





CITY OF MENLO PARK

PARK & RECREATION FACILITIES

MASTER PLAN UPDATE

Accepted by City Council October 15, 2019

MYMENLOPARKS

CITY OF MENLO PARK

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CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION



CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION

PURPOSE OF DOCUMENT

The City of Menlo Park adopted a Parks & Recreational Facilities Master Plan in 1999. The Plan, based on an extensive public process to evaluate community needs and assess the condition of the City's parks and recreation facilities, recommended $63 million in needed improvements. In the years since the 1999 Plan was adopted, the City has implemented over $34 million in improvements, upgrades, and new construction, affecting 19 parks and facilities. This Plan updates the 1999 Plan, to guide future decisions regarding improvements, upgrades and new facilities.

Menlo Park has a wide range of parks and open spaces. Its 17 parks and open spaces total approximately 222 acres. The City operates programs in 10 different facilities totaling just under 130,000 square feet, featuring a state-of-the-art gymnastics center, an award winning gymnasium, two recreation centers, two child care centers, two after-school programs, two community pools and a senior center. A popular aspect of the City's recreation programming are the city-wide community events, such as the summer concert series and movies in the park.

This Parks and Recreation Facilities Master Plan Update is intended to provide a road map to guide decision making to help the City maintain, manage and develop its park, open space and recreation facility system for



Community input



Jack W. Lyle Park

the next 20 years, and provide the community with the recreational opportunities that they desire. The Parks and Recreation Facilities Master Plan Update studies the existing park and recreation facilities, and draws on extensive community engagement to identify a planning blueprint to expand, improve and protect these assets and provide recreational opportunities for the future. It will establish priorities for a potential third phase of Measure T bonds.

PROCESS AND VISION

The Parks and Recreation Facilities Master Plan Update process is similar to many strategic plan processes: the scope of work is defined, demographic analysis is prepared, an inventory of resources is conducted, a needs assessment is performed, goals and recommendations are identified, and an implementation plan is structured.

The Parks and Recreation Facilities Master Plan Update provides:

- background and context for evaluating the existing parks and recreation system;
- an inventory of existing parks, open spaces and facilities, and analysis of current conditions;
- an overview of the community engagement process;
- an analysis of the need for new, expanded or renovated parks, open spaces and facilities;
- recommendations for improving and maintaining the existing assets;
- recommendations for acquiring or obtaining access to additional properties for future park and recreation uses;

- a strategy for meeting the need for funding, managing and maintaining parks and recreational facilities; and

- an approach for implementation of improvements.

The Parks and Recreation Facilities Master Plan Update provides both a long-term vision for the City's parks and recreation facilities, and specific policies and standards to direct day-to-day decisions. It sets forth a framework that will allow the City to respond to new opportunities as they arise. It ensures that improvements are compatible with other City plans and policies.

At the core of this plan is the input and guidance received from the Menlo Park community. Input from City staff and from the Parks and Recreation User Focus Group informed the process. Extensive outreach provided multiple opportunities and venues for the community to express its vision, goals, and preferences. Community engagement has ensured that the Plan reflects the priorities of the evolving Menlo Park community.

As the implementing document, the Parks and Recreation Facilities Master Plan Update provides a clear path to accomplishing the community's vision through achievable steps in both the short term and long terms, maximizing the potential, and ensuring sustainability of the park system itself.

DOCUMENT ORGANIZATION

The Parks and Recreation Facilities Master Plan Update is organized in the following manner:

CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION

This chapter gives a brief overview of the purpose of the Parks and Recreation Facilities Master Plan Update and a summary of its contents.

VISION

Connect Menlo Park through a sustainable, equitable and accessible system of parks, recreation facilities, and programs that reflect the City's character, and encourage multigenerational interactions.

GOALS

One Menlo Park

- An integrated, equitable, and inclusive park and recreation system that serves the community as a whole.
- A connected and accessible park and recreation system.

Unique and Distinctive Parks and Facilities

- Parks and facilities reflect a sense of place and community.
- Parks and recreation that supports health and wellness.
- Integrate nature and green spaces throughout the city

Operational Efficiency & Economic Feasibility

- Ensure that operational efficiencies and economic feasibility is incorporated into all parks and recreation facility development and management.

Creative Solutions

- Expand parks and recreation opportunities.

Environmental Sustainability

- Ensure that environmental sustainability is an integral part of parks and recreation facility development and management.
- Integrate environmental and cultural education in parks and recreation facilities

NEEDS ASSESSMENT

CHAPTER 2: CONTEXT, DEMOGRAPHICS AND TRENDS

This chapter discusses the context in which this Parks and Recreation Facilities Master Plan Update has been developed. It addresses the physical context and characteristics of Menlo Park. It provides a detailed look at the City's current demographics and projections regarding future growth in this evolving city. It summarizes Menlo Park's existing parks and recreation facilities, and compares them to those of similar cities in the region. A complete inventory of the City's parks and recreation facilities is found in Appendix B.

This chapter also addresses the planning context for the Master Plan Update. It identifies the many plans whose provisions relate to parks, open space, and recreation facilities in the City, and notes policy direction and impacts. Further, it examines emerging trends in recreation, fitness and leisure activities, as well as health and wellness trends in the region and across the nation.

CHAPTER 3: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

This plan was informed and guided by extensive community engagement and input. This chapter describes the process, and briefly summarizes results. More complete details of outreach outcomes may be found in the Appendix C.

MASTER PLAN

CHAPTER 4: GOALS AND GUIDELINES

This chapter describes the vision and goals for the City's parks and recreation facilities, as well as the overarching policies to carry out the vision and goals. Areas addressed include park distribution and access, park features and amenities, options for expanding parks and recreation opportunities, sustainable and equitable operations of parks and recreation facilities, and environmental sustainability.

CHAPTER 5: RECOMMENDATIONS

This chapter contains specific recommendations regarding both existing and new parks and facilities.

CHAPTER 6: IMPLEMENTATION

In this chapter, criteria are set out in order to help guide decisions regarding prioritization of the recommendations in the previous chapter as well as projects that may arise in the future. It describes a tiered approach to evaluating, characterizing and prioritizing potential projects to accomplish the goals of the Master Plan. It also includes a summary of funding strategies and opportunities, as well as order of magnitude costs for typical projects.

CHAPTER 2 CONTEXT



CHAPTER 2 CONTEXT

PHYSICAL SETTING

Menlo Park is located on the San Francisco Peninsula, in southeastern San Mateo County, between San Francisco and San Jose. It is approximately 17 square miles, including some 7 square miles of San Francisco Bay water. Its topography spans from Bayfront tidelands and marshes on its northeast to the flanks of the Pacific Coast Range on its southwest. Much of its southern boundary is formed by San Francisquito Creek.

Menlo Park is bounded on the north by the city of Atherton, the unincorporated area of North Fair Oaks, and Redwood City. Its neighbors to the south are the cities of Palo Alto and East Palo Alto.



Figure 2-1: Location Map

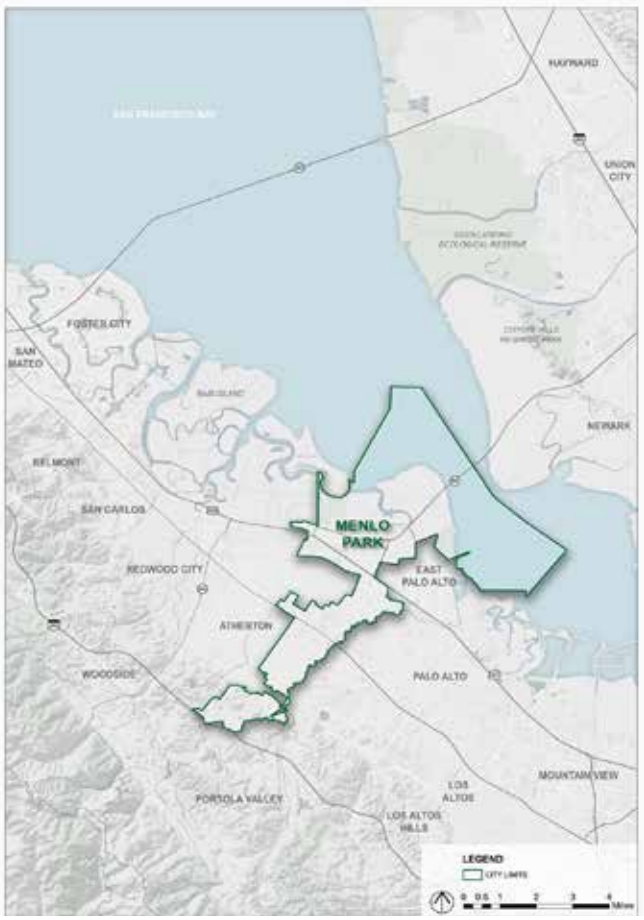


Figure 2-2: Menlo Park City Limits

Menlo Park has a Mediterranean climate. Its warm dry summer days average a daily high temperature of around 80 degrees, and mild winter days average in the 60s. The City is graced with an average of 265 sunny days per year, allowing visitors and residents to comfortably enjoy a wide range of outdoor recreational activities.

Menlo Park is comprised of residential neighborhoods, a lively downtown served by a Caltrain station, and industrial and technology areas near the bayfront. It is traversed by several major thoroughfares including Highway 101, El Camino Real and Alameda de las Pulgas. Caltrain tracks also traverse central Menlo Park, bringing residents and visitors to the downtown area, but creating a barrier to north-south travel across the City. Highway 101 is also a barrier that traverses the City. The Belle Haven neighborhood, one of the City's densest, is the only residential neighborhood east of the Highway.

The Menlo Park community values parks and open space. Just under 10% of the City's land use is allocated to Parks and Recreation. The City has fairly well distributed parks and recreation facilities. According to ParkServe, an information site created by the Trust for Public Land, 80% of Menlo Park residents live within a 10-minute walk of a park, compared to the national average of 55%.





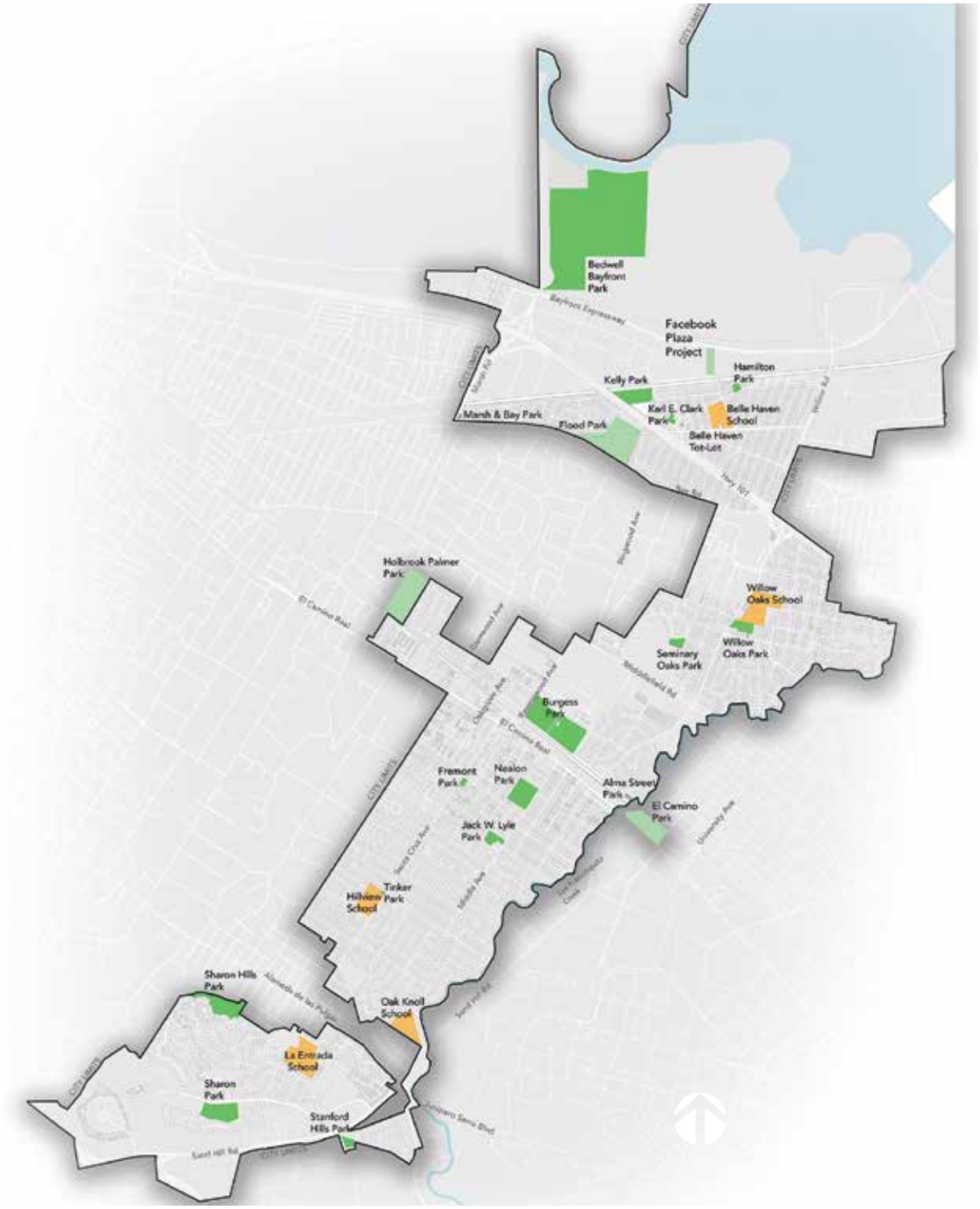


Figure 2-3: Parks and Joint Use Sites

DEMOGRAPHICS[1]

OVERVIEW

The City of Menlo Park, situated in the heart of Silicon Valley is one of the fastest growing cities in the area, growing 6.52% from 2000 – 2010, out-pacing the County of San Mateo by 2%. ABAG, in its Plan Bay Area 2013 projections has estimated that Menlo Park will grow another 6% by 2040. In comparison, the County of San Mateo is projected to grow by 12% in 2040 as estimated by the California Department of Finance. Menlo Park is a very dense community with 1883 residents per square mile compared to San Mateo County that has 998 residents per square mile. The City's 2014 Housing Element sets a goal for the development of another 800 new housing units by 2023.

The median age in the City is 38.3, slightly younger than the County. Overall, Menlo Park has a well-educated population with 85% of the residents over 25 having some College education or more. The City, as expected in prosperous Silicon Valley, has a high median household income of $115,650 compared to $91,421 in the County and $61,489 in the State.

SAN MATEO COUNTY

San Mateo County and its surroundings have experienced moderate growth of 4.6% percent since 2000, with the largest growth occurring in the cities of Emerald Lake Hills (15.9%), Palo Alto (12.63%), Sunnyvale (10.75%), Foster City (10.44%) and Mountain View (8.53%). The County has a population of 739,837 and a median age of 39.4. The County of San Mateo is home to some of the most innovative employers in California including Facebook which is in Menlo Park, Oracle, and Electronic Arts Inc. as well as a number of major investment firms.

PEOPLE

The City of Menlo Park population is 32,792 and includes slightly more women than men with 52.17% and 47.83% respectively. The median age of 38.3 is lower than the County but still higher than the State's.

The number of people under the age of 19 (26%) is considerably higher than those over the age of 65 (13%), with the largest cohort in the age group of 35 to 64 (41% of the population). The percent of children under 14, 21.77%, is higher than the County or the State's. At the same time, the average family household size in Menlo Park is smaller than the County at 3.33 verses 3.53.

The City of Menlo Park is 71% white, with a Hispanic population of 15.85%, Asian population of 10.93%, and Black population of 5.12%. Menlo Park Is considerably less diverse than the surrounding County or the State. 12% of the population speaks Spanish as the primary language at home, and another 15% speak another language other than English at home as a primary language.

[1]*The demographic information is largely derived from the 2010-2014 American Community Survey and the 2000 US Census. However, it is important to note that both are based on 2000 data and many of the projections are not as current as desired. Where possible, the demographics have been updated or supported with other data sources. Ultimately, the specifics of a particular number should be less important than a trend line or major difference.*

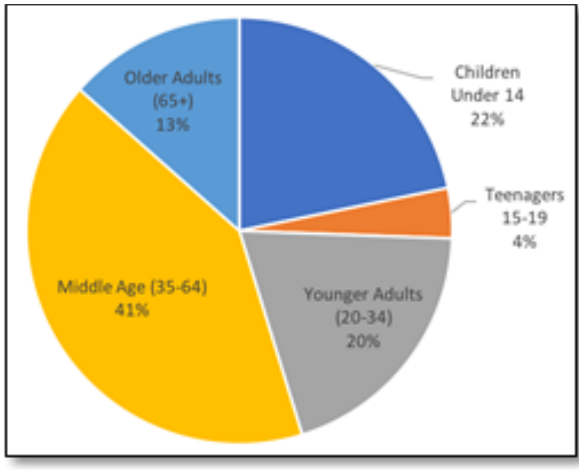


Figure 2-4: City of Menlo Park Age Breakdown

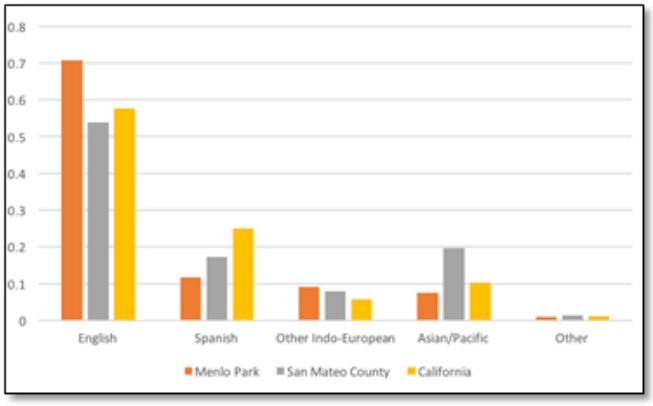


Figure 2-5: Comparison of Percent of Primary Language Spoken at Home between Menlo Park, the County of San Mateo, and California

2010-2014 DATA	MENLO PARK	% for City	Compared to San Mateo	Compared to Calif.
Population Characteristics				
Total Population (2010)	32,792		739,837	
Population Growth from 2000	6.52%		4.6%	12.4%
Density (Square mile)	1882.98		998.49	232.55
By Race (some duplication)				
White	23,844	72.71%	56.38%	62.1%
Black	1,680	5.12%	2.64%	5.9%
Hispanic	5,198	15.85%	25.36%	38.18
Asian	3,585	10.93%	26.04%	13.5%
Native (American Indian, Alaska Native, Hawaiian Native, etc.)	715	2.18%	1.79%	1.1%
One Race, Other	1,630	4.90%	8.37%	12.9%
By Gender				
Male	15,686	47.83%	49.19%	49.68%
Female	17,106	52.17%	50.81%	50.32%
By Age Group				
Median Age	38.3		39.40	35.60
Median Age: Male	38.1		38.10	34.50
Median Age: Female	38.6		40.60	38.80
By Age Group				
Children Under 14	7,139	21.77%	18.3%	20.0%
Teenagers 15-19	1,246	3.80%	5.5%	7.1%
Younger Adults (20-34)	6,446	19.66%	19.5%	22.1%
Middle Age (35-64)	13,541	41.29%	42.6%	38.7%
Older Adults (65+)	4,420	13.47%	14.0%	12.1%

Table 2-1: Summary of the City of Menlo Park Demographics

2010-2014 DATA	MENLO PARK	% for City	Compared to San Mateo	Compared to Calif.
Education (over 25)				
Less than high school	1,491	6.49%	11.5%	18.5%
High School Graduate	1,880	8.18%	16.8%	20.7%
Some College/AA Degree	3,321	14.45%	26.7%	29.8%
Bachelor Degree	7,056	30.70%	27.0%	19.6%
Adv. Degree	9,237	40.19%	18.0%	11.4%
With College or More	19,614	85%	72%	61%
Household and Family				
Total households	12,397			
Avg. Household Size	2.57		2.82	2.95
1 person	3,504	28.3%	25.2%	24.1%
2 or more	8,893	71.7%	74.8%	75.9%
Families	7,620	61.5%	67.8%	68.7%
Avg. Family Size	3.33		3.53	3.67
Married Couple Family	6,425	51.8%	52.9%	49.1%
Nonfamily	4,777	38.5%	32.2%	31.3%
Housing				
Total Housing Units	13,046			
Occupied Housing	12,397	95.0%	95.0%	91.6%
Owner Occupied	6,933	53.1%	50.1%	50.1%
Renter	5,464	41.9%	38.7%	41.4%
Vacant	649	5.0%	5.0%	8.5%
Seasonal/Recreation	216	1.7%	1.1%	2.6%
Housing Units				
Single Family	8,080	61.9%	65.2%	65.1%
Multifamily (2 + units)	4,915	38.0%	33.5%	31.0%
Mobile Home, Boat, RV	51	0.39%	1.2%	3.9%
Language Spoken at Home				
English	8,769	70.7%	53.91%	57.63%
Spanish	1,457	11.8%	17.27%	25.11%
Other Indo-European	1,126	9.1%	7.90%	5.77%
Asian/Pacific	919	7.5%	19.57%	10.40%
Other	126	1.0%	1.4%	1.1%
Income				
Per Capita Income	$69,802		$47,198	$29,906
Median Worker	$65,964		$44,090	$31,345
Median Household	$115,650		$91,421	$61,489
Median Family	$156,439		$108,088	$70,187
Median Home Value	$1,000,000		$736,800	$371,400
Mean Travel Time to Work (minutes)	22.1		26.5	27.8
Poverty Level				
Population in Poverty	2,072	6.4%	7.59%	16.38%
Family in Poverty	263	3.5%	4.67%	12.28%

Table 2-1: Summary of the City of Menlo Park Demographics (Cont.)

EDUCATION AND INCOME

Overall, Menlo Park community members are well off and well educated with 71% of those 25 and older holding a college degree. The median household income is $115,000, compared to $91,421 in the County. The Median Home value in Menlo Park is $1,000,000, compared to the County median home value of $736,800.

Significant for this Plan and the City, these characteristics are relatively common throughout the City, except in the Belle Haven community, north of 101. In that neighborhood, the population of 5,970 people has a median income of $54,250 and a median house value of $453,300. Only 20% of the people over 25 in this neighborhood hold a bachelor's degree or higher. It is important to note that the housing market has exploded in the area and that overall the prices have gone up substantially, including in the Belle Haven neighborhood. However, homes in that section of the City continue to be below the price of the rest of the City.

Figure 2-6 below shows the existing and proposed parks, facilities and recreational amenities available to the Belle Haven neighborhood, including both public properties and facilities, and areas where public recreational space is proposed by private development.



Figure 2-6: Belle Haven Existing and Proposed and Joint Use Recreation Sites

PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES

Menlo Park residents and visitors currently enjoy a wide variety of parks and open spaces distributed throughout the City, from small passive parks of less than an acre, to neighborhood parks with playgrounds, picnic area, and court sports, to community parks with active sports fields, and to a large bayfront natural open space park. Menlo Park also offers an excellent recreation program in multiple recreation facilities, with programming for children, youth, adults, and seniors.

In addition to City-owned parks and facilities, the City has joint-use agreements with four school districts for use of amenities at five schools, including sports fields and courts, and playgrounds. Within city limits, Menlo Park residents and visitors also enjoy access to Flood Park, a 24.5-acre county park, with facilities for sports, group picnicking, and other activities, and to the 373-acre Ravenswood Preserve located largely within Menlo Park and owned and managed by the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District. The southern portion of the preserve offers pedestrian and bicycle access along the shore and levees along the marshland.

Just outside city limits, Holbrook Palmer Park, El Palo Alto Park, and El Camino Park, are public parks located along the City's borders. Nearby regional parks include the Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge. Wunderlich County Park, Huddart County Park, and the San Francisco Bay Trail.

The City also owns a number of properties which they lease to other entities. Although these properties are not discussed in this document, some of the lessees provide recreational opportunities for Menlo Park residents. These entities include the Peninsula Volunteers at Little House, Boys & Girls Club of the Peninsula, and Peninsula Volunteers, Inc. at Rosner House.

Menlo Park's parks and recreation system highly rated by its users. In the City's 2015 Resident Satisfaction Survey, over 90% of the 700+ respondents reported being very satisfied or somewhat satisfied with the overall attractiveness and cleanliness of the City's parks and recreation facilities. 88% were satisfied with the ease of getting to a city park or recreation facility. In response to an on-line survey undertaken as a part of this master planning process, respondents expressed high degrees of satisfaction with the City's parks and recreation facilities. The City's existing parks and recreation facilities are summarized below. A detailed inventory is contained in Appendix B.

Community Parks	Size	Construction
Burgess Community Park	9.31 acres	Construction date unavailable. Renovations 2004, 2005.
Joseph B. Kelly Park	8.3 acres	Construction date unavailable. Renovation 2011.
Community Parks	**17.61 acres**	
Neighborhood Parks	Size	Construction
Alma Street Park	0.5 acres	Construction date unavailable. Renovations 2018-2019.
Fremont Park	0.38 acres	Construction date unavailable. Renovation 1995.
Hamilton Park	1.2 acres	Built 2007.
Jack W. Lyle Park	4.55 acres	Built 2001. Renovation 2019.
Karl E. Clark Park	1.0 acre	Construction date unavailable. Renovation 2004.
Marsh and Bay Park	0.4 acres	Built 2014.
Nealon Park	9.0 acres	Construction date unavailable. Renovations 2005, 2019.
Seminary Oaks Park	3.51 acres	Built 1999. Renovation 2012.
Sharon Park	9.83 acres	Construction date unavailable. Renovation 2004.
Stanford Hills Park	3.11 acres	Construction date unavailable. Renovation 2001.
Tinker Park	0.54 acres	Construction date unavailable. Renovations 2004, 2012.
Willow Oaks Park	2.63 acres	Construction date unavailable. Renovation 1998.
Neighborhood Parks	**36.65 acres**	
Open Space	Size	Construction
Bedwell Bayfront Park	155.0 acres	Built 1995.
Sharon Hills Park	12.5 acres	Construction date unavailable. Renovated 2004.
Open Space	**167.5 acres**	
Total City Parks		
Community and Neighborhood Parks	54.26 acres	
Open Space	167.5 acres	
Total	**221.76 acres**	
City Parkland Standard per 1,000 residents	5.0 acres	
City Parks per 1,000 residents	6.48 acres	

Table 2-2: Parks, Facilities and Joint Use Sites

Community Facilities	Size	Construction
Arrillaga Family Gymnasium	24,100 sf	Built 2010
Arrillaga Family Gymnastics Center	19,380 sf	Built 2012
Arrillaga Family Recreation Center	15,523 sf	Burgess Recreation Center built 1963. Renovated in 1997 and 2013, renamed in 2013.
Belle Haven Child Development Center	6,600 sf	Built 2001, playground renovated 2013.
Belle Haven Pool	1,775 sf	Built 1960's. Renovated in 2002, 2011.
Belle Haven Youth Center	2,485 sf	Built 1950's or 60's, relocated to present site 1970's. Various improvements 1999-2002.
Burgess Pool	5,200 sf	Built 1943. Renovated 2005.
Menlo Childrens Center	12,409 sf	Built 1986. Renovated 2005.
Menlo Park Senior Center	14,978 sf	Built 1992. Medical Clinic constructed 1994. SF includes Clinic.
Onetta Harris Community Center	17,850 sf	Built 1971. Renovations in 1996, 1997, 2001, 2015.
Community Facilities	**124,685 sf**	
Joint Use Sites		Construction
Belle Haven Elementary School	n/a	Built 1948. Renovated 2003.
Hillview Middle School	n/a	Built 1949. Renovated 2013
La Entrada Middle School	n/a	Construction date unavailable. Renovated 2004.
Menlo Atherton Performing Arts Center	n/a	Built 2009.
Oak Knoll Elementary School	n/a	Built 1952. Renovated 2005.
Willow Oaks Elementary School	n/a	Built 1980.
County Park	Size	Construction
Flood Park	21 acres	Built 1936. Renovated 1980's - 1990's.
County Park	**21 acres**	

Table 2-2: Parks, Facilities and Joint Use Sites (Cont.)

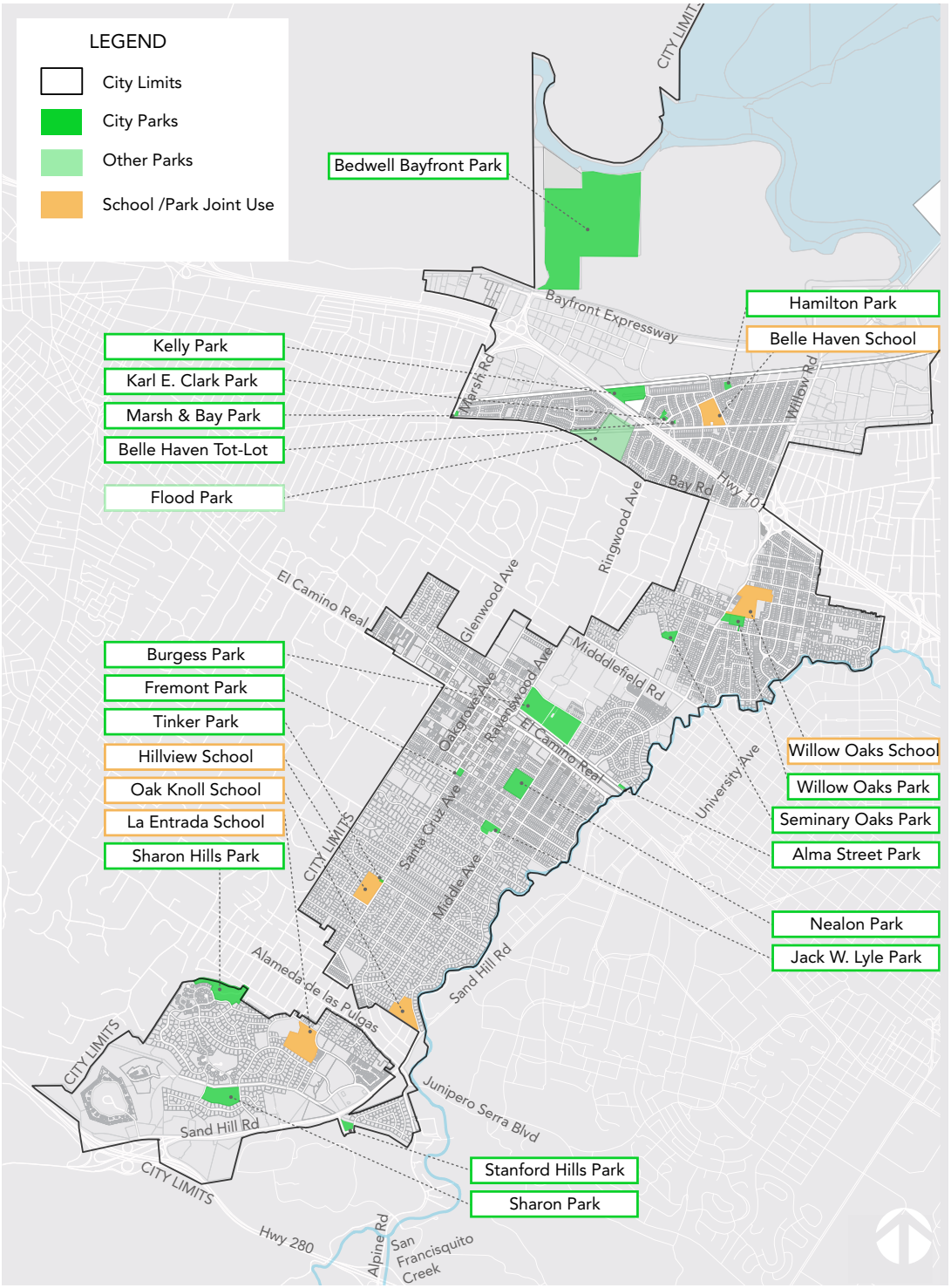


Figure 2-7: City Parks and Joint Use Sites

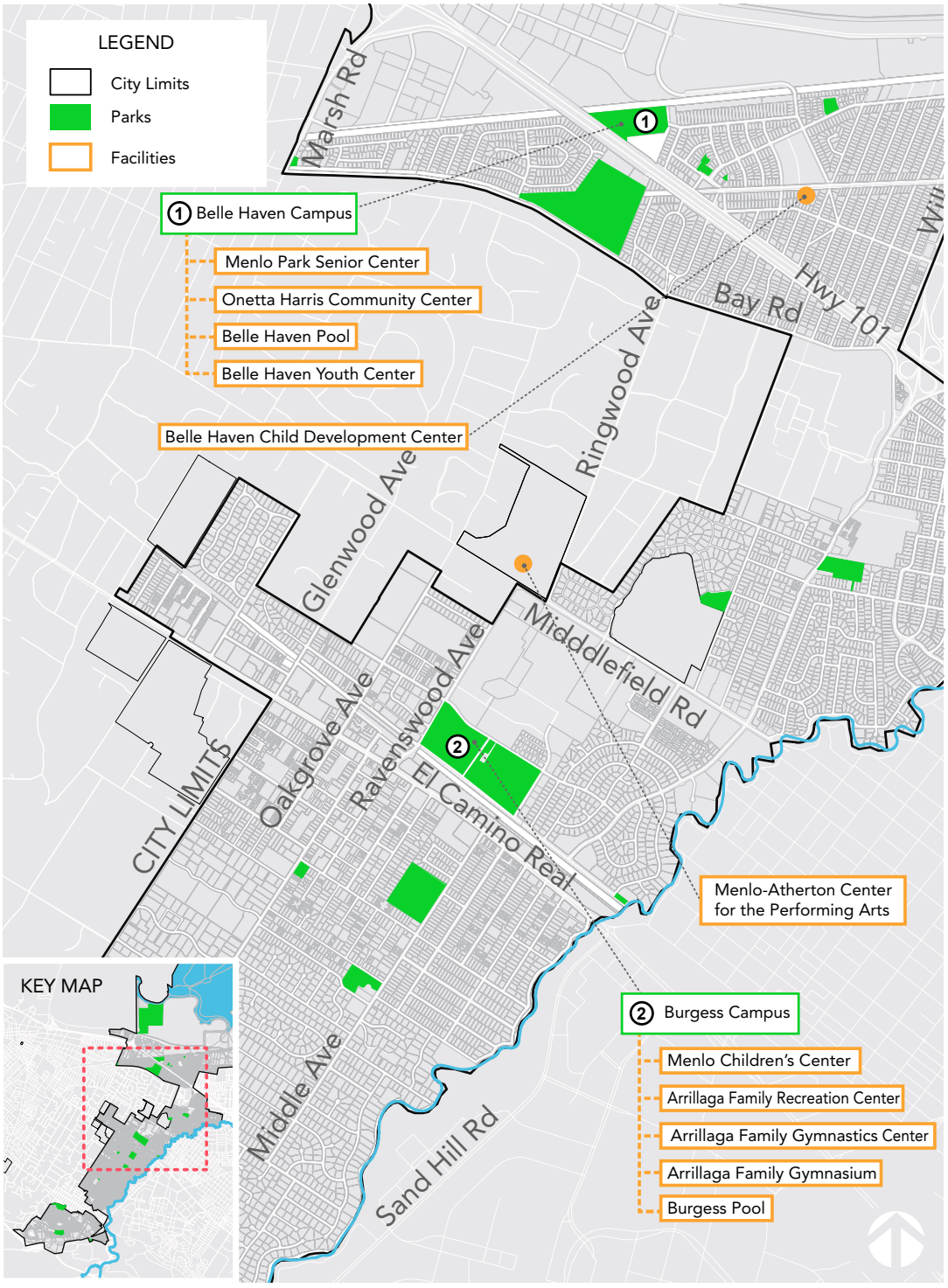


Figure 2-8:. Community Facilities

COMPARISON TO OTHER CITIES

As part of the Needs Assessment, the Planning Team has developed a comparison of similar cities to benchmark Menlo Park's level of service to the communities. The following provides a summary of key points and highlights for each city with a detailed description following. NRPA's PRORAGIS database and its fields are the basis for the complete profiles. Unfortunately, the PRORAGIS database currently does not include any relevant information about Menlo Park, regionally, in California, or nationally.



Figure 2-9: Comparable Cities

The comparison is for six local cities within San Mateo or Santa Clara Counties that have a similar population, and relatively similar income range. They are generally residential with strong commercial areas in most.

Population	Density/ Sq. Mile	# Parks	Acres of Parks	Acres of Open Space	# Rec. Facilities	Acres of Parks/1,000 Residents	Operating Budget	Revenues	Est. Cost Recovery
Belmont									
26,503	5,724	14	31	335	6	1.17	$8,463,977	$5,058,379	59.76%
Burlingame									
29,618	4,890	14	55	42.5	1	1.86	$9,843,886	$2,898,000	29.44%
Foster City									
31,806	1,603	23	109	51	1	3.43	$8,408,947	$1,552,900	18.47%
Los Altos									
29,762	4,588	11	45.45	n/a	6	1.53	$2,384,730	$1,966,300	82.45%
Menlo Park									
32,792	1,883	14	59.5	172.5	7	1.81	$8,432,290	$5,417,170	64.24%
San Carlos									
29,166	5,264	16	62	73	3	2.13	$1,314,600	$2,264,800	172.28%
Saratoga									
30,627	2,473	17	87	250+	4	2.84	$1,387,250	$1,012,314	72.97%

Table 2-3: Basic Comparison of Cities

The cities are Belmont, Burlingame, Foster City, Los Altos, San Carlos, and Saratoga. There are a variety of sources used for this analysis, including the individual city websites, annual budgets, park activity guides, general plans, and Google.

All of the cities have a range of 1 acre to 3 acres of developed parks (opposed to open space) per 1000 residents and have an average of 16 parks each. Foster City is an outlier with 23 parks, and Los Altos just has 11. Menlo Park has 14. The number of indoor recreation facilities, including community centers, gymnasiums, recreation centers, and senior centers, varies considerably from city to city. Belmont and Los Altos have six, while Burlingame and Foster City have just one and Menlo Park has seven. This variation may not necessarily mean a dramatic difference in service as many cities use school facilities, or have partnerships with other organizations. Equally, private organizations provide a range of recreation programs to the community as well.

The level of operating budget for each city is an effective measure to assess the level of service provided. Belmont, Foster City, and Menlo Park spend approximately $8.4 million annual and Burlingame spends $9.8 million on their programs and parks (Figure 4). Los Altos, San Carlos, and Saratoga all spend less than $2 million. Overall, fees are comparable across the cities. The Planning Team did not complete a detailed by program fee assessment but looked at ranges of fees for all the activities and rental facilities (Table 2-6). Menlo Park has the most available rental facilities available with 28 rooms next to Los Altos who has 25.

Program Fees						Rental Fees					
Youth Resident	Youth Non Resident	Adult Resident	Adult Non Resident	Senior Resident	Senior Non Resident	Available for Rent	Large Rooms	Meeting Rooms	Other	Picnic Area Rental	Other Outdoor Rentals
Belmont											
$15-43	$17-48	$7-11	$8-13	$7-11	$8-13	9 spaces	$135-275	$50-90 per hour	n/a	$99-180	$30-75
Burlingame											
$12-86	$14-104	$8-45	$10-52	$6-37	$8-45	9 Rooms	$148-293	$114-$160 per hour	n/a	$102-357	$18-50
Foster City											
$13-27	$13-27	$7-26	$7-26	Free-$14	Free-$14	13 rooms	$125-300	$40-180	$100-225	$75-225	$10-35
Los Altos											
$13-45	$15-54	$3-33	$3-39	Free- $20	Free- $25	25 spaces	$110-138	$56-138 per hour	n/a	$199-249	$25-56
Menlo Park											
$13-34	$18-46	$8-74	$8-99	Free-$3	Free-$3	28 spaces	$75-200	$55-100 per hour	n/a	$10-18	$10-100
San Carlos											
$17-38	$19-41	$10-41	$12-41	Free-$41	Free-$41	2 spaces	$150-200	n/a	n/a	$15	$15-30
Saratoga											
$18-30	$18-30	$9-55	$9-55	$9-39	$9-39	10 spaces	$175-200	$75- 200	n/a	$15/hour	$15/hour

Table 2-4: Comparison of Fees

PLANNING CONTEXT

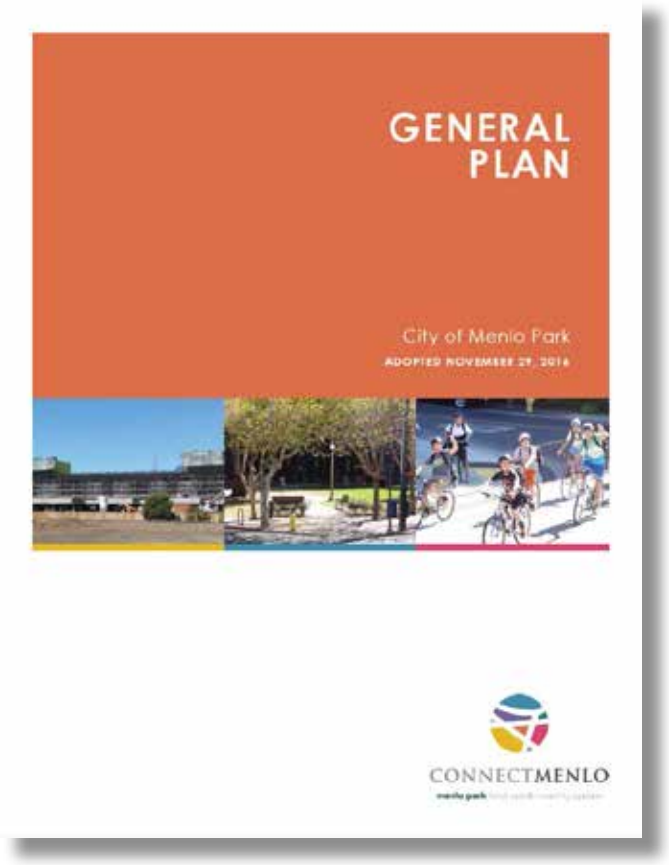
The Parks and Recreation Facilities Master Plan Update exists in the context of multiple inter-related city plans. The City's planning documents should be consistent, and mutually supportive. Existing plans and concurrent planning efforts that relate to the Parks and Recreation Facilities Master Plan Update are discussed in this section.

MENLO PARK GENERAL PLAN (2016, 2013)

Nine Guiding Principles formed the basis of the latest update to the City of Menlo Park General Plan, adopted in 2016. The Guiding Principles describe the kind of place that community members want Menlo Park to be. The goals, policies and programs of the Open Space/ Conservation, Noise and Safety Elements, adopted in May 2013, were carefully analyzed to ensure consistency with the Guiding Principles. One of those principles addresses Accessible Open Space and Recreation, stating that "Menlo Park provides safe and convenient access to an ample amount of local and regional parks and a range of public open space types, recreational facilities, trails, and enhancements to wetlands and the Bay."

Goal LU-6 of the Land Use Element addresses open space and recreation with robust policies and programs.

Goal OSC2 of the Open Space/Conservation, Noise and Safety Elements states that the City shall provide parks and recreation facilities, and enumerates policies and programs to support the goal. It states the policy to "Provide open space lands for a variety of recreation opportunities, make improvements, construct facilities and maintain programs that incorporate sustainable practices that promote healthy living and quality of life." Other policies include working with developers and requiring that parks and recreation facilities meet the growing needs of new development, coordinating with local school districts for continued use of school sites for recreation, developing bicycle and pedestrian paths, and striving to maintain the standard of 5 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents, including open space as well as developed parks. This standard has been adopted by the City, and is currently exceeded.



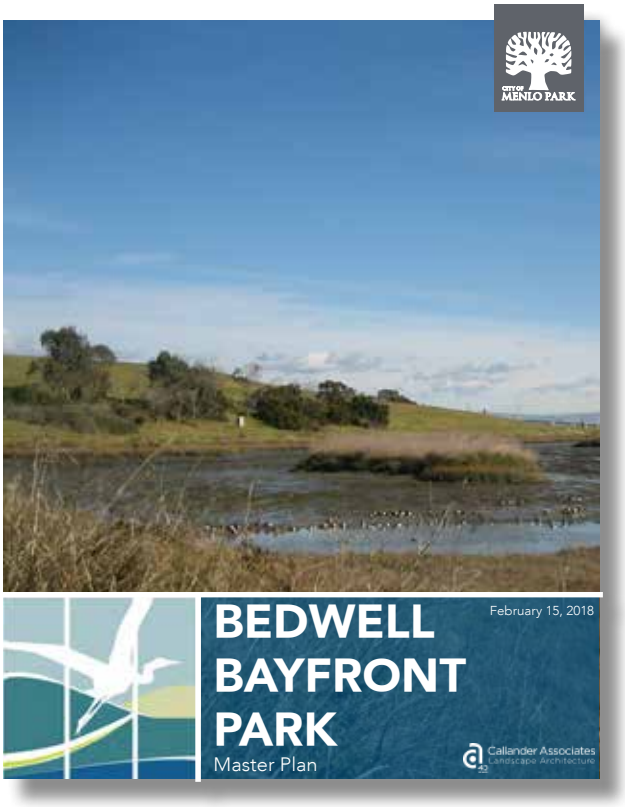
EL CAMINO AND DOWNTOWN SPECIFIC PLAN (2012)

This plan, which is currently being updated, addresses public space in Menlo Park's Downtown, and the El Camino Real Corridor. It describes a number of improvements that would expand spaces available for public recreation and relaxation, and provides standards and guidelines for implementation. Improvements include pocket parks, open space breaks, plazas and

flexible parking and paseo areas. It also provides for improved connectivity across both El Camino Real and the Caltrain tracks, which would provide easier and greater pedestrian and bicycle movement across a congested area of town, as well as to Burgess Park. It identifies the Caltrain corridor as a potential linear park.

BEDWELL BAYFRONT PARK MASTER PLAN (2018)

The recently completed Bedwell Bayfront Master Plan maintains the original guiding principle for the park - that it is a passive recreation park. It contains recommendations for additional access and expanded passive recreation uses. This master plan sets out the vision to guide development of the park for the next 25 years, and is incorporated by reference into this Parks and Recreation Facilities Master Plan.



CONNECTMENLO & THE BELLE HAVEN VISION (2014- 2016)

ConnectMenlo, adopted in 2014, identified emerging needs of the Belle Haven neighborhood. The Belle Haven Vision, adopted in 2016, was designed to address those needs after Redevelopment was discontinued. In the Belle Haven Vision, desired amenities were identified and prioritized. Park and Open Space Improvements included tree planting, Bedwell Bayfront Park improvements, community garden(s), and a dog park.

CLIMATE ACTION PLAN (2009)

Menlo Park's Climate Action Plan was first adopted in 2009, and is regularly updated. Greenhouse gas reduction, zero waste strategies and sustainable practices are being integrated throughout the City's ordinances and planning efforts. The latest update states that greenhouse gas reduction and zero waste strategies will be incorporated into the Parks and Recreation Facilities Master Plan in Fiscal Year 2018-2019. It establishes a greenhouse gas reduction goal of 27% below 2005 levels by 2020.

COMMUNITY ZERO WASTE PLAN (2017)

The Community Zero Waste Plan, adopted by Council, has a goal of achieving zero waste as a community by 2035.

COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW (2104)

In 2014, a thorough review of Community Services recognized the strong reputation, dedicated staff, exceptional cost recovery and excellent customer service of the Department. The report contained a suite of recommendations regarding operations and management, and concluded that it would benefit

from a strategic planning effort. It noted that the Department is ready for a reorganization of positions, to be better aligned, revised and reformatted to meet the needs of the community.

TRANSPORTATION MASTER PLAN (IN PROCESS)

The Transportation Master Plan is developing recommendations for mobility improvement projects that will facilitate access to many of the City's parks and recreation facilities, including consideration of projects such as a Class I multi-use trail along the Dumbarton Rail Corridor, a bicycle and pedestrian crossing of that corridor to the Onetta Harris Community Center campus and Kelly Park, and grade-separated crossings of the CalTrain rail tracks at Ravenswood Avenue and Middle Avenue.

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE FOR STORMWATER PLAN (IN PROCESS)

Green infrastructure refers to stormwater treatment features which use vegetation and soils to promote clean discharge to our local water bodies. Green infrastructure is especially suitable within large open space areas such as parks, and promotes stormwater treatment and flood mitigation.

All park projects should be assessed for green infrastructure with special attention to the "regional" projects category as defined in the City's Green Infrastructure Plan. Please refer to the subject master plan for additional information.

WATER SYSTEM MASTER PLAN

The Department of Public Works is continuing its implementation of a Water System Master Plan, which will include discussion of water use reduction methods such as irrigation with recycled, non-potable water.





LIBRARY ASSESSMENT STUDY

This plan evaluates options for improving, expanding, and renovating the City's library facilities, including consideration of complementary uses that may be accommodated in those facilities, such as teen gathering and recreation space.

The City is currently undertaking site analyses and conceptual design options for a new Belle Haven Branch Library.

PARK AND RECREATION TRENDS

The City of Menlo Park is a suburban town and a community who values their location in the Bay Area and enjoys the benefits of hosting tech giants such as Facebook. The City has the benefit of access to a wide variety of natural resources including bay-side coasts, outdoor recreation centers, trail systems, as well as city parks. It is important to understand how outdoor facilities and trends provide opportunities to activate the City's neighborhoods in new ways, including aligning park development with any new housing, with visitor services; business development; and community quality of life. The following topics highlight some key trends from the region, California, and the nation.





NEW INNOVATIVE PARKS EVERYWHERE

Dense urban areas are forcing developers and city planners to look for new places to construct parks. Recently, 22,000 miles of rail lines have been transformed into hiking and biking trails, and now designers are moving underground. "The world's first subterranean green space," New York's Lowline, will open in 2021. There are a few additional underground parks being designed currently. The desire for more parks is growing, and city planners are creating community green spaces in increasingly innovative places, including below underpasses, in utility corridors, on top of parking garages and more.

THE OUTDOOR LIFESTYLE

Today, the active outdoor lifestyle has gone mainstream characterized by wellness and quality time with family and friends. People and city planners are looking for ways to provide outdoor experiences within existing neighborhoods and the Downtown core area. Due to time demands of family and jobs, convenience and





accessibility are critical. The opportunity for parks and recreation providers is to offer meaningful outdoor pursuits near to residents and business areas.

For youth ages 6-24, running/jogging and bicycling have the highest participation and are favorite outdoor activities. Skateboarding is also a favorite activity for this young age group. Running is popular with adults, but fishing and bicycling also have high participation rates. Adults' favorite activities are running, bicycling, and birdwatching.

The Outdoor Industry survey on participation identified a number of growing trends including kayaking, stand up paddling, and trail running. These three may be relevant to Menlo Park depending on bay conditions and access for boating, and trail connections in and around Bedwell Bayfront Park. In the last three years, stand-up paddling has gone up 24%, kayak fishing 20%, and kayaking in general 8%. In the last year, these trends are even stronger and included increased activities in all types of kayaking.

HEALTH, WELLNESS AND WALKABILITY

Although California is a relatively healthy state, with just over 76% of the population reporting they are physically active, 24% of the population is obese; diagnoses of diabetes have increased 15% in the last two years, and physical inactivity has increased for seniors (65+) by 29%. In September 2015, the US Surgeon General, Dr. Vivek H. Murthy launched a new initiative: "Step it Up! Surgeon General's Call to Action to Promote Walking and Walkable Communities." The initiative calls for walking as a daily activity and inspires professionals from health care to parks and recreation to support the development and creation of more walkable communities to encourage people to get out and walk.

