

DRAFT OPEN SPACE and RECREATION ELEMENT
July 18, 2002

STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

The Open Space Element is one of the seven mandatory elements of a General Plan in California. In adopting the open space legislation, the State made a point of saying that providing for open space is a critical component of local land use planning. Beyond this, the California Government Code specifies that local General Plans may include other elements or address other subjects, which relate to the physical development of a community. As Long Beach is a fully developed, densely populated City of nearly ½ million residents, and the current Open Space Element does not include a strong analysis of open space for public recreation (a critical component in this community), this new Open Space and Recreation Element addresses the requirements of open space planning with a special emphasis on planning for public recreation.

Four topical areas are required to be covered by Open Space Elements: open space for the preservation of natural resources, open space for the managed production of resources, open space for public health and safety, and open space for outdoor recreation. While each of these topics is covered in this new Open Space and Recreation Element, efforts are underway to reduce redundancy and present a more integrated, user-friendly General Plan for Long Beach. Hence, the material herein on open space for the preservation and production of natural resources and open space for public health and safety is somewhat condensed in this Open Space and Recreation Element. It is recognized that in this large and diverse community these topics deserve special focus. Therefore, they will be more comprehensively updated and addressed in entirely new General Plan chapters on natural resources and environmental hazards. In the meantime, the existing Land Use, Conservation, Seismic Safety and Public Safety elements address these issues and plans.

THE PLANNING PROCESS

This updated element of the City's General Plan has been a few years in the making. An original Draft Open Space and Recreation Element was released in the summer of 1998 and public workshops were held on August 13th and December 3rd. Coincidentally, a new Citywide strategic plan was undertaken to establish fresh policy focuses for the community, which was just emerging from a severe economic recession. Tangentially, the Parks, Recreation and Marine Department began their own strategic planning effort. Ultimately, it was agreed that further development of the new Open Space and Recreation Element should be postponed until these strategic planning efforts were (largely) completed.

With adoption of the Long Beach Strategic Plan 2010 in June of 2000, and completion of the new Parks, Recreation and Marine Department Strategic Plan slated for this winter, the City is now proceeding with the Open Space and Recreation Element adoption process. This document represents a new, modernized, streamlined approach to updating the current (1973) Open Space Element. As explained below, this document relies heavily on the original 1998 draft plan and the new Department strategic plan for background and technical information. However, the streamlined nature of this new element emphasizes the policy plan and implementation measures which are directed to addressing the community's primary open space and recreation issues.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

In addition to the 1998 public workshops to discuss a new Open Space and Recreation Element, in the spring of 2001 the City Council's Housing and Neighborhoods Committee held five public meetings. The first meeting was held in the City Council Chambers. The next four public meetings were held in various park recreation centers throughout the community. These forums were widely advertised, translators were made available, and they were open to any member of the community with a desire to address City park, recreation and open space issues.

Public input on the 2001 Draft Open Space and Recreation Element ~~will be~~ was solicited through another Citywide public meeting ~~scheduled for the winter of 2001-2002.~~ on Saturday, February 23, 2002 and at a meeting of the Recreation Commission on March 21, 2002. Once again the draft will be revised, as necessary, to meet community open space and recreation goals. The culmination of all these meetings will result in final document adoption hearings held before the City Planning Commission and City Council in accordance with the provisions of Government Code Article 10.5 Sections 65302 (e) and 65560.

TECHNICAL SYNOPSIS

The material below summarizes information contained in the 1998 Draft Open Space and Recreation Element and the 2001 Draft Parks, Recreation and Marine Department Strategic Plan pertaining to existing open space and recreation resources in the City of Long Beach.

A. NATURAL RESOURCE OPEN SPACE

Because of our coastal setting, the City's open space resources include both land and water areas. There are approximately 11,600 water (surface) acres for fish and wildlife habitat including: bays, rivers, creeks, channels and canals, lagoons, lakes and ponds, and wetlands. Of these acres all but 1,000 acres are also considered areas for fishing and marine life production. Wooded areas in DeForest

Park and the El Dorado Nature Center comprise approximately 115 acres. In addition to the San Gabriel and Los Angeles rivers and Alamitos Bay, physiographic features of note include 11 linear miles of beachfront property, 1.8 miles of bluffs or hillside areas, 42 acres on four man-made islands (currently used for oil extraction) and Signal Hill. It is estimated that there are approximately ten acres of land devoted to community gardens and at least 125 acres of land at utility rights-of-way are still used for growing nursery plants. There are approximately 275 landside acres devoted to oil and gas extraction, with about 85 percent of these acres located in the harbor district.

B. RECREATION AND RECREATION OPEN SPACE

The City's recreational resources include parks, community centers, golf courses, bike and equestrian trails, numerous special use recreation resources, and coastal amenities including beaches, a boardwalk, an esplanade, piers, fishing platforms, boat launches, a rowing center, a sailing center, harbors and marinas.

1. Parks and Nature Preserves

The City of Long Beach has 94¹ parks encompassing 1425² acres. There are 22 mini parks totaling 21 acres, nine greenway parks totaling 71 acres, 19 neighborhood parks totaling 147 acres, 13 community parks totaling 464 acres, El Dorado Regional Park with 401 "regional use" acres, and 30 special use parks totaling 322 acres. Greenway parks are largely undeveloped ribbons of green spaces. Special use parks include our riverfront recreation vehicle campground, two historic ranchos, two marine biological reserves, two special events parks (Queen Mary and Rainbow Lagoon), the calm water swimming park at Colorado Lagoon, and Shoreline/Riverfront, Santa Cruz and Victory parks, a nature center park and a nature trail park. Some of the unique facilities found in local parks include a skateboard park, lawn bowling greens, an archery range, a model boat building shop, casting pond, paddleboat lake, duck pond and a dog park.

The land has been acquired and future park facilities development is planned for Costa del Sol, End Beach and Dunster Parks at Marine Stadium, and the development of several mini parks. The four offshore islands are planned for recreation open space when oil extraction is no longer a viable use for them.

The City is also working with the California Coastal Conservancy and others to rehabilitate wetland acreage at the Los Cerritos Wetlands in southeast Long Beach, and at Dominguez Gap and other areas along the Los Angeles River. With

¹ Total by park type classification wherein portions of El Dorado, Heartwell and DeForest parks fall into multiple park type classes. When parks are simply counted by name, there are 89 parks in the City.

² Actual number, not rounding figures to whole numbers, is 1425.46.

the creation of the Lower Los Angeles and San Gabriel Rivers and Mountains Conservancy, the City will also be exploring opportunities to further enhance habitat and recreation opportunities along the San Gabriel River as well.

2. Parks, Recreation and Marine Programs

The Parks, Recreation and Marine Department has one of the most extensive, award-winning programs in the United States. Their many offerings include all types of leisure time pursuits for all age groups. Special emphasis is placed on the diverse cultural backgrounds of our residents with a focus on meeting youth and senior citizen needs. Uniquely, the City is one of a handful in the nation sponsoring its own municipal band. Composed of professional musicians, free concerts are given throughout the summer in local City parks. The Parks, Recreation and Marine Department operates a Mobile Recreation Van and Mobile Skate Park programs that travel to neighborhoods which lack recreation resources, bringing them equipment and supervised play programs. The Department publishes a quarterly recreation schedule that is directly mailed to each residence. They sponsor affordable summer day camps including sports, music, sailing, counselor-in-training, teen and early teen programs, and aquatic camps. The City's free youth sports program provides skill development and games in six different sports, serving almost 10,000 Long Beach youth. In addition, the City partners with the YMCA and boys and girls clubs to increase recreational opportunities for youth and teens. Today, school site recreation programs managed by the Parks, Recreation and Marine Department are held at 16 elementary and five middle school locations. Additional offerings are outlined in the information below.

3. Community Activity Centers

There are 26 City-owned and operated community activity centers in Long Beach, varying in terms of both size and program offerings. The California Community Recreation Center, Cesar E. Chavez Park Community Center, El Dorado Park West Community Center, Recreation Park Bruins Den, Houghton Park Community Center, and the Silverado Park Community Center are among the largest centers and operate the widest array of health and recreation programs. Many of the community centers offer supervised after-school activities including arts and crafts, book clubs, boys and girls clubs, fitness instruction, cooking instruction, weight training, game room activities and meeting rooms. There are four community centers with gymnasiums, two centers that emphasize senior programs and six centers that emphasize teen programs. The Long Beach Senior Center is the largest such facility on the West Coast. Programs, clubs, dances, classes, and information and referral services are available to the senior community, with five satellite programs offered at community parks in the City.

