



CITY OF OROVILLE

PARKS, TRAILS & OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

FUNDED BY STATE OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
GENERAL PLANNING / TECHNICAL ASSISTANT PROGRAM GRANT

PREPARED FOR THE CITY OF OROVILLE, CA
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INTRODUCTION

✦ VISION OF PARKS AND RECREATION IN OROVILLE

The focus of the City of Oroville's parks and recreation spaces is to provide varied places for casual recreation, to preserve the wealth of historic and natural resources and to create vibrant spaces for community events throughout the year. Specific goals include:

- Engage in community building efforts to strengthen character of place while fostering Oroville's role as a regional and statewide visitor destination.
- Provide a comprehensive, high quality system of recreational open space and facilities to maintain and improve the quality of life for Oroville residents.
- Facilitate the development of an extensive, integrated and interconnected multi-use trail system.
- Maintain and enhance the quality of Oroville's scenic and visual resources as well as the preservation of its unique natural environments and habitats.
- Create a high quality, diversified public park system that provides varied recreational opportunities.
- Identify and pursue State, Federal, private, and foundation funding to preserve, protect, and enhance all parks, trails, open space and recreational areas.
- Engage in coordinated and cooperative planning efforts between local, regional, and State parks providers.
- Promote and identify parkland and increase public awareness of the recreational opportunities.

✦ LOCATION

The City of Oroville is located 65 miles north of Sacramento within the western reaches of the Sierra Nevada Mountains, at the juncture where the Sacramento Valley meets the Sierra foothills. As the seat of Butte County, Oroville is the home of Lake Oroville, the Oroville Dam and the head of the State Water Project. Some of the more prominent recreational features include the Feather River which flows from east to west through the planning area and serves as the northern boundary and focal point of the historic downtown, the Thermalito Forebay, Afterbay and the Oroville Wildlife Refuge. The Sutter-Butte mountain range is visible to the south and Table Mountain to the north.

✦ COMMUNITY PROFILE

The City of Oroville is primarily a single-family residential community with an historic downtown district. Commercial corridors are located along some of the major arterial roadways. The incorporated city area is approximately 13 square miles and has an estimated 2009 population of 14,639 people. Historically the City has grown at approximately 1% per year with the largest growth rate (6.6%) occurring in 2007, as a result of annexations that were finalized in that year. Lake Oroville and other recreational events bring over a million visitors to the area each year. The natural environment plays a major role in the planning and development of recreational facilities.

There is approximately 84 square miles of land that lies within the recreation planning area but outside the City limits. Approximately 40% of this land has been designated for Parkland, Environmental Conservation / Safety Resource Management and includes State Water Projects. Currently the planning area has a population of approximately 50,000 residents. County development on the fringes of the city and complexities associated with the annexation has resulted in an irregular city boundary and smaller city population.



AGENCY ROLES

The Oroville City Planning Division is responsible for coordinating the Parks, Trails and Open Space Master Plan and manages the planning process of recreational projects. The Department of Parks and Trees (DPT) plays a significant role in the planning of the City's recreation spaces. The DPT is also responsible for implementation, maintenance and coordination of community special events, civic and cultural programs. The Department of Community Development and Public Works supports development by managing urban planning projects for both design and construction activities. This department also administers City sponsored community programming through grant funding applied to community groups.

Other recreation providers with whom the City coordinates are the State Parks Department and Feather River Recreation District (FRRPD). Oroville's Parks and Recreation must be considered within the context of the established system of these various recreation and facility providers. Current parks owned and maintained by the City are either neighborhood parks that support casual recreation or are unique facilities that enhance civic and cultural identity. The role of athletic programming is primarily taken on by the FRRPD. Recreational trails in the area are primarily the responsibility of the State Parks Department. In that each of these respective roles adds to the quality of life for residents and visitors, the structure of this document reflects the current division of all roles.

This plan illustrates the City's vision for facilities within the City limits and planning area as well as effectiveness of participation and leadership. This document outlines how the City will further develop coordinated recreational opportunities efforts to implement this vision.



BACKGROUND OF RECREATION PLANNING IN OROVILLE

The Oroville 2030 General Plan Adopted June 2nd, 2009 is intended to provide the fundamental

basis for the City's land use, development and conservation.

There are 497 acres of parks and recreational facilities within Oroville's city limits, with additional open spaces that are protected by State agencies or conservation trusts.

The Oroville Waterfront Concept Plan was developed in 2004 to maximize the opportunities offered by the Feather River, especially for strengthening the civic framework of the City's historic downtown area. The plan proposes public space improvements for recreation and redevelopment along the river.

The Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP/NCCP) is currently in development designed to preserve habitat and natural communities. As a stake holder to enhance recreational open space for the community, the City of Oroville is actively involved in the development of the plan. The draft plan is scheduled for completion by the end of 2010. Implementation is anticipated for the end of 2011. Once implemented, the plan will result in the creation of a number of preservation and habitat conservation areas within the planning area.



PRINCIPLE OBJECTIVES OF THE PARKS, TRAILS AND OPEN SPACES MASTER PLAN

The City of Oroville received a State of California, Community Development Block Grant, Planning and Technical Assistance Grant to provide a thorough analysis of the recreation facilities and programs, including the development of guidelines for park development. The Parks, Trails and Open Space Master Plan for the City of Oroville represents an opportunity to harness the unique character of recreation in the area. Oroville's location on the Feather River in the foothills of the Sierras and its adjacency to Lake Oroville gives its citizens access to a wide variety of recreation opportunities. The plan will provide a thorough analysis of the recreation facilities and programs, including specific quantitative and qualitative data, opportunity and constraint

analyses and guidelines for park development. This plan represents the culmination of public outreach efforts and reflects the desires of the current community.

This report is designed to support the following principal objectives:

- Identify and assess of the inventory of the City's park and recreation facilities.
- Conduct cohesive survey and interviews with stakeholders and community.
- Create vision and goals that prioritize community needs for expansion and improvements.
- Set policy to support community goals.
- Set an implementable action plan for cooperation of with other projects, fostering of relationships of agencies, defining priorities and establishing phasing.
- Set a cohesive framework of standards for the variety of recreational land use and recreation providers within Oroville's planning area.

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NEEDS ASSESSMENT: PUBLIC OUTREACH

❖ INTRODUCTION

This chapter catalogs the current desires for recreation in the Oroville community. The data and analysis provides direction for the future development of parks and recreation.

The Needs Assessment is separated into the following chapters:

- Chapter 2: Public Outreach
- Chapter 3: Recreation Facilities: Inventory and Review
- Chapter 4: Recreation Programs: Inventory and Review

❖ PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

This chapter summarizes public input data from public surveys, outreach events and interviews. Responses are detailed in Appendix I & II of this document.

STAKEHOLDER INTERVIEWS: CITY HALL, MAY 3, 2009

The project consultant team conducted interviews with community associates and affiliates to gather perspectives, ideas and perceptions regarding recreation in the City of Oroville. Invitations were extended to City Staff, State Parks Staff, City Parks Commissioners and City Council members. Participants were asked to complete a survey as well as participate in interviews to discuss their responses. Eight interviews were held and nine surveys collected, resulting in candid responses that resulted in a variety of responses and vision. In an effort to maintain the anonymity of respondents, identities are not linked to responses.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH EVENT: WILDFLOWER FESTIVAL - MAY 4, 2009

This community outreach event was conducted at the annual Wildflower Festival at Riverbend Park. Representatives of the City Planning Department, the consultant team and the FRRPD set up a station at the entrance to the festival, where members of the community were asked to fill out an anonymous informational survey on recreation in the City of Oroville. In exchange for their participation, people were given a free bottle of water courtesy of the City of Oroville. A total of 151 community members participated in the individual survey. See Appendix I for complete survey analysis.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH EVENT: MAILING – JUNE/JULY 2009

This community outreach effort was conducted by mailing surveys enclosed with monthly refuse bills to all City of Oroville residents. The intention was to reach a broad base of residents. The community was asked to fill out an anonymous informational survey on recreation in the City of Oroville. A total of 200 community members participated in the survey. See Appendix II for complete survey analysis.

❖ SUMMARY ANALYSIS : PUBLIC OUTREACH

The results of public outreach revealed a general approval of the status of existing parks in Oroville. It was generally agreed that Oroville has an abundance of recreation resources.

Public outreach showed that there is heavy use at certain facilities while other facilities are under-used, particularly the City owned neighborhood parks. There is some apparent confusion to where certain parks are located and activities they offer. For example, neighborhood parks may be known within their immediate locations but not the community at large.

The top interests for the residents of Oroville are to increase access to river and activities related to trails. There is also interest in event spaces

and development of more passive recreation opportunities. Overall concerns focus on safety and cleanliness.

The Stakeholder interviews revealed a desire for the City's development of parks and recreation to incorporate innovative, far reaching, "out of the box" approaches.

There was significant discussion on the potential roles and responsibilities of the City moving forward in the development of Oroville's parks, recreation and open spaces. It was generally agreed that the many facets of the existing stakeholder organizations, including the City, the FFRPD and the State Parks, should be synthesized to create a complimentary framework. Generally, the City focuses on passive recreation and cultural facilities while the FRRPD runs active recreational programs and facilities, and the State facilitates open space management. Within this established system, there is potential for the City to expand its current roles as well as generate new functions.

RECREATION FACILITIES: INVENTORY AND REVIEW



INTRODUCTION

This chapter summarizes the existing facilities operating within the boundaries of the City of Oroville's Planning Area.

1. CURRENT RECREATION FACILITIES WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS

- Bedrock Park
- Centennial Plaza
- Chinese Temple
- Feather River Nature Center
- Feather River Parkway
- Gary Nolan Sports Complex
- Hammon Park
- Hewitt Park
- Ishi Museum
- Lott Home at Sank Park
- Martin Luther King, Jr. Park
- Mother Orange Tree
- Nelson Sports Complex
- Playtown Park
- Railroad Park
- Riverbend Park
- Rotary Park
- Soroptimist Park
- Table Mountain Golf Course
- Wallace Park

2. CURRENT RECREATION FACILITIES WITHIN THE CITY PLANNING AREA:

- 74.3 miles of hiking, biking and horse trails
- Bidwell Canyon Recreation Facilities
- Clay Pit State Vehicular Recreation Area
- Feather River Nature Center
- Feather River Fish Hatchery
- Formalito Forebay Recreation Facilities
- Lake Oroville
- Larkin Road State Boat Ramp
- Oroville Dam Spillway and Boat Ramp
- Oroville State Wildlife Area
- Thermalito Canal / Thompson Flat
- Wyk Island Trail
- Wyman Ravine

3. FUTURE ASSESSED RECREATION FACILITIES

- Grand Avenue Park
- Olive-Oakdale Park
- Southside-Las Plumas Park

- Garden Drive Vicinity Park
- East of Fish Barrier Dam Vicinity (North of Power Canal) Park
- Linda Loma Drive/Buehler Ave./Olive Highway Vicinity Park
- Riverview Drive Vicinity Park
- Mount Ida/Miner's Ranch Road Vicinity Park
- East of Wyman Ravine/South of Mount Ida Road Park
- South of Monte Vista Avenue Vicinity Park
- Riverbend/Thermalito Park
- Oroville Garden Ranch Road and Brookdale Drive Park

4. FUTURE CONDITIONED RECREATION FACILITIES

- Brookdale Drive Neighborhood Park
- Forebay Estates Neighborhood Park
- Nelson 56 Neighborhood Park
- Martin Ranch Neighborhood Park
- Oro Bay Community Park
- Oak Park Horse Facility
- Oro Bay Neighborhood Park
- Rio D'Oro Neighborhood Park
- Riverfront Community Park
- Ruddy Creek Neighborhood Park

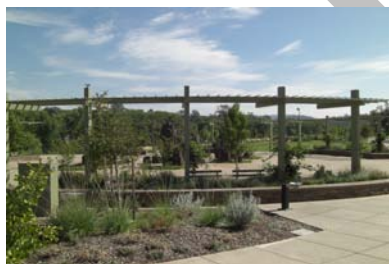
5. Summary of Existing Facilities



CITY FACILITIES WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS

COMMUNITY PARKS:

CENTENNIAL PLAZA



Dedicated in 2007, Centennial Plaza a 2.70 park and plaza that marks the 100th anniversary of the incorporation of Oroville. Dramatically sited overlooking the Feather River near historic downtown, Centennial Plaza is a prime location for enjoyment of the river, wildlife, local history and culture. Adjacent to the Feather River Bike and Pedestrian trail, the Plaza is a destination and resting place. Visitors enjoy gathering space, views of Table Mountain and interpretative memorials to the individuals who made Oroville successful.

FEATHER RIVER NATURE CENTER

Feather River Nature Center is a 5 acre educational center located near the Salmon Hatchery. At particular times of year, The Feather River Nature Center is a great location to watch salmon spawn. This non-profit community resource highlights Oroville's local and natural history through environmental education. Specific site amenities include river access and picnic areas.

CULTURAL FACILITIES:**CHINESE TEMPLE**

The Chinese Temple is a .91 acre historic landmark. Built in 1863, this museum is a piece of Oroville's distinct history and an exceptional cultural asset. The Chinese Temple is one of only four Gold Rush era temples in California. It served as a center for religious and civic events to the largest Chinese community north of Sacramento. The Chinese Temple rests on a spacious lawn and houses a lush and inspirational historic courtyard garden. The Museum is filled with fun and educational information and activities.

SANK PARK AT LOTT HOME

Sank Park at Lott Home is a 2 acre historic garden at the center of Oroville. A key component in Oroville's historic downtown, Sank Park's lovely parterre gardens provide gracious outdoor space ideal for a quiet escape or group events.

STATE THEATRE & PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

The recent revival of Oroville State Theatre is an exciting development in the historic downtown center and represents the City's current cultural renaissance. The Oroville State Theatre was built in 1928 and is noteworthy for its distinguished art deco architecture. The theatre was designed by a notable San Francisco Bay Area architect, equipped with a Wurlitzer organ and seating capacity for over 1500 people. The Oroville State Theatre was bought by the City with the support of the Oroville Concert Association in 1986 and in partnership with STAGE, has been dutifully restored to its original grandeur. The State Theatre was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1991.

THE MOTHER ORANGE TREE

The Mother Orange Tree is another unique piece of Oroville history that distinguishes and celebrates the City. The Mother Orange is one of the oldest orange trees in California. The rootstock was originally brought from Mazatlan, Mexico and planted in Oroville in 1856. As the tree flourished, it grew to over 60 feet in height and was a favorite amenity to the miners during the Gold Rush era. It was known to yield an average of 600 pounds of fruit each year. The tree has been transplanted twice and now resides at the California State Park headquarters.

GREEN SPACES:**RAILROAD PARK****SOROPTIMIST PARK****WALLACE PARK****NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS:****HAMMON PARK**

Hammon Park is a 5.50 acre neighborhood park. Conveniently located to several schools, Hammon Park offers toddler and school age play areas. The park also provides a great place for informal functions and group gatherings – facilities include covered picnic areas, barbeque grills and convenient parking.

HEWITT PARK

Hewitt Park is a 7.80 acre neighborhood park. Hewitt Park is distinguished by an historic railroad feature as well as bocce courts and horseshoe pits. In addition to group picnic areas, Hewitt Park offers toddler and school age play areas.

ROTARY PARK

Rotary Park is a 2.14 acre neighborhood park. Central to Oroville's downtown, residential neighborhoods and adjacent to the Feather River Parkway Trail, Rotary Park offers toddler and school age play areas. The park also offers a great place for group gatherings – facilities include covered picnic areas, barbeque grills and convenient on street parking.

**AVAILABLE FACILITIES WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS****COMMUNITY PARKS:****FEATHER RIVER PARKWAY**

Feather River Parkway is a paved bicycle and pedestrian trail that runs east/west between the river and town center. This beloved multi-use trail features dramatic views and a variety of experiences along the Feather River. The parkway is a great way to enjoy the beauty of Oroville's natural surroundings.

BEDROCK PARK

Bedrock Park is an ideal gathering space for functions, events and groups of all sizes. Conveniently located near the center of Oroville and directly off the Feather River Parkway Trail, Bedrock Park features an outdoor amphitheatre and stage as well as easy access to the Feather River. Bedrock Park is a great place for swimming in a protected area, tubing and various water activities. There are privately managed tennis courts adjacent to the park.

RIVERBEND PARK

Riverbend Park is another popular option for a variety of civic and family events. The park provides covered and open picnic areas as well as creative play structures for toddlers and school age children. Riverbend Park is located along a newly developed scenic stretch of the Feather River and provides access for swimming, tubing and other water activities. Additional community soccer fields are currently in the planning stages of development.

GARY NOLAN SPORTS COMPLEX

Gary Nolan Sports Complex hosts a variety of community sports fields, a concession stand and picnic areas. The 14.2 acre complex includes Playtown Park, which offers creative play structures for toddler and school age children.

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. PARK

Martin Luther King, Jr. Park offers community services within the heart of a residential neighborhood - the park hosts sports fields, an outdoor amphitheatre, a stage and picnic areas. Martin Luther King, Jr. Park is a great location for a variety of active events and activities.

NELSON SPORTS COMPLEX

Nelson Sports Complex is a 29.6 acre facility whose community features include sports fields, sports courts, swimming facilities and a concession stand. The complex also provides picnic areas and play areas. Nelson Sports Complex is another great location for a variety of active sports events.

TABLE MOUNTAIN GOLF COURSE

Table Mountain is an 18 hole community golf course, putting green and driving range conveniently located on Oro Dam Road. The facility offers day use, and membership rates, individual and group lessons, clubs for all ages, a pro-shop and restaurant on site. Table Mountain Golf Course hosts a variety of exciting golf tournaments throughout the season and was awarded in “Best Places to Play” by Golf Digest in 2008/2009.

CULTURAL & HISTORIC RESOURCES:

Oroville hosts a variety of cultural and historic resources. These define a unique sense of place and enhance the quality of life for the City's residents and visitors. These sites include:

- Oroville Chinese Temple & Garden (see previous description)
- Arlin Rhine Community Center
- Bolt's Antique Tool museum
- Butte County Pioneer Museum
- Centennial Cultural center
- Feather River Nature Center
- Feather River Fish Hatchery
- The Ishi Museum
- The Mother Orange Tree (see previous description)
- Oroville State Theater & Performing Arts Center (see previous description)
- Lott Museum at Sank Park

✧ AVAILABLE FACILITIES WITHIN THE CITY'S PLANNING AREA**TRAILS & OPEN SPACE AREAS**

There are a variety of open spaces and trails within the City limits that preserve and provide access to Oroville's abundance of outstanding natural resources:

- 3.5 Miles of Hiking Trails
- 13 Miles of Hiking & Biking Trails
- 16.2 Miles of Hiking & Horse Trails
- 41.6 Miles of Hiking, Biking & Horse Trails
- Bidwell Canyon Recreation Facilities
- Clay Pit State Vehicular Recreation Area
- Deer Creek
- Lake Oroville
- Larkin Road State Boat Ramp
- North Formalito Forebay Recreation Facilities
- South Formalito Forebay Recreation Facilities
- Oroville Dam Spillway and Boat Ramp
- Oroville State Wildlife Area
- Thermalito Canal / Thompson Flat

- Wyk Island Trail
- Feather River Nature Center
- Wyman Ravine Northeast Site (340 acres)
- Wyman Ravine Southeast Site (195 acres)

❖ PROPOSED FACILITIES

PROPOSED ASSESSED COMMUNITY PARKS

- Grand Avenue Park (20 acres)
- Olive-Oakdale Park (20 acres)
- Southside-Las Plumas Park (40 acres)

PROPOSED CONDITIONED COMMUNITY PARKS

- Oro Bay Community Park (8 acres)
- Oak Park Horse Facility (5 acres)
- Riverfront Community Park (8 acres)

PROPOSED ASSESSED NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS

- Garden Drive Vicinity Park (8 acres)
- East of Fish Barrier Dam Vicinity (North of Power Canal) Park (8 acres)
- Linda Loma Drive/Buehler Ave./Olive Highway Vicinity Park (8 acres)
- Riverview Drive Vicinity Park (8 acres)
- Mount Ida/Miner's Ranch Road Vicinity Park (8 acres)
- East of Wyman Ravine/South of Mount Ida Road Park (8 acres)
- South of Monte Vista Avenue Vicinity Park (8 acres)
- Riverbend/Thermalito Park (8 acres)
- Oroville Garden Ranch Road and Brookdale Drive Park (8 acres)

PROPOSED CONDITIONED NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS

- Brookdale Drive Neighborhood Park (3 acres)
- Forebay Estates Neighborhood Park (4 acres)
- Nelson 56 Neighborhood Park (4 acres)
- Martin Ranch Neighborhood Park (2 acres)
- Rio D'Oro Neighborhood Park (12 acres)

❏ **TABLE 3.1 – SUMMARY OF EXISTING FACILITIES**

FACILITY AMENITY	CITY											NON-CITY			
	Bedrock Park	Centennial Plaza	Chinese Temple	Feather River Nature Center	Hammon Park	Hewitt Park	Railroad Park	Rotary Park	Lott Home at Sank Park	Soroptimist Park	Wallace Park	Bedrock Skate & Bike Park	Gary Nolan Sports Complex & Playtown Park	Nelson Sports Complex	Riverbend Park
	♦														
Barbecue Grill(s)	♦			♦	♦	♦		♦					♦	♦	♦
Baseball/Softball Field(s)								♦					♦	♦	
Benches	♦	♦	♦	♦	♦	♦	♦	♦					♦	♦	♦
Bike Racks		♦				♦						♦			♦
Bleachers	♦												♦	♦	
Boating/Kayaking															♦
Concession Stands											♦		♦	♦	
Drinking Fountain(s)	♦	♦			♦	♦		♦				♦	♦	♦	♦
Dugouts													♦	♦	
Educational Signage		♦	♦												
Fishing	♦														♦
Group Picnic Area				♦	♦	♦		♦					♦	♦	♦
Handicap Parking	♦	♦		♦	♦	♦							♦	♦	♦
Landscaping/Garden		♦	♦		♦						♦	♦			♦
Lawn/Grass Area	♦	♦	♦		♦	♦	♦	♦		♦			♦	♦	♦
Lighting	♦	♦			♦	♦		♦				♦	♦	♦	♦
Multiuse Trail	♦	♦		♦											♦
Near a School					♦						♦			♦	
Park Name Signage	♦	♦	♦	♦	♦	♦		♦		♦		♦	♦	♦	♦
Park-Use Designated Parking	♦	♦		♦	♦	♦	♦					♦	♦	♦	♦
Pets Allowed	♦										♦				♦
Picnic Tables	♦			♦	♦	♦		♦		♦			♦	♦	♦
Playground/Play Equipment					♦	♦		♦					♦	♦	♦
Recycling Receptacles														♦	

Restrooms	♦		♦	♦	♦	♦		♦					♦	♦	♦
River Access	♦			♦											♦
Security Features				♦											
Shade Structures		♦		♦	♦			♦							♦
Skating/Skate Boarding													♦		
Soccer Field(s)															
Swimming	♦													♦	♦
Tennis Courts	♦														
Trash Receptacles	♦	♦		♦	♦	♦		♦					♦	♦	♦
Visitor Center				♦											♦
Volleyball															
Walkway/Path		♦			♦										♦



SUMMARY ANALYSIS: FACILITIES

The facilities in the City of Oroville are well distributed and provide a wide range of recreation options to its residents.

The City is committed to continue to provide places for passive, neighborhood and event recreation as well as to work with other agencies to ensure that a complete range of recreational opportunities are available to City residents. The City will persist in ensuring that underserved areas will receive priority for all of these services. The City will make certain that new facilities will compliment services offered at adjoining facilities and will implement a Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) that addresses service deficiencies by improving and expanding amenities in existing facilities.

