

Agenda Report

TO: CITY COUNCIL

DATE: JUNE 16, 2008

FROM: CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF THE PARK FACILITY NEEDS MATRIX

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council approve the attached Park Facility Needs Matrix (see Attachment A). The matrix prioritizes 23 of the identified needs included in the Green Space, Recreation and Parks Master Plan.

RECOMMENDATION OF THE RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION:

At the May 8, 2008 meeting of the Recreation and Parks Commission, the commission recommended that the City Council approve the attached Park Facility Needs Matrix.

BACKGROUND:

On November 5, 2007, the City Council held a public hearing regarding the Green Space, Recreation and Parks Element of the General Plan and Master Plan. At that time, City Council noted the need to prioritize the needs and recommendations identified in the Master Plan and develop a timeframe for the implementation of these need and recommendations. As part of the motion to approve the staff recommendation, the City Council directed staff to develop a matrix to assist with the prioritization of the needs identified in the Master Plan.

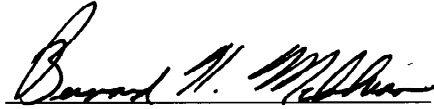
On February 11th, 2008, the City Council approved the matrix for prioritizing recommendations of the Green Space, Recreation and Parks Master Plan recommendations and referred the document to the Recreation and Parks Commission. The Commission used their March 4 and April 1 meetings to develop their recommended prioritization of the park facility identified needs. The Commission did not attempt to rank the program-related identified needs as it was determined that these needs could not be evaluated in the same manner as the park facility needs. Using the priority order the Commission assigned to the

identified needs, staff expanded the matrix to include the recommendations associated with each identified need and added the timeframe for the implementation of each recommendation.

FISCAL IMPACT

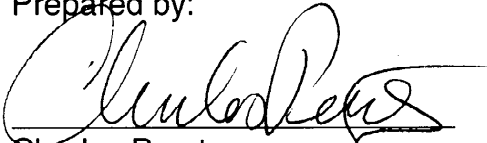
There is no fiscal impact associated with the approval of the attached matrix. Once approved, funding for these projects may be sought through the Capital Improvement Program or the Operating budget processes.

Respectfully Submitted,



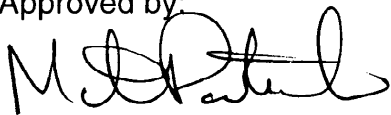
BERNARD K. MELEKIAN
City Manager

Prepared by:



Charles Peretz
Management Analyst IV

Approved by:



Martin Pastucha, Director
Department of Public Works

Concurrence:



Patsy Lane, Director
Department of Human Services and Recreation

**PARK FACILITY NEEDS
MATRIX**

Identified Need	Recommendation	Timeframe			Comments
		Short (0-5 yrs)	Medium (6-10 yrs)	Long (11+ yrs)	
<p align="center"><i>Additional urban open spaces/parks are needed in Pasadena</i></p> <p align="center">1</p>	<i>A</i> Acquire or otherwise make available additional parkland, particularly in the seven identified gap areas.	X	X	X	Ongoing
	<i>B</i> Acquire properties adjacent to existing parks as they become available.	X	X	X	Ongoing
	<i>C</i> Pursue acquiring land identified in the Sensitive Lands Survey if it becomes available.	X	X	X	Ongoing
	<i>D</i> Encourage the development of publicly accessible urban open space areas throughout the City, both public and privately owned.	X	X	X	Ongoing
	<i>E</i> Pursue joint use agreements with the School District that would allow various schools to function as Neighborhood Parks.	X			There are five joint-use sites currently open to the public
	<i>F</i> Pursue improvements at the recently acquired 30-acre parcel in the Hahamongna Watershed area for recreational and educational purposes. (Also noted: trailhead and interpretive elements)	X	X		Grants are being sought and an amendment to the HWP Master Plan is forthcoming

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			Short (0-5 yrs)	Medium (6-10 yrs)	Long (11+ yrs)	
1	<i>Additional urban open spaces/parks are needed in Pasadena</i>	<p>Pursue trail and park improvements within and adjacent to the property owned by the Los Angeles County Flood Control District and Southern California Edison in eastern Pasadena. There is an opportunity to work with other communities and organizations, such as the San Gabriel & Lower Los Angeles Rivers & Mountains Conservancy, in order to increase trail connectivity both east - west from the Arroyo to Eaton Canyon, and north-south - ultimately to Whittier Narrows and the ocean. Connections to existing parks, proposed parks, the YMCA, the equestrian facility, and large natural open space to the north make this a significant opportunity. Existing open space in the easement area should be preserved to the extent feasible and practical to enhance the trail experience.</p>	X	X		
2	<i>Additional green spaces/parks are needed in Northwest Pasadena</i>	<p>Expand or modify existing facilities to better serve specific neighborhood populations and pursue joint use of Muir High School and Cleveland Elementary.</p>	X			Tennis court and baseball diamond improvements are complete. Plans for Cleveland and Muir neighborhood park are in progress.
3	<i>Additional open space</i>	<p>Pursue leases and enhancement of Los Angeles County Flood Control property in eastern Pasadena.</p>	X	X		

