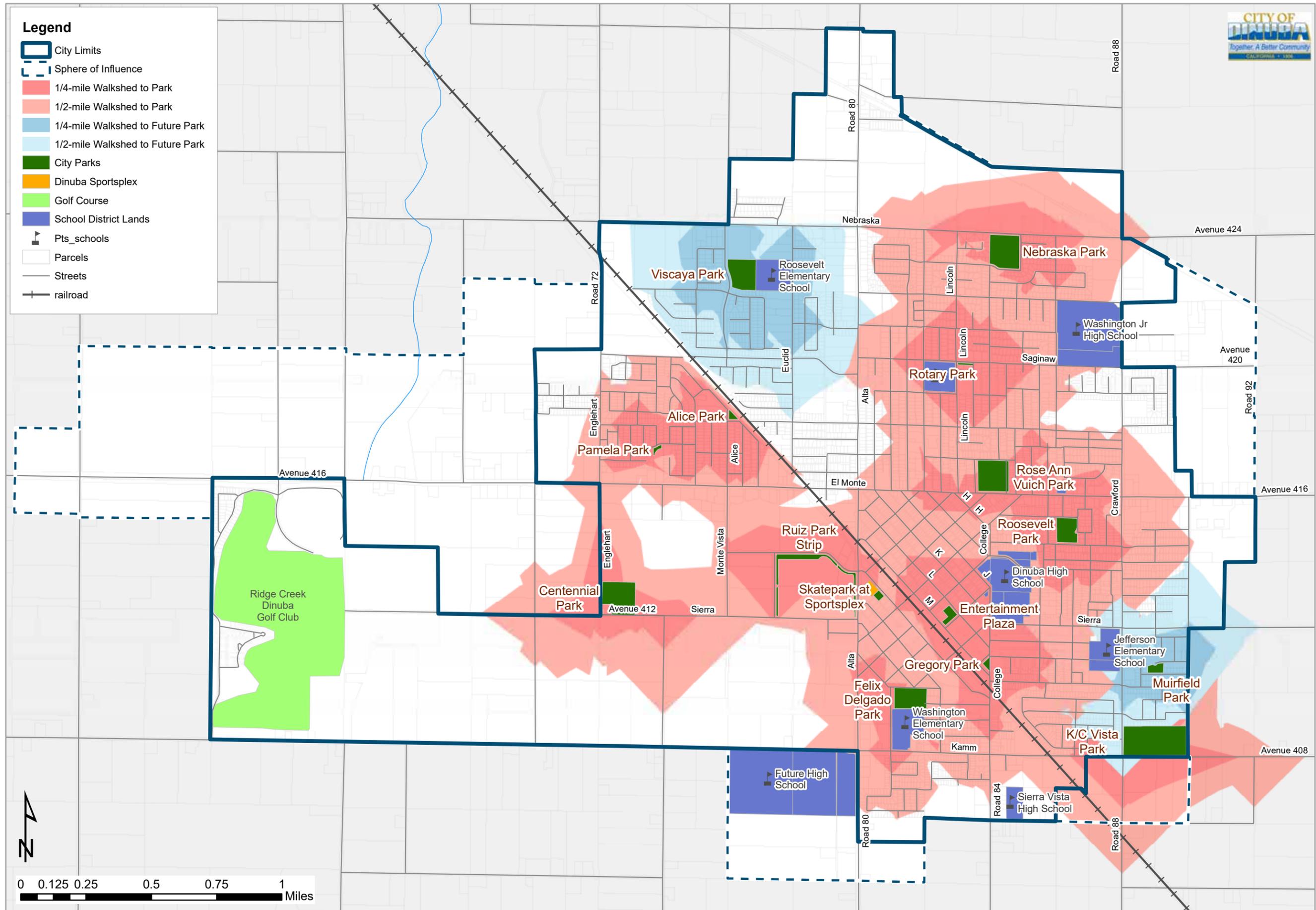
Map 2: Walkshed Map (Neighborhood Parks)



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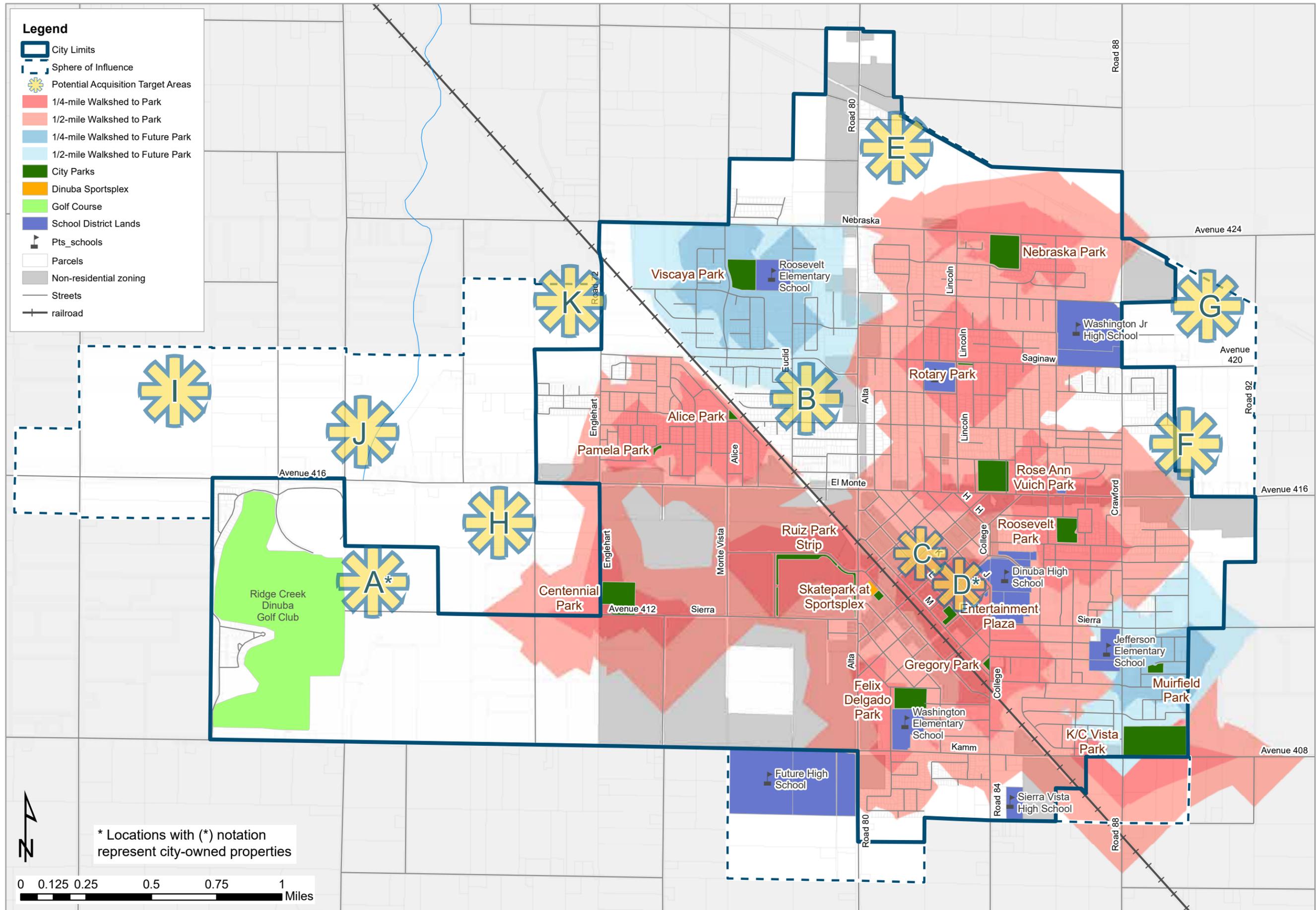
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Map 4: Walkshed Map (All Parks to 1/2-mile Area)



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Map 5: Acquisition Target Areas



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STANDARDS & LEVELS OF SERVICE

A level of service (LOS) review was conducted to further understand the distribution and acreage needs for parkland to assess how well the community can access and enjoy parks, recreation and open space. Traditionally, the application of numeric standards for the provision of parks has applied an acreage of parkland per thousand residents as a target measurement for adopted standards. Service standards are the adopted guidelines or benchmarks the City is trying to attain with their parks system; the level of service is a snapshot in time of how well the City is meeting its adopted standards. This assessment also provides the future direction for ensuring adequate provision of parks for the community based on current and potential future gaps in this community infrastructure.

Many communities are developing guidelines that are customized to their community and its unique and often changing park and recreation demands, rather than solely applying the historic National Recreation and Park Association’s (NRPA) published park metrics that primarily focused on parkland acres per capita. The use and application of standards continues to evolve and develop diverse approaches. This Plan evaluates the City’s current park land level of service through a variety of characteristics.

Parkland Acreage

Dinuba’s current level of service is examined using the population data and existing park acreage. The combined acreage for city-owned parks is 74.9 acres. The City is currently providing approximately 2.88 acres per 1,000 population in its park system relative to its adopted park standard of 5 acres per 1,000 people. A current deficit of approximately 55 acres exists today based on the existing standard, and additional park acreage will be needed to accommodate the estimated 2030 population of 26,175 residents (interpolated based on General Plan forecast). If this current level of service for city-owned parks is maintained into the future, the resulting demand for additional park land will translate into a need for approximately 56 acres of parkland.

Figure 12. Current & Projected Level of Service (Existing Park Inventory)

Metric	Measurement	
Existing Parks Level of Service (LOS) Standard	5 acres per 1,000 residents	
2020 Population	25,994 residents	
2030 Population Estimate	26,175 residents	
Parkland Acreage	Total Acreage	
Community Parks	62.19 acres	
Neighborhood Parks	11.58 acres	
Special Use Areas	1.17 acres	
Total	74.94 acres	
Level of Service	2020	2030
Effective Level of Service based on total acreage (acres/1,000 residents)	2.88	2.86
Net LOS to Standard (acres/1,000 residents)	(2.12)	(2.14)
Performance to Standard	58%	57%
Acreage surplus / (deficit)	(55.03)	(55.94)

The acreage-based discussion regarding level of service represents a status quo approach to the City’s potential demand for parkland acreage relatable to today’s existing standard. The assumption reflected in the chart (Figure 13) and the plan content preceding the chart is that today’s park standard would be held constant and used as a guide post to estimate the future demand for parkland acres to accommodate population growth.

Following a review of the existing inventory along with potential parkland acquisitions or development noted in the gap analysis section, the projected park deficit for parks can be eliminated. The following table projects acreage demand to the 2030 population estimate. The projected deficit for parks decreases to zero assuming the City can bring the five identified projects noted in the gap analysis section to bear.

Figure 13. Projected Level of Service (with Potential Park Additions)

Metric	Measurement	
Existing Parks Level of Service (LOS) Standard	5 acres per 1,000 residents	
2020 Population	25,994 residents	
2030 Population Estimate	26,175 residents	
Parkland Acreage	Total Acreage	
Existing City Parks	74.94 acres	
Projected Park System Additions	55.5 acres	
Total	130.44 acres	
Level of Service	2020	2030
Effective Level of Service based on total acreage (acres/1,000 residents)	5.02	4.98
Net LOS to Standard (acres/1,000 residents)	0.02	(0.02)
Performance to Standard	100%	100%
Acreage surplus / (deficit)	0.47	(0.44)

The City should continue to use the existing standard and execute on projects that aim to expand the capacity of the system and meet the needs created by local growth.

Other Considerations

Using a service standard for park acreage tied to a community’s population provides a common measure for guiding the amount of desired parkland. However, the acreage of parkland per capita provides only a limited measure of the value of recreational access and park amenities in demand for public uses. As the park system matures, other assessment techniques should be incorporated going forward to gauge the community’s need for additional lands, facilities and amenities, which include the following.

- **Park pressure, or the potential user demand on a park:** Residents are most likely to use the park closest to their home. This measure uses GIS analysis to assign all households to their nearest respective park and calculates level of service (in acres of parkland per 1,000 residents) based on the acreage of the park and the number of residents in the ‘parkshed’. Areas with lower levels of service are more likely to be underserved by parkland, and to see higher degrees of use and wear and tear on park amenities.
- **Availability of park amenities:** Park systems should include an equitable distribution and quantity of the most common amenities like playgrounds, picnic shelters, sports courts, sports fields and trails to meet local needs and help distribute the potential usage of individual parks. Working to

provide well-distributed basic park amenities, while also offering unique outdoor experiences, will result in a varied park system with a range of different recreational opportunities for residents.

- **Park condition:** The City should assess the condition of each park's general infrastructure and amenities on a regular basis. The condition or quality of park amenities is a key measure of park adequacy and a required assurance of public safety. General park infrastructure may include walkways, parking lots, park furniture, drainage and irrigation, lighting systems and vegetation. Deferred maintenance over a long time period can result in unusable amenities when perceived as unsafe or undesirable by park patrons.

PARK SYSTEM ENHANCEMENTS

Sport Fields

The City currently provides significant infrastructure in the way of athletic fields at Felix Delgado Park, K/C Vista Park, Centennial Park and Roosevelt Park. Dinuba's sport fields could benefit from enhanced maintenance, investments and safety improvements. Improvements to field turf, irrigation and spectator facilities could allow existing fields to better serve recreation users.

Additional fields are provided by the Dinuba Unified School District. While acknowledging the contribution of the School District's sport fields toward the overall collection of fields, these sport fields are restricted in use due to the demand from school-based teams and programs. In reviewing existing City facilities, the City should plan for an additional 2-3 baseball fields and 6 soccer fields to meet the community's future needs.

If additional adult or youth leagues develop or as participation increases, the City should participate in periodic meetings with the leagues to assist in field space planning and address other issues related to inter-league coordination, field maintenance and protocols for addressing field issues. The City should continue to monitor the condition, investment needs and usage rates of its field facilities to best plan for long-term maintenance and capital needs. Field usage policies should be reassessed on a regular basis to ensure they continue to meet the needs of the City, user groups and neighbors. Field usage fees should also be updated periodically – and when significant field improvements are made - to address cost recovery and equity objectives. Such policies and fees should also address field scheduling for alternative uses, such as festivals, concerts and other community events.

Outdoor Sport Courts

Dinuba currently provides a basketball court at Alice Park and two outdoor basketball courts at Roosevelt Park. The City does not have any existing outdoor tennis or pickleball courts. The inclusion of additional basketball and tennis, as well as volleyball and pickleball, courts should be considered in the planning and development of future city parks. Half-court basketball courts, sports courts that contain funnel ball or a similar feature, or skate spots with one or two skate features, may be appropriate for inclusion in smaller parks, particularly in underserved areas or where there is expressed neighborhood interest. The growing popularity of pickleball warrants a grouping of courts in a future park or additional phases of development at K/C Vista Park to support the typical group activities associated with pickleball play.

Off-Leash Dog Areas

Walking with a dog is a very popular recreational activity, and off-leash areas have become desired amenities for dog owners living in urban environments who may otherwise have limited opportunities to exercise their pets. The City of Dinuba currently has one official off-leash dog area located at Nebraska Park, and community input indicates a modest interest for off-leash areas. As the city grows, it is recommended that the City provide another site (minimum, 1-acre) for this use within the next ten years.

Appropriate sites should be safe, not isolated, and noise impacts on neighbors should be considered. Ideally, a dog park would be a component to a larger (future) park, where infrastructure (e.g., parking, restrooms and garbage collection) exists and supports multiple activities.

The City also should continue and enhance signage and the enforcement of leash laws in parks where only on-leash activities are allowed. Additionally, improved signage is recommended regarding rules and encouraging community support for self-policing for behavioral issues and waste pick-up. Communities across the West have relied on grassroots or non-profit organizations for the on-going operations and maintenance of such facilities.

Water Play or Splash Pads

Splash pads or spray grounds are water play features that are very popular and provide a means of integrating aquatics into parks at a relatively low cost. Many communities incorporate splash pads and interactive fountains to help meet the need for water play, and survey respondents indicated an interest in access to additional splash pads for water play during the hot summer months. The popularity around the interactive spray feature at Entertainment Plaza demonstrates the community interest in such facilities. Dinuba should consider at least two more spray grounds to accommodate the local need and locate them to distribute usage. Depending on the design and functionality, these amenities can draw significant numbers of visitors to the park; therefore, the siting of such a facility should consider access to parking and public restrooms. K/C Vista Park and the proposed event grounds should be considered for siting splash pads.

Nature Play

Another significant, recent trend is that of the relationship between child development and access to nature or nature play. Stemming from Richard Louv's book *Last Child in the Woods*, a relative network of organizations and agencies have come together to discuss the impacts of nature play and seek funding and partnerships to facilitate ways to connect kids to their local environment. Recent studies show that children are smarter, more cooperative, happier and healthier when they have frequent and varied opportunities for free and unstructured play in the out-of-doors, according to the Children & Nature Network, a national non-profit organization working to reconnect children with nature which was co-founded by Louv. In the development of future park sites, Dinuba should consider the installation of nature play features and look for ways to optimize nature play opportunities with the unique characteristics of future parks.

Alternative Sports

Providing facilities for alternative or emerging sports, such as skateboarding, BMX, bike skills, climbing and parkour, can offer residents a more diverse range of recreational experiences, while creating destinations that attract local and regional visitors. The City currently has an outdoor, 20,000 square foot skatepark located adjacent to the Dinuba Sportsplex. Opportunities and facilities for other alternative sports are limited in the city at the present.

[Skate Spots](#)

The City should also consider incorporating small-scale skateboard features (skate spots) into park sites, as appropriate. The singular elements can provide an opportunity for beginners to develop basic skills prior to attempting tricks at the Skatepark.

[Disc Golf](#)

The sport of disc golf has less stringent landscape requirements than many other outdoor recreation facilities. Extensive grading is not required. Individual hole alignments can bend and curve within reasonable environmental constraints. As long as the tee areas and cage locations can be on level surfaces, courses can be situated on side slopes and hillsides.

The City should continue partnering with local users to facilitate the development of a course at K/C Vista Park. Disc golf players often are connected well in their community such that grants and donations can provide resources for equipment, and volunteers can help with tee box and cage/pad installation.

[Bike Skills Park](#)

Other than on-street bike routes, limited opportunities exist for bicycle skills development in Dinuba. The City should consider utilizing a portion of an existing park or future acquisition for a bike skills course or pump track. Such a course could provide a focal point for programming and individual skills development. It would also be complementary to the mountain bike trails available in eastern Tulare County and could be an option for youth programming.