The plan identifies many opportunities for continued re-design and improvements to City operated facilities. While there are many neighborhood parks, some of the individual neighborhood parks are considered to be underutilized. Certain parks lack functionality

and others a sense of identity. The City's "green spaces" particularly lack distinction and function. There is a significant need to cohesively connect all facilities run by various service providers.

In addition to the community and neighborhood parks already planned, the facilities assessment indicates the need for further development of specific types of facilities. Access to the river is a key element with opportunities to prioritize water activities. Oroville needs to consider creating a heart of civic identity - thoughtfully developing public spaces is crucial to enhancing the City's character. Additionally, there is a lack of current facilities for particular active recreational sports.

Proposed facilities will be consistent with the adopted General Plan, the Waterfront Master Plan. Especially because development will leverage the wealth of natural resources for civic growth, plans must incorporate and exhibit systematic and innovative ecological sensitivity.

RECREATION PROGRAMS: INVENTORY AND REVIEW

✦ INTRODUCTION

This chapter identifies existing recreation programs and events in the City of Oroville, summarizes current recreational use schedules for city facilities and assesses related issues and opportunities to better accommodate the recreational needs of Oroville residents.

While the Feather River Recreation District is the primary program provider for active recreation, the City currently promotes alternate types of programming through distribution of grant funds to a variety of community groups. In addition to the programs listed below, the City has applied for additional funds in the 2009/2010 CDBG General Allocation and for a Stewardship Infrastructure Grant to create programs for the YMCA and Catalyst.

✦ CURRENT COMMUNITY PROGRAMS SPONSORED BY THE CITY

Oroville Gymnastics Academy

Child Development

- Rolling Into Reading – This program promotes academic, emotional, and social success in toddlers through school age children. The program is divided into sequential course levels focused on combining gymnastic physical fitness with sensory processing. Rolling Into Reading was developed to assist children with academic struggles and specifically create a supportive learning environment for children diagnosed with ADHD, dyslexia, autism, or sensory integration dysfunction.

✦ SUMMARY ANALYSIS : PROGRAMS

Oroville residents currently enjoy an array of cultural, recreation and sports activities throughout the year provided by a variety of

program providers. With the proper approach, this balance of programmatic roles may continue to drive development. Furthermore, the City of Oroville recognizes expanding development of programs and events as an essential component of effective tourism.

The City will continue to develop community programs and events through coordination and promotion. Many community programs and events are held by various organizations in Oroville throughout the year and this is a great asset for residents and visitors. Maximizing the City's participation in this type of programming and events is a significant opportunity.

The City should strengthen partnerships already in place and encourage new endeavors with a broader range of potential organizations. The City will strive to reinforce the vision and diversity of programs and events. This strategy should incorporate the City's increased organization of direct funding and primary sponsorship of cultural and community events. City sponsored programs and events should focus on cultural and environmental activities that highlight Oroville's historical and natural resources.

 CURRENT COMMUNITY EVENTS SPONSORED BY THE CITY

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
EVENT												
First Friday Festivals	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Friday Farmers Market	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Saturday Farmers Market	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•			
Movies in the Park						•	•	•				
Oroville Scene, People, Places, Things Art Show									•			
Salmon Festival									•			
Wildflower and Nature Festival				•								
Feather Fiesta Days					•							
Fourth of July Fireworks Festival							•					
Light Parade in Downtown Oroville												•
Table Mountain Scramble Golf Tournaments												
Bounty of Oroville												
Bass Fishing Tournaments				•	•					•		
Sierra Oro Farm Trail Passport Weekend										•		
Family Holiday Extravaganza												•
Annual Holiday Craft Faire												•
Winter Talent Show												•
Night at The Museum										•		
Old Time Fiddlers Jam at Municipal Auditorium	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•

MISSION, GOALS, POLICIES, & ACTIONS

✦ INTRODUCTION

The goals, policies and actions of this Master Plan are intended to supplement those of the City's adopted General Plan. Goals included in this section serve as directives for development and maintenance of parks, trails, and recreation, and related programs.

This section has been developed from the needs defined during the community outreach efforts with Oroville residents, along with the input and direction of the City staff, City Park and Recreation Commission, City Planning Commission and City Council as well as elements of the City of Oroville General Plan, the Waterfront Plan, the Bike & Trails Master Plan and the Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP/NCCP).

The mission, goals and policies for the City of Oroville Parks, Trails, and Open Spaces must be considered within the context of the City's current facilities and its vision for parkland within the planning area. These goals are designed to implement the City's comprehensive recreation plan for development of community parks, neighborhood parks, the historic downtown and successful tourism. In addition, this plan strives to set a cohesive framework of standards for the variety of recreational land use and recreation providers within Oroville's sphere of influence.

✦ MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the City of Oroville Park, Trails and Open Space Master Plan is to "provide a comprehensive system of recreational open space and facilities to maintain and improve and the quality of life for Oroville residents." (GP OPS-1)

✦ GENERAL GOALS

The following goals will guide the City in defining more specific goals for creation of an implementation plan, policies and determining actions for meeting recreation needs.

- Enhance the quality of life in Oroville by providing coordinated, unified and comprehensive recreation opportunities.
- Make all recreation facilities and activities accessible to all individuals, regardless of race, age, gender, religion, disabilities, or income level.
- Maximize park and recreational resources through positive working relationships, partnering, and collaborative efforts with other public agencies, nonprofit organizations, and the private sector.
- Pursue a variety of mechanisms for the acquisition, development, long-term operations and maintenance of the City's parks and recreational systems.
- Increase tourism by providing cohesive and distinctive recreational opportunities that will generate economic benefits for the City.

✦ SPECIFIC GOALS

The order presented does not reflect the order of importance.

GOAL 1 – PARKS & FACILITIES

"Create a high quality, diversified public park system that provides adequate and varied recreational opportunities conveniently accessible to all present and future residents, and that enhances Oroville's unique attributes."(GP OPS-3)

Policy 1.01 Provide additional park and recreational facilities to meet the needs of Oroville residents through the year 2030 and beyond with a goal of 3 acres of developed parkland per 1,000 residents as stated in General Plan (GP OPS-3).

Policy 1.02 Design new facilities to a professional standard appropriate to specific use, so as to attract tourism and events.

Policy 1.03 Provide attractive parks and recreation facilities that are sited and designed to optimize safety and compatibility with neighboring residences.

Policy 1.04 Institute policies for a public art program for the placement of art in parks and civic spaces where appropriate.

Policy 1.05 Support the establishment of Oroville as a regional river recreation center by providing a comprehensive network of access to the Feather River.

Policy 1.06 Improve existing park and recreation facilities while focusing on efficient service delivery and financing constraints.

Policy 1.07 Require all new parks and recreation facilities follow the guidelines as set out in Chapter 6 – Facilities Standards of this document.

Actions for Goal 1:

Action 1.01 Expand the scope of recreation and programmatic elements along Feather River scenic trail to create a continuous greenway along both sides of the Feather River consistent with the City's adopted Waterfront Plan. Programmatic elements include interpretive and educational signage, access to the river, picnicking, and pedestrian bridges.

Action 1.02 Develop river recreation access routes for fishing, boating, kayaking, rafting and tubing as activities to continue to attract outdoor recreation tourism. Refer to guidelines as set out in Chapter 6 – Facilities Standards of this document.

Action 1.03 Develop formalized canoe access on the river to attract outdoor recreation tourism. For example, consider development of a canoe launch at Bedrock Park. Refer to guidelines as set out in Chapter 6 – Facilities Standards of this document.

Action 1.04 Encourage the development of the variety of Oroville's neighborhood parks as set by the guidelines as in Chapter 6 – Facilities Standards of this document.

Action 1.05 Implement thematic demonstration gardens. Institute landscaping

of City public spaces with uniquely appropriate thematic plantings to promote local identity through flora and habitat. Thematic plantings are particularly appropriate to enhance the City's smaller pocket parks and green spaces. These gardens will increase opportunities for civic identity and educational program. Examples include a Heritage Rose Garden, Heirloom Citrus Grove, Native Plant Garden, Water Efficiency Garden, and Riparian Garden.

Action 1.06 Encourage the development of Oroville's community oriented sites as set by the guidelines in Chapter 6 – Facilities Standards of this document.

Action 1.07 Implement the actions of the City of Oroville Bike and Trails Master Plan. Ensure trail head connectivity with bicycle routes in the Bicycle Transportation Plan.

Action 1.08 Encourage the development of the variety of Oroville's open space and regional recreation opportunities as set by the guidelines in Chapter 6 – Facilities Standards of this document.

Action 1.09 Encourage dual-use facilities such as storm water retention if the construction of such facilities will complement park uses. See the guidelines as set out in Chapter 6 – Facilities Standards of this document.

Action 1.10 Encourage the installation of trails and picnic areas through mitigation areas for low impact uses. See the guidelines as set out in Chapter 6 – Facilities Standards of this document.

GOAL 2 – CULTURAL & HISTORIC RESOURCES

Seek to provide leadership and stewardship for important aspects of the community that contribute to Oroville's heritage and unique character. (GP OPS-14)

Policy 2.01 Preserve and enhance historic structures and cultural features within the City

by connecting the community through stewardship and education.

Actions for Goal 2:

Action 2.01 Continue to identify historic structures within Oroville and where appropriate, promote inclusion of these structures on local historic registers, the State's Inventory of Historic Sites, and the National Register of Historic Places.

Action 2.02 Increase the City's initiation, promotion and sponsorship of various cultural events throughout the year including but not limited to movies in the park, concert series, festivals and specialized sporting tournaments, like fishing and cycling. These events are important opportunities to continue to leverage Oroville's significant abundance of outdoor recreation.

Action 2.03 Continue to create and sponsor events and programs that highlight the unique cultural and historic character of Oroville, including the Sierra Oro Farm Trail, the Wildflower Festival and the Greenline Tour. This includes potential to expand current events as well as creating new ones. For example, expand the self guided walking tour of historic sites in downtown Oroville.

Action 2.04 Increase the City's promotional materials of historic and cultural resources for the community and tourism. Development of materials should include but not be limited to updated maps, calendars and websites. These resources should reference standards set in the City's General Plan.

Action 2.05 Continue to develop the State Theatre as a Center for Performing Arts. The City should encourage rentals for meetings, performances, festivals and classes. The City should also host events including film festivals, music festivals, theatrical series, speaking tours, seminars, award ceremonies, and book signings.

Action 2.06 Continue to develop Bedrock Park and Centennial Plaza as community cultural gathering spaces. The City should expand sponsorship of facilities to host unique cultural events including ethnic music, dances,

nature education, Earth Day festivals, Tree Dedication ceremonies, seasonal festivals and children's festivals.

Action 2.07 Examine the feasibility of creating an annual music festival. Consider updating City facilities with this attraction in mind. For example, the sound systems at Bedrock Park and the State Theatre should be designed to specifically accommodate this type of use.

Action 2.08 Establish cohesive documentation and display of historic and cultural resources to enhance public interaction and education.

Action 2.09 Increase and update cultural venues to attract and accommodate various events from across the region. For instance, the amphitheatre at Bedrock Park should be renovated for attractiveness, accessibility and utility for both patrons and sponsors needs.

Action 2.10 Create a permanent Farmer's Market space in downtown Oroville. A formalized market area will add regional attraction and create an iconic center of activity for the City. Design for implementation of areas for stable and flexible use.

GOAL 3 – CIRCULATION & CONNECTIONS

"Support the development of an extensive, interconnected multi-use trail system for Oroville." (GP OPS-4)

Policy 3.01 Establish and require cohesive signage standards for all facilities, regardless of provider, within the City planning area. Signage should follow the guidelines as set out in Chapter 6 – Facilities Standards of this document.

Policy 3.02 Support providing connecting pathways throughout the City that link existing trailheads to planned bikeways consistent with the City's adopted Bike & Trails Master Plan.

Policy 3.03 Create and maintain a system of multi-use trails 8-12 feet wide and specialized use trails serving both recreational and emergency access needs.

Policy 3.04 Support the establishment of Oroville as a regional cycling center by coordinating a bicycle trail network for transportation, recreation and special events.

Actions for Goal 3:

Action 3.01 Develop recreational bicycle trails and facilities to meet standards detailed further in the guidelines as set out in Chapter 6 – Facilities Standards of this document.

Action 3.02 Implement conversion of rail-to-trail projects along abandoned rail corridors consistent with the City’s adopted bicycle plan.

Action 3.03 Connect residential neighborhoods with Oroville’s downtown, mixed use areas, schools, park and recreation facilities and regional trails. To this end, ensure that all new residential neighborhoods have adequate and direct pedestrian/bicyclist linkages with these destinations and facilities.

Action 3.04 Work with neighboring communities and agencies to implement the City’s goals of providing trail connections throughout the region. Regional trailheads should be coordinated to connect with the City’s bike and transportation routes.

Action 3.05 Implement missing connections for bike trails. These standards are detailed further in the guidelines as set out in Chapter 6 – Facilities Standards of this document.

Action 3.06 Establish a cohesive system and design of proposed trailheads throughout the planning area as set by the guidelines in Chapter 6 – Facilities Standards of this document.

Action 3.07 Institute service area standards to improve amenities and signage at existing trailheads. These standards are detailed further in the guidelines as set out in Chapter 6 – Facilities Standards of this document.

Action 3.08 Improve and enhance quantity and quality of connections between trails and the Feather River with existing and proposed trails consistent with the City’s adopted Waterfront Plan. Additional standards are detailed further in the guidelines as set out in

Chapter 6 – Facilities Standards of this document.

Action 3.09 Improve access to Feather River by creating system of specified drop in points along the river with coordinated activities. This “put in” system should follow guidelines as set out in Chapter 6 – Facilities Standards of this document.

Action 3.10 Institute a signage campaign to apply to all facilities regardless of owner or operator. Coordinate signage at parks, trails and cultural, historical sites. These standards are detailed further in the guidelines as set out in Chapter 6 – Facilities Standards of this document.

GOAL 4 – ACCESS & SAFETY

Strengthen the City’s commitment to providing safe and accessible environments for users with a diverse range of abilities and resources.

Policy 4.01 Adapt existing recreation facilities and build new recreation facilities in a manner that complies with existing Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards and safety codes.

Policy 4.02 Promote crime prevention through consistent monitoring of existing parks. Work with police department in planning process to ensure proposed facilities are appropriately sited and designed for safety.

Actions for Goal 4:

Action 4.01 Update and upgrade all playground facilities and equipment to meet current safety standards. These standards are detailed further in the guidelines as set out in Chapter 6 – Facilities Standards of this document.

Action 4.02 Update and upgrade accesses, pathways, picnic and barbecue areas, restrooms, parking areas, and related amenities at parks and recreation facilities and areas to meet current ADA standards. These standards are detailed further in the guidelines as set out in Chapter 6 – Facilities Standards of this document.

Action 4.03 Implement safety lighting and the viability of solar lighting for visibility at public facilities, parks, and trails along with activity lighting appropriate for the specific recreational use.

Action 4.04 Ensure that all City parks have a perimeter pathway that is suitable for access, when necessary, by emergency vehicles and services. Access to the roads can be limited with the use of locked removable bollards.

Action 4.05 Ensure that all City parks follow cleanliness guidelines as set out in Chapter 6 – Facilities Standards of this document.

Action 4.06 Ensure that all City parks follow safety guidelines as set out in Chapter 6 – Facilities Standards of this document.

Action 4.07 Explore the feasibility of implementing emergency telephone systems in the City's parks.

GOAL 5 – CONSERVATION & PRESERVATION

Protect the available natural recreation resources, wildlife habitat, and ecologically sensitive areas in Oroville by playing a larger role of stewardship for the land and the resources within the City.

Policy 5.01 “Maintain and enhance the quality of Oroville’s scenic and visual resources”. (GP OPS-5)

Policy 5.02 “Protect areas of significant wildlife habitat and sensitive biological resources to maintain biodiversity among plant and animal species in the City of Oroville and the surrounding area”. (GP OPS-09).

Policy 5.03 Encourage recreational activities and maintenance practices that promote resource conservation and no environmental impact.

Actions for Goal 5:

Action 5.01 Develop open space uses in an ecologically sensitive manner and where biological resources are identified - avoid or mitigate the resources, dependent upon applicable classification at local, State, and Federal levels. Ensure only appropriate utilization of oak tree mitigation areas, habitat

mitigation and areas identified in the HCP/NCCP. See guidelines as set out in Chapter 6 – Facilities Standards of this document.

Action 5.02 Support the creation of preservation and habitat conservation areas within the planning area. This includes areas identified in the HCP/NCCP to be implemented in 2011. See guidelines as set out in Chapter 6 – Facilities Standards of this document.

Action 5.03 Provide for passive recreation in open areas where such low intensity uses will not damage the unique biological resources that are being protected. Create coordinated interpretive panels to engage and educate community in the conservation of these spaces. For instance, work with local wildlife experts to create self-guided walking tours of natural open spaces using informational panels.

Action 5.04 Develop appropriate standards and require the use of sustainable practices and environmentally-sound building materials in development and construction of parks and recreation facilities. Examples of sound building practices include permeable paving, recycled materials and solar powered, composting restroom facilities.

Action 5.05 Institute landscaping of City public spaces with adaptive and native plantings to promote local identity through flora and habitat. Require new development to incorporate these same themes. Employ the conversion of existing and proposed “green areas” to native gardens. These areas will become focal points to demonstrate appropriate landscaping, water efficiency and irrigation practices,

Action 5.06 Facilitate the use of recycled water for landscape irrigation, in the event of construction of a recycled water facility in the future, by requiring the provision of necessary water lines (purple piping) in the development of all new parks and facilities and, where feasible, in the renovation of existing parks and facilities.

Action 5.07 Where possible or where necessary to protect biological resources, incorporate natural habitat and other “unimproved” areas as part of the design and use of park and open space lands. During the planning phase for development of a new facility, if a sensitive resource is identified, ensure that it is not significantly impacted by the proposed development. For example, oak tree mitigation should be addressed as a component to enhance as a low impact use area.

Action 5.08 Provide or collaborate in developing programs that emphasize the importance of alternative transportation, protection of natural resources, and stewardship of the community’s attributes. For instance, in collaboration with the School District, establish a nature study program that allows students to directly experience the Feather River and riparian corridor.

Action 5.09 Require the planting of large-canopy deciduous trees in new parks in formations oriented to create shade during hot summer months.

GOAL 6 – ADMINISTRATION, MANAGEMENT & MAINTENANCE

Establish, maintain, and operate parks, open space, trails, facilities, and programs in a manner that is cost effective, efficient and economically sustainable.

Policy 6.01 Provide leadership to explore and engage in avenues of developing sustainable funding mechanisms for maintenance and operations of Oroville’s parks and recreation facilities.

Policy 6.02 Provide and construct quality recreation facilities with the objectives of durability, efficiency, and economy.

Policy 6.03 Engage in coordinated and cooperative efforts between local, regional and State park providers. (GP OPS-2)

Actions for Goal 6:

Action 6.01 Provide developers with facilities standards early in the park planning process.

Action 6.02 Coordinate Park and trail development with other park, recreation and open space providers.

Action 6.03 Continue to support coordinated recreational programming, joint use facilities and joint use agreements with other agencies.

Action 6.04 Develop a Tree and Shrub Master Plan for the City of Oroville that includes though is not limited to, acceptable plant types, specifications for planting, layout plan examples, planting sections, and guidelines for soil, irrigation, and maintenance. The plan will also include landscaping and tree plans for existing facilities and an street tree inventory for the city limits. This plan should follow the guidelines as set out in Chapter 6 – Facilities Standards of this document.

Action 6.05 Encourage the installation of trash receptacles and pet waste disposal stations with bags and receptacles along pathways and trails in the City’s parks where pets are permitted.

Action 6.06 Require long-lasting and indestructible materials for construction of facilities and provision of amenities.

GOAL 7 – COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Establish parks, trails, facilities, and programs in a manner that maximizes community involvement and support.

Policy 7.01 Engage community members from diverse backgrounds and interests to commit their time, labor, and/or expertise for the purpose of recreational, environmental, and/or cultural enrichment.

Actions for Goal 7:

Action 7.01 Work with the Parks Commission form a set of Volunteer Action Committees (VAC’s) for various community needs such as:

- public art activities (temporary exhibitions in coordination with the Oroville school system and local art groups).

- family activities & sport events (e.g. bike tours, canoe tours, movies & picnic in the park, swim and barbecue, etc.)
- park and mural clean-up days
- parks patrol / counter-vandalism
- education advocates and activists
- nature education
- open space and trail reclamation

Action 7.02 Develop an Adopt-A-Park Program that encourages local businesses, corporations, and organizations to sponsor maintenance of parks and facilities. The City provides public signage in recognition of the contribution, similar to the CalTrans Adopt-A-Highway program.

Action 7.03 Develop a similar Adopt-A-Tree Program to sponsor implementing City's tree master plan. The City provides public signage in recognition of the contribution.

Action 7.04 Develop a similar Adopt-A-Trail Program to sponsor implementing City's trail system. The City provides public signage in recognition of the contribution. Signage program will be coordinated through the department of parks and trees.



SUMMARY ANALYSIS : POLICIES & ACTIONS

Tables list the action items in this chapter under the categories of Capital Improvement Project and Other Improvement Projects (IP). The Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) will be included into the Citywide CIP schedule. Phases 1, 2 and 3 represent priorities for 1, 5 and 10 years.

TABLE 5.1 - PROPOSED CIP/IP : PHASING PLAN

<u>ACTIONS</u>	<u>Phase 1</u>	<u>Phase 2</u>	<u>Phase 3</u>
1.01	♦	♦	

<u>ACTIONS</u>	<u>Phase 1</u>	<u>Phase 2</u>	<u>Phase 3</u>
1.02	♦	♦	
1.03	♦	♦	
1.04	♦	♦	♦
1.05	♦	♦	
1.06	♦	♦	♦
1.07	♦	♦	
1.08	♦	♦	♦
1.09			♦
1.10	♦	♦	
2.01	♦		
2.02	♦	♦	♦
2.03	♦		
2.04	♦		
2.05	♦		
2.06		♦	♦
2.07		♦	
2.08	♦		
2.09		♦	
2.10		♦	
3.01	♦	♦	
3.02		♦	
3.03	♦	♦	
3.04	♦	♦	♦
3.05	♦		
3.06	♦		
3.07	♦		
3.08	♦	♦	
3.09	♦		
3.10	♦		
4.01	♦		
4.02	♦		
4.03	♦		
4.04		♦	
4.05	♦		

<u>ACTIONS</u>	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3
4.06	♦		
4.07	♦		
5.01	♦	♦	♦
5.02	♦	♦	♦
5.03	♦	♦	♦
5.04	♦		
5.05	♦		
5.06	♦	♦	
5.07	♦	♦	♦
5.08	♦		
5.09	♦		
6.01	♦		
6.02	♦		
6.03	♦		

<u>ACTIONS</u>	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3
6.04	♦		
6.05	♦		
6.06	♦		
7.01	♦	♦	♦
7.02	♦		
7.03		♦	
7.04			♦
7.05	♦		

Note: Items that have more than one phase checked indicate that these are ongoing requirements or programs.