Teen programs offer tutoring, counseling, employment development, referral services, computer labs and life-skills workshops. The Homeland Cultural Center (1321 E. Anaheim) offers writing, music, acting and dance workshops, and a mural arts program. Mural arts also operate out of a park building at 340 Nieto Avenue. The Leeway Sailing Center rents non-motorized boats and offers instruction in sailing, kayaking and water safety.

4. Swimming Pools

There are five City swimming pools located at the Martin Luther King Junior Park, Silverado Park, and the Belmont Plaza Pool Complex (3). The City-owned Recreation Vehicle Campground has a small pool. There are four swimming pools at Long Beach Unified School District (LBUSD) high schools that are open to the public in the summer through City/LBUSD joint use agreements. Also, the City Colleges and California State University at Long Beach add an additional four pools to the public pool inventory.

5. Golf Courses

There are five City-owned golf courses in Long Beach at Heartwell, El Dorado, Recreation and Skylinks. All together they have four driving ranges, three 18-hole courses, one 9-hole course and one 18-hole par three lighted course, encompassing 568 municipal golf acres. The City contracts with private concessionaires who operate the courses. There are also two private golf courses and one private driving range in the City. The courses are an 18-hole course at Virginia Country Club and a 9-hole course at Bixby Ranch. A new, publicly accessible driving range is located at the intersection of the I-405 San Diego Freeway and the Los Angeles River.

6. Equestrian, Bicycle, Walking and Skating Trails

There remains a segment of equestrian trail on the floodplain adjacent to the Los Angeles River, but only a handful of properties along the river allow horses to be kept. These trails lie on County of Los Angeles flood control property, which is being studied for various open space enhancements under the Los Angeles River Master Plan.

According to the 2001 Long Beach Bicycle Master Plan, the City has an estimated 64 miles of bikeways, 35 of which are completely separated from roadway traffic. The shoreline, river and park trails accommodate pedestrians, skate boarders and skating as well. Although this chapter contains a policy and program recommending the development of an open space linkage and trails plan, the bicycle map and policies pertaining to walking and cycling in the community are largely contained in the Transportation (Circulation) Element.

7. Long Beach Museum of Art

Recently renovated and expanded, the Long Beach Museum of Art is located in Bluff Park at 2300 E. Ocean Boulevard. The Museum is very reasonably priced and is open to the public five days a week. It features applied and decorative arts including paintings, sculpture, video and children's art. Summer concerts are performed in the courtyard area overlooking the Pacific Ocean.

8. Beaches

Located between the Los Angeles and San Gabriel rivers, Long Beach has approximately 247 acres of beaches and 11 miles of shoreline. Although the beach property is owned by the State, the City retains responsibility for maintaining the beach and beach facilities. Currently it is estimated that the annual visitation rate to these beaches is 7.5 million visitors. The water is relatively calm as a result of the extensive federal breakwater along the City's coastline. But beach conditions and water quality are challenged when storms occur in the Los Angeles basin and polluted urban runoff flows down the Los Angeles and San Gabriel rivers and washes up on our shores. Policies and programs in this Element and in the Local Coastal Program are designed to address this major local issue.

9. Belmont Pier, Fishing Spots and Platforms

A major renovation of Belmont Pier is planned. Electrical and water conduits will be replaced, new lighting, signage and surfacing will be added, the old bait, tackle and snack building will be torn down, new fishing nodes will be installed, and a new restaurant and restrooms will be built. The adjoining public parking lot will be relandscaped and resurfaced, and the bike path will be rerouted to the beach side of the lot.

In addition to the fishing bays at Belmont Pier, public fishing platforms line the edge of Shoreline Aquatic/Riverfront Park just south of the aquarium. People are also able to fish from the rock embankments along the rivers, at 72nd Place on the peninsula, and in select spots at Alamitos Bay.

10. Rainbow Harbor and Long Beach Aquarium of the Pacific

Rainbow Harbor was recently constructed in the first phase of the Queensway Bay downtown waterfront redevelopment plan. It features eight public piers designed to accommodate visiting historic ships, water taxis, fishing and harbor dining and sightseeing boats. Special landscaping, lighting and music effects, and a double-tiered pedestrian esplanade surround the harbor contributing to both its daytime and evening ambiance.

11. Marinas and Boat Launches

The City owns and operates two large marinas and one smaller marina which constitute the largest municipally owned marina operation in the nation. Currently the downtown Rainbow Marina has 86 boat slips, the downtown Shoreline Marina has 1,744 slips and the Alamitos Bay Marina has 1,967 slips. Long Beach also has five public boat launches: Davies, Claremont, Granada, Marine Stadium and South Shore. Everything from powerboats and jet skis, sailboats, windsurfers, skulls, catamarans and kayaks can be launched from Long Beach shores.

C. MEETING RECREATION NEEDS

The current Open Space Element was adopted in 1973. Since then, tremendous population changes have occurred throughout the State, including the City of Long Beach. Not only are we much more ethnically diverse, (Long Beach is the most ethnically diverse of the 65 largest cities in the nation), but over 100,000 new residents live in our community. This 28 percent increase, larger family sizes and a sluggish housing development market over the last decade, have resulted in increased persons per household or increased population density. A greater proportion of the population is children, and the average resident is less affluent than thirty years ago.

While population has soared, the City's usable open space has not kept pace. Recreation open space in 1973 was estimated to be 2,500 acres. In 2001, we have an estimated 2,600 acres of recreation open space. The community has lost ground with respect to the ratio of open space per capita. In 1973 the ratio of recreation open space to population was 7.0 acres per 1,000 residents. Today this ratio is only 5.6 acres. Further, much of the recreation open space is located in the eastern and coastal sections of the community, while most of the population growth has occurred in the central, western and northern sections. This has made access to recreation open space problematic for much of our youth population. This plan seeks to address these fundamental concerns.

Answering the question, "how much open space is enough?" is not easy. In an attempt to do so, however, City staff has examined the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) recommendations and measured our community against others.

Though in 1971 the NRPA initially recommended a national standard of ten (10) acres of parkland for each 1,000 residents in a community, by 1983 the NRPA officially changed this recommendation. Finding that no single standard was applicable to all jurisdictions and situations, since 1983 the NRPA has recommended that each jurisdiction develop and adopt their own local standard for open space per capita. This position was reaffirmed in the NRPA's "1995 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Guidelines."

Beyond NRPA recommendations, in formulating the Department’s Strategic Plan the authors benchmarked our community against major American cities similar to ours and found an average of 7.2 acres of recreation open space per 1,000 residents. A significant difference was evident in that most of these cities do not have the water recreation resources Long Beach has.

Given the amount of recreation open space available now, factoring in future possible open space acquisition opportunities and the City’s economic development efforts to become a viable tourist destination, it is felt that Long Beach could and should reach a recreation open space standard above the average. Thus, with adoption of this Element the City of Long Beach is establishing its recreation open space standard at eight (8) acres per 1,000 residents. Based on the 2000 population of 461,522 and this standard, the City should have a total of 3,692 acres of recreation open space. The table below lists the City’s recreation acreages at this time.

**TABLE OSR-1
Recreation Open Space Acreage**

Open Space Type	Acreage
City Parks	1425
Beaches	247
Golf Courses	568
Water Recreation (Alamitos Bay & Downtown Marina surface areas)	373
TOTAL	2613

Note: Table OSR–1 does not include water acres in the San Pedro Bay off the Long Beach shoreline. Although these waters are used for swimming, fishing, windsurfing and boating, areas such as these are generally not included in calculations of park and recreation open space.

With 2,613 acres of recreation open space and a population of 461,522 the City of Long Beach is now providing approximately 5.6 acres of recreation open space per 1,000 residents. To meet the target of eight acres per 1,000 residents the City needs 1,080 acres over what currently exists. Additional acreage would also be required in order to keep pace with population growth. How do we get there?

Even though many communities include the city’s public school campuses in recreation acreage counts, in Long Beach most of these sites are not freely accessible to the general public most of the time. Although there are currently 49 acres of school recreation grounds available to the community for after school recreation, additional staff is needed to provide for more, safe after school use. If Long Beach public schools were more accessible, they would contribute an additional 359 open space recreation acres to our inventory.

Figure OSR-2 illustrates where the schools are. Certainly better utilization of this resource would help fill the recreation open space gaps identified in Figure OSR-3.

