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Parks and Recreation

San Ramon is committed to creating and maintaining a park system that meets the recreational needs of its residents and contributes to the City's positive image. The presence of well-designed parks and community facilities is essential to the health and well-being of a community. Parks and community facilities in San Ramon have improved and are striving to achieve the ideal envisioned by the City and its residents.

6.1 PARKS AND COMMUNITY SERVICES MASTER PLAN

The primary guiding tool of parks and community facilities is the Parks and Community Services Master Plan developed by the Parks and Community Service Commission. It is a blueprint that guides park and community service development through 2017 and, in conjunction with the General Plan, acts as a guidance tool to the City Council, the Planning Commission, the Parks and Community Service Commission, and the public.

The City's current standard for public parkland is 6.5 acres per 1,000 residents at General Plan buildout. Of the total 6.5 acres per 1,000 residents, at General Plan buildout, a goal of 4.5 acres per 1,000 residents is for, neighborhood and school parks and 2.0 acres per 1,000 residents is for community parks and specialized recreation areas. This public parkland standard is achievable under the General Plan 2035 if the City is successful in securing the proposed public parkland.

Since incorporation, the City has successfully pursued an ambitious program of park development. Neighborhood parks at school sites, expansions of San Ramon Central Park, parks established in new subdivisions, and preservation of significant creek corridors have been included in this program. Providing for parks and recreation services in San Ramon falls within the jurisdiction of the City, as well as several local, regional, and state agencies, private businesses, local homeowners' associations, and numerous special interest organizations.

6.2 PARK CLASSIFICATIONS AND STANDARDS

The City provides its residents with several types of parks and facilities. Parks are defined as parkland used for public recreational purposes. Parks in San Ramon are classified below.

- *Neighborhood Park.* A park or playground at least two acres in size, developed primarily to serve the recreational needs of citizens living within a half mile radius of the park. The City's goal, at General Plan buildout, is to maintain 4.5 acres of, Neighborhood Parks, and School Parks per 1,000 residents.
- *School Park.* A neighborhood park developed, improved, and maintained on school grounds by the City. School parks are utilized jointly by students and by residents primarily within a half-mile radius of the surrounding neighborhoods. The City's goal at

General Plan buildout is to maintain 4.5 acres of, Neighborhood Parks, and School Parks per 1,000 residents.

- *Community Park.* A larger park or facility developed to meet the park and recreational needs of those living or working within a three-mile radius of the park. Community parks vary from 10 to 60 acres. The City's goal, at General Plan buildout, is to maintain 2.0 acres of Community Parks and Specialized Recreation Areas per 1,000 residents.
- *Regional Park.* A park having a wide range of improvements not usually found in neighborhood and community parks and designed to meet the recreational needs of the entire regional population. A regional park must be over 200 acres in size, including both land and water bodies and should be within 30-minute driving time from the residents it serves. Recreational facilities, confined to a Recreation Staging Area, must not occupy more than 30 percent of the park's area, leaving 70 percent of the park's area to remain in its natural state. Recreational facilities might include a golf course, a zoo, a nature area, and/or hiking or equestrian trails. Some of these facilities may be under lease to community groups.
- *Specialized Recreation Area.* A recreation area or facility devoted to a very specific activity or use such as Crow Canyon Gardens, Sports Park, Del Mar Dog Park, or Forest Home Farms. The City's goal, at General Plan buildout, is to maintain 2.0 acres of Community Parks and Specialized Recreation Areas per 1,000 residents.
- *Public Spaces.* A publicly owned recreation space, area, or facility, where appropriate in mixed-use or multi-family developments, developed to enhance the recreation or leisure interactive experience of residents or visitors for passive or active use. Public Spaces might include an interactive water element, public art, gardens, trails and paths, plazas, labyrinths, picnic areas, tot-parks, pocket parks, basketball, bocce, or tennis courts, and it includes a balance of hardscape and landscaped areas. The City may allow for partial or full parkland dedication credit for these types of public spaces.