TABLE 5.2 - PROPOSED CIP/IP: IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Facility	Existing Acres/ Quantity ¹	Suggested Acres/ Current Population ²	Additional Quantity/Acres Build-Out over 20 years ³	Total Build-Out / Quantity	Rough Estimate of Cost (Based on Average Costs in 2009) ^{4,5}	Total Capital Cost
<u>Community Parks</u> ⁶	5.6	14.6	3.4	18 Acres	\$250,000 per acre of parkland ⁷	\$4,500,000
Expansion of Feather River Scenic Trail	3.5 miles/ 18,480 LF	3.5 miles/ 18,480 LF	5 miles/ 26,400 LF	8.5 miles	\$225,000 per mile	\$1,125,000
River Drop In Points & Canoe Launches • Bedrock Park • Riverbend Park • (4) Additional locations tbd	0	6	19	25	\$450 each	\$11,250
Demonstration Gardens • Railroad Park (.20 acre) • Soroptomist Park (.25 acre) • Wallace Park (.20 acre)	0	.20	.45	.65 acres	\$300,000 per acre	\$195,000
Upgrade Outdoor Amphitheatre • Bedrock Park ⁸	1	—	—	1	\$150,000 each	\$150,000
<u>Neighborhood Parks</u> ⁹	16.09	29.2	29.2	58.4 Acres	\$350,000 per acre of parkland ¹⁰	\$20,440,000
<u>Open Spaces</u> ¹¹	0	43.8	10.2	54 Acres	\$20,000 per acre of parkland ¹²	\$1,080,000

1 City owned facilities

2 Based on City's Population of 14, 639

3 Build Out over 20 Years Based on City's Population of 17,559 & Estimate of 1% Growth Per Year

4 See guidelines as set out in Chapter 6 – Facilities Standards of this document

5 Estimate of cost does not include land acquisition

6 Based on City's L.O.S of 1 acre per 1000 people

7 Includes design fees and construction costs

8 Assumes upgrades to sound system, lighting, handrails and re-surfacing of bleacher seating

9 Based on City's L.O.S of 2 acres per 1000 people

10 Includes design fees and construction costs

11 See guidelines as set out in Chapter 6 – Facilities Standards of this document, note that Open Space encompasses Mitigation Areas and Trailheads

11 Based on City Standard of 3 acres per 1000 people

12 Assumes typical 50 acre site, perimeter fencing, circuit path and invasive species removal on 20% of land

Facility	Existing Acres/ Quantity ¹	Suggested Acres/ Current Population ²	Additional Quantity/Acres Build-Out over 20 years ³	Total Build-Out / Quantity	Rough Estimate of Cost (Based on Average Costs in 2009) ⁴	Total Capital Cost
Special Use Facilities ¹³	252.62	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Public Art Programs						
- Railroad Park - Sank Park - Soroptomist Park - Centennial Plaza - Bedrock Park - Farmer's Market	0	2	4	6	\$20,000 allowance per facility	\$100,000
Expansion of Self Guided Tour of Historic Downtown					\$20,000 allowance	\$20,000

¹³ Based on City's L.O.S for Community Parks of 1 acre per 1000 people yet Community Parks build outs do not encompass Special Use Facilities

FACILITY STANDARDS

❖ INTRODUCTION

This chapter addresses standards for community facilities and recreation facilities, and parks. The standards outlined in this section are to serve as a guide to City officials, planners, developers, and contractors in the implementation of the goals as outlined in Chapter – Implementation Plan. The material presented in this section should serve as a template for the City and others wishing to develop or upgrade facilities and/or parks within City Limit and planning area.

This chapter also provides guidance and direction for newly developed parks and for making existing facilities safer and more accessible. References include the National Recreation and Park Association, the Federal Americans with Disabilities Act, the State of California, and the Consumer Product Safety Commission. Attention to the details of safety and accessibility, now and in the future, is critical for successful growth and expansion of Oroville's park and recreation system.

The following topics are discussed in this chapter:

1. **GENERAL DESIGN STANDARDS**
2. **REGIONAL RECREATION FACILITIES**
 - Fishing
 - Canoeing, Kayaking, and River Tubing
 - Swimming
 - Hiking (Trails and Trail Heads)
 - Biking
3. **COMMUNITY FACILITIES**
 - Community Parks
 - Cultural Facilities and Historic Sites
 - Detention Basin Parks
 - Green Spaces
 - Special Use Facilities

4. NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS

5. NATURAL OPEN SPACE

❖ GENERAL DESIGN STANDARDS

Location: The location of new parks or other facilities will be very dependant on the use. In general, new parks and facilities should be located in underserved areas where they will be accessible and beneficial.

Parks should be the focus of developments, not leftover residual space. They should not be used as buffers for surrounding developments, nor to separate buildings from the street. Views from surrounding streets should be considered in planning the location of the park site and the individual park features.

Natural Features: The Open Space and Conservation Element of the General Plan for the City of Oroville specifically identifies the need to preserve and improve the quantity, quality, and character of open space in Oroville. The location, design, and maintenance of parks within Oroville offer a unique and important opportunity to meet the goals of the General Plan.

Parks should be designed to conserve natural features, including creeks, heritage trees, views, and significant habitats. However, parkland dedicated to active recreation should not have biological and/or ecological restrictions on parkland usage and related improvements.

Certain land uses that are highly complementary to park development include schools, natural areas, and public resource facilities such as libraries or community centers. Park sites located near such land uses could have joint-use opportunities with the City to share maintenance resources and facilities, and to develop cooperative programming.

Activity types and land uses in adjacent areas may influence site suitability. While proximity to residential development would facilitate better access and use of the park site, noise and traffic

disturbance associated with park activities could have a negative impact on surrounding neighborhoods.

The function of the park could be diminished by commercial or industrial activities that create noise, emissions or traffic. Improvement of facilities adjacent or near commercial/industrial uses as park sites should therefore be limited or carefully designed to avoid or minimize such impacts.

Cleanliness: To ensure that parks are kept clean and free of debris, all levels of parks and open space areas (neighborhood, community, open spaces and trails, etc.) should be developed with trash, recycling, and composting receptacles that are easily accessible to users. Special accommodation for larger debris dumpsters should be made for facilities that will attract larger groups of people.

Safety: Safety of Oroville parks is of great concern to residents. Within parks, lighting to meet accepted minimum safety levels should be provided. Signage indicating park hours and permitted/not-permitted activities should be clearly visible to park users. Where issues of safety are of greater concern to the City and the public, improvements such as monitoring and deterrent devices, gates, and park fencing may be desirable.

Signage: The City of Oroville should set overall design standards for signage within the City's limits and planning area. While different entities may own, lease, or manage facilities within the City's limits, it is important to set a standard that controls the look, materiality and information of the signage.

Signage will be located throughout the City's recreational and community facilities as well as its parks and trails. Coordinated sign standards should be established for community parks, neighborhood parks, kiosks, directional and interpretive signs. While the overall look and materiality of signs should be consistent, the information on the individual signs will be specific to different activities.

Circulation and Connections:

Planting Design:

Restroom Facilities: The provision of restroom facilities at frequently used and highly trafficked facilities will allow for a more comfortable user experience. Restroom facilities should be constructed or retrofitted to be accessible for all users.

Restrooms should be constructed or retrofitted to discourage loitering or activities that would compromise the safety of the park. Facilities should be designed with automatic self closing doors. These doors may or may not be tied into a centrally controlled system or a system that works on a timer. These systems can also be used to control features such as lighting and fans. This type of control can save the City in electrical and maintenance costs over the long-term.

Pre-fabricated restrooms that can be customized to the needs of the site are a cost-effective way that the City can provide a necessary amenity. Restroom facilities should be designed to promote the City's vision for a low impact relationship on the environment. Environmental sustainable design may include solar power, composting toilets, non-flush urinals, recycled materials and air hand dryers.

REGIONAL RECREATION FACILITIES

Oroville is situated to provide a variety of recreation experiences for residents of the City as well as for a larger regional area. Because of the City's topography, availability of open space preserves, and location on the Feather River; Oroville has the opportunity to provide a unique array of recreation possibilities.

FISHING

Design Standards

The location of ‘put-ins’ will depend on the type of fishing as well as other active uses on the river. Fishing river access or ‘put-ins’ should be up-stream of any activity such as canoeing, kayaking, tubing or swimming to avoid potential conflicts. As conditions on the river will vary, flexibility must also be built into any design.

To the extent possible, the location of ‘put-ins’ should be coordinated with the location of trails and trail heads for other recreation activities such as canoeing, kayaking and river tubing. This will allow for the shared use of facilities and thus potentially lower construction costs.

Establish fish cleaning areas set aside for cleaning of fish. Provide receptacles for the waste and implement a composting system for the proper disposal of waste. Signage should be included to help educate on the ecological importance of proper fish cleaning

Provide recycling, trash, and composting receptacles at fishing areas. Areas for cleaning fish should also be incorporated and located at designated ‘put-ins’.

CANOEING, KAYAKING & RIVER TUBING

Design. Standards

A variety of conditions must be addressed in the planning and designing locations for canoeing, kayaking and river tubing activities.

In selecting sites, consideration must be given to other activities on the river. Canoeing, kayaking and river tubing ‘put-ins’ should be located downstream of fishing to avoid conflicts between activities.

The amount of use that is expected at a particular ‘put-in’ should also be taken into consideration. Depending on the anticipated uses, locations should be planned to accommodate large groups, shuttle busses, vehicle turn-arounds, and long and short term storage facilities.

Where boats and tubes are to be removed from the river, adequate parking facilities should be provided. Space should also be provided for loading and/or storage of returned boats.

Restrooms, trash, recycling, and composting receptacles should be provided in the areas that will be heavily used. Design restroom facilities to reflect City standards on environmental sustainable design discussed earlier in his chapter.

Signage should be incorporated into the design of any canoe, kayak, or river tubing facility. This includes signage at ‘put-ins’, trails heads leading to ‘put-ins’, and waterways. Signage should articulate waterway information and restrictions such as ‘No Motorized Boating’, ‘Shallow Water’, speed limit markers and depth gauges.

Canoe, kayak, and river tubing facilities should be located along existing or proposed biking and trail systems that connect different areas of the City or the region. Where possible, ‘put-ins’ for canoeing, kayaking, and river tubing should be coordinated with existing or proposed trail head locations to minimize costs and utilize facilities for multiple uses.

HIKING FACILITIES

Design Standards

Existing trails should be maintained to accommodate the adopted Level of Service for open space of acres of developed parkland for every 1,000 residents.

Upgrade trails to be universally accessible wherever possible.

Upgrade popular trails to include either permanent or portable restrooms. Restrooms should reflect City standards on environmental sustainable design discussed earlier in his chapter.

Coordinate trails with existing or proposed fishing, canoeing, kayaking and river tubing

locations.

Design trails to connect to regional recreation facilities, cultural facilities and historic sites and community facilities.

Develop designated trails with trail heads that will accommodate anticipated volumes.

Locate consistent signage throughout the trail system. Signage at trailheads should indicate location and emergency information. Trail signage should provide distances, directions and educational information. Interpretive signage should be especially encouraged where low impact use is established in natural mitigation areas.

Connect new trail systems to existing systems as much as possible. They should be designed to connect existing or proposed regional recreation facilities, cultural and historic sites, and civic and community facilities.

Develop designated hiking areas with trail heads that will accommodate anticipated volumes. Similarly trash and recycling receptacles should be provided at all trail head areas.

SWIMMING

Design Standards

Swimming activities can be provided through public pools and/or at designated outdoor natural areas. Outdoor swim facilities should be provided with a minimum level of amenities. Amenities to be accommodated at proposed facilities include:

- restrooms and changing facilities
- indoor or outdoor shower facilities
- accessible access to outdoor swimming facilities
- shaded, accessible outdoor seating areas

Additional amenities can also be included as funding or resources become available to the City. These amenities include:

- concessions stand
- covered picnicking areas with BBQ facilities
- connections to existing trails and access to public transportation

BIKING

Design Standards

Goal No. 1 in the City of Oroville's Bicycle Transportation Plan is to "Provide a system of bikeways and multiuse recreational trails throughout the Oroville Urban Area to increase the utility of bicycles for recreation and transportation, and to increase bicycle access to major facilities, shopping areas, schools, work centers, and points of interest."

While the Plan is geared specifically to addressing transportation needs throughout the region, developing a system that incorporates connections to recreation areas, park spaces, and cultural and civic spaces is essential as well. Biking should be tied to the multi-use trail system.

In instances where bicycle routes are intended to serve as connections between destination points, and where the route of travel will be shared with vehicle traffic, Class II and III bike lanes should be considered.

Where bicycle trails will be developed in parks or scenic areas, a Class I bike trail should be considered. A Class I bicycle trail allows for complete separation of bike and vehicular traffic. Incorporate measures to minimize conflicts between bikes and pedestrians into any trail design.

Looped trail systems should be the desirable layout in any recreation areas. Looped systems will provide a more interesting riding experience and have the potential to minimize conflicts on the trail.

Trails in recreation areas should contain distance markers.

Where bicycle trails begin/end at a trail head, trail heads should accommodate parking appropriate in number to the recreation area. Restroom facilities should also be considered at the trail head.

✧ COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Community Facilities within Oroville should include community parks and cultural facilities. These are places where larger groups of residents from the community can gather for City and/or community sponsored events or participate in different passive and active recreation activities.

COMMUNITY PARKS

Design Standards

It is a goal of the City of Oroville to attain a Level of Service of 1 acre of developed community parkland for every 1,000 residents. Special event spaces, unique spaces, and areas developed for community events are included in this ratio. As indicated in the “Special Use Areas” section of this document, these spaces may include areas specifically developed for farmer’s markets, movies and music in the park, outdoor theater.

Currently the City provides 5.6 acres of developed community parkland per 1,000 residents through spaces that it owns and operates or that is within the City limits or planning area. At build-out of the currently proposed conditioned community parks will total approximately 16 acres. This will bring the level of service to 21.6 acres per 1,000 accounting for population changes.

Community parks should be located to serve as large a community area as possible. Ideally parks will be located within two miles of all Oroville residents. Community parks should be a minimum size of seven to ten acres. Fifteen to twenty acres is the ideal range size for Oroville’s community parks.

Locate community parks to facilitate easy accessibility via walking, public transportation

or connection to City-wide trail network. Community parks should be located on major arterials or thoroughfare, where impacts to adjacent residents are minimized.

Where a park abuts residential areas, those uses common to neighborhood parks, such as playgrounds or open non-programmed turf areas, should act as a buffer.

Community Parks should contain features that serve the community at large and provide economies of scale. At least sixty-five percent of the land should be available for active recreation.

Appropriate features include:

- Multiple play fields for organized play (with lighting of some fields)
- Multiple play courts
- Separate play areas for both school age and pre-school children
- Special features, such as a skate park or playground with water play
- Event spaces, such as amphitheaters or festival facilities
- Group, as well as individual, picnic areas
- Municipal Code Signage
- Restrooms and concessions
- Parking
- Equipment storage

Proposed community facilities should utilize existing parks to the greatest extent possible. If needed, new community sites should be centrally located to serve as large a community area as possible. There should be a mix of civic spaces as well as community parks to meet the needs and desires of the residents.

Parking at these combined community sites should be sufficient to accommodate proposed uses. It is undesirable for parking to spill over into surrounding neighborhoods during events. Parking should not, however, dominate the design. Park space must take precedence over parking space.

✘ CULTURAL FACILITIES & HISTORIC SITES

Cultural facilities and historic sites are areas within Oroville that the City has determined to have an intrinsic meaning either because of their history in the development and growth of the City or because they have special cultural value for the residents.

Cultural Facilities and Historic sites include:

- Centennial Cultural Center
- Bolt's Antique Tool museum
- Chinese Temple & Garden
- Feather River Nature Center
- Lott Museum at Sank Park
- Municipal Auditorium
- Pioneer Museum
- Oroville State Theatre & Performing Arts Center
- The Ishi Monument
- The Mother Orange Tree

Resource Protection: Where sites will be newly developed or improved, all applicable City, State, or Federal guidelines should be followed to ensure that the integrity or physical qualities of the site are not compromised.

Promotion of Resources: Maps, guides, and other promotional material that highlight and identify similar cultural and historic resources in the Oroville area should be developed and continually updated. This material should be made available at main City buildings, Chamber of Commerce, and other major tourist destination points. Materials for the City's Historic Walking Tour should be updated to reflect continued expansion.

Signage: All Cultural and Historic sites should be developed or fitted with common signage. This signage should highlight the significance of the site as well as promote other resource locations.

Accessibility and Parking: Cultural and historic sites should be easily accessible to residents of and visitors to the City. Accessibility via public transportation or connection to a trails network should be provided. To accommodate those that may be visiting these sites by car, parking should be made available.

GREEN SPACES

- Soroptimist Park
- Railroad Park
- Wallace Park

Oroville hosts several small pocket park or green spaces within its city limits. These spaces should be developed as thematic demonstration gardens. Examples include a Heritage Rose Garden, Heirloom Citrus Grove, and Native Plant Garden.

NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS

Neighborhood parks in Oroville should meet specific needs of the neighborhood that it serves but also have some features that may be common to all neighborhood parks. While smaller in scale than community sites, neighborhood parks can still facilitate neighborhood size gatherings and events.

It is a goal of the City to attain a Level of Service of 2 acres of developed neighborhood parkland for every 1,000 Oroville residents. Currently the ratio of developed neighborhood park space is 16.09 per 1,000 residents. Currently there are 43 acres of conditioned neighborhood park space proposed. This includes:

- Brookdale Drive Neighborhood Park
- Forebay Estates Neighborhood Park
- Nelson 56 Neighborhood Park
- Martin Ranch Neighborhood Park
- Rio D'Oro Neighborhood Park

This will yield a ratio of 59.09 of developed neighborhood park space per 1,000.

Features common to all Neighborhood Parks:

- Multi-purpose lawn areas for informal play
- Separate play areas for both school age and pre-school children
- Small court game areas
- Pet waste bag stations and Municipal Code signage
- Signage
- No parking facilities
- No permanent restroom facilities

Parks can also be designed in special ways to give them their own neighborhood identity. Some ways to accomplish this include:

- Public Art- consider rotating temporary exhibitions to maintain interest
- Displays highlighting specific neighborhood history
- Neighborhood event gatherings
- Community and/or demonstration garden areas

In determining the location of parks, special attention should be given to the type of park that is being planned. It is desirable that neighborhood parks are within walking distance of the users they serve. Neighborhood parks within Oroville should be a maximum of half-mile walking distance of users. A preferred size for neighborhood parks is between three and five acres. This park size allows lawn play areas for informal field sports.

At least fifty percent of a park's frontage should front onto a public street. For perimeters not bound by a street, significant open space features such as woodlands or creeks, rather than backyard fences, are desired. Where backyard fences are unavoidable, to avoid safety issues, they should be screened through the use of trees in which the bottom of the canopy reaches six feet or higher and shrubs reach a maximum height of one foot. Surrounding buildings should have windows and entries onto the park.

Land must have appropriate slope and drainage to support active recreation activity. There should not be biological and/or ecological restrictions on land usage in active recreation areas. The ratio of park width and length should be no less than a ratio of one to three to promote functional usages of the space.

DETENTION BASIN PARKS

The Oroville General Plan states in Chapter 6, Policy Statement P1.3 of Goal OPS-1 that "Where feasible, develop dual purpose recreational facilities that can additionally serve as drainage basins. These sites should be built with a contoured or tiered design to optimize the potential for drainage."

The following are design standards for the construction of detention basin parks as dual use park facilities:

- The relative amounts of upland area and flat area significantly influence the choice of possible recreation facilities. For example, a ball field requires a maximum cross-slope of two percent over a two hundred foot wide area. Basin side slopes in excess of 6:1 are more difficult to mow and maintain, and will be restricted.
- Park acreage credit will be allowed only for usable parkland, excluding the slopes from top to toe.
- All areas of the basin that are use areas must be planted with either turf or no-mow fescue. Side slopes not suitable for recreation can be planted with groundcovers or natural grasses.

The following guidelines shall also be considered in the design and approval of detention basins as park sites:

- Safety considerations should include the size and location of inlets and outfalls, presence of restricted access areas such as pump stations, and the size and placement of fencing and gates. A review of existing infrastructure to

address these safety concerns is recommended.

- Detention basins are designed to use infiltration to recharge the aquifer and reduce the amount of water passing through the basin. During the dry summer months, highly permeable soils may require supplemental irrigation to support grass and other plantings associated with the park facilities.

NATURAL OPEN SPACE

The Open Space Natural Resources and Conservation Element of the Oroville General Plan provide guidelines for the preservation and improvement of “the quantity, quality, and character of open space in Oroville.”

It is the City’s goal to provide 3 acres of open space per 1,000 residents. For the purposes of meeting this goal, open space areas can include trails, low-impact use and mitigation areas, depending on the level/type of development.

Natural open space in Oroville should be developed in a low-impact manner for passive recreation use, with ultimate consideration for conservation and protection of biological and ecological resources. Conservation issues overlap with several other elements such as agriculture, minerals, water quality, air quality, cultural resources, and others. As outlined in the General Plan, goals relevant to the preservation and protection of recreational open space within the City include:

- Provide a comprehensive, high-quality system of recreational open space and facilities to maintain and improve the quality of life for Oroville residents.
- Engage in coordinated and cooperative planning efforts between local, regional and State parks providers.
- Expansion and creation of preservation and habitat conservation areas within the planning area.
- Create a high quality, diversified public park system that provides adequate and varied recreational opportunities

conveniently accessible to all present and future residents, and that enhances Oroville’s unique attributes.

- Support the development of an extensive, interconnected multi-use trail system for Oroville.

Wherever possible, provide opportunities for users to experience access to waterfront, improved hiking trails, low-impact camping, and unique natural features such as lookouts and wildlife watching. Pets should not be allowed off leash in designated natural open space areas.

SPECIAL USE SPACES

Special use spaces should accommodate various types of community activities. Farmer’s Markets, movies and music in the park, outdoor theatre, holiday fairs are some of the types of activities appropriate to civic spaces in Oroville. Other types may include teen and youth activities and programs, fine, performing arts activities and sports tournaments. Activities should be appropriate for the space where they will be held.



CITY OF OROVILLE CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS FOR PARKS & STREETSCAPES

Construction Standards establish the minimum requirements to be applied to the design and construction of new park projects within the City. The standards should apply to City-generated projects, Developer-generated “Turn-Key” projects and serve as a framework for projects located within the planning area. To enforce a level of consistency, the standards should be used by consultants, developers and contractors for all new projects within the City.

The City’s Standards should include:

1. A discussion of design guidelines, construction document preparation, and developer responsibilities for “Turn-Key” projects, including inspection requirements. These standards should include:

- Design guidelines

- Preferred materials list
- Preferred trees/plants list
- Construction document checklist
- Procedures for “Turn-Key” park projects
- Park Improvement Inspection Record
- Proposed funding mechanisms for construction and maintenance

2. City Standard General Conditions specification section for City construction projects.

3. City standard for technical specifications, including section numbering and formatting. These specification sections make up the “backbone” of the specification package. Additional information and specification sections specific to the project should be added by the City or Developer’s Consultant and included in the contract documents to ensure that all project parameters are covered.

4. City standard details typically used in a park/streetscape project. These details can and should be standardized. Additional details specific to the project should be prepared by the Developer’s Consultant and included in the contract documents.

✧ ACCESSIBILITY STANDARDS FOR FACILITY DESIGN

Federal Law, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Title 24 of the California State Code mandate that all public facilities must be reasonably accessible to and usable by all populations. The City and others wishing to develop facilities must be in accordance with the latest version of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) was signed into law in 1990 but has had periodic updates for certain areas. Title 24 includes State of California accessibility standard guidelines, which are sometimes more restrictive than those of the ADA. These laws require that people with disabilities have equal access to the same public facilities that are available to people without disabilities. Facilities that receive public funds

must be accessible to and usable by people with disabilities. The more restrictive standards will apply in cases where federal, State, and/or local guidelines differ.

For state, local governments and any public accommodation (including City park facilities and programs,), the ADA requires the following:

- Newly constructed facilities must be readily accessible
- Renovation or alteration of existing facilities must make them readily accessible
- Barriers to accessibility in existing facilities must be removed when “readily achievable”.

