# Introduction







The 2000 Greenprint - A Twenty Year Strategic Plan was adopted by the San José City Council in September 2000 to provide staff and decision makers with a strategic plan for expanding recreation opportunities in the City. Since 2000, there have been a number of changes in the City environment, leading to the need for an update of the original *Greenprint*. These changes include new policies, a new fiscal reality, and the completion of hundreds of projects.

The new policies that have had significant impact on parks and recreation priorities, since the completion of the original Greenprint include, but are not limited to:

• San José's Green Vision goal #10 which calls for the development of 100 miles of interconnected trails by the year 2022;

- The adoption of new Council policies to guide the development of programming and priorities in the Department of Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services (PRNS), such as the Facility Re-Use and Pricing and Revenue policies;
- The adoption of the Urban Environmental Accords in 2005, which goal #10 is to provide access to public parks or recreational open spaces within a half kilometer (approximately 1/3 of a mile) of every urban resident by 2015.

The original *Greenprint* called for an average annual investment of \$60 million to complete all of the intended projects by the year 2020. The new fiscal reality of today has led to declining revenues in both the operating and capital funds for parks and recreation facilities. In addition, the new economic climate has caused the City to focus more on being financially and environmentally sustainable and to invest in projects that help to further those goals. To this end, the Greenprint needed to be updated to set more realistic expectations on the delivery of projects due to declining revenues, while simultaneously focusing on projects, which will help to build a sustainable foundation for the future. For example, by investing in artificial turf sports fields, which can generate sufficient revenue to pay for their operating costs, PRNS can become more financially sustainable and continue to offer needed services throughout the City. Another example is the trail network. By creating an interconnected system of trails, the City can allow for residents to access the City's parks and other destinations without having to drive their vehicles. Walking is the number one recreational activity in California. In addition, there is still a large backlog of infrastructure in the parks and recreation system that will need to be replaced.

Besides the new policies and new fiscal reality, the parks and recreation system in the City simply

The First
Greenprint,
City of San José's
Strategic Plan
for Parks,
Community
Facilities and
Programs was
adopted in
September 2000.

looks a lot different than it did back in 2000. This is because of the success of the City's "Decade of Investment" which led to the completion of approximately 400 projects and studies related to parks and recreation facilities. These accomplishments included:

- Addition of over 84 developed park acres;
- Addition of 30 new parks;
- Completion of Lake Cunningham Skateparkone of the world's premier skate facilities;
- Addition of 25 miles of trails;
- Renovation of over 100 playgrounds;
- Completion/renovation of nine community centers;
- Renovation of the Happy Hollow Park & Zoo.

The original 2000 Greenprint helped to implement many of these changes, including the investments and approval of the bond measure that provided financing for many of these projects. However, as a result of all these new policies, the new fiscal reality and new projects, the original Greenprint is no longer a useful tool for the day-to-day setting of priorities.

Another major impetus for the *Greenprint Update* is the City's update of its General Plan—Envision San José 2040, allowing PRNS to provide an updated recreation element. This drove the use of Planning Areas, defined in the City's General Plan, rather than Council Districts as the basis of

neighborhood/community planning. Council District boundaries have changed since 2000 and further changes are anticipated with the 2010 census. The Greenprint Update uses Planning Areas for its data analysis, planning and strategizing. Because of their stable boundaries they are especially valuable in the collection and analysis of data over a long period of time. Moreover, use of Planning Areas best serves the intent of making the Greenprint Update compatible with the City's General Plan. The City's Planning Areas are shown on page 3. Calero, Coyote and San Felipe Planning Areas, on the southern edge of the City, are outside the Urban Service Areas and are not addressed in this plan. The Urban Service Area is defined as the area in which the City provides utility services like water and sewer, to residents. The City's ten Council Districts served as sub-areas for the community assessment and prioritization process.

For all of these reasons, the City initiated the *Greenprint Update* to take a comprehensive look at the current status of parks, trails and recreation facilities in this changing environment. It allows the City Council to consider the present situation regarding parks, trails and recreational program facilities and look at the future more realistically. From this information, and with consideration of anticipated funds and revenues, the Capital Action Plans and Urban Planning Areas

The 2009
Greenprint is San José's
Strategic Plan
to guide staff
and
decisionmakers
regarding
future
recreational
opportunities
for the
City