6.3 OTHER RECREATION AREAS AND FACILITIES

A variety of recreation areas and facilities in San Ramon are provided, through public and/or private investments, that are not part of the City parkland standards. For example, the East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD) is the primary provider of regional park space and activities in Contra Costa and Alameda Counties. EBRPD is responsible for recreational development and maintenance of regional parks, preserves, and trails. In San Ramon, the Iron Horse Trail, Bishop Ranch Open Space, Little Hills Ranch Recreation Area, Sycamore Valley Regional Open Space, and Las Trampas Regional Wilderness are all EBRPD facilities.

The EBRPD is committed to coordinating jointly managed regional trails with local communities such as San Ramon. Other trails proposed in the San Ramon Planning Area will exist along the western edge, along Dougherty Road, in Tassajara Valley, the Northwest Specific Plan, and Bollinger Canyon subarea. Both the City and EBRPD are committed to providing trails, parks, and open space in San Ramon. The trail system is portrayed in the General Plan 2035 Land Use Map in the Land Use Element.

Other areas, such as The Bridges Golf Club at 9000 S. Gale Ridge Road and Homeowner's Association owned and maintained facilities, provide additional recreational facilities to the community but are not included in the City parkland standards.

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6.4 EXISTING AND UNDER CONSTRUCTION PARKLAND

Table 6-1 provides an inventory of the existing parkland and parkland under construction within the City, including Dougherty Valley. Based on the California Department of Finance population estimate of 77,270 for San Ramon on January 1, 2014 and the existing parkland listed in Table 6-1, the current ratio of park acreage per 1,000 residents is 4.72. Table 6-2 provides an inventory of undeveloped parkland within the City. Figure 6-1 illustrates existing parkland in San Ramon. A detailed inventory of park acreage is provided in Appendix 6-A.

Table 6-1: Existing Parkland and Parkland under Construction

<i>Park Type</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>Community Parks</i>		
Existing (4)	100.44	
Under Construction (1)	8.21	
<i>Community Parks Subtotal</i>		<i>108.65</i>
<i>Neighborhood Parks¹</i>		
Existing (28)	113.98	
Under Construction (1)	2.32	
<i>Neighborhood Parks Subtotal</i>		<i>116.30</i>
<i>Specialized Recreation Areas</i>		
Existing (13)	74.45	
Under Construction (2)	9.65	
<i>Specialized Recreation Areas Subtotal</i>		<i>84.10</i>
<i>School Parks</i>		
Existing (17)	75.68	
Under Construction (1)	2.61	
<i>School Parks Subtotal</i>		<i>78.29</i>
<i>Public Spaces</i>		
Existing (None)	0.00	
Under Construction (None)	0.00	
<i>Public Spaces Subtotal</i>		<i>0.00</i>
<i>Total Existing</i>	<i>364.55</i>	
<i>Total Under Construction</i>	<i>22.79</i>	
<i>Total Existing and Under Construction</i>		<i>387.34</i>

Note:

¹ Includes pocket parks

Source: City of San Ramon Planning & Community Development Department and Parks & Community Services Department

