



FINAL REPORT

# City of San Fernando Park & Recreation Master Plan

November 2017



*Community Inspired Spaces*



**RJM** DESIGN GROUP



# City of San Fernando

## Park and Recreation Master Plan

November 2017

### City of San Fernando City Council

**Sylvia Ballin**  
Mayor

**Antonio Lopez**  
Vice Mayor

**Joel Fajardo**  
Councilmember

**Robert C. Gonzales**  
Councilmember

**Jaime Soto**  
Councilmember

### City of San Fernando Recreation and Community Services

**Maribel Perez**  
Recreation Supervisor

**Marisol Diaz**  
Program Specialist

**Maria Calleros**  
Office Specialist

**Linda Bowden-Moreno**  
Office Specialist

**Virginia Diediker**  
Cultural Arts Supervisor

Prepared by





# City of San Fernando

.....

## Park and Recreation Master Plan

November 2017

Prepared for



City of San Fernando  
117 Macneil Street  
San Fernando, CA 91340  
<http://www.ci.SanFernando.ca.us/>

Prepared by





# Acknowledgements

## City of San Fernando City Council

Sylvia Ballin, Mayor  
Antonio Lopez, Vice Mayor  
Joel Fajardo, Councilmember  
Robert C. Gonzales, Councilmember  
Jaime Soto, Councilmember

---

## Project Team

### City of San Fernando Parks, Wellness and Recreation Commission

Adriana Gomez, Chair  
Nina Herrera, Commissioner  
Saydith Navarro, Commissioner  
Yolanda Haro, Commissioner  
Joe Ponce, Commissioner

### City of San Fernando Recreation and Community Services

Maribel Perez, Recreation Supervisor  
Marisol Diaz, Program Specialist  
Maria Calleros, Office Specialist  
Linda Bowden-Moreno, Office Specialist  
Virginia Diediker, Cultural Arts Supervisor

### Design and Planning Consultants

#### RJM Design Group

Robert J. Muetting, Principal, RJM Design Group Inc.  
Zachary Muetting, Project Manager, RJM Design Group Inc.  
Tamara Popel, Landscape Architect, RJM Design Group Inc.  
Pam Wooldridge, Telephone Survey Specialist  
Chris Coman, Demographics

---

**A special thanks to our stakeholders who participated in the planning process:**

***City of San Fernando Community Members***



## Table of Contents

Table of Contents.....	9
Appendix (Under Separate Cover).....	10
List of Exhibits.....	11
Executive Summary.....	13

### 1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Purpose of the Park and Recreation Master Plan.....	19
1.2 Benefits of Parks and Recreation.....	20
1.3 Approach and Document Organization.....	21
1.4 City of San Fernando Physical Setting.....	22
1.5 City of San Fernando Demographic Context.....	26
1.6 Relationship to Other Documents.....	31

### 2. EXISTING RECREATION RESOURCES

2.1 Park Definition.....	35
2.2 San Fernando Park Types.....	35
2.3 Existing Recreation Facilities.....	38
2.4 Service Area Analysis.....	41
2.5 Acreage Analysis.....	43
2.6 Existing Joint Use Agreements.....	43
2.7 Adjacent Parks and Recreation Facilities.....	46
2.8 Existing and Planned Trails/Circulation.....	47

### 3. RECREATION FACILITY ASSESSMENT

3.1 Community Participation.....	51
3.2 Recreation Facility Demand and Needs Analysis.....	66
3.3 Recreation Facility Needs Summary and Prioritization.....	72
3.4 Recreation Program Needs Summary and Prioritization.....	74

### 4. RECREATION FACILITY RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 Overall Concept.....	79
4.2 Opportunities and Constraints.....	79
4.3 Recreation Recommendations.....	81
4.4 Concept Diagrams.....	83

## Appendix (Under Separate Cover)

1. Demographic Trends Analysis.....	5
2. Parks and Facilities Inventory Assessment (Park Data Sheets).....	10
3. Workshop 1 Summary.....	27
4. Workshop 2 Summary.....	33
5. Workshop 3 Summary.....	40
6. Stakeholder Interview Questions.....	44
7. Stakeholder Interview Summary.....	45
8. Sports Organization Questionnaire.....	56
9. Sports Organization Questionnaire Summary.....	60
10. San Fernando Resident Phone Survey Questions.....	64
11. San Fernando Resident Phone Survey Report.....	71
12. San Fernando Resident Phone Survey Cross Tabulations.....	88
13. Demand Needs Analysis.....	131

## List of Exhibits

Exhibit 1.4-1: Regional Map.....	23
Exhibit 1.4-2: Zoning Map.....	24
Exhibit 1.4-3: Land Use Map.....	25
Exhibit 1.5-1: Demographic Trends in the City of San Fernando.....	27
Exhibit 1.5-2: Population Change by Age Group City of San Fernando: 2000-2010.....	28
Exhibit 1.5-3: Change in Population by Race/Ethnicity City of San Fernando: 2000-2010.....	29
Exhibit 1.5-4: City of San Fernando Population Estimates and Projections.....	30
Exhibit 2.3-1: City of San Fernando Existing Parks and Facilities Map.....	39
Exhibit 2.3-2: City of San Fernando Existing Parks and Recreation Facilities Matrix.....	40
Exhibit 2.4-1: Service Area Map.....	42
Exhibit 2.6-1: School Inventory Map.....	44
Exhibit 2.6-2: City of San Fernando Existing School Inventory Matrix.....	45
Exhibit 2.8-1: Existing and Planned Trails Map.....	48
Exhibit 3.1-1: Frequency of Recreation Facility Use City of San Fernando Residents.....	53
Exhibit 3.1-2: Most Used Recreation Facility City of San Fernando Residents.....	54
Exhibit 3.1-3: Recreation Activities Participation City of San Fernando Share of Population Participating.....	54
Exhibit 3.1-4: Frequency of Recreation Programs or Events Use City of San Fernando Residents.....	55
Exhibit 3.1-5: One Recreation Facility Desired City of San Fernando Residents.....	55
Exhibit 3.1-6: Recreation Programs or Events Desired City of San Fernando Residents.....	56
Exhibit 3.1-7: Community-Wide Survey Demographic Characteristics City of San Fernando.....	56
Exhibit 3.2-1: Peak Day Facility Demand Analysis Based on Resident's Participation Rates 2016 Levels.....	67
Exhibit 3.2-2: Peak Day Facility Demand Analysis Based on Residents' Participation Rates 2030 Levels.....	68
Exhibit 3.2-3: Comparison of City of San Fernando Needs Ratios to Other Areas.....	68
Exhibit 3.2-4: City of San Fernando Recreation Facility Needs Analysis - 2016 Estimate.....	69
Exhibit 3.2-5: City of San Fernando Recreation Facility Needs Analysis 2030 Projection.....	70
Exhibit 3.2-6: Change in Demand for Recreation Facilities by Type, 2016 to 2030.....	71
Exhibit 3.2-7: Facility Requirements for Recreation Needs in San Fernando 2030 Estimate.....	71
Exhibit 3.3-1: Facility Needs Summary Matrix.....	73
Exhibit 3.3-1: Facility Needs Summary Matrix.....	75
Exhibit 4.2-1: Service Area Map Under Served Acquisition Areas.....	80
Exhibit 4.4-1: Las Palmas Park Recommendations.....	83
Exhibit 4.4-2: Layne Park Recommendations.....	84
Exhibit 4.4-3: Pioneer Park Recommendations.....	85
Exhibit 4.4-4: Recreation Park Recommendations.....	86



## Executive Summary

The San Fernando Park and Recreation Master Plan (referred to as the Master Plan) serves as a guide and implementation tool for the management and development of parks and recreational facilities for the City of San Fernando. The Master Plan process complements the defined strategy of the 1987 General Plan and Open Space Element, setting forth the vision to designate, as appropriate, open space land for the following purposes;

- Open space for the preservation of natural resources such as animal and plant life and ecological areas.
- Open space for the managed production of resources such as agricultural land areas or major mineral deposits.
- Open space for outdoor recreation such as areas particularly suited for park and recreation purposes.
- Open space for public health and safety such as areas which require special management or regulation because of hazardous conditions including earthquake fault zones and unstable soil areas.
- Open space dedicated to creating experiences that provide for good citizenship, a sense of community, and a better quality of life.

The Master Plan also reflects the defined goals and strategies of the 1992 Parks Action Program as follows;

- Provide both active and passive park facilities and recreation programs that address the leisure time needs of all ages, income levels, ethnic groups, and physical capabilities to enhance the overall quality of life of San Fernando as a whole.
- Promote community health and fitness through active recreation programs.
- Engage and maintain community support for parks and recreation programs.
- Use San Fernando's park and recreation system to help create a strong community image for San Fernando.
- Maintain all parks at the highest level possible to provide a pleasant and safe experience for users.

### The Master Plan Process

The Master Plan process commenced with an examination of the characteristics that define the community and an inventory of the existing recreational opportunities and resources available within the City of San Fernando. The inventory and analysis provide the foundational understanding of the community and serve as the starting point from which community members are engaged and their needs are identified.

Established methods of community involvement include; a San Fernando resident-specific telephone survey, sports organization questionnaire, community workshops, and stakeholder interviews. These provide multiple opportunities to engage community members from which a broad understanding of public issues, recreational facility usage patterns, and community needs for parks and recreation facilities are developed.

Study of the identified needs, facility usage patterns, demographic analysis, population projections, and recreation standards provide the basis for the quantification of facilities required to meet the identified community needs. Facility recommendations are derived based on priority of needs.

### **Existing Recreation Resources**

The City of San Fernando has seven (7) public parks, one (1) privately owned park, and three (3) community facilities with over thirty-two (32) acres of parkland within the City's park system. Parks within this system (as outlined in the 1992 Parks Action Program) are defined by the following categories; Major Parks, Community Parks, Neighborhood Mini-Parks, Joint-Use Recreation Facilities, InterCity Bikeway System, Hiking Trails, and Historic Trail/Scenic Walk Systems. These resources contain a variety of recreational opportunities including tot lots, baseball fields, basketball courts, tennis courts, multi-purpose / open space areas, community buildings, and trail access points.

### **Community Participation**

The Master Plan process utilizes a variety of methods to gather community information to ensure the process is as inclusive as possible and has the greatest benefit to the community. During the community outreach phase, information is gathered from residents and stakeholders through a variety of methods including the following: City of San Fernando Resident Telephone Survey, Sports Organization Questionnaire, Community Workshops, and Stakeholder Interviews.

### **City of San Fernando Resident Telephone Survey**

A total of 200 randomly-selected City of San Fernando household interviews were completed, representing approximately 700 residents. Respondents were contacted through use of a random digit dial sample with interviews conducted via land lines in English. The purpose of the survey is to obtain statistically valid, community-wide input on a variety of issues related to the Master Plan process including; community characteristics, rankings of parks and recreation facilities, parks and recreation facility use, desired facilities and programs, as well as issues and challenges facing the community.

### **Sports Organization Questionnaire:**

Seven (7) sports organizations responded to a questionnaire designed to gather information about organization participation, needs, and facilities used. The survey provides quantitative information on how sports organizations use parks and recreation facilities within the City, as well as qualitative information that allows for feedback from sports organization representatives on issues and concerns related to facility issues and needs.

### Community Workshops:

Three (3) community workshops were held at multiple locations in the City of San Fernando in the months of March, April and May 2017. The workshops focused on community characteristics, trends, sports organization user groups, and community feedback and prioritizations. The workshops provide residents with an overview of the Park and Recreation Master Plan and the Needs Assessment process, allowing the opportunity to provide feedback and insight, beyond the other community outreach measures.



### Stakeholder Interviews

Eight (8) one-on-one and group stakeholder interviews were conducted with selected individuals to establish an initial impression of relevant issues related to parks and recreation facilities within the City of San Fernando. Interviews provide key insight to a number of topics relative to those discussed in other community outreach activities.

### How Many Fields, Courts, Facilities, and other Recreation Elements Does the City Need Now and in the Future?

Knowing “how much” and “how often” residents use the existing parks and recreation facilities and the specific types of recreational activities in which they participate in is essential to establishing the specific type and number of facilities for which to plan for now and in the future. The combination of the community participation data highlights how San Fernando residents actually participate in park and recreational activities. Information from the telephone survey and sports organization questionnaire provide the basis for calculations which quantify how many parks and recreation facilities are actually needed by the community.

### What Are the Top Priority Facility and Program Needs for San Fernando?

Utilizing a variety of methods and tools of community engagement and analysis provides the greatest amount of feedback and ensures that the Master Plan is as inclusive as possible. The Facility Needs Summary Matrix (**Exhibit 3.5-1**) and Program Needs Summary Matrix (**Exhibit 3.6-1**) combines the results of the outreach methods together and highlights the specific facilities and programs needed by the community identified by each process, and provides a means for prioritization.

#### Highest Priority Facility Needs for the City include:

- Walking / Jogging Trails
- Soccer Fields
- Basketball Courts
- Bike Lanes / Bike Paths

#### Highest Priority Program Needs for the City include:

- Community Events
- Security



*Existing Basketball courts at Las Palmas Park.*

## Recommendations

Based on facility and program needs identified during the Facility Needs Assessment process, opportunities and constraints are studied and recommendations are made in detail in Section Four of this report. Ultimately, the process for continued recreation and facility planning and implementation will necessitate a multi-pronged approach including; City-wide park maintenance programming, planned park renovations and improvements, safety and security measures, circulation expansion, and joint-use agreement development. These recommendations will serve as a guide and implementation tools for San Fernando's Park and Recreation Department success now and in the future.



*Local residents participating in Community Workshop 1.*



# INTRODUCTION



## Section ONE: Introduction

### 1.1 Purpose of the Park and Recreation Master Plan

The San Fernando Park and Recreation Master Plan (hereafter referred to as Master Plan) serves as a guide and implementation tool for the management and development of parks and recreational facilities and programs within the City of San Fernando's boundaries. The Master Plan builds on previous planning efforts and provides an up-to-date understanding of the current and future recreation needs and opportunities within the City. In accordance with City's General Plan (1987) and Parks Action Program (1992), the Master Plan was developed to address several existing goals and policies, some of which include:

- Develop, upgrade and rehabilitate parks so that a determined level of service of community needs are met. (PAP, 1.1)
- Provide as broad a range of recreation opportunities as possible, including fee and non-fee based sports activities, cultural programs, crafts, and arts oriented activities. (PAP, 1.2)
- Promote family-oriented recreation and sports opportunities. (PAP, 1.3)
- Centralize competitive sports league quality facilities for organized youth and adult sports, using multi-purpose fields. (PAP, 1.4)
- Provide a wide range of recreational activities and programs that promote interaction between all age groups. Especially the youth and senior citizens of San Fernando. (PAP, 1.5)
- Provide a wide range of active recreation programs, including, but not limited to, team and individual sports, exercise, dance and gymnastics, and community-wide events. (PAP, 2.1)
- Extend recreation programs to include the employees of business within San Fernando. (PAP, 2.2)
- Promote greater cooperation and coordination with other public and semi-public agencies within San Fernando. (PAP, 3.1)
- Develop a continuing planning program to adequately address the City's parks, recreation, and open space needs in the future. (PAP, 3.2)
- Establish an active partnership with private sector agencies and groups to encourage private investment in the public parks and to expand the number of events available through joint public/private sponsorship. (PAP, 3.3)
- Use major community entries and arterial streets to enhance the City's overall beauty including the quality of landscaping and landscape maintenance within the public right-of-way, and the retention of heritage trees. (PAP, 4.1)
- Use the public park system, where feasible, to preserve buildings of historical significance that would otherwise be lost to development, including the acquisition of such buildings and the development of parks around them. (PAP, 4.2)
- Develop a dedicated scenic pedestrian network throughout San Fernando.

- Seize opportunities to recall and perpetuate San Fernando's rich Latino heritage through such undertakings as a "theme park". (PAP, 4.3)
- Preserve and improve the aesthetic appeal and image of San Fernando's existing park and recreation facilities. (PAP, 4.4)
- Design park facilities to require a minimum of maintenance consistent with good design practices. (PAP, 5.1)
- Implement programs that will insure adequate and continuous maintenance of public park facilities including landscape maintenance districts and other appropriate techniques.

Overall, The Master Plan provides a clear set of objectives to provide direction for the park system, open spaces, trails, and recreation facilities.

This document is intended to be flexible and presents findings and recommendations that should be evaluated, and/or modified every 5 to 10 years as the City responds to unforeseen opportunities and constraints as well as changes in residents' needs and demands in the context of other City priorities.

## 1.2 Benefits of Parks and Recreation

The benefits of parks and recreation are multi-fold. The California Park and Recreation Society (CPRS) "Vision Insight and Planning Project—Creating Community in the 21st Century" identifies the mission of California's park and Recreation agencies as:

***"To create community through people, parks and programs."***

The project also identifies benefits of park and recreation services including:

- Foster Human Development
- Promote Health and Wellness
- Increase Cultural Unity
- Facilitate Community Problem-solving
- Protect Natural Resources
- Strengthen Safety and Security
- Strengthen Community Image and Sense of Place
- Support Economic Development.



Community members participate in Healthy San Fernando events.

Additionally, a study conducted by Pennsylvania State University, “The Benefits of Local Recreation and Park Services - A Nationwide Study of the Perceptions of the American Public,” (1992) compiled a listing of the benefits of local recreation and park services as perceived by the American public.

Conclusions of the study included:

- The vast majority of the American public uses local recreation and park services.
- Playground use is the most common use.
- Park and recreational service use continues throughout life. Recreational participation declines with age, but park use does not. In fact, people between the ages of 65 and 74 use local parks more frequently than any other age group from those 14 and under.
- Local parks and recreation are associated with a sense of community. Community level benefits are considered more important than individual or household level benefits.

This Master Plan report aims to facilitate park and recreation planning and development, providing opportunities and recommendations for current and future growth needs based on benefits of park and recreation.

### 1.3 Approach and Document Organization

The Master Plan is organized into the following Four Sections:

#### Section One: Introduction

This section summarizes the Master Plan’s purpose, benefits of parks and recreation, organization, and a brief summary of the City’s physical and demographic context. A list of applicable documents that were reviewed as part of the Master Plan process are also identified.

#### Section Two: Existing Recreation Resources

Section Two provides inventory and classification of existing City parks and recreation facilities, key recreational resources available, joint-use agreements, understanding of adjacent recreation facilities, and existing and planned trails.

#### Section Three: Recreation Facility Needs Assessment

Section Three outlines the methods utilized during the Master Plan process to assess the recreation needs specific to the City of San Fernando. These methods include:

- **Community Participation:** provides direct responses from the local community and stakeholders; including;
  - City of San Fernando Resident Telephone Survey (provides statistically valid information regarding the types of recreation facilities most often utilized by residents)
  - Sports organization questionnaire
  - Community workshops
  - Stakeholder interviews

- **Service Area Analysis:** evaluates how parks and recreation facilities are distributed throughout residential areas in the City.
- **Acreage Analysis:** evaluates the parkland acreage needs in the City based on established standards and specific facility needs of the City.
- **Recreation Demand Analysis and Needs Analysis:** estimates current and future facility needs based on the City of San Fernando-specific Telephone Survey and the Sports Organization Questionnaire.
- **Facility Needs Summary & Prioritization:** prioritization of facility needs based on inclusive and representative data collected through the Facility Assessment process.

## Section Four: Recreation Facility Recommendations

This section provides recreation facility recommendations, which are intended to address the recreation needs identified in the demand needs analysis. Classification and prioritization are identified with consideration to known current and proposed capital improvement projects, and opportunity sites.

### Appendix (under separate cover)

The Appendix contains all of the original reports (workshop summary, trends analysis, demand and needs analysis, etc.), which have been summarized in this Facility Assessment document.

## 1.4 City of San Fernando Physical Setting

The City of San Fernando is located in the San Fernando Valley (the Valley), in the northwestern region of Los Angeles County, California. It is approximately 2.4 square miles in size, surrounded by the City of Los Angeles, and bordered by the communities of Sylmar, Lake View Terrace, Pacoima, and Mission Hills. San Fernando is separated from the Los Angeles Basin by the Santa Monica Mountains and is serviced by the I-5, I-210, I-405, SR 118, Sylar/San Fernando Metrolink station, Los Angeles International Airport, Van Nuys Airport and Burbank Bob Hope Airport, making it easily accessible from neighboring regions and communities.