Some minimum requirements include but are not limited to:

- Provide one accessible route from site access point, such as a parking lot, to all major activities.
- All major activities must be accessible.
- Provide access to at least one of each type of smaller activity, such as picnicking or play elements.
- If toilets are provided, then one accessible unisex toilet facility must be made available along an accessible route.
- Displays and written information should be located where they can be seen by a seated individual. Provide information accessible to the blind.

✧ ACCESS GUIDELINES FOR PLAY AREAS

Application and adherence to the 2005 Access Guidelines for Play Areas is critical and mandated to the development of play areas that are inclusive and provide an equal play experience to users of physical abilities. The City and developers should be familiar with the most up to date requirements for playground accessibility design.

Access Route

1. Provide a minimum of one accessible route within the boundary of the play area that connects all accessible features. In play areas over one thousand square feet, an accessible route should be a minimum of sixty inches wide. In play areas under one thousand square feet, a route should be forty-four inches wide with a sixty-inch radius turning space at a minimum.

- Route width can decrease to thirty-six inches for a maximum sixty inches to accommodate natural features or create a play experience.
- An elevated access route can be a minimum of thirty-six inches and can be reduced to thirty-two inches for a maximum distance of twenty-four inches (primarily intended for composite play structures).
- One of every different type of play component on the ground plane should be accessible and on an accessible route.

2. Fifty percent of all fixed benches along the accessible route should have:

- Clear space for a wheelchair beside the bench
- Back and arm rests

3. Ramps along the accessible route cannot exceed a 1:16 slope. Walkways may not exceed 1:20 without handrails.

Play Equipment

1. An accessible play component:

- Has a clear space on the same level for turnaround.
- Can be transferred for use with entry points located eleven to twenty-four inches above the clear ground space.
- Supports manipulative features (driving wheel, game panels, etc.) within appropriate reach ranges of: two- to five-year-olds (twenty to thirty-six inches) and five- to twelve-year-olds (eighteen to forty inches).

2. Number of accessible play components:

For all play equipment:

- Fifty percent of the same type of elevated play components must also be available on the ground (unless all elevated components are accessed by a ramp).
- One of each different type of play activity on the ground must be accessible.

Fewer than twenty (20) elevated components:

- Fifty percent of all components must be accessible by either transfer platform or ramp.

Twenty (20) or more elevated components:

- Twenty-five percent of all components must be accessible either by transfer platform or ramp.
- Twenty-five percent of all components must be accessible by ramp.



PLAYGROUND SAFETY COMPLIANCE STANDARDS

Updates to California playground regulations were signed into law in August of 2006. Compliance with Assembly Bill 1144 is required as of January 1, 2008.

The most significant changes to the regulations include:

- Playgrounds open to the public must meet the standards set forth by the American Standards for Testing and Materials (ASTM) and the Consumer Product Safety Commission.
- Definition of a playground
- Requirement that all public agencies operating playgrounds open to the public must have a Certified Playground Safety Inspector (CPSI) conduct inspections to determine compliance with requirements

Existing and newly installed playground areas should be inspected by an independent Certified

Playground Safety Inspector for compliance with current safety regulations and Americans with Disabilities Act access requirements. The inspections are aimed at reduction of safety risks associated with slides, surfacing and climbing structures. The surface of each play component and play area must meet or exceed ASTM safety standards.

Each playground area must have an initial inspection to establish compliance or lack, thereof, with the current State regulations including ASTM safety standards and ADA access. Once the safety of an apparatus has been determined, the following steps should be taken:

- Immediately remove life-threatening features from service until they can be corrected or repaired.
- Establish and schedule a prioritized maintenance program of repairs and modifications to meet or exceed State regulations.
- Establish a standardized periodic inspection and maintenance program (daily, weekly, or monthly depending on usage) for each playground area. Train staff to perform periodic inspections and make appropriate repairs when necessary.

If any playground apparatus area receives significant modifications, new play structure or apparatus, or change in surfacing, the playground should be re-inspected by an independent Certified Playground Safety Inspector to review the modification or new equipment for compliance with safety requirements.

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FUNDING STRATEGY



INTRODUCTION

A funding strategy is necessary to implement the various action items listed in Chapter 6 of this document. As part of this process, it is necessary to identify the existing and potential funding sources and a final funding strategy.

All cost and funding elements should be evaluated and updated periodically to reflect current values and economic climate of the region. Existing funding sources should be reviewed and new funding sources should be identified.

This section is a summary of potential funding sources to provide a background and to establish a common frame of reference for the subsequent sections of this report. Almost any funding source can be considered depending on how the program is defined. For example, if a facility is strictly for local use that would have certain potential funding sources. If the project is more regional in appeal, it could possibly tap into other funding sources. If a component is added to generate jobs that would open up a whole range of alternative funds.

This report cannot list all of the potential sources for funding—there are too many and the analysis should focus on those that are most likely and realistic. Rather the focus is on key issues relevant to this particular situation.

It should be kept in mind that funding for operations and maintenance (O&M) is as critical as funding for facilities and park development. “O&M” funding includes sports equipment, program leader salaries, public safety, administration and maintenance -- such as tree

trimming, sod replacement, painting buildings, repair of roofs and irrigation systems, and sealing parking lots. In fact limiting O&M funding may well cause greater capital costs in the future for repairs and replacement. Finally it should be noted that much of the information in this report was obtained from the various agencies cited and discussed in the report.



FUNDING PRINCIPLES

The two basic principles that should guide future decisions regarding financing mechanisms are as follows:

Costs should be equitably distributed based on benefit received. Costs for new infrastructure and public amenities should be the responsibility of developers, property owners, and where appropriate, the public.

Sources of both capital and on-going maintenance revenue should be considered as a part of any financing strategy to ensure that all improvements can be maintained without placing an undue burden on the City. See Appendix III for complete funding principles analysis.



RECENT SOURCES OF FUNDING

Below is a list of park funding sources currently in use by the City of Oroville.

General Fund

Funding for the operations of the Department of Parks and Trees comes primarily from the General Fund. In FY 07/08 the total Parks and Trees budget was \$906,902. The department received \$34,915 in revenues. The balance of \$871,908 was funded from the general fund.

Table 7.1
FUNDING SOURCES FOR RECENT PARK PROJECTS
In Oroville

		Grant		RDA
2005	Hewitt Park-Ph I	Prop 40	220,000	220,000
2005	Hewitt Park-Ph II	Prop 40	500,000	
2005	Riverbend Park	Prop 50	1,500,000	150,000
	Waterfront Project (1)	Prop 40	3,000,000	500,000
	Hewitt Park-Renovation-Ph 1	Prop 12	114,000	220,000
2009	Hewitt Park-Renovation-Ph 2 (2)	Prop 84	2,000,000	300,000

(1) Centennial Plaza and Historic Waterfront Trail.
(2) Pending application for Prop 84 grant.

As shown above, The City of Oroville has been successful in attracting various large grants for development of parks and recreation facilities. The Oroville Redevelopment Agency has also provided partial funding for various new parks in Oroville, including Centennial Plaza and Riverbend Park.

Mitigation Fees

The current City mitigation fee is:

- Single Family \$860
- Multi family \$676

One third of the fee is to be used for neighborhood parks and two thirds for community and sports parks. As of December, 2008, the City impact fee fund had \$163,000 in fees. However, new impact fee revenues have diminished greatly since the slowdown in residential development. During the first quarter of 2009, the total fees generated were \$7,000.

The Feather River Recreation District (FRRPD) mitigation fee is \$1,106. Fees collected in the City must be used in the City. The designated use of these fees is:

- Public facilities-6.6%
- Aquatic facilities-6.5%

- Parkland and facility development-86.9%.
- The FRRPD recently proposed raising these fees.

Landscape & Lighting Districts (LLMD)

The City currently has a Consolidated Special Maintenance District with 19 Zones, 15 of which are active. The services provided include landscaping maintenance, energy costs for lighting and related services. The annual assessment per unit in these zones ranges from \$18 to \$368.

The existing LLMDs all have a maximum assessment set. Also these zones do not have any excess land for parks. So any use of LLMDs for parks would require setting up new districts.

There are two proposed developments that will be conditioned on:

- Establishing an LLMD for landscape and lighting, and
- Dedicating neighborhood parks
- And future O&M for these neighborhood parks will be included in the LLMD.

Similar requirements could be established for future developments/parks.



RECOMMENDED FACILITIES & CAPITOL COSTS

Table 7.2
UNIT COSTS FOR RECOMMENDED FACILITIES

Table 7.2 presents a summary of the types of recommended facilities presented earlier in Chapter 5 of this report. This table also shows an estimate of the unit cost for construction and land acquisition for each type of facility.

Facility	Unit cost			Total
	Construction	Land/Acre	(1)	
Community Parks (acres)	250,000	110,000		360,000
Feather River Scenic Trail (miles)	225,000	-	(2)	225,000
River Drop in Points (acres)	450	-		450
Outdoor Amphitheater-expansion	150,000	-		150,000
Neighborhood Parks (acres)	350,000	110,000		460,000
Demonstration Gardens (acres)	300,000	-		300,000
Open Space (acres)	20,000	20,000	(3)	40,000
Public Arts Programs	20,000	0		20,000

(1) From City Nexus report (2003) adjusted to 2009 dollars at 126%.

(2) Public land or low cost easements are assumed.

(3) Open space easements at 20,000 per acre.

Note: All land costs are preliminary allowances. Actual costs will depend on specific sites acquired.

Source: Construction cost estimates from RHAA.

Table 7.3 presents the same facilities and shows the amount of each facility that is recommended. The amount of development is further separated into the facilities that are needed to meet the recommended level of service for the existing population and the projected future population in Oroville. This distinction is useful because different funding vehicles can be used for facilities for new population. All of the facilities shown for the existing population are considered to be of equal priority. As can be seen the estimated total capital cost (in 2009 dollars) is \$21.5 million to enhance the level of service for the existing population and \$16.4 million to provide appropriate facilities for the projected new population.

Table 7.3
RECOMMENDED FACILITIES AND CAPITAL COSTS

	Acres for:		Total Capital Cost (1) for:	
	Current Population	Future Population (2)	Current Population	Future Population
Facility				
Community Parks (acres)	14.6	3.4	5,256,000	1,224,000
Feather River Scenic Trail (miles)	3.5	5.0	787,500	1,125,000
River Drop in Points (acres)	6.0	19.0	2,700	8,550
Outdoor Amphitheater-expansion	1.0	-	150,000	-
Neighborhood Parks	29.2	29.2	13,432,000	13,432,000
Demonstration Gardens (acres)	0.2	0.5	60,000	135,000
Open Space	43.8	10.2	1,752,000	408,000
Public Arts Programs	2.0	4.0	40,000	80,000
Total			21,480,200	16,412,550

(1) Based on unit costs from Table 7.2

(2) 3,000 people over 20 years.

Source: RHAA

POTENTIAL SOURCES FOR FUNDING CAPITAL COST

Potential Funding Sources for Capital Costs

A Financing Plan is a tool to test the sensitivity of changes in assumptions and future conditions. It includes proposals and targets for funding, not “set in concrete” requirements. The Financing Plan presented in this Chapter separates the costs associated with enhancing the service level for the current population (by Year 5) from the costs of providing appropriate facilities for the projected population (by Year 20). Financing options for 20 years in the future are generally less predictable and subject to change as circumstances change. The Financing Plan also treats capital costs separately from operating costs.

The Financing Plan also focuses on sources that seem practical in Oroville considering current fiscal constraints and conditions. Some sources of funding that are used by other cities (primarily

new taxes) were not considered. For reference, there is additional information about all of these sources of funding in the Appendix to this report. Perhaps when the economic situation improves some of these sources could be revisited.

Mitigation Fee

Mitigation (impact) fees are one time fees charged to new development. These fees go into a special account, to be held until such time that they can be utilized for the acquisition or improvement of appropriate park facilities. It should be noted that impact fees will only contribute to new park development to the extent that new residential development takes place within the City. This fee applies to all new in-fill, single family, and multi-family residential units.

As noted above the City has an existing impact fee. There have been three recent Nexus Studies done for mitigation fees pursuant to the AB 1600 in Oroville:

- City Nexus Study (2003)
- FRRPD Nexus Study
- FRRPD Nexus Study Supplement (2009)

It is not part of this analysis to conduct a new nexus study. However, based on the information contained in the previous studies it is possible to estimate the revenue potential from various levels of mitigation fees.

Table 7.4 presents calculations of the revenues that would be generated by various levels of mitigation fees:

- Current City fees
- Fees recommended in City Nexus Study (2003)
- Fees recommended in the City Study adjusted up for inflation.

The revenues generated range from \$900,000 to \$3.2 million. This analysis uses the midrange estimate of fees (from the 2003 City Study) which generates \$2.4 million.

Table 7.4
ESTIMATED REVENUES FROM A MITIGATION FEE

	Based on:			(1)
	Current Fee	City Nexus Study-2003	City Nexus Study Adjusted	
Fees Per Unit				
Single Family	861	2,133	2858	
Multi Family	676	1,895	2539	
Population Growth 2010-2030 (2)	3,000	3,000	3,000	
Population in Single Family	2,000	2,000	2,000	
Population in Multi Family	1,000	1,000	1,000	
New Single Family units (2.7 persons)	741	741	741	
New Multi family Units (2.4 persons)	417	417	417	
Projected Total Fees (2010-2030)				
Single Family	637,667	1,580,000	2,117,200	
Multi Family	281,867	789,583	1,058,042	
Total	919,533	2,369,583	3,175,242	

(1) Increased to reflect the Construction Cost Index for seven years at 1.34.

(2) At 1% per annum as estimated earlier in this report.

Quimby Fees

The Quimby Act requires developers of residential subdivisions to provide land or in-lieu fees in order to provide park and recreation facilities for new homebuyers. Revenues received in-lieu of dedicated land may be used only for the development or rehabilitation of parks and recreation facilities serving the subdivision. Fees are usually collected upon approval of the tentative map or parcel map and/or issuance of building permits.

If the Level of Service (3 acres/1,000 population) is the same for a Quimby fee as for the existing City Mitigation Fee, the primary reason to initiate a Quimby fee is that the Quimby revenues have fewer restrictions on their use. Quimby in-lieu fees can be used to rehab existing facilities in the subdivision; mitigation fees cannot. Revenues generated through the Quimby Act cannot be used for the operation and maintenance of park facilities. A

city can have both types of fees, but allowance must be made to avoid double payments: any Quimby fees paid would need to be subtracted from the mitigation fees that are due. A Quimby fee is not recommended in this report.

Development Agreements -Turnkey Park Dedication

Cities and counties have authority to negotiate development agreements with those who wish to obtain approval for their land development projects. Through this funding alternative, the developer dedicates the land and makes park improvements, ultimately dedicating to the City a completed park facility. However, any dedications must be given a credit against any impact fees. Operation and maintenance costs are not included in these agreements.

There are two proposed developments that will be conditioned on:

- Establishing an LLMD for landscape and lighting, and
- Dedicating pocket parks
- Future O&M for these pocket parks will be included in the LLMD.
- Similar requirements could be established for future developments/parks.

LLMDs (Landscape & Lighting Assessment Districts)

Landscape & Lighting Assessment Districts are one of the most common forms of special assessment districts. They may be formed to finance landscape and lighting improvements, parks and open space and maintenance expenses. Operation and maintenance of park and recreational facilities can include, but not be limited to landscaping, planting, shrubs, trees, ground cover, irrigation systems, pathways, sidewalks, trails, lights, play areas and playground equipment, play courts and fields, public restrooms, and associated appurtenant facilities located within the public rights-of-way, public property and designated easements within assessed boundaries.

There are a number of jurisdictions in California that use benefit assessments for parks and open space. Some examples include open space acquisition and improvements to parks, playgrounds, landscaping, and related services. The annual household cost of these assessments generally ranges from about \$10 to \$200.

The City of Oroville already has 19 LLMDs established for purposes of landscaping maintenance, energy costs, and related services. However, as noted earlier in this chapter, any use of LLMDs for parks would probably require setting up new districts.

Proposition 218 requires property-related assessments, fees, and charges to be submitted either to property owners for majority approval or to voters for two-thirds majority approval. Only the direct costs attributable to the service(s) benefiting the property are assessable. Costs are to be documented in a professional engineer's report that identifies the property to receive the special benefit and accordingly apportions annual costs to each unit of property that benefits.

For the local government, chances for success in obtaining approval for an assessment district are enhanced if the need for the expenditure is clearly communicated so as to generate understanding and acceptance on the part of those who will pay the new charges. The courts have ruled in favor of agencies imposing open space assessments, but appeals are being predicted.

Table 7.5 presents illustrative funding from an LLMD, which includes all residential units in the City. This might require several districts to be established or might be accomplished with one city-wide district. This table shows that the annual revenues from such an assessment district would be approximately \$545,000. Applying similar assessments to the projected population would generate \$120,000 per year.

Table 7.5
ILLUSTRATIVE FUNDING FROM AN LLMD FOR ALL UNITS

Unit Type	Approximate Population Per Unit	Assessment (1)	Approximate Number of Units	Annual Total Revenues
Existing Parcels				
Single Family	2.55	100	3,200	320,000
Multi Family	2.40	94	2,100	197,400
Mobile Homes	1.80	70	390	27,300
Total/Avg.			5,690	544,700
New Development (yr 20)				
Single Family	2.55	100	700	70,000
Multi Family	2.40	94	500	47,000
Mobile Homes	1.80	70	50	3,500
Total/Avg.			1,250	120,500

(1) Allocated in proportion to average population.

Assumes that each parcel is assessed for the total number of units of each type on the property.

Redevelopment Funds

Redevelopment does not increase tax rates but rather reallocates tax revenues received under existing property tax rates. As shown above, the Oroville Redevelopment Agency has provided partial funding for various new parks in Oroville, including Centennial Plaza and Riverbend Park.

The continued participation by the Redevelopment Agency could take several forms:

Provide matching funds for grants for park development.

Provide free or low cost land for park development

Issue bonds against future projected revenues for park development. The San Francisco RDA does this for the Mission Bay area

Contribute O&M funds for parks. (The San Francisco RDA does this for the several areas in the City.)

In the past four years, RDA has provided approximately \$350,000 per year to fund park improvements.

General Fund-CIP

The General Fund is an unrestricted funding source and critical component of the Oroville Department of Parks and Trees' operations and maintenance budget. Revenue in the General Fund comes from a variety of sources including sales tax, property tax, vehicle license fees, licenses and permits, fines and forfeits, intergovernmental revenue, interest, charges for services, and other miscellaneous sources.

Currently the City CIP is severely restricted. However, as the economy improves it is anticipated that there will be an opportunity to reinstate the CIP including capital funds for some Parks and Trees projects. This analysis assumes an average of \$200,000 for each of the next five years

Supplemental Benefit Funds (SBF)

SBF funds are regional and not committed to any specific municipality or agency. At each Notice of Funds Available (NOFA) posting all are invited to apply based on the, to be, established parameters.

To date \$2.4 million has been encumbered as follows:

- \$500,000 Riverbend Park
- 1,200,000 multiuse fields
- \$100,000 small projects
- \$600,000-administration

Upon execution of the final licensing agreement (expected in January 2010), the Fund will receive an additional \$4.14 million and up to \$1,000,000 annually thereafter based on the license maturity.

The Opportunities Analysis is pending final review and the consultants are currently writing the Regional Fund Strategic Plan which includes funding parameters. The SBF currently has \$381,068.37 that is not committed from the 2007 NOFA will be made available to the SFB,

The SBF Draft Strategic Plan is available but leaves undecided several major factors which will affect the funding potential for Oroville and for parks:

- Percentage allocation to funding categories
- Project selection Criteria and Weighting
- The definition and treatment of “nexus” for SBF funding.

Thus it is not possible to predict the amount of grant funding that Oroville Parks and Trees Department could receive over the life of the SBF, but for planning purposes this analysis targets approximately \$200,000 per year over the next five years.

Community Development Block Grant Funds (CDBG)

Community Development Block Grant Funds are federal funds authorized under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974. These funds are available for projects and improvements that aid in the prevention of blight and provide benefit to low and moderate-income persons. Projects must be located within Target Zones designated by HUD to be low and moderate-income areas. As an example, the Stockton DeCarli Plaza came in part from Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds. While there are many demands for CDBG

funds within any city, this analysis estimates that approximately \$200,000 of CDBG funds could be available annually for parks over the next five years.

Grants

Almost any funding source can be considered depending on how the program is defined. For example, if a facility is strictly for local use that would have certain potential funding sources. If the project is more regional in appeal, it could possibly tap into other funding sources. If a component is added to generate jobs that would open up a whole range of alternative funds.

As shown above, in the past 5 years the city has received approximately \$1.0 million per year in grant funds for parks and recreation capital projects. It is difficult to predict the level of grants received in the future. However, for planning purposes, this analysis sets a target at this same rate.

The Appendix presents a detailed discussion of the many potential grant sources available to the City of Oroville for parks and recreation purposes. Keeping track of potential funding sources is a full time job. Many cities retain a full time staff person for this function. There are literally thousands of potential sources. There are hundreds of publications and web sites for this purpose, but in the end it takes time and perseverance. Each source has different requirements for the activity, matching funds, application procedures, qualifying criteria and so forth. Many of these funding programs are undergoing constant changes in their rules and guidelines. As noted at the beginning of this section of the report, Oroville has been successful in attracting some grants for park development. However the City should review whether more resources are need to support this vital function.

Public-Private Partnerships

Public private Partnerships can take many forms:

- Leases

- Sponsorships
- Concessions-food service, events or activities
- Joint Development Agreements
- G.O. Bonds
- JPA with schools
- Construction and conveyance tax
- Sales and use tax.

While the public agency may have to give up certain responsibilities or control, it is one way of obtaining public facilities at a lower cost. These agreements normally involve a project that will generate substantial revenues such as a recreation or sports complex, cafe, gardens, events center or attractions. The private partner can be a non-profit organization or a corporation. The key is to partner with an entity that can provide capital investment and expertise. This analysis targets for Oroville to obtain \$2.0 million from private partners over the next five years.

Other Sources

Several funding sources that are frequently used in other cities to fund parks were left out of this discussion because of the current fiscal constraints on the City and feedback from the City staff and the community. Examples of the funding sources include:

These sources could be considered in the future if the economic situation or community preferences change.

SUMMARY ANALYSIS: POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES

Table 7.6 presents a summary of target revenues from various sources that could fund future capital cost needs for park, open space and trail development in Oroville. As shown, there is a separate plan for the enhancement of facilities for the current population and for future population needs. In each case, two options are shown. The primary difference in Option B for the current population is a reduction in the amount targeted from the LLMD. The primary difference for option B for the future population is a reduction in the targeted funds from dedications.

Table 7.6
TARGET REVENUES FROM VARIOUS FUNDING SOURCES
For Capital Costs

Source	For Current Population (By Year 5)		For Future Population (By Yr. 20)	
	Option A	Option B	Option A (3)	Option B (4)
Available Mitigation Fees	163,000	163,000		
Mitigation Fee (1)	-		2,369,583	2,369,583
Dedications	-		10,745,600	6,716,000
LLMD (2)	10,894,000	6,536,400	2,410,000	2,410,000
Redevelopment	1,000,000	1,500,000		1,000,000
General Fund-CIP	1,000,000	1,500,000	500,000	1,000,000
SBF	1,000,000	1,000,000	500,000	1,000,000
CDBG	1,000,000	1,000,000		
Grants	5,000,000	7,000,000		1,000,000
Public-Private Partners	2,000,000	3,000,000		1,000,000
Other (5)				
TOTAL	22,057,000	21,699,400	16,525,183	16,495,583
Preliminary CIP	21,480,200	21,480,200	16,412,550	16,412,550

- (1) Assumes all future impact fees are used for parks in the area of the new population.
- (2) Revenues from Table 7.5 times 20 years for current population and 20 years for future population.
In Option B for the current population, the assessment is reduced by 40%.
- (3) Assumes 80 % of all neighborhood parks for future population are provided as dedicated turnkey parks.
- (4) Assumes 50 % of all neighborhood parks for future population are provided as dedicated turnkey parks.
- (5) Various taxes that are used by other cities to fund parks.