San Ramon General Plan 2035

Table 6-2: Undeveloped Parkland

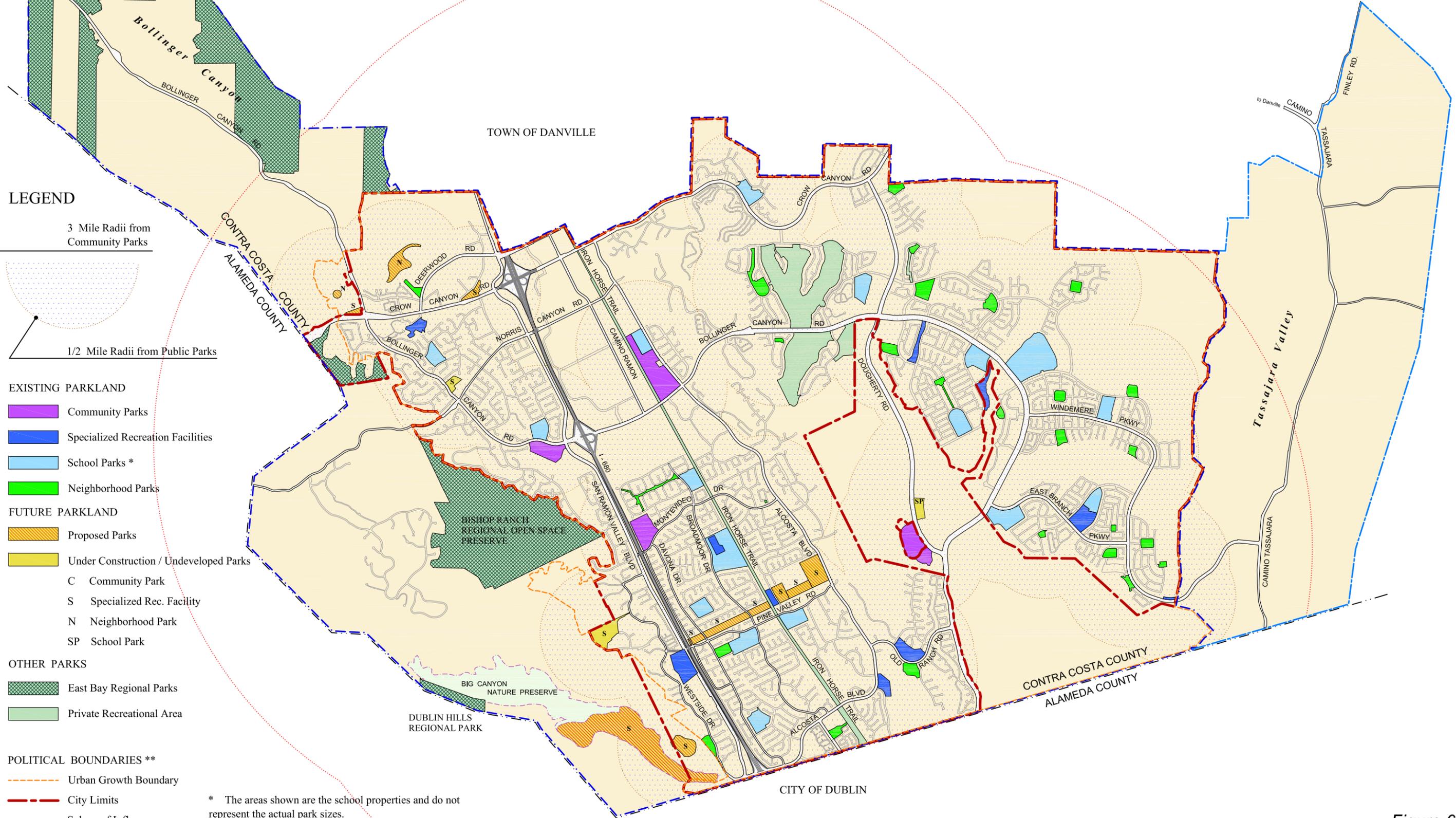
<i>Park Type</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>Specialized Recreation Areas</i>		
Henry Ranch Park	14.00	
San Catanio (Wood Lot)	4.60	
<i>Specialized Recreation Areas Subtotal</i>		<i>18.60</i>
Total Undeveloped Parkland		18.60

Source: City of San Ramon Planning & Community Development Department and Parks & Community Services Department

6.5 20-YEAR PARKLAND NEEDS AND PROPOSED PARKS

A planned buildout population of 96,174 by 2035 will result in a future need of about 625.87 acres at 6.5 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents. Table 6-3 provides the total existing, undeveloped, and proposed parkland in San Ramon by 2035. The General Plan 2035 proposes, at buildout, a total of 630.12 acres, exceeding the future parkland need by 4.25 acres. At General Plan buildout, the parkland ratio will be 6.55 acres per 1,000 residents, an increase from the current ratio of 4.72 acres per 1,000 residents. A detailed inventory of park acreage is provided in Appendix 6-A.