Parks and recreation services, programs and facilities

are being seen more often as the "prescription" for prevention, good health, and wellness for communities. The State of Oregon, Oakland, CA, and Washington D.C. have programs in place that have health professionals issue parks prescriptions. Ensuring tobacco free parks, encouraging community walking programs, and creating health focused pedestrian and bike plans are all part of the solution that parks and recreation can serve.

HEALTH AND PUBLIC SAFETY

On the flip side, parks have regrettably become preferred sites for opioid injections, other drug use, homeless encampments and other crime. Homeless encampments are likely places for spreading diseases through shared drug paraphernalia and unsanitary conditions. In California and the Bay Area homeless rates are increasing and park administration must be ready to adapt and combat these challenges. Some of the approaches include improved lighting, reduced dense vegetation, more activities to reduce attractiveness for homeless, and unique designs such as benches that can be used for sitting but not for sleeping.

CLIMATE CHANGE, RESILIENCY AND SUSTAINABILITY

Climate change mitigation, resiliency planning, and sustainability efforts are some of the most critical issues that cities will be responding to now and into the future. Menlo Park has adopted both a Climate Action Plan and a Community Zero Waste Plan, and is currently developing a Green Infrastructure Plan.

Parks play a central role in the ability to assist and address some of the issues related to climate change. This includes: water conservation through smart irrigation technologies, sustainable planting approaches for parks, and overall maintenance practices, flood mitigation,











acting as carbon sinks, and limiting urban heat islands. Also, the provision and stewardship of open space offer a "carbon sink," an essential element to help mitigate emissions. Recreation programs and facilities that focus on walkability and bikeability are critical to reducing vehicle miles traveled, a key statewide goal to reduce greenhouse gases. Open space and parks also can be effective buffers for potential flood zones resulting from increased severe weather patterns, particularly on the coast and adjacent to riparian corridors. Parks can be used for green infrastructure that satisfies regional projects. Green infrastructure can reduce pollutant loads, treat storm discharge, and mitigate flooding concerns while contributing to a more sustainable ecosystem. Additionally, energy conservation efforts and the use of solar panels for recreation facilities and lighting can help reduce the City's carbon footprint, act as a model for businesses and residents, and save money in operations. Finally, new methods of sequestering energy from parks are being discovered, and currently a British firm is working on using dog waste as a potential source for energy.

CHILDREN AND TEENS

One of the greatest challenges cities nationwide are facing is how to support families. This challenge includes creating a park system that addresses child development – physical, social and cognitive – creating the opportunity to enjoy and experience nature, as well as providing safe streets and accessible schools. More than the development of tot lots, considering children means looking at the entire network, from streets and plazas to trail and parks, as an interconnection support system. Each element of the system must consider children of all ages and their families.

Teenagers are perhaps the most challenging of this group. As a whole, they do not want to be categorized with children, may not want to be part of an organized

group, and are often more interested in exploring a larger realm. They often indicate a desire to 'hang out,' and need safe places day and night to do this. Skate parks and teen playgrounds are two areas that have some success in doing this. Evaluating how to provide safe and enjoyable experiences for this group is paramount to fully serving the needs of residents.

AGING POPULATION

One of the strongest trends throughout the United States, California, and in Menlo Park is the aging of the population. The City has an older, aging population and must consider and develop facilities and programs that will serve older adults with a variety of needs and interests. Segmenting seniors into a single category is not effective. With healthier lifestyles, people live longer and have more active lives than ever before. Parks and recreation providers need to consider multiple stages and interests of seniors' diverse lives as well as their interest in developing new skills and learning new activities. Resources for those with some health issues and access concerns; for passive and more contemplative activities; for seniors looking for inter-generational interactions, and for those who want more quiet environments are essential.

ECONOMICS AND FINANCING

Parks and recreation professionals have often had to fight for resources to build and maintain a high quality system of parks. The need for new sources of revenue is encouraging parks and recreation professionals to become more entrepreneurial. Expanding opportunities for sponsorships, as well as looking to new potential partners for funding programs and facilities is becoming a priority. Additionally, identifying and securing long-term funding sources for maintaining and renovating existing parks is an ongoing challenge. For example, establishing a long-term partnership with Facebook could be beneficial to Menlo Park.









Trends show that more individuals and companies are funding parks as a way to give back to their communities, and in the coming years trends show gifts to parks will exceed millions.

ARTS, HISTORY AND CULTURE

Connecting history, art, and culture within parks is an opportunity to enhance the physical environment and interest of individual parks while providing another dimension for people not looking for active sports or recreation.

INCREASED USE OF TECHNOLOGY

Menlo Park will need to consider how technology may impact parks and facilities. Technology is offering parks and recreation providers with broad new opportunities as well as new challenges. It seems that nearly all sectors of the population are becoming more comfortable with and dependent on technology, desiring more high tech and "amenity" rich experiences. Technology can simultaneously provide a mass communication tool while improving affordability and accessibility to community members. Opportunities for tech-aided recreation are growing while a conflicting trend for techno-free parks and environments is emerging. Finding the right balance and appropriate use for technology in parks and recreation facilities and programming will be an evolving effort.

As drones become more mainstream, parks must be ready for a large desire in flying drones recreationally in public areas, and government backed drone surveillance for environmental observations and criminal recording. Drones can be used to aid rangers and volunteers in mapping areas, plants, animals, visitors, and much more. Currently, Menlo Park's Municipal Code Section 8.28.130 (5) prohibits use of drones, except in designated areas and except for public safety personnel for emergency operations.

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CHAPTER 3 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



CHAPTER 3 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The Park and Recreation Facilities Master Plan Update has been developed with extensive outreach and community engagement. A variety of methods of garnering input were used to assess community needs and recreation demand in the City. Methods used included community workshops, pop-up and intercept activities, focus groups, stakeholder interviews, an on-line survey, and social media channels. A dedicated Parks and Recreation User Focus Group advised Project Team on the community engagement strategy.

The following is a summary of the project's community engagement. More complete information and responses are found in Appendix C.









OUTREACH GOALS, METHODS, AND PROCESS

INFORM. CONSULT. INVOLVE. COLLABORATE. EMPOWER.

A community engagement plan was developed, based on the Menlo Park Community Engagement Model. The the goals of the community engagement plan were to:

- Ensure community awareness of the project and of input opportunities
- Bring residents together to create a sense of community
- Reflect the City of Menlo Park mission and brand
- Provide information, education and communication regarding the project, and the parks and facilities in Menlo Park
- Offer a range of communication and engagement tools to facilitate input among a wide range of participants
- Offer a range of meeting locations and times to facilitate participation
- Obtain community consensus to support and prioritize the plan
- Build partnerships for implementation and stewardship of improvements
- *Maybe even have a little bit of fun ...*

ENGAGEMENT METHODS

A variety of input methods were used to reach out to the community at various venues, to collect input in a convenient and relevant manner, and to maximize participation both on-line and in person. The methods used included:

- Parks and Recreation User Focus Group
- Community Workshops
- Intercept and Pop-Up Activities
- Specific Focus Groups
- Stakeholder Interviews
- Project Web Page and Facebook Group
- On-line Survey in English and Spanish





GETTING THE WORD OUT

In order to make the community aware of the project and input opportunities, a range of media discussed the project, announced events, and provided means of submitting comments. This information was disseminated via print media (The Almanac), on-site



signage at all facilities and local events, reader boards, the City and project websites, Instagram and Facebook, and email blasts to people who had expressed interest. Additionally, Frisbees and cups were distributed with project contact information, and Menlo Park Rocks were painted and placed in the City's parks.

PHASES OF ENGAGEMENT

Community engagement was developed in three phases, or "rounds." Throughout the process, the planning team attended multiple intercept activities, staffed information booths, and held community workshops. The on-line survey was active for a period of 3 months. All materials were provided in English and Spanish.

The first round of engagement took a broad approach to get a sense of the community's overall satisfaction with their parks and facilities, what was perceived as working and what needed improvement, and what might be missing from Menlo Park facilities, programs, and parks.

The second round of engagement, focused more deeply on the information garnered from the first round, articulated and confirmed the major themes that arose in the first round, and began to develop a vision and prioritize goals.

The third round of engagement focused on confirming the community's vision and goals for their park and recreation system, examining options for specific areas that were important to the community, and sought to clarify more detailed direction as to those items.

The concluding round of community engagement consisted of review of the draft guidelines and recommendations of the Master Plan to ensure that they have the support of the community, as well as review of the draft prioritization criteria and ranking of recommended projects.

PARKS AND RECREATION USER FOCUS GROUP

A Parks and Recreation User Focus Group was formed to assist the project team with reaching out to the community, and in reviewing materials that would be used in outreach activities for the project. The group was comprised of key stakeholders representing different interests and neighborhoods, who could also help promote the effort to their constituencies. Members included Parks and Recreation Commissioners, teens, representatives from the school districts, sports fields and aquatics stakeholders, and members from the business community, arts and culture, and environment. The role of the group was to:

- Provide advisory input and recommendations to the consultant and staff regarding the outreach process and concept plans (i.e. alternatives) and programs; and
- Reach out to other community members and help bring them into the broader planning process through participation in the community workshops and other planning activities.

The group met at the outset of each phase of community engagement. The last three of the five group meetings were combined with Community Workshops, and the public was invited to attend and participate.

OVERALL PARTICIPATION

To date, the outreach efforts for this Parks and Recreation Facilities Master Plan have incorporated participation of well over 2,500 people.

- Over 90 people attended community workshops, and 185 streamed a workshop live on Facebook.
- Over 2,000 people have been reached at intercept activities and pop-up information booths.

DATE	FORUM	LOCATION
March 31, 2018	Intercept Activity	Burgess Park during the Egg Hunt Event
March 31, 2018	Intercept Activity	Kelly Park during the Egg Hunt Event
April 4, 2018	Intercept Activity	Belle Haven Home Owners Association at Menlo Park Senior Center
April 12, 2018	Project Information Booth	Menlo Park Senior Center
April 21, 2018	Intercept Activity	Little League at Burgess Park
April 26, 2018	Community Workshop	Arrillaga Family Recreation Center
April 28, 2018	Intercept Activity	Belle Haven Spring Fair
April 28, 2018	Project Information Booth	Belle Haven Community Garden
May 3, 2018	Focus Groups	Focus Groups
May 4, 2018	Focus Groups	Focus Groups
May 5, 2018	Project Information Booth	Bedwell Bayfront Park during Kite Day Event
May 12, 2018	Intercept Activity	Facebook Campus during the Facebook Festival
May 20, 2018	Project Information Booth	Facebook Mobile Farmers Market
June 6, 2018	Intercept Activity	Belle Haven Home Owners Association at Menlo Park Senior Center
June 9, 2018	Community Workshop	Menlo Park Senior Center
June 13, 2018	Intercept Activity	Fremont Park during the Summer Concert Series
June 20, 2018	Project Information Booth	Burgess Pool
June 20, 2018	Intercept Activity	Fremont Park during the Summer Concert Series
June 25, 2018	Project Information Booth	Belle Haven Pool
June 27, 2018	Project Information Booth	Fremont Park during the Summer Concert Series
July 4, 2018	Project Information Booth	Burgess Park
July 11, 2018	Project Information Booth	Fremont Park during the Summer Concert Series
July 18, 2018	Project Information Booth	Fremont Park during the Summer Concert Series
July 25, 2018	Project Information Booth	Fremont Park during the Summer Concert Series
August 6, 2018	City Council Study Session	Council Chambers
August 7, 2018	Project Information Booth	Willow Oaks during the National Night Out Event
August 7, 2018	Project Information Booth	Hamilton Park during the National Night Out Event
August 7, 2018	Project Information Booth	Nealon Park during the National Night Out Event
August 15, 2018	Project Information Booth	Kelly Park during the Summer Concert Series

Table 3-1: In-Person Engagement Activities

DATE	FORUM	LOCATION
August 16, 2018	Project Information Booth	Block Party - Downtown Menlo Park
August 22, 2018	Project Information Booth	Kelly Park during the Summer Concert Series
August 29, 2018	Project Information Booth	Kelly Park during the Summer Concert Series
September 20, 2018	Project Information Booth	Onetta Harris Community Center Open House
September 26, 2018	Project Update	Parks and Recreation Commission
October 18, 2018	Community Workshop/ Parks and Recreation User Focus Group	Arrillaga Family Recreation Center
November 13, 2018	Intercept Activity	Hillview Middle School
December 6, 2018	Project Information Booth	Menlo Park Senior Center
December 6, 2018	Project Information Booth	Belle Haven Youth Center
December 6, 2018	Project Information Booth	Onetta Harris Community Center
April 4, 2019	Community Workshop/ Parks and Recreation User Focus Group	Arrillaga Recreation Center
April 16, 2019	City Council Study Session	Menlo Park Senior Center
May 30, 2019	Community Workshop/ Parks and Recreation User Focus Group	Menlo Park Senior Center
June 26, 2019	Project Update	Parks and Recreation Commission
July 24, 2019	Project Update	Parks and Recreation Commission
August 28, 2019	Project Update	Parks and Recreation Commission

Table 3-1: In-Person Engagement Activities (Cont.)

- 500+ people participated in the online survey, including a response to the Spanish language version. 130+ people responded to a follow-up online survey, including over 9 in Spanish.
- 6 focus groups, 2 presentations to the Belle Haven Home Owners Association, 5 Parks and Recreation User Focus Group meetings, and one presentation to City Council occurred.
- Public presentations were made to the Parks and Recreation Commission and to City Council.



ROUND 1 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

"TELL US ABOUT YOUR PARKS!"

The first round of community engagement consisted of intercept activities, pop-up project information booths, a community workshop, and focus groups.

For the intercept activities and community workshop, participants were invited to express their opinions on interactive boards.

Participants were encouraged to express their opinions by voting with dots, and to write comments on the boards or on post-its. Each participant was given a limited number of dots with which to express their top preferences and priorities. Adults and children were given different types of dots so their responses could be tallied separately.



Examples of Interactive Voting Boards

Boards presented the questions of what participants liked about existing parks, facilities, and programs, and what they would like to see added. The boards also asked participants to give comments about any of the parks or recreation facilities that they used.

Six focus groups were also held, bringing together stakeholders to gather more detailed input from specific stakeholder groups. Meetings were held with representatives from Menlo Park schools; sports groups; businesses; City programs; City staff; cultural, arts and community; and environmental groups.

To further generate interest an engagement, youth were encouraged to decorate "Kindness Rocks" with







COMMUNITY WORKSHOP # 1

a message of kindness for a friend to find later in a park. All rocks were labeled with the project hashtag #mymenloparks so the finder of the rock could learn about the project. Rocks were hidden in the parks by maintenance staff after events.

Frisbees were handed out at events with the project hashtag #mymenloparks and project logo to help spread awareness of the project around the community.

The first community workshop was live streamed through Facebook. 30+ people joined us during the meeting, 50+ had viewed it the next day and 188 people were reached as of January 2019.

In this phase, well over 1,000 community members participated in the activities.

OVERALL THEMES

From this first round of engagement, themes and areas of consensus began to emerge. The following issues and opportunities were expressed by many community members in multiple venues:

- "ONE CITY"– Parks and Recreation should bring the community together
- CONNECTIONS - Improve access across the City



- Activities in the EVENING for social interaction
- UNIQUE and DISTINCTIVE parks
- Make our parks more INTERESTING to all
- ACCESS and INCLUSIVITY – All Ages and Abilities
- Provide FREE PLAY and NATURE
- NATURE and NATURAL SPACES
- GREENING the Downtown
- SUSTAINABILITY
- Environmental EDUCATION
- DOG PARKS – Pros and cons
- PARTNERSHIPS: School Joint Use
- PARTNERSHIPS: Public/Private
- PARTNERSHIPS: Additional Field Opportunities
- PLAY SPACES: Unique, Inclusive, Destination, Nature, Sensory Manipulation
- GATHERING SPACES: Outdoor Lounge, Teen Space, Unique Small Gathering Spaces, Indoor Lounge
- SPECIAL FEATURES: Splash Pad, Pump Track, Outdoor Art, Innovative Tech Play, Agility Dog Parks, Community Gardens
- ACTIVITIES: More Recreation Programs For Under Age 10, More Dance, Health And Wellness, Fitness Center
- BURGESS PARK CAMPUS: Recreation Buildings Efficiencies, Library as Community Center (& Teen Space), Landscape, Duck Pond, Pool, Fitness Center, Field Lighting
- BELLE HAVEN CAMPUS: Onetta Harris complex, Kelly Park, Wayfinding, Program delivery, Acknowledge education as high community value, Citywide events to connect community







ROUND 2 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

GOALS, PREFERENCES AND PRIORITIES

Round 2 of the engagement process took a deeper dive into the themes that had emerged from Round 1. Participants began to articulate a vision, goals, and prioritization criteria. The project team worked directly with the community to understand trade-offs, opportunities, preferences and to develop and articulate goals. Interactive boards were a tool in this phase as well. Responses to the on-line survey also informed this phase.



The on-line survey asked residents about likes, dislikes and ideas for future park plans. Questions also dove into demographics, potential barriers to using the existing parks, proximity to parks, travel time and frequency of park use. Themes emerging in the on-line survey were consistent with the in person responses at the community workshops and intercept activities in the first round of community engagement.

To increase on-line survey participation, it was noticed on the City social media channels (Facebook, Instagram, Nextdoor and the Almanac.)

Round 2 engagement confirmed, reinforced, and expanded on the themes that emerged in the earlier outreach.

UNIQUE PARKS

A regardless of age, desire for unique play spaces was one of the key pieces to future parks in Menlo Park.

"Not just choosing between the yellow playground versus the blue playground," commented one resident.

The parks and facilities should include a range of activities for all ages and abilities to play and participate in parallel.

Overall, people said the parks were well maintained and felt safe to use, but they would frequent the parks more often or even be willing to travel to have a different experience at another park.

The idea of pop-parks and neighborhood street parties also came up as a suggestion to provide variety, build community and temporarily claim some green space where there may not be a park nearby.

AMENITY AWARENESS

People were surprised to learn of some of the amenities and park spaces that already exist in Menlo Park and thought better imagery and on-line access would encourage use of what they already have in the City.

TEENS

Teens and tweens expressed feeling that they do not have a place to go or hang out where they had "permission" to linger. They would appreciate indoor or outdoor lounge areas and other casual and informal spaces for flex play, selfies and games.

One participant shared that he was asked to get off a swing at a park by a mother and felt unwelcome in that space. Some said they would use a playground if it had a "wow factor" or didn't look like it was meant a for a toddler.

Interactive or public art was of interest and was highly ranked as a unique feature that teens would like to visit and share with friends. Nature areas or gardens that were picturesque were also desirable areas to meet and enjoy.

ONE CONNECTED COMMUNITY

Rising to the top of the list of things people like in Menlo Park was community events. Residents felt the events were great for bringing the community together, and would like more.

Menlo Park has barriers that divide the City, such as Highway 101 and the Caltrain corridor. The community strongly expressed that parks and recreation could unify and build community, and foster interaction for everyone in the City. Through events, unique and distinct parks and facilities, and creative solutions to outdoor spaces, they see parks and recreation strengthening the concept of "One Menlo Park."

CONNECTION TO NATURE

Whether in small areas near programmed spaces or large events at Bedwell Bayfront Park, Menlo Park residents want their park and recreation facilities to provide places to connect with nature.

Ideas around education, demonstration gardens, signage in parks describing local flora and fauna were something citizens felt was important and also serves the the goals of making spaces unique.







ROUND 3 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Round 3 of the engagement addressed the Vision and Goals for Menlo Park's Park and Recreation system. The forum was a Parks and Recreation User Focus Group meeting to which the public were invited. In addition to reviewing and confirming the Vision and Goals, the meeting focused several distinct areas of discussion. At the first breakout session, participants could focus on one area of discussion, or could spend time at each of the focus areas to give their input.

One group discussed and prioritized creative ways for the City to increase its parkland, facilities, and recreational amenities.

Another focus area was to consider which existing parks are appropriate locations for amenities that the community expressed desire for: splash pad, pump track, off-leash dog park, community gardens, and upgraded playgrounds.

Other focus areas were the vision for a teen space and a fitness center.

In the second breakout session, groups formed to discuss strategies for enhancing and improving the Onetta Harris Community Center Campus, to better integrate it and to improve its usability and functionality.

Ideas that were generated have been incorporated into the plan recommendations, and the **Vision** and **Goals** confirmed by the community are the guiding elements of this plan.

VISION AND GOALS

VISION

Connect Menlo Park through a sustainable, equitable and accessible system of parks, recreation facilities, and programs that reflect the City's character, and encourage multi-generational interactions.

GOALS

PARKS AND FACILITIES FOR ALL OF MENLO PARK

An integrated, equitable and inclusive park and recreation system that serves the community as a whole.

- Multi-generational
- All abilities
- Equitable and affordable
- Integrate with other planning efforts (Transportation Plan, Downtown Plan, Library Plan, Green Infrastructure Plan, development plans)
- Connect the Libraries – integrate with parks/ outside spaces, especially for teens
- Prioritize community benefits with consideration of neighborhood impacts.

A connected and accessible park and recreation system.

- Accessible to residents across the City
- Accessible to all ages and abilities













- Accessible for all socio-economic levels – equitable and affordable

UNIQUE AND DISTINCTIVE PARKS AND FACILITIES

Parks and facilities reflect a sense of place and community.

- Unique and distinctive.
- Identity and character.
- Foster community character and neighborhood identity.

Parks and recreation that supports health and wellness.

- Active and passive
- Fitness center
- Linear connections
- Integrate nature and green spaces throughout the City

CREATIVE SOLUTIONS

Expand parks and recreation opportunities.

- Identify and prioritize potential sites for future park development.
- Strengthen and expand partnerships and joint use.
- Innovative transformation of underused spaces (underused space in existing parks, greening of

hardscapes, surface parking lots, rooftops, street space)

- Bring nature into the City
- Temporary / pop-up recreation spaces (play streets, Sunday streets)
- Extend use time of facilities (field lighting)
- Identify opportunities for features desired by the community (dog parks, splash pad, community gardens, shade, etc.)
- Create spaces for teens
- Increase awareness of the City's parks and facilities resources through enhanced marketing (e.g. virtual park tours, interactive website with QR codes, etc.)

SUSTAINABILITY

Ensure that environmental sustainability is an integral part of parks and recreation facility development and management.

- Incorporate sustainable best practices for water conservation, energy efficiency, and stormwater and zero waste goal. (Climate Action Plan Goals)
- Implement green infrastructure in parks, in accordance with the Green Infrastructure Plan, incorporating flood mitigation, pollutant reduction, and cleaner stormwater discharge.
- Design and construct new recreation and community facilities to meet Gold LEED standards, or the best current alternative.









- Establish parks and recreation facilities as part of a more resilient City.

Ensure that economic sustainability is incorporated into all parks and recreation facility development and management.

- Achieve City cost recovery goals.
- Provide equitable fee structures applicable to all facilities and programs.
- Identify ongoing maintenance funding for any proposed improvements.
- Consider sponsorships and naming rights as revenue sources.
- Maximize operational efficiencies in facilities.
- Expand potential revenue sources in line with City goals and mission.

Integrate educational sustainability in parks and recreation facilities

- Provide interpretive signage and information links where appropriate.
- Create demonstration gardens.
- Consider edible landscapes.
- Connect youth recreation programming to education goals when feasible.
- Educate community about sustainability.

CONCLUDING ROUND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The final round of community engagement sought to confirm community support of the Plan's Guidelines and Recommendations, and the criteria by which to prioritize recommended and proposed projects. Two meetings of the Parks and Recreation User Focus Group were held as open workshops with the community invited. An online survey also remained open during this period for continuing community input on the draft Guidelines and Recommendations.

MEETINGS

At the first of these meetings, topics included the vision and goals for each park, recommendations and guideline highlights, and criteria for prioritization. Much of the discussion focused on the Belle Haven neighborhood, with the participants supportive of a big vision, with integrated and coordinated planning. Regarding prioritization of projects, participants emphasized equity, community input, safety, and inclusivity.

At the second combined Focus Group and Community Workshop, the Master Plan recommendations were again discussed, and the participants were asked to review the proposed prioritization criteria through an exercise where they applied the criteria to a range of recommended projects. Suggested refinements and revisions to the criteria were made and have been

incorporated into the Master Plan. The importance of continuing community input was a primary concern.

It was emphasized that a central recommendation in the Master Plan is a feasibility study for renovation of the Onetta Harris Community Center Campus, and extensive community outreach will be a key component of that study.

During this round of community engagement, a presentation was made to the Parks and Recreation Commission, to obtain feedback on the prioritization of recommended projects. The Commission was generally supportive.

ONLINE SURVEY

The online survey contained links to English and Spanish versions of the Draft Guidelines and Recommendations. It asked how well the Guidelines reflect community values and needs, and how well the Recommendations address the City's recreation and park needs. It also asked respondents to provide specific comments. The survey was posted from March 19 **through June 17, 2019**. 134 responses were received, including 10 in Spanish.

Between 73% and 81% of survey respondents felt that the Guidelines reflected community values and needs very well, well or ok, depending on the guideline category. In addition, 68% felt that the Recommendation addressed the recreation and park needs. Approximately 80 respondents provided comments regarding plan recommendations. The majority of comments confirmed the Guidelines and Recommendations such as:

- Improvements to Belle Haven Campus as a whole
- Electric vehicle charging stations
- Restrooms
- Equitable fees and park distribution
- Public art
- Improved bike and pedestrian access
- Upgraded play at Hamilton, Sharon, Willow Oaks and Tinker Parks

Some comments provided additional ideas which were added to the Plan, including:

- Technology improvements (e.g. tennis court reservations)
- Paved running path in Sharon Hills Park
- Repaved/improved pathways in Willow Oaks Park
- Preserving the multi-use open lawn at Jack Lyle Park
- Additional picnic areas
- Acoustic improvements in the Burgess Community Center

A number of comments showed areas of conflicting opinions, such as:

- Artificial turf and field lighting at Burgess Park
- Covering of Burgess Pool
- Outsourcing services (e.g. Menlo Swim & Sport, gymnastics instruction, fitness center)
- Dogs: for Nealon Park 12 comments favored keeping the current restricted hour dog area, and 6 comments requested relocation of the dog area. Generally, there was support expressed for more off-leash dog areas.

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CHAPTER 4 GUIDELINES



CHAPTER 4 GUIDELINES

GUIDING GOALS

These guidelines are designed to enable the City's staff and decision making bodies to make good decisions about the enhancement and development of parks and recreation facilities, be adaptable and innovative, and respond to needs and wants that may not be foreseen today. They are overarching concepts that apply to decisions made throughout the City's parks and recreation system. The guidelines are based on the Park and Recreation Facilities Master Plan Update's vision and goals, which were informed by extensive community input.









GUIDELINES

GOAL 1. ONE MENLO PARK

Menlo Park has a high quality system of parks and recreation facilities. The City's parks, facilities, and events bring the community together as "One Menlo Park." As the City grows and evolves it must ensure that these parks and facilities meet the needs of all members of the Menlo Park community. The system should provide equitably distributed active and passive recreation opportunities which engage users, and which are accessible to residents of all ages and abilities, throughout the City.

G.1.1 AN INTEGRATED, EQUITABLE, AND INCLUSIVE PARK AND RECREATION SYSTEM THAT SERVES THE COMMUNITY AS A WHOLE.

1.1.1 **Complete Park System:** Parks and facilities do not exist in isolation, and should be located, designed or renovated with an awareness of the recreational spaces and amenities that are in the surrounding areas. Each new park or facility, or significant renovation of an existing park or facility should contribute to satisfying the recreational needs of the neighborhood that it serves, and be integrated into a system that serves the entire community. Each improvement should complement the mix of uses in the neighborhood and in the City as a whole.

1.1.2 **Neighborhood Serving:** Strive to distribute parks, facilities, amenities, and programs to serve residents of all Menlo Park neighborhoods. In considering renovation or new construction of parks and facilities, prioritize approaches that balance community benefits with potential neighborhood impacts.

1.1.3 **Coordinated Effort:** Align and coordinate park and facility planning with other existing and ongoing

City planning efforts, including the Transportation Plan, El Camino and Downtown Specific Plan, Library Space Needs Plan, Belle Haven Pool Facility Audit and Master Plan, Burgess Pool Audit, Green Infrastructure for Stormwater Plan, Community Zero Waste Plan, and Climate Action Plan. Coordination will maximize synergies, efficiencies, and funding opportunities, and allow the City to take advantage of opportunities to integrate multiple uses, for example, combining libraries and teen gathering spaces.

1.1.4 **Equitable Access:** Activity and rental fees and program offerings should be comparable and balanced across the City. Implement a scholarship program to support access to recreation and sports facilities and programs to residents with limited financial means.

1.1.5 **Multi-Generational:** In parks, facilities, and programs, incorporate amenities and elements to encourage and support multi-generational interaction, and use by persons of all abilities and ages.

1.1.6 **Cross-Cultural:** Strive to provide cross-cultural programming that relates to the diverse cultures represented in the community, and that engages all Menlo Park residents. Develop programming and incorporate elements into parks and facilities that encourage cultural exchange and interaction.

1.1.7 **Engaged Community:** Continue Menlo Park's robust and proactive outreach process for park planning to address neighborhood and community needs, foster stewardship of the parks, increase participation in parks and recreation activities, and build community. Actively seek input during the planning process for new parks and facilities, major renovations, and program expansions.

In the case of a new community park or facility, or a major renovation to such a facility, engage in a community-wide outreach process to obtain input.

In the case of a new neighborhood park or major renovation to a neighborhood park, engage in an outreach process to obtain input from the residents of the surrounding neighborhood.

Incorporate a range of opportunities to engage the community, in person and on-line. Ensure that the community is made aware of these opportunities in a timely manner, through multiple outlets including the city website, social media, and on-site advertising.





G.1.2 A CONNECTED AND ACCESSIBLE PARK AND RECREATION SYSTEM.

1.2.1 **Safe Routes to Parks:** Provide safe routes to parks for bicyclists and pedestrians, to encourage use of active transportation modes. Incorporate the recommendations of the City's Transportation Master Plan, as well as the connectivity recommendations of the El Camino and Downtown Specific Plan. Provide an adequate supply of thoughtfully located bicycle racks at each park or facility. (See Recommendations Chapter for standards.)

1.2.1.1 **Alternative Transportation:** Strengthen connections to parks and recreation facilities throughout the City, with alternative modes of transportation, especially pedestrian, bicycle, and public transit. Maximize access within neighborhoods and from major City destinations via complete streets, trails, bike paths, sidewalks, and directional signage. Prioritize connectivity enhancements affecting access to parks and recreation facilities. Work with SamTrans and Menlo Park Shuttles to locate transit stops near all major community parks, schools and recreation centers.

1.2.1.2 **Walkability:** Strive to ensure that every Menlo Park resident is within a 10 minute (1/2 mile) walk of a park or recreation facility. All Menlo Park residents should have the opportunity to enjoy the City's parks, open spaces, and recreation facilities within a reasonable distance of their homes. (See Figure 4-1: Walkability Map.)

1.2.2 **Universal Design:** Continue to address physical and programmatic barriers to participation for individuals with disabilities. Where feasible, incorporate Universal Design in the development and renovation of parks and facilities, to reduce barriers that limit use by persons of all ages, and physical, perceptual, and cognitive abilities. Develop environments and programs for a range of groups with varying abilities and mental cognitive abilities, which are fully inclusive. Encourage community members with physical limitations and special needs to participate. Strive to ensure that parks and facilities meet the Americans with Disability Act guidelines for park and facility improvement.

1.2.3 **Connected Community:** Use enhanced marketing (e.g. virtual park tours, interactive website, community scavenger hunts with QR codes, etc.) and improved wayfinding signage to increase awareness of the City's parks and facilities resources throughout the City. Enhance wayfinding and entry signage at all entries to parks with multiple access points. On the City website, incorporate maps and additional photos to increase awareness of the City's parks and facilities.



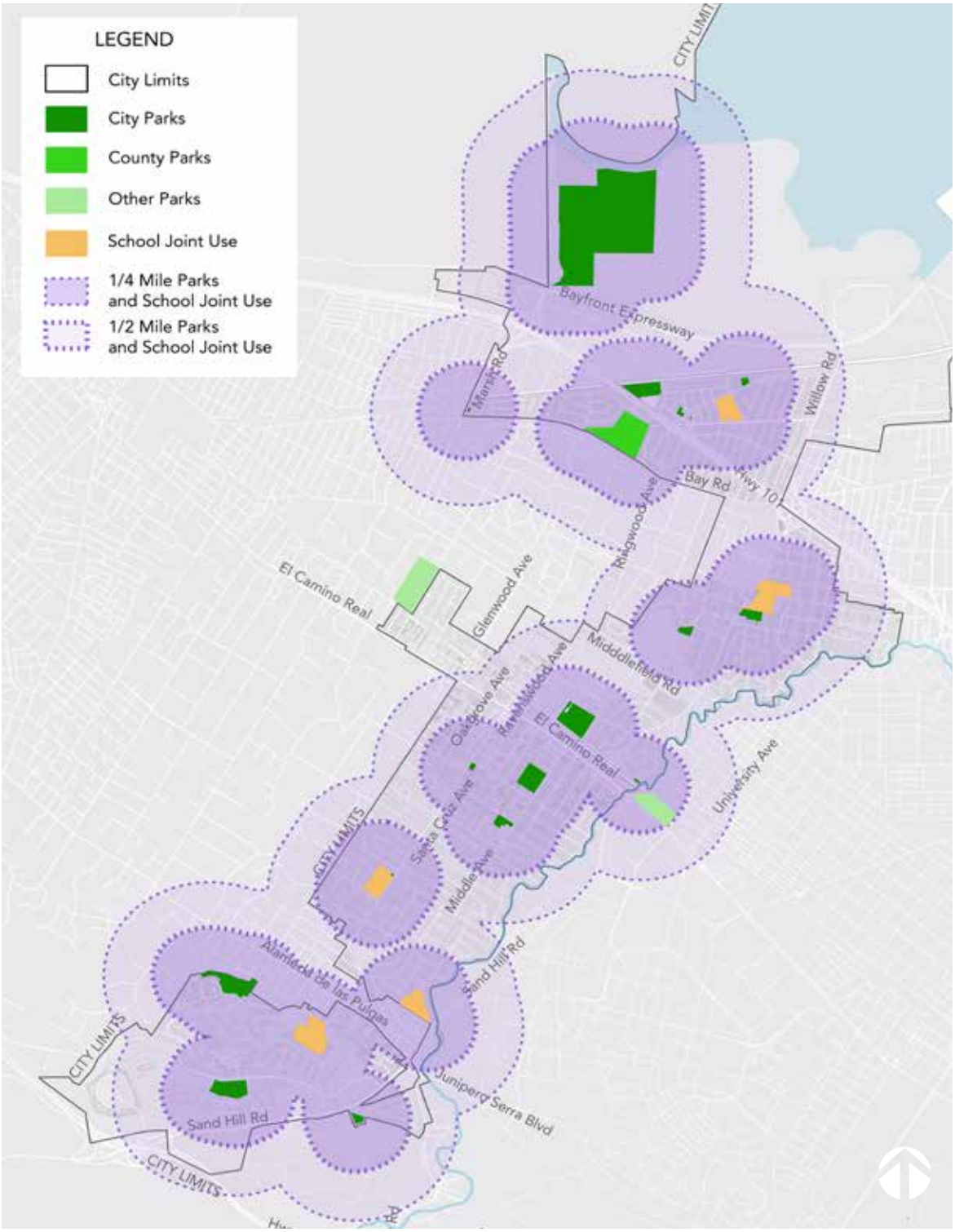


Figure 4-1: Walkability Map







GOAL 2. UNIQUE AND DISTINCTIVE PARKS AND FACILITIES

Menlo Park is a varied city, with topography ranging from the coastal mountains to the San Francisco Bay, with a downtown core, diverse residential neighborhoods, and a rich history and cutting-edge technology centers. Its parks and facilities should be distinct and memorable, each with character that reflects its physical and cultural setting, incorporating elements that invite and engage users.

G.2.1 PARKS AND FACILITIES REFLECT A SENSE OF PLACE AND COMMUNITY.

2.1.1 **Unique Design:** Design each park and facility as a unique and identifiable place, integrating the environmental qualities and the culture, history, and identity of its surrounding community. Incorporate signature elements that are unique to Menlo Park, such as play structures, public art, park signage, benches, or trash and recycling receptacles. Consider the use of unique and creative play elements rather than off the shelf play structures, to create unique and memorable environments. Within facilities use color, art, and furnishings to create a stronger sense of place and welcome.

2.1.2 **Sense of Place:** In designing or renovating a park or facility, carefully consider the physical context of the site and the relationship of elements within the site. Strive to create a place that relates to its surroundings, and that provides an integrated and efficient use of space while minimizing conflicts between park users.

2.1.3 **Varied and Meaningful:** Coordinate the design of each park and facility to offer a selection of meaningful physical, social, and cultural experiences for the users.

2.1.4 **Artful Parks:** Invite creative environmental education and interactive recreation activities by

incorporating art in parks and open spaces. Integrate art as functional elements of parks and facilities, such as site furnishings, play elements, paving and wall surfaces. Use art and nature as focal elements to engage and inspire, and to draw people into parks.

G.2.2 PARKS AND RECREATION THAT SUPPORTS HEALTH AND WELLNESS.

2.2.1 **Balanced Activities:** Provide a broad range of active and passive park and recreation elements that support an active and healthy lifestyle, as well as relaxation and quiet enjoyment. Provide a balance of programs to all age groups, abilities, and neighborhoods within Menlo Park. This may include tailoring programs, fees, and their delivery to best serve community members. Programs should be evaluated on a regular basis and should be updated based on trends and community demographics.

2.2.2 **Indoor/Outdoor Fitness:** Provide fitness equipment, programs, and amenities in parks where feasible, as well as in indoor facilities, to allow for strength and aerobic activity during all seasons and into evening hours.

2.2.3 **Flexibility:** Design parks and recreation facilities to be adaptable to changing trends, to address various needs, and to operate efficiently and cost-effectively.

2.2.4 **High Quality:** Provide high quality and well maintained amenities that promote and enhance the use of parks and facilities.

G.2.3 INTEGRATE NATURE AND GREEN SPACES THROUGHOUT THE CITY

2.3.1 **Access to Nature:** Enhance and expand access to Menlo Park's natural features such as San Francisquito Creek, the eastern flanks of the Southern Coast Range, and the Bayfront. Take opportunities to





provide educational signage relating to natural features and native ecology.

2.3.2 **Prioritize Nature:** Prioritize incorporation of usable, natural landscape areas rather than hardscape in downtown and urban parks. Emphasize inclusion of natural landscapes and trees in plazas, flexible downtown spaces and open areas, and when renovating landscape areas of existing parks. Preserve mature trees wherever possible.

2.3.3 **Gardens:** Where feasible and appropriate, create demonstration and community gardens in the City's parks, for the enjoyment and education of park users as well as to improve habitat and access to fresh foods.

2.3.4 **Nature Play:** Consider designing children's play areas with natural features, such as climbing rocks, water, sand, wood, and natural play structures that encourage exploration, creativity, imagination, and appreciation of nature.

2.3.5 **Linear Parks:** Readily accessible parks, trails, and open space encourage residents to leave their cars behind, and encourage active transportation. Seek opportunities to create or extend linear parks, such as Alma Street Park or the Ivy Drive median.



GOAL 3. OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCY & ECONOMIC FEASIBILITY

Operational efficiency and economic sustainability supports a robust and varied parks and facility system with programming that serves the entire community. Further, operational efficiency ensures that new projects are evaluated, not just on how much they cost to develop, but on the long-term cost to operate and maintain the facility or park. Incorporating principles of economics in parks operations, enables the City to do more with their resources, and provides long-term access to essential services. Economic and environmental sustainability are linked as an environmentally sustainable park/facility should cost less to maintain.

G.3.1 ENSURE THAT ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY IS INTEGRAL TO THE DEVELOPMENT, OPERATION, AND MAINTENANCE OF ALL PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES.

3.1.1 **High Quality Maintenance:** Prioritize a high level of maintenance and enhancement of existing parks and facilities before investing in the development of new parks. Analyze proposed improvements and identify ongoing funding sources to ensure that the highest level of quality is maintained.

3.1.1.1 Require a sustainable operations funding strategy for each capital project prior to construction.

3.1.1.2 Establish clear furnishings and parts standards for parks and facilities, increasing consistency, cost effectiveness, and ease of replace and repair.

3.1.1.3 Update the Infrastructure Management Study done by Davis Langdon in 2007 to evaluate the condition of all existing facilities.

3.1.2 **Efficient Operations:** Maximize operational efficiencies in all facilities, especially in major community recreation campuses. A new building has a typical life of over 50 years. The initial design will impact the costs of operations, and the required staffing and maintenance. Therefore, staffing costs, maintenance implications, and user functionality should be stressed in the design of new or renovated recreation buildings and parks.

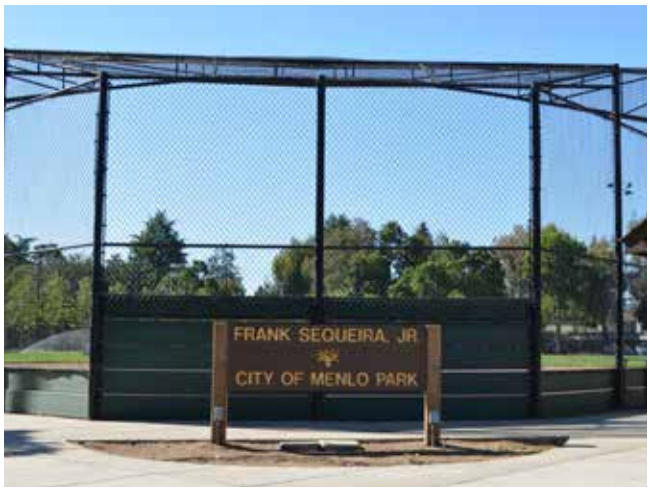
3.1.4 **Expand Revenues:** Expand potential sources of ongoing revenue and support. Consider sponsorships and naming rights as revenue sources. Strengthen and expand partnerships. Consider an adopt-a-park program to increase community involvement in the parks and recreation system.

3.1.5 **Routine Operational Assessment:** Adopt an annual, holistic assessment of park and recreation system operations that consider impacts, opportunities, and efficiencies related to staffing models, program delivery, fees, hours of operation, and a user friendly and comprehensive website. This assessment should consider customer and employee satisfaction, cost recovery, accessibility, and affordability.

G.3.2 REQUIRE ALL NEW FACILITIES OR PARKS TO CONSIDER LONG-TERM COSTS OF OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE INTO THE PROJECT DEVELOPMENT PROCESS.

3.2.1 **Feasibility Studies:** All new parks and recreational facilities should be evaluated and developed to optimize potential revenue generation, required staffing levels, and necessary routine and long-term maintenance. All new parks and facilities should be assessed on its ability to meet community needs effectively.

3.2.2 **Efficient Facility and Park Design:** All park and facility design packages should be evaluated and refined based on the proposed project's ability to meet or exceed operational goals for managing, maintaining,











and operating the asset. This means including park and facility managers and maintenance staff into the design development process.

3.2.3 **Flexible and Functional:** All new parks and recreational facilities should be designed and built to allow for adaptation, and changing needs and trends in the community whenever feasible.

G.3.3 ENSURE THAT CITY POLICIES RELATED TO FEES, PROGRAMS, STAFFING AND HOURS ARE EQUITABLE AND SUPPORT OVERALL CITY COST RECOVERY GOALS

3.3.1 **Consistent Fee Policy:** Update and maintain the City's program, event, and facility fee structure so that is consistent across all programs, facilities, and parks. In order to ensure access, affordability, and equity, provide a simple and effective scholarship/subsidy program for residents who need it.

3.3.2 **Cost Recovery:** Continue to review and update cost recovery goals to ensure that fee structures for all facilities and programs are achievable, sustainable, and equitable. Assess costs and revenues across all facilities and programs and consider the potential of high fee activities to help subsidize lower fee activities.

3.3.3 **Staffing Models:** Assess and promote flexible program and facility staffing models to respond to challenges in attracting staff, inequities in program delivery to different parts of the City, and to meet the changing needs of the community.

3.3.4 **Contract Staff:** Contract staff agreements and reimbursement should be consistent at all City facilities, regardless of number of low fee participants. The City should subsidize low fees as necessary to ensure access to high quality programs and instruction at all City facility locations. Shortfalls in class revenues should be calculated into the cost recovery model.

GOAL 4. CREATIVE SOLUTIONS

Menlo Park is a growing but mostly built-out city, with limited opportunities for new parks and open spaces. Creative and opportunistic approaches will expand the possibilities for new parks and recreation elements and programs within the City.

G.4.1 EXPAND PARKS AND RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES.

4.1.1 **Opportunity Sites:** Identify potential areas for future park development to enable the City to act on opportunities for new land acquisition that may arise. Prioritize potential sites based on suitability to fill gaps in service areas, provide needed amenities, and serve underserved areas.

As the Belle Haven neighborhood is the area in the City where most growth is projected to occur, it should be a priority area for additional open space, including an off-leash dog area. (Facebook's proposed Willow Village development includes opportunities for sports fields, picnic areas, an off-leash dog area, and community facilities. See further discussion in the last section of Chapter 5: Recommendations.)

As new development occurs, consider design of publicly accessible open spaces, such as an urban plaza or the top level of a new parking structure downtown, or park space on a corporate campus, to provide recreational amenities and increased access to natural spaces. Ensure that development agreements for new projects require parks and publicly accessible open spaces. (See Figure 4-2: Opportunity Sites Map.)

4.1.2 **Partnerships:** Update and strengthen existing partnerships and joint use agreements. Continue to strengthen relationships with the School Districts within Menlo Park and County to ensure continued and expanded public access to school facilities and resources, and adequate maintenance. Strategically



consider new partnerships and use agreements with non-profits, foundations, and governmental agencies. Public/private partnerships with private schools and businesses, and residential and commercial developers also may provide expanded recreational opportunities for Menlo Park residents. (See Figure 4-2.)

4.1.3 **Maximize Underutilized Spaces:** Seek opportunities to transform underused spaces into usable recreation amenities. Consider recreational uses of underused urban hardscapes, utility rights-of-way, parking lots, and rooftops. Redesign underused spaces and replace underused amenities in existing parks to accommodate new uses, including elements identified by the community such as a pump track, splash pad, off-leash dog area, or community garden. Determine potential locations for desired features to be added to the parks, based on assessments of current park usage, available or underused space in each park, distribution of these features throughout the City, and

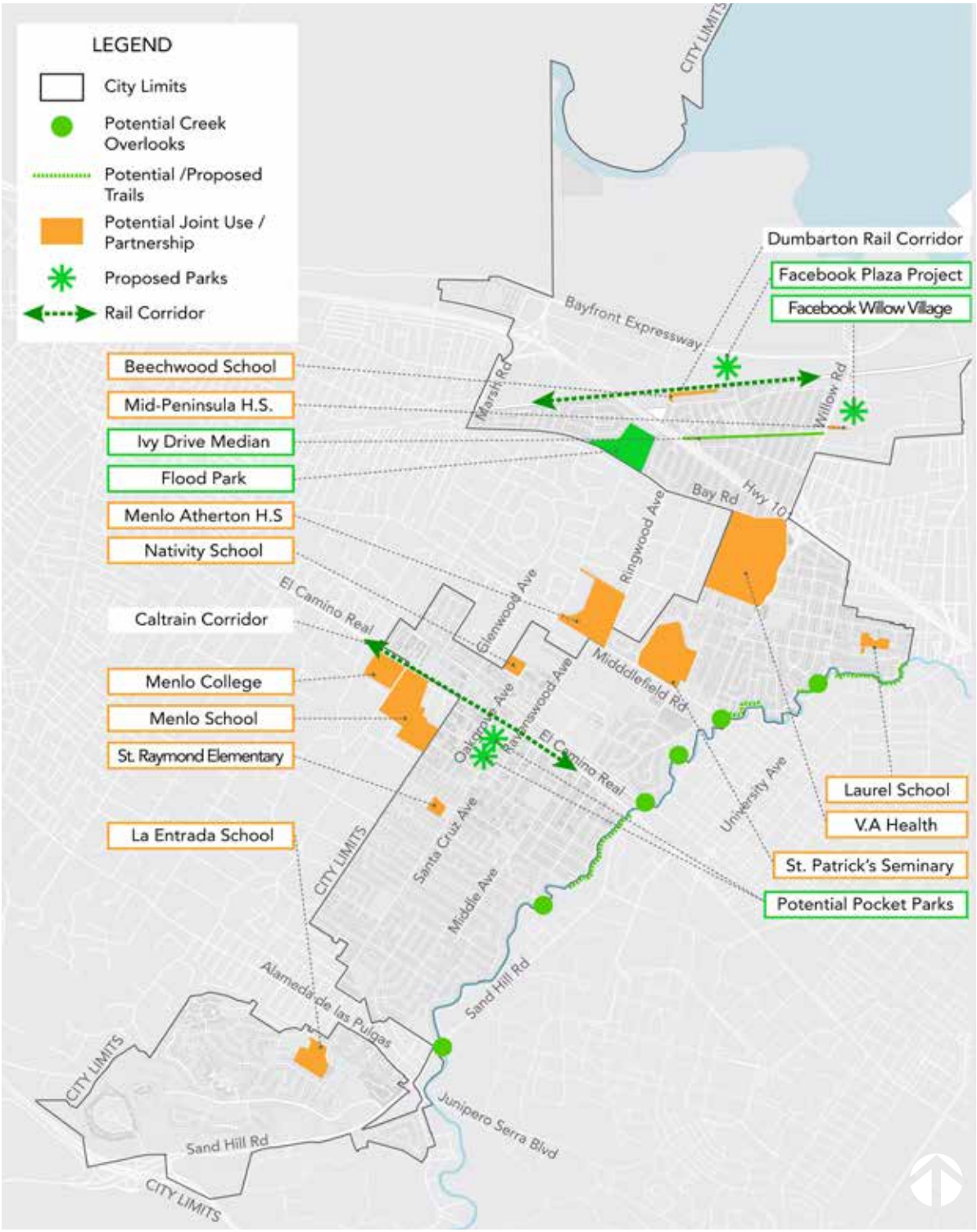


Figure 4-2: Opportunity Sites Map

the projected user groups and community benefit of each potential use.

4.1.4 **Temporary Parks:** Program non-park spaces as temporary or pop-up recreation amenities, such as "Sunday Streets," or play streets. Design park/street interfaces to remove barriers and allow for expansion of park activities into the street for community events or neighborhood gatherings.

GOAL 5. ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Sustainability is valued highly in Menlo Park, and should be incorporated into all aspects of the City's parks and recreation system.

Environmental sustainability is linked with the sustainability of the parks and recreation system as a whole. The values inherent in environmental sustainability - clean and adequate water supply, reduction in energy use, clean air, increased habitat - are all elements that enrich the parks and open space system, create efficiencies and savings in terms of water and energy use, and decrease maintenance costs. The opportunity to integrate education in regard to these values is an important added benefit.

G.5.1 ENSURE THAT ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY IS AN INTEGRAL PART OF PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITY DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT.

