

PARKS, RECREATION AND NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES

The mission of Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services is connecting people through parks, recreation and neighborhood services for an active San José.

PARKS, RECREATION AND NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES

The Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services Department (PRNS) operates the City's regional and neighborhood parks, as well as facilities such as Happy Hollow Park & Zoo. PRNS also operates community and recreation centers and provides various recreation, community service, and other programs for the city's residents. PRNS offers programs and services for children, youth, teens, adults, seniors, and people with disabilities. Beginning 2021-22, the City consolidated the Beautify San José (BeautifySJ) program within PRNS. The program is intended to provide dedicated and enhanced focus on ridding the city of blight.

In 2022-23, PRNS operating expenditures totaled \$110 million. This included personal and non-personal/equipment expenditures. PRNS was also responsible for additional costs, including \$15 million in Citywide expenses. Staffing totaled 826 authorized positions, 51 more positions than in 2021-22. This increase included added positions for Placemaking/Viva CalleSJ and Viva Parks, BeautifySJ, and the Pest and Turf Management Team.

For 2022-23, PRNS reported its direct program cost recovery rate was 23 percent. Program fees, which accounted for 58 percent of collected revenues, totaled \$17.7 million, up from the \$16 million in 2021-22. [Happy Hollow Park & Zoo](#) served 385,880 visitors and generated \$7.9 million in revenues in 2022-23, reaching back to the pre-COVID levels. Happy Hollow Park & Zoo resumed seven day operations in the summer months starting May 2023. In the previous fiscal year, the Zoo was closed Mondays and Tuesdays.

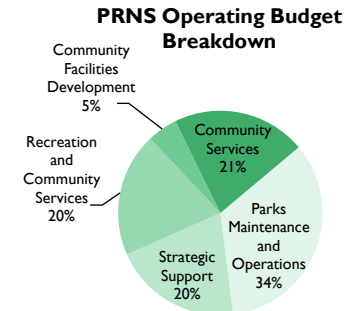
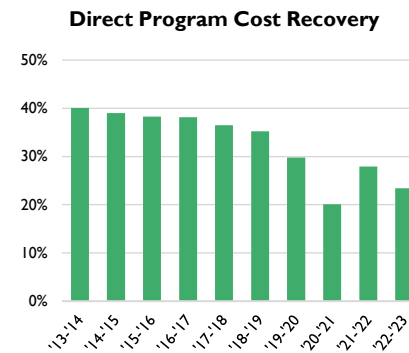
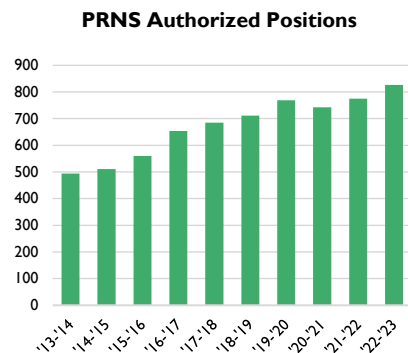
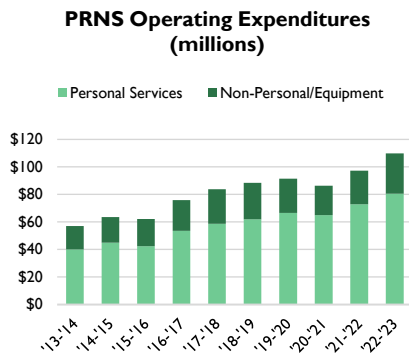
Emma Prusch Farm Park Barn



Happy Hollow Park & Zoo



Source: PRNS



PARKS, RECREATION AND NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES

PARKS MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS

The City has 202 neighborhood and 10 regional parks, as well as other facilities, such as community gardens, trails, swimming pools, and skate parks. Excluding golf courses, the developed portion of these facilities covered 1,799 acres. There were an additional 1,501 acres of open space and undeveloped land.

The City's General Fund cost to maintain developed parkland was \$15,262 per acre. Twenty-nine percent of developed park acres had a Park Condition Assessment (PCA) score of 90 percent or better, below the target of 56 percent.

In 2022-23, the five-year Parks and Community Facilities Development Capital Improvement Program (CIP) allocated \$422 million to parks for 2023 to 2027.