In 1874, San Fernando became the Valley's first organized community. It was incorporated in 1911 and has grown significantly from an agricultural settlement and trading center into a uniquely positioned cornerstone of manufacturing and commerce. With a number of public, private and charter schools, civic services, and national award-winning community programs such as; 100 Citizens Fitness Program and the Master Mariachi Apprentice Program, San Fernando's predominantly residential community continues to grow notwithstanding it's nearly built out condition.

San Fernando's adjacency to significant natural and man-made features in the Valley has helped shape its family-oriented neighborhoods and rich cultural history, providing residents with a centrally located place to live, work and play.

Noteworthy nearby attractions include:

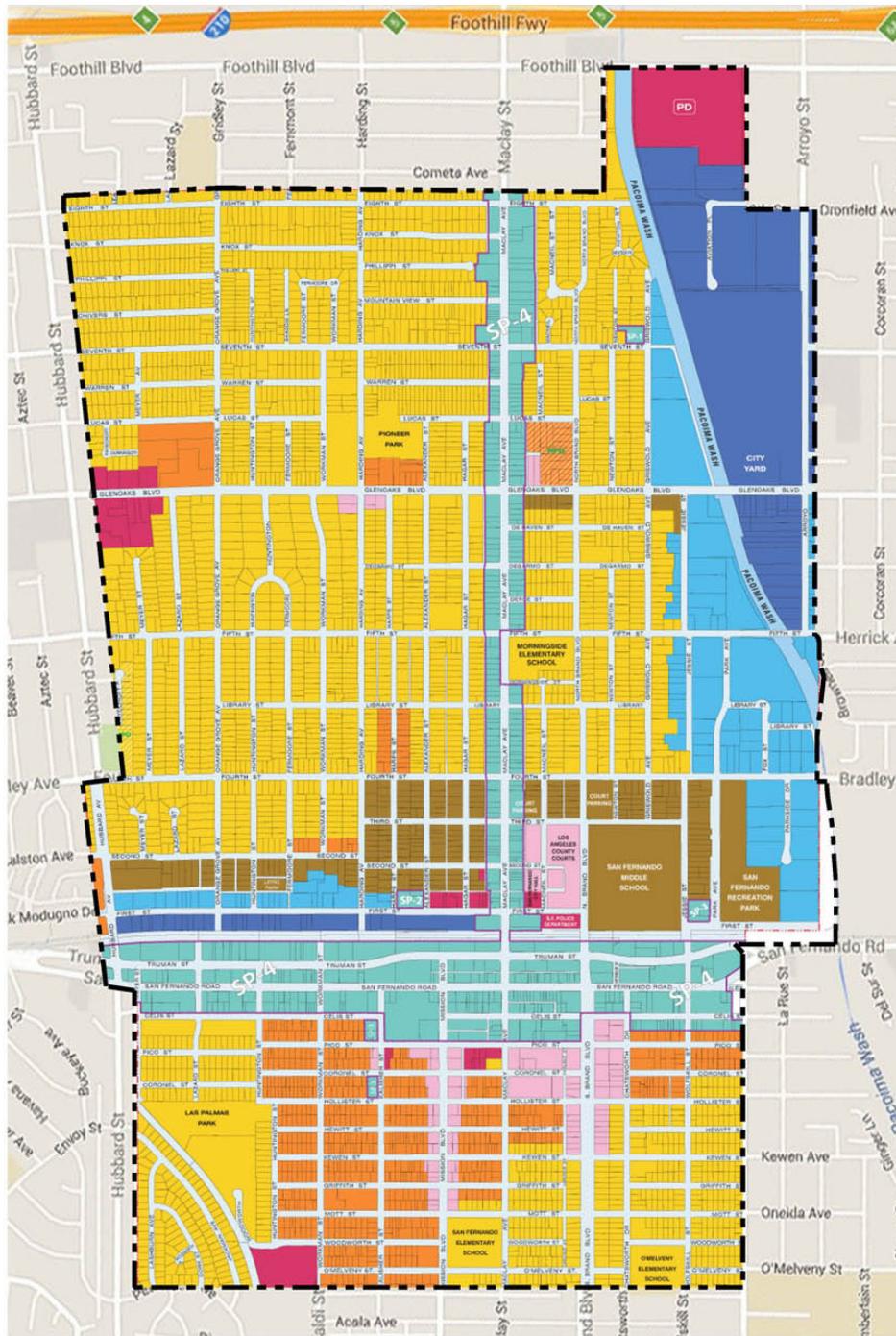
- Los Angeles International Airport
- Burbank Bob Hope Airport
- Van Nuys Airport
- Mission San Fernando
- Saddletree Open Space
- Michael D. Antonovich Open Space
- Hansen Dam

**Exhibit 1.4-1** is a regional map of the City of San Fernando and its location in Los Angeles County. **Exhibit 1.4-2** and **Exhibit 1.4-3** are the current zoning and land use maps, respectively.

Exhibit 1.4-1: Regional Map



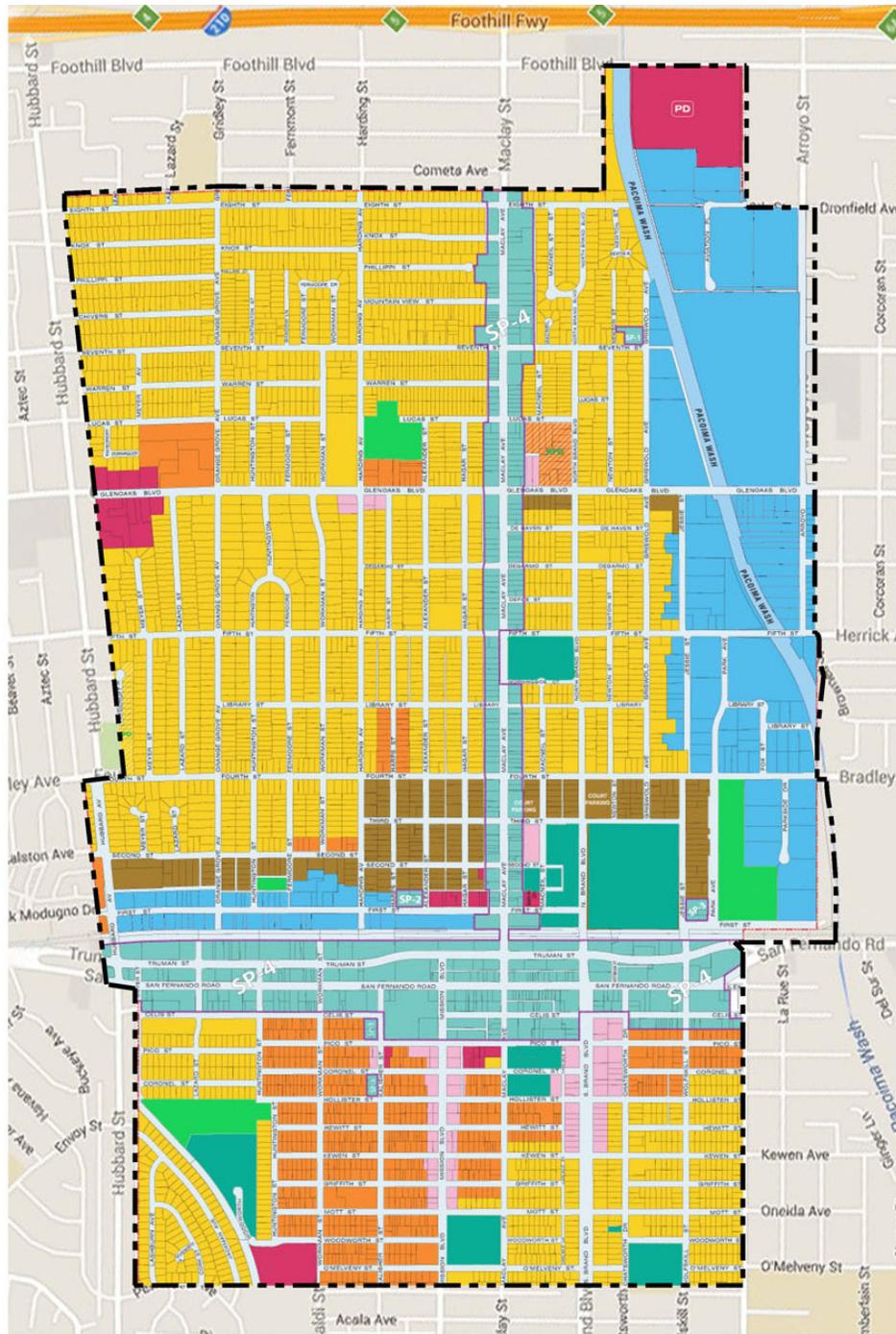
Exhibit 1.4-2: Zoning Map



LEGEND

<span style="background-color: #FFD700; border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">R-1</span> SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL	<span style="background-color: #ADD8E6; border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">M-1</span> LIMITED INDUSTRIAL
<span style="background-color: #FF8C00; border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">R-2</span> MULTIPLE FAMILY DWELLING	<span style="background-color: #4169E1; border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">M-2</span> LIGHT INDUSTRIAL
<span style="background-color: #8B4513; border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">R-3</span> MULTIPLE FAMILY	<span style="background-color: #40E0D0; border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">SP-4</span> CORRIDORS SPECIFIC PLAN
<span style="background-color: #FFB6C1; border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">C-1</span> LIMITED COMMERCIAL	<span style="background-color: #FFD700; border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">RPD</span> RESIDENTIAL PLANNED DEVELOPMENT
<span style="background-color: #DC143C; border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">C-2</span> COMMERCIAL	<span style="background-color: #DC143C; border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">PD</span> PRECISE DEVELOPMENT OVERLAY
<span style="background-color: #F0F0F0; border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">SC</span> SERVICE COMMERCIAL	

Exhibit 1.4-3: Land Use Map



- |   |                                      |   |                     |
|---|--------------------------------------|---|---------------------|
|  | LOW DENSITY RESIDENTIAL              |  | PUBLIC/QUASI-PUBLIC |
|  | MEDIUM DENSITY RESIDENTIAL           |  | PARK                |
|  | HIGH DENSITY RESIDENTIAL             |   |                     |
|  | CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT            |   |                     |
|  | COMMERCIAL                           |   |                     |
|  | INDUSTRIAL                           |   |                     |
|  | SAN FERNANDO CORRIDORS SPECIFIC PLAN |   |                     |

## 1.5 City of San Fernando Demographic Context

Understanding the demographic context of the City of San Fernando's population can create a valuable perspective for understanding current parks and recreation facility and program requirements and, moreover, for anticipating parks and recreation facility and program needs in the future. Demographic characteristics such as age, presence of children, ethnicity and income have been demonstrated in past research to have a relationship to recreating patterns and needs. For those reasons, historical change and emerging directions of the resident population and demography of San Fernando are important considerations as the City plans for and moves forward into its preferred future.

Four demographic analyses have been prepared as a foundation for understanding San Fernando's residents' recreation needs and preferences now and in the future.

- A review of historical population growth for residents of the City of San Fernando and for residents of Los Angeles County as a whole for perspective, examining data as of 2000 and 2010. This data describes the actual size of the resident growth for population in the City and the County as of 2015 is provided by the American Community Survey and, as of 2016, by the California Department of Finance.
- A review of historical household (occupied housing unit) growth for the City of San Fernando and Los Angeles County as a whole for perspective, examining data as of 2000 and 2010. This data describes the actual size of the resident household base and how it has changed over time. An updated estimate of growth for households in the City and the County as of 2015 is also provided by the American Community Survey and, as of 2016, by the California Department of Finance.
- A review of historical demographic trends for residents for the City of San Fernando and Los Angeles County as a whole for perspective, examining data as of 2000 and 2010. The data describe the actual make-up of the community and how it is changing over time, using many demographic factors, such as age, presence of children, household size, ethnicity, and income. Estimates from the 2015 American Community Survey are also included.
- A forecast of population and household growth to 2040 for the City of San Fernando, relying upon the 2016 Final SCAG Regional Transportation Plan Growth Forecast by City. The forecast is an important element in the Needs Assessment process because facility and program needs today must be viewed in the context of future needs to effectively and sustainably plan for future facilities and programs.

### Historical Population Growth

**Exhibit 1.5-1**, Demographic Trends in the City of San Fernando presents a sixteen-year history of population growth within the City and County. As **Exhibit 1.5-1** illustrates, population growth in the City during the 2000 to 2010 time frame occurred at 0.3% rate, with approximately 8 new City residents documented each year on average.

The City growth rate of 0.3% between 2000 and 2010 compares with a 3.1% rate of growth for the County as a whole. Thus, the City population growth rate during this time frame was below the County overall.

### Historical Household Growth

**Exhibit 1.5-1** also presents a sixteen-year (16) history of household growth within the City and County. As **Exhibit 1.5-1** illustrates, the volume of households in the City grew 3.3% from 2000 to 2010. This compares with a 3.4% rate of growth for the County as a whole.

**Exhibit 1.5-1: Demographic Trends in the City of San Fernando**

Item	City of San Fernando				Los Angeles County							
	2000	2010	2015***	% of Total	2000*	2010**	2015***	% of Total	2000-2010	% change	2010-2015	% change
Total Population	23,564	23,645	24,296	24.533	9,519,338	9,818,605	10,038,388	10,241,335	3.1	3.1	2.2	2.2
Occupied Housing Units	5,774	5,967	6,134	6.053	3,133,774	3,241,204	3,263,069	3,308,022	3.4	3.4	0.7	0.7
Persons Per Household	4.07	3.94	3.94	4.03	2.98	2.98	3.02	3.04	0.0	0.0	1.3	1.3
Median Household Income	\$39,909	\$49,716	\$55,170	24.6	\$42,189	\$54,878	\$56,196		30.1	30.1	2.4	2.4
Percent of Population by Age:												
Under 5 years	2,255	1,895	1,604	6.6%	737,631	645,793	642,457	6.4%	-12.5	-12.5	-0.5	-0.5
5 to 9 years	2,435	1,889	1,992	8.2%	802,047	633,690	622,380	6.2%	-21.0	-21.0	-1.8	-1.8
10 to 14 years	2,189	1,937	1,871	7.7%	723,652	678,845	642,457	6.4%	-6.2	-6.2	-5.4	-5.4
15 to 19 years	2,010	2,034	1,919	7.9%	683,466	753,630	702,687	7.0%	10.3	10.3	-6.8	-6.8
20 to 24 years	1,902	1,845	1,822	7.5%	701,837	752,788	772,956	7.7%	7.3	7.3	2.7	2.7
25 to 34 years	4,143	3,751	4,203	17.3%	1,581,722	1,475,731	1,545,912	15.4%	-6.7	-6.7	4.8	4.8
35 to 44 years	3,428	3,381	3,766	15.5%	1,517,478	1,430,326	1,415,413	14.1%	-5.7	-5.7	-1.0	-1.0
45 to 54 years	2,324	2,887	2,818	11.6%	1,148,612	1,368,947	1,385,298	13.8%	19.2	19.2	1.2	1.2
55 to 64 years	1,218	2,033	2,187	9.0%	696,220	1,013,156	1,114,261	11.1%	45.5	45.5	10.0	10.0
65 years and over	1,660	1,993	2,114	8.7%	926,673	1,065,699	1,194,568	11.9%	15.0	15.0	12.1	12.1
Median Age	27.3	30.7	32.2	12.5	32.0	34.8	35.6		8.7	8.7	2.3	2.3
Population by Race/Ethnicity:												
Hispanic	21,038	21,867	22,047	90.7%	4,242,213	4,687,889	4,842,319	48.2%	10.5	10.5	3.3	3.3
White	1,855	1,259	1,397	5.7%	2,959,614	2,728,321	2,703,547	26.9%	-7.8	-7.8	-0.9	-0.9
Asian/Pacific Islander	216	211	441	1.8%	1,147,834	1,348,135	1,425,946	14.2%	17.5	17.5	5.8	5.8
Black	176	146	258	1.1%	901,472	815,086	801,739	8.0%	-9.6	-9.6	-1.6	-1.6
Other	279	162	153	0.6%	268,205	239,174	264,837	2.6%	-10.8	-10.8	10.7	10.7
Households That Are:												
With Children <18	3,493	3,247	3,337	54.4%	1,293,674	1,220,021	1,151,863	35.3%	-5.7	-5.7	-5.6	-5.6
Without Children <18	2,281	2,720	2,797	45.6%	1,840,100	2,021,183	2,111,206	64.7%	9.8	9.8	4.5	4.5
One Person/Household	717	731	889	14.5%	771,854	784,925	838,609	25.7%	1.7	1.7	6.8	6.8
Households That Are:												
Owners	3,115	3,252	3,282	53.7%	1,499,744	1,544,749	1,501,012	46.0%	3.0	3.0	-2.8	-2.8
Renters	2,659	2,715	2,842	46.3%	1,634,030	1,696,455	1,762,057	54.0%	3.8	3.8	3.9	3.9
Median Housing Value	\$665	\$1,060	\$323,400	161.1	\$209,300	\$465,400	\$441,900		122.4	122.4	-5.0	-5.0
Median Rent	\$665	\$1,060	\$1,165	59.4	\$704	\$1,141	\$1,231		62.1	62.1	7.9	7.9

\*\*\* 2015 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimate  
 \*\*\*\* Calif. Dept of Finance (2016 E-5 Estimates)

### Historical Demographic Trends

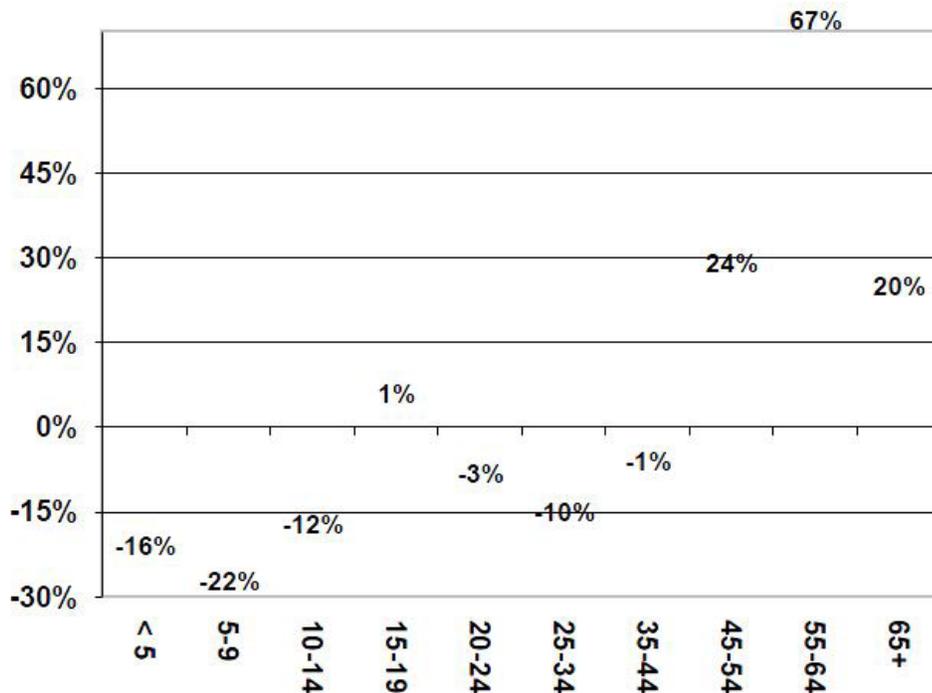
To enhance the analysis of population and household growth previously provided, a collection of demographic characteristics for the resident population was compiled for 2000 and, for comparison, 2010 and 2015. This collection of characteristics has been prepared for the City and the County and is presented in **Exhibit 1.5-1**.

**Exhibit 1.5-1** highlights the following demographic trends.

- Average household size in the City declined in the decade from 2000 to 2010; from 4.07 persons per household in 2000 to 3.94 persons per household in 2010, contrary to the trend observed in the County (2.98 in 2000 and 2.98 in 2010). Estimates for 2015 and 2016 for the City suggest a possible leveling/uptick in population per household (to 4.03 persons per household in 2016).
- The median household income in the City was 9% below the median figure for the County in 2010. Further, the median income figure in the City grew slower during the 2000 to 2010 period (25% vs. 30% in the County).
- As **Exhibit 1.5-2** reveals, during the 2000 to 2010 time frame, the greatest growth in population by age group was evidenced among City residents 55 to 64 years of age (67%), those 45 to 54 years of age (24%), and those 65 years and over (20%).

The City trend in population 45 years or older is similar to that evidenced in many communities, a reflection of the aging of a group known as the Baby Boomers. Growth in this age group in the City suggest consideration be given to assuring that facilities and services tailored to the special interests of seniors or mature adults are adequate to serve this burgeoning population group.