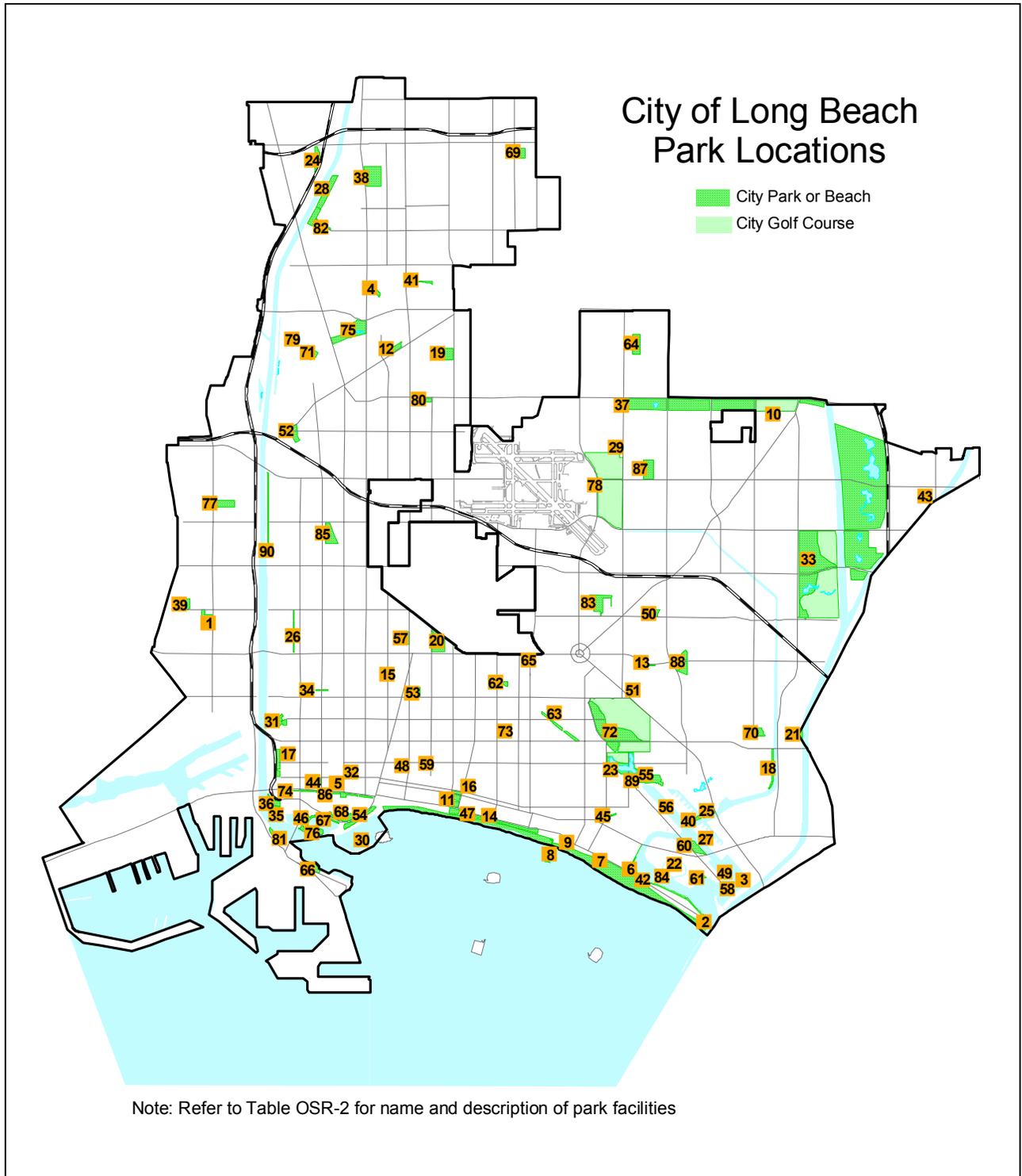
Today, there are over 96,000 students enrolled in the Long Beach Unified School District (LBUSD or the District), enough to fill the Rose Bowl in Pasadena. This population is projected to grow by about 1,500 students each year for the next five years. By 2005 the District is projecting a minimum of 102,000 students. Currently the District is planning to build ten new schools, expand existing campuses, and create some two-story buildings to absorb this increase. While the City is working with the LBUSD to accommodate these students and the new and expanded campuses, more needs to be done to open school grounds for community enrichment programs, including public recreation. This is a strong focus of the newly adopted Citywide 2010 Strategic Plan which advocates a return to the city/school community partnership that once existed. The implementation programs portion of this plan recommends that a new, high level, City/LBUSD committee be created to directly address these concerns.

One method of maintaining necessary recreation resources is through development impact fees. Under California law, in-lieu or impact funds can be used for park renovation, acquisition and development. In 1989 the City Council enacted an ordinance requiring a park impact fee to be paid by new residential developments to help pay for the recreational needs of a growing population. However, this fee has been insufficient in terms of meeting its intent of preventing a worsening of the recreation open space to population ratio as it solely addresses growth based on new residential development. In contrast, more people occupying existing residences have accommodated most of our community's growth since 1989; i.e., household sizes have become larger as housing prices have escalated. In light of these circumstances, economic inflation since the fee was adopted, and new recreation open space goals promulgated by this plan, the City's park impact fee should be reviewed for possible adjustments.

Additionally, this Element recommends the establishment of a dedicated source of funds for park infrastructure maintenance and capital improvements. The park impact fee can be an important source of park acquisition and development funding, but it should not be the only source. Without a reliable flow of funds, park capital improvement planning is left to the caprices of changing political and economic climates. With dedicated annual funding, capital improvements can be better planned and budgeted.

The following pages illustrate where parks and public schools are located in the City and list the recreation facilities in City parks and schools.

FIGURE OSR-1



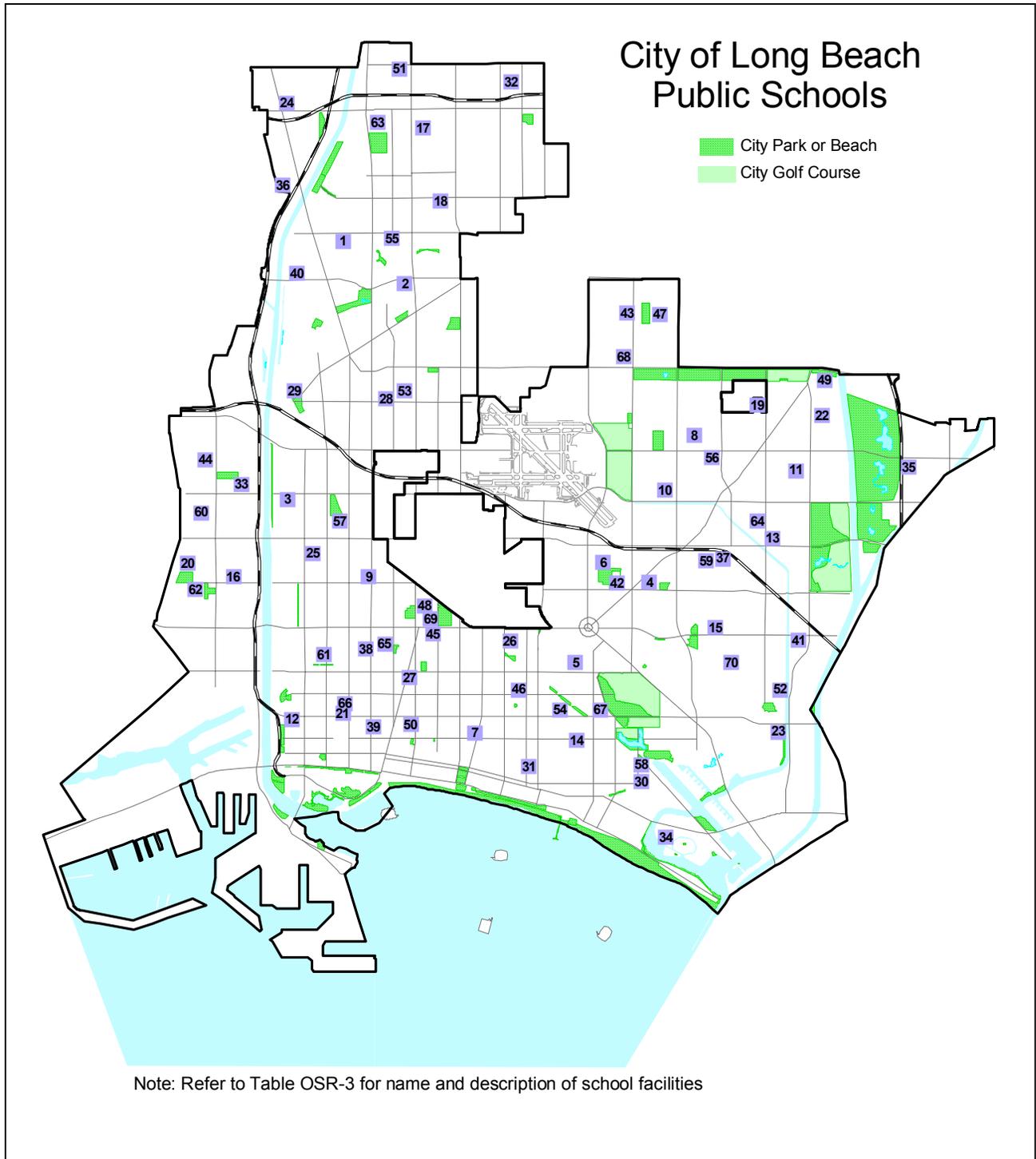
**TABLE OSR-2
City Parks and Recreation Facilities**

