Section One

INTRODUCTION

Section One describes the organizational structure of this Master Plan and its relationship to other documents and planning efforts within the City of Pasadena. This Section also provides background information regarding the history of parks, open spaces, and recreation facilities in Pasadena, in addition to offering a snapshot of recent demographic trends in the City. All of this helps to demonstrate the central role that parks and open spaces have played and continue to play in the vitality of the Pasadena community. This section also presents the Vision Statement and Core Principles that guide both this Master Plan and the Green Space, Recreation and Parks Element of the City's General Plan.

Section Contents

1.1 Purpose of the Master Plan 2
1.2 Context 3
1.3 Relationship to Other Documents 9
1.4 Key Issues 14
1.5 Approach & Document Organization 15

Section One Highlights

Purpose of the Master Plan—

To provide a guide for the creative, orderly development and management of recreation facilities and programs for the City. This Master Plan builds on many previous planning efforts while obtaining new community input that has resulted in a current understanding of recreation needs and opportunities unique to Pasadena.

Green Space Challenges—

Pasadena is a "built-out" city, meaning that we must look to creative means of providing open spaces and recreational programs and facilities to a growing and changing population.

Pasadena has a variety of parks and open spaces that serve a range of activities and user groups at one time. This means that our recreation spaces must be flexible to accommodate different needs and levels of demand.

Higher population densities in the Central District and Northwest Pasadena in particular require special attention with respect to access to parks and open space.

Vision, Key Issues, and Core Principles for both the Green Space, Recreation and Parks Master Plan and Element of the General Plan—

Vision Statement

To create, maintain, protect, and restore an interrelated system of parks, trails, and natural open spaces. To provide recreational opportunities which sustain a vibrant and healthy community with an emphasis on ecologically sensitive public enjoyment and education.

Key Issues

The analysis and recommendations of this Master Plan are organized around 5 Key Issues that were identified through the community outreach process for this document.

1. ***Natural Open Space***
2. ***Developed Parkland***
3. ***Recreation Facility Use & Distribution***
4. ***Recreation Program Types & Distribution***
5. ***Organizational Structure & Ongoing Community Participation***

Core Principles

- Pasadena will be a City that actively protects its natural open spaces and critical habitats.
- Pasadena's natural environment shall be thoughtfully preserved as an ongoing investment in the health, safety, and beauty of the City for the benefit of both present and future generations.
- All Pasadena neighborhoods shall have access to park, open spaces and recreation facilities that serve their unique needs.
- All Pasadena residents shall live within reasonable walking distance from a park, open space, or recreation facility.
- Pasadena will be a City that actively creates new green spaces by promoting creative partnerships with local and regional agencies, as well as private institutions in order to provide access to and development of both traditional and non-traditional parks, cultural and recreational opportunities and open spaces.
- The City's parks and open spaces shall maintain a balance between active and passive uses (including casual, informal, or individual leisure activities), both citywide and within individual parks, to meet the recreation demands of residents.
- Pasadena residents, PUSD students, and people that work in Pasadena shall have priority in the use and programming of parks and open spaces.
- Recreation programming shall be responsive to community needs and will promote a healthy and active lifestyle for residents.
- Planning for Pasadena's open spaces, parks, and recreation facilities will be an ongoing and inclusive community process.

1.0 Introduction

The Green Space, Recreation and Parks Master Plan (Master Plan) is based on the vision that recreation facilities, programs, and open space are important resources within the City of Pasadena, enhancing community health, enriching the lives of residents, and contributing to a unique community identity and quality of life. The Master Plan works in conjunction with the comprehensive set of objectives and policies within the Green Space, Recreation and Parks Element of the Pasadena General Plan.

What recreational facilities and programs does Pasadena have? Who uses Pasadena facilities and programs? What role do parks, green spaces, and recreation have in the lives of Pasadena residents? What types of facilities and programs do we need? Where will these facilities and programs be placed and how will they be funded and maintained? These are the key questions addressed by this Master Plan. To some, parkland is an active sports field; others have images of passive green spaces where one can walk, rest, and enjoy nature; still others may envision parks as places for community gatherings and events. Green spaces are used for all of these purposes. Through a comprehensive inventory of the public recreation resources available in Pasadena, and an understanding of resident demand, this Master Plan provides a blueprint for how to meet the anticipated recreation needs of our community and to enhance quality of life for all Pasadena residents.

1.1 Purpose of the Master Plan

The purpose of the Master Plan is to provide a guide for the creative, orderly development and management of recreation facilities and programs for the City. Over the years the City of Pasadena has actively undertaken a variety of planning efforts pertaining to individual park master plans, land use studies, and specific plans. This Master Plan builds on many previous planning efforts while obtaining new community input that has resulted in a current understanding of recreation needs and opportunities unique to Pasadena.