5.1.1 **Utilize Best Practices:** Incorporate sustainable best practices for water conservation, energy efficiency, stormwater treatment, and zero waste goals. Integrate the goals of the City's Climate Action Plan, Green Infrastructure for Stormwater Plan, and Community Zero Waste Plan into park and facility planning, and provide amenities that support sustainable behavior such as recycling and composting receptacles, hydration stations, and bicycle racks at all parks and facilities.



Figure 5-3: 7 Principles of Bay Friendly Landscaping







5.1.2 **Conserve Water:** Continue to update all irrigation systems to high efficiency systems including "smart" controllers, pursuant to the City's Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance (WELO). Expand use of reclaimed water for irrigation where it is available. Consider use of greywater systems and rainwater catchment systems to supplement irrigation. Continue to conserve water use by using low water use landscape elements, and reducing ornamental and underused areas of turf.

5.1.3 **Stormwater Management: I**mprove water quality and manage stormwater pursuant to the City's Green Infrastructure for Stormwater Plan by incorporating bioretention features such as rain gardens and pervious pavers to cleanse stormwater and recharge groundwater. Consider integrating stormwater treatment as part of the Regional Projects opportunities identified in the City's Green Infrastructure for Stormwater Plan. Dedicate landscape for bioretention areas and retention basins to treat runoff from adjacent tributary areas to promote clean discharge and sustainability. Please refer to Chapter 6 of this document for recommendations.

5.1.4 **Energy Efficiency:** Include energy efficient features, which can not only conserve energy and create cost savings, but can also be educational or artistic features. Conserve energy in indoor and outdoor lighting by incorporating motion activated lighting, dual level fixtures, self-powered lighting (e.g. integrated solar panels), and energy-efficient technologies such as LED.

5.1.4.1 Identify sites where alternative energy sources (e.g. solar panels on roof structures or covering parking areas, and other such measures) can be incorporated into the design.

5.1.4.2 Any lighting provided for security, pathway lighting, or courts should not impact

adjacent residential areas, and should minimize dark sky intrusion.

5.1.4.3 Consider providing EV charging stations at city facilities and parks where appropriate.

5.1.5 **Sustainable and/or Edible Landscapes:** Use sustainable landscape design and maintenance practices improve habitat, reduce waste, conserve water and energy, protect water and air quality, and reduce maintenance. Incorporate edible landscaping to serve the community and provide healthy food options while reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Adopt Bay Friendly Landscape Principles and rating system, which have been widely adopted by cities in the region and describe in detail considerations that create sustainable landscapes.

5.1.6 **Sustainable Buildings:** Design and construct new recreation and community facilities to meet Gold LEED standards, or the best current alternative. Explore adopting LEED Existing Buildings Maintenance and Operations standards (or similar) to ensure existing facility operations are optimized.

5.1.7 **Resilience:** Establish parks and recreation facilities as part of a more resilient city. Open space and parks can act as carbon sinks, as well as flood mitigation areas. Considerations for green infrastructure should be included as part of park resiliency. Flooding issues may be mitigated by implementing parks with underground stormwater storage that allows the park surface to remain as a typical flat landscape. The hillsides of Menlo Park are on the urban/wildlands interface and more prone to wildfires; appropriate vegetation management, and carefully placed buildings are critical in those areas. Parks can act as a buffer, if designed as such. Community recreation facilities can be used as cooling centers, provide a safe location during hazardous air quality days, and provide as emergency shelter in an earthquake or other disaster.

G.5.2 INTEGRATE EDUCATIONAL SUSTAINABILITY IN PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES

5.2.1 **Signage:** Provide interpretive signage where appropriate, such as the signage in Bedwell Bayfront Park, Alma Street Park, Fremont Park, and Jack W. Lyle Park, to identify natural, cultural, and environmentally sustainable elements including green infrastructure features such as bioretention areas within the parks and facilities. Explore utilizing wayfinding signage to expand awareness of parks.

5.2.2 **Educational Landscapes:** Create educational landscapes, including water conserving, native planting, artistic and edible landscapes. Utilize demonstration gardens in parks, downtown, schools, and underutilized areas to increase access to nature and increase educational opportunities.

5.2.3 **Engage Children:** Provide interactive, interpretive play elements to engage children. Connect youth recreation programming to education goals when feasible.



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CHAPTER 5 RECOMMENDATIONS



CHAPTER 5 RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDATIONS

The recommendations chapter provides more specific direction for individual park and recreation facility projects, based on current conditions, needs, and opportunities.

The first part is focused on specific recommendations for existing parks and facilities. This is followed by recommendations that are applicable to all Menlo Park's facilities and parks. The final section on new parks and facilities addresses access and connectivity, as well as continuing the City's priority of bringing nature into the city, especially in its play areas and downtown opportunity sites, and continuing to develop partnerships and opportunities for joint use.

The Park & Recreation Facilities Master Plan Update serves as a guiding document for the City as it seeks to improve parks and recreation facilities in Menlo Park. It is primarily a planning and policy document and is not envisioned to approve specific facilities improvement projects or programs. Projects and programs that are advanced under this Plan would need to undergo their own design, community engagement and input, environmental review and approval process prior to being implemented.

BELLE HAVEN MULTI-GENERATIONAL COMMUNITY CAMPUS AND PARK

The Onetta Harris Community Center, Menlo Park Senior Center, Belle Haven Youth Center, and Belle Haven Pool, along with Kelly Park form a comprehensive community recreation campus in the Belle Haven neighborhood of Menlo Park. The plan recommendation is to complete a detailed feasibility study with substantial community involvement to re-imagine the area as the **Belle Haven Multi-Generational Community Campus and Park (Campus).** The existing buildings have been recently evaluated (Noll & Tam Architects, *Onetta Harris Community Center & Menlo Park Senior Center Existing Building Evaluation*, 2018). Except for the Senior Center, they are at the end of their productive life and need substantial upgrades or a rebuild. The Pool has undergone a separate assessment, and there is a master plan for redevelopment. The Pool Master Plan should be aligned with the vision and goals for the site and incorporated into a feasibility study.

GOALS: Re-imagine a multi-generational, community-centric campus with improved efficiencies that make recreational opportunities accessible and welcoming to all residents, current as well as the newly projected demographic.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

There are several approaches to meeting the needs for this site, and which need to be assessed in the recommended feasibility study:

1. Major Renovation: Implement major renovations to the existing recreation center and pools, maintaining those buildings and the form of the site. This approach would likely have the lowest cost and shortest time frame, but may not provide the full benefits of a re-



Welcoming Green Space



Multi-generational Fitness Center



Dynamic Teen Center

envisioned campus. New open space would likely not fit on the existing site, some of the new spaces could not be easily accommodated, and there would not be an improvement in operational efficiencies. The buildings would need to be fully assessed for the ability to successfully renovate them.

2. Selective Redevelopment: This option maintains the Senior Center, which was built 25 years ago, and considers repurposing the rest of the site. This approach allows the City to meet a wide range of needs while saving some costs and allowing the Senior Center to continue operation and offer swing space during construction to keep some programs operational. The challenges with this approach are the site constraints and need for structured parking - potential under the Recreation Center. The feasibility study should evaluate if this option is more cost effective than Option 3, which re-purposes the entire site.

3. New Campus: This option is to start over for the entire site, potentially including access to Kelly Park. This approach would allow the development of a single recreation building with all the needed uses, integrated pools and locker spaces, better access and visibility of the fields, and make for the best use of the site. This approach would provide the best operational functionality and efficiencies. The feasibility study needs to determine if this option may be more cost effective than the selective redevelopment approach.

The new vision for the site includes the following elements and may be achieved in different ways based on the approach the City finds most feasible.

- Creating a welcoming entry - an informal green space for community picnics, for young people, and adding more nature into the campus.
- Developing a multi-generational facility that will provide a mix of recreation and activity spaces that will engage all ages and abilities, including a gymnasium, fitness center, multi-purpose dance and fitness rooms with wood floors and mirrored walls, locker rooms for the pool (if redeveloped as one facility) and gym, a multipurpose community room that will serve as rental spaces for parties and weddings, while serving the seniors in the daytime, and potentially a location for a new library branch.
- Enabling operational efficiencies by combining the recreation center and senior center. Currently, the two buildings are not optimizing use. The seniors need more space before 1 pm, and there is a need and opportunity to expand community use of the recreation facilities after 1. By putting both uses under one roof, there is an opportunity to create a more efficient community facility for all ages, and to optimize the spaces for multiple uses. Integrating seniors into the recreation center provides a better opportunity for them to use fitness equipment and wellness services including a new pool. If Option 3 is pursued, integrate the teen and youth facilities into the building.
- Providing a community-centric recreation swimming center that prioritizes recreation over swim teams. The current pool is not well utilized by the surrounding community, and there is a recent needs assessment report that recommends reconfiguring the complex. The Plan's new vision provides for integrated lockers and bathrooms to be used for the gym and pool, reduced staffing by allowing for a single control point/receptionist. Further, the Plan recommends moving from a lap pool to a more community-centric pool that provides warmer water that is conducive to swim lessons, senior and adult water aerobics, and family play. Ideally, the pool would have lap lanes. A shallow, zero entry area

BELLE HAVEN CAMPUS OPPORTUNITIES

Create a New Multi-Generation Recreation Center, 25,000-35,000 gsf

Develop new parking, potentially with Multistory Parking Structure under/ over Recreation Center

Improve access to Kelly Park/ Beechwood School



Re-purpose the Existing Senior Center: Potential New Youth Center and Teen Center with Classrooms, updated senior center or other identifiable community need

Redevelop the Pool with a New Recreation Pool(s) including laps + zero entry play; evaluate linking to Recreation Center and sharing lockers

Create a new entry area for the Belle Haven Campus - New Open Space with picnic and gathering space
- Explore opportunities for green infrastructure such as bioretention areas

to accommodate all ages and abilities, play items such as a slide or water mushrooms (see adjacent image), and a deeper area that allows for fitness classes. Incorporate this concept with the existing Belle Haven Pool Facility Audit and Master Plan.

- Repurposing the existing senior center (if Option 3 is not pursued). Based on a recent building assessment, the existing senior center does not need to be rebuilt and can be part of the solution for providing swing space during construction. Ultimately the building, approximately 11,000 sf, can be reconfigured to accommodate the proposed Youth Center with continued access to the play area and community garden, and flexible classrooms and meeting spaces for the community.

- Building a new Parking Structure. Due to site constraints, including a PG&E right-of-way, a new parking structure may have to be developed as part of the recreation center. Parking will have to be addressed under all Options.

- Improving access and better integrating Kelly Park with the campus as a whole.

Implement the recommendations of the Belle Haven Pool Audit and Master Plan that was accepted by the City Council on November 7, 2017, while ensuring integration into the multi-generational community campus.



Integrate Play elements in Pool





BELLE HAVEN CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

The Belle Haven Child Development Center is located across from the Belle Haven Library and Belle Haven Elementary School. The facility serves 96 children 3-5 years old. The facility is well used and maintained, but cramped in almost all respects. There may be some opportunities to expand the facility such as moving out towards the street.

GOAL: Improve the Center's capacity to comfortably serve the number of children enrolled.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

While the facility was updated recently, there should be an assessment of ways to expand the facility to address the following needs as well as variety of smaller concerns:

- Add more storage capacity for all classrooms (for children's personal items, sleeping cots, and other needs)
- Develop a separate area for a staff break room and add another office
- Dedicate and if possible expand the current multipurpose room just for children and parent's meetings (currently is used for storage for a variety of items, and has a office cubicle)
- Evaluate and address additional enhancements throughout the facility to better support the number of students and their needs.

Separately, there are several issues and opportunities with the outdoor areas:

- Add a locked and alarmed gate adjacent to the main administration building for a better evacuation route (currently kids needs to walk around the block). Consider utilizing space between buildings for an outdoor staff space.



JOSEPH B. KELLY PARK

Kelly Park community park is a major amenity for the City as a whole, located within the Belle Haven community. Its has the only city-owned lighted synthetic turf soccer field and is heavily used. Belle Haven residents wish to see more activities and events that would draw the Menlo Park community to the park and strengthen the connection across Highway 101, to serve Menlo Park as a whole.

GOALS: Enhance access and visibility of the park, promoting it as a destination for wellness - active sports and fitness, as well as community-wide events.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Provide additional wayfinding signage to direct users to Kelly Park, as well as directional and orientation signage at park entry, where orientation is poor. Add more welcoming features to invite park use.
- Provide additional signage regarding park rules, parking hours, dogs, and synthetic turf. Enforce dog rules and appropriate use of synthetic turf.
- Schedule more community events and special activities to make the park a recognized destination.
- Provide additional storage for sports use.
- Improve direct connections to Kelly Park from the Senior Center. (If and when the Campus is reconfigured, Kelly Park should be better integrated with the buildings on the site.)
- Improve the existing access across Hwy 101 and install noise reduction measures (such as a sound wall or plantings) to reduce freeway noise from Hwy. 101. When a multi-use trail is installed along





the Dumbarton Corridor, ensure that safe and direct access is provided across the tracks to the park.

- Provide a dumpster enclosure, and screen transformers with vegetation or attractive fencing.
- Renovate landscaping to emphasize native and drought tolerant planting, and consider opportunities for green infrastructure such as bioretention areas.
- When replacing the synthetic turf and infill material, install a trench drain at the sports field to improve drainage and field life. Prior to replacing infill, evaluate current industry best practices and standards for materials.



BURGESS CAMPUS

BURGESS CAMPUS GOALS: Continue to evaluate the patterns of use for this highly frequented park and its facilities to ensure optimum efficiencies with use, function, sustainability, and to maximize capacity.

ARRILLAGA FAMILY GYMNASIUM AND RECREATION CENTER

The Arrillaga Family Gymnasium (Gym) and Arrillaga Family Recreation Center (Recreation Center) in Burgess Park are well used, well maintained, and important community assets. They are both in good condition with recent upgrades and consistent maintenance. There are no major changes or upgrades needed for these buildings except for some concerns with acoustics and heating, air condition and ventilation systems (HVAC) that should be addressed in the near future. There are some potential opportunities for the City to explore in the future.

The community has expressed a desire and need for a new fitness center in central Menlo Park (the need for Belle Haven is addressed at Onetta Harris new campus). There are limited options provided by the private market, and the City is in an excellent position to provide these services and to complement other fitness and wellness programs offered in these facilities. The City does have a small space allotted in the Gymnastics Center for fitness bikes and equipment, but no well-designed facility meeting today's standards for fitness and wellness.

GOAL: Improve efficiencies and expand capacity.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Improve acoustics, and heating and air conditioning systems and ventilation systems.
- There is a potential to create a new addition to these facilities that would connect the buildings with a single point of entry, reducing staffing costs, creating a better lobby space for community gathering and social cohesion, and adding a substantial fitness, weights, and wellness center. A successful community fitness center should be approximately 3000 sf based on other communities' experience. This kind



of space works well in concert with the dance spaces, gymnasium, and classroom space. The addition of concessions or a small cafe could also be successful.

- One of the most significant opportunities would be reducing costs of operations by having a single point of entry where fees can be collected instead of the current two. Offices and administration space could also be made more efficient. Further, this would allow the City to effectively change the fee structure, program delivery model and allow for drop-in or membership type cards. A new Onetta Harris complex should utilize the same approach.

- Should the City move forward with a new library, some community meeting space could move to that location, freeing up additional space for recreation.



ARRILLAGA FAMILY GYMNASTICS CENTER

The Arrillaga Family Gymnastics Center is a relatively new, state-of-the-art facility focused on gymnastics. The facility is well suited to this use and does not require new physical improvements. However, the facility is not being fully utilized and has spaces that are being used as a conference/meeting space rather than their intended uses. This underutilization is due in large part to challenges in recruiting and retaining staff to operate and manage the programs needed. This is a city-wide and regional issue that is impacting many facets of City operations.

GOALS: Improve the facilities operational functions.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- The City should evaluate the operations of this facility, integrating the recommendations from the 2014 Operational and Administrative Review by MRG, and explore how to best optimize the use of the facility and serve the community. The MRG report suggests the City contract and rent the facility for "elite" training and focus on broader recreational gymnastics. With this in mind, offering events, birthday parties, and corporate team building, in concert with the adjacent pool could have some benefits and provide a new stream of revenues.

BURGESS POOL

Burgess Pool is connected to the Gymnastics Center and operated by a third party contractor. The facility includes an instructional pool, a 25-yard lap pool, and wading pool. The facility is well utilized and scheduled year around. There are several upgrades identified in the Burgess Pool Audit that should be addressed in



the coming years. The instructional pool is covered in the winter for ongoing swim lessons. The ventilation and temperature in the dome is not as comfortable as desired according to stakeholders and observation. The dome is at the end of its useful life.

GOALS: Improve functionality and comfort of the pool facilities.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Evaluate installing a permanent retractable dome with more up-to-date ventilation that could improve the air quality and comfort of the user.
- Many cities are moving away from wading pools due to health concerns and aesthetics. There is the potential to meet an identified need and desire by changing the wading pool to a splash pad, play area or beach entry.
- Other amenities to consider include additional shade structures, cabanas, and a permanent storage area to replace the temporary ones currently on the pool deck. The overall amenities such lifeguard chairs, bleachers, diving blocks, lobby space, locker rooms, and the like should be continually maintained and upgraded as needed.



MENLO CHILDREN'S CENTER

Menlo Children's Center provides licensed child care for approximately 72 children ages 2-5, as well as for licensed after-school care for approximately 75 school age children, K-5. The facility is located in Burgess Park and includes two buildings: child care center and an adjacent building for the after-school program.

The Child Care Center building has a downstairs space that is shared by public works. Previously, the building housed the police and jail creating some odd spaces,

which impacts usability and function of the space for the child care center. The outdoor areas and parking are also insufficient.

GOALS: Renovate and upgrade this facility to improve building functionality and outdoor play areas.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- The City should investigate the ability to renovate the existing building to remove dividing walls, create separate kitchen areas for each age group, increase storage space, and create a reception space for the Center. The outdoor areas should also be improved and could expand into underutilized space around the center.
- The after-school building needs a general upgrade inside, including the need for a reception desk. The outdoor area needs to be improved and enlarged if possible to allow for great area for kids to play in a supervised area.



A classroom with a separate area that cannot be used effectively due to the wall and licensing requirements.

Limited parking for the 75 plus families at pick up and drop off.

After-school Center and play area that needs to be enlarged.



Child Care Center with play areas. Potential to expand into park to create more space for older children.

BURGESS PARK

Burgess Park, one of Menlo Park's two community parks, contains multiple amenities that support active and passive uses, and appeal to individuals, small social and family groups, and organized sports users. Improvements would gain efficiencies, expand usable field time for sports groups, and provide a wider range of experiences for users.

GOALS: Continue to evaluate the patterns of use for this highly frequented park, to ensure optimum efficiencies with field use, improve sustainability, and maximize capacity.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Increase usability and field availability by installing field lighting. Ensure that lighting has cut-offs that prevent spillage to adjacent residential neighborhoods, and that minimize dark sky impacts. Consider artificial turf to increase all season and all weather play, and reduce routine maintenance.
- Reconfigure the baseball diamond to make the field more flexible and efficient for multiple sport overlays.
- When fields are renovated, consider the potential for underground water storage.
- Consider expansion of snack shack to allow for a wider range of offerings. Provide additional shade and movable seating to create a flexible and inviting eating area.
- Renovate the existing playground with an emphasis on nature play experiences, and access for children of all abilities. Explore the potential to include green infrastructure if space allows.
- Where possible, provide additional reservable picnic areas, and/or gathering spaces to accommodate varying group sizes.
- Update park landscaping with more native plant palettes. Replace small, unused lawn areas with native, drought tolerant plants, demonstration gardens, and artistic combinations of colors and textures. Install green infrastructure adjacent to hardscape areas to promote stormwater treatment per the City's Green Infrastructure Plan.
- Update park lighting fixtures to more energy efficient options, such as updating tennis court





lights to LED. Evaluate parking lot lighting levels, to ensure that safety standards are met.

- Consider additional lighting and potential for a music system at the skate park.
- Consider the addition of outdoor fitness equipment to expand park uses, if space allows.
- Identify ways to create more distinctive elements in the park, such as additional art or playful structures for informal play, and the like.
- Perform necessary maintenance on the duck pond, including re-lining the pond. Consider updating the filtration system for the duck pond to improve water quality. Update signage to educate the public about negative impacts of feeding the ducks.



Ongoing maintenance needed for duck pond



WILLOW OAKS PARK

Willow Oaks Park is a central feature of the Willows neighborhood, providing residents with a range of amenities for all ages. Its iconic sculpture, readily visible from Willow Road, identifies the park. Incorporation of art elements would build on this theme. Renovation of the off-leash dog area and addition of a restroom are pending projects.

GOALS: Celebrate the identity of this park with a variety of enhancements to make better use of underutilized spaces and enhance community gathering spaces.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Complete planned improvements to the fenced off-leash dog area, and construct the planned restroom. Renovate playground to update play equipment, and to provide more play features in underused spaces within the play area. Incorporate artful play elements to complement the park's signature sculpture.
- Repave and improve pathways.
- Construct a curb ramp and removable bollards to create a maintenance vehicle staging area adjacent to the on-site parking/circulation. Consider providing trash enclosures.
- Consider addition of a group gathering space or community garden.
- Reconfigure the tennis courts to improve park usability. When the current lease which includes the basketball courts expires, consider shifting two tennis courts south to the current location of the basketball court to create a more inviting park entry, and more usable park space to the north of the courts.
- Improve signage at pedestrian entry from Gilbert Avenue. Adjust park signage to improve visibility from eastern approach on Willow Road, where the view of the sign is blocked by utilities.

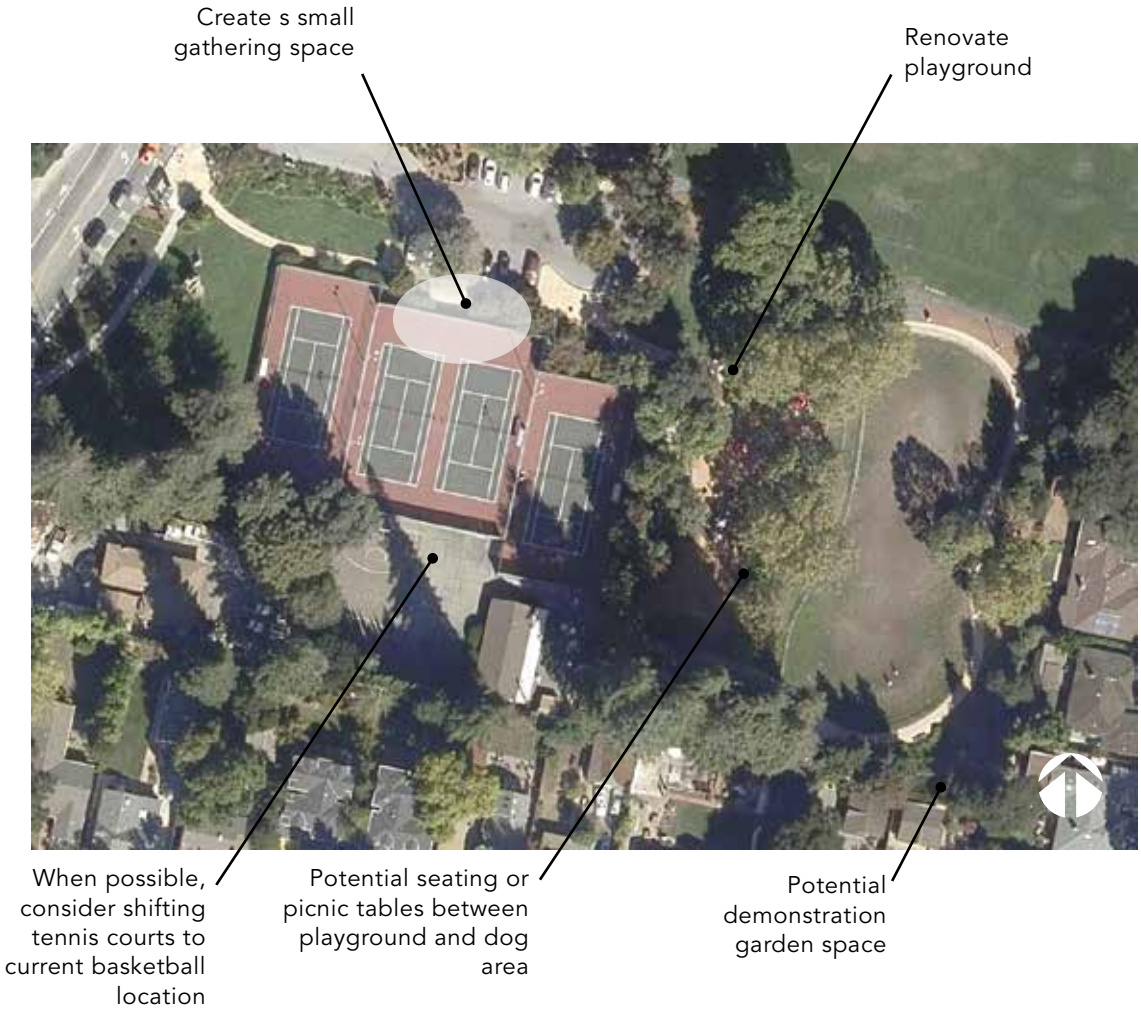


Sculpture enhances park's identity



Basketball court is underutilized

- Upgrade tennis court light fixtures to LED, and improve overall park lighting.
- Develop a system for improving neighborhood access to tennis courts.
- Improve drainage throughout the site and in particular to prevent lawn drainage onto tennis courts, and flooding in driveway of the adjacent school, including green infrastructure such as retention ponds and bioretention areas per the City's Green Infrastructure for Stormwater Plan's Regional Project opportunities.
- Evaluate the potential for a water well at this park.



NEALON PARK

Nealon Park is a centrally located neighborhood park. The new Nealon Park Nature Play Area; All Abilities Playground is replacing the old playground near the Middle Avenue frontage. The park has a fenced, recently renovated softball field that serves, during limited hours, as one of the City's two off-leash dog areas. Dog owners appreciate the size of the current off-leash area, but the limited hours make it inaccessible for many working dog owners. Field users are frustrated by dog owners failure to pick up after their dogs resulting in a messy, potentially unhealthful, and sometimes unusable space. Changes to Middle Avenue to improve circulation are being studied, and may impact parking along the park's frontage.

GOALS: Explore further improvements to this recently updated park, consistent with the all-abilities Nature Play Area, whether through planting, or continuing the theme throughout the park. Ensure that it is a harmonious mixed-use space that addresses all user groups.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Retaining an off-leash dog area in Nealon Park is a priority to park users. Consider all options when exploring possible locations and configurations. Relocating the dog use area from the sports field may address ongoing maintenance and health and safety concerns, as well as providing an opportunity to expand use. Reconfigure the park's pathways to create space for a fenced, off-leash dog area, with separate areas for large and small dogs if possible. The area should be of adequate size, and should include benches, shade, water for dogs and people, trash receptacles and dog waste bag dispensers. Consider addition of dog agility elements, such as stairs and tubes.

- Create a demonstration garden with native plants to reinforce the nature theme of the new playground, including bioretention areas to treat adjacent hardscape.

- Activate the underused southern corner of the park by adding art, small gathering spaces, game tables, or similar amenities.

- Complete pathway upgrades from asphalt to concrete.





Reconfigure pathways to create a permanent off-leash dog area



Activate the underused corner of the park



SHARON PARK

Sharon Park is known for its scenic lake and gazebo, making it a frequent location for wedding ceremonies. Its scenic natural qualities make it ideal for relaxation, walking, and dog walking. The west end of the park is undeveloped open space and trees. It is visually and physically separated from the rest of the park by a maintenance access road and sloped terrain, providing an opportunity for an off-leash dog area that would enhance current dog walking use.

GOALS: Maintain the scenic qualities of this unique setting, and improve amenities throughout the park to support enjoyment of this space.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Provide a permanent restroom to accommodate event attendees and other park users. Provision of a restroom is consistent with similar park projects in the City.
- Repair and renovate the deteriorating pond lining to preserve this unique element. Design new pump house and relocate lake filtration equipment.
- Replace the walking path around the lake, which is cracked and in poor condition. Upgrade park infrastructure, including pathways, landscaping, irrigation and lighting.
- Consider improving informal pathways, where there is the potential demonstration gardens, and/or interpretive signage.
- Update and expand the small playground. Provide bike racks.
- Consider providing a fenced, off-leash dog area at the undeveloped western end of the park.



STANFORD HILLS PARK

This underutilized park has potential to become a city-wide destination, as it can accommodate two of the special features desired by the community - an agility dog park and a pump track. The lawn areas are not suitable for organized sports, and potential improvements are limited in the area of the utility easement which runs across much of the property. An agility dog park and/or a pump track could be compatible uses.

GOALS: Stanford Hills has potential to become a community destination with a broader use of this park. Currently underutilized, it is the ideal space to house a number of recreational opportunities that the community has expressed interest in.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Determine ability to enhance natural spaces and consider a demonstration habitat area.
- Consider creating a fenced, off-leash agility dog area for large and small dogs.
- Design and integrate engaging nature play elements or a multi-generational fitness area.
- Identify areas to provide seating for relaxation.
- Replace asphalt paths with concrete.



OTHER PARKS AND OPEN SPACES

FREMONT PARK

Fremont Park is the heart of downtown Menlo Park. Less than a half acre, this park is home to major community events and gatherings, from the Summer Concert Series to the city's Christmas Tree Lighting. Aside from hosting community cultural events, Fremont Park is a downtown destination for lunchtime relaxation.

GOALS: Maintain this park as a venue for community building events, as well as casual relaxation.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Maintain flexible use space for both community events and for passive downtown enjoyment.
- Consider adding a permanent restroom.
- Consider adding a permanent stage or amphitheater.



HAMILTON PARK

Hamilton Park is envisioned as a neighborhood park, focused on family and multi-generational use. Located near the Belle Haven Elementary School, a large apartment complex, and several churches, it can serve as a multi-generational gathering space for Belle Haven residents. Parking along Sandlewood Street could accommodate food trucks for neighborhood parties.

GOALS: Add amenities to this neighborhood park to improve comfort and usability, and to serve a wider range of neighborhood users.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Add a tot-lot play area (for ages 2-5).
- Plant more trees to increase shade, and to create a natural canopy and visual interest. Enhance the plantings at the bioretention areas per the Green Infrastructure Plan and add educational signage to explain their functions.
- Add barbecues at the picnic areas, and a shade structure to accommodate group gatherings.
- Provide shaded seating and game tables for users of all ages.
- Maintain the open lawn as flexible space for informal play and relaxation.

JACK W. LYLE PARK

This is an active neighborhood park with multi-use sports field well used for soccer practice and games. Its playground has a distinct character, and the park has memorable elements such as its stone columns. A permanent restroom opened in 2019.

GOALS: Support existing use by adding amenities which will invite additional users to this already bustling park.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Create a group picnic area near the multi-use field, for team gatherings or family picnics. The addition of the permanent restroom supports the use of the park for lengthier gatherings that could be accommodated by a group area with tables, benches and barbecues.





- Provide additional parent seating around the playground. Contain sand play area to prevent sand migration into Fibar surfacing.

- Consider addition of picnic area at the open lawn area. Evaluate the opportunity for a small fenced off leash dog area in this location.

KARL E. CLARK PARK

Named after an icon of the Belle Haven neighborhood, this park can be an expression of community values. Amenities for youth and seniors, features that educate about the history of Belle Haven and its community, and sustainable park elements would strengthen community identity.

GOALS: Celebrate the history and character of the Belle Haven neighborhood by including amenities that support community interaction and education.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Create educational features relating the story of Karl E. Clark, and to neighborhood history and local culture. These could include storyboards, wall tiles, paving insets, or other features that can convey words and images. Repair of deteriorating good neighbor fencing provides an opportunity for creating a "canvas." Engage the community to participate in the design, content development, and creation of these features.

- Consider removal of the walking path at the northwestern edge of the park to provide more contiguous usable and flexible lawn space for play and gathering.

- Renovate the playground with interactive and engaging play features. Provide bike racks.

- Improve visibility to back corners of the park.

- Consider adding community garden plots to supplement the nearby Belle Haven Community Gardens, or a picnic and barbecue area for community gatherings.





SEMINARY OAKS PARK

This wooded park invites strolling, relaxing or picnicking. Its pastoral character is attractive and unique, and should be maintained and enhanced.

GOALS: Maintain and enhance the sylvan character of this peaceful park.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Enhance the natural elements and create some unique amenities to add the park's distinctive character. Demonstration gardens and native plantings could add a layer of interest.
- Move picnic tables farther from street frontage. Provide additional benches and seating areas, with shade. Provide bike racks.



TINKER PARK

Tinker Park is a small, but conveniently located park for passive enjoyment and young children's play. An emergency vehicle access occupies a large portion of the site.

GOALS: Provide additional usable elements for play value and interest at this small, conveniently located park.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Adjust play equipment to be better accessible to 2-3 year olds.
- Adjust parent seating to avoid facing into the sun.
- Add striping or surface art to the paved emergency vehicle access to create additional play value.
- Consider addition of a small demonstration garden to replace frontage planting.



ALMA STREET PARK

This small passive park provides interpretation of local historic events, the historic residents of the area, and the natural history of San Francisquito Creek. It also provides a pedestrian and bicycle connection across the creek to El Palo Alto Park and beyond.

GOALS: Increase awareness of this small gem, and add amenities that are consistent with this passive-use park.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Provide park signage to improve visibility and awareness of the park and trail. Extend the trail connection northward along the east side of the Caltrain tracks.
- Continue to engage the community in restoration planting.
- Evaluate additional amenities and interpretive elements in partnership with the Ohlone-Portola Heritage Trail project.



BEDWELL BAYFRONT PARK

A Master Plan has recently been completed for this expansive bayfront open space.

GOALS: Implement the recommendations of the Bedwell Bayfront Park Master Plan.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Follow the recommendations of the adopted Bedwell Bayfront Park Master Plan.



SHARON HILLS PARK

This 12.5 acre wooded hillside open space area is popular with walkers, joggers, dog walkers, and people enjoying the views. Improve signage to ensure that it is known as a City Park and open space.

GOALS: Increase community awareness of this open space resource, and add amenities to support broader use.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Provide accessible amenities (pathways, benches, picnic tables) to viewpoints and at Altschul Avenue frontage if feasible.
- Consider adding reservable picnic sites and enhanced amenities for better utilization.
- Consider adding a nature trail and establishing information about habitat, native plants, and environment.
- Ensure that there are crosswalks where trails cross roads such as Valparaiso Avenue.



MARSH AND BAY PARK

Mostly a visual amenity, this small open space could be enhanced.

GOALS: Take advantage of this highly visible location to showcase art or artful planting.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Replace declining trees.
- In this highly visible location, a demonstration garden would be an attraction.
- Public art would be a visual amenity.





AT ALL PARKS

- As needed, continue to update site furnishings, including trash and recycling receptacles, benches, drinking fountains and water bottle filling stations, and picnic tables. Use City standard models, to create maintenance efficiencies and reinforce City identity.
- Where appropriate, provide storyboards to educate users about historic, natural, and cultural aspects of the park.
- When updating play areas, use poured-in-place rubber surfacing rather than Fibar. The rubber surfacing requires less maintenance and is more manageable for wheelchairs and strollers.
- Provide dog waste bag dispensers and drinking water wherever dogs are allowed, whether on or off leash.
- Ensure that there are sufficient bike racks for projected use and that they are conveniently located. According to the Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals, best practice is to provide bicycle racks to accommodate 5% of projected maximum daily attendance. Bike racks should be located near the destination entry, visible from the street and within the destination, and out of the pedestrian path of travel. Where feasible, provide bike repair stations.
- Evaluate opportunities for additional picnic areas.
- Assess all potential projects for green infrastructure opportunities per the City's Green Infrastructure Plan. Provide zero waste infrastructure and use zero waste building materials in all parks.
- Provide shade in parks as appropriate at play, picnic and seating areas. Consider use of trees to provide shade rather than manufactured covers.
- Where there are opportunities, enhance habitat value in parks.
- Where feasible, provide restrooms in all parks, similar to park projects within the City.
- Where on-site parking is provided, consider installation of electric vehicle charging stations.
- Provide trash enclosures.





NEW PARKS AND FACILITIES

ACCESS AND CONNECTIVITY

The Transportation Master Plan identifies a number of improvements that would directly improve access to parks and recreation sites, including grade-separated crossings of several major barriers, as well as improvements to intersections and sidewalks that will also make access throughout the City easier and safer for cyclists and pedestrians. The El Camino Real - Downtown Specific Plan also calls for enhanced connectivity through and across the congested center of Menlo Park. Development agreements may offer additional opportunities to improve access to recreational sites, such as the Bayfront Expressway crossing being constructed with the expansion of the Facebook campus, providing access to Bedwell Bayfront Park. Existing and proposed connections are indicated on Figure 5-1.

The following connectivity enhancements will improve access to the City's parks and recreation facilities:

- Dumbarton Rail Corridor trail construction and rail crossing to provide access to the Onetta Harris Community Center Campus from the trail and the Chrysler/Jefferson area;
- Middle Avenue under-crossing of the Caltrain tracks, providing direct access to Burgess Park and the multiple recreation facilities in the Civic Campus;
- Improvements to the landing areas of the Hwy 101 overcrossing, bridging east and west Menlo Park for access to Kelly Park, Onetta Harris Community Center Campus, Karl E. Clark Park and the Boys and Girls Club, and Flood Park;
- Extension of the trail and linear park along Caltrain right-of-way;
- Provision of a bicycle and pedestrian trail along Ivy Drive over the SFPUC Hetch Hetchy easement.

NATURE IN THE CITY

The Menlo Park community values contact with the natural world. The community expressed the desire to increase interaction with nature – to bring nature into the City. The City is cut off from contact from much of San Francisquito Creek, which forms its southern border. The Downtown area is lively but densely developed, with limited green space. Opportunities to increase interaction with the natural world include:

- Work with the San Francisquito Creek Joint Powers Authority to identify and develop access points, overlooks, trail alignments and view corridors to increase visual and physical access to the creek.



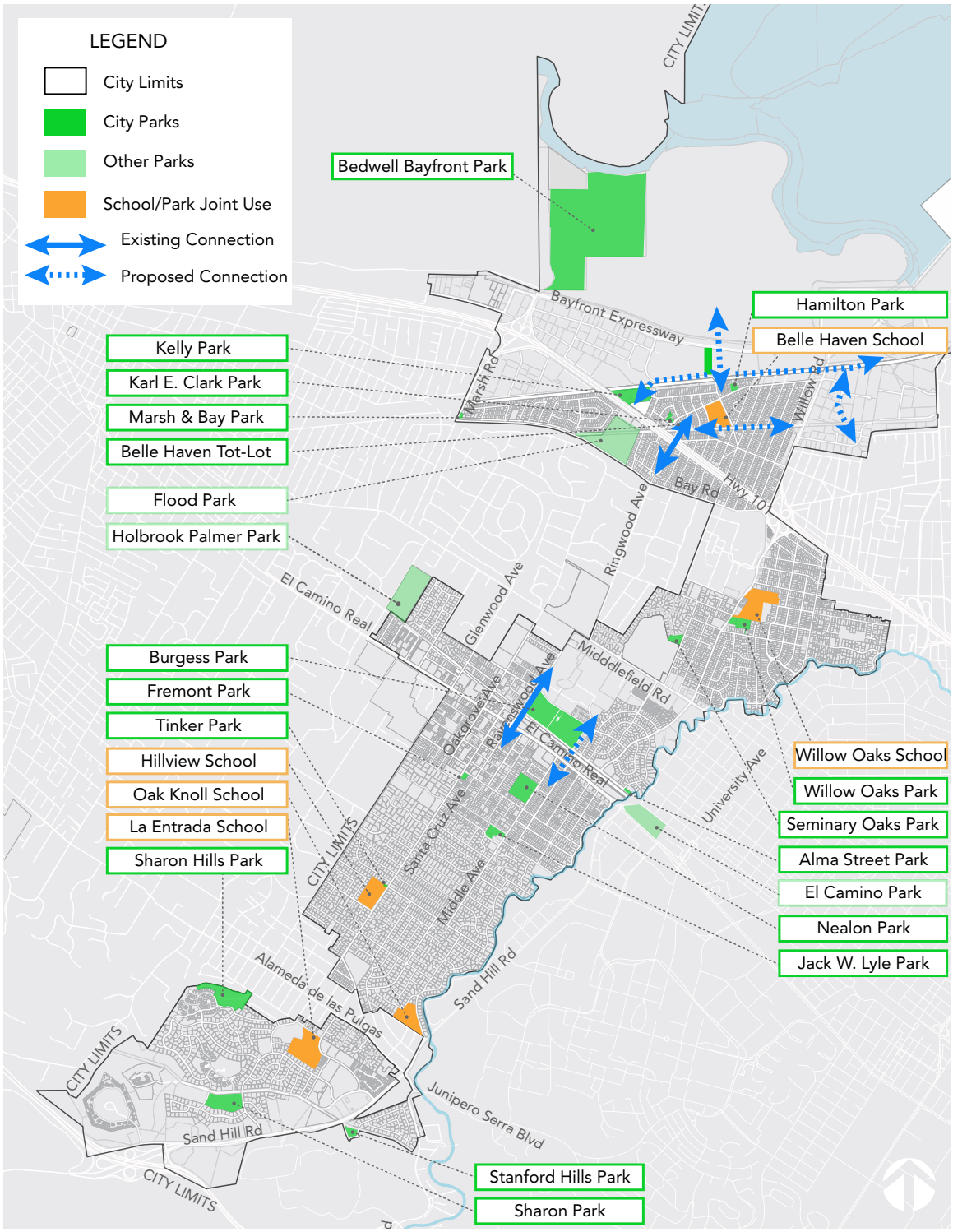


Figure 5-1: Connectivity

- Emphasize trees and landscape areas in implementation of the open space recommendations of the El Camino Real - Downtown Specific Plan, including pocket parks, open space breaks, plazas, flexible space/public parking, paseo and open space breaks.

OPPORTUNITIES AND PARTNERSHIPS

This Plan's Guidelines Chapter provides a map of potential opportunity sites. (See Figure 4-2.) Guideline 4.1: "Expand Parks and Recreation Opportunities" identifies future potential park and facility sites and partnerships, and discusses the importance of taking advantage of such opportunities with schools, non-profits, and private entities. It identifies the Belle Haven neighborhood as the area where most change is projected to occur. Currently, Signature Development Group (Peninsula Innovation Partners), on behalf of Facebook, is working on plans for its proposed Willow Village development in Belle Haven. Willow Village, and other planned developments in the City, are proposed to have publicly accessible open space and community amenities. Environmental and community review processes will be undertaken before any final plans are approved. Construction at Willow Village would not be anticipated before 2021-2022.

The City of Menlo Park should work with Facebook, other project developers, and the community to ensure that facilities are not duplicated and that they are designed to meet the needs of the community. At Willow Village, there should be a clear identification of the size and use of the community building and open space/fields so that facilities at the Onetta Harris Campus and Kelly Park can be dedicated to unmet needs. The community building should complement the outdoor uses as much as possible. For example, one approach may be to develop the Onetta Harris complex as an active, recreation, sports complex with fewer meeting and event spaces and establish the Willow Village community building as a more meeting, event, community gathering location indoors and out.



Figure 5-2: Belle Haven Opportunity Map

Further, the City should discuss with Facebook how the new facility will be operated, what the hours of operation will be and if there will be any fees. The City should explore the opportunity to jointly operate the facility to balance programs and uses throughout the Belle Haven neighborhood. Proposed and future multi-use paths, including one at the perimeter of the Willow Village project, will improve connections to and through the Belle Haven neighborhood.



Peninsula Innovation Partners

WILLOW VILLAGE
Menlo Park, CA

Exhibit 4
Conceptual Publicly Accessible Open Space
February 8, 2019

Figure 5-3: Initial Conceptual Plan for Willow Village Publicly Accessible Open Space (subject to future review and revision)

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CHAPTER 6 IMPLEMENTATION



CHAPTER 6 IMPLEMENTATION

IMPLEMENTATION

This Master Plan is intended as a living document. With a 20 year time horizon, changes in circumstances, opportunities, resources and demand will evolve. This chapter provides criteria for evaluating project opportunities in order to prioritize use of resources. It provides a matrix setting out preliminary priorities and order of magnitude costs for capital projects and improvements that have been recommended in the plan. It also discusses various funding mechanisms that may be pursued to implement the recommended projects. A further summary of general costs follows.



PRIORITIZATION

The Parks and Recreation Master Plan goals, found in Chapter 1, provide a basis for prioritization and can be used as a filter for assessing opportunities and projects. There are a total of 123 recommendations identified in the Master Plan that are consistent with the plan goals. Other opportunities, needs and potential projects will be identified over the time horizon of this Master Plan. The process described below provides a framework for prioritization of both the recommendations contained in this Plan, and projects that may be identified in the future. Projects should be evaluated on an annual basis to ensure that the City's priorities reflect changing conditions and emerging opportunities.

PROJECT PRIORITIZATION PROCESS

STEP 1. GOAL ALIGNMENT

Does the proposed project meet at least one of the Plan Goals? If yes, continue. If no, rethink the project to address plan goals.

STEP 2. PROJECT CHARACTERIZATION

Characterize the proposed project based on scale and complexity as Programmatic, Straightforward and or a Complex/Capital Improvement Project (CIP). Recommendations that are **Programmatic,** such as scheduling more events and activities at Kelly Park to improve its visibility as a park destination would be funded through the City's operating budget and programmed as part of department operations, and do not need to be ranked. Proposed projects that are characterized as **Straightforward** or **Complex/CIP** are given an order of magnitude estimate of cost, using a simple scale.

Cost Estimate Scale

$ < $100,000

$$ $100,000-$500,000

$$$ $500,000 - $2,000,000

$$$$ $2,000,000 +

Straightforward projects are generally those with an estimated cost of under $100,000, and are easily implementable. These would fall under the City's routine maintenance program and be funded under Parks Minor or Facilities Minor line items in the City's Annual CIP budget. Proposed projects that are identified as **Complex/CIP** projects are larger projects that would require more funding and planning, typically large infrastructure or those requiring complex design or significant community outreach. These projects would be evaluated based on a tiered criteria.

STEP 3. RANKING COMPLEX PROJECTS BASED ON TIERED CRITERIA

By evaluating and ranking the projects based on set criteria, the City can focus efforts and resources on projects that best meet the goals and guidelines of the Parks and Recreation Facilities Master Plan. The prioritization framework uses a simple scoring system and rates each proposed project over 10 weighted criteria. The maximum score possible for any project is 15 points.

Tier 1 Criteria are more heavily weighted at 2 points each, and consist of the following:

- Does the project address a current park/facility public health and/or safety issue?
- Does the project meet an identified need or deficiency?
- Does the project address a deferred maintenance need and/or preserve the asset?

- Does the project improve the overall balance and equity of the park system?
- Is the project easy to implement and/or a simple addition to a current project?

Tier 2 Criteria are weighted at 1 point each, and consist of the following:

- Does the project reflect an expressed community desire?
- Does the project offer new recreational or facility opportunities?
- Does the project improve the usability or function of the park or facility?
- Does the project improve the park's or facility's aesthetics or character?
- Does the project improve the sustainability of the park/facility?

Once the projects are ranked, they are grouped based on their total scores.

Priority Tier 1 projects are those that receive a score of 10 points or higher. These projects have the greatest impact on achieving the Master Plan goals as well has having the greatest benefit to parks and recreation users.

Priority Tier 2 projects are those with a score between 6-9 points. These projects help achieve Master Plan goals but do not fulfill as many of the criteria as Priority 1 projects.

Priority Tier 3 projects are those that score 5 points or less. While these projects meet at least one Goal of the Master Plan, they fulfill fewer criteria and are thus less urgent.

Placement in a particular priority category may not necessarily determine when the project might be completed because there a number of considerations for how a project moves forward. Projects in the lower priority category may be considered "opportunity" projects in that they may be completed as part of a larger renovation. For instance, if there is a major renovation to the Willow Oaks Park it may be a good opportunity to explore installing a new well for the City. Although projects that are Priority 1 are important and highly desired, they may be complex and costly possibly requiring a complex design process, extensive and significant community engagement, or funding.

NEXT STEPS. COST/BENEFIT EVALUATION

The cost estimate scale is not intended to communicate exact project costs but rather a broad cost range based on similar types of park and recreation facility projects. For each of the recommended **Complex/CIP** projects, the City would need to fully define the scope and assumptions for each project and acquire the services of a cost estimator to determine the costs of design and construction.

An evaluation should be made to determine if the benefits of the proposed project (based on points accrued in Steps 1-3) balance anticipated capital and operational costs. This entails consideration of:

- What is the project's anticipated capital cost?
- Are the project's impacts to the park's, facility's, or program's operations costs positive, negative or neutral?

Table 6-1, on the following pages, illustrates the matrix to be used for the prioritization process. The projects listed are illustrative examples. A completed matrix for recommendations contained in this Master Plan, as well as the project ranking summary, are included as Appendix A.

	Project Type: P-programmatic; S-straightforward; C- CIP / Rating Score: Number of Points from Criteria Sheet / Tier: 1-High (10+ points); Tier 2-Medium (6-9 points); Tier 3-Low (0-5 points) / Cost: $ < 100k; $$ 100k-500k; $$$ 500k-2 mil; $$$$ 2 mil + (amounts TBD)	Project Type (P,S,C)	Rating Score (Points)	Tier (1-3)	**Cost** ($,$$,$$$,$$$$)	
BELLE HAVEN MULTI-GENERATIONAL COMMUNITY CAMPUS						
	Implement a major renovation to the Belle Haven Community Campus. As Phase 1, complete a detailed feasibility study with extensive community outreach.	C			$$$$	
STANFORD HILLS PARK						
	Determine ability to enhance natural spaces and consider a demonstration habitat area.	S			$	
	Consider creating a fenced, off-leash agility dog area for large and small dogs.	C			$$	
	Design and integrate engaging nature play elements or a multi-generational fitness area.	C			$$$	
	Identify areas to provide seating for relaxation.	S			$	
	Replace asphalt paths with concrete.	S			$	
FREMONT PARK						
	Maintain flexible use space for both community events and for passive downtown enjoyment.	P				
	Consider adding a permanent restroom.	C			$$$	
	Consider adding a permanent stage or amphitheater.	C			$$	
HAMILTON PARK						
	Add a tot-lot play area (for ages 2-5).	C			$$	
	Plant more trees to increase shade, and to create a natural canopy and visual interest.	S			$	
	Enhance the plantings at the bio-retention areas per the Green Infrastructure Plan and add educational signage to explain their functions.	S			$	
	Add barbecues at the picnic areas, and a shade structure to accommodate group gatherings, game tables for users of all ages.	C			$$	
	Maintain the open lawn as flexible space for informal play and relaxation.	P				

Table 6-1:Sample Project Prioritization Matrix

Meet Plan Goal - Y/N?	Address health and safety? (2)	Meet need or deficiency? (2)	Address maintenance need? (1)	Improve balance and equity? (2)	Easy to implement? (2)	Community desire? (1)	New recreation / facility opportunity? (1)	Improve use or function? (1)	Improve aesthetics or character? (1)	Improve sustainability? (1)	Total

Table 6-1: Sample Project Prioritization Matrix (cont.)