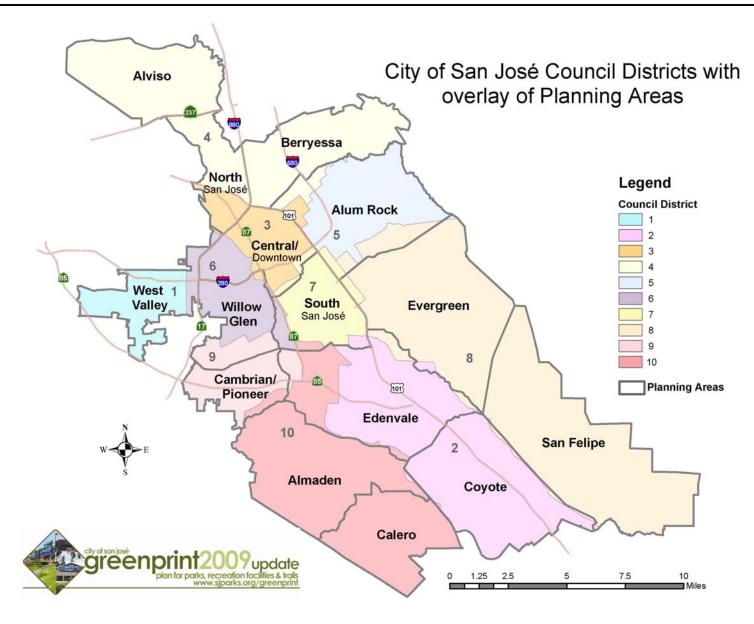


Figure 1: Council Districts with overlay of Planning Areas

strategies were developed, both of which are part of the *Greenprint Update*.

The *Greenprint Update* and the 2000 *Greenprint* both recognize that parks, trails and recreation facilities contribute toward healthy lifestyles by providing places where physical activity is encouraged and readily available to residents and workers. Recreation facilities and programs give youth and adults opportunities to improve their physical and mental well-being. These facilities can help create strong neighborhoods with community pride by connecting residents to their neighborhoods and the larger community.

Strong evidence shows that when people have access to parks, or other recreation spaces, they are more likely to exercise. Health benefit appears to be proportional to the amount of activity; thus every increase in activity adds some benefit.

The California Park and Recreation Society (CPRS) recently completed a study that indicated 98 percent of California households have visited a park in the last 12 months and of those 50 percent attended at least once per month or more often. The CPRS Study also indicates that a majority of residents are accompanied by a spouse/partner or their children when they visit a park. CPRS's newest tag line is "Parks Make Life Better"

The *Greenprint Update* telephone survey of 1,000 residents indicated that approximately 85% of San Jose residents have visited a City park or outdoor recreation area within the past year. Furthermore, 38% of households were classified as frequent users, those who visit a park at least once a week. The survey also indicated that 70% have used a City trail segment. Only 42% are using the City's Community Centers. The major change from 2000 is that parks are being used first over schools.

Community health and vitality are essential to attract and retain employees and businesses, which fuel the local economy. Diverse cultural and recreation opportunities must appeal to employees and residents alike. The City of San José should provide attractive parks and recreation facilities as part of its quality of life offerings along with recreation programs and cultural events. Attractive parks and recreation facilities help us determine the livability and economic strength of a city.

Livability is key to the success and livelihood of a city. It must provide safe places where people can go out and stroll, take their dogs for a walk, or just enjoy some sun light. Places that offer refuge from the urban setting must be available. Soft green places to listen to birds and children playing, or places to engage in outdoor sports, where one can feel welcome in the public outdoor realm.

The 2009 Greenprint -Update takes another look at the City's recreational facilities in a realistic view based on the current economic slowdown and reduced operational funding from the City's General

"Providing a comprehensive range of recreation activities. active and passíve, organized and un-organized, programmed and unprogrammed, which will satisfy the recreational needs of all age groups."

1965 Cíty

Master

Plan

In turn, the economic vitality of a city depends on its livability and quality of life. Therefore, a grand vision must challenge cities to provide quality outdoor spaces for the public to value and enjoy. Millennium Park in Chicago and Central Park in New York are examples of such places that are also a major tourism draw for those cities.

#### The Greenprint Update Planning Process

The original 2000 Greenprint planning process involved a collaborative approach among the City's Parks and Recreation Commission, representatives from the City Council, PRNS, the Redevelopment Agency, Convention Arts and Entertainment and various other City departments. Input was gathered from approximately 1800 residents at public meetings and through a telephone survey.

The original 2000 Greenprint also included a 49-member Community Advisory Task Force to advise the Parks and Recreation Commission, and it actively participated throughout the planning process.

The 2000 Greenprint summarized the findings of the planning process and presented recommendations for action that would require the City to invest at least \$1.2 billion over a twenty year period, or \$60 million per year. The First Greenprint played an integral role in the timing

and success in 2000 of Measure P, a local \$228 million general obligation bond to fund park and recreation improvements in San José. As of June 2009, renovation had been completed on 69 neighborhood parks and five regional parks, seven community centers and the construction of three trail projects. The new Happy Hollow Park & Zoo, the largest improvement project in the Parks Bond Program, is anticipated to open to the public in the spring of 2010. Construction of two sports complexes, two community centers and one trail project remain to be completed.

In addition to the Bond projects, the City has delivered numerous projects from other funding sources. These projects are spread across the Urban Planning Areas and range from expansion and renovation of parks and community centers to the construction of a 68,000 square foot skate park. Along with 13 new parks dedicated and developed by residential developers, another 31 acres of new parklands was provided from 2001 to 2009, under the Parkland Dedication and Park Impact Ordinances Program.