As a built-out city, Pasadena faces a number of challenges in the provision of open spaces and facilities. The City has a variety of parks and open spaces that serve a range of activities and user groups, including not only Pasadena residents but regional user groups as well. As community demand for recreation types changes over time, the City attempts to make facilities keep pace with this demand. Partially in response to changes in community demand, Pasadena has evolved with a rich and varied range of private institutions, public and private schools, and non-profit organizations that offer recreation facilities and programs to residents of the area. In recent years, the City has experienced new challenges stemming from new growth in the Central District and an influx of housing

stock much different than historical suburban development. In addition, the Northwest region of the City remains dense, with a high concentration of children, and access to parks and green spaces is a more acute issue in this area. For all of these reasons, the City of Pasadena must look to creative means to provide open spaces and recreational programs and facilities to its evolving population.

These "creative means" can include looking to public school facilities to act as community parks through partnerships and cooperation and can include the provision of flexible indoor spaces to meet changing demographics or specific geographic needs. In addition, creative solutions may include working with institutions like the Los Angeles County Flood Control District and Southern California Edison to partner in the creation of open spaces or recreational facilities. It is also important to look beyond sports fields or courts when considering recreation needs. To this end, the City must look at new developments for opportunities to incorporate creative urban open spaces like plazas, paseos, and gathering areas into development plans.

In response to the opportunities and challenges inherent in recreation and open space planning in Pasadena, this Master Plan is based on a vision statement and a series of "Core Green Space Principles" that were developed out of the community involvement and visioning process. The Green Space Principles represent the common threads found throughout the issues identified by the community and provide a basis for the recommendations developed within the Master Plan.

Using these principles as a guide, the Master Plan provides data and analysis that lead to recommendations that establish how Pasadena residents want the uses of facilities and programs balanced and prioritized throughout the City now and into the future. This report is intended to be a flexible document, presenting findings and recommendations that will be evaluated, validated, and/or modified periodically as the City responds to unforeseen opportunities and constraints as well as changes in residents' needs and demands.

The Recreation & Parks Commission will develop performance standards to measure success at implementing the Master Plan and will use the Master Plan to develop their annual work program.

1.2 Context

Pasadena is a unique city known for cultural amenities, diverse housing options, architectural heritage, traditional neighborhoods, special events, educational and scientific institutions, a thriving and growing downtown, and a vibrant economic base. It is truly a city on the world stage, but with close-knit neighborhoods and smaller scale community experiences as well. There are myriad opportunities as a Pasadena citizen to volunteer

Vision Statement

To create, maintain, protect, and restore an interrelated system of parks, trails, and natural open spaces. To provide recreational opportunities which sustain a vibrant and healthy community with an emphasis on ecologically sensitive public enjoyment and education.

Core Principles

- **Pasadena will be a City that actively protects its natural open spaces and critical habitats.**
- **Pasadena's natural environment shall be thoughtfully preserved as an ongoing investment in the health, safety, and beauty of the City for the benefit of both present and future generations.**
- **All Pasadena neighborhoods shall have access to park, open spaces and recreation facilities that serve their unique needs.**
- **All Pasadena residents shall live within reasonable walking distance from a park, open space, or recreation facility.**
- **Pasadena will be a City that actively creates new green spaces by promoting creative partnerships with local and regional agencies, as well as private institutions in order to provide access to and development of both traditional and non-traditional parks, cultural and recreational opportunities and open spaces.**
- **The City's parks and open spaces shall maintain a balance between active and passive uses (including casual, informal, or individual leisure activities), both citywide and within individual parks, to meet the recreation demands of residents.**
- **Pasadena residents, PUSD students, and people that work in Pasadena shall have priority in the use and programming of parks and open spaces.**
- **Recreation programming shall be responsive to community needs and will promote a healthy and active lifestyle for residents.**
- **Planning for Pasadena's open spaces, parks, and recreation facilities will be an ongoing and inclusive community process.**

Regional Context Map

and participate in community life. A wide variety of public and private agencies, groups, non-profit organizations, businesses, and institutions support community interaction and education.

Physical Setting

Pasadena is a picturesque community located at the base of the San Gabriel Mountains, 15 miles northeast of downtown Los Angeles. A mosaic of tree-lined streets, historic buildings, open space, and a thriving downtown all contribute to a unique community image appreciated by residents and visitors.

Within Pasadena, several significant natural and man-made features help shape neighborhoods and provide both opportunities and constraints with respect to parks, recreation, circulation, and community life.

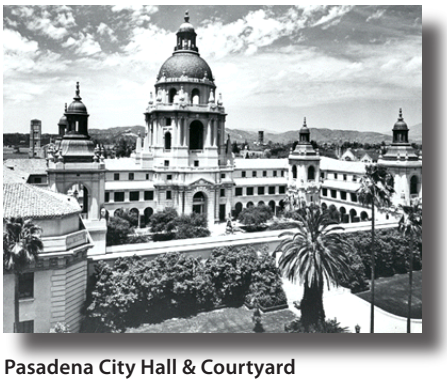
These include:

- The Arroyo Seco
- The 134 Freeway
- The 210 Freeway
- Eaton Canyon and Eaton Wash

Pasadena's varied geography provides many walking, hiking, and bicycling opportunities. The desire to encourage alternative modes of transportation is important in terms of land use and recreation planning, reflecting an underlying philosophy of urban design and a commitment to community health.