The [City Trail Network](#) is composed of 40 unique trail systems that are intended to interconnect as further development occurs. The 2022-23 network included 64.93 miles of trails that were open to the public (about 88 percent paved). An additional 82.46 miles have been identified or are being studied for further development, or are in the planning phases of development.

KEY FACTS (2022-23)

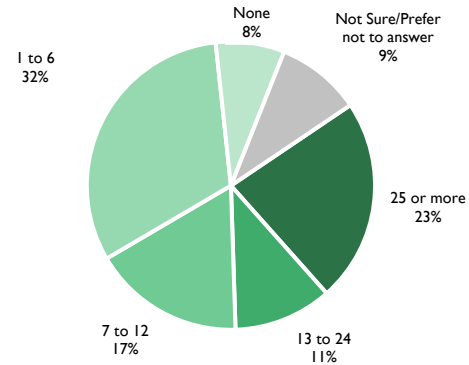
Neighborhood Parks (202 parks)	1,237 acres
Regional Parks (10 parks)	562 acres
Golf Courses (3 courses)	321 acres*
Open space and undeveloped land	1,501 acres
Total	3,621 acres**

For list of City parks see: [List of parks and playgrounds](#)

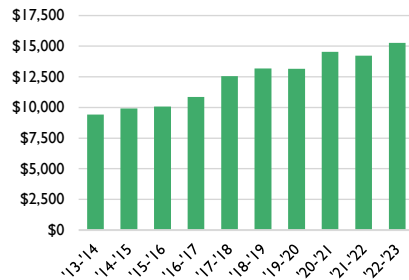
*Does not include 50 acres open space.

**State, county, or other public lands within San José's boundaries are not included in the above figures.

Community Survey 2023
Visited a park in San José

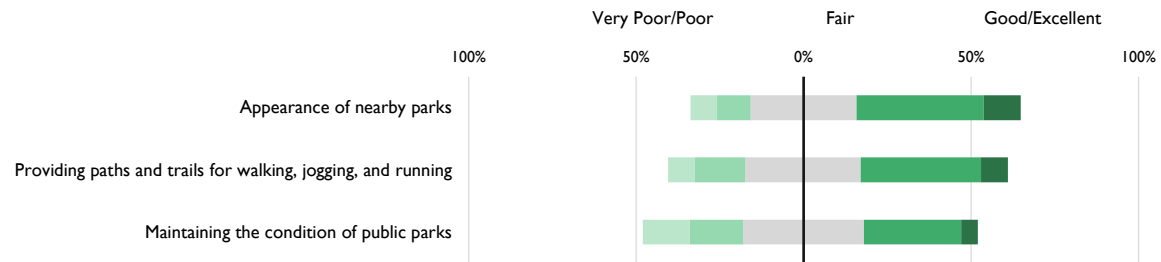


Cost per Acre to Maintain Parks and Other Facilities



Community Survey 2023

Ratings of Neighborhood Characteristics and City Services



PARKS, RECREATION AND NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES

COMMUNITY SERVICES

PRNS also provides a number of community services and programs, including anti-graffiti and anti-litter, illegal dumping, homeless encampment trash collection and abatement, gang prevention and intervention, and others.

The San José Youth Empowerment Alliance* has service components such as the Bringing Everyone's Strengths Together (B.E.S.T.) program, Youth Intervention Services, the Safe Schools Campus Initiative (SSCI)** and the Safe Summer Initiative Grants (SSIG) providing services to at-risk youth and their families. In 2022-23, the SSCI team responded to 696 incidents. There were an estimated 2,800 participants in programs offered by community based organizations that received B.E.S.T. grants. B.E.S.T. program expenditures for 2022-23 were \$6.6 million, of which approximately \$3.8 million were for B.E.S.T grants and SSIG.

In 2022-23, the City's contractor completed 26,100 graffiti removal work orders. The community survey reports that 26 percent of residents viewed graffiti removal services as "good" or "excellent."