In all cases the targeted funds cover the projected capital costs for the recommended facilities. This is very unusual. In many cases a Park and Recreation Plan does not identify sufficient potential funding sources to cover the projected capital costs. This is so because the process of Needs Assessment identifies facility preferences in isolation from the fiscal realities in the community.

As noted at earlier in this chapter, a Financing Plan is a tool to test the sensitivity of changes in assumptions and future conditions. It includes proposals and targets for funding not “set in concrete” requirements. The final plan will depend upon political considerations and changing circumstances. It will be important to monitor any financing plan and adjust as circumstances change. Obviously, as funding becomes available it should be used for top priority projects first.

Finally, it is important to keep in mind that utilizing many of the financing vehicles for local funding would require work setting up the financing vehicle. In most cases additional planning would be required to establish assessment district boundaries or conduct a nexus analysis to impose fees.

POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES FOR OPERATIONS

Current Operating Budgets

The Department of Parks and Trees provides ongoing maintenance for 8 parks and museums with a total of approximately 27 acres. They maintain 44 different spaces throughout the City including parks, green areas, museums, subdivision landscape, and parking lot landscaping. In each one of these areas there is turf, shrubs, and trees, or a combination of

them. Each one has their own irrigation systems that they routinely check and adjust with weather conditions.

They provide maintenance for approximately 15,000 trees throughout the City both in and outside of the parks. They remove 30 to 50 trees a year and plant 50 to 150 a year. In the new subdivisions in our landscaping and lighting districts contractors plant the trees and the department maintains them.

The Department’s other duties include:

- Tree care, planting, watering, trimming, removing, stump grinding.
- Irrigation, all aspects of installation, programming, repairs.
- Working weddings. (20 – 30 events at the Lott home each year.) This includes cleaning of the kitchen dressing room area and bathrooms.
- Museums- they open and close museums for the docents as well as clean them- dusting, mopping, vacuuming, etc.
- Light equipment maintenance – they have mechanics but we do the routine maintenance on small equipment
- Spraying herbicide

The City Building Department does most building maintenance. The Parks and Trees Department has two Certified Arborists so they do all tree work in house. Staff all have a QAC for spraying. They sometimes share work and staff with Public Works. They have a seasonal employee that does the street tree watering. It is a 40 hour a week job about 5 months out of the year.

Table 7.7 presents a summary of the operating budget for the Parks and Trees Department for FY 2007/2008.

Table 7.7
PARKS AND TREES BUDGET
FY 2007-08

Expenses	Administration	Operations	Pioneer Museum	Bolt Museum	Total
Salaries/Benefits	158,622	451,886	19,318	10,793	640,619
Services/Supplies	67,899	179,821	9,963	-	257,683
Capital Outlay	-	7,600	-	-	7,600
Total	226,521	639,307	29,281	10,793	905,902
Revenues	2,358	24,008	5,282	3,266	34,914
Net Expenses	224,163	615,299	23,999	7,527	870,988

Source: City of Oroville

The Budgets for FY 2008/2009 are similar. Approximately 11% of department's total budget is attributable to maintenance of trees outside of parks. These figures represent significant recent cutbacks in the department including:

Outside contractor discontinued-no replacement staff provided

The Director and Manager positions are vacant - not filled

A Park Tech III position is vacant- not filled.

Three new areas for maintenance have been added in the recent past;

- Centennial Plaza

- Highway 70 Interchange
- Roundabout.
- No staff or budget has been added for these areas.

The staff at the department indicated that the current equipment (trucks and mowers) are adequate for the current level of parks. There are several items that Parks and trees has requested from the CIP: primarily relating to new irrigation systems.

Table 7.8 presents a comparison of the budgets per acre for Oroville compared to typical cities.

Table 7.8
BUDGETS PER ACRE OF PARKS

	Oroville
Operations budget (1)	\$679,381
Acres of parks	41
Operations budget/acre	\$16,570
Typical Operations Budget/Ac. (2)	\$ 10,000-16,000

(1) Excludes Administration.

(2) Includes 25% for administration.

As can be seen, the operating cost per acre is high for Oroville. However, this is understandable considering:

- The number of acres maintained is relatively small, which limits economies of scale and increases administration as a percent of the total.
- Many of the areas of maintenance are small areas.
- A good portion of the work is for clean up of buildings, which raises the costs.
- The Parks and Trees Department also provides maintenance for trees outside of the parks.
- There is sharing of staff with other departments which makes it difficult to

judge the true cost of the Parks and Trees operations.

Projected Operating Budgets

This section of the report is not intended as a detailed management study of the Parks and Trees Department. Rather it seeks to establish a general range of projected budgets as a benchmark for considering possible funding sources for operations. Table 7.9 presents a projected budget for the Parks and Trees Department based typical operating costs for parks and on the addition of the recommended facilities.

Table 7.9
PROJECTED PARKS AND TREES BUDGET

	Existing Facilities	Total Facilities		Cost Per Unit	Projected Budget		
		Yr 5	Yr 20		Yr 5	Yr20	
Parks (ac.)	41	84.9	117.5	12,000	1,018,800	1,292,500	(1)
Open Space (ac.)	0	43.8	54.0	2,000	87,600	108,000	
Trails (miles)	0	3.5	8.5	5,000	17,500	42,500	
Total					1,123,900	1,443,000	
Current Budget					905,902	905,902	
Increase over current					217,998	537,098	
Increase over Yr 5						319,100	

(1) Cost per acre is reduced to 11,000 due to economies of scale with larger inventory of parks.

This table presents the projected budget for Year 5 (based on enhancing the LOS for the current population) and for Year 20 (based on the added facilities for the projected population).

The cost per acre used is \$12,000 in Year 5, declining to 11,000 per acre by Year 20, due to economies of scale as the inventory of acres increases. Furthermore the new parks are generally neighborhood parks without expansive regional facilities and no program activities are provided. Additional costs are included for the maintenance and operation trails and open space.

By Year 5, the budget is projected to increase to \$1.12 million, an increase of \$217,000. This increase is relatively small due to the fact that the inventory of parks is being increased significantly over this period. By Year 20, the budget will increase another \$319,000 for a total budget of approximately \$1.4 million.

Potential Funding Sources for Operations

Funding for park operations is always difficult because there are not as many funding vehicles available. In most cities operating costs are covered out of general funds, with a large contribution also coming from facility rental ad

user fees for programs. Unfortunately, because the City Parks and trees Department does not provide many facilities that generate rents and few program activities that generate user fees, these sources represent a smaller potential source of funds.

As noted above, there are few major sources of revenues for operating parks and thus smaller contributions from a variety of sources must be utilized. Some of these sources are not currently used in Oroville and thus are difficult to predict. By Year 20, the operating budget will increase

by \$537,000. This is the result of increasing the level of service for the existing population as follows:

New Facilities

- Parks (acres) 43.9
- Open Space (acres) 43.8
- Trails (miles) 3.5

Table 7.10 presents target revenues from various sources to cover the projected increases in operating budgets.

Table 7.10
TARGET REVENUES FROM VARIOUS FUNDING SOURCES
For Incremental Annual Operating Budgets

Source	Increment For Current Population (Yr. 5)	Additional Increment For Projected Population (Yr. 20)	Total
General Fund	30,000	20,000	50,000
LLMD (1)	50,000	50,000	100,000
Schools (savings)	20,000	-	20,000
Rental Income	40,000	30,000	70,000
User Fees	10,000	5,000	15,000
Grants	20,000	40,000	60,000
Friends/Sponsors (2)	50,000	50,000	100,000
Other (3)			-
TOTAL FUNDING	220,000	195,000	415,000
Projected Incremental Budget (4)	217,998	319,100	537,098
Shortfall	-	124,100	124,100

(1) Requires increasing the assessment.

(2) Annual contribution or income from an endowment.

(3) Includes taxes and fees used by other cities.

(4) From Table 7.9. Note the increment for Yr 5 is smaller because there will be significant savings by increasing the inventory of parks from current level.

The targeted revenues for Year 5 cover the projected increase in the budget. The specific funding targets for Year 5 are described below:

General Fund

As was noted earlier in this chapter, the General Fund currently provides \$872,000 to cover operating expenses for the Parks and Trees Department. The funding target shows an increase of \$30,000 for the enhanced level of service for the existing population.

LLMDs

The LLMDs proposed assessments for capital costs actually generate more annually than the capital plans needs. A slight increase of 3-4% in fees would provide the level of operating support shown in Table 7.10 for Year 5.

School District

One park includes land owned by the School District. The City maintains this area and provides water. The Scout House is located on the Chinese Temple land. The building is maintained by the School District. The City maintains the land around the building. If the school district would take over the City's costs of maintenance in these two areas this would reduce the City's costs.

Rental Income

There are some limited areas where the Parks and Trees Department might increase rental income:

- Expand the use of Bolt Museum and Sank Park for conferences, private meetings and weddings.
- Charge a nearby business for training and team-building sessions at City operated facilities-meeting room and park.
- Permit vendors to hold farmers' markets, arts and crafts shows or antiques fairs in underutilized sections of the park or in a parking lot.
- Review and update user fees as appropriate.

Increase User Fees

This source of funding is based on increasing the level revenues generated from use of park facilities. In general, this means either increasing the level of use or increasing the fees for use. User fees for recreation programming provide a significant funding source for the many park departments. For most activities, revenue to the department is designated for operations and maintenance associated with that activity. Similarly, facility rental revenue is designated

for maintenance of the facilities for which fees are charged. In the case of Oroville the potential in this area is limited by the fact that FRRPD provides most of the recreation events and activity programs in the City.

Grants

Numerous grants are discussed in detail in the appendix to this report. Because grant programs are constantly changing and vary dramatically depending on the specifics of the project, it is not possible to identify the specific grant programs that will apply in the future. In the past City staff have done a good job of monitoring grant programs for parks.

Adopt-A-Park-Friends

Community groups, schools, private entities and others may "adopt" a specific park and contribute labor and/or funds to its development and maintenance.

Non Profit Foundations & Corporations

Non-profit Foundations and Non-profit corporations are tax-exempt organizations which accept and disburse donations, gifts, and bequests to fund government projects or promote a special interest in the community.

For more information on each of these sources of support see the Appendix to this report.

SUMMARY ANALYSIS: OPERATIONS FUNDING

As can be seen in Table 7.10, a combination of funding from a variety of sources could provide sufficient support to cover the projected increase in operation budget for the Year enhanced level of service for the existing population (Year 5).

This table also shows that by Year 20, there could be a shortfall in operating budgets unless new sources are introduced. This is so because the level of new facilities provided by Year 20 is substantial and, as noted above, funding operations is always difficult. This is particularly so in Oroville where the City does not provide many facilities that generate rents and few program activities that generate user fees.

ONGOING PLANNING



INTRODUCTION

The City of Oroville's City of Oroville Parks, Trails and Open Spaces Master Plan is a means to guide growth and change by providing policies, standards and recommendations. Ongoing planning is required to meet the changing needs of the community. Elements of the Master Plan must be re-evaluated and updated on a regular basis. This chapter regarding Ongoing Planning should be updated as necessary.



UPDATE ELEMENTS

The following is an outline of each chapter that will most likely require updates as part of the ongoing planning process.

** Public Input (Needs Assessment: Chapter 2)

The analysis of public input provides valuable data and forms the basis for all Master Plan objectives and implementation guidelines. The goal of analysis of public demand is to confirm that the City is providing appropriate recreation facilities and programs. Assessment of needs and desires for different types and quantities of facilities and programs is recommended every three years, with the first next assessment in 2014.

** Recreation Facilities: Inventory and Review (Needs Assessment: Chapter 3)

This chapter will require updating of the existing baseline data as the City renovates existing facilities and develops new facilities. Chapter 3 should be updated annually to keep pace with changes and upgrades.

Each facility should be subject to an annual inspection and report in order to identify qualitative inadequacies or potential safety hazards. The City should perform a comprehensive analysis of facilities at least every three years.

** Program Resources: Inventory and Review (Needs Assessment: Chapter 4)

The update process for recreation programs is part of an ongoing operation. The inventory of the recreation programs should include a computer database of user information that summarizes the following:

- • An annual tally of program units of service including:
 - Annual percentage of non-resident participation
 - Annual tally of waiting lists
- Cost efficiency
- Cost recovery
- Identification of trends in program participation
- An annual analysis of program user evaluations.
- Annual meeting of City staff to evaluate programs and deficiencies and discuss direction.
- Annual review of City policies that affect programs.
- Annual review of schedule of fees and facility charges.

** Mission, Goals, Policies, and Actions (Implementation: Chapter 5)

The Mission Statement and Goals for the City convey the enduring ideas and direction for Parks and Recreation in the Oroville community, and therefore should not be expected to change frequently. Policies and Actions are manifestations of a collection of ideas from the community and will require more frequent updates. This report recommends updating the Goals every ten years or whenever the Oroville General Plan is amended relevant to recreation, and updating the Policies and Actions annually, as progress dictates.

** Facility Standards (Implementation: Chapter 6)

The Facility Standards chapter will need infrequent updates as it is intended to direct the City toward consistency and quality in perpetuity, through use of the suggested guidelines. A verification of current NRPA

guidelines is recommended every ten years and as warranted when new information is available.

❖❖ **Funding Strategy** (Implementation: Chapter 7)

These chapters should be adjusted each year as part of the preparation of each fiscal year budget. Other aspects of these chapters may be impacted by the updates of individual sections of the Master Plan. Updates should be based upon careful needs assessment, public commentary, and policy direction.

The *Funding Strategy* update should focus on the following:

- Review of existing City financing and facility development
- Future demand and capital improvement costs
- Maintenance and operations costs
- Changes or adaptations to the City's approach to cost mitigation
- Funding alternatives
- Financing strategies
- Maintenance contracts and agreements



UPDATE SCHEDULE

Table 8.1 - Update and Review Schedule for Years 2010-2020

YEAR	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
Baseline Data	CHAPTER 2– Public Input: Data and Analysis									
			X			X			X	
	CHAPTER 3 – Recreation Facilities: Inventory and Review									
	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Facility Inspection	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
			X			X			X	
Comprehensive Facility Analysis	CHAPTER 4 – Program Resources: Inventory and Review									
	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Program analysis	CHAPTER 6 – Facility Standards									
	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Tally of program units of service	CHAPTER 5 – Mission, Goals, Policies, and Actions									
	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Goals Policies, Actions	CHAPTER 7 – Funding Strategy									
	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	CHAPTER 8 – Ongoing Planning									
			X							

Table 8.2 - Update and Review Schedule for Years 2020-2030

YEAR	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/2030
Baseline Data Facility Inspection Comprehensive Facility Analysis Program analysis Tally of program units of service Goals Policies, Actions	CHAPTER 2 – Public Input: Data and Analysis									
		X			X			X		
	CHAPTER 3 – Recreation Facilities: Inventory and Review									
	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
		X			X			X		
	CHAPTER 4 – Program Resources: Inventory and Review									
	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	CHAPTER 6 – Facility Standards									
	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	CHAPTER 5 – Mission, Goals, Policies, and Actions									
	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	CHAPTER 7 – Funding Strategy									
	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	CHAPTER 8 – Ongoing Planning									
			X							

**SUMMARY**

The City of Oroville Recreation and Parks Master Plan 2009-2029 will require periodic updates and revisions to accurately reflect the

community's changing needs. Various aspects of the Master Plan require updates annually, every three years, every five years, or every ten years.

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CITY OF OROVILLE / FRRPD INTERCEPT SURVEY ANALYSIS

The following data represents the answers to questionnaires handed out to members of the city of Oroville on May 4, 2009.

Individual Question Results

A total of 151 community members participated in the individual survey.

1. Where is your favorite place to . . . ?

Out of 148 responses, the majority of respondents chose Riverbend Park as their favorite place.

	Bedrock Park	Centennial Plaza	Chinese Temple	Feather River Nature Center	Hammon Park	Hewitt Park	Railroad Park	Riverbend Park	Rotary Park	Lott Home at Sank Park	Soroptimist Park	Wallace Park	Martin Luther King, Jr. Park	Nelson Sports Complex	Gary Nolan Sports Complex	Playtown Park	Feather River Parkway	Trails
Park Activities																		
Picnic	34	5	10	17	14	9	5	68	7	12			9	3	3	27	6	2
Take children to play at playground	13	2	1	6	13	5	4	55	9	1		1	10	1	1	25	4	4
Take children to spray/water park	14	1		3	2	2		64	8	1		1	4			3	2	
Have a barbeque	17	4	3	2	14	5	2	61	5	5			9			8	6	3
Go walking or jogging	35	11	6	24	4	5	3	59	3	4	1	2	3		3	5	14	24
Walk your dog	19	5	2	12	4	6	3	46	1	1		2	3	1		4	10	10
Relax on lawn	22	3	6	9	6	4	3	47	3	8			9	1		6	4	1
Attend a community event	22	5	5	11	7	5	1	48		17	1	1	9	1	1	4	2	
Play outdoor basketball	1			1	2	3		4	1			1	6	3		1		
Play indoor basketball	2			1	1	1	1	5	1				1	2				
Swim in a lake or river	38			2				36									1	1
Play disc golf	2			1	1	1		22	1				1					
Play soccer	3	1	1	2	5	2	2	11	4	3			8	4	3	2		1
Play baseball or softball	3				3	1		6	2				1	10	6	1	1	
Play tennis	11	1			1	1		5						1	1		1	
Play football	4	1			3	1		5	3				2	3	1			
Play golf course/use driving range								4						1				
Play volleyball	3				1			6	1				1	2				
Go skateboarding	10	1		1				6						1				
Go BMX biking	10	1		2	1			9						1				2
Go fishing	29			5	1			25	1								4	3
Go rafting/kayaking/floating	14			5			1	36	2								4	2

 First Place  Second Place

2. What are the TOP FIVE OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES you would MOST like to see added to meet the recreation needs of your household?

Out of 141 responses, the following are the five most popular activities:

1. Swimming in lakes, ponds, rivers or streams
2. Bike/walking/jogging paths and Fitness & wellness activities
3. Fishing and Dog walking/park
4. Spray park/ water play and Rafting/kayaking and Picnic and Botanical garden
5. Amphitheater and Multi-use trails

Choices	Percentage
Spray park/ water play	5.5%
Playgrounds/tot lots	4.0%
Bike/walking/jogging paths	7.8%
Outdoor basketball courts	0.8%
Soccer fields	2.4%
Baseball/softball fields	1.1%
Football fields	0.7%
Volleyball courts	1.0%
Tennis courts	1.3%
Rafting/kayaking	5.8%
Roller hockey	1.1%
Golf course/driving range	1.4%
Amphitheater	5.4%
Skatepark	1.1%
BMX- Bicycle motocross	1.1%
Road biking	1.8%
Multi-use trails	5.2%
Fishing	6.8%
Fitness and wellness activities	7.9%
Exercise spaces (Yoga, Tai Chi, etc.)	2.8%
Swimming in lakes, ponds, rivers or streams)	8.9%
Picnic/group facilities	5.5%
Native low water use plant garden	3.0%
Healing garden/sensory garden	2.3%
Botanical garden/interpretive garden	5.5%
Dog walking/park	7.1%
Other	
Equestrian park.	0.7%
Horse Riding Trails	0.7%
Beach Volley Ball	0.1%
Water Park	0.1%
Bocce	0.1%
Trails from Hewitt & Railroad Park to downtown	0.1%
Mountain Bike Trails	0.1%
Hunting	0.1%
Skeet Shooting	0.1%

Downhill Skateboarding	0.1%
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3. What are the TOP THREE INDOOR RECREATION FACILITIES you would MOST like to see added in order to meet the recreation needs of your household?

Out of 126 responses, the following are the top three indoor recreation facilities:

1. Performing arts center
2. Fitness & wellness activities and Teen & youth club facilities & programs
3. Community center for classes and Fine arts center

Choices	Percentage
Gymnasium	6.4%
Fitness center	7.6%
Climbing wall	8.2%
Therapeutic pool	5.6%
Indoor basketball courts	2.0%
Fitness and wellness activities	10.8%
Teen and youth club facilities & programs	10.8%
Meeting facilities	3.5%
Community center for classes	9.6%
Senior activities and programs	9.9%
Fine arts center	9.1%
Performing arts center	13.5%
Other	
Equestrian Park	1.5%
Garden Club	0.3%
Indoor Skatepark	0.3%
Indoor Soccer Arena	0.6%
Line Dancing	0.3%

4. What are the TOP FIVE COMMUNITY EVENTS your household would MOST like to see added in order to meet the needs of your household?

Out of 131 responses, the following are the top five community events:

1. Farmer's Market
2. Music in the Park
3. Holiday/seasonal celebrations or fairs
4. Outdoor theater
5. Movies in the park

Choices	Percentage
Outdoor theater	14.5%
Farmer's market	19.5%
Cultural activities	10.4%
Music in the park	18.5%
Movies in the park	4.8%
Religious activities	0.0%
Movies in the park	12.9%
Holiday/seasonal celebrations or fairs	17.6%

Other	
Amusement rides	0.2%
dog events	0.2%
Free events	0.2%
horse events	0.2%
horse riding trails	0.2%
Play dates	0.2%
Rodeo	0.2%
Skating	0.2%
year round farmers market	0.2%

5. As you know the city uses your tax dollars to operate and maintain parks. If an additional funding source was created specifically for parks how much would you be willing to contribute to parks each year?

Out of 117 responses, \$20 was the number one amount people were willing to contribute.

Choices	Percentage
\$0	9%
\$20	47%
\$40	15%
\$60	13%
\$80	2%
\$100	9%
more than \$100	6%

What types of improvement would you like to see in return for this contribution?

- A clean place to be.
- Amphitheater
- Any that would appeal to a broad age range
- Better control of graffiti, homeless, & destruction in Bedrock Park.
- better parks and trash cans to try to stop global warming
- (3) clean restrooms
- Cleaner parks.
- cleaning area up
- Community center/water park
- Cooler skateparks.
- Crime/alcohol, drugs, and graffiti.
- evidence of construction
- For youth
- Get the city father our of the picture and leave the money alone
- (2) Good Maintenance
- Guided tours of trails and lake.
- horse arena
- I think a canopy over the spray park/sandbox at Riverbend is really needed.
- Ice hockey and keep the area as natural as possible.
- Improve downtown area- add art, improve look of downtown buildings (not so rundown) more restroom facilities (public).
- Increased horse trails- not multipurpose
- It would be nice to see the trash on the trails picked up more.

- just keep the park safe and clean
- Just up keep as work progress
- Keep things clean.
- Maintenance
- Make sure park equipment is maintained.
- more bathrooms
- More climbing walls, volleyball court.
- More community events.
- more community resource centers
- more dog trails
- More events for children.
- More events.
- More fishing access.
- (2) More flowers.
- More free fishing areas , movies in the park
- more free walking paths
- More places to ride horses and have fun horse activities.
- More places to take horses to ride and have fun.
- More Playgrounds
- More pre-school programs
- more relaxation
- more shade, more fish
- No trash, less landscaping, more wildlife conservation.
- None, I love it.
- outdoor event facility (outdoor theater)
- Playground equipment.
- Safer, eliminate the criminal elements, such as Bedrock Park & Trail.
- Safety
- Toys/equipment for older kids.
- Updated bathrooms
- water sports
- Well manicured lawns- native plants only.