SAN RAMON GENERAL PLAN 2035



LEGEND

3 Mile Radii from Community Parks

1/2 Mile Radii from Public Parks

- EXISTING PARKLAND**
- Community Parks
 - Specialized Recreation Facilities
 - School Parks *
 - Neighborhood Parks
- FUTURE PARKLAND**
- Proposed Parks
 - Under Construction / Undeveloped Parks
- OTHER PARKS**
- C Community Park
 - S Specialized Rec. Facility
 - N Neighborhood Park
 - SP School Park
 - East Bay Regional Parks
 - Private Recreational Area

- POLITICAL BOUNDARIES ****
- Urban Growth Boundary
 - City Limits
 - Sphere of Influence
 - Planning Area Boundary
 - County Boundary

* The areas shown are the school properties and do not represent the actual park sizes.

** The locations of political boundaries are shown adjacent to each other for ease of identification. Actual political boundaries are coterminous when shown as contiguous, parallel, or overlap.



Figure 6-1
Parks

(Updated on October 21, 2019)

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Table 6-3: Proposed Parks and Parkland Need in San Ramon by 2035

<i>Category</i>	<i>Acres</i>
Existing, Under Construction, and Undeveloped Parks	405.94
Proposed Parks	
Athey Lot	2.48
Big Canyon	123.50
Faria Preserve Development Park	13.60
Laborer's	13.00
North Camino Ramon Specific Plan Park Sites	6.00
NWSP (Panetta Property)	2.50
NWSP West	2.00
PG&E Corridor	61.10
<i>Total Existing, Under Construction, Undeveloped, and Proposed Parks</i>	<i>630.12</i>
Park Need, at General Plan 2035 buildout (based on a population of 96,174 and 6.5 acres/1,000 residents)	625.87
Parkland Ratio	
Existing Ratio (364.55 acres/77.270 residents)	4.72
Ratio Achieved at General Plan 2035 Buildout (630.12 acres/96,174 residents)	6.55
Parkland ratio above the 6.5 acres/1,000 residents at General Plan 2035 buildout	0.05

Source: City of San Ramon Planning & Community Development Department and Parks & Community Services Department and Land Use buildout, 2014.

GUIDING POLICY

6.5-G-1 Create and maintain a high-quality public park system for San Ramon.

IMPLEMENTING POLICIES

6.5-I-1 Maintain a standard of 6.5 acres of public parks per 1,000 residents at General Plan buildout.

Of the total 6.5 acres per 1,000 residents, at General Plan buildout, maintain a goal of 4.5 acres per 1,000 residents for neighborhood and school parks and 2.0 acres per 1,000 residents for community parks and specialized recreation areas. It is the City's intent to meet the public park standard with a variety of parkland including passive and active land use acreage by 2035, the buildout period of this

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General Plan. Private recreation facilities (such as golf courses and homeowners' association amenities including mini parks, tot-lots, and picnic areas) shall not be substituted for required parkland.

- 6.5-1-2 Provide varied community park and recreational opportunities accessible to all City residents.

It is the City's goal to ensure that parks in San Ramon are easily accessible to its citizens, including the physically disabled, and to provide recreational equipment that people of all ages and abilities can use.

- 6.5-1-3 Maintain a minimum size of 2 acres or more for neighborhood parks.

Smaller parcels are discouraged as city-maintained parks because they provide limited recreational opportunities and incur high maintenance costs.

- 6.5-1-4 Provide passive and active recreational amenities within the City's parks to meet the needs of citizens of all ages and interests.

While it is important to provide recreation facilities for athletics and team sports, it is equally important to develop natural settings for the enjoyment of passive activities, such as picnicking or walking.

- 6.5-1-5 Require residential developers to make dedications to the City's park system.

The City's Parkland Dedication Ordinance shall be applied to all residential development and shall be used to determine a developer's dedication of park acreage. In-lieu fees are required when suitable land is not available or desired for dedication. Such fees are intended to give the City flexibility to purchase parkland elsewhere in the City or to improve existing parks.

