



OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

**DATE:** AUGUST 4, 2008  
**TO:** CITY COUNCIL  
**FROM:** CITY MANAGER  
**SUBJECT:** APPROVAL OF THE PARK FACILITY NEEDS MATRIX

At the City Council meeting of June 16, 2008, the Park Facility Needs Matrix was referred to the Public Safety Committee for further review. At the Public Safety meeting held on July 15, 2008, the Committee voted to recommend the following revisions:

1. Revise the Park Facility Needs Matrix to:
  - A. Establish the Identified Need with the top priority to read "Additional Urban Open Spaces, Parks, and Multi-purpose fields are needed in Pasadena with a particular focus on the seven gap areas, including the entire Central District", which includes all recommendations attached to the above items. This reflects a merger of the two "Identified Need #11's" from the Park Facility Needs Matrix presented to the City Council on June 16, 2008.
  - B. Merge all "Recommendations" attached to the above items to #1;
2. Delete "Recommendation" 21A ("Consider Water Play Element at Victory Park"); and
3. Review the matrix after 12 months and, thereafter, every 24 months.

The Committee also clarified that while the "Identified Need" items are numbered and listed in priority order the "Recommendation" items linked to the "Identified Need" are *not* listed in priority order (letters are used for identification purposes only). Further, the Committee inquired about the term "open space" and suggested that staff and members of the Recreation and Parks Commission be prepared to address how this term was defined. In response, attached are pages 19 through 28 of the Green Space, Recreation and Parks Master Plan, which provide the applicable definitions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bernard K. Melekian".

BERNARD K. MELEKIAN  
City Manager

08/04/2008

5. E. 1.

**PARK FACILITY NEEDS  
MATRIX**

(Revised Per Public Safety Committee 8/15/08)

Identified Need	Recommendation	Timeframe			Comments	
		Short (0-5 yrs)	Medium (6-10 yrs)	Long (11+yrs)		
<p>1</p> <p><i>Additional urban open spaces, parks, and multipurpose fields are needed in Pasadena with a particular focus on the seven gap areas, including the entire Central District.</i></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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Attachment A

(Revised Per Public Safety Committee 8/15/08)

Identified Need	Recommendation	Timeframe			Comments
		Short (0-5 yrs)	Medium (6-10 yrs)	Long (11+yrs)	
<p><i>Additional urban open spaces, parks, and multipurpose fields are needed in Pasadena with a particular focus on the seven gap areas, including the entire Central District.</i></p>	<p><b>G</b> 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 &amp; Lower Los Angeles Rivers &amp; 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		
	<p><b>H</b> Acquire or otherwise make available additional parkland in the Central District.</p>	X	X		
	<p><b>I</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.</p>	X	X	X	Ongoing

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	Explore creative use of freeway air space. For example, use the Seattle Freeway Park and Phoenix Hance Park as models.			X	
	Expand the use of rooftops for gardens and other open spaces. Look to Chicago and Boston for innovative models.		X		
	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
	Brookside Park: The existing youth field could become adult-usable by adding a temporary outfield fence that could be installed or removed as necessary.	X			
	Hahamongna Watershed Park: Two new adult soccer fields are already included in the current Hahamongna Master Plan.	X	X	X	

1  
*Additional urban open spaces, parks, and multipurpose fields are needed in Pasadena with a particular focus on the seven gap areas, including the entire*

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<i>increasing in nature Central District.</i>	<i>O</i> Villa Parke: Enhance safety and increase multi-use opportunities for adult softball play by adding outfield fence.	X			
	<i>P</i> Jefferson Park: Enhance safety and increase multi-use opportunities for adult softball play by adding outfield fence.	X			
	<i>Q</i> Brenner Park: Potential lighting for existing field.		X		
	<i>R</i> 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.	X			Phase I including field development is in progress
<i>S</i> <i>Additional urban open spaces, parks, and multipurpose fields are needed in</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			

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			Short (0-5 yrs)	Medium (6-10 yrs)	Long (11+yrs)	
1	<i>Pasadena with a particular focus on the seven gap areas, including the entire Central District.</i>	<p><i>T</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.</p> <p><i>U</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.</p> <p><i>V</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.</p>	X	X		
2	<i>Additional green spaces/parks are needed in Northwest Pasadena</i>	<p><i>A</i> Expand or modify existing facilities to better serve specific neighborhood populations and pursue joint use of Muir High School and Cleveland Elementary.</p>	X			<p>Currently in development by a non-profit</p> <p>Tennis court and baseball diamond improvements are complete. Plans for Cleveland and Muir neighborhood park are in progress.</p>