Extreme / Adventure Sports Facilities

Dinuba could consider the future development of an outdoor recreation campus that could focus on alternative sports, including ziplines, aerial challenges, bouldering walls or outdoor parkour features. Such a project would be best suited as a public-private partnership and one that is operated, managed and insured by a private entity. Parking and restroom facilities should be provided with a development project of this nature, along with classrooms, storage for gear and a maintenance area. Locating such a facility may prove challenging, and the ideal site may need to be located away from a densely developed residential area. One potential site for such a facility may be adjacent to or part of the proposed events ground to consolidate maintenance demands and utilize support infrastructure, such as parking and restrooms.

Wayfinding, Identity & Signage

A good wayfinding system can provide a consistent identity and display effective and accessible information to orient the user. This guidance system ensures efficient use of the trail, park or other public space and conveys safety to the user by translating the environment

into a known geography. Signs, symbols, mapping, color, standardized site amenities combined with good design of the physical environment (i.e., trail or park) helps the user navigate the space and stay comfortably oriented.

The conditions assessment conducted as part of this Plan indicated that Dinuba parks need clearer, more prominent identification and signs located at multiple entry points. Such signage should identify the City of Dinuba as the provider, to be distinguished from school or private property, and offer methods for accessing additional information (e.g., contacts, volunteering, other facilities, etc.) to inform park users and visitors.

The City should consider a wayfinding and signage system that integrates all its parks and trails, as the system grows, with similar 'branding' to help all park and trail users understand where they are, what they might need to know, how to get more information and who the provider is. An effective wayfinding system not only provides directional and locational information to the trail user. The combination of materials, color, specific sign types for conveying different information, unified font designs, and matching site furnishings (i.e., benches, bollards, drinking fountains, etc.) can all contribute to creating strong identifiers and that unique sense of place for Dinuba's park system.

PARK CONCEPT DESIGNS

Centennial Park

Centennial Park is filled with potential and features wide-open space waiting to be developed. This park is located west of downtown and can be made home to an event center with the capacity to hold large crowds. This park is the perfect host, as it's iconic water tower can guide visitors to the site from miles away.

The soccer fields currently located at this park draw in park users. A new walking path that surrounds the perimeter will help provide universal access down to the soccer fields and will also form a loop around the entire park for those wanting to walk or jog. Workout stations are also spread out along the path for those with a fit focus. The paths will be sweeping and undulating to provide interest and character. This will also give a dedicated maintenance access to keep the parks appearance up to it's full potential.

The most exciting improvement to come is a stage cut-in to the hillside that joins the upper and lower part of the park. The stage will be large enough for a large band or choir and will feature a dance floor in front accompanied by a green lounging area. The stage will also have it's own storage rooms and will share a roof with the restrooms on the upper level. The backdrop for the stage will share a common wall with the restroom and will feature a mural representing Dinuba's culture or values.

To better serve the sports on this site there are plans for a concession stand and storage within the base of the water tower. Sports field lighting will also extend the usable time for this park. A new pavilion will provide another space for postgame picnics or other groups to gather and celebrate whatever the occasion. The expanded playground will add more fun to any gathering for the young ones by offering more play options. This area will also have new shade sails to keep the fun going even in the hottest part of the year.



- 1 Turf
- 2 Planting Area
- 3 Concrete Walkway
- 4 6' Sloped Walkway
- 5 8' Sloped Walkway
- 6 10' Sloped Walkway
- 7 Water Tower
- 8 Concession Stand
- 9 Recreation Department Storage
- 10 Expanded Playground
- 11 Shade Sails
- 12 Existing Pavilion
- 13 New Pavilion
- 14 New Restrooms
- 15 New Stage w/ Mural Backdop
- 16 New Dance Floor
- 17 Stage Storage
- 18 Stage/ Restroom Roof
- 19 Exercise Station
- 20 Existing Soccer Field
- 21 Grade Break
- 22 Lowered Soccer Field
- 23 Lowered Open Play Area
- 24 Nuisance Water Riparian Area (Fence if needed)
- Existing Tree
- New Tree



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Since this park is used for water storage and overflow, additional terracing is proposed. This would consist of a low riparian area, an open green space terrace, two soccer fields on the next level and the third soccer field on the final terrace in the basin.

Lastly, the park will be enhanced with several shade trees around the soccer fields, walking paths and play areas. New shrub planting will help to screen some of the existing utilities and soften the park entry.

K/C Vista Park

K/C Vista Park is going to be one of the most active parks around. By adding onto the existing amenities, there will be something for everyone-young and old to do and keep fit. The expanse of this park will serve all of these groups without feeling overcrowded. This park has good walkability for the surrounding neighborhoods and provides parking for those who seek it out as a destination.

K/C Vista Park currently has quite a bit to offer for organized sports including two baseball fields, one full size soccer field, two youth soccer fields and disc golf, with plans of adding four basketball courts and four pickleball courts. The new court sports area will have picnic tables for those onlooking or hangout in between games. New tree planting will offer shade and soften the surrounding fencing. An expanded parking lot is also near the sports courts and will give easy access to those utilizing these amenities. This area will also receive a new picnic pavilion and restrooms for the convenience of its users.

New walking paths will guide park patrons around the park and to each amenity, hosting extra wide paths in higher traffic areas. These paths will also tie into an existing neighborhood trail and streetscape sidewalk.

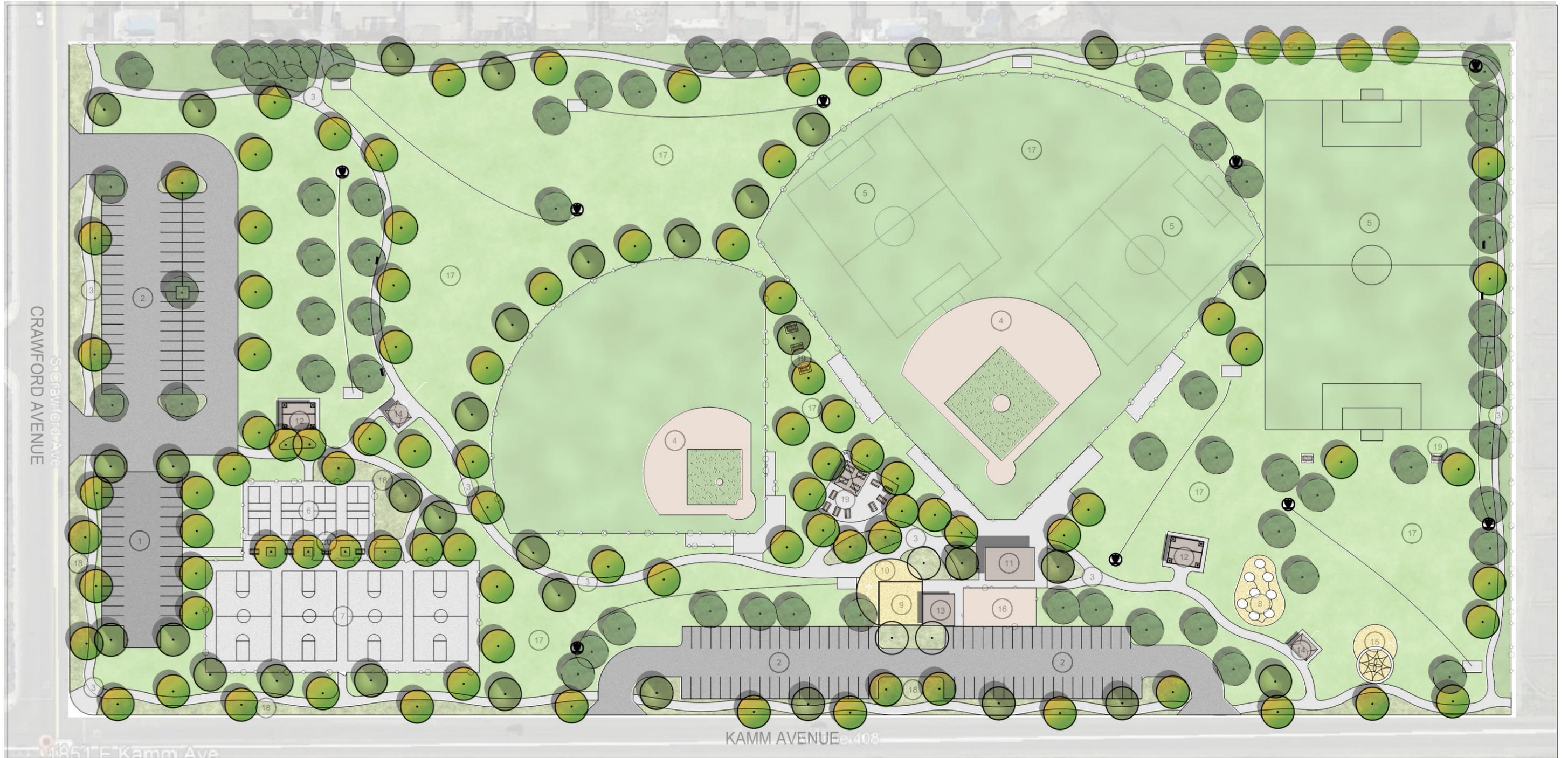
A new pavilion and large group picnic area will provide space for team gatherings and other group activities. This area is nestled in between the two fields and near the existing concession stands and restrooms. It is also near the existing playground which is to be expanded and will offer more play features for this area.

The southwest corner of the park will also see many improvements. A new interactive water feature and playground will add more for the young kids to do and will help everyone cool off on those really hot days. This area will also have a ninja warrior course that is sure to challenge the older kids/teens in a fun and entertaining way. A restroom will also be added to this area to sever these features along with another picnic pavilion.

This park will also have greening improvement by adding trees throughout the park and shrub planting along the streetscape.



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|------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|--------------------|
| ① New Parking Lot | ④ Existing Baseball Field | ⑦ New Basketball Courts | ⑩ Playground Expansion | ⑬ Existing Pavilion | ⑯ Utility Yard | ⑲ Picnic Table | □ Disc Golf Tee |
| ② Existing Parking Lot | ⑤ Existing Soccer Field | ⑧ Ninja Warrior Course | ⑪ Concession Stand & Restrooms | ⑭ New Restroom | ⑰ Turf | ⑳ Game Table | ⦿ Disc Golf Basket |
| ③ New Path | ⑥ New Pickleball Courts | ⑨ Existing Playground | ⑫ New Pavilion | ⑮ New Playground & Water Features | ⑱ Planting area | ○ New Tree | ◌ Existing Tree |

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KC Park
 Schematic Plan
 Dinuba, Ca



Issue Date:
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PROGRAMS, FACILITIES & EVENTS

Dinuba's recreation services are a major community asset and support the physical, mental and social health of community members. The City currently provides facility space to accommodate a variety of programming, including fitness, sports, day camps and a variety of other programs and special events for all ages. To continue to provide responsive and focused programs, the City should continue to:

- Enhance the diversity of programs offered, focusing on programs that are in high demand or serve a range of users
- Continue to maintain accessibility of programs, by holding classes and activities at affordable rates
- Meet the needs of diverse users, including at-risk communities and those with special needs
- Monitor local and regional recreation trends to ensure community needs and interests are addressed by available programming

Given limited resources and the availability of private recreation in the broader region, the City should continue to expand its partnership with the Dinuba Unified School District and explore relationships with private fitness clubs and the local entrepreneurs (i.e., contractors) to provide recreation services. The City also should promote and coordinate recreational opportunities provided by its partners to help connect residents with options to learn and recreate.

PROGRAMS

Youth Programming

The City offers youth programming through after school and summer programs that includes sports, crafts, clubs, field trips and homework assistance. The After School Program is located at five school sites (Jefferson, Kennedy, Lincoln, Roosevelt and Wilson) during the school week and in conjunction with the school district calendar. The Summer Fun Program is located at three sites: Roosevelt Park, Vuich Park and College Park Recreation. Additionally, a winter break program is offered at the Sportsplex. Together, these programs accommodate over 600 youth per year.

Adult Programming

Fitness and recreation programs for adults in Dinuba are provided at the Dinuba Sportsplex and the Dinuba Community Services Center. The Sportsplex indoor recreation center offers basketball courts, volleyball courts, turf area for indoor soccer, fitness area and batting cages. The Community Services Center provide indoor space for fitness classes, parties and gatherings.

Recreation opportunities for adults include drop-in activities at the Sportsplex, as well as scheduled programs at both venues. The City supports Zumba, boxing instruction and Tae Kwon Do classes via arrangements with class instructors.

Based on the community survey conducted as part of this planning project, local residents indicated interest in more opportunities for adult recreation, including health and fitness

programs, art programs (music, dance and art) and sport leagues, such as basketball, volleyball, softball and soccer. Furthermore, fitness and wellness programs are some of the greatest areas of growth in public recreation programming. With a society that has an increasing awareness of the benefits of good health and a realization that obesity is a major risk for Americans, there has become a much higher demand for programming in this area.

In the future, Dinuba may wish to expand the quantity and breadth of adult programs offered via mutually-beneficial partnerships with other recreation providers. In particular, the City should consider additional and more varied health and fitness classes, individual, drop-in and team sports programs, classes in alternative sports, additional art and music classes; and educational programs, such as language, and personal and home improvement. Because recreational programming can be influenced by national and regional trends, staff must stay abreast of current trends and continue to evaluate program offerings.

SPORTS

Youth Sports

The City's Parks and Community Services Department currently provides a number of youth sports, including basketball, baseball, softball and soccer. The City is the primary provider of youth sports; however Cal Ripken Youth Baseball and Dinuba Youth Football offer additional opportunities for local youth athletics. The City's youth sport programs serve approximately 1,100 youth per year, with recent growth in soccer participation.

To meet local needs, the Parks and Community Services Department should continue to provide and enhance youth sports as a core program in the future. Demand for and participation in youth athletic programs is likely to grow in the future. The Department should also consider opportunities to expand youth sports camps and clinics and increase its focus on the development of alternative or adventure sports (skateboarding, climbing, parkour, disc golf, Ultimate Frisbee, etc.).

Aquatics

The City offers swim lessons, water aerobic classes and open swim opportunities at Dinuba High School. Enrollment in swim lessons increased in 2019 over prior years, indicating a strong local demand for aquatics. Swim lessons are available to youth ages 4 through 18, and aerobics and open/lap swims are available to adults. The City utilizes the high school facility during the summer months. The City should maintain its programming for aquatics and explore options with the school district for year-round offerings, depending on demand.

SENIOR CENTER & PROGRAMS

The Dinuba Senior Center provides activities, classes and meals for local seniors. Classes include exercise, ceramics, line dancing, quilting and crafting. Educational and enrichment opportunities include presentations, classes and trainings, such as blood pressure clinics, safety, elder abuse and resource clinics.

The Department currently provides programming specifically targeted toward adults 55 and over, but the depth and breadth of programming for seniors may need to adjust as the overall population ages, with a greater emphasis on the wide-ranging needs and expectations of the Baby Boomer generation. In particular, this generation has greater participation in active recreation opportunities than previous generations. Today's seniors are generally more active than previous generations and would benefit from a diverse array of recreational and educational programs that promote active, healthy lifestyles. The City will likely see a demand for programs offered in evenings and weekends, as community members maintain employment or volunteer activities later in life.

The City should explore opportunities for mutually-beneficial partnerships with the Kings/Tulare Area Agency on Aging, community organizations and county agencies to provide expanded senior programs, classes, activities and services.

COMMUNITY & SPECIAL EVENTS

The Parks & Community Services Department has a major focus on special events. The City coordinates and/or staffs eight major special events and festivals throughout the year. These events are well attended, with over 8,500 people participating in 2019 (pre-Covid). Dinuba Parks & Community Services Department's special events and programs include:

- Spring Fling
- Rummage Sale
- Farmers Market
- Independence Day Celebration
- National Night Out
- Dog Days
- Fall Harvest
- Christmas Parade

The City also assists with Cinco de Mayo, Raisin Day, Latino Health Awareness Celebration and Red Ribbon Night. Non-city events, such as the Car Show and Cruise, utilize Dinuba's parks.

Community and special events should continue to be an area of emphasis. Special events draw communities together, attract visitors from outside the community and are popular with residents. However, due to resource requirements of coordinating special events, the overall growth in the number of events should be carefully managed. This will ensure the City can adequately invest in its overall recreational offerings and maintain high-quality special events. If the City decides to offer more events, it should obtain sponsorships to offset costs and develop a series of seasonal activities or rely on other organizations to fund, program and operate events.

Also, the success of events in Dinuba has placed significant strains on Rose Ann Vuich Park as a venue, due in part to limitations in restroom capacity, parking and logistics. The City should plan for and develop an event space and amphitheater east of the golf course to accommodate large and growing events for the community.

OTHER PROGRAMMING AREAS

Special Needs

It is often difficult for recreation agencies to have significant special needs programs. As a result, recreation departments often offer these programs in partnership with local or regional jurisdictions and service agencies in order to provide high-quality, cost-effective programs. While the City's direct programming for the local special needs population is limited, the Department should strive to provide a robust number of programming, events and activities that are inclusive and accessible to all residents. This could include partnering with Special Olympics Northern California to offer facility space or support for local events and competitions. Other opportunities to partner or support may exist through the Dinuba Unified School District, Tulare County Office of Education or the local parenting network.

Arts & Culture Programs

Park and recreation planning values the relationship to arts and culture, as they directly contribute to the quality of life, sense of place and ability of Dinuba to continue as a healthy and vibrant community. The City should consider the development of a Cultural Arts Plan and consider public art as a component to enhanced place-making. Many successful cities have used public art to define public spaces, promote tourism and encourage civic pride and identity. The plan should advocate for lifelong learning in creativity and the arts that will enhance artists and arts opportunities and provide a connection for artistic development through partnerships and relationships with collaborative organizations. Cooperation by educational providers, libraries, businesses and organizations will be necessary to leverage programming, events, exhibits and facilities to expand cultural arts access for the mutual benefit to the community.

COMMUNICATIONS & MARKETING

The Parks and Community Services Department should commit to taking a stronger role in coordinating and delivering recreation programs and services in the community to ensure that there is a broad base of programming options available. This will require strong communications with other providers to determine roles, tracking of programs offered and number of participants, plus actively promoting the availability of services.