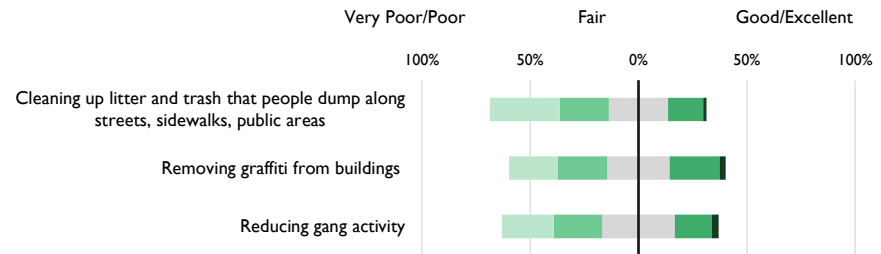
* Formerly known as the Mayor's Gang Prevention Task Force (MGPTF)
 ** SSCI is a partnership between school districts and the City to address violence-related issues in schools.

Graffiti Removal Program

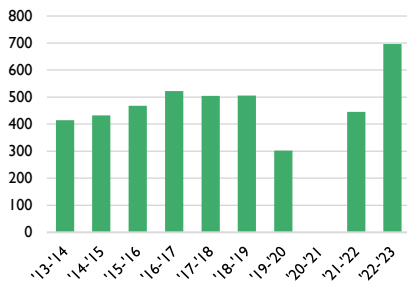


Source: PRNS

Community Survey 2023
 Ratings of Services

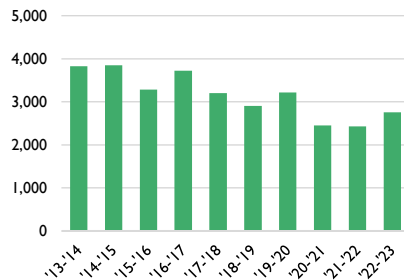


Incidents Responses on Safe School Campuses

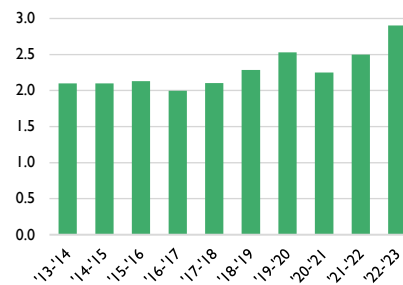


Note: In 2020-21 there were no SSCI responses due to COVID-19 school closures.

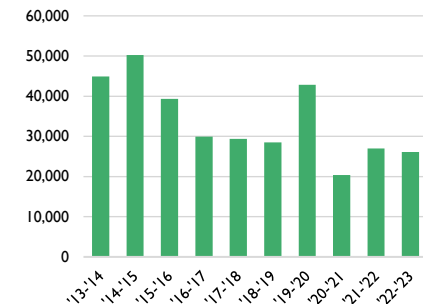
Participants in Grant-Funded B.E.S.T. Youth Service Program



Estimated Square Feet of Graffiti Eradicated (millions)



Graffiti Workorders Completed



PARKS, RECREATION AND NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES

BEAUTIFYSJ

Beginning in 2021-22, the City consolidated the Beautify San José (BeautifySJ) program within PRNS. BeautifySJ is an initiative to clean up and restore the San José community. The mission of the BeautifySJ Program is to support residents' efforts at reclaiming their public space and to empower residents to aesthetically demonstrate their pride in our City.

The consolidation added 26 new positions and other funding and created a new Community Services Division to address illegal dumping and homeless encampment trash collection and abatement, provide youth gang prevention and intervention services, and support litter cleanup and graffiti abatement. A portion of this funding was one-time resources from the American Rescue Plan Fund. The 2022-23 Adopted Budget added \$4.7 million for the BeautifySJ Consolidated Model to continue supporting illegal dumping and homeless encampment management and abatement, as well as programs such as Dumpster Days and Cash for Trash that remove blight from the City.

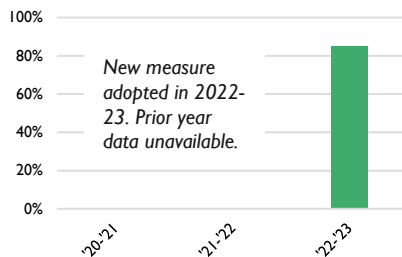
In 2022-23 BeautifySJ collected over 3,500 tons of illegal dumping throughout the city. Over 300 participants signed up for the City's Cash for Trash program (forecast 600). This program helps mitigate blight in San José by providing incentives to unhoused residents to pick up trash at encampments.