FUNDING MECHANISMS

Determining how to fund parks and recreation facilities and operations can be a challenge. Fluctuating budgets and economic development can often impact General Fund spending and result in cuts for the development and enhancement of parks and recreation facilities. Building successful and sustained funding and financing for parks and recreation starts with understanding the community's long term vision for its future and how the value of parks and recreation connect to that vision to help the support and advocate for adequate funding and implementation.

To implement the recommendations in this Plan, the City will need to identify funding strategies for ongoing maintenance and operations (M&O) and capital funding for enhancing existing parks and facilities and for any new project design and construction. Current M&O funding is supporting a high level of service and quality management of facilities. It is critical to continue to foster and support this funding to ensure buildings and facilities have a long life. Capital projects tend to be easier to fund as they attract traditional sources of funding and large donations.

ADOPT-A-PARK AND MEMORIAL PROGRAMS

The City should continue to provide opportunities for residents to provide targeted funding for the maintenance, improvement, or addition to a specific park. This can be formalized by working with a Friends of the Parks group, establishing an adopt-a-park program, and/or establishing memorial programs with named benches, bricks, tile mosaics, or similar items. These programs may not generate substantial funding but can provide a positive tool for engagement, stewardship of parks, and a sense of community. A "Friends of the Parks" organization can also provide the City with additional fundraising capacity for specific targeted projects, or for general support, whether by memberships, hosting fundraising events, or being a conduit for soliciting donations of funds, in-kind materials or equipment, or services.

PUBLIC/PUBLIC AND PUBLIC/PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS

The City should expand and enhance partnerships with government entities, the county, agencies, non-profits and other providers (and facility owners) to assist with offering programs, sharing maintenance efforts, or sharing facilities. Partners may include School Districts within San Mateo County, Menlo College, the Veterans Hospital, St. Patrick's Seminary, Peninsula Volunteers, or the Boys and Girls Club, to name a few. Further, the City should continue to foster positive relationships with large commercial businesses in the City. These partnerships can provide the opportunity to share costs for maintenance and programs, the development of new facilities, as well as support effective shared use agreements providing needed facilities for the community.

REVENUE GENERATION AND COST RECOVERY GOAL

The City of Menlo Park has a comprehensive policy determining cost recovery and fees in the City that is regularly updated. These fees and cost recovery goals should continue to be assessed, especially with changing demographics and the increase in non-residential employees utilizing programs and facilities, particularly in Belle Haven. The policies should be streamlined to apply equally to all facilities and programs types across the City while offering robust discounted or no fees to residents who need financial assistance.

GRANTS

The City has the opportunity to apply for a variety of grants to help fund programs and capital programs. Grants would be most likely for activities or efforts that consider environmental improvements and access to parks, enhance services to underrepresented communities, or promote and support art/drama. Projects that provide multiple benefits can increase the possibility of successful grant applications.

Voters approved $185 million in funding for local jurisdiction park improvements in 2018 (Part of a larger $4 billion allocation). Funds will be allocated on a per capita basis and emphasize providing parks for neighborhoods who lack access to parks and nature. Funds will begin to be distributed in 2019. The City of Menlo Park should follow the state's guidance on this funding and use the Master Plan to help fund projects such as those proposed for Bedwell Bayfront Park.

Other grants are available through governmental agencies and foundations, such as the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund, AARP Livable Communities and Kaboom grants.

MAJOR SPONSORSHIP/DONATIONS

Menlo Park parks and recreation has already benefited from the strong support of the Arrillaga Family. The City should continue to encourage individual/family donations, legacy giving, and overall community support for parks and facilities. These high level donors can be instrumental in funding capital improvement projects and attracting additional capital and support.

DEVELOPMENT FEES

The City currently receives Recreation In-Lieu Fees from residential development to support parks facilities and maintenance. Regularly assessing and updating the development fees is important to ensure that they adequately contribute to supporting these critical facilities. From 2002 through 2013, Recreation In-Lieu Fees funded close to $4 million in recreation capital projects. Fees from commercial and industrial development should be considered to help support employees, and mitigate traffic and other impacts from non-residential use of public facilities.

GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS

A source of major funding for parks and recreation facilities is the general obligation bond. Notably, Measure T , which was place on the ballot by the City in 2001, was passed by the voters by 70.55%.

Measure T was designed to raise $38 million through a phased issuance of bonds. Two phases of the bonds have been issued, funding over $25 million in capital projects. Projects completed (in whole or in part) using Measure T funds, included facilities, parks and improvements such as the Arrillaga Family Gymnasium, improvements to Burgess Pool and Locker Room, Burgess and Nealon Parks, Kelly Park field, and La Entrada School fields, to name just a few.

The third phase of Measure T bonds may be in important source of funding for major projects recommended in this plan.

PROJECT COSTS

In this era of escalating and varying costs, the table below provides a snapshot of project costs at this time. Construction costs have generally risen 5 - 10% annually over the last 15 years. The table below and on the following page show current preliminary cost estimates for various types of park project costs.

FACILITY	DESCRIPTION / ASSUMPTIONS	QUANTITY	APPROX. CONSTRUCTION COSTS	CONSTRUCTION + CONTINGENCY (20%)	CONSTRUCTION + CONTINGENCY + "SOFT COSTS" (30%)
Basic Park Improvements	Grading, drainage, utility connections, walkways, turf, trees, irrigation, lighting, benches, trash receptacle, bike rack	1 acre	$1,100,000	$1,320,000	$1,716,000
Basic Park Improvements (per acre) - Large Parks	Grading, drainage, utility connections, concrete walks, turf, trees, irrigation, lighting, benches, trash receptacle, bike rack	1 acre	$975,000	$1,170,000	$1,521,000
Natural Park/ Trail (per acre)	Grading, soil prep, hydroseed, decomposed granite paths, bench, trash, trees	1 acre	$600,000	$720,000	$936,000
Basketball Court - basic, lit	Court paving, court surface and striping, basketball standards, trash receptacles, misc concrete paving, court lighting	8,000 sf	$450,000	$540,000	$702,000
Dog Park (1.5 acre)	Perimeter fencing for 1.5 acre park, water faucet, decomposed granite area, lawn area, trash/doggy station, shade, signage	1.5 acres	$1,500,000	$1,800,000	$2,340,000
Dog Park (half acre)	Perimeter fencing for .5 acre park, water faucet, decomposed granite area, lawn area, trash/doggy station, shade, signage	0.5 acres	$550,000	$660,000	$858,000
Play Area - basic	Grading, play equipment (2-5 years and 5-12 years), synthetic safety surfacing, seating, shade, trash receptacles	5,000 sf	$550,000	$660,000	$858,000
Play Area - all abilities	Completely accessible play with accessible restroom	5,000 sf	$1,500,000	$1,800,000	$2,340,000
Play Area - all abilities/Magical Bridge	Top of the line, completely accessible play with accessible restroom	5,000 sf	$3,500,000	$4,200,000	$5,460,000

Table 6-2: Project Costs

FACILITY	DESCRIPTION / ASSUMPTIONS	QUANTITY	APPROX. CONSTRUCTION COSTS	CONSTRUCTION + CONTINGENCY (20%)	CONSTRUCTION + CONTINGENCY + "SOFT COSTS" (30%)
Restrooms - Small	Prefabricated ADA restroom with two toilets and sinks, concrete foundation, storage, photo-sensor locks, drinking fountain, trash receptacle, planting	500 sf	$400,000	$480,000	$624,000
Restroom/ Concession	1,700 sf ADA restroom/concession/ office, concrete foundation, 6 toilets, drinking fountain, trash receptacle, planting	2,000 sf	$1,050,000	$1,260,000	$1,638,000
Multi-Use Turf - Small	Grading, natural turf, drainage, goals	1.5 acres	$1,250,000	$1,500,000	$1,950,000
Multi-Use Turf - Large	Grading, natural turf, drainage, goals	3 acres	$2,300,000	$2,760,000	$3,588,000
Picnic Area - Small	Picnic tables (2), BBQ grills, 800 sf concrete paving, drinking fountain with spigot, trash receptacle, trees or structure for shade	3,000 sf	$150,000	$180,000	$234,000
Group Picnic - Medium	Picnic tables (6), BBQ grills, 1,600 sf concrete paving, drinking fountain with spigot, trash receptacle, trees or structure for shade	6,000 sf	$275,000	$330,000	$429,000
Neighborhood Gathering Place	Entry feature/signage, 4,000 sf gathering plaza, shade structure, enhanced planting	6,000 sf	$350,000	$420,000	$546,000
Sports field lighting	Musco field lights, full cut-offs	6 EA	$950,000	$1,140,000	$1,482,000
Upgrades to LED	Per llight	1 EA	$5,000	$6,000	$7,800
Basketball court lighting	4 lights	4 EA	$95,000	$114,000	$148,200
Demonstration Garden	Planting, irrigation and signage	2,000 sf	$60,000	$72,000	$93,600
Community Garden	Garden plot planters, storage, d.g. pathways, water	5,000 sf	$400,000	$480,000	$624,000
Pump Track - dirt	Dirt, fenced	9,000 sf	$225,000	$270,000	$351,000
Pump Track - asphalt	Asphalt, fenced	9,000 sf	$300,000	$360,000	$468,000
Splash Pad	Play area, water source, pump house, drainage, need adjacency to restroom	2,500 sf	$1,500,000	$1,800,000	$2,340,000

Table 6-2: Project Costs (cont.)

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CITY OF MENLO PARK

PARK & RECREATION FACILITIES

MASTER PLAN UPDATE - APPENDICES

Accepted by City Council October 15, 2019

MYMENLOPARKS

CITY OF MENLO PARK

GATES +ASSOCIATES

blue point planning

APPENDIX A: PROJECT PRIORITIZATION



APPENDIX A: PROJECT PRIORITIZATION

OVERVIEW

This appendix contains the initial prioritization matrix and rankings of the recommendations of this Parks and Recreation Facilities Master Plan. Because circumstances change and evolve, proposed and potential projects should be evaluated on an annual basis to ensure that the City's priorities reflect changing conditions and emerging opportunities, and that they accurately reflect the community's priorities.

	Project Type: P-programmatic; S-straightforward; C- CIP / Rating Score: Number of Points from Criteria Sheet / Tier: 1-High (10+ points); Tier 2-Medium (6-9 points); Tier 3-Low (0-5 points) / Cost: $ < 100k; $$ 100k-500k; $$$ 500k-2 mil; $$$$ 2 mil + (amounts TBD)	Project Type (P,S,C)	Rating Score (Points)	Tier (1-3)	**Cost** ($,$$,$$$,$$$$)
BELLE HAVEN MULTI-GENERATIONAL COMMUNITY CAMPUS					
	Complete a detailed feasibility study that would include a conceptual master plan for the Belle Haven Campus facilities including the Onetta Harris Community Center, Senior Center, Youth Center, and the Belle Haven Pool, with a detailed space program, project costs, and economic analysis of the annual expenses and revenues.	C	13	1	$$$$
BELLE HAVEN CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER					
	Add more storage capacity for all classrooms (for children's personal items, sleeping cots, and other needs)	S			$
	Develop a separate area for a staff break room and add another office	S			$
	Dedicate and if possible expand the current multipurpose room just for children and parent's meetings (currently is used for storage for a variety of items, and has a office cubicle)	P			
	Evaluate and address additional enhancements throughout the facility to better support the number of students and their needs.	P			
	Add a locked and alarmed gate adjacent to the main administration building for a better evacuation route	S			$
	Consider utilizing space between buildings for an outdoor staff space.	P			
JOSEPH B. KELLY PARK					
	Provide additional wayfinding signage to direct users to Kelly Park, as well as directional and orientation signage at park entry, where orientation is poor. Add more welcoming features to invite park use.	S			$
	Provide additional signage regarding park rules, parking hours, dogs, and synthetic turf. Enforce dog rules and appropriate use of synthetic turf.	S			$
	Schedule more community events and special activities to make the park a recognized destination.	P			
	Provide additional storage for sports use.	S			$

Table A-1: Initial Project Prioritization Matrix

	Meet Plan Goal - Y/N?	Address health and safety? (2)	Meet need or deficiency? (2)	Address maintenance need? (2)	Improve balance and equity? (2)	Easy to implement? (2)	Community desire? (1)	New recreation / facility opportunity? (1)	Improve use or function? (1)	Improve aesthetics or character? (1)	Improve sustainability? (1)	Total
	Y	2	2	2	2	0	1	1	1	1	1	13

Table A-1: Initial Project Prioritization Matrix (Cont.)

	Project Type: P-programmatic; S-straightforward; C- CIP / Rating Score: Number of Points from Criteria Sheet / Tier: 1-High (10+ points); Tier 2-Medium (6-9 points); Tier 3-Low (0-5 points) / Cost: $ < 100k; $$ 100k-500k; $$$ 500k-2 mil; $$$$ 2 mil + (amounts TBD)	Project Type (P,S,C)	Rating Score (Points)	Tier (1-3)	**Cost** ($,$$,$$$,$$$$)
JOSEPH B. KELLY PARK (continued)					
	Improve direct connections to Kelly Park from the Senior Center. (If and when the Campus is reconfigured, Kelly Park should be better integrated with the buildings on the site.)	C	7	2	$
	Improve the existing access across Hwy 101 and install noise reduction measures (such as a sound wall or plantings) to reduce freeway noise from Hwy. 101.	C	9	2	$$$
	When a multi-use trail is installed along the Dumbarton Corridor, ensure that safe and direct access is provided across the tracks to the park.	C	10	2	$$$
	Provide a dumpster enclosure, and screen transformers with vegetation or attractive fencing.	S			$
	Renovate landscaping to emphasize native and drought tolerant planting, and consider opportunities for green infrastructure such as bioretention areas.	S			$
	When replacing the synthetic turf and infill material, install a trench drain at the sports field to improve drainage and field life. Prior to replacing infill, evaluate current industry best practices and standards for materials.	C	6	2	$

Table A-1: Initial Project Prioritization Matrix (Cont.)

Meet Plan Goal - Y/N?	Address health and safety? (2)	Meet need or deficiency? (2)	Address maintenance need? (2)	Improve balance and equity? (2)	Easy to implement? (2)	Community desire? (1)	New recreation / facility opportunity? (1)	Improve use or function? (1)	Improve aesthetics or character? (1)	Improve sustainability? (1)	Total
Y	0	2	0	0	2	0	1	1	1	0	7
Y	2	2	0	2	0	1	0	1	1	0	9
Y	2	2	0	2	0	1	0	1	1	1	10
Y	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	1	0	1	6

Table A-1: Initial Project Prioritization Matrix (Cont.)

	Project Type: P-programmatic; S-straightforward; C- CIP / Rating Score: Number of Points from Criteria Sheet / Tier: 1-High (10+ points); Tier 2-Medium (6-9 points); Tier 3-Low (0-5 points) / Cost: $ < 100k; $$ 100k-500k; $$$ 500k-2 mil; $$$$ 2 mil + (amounts TBD)	Project Type (P,S,C)	Rating Score (Points)	Tier (1-3)	**Cost** ($,$$,$$$,$$$$)
ARRILLAGA FAMILY GYMNASIUM AND RECREATION CENTER					
	Improve acoustics, and heating and air conditioning systems and ventilation syatems.	S			$
	Create a new addition to these facilities that would connect the buildings with a single point of entry.	C	6	2	$$$$
	Add a substantial fitness, weights, and wellness center.	C	7	2	$$$
ARRILLAGA FAMILY GYMNASTICS CENTER					
	Evaluate the operations of this facility, integrating the recommendations from the 2014 Operational and Administrative Review by MRG, and explore how to best optimize the use of the facility and serve the community.	P			
BURGESS POOL					
	Evaluate installing a permanent retractable dome with more up-to-date ventilation that could improve the air quality and comfort of the user.	C	11	1	$$$
	Change the wading pool to a splash pad, play area or beach entry.	C	9	2	$$
	Add amenities such as additional shade structures, cabanas, and a permanent storage area to replace the temporary ones currently on the pool deck.	S			$
	Continually maintain and upgrade the overall amenities such lifeguard chairs, bleachers, diving blocks, lobby space, locker rooms, and the like, as needed.	S			$
MENLO CHILDREN'S CENTER					
	Evaluate the ability to renovate the existing building to remove dividing walls, create separate kitchen areas for each age group, increase storage space, and create a reception space for the Center.	C	10	2	$$
	Improve the outdoor areas and expand into underutilized space around the center.	S			$
	Upgrade the after-school building, including adding a reception desk.	S			$

Table A-1: Initial Project Prioritization Matrix (Cont.)

Meet Plan Goal - Y/N?	Address health and safety? (2)	Meet need or deficiency? (2)	Address maintenance need? (2)	Improve balance and equity? (2)	Easy to implement? (2)	Community desire? (1)	New recreation / facility opportunity? (1)	Improve use or function? (1)	Improve aesthetics or character? (1)	Improve sustainability? (1)	Total
Y	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	6
Y	0	2	0	2	0	1	1	1	0	0	7
Y	2	2	2	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	11
Y	0	2	2	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	9
Y	2	2	0	0	2	0	1	1	1	1	10

Table A-1: Initial Project Prioritization Matrix (Cont.)

	Project Type: P-programmatic; S-straightforward; C- CIP / Rating Score: Number of Points from Criteria Sheet / Tier: 1-High (10+ points); Tier 2-Medium (6-9 points); Tier 3-Low (0-5 points) / Cost: $ < 100k; $$ 100k-500k; $$$ 500k-2 mil; $$$$ 2 mil + (amounts TBD)	Project Type (P,S,C)	Rating Score (Points)	Tier (1-3)	Cost ($,$$,$$$,$$$$)
BURGESS PARK					
	Install field lighting.	C	9	2	$$$
	Consider artificial turf to increase all season and all weather play, and reduce routine maintenance.	C	11	1	$$$$
	Reconfigure the baseball diamond to make the field more flexible and efficient for multiple sport overlays if artificial turf is not installed.	C	12	1	$$$
	When fields are renovated, consider the potential for underground water storage.	C	7	2	$$$$
	Consider expansion of snack shack to allow for a wider range of offerings. Provide additional shade and movable seating to create a flexible and inviting eating area.	C	7	2	$$$
	Renovate the existing playground with an emphasis on nature play experiences, and access for children of all abilities. This may also provide opportunities to include green infrastructure.	C	10	2	$$$
	Provide additional reservable picnic areas, and/or gathering spaces to accommodate varying group sizes.	C	8	2	$$
	Update park landscaping with more native plant palettes. Replace small, unused lawn areas with native, drought tolerant plants, demonstration gardens, and artistic combinations of colors and textures. Install green infrastructure adjacent to hardscape areas to promote stormwater treatment per the City's Green Infrastructure Plan.	S			$
	Update park lighting fixtures to more energy efficient options, such as updating tennis court lights to LED. Evaluate parking lot lighting levels, to ensure that safety standards are met.	S			$
	Consider additional lighting and potential for a music system at the skate park.	C	4	3	$$
	Consider the addition of outdoor fitness equipment to expand park uses.	C	8	2	$
	Identify ways to create more distinctive elements in the park, such as additional art or playful structures for informal play, and the like.	C	6	2	$
	Perform necessary maintenance on the duck pond, including re-lining the pond. Consider updating the filtration system for the duck pond to improve water quality. Update signage to educate the public about negative impacts of feeding the ducks.	C	8	2	$$

Table A-1: Initial Project Prioritization Matrix (Cont.)

Meet Plan Goal - Y/N?	Address health and safety? (2)	Meet need or deficiency? (2)	Address maintenance need? (2)	Improve balance and equity? (2)	Easy to implement? (2)	Community desire? (1)	New recreation / facility opportunity? (1)	Improve use or function? (1)	Improve aesthetics or character? (1)	Improve sustainability? (1)	Total
Y	0	2	0	2	0	1	1	1	1	1	9
Y	0	0	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	11
Y	0	2	2	0	2	2	1	1	1	1	12
Y	2	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	7
Y	0	2	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	7
Y	2	2	0	0	2	1	1	1	1	0	10
Y	0	2	0	0	2	1	1	1	1	0	8
Y	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	4
Y	0	2	0	0	2	1	1	1	1	0	8
Y	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	1	1	0	6
Y	2	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	1	1	8

Table A-1: Initial Project Prioritization Matrix (Cont.)

	Project Type: P-programmatic; S-straightforward; C- CIP / Rating Score: Number of Points from Criteria Sheet / Tier: 1-High (10+ points); Tier 2-Medium (6-9 points); Tier 3-Low (0-5 points) / Cost: $ < 100k; $$ 100k-500k; $$$ 500k-2 mil; $$$$ 2 mil + (amounts TBD)	Project Type (P,S,C)	Rating Score (Points)	Tier (1-3)	**Cost** ($,$$,$$$,$$$$)
WILLOW OAKS PARK					
	Complete planned improvements to the fenced off-leash dog area, and construct the planned restroom.	C	11	1	$$$
	Renovate playground to update play equipment, and to provide more play features in underused spaces within the play area. Incorporate artful play elements to complement the park's signature sculpture.	C	6	2	$$
	Repave and improve pathways.	S			$
	Construct a curb ramp and removable bollards to create a maintenance vehicle staging area adjacent to the on-site parking/circulation. Consider providing trash enclosures.	S			$
	Consider addition of a group gathering space or community garden.	C	9	2	$$
	Reconfigure the tennis courts to improve park usability. When the current lease which includes the basketball courts expires, consider shifting two tennis courts south to the current location of the basketball court to create a more inviting park entry, and more usable park space to the north of the courts.	C	3	3	$$$
	Improve signage at pedestrian entry from Gilbert Avenue. Adjust park signage to improve visibility from eastern approach on Willow Road, where the view of the sign is blocked by utilities.	S			$
	Upgrade tennis court light fixtures to LED, and improve overall park lighting.	S			$
	Develop a system for improving neighborhood access to tennis courts.	P			
	Improve drainage throughout the site and in particular to prevent lawn drainage onto tennis courts, and flooding in driveway of the adjacent school, including green infrastructure such as retention ponds and bioretention areas.	C	8	2	$$
	Evaluate the potential for a water well at this park.	C	3	3	$$$$

Table A-1: Initial Project Prioritization Matrix (Cont.)

Meet Plan Goal - Y/N?	Address health and safety? (2)	Meet need or deficiency? (2)	Address maintenance need? (2)	Improve balance and equity? (2)	Easy to implement? (2)	Community desire? (1)	New recreation / facility opportunity? (1)	Improve use or function? (1)	Improve aesthetics or character? (1)	Improve sustainability? (1)	Total
Y	2	2	0	0	2	1	1	1	1	1	11
Y	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	1	1	0	6
Y	0	2	0	2	0	2	1	1	1	0	9
Y	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	3
Y	2	0	2	0	2	0	0	1	0	1	8
Y	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3

Table A-1: Initial Project Prioritization Matrix (Cont.)

	Project Type: P-programmatic; S-straightforward; C- CIP / Rating Score: Number of Points from Criteria Sheet / Tier: 1-High (10+ points); Tier 2-Medium (6-9 points); Tier 3-Low (0-5 points) / Cost: $ < 100k; $$ 100k-500k; $$$ 500k-2 mil; $$$$ 2 mil + (amounts TBD)	Project Type (P,S,C)	Rating Score (Points)	Tier (1-3)	**Cost** ($,$$,$$$,$$$$)
NEALON PARK					
	Relocate the dog use area from the sports fields to address health and safety concerns. Reconfigure the park's pathways to create space for a fenced, off-leash dog area, with separate areas for large and small dogs.	C	10	2	$$$
	Create a demonstration garden with native plants to reinforce the nature theme of the new playground, including bioretention areas to treat adjacent hardscape.	S			$
	Activate the underused southern corner of the park by adding art, small gathering spaces, game tables, or similar amenities.	S			$
	Complete pathway upgrades from asphalt to concrete.	S			$
SHARON PARK					
	Provide a permanent restroom to accommodate event attendees and other park users.	C	9	2	$$
	Repair and renovate the deteriorating pond lining to preserve this unique element. Design new pump house and relocate lake filtration equipment.	C	9	2	$$
	Upgrade park infrastructure, including pathways, landscaping, irrigation and lighting.	C	11	1	$$
	Consider improving informal pathways, where there is the potential demonstration gardens, and/or interpretive signage.	S			$
	Update and expand the small playground. Provide bike racks.	S			$
	Consider providing a fenced, off-leash dog area at the undeveloped western end of the park.	C	6	2	$$
STANFORD HILLS PARK					
	Determine ability to enhance natural spaces and consider a demonstration habitat area.	S			$
	Consider creating a fenced, off-leash agility dog area for large and small dogs.	C	6	2	$$
	Design and integrate engaging nature play elements or a multi-generational fitness area.	C	7	2	$$$
	Identify areas to provide seating for relaxation.	S			$
	Replace asphalt paths with concrete.	S			$

Table A-1: Initial Project Prioritization Matrix (Cont.)

Meet Plan Goal - Y/N?	Address health and safety? (2)	Meet need or deficiency? (2)	Address maintenance need? (2)	Improve balance and equity? (2)	Easy to implement? (2)	Community desire? (1)	New recreation / facility opportunity? (1)	Improve use or function? (1)	Improve aesthetics or character? (1)	Improve sustainability? (1)	Total
Y	2	2	2	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	10
Y	2	2	0	2	0	1	1	1	0	0	9
Y	2	0	2	0	2	0	0	1	1	1	9
Y	2	2	2	0	2	1	0	1	1	0	11
Y	0	2	0	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	6
Y	0	2	0	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	6
Y	0	0	0	2	2	0	1	1	1	0	7

Table A-1: Initial Project Prioritization Matrix (Cont.)

	Project Type: P-programmatic; S-straightforward; C- CIP / Rating Score: Number of Points from Criteria Sheet / Tier: 1-High (10+ points); Tier 2-Medium (6-9 points); Tier 3-Low (0-5 points) / Cost: $ < 100k; $$ 100k-500k; $$$ 500k-2 mil; $$$$ 2 mil + (amounts TBD)	Project Type (P,S,C)	Rating Score (Points)	Tier (1-3)	**Cost** ($,$$,$$$,$$$$)
FREMONT PARK					
	Maintain flexible use space for both community events and for passive downtown enjoyment.	P			
	Consider adding a permanent restroom.	C	8	2	$$$
	Consider adding a permanent stage or amphitheater.	C	2	3	$$
HAMILTON PARK					
	Add a tot-lot play area (for ages 2-5).	C	8	2	$$
	Plant more trees to increase shade, and to create a natural canopy and visual interest.	S			$
	Enhance the plantings at the bio-retention areas per the Green Infrastructure Plan and add educational signage to explain their functions.	S			$
	Add barbecues at the picnic areas, and a shade structure to accommodate group gatherings, game tables for users of all ages.	C	10	2	
	Maintain the open lawn as flexible space for informal play and relaxation.	P			
JACK W. LYLE PARK					
	Create a group picnic area with tables, benches and barbecues near the multi-use field, for team gatherings or family picnics.	C	7	2	$$
	Provide additional parent seating around the playground.	S			$
	Contain sand play area to prevent sand migration into Fibar surfacing.	S			$
	Consider addition of picnic area at the open lawn area. Evaluate the opportunity for a small fenced off leash dog area in this location.	C	6	2	$$

Table A-1: Initial Project Prioritization Matrix (Cont.)

	Meet Plan Goal - Y/N?	Address health and safety? (2)	Meet need or deficiency? (2)	Address maintenance need? (2)	Improve balance and equity? (2)	Easy to implement? (2)	Community desire? (1)	New recreation / facility opportunity? (1)	Improve use or function? (1)	Improve aesthetics or character? (1)	Improve sustainability? (1)	Total
	Y	2	2	0	2	0	1	0	1	0	0	8
	Y	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	2
	Y	0	2	0	2	2	0	1	1	0	0	8
	Y	0	2	0	2	2	1	1	1	1	0	10
	Y	0	2	0	0	2	0	1	1	1	0	7
	Y	0	2	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	6

Table A-1: Initial Project Prioritization Matrix (Cont.)

	Project Type: P-programmatic; S-straightforward; C- CIP / Rating Score: Number of Points from Criteria Sheet / Tier: 1-High (10+ points); Tier 2-Medium (6-9 points); Tier 3-Low (0-5 points) / Cost: $ < 100k; $$ 100k-500k; $$$ 500k-2 mil; $$$$ 2 mil + (amounts TBD)	Project Type (P,S,C)	Rating Score (Points)	Tier (1-3)	**Cost** ($,$$,$$$,$$$$)
KARL E. CLARK PARK					
	Create educational features relating the story of Karl E. Clark, and to neighborhood history and local culture. These could include storyboards, wall tiles, paving insets, or other features that can convey words and images. Repair of deteriorating good neighbor fencing provides an opportunity for creating a "canvas." Engage the community to participate in the design, content development, and creation of these features.	P			
	Consider removal of the walking path at the northwestern edge of the park to provide more contiguous usable and flexible lawn space for play and gathering.	S			$
	Renovate the playground with interactive and engaging play features. Provide bike racks.	C	8	2	$$$
	Improve visibility to back corners of the park.	S			$
	Consider adding community garden plots to supplement the nearby Belle Haven Community Gardens, or a picnic and barbecue area for community gatherings.	C	10	2	$$
SEMINARY OAKS PARK					
	Enhance the natural elements and create some unique amenities to add the park's distinctive character. Demonstration gardens and native plantings could add a layer of interest.	S			$
	Move picnic tables farther from street frontage. Provide additional benches and seating areas, with shade. Provide bike racks.	S			$
TINKER PARK					
	Adjust play equipment to be better accessible to 2-3 year olds.	S			$
	Adjust parent seating to avoid facing into the sun.	S			$
	Add striping or surface art to the paved emergency vehicle access to create additional play value.	S			$
	Consider addition of a small demonstration garden to replace frontage planting.	S			$

Table A-1: Initial Project Prioritization Matrix (Cont.)

Meet Plan Goal - Y/N?	Address health and safety? (2)	Meet need or deficiency? (2)	Address maintenance need? (2)	Improve balance and equity? (2)	Easy to implement? (2)	Community desire? (1)	New recreation / facility opportunity? (1)	Improve use or function? (1)	Improve aesthetics or character? (1)	Improve sustainability? (1)	Total
Y	0	2	0	0	2	1	1	1	1	0	8
Y	0	2	0	2	2	1	1	1	1	0	10

Table A-1: Initial Project Prioritization Matrix (Cont.)

	Project Type: P-programmatic; S-straightforward; C- CIP / Rating Score: Number of Points from Criteria Sheet / Tier: 1-High (10+ points); Tier 2-Medium (6-9 points); Tier 3-Low (0-5 points) / Cost: $ < 100k; $$ 100k-500k; $$$ 500k-2 mil; $$$$ 2 mil + (amounts TBD)	Project Type (P,S,C)	Rating Score (Points)	Tier (1-3)	**Cost** ($,$$,$$$,$$$$)
ALMA STREET PARK					
	Provide park signage to improve visibility and awareness of the park and trail.	S			$
	Extend the trail connection northward along the east side of the Caltrain tracks.	C	4	3	$$
	Continue to engage the community in restoration planting.	S			$
	Evaluate additional amenities and interpretive elements in partnership with the Ohlone-Portola Heritage Trail project.	S			$
BEDWELL BAYFRONT PARK					
	Follow the recommendations of the adopted Bedwell Bayfront Park Master Plan.	C	13	1	$$$$
SHARON HILLS PARK					
	Provide accessible amenities (pathways, benches, picnic tables) to viewpoints and at Altschul Avenue frontage if feasible.	S			$
	Consider adding reservable picnic sites and enhanced amenities for better utilization.	S			$
	Consider adding a nature trail and establishing information about habitat, native plants, and environment.	C	6	2	$$
	Ensure that there are crosswalks where trails cross roads such as Valparaiso Avenue.	S			$
MARSH AND BAY PARK					
	Replace declining trees.	S			$
	Consider a demonstration garden as an attraction.	S			$
	Add public art as a visual amenity.	C	1	3	$$

Table A-1: Initial Project Prioritization Matrix (Cont.)

Meet Plan Goal - Y/N?	Address health and safety? (2)	Meet need or deficiency? (2)	Address maintenance need? (2)	Improve balance and equity? (2)	Easy to implement? (2)	Community desire? (1)	New recreation / facility opportunity? (1)	Improve use or function? (1)	Improve aesthetics or character? (1)	Improve sustainability? (1)	Total
Y	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	4
Y	2	2	2	0	2	1	1	1	1	1	13
Y	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	1	1	1	6
Y	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1

Table A-1: Initial Project Prioritization Matrix (Cont.)

	Project Type: P-programmatic; S-straightforward; C- CIP / Rating Score: Number of Points from Criteria Sheet / Tier: 1-High (10+ points); Tier 2-Medium (6-9 points); Tier 3-Low (0-5 points) / Cost: $ < 100k; $$ 100k-500k; $$$ 500k-2 mil; $$$$ 2 mil + (amounts TBD)	Project Type (P,S,C)	Rating Score (Points)	Tier (1-3)	**Cost** ($,$$,$$$,$$$$)
AT ALL PARKS					
	As needed, continue to update site furnishings, including trash and recycling receptacles, benches, drinking fountains and water bottle filling stations, and picnic tables. Use City standard models, to create maintenance efficiencies and reinforce City identity				
	Where appropriate, provide storyboards to educate users about historic, natural, and cultural aspects of the park.				
	When updating play areas, use poured-in-place rubber surfacing rather than Fibar.				
	Provide dog waste bag dispensers and drinking water wherever dogs are allowed, whether on or off leash.				
	Ensure that there are sufficient bike racks for projected use and that they are conveniently located. Where feasible, provide bike repair stations.				
	Evaluate opportunities for additional picnic areas.				
	Assess all potential projects for green infrastructure opportunities per the City's Green Infrastructure Plan.				
	Provide zero waste infrastructure and use zero waste building materials in all parks.				
	Provide shade in parks as appropriate at play, picnic and seating areas. Consider use of trees to provide shade rather than manufactured covers.				
	Where there are opportunities, enhance habitat value in parks.				
	Where feasible, provide restrooms in all parks, similar to park projects within the City.				
	Where on-site parking is provided, consider installation of electric vehicle charging stations.				
	Provide trash enclosures.				

Table A-1: Initial Project Prioritization Matrix (Cont.)

	Meet Plan Goal - Y/N?	Address health and safety? (2)	Meet need or deficiency? (2)	Address maintenance need? (2)	Improve balance and equity? (2)	Easy to implement? (2)	Community desire? (1)	New recreation / facility opportunity? (1)	Improve use or function? (1)	Improve aesthetics or character? (1)	Improve sustainability? (1)	Total

Table A-1: Initial Project Prioritization Matrix (Cont.)

	Project Type: P-programmatic; S-straightforward; C- CIP / Rating Score: Number of Points from Criteria Sheet / Tier: 1-High (10+ points); Tier 2-Medium (6-9 points); Tier 3-Low (0-5 points) / Cost: $ < 100k; $$ 100k-500k; $$$ 500k-2 mil; $$$$ 2 mil + (amounts TBD)	Project Type (P,S,C)	Rating Score (Points)	Tier (1-3)	**Cost** ($,$$,$$$,$$$$)
NEW PARKS AND FACILITIES OPPORTUNITES					
	Develop Dumbarton Rail Corridor trail and rail crossing to provide access to the Onetta Harris Community Center Campus from the trail and the Chrysler/Jefferson area.	C	5	3	$$$$
	Develop Middle Avenue under-crossing of the Caltrain tracks, providing direct access to Burgess Park and the multiple recreation facilities in the Civic Campus.	C	7	2	$$$$
	Construct Improvements to the landing areas of the Hwy 101 overcrossing, bridging east and west Menlo Park for access to Kelly Park, Onetta Harris Community Center Campus, Karl E. Clark Park and the Boys and Girls Club, and Flood Park.	C	7	2	$$$
	Provide an extension of the trail and linear park along Caltrain right-of-way.	C	8	2	$$$$
	Provide a bicycle and pedestrian trail along Ivy Drive over the SFPUC utility easement.	C	7	2	$$$
	Work with the San Francisquito Creek Joint Powers Authority to identify and develop access points, overlooks, trail alignments and view corridors to increase visual and physical access to the creek.	C	7	2	$$$$
	Emphasize trees and landscape area s in implementation of the open space recommendations of the El Camino Real - Downtown Specific Plan, including pocket parks, open space breaks, plazas, flexible space/public parking, paseo and open space breaks.	P			

Table A-1: Initial Project Prioritization Matrix (Cont.)

Meet Plan Goal - Y/N?	Address health and safety? (2)	Meet need or deficiency? (2)	Address maintenance need? (2)	Improve balance and equity? (2)	Easy to implement? (2)	Community desire? (1)	New recreation / facility opportunity? (1)	Improve use or function? (1)	Improve aesthetics or character? (1)	Improve sustainability? (1)	Total
Y	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	5
Y	2	2	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	7
Y	2	2	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	7
Y	0	2	0	0	2	0	1	1	1	1	8
Y	0	2	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	7
Y	0	0	0	2	0	1	1	1	1	1	7

Table A-1: Initial Project Prioritization Matrix (Cont.)

	Facility/Park	Recommendation	Points
	TIER 1 PRIORITY RECOMMENDATIONS		
1	**Belle Haven Multi-Generational Community Campus**	Complete detailed feasibility study that would include a conceptual master plan for the Belle Haven Campus facilities including the Onetta Harris Community Center, Senior Center, Youth Center, and the Belle Haven Pool, with a detailed space program, project costs, and economic analysis of the annual expenses and revenues.	13 pts
2	**Bedwell Bayfront Park**	Follow recommendations of adopted Bedwell Bayfront Park Master Plan	13 pts
3	**Burgess Park**	Reconfigure baseball diamond for more flexible and efficient multisport overlays	12 pts
4	**Burgess Pool**	Evaluate installing permanent retractable dome	11 pts
5	**Burgess Park**	Consider artificial turf to increase all season/weather play	11 pts
6	**Willow Oaks Park**	Complete improvements to dog park and complete restroom	11 pts
7	**Sharon Park**	Upgrade park infrastructure, pathways, landscaping, lighting	11 pts
8	**Kelly Park**	When multi-use trail is installed along Dumbarton Corridor, ensure safe and direct access	10 pts
9	**Menlo Children's Center**	Evaluate ability to renovate existing building, removing wall, create kitchen, storage, reception space	10 pts
10	**Burgess Park**	Renovate existing playground	10 pts
11	**Nealon Park**	Relocate dog park from sports field to another site in park	10 pts
12	**Hamilton Park**	Add barbecue and shade structure	10 pts
13	**Karl E Clark Park**	Consider picnic area or community garden	10 pts
14	**Burgess Park***	Consider expansion of Snack Shack and add shade and seating	7 pts

Table A-2: Project Priority Ranking

** Note: Burgess Park recommendation regarding expansion of the Snack Shack Priority Ranking placed in Tier 1 per direction of City Council.*

	Facility/Park	Recommendation	Points
	TIER 2 PRIORITY RECOMMENDATIONS		
15	**Kelly Park**	Improve access across Hwy 101 & install noise reduction measures	9 pts
16	**Burgess Pool**	Change wading pool to splash pad, play area or beach entry	9 pts
17	**Burgess Park**	Install field lighting	9 pts
18	**Willow Oaks Park**	Addition of group gathering area or community garden	9 pts
19	**Sharon Park**	Provide permanent restroom	9 pts
20	**Sharon Park**	Repair and renovate deteriorating pond lining and pump house	9 pts
21	**Burgess Park**	Provide additional reservable picnic areas	8 pts
22	**Burgess Park**	Consider addition of outdoor fitness equipment	8 pts
23	**Burgess Park**	Perform necessary maintenance to duck pond	8 pts
24	**Willow Oaks Park**	Improve drainage throughout the park site	8 pts
25	**Fremont Park**	Add restroom	8 pts
26	**Hamilton Park**	Add tot-lot play area (ages 2-5)	8 pts
27	**Karl E Clark Park**	Renovate playground and provide bike racks	8 pts
28	**New Parks and Facilities Opportunities**	Provide extension of trail and linear park along Caltrain right of way	8 pts
29	**Kelly Park**	Improve direct connection from Kelly Park to Senior Center	7 pts
30	**Arrillaga Family Gym and Recreation Center**	Add a substantial Fitness/weights and wellness center	7 pts
31	**Burgess Park**	When fields renovated, consider potential for underground water storage	7 pts
32	**Stanford Hills**	Design and integrate engaging nature play elements of fitness area	7 pts
33	**Jack Lyle Park**	Create group picnic area near fields	7 pts
34	**New Parks and Facilities Opportunities**	Develop Middle Ave. under-crossing of Caltrain tracks, providing direct access to Burgess Park	7 pts
35	**New Parks and Facilities Opportunities**	Consider improvements to landing area of the Hwy 101 overcrossing, bridging east and west Menlo Park	7 pts
36	**New Parks and Facilities Opportunities**	Provide bike and pedestrian trail along Ivy Dr. over SFPUC easement	7 pts
37	**New Parks and Facilities Opportunities**	Work with San Fransiquito Creek JPA to identify and develop access points	7 pts

Table A-2: Project Priority Ranking (Cont.)

	Facility/Park	Recommendation	Points
	TIER 3 PRIORITY RECOMMENDATIONS		
38	**New Park and Facilities Opportunities**	Develop Dumbarton Rail Corridor trail and rail crossing	5 pts
39	**Burgess Park**	Consider additional lighting an and potential for music system	4 pts
40	**Willow Oaks Park**	Reconfigure tennis court	3 pts
41	**Willow Oaks Park**	Evaluate potential for water well at park	3 pts
42	**Alma Street Park**	Extend trail connection northward along east side of Caltrain track	3 pts
43	**Marsh and Bay Park**	Add public art as visual amenity	3 pts
44	**Fremont Park**	Add stage or amphitheater	2 pts

Table A-2: Project Priority Ranking (Cont.)

APPENDIX B: COMPLETE INVENTORY



APPENDIX B: COMPLETE INVENTORY

OVERVIEW

Menlo Park residents and visitors currently enjoy a wide variety of parks and open spaces distributed throughout the city, from small passive parks of less than an acre, to neighborhood parks with playgrounds, picnic area, and court sports, to community parks with active sports fields, and to a large bayfront natural open space park. Menlo Park also offers an excellent recreation program in multiple recreation facilities, with programming for children, youth, adults, and seniors.

In addition to city-owned parks and facilities, the city has joint-use agreements with three school districts for use of amenities at five schools, including sports fields and courts, and playgrounds. Within city limits, Menlo Park residents and visitors also enjoy access to Flood Park, a 21-acre county park, with facilities for sports, group picnicing, and other activities.

This appendix sets out in detail the city's inventory or parks and recreation facilities, open space, and non-City owned parks and facilities that function as joint use sites.

Community Parks	Size	Construction
Burgess Community Park	9.31 acres	Construction date unavailable. Renovations 2004, 2005.
Joseph B. Kelly Park	8.3 acres	Construction date unavailable. Renovation 2011.
Community Parks	**17.61 acres**	
Neighborhood Parks	Size	Construction
Alma Street Park	0.5 acres	Construction date unavailable. Renovations 2018-2019.
Fremont Park	0.38 acres	Construction date unavailable. Renovation 1995.
Hamilton Park	1.2 acres	Built 2007.
Jack W. Lyle Park	4.55 acres	Built 2001. Renovation 2019.
Karl E. Clark Park	1.0 acre	Construction date unavailable. Renovation 2004.
Marsh and Bay Park	0.4 acres	Built 2014.
Nealon Park	9.0 acres	Construction date unavailable. Renovations 2005, 2019.
Seminary Oaks Park	3.51 acres	Built 1999. Renovation 2012.
Sharon Park	9.83 acres	Construction date unavailable. Renovation 2004.
Stanford Hills Park	3.11 acres	Construction date unavailable. Renovation 2001.
Tinker Park	0.54 acres	Construction date unavailable. Renovations 2004, 2012.
Willow Oaks Park	2.63 acres	Construction date unavailable. Renovation 1998.
Neighborhood Parks	**36.65 acres**	
Open Space	Size	Construction
Bedwell Bayfront Park	155.0 acres	Built 1995.
Sharon Hills Park	12.5 acres	Construction date unavailable. Renovated 2004.
Open Space	**167.5 acres**	
Total City Parks		
Community and Neighborhood Parks	54.26 acres	
Open Space	167.5 acres	
Total	**221.76 acres**	
City Parkland Standard per 1,000 residents	5.0 acres	
City Parks per 1,000 residents	6.48 acres	

Table B-1: Parks, Open Space, Facilities and Joint Use Sites

Community Facilities	Size	Construction
Arrillaga Family Gymnasium	24,100 sf	Built 2010
Arrillaga Family Gymnastics Center	19,380 sf	Built 2012
Arrillaga Family Recreation Center	15,523 sf	Burgess Recreation Center built 1963. Renovated in 1997 and 2013, renamed in 2013.
Belle Haven Child Development Center	6,600 sf	Built 2001, playground renovated 2013.
Belle Haven Pool	1,775 sf	Built 1960's. Renovated in 2002, 2011.
Belle Haven Youth Center	2,485 sf	Built 1950's or 60's, relocated to present site 1970's. Various improvements 1999-2002.
Burgess Pool	5,200 sf	Built 1943. Renovated 2005.
Menlo Childrens Center	12,409 sf	Built 1986. Renovated 2005.
Menlo Park Senior Center	14,978 sf	Built 1992. Medical Clinic constructed 1994. SF includes Clinic.
Onetta Harris Community Center	17,850 sf	Built 1971. Renovations in 1996, 1997, 2001, 2015.
Community Facilities	**120,300** sf	
Joint Use Sites		Construction
Belle Haven Elementary School	n/a	Built 1948. Renovated 2003.
Hillview Middle School	n/a	Built 1949. Renovated 2013
La Entrada Middle School	n/a	Construction date unavailable. Renovated 2004.
Menlo Atherton Performing Arts Center	n/a	Built 2009.
Oak Knoll Elementary School	n/a	Built 1952. Renovated 2005.
Willow Oaks Elementary School	n/a	Built 1980.
County Park	Size	Construction
Flood Park	21 acres	Built 1936. Renovated 1980's - 1990's.
County Park	21 acres	

Table B-1: Parks, Open Space, Facilities and Joint Use Sites (Cont.)

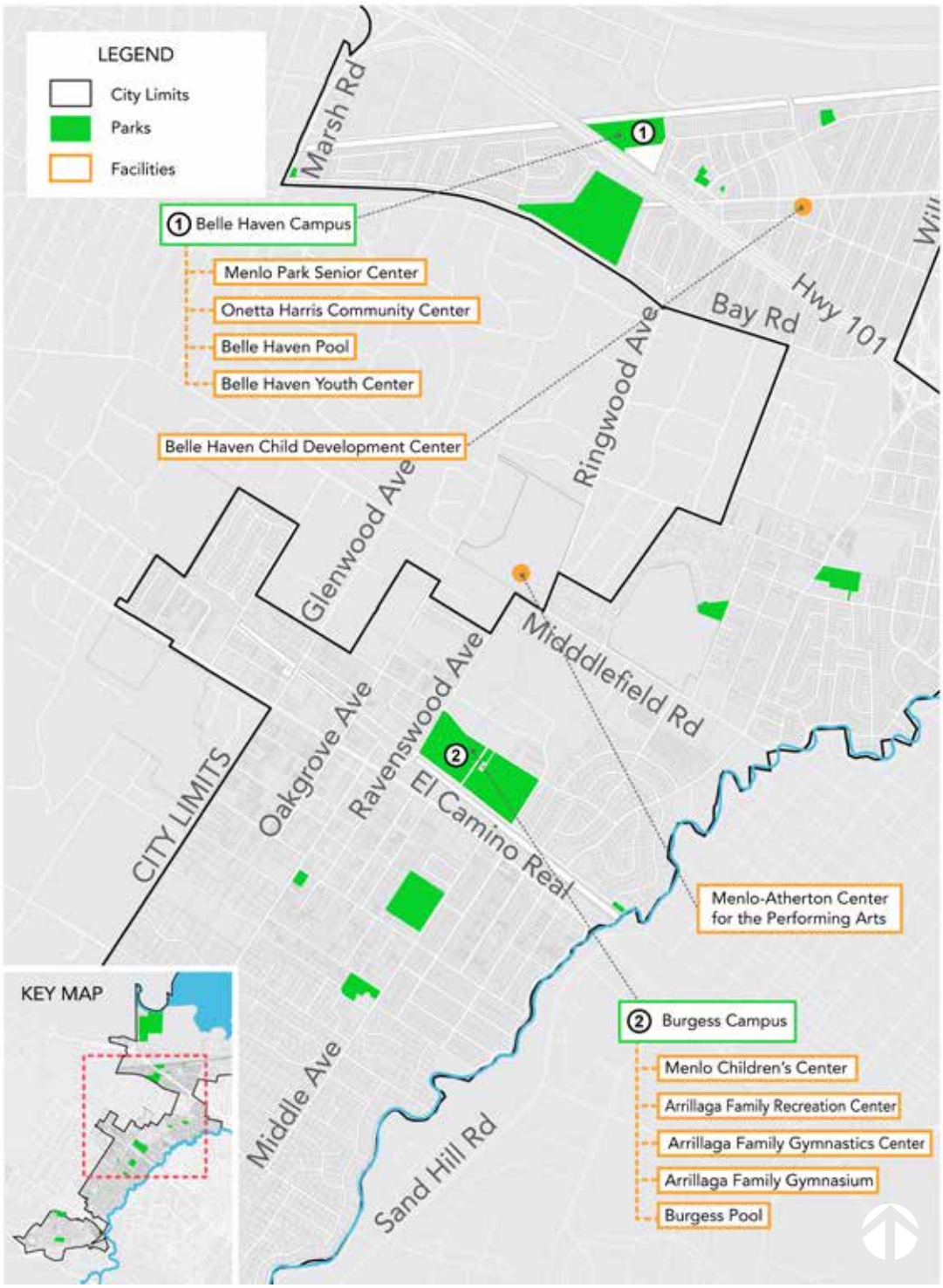


Figure B-1: Community Facilities

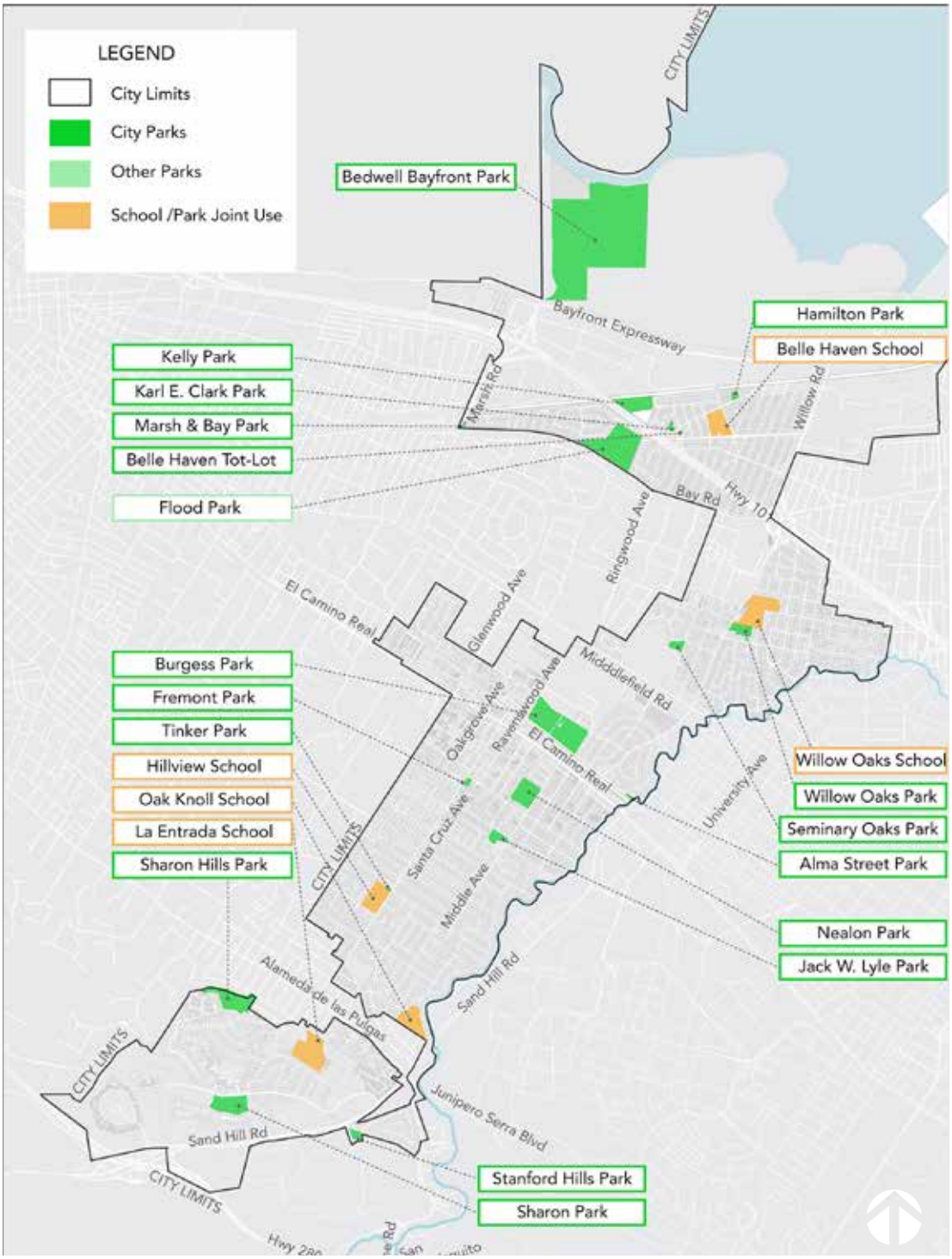


Figure B-2: City Parks and Joint Use Sites

ARRILLAGA FAMILY GYMNASIUM

Community Facilities

600 Alma Street

24,100 sf

Date Opened: 2010 Date Renovated: n/a







The Arrillaga Family Gymnasium opened in 2010 and is a state of the art municipal recreation facility. It is located on the Burgess Park Campus. The gymnasium features include 12 basketball hoops, 2 college basketball length courts, 3 volleyball courts and 4 badminton courts.