The study area for this Master Plan consists of approximately 23 square miles of incorporated area, the City limits of Pasadena. Please refer to Exhibit 1.2-1. Pasadena is bounded by the Cities of La Cañada-Flintridge, South Pasadena, Sierra Madre, Arcadia, San Marino, and Glendale, and by unincorporated Altadena to the north.

History


Pasadena City Hall & Courtyard

Since the City's founding in 1874 as the Indiana Colony, individuals from around the United States have come to Pasadena to settle or to vacation, drawn particularly by the area's abundant natural resources and scenic beauty, most notably provided by the backdrop of the San Gabriel Mountains.

Pasadena grew as a residential locale thoroughly distinct from Los Angeles, its neighbor to the south. Residents in the late 1800s perceived Pasadena as a natural, garden-like setting that did not require formal park planning. By the turn of the 20th century, however, changing development patterns led residents to rethink that stance. Consequently, city government acquired its first green space for Central and Memorial Parks in 1902. In 1903, the City's first park regulating ordinance (#539) was passed. Later, in the 1920s, Pasadena created a citywide recreation program that emphasized after-school playground activities.

As the City has evolved, recreation and green spaces have also evolved to meet changing needs and expectations. Pasadena has a unique and varied inventory of green spaces, including regionally significant open spaces, such as the Arroyo Seco and Eaton Canyon, which include hiking, biking, and equestrian trail networks. As of 2005, Pasadena has 23 dedicated City parks totaling 340.7 acres of parkland as well as an abundant urban forest of more than 50,000 street trees. Further, the City offers an extensive palette of recreation programs and services available to residents year round.

Year 2005 Green Space Totals...

23 dedicated parks

338.2 acres of parkland

50,000+ street trees

Each of these components is important in maintaining a high quality of life for those who live, work, and play in Pasadena. Some of the most popular recreation activities in Pasadena do not have a specific facility. Walking, jogging, and bike riding are activities that a large number of Pasadenans enjoy right from their front doors. Green space is found in the City's parkways, along its streets and sidewalks, throughout its hillsides and through mountain vistas.

Demographic Summary

Understanding the demographic context of the City is an important component of recreation facility and program planning. Demographic characteristics such as age, presence of children, ethnicity, and income have been demonstrated in past research to have a relationship to recreating patterns and program needs. For these reasons, an overview of changes and emerging trends of the resident population are important considerations as the community plans for its preferred future.

Below in Table 1.2-1 are select demographic features for Pasadena as compared to the City of Los Angeles and Los Angeles County as a whole. The upward and downward trends presented here are intended to serve as a snapshot of emerging trends that help to characterize the composition of Pasadena's population and place those trends in a regional context.

	Pasadena City			Los Angeles City			Los Angeles County		
	1990	2000	*Trend*	1990	2000	*Trend*	1990	2000	*Trend*
Total Population	131,591	133,936	*+1.8%*	3,485,398	3,694,820	*+5.7%*	8,896,164	9,519,338	*+6.9%*
Population Density (per sq. mi.)	5,721	5,799	*1.3%*	7,432	7,878	*+5.7%*	2,183	2,344	*+6.9%*
Median Age	33	34.5	*+4.3%*	30.4	31.6	*+3.8%*	30.7	32	*+4.0%*
Household Size	2.53	2.52	*-0.4%*	2.80	2.83	*+1%*	2.91	2.98	*+2.3%*
Median Household Income	$35,103	$46,012	*+23.7%*	$30,925	$36,687	*+15.7%*	$34,965	$42,189	*+17.1%*
Language Other Than English	36%	45%	*+20%*	50%	57.8%	*+13.5%*	45%	54.1%	*+16.8%*

Table 1.2-1: Regional Population Trends

Total Population

Table 1.2-1 shows that most population trends within Los Angeles County, including Pasadena, increased during the decade between 1990 and 2000. But while the City of Los Angeles and Los Angeles County experienced increased total population and population density per square mile of 5.7% and 6.9% respectively, Pasadena's rates of growth were significantly slower, with total population increasing 1.8% and population density rising just 1.3% over the ten-year period. Household size showed a very modest decrease (2.52 per household in 2000) and median age (34.5 years in 2000) was higher than the County which helps to explain Pasadena's slower rate of population growth. Pasadena is increasingly becoming a City of older adults without young children (see Exhibit 1.2-3, "Household Composition," for more detail).

The California Department of Finance (DOF) estimates Pasadena's population was 146,138 on January 1, 2006. Historically, the DOF estimates have been on the high side – the 2000 estimate was about 7½ percent higher than the 2000 census. The Land Use Element of the General Plan projects that total population may be 150,000 in 2015, an increase of 12 percent from 2000.

Income

Median household income in Pasadena was higher in the year 1990 ($35,103) than incomes in the City and County of Los Angeles ($30,925 and $34,965 respectively). The same relationship was true in the year 2000, but the rate of increase during the decade was also faster for Pasadena residents than the household income levels of Los Angeles City and the County as a whole (23.7% compared to 15.7% and 17.1%).