Prioritizing Clean Communities

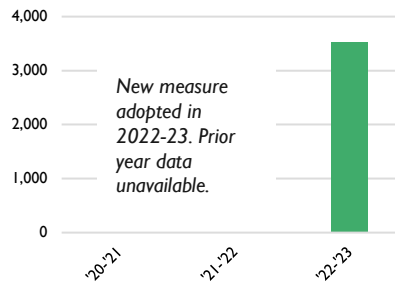
In the 2022-23 Community Survey, residents were asked to name one thing the City could change to make San José a better place to live. The fourth most common response category was about beautifying San José and landscaping. When asked whether there was a particular issue or code violation in their neighborhood that the City isn't addressing that led the respondent to be dissatisfied, the third most common complaint was illegal dumping.

In 2023-24, the City Council established four Focus Areas with related outcome measures, performance measures, and key strategies. One of these Focus Areas is "Cleaning Up our Neighborhoods." The scorecard for this area includes BeautifySJ response times.

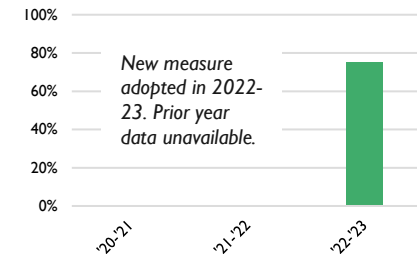
Encampments Receiving On-Time Trash Pickup (target 80%)



Tons of Illegal Dumping Collected (forecast 3,500 tons)



Illegal Dumping (Priority 2) Workorders Completed Within Five Days (target 80%)



Note: Priority 2 calls are all calls that do not meet Priority 1 criteria. Priority 1 calls include anything that obstructs the road or blocks sidewalks and require an immediate response.

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RECREATION SERVICES

PRNS program offerings include, but are not limited to, after-school programs, camps, aquatic programs, arts and crafts, dance, early childhood education, health and fitness programs, sports, therapeutic classes designed for persons with disabilities, and programs for seniors. For a list of all programs and classes, see [Community Center Brochures](#).

In 2022-23, the City operated 17 community centers throughout the city. One of those centers is a hybrid community center and library and one is a therapeutic center. In 2022-23, PRNS also managed 29 additional Neighborhood Center Partner Program sites which were operated by community partners in the role of lead operator or service provider.

PRNS provided nearly \$3.8 million in scholarships to over 5,300 individuals for its various programs such as Camp San José, San José Recreation Preschool, and R.O.C.K. afterschool programs.

KEY FACTS (2022-23)

Community centers (including Neighborhood Center Partner Program sites)	46
Community center square footage	549,801 sq. ft.
Average weekly hours open (hub community centers)	46.5
Estimated participation at City-run programs*	725,700

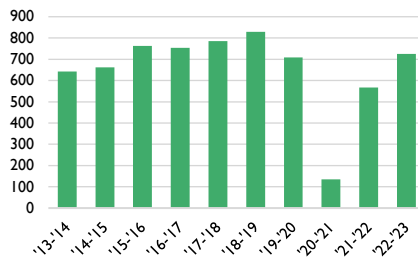
*This is a duplicated count (i.e. individuals are counted for each program attended).

Almaden Community Center



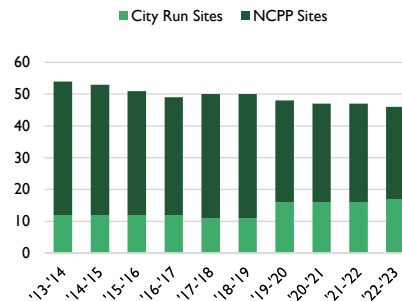
Source: PRNS

Estimated Participation in Programs at City-Operated Community Centers (thousands)



Note: The decrease in 2020-21 is due to the County's public health orders in response to COVID-19.

Community Centers



Note: In 2019, PRNS rebranded the "Reuse Program" to the "Neighborhood Center Partner Program (NCPP)." City-run sites includes some locations that PRNS either maintains or manages.

Community Survey 2023 Rating of Services

