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al	RESOLUTION OF THE CLARK COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION ADOPTING THE PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN 2000-2020 WHEREAS, pursuant to NRS Chapter 278, the Clark County Board of County Commissioners dopted the Clark County Comprehensive Plan in December 1983, which established policies for growth ind development of public facilities; and WHEREAS. The Clark County Planning Commission (hereafter referred to as the "Planning WHEREAS. The Clark County Planning Commission (hereafter referred to as the physical policies for the physical county Nevada (hereafter referred to as "the	
(Commission") is charged more and portions of Clark County, " development of all unincorporated portions of Clark County," development of all unincorporated portions of Clark County, " county") as specified by NRS, Chapter 278.150 to 278.220 inclusive; and	
	WHEREAS, additional parks and recreational facilities will be needed and expectations of the increasing resident population over the next 20 years; and WHEREAS, on September 7, 1999, a public hearing was held by the Planning Commission to WHEREAS, on September 7, 1999, a Public hearing was held by the Planning Commission to the testimony on the Draft Parks and Recreation Master Plan 2000-2020, and following the	
	solicit public testimony approved and certified the draft master plan, and hearing approved and certified the draft master plan, and WHEREAS, on October 5, 1999, a public hearing was held by the Clark County Board of where a following the hearing the Board approved the certified draft master plan, subject to	
	several amendment	
	 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Clark County Planning NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Clark County Planning Commission approve, adopt, and recertify the Parks and That the Clark County Planning Commission approve, adopt, and recertify the Parks and Recreation Master Plan 2000-2020 as an amendment to the Clark County Comprehensive Plan, incorporating the amendments made by the Clark County Board of County Plan, incorporating the amendments made by the Clark County Board of County Plan, incorporating the amendments made by the Clark County Board of County Plan, incorporating the amendments made by the Clark County Board of County Plan, incorporating the amendments made by the Clark County Board of County Plan, incorporating the amendments made by the Clark County Board of County Plan, incorporating the amendments made by the Clark County Board of County Plan, incorporating the amendments made by the Clark County Board of County Plan, incorporating the amendments made by the Clark County Board of County Plan, incorporating the amendments made by the Clark County Board of County Plan, incorporating the amendments made by the Clark County Board of County Plan, incorporating the amendments made by the Clark County Board of County Plan, incorporating the amendments made by the Clark County Board of County Plan, incorporating the amendments made by the Clark County Plan, incorporating the amendments made by the Clark County Plan, incorporating the amendments made by the Clark County Plan, incorporating the amendments made by the Clark County Plan Plan Plan Plan Plan Plan Plan Plan	
	 Commissioners: That the Planning Commission submit the certified copy of the Draft Parks and That the Planning Commission submit the certified copy of the Draft Parks and Recreation Master Plan 2000-2020, an amendment to the Clark County Comprehensive Recreation Master Plan 2000-2020, an amendment to the Clark County Comprehensive 	
	PASSED, ADOPTED, AND APPROVED this 18 day PLANNING COMMISSION	
	By: KIRBY TRUMBO CHAIRMAN	
	ATTEST: Ohn Allegel JOHN L. SCHLEGEL EXECUTIVE SECRETARY	

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OF THE CLARK COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ADOPTING THE PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN 2000-2020

WHEREAS, pursuant to NRS Chapter 278, the Clark County Board of County Commissioners (hereafter referred to as the "Board") adopted the Clark County Comprehensive Plan in December 1983, which established policies for growth and development of public facilities; and

WHEREAS, additional parks and recreational facilities will be needed to meet public

demand and expectations of the increasing resident population over the next 20 years; and WHEREAS, on September 7, 1999, the Clark County Planning Commission approved,

adopted, and certified the Draft Parks and Recreation Master Plan 2000-2020; and WHEREAS, a certified copy of a report entitled Parks and Recreation Master Plan 2000-2020, as adopted by the Clark County Planning Commission, has been received by the Board as

specified in NRS 278.220; and

WHEREAS, on October 5, 1999, a public hearing was held by the Board of County Commissioners in accordance with NRS 278.220 to solicit public input on the certified draft

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Clark County Board of County Commissioners:

That the Clark County Board of County Commissioners adopt the certified copy of a report entitled the Parks and Recreation Master Plan 2000-2020 as an amendment to the Clark County Comprehensive Plan.