The gym which is open 7 days a week, hosts many youth and adult sports leagues, recreation classes for youth and adults, AAU basketball tournaments, volleyball tournaments, floor hockey tournaments as well as drop in sports activities. In the summer the facility also hosts a variety of summer camps. Additionally, the facility has a conference room that is available for both meetings and fitness space.

Needs and Gaps

- Seating in the lobby area would create a more welcoming space.
- Current reception desk in middle of the lobby is unused and could be removed to make space for seating.

ARRILLAGA FAMILY GYMNASIUM

Building Amenity	Lobby has an unused large desk while reception area is used. There is a TV for displaying information about classes and events.
Conference Room (Rental)	Conference Room. Capacity 15.
Gymnasium	2 high school sized basketball courts. Seating capacity 664 people. Bleachers and a court divider. 4 cross court basketball courts, three volleyball courts. Score boards.
Locker Rooms	Men's and women's locker rooms.
Offices	4 offices and a break room.
Restroom	Men's and women's restrooms.
Storage	Large storage area.
Support Spaces	Mechanical Room and Janitorial closet.

ARRILLAGA FAMILY GYMNASTICS CENTER

Community Facilities

501 Laurel Street

19,380 sf

Date Opened: 2012 Date Renovated: n/a







The Arrillaga Family Gymnastics Center opened in 2012 and is a state of the art gymnastics facility. It is located on the Burgess Park Campus. The gymnastics center features Olympic including balance beams, uneven bars, the vault, horizontal bards, gymnastic rings and the pommel horse. It also features a ball pit for children of all ages

The center is open 6 days a week and hosts a wide variety of classes for children and adults. Recreational classes range in age from 1 years old thru 18 for youth and 18+ for adults. The program also hosts a competitive boys and girls program which travels to compete in gymnastics competitions. For children and adults, the facility has a circus arts program which features aerial skills as well as silks and ropes classes. There is also a work out room as well as conference and meeting space.

ARRILLAGA FAMILY GYMNASTICS CENTER

Needs and Gaps

- The programs/spaces are underutilized due to difficulties with maintaining required level of staffing.

- Space used for fitness is now used for meeting space. Consider returning to previous use or one more in keeping with active recreation use.

Building Amenity	Viewing area for parents. Capacity 45.
Building Amenity	Lobby area has a reception desk, some seating, tv, and a cubby space for student's.
Community Meeting Space	Multi-Purpose Room previously used for birthday parties and other meetings. Capacity 85.
Gymnastics	Gymnastics Floor. 2 pits, 6 sets of bars (including uneven, star, p-, and high), rod floor, 2 sets of rings, 6 beams, vault area, rope and preschool tumble track. Capacity 236.
Offices	2 offices and a break room.
Recreation/Fitness Space	Exercise Room is currently used for meetings.
Restroom	3 restrooms, men's and women's restrooms, and small restroom off gymnastics floor.
Storage	2 storage areas; including one large space off of gymnastics floor.
Support Spaces	Mechanical room.

ARRILLAGA FAMILY RECREATION CENTER

Community Facilities

700 Alma Street

15,523 sf

Date Opened: 1963 Date Renovated: 2013







The Burgess Recreation Center was constructed in 1963 and renovated in 1997. In 2013 the Center underwent major renovations and renamed the Arrillaga Family Recreation Center. The Center offers seven rooms for rentals for both residents and non--residents. Although preference is given to ongoing and city-sponsored programs, reservations can be made for any day of the week. Room rental includes the use of our tables and chairs, kitchen, facility attendant, and patio (in designated rooms.)

This center, complete with full kitchen and ample parking, presents a relaxing setting and is surrounded by a park that offers the following; BBQ areas, playground, pool, tennis courts, skate park, baseball diamonds, duck pond and a large grassy area.

The Arrillaga Family Recreation Center offers seven rooms for rent of various sizes to accommodate a variety of activities from weddings to birthdays and even corporate events.

ARRILLAGA FAMILY RECREATION CENTER

Needs and Gaps

- The Juniper Room's Moveable mirrors are inadequate and are not optimal for the dance classes held there. Recommend installing new mirror walls - either on existing glass wall or by removing cabinets and sink area or use other more appropriate space for dance classes.
- Consider adding additional seating spaces along hallways for people to use while waiting for classes.

Building Amenity	Lobby area with reception desk, seating areas, TV for displaying information about classes and events. Vending machines.
Community Meeting Space	The Elm Room is carpeted and great for smaller events and meetings. Access to small patio. Capacity 65.
Community Meeting Space	The Juniper Room has hardwood flooring and a granite countertop with sink, making it great for luncheons and special events. The room can be accessible from the Alma Street parking lot. Portable mirrors. Capacity 75.
Community Meeting Space	The Sequoia Room is the largest banquet room and is able to accommodate larger events, including weddings. Access to large patio. Capacity 250.
Community Meeting Space	2 classrooms: Oak and Cypress room are good for small meetings, classes, or events. The Oak room has access to small patio. Capacity 55 each.
Kitchen	Catering kitchen for rentals and concessions. Capacity 20.
Offices	3 offices.
Patios for Rent	2 outside patios that are accessible from several rooms: large patio accessible from Maple and Sequoia rooms capacity 250. Small patio accessible from Oak and Elm Room, capacity 50.
Recreation/Fitness Space	The Maple Room is a dance studio with hardwood floors, vaulted ceilings, mirrors, and sound system. This room is for dance and fitness only.
Recreation/Fitness Space	The Willow Room has hardwood floors and can be used as a small meeting room, or smaller gatherings. There is a mirrored wall, so it can be used as a small dance studio. Capacity 45.
Restroom	Men's and Women's restrooms with multiple stalls.
Storage	Four separate storage areas.
Support Spaces	Mechanical Room and Janitor Closet.

BELLE HAVEN CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Community Facilities

410 Ivy Drive

6600 sf

Date Opened: 2001 Date Renovated: 2013







Belle Haven Child Development Center provides quality full time licensed child development services. The program is funded by the State Department of Education and administered by the City. The program builds and enhances children's self-esteem by offering developmentally appropriate materials, activities and curriculum that assist children in being better prepared for kindergarten.

The center hosts preschool aged children from 3 - 5 years old and has a highly trained committed staff that features bilingual teachers and a teacher to child ratio of 1:8. Children are provided breakfast, lunch and a snack daily. There are full costs spots and well as subsidized care.

BELLE HAVEN CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Needs and Gaps

- There is a need for storage in all spaces. Children's cubbys are overflowing and staff have very limited space for personal items - Teachers need to move children's cots outside because no space in classroom. A problem particularly in the winter.
- Fire evacuation route for two classrooms requires kids walking around the block. Opportunity to add a gate for simpler and much easier access.
- None of the gates' alarms work and the facility is often used by homeless on the weekends.

Amenity	2 outdoor, unassigned spaces; 1 between administration and classrooms and 1 in front of facility with large round hill and sidewalks. Spaces are used in good weather for kids to bicycle, and for events.
Classroom	4 classrooms, each approximately 950 sf. Each classroom has a cubby space for children's items, desks, doub sinks, and carpeted gathering spaces. Classrooms need more storage and a teacher's prep area.
Community Meeting Space	Multi-purpose space for parent gatherings, and rainy day recess. Serves as storage for various items and has temporary cubicle office for one of the staff. There are two adult restrooms off of the space.
Kitchen	2 kitchens serving 2 classrooms plus an additional one for staff with a small seating area - not comfortable as break space. Lacks storage space for cleaning supplies.
Offices	Two well-sized staff offices, but lack space for all staff.
Playground	Two separate playground areas for preschool age children. The front area has a composite preschool play structure. The back area has several stand-alone play components. Need shading and water fountain in front.
Restroom	5 restrooms, 4 bathrooms for kids accessed from each classroom with 2 also accessible from outdoors; 2 staff restroom (one men/one women).
Storage	7 storage rooms, 4 accessed from classrooms, 2 from outside, and one central storage area.
Support Spaces	Janitor and laundry room.

BELLE HAVEN POOL

Community Facilities

100 Terminal Ave.

1,775 sf

Date Opened: 1960s Date Renovated: 2011







Belle Haven Pool is a 25 meter outdoor swimming pool, located adjacent to the Onetta Harris Community Center. The pool features a shallow end with depths ranging from 1 to 3.5 feet and easy access stairs, deep end with 5 lanes, a high dive and low dive, locker room and shower facilities. There is also a small children's wading pool. Pool temperature is between 79 and 85 degrees.

The Belle Haven Pool is open year-round for youth water polo and swim lessons, with expanded hours in the summer for lap swimming, recreation swimming, lessons, and private rentals.

Programs and hours of operation change seasonally.

BELLE HAVEN POOL

Needs and Gaps

- The Belle Haven Facility Audit and Master Plan has been recently completed, and contains recommendations for this facility.
- Future development should consider more recreation oriented pool elements such zero entry and play features.

Aquatics/Pools	25 meter outdoor swimming pool with shallow end, 5 lanes, a high dive and low dive.
Aquatics/Pools	Small children's wading pool. Pool temperature is between 79 and 85 degrees.
Locker Rooms	Pool house with men's and women's locker rooms, with bathrooms and showers.
Outdoor Rental Space	Poolside Patio. Capacity 70

BELLE HAVEN YOUTH CENTER

Community Facilities

100 Terminal Ave.

2485 sf

Date Opened: 1950-1960s Date Renovated: 2002







The Belle Haven School-Age Child Care Program is licensed by the Department of Social Services to provide care for children in kindergarten to 6th grade. The program provides a supportive and nurturing atmosphere, while bridging the gap between home and school. A balance of educational, social, and recreational opportunities are offered which include homework assistance, arts and crafts, indoor/outdoor games, exploration areas and cooking.

A daily nutritional snack is provided through the Department of Education Child and Adult Care Food Program. Transportation from Belle Haven Community School to the Belle Haven School-Age Child Care Program is provided. Children that are a part of the Tinsely Program, and who live in Belle Haven neighborhood, will be dropped off in the front of the Belle Haven Community School and will be transported from that site.

BELLE HAVEN YOUTH CENTER

Needs and Gaps - The facility is aging.

Classroom	Large classroom for afterschool program.
Playground	Facility has a large play area that was recently updated, and includes basketball hoops and play equipment for school age children.
Restroom	Boy's and Girl's restrooms.

MENLO CHILDREN'S CENTER

Community Facilities

801 Laurel Street

12,409 sf

Date Opened: 1986 Date Renovated: 2005







Menlo Children's Center provides licensed child care for approximately 72 children, ages 2-5, as well as licensed afterschool care for 75 school age children, K-5. The facility is located in Burgess Park includes two buildings: child care center and an adjacent building for afterschool program. The facility opened in 1986. The child care center houses some public works in the downstairs area and was previously the police station and jail.

Needs and Gaps

- The child care center has a number of oddly placed walls making the facility difficult to fully utilize and supervise children.
- There is not enough parking for pick up and drop off hours.
- There is no reception desk or check in area for either building.
- There are deficiencies in the outdoor play areas.
- A general need for painting and updates for the afterschool building.
- Need separate kitchen spaces to allow for use of a stove and full size refrigerators.

MENLO CHILDREN'S CENTER

Classroom	4 classrooms: Toddler room adjacent to the quiet room; Preschool room with teacher prep area; school age room with teach prep area.
Classroom	Two afterschool program classroom spaces: Quiet Room and School Age Classroom.
Offices	1 main office that is also available for sick children waiting to go home.
Offices	Afterschool program Teacher prep room.
Playground	Two play areas serve the preschool age children. The front area has a composite play structure and several free-standing structures. The rear area has a smaller composite structure, and more free-standing structures. A
Restroom	5 restrooms, a general Boy's and Girl's bathrooms, 3 additional restrooms.
Restroom	Afterschool program Boys and Girls Restrooms.
Storage	1 storage space.
Utility Space	5 mechanical rooms.

BURGESS POOL

Community Facilities

501 Laurel Street

5,200 sf

Date Opened: 1943 Date Renovated: 2005







The Burgess Park pool complex is complete and full-service. Indoors, find locker rooms and showers, a central lobby area, and front offices. Outdoors, along with three pools, enjoy picnics and shade under the oak trees. Three pools are designed to support a full range of activities. During the winter months, the Instructional Pool is fully enclosed by an air dome to keep young swimmers and instructors warm.

The pool features a deck with benches, grassy areas and outside lockers. Full men's and women's locker rooms include indoor and outdoor showers. There are two family changing areas. Thereis a small shop in the front office area where you can buy swimsuits, towels, goggles, swim diapers, and various water-sports items. The shop also sells healthy snacks, beverages, and light meals. You can also pick up Menlo Swim and Sport team apparel and gear.

BURGESS POOL

Needs and Gaps

- Warm water pool with cover is not optimal due to air quality. Consider a installation of a permanent dome with air circulation.
- Existing portable storage areas could be replaced with more permanent storage solutions.
- Additional shade areas and cabanas should be considered.
- Consider replacing the wading pool with a splash pad playground or beach entry.

Aquatics/Pools	Instructional Pool: Seasonally covered warm water pool for swimming lessons.
Aquatics/Pools	25-yard outdoor pool with small bleachers,diving blocks, and the life guard chairs.
Aquatics/Pools	Small fenced in kiddie pool.
Building Amenity	Lobby area with reception desk, Pro Shop, seating areas, and access to the Gymnastics center.
Landscape Areas/Trees	Picnic areas, grass area adjacent to pool deck.
Landscape Areas/Trees	There is deck with benches, grassy areas and outside lockers.
Locker Rooms	Men's and women's locker rooms with showers and bathrooms. Plus two family changing rooms. Tiles showing wear and 6 showers per main locker room.
Offices	5 office spaces, includes Lifeguard Room and Front Office.
Storage	2 outdoor storage sheds on the pool deck.
Utility Space	2 mechanical rooms.

MENLO PARK SENIOR CENTER

Community Facilities

110 Terminal Ave.

14,978 sf

Date Opened: 1992 Date Renovated: 1994







The Menlo Park Senior Center opened in 1995 and provides a range of senior-focused programs and activities for the City, with a focus on the Belle Haven neighborhood given its location. It serves 80-200 seniors daily. Citywide shuttles allow seniors from anywhere to use the facility.

Needs and Gaps

- The facility is well used during limited hours, approximately 9 am to 1 pm, during the week and needs additional space. There is an unoccupied area that could be reopened and used for programs. The adjacent recreation area is also an option for additional senior programs.

MENLO PARK SENIOR CENTER

Building Amenity	Unused space previously occupied by a health clinic. Could be reopened to serve additional needs of seniors, provide a new teen space, or other use.
Building Amenity	Large lobby area with reception desk, seating areas, piano, and access to patio.
Building Amenity	Kiln space for ceramics classes.
Community Meeting Space	Large multi-purpose community room/rental space in connection with limited kitchen use. Chairs and tables. Capacity 115.
Community Meeting Space	Community meeting room with capacity 30.
Community Meeting Space	Imagination Room is an activity/classroom/meeting space that is also available for rental. Capacity 30.
Computer Lab	5 free computers for use by seniors. Capacity 6.
Kitchen	Commercial Kitchen.
Landscape Areas/Trees	Community Garden space accessible from Senior Center.
Recreation/Fitness Space	Game Room with 2 pool tables, and additional card tables. Capacity 25.
Restroom	Men's and women's restrooms.

ONETTA HARRIS COMMUNITY CENTER

Community Facilities

100 Terminal Ave.

17,850 sf

Date Opened: 1971 Date Renovated: 2015







This is the main recreation center for the Belle Haven neighborhood providing a range of facilities for recreation programs, fitness, and sports. The Center is adjacent to Beechwood School and was built in the 1970s and remodeled in 2001.

Needs and Gaps

- A recent facility assessment has indicated that the building is nearing its useful life, but can be used for a short while with strategic improvements and maintenance.
- Primary concerns are related to operations, hours, and optimizing the use of the facility.
- Gymnasium flooring and bleachers should be replaced.

ONETTA HARRIS COMMUNITY CENTER

Building Amenity	Reception Desk and Lobby area.
Classroom	Meeting space with a sink, mirrored wall and a large monitor. Capacity 32 people.
Classroom	Afterschool classroom. Capacity 16.
Community Meeting Space	Multi-Purpose Room. Capacity 120.
Computer Lab	The computer lab offers 8 web accessible computers linked to a printer.
Conference Room (Rental)	Conference Room available for rentals. Capacity 25.
Gymnasium	Volleyball and basketball courts; bleachers and room divider. Capacity: 460 people.
Kitchen	Commercial kitchen facilities available for rental group functions.
Locker Rooms	Men's and women's locker rooms.
Offices	3 offices.
Recreation/Fitness Space	Fitness and weight equipment, including exercise bikes, treadmill, step and elliptical machines.
Restroom	Men's and women's restrooms.
Storage	2 storage rooms, including one storage area specifically for sports equipment.
Utility Space	Mechanical Room and Janitor Closet.

BURGESS PARK

Neighborhood & Community Parks

701 Laurel Street

9.31 Acres

Date Opened:

Date Renovated: 2005







One of Menlo Park's first City-owned parks, this large community park is part of a larger civic complex. The complex includes City offices, the main library, Menlo Children's Center, Burgess Pool, the Arrillaga Family Gym, Arrillaga Family Gymnastics Center and Arrillaga Family Recreation Center. The park has multiple sports fields and amenities, accommodating both active and passive uses. It accommodates groups of various sizes. The park also includes multi-use turf, a skate park, lighted tennis courts, a basketball court, children's playground, picnic areas, a duck pond, fountain, and restrooms.

Needs and Gaps

- There are potential plans for expansion of the small snack shack adjacent to softball fields and group picnic areas.
- The use of its sports fields is limited by lack of lighting and the need for resting time for grass fields. The oversized softball infield impacts efficient and flexible use of sports field overlays.
- Areas of landscaping appear dated, and various small lawn areas create irrigation deficiencies.
- Site furnishings are of mixed styles and materials.
- Park paths and walkways are in need of renovation.

BURGESS PARK

Basketball Court	One full basketball court.
Landscape Areas/Trees	Planting appears dated in many areas. Narrow slices of lawn around the ballfields create irrigation inefficiencies. Open lawn area for active sports.
Lighting	Acorn pedestrian fixtures. Acorn fixtures in parking lots may have insufficient lighting levels. Shoebox fixtures at tennis courts. No sports field lighting.
Parking	Multiple parking areas serve Burgess Park, Burgess Pool, the Recreation Center, Gymnastics Center and Gym, as well as City Offices, City Hall, the Police Station and the Library.
Paths and Walkways	Pathways of various materials throughout the park.
Picnic Areas	Seven picnic areas are reservable, including five with BBQs. Increased rental potential would be beneficial. Some picnic areas are not accessible, with tables that are not on ADA compliant surfaces.
Playground	Fenced play area with a self-locking gate. Fibar surfacing at the play area, with poured in place surfacing at the slide. This play area is on the current CIP list for renovation. Two composite play structures, one for preschool
Signage	There is upgraded signage for this Community Park - lighted entry signage with brass letters on brick face.
Site Furnishings	Benches, picnic tables, trash and recycling receptacles and drinking fountains in mixed styles and materials. Bike racks at pool entry, recreation center and gym.
Skate Park	15,000 square foot skate park offering classes and rental, open during daylight hours.
Snack Shack	Snack shack and restrooms. Replacement is currently planned in the CIP.
Sports Fields	Well maintained sand based fields with bleachers. Little league baseball field. Baseball and soccer overlay: regulation softball field, and full sized soccer field (300 x 200 . Softball infield is oversized, could be
Tennis Courts	Two lighted tennis courts.
Water Features	Duck pond and fountain near the Recreation Center and City Offices. Duck pond is a popular attraction.

JOSEPH B. KELLY PARK

Neighborhood & Community Parks

100 Terminal Ave.

8.3 Acres

Date Opened:

Date Renovated: 2011







Renovated in 2011, this large community park adjacent to the Onetta Harris Community Center Campus is a premier venue for soccer, with a regulation size synthetic turf soccer field. The field, full size track and exercise stations, tennis courts and basketball are lighted, for extended playable hours. Park is well used, resulting in wear and tear on the track and field surfaces. The park is a venue for community-wide events such as the annual Easter Egg Hunt, and the Summer Concert Series.

Needs and Gaps

- Lacks a playground.
- Access points are limited, and lack of visibility to the park, orientation, and wayfinding signage make the park feel less welcoming, and less inviting for City-wide events.

JOSEPH B. KELLY PARK

Basketball Court	One lighted full court basketball. Surfacing in fair condition.
Fitness Equipment	Four different exercise apparatus adjacent to the track.
Infrastructure/ Drainage	Some ponding on the track. Transformers not screened. Lack of trench drain at field.
Landscape Areas/Trees	Trees and shrubs at perimeter of park. Some bioswale areas. Planting is in fair to poor condition, with barren areas.
Lighting	Tennis and basketball courts and soccer field are lighted.
Parking	On-site parking shared with the Onetta Harris Community Center, Senior Center, Belle Haven Pool, Belle Ha Youth Center and Beechwood School.
Paths and Walkways	Paved areas provide access to basketball and tennis courts, and restroom. The field, track and exercise stations are accessed directly by walking on the field and track surfaces.
Playground	No play lot within the park, but one is located at the neighboring Belle Haven Youth Center.
Restroom	Institutional fixtures for ease of maintenance.
Safety / CPTED	There are call buttons in courts. Visibility is poor at the rear (northwest) of the park. Chain link fence near tennis courts was cut for access from Hwy 101 frontage.
Signage	Orientation at arrival area is poor, and directional and orientation signage is needed. Additional signage needed regarding park rules and regulations, including parking hours, dogs, and synthetic turf.
Site Furnishings	Multiple metal trash and recycling receptacles. Dumpster enclosure desirable. Bike racks near restroom and basketball court. Benches between sports field and court areas, and near exercise equipment. Drinking
Sports Field	Lighted, synthetic turf sports field with surrounding track, and bleachers. Lacks storage for sports users. Field use is heavily scheduled.
Tennis Court	Two lighted tennis courts.

ALMA STREET PARK

Neighborhood & Community Parks

between San Fancisquito Creek and E Creek

0.5 Acres

Date Opened:

Date Renovated: 2019







This passive park between San Francisquito Creek and East Creek Drive provides pedestrian and bicycle access to a bridge across San Francisquito Creek, and to El Palo Alto Park in neighboring Palo Alto. It provides visual access to the creek, and it includes interpretive signage about the people who historically lived along the creek, as well as a state historic monument to the Portola expedition, which is planned to become a part of the Ohlone-Portola Heritage Trail. The Alma Street Park pathway connects to a linear trail in the Caltrain right-of-way, west of Alma Street, between E. Creek Drive and Ravenswood Ave.

Needs and Gaps

- Lack of entry or wayfinding signage limits public awareness of this small park.
- Lacks seating, bike rack, and recycling receptacle.

Paths and Walkways	Bicycle and pedestrian path connecting to El Palo Alto Park across San Francisquito Creek.
Signage	Interpretive signage regarding people who inhabited the area of San Francisquito Creek. State Historic Marker #2 commemorating the Portola expedition's journey's end in 1769.

FREMONT PARK

Neighborhood & Community Parks

Santa Cruz Ave & University Drive

.38 acres

Date Opened:

Date Renovated: 1995







This downtown park, on the site of former Camp Fremont, is home to the City of Menlo Park Summer Concert Series, Christmas Tree Lighting, and other events. It has an open grass area, lighted walkway, benches, picnic areas and a small, rustic play area. Mature trees provide shade throughout the park. When not in use for events, this is primarily a use passive park, for outdoor relaxation in the downtown.

Needs and Gaps

- Lacks restroom.
- Potential for permanent stage or amphitheater

Landscape Areas/Trees	Lawn area for passive use and for community gathering space. Trees surround and shade the park. Some decorative planting at entry points.
Lighting	Acorn fixtures along pathways.
Paths and Walkways	Paved walkways with brick accents at seating areas.
Playground	Open play area with wooden play elements carved from a large tree trunk. Wood chip surfacing.
Signage	Commemorative plaque to mark the site of historic Camp Fremont, and storyboards.
Site Furnishings	Benches along pedestrian pathways. Three picnic tables. Five bike racks, five trash receptacles and three recycling receptacles. Drinking fountain.

HAMILTON PARK

Neighborhood & Community Parks

545 Hamilton Ave.

1.2 Acres

Date Opened:

Date Renovated: 2007







This park is located in the Belle Haven neighborhood, and includes play structures, picnic tables, landscaping and an open grass area for informal play. Hamilton Park occupies an entire block, with pathways entering the park from each of the four courners. There are sidewalks on two street frontages, and the other frontages have planting areas that act as bioswales to detain and cleanse stormwater.

Needs and Gaps

- Lacks restroom.
- Lacks bike racks and shade.
- This neighborhood park lacks a playground for pre-school aged children. The two existing playground structures should be linked, as they both serve school-aged children.

HAMILTON PARK

Landscape Areas/Trees	Central lawn area suitable for informal play and passive use. Perimeter planting areas include bioretention swales for stormwater treatment.
Lighting	Acorn fixtures along pathways.
Paths and Walkways	Paved pathways surround the central lawn, play areas and picnic areas, and provide access from the four courners of the park.
Playground	Two fenced play areas with Fibar surfacing. One includes a shaded composite play structure for school age users. The other includes net climbers for school age users. Both areas have seating. Lacks play structure for
Site Furnishings	Benches at play areas and along pathways, seatwall at entry. Two small group picnic areas with concrete tables. Drinking fountain. Trash and recycling receptacles. Lacks bike racks.

JACK W. LYLE PARK

Neighborhood & Community Parks

640 Fremont Street

4.55 Acres

Date Opened: 2001 Date Renovated: 2019







Located adjacent to Rosener House, this park was named after Officer jack W. Lyle, a Menlo Park police officer whe was killed in the line of duty in 1960. The park includes a walking path with benches, multi-use turf, a rustic themed play area, and a basketball half-court. Stone column entry markers provide unique accent elements to the park. Although it is not a designated dog area, it is popular with dog owners.

Needs and Gaps

- The multi-use lawn at the Middle Avenue frontage is under-used.
- The lawn areas are popular with dog owners, and a designated off leash dog area might be appropriate, to avoid conflicts with other park users.

JACK W. LYLE PARK

Basketball Court	Half court, not lighted.
Landscape Areas/Trees	Trees shade park perimeter and some seating areas.
Lighting	Acorn fixtures along paths.
Multi-use Turf	Sand based field, used for youth soccer practice (divided into 4 fields) and weekend games. There is on-site storage for equipment.
Paths and Walkways	Paved walkways throughout park.
Playground	Fenced play area with Fibar surfacing. Two rustic-themed play structures, and swings. Separate areas for preschool and school aged children. Some parent seating. Sand play is not contained and mixes with the Fibar
Restroom	New restroom completed in 2019.
Signage	Memorial plaque in rememberance of Jack W. Lyle, a Menlo Park police officer killed in the line of duty.
Site Furnishings	Limited parent seating at play lot. Benches and picnic tables along walkways. Bike loops at two entries. Trash receptacles. Drinking fountain.

KARL E. CLARK PARK

Neighborhood & Community Parks

313 Market Place

1 Acre

Date Opened:

Date Renovated: 2004







This Belle Haven neighborhood park, formerly called Marketplace Park, was renamed in 2017 to honor Karl E. Clark. Mr. Clark was a decorated WWII veteran, and a long time Belle Haven resident, community activist, and mentor. The recently renovated park, located across from the Boys and Girls Club, includes a playground, open grass areas for informal play, and walkways. It can be accessed by a pedestrian walkway from Plumas Avenue as well as from its fontages on Market Place and Hamilton Avenue.

Needs and Gaps

- Lacks restroom.
- Lacks bike racks.
- Good-neighbor fencing is in poor shape. Playground needs renovation.

Landscape Areas/Trees	Trees provide shade at seating and play areas. Decorative landscaping along portions of the street frontage. Lawn areas can be used for informal play.
Lighting	Shoebox style lighting along walkways.
Paths and Walkways	Paved walkways through park provide access from Plumas Ave., Hamilton Ave., and Market Place.
Playground	Fenced play area with a self-locking gate and Fibar surfacing. Two composite play structures, one for school age children and one for preschool age, as well as swings.
Site Furnishings	Shaded benches along path around play area, parent seating in play area. Metal trash and recycling receptacles. Drinking fountain. Lacks bike racks.

MARSH AND BAY PARK

Neighborhood & Community Parks

Corner of Marsh Road and Bay Road

.4 Acres

Date Opened: 2014 Date Renovated: n/a







Small passive park with lawn and shade trees. At a busy intersection, it is primarily a visual amenity. Multiple utility boxes and vaults dominate the corner of the park, as part of San Francisco Public Utility Commission's Hetch Hetchy right-of-way passes under that portion of the park.

Needs and Gaps

- Lacks amenities.
- Landscaping is minimal.

Landscape Areas/Trees	Lawn area with several mature shade trees. Additional new trees have been planted.
Paths and Walkways	A sidewalk at the perimeter of the park provides access.

NEALON PARK

Neighborhood & Community Parks

800 Middle Ave.

9 Acres

Date Opened:

Date Renovated: 2019







Located in central Menlo Park, this neighborhood park accommodates active and passive uses. Little House Activity Center and Menlo-Atherton Cooperative Nursery share the park site. Amenities include a tennis complex, picnic areas, and open lawn areas for informal play. The fenced softball field doubles as a restricted hours off-leash dog area. The play area has been newly renovated as the Nealon Park Nature Play Area; All Abilities Playground.

Needs and Gaps

- The popular designated off-leash dog area is currently on the softball field. The presence of dogs on the playing field raises maintenance and public health concerns. Hours are very limited.
- Site furnishings are a mix of styles and materials.
- Some asphalt paths and walkways have been upgraded to concrete.
- Tennis courts need reconstructing.

NEALON PARK

Landscape Areas/Trees	Attractive large, mature trees provide shade and are a visual amenity.
Lighting	Mixed lighting types, including acorn pedestrian fixtures, Musco field lights and shoebox style fixtures at tennis courts.
Multi-use Turf	Two lawn areas for informal recreation or passive use.
Off-leash dog area	Fenced softball field is being used as an off-leash dog area during limited hours (8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m weekdays).
Parking	On-street parking spaces along Middle Avenue, most of which require backing out into the busy street. On-site parking lots serve Nealon Park as well as the Little House Activity Center and Menlo-Atherton Cooperative
Paths and Walkways	Paved walking paths throughout park.
Picnic Area	Five reservable picnic areas.
Playground	The newly renovated Nealon Park Nature Play Area; All Abilities Playground incorporates nature-themed, inclusive play.
Restroom	Public restroom near play areas and tennis courts.
Site Furnishings	Benches and picnic tables. Bike racks in several locations. Trash and recycling receptacles. Drinking fountain.
Sports Field	Recently renovated fenced softball field with bleachers. Used at limited times as off-leash dog area.
Tennis Courts	Tennis complex of five lighted courts, in need of resurfacing.

SEMINARY OAKS PARK

Neighborhood & Community Parks

299 Santa Monica Ave.

3.51 Acres

Date Opened: 1999 Date Renovated: 2012







Formerly part of St. Patrick's Seminary, in the Vintage Oaks neighborhood, this is a primarily passive park with benches and walking paths through trees and around a semi-open, wooded lawn area.The Other features include a "Serenity Rock Garden," school-age children's playground, and tot lot playground.

Needs and Gaps

- Lacks restroom.
- Lacks consistent planting treatment, and perimeter shrubs impede visibility into park.
- Picnic tables close to the street.
- Lacks bike racks.

SEMINARY OAKS PARK

Landscape Areas/Trees	Tree shaded park with lawn. Lawn is primarily for passive use or informal play, as trees make it unusable for active organized sports.
Lighting	Acorn fixtures along pathways.
Paths and Walkways	Paved walking paths surround the play areas and meander around the wooded lawn.
Playground	Fenced play area with Fibar surfacing. Two separated composite play structures, one for preschool ages and one for school age children. Swing set, and some parent seating.
Public Art	Serenity Rock Garden.
Safety / CPTED	Generally good visibility into park. Some views are blocked by tall shrubs at perimeter.
Site Furnishings	Benches located at play area and along path. Picnic tables are located under trees near the street. One bike rack. Metal trash/recycling receptacles. Drinking fountain.

SHARON PARK

Neighborhood & Community Parks

1100 Monte Rosa Dr.

9.83 Acres

Date Opened:

Date Renovated: 2004







Scenic Sharon Park is a popular destination for walking, dog walking, and passive relaxation. It includes a small lake with fountain, a gazebo, a walking path with benches, a shaded picnic area, grass areas, a natural wooded area, and a fenced playground. Sharon Park can be reserved for wedding ceremonies. Addition of a restroom would enhance group use of the park.

Needs and Gaps

- Lacks restroom.
- Infrastructure, pond and pathways are deteriorating and in need of renovation.
- Lacks bike racks.
- Portion of the park below the lake is unused.

SHARON PARK

Gazebo	Gazebo overlooking lake, with seating.
Landscape Areas/Trees	Natural wooded areas, and gently sloping lawns.
Parking	On-site parking lot.
Paths and Walkways	Paved walking path around the lake.
Picnic Area	Shaded picnic area with three tables, under trees near playground.
Playground	Small fenced playground locking gate. One composite structure for school-age users.
Site Furnishings	Benches along walkway, and at gazebo. Picnic tables near playground. Drinking fountain. Lacks bike racks.
Water Feature	Approximately one-acre lake with a small island, a gazebo, fountain, and surrounding path. Pond supports fish, turtles and ducks, but condition of pond lining is deteriorating.

STANFORD HILLS PARK

Neighborhood & Community Parks

2400 Branner Drive

3.11 Acres

Date Opened:

Date Renovated: 2001







Near the southern end of Menlo Park, this passive park is suitable for informal recreation and picnicking, with benches, walkways, picnic tables, and a large grass area surrounded by a split rail fence. Potential improvements are limited by the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission right-of-way that runs through a significant portion of the park.

Needs and Gaps

- Lacks restroom, bike racks, drinking fountain.
- Sloped lawn areas are not usable for active sports.
- Asphalt paths are deteriorating.
- Potential location for an off-leash dog area.

Landscape Areas/Trees	Limited planting around play area. Some oaks planted in tree wells have failed due to soil susidence. Sloped lawn areas are not usable for sports.
Paths and Walkways	Paved trails lead into park and around and through the lawn area. Access could be improved with some regrading of pathways on slopes.
Picnic Area	Picnic areas along the street, one shaded, one in sun.
Playground	Fenced play area with locking gate and Fibar surfacing. One composite play structure for preschool age users.
Site Furnishings	Benches along perimeter path, in limited shade. Metal trash and recycling receptacles. Split rail fence.

TINKER PARK

1550 Santa Cruz Ave

Neighborhood & Community Parks

.54 Acres

Date Opened:

Date Renovated: 2012







This is a small park with fenced tot-lot playground, benches, and a small lawn area. The play area and benches are shaede by a large, mature oak tree. An Emergency Vehicle Access (EVA) fire lane crosses the site of this small park located on a busy street adjacent to Hillview Middle School, on property owned by the Menlo Park School District.

Needs and Gaps

- Lacks restroom, bike rack, trash receptacles.
- Paved emergency vehicle access through center of this small park provides little play value.

Landscape Areas/Trees	Large mature oak is a central feature of the park. Small lawn for passive use or play for small children. Some frontage planting helps to buffer tot lot from busy street.
Lighting	Two LED fixtures
Paths and Walkways	A paved EVA fire lane provides access through the park.
Playground	Small fenced play area with a self-locking gate and poured in place surfacing. One composite play structure and swings for preschool age children. Some parent seating.
Site Furnishings	Three benches at the play area, facing into the sun. No trash receptacles.

WILLOW OAKS PARK

Neighborhood & Community Parks

490 Willow Road

2.63 Acres

Date Opened:

Date Renovated: n/a







Adjacent to Willow Oaks School, and Building Kidz private preschool which leases a City-owned facility, this park serves the Willows neighborhood. Amenities include lighted tennis courts, a basketball court, a children's playground, public art, a fenced off-leash dog area, little league field, and a large multi-use turf area for soccer and other sports.

Pending improvements include the addition of a restroom and upgrades to the off-leash dog area.

Needs and Gaps

- There is underused space in the playground.
- There is a lack of visibility and poor drainage at the basketball area behind the tennis courts.

WILLOW OAKS PARK

Basketball Court	Full basketball court behind the preschool at the park.
Landscape Areas/Trees	Large, mature redwood trees are a prominent feature. Decorative planting at entry planting is visible from street. Minimal decorative planting within the park. Lawn area along Willow Road frontage is bermed, and drains to the
Lighting	Acorn fixtures in park, older fixtures at tennis courts. Night lighting levels are low near the school.
Multi-use Turf	Open field for soccer and other sports.
Off-leash dog area	Fenced off-leash dog area of approximately a half acre. 30 high fence with double entry gates. Lacks shade and site furnishings for dog owners.
Parking	On-site parking.
Paths and Walkways	Paved path and walkways. There is paved pedestrian access from Gilbert Ave. Some pathways are in poor condition. Because there is no staging area for maintenance vehicles, staff must park in driveway.
Playground	Fenced play area with Fibar surfacing. Two composite play structures - one for preschool users and one for school-age children. Swings, sand box and parent seating. There are areas within the play lot which could
Public Art	Stone sculpture, Convertibles, by Brian Groggin, is at park entry, visible from Willow Road.
Safety / CPTED	Visibility around tennis courts and tree area at rear of Building Kidz school is poor. Visibility at basketball courts is very poor. Gap between play area and off-leash dog area serves as a buffer between children and dogs.
Site Furnishings	Benches - Standard metal. Concrete trash receptacles, some slatted recycling receptacles.
Tennis Courts	Four tennis courts, including two lighted courts.

BEDWELL BAYFRONT PARK

1600 Marsh Road

Open Space

155 Acres

Date Opened: Date Renovated: 1995







This large open space created on a closed landfill features an extensive trail system, allowing hiking, running, bicycling, dog walking, bird watching, kite flying, photography, and enjoying the spectacular views. Bedwell Bayfront Park Master Plan, developed with extensive community input, was adopted in 2018, with the vision of maintaining this as passive, natural open space.

Needs and Gaps

- The recently adopted Bedwell Bayfront Park Master Plan identifies needed improvements.

Landscape Areas/Trees	Natural wooded areas, meadows, and an open play field.
Parking	On-site parking is available near the entry along Marsh Road, and in two parking lots off Marsh Road in the park.
Paths and Walkways	Extensive paved and unpaved trail system, including a 2.3-mile segment of the Bay Trail around the park's perimeter. Most interior trails are unpaved or gravel.
Recreation Space	The site is intended to remain a Bay front park for passive recreation including nature walks, picnicking, day hiking and quiet enjoyment of the natural space.
Restroom	Restroom located at on-site parking area.
Signage	Interpretive signage, and poems and stories along the Great Spirit Path.
Site Furnishings	Some benches along the trails and at viewing areas, more are desired. Drinking fountain located at restroom. Bike racks at parking area.

SHARON HILLS PARK

Open Space

Altschul Ave. at Valparaiso Ave.

12.5 Acres

Date Opened:

Date Renovated: 2004







Passive use park, with benches and walking paths through native oaks and grasses features expansive views. It is popular with dog walkers and trail users.

Needs and Gaps

- Lacks restroom.
- Lacks interpretive signage to enhance use.
- Some trail segments need improvement.
- Lacks easily accessible amenities/seating at Altschul Avenue frontage and at viewpoints along Hallmark Circle.

Fitness Equipment	Some par course stations along the trails.
Landscape Areas/Trees	Native oak woodland. Vegetation managed by annual goat grazing to keep down grasses and brush.
Lighting	A few older lantern fixtures at perimeter.
Paths and Walkways	Paved and unpaved paths and trails through wooded hillside open space.

BELLE HAVEN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Non-City Owned Parks & Facilities

415 Ivy Drive

Date Opened: 1948 Date Renovated: 2003







This is a joint use site with the Ravenswood School District. Joint use areas include athletic fields for soccer, baseball and little league, and a playground.

Playground	Fenced play area with Fibar surfacing and parent seating. Two composite play structures, one for preschool and one for school age children, and free standing slide, swing and pod climber.
Sports Field	Baseball field with players benches, bleachers and backstop.

HILLVIEW MIDDLE SCHOOL

1100 Elder Ave

Date Opened: 1949 Date Renovated: 2013







This is a joint use site with the Menlo Park School District. Joint use areas include synthetic field for soccer, football and lacrosse, a running track, and restrooms.

Restroom	Restroom available when field is in use.
Sports Field	Synthetic turf soccer field, also used for football and lacrosse, and surrounded by a running track.

LA ENTRADA MIDDLE SCHOOL

Non-City Owned Parks & Facilities

2200 Sharon Rd.

Date Opened: Date Renovated: 2004







This is a joint use site with the Las Lomitas School District. Joint use areas include soccer and baseball fields, and tennis courts.

Needs and Gaps

- Sports field areas are currently unusable due to lack of maintenance and irrigation deficiencies.

Multi-use Turf	Large open lawn, although not a designated dog area, is popular with dog owners.
Restroom	Restrooms not open to the public. One portable restroom for baseball field is locked.
Sports Field	Dugouts at baseball field are not accessible, and a ramp or sidewalk is needed to the field.
Tennis Court	Two tennis courts.

MENLO ATHERTON PERFORMING ARTS

555 Middlefield Road, Atherton

Non-City Owned Parks & Facilities

31,000 sf

Date Opened: 2009 Date Renovated: n/a





Built in 2009, the Performing Arts Center is located on the campus of Menlo-Atherton High School campus and serves students, and the communities of Menlo Park and Atherton. This is a joint use facility with Sequoia Union High School District providing the City of Menlo Park access to 55 days a year for hosting a wide variety of Performing Arts events.

Building Amenity	Lobby area with box office.
Building Amenity	A glass-enclosed multi-use cafeteria space.
Classroom	Rehearsal and music rooms.
Community Meeting Space	Multi-use space for 150 people.
Restroom	Men's and women's restrooms.
Theater	State-of-the-art performing arts theater with professional sound and lighting. Includes an orchestra pit, fly tower, and control booth. Seats 492

OAK KNOLL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Non-City Owned Parks & Facilities

1895 Oak Knoll Ln.

Date Opened: 1952 Date Renovated: 2005







This is a joint use site with the Menlo Park School District. Joint use areas include athletic fields for soccer and baseball.

Restroom	A portable restroom is provided by the sports groups, for use when the fields are used.
Sports Field	Baseball/soccer overlay, with backstop and players benches.

WILLOW OAKS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

620 Willow Rd.

Date Opened: 1980 Date Renovated: n/a







This is a joint use site with the Ravenswood School District. The joint use areas include a sports field for baseball and soccer, adjacent to Willow Oaks Park.

Sports Field	Little league baseball field with soccer overlay.

FLOOD PARK

215 Bay Road

Non-City Owned Parks & Facilities

21 Acres

Date Opened: 1936 Date Renovated: Late 1990s







This San Mateo County owned park includes reservable picnic sites, children's playgrounds, open lawn areas, and facilities for softball, tennis, horse shoes, volleyball, and pentanque. San Mateo County is processing a Master Plan for renovations/improvements to this park. Plans call for: baseball & soccer fields, gathering plazas, shade structure, group picnic/event space, demonstration garden, all abilities play area, adventure play, basketball, bocce, meadow, pump track, sand volleyball, tennis, trails & exercise stations, restrooms.

Needs and Gaps

- A master plan is pending with the County, which identifies desired uses, reconfigurations, and upgrades.



GATES +ASSOCIATES

Re:imagine FLOODPARK

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APPENDIX C: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

APPENDIX C: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The Park and Recreation Facilities Master Plan Update has been developed with extensive outreach and community engagement. This Appendix provides a detailed summary of responses and representative comments to the outreach described in Chapter 3 of the Master Plan.



ROUND 1 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

"TELL US ABOUT YOUR PARKS!"

The first round of community engagement consisted of intercept activities, pop-up project information booths, a community workshop, and focus groups.

PARKS AND RECREATION USER FOCUS GROUP MEETING #1

March 21, 2018

Members of the Parks and Recreation User Focus Group share their desired outcomes, roles in their community and provided input on the community engagement plan and Round 1 Outreach Materials including boards and an online survey.

DESIRED OUTCOMES AND INTRODUCTIONS:

- Jennifer Johnson is a resident and on the Parks and Rec commission. She wants to be part of the process by thinking forward and creating new programs.
- Sarah Staley Shenk is on the Parks and Rec commission. She wants to satisfy the goals of the city and best serve the needs of recreation and engagement. She wants to improve accessibility and marketing of the parks.
- Ahmad Basin works in the Menlo school district with the art/music programs. He wants to work with the city to satisfy their needs.
- Mirta Bhasin is a student resident and wants to help with change in Menlo.
- Stella Kaval is a student resident and wants her voice to be heard.
- Tim Goode is a recreation user and oversees a non-profit for a sports league. He wants to help with the process.
- Glen Rojas is part of the chamber of commerce, a Rotary member, former city manager. He wants to continue to see how the facilities will serve the community. He discussed adding pocket parks downtown that don't take away from businesses (i.e. creating homeless encampments etc).
- Steve Young is a pool operator and believes the community should be served by parks and rec.
- Steve Foster is a resident and soccer league president.

MISSING FROM MENLO PARK PARKS:

- The parks need to be accessible for everyone with a universal design. They should not be destination parks because more people from outside of city, but still unique.
- Suggestions included building integration like rooftop parks, and slides on buildings. This would mean better utilizing current space and new different ideas that look at the big picture.
- Good field spaces and places for individual play like rebound walls are needed for kids.
- -Safe Spaces like Emergency Boxes (Blue Lights) and making an Action Plan that includes improving awareness and maybe an emergency supply box is needed.
- Wayfinding, park themes, improved signage, and story boards could improve the user experience.
- Showcasing interesting ideas to residents would increase feedback.
- It is needed to improve awareness (specifically to seniors).

ROUND 1 RESPONSES

The primary tools for intercept activities and workshops were interactive graphic boards where participants could "vote" or comment on how the city's parks and recreation facilities were working for them, and comment on specific parks and facilities.





Examples of Round 1 Boards

What do you like about your parks?	Adults	Kids	Total
Trails	93	17	110
Natural Areas	75	18	93
Playgrounds	54	26	80
Restrooms	55	24	79
Water Feature	47	31	78
Soccer	31	44	75
Dog Park	44	23	67
Skatepark	30	33	63
Small Gathering Areas	26	13	39
Basketball Courts	20	17	37
Group Picnic/BBQ Areas	28	5	33
Tennis	21	11	32
Open Play Field	23	4	27
Ballfields	16	7	23

What do you like about your programs?	Adults	Kids	Total
Seasonal Events	103	64	167
Water Play/ Free Swim	76	56	132
Horseback Riding	65	57	122
Movie/Concert Events	78	25	103
Summer Camp Programs	49	32	81
Swim Lessons	62	18	80
Martial Arts	47	19	66
Cooking & Nutrition	44	19	63
Arts & Crafts	33	25	58
Ice Skating	34	24	58
Music	47	10	57
After-School Program	44	10	54
Group Fitness Classes	43	2	45
Drop - In Classes	40	4	44
Pool Sports	19	13	32
Indoor Sports	16	13	29
Community Enrichment Classes	28	1	29
Aquatics Fitness	20	2	22

What do you want to add to your parks?	Adults	Kids	Total
Splash Pad	148	109	257
Unique Play Spaces	105	82	187
Pump Track	106	40	146
Destination Playground	92	50	142
Inclusive Play	78	56	134
Teen Space	88	43	131
Interactive Art	68	54	122
Unique Small Gathering	98	23	121
More Shade	88	32	120
Outdoor Lounge	71	48	119
Agility Dog Parks	50	36	86
Innovative Tech. Play	54	32	86
Community Gardens	68	9	77
More Trails	62	9	71
Nature Play	57	12	69
More Restrooms	55	10	65
Better Park Lighting	53	10	63
Game Tables	40	23	63
More Exercise Stations	43	11	54
Bankshot Basketball	24	22	46
More Bike Facilities	35	10	45
More Public Art	35	10	45
Full Service Snack Shack	30	15	45
Sensory/Manipulation Play	14	25	39
Ball Wall	21	16	37
Lawn Bowl/Bocce	26	5	31
More Signage & Way-Finding	13	12	25
Disc Golf	13	8	21
More Lighted Ballfields	10	3	13
Horsehoes	9	2	11

What programs/facilities do you want to add?	Adults	Kids	Total
Indoor Soccer	64	43	107
More Recreation (18 months - 4)	57	37	94
More Dance	40	26	66
Fitness Cener For Burgess	29	11	40
More Health & Wellness	32	8	40
Indoor Lounge	26	12	38
More Recreation (5-9)	26	11	37
More Recreation (65+)	17	7	24
More Recreation (13-17)	13	3	16
More Recreation (10-12)	10	3	13

What programs/facilities do you want to add?	Adults	Kids	Total
Indoor Soccer	64	43	107
More Recreation (18 months - 4)	57	37	94
More Dance	40	26	66
Fitness Cener For Burgess	29	11	40
More Health & Wellness	32	8	40
Indoor Lounge	26	12	38
More Recreation (5-9)	26	11	37
More Recreation (65+)	17	7	24
More Recreation (13-17)	13	3	16
More Recreation (10-12)	10	3	13

From the various outreach efforts in Round 1, common issues and interests began to emerge, as shown in the table below.