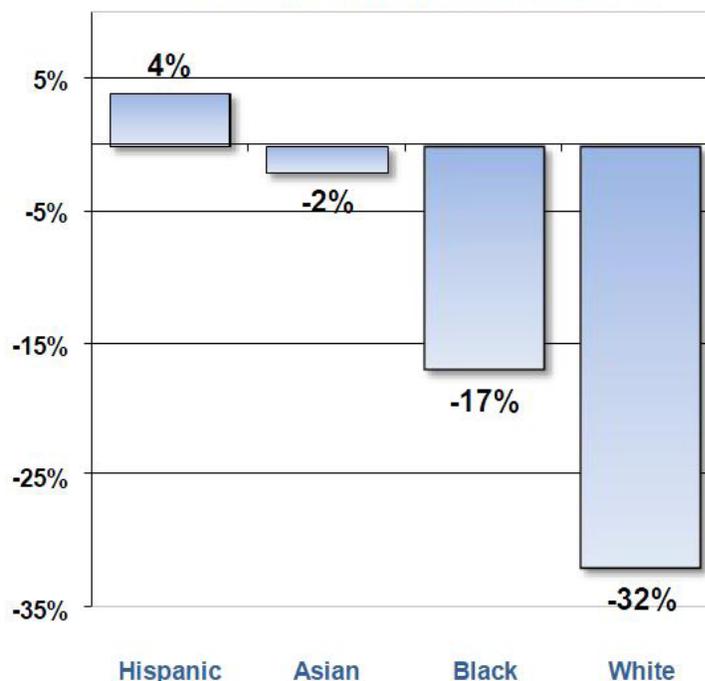
Exhibit 1.5-2: Population Change by Age Group City of San Fernando: 2000-2010



The pattern of growth in the City's population from 2000 to 2010 by age group was similar to the pattern among County residents where the highest rates of population growth were documented among residents 55 to 64 years of age (up 46%), those 45 to 54 years (19%) and those 65 years of age or older (up 15%).

- **Exhibit 1.5-2** also reveals that those age groups evidencing the greatest decline in the City during the 2000 to 2010 time frame included residents 5 to 9 years of age (down 22%), those under 5 years (down 16%) and residents 10 to 14 years of age (down 12%). Thus, the volume of children less than 15 years has declined 17% as a group, a harbinger of potential change in needs for programs and facilities for residents in this age group. Similar age group declines were noted Countywide during the decade prior to 2010. Based on 2015 estimates, declines also continue to be estimated for residents less than 15 years.
- Examining the population of the City by age, residents 5 to 14 years of age (the primary youth sports population group) represented 20% of the total population in 2000 and 16% in 2010. Adult recreation consumers aged 20 to 44 years constituted 40% of City residents in 2000, declining to 38% in 2010. Seniors 55 and over comprised nearly 12% of City residents in 2000 and grew to 17% in 2010.
- As a result of the changes in the distribution by age, the median age in the City grew from 27 years in 2000 to 31 years in 2010.
- Examining the City population by race and ethnicity, an increase was identified from 2000 to 2010 in the share of residents identifying themselves as Hispanic while declines in the share of residents identifying themselves as Asian/Pacific Islander, Black or White. Similar race or ethnic diversification was also noted in the County trends (**Figure 1.5-3**).

Exhibit 1.5-3: Change in Population by Race/Ethnicity City of San Fernando: 2000-2010



- More than half of City households (54%) in 2010 were households with children less than 18 years. A lower rate was noted Countywide (38%).
- A 2009 5-year Estimate from the American Community Survey revealed that 82% of City households speak Spanish and 23% of these Spanish speaking households do not have a member 14 years of age or older who speaks English “very well” (described as linguistically isolated).
- The City’s proportion of homeowners has grown somewhat over the ten-year period between Censuses (from 54% to 55%), similar to the County.
- The median housing value of \$377,000 in the City in 2010 is 19% below the median value of \$465,400 in the County as a whole.
- The 2010 median rental rate in the City is 7% below the median in the County.

### Forecast Population Growth

**Exhibit 1.5-4** presents a forecast of population growth within the City extending to 2040 based on the 2016 Final SCAG Regional Transportation Plan Growth Forecast by City. As **Exhibit 1.5-4** illustrates, population growth in the City between 2020 and 2040 is expected to occur at a rate of less than 1% per year.

### Forecast Housing Unit Growth

**Exhibit 1.5-4** also presents a forecast of household growth within the City. As **Exhibit 1.5-4** illustrates, household growth in the City during the 2020 to 2040 period is expected to occur at approximately 23 per year, on average.

### Exhibit 1.5-4: City of San Fernando Population Estimates and Projections

Year	Population	Annual Change		Households	Population/ Household
		Number	Percent		
<u>Census (4/1)*</u>					
2000	23,564			5,774	4.07
2010	23,645	8	0.0%	5,967	3.94
<u>Jan. 1st:</u>					
2016**	24,533			6,053	4.03
<u>Projections (1/1)</u>					
2020****	24,928			6,143	4.06
2025***	25,421	99	0.4%	6,256	4.06
2030***	25,914	99	0.4%	6,368	4.07
2035****	26,407	99	0.4%	6,481	4.00
2040****	26,900	99	0.4%	6,594	4.08

\* 2000 and 2010 Census.

\*\* State of California, Department of Finance estimate.

\*\*\* Projections estimated by consultant based on linear growth and 5.8% vacancy rate.

\*\*\*\* 2016 Final SCAG Regional Transportation Plan Growth Forecast.

## 1.6 Relationship to Other Documents

This Park and Recreation Master Plan was developed with respect to the City of San Fernando's 1987 General Plan and 1992 Parks Action Program with the mission to ensure that future projects and improvements are consistent with the community's goals, policies and objectives and to:

***“Works toward a vibrant and economically sustainable San Fernando.”***

The City's adopted motto of being “Historic and Visionary” focuses on “promoting the balance between economic, cultural, political, social, and recreational opportunities for residents and businesses alike.”

In addition, there are other existing documents and plans that relate to the Master Plan and influence its direction. These documents and their relationship to the planning process include:

### **Parks/Facilities – Improvement List (March 2016)**

A City-staff developed “working” improvements list for specific City departments, facilities, parks and infrastructure. This itemized list includes improvements and general costs associated with each. Review of this document in conjunction with the community outreach measures and demand needs analysis will aid in prioritization of final Master Plan report recommendations.

### **Five Year Implementation Plan FY 2010/11-FY 2014/15 (February 2011)**

Prepared for the Redevelopment Agency of the City of San Fernando, this document outlines proposed programs for revitalization, economic development and affordable housing activities during a five year period (2010-2015). The implementation plan includes goals, activities, estimates of revenues and expenditures and a description of how the activities will alleviate blight and meet affordable housing requirements.

### **Specific Plan SP-1, SP-2, SP-3, SP-4 (2004)**

- SP-1 – Intended to rehabilitate the affected dwelling units in a manner compatible with adjacent residential neighborhood and preserve the City's affordable housing stock.
- SP-2 – Intended to allow for the construction of five two-story buildings designed to accommodate certain types of industrial, commercial, and residential land uses in the same structure. Also intended to improve the City's physical appearance and its economic viability, removing existing blighting conditions.
- SP-3 – Intended to allow for the construction of 98 senior housing apartment units on three non-contiguous sites in the City of San Fernando.
- SP-4 – Intended to utilize policies and strategies to transform Truman Street, San Fernando Road, and Maclay Avenue into attractive, livable, and economically vital districts.

### **LA County Mobility Plan 2035 (2016)**

“California State Law requires that cities prepare and adopt a comprehensive, integrated, long-term General Plan to direct future growth and development. The purpose of the Mobility Plan is to present a guide to the further development of a citywide transportation system which provides for the efficient movement of people and goods in the Los Angeles County.” The plan describes street/trail classifications, circulation maps, timelines, and proposed infrastructure improvements for the County, which borders/envelopes the City of San Fernando.



*City of San Fernando's Walking Club, Spring 2013, a part of the City's Healthy San Fernando Campaign.*



# EXISTING RECREATION RESOURCES



## Section TWO: Existing Recreation Resources

### 2.1 Park Definition

For purposes of this Master Plan report, the term “park” is broadly defined. This report will use the term “park”, “parkland” and “recreation building / facility” interchangeably and, consistent with the 1987 General Plan and 1992 Parks Action Program.

Areas not generally considered as “parkland” include: roadways, avenues, street medians, parkways, parking lots, natural preserved or conserved open space areas without access or improvements, unimproved land zoned for uses other than recreation, and flood zones.

Additionally, per the General Plan, the term “open space” is defined as “any parcel or area of land or water which is essentially unimproved and devoted to open space”.

The purpose of the General Plan Open Space Element is to designate, as appropriate, open space land for the following purposes:

- Open space for the preservation of natural resources such as animal and plant life and ecological areas
- Open space for the managed production of resources such as agricultural land areas or major mineral deposits
- Open space for outdoor recreation such as areas particularly suited for park and recreation purposes
- Open space for public health and safety such as areas which require special management or regulation because of hazardous conditions including earthquake fault zones and unstable soil areas

### 2.2 San Fernando Park Types

Park classifications are generally driven by park use, purpose, and size. They can help define a set of characteristics to serve as a guide when parks are constructed or renovated. They can also restrict incompatible activities by limiting those activities to only certain types of parks. This classification system serves the following purposes:

- Provide a general guideline for future development options. The combination of descriptors for each park type represents what has generally been successful on a certain sized plot of land located in a certain type of physical environment. These guidelines can help to set community expectations for a given site.
- These classifications may serve as a basis for policies around appropriate programming in different park types.
- These classifications may inform functional planting design standards and other design standards.
- Allows understanding of San Fernando’s acreage needs and for communicating the type of parks that are needed in the future.

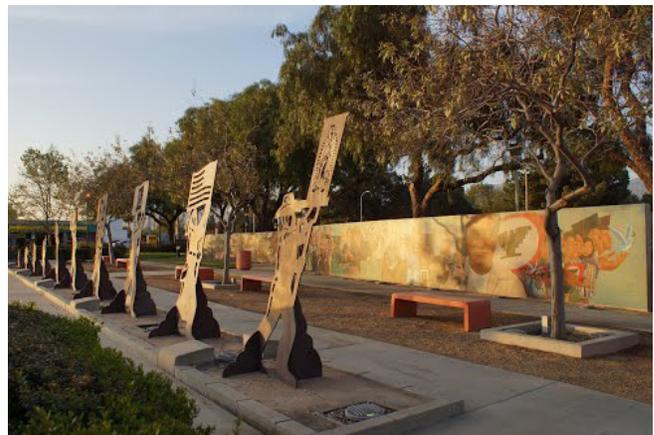
The following classifications were recommended by the City's 1992 Parks Action Program; Major Parks, Community Parks, Neighborhood Mini-Parks, Joint Use Development of Recreation Facilities, IntraCity Bikeway System, Hiking Trails, and Historic Trail/Scenic Walk. It is recommended that the City of San Fernando utilize the following park classifications and definitions as such:

### Pocket/Mini Parks (0-2 Acres)

These parks are typically developed into a City's existing urban fabric at a very small scale, where they serve the immediate local population. Pocket/Mini Parks serve as scaled-down neighborhood parks, offering a variety of amenities such as; turf, planters, walkways, plazas, play areas for children, and picnic facilities. Pocket/ Mini Parks do not provide restroom facilities or on-site parking.

Pocket/Mini Parks generally serve three (3) categories:

- Downtown destination parks considered signature parks of interest to the broad community.
- Downtown parks where neighborhood involvement in activities and programming is most appropriate.
- Small public or open spaces within the urban environment presenting opportunities to enhance the City's character and identity.



Cesar E. Chavez Memorial Park

Pocket/Mini Parks are generally characterized by:

- A service area radius of 0.25 miles.
- Park size 0-2 acres.
- Located in close proximity to housing and/or other activity centers in the immediate neighborhood to provide accessibility and visibility.
- San Fernando Pocket/Mini Parks: Cesar E. Chavez Memorial Park, Kalisher Park and Layne Park.

### Neighborhood Parks (2-5 Acres)

These parks serve the surrounding neighborhood community for multiple uses. They cater to specific neighborhood recreation needs, exclusive of organized sports leagues with amenities like; tot lots, multi-use courts, picnic shelters, bbq's, and open space areas.

Neighborhood Parks are generally characterized by:

- A service area radius of 0.5 miles.
- Park size 2 to 5 acres.
- San Fernando Neighborhood Parks: Rudy Ortega Sr. Park
- Easily accessible to the surrounding population through safe pedestrian and bicycle access
- Typically do not require onsite parking, but may have a limited amount.

### Community Parks (5-10+ Acres)

Community Parks meet the recreational needs of several neighborhoods with active recreation space (informal practice space and organized competitive play) and large natural areas suitable for passive outdoor recreation or open space preservation. These parks provide recreational facilities and accommodate group activities not provided in neighborhood parks and may contain special amenities, facilities, or features that attract people from throughout the surrounding community.

Community Parks are generally characterized by:

- A service area radius of 1-1.5 miles.
- Park size of 5-10+ acres
- Easily accessible from the surrounding neighborhoods by arterial and collector streets.
- On-site parking and restroom facilities provided.
- Multiple facilities for various types of users for both active and passive recreation.
- San Fernando Community Parks: Las Palmas Park, Pioneer Park, and Recreation Park

### Recreation Area/Regional Parks (25-Larger)

These parks are larger than Community parks and serve broader Citywide recreation needs. They contain various assets, often for active recreation and are programmed accordingly. They have designated natural areas.

Recreation Areas/Regional Parks are generally characterized by:

- A service area radius of 1-1.5 miles.
- Park size of 25+ acres.
- Easily accessible from the surrounding neighborhoods by arterial and collector streets.
- Regional & Citywide destination recreation facility.
- On-site parking and restroom facilities provided.
- San Fernando Regional Parks: San Fernando Regional Pool



*San Fernando Regional Pool*



*Casa de Lopez Adobe*

### Special Use Facilities

This category refers to stand-alone parks or facilities that are designed to serve one particular use such as a golf course or senior center. These parks may serve a secondary or tertiary use, but the primary use is prioritized with regard to design, maintenance, and funding decisions.

- San Fernando Special Use Facilities: Casa de Lopez Adobe, Community/Senior Center

### Natural Areas/Greenbelts

These areas are established for the protection and stewardship of wildlife, habitat, or other natural systems support functions. Some natural areas are accessible for low-impact use. Minimal infrastructure may include access and signage, where it will not adversely impact habitat or natural systems functions. Larger areas may have small sections developed to serve a community park function.

- [San Fernando Natural Areas/Greenbelts: Pacoima Wash Natural Park](#)

### Linear Parks

These areas are established as aesthetically-pleasing transportation corridors which may include trails, green streets and boulevards. Linear parks usually provide safe pedestrian routes with minimal recreation opportunities with amenities such as improved walkways, lighting, benches and landscaping. Additional assets may include viewpoints, public gathering spaces, fitness stations/par course and grassy areas for informal activities.

- [San Fernando Linear Parks: Pacoima Wash Natural Park](#)

### Joint-Use Facilities

These parks supplement community parks, serving broader City-wide recreation needs. Typically, joint-use facilities exist on school property and are used for their active recreation fields and are programmed accordingly. Restroom facilities and parking are accessible to the public, though these facilities often have hours of operation and are scheduled by the City.

## 2.3 Existing Recreation Facilities

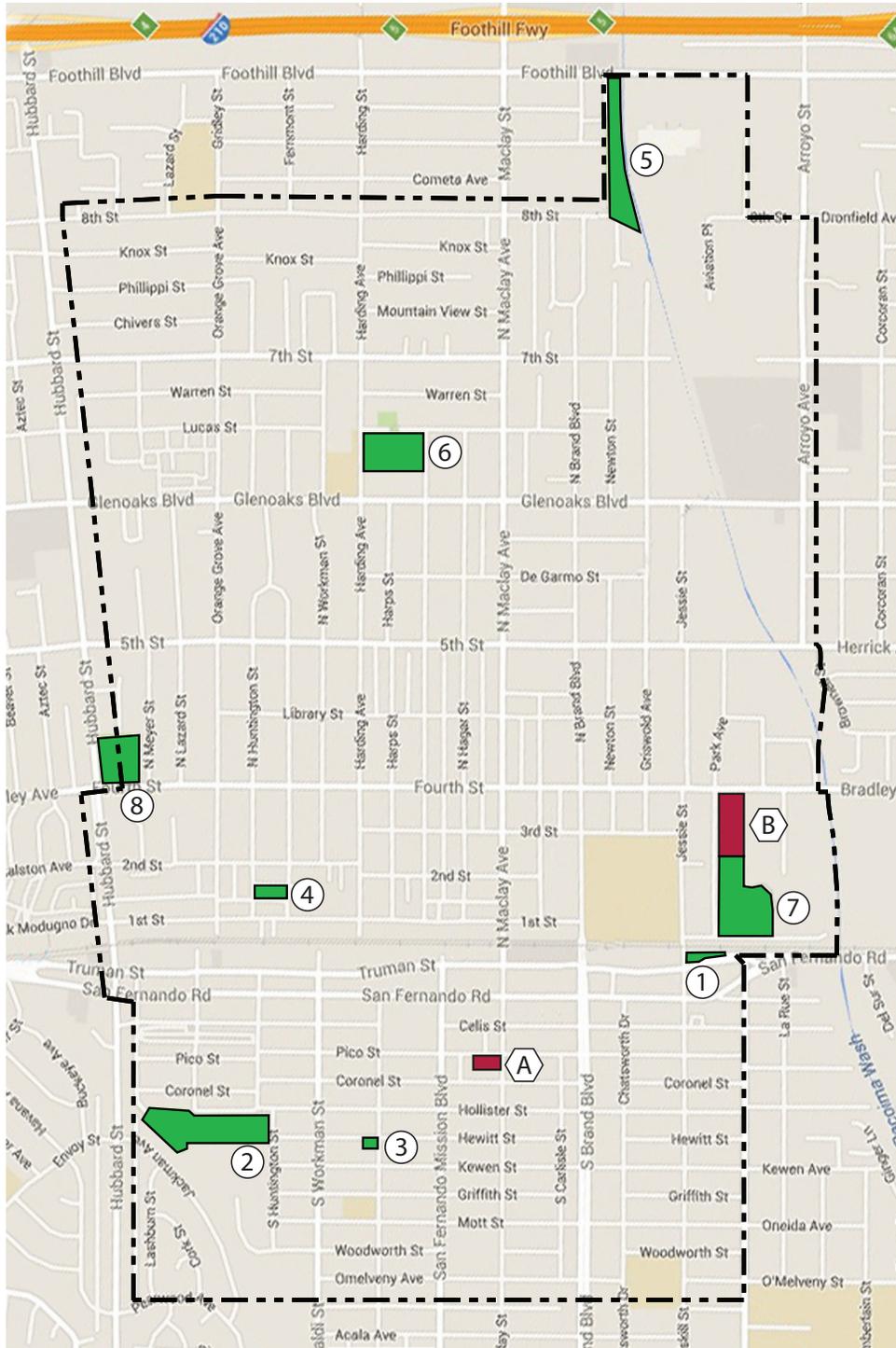
As previously discussed, a number of unique and diverse parks and recreation facilities are available throughout the City of San Fernando. Currently, seven (7) public parks, one (1) privately owned park and three (3) community buildings (not including buildings on park sites) provide active and passive recreation opportunities for the community.

**Exhibit 2.3-1** shows the location of each existing park and recreation facility operated by the City of San Fernando or Los Angeles County, within City boundaries. **Exhibit 2.3-2** is a matrix that describes the size and amenities of these existing parks and recreation facilities.