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3	<i>Additional open space</i>	A Pursue leases and enhancement of Los Angeles County Flood Control property in eastern Pasadena.	X	X		
		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
		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			

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5	<i>Increased safety and security at parks</i>	<i>B</i> Establish regular communication between the Police, Public Works, and Human Services Departments, and the public regarding park policing issues.	X			
		<i>C</i> Expand the positive programs in all parks, such as the Park Safety Specialist program.	X			
		<i>D</i> Work with neighborhoods to provide neighborhood ownership and investment in parks.	X			
		<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			



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6	<i>Address service area gaps and neighborhood identity</i>	X			Designated City and PUSD staff members meet to review each proposed site.
7	<i>Additional accessible playgrounds</i>	X			Ongoing - Currently planning a city-wide universally accessible playground at Brookside Park
		X			Ongoing - Staff works with Accessibility and Disability staff on all capital projects to ensure accessibility issues are addressed.
<i>Protect and preserve open space</i>	<i>B</i>				
	<i>A</i>	X	X		

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8 <i>and the historical and cultural aspects of parks</i>	B Update or create Master Plans for Citywide Parks. The Master Planning process is an important step toward the protection of existing open space areas and any attendant historical or cultural amenities.	X			
	C Implement existing Master Plans for Arroyo Seco areas that include historical and cultural evaluation, preservation, and enhancement.	X			

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9	<i>Continued coordinated maintenance efforts for all City recreational facilities</i>	<i>A</i> Continue to develop policies, guidelines, and criteria for maintenance of City facilities - including playground equipment, picnic facilities, and sports fields and appropriate staff and resources to achieve these goals.	X			
		<i>B</i> Continue to implement recently-adopted City policy regarding resting of fields.	X	X	X	Completed/Ongoing
		<i>C</i> Continue discussions with Pasadena Unified School District regarding use and management of recreation facilities on school property.	X	X	X	Similar to 1 E Ongoing
		<i>D</i> Continue policy of accommodating only those ongoing organized sporting events, excluding tournaments, with at least 60% participation by Pasadena residents or those who work in Pasadena.	X	X	X	Completed/Ongoing
10	<i>Additional green spaces/parks are needed near Sierra Madre Blvd, north of Del Mar Blvd</i>	<i>A</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

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11	<i>Additional green spaces/ parks are needed near Marshall Fundamental Secondary School</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 1 E

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12	<i>Additional bicycling or jogging paths</i>	<i>A</i> 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 I G
		<i>B</i> 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	
		<i>C</i> Address identified Neighborhood Park service area gaps so that most residential areas are within convenient walking distance of a neighborhood recreation facility.	X	X		
13	<i>Increased opportunities for informal use of sports fields</i>	<i>A</i> 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
		<i>B</i> Pursue additional recreational facilities to meet identified sports field deficits and relieve pressure on field use.	X			
14	<i>Additional green spaces/parks are needed near P. C. C.</i>	<i>A</i> Pursue joint use agreements with the School District that would allow Hamilton Elementary to function more effectively as a Neighborhood Park.	X			Related to I E Plan under review

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<p align="center"><i>Streamlined processing and improved collaboration with service providers to become a connected delivery system</i></p> <p align="center">15</p>	<p align="center"><i>A</i></p> <p>Streamline permitting process. Implement the automated registration and facility reservations program, combining the now two separate functions of reservations and facility management into one.</p>	X			
	<p align="center"><i>B</i></p> <p>Improve coordination between service providers. City to act as a primary provider of information on services and programs.</p>	X			
	<p align="center"><i>C</i></p> <p>Set program provision criteria. Establish Department standards to strengthen the consistency in which programs are determined, developed and delivered.</p>	X			
	<p align="center"><i>D</i></p> <p>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.</p>	X			
	<p align="center"><i>E</i></p> <p>Evaluate city parks and recreation administrative structure to ensure optimum service delivery and facilities.</p>	X			