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3	<i>Additional open space</i>	B The City should explore partnerships with agencies such as the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, Trust for Public Land, and other local and/or regional groups to identify and pursue acquisition of property in the City's hillside areas that could be retained as Open Space.	X	X	X	Ongoing
4	<i>Increased linkages between local trails and regional trails</i>	A Complete and implement the Pedestrian Master Plan that will enhance non-motorized transportation throughout Pasadena.	X	X	X	
		B Implement Arroyo Seco Master Plan improvements, including trail elements.	X	X	X	Ongoing
5	<i>Increased safety and security at parks</i>	A Strengthen the Graffiti Abatement Program to include regular interaction with members of the Police Department, Public Works Department, Human Services & Recreation Department, and the public.	X			
		B Establish regular communication between the Police, Public Works, and Human Services Departments, and the public regarding park policing issues.	X			
		C Expand the positive programs in all parks, such as the Park Safety Specialist program.	X			
		D Work with neighborhoods to provide neighborhood ownership and investment in parks.	X			

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5	<i>Increased safety and security at parks</i>	<i>E</i> Propose that the "Neighborhood Night-Out" programs be held in neighborhood parks.	X			
6	<i>Address service area gaps and neighborhood identity</i>	<i>A</i> Coordinate with PUSD to develop a model joint use agreement that can be used as a starting point for future agreements. City shall commit to provide surplus play equipment, maintenance and improvement of fields, or assist in funding for field maintenance.	X			The 5 existing agreements can be used as models. City has devoted financial and human resources to the preparation and maintenance of these sites.
		<i>B</i> Consider creating a Joint Use Committee with City and PUSD representatives to develop a model agreement and oversee future joint use projects.	X			Designated City and PUSD staff members meet to review each proposed site.
7	<i>Additional accessible playgrounds</i>	<i>A</i> Continue to implement existing City policy for upgrading play equipment for increased accessibility.	X			Ongoing - Currently planning a city-wide universally accessible playground at Brookside Park
		<i>B</i> Continue to implement existing City policy for incorporation of accessible components in new facilities.	X			Ongoing - Staff works with Accessibility and Disability staff on all capital projects to ensure accessibility issues are addressed

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8	<i>Protect and preserve open space and the historical and cultural aspects of parks</i>	A	X	X		
		B	X			
		C	X			
9	<i>Continued coordinated maintenance efforts for all City recreational facilities</i>	A	X			
		B	X	X	X	Completed/Ongoing
		C	X	X	X	Similar to 1 E Ongoing
		D	X	X	X	Completed/Ongoing

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10	<i>Additional green spaces/parks are needed near Sierra Madre Blvd, north of Del Mar Blvd</i>	Pursue joint use agreement with the School District that would allow Hamilton Elementary (2.6 acres of existing recreation space) to function more effectively as a Neighborhood Park.	X			Related to 1 E Plan under review
11	<i>Additional green spaces/parks are needed in the Central District</i>	A Acquire or otherwise make available additional parkland in the Central District.	X	X		
		B Continue to implement the Central District Specific Plan, which calls for incorporation of social gathering places such as plazas and other pedestrian-oriented areas and usable open spaces in large developments and institutional campuses.	X	X	X	Ongoing
		C Explore creative use of freeway air space. For example, use the Seattle Freeway Park and Phoenix Hance Park as models.			X	
		D Expand the use of rooftops for gardens and other open spaces. Look to Chicago and Boston for innovative models.		X		
11	<i>Additional sports fields/multiuse fields</i>	Improve existing City facilities. Modifications to existing facilities or improvements to existing facilities, such as durable surface and artificial turf fields could result in enhanced efficiency and expanded use of facilities. Lighting of certain fields in specific areas could have a significant impact in the number of games accommodated on fields.	X	X	X	Ongoing

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<p align="center">11 <i>Additional sports fields/multiuse fields</i></p>	<p>B Brookside Park: The existing youth field could become adult-usable by adding a temporary outfield fence that could be installed or removed as necessary.</p>	X			
	<p>C Hahamongna Watershed Park: Two new adult soccer fields are already included in the current Hahamongna Master Plan.</p>	X	X	X	
	<p>D Villa Parke: Enhance safety and increase multi-use opportunities for adult softball play by adding outfield fence.</p>	X			
	<p>E Jefferson Park: Enhance safety and increase multi-use opportunities for adult softball play by adding outfield fence.</p>	X			
	<p>F Brenner Park: Potential lighting for existing field.</p>		X		
	<p>G Robinson Park: A master plan to improve Robinson Park already exists and includes suggestions to expand to the south, adding 2.5 acres to the site and enlarging multipurpose field to accommodate larger regulation football area and two ball fields.</p>	X			Phase I including field development is in progress

