



CAZADERO COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT  
PO BOX 508  
CAZADERO CA 95421-0508

Board Meeting Agenda  
March 8, 2022 ~ 6:30PM  
Location ~ Fire Station #1  
5980 Cazadero Hwy, Cazadero, CA 95421

\*\*\*\*ASSEMBLY BILL 361\*\*\*\*

\*\*RE CORONAVIRUS COVID-19\*\*

CONSISTENT WITH GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54953 AND DECLARATIONS OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY BY THE CALIFORNIA GOVERNOR DUE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND ORDERS OF THE SONOMA COUNTY HEALTH OFFICER TO MINIMIZE THE SPREAD OF COVID-19, THERE WILL BE NO PHYSICAL OR IN-PERSON MEETING LOCATION AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC. INSTEAD, MEETINGS OF THE DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS WILL BE CONDUCTED BY TELECONFERENCE.

**The meeting will be accessible, and members of the public may participate and give public comment, either via video teleconference by accessing the following website link or via audio by dialing the teleconference call-in number and inputting the meeting ID and passcode when prompted:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86725099742?pwd=U082TGhjeTUyT29QOXJrNzYvOGc2QT09>  
Telephone number: 1 (669) 900-6833, Meeting ID 867 2509 9742, Passcode 035346

**PLEASE NOTE: The Cazadero Community Services District office is closed, and this meeting will be conducted entirely by teleconference.**

Should you want to submit public comment, you may do so either by commenting at the appropriate time in person if logging into the meeting or by email before Board Meeting is called to order. If emailing, please state the agenda item number that you are commenting on and limit written comments to three hundred (300) words or less. Comments can be sent to [pbarry@cazadero-csd.org](mailto:pbarry@cazadero-csd.org). Written comments received prior to the meeting will be read into the record.

*The Board meeting agenda and all supporting documents are available for public review on the website at [www.cazadero-csd.org](http://www.cazadero-csd.org)*

**CALL TO ORDER**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL**

President P. Barry

Director M. Berry

Director H. Canelis

Director D. DeBeaune

Director S. Griswold

**OPEN TIME FOR PUBLIC EXPRESSION**

*This is an opportunity for any member of the public to briefly address the District Board on any matter that does not appear on this agenda and is restricted to matters within the Board’s jurisdiction. Items that appear to warrant a more-lengthy presentation or Board consideration may be placed on the agenda for discussion at a future meeting. Please limit comments to three hundred (300) words.*

**AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS**

*An opportunity for the Board President to approve adjustments to the current agenda.*

**DIRECTOR REPORTS**

*An opportunity for Directors to report on their individual activities related to District Business.*

**STAFF REPORTS**

- 1. Administrative Assistant
- 2. Fire Department and Firefighters Association Report
  - a. Operations
  - b. Administration
  - c. Training
  - d. Special Projects
- 3. Park & Rec Maintenance
- 4. Facilities

**CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS**

*These items can be acted on in one consolidated motion or may be removed from the Consent Calendar and separately considered at the request of any Director*

- 1. Approval of Meeting Minutes – January 11, 2021
- 2. Approval of Meeting Minutes – February 8, 2022

**ACTION ITEMS**

- 1. **Resolution 21/22-14 Proclamation of a Local Emergency for the Cazadero Community Services District, County of Sonoma, State of California, Ratifying the Proclamation of a State of Emergency by Governor Newsom on March 4, 2020, and Authorizing**

**Remote Teleconference Meetings of the Legislative Bodies of the Cazadero Community Services District for the Period March 1, 2022, Through April 1, 2022, Pursuant to Brown Act Provisions** – Discussion/Action – Teleconferenced District Board Meetings; Implementation of AB 361 Changing Brown Act Meeting Requirement; Proposed District Resolution Authorizing Remote Teleconference Meeting.

2. **Develop and approve draft letter in support of Devil’s Backbone Ridge Shaded Fuel Break Project** – Discussion/Action –
3. **Draft audited financial statements review and approval** – Discussion/Action –
4. **Fiber Optic Grant** – Discussion/Action –
5. **Emergency Communications** – Discussion/Action – Update on implementation of Emergency Radio Communications in Cazadero and how the CCSD Board can be supportive, by Tony Goodwin
6. **Playground Equipment** – Discussion/Action –
7. **Joint RR Historical Society and CCSD re: Depot** – Discussion/Action –

#### **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

1. **Update on Grants** – Discussion –
2. **Dept of Emergency Management evacuation drill** – Discussion – Saturday, June 18
3. **Vegetation Management** – Discussion –

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

1. Park Ad Hoc 2020

#### **FINANCIAL REPORTS**

#### **COMMUNICATIONS**

1. Mail from Permit Sonoma, re: Notice of a Sonoma County Planning Commission virtual public hearing about the Sonoma County Local Coastal Plan update
2. Mail from Recology, re: Solid waste rate changes effective 4/1/2022 and CA SB 1383- Short-lived Climate Pollutants Act

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

# **STAFF REPORTS**

Alan Dewart  
Park Maintenance Worker  
CCSD Parmeter Park

3-4-22  
Cazadero Community Services District  
PO Box 508  
Cazadero CA. 95421

**Re: Parmeter Park Maintenance Summary for Month of Feb 2022**

The restrooms are open 24 hours and the park is in good overall condition.

**Regular maintenance:**

The parks restrooms have been cleaned a minimum of 4 times weekly (Mon, Wed, Fri and Sat) I have been power blowing and raking the park, courts, adjacent paths, parking areas and lower Austin Creek Rd. 3-4 times per week. I am planning on pressure washing and staining the picnic tables this spring. I am also planning on pressure washing and painting the exterior tennis court slab walls when the weather gets warmer.

There have been no notable incidents at the park.

**(previously reported)**

Continuing needs for contractor assessment/repairs:

- Tennis and Basketball Courts
- Bathroom deadbolt locks

In Feb of 2020 I filled all the existing small cracks in the (red colored) surface of the tennis courts with sand, mortar and red coloration mixture. The filling repairs lasted for about the last 6 months but most of the cracks have reopened and it is probably best that a professional court repair/refinishing expert be contracted to refinish the tennis ct. This has been a slow process of degradation but it probably time to get the resurfacing work done.

As previously reported, the basketball court (green colored) surface coat has been slowly peeling away over the last few years so you may want to have that contractor strip and resurface the basketball cts also.

A year or so ago at one of meetings Steve Krausman mentioned he could do something about the replacement of the broken locks/deadbolts on the restroom doors. Nothings been done yet. The deadbolts would allow patrons to lock the door behind them when using the restroom but would also allow for keyed entry in case of an emergency.

Can one of the board members please let me know if there are plans to do the courts surface repairs or install the new locks in the bathrooms because they are needed.

Thank you,



Alan Dewart

Alan Dewart  
Park Maintenance Worker  
CCSD Parmeter Park

3-4-22  
Cazadero Community Services District  
PO Box 508  
Cazadero CA. 95421

To whom it may concern, I have recently walked the park along with Paul Barry and checked for any safety concerns and hazards etc. We didn't find any hazards in the unlocked portions of the park. The children's playground was padlocked shut and closure signs placed at all 3 entrances after the playground insurance provider notified us safety concerns with some playground equipment probably over a year ago now. The park has remained closed and padlocked since and there are no signs that anyone has been in the children's playground.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'a c r', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Alan Dewart

## Facilities

Last Month I did the usual-swept front of building until that nice guy Paul Barry saw me and lent me his leaf blower. That led to Steve Krausmann buying one for me to use. We used to have one but it disappeared. Maybe it stopped working. So thank you Steve and Paul for your help. It saves me a lot of time. Sweeping took about 45 minutes and now using the leaf blower it takes about 10 minutes!

I washed the windows in the front lobby and mopped all the floors about every other day. Also took home mop pads and cloths to wash and dry. I washed the tables in the meeting room and washed down the counters in the kitchen and cleaned the inside of the fridge. I cleaned the toilet in the Women's restroom and the sink and floor. I swept the big room, cob webbed, and mopped the offices. The hours were 12 hours.

One toilet has been out of order for a long time. Should I call a plumber or is that someone else's job? The new bathroom looks great!

I would like to know if I can get a half barrel and put it next to the door with flowers? I was promised some garden box a long time ago. In the last few years when we had the little flower garden that turned into a parking space for the fire truck, deer kept eating the flowers so this time I'll see about deer proof.

Nancy Caplan

# CONSENT ITEMS





## *Cazadero Community Services District Meeting Minutes – January 11, 2022*

**The Cazadero Community Services District meeting was conducted pursuant to the provisions of the Governor’s Executive Order N-29-20 which suspends certain requirements of the Ralph M. Brown Act due to the COVID-19 virus. CSD Board Members and staff participated in the meeting by zoom teleconference. Members of the public were provided a zoom and telephone call-in number to view or listen to the meeting and the opportunity to provide public comment verbally or in written format.**

**1. Call to Order and Roll Call**

The regular meeting of the Cazadero CSD Board was called to order at 6:32PM on January 11, 2022. Director P. Barry led the Pledge of Allegiance. The following Directors were present: P. Barry, M. Berry, H. Canelis, D. DeBeaune, and S. Griswold. Chief Krausmann, AA Kulczewski, and several members of the public were also present.

**2. Public Comment**

None.

**3. Agenda Adjustments**

Action item #4 Emergency Communications was moved before Director Reports.

**4. Director Reports**

None.

**5. Staff Reports**

Staff reports were included in the Board packet.

Chief Krausmann reported the bathroom remodel is coming along, the door has been installed and all painted, waiting on tilers (they are sick), hope to have tiling done by end of January; the new generator is hooked up and operational; training is continuing as best as can; if firefighters don’t meet Covid requirements by February we can’t staff the firehouse, would cost \$700 for testing for three months and home tests don’t qualify due to paperwork; had a meeting with FASIS, they will send a list of what should be documented regarding firefighters (no more line between volunteer and professional firefighters anymore)..

The Call Report for December:

<b>Nature of Call</b>	<b>Number of Calls</b>
Medical Aid	4
Hazardous Condition	3
Fire/Smoke Investigation	2

**6. Consent Calendar Items**

On a motion by Director M. Berry, Seconded by Director Griswold, the Board moved to approve the minutes for the December 14, 2021, meeting. VOTE: 5-0-0 by roll call:

Director	Vote
P. Barry	Aye
M. Berry	Aye
H. Canelis	Aye
D. DeBeaune	Aye
S. Griswold	Aye

**7. Action Items**

- a. **Resolution21/22-09 Proclamation of a Local Emergency for the Cazadero Community Services District, County of Sonoma, State of California, Ratifying the Proclamation of a State of Emergency by Governor Newsom on March 4, 2020, and Authorizing Remote Teleconference Meetings of the Legislative Bodies of the Cazadero Community Services District for the Period January 1, 2022, Through February 1, 2022, Pursuant to Brown Act Provisions** – After Board discussion, on a motion by Director M. Berry, seconded by Director DeBeaune, the Board moved to approve resolution 21/22-09. VOTE: 5-0-0 by roll call:

Director	Vote
P. Barry	Aye
M. Berry	Aye
H. Canelis	Aye
D. DeBeaune	Aya
S. Griswold	Aye

- b. **Resolution21/22-10 authorizing Portal to Portal Pay for Fire Department Response Personnel Away From Their Official Duty Station and Assigned to an Emergency Incident** – After Board discussion, on a motion by Director M. Berry, seconded by Director DeBeaune, the Board moved to approve resolution 21/22-10. VOTE: 5-0-0 by roll call:

Director	Vote
P. Barry	Aye
M. Berry	Aye
H. Canelis	Aye
D. DeBeaune	Aya
S. Griswold	Aye

- c. **Fiber Optic Grant** –After Board discussion, item tabled to February meeting
- d. **Emergency Communications** – After Board discussion, item tabled to February meeting
- e. **Carport-Shelter for 5295** – Item was worked out with Chief Krausmann prior to meeting.
- f. **Playground Equipment** – Director M. Berry reported on the difficulty in ordering the new merry-go-round, will request written quotes from new companies. After Board discussion, item tabled to February meeting.
- g. **Signs Plus data coverage plan** – The Cazadero Community Club paid for three years.
- h. **Joint RR Historical Society and CCSD re: Depot** – After Board discussion, item tabled to February meeting.

**8. Discussion Items**

- a. None

**9. Committee Reports**

- a. Consolidation Ad Hoc 2020: Director P. Barry reported on a joint call between him, Timber Cove, and Fort Ross. Timber Cove now considering jumping back into consolidation conversation, they will discuss at their board meeting what they want to do.
- b. Park Ad Hoc 2020: Director Canelis reported the train station is on hiatus right now but more expansion is to be done. Director M. Berry reported she may have resources to get a caboose.

**10. Correspondence**

Correspondence referenced in the Board packet were reviewed.

**11. Financial Reports**

Bills totaling \$32,768.34 were presented for payment. Westamerica is still charging for the safe deposit box that was closed by CCSD in 2020 (Director P. Barry will look into it).

**12. Executive Session**

Personnel matters were discussed, moved, and approved by the Board.

**13. Adjournment**

On a motion by Director M. Berry, Seconded by Director Griswold, the Board moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:12 PM. VOTE: 5-0-0 by roll call:

Director	Vote
P. Barry	Aye
M. Berry	Aye
H. Canelis	Aye
D. DeBeaune	Aye
S Griswold	Aye

\_\_\_\_\_  
Paul Barry

\_\_\_\_\_  
Maureen Barry

\_\_\_\_\_  
Homer Canelis

\_\_\_\_\_  
Daina DeBeaune

\_\_\_\_\_  
Scott Griswold

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



*Cazadero Community Services District  
Meeting Minutes – February 8, 2022*

The Cazadero Community Services District meeting was conducted pursuant to the provisions of the Governor’s Executive Order N-29-20 which suspends certain requirements of the Ralph M. Brown Act due to the COVID-19 virus. CSD Board Members and staff participated in the meeting by zoom teleconference. Members of the public were provided a zoom and telephone call-in number to view or listen to the meeting and the opportunity to provide public comment verbally or in written format.

**1. Call to Order and Roll Call**

The regular meeting of the Cazadero CSD Board was called to order at 6:32PM on February 8, 2022. Director P. Barry led the Pledge of Allegiance. The following Directors were present: P. Barry, M. Berry, H. Canelis, D. DeBeaune (arrived late due to technical problems), and S. Griswold. Chief Krausmann, AA Kulczewski, and a member of the public were also present.

**2. Public Comment**

None.

**3. Agenda Adjustments**

Discussion items 1a, 1b, and 1c go to Action items 2, 3, and 4.

**4. Director Reports**

None.

**5. Staff Reports**

Staff reports were included in the Board packet.

AA Kulczewski reported the audit of fiscal year ended June 30, 2021, took place in January. Per the auditor, all looked well. Draft audited financial statements should be available at the March Board meeting.

Director P. Barry reported that the generator controller has an issue, it is to be replaced under warranty.

The Call Report for January:

Nature of Call	Number of Calls
Medical Aid	4
Traffic Accident	2
Hazardous Condition	1
Structure Fire	1
Fire Alarm	1

**6. Consent Calendar Items**

None.

**7. Action Items**

- a. Resolution 21/22-11 Proclamation of a Local Emergency for the Cazadero Community Services District, County of Sonoma, State of California, Ratifying the Proclamation of a State of Emergency by Governor Newsom on March 4, 2020, and Authorizing Remote Teleconference Meetings of the Legislative Bodies of the Cazadero Community Services District for the Period February 1, 2022, Through March 1, 2022, Pursuant to Brown Act Provisions** – After Board discussion, on a motion by Director M. Berry, seconded by Director Canelis, the Board moved to approve resolution 21/22-11. VOTE: 4-0-0 by roll call:

Director	Vote
P. Barry	Aye
M. Berry	Aye
H. Canelis	Aye
D. DeBeaune	Absent
S. Griswold	Aye

- b. Per Capita grant award and Resolution 21/22-12** – After Board discussion regarding funds could be used for development of the Cazadero History and Learning Center and replacement of playground equipment, on a motion by Director M. Berry, seconded by Director Canelis, the Board moved to approve resolution 21/22-12. VOTE: 4-0-0 by roll call:

Director	Vote
P. Barry	Aye
M. Berry	Aye
H. Canelis	Aye
D. DeBeaune	Absent
S. Griswold	Aye

- c. Resolution 21/22-13 – California Climate Investment Fire Prevention Grant Program** – After Board discussion that the funds could be used for education (on vegetation management, evacuation routes, videos, etc.), on a motion by Director Griswold, seconded by Director M. Berry, the Board moved to approve resolution 21/22-13. VOTE: 5-0-0 by roll call:

Director	Vote
P. Barry	Aye
M. Berry	Aye
H. Canelis	Aye
D. DeBeaune	Aya
S. Griswold	Aye

- d. Sonoma Open Space grant application for vegetation management** – Director P. Barry applied for \$225,000 to be used for a new chipper truck (to pull the chipper), printing and mailing of mailer for vegetation management program, video production for educational video, and fire department staffing of two employees to work the chipper program.

- e. Fiber Optic Grant** – After Board discussion, item tabled to March meeting.

- f. Emergency Communications** – After Board discussion, item tabled to March meeting.

- g. Playground Equipment** – Director P. Barry reported that the merry-go-round has been ordered and paid for, he is scheduling a visit in March with a playground developer who will bring ideas, concepts, and prices; he will check out an exhibit in Sacramento of park & rec stuff. After further Board discussion, item tabled to March meeting.

**h. Joint RR Historical Society and CCSD re: Depot** – After Board discussion, item tabled to March meeting.

**8. Discussion Items**

- a. **Update on California Coastal Conservancy grant** – Director P. Barry reported that funds left over after purchase of chipper will be used for the purchase of chipper truck.
- b. **Dept of Emergency Management evacuation drill** – Drill will be on Saturday, June 18. Further information and discussion in March.
- c. **County of Sonoma fire districts funding and Measure G tax** – Director P. Barry reported the fire district funding will take the rest of the year to get all approved and disbursed. Measure G has been shelved by the County to maybe 2024.
- d. **Pacific Watershed Associates (consulting and environmental management firm)** – They have grant writers on staff, upland restoration is their forte. The Board discussed that this is another opportunity for vegetation management, and possible development of old logging roads for alternate way for evacuation and access for fire crews. Director Griswold mentioned they are doing some work at Camp Royaneh.

**9. Committee Reports**

- a. Consolidation Ad Hoc 2020: None
- b. Park Ad Hoc 2020: None
- c. Director P. Barry and park maintenance worker Dewart will do a Park Safety Committee report next month.

**10. Correspondence**

Correspondence referenced in the Board packet were reviewed.

**11. Financial Reports**

Bills totaling \$20,459.15 were presented for payment.

**12. Adjournment**

On a motion by Director Canelis, Seconded by Director M. Berry, the Board moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:24 PM. VOTE: 5-0-0 by roll call:

Director	Vote
P. Barry	Aye
M. Berry	Aye
H. Canelis	Aye
D. DeBeaune	Aye
S Griswold	Aye

\_\_\_\_\_  
Paul Barry

\_\_\_\_\_  
Maureen Barry

\_\_\_\_\_  
Homer Canelis

\_\_\_\_\_  
Daina DeBeaune

\_\_\_\_\_  
Scott Griswold

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# **ACTION ITEMS**

Lee Sorenson &lt;lee.sorenson@sedgwick.com&gt;

3/1/2022 3:06 PM

## FASIS - Safety Communication - Governor Newsom Signs Order to Update Workplace Safety Rules

Copy Jennifer Jobe <jennifer.jobes@sedgwick.com> • Deni Banyard <deni.banyard@sedgwick.com> •  
Stacey Brock <stacey.brock@sedgwick.com> • Sarah Centeno <sarah.centeno@sedgwick.com> •  
Jane Hayes <jane.hayes@sedgwick.com> • Holly Pon <holly.pon@sedgwick.com>

Good Afternoon FASIS Districts,

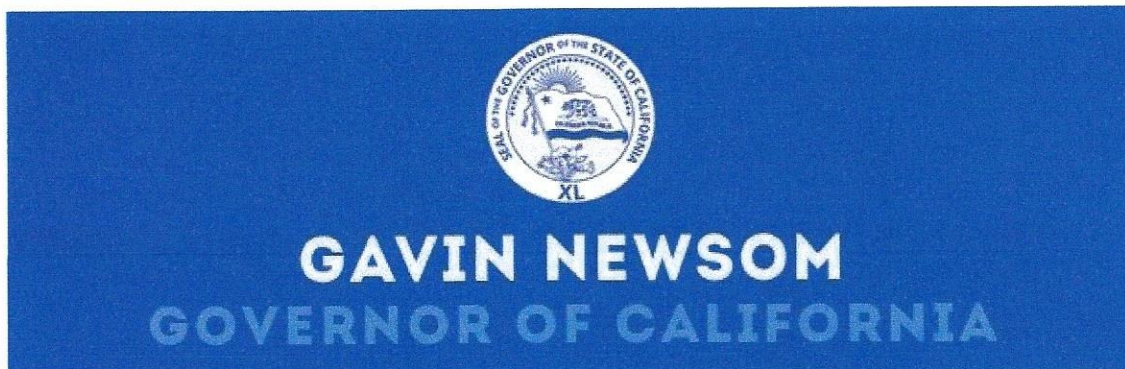
With declining case rates and hospitalizations across the West, California is updating its masking guidance.

In California, starting March 1, masks will no longer be required for unvaccinated individuals but will be strongly recommended for all individuals in most indoor settings. After March 11, masks will not be required but will be strongly recommended in schools and childcare facilities. Masks will still be required for everyone in high transmission settings like public transit, emergency shelters, health care settings, correctional facilities, homeless shelters and long-term care facilities. As always, local jurisdictions may have additional requirements beyond the state guidance. State policies do not change federal requirements, which still include masks on public transit.

### Statement from California Governor Gavin Newsom

California continues to adjust our policies based on the latest data and science, applying what we've learned over the past two years to guide our response to the pandemic. Masks are an effective tool to minimize spread of the virus and future variants, especially when transmission rates are high. We cannot predict the future of the virus, but we are better prepared for it and will continue to take measures rooted in science to keep California moving forward.

We have included the Governor's press release below, which includes links to the Governor's executive order as well as the updated California Department of Public Health Guidance for the Use of Face Masks.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:  
Monday, February 28, 2022

Contact: Governor's Press Office  
(916) 445-4571

### Following New Health Guidance, Governor Newsom Signs Order to Update Workplace Safety Rules

SACRAMENTO – Following the California Department of Public Health's release of new indoor masking guidance, Governor Gavin Newsom today signed an executive order that updates the Division of Occupational Safety and Health (Cal/OSHA) COVID-19 Emergency Temporary Standard (ETS) in keeping with the current [guidance](#).



In California, starting March 1, masks will no longer be required for unvaccinated workers indoors, consistent with the updated CDPH guidance, but will be strongly recommended for all individuals in most indoor settings. Employers must still provide a face covering upon request of an employee.

The order also extends the current Emergency Temporary Standard through May 5, 2022 to ensure the Occupational Safety and Health Standards Board has time to review the new guidance in anticipation of the next readoption of the ETS.

The text of the Governor's executive order can be found [here](#).

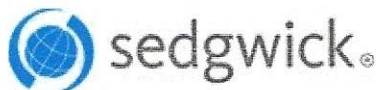
###

Best Regards,

Lee Sorenson  
FASIS Risk Control

\*Our link for COVID19 information - <https://pooling.sedgwick.com/covid-19-resources-page/>

Lee W. Sorenson - ARM-P, CEAS, AFO | Senior Risk Services Consultant  
Sedgwick Claims Management Services, Inc.  
Pooling Division  
Sacramento, CA  
DIRECT 916.244.1168 | FAX 916.244.1199  
CELL 916.730.0918 | EMAIL [lee.sorenson@sedgwick.com](mailto:lee.sorenson@sedgwick.com)  
[www.sedgwick.com](http://www.sedgwick.com) | Caring counts®



**Confidentiality Notice:** Information contained within or attached to this email is confidential and may be legally privileged. If you are not the intended recipient, please immediately notify me by email or telephone and destroy the original transmission and its attachments without reading or saving them.

---

Any personal data acquired, processed or shared by us will be lawfully processed in line with applicable data protection legislation. If you have any questions regarding how we process personal data refer to our Privacy Notice <https://www.sedgwick.com/global-privacy-policy>. Any communication including this email and files/attachments transmitted with it are confidential and are intended solely for the use of the individual or entity to whom they are addressed. If this message has been sent to you in error, you must not copy, distribute or disclose of the information it contains and you must notify us immediately (contact is within the privacy policy) and delete the message from your system.

---

- image001.jpg (88 KB)
- image002.jpg (7 KB)



**CAZADERO COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT  
PO BOX 508  
CAZADERO CA 95421-0508**

**RESOLUTION 21/22-14**

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OF THE CAZADERO COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT OF SONOMA COUNTY  
PROCLAIMING A LOCAL EMERGENCY EXISTS, RATIFYING THE PROCLAMATION OF A  
STATE OF EMERGENCY BY GOVERNOR NEWSOM ON MARCH 4, 2020, AND  
AUTHORIZING REMOTE TELECONFERENCE MEETINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE BODIES  
OF THE CAZADERO COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT FOR THE PERIOD MARCH 1,  
2022 THROUGH APRIL 1, 2022 PURSUANT TO BROWN ACT PROVISIONS**

**WHEREAS**, the Cazadero Community Services District ("District") is committed to preserving and nurturing public access and participation in meetings of the Cazadero Community Services District Board of Directors ("Board"); and,

**WHEREAS**, all meetings of the District's legislative bodies are open and public, as required by the Ralph M. Brown Act (Cal. Gov. Code 54950 – 54963), so that any member of the public may attend, participate, and watch the District's legislative bodies conduct their business; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Brown Act, Government Code section 54953(e), makes provisions for remote teleconferencing participation in meetings by members of a legislative body, without compliance with the requirements of Government Code section 54953(b)(3), subject to the existence of certain conditions; and,

**WHEREAS**, a required condition is that a state of emergency is declared by the Governor pursuant to Government Code section 8625, proclaiming the existence of conditions of disaster or of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within the state caused by conditions as described in Government Code section 8558; and,

**WHEREAS**, that proclamation is made when there is an actual incident, threat of disaster, or extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within the jurisdictions that are within the District's boundaries, caused by natural, technological, or human-caused disasters; and,

**WHEREAS**, that proclamation also requires that state or local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing, or, the legislative body meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health and safety of attendees; and,

**WHEREAS**, emergency conditions exist in the District, specifically, a State of Emergency has been proclaimed by Governor Newsom on March 4, 2020, proclaiming a State of Emergency to exist in California as a result of the threat of COVID-19; and,

**WHEREAS**, during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Board has conducted remote, teleconferenced meetings consistent with the Governor’s Executive Orders promoting social distancing; and,

**WHEREAS**, consistent with AB 361, as a condition of extending the use of the provisions found in section 54953(e), the Board must reconsider the circumstances of the state of emergency that exists in the District, and the Board has done so; and,

**WHEREAS**, due to the surging Delta Variant of COVID-19, meetings in person would present imminent risk to health and safety of attendees; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Board does hereby find that the State of Emergency proclaimed by Governor Newsom on March 4, 2020, and, the Delta Variant of COVID-19 surging in Sonoma County per the Sonoma County Public Health Notice on August 2, 2021 has caused, and will continue to cause, conditions of peril to the safety of persons within the District that are likely to be beyond the control of services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of the District, and desires to affirm a local emergency exists and ratify the Proclamation of State of Emergency by the Governor of the State of California; and,

**WHEREAS**, as a consequence of the local emergency, the Board does hereby find that the legislative bodies of the District shall conduct their meetings without compliance with paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of Government Code section 54953, as authorized by subdivision (e) of section 54953, and that such legislative bodies shall comply with the requirements to provide the public with access to the meetings as prescribed in paragraph (2) of subdivision (e) of section 54953; and,

**WHEREAS**, the District is providing teleconference access via a conference phone-line number to the meetings to ensure public access.

**NOW, THEREFORE, THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CAZADERO COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT DOES HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:**

Section 1. Recitals. The Recitals set forth above are true and correct and are incorporated into this Resolution by this reference.

Section 2. Affirmation that Local Emergency Exists. The Board hereby proclaims that a local emergency now exists throughout the District, and the surging Delta Variant of COVID-19 would present an imminent risk to meeting in person.

Section 3. Ratification of Governor’s Proclamation of a State of Emergency. The Board hereby ratifies the Governor of the State of California’s Proclamation of State of Emergency, effective as of its issuance date of March 4, 2020.

Section 4. Remote Teleconference Meetings. The staff and legislative bodies of the District are hereby authorized and directed to take all actions necessary to carry out the intent and purpose of this Resolution including, conducting open and public meetings in accordance with Government Code section 54953(e) and other applicable provisions of the Brown Act.

Section 5. Effective Date of Resolution. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption and shall be effective until the earlier of April 12, 2022 or such time the Board adopts a subsequent Resolution in accordance with Government Code section 54953(e)(3) to extend the time during which the legislative bodies of the District may continue to teleconference without compliance with paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of section 54953.

**PASSED, APPROVED and ADOPTED** at a regular scheduled meeting of the Board of the Cazadero Community Services District held on the 8th day of March 2022, by the following roll call vote:

Director P. Barry	_____
Director M. Berry	_____
Director H. Canelis	_____
Director D. DeBeaune	_____
Director S. Griswold	_____

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Paul Barry, Board President

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Maureen Berry, Secretary of the Board

\_\_\_\_\_  
Daina DeBeaune, Director

\_\_\_\_\_  
Homer Canelis, Director

\_\_\_\_\_  
Scott Griswold, Director

Michael Nicholls <mcnicholls@me.com>

2/28/2022 4:05 PM

## Fwd: Devil's Backbone Ridge grant

To Paul Barry <cazhwy@gmail.com> • Cazadero CSD Office <cazaderocsd@comcast.net> Copy  
Alina Haigler <alinahaigler@gmail.com> • Damian Bouné <dboune@gmail.com>

Hello Paul:

In reviewing Alina's email, the CSD may wish to draft a letter to Supervisor Hopkins for approval at the March CSD Board meeting to support the Devil's Backbone Ridge Shaded Fuel Break Project. Please be sure to copy Alina Haigler on the letter of support should you move forward with the suggestion.

Thanks,

Mike

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Alina Haigler <alinahaigler@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** Devil's Backbone Ridge grant  
**Date:** February 28, 2022 at 1:44:33 PM PST  
**To:** Alina Haigler <alinahaigler@gmail.com>

Hi neighbors,

In January, the residents on the Devil's Backbone Ridge, along with the non-profit group Circuit Rider, applied for a grant to create a "shaded fuel break" along the road connecting Armstrong Woods with Old Cazadero Road. CalFire Battalion Chief Marshall Turbeville is a strong supporter of this type of project as it provides a staging place for fire suppression efforts along a ridge line. As many of you know, the Devil's BB ridge played a significant part of the fire suppression efforts during the Walbridge Fire.

I am writing today to ask you to support the Devil's Backbone Ridge project that was submitted to the Ag and Open Space Vegetation Management Grant Program. The projects are now being evaluated by the County Supervisors. Please send a brief email to our County Supervisor, Lynda Hopkins ([lynda.hopkins@sonoma-county.org](mailto:lynda.hopkins@sonoma-county.org)) stating you support the Devil's BB Ridge project.

Thank you and please forward this request to others who may support this effort.

Alina

alinahaigler@gmail.com

2/28/2022 4:12 PM

## Re: Devil's Backbone Ridge grant

To Michael Nicholls <mcnicholls@me.com> Copy Paul Barry <cazhwy@gmail.com> •  
Cazadero CSD Office <cazaderocsd@comcast.net> • Damian Bouné <dboune@gmail.com>

Thank you! It's really an important piece of the "calming zone" that CalFire has drafted. It's also crucial that we have agreement among all the property owners on the ridge now and it may not be the same scenario if we wait....

Alina

Sent from my tiny keyboard

On Feb 28, 2022, at 4:05 PM, Michael Nicholls <mcnicholls@me.com> wrote:

Hello Paul:

In reviewing Alina's email, the CSD may wish to draft a letter to Supervisor Hopkins for approval at the March CSD Board meeting to support the Devil's Backbone Ridge Shaded Fuel Break Project. Please be sure to copy Alina Haigler on the letter of support should you move forward with the suggestion.

Thanks,

Mike

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Alina Haigler <alinahaigler@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** Devil's Backbone Ridge grant  
**Date:** February 28, 2022 at 1:44:33 PM PST  
**To:** Alina Haigler <alinahaigler@gmail.com>

Hi neighbors,

In January, the residents on the Devil's Backbone Ridge, along with the non-profit group Circuit Rider, applied for a grant to create a "shaded fuel break" along the road connecting Armstrong Woods with Old Cazadero Road. CalFire Battalion Chief Marshall Turbeville is a strong supporter of this type of project as it provides a staging place for fire suppression efforts along a ridge line. As many of you know, the Devil's BB ridge played a significant part of the fire suppression efforts during the Walbridge Fire.

I am writing today to ask you to support the Devil's Backbone Ridge project that was submitted to the Ag and Open Space Vegetation Management Grant Program. The projects are now being evaluated by the County Supervisors. Please send a brief email to our County Supervisor, Lynda Hopkins ([lynda.hopkins@sonoma-county.org](mailto:lynda.hopkins@sonoma-county.org)) stating you support the Devil's BB Ridge project.

Thank you and please forward this request to others who may support this effort.

Alina

**CAZADERO COMMUNITY  
SERVICES DISTRICT**

**Financial Statements**

**For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021**  
*(With Comparative Amounts for Year 2020)*

**CAZADERO COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT  
COUNTY OF SONOMA, CALIFORNIA**

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

Independent Auditor's Report	1-2
<i>Government-wide Financial Statements</i>	
Statement of Net Position	3
Statement of Activities and Changes in Net Position	4
<i>Governmental Fund Financial Statements</i>	
Governmental Fund Balance Sheet	5
Statement of Governmental Fund Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances	6
Reconciliation of the Governmental Fund Balance Sheet to the Statement of Net Position	7
Reconciliation of the Statement of Governmental Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances to the Statement of Activities	8
Notes to the Financial Statements	9-17
<i>Supplemental Information</i>	
Budgetary Comparison Schedule	18-19
Notes to Required Supplemental Information	20



## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Board of Directors  
Cazadero Community Services District  
Cazadero, California

### Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Cazadero Community Service District as of and for the years ended June 30, 2021, and 2020, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

### Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

### Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the State Controller's *Minimum Audit Requirements for California Special Districts*. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

### **Opinions**

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the Cazadero Community Service District, as of June 30, 2021, and 2020 and the respective changes in financial position, and, where applicable, cash flows thereof for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

### **Other Matters**

#### **Required Supplementary Information**

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis (omitted) and budgetary comparison schedule of general funds (page 18) be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. The District has not presented Management's Discussion and Analysis. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with enough evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

### **Other Information**

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements that collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements. The accompanying information, listed as supplementary information in the table of contents, is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements of the District.

Such information has not been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements, and, accordingly, we do not express an opinion on it or provide any assurance on it.