The Lake Cunningham Regional Skate Park—the largest in Northern California—opened to the public in April 2008, with rave reviews from residents and skaters alike. It is considered one of the best skate parks in the nation, which offer a wide variety of terrain to skate on.

# The Strategic Planning Process for the *Greenprint Update*

This *Greenprint Update* builds on the work done by the original Community Task Force and incorporates a "check-in" with the current community to verify that the City is providing recreation activities, programs and facilities that are still relevant. The strategic planning process associated with the *Greenprint Update* was guided by advisory groups in various capacities:

- **PRNS Work Group** consisting of PRNS' senior staff who met with the staff assigned to the *Greenprint* on a regular basis to review the planning process, provided input on tasks and guided the process and the work plan to ensure alignment with the Department's vision;
- Greenprint Sub-Committee including representatives from the Parks and Recreation Commission, Senior Citizens Commission and Disability Advisory Commission, as well as members from the 2000 *Greenprint* Task Force, provided feedback throughout the process based on input from the community and from their respective commissions;
- The Parks and Recreation Commission consisting of nine community members, appointed by the City Council, provided input, feedback and guidance throughout the project and held several update items on its agendas

And conducted a public review meeting before making a recommendation to the City Council.

The *Greenprint Update* process included the following four phases as shown in Figure 2 on page 7:

- Community Assessment and Prioritization;
- Strategy Development;
- Action Plan and Revenue Enhancements;
- Review and Approval.

#### **Community Assessment and Prioritization**

The assessment of community preferences and priorities provided important data that led directly to strategic planning recommendations for parks, recreation facilities, trails and programs.

The community assessment and prioritization process for the *Greenprint Update* included the following:

- Community meetings in each Council District;
- Citywide monolingual community meetings (Spanish and Vietnamese);
- Community survey forms submitted by 400 participants;
- Telephone survey of 1,000 San José households;
- PRNS staff input;

Sustainable communities seek to meet current economic, environmental, and social demands through equitable and demographic means. without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs."

League of

Women

**Voters** 

## **The Strategic Planning Process**

**Community** Assessment and **Prioritization** 

Phase I

Phase II

Strategy Development Phase III

Capital Action Plan and Revenue **Enhancements**  Phase IV

Review and **Approval** 

- Council District meetings
- Focus groups
- Telephone survey
- Other adopted plans

**April 2007-**December 2007

- Analysis of data collected
- Review and comparison of current plan and other adopted plans
- December 2007-**April 2008**

- Proposed Capital Action Plan
- Financing strategies (capital and maintenance)
- Draft report completed

May 2008 -May 2009

- Parks and Recreation Commission
- Public input
- Environmental clearance
- City Council

May 2009 -December 2009

Figure 2: The Strategic Planning Process

- Survey of school districts in the City;
- Inventory and analysis of San José's existing parks, recreation facilities and trails;
- Financial analysis by staff to identify funding sources and financing resources.

Input was gathered from approximately 1,400 residents at public meetings and through a 1,000 telephone survey. At least two community meetings were held in each of the ten Council Districts. At the first meeting, the purpose of the *Greenprint Update* was explained, current and completed capital projects were reviewed and the timeline for the *Greenprint Update* was provided. Community members provided ideas regarding potential acquisitions, park amenities, recreation facilities and programs. This information was compiled and presented at a second community meeting during which participants voted to prioritize the needs of the community.

Additionally, participants received survey forms to provide written input at the community meetings and on-line. It should be noted that the community assessment process was done by Council Districts but the strategies have been formulated by Planning Areas. Every attempt has been made to balance the Planning Areas with the needs identified by the Council Districts.

The key areas of information gathering included asking the community, "What are the most important priorities for programs, parks, facilities and services?" Along with the community assessment process, the Greenprint Sub-Committee meetings and PRNS staff input generated a number of themes:

- Maintain existing facilities before building new ones;
- Focus on environmental sustainability;
- Enhance existing utility owned lands (PG&E) for recreation uses:
- Enhance recreation facilities for all;
- Promote environmental stewardship and volunteerism;
- Prioritize resource sharing and partnerships;
- Rehabilitate existing facilities for better use;
- Expand and connect trails to improve accessibility and connectivity;
- Acquire and preserve open space for future needs.

These themes were incorporated into the goals and guiding principles of the *Greenprint Update*.

The Greenprint Subcommittee provided valuable feedback and guidance throughout the process based on input from the community and their "Sports
help
improve
self—esteem,
discipline
and
teamwork,
and provide
opportunities
to socialize."