6. Do you feel safe in our Oroville parks? What are some of the safety issues that you would like to see addressed in our Oroville parks? Please reference specific parks as appropriate.

- Always feel safe - Was asked to leave at sundown!
- Bedrock not good place to go at night.
- Create a park watch program- more police.
- Crime, homeless camp sites.
- Don't feel safe when sun goes down. May be more rangers patrolling
- Drinking alcohol.
- Driving speed. Riverbend Park
- feel safe in the daytimes
- Gang issue- Hammon Park. Drug use- Playtown/Rotary Park
- I don't really use the parks but when I have safety was a non-issue.
- (4) I feel safe.
- I feel safe but I think all the parks could use some sort of security.
- improve security
- In all parks but MLK drugs.
- Loitering- children need something to do.

- More patrolling.
- More patrols
- More visual law presence.
- most of the time
- Most of them. Safety these days is an issue anywhere you go.
- mostly just maybe more round about in downtown park for security and more lights for evenings
- Night watchmen.
- no
- No, lots of hobo's and scary people. More police officers checking in.
- Not after dark at Bedrock or Playtown USA. Have been approached by people. Have seen gangs.
- (2) Not at night
- Not Bedrock
- Only go to certain parks
- patrols regularly
- Rivebend only
- Riverbend
- Safe
- safe daytime only
- Safe during the day, avoid parks at night.
- Security at night, evenings
- Sitting alone in the museum or nature center.
- Some- no
- Some of them during the day.
- somewhat
- somewhat yes during the day
- Somewhat, more lights needed.
- stop bikes on horse trails at Lake Oroville.
- sure
- The trail along Bedrock Park doesn't not feel safe due to the cars parked in the parking lot with single
- males sitting and staring.
- Vagabonds on feather river walk. Foul language and & druggies at Playtown Park.
- (46) Yes
- yes - during daylight
- yes - more police patrols
- Yes and no. I'd like to see more security checks in the parks, particularly Bedrock Park.
- Yes at River Bend
- Yes day light
- Yes I do, I would like to see less tramps sleeping around the River Trails.
- yes very good, except for black widows in bathrooms during warmer weather
- Yes, but I always have my dogs with me.
- Yes, dogs on leash.
- Yes, I feel safe. Less harassment from the police.
- Yes, I have no problems using any of the facilities.
- Yes, less vandalism.
- Yes, lock gate at nature center at night
- Yes, none.
- Yes, Riverbend
- Yes, safe. Enforce non-smoking at music in park.
- Yes, very safe.
- Yes, very.
- yes. Maybe a cop

- yes. Unleashed dogs
- Yes-except homeless in parks.
- young girl can not walk or jog with out men trying to pick them up (Bedrock)
-

7. How would you rate the maintenance of our Oroville parks? Are there specific maintenance issues you would like to see addressed in our parks? Please reference specific parks as appropriate.

- Alright
- Bedrock needs help. This park should be a town jewel.
- Bedrock park needs more fencing off.
- below average, ok at best, centennial park rates poor for maintenance.
- City needs to do maintenance.
- clean restroom
- Excellent
- Excellent.
- Fair water fountains.
- Feather River Bend
- Generally good but there is room for improvement.
- (38) Good
- good - maybe at high user areas cleaner with TP + floors and sinks
- good lighting to keep open after dark
- Good more bathrooms.
- Good. Keeping restrooms well stocked with soap, paper towels, and toilet paper.
- Good/bathrooms need help.
- good/clean
- good/clean
- (6) Great
- Great very clean. Riverbend
- Great, everything looks wonderful.
- Great. Check bathrooms for toilet paper.
- Honestly don't use often, but lighting is always important. Possibly enhanced patrol by 11 after dark.
- I have seen improvement greatly on Feather river Park
- I think all the parks are well maintained except Playtown Park.
- I would like to see the city maintain its own parks.
- Keep restrooms clean.
- Low to poor
- Maintenance seems to be good
- More gardens.
- More landscaping, activities.
- more trash cans
- Most seem adequate
- Nature center is always being kept up - know of people who volunteer picking up trash or help with repainting
- Need more restrooms.
- (2) No
- not after dark
- ok
- out of 10. 8, no, 0
- Parks are wonderfully maintained. MLK Jr. park could use some attention.
- pretty well maintained
- Riverbend - restrooms average

- So far the park are pleasantly clean
- Sprinkler system seems to have some water waste at Riverbend Park.
- the few that we go to are great
- The parks all seem to be well maintained.
- They are beautiful.
- They do the best they can.
- (7) Very good
- (2) Very well maintained.
- Water grass at grassy areas (Riverbend Park)
- We need more trash cans in parks.

8. What trails do you use most? What trail improvements and/or future connections would you like to see?

- (2) All
- Along Feather River
- (2) Bedrock
- (2) Bedrock trail.
- Bedrock-Riverbend
- bike trails
- Bike trails. The trails should be extended to the lake.
- by nature center
- by the river
- Connection from Gran/Nelson to feather river park walk. Can't walk or ride bike across bridge.
- Dan bebe trail (horses)
- Dan Beebe: trail around whole lake, trail to paradise connection.
- don't use trails
- Equestrian trails @ the lake.
- Feather River
- Feather River park
- Feather River walkway/nature walks
- Fishing trails are what we use the most. They are fine.
- Flume, Riverbend Park.
- From River Bend to Bedrock
- (2) From Riverbend to downtown.
- good
- Horse trails. Need water tank for horses at trail heads.
- I don't
- I don't know the name sorry
- I like the trails at Riverbend Park and Bedrock Park.
- I use the Riverbend park most.
- I use the trails near the observatory in Kelley Ridge. I ran across the damn due to an open area
- and many people.
- Lake area trails and river
- Lake Oroville trails
- Levee walk and nature center.
- Multi-use mountain bikes- dogs.
- Not sure where all trails are.
- Oroville dam to the hatchery, parking
- Oroville to table top.
- Pacific Crest

- Paved trail along river
- (2) River
- River & visitor center @ Lake Falls.
- River bend
- River bend bike trails.
- River Front Park.
- (2) River Trail
- River trail extension should be made
- River Trail Riverbend
- River Trail, Nature Center, Beebe.
- River trails.
- River walk
- (4) Riverbend
- Riverbend bike trail.
- Riverbend down to park.
- Riverbend F.R. parkway
- Riverbend park
- Riverbend park only so far.
- Riverbend ponds
- Riverbend trails around lake.
- Riverbend, Bidwell, Trails around dam.
- Riverbend, nature Center
- Riverbend.
- Saddle dam.
- thermalito
- Trails along river.
- Walking along river.

9. Is there anything else you would like to share with the community?

- Being from paradise I would love to explore the Feather River nature center. Need better signs to direct you into the center.
- Better access to the river for swimming and picnics.
- Better community use of trash receptacles
- Car shows
- Dogs
- Finish the veteran's park.
- Hippie stuff.
- I like the historical and small town events. Need things to cool down during summer. Town needs to be more pet friendly.
- I really enjoyed the fiddlers festival
- I want facilities for homeless persons to shower as need and open showers in parks
- I'd like to see a women's soccer team created with a league. Oroville is so behind the times.
- We need higher quality community activities wit more cultural events.
- Is there equipment for the bocce courts?
- It would be great to have more for handicapped individuals to be able to enjoy being outside with a walker, wheelchair, etc.
- It's wonderful.
- Keep improving the image of Oroville.
- Keep up on improving bare areas
- Lots of great (all around) type recreation

- More children activities.
- More info on bocce courts and info on leagues.
- More skateboarding events.
- Nature walks/herbal identification
- (5) No
- Not sure
- Overall you do a great job.
- Riverbend
- Soccer
- Thank you for the progress that is being done in the community.
- The river and lakes are beautiful. Let's get everyone working to keep them clean, accessible, and family friendly.
- We love Riverbend a lot.
- We need a good bluegill pond for kids.
- We need more involvement in community events like information booths for community upcoming events.
- Why are horses not included on this questionnaire?
- Would like to see the whitewater park.

10. What is your age?

Out of 126 responses, a small majority of respondents were between the ages of 56-70 years old.

Choices	Percentage
under 18	5%
18-25	6%
26-40	20%
41-55	28%
56-70	30%
70+	11%

11. Which of the following categories most closely identifies your ethnicity?

Out of 119 responses, the majority of respondents were white.

Choices	Percentage
White	89%
Hispanic	3%
Black or African American	4%
Hmong/Mong	0%
Asian/Pacific Islander	2%
Other	
Cuban	1%
California Indian	1%

12. Are you a resident of the City or County?

Out of 119 responses, the number of respondents was basically split even between city and county.

Choices	Percentage
City	47%

County	50%
Other	
Alameda	1%
Paradise	1%
Shasta County	1%
Glenn City	1%

Group Question Results

A total of 19 community members participated in the group survey. Groups interviewed included (insert groups)

1. Where is your favorite place to . . . ?

Out of 148 responses, the majority of respondents chose Riverbend Park as their favorite place.

	Bedrock Park	Centennial Plaza	Chinese Temple	Feather River Nature Center	Hammon Park	Hewitt Park	Railroad Park	Riverbend Park	Rotary Park	Lott Home at Sank Park	Soroptimist Park	Wallace Park	Martin Luther King, Jr. Park	Nelson Sports Complex	Gary Nolan Sports Complex	Playtown Park	Feather River Parkway	Trails
Park Activities																		
Picnic	4			3				11					1				1	2
Take children to play at playground	1						1	8								1		
Take children to spray/water park	1						1	9										
Have a barbeque	4	1						9					1					4
Go walking or jogging	4	1						6									2	3
Walk your dog	4			1				6					1					2
Relax on lawn	6							2										
Attend a community event	3							8		1								
Play outdoor basketball					1				1					2			1	
Play indoor basketball					1									2			1	
Swim in a lake or river	1		1					3									2	
Play disc golf								1						1				
Play soccer							1	1						1				
Play baseball or softball														1	1			
Play tennis	2													1	1			
Play football		1												1	1			
Play golf course/use driving range													1	1	1			
Play volleyball								1						2				
Go skateboarding	1													2				
Go BMX biking														1			1	1
Go fishing	2			1			2	2						1			3	
Go rafting/kayaking/floating	2			1				2						1			2	

First Place
 Second Place

2. What are the TOP FIVE OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES you would MOST like to see added to meet the recreation needs of your household?

Out of 19 responses, the following are the five most popular activities:

1. Picnic/group facilities
2. Dog walking/park and Fishing
3. Spray park/water play and Multi-use trails

4. Bike/walking/jogging paths and Swimming in lakes, ponds, rivers or streams
5. Amphitheater and Exercise spaces and Healing/sensory garden and Botanical/interpretive garden

Choices	Percentage
Spray park/ water play	7.3%
Playgrounds/tot lots	1.2%
Bike/walking/jogging paths	6.1%
Outdoor basketball courts	0.0%
Soccer fields	1.2%
Baseball/softball fields	1.2%
Football fields	0.0%
Volleyball courts	2.4%
Tennis courts	0.0%
Rafting/kayaking	1.2%
Roller hockey	0.0%
Golf course/driving range	2.4%
Amphitheater	3.7%
Skatepark	1.2%
BMX- Bicycle motocross	1.2%
Road biking	1.2%
Multi-use trails	7.3%
Fishing	9.8%
Fitness and wellness activities	7.3%
Exercise spaces (Yoga, Tai Chi, etc.)	3.7%
Swimming in lakes, ponds, rivers or streams)	6.1%
Picnic/group facilities	11.0%
Native low water use plant garden	1.2%
Healing garden/sensory garden	3.7%
Botanical garden/interpretive garden	3.7%
Dog walking/park	9.8%
Other	
equestrian activities	1.2%
handicapped accessible with things to do	1.2%
horse trail at lake Oroville	1.2%
(2) horse trails	1.2%
more handicap ramps	1.2%

3. What are the TOP THREE INDOOR RECREATION FACILITIES you would MOST like to see added in order to meet the recreation needs of your household?

Out of 15 responses, the following are the top three indoor recreation facilities:

1. Senior activities and programs
2. Fitness center
3. Therapeutic pool and Fitness & wellness activities and Teen & youth club facilities & programs and Meeting facilities and Community center for classes and Fine arts center and Performing arts center

Choices	Percentage
Gymnasium	2.2%

Fitness center	10.9%
Climbing wall	2.2%
Therapeutic pool	8.7%
Indoor basketball courts	4.3%
Fitness and wellness activities	8.7%
Teen and youth club facilities & programs	8.7%
Meeting facilities	8.7%
Community center for classes	8.7%
Senior activities and programs	19.6%
Fine arts center	8.7%
Performing arts center	8.7%

4. What are the TOP FIVE COMMUNITY EVENTS your household would MOST like to see added in order to meet the needs of your household?

Out of 17 responses, the following are the top five community events:

1. Farmer's market
2. Music in the park
3. Movies in the park
4. Holiday/seasonal celebrations or fairs
5. Cultural activities

Choices	Percentage
Outdoor theater	13.6%
Farmer's market	19.7%
Cultural activities	9.1%
Music in the park	18.2%
Movies in the park	6.1%
Religious activities	0.0%
Movies in the park	16.7%
Holiday/seasonal celebrations or fairs	13.6%
Other	
Horse events	1.5%
Horse trails	1.5%

5. As you know the city uses your tax dollars to operate and maintain parks. If an additional funding source was created specifically for parks how much would you be willing to contribute to parks each year?

Out of 13 responses, \$20 was the number one amount people were willing to contribute.

Choices	Percentage
\$0	27%
\$20	55%
\$40	9%
\$60	9%
\$80	0%
\$100	0%
more than \$100	0%

What types of improvement would you like to see in return for this contribution?

- bike path under bridge
- clean parks
- money?
- more outlying spots with hitching posts and picnic tables. Also an open trail way up side of dam
- smoother horse trails
- unable very limited income

6. Do you feel safe in our Oroville parks? What are some of the safety issues that you would like to see addressed in our Oroville parks? Please reference specific parks as appropriate.

- basically safe, especially if other are near
- been attacked by a dog at Hewitt (unleashed) many homeless and intoxicated at Bedrock
- for the most park - some concern of drug users at certain times of the day
- Horse only trails
- I feel safe + I would like more work done to the parks
- no - to much drugs and homeless
- teens + loiterers in bedrock
- The bathrooms are always locked at the far end of the Riverbend park
- (3) yes
- yes, couldn't think of any

7. How would you rate the maintenance of our Oroville parks? Are there specific maintenance issues you would like to see addressed in our parks? Please reference specific parks as appropriate.

- 4 or 5
- (3) good
- Good but at ponds bathrooms at Riverbend
- good Riverbend and Bedrock
- great
- Hewitt bocce ball court is a weed bed already
- I think they are all great
- No problems
- Very nice

8. What trails do you use most? What trail improvements and/or future connections would you like to see?

- (2) Bedrock
- Bike trails path our of Riverbend to Oroville dam
- Dan Bebee, Railroad grade, Long Bar Pond, Lakeland, Glenn pond area
- Horse trails - Saddle dam
- Horse trails, Horse parks
- I use any trail that I know around Oroville
- level walking surface on levee rather than misc patchwork. Tables needed at centennial graffiti removal at Hewitt
- more disability ramps
- Potters ravine - Lakeland
- this is my first time here
- trails in bedrock, Riverbend Parks

- walking along the river back of Oroville

9. Is there anything else you would like to share with the community?

- Horse arena - Riverbend Park
- (3) no
- we need bike lanes and locate on service streets

10. What is your age?

Out of 16 responses, a majority of respondents were 70+ years old.

Choices	Percentage
under 18	0%
18-25	6%
26-40	6%
41-55	25%
56-70	25%
70+	38%

11. Which of the following categories most closely identifies your ethnicity?

Out of 13 responses, the majority of respondents were white.

Choices	Percentage
White	92%
Hispanic	8%
Black or African American	0%
Hmong/Mong	0%
Asian/Pacific Islander	0%

12. Are you a resident of the City or County?

Out of 15 responses, the majority of respondents were from the city.

Choices	Percentage
City	60%
County	33%
Other	
Yuba	7%

CITY OF OROVILLE SURVEY RESULTS

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

STAKEHOLDER INTERVIEWS: CITY HALL, MAY 3, 2009

The project consultant team conducted interviews with community associates and affiliates to gather perspectives, ideas and perceptions regarding recreation in the City of Oroville. Invitations were extended to City Staff, State Parks Staff, City Parks Commissioners, and City Council members. Participants were asked to complete a survey as well as participate in interviews to discuss their responses. Eight interviews were held and nine surveys collected, resulting in candid responses that shared a variety of responses and vision. In an effort to maintain the anonymity of respondents, identities are not linked to responses.

Question: How would you describe your level of satisfaction with existing facilities and parks within the City?

Not at all Satisfied
Somewhat Satisfied
Satisfied
Not Sure / Don't Know
N/A

The majority of responses were equally divided between "somewhat satisfied" and "satisfied". One response was "not sure".

Question: What are the City's greatest strengths as an administrator of parks and recreation facilities in the community?

- *Current parks are well maintained*
- *Attention and vision to resources and improvements*
- *Universal accessibility*
- *Willingness for cooperative efforts*

Question: If you could make improvements to existing parks and recreation facilities in the community, what would those be?

- *Parks and open spaces need to be connected by trails*
- *Parks and open spaces need to be more spread out*
- *Security cameras at every facility*
- *New restroom at Centennial Plaza*
- *Have one managing authority*
- *More attention to clean up of trash*

Question: Are there public facilities you would like to see added?

- *Swimming facility*
- *Low cost meeting facilities – indoor and outdoor*
- *Hall for Functions / Community Facility*

Question: Are there programs you would like to see added?

- *Teen and Youth programs*
- *Canoe rentals*
- *River use*
- *White Water Park*
- *Bike trails – classed to attract destination enthusiasts and events*

Question: Given your current affiliation with the City, how would you change or modify that relationship to better serve the parks and recreation facility needs of the people you serve?

- *Continue to explore ideas for cooperatively using facilities with State Parks and FRRPD*
- *Schedule regular meetings of stakeholders to discuss recreation impacts on the community*
- *Allow opportunities for neighborhoods to create and expand parks*
- *Realize the potential of SBF Funding for applications to other resources beyond recreation*

Question: What are other ideas or observations about parks, recreation facilities, and recreation

programming you would like to share with the City?

- *Competitive Events – bike races (road and trail), cross country, boating*
- *Historic stewardship*
- *Enhance use of current facilities*
- *Continue to explore ideas for cooperatively using facilities with State Parks and FRRPD*
- *Take cooperative role to focus on enhancing funding for all stakeholders*
- *Co-sponsorship of community events with State Parks and FRRPD*

**COMMUNITY OUTREACH EVENT:
WILDFLOWER FESTIVAL - MAY 4, 2009**

This community outreach event was conducted at the annual Wildflower Festival at Riverbend Park. Representatives of the City Planning Department, the consultant team and the FRRPD set up a station at the entrance to the festival, where members of the community were asked to fill out an anonymous informational survey on recreation in the City of Oroville. In exchange for their participation, people were given a free bottle of water courtesy of the City of Oroville. A total of 151 community members participated in the individual survey. See Appendix XX for complete survey analysis.

Question: Out of 148 responses, the majority of respondents chose Riverbend Park as their overall favorite place. Bedrock Park was the obvious second place choice. The top two locations to enjoy the following specific recreational activities are listed below:

- Picnic
 1. Riverbend Park
 2. Bedrock Park
- Take children to play at playground
 1. Riverbend Park
 2. Playtown Park
- Take children to spray/water park
 1. Riverbend Park
 2. Bedrock Park
- Have a barbeque
 1. Riverbend Park
 2. Bedrock Park
- Go walking or jogging
 1. Riverbend Park
 2. Bedrock Park
- Walk your dog
 1. Riverbend Park
 2. Bedrock Park
- Relax on the lawn
 1. Riverbend Park
 2. Bedrock Park
- Attend a community event
 1. Riverbend Park
 2. Bedrock Park
- Play basketball outdoor basketball
 1. Riverbend Park
 2. Martin Luther King, Jr. Park
- Play indoor basketball
 1. Riverbend Park
 2. Martin Luther King, Jr. Park/Bedrock Park
- Swim in a lake or river
 1. Bedrock Park
 2. Riverbend Park
- Play disc golf
 1. Riverbend Park
 2. Bedrock Park
- Play soccer
 1. Riverbend Park
 2. Martin Luther King, Jr. Park
- Play baseball or softball
 1. Riverbend Park
 2. Nelson Sports Complex/Gary Nolan Sports Complex
- Play tennis
 1. Bedrock Park
 2. Riverbend Park
- Play football

1. Riverbend Park
2. Bedrock Park
- Play golf course/use driving range
 1. Riverbend Park
 2. Nelson Sports Complex
- Play volleyball
 1. Riverbend Park
 2. Bedrock Park
- Go skateboarding
 1. Bedrock Park
 2. Riverbend Park
- Go BMX biking
 1. Bedrock Park
 2. Riverbend Park
- Go fishing
 1. Bedrock Park
 2. Riverbend Park
- Go rafting/kayaking/floating
 1. Riverbend Park
 2. Bedrock Park

Question: The top five outdoor recreation activities respondents to the survey would most like to see added to meet the recreation needs of their household are listed below. Out of 141 responses, the following are the five most popular activities, listed in order of most frequent to less frequent:

1. Swimming in lakes, ponds, rivers or streams
2. Bike/walking/jogging paths and Fitness & wellness activities
3. Fishing and Dog walking/park
4. Spray park/ water play and Rafting/kayaking and Picnic and Botanical garden
5. Amphitheater and Multi-use trails

Question: The top three indoor recreation activities respondents to the survey would most like to see added to meet the recreation needs of their household are listed below. Out of 126 responses, the following are the top three indoor recreation facilities, listed in order of most frequent to less frequent:

1. Performing arts center
2. Fitness & wellness activities and Teen & youth club facilities & programs
3. Community center for classes and Fine arts center

Question: The top five community events respondents to the survey would most like to see added to meet the recreation needs of their household are listed below. Out of 131 responses, the following are the top five community events, listed in order of most frequent to less frequent:

1. Farmer's Market
2. Music in the Park
3. Holiday/seasonal celebrations or fairs
4. Outdoor theater
5. Movies in the park

Question: Percentage of most frequent response to the question of how much people would be willing to contribute to parks each year if an additional funding source was created specifically for parks are listed below. Out of 117 responses, \$20 was the number one amount people were willing to contribute.