Language

In 2000, the percentage of Pasadena residents who spoke a language other than English at home was 45%—the same level that Los Angeles County had experienced ten years prior in 1990. But while the overall percentage of non-English speakers in Pasadena is less than City and County of Los Angeles, the decade between 1990 and 2000 saw a faster growth rate in this category in Pasadena. This trend has implications for how recreation programs are conducted in the City as Pasadena becomes home to an increasingly diverse population with varying levels of English language proficiency and different cultures.

Age

Table 1.2-2 showed that between 1990 and 2000 the median age of the Pasadena population has consistently been higher than that of the greater Los Angeles region. The median age of Pasadena residents in the year 1990 was 33, which was approximately 2.5 years older than both the City and County of Los Angeles. The difference further increased by the year 2000 when Pasadena's median age was 34.5, close to a full three years older than the City of Los Angeles (2.9 years), and still 2.5 years older than the residents of all of Los Angeles County. Pasadena's median age was 34.5 years in the year 2000. Concurrently, however, the overall percentage of

residents 24 years of age and under fell significantly below the County level (32.5% in Pasadena versus 38.3% in the County). This trend is consistent with the fact that Pasadena is increasingly becoming a city comprised of young adults without children, which is further illustrated in the section that follows.

Households

Table 1.2-2 shows that the average household size in Pasadena in the year 2000 was 2.52 individuals. Table 1.2-3 further details the composition of those households.

Household Types	Pasadena City	Los Angeles City	Los Angeles County
Family Households	57.60%	62.60%	68.20%
Non-family Households	42.40%	37.40%	31.80%
Householder Living Alone	33.70%	28.50%	24.60%
Households w/ Individuals < 18 years	30.30%	37.60%	41.30%
Households w/ Individuals ≥ 65 years	22.40%	20.60%	21.50%

Table 1.2-2:
Household Composition

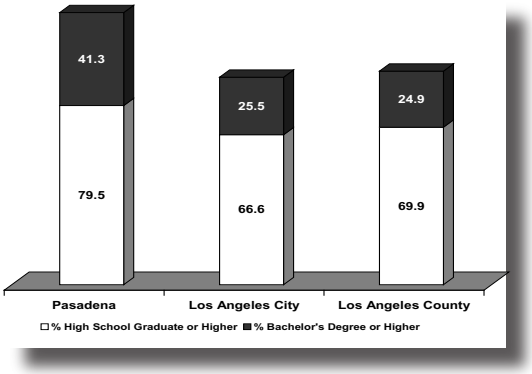
The most significant statistic in the year 2000 for Pasadena households was the fact that the City contains far fewer family households and markedly more non-family households than both the City of Los Angeles and Los Angeles County.

Likewise, upon closer analysis of family households themselves, we find that those in Pasadena with children under the age of 18 are consistently fewer than the City and County of Los Angeles. Conversely, the number of non-family households in Pasadena that include individuals over age 65 is slightly higher than similar households in the region. This trend is consistent with the age profile discussed previously that showed that Pasadena has an older population than the region.

Education

Educational attainment is a high priority for Pasadena residents. As illustrated in Exhibit 1.2-3, the City's residents over the age of 25 hold both high school diplomas and bachelor's degrees in higher numbers than individuals in the City of Los Angeles and in the County as a whole. Nearly 80% of Pasadena residents over age 25 had graduated from high school or achieved high school equivalency certification as of the year 2000, as opposed to 66.6% in the City of Los Angeles and 69.9% in Los Angeles County. The same trend holds true for individuals with bachelor's degrees, with 41.3% of Pasadena residents holding bachelor's degrees in 2000 and 25.5% and 24.9% of Los Angeles City and County residents having achieved that same education level respectively.

Exhibit 1.2-3:
Educational Attainment of Population 25 Years and Over in Year 2000



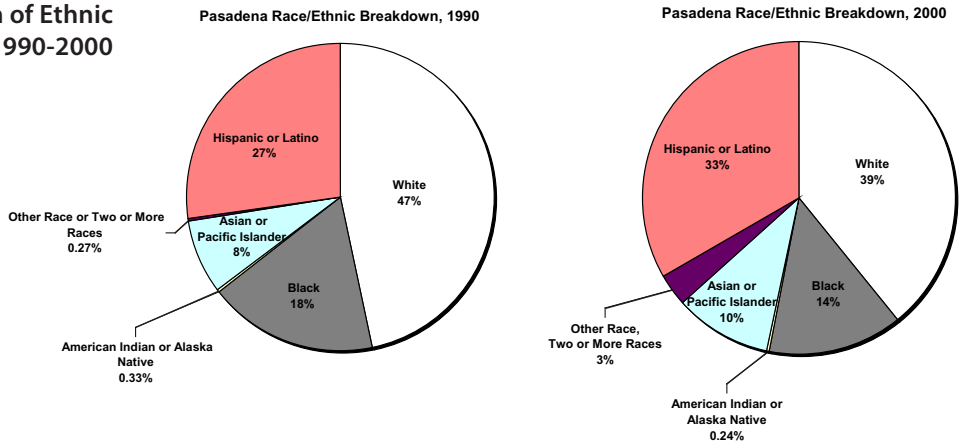
This trend is most likely boosted by the fact that Pasadena is home to premier institutions of higher learning; including the California Institute of Technology (Caltech), Art Center College of Design, Fuller Theological Seminary, and Pasadena City College. As home to the aforementioned schools as well as numerous other cultural institutions and affiliated businesses, Pasadena has built-in resources for educating its existing population as well as drawing in new residents that value higher learning.