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16	<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
17	<i>Additional lighting for sports fields</i>	A Consider new lighting at existing non-lighted fields, except at the natural areas of the Arroyo Seco fields.	X	X	X	
		B Consider lighting at proposed fields including Los Angeles County Flood Control Basin.		X	X	Related to 12 J
		C Consider new lighting at three new soccer fields proposed at school sites.	X	X	X	
17	<i>Plan for parks and facilities based on</i>	A Implement existing park and facility master plans such as the Arroyo Seco Master Plans.	X	X	X	Ongoing
		B Utilize a standard palette of amenities for planning park improvements (See Page 11 of the recommendations section of the Master Plan).	X			

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<i>Park type and function</i>	<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
<i>Additional swimming pools and water play areas</i>	<i>A</i> <del>Consider water play element at Victory Park.</del>		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
<i>Address impacts on large special events in terms of resident access to and damage of recreation facilities</i>	<i>A</i> Continue to adhere to Pasadena's Large Events Policy as periodically updated.	X	X	X	Ongoing
	<i>A</i> Pursue additional recreational facilities to meet identified sports field deficits.	X	X	X	Ongoing



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20 <i>Address impacts of non-resident use of organized sports facilities</i>	<i>B</i> Explore initiating a surcharge for non-residents/non-employees to use some Pasadena facilities.	X			
	<i>C</i> Work with adjacent communities to build additional facilities and parks in those communities. Offer technical assistance as needed.	X	X	X	

### III. BACKGROUND

#### A. DEFINITIONS

**Green Space** - In Pasadena, the term Green Space has been used since the 1994 General Plan as an umbrella category to encompass all natural and developed open spaces in the City.

1. **Natural Open Space** - Undeveloped land that has been maintained in a relatively undisturbed state. This category includes wild and planned open space areas.
  - a. **Wild Open Space** - Open space left wild. Completely undeveloped and used for wildlife habitat and conservation. An example is the 1,000 acres of city-owned open space north of Hahamongna Watershed Park.
  - b. **Modified Open Space** - Open space that has been altered or artfully restored to make it more accessible for human use. ~~Alterations can include walking paths or hiking trails.~~ May also provide wildlife habitat and be used for conservation. The Lower Arroyo Seco is an example of a planned open space.
  - c. **Undeveloped Lands** - The City of Pasadena is largely built out, but a few significant areas of non-city owned undeveloped open space remain. Each of these areas may have the potential for use as an open space or recreational area.

*Eaton Wash Recreational Corridor* - Los Angeles County owns and maintains hundreds of acres in the eastern area of the city. These lands are part of the county's flood control system and are primarily made up of channels, basins and associated uses. There are several sites ranging from two to ten acres within those areas that have the potential to be developed for recreational uses. This type of use is consistent with the County's goals and objectives, provided that the use does not interfere with flood control activity. These sites are linked by the linear flood control channels that bisect the eastern portion of the city. The access roads along the system of channels could possibly be used as recreational trails. Similar access roads adjacent to county flood control channels are now used as trails in the Arroyo Seco. Four existing city parks (Eaton Sunnyslope, Floyd O. Gwinn, Viña-Vieja, and Eaton Blanche) are located immediately adjacent to the flood control channel and would be part of this recreational corridor. Some sections of the

channel have large stands of mature trees including Coast Live Oaks. These areas have significant aesthetic, as well as recreational appeal. See Exhibit 1.3-1 in the Master Plan for details on master plans prepared for the Eaton Canyon area in 1932 and 1967 and Exhibit 5.2-1 for a diagram of the current potential improvements.

Southern California Edison Transmission Line Property – Several Edison high voltage transmission lines bisect the eastern side of the City. The land on which these lines are situated is owned in fee by Edison and it is zoned as open space (OS). These areas have open space and recreation potential as evidenced by the lease of three acres by the city and its subsequent development as Viña Vieja Park. In addition to the new ice rinks planned in this area, this property also has potential as a location for multi-use trails and a north-south connection through this portion of Pasadena.

Hillside Open Space – ~~Several large undeveloped areas of~~ open space exist in the hillside and canyon areas on the eastern and western edges of the city. These areas are privately owned and some have entitlements for development. These areas have limited potential as active recreational areas, but they may have a high value from an aesthetic standpoint if they are maintained in an undeveloped condition. In the Arroyo Seco, some of these hillside areas are part of the canyon banks that give the Arroyo Seco its unique character. In some sections of the Arroyo, these properties prevent access to the public areas of the Arroyo.