The current breakdown of park acreage for the City of San Fernando park and recreation facilities is:

• Pocket/Mini Parks (Cesar E. Chavez Memorial Park, Kalisher Park, Layne Park)	1.42 Acres
• Neighborhood Parks (Rudy Ortega Park)	3.32 Acres
• Community Parks (Las Palms Park, Pioneer Park, Recreation Park)	19.48 Acre
• Recreation Areas/Regional Parks (San Fernando Regional Pool)	3.07 Acres
• Special Use Facilities (Casa de Lopez Adobe)	0.34 Acres
• Linear Parks (Pacoima Wash Natural Park)	4.53 Acres
<b>Total Acreage</b>	<b>32.16 Acres</b>

Exhibit 2.3-1: City of San Fernando Existing Parks and Facilities Map



**LEGEND**

Ⓝ CITY PARKS

- 1. Cesar E. Chavez Memorial
- 2. Las Palmas Park
- 3. Kalisher Park (Privately Owned, Future City Park)
- 4. Layne Park
- 5. Pacoima Wash Natural Park
- 6. Pioneer Park
- 7. Recreation Park
- 8. Rudy Ortega Sr. Park

Ⓧ CITY FACILITIES

- A. Casa de Lopez Adobe
- B. San Fernando Regional Pool and Park (Operated by L.A. County)

Exhibit 2.3-2: City of San Fernando Existing Parks and Recreation Facilities Matrix

KEY		CITY RECREATION FACILITIES	TYPE	LOCATION	PARK FACILITIES										SPORTS FACILITIES							
CITY PARKS					Classrooms	Community Building	Gymnasium	Multi-Purpose Rooms	Parking	Playground / Tot Lot	Picnic Shelters / Gazebos	Picnic Tables	Restroom	Walking/Fitness Trail	Baseball Field	Basketball Court (Full)	Basketball Court (Half)	Open Field	Softball Field	Tennis Court	Volleyball (Indoor)	
1		Cesar E. Chavez Memorial	Pocket Park	Wolfskill Street and Truman Street					OS				1									
2		Kalisher Park*	Pocket Park	Kalisher & Hewitt St.					OS													
3		Las Palmas Park	Recreation Facility / Community Park	505 South Huntington Street	2	1	1	1	102	1	3	23	2	1	1L,3	2L		1				
4		Layne Park	Pocket Park	120 North Huntington Street					OS	1		4	1				1	1				
5		Pacoima Wash Natural Park	Nature Park / Linear Park	Bromont Ave					OS	2	2	2	1									
6		Pioneer Park	Community Park	828 Harding Street					89	1	1	8	1		2	1		1				
7		Recreation Park	Community Park	208 Park Ave	2	1	1	1	OS	1	2	36	2	1		1IN		1	1L			1
8		Rudy Ortega Sr. Park	Neighborhood	2025 F fourth Street					39				1	1								
<b>COMMUNITY BUILDINGS</b>																						
1		Casa de Lopez Adobe	Special Use Facility / Museum	1100 Pico Street		1			OS				1									
2		San Fernando Regional Pool	Regional Park / Aquatic Center	300 Park Ave		1	1	2	81		4	12	4									
3		Recreation Park	Recreation Facility	208 Park Ave		1							1									
					<b>TOTALS FOR CITY PARKS AND FACILITIES</b>																	
					<b>33.18</b>																	

DEFINITIONS  
 L = Lighted Field  
 OS = On Street Parking  
 \* privately owned, future city park

## 2.4 Service Area Analysis

### Where Are The People And Where Are The Parks?

In addition to providing appropriate quantities and types of recreation facilities to accommodate current and future needs, the City of San Fernando strives to provide them in useful and appropriate locations. To study this relationship, a Service Area Analysis was conducted with respect to all San Fernando Parks and Recreation facilities.

One-half (0.5) mile is approximately a 15-minute walk for most people. Most residences should be within one-half mile, a convenient walkable distance for most people, of a neighborhood park or other recreation facility that will satisfy common recreation needs. This one-half (0.5) mile radius around parks and recreational facilities is noteworthy in a community in which families, neighborhoods, and active-living are part of the physical makeup of the City.

Proximity to parks is more than a convenience issue. It helps to establish an excellent park system by providing improved circulation, air quality, and development of neighborhoods. Further, those with access to park or recreation facilities are nearly twice as likely to be physically active as those without access to parks.

The service area radius map provided in **Exhibit 2.4-1** generates a one-half (0.5) mile service area radius around each park and recreation facility boundary, representing which residential areas are within the one-half (0.5) mile service area of the facility. The service area boundaries also reflect the physical obstructions to pedestrian travel created by arterial roadways, railways, etc. which limit easy access to the park. When areas zoned for residential use fall outside graphic service area designations, it can be said that the area may be underserved by the existing parks.

Comparison of the Service Area Map (Exhibit 2.4-1), the Zoning Map (Exhibit 1.4-2) and the Land Use Map (Exhibit 1.4-3) indicate that within the underserved areas of San Fernando, about 1/3 to 1/2 of the acreage is residential and the remaining balance is industrial. Industrial areas are not considered conducive to parks or recreation facilities. Overall, more than a majority of the City is served by park and recreation facilities with few gaps identified.

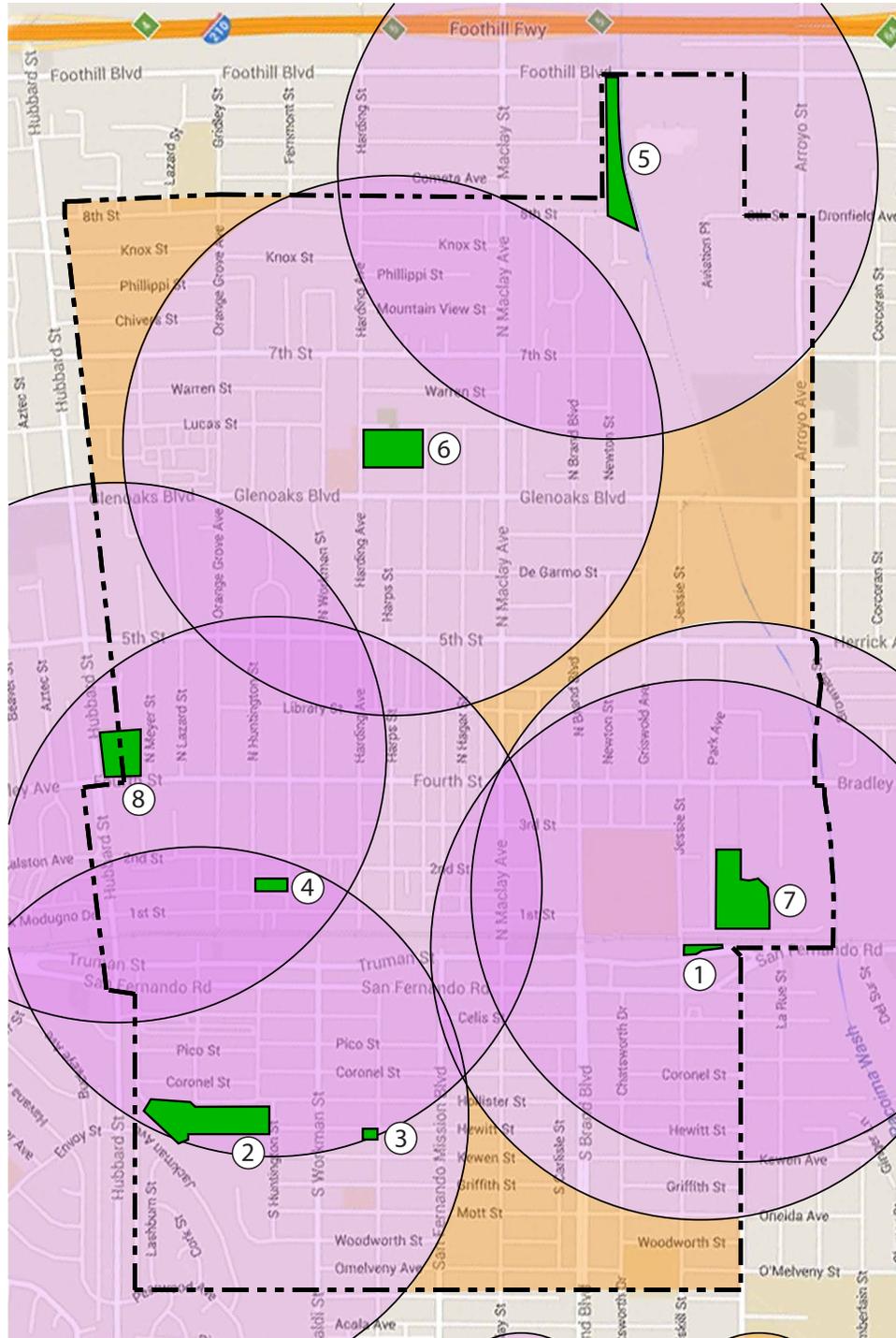


Tot lot at Las Palmas Park.

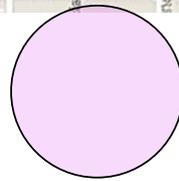


Fitness equipment and bench seating at Las Palmas Park.

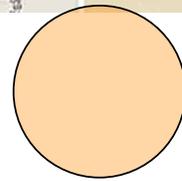
Exhibit 2.4-1: Service Area Map



- ① CITY PARKS
- 1. Cesar E. Chavez Memorial
- 2. Las Palmas Park
- 3. Kalisher Park
- 4. Layne Park
- 5. Pacoima Wash Natural Park
- 6. Pioneer Park
- 7. Recreation Park
- 8. Rudy Ortega Sr. Park



1/2 MILE  
SERVICE  
RADIUS



UNDERSERVED  
AREA

## 2.5 Acreage Analysis

### How Much Parkland Acreage Is Needed For The City Of San Fernando?

The City of San Fernando operates seven (7) public parks, one (1) private park, and three (3) community facilities (one operated by Los Angeles) with over thirty-two (32) acres of parkland within the City's park system.

The park acreage for the City of San Fernando includes the following (as identified in Section 2.3):

• Pocket/Mini Parks	1.42 Acres
• Neighborhood Parks	3.32 Acres
• Community Parks	19.48 Acres
• Recreation Areas/Regional Parks	3.07 Acres
• Special Use Facilities	1.36 Acres
• Linear Parks	4.53 Acres
<b>Total Acreage:</b>	<b>32.16 Acres</b>

The City of San Fernando does not identify a standard number of acres of parkland per 1,000 residents. Based on a 2015 population of 24,296 people, the City has a current ratio of 0.75 acres per thousand people. The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) 2016 Field Report indicates that the typical park and recreation agency has 9.5 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents, and 1 park for every 2,277 residents. By these standards the City of San Fernando falls well below the average in terms of acreage, but is close in terms of parks per resident. It should be considered that the NRPA's description of "typical" does not reflect the unique demographic makeup of San Fernando or the built out condition of the City. Therefore, given these circumstances, the City of San Fernando should develop its current parkland to its fullest potential to meet any of the deficiencies identified in the demand needs analysis.

In doing so, the City should also update its General Plan to reflect current demographic and economic characteristics. An updated General Plan will help guide the City of San Fernando towards standards and goals that are reflective of current community objectives.

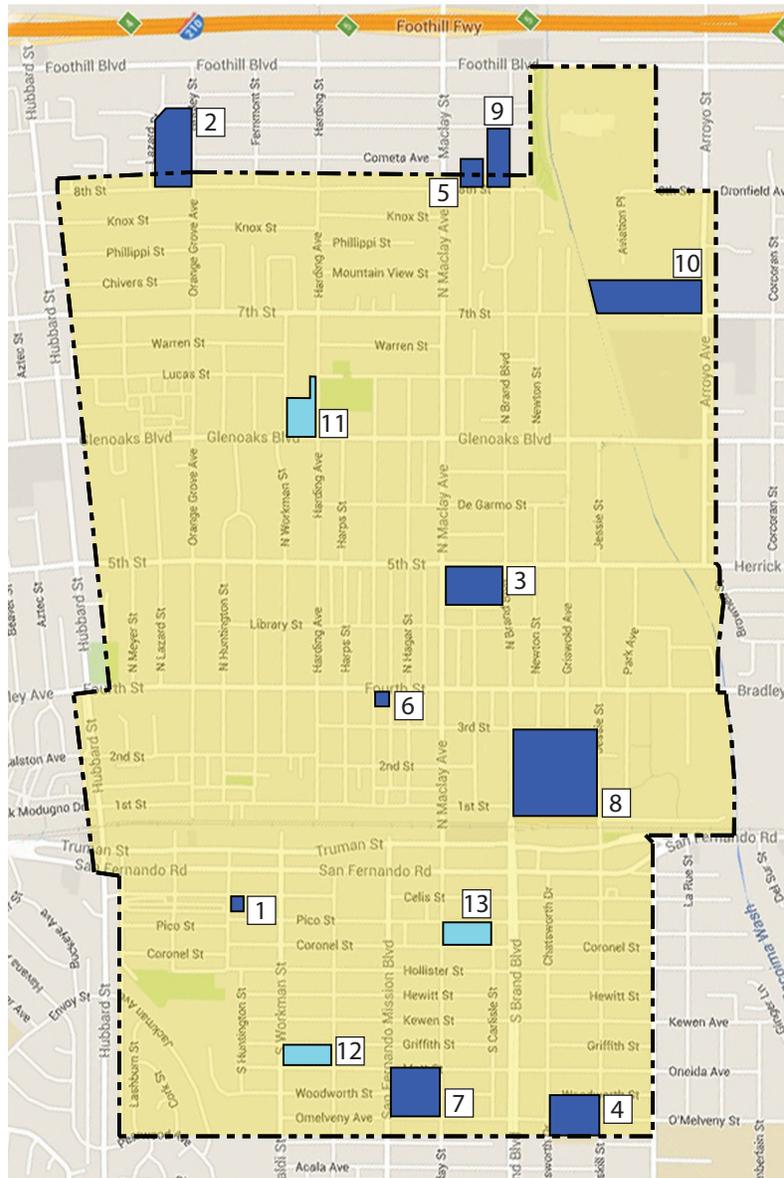
## 2.6 Existing Joint Use Agreements

Joint-use agreements are contracts between the City and another public agency or school district, allowing the City the right to expanded hours of access to recreation facilities owned or operated by the public agency. The facilities supplement community parks and serve City-wide recreation needs on a larger geographic scale. Typically, the facilities contain various assets often for active recreation and are programmed accordingly.

Currently, there are no joint-use agreements in place between the City of San Fernando and the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD).

As part of the Master Plan process, the demand needs analysis identifies where surpluses and deficits exist in San Fernando’s recreation facilities. Review of the Existing School Inventory Map and Matrix (**Exhibit 2.6-1 and 2.6-2**) indicate a variety of recreation facilities that can meet the deficit needs of the demand analysis. Joint-Use agreements between the City of San Fernando and LAUSD can remedy some of these deficits, accommodating current and future community needs and are further discussed in Section Four of this report.

Exhibit 2.6-1: School Inventory Map



**LEGEND**

Los Angeles Unified School District

# PUBLIC SCHOOLS

- 1. Community Charter Middle School
- 2. Gridley Elementary School
- 3. Morningside Elementary School
- 4. O’Melveny Elementary School
- 5. PUC Inspire Charter Academy
- 6. PUC Nueva Esperanza Charter Academy
- 7. San Fernando Elementary School

- 8. San Fernando Middle School
- 9. Vista de Valle Dual Language Academy
- 10. Cesar E. Chavez Learning Academies

# PRIVATE SCHOOLS

- 11. Glenoaks Elementary School
- 12. Santa Rosa/Bishop Alemany School
- 13. St. Ferdinand Catholic School

Exhibit 2.6-2: City of San Fernando Existing School Inventory Matrix

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO EXISTING PUBLIC & PRIVATE SCHOOLS										SCHOOL FACILITIES									
KEY	CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS	TYPE	NOTES	LOCATION	School Site Acreage (Approx.)	Playgrounds/Tot Lots	Backstops	Baseball Field	Basketball Court (Outdoor)	Football Field	Handball Courts	Multi-Purpose Fields	Soccer Field	Running Track	Softball Field	Volleyball (Aphalt /Concrete)			
1	Community Charter Middle School	Middle School	LAUSD	919 Eight Street	0.88														
2	Girdley Elementary School	Elementary School	LAUSD	1907 Eighth Street	6.98	3	1		3		2	1							
3	Morningside Elementary School	Elementary School	LAUSD	576 N. Maclay Ave	4.87	3	1		1		3	1							
4	O'Melveny Elementary School	Elementary School	LAUSD	728 Woodworth Street	5.69	1	1				2			1		2			
5	PUC Inspire Charter Academy	Middle School	Independent Charter	919 Eight Street	0.65														
6	PUC Nueva Esperanza Charter Academy	Middle School	Independent Charter	1218 Fourth Street	0.87	1	1L		1L										
7	San Fernando Elementary School	Elementary School	LAUSD	1130 Mott Street	6.20	6	4L		2L		4L	1		1					
8	San Fernando Middle School	Middle School	LAUSD	130 N. Brand Blvd	19.47	4	2		14		5	2							
9	Vista de Valle Dual Language Academy (LAUSD)	Elementary School	LAUSD	12441 Bromot Ave	3.71	1	3L		2L		4L	1							
10	Cesar E. Chavez Learning Academies	High School	LAUSD	1001 Arroyo Ave	16.53		1	1L	6	1L		1		1L	1L	2			
<b>TOTALS FOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS</b>					<b>65.84</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>1L</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>1L</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>			
<b>PRIVATE SCHOOLS</b>																			
11	Glencrooks Elementary School	Elementary School	Private	1525 Glencrooks Blvd	4.46	3	1		1										
12	Santa Rosa / Bishop Alemany School (L-AUSD)	Elementary/Middle	Private	1309 Mott Street	2.30	1	1L		1L										
13	St. Ferdinand Catholic School (LAUSD)	Elementary/Middle	Private	1012 Coronel Street	4.63		2L		3L		1L								
<b>TOTALS FOR PRIVATE SCHOOLS</b>					<b>6.93</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>							

DEFINITIONS  
 S = Synthetic  
 L = Lighted

## 2.7 Adjacent Parks and Recreation Facilities

Located in close proximity to San Fernando City limits there are a number of State and County Parks and recreation facilities operated by other cities and Valley-wide. The following are of notable size and service to community members of San Fernando, some of which were mentioned in the City-resident telephone survey.

### **Brand Park**

Located in Mission Hills between the 5 freeway and 118 freeway, Brand Park features a baseball diamond (unlit), soccer field (unlit) and restrooms. Next door to Brand Park is the Memory (Rose) Garden, Brand Park Community Center, Mission San Fernando and Cemetery, and Bishop Alemany High School.

### **Ritchie Valens Recreation Center & Park**

Located in Pacoima and separated by the 118 freeway from Paxton Park, Ritchie Valens Park serves the North Valley in Pacoima. The facility features a baseball diamond (unlit), indoor and outdoor basketball courts (lit), children play areas, a community room, handball courts, soccer fields, tennis courts (lit), jogging paths, picnic tables, a kitchen, skate plaza, and stage. Beyond its amenities, Ritchie Valens offers programs in the following categories: baseball, basketball, karate, soccer, softball, volleyball, aerobics, early learning, L.A. Kids Classes, and Folklorico.

### **Hansen Dam Park, Aquatic Center, Golf Course, Equestrian Center, and Sports Complex**

Located in Lake View Terrace, Hansen Dam Park is approximately 37 acres. The park includes barbeques, picnic tables, hiking, bicycling and equestrian trails. Baseball fields (unlit), soccer fields (unlit), an amphitheater, a Universal Access Playground, an aquatic center, playground, an 18-hole golf course, a recreation lake for fishing and boating, and a 35 acre equestrian center. The facility also has restrooms, showers, parking, a community room, and indoor gym.

### **Veteran's Memorial Park**

Located in Sylmar, Veteran's Memorial Park is 97 acres in size and comprised of rolling hills, hiking trails, grassy picnic areas, a large pavilion, camping areas and a community recreation building. It is owned by Los Angeles County and located Sylmar.

### **El Cariso Regional Park**

Also owned by Los Angeles County and located in Sylmar, El Cariso Regional Park provides 80 acres of picnic areas, children play areas, fitness, tennis courts, and a swimming pool. A recently built 15,000 sq. ft. gym and community center house classrooms, community rooms, a full kitchen, restrooms and staff offices.

### **El Cariso Golf Course**

Operated by the Los Angeles County of Parks and Recreation, El Cariso Golf Course features an 18-hole golf course with mountain views and lakes. It also has banquet facilities, driving range and practice putting greens. It is open to the public from sunrise to sunset, year-round.

### **Saddletree Ranch Trailhead**

Saddletree Ranch Trailhead provides shady picnic grounds, interpretive displays, hiking and equestrian trails, and views into the San Fernando Valley and Angeles National Forest.

### Sylmar Park Recreation Center

Also owned by Los Angeles County, Sylmar Park Recreation Center has an auditorium, baseball diamond (lit), basketball courts (lit, outdoor), children's play area, community room, indoor gym, picnic tables, soccer fields (lit), tennis courts, outdoor fitness equipment and a stage. It offers a number of youth and adult programs such as; baseball, basketball, karate, soccer, softball, tennis, arts & crafts, dance, senior services, teen programs, and after school programs.