Additional comments were also collected throughout the process. Consolidated and representative comments follow.



Fremont Park

- All facilities/parks need to be accessible and inclusive. How do we talk about equity when we ignore 10% of our residents?!

Sharon Hills Park

- Safer access needed

Sharon Park

- Restrooms
- Safe place to lock bikes

Stanford Hills Park

- Under utilized
- Please make multi-generational, interesting, vibrant, engaging.

EMERGING ISSUES & INTERESTS	Burgess Egg Hunt	Kelly Egg Hunt	Workshop #1	Belle Haven Spring Fair	Facebook Fair	On-Line Survey	
Splash P a d	X	X	X	X	X		5
Destination Playground	X	X	X	X			4
Inclusive Play	X	X	X		X		4
Unique Play Spaces	X	X	X	X			4
More Shade	X		X		X	X	4
Trails		X	X		X	X	4
Outdoor Lounge	X	X			X		3
Unique Small Gathering			X	X	X		3
Teen Space				X	X	X	3
Pump Track	X	X		X			3
Public / Interactive Art				X	X	X	3
More Restrooms			X		X	X	3

Jack W. Lyle Park

- Get rid of sand in all park s E-Coli! All testing shows this.

Nealon Park

- Get rid of sand in all parks E-Coli! All testing shows this.
- Menlo – Atherton Co – op Nursery School. Playground is open to the general public when school is not in session.
- Very under-used park
- Questions arise Re Day Care Center and Little House – table to others?
- San Francisquito Creek Committee
- Keep dogs off fields (at all parks)

Willow Oaks Park

- How many of the tennis players live in the Willows, which the space is supposed to serve?
- Do run programming in the under-used (by residents) but rented to tennis lesson company.
- Run programming like table tennis, pickle ball tournaments, bracket type run community tournaments!
- Willows neighborhood tournaments

Arrillaga Family Gymnastics Center

- Bring back gymnastics programming for kids with special needs. It was super popular and taken away because of staffing but it was the only special needs city offering.

Other:

- McKendry Drive "pop-up park" for week(end) in the Willows.
- Talk to San Francisquito Creek JPA
- Creek Spot – Middlefield to Alma

Burgess Park

- For all parks, Plan facility to respect, retain, encourage wildlife – attracting areas. To enjoy for pleasant quiet places to walk or sit.
- Light the fields
- Well-manicured lawn.
- Great snack stand

Hamilton Park

- Add swings and a little free library
- Kids often go to area school for more age appropriate playground

Belle Haven Elementary

- Facebook write-in: add basketball court
- Tennis court needs renovation (complete)

Belle Haven Child Development Center

- No Public Access for day care only, Do not change

Karl E. Clark Park

- Add little free libraries to parks esp. e. side

Bedwell Bayfront Park

- Safe path for walking and wheel chair access
- Keep Bedwell as a passive park. Please keep it natural
- Want the ranger for wildlife safety, leashes on dogs,etc.
- Natural wooded area should read natural open areas
- Protect endangered wildlife
- Keep Bedwell passive open space
- Yes to walking path, bike trail, SF Bay Trail, open play field
- Interpretive signs informing public about natural environment
- Question "open play field" it is an open space park
- Use the approved master plan
- Is there enough acreage at Bedwell Park to keep much of it native/passive while still allowing for other uses (bike park/dirt bike area, disc golf, dog run, other)

Kelly Park

- No dog park
- Needs to be rebuilt/design
- Include current programs
- Space in library
- Keep dogs out of Kelly Park
- Lock at night (better gate)
- Better maintenance
- Enforce all rules
- Cleaner restrooms
- Great soccer – multiple goals.
- Lights

Onetta Harris Community Center

- Like to see equity in city facilities
- New modern community library
- Need new library that can serve a growing community
- Needs remodel

Belle Haven After School Development Center

- No public access, only enrolled children, do not change

Hillview Middle School Fields

- Good fields

Belle Haven Pool

- Remodel, need 2 pools

More Trails/Creeks:

- "Creek trail San Francisquito Creek at Middlefield & Woodland"
- "Connect ALL city parks via a trail system."

- "Willow Oaks Park – Do on tennis court or other Area? Do willows neighborhood tournaments."
- "Especially trees"
- Outdoor Lounge:
- "Do @ Willow Oaks Park?"
- "Can't include a little free library"
- "Creek trees"
- "Yes! But accessible inclusive"
- "No Menlo Park parks are accessible/inclusive, we can't ignore 10% of our population equity?!"
- "Yes!"
- "Be sure to have some pebble flex surface in every park so people with mobility equipment or who otherwise find wood chips impossible to go through can get to play structures."
- "Have big enough swings,ect. for caregivers +child or several kinds to share – without need to climb."
- "Love This!" {Inclusive Play}
- "Sustainable" {Splash Pad}
- "At Bedwell Park? Nealon? Sharon Heights?" {Disc Golf}
- "Willow Oaks Park?, Tennis Courts. Do Willows neighborhood tournaments?" {Ball Wall}

More Recreation (65+)

- "Extended hours, evenings"
- More Health & Wellness:
- "Yoga, workshops and education"

Playgrounds

- "Swings @ Hamilton Park"
- "Water fountains at toddler level (not all caregivers can lift kids)"

Small Gatherings

- "Like exists @ Flood Park"
- "Like Flood Park now not ruined by sports"

Other Likes?:

- "Yes! Make streets in the Willows, Mc Kendy Dr."
- "Pop up parks!
- "Need inclusive programming! No classes/camps that will take kids ppl with disabilities even if they have private 1:1 support with them"
- "Would love state of the art fitness center with long hours and viable financial plan "

What programs do you want to add?:

- "Quiet areas for contemplation, meditation, reading, napping ok – especially with trees"
- "Creek access"
- "Pickle ball"
- "Playground equipment at ground level for all ages"
- "Par course?"

- "More off leash dog runs (even small ones)"
- "Dog off leash areas"
- "More walking trails around Bayfront Parks"
- "Facebook live Comment – more outdoor basketball courts in Belle Haven"
- "Please leave Flood Park natural and unique as it is. There is not another park like it. Leave it for generations to come. "
- "Fix what exists at Flood Park not add more sports. Some people would like a quiet place to walk similar to Holbrook Palmer with a walking area and dogs on leashes. We do not need sports at every nook and cranny and in every park. Flood Park is unique and a respite from the rest of the crazy parks. Fix the baseball, volleyball, tennis, plant trees. Get rid of the petange court and add strolling walks with Oak Trees."
- "Small courts for kids tennis (see sacred Heart School), Jim Hebner @ Nealon knows about this., Stripe court for different ages?"
- "Pickle Ball Courts"
- "Can you buy Flood Park?"
- "Flood Park is a unique park experience – natural, wooded, lots of picnic areas that are heavily utilized. Fix the dilapidated features – baseball fields, tennis courts. They already exist so fix them. Refresh picnic areas, bathrooms etc. It is clear it has been neglected for many, many years. That is such a shame, but it is incredibly vibrant still so just make good on its existing appeal. No sports fields, amphitheaters and the like."

COMMENTS AT SPECIFIC EVENTS

BURGESS PARK INTERCEPT ACTIVITY

March 31, 2018, 400+ Participants

"Yes to Arts + Crafts, Music and Concerts! "

"Pumpkin patch or Octoberfest for kids"

"Do not create more experiences that foster competition and hype. Instead balance out the reality of fast paced lives with opportunities for calm, meaningful connection with nature, with oneself and with friends and family"

"Would love better parks with better floor- no tan bark. Rubber type floors. Splash Park. Better playground for kids. New bathrooms. Shade, tables, picnic, lighted area."

"Benches for parks!!! Could be near grass areas."

"More Parking!"

"Park Photo Booths!"

"Garden full of flowers and plants."

"More time for Belle Haven neighbors to use Kelly Park field."

"Belle Haven Pool, we need a remodel & two pools"

"Belle Haven Park needs lights"

"Resources in the Belle Haven Community that mirrors west Menlo Park Parks (i.e. Burgess) Dog parks, Small gathering areas, programs specific to all age groups & lights."

"Improve Onetta Harris Center with a remodel. Include senior and family housing at community center. Add a full service library."

"More parking please!"

"Belle Haven Field has soccer goals."

"I love this park" {Kelly Park}

KELLY PARK INTERCEPT ACTIVITY

March 31, 2018, 200+ Participants

"More time for Belle Haven neighbors to use Kelly Park field."

"Belle Haven Pool, we need a remodel & two pools"

"Belle Haven Park needs lights"

"Resources in the Belle Haven Community that mirrors west Menlo Park Parks (i.e. Burgess) Dog parks, Small gathering areas, programs specific to all age groups & lights."

"Belle Haven Mess Hall have better food."

"Play in the park"

"Improve Onetta Harris Center with a remodel. Include senior and family housing at community center. Add a full service library."

"More parking please!"

LITTLE LEAGUE MEETING AT BURGESS

April 21, 2018, 15 Participants

"The two people doing this feedback are awesome!"

"Wishes there was water for dogs @ dog parks clean no woodchips"

"Fix Flood Park"

"Bathroom currently no towels or dryer"

"Kelly Park bathrooms need to be cleaner"

"The turf at Hillview is always up to date. I enjoy the multiple soccer goals at Kelly Park"

"I enjoy how well manicured the lawn is at Burgess. & The snack/ concession stand has great food that is convenienent."

"Baseball power outlet needs fixing it's taped together the scoreboard connection plugs in there."

Plant the seed of other ideas:

"Want adult softball leagues for parents and kids"

"Lights on fields at Burgess"

"Wishes there were programs for 12+ baseball"

"Great gymnasium facilities but I wish I could play badminton"

"I thoroughly enjoy how most of the fields have CLEAN, accessible restrooms."

BELLE HAVEN SPRING FAIR INTERCEPT ACTIVITY

April 28, 2018, 175+ Participants

"For Belle Haven a quality gym/fitness center"

"Better quality / Safe parks in Belle Haven!"

"Want a computer-building tech lab"

FACEBOOK FESTIVAL INTERCEPT ACTIVITY

May 12, 2018, 500+ Participants

"Open space separate dog's + people park. No dogs = No dogs"

"Bike Trails"

"City camp like Camp Mather by San Francisco"

"Squash Court"

COMMUNITY WORKSHOP #1

Arrillaga Family Recreation Center

April 26, 2018, 30+ Participants

Facebook Livestream: 200+ Views as of January 2019

- Stripe court for different ages?"
- "Pickle Ball Courts"
- "Can you buy Flood Park?"
- "Flood Park is a unique park experience – natural, wooded, lots of picnic areas that are heavily utilized. Fix the dilapidated features – baseball fields, tennis courts. They already exist so fix them. Refresh picnic areas, bathrooms ect. It is clear it has been neglected for many, many years. That is such a shame, but it is incredibly vibrant still so just make good on its existing appeal. No sports fields, amphitheaters and the like."

FOCUS GROUPS

Over two days, May 3rd and 4th, BluePoint Planning conducted six small group meetings to gather more detailed input from specific stakeholder groups. The six meetings covered the following groups: schools; sports groups; businesses; city programs; city staff; cultural, arts and community; and environmental. The following is a summary of the participant's input.

OVERALL THEMES

- Establish a clear vision about what Menlo Park Recreation & Parks should be.
- Menlo Park should be "One City" not separate nodes of people or activities. Need to serve entire community and be more integrated.
- Parks are not very interesting – need to make them better designed and have unique and complex elements to engage people of all ages.
- There is nothing to do in Menlo Park after 7:30 – how can parks provide events, social interaction, and activities for the entire community?
- Need to provide (and protect) more natural/nature (and informal spaces) throughout the city and park system; this includes providing non-structured/ scheduled spaces and place for community.
- Balance Free Play space with scheduled and organized space.
- Transportation and connectivity is a central issue and must be addressed – balancing the need to duplicate facilities and programs in two parts of

the city verses figuring out a better mode to get people from one location to another.

DOG PARKS

- Irresponsible owners leaving dog waste on fields, and in pathways is a major point of contention. Nealon is particularly contentious and an issue
- On the other side, dog owners want more locations, time and space. Desire for "legal" dog parks. They create community.

TRANSPORTATION

- Getting from the middle of town to Bedwell or Belle Haven (and back)
  - Need safe bike routes (Fun fact: biking from Burgess to Bedwell park is faster than a car during rush hour – after 3 pm)
  - Improve the ped/bike bridge over 101 – serves Belle Haven and helps connect to Bedwell
  - Can shuttles be more effectively deployed for kids and sports?

CHILD CARE CENTERS

• Is child care a core service for the Department? Is it the right place to manage and care for? If so need to up the commitment and "do it right" {City report indicates it is a core service so need to be better at communications and demonstrating this is a core service}





- Boys & Girls Club is a competitor for after school program – they do not have a child care license so they can be cheaper, fewer staff, less training etc.
- Efforts with the Burgess Library have caused conflicts with Menlo Child Center (MCC) – a sense that MCC is valued less.

OPERATIONAL

- There has been lots of difficulties in working with Menlo Park Unified School District – over the years mixed relationship. Helped when there was a community services person onsite working for the City and helping the relationship.
- While there are equal number of adult and youth sports rentals, there is a disparity in the number of adult-focused or teen-focused recreation programs – staff is not sure if there is a demand – it was a mandate sometime ago to focus on youth.
  - Teen programs, esp. near OHCC could be useful – potentially community service oriented, volunteer work
- It is difficult to schedule fields at prime time, especially on the Burgess side of Menlo Park (seen as more desirable than Kelly Park). Historic users get first choice (AYSO et al) and new providers have a hard time setting up programs.
- Garbage is expensive – how can they reduce the trash in parks? Education
- Fees: The City has a two-tiered recreation programming fee that is different between OHCC and the rest of the city. Originally this was designed to serve community members that could not afford programs. Due in part to the contracting model the City uses for instructors where they get a percentage of fees, this two-tier approach has led to fewer programs at OHCC, perception that OHCC is not as valued, and difficulty getting quality instructors. This also means a community member who needs financial assistance can't access classes equally across the city, i.e. go to a gymnastics class at Burgess because the fee is higher.
- Classes are not flexible enough – the 10 week approach does not work for a lot of people.

BURGESS

- Burgess Duck Pond is dirty and potentially a health hazard and a maintenance issue – could it be replaced with an updated water element – a splash pad or interactive fountain?
- Burgess pool needs to have updated equipment and address chemical uses, especially when pool is covered.
- Burgess landscape is old fashion – could be modernized and more inviting
- Staffing at the front desk is required at all of the recreation buildings (Burgess and Belle Haven). Is this the most effective approach? Can there be some efficiencies in the future?

BELLE HAVEN

- Need to rebrand and reconfigure Onetta Harris/ Kelly Park

- Add more signage from the community (such as Hamilton Shopping Center)
- There are disparities in program delivery and perceptions of the Burgess Facilities and Belle Haven Facilities.
- Recreation is not part of the culture of many of the residents in Belle Haven – they tend to value education over play. One area the City needs to consider.
- Onetta Harris Facilities are not welcoming and are underutilized.
  - Senior programs are very well attended in the morning and pre-2 pm hours – not enough space in that building (although plenty at the Rec. Center.) Have not coordinated programs or schedule with the other building/staff.
  - Not much for Tweens to do.
- Kelly Park is "too far" for people near to central Menlo Park and there is a perception of crime and issues. For neighbors it is tucked away and seen as over schedule and not able to meet their needs.
  - Can you make it more of a destination with specialty activities?

LIBRARIES

- Libraries are more of a community asset – not just books. Can a teen center be located in them? What other use and connection can the libraries provide?
- Library at Belle Haven is very important – currently on school grounds and not available for regular hours.
- Library at Burgess

SCHOOLS

- La Entrada is building a new field – opportunity to create stronger relationship with the City.
  - There are parking and traffic issues that need to be addressed.
  - Need a permanent bathroom – little league brings in port-a-potty. Plans to be part of the renovation – shared maintenance with city?
  - Too much trash and alcohol use from sports groups
- Alto School is adjacent to Willow Oak Park – and main concern is vehicles going through School that are then counted as part of their traffic counts, and causing safety concerns due to lack of walkways.
  - Need a Bathroom at the field

OPPORTUNITIES

- Can there be any linear parks?
- Environmental education opportunities – how can the City provide more, especially around nature, habitat, and sustainability…at all the parks but also at Bedwell?

- Can Historic tree study be integrated in to the Plan?
- Integrate the Zero Waste Plan and other sustainability initiatives of the City.
- San Francisquito Creek – how can area become a park amenity – especially meeting some of the nature focus desires.
- Could establish a stronger memorial program – "plant a tree", "dedicate a bench," etc. Lots of calls.
- Standardize park furnishings so it is easier to replace and manage. (Signage, fountains, garbage and recycling etc.)
- Develop full-service recreation center and community center at both Burgess and Belle Haven (like Morgan Hill or Monterey Sports Center)
- At Burgess look at how to connect Gym and Rec Center to create a single point of entry and reduce staff needs. Could pool be there too?
- Lighting at Burgess Field to increase hours available, especially in the winter and late fall.
- Could the use of turf improve field availability? Reduce downtime for maintenance and rain.
- Community Gardens in Belle Haven
  - Potential for Teen service projects
  - City Slicker model – with rental space and farmers market
  - Not individual plots but all community space
- There are a number of projects in Downtown – should try and integrate green spaces and parks more effectively and require that by Developers.
- Utilize citywide events to build community between Belle Haven and the rest of the City. Can there be large events at Kelly or other spaces that can bring people together?
- Could the city provide and require a Dog (and owner) training program for use of the City Dog Parks?
- Teen Center with unique elements like a recording studio, café space, a place to safely hang out.
- Establish a Dark Sky policy

OPERATIONAL AND PROGRAMMATIC ENHANCEMENTS

- Evaluate and update fee structure to provide consistency across the city – current system increases inequality and poor service in Belle Haven; must include appropriate and effective scholarships across the City.
- Evaluate current staffing and contract model. Is it the most effective given the economic situation and the goals of the Department and Services? Should it become a full employee or hybrid employee (more) and contract (less)
- Rethink program delivery model – should everything be in sessions or should people be able to just get a card and go to any class – must be aligned with staffing model to work…would not work with a contract model.

- The Department should work to develop stronger relationships with a number of community partners – the School Districts, potentially VA Hospital, Menlo College, St. Patrick's Seminary, Boys & Girls Club.
- Utilize the Baylands Guidelines in other parts of the city that requires sustainability, storm water management, green spaces etc.

EMERGING IDEAS AND APPROACHES

- Parking to parks – how do we use existing asphalt spaces (streets/parking lots) and convert them to green and park spaces.
- For new recreation facilities and remodels, the City should look at ways to unite buildings and create single point of entry and reduce duplicative staffing and multiple entry points.

TO FOLLOW UP OR INTEGRATE FURTHER

- Transportation Plan: Align with and conduct outreach in unison
- Downtown Plan: Connect with amendments and add a parks layer
- Library: Align and consider connections for a teen center
- Sustainability and Climate Action Plan: Provide input where possible and align
- Should we be addressing environmental education for Bedwell in this Plan?
- Station 1300 – "park area" is mostly hardscape – how can the City influence planning to integrate more green space?



ONLINE SURVEY

Open date: May 2018

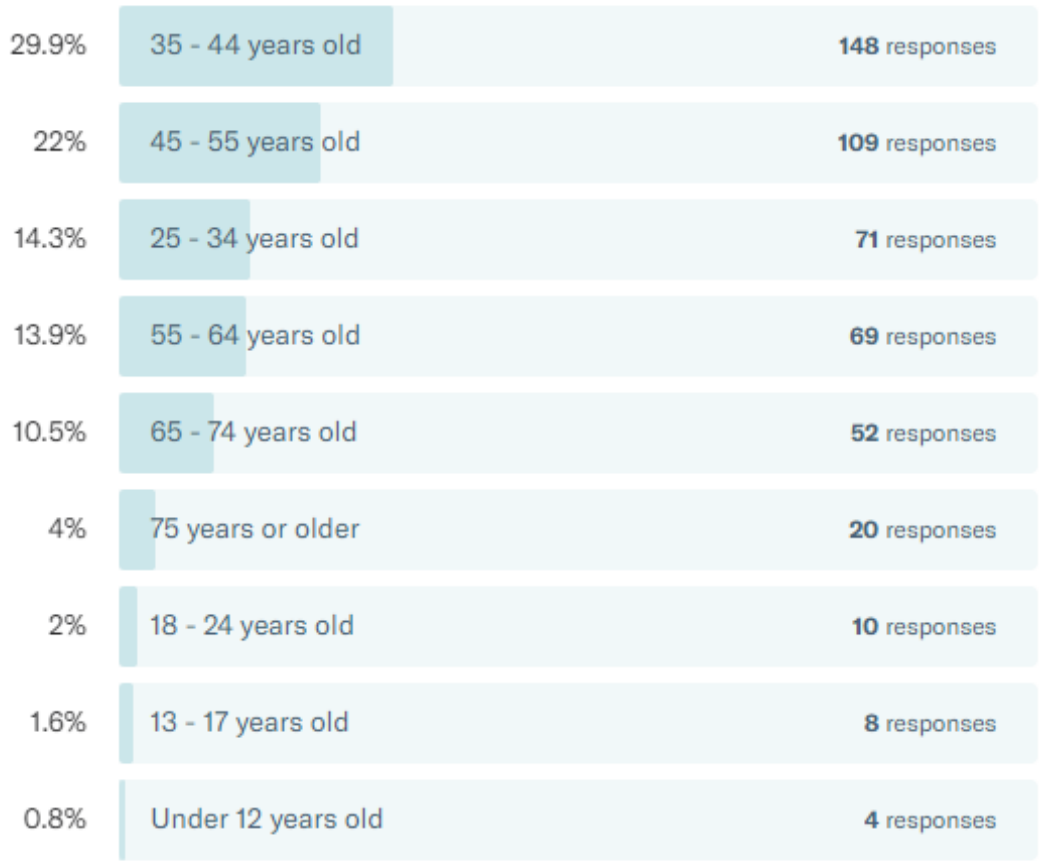
Close date: July 31,2018

500 Participants (1 Spanish language survey participant)

Survey responses and comments follow:

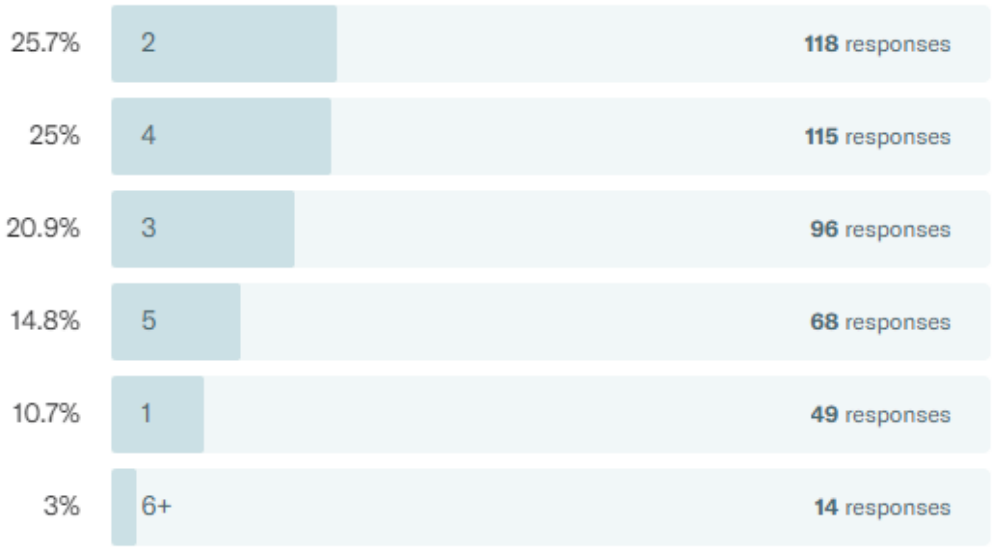
1 What is your age?

495 out of 499 people answered this question



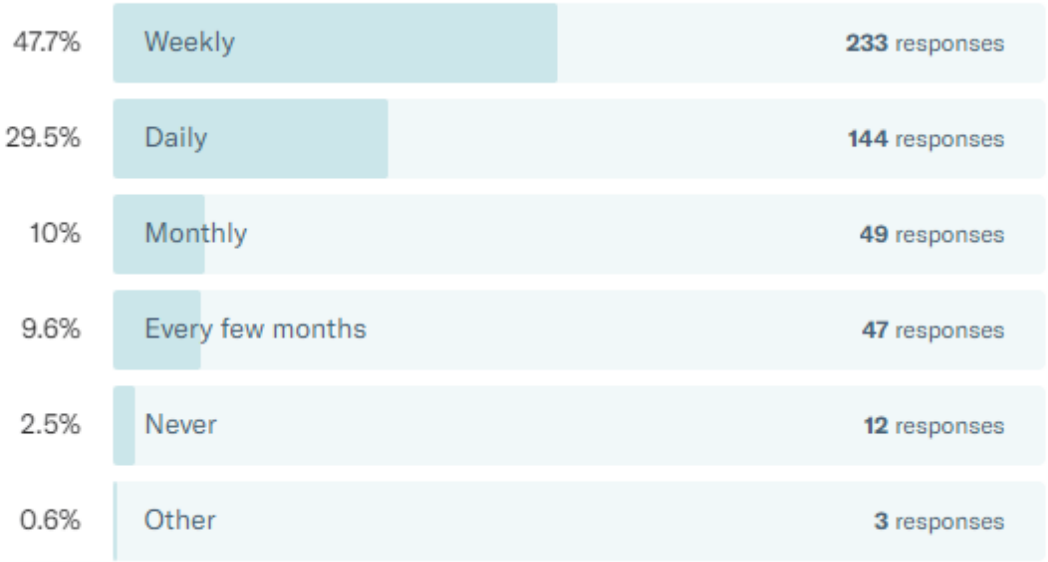
2 How many people live in your household?

460 out of 499 people answered this question



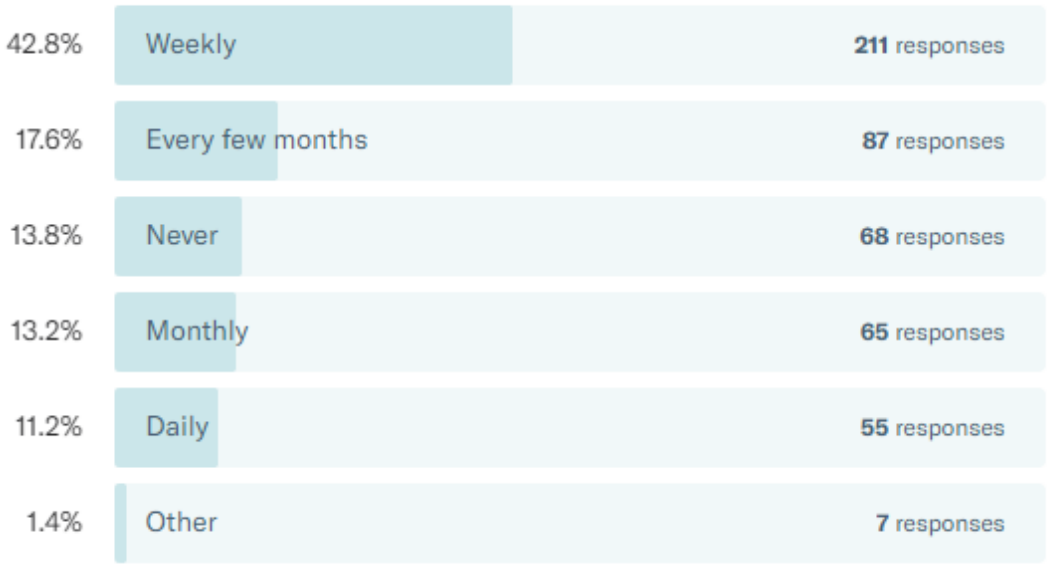
3 How often do you enjoy our City Parks?

488 out of 499 people answered this question



✓ 4 **How often do you use a City Recreation Facility? (Eg: Burgess Pool, Belle Haven Pool, Tennis Courts, Sports Fields, Onetta Harris Community Center, Belle Haven Child Development Center, Belle Haven After School, Senior Center, Arrillaga Family Gymnasium, Arrillaga Family Recreation Center, Arrillaga Family Gymnastics Center, Menlo Children's Center)**

493 out of 499 people answered this question

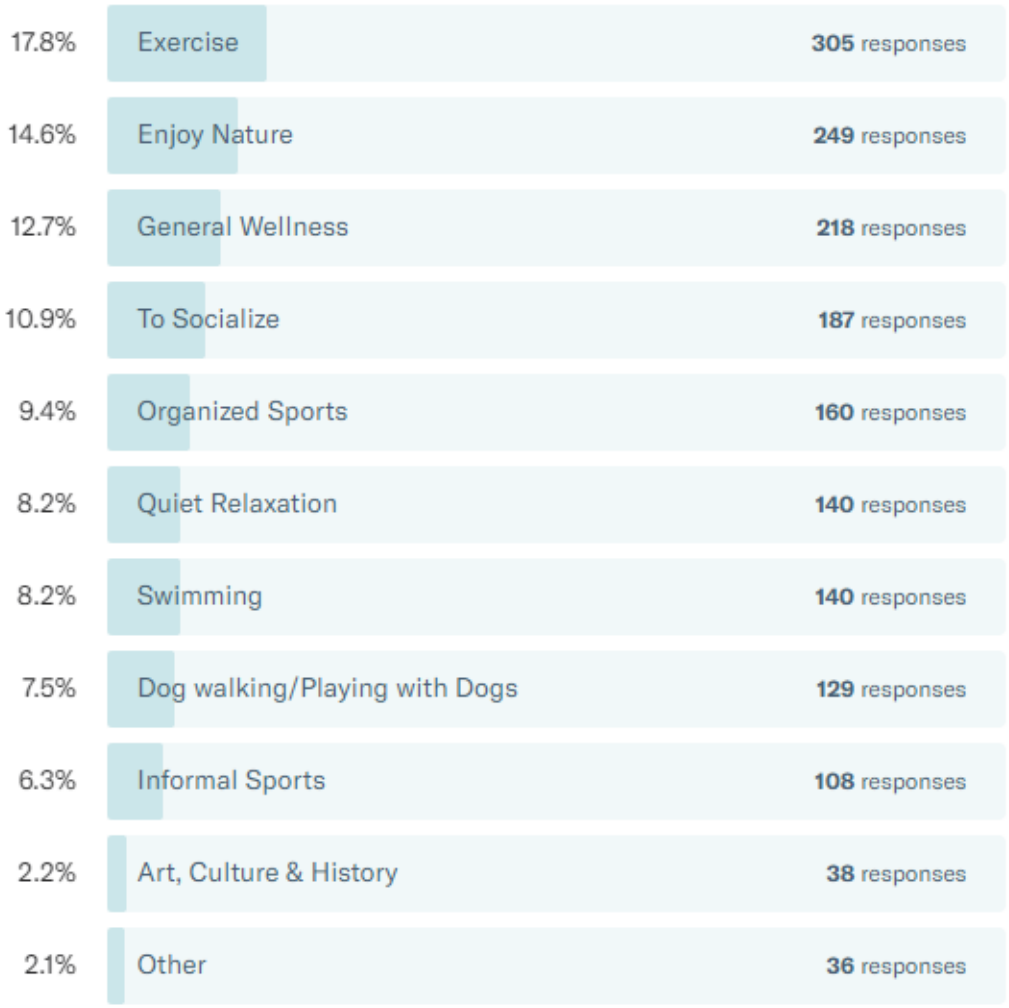


Q. 4 COMMENTS

- Monthly to a few weeks
- Planning to use courts and pool weekly
- I used to take a Saturday Jazzercise class that met at Arrillaga. I now go to the YMCA in Redwood City for my fitness needs.
- I used to with the kids but they've aged out of sports
- Used to vivsit more frequently when the children were younger
- Every few years
- I take my dogs to a dog park a couple times a year.

5 **What are some of the reasons you go to a park or recreation facility?**

1710 out of 499 people answered this question (with multiple choice)



✓ 6 **For the Park and Recreation Facilities Master Plan, what should be our priority?**

1590 out of 499 people answered this question (with multiple choice)

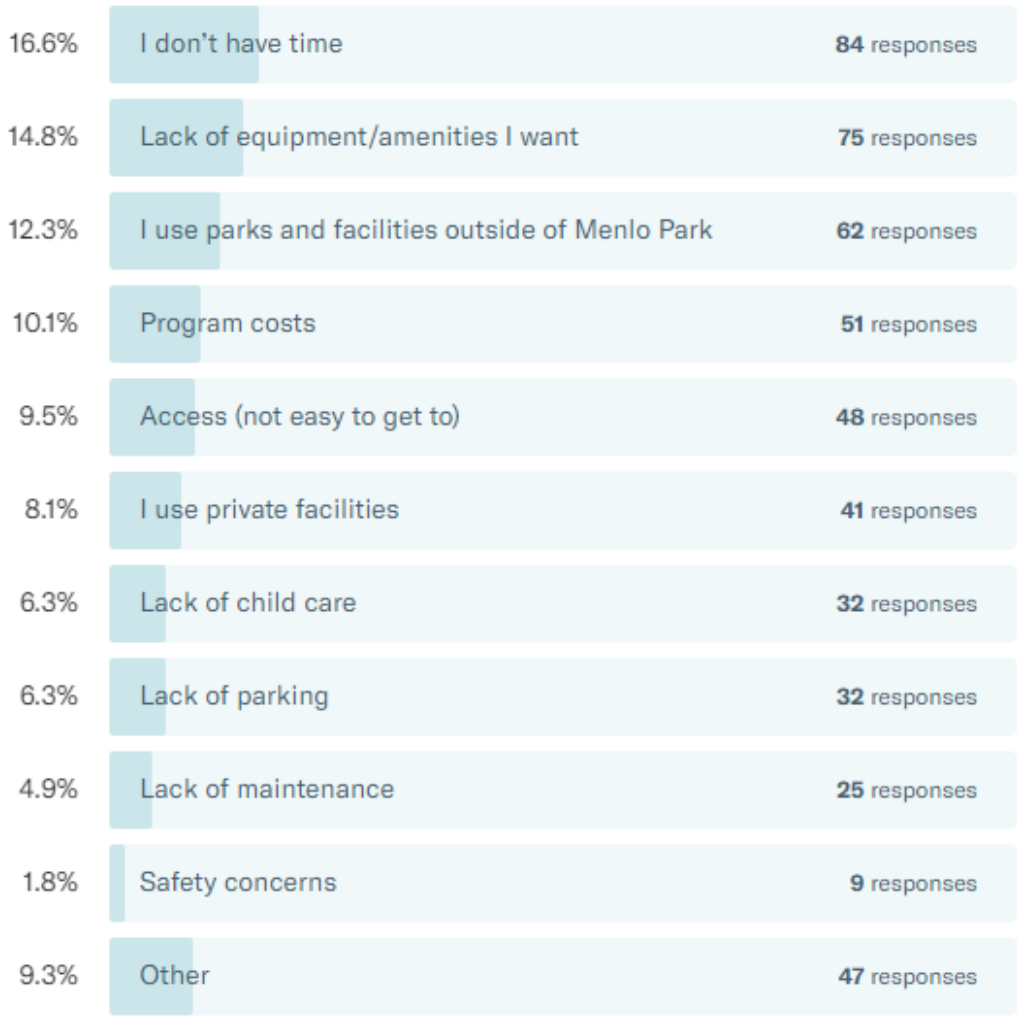
15%	Ongoing maintenance of existing parks and facilities	**238** responses
15%	Renovate and improve existing parks	**238** responses
10.1%	Creating unique spaces and variety in parks	**161** responses
9.7%	Explore creative solutions for adding green space	**155** responses
8.2%	Balance building new and maintaining existing	**131** responses
7.9%	Provide elements for all ages and abilities	**126** responses
6.2%	Build new parks	**99** responses
5.7%	Expand recreation, aquatic and sports program offerings	**90** responses
4.8%	Improve access to parks and facilities	**76** responses
4.6%	Renovate existing aquatics facility	**73** responses
4.1%	Renovate and improve indoor recreation facilities	**65** responses
3.3%	Build a new aquatics facility	**52** responses
2.4%	Build new indoor recreation facilities	**38** responses
3%	Other	**48** responses

Q. 6 COMMENTS

- Parking
- Dog Park
- More off-leash dog friendly parks
- 24/7 dog fenced dog park with water availability

7 If you do not use the City's Parks and Recreation facilities, what are the barriers?

506 out of 499 people answered this question (with multiple choice)



Q. 7 COMMENTS

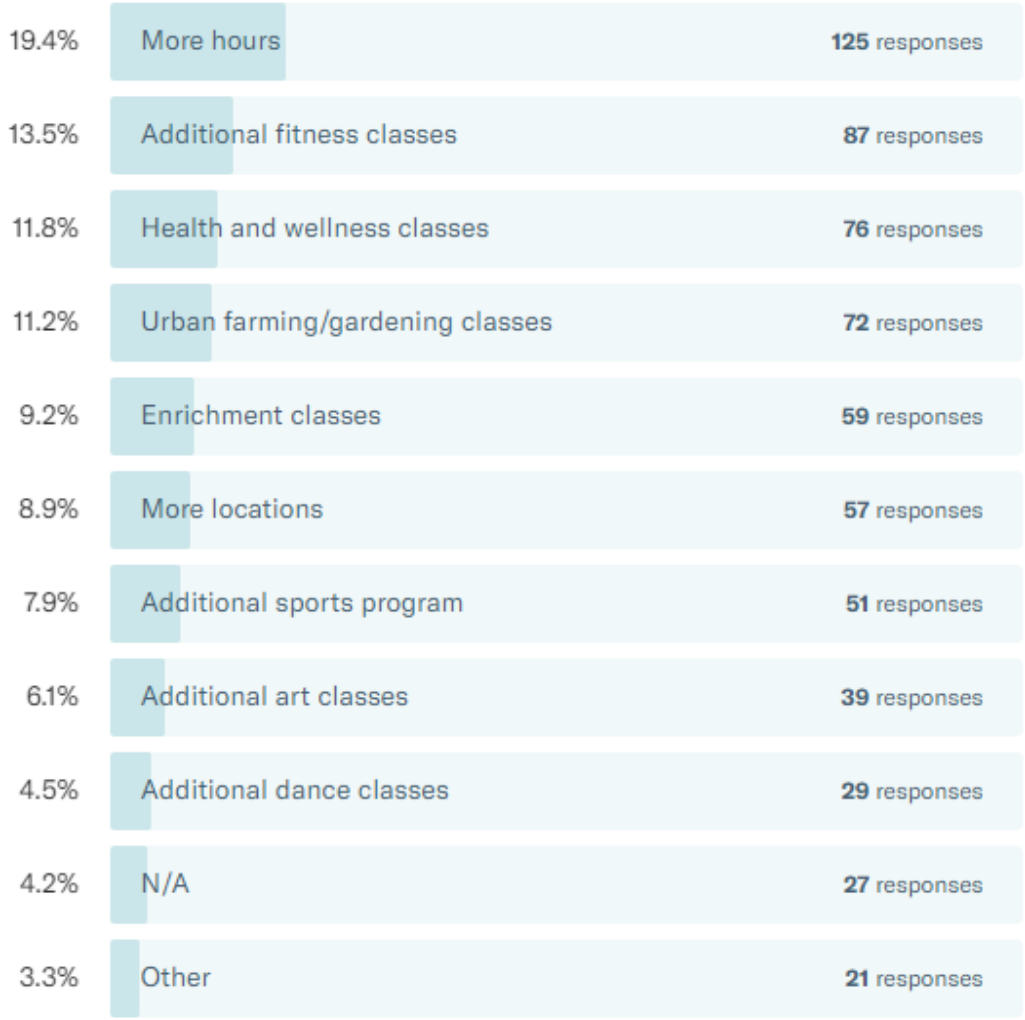
- Not having any issues
- Dog park
- There are no barriers.
- Don't know about them!
- Parking
- I do use and appreciate the City parks and rec facilities a lot
- I try to go weekly and abide by all rules including my dog on a leash, however I constantly have arguments with people who insist on having their dog RUN WILD !! Please set up fines
- Very limited open swim options for children at Burgess. And when there are open swim hours, the pool is dominated by camp goers, making it hard for younger swimmers to safely enjoy the pool.
- I do use
- Lack of restrooms. Lack of shade.
- Golf
- Do use them
- Drafty, cold ,cramped swimming locker room
- No bathroom
- Bad times of classes
- The times that classes are offered don't work for me. I would love a 5:00am workout class.
- Website is impossible to navigate to register for things.
- We swim elsewhere because we can't count on being able to get into the town pool on hot days. They close down entrance when crowded.
- Lack of novice/intermediate pickup games/leagues
- We live close to burgess, but because we are considered non resident, we refuse to pay the 31% upcharge to get the same programs elsewhere.
- Lack of bathrooms
- Time
- No adult soccer program (unlike Palo Alto)
- Access of venue (i.e. hours of opening)
- No splash park
- Flood Park is the closest park so I go there out of convenience, but I understand that's a county park (but run down compared to the city parks)
- I have a 12 year old with special needs-she has been able to participate in swimming. In the past a special needs gymnastics class was offered but then abruptly stopped-this allowed her to participate in an exercise program and to use your amazing gymnastics facility. We would really like to see that class offered again to the special needs community.
- Lack of accessible and inclusive parks and programs
- Not open at convenient times
- Not offered at times I can attend
- Sliding scale costs for students/youth and seniors. Parking at burgess is now difficult at certain times.

Q. 7 COMMENTS - CONT.

- there is an access issue with prime time access to tennis courts - which is the only time the people I plan with can play
- Not applicable - I use the parks all of the time!
- I prefer open space preserves as I like hiking and brisk walking. Before spending more of the taxpayer's money, we also need to ask what we don't need. Not sure who designed this survey, but it needed to include a broader set of questions that would allow the city to start to prioritize all Capital Improvement projects. You could also provide a list of values as a way to start identifying the resident's top values. Finally, the questions need to ask if the responder is a resident or not as non-residents might want a lot of things that MP taxpayers will need to pay for!
- Soccer balls landing in skate park
- I do use them.
- Dogs restriction
- I haven't taken the time to figure them out - cost, distance, available hours for me. Ie, pool. tennis. gym.
- Nealon park has limited dog park hours. The park off of Willow is just a big patch of dirt. The dogs do not enjoy it.
- I do use Bedwell bay lands and Willow dog park daily
- Ability to take dogs into park
- Overcrowded
- I hike in Bedwell Park
- The kids are older now and we do not go as much as in the past.
- I use the parks

8 How can the City improve classes and programs for adults?

643 out of 499 people answered this question (with multiple choice)

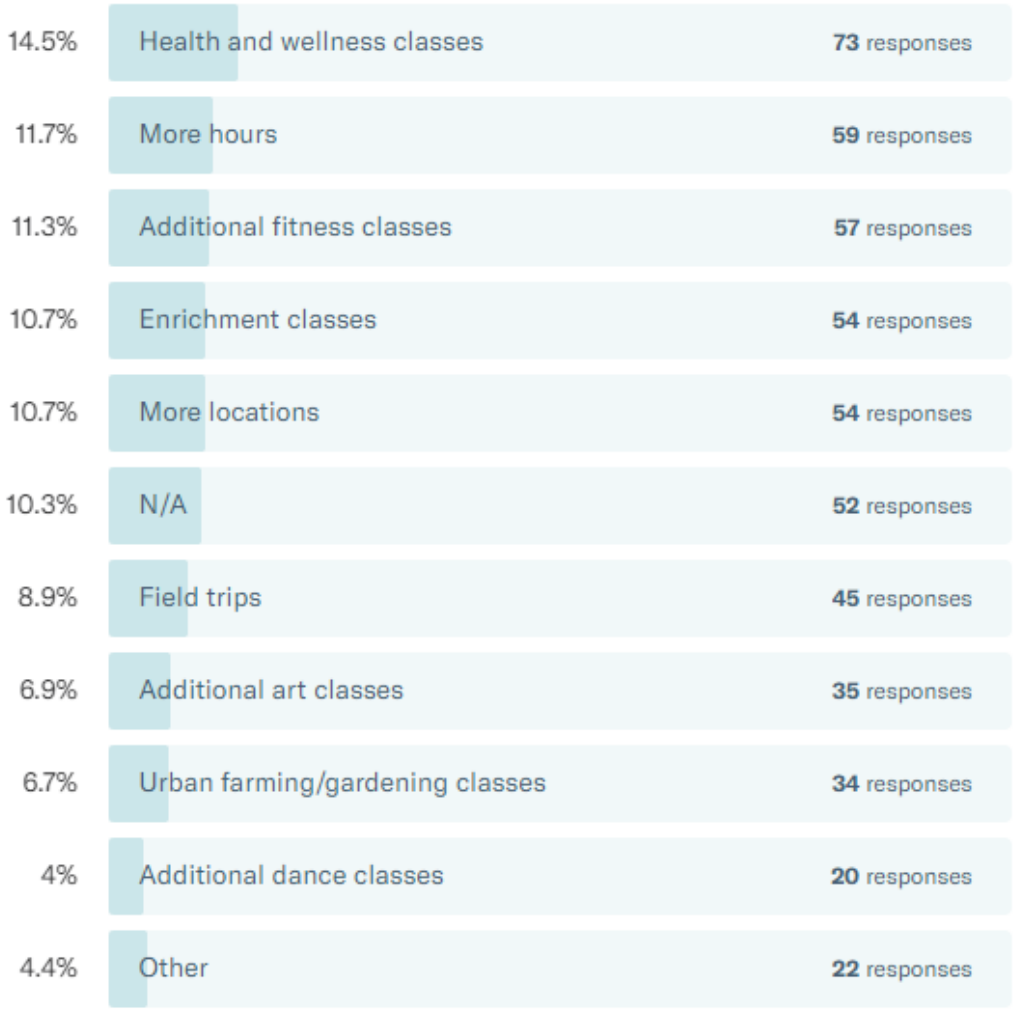


Q. 8 COMMENTS

- Dog park
- no classes - just places(like Burgess Park) for adult exercises with equipment
- Add wood working classes
- Class offerings & costs are fine
- I specifically sought meeting space for a local 4-H club. All other 4-H clubs in San Mateo Country have meeting space at very little or no cost. Menlo Park had nothing to offer that was affordable to a startup (or established) youth club. I feel that Menlo Park facilities are available primarily for sports, and I feel left out. Except for the library, that's great. I use San Carlos facilities more, because they partner with organizations like 4-H to bring enrichment to the community. The City provides the space, the club provides the program. I would utilize dog training classes that fit my work schedule. I would love it if Menlo Park had dog training, because traffic is getting to be too bothersome to go out once I've gotten home for the evening. City Parks don't have good picnic areas, but thats okay cause Flood is the best for picnic. Bedwell needs a flight area. We miss that a lot.
- Better quality
- More swimming new facility
- Facilities in west Menlo. Crossing town is getting congested.
- More rowing programs
- More advertisement
- There have been classes I would like to take, however they are in the morning when I'm working
- Give us back missing tennis courts. Remove keys. More parks
- Cheaper swim lessons and more frequent boot camp
- Allow water polo to have the hours that were cut back when the price got hiked a couple of years ago
- Accessible and inclusive offerings, weight room at Burgess
- Lower the cost
- More variety of classes
- Environment and Civics classes
- None special
- Continuing Education Classes like using the iphone

9 **How can the City improve classes and programs for seniors?**

505 out of 499 people answered this question (with multiple choice)

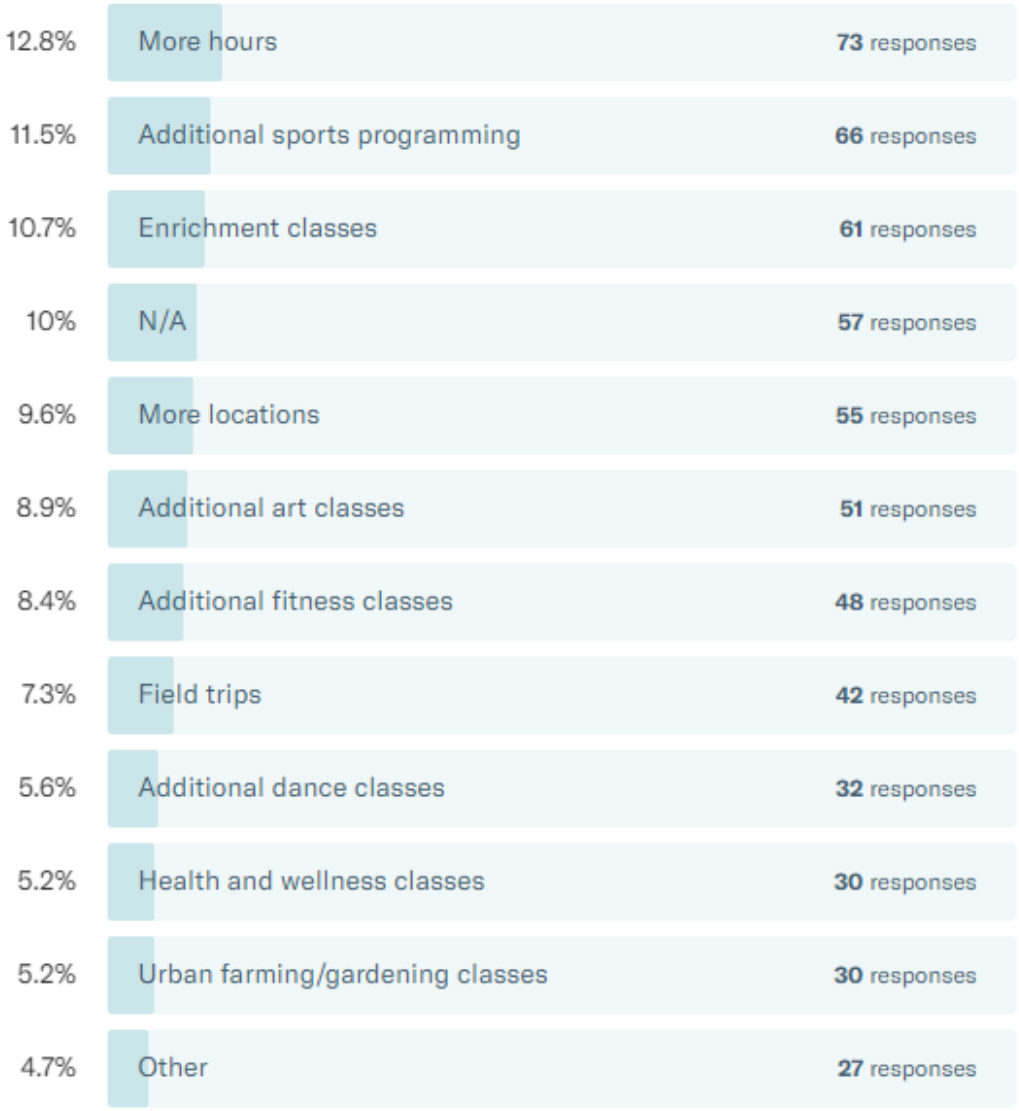


Q. 9 COMMENTS

- Dog park
- Partner with Peninsula Volunteers, Inc., right here in Menlo Park!
- No classes - just drop in facility for exercise equipment. It seems there are plenty for children, but not for adults
- Add wood working classes
- Provide transportation
- First, many aging boomers don't like the term "Senior" so I would change that to "aging populations" or "older adults" if you want to draw more people. Based on my research, retirees want to be useful in a meaningful way. I think an active volunteer program that's well beyond just stuffing envelopes or similar, would be appealing. If you add a volunteer element (which would also help to cut down on city staff costs), I think that you would see more retirees involved. I get my needs for community and education met in other ways. People also want opportunities to build connections.
- Downtown or west of El Camino location. Even Sharon heights.
- More youth rowing programs
- Cheaper classes, not going to overpay for bad teachers and lack of classes I may want.
- Publicize and work with old folks homes
- Accessible and inclusive offerings
- Offer classes taught by seniors as well as mentoring or similar opportunities to integrate senior function into younger/younger adult needs.
- I see no need
- Continuing education classes like reading balance sheets

✓ 10 **How can the City improve classes and programs for Teens ages 13-17?**

572 out of 499 people answered this question (with multiple choice)



Q. 10 COMMENTS

- GO door to door and have survey completed
- Reading, early learning at the library
- That 4-H club I mentioned? Menlo Park needs one,. It's the best organization for youth in this age group, and down to 9 years old.
- Better programming
- It'd be great to have teen ski trips for a Saturday. Get on a bus at dawn- get back in the evening.
- A automotive course to learn how a automobile works
- Design classes that match their desires and social needs not classes that have always existed.
- Offer programs in the neighborhoods. Kids this age can get around independently but not to Burgess.
- Entry level classes of all types for this age group
- Teen center
- More youth rowing programs
- Nothing. Have fewer classes. Get them into nature backpacking hiking
- Programs designed for special needs teens
- Teen hang out, accessible and inclusive offerings
- Teens need something to do during spring break/ski week
- Free indoor hang out, gaming and computer locations.