Race/Ethnicity

According to a 2001 research study conducted by the University of Southern California and University of Michigan, Pasadena was one of nine cities in Los Angeles County that achieved a more racially balanced community during the decade from 1990 to 2000. This pattern is illustrated in Exhibit 1.2-4, which details the racial/ethnic composition of Pasadena according to both the 1990 and 2000 census counts.

In 1990, Pasadena's population was 27% Hispanic or Latino and 47% White. Over the next 10 years those proportions had significantly shifted, with less than 40% of Pasadena's year 2000 population comprised of White residents, and a full 1/3 of the population identified as Hispanic or Latino. Pasadena's Black population experienced a four point decrease during the same period.

Exhibit 1.2-4: Comparison of Ethnic Composition 1990-2000



Demographic Projections

The 2025 projections in Section 4 are based on the projected 2025 population for the City of 165,317, prepared by the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) in 2004.

It is difficult to project what the population characteristics such as age, household size, ethnicity, income, and family or household composition (especially presence of children) will be in 2025. County-wide projections are not accurate for Pasadena. The estimates for this plan are based on the population trend from 1990 to 2000 projected out to 2025.

1.3 Relationship to Other Documents

As described previously, the Master Plan is drawn directly from the comprehensive set of objectives and policies within the Green Space, Recreation and Parks Element of the General Plan. In addition to the General Plan, there are a number of other existing documents and plans that relate to the Master Plan that provided significant input. Each of these documents and plans is briefly discussed below, along with a description of its relationship to the Master Plan.

City of Pasadena General Plan

In 1994, the Comprehensive General Plan was revised in response to growth management concerns raised by the community. The General Plan revision process provided a unified vision for the future of the City. It is a vision that was shaped and driven by community values and reflects the input of Pasadena residents.

With extensive community input, seven guiding principles were developed that serve as the overall framework for each General Plan Element. The seven guiding principles of the City's General Plan are listed at right.

The Green Space, Recreation and Parks Element along with the Open Space and Conservation Elements serve as the City of Pasadena's guiding policy documents for the preservation of existing green space as well as the future stewardship of both passive and active recreation areas. Like the Master Plan, the Element is built around the Core Principles listed earlier in this Section. The Master Plan acts as the implementation document for the policies and objectives of the Green Space, Recreation and Parks Element.

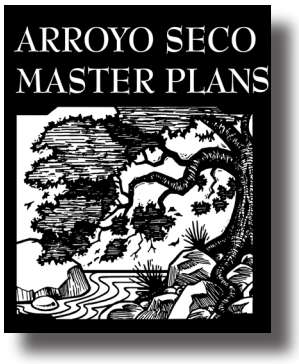
The Arroyo Seco Master Plans

The Arroyo Seco Master Plans are comprised of a set of four separate planning documents that portray a community vision for one of the region's most valued resources, the Arroyo Seco. The creation of the Arroyo Seco Master Plans is the result of a broad-based community effort that included a long list of stakeholders.

The Arroyo Seco is on the west side of the City of Pasadena and serves as a major tributary to the Los Angeles River. The importance of the Arroyo Seco as a valued recreation resource to the City prompted the need for the Arroyo Seco Master Plans. The Arroyo provides not only opportunities for recreation but also a rich ecosystem within the Pasadena city limits. The Plans address development of recreational, educational and interpretive opportunities and protection and restoration of the ecosystem, while recognizing the important existing water supply and flood control functions of the area.

7 Guiding Principles of Pasadena General Plan

1. **Growth Will Be Targeted to Serve Community Needs and Enhance the Quality of Life.**
2. **Change Will Be Harmonized to Preserve Pasadena's Historic Character and Environment.**
3. **Economic Vitality Will Be Promoted To Provide Jobs, Services, Revenues And Opportunities.**
4. **Pasadena Will Be Promoted as a Healthy Family Community.**
5. **Pasadena Will Be A City Where People Can Circulate Without Cars.**
6. **Pasadena Will Be Promoted as a Cultural, Scientific, Corporate, Entertainment and Educational Center for the Region.**
7. **Community Participation Will Be A Permanent Part Of Achieving A Greater City.**



The four planning documents that make up the Arroyo Seco Master Plans are as follows:

- Design Guidelines for the Arroyo Seco (adopted April 14, 2003)
- Hahamongna Watershed Park Master Plan (HWP) (adopted September 29, 2003)
- Lower Arroyo Master Plan (LAMP) (adopted September 29, 2003)
- Central Arroyo Master Plan (CAMP) (adopted September 26, 2005)