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11	<i>Additional sports fields/multiuse fields</i>	<i>H</i> Pursue joint use of select school sites that could accommodate three new soccer game fields not currently used for soccer games. School site candidates that appear to have potential include: • Eliot Middle School • Washington Middle School • Wilson Middle School • Pasadena High School	X			
		<i>I</i> Pursue creation of new multi-use sports fields in new facilities. Several opportunities exist in Pasadena to develop recreational facilities on existing City-owned property and/or to acquire property for improvement.	X			
		<i>J</i> Pursue use of East Pasadena LA County Flood Control Basin for a new multi-use field large enough to accommodate one youth soccer field and three new adult lighted softball fields. These should be multipurpose fields that will be sized to accommodate adult softball.		X		
		<i>K</i> In cooperation with the County, the City could develop one new multi-use field large enough to accommodate one youth soccer field on property owned by the County of Los Angeles, adjacent to East Sierra Madre Boulevard.			X	Currently in development by a non-profit
13	<i>Additional green spaces/parks are needed near Marshall Fundamental Secondary School</i>	<i>A</i> Pursue joint use agreement with the School District that would allow Marshall Fundamental Secondary School (6.9 acres of existing recreation space) to function more effectively as a Neighborhood Park.	X			Related to I E

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14	<i>Additional bicycling or jogging paths</i>	A Pursue improvements related to Viña Vieja Park (see Section 5.5 of the Master Plan) and the proposed north/south trail element that would link Pasadena to natural open space to the north.	X			Related to 1 G
		B Complete and implement the City of Pasadena Trails Master Plan (in progress) that will enhance non-motorized transportation throughout Pasadena. Continue to implement the Pasadena Bicycle Master Plan.	X	X	X	
		C Address identified Neighborhood Park service area gaps so that most residential areas are within convenient walking distance of a neighborhood recreation facility.	X	X		
15	<i>Increased opportunities for informal use of sports fields</i>	A Establish a policy allowing for passive use of fields and limits on permitting of fields for organized sports.	X			The City has a policy limiting hours of permittable field use
		B Pursue additional recreational facilities to meet identified sports field deficits and relieve pressure on field use.	X			
16	<i>Additional green spaces/parks are needed near P.C.C.</i>	A Pursue joint use agreements with the School District that would allow Hamilton Elementary to function more effectively as a Neighborhood Park.	X			Related to 1 E Plan under review

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17 <i>Streamlined processing and improved collaboration with service providers to become a connected delivery system</i>	A Streamline permitting process. Implement the automated registration and facility reservations program, combining the now two separate functions of reservations and facility management into one.	X			
	B Improve coordination between service providers. City to act as a primary provider of information on services and programs.	X			
	C Set program provision criteria. Establish Department standards to strengthen the consistency in which programs are determined, developed and delivered.	X			
	D Coordinate marketing efforts. Realign resources or identify opportunities that will fund the direct mailing of the activities brochure on a quarterly basis. Consider a more comprehensive advertising campaign that would include all public and private service providers to promote their activities in one central publication.	X			
	E Evaluate city parks and recreation administrative structure to ensure optimum service delivery and facilities.	X			
18 <i>Additional tennis courts</i>	A Work collaboratively with the PUSD to return public and school tennis courts back to usability and to be available to the community.	X	X		Muir and PHS are complete. Blair is upcoming and Wilson is to be considered

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19	<i>Additional lighting for sports fields</i>	<i>A</i> Consider new lighting at existing non-lighted fields, except at the natural areas of the Arroyo Seco fields.	X	X	X	
		<i>B</i> Consider lighting at proposed fields including Los Angeles County Flood Control Basin.		X	X	Related to 12 J
		<i>C</i> Consider new lighting at three new soccer fields proposed at school sites.	X	X	X	
19	<i>Plan for parks and facilities based on Park type and function</i>	<i>A</i> Implement existing park and facility master plans such as the Arroyo Seco Master Plans.	X	X	X	Ongoing
		<i>B</i> Utilize a standard palette of amenities for planning park improvements (See Page 11 of the recommendations section of the Master Plan).	X			
		<i>C</i> Ensure that amenities within Neighborhood Parks are responsive to specific location and function of the park.	X	X	X	Ongoing
		<i>D</i> Community involvement will be an important part of the planning for parks and park facilities.	X	X	X	Ongoing
21	<i>Additional swimming pools and water play areas</i>	<i>A</i> Consider water play element at Victory Park.		X	X	
		<i>B</i> Consider joint use agreements for use of pools at public and private schools.	X			Existing for Blair, PHS and CORAL during the summer

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22	<i>Address impacts on large special events in terms of resident access to and damage of recreation facilities</i>	Continue to adhere to Pasadena's Large Events Policy as periodically updated.	X	X	X	Ongoing
23	<i>Address impacts of non-resident use of organized sports facilities</i>	A Pursue additional recreational facilities to meet identified sports field deficits.	X	X	X	Ongoing
		B Explore initiating a surcharge for non-residents/non-employees to use some Pasadena facilities.	X			
		C Work with adjacent communities to build additional facilities and parks in those communities. Offer technical assistance as needed.	X	X	X	