Blomberg & Griffin A.C.  
Stockton, CA  
January 7, 2022

## CAZADERO COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

## Statement of Net Position

June 30, 2021 and 2020

	<u>2021</u> <u>Governmental</u> <u>Activities</u>	<u>2020</u> <u>Governmental</u> <u>Activities</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Current Assets:		
Cash and Investments	\$ 785,300	\$ 683,382
Interest Receivable	327	1,389
Prepaid Obligation	-	12,396
Due From Other Governments	<u>15,589</u>	<u>12,508</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>801,216</u>	<u>709,675</u>
Noncurrent Assets:		
Land	211,838	211,838
Construction in Progress	-	147,241
Building, Improvements and Equipment	2,179,827	1,667,594
Accumulated Depreciation	<u>(896,248)</u>	<u>(820,581)</u>
Total Noncurrent Assets	<u>1,495,417</u>	<u>1,206,092</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$ 2,296,633</u>	<u>\$ 1,915,767</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Current Liabilities:		
Accounts Payable	\$ 78,968	\$ 51,402
Accrued Liabilities	2,289	899
Westamerica Loan-Due Within One Year	<u>33,216</u>	<u>32,344</u>
Total Current Liabilities	<u>114,473</u>	<u>84,645</u>
Noncurrent Liabilities:		
Westamerica Loan-Due After One Year	<u>34,112</u>	<u>67,273</u>
Total Noncurrent Liabilities	<u>34,112</u>	<u>67,273</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>148,585</u>	<u>151,918</u>
<b>NET POSITION</b>		
Invested in Capital Assets, Net of Related Debt	1,428,089	1,106,475
Unrestricted	<u>719,959</u>	<u>657,374</u>
Total Net Position	<u>2,148,048</u>	<u>1,763,849</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Position	<u>\$ 2,296,633</u>	<u>\$ 1,915,767</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements

**CAZADERO COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT**  
**Statement of Activities and Changes in Net Position**  
**For the Years Ended June 30, 2021 and 2020**

	<b>Governmental Activities</b>	
	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES/EXPENSES:</b>		
Salaries & Employee Benefits	\$ 154,038	\$ 89,667
Service and supplies	135,944	96,895
Depreciation Expense	75,667	73,057
<b>Total Expenditures/Expenses</b>	<b>365,649</b>	<b>259,619</b>
<b>PROGRAM REVENUES:</b>		
Intergovernmental Revenue	143,508	42,300
<b>Total Program Revenues</b>	<b>143,508</b>	<b>42,300</b>
<b>Net Program Income (Expenses)</b>	<b>(222,141)</b>	<b>(217,319)</b>
<b>GENERAL REVENUES:</b>		
Taxes and Assessment	302,133	293,576
Investment Income	1,624	5,274
Interest Expenses	(2,745)	(3,525)
Grants and Donations	305,328	95,904
Miscellaneous	-	564
<b>Total General Revenues</b>	<b>606,340</b>	<b>391,793</b>
<b>Change in Net Position</b>	<b>384,199</b>	<b>174,474</b>
<b>Net Position - Beginning of Year</b>	<b>1,763,849</b>	<b>1,589,375</b>
<b>Net Position - End of Year</b>	<b>\$ 2,148,048</b>	<b>\$ 1,763,849</b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements

## CAZADERO COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

Governmental Fund

Balance Sheet

June 30, 2021 and 2020

	<b>Governmental Activities</b>	
	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
<b>ASSETS:</b>		
Cash and Investments	\$ 785,300	\$ 683,382
Due From Other Governments	15,589	12,508
Prepaid Obligation	-	12,396
Interest Receivable	327	1,389
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Assets	<u>\$ 801,216</u>	<u>\$ 709,675</u>
<b>LIABILITIES and FUND BALANCES:</b>		
<b>Liabilities:</b>		
Accounts Payable	\$ 78,968	\$ 51,402
Accrued Liabilities	2,289	899
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Liabilities	<u>81,257</u>	<u>52,301</u>
<b>Fund Balances:</b>		
Comitted for Current Loan Payments	33,216	32,344
Assigned for Future Loan Payments	34,112	34,650
Assigned for Park Development	8,300	8,300
Unassigned	644,331	582,080
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Fund Balances	<u>719,959</u>	<u>657,374</u>
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	<u>\$ 801,216</u>	<u>\$ 709,675</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements

**CAZADERO COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT**  
Statement of Government Fund, Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances  
For the Years Ended June 30, 2021 and 2020

	<b>Governmental Activities</b>	
	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
<b>GENERAL REVENUES:</b>		
Taxes and Assessments	\$ 302,133	\$ 293,576
Intergovernmental Revenues	143,508	42,300
Unrestricted Investment Earnings	1,624	5,274
Grants and Donations	305,328	95,904
Miscellaneous	-	564
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Revenues	752,593	437,618
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>EXPENDITURES:</b>		
Operating Expenditures:		
Salaries and Employee Benefits	154,038	89,667
Services and Supplies	135,944	96,895
Capital Outlay	364,992	168,395
Debt Service		
Principal Retired	32,289	31,515
Interest	2,745	3,525
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Expenditures	690,008	389,997
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Transfers	-	-
Net Change in Fund Balances	62,585	47,621
Fund Balances - Beginning of Year	657,374	609,753
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Fund Balances - End of Year</b>	<u>\$ 719,959</u>	<u>\$ 657,374</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements

**CAZADERO COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT**  
 Reconciliation of the Governmental Funds Balance Sheet to the Statement of Net Position  
 June 30, 2021 and 2020

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>			
	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>		
Total Fund Balances - Governmental Funds	\$ 719,959	\$ 657,374		
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of net position are different because:				
Capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation used in governmental activities are not financial resources and therefore, are not reported in the funds.				
	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>		
Historical Cost	2,391,665	2,026,673		
Accumulated Depreciation	(896,248)	(820,581)	1,495,417	1,206,092
Capital lease and notes payable for the purchase of capital assets is not a use of financial resources and is not reported in governmental funds financial statements			<u>(67,328)</u>	<u>(99,617)</u>
Net Position - Governmental Activities			<u>\$ 2,148,048</u>	<u>\$ 1,763,849</u>

**CAZADERO COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT**  
**Reconciliation of the Statement of Governmental Revenues, Expenditures, and**  
**Changes in Fund Balances to the Statement of Activities**  
**For the Years Ended June 30, 2021 and 2020**

	<b>Governmental Activities</b>	
	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
Net Change in Fund Balances - Governmental Funds	\$ 62,585	\$ 47,621
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of net position are different because:		
Capital outlays is reported in governmental funds as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities, the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives and reported as depreciation expense.		
	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
Add - Capital Outlay	364,992	168,395
Deduct - Depreciation expense	(75,667)	(73,057)
	289,325	95,338
Governmental funds report principal payments as expenditures but the repayment reduces long-term debt in the statement of net position. This is the amount of debt repayment.	32,289	31,515
Change in Net Position - Government Wide	\$ 384,199	\$ 174,474

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements



**CAZADERO COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT**

Notes to the Financial Statements

June 30, 2021 and 2020

**NOTE 1 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**A. Reporting Entity:**

The Cazadero Community Services District of Sonoma County was organized under Government Code Section 61000 et seq, on April 30, 1963 by Resolution No. 58721. The District is governed by a five-member elected Board of Directors. The purpose of the District is to provide fire protection, street lighting, and support recreational and cultural activities in the Cazadero area. The District also maintains tennis courts and a playground.

**Government-wide and Fund Financial Statements**

The government-wide financial statements (i.e., the statement of net position and the statement of activities) report information on all of the non-fiduciary activities of the primary government. Governmental activities, which normally are supported by taxes and intergovernmental revenues, are reported separately.

The statement of activities demonstrated the degree to which the direct expenses of the given function or segment of offset by program revenues. Direct expenses of a given function or segment is offset by program revenues. Direct expenses are those that are clearly identifiable with a specific function or segment. Program revenues include 1) charges to customers or applicants who purchase, use or directly benefit from goods, services, or privileges provided by a given function or section and 2) grants and contributions that area restricted to meeting operational or capital requirements of a particular function or segment. Taxes and other items not properly Separate financial statements are provided for governmental funds. Major individual governmental funds are reported as separate columns in the fund financial statements.

**Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting, and Financial Statement Presentation:**

Governmental fund financial statements are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Under this method, revenues are recognized when measurable are available. Taxes, interest, and charges for services are available when receipt occurs within 365 days of the end of the accounting period so as to be both measurable and available. Licenses, permits, fines, forfeitures, and other revenues are recorded as revenues when received. Property taxes are available when their receipt occurs within sixty days of the end of the accounting period. Expenditures are generally recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting. However, debt services expenditures, as well as expenditures related to compensated absences and claims judgements are recorded only when payment is due.

**CAZADERO COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT**

Notes to the Financial Statements

June 30, 2021 and 2020

**NOTE 1**      **SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)**

Amounts recorded as program revenues include 1) charges to customers or applicants for goods, services or privileges provided and 2) capital grants and contributions. Internally dedicated resources are reported as general revenue rather than program revenues. Likewise, general revenues include all taxes.

**Assets, Liabilities, and Net Position or Fund Balance**

**1. Cash and Investments**

The District's property tax revenue is received by Sonoma County treasurer, who distributes the funds to the District. The District retains an account in commercial bank. In addition, the district maintains an investment account with the California Local Agency Fund.

**2. Property Taxes**

The County of Sonoma is responsible for assessing, collecting and distributing property taxes in accordance with state law. Liens on real property are established January 1 for the ensuing fiscal year. The property tax is levied as of July 1 on all taxable property located in the County of Sonoma.

Secured property taxes are due in two installments, on November 1 and February 1, and are delinquent after December 10 and April 10, respectively. Additionally, supplemental property taxes are levied on a pro rata basis when changes in assessed valuation occur due to sales transaction or the completion of construction.

Since the passage of California's Proposition 13, beginning with the fiscal year 1978/1979 general property taxes are based either on a flat 1% rate applied to the 1975/1976 full value, or on 1% of the sales price of the property on sales transaction and construction after the 1975/1976 valuation. Taxable values on properties (exclusive of increases related to sales and construction) can rise at the maximum of 2% per year.

On June 30, 1993 the Board of Supervisors adopted the "Teeter" method of property tax allocation. This method allocates property taxes based on the total property tax billed. At year-end, County advances cash to each taxing jurisdiction equal to its current year delinquent property taxes. In exchange, the County receives the penalties and interest on delinquent taxes when collected. The penalties and interest are used to pay the interest cost of borrowing the cash used for the advances.

**CAZADERO COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT**

Notes to the Financial Statements

June 30, 2021 and 2020

**NOTE 1      SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)**

**3. Capital Assets:**

Capital assets, which include land, buildings and improvements, and equipment are reported in the applicable governmental activity's columns in the government-wide financial statements. Capital assets are defined by the district as assets with an initial, individual cost of more than \$3,000 and an estimated useful life in excess of two years. Such assets are recorded as historical cost of purchased or constructed. Donated capital assets are recorded at estimated fair market value at the date of donation.

The cost of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend assets lives are not capitalized.

Buildings and improvements and equipment of the District are depreciated using the straight-line method over the following estimated useful lives:

	<u>Years</u>
Equipment	5-50
Buildings and Improvements	5-20

**4. Net Position:**

Net Position is classified into three components – net investment in capital assets, restricted and unrestricted. These classifications are defined as follows:

- Net investment in capital assets – This category group all capital assets, including infrastructure, into one component of net position. Accumulated depreciation and the outstanding balance of debt that are attributable to the acquisition, construction or improvement of these assets reduce the balance in this in this category.
- Restricted net position – This category presents external restriction imposed by creditors, grantors, contributors or laws or regulation of other government and restrictions imposed by lase though constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.
- Unrestricted net position – This category represents net position of the entity, not restricted for any other project or purpose.
- When both restricted and unrestricted net position is available, restricted resources are used only after the unrestricted resources are depleted.

**CAZADERO COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT**

Notes to the Financial Statements

June 30, 2021 and 2020

**NOTE 1****SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)****5. Fund Balance:**

In the fund financial statements, governmental funds report fund balance using the classifications listed in GASB Statement No. 54 Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions. Initial distinction is made in reporting fund balance information identifying amounts that are considered nonspendable, such as fund balance associated with inventories. Spendable fund balance for the governmental fund consists of the following classifications:

- **Non-spendable Fund Balance:** This represents amounts not available to be spent because they are either (1) not in spendable form or (2) legally or contractually required to be maintained intact.
- **Restricted Fund Balance:** the portion of fund balance that can only be spent for specific purposes stipulated by constitution, external resources providers, or through enabling legislation.
- **Committed Fund Balance:** the portion of fund balance whose use is subject to formal action of the government's highest-level decision-making authority. These commitments remain binding unless changed or removed by formal action of the Board as the formal authority that imposed the constraint. The underlying action that imposed, modified, or removed the limitation would need to occur no later than the close of the reporting period.
- **Assigned:** the portion of fund balance that is intended to be used by the government for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as restricted or committed. In funds other than the general fund, assigned fund balance represents the remaining amount that is not restricted or committed.
- **Unassigned:** the residual amount of all general fund spendable resources not contained in the other classifications.

The District's fund balance is mostly unassigned; hence they do not have a policy regarding spending of fund balance according to fund balance categories. The District does not have encumbrance, stabilization arrangements or a minimum fund balance policy.

**CAZADERO COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT**

Notes to the Financial Statements

June 30, 2021 and 2020

**NOTE 1      SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)**

**GASB 54 Fund Balance Classifications by Purpose**

Committed – Committed fund balance of \$33,216 and \$32,344 on June 30, 2021, and 2020, respectively, represents the current portion of long-term debt expected to be paid with current financial resources.

Assigned – Assigned fund balance of \$42,412 on June 30, 2021, and 2020 respectively, represents funds sets aside for future loan payments and park development.

Unassigned – The District has unassigned fund balance in the amount of \$644,331 and \$582,081 on June 30, 2021, and 2020, respectively. As of June 30, 2021; and 2020, total fund balance was \$719,959 and \$657,375, respectively.

**6. Use of Estimates:**

The preparation of financial statements required management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reports amounts of assets and liabilities, the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reported period. Actual results could differ from those statements.

**NOTE 2      STEWARDSHIP, COMPLIANCE, AND ACCOUNTABILITY**

**A. Budgetary Information:**

Budgetary revenues estimates represent original estimates modified for any authorized adjustments which was contingent upon new or additional revenue sources. Budgetary expenditures amounts represent original appropriations adjusted by budget transfers and authorized appropriation adjustments made during the year. All budgets are adopted on a non-GAAP basis. The District's budgetary information was amended during the year by resolution of the Board of Directors.

**CAZADERO COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT**

Notes to the Financial Statements

June 30, 2021 and 2020

**NOTE 3      CASH AND INVESTMENTS**

Cash and investments on June 30, 2021 and 2020 consisted of the following:

Investment in the California Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF)

The District retains one account in a commercial bank. The District is a voluntary participant in the Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF) that is regulated by the California Government Code under the oversight of the Treasurer of the State of California. The fair value of the District's investment in this pool is reported in the accompanying financial statements as cash equivalents at amounts based upon the District's pro rata share of the fair value provided by LAIF for the entire LAIF portfolio (in relation to the amortized cost of that portfolio). The balance available for withdrawal is based on the accounting record maintained by LAIF, which are recorded on an amortized cost basis. As of June 30, 2021, and 2020, the balance of such deposits was \$225,785 and \$223,888, respectively.

The amount of cash at June 30, 2021 and 2020, are as follows:

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
Cash with Westamerica Bank	\$ 359,330	\$ 459,494
Cash with County Investment Fund	200,186	-
Cash with Local Agency Investment Fund	<u>225,785</u>	<u>223,888</u>
Total Cash	<u>\$ 785,301</u>	<u>\$ 683,382</u>

**NOTE 4      DUE FROM OTHER GOVERNMENTS**

The amount for due from other government for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2021 and 2020 are as follows:

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
Due from Other Governements	<u>\$ 15,589</u>	<u>\$ 12,508</u>
Total	<u>\$ 15,589</u>	<u>\$ 12,508</u>

## CAZADERO COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

Notes to the Financial Statements

June 30, 2021 and 2020

NOTE 5 CAPITAL ASSETS

Summary of changes in capital assets for the year ended June 30, 2021, is as follows:

	Beginning Balance July 1, 2020	Additions	Retirements	Ending Balance June 30, 2021
Capital assets, not being depreciated:				
Land	\$ 211,838	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 211,838
Construction in Progress	147,241	-	(147,241)	-
Total capital assets, not being depreciated	<u>359,079</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(147,241)</u>	<u>211,838</u>
Capital assets, being depreciated:				
Building and Improvements	504,071	52,360	-	556,431
Equipment	1,163,523	459,873	-	1,623,396
Total capital assets, being depreciated	<u>1,667,594</u>	<u>512,233</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,179,827</u>
Less accumulated depreciation for:				
Building and Improvements	(154,856)	(11,056)	-	(165,912)
Equipment	(665,725)	(64,611)	-	(730,336)
Total accumulated depreciation	<u>(820,581)</u>	<u>(75,667)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(896,248)</u>
Total capital assets, being depreciated, net	<u>847,013</u>	<u>436,566</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,283,579</u>
Capital assets, net	<u>\$ 1,206,092</u>	<u>\$ 436,566</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 1,495,417</u>

Depreciation expense was charged to functions/programs of the primary government as follows:

	2021	2020
Governmental Activities:		
Public Safety - Fire Protection	<u>\$ 75,667</u>	<u>\$ 73,057</u>
Total Depreciation Expense - Governmental Activities	<u>\$ 75,667</u>	<u>\$ 73,057</u>

## CAZADERO COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

Notes to the Financial Statements

June 30, 2021 and 2020

**NOTE 5** **CAPITAL ASSETS (continued)**

Summary of changes in capital assets for the year ended June 30, 2020, is as follows:

	Beginning Balance <u>July 1, 2019</u>	Additions	Retirements	Ending Balance <u>June 30, 2020</u>
Capital assets, not being depreciated:				
Land	\$ 211,838	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 211,838
Construction in Progress	-	147,241	-	147,241
Total capital assets, not being depreciated	<u>211,838</u>	<u>147,241</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>359,079</u>
Capital assets, being depreciated:				
Building and Improvements	489,071	15,000	-	504,071
Equipment	1,157,369	6,154	-	1,163,523
Total capital assets, being depreciated	<u>1,646,440</u>	<u>21,154</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,667,594</u>
Less accumulated depreciation for:				
Building and Improvements	(145,301)	(9,555)	-	(154,856)
Equipment	(602,223)	(63,502)	-	(665,725)
Total accumulated depreciation	<u>(747,524)</u>	<u>(73,057)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(820,581)</u>
Total capital assets, being depreciated, net	<u>898,916</u>	<u>(51,903)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>847,013</u>
Capital assets, net	<u>\$ 1,110,754</u>	<u>\$ 95,338</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 1,206,092</u>

Depreciation expense was charged to functions/programs of the primary government as follows:

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
Governmental Activities:		
Public Safety - Fire Protection	<u>\$ 73,057</u>	<u>\$ 68,026</u>
Total Depreciation Expense - Governmental Activities	<u>\$ 73,057</u>	<u>\$ 68,026</u>



**CAZADERO COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT**  
 Notes to the Financial Statements  
 June 30, 2021 and 2020

**NOTE 6      LONG TERM DEBT**

Activity in the District’s long-term obligations was as follows:

	<u>Balance</u> <u>7/1/2020</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Retirements</u>	<u>Balance</u> <u>6/30/2021</u>	<u>Current</u> <u>Portion</u>
Lease -					
Westamerica	\$ 99,617	\$ -	\$ 32,289	\$ 67,328	\$ 33,216

In June 2014, the District entered into a lease purchase agreement with Westamerica Bank for the acquisition of a 2014 Ferrara Model RP550 Type III Wildland Fire engine. The cost of the truck was \$326,634 and financed for \$326,634 over a ten-year period. Interest on the lease-purchase is 2.70% and payments are due annually in June with final payment in 2023.

Future minimum principal and interest payments are as follows:

<u>Year ended</u> <u>June 30,</u>	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>
2022	\$ 33,216	\$ 1,817
2023	34,112	929
	<u>\$ 67,328</u>	<u>\$ 2,746</u>

**NOTE 7      OTHER INFORMATION**

**Risk Management**

The District retains two insurance policies through American Alternative Insurance Corporation whose agents have provided for commercial property, business auto and commercial general liability insurance coverage including a liquor liability section. The coverage also includes a volunteer Fireman’s equipment floater.

Additionally, the District carries Workers’ Compensation Insurance through the State compensation Insurance Fund for its clerical, seasonal and extra help employees.

**Litigation**

There is no pending or threatening litigation which would have a material effect on the financial statements of the District.

**NOTE 8      SUBSEQUENT EVENTS**

Management has evaluated subsequent events through February 22, 2022, the date these financial statements were available for release.

**CAZADERO COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT**  
**Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances -**  
**Budget and Actual**  
**General Fund**  
**For the Year Ended June 30, 2021**

	<u>Budgeted Amounts</u>		<u>Actual - Budgetary Basis</u>	<u>Variance With Final Budget Positive (Negative)</u>
	<u>Original</u>	<u>Final</u>		
<b>Beginning Fund Balance</b>			\$ 657,374	
<b>Resources (Inflows)</b>				
Taxes and Assessment	293,805	293,805	302,133	8,328
Intergovernmental Revenue	1,750	1,750	143,508	141,758
Unrestricted investment earnings	3,800	3,800	1,624	(2,176)
Grants and Donations	-	-	305,328	305,328
<b>Amounts Available</b>	<u>299,355</u>	<u>299,355</u>	<u>752,593</u>	<u>453,238</u>
<b>Charges (Outflows)</b>				
Salaries & Employee Benefits	82,986	82,986	154,038	(71,052)
Services and Supplies	169,269	169,269	135,944	33,325
Capital outlay	8,000	8,000	364,992	(356,992)
Debt service			-	
Principle retirement	31,492	31,492	32,289	(797)
Interest	3,541	3,541	2,745	796
<b>Amounts Charged</b>	<u>295,288</u>	<u>295,288</u>	<u>690,008</u>	<u>(394,720)</u>
<b>Ending Fund Balance</b>			<u>\$ 719,959</u>	

**CAZADERO COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT**  
 Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances -  
 Budget and Actual  
 General Fund  
 For the Year Ended June 30, 2020

	<u>Budgeted Amounts</u>		<u>Actual - Budgetary Basis</u>	<u>Variance With Final Budget Positive (Negative)</u>
	<u>Original</u>	<u>Final</u>		
<b>Beginning Fund Balance</b>			\$ 609,753	
<b>Resources (Inflows)</b>				
Taxes and Assessment	286,880	286,880	293,576	6,696
Intergovernmental Revenue	1,750	1,750	42,300	40,550
Unrestricted investment earnings	4,250	4,250	5,274	1,024
Grants and Donations	5,000	5,000	95,904	90,904
Miscellaneous	-	-	564	564
<b>Amounts Available</b>	<u>297,880</u>	<u>297,880</u>	<u>437,618</u>	<u>139,738</u>
<b>Charges (Outflows)</b>				
Salaries & Employee Benefits	60,555	60,555	89,667	(29,112)
Services and Supplies	170,765	170,765	96,895	73,870
Capital outlay	20,000	20,000	168,395	(148,395)
Debt service			-	
Principle retirement	31,492	31,492	31,515	(23)
Interest	3,541	3,541	3,525	16
<b>Amounts Charged</b>	<u>286,353</u>	<u>286,353</u>	<u>389,997</u>	<u>(103,644)</u>
<b>Ending Fund Balance</b>			<u>\$ 657,374</u>	

**CAZADERO COMMUNITY SERVICE DISTRICT**  
Notes to Required Supplementary Information  
June 30, 2021 and 2020

**NOTE 1 - BUDGETARY INFORMATION**

Annual budgets are adopted on a non-GAAP basis for all governmental funds. All annual appropriations lapse at fiscal year-end.

Before May 31, the proposed budget is presented to the board of directors for review. The board holds public hearings and final budget must be prepared and adopted no later than September 30.

The appropriated budget is prepared by character and subject. Transfers of appropriations between characters require the approval of the board. The legal level of budgetary control (i.e., the level at which expenditures may not legally exceed appropriations) is the character level. The board made several supplemental budgetary appropriations throughout the year.

Encumbrance accounting is employed in governmental funds. Encumbrances (e.g., purchase orders, contracts) outstanding at year-end are reported as reservations of fund balances and do not constitute expenditures or liabilities because the commitments will be appropriated and honored during the subsequent year. The District had no encumbrances outstanding on June 30, 2021.

## MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

This agreement is entered into this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2022, by and between the CAZADERO COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT, (CCSD) a Sonoma County special district, located at 5980 Cazadero Hwy., P.O. Box 508, Cazadero, CA., 95421 and the RUSSIAN RIVER HISTORICAL SOCIETY (RRHS), a California non-profit charitable organization with an address of P.O. Box 484, Monte Rio, CA., 95462.

### AGREEMENT

The CCSD and the RRHS agree to work together to support the history of the Cazadero and Austin Creek canyon area. The RRHS, established in 1983, collects and preserves oral, written and visual histories, photographs, documents, and artifacts that are of historical importance to the people of the lower Russian River area for the purposes of display, educational and public purposes. Following is the responsibility of each party.

### RECITALS

In order to protect, preserve and present the pioneer heritage of Cazadero and to display artifacts and exhibits as part of the Historical Building, and to enhance the experience of visitors to the Learning Center, the parties have entered in this Agreement establishing and memorializing the duties of responsibilities of each party.

The RRHS is the legal owner of the artifacts (the "Artifacts") displayed within the Learning Center building, maintains the Artifacts, and gives guided tours explaining the historical and educational importance of the Artifacts. Under the Constitution and Bylaws of the RRHS, all artifacts donated to the Cazadero History Learning Center become legal property of the RRHS and title to the Artifacts may not be returned to their former owners, sold or loaned for any purpose without the expressed permission of the Board of Directors of the RRHS.

The parties agree that the Cazadero History Learning Center building real property and the improvements constructed thereon are owned by the CCSD. Use of the Cazadero History Learning Center shall be under mutual direction of the CCSD and the RRHS and be of historical purposes exclusively.

The CCSD shall be responsible for all the utilities to the Cazadero History Learning Center. The CCSD shall be responsible of the interior and exterior maintenance of the buildings and surrounding property. The parties agree that the CCSD, at its sole expense, shall be responsible for reasonable repair, maintenance, replacement and operation of the Cazadero History Learning Center buildings and may close it in its discretion for necessary repairs and maintenance. The RRHS she be provided keys to the doors of the Cazadero History Learning Center.

The CCSD shall include the Cazadero History Learning Center buildings and operation in its standard fire and liability insurance coverages. The RRHS shall be named as an additional insured for liability purposes only. The CCSD shall not be responsible to provide insurance coverage on the Artifacts maintained by the RRHS. The RRHS at its option, may seek to obtain insurance to cover the Artifacts against theft, fire or other damage. In any event, the RRHS shall indemnify, defend and hold CCSD harmless from any third-party claim arising from any loss of, or damage to, any Artifact.

The term of this Agreement shall be for a period of twenty (20) years consisting of an initial five (5) year period renewable for three (3) additional five (5) year terms. Either party to this agreement may terminate this Agreement at any time following the expiration of the third calendar year of the Agreement following the execution date of this Agreement upon giving the other party one (1) year advanced written notice of the termination. Before the expiration of each five (5) year period, the parties shall meet to review and evaluate the Agreement and consider desirable modifications, if any, of the Agreement. The President of the RRHS will have the responsibility to call for the review, but wither of the parties may so request a review. Additional extensions beyond the twenty (20) year term may be arranged by the mutual consent of the parties.

**CCSD Board of Directors**

---

Maureen Berry, Vice President

---

Homer Canelis, Director

---

Daina DeBeanue, Secretary

---

Scott Griswold, Director

**RRHS Board of Directors**

---

Jane Barry, President

---

John Schubert, Vice President

---

Brendan Coen, Treasurer

---

Sarah Brooks, Director

# **DISCUSSION ITEMS**



Office of Grants and Local Services <localservices@parks.ca.gov>

3/1/2022 2:43 PM

## California's Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) Through 2025

To cazaderocsd@comcast.net



### Office of Grants and Local Services

It is our pleasure to present you with California's 2021-2025 Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP). The SCORP is a five-year plan that establishes grant priorities to address unmet needs for public outdoor recreation land throughout California. By adopting this SCORP, California maintains eligibility for federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) grants.

#### California's 2021–2025 SCORP includes three reports:

##### Main Report:

- [California's 2021–2025 Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan: A Five Year Plan for Increasing Park Access, Community-Based Planning, and Health Partnerships Through Grants](#)

##### Two Supplemental Reports:

- [Designing Parks Using Community Based Planning: Methods from California's Statewide Park Development and Community Revitalization Program](#)
- [California's Vision for Park Equity 2000–2020: Transforming Park Access Data and Technology](#)

#### Public Involvement Helped Shape the SCORP

[Manage](#) your preferences | [Opt out](#) using [TrueRemove®](#)

Got this as a forward? [Sign up](#) to receive our future emails.

View this email [online](#).

715 P Street  
Sacramento, CA | 95814 United States

This email was sent to [cazaderocsd@comcast.net](mailto:cazaderocsd@comcast.net).

*To continue receiving our emails, add us to your address book.*



## California's 2021–2025 Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP)

A Five-Year Plan for Increasing Park  
Access, Community-Based Planning,  
and Health Partnerships Through  
Grants



The SCORP was driven by 37 Public Focus Groups with over 500 community residents and university students statewide, who shared their ideas for making parks and recreation services a greater solution for health and wellness.

### Welcome to California's 2021–2025 SCORP

This five-year plan for grants is produced by the California Department of Parks and Recreation's Community Engagement Division — Office of Grants and Local Services (OGALS).

Since 1965, over 7,580 parks throughout California have been created or improved with grants administered by OGALS. This includes over 1,000 parks in California funded through the Land and Water Conservation Fund. Currently, more than 700 local agencies partner with OGALS in an effort to improve the health and wellness of California's 40 million residents by providing close to home park access.

[parksforcalifornia.org/scorp](https://parksforcalifornia.org/scorp)

OGALS GRANTS: [parks.ca.gov/grants](https://parks.ca.gov/grants)

Email: [SCORP@parks.ca.gov](mailto:SCORP@parks.ca.gov)



Youth Planners for Campus Park in Oxnard.

## Table of Contents

### Introduction

Executive Summary

The California Department of Parks and Recreation

Park Partners Responding to Park Needs

Who Owns Park Land in California

### California's Vision for Park Equity: Transforming Park Access Data and Technology

California Protected Area Database (CPAD)

Park Access Tool

Community FactFinder

Prioritizing Projects for Local Assistance Grant Programs such as the LWCF

2021–2025 SCORP Action Plan for Using Geospatial Technology to Identify Park Access Priorities

### Designing Parks Using Community-Based Planning Methods

Three-Step Public Engagement Model

Historical Significance of Statewide Park Program Community-Based Planning

2021–2025 SCORP Action Plan for Designing Parks Using Community-Based Planning

### 37 Focus Groups Statewide: Methods and Findings

Seven SCORP Advisory Council Focus Groups

Method

## Findings

- Sense of Purpose and Image
- "Pay to Play" and "Revenue Generation" Trend
- People Who Are Homeless and Local Parks
- The Words "Recreation" and "Parks" have Different Meanings to Different Audiences
- Park Access
- Using Neighborhood Parks as Greater Solutions for Health Issues

## Thirty Public Focus Groups

### Methods

Findings associated with the questions below:

- The California Department of Parks and Recreation understands that there may be health and safety challenges within your community. What types of park projects or programs do you think can help, and why?
- Has a park or recreation program changed your life? How?
- Is there anything else you want to tell state leaders about parks and recreation in your community?

SCORP Public Focus Group Locations

2021–2025 SCORP Action Plan From Focus Group Findings

## Health Partnerships

Grant Incentives for Partnerships

Connecting Health and Park Agencies

California's Health in All Policies (HiAP)

Active Parks, Healthy People Pilot Program

Examples of Health and Park Agency Partnerships

2021–2025 SCORP Action Plan for Health Partnerships

## State Agencies, Wetlands, and LWCF Grant Projects

### State Agencies and LWCF

California Department of Parks and Recreation — State Parks

Department of Fish and Wildlife

Wildlife Conservation Board

Department of Water Resources

State Coastal Conservancy

LWCF Process for annual State Agency allocations

Protection of Natural Resources

Wetlands Conservation

2021–2025 SCORP Action Plan for Wetlands

**Action Plan Summary for 2021–2025**

# Introduction

## California's 2021–2025 Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP)

SCORP is a five-year plan that establishes grant priorities to address unmet needs for public outdoor recreation land throughout California. By creating the five-year SCORP action plan for grant-making priorities, California maintains eligibility for federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) grants.

## Executive Summary

SCORP is a product of the California Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) — Community Engagement Division (CED) — Office of Grants and Local Services (OGALS). OGALS administers LWCF on behalf of California. The LWCF Act of 1965 intends to "strengthen the health and vitality of citizens" by creating and preserving outdoor recreation land in perpetuity. Since 1965, nearly 7,600 parks in

California have been created or improved with federal and state grants administered by OGALS, including over 1,000 parks funded by the LWCF. Currently, more than 700 local agencies partner with OGALS to create and improve close-to-home park access for the health and wellness of California's 40 million residents.

## Grants: Five-Year Action Plan

**Local agency grantees\*** will create, expand, or improve park access within a half mile of underserved communities. For park design, community-based planning methods give local agencies flexibility to propose features authentic to each community's unique recreation needs. Projects will increase athletics, art, and nature-based recreation opportunities for the health and wellness of all age groups.

\* Local agencies propose projects to OGALS through a statewide competitive process.

**State agency grantees\*** will enhance the resiliency of California's natural resources including but not limited to wetlands, forests, deserts, watersheds, coastal areas and other open space through acquisition or development projects to improve public outdoor recreation access and advance solutions to confront climate change. Per Executive Order N-82-20, California has pledged to conserve 30 percent of land and coastal waters by the year 2030. Each eligible state agency has its own action plan priorities in this SCORP.

\* California's Public Resource Code §5099.12 makes a percentage of annual LWCF funds available to State Parks, Department of Water Resources, California Wildlife Conservation Board, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the California Coastal Conservancy.

All local and state agency lands funded by LWCF are protected in perpetuity for the benefit of future generations through Section 6(f)(3) of the LWCF Act.

From 2016 to 2020, **park access, community-based planning, and health partnerships** were the overarching themes associated with park development grant programs awarded in California. These themes emerged during four years of statewide discussions:

**2016–17:** Thirty-seven focus groups, which included more than 500 public participants, park and recreation providers, university professors, and health sector professionals, supported a SCORP emphasis on increasing access to parks and recreation services for community health and wellness.

**2018:** Californians passed the *Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access for All Act of 2018* (Proposition 68). This action strengthened the nexus between park access and improving the physical and emotional health of communities, and sought to address rising health care costs and obesity-related illnesses.

**2018 to 2020:** Over 500 local agencies discussed park access, community-based planning, and health partnerships in over 20 hearings and workshops for the Statewide Park Development and Community Revitalization Program (SPP). These efforts resulted in \$2.3 billion in competitive park projects requests during the most recent 2019–20 cycle.

## Products of California's 2021–2025 SCORP

1. This Summary Report: California's 2021–2025 Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan — A Five Year Plan for Increasing Park Access, Community-Based Planning, and Health Partnerships Through Grants
2. Report on California's Vision for Park Equity 2000–2020: Transforming Park Access Data and Technology
3. Report on Designing Parks Using Community-Based Planning — Methods from California's Statewide Park Development and Community Revitalization Program

"Parks for All Californians" website at [ParksforCalifornia.org](https://parksforcalifornia.org) which includes links to products 1–3 and the following geographic information systems (GIS):

- Park Access Tool
- Community Fact Finder Tool
- Grant Allocations
- Explanation of GIS tool data methods

California's last SCORP was updated in 2015. The 2021–2025 SCORP improves upon the previous one and summarizes recent key finding from focus groups and continues the vision for local assistance grant programs including the use of LWCF allocations to California. For further guidance on how to submit LWCF funding applications, including Project Selection Criteria, go to [parks.ca.gov/grants\\_lwcf](https://parks.ca.gov/grants_lwcf).