Park Name – Park Type(s) C = Community Park G = Greenway Park GC = Golf Course M = Mini Park N = Neighborhood Park R = Regional Park S = Special Use Park	Acres	Map Location	Activity Center	Baseball	Basketball	Benches	Boat Facilities	Coastal Viewing	Community Center	Fishing	Football	Golf	Green Space	Gymnasium	Hand/Racquetball	Horseshoes	Lakes	Nature Center/Trail	Picnic Tables	Playground	Rollerhockey	Sand Lots	Skate Park	Soccer	Softball	Swimming	Tennis	Volleyball
Admiral Kidd – N	9.2	1	•	•	•	•					•	•				•		•	•		•							
Alamitos at 72 nd – M	0.2	2								•			•													•		
Alamitos Bay Marina – S	1.4	3					•	•				•																
Atlantic Plaza – N	4.0	4							•			•								•								
Amphitheater on the Promenade – S	0.5	5				•																						
Bayshore Playground – M	1.8	6	•	•		•	•								•				•							•		
Beach – R	247.0	7					•	•		•																•		•
Belmont Pier and Plaza – S	1.3	8					•	•		•																•		
Belmont Pool Complex – S	4.6	9					•					•			•											•		
Birdcage – M	0.9	10										•							•	•								
Bixby – C	12.5	11	•			•						•				•			•	•								
Bixby Knolls – N	3.6	12	•									•										•						
Bouton Creek – M	0.7	13										•							•									
Bluff – G	25.8	14				•	•					•																
California Recreation Center – N	2.0	15		•	•			•				•	•						•	•								
Carroll – M	0.6	16										•																
Cesar Chavez – C	24.4	17				•		•				•							•	•								
Channel View – G	5.1	18				•	•					•																
Cherry – C	8.4	19		•	•			•			•	•								•	•			•	•	•	•	•
Chittick Field – S	18.0	20										•							•	•					•	•		
College Estates – N	2.2	21	•	•	•							•							•	•		•				•	•	
Colonnade – M	0.6	22				•	•																					
Colorado Lagoon – S	43.9	23					•					•							•	•						•		
Coolidge – N	5.6	24		•	•			•				•				•			•	•		•						
Costa del Sol – G	3.4	25					•					•																
Daisy Avenue – G	2.0	26										•																
Davies Launch Ramp – S	7.7	27					•																					
DeForest – N, S	23.4	28		•	•			•				•			•	•		•	•	•		•			•	•	•	•
Douglas – M	2.6	29										•																
Downtown Marina Mole – S	1.7	30					•	•		•		•																
Drake – N	6.3	31	•	•	•			•				•			•				•	•				•		•	•	•
East Village Arts – M	0.1	32										•																
El Dorado – C, GC, R, S	815.5	33	•	•	•		•	GC	•	•	•	•	•				•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Fourteenth Street – M	1.7	34				•						•								•								
Golden Shore Marine Reserve – S	6.4	35					•					•																
Golden Shore RV – S	5.1	36					•					•								•								
Heartwell – C, GC	153.7	37	•	•	•	•					•	•					•		•	•					•	•	•	•
Houghton – C	24.2	38	•	•	•	•		•		•		•			•				•	•		•			•	•	•	•
Hudson – N	13.0	39		•	•							•								•								
Jack Dunster Marine Reserve – S	2.7	40					•					•																
Jackson Street – M	2.1	41										•								•		•						
Leeway Sailing Center – S	0.9	42					•	•												•								
Lilly – M	0.2	43										•							•	•								
Lincoln – S	4.8	44				•	•					•																
Livingston Drive – M	1.5	45				•						•							•	•								

**TABLE OSR-2
City Parks and Recreation Facilities (Continued)**

Park Name – Park Type(s) C = Community Park G = Greenway Park GC = Golf Course M = Mini Park N = Neighborhood Park R = Regional Park S = Special Use Park	Acres	Map Location	Activity Center	Baseball	Basketball	Benches	Boat Facilities	Coastal Viewing	Community Center	Fishing	Football	Golf	Green Space	Gymnasium	Hand/Racquetball	Horseshoes	Lakes	Nature Center/Trail	Picnic Tables	Playground	Rollerhockey	Sand Lots	Skate Park	Soccer	Softball	Swimming	Tennis	Volleyball
L.B. Aquarium of the Pacific - S	4.7	46						•	•										•									
L.B. Museum of Art - S	1.6	47						•	•				•															
L.B. Senior Center - S	0.9	48				•			•																			
Lookout - M	0.5	49											•															
Los Altos - N	4.7	50				•							•						•	•		•		•				
Los Altos Plaza - M	0.7	51											•						•	•								
Los Cerritos - N	7.2	52			•	•							•						•	•		•						
MacArthur - N	3.7	53			•	•			•				•						•	•							•	
Marina Green - S	11.0	54						•					•															
Marina Vista - N	17.0	55				•		•					•						•					•	•			
Marine Stadium - S	20.2	56	•			•	•	•	•				•						•					•	•			
Martin Luther King Jr. - C	8.2	57				•			•				•						•	•			•	•	•			
Maurice "Mossy" Kent - M	0.1	58				•							•						•									
Miracle on 4 th Street - M	0.1	59				•							•							•								
Mother's Beach - S	4.6	60	•			•	•	•					•						•	•					•		•	
Naples Plaza - N	0.7	61						•					•						•	•								
Orizaba - N	2.5	62			•	•							•						•	•								
Pacific Electric Right-of-Way - G	11.5	63											•															
Pan American - N	12.2	64			•	•			•				•	•	•				•			•		•			•	
Plaza Zaferia - M	0.7	65											•															
Queen Mary Events - S	4.0	66						•					•															
Rainbow Harbor Esplanade - S	7.2	67				•	•						•															
Rainbow Lagoon - S	13.0	68					•						•				•											
Ramona - N	6.6	69		•	•				•				•			•			•	•		•		•	•	•	•	
Rancho Los Alamitos - S	7.5	70	•			•							•						•									
Rancho Los Cerritos - S	4.7	71	•			•							•						•	•		•		•	•			
Recreation - C, GC	274.2	72		•		•			•			•	•						•	•		•		•	•		•	
Rose - M	0.7	73				•							•															
Santa Cruz - M	1.8	74											•															
Scherer - C	22.4	75	•		•	•							•				•		•	•		•		•	•	•	•	
Shoreline Aquatic - S	11.0	76				•	•	•		•			•						•			•						
Silverado - C	11.2	77		•	•	•			•				•	•					•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Skylinks - GC	159.5	78										•	•															
Sleepy Hollow - G	2.6	79											•															
Somerset - N	3.7	80	•		•	•							•						•	•		•			•	•	•	
South Shore Launch Ramp - S	6.0	81				•	•						•						•									
South Street Parkway - G	0.3	82											•															
Stearns Champions - C	20.9	83	•	•	•	•							•						•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Treasure Island - M	0.1	84						•					•															
Veterans - C	14.6	85		•	•	•			•				•						•	•		•		•	•	•	•	
Victory - G	8.8	86				•	•						•															
Wardlow - N	14.5	87			•	•			•				•						•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Whaley - N	12.8	88		•	•	•			•				•						•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Will Rogers - M	1.9	89											•															
Wrigley - G	11.4	90											•															