Caltrans 710 Freeway Corridor – A large parcel located along the proposed freeway corridor just north of California Street is owned by Caltrans. This parcel could have potential for temporary recreational usage.

Areas within existing parks – Portions of the Hahamongna Watershed Park (known as Devil's Gate Basin) are currently undeveloped. Future improvement plans include the addition of two soccer fields and other park amenities. There is a 2½ acre expansion area planned for Robinson Park which will include a full size football field and a new parking lot.

2. **Developed Open Space** – These include all city parks, urban open spaces, and non city-owned open spaces that are intended primarily for human use. This category includes playgrounds, sports fields, picnic areas, courtyards, golf courses, and joint-use school facilities.

- a. **Parks**

Parks can be classified by type based primarily on their size, function and character. The Pasadena Municipal Code (Section 4.17.040) contains three park classifications: Neighborhood, Community and Citywide parks. For the purposes of this Master Plan, three additional classifications are discussed in order to accurately describe all the recreational facilities in the City; these are Urban Open Spaces, Special Facilities, and Joint Use Public School Facilities.

Park classifications are useful in a number of ways. They ~~can help define a set of characteristics to serve as a guide~~ when parks are constructed or renovated. They can also restrict incompatible activities by limiting those activities to certain types of parks.

The City of Pasadena's existing park system is large and complex; it is over 100 years old and park development did not follow an organized set of predetermined guidelines. As a result of this organic growth, there is not currently a clear distinction between all park types. With this in mind, the following brief descriptions of Pasadena's park classification categories, both the existing three from the City's Municipal Code (Section 4.17.040), as well as the three new classifications proposed as part of this Master Plan are provided:

***Citywide Parks*** – Citywide Parks afford contact with the natural and/or historic environment and possess a unique character or function not found in Neighborhood or Community Parks. They contain facilities that are used by residents throughout the city for activities that cannot be accommodated in other parks (PMC Section 4.17.040). But like Community Parks, Citywide Parks can be expected to draw users on a regional basis. Typically, a Citywide Park would include large natural open space areas. These areas may contain amenities such as trails and vista points. In addition to recreational opportunities, natural open space areas typically contain important visual features that contribute to the recreational experience.

Pasadena's citywide parks are Brookside Park, Hahamongna Watershed Park, and Lower Arroyo Park.

Community Parks – Community Parks provide a broad range of both passive and active recreational opportunities, but their primary purpose is to provide active recreational opportunities for use by both residents and visitors from the surrounding region. If a Community Park is located within a residential area it can also serve a neighborhood park function and, therefore, is included in the service area analysis for Neighborhood Parks.

Recreation centers are important features in some community parks. These are large buildings that contain features such as gymnasiums, multi-purpose rooms, classrooms, and offices for recreation staff. Other facilities often found at Community Parks include lighted ~~multi-purpose sports fields, amphitheatres, group picnic~~ areas and swimming pools. Some or all of these amenities may be present in a Community Park. Large special events such as concerts and festivals might also be held in Community Parks. It is to be expected that such events and uses will attract participants from outside the City.

Pasadena's Community Parks are Central Park, Memorial Park, Robinson Park, Victory Parke and Villa Parke.

Neighborhood Parks – Neighborhood Parks are defined more by function than by size. Some neighborhood parks are actually larger than community parks. Neighborhood Parks, however, are intended to serve City residents who live in close proximity to them. Ideally, everyone in the City would live within walking distance (one-half mile) of a Neighborhood Park. This is defined as the "service radius" or "service area" of a neighborhood park.

The features of neighborhood parks include playgrounds, multi-purpose open turf areas, picnic tables and/or picnic shelters, walking paths, attractive landscaping, small parking areas and recreation features such as basketball courts. Multi-purpose open turf areas can be used for a variety of field sports, as opposed to a dedicated football or baseball field. However, some neighborhood parks contain multipurpose fields that have facilities specific to a particular sport such as a

skinned infield or backstops. Neighborhood Parks usually contain restrooms, but that is not always the case; smaller Neighborhood Parks with minimal facilities may not have enough regular visitors to justify the expense of constructing and maintaining a restroom.