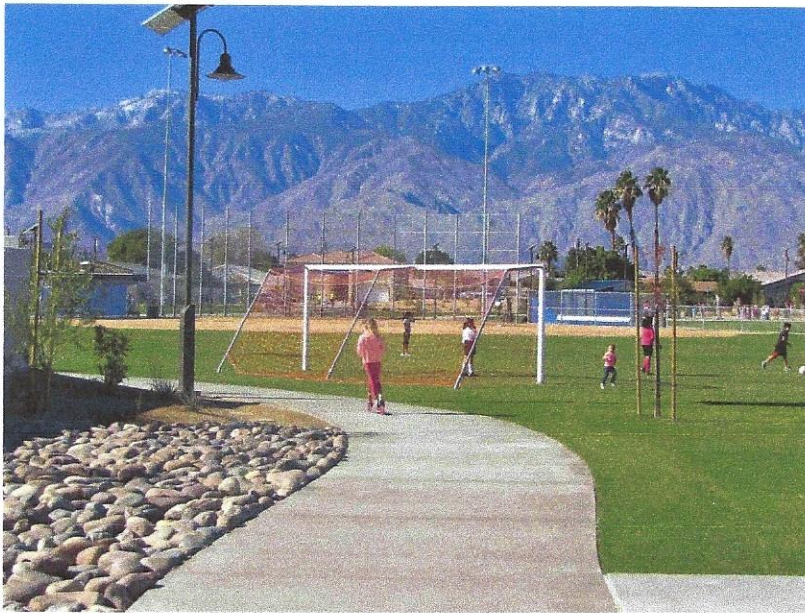
California has benefited greatly from both public and private agencies that have made public outdoor spaces a priority. The California Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) serves an important public agency role that administers the following:

**State Park System** — Protects landscapes where nature is primary and facilities complement natural and cultural/historic values. With 280 state park units, over 340 miles of coastline, 991 miles of lake and river frontage, more than 14,000 campsites, and more than 5,000 miles of motorized and non-motorized trails, DPR contains the largest and most diverse recreational, natural, and cultural heritage holdings of any state agency in the nation.

**Develop and maintain the SCORP** — Develops analysis, goals, tracking systems and range of partnerships to achieve a five year action plan, which includes facilitating discussion and outreach regarding the action plan's goals and programs.

**Fund Local Needs** — Develops and administers local assistance grant programs from bond acts or federally or state funded annual programs through OGALS, Division of Boating and Waterways and Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation, and Office of Historic Preservation. Since 2000, DPR administered over \$3 billion in grants.

**Facilitates planning, technical assistance, and partnerships** — between the health, educational, environmental sectors and local park agencies to build healthier communities through new parks and programs.



Whitewater Park in Cathedral City is a five acre new local park funded by the Statewide Park Program with two children play areas, walking trail with fitness stations, skateboard area, baseball and multipurpose soccer field, two basketball courts, picnic area with shade structures, courtyard, parking lot, restroom/concession building, lighting, and native plant landscaping.

## Park Partners Responding to Park Needs

California's 155-year parks legacy has been created through the actions of nearly 1,000 public agencies and nonprofits. These park partners reflect the diversity of California's park needs:

**Local agencies** — provide close-to-home active recreation facilities, such as sports courts/fields, community centers, and neighborhood parks (plus some broader open space roles) — includes city, county, and special district/recreation districts.

**Regional agencies** — conserve larger landscapes/habitats and provide hiking, camping, etc. in large open spaces — includes regional park and open space districts and joint powers authorities.

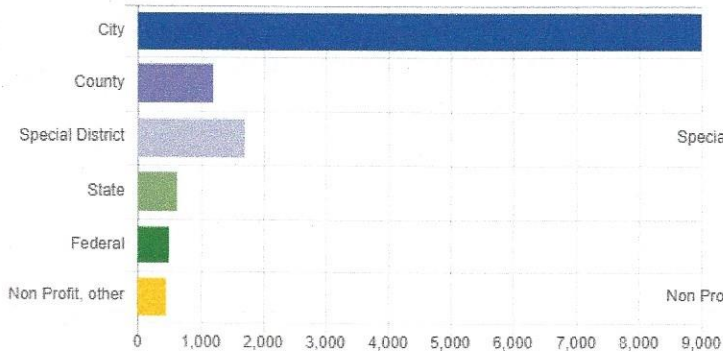
**State agencies** — preserve significant natural and cultural areas. Facility development in state parks, by law, must complement parks' natural/cultural integrity. The Department of Fish and Wildlife, 10 state conservancies, CAL FIRE, Department of Water Resources, The State Lands Commission, and state universities, all protect and preserve fish and wildlife resources, forests, and broad areas of public land.

**Federal agencies** — primarily conserve iconic natural and cultural resources and sites, rather than providing developed recreation. This is accomplished through the National Parks System, the National Wildlife Refuge System, the vast National Forests, deserts and other public lands overseen by the Bureau of Land Management and lakes and reservoirs from the Army Corps of Engineers and the Bureau of Reclamation.

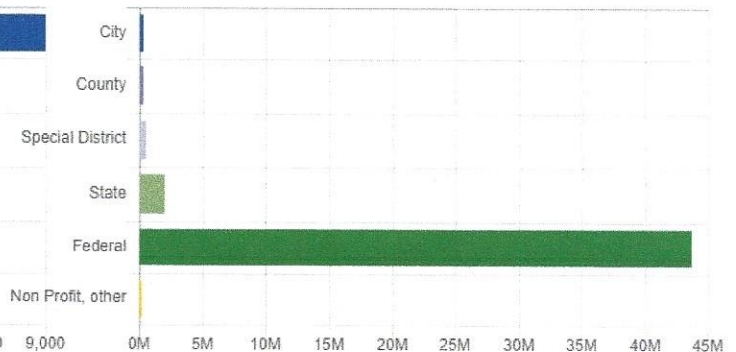
**Non profits / Other** — land trusts and community organizations often own publicly accessible preserves and neighborhood parks or partner with public agencies to offer programs and services. The health sector, foundations, and businesses contribute funding and the people of California volunteer time and resources to support parks.

## Who Owns Park Land in California

By **number**, parks are mostly owned by city, special district and county agencies

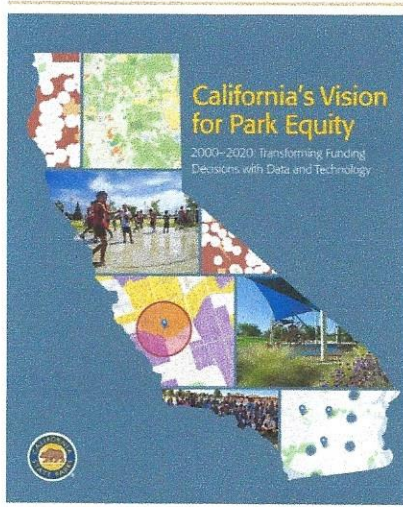


By **acres**, parks and open space are mainly owned by federal and state agencies



To learn more about California's park inventory, see an additional SCORP report named *California's Vision for Park Equity 2000–2020: Transforming Park Access Data and Technology* at [parksforcalifornia.org](http://parksforcalifornia.org)

## California's Vision for Park Equity: Transforming Park Access Data and Technology



Agencies and advocates across California are increasingly committed to ensuring that every Californian has equitable access to parks. Over the past decade, grant programs have incorporated the use of online Geospatial Analysis tools to help identify and analyze which communities lack adequate access to parks.

The 2021–2025 SCORP continues the analysis of park access in California using the following inventory and tools:

### California Protected Areas Database (CPAD)

Provides an inventory of over 14,000 public parks and open space areas statewide. [calands.org](http://calands.org)

### Park Access Tool

Provides a broad analysis at larger geographic scales to calculate 1) the ratio of park acres per thousand people, and, 2) the percentage of people who live within a half-mile of a park. In 2015, when OGALS first launched this tool for the 2015–2020 SCORP, findings indicated that:

Over 60% of Californians live in Census Tracts with less than 3 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents.

Nearly 9 million people, 24% of Californians, have no park within a half mile of their homes.

In the update for the 2021–2025 SCORP, OGALS found that:



**Over 61% of Californians** live in Census Tracts with less than 3 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents.

Nearly 8 million people, **21% of Californians**, have no park within a half mile of their homes.

To better understand how these communities that lack park access fit within the larger picture in California, statistics are available for cities, counties, regions, and legislative districts.

[parksforcalifornia.org/parkaccess](https://parksforcalifornia.org/parkaccess)

**Park Access Progress:** 1 million more Californians have park access located within a half mile radius of their home in 2020 findings compared to 2015. This progress has been partially reached through the Statewide Park Development and Community Revitalization Program, which created more than 100 parks within a half mile radius of more than 1 million Californians through two rounds of Proposition 84 funding.

## Park Access Investments by the Numbers

The following provides a 10-year review of statewide park investments.

### Proposition 84 SPP Rounds One and Two

Between two competitive rounds in 2009/10, 125 SPP parks were funded through \$368 million, with an average grant amount of \$2.7 million.

Approximately 1 million Californians live within a half-mile of the 125 grant funded sites.

These numbers show that in 2009/10, an investment of \$368 million created new park access for every 1 million Californians.

Considering a 2010 investment for 30 years of public use through 2040, providing new park access within a half mile of 1 million Californians calculated to **\$11 per person** per year, or **94 cents per month**, or **3 cents per day**.

### Proposition 68 SPP Round Three

In 2019/20, 62 parks were funded through \$255 million, with an average grant amount of \$4.1 million.

Approximately 500,000 Californians live within a half-mile of the 62 grant funded sites.

These numbers show that in the 2019/20 SPP Round Three, an investment of \$255 million created new park access for nearly 500,000 Californians within a half mile radius of 62 projects.

Considering an investment for 30 years of public use through 2050, providing new park access within a half mile of every 500,000 Californians now calculates to **\$17 per person** per year, or **\$1.41 per month**, or **5 cents per day**.

The upcoming Round Four will make an additional \$395.3 million available. Competitive project applications are due in March 2021.

This final round of Proposition 68 SPP may provide park access for an additional 500,000 or more Californians within a half mile of their neighborhoods.

## Conclusion

Based on these patterns between three SPP rounds of funding for community park development, an average of approximately 60 park projects per round are creating new park access for approximately 500,000 Californians within a half mile radius per round. Land acquisition and construction prices have increased by approximately \$1,500,000 per project site over the past decade from 2010 to 2020. Based on current projections, for each \$600 million investment, an additional 1 million Californians will have new or expanded park access within a half mile of their neighborhoods.

This picture of the larger landscape provided by the **Park Access Tool** is important, but the site-specific **Community FactFinder** (see below) is essential for making the most informed decisions about project areas.

## Community FactFinder

The Community FactFinder provides DPR and the public site-specific data within the half-mile radius of any park project area. The data helps users evaluate a specific area where a grant applicant proposes to build a project, in comparison to all competing statewide applications. Additionally, the Community FactFinder helps steer local park planners and grant applicants to locate projects in underserved communities.

## Prioritizing Projects for Local Assistance Grant Programs such as the LWCF

Considering California's almost 40 million residents and the complexity and high need for parks throughout urban, suburban, and rural communities, local assistance grant programs, including LWCF, do not "pre-select" a few communities to receive grant funding. Instead, California's LWCF and the Statewide Park Program provide these tools to applicants to help them identify high priority areas in their

jurisdictions. Once applications are submitted to CED/OGALS, the competitive applications go through a statewide analysis using the same tools. While the use and ranking of consistent data to measure park deficiency and poverty is valuable to help prioritize projects, any competitive grant review process should also include analysis and professional judgment of other factors including the project's need and benefits.

For more information about the evolution of these tools, challenges, and lessons learned, the 2021–2025 SCORP includes an additional report named California's Vision for Park Equity 2000–2020: Transforming Park Access Data and Technology. This report is available at [ParksforCalifornia.org](https://ParksforCalifornia.org)



## 2021–2025 SCORP Action Plan for Using Geospatial Technology to Identify Park Access Priorities

1. Continue updating the California Protected Area Database (CPAD) as a vital inventory and resource for assessing park acreage statewide.
2. Continue using the Community FactFinder for site-specific data analysis of proposed projects.
3. In 2025, release the next version of the Park Access Tool for the 2025–2030 SCORP, building upon the 2015 and 2020 editions.
4. Monitor data and technology for improvements, especially in these forms:
  - a. Network analysis for walking routes specifically, to increase the accuracy of the 10-minute walk shed of each park, excluding areas that are impassable due to freeways, railroads, or other areas impassable to pedestrians.
  - b. Accessible mapping technologies for low- and no-vision users.
  - c. Participatory mapping technologies that enable community members to provide spatially specific comments, images, and stories about park design and park access in their neighborhoods.



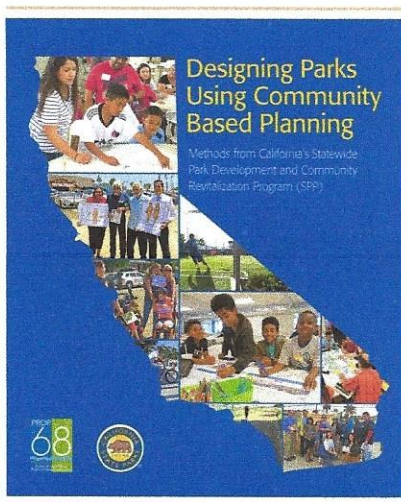
Huntington Beach State Beach \$2,400,000 grant in 1973–1983 for acquisition.



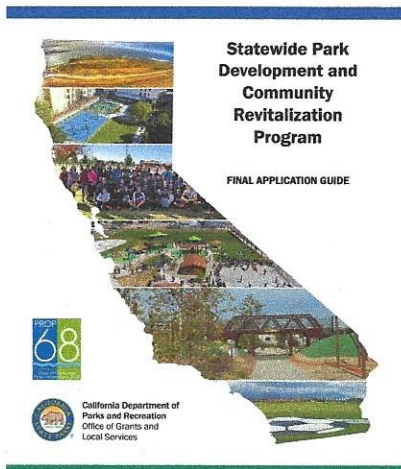
Riding bikes by Cooley Landing in East Palo Alto.

## Designing Parks Using Community-Based Planning Methods

Encouraging community-based planning in grant programs is founded on this basic question: For community parks, should California prioritize one type of recreation facility over another, based on national, state, or regional surveys?



Historically, in competitive programs, grant writers and even grant guidelines cited national, state, or regional surveys to determine what types of recreation facilities should be included in a community park. For example, the results of regional or statewide surveys were used to prioritize which type of facility ranked higher in California's competitive LWCF applications. A picnic area ranked higher than a playground, a baseball field ranked higher than a soccer field, and a tennis court higher than a basketball court.



However, during LWCF application workshops, local government applicants frequently reported that their community's needs were different from the statewide or regional survey results. National, state, or regional surveys may not capture the recreation feature priorities of cities, and even more specifically, of neighborhoods within different areas of the same cities. Each community has unique unmet recreation needs for park access and infrastructure.

For these reasons, California's SCORP encourages flexibility in park design responsive to each community's unique recreation needs. SCORP provides methods learned from hundreds of local park agencies and nonprofit organizations, using a three-step public engagement model for designing community parks. The three-step model was developed and tested through California's Statewide Park Development and Community Revitalization Program (SPP).

SPP Application Guide, January 22, 2019.

## Three-Step Public Engagement Model

SPP's grant guidelines, written with feedback from hundreds of local park agencies and nonprofit organizations, led to the development of a three-step public engagement model for designing community parks.

The steps include:

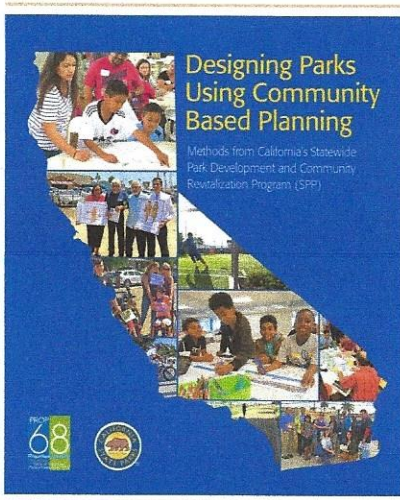
1. **Scheduling five accessible park design meetings** at or near the project site, at different times including weekends or evenings.
2. **Inviting and involving youth, seniors, and families** living in the project area to engage in an active planning process.
3. **Conducting interactive and dynamic meetings** to achieve the following park design goals:
  - Selecting and designing recreation features.
  - Locating the selected recreation features within the park.
  - Identifying safe public use and park beautification ideas.

This process encourages meaningful engagement between neighbors, local government, and organizations. These steps lead to authentic park designs representing each community's unique recreation needs and values.

To learn more, see [Designing Parks Using Community-Based Planning — Methods from California's Statewide Park Development and Community Revitalization Program](#).

## Historical Significance of SPP Community-Based Planning

California's Statewide Park Development and Community Revitalization Program (SPP) is the country's largest state-administered grant program for community parks. This historically significant grant program has provided more than \$1 billion in grant funding through Proposition 84 in 2006 and Proposition 68 in 2018.



SPP has funded the creation of 130 new parks and 60 park expansions or renovations throughout California. With \$5.2 billion in grant requests received for \$623 million in available funding between three rounds, thousands of residents became civically engaged in their local park designs.

**SPP Rounds One and Two:** Proposition 84 (2006 Bond Act) made \$368 million available for SPP grants. Nine hundred project proposals were received requesting \$2.9 billion.

**SPP Round Three:** Proposition 68 (2018 Bond Act) made \$650 million available for SPP grants. Round three made available \$254.9 million. A total of 478 project proposals requesting \$2.3 billion were received on Aug. 5, 2019.

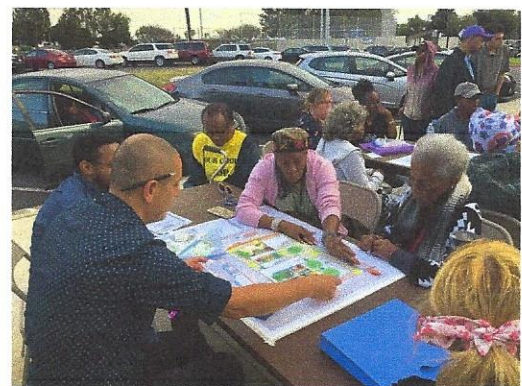
**SPP Round Four:** The remaining \$395 million of Proposition 68 SPP will be awarded through a Round Four competitive process in 2021.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, new methods for remote park design meetings and tools are currently being tested in preparation for a March 2021 SPP Round 4 application deadline. Methods that are proven to be successful may be featured in California's 2025–

2030 SCORP if remote web-based meetings are necessary. To inform future planning efforts over the next five years, DPR's Community Engagement Division will continue to share successful methods learned through this SPP model.

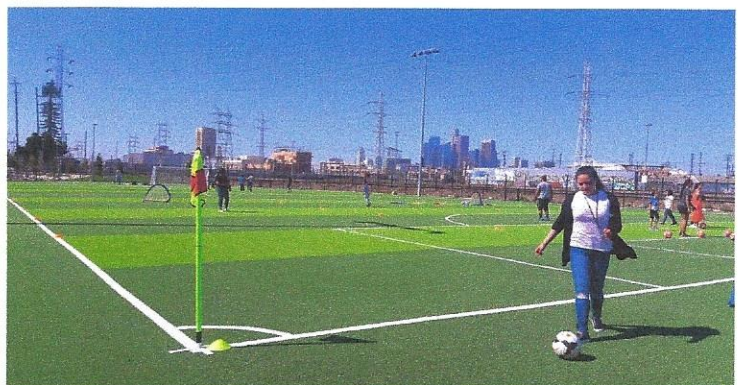
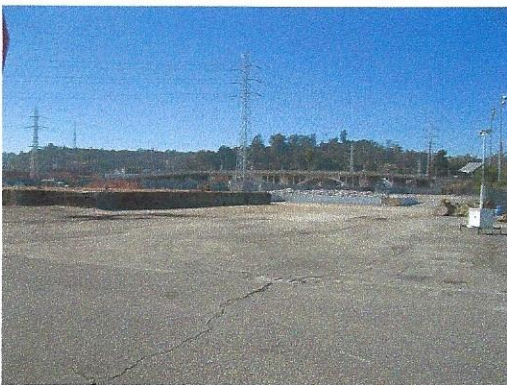


Planning together for the new 95th & Normandie Pocket Park in West Athens-Westmont, Los Angeles County.



Community members planning 95th and Normandie park in Los Angeles County.

Below are two examples showing how SPP projects transform communities. To see more statewide "Before and After" photos, visit [ParksforCalifornia.org](https://ParksforCalifornia.org)



Albion Riverside Park in the city of Los Angeles received a \$5 million grant to construct a new multipurpose athletic field, walking and bike paths, fitness zone and equipment, children's play area, and other recreational amenities.

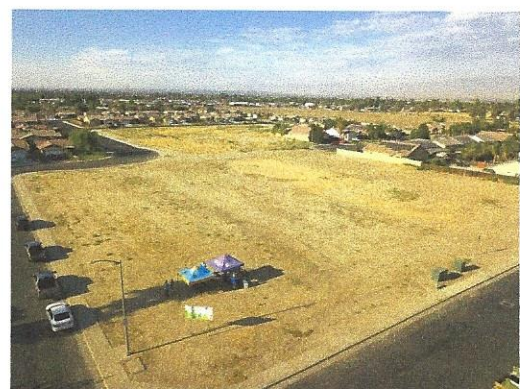


Mercado Park in the city of Perris received \$3.49 million to construct a new performing arts amphitheater, children's play area, plaza with fountain, volleyball and basketball courts, picnic structures, and other amenities.

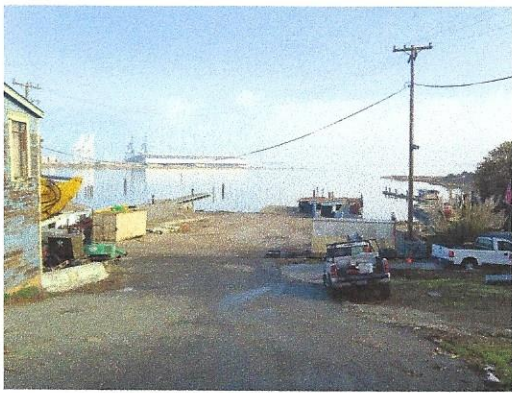
## 2021–2025 SCORP Action Plan for Designing Parks Using Community-Based Planning

CED/OGALS will be responsible for the following 2021–2025 SCORP actions for local assistance grants:

1. Allow grant applicants to design parks that are authentic to each community's unique recreation needs. Competitive grant criteria will not use a national, state, or regional survey to pre-determine what type of recreation feature is the highest priority for a community.
2. Consider how public engagement for park design may occur under future COVID-19 health guidelines. This consideration includes identifying how authentic community-based planning may involve the elderly and other Californians who may lack high-speed internet connection, computers, and cell phones, share successful solutions for community engagement that may be learned through Round 4 of the SPP.
3. Provide the report named *Designing Parks Using Community-Based Planning — Methods from California's Statewide Park Development and Community Revitalization Program* as technical assistance examples for grant projects, including:
  - a. The upcoming competitive round(s) of SPP.
  - b. \$23 million Proposition 68 Regional Park Program.
  - c. \$23 million Proposition 68 Rural Recreation and Tourism Program.
  - d. LWCF Program.
  - e. Non-motorized Recreational Trail Program.
4. Share the report named *Designing Parks Using Community-Based Planning — Methods from California's Statewide Park Development and Community Revitalization Program* with:
  - a. Other states, through the City Parks Alliance, National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA), American Planning Association, National Association of State Outdoor Recreation Liaison Officers (NASORLO), Society of Outdoor Recreation Planners (SORP), American Society of Landscape Architects (ASPA), and other national associations.
  - b. California's Park and Recreation Society (CPRS), California Association of Recreation and Park Districts (CARPD), and California's Health in All Policies (HiAP).
  - c. California State University Recreation departments to inspire future planners and policy leaders.
  - d. 700 local agencies and nonprofit organizations throughout California.



Focus group with a classroom of students to get input for the new Linnell-Brahma Park in Bakersfield.



The future 900 Innes Park in Bayview Hunter's Point, San Francisco. The project will create waterfront park access, connect the San Francisco Bay Trail, and include placemaking public art.

"India Basin (900 Innes Boatyard) is the most ambitious park project in a generation, and we wanted to design something not just for the surrounding community, but with them. It's going to be an anchor of health, safety, economic development, culture and environmental justice in the neighborhood. We are so proud to be working alongside them to make it happen."

**Phil Ginsburg** | General Manager, San Francisco Recreation and Parks



"As Recreation Professionals, we often have a general idea as to what our community wants and needs in our neighborhood parks; however, community-based planning allows for a much deeper connection to the neighborhood and ultimately leads to a much better project with much more community pride.

It brought the whole neighborhood closer together."

**Tina Cherry** | Community Services Director, City of Monrovia,  
Lucinda Garcia Park

"Community-based planning allows the opportunity to give community members a voice and creates relationships that bring insight and perspectives that are normally ignored. Regardless if the grant is awarded, it is a worthwhile experience in future revitalization opportunities."

**Francesca Sciamanna** | Community Services, City of Bell

Site photo for City of Bell Pritchard Park.

"Just planning the park has brought the community together. Boorman Park is the community's baby. This project reflects in-depth community planning to represent what we really want and need in a park. This grant gives us the inspiration to keep active in the community. We are so proud of this effort. The community has finally been heard and our kids will benefit for years!"

**Maria Isabel Barrera** | West County Regional Group member and resident of the Boorman Park area.

## 37 Focus Groups Statewide: Methods and Findings

Thirty-seven focus groups, which comprised of five hundred Californians, shared their vision for parks and recreation and California's 2021–2025 SCORP.

The following examples explain how local community members, college students, regional and state government officials, foundations, health, and community-based organizations participated.

Dr. Deborah Cohen  
RAND, Santa Monica

Dr. Aiko Yoshino  
CSU San Francisco

### Seven SCORP Advisory Council Focus Groups

To help shape the vision for California's 2021–2025 SCORP, the Community Engagement Division first formed an Advisory Council to listen to issues of statewide significance. The focus groups took place in Anaheim, Fresno, Oakland, Redding, San Diego, Santa Clarita, and West Sacramento from September through October 2016. One hundred leaders were brought together to these locations.

Dr. Emilyn Sheffield  
CSU Chico

Sedrick Mitchell  
California State Parks

Dr. Sam Lankford  
CSU Fresno

Manuel Mollinedo  
City of Fresno Parks  
Director, Ret.

### Method

The Advisory Council members were selected to represent diverse perspectives including academia, the health sector, local and state government, foundations, and community-based organizations.

Each focus group was three hours long.

Members discussed challenges and opportunities facing parks and recreation in their region.

Discussions were facilitated to encourage a free flowing, high-level exchange of ideas under the broad topic of what challenges

opportunities face parks and recreation in their region.

By discussing challenges and opportunities in each region, consistent priorities were identified between all regions.

The following describes key findings between the seven statewide Advisory Council Focus Groups:

## Findings

### **Sense of Purpose and Image**

The most surprising discovery from the 2016 discussions was sensing the park and recreation profession was suffering from an identity problem.

In summary:

Marketing park and recreation services to the general public requires a different approach than trying to gain budget support from governing bodies. Local park agencies typically market their services as being "fun" to encourage the public to use local parks and recreation programs. However, city council, or county board of supervisors generally do not prioritize "having fun" over public health and safety such as police and fire. Local directors often feel that they are competing with other public service agencies for budget support.

Local park agencies were being required to become revenue generators, renamed or merged into broader non-park agencies such as "Community Services" or "Public Works."

### **"Pay to Play" and "Revenue Generation" Trend**

An intriguing discussion arose about how marketing the "fun" of parks and recreation often works well to attract the public, but may affect the image and perception of these services as essential. Local park agency directors candidly expressed, "I feel we are not taken seriously" and "we need to do a better job telling our story."

The focus groups touched on our country's work-driven culture that generally does not recognize "fun" or "play" as an essential activity. The work-driven cultural norm appears to clash with the park and recreation sector's belief that play and fun are critical for personal wellness and a community's social health. "Play is not valued as a priority in our society but is fundamental to the development of people." Sedrick Mitchell, Deputy Director, Community Engagement Division, DPR.

Local park agency directors reported that they are required to function under a business model in order to support operations due to budget constraints. "This shifts our service focus and mission" said a local agency director. The business model emphasis may cater to those who can afford to pay, while widening the "equity" service gap for economically disadvantaged members of the public.

Participants pointed out that trying to explain the benefits of parks and recreation has been a long-standing effort within the profession. Advocacy must go beyond saying how great current park and recreation services are, to include a vision for greater investments in parks and recreation to achieve new health benefits. Expanding services to confront health challenges may require a philosophical change in the profession. Some directors spoke passionately about being on the "front line" and "in the trenches." Many park agencies are providing social services such as meals, counseling services, health screenings, clothing distribution, after school tutoring, providing a positive alternative to gangs, life skills classes, etc. Therapeutic recreational programs for war veterans suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder and employment development programs were also cited as examples of park agency functions.

### **People Who Are Homeless and Local Parks**

Local park directors explained that there is an increasing amount of people who appear to the general public as being homeless in local parks. The directors had different views of solutions, from collaborating with other local service providers and faith-based organizations to serve people who are homeless, or to design parks that attract more public use. Various ideas were shared to make parks less likely to be sites for encampments, such as designing parks for more active use (skate parks, dog parks, sports courts, running tracks, outdoor gym equipment, etc.) or scheduling supervised recreational events and activities (sports leagues, exercise groups, music, dance, art, movie nights, community events, etc.).

### **The Words "Recreation" and "Parks" have Different Meanings to Different Audiences**

City of Anaheim youth cycling club in Orange County.

The Advisory Council also pointed out a basic, fundamental issue often not recognized by park professionals: the word "recreation" and "park" is not universally understood for these reasons:

Some people think the word "recreation" means how people generally spend free time such as watching television, shopping, playing video games, tourism, etc.

The word "recreation" is also a complex public service to define. Recreation may mean team or individual sports and leagues to some, or viewing wildlife in remote natural areas to others. From arts and crafts, music, dance, theater, to exercise groups, walking, biking, hiking, picnicking/barbeques, camping, fishing or hunting, paddling, boating, horse-back riding or riding off-highway motorized vehicles, and visiting historic sites, "recreation in parks" means a wide range of possibilities.



The word "park" may also need to be more clearly defined in context depending on the intended audience or purpose because it may not evoke a consistent image. Neighborhood pocket parks, community parks, city, county, regional, state, and national parks all meet diverse needs and interests. In addition, a public beach or "open space" preserve with a trail is often not envisioned or labeled as a "park," but provides public recreational opportunities comparable to many regional, state, or national parks.

Therefore, a specific type of "recreation" or "park" may need to be clear depending on the communication goal and intended audience.

### Park Access

Advisory Council members mentioned that distant parks are more difficult to access on a daily basis due to economic, daily schedule, and physical barriers. Some Californians cannot afford to drive to distant parks or do not have time to visit travel destinations due to busy schedules.

Inspiration Park: Located in Fresno, this universally accessible park with a community center, splash and play areas, skate park, baseball/multi-purpose field, basketball courts, dog park, picnic areas, and garden was created with a \$5,000,000 Statewide Park Program grant.

### Using Neighborhood Parks as Greater Solutions for Health Issues

Dr. Deborah Cohen, formerly with RAND Corporation, commented that "many existing parks are untapped solutions for health issues. There is an opportunity to become even more creative, increasing the use of community parks and recreation programs to address health and social issues. The Advisory Council noted that parks can support activities similar to health clubs, for free. Dr. Deborah Cohen shared a study that reveals solutions to increase healthy physical activities in parks: [The First National Study of Neighborhood Parks: Implications for Physical Activity](#) published in the American Journal of Preventive Medicine Volume 51, Issue 4, October 2016, Pages 419–426.

The Advisory Council recommended a statewide effort to inform decision makers and the public about why parks and recreation services should be expanded for public health and safety. "Create and celebrate your successes. If you can show that you are changing the community, people want to be a part of it" advised one participant.

The Advisory Council also encouraged stronger partnerships with the health sector and law enforcement to develop new park projects and programs as an essential public health service.

Exercise group in the City of Bell.

## Thirty Public Focus Groups

After the seven Advisory Council Focus Groups, 30 focus groups were conducted statewide in 2017. Nearly 500 members of the general public and university students participated in these listening sessions.

### Methods

In preparation, initial contact was made with local park and recreation agencies and community-based non-profit organizations. DPR asked the local contacts if they would be interested to host a focus group for California's SCORP. Considering that the department was asking local contacts to host and invite the public, there was an effort to give flexibility to the host about who to invite and where to locate the meeting. DPR provided a sample flyer to help describe what questions would be asked of participants, and encouraged the host to invite a broad representation of the community including different age groups.

The discussions were framed around three questions designed to learn how Californians consider parks and recreation in their communities, especially from a health perspective. The questions were also designed to ground-truth and research the statewide concerns and opportunities referenced in this chapter by the 2016 Advisory Council. During each public focus group, DPR asked the participants these three questions:

#### **1) The California Department of Parks and Recreation understands that there may be health and safety challenges within your community. What types of park projects or programs do you think can help, and why?**

**Goal:** Including "health and safety" in the first part of the question was designed to encourage the public to think about parks and recreation from a health and safety perspective. This tested the Advisory Council Focus Groups' idea of considering parks and recreation as a public health and wellness service.

The second part of the question was intended to assess what types of projects — such as what type of facilities are desired — and programs are needed in local parks when "health and safety" is considered. Therefore, this question encouraged participants to share their vision for health and safety in parks.

### Findings:

...recreation programs were desired, especially in the morning, after school, and in the evening. Parents felt disconnected from their children and were hopeful that programs in parks can help them reconnect. Daily presence of parks and recreation staff is also desired to help make the public feel welcome and safer in their local parks. Lighting for night-time use after school and work days and clean restrooms were consistently mentioned as critical to support extended use.

To our surprise, answers tended to focus more on access to parks and recreation programs more than a specific type of park facility they would like in their parks.

## 2) Has a park or recreation program changed your life? How?

**Goal:** The question was designed for the public to share stories about why park and recreation matters in their life. This was a way of testing how the general public may relate parks and recreation to public health and wellness.

### Finding:

Participants shared heart-warming stories about how a recreation program inspired a new direction in their life, how they reached health goals at a park such as a walking track, and the importance of having a shared public space to socialize with other community members.

## 3) Is there anything else you want to tell state leaders about parks and recreation in your community?

**Goal:** The question was designed to encourage additional comments that may help us learn more about unmet needs or what is working well from the general public's perspective.

### Findings:

In some densely populated areas, participants felt they were landlocked and communities need more park space. A few participants in extremely dense communities even mentioned that streets could be closed and converted into parks, or parks should be built on rooftops.

Designing parks to meet the needs of all age groups was a consistent request from all focus groups. Some participants felt their local park was only designed for children, and they had to travel too far to go to a park that offers what they need.

Participants expressed that parks outside their communities are also important to preserve nature.

Every focus group expressed gratitude for state and federal park development programs.

After the focus groups, it was common for the host (local park and recreation agency contact) to explain with enthusiasm that the focus group helped provide new ideas and a deeper understanding of what the community needs. This is another indicator that community-based discussions between people that live near proposed projects and the park designer/provider are a valuable method to generate ideas and reach a more personal understanding of what the community needs.

Community members enjoying Inspiration Park in Fresno.

## SCORP Public Focus Group Locations

---

**April 4, 2017**

**Public Focus Group: Friends of the LA River**

**Location: Los Angeles River — Frog Spot**

"Engagement is important for any park in any community; our resources should be designed by the people that are living there and are actually going to use them."