✓ 11 **How can the City improve classes and programs for Pre-Teens ages 10-12?**

520 out of 499 people answered this question (with multiple choice)

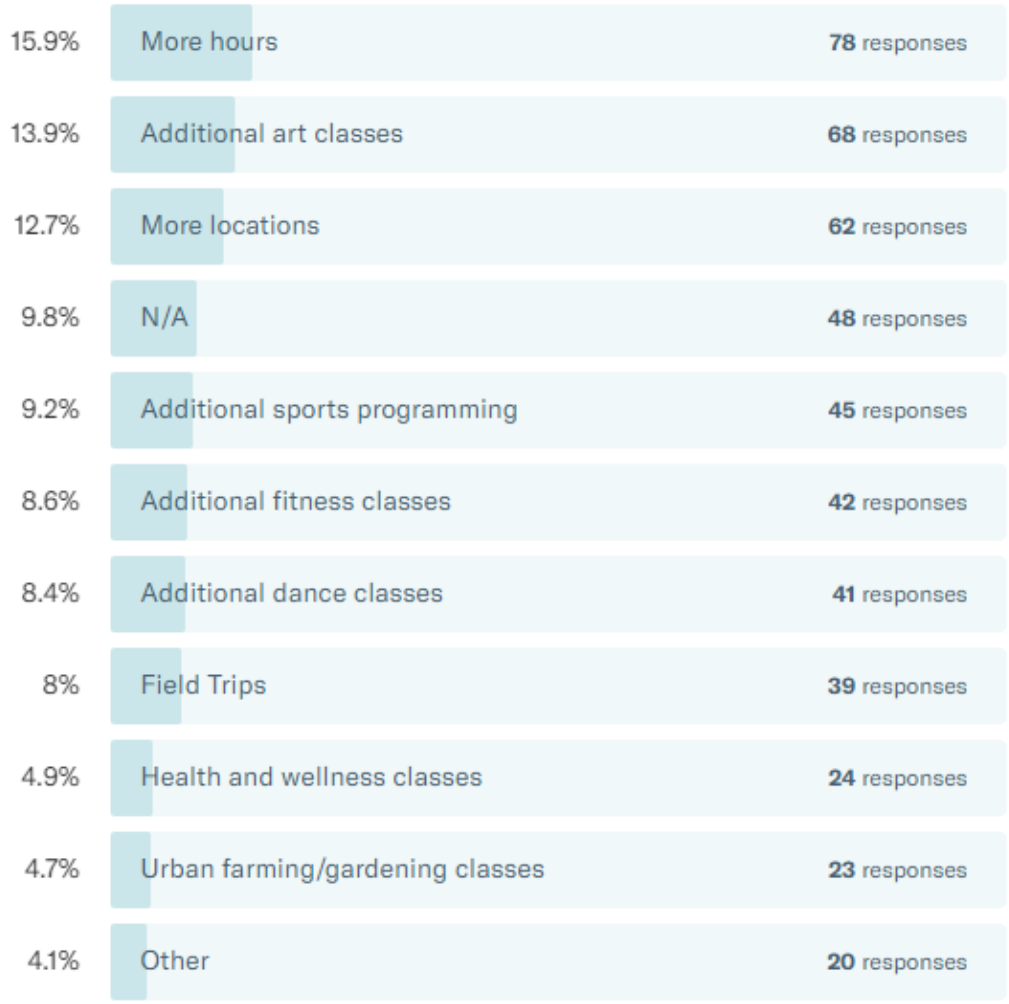
13.7%	More hours	**71** responses
11.9%	Additional sports program	**62** responses
11.7%	More locations	**61** responses
10.6%	N/A	**55** responses
10.2%	Additional art classes	**53** responses
9.4%	Field trips	**49** responses
8.5%	Health and wellness classes	**44** responses
7.5%	Additional fitness classes	**39** responses
6.9%	Additional dance classes	**36** responses
5.4%	Urban farming/gardening classes	**28** responses
4.2%	Other	**22** responses

Q. 11 COMMENTS

- Support 4-H. Follow San Carlos' model. They serve about 150 families with one club. And that doesn't include the adults and seniors who also find with and value by being active in 4-H. It really is good for the soul of the community.
- Good programming
- Classes design for today's child not same as my childhood
- Youth center
- More programs accessible and designed to specifically include children with special needs
- No need
- Accessible and inclusive offerings, creative enrichment classes
- Interesting playgrounds
- After school activities from 3 to 5

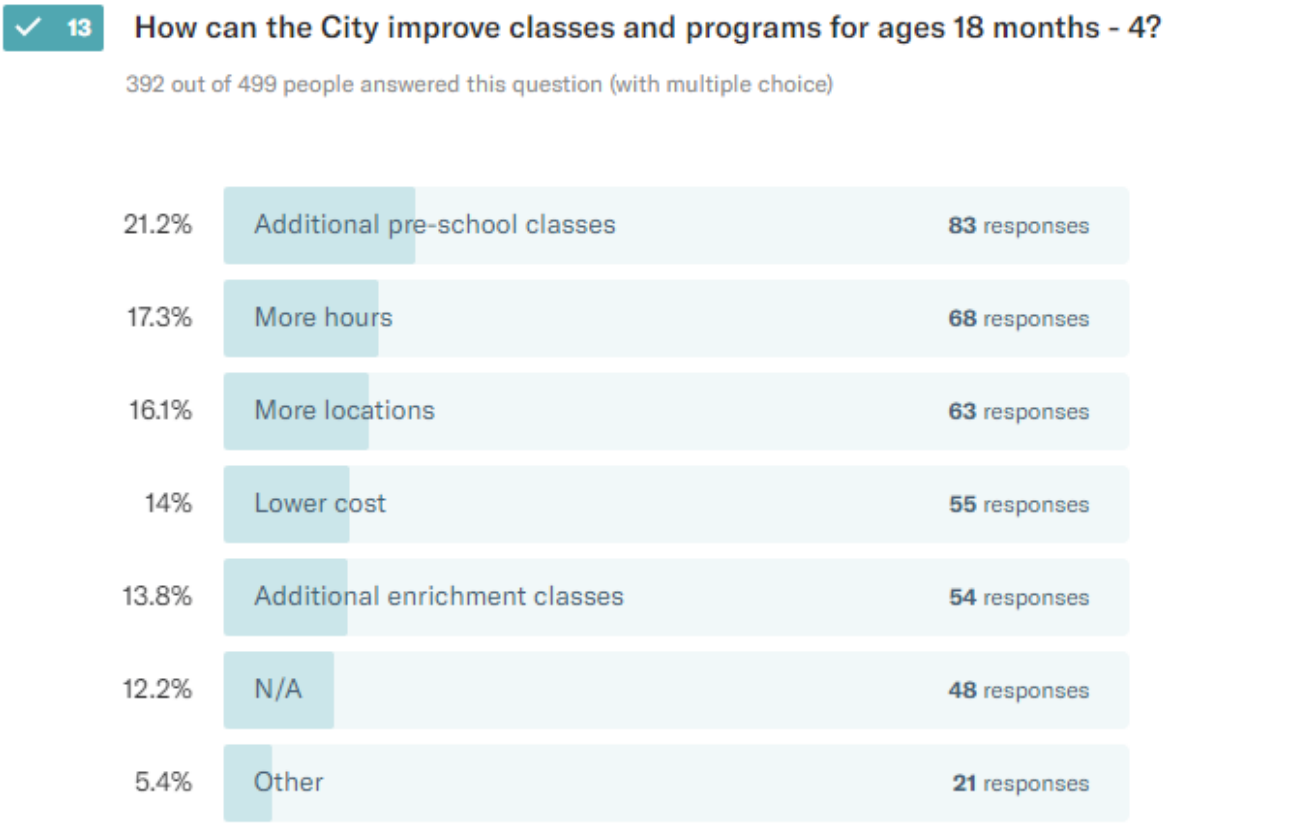
✓ 12 **How can the City improve classes and programs for Youth ages 5-9?**

490 out of 499 people answered this question (with multiple choice)



Q 12 COMMENTS

- Social skills building
- Good enough
- Social development classes
- More pre-team gymnastics. My daughter is ready for that level but cannot advance because it is full. We are doing classes elsewhere now.
- Open swim hours
- Cost is not inclusive to neighboring non residents. By neighboring, I mean the many that our in unincorporated Menlo Park, that are also in your school district.'
- 2k testing
- It's hard for kids with two working parents to participate
- No need
- Again more programs geared towards special needs kids
- Accessible and inclusive offerings
- I'd love to see more options/hours for this group. For example, I'd love to see more theater options



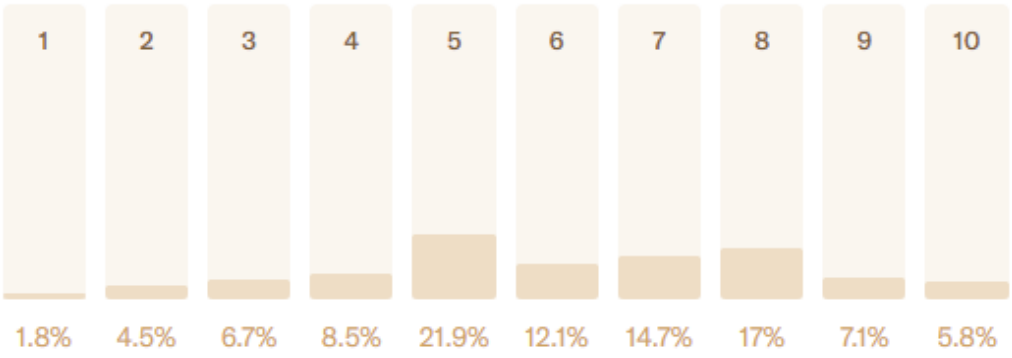
Q. 13 COMMENTS

- Reach out to the community and include diverse programs
- No need
- Music Class
- Hour of power daily on ergometer
- Not needed
- More accessible/inclusive classes
- accessible and inclusive offerings
- Classes that are more age appropriate. I've tried some of these with my 2 year old son, and they're usually too structured. Surely there can be a nice balance of an organized class (around a theme, like art, or a sport) that doesn't require much structure for kids who simply can't tolerate the structure at this age
- More parks and open spaces. and the librarian who runs kids story times at Menlo Park is too strict and so we go to other cities because of negative things we've heard from other parents
- Fine as is

★ 14 **How satisfied are you with the City's online class registration/rental software system?**

Avg. 6.1

224 out of 499 people answered this question



✓ 15 **How long does it typically take you to get to the nearest City Park or Recreation Facility?**

265 out of 499 people answered this question (with multiple choice)



Q. 15 COMMENTS

- 3-4 hours depending on traffic
- Depends on which, <10 to nearest park, 10-20 to Burgess, 30-40 to Belle Haven
- Depends on how I get there - bicycle, walk, drive.

✓ 16 **Which City Park do you visit most frequently?**

458 out of 499 people answered this question (with multiple choice)

30.6%	Burgess Park	**140** responses
15.5%	Nealon Park	**71** responses
8.3%	Sharon Park	**38** responses
6.6%	Bedwell Bayfront Park	**30** responses
5.7%	Willow Oaks Park	**26** responses
5.5%	Kelly Park	**25** responses
3.9%	Sharon Hills Park	**18** responses
3.7%	Jack W. Lyle Park	**17** responses
3.5%	Fremont Park	**16** responses
3.3%	Seminary Oaks Park	**15** responses
2.6%	Stanford Hills Park	**12** responses
2.2%	I don't know	**10** responses
1.7%	Alma Street Park	**8** responses
1.5%	Hamilton Park	**7** responses
0.9%	Tinker Park	**4** responses
0.2%	Karl E. Clark Park	**1** response
4.4%	Other	**20** responses

Q. 16 COMMENTS

- I live in San Jose so I go to Almaden Lake Park, Greystone Park and some in Los Gatos.
- Not sure of the name: next to the New Beginnings Preschool
- We don't frequent any of these play areas anymore. Play equipment is not as desirable
- Flood Park



✓ 18 **What is closet Park to you?**

301 out of 499 people answered this question (with multiple choice)

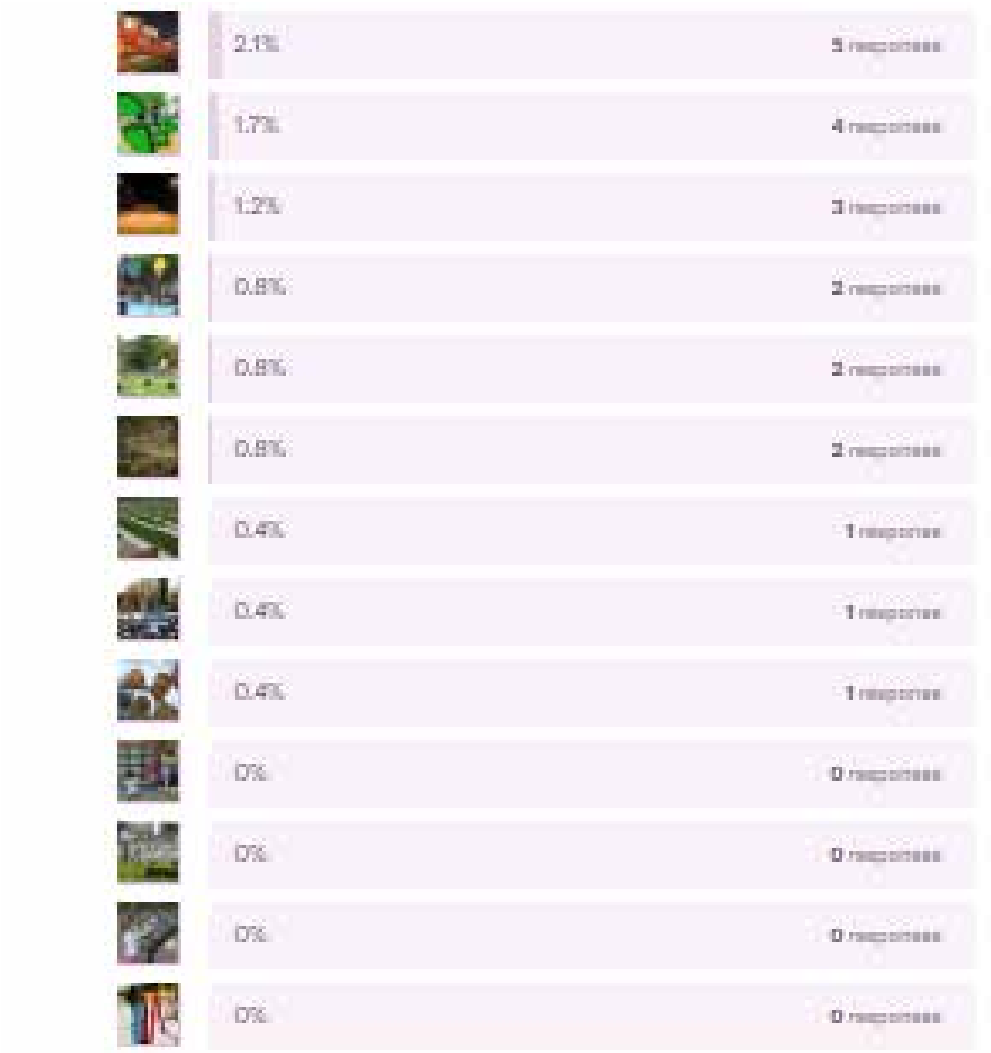


19 **What do you like about your parks?**

247 out of 499 people answered this question




Q10
What should be added to your parks?
342 out of 400 people answered this question
18.6%
45 responses
9.5%
23 responses
7%
17 responses
6.6%
16 responses
6.6%
16 responses
5.8%
14 responses
5%
12 responses
4.5%
11 responses
4.5%
11 responses
4.1%
10 responses
3.7%
9 responses
2.9%
7 responses
2.9%
7 responses
2.5%
6 responses
2.5%
6 responses
2.5%
6 responses
2.1%
5 responses


2.1%
5 responses
1.7%
4 responses
1.2%
3 responses
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1 response
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0 responses

ONLINE SURVEY OTHER WRITE IN COMMENTS

- Add lighted ball fields
- The parks are very nice already as they are
- This survey seems to minimize the biggest issue, which is the lack of open green space in our community. We don't need a new pool! Or climbing walls or other exotic amenities. This survey is designed to elicit specific answers, and thus overlook what residents really want from their parks and other facilities.
- Priority: parking
- Lack of parking is a barrier. We know that there's lots of pressure to add more playing fields to parks like Flood Park. Giving in to their demands that will destroy what little green space we have left. The natural habitats of native bluebirds and other animals will be seriously impacted. It will also affect those of us who are seeking a refuge away from the constant traffic and noise that is present in most of Menlo Park. Once these natural habitats go, they are gone forever. It is important to remember that not all of the people who attend city council meetings asking to use Menlo Park parks for sports are even Menlo Park residents. Shouldn't Atherton be expected to share their parks for sports in the same way they wish to use our parks? Has anyone explored the possibility of satisfying the insatiable desires of the sports-minded by checking out other possibilities? Couldn't these groups try renting the sport fields of schools like Peninsula High School and other public or private schools in the area?
- I go to play with my grandkid I go to enjoy having fun
- Add Bankshot basketball (X2)
- No barriers to use. I love the parks and rec areas in Menlo Park! Thanks!
- We need more playgrounds
- Add Disc Golf (x5) Partner with Peninsula Volunteers, Inc., right here in Menlo Park! Make sure all parks have clean, serviced restrooms
- More things for teens to do
- Add Pump track (x5)
- Priority: Gym. We need a gym and a fun place to hang out
- Priority: Create welcoming spaces for seniors -- there are so many in Menlo Park, but they are mostly walking on the sidewalks. In Asia, there are delightful outdoor places for seniors to improve wellness through exercise, social interaction, & fun (dance, sing, +)
- keep them clean, safe and maintained
- Add Lighted ball fields. So many soccer players and too few soccer fields. Our players have to go to other cities to play. Let's change that? Flood Park is begging to be converted to soccer fields.
- Add More bike facilities
- Priority: Addition of restrooms to parks, esp. ones with children play areas. I do use and appreciate the City parks and rec facilities a lot

- I try to go weekly and abide by all rules including my dog on a leash, however I constantly have arguments with people who insist on having their dog RUN WILD !! Please set up fines - this is a barrier. Please enforce fines for dogs off leash at Bedwell and leave it as it is PLEASE. If you allow picnic tables you welcome trash and people will start leaving more trash . As a walking and hiking trail it is the most unique park and makes you want to continue to walk, maybe a few additional benches to rest. Go door to door to reach teens, reach out to the community and include diverse programs

- Maybe work with the county on Flood Park, which is the only park walkable to me. No other walkable parks to Flood Triangle / Lorelai Manor

- "Jack Lyle Park is in urgent need of a restroom -- I don't understand why this is taking so long?

  Nealon Park needs . It is heartbreaking that such beautiful trees were cut down without explanation. The entire park has lost its charm. Please replant mature trees and put up a shade structure. We've stopped playing at Nealon due to the shade issue; the direct sun exposure is not only uncomfortable/hot for the children but unhealthy.

  Please consider adding bathrooms at Jack Lyle and a as top priorities. My family would also enjoy (similar to Magical Bridge in PA), , unique play spaces."

- Add Lawn bowl/bocce (x2)

- The playground equipment at Nealon is dated. It seems due for replacement. Thanks for your help!

- Priority: Build a library at Onetta Harris/Kelly Park

- Priority: Make fields available to residents who are not involved in organized sports which seem to take over the whole field

- Parks aren't fun when there are homeless people hanging out all day and night.

- Priority: new tennis courts

- I can't find (on MP website) a map showing all parks on one page- poor PR & poor website design

- I am very, very sad that trees were cut down at Nealon -- changes the entire park. Please add soon. Also, Jack Lyle needs a restroom!

- Priority: Improve general use park features like soccer goals and exercise equipment

- Given the huge population of tech-savvy residents, I think Menlo Park parks are a natural home for really innovative play structures, and while we're content with the existing structures, they do not stand out in terms of their design or offerings. I think there's a lot of room to grow in that regard.

- Priority: Make Arrillaga easier to get to with a bike/walk tunnel under the tracks

- Add Small gathering areas

- Restrooms should always be available at parks and always unlocked.

- Add Interactive art

- Priority: Add shade and bathrooms to existing parks

- It would be nice to have an updated parcours

course too...

- Add More bike facilities
- Love the parks keep them open
- Nelson park could use some lights. It gets really dark at night
- Add Interactive art
- Menlo Park is doing a great job!
- Add Outdoor lounge. (x4) No other comments - all good
- love Menlo Park, great amenities for everyone.
- Add Interactive tech play
- Add Outdoor lounge. (x4) I really like the duck pond & walking trail around the space. Its accessibility is great for the older visitors. This is true of Burgess & Sharon Hills
- Priority: Indoor basketball that individuals can use
- at Burgess, at Nealon now that tree was cut down
- Priority: Would like to see improved accessibility. I have two blind neighbors, with one who walks a dog. Let's also make upgrading the facilities at the Onetta Harris Center a priority before further improvements to those at Burgess Park. I would also like to see a Branch Library
- These questions seem leading. For example "what do you like most about your parks" assumes I like my parks, and also doesn't give me an opportunity to say "this is what I use now, and this is what I wish you had and this is how good (or not good) what you have is!"
- Add Pump track. Great program. Keep it up and keep improving. Love the parks and how well they are maintained.
- For our family, they are already awesome! Keeping them in good order would already be a great service!
- Great job!
- Priority: Create more open space
- They are lovely. Empty trash cans more often. Especially Monday morning
- Priority: Provide equal services for the belle haven neighborhood
- The skateboard park at Burgess is okay but it could have had better thought put into it a little bit more space for beginners and intermediate and the space that is most difficult is very hard to ride I'm talking about the bowls and the south end. Also tennis courts would be nice I'd like to play some tennis but I don't really know where to play so maybe I'll check out the website thank you
- More answering options on last two question. Good questionnaire but definitely not enough possibilities in last two questions, where all the good ideas could have been mentioned!
- Priority: New library and housing for low income families who work in Menlo Park
- More EV chargers
- More fields for high school sports
- More adult gathering areas would be great - a

nice place to have coffee or lunch with friends

- I think you need to create some destination play areas, tweens are an unserved age group due to changing demographic needs, the reg system is not good. Not sure how you can fix overcrowding, but Burgess is pretty packed parking wise. The playground is not great there either... you could alleviate the strain by activating other spaces, but I know residents would not love the increased parking and traffic. It's a tough job ahead.
- Priority: No housing in parks. Housing in a park is completely inappropriate!
- Create adult soccer league age 25+
- I have a 5 year old. Nearest park is Sharon Park. We like the playground and the trail around the park, though we don't use the park just because there is no restroom. Kids stay in the park for average 1.5h to 3h. Restroom is a must. I need to drive extra 10 minuets to get to Nealon Park just for that reason. We need more parks on the hwy 280 side of Menlo Park.
- More classes for adults, not seniors. Beer and wine tastings. More tennis courts. You stole two of them during school remodels in west Menlo
- good places and clean too
- Add Interactive art. Please speed up the process around updating Flood Park. It's an incredible space and it's been in disrepair far too long. Get on with the refresh already!
- Priority: Increase available parking at parks and facilities (the lots are always full at peak hours). Add more parking. Parking structure at Burgess.
- More sports fields including all weather fields/ lighted fields
- Indoor walking spaces to be used during inclement weather. Basic gym equipment-nearby gyms are very expensive, less expensive gyms are far away and one has to drive to them
- Add Horseshoes
- More soccer fields !!!!
- Better playgrounds would be great. I just visited Drammen, Norway that has the coolest playground I've ever seen - for all ages too! Also, snack/food kiosks would be great! Even just cold water and ice cream on hot days, or a coffee and waffle :)
- I would just like to emphasize the need to design parks and recreation classes to be inclusive of and reach out to special needs children/children with disabilities. There is a substantial community of families like this who would benefit for opportunities to have their kids participate in the wonderful facilities (like Burgess gymnastics) and this should be made accessible and available to them by considering how to include them based on their needs.
- Our parks are not inclusive because people in wheelchairs or any assistive equipment can't even enter the play area because of the wood chips. I think that our city can do a much better job at building spaces for our entire community and not just some of the community
- Priority: accessibility and inclusion! Our parks and programs need to provide recreation opportunities for all ages and abilities. It is

shocking that Menlo Park doesn't have a single accessible playground and has not developed any programs for individuals of varying ability levels.

- Thank you for the current great state of the services. Menlo Park is likely to grow fast in the next decade. The growth in the City Parks and Recreation Facilities should match and exceed that growth to maintain Menlo Park's position as a destination of well-being.

- Thank you for the current great state of the services. Menlo Park is likely to grow fast in the next decade. The growth in the City Parks and Recreation Facilities should match and exceed that growth to maintain Menlo Park's position as a destination of well-being.

- Would love the city to support safer bike routes for kids to get to and from recreational areas and parks. It would encourage usage and provide freedom for children. I am also often disappointed in the limited offerings for adult exercise classes (yoga, pilates, zumba, dance, boot camp, etc) as many do not accommodate the hours of working parents. Also, getting across El Camino takes awhile, so I wish there were more classes on the south side. I could not choose more than one option in the question above, but I think it important to provide all kinds of outdoor activities to entice children out of their homes, including space, water features, walking/hiking trails, bike routes, sports fields, in addition to the wonderful and highly utilized playgrounds we already have. It would also be great to provide better restrooms, and include changing stations, as that would open access to families with young children. I'd love to see more programming as well, such as outdoor puppet shows or free theatre or performances or free movies, to bring the community out to mingle and socialize.

- Add Unique play spaces. Better and more accessible playgrounds and and things mimicking what you find in places like Bay Area discovery museum. Interactive play. All ages of kids

- Disappointed that I could only pick one item that could be added to our parks. I'd pick, , outdoor lounge (bring back the paeso), small gathering areas, better lighting, and outdoor exercise machines.

- Burgess Park has too many caterpillars which scare some kids and parents and cause skin irritation :(:(:(

- Affordable and accessible daycare for all needs to be a priority

- a community garden we can rent a small field

- Priority: Community garden beds, pickle ball

- Priority: Maintaining balance for all residents. Nealon dog park provides much needed community and benefits dogs and humans alike. Please consider expanding hours to 7-11 every day. Add Small gathering areas. MP parks provide an oasis for all ages to meet and build community. Please consider annexing Flood park and it's vast resources. The ? 19/20 really did not allow choices. Restrooms, open space, dog parks, playing fields all deserve attention. Overall MP provides vibrant offerings in safe and serene settings. Keep up the good work!

- "Priority: Add pickle ball - both indoor and outdoor; stop taking away tennis courts or limiting them to student only use; maintain the

tennis courts (resurface and clean them) Add More bike facilities. The tennis courts are in poor shape! Forget the online registration and electronic key access. Do not allow schools to destroy the courts with activities like hockey. Build pickle ball courts and add indoor pickle ball to the burgess gym! There are quite a few MP residents playing at Mitchell Park and Red Morton. Questions 19 & 20 should allow for multiple selections - bad survey design or intentional? If intentional, I question the motivation behind the decision."

- Bedwell baylands, on the other hand don't need change, just cutting the grass when it's too tall. It's a unique piece of pure natural with a lot of different birds, plants, etc. please leave it untouched- there are a lot of parks around with all kinds of facilities and playgrounds.
- No lights for Flood Park!
- "Priority: Rotate soccer field markings 90 degrees so balls don't fly over into skatepark. VERY DANGEROUS! Add Pump track. The danger of soccer balls flying into the Burgess skatepark would largely be alleviated by rotating the marking of the field 90 degrees. Balls fly over and around the goal. Please place soccer field parallel to the skatepark! Thanks for your assistance in this matter."
- Add Interactive art (x3)
- Great pool in Burgess, but too crowded. No restrooms in Sharon park. Not enough options for doing kids birthdays in parks.
- Add More bike facilities
- Priority: Renovate OHCC, their after school space, and their pool before anything at Burgess
- More parking please!
- Priority: I think we have a wonderful set of parks and recreation facilities. I see no need for more
- Would love a park on the Valparaiso side of downtown and would LOVE a with shade and other fun things to do outside. also, strong preference for parks that don't use tan bark, but the spongy tire flooring with little kids; so much easier to visit with my 1-year old!
- The costs to swim at Burgess are excessive; I want to see people of all ages and socio-economic status be able to use the facilities; the purpose should be health; a low cost / free hours gym facility could encourage people of all ages to work out no matter what the weather.
- Add Lighted ball fields
- Make bike connection from Middle Avenue to Burgess a priority.
- Hire more park workers!

Dogs

- Priority: Add and improve dog-friendly areas & acquire Flood Park
- Priority: Add dog park.
- Priority: Dog park
- More dog friendly space that is contained during times that people who work can actually use
- Priority: We need better options for dogs and off

leash areas. More options for off leash dog walks

- We need an enclosed dog park that can be used everyday, including weekends with water available.
- Priority: Improve dog parks
- Priority: Dog parks
- It would be great if there was a dog park near downtown Menlo Park that had separate areas for small and large dogs.
- More locations for dogs
- Dog Park! Continued use of dog park at Nealon Park
- We need more areas for dogs
- Add more off leash dog friendly parks
- Priority 24/7 dog fenced dog park with water availability. We could really use an exclusive space for a dog park that is open dusk to dawn
- Priority: build a new full-time dog park. Need more dog friendly spaces.
- Priority: Create a better dog park that is available all hours and days for dogs that is fenced in, offer water for dogs to drink and a grass area (real or fake). Please build a fenced in dog park on the north west side of Menlo Park that can be used all days and times with water for dogs, shade for owners, with some grass area and sufficient parking.
- Priority: Build a designated fenced in dog park for the large Menlo Park dog population. Menlo Park dog owners deserve a designated fenced in dog park with grass or turf grass, water facilities and other dog and owner amenities to use 7days a week anytime during the day. The current options of Nealon park and Willow Park are far from satisfactory. Neolon park is only available in the weekday mornings and Willow Park has no grass only durt that turns to mud and there are no dog water facilities. Menlo Park can do better. I urge to strongly consider building a fenced in dog park with enough room for dogs to run, water for them to drink, some grass or grass turf. Or please redo and upgrade the dog park on Willow to include grass in the fenced in area as well as water for dogs to drink and more parking.
- Priority: Improve Willow Oaks Dog Park, expand hours at Nealon Dog Pa
- Priority: Dog parks
- Priority: Allow dogs in parks
- Priority: Dog walking
- Priority: More dog off-leash areas
- Priority: Dog parks
- Renovating Willow Dog Park is way overdue: no water for dogs, barely any lights, grass is pretty gone.

Restrooms

- Priority: Restrooms. discreet porta-potty if not built ones. not a@blue eyesore next to a beautiful redwood tree like at Jack Lyle Park

- Restrooms really help families and people of all ages enjoy the park.
- Priority: Build more portable bathrooms, lines are very long. We should have a 2k race course
- Improve restrooms
- Priority: Bathrooms at all parks!
- Priority: Improve bathrooms in swim center
- Really need restrooms in the parks
- There should be clean restrooms at each park and also fitness courses . I would also like to see much better access from West Menlo to burgess park (biking over bridge, tunnel under railway)
- Priority: Add toilets to parks (willow Oaks especially!)
- EVERY park needs a flush toilet - if only just a single small building with one toilet + sink. Do you know what it is like to bring young children, particularly those who are potty-training, to a park with no restrooms? Even if kids use the bathroom before leaving home, they often need to use it again while they are at the park. And many 2-4 year old children lack the physical ability/skills to wait until they get home to use a restroom. Lack of restrooms is also difficult for pregnant women, elders, and any others who might have physical reasons for needing to frequently use a restroom (and the physical inability to wait). Please, please put in a bathroom at all parks (seminary oaks, willow oaks, sharon park, etc.).
- Add More bike facilities. The last two questions let me pick only one picture. I like lots of things about the parks and might like lots more things. The questions need to be fixed so people can click more than one picture.
- Flood park MUST be improved as it is an eye sore and disappointment to the city of Menlo Park.
- Trees, trails and open space are most important to me. Lots of trees died or were cut down in Burgess Park during the drought due to lack of watering. Some smaller trees were not replaced. Would like to see as many trees as possible. Burgess Park needs to be pleasant in the summer.
- Upgrade willow oaks playground please!
- Belle Haven would like a new Community Center, Senior Center, modern Community Library all in one location. New pool and changing area with longer hours open to the Community. Affordable Housing built downtown Menlo Park on their City own properties meaning Parks and Community centers like Nealon Park and the new main Library.
- Bayfront Park needs a ranger every day
- I would recommend that you assign more Park rangers to patrol your parks to maintain safety, prohibit amplified music (including car stereos and radios in the parking area), and to protect the various features, both natural and man made, in each park facility.
- Add More bike facilities. Instead of making all the parks the equal, try and make each offer a several core features and a few expanded items.
- I was forced to choose something for what our parks should add, but really I think they are doing pretty well.
- "City takes ownership of Flood Park and improves.

More availability of fields for organized sports. (i.e. soccer)"

- Restrooms at each park. Can you please buy Flood Park? Traffic also makes getting to parks harder and less safe for kids to go by bike. Areas for dogs off leash.

ROUND 2 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Based on the interests and issues expressed in Round 1 of Community Engagement, Round 2 sought confirmation of the themes that were emerging, to begin to develop a vision and goals.

PARKS AND RECREATION USER FOCUS GROUP MEETING #2

May 30, 2018

ISSUES AND IDEAS:

- Recreation offerings don't meet the needs of differently abled people.
- Try more "one of" events, e.g. Wine Tasting Class. Experiential events.
- Onetta Harris location is out of the way – needs to attract Belle Haven residents
- Transportation is VITAL. Alpine Strikers soccer team shuttles players to the pedestrian bridge, and then they walk to Kelly Park field. Need transit to pedestrian bridge – shuttle between Burgess and Kelly.
- Need inclusive recreation offerings, both programs and facilities.
- Teens would like a teen oriented fitness center. Would be heavily used during school year after 6:30 pm. Something like Morgan Hill YMCA – multi-generational. Menlo Atherton HS has a fitness center.
- Need a teen lounge – not just a place to do homework but a place for fun as well.
- Improve coordination with schools – Hillview removed fields. La Entrada could be better at sharing information about field renovations.
- Partnership opportunities: YMCA? Specialty programs/facilities?

VISION:

- Build community!
- Multi-generational –bring the whole family, parks with something for everyone.
- Community includes organized sports groups. Keep sports and active recreation as part of the mix.
- Serve our residents first, don't need destination parks.
- Longevity – build something that lasts, not too trendy.
- Multi-dimensional – interesting, engaging, inviting
- Unique, different and distinctive.
- Each park with its own identity and character.
- Parks and facilities that express the personality/ sense of Menlo Park.

- Active parks to promote wellness.

COMMUNITY WORKSHOP #2

June 9, 2018, Menlo Park Senior Center

Discussion covered future outreach, general topics, and the "Big Themes" that emerged from previous engagement.

OUTREACH:

- Print out materials for sharing & Post online
- Have computers available
- Make advisory (O&O) meetings public
- Computers/flyers/info at all sites
- Online summaries after each touch point
- Show linkage to all parks (Sharon Heights missing F/ plan). Link to pedestrian plan
- Make Park Distribution Graphic
- Outreach through library
- Facebook produce market booth
- NextDoor
- School District – PTO Newsletter
- Big Signs/Noticing
- Noticing to schools

GENERAL:



- More signage to Onetta
- Electric car charging stations
- Relocate library to Onetta?
- Play structure at Fremont Park - nothing in that area now
- Parks in M2 area? - Coordinate with Facebook (Willow Future Campus)
- Park off of Chilco?

BIG THEMES | *TEMAS GRANDES*

- "ONE CITY"– Parks and Rec to bring community together
  "UNA CIUDAD" – Parques y Recreación para unir la comunidad
- CONNECTIONS - improve access across the City
  CONEXIONES: mejorar el acceso en toda la ciudad
- Activities in the EVENING for social interaction
  Actividades en la TARDE para la interacción social



BIG THEMES | *TEMAS GRANDES*

- UNIQUE and DISTINCTIVE Parks
  Parques ÚNICOS y DISTINTIVOS
- Make our Parks More INTERESTING to All
  Haz que Nuestros Parques Sean Más INTERESANTES Para Todos
- ACCESS and INCLUSIVITY – All Ages and Abilities
  ACCESO e INCLUSIVIDAD - Todas las Edades y Habilidades
- Provide FREE PLAY and NATURE
  Proporcione JUEGO Y NATURALEZA GRATIS





BIG THEMES | *TEMAS GRANDES*

- NATURE and NATURAL SPACES | *NATURALEZA Y ESPACIOS NATURALES*
- GREENING the Downtown | *MÁS PLANTACIÓN en el Centro*
- SUSTAINABILITY | *SOSTENIBILIDAD*
- Environmental, Cultural, and Historic EDUCATION | *EDUCACIÓN Ambiental, Cultural e Histórica*





BIG THEMES | *TEMAS GRANDES*

- Dog Parks – Pros and Cons
  Parques para Perros: Pros y Contras




BIG THEMES | *TEMAS GRANDES*

- Partnerships: School Joint Use
  Asociaciones: Uso Conjunto con la Escuela
- Partnerships: Additional Field Opportunities
  Asociaciones: Oportunidades de Campo Adicionales




PLAY SPACES | *LUGARES PARA JUGAR*

- Unique | *Único*
- Inclusive | *Inclusivo*
- Destination | *Destino*
- Nature | *Naturaleza*
- Sensory Manipulation | *Manipulación Sensorial*





GATHERING SPACES | *ESPACIOS PARA REUNIR*

- Outdoor Lounge | *Salón al Aire Libre*
- Teen Space | *Espacio Adolescente*
- Unique Small Gathering Spaces | *Espacios para Reuniónes Únicos*
- Indoor Lounge | *Salón Interior*





SPECIAL FEATURES | *LUGARES ESPECIALES*

- Splash Pad | *Splash Pad*
- Pump Track | *Parque de Bicleta*
- Outdoor Art | *Arte al Aire Libre*
- Innovative Tech. Play | *Tecnología Innovadora*
- Agility Dog Parks | *Parques de Perros de Agilidad*
- Community Gardens | *Jardines Comunitarios*






- Public pathways at Redwood Shores? Links? Connect Menlo
- Belle Haven – swimming year round?
  - Share master plan for pool
  - What programming do we want?
  - Need more demand?
  - 3:30PM – 7:00PM year round
  - Expand in summer
- Plans to connect with Facebook?
- Flood Park - include in plan
- Safer Routes to schools and parks
- Trees uprooting curbs in Belle Haven
- Use "Notify Me" for maintenance request
- Traffic to get to Kelly/Onetta
- Remove "no parking" signs
- Share bikes – add to transportation plan

BIG IDEAS:

- Belle Haven – Group BBQ's
- Update gym – more accessible – OHCC
- Dance Classes – space/equipment/dance floor
- Bike/Pedestrian bridge is limited – access/parking
- Link parks together via bike lanes
- Photos of parks on website with park features
- Like everything so far

NEALON PARK:

- Shade
- Tables inside park with shade
- Bathrooms – add child seat (Koala Care) for toddlers to site/wait
- Water features will be great and well used + music features
- Board Comments (& "likes")

BIG THEMES:

- Partnerships: School Joint Use – 3 likes
- Love the nature/play spaces.
- Like Tom Sawyer Island @ Disneyland.
- Draw the city wide bike/ ped patterns then design traffic plan around it.
- Walking trails all over Menlo Park.
- Public Pathways in front of Facebook buildings – like in Redwood Shores.
- Teen Space – We don't have any now.
- -Splash Pad – Water Features (like RWC parks)
- -Music Play – (Like Magical Bridge has)

OHCC CAMPUS:

ACTIVITIES | *ACTIVIDADES*

- More Recreation Programs For Under Age 10 | *Más Programas de Recreación para Menores de 10 Años*
- More Dance | *Más Baile*
- Health And Wellness | *Bienestar*
- Fitness Center | *Gimnasio*





BURGESS PARK CAMPUS

- Recreation Building Efficiencies *Reconstrucción Eficiencias para el Edificio de Recreación*
- Library as Community Center (& Teen Space) *Biblioteca Como Centro Comunitario (y Espacio Para Adolescentes)*
- Landscape | *Paisaje*
- Duck Pond | *Estanque de los Patos*
- Pool | *Piscina*
- Fitness Center | *Gimnasio*
- Field Lighting | *Iluminación del Campo*





OHCC CAMPUS

- Onetta Harris complex | *Los edificios de Onetta Harris*
- Kelly Park
- Wayfinding | *Letreros*
- Acknowledge Education as High Community Value | *Reconocer la Educación Como un Alto Valor Para la Comunidad*
- Citywide Events to Connect Community | *Eventos en la Ciudad Para Conectar a la Comunidad*





- Onetta Harris complex – 1 like
- Wayfinding – 2 likes
- Acknowledge Education as High Community Value – 1 Like
- Upgrade lawn chairs
- Offer Aquatic classes
- Beautify this area – as nice as Burgess Park.
- More community notice signs
- More picnic tables with shade

BURGESS PARK CAMPUS:

- Library as Community Center (& Teen Space) – 1 Like
- Duck Pond – 2 Likes
- Pool – 1 Like
- Fitness Center – 1 Like
- Field Lighting – 1 Like
- o Duck Pond – Keep!!

ACTIVITIES:

- More Recreation Programs For under age 10 – 1 Like
- Health and Wellness – 1 like
- Fitness Center – 1 Like
- o Need more teen programs!
- o Gym upgrade @ OHC
- o Dance Class equipment.

ONETTA HARRIS AND KELLY PARK:

- Put a branch library here.
- The community has outgrown this space. We are

at capacity. Let us invest in a space needs study for the entire site ONCC, Senior Center etc. to expand the dance classrooms, add a library, add a performance arts center, safer parking lot, etc. Our space is limited, it is important to use our space wisely.

- Upgrade OHCC gym facility
- Year-long swimming classes. (Belle Haven Pool)
- Offer aquatic fitness classes in the Belle Haven Pool area.

ROUND 3 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Looking at the major themes and concerns validated in Round 2, Round 3 sought to focus on the vision statement for the Plan, and on items that needed further clarification. Items needing clarification included the distribution of amenities that the community had prioritized to be added to the park system, preferred methods for increasing parkland, the nature of a fitness center, what Teen Space should be, and what improvements/changes should be made to the Onetta Harris Community Campus. The Parks and Recreation User Focus Group Meeting was combined with the Community Workshop for this stage.

PARKS AND RECREATION USER FOCUS GROUP AND COMMUNITY WORKSHOP #3

October 18, 2018, Arrillaga Family Recreation Center

VISION AND GOALS:

- Accessibility



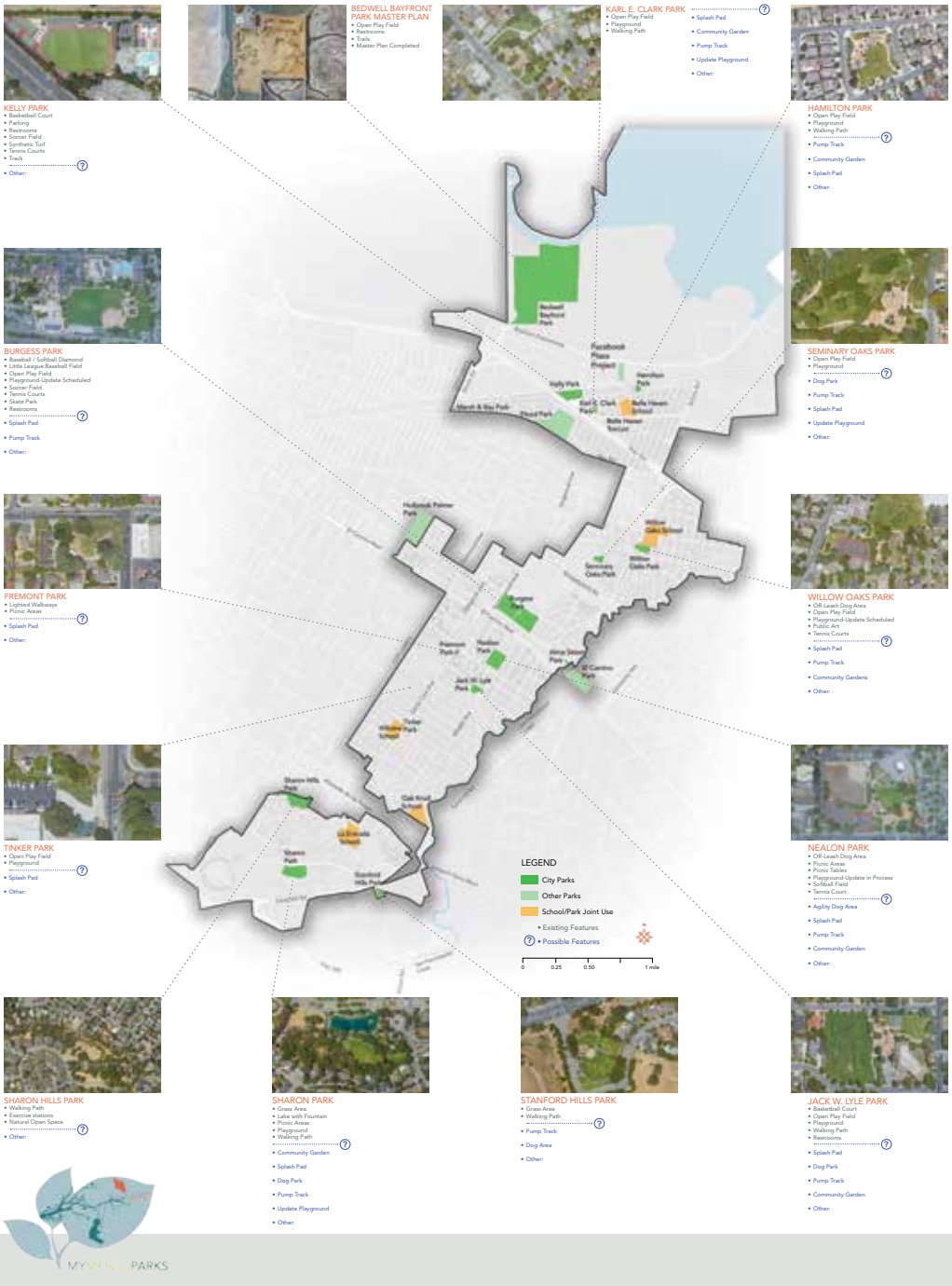
- Multi – Generation
- Sense of Place - Neighborhood + Community
- Teens!
- Creative Solutions
- Library Connect - Integrate with Park + Outside
- More Community Feeling

DISTRIBUTION OF AMENITIES:

- At least one off leash dog open sunrise – sunset
- Connect downtown pocket parks to Fremont with ped/ bike trails - through streets in downtown - encourage slower traffic downtown
- Fitness stations – (Burgess) - Teens?
- Willow Oaks Park: Needs sense of neighborhood. Unique + Distinctive. Identity + Character. Community. Pump Track.
- Needs better signage after entering from Gilbert
- Karl E. Clark Park: Community Garden. Update Playground

TELL US ABOUT YOUR PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES

HOW SHOULD PARK AMENITIES BE DISTRIBUTED?



- Hamilton Park: Community Garden
- Seminary Oaks Park: Update Playground
- Burgess Park: oPump Track. Outdoor fitness area. Field lights.
- Fremont Park: Splash Pad! Bathroom
- Nealon Park: Agility Dog Area! Splash Pad.
- Tinker Park: Demonstration Garden. More playground installations.
- Sharon Park: Dog Park. Update playground.
- Stanford Hills Park: Pump track. Community Garden.
- Jack W. Lyle Park: Splash pad. Dog Park. Pump track.

HOW TO GET MORE PARKLAND:

- Acquire available private land : 3
- Build on rooftops : 0
- Use available easements : 6
- Improve underused parks : 5
  - Lighting
- Create temporary park spaces : 1
  - Partner with events
- Update development standards : 2
  - Downtown plan is being updated – opportunity
- New and enhanced partnerships : 2
- Improved access / connections : 2

FITNESS CENTER:

- Outdoor fitness stations in open space/parks
- Available 24/7
- Not constructed by hours
- Gives City opportunity to host classes outside
- Use existing gyms – develop contract with private business – partnerships
- Colleges / universities / high schools – use of facilities during non – school hours
- Partnership – with private gyms – let them operate City owned properties.