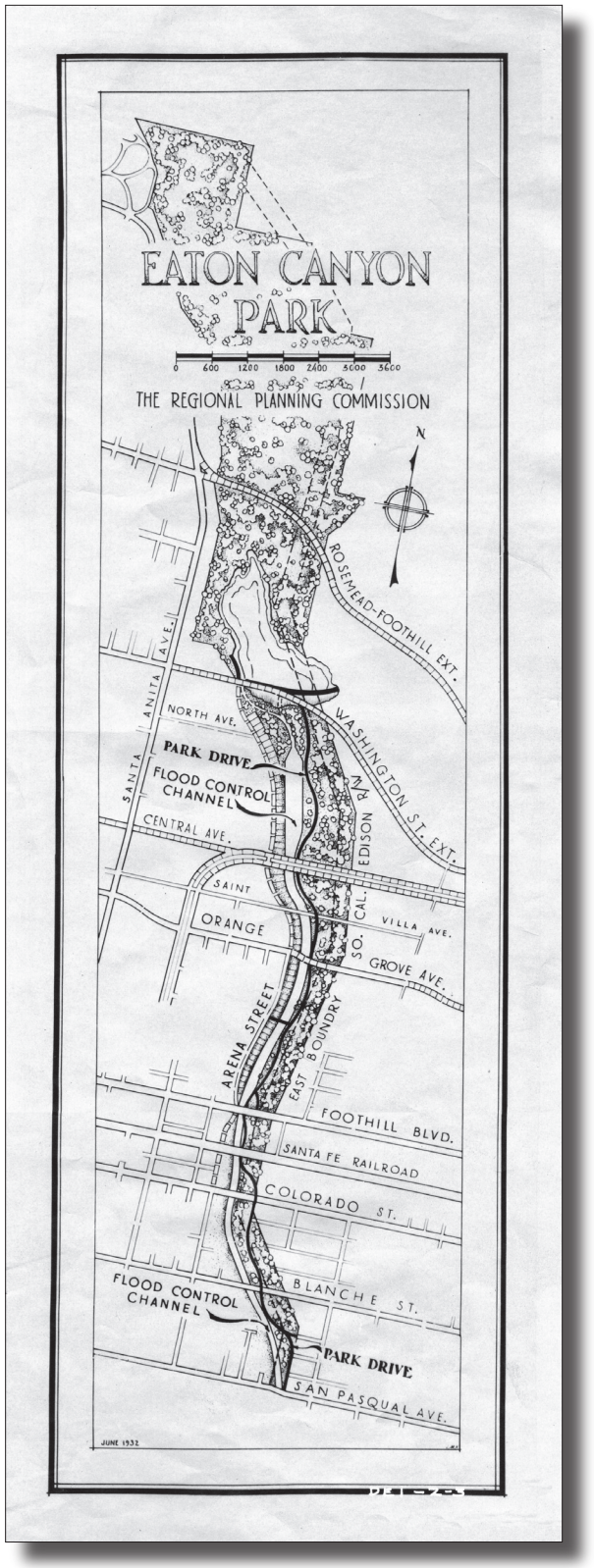
Taken together, these plans provide a detailed implementation schedule for preservation and enhancements throughout the Arroyo.

Eaton Canyon Plans

A system of channels, roads, dams, recharge basins and other flood control infrastructure bisects the eastern area of the city. In 1932 the potential use of these areas for recreation was documented in a plan entitled "Eaton Canyon Park". This plan proposed a system of park areas extending from the mouth of the canyon to the southern City limit. These areas were to form a continuous band of open space areas, similar to the Arroyo Seco, albeit on a much smaller scale.

In December 1967, Ronald B. Townsend, the City's Director of Parks, approved a plan entitled "Eaton Canyon Area Development". This plan also proposed an interconnected system of parks and open space areas along the Eaton Canyon drainage. The proposed improvements were laid out in great detail and connections with the city's existing park facilities, such as Victory Park and Eaton-Blanche Park, were included. (See ***Exhibit 1.3-1***) This Master Plan revisits this concept and offers recommendations for implementation measures that would fulfill a portion of the vision that was expressed in the 1932 and 1967 plans.

Exhibit 1.3-1: Historic Eaton Canyon Development Plans



1932 Eaton Canyon Development Plan

1967 Eaton Canyon Development Plan

Existing Park Master Plans

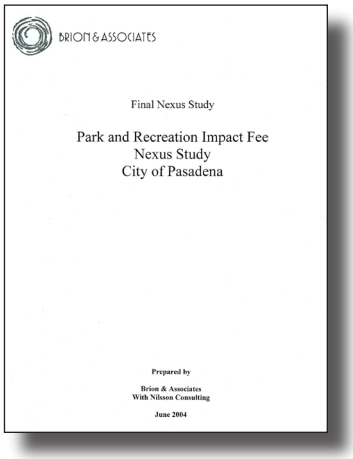
There are currently 10 parks and/or recreational facilities in the City of Pasadena that have up-to-date master plans and/or facility plans. They include:

- Brookside Park
- Brookside/Rose Bowl - Area H
- Central Arroyo
- Central Park
- Hahamongna Watershed Park
- Lower Arroyo Park
- Memorial Park
- Robinson Park
- Viña Vieja Park
- Washington Park

The following facilities have master plans that are now considered obsolete and no longer valid:

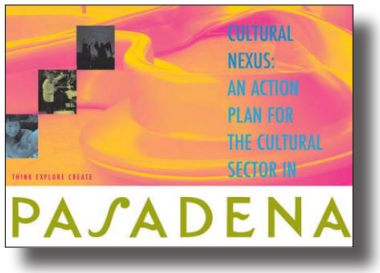
- Eaton Blanche Park
- Hamilton Park
- Jefferson Park
- McDonald Park
- Victory Park
- Villa-Parke

Information from the Green Space, Recreation and Parks Master Plan may be used to revisit existing facility plans for potential update or modification.



Park and Recreation Impact Fee Nexus Study (adopted 2004)

Pasadena's Residential Impact Fee was established in 1988 with the adoption of Ordinance #6252, which was created to provide funds to mitigate the impact of new residential development (subdivisions, single family dwellings, and multifamily dwellings) on City parks and park facilities. In 2004, the City prepared an updated study to evaluate the nexus between residential development within the City and the fee charged to developers to pay for recreation and parks. The primary purpose for the study was to establish an impact fee per residential unit based on current and projected development patterns as well as the City's growth rates and population projections.

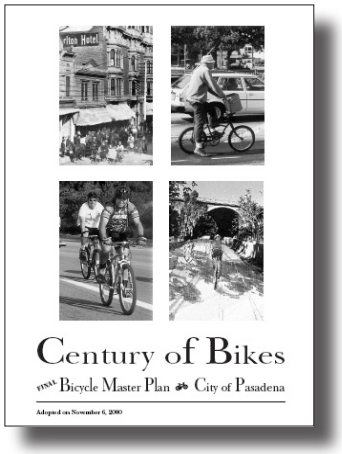


Cultural Nexus Plan (adopted July 25, 2005)

The Cultural Nexus Plan is the City's first comprehensive cultural plan. The Plan will advance arts and culture for Pasadena over the next 10 years and is intended to support existing cultural art organizations and activities as well as generate increased participation and leadership. Issues and needs have been identified in the plan as well as community goals for art and culture. The Cultural Nexus Plan is considered a component of the General

Plan, supporting all aspects of the City including economic and business development, education, recreation, public works, parks, and health care.

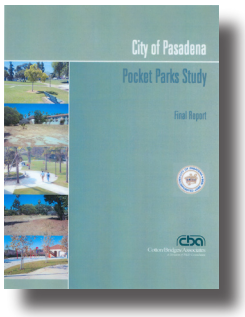
Bicycle Master Plan (adopted November 6, 2000)



The Pasadena Bicycle Master Plan presents a guideline for the City to provide the safe and attractive environment needed to promote bicycling as a transportation mode as well as a recreational activity. The Plan notes that many factors, such as weather and topography, suggest significant potential for creating a bicycle friendly community. Issues identified in the Bicycle Master Plan that are relative to the Master Plan include:

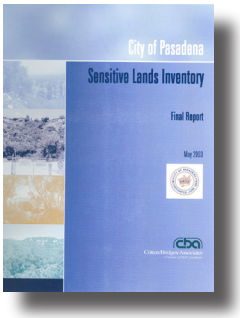
- One of the criteria used in proposing a bikeway network was connectivity to recreational destinations, such as the Rose Bowl and parks.
- Bicycle parking at destination points (such as parks) is important in encouraging bicycling.
- Programs related to bicycling and bicycle safety education should be considered.

Pocket Parks Study (presented to City Council as information item on October 6, 2003)

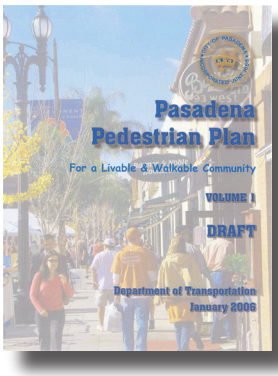


Recognizing the importance of local parks, the City commissioned a 2004 study that collected and analyzed information pertaining to potential pocket park sites for the purpose of assisting in identification of parcels that have potential to add to the City's green space resources. A pocket park is a smaller, special recreation facility serving a neighborhood or local area. Factors such as current land use, access, recreation potential, biological resources, and land value were outlined.

Sensitive Lands Inventory (presented to City Council as information item on August 4, 2003)



Recognizing the importance of open space within the community, the City commissioned a 2003 study that examined vacant properties, in part to identify those that have unique environmental characteristics and that may also be susceptible to development. The purpose of the report is to assist with identification of vacant hillside parcels that have the potential to add to the City's green space resources. Factors such as current land use, access, biological resources, and value were discussed. The Master Plan will consider information from the Sensitive Lands Inventory as an additional resource in the development of recommendations.