---

**April 5, 2017**

**Public Focus Group: Avalon Green Team Residents**

**Location: Maya Angelou High School**

---

**April 5, 2017**

**Public Focus Group: Watts Community Residents**

**Location: Serenity Park, Watts**

"Parks invest in community, parks allow community to come together. Programs are needed for this area, for people to feel safe, and feel as though this is geared to them. We need programs for children, we need programs for seniors, and we need programs for adults. There is a gang element here and people are trying to fight against that. We need programs for the summer, for our youth. Arts and crafts classes always go well. Dance classes — if we had something like that it would be awesome!"

---

**April 5, 2017**

**Public Focus Group: El Monte Community Residents**

**Location: Zamora Park**

"Make the parks more inviting — design the park to help encourage more usage, plant flowers, and discourage bad elements in hiding spots with maintenance of trees and shrubbery."

"I would like to say to those that decide and distribute money...invest a little to beautify our city with more green areas for us to be able to take advantage of, like the way it should be, for the benefit of our children and ourselves, for our health."

"I really liked this change from an organizational group of young people, of children — they were painting the alleys. So then it was a really beautiful change and what I liked was the participation, it was the union that happened in the young people for the community — Equipo Verde."

---

**Date: April 5, 2017**

**Public Focus Group: Our Parks Coalition**

**Location: Casa Italiana**

"Our entire model is a community driven model. We've discovered after decades of experience that the most successful projects involve a deep level of community engagement. Listen to concerns, real and perceived. Going above the minimum required helps build trust with the community."

"I think that a big issue isn't just increasing our urban parks, it is also increasing access to our wilderness and open spaces. It doesn't just mean providing busses for people to get to those places, but it also means making people feel welcome in those spaces."

---

**Date: April 5, 2017**

**Public Focus Group: Los Angeles Community Residents**

**Location: El Serrano Arroyo Playground**

"You will see single parents who come here with their kids. Parents who cannot afford to take their kids to Disneyland, they come here. This is where they spend time with their kids. It is beautiful."

---

**Date: April 6, 2017**

**Public Focus Group: California State University Students**

**Location: CSU — Northridge**

"It is a good idea to have programs available for parents while their kids are at the park playing sports. We often hear, well, my son or daughter was already here, so I might as well do something."

---

**Date: April 6, 2017**

**Public Focus Group: City of Paramount Community Residents**

**Location: Paramount Community Center**

"Parks and Rec STAR afterschool program helped me learn English — he believed in me even when I didn't. It goes to show how impactful it is for children to have these kind of programs and now I'm in a place where I can give back. I'm thankful for the opportunity." —Paramount Youth Commissioner

"My son learned to swim here — and he is now in the Navy's Special Forces. And it all started with swim classes with the City."  
—Aliccia

---

"Paramount has been doing a lot of great things; Salud Park was built, there is a track there and a turf, it is really eco-friendly, there is a mural as well. It is a modern park and I think that the architecture of it is the key to its success. The track and the trails around the park is somewhere that people go out to walk in the evenings. This is good for the culture of health movement created by Michelle Obama."

"Thank you for the outdoor gym equipment — I've become a very active resident and its saved me lots of money in gym fees."

---

**Date: April 7, 2017**

**Public Focus Group: Anaheim Community Residents**

**Location: Brookhurst Community Center and Park**

"The parks have always been a part of my life. I learned to swim, I played tennis, I went to birthday parties. Anaheim has now built new facilities. I go to the one in the hills for my Zumba gold class and the community center is right next door to the library, so they do activities interactively, which I think is good. I do not agree with having a separate senior center. I think that multi-age and multi-use facilities give people the opportunity to be around people of all different ages to help learn from them."

"The neighborhood I live in could use a park, believe me! The kids end up playing in the street. Parks need to be available for everybody — small children, teenagers, adults and seniors."

---

**Date: April 10, 2017**

**Public Focus Group: Oakland Community Residents**

**Location: DeFremery Recreation Center**

"I grew up in this park. It taught me a sense of community; how your little efforts can help a community. How volunteering and helping kids learn something, an art, a craft, teambuilding, a skill that they can use throughout life, not just as a youth. It's really rewarding."

"I didn't realize that it was a seed that had been planted by my mom years ago, that we play with a purpose, to expose, to enlighten, to empower, and to encourage educational excellence through recreational experiences. It was about being able to make a difference, and to see how you can actually break down barriers, how you can actually encourage people to get off the system where that is all that they have known, and to do it through parks and recreation, that is powerful. The

---

**Date: April 11, 2017**

**Public Focus Group: California State University Students**

**Location: CSU — East Bay**

"Parks are a way to keep kids off the street: but if the park isn't maintained a certain way then kids are not going to want to go there. And a lot of African Americans and other minority kids like to play sports, and they need to have a place that is suitable for them to play and have fun."

"Parks are a great way to de-stress. There is a sense of peace when I am outside, I really like to appreciate nature and just be, and bask in what nature brings to us, and parks really helps with that. When I go outside I see the trees, I hear the birds, it is like a whole different feeling than when you are indoors, and it is a really good way to de-stress."

---

**Date: April 12, 2017**

**Public Focus Group: San Francisco Community Residents**

**Location: Curry Senior Center**

"Parks are the lungs of a city. When I first moved here, I couldn't breathe. Then I went to Golden Gate Park and I could breathe. It's because there are no trees in part of our city. We really need more trees. When I am in the park I breathe easily, it is beautiful and smells aromatic. I want to thank whoever planted all of these trees (Golden Gate Park)."

"I have an imagination... Build open spaces up! Create floors for parks and each floor could be for a specific need, first floor for children, and second floor for adults. This is San Francisco, it is a small place, maybe we could create 1st floor and 2nd floor parks."

---

**Date: April 13, 2017**

**Public Focus Group: East Oakland Community Residents (Youth Group)**

**Location: East Oakland Youth Development Center**

"Art programming is exceptional because there are not a lot of rules, therefore everyone can succeed, as opposed to athletic efforts, where there are a lot of rules and not everyone can navigate those rules. Art programming helps young people feel safe."

---

**Date: April 28, 2017**

**Public Focus Group: California State University Students**

**Location: CSU — Chico**

---

**Date: May 2, 2017**

**Public Focus Group: California State University Students**

**Location: CSU — Sacramento**

"I think we need to consider small spaces, small parks investing in lots, corners, alleys, and a park movement. I think that urban parks might be the next big wave."

known, and to do it through parks and recreation, that is powerful. The power that our landscapes and parks and recreation have, to bring about quality of life, to change a life, and to make a difference. Without park and recreation in your community, you have no community."

---

**Date: April 11, 2017**

**Public Focus Group: East Bay Regional Parks**

**Location: Richard Trudeau Training Center**

"In terms of what helped with a community's health and safety, I think about the Bay Trail. All colors, all shapes and sizes, a diverse range of people and they're out there. Trails are a uniter of different communities. I would like to see more"

"Not all parks are alike. It is a skill set that needs to be mastered. It is an art form because there is no cookie cutter approach. It has to be the right park function, the right use for the community."

---

**Date: April 12, 2017**

**Public Focus Group: California State University Students**

**Location: CSU — San Francisco**

"Joining sports programs provided by parks and rec helped get me healthy. Without these programs I would not be the young woman I am today." — Lauren

---

**Date: April 12, 2017**

**Public Focus Group: San Francisco Community Residents (Youth Group)**

**Location: Boeddeker Park**

"I used to come home after school, do my homework and just sit and watch TV and eat potato chips. Basically be lazy. But ever since the park is here, I am active. I go and play basketball, I've made new friends. It's just a great place."  
— Charlie

---

**Date: May 31, 2017**

**Focus Group: Health in All Policies Task Force**

**Location: Natural Resources Agency Building, Sacramento**

---

**August 8, 2017**

**Public Focus Group: Watsonville Community Residents**

**Location: Watsonville City Council Room**

"Well in my opinion what we've seen is that there is little recreation in the small town of Watsonville. There are no places where one could go for recreation at the end of the week, or have a picnic, or anything. This is the kind of recreation we don't have. We only have two small parks, but are lacking. Watsonville has grown, and we need it. This is my point of view."

---

**August 8, 2017**

**Public Focus Group: Together in Pajaro**

**Location: Pajaro Park**

"The community has really taken a hold of this park, and takes a lot of pride in it. They feel that it is theirs. There was really no gathering place before this, there was no sense of community outside of the church. Now there are birthday parties, and events and there is so much happening, I never could have imagined how far we would have come. And it isn't just kids, it is also the seniors and the community members walking. They are here when the gates open, just waiting to get in to walk around our track."

"Part of why the lunch program was created here, is that parent education isn't always what we would like to see. We have so many young parents here. These are kids who didn't get to finish growing up, and now they have to grow up so quickly. And we want to offer programs here to help them. We want to bring out parenting classes, classes to help with finances."

---

**August 28, 2017**

**Public Focus Group: Eureka Community Residents**

**Location: Jefferson Project Park**

"This community center and park has changed the lives of so many people in this community. Not only did we build it, we continue to own it. We are so grateful to the people who voted for the Bond."

"California must invest in children and the environment. Partnerships between law enforcement and parks and recreation and the community — we all need to work with our children — and it takes constant work!"

"The AB2060 program Release to Work and the partnership with Jefferson Project Park benefits include offenders getting jobs for the first time, developing skills and a sense of community, restoring individuals, and providing healthy and positive activities." —Chief probation officer

"From a Public Health perspective, parks create social connectedness

and that is critical for health."

— Susan

"I can't imagine not having parks! They are the real jewels of our

country — our parks!" — Richard

---

**August 9, 2017**

**Public Focus Group: Gilroy Community Residents**

**Location: Gilroy Senior Center**

"Instead of getting on the bus to go to the casino twice a month (program for older adults), it would be more fun for me to get on the bus and go to the beach and breathe the fresh air."

---

**August 28, 2017**

**Public Focus Group: Eureka Community Residents**

**Location: Sequoia Park Forest & Garden & Zoo**

"As a Police Captain, I see how parks and recreation affects the community's overall health and safety, especially for children."

---

**August 28, 2017**

**Public Focus Group: Eureka Community Residents**

**Location: Jefferson Project Park**

"More programs are needed to outreach to the youth. There are a lot of troubled youth, or parents aren't home. Having an opportunity for children and teens to come out to programs at the parks can help the community."

"Local parks are the real opportunity to encourage healthy living outdoors. Surveys revealed a very low percentage of kids visited a state park. Low income households found costs and transportation as barriers, this is why local parks are so important."

"The parks are our lungs. It cleans you to be at the park, physically, mentally, and spiritually. We need to use this space. Without this space there's tension, to not have access is part of the problem."

---

**September 18, 2017**

**Public Focus Group: El Centro Community**

**Location: MLK Sports Pavilion**

"As a police officer, I have seen kids that have been in trouble, then join rec programs and come out a different person."

"State and local leaders need to make parks a priority. Having a healthy environment creates a healthy community, overall. Gives people the opportunity to interact and socialize, to bring something more than the "every day, let's go to work routine."

positive effect it's had on the community. The soccer program brought parents and even grandparents out to enjoy the park while children practice."

"The programs that the parks department offered when I was a kid gave me an outlet to be constructive, got me out of the Circle K playing video games and getting in trouble, and it led me to the person who I am today, and what I do now, being a part of the community and becoming a pediatrician. I think that I owe a lot to the parks and rec department."

---

**September 19, 2017**

**Public Focus Group: Perris Community Residents**

**Location: Perris Senior Center**

"I am really grateful for the parks. I didn't grow up in a very good environment so having the teen programs that are offered here really gave me a safe haven. It gave me a lot of time to spend outside of the house, so I wasn't out getting into trouble. Without the teen programs and their support, I don't think that I would have accomplished everything that I have."

"It's obvious that parks and recreation are important in people's lives. We need more programs for all ages. They're important for all to feel included, to develop skills, and develop social groups that they can belong to. We need more funding to maintain and have new parks so more families can be reached."

---

**September 20, 2017**

**Public Focus Group: Chula Vista Community Residents**

**Location: Parkway Community Center**

"The changes we make are because of the Park Bonds that you've provided. We cannot do these things with our local resources alone."

---

**September 19, 2017**

**Public Focus Group: Riverside Community Residents**

**Location: Bobby Bonds Park and Sports Complex**

"Programs save lives. I'm at ground zero, kids need these park programs."

— Officer

## 2021–2025 SCORP Action Plan From Focus Group Findings

The following priorities are based on key findings from the seven SCORP Advisory Council focus groups and the thirty public focus groups. LWCF projects will address at least one of the following priorities:

### 1. New Park Access

- a. Create or expand parks in communities that lack sufficient park space. Create new parks within a half mile of underserved communities, or expand existing parks to increase the ratio of park acreage per resident in underserved areas. This may include innovative solutions such as acquiring private land from willing sellers such as vacant lots and blighted buildings, converting streets to create or expand parks, or converting closed schools. Children swing at the new Bayer Park and Gardens Area in Santa Rosa.
- b. Acquire private land from willing sellers in natural areas to expand regional parks, or create new open space areas for outdoor recreation while preserving nature.

### 2. Multi-Use Parks Designed for All Age Groups in New or Existing Parks

- a. Construct recreation features designed to bring families together by supporting art and music, sports, and multi-generational activities.
- b. Construct recreation features for all age groups to support different active and passive recreation interests of all ages.
- c. Incorporate project design ideas from all age groups.

### 3. Health Design Goals for New or Existing Parks

- a. Include recreation features resulting from asking community members for their park design ideas for public health.

### 4. Safety and Beautification for New or Existing Parks

- a. Construct lighting for night-time use, or restrooms, landscaping, signs, or other enhancements to make the park appear welcoming and support longer hours of use.

### 5. Preservation

- a. Through the LWCF, place outdoor open space land under new 6(f)(3) protection for public recreation.

Three acres of vacant land became a community park in the City of Greenfield with a play area, perimeter trail for jogging and walking, basketball court, tennis court, gazebo, open space, boulder garden, and restroom.

Public health, including environmental and social wellness, is fundamental to the mission and purpose of park and recreation providers.

For example:

DPR's mission statement begins with: *"To provide for the health...of the People of California..."*

*The national LWCF Act of 1965's statement of purpose includes "...assuring accessibility to all...present and future generations...such outdoor recreation resources...to strengthen the health and vitality of the citizens of the United States..."*

Parks are unique places where children can play, people exercise, seniors socialize, families and friends bond, youth are mentored, cultures are celebrated, and where everyone connects with nature. For these basic reasons, the nexus is clear between parks, recreation programs, and health.

However, while "health" gives the park and recreation sector a higher sense of purpose, the SCORP Advisory Council commented that local partnerships between park/recreation agencies and health agencies were generally uncommon.

The council believed California's 2021–2025 SCORP should encourage new partnerships between local health and park agencies. Therefore, the following approaches have been implemented.

## Grant Incentives for Partnerships

Competitive grant program criteria is an effective method for encouraging local health and park agency partnerships. For example, competitive "Project Selection Criteria" points can be awarded to grant applicants for partnering with a local community health organization. By awarding points, the competitive grant applicants have an incentive to involve a local health organization in the planning, funding, design, and construction of a park project or operational programs and services.

This idea was presented to local park agencies in 2018–19 focus groups and public hearings for inclusion within the draft Proposition 68 SPP Application Guide. During the SPP focus groups and hearings, there was a broad consensus of support. The SPP Application Guide's "Project Selection Criterion #6" now includes partnership incentives for the grant applicant to involve a health organization during the planning, design, funding, or construction phase of the park project.

Salud Park offers two walking and running track loops, outdoor gym equipment, and multipurpose turf areas for physical activity in Paramount.

Salud Park also outdoor gym equipment and multipurpose turf areas for physical activity.

Exercise Group in San Diego County.

The SPP makes available significant park development funding for the construction of running tracks and walking loops, outdoor gym stations, sports courts and fields, community gardens that produce fresh food, amphitheaters for performing arts programming, swimming pools and aquatic features, skate parks and play areas, and natural areas.

## Connecting Health and Park Agencies

DPR and the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) can help introduce local health departments (LHDs) to park agencies.

Health agencies and other entities interested in partnering with local park agencies can contact DPR's Community Engagement Division via email at [scorp@parks.ca.gov](mailto:scorp@parks.ca.gov).

To find LHDs local park agencies can search the CDPH website by city or county under the Local Health Services page. [cdph.ca.gov/Pages/LocalHealthServicesAndOffices.aspx#](https://cdph.ca.gov/Pages/LocalHealthServicesAndOffices.aspx#)

## California's Health in All Policies (HiAP)

California's Health in All Policies Task Force (HiAP) engages over 20 State departments to view each department's work through a public health lens.

During HiAP conversations, DPR's Community Engagement Division shared the belief that local parks, in communities, can become thriving resources for health especially when programs are offered to help activate the park. DPR further explained that in some areas, when an ideally located park has no programming and insufficient infrastructure, the park may be under-utilized. To test this theory, the "Active Parks, Healthy People" Pilot Program involved offering a program in a park and testing if it will lead to increased physical activity for health and wellness. Details and findings from the Pilot Program are included in the next few pages.

# Active Parks, Healthy People Pilot Program

In 2019, the Nutrition Policy Institute developed and implemented an Active Parks, Healthy People Pilot Program in three California counties (Fresno, Los Angeles, and Stanislaus) to explore whether offering a structured physical activity opportunity in community parks would enhance park utilization and increase program participants' physical activity levels.

Participants rated the classes highly. Although some increases in physical activity among park users and program participants were observed, the number of participants were too small to arrive at definitive conclusions. Challenges recruiting participants led the research effort to focus on barriers to park program participation.

Lack of childcare and park safety were the top barriers cited by participants. Health department staff and their partners report that a two-pronged approach that includes both 1) improvement to park infrastructure and safety and 2) support for long term, community-tailored park programming is needed to address barriers to park use and create physical activity opportunities that best fit community need.

The Active Parks, Healthy People Pilot Program report discusses, on page 13, the three communities reported that getting community members out to the park for a program or activity is a good idea for increasing park use.

The evaluation report's quotes from stakeholders provide a personal validation to the concept. Specifically, the quotes on page 16 about the **benefits of giving residents a leadership role, and building trust over time through sustainable programming**, are especially important.

Youth sports programs build social skills — teamwork, commitment, a sense of belonging — with physical health.

This is a direct response to the work and conversations that originated in the Health in All Policies (HiAP) parks and green space workgroup.

**"It's just getting programming at the park and getting people to see that it's being used and being used for positive things. You know like leagues for kids or even for adults. It's just getting rid of that stigma that the park is abandoned, and it's only used for crime."**

— Stanislaus County stakeholder

The report is available on the Nutrition Policy Institute's website: [npi.ucanr.edu/Publications/](http://npi.ucanr.edu/Publications/)

Gerstein DE, Plank K, Woodward Lopez G, Crawford P. Active Parks, Healthy People Pilot Program, Evaluation Report. Nutrition Policy Institute. May 2019. [ucanr.edu/sites/NewNutritionPolicyInstitute/files/310880.pdf](http://ucanr.edu/sites/NewNutritionPolicyInstitute/files/310880.pdf)

---

## Facilitators of Park Use and Program Engagement

- Park amenities such as access to walking trails, play equipment, lighting and clear signage
- Presence of sustained park programming
- Programs designed based on community input and fit well with the physical space and available amenities of the park
- Community gatekeepers to promote programming
- Social connectivity built through program participation

## Barriers to Park Use and Program Engagement

- Restrictive use policies of community parks
- Lack of park amenities and sustainable programming
- Park reputation as unsafe

"There is a city ordinance that people can't be out at parks at night."  
— Stanislaus stakeholder

"It's just getting programming at the park and getting people to see that it's being used and being used for positive things. You know like leagues for kids or even for adults. It's just getting rid of that stigma that the park is abandoned, and it's only used for crime."  
— Stanislaus stakeholder

"The reputation of a park can play a big role (in park usage)"  
— Fresno stakeholder

"Some other parks are well-lit parks and they will go to those parks because they feel safe."  
— Fresno stakeholder



"[Program Participants] got to know each other...They became friends and I think after the exercise class ended, they kept in touch and they kept exercising."

– Los Angeles stakeholder

"It's sort of a vicious cycle because folks don't go to the park because there's no programming and...there's no programming because folks don't go to the park."

– Los Angeles stakeholder

---

## Examples of Health and Park Agency Partnerships

In 2019, a study from the University of California, Los Angeles Institute of Environment and Sustainability (citation to right) found "Park Prescription" programs are an example of community public health infrastructure in action. This study further found that information about parks can be integrated into healthcare providers' electronic records systems. Pediatricians can search for parks based on their patients' locations and interests and write prescriptions for park use. Park Rx programs have been shown to increase the number of families who visit parks, the days per month that people spend in parks, and the time they spend physically active. There are currently more than 20 park prescription programs across California. Collaborating with healthcare providers represents a growing potential.

Citation: Christensen J, Rigolon A, Robins S, and Alemán-Zometa J. California State Parks: A Valuable Resource for Youth Health. UCLA Institute of the Environment and Sustainability. September 2019.

[ioes.ucla.edu/wp-content/uploads/UCLA-report-on-California-State-Parks-and-Youth-Health.pdf](https://ioes.ucla.edu/wp-content/uploads/UCLA-report-on-California-State-Parks-and-Youth-Health.pdf)

In 2011, the [Healthy Parks Healthy People](#) (HHP) was created with the goal of improving the well-being of Bay Area residents through over 50 park, health, and community organizations. Health-focused programs include family fitness classes, guided hikes and nature walks that provide free introductory experiences for first time or infrequent park visitors. HHP Bay Area piloted "Park Prescription" programs where health care and social service providers encourage their patients to take advantage of First Saturday and other programs to get into the parks for their health and well-being. As of 2018, each of the nine Bay Area counties are designing and implementing their own Park Prescription programs.

In Los Angeles, the Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation launched Summer Parks After Dark (PAD) at 33 county locations, with free programs and events for children and families. In 2018, the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) awarded PAD with the Best in Innovation Award. PAD is led by the county's Department of Parks and Recreation, with strong support from partners including the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, Chief Executive Office, Sheriff's Department, Department of Mental Health, Department of Public Health, Department of Workforce Development, Aging and Community Services, Probation Department, Department of Children and Family Services, and many community-based organizations.

The Summer PAD programming ranges from concerts in the park, summer Olympics, art classes, bicycle workshops, CPR/First Aid training, walk/run events, gardening classes and sports clinics, etc. PAD started with only three parks in 2010. Since then, the program expanded to 33 parks in 2019.

### Other health-in-parks findings:

In 2018, California's Proposition 68 reported that *"the California Center for Public Health Advocacy estimates that inactivity and obesity cost California over \$40 billion dollars annually, through increased health care costs and lost productivity due to obesity-related illnesses, and that even modest increases in physical activity would result in significant savings. Investment in infrastructure improvements such as biking and walking trails and pathways, whether in urban or natural areas, are cost-effective ways to promote physical activity."*

Adults and youth who live close to parks experience higher physical activity levels. An international study by the University of Exeter's Medical School (Environ. Sci. Technol., 2014, 48 (2). pp 1247–1255) also found that parks nearby provide psychological benefits — as much as a one-third decrease in mental health issues, such as anxiety and depression.

In distressed neighborhoods where vacant lots were converted into small parks and community green spaces, residents reported significantly less stress and more exercise, according to a 2011 study published in the American Journal of Epidemiology.

"Children and families are more likely to consistently exercise when in groups or social environments. Providing easy to use equipment dramatically increases physical activity and improves the well-being of most parks" said Frank Meza, MD, Kaiser Permanente's East Los Angeles Medical Center.

A study of 174 neighborhood parks found that marketing, programming, plus active design, can result in up to 63% more hours of physical activity per week in parks by the American Journal of Preventive Medicine (Volume 51, Issue 4, pages 419–426).

Public parks and recreation opportunities serve as gateways to a healthier America. Parks provide affordable places to exercise. Youth join teams, and cultural celebrations such as concerts, dances, and other performing arts occur in parks. Parks serve as strong catalysts in reclaiming urban run-down areas, and even contribute to environmental health — where landscaping can clean air pollutants and clean stormwater runoff.

## Health and Safety Benefits of Parks and Recreation Programs

### Physical and Mental

- Affordable alternative to private health clubs through outdoor gym equipment, calisthenics zones, tracks, sports courts, and fields.
- Youth and adult sports leagues for physical fitness, sense of belonging, team work, esteem.
- Release stress, places to exercise and play.
- Therapeutic recreation, a place for people to heal from illnesses and trauma.
- Wellness resource, place for social services like health screenings and nutrition/meals.
- Places to connect with nature and be outdoors.

### Economic

- The outdoor recreation industry in California generates \$85.4 billion in annual spending, and \$6.7 billion in state and local taxes. It helps support 732,000 jobs and internships, in construction, maintenance, program, lifeguards, rangers, vendors, and administrative staff.
- Higher property values.
- Tourism revenue.
- Concessionaire, equipment rentals, and sales revenue for sports leagues, camping, boating, skiing, hiking, surfing, biking, boating, and motorized recreation, etc.

### Why intervene?

- Physical inactivity
- Diabetes, obesity, heart disease
- Social isolation, time spent indoors
- Unemployment, crime, stress
- Air pollution

### Environmental

- Parks adjacent to schools, and active transportation/safe routes to schools, such as bikeways, trails, and greenways, create healthier city environments.
- Tree canopies improve air quality, provide shade, and reduce heat island effect.
- Resources for environmental education and conservation.
- Natural resource protection and wildlife habitat.
- Natural watershed for urban storm water runoff.

### Social and Cultural

- Events and programs bring the community together, create social cohesion, and opportunities for volunteerism.
- Family bonding, a place for families to spend time together.
- Safer communities, programs offer positive alternatives to gangs and drugs.
- Police and the public can improve relationships through parks and programs.
- Art, music, dance, and theatre activities for cultural enrichment.
- Mosaics, murals, and sculptures created by residents or that depict the community's culture and history help build a "sense of place."
- Community gardens to grow healthy foods.
- Cultural resource protection.
- Inclusion, parks can serve all ages, ethnicities, incomes, and physical abilities.
- Increases cultural connections by promoting cultural understanding.

## What Works?

### Four Keys to Increase Healthy Park Use

#### Provide access to a park

**When people have access to parks, they exercise more.** The [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) has called for more parks and playgrounds. Residents need time and money to travel to parks away from their communities. Only a park within a community can provide immediate daily access for its residents.

### Consider Design

Parks and programs can become more popular when youth, seniors, and parents—**who are experts about their community's needs**—give ideas for recreation features, park layout, beautification, program times and safe public use. This also **creates ownership and connects residents** with their local government.

**Walking loops, gymnasiums, sports fields and courts, and fitness zones** generate the highest amount of physical activity in parks.

Passive recreation areas with **trees, community gardens, and open space** give residents a place to connect with nature, reduce stress, grow healthy food, socialize, and beautify a community. These areas also reduce the urban heat island effect (where pavement and other hard surfaces raise temperatures).

**Amphitheaters and public art** such as mosaics and murals support community festivals, cultural cohesiveness, and enhance a "sense of place."

**A study of 174 neighborhood parks found that marketing, programming, plus active design can result in up to 63% more hours of physical activity per week in parks.**

*Cohen, D., et al. The First National Study of Neighborhood Parks: Implications for Physical Activity. American Journal of Preventive Medicine, (October, 2016) Volume 51, Issue 4, pages 419–426*

### Offer Programs

**A programmed park is a safe park.** Offering supervised programs can quickly turn underused parks into thriving health zones.

**Exercise groups** such as aerobics and tai-chi attract new visitors and increase physical activity in parks.

**Coaches and sports leagues** give a positive sense of belonging for youth, teach teamwork, and bring the community together.

**Music, dance, and other art programs** can offer students alternative forms of physical activity and can be ideal for family weekend events.

**Social services**, meals, job training, and health screenings can happen in parks.

### Market to the Community

Make residents aware of programs through use of banners, the media, and other outreach efforts.

## 2021–2025 SCORP Action Plan for Health Partnerships

1. Encourage partnerships between health and recreation sectors through grant programs. Partnerships between health and recreation sectors may include:
  - a. Outreaching to local community members during the community-based planning process.
  - b. Providing feedback on how parks can be designed to support healthy lifestyles.
  - c. Leveraging resources for acquisition and construction projects, program services, and site maintenance.
2. At the state level, DPR OGALS can connect local health agencies to local park agencies due to current contact with over 700 local park agencies. Requests may be sent to [scorp@parks.ca.gov](mailto:scorp@parks.ca.gov) with a description of the desired target area and any relevant information about goals and priorities.

Eastvale Picnic in the Park, a 3-day celebration hosted by the Jurupa Community Services District Parks and Recreation Department.

# State Agencies, Wetlands, and LWCF Grant Projects

The 2021–2025 SCORP provides an Action Plan for state agencies that are eligible to receive LWCF funding. California's Public Resource Code §5099.12 establishes how the annual federal apportionment is allocated. The following sets a plan for California's state agencies that are eligible to receive LWCF funding per California's Public Resource Code §5099.12.

Crystal Cove State Park \$1,000,000 LWCF grant in 1983–1984 for development.

Mount Tamalpais State Park \$734,000 in 1971–1972 for acquisition.

Sunset at Crystal Cove State Beach.

Mount Tamalpais mountains with trees and fog.

## State Parks

With 280 state park units, over 340 miles of coastline, 970 miles of lake and river frontage, 15,000 campsites, and 4,500 miles of trails, California's state parks contain the largest and most diverse recreational, natural, and cultural heritage holdings of any state agency in the nation.

In 2015, a report named [A New Vision for California State Parks](#), provided recommendations which led to State Parks [Final Transformation Progress Report](#) (May 2017). This completed process is informing this current SCORP. State Parks is also engaged in a new planning process called "A Path Forward 2026" which will inform future priorities.

## The 2021–2025 SCORP Action Plan for California State Parks LWCF Projects

These priorities, which are also applicable to LWCF projects, were derived from the Transformation Action Plan and the Parks Forward Commission's Vision.

LWCF State Park projects must provide for public outdoor recreation and meet at least one of these priorities.

1. Protect and enhance California's iconic outdoor landscapes and natural resources through projects that are accessible to Californians while welcoming visitors from around the world.
2. Engage and inspire younger generations.
3. Promote healthy lifestyles and communities.
4. Create meaningful connections and relevancy to people.
5. Work with new and existing partners to improve and expand facilities, and garner more resources (such as matching funds for LWCF grants).
6. Expand park access for all Californians.

## Department of Fish and Wildlife

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) manages and protects the state's fish, wildlife, plant, and native habitats upon which they depend. CDFW is responsible for related recreational, commercial, scientific, and educational uses. CDFW joined with the California Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB) to develop WCB's 2014 Strategic Vision Plan (Plan). A 2019 Plan Update outlines the ever-changing wildlife, fisheries, hunting, and state conservation policies to meet both departments overall missions and objectives. Both WCB and CDFW work cooperatively to implement mutual conservation efforts.

Jedediah Smith State Park \$933,000 LWCF grants from 1980–1986 for acquisition.

Anza Borrego State Park \$927,000 LWCF grants from 1974–1987 for acquisition.

Humboldt Redwoods State Park \$2,400,000 grants from 1970–1986 for acquisition.

Cardiff State Beach \$675,000 grant in 1972–1973 for acquisition.

Teaching recreational fishing to the next generation.

## Wildlife Conservation Board

WCB was created by legislation in 1947 to administer a capital outlay program for wildlife conservation and related public recreation. WCB is a separate and independent board with authority and funding to carry out an acquisition and development program for wildlife conservation. The primary responsibilities of WCB are to select, authorize and allocate funds for the purchase of land and waters suitable for recreation purposes and the preservation, protection and restoration of wildlife habitat, which includes authorizing the construction of facilities for recreational purposes on property in which it has a proprietary interest.

In 2014, the WCB revealed its 2014 Strategic Plan (Plan). The Plan described a series of goals, strategic directions and objectives, and priorities centered around public access and conservation investments. The Plan continues to serve WCB well, however, since the art and science of conservation changed substantially during the last five years, an update to the Plan was created in 2019 to capture those changes. The 2019 Plan Update was created to align new strategic initiatives and objectives with current and anticipated funding sources, public conservation policy, and current conservation trends. Within the 2019 Plan Update, these five objectives emphasize efforts to continue public access work and embrace new access modes and opportunities.

2021–2025 SCORP Action Plan for WCB and CDFW LWCF Projects:

For both the WCB and CDFW, LWCF projects must provide for public outdoor recreation access, and meet at least one of these priorities:

1. Invest in projects providing public access for disadvantaged or severely disadvantaged communities.
2. Invest in projects providing boating/fishing/hunting access to disadvantaged communities and providing additional facilities for mobility-impaired visitors and/or access compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act.
3. Invest in projects that provide hunting or fishing opportunities.
4. Invest in projects that have a primary or secondary purpose of non-consumptive wildlife recreation, such as bird watching or hiking.
5. Conduct community meetings, with one being in a disadvantaged community, that provides information on a project and the availability for public input.
6. Acquisition and restoration projects in areas identified as habitat for vulnerable species or as highly resilient to climate change.
7. Increase habitat for sensitive species to support biodiversity through statewide protection or restoration of oak woodlands, riparian habitat, rangeland, grazing land, and grassland habitat.

McArthur-Burney Falls Memorial State Park.

Julia Pfeiffer Burns State Park.

## Department of Water Resources

The Department of Water Resources (DWR), under the California Natural Resources Agency, manages California's water resources, and infrastructure, including the State Water Project (SWP). DWR operates and maintains a complex water storage and supply system, transporting water more than 600 miles from north to south in California. The following Action Plan items come from DWR's responsibilities and duties, as well as different plans including the State Water Project (SWP), the Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions Reduction Plan, and the Urban Water Management Plans (UWMP).

2021–2025 SCORP Action Plan for DWR's LWCF Projects: DWR projects for LWCF must provide for public outdoor recreation access, and meet at least one of these priorities:

1. Provide for one or more of the following recreational opportunities, including but not limited to camping, boating, water skiing, swimming, hiking, bicycling, picnicking, fishing and hunting.
2. Ensure public safety.
3. Restore habitats.
4. Meet the GHG emissions reduction goals and strategies for the near-term (present to 2020) and long-term to 2050 per Phase I of the GHG Emissions Reduction Plan.
5. Reduce landscape water by using recycled water per the 2015 UMWP Guidebook.

## State Coastal Conservancy

The State Coastal Conservancy (Conservancy) is a state agency, established in 1976, to protect and improve natural lands and waterways, to help people get to and enjoy the outdoors, and to sustain local economies along California's coast. The Conservancy is a non-regulatory agency that supports projects to protect coastal resources and increase opportunities for the public to enjoy the coast. The Conservancy also is responsible for the following:

Paddling at Castaic Lagoon Recreation Area.

Implementing statewide resource plans through its projects, including the California Water Action Plan, the Wildlife Action Plan, and many others.

Working along the entire length of California's coast and within the watersheds of rivers and streams that extend inland from the coast.

Working throughout the nine-county San Francisco Bay Area and the entire Santa Ana River watershed.

Providing technical assistance and grant funding to local communities, nonprofit organizations, other government agencies, businesses, and private landowners to implement multi-benefit projects, including protecting the natural and scenic beauty of the coast, enhancing wildlife habitat, and helping the public to get to and enjoy beaches and parklands.