FIGURE OSR-2



**TABLE OSR-3
Long Beach School Recreation Facilities**

LB Schools	Map Location	Acres	Green Acres	Baseball	Basketball	Football	Gymnasium	Handball	Playground	Rugby	Soccer	Swimming Pool	Tennis	1/4 mi. Track	Volleyball
<i>Elementary</i>															
Addams	1	4.74	2.46		•				•						•
Barton	2	7.34	3.39		•				•						•
Birney	3	8.37	6.35		•				•						•
Bixby	4	11.06	6.84		•				•						•
Bryant	5	3.07	1.82		•				•						•
Buffum	6	7.99	3.88		•				•						•
Burbank	7	5.53	2.59		•				•						•
Burcham	8	10.75	6.34		•				•						•
Burnett	9	4.44	1.76		•				•						•
Carver	10	10.18	5.46		•				•						•
Cubberley	11	9.41	5.18		•				•		•				•
Edison	12	5.72	2.69		•				•						•
Emerson	13	10.25	6.36		•				•						•
Fremont	14	3.73	1.82		•				•						•
Gant	15	11.32	7.28		•				•						•
Garfield	16	8.48	4.60		•				•						•
Grant	17	8.63	3.31		•				•						•
Harte	18	7.11	4.16		•				•						•
Henry	19	9.99	5.61		•				•						•
Hudson	20	16.37	10.15		•				•						•
International	21	2.38	0.50		•				•						•
Keller	22	10.07	6.24		•				•						•
Kettering	23	10.38	5.67		•				•		•				•
King	24	4.67	1.94		•				•						•
Lafayette	25	3.75	2.60		•				•						•
Lee	26	3.74	1.43		•				•						•
Lincoln	27	5.82	2.68		•				•						•
Longfellow	28	6.17	3.37		•				•						•
Los Cerritos	29	5.97	2.88		•				•						•
Lowell	30	3.69	1.98		•				•						•
Mann	31	3.73	1.98		•				•						•
McKinley	32	7.72	4.74		•				•						•
Muir	33	7.68	4.35		•				•						•
Naples	34	4.38	2.54		•				•						•
Newcomb	35	13.36	7.26		•				•						•
Powell	36	14.00	5.70		•				•		•				•
Prisk	37	10.61	7.67		•				•						•
Roosevelt	38	3.83	2.02		•				•						•
Stevenson	39	2.60	1.21		•				•						•
Sutter	40	11.64	5.30		•				•						•
Tincher	41	7.75	6.45		•				•		•				•
Tucker	42	6.55	3.26		•				•						•

**TABLE OSR-3 (Continued)
Long Beach School Recreation Facilities**

LB Schools	Map Location	Acres	Green Acres	Baseball	Basketball	Football	Gymnasium	Handball	Playground	Rugby	Soccer	Swimming Pool	Tennis	1/4 mi. Track	Volleyball
Elementary															
Twain	43	7.71	5.76	•					•		•				•
Webster	44	13.05	7.28	•					•						•
Whittier	45	5.54	2.65	•					•						•
Willard	46	3.70	2.30	•					•						
Total		344.97	191.81												
Middle															
Bancroft	47	18.04	10.46	•	•		•								•
Butler	48	8.80	4.85												•
DeMille	49	24.66	14.04	•	•		•								•
Franklin	50	5.76	3.90	•	•		•								•
Hamilton	51	15.46	8.20	•	•		•								•
Hill	52	16.97	9.12	•	•		•								•
Hughes	53	11.66	5.64	•	•		•								•
Jefferson	54	7.06	3.45	•	•		•								•
Lindberg	55	13.05	5.99	•	•		•								•
Marshall	56	15.59	7.67	•	•		•								•
Robinson	57	8.75	3.30		•		•								•
Rogers	58	8.13	2.74	•	•		•								•
Stanford	59	15.77	8.06	•	•		•								•
Stephens	60	14.90	5.89	•	•		•								•
Washington	61	4.57	2.12	•	•		•								•
Total		189.17	95.43												
High															
Cabrillo/Savannah	62	46.85	22.00	•	•	•	•						•		•
Jordan	63	26.77	9.79	•	•	•	•					•	•		•
Millikan	64	34.89	15.10	•	•	•	•					•	•		•
Polytechnic	65	28.22	13.02	•	•	•	•					•	•		•
Reid	66	3.43	0.00												
Wilson	67	28.12	11.50	•	•	•	•					•	•		•
Total		168.28	71.41												
Colleges/University															
LBCC LAC on Carson	68	29.45	N/A	•	•	•	•					•	•		•
LBCC PCC on PCH	69	21.45	N/A										•		
CSULB	70	306.00	N/A	•	•	•	•					•	•		•
Total		356.90	N/A												

ISSUES, GOALS/OBJECTIVES, POLICIES & PROGRAMS

Listed below are the major issues associated with open space and recreation in the City, organized by the four topical areas required by State law. Immediately following are the goals, objectives and policies associated with each issue. Following that are tables that list the programs designed to employ the policies and attain the goals. Each of the policies list the issue(s) it addresses and each of the programs list the policies from which they emanate. They are purposely kept brief and broad in focus as this is a “general plan.” More specific background and technical information is contained in the 1998 Draft Open Space and Recreation Element, the 2001 Parks, Recreation and Marine Strategic Plan, and existing General Plan elements including the Conservation, Seismic Safety, Public Safety and Local Coastal Program. Each is referenced herein to create this less voluminous General Plan. Although at this time some redundancy will occur with these issues and the goals and objectives, policies and programs associated with addressing them, with the adoption of the updated General Plan these redundancies will be eliminated.

1. OPEN SPACE FOR THE PRESERVATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES

In our highly urbanized environment, areas of the City that retain natural resources are quite limited. There are, however, a few remnant parcels of natural habitat both on the land and in water bodies associated with the City. Perhaps foremost among this locality’s concerns, shared with our neighbors along the rivers and coast, is saving what we can of our once very fertile habitats - coastal and riparian ecosystems. Wetlands, arguably the most biologically productive environments on the earth, are particularly important in our uniquely mild Mediterranean climate here in Southern California. They serve as a critical wildlife habitat, marine life nursery, and a stopping/feeding grounds for migratory birds. With 90 to 95 percent of this region’s wetlands lost to development, Long Beach and her neighbors that have remaining wetland acreages are in a unique position to do something to preserve and restore wetlands. This concern is at the top of the following list of issues pertaining to the preservation of our natural resources.

ISSUES

- 1.1 Preservation and rehabilitation of the Los Cerritos Wetlands
- 1.2 Creation of new wetland, woodland and riparian habitats
- 1.3 Enhancement of the El Dorado Nature Center and DeForest Park Nature Area
- 1.4 Beach deterioration and bluff erosion
- 1.5 Urban forestry and the use of native plants

- 1.6 Rainwater retention and reduced water importation
- 1.7 Contaminated sites (brownfields and water bodies)

GOALS/OBJECTIVES

- 1.1 Develop well-managed, viable ecosystems that support the preservation and enhancement of natural and wildlife habitats.
- 1.2 Preserve, keep clean and upgrade beaches, bluffs, water bodies and natural habitats, including the ecological preserves at El Dorado Nature Center and the DeForest Nature Area.
- 1.3 Improve appropriate access to natural environments.
- 1.4 Design and manage natural habitats to achieve environmental sustainability.
- 1.5 Remediate contaminated sites.

POLICIES

- 1.1 Promote the creation of new and reestablished natural habitats and ecological preserves including wetlands, woodlands, native plant communities and artificial reefs. (Issues addressed: 1.1, 1.2 & 1.3)
- 1.2 Protect and improve the community's natural resources, amenities and scenic values including nature centers, beaches, bluffs, wetlands and water bodies. (Issues addressed: 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4 & 1.5)
- 1.3 Incorporate environmentally sustainable practices in City programs and projects. (Issues addressed: 1.1 - 1.7)
- 1.4 Promote and assist with the remediation of contaminated sites (Issue addressed: 1.7)

**TABLE OSR-4
1. Open Space for the Preservation of Natural Resources
Implementation Programs**

Programs	Responsibility	Funding Source	Time Frame
1.1 Ensure compliance with all Federal and State Laws which protect rare, threatened and endangered species. (Policies: 1.1 – 1.4)	City of Long Beach Harbor and Planning & Building Departments	Development applications fees	Ongoing as project applications are submitted
1.2 Plan for and make improvements to the El Dorado Nature Center and the Deforest Park Nature Area including creating native plant community habitats. (Policies: 1.1 – 1.3)	City of Long Beach Department of Parks, Recreation & Marine	Federal and State grants, City of Long Beach General Fund and nonprofit assistance	Ongoing as funding becomes available
1.3 Work to acquire and restore the Los Cerritos Wetlands. (Policies: 1.1 – 1.4)	City of Long Beach Parks, Recreation & Marine Department in conjunction with Federal and State resource preservation agencies and non-profit organizations	Federal and State grants, Los Angeles County Public Works General Fund, potentially City of Long Beach General Fund	Ongoing as funding becomes available
1.4 Work to acquire and restore lands along the San Gabriel and Los Angeles Rivers, and wetland habitats and greenways. (Policies: 1.1 – 1.4)	Los Angeles County Department of Public Works in conjunction with the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy, the City of Long Beach Planning & Building, Water, and Parks, Recreation & Marine, Departments, and the Water Replenishment District	Federal and State grants, Los Angeles County Public Works General Fund, potentially City of Long Beach General Fund	Ongoing as funding becomes available
1.5 Continue to study, develop plans, and implement programs to protect and improve local beaches, waters, wetlands and coastal bluffs; and, update the General Plan related to these issues. (Policies: 1.1 – 1.4)	Federal and State resource agencies, Army Corps of Engineers, in conjunction with the City of Long Beach Public Works, Health and Human Services, Parks, Recreation & Marine, and Planning & Building Departments	Federal and State grants, development application fees, City of Long Beach General Fund	Ongoing as funding becomes available