To maximize the programming offerings by the Department, as well as other providers in the community, there needs to be a strong marketing effort to inform and promote the recreation programs and services that are available. This can best be accomplished by having a comprehensive marketing plan for recreation programs and services. This needs to be a simple, easy to implement document that serves as a guideline for specific marketing efforts. In addition, a more visionary, 5-year plan should be crafted that outlines areas of focus, marketing tools and specific tasks, as well as identifying the responsible staff member for implementation, financial resources that are required and a thorough evaluation process. The marketing plan should focus on the following areas:

- Website enhancement to better promote programs and services

- The development of a program catalog, as appropriate
- Promotion of program registration options, especially online
- Programs and services offered by other providers

There should be a strong recognition of the different demographic markets that have to be served. The youth, senior and family populations in the area should be specifically addressed.

TRAILS & CONNECTIVITY

Dinuba residents desire to have connecting routes to local places that include home, work, school, shopping, play and access to nature. This need for healthy, recreational corridors requires a complete hierarchy of trails that range in scale from multi-use paved trails to local park pathways and bike routes. The future target for Dinuba will be a connected recreational trail network that is integrated into the City's active transportation system to provide seamless access throughout the community.

TRENDS & LOCAL PUBLIC INPUT

As was noted earlier in this chapter, walking and hiking continue to be the most popular recreational activities nationally and regionally, with approximately 65% participating in these activities based on statewide data. Furthermore, over the past ten years, national recreation studies have consistently ranked hiking and walking as the most popular form of outdoor recreation. These studies include:

- Sports Participation Survey; National Sporting Goods Association
- Outdoor Recreation Participation Report; The Outdoor Foundation
- State of the Industry Report; Recreation Management Magazine
- Outdoor Recreation in America; The Recreation Roundtable

The citizens of Dinuba identified trails as a top priority in their park system. From the community survey conducted as part of this Plan update, walking or running was the top reason for visiting local parks in the last year. A large majority of survey respondents (85%) think that Dinuba does not have enough trails and pathways.

When asked about desired enhancements to park system infrastructure, increased trails for walking and biking were rated with the highest level of importance. A substantial majority of survey respondents (96%) were supportive of expanding and improving multi-use walking and biking trails, and they ranked trails as the top amenity to be added to Dinuba's parks system.

Additionally, the need to increase trail connectivity, safe routes to school and safety improvements for street crossings were identified by participants at community outreach events.

TRAIL CLASSIFICATIONS

Trails provide people with valuable links between neighborhoods, parks, schools, commercial centers and other regional non-motorized facilities.

As part of an active transportation plan, the recreational trail system can contribute by providing for alternative transportation modes of both walkability and cycling. To be effective in an active transportation plan, trails must connect across the network and provide access to target destinations. There are opportunities to create pleasant greenways and trails that stretch across the community and that connect residents to the wealth of parks, natural areas, recreation facilities and other amenities Dinuba has to offer.

The Dinuba recreational trail classification system is based on a tiered network. The differences between trail classifications are based on purpose, intensity of use and influence the trail width, material and recommended support facilities. Trail planning and design in California typically relies on the guidelines and design standards established and documented in Chapter 1000 of the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) *Highway Design Manual*. Caltrans standards provide for three distinct types of facilities, as generally described below.

- Bike Paths (Class 1) are paved rights-of-way completely separated from streets. Bike paths are often located along waterfronts, creeks, railroad rights-of-way or freeways with a limited number of cross streets and driveways. These paths are typically shared with pedestrians and often called mixed-use paths.
- Bike Lanes (Class 2) are on-street facilities designated for bicyclists using stripes and stencils. Bike lanes may include buffer striping to provide greater separation between bicyclists and parked or moving vehicles. Bike lanes are the preferred treatment for all arterial and collector streets on the bikeway network, and not typically installed on low-volume, low-speed residential streets.
- Bike Routes (Class 3) are streets designated for bicycle travel and shared with motor vehicles. These routes are designated by signs and permanent markings, such as “sharrow symbols,” that illustrate to drivers that bicyclists are legitimate users of the lane space. Class III routes are often designated on roadways with low levels of motor vehicle traffic or are used as alternative routes through high-demand corridors.

For Dinuba recreational trails, a simple classification system that identifies the functions and types of trails in the city contributes to the City’s transportation system and network of pedestrian and bicycling pathways and circulation. This trail system also identifies future connections necessary to complete an integrated trail network.

RECOMMENDED TRAIL NETWORK

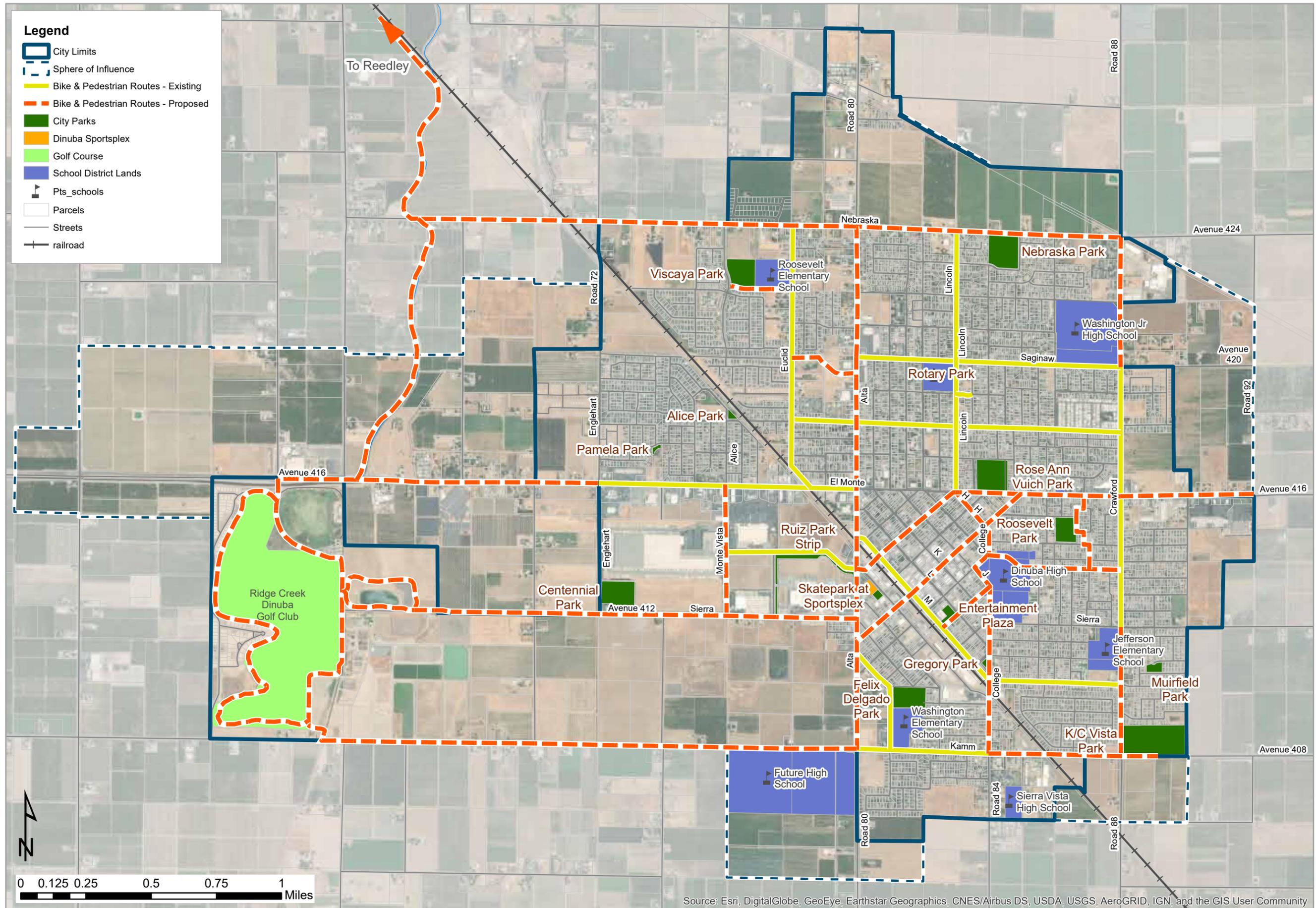
Dinuba should develop a system of multi-use, recreational trail linkages and, in conjunction with on-street bicycle and pedestrian facilities, seek to establish a comprehensive network of access linking major activity areas and destinations for recreational, as well as alternative transportation, purposes. Map 6 conceptualizes the recreational trail network, and the on-street linkages relate to, and expand upon, the existing and proposed corridors noted in the City's 2019 Pedestrian and Bicyclist Safety and Connectivity Study. Park trails and on-street bike and pedestrian corridors will provide recreation, relaxation and access to other outdoor spaces across the city. Priority trail locations and connections include the following:

- Recreational park trail and on-street connection linking the golf course, future event site and Centennial Park
- Trail connection between the golf course and Reedley via an alignment that follows Travers Creek north of Dinuba's SOI
- Bike routes (Class II and/or Class III with sharrows) connecting most of the parks across the city

It is recognized that significant challenges exist to bring these recreational trail connections to fruition, and coordination with the Public Works Department, the City of Reedley and Tulare County will be crucial. Multiple ownerships along the Travers Creek corridors will challenge for securing an alignment, and there is a need for an aggressive program to secure public access easements along this creekway to accommodate a future trail.



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Map 6: Potential Recreational Trails



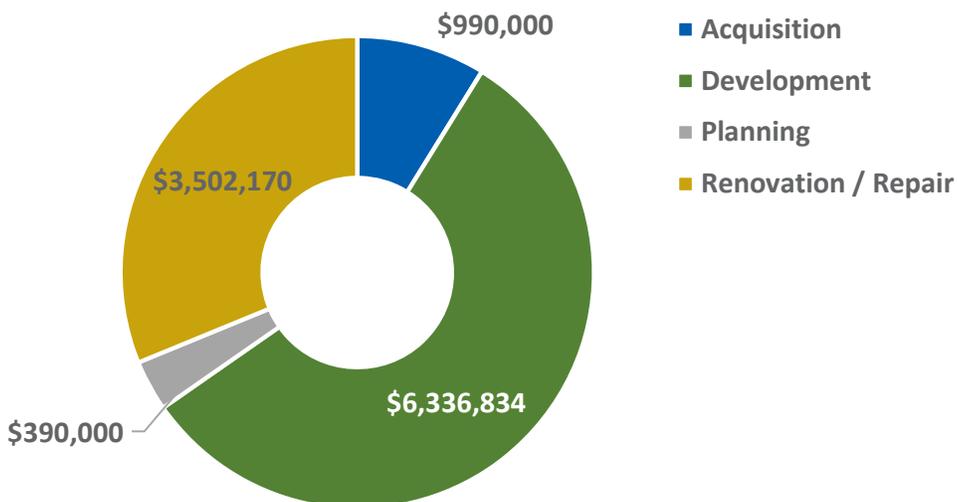
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The following Capital Facilities Plan identifies the park, trail and facility projects considered for the next 10 years or more. The majority of these projects entail the maintenance, acquisition and development of parks and special recreation amenities. Based on survey results and other feedback, Dinuba residents have indicated an interest in park facility upgrades, enhanced trail connections and development of park amenities as priorities, and the Capital Facilities Plan is reflective of that desire.

The table below summarizes the aggregate capital estimates by park types for the next 10 years. The Capital Facilities Plan on the following pages provides brief project descriptions and priority ranking to assist staff in preparing future capital budget requests.

Figure 14. Potential Projects List Expenditures Summary





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Park Site	Project Description	Activity	Priority	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027-30	Sum
Alice Park	Install playground shade structure	D	2		\$ 65,000						\$ 65,000
	Add benches by playground and basketball court	D	2		\$ 3,000						\$ 3,000
Centennial Park	Install restroom	D	2		\$ 200,000						\$ 200,000
	Install pavilion	D	2		\$ 80,000						\$ 80,000
	Install picnic tables in pavilion	D	2		\$ 12,000						\$ 12,000
	Install perimeter pathway	D	1				\$ 225,544				\$ 225,544
	Install benches along pathway	D	2				\$ 4,000				\$ 4,000
	Install playground shade structure	D	2				\$ 65,000				\$ 65,000
	Turf management: Minor repairs irrigation, pothole filling overseeding	R	2				\$ 81,000				\$ 81,000
	Turf management: Re-grade, till, import soil	R	2				\$ 405,000				\$ 405,000
Entertainment Plaza	Conduct site master plan update	P	1	\$ 25,000							\$ 25,000
	Renovate plaza as per pending site master plan	D	2		\$ 250,000	\$ 1,750,000					\$ 2,000,000
Felix Delgado Park	Install perimeter pathway	D	2				\$ 21,120				\$ 21,120
	Install benches	D	2				\$ 2,000				\$ 2,000
	Install playground shade structure	D	1				\$ 65,000				\$ 65,000
	Install pavilion	D	1				\$ 75,000				\$ 75,000
	Install picnic tables	D	1				\$ 12,000				\$ 12,000
	Replace restroom	R	1				\$ 160,000				\$ 160,000
	Refurbish concession building	R	1				\$ 75,000				\$ 75,000
	Strip and re-seed sport field turf	R	2				\$ 46,405				\$ 46,405
	Install scoreboard	D	2				\$ 8,000				\$ 8,000
	Replace irrigation system	R	2				\$ 379,500				\$ 379,500
Gregory Park	Install additional playground elements	D	3					\$ 30,000			\$ 30,000
	Install picnic tables and benches	D	3					\$ 6,000			\$ 6,000
K/C Vista Park	Install disc golf course	D	2	\$ 22,500							\$ 22,500
	Install perimeter pathway	D	1					\$ 55,000			\$ 55,000
	Install benches along pathway	D	2					\$ 8,000			\$ 8,000
	Install playground shade structure	D	1					\$ 130,000			\$ 130,000
	Install second playground	D	2					\$ 70,000			\$ 70,000
	Install splash pad	D	3					\$ 450,000			\$ 450,000
	Install picnic tables	D	2					\$ 16,000			\$ 16,000
Muirfield Park	Install playground shade structure	D	1	\$ 65,000							\$ 65,000
	Install pavilion	D	1	\$ 80,000							\$ 80,000
	Install picnic tables in pavilion	D	1	\$ 12,000							\$ 12,000
	Install benches	D	2	\$ 4,000							\$ 4,000
	Install park name sign	D	1	\$ 2,000							\$ 2,000
Nebraska Park	Install perimeter pathway	D	1			\$ 26,730					\$ 26,730
	Install benches along pathway	D	2			\$ 4,000					\$ 4,000
	Install playground shade structure	D	1			\$ 65,000					\$ 65,000
	Install restroom	D	1			\$ 160,000					\$ 160,000
	Install group picnic area	D	2			\$ 80,000					\$ 80,000
	Add riparian trees near the retention basin	D	3			\$ 8,000					\$ 8,000
	Install park name sign	D	1	\$ 2,000		\$ 2,000					\$ 4,000

Figure 18: Capital Facilities Plan (pg 1)



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Figure 18: Capital Facilities Plan (pg 2)

Park Site	Project Description	Activity	Priority	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027-30	Sum
Pamela Park	Install perimeter pathway around retention area	D	3					\$ 13,860			\$ 13,860
	Install playground	D	2					\$ 70,000			\$ 70,000
	Install benches	D	2					\$ 2,000			\$ 2,000
	Install picnic tables	D	2					\$ 4,000			\$ 4,000
Roosevelt Park	Install perimeter pathway	D	3						\$ 19,470		\$ 19,470
	Install benches along pathway	D	3						\$ 2,000		\$ 2,000
	Install exercise stations along pathway	D	3						\$ 30,000		\$ 30,000
	Repurpose racquetball courts with pickleball courts	D	2						\$ 75,000		\$ 75,000
	Upgrade & replace ballfield fencing, screening & netting	R	2						\$ 110,000		\$ 110,000
	Refurbish ballfield announcer's building	R	2						\$ 130,000		\$ 130,000
	Re-grade & seed sport field turf	R	2						\$ 98,265		\$ 98,265
Rose Ann Vuich Park	Install pavilion	D	1		\$ 80,000						\$ 80,000
	Install picnic tables in pavilion	D	1		\$ 12,000						\$ 12,000
	Install playground & exercise station shade structures	D	1	\$ 130,000							\$ 130,000
	Add a transfer station to the playground	D	1		\$ 10,000						\$ 10,000
	Install perimeter pathway	D	2		\$ 27,610						\$ 27,610
	Install benches along pathway	D	2		\$ 6,000						\$ 6,000
	Replace restroom	R	1	\$ 200,000							\$ 200,000
	Renovate amphitheater structure and area	R	2						\$ 1,000,000		\$ 1,000,000
Ruiz Park Strip	Replace irrigation system	R	3						\$ 567,000		\$ 567,000
	Install exercise station	D	3							\$ 36,000	\$ 36,000
	Install benches along pathway	D	3							\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000
Skatepark at Sportsplex	Add shade sails over skatepark & add additional elements	D	3				\$ 130,000				\$ 130,000
Viscaya Park	Construct park as per site master plan	D	2	TBD							\$ -
Future Event Grounds	Plan & design community park / event space (50 ac)	P	1		\$ 300,000						\$ 300,000
Future Downtown plaza	Plan & design downtown plaza/park (0.36 ac)	P	2					\$ 65,000			\$ 65,000
Future Acquisitions	Neighborhood park acquisition (C: 0.2 ac)	A	1	\$ 30,000							\$ 30,000
	Neighborhood park acquisition (B: 2-3 ac)	A	1		\$ 250,000						\$ 250,000
	Neighborhood park acquisition (F: 3-4 ac)	A	2				\$ 300,000				\$ 300,000
	Neighborhood park acquisition (E: 3-4 ac)	A	3							\$ 350,000	\$ 350,000
Golf Course Trail	Install perimeter trail around course & add signage	D	2				\$ 200,000				\$ 200,000
Travers Creek Trail	Secure easements or right-of-way for alignment to S Buttonwillow Ave	A	2					\$ 60,000			\$ 60,000
	Design and construct trail (Avenue 416 to Avenue 424)	D	3							\$ 750,000	\$ 750,000
Sierra Way Trail	Design and construct trail (Golf course to Centennial Park)	D	2					\$ 600,000			\$ 600,000
ADA-compliance upgrades	Play area ramps, paved paths, curb cuts, etc.	R	1	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 40,000	\$ 100,000
Minor repairs/ replacement	Ongoing capital repairs and asset replacement	R	1	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 60,000	\$ 150,000
				\$ 597,500	\$ 1,320,610	\$ 2,120,730	\$ 2,149,569	\$ 1,098,860	\$ 2,692,735	\$ 1,239,000	\$ 11,219,004

NOTE:

This CFP identifies planning-level cost estimates and does not assume the value of volunteer or other non-City contributions. Detailed costing may be necessary for projects noted.
 For on-street or in right-of-way trail corridors, coordinate with Transportation System Plan
 This CFP is not an official budget and intended as a guiding document for City staff in the preparation of departmental budgets.