Pasadena's neighborhood parks are: Allendale, Brenner, Defender's, Eaton Blanche, Eaton Sunnyslope, Grant, Gwinn, Hamilton, Jefferson, La Pintoresca, McDonald, San Rafael, Singer, Viña Vieja, and Washington Parks.

b. Urban Open Space

Pasadena has a large variety of public outdoor open spaces that cannot be classified as parks but these spaces do fulfill many of the same functions as public parks. These urban open spaces and special facilities can be either city-owned or privately-owned. Public plazas, paseos, golf courses and the grounds of museums and historic sites are all examples of ~~this type of open space. Another good example of this form~~ of land use is a community garden. These are public spaces that can contain passive features such as paths, benches and landscaping or could include plots for residents to grow fruits and vegetables. A pocket park (also known as a vest pocket or mini-park) is typically much the same as a community garden, except the emphasis would tend to be less on horticulture and more on site amenities such as picnic facilities and small playgrounds.

Due to the scarcity of large parcels of land, there will be few opportunities to develop new community or neighborhood parks in Pasadena. But there will be opportunities to create small public open spaces throughout the city, in the context of both public and private development.

Facilities in this category include City owned and operated facilities as well as those which are not owned and/or operated by the City but do provide a public benefit. This category is very broad and it encompasses a wide variety of facilities.

Some examples of urban open spaces and special facilities within the City include:

- City Hall Courtyard – includes gardens, fountain and benches
- Centennial Square – large paved area in front of City Hall which is used for concerts and festivals

- La Casita del Arroyo – a recreational facility that houses community gatherings; it is located within the Lower Arroyo Seco
- Gamble House – Greene and Greene house on the western edge of the Arroyo Seco with extensive landscaping
- Wrigley Mansion and Gardens – home to the Tournament of Roses includes gardens with hundreds of varieties of roses, camellias and annuals
- Norton Simon Museum – site of original Carmelita gardens in the 1870s, now home to nearly 2 acres of lush landscaping with trees, meandering pond, and sculptures
- Tournament Park – located on the south portion of the Caltech campus, this neighborhood park includes play equipment, barbeque and picnic facilities
- Brookside Golf courses – two 18-hole public golf courses in the Central Arroyo Seco
- ~~Eaton Canyon Golf Course – nine hole public golf course in Eaton Canyon~~
- Annandale Golf Club – private 18-hole golf course in the Linda Vista/Annandale canyons
- South Lake Pocket Park – A small greenbelt located on the west side of Lake Avenue south of California Blvd. This area contains trees, shrubs, a small turf area and benches.
- Arlington Mediterranean Garden – vacant lot transformed into water-saving demonstration garden

c. Special Facilities

Non-public facilities play a large role in meeting the recreational needs of the residents of Pasadena. The network of private facilities within the city is made up of businesses, churches, clubs, organizations and schools and the array of programs and facilities they provide is substantial. More than 1,000 non-profit organizations offer an enormous range of services and programs. More than 22 private school facilities are located in Pasadena. Three large colleges with recreational facilities are also within the City limits: Pasadena City College, the California Institute of Technology and the Fuller Theological Seminary.

This Plan does not include a detailed inventory of this system. Because the City neither controls, maintains, nor programs private facilities, these important recreation resources are not credited toward satisfaction of the City's acreage goals for public parks. However, since they do fill a

recreation role, their influence on the availability of recreation is important to recognize. In particular, the influence of private facilities is discussed in Chapter Four with relation to the identified community program and facility needs. A component of the Master Plan is to review how existing public/private partnerships may be working in the provision of facilities and programs. Recommendations within Section 5 of the Master Plan include an analysis of how private facilities could assist in meeting the identified needs for specific types of recreation facilities.

d. Joint Use Public School Facilities

In almost every Pasadena neighborhood, school facilities play an important role in family life and routine. The distribution of school facilities throughout the City suggests that these facilities could also play an important role in neighborhood green space and recreation programming, especially in areas not currently served conveniently by City park facilities. If a school, through joint improvement and use becomes effective as a recreation facility, then it could become part of the inventory of City facilities as a neighborhood park.