- \$0 = 9%
- \$20 = 47%
- \$40 = 15%
- \$60 = 13%
- \$80 = 2%
- \$100 = 9%
- More than \$100 = 6%
-

Question: Respondents answers to what individuals would like to see in return for this contribution are listed below:

- A clean place to be
- Amphitheater

- Any that would appeal to a broad age range
 - Better control of graffiti, homeless, & destruction in Bedrock Park.
 - Better parks and trash cans to try to stop global warming
 - (3) Clean restrooms
 - Cleaner parks
 - Cleaning area up
 - Community center/water park
 - Cooler skateparks
 - Crime/alcohol, drugs, and graffiti.
 - Evidence of construction
 - For youth
 - Get the city father our of the picture and leave the money alone
 - (2) Good Maintenance
 - Guided tours of trails and lake.
 - horse arena
 - I think a canopy over the spray park/sandbox at Riverbend is really needed.
 - Ice hockey and keep the area as natural as possible.
 - Improve downtown area- add art, improve look of downtown buildings (not so rundown) more restroom facilities (public).
 - Increased horse trails- not multipurpose
 - It would be nice to see the trash on the trails picked up more.
 - just keep the park safe and clean
 - Just up keep as work progress
 - Keep things clean.
 - Maintenance
 - Make sure park equipment is maintained.
 - more bathrooms
 - More climbing walls, volleyball court.
 - More community events.
 - more community resource centers
 - more dog trails
 - More events for children.
 - More events.
 - More fishing access.
 - (2) More flowers.
 - More free fishing areas , movies in the park
 - more free walking paths
 - More places to ride horses and have fun horse activities
 - More places to take horses to ride and have fun
 - More Playgrounds
 - More pre-school programs
 - More relaxation
 - More shade, more fish
 - No trash, less landscaping, more wildlife conservation.
 - None, I love it
 - outdoor event facility (outdoor theater)
 - Playground equipment.
 - Safer, eliminate the criminal elements, such as Bedrock Park & Trail.
 - Safety
 - Toys/equipment for older kids.
 - Updated bathrooms
 - Water sports
 - Well manicured lawns, native plants only
- Question:* Respondents answers to whether they feel safe in Oroville parks and what are some of the safety issues that you would like to see addressed in our Oroville Parks are listed below:

-
- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Always feel safe - was asked to leave at sundown ▪ Bedrock not good place to go at night. ▪ Create a park watch program- more police ▪ Crime, homeless camp sites ▪ Don't feel safe when sun goes down - may be more rangers patrolling ▪ Drinking alcohol ▪ Driving speed at Riverbend Park ▪ feel safe in the daytimes ▪ Gang issue- Hammon Park. Drug use- Playtown/Rotary Park ▪ I don't really use the parks but when I have safety was a non-issue. ▪ (4) I feel safe. ▪ I feel safe but I think all the parks could use some sort of security. ▪ improve security ▪ In all parks but MLK drugs. ▪ Loitering- children need something to do. ▪ More patrolling. ▪ More patrols ▪ More visual law presence. ▪ most of the time ▪ Most of them. Safety these days is an issue anywhere you go. ▪ mostly just maybe more round about in downtown park for security and more lights for evenings ▪ Night watchmen. ▪ no ▪ No, lots of hobo's and scary people. More police officers checking in. ▪ Not after dark at Bedrock or Playtown USA. Have been approached by people. Have seen gangs. ▪ (2) Not at night | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Not Bedrock ▪ Only go to certain parks ▪ patrols regularly ▪ Rivebend only ▪ Riverbend ▪ Safe ▪ Safe daytime only ▪ Safe during the day, avoid parks at night ▪ Security at night, evenings ▪ Sitting alone in the museum or nature center ▪ Some- no ▪ Some of them during the day ▪ Somewhat ▪ Somewhat yes during the day ▪ Somewhat, more lights needed ▪ Stop bikes on horse trails at Lake Oroville. ▪ Sure ▪ The trail along Bedrock Park doesn't not feel safe due to the cars parked in the parking lot with single ▪ Males sitting and staring. ▪ Vagabonds on Feather River Walk, foul language and & druggies at Playtown Park ▪ (46) Yes ▪ Yes - during daylight ▪ Yes - more police patrols ▪ Yes and no. - like to see more security checks in the parks, particularly Bedrock Park ▪ Yes at Riverbend ▪ Yes day light ▪ Yes, like to see less tramps sleeping around the River Trails |
|--|---|
-

- Yes very good, except for black windows in bathrooms during warmer weather
- Yes, but I always have my dogs with me
- Yes, dogs on leash
- Yes, I feel safe. Less harassment from the police
- Yes, I have no problems using any of the facilities
- Yes, less vandalism
- Yes, lock gate at nature center at night
- Yes, none
- Yes, Riverbend Park
- Enforce non-smoking at music in park
- Yes, very safe
- Yes, very
- Yes, maybe a cop
- Yes, unleashed dogs
- Yes, except homeless in parks.
- Young girl can not walk or jog with out men trying to pick them up (at Bedrock Park)
- Generally good but there is room for improvement
- (38) Good
- Good - maybe at high user areas cleaner with TP + floors and sinks
- Good lighting to keep open after dark
- Good, more bathrooms
- Good, keeping restrooms well stocked with soap, paper towels, and toilet paper.
- Good/bathrooms need help.
- Good/clean
- Good/clean
- (6) Great
- Great very clean at Riverbend Park
- Great, everything looks wonderful
- Great, check bathrooms for toilet paper.
- Honestly don't use often, but lighting is always important - possibly enhanced patrol by 11 after dark
- I have seen improvement greatly on Feather River Park

Question: Respondents answers to how they rate the maintenance of Oroville Parks and if there are there specific maintenance issues would like to see addressed in our parks are listed below:

- Alright
- Bedrock Park needs help - this park should be a town jewel
- Bedrock Park needs more fencing off
- Below average, ok at best, Centennial Park rates poor for maintenance
- City needs to do maintenance
- Clean restroom
- (2) Excellent
- Fair water fountains
- I think all the parks are well maintained except Pla town Park.
- I would like to see the city maintain its own parks
- Keep restrooms clean
- Low to poor
- Maintenance seems to be good
- More gardens
- More landscaping, activities
- More trash cans
- Most seem adequate
- Nature center is always being kept up - know of people who volunteer picking up trash or help with repainting
- Need more restrooms
- (2) No

- Not after dark
- Parks are wonderfully maintained, MLK Jr. Park could use some attention.
- Pretty well maintained
- Riverbend Park - restrooms average
- So far the park are pleasantly clean
- Sprinkler system seems to have some water waste at Riverbend Park.
- The few that we go to are great
- The parks all seem to be well maintained
- They are beautiful
- They do the best they can
- (7) Very good
- (2) Very well maintained
- Water grass at grassy areas at Riverbend Park
- We need more trash cans in parks
- Dan Beebe: trail around whole lake, trail to paradise connection.
- don't use trails
- Equestrian trails @ the lake.
- Feather River
- Feather River park
- Feather River walkway/nature walks
- Fishing trails are what we use the most. They are fine.
- Flume, Riverbend Park
- From River Bend to Bedrock
- (2) From Riverbend to downtown.
- Good
- Horse trails. Need water tank for horses at trail heads.
- I don't
- I don't know the name sorry
- I like the trails at Riverbend Park and Bedrock Park
- I use the Riverbend park most
- I use the trails near the observatory in Kelley Ridge. I ran across the dam due to an open area and many people.
- Lake area trails and river
- Lake Oroville trails
- Levee walk and nature center.
- Multi-use mountain bikes- dogs.
- Not sure where all trails are.
- Oroville dam to the hatchery, parking
- Oroville to table top.
- Pacific Crest
- Paved trail along river
- (2) River
- River & visitor center at Lake Falls

Question: Respondents answers to what trails do used most and what trail improvements and/or future connections would you like to see are listed below:

- (2) All
- Along Feather River
- (2) Bedrock
- (2) Bedrock trail.
- Bedrock, Riverbend
- Bike trails
- Bike trails. The trails should be extended to the lake.
- By nature center
- By the river
- Connection from Gran/Nelson to feather river park walk. Can't walk or ride bike across bridge
- Dan Bebe Trail (horses)
- Riverbend bike trails.
- River Front Park.

- (2) River Trail
- River trail extension should be made
- River Trail Riverbend
- River Trail, Nature Center, Beebe Trail
- River trails
- River walk
- (7) Riverbend
- Riverbend bike trail
- Riverbend down to park
- Riverbend F.R. parkway
- Riverbend park only so far.
- Riverbend ponds
- Riverbend trails around lake
- Riverbend, Bidwell, Trails around dam
- Riverbend, nature Center
- Saddle dam
- Thermalito
- Trails along river
- Walking along river
- I really enjoyed the Fiddlers Festival
- I want facilities for homeless persons to shower as need and open showers in parks
- I'd like to see a women's soccer team created with a league. Oroville is so behind the times.
- We need higher quality community activities wit more cultural events
- Is there equipment for the bocce courts?
- It would be great to have more for handicapped individuals to be able to enjoy being outside with a walker, wheelchair, etc.
- It's wonderful
- Keep improving the image of Oroville
- Keep up on improving bare areas
- Lots of great (all around) type recreation
- More children activities
- More info on bocce courts and info on leagues
- More skateboarding events
- Nature walks/herbal identification
- (5) No
- Not sure
- Overall you do a great job
- Riverbend
- Soccer
- Thank you for the progress that is being done in the community
- The river and lakes are beautiful. Let's get everyone working to keep them clean, accessible, and family friendly
- We love Riverbend a lot
- We need a good Bluegill pond for kids
- We need more involvement in community events like information booths for community
- Upcoming events

Question: Respondents answers to additional information they would like to share with the community are listed below:

- I would love to explore the Feather River nature center. Need better signs to direct
- Better access to the river for swimming and picnics
- Better community use of trash receptacles
- Car shows
- Dogs
- Finish the Veterans Park
- Hippie stuff
- I like the historical and small town events. Need things to cool down during summer. Town needs to be more pet friendly

- Why are horses not included on this questionnaire?
- Would like to see the whitewater park

Question: Out of 148 responses, the majority of respondents were between the ages of 56-70 years old. Percentage of respondents ranging in ages:

- Under 18 = 5%
- 18-25 = 6%
- 26-40 = 20%
- 41-55 = 28%
- 56-70 = 30%
- Over 70 = 11%

Question: Out of 119 responses, the majority of respondents were white. Percentage of respondents ranging in ethnicity:

- White = 89%
- Hispanic = 3%
- Black or African American = 4%
- Hmong/Mong = 0%
- Asian or Pacific Islander = 2%
- Cuban = 1%
- California Indian = 1%

Question: Out of 119 responses, the number of respondents was basically split between city and county. Percentage of respondents who were citizens of:

- City = 47%
- County = 50%

COMMUNITY OUTREACH EVENT: COMMUNITY GROUPS - MAY 4, 2009

A similar survey was distributed to several community organizations. In an effort to maintain the anonymity of respondents, identities are not linked to responses. Many of these surveys were only partially completed. See Appendix XX for complete survey analysis. These groups include:

- Feather River Senior Citizens Center
- YMCA
- Equestrians
- Artists of Riverton

Question: The majority of group respondents chose Riverbend Park as their overall favorite place. Bedrock Park was the typical second place choice. The top two locations to enjoy the following specific recreational activities are listed below:

- Picnic
 1. Riverbend Park
 2. Bedrock Park
- Take children to play at playground
 1. Riverbend Park
 2. Bedrock Park
- Take children to spray/water park
 1. Riverbend Park
 2. Bedrock Park
- Have a barbeque
 1. Riverbend Park
 2. Bedrock Park/Trails
- Go walking or jogging
 1. Riverbend Park
 2. Bedrock Park
- Walk your dog
 1. Riverbend Park
 2. Bedrock Park
- Relax on the lawn
 1. Bedrock Park
 2. Riverbend Park
- Attend a community event
 1. Riverbend Park
 2. Bedrock Park
- Play basketball outdoor basketball
 1. Nelson Sports Complex
 2. Hammon Park/Rotary Park/Playtown Park

- Play indoor basketball
 1. Nelson Sports Complex
 2. Hammon Park/ Playtown Park
- Swim in a lake or river
 1. Riverbend Park
 2. Feather River Parkway
- Play disc golf
 1. Riverbend Park
 2. Nelson Sports Complex
- Play soccer
 1. Riverbend Park/Nelson Sports Complex
- Play baseball or softball
 1. Nelson Sports Complex/Gary Nolan Sports Complex
- Play tennis
 1. Bedrock Park
 2. Nelson Sports Complex/Gary Nolan Sports Complex
- Play football
 1. Nelson Sports Complex/Gary Nolan Sports Complex
- Play golf course/use driving range
 1. Nelson Sports Complex/Gary Nolan Sports Complex/MLK Jr. Park
- Play volleyball
 1. Riverbend Park
 2. Nelson Sports Complex
- Go skateboarding
 1. Nelson Sports Complex
 2. Bedrock Park
- Go BMX biking
 1. Nelson Sports Complex/Feather River Parkway/Trails
- Go fishing
 1. Feather River Parkway
 2. Bedrock Park/Riverbend Park/
- Go rafting/kayaking/floating
 1. Bedrock Park/Riverbend Park
 2. Feather River Nature Center/Nelson Sports Complex

Question: The top five outdoor recreation activities respondents to the survey would most like to see added to meet the recreation needs of their household are listed below. Out of 19 responses, the top 3 most popular activities are listed in order of most frequent to less frequent:

- Picnic/group facilities

- Dog walking/park and Fishing
- Spray park/water play and Multi-use trails
- Bike/walking/jogging paths and Swimming in lakes, ponds, rivers or streams
- Amphitheater and Exercise spaces and Healing/sensory garden and Botanical/interpretive garden

Question: The top three indoor recreation activities respondents to the survey would most like to see added to meet the recreation needs of their household are listed below. Out of 15 responses, the top 3 most popular activities are listed in order of most frequent to less frequent:

- Senior activities and programs
- Fitness center
- Therapeutic pool and Fitness & wellness activities and Teen & youth club facilities & programs and Meeting facilities and Community center for classes and Fine arts center and Performing arts center

Question: The top five community events respondents to the survey would most like to see added to meet the recreation needs of their household are listed below. Out of 17 responses, the top 5 community events are listed in order of most frequent to less frequent:

- Farmer's market
- Music in the park
- Movies in the park
- Holiday/seasonal celebrations or fairs
- Cultural activities

Question: Percentage of most frequent response to the question of how much people would be willing to contribute to parks each year if an additional funding source was created specifically for parks are listed below. Out of 13

responses, \$20 was the number one amount people were willing to contribute.

- \$0 = 27%
- \$20 = 55%
- \$40 = 9%
- 460 = 9%
- \$80 = 0%
- \$100 = 0%
- More than \$100 = 0%

Question: Respondents answers to what individuals would like to see in return for this contribution are listed below:

- Bike path under bridge
- Clean parks
- Money?
- More outlying spots with hitching posts and picnic tables. Also a trail way up side of the dam
- Smoother horse trails
- Unable (to contribute) , very limited income

Question: Respondents answers to whether they feel safe in Oroville parks and what are some of the safety issues that you would like to see addressed in our Oroville Parks are listed below:

- basically safe, especially if other are near
- been attacked by a dog at Hewitt (unleashed) many homeless and intoxicated at Bedrock
- for the most park - some concern of drug users at certain times of the day
- Horse only trails
- I feel safe + I would like more work done to the parks
- no - to much drugs and homeless
- teens + loiterers in bedrock
- The bathrooms are always locked at the far end of the Riverbend park
- (3) yes

- yes, couldn't think of any

Question: Respondents answers to how they rate the maintenance of Oroville Parks and if there are there specific maintenance issues would like to see addressed in our parks are listed below:

- 4 or 5
- (3) good
- Good but at ponds bathrooms at Riverbend
- good Riverbend and Bedrock
- great
- Hewitt bocce ball court is a weed bed already
- I think they are all great
- No problems
- Very nice

Question: Respondents answers to what trails do used most and what trail improvements and/or future connections would you like to see are listed below:

- (2) Bedrock
- Bike trails path our of Riverbend to Oroville Dam
- Dan Bebee, Railroad grade, Long Bar Pond, Lakeland, Glenn pond area
- Horse trails - Saddle dam
- Horse trails, Horse parks
- I use any trail that I know around Oroville
- Level walking surface on levee rather than misc patchwork. Tables needed at centennial graffiti removal at Hewitt
- More disability ramps
- Potters Ravine - Lakeland
- This is my first time here
- Trails in bedrock, Riverbend Parks
- Walking along the river back of Oroville

Question: Respondents answers to additional information they would like to share with the community are listed below:

- Horse arena - Riverbend Park
- (3) no
- we need bike lanes and locate on service streets

Question: Out of 16 responses, a majority of respondents were 70+ years of age. Percentage of respondents ranging in ages:

- Under 18 = 0%
- 18-25 = 6%
- 26-40 = 6%
- 41-55 = 25%
- 56-70 = 25%
- Over 70 = 38%

Question: Out of 13 responses, the majority of respondents were white. Percentage of respondents ranging in ethnicity:

- White = 92%
- Hispanic = 8%
- Black or African American = 0%
- Hmong/Mong = 0%
- Asian or Pacific Islander = 0%
- Other = 0%

Question: Out of 15 responses, the majority of respondents were from the City. Percentage of respondents who were citizens of:

- City = 60%
- County = 33%

There is some apparent confusion to where these parks are located and activities they offer.

The top interests for the residents of Oroville are in expansion of access to river and trail related activities. There is also interest in event spaces and development of more passive recreation opportunities. Overall concerns are focused on safety and cleanliness.

Looking ahead, the Stakeholder interviews exposed the apparent need that the City's development of parks and recreation requires "out of the box" approaches.

There was significant discussion on the potential roles that the City might foster in developing the future of Oroville's parks, recreation and open spaces. It was generally agreed that the many facets of the existing stakeholder organizations, including the Feather River Recreation and park District and State Parks, should work together as complimentary functions of a whole. Currently, the City focuses on passive recreation and historic landmarks while the FRRPD runs the active recreational programs and facilities, and the State pioneers open space management. Within this established system, there is clear potential for the City to expand its current roles as well as generate new functions.



SUMMARY ANALYSIS: PUBLIC OUTREACH

The results of public outreach revealed a general approval of the status of existing parks in Oroville. It was generally agreed that Oroville has a reservoir of resources.

Public outreach showed that there is heavy use at certain faculties and under-use of others, particularly the City owned neighborhood parks.

**Table 2.1** Public Input Summary: Facilities

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POTENTIAL SOURCES OF FUNDING

The remainder of this memorandum is divided into the following general subject areas:

- General Funds, Bonds, General taxes
- Increase Users and Fees
- Impact Fees and Dedications for New Development
- Assessments on Existing Properties
- Grants-Government and Private
- Volunteers and Donations
- Partners.

GENERAL FUND, BONDS AND GENERAL TAXES

General Fund (CIP)

For most cities the General Fund is the primary source of funding for parks and recreation departments. Revenue in the General Fund comes from a variety of sources including sales tax, property tax, vehicle license fees, licenses and permits, fines and forfeits, intergovernmental revenue, interest, charges for services, and other miscellaneous sources. Typically operating funds are provided from an Operating General Fund and the Capital Facilities Fund is used to provide an annual allocation for major capital expenditures.

Bonds

To raise funds for capital improvements, such as land acquisition or building construction, counties and cities may issue bonds. In California, there are three general types of bonds: (1) general obligation (“GO”) bonds, which are guaranteed by the local taxing authority; (2) revenue bonds that are paid by project-generated revenue or a dedicated revenue stream such as a particular tax or fee, and (3) limited tax bonds, which are paid by voter-approved transactions and use tax revenue. Generally, bond proceeds are limited to capital projects and may not be used for operations and maintenance purposes.

General Obligation Bond: These are voter-approved bonds with the assessment placed on real property. The money may only be used for

capital improvements but not for maintenance. This property tax is levied for a specified period of time (usually 15-20 years). Passage requires a two-thirds majority approval by the voters. Major disadvantages of this funding option are the high approval requirement and the high interest and issuing costs. However, several cities still use this source for funding parks and recreation capital expenditures.

Revenue Bonds: These bonds are sold and paid for from the revenue produced from the operation of a facility, typically from lease revenues. Since there are no major revenue producing recreation facilities under the management of the Parks and Trees Department, this funding mechanism may not be a viable alternative in Oroville.

Parcel Tax

A parcel tax is a type of excise tax that is based on either a flat per-parcel rate or a rate that is based upon the use, size, and/or number of units on each parcel. A parcel tax must be adopted as a special tax, requiring two-thirds voter approval. Parcel taxes are used to provide various city services. In 2000, voters in two California cities (Davis \$24 and Monrovia \$39) approved parcel taxes to support the protection of open space. According to a survey of 338 cities conducted by the League of California Cities, 18 percent (62 cities) report collection of parcels taxes ranging in amount from about \$15 per parcel to more than \$100 per parcel. FRRPD receives a \$10 parcel tax in the district.

Sales and Use Tax

In California, the state sales tax is 6.25 percent, which provides revenues for the general fund, the local revenue fund, and the local public safety fund. In addition to the State sales tax, Counties and cities may impose a uniform local 1.0 percent sales and use tax. In addition to the 1.0 percent uniform sales and use tax, special taxing districts, including cities, may impose additional transactions (sales) and use taxes. In particular, cities may levy, increase or extend a transactions and use tax in increments of 0.25 percent if the ordinance authorizing the tax is

approved by two-thirds of the city council and either a majority or two-thirds of voters depending upon whether revenues from the tax will be used for general or special purposes. The total aggregate transactions and use taxes for all taxing districts in a county may not exceed two percent. Roughly 40 local jurisdictions impose an additional transaction and use tax for uses from libraries, transportation, hospitals, road, and capital improvements. Sonoma County imposes a 0.25 percent transaction and use tax to fund its agricultural preservation and open space district.

Special Districts

Statutory special districts, specifically a recreation and park district and a community service district, are another mechanism by which a local jurisdiction may acquire and/or manage property for parks and recreation. Special districts are a form of local government created by a community to meet a specific need. When residents or landowners want new services or higher levels of existing services than are provided by local government, they can form a district to pay for and administer them. Special districts have access to various forms of financing including parcel taxes and assessments.

Recreation and Park District: Recreation and park districts may acquire property for parks and open space, impose property taxes, levy assessments upon properties assessed within their boundaries because those properties are specifically benefited (either throughout the district or in zones of benefit), and incur indebtedness not to exceed five percent of the assessed valuation in the district. However, the governing body of the district may not levy an assessment or tax until the assessment is first approved by a majority of landowners or the tax is approved by two-thirds of voters. The Feather River Recreation and Park District is an example of such a district.

A Community Service District may be formed by a city or county for a number of public

purposes, including public recreation purposes, which include, but are not limited to, aquatic parks and recreational harbors, equestrian trails, playgrounds, golf courses, swimming pools, or recreational buildings. Such a district may acquire real property by grant, purchase, gift, lease or eminent domain.

Redevelopment Funds

Redevelopment does not increase tax rates but rather reallocates tax revenues received under existing property tax rates. As shown above, the Oroville Redevelopment Agency has provided partial funding for various new parks in Oroville, including Centennial Plaza and Riverbend Park.

Redevelopment Funds

The continued participation by the Redevelopment Agency could take several forms:

- Provide matching funds for grants for park development.
- Provide free or low cost land for park development
- Issue bonds against future projected revenues for park development. The San Francisco RDA does this for the Mission Bay area
- Contribute O&M funds for parks. (The San Francisco RDA does this for the several areas in the City.)

IMPACT FEES AND DEDICATIONS IN NEW DEVELOPMENTS

The Subdivision Map Act gives cities and counties authority to control the design and improvement of subdivisions of land within their boundaries. Through the Act, cities and counties may impose requirements, or exactions, on developers as conditions of land use approval. These can be used to mitigate or offset the costs of public services that will be required as a result of the development proposal. They can be in forms like fee payment, dedication of land, or construction of a public facility. In essence, exactions shift the recovery of service costs forward to new residents of an area, since

builders pass along their exaction costs to the buyers of the new developments. Sometimes the approving agency imposes exactions on the developer as an exercise of police power, while other exactions result from mutual agreements between the local government and the developer.

If the nexus is clear, California statutes and case law enable a broad spectrum of purposes for which impact fees can be used by park and recreation agencies. State law also provides a variety of specific financing mechanisms that empower cities and counties to work with developers and enable community growth.

Among the tools available in this regard are:

- Quimby Act of 1975 (in lieu)
- Mitigation Fee Act of 1987 (development impact)
- Mello-Roos Community Facilities Act of 1982
- Development Agreements-Negotiated turnkey park development.