Code Activity

A Acquisition
 D Development
 R Renovation / Repair
 P Planning

Code Priority

1 High Priority
 2 Medium
 3 Low Priority



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A number of strategies exist to enhance and expand park and recreation service delivery for the City of Dinuba; however, clear decisions must be made in an environment of competing interests and limited resources. A strong community will is necessary to bring many of the projects listed in this Plan to life.

The recommendations for park and recreation services noted in this Plan may trigger the need for funding beyond current allocations and for additional staffing, operations and maintenance responsibilities. Given that the operating and capital budget of the Parks and Community Services Department is finite, additional resources may be needed to leverage, supplement and support the implementation of proposed objectives, programs and projects. While grants and other efficiencies will help, these alone will not be enough to realize many ideas and projects noted in this Plan. The following recommendations and strategies are presented to offer near-term direction to realize these projects and as a means to continue dialogue between City leadership, local residents and partners.

Additionally, a review of potential implementation tools is included as Appendix C, which addresses local financing, federal and state grant programs, acquisition methods and others.

KEY PROJECT RECOMMENDATIONS

The following is a summary of key project recommendations which will require commitment from the City and its residents to continue to support a healthy park and recreation system that preserves and enhances the safety, livability and character of the community.

Park Amenity Upgrades

The City should also consider adding the following recreation features to expand recreational opportunities beyond named park and trail project targets as funding allows:

- Restroom installation or renovation
- Shade structures for playgrounds
- Gathering spaces (picnic shelters, pavilions)
- Outdoor fitness areas
- Multi-sport courts
- Splash pad
- All-inclusive playgrounds
- Public art

A general consideration for the public is to create a park system that provides year-round facilities for all ages and all abilities to gather and recreate in diverse range of safe, clean and well-maintained park facilities that also balances fiscal stability.

Additionally, tree plantings can be used to increase shade tree canopy in active use areas, such as picnic and playground spaces as well as stormwater basin edges and park boundaries.

Sport Field Enhancements

Sport fields, while well-provided within Dinuba parks, will continue to be in demand as families continue to locate in Dinuba. Existing natural grass fields should be upgraded to meet the needs of community sports programs. Field enhancements include re-grading, re-seeding and renovating support infrastructure (i.e., scoreboards, fencing, concessions).

Event Grounds & Amphitheater

An events ground and amphitheater, sited on 50 acres east of the golf course, will create a new focal point for Dinuba and establish a larger venue for community events, performances and festivals. Rose Ann Vuich Park has traditionally served as the location for city events, but the park can no longer accommodate the size of crowds that attend. An events venue can also position Dinuba to attract larger performances and support local economic development.





Trail Connections & Linkages

Recreational path and trail connections, improvements and relationships to streets, sidewalks and bike lanes should be planned and developed as Dinuba grows. The recently prepared Pedestrian and Bicyclist Safety and Connectivity Study, along with Map 6 in this document, identified several trail projects to be accomplished to address existing gaps for bicycle and pedestrian access. The City should coordinate trail-related projects with transportation system planning or related public works projects. There may also be opportunities to explore trail development partnerships with local user groups and pursue additional trail segments and connections, as appropriate.



ADA Enhancements

Minor improvements to access, such as providing ramped entrances, for site furnishings are necessary to conform to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and ensure universal accessibility. Also, the City should evaluate the play equipment and its signage for code compliance and replace outdated equipment, as appropriate. The Capital Planning section includes a line item for covering small upgrades and improvements to remove barriers and improve universal access. In general, the City should make improvements to existing parks as needed to ensure proper maintenance, usability and quality of park features and grounds.



Recreation Programming

The City should continue to foster agreements or partnerships with potential programming partners and contract vendors as it considers its role in providing the infrastructure for a variety of recreation services within the community. There should be clearly identified areas of programmatic responsibility to ensure that there is not overlap in resource allocation or that gaps in services are not present. The City should also match its programming efforts with available staff and financial resources, recognizing that increasing the role of the Parks and Community Services Department in providing programs will require an increase in full and part-time staff.



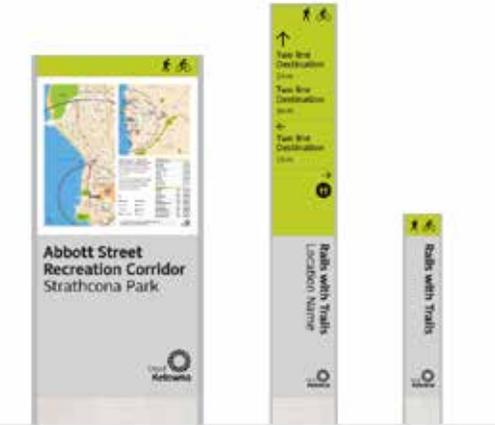
The City should continue to focus on programs that are in high demand or serve a range of users, while continuing to monitor local and regional recreation trends to ensure local needs and interests are addressed by program offerings. Additional promotions, marketing and communications about existing recreation program opportunities are necessary to improve local awareness about what is offered and will improve usage of facilities and programs.

The City also will continue its provision of special events that offer both residents and visitors the opportunity to engage in a variety of activities, fun and celebrations of Dinuba's unique character.

Community events are an important element for local identity, economic activity and social engagement that contribute to quality of life in Dinuba, and the proposed development of an event space adjacent to the golf course will provide the infrastructure to accommodate larger gatherings, events and festivals. .

Wayfinding & Signage

Parks, trails, plazas and other public open spaces are the primary targets for unifying an urban environment into a cohesive, accessible and connected community through an identifiable wayfinding program. Dinuba should expand its wayfinding program to include visual graphic standards for entry, site and trail corridor signage and site furnishing standards. Colors, sign types, and information can help users navigate the outdoor recreation experiences offered by the City.



Communications

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



Land Acquisition To Meet Growing Needs & Fill Gaps

The City must secure additional parkland to serve its population, meet its service standard and provide more accessible outdoor recreation space for the community. As residential growth and expansion into the SOI continue, opportunities to acquire sufficiently-sized sites to accommodate parks may become more difficult. Partnerships with the school district may provide opportunities to expand future school facilities in ways that may help meet community park needs. The long-term goal is to acquire sufficient acreage for two mini parks, two neighborhood parks and an event space with amphitheater to fill major gaps and have sufficiently large sites for future park development and event programming. Specific target areas are noted on Map 5.



IMPLEMENTATION TACTICS

Inter-Departmental Coordination

Internal coordination with the Public Works and Planning & Development Departments can increase the potential of discrete actions toward the implementation of the proposed recreational trail network, which relies in part on street right-of-way enhancements, and in the review of development applications with consideration toward potential parkland acquisition areas, planned trail corridors and the potential need for easement or set-aside requests.

Volunteer & Community-Based Action

Volunteers and community groups already contribute to the improvement of parks and recreation services in Dinuba. Dinuba should maintain and update a revolving list of potential small works or volunteer-appropriate projects for the website, while also reaching out to the high schools to encourage student projects. While supporting organized groups and community-minded individuals continues to add value to the Dinuba parks and recreation system, volunteer coordination requires a substantial amount of staff time, and additional resources may be necessary to more fully take advantage of the community's willingness to support park and recreation efforts.

Enhanced Local Funding

According to the City budget, Dinuba maintains reserve debt capacity for voter approved debt. Community conversations regarding the need for an event space and amphitheater and the potential to bundle several projects from the capital facilities plan warrant a review of debt implications for the City, along with the need to conduct polling of voter support for such projects.

Community Facilities District

Under the Mello-Roos Community Facilities Act of 1982, a Community Facilities District (CFD) may be used to purchase, construct, expand, rehabilitate or acquire public improvements, or provide public services. CFDs can be created to provide a funding and reimbursement mechanism for public facilities and/or services for various Specific Plan areas. Community Facilities Districts may be seen as a preferred method of financing infrastructure because no finding of special benefit for each parcel is required. They are also established to ensure that new development projects do not solely become the responsibility of the General Fund.

Park Impact Fees

Park Impact Fees (PIF) are imposed on new development to meet the increased demand for parks resulting from the new growth. PIF can only be used for parkland acquisition, planning and/or development. They cannot be used for operations and maintenance of parks and facilities. The City of Dinuba currently assesses impact fees, but the City should review its PIF ordinance and update the methodology and rate structure, as appropriate, to be best

positioned to obtain future acquisition and development financing from the planned growth of the community. The City should prioritize the usage of PIF to secure new park properties and finance park or trail development consistent with the priorities within this Plan.

Future Development

With the recent and projected growth in residential development and redevelopment, the City should encourage park and recreation elements be included within future residential development.

Parkland Donations & Dedications

Parkland donations from private individuals could occur to complement the acquisition of parklands across the city and SOI area. Gift deeds or bequests from philanthropic-minded landowners could allow for lands to come into city ownership upon the death of the owner or as a tax-deductible charitable donation. Also, parkland dedication by a developer could occur in exchange for Park Impact Fees or as part of a planned development where public open space is a key design for the layout and marketing of a new residential project. Any potential dedication should be vetted by the Department to ensure that such land is located in an area of need or can expand an existing City property and can be developed with site amenities appropriate for the projected use of the property.

Grants & Appropriations

Several state and federal grant programs are available on a competitive basis, including several offered through California State Parks (Prop 68, Land and Water Conservation Fund, Outdoor Environmental Education Facilities and Habitat Conservation Fund). Pursuing grants is not a panacea for park system funding, since grants are both competitive and often require a significant percentage of local funds to match the request to the granting agency, which depending on the grant program can be as much as 50% of the total project budget. Dinuba should continue to leverage its local resources to the greatest extent by pursuing grants independently and in cooperation with other local partners.

Appropriations from state or federal sources, though rare, can supplement projects with partial funding. State and federal funding allocations are particularly relevant on regional transportation projects, and the likelihood for appropriations could be increased if multiple partners are collaborating on projects.

Other Implementation Tools

Appendix C identifies other implementation tools, such as voter-approved funding, grants and acquisition tactics, that the City could utilize to further the implementation of the projects noted in the Capital Facilities Plan.



APPENDIX A SURVEY SUMMARY



To: Stephanie Hurtado, Community Services Director
From: Steve Duh, Conservation Technix, Inc.
Date: August 21, 2020
Re: **City of Dinuba Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update**
Community Survey Summary Results

Conservation Technix is pleased to present the results of a survey of the general population of the City of Dinuba that assesses residents' recreational needs, preferences and priorities.

SURVEY METHODOLOGY

In close collaboration with City staff, Conservation Technix developed the 17-question survey that was estimated to take approximately eight minutes to complete.

The online survey was posted to the City's website on April 27, 2020. The survey was available in English and Spanish. Information about the survey was provided on the City's website home page and on the Parks System Master Plan project page. It was promoted via multiple City Facebook posts and with flyers at city facilities. The survey was closed on August 17th, and preliminary data were compiled and reviewed. In all, 162 survey responses were received.

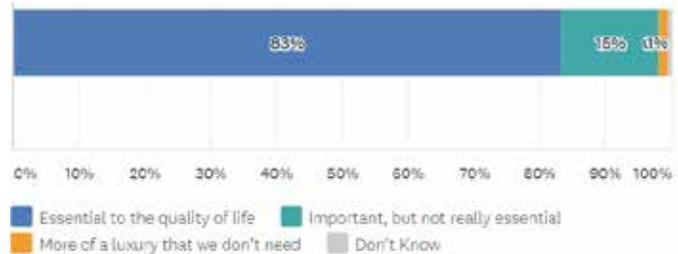
This report includes findings on general community opinions. Since the survey was open to the general public and respondents were not selected through statistical sampling methods, the results are not necessarily representative of all City residents.

Percentages in the report may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

KEY FINDINGS

Dinuba residents strongly value their parks and recreation facilities.

Nearly all respondents (94%) think parks and recreation are important to quality of life in Dinuba.



Residents visit parks frequently.

Nearly 71% of respondents visit parks or recreation facilities at least once a month. The most popular activities are walking/running and participating in community events and concerts.

Residents are generally satisfied with existing parks and recreation facilities.

A large majority of respondents (70%) are somewhat to very satisfied with the value they receive from the City of Dinuba for parks and recreation amenities. Survey respondents visit local parks and recreation facilities for a variety of reasons. The most popular activities are walking or running (55%) and participating in community events and concerts (54%).

Residents would like to see improvements made to the parks & recreation system.

A large majority of survey respondents think that Dinuba does not have enough trails and pathways (85%). Majorities responded that there are not enough indoor recreation facilities (64%) or parks with playgrounds, restrooms and active outdoor spaces (56%). Notably, a large majority of respondents (90% or more) were supportive of expanding and improving multi-use walking and biking trails, shade structures at playgrounds, picnic areas or shelters for group gatherings community events or festivals, and splash pads.

FULL RESULTS

How much do residents value parks and recreation?

Nearly all respondents (94%) feel that local parks, recreation options and open space opportunities are important or essential to the quality of life in Dinuba. Nearly seven in ten feels that they are essential, while an additional 26% believe that they are important to quality of life, but not essential. Less than 2% of respondents believe parks are 'Useful, but not necessary'.

Respondents living in the southwest area of the city (south of El Monte and west of Alta) indicated that parks and recreation opportunities are slightly more essential (80%) than other subgroups. Respondents between 35 and 44 years of age indicated that parks and recreation opportunities were 'important, but not essential' in a higher percentage (38%) and less 'essential' (58%) than other subgroups.

1. When you think about what contributes to the quality of life in Dinuba, would you say that public parks and recreation opportunities are...

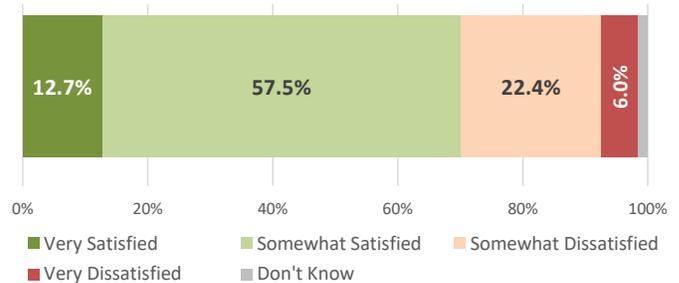
Response options	Percent	94%
Essential to the quality of life here	68.1%	
Important, but not really essential	26.1%	
Useful, but not necessary	5.1%	
Not important	0.0%	
Don't know	0.7%	

Are residents satisfied with the value they receive from the City of Dinuba?

A large majority of respondents (70%) are somewhat to very satisfied with the value they receive from the City of Dinuba for parks and recreation amenities. However, a moderate share of respondents (28%) are either somewhat or very dissatisfied.

Respondents living in the northwest area of the city (north of El Monte and west of Alta) tend to be more satisfied (86%, combined either somewhat or very satisfied). Respondents with three or more children to be less satisfied with the value provided by Dinuba's parks than older subgroups.

6. Please rate your household's satisfaction with Dinuba's parks and recreation facilities and programs.

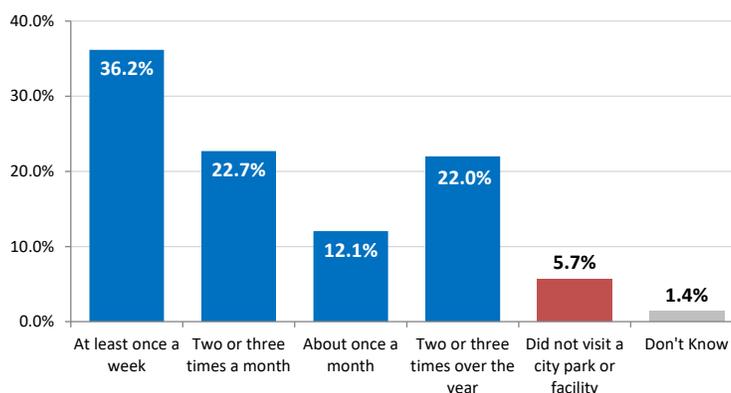


How often do residents use Dinuba’s parks & recreation facilities?

Respondents were asked how often they, or members of their household, visited a park and recreation facility in Dinuba over the past year. Respondents tend to visit frequently, with 71% visiting a park at least once per month. Approximately 36% visit at least once a week and another 35% visit one to three times per month. About one in five visits just a few times per year.

As compared to other age groups, adults between 55 and 64 are the most frequent users of Dinuba’s parks, with 55% of respondents visiting at least once a week. Respondents with two or more children visit more frequently, with 83% visiting a park at least once per month. Respondents without children tend to be less frequent users of parks.

2. How many times over the past year have you or members of your household visited a park or recreation facility in Dinuba?

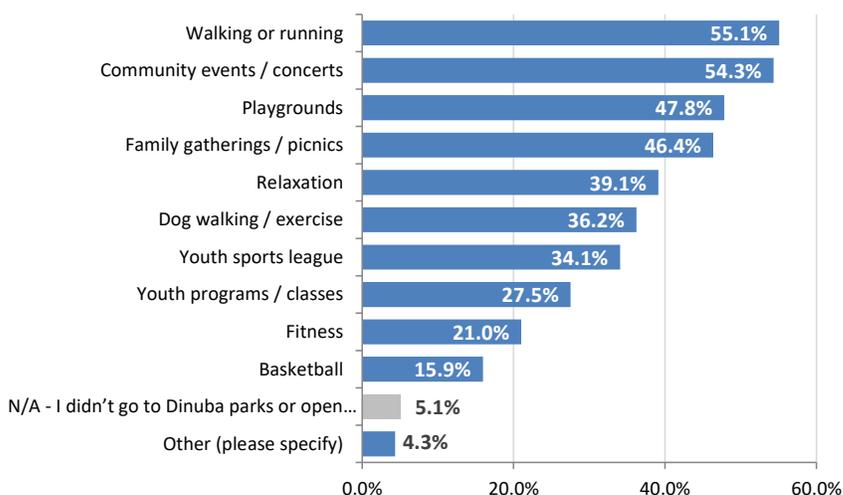


Why do residents visit parks?