There are 30 campuses in the Pasadena Unified School District, of which 22 are in Pasadena. In a built-out community like Pasadena, joint use of public school and parks facilities is critical to promoting physical activity and accommodating demand for recreation opportunities citywide. When school activities are not scheduled, the grassy areas, sports fields, courts, and children's play areas can potentially be used informally in much the same manner as neighborhood parks. However, this use is dependent on whether the campus is fenced and gated during non-school hours and on the goodwill of a particular school's administration to allow informal use. In some cases, individual sports groups and/or leagues have arranged, either through the City or independently with the schools, to schedule games and practices at school sites.

Prior to the mid-1970's recreation programs on school sites and in parks were conducted by a single recreation department, which was part of the local School District. Every elementary, middle and high school in the District (which extended beyond Pasadena to include Altadena, Sierra Madre, La Cañada-Flintridge and Temple City) had dedicated recreation staff who planned and conducted a wide range of sports, drama, dance, cultural arts and related activities. In many sites activities were offered not only after school but during the school lunch hours, evenings and



weekends. Recreation programs extended beyond schools to local parks and designated church facilities. In 1974, facing significant budget reductions, the School District laid off all recreation personnel and eliminated school recreation programs during non-school hours. The City then hired a small number of recreation staff who formed a new City recreation division, and service delivery shifted to the recreation and community center system. A few years later, City recreation expanded to re-establish after school recreation playground programs at 4 public schools and, over the next decades, expanded to serve 16 elementary and middle school locations. City youth sports programs have also grown, providing school playground and parks opportunities to participate in basketball, flag football, volleyball, soccer, tennis, cheer and other sports teams. While not funded to a level that supports extended evening and weekend hours nor such a comprehensive recreation services as prior to 1974, in 2006 City staff, sports contractors and local community organizations offer a wide ~~range of recreation opportunities that rely on the availability~~ of both parks and public schools as service delivery locations.

Since 1993 a detailed Joint Use Agreement between the City and the Pasadena Unified School District has been in place which describes general responsibilities and benefits of each party regarding the use of both City and District facilities. The Agreement and State law allow the School District and the City to cooperate with each other for the purposes of improving facilities and for organizing, promoting and conducting recreation and education programs for children and adults, without any rental or field use cost (only actual out-of-pocket expenses, if any, are charged).

In 2006, there are 22 local public school properties where City recreation programs are delivered (listed on Table 2.4-2); these and other school facilities are also used by various other sports organizations. The City provides free after school recreation playground programs for children until approximately 5:30pm at all District elementary schools in Pasadena, where children can choose from a variety of activities in a safe, supervised, fun environment. The School District also makes use of various City parks, fields and other recreation facilities; for example, several District middle and high schools use City fields and facilities to conduct school sports activities, including practices or games by school soccer, football, baseball, and softball teams.

To date, the City–School District Joint Use Agreement has primarily been utilized to conduct organized sports activities or scheduled recreation events. The City has provided financial support for the improvement or expansion of School District fields, all of which are used by organized sports. A few schools have been reported as unofficially used by neighborhoods or communities for casual, informal recreation during non-school hours, but no Pasadena public schools have been officially designated for informal recreation and thus opened for public use to picnic, play, walk or otherwise enjoy drop-in recreation during after school and weekend hours. However, a pilot program at Madison Elementary School opened the school playground and grass field for informal recreation during non-school hours. In this project, the City and District are partnering to add playground equipment, picnic tables, trash cans and related items to better accommodate weekend informal recreation use. The City will assume responsibility to open and close the gates to allow daytime access during after school, holiday and weekend hours, and will remove weekend trash as well as include the site for patrol by the City Park Security personnel. Following implementation of this pilot project, the City and School District have identified additional schools to potentially offer similar casual recreation use during non-school hours.

Note that there is overlap between these categories and some of Pasadena’s green spaces may fall into more than one of the categories. For example, Lower Arroyo Park includes walking trails that deem it appropriate as “Planned Open Space”, but it is also a dedicated “Citywide Park.”

Open Space or OS is also a category used in Pasadena’s Zoning Code and in the General Plan Land Use diagram. OS is included within Green Space. In the General Plan diagram, OS is defined as follows:

*This category is for a variety of active and passive public recreational facilities and for City-owned open space facilities. This includes natural open spaces and areas, which have been designated as environmentally and ecologically significant. This category also applies to land, which is publicly owned, though in some instances public access may be restricted. Most importantly, this designation only applies to lands owned by the City.*

## Pasadena's Green Space Categories