TABLE OSR-4 (Continued)
1. Open Space for the Preservation of Natural Resources
Implementation Programs

Programs	Responsibility	Funding Source	Time Frame
<p>1.6 Restore Colorado Lagoon to serve as both a productive wetland habitat and recreational resource by reducing pollutant discharges into the water, increasing water circulation with Alamitos Bay and/or restocking or planting appropriate biological species. (Policies: 1.1 – 1.4)</p>	<p>Federal, State and regional water quality agencies in conjunction with the City of Long Beach Water, Public Works, Planning & Building, Health & Human Services, and Parks, Recreation & Marine Departments</p>	<p>Federal and State grants and loans, City of Long Beach Water Department fees, and potentially City of Long Beach Tidelands & General Funds</p>	<p>Ongoing as funding becomes available</p>
<p>1.7 Clean up contaminated sites and brownfields. (Policies: 1.2 – 1.4)</p>	<p>Federal and State government agencies, City Beach Community Development, Health and Human Services, Planning & Building, Parks, Recreation & Marine, and Harbor Departments and contaminated property owner</p>	<p>Federal and State grants, polluting entities and property owners</p>	<p>Ongoing as funding becomes available</p>

2. OPEN SPACE FOR THE MANAGED PRODUCTION OF RESOURCES

We examine open space for the managed production of resources to ensure that we use our natural resources in a responsible way and that we do not use them up and leave nothing to posterity. This is the premise behind becoming a “sustainable city,” which is the foundation of the City’s 2010 Strategic Plan; natural resources are limited and in order to sustain civilization we must use them wisely. When the State mandated that communities include a section on open space for the managed production of resources, there were numerous agricultural, timber and mineral/mining communities. However, Long Beach has not been rural for a long time. There is little land devoted to any of these natural resource areas, so once again this section, required by State law, is not as extensive in more urbanized areas such as ours. Also, the existing Conservation Element and a new natural resources element will address these considerations more fully. Keeping

that in mind, along with the focus on open space, is important when reviewing the material that follows.

ISSUES

- 2.1 Preservation of land for community gardens
- 2.2 Preservation of groundwater aquifers (quality thereof, recharge basins and extraction sites)
- 2.3 Proper extraction and prolonging the life of oil, water and gas natural resources
- 2.4 Preservation and enhancement of marine life habitats

GOALS/OBJECTIVES

Maintain a sufficient quantity and quality of open space in Long Beach to produce and manage natural resources.

POLICIES

- 2.1 Reserve, at a minimum, the existing amount of open space for community gardens and strive to create more. (Issue addressed: 2.1)
- 2.2 Protect and wisely-manage groundwater recharge areas and groundwater aquifers. (Issue addressed: 2.2)
- 2.3 Manage oil, water and natural gas extraction sites and operations to extend the life of these resources. (Issue addressed: 2.3)
- 2.4 Preserve, enhance and manage open areas to sustain and support marine life habitats. (Issue addressed: 2.4)

**TABLE OSR – 5
2. Open Space for the Managed Production of Resources
Implementation Programs**

Program	Responsibility	Funding Source	Time Frame
2.1 Inventory and maintain the existing amount of public open space devoted to community gardens. (Policy: 1)	City of Long Beach Planning & Building, Community Development and Parks, Recreation & Marine Departments	State grants, non-profit entities and City of Long Beach General Fund	Perform inventory within one year of adoption of this chapter. Preservation of existing open space devoted to community gardens is ongoing
2.2 Work with non-profit groups (such as Long Beach Organic) to examine the feasibility of expanding open space for community gardens. (Policy: 1)	City of Long Beach Planning & Building, Community Development and Parks, Recreation & Marine Departments	State grants, non-profit entities and City of Long Beach General Fund	Ongoing
2.3 Preserve and protect water resources available to the City of Long Beach; use porous surfaces and expand recharge capabilities where appropriate and feasible. (Policy: 2)	City of Long Beach Water, Planning & Building, Public Works and Parks, Recreation and Marine Departments	Water Department user fees, State and Federal grants and loans, and City of Long Beach General Fund	Ongoing
2.4 Manage oil and natural gas operations throughout the City to protect the environment, extend the life of the resources and benefit the public. (Policy: 3)	Federal and State government agencies, City of Long Beach Planning & Building and Oil Properties Departments	Oil and gas revenues	Ongoing
2.5 Develop new and enhance existing marine life habitats in Long Beach. (Policy: 4)	See Section 1 Programs 1.1, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5 & 1.6		

3. OPEN SPACE FOR PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY

ISSUE

Significant geographic areas of the City are challenged by potential public health and safety hazards, both man-made and natural. Potentially hazardous situations are associated with conditions such as earthquake faults, unstable soils, areas subject to flooding, areas of high fire or toxic exposure risk, and air traffic flight paths. The issue examined herein is whether or not the local government is providing the appropriate open spaces to protect the public health and safety of the community.

GOAL/OBJECTIVE

Provide for and maintain sufficient open space for adequate protection of lives and property against natural and man-made safety hazards.

POLICY

Maintain open space buffers adequate to keep property and lives safe from natural and man-made disasters within the City including: unstable soil areas, known active fault zones, low-lying flood prone lands, airport flight paths, and areas of physical and noise contamination.

TABLE OSR-6
3. Open Space for Public Health and Safety
Implementation Program

Program	Responsibility	Funding Source	Time Frame
3.1 Identify the need for and maintain open space buffers to protect lives and property from natural and man made disasters.	Federal, State and County governments, City of Long Beach Planning and Building, Fire, Harbor and Airport Departments, and private landowners	Federal and State grants, City of Long Beach General Fund	Ongoing
3.2 Continually monitor areas that are physically hazardous.	Federal, State and County government agencies, City of Long Beach Fire, Health and Human Services, Airport, Harbor, Planning & Building and Park, Recreation & Marine Departments, owners and operators of facilities in identified hazardous areas	Federal, State and County government agencies, City of Long Beach business license fees and General Fund, private property owners	Ongoing
3.3 Identify areas of flood, earthquake fault, noise and other hazards for purposes of open space acquisition.	City of Long Beach Planning & Building, Health & Human Services and Fire Departments	City of Long Beach General Fund	Within one year of the adoption of this chapter