Dinuba respondents visit local parks and recreation facilities for a variety of reasons. The most popular activities are walking or running (55%) and participating in community events and concerts (54%). Other popular activities include using playgrounds (48%) and visiting parks for family gatherings and picnics (46%). Fewer visited for relaxation (39%), to walk a dog (36%), or for youth sport leagues (34%). Write-in comments included soccer, biking and for the carnival.

Respondents aged 20 to 44, who were also the most likely to have children in their household, were the most likely to visit for playgrounds, family gatherings, and sport fields. Respondents between 55 and 64 visit more often for fitness.

3. What are the main reasons your household visited Dinuba’s parks, recreation facilities or open spaces in the past year?



Why don't residents visit more often?

When asked why they do not visit Dinuba's parks and recreation facilities more often, the most significant reason is the feeling that there are not enough restrooms available (37%).

However, over half of respondents selected a reason that could be addressed by the City, including lack of desired equipment (14%), crowding (9%), maintenance issues (15%), safety concerns (15%), and accessibility issues (2%). Roughly equal responses were noted for respondents who are too busy to go to parks (9%) and those who feel there is not enough parking (10%) provided at parks.

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

Reason	Percent
None (I/We use them)	38.5%
Not enough restrooms	36.9%
Do not feel safe in the park or facility	14.6%
Are not well-maintained	14.6%
Do not have the right equipment	13.8%
Not enough parking	10.0%
Too busy to go to parks and facilities	9.2%
Too crowded	8.5%
Barrier related to physical accessibility	2.3%
Other	11.5%

Note: Write-in "Other" responses which fit clearly into defined answer categories were included in those categories.

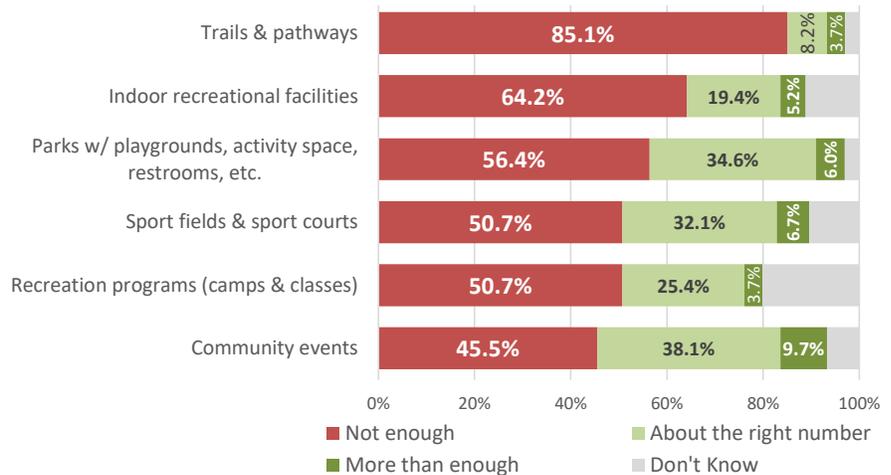
A significant number of respondents (38%) noted that none of these reasons applied to them, since they do visit parks and recreation facilities.

Respondents with children at home were more likely to cite that parks and facilities do not offer desired equipment as a reason why they do not visit more often. Respondents without children at home were more likely than those with children to cite being too busy or there being not enough parking as reasons why they do not use parks more often. Respondents over age 55, those with three or more kids and those who live in the southwest area of the city more likely to cite a lack of restrooms.

Do residents think Dinuba needs more parks and recreation opportunities?

A large majority of survey respondents think that Dinuba does not have enough trails and pathways (85%). Majorities responded that there are not enough indoor recreation facilities (64%) or parks with playgrounds, restrooms and active outdoor spaces (56%). Respondents were mostly split on the adequacy of access to sport fields and courts, recreation programs and community events with slight pluralities feeling there are not enough of each.

5. When it comes to meeting your needs for parks, amenities and activities, would you say there are...



Respondents younger than 20 and those over 55 were more likely than others to think there are not enough parks with playgrounds and active

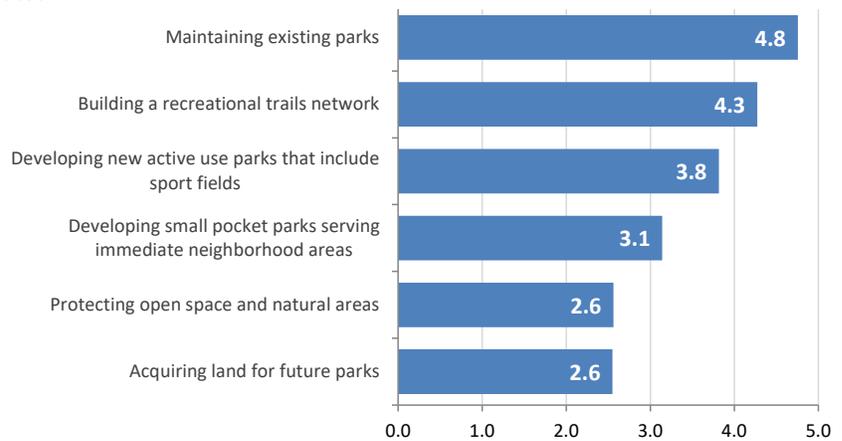
use areas. Respondents between 35 and 44 years of age were less likely to indicate a need for more sport fields and courts and for more indoor recreation facilities. Respondents who live in the southwest area were more likely than others to think there are not enough recreation programs and not enough parks with playgrounds and active use areas.

What park and facility improvements would residents prioritize?

When asked which park and recreation improvements they would like to see the City focus on, maintaining existing parks was noted as the highest priority, with 48% saying it should be the highest priority and 82% saying it is one of the top three priorities. In looking at the weighted averages of the priority rankings, respondents identified that building a recreational trail network as a priority (71%) and developing active use parks as a priority (61%).

Developing small pocket parks was a higher priority in the southwest area compared to other areas. Respondents with children placed a higher priority on developing active use parks with sport fields. Respondents over 45 years of age placed a higher priority on maintaining existing parks than other subgroups.

8. For the following list, indicate how you would rank the priority for each (Note: weighted average of rankings - higher score equals higher priority).

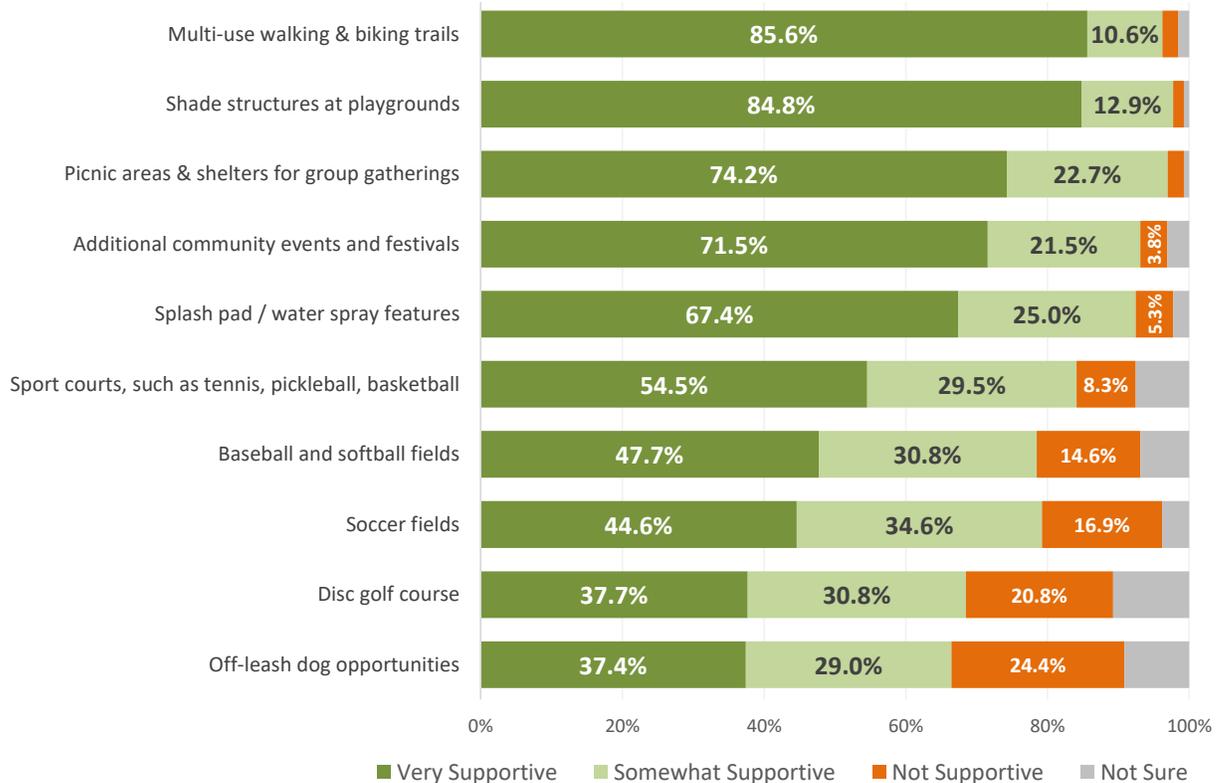


The survey also asked about residents' support for park and recreational improvements. A majority of respondents were very or somewhat supportive of expanding or improving all facilities listed.

A large majority of respondents (90% or more) were supportive of expanding and improving multi-use walking and biking trails, shade structures at playgrounds, picnic areas or shelters for group gatherings community events or festivals, and splash pads. More than half of respondents were very or somewhat supportive of all other improvements listed.

Respondents living in the southwest area of the city were more supportive than other areas of shade structures for playgrounds and additional community events. Respondents under 54 years of age were more supportive than older respondents of a disc golf course and splash pad. Respondents with children in the household were more supportive than those without children of all items listed, with two exceptions. Respondents without kids indicated a stronger interest in a disc golf course and off-leash dog areas.

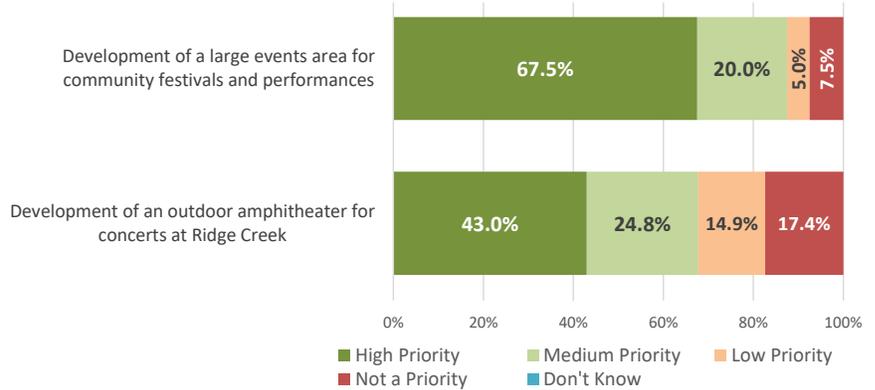
7. The following list includes park amenities that the City of Dinuba could consider adding to the park system. Please indicate whether you would be very supportive, somewhat supportive, not sure, or not supportive of each.



The survey also asked about residents' support for two specific, potential community investments: the development of a large events area for festivals and performances, and the development of an outdoor amphitheater.

A large majority (68%) of respondents noted the development of a large events area a high priority – compared to 43% of respondents for an outdoor amphitheater. Nearly 87% of respondents said the large events area was either a high or medium priority. Fewer than 8% of respondents said the large events area was not a priority for their household. Respondents with children were more supportive of both options than those without kids.

12. The City of Dinuba is exploring options for grant funding for two potential projects. For each project, indicate whether it is a High Priority, a Medium Priority, a Low Priority, or Not a Priority for your household.



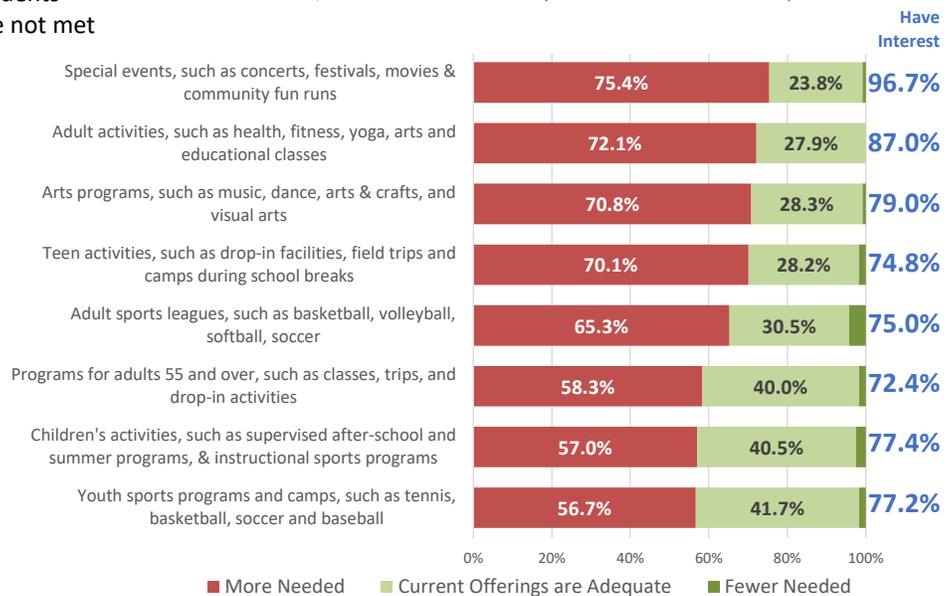
Which recreation programs and events do residents have interest in and see a need for?

Respondents were asked about their overall interest for each recreational program or amenity type, as well as how well met their need is being met locally. Majorities of respondents noted an interest every item listed, with the highest level of interest for special events (97%), adult activities (87%), and arts programs (79%).

Regarding needs for recreation programs being met, majorities of respondents identified that their needs were not met for all items listed. The program areas showing the large gaps in need are for special events (75%), adult activities (72%), arts programs (71%) and teen activities (70%). The program types serving the most needs include youth sports (43%), children's activities (43%) and programs for adults 55 and over (42%).

Respondents without children and those 55 or older were more likely to indicate an interest in programs for adults over 55.

9 & 10. Please indicate if your household has an interest in each the programs or activities below, and indicate how well your needs are met locally for each.

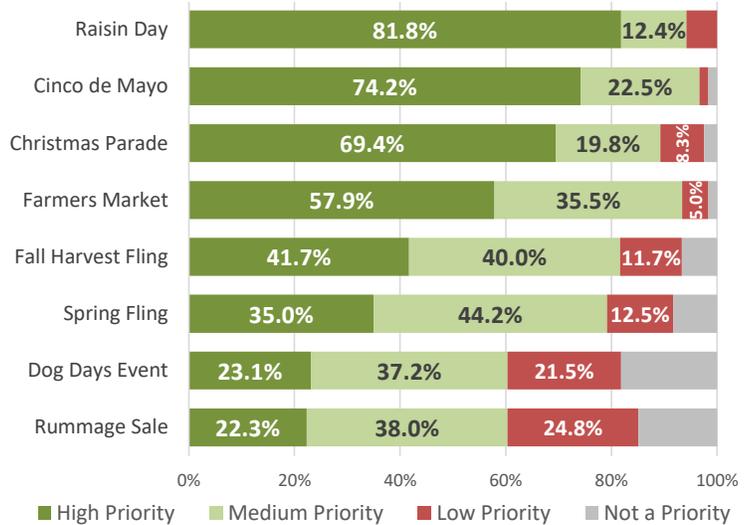


Which special events would residents prioritize?

Community events are popular among Dinuba residents. Over 90% of respondents rated Raisin Day, Cinco de Mayo, the Farmers Market and the Christmas Parade as high or medium priorities. The Raisin Day event was ranked as the highest priority (82%) of the eight events listed. The Fall Harvest Fling and the Spring Fling had roughly equal support between high priority and medium priority. The Rummage Sale event was identified as the lowest priority with nearly 25% of respondents noting it as a low priority.

Respondents with children at home were more likely to prioritize Cinco de Mayo, the Christmas Parade and the Farmers Market. No other significant differences exist between the other subgroups.

11. The City of Dinuba offers or supports many community events throughout the year that are free to the public, but utilize city staff resources and funding. Below is a list of Dinuba community events that are currently offered. For each event, indicate whether you think it is a High Priority, a Medium Priority, a Low Priority, or Not a Priority for your household.

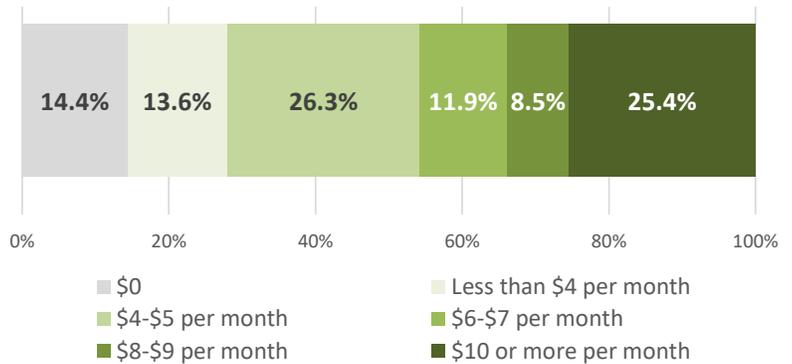


Are residents willing to pay additional taxes or fees to fund improvements to parks and recreation?

The survey asked residents what additional amount they would be willing to pay to develop and operate the types of parks and recreation programs most important to their household. Approximately 14% of residents would not be willing to pay any additional taxes to support improvements to parks and recreation. However, 40% would be willing to pay up to \$5 per month and another 20% would pay between \$6 and \$10 monthly. About 25% of respondents would be willing to pay \$10 or more per month for improved park services.

Respondents over 65 were more likely than other age groups to pay no additional amount for park and recreation services. Respondents living in the southwest area were more likely to support an amount of \$4 or less. Those living in the northeast were more likely to support an amount greater than \$10.

13. The City of Dinuba is working to find better ways to give you services, using your tax dollars for the greatest benefit. While no new property taxes or fees are currently being proposed, the costs to improve and develop parks, trails and recreation amenities may increase as the community grows and new amenities are added. Knowing this, what is the approximate additional amount you would be willing to pay to develop and operate the types of parks, trails and recreation facilities that are most important to your household?