- 6.5-1-6 Encourage contributions to the City's park system by non-residential developers.

In addition to improving park facilities for its residents, it is the City's goal to provide active and passive parks for use by employees of San Ramon businesses. The park needs of this group can be partially met by encouraging contributions of parkland or funds from non-residential developers.

- 6.5-1-7 Complete all parkland dedication requirements for each development prior to occupancy.

- 6.5-1-8 Encourage the development of landscaped and dedicated public spaces, parkways, trail systems, and special community service facilities in new developments.

Development of a Trails Master Plan will identify current, future, and proposed citywide trails and trail connections between existing and new development.

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- 6.5-I-9 Confer with the San Ramon Valley Unified School District to promote continued joint development and use of school sites located within the City and its Sphere of Influence.

Joint development and use of school sites is especially important in developed areas where park standards have not yet been achieved. This approach will help meet community needs for neighborhood parks during periods of parkland acquisition and development.

- 6.5-I-10 Seek partnership opportunities with the private sector and with other public agencies to enhance park facilities and provide leisure time activities.

In 2013, the Parks & Community Services Department established a Partnership Program to provide the private sector with various levels of sponsorship opportunities for City events, facilities, and programs.

- 6.5-I-11 Identify and document sites of historic interest and develop opportunities to acquire or preserve sites of historic interest.

- 6.5-I-12 Explore preservation of open space, ridge lands, and scenic corridors in and around San Ramon.

Within San Ramon's sphere of influence there is a variety of open space amenities such as the Bishop Ranch Open Space, the Little Hills Recreation Area, Sycamore Valley Regional Open Space, and Las Trampas Regional Wilderness. Through the Open Space Advisory Committee, San Ramon continues to work with a variety of agencies, including but not limited to, the East Bay Regional Park District, Contra Costa County, other municipalities, the State of California and non-profit trustee agencies to facilitate coordination with the preservation of open space in and around San Ramon, See Policy 8.4-I-13 for further discussion on viewshed criteria.

- 6.5-I-13 Designate Big Canyon within the Westside subarea as a nature preserve and seek to add it to the City's park system as a specialized recreation area with limited access.

- 6.5-I-14 Continue to review biennially and update quadrennially the 10-year Parks and Community Services Master Plan.

The Parks and Community Services Commission implements the Master Plan, updates it biennially, and ensures that the development of parks and community facilities proceed as planned.

- 6.5-I-15 Maintain service levels and maintenance standards in parks and recreation facilities at optimal levels for public use, safety, and cost effectiveness.

- 6.5-I-16 Maintain a standard, at General Plan buildout, that public parks are to be within one-half mile of all homes.

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It is anticipated that with existing land ownership and development this standard will be met at General Plan buildout.

- 6.5-I-17 Maintain a standard, at General Plan buildout, that Community Parks are to be within three miles of all homes.

It is anticipated that with existing land ownership and development this standard will be met at General Plan buildout.

- 6.5-I-18 Increase the accessibility and connectivity to the Iron Horse Trail and the regional/city trail network, including the possibility of bicycle/pedestrian overcrossing(s) described in the San Ramon Valley Iron Horse Trail Corridor Concept Plan.

Develop a Trails Master Plan to identify new trail connections for a citywide trail system. Work with the East Bay Regional Park District and private landowners to form a connected trail network that increases pedestrian and bicycle trail accessibility citywide that provides connectivity between parks, schools and open space lands. In 2007, the San Ramon Valley Iron Horse Trail Bicycle Pedestrian Corridor Concept Plan studied the feasibility of constructing bicycle/pedestrian overcrossing(s) along the Iron Horse Trail as an alternative to the at-grade crossings at Sycamore Valley, Crow Canyon Road, and Bollinger Canyon Road.

- 6.5-I-19 Where appropriate, require new development to provide Public Spaces to enhance the recreation or leisure interactive experience of residents or visitors for passive or active use.