The Conservancy's Strategic Plan, 2018–2022, communicates the role of the Conservancy in protecting coastal resources for all Californians, particularly underserved populations, such as disadvantaged communities, persons with disabilities, tribes, and others that disproportionately confront barriers to health and well-being and face increased vulnerability to environmental issues. The complete Strategic Plan can be viewed at [scc.ca.gov/files/2019/10/Strategic-Plan-2018-2022-AB434.pdf](https://scc.ca.gov/files/2019/10/Strategic-Plan-2018-2022-AB434.pdf)

The following goals are found in both the Coastal Conservancy's Strategic Plan and the Explore the Coast Overnight Assessment of Low-Cost Coastal Accommodations Report. The complete assessment report can be found here: [scc.ca.gov/files/2019/10/Explore-the-Coast-Overnight-Assessment-AB4343.pdf](https://scc.ca.gov/files/2019/10/Explore-the-Coast-Overnight-Assessment-AB4343.pdf)

LWCF State Coastal Conservancy projects must meet at least one of these priorities:

1. Construct new regionally significant trail segments (including the California Coastal Trail, San Francisco Bay Trail, San Francisco Ridge Trail, San Francisco Water Trail, Santa Ana River Trail, and the San Gabriel River Trail). This includes funding acquisitions and construction projects necessary to work towards completing these critical regional and state-wide public access resources. (Strategic Plan Goals 1, 2, 12)

2. Fund acquisition, restoration, and enhancement projects that create parks and open space for park-poor communities and in coastal habitats, including coastal wetlands and inter-tidal areas, stream corridors, dunes, coastal terraces, coastal sage scrub, forests, and coastal prairie, and fund planning and implementation to enhance the resiliency of coastal communities and public access amenities to the impacts of climate change. (Strategic Plan Goals 2, 7, 11B, 12)
3. Implement recommendations in the Coastal Conservancy's Explore the Coast Overnight Assessment of Low Cost Coastal Accommodations including creating, improving, preserving, and maintaining coastal low cost overnight accommodations to serve the great diversity of California residents, and enhance the public's experience when visiting the coast. Activities covered in these recommendations include acquiring properties, and partnering with non-governmental organizations, public agencies and private sector actors with the capacity to maintain and manage these facilities (and Strategic Plan Goals 3D and 3E). For purpose of the LWCF, this may include development of coastal camping sites.
4. Fund construction of new facilities, or reconstruction of dilapidated and unsafe facilities, such as picnic areas, piers, parking lots, restrooms, natural play spaces, and interpretive or educational displays to increase and enhance coastal recreational opportunities and enable people to enjoy natural, cultural, and historical resources. (Strategic Plans Goals 2, 9, 12)
5. Implement and support the Coastal Conservancy's Explore the Coast Grant Program which provides equitable coastal experiences to lower-income or other underserved populations; increases the number of people visiting the coast; improves access for persons with disabilities; provides valuable recreational, environmental, cultural or historic learning experiences; increases stewardship of coastal resources; and enhances the public's coastal experience in a way that does not currently exist. (Goals 9, 12L, 12M)

Californians enjoying beach recreation and coastal access (photos from State Coastal Conservancy).

### LWCF Process for Annual State Agency Allocations

DPR's Community Engagement Division/Office of Grants and Local Services (OGALS) is the lead for working with the National Park Service (NPS) to administer LWCF grants. LWCF is subject to annual federal apportionment with unpredictable amounts and timing. In recent years, California received approximately \$10–20 million annually. NPS makes the funds available to states annually through a "Funding Certificate." When the "Funding Certificate" is received, NPS may begin to obligate the LWCF funds to projects recommended by OGALS.

California's Public Resource Code §5099.12 establishes how the annual federal apportionment is allocated. California's Public Resource Code §5099.12 divides the federal funding in the following manner:

1. LWCF Team deducts the administrative Indirect Cost Rate (approx. 7% subject to annual federal negotiation).
2. LWCF Team deducts the 6% for the Director's Contingency Fund.
3. 60% of the result is allocated to Local Agency (non-state) Competitive Fund.

The balance (40%) goes to State Agency Allocations:

- a. 60% (of the 40%) to DPR.
- b. 35% (of the 40%) to WCB/CDFW.
- c. 5% (of the 40%) to DWR.

The State Coastal Conservancy is eligible to request LWCF funding from the Director's Contingency Fund (#2 above) by submitting an eligible LWCF project application as described below. Otherwise, the Director's Fund is combined with the Local Agency Competitive Fund.

*For all state and local agencies, the following process ensures project applications are prepared to obligate all funds made available to California.*

#### **Application timeline for state agencies:**

1. The LWCF Competitive Supervisor informs (via email) eligible state agencies of the estimated amount available approximately six months before applications are due. For each state agency, the LWCF Competitive Supervisor should work with the person responsible for determining the highest priority LWCF project(s) on behalf of the agency.
2. Applications are typically due in February (approximately six months after 1 above). Each State agency will be provided with a complete application package.
3. Applications must be submitted to NPS by May (approximately nine months after 1 above). Prior to submission, applications are reviewed by OGALS and additional guidance is provided to the state agency as needed within two months of receipt. Further guidance will also be provided by OGALS if NPS requests it.

The following options are available to state agencies to ensure Page 78 of 137 made available to California, including "Special Reapportionment Funds," are obligated. If a state agency does not wish to submit an application, the agency can proceed with Option B

or C below.

**Option A:** State agency submits an application within the specified timeframe.\*

**Option B:** State agency nominates another eligible agency (state or local public agency) to receive the funding. That agency then proceeds with an application within the specified timeframe.\*

**Option C:** State agency elects for the funds to go to Local Agency Competitive Fund for disbursement.

\* Obligating all funds to prevent reversions: If an application submitted through Option A or Option B above is not complete by May, then the funds will automatically be redirected to the Local Agency Competitive Fund to ensure that all funds will be obligated. The state agency may reapply in subsequent years.

Mount Diablo State Park \$1,900,000 grant in 1974–1987 for acquisition.

Mendocino Headlands State Park

## Protection of Natural Resources

Another important benefit of parks includes the protection of natural resources needed for all life. Protection roles include:

**Conservation of biodiversity** — California is well-renowned for the richness of its plant and animal species, and for their uniqueness. Parks and other protected space are vital to ensure natural balance.

**Green Infrastructure** — In metropolitan areas, parks capture rain water and storm flows. These "green solutions" help control sediment, flooding, urban heat island effects and pollution.

**Iconic landscapes** — Areas of outstanding beauty are frequently preserved in parks — special view points, coastlines, bays, meadows, valleys, and mountain ranges are all vital to California's heritage and well-being, which motivate people to protect and support parks.

The natural resource value of parks becomes more important every year as the press of population growth challenges landscapes and natural systems. California's Department of Finance predicts that the total population of the state of California [will reach nearly 44,000,000](#) people by the year 2040.

Continued investments in the state's parks, wildlife and ecological areas, trails, natural resources, and greening urban areas will help mitigate the effects of climate change. Thus, making cities more livable and protecting California's natural resources for future generations.

## Wetlands Conservation

The future of wetlands is a critical matter. Therefore, each SCORP includes priorities for wetlands.

Ninety percent of the original inland wetland landscapes of California have been lost. These losses are due to agriculture, urban development, and other human actions.

Coastal wetland loss is even more severe, with only 5% of original wetlands remaining.

### Wetlands are important because they:

Are vital for ecological sustainability, especially migrating birds and many fish species.

Safeguard water quality, help with flood water management, shoreline erosion, and groundwater recharge.

Help manage sea level rise impacts by softening storm surge and lowering flood heights.

Provide ecosystem services — economically and socially valuable functions to human society, often worth billions of dollars.

Offer outstanding recreation — they are magnets for ecotourism, wildlife viewing, fishing, hunting, boating, and paddling.

**California's Wetland Conservation Policy** mandates no overall net loss and a long-term net gain in the quantity, quality, and permanence of wetland acreage. As such, wetlands are protected by many federal and state laws, regulations, and policies to prevent further degradation and destruction.

Implementation of this policy is guided in part by the **California Wetland Program Plan 2017–2022** ([waterboards.ca.gov/water\\_issues/programs/cwa401/docs/ca\\_wetland\\_program\\_plan\\_2017\\_2022\\_signed.pdf](http://waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/cwa401/docs/ca_wetland_program_plan_2017_2022_signed.pdf)) which serves as a comprehensive statewide strategy to direct and measure California's progress toward improving its existing wetland programs.

### The California Wetland Monitoring Workgroup

The workgroup ([mywaterquality.ca.gov/monitoring\\_council/wetland\\_workgroup/index.html](http://mywaterquality.ca.gov/monitoring_council/wetland_workgroup/index.html)) includes federal, state and local agencies working to "coordinate monitoring activities, establish priorities, resolve existing inconsistencies, and facilitate communication among agencies and with wetlands conservation stakeholders." This included development of the **Wetland and Riparian Area Monitoring Plan (WRAMP)** ([mywaterquality.ca.gov/monitoring\\_council/wetland\\_workgroup/wramp/index.html](http://mywaterquality.ca.gov/monitoring_council/wetland_workgroup/wramp/index.html)) **California Rapid Assessment Method (CRAM)** ([cramwetlands.org](http://cramwetlands.org)) and the **California EcoAtlas** ([ecoatlas.org](http://ecoatlas.org)).

Two pintail ducks in flight. Wetlands provide habitat for many species of waterfowl across the state. Photo by Jon Myatt/USFWS.

In winter, thousands of geese use wetlands as stopovers on their long migrations. Photo by Jon Myatt/USFWS.

## 2021–2025 SCORP Action Plan for Wetlands

Increasing the inventory of California Wetlands under federal 6(f)(3) protection through the efforts of multiple agencies is a priority for the National Park Service.

1. Create new wetlands where they previously existed and have been destroyed.
2. Acquire existing but unprotected wetlands to hold in public trust.
3. Restore, where needed, the quality of existing wetlands owned by public agencies.
4. LWCF grants for wetlands will include public access for recreation and educational opportunities.

Paddling in Santa Rosa

Cuyamaca Rancho State Park in San Diego County, \$800,000 LWCF grant in 1976–1977 for acquisition.

# Action Plan Summary for 2021–2025

The LWCF (LWCF) is a federal program established in 1964 to provide matching grants for both recreation and natural resource conservation. Section 6(f)(3) of the LWCF Act helps ensure that parkland acquired or developed by the program remains for outdoor recreation use in perpetuity. The 2021–2025 SCORP's LWCF Action Plan sets Project Selection Criteria priorities to be detailed in the LWCF Application Guides for local and state agencies. The priorities in this SCORP may also set a vision for other statewide, regional, and local action from other funding sources.

---

### Use geospatial technology to identify park access priorities

---

### Design parks using public planning methods learned from California's Statewide Park Development and Community Revitalization Program.

---

### LWCF grant projects will address at least one of these focus group priorities:

- Create new park access.
- Construct facilities to support different interests of all age groups, including multi-generational activities in new or existing parks.
- Include safety and beautification enhancements to make new or existing parks appear welcoming.
- Build recreation features that are designed to support healthy lifestyles in new or existing parks.
- Preserve outdoor recreation areas by placing land under new 6(f)(3) protection.

---

### Encourage Health Partnerships.

---

### Restore Wetlands.

---

### Achieve State Agency LWCF priorities through annual allocations.

Located at Fort Bragg's former Georgia Pacific Lumber Mill, a \$4.8 million Statewide Park Program grant and Coastal Conservancy funding created this new coastal access park with a ten acre recreation field, four miles of public-use trail, native habitat restoration, welcome plaza, restrooms, and parking lot.



From fitness courses to boating programs, from equestrian centers to skate parks, sports courts, and play areas, Californians rely on parks that enrich our lives and health.

## ParksforCalifornia.org

The online home of the 2021–2025 SCORP provides a range of user-friendly resources and tools:

The **Project Gallery** (left) showcases thousands of projects that have used federal and state funds to make accessible parklands.

Search by funding type or location, including cities, counties, and legislative districts.

View the results as a photo gallery or on a map.

Use the **Park Access Tool** (above) to get a high-level picture of park access for the entire state or any county, city, or legislative district in California.



Use the **Community FactFinder** (above) for site-specific data to help determine the level of need for any project area throughout California.

## Department Mission

The mission of the California Department of Parks and Recreation is to provide for the health, inspiration, and education of the people of California by helping to preserve the state's extraordinary biological diversity, protecting its most valued natural and cultural resources, and creating opportunities for high-quality outdoor recreation.

## Community Engagement Division Mission

Encouraging healthy communities by connecting people to parks, supporting innovative recreational opportunities, embracing diversity, fostering inclusivity, and delivering superior customer service, with integrity for the enrichment of all.



---

### Contact Us

 **Address:** 1416 9th Street Rm. 918 Sacramento, CA 95814 | P.O. Box 942896 Sacramento, CA 94296 Attn: OGALS

 **Office of Grants and Local Services:** (916) 653-7423

 **Email:** SCORP@parks.ca.gov

### Follow Us



This site is best viewed in Chrome, Firefox, or Internet Explorer 10+

[Admin](#)



## Designing Parks Using Community-Based Planning

Methods from California's Statewide Park Development and Community Revitalization Program (SPP)

## Purpose

This document inspires meaningful community engagement for future public projects. It shares methods learned through California's Statewide Park Development and Community Revitalization Program (SPP). These methods have been proven effective in urban, rural and suburban settings. This effort resulted in over 100,000 residents participating in the development of more than 1,300 project proposals during three rounds of competitive applications.

## This park design community planning document is dedicated to...

The next generation of **policy makers, health advocates, and community planners** who will work on future public projects. May the guiding principles in this document inspire all Californians.

The over 100,000 **neighborhood residents** who shared ideas at community park design meetings. Thank you for your civic engagement.

The over 1,000 **park professionals** who shared insight at SPP focus groups, public hearings, and application workshops. Thank you for your public service.



An inspired designer for the new Enchanted Hills Park, Perris, California.

## Table of Contents

---

### Summary

---

### Evolution of Community Engagement in Grant Programs

2000 to 2005

Creating the SPP Community Planning Model

Defining Core Terms

### Learning Community-Based Planning Through SPP

1. Schedule Five Accessible Meeting Locations and Times

2. Invite a Broad Representation of Residents

Page 84 of 137

3. Conduct Five Meetings to Achieve Three Park Design Goals

**Park Design Goal 1** — Selection and design of recreation features

**Park Design Goal 2** — Location of selected recreation features

**Park Design Goal 3** — Safe public use and park beautification ideas

#### 4. Documenting the Outcome

---

## Building Social Capital, Cohesion, and Capacity

Inspirational Community Quotes

Find Talent in Residents During the Community Planning Process

---

### Future Planning Efforts

### Historical significance

California's SPP is the country's largest state-administered grant program for community parks. This historically significant grant program provided more than **\$1 billion** in grant funding through Proposition 84 in 2006 and Proposition 68 in 2018.

All photos in this document are authentic to SPP and used with permission from grantees.

### About us

Since 1965 over **7,580 parks** have been created or improved with grants administered by the State Parks' Office of Grants and Local Services (OGALS). OGALS is a division within State Parks. Currently, more than **700 local agencies** partner with OGALS in an effort to improve the health and wellness of California's almost 40 million residents by providing close to home park access.

## Summary

### Designing Parks Using Community-Based Planning Methods from California's Statewide Park Development and Community Revitalization Program (SPP)

With \$1 billion in local assistance grants, SPP is creating park access in underserved areas throughout California. SPP's grant guidelines, written with feedback from hundreds of local park agencies and nonprofit organizations, led to the development of a three-step public engagement model for designing community parks.

The steps include:

1. **Scheduling** five accessible park design meetings at or near the project site, at different times including weekends or evenings.
2. **Inviting and involving** youth, seniors, and families living in the project area to engage in an active planning process.
3. **Conducting** interactive and dynamic meetings to achieve these park design goals includes:
  - Selecting and designing recreation features.
  - Locating the selected recreation features within the park.
  - Identifying safe public use and park beautification ideas.

To inform future planning efforts over the next five years, State Parks and OGALS will continue to share successful methods learned through this SPP model.

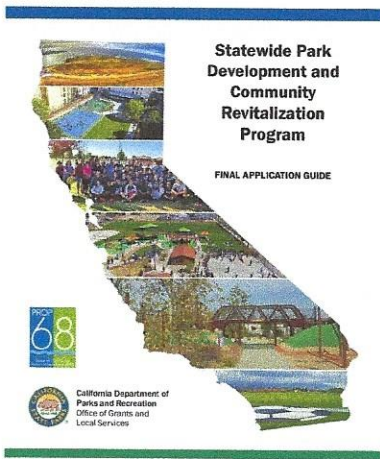
This process encourages meaningful engagement between neighbors, local government, and organizations. These steps lead to authentic park designs representing each community's unique recreation needs and values.

SPP Application Guide, January 22, 2019



Planning together for the new 95th & Normandie Pocket Park in West Athens-Westmont, Los Angeles County

## Historical Significance of SPP Community-Based Planning



This document shares community-based planning methods learned through three competitive funding rounds. SPP has funded the creation of 130 new parks and 60 park expansions or renovations throughout California since 2010. With \$5.2 billion in grant requests received for \$623 million in available funding between three rounds, thousands of residents became civically engaged in their local park designs.

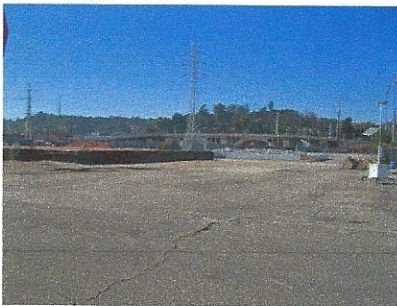
**SPP Rounds One and Two:** Proposition 84 (2006 Bond Act) made \$368 million available for SPP grants. Nine hundred project proposals were received requesting \$2.9 billion.

**SPP Round Three:** Proposition 68 (2018 Bond Act) made \$650 million available for SPP grants. Round Three made available \$254.9 million. On August 5, 2019, four hundred seventy eight (478) project proposals were received requesting \$2.3 billion.

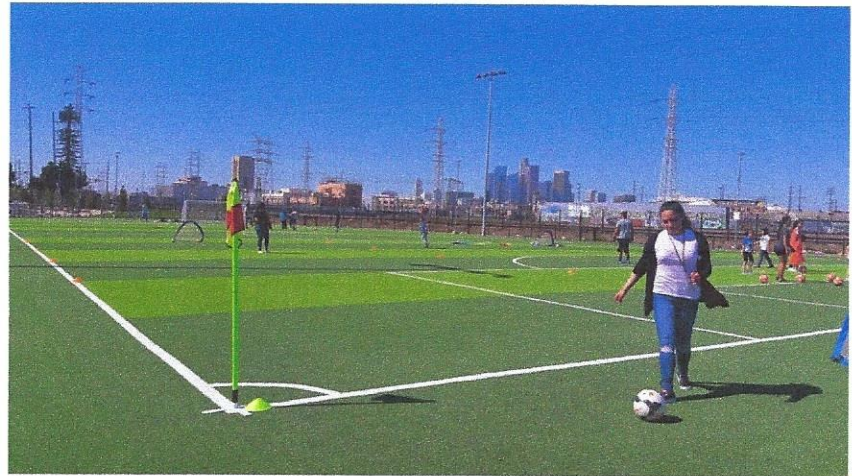
**SPP Round Four:** The remaining \$395 million of Proposition 68 SPP will be awarded through a Round Four competitive process in 2020/21.

## "Before and After" SPP project photos

Below are two examples showing how SPP projects transform communities. To see more statewide "Before and After" photos, visit [www.ParksforCalifornia.org/projects](http://www.ParksforCalifornia.org/projects)



Albion Riverside Park in the City of Los Angeles received a \$5 million grant to construct a new multipurpose athletic field, walking and bike paths, fitness zone and equipment, children's play area, and other recreational amenities.



Mercado Park in the City of Perris received \$3.49 million to construct a new performing arts amphitheater, children's play area, plaza with fountain, volleyball and basketball courts, picnic structures, and other amenities.



## Evolution of Community Engagement in Grant Programs

Through 20 years of focus groups, public hearings, application workshops, and project site visits with local government and nonprofit organizations, State Parks analyzed community-based planning methods for park design. This section highlights the historic statewide success in developing a workable, community-based planning model for park design.

### 2000 to 2005

From 2000 to 2005, OGALS administered approximately \$2 billion in local park construction projects funded by Proposition 12 (2000 Bond Act)

and Proposition 40 (2002 Bond Act). Through discussions at project site inspections, OGALS began to discover differences between how some projects were designed and the value of asking neighborhood residents for park design input before projects were built. Engaging residents in park design increased care for the park and decreased vandalism. OGALS learned from various community groups the importance of creating a sense of ownership, and its powerful impact on a park's long term success.

During this period, OGALS started introducing competitive grant program criteria to evaluate whether a project's design included a "significant," "average," or "minimal" range of ideas from neighborhood residents. Grant applicants often asked what was needed to include a "significant" range of residents' ideas. However, specific goals and technical assistance for community-based planning were not available for competitive grant applicants during this timeframe.

During this early era, the department also learned of challenges with using traditional council, board and commission meetings as park design sessions due to the following reasons:

**Time:** Meetings held during daytime work hours were difficult to access for working adults and parents.

**Location:** Meetings outside project neighborhoods were difficult for seniors, youth, and economically disadvantaged residents to access due to a lack of private transportation and practical public transportation options.

**Facilitation:** Council and commission meeting agendas generally include other local government topics that differ from a park design workshop format.

## Creating the Statewide Park Development and Community Revitalization Program

The passage of Proposition 84 (2006) Bond Act and Assembly Bill 31 (2008) created the SPP. SPP statute is found in California Public Resources Code §§5640 through 5653. SPP provides funds for land acquisition and development to create, expand, and improve parks in underserved communities. It also gives priority to "*project applicants that actively involve the public and community-based groups in the selection and planning of the project.*"

The passage of these measures presented an opportunity to develop and introduce a new strategy for crafting a community-based planning formula with clear and specific goals. In 2008/2009 when the new strategy was introduced to focus groups and at public hearings, there was some public resistance. Some potential applicants shared the following concerns:

"We have had meetings in the past and no one shows up."

"We do not have a meeting space in the project area."

"The public are not park designers."

Because of the initial concerns presented from the public, the SPP Team challenged hundreds of park professionals at thirty statewide focus groups and public hearings to offer solutions and feedback on the proposed community-based planning goals. Solutions were added to a technical assistance section for grant applicants within the SPP Application Guide. The final guidelines were adopted, and SPP served as an effective touchpoint for residents, local government agencies and community organizations to collaborate in park design efforts that embraced the spirit, needs and culture of communities statewide.

According to residents, park design meetings held in their neighborhoods helped them develop personal connections with their local government and neighbors. Park directors, staff, and city managers shared their satisfaction with working with their constituents and how residents' ideas contributed to the better project design. This process encourages a thoughtful exchange of knowledge by professional project managers who offer technical expertise, and neighborhood residents, who offer insight about their community's needs based on their daily life experiences.

On-site design meeting for the new Enchanted Hills Park in Perris, California.

"What we have seen in this process is a working partnership between our residents and our city. When residents take part in the planning of a park and provide their own input, and the city responds in kind, both sides take ownership of the project and benefit together. It's a win-win for everyone."

**Richard Belmudez** | City Manager, City of Perris.



Technical assistance workshop with SPP applicants in Riverside, California

"Authentic community engagement is critical to ensure a design that reflects the community's needs and priorities for parks in their neighborhoods."

**Alina Bokde** | Deputy Director, Planning and Development, County of Los Angeles Parks and Recreation

"This model is a standard for community empowerment that leads to healthy, livable, and viable communities. SPP projects in underserved communities create a sense of place while promoting social justice through equity of and access to close-to-home parks. When community residents are engaged in a local park's design, residents become more likely to appreciate the role parks play in their daily lives. With that appreciation, park advocacy increases."

**Sedrick Mitchell** | Deputy Director, Community Engagement Division (CED), State Parks



Walnut Park residents working together to conceptualize their new park.

## Defining Core Terms

Clarity and guidance are crucial for the success of the collaborative process. Having universal terms allows for consistency and promotes participant creativity. In this model, three core definitions are: "**residents**," "**broad representation**," and "**meetings**." In summary, these definitions guide planners to meet with a representative cross-section of groups surrounding the project. These definitions also encourage dynamic park design discussions resulting in popular parks that serve multiple generations.

"Residents" is defined as "the population living within a half-mile of the project site including youth, families, and seniors."

What is the intent behind this definition?



Defining 'Residents' guides park planners to focus their engagement on those who live within walking distance of the project and are most likely to be affected by the benefits and potential challenges of living close to public spaces. Engaging residents has proven to be critical for these reasons:

1. Studies have shown that people use the parks closest to their homes more frequently; and,
2. People who live in neighborhoods nearest to the project site are experts about what the community needs, including ideas for safe public use; and,
3. Residents living within walking distance may feel a sense of ownership over the park, and are more likely to actively monitor and contribute to the upkeep and safety of the facilities.

Encourage engagement of all age groups to design a park that serves multiple interests in the community.

**"Broad Representation"** is defined "inclusion of design ideas from residents that may have different recreational needs, including youth, seniors, and families. Inclusion of people with disabilities, single adults, and immigrants is also encouraged. The sole involvement of an advocacy group or league likely to promote a specific recreation feature does not meet this intent."

What is the intent behind this definition?

This definition guides park planners to encourage a dynamic discussion that considers the varied interests of the community. Park designs that incorporate various interests and meet a wide range of needs will likely be more popular and heavily used.

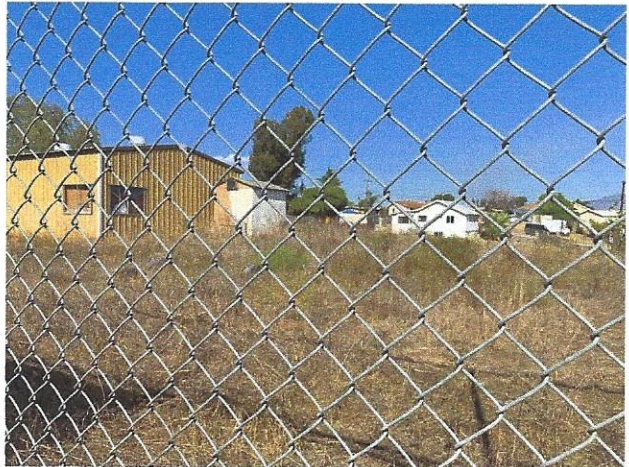
**"Meeting"** is defined as "residents working together as a group in person with the applicant or with the applicant's partnering community-based organization(s) to design the park. This type of meeting can be creative, cost-effective, and non-traditional. Formal public hearings are not required."

What is the intent behind this definition?

This definition guides park planners to encourage brainstorming and group thinking. By supporting dynamic group discussions, residents will often build off of each other's ideas; resulting in project designs that more accurately reflect their collective vision. Things to consider:

If an organization lacks experience in organizing community focused meetings they may consider partnering with community-based organizations to assist with engaging residents.

Consider innovative approaches to make park design meetings with residents interactive and dynamic.



A broad representation of residents plan Lincoln Acres County Park expansion in Lincoln Acres, San Diego County.

## Learning Community-Based Planning Through SPP

SPP's community-based planning model involves conducting five accessible and interactive park design meetings with a broad representation of residents. This chapter provides detailed guidance about how to make meetings accessible for residents, how to invite a broad representation of residents, and how to achieve park design goals during the meetings. This community-based planning model includes the following:

### 1. Scheduling Five Accessible Meeting Locations and Times

The first community-based planning step involves strategizing how to make meetings as accessible as possible for residents.

### 2. Inviting a Broad Representation of Residents

The second community-based planning step involves strategizing how to welcome all age groups to the meetings.

### 3. Conducting Five Meetings to Achieve Three Park Design Goals

The third community-based planning step involves strategizing how to conduct dynamic meetings where residents work together to share park design ideas.

The following goals lead to an authentic and vibrant park design that is unique to the community's insight and needs.

**Park Design Goal 1 – Selection and design of recreation features.**

**Park Design Goal 2 – Location of selected recreation features.**

**Park Design Goal 3 – Safe public use and park beautification ideas.**

#### 4. Document the Outcome

A site drawing and list of accepted design ideas informs the project's construction phase.

## 1. Scheduling Five Accessible Meeting Locations and Times

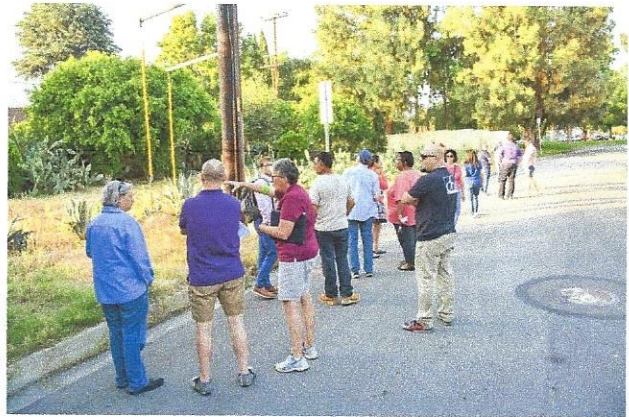
To increase participation, it is important to schedule meetings close to the project area's neighborhood residents. Also consider residents' work or family schedules. This section provides detailed guidance on how to make meetings accessible for residents.

*From the SPP Application Guide:*

*"The applicant or partners facilitated at least five meetings, between June 5, 2018, and the application deadline, to obtain ideas from the residents."*

**Why five meetings?**

During SPP focus groups and public hearings, participants indicated that five meetings were a reasonable amount to accommodate the needs of residents with various employment schedules. Participants also felt that meetings should be relatively recent to ensure that recommendations meet the needs of current residents.



A project site meeting on a weekend for Lucinda Garcia Park expansion

**Location Access:** Meeting locations should occur, if possible, at the project site or within the project site's half-mile radius. By listening to the residents who live nearest to the project site, and incorporating their ideas, a sense of ownership is fostered which can strengthen the project's long-term success. Scheduling accessible meeting locations is also critical for increasing residents' participation. Meetings held outside the project area require additional transportation resources and travel time, which can make it more challenging for residents to access.

The phrase "or within a convenient distance" allows for some flexibility in rural areas in cases where there are no neighborhoods within a half-mile walking distance of the project site. If, however, a neighborhood or school exists within the project area's half-mile radius, every effort should be made to schedule meetings close to the project site. When facilities are available, conducting meetings outside of the project area should require substantial justification.

*From the SPP Application Guide:*

*"The meetings were located within the critically underserved community, or within a convenient distance for residents without private transportation."*

*"At least two of the meetings occurred on a weekend or in the evening."*

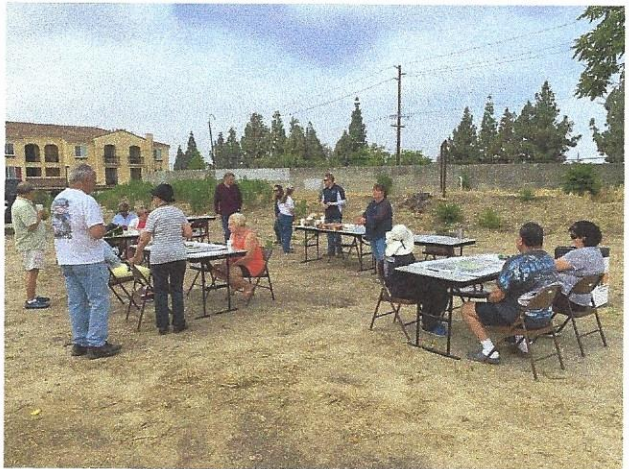
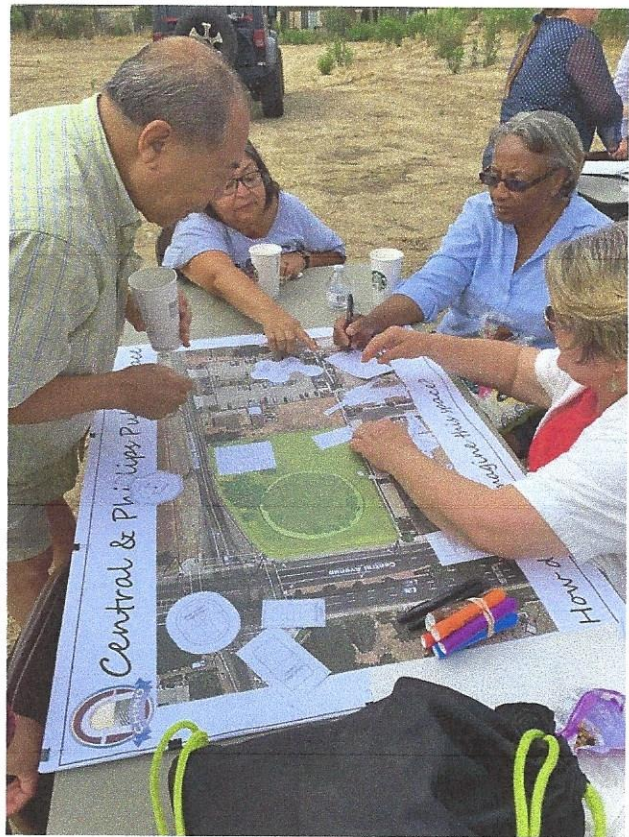
**Dates and Time Access:** Providing five meeting opportunities for people with varying work or family schedules is challenging, but essential. Schedule at least two of the meetings during evenings or weekends. Please read the guidance below to learn about scheduling meetings on a weekend or in the evening.

**"In the evening":** Weekdays helps to reach working people who may not be able to meet from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. A 6 p.m. or later start time may accommodate people who are commuting from work and picking up children on their way back to their neighborhood. Meetings with students at school or from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. after school may be ideal for youth. A morning to midday meeting might work well for elders.

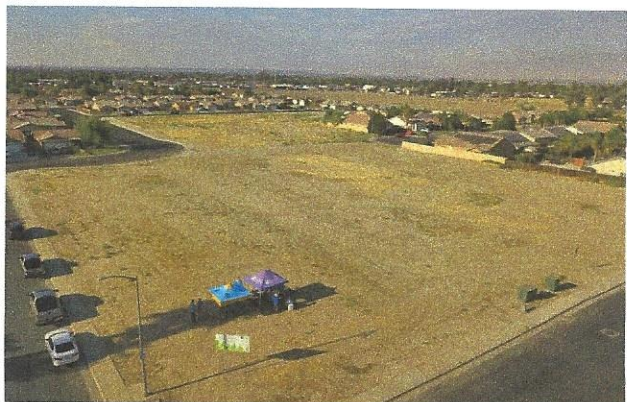
**"On a weekend":** Weekend meetings target all groups and allow for multi-generational work sessions.

**Application Tip:** Scheduling meetings well in advance of an application deadline, will likely strengthen your application, since the content of your application will be rooted from a community-based process. Places to meet: Community leaders or residents might help identify the best meeting locations and times. Cost-effective strategies for meeting locations, dates, and times include:

1. **Sidewalk meetings** at the proposed project site are an effective way to have a meeting within walking distance for the residents. Applicants or a partnering community group can set up a banner, easels, and tables on a weekend morning. Applicants can canvas neighborhoods in advance and on the day of the meeting to invite residents to attend. Organizers should go door-to-door inviting residents to walk to the site and join their neighbors to discuss park design ideas.
2. **Community-based organizations**, schools, libraries, faith-based organizations, and restaurants, such as pizza parlors, may agree to provide meeting space.
3. **Go to where people meet:** Take meetings to where people are already congregating. Examples of taking meetings to residents include:
  - Collaborating with a school to schedule a meeting with classes.
  - Adding to the agendas of neighborhood/community-based organization meetings where residents will be available.
  - If there is a 55+ neighborhood area, try scheduling a meeting there. Or, try collaborating with a Senior Nutrition Program.
4. **Event Participation:** Engaging residents at community festivals, shopping centers, farmers' markets, and other events are useful, especially if the event is within walking distance of the project site. While this method should not be the only modality utilized for gathering community input, it can be used to get feedback on ideas that may be generated from previous community meetings. In these types of settings residents typically approach event booths one at a time. It is, therefore, important to be creative in your booth design to allow residents an opportunity to provide input that continues to clarify the collective desires of the community.
5. **Survey:** A survey may be used during the process but is *not* a "meeting" by itself. In other words, it can be a tool for gathering data but does not replace the value of brainstorming together, where insight shared by one participant can spark additional ideas and contributions from others.