Greenprint

"Align recreational programs and facilities to the socioeconomíc patterns and cultural needs present in each urban planning area." 1965 City Master Plan

respective commissions. The Subcommittee met several times throughout the process and their feedback was extremely valuable to staff during the development of the document. The Subcommittee drafted a letter in support of the adoption of the document and strongly encouraging its use by City and Council staff to help guide investments of the recreational facilities through the year 2020. In addition, the Subcommittee felt strongly that certain aspects and assumptions of the Greenprint need to be closely monitored in order for the City to achieve its goal for a Balanced Park System in each Planning Area. These assumptions include:

- Ensuring better, consistent and equitable public access to school grounds and monitoring school closures/conversions for loss of access;
- Ensuring that the *Updated Greenprint* is evaluated and used as part of the General Plan Update process known as Envision 2040. The current development of the General Plan is looking at how to add large amounts of park acreage to the City;
- Ensuring that the construction and conveyance tax, park trust fund, city and state park bond money, and other funding mechanisms are reviewed to determine if there are future opportunities to enhance their contributions to park development, operations and maintenance;

- Ensuring that staff continues to focus on a Balanced Park System in each Planning Area, for both existing and future neighborhoods, and continuing to focus on the priority of park acreage (3.5/1,000 pop.) in addition to the Urban Accords 1/3 mile goal;
- Continuing to focus on deferred capital maintenance projects as well as new facilities;
- Include funding for land banking in the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) to provide a clear and direct implementation tool to move forward on acquisition opportunities as they arise.

The Subcommittee supported the vision of the *Updated Greenprint* and endorsed putting a Balanced Park System in each Planning Area. By focusing on the above items, the Subcommittee felt that this balanced vision could be implemented regarding facilities within the *Updated Greenprint*. However, the Subcommittee is concerned with the deficient associated with operational funds to support both current and future recreational opportunities provided in the *Updated Greenprint*. This is also a concern of PRNS and the City.



### **A Balanced Park System Model**



Figure 3: A Balanced Park System Model

Introduction

"Strong evidence shows that when people have access to parks, they exercise more."

Trust for

Public

Lands

#### **Strategy Development**

During the twenty-year period of the 2000 Greenprint, the City was anticipated to reach a population of 1,100,000 by the year 2020; the current projection is 1,137,700 by the City Planning Department. San José has made an ongoing effort to provide parks and recreation facilities as a municipal park system. However, these efforts did not begin in earnest until after much of the City had been built out. This has created a situation in which, as the City has expanded and densities have increased, the amount of parkland and recreation facilities provided have not kept pace with the needs of a growing population. Furthermore, 45% of the City's population live in attached units. The result is that the supply of recreation facilities has lagged behind the need in many parts of the City.

The County Island Annexation Program could also have an effect on population and service ratios. The program began in 2006 where the City of San José will annex 49 "islands" (or "pockets") of unincorporated County of Santa Clara land. After annexation, the City would have general government authority over these new areas and provide services such as police, fire protection, street maintenance, library and parks and neighborhood services. This could result in the addition of approximately 16,650 residents.

The Greenprint Update makes use of a new planning tool, the Balanced Park System, developed to equitably distribute park and recreation facilities throughout the Planning Areas, while continuing to meet specific area needs (See Figure 3 on page 10). In order for a Planning Area to be completely served by all the amenities, the model identifies parks, trails, a dog park, a skate park, a community garden, sports fields, aquatic facilities and a community center with access to a gymnasium. For a detailed description of each of these amenities, see Chapter 4. A detailed analysis of each Planning Area was performed; including projects completed, service level requirements and operations and maintenance costs for existing facilities.

To meet current and future parks and recreation demand, it will be necessary to further develop existing parklands, build new parks, provide additional sport fields, aquatic facilities and other recreation facilities. The City will need to find ways to work around barriers to parks and related facilities so that recreation opportunities are convenient and accessible to residents. The type of recreation facilities proposed in the future will depend on the particular needs of the various areas of the City, as well as the opportunities and limitations of the City's current and future park and recreation sites.

One source of potential funding for the acquisition and development of new parkland is the Park Trust Fund (PTF) which collects in-lieu fees through the Park Dedication Ordinance/Park Impact Ordinance (PDO/PIO). These ordinances were modified in 1998 to provide new residential development with a proportional share of obtaining parkland and making park and recreation improvements based on the increased number of new residents. Since 2000, residential developers have or will dedicate approximately 105 acres of public parklands to the City. Of that amount, 53.5 acres were either provided or will be transferred to the City as completed park sites (Turnkey Projects). Additional financial strategies are outlined in Chapter Three.

The City has very few opportunity sites to create grand recreation parks. These few sites include the Guadalupe River Park & Gardens and Kelley Park. The Guadalupe River Park & Gardens are two distinct features in the City. The vision that brought the Guadalupe River Park from neglected flood lands to the heart of the downtown recognized that most great cities are connected to a body of water and celebrate it in some way. The Guadalupe River Park is a three-mile ribbon of parkland that runs along the banks of the Guadalupe River from Interstate 280 to Interstate 880. Parts of the park like Discovery Meadow, and Arena Green has become one of the City's major festival sites.