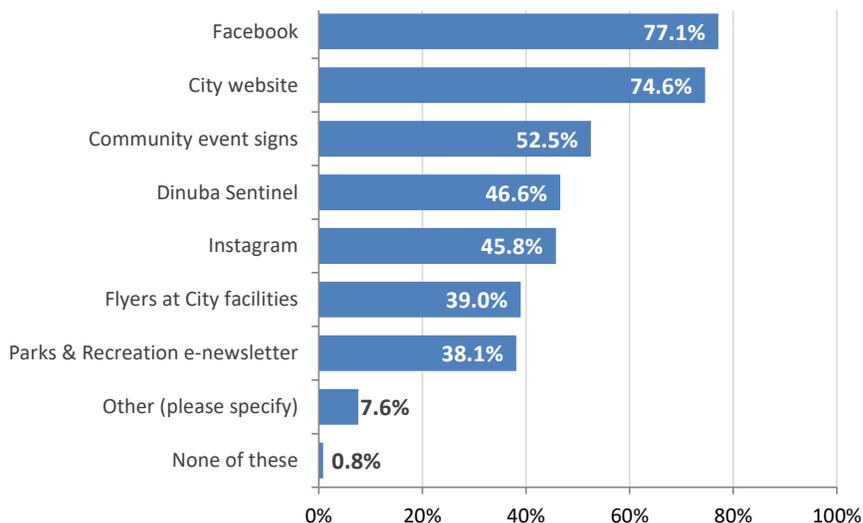
How do residents want to hear about the City’s recreational facilities, programs and events?

Large majorities of respondents would prefer to hear about City parks, facilities and events through online channels such as social media (77%) and the City’s website (75%).

Posted signs or information, such as community event signs, Instagram, or the newspaper, are also a popular source. Respondents younger than 45 years of age indicated more interest in receiving information via Instagram. No other significant differences exist between the subgroups.

Approximately 8% of respondents also wrote-in that they would like to hear about park and recreation opportunities through other means, such as direct email and from the radio.

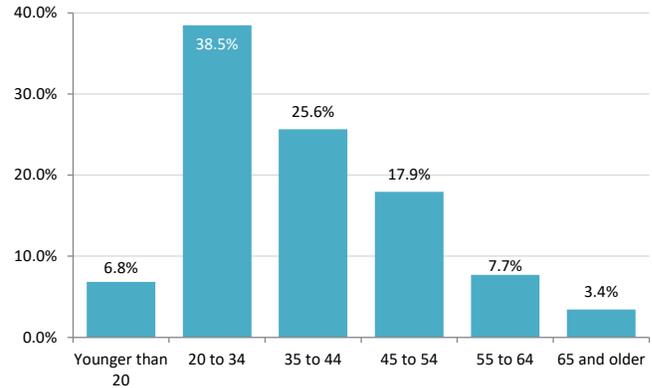
14. Please check ALL the ways you would prefer to learn about Dinuba’s parks, recreation facilities, programs and special events.



Demographics

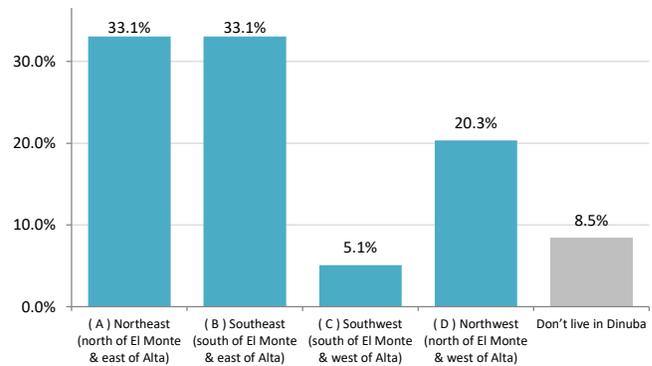
Age

The largest age group who responded to the survey were between 20 and 34 (39%). Respondents were equally split between respondents between 35 and 44 years of age (26%) and respondents between 45 and 64 years of age (26%). Six respondents were younger than 20 years of age, and only four survey respondents were over the age of 65.



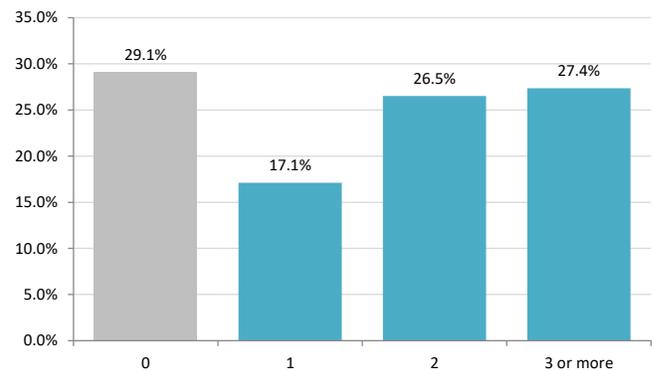
Location of Residence

Equal percentages of respondents (33%) live in either the northeast area of Dinuba (north of El Monte and east of Alta) and the southeast area (south of El Monte and east of Alta). Approximately 20% live in the northwestern portion of the city (north of El Monte and west of Alta). Another 16% live in the northwest, and approximately five percent live in the southwest. Less than nine percent of respondents do not live in Dinuba.



Number of Children in Household

Nearly half of respondents (29%) have no children in their household. These households tended to include older adults (over age 55). The remaining 71% of households have one (17%), two (27%), or three (27%) children in the home.



ATTACHMENT 1. SURVEY INSTRUMENT

(Note: The survey was designed for layout in online format for SurveyMonkey and written in English and Spanish)

1. When you think about what contributes to the quality of life on Dinuba, would you say that public parks and recreation opportunities are... (CHECK ONE OPTION)

- Essential to the quality of life here
- Important, but not essential
- Useful but not necessary
- Not important
- Don't Know

2. How many times over the past year have you or members of your household visited a park or recreation facility in Dinuba?

- At least once a week
- Two or more times a month
- About once a month
- A few times over the year
- Do not visit facilities / parks / open spaces
- Don't know

3. What are the main reasons your household visited Dinuba's parks, recreation facilities or open spaces in the past year? (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)

- Basketball
- Community events / concerts
- Dog walking / exercise
- Family gatherings / picnics
- Fitness
- Playgrounds
- Relaxation
- Walking or running
- Youth programs
- Youth sports league
- N/A - I didn't go to Dinuba parks or open spaces in the past year
- Other: _____

4. Please CHECK ALL the reasons why your household does not use Dinuba’s parks, recreation facilities or open spaces more often.

- Are not well maintained
- Barriers related to physical accessibility
- Do not have the right equipment
- Do not feel safe in park, facility or open space
- Not enough parking
- Not enough restrooms
- Too busy to go to facilities, parks, or open spaces
- Too crowded
- N/A - Does not apply to me
- Other: _____

5. When it comes to meeting your needs for parks, amenities and activities, would you say there are... (CHECK ONLY ONE BOX IN EACH ROW)

	More than Enough	About the Right Amount	Not Enough	Don't Know
Community events	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Indoor recreational facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Parks w/ playgrounds, activity space, restrooms, etc.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Recreation programs (camps & classes)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sport fields & sport courts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Trails & pathways	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

6. Please rate your household’s satisfaction with Dinuba’s parks and recreation facilities and programs.

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

7. The following list includes park amenities that the City of Dinuba could consider adding to the park system. Please indicate whether you would be very supportive, somewhat supportive, not sure, or not supportive of each.

	Very Supportive	Somewhat Supportive	Not Supportive	Not Sure
Additional community events and festivals	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Multi-use walking & biking trails	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Baseball and softball fields	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Soccer fields	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sport courts, such as tennis, pickleball, basketball	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Splash pad / water spray features	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Picnic areas & shelters for group gatherings	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Shade structures at playgrounds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Disc golf course	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Off-leash dog opportunities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

8. For each of the following services, indicate how you would rank the priority for each (1st priority is highest and 6th priority is lowest). Re-order the list by dragging each line into your preferred order of preference.

Maintaining existing parks
Developing new active use parks that include sport fields
Developing small pocket parks serving immediate neighborhood areas
Building a recreational trails network
Acquiring land for future parks
Protecting open space and natural areas

9. Please indicate if your household has an interest in each the programs or activities below.

10. Using the same list again, please indicate how well your needs are met locally for each.

	Have you participated/used in the past year?		Do you think there should be more or less of this type of activity or resource available?		
	No	Yes	More Needed	Current Offerings are Adequate	Fewer Needed
Children's activities, such as supervised after-school and summer programs, & instructional sports programs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Youth sports programs and camps, such as tennis, basketball, soccer and baseball	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teen activities, such as drop-in facilities, field trips and camps during school breaks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Adult activities, such as health, fitness, yoga, arts and educational classes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Adult sports leagues, such as basketball, volleyball, softball, soccer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Arts programs, such as music, dance, arts & crafts, and visual arts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Special events, such as concerts, festivals, movies & community fun runs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Programs for adults 55 and over, such as classes, trips, and drop-in activities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

11. The City of Dinuba offers or supports many community events throughout the year that are free to the public, but utilize city staff resources and funding. Below is a list of Dinuba community events that are currently offered. For each event, indicate whether you think it is a High Priority, a Medium Priority, a Low Priority, or Not a Priority for your household.

	High Priority	Medium Priority	Low Priority	Not a Priority
Spring Fling	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fall Harvest Fling	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Raisin Day	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Farmers Market	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cinco de Mayo	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Christmas Parade	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dog Days Event	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rummage Sale	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

12. The City of Dinuba is exploring options for grant funding for two potential projects. For each project, indicate whether it is a High Priority, a Medium Priority, a Low Priority, or Not a Priority for your household.

	High Priority	Medium Priority	Low Priority	Not a Priority
Development of an outdoor amphitheater for concerts at Ridge Creek	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Development of a large events area for community festivals and performances	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

13. The City of Dinuba is working to find better ways to give you services, using your tax dollars for the greatest benefit. While no new property taxes or fees are currently being proposed, the costs to improve and develop parks, trails and recreation amenities may increase as the community grows and new amenities are added. Knowing this, what is the approximate additional amount you would be willing to pay to develop and operate the types of parks, trails and recreation facilities that are most important to your household?

- \$10 or more per month
- \$8 - \$9 per month
- \$6 - \$7 per month
- \$4 - \$5 per month
- Less than \$4 per month
- \$0

14. Please check ALL the ways you would prefer to learn about Dinuba’s parks, recreation facilities, programs and special events.

- City website
- Community event signs
- Facebook
- Flyers at City facilities
- Instagram
- Parks & Recreation e-newsletter (specific to sports)
- Dinuba Sentinel
- None of these
- Other: _____

15. How many children under age 18 live in your household?

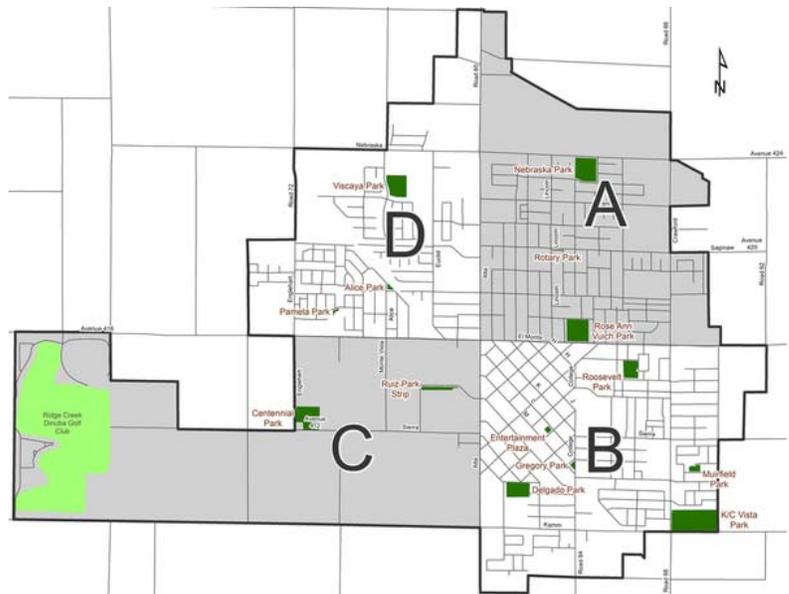
- 0
- 1
- 2
- 3 or more

16. What is your age?

- Younger than 20
- 20 to 34
- 35 to 44
- 45 to 54
- 55 to 64
- 65 and older

17. Use the map to answer the following question (scroll down). Using the map, in which section of Dinuba do you live?

- (A) Northeast (north of El Monte & east of Alta)
- (B) Southeast (south of El Monte & east of Alta)
- (C) Southwest (south of El Monte & west of Alta)
- (D) Northwest (north of El Monte & west of Alta)
- Don't live on Dinuba



ATTACHMENT 2. OPEN-ENDED SURVEY RESPONSES

Q3: Open-ended Responses – What are the main reasons your household visited Dinuba’s parks, recreation facilities or open spaces in the past year?

- Soccer
- Biking
- Carnival
- People watching on the new benches provided by the city of Dinuba
- Soccer Sunday Adult League
- Kids love going to the parks

Q4: Open-ended Responses - Please check all the reasons why your household does not use Dinuba’s parks, recreation facilities or open spaces more often.

- We live right across the street of a park and don’t go. Our kids are too old to play in playground. No restrooms, no tables.
- If I throw a party...it’s at my home
- Not enough trees/shade or walking trails. We need more vegetation that reflects our native biodiversity.
- No running space, or bike riding
- Homeless vandalism
- Not adequate sportsplex
- No shade on playground equipment
- My kids are older and there isn't much there for us to do together there... except picnic. Also, I think the land by Devito might make a nice green area with at least benches to sit and read, and maybe a pathway to walk or ride bikes, or even the dog. It's empty and not looking nice the way it is.
- At dog park many Saturday, I’ve seen beer cans laying around due to there being no light at night. No one can see them drinking in the park since there is no lighting at the dog park areas
- Hot weather
- Live in Reedley
- Sidewalk facilities leading to parks are inadequate; too narrow, broken, obstructed by trash cans/basketball hoops, etc.
- Better shaded structures are needed
- I don’t know where they are
- No seating for grown-ups while the kids play or enough shaded areas.

Q7: Open-ended Responses – The following list includes park amenities that the City of Dinuba could consider adding to the park system. Please indicate whether you would be very supportive, somewhat supportive, not sure, or not supportive of each.

- Community garden in the old Alta hospital space
- We're fine in what we have
- We need more trees and amenities that tailor towards educational needs
- Soccer sports plex like other communities have such as Oroquieta and Visalia and Reedley to name a few
- Use of schools when school is out.
- I would love to see better landscaping in parks, also water features.
- Community garden and green space on the Alta hospital vacant lot
- I would absolutely love to have a nice walking trail like Reedley has.
- WOW!! I wish we had some of this now!! Sport courts, splash pads, shade structures, and bike trails, would be so awesome!! All of this would enhance our parks.
- Live bands concerts would bring others in to spend money in our city
- City Pools to go swimming
- Improved downtown
- restrooms at all park sites
- City owned swimming pool
- Clean restrooms

Q14: Open-ended Responses - Please check all the ways you would prefer to learn about Dinuba's parks, recreation facilities, programs and special events?

- Email
- Thank you for the phone calls. We've appreciated the updates. That's how I learned about the survey.
- Put on ed dinas big sign pictures and dates and times for all events
- Friends
- Email subscription
- Social media is the key in this generation
- Radio
- Flyer mailed to the house
- Pamphlet on the water bill

A photograph of a park with a winding concrete path, trees, and a grassy field under a blue sky. The path is made of light-colored concrete and curves through a green lawn. In the background, there are several trees, some with yellowing leaves, and a few parked cars. The sky is clear and blue.

APPENDIX B RECREATION TRENDS

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

2019 NRPA AGENCY PERFORMANCE REVIEW

The 2019 NRPA report summarizes the key findings from the National Recreation and Park Association's NRPA Park Metrics, their benchmarking tool that assists park and recreation professionals in the effective management and planning of their operating resources and capital facilities. The report offers a comprehensive collection of park- and recreation-related benchmarks and insights to inform professionals, key stakeholders and the public about the state of the park and recreation industry. The 2019 NRPA Agency Performance Review contains data from 1,075 unique park and recreation agencies across the United States as reported between 2016 and 2018.

Key Findings and Characteristics:

Park Facilities

- There is typically one park for every 2,181 residents.
- The typical park and recreation agency has 10.0 acres of park land for every 1,000 residents in its jurisdiction.
- An overwhelming majority of park and recreation agencies has playgrounds (94.4%) and basketball courts (86.1%) in their portfolio of outdoor assets.
- A majority of agencies offers community centers and recreation centers; two in five agencies offer senior centers.

Programming

- Key programming activities include team sports, social recreation events, fitness enhancement classes and health and wellness education.
- 82.4% of agencies offer summer camp for their community's younger residents.

Staffing

- The typical park and recreation agency has a payroll of 38.2 full-time equivalent staff (FTE's).
- The typical park and recreation agency has 8.3 FTEs on staff for each 10,000 residents in its jurisdiction.
- Operations and maintenance, programming and administration are the main responsibilities of park and recreation workers.

Budget/Finance

- The typical park agency has annual operating expenditures of \$3,834,500.
- The typical park and recreation agency has annual operating expenses of \$78.69 on a per capita basis.
- The median level of operating expenditures is \$6,750 per acre of park and non-park sites managed by the agency.
- The typical park and recreation agency spends \$93,230 in annual operating expenditures for each employee.
- At the typical park and recreation agency, personnel services account for 54.9% of the operating budget.
- The typical park and recreation agency dedicates 44.3% of its operating budget to park management and maintenance and 41.8% to recreation.

Agency Funding

- Park and recreation agencies derive 59.3% of their operating expenditures from general fund tax support.
- The typical park and recreation agency generates \$20.11 in revenue annually for each resident in the jurisdiction.
- The typical park and recreation agency recovers 27.3% of its operating expenditures from non-tax revenues.
- Park and recreation agencies will spend a median of \$4,007,250 million in capital expenditures over the next five years.
- On average, just over half of the capital budget is designated for renovation, while 30.9% is aimed at new development.

Park facilities differ greatly across the local and regional park and recreation agencies in America. The typical agency participating in the NRPA park metric survey serves a jurisdiction of 39,183 people but population size can vary widely. The typical park and recreation agency has jurisdiction over 19 parks comprising a total of 432.5 acres. Park facilities also have a range of service levels in terms of acres of parkland per population and residents per park. These metrics are categorized by the agency's population size.