## 2.8 Existing and Planned Trails/Circulation

In 1993 an amendment to the City's General Plan was approved to incorporate a Master Bikeway Plan into the Circulation Element. The suggested Citywide Bikeway Plan was recommended to encourage bicycle commuting throughout the City through the development of a bikeway system and bicycle facilities. At the time of the amendment no convenient bikeways existed throughout the City of San Fernando, though a Class I bikeway was planned to be built along the Metrolink Corridor within the City limits. This trail has since been built and is named the Mission City Trail.

Currently the City has Class I and Class II Bikeways. Bikeway classes are defined as:

- Class I Bikeway or Trail – provides a completely separated right of way for the exclusive use of bicycles and pedestrians with crossflow by motorists minimized.
- Class II Bike Lane – provides striped lane for one-way bike travel on a street or highway.
- Class III Bikeway or Bike Route – provides for shared use with pedestrian or motor vehicle traffic.



*City of San Fernando Mission City Trail Signage. Image via TrailLink.Com*

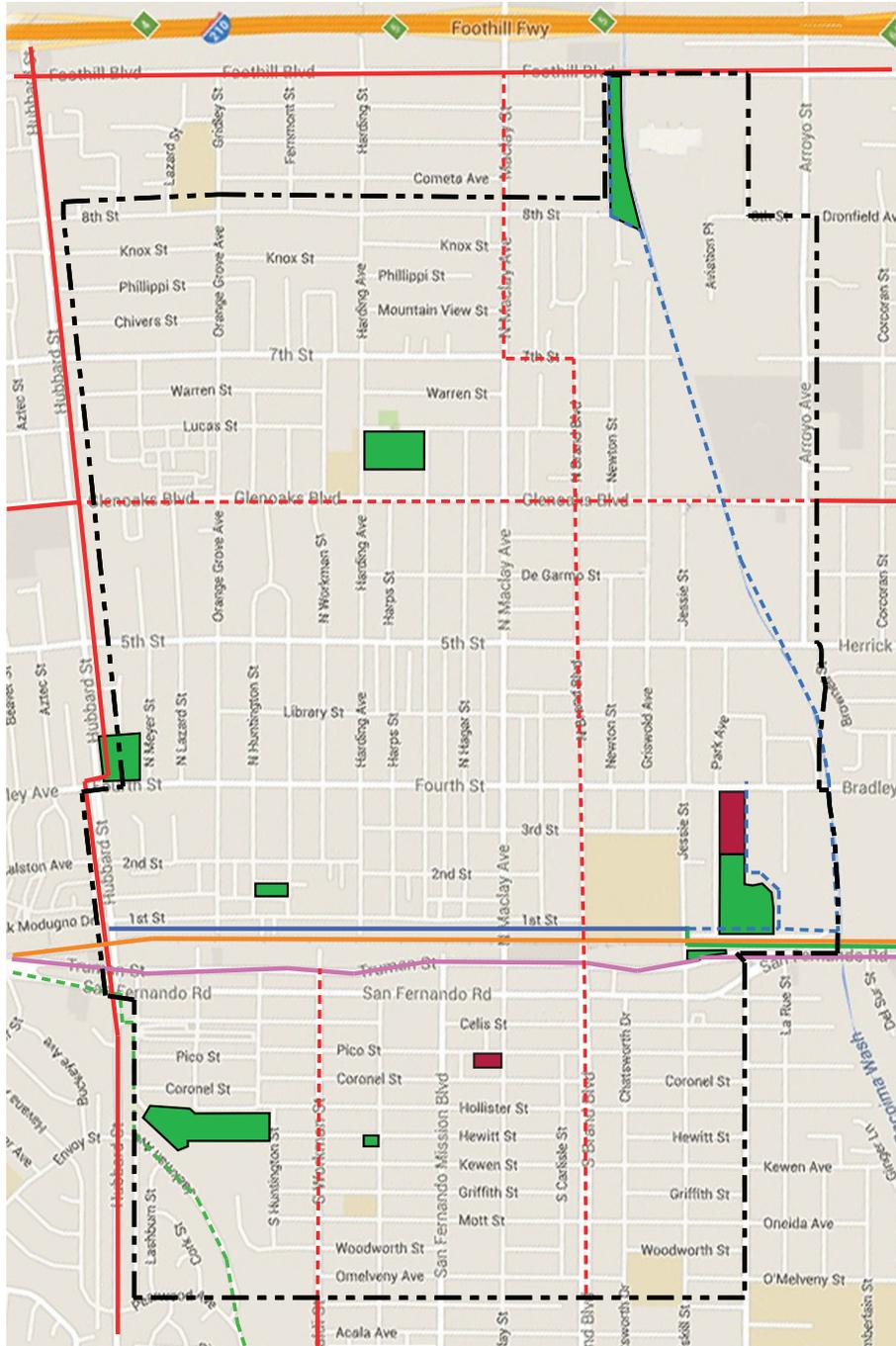
Regional trails are typically defined as connecting parks and providing linkages between open space areas and regional recreation areas. Community trails creates linkages similar to regional trails, but are local serving. Overall the development of regional and community trails support connections to a larger network of hiking and biking opportunities.

Due to the mainly residential makeup of the City, the addition of regional community and multi-purpose trails would accommodate walkers, hikers and bikers in and outside of the community.



*Cyclist on the Mission City Trail. Image via TrailLink.Com.*

### Exhibit 2.8-1: Existing and Planned Trails Map



**EXISTING TRAILS**

- San Fernando Road Bike Path (Class I - Bikeway/ Trails)
- Mission City Trail (Class I - Bikeway/ Trails)
- Class II - Bike Lane
- Railroad (Non Trail)

**LA COUNTY BICYCLE MASTER PLAN 2010 PROPOSED TRAILS**

- Class I - Bikeway/ Trails

**LEGEND**

**RJM TRAIL RECOMMENDATION**

- - - Class I - Bikeway/Trail Mobility Plan 2035 Recommendation
- - - Class II - Bike Lane Connection with Existing Bike Lanes
- - - Community Trail - Hiking & Biking Connection with Mission City Trail

**PARKS & FACILITIES**

- City Parks
- City Facilities



# RECREATION FACILITY ASSESSMENT



*Tot lot at Recreation Park.*

## Section THREE: Recreation Facility Assessment

The purpose of the Facility Needs Assessment is to identify the current recreation facility needs within the community, to identify which are met and which are unmet, and to suggest the relative priority of each identified need.

Needs have been identified and prioritized by evaluating a series of community input / measures and other analysis tools. The process involves gathering both qualitative input (e.g. stakeholder interviews, community workshops, and portions of the sports organization questionnaire) and quantitative input (e.g. telephone survey, sports organization questionnaire, and demand analysis). Each need identification tool and each piece of information gathered is a piece of the puzzle leading to a deeper, more thorough understanding of the community. All of the pieces, taken together, complete an overall picture of recreation needs specific to the City of San Fernando.

The following methods and processes were utilized to conduct the Facility Needs Analysis and are addressed in this section:

- Community Participation: provides direct responses from the local community and stakeholder's including;
  - City of San Fernando Resident Telephone Survey
  - Sports Organization Questionnaire
  - Community Workshops
  - Stakeholder Interviews
- Service Area Analysis
- Acreage Analysis
- Recreation Facility Demands and Needs Analysis
- Recreation Facility Needs Summary and Prioritization

### 3.1 Community Participation

#### ***What Are San Fernando Residents Saying About Recreation?***

San Fernando's community outreach ranged from lively evening group discussions at workshops to one-on-one telephone interviews with 200 households representing 700+ residents. The community input portion of the Facility Needs Assessment provided a number of opportunities to obtain perspective from residents, users and providers of facilities and programs. Within this section, community feedback has been organized into four (4) separate categories:

1. City of San Fernando Resident Telephone Survey
2. Sports Organization Questionnaire
3. Community Workshops
4. Stakeholder Interviews

The information received from each of these sources has been included in the overall prioritization of needs and recommendations. A summary of each community input measure is provided below. Complete summary reports can be found in the Appendix document.

### City of San Fernando Resident Telephone Survey

The resident telephone survey was part of the preparation of the City of San Fernando Park and Recreation Master Plan. The purpose of the survey was to obtain statistically valid, community-wide input on a variety of issues.

The resident survey is one of several methods being undertaken to involve the community in the Master Plan process. The purpose of gathering community input through a variety of methods is to ensure that the Master Plan is as inclusive as possible and that it reflects the views, preferences, and recreating patterns of City of San Fernando residents.

A statistically-valid community-wide survey was completed including interviews with a total of 200 randomly-selected City of San Fernando households, representing approximately 700 residents. Interviewing took place between February 2<sup>nd</sup> and February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2017 via land lines, conducted in English. Throughout the analysis, questions identified as “open end” are those that had no prelisted responses, offering an opportunity for residents to volunteer the best response from their perspective. This sample of interviews carries an overall margin of error of +/- 7.1% at the 95% Confidence Level. Subjects explored in the context of the resident survey included:

- Frequency of Recreation Facility and Programs or Events Usage
- Park or Recreation Facility Most Often Used in Last Year
- Frequency of Recreation Activities Participation
- Satisfaction with Recreation Facilities and Programs
- Satisfaction with Recreation Facilities Maintenance
- One New Recreation Facility and Program Desired
- Selected Demographic Characteristics

### Key Findings:

#### Recreation Facility and Programs Use, and Activities:

- Over half of the residents polled (56%) stated they were Frequent Users (at least 3 times per month) of parks and recreation facilities in the last year. Non-users represented 10% of City households
- The answer categories (in order) receiving the largest number of responses from parks and recreation facilities users polled in response to “What Park or Recreation Facility Do You Use Most Often?” included San Fernando Regional Pool, El Cariso Park (Sylmar), Las Palmas Park, Pioneer Park, Veterans Memorial Community Park, San Fernando (non-specific) Park, and Recreation Park.
- Of the five recreation activities tested, the greatest participation by residents polled (in order) included “Walking/Jogging/Running/Hiking/Bicycling on Public Trails for Recreation or Fitness,” “Organized Adult/Youth Indoor Basketball,” “Organized Adult/Youth Soccer,” “Adult Softball,” and “Organized Youth Baseball.”

- One in four residents polled (24%) stated they were Frequent Users (at least 3 times per month) of recreation programs or events in the last year. In contrast, nearly one-third of residents (32%) stated they had not used programs or attended events in that time frame.

**Facilities and Programs Satisfaction:**

- More than nine in ten households polled (91%) stated they are Very or Somewhat Satisfied with existing park and recreation facilities or programs in the City of San Fernando.
- More than 94% of the residents polled stated they are Very or Somewhat Satisfied with existing recreation facility maintenance in the City of San Fernando.

**Improvements Desired:**

- Nearly eight in ten (77%) City of San Fernando households identified a desired recreation facility. One in four (23%) stated they desired no new recreation facilities. The facilities most often mentioned were Walking/Jogging Trails, Gymnasium, Dog Park, Outdoor Recreation Pool, Fitness Center, and Skateboard Park.
- More than eight in ten City of San Fernando households (85%) identified a desired recreation program. One in seven (15%) stated they desired no new recreation program. The most often mentioned responses were Stress Relief, Aerobics, Spinning, or Fitness, Yoga/ Meditation, Camps for School-Age Children During School Recess or Vacation Periods, Community Events, Music, Arts or Crafts, Swimming, Holiday/Seasonal Celebrations, and Cooking.

The following exhibits reflect the findings of the telephone survey as well as the demographic profile of the survey participants.

Exhibit 3.1-1: Frequency of Recreation Facility Use City of San Fernando Residents

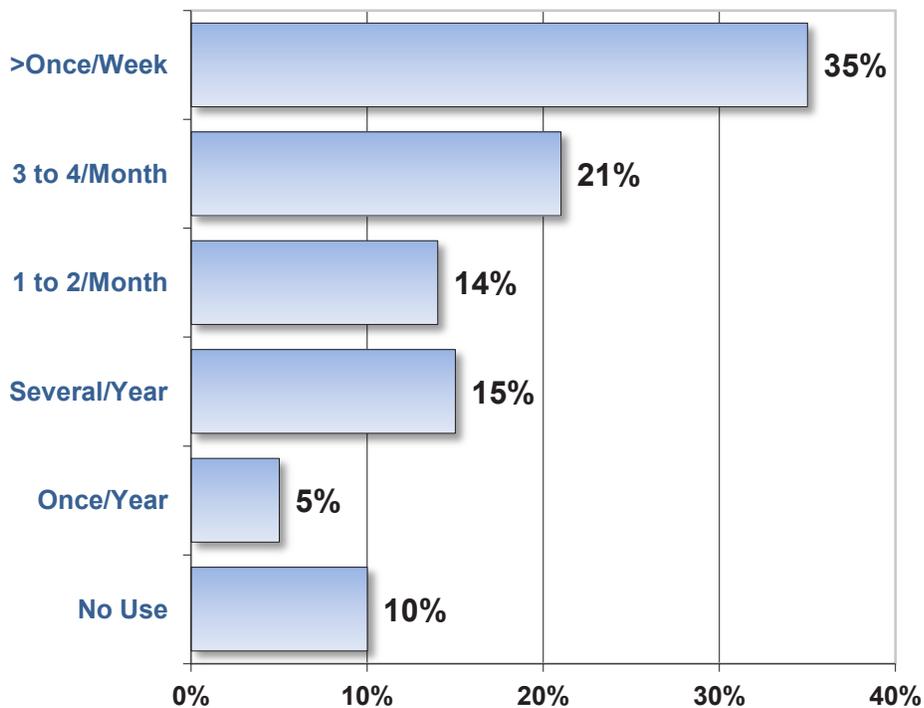


Exhibit 3.1-2: Most Used Recreation Facility City of San Fernando Residents

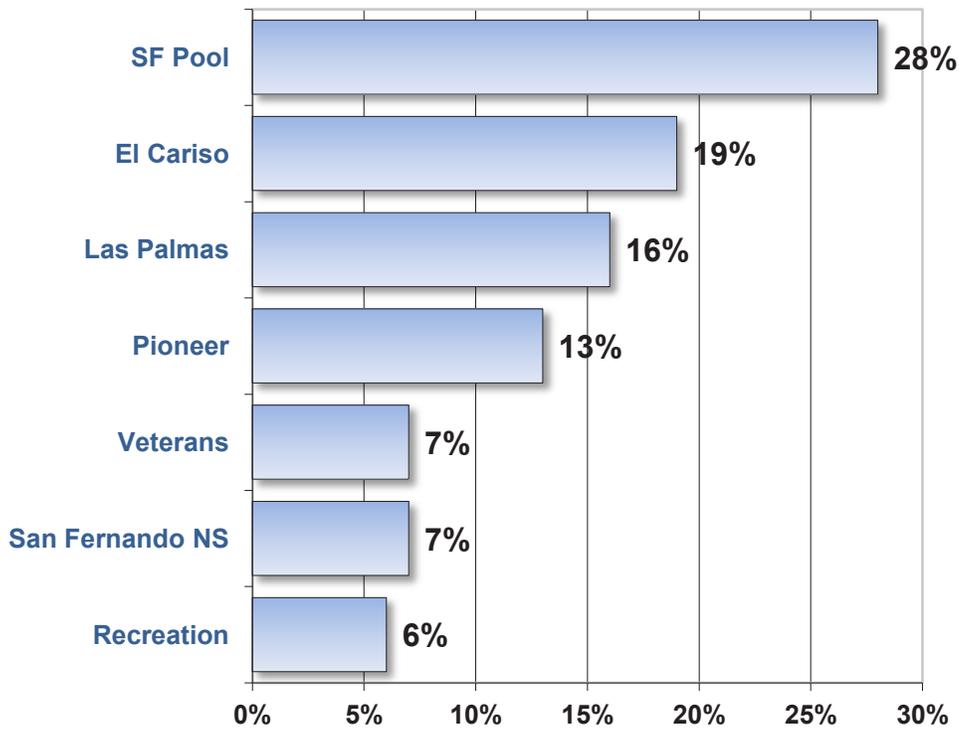


Exhibit 3.1-3: Recreation Activities Participation City of San Fernando Share of Population Participating

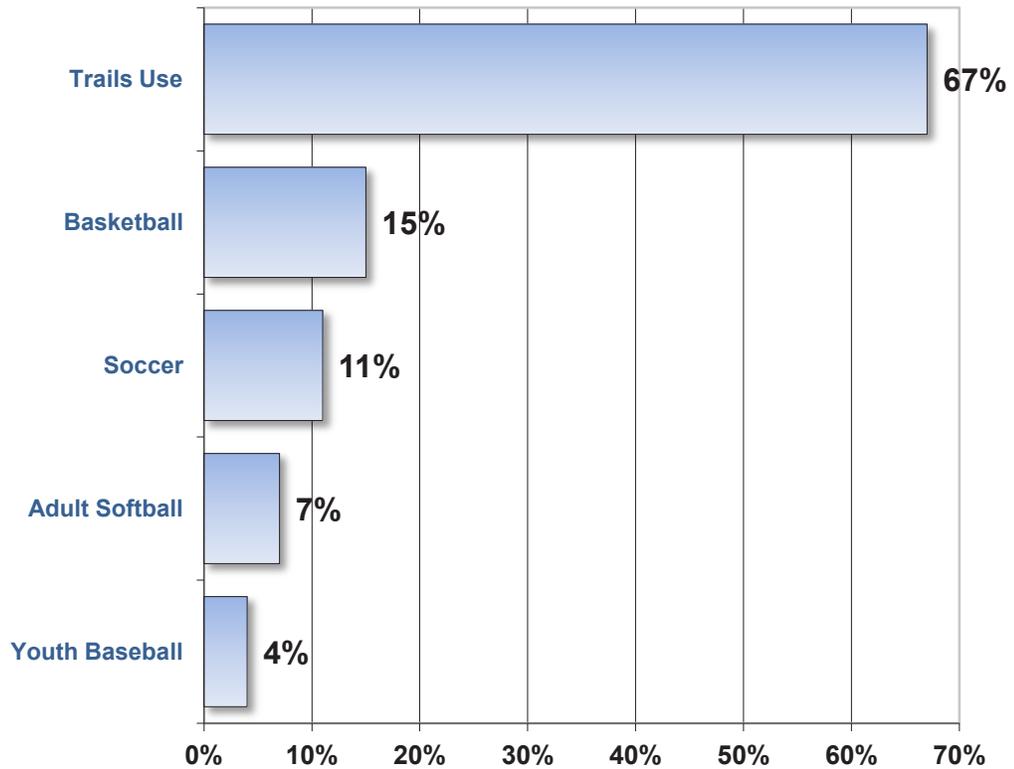


Exhibit 3.1-4: Frequency of Recreation Programs or Events Use City of San Fernando Residents