TEEN SPACE:

- Services + Programs
- Library space
- Outside + Indoor
- Burgess – near M.A.H.S - Close!
- Belle Haven – Path from school?
- Good size
- Strong wifi
- Food
- Create more outdoor spaces. Like amphitheater picture
- Adult Mentors: Artist, Coaches, Teachers,

Supervised but doesn't feel like it, No Fair Oaks

- Game Tables - Card + Board Games
- Outdoor Active Space
- What age?
  - HS – wants – music, good, hangout, loud, computer, jobs
  - MS – near with library, "after school center", hang out, tutoring games
- Near Rec?
- Stand Alone – near food
- Creative space: Older maker area for HS, Music + Dance, Rock Bands + Dance Club, Radio / Garage Band
- Menlo Church / Teen Center - What is happening? MS + HS

OHCC CAMPUS:

- Access – Hyperloop! / Gondola
- Re – do parking + utilize - Poor parking, Reduce Speeding / Bus turn around
- Equal + Quality: Programming, Facility, All
- Welcoming! Path for seniors + others
- Teen Center
- Pool? Do we need/ want? Inside? Better configured re – do?
- Tech Center – Wifi + Computers
- More community involvement
- Utilize health center space
- Multi – purpose Library!
- Short – term fix / swing space
- Need more space to be equitable
- Late hours – until 10 PM
- How do you replace over 20 yrs?
- Neighborhood meeting rooms
- Operations + Policy
- Signage – Directional from neighborhood. Directory
- New access into area - Only one way in/out
- Convert tennis courts to picnic, dog park, or other
- Other spaces behind senior center long jump? Change! Picnic tables put in where sand area is or playground
- Refresh rec center - Technology
- Provide many reasons to visit. Food trucks / events?
- Teen space: In health center space. Senior lobby for teens after 4 PM. Connect with Beechwood (K – 8)
- Computer Lab for all
- Old lab for classes

- Expand fitness center - Knock out walls. Earlier than noon
- Link building improvements together, uses & plans!
- Better access from ring / reconfigure the overcrossing / landing ramps or replace
- Art Murals
- Rental vs. Drop in
- Lighted marquee on campus
- Ask Neighbors!
- Ask Businesses!
- Bike / Ped Access
- 1st improve access across 101 - Relieves parking needs. Encourages active transportation

CONCLUDING ROUND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

PARKS AND RECREATION USER FOCUS GROUP AND COMMUNITY WORKSHOP #4

April 4, 2019, Arrillaga Family Recreation Center

Topics covered included the vision and goals for each park, recommendations and guideline highlights, and criteria for prioritization. Much of the discussion focused on the Belle Haven neighborhood, with the participants supportive of a big vision, with integrated and coordinated planning. Regarding prioritization of projects, participants emphasized equity, community input, safety, and inclusivity. Comments are summarized below:

GUIDELINES:

- Need to make sure fee policy is truly equitable.
- Guidelines need to be followed!
- City should develop a single map with:
    - Transportation
    - Library
    - Parks
    - Etc.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- BELLE HAVEN CAMPUS
- Don't have a small, limited vision!
- Multi-level
- Don't let 'promise' of Willow Village change the focus
- Community wants branch library at Belle Haven Campus!
- Senior Center, should hours be extended?
- Improve all bike and pedestrian connections
- Enhance Belle Haven School access – it is City maintained
- Look at Bell Haven Child Development Center (usability of plaza and feasibility of improvements).

Entry plaza is a community space.

- Kelly Park – maintenance and garbage pick up are big issues, as well as dog issues. Where is the dog park in Belle Haven?!
- CITY WIDE
- Need dog poop stations City-wide
- Fremont Park, good natural play spaces (log/ tree trunk) expand it
- San Francisquito parklets! Add them to the slides.
- Hetch Hetchy right-of-way, could it be used for dogs? Or the land along the Dumbarton Rail Corridor?
- There is green space next to the main library at Burgess – what better use could it have? Teen space? Event space?

PRIORITIZATION

- Best practices
- Leverage other existing and planned efforts
- Community input is essential
- Safety is high priority
- Make basis or recommendations clear – why would funds go to a particular area.
- Look at age of facilities – what do we have, where do we invest
- WEIGH CRITERIA
- Equity is important!
- Inclusivity!
- Bring all parks up to the same standards

OTHER

- How will plan be implemented?
- Re-examining fees is good, need to attract good instructors, equal quality at all facilities
- Need to streamline and develop metrics
- Need to connect family units in northeast with Belle Haven facilities. Transportation and parks planning need to be integrated. City departments need to communicate to look at big picture.

PARKS AND RECREATION USERS FOCUS GROUP AND COMMUNITY WORKSHOP #5

May 30, 2019, Menlo Park Senior Center

The Craft Master Plan recommendations were again discussed, and the participants were asked to review the proposed prioritization criteria through an exercise where they applied the criteria to a range of recommended projects. Suggested refinements and revisions to the criteria were made and have been incorporated into the Master Plan. The importance of continuing community input was a primary concern. It was emphasized that a central recommendation in the Master Plan is a feasibility study for renovation of the Onetta Harris Community Center Campus, and extensive community outreach will be a key component of that study. Comments are summarized below:

ONLINE SURVEY ON MASTER PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS AND GUIDELINES

- Draft versions of the Parks and Recreation Facilities Master Plan Guidelines and Recommendations have been posted on the City's website for public review and comment. Comments and responses to the Draft Guidelines and Recommendations were collected via an online survey. The meeting's presentation opened with a summary of the responses and comments to date.

- A comment was made on the need for wider input, and for additional methods of gathering responses, particularly in the Belle Haven community. It was suggested that the only acceptable approach is to have a door-to-door canvassing. It was discussed that this approach would be an option to discuss with the launch of the Feasibility Plan for OHCC, which is the primary priority of the Master Plan.

- Project input efforts were summarized. Guidelines and addressing the importance of community input as specific projects are developed are included in the Master Plan. A central recommendation in the Master Plan is a feasibility study for renovation of the Onetta Harris Community Center Campus, and extensive community outreach will be a key component of that study.

- Additional information regarding the age of all Menlo Park Facilities was requested, to inform the recommendations, and prioritization of projects.

- The survey will be kept open to provide opportunity for additional community input.

- Request to ensure printed versions are available at the Senior Center.

- The City discussed the development of a new approach to community outreach and the hiring of a specialist to focus on the effort.

- The community members encouraged the City to do more to communicate progress on new projects and successes such as the development of new signage for the pool.

CRITERIA AND PRIORITIES

- Prioritization Criteria for ranking recommended or other future projects were presented. It was clarified that the prioritization will be done by City Staff, but that having established criteria will provide basis for prioritization so that decisions can be reviewed and evaluated.

- The group was asked to review the proposed criteria, through an exercise where they applied the criteria to a range of recommended projects. Suggested refinements and revisions to the criteria were made and will be incorporated into the draft Master Plan.

- Concern was expressed about how the City considers programming hours, operations and revenues, particularly in light of the differences between the OHCC and Burgess facilities. The consultants indicated that they were aware of this issue and absolutely have addressed it in the guidelines and that it is central to the goal of "One Menlo Park." Further, they are working with the City to help them address this in the near term.

- It was suggested that the criteria include capital costs. Further it was requested that the operations costs and revenue generation/community benefits considerations be moved to a separate tier of criteria with those capital costs.

FOLLOW-UP ONLINE SURVEY

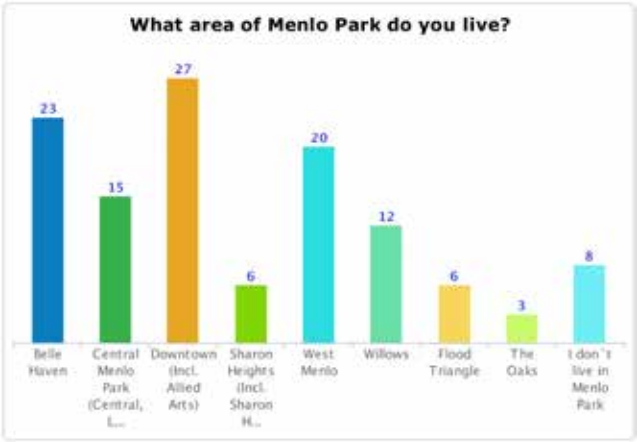
The online survey contained links to English and Spanish versions of the Draft Guidelines and Recommendations. It asked how well the Guidelines reflect community values and needs, and how well the Recommendations address the City's recreation and park needs. It also asked respondents to provide specific comments. The survey was posted from March 19 through June 17, 2019. 134 responses were received, including 10 in Spanish.

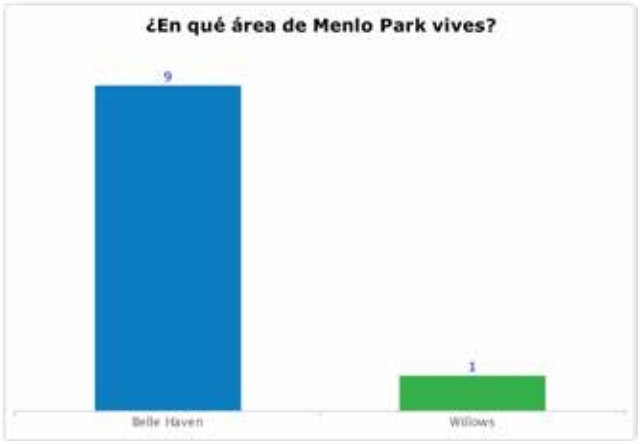
Between 73% and 81% of survey respondents felt that the Guidelines reflected community values and needs very well, well or ok, depending on the guideline category. 68% felt that the Recommendation addressed the recreation and park needs.. See Figures to the left for more detail.

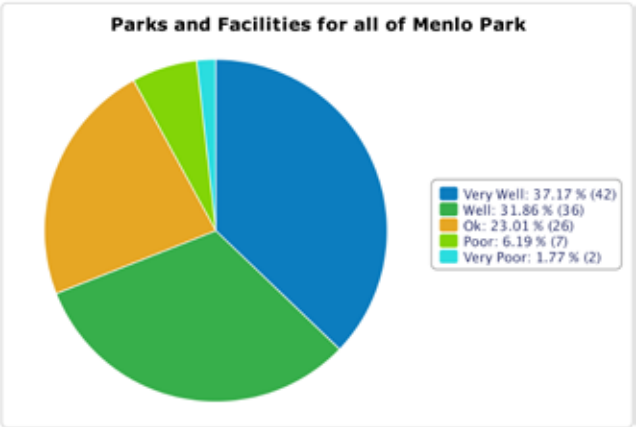
Approximately 80 respondents provided specific comments regarding the recommendations on parks and facilities.

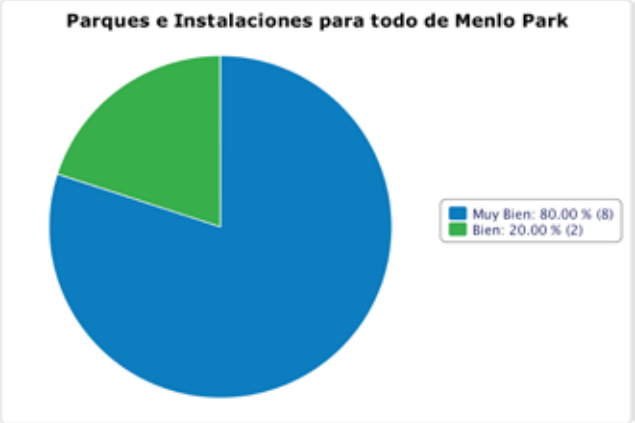
COMMENTS ON GUIDELINES:

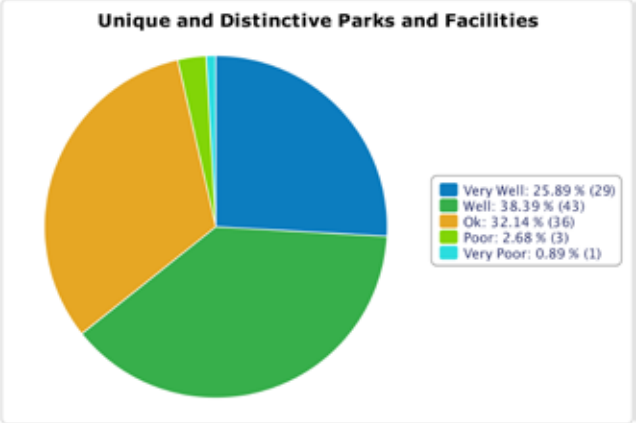
- Currently it seems that Bell haven residents are not able to utilize Kelly field since it seems that most of the time it is being used by residents on the west side sports teams. Bell haven residents and team should have preference on the use of the field.
- Be easier for the residents. And public.
- We need to keep open space areas free and open and stop building on those spots. Land that has not been used for 15-20 years should be turned into parks, encourage nature over $$ and development. (small space by Willows Market is a great example) Also all the former car lots that Stanford owns should be taken over (eminent domain?) and used for parks, kids need places to run. ALSO, using baseball fields, softball fields as

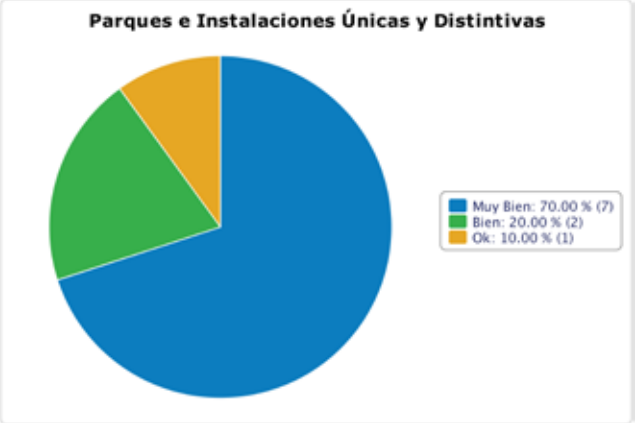


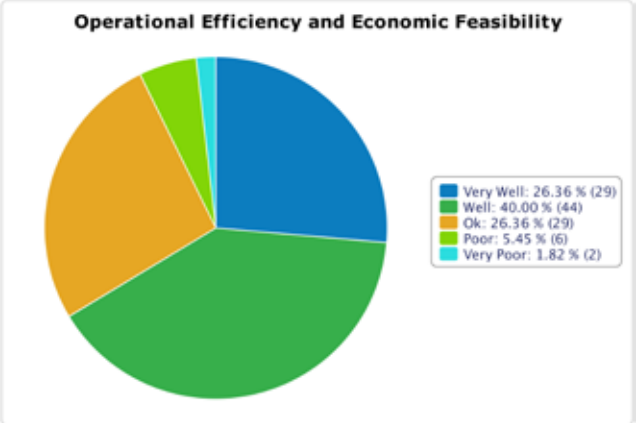


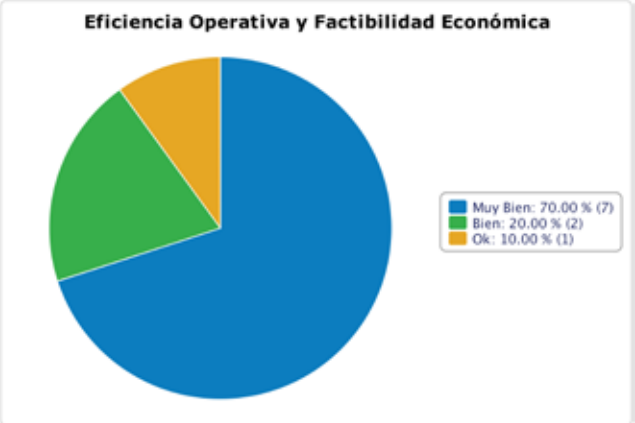

Parks and Facilities for all of Menlo Park
Very Well: 37.17 % (42)
Well: 31.86 % (36)
Ok: 23.01 % (26)
Poor: 6.19 % (7)
Very Poor: 1.77 % (2)

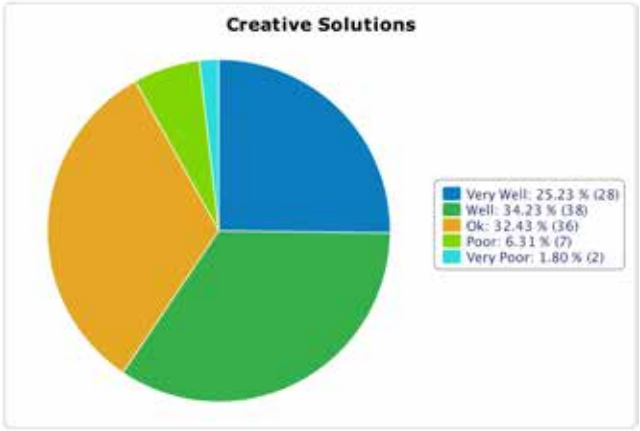

Parques e Instalaciones para todo de Menlo Park
Muy Bien: 80.00 % (8)
Bien: 20.00 % (2)

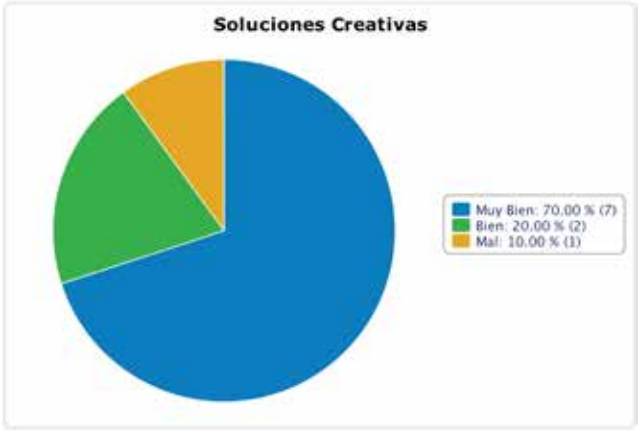

Unique and Distinctive Parks and Facilities
Very Well: 25.89 % (29)
Well: 38.39 % (43)
Ok: 32.14 % (36)
Poor: 2.68 % (3)
Very Poor: 0.89 % (1)

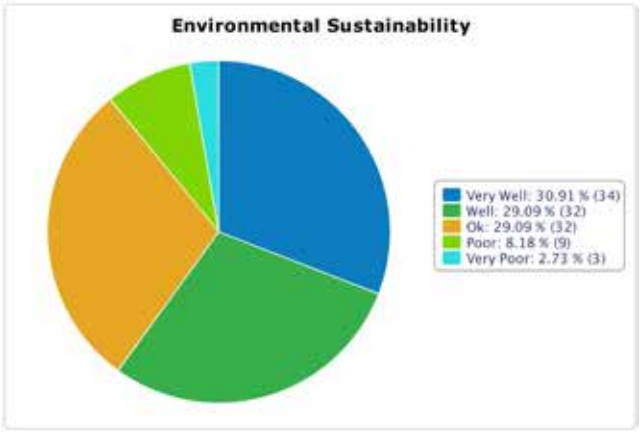

Parques e Instalaciones Únicas y Distintivas
Muy Bien: 70.00 % (7)
Bien: 20.00 % (2)
Ok: 10.00 % (1)

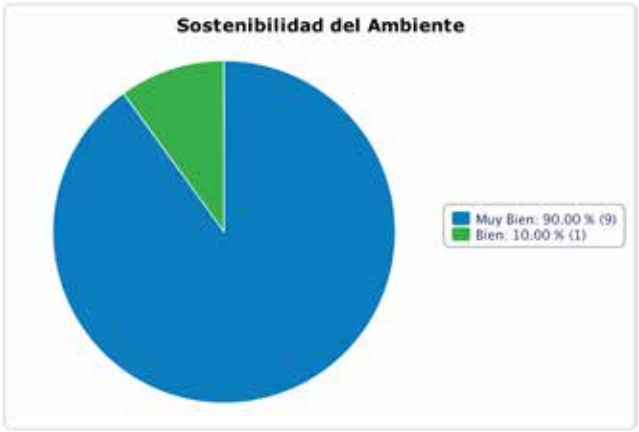

Operational Efficiency and Economic Feasibility
Very Well: 26.36 % (29)
Well: 40.00 % (44)
Ok: 26.36 % (29)
Poor: 5.45 % (6)
Very Poor: 1.82 % (2)

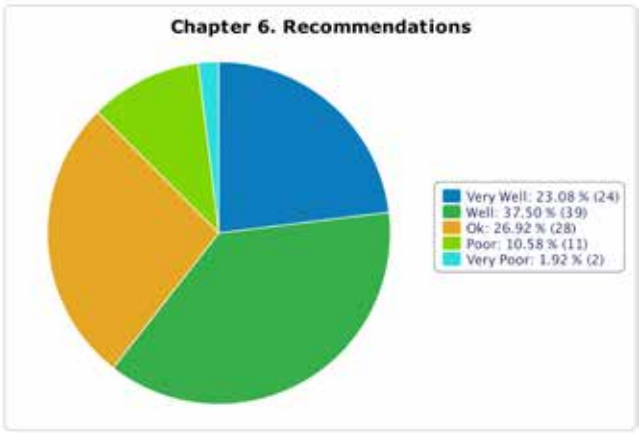

Eficiencia Operativa y Factibilidad Económica
Muy Bien: 70.00 % (7)
Bien: 20.00 % (2)
Ok: 10.00 % (1)

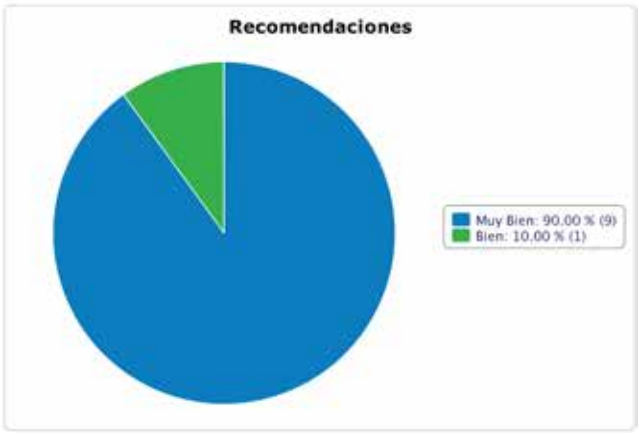

Creative Solutions
Very Well: 25.23 % (28)
Well: 34.23 % (38)
Ok: 32.43 % (36)
Poor: 6.31 % (7)
Very Poor: 1.80 % (2)


Soluciones Creativas
Muy Bien: 70.00 % (7)
Bien: 20.00 % (2)
Mal: 10.00 % (1)


Environmental Sustainability
Very Well: 30.91 % (34)
Well: 29.09 % (32)
Ok: 29.09 % (32)
Poor: 8.18 % (9)
Very Poor: 2.73 % (3)


Sostenibilidad del Ambiente
Muy Bien: 90.00 % (9)
Bien: 10.00 % (1)


Chapter 6. Recommendations
Very Well: 23.08 % (24)
Well: 37.50 % (39)
Ok: 26.92 % (28)
Poor: 10.58 % (11)
Very Poor: 1.92 % (2)


Recomendaciones
Muy Bien: 90.00 % (9)
Bien: 10.00 % (1)

designated dog parks is NOT a good idea. Nealon Parks softball diamond smells like dog poop and it horrible for men's softball and the baseball leagues that use it.

- There should be public restroom facilities at all city parks.
- Section 1.1.5: To ensure accessibility for all, would recommend highlighting the different age groups of children e.g., most of the structures at Nealon park are inappropriate for children under 3 years of age, yet there are often many children age 1-3 who play there. It would be wonderful if we can have equipment at each park appropriate for a broader range of ages.
- Their should not be a charge for tennis court usage. The number of courts have decreased dramatically over the years and other neighboring cities with many more courts do not charge.
- Electric vehicle charging (at least Level 1 -- ordinary 110 volt outlets) at every park and rec center.
- No artificial turf at Burgess instead add it to Willow Park field. Do not add more tables or restrooms at Seminary Park. Enough with the trees! No changes to Burgess pools. Fine the way they are.
- It is difficult to determine square foot of parks and recreational facilities on the draft map on page 7. Update the maps on the website https://www.menlopark.org/DocumentCenter/View/18215/Parks-and-Facilities-Maps. It would be useful to have a chart that lists location, square footage, original building date, replacement of original building, and dates of repairs, painting, etc. This would facilitate a greater understanding of how to prioritize all Citywide projects.
- There are seem to be a lot. Too may priorities yields less priorities. There also seem to be some that have minimal impact on the actual usability of the parks which I believe should be the highest priority, like for example underground water storage or native plant species which have minimal impact on the users.
- There is clearly an attempt to broaden access by various subgroups in our community by the draft indicating diversity is important. Notably cultural and age diversity. I'd love to see something more direct about kinds of uses past that since playgrounds are called out, where are the dog parks? That is a source of revenue potentially and if it isn't mentioned, then it will be a case to not support these sites or growth.
- Need to specifically include language that states that toilets will be available at all or almost all parks. We really need bathrooms at all parks!
- I have only skimmed it. It looks at a glance extravagant. I guess that's what you get in a rich town.
- Please do NOT change the open grass space in Nealon Park or put a dog park anywhere in the center of the park. Whoever recommended putting a dog park in the center grass area did NOT attend the community meetings held at Little House where the unanimous decision was to not put the dog park there. You can do less damage by making the last 2 tennis courts into a dog park.
- Page 99: in the section 1.1.7 I'm not sure where else this might be included, but I think there ought to be an acknowledgement that the city needs to provide off-leash dog areas. In the Bay Area, dog parks are a standard amenity and Menlo Park

does not have adequate areas for this community. The off leash area in Willow Oaks park is rather small, but the hours of use are great. Nealon is a great area with plenty of area to run, but limited hours. We understand that we live in a town with limited free land, but dog owners should have some areas to exercise their dogs off leash.

- Pare them down so they can actually be followed. Add weights and metrics. The short list that you handed out at the April Master Plan Outreach and Advisory Committee meeting was better.

- I like that we're specifically aiming for lighting to interfere as little as possible with dark skies.

- In general, more opportunities for off-leash dog use (not "dog parks") where dogs can run on play fields when they are otherwise being used. Encourage irresponsible dog owners to clean up after their pets by using signage and providing poop bags.

- I live in Sand Hill Circle with a 5 year old child. I've heard that it used to be a quiet neighborhood mainly consisted of senior generation. However, in the last 5 years or so, more and more school-aged children are moving into this community with their family. Would it be possible for a city to create a park walking distance from Sand Hill Circle? Currently, we have to drive out 10-20 min one way just for a park (yes, traffic is so bad on Sand Hill Rd after school, especially after 3pm). Sharon Park is closest from our place, but we don't use it because there's no restrooms and play structure is only for babies and toddlers. (Usually, we drive out to NEALON or JACK W. LYLE PARK.) I understand that we are isolated from the rest of the Menlo Park community, but considering that younger children are increasing in this neighborhood, it is nice that there is a safe place to gather and play in the walkable distance for both young and old.

- I agree with the guidelines that the fees for residents to use the recreational facilities or for my kids to take part in the recreational classes should be EQUITABLE. It is ridiculous and unfair that we have to pay a higher fee for all recreational activities because we live on the west side of Menlo Park (1985 Valparaiso) and are not considered MP residents.

- Lyle Park - it would be great to add a shaded picnic table area, but also preserve some open grass space nearby (so that there is grass to play on that is not the soccer field). Nealon Park - lots of exciting changes. Please improve crosswalk situation crossing over Middle Avenue to Blake; it is extremely dangerous. Agree there are unused areas of the space (Southern corner for example) that could be better utilized. Fremont Park - definitely needs a bathroom given all the community events. Add more picnic tables for community enjoyment.

- More public art, especially sculptures/elements that can be infused into play pieces for kids. Menlo Park is a virtually art-less city, minus the questionable galleries on Santa Cruz Ave. It could come alive so well with murals, sculptures, or other elements.

- feels like designed by committee, without vision or priorities. Also, could be more interesting programs, activities like city of Boulder, CO has a great line up of speakers and creative programs. I didn't see mention of technology. We're in the heart of silicon valley, but there's no use of technology to access/reserve/see what's available. Can you reserve use of parks/facilities online or see what's available?

- Adding financial information, cost and funding source.

- I would like to hear an update to the city's libraries as well. Would love to ensure that every park has a permanent bathroom.

- I am a homeowner in Menlo Park & have been for 37 years. During that time I have paid taxes that go to the schools as well as other areas. I have no children. I would like to recommend that Nealon Dog Park be retained at its current site. I am very happy with the location. The location affords the dogs an opportunity to run free during the morning two hour window. There have been many suggestions to move it to a smaller area on the site. I feel this will not afford the dogs the opportunity to get the exercise they need in this urban environment.

- I would like the Guidelines to specify that the parks and rec facilities and programs are primarily for the residents of the City of Menlo Park. It continually irks me that huge parts of the Burgess pool programming is for the benefit of the 3rd party operator to make a profit from programs that are heavily used by non-residents. Such contracts should de-couple the outsourced operation of the facilities from the management of programs, which could be outsourced or kept in-house even if the programs themselves are provided by 3rd parties. Also, since certain types of programs could be used by all residents, any outreach for a particular park or facility should incorporate input from more than the nearby neighborhood, ideally from across the city.

- There is not much mention of the plans to continuous upkeep of the tennis courts at Nealon Park, Burgess Park, and La Entrada. In recent years, they have fallen into disrepair.

- Not sure if i missed it but the guidelines should include 1) making Menlo Park a more multi cultural place 2) improving and making downtown Menlo Park more alive and exciting - should invite new restaurants and businesses.

  And more fun events - like world music festival, world dance festival which aligns with inclusion of communities of all cultures.

- I love a place to have my favorite Jazzercise class. -my kids Love the City Summer Camp at ARC -Our parks are in need, they need toilets, 1 with a water feature and more inclusion. -No more east vs west vs Sharon heights

- Expand / update Flood Park

- Something about how the ingress and egress of parks should consider the arrival and departure of bikes and peds. Many of the parks are developed for cars...not people arriving on bike and foot.

- I'd like the vending machines in Rec center removed or switched to healthy options. After school classes and summer camps are inferior to other cities such as RWC and I've heard it's bc Menlo Park takes a larger percentage of the fee?

- Naming rights as a revenue source should not be considered! As housing becomes denser, there should be a corresponding emphasis on open space (passive use), pocket parks, etc.

- Please ensure all parks have water features for children to play in and for the general enjoyment. Please update the dog parks and add water fountains for humans and dogs. Please make sure all parks are accessible for all people, including

this with disabilities. Add a Magical Bridge Park.

- I would like to see more public spaces for families and kids in west Menlo. The only parks available are at schools. Need something in - between Jack Lyell and Sharon Park.

- I would love to see more parks. A small park in each neighborhood would be ideal.

COMMENTS ON PARK RECOMMENDATIONS:

- I'd like to see more water areas, free places for kids to play in the water, even if it's just a small recycled water splash area (with plenty of shade for parents). Many homes don't have air conditioning, especially in the poor neighborhoods. These children need relief.

- It would be ideal if Kelly park also included a dog park for us to utilize on a daily basis.

- Onetta . I woud like to see more thing that reflects the neighborhood available.

- Bedwell Shoreline Park needs to be preserved as open space, restrooms maintained, and trails improved. It must not be developed with soccer fields, boat ramps etc...

- Chapter 5- reducing the infield dirt for Burgess Field would make this field useless. It is currently used by the Menlo Atherton Little League Juniors division which requires a larger diamond than the Little League Majors division who plays next door. It would be great to provide the older kids to continue playing baseball past their 12 year old season.

- The park by the boys and girls club, should have bathrooms, upgrade water fountain.

- Nealon Park: Recommend assessing the parking along Middle Avenue. We have witnessed a number of near-misses as cars try to back out into the busy street and kids meanwhile are crossing the cross-walk. Given the ample parking in the lot, I'd be curious if there was additional potential to better utilize these parking spaces (e.g., the off playing field dog area) while also making the park a bit safer.

- I would like to see Nealon Dog Park moved off the baseball fields and create a space in front of Little House. There are safety and health concerns with dogs/waste on the same fields where children play.

  Consider adding an additional 20-30' of height to the left- and center-field fence/net at Nealon softball field. I play left field and routinely see home runs hit onto the tennis courts, which could be a real safety concern for those playing tennis.

- Remove Nealon Dog park from the baseball field and create separate space in front of Little House. The dog park on the fields where children play is not safe.

- The recommendations seem to overlook the fact that the parks are used by many different sports organizations, and that the need for space continues to grow.

- Electric vehicle charging (at least Level 1 -- ordinary 110 volt outlets) at every park and rec center.

- I am in favor of dog facilities (off leash) that can be used around the clock.

- Sometimes I feel things get continually repeated

at these meetings until you get a whole force of people actually saying anything. Belle haven is community that needs better community building amongst neighbors. language is a big barrier for this community. Also a way to get the word out about these meetings might be through the schools (belle haven) to make sure the underprivileged families also can provide input on any developing park ideas.

- We are approaching the summer season. Signage at Bedwell Bayfront Park needs to be upgraded ASAP. (This is a waterfront park, not embedded in a residential-business area.)

- The prioritization and feasibility study on the The Onetta Harris Community Center, Menlo Park Senior Center, Belle Haven Youth Center, Belle Haven Pool, and Kelly Park comprehensive community recreation campus should move forward as recommended on page 4. It would be helpful to have the Noll & Tam Architects, Onetta Harris Community Center & Menlo Park Senior Center Existing Building Evaluation, 2018, posted on the project page.

- If you can add the repavement of paths at Willows park that would be great.

- I do not support the addition of lights to the playing fields of Burgess Park nor replacing any part of Burgess with turf. Reduction of the baseball field infield is a good idea. The playground at Burgess is already very nice and well shaded and does not need renovation. I enjoy the open space and trees at Burgess and do not support the loss of either. Outdoor fitness equipment is a particularly bad idea. There is already some along the Caltrain ROW on Alma and it is rarely used.

- For Lyle park in particular, I believe that there are a couple of easy changes that could be made to enhance the safety of the parks usage, generally in alignment with the guidelines. Number one is adding a raised crosswalk to cross Fremont street from the northern entrance to the park. There are a lot of pedestrians crossing at this location, but no crosswalk and no speed control. Due to the restrictions on parking on the park side of Fremont street, the average car speed really picks up as people travel from Santa Cruz towards middle once they pass the drain dip at Florence. This would enchants the safety of pedestrian and bicycle access to the park, as well as people parking on Fremont street. Number two is to complete the metal fencing around the grass area adjacent to middle. This is a great extended play area for younger children when the field is in use for soccer, but the lack of fencing adjacent to Fremont and Middle creates a safety hazard. Third one is the enforcement of the no dogs off leash which is posted as a rule in that park. Lyle Park currently is not designated as an off leash dog park yet gets significant off leash dog usage. Naturally off leash dog usage is intimidating to other park users, due to barking dogs, biting dogs, and dogs stealing children's toys. I have used Lyle park for years, and every tense or intimidating interaction I have seen at the park has been instigated by a poor behaving dog not allowing for the shared use of the park by all users. With regards to dedicating a portion of Lyle park to fenced in off leash dog use, I do not believe that is a good use of space. Nealon park which is very nearby already has a off leash dog area, and given the high utilization of the Lyle soccer field, the small grass available for recreational use while soccer is ongoing provides an additional activity space for park users. I think dedicating this to

dog use would be overly prioritizing the needs of dog park users.

- Nealon Park: Off-leash shared use has worked well for many, many years. A large number of dog owners hope that the current arrangement can be continued.

- Please do not put an off leash dog area in Nealon park. Also much prefer mulch to rubber playground

- The details on changes to Nealon Park (on pages 132-133) are very vague and I feel they are not being truly transparent of something already decided. As the city and residents went through many meetings about the location and facilities of the dog park, I feel the outcome of those are not represented. We received confirmation the large un-fenced grass area would not change per the city's open green space provisions, but this plan sites changes to the pathways to create a fenced in dog park. Before approving this Master Plan, I feel it important to know exactly what the new pathways are being proposed and where the fences would be placed - especially since construction on the park if already underway.

- They are fine

- I am a home owner on Morey Street with my house up against Nealon Park. I have two children and a dog. After all the previous discussions and town meetings about relocating the dog park in Nealon Park, the residents were told the plan will NOT include relocating the dog park to the open field by Little House. As such, I am stunned to see on pages 132-133 that the plan calls for moving the dog park.

  When the dog park was temporarily moved recently to the field by Little House, the excessive dog barking noise was extremely bothersome to the Morey Street residents. The dog barking is already loud in the current location, but it is limited to only two hours a day. The plan calls for moving the barking closer to our homes and extends the hours to all day - this is not acceptable to the Morey residents! Please don't allow all day dog barking in our backyards! Would you want YOUR house right on the edge of a dog park? Please protect the residents of Morey Drive and do not allow this change.

  Finally, as both a parent and dog owner, the primary need in our neighborhood is for an open space, free use field - please don't take that away from the residents. The open field is the only open field in West Menlo that is not used for organized sports, meaning it is available, and constantly used by, families, couples, etc to picnic, play frisbee, fly kites, etc.

- Please spray for caterpillars

- I think the idea of sharing Nealon park in any way with the dogs is a terrible idea. Nealon park is a small park used by residents from downtown, Allied Arts, and all other parts of Menlo park. People come there for the beautiful open grass areas and the wonderful playground. Trying to combine it with a dog park is terrible idea. The dog area will not be pretty, and will be a sore for park goers. Also, it will remove a very desirable portion of the park from the playground for the dogs which is a huge loss for this little park. I very much oppose the idea of installing a dog park in Nealon Park. If the baseball field cannot accommodate all the dogs, its time for other solutions not involving Nealon Park.

- My main interest is Nealon Park. I would be SO SAD to see the dog park size reduced. Certainly not at the expense of the open space where toddlers play and families picnic next to the playground.

- Please listen to the people who attended the planning event for Nealon Park at Little House and do NOT put the dog park in the center lawn area.

- Remove dog park from baseball field at Nealon Park! Having trouble determining if this is addressed in the plan.

- Page 132-133... Nealon Dog Park... this issue has been very contentious for well over a decade. Wise not to bury it deep in this large planning document. After extensive public meetings over this, your plan now calls to reconfigure park paths... Would be wise to have a meeting with various stakeholders (especially neighbors) to elicit consensus and compromise. There is room for all, but be transparent. How many times can we attend meetings, request to be added to email lists, but never receive info? Found this via an article on InMenlo... have signed up for email lists at every public meeting I've attended, and never received a single email about these projects.

- I agree with the sections about updating the parks on the East side of 101. Until traffic concerns are addressed, though, I don't see that area becoming much of a meeting area for all members of the city. I live in the Willows and certainly think long and hard before going to that side only because of traffic.

  The recommended location of the dog park change in Nealon park is a downgrade for dog owners. That small an area becomes crowded quickly (4 med-large dogs can take a lot of space). With longer hours, the unique dog park community that has developed will probably disperse. I have made friends at Nealon of all ages and backgrounds and it would be sad to lose that connectivity. Also, most dog owners I know would rather have SPACE rather than agility equipment or other amenities.

- The wording of the question shows the bias in the recommendations. The word "City's" is telling. Instead, the question should ask how well the Recommendations address residents' needs. I was very disappointed that a new branch was not a blatant part of the proposed plan for a redesigned Onetta Harris Center. The residents have clearly stated that they consider the OHC their "center." Instead of listening to them, the Recommendations includes an obvious bias towards putting a new Branch at the Willows Village, which hasn't been approved. The pool should also prioritize swim lessons for residents and recreational swimming over serving an elite swim team's program. You can also consider adding more child care by possibly outsourcing the running of the aquatics program to the YMCA. Gym. I'm disturbed by the idea of renting out facilities for elite gymnastics training. Instead, I would reconsider all the programming at the facility. Non-used rooms could possibly be used by the library for programming that they don't have room for. I would like to see a copy of the 2014 Operational and Administrative Review of the P&R Programs. You reference this in your document, but I could not find it at the City's website.

- It is great to learn that Menlo Park city is proactive in making positive changes for the community! Thank you!

- Tinker Park could really use a few more play elements. Even if intended for tiny tots, it could still have a couple more play items, like bouncy seats/animals. Or something over on the grassy side.

- Generally I like --Walkability: Strive to ensure that every Menlo Park resident is within a 10 minute (1/2 mile) walk of a park or recreation facility. Also thoughts to improve parks closeness to creeks. I live near Sharon Hills park, and like your ideas there

- Ability to see when tennis courts are reserved. Jim Heebner takes the best courts Nealon Park at the best times and there's no way to tell if they're reserved. Even if they're not reserved, he'll stick a sign up on the court saying they are. Residents who pay such high taxes and purchase a key should have a modern way to see when they're available. Also, suggest that the less popular courts, like Willow or Burgess are used for city activities and Nealon courts are left available for residents full time.

- Nealon Park: Moving the dog park to another area is completely unnecessary, and the area suggested is inadequate. There is no health and safety issue to address that we have ever noticed. Moreover, the dog park plays an important role in building community. People from all over the city use it and form good friendships. There is no need for a small and large separation; we all get along fine. Willow Oaks dog park: Has a drainage problem, esp. when sprinklers run. The bark ground cover turns to compost and mud in winter. Water for the dog park is needed, as are restrooms. Signage is inaccurate.

- Additional picnic areas in most of the parks would also be great.

- I feel that there should be a slow down of development in town so that all residents can live a life with less stress.

- To accommodate enormous potential growth in population that the city's general plan now allows, the city must begin to consider NEW parks and facilities. That is totally missing

- Nealon Park: More frequent tennis upkeep with re-surfacing
  Burgess Park: More frequent tennis upkeep with re-surfacing
  La Entrada: More frequent tennis
  upkeep with re-surfacing

- Dog park at Nealon park must be relocated from ball field due to health/safety concerns.

- Willow Oaks Park
  - reduce the dog park area and increase hildren's playground area
  - replace play structures with more creative ones like a circular slides for all ability kids: eg magical playground in Palo Alto
  - add the rubber surface areas under playground
  - add merry go round

- Seminary Oaks - toilet
  Willow Oaks - toilet
  Burgess Park - water feature

- Flood park made rise for use of sports facilities (baseball, basketball, tennis and volley ball). Waterplay. Nature play explore structure.

- For Willow Oaks Park, please add something about improving the pathways in the park for easier bike/ped passage. This is a major hub the kids and families traveling to/from M-A and Laurel use. The circulation of passersby on bike/foot vs. those

staying at the park to play should be considered.

For Seminary Oaks park, please move the garbage cans away from the bench. The bench is practically unusable because of its close proximity to the trash cans. Love the new shade there, though!

- Willow Oaks: having restrooms would be awesome, and reconfiguring the space next to the dog park sounds great.

- While the gymnastics facility is lovely and updated, the teaching (or lack there of is horrendous). On the other hand, the swimming teaching is great, but their bookkeeping is poor and the bathrooms need a major upgrade and more cleaning and maintenance.

- Parks are very unequally distributed across Menlo Park, especially around West Menlo park (writing about something I know first hand). This does not seem to have been a focus. Else I can see a lot of good will in the plan, thanks for your hard work !

- I definitely think all Menlo Park playgrounds need a face lift. If you compare them to the playgrounds in SF we are light years away, from a safety, aesthetic, and usability standpoint. I would love to see to see all the bark chip replaced by soft rubber flooring and more incorporation of natural elements and water features

- Belle Haven Community Campus: redevelopment is not complete without an accompanying access plan.
  Burgess: no additional reservable picnic areas if it reduces non-sports field green space.
  Willow Oaks: sculpture may identify, but does not enhance.
  Fremont Park: Permanent stage OK, but NO amphitheater. Add restroom.

- With two young children, we are always at either Jack W. Lyle Park or Nealon Park. Nealon Park is great but lacks safety. The busy street and awkward parking situation combined with the playground being so close to the parking/street is really hard to manage. It would be nice to have shade and picnic tables farther off the street as well and INSIDE the gated area. As it is now, we always bring a blanket and sit inside the gated area for snacks and rest but it would be nice to have tables.

- Please consider the wording around lighting at Burgess park. This section doesn't mention lighting what parts of the park. I think its important to mention lighting for the baseball field, soccer field, and the skatepark.

- As a dog owner, I really appreciate the recommendations including several new dog park considerations. Stanford Hills, Sharon Park, and Nealon are all great places to build much needed fenced in dog parks, Dog owners would especially appreciate it if at least of one the proposed dog parks could make it into the 1st phase of the final plan.

- I'm glad efforts are being made to increase off-leash areas for dogs. Using the baseball field at Nealon Park is awful and a new area with longer hours and separate small/large dog areas is appreciated! Also establishing off-leash large/small areas for dogs at Sharon Park would be a great use of an unutilized area of that park. Thank you!

- There are plenty of playing fields. Aside from Bedwell Park there are few quiet places to walk, sit and get away from noise.

- Hamilton Park - -- YES! Please add a tot lot for kids

ages 2-5. There are lots of little kids playing on the current structure that is too big and dangerous for them.

COMMENTS ON FACILITY RECOMMENDATIONS:

- We need a fitness center not a room with 6 machines that is called a fitness room we should have a fitness center that mimic the Burgess fitness center is should not matter if this is located on the east or west side of Menlo Park.
- I would like to see more open gym hours for the neighborhood . My children have to go to Burgess if they want to play. Onetta is always booked.
- Chapter 5- Willow Parks basketball courts are underutilized because they are no maintained. It would be a great to move tennis courts, resurface them and resurface and add lighting to the basketball courts so that they can be used. Turned ankles on the cracked asphalt is what keeps people from using the courts.
- Onetta Harris need to have more classes for children we are limited we need more
- More help with funding for the programs
- They need more classes at Onetta Harris just like the other side of Menlo Park Burgess Park
- The afterschool program need more classes in the Onetta Harris building they need to offer more like
- Onetta Harris need more classes for children
- Burgess pool- currently does not feel like a community pool. The third party contractor prioritizes lap lanes and lessons over a community gathering vibe (a la style of Ladera community pool for example). Baby pool area often closed due to understaffing. I agree fitness and swimming for exercise is important, but would be nice if more area dedicated to younger children/ families. I agree shaded areas for chairs, perhaps tables, community gathering would be a very nice addition and elevated the pool from feeling like everyone's gym to a place for the community to mingle.
- Worth considering outside operators for the Gymnastics facility so that children's birthday parties/private events can take place and drive revenue for the city.
- I encourage rebuilding all of Onetta Harris/senior center/pool area
- Do NOT over develop Jack Lyle Park. It currently suffers from year round soccer as the only organized sport. It used to support the "sport of the season" (baseball, football, soccer, lacrosse, volleyball, frisbee, etc.). So when all the soccer is going on (daily practice and dawn to dusk games on weekends) the only park remaining for neighbors and is the corner grassy area behind the half-court basketball. Yes, a simple fence would help keep dogs, young kids and occasional ball in that corner, but don't take space away for a picnic grove. DO NOT make that corner a dog park. Our neighbors voted the dog park idea down years ago. Many thanks for the new bathrooms.
- I don't know about the buildings. The paths look fine to me. Not sure money has to be spent there. I would save the money and spend it on securing fence for dogs.

- Menlo Park Onetta Harris Center is an aging center versus some of the other structures provided in Menlo Park. This is probably due to the fact we disregard it as a "possibly" more useful facility. The entire center is very welcoming to families, yet with an aging structure, there is not nearly enough useful space for a growing, diverse community. Where I was once a person who would want to go to the community center makes me not want to go and instead go to another community center. Not only to note there seems to be not enough room for seats during city meetings in the senior center- discouraging many more residents to come because they can not sit comfortably or fit in the senior center. Similarly the Onetta Harris center seems so small it's almost the tiniest community center I have seen in the entire peninsula. The pool at Onetta Harris also is no where compared to burgess pool. I always want to go to burgess pool because of the open community swim hours and season. I do know the parks and recreation as whole does not decided classes but an idea I saw at Red Morton community center was an open cooking class a few years back. I think it would be a good idea to include some family activities classes at the Onetta Harris center. This would target the population in belle haven but also build better foundations for the families and help them.

- Sharon Hills Park- Sidewalks instead of rubble path on the side of the road. Runners are often on the road in the path of cars and this is incredibly dangerous given the grade and curve of the road. Paved running ways would be great too as would upgraded exercise stops along the way of the path.

- It would be great to add a family fitness center to Burgess.

- Adding a permanent cover to the Burgess Instructional Pool will change the overall design and uniqueness of the pool. The open pool concept and the grass areas are what makes the pool so unique and nice. It would be a SHAME to cover it up.

- Yes, shade is greatly needed at burgess

- My family and I absolutely LOVE Menlo Swim and Sport!!!

- Sharon restroom -- What is the cost to clean and to have it locked after dust ?? Concerned that homeless will make it a home. Maybe use the French Company ones that require $ to use.

- Fine.

- People who bought their homes along Nealon Park's boundaries should have a stronger input when it comes to policies that will affect their quiet lives.

- I very strongly support building a fitness center in central MP. I have tried everything under the sun to find a fitness facility, but unless I am willing to drive and/or pay more than $199/month, I cannot find one. I'm so glad to see this in the recommendations and eagerly await the opening.

- Adding a fitness facility to Burgess would be great.

- The general public also does not support a new Main Library right now. So I'm disturbed that the Recommendations incuded a reference to that. Children's Center, seems to me that we need more child care. Nealon Park -- always seems under used to me. Before expanding the Burgess Park snack shack, please check with some nearby affordable restaurants in town to see what kind of

impact that might have on their business. Maybe some might even like a public/private partnership with the city for this.

- So happy to see the Onetta Harris community center on the list for revamping. Even happier to see that we are looking at all the component parts of a community center together instead of piecemeal fixing. Fully support the option that folds community and senior center into a facility that would also hopefully include a full branch library. Reach out to Mitchell Park library in Palo Alto to find out how their plan of library/ community center integration fell short of their expectations so that we can do it better.

- I strongly do not putting a permanent cover on the warm/instructional pool at Burgess. I do not swim there in the winter because I do not like swimming without seeing the sky in the instructional pool and it feels claustrophobic and gives me a headache. The other pool is too cold for me. The water is so warm in the instructional pool, I do not see why covering it increases comfort...one has to exit to get to the locker rooms as it is. Please do not cover this beautiful place to swim!

- I LOVE the idea of an updated GYM w equipment and such at Burgess.

- Like idea of adding cardio equipment. Check out city of Boulder Co rec department, for $600/year, you get access to amazing gym and facilities.

- This is too much information to digest WITH ALMOST NO OUTREACH and to respond within a very short period.

- Staff at gymnastics must be increased and those who receive regular poor feedback should either improve immediately or work elsewhere.

- I take exercise classes at The Burgess Community center. The acoustics in the dance studios are abysmal. The echoes make the instructors unintelligible. As a person with a hearing impairment it puts me at a distinct disadvantage. I cannot understand the instructions intended to keep me from injuring myself during the class.

- Facility rental rates at Arrillaga are too high for a community center!! Please reduce the rates to make them more accessible to rent.

- Keep the great programs and independent classes. I am not a fan of having an outside company monopolizing facilities (Menlo swim and sport)

- Upgrade swimming bathrooms. For example, there is no light in the women's bathroom entryway. Also, sometimes things are broken. They're way too small.

- Burgess: Fitness center is only appropriate if all management/staffing is outsourced. This is not a core competency, nor should rates be subsidized or inflated by employee benefits. All facilities should be designed as flexible space to allow for changing needs

- Dedicated off-leash area for dogs at Nealon Park.

  I have used the playing field park with my dogs for over 10 years and do not agree with the premise that the dog park must be relocated "to address health and safety concerns" and the city has never presented data to support this claim.

  What are the specific health concerns? Safety concerns?

  The playing field is used by about 50-60

individuals each weekday morning with an average of 25-30 plus the same number of dogs present at the same time. I cannot understand how 1/2 acre can accommodate current these users and dog activities. Dogs need to run and retrieve and this will be more dangerous in a much smaller space.

Dog owners do a great job of cleaning up after their pets and the city already checks the fields after the morning session to ensure it is clean. So what is the problem?