Project site meeting to design the new Central Ave & Phillips Park in Chino, California.

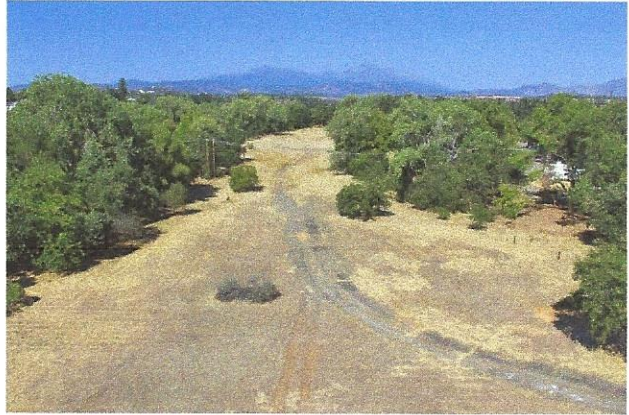




Focus group with a classroom of students to get input for the new Linnell-Brahma Park in Bakersfield, California.



Residents meeting at a restaurant to exchange design ideas for Caldwell Park Expansion in Redding, California



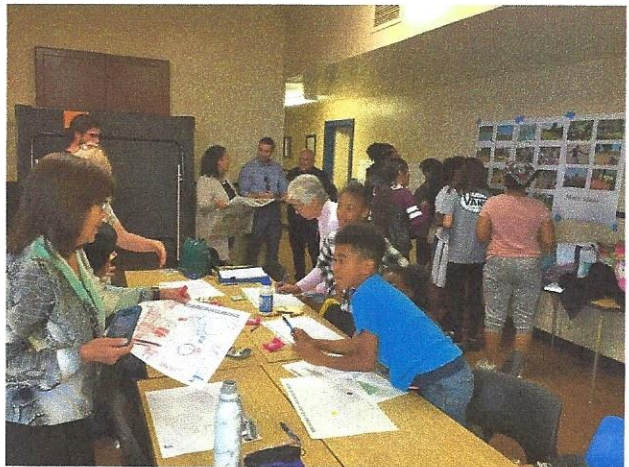
Caldwell Park Expansion in Redding, California

"We've held meetings at school cafeterias or libraries where that part of town feels more comfortable in attending, rather than going to City Hall for instance."

**Mikal Kirchner** | Recreation and Community Services Director, City of Selma, California

"[The process led to] building a stronger relationship with the community, particularly the McKinley Elementary School parents and faculty and families living near the park."

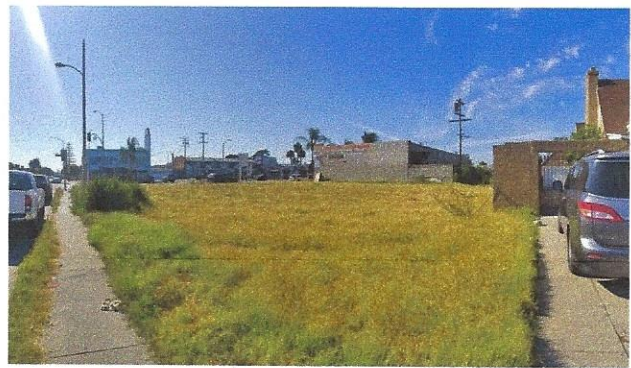
**John Alita** | Director of Community Services, City of Stockton



McKinley Park Planning in Stockton, California



Project site meeting with residents for a new park in Avenal, California



A vacant lot to become a new park in unincorporated Walnut Park, Los Angeles County.

"Having community engagement meetings at project sites shows people the relationship between the site and design, adds a level of reality, and really helps the community be able to start visualizing their design. It is a fun and unique way to gather input and increase community interest and participation. People who are driving or walking by tend to want to know what is going on. It's another way to get people involved. We witnessed people passing by stop in to join community meetings happening on the site and then went on to contribute to the project design by adding their comments. This is an approach that can be adopted readily and really pays off in the end."

**Todd Schmit** | Section Head for Landscape Architecture and Design, Planning and Development Agency, County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation.



Getting ideas at Caldwell Park in Redding, California.

"Being able to meet in the park (project site) is key. Walking around and visualizing elements is less abstract than a paper exercise. It also helps the project planners with thinking through issues by bringing users directly to the site and asking, what about this? What about that? Users will typically teach you how it should work or poke holes in your plans. Physically communicating and exploring your project is crucial to the design process which can sometimes be done in a vacuum, to the detriment of the project."

**Travis Menne** | Community Projects Manager, City of Redding, Community Services

After scheduling meeting locations and times, the second step is to reach a Broad Representation of Residents. Inviting a Broad Representation of Residents is essential for attendance as well as ensuring diverse input. This section explains how to notify and invite a broad representation of residents to participate in the meetings.

From the SPP Application Guide: "For the combined set of meetings, at least three methods were used to invite a Broad Representation of Residents." Guidance for inviting different age groups of residents are listed on the next page.

From the SPP Application Guide: "The number and general description of the Residents who participated in the combined set of meetings consisted of a Broad Representation of the critically underserved community."

This step encourages applicants to engage all age groups, including youth, seniors, and families within the project area. The goal is to get perspectives so the park is designed to meet a broad range of needs.

A reasonable number of residents in the project area should participate in the meetings. However, in heavily urbanized communities, over 20,000 people may live within the project's half-mile radius, while in rural areas, 100 people may live in a half-mile radius of the project.



People of all ages contributed ideas to transform the old Oxnard High School site into Campus Park in Oxnard, California

What is an appropriate number of meeting participants? In general, past SPP applicants engaged approximately 30 to 300 residents between five meetings.

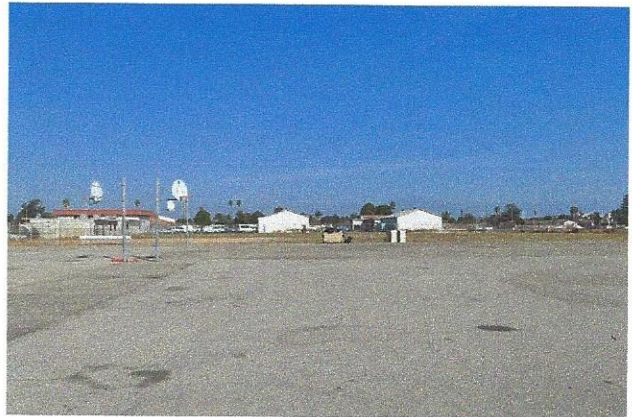
Successful outreach requires thoughtful planning. To increase participation, residents should be contacted at least one week prior to a meeting. Successful outreach should help lead to a *Broad Representation of Residents*.

"We learned that the in-person outreach received the most feedback compared to the online survey method. It is important to have multiple methods for feedback; however, our community didn't have a large response online."

**Noel Castillo** | Public Works Director/City Engineer, City of Montclair

"At each door, staff personally invited each resident to attend and explained why it was important. Given the feedback from the public online and at the meetings, staff believes that the electronic postings and newspapers were effective to provide notice but not necessarily to convince them to act. Quite a few of the individuals who attended the meetings in the parks said they attended because of a visit by a staff member. Just one attendee in all the meetings stated that he came to the meeting specifically due to seeing a post."

**Jami Westervelt** | City of Gustine



Campus Park in Oxnard, California

Different methods should be used to invite and encourage residents to participate. Examples include:

1. **Partnering** with community leaders, organizations, health agencies and "promotoras" to assist with outreach as they have relationships with existing networks of residents who may be more likely to respond to invitations from that particular organization.
2. **Identifying** a neighborhood youth or a respected adult resident who can be asked to assist or lead the outreach process. An example of a resident becoming a community leader can be found on page 54.
3. **Conducting** door-to-door in-person meeting invitations. Some SPP applicants reported that in-person invitations inspired residents to participate. Making it clear why their input is needed, and how accessible the meeting is, may increase attendance.
4. **Providing** incentives to increase turnout. One incentive may be to explain how the meeting will be an interactive park design process. Or, a local restaurant or business may donate food or prizes to help attract residents, while promoting their own business and roles in the community. Make the incentives clear in the invitations.
5. **Developing** invitations and meeting materials in commonly spoken languages. These materials are often helpful and welcoming. All invitations and meeting materials should clearly state if language translators will be present at meetings. SPP applicants have had success in finding residents or local students to serve as volunteer translators.

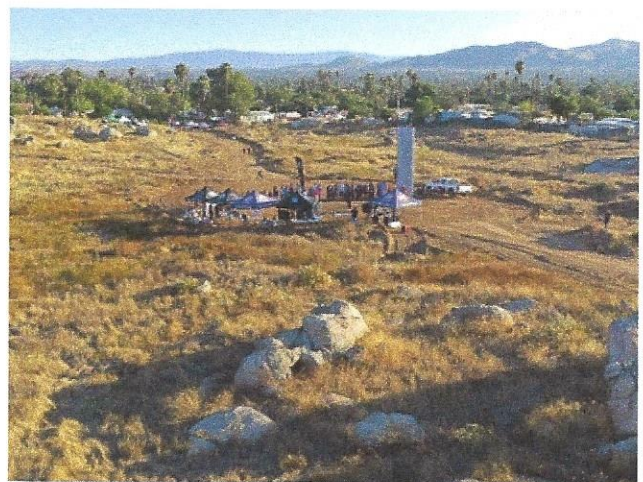
6. **Providing** invitations that are clearly welcoming to multiple generations. Local agencies reported that parents often assume children are not welcome to local government planning meetings. Help participants understand how the meeting will be interactive for all ages and when the meeting will start and end.
7. **Mailing** flyers to residences within the half-mile radius. Surveys may be included.
8. **Collaborating** with local schools to schedule meetings with health, physical education, or art classes. Schools can also send notices through an online portal or use flyers to inform milities and youth about when and where upcoming park design meetings will take place.
9. **Posting** flyers in high foot traffic areas such as bus stops, major intersections, stores, schools, community centers, faith-based institutions, and libraries. Place flyers on the windshields of vehicles in parking lots.
10. **Using** social media, local radio, television public service announcements, or local newspapers to distribute information.
11. **Scheduling** one or more meetings where residents will already be present. For example, meeting with youth at a school, seniors at a center, or parents at a PTA meeting may not get you a *Broad Representation* in each meeting. However, the cumulative effect of the separate meetings may result in a *Broad Representation of Residents*.



Project site meeting to design the new Primrose Park in Temple City, California.



Project site design meeting for the new 95th Street Linear Park in unincorporated Firestone, Los Angeles County



Ideas generated for the new Enchanted Hills Park in Perris, California

"A favorite planned engagement activity was our city preschool students partaking in a "Design Your Park" activity with our Perris Senior Center members. Each student was paired with a senior member to draw and design their park. Perris seniors really enjoyed this activity, and have since requested staff to plan more activities of the type. Not even the language barrier amongst a few impeded the success of this activity; it was priceless to witness!"

Richard Belmudez | City Manager, Perris

### 3. Conducting Five Meetings to Achieve Three Park Design Goals

This final step involves strategizing how to encourage a group dynamic during park design meetings where participants can build upon the ideas of one another.

Engaging in interactive group discussions can lead to a more in-depth understanding of what the residents need, and also allow for detailed design ideas to enhance the park's use. SPP encourages three park design goals for the meetings. These three goals offer a blueprint for a popular, functional, beautiful, and safe park of which all generations of residents may enjoy. This section provides detailed guidance about how to achieve the park design goals during the meetings.

The three park design goals to achieve during the meetings are:

**Park Design Goal 1:** Selection and design of the recreation features.

**Park Design Goal 2:** Location of the selected features within the park.

**Park Design Goal 3:** Safe public use and park beautification.



"As Recreation Professionals, we often have a general idea as to what our community wants and needs in our neighborhood parks; however, Community-Based Planning allows for a much deeper connection to the neighborhood and ultimately leads to a much better project with much more community pride.

It brought the whole neighborhood closer together."

**Tina Cherry** | Community Services Director, City of Monrovia, Lucinda Garcia Park pictured above.



Property to expand the park in the unincorporated Lincoln Acres/National City community, San Diego County, California.

Residents at a design meeting for the expansion of Lincoln Acres Park.

The following three pages provide specific ideas for park design goals, the following three pages provide general ideas about conducting thoughtful and productive community engagement meetings.

- 1. Plan a Meeting Agenda:** Plan how the meeting will be conducted. Consider activities, materials, times for each activity, ground rules, who will lead the meetings. And, most importantly, who will take notes to capture ideas for the three park design goals.
- 2. Help Prepare the Residents:** Consider having a welcome table with printed agendas that explain the reason for the meeting and each activity.  
At the start of a meeting, explain the three park design goals. Explain why ideas are important. Meeting ground rules should encourage participation.  
If there are subsequent meetings, provide a schedule with their time and place.



Youth at Calwa Park in South Fresno excited to give their ideas.



3. **Enthusiastically ask for ideas:** When a group initially has few ideas, the facilitator may need to give extra encouragement for residents to speak up by explaining why their ideas are important for a successful park design. Some residents may not be comfortable speaking in groups. Having paper and colored markers for noting or drawing ideas is another way to encourage participation. Plan how to manage when a resident goes off topic or has impractical ideas. Solutions include taking down the resident's idea and moving on, or suggesting how the topic can be addressed at another time, or reminding the participant what the task is. As residents feel more welcome to share ideas, some of the most feasible, practical, and previously unthought of ideas may come from unlikely sources. For example, engage children at the meetings by providing them with pictures, stickers, and art materials or other tools to articulate ideas. Some children may be enthusiastic and willing to add to group discussions. SPP projects have incorporated creative design ideas from children.



Campus Park design discussions in Oxnard, California.

4. **Open Communication:** View this as a partnership between the professional knowledge of the applicant or partner's staff, combined with the knowledge of the residents who live in the community. Starting meetings on a positive note encourages a creative brainstorming process; and, if a popular idea emerges, but is not feasible, explain why. Be transparent about budget, regulations, long term maintenance costs, or other constraints. Open communication between professional park designers and neighborhood residents is a key for maintaining a balanced partnership. For example, the community may request an aquatic center but the grant applicant cannot commit to the long-term funding needed to operate and maintain it. If the meetings are part of a competitive grant program such as SPP, make it clear to residents that in these types of statewide programs, more funding is usually requested than what is available. Be prepared to discuss other options if the project is not selected for funding by the state.

5. **Residents may become meeting leaders:** Look for residents who appear enthusiastic and are willing to take on a leadership role. These leaders can assist with facilitation and may also serve as volunteer translators.

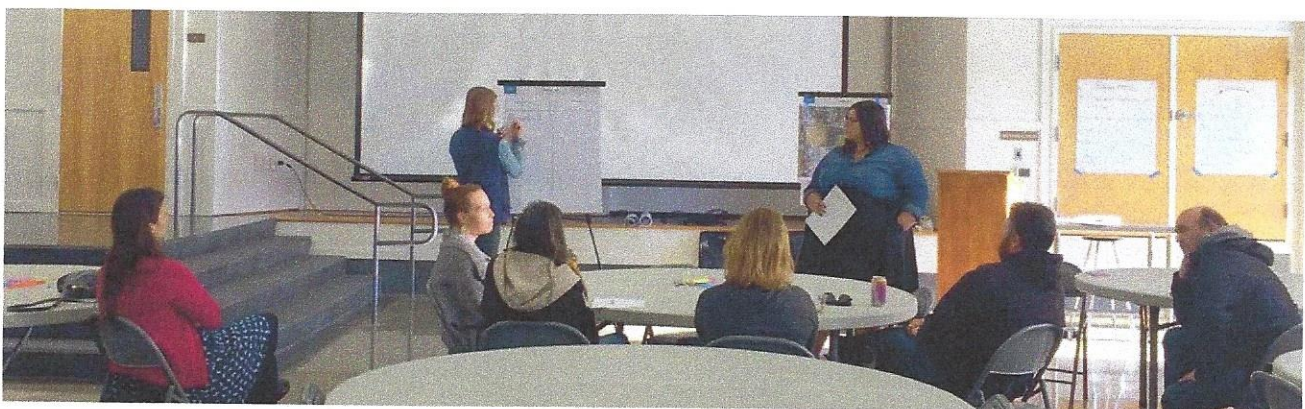
There have been examples where a resident's talent was discovered, and they became professional community-based planners!

6. **Tracking Ideas, Voting, and Confirming the Results:** Tracking the ideas from each meeting is essential. Residents need to know that their ideas are valued and their voices are being heard. Examples of how this can be achieved include:

Reviewing the list of residents' ideas, at the end of a meeting, confirms understanding of ideas that rose to the top. This may involve holding a vote to achieve consensus. Include this recap of residents' ideas in the Agenda plans.

Sharing with new participants what was learned from prior meeting(s). Revisit ideas, ask for improvements, or even alternatives, to help continue to shape the park design in each subsequent meeting.

Explaining what will happen after the meeting. If more meetings are planned, provide a schedule or website/social media to track the project.



Tracking design ideas (note taking) for 20-30 Park in Eureka, California.

*Here's a brief summary example from a SPP applicant about how they achieved three design goals in one meeting.*

"While partnering with the Soledad Youth Leadership Group and providing a translator at meetings, we used creative methods such as:

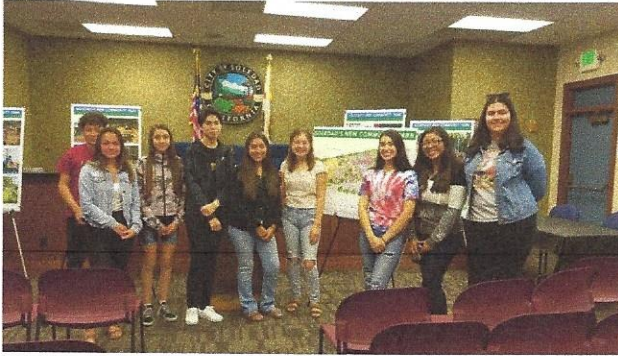
1. For Recreation Features: We started with 'Design a Park' handouts to brainstorm, draw, and share park ideas for recreation features and design details.

2. For Location of Recreation Features: Residents worked in groups (viewing the site as a puzzle activity) to recommend the placement of features.

3. For Safety and Beautification: With a 'Safe and Beautiful' handout, the residents ranked their favorite safety and beautification ideas.

Then, in groups, they discussed their choices and embellished conceptual plans with their ideas."

Linda Palmquist | MNS Engineers



Soledad Youth Leadership Group for the new Metz Orchard Park

The new Metz Orchard Park

## Park Design Goal 1 - Selection of the Recreation Features

From the SPP Application Guide:

"Describe how the Residents were enabled to identify, prioritize, and then select recreation feature(s) for the proposed project. The goal is to ask Residents what facilities they want in the park."

Residents voting to select recreation features for the new Gateway Park site (left) in Corcoran, California.

Gateway Park site (left) in Corcoran, California

**Identify:** How will the meeting allow for creative brainstorming of recreation features? Will they start with a blank slate or a list of features to choose from? Will residents be given the opportunity to add recreation features to a list?

**Prioritize:** Once a list of recreation features is created, how will they be prioritized? For example, will a voting system be used, and how will it be managed?

**Select:** How will the process of identifying and prioritizing recreation features result in the project's final scope?

### Examples of Goal 1 - Selecting Recreation Features During Design Meetings

Methods to select recreation features include:

1. **Residents can brainstorm** to create a list. To energize participation, prompts can include instruction to residents on, for example, considering how designs can support healthy activities and social wellness for all age groups. Some applicants have used photos of features as prompts to spark ideas. If photos are used it is important to encourage residents to think beyond those provided. Photo prompts should be utilized to stimulate conversation and not as a listing of available amenity listings.
2. **Blank maps** of the project site where residents note or draw the features they want and their locations. Their suggestions can be translated into a list of ideas.
3. **An interactive voting system** with stickers placed next to features enables participants to view communal priorities in real time.
4. **A price system** (participatory budgeting) can be helpful. For example, residents are asked to prioritize \$50 (representing \$5 million) in features, by choosing from a list of features assigned representative costs totaling \$200.

Voting on features for the Escondido Creek Linear Park site in Escondido, California.

Escondido Creek Linear Park site in Escondido, California.

Generally, grant applicants and the general public will want to know the range of possible recreation features available. The following list, created from statewide feedback, illustrates an extensive range of community park features. The list is in alphabetical order and is not intended to show a preference from top to bottom. Please be aware that there may be other recreation features that can be included beyond this list.

Salud Park running track loop and outdoor gym equipment in Paramount, California.

Corning Community Park in Corning, California.

Amphitheater/performing arts dance, music, and theater stage.

Athletic fields (soccer regulation size or "futbol-rapido," baseball/softball, football).  
 Athletic courts (basketball, "futsal," tennis, pickleball).  
 Community gardens, botanical orchards demonstration gardens and orchards.  
 Community/Recreation center.  
 Dog park.  
 Running track/walking loop, par course.  
 Non-motorized trail, pedestrian/bicycle bridge, greenbelt/linear.  
 Outdoor gym exercise equipment.  
 Open space and natural area for recreation.  
 Picnic/Bar-B-Que areas.  
 Playground and tot lot.  
 Plaza, Zocalo, Gazebo.  
 Public art (mosaic tiles, sculptures, murals).  
 Skate park, skating rink, and BMX or pump track (non-motorized bike tracks).  
 Swimming pool, splash pad, aquatic center, fishing pier or paddling launch site.  
 Lighting to allow for extended nighttime use of a recreation feature.  
 Shade structure/covered park areas over a recreation feature to allow for extended day time use.

"In all communities engaged, what seemed to resonate with people was that they had a blank slate to work with...hearing them and taking to heart what they wanted to see in their parks."

**Bill Jones** | Chief Management Analyst, City of Los Angeles, Department of Recreation and Parks.

Alleghany New Park Site in Sun Valley, Los Angeles.

Scooter loop drawing for Contra Loma Estates Park, Antioch California.

"The Sycamore neighborhood gave enthusiasm, creativity, and support for designing their park. The Antioch Police Department, churches, and nonprofits stepped up. One of our best meetings was during drop-in summer camp. The kids talked and drew their pictures. When asked about the oval he drew, one boy said '...I need a path to ride my scooter!' It will happen.",

**Nancy Kaiser** | Director, City of Antioch Parks & Rec

## Park Design Goal 1 – Designing Recreation Features (Process)

After selecting the highest priority features for the park, it's time to gather design ideas for those features.

Youth share ideas for Calwa Park in South Fresno, California.

*From the SPP Application Guide:*

*"Describe how the Residents were enabled to provide design ideas for the selected recreation feature(s). The goal is to ask Residents for detailed design ideas of the features, after the features are selected."*

Ask for detailed design ideas to enhance a recreation feature's function, materials, themes, color, size, shape, etc. Methods may include:

1. Use photos as a starting point.
2. Provide paper and pens for residents to sketch ideas.
3. Create a brainstorming list and then gather feedback or vote on favorite ideas.
4. Remember, not all recreation features are built alike. The design details can enhance the use and quality of a recreational feature.

Design detail examples of play areas, basketball courts, and soccer fields are shown on the following pages.

## Park Design Goal 1 – List of Design Ideas for the Recreation Features (Outcome)

Finalizing a list of design ideas for the recreation features completes the step above.

*From the SPP Application Guide:*

*"List the residents' ideas that will be included in the design of the recreation feature(s). Avoid listing ideas that will not be included."*

Throughout the meetings, maintaining a list of accepted design ideas for the recreation features is helpful. Eventually, the list will be incorporated in bid packages and construction documents. *For this reason, only the final accepted ideas should be on the list.* The list for the design of the selected recreation features should represent detailed design ideas, such as function, materials, theme, color, size, shape, and number.

Examples of design details can be found on the next three pages.

## Examples of Design Details

### Are All Playgrounds Alike?

These are examples of different playground "design details" that enrich park use.

Nature play created at Pogo Park, in Richmond's Iron Triangle Neighborhood.

Rope climbing structures at Cathedral City's Whitewater Park.

Musical play equipment, York Ave 50 in Highland Park.

A splash pad in Inspiration Park, Fresno.

Swings at Roberto Balermino Park, San Jose.

### Are All Basketball Courts Alike?

Full vs half court, backboard, goal standards, surfacing are examples of different court "design details."

Pajaro Park offers a full court, rectangular backboards, green color surface.

South Victoria Avenue Park offers a shooting area with different height rims, no court lines.

Stanton Central Park offers a half court, fan shaped backboards, multi-color key.

### Are All Soccer Fields Alike?

For athletes, coaches, spectators, these are "design details." Surfacing, space, netting, fencing, lighting, sun orientation, and safety ideas are important when designing sports fields, courts, and other features.

Jackie Robinson YMCA's "Futbol Rapido" with netting, bleachers, and synthetic surface in San Diego.

Rancho Las Flores Park, City of Coachella, with regulation size fields and natural turf.

Benito Juarez Park, City of Maywood, with a compact-size field, artificial turf, and fencing.

## Park Design Goal 2 – Process to ask for Ideas about the Location of Recreation Feature(s) Within the Park.

*From the SPP Application Guide:*

*Describe the process that enabled the residents to express their preferences for the location of the recreation feature(s) within the park."*

Boorman Park site mapping in Richmond, California.

Residents of Lindsay, California, use site mapping to plan feature locations for Olive Bowl Park expansion.

1. Get different ideas about the layout of the park's recreation features for both practical function and safety reasons. Consider which features should be closer or further away from parking or busy streets, which areas of the park can be active (louder) or passive (quieter), scenic viewing areas, how fields/courts are oriented towards the sun for sports events.
2. Residents will often have practical ideas about locating features, including enhancing park safety. For example, a parent may suggest locating playgrounds further away from streets or closer to field bleachers.
3. Think of it as drafting the future site plan. Use an aerial image of the site and give residents cut-out figures that represent the size and type of selected recreation features.
4. At project sites, some applicants have set up temporary markers to give residents a feel for the "footprint" of park features. This allows participants to visually test and provide feedback on the proposed spatial orientation of the features.
5. Choose a method that makes the most sense for your available resources.

## Park Design Goal 2 – List of Reasons for Locating the Recreation Feature(s) within the park.

Finalizing a list of locations for the recreation features completes the step above.

"List the reasons that will be used for the location of the recreation feature(s) within the park. Avoid listing reasons that will not be used."

Throughout the meetings, maintaining a list of accepted ideas for the location of recreation features within the park is helpful. Eventually, the list must be incorporated in bid packages and construction documents. *For this reason, only the final accepted ideas should be on the list.*

For the new fully accessible Empowerment Park, the Sacramento Parks Foundation and O'Dell Engineering set up temporary features to test the layout of the park.

"The engagement process...brought a level of energy...that helped uplift the effort. The interactive nature of the drop-in meeting produced good feedback."

- Sacramento Parks Foundation

### Park Design Goal 3 – Process to ask for ideas about safe public use and park beautification

From the SPP Application Guide:

"Describe the process that enabled Residents to provide park design ideas for safe public use and park beautification."

A 'meeting of the minds' to improve Calwa Park in South Fresno, California.

This third goal for the park's design seeks residents' ideas about safe public use and beautification. Both safety and beautification are critical to a park's success.

"The enjoyment of scenery employs the mind without fatigue and yet exercises it; tranquilizes it and yet enlivens it; and thus, through the influence of the mind over the body gives the effect of refreshing rest and reinvigoration to the whole system." **Frederick Law Olmsted in 1848**

**Safe public use:** If residents do not feel safe, they will be less likely to use the park.

1. Ask how the park design can incorporate safe public use. Consider lighting throughout the park or other things to assist police and minimize hiding areas for illegal activity.
2. Once the general ideas of park safety are established, the discussion can move to specific features.
3. Inviting the local police and fire departments to participate may help build connections and provide design insight for safe public use.
4. Remember that neighbors who live near the project site often have first-hand knowledge of problems in the area and may also have suggestions to improve safe public use.

Calwa Park in South Fresno, California.

#### Park Beautification:

The community's physical environment and mental health of residents can be improved through a scenically pleasing park. This final design goal involves landscaping or public art.

Explain to residents that this goal is to make their park beautiful!

#### Art to beautify the park:

1. This may involve public art themes that are important to the residents. Explain that art such as mosaics, tiles, murals, and sculptures can be developed to beautify the park.
2. Residents may offer art concepts to capture the project site's history, or the community's cultural or natural history, or other recreation themes. Cultural conditions can be improved through public art in parks that reflect and celebrate the history and diverse cultures of surrounding neighborhoods.
3. Examples seen in SPP projects included handprints by local neighborhood children added to wall tiles or pathways, tiles created by a nearby school's art class, murals to beautify a structure, or sculpture. A school art class and artists can suggest design, placement, installation, and maintenance.

#### Landscaping to beautify the park:

1. For landscaping ideas, photos of trees and plants can help start the discussion.
2. SPP encourages the use of native, drought-tolerant plants, trees, and flowers to create a "sense of place" in the park.
3. Urban farms, fruit, vegetable, and herb gardens can add beauty while celebrating the residents' culture. These gardens can bring together all ages to learn about their own and other's heritage.

4. Gardens can also provide an area for quiet reflection.

Examples of park beautification are below.

A resident's idea became a reality to plant a garden that attracts monarch butterflies for Central Park in Stanton, California.

Drought tolerant plants at Oakdale Community Park in Oakdale, California.

### Park Design Goal 3 – Create a list of safe public use ideas that will be included in the project

From the SPP Application Guide:

*"List the Residents' (safe public use) ideas that will be included in the proposed project. Avoid listing ideas that will not be included."*

Residents working together to design a new park in the unincorporated Walnut Park community, Los Angeles County.

Throughout the meetings, maintaining a list of accepted design ideas for safe public use is helpful. Eventually, the list will be incorporated in bid packages and construction documents. For this reason, only the final accepted ideas should be in the list.

"I think the most significant benefit (and somewhat unexpected as well) is that the community engagement process truly did result in a better park design for both the community and the County! The community came up with ideas beyond what Parks and Recreation staff had discussed. Community ideas allowed the project to progress and garner wide-range support. For instance, one of the neighbors near Walnut Park was very concerned about the park going in next to her mother's home. She was actively against the project initially, but as she joined one of the groups at a community engagement event and began to discuss her concerns, she changed her mind on the project. She alone came up with the idea of having a sheriff's office on the site to help with possible crime and vandalism. That idea was adopted by all the groups. It was her input that helped create a better park design and a better 'fit' in the neighborhood by addressing ongoing neighborhood concerns. In the end, she was one of the biggest proponents of the project."

**Todd Schmit** | Section Head for Landscape Architecture and Design, Planning and Development Agency, County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation.

### Park Design Goal 3 – List of park beautification ideas that will be included in the project

From the SPP Application Guide:

*"List the Residents' (park beautification) ideas that will be included in the proposed project. Avoid listing ideas that will not be included."*

Based on asking for park beautification ideas, this is the "outcome" of the process.

Throughout the meetings, maintaining a list of accepted design ideas for park beautification is helpful. Eventually, the list will be incorporated in bid packages and construction documents. For this reason, only the final accepted ideas should be on the list.

**Art examples for park beautification:**

**"Placemaking"** is an interactive community-based planning technique where park beautification art celebrates a sense of place.

Artwork on restrooms showing the site's lumber yard history at Noyo Headlands Park in Fort Bragg.

A school art program created this shade structure's mural panel over a children's play area for the first park in Earlimart, California.

Mural celebrates Marin City, California at Rocky Graham Park

Vibrant art tiles celebrate "Tropico CA" history throughout Maryland Park in Glendale

Art tiles created by residents for Cesar Chavez Park in Oakland, California

Vibrant murals celebrate the community's history at Pajaro Park, Monterey County California.

"Growing up in Westminster my whole life, I never heard about Mendez v. Westminster until I was in college. This park will mark the City of Westminster's place as one of the birthplaces of civil rights."

**Councilmember Sergio Contreras**

The new Del Monte Park in San Jose honors the site's history; it was the world's largest fruit cannery in the late 1800's.

Mural by local artist Art Mortimer after the community conceptualized a theme for the new Cougar Park named after Cougar Brand Oranges in Covina, California, which was mostly citrus farms in the early 1900s.

The new Mendez Memorial Park will highlight Mendez v. Westminster which paved the way for Brown v. Board of Education.

"India Basin (900 Innes Boatyard) is the most ambitious park project in a generation, and we wanted to design something not just for the surrounding community, but with them. It's going to be an anchor of health, safety, economic development, culture and environmental justice in the neighborhood. We are so proud to be working alongside them to make it happen."

**Phil Ginsburg** | General Manager, San Francisco Recreation and Parks

The future 900 Innes Park in Bayview Hunter's Point, San Francisco. The project will create waterfront park access, connect the SF Bay Trail, and include placemaking public art.

"The most significant unexpected benefit of the community engagement process has been the unique opportunity to envision a park plan that celebrates our diversity while honoring Black history. We have opened a conversation with our community that has empowered their voices. Together we are building a beautiful park for the future designed by the residents that live here now. It will be a joyous occasion to see the results."

**Jackie Flin** | Executive Director, A. Philip Randolph Institute (APRI)

#### **Park entrances which celebrate the community's identity while beautifying the park.**

Uptown Family Park, Paso Robles, California.

Oakdale Community Park in Oakdale, California.

Community members' vision includes a memorial at Tyrone Carney Park in Oakland.

"We will be able to honor a fallen soldier, Tyrone Edward Carney, who was the first African American from Sobrante Park to die in Vietnam 51 years ago. The park will also provide a much-needed space of healing and peacefulness for residents of all backgrounds."

**Cynthia Arrington** | Community leader and president of the Sobrante Park Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council and Resident Action Council

A vacant lot before it became Serenity Park in Watts, California.

Ronald "Kartoon" Antwine

"For 40 years my mother, then I, tried to have this lot full of weeds cared for. It was rodent-infested and developers dumped here late at night. Everybody is excited waiting for the grand opening. We all fought for this. It brings me a lot of joy seeing the community look out for this park at all times of night while it's being built."

**Ronald "Kartoon" Antwine**

Vacant lot transformed into Serenity Park with a train theme in Watts, California.

In summary, the framework of the steps learned through SPP are:

#### **1. Schedule Five Accessible Meeting Locations and Times**

## 2. Invite a Broad Representation of Residents

### 3. Conduct Five Meetings to Achieve Three Park Design Goals

**Park Design Goal 1** - Selection and design of recreation features.

**Park Design Goal 2** - Location of selected recreation features.

**Park Design Goal 3** - Safe public use and park beautification ideas.

## 4. Documenting the Outcome

As the project moves from community-based planning to the preparation of construction documents, other employees or contractors may take over the project.

This often happens when construction documents are being prepared, or the project goes "out to bid" for construction. *The accepted ideas, if not clearly documented, can "get lost in the shuffle"* as the project moves forward between engineers and contractors. To avoid losing the ideas, go through the community-based planning process with the intent to present an outcome. *A site plan drawing and descriptive list helps to clearly document the outcome!*

**Site Plan Drawing:** This is a "bird's eye view" of what would be built in the park.

Identifies the features to be developed and their locations.

A resident or art student/class can help draw it.

Assigning numbers or symbols to a corresponding list increases clarity.

**Descriptive List:** This is a numbered list to help document the design details that a drawing does not explain. The list can correspond to the site plan by describing these design details.

Selected Features per pages 31-34.

Design details for those features per pages 35-36.

Location of those features within the park, and reasons why, per pages 37-39.

Safe public use per pages 37, 39.