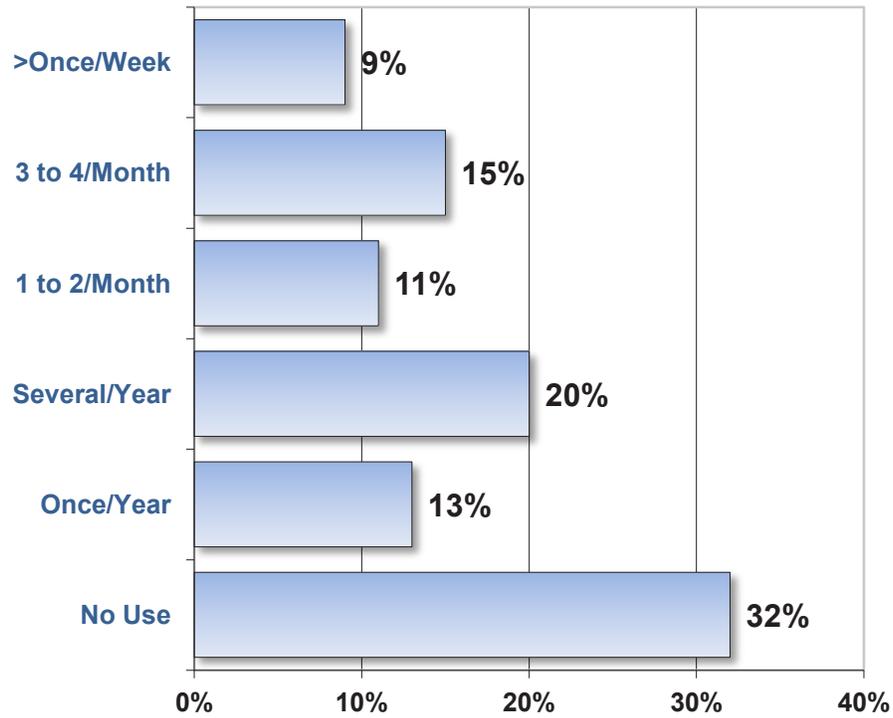


Exhibit 3.1-5: One Recreation Facility Desired City of San Fernando Residents

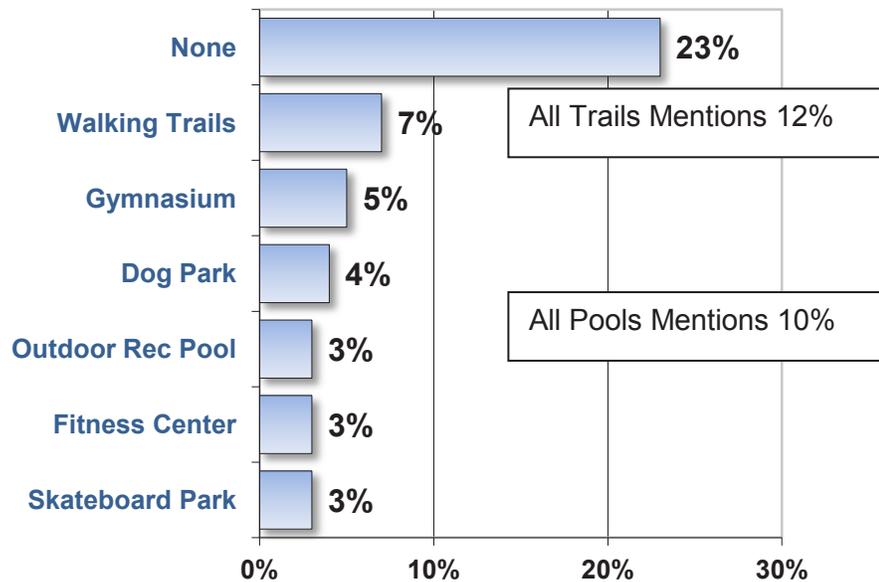


Exhibit 3.1-6: Recreation Programs or Events Desired City of San Fernando Residents

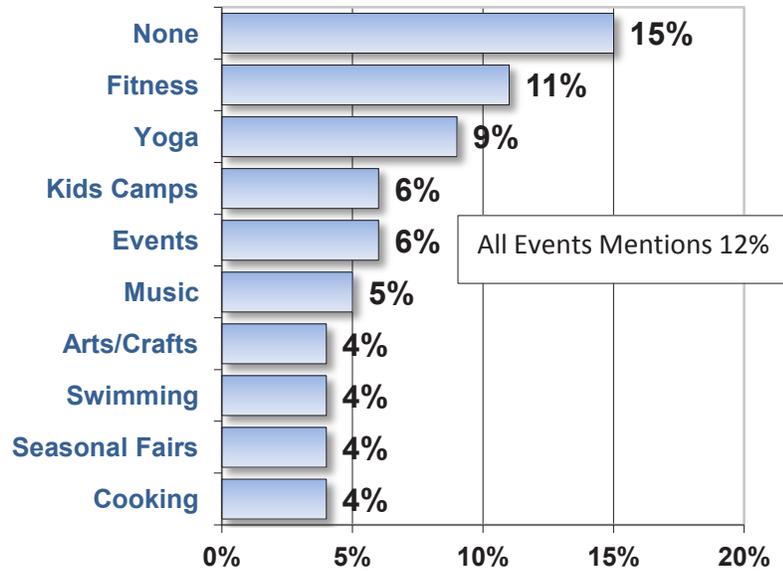


Exhibit 3.1-7: Community-Wide Survey Demographic Characteristics City of San Fernando

	2010 Census	Survey
<b>Percent of Population by Age:</b>		
Under 5 years	8%	8%
5 to 14 years	16%	14%
15 to 19 years	9%	5%
20 to 24 years	8%	10%
25 to 34 years	16%	15%
35 to 44 years	14%	15%
45 to 54 years	12%	13%
55 to 64 years	9%	11%
65 years and over	8%	9%
Median Age	30.7	33.0
<b>Household Description:</b>		
1 adult w-o children	12%	12%
2 or more adults w-o children	34%	34%
Subtotal Households w-o children	46%	46%
1 adult w/children	NA	6%
2 adults w/children	NA	23%
3 or more adults w/children	NA	15%
Subtotal Households w/children	54%	54%
<b>Race/Ethnicity (Census data is for householders; survey data is for respondents):</b>		
Hispanic/Latino	88%	87%
Non-Hispanic White	9%	11%
Non-Hispanic Other	3%	2%
Mean Household Size (people per household):	3.94	3.45

Source: 2010 Census

### Sports Organization Questionnaire

To supplement the information regarding participation in those organized sport activities which were included in the resident telephone survey, a questionnaire was designed and distributed to the sport organizations that use City facilities. Since the basis of the demand analysis is the information regarding participation in various recreation activities obtained from the resident telephone survey, these are the only activities that can be included in the demand analysis. Therefore, sport organization surveys collected from Neighborhood Junior Tennis, Youth Cheer, Special Olympics and Adult Volleyball are not included in the demand analysis, though are considered valuable in the overall development of recreation facility recommendations for this Master Plan report.

One activity, Adult Basketball, which *is* included in the phone survey, is *not* included in the demand analysis. While there is significant participation in this activity by the residents of San Fernando, it is not possible to determine the demand and needs, as there are no organized leagues playing the in the City. It is assumed that the participants are playing at locations outside the City of San Fernando.

The questionnaire obtained information regarding the number of players and teams in the league or sports organization, age ranges of the players, what season they play, if they travel outside San Fernando to play, if they participate in tournaments, ratings of field/facility maintenance and scheduling, projections of growth and facilities they have the greatest need for both now and in the future.

The questionnaire was distributed by the City Staff and seven (7) sports organizations responded. Some of the factual information is summarized in **Exhibit 3.1-8**. The information regarding the number of players, size of teams, seasonality and turnover of facilities for both games and practices are used to better define peak day demand and convert that to the number of facilities required to meet the needs of this segment of the recreation market. Information regarding which of the facilities are currently being used by the sports groups provides input to the inventory of sports facilities regarding usage for adult sports, youth sports and practices.

Another question addresses the percentage of the players in each organization that live within the City of San Fernando. This varies widely by type of sport and in San Fernando reflects the significant number of participants in certain sports who reside outside of San Fernando for games.

**Adult Fall Volleyball**  
 Registration begins: September 18th, 2017  
 Games are between 7pm-10pm  
 \$25 before October 8th ~\$30 per person after October 8th  
 LEAGUE PLAY:  
 Teams will play best 2 out of 3 matches of 6 vs. 6. Minimum 3 males and 3 females per team.  
 Teams will self-referee matches before or after their scheduled match.  
 Season begins: October 10, 2017 Tuesday - Advanced  
 Season begins: October 12, 2017 Thursday - Intermediate/Amateur  
 (Advanced: Must attend the evaluation game on October 3rd to participate in Advanced league)

**Adult Fall Softball**  
 Taking Registration NOW  
 Games are between 7pm-10pm  
 \$350 New teams/ \$325 Returning Teams  
 Tuesday Night Coed Softball:  
 Season begins: September 26th  
 Men's Wooden Bat  
 Season Begins: September 27th

REGISTER AT RECREATION PARK  
 Registration forms available online @ [WWW.SFCITY.ORG](http://WWW.SFCITY.ORG)  
 Registration are taken on a first come first serve basis.  
 Submitted applications must be complete & accompanied by FULL payment.  
 For more information:  
 Si necesita información en Español, llame al:  
 818.898.1290/ [WWW.SFCITY.ORG](http://WWW.SFCITY.ORG)

Volleyball & Softball Games are played at Recreation Park 208 Park Ave. Sa Fernando, CA 91340

**TROPHY CEREMONY**  
 YOUTH BASKETBALL SUMMER 2017

WED, SEPTEMBER 13TH

6:00-7:00PM  
 Rookies, Mystics, & Cheer 5-7

7:00-8:00PM  
 Magic, Legends, Seniors & Cheer 8-12

Join us in celebrating the end of our Summer 2017 Youth Basketball Season!

For more information/  
 Si necesita información en Español, llame al:  
 818-898-1290/ [www.sfcity.org](http://www.sfcity.org)

The results are tabulated below:

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Percent of Players from San Fernando</u>
San Fernando National Little League	80
Santa Rosa Youth Athletics	35
San Fernando Adult Coed Softball	28
Youth Speak Collective – Club Futbolito	40
Minor Soccer League of So. California	75
San Fernando Youth Basketball	63

The impact of non-resident use of City facilities is one of the considerations in assessing facility needs. The adult soccer league also uses facilities in surrounding cities.

Additional, more qualitative, information regarding respondents rating and comments on facility maintenance and scheduling, assessment of usage fees and the perceived needs for additional facilities both currently and in the future as well as desired enhancements in future facilities are summarized in the Appendix. These responses will be used by City staff and the Consultant team to better understand the usage patterns and needs of the active sports groups.

### Community Workshops

#### Community Workshop #1 – Community Characteristics and Issues

The first community workshop was held Thursday, March 9<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm at Las Palmas Park. The Consultant Team worked with City Staff to develop and coordinate the workshop. Workshop handouts were made available in English and Spanish and a translator verbally presented the workshop alongside the Consultant Team for Spanish speaking attendees. Nineteen (19) community members attended the workshop.

The purpose of Workshop #1 was to provide an overview of the Park and Recreation Master Plan process, identify the most important community characteristics that make the City of San Fernando a great place to live, work, and play; identify issues or trends that may negatively impact those important community characteristics; and what role can parks, recreation and community services play in addressing those issues.

According to the workshop participants, the most important community characteristics that make the City of San Fernando a great place to live, work and play are:

- Security – Safe Environment
- Community Events And Programs
- Small Town Character

The issues or trends that may be negatively impacting the community and should be considered in the Park and Creation Master Plan are:

- Maintain And Increase Programs
- Traffic And Parking - Not Enough Bike Lanes
- Lack Of Maintenance At Parks



Workshop participants summarizing their answers to the various topics discussed relating to community characteristics, issues and trends, and the role of parks and recreations.

The role parks, recreation and community services can play in addressing those issues, and support the community characteristics that make the City of San Fernando a great place to live, work and play:

- Continued Program Development
- Communication and Interaction with the Community

### Community Workshop #2 – Sports and Recreation Users

The second community workshop was held Tuesday, April 4<sup>th</sup> from 6:00pm to 9:00pm at Recreation Park in San Fernando. The Consultant Team worked with City Staff to develop and coordinate the workshop. The workshop was run by City Staff in English and Spanish. Workshop handouts were made available in both languages for Spanish speaking attendees. Six (6) community members attended the workshop.

The goal of the workshop was to provide an overview of the Park and Recreation Master Plan process, communicate the current status of the report, identify and discuss the best and worst sport/recreation facilities in San Fernando, identify the top facility needs and most important improvements needed for the City's sport and recreation facilities, and begin to determine the priorities for programs, services and facilities.

According to the workshop participants, the best public sport/recreation facilities in the City of San Fernando are:

- San Fernando Recreation Pool
- Recreation Park
- Las Palmas Park

The worst public sport/recreation facilities in the City are:

- Layne Park
- Pioneer Park
- Recreation Park

The top facility needs in the City of San Fernando are:

- Security / Police Patrol / Cameras
- Better Lighting

The most important improvements community members would make to the City of San Fernando's sport and recreation facilities are:

- Maintenance / Courts & Fields Upgraded



*Workshop 2 run by City Staff asked community members to provide input and insight based on sports and recreation related topics.*



*Community members engaging in public outreach.*

### Community Workshop #3 – Needs Summary and Prioritization

The third and final community workshop was held Thursday, May 11<sup>th</sup> from 6:00pm to 9:00pm at Las Palmas Park. The Consultant Team worked with City Staff to develop and coordinate the workshop. The workshop was run by City Staff. All community members who attended the previous two workshops were invited back to participate. Six (6) community members in total attended.

The goal of the workshop was to collect individual and group responses / consensus on programs and facilities, while prioritizing top needs.

According to workshop participants, the **Top Recreation Facilities** needed in the City of San Fernando are:

- Maintenance
- Basketball Courts
- Bike Lanes/Paths
- Fitness Center
- Lights at Fields
- Lights at Parks/Streets
- Parking
- BBQ

The **Top Recreation Programs** needed in the City of San Fernando are:

- Arts District/Cultural Arts
- Community Events
- Health
- Maintain Existing Programs
- Security at Parks
- Special Needs Programs
- Teen Programs/Services



*Workshop 3, run by City Staff summarized the findings of the previous 2 workshops and data collected during the Master Plan process thus far.*

## Stakeholder Interviews

The following list summarizes questions asked and the results of the interviews conducted with eight (8) stakeholders as part of the public outreach efforts of the Park and Recreation Master Plan. Participants include community leaders and elected officials.

### ***1. What are the most important issues in the Community related to the Parks, Recreation Facilities, Programs and Services currently provided?***

#### **Communication with community:**

- People are unaware of parks that exist in community.
- Lack of education and outreach with community information.
- People are uneducated about park design in terms of native plantings and history of cultural importance in parks such as Rudy Ortega, native plantings and native people.
- City does very poorly in reaching out to community. Flyers are not enough.
- Lacking community information / communications outreach.

#### **Facility Maintenance:**

- Fields not getting enough rest due to sports leagues.
- Man hours it takes to do the maintenance vs. what is available.
- Reduction in work force with buildings getting older.
- Upgraded facilities / Kitchen at Rec Park is not usable.
- Parks lack planning for dedicated event power.
- Facilities need upgrades.
- Growing transient population.
- Increase in illicit activity / beyond normal wear and tear. Noticeable increase causing additional maintenance.

#### **Parks and Recreation Department Modifications:**

- Money / Reduced Staffing.
- Need new blood in department.
- Not a lot of “new” development in terms of programs.
- Parks and Rec Department seems to be stagnated. Doing business as usual.
- Lack manpower from parks and recreation department.

#### **Facility Upgrades:**

- Lighting – Pedestrian lights at parks.
- Surveillance systems.
- More park space “Active” not pocket parks.

**Other:**

- Overutilization of parks and underutilization of parks. Parks do not have equal user participation.
- Design of Team Room at Rudy Ortega Park is too small to hold any sizeable events.
- Other parks such as San Fernando Recreation Center are over utilized.
- Ongoing feud with little league @ Las Palmas Park.
- More senior services / other programming.
- Nothing / No issues.

**2. What are the most important services and facilities for residents in the future?**

**Arts Programs:**

- Arts programs and facilities.
- Possibly use the old theaters that are going out of business to repurpose buildings to house more arts facilities.
- Having an Arts District.

**More Active Recreation Fields / Facilities / Programs:**

- Services: Active residents / More adult sports or exercise based programs.
- Facilities: Track / signage to see how far you have walked or how many calories you have burned.
- Lacking green space within the City / Need more mini parks.
- Have multiple large parks throughout the City that can host events in different geographic regions.
- More park facilities for "active recreation" / Field Sports.

**More Programs:**

- Sustaining meals on wheels for seniors.
- Sustainability of current programs.
- Maintain and expand community events.
- Numbers (people) to support programs.

**Other:**

- Lighting at parks. Increase safety for pedestrians.

### **3. What does the Parks and Recreation Department do best in providing facilities, programs, and services to community residents?**

#### **Programs:**

- Healthy Programs.
- Senior Programs.
- Great programs.
- Need more programs involving other communities to bring money into the City.
- Programs make it better, but the best is simply the parks.
- Able to accommodate multiple programs / both outside and inside organizations.
- People want to get out / City hosts events for all people and cultures.

#### **Others:**

- The Parks themselves. Having a place to go. Clean Safe Places.
- With current staff levels City does a good job in what they do accomplish.
- Partnering with other organizations to support programs.
- Do a lot with little budget.
- Communication / Customer service w/ leagues.

### **4. How can the Parks and Recreation Department improve in providing facilities, programs, and services to community residents?**

#### **Need for Communication:**

- Poor job of interfacing with newspapers / media sources.
- City needs a Public Relations Person.
- Communication to community.

#### **Facilities becoming dated and need of repair:**

- Quality of Facilities.
- Not having enough money to support maintenance issues.
- Parks changing over time have caused facilities to expand beyond their original design (example irrigation that has different zones causing flooding at the same time not enough water).
- Doing patch work now. Need to update facilities to keep maintenance possible. (Older equipment breaks more often beyond a regular schedule).
- Equipment is dated.
- Facilities "Buildings" getting older and seem dated.
- Need more sports lighting / security lighting.



**6. What is the one program, class or activity you would most like to see added in San Fernando to meet the needs of the community?**

**Youth Programs:**

- Teen Program.
- Youth Council.
- Afterschool programs.

**Soccer:**

- indoor (fenced) soccer.
- Synthetic Field / Soccer Programs.

**Others:**

- Arts Programs
- Branch out to different sports / youth volleyball.
- Currently City has good programs.
- Developing exercise programs for youth and seniors.
- Dance Programs.
- Tennis Programs.

**7. What is the one recreation facility you would most like to see added in San Fernando to meet the needs of the community?**

- Performing Arts Center.
- Upgrade facilities. We don't need any new additional facilities.
- Lights on Las Palmas Park.
- Possibly add an indoor (fenced) soccer court.
- Develop a skate park.
- More parks like Layne Park.
- Informal gathering center for educational games / homework assistance that is not the library: Teen Center.
- Multi use facilities.
- Basketball courts (outdoor).
- Updated facilities.

**8. Additional Comments.**

- Get PD more involved in the community "meet an officer in the parks day"

## 3.2 Recreation Facility Demand and Needs Analysis

### Facility Demand Analysis

This section analyzes the demand for recreation and park facilities and programs by the residents of San Fernando. A key element in any planning strategy is an understanding of the nature of demand for parks and recreation facilities. Without this understanding, policy can only be based on general standards of supply and demand, such as population ratios (acres per thousand population) or service area (distance to park facility). Such standards are useful guides but the demand analysis ensures that the needs assessment reflects the character of San Fernando.

The Citywide telephone survey provides the basis for determining how the residents of San Fernando participate in recreation activities. The nature of growth and population change establishes trends in demand for recreation and leisure services. The survey, workshops and stakeholder interviews provide the qualitative aspect of demand - the perceptions of the residents toward recreation and the prioritization of need for facilities and programs.

The participation rates in each of the active recreation activities analyzed (based on the telephone survey) provide a basis for calculating demand for active recreation facilities in relationship to the population served. These participation rates are shown in the first column of **Exhibit 3.2-1** and are taken directly from the participation rates as reported in the survey.

In order to convert these demand estimates into facility requirements, it is necessary to make some assumptions regarding design standards for the peak level of demand. Calculation of peak day demand involves multiplying the population estimates (current population and population projected to 2030) by the participation rate in each activity. These estimates of gross demand are then adjusted to allocate part of the demand to private recreation facilities and part to government or public facilities, if applicable, using California Department of Parks and Recreation data regarding patterns of facility usage. Similarly, a locational adjustment is made to account for those activities which participants would normally engage in at locations outside of San Fernando.

Peak day demand is determined on the basis of the seasonality of participation in each of the various activities and, within peak seasons, the peak days of usage. The calculations of peak day demand included in **Exhibit 3.2-1** (excluding those for fields or courts used for organized games) are designed to accommodate all but three to eight days per year of peak activity for most of the activities analyzed.

The actual facility requirement, however, is less than the aggregate of peak day demand to allow for daily turnover in the use of recreation facilities. Peak day demand was modified as shown in **Exhibit 3.2-1** by the anticipated turnover and capacity for each type of facility. These estimates of daily turnover and capacity on peak day usage periods are derived from studies conducted by the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation, U.S. Department of the Interior regarding optimum recreation carrying capacity as well as from sports group questionnaires, discussions with City staff and other park studies in which the Consultants have been involved.

For sports leagues operating within the City of San Fernando, allowance is made to calculate demand from the entire league, regardless of where the players are living. The calculations in **Exhibit 3.2-1** are based on the current (2016) population level in the City of San Fernando of 24,513. Included in the Exhibit is an estimate of the number or size of facilities required to accommodate peak day demand in the context of the peak day design standards discussed above.

Similar calculations were carried out to determine the demand levels in 2030, when the City reaches the projected population of 25,914. These calculations are shown in **Exhibit 3.2-2**. Because of the minimal growth expected in the City, It is not possible to make adjustments to the participation rates for the 2030 projection. It is anticipated that there will be a somewhat stable demographic profile over the projection period.