The Guadalupe Gardens portion of the park is a work in progress aimed at creating a unique beautiful park from the now vacant lands associated with the "Extended Airport Object Free Zone" just south of the Norman Y. Mineta San José International Airport. The goal of the Garden is to provide residents and visitors with a visual respite in the heart of the City, in addition to providing an attractive place to appreciate San José's horticultural heritage, once known as the "Valley of Hearts Delight." The goal of the garden is to be an educational green facility.

Kelley Park has been the City's main park for both cultural and heritage attractions. The tall redwood trees in the center of the park provide cool spaces to picnic protected from the City's summer heat. The renovated Happy Hollow Park & Zoo portion of the park is a fun young family spot. This park within a park is comprised of child-sized rides, play areas and a small zoo. The Japanese Friendship Garden is a popular cultural garden within Kelley Park along with the historic buildings south of the garden.

When fully developed, these major sites in the City's park system will provide users with unique recreation experiences to enjoy. These facilities, over time, may become the "icon" of the San José's Park System.

"Across
the nation,
parks and
protected open
space are
increasingly
recognized as
vital to the
quality of life
that fuels
economic
health."
Trust for
Public
Lands

Introduction

"We need active parks, passive parks and community centers for health and well-being, both for the individuals and for the community"

2000
Greenprint

Community assets, like parks and recreation facilities, are essential to attract and retain employees and businesses, which fuel the local tax economy. The City's health and well-being are strengthened through recreation amenities and programs which provide positive experiences. The City's image is partly based on its livability, supported by providing quality parks, facilities and recreation programs.

#### Action Plan and Revenue Enhancement

The anticipated annual investment in the 2000 *Greenprint* did not occur for two major reasons: (1) cost of land almost doubled and construction costs increased during the first seven years of the *Greenprint* and (2) City revenues decreased, reflecting the current economic strain. This led the City to develop different strategies to meet both its current and future parks and recreation needs. These strategies emphasize further build-out of recreation facilities on existing parkland, partnering with other agencies for use of their properties for future park sites and obtaining additional revenues to support operations.

Development of the Capital Action Plans involved analysis of each of the Urban Planning Areas to provide a balanced park system, coupled with a focus on sustaining the existing resources. The resulting Capital Action Plans provide a realistic list of what the City can fund through 2014 based

on current conservative revenue projections. It also identifies unfunded projects that could be constructed if other capital and operating funds become available in the future. These projects are noted as either a first or second unfunded priority.

One of the major challenges for the City today is to find ways to fund facility operation and maintenance as the City expands to meet the recreation demands of 1.14 million by 2020. The City's recreation facilities consist of numerous parks, trails, pools, golf courses, buildings and landscape areas. These existing recreation assets require regular maintenance and, over time, will require major repairs, renovations, replacements and/or upgrades. The City Council identifies reduction of deferred maintenance and infrastructure backlog as a top priority. Funding the construction of parks, trails and recreation facilities not associated with new housing development is a major challenge for the City. Land acquisition, though, will be the biggest challenge for the City, as it strives to meet its General Plan service level objective of providing 3.5 acres/1,000 population of neighborhood/community serving parkland. The cost of land and limited availability of undeveloped sites are providing no easy solutions. For all these reasons, a major section of the Greenprint Update deals with financing strategies. Fourteen proposed strategies address additional funding for capital and operating costs are noted in Chapter Three.

#### **Review and Approval**

The Greenprint Sub-Committee provided feedback on the information that is contained in the draft document, including reviewing the final draft document itself. Additional community input was obtained by releasing the document on July 13, 2009, on PRNS's Web Page with notices in the local newspapers. The review lead to 27 responders submitting over 190 clarification questions. In addition, the Mayor and City Council conducted a special study session on September 8, 2009, to discuss and provide feedback on the draft *Greenprint Update*.

PRNS staff recommended the following to the City Council at its September 8, 2009, Study Session on the *Update Greenprint*. In order to create a sustainable park system that can continue to grow, the 2009 *Greenprint Update* recommends focusing on projects that are environmentally and financially sustainable. The highest priority projects for PRNS to achieve the near term strategies of environmental and financial sustainability include:

- Advancement of the Green Vision Goal of 100 Miles of Trails;
- Focus on the infrastructure backlog;
- Investment in financially sustainable projects (including public/private partnerships);

• Land banking for future park development; and Sports Fields renovation (premiere, artificial turf fields).

PRNS staff also recommended the following to the City Council at the Study Session:

- A. Strive for a balanced park system in each Planning Area;
- B. Establish a long-term goal of having the Guadalupe River Park & Gardens as the City's Central Park and incorporate the Green Vision goal of developing 100 miles of interconnected trails;
- C. Incorporate the Urban Environmental Accords goal of 1/3 mile walking distance to a park, school or open space for every resident into the *Update*, but look to connect existing/enhanced facilities outside of this radius before building new facilities;
- D. Keep the existing General Plan service level objective of 3.5 acres of neighborhood and community serving parkland per 1,000 residents, including a maximum of 2 acres being recreational school land;
- E. Rank the Planning Areas on level of parkland deficiency based on the criteria outlined in the proposed *Update*.