Beautification per pages 37-38, 40-46.

"Community-based planning allows the opportunity to give community members a voice and creates relationships that bring insight and perspectives that are normally ignored. Regardless if the grant is awarded, it is a worthwhile experience in future revitalization opportunities."

Francesca Sciamanna | Community Services, City of Bell

Site photo for City of Bell Pritchard Park

## Building Social Capital, Cohesion, and Capacity

The SPP community-based planning process produces unexpected benefits. Conducting in-person meetings with a broad representation of residents creates a sense of place. By giving communities a voice in park design, there is a synergy that develops leading to building community capacity.

State Parks emphasized how park development projects improve the physical environment of communities. During conversations with Round 3 SPP applicants throughout California, an interesting and unexpected statewide pattern about this process began to emerge:

By designing a park, SPP community-based planning also builds "social capital!"

As defined by Oxford Dictionary, "Social Capital" means:

*"The networks of relationships among people who live and work in a particular society, enabling that society to function effectively."*

Designing a park is a catalyst that brings residents, local agencies, and community organizations together to serve their community. When residents work together to transform an area into a vibrant park, it becomes a symbol of community pride.



The following pages provide quotes from communities about how this process strengthened relationships between local government agencies, nonprofit organizations, and neighborhood residents.

"Just planning the park has brought the community together. Boorman Park is the community's baby. This project reflects in-depth community planning to represent what we really want and need in a park. This grant gives us the inspiration to keep active in the community. We are so proud of this effort. The community has finally been heard and our kids will benefit for years!"

**Maria Isabel Barrera** | West County Regional Group member and resident of the Boorman Park area.

Residents and local health organization members designing Boorman Park in Richmond, California.

"Having the community deeply involved in the design is key. Because sometimes people see things that you don't. We had a team of people from the community to plan and do all the outreach themselves. That really worked. We had to work together, collaborate together, to figure out how to approach and bring in the whole community. That process of people from the community working together breaks down barriers, connects families, and builds trust."

**Carmen Lee** | Resident, Richmond's Pogo Park

Harbour-8 Park expansion site, Richmond, California

Site for the new Pearl Park in Fullerton, California

"An unexpected and exciting benefit of the process was seeing new relationships and even friendships being created between diverse community members where none existed before as a result of them meeting each other at the community meetings. It made our meetings better and it made the community stronger."

**Doug Pickard** | Parks Project Specialist, City of Fullerton

"An unexpected benefit of the process was the community building - I liked meeting fellow neighbors and hearing their ideas."

**Yanel Saenz** | resident

Site of future 92<sup>nd</sup> Street Linear Park in the unincorporated Florence-Firestone community, Los Angeles County.

"It was wonderful to see how much a person's attitude towards a project or amenity could change through the enthusiasm of other community members that they may rarely interact with. For example, a woman who came in staunchly against a skate park because she had preconceived notions about the type of person who would use the skate park became a supporter by listening to the members of the Skate Movement and what they were doing for youth in our community. Broadening horizons and understanding the wider needs of the community is awesome!"

**Jennifer Moore** | Recreation Supervisor, City of Redding

"A significant benefit is the number of people I met whom I've never had the pleasure of meeting...new park 'sparked' their interest."

**Mikal Kirchner** | Director, City of Selma Recreation & Community Services

Site to become the new Rockwell Pond Park in Selma, California

"Many were happy to know their voices were being heard."

**Noel Castillo** | Public Works Director/City Engineer, City of Montclair

"I think it was great to see such a diverse group of community members come together with a common goal - improving community health and open space access for all. Everyone's goals are the same."

**Gabriel Teran** | City of Oxnard Parks, Recreation, and Community Services Commissioner, about Campus Park Planning

"Participants worked surprisingly well together as a group to develop a plan that would best benefit all. They took ownership of the project and interest in the process."

**Jami Westervelt** | City of Gustine

"The community engagement process cast a wide net in its scope and hearing what the seniors wanted for their recreation needs was a significant benefit."

**Laura Fischer** | General Manager, Heber Public Utility District

"Residents were encouraged to assume the role of landscape architects and design their ideal park for the community as a whole, integrating diverse themes and park elements that had been voiced. A significant benefit of the community engagement process was having diverse residents' ideas coalesce into a consensus approved design that integrated passive, active, and cultural elements. For example, Mixteco residents in need of a Pelota Mixteca court shared their needs, and everyone at the workshops supported their idea and integrated them into their preferred park designs."

**Eric Humel** | City of Oxnard

"One of the young people that I walked up to and asked them to do this survey turned out to be our committee leader. She has a natural leadership quality... I would also constantly refer to it as 'their park'. That made them want to be there and put their heart into making this park something special...This park represents who they are and their heritage; it tells a story."

**Sonia Hall**

"The community leaders in the Airport neighborhood selected to make improvements to Oregon Park as a first step towards revitalizing this challenged neighborhood. The Airport Neighborhood Collaborative is composed of parent leaders, organizations, business leaders, non-profits, elected officials, city and county departments in the interest of supporting the neighborhood health, safety, and well-being."

**Lourdes Perez** | Program Manager, Cultiva La Salud

### Finding Talent in Residents During the Community Planning Process

When residents are empowered to work together with local government or non-profit organizations, some may show a natural ability to inspire community-driven efforts. Enthusiastic and talented resident leaders discovered through the process have been recruited to join an organization's or agency's workforce. Here's an example!

"My name is Kimberly McCoy and I am from Fresno, California. In 2012, I was frustrated with local political decisions affecting my family. I was looking for a way to get involved in my community and volunteered. I received training on how to connect with other neighbors and be civically involved, which I enjoyed. I became a team leader and led door-to-door and phone banking campaigns throughout the Central Valley to connect everyday people to decision-making processes and help them understand how to engage in issues they care about. In 2014, I was promoted to a community organizer. I conducted one-on-one visits and led house meetings with residents in communities that wanted to create change.

I learned about the importance of:

1. **Empowering people** by removing barriers that often prevent them from engaging civically – from scheduling meetings during community-friendly hours to ensuring that interpreter and childcare services are available.
2. **Identifying community strengths** and assets and building on those.
3. **The power of relationships.** Social capital is one of the most overlooked assets in many communities. In order to be successful on any issue or campaign, relationships must be nurtured, and people must feel like they are active decision makers. That is why I begin by meeting people where they live to understand what issues are important to them.

In 2018, I was hired as Project Director for Fresno Building Healthy Communities and led signature gathering efforts to advance local measures such as Measure P on the November 2018 ballot for parks, arts, and trails in the City of Fresno. I continue to support community groups in identifying, planning, and implementing strategies to advance a common agenda of community health. In 2019, I was selected to be a voice for the community on the AB 617 Community Air Protection Program Steering Committee, to elevate community priorities and emission reduction opportunities in Fresno's most impacted communities.

I have enjoyed being able to connect and build relationships with residents, shaping decision-making processes and supporting my neighbors to leverage their power by using their voice. That is how we will continue to build healthy communities with authentic community engagement. I hope my story can inspire other residents to become a leader for their community. Thank you."

Kimberly McCoy | Project Director, Fresno Building Healthy Communities

## Future Planning Efforts

Encouraging community-based planning in grant programs is founded on this basic question: **For community parks, should the state prioritize one type of recreation facility over another, based on national, state, or regional surveys?**

Historically, in competitive programs, grant writers and even grant guidelines cited national, state, or regional surveys to determine what types of recreation facilities should be in a community park. For example, the results of regional or statewide surveys were used to prioritize which type of facility ranked higher in California's competitive Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) applications. A picnic area ranked higher than a playground, a baseball field ranked higher than a soccer field, and a tennis court higher than a basketball court.

During application workshops of prior grant programs, however, local government applicants frequently reported that their community's needs were different from the statewide or regional survey results. National, state, or regional surveys may not capture the priorities of cities, and even more specifically, of neighborhoods within different areas of the same cities. Community parks provide close-to-home park access, particularly for seniors and children. Each community has unique unmet recreation needs for park access and infrastructure.

For these reasons, SPP prioritizes new park access while encouraging flexibility in park design responsive to each community's unique recreation needs. Due to the recent 2020 COVID-19 pandemic, new community-based planning methods following health guidelines will be tested for the next round of SPP grant funding. To inform future planning efforts over the next five years, State Parks' CED will continue to share successful methods learned through the SPP model.

Please find both inspiration and confidence to use this model.

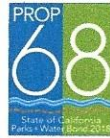
By doing so, you will design a vibrant park reflecting the community's unique needs and identity. Further, it fosters an added benefit by bringing together neighbors, local government, and community organizations. Using the SPP model builds social capital when participants realize their common goals.

Engaging neighbors to plan a park for all to use can be a life-changing experience.

Enjoy the journey!

Parks are unique places where children can play, families and friends bond, people exercise, seniors socialize, youth are mentored, cultures are celebrated, and everyone connects with nature. For these reasons and more, vibrant parks funded by the Statewide Park Program create healthier communities.

478 project applications received for SPP Round Three. Thank you for reading this document! We are here to assist you.



---

### Contact Us

 **Address:** 1416 9th Street Rm. 918 Sacramento, CA 95814 | P.O. Box 942896 Sacramento, CA 94296 Attn: OGALS

 **Office of Grants and Local Services:** (916) 653-7423

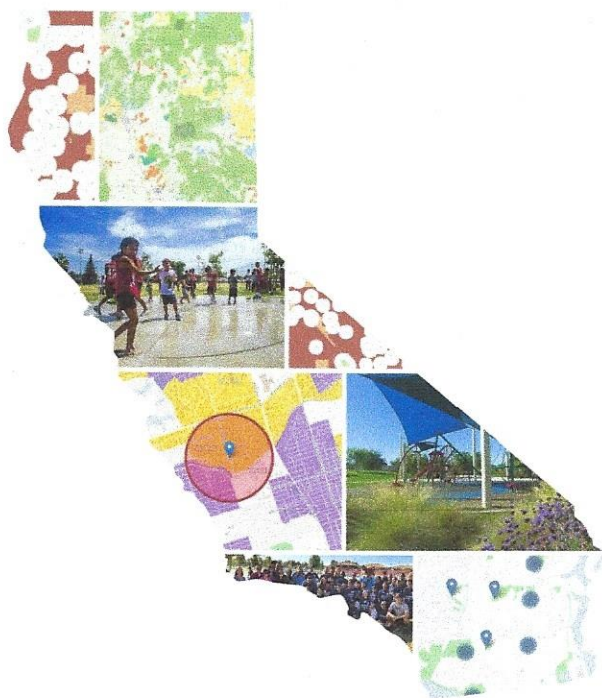
 **Email:** SCORP@parks.ca.gov

### Follow Us



This site is best viewed in Chrome, Firefox, or Internet Explorer 10+

[Admin](#)



## California's Vision for Park Equity

2000–2020: Transforming Park Access with Data and Technology



### Welcome to California's Vision of Park Equity

This report is produced by the California Department of Parks and Recreation's (State Parks) Community Engagement Division — Office of Grants and Local Services (OGALS). Since 1965, more than 7,580 parks throughout California have been created or improved with grants administered by OGALS. Currently, over 700 local agencies partner with OGALS to improve the health and wellness of California's almost 40 million residents by providing close to home park access.

OGALS GRANTS: [parks.ca.gov/grants](https://parks.ca.gov/grants)

Email: [SCORP@parks.ca.gov](mailto:SCORP@parks.ca.gov)

OGALS street address:

California Department of Parks and Recreation  
Office of Grants and Local Services  
1416 Ninth Street, Room 918  
Sacramento, CA 95814

[Parksforcalifornia.org](http://Parksforcalifornia.org) is the online home of the latest implementation of the data, tools, and methods described in this report.

After exploring the history and evolution of the data, tools, and methods, be sure to try them out for yourself at [parksforcalifornia.org](http://parksforcalifornia.org)

## Table of Contents

---

### Introduction

---

### The Legacy of California's Innovation

---

### Evolution of Data and Tools

---

#### California Park Bond Acts

Propositions 12 (2000) and 40 (2002)

Proposition 84 (2006) and Assembly Bill 31 (2008) Starts the Statewide Park Program

---

#### Parks Data

The Complexity of Defining "Parks" for the special use of grant programs

---

#### Demographic Data

---

#### What level of Census data?

---

#### Combining Demographics and Parks Data

Community FactFinder

Park Access Tool

---

#### Other Similar Tools

---

#### Creating New Park Access

---

#### Using Data for Park Equity

---

#### 2021–2025 SCORP Action Plan for Geospatial Technology

## Introduction

Agencies and advocates across California are increasingly committed to ensuring that every Californian has equitable access to high-quality parks, regardless of age, income, ethnicity, or other indicators of social inequity. In 2015, State Parks launched the nation's first interactive web application that identifies park-deficient neighborhoods throughout the entire state.


With common baseline data accessible to anyone with a web browser, California's grant programs have been able to make a data-driven system to support the creation of parks and new recreation opportunities in park-deficient communities.<sup>1</sup>

California State Parks  
Community FactFinder Report

Project ID: 164  
Park: 12127  
Date: 11/11/2016

This is your project report for the site you have defined. Please refer to your Project ID above in any future communications about the project.

PROJECT AREA STATISTICS	
County	San Mateo
City	Redwood City
Total Population	9,343
Youth Population	2,858
Senior Population	714
Households Without Access to a Car	472
Number of People in Poverty	1,629
Median Household Income	\$82,405
Per Capita Income	\$44,319
Park Acres	6.38
Park Acres per 1,000 Residents	0.78



**REPORT BACKGROUND**

The project statistics have been calculated based on half mile radius around the point location selected. Only park acres within the project area's half mile radius are reported.

Population and people in poverty are calculated by determining the percent of any census block groups that intersect with the project area. The project area is then assigned the sum of all the census block group portions. An equal distribution to census block groups is assumed. Rural areas are calculated at a census block level to improve results.

Median household and per capita income are calculated as a weighted average of the census block group values that fall within the project area.

More information on the calculations is available on the methods page.

**Demographics**—American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year estimates, 2014-2018; Decennial 2010 Census; the marginal error (MOE) was not analyzed.

**Parks**—California Protected Areas Database 2016a CDF adjusted (CPAD2016). More information at <http://www.cdpr.ca.gov>. Parks and park acres are based on best available source information but may not always contain exact boundaries for all parks in specific locations. Parks are defined further in the 2015 SCORP (p. 4).

Users can send updated information on parks to [SCORP@parks.ca.gov](mailto:SCORP@parks.ca.gov).

SCORP Community FactFinder is a service of the  
California Department of Parks and Recreation  
[www.parks.ca.gov](http://www.parks.ca.gov)

SCORP Community FactFinder created by  
Demetrius Lawrence, SCORP Analyst  
for consultation with CDPR, CPRE, and RCP

Today, State Parks continues its commitment to using data and analysis to equitably distribute grant funding for local parks in communities statewide. Using open source web technology for park-access and demographics can help inform objective decisions in both local park planning and statewide analysis of proposed grant projects.

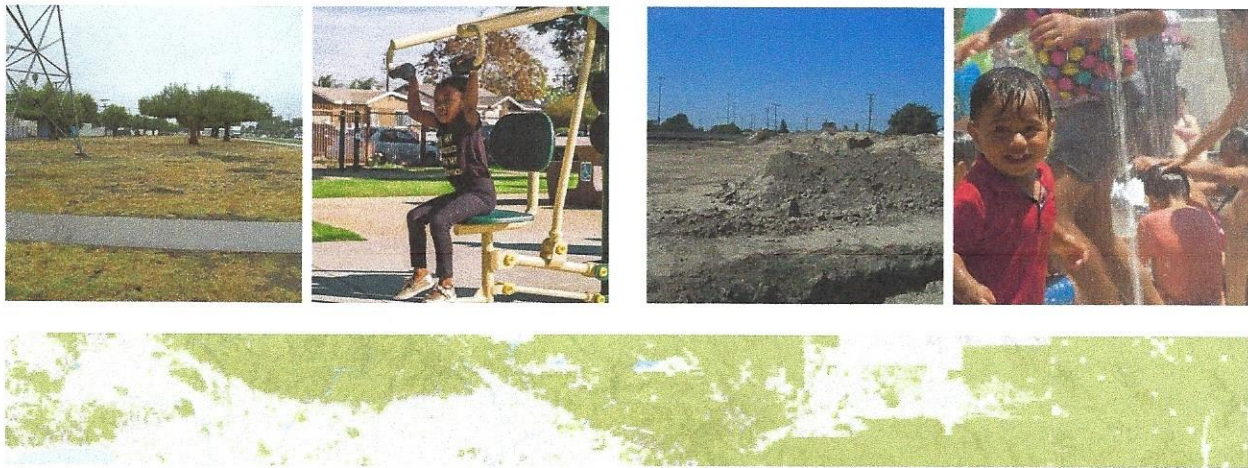
This report details the data and analytical approaches State Parks has used to understand where local parks are needed.

Over the past decade, improved data availability and open source web technology have made it possible to create a common, easy-to-access reference point to help inform decisions about where to locate projects.

The most important outcome of the work described in this document is the multiyear use of the Community FactFinder tool ([parksforcalifornia.org/communities](http://parksforcalifornia.org/communities)), across several bond acts and over \$7 billion in grant requests, leading to new park access for hundreds of communities statewide.

<sup>1</sup>California's 2015–2020 SCORP found that people most often access parks closest to their home. Easy access to parks improves quality of life and a wide range of health and wellbeing outcomes. People need the time and financial resources to travel to parks away from their

communities.



## The Legacy of California's Innovation

The Community FactFinder tool provides a critical service: Statistics on park presence/absence and the demographics near any potential project area in California. The data from this tool is:

- Accessible through a website with no login or other barriers.

- Uniform, current, documented, and specific, providing base data about populations and parks.

Behind the Community FactFinder tool is over a decade of on **Page 111 of 137** and improvements to develop the technical, policy, and human capacities needed to generate statewide park and demographic data for all proposed project sites.

# Evolution of Data and Tools



## Funding

- 2000: Prop 12
- 2002: Prop 40
- 2006: Prop 84
- 2008: AB31
- 2018: Prop 68

## Demographics

- 2000: Census Conducted
- 2000-2009: Demographics data purchased from third party vendors
- 2001-2003: 2000 Census Data Released
- 2005: American Community Survey (ACS) begins data collection
- 2010-Today: Annual ACS Five-Year Releases

## Parks

- 2002: Bay Area Protected Areas Database (CA's first regional database)
- 2003-2006: Public and Conservation Trust Land Releases
- 2006-2009: Regional Databases for all of California
- 2009-Today: California Protected Areas Database Annual Releases

## Synthesis

- 2008: Community FactFinder Introduced
- 2009: Community FactFinder State Parks Program Round 1
- 2011: Community FactFinder State Parks Program Round 2
- 2015: SCORP 2015 Park access measures introduced
- 2019: Community FactFinder State Parks Program Round 3
- 2020: Community FactFinder State Parks Program Round 4 and 2020 park access measures introduced
- 2025: SCORP 2025 Park access measures introduced

# California Park Bond Acts

Californians have a history of supporting parks funding. Over the past 20 years, California has made significant improvements in using spatial and demographic data to measure park acreage in relation to where people live at the community and even neighborhood level.



Propositions 12 (2000) and 40 (2002) marked a substantial increase in bond funding for parks and environmental preservation within the state of California. Over the previous 24 years (1975 to 1999), state voters had approved just under \$2 billion in bonds for natural resource protection and parks (according to Ballotopedia). Proposition 12 (2000 Bond Act) authorized \$2.1 billion for natural resources, neighborhood parks, and water quality grant programs, and Proposition 40 (2002 Bond Act) provided another \$2.6 billion in bond authorization for similar programs, with an emphasis on local parks and coastal protection.

In the early 2000s, these bond acts passed when the use of geospatial data was still uncommon in policymaking. Some of the grant programs began to require an analysis of which communities lacked parks and were affected by poverty.

For example, Proposition 12/2000 Bond Act's Murray-Hayden Urban Parks and Youth Services grant program prioritized projects by the following:

"...within the immediate proximity of a neighborhood identified by the department as having a critical lack of park or open space lands or deteriorated park facilities, that are in an area of significant poverty and unemployment, and that have a shortage of services for youth."

This legislative direction required State Parks to create a grant proposal system that identifies which competing project areas are located in "immediate proximity of a neighborhood" with a "critical lack of parks" and "significant poverty." However, a statewide tool to calculate the data for all applicants to allow for a consistent analysis was not available:

**Statewide park acreage** data for all neighborhood, community, city, regional, state, and federal parks was not easily available in any format 20 years ago.

**Demographic data** was available, but hard to work with due to technological limitations twenty years ago.

**Local jurisdictions** did not use or have standard metrics that would provide a consistent methodology for local agencies to use in determining need.

Grant applicants were required to perform substantial research, including demographic and park acreage calculations, estimate the population, income, and park acreage, within a consistent radius of each competitive project site. Applicants had to determine what Census Tracts were within the radius and try to calculate the total population and income for that area. Then applicants had to go to local park agencies and ask for the park acreage of various parks found within the area. This involved going to multiple data sources, performing multi-layer research, and conducting calculations manually which is both less accurate, less consistent, and challenging to verify.

### Proposition 84 (2006) and Assembly Bill 31 (2008) Starts the Statewide Park Program

In 2006, voters passed The Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act (Proposition 84). Proposition 84 authorized \$5.4 billion in bonds to fund safe drinking water, water quality and supply, flood control, waterway and natural resource protection, water pollution and contamination control, state and local park improvements, public access to natural resources, and water conservation efforts.

In 2008, California's Legislature approved the Statewide Park Development and Community Revitalization Act (Assembly Bill 31 — also known as AB 31), which set measurable and specific goals for funding park projects in underserved communities. OGALS within State Parks was tasked with distributing park bond funds, according to defined criteria from AB 31:

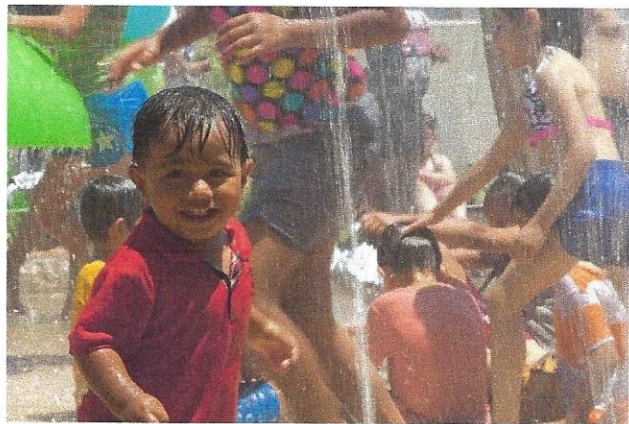
"The term 'critically underserved community' would replace the term 'heavily urbanized county' for purposes of the act and would be defined to include a community with less than 3 acres of usable parkland per 1,000 residents or a disadvantaged community, as defined, that can demonstrate to the Department of Parks and Recreation that the community has insufficient or no park space and recreation facilities."— from the text of AB 31

AB 31 marked a major milestone in the vision for equity in funding. It set the standard for measuring equity by requiring one of these to be true:

**Does this area have a demonstrated shortage of park access?** The standard baseline is a ratio of 3 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents.

OR

**Is the community disadvantaged?** The standard baseline is a median household income of less than 80% of the statewide average.



The Compton Creek-Washington Elementary Natural Park in the City of Compton was funded through Proposition 84 in 2011–2012.

To implement these two legislated metrics, OGALS sought standard data within a half-mile of each proposed project area. The half-mile metric is based on studies showing that people use parks most when those parks are easy to access. Traveling a half-mile or less, without needing a car or public transportation, is a sure way to encourage projects that deliver close-to-home park access. By using standard data to rank the ratio of park acres per 1,000 residents and median household income of all competing project areas, communities with the lowest park acreage and lowest incomes would have a competitive funding priority.

Fortunately, data and innovation of web-based "Geospatial Information Systems" (GIS) had evolved significantly since the early 2000s:

Close to the passage of the Prop. 84/2006 Bond Act, GreenInfo Network and State Parks worked together to create and launch the first version of the California Protected Areas Database (CPAD).<sup>2</sup>

When OGALS saw GreenInfo present CPAD in 2006, this new resource was adopted as key to make park acreage data easily accessible for all statewide applicants.

OGALS asked Greeninfo if a web-based tool could be created to calculate demographic data along with CPAD park data within a half mile radius of any potential project site in California. This collaboration led to the creation of the Community FactFinder.

The era of manually calculating demographics and acreages came to an end when OGALS saw that a GIS web-based tool could be designed to report consistent and accessible park and demographic data for all potential project sites in California.

The Community FactFinder was also designed to help applicants search their jurisdiction for park-poor or economically disadvantaged communities. And, the web-based tool was envisioned to be free of charge for anyone to use.

The web interface enabled users to find a project site by an address or moving the half mile radius pin throughout a community looking for underserved areas. When a site was selected, applicants generated a project area report with a quick click. The report showed park acres per 1,000 residents and Census-based demographics in that radius. Grant applicants submitted these to State Parks in their grant applications.

The result was a process where everyone had access to the same statistics and mapping tools, ensuring that GIS capacity was not a factor for grant applicants. OGALS performed intense reviews of all park data within thousands of proposed project areas' half-mile radiuses. In cases where applicants identified missing or incorrect data in CPAD or issues with Census data, OGALS worked closely with grant applicants to ground truth and evaluate the data. At times this resulted in updates to CPAD park data to ensure an up-to-date inventory.

This technical assistance tool helped lead to an unprecedented volume of grant requests. OGALS received \$2.9 billion in requests through 900 applications during two competitive rounds of the Proposition 84 Statewide Park Development and Community Revitalization Program (Assembly Bill 31). The \$2.9 billion in requests competed for \$368 million of Proposition 84 funding. Over 100 new parks were created and 20 existing parks were improved statewide through the Statewide Park Program (SPP) Rounds One and Two.



<sup>2</sup> A state-supported, multi-jurisdiction protected areas dataset developed by GreenInfo Network over many years. See more at [calands.org](http://calands.org).

### Proposition 68 (2018) Continues the Statewide Park Program

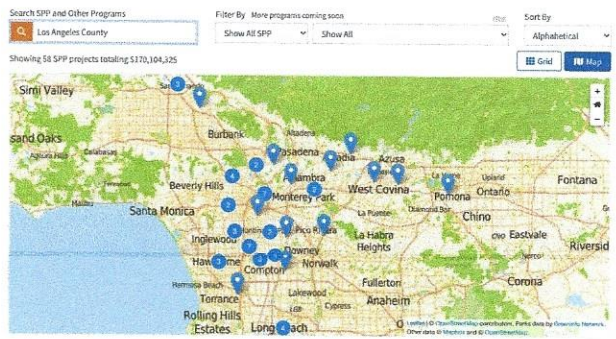
In 2018, voters passed Proposition 68, which authorized \$4 billion in bonds for state and local parks, and other environmental protection, restoration, water infrastructure, and flood protection projects.

Proposition 68 required that 20% of bond funds go to projects in communities with median household incomes less than 60% of the statewide average (Severely Disadvantaged Communities).

The legacy of the State Parks Development and Community Revitalization Program was continued through Proposition 68, making \$650.2 million available to create and improve park access in underserved communities. The \$650.2 million will be awarded through two competitive "rounds" (Rounds 3 and 4) of funding.

On August 5, 2019, State Park's OGALS received \$2.3 billion in requests for \$254.9 million available in what is called SPP Round 3. Round 3 awarded 62 new grants. An additional \$395.3 million will be available for SPP Round 4, with a March 12, 2021 application deadline.

[Parksforcalifornia.org](http://Parksforcalifornia.org) shows grant-funded sites along with an interactive map to display the statewide legacy of this program.



Parksforcalifornia.org shows grant-funded sites along with an interactive map to display the statewide legacy of this program.



## California Protected Areas Database

### Brief History

In the early 2000s, the State of California developed an initial statewide coverage of protected lands known as the Public and Conservation Trust Lands (PCTL) database. This data included mainly state and federal lands owned in fee (with some other lands included) and was developed through a consortium of these agencies (last updated in 2005). PCTL, however, did not encompass all regional and local land holdings and it is now a legacy data set, replaced by the California Protected Areas Database (CPAD).

### Regional Databases

People in some better-resourced parts of the state developed their own regional data sets, most notably the Bay Area Protected Areas Database (BPAD) in the early to mid-2000s. This was funded by region with various foundations/agencies helping to build the base, but that also meant highly variable coverage across the state. These were the first standardized efforts to collect more data on regional, local, and nonprofit-held lands.

### CPAD — Full state Database

With the release of Version 1 in 2008, eight regional databases were stitched into one, with data schemas unified and file size managed to allow for a single, wall-to-wall database for the first time.





Since that first release, CPAD has benefited from steady progress and improvements in both data and technology. Though there have been gaps, funding for CPAD has been relatively stable over the years, allowing GreenInfo Network to build a strong foundation in database structure, automation, quality control, user base, and connections to data contributors. That institutional knowledge also makes it easier to adapt to periods of low to moderate funding.

## Parks Data

California has the nation's largest population and third-largest land area. Measuring park access across California is complex — comparing the intersection of land data and demographic data requires constant inventory updates to accurately detail parcels of land for more than 14,000 parks in relation to where people live.

The two critical inputs to this work are the U.S. Census3 and CPAD. Together these identify demographic data and which lands are protected and accessible as public parks.

To assess the ratio of park acreage per 1,000 residents at any location in California, State Parks must have an accurate picture of what parks exist in that area. Until the mid-2000s, comprehensive data on parks and open space simply did not exist for most of the state. While individual agencies often had data for their own lands, no one had taken on the task of collecting that data from the more than 1,000 agencies that own and manage over 14,000 protected areas in California.

### The Complexity of Defining "Parks" for the special use of grant programs

Developing the statewide CPAD, and then using it for the SPP, required OGALS to develop standards on:

**What is a park?** While identifying park acreage boundaries are obvious in some cases, there are many less obvious cases. Clearly defined standards help differentiate government plots such as libraries, courthouses, and city halls in or adjacent to what may appear to be park space, bikeways along channels, schoolyards, nonprofit recreation sites such as a Boys and Girls Club, and sites that offer only indoor recreation centers that are not in a park but operated by a local park agency. These are some examples of what one agency may consider as land that should be counted towards park acreage, while another agency may not.

**What information do we track about a park?** Every agency tracks different information about the land they define as parks, from the minimal boundary and name to extensive attributes that provide detailed information on amenities. A statewide database must find the smallest array of baseline attributes to meet the analytical needs across thousands of parks.

**What open space areas should be included in the California Protected Area Database but tracked differently than a "park," and why?** Some wildlife preserves and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) properties, for example, are protected open space areas but may have no recreational access or only "restricted" public recreational access including special permits required to enter the public agency property. Other forests, BLM, and protected open space areas have a trail or other designated public recreation facility where the public can experience nature.



CPAD is California's inventory of over 14,000 open space areas.

Categorizing over 14,000 open space areas in CPAD to determine which should be captured as public recreation acreage required a category label of land in CPAD.

For the Community FactFinder tool, experiences of OGALS staff through the SPP Rounds 1 and 2 (under Proposition 84) and Round 3 (Proposition 68) involved categorizing the following complex scenarios in CPAD.

In each of the examples below, OGALS developed guiding principles of what should and should not be counted as a park in the Community FactFinder.

**Restricted Access:** These lands are open space preserves owned by public agencies but generally are nature preserves that are only open to the public through special permits. All of these types of lands are included in CPAD but not counted toward park acreages for the purpose of the Community FactFinder.

**Resolution:**

Land excluded from the Community FactFinder:

Land that does not have a designated recreation facility and are isolated as non-contiguous parcels from adjacent recreation areas (remote and inaccessible patchwork lands, typically isolated BLM parcels).

Wildlife preserves that require a special permit to access.

Land included in the Community FactFinder:

Open space land that is part of a larger contiguous area offering formal designated public recreation such as recreational trails or campground areas.

**Mixed-Use:** Suburban communities often use large government plots to locate groups of non-park services with park services. These can include a library, courthouse, or a city hall, adjacent to park space. The standard practice of using parcel boundaries for the entire government plot in these cases would lead to overestimating the acreage of actual park space.

In most cases aerial and street view imagery help define the boundaries of the park space compared to the library, courthouse, city hall, etc. If the non-recreational sections are small and embedded in the park, they are included. When large and distinct sections are identifiable (such as a library), they are removed.

**Schools:** School grounds can offer recreational resources to a community when official joint-use agreements allow the public access during non-school hours. However, when should a school property be counted as an actual park? In rare cases, there are long-term joint-use agreements for school district property operated by a local park agency with park signage and a publicly recognized park name. In other cases, there are joint-use agreements only approved on a year-to-year basis to help school districts maintain flexibility to build more classroom space if needed. In rare cases, schools that have been permanently closed may present potential sites for new parkland in dense communities with little to no available open space. It is important to realize that not all schools should be counted by the Community FactFinder as parks, since that would lead to an inaccurate representation of the community's actual park acreage.

**Resolution:**

To be considered a public park, the school district land must have an official multi-year joint-use agreement along with public park signage identifying the land as a park, or listing on a local city/community/county website as a public park resource. Additionally, school lands where park grant funds have been invested are included in the Community FactFinder.

**Cemeteries:** CPAD considers historic cemeteries to be public protected areas when they are operated by a public agency. However, for the purpose of the Community FactFinder and the SPP, cemeteries are not counted towards a community's park acreage. All historic cemeteries captured in CPAD are removed from the Community FactFinder.

**Trail Corridors:** These present perhaps the most complex example of when to consider a linear corridor area as a park. Many corridors function as a means of transportation between locations (for non-motorized travel). Some are a mix of transportation and a few park-type amenities (benches, fitness stops, playgrounds, or restrooms).

**Resolution:**

Because of the complex nature of corridors, each is reviewed individually. Given the nuance and complexity around these lands, State Parks often contacts local agencies for their help in determining if the land is locally considered a linear park or is primarily a Class I, II, III, IV bikeway not considered a linear park.

The five examples above help explain complexities of reporting and measuring a community's actual park acreage. These fine-grained control layers over the statewide foundation of CPAD allow OGALS to present an impressively detailed and accurate picture of recreation lands across the entire state of California for the purpose of the SPP and Community FactFinder.

## Demographic Data

Demographic data is available in various formats and levels of detail from the U.S. Census Bureau. To measure park access, the value of detailed demographics and parks data is achieved through a nuanced approach.

From 1990 to the early 2000s, demographic data was available only from the Decennial Census. The Decennial Census is meant to be as close to a true count of the population as possible on one day (April 1st).

**Pros:**

- Data for the main variables come directly from the forms all residents complete.
- More detailed data comes from the long-form sample (roughly 1 in 6 households) and is estimated for the remainder of the population.
- Recognized and authoritative source for local, state, and federal funding allocations
- Available nationwide at a variety of geographic levels.
- Can be joined to geographic TIGER files (tracts, block groups, counties, etc) for spatial analysis.

**Cons:**

- 10-year gap between data leads to significant changes on the ground between updates.
- After the 2000 decennial census, the long form was discontinued. Income data was not available in 2010, nor is it anticipated to be collected in future decennial census efforts.
- Significant effort required to obtain and process demographic data.
- Significant effort required to join the tabular and spatial data.

Commercial providers (such as Claritas and Geolytics) had population projections available for purchase between Census releases, which helped bridge the frequency challenge, but only at a cost.

In 2008, the Census Bureau released the first American Community Survey (ACS) multiyear estimates, and it has continued releasing annual updates to single and multi-year population estimates in the years since. The ACS provides key data estimates in the years between the Decennial Census, and also takes the place of the long-form census questionnaire, which has been discontinued from the Decennial Census since 2010. Unlike the Decennial Census, which is a full population count, the ACS is an estimate based on sampling that is ongoing.