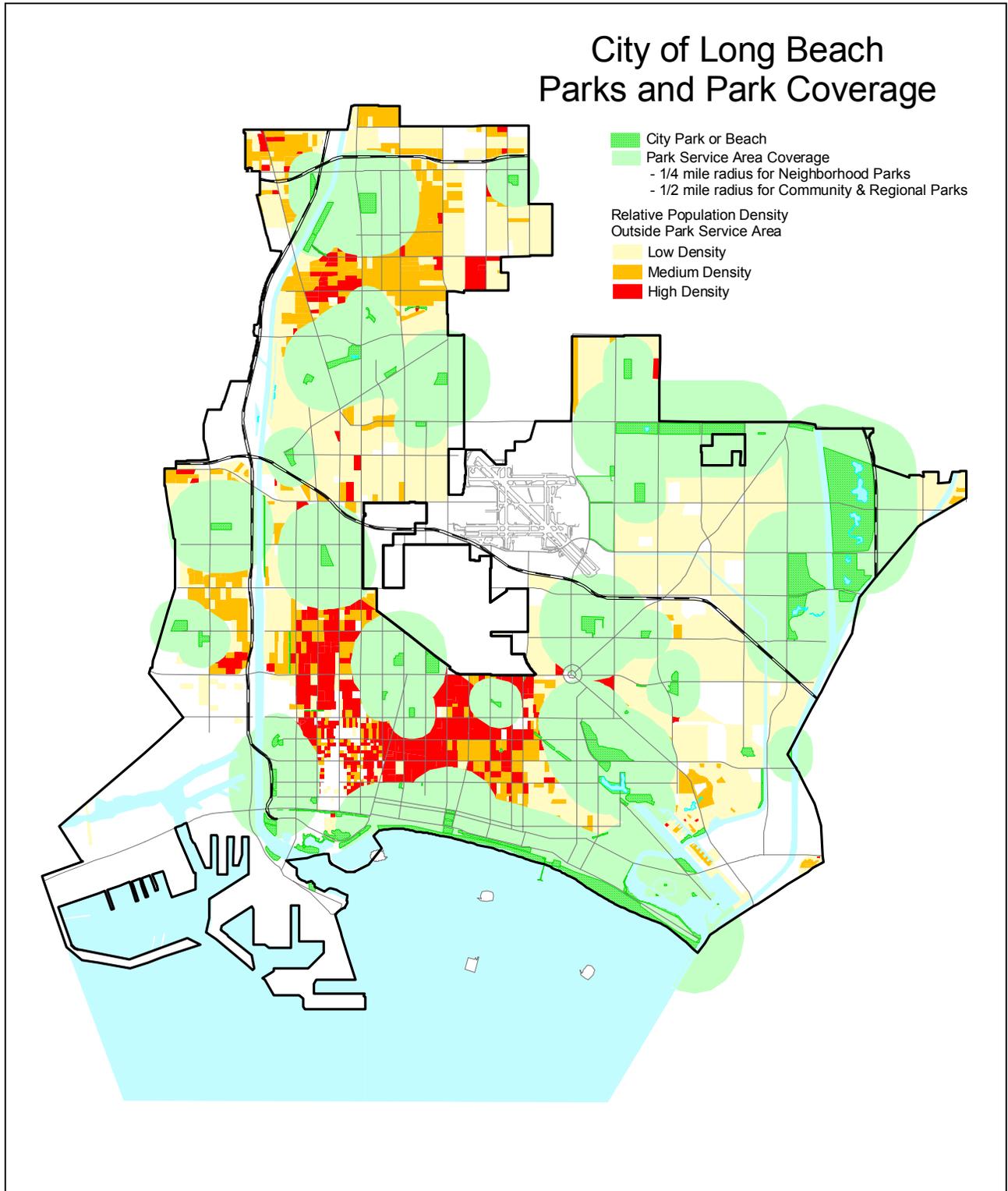
4. OPEN SPACE FOR OUTDOOR RECREATION & RECREATION FACILITIES

This chapter addresses the issues associated with providing adequate public recreational opportunities in our community. As stated in the introduction of this element of the General Plan, open space for public recreation is a preeminent Long Beach concern. Both active and passive recreational opportunities are included in this discussion, so there is some overlap with natural resource issues such as wetland and riparian habitats. Definitions of specific terms used to create the park inventory and analysis, and the following material, are provided in the glossary of terms (included at the end of this chapter) which the reader may want to reference at this time for a better understanding of the information presented below.

ISSUES

- 4.1 The ratio of recreation open space per capita in Long Beach has declined 18 percent in the past 28 years
- 4.2 Outdoor recreation open space land is unevenly distributed in Long Beach; populations in the north, central and western areas of the City are underserved
- 4.3 Rising land costs and tightly constrained municipal budgets have made acquisition of additional open space for outdoor recreation difficult in heavily urbanized areas
- 4.4 Non-outdoor recreation uses, including police and fire facilities, are increasingly impinging on existing recreation open spaces
- 4.5 An inadequate number of recreation facilities has resulted in competition for outdoor recreation open space between adult and children's sports leagues
- 4.6 Tight constraints on municipal funding have negatively impacted City recreation facilities and capital improvement budgets
- 4.7 Some recreation facilities are no longer popular and new recreation preferences require new facilities
- 4.8 Public school recreation facilities are often completely closed to the public
- 4.9 Recreation open spaces are not well linked; i.e., recreation trails are weak

FIGURE OSR-3



GOALS/OBJECTIVES

- 4.1 Foster park stewardship by every individual in the community through recreation program services.
- 4.2 Achieve a ratio of 8.0 acres of publicly owned recreation open space per 1,000 residents.
- 4.3 Add recreation open space and recreation facilities in the areas of the City that are most underserved.
- 4.4 Provide the recreational resources the public wants.
- 4.5 Make all recreation resources environmentally-friendly and socially and economically sustainable.
- 4.6 Increase recreation resources and supplement publicly-owned recreation resources with privately-owned recreation resources.
- 4.7 Fully maintain public recreation resources.
- 4.8 Fully utilize all recreational resources including those at public schools.
- 4.9 Connect recreation open spaces with greenway linkages.
- 4.10 Provide access to recreation resources for all individuals in the community.

POLICIES

- 4.1 Create additional recreation open space and pursue all appropriate available funding to enhance recreation opportunities. (Issues addressed: 4.1, 4.3, 4.5 & 4.6)
- 4.2 Protect public parkland from intrusive, non-recreational uses. (Issues addressed: 4.1 & 4.4)
- 4.3 Keep parklands open and green by limiting the amount of parking lot and building coverage areas within parks. (Issues addressed: 4.1 & 4.3)
- 4.4 Ensure that the general plan and zoning are consistent for all recreation open space locations and uses. (Issues addressed: 4.1, 4.3 & 4.4)
- 4.5 Replace any displaced publicly owned recreation open space on an acre per acre basis, in kind, within areas of the City most underserved by recreation open space. (Issues: 4.1, 4.2 & 4.4)

- 4.6 With the help of the community, plan and maintain park facilities at a level acceptable to the constituencies they serve. (Issues addressed: 4.2, 4.6 & 4.7)
- 4.7 Continue to solicit citizen participation in the creation of new park space and recreation facilities. (Issues addressed: 4.2 & 4.7)
- 4.8 In creating additional recreational opportunities, priority shall be given to areas of the City that are most underserved. (Issue addressed: 4.2)
- 4.9 Encourage the provision of non City-owned recreation resources to supplement what the City is able to provide. (Issues addressed: 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.5 & 4.6)
- 4.10 Require all new developments to provide usable open space tailored to the recreational demands they would otherwise place on public resources. (Issues addressed: 4.1, 4.2, 4.3 & 4.6)
- 4.11 Identify and increase the use of all underutilized potential public recreation resources to best serve the community; and work with the Long Beach Unified School District to enhance community recreational opportunities at Long Beach schools. (Issues addressed: 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.6, 4.7 & 4.8)
- 4.12 Give preference to children's sports leagues over adult sports leagues in neighborhood parks. (Issue addressed: 4.5)
- 4.13 Give special consideration to handicapped and disadvantaged residents in accessing public recreation resources. (Issue addressed: 4.2)
- 4.14 Develop an open space linkage/trails plan. (Issue addressed: 4.9)
- 4.16 Ensure that the City's Parks, Recreation and Marine Advisory Committee reviews all development proposals on City parklands prior to any City action to approve such projects.

**TABLE OSR – 7
4. Open Space for Outdoor Recreation
Implementation Programs**

Program	Responsibility	Funding Source	Time Frame
4.1 Inventory and analyze City-owned lands, blighted properties, and former oil drilling sites to identify parcels that can be converted to open space or parks and recreation uses. (Policies: 1, 11 & 14)	City of Long Beach Departments of Planning & Building, Community Development, Oil Properties and Technology Services	City of Long Beach Water Department and General Fund	Within one year of the adoption of this chapter
4.2 Adopt a citywide ratio of eight acres of parkland for each 1,000 residents. (Policy: 1)	Long Beach City Council	Not applicable	Approve ratio with adoption of this chapter
4.3 Review and revise as necessary the Park Impact Fee Ordinance in order to achieve the community's open space and recreation goals. (Policy: 1)	City of Long Beach City Council, City Attorney, Parks, Recreation & Marine, and Planning & Building Departments	Federal and State grants, City of Long Beach Park Impact Fee	Within two years of the adoption of this chapter.
4.4 Formally dedicate all City-owned parks and designate them to be preserved in perpetuity with the caveat that any necessary conversion of these lands to non-park purposes must be approved by a majority of the City Council and that lost park acreage must be replaced on at least an acre-for-acre and amenity-for-amenity basis in an area needing parkland. <u>Also, deed restrict new parks to allow only park and recreation uses.</u> (Policies: 2,4,5, & 8)	Long Beach City Council, City Attorney, Parks, Recreation & Marine, and Planning & Building Departments	City of Long Beach General Fund	With adoption of this chapter
4.5 Integrate the provisions of the Department's Strategic Plan for the socially, economically and environmentally sustainable development of the City's park and recreation system, with short and long-term Capital Improvement Plans. (Policies; 6,7,8,14 & 15)	City of Long Beach Parks, Recreation & Marine, Public Works, and Financial Mgmt. Departments in conjunction with the City Manager's Office	Federal, State and regional grants, City of Long Beach General Fund	Within two years of the adoption of this chapter
4.6 Develop a long-term funding mechanism for park and open space acquisition and development. (Policies: 1,5, & 14)	City of Long Beach Parks, Recreation & Marine, Public Works, Financial Mgmt. Departments in conjunction with City Manager's Office	To be determined	Within two year of the adoption of this chapter