At the Study Session, the City Council seemed to

"Beyond
the benefits
of exercise,
a growing
body of
research shows
that contact
with the
natural world
improves
physical and
psychological
health."

Public

Lands

concur with staff recommendations above, but requested specific details and a stronger focus on the following areas:

- Focusing on a balanced park system for each Planning Area, which includes a combination of acreage from parks, trails and recreational facilities;
- Continuing to utilize the ratio of 3.5 acres per 1,000 residents as the service level objective with 2.0 of these acres possible through recreational school grounds and working with the Schools/City Collaborative to enhance access to K-8 school sites:
- Providing an interconnected system of parks and facilities through the trail network and showing strong linkages to the bicycle network:
- Stressing the importance of larger parks and the utilization that they receive;
- Providing additional tables showing the relative park acreage deficits per Planning Area in the current year and projected for 2020;
- Stressing that while adding parks to underserved areas is important, the underserved areas are not always the highest priorities for new park development depending upon the priorities of the individual Planning Areas and the number of households in the underserved areas;

- Ensuring that barriers such as expressways and freeways are factored in when determining the underserved areas per the Urban Environmental Accords' access goal;
- Stressing accessibility of parks and recreation facilities and discussing plans to further expand the City's design guidelines to incorporate accessibility;
- Adding a table in Chapter 5 which shows the acres per 1,000 population in each Planning Area as well as the deficits as compared to the service level of 3.5 acres per 1,000;
- Provide operational and maintenance costs for a hypothetical Planning Area Model of the Balanced Park System.

Staff held two community meetings to gain additional public concerns with the draft document before proceeding with the various public hearings to approve the 2009 *Greenprint Update*.

Staff forward the draft document and errata sheet to the Parks and Recreation Commission (PRC) on October 7, 2009. The Commission unanimously approved the forwarding of the *Greenprint Update* to the City Council with changes to the errata sheet regarding the Three Creeks Trail, strengthen the language regarding future rails to trails conversions, work with the Envision 2040 General Plan Task Force and the Schools/City Collaborative on methods to ensure public access to elementary and

middle school campuses after normal school hours, continue to be creative in development of facilities in the urban environment, and work towards a mechanism to purchase large tracks of land for future parks.

On November 12, 2009, the Neighborhood Services and Education Committee (NSE Committee), a standing Committee of the City Council was to consider the draft document, errata sheet and proposed recommendations from the P&R Commission. The Committee lost it quorum, before any action was taken on the draft *Greenprint Update*, therefore the ramification of such action was to forward the draft onto the full City Council.

On December 8, 2009, the Mayor and City Council considered and approved the draft *Greenprint Update*. In addition to approving the *Greenprint Update*, with certain directions that have been incorporated into this final document, the City Council also adopted Resolution No. 75218 to repeal City Council Policy 1-6 "Park and Recreation Priority for Expenditure of Funds Collected from the Construction and Property Conveyance Tax" and City Council Policy 6-8 "City Improvement of School Sites for Public Recreation," which are redefined in the 2009 *Greenprint Update*.

#### **Environmental Clearance**

As part of the approval process, the document requires environmental clearance at the program level. The project identifies future needs for parks, recreation facilities and trails for the next 11 years and is conceptual in nature. Further environmental review may be required once specific recreational improvements are proposed and funded for design and construction.

The City hired David Powers and Associates to conduct an independent analysis, which resulted in the same or less environmental impacts compared to those identified in the General Plan 2020 EIR. and the same mitigation measures, including and adhering to the General Plan Policies, will reduce the potential impacts to a less significant level. . The original *Greenprint* was based on the policies stated in the 2020 Focus on the Future General *Plan*, which was adopted by the City Council in 1994. The environmental clearance for the 2000 Greenprint was based on the environmental clearance for the 2020 General Plan. The 2009 Greenprint's environmental clearance is also based on the 2020 General Plan's environmental clearance.

#### 2009 Update Report

This document is an implementation tool regarding the policies found in the 2020 General Plan. It is

Providing accessible parks, trails, open spaces and recreational amenities that allow People with Disabilities equal access to recreational opportunities is a City's Goals in providing a Livable Community for All!

a document to guide City staff and decision makers regarding expenditures and enhancements to the City's parks and recreational facilities. It will also serve a valuable guiding document for priority investments in parks and recreation facilities through the year 2020.

The *Greenprint Update* will allow for the concepts stated in this document to serve as dialogue for incorporation of the parks, trails, recreation facilities, and open space into the *Envision 2040 General Plan Update*. The approval of the *Envision 2040 General Plan Update* is scheduled for City Council consideration in the first half of 2011. Once the 2040 Plan is approved by City Council, then the next update of the *Greenprint* would incorporate any policy changes between the 2020 General Plan and the 2040 General Plan.