Figure D1. Median Residents per park based on Population Size

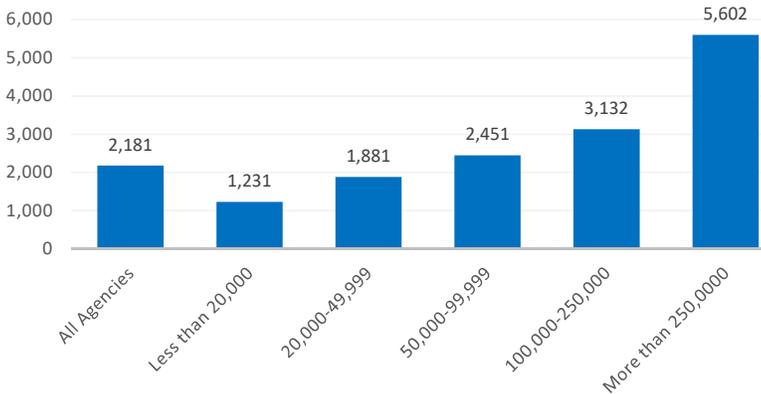
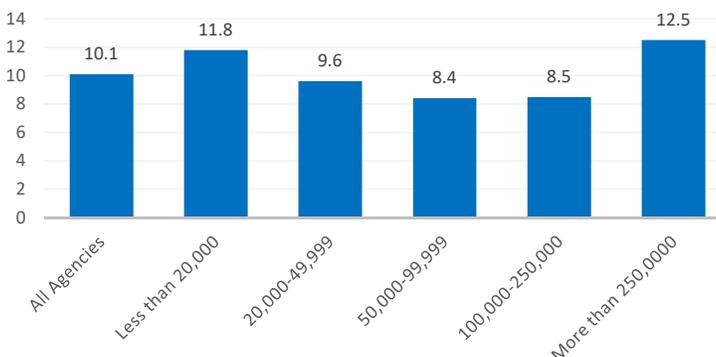


Figure D2. Acres of Parkland per 1,000 Residents based on Population Size



The typical park and recreation agency that manages or maintains trails for walking, hiking, running and/or biking has 11.0 miles of trails. Agencies serving more than 250,000 residents have a median of 82.0 miles of trails under their care.

Park and recreation agencies take on many responsibilities beyond their traditional roles of operating parks and related facilities (96%) and providing recreation programming and services (93%). In addition to those two core functions, the key responsibilities for park and recreation agencies are listed in the table below, based on percent of agencies.

Figure D3. Key Responsibilities of park and Recreation Agencies

Key P&R Responsibilities	Percent of Agencies
Operate and maintain indoor facilities	87%
Operate, maintain or manage trails, greenways and/or blueways	78%
Conduct major jurisdiction-wide special events	76%
Operate, maintain or manage special purpose parks and open spaces	71%
Include in its operating budget the funding for planning and development functions	67%
Operate and maintain non-park sites	65%
Operate , maintain or contract outdoor swim facilities/water parks	59%
Administer or manage tournament/event quality outdoor sports complexes	57%
Operate, maintain or contract tennis center facilities	51%
Administer community gardens	40%

Other responsibilities of park and recreation agencies can include golf courses, tourist attractions, outdoor amphitheaters, indoor swim facilities, farmer’s markets, indoor sports complexes, campgrounds, performing arts center, stadium/arena/racetrack, and/or fairgrounds.

Beyond the comparative metrics of park and recreation agencies, the NRPA performance report also noted trends that have significant impact on agency performance. The report predicts that investments in park infrastructure will rise in 2019-2020 thanks to increased revenues from local tax receipts. As a result, park and recreation agencies - regardless of size, location, population served or budget - will likely be able to plan for and construct more recreation facilities. The growth of new recreation facilities and capital improvements will result in positive impacts on local, regional and state economies.

Technology will continue to have influence on parks from monitoring systems and beacon counters to biometric identification systems. Questions of data security will remain paramount as these technologies become less expensive and more prevalent. Recreational and commercial scale drones are more prevalent and both the advantage for imaging, mapping and monitoring and the potential for disruptive uses will become factors in application and management.

The consolidation of public services continues to affect park and recreation agencies. The potential opportunity to reduce costs and allow for greater efficiencies may pressure governments to combine park facilities with public schools or consolidate with public works. This trend can present both opportunities and threats to the efficient and effective functioning of park and recreation services.

Emerging trends will continue to encourage park and recreation providers to become more nimble and more adaptable to the ever changing conditions and public expectations for sustained high-level performance. Agencies must be proactive in assessing their position and be fully grounded in reliable data about their investments, operations and tangible results.

THE STATE OF THE INDUSTRY REPORT

Recreation Management magazine's 2017 State of the Industry Report summarizes the opinions and information Recreation Management magazine's 2018 State of the Managed Recreation Industry report summarizes the opinions and information provided by a wide range of professionals (with an average 21.3 years of experience) working in the recreation, sports and fitness facilities. The 2018 report indicated that many (86.6%) recreation, sports and fitness facility owners form partnerships with other organizations, as a means of expanding their reach, offering additional programming opportunities or as a way to share resources and increase funding. Local schools are shown as the most common partner (61.3%) for all facility types. Parks and recreation organizations (95.8%) were the most likely to report that they had partnered with outside organizations.

Survey respondents from urban communities are more optimistic about positive changes to revenues, while rural respondents are not. In 2018, 41 percent of respondents said that revenues increased from 2016 to 2017, while 11.1% reported a decrease. Looking forward from 2018 to 2019, 50 percent of urban respondents expect revenues to increase, and just 4.3 percent project a decrease.

In last year's report, parks respondents had reported increases in their average operating expenditures with operating costs that grew by 58% between fiscal 2013 and fiscal 2016. After a significant increase in operating expenditures in fiscal 2016, costs have fallen again in 2017, and are expected to rise more steadily over the next two years, though not to the high reported last year. From 2017 to 2018, respondents said they expect their operating expenses to increase by 1.7 percent, followed by a further increase of 4.9 percent projected in fiscal 2019. The greatest decrease (16.8%) in average operating costs from 2016 to 2017 was reported by parks and recreation respondents.

Relative to costs and revenues, few facilities covered by the survey reported that they cover more than 90 percent of their operating costs via revenue. The percentage recovered varied with type of organization with the average percentage of costs recovered for all respondents hovering near 50%. For parks, the cost recovery rate increased from 43.4 % to 43.9 % from 2017 to 2018.

Over the past decades, public parks and recreation departments and districts have faced a growing expectation that facilities can be run like businesses. Many local facilities are expected to recover much of their operating costs via revenues. While this is the business model of for-profit facilities like health clubs, it's a relatively recent development for publicly owned facilities, which have typically been subsidized via tax dollars and other funding sources. Most recreation providers (80.5%) have been taking actions to reduce expenditures. Cost recovery actions typically involve reduction in expenses with improving energy efficiency as the most common action (48.3% of respondents). Increased fees and staffing cost reductions and putting off construction or renovation plans were reported as other common methods for reducing operating costs.

Utilization of recreation facilities has shown steady increases by the majority of respondents. Looking forward, more than half of respondents expect to see further increases in the number of people using their facilities. The expectation is that this trend will continue in the next two years.

This year saw a fairly significant drop in the average number of people employed at the organizations covered by the survey. After several years of steady growth, to a high of 147.6 employees in 2017, the average number of employees dropped by 21.7% in the past year. On average, this year's survey respondents employ 28.2 full-time workers, 39.8 part-time employees, 44.8 seasonal workers, 43.2 volunteers, and 9.1 employees of some other designation. In 2018, more than three-quarters (77.7%) of respondents said they plan to maintain existing staff levels, up from 57% in 2017.

A majority of respondents (83.2%) require certifications for some of their staff members to help measure and verify specific types of professional knowledge and skill. Of those respondents that require certification, the most common types of certification required included CPR/AED/First Aid (required by 90.3% of those who said they require some staff members to be certified), background checks (83.4%), and lifeguard certification (56.3%).

Over the past five years, the percentage of respondents who indicate that they have plans for construction, whether new facilities or additions or renovations to their existing facilities, has grown steadily, from 62.7 percent in 2013 to 69.5 percent in 2018. Construction plans of all kinds are most common among camps and parks. For camp respondents, 47.1 percent are planning new facilities, 45.9 percent are planning additions, and 60 percent are planning renovations. They were followed by parks, 33.9 percent of whom have plans for new construction, 32.6 percent for additions, and 57.7 percent for renovations.

Parks saw modest increases to their construction budgets from 2016 to 2018, with respondents expecting to see increases of 13.5%. Public organizations saw the sharpest increase to their construction budgets from 2016 to 2018, with an increase of 28.7 percent, from \$3,877,000 in 2016 to \$4,990,000 in 2018.

Parks respondents were more likely than other facility types to include: playgrounds (86.7% of parks respondents had playgrounds); park shelters (80%); park restroom structures (75.6%); outdoor sports courts (74.4%); community and multipurpose centers (58.4%); bike trails (46.4%); skate parks (41.1%); dog parks (38.8%); community gardens (33.7%); disc golf courses (32.9%); fitness trails and outdoor fitness equipment (32.6%); splash play areas (30.7%); golf courses (19.9%); ice rinks (17.6%); waterparks (16.8%); and bike/BMX parks (11.4%).

Park respondents (56.2%) reported plans to add features at their facilities. The top 10 planned features for all facility types include:

1. Splash play areas (23.6%)
2. Synthetic turf sports fields (17%)
3. Fitness trails and/or outdoor fitness equipment (16.4%)
4. Fitness centers (16.3%)
5. Walking/hiking trails (15.5%)
6. Playgrounds (15.2%)
7. Park shelters (13.6%)
8. Dog parks (13.5%)
9. Exercise studios (12.9%)
10. Disc golf courses (12.9%)

Respondents from community centers, parks and health clubs were the most likely to report that they had

plans to add programs at their facilities over the next few years. The 10 most commonly planned program additions in 2018 include:

1. Fitness programs (planned by 25.9% of those who will be adding programs)
2. Educational programs (25.7%)
3. Mind-body balance programs (23.3%)
4. Teen programs (22.7%)
5. Environmental education (20.7%)
6. Day camps and summer camps (20.3%)
7. Special needs programs (18.9%)
8. Adult sports teams (18.5%)
9. Holidays and other special events (18.3%)
10. Individual sports activities (17.5%)

While in general, overall budgets are the top concern for most respondents, equipment and facility maintenance lead the issues of budgetary challenges with staffing as the second most common concern. Marketing, safety/risk management, and creating new and innovative programming are continuing challenges for facility managers. Current concerns on the rise in 2018 include older adult fitness and wellness, legislative issues, environmental and conservation issues and social equity and access.

THE OUTDOOR PARTICIPATION REPORT

According to 2018 Outdoor Participation Report, published by the Outdoor Foundation in Boulder, Colorado, more than 146.1 million Americans (49%) participated in an outdoor activity at least once in 2017. These outdoor participants went on a total of 10.9 billion outdoor outings, a decrease from 11.0 billion in 2016. Participation in outdoor recreation, team sports and indoor fitness activities vary by an individual's age. Recent trend highlights include the following:

- Twenty percent (20%) of outdoor enthusiasts participated in outdoor activities at least twice per week.
- Running, including jogging and trail running, was the most popular activity among Americans when measured by number of participants and by number of total annual outings.
- Nineteen percent (19%) outdoor participants lived in the South Atlantic region of the US, making its population the most active in outdoor activities.
- Walking for fitness was the most popular crossover activity where 45.8% of all outdoor participants also walked.
- Data shows that adults who were introduced to the outdoors as children were more likely to participate in outdoor activities during adulthood than those who were not exposed to the outdoors as children.
- The biggest motivator for outdoor participation was getting exercise.

Favorite activities and participation rates range with demographics. In 2017, the average participant had 15 years of experience enjoying outdoor recreation. The data shows, as would be expected, that the amount of experience increased as the participant aged. Those ages 45 and up averaged 25 years as outdoor participants.

SPORTS, FITNESS & LEISURE ACTIVITIES TOPLINE PARTICIPATION REPORT

Prepared by a partnership of the Sports and Fitness Industry Association (SFIA) and the Physical Activity Council (PAC), this 2018 participation report establishes levels of activity and identifies key trends in sports, fitness, and recreation in the US. The largest focus of activities continues to be toward fitness sports. Winter sports gained the most of all categories, increasing 2% over the last year. The interest in activities has started moving toward outdoor recreation. The top aspirational activity for all age segments was outside, ranging from camping to biking to birdwatching.

Fitness sports/activities continues to have the highest participation rates; having 64% of the US population ages 6 and over engaging in activities like running/jogging, high intensity/impact training, row machines, and swimming. Outdoor activities remained second but was flat from 2016; seeing an increase in day hiking and backpacking, but lost participants in canoeing and adventure racing.

While age clearly affects how often someone participates, what they do can also be age dependent. Young kids, ages 6 to 17, who tend to be more active overall, focus on team sports and outdoor activities. While Boomers prefer fitness activities, especially low impact such as aquatic exercise, cycling, and walking. Millennials are more likely than the other generations to participate in water sports, such as stand up paddling, boardsailing, and surfing.

Inactivity rates remain higher than 10 years ago despite the promotion of the benefits of an active lifestyle. Over a quarter of the US population (ages 6 and over) did not participate in even the lowest caloric activity in 2017. Trends continue to show how income affects inactivity. Generally, the affluent are getting more active while the less affluent are becoming more inactive.

Despite aspirations to become more active, the biggest influence on engaging more participants is having a friend or family member to take part in the physical activity. First time participation depends on who you are doing it with more than if you have the time.

NATIONAL SURVEY ON RECREATION AND THE ENVIRONMENT

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

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

AMERICANS ENGAGEMENT WITH PARKS SURVEY (FROM NRPA)

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

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

Key Findings:

- Americans on average visit their local park and recreation facilities approximately 29 times a year, with 3 in 5 saying their most recent visit was within the past month.
- Three in four Americans agree that the NRPA Three Pillars of Conservation, Health and Wellness, and Social Equity represent what they see as the priorities for their local park and recreation agency.
- Nine in 10 Americans agree that parks and recreation are important services delivered by their local government.
- Seven in 10 Americans say they are more likely to vote for local politicians who make park and recreation funding a priority.
- Three-quarters of Americans support increased local government spending for park and recreation agencies with solid support for a nearly 30 percent increase in funding for local park and recreation agencies.

CALIFORNIA STATEWIDE COMPREHENSIVE OUTDOOR RECREATION PLAN

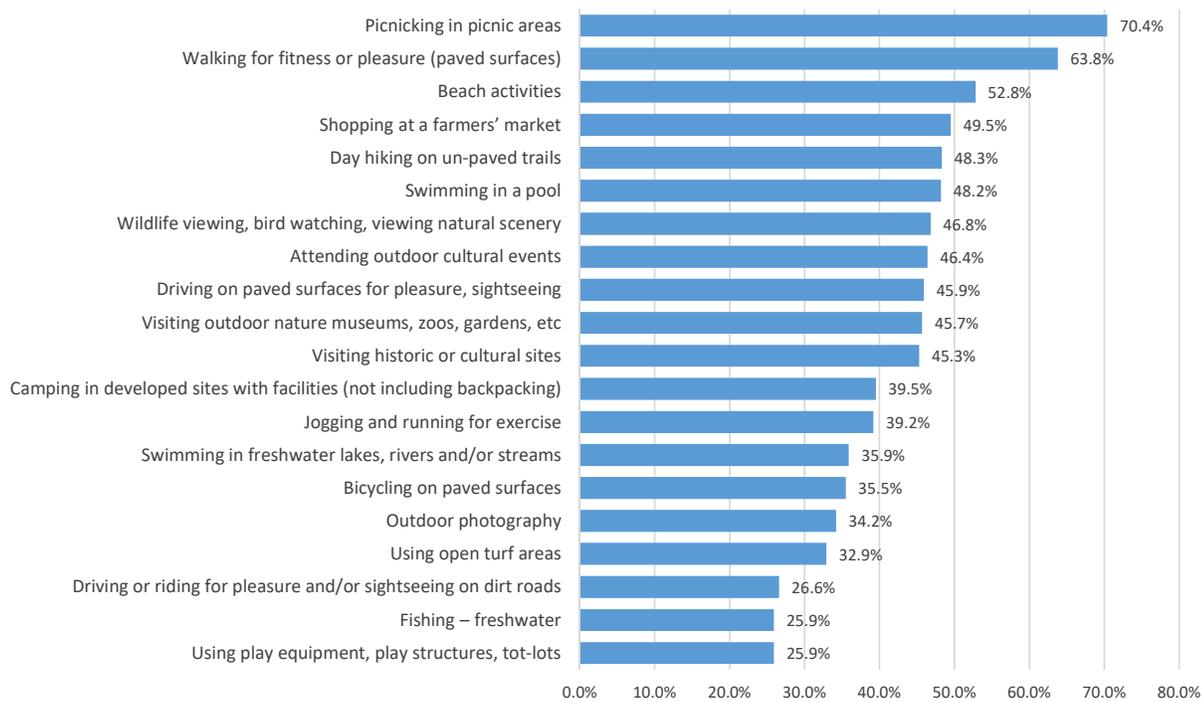
The 2015 California Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) provides a statewide framework for actions to meet the state's outdoor recreation needs. The SCORP is developed by the California Department of Parks and Recreation and is based on public input and an assessment of statewide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

The SCORP recognizes that parks and recreation:

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

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

Figure A. Top 20 Recreational Activities by Participation Rates (2015 CA Scorp)



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

The 14-county Central Valley Region with dry Mediterranean climate, includes Tulare and Fresno counties and is known for its productive agriculture of fruits, vegetables and nuts.

As in all regions of the state, unemployment increased overall from 1999-2009. The 2010 population of nearly six million is expected to almost double by 2060, representing the biggest increase in sheer numbers as well as percentage among regions.

Ethnically, the region’s population in 2010 was about 40% Hispanic and about 42% white. By 2060, Hispanics will represent almost half of the population, and about one-third will be white.

Age-group distribution in 2010 was about the same as statewide; by 2060, the region is projected to have the highest percentage of residents aged 5-17 among regions.

Actions assigned the top rank of “1” in the Central Valley region are to:

- Fund outdoor recreation opportunities that meet the activity preferences of youth participants.
- Fund sufficient recreation facilities in anticipation of population growth.
- Fund projects that create opportunities for low- or no-cost outdoor recreation activities.