In Lieu and Impact Fees

These are one time fees charged to new development. These fees go into a special account, to be held until such time that they can be utilized for the acquisition or improvement of appropriate park facilities. It should be noted that impact fees will only contribute to new park development to the extent that new residential development takes place within the City.

There are differences between Mitigation fees and Quimby in lieu fees. Quimby fees apply only to residential subdivision development. Quimby fees are based on statutory standards. Mitigation fees require new development to contribute based on current level of parks. Quimby fees can be used for renovation; mitigation fees cannot. Revenues generated through the Quimby Act cannot be used for the operation and maintenance of park facilities. A city can have both types of fees, but allowance must be made to avoid double payments. Both fees can be updated annually to reflect the increase in park development costs.

Development Agreements -Turnkey Park Dedication

Cities and counties have authority to negotiate development agreements with those who wish to obtain approval for their land development projects. Through this funding alternative, the developer dedicates the land and makes park improvements, ultimately dedicating to the City a completed park facility. However, any dedications must be given a credit against any impact fees. Operation and maintenance costs are not included in these agreements.

ASSESSMENT OF EXISTING PROPERTY

In California, property has been assessed for a variety of park and recreation purposes. Some examples include open space acquisition and improvements to parks, playgrounds, landscaping, and related services. But under Proposition 218, only special benefits and not general benefits are assessable. That is, if services that benefit property also provide some benefit to the general public, the services are not assessable. Further, mere enhancement of property values is not a valid basis for an assessment. Only the direct costs attributable to the service(s) benefiting the property are assessable. Costs are to be documented in a professional engineer's report that identifies the property to receive the special benefit and accordingly apportions annual costs to each unit of property that benefits.

The procedures for an assessment under Proposition 218 require all owners of property within the proposed assessment district to be mailed a notice of public hearing and a ballot with which to voice their approval or disapproval of the proposed district at least 45 days prior to the hearing. The balloting is weighted according to the proportional financial obligation that would be placed on the affected property. The assessment district can be formed if a majority of the ballots received does not protest creation of the district. This process means that assessments are easier to impose on new development projects as a condition of approval, rather than more broadly on all property owners.

Assessments are frequently used by local park and recreation districts, particularly under the auspices of the There are a number of jurisdictions in California that use benefit assessments for parks and open space. Some examples include open space acquisition and improvements to parks, playgrounds, landscaping, and related services. The annual household cost of these assessments ranges from about \$10 to \$179.

Operation and maintenance of park and recreational facilities can include, but not be limited to landscaping, planting, shrubs, trees, ground cover, irrigation systems, pathways, sidewalks, trails, lights, play areas and playground equipment, play courts and fields, public restrooms, and associated appurtenant facilities located within the public rights-of-way, public property and designated easements within assessed boundaries.

Benefit assessments can only fund facilities or services that provide a special benefit to a distinct group of property owners. Special benefits must be in addition to any general benefits accruing to all properties in a jurisdiction. An increase in property value alone does not qualify as a special benefit. Thus the City would need to establish a separate benefit district around each park. Fees would be determined by cost of construction and yearly ongoing maintenance.

Benefit assessments are often imposed as a condition of approval for development projects, similar to land dedication requirements and development impact fees. The key difference is that benefit assessments allow for an ongoing revenue stream and therefore make them more suitable to fund ongoing costs.

The two most commonly used assessment district are Lighting and Landscaping Districts (LLD), Community Facilities Districts (CFD) such as Mello-Roos Districts and Infrastructure Finance Districts (IFD). Each of these is discussed in more detail below.

Lighting and Landscaping Districts

The Landscape and Lighting Act of 1972 enables assessments to be imposed to finance acquisition of land for parks, recreation and open space; installation or construction of park and recreational improvements; and maintenance and servicing of such land and improvements. This funding mechanism permits a public agency to assess housing units, or land parcels. The agency can choose to use the revenue generated on a pay as you go basis or can sell bonds in order to receive a lump sum amount. The bonds are then paid back from the annual revenue generated from the assessment. Establishment of an assessment district or the revision of an existing assessment requires a majority vote of property owners.

Mello-Roos (Community Facilities District) CFD

The Mello-Roos Community Facilities Act, passed in 1982, provides an alternative tax-based financing method available to cities, counties and special districts. Under the Act, local governments may establish community facilities districts for the sole purpose of financing facilities and services through the levy of parcel taxes and issuance of bonds.

They are designed for use especially in developing areas and areas undergoing rehabilitation for the funding of certain capital facilities and services, including “maintenance of parks, parkways and open space” and “the purchase, construction, expansion, improvement, or rehabilitation of any real or other tangible property with an estimated useful life of five years or longer,” such as for local park, recreation, parkway, and open-space facilities, and related planning and design work. The funds may be used for development and/or maintenance but only to the extent that they are in addition to those provided in the District. In essence, services may only be financed to the extent of new growth.

Formation requires a traditional two-thirds vote. There is more flexibility in the structure of the

special tax. For example, it can be based on zoning or intensity of development (but not ad valorem). There is also greater flexibility in drawing the district boundaries- they need not be contiguous. Mellow-Roos is most commonly used for new developments because this simplifies the voting requirements. This allows the developer to pay the assessment during the early development phase, while the new residents take over these payments as they move in. This mechanism can be used in conjunction with impact fees and agreements of similar nature and once established will continue in perpetuity. Note that funding provided through a special district (Assessment District or Mellow Roos) will be offset by a credit in development fees.

Infrastructure Financing Districts (IFD)

IFDs are a new way for a city to finance infrastructure improvements. The district utilizes the property tax through a variation on tax increment financing. The IFD law provides that each affected taxing agency must grant its approval before any of its portion of the increment can be collected by the IFD. Also the IFD has no power of eminent domain.

GRANTS – GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE

Grant funding is another potential area for new revenues. Grant money is available from both public and private sources.

State Bonds

On the public side, local park and recreation agencies are eligible for millions of dollars of bond act funds approved by the voters of California in 2000 and 2002 and 2006 and other state grants. As shown at the beginning of this report, State grants have been the primary source of funding for new park development and park renovation in the city of Oroville.

State Funding Programs

California has made a substantial state investment in land conservation through the passage of five voter-approved propositions (Prop 12, 13, 40, 50, and 84) totaling nearly

\$10.2 billion, a portion of which is dedicated to outright purchases of land and a portion toward the provision of matching grants for land protection that further enables local governments and nonprofit entities to protect land and develop parks and other recreation areas in the state.

- Proposition 12 - Safe Neighborhood Parks, Clean Water, Clean Air, and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2000
- Proposition 13 - Safe Drinking Water, Clean Water, Watershed Protection, and Flood Protection Act
- Proposition 40 - California Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhood Parks, and Coastal Protection Act of 2002
- Proposition 50 - Water Quality, Supply and Safe Drinking Water Projects. Coastal Wetlands Purchase and Protection. Bonds. Initiative Statute
- Proposition 84 - Water Quality, Safety and Supply. Flood Control. Natural Resource Protection. Park Improvements. Bonds. Initiative Statute

These propositions authorize the issuance of general obligation bonds to fund parks and land conservation, with the \$2.3 billion Proposition 12 (Park Bond Act of 2000) and \$2.25 billion Proposition 84 (Safe Drinking Water Bond) being the most significant funding source for urban parks through the Park Development and Community Revitalization Act. Per Capita population-based programs are the largest components of local assistance grants included in the bond acts. The Per Capita program appropriates funds to all areas of the state, while the Roberti-Z'berg-Harris Block Grant Program appropriates funds only to the state's urbanized areas.

Prop 84-allocates 5.4 billion to be distributed by specific managing agencies, including

- Department of Water Resources (DWR)
- The Wildlife Conservation Board
- Department of Parks and Recreation

The Office of Grants and Local Services (OGALS) of DPR announced that the final Statewide Park Program Application Guide,

dated April 1, 2009, is adopted. However, due to the bond freeze, implementation of the program has been delayed. Applications are not being accepted at this time. All of the funds from prop 12 and 40 are encumbered. Thus currently, the only new funds available being administered by DPR are the annual programs (Habitat for Conservation Fund, Recreational Trails Program and the Land and Water Conservation Fund).

Park Development and Community Revitalization Act of 2008

This grant program establishes a local assistance funding stream that targets grants for the acquisition of parkland or the development of park and recreational opportunities in critically under-served communities. Administered by the Department of Parks and Recreation, the program makes competitive grants to cities, counties, regional park districts, districts, joint powers authority, and nonprofit organizations. \$400 million from Proposition 84 will be used to fund the program as described in California Assembly Bill 31. The grants will target areas that have less than three acres of usable parkland per 1,000 residents; is a disadvantaged community, as defined by subdivision (g) of Section 75005; and can demonstrate to the department that the community has insufficient or no park space and recreation facilities. The critically under-served community will have a significant percent of persons living at or below the poverty level.

Housing and Community Development-Prop1C

The Housing and Emergency Shelter Trust Fund Act of 2006, known as Proposition 1C, was a \$2.85 billion bond passed by California voters in 2006. Proposition 1C included the Housing Related Parks Program, which will give local governments grant funds as a reward for building affordable housing. The grants will be used for the creation, development or rehabilitation of park and recreation facilities. Those projects may include acquisition of land, the creation of sports fields, play areas, play

structures, gardens and landscaping. \$200 million will be available in total program funds which will be awarded in six annual rounds beginning in 2009. The bond sale scheduled for 2009 is for \$10 million. Applications are due in the spring of 2010 and awards will be based on the number of number of low income units permitted in prior year.

Housing and Community Development-CDBG

Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) may be another potential source of funding. This federal grant program is in widespread use by park and recreation agencies in California. Regulations allow the funds to be spent on recreation facilities. The CDBG program is funded by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development and aims to benefit and provide activities for low and moderate income Americans. These grants from the Federal Department of Housing and Urban Development are available for a wide variety of projects. Most are distributed in the lower income areas of the community. Grants can cover up to 100% of project costs. As an example, the Stockton DeCarli Plaza came in part from Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds.

Department of Water Resources (DWR)

The Department of Water Resources oversees numerous grant and loan programs that could be applicable to developing parks, open space and trails in Oroville. One of the most likely sources would be the Urban Streams Restoration program. The goals of the Urban Streams Restoration Program (USRP) are to:

- (1) reduce property damage caused by flooding or erosion
- (2) restore, enhance, or protect the natural ecological values of streams
- (3) promote community involvement, education, and stewardship.

Due to the State's fiscal crisis and the current freeze on bond funds, the application cycle for the California River Parkways and the Urban

Streams Restoration Grant Programs has been delayed. However, the Natural Resources Agency and the Department of Water Resources are moving ahead with the initial review process and anticipate conducting site visits to projects under consideration during Summer/Fall 2009, contingent on the availability of grant funds.

Supplemental Benefits Funds (SBF)

The SBF will provide one potential source to develop revenue generating projects. As a result of the relicensing of the Oroville Dam, the Department of Water Resources and State Water Contractors have agreed to endow Oroville a potential of up to \$1 million per year for 50 years through the Supplemental Benefits Funds. Funds can be used for any purpose but the SBF committee is in the process of setting guidelines and developing a strategy for the fund..

To date \$2.4 million has been encumbered as follows:

- \$500,000 Riverbend Park
- 1,200,000 multiuse fields
- \$100,000 small projects
- \$600,000-administration

Upon execution of the final licensing agreement (expected in January 2010), the Fund will receive \$6.2 million.

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009

This Act, which is often referred to as the Economic Recovery Act, offers local government the opportunity to submit requests for stimulus funds from over 20 federal agencies. CA will receive \$85 billion-\$10-12 b will be discretionary. In some cases, a formula determines the amount of money for which a city will be eligible. Guidelines for each funding agency are very specific. An application and plans that meet the funding criteria must be submitted by deadlines established by each federal agency. Each region of California has developed a Work Plan. The Work Plan for Region 3, which includes Butte County, was issue in June 2009. It includes a list of hundreds

of projects, both transportation infrastructure and non-transportation infrastructure. Some of these projects are park related improvements. Oroville does not have any projects on the list. It is unlikely that funding from the Economic Recover Act would be used for local parks in Oroville.

Other Grants

Grant programs, funded by various state bond issues, and administered by California State Parks (DPR) have been the main source of funds to local park and recreation agencies for acquisition and development. Additional funding has been available to local agencies through programs administered by other state departments such as Water Resources, Wildlife Conservation Board, Department of Fish and Game, Department of Transportation, California Arts Council, Housing and Community Development, California Integrated Waste Management Board, and through federal programs administered by the National Park Service, Federal Highway Administration and Fish and Wildlife Service.

Many local agencies have been successful in obtaining grant funds for targeted needs, ranging from habitat acquisition and urban forestry improvements to trails development and enhancements for art programs. While this broad scope of grant programs distributes a larger amount of funding in the aggregate, the individual and sometimes conflicting requirements of each different grant program often confuses the applicants. Little effort is being made to coordinate criteria and reduce administrative redundancies.

Eligibility, application deadlines and other program requirements differ among the many grant opportunities available. Some grants are competitive. Others are allocated on a per capita basis or are directly specified in legislation. Information on the bond acts, state grants and federal funds for local parks in California is available from the following partial list of government grant offices:

- California Arts Council—Artists in Communities and other programs.
- California Attorney General’s Crime and Violence Prevention Center—grant funds listed for various programs.
- California Dept. of Boating and Waterways—various grant programs.
- California Dept. of Parks and Recreation, Office of Grants and Local Services—park bond grant programs under state Habitat Conservation Fund and specified grants in state budget, federal Land and Water Conservation Fund and National Recreational Trail Program grants.
- California Dept. of Parks and Recreation, Historic Preservation Office—historic preservation grants for museums, collections and facilities.
- California Dept. of Parks and Recreation, Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division—off-highway vehicle grants and motorized recreation trails program grants.
- California Dept. of Parks and Recreation-Land and water Conservation Fund
- California Dept. of Transportation—Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation (EEM) grants via Ca Resources Agency and Transportation Enhancement grants per U.S. Dept. of Transportation.
- California Dept. of Transportation- Safe Routes to School and Bicycle Transportation Account
- California Department of Water Resources—urban streams restoration grants and related grant programs.
- California Wildlife Conservation Board.
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife
- California Department of Conservation
- California Integrated Waste Management Board—playground surface safety and recycling grants.
- California Office of Criminal Justice Planning—juvenile delinquency prevention grants.
- California Resources Agency—bond act grants under various Propositions.
- U.S. National Endowment for the Arts—grants for public art projects.
- U.S. National Park Service—Land and Water Conservation Fund; Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance (RTCA) Program; Save America’s Treasures Program; Urban Park and Recreation Recovery.
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- U.S. Small Business Administration-Urban Forestry Grants.

As the above list demonstrates, public grants for park and recreation purposes are not solely provided by traditional funders of park and recreation programs.

VOLUNTEERS AND DONATIONS

Another kind of giving comes from individuals and groups in the community. Volunteer labor and donations of money, services or material are potentially attractive resources for agencies that cannot afford to pay additional staff or make purchases beyond the budget for expenditures. There are many ways to utilize the resources of the community through volunteer programs and donations.

Friends of the Park

A Friends organization is typically a private citizens committee dedicated to supporting the goals of a public agency. A Friends organization may undertake fundraising for capital or operational needs and would typically establish tax-exempt 501(c) (3) status. As a non-profit entity, such an organization can obtain grants on behalf of the city when the city itself is not eligible. A “Friends of” organization can also be a fundraiser, receive donations, coordinate volunteer support and assist with match requirements (cash and in-kind labor) for grants to the agency. Another way a “Friends of” organization can help is to be a gateway to the corporate world’s sense of civic responsibility. Other areas where Friends can participate include:

- Participate in park design
- Participate on advisory committees
- Participate in park maintenance
- Assist in applying for outside grants.

Some City's have set up grant programs that neighborhood "Friends of Parks" can compete for.

Local Organizations

Local organized groups can also be helpful in fund-raising and using volunteer labor to build and fund projects. Most communities are host to one or more service clubs (Rotary, Kiwanis, Lions, Soroptimists, etc.), business associations, churches and neighborhood associations and other groups who would probably be happy to contribute to the betterment of park and recreation programs in their area. Sporting groups such as soccer, tennis or Little League and community groups, such as Rotary, Kiwanis, 4-H and the Boys and Girls Club are examples of these supportive partners. Park and recreation departments can seek out volunteer labor and donations from the community to support recreation programs and improve facilities. Examples include tree-plantings, mentoring, youth-group park improvement projects or adopt-a-park and adopt-a-park-component donations, Eagle Scout or Gold Award projects such as picnic table slabs, painting projects, trails, murals, gardens or gazebos. The donations of labor, land, or cash by service agencies, private groups or individuals are a popular way to raise small amounts of money for specific projects.

Foundations

Corporate, charitable, faith-based and community foundations also provide support for park and recreation facilities and programs, even during times of economic stress. Foundation support may be direct or it may come through non-profit organizations, such as a "Friends of" organization. Foundation giving is governed by specific guidelines that stipulate purposes for which grant money can be used, areas of foundation interest and geographic jurisdiction.

Just a few of the many foundations that offer grants pertaining to parks include:

- Arts and Culture
- Ford Foundation
- Pew Charitable Trusts
- After-school programs
- David & Lucille Packard Foundation
- Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
- Historic Preservation
- J. Paul Getty Trust
- Natural Resources
- William & Flora Hewlett Foundation
- Parks and Recreation
- McConnell Foundation
- Kaboom
- California Volunteers
- California Re-leaf
- United States Tennis Association

Land Trusts

Non-profit land trusts at local, regional, state and national levels have been increasing in the last decade. For example, private land trusts such as the Trust for Public Land, Inc. and the Nature Conservancy will acquire and hold land for eventual acquisition by a public agency. These organizations purchase land, hold options to purchase or acquire conservation easements. They can move fairly quickly to acquire land from willing sellers and often partner with public agencies who move more slowly. The non-profit land trusts typically purchase and hold the property until public agencies can complete environmental review and secure funding.

Corporate Sponsors/Fundraising

Corporate sponsorship has become a major source of funding for large-scale projects with substantial public exposure. Corporate sponsors are potential sources of funding for recreation facilities, where they can put their name on the facilities and/or special events they can be identified with. This could include tourism related companies (such as hotels) or local companies seeking goodwill in the local community. Some communities have

successfully used local fundraising campaigns to fund community amenities such as trails and landscaping. This might provide an opportunity to encourage participation by residents of surrounding area who might not otherwise contribute to the improvements.

PARTNERS

The participation of other agencies or the private sector offers another way to expand park and recreation and program offerings. Frequently these partnerships involve cooperation on providing activities and programs. Thus to the extent that the Oroville Parks and Trees Department does not provide recreation programs, the use of partnerships may be somewhat limited. Below is a discussion of three major potential partners for Oroville: the school district, FRRPD and public-private partnerships.

Working with Schools

Communities have historically viewed school grounds and parks as important open space and recreation assets. In the mind of the public, school grounds are good places to go during after-school hours for soccer games, basketball practice, playing catch, flying a kite, or just taking an evening walk. In many cities, recreation features of a school are specifically managed through collaborative arrangements between the local recreation agency and community schools.

Park and recreation agencies and school districts can work together for the good of their communities in many ways. State law encourages public access to school grounds for recreation purposes. Joint-use is enabled as well by provisions of state law concerning grants for new school construction. Opportunities may also exist for cooperation on the conversion of surplus school grounds for community recreation purposes. Procedures for the disposal of surplus school real estate allow public recreation agencies to have first preference for acquisition, with potential under some circumstances for acquisition at below market value or for less than fee simple acquisition.

Prior planning and community support are essential ingredients for a smooth transition of a surplus school site into a new public recreation facility.

After-school programs have attracted considerable interest in recent years. There are two important programmatic pathways for after-school activities: criminal justice and education. Neither program is oriented around parks and recreation, but there is ample opportunity within each program for park and recreation agencies to receive funds. The activities range from tutoring and homework assistance, to enrichment projects in literacy, science, and math, gym, computer labs, and art studios. Many after-school programs in California are funded by federal Child Development grants, as well as the new After School Learning and Safe Neighborhood Grant Program, administered by the California Department of Education.

Many cities have a formal Joint Use Agreement between the City and the Unified School District (USD) which addresses the following topics:

- Use of facilities during unprogrammed hours
- Coordination and points of contact
- Agreement upon provision of staffing for programs
- Opening and closing protocols
- Emergency protocols
- Clean-up responsibilities
- Maintenance responsibilities
- Fiscal responsibility for programs and facilities
- Liability insurance
- Joint planning for new facilities
- Disposition of surplus school sites
- Joint funding for facilities.

Feather River Recreation and Park District (FRRPD)

There may be ways to foster additional cooperation and coordination between the City and FRRPD to further provide recreational opportunities in an efficient manner. Such a cooperative agreement could include:

- Collection of impact fees
- Cost sharing on park maintenance
- Joint marketing/promotional efforts
- Joint funding applications.

Public-Private Partnerships

This concept has become increasingly popular for park and recreation agencies. The basic approach is for a public agency to enter into a working agreement with a private corporation to help fund, build, and/or operate a public facility. Generally, the three primary incentives a public agency can offer is free land to place a facility (usually a park or other parcel of public land), certain tax advantages and access to the facility. While the public agency may have to give up certain responsibilities or control, it is one way of obtaining public facilities at a lower cost. These agreements normally involve a project that will generate substantial revenues such as a recreation or sports complex, cafe, gardens, events center or attractions.

Public-private partnerships have been valuable for the City of Los Angeles. The City's Recreation and Parks Income Development (RAPID) Division was established in 1992 to develop partnerships with private and non-profit sectors in order to enhance recreation and parks services across Los Angeles. Since then, RAPID has coordinated and established several programs: Youth Basketball with the Los Angeles Clippers, the Tregan Golf Academy and Wonderful Outdoor World. It also enabled expansion of the Park Ranger's Bike Patrol.

In 2003, King County, WA adopted its Partnership-for-Parks initiative to develop public-private entrepreneurial partnerships and enhance recreational amenities and services in the city. The Division is actively seeking entrepreneurial proposals for the following enterprise categories:

- Historic District Renovations Capital Projects & Real Estate Development
- Outdoor / Adventure Activities Naming Rights & Sponsorship
- Promotional Advertising Professional / Amateur Sports Events

- Food & Beverage Concessions
- Sustainable Building Projects
- Gifts, Grants, Endowments Property Lease Agreements



SUMMARY

There are several important points to be kept in mind with regard to all of the funding sources discussed above:

- Many sources are restricted to park development and do not cover O&M.
- Except where indicated, most of these sources can be used for implementation and construction activities.
- Many sources require that a specific number of jobs be created at certain levels of funding.
- Many funding sources are specifically aimed at programs and activities such as after-school programs.
- Many sources may require a matching contribution from the recipient or from the private sector.
- All of these programs are very competitive and generally receive between 5 and 10 applications per grant award.
- Utilizing any of the financing vehicles for local funding would require working setting up the financing vehicle. In most cases additional planning would be required to establish assessment district boundaries or conduct a nexus analysis to impose fees.

Keeping track of potential funding sources is a full time job. Many cities retain a full time staff person for this function. There are literally thousands of potential sources. There are hundreds of publications and web sites for this purpose, but in the end it takes time and perseverance. Each source has different requirements for the activity, matching funds, application procedures, qualifying criteria and so forth. Many of these funding programs are undergoing constant changes in their rules and guidelines. As noted at the beginning of this section of the report, Oroville has been successful in attracting some grants for park

development. However, as competition increases for grant funds in the future, it would be helpful if the City designates a full time staff person to track the various funding sources available for parks and other projects.

Obviously, an ongoing effort will need to be made to seek out and apply for various grants and loans as implementation proceeds. At that time further contact with each funding source will be necessary.

DRAFT