#### **Updated Report Organization**

The *Greenprint Update* – A Strategic Plan for Parks, Recreation Facilities and Trails is organized into five chapters and four appendices:

**Chapter 1**: Introduction describes the purpose of this updated plan, the plan's development process and organization of this document.

**Chapter 2**: The New Vision introduces the Vision, Mission, Guiding Principles, Goals and

Strategies for the updated document. It also includes recommended targets to assist the City in maintaining and providing a balanced parks and recreation system.

**Chapter 3**: Financing & Marketing Strategies describes funding sources needed to implement the eleven-year plan, priorities to implement a plan within City resources and development of a marketing strategy.

**Chapter 4**: Facilities & Programs describes the various facilities the Department operates and maintains, as well as some of the various programs/services the Department is responsible for, or participates in. providing such services.

Chapter 5: Urban Planning Area Strategies addresses each Urban Planning Area, its facilities and accomplishments since the previous plan, and underserved areas. It also includes maps and the Capital Action Plans for each of the Urban Planning Areas.

Appendix A: Community Assessment

Appendix B: Underserved Areas Appendix C: Parkland Inventory

Appendix D: Strong Neighborhoods Initiative

(SNI) Project List

Appendix E: Schools in each Planning Area

Appendix F: Targets

Table 1-1 General Plan Service Level Objective for Neighborhood/Community Serving Parkland

Description	2009 Area	City's 2009 Service Level	Service Level Objective	Service Level – <u>current</u> needs	2009 Surplus/ Deficit	Service Level – 2020 needs	2020 Projected Surplus/ Deficit
Neighborhood/ Community Serving Parkland (1)	1,586.9 acres -Parks, Trails -plus Future Parks & Trails	1.6 acre /1,000 population	1.5 acres/1,000 population	1,459.5 acres	+127.3 acres	1,706.6 acres	-119.7 acres
Recreational School Grounds (2)	1,334.2 acres	1.4 acres/1,000 population	2.0 acres/1,000 population	1,946.0 acres	-611.8 acres	2,275.4 acres	-941.2 acres
City Parkland and Recreation School Grounds Combined (3)	2,921.1 acres	3.0 acres/1,000 population	3.5 acres/1,000 population	3,405.5 acres	-484.4 acres	3,982.0 acres	-1,060.9 acres

This tables show the City's current service level and the 2020 General Plan service level objectives for local parklands

#### **Notes:**

City ratios based on population as of April 30, 2007 at 973,000.

2020 population anticipated to be 1,137,700 by the City's Planning Department.

Park acres as of November 2009.

- (1) This includes other agencies' recreational lands within the City's limits along with the City's neighborhood/community serving parkland.
- Does not include land associated with County Fairgrounds and the proposed Martial Cottle Park or the non owned secured acres by the City.
- (2) Recreational School Grounds counted as noted in Appendix E.
- (3) 3.5 acres/1,000 population, comprised of up to a maximum of 2.0 acres of recreational school grounds and a minimum of 1.5 acres of City parkland.
- (4) Number includes community centers currently under construction (Seven Trees, Bascom and Edenvale).
- (5) Does not include 87.7 acres associated with Singleton Landfill or 30 acres associated with Story Road Landfill. 8 and 6 acres were counted respectively toward the Coyote Creek Trail from the landfills.

**Table 1-2 General Plan Service Level Objective for Citywide/Regional Parklands** 

Description	Area	City's Current Service Level	Service Level Objective	Service Level – <u>current</u> needs	Current Surplus/ Deficit	Service Level – 2020 needs	2020 Projected Surplus/ Deficit
Citywide/Regional Parkland (City owned)	1,848.5 acres	1.9 acres/1,000 population	7.5 acres/1,000 population	7,297.5 acres	-5,449.0 acres	8,532.8 acres	-6,684.3 acres
Non-City Owned Regional Parklands and Open Space Acres (2)	15,500.0 acres	15.9 acres/1,000 population	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
City and other Citywide/ Regional Parkland Combined	17,348.5 acres	17.8 acres/1,000 population	7.5 acres/1,000 population	7,297.5 acres	+10,051.0 acres	8,532.8 acres	+8,8315.7 acres

## **Table 1-3 Service Level Objective for Trails**

Description	Area	City's Current Service Level	Service Level Objective	Service Level -current needs	Current Surplus/ Deficit	Service Level – 2020 needs	2020 Projected Surplus/ Deficit
Trails	<b>50.5</b> miles	2.8 miles year	3.3 miles year	<b>54.7</b> miles	-4.2 miles	93.4 miles	-42.9 miles

#### Notes:

City ratios based on population as of April 30, 2007 at 973,000.