**Pros:**

- Rolling five-year data is released every year.
- Provides income data post 2000.
- Recognized and authoritative source of information.
- Available nationwide at a variety of geographic levels.
- Comes with data pre-joined to TIGER files4, making updates quick and easier.

**Cons:**

Estimates are less accurate than what new decennial census data could provide. However, decennial census data was last completed twenty years ago and is no longer reliable.

Because ACS uses surveys and estimates rather than full counts, the margins of error are high in some areas and for some variables. However, in most places, the benefits of recency outweigh issues with margin of error, and where that is not the case, custom analysis can be conducted to review available data and ensure a balanced outcome.

The Community FactFinder and other related tools today rely on the ACS for its demographics data. To further refine rural communities, decennial block data are used to more accurately distribute population figures.<sup>4</sup>

 Get GIS Data

<sup>4</sup> *Methods for downsampling of data from block-group to blocks in rural areas:* [parksforcalifornia.org/methods](https://parksforcalifornia.org/methods)  
(Section: Community FactFinder)

## What level of Census data?

### Census data comes at multiple spatial resolutions:

#### Census Tract

Census Tracts are relatively permanent statistical subdivisions of a county, with an average of 4,000 residents, and are a collection of block-groups. Tracts are designed to be homogeneous with respect to demographic and economic conditions and vary greatly in spatial size.

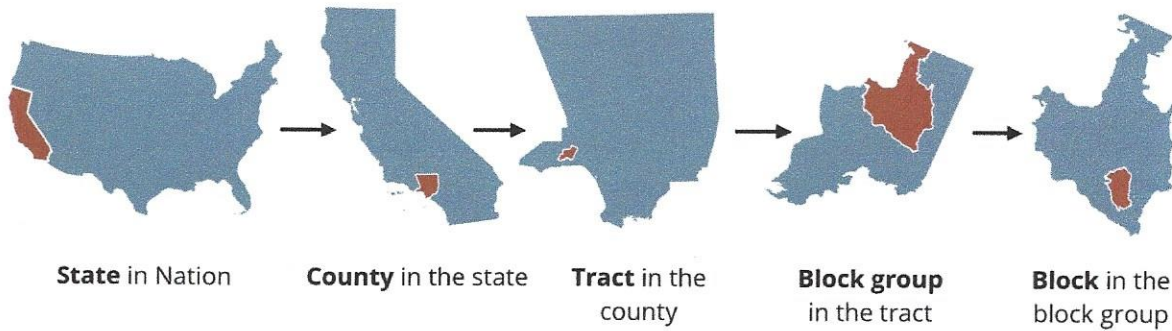
#### Census Block Group

A census block-group is a collection of about 40 blocks and has an average of 1,500 residents. Block-group is the smallest geography for which the bureau publishes data on poverty, median household income, and other sample data attributes. Block-groups do not cross state or county lines.

#### Census Block

A census block<sup>5</sup> is the smallest geographic unit used by the US Census Bureau for the tabulation of data. They are formed using physical, cultural, and legal boundaries such as rivers, roads, and jurisdictional boundaries. Blocks vary greatly in population size.

**This illustration shows how Census geographies fit inside the more familiar context of counties and state boundaries:**



<sup>4</sup> Methods for downsampling of data from block-group to blocks in rural areas: [parksforcalifornia.org/methods](https://parksforcalifornia.org/methods)  
 (Section: Community FactFinder)

Beyond these core shapes, the Census publishes data on a wide array of other geographic units, such as Census Designated Places and Public Use Microdata Areas (PUMA), which attempt to bridge the gap between the Census's core geometries that emphasize comparability (block to block, tract to tract) and how we define places every day (my town, this city, that neighborhood).

Currently, block-group data is used for Community FactFinder project-location analysis, with rural areas further refined through the use of block level distributions.

<sup>5</sup>This report covers the definition and history of Blocks and Block Groups: [www2.census.gov/geo/pdfs/reference/](https://www2.census.gov/geo/pdfs/reference/)

## Combining Demographics and Parks Data

The true value of detailed demographics and parks data comes when State Parks combines the two sources to assess any potential project area in the state.

### Community FactFinder

To better capture that on-the-ground reality, we have developed the Community FactFinder tool ([parksforcalifornia.org/communities](https://parksforcalifornia.org/communities)). This tool uses the location of a proposed project to create a half-mile radius circle and proportionally calculate the results for the people who live in that circle, regardless of how closely Census geometries or park boundaries match that circle.

At this site-specific level, State Parks calculates "Park Acres per 1,000 Residents" along with median household income, per capita income, and population overall, of youth, of seniors, people in poverty, and households without car access.

As shown in the example map below, a location can be outside of a Disadvantaged Community according to Census geometry, while actually having areas that are both Disadvantaged and Severely Disadvantaged within a half mile. The Community FactFinder achieves a more accurate picture by calculating income, population, and park data relative to the actual project location's radius.

While the use and ranking of consistent data to measure park deficiency and poverty is extremely valuable to help prioritize projects, any competitive grant review process should also include analysis and professional judgement of other factors of need and project benefits.

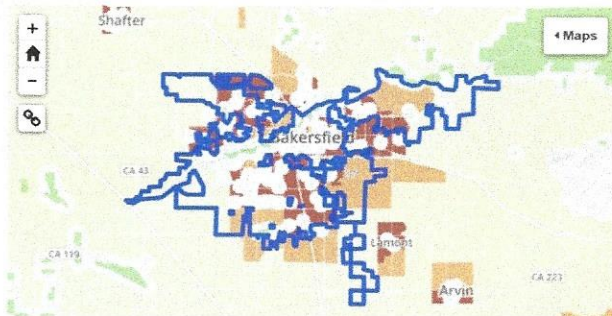


## Park Access Tool

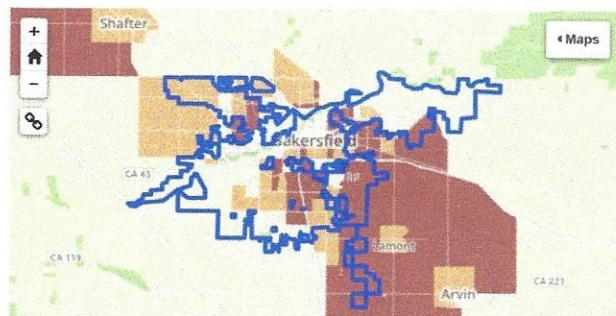
State Parks also conducted a broader analysis at larger geographic scales to calculate not only park acres per thousand people but also the percentage of people who live within a half-mile of a park. As presented in the Park Access Tool ([parksforcalifornia.org/parkaccess](https://parksforcalifornia.org/parkaccess)), State Parks has calculated these statistics for cities, counties, and legislative districts to allow lawmakers and government staff to understand how their communities fit within the larger picture of park access in California:

Site for the new Linnell-Brahma Park in Bakersfield, Kern County

**58%** of residents of **Bakersfield** live further than a **half mile** from a park



**67%** of residents of **Bakersfield** live in areas with **less than 3 acres** of parks or open space per 1000 residents



In 2015, when we first launched these tools, we found:

**62%** of Californians lived in Census Tracts with less than 3 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents.

**8.9 million people, 24%** of Californians, had no park within a half mile of their homes.

This analysis was conducted again in 2020 for California's Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Plan (SCORP) and found that:

**61%** of Californians live in Census Tracts with less than 3 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents.

**8.3 million people, 21%** of Californians, have no park within a half mile of their homes.

This high-level scan of the larger landscape is important for driving policy and legislative priorities at multiple levels of government, but the site-specific Community FactFinder is essential for making informed decisions about park areas.

While it is necessary to use statewide data for consistent results, that does not mean the process is automatic and simply mathematical. In a state as large and complex as California, caution should be used before mapping which Census boundaries have the highest priority for grant funding. Mapping Census boundaries that have high poverty or low park acreage with approaches such as the Park Access Tool can be a useful "high level scan" but may not be the best approach for site-specific data.

Mapping based on what is in the project's Census boundary does not take into account what is in the adjacent Block, Block Group, or Tract. For example, one Census Block Group may have a five-acre park. The adjacent Census Block Group, a few hundred feet away, does not have a park. That adjacent Census Block Group would be "mapped" as being underserved when in reality the residents have a five-acre park a few hundred feet away in the adjacent Census boundary.

For the above reasons, the Community FactFinder approach of calculating site-specific data, which may include multiple census boundaries within a project area's half mile circle, is a more accurate tool for grant programs. To assess park acreage and demographic data surrounding specific project sites, tools that only calculate what is within one census boundary do not take into account park acreage and demographic data of what exists in adjacent boundaries, which may be only a few hundred feet away of the project site's census boundary.

## Other Similar Tools

### Department of Water Resources Disadvantage Communities Mapping Tool

The Department of Water Resources (DWR) has a Disadvantaged Communities Mapping Tool ([gis.water.ca.gov/app/dacs/](https://gis.water.ca.gov/app/dacs/)) that provides easy access to whether any given Census Designated Place, Tract, or Block Group qualifies as Disadvantaged or Severely Disadvantaged. Each Census level provides a very different picture:

Each of these geometry types serves a purpose in different analytical contexts, especially for funding measures that serve larger communities, such as water system investments or other large-scale infrastructure. At the Block Group level, this application can help in understanding issues directly related to residential water supply.

Left to right: Disadvantaged Communities based on Census Designated Places, Tracts, and Block Groups.

### California Air Resources Board's California Climate Investments Project Map

The California Air Resources Board's (CARB) California Climate Investments Project Map tool

([webmaps.arb.ca.gov/ccimap](https://webmaps.arb.ca.gov/ccimap)) provides several different definitions of low-income and Disadvantaged Communities, all based on Census Tract boundaries. As shown above, the combined footprints of their various geometries provide yet another variation of whether any location is or is not disadvantaged.

### Trust for Public Land ParkServe

The Trust for Public Land's ParkServe tool ([tpl.org/parkserve](https://tpl.org/parkserve)) provides a resource for assessing park need at a community level across the entire nation. City-specific reports, as shown above for Bakersfield, are remarkably detailed for a national-scale tool. Especially in states that lack the resources and data for more accurate assessments, ParkServe can provide a floor of availability to ensure that communities across the country can engage in data-driven decision making about park equity.

However, as described on page 10, standards for what should be considered as park acreage may differ based on the uniqueness of grant programs. Furthermore, ParkServe is focused on urban and suburban areas and does not provide full geographic coverage for California. Community FactFinder works across the entire state, in urban, suburban, and rural areas.

ParkServe uses network analysis of a 10-minute walk, as opposed to a half mile radius. This helps with areas where a freeway or railroad might be impassable and a seemingly accessible park is actually inaccessible to a community very nearby.

Network analysis for walking routes specifically, to increase the accuracy of the 10-minute walk shed in all directions of a specific site, is a work in progress. There are shortcomings in available street and path network data accuracy statewide.

Network data to calculate a 10-minute walk from both commercial providers and open source projects is getting better with each passing year, so this would be an area to consider for future improvements to the Community FactFinder.

### Placing Projects in Disadvantaged Communities

For some programs, it is more accurate to use a site-specific data calculator that captures the surrounding aggregate income within a radius of the project site, including multiple census boundaries which may exist within the project site's radius.

To identify if a project is in a disadvantaged community for some statewide competitive programs, it is more consistent to capture the aggregate income within a half-mile surrounding a project. As shown in this map example, the project site (pin) is in Census geometry that is not considered Disadvantaged. However, when calculating other Census geometry data in the project area's half-mile radius, the aggregate income is below the \$56,982 threshold. This means the project area is in a Disadvantaged Community.

The Community FactFinder's half-mile radius uniformly quantifies the ratio of park space per 1,000 residents, number of people below poverty, and the median household income using consistent data available statewide. If the radius were larger, it could encompass higher income areas, or greater park acreage areas, which would disadvantage or disqualify many statewide applications.

# Creating New Park Access

These sites are being developed into new parks through 2020 SPP grants. To learn more, visit [www.parks.ca.gov/spp](http://www.parks.ca.gov/spp)

Site for the new Pala Vista Park in Vista, San Diego County — \$2.3 million grant.

Site for the new Corcoran Gateway Park in Corcoran, Kings County — \$7 million grant.

Site for the new Ashland Common Park in Unincorporated Ashland, Alameda County — \$7.3 million grant.

Site for the new Reeder Ranch Park in Montclair, San Bernardino County — \$5.1 million grant.

Site for the new Empowerment Park in Sacramento County — \$6.28 million grant.

Site for the Harbour-8 Park Expansion in Richmond, Contra Costa County — \$8.5 million grant.

## Using Data for Park Equity

Beginning with the 2008 development of the first statewide Community FactFinder and the Park Access Tool for the 2015–2020 SCORP, California provided a baseline for using park and demographics data to clearly and reliably understand park and community needs.

These tools support:

**Accountability:** Data can be used to ensure projects are proposed in underserved communities.

**Transparency:** All data are open to the public and free for use.

**Community:** Tools help guide applicants to propose projects in high need areas. Data for parks are open to revisions and input, using open data principles to accept contribution and feedback. Improvements are vetted promptly and implemented consistently to ensure a uniform statewide database.

This combination of high-level data from the Park Access Tool and project site specific data from the Community FactFinder allows Californians to identify where parks are needed in relation to where people live. It helps to ensure that state funds for park access are distributed in ways that lift up and empower the California communities most in need, meeting the shared vision of policymakers, government staff, advocates, and the public.

## 2021–2025 SCORP Action Plan for Geospatial Technology

1. Continue updating the California Protected Area Database (CPAD) as a vital resource for assessing park access.
2. Continue using the Community FactFinder for site specific data analysis.
3. In 2025, release the next version of the Park Access Tool for the 2025–2030 SCORP, building upon the 2015–2020 and 2021–2025 editions.
4. Monitor data and technology for improvements, especially in these areas:

Network analysis for walking routes specifically, to increase the accuracy of the 10-minute walk shed of each park, excluding areas that are impassable due to freeways, railroads, or other areas impassable to pedestrians.

Accessible mapping technologies for low- and no-vision users.  
Participatory mapping technologies that enable community members to provide spatially specific comments, images, and stories about park design and park access in their neighborhoods.

## ParksForCalifornia.org

The online home of the 2021–2025 SCORP provides a range of user-friendly resources and tools:

The **Project Gallery** showcases thousands of projects that have used federal and state funds to make accessible parklands.

Search by funding type or location, including cities, counties, and legislative districts.

View the results as a photo gallery or on a map.

Use the **Park Access Tool** to get a high-level picture of park access for the entire state or any county, city, or legislative district in California.



Use the **Community FactFinder** for site-specific data to help determine the level of need for any project area throughout California.

## Department Mission

The mission of the California Department of Parks and Recreation is to provide for the health, inspiration, and education of the people of California by helping to preserve the state's extraordinary biological diversity, protecting its most valued natural and cultural resources, and creating opportunities for high-quality outdoor recreation.

## Community Engagement Division Mission

Encouraging healthy communities by connecting people to parks, supporting innovative recreational opportunities, embracing diversity, fostering inclusivity, and delivering superior customer service, with integrity for the enrichment of all.

---

This report is produced by the California Department of Parks and Recreation's Community Engagement Division — Office of Grants and Local Services (OGALS). Since 1965, more than 7,580 parks throughout California have been created or improved with grants administered by OGALS. Currently, over 700 local agencies partner with OGALS to improve the health and wellness of California's 40 million residents by providing close to home park access.

OGALS GRANTS: [parks.ca.gov/grants](https://parks.ca.gov/grants) | Email: [SCORP@parks.ca.gov](mailto:SCORP@parks.ca.gov)

OGALS street address:

California Department of Parks and Recreation | Office of Grants and Local Services  
1416 Ninth Street, Room 918 | Sacramento, CA 95814

---

### Contact Us

 **Address:** 1416 9th Street Rm. 918 Sacramento, CA 95814 | P.O. Box 942896 Sacramento, CA 94296 Attn: OGALS

 **Office of Grants and Local Services:** (916) 653-7423

 **Email:** [SCORP@parks.ca.gov](mailto:SCORP@parks.ca.gov)

### Follow Us



This site is best viewed in Chrome, Firefox, or Internet Explorer 10+

Admin

# COMMITTEE REPORTS

# FINANCIALS



**Cazadero Community Services District**  
**Bills Presented for Payment**  
 February 9 through March 8, 2022

Date	Num	Name	Amount
<b>Feb 9 - Mar 8, 22</b>			
02/16/2022	EFT	Comcast	-199.38
02/09/2022	EFT	Frontier Communications	-232.24
02/09/2022	EFT	Frontier Communications	-235.86
02/09/2022	EFT	Frontier Communications	-63.09
02/24/2022	EFT	McPhail Fuel Co.	-462.89
02/15/2022	EFT	Recology Sonoma Marin	-46.95
02/28/2022	EFT	Comcast	-167.25
03/03/2022	EFT	P. G. & E.	-526.53
03/03/2022	EFT	P. G. & E.	-123.86
03/07/2022	EFT	P. G. & E.	-413.09
02/11/2022	E-pay	EFTPS	-756.66
03/08/2022	E-pay	EFTPS	-1,011.24
03/01/2022	10001	Caplan, Nancy K.	-415.57
03/01/2022	10002	Dewart, Alan	-461.75
03/01/2022	10003	Endsley, Stephanie R	-432.21
03/01/2022	10004	Krausmann, Steven M	-606.80
03/01/2022	10005	Kulczewski, Sharon	-311.69
03/01/2022	10006	Schanz, Eric E.	-461.75
03/01/2022	10007	Shane, Stephen	-144.05
03/08/2022	10008	Bank of America Business Mastercard	-1,094.21
03/08/2022	10009	Blomberg & Griffin Accountancy Corp.	-4,950.00
03/08/2022	10010	Burton's Fire Inc.	-1,563.00
03/08/2022	10011	Cazadero Supply	-96.00
03/08/2022	10012	Cazadero Volunteer Firefighters Associati	-5,001.00
03/08/2022	10013	Christian Ottolini	-750.00
03/08/2022	10014	Complete Welders Supply	-72.34
03/08/2022	10015	Del Rebentisch	-758.50
03/08/2022	10016	Law Offices of William D. Ross	-500.00
03/08/2022	10017	North Bay Petroleum	-404.94
03/08/2022	10018	Russian River Chamber of Commerce	-175.00
<b>Feb 9 - Mar 8, 22</b>			<b>-22,437.85</b>

# **CORRESPONDENCE**



# BRELJE AND RACE LABORATORIES, INC.

Providing quality laboratory analysis since 1967

February 3, 2022

Reported To:  
Jim Berry  
Cazadero Water Company  
P.O. Box 423  
Cazadero, CA. 95421

Sample Received: 01/11/22  
Collected By : JMB

**4900508**

Log Number	Sample Date	Sample Source	Lead µg/L EPA 200.8	Copper µg/L EPA 200.8
122-989	01/11/22	Buckeye Tank Outlet	<5.0	<50.
122-990	01/11/22	Hotel Spring	<5.0	<50.
122-991	01/11/22	Hotel Tank Outlet	<5.0	<50.
122-992	01/11/22	Bei Horizontal Wildland	<5.0	<50.
122-993	01/11/22	Buckeye Vertical - 6500 Cazadero Hwy.	<5.0	<50.
122-994	01/11/22	Buckeye Horizontal - 6500 Cazadero Hwy.	<5.0	<50.
122-995	01/11/22	Hotel Vertical - 6500 Cazadero Hwy.	<5.0	<50.
122-996	01/11/22	18620 Fort Ross Rd. - School	<5.0	160.
122-997	01/11/22	180 Old Cazadero Rd. - Kitchen	<5.0	<50.
122-998	01/11/22	26 Pearl Ave. - Luther	<5.0	<50.

Copy Sent to:  
STHD  
e-mail

Approved by:   
BRELJE AND RACE LABORATORIES, INC

# NOTICE OF A SONOMA COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION VIRTUAL PUBLIC HEARING CONTINUED FROM JULY 26, 2021 TO RECEIVE PUBLIC COMMENT AND CONSIDER THE SONOMA COUNTY LOCAL COASTAL PLAN UPDATE

## Virtual Public Hearing Only

Additional accommodations and digital file review are available

**WHO:** Project Applicant, County of Sonoma, **Permit Sonoma File No. PLP13-0014**

**WHAT:** Sonoma County Local Coastal Plan Update **All parcels within the Coastal Zone, Supervisorial District: Fifth.**

**On March 3, 2022 at 1:05 pm, The Sonoma County Planning Commission** will resume the virtual public hearing opened on July 26 2021 to receive public comment and consider recommendations on the Public Review Draft of the Local Coastal Plan to the Board of Supervisors in which all interested persons are invited to attend and provide comments. The Planning Commission will review the Local Coastal Plan on an element by element basis and will review the Public Access Element and the remaining policies of the Open Space and Resource Conservation Element not reviewed on February 3, 2022 at this continued hearing. This will complete preliminary review of the Draft Local Coastal Plan.

**Members of the Public May Not Attend this Meeting in Person.**

**NEXT STEPS:** This Planning Commission is anticipated to review recommended changes to the Local Coastal Plan on March 28, 2022 with final review and recommendation to the Board of Supervisors anticipated on April 7, 2022. The Planning Commission will announce schedule for final review and recommendation at the conclusion of this meeting. Once the Planning Commission has made their recommendation, the Planning Commission Recommended Draft of the Local Coastal Plan will be considered for adoption by the Board of Supervisors at a future date to be determined.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW:**

The project is statutorily exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) as per Section 15265, Adoption of Coastal Plans and Programs. CEQA does not apply to activities and approvals pursuant to the California Coastal Act by any local government, necessary for the preparation and adoption of a local coastal program.

### **WHERE &**

**WHEN:** **March 3, 2022 at 1:05 pm. In accordance with AB 361, Governor Newsom's March 4, 2020 State of Emergency due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Sonoma County Public Health Officer's Recommendation for Teleconferenced Meetings, and the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors Resolution 21-0399, this meeting will be conducted via videoconference only without a physical location from which members of the public may observe and offer public comment. Members of the public may watch, listen, and participate in the hearing through Zoom or by phone, and may submit written comment prior to the hearing as described below.**

### **ADDITIONAL MATERIALS:**

Project materials and associated documents are available at Permit Sonoma, 2550 Ventura Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA 95403 and digitally through the project planner and at <https://sonomacounty.ca.gov/PRMD/Long-Range-Plans/Local-Coastal-Program/Proposed/> For more information about this proposal, to submit comments, or to request an accommodation for review of the file, please contact the project planner, Gary Helfrich at Gary.Helfrich@sonoma-county.org or (707) 565-2404.

### **GETTING**

**INVOLVED:** If you have questions or concerns regarding the proposed project please contact the Project Planner noted above. Public comment prior to the meeting may be submitted to the Project Planner listed above. Comments may be submitted any time prior to the hearing.

**Public comment during the meeting:** Members of the public who join the Zoom meeting, either through the Zoom app or by telephone, will have an opportunity to provide live comments during the hearing. Please refer to the meeting agenda for instructions on how to join the meeting via the Zoom app or by telephone. The agenda will be posted 1 week prior to the hearing date located: <https://sonomacounty.ca.gov/Planning-Commission/>

If you challenge the decision on the project in court you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to Permit Sonoma at or prior to the public hearing.

**NOTICE  
ALSO  
PUBLISHED:**

Press Democrat February 20, 2022

**DATE:** February 20, 2022



**County of Sonoma**  
 575 Administration Drive, Suite 104A  
 Santa Rosa, CA 95403

Re: APN #: 097-060-027

PRSR STD  
 US POSTAGE  
 PAID  
 PERMIT # 470  
 SANTA ROSA, CA

67 1 1

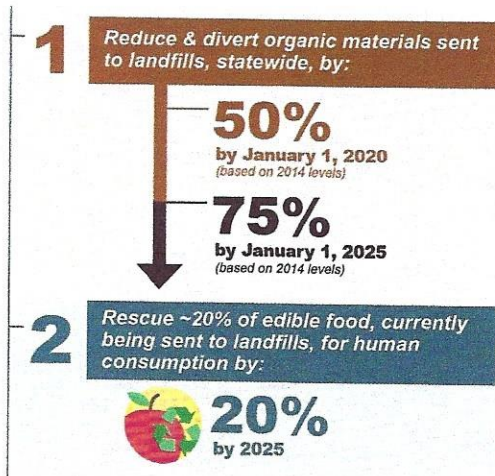
Cazadero Community Services District  
 PO Box 508  
 Cazadero CA 95421-0508



## NOTICE OF CHANGES IN LAW REGARDING ORGANIC MATERIAL DIVERSION AND RELATED COLLECTION SERVICE RATE INCREASES

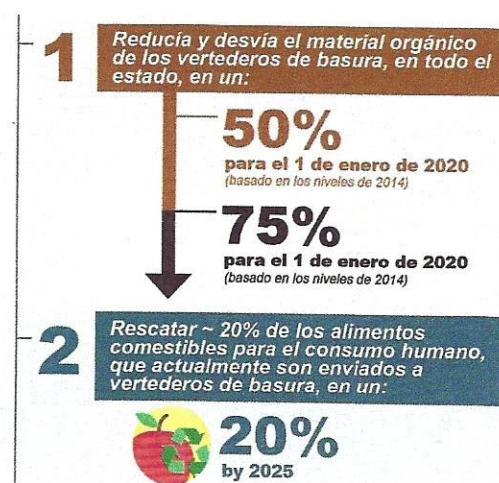
## AVISO DE CAMBIOS EN LA LEY CON RESPECTO AL DESVÍO DE MATERIAL ORGÁNICO Y LOS AUMENTOS RELACIONADOS CON LA TARIFA DE SERVICIO DE RECOLECCIÓN

### WHAT DOES SB 1383 DO?



**For more information, please contact:**  
 County of Sonoma, Integrated Waste Division, at 707.565.2194 or visit our online resources, below.

### ¿QUÉ HACE LA LEY SB 1383?



**Para obtener más información, póngase en contacto con:**  
 División de Residuos Integrados del Condado de Sonoma, llamando al 707.565.2194 o visite nuestros recursos en línea, que están a continuación.

Zero Waste Sonoma  
[zerowastesonoma.gov/](http://zerowastesonoma.gov/)



County of Sonoma  
[sonomacounty.ca.gov/TPW/Integrated-Waste/](http://sonomacounty.ca.gov/TPW/Integrated-Waste/)

# CALIFORNIA SB 1383

## Short-lived Climate Pollutants Act La Ley de Contaminantes Climáticos de Vida Corta



### WHAT ARE ORGANIC MATERIALS?

- » **All Food Scraps**
  - Vegetables, Meat, Bones, Dairy, Grains, Coffee Grounds
- » **Food-Soiled Paper Products**
  - Paper Towels, Pizza Boxes, Coffee Filters, Tea Bags, Egg Cartons, Unlined To-go Bags/Boxes (No Styrofoam or Plastic)
- » **Green Waste**
  - Landscape & Pruning, Leaves, Flowers
- » **Untreated Wood Scraps**

### ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS!



#### Reduce Methane Emissions

Landfills undergo anaerobic decomposition which generates methane, whereas compost piles undergo aerobic decomposition which sequesters carbon dioxide – preventing more greenhouse gases from releasing into our atmosphere and contributing further to climate change.



#### Composting

Given the rich nutrient and vitamin content of compost, this addition helps plants grow healthier and more nutritious!



#### Drought Resiliency

Placing organic material back into the soil increases its water holding capabilities, making it more drought resilient.

### ¿QUÉ SON LOS MATERIALES ORGÁNICOS?

- » **Todos los Restos de Comida**
  - Verduras, Carne, Huesos, Lácteos, Granos y Granos de Café
- » **Productos de Papel Manchados con Comida**
  - Toallas de Papel, Cajas de Pizza, Filtros de Café, Bolsas de Té, Cartones de Huevos, Bolsas y Cajas sin Forro para Llevar Comida (No Espuma de Poliestireno ni Plástico)
- » **Residuos Verdes**
  - Del Jardín y Podaduras, Hojas, Flores
- » **Restos de Madera Sin Tratar**

### ¡BENEFICIOS AMBIENTALES!



#### Reducción de Emisiones de Metano

Los vertederos sufren una descomposición anaeróbica que genera metano, mientras que las pilas de composta sufren una descomposición aeróbica que secuestra el dióxido de carbono, evitando que más gases de efecto invernadero se liberen a nuestra atmósfera y contribuyendo aún más al cambio climático.



#### Compostaje

Debido al rico contenido de nutrientes y vitaminas que tiene la composta, ¡esta adición ayuda a las plantas a crecer más saludables y nutritivas!



#### Resistencia a la Sequía

El poner el material orgánico de nuevo en la tierra aumenta sus capacidades de retención de agua, haciéndola más resistente a la sequía.

## NEW LAWS EFFECTIVE IN 2022

Senate Bill (SB) 1383, also known as the Short-Lived Climate Pollutants Act, requires statewide participation in organics diversion and recycling programs to reduce greenhouse gas emissions resulting from organic material disposal.

As a result of SB 1383, the County must offer a 3-bin solid waste collection service to all residents and businesses, each of whom must also comply with the new law by separately disposing of organic materials (yard and food waste). Diversion of organic materials to compost facilities will cut methane emissions and preserve our landfill capacity for the benefit of future generations.

## SOLID WASTE RATE INCREASES

These new requirements will also result in increases to solid waste collection rates (Garbage, Recycling and Organics) set by the County's franchised hauler, Recology Sonoma Marin. These rate increases are described in more detail below.

SB 1383 increases our County's solid waste system costs in a number of ways, including the expansion of collection services to new customers, diversion of all organic materials to new processing facilities, and related reporting and monitoring requirements.

## SUBSCRIPTION ENCOURAGED!

Landfills are the third-largest source of methane in California. **Organic materials in landfills emits 20% of the state's methane, a climate super pollutant 84 times more potent than carbon dioxide.** Everyone can do their part to reduce these harmful emissions by subscribing to collection service.

## SOLID WASTE RATE CHANGES FOR MOST COMMON SERVICE

(based on collection container size)

SUNRISE: RESIDENTIAL	CURRENT RATE	MAXIMUM EFFECTIVE 4/1/22
32-Gallon Can	\$46.95	\$49.72
64-Gallon Can	\$86.19	\$91.29
96-Gallon Can	\$125.06	\$132.48
SUNRISE: COMMERCIAL	CURRENT RATE	MAXIMUM EFFECTIVE 4/1/22
1.5 Cubic Yard Bin - 1x week	\$343.29	\$363.63
4.0 Cubic Yard Bin - 1x week	\$640.31	\$678.27

\* In 2023 and beyond, rates will be further adjusted to reflect changes in CPI as well as other adjustments allowed for by the Franchise Agreement.

\*\* A full list of rates for other service levels can be found on Recology's website [recology.com/unincorporated](https://www.recology.com/unincorporated)

To comply with these laws, you can:

### 1. SIGN UP FOR NEW SERVICE (if not already participating)

800.243.0291

[recologysonomamarin@recology.com](mailto:recologysonomamarin@recology.com)



Description of Included Services:

- » **Weekly Pickup: Trash, Recycle, Organics**
- » **Bulky Item Pickup: 4x per Year**  
(for more information: [recology.com/unincorporated](https://recology.com/unincorporated))
- » **Holiday Tree Collection**
- » **Battery Collection**

### 2. SELF-HAUL SEPARATED WASTE, RECYCLING & ORGANICS TO AN APPROVED FACILITY

To view a list of disposal sites, please visit the County's website:

[sonomacounty.ca.gov/tpw/integrated-waste/disposal-sites/](https://sonomacounty.ca.gov/tpw/integrated-waste/disposal-sites/)

### 3. COMPOST IN YOUR OWN BACKYARD!





## NUEVAS LEYES VIGENTES EN 2022

El Proyecto de Ley del Senado (SB) 1383, también conocido como la Ley de Contaminantes Climáticos de Vida Corta, requiere la participación en todo el estado en programas de desvío y reciclaje de productos orgánicos para reducir las emisiones de gases de efecto invernadero resultantes de la eliminación de material orgánico.

Como resultado del SB 1383, el Condado debe ofrecer un servicio de recolección de desechos sólidos de 3 contenedores a todos los residentes y empresas, cada uno de los cuales también debe cumplir con la nueva ley eliminando por separado los materiales orgánicos (desechos del jardín y de comida). El desvío de materiales orgánicos a las instalaciones de compostaje reducirá las emisiones de metano y preservará nuestra capacidad del vertedero de basura para el beneficio de las generaciones futuras.

## AUMENTO EN LAS TARIFAS DE RECOLECCIÓN DE RESIDUOS SÓLIDOS

Estos nuevos requisitos también resultarán en aumentos en las tarifas de recolección de residuos sólidos (Basura, Reciclaje y Orgánicos) establecidas por la compañía de franquicia recolectora del Condado, Recology Sonoma Marin. Estos aumentos en las tarifas se describen con más detalle a continuación.

La Ley SB 1383 aumenta los costos del sistema de desechos sólidos de nuestro Condado de varias maneras, incluida la expansión de los servicios de recolección a nuevos clientes, el desvío de todos los materiales orgánicos a nuevas instalaciones de procesamiento y los requisitos relacionados con la presentación de informes y de monitoreo.

## ¡SE RECOMIENDA LA SUSCRIPCIÓN A UN SERVICIO DE RECOLECCIÓN!

Los vertederos de basura son la tercera fuente más grande de metano en California. **Los materiales orgánicos en los vertederos de basura emiten el 20% del metano del estado, un súper contaminante climático 84 veces más potente que el dióxido de carbono.** Todos pueden hacer su parte para reducir estas emisiones nocivas suscribiéndose a los servicios de recolección.

Para cumplir con estas leyes, usted puede:

### 1. REGISTRARSE PARA RECIBIR UN NUEVO SERVICIO DE RECOLECCIÓN

(si es que usted aún no tiene uno)

800.243.0291

recologysonomamarin@recology.com



Descripción de los Servicios Incluidos:

- » **Recolección Semanal: Basura, Reciclaje, Orgánicos**
- » **Recolección de Artículos Voluminosos: 4 veces por año**  
(para obtener más información: [recology.com/unincorporated](http://recology.com/unincorporated))
- » **Recolección de Árboles de Navidad**
- » **Recolección de Pilas/Baterías**

### 2. AUTOTRANSPORTE DE RESIDUOS SEPARADOS, DE RECICLAJE Y DE ORGÁNICOS A UNA INSTALACIÓN APROBADA

Para ver una lista de los sitios de eliminación, visite el sitio web del Condado: [sonomacounty.ca.gov/tpw/integrated-waste/disposal-sites/](http://sonomacounty.ca.gov/tpw/integrated-waste/disposal-sites/)

### 3. ¡HAGA COMPOSTAJE EN SU PATIO TRASERO!



## CAMBIO EN LAS TARIFAS DE RECOLECCIÓN DE RESIDUOS SÓLIDOS POR LOS SERVICIOS MÁS COMUNES

(basado en el tamaño del contenedor de recolección)

SUNRISE: RESIDENCIAL	TARIFA ACTUAL	MÁXIMO EN EFECTO 4/1/22
Bote de 32 galones	US \$46.95	US \$49.72
Bote de 64 galones	US \$86.19	US \$91.29
Bote de 96 galones	US \$125.06	US \$132.48
SUNRISE: COMERCIAL	TARIFA ACTUAL	MÁXIMO EN EFECTO 4/1/22
Bote de 1.5 Yardas Cúbicas - 1x semana	US \$343.29	US \$363.63
Bote de 4.0 Yardas Cúbicas - 1x semana	US \$640.31	US \$678.27

\* En el 2023 y más allá, las tarifas se ajustarán aún más para reflejar los cambios en el Indicador Económico (CPI, por sus siglas en inglés), así como otros ajustes permitidos por el Acuerdo de Franquicia.