Pedestrian Master Plan (adopted 2006)

The Pasadena Pedestrian Plan is a master plan for livability and walkability within the City and among other goals provides guidance for improved connectivity between the City's green spaces. The Pedestrian Plan seeks to: develop pedestrian-friendly projects, better integrate pedestrian improvements into street maintenance and traffic management programs, and implement public education and enforcement programs that improve pedestrian safety and increase levels of walking. This recognition of the necessity for safe and abundant walking opportunities throughout the City plays a direct role in the implementation of Pasadena's green space priorities.

1.4 Key Issues

Based on the community outreach component of this project, a set of key issues has been identified to guide the process of developing the Master Plan. These issues are the focus of the objectives and policies of the Green Space & Recreation Element. Issues are grouped into five categories:

5 Key Issue Categories Addressed in this Master Plan

- **Natural Open Space**
- **Developed Parkland**
- **Recreation Facility Use & Distribution**
- **Recreation Program Types & Distribution**
- **Organizational Structure & Ongoing Community Participation**

Natural Open Space

- Trails and Connectivity
- Protection of Existing Open Space
- Acquisition of New Open Space

Developed Parkland

- Access to Facilities
- Passive versus Active Use of Facilities
- Non-resident Use of Facilities
- Park and Recreation Amenities provided by Park Type

Recreation Facility Use & Distribution

- Green Space Quantity
- Green Space Distribution
- Joint-Use of Facilities with Pasadena Unified School District
- Deficits in Fields/Specific Facilities
- Maintenance

Recreation Program Types and Distribution

- Specific Program & Service Needs
- Filling the "Gaps" in Service Provision
- Organization of Service Delivery

Organizational Structure and Ongoing Community Participation

- Ongoing Community Dialogue
- City Organization

1.5 Approach and Document Organization

The Master Plan provides a blueprint for the planning, and development of recreation facilities and programs. In order to establish this blueprint, the Master Plan includes an extensive inventory of existing park and open space areas and recreation programs throughout Pasadena to include a full accounting of the existing amenities and programs provided in the City's green spaces. In addition, the Master Plan summarizes and incorporates the results of a significant community involvement and outreach process that ensures the community's vision for recreation, parks, and open space is met. The heart of the Master Plan is a detailed community needs assessment, which is based on the results of numerous forms of community outreach and input. The community's needs are compared against the City's inventory of existing facilities and programs to establish the gaps, deficiencies, priorities and recommendations for recreation, parks, and open space.

The Master Plan document is organized into the following sections:

Sections 2 & 3: Existing Conditions

Understanding the existing conditions in the community is an essential first step in the Master Plan process. Section Two provides an inventory of city recreation facilities and other recreation facilities open to the public and includes discussion of public school facilities, private recreation facilities and a listing of other publicly owned lands within and surrounding the City limits. Section Three provides an inventory of city recreation programs and services and a discussion of other recreation programs and services open to the public through private and non-profit providers.

Section 4: Needs Assessment

Section Four provides a detailed assessment of the park and recreation needs of the Pasadena community. Using the existing conditions described in Sections Two and Three as a base of information, data from the community were obtained to develop an understanding of the demand for various facilities and programs. The Needs Assessment utilizes the following inputs to generate this understanding:

- Community Inputs: Information gathered from Pasadena residents and stakeholders through a variety of methods, including a series of four workshops, community organization questionnaires, stakeholder interviews and sports organization questionnaires.
- Citywide Telephone Survey: The Citywide survey provides current, statistically valid information specific to Pasadena that provides detailed information of the types of recreation facilities and programs most often utilized by Pasadena residents. A total of 450 randomly selected, geographically distributed telephone interviews were completed with adult household heads living in the City of Pasadena.

Master Plan Organization

Section 1:
Introduction

Section 2:
Existing Recreation Facilities

Section 3:
Existing Recreation Programs

Section 4:
Needs

Section 5:
Recommendations

Section 6:
Funding & Implementation

- Recreation Demand and Needs Analysis: Evaluation of Pasadena facility needs based on the Citywide Telephone Survey, facility inventory, relevant demographics, and sports organization questionnaires.
- Service Area Analysis: Evaluation of where parkland is located and how it is distributed throughout Pasadena.
- Program Distribution Analysis: Understanding program needs and supply and how these influence facility needs.
- Acreage Analysis: Evaluation of parkland acreage needs in Pasadena based on the Nexus Study standards, identified recreation needs, and available supply.

Section 5: Recommendations

Section Five provides recommendations with respect to existing and proposed parks, unimproved parkland, programs and services, and joint use and collaborative or partnering opportunities. Recommendations are intended to address the recreation facility and program needs identified in the Needs Assessment section and are the result of analysis of existing inventory, analysis of demand, community input, and consideration of established goals and policies.

As referenced previously, the recommendations within the Master Plan are organized by the following five Key Issues:

- Natural Open Space
- Developed Parkland
- Recreation Facility Use and Distribution
- Recreation Program Types and Distribution
- Organizational Structure and Ongoing Community Participation

Section 6: Funding and Implementation

Section Six provides a detailed listing of funding sources for green space and recreation projects. In addition, this section provides an implementation plan and places priority on projects within the implementation plan.