



GOAL RPC-2

Distribute parks and open space throughout the community and provide services, and safe and easy access, to all residents and workers

POLICY RPC-2.1: PARKLAND ACQUISITION

The City's parkland acquisition strategy should be based upon three broad objectives:

- Distributing parks equitably throughout the City;
- Connecting and providing access by providing paths, improved pedestrian and bike connectivity and signage; and
- Obtaining creek lands and restoring creeks and other natural open space areas, including strips of land adjacent to creeks that may be utilized in creating buffer areas, trails and trail amenities.

STRATEGIES:

RPC-2.1.1: Dedication of Parkland.

New developments, in areas where parkland deficiencies have been identified, should be required to dedicate parkland rather than paying in-lieu fees.

RPC-2.1.2: Public Use of School Sites.

Zone all public school sites for public use to allow for the public to use sites, when not in use by schools, through shared arrangements.

RPC-2.1.3: Acquisition of Surplus Properties.

Explore acquisition of surplus school and agency properties for parkland. Take advantage of the Naylor Act to purchase surplus school sites.

POLICY RPC-2.2: PRIVATE OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION FACILITIES

Encourage the continued existence and profitability of private open space and recreation facilities through incentives and development controls.

STRATEGIES:

RPC-2.2.1: Existing Facilities.

Encourage the continued existence of private recreational facilities through land use zoning and incentives.

RPC-2.2.2: New Facilities.

- Require major developments to incorporate private open space and recreational facilities, and seek their cooperation in making the spaces publicly accessible.
- Where feasible, ensure park space is publicly accessible (as opposed to private space).
- Encourage active areas to serve community needs. However, a combination of active and passive areas can be provided based on the setting.
- Integrate park facilities into the surroundings.
- If public parkland is not dedicated, require park fees based on a formula that considers the extent to which the publicly-accessible facilities meet community need.

POLICY RPC-2.3: PARKLAND DISTRIBUTION

Strive for an equitable distribution of parks and recreational facilities throughout the City. Park acquisition should be based on the following priority list. Accessibility to parks should be a component of the acquisition plan.

- **High Priority:** Parks in neighborhoods or areas that have few or no park and recreational areas.
- **Medium Priority:** Parks in neighborhoods that have other agency facilities such as school fields and district facilities, but no City parks.
- **Low Priority:** Neighborhoods and areas that have park and recreational areas which may be slightly less than the adopted City's parkland standard.
- **Private Development:** Consider pocket parks in new and renovated projects to provide opportunities for publicly-accessible park areas.

POLICY RPC-2.4: CONNECTIVITY AND ACCESS

Ensure that each home is within a half-mile walk of a neighborhood park or community park with neighborhood facilities; ensure that walking and

biking routes are reasonably free of physical barriers, including streets with heavy traffic; provide pedestrian links between parks, wherever possible; and provide adequate directional and site signage to identify public parks.

STRATEGIES:

RPC-2.4.1: Pedestrian and Bike Planning.

Implement recommendations in the Bicycle and Pedestrian Plans to link employment and special areas, and neighborhood to services including parks, schools and neighborhood shopping.

RPC-2.4.2: Signage.

Adopt and maintain a master signage plan for all public parks to ensure adequate and consistent signage is provided to identify public recreational areas.

POLICY RPC-2.5: RANGE OF PARK AMENITIES

Provide parks and recreational facilities for a variety of recreational activities.

STRATEGIES:

RPC-2.5.1: Special Needs.

Extend recreational opportunities for special needs groups (seniors, disabled, visually-challenged, etc.) by making improvements to existing facilities and trails.

RPC-2.5.2: Recreational Facilities.

Explore the possibility of providing additional access to existing facilities such as gymnasiums, swimming pools and tennis courts.

RPC-2.5.3: Community Gardens.

Encourage community gardens, which provide a more livable environment by controlling physical factors such as temperature, noise, and pollution.