TABLE OSR – 7
4. Open Space for Outdoor Recreation
Implementation Programs

Program	Responsibility	Funding Source	Time Frame
4.7 Analyze opportunities for open space linkages that include bicycle trails, drainage channels, right-of-ways, parks, rivers and beaches; and develop an integrated open space and recreation trails plan. (Policies: 1, 11 & 14)	City of Long Beach Department of Planning & Building in conjunction with the Parks, Recreation & Marine Department	Federal, State and regional grants, City of Long Beach General Fund	Within two years of the adoption of this chapter
4.8 Hold community meetings to devise and establish solutions to park safety, maintenance and development issues for each park. Foster park stewardship through building inclusive relationships with the community. (Policies: 6 & 7)	City of Long Beach Parks, Recreation & Marine Department in conjunction with the Department of Planning & Building	City of Long Beach General Fund	Ongoing
4.9 Develop a special use park oriented to the viewing and playing of adult active recreational sports. (Policies: 1, 12 & 15)	City of Long Beach Financial Management, Planning & Building, Public Works, Parks Recreation & Marine, and Community Development Developments	Federal and State grants or loans, City of Long Beach General Fund	Within three years of the adoption of this chapter
4.10 Create a top level committee composed of City Council members, City administrators, and key LBUSD officials to address enhanced utilization of school sites for public recreation. (Policies: 8, 9 & 11)	City Manager’s Office, Parks, Recreation & Marine, Community Development, and Planning & Building Departments in conjunction with LBUSD administrators and board members	City of Long Beach General Fund	Within one year of the adoption of this chapter
4.11 Modify provisions of the general plan and zoning for complete consistency of recreation open space locations, uses and building coverage. (Policies: 2, 3, 4, 9, 10 & 14)	City of Long Beach Department of Planning & Building in conjunction with the Parks, Recreation & Marine Department and City Attorney	City of Long Beach General Fund	Upon adoption of this chapter
4.12 Place before the voters a City Charter Amendment to update and clarify the (Parks and) Recreation Commission’s role relative to non-recreation uses and development in City parks. (Policies: 2, 3, 6, 7 & 15)	City Attorney in conjunction with the City Manager’s Office, City Clerk, and the Parks, Recreation & Marine Department	City of Long Beach General Fund	Within one year of the adoption of this chapter

GLOSSARY

Commercial Recreation. A recreational activity and/or facility for which a fee is charged by a private, for-profit person, partnership or corporation where that entity has the discretion to set the fee independent of the City's Recreation Commission or City Council, is defined as commercial recreation. Commercial recreation uses in Long Beach parks are limited to uses consistent with the intent of the park district, the General Plan, any applicable specific plans, and the following: the commercial recreation use must provide a needed public recreation service otherwise unavailable to the public; it may not permanently remove or impinge upon any significant public open space or impede public access thereto; fees charged must not be so high as to exclude participation by major segments of the community; and it must be found that the commercial recreation use cannot reasonably be located to provide comparable public recreation service on private land appropriately zoned for such a use. Examples of commercial recreation uses are: video game arcades, miniature golf courses, water slides and bicycle rentals at the beach.

Community Center. A building devoted to serving community needs, community centers in Long Beach provide a multitude of recreational, cultural, health, safety, transportation, educational, networking, personal and career development services. Community Centers may be oriented to serving the needs of specific age groups, e.g., seniors, young children or teens; or they may offer programming oriented to meeting specific neighborhood needs, e.g., gang member diversion or adult education courses. These centers are also provided to encourage and increase the involvement of the citizenry in the civic affairs of the City. Councilmanic and City-service offices, computer labs, game and meeting rooms, are commonly found in community centers throughout the City.

Community Park. Averaging 35 acres in size and serving neighborhoods within one mile, community parks serve a broader purpose than neighborhood parks, focusing on community recreation including sport fields, and preserving unique landscapes and open spaces. Community parks permit all of the uses allowed in neighborhood parks plus swimming pools. Building coverage in community parks is limited to ten percent of the total park area.

Greenway Park. A largely undeveloped green space, often a remnant or odd shaped piece of land left over from development, which can be used for casual recreation uses. Greenways can serve to connect or link recreation opportunities throughout a community. Building coverage in greenway parks is limited to one percent of the total park area.

Interim Park. A temporary park subject to conversion to another use. Interim parks must be approved by the City Council.

Mini Park. A small park serving neighbors within 1/8 mile, generally less than two acres in size, it may include: landscaping, irrigation, walking paths, seating areas and picnic tables, sand boxes/tot lots, playground equipment, play court, sculpture/art, drinking fountains and trash receptacles. Building coverage in mini parks is limited to one percent of total park area.

Nature Center or Biological Reserve. A special use park devoted to the appreciation and preservation of flora and fauna, including marine life. Human access is usually restricted and designed for observational and educational purposes only.

Neighborhood Park. Averaging eight acres in size and serving neighbors within ¼ mile (high density areas) and ½ mile (low density areas), a neighborhood park permits all of the uses allowed in mini parks plus: restroom buildings, recreation fields, courts and rinks, water features, libraries, day care centers, community centers, and parking and drive aisles. Building coverage in neighborhood parks is limited to seven percent of total park area.

Non-Recreational Use. Any use that is not a “recreational use” as defined in this glossary of terms. Non-recreational uses include those uses not permitted in each type of park (as defined in this glossary of terms) and not intended to serve park user needs. For example, police station and police training buildings, fire station and fire training structures, non-recreation-associated commercial buildings, and the like, are considered non-recreational uses.

Open Space. Open space is any area of land or water that is essentially unimproved and largely devoted to an undeveloped or unconstructed type of use. Land that has been graded or planted, has a walking/biking/skating path or nominal roadway system or surface parking area for access, underground infrastructure, and/or insignificant or portable structures or containers thereon, is considered open space. Beyond privately held pools, yards, setback areas, rooftop gardens, balconies, porches and the like, open space uses in Long Beach include the following: parks, plazas, promenades and boardwalks, vacant lots, cemeteries, community gardens, golf courses, beaches, flood control channels and basins, rivers and river levees, utility rights-of-way (e.g. transmission tower areas), oil drilling sites, median strips and back up lots, offshore islands, marinas, inland bodies of water, the ocean, estuaries and lagoons.

Park. A tract of land, most often publicly held, accessible to the general public, (usually for free but sometimes with a parking/access fee), for purposes of preserving natural areas and/or promoting the mental and physical health of the community through recreational, cultural and relaxation pursuits. Parks are characterized by green (or beach and water) open spaces devoted to leisure activities including the enjoyment of nature, wildlife, cultural heritage, sports, and

similar activities. Permitted park uses are defined in this glossary of terms and in the zoning regulations for each type of park in the City of Long Beach.

Recreational Center. A building devoted to serving community recreation needs, recreation centers in Long Beach offer a variety of programs including but not limited to: arts and crafts, games, gymnastics, dance workshops, and leasing of space for meetings and parties. Recreation centers differ from community centers in that these buildings are generally smaller in size, provide only Parks, Recreation and Marine Department sponsored programs, and do not encompass the variety and scope of activities and City programs and services available in community centers.

Recreational Use. A use pursued for human enjoyment and health, which refreshes the body and/or spirit as a diversion from the stresses of life. Recreational uses include both physical and mental activities; they can be both passive and active. Recreational uses may include such things as reading and learning, playing or watching sports or games, listening to music, pursuing hobbies, watching or being in a performance, having new experiences, and enjoying the company of other living things.

Regional Park. 175 acres minimum in size and serving communities within ½ hour drive time, a regional park permits all of the uses allowed in community parks plus other desired features. Building coverage in regional parks is limited to two percent of the total park area.

Special Use Park. A special use park provides unique cultural heritage and/or educational features which attract a broad audience from near and far. Examples of special use parks in Long Beach are the two historic ranchos, the Long Beach Museum of Art, the nature centers, aquarium and marine biological reserves. Significant development features of special use parks are to be determined on a case-by-case basis with community input and approved by the City Council.