The relationship of the current need for facilities in San Fernando to the current population level is the basis for the "facility need ratio" or the measure of the level of population in San Fernando that creates the demand for one facility or one unit of measure such as miles or acres. This ratio for each of the types of facilities analyzed is also presented in **Exhibits 3.2-1 and 3.2-2** and is calculated by dividing the total population by the number of facilities demanded. This will be the basis for the needs analysis presented in the following section. Comparisons of San Fernando's current "facility-need-ratios" to those found in selected other cities in California are presented in **Exhibit 3.2-3** in order to add perspective to the analysis.

### Exhibit 3.2-1: Peak Day Facility Demand Analysis Based on Resident's Participation Rates 2016 Levels

Activity	Per Capita Participation Days/Year	Peak Day Demand (Participants)	Turnovers Per Day	Design Standard for Facility	Number of Facilities Demanded*	Facility Need Ratio - City of San Fernando
Softball:						
Organized Adult	4.5	80	3x	27 players/field	1.2 fields	1/19,950 pop.
Baseball:						
Organized Youth	4.2	247	2.5x	18 players/field	6.9 fields	1/3,550 pop.
Soccer						
Organized Youth	4.6	74	2x	30 players/field	1.6 fields **	1/15,800 pop.
Organized Adult	5.7	127	5x	34 players/field	0.9 fields ***	1/26,300 pop.
Basketball						
Organized Youth	4.6	158	4.5x	16 players/court	2.2 courts	1/11,180 pop.
Walking/Jogging/ Running-Public Trails	44.2	633	1x	90 persons/mile	7.0 miles	1/3,500 pop.
Bicycling-Public Trails	22.7	1,474	5x	30 bicycles/mile	9.8 miles	1/2,500 pop.

\*Demand for ball fields includes an adjustment to allow for resting of fields.

\*\*According to the phone survey participation rates, approximately 372 San Fernando residents participate in youth soccer. There is only one league playing in San Fernando. They have 73 players, and 40% live in San Fernando, indicating that approximately 340 San Fernando residents are playing youth soccer outside of the City.

\*\*\*Demand is based on response from all San Fernando residents who participate in adult soccer based on the telephone survey. The league only plays 50% of their games in San Fernando and the demand has been adjusted to reflect this.

### Exhibit 3.2-2: Peak Day Facility Demand Analysis Based on Residents' Participation Rates 2030 Levels

Activity	Per Capita Participation Days/Year	Peak Day Demand (Participants)	Turnovers Per Day	Design Standard for Facility	Number of Facilities Demanded*	Facility Need Ratio - City of San Fernando
Softball:						
Organized Adult	4.5	84	3x	27 players/field	1.3 fields	1/19,950 pop.
Baseball:						
Organized Youth	4.2	261	2.5x	18 players/field	7.3 fields	1/3,550 pop.
Soccer						
Organized Youth	4.6	79	2x	30 players/field	1.6 fields	** 1/15,800 pop.
Organized Adult	5.7	134	5x	34 players/field	1.0 fields	*** 1/26,300 pop.
Basketball						
Organized Youth	4.6	167	4.5x	16 players/court	2.3 courts	1/11,180 pop.
Walking/Jogging/ Running-Public Trails	44.2	669	1x	90 persons/mile	7.4 miles	1/3,500 pop.
Bicycling-Public Trails	22.7	1,557	5x	30 bicycles/mile	10.4 miles	1/2,500 pop.

\*Demand for ball fields includes an adjustment to allow for resting of fields.

\*\*According to the phone survey participation rates, approximately 372 San Fernando residents participate in youth soccer. There is only one league playing in San Fernando. They have 73 players, and 40% live in San Fernando, indicating that approximately 340 San Fernando residents are playing youth soccer outside of the City.

\*\*\*Demand is based on response from all San Fernando residents who participate in adult soccer based on the telephone survey. The league only plays 50% of their games in San Fernando and the demand has been adjusted to reflect this.

### Exhibit 3.2-3: Comparison of City of San Fernando Needs Ratios to Other Areas

Facility	Facility Need Ratio - City of San Fernando	Facility Need Ratio - City of Ontario	Facility Need Ratio - City of Santa Clarita	Facility Need Ratio - City of Pasadena	Facility Need Ratio - City of San Juan Cap.	Facility Need Ratio - City of Chino Hills	Facility Need Ratio - City of Temecula	Facility Need Ratio - City of Dana Point	Facility Need Ratio - City of Santa Maria	Facility Need Ratio - City of Riverside	Facility Need Ratio - City of Diamond Bar
Softball Fields:											
Org. Adult	1/19,950 pop.	1/26,800	N.A.	1/67,700	N.A.	1/14,900	1/5,500	1/19,250	1/19,800	1/18,600	1/16,800
Baseball Fields:											
Organized/Youth	1/3,550 pop.	1/8,500	1/20,900	1/19,400	1/6,050	1/5,150	1/4,500	1/9,550	1/13,350	1/9,600	1/6,300
Soccer Fields											
Organized Youth	1/15,800 pop.	1/4,550	1/6,250	1/9,650	1/2,150	1/3,450	1/2,600	1/4,400	1/9,400	1/8,800	1/3,400
Organized Adult	1/26,300 pop.	1/14,050	N.A.	1/18,200	1/4,750	N.A.	N.A.	1/18,200	1/17,650	1/13,300	N.A.
Basketball Courts											
Organized Youth	1/11,180 pop.	1/26,650	N.A.	1/36,800	N.A.	N.A.	1/31,000	N.A.	1/21,250	N.A.	1/15,800
Walking/Jogging (mi.)	1/3,500 pop.	1/3,350	1/3,700	1/2,000	1/2,550	N.A.	1/13,900	N.A.	1/5,500	1/5,000	1/8,750
Bicycling Paths (mi.)	1/2,500 pop.	1/2,800	1/3,400	1/2,500	N.A.	N.A.	1/610	N.A.	1/4,150	1/4,050	1/4,200

## Facility Need Analysis

### Methodology

The level of population in San Fernando that creates the demand for facilities is derived from the telephone survey data as described in the previous section. This “facility need ratio” is shown again in **Exhibit 3.2-4**. The current facility needs are determined by multiplying the current population by the “facility needs ratio.” These needs, in terms of the number or size of facilities demanded, are then compared with the total of existing City and school district facilities to determine whether the existing inventory of facilities is adequate in terms of demand conditions.

As an example of the analytical process, the needs ratio for organized youth soccer fields for games in San Fernando is one field for every 15,800 residents (as shown in **Exhibit 3.2-4**). Based on the 2016 population of San Fernando, the required number of fields is an estimated 1.6. The existing inventory of fields is 1, leaving a deficit of 0.6 fields, if the inventory of organized youth soccer fields for games in San Fernando were to match the peak day requirement as defined.

### Exhibit 3.2-4: City of San Fernando Recreation Facility Needs Analysis - 2016 Estimate

Facility	Facility Need Ratio - City of San Fernando	2016 Needs	Existing City Facilities	City Surplus/ Deficit(-)	School Facilities Avail.	Total Facilities Avail.	Total Surplus/ Deficit(-)
<b>Softball Fields:</b>							
Organized Adult	1/19,950 pop.	1.2	1	-0.2	0	1	-0.2
<b>Baseball Fields:</b>							
Organized Youth	1/3,550 pop.	6.9	7	0.1	0	7	0.1
<b>Soccer Fields</b>							
Organized Youth	1/15,800 pop.	1.6	1 *	-0.6	0	1	-0.6
Organized Adult	1/26,300 pop.	0.9	1 *	0.1		1	0.1
<b>Basketball Courts</b>							
Organized Youth	1/11,180 pop.	2.2	2	-0.2		2	-0.2
Walking/Jogging Paths (mi.)	1/3,500 pop.	7.0	1.2	-5.8	0	1.2	-5.8
Bicycling Paths (mi.)	1/2,500 pop.	9.8	1.2	-8.6	0	1.2	-8.6

Note: All sports fields shown in the supply are fields actually being used for games by organized sports leagues to match the demand as defined in the demand analysis.

\*Both youth and adult soccer utilize the same field.



Existing City Ball Fields.

### Facility Requirements

The needs analysis presented in Exhibit 3.2-4 indicates existing deficits in only a few of the types of facilities that were analyzed. The facilities showing deficits of 0.5 facility or greater, in addition to youth soccer game fields, are walking/jogging paths (5.8 miles), and bicycling paths (8.6 miles).

The need for facilities was projected to 2030 and these projections together with the current supply of facilities (no adjustments were made for any planned facilities) are presented in Exhibit 3.2-5. The deficits in the facilities in the projection year do not increase to any significant extent due to the small amount of growth which is expected. The deficits include youth soccer game fields (0.6 field), walking/jogging paths (6.2 miles), and bicycling paths (9.2 miles).

Exhibit 3.2-6 summarizes the change in demand between 2016 and 2030 or the demand resulting solely from the growth expected to occur during this period. This Exhibit describes the number or size of facilities by type that will be required just to accommodate the future growth in the City of San Fernando. The existing 2016 surplus or deficit in facilities is combined with the growth projections in Exhibit 3.2-7 to provide the cumulative estimate of the additional number or size of facilities by type that will be required in the City of San Fernando by the year 2030.

Exhibit 3.2-5: City of San Fernando Recreation Facility Needs Analysis 2030 Projection

Facility	Facility Need Ratio - City of San Fernando	Buildout Needs	Existing City Facilities	City Surplus/ Deficit(-)	School Facilities Avail.1	Total Facilities Avail.	Total Surplus/ Deficit(-)
<b>Softball Fields:</b>							
Organized Adult	1/19,950 pop.	1.3	1	-0.3	0	1	-0.3
<b>Baseball Fields:</b>							
Organized Youth	1/3,550 pop.	7.3	7	-0.3	0	7	-0.3
<b>Soccer Fields</b>							
Organized Youth	1/15,800 pop.	1.6	1 *	-0.6	0	1	-0.6
Organized Adult	1/26,300 pop.	1.0	1 *	0.0	0	1	0.0
<b>Basketball Courts</b>							
Organized Youth	1/11,180 pop.	2.3	2	-0.3	0	2	-0.3
Walking/Jogging Paths (mi.)	1/3,500 pop.	7.4	1.2	-6.2	0	1.2	-6.2
Bicycling Paths (mi.)	1/2,500 pop.	10.4	1.2	-9.2	0	1.2	-9.2

Note: All sports fields shown in the supply are fields actually being used for games by organized sports leagues to match the demand as defined in the demand analysis.

\*Both youth and adult soccer utilize the same field.

## Exhibit 3.2-6: Change in Demand for Recreation Facilities by Type, 2016 to 2030

Facility	Number of Facilities Demanded*		Change in Surplus/Deficit (-) 2015-2035**
	2015	2035	
Softball Fields:			
Organized Adult	1.2 fields	1.3 fields	-0.1 fields
Baseball Fields:			
Organized Youth	6.9 fields	7.3 fields	-0.4 fields
Soccer Fields			
Organized Youth	1.6 fields	1.6 fields	-0.1 fields
Organized Adult	0.9 fields	1.0 fields	-0.1 fields
Basketball Courts			
Organized Youth	2.2 courts	2.3 courts	-0.1 courts
Walking/Jogging Paths (mi.)	7.0 miles	7.4 miles	-0.4 miles
Bicycling Paths (mi.)	9.8 miles	10.4 miles	-0.6 miles

\* Demand for ball fields is adjusted by approximately 20 percent to allow for resting of fields.

\*\*Demand resulting from growth and changing demographics. Does not include allowance for any deficits or surpluses existing in 2016.

## Exhibit 3.2-7: Facility Requirements for Recreation Needs in San Fernando 2030 Estimate

	2016 Facility Surplus/Deficit (-)	Change in Surplus/Deficit (-) 2016-2030	Cumulative 2030 Facility Surplus/Deficit (-)
Softball Fields:			
Organized Adult	-0.2 fields	-0.1 fields	-0.3 fields
Baseball Fields:			
Organized Youth	0.1 fields	-0.4 fields	-0.3 fields
Soccer Fields			
Organized Youth	-0.6 fields	-0.1 fields	-0.6 fields
Organized Adult	0.1 fields	-0.1 fields	0.0 fields
Basketball Courts			
Organized Youth	-0.2 courts	-0.1 courts	-0.3 courts
Walking/Jogging Paths (mi.)	-5.8 miles	-0.4 miles	-6.2 miles
Bicycling Paths (mi.)	-8.6 miles	-0.6 miles	-9.2 miles

### 3.3 Recreation Facility Needs Summary and Prioritization

The Facility Needs Summary and Prioritizations are a key element of the Master Plan process that bring together information from the various community input measures and City specific analysis efforts, distilling them into a broader overall picture of recreation. This picture of recreation is in the form of recreation facility recommendations that support the needs of San Fernando and its community vision.

The Facility Needs Summary Matrix (**Exhibit 3.3-1**) summarizes the needs identified throughout the Master Plan process and uses a numerical ranking system to establish relative priorities; the more needs identification tools that indicate a particular need, the higher the priority ranking. All of the needs identification tools are directly based on community input, and are therefore considered important to some degree of the community.

The Facility Needs Summary Matrix determines which needs have the highest priority as perceived by the largest number of residents. In determining the overall priority ranking (numerical total), the exhibit gives greater weight to quantitative tools (statistically valid) by counting each as double the value of the qualitative tool. This is reflected in the top header (Representative x2 points, vs. Inclusive x1 point). For instance, Walking / Jogging is indicated as a need by 5 identification tools equaling 8 as the numerical total (3 Representative Tools x2 and 2 Inclusive Tools x1) and therefore has a higher relative priority than Volleyball Courts with 1 identification tool equaling 1 as the numerical total (0 Representative Tools x2 and 1 Inclusive Tool x1).

Based on **Exhibit 3.3-1** and for the purposes of this summary, needs are highlighted in purple or orange. The colors also reflect a relative ranking of priority; purple indicates that the need was identified by six (6) or more as the numerical total of the identification tools indicated (Representative x2 and Inclusive x1), suggesting the highest priority. Orange indicates a high priority and is identified by four (4) to five (5) as the numerical total of the identification tools indicated (Representative x2 and Inclusive x1).

<b>Top Priority Facilities</b>	<b>Number of Tools (Green)</b>	<b>Priority Ranking (Total, Purple)</b>
• Walking / Jogging	5	8
• Soccer Fields	5	7
• Basketball Courts	5	7
• Bike Lanes / Bike Paths	4	6
• Softball Fields	3	5
• Lights at Streets / Parks	5	5
• Baseball Fields	3	5
• Lights at Fields	4	4

Essentially any of the facility priorities can be aggregated together to fulfill the community needs based on available funding, capital improvement projects, and sequence of improvements. It is recommended that the high and highest priority recommendations be grouped together and implemented to provide the most cost effective approach with regard to corresponding construction and maintenance costs.

Exhibit 3.3-1: Facility Needs Summary Matrix

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO FACILITY NEEDS SUMMARY		NEEDS IDENTIFICATION TOOLS									
		REPRESENTATIVE (X2)			INCLUSIVE (X1)						
		Resident Telephone Survey	Demand-Needs Analysis (Current)	Demand-Needs Analysis (Future)	Stakeholder Interviews	Community Workshop 1 (03/09/17)	Community Workshop 2 (04/04/17)	Community Workshop 3 (05/11/17)	Sports Organization Survey	Total # of Identification Tools that Identified Need	Priority Ranking
KEY	IDENTIFIED RECREATION FACILITY NEED										
1	Active Park Space				X					1	1
2	Backstops								X	1	1
3	Baseball Fields		X	X			X			3	5
4	Basketball Courts		X	X	X		X	X		5	7
5	Batting Cages								X	1	1
6	BBQ's							X		1	1
7	Benches (Softball/Baseball Fields)								X	1	1
8	Bike Lanes / Bike Paths		X	X		X		X		4	6
9	Bleachers/Spectator Seating								X	1	1
10	Community Park				X					1	1
11	Concession Stand								X	1	1
12	Dog Park	X					X			2	3
13	Drinking Fountains						X		X	2	2
14	Extended Field Hours				X				X	2	2
15	Fencing								X	1	1
16	Fitness Center							X		1	1
17	Gym	X							X	2	3
18	Indoor Soccer Fields				X					1	1
19	Lights at Fields				X			X	X	3	3
20	Lights at Streets / Parks				X	X	X	X		4	4
21	Maintenance				X	X	X	X	X	5	5
22	Mini Parks				X					1	1
23	No New Improvements	X								1	2
24	Pool	X								1	2
25	Parking							X	X	2	2
26	Picnic Tables								X	1	1
27	Restrooms						X		X	2	2
28	Scoreboards								X	1	1
29	Shade					X	X			2	2
30	Skate Park	X			X					2	3
31	Soccer Fields		X	X	X		X		X	5	7
32	Softball Fields		X	X					X	3	5
33	Storage								X	1	1
34	Synthetic Turf Fields				X				X	2	2
35	T-Ball Fields								X	1	1
36	Traffic Calming					X				1	1
37	Trash Receptacles								X	1	1
38	Upgraded Park Building				X					1	1
39	Volleyball Courts				X					1	1
40	Walking / Jogging Trails	X	X	X	X				X	5	8

### 3.4 Recreation Program Needs Summary and Prioritization

The Program Needs Summary Matrix (**Exhibit 3.4-1**) and Prioritizations are another key element to the Master Plan process that bring together information from the various community input measures and City specific analysis efforts, distilling them into a broader overall picture of recreation. Although, an in depth analysis of City programming is not part of this Master Plan report, it is important to understand the impact of City programming as an indicator of the recreation needs of San Fernando and its community vision.

The Program Needs Summary Matrix (**Exhibit 3.4-1**) summarizes the program needs identified throughout the Master Plan process, and uses a numerical ranking system to establish relative priorities; the more needs identification tools that indicate a particular need, the higher the ranking. All of the needs identification tools are directly based on community input, and are therefore considered important to some degree of the community.

The Program Needs Summary Matrix determines which needs have the highest priority as perceived by the largest number of residents. In determining the overall priority ranking (numerical total), the exhibit gives greater weight to quantitative tools (statistically valid) by counting each as double the value of the qualitative tool. This is reflected in the top header (Representative x2 points, vs. Inclusive x1 point). For instance, Security (at Parks) is indicated as a need by 4 identification tools equaling 4 as the numerical total (0 Representative Tools x2 and 4 Inclusive Tools x1) and therefore has a higher relative priority than Tennis with 1 identification tool equaling 1 as the numerical total (0 Representative Tools x2 and 1 Inclusive Tool x1).

Based on **Exhibit 3.4-1** and for the purposes of this summary, needs are highlighted in purple or orange. The colors also reflect a relative ranking of priority; purple indicates that the need was identified by four (4) or more as the numerical total of the identification tools indicated (Representative x2 and Inclusive x1), suggesting the highest priority. Orange indicates a high priority and is identified by three (3) as the numerical total

of the identification tools indicated (Representative x2 and Inclusive x1).

Ultimately, the ranking of the program needs should be considered with the ranking of facility needs from the previous section. Together, elements of both will provide the City of San Fernando with a more complete and comprehensive set of recommendations and goals for fulfilling its community needs now and in the future.



*Mexican Folkdancers participate in City wide cultural events.*

Exhibit 3.3-1: Facility Needs Summary Matrix

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO PROGRAM NEEDS SUMMARY		NEEDS IDENTIFICATION TOOLS							
		REP. (X2)	INCLUSIVE (X1)					Total # of Tools that Identified Need	Calculated Total
		Resident Telephone Survey	Stakeholder Interviews	Community Workshop 1 (03/09/17)	Community Workshop 2 (04/04/17)	Community Workshop 3 (05/11/17)			
KEY	IDENTIFIED RECREATION FACILITY NEED								
1	Adult Sports		X				1	1	
2	Aerobics / Spinning	X	X				2	3	
3	Arts & Crafts	X	X				2	3	
4	Arts Districts / Cultural Arts		X			X	2	2	
5	Camp for Kids / After School	X	X				2	3	
6	Communication / Community Outreach		X	X		X	3	3	
7	Community Events	X	X			X	3	4	
8	Continued Program Development		X	X			2	2	
9	Cooking	X					1	2	
10	Dance		X				1	1	
11	Event Planning		X				1	1	
12	Healthy Programs		X			X	2	2	
13	Holiday / Seasonal	X					1	2	
14	Maintain Existing Programs		X	X		X	3	3	
15	Music	X					1	2	
16	No New Programs	X	X				2	3	
17	No Profit Collaboration		X	X			2	2	
18	Security (at Parks)		X	X	X	X	4	4	
19	Senior Services / Programs		X				1	1	
20	Special Needs Programs				X	X	2	2	
21	Stress Relief	X					1	2	
22	Swimming	X					1	2	
23	Teen Programs / Center		X			X	2	2	
24	Tennis		X				1	1	
25	Traffic Calming			X	X		2	2	
26	Yoga / Meditation	X					1	2	

Top Priority Programs	Number of Tools (Green)	Priority Ranking (Total, Purple)
• Security (at Parks)	4	4
• Communication / Community Outreach	3	4
• Community Events	3	3
• Maintain Existing Programs	3	3
• Camp for Kids / After School	2	3
• Arts & Crafts	2	3
• Aerobics / Spinning	2	3



*Walking path and natural landscaping at Rudy Ortega Park.*



# RECREATION FACILITY RECOMMENDATIONS



## Section FOUR: Recreation Facility Recommendations

### 4.1 Overall Concept

Continued park and recreation facility and program planning/development will be needed to satisfy current and future Demand Needs in the City of San Fernando. It is intended that the City pursue satisfaction of these needs using the following strategies in a two-pronged approach. These will be discussed further in depth in Section 4.3.