Public Spaces might include, but is not limited to, areas such as an interactive water elements, public art, gardens, trails and paths, plazas, labyrinths, picnic areas, tot-parks, pocket parks, basketball, bocce, or tennis courts and includes a balance of hardscape and landscape areas. The City may allow for partial or full parkland dedication credit for these types of public spaces.

Appendix 6-A

Detailed Park Acreage Inventory

The following table provides a detailed inventory of park acreage within the City of San Ramon.

Park Type

GP2035 Notes

Community Parks**Existing**

Athan Downs	20.45	
Central Park	40.80	Includes Iron Horse MS Park (excludes City Hall 0.50 ac site)
Memorial Park	16.30	
Rancho San Ramon Phase 1	22.89	Phase I - 22.89 ac (includes Loop Road and Phase I)
Total Existing:	100.44	

Under Construction (as of 12/2013)

Rancho San Ramon Phase 2	8.21	Phase 2 - 8.21 ac
Total Under Construction:	8.21	

Community Parks Grand Total: 108.65

Neighborhood Parks**Existing**

Arlington Park	4.04	
Bellingham Square	4.06	
Boone Acres	5.47	
Centennial Park	5.51	
Compass Point Park	1.49	
Country Fair Park (Pocket Park)	0.18	
Coyote Crossing	11.73	
Creekside Park	5.97	
East Branch Park	5.07	
Fire Truck Park	1.15	
Hidden Crest Park	2.07	
Hidden Valley Park	4.54	
Hummingbird Playground (adjacent to Quail Run ES)	0.40	
Inverness Park	5.83	
Limerick Park	2.76	
Mill Creek Hollow	3.52	
Monarch Park	6.34	
Mosaic Park Phase I (formerly Gale Phase 3 Linear Park)	1.61	Existing Mosaic 1.61
Old Ranch Park	6.73	
Piccadilly Square Park	4.14	
Ramona Park	4.08	
Red Willow Park	4.94	
Richard Fahey Village Green	4.35	
Sherwood Park	1.49	
Six Pillars Park	2.74	
Souyen Park	2.40	
Valley View Park	10.01	
Windy Hills Park	1.36	
Total Existing:	113.98	

Under Construction (as of 12/2013)

Mosaic Park Phase II Pathway (formerly Gale Phase 3 Linear Park)	2.32	2.32 ac (Tract 8971)
Total Under Construction:	2.32	

Neighborhood Parks Sub-Total (Existing & Under Const.): 116.30

Undeveloped (as of 12/2013)

Henry Ranch	14.00	
Total To Be Developed:	14.00	

Neighborhood Parks Sub-Total (Undeveloped): 14.00

Proposed (as of 12/2013)

Faria Development	13.60	Revised Faria Project Plans (includes 12.9 ac for park and 0.7 ac for Rose Garden)
NWSP West	2.00	
Total Proposed:	15.60	

Neighborhood Parks Sub-Total (Proposed): 15.60

Neighborhood Parks Grand Total: 145.90

Specialized Recreation Areas**Existing**

Alcosta Senior & Community Center, Park & Gardens	7.83	Includes parking lot on adjacent City-owned parcel
Bark and Ride	6.68	
Crow Canyon Gardens (w/o MUDD's)	7.46	
Del Mar Dog Park	1.21	
Forest Homes Park	14.50	
Gale Phase 1 Park 2 (Gale 1 Overlook Park)	0.82	
Gale Phase 2 Park 6 (Basswood Trail Access)	0.09	
Gale Phase 2 Park 7 (Basswood Overlook)	0.10	
Gale Phase 2 Park 9 (Neighborhood 5 Park)	0.44	
San Ramon Sports Park	14.80	
SR Olympic Pool, Aquatic Park, etc.	6.00	Includes pool, portion of parking lot, and tennis courts
Summit View Trails	13.49	
Tassajara Ridge Staging Area	1.03	

Total Existing: 74.45**Under Construction (as of 12/2013)**

Gale Phase 4 - Neighborhood 6 Linear Park	1.21
Rose Glenn	8.44

Total Under Construction: 9.65**Specialized Recreation Areas Sub-Total (Existing & Under Const.): 84.10****Undeveloped (as of 12/2013)**