2020 population anticipated to be 1,137,700 by the City's Planning Department

(2) Non-City Owned Regional Parklands and Open Space Acres includes County, Open Space Authority and the Don Edward National Wildlife Refuge

**Table 1-4 Total City Parklands Combined** 

Description	Area	City's Current Service Level	Service Level Objective	Service Level – <u>current</u> needs	Current Surplus/ Deficit	Service Level – 2020 needs	2020 Projected Surplus/ Deficit
Neighborhood/Community Serving Parkland (City owned or maintained by PRNS)	1,586.9 acres Current Parks, Centers & Trails Plus Future Fac.	1.6 acres /1,000 population	1.5 acres/1,000 population	1,459.5 acres	+127.4 acres	1,707.0 acres	-120.1 acres
Citywide/Regional Parkland (City owned)	1,848.5 acres	1.9 acres/1,000 population	7.5 acres/1,000 population	7,297.5 acre	-5,449.0 acres	8,532.8 acres	-6,684.3 acres
Total City Parklands (City owned or maintained by PRNS)	3,435.4 acres	3.5 acres/1,000 population	9.0 acres/1,000 population	8,757.0 acres	-5,321.6 acres	10,239.8 acres	-6804.4 acres

**Table 1-5 Service Level Objective for Community Center Square Footage** 

Description	Area	City's Current Service Level	Service Level Objective	Service Level – <u>current</u> needs	Current Surplus/ Deficit	Service Level –2020 needs	2020 Projected Surplus/ Deficit
Community Centers (3)	584,919 sq ft	601 sq ft 1,000 population	500 sq ft 1,000 population	486,500 sq ft	+98,419 sq ft	568,850 sq ft	+16,069 sq ft

#### Notes:

City ratios based on population as of April 30, 2007 at 973,000.

2020 population anticipated to be 1,137,700 by the City's Planning Department

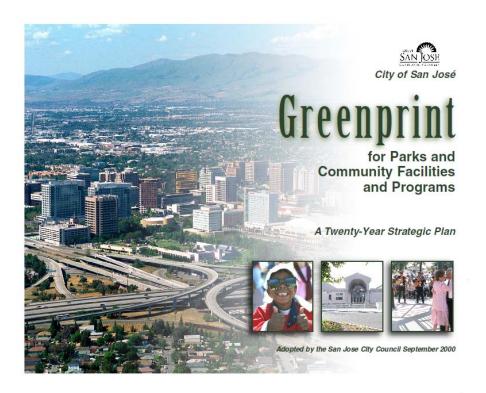
(3) Number includes community centers currently under construction (Seven Trees, Bascom and Edenvale).

**Table 1-6 Total N & C Parklands by Planning Area in Acres** 

Planning Area	2009 N & C Parks	Rec. School Grounds	Total N & C Parkland & Schools	Service Level needs in 2009	2009 Delta Surplus/ Deficit	Service Level needs in 2020	2020 Delta Surplus/ Deficit
Almaden	163.7	61.9	225.6	128.1	+97.5	137.9	+87.7
Alum Rock	134.8	300.5	435.3	512.4	-77.1	560.0	-124.9
Alviso	12.9	8.0	20.9	8.4	+28.7	10.2	+26.9
Berryessa	149.6	106.3	255.9	253.0	+2.9	306.3	-50.4
Cambrian / Pioneer	61.9	95.3	157.2	208.9	-51.7	235.9	-78.7
Central / Downtown	180.0	45.4	225.4	401.8	-176.4	525.0	-299.6
Edenvale	243.9	204.5	448.4	501.6	-53.2	544.3	-95.9
Evergreen	281.5	104.5	386.0	324.5	+61.5	382.9	+3.1
North San José	32.3	5.9	38.2	71.8	-33.6	179.9	-141.7
South San José	127.1	145.9	273.0	372.0	-99.0	449.4	-176.4
West Valley	106.9	159.5	266.4	357.4	-91.1	365.4	-99.0
Willow Glen	92.4	96.5	188.8	265.7	-76.8	283.5	-94.6
Est. Totals	1586.9	1,334.2	2.921.1	3,405.7	(-484.6)	3,982.0	(-1.060.9)

#### **Notes:**

- 1) N = Neighborhood, C = Community Park acres as of November 2009 including 33.3 acres of County parkland and 9,3 acres of future PDO/PIO land dedications.
- 2) Does not include 21 secured acres in North San José Planning Area.
- 3) Population for 2009 as of 4/30/07, as provided from the Planning, Building and Code Enforcement Department per Planning Area See Table 5-2 for numbers
- 4) 2020 population anticipated to be 1,137,700 by the City's Planning Department (400 allocated toward Calero, Coyote and San Felipe Planning Areas)
- 5) Number includes parks, trails, community garden, and community center for existing and plan facilities on either City property or secured land by development agreement.
- 6) Number includes community centers currently under construction (Seven Trees, Bascom and Edenvale).



Now

# **Then**



City of San José

# Greenprint 2009 Update

for Parks, Recreation Facilities and Trails A Strategic Plan to 2020









Adopted by the San José City Council: December 2009