CALIFORNIA OUTDOOR RECREATION ECONOMY (2017)

The Outdoor Industry Association produces reports on the outdoor recreation economy for the entire country and for each state. The most recent OIA report reveals that at least 56% of California residents participate in outdoor recreation each year. This figure does not include the participants in hunting, fishing and wildlife viewing which are estimated separately. The report states “Americans want and deserve access to a variety of quality places to play and enjoy the great outdoors. Outdoor recreation can grow jobs and drive the economy if we manage and invest in parks, waters and trails as an interconnected system designed to sustain economic dividends for America.” In California, outdoor recreation generates \$92 billion in consumer spending, creates 691,000 direct California jobs, generates \$30.4 billion in wages and salaries and results in \$6.2 billion in state and local tax revenue. The report demonstrates that outdoor recreation can grow jobs and drive the economy through management and investment in parks, waters and trails as an interconnected system designed to sustain economic dividends for citizens. Preserving access to outdoor recreation protects the economy, the businesses, the communities and the people who depend on the ability to play outside.



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A group of people are working in a community garden. In the foreground, a person in a white jacket and blue pants is tending to a raised wooden garden bed filled with soil and small green plants. In the background, several other people are working at another raised bed. The garden is situated in a backyard with a wooden fence and trees. A blue semi-transparent banner is overlaid on the image, containing the title text.

APPENDIX C IMPLEMENTATION TOOLS & TACTICS

LOCAL FUNDING OPTIONS

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

GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND

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

1975 QUIMBY ACT

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

1987 MITIGATION FEE ACT

The 1987 Mitigation Fee Act (AB1600 et seq.) enables the establishment of a development impact fee program that sets a monetary extraction in connection with an approval of a development project for the specific purpose of defraying all or a portion of the cost of public facilities directly related to that development project. The Mitigation Fee Act allows for fees to be charged to all new development that increases the need for capital facilities. These park impact fees can apply to new residential and

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

COMMUNITY FACILITIES DISTRICT

Under the Mello-Roos Community Facilities Act of 1982, a Community Facilities District (CFD) may be used to purchase, construct, expand, rehabilitate or acquire public improvements, or provide public services. CFDs can be created to provide a funding and reimbursement mechanism for public facilities and/or services for various Specific Plan areas. Community Facilities Districts may be seen as a preferred method of financing infrastructure because no finding of special benefit for each parcel is required. They are also established to ensure that new development projects do not solely become the responsibility of the General Fund.

SPECIAL TAX

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

UTILITY USER TAXES, TRANSIENT OCCUPANCY TAXES, AND BUSINESS LICENSE TAXES

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

TRANSACTION AND USE TAXES

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

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA)

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

FEDERAL / STATE GRANTS & CONSERVATION PROGRAMS

RIVERS, TRAILS, AND CONSERVATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

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

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

RECREATIONAL TRAILS PROGRAM GRANT

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

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

LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND

The Land and Water Conservation Fund is a federal program that provides grants for planning and acquiring outdoor recreation areas and facilities, including trails. The fund is administered by the California State Parks Department. Cities, counties, and districts authorized to acquire and develop park and recreation space are eligible for grant funding. Projects must be consistent with the outdoor recreation goals and objectives stated in the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan and elements of local comprehensive land use

plans and park master plans. A 50% match is required from all successful applicants of non-federal funds, in-kind services and/or materials.

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

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

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANTS

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

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

PROPOSITION 68 STATEWIDE PARK PROGRAM

Statewide Park Program (SPP) competitive grants will create new parks and new recreation opportunities in critically underserved communities across California. A project must involve either development or a combination of acquisition and development to create a new park, or expand an existing park, or renovate an existing park. All projects must create or renovate at least one recreation feature. Applications where the majority of the total project cost is for a major support amenity will be less competitive. Projects should create a new recreation opportunity(ies) as the primary goal. There is no matching fund requirement. Eligible applicants include cities, counties, qualifying districts or non-profit organizations.

https://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=29939

PROPOSITION 1 RESTORATION GRANT PROGRAMS

Proposition 1 provides funding to meet California Water Action Plan objectives of more reliable water supplies, restoration of important species and habitat, and more resilient, sustainably managed water resources system. The program is administered by the California Department of Fish & Wildlife. The Watershed Restoration Grant Program focuses on water quality, river, and watershed protection and restoration projects of statewide importance outside of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. To date, the CDFW Proposition 1 Restoration Grant Programs awarded over \$75 million to 68 multi-benefit ecosystem restoration and protection projects.

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

CALIFORNIA RIVER PARKWAYS GRANT PROGRAM

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

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

THE ROADS AND TRAILS PROGRAM

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

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

HABITAT CONSERVATION FUND

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

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

CALIFORNIA STATE PARKS OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION - LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE

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

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

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

ENVIRONMENTAL ENHANCEMENT AND MITIGATION FUNDS

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

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

BICYCLE TRANSPORTATION ACCOUNT PROGRAM

The Bicycle Transportation Account (BTA) is an annual program providing state funds for city and county projects that improve safety and convenience for bicycle commuters. In accordance with the California Bicycle Transportation Act, projects must be designed and developed to achieve the functional commuting

needs and physical safety of all bicyclists. Local agencies first establish eligibility by preparing and adopting a Bicycle Transportation Plan (BTP) that complies with SHC Section 891.2. The BTP must be approved by the local agency's Regional Transportation Planning Agency.

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

COMMUNITY BASED TRANSPORTATION PLANNING GRANT PROGRAM

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

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

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE GRANT PROGRAM

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

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

CAL FIRE URBAN FOREST EXPANSION AND IMPROVEMENT GRANT

The purpose of this grant is to provide funding for projects that will plant trees and vegetation to reduce GHG emissions and improve functionality of urban forests, arrest the decline of urban forest resources, address climate change resilience, improve the quality of the environment in urban areas, and optimize co-benefits to urban residents. Eligible applicants include cities, counties, qualifying districts or non-profit organizations. For projects that meet the criteria for benefiting a disadvantaged community and are determined by CAL FIRE Urban and Community Forestry staff to be successfully completed are eligible to receive up to two maintenance cycles (locally established cycle) of funding for ongoing tree and plant care and maintenance in the post-performance period.

calfire.ca.gov/resource_mgt/resource_mgt_urbanforestry_grants

RELEAF GRANTS

California ReLeaf provides pass-through grants to ReLeaf Network Members and other community groups interested in planting and caring for trees in California. The purpose of these programs is to meet the critical need of creating and sustaining healthy communities in California by providing funding for an array of urban forestry efforts, ranging from education and outreach to tree-planting projects.

<https://californiareleaf.org/programs/grants/>

OTHER METHODS & FUNDING SOURCES

PRIVATE GRANTS, DONATIONS & GIFTS

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

CALIFORNIA TRAILS AND GREENWAYS FOUNDATION

The foundation assists California State Parks with the Annual State Trails and Greenways Conference, sponsors the Trail Champion Award, and provides grant funding to non-profit groups for trail and greenway projects. The grant program appropriates \$5,000 annually and is open to 501(c)3 organizations that can use the funds to further their goals for trails and greenways in their community.

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

KAISER PERMANENTE - COMMUNITY BENEFIT PROGRAMS

These programs work with community-based organizations, public agencies, businesses and residents to translate their vision for healthy communities into visible, concrete changes — and ultimately healthier neighborhoods. Kaiser has several assistance programs that encompass support for Environmental Stewardship, Community Health Initiatives, Every Body Walk!, and Physical Activity Guiding Principles.

<https://about.kaiserpermanente.org/community-health/about-community-health/charitable-contributions>

BUSINESS SPONSORSHIPS/DONATIONS

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

INTERAGENCY AGREEMENTS

State law provides for interagency cooperative efforts between units of government. Joint acquisition, development and/or use of park and open space facilities may be provided between Parks, Public Works and utility providers.

ACQUISITION TOOLS & METHODS

DIRECT PURCHASE METHODS

Market Value Purchase

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

Partial Value Purchase (or Bargain Sale)

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

Life Estates & Bequests

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

Gift Deed

When a landowner wishes to bequeath their property to a public or private entity upon their death, they can record a gift deed with the county assessors office to insure their stated desire to transfer their property to the targeted beneficiary as part of their estate. The recording of the gift deed usually involves the tacit agreement of the receiving party.

Option to Purchase Agreement

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

Right of First Refusal

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

Conservation and/or Access Easements

Through a conservation easement, a landowner voluntarily agrees to sell or donate certain rights associated with his or her property (often the right to subdivide or develop), and a private organization or public agency agrees to hold the right to enforce the landowner's promise not to exercise those rights. In essence, the rights are forfeited and no longer exist. This is a legal agreement between the landowner and the city that permanently limits uses of the land in order to conserve a portion of the property for public use or protection. The landowner still owns the property, but the use of the land is restricted. Conservation easements may result in an income tax deduction and reduced property taxes and estate taxes. Typically, this approach is used to provide trail corridors where only a small portion of the land is needed or for the strategic protection of natural resources and habitat. Through a written purchase and sale agreement, the city purchases land at the present market value based on an independent appraisal. Timing, payment of real estate taxes and other contingencies are negotiable.

Park or Open Space Dedication Requirements

Local governments have the option to require developers to dedicate land for parks under the State Subdivision Law (Ch. 58.17 RCW) and the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) (Ch. 43.21C RCW). Under the subdivision law developers can be required to provide the parks/recreation improvements or pay a fee in lieu of the dedicated land and its improvements. Under the SEPA requirements, land dedication may occur as part of mitigation for a proposed development's impact.

LANDOWNER INCENTIVE MEASURES

Density Bonuses

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

Transfer of Development Rights

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

IRC 1031 Exchange

If the landowner owns business or investment property, an IRC Section 1031 Exchange can facilitate the exchange of like-kind property solely for business or investment purposes. No capital gain or loss is recognized under Internal Revenue Code Section 1031 (see www.irc.gov for more details). This option may be a useful tool in negotiations with an owner of investment property, especially if the tax savings offset to the owner can translate to a sale price discount for the City.

OTHER LAND PROTECTION OPTIONS

LAND TRUSTS & CONSERVANCIES

Land trusts are private non-profit organizations that acquire and protect special open spaces and are traditionally not associated with any government agency. The Sequoia Riverlands Trust is the regional land trust serving the Dinuba area (www.sequoiariverlands.org). Other national organizations with local representation include the Nature Conservancy, Trust for Public Land, Western Rivers Conservancy and the Wilderness Land Trust.

REGULATORY MEASURES

A variety of regulatory measures are available to local agencies and jurisdictions. Available programs and regulations include: Critical Areas Ordinance, Dinuba; State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA); Shorelines Management Program; and Hydraulic Code, Washington State Department of Fisheries and Department of Wildlife.

PUBLIC/PRIVATE UTILITY CORRIDORS

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



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A tall, white, cylindrical water tower with a blue and white logo at the top. The logo features the word "LINUBA" in large, bold, blue letters, with the tagline "Together, A Better Community" in smaller blue text below it. The tower is set against a clear blue sky with a few wispy clouds.

APPENDIX D

SUMMARY OF PAST PLANS

PARKS & RECREATION MASTER PLAN 1992

Approved in 1992, the Parks and Recreation Element was added and the Open Space Element amended into the City's General Plan. The adopted Parks and Recreation Master Plan inventoried the existing facilities and their improvement needs and determined the need for future parks and facilities. Seven existing parks and six existing schools (their sport and playground amenities) were assessed for existing conditions. The City's recreation programming was also evaluated. The Master Plan set forth policies for park and recreation planning and the need for provision of neighborhood and community parks. Recommendations were made for specific existing park improvements, development of park properties and the acquisition of future parkland. Other work identified in the Master Plan included the development of arterial streetscape improvements, downtown improvements, city entrance features, the need for a county regional park, the potential for railroad right of way trails, joint partnerships with the school district, and a policy on park naming. The Plan also provided priority ranking for needed improvements, developments and acquisitions. At the time of the plan, the City of Dinuba parkland totaled 29.2 acres, equating to 2.4 acres per 1,000 people.

CITY OF DINUBA 2020-2024 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

The five-year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) represents the City's ongoing commitment to preserving, maintaining and enhancing the community's infrastructure and facilities. The CIP is designed to help plan the orderly development of the community's municipal facilities and to assure that service needs can be met in the future. Projects are identified to help meet the City goals and to leverage local funding with outside funding sources. Parks projects are designed to preserve the character of the community by providing open space and park facilities for a variety of community uses. The five year list of Parks CIP projects include the Rose Ann Vuich Park picnic pavilion, the Roosevelt Park sports field lighting, and various park improvements. The planned annual expenditure for general park improvements is \$200,000 and targets various equipment for city parks such as benches, tables, playground equipment, shade structures and lighting. The Parks Master Plan was also incorporated in the five year CIP to update the 1992 parks master plan.

CITY OF DINUBA GENERAL PLAN 2008

The City of Dinuba General Plan provides comprehensive planning for the future and an overall framework for how to achieve this future condition. The policies statement document contains the nine chapters of the general plan elements. Additional general plan documents included a background report, environmental impact report and technical appendices. The Open Space, Conservation and Recreation Element focuses on

the protection and enhancement of open space, natural and recreational resources to ensure a high quality living environment in Dinuba. Open space and recreation issues include discussion of parks and recreation resources, targeted growth of these facilities, the creation of a citywide bike/pedestrian path system and targeting open space to function in a multi-use capacity. The objective for citywide recreation is to provide recreational opportunities including local parks for all populations for the existing community, and projected population in future growth areas. Recreation policy established the standard park acreage as 5.0 acres per 1,000 people and allowed inclusion of school property acreage where they were available through cooperative agreements, accessible and had usable recreation areas. Park facilities were also to be located within a ¼ mile walking distance of most residents. The stated recreation policies encouraged cooperative agreements with the county for park development to help meet county-wide recreation needs.

PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLIST SAFETY AND CONNECTIVITY STUDY 2019

The Pedestrian and Bicyclist Safety and Connectivity Study detailed the existing conditions of the transportation infrastructure and established a long-term vision for improving bicycle and pedestrian facilities through various development projects in the City. The Study identified safety challenges, opportunity needs and major facility gaps and recommended future priority improvements. Through the implementation of near-term to long-term projects, the City would establish a citywide pedestrian and bicycle friendly transportation network. The public engagement confirmed personal safety issues triggered by the lack of connected sidewalks and the lack of a connected bicycle network along with poor pavement conditions. The Study's proposed alternatives are consistent with the bicycle-related guidelines and standards set in the 2010 Tulare County Regional Bicycle Transportation Plan. The Study also considered the recommended projects from the 2016 Regional Active Transportation Plan for the Tulare County Region. In a related effort concurrent with the Study, the City's ADA Transition Plan will identify and correct non-compliant facilities such as sidewalk widths, curb ramps, on-street parking spaces and other street infrastructure. Around parks, observations showed missing or no sidewalks. Complete streets have been suggested to increase accessibility to these parks.

DEVELOPMENT IMPACT FEE STUDY 2015

The 2015 Dinuba Development Impact Fee Study prepared an analysis of the cost of public facilities to accommodate new development in Dinuba. The resultant report documents the full and justifiable impact fees that could be imposed on new development. Park facilities were one of the seven categories reviewed for impact fees that could provide much needed funding for capital improvements needed to expand facilities to accommodate future growth. The study documents the relationship between new development in Dinuba and the cost of public facilities to serve growth through the year 2030. The park standard stated in the Dinuba General Plan is 3.5 acres per 1,000 residents. The study identified the City's current park standard as 2.97 acres per 1,000 residents. The study proposed the use of the current level of service rather than the stated General Plan park standard to avoid the need for the City to develop an additional 9 acres of parks (to bridge the gap between standard and level of service) using funds other than the park impact fee revenue. Based on the growth projection of nearly 11,200 new residents by the year 2030, over 33 acres of parks would be needed at the current level of service (2.79 acres/ 1,000 residents). The estimated cost per acre is approximately \$198,420 (not including land acquisition) for a fully developed park with irrigated turf,

picnic areas, basketball court, trees, plantings, restrooms, etc. The cost estimate is based on a typical 5-acre neighborhood park. The study cites a park land acquisition cost of \$180,000 per acre that would be needed to provide for future park facilities for the growing population. The park impact fee revenues can be used to contribute to the acquisition and development of new park land or expansion of existing park land and amenities to increase park user capacity. The study proposed parks impact fees for new development of single family, multi-family and mobile home dwelling units based on the calculated facilities cost per capita. The fee represents the amount required to fully fund all new park facilities needed to accommodate the estimated

Dwelling Unit Type	Cost per Capita	Occupancy	Fee	Current Fee
Single Family	\$ 1,264.55	4.1	\$ 5,184.66	\$ 1,673.00
Multi-family	\$ 1,264.55	3.29	\$ 4,160.37	\$ 1,332.00
Mobile Home	\$ 1,264.55	2	\$ 2,529.10	\$ 986.00

residents of each dwelling unit.

The report also noted a discrepancy between the City Municipal Code and the supportable parks service standard. Based on the Quimby Act requiring the dedication of park land as a condition of subdivision approval, the Code (paragraph 16.25.040) requires a dedication rate of 5 acres per 1,000 for a variety of dwelling unit types. However, the City’s existing parkland acreage is below 3 acres per 1,000 and a higher 5 acre/1,000 rate is not justified. The impact fee study recommended an adjustment to the Municipal Code to reflect 2.97 acres per 1,000 with adjusted and more realistic occupancy rates per dwelling units.

2030 UPDATE TULARE COUNTY GENERAL PLAN

Adopted in 2012, The Tulare County 2030 General Plan contains seven (7) mandated elements that must be consistent with each other and share equal importance in long range planning for the County. The open-space element addresses the policies and practices for the preservation of open space for the protection of natural resources, the managed production of resources, and for recreation and public health and safety. The County General Plan applies to the Urban Area Boundaries and Urban Development Boundaries for incorporated cities, including Dinuba. For cities, the County Adopted City UDB is an officially adopted and mapped County line delineating the area expected for urban growth over a 20-year period. Dinuba is one of eight incorporated cities in the County.

For recreation, the County owns and operates 13 parks with diverse recreational amenities. The plan for open space in the County is directly concerned with the protection, conservation, and enhancement of natural resources, agricultural, recreation, scenic, watershed, ground water recharge, and wildlife habitat lands.



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