#### 1. FACILITIES/INFRASTRUCTURE

- Planned Park Renovations
- Circulation Expansion

#### 2. PROGRAMS

- Joint Use Agreements
- City Wide Park Maintenance Programming / Prescriptive Maintenance Manual
- Safety and Security Measures
- Program Management

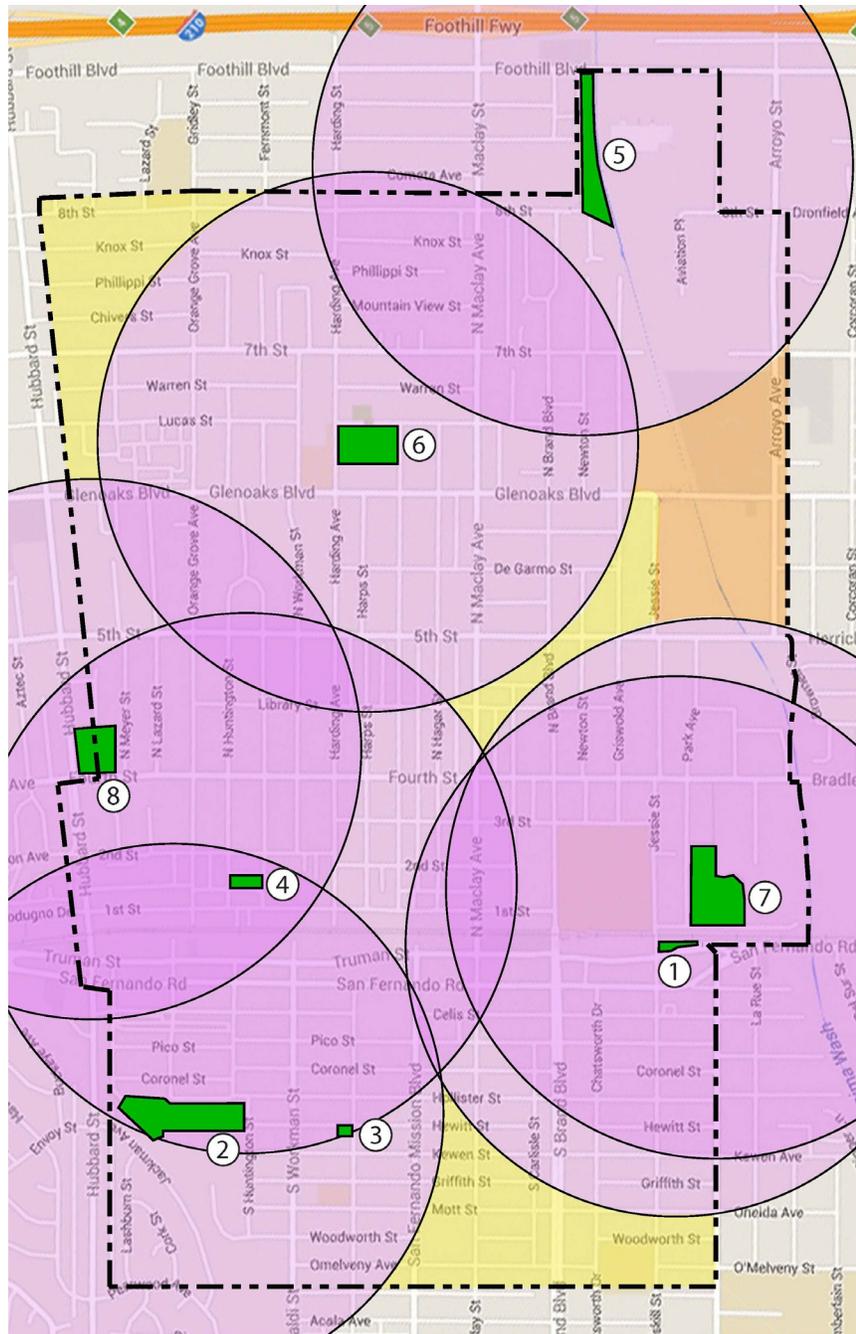
### 4.2 Opportunities and Constraints

Throughout the Master Plan process existing park and recreation resources have been evaluated for their ability to provide recreational opportunities to the residents of San Fernando. As previously discussed, the Service Area Map (**Exhibit 2.4-1**) identifies which areas of the City are served by such recreation parks and facilities, and which areas are under served.

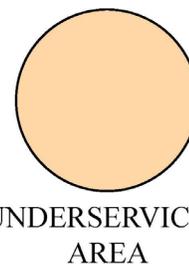
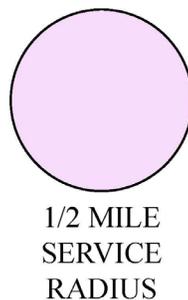
Due to the virtually built-out condition of the City of San Fernando, very limited to no open space is available for the development of new park or recreation sites, specifically in under served areas. **Exhibit 4.2-1** identifies the under served areas from the Service Area Map (**Exhibit 2.4-1**) and underlays the Land Use map (**Exhibit 1.4-3**) to establish key residential zones that are deficient of recreation resources.

The City has a unique opportunity to focus its attention to the highlighted areas in the Under Served map. If vacant parcels become available in these locations the City should pursue acquisition and development of Pocket/Mini Parks, Linear Parks, or Neighborhood Parks to satisfy current and future demands for high priority facilities and programs including; Basketball Courts, Bike Lanes/Bike Paths, Soccer Fields, Walking/Jogging Trails, Baseball Fields, Lights at Streets/Parks/Security, Maintenance, Softball Fields, Community Events, and Programs (Section 3.4). Development of additional recreational resources in these areas can provide valuable parkland acreage per 1,000 residents and serve residents that may not have the opportunity to recreate in their neighborhoods.

Exhibit 4.2-1: Service Area Map Under Served Acquisition Areas



- # CITY PARKS
1. Cesar E. Chavez Memorial
  2. Las Palmas Park
  3. Kalisher Park
  4. Layne Park
  5. Pacoima Wash Natural Park
  6. Pioneer Park
  7. Recreation Park
  8. Rudy Ortega Sr. Park



## 4.3 Recreation Recommendations

Vacant parcels notwithstanding, a two-pronged approach to the City's recreation recommendations will allow flexibility in how San Fernando is able to satisfy its current and future needs. Improvements categorized under Facilities/Infrastructure include Planned Park Renovations and Circulation Expansion. These recommendations can provide immediate support to existing park facilities and allow expansion of pedestrian circulation systems through the City should land acquisition not be an option at the time.

### 1. FACILITIES/INFRASTRUCTURE

#### Planned Park Renovations

Planned Park Renovations and scheduled maintenance will allow the City to identify and organize priorities for recreation facilities associated with immediate and long term needs. Park improvements and renovations can be prioritized based on funding and usage, limiting down time and scheduling conflicts. The development of a Capital Improvements List will aid in this prioritization, while Joint-Use Agreements and City land acquisition can provide rotational relief to such improvements between park facilities.

#### Circulation Expansion (Walking / Jogging Trails, Bike Paths)

Because the City of San Fernando does not have a fully established or contiguous bike trail network beyond the Mission City Trail or San Fernando Road Bike Path and Walking/Jogging and Bike Lanes/Paths are identified as a need, it is recommended that the City develop its Class I and Class II Bike Lane networks. Established bike routes will provide a safe form of non-vehicular pedestrian travel via cross town connections to parks, downtown, existing bike trails inside and outside of the City. These routes may include Class I, II or III bike lanes as well as Community Trails. A community trail can be established along the Pacima Wash and Railroad providing linear parkland and extending the City's trail and park network.

#### Bikeways are classified in the following categories by Caltrans:

- Class I Bikeway or Trail – provides a completely separated right of way for the exclusive use of bicycles and pedestrians with crossflow by motorists minimized.
- Class II Bike Lane – provides striped lane for one-way bike travel on a street or highway.
- Class III Bikeway or Bike Route – provides for shared use with pedestrian or motor vehicle traffic.

### 2. PROGRAMS

The second element of the two-pronged approach for recreation recommendations relates specifically to programs. A variety of programs can be implemented to serve the City's needs through Joint-Use Agreements, City Wide Park Maintenance Programming, Safety and Security Measures and Program Management.

### **Joint-Use Agreements**

Joint-Use Agreements between the City and LAUSD are a unique way to provide additional sports fields, courts and facilities to the City that would otherwise not be available. The agreement allows the City use of school facilities after hours and on weekends when not in use. These fields and courts can alleviate maintenance pressure at existing recreation resources, allow planned park renovations to take place more frequently, accommodate sport league practice and game day scheduling, and allow the City to maintain or expand its programs and services available to residents. If Joint-Use Agreements can be achieved between the City and LAUSD, the City should consider maintenance renovations and upgrades to the multi-purpose fields as a long term resolution to its recreation needs.

### **City Wide Park Maintenance Programming / Prescriptive Maintenance Manual**

Throughout the Master Plan process, much of the community outreach data collected spoke to maintenance improvements to existing park facilities. Development of a prescriptive City-wide park maintenance manual will allow the City of San Fernando to customize its park improvements with regard to usage, demand, and fiscal restraints, forming the foundation for the development of enhanced operations and maintenance practices. A maintenance manual will drive the recommendations identified in the Capital Improvements List and Planned Park Renovations relative to current and future needs. Upgrades to existing infrastructure, changing demographics and recreational trends can be met with improved practices and procedures in operations through the a City-wide prescriptive maintenance program manual.

### **Safety and Security Measures**

Safety and security programming can be used to meet the need for “Security” and “Lights at Streets / Parks”. Simple measures such as; enforced hours of operations, parking restrictions, natural surveillance and crime prevention through environmental design, lighting, daily/nightly patrol, regulatory signage and citation can allow the City to better monitor park facilities and keep residents feeling safe and secure. These measures will increase the longevity of park resources and minimize maintenance required outside of Planned Park Renovations and improvements.

### **Program Management**

The City of San Fernando's lack of deficit in sports fields and courts as determined by the Demand Needs analysis has guided the Master Plan Report towards what could be considered advantageous recommendation made up of maintenance and programming suggestions. Similar size cities with built-out conditions often find themselves with deficits in recreation resources. San Fernando has the opportunity to focus on serving its residents through preservation of its existing parks, facilities, and programs without having to build additional facilities from a needs standpoint. As the City begins to grow financially or if grants become available the Park and Recreation Department, Commission and Council should work towards prioritizing the suggested recommendations from a fiscal standpoint, determining what funds are available for what improvements, which are immediate versus long-term needs, and program management. Programs are an important component of San Fernando and should be maintained and expanded to serve residents current and future needs.

## 4.4 Concept Diagrams

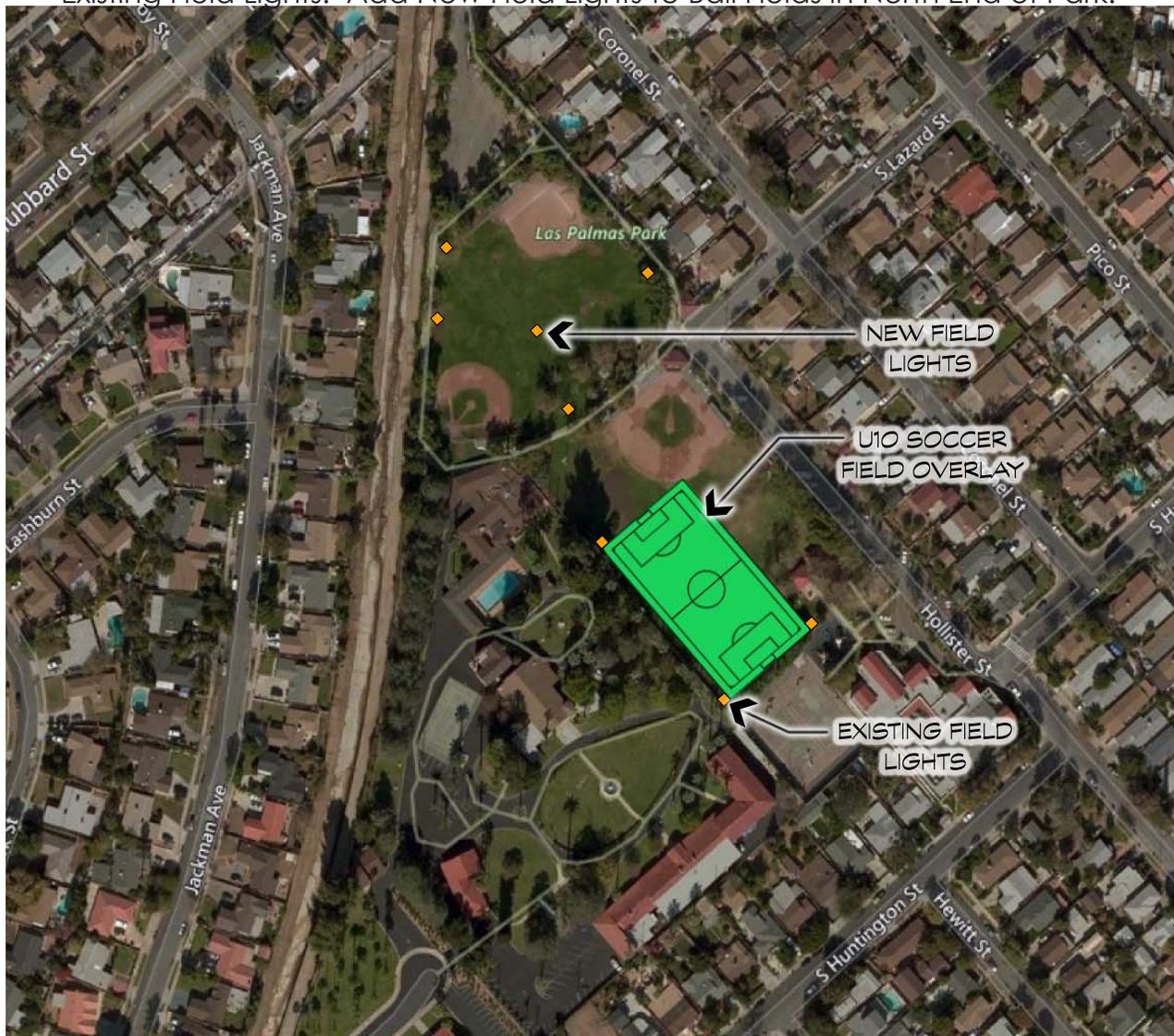
Beyond the previously mentioned Master Plan Report recommendations, the City should consider conditional improvements to its recreation resources. If future land acquisition is not possible and joint-use agreements cannot be utilized, the City should consider dual use improvements that provide multi-use field overlays, longer hours of operation, space consolidation, and organization that create flexibility and functionality in park resources.

Below are four concept diagrams that speak to these improvements, providing insight to possible solutions should the City be faced with less recreation space in the future.

### Exhibit 4.4-1: Las Palmas Park Recommendations

#### Las Palmas Park

- Develop Open Field Into U10 Natural Turf Soccer Field Overlay With Use of Existing Field Lights. Add New Field Lights to Ball Fields in North End of Park.



### Exhibit 4.4-2: Layne Park Recommendations

#### Layne Park

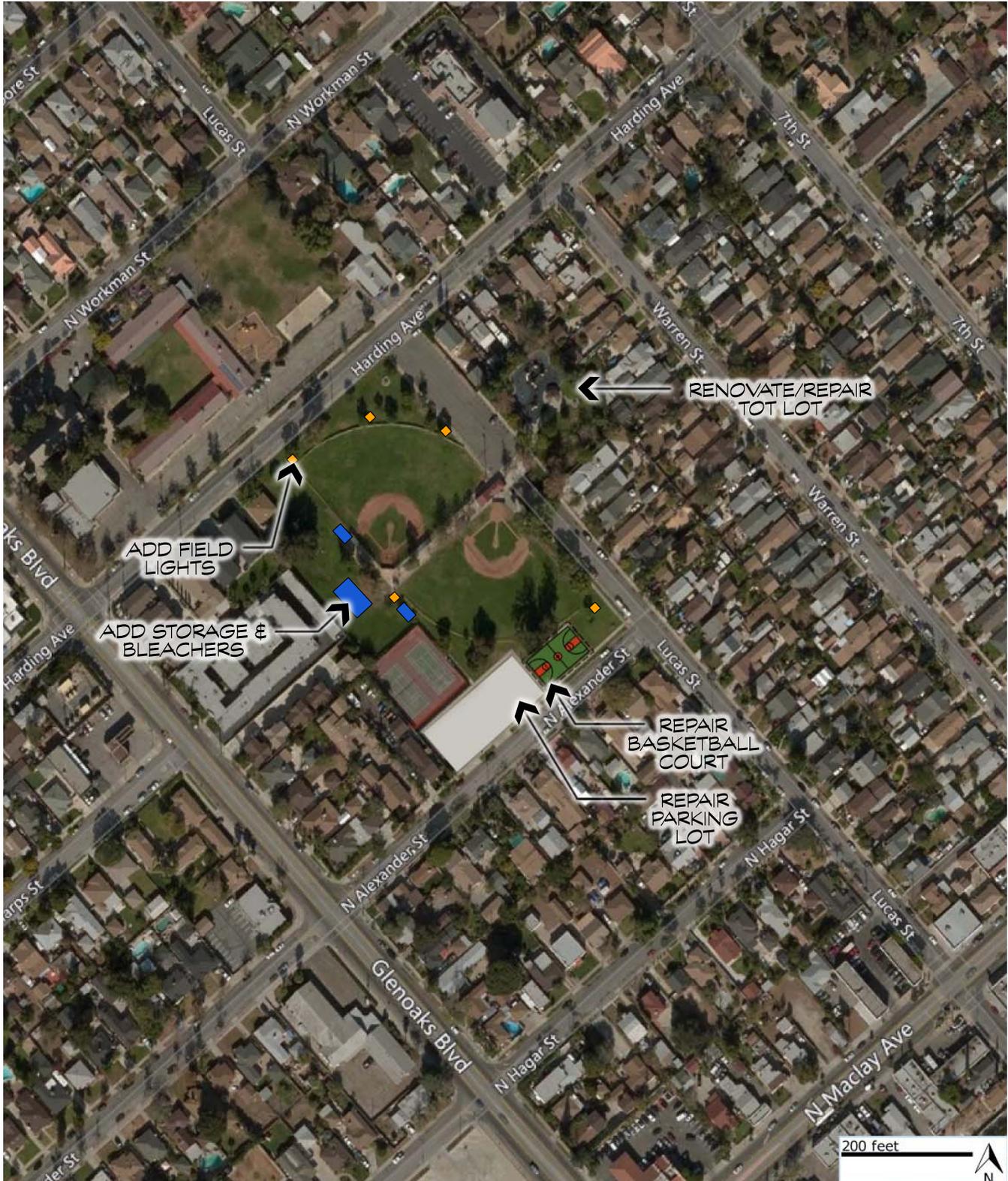
- Relocate 1/2 Size Basketball Court and Convert to a Full Size Court, Add U10 Soccer Field Overlay, Relocate Picnic Table Pads and Tables



### Exhibit 4.4-3: Pioneer Park Recommendations

#### Pioneer Park

- Renovate/Repair Basketball Court, Renovate/Repair Parking Lot, Add Field Lights, Bleachers, Storage, Renovate/Repair Tot Lot



## Exhibit 4.4-4: Recreation Park Recommendations

### Recreation Park

- Add Equipment Storage and Maintenance Storage, Add Baseball Field Overlay, Repair Existing Fields