San Cantanio (Wood Lot)	4.60
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Total To Be Developed: 4.60**Specialized Recreation Areas Sub-Total (Undeveloped): 4.60****Proposed (as of 12/2013)**

Athey Lot	2.48	Includes APN: 208-290-005 (1.29 ac) and APN: 208-290-028 (1.19 ac)
Big Canyon	123.50	
Laborer's	13.00	
North Camino Ramon Specific Plan Parks	6.00	Includes Village Green (2 ac.), Iron Horse Trail Link (2 ac.), and Residential Park (2 ac.)
Panetta	2.50	
PG&E Corridor	61.10	Includes PG&E corridor and Devil Mtn. Nursery - Does not include the PG&E substation or Del Mar Dog Park

Total Proposed: 208.58**Specialized Recreation Areas Sub-Total (Proposed): 208.58****Specialized Recreation Areas Grand Total: 297.28**

School Parks (park acreage w/o school)

Existing

Elementary Schools

Bollinger Canyon School/Park	3.36	Includes Parks Dept. maintained area, Does not include blacktop, parking lot, or school
Country Club School/Park	7.11	Includes Parks Dept. maintained area, Does not include blacktop, parking lot, or school
Coyote Creek School/Park	5.25	Includes Parks Dept. maintained area, Does not include blacktop, parking lot, or school
Golden View School/park	4.96	Includes Parks Dept. maintained area, Does not include blacktop, parking lot, or school
Hidden Hills School/Park	2.96	Includes Parks Dept. maintained area, Does not include blacktop, parking lot, or school
Live Oak School/Park	1.50	Includes Parks Dept. maintained area, Does not include blacktop, parking lot, or school
Montevideo School/Park	3.68	Includes Parks Dept. maintained area, Does not include blacktop, parking lot, or school
Neil Armstrong School/park	4.17	Includes Parks Dept. maintained area, Does not include blacktop, parking lot, school, or playground
Quail Run School/Park	6.49	Includes Parks Dept. maintained area, Does not include blacktop, parking lot, or school
Twin Creeks School/park	3.66	Includes Parks Dept. maintained area, Does not include blacktop, parking lot, or school
Walt Disney School/Park	4.72	Includes Parks Dept. maintained area, Does not include blacktop, parking lot, or school

Middle Schools

Gale Ranch Middle School/Park	6.52	Includes Parks Dept. maintained area
Iron Horse Middle School/Park/Gym	0.00	Included in Central Park acreage (41.3 ac total)
Pine Valley Middle School/Park/Gym	9.35	Includes Parks Dept. maintained area, Teen Ctr., Gym, and South parking lot, Does not include blacktop or school
Windemere Ranch Middle School/Park	9.00	Includes most of Parks Dept. maintained area, Does not include blacktop, West parking lot, gym, or school

High Schools

California High School/Park (see SR Olympic Pool)		
Dougherty Valley High School/Aquatic Center	2.95	Includes tennis courts, parking adjacent to tennis courts, and aquatic center

Total Existing: 75.68

Under Construction (as of 12/2013)

Gale Phase 4 Park 3 (Neighborhood 3 School Park)	2.61	New Bella Vista Elementary School Park Site
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Total Under Construction: 2.61

School Parks Sub-Total (Existing & Under Const.): 78.29

School Parks Total: 78.29

GRAND TOTAL EXISTING PARKS:	364.55
GRAND TOTAL UNDER CONSTRUCTION PARKS:	22.79
GRAND TOTAL UNDEVELOPED PARKS:	18.60
GRAND TOTAL PROPOSED PARKS:	224.18

ND TOTAL EXISTING, UNDER CONST., UNDEVELOPED, & PROPOSED PARKS: 630.12

Parkland per 1,000 people (Existing):	4.72	Jan. 1, 2014 DOF estimate 77,270 population
Parkland per 1,000 people (at Build-Out):	6.55	Build-out population of 96,174 people