PASSED, ADOPTED, AND APPROVED this 5th day of October, 1999.

CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

By:

Bruce L. WOODBURY

CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

SHIRLEY B. PARKAGUIRRE angue COUNTY CLERK

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan is to provide a broad policy and management framework to guide decision-making to meet current and future recreational needs well into the twenty-first century. The recommended policies and actions are intended to further the County's strategic plan to address "smart growth" within the unincorporated areas of Clark County.

The Master Plan contains sections dealing with urban and rural parks and leisure facilities, trails and open space. Although this plan covers only unincorporated Clark County, a key policy recommendation is to encourage a coordinated approach for multi-jurisdictional park planning and development.

Public input and involvement have been stressed throughout the preparation of the Master Plan. A 31member citizen's advisory committee included broadbased community representation and was instrumental in the plan's development. Community surveys and focus groups were used to reach out into the general public to better understand issues, needs and expectations for recreational and leisure activities.

At the present time, there are 39 programmable park facilities and three special use parks covering 617 and 194 acres, respectively, located in unincorporated Las Vegas Valley. One-half of the existing parks are in excellent condition while the other half will require enhancements prior to year 2020. Another key policy recommendation is to maintain and improve existing parks in a high quality condition for use by the general public. These urban park facilities are complemented with 14 leisure centers which provide a wide range of recreational and cultural activities.

The challenge of providing for the general public's recreational needs is complicated by changing demands and expectations caused by increasing population growth and shifting community profiles. Over the Master Plan's 20-year horizon, the urban population is expected to be dynamic, reaching 865,000 residents by the year 2020. As development continues, land opportunities to secure park sites diminish, either by escalating land costs or privatization of available U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM) lands. By the year 2020, at least 1,548 park acres will be needed in urban Clark County. A key policy recommendation is to acquire park and leisure facility sites now, sites which will be

needed to serve future populations. Since BLM land is essentially free of charge, the County should make every effort to secure these sites as soon as practicable.

Geographic equity is an important consideration to provide low distance access and service to all county residents. Park site acquisitions should be balanced and proportional to service populations. To accomplish this, the Master Plan divides the Las Vegas Valley into quadrants, with each quadrant analyzed to reflect consistency in determining park space needs. Park space and leisure facility needs are based on these spatial units.

The supply of urban parks and leisure facilities has not kept pace with the recreational demand, which is directly linked to the dynamic and sustained growth and development in the Las Vegas Valley. Related to population, existing park space is slightly higher than 1.3 acres of programmable park area for every 1,000 resident population, which is far less than the current park space goal set by the County. The Master Plan's park space policy recommendation is that the County set a minimum threshold of 2.5 acres of park per 1,000 population and develop an aggressive park development program to meet existing and future recreation demands. Coupled with that recommendation is the goal to develop a regional park (greater than 160 acres) and regional recreation center (at least 45,000 square feet) within five miles of every home in urban Clark County. The Master Plan provides for a mix of new neighborhood, community and regional parks and stresses the need for maximizing joint use with other public facilities, such as schools. An important factor is ensuring easy and safe access by surrounding neighborhoods and community.

The major impediment to the implementation of this Master Plan is the lack of dedicated funding sources for both capital improvement and ongoing park management. The sole source of dedicated park funding, the Residential Construction Tax, is geographically limited to neighborhood parks in developing areas, and is unavailable for pools, recreation centers, and trails. In order to meet the minimum 2.5 acres per 1,000 population park space standards and other goals of the Master Plan, approximately \$440,000,000 will be needed over the next 20 years. No single funding source can reasonably be expected to generate the level of funding required to implement the plan. It is recommended that a Park Master Plan Funding Committee be formed, comprised from both private and public sectors to develop a funding plan.

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BACKGROUND

Clark County established the Department of Parks and Recreation in 1963 "to acquire, develop and maintain parks and recreation areas, and to organize and direct leisure programs in the unincorporated areas of the County." Park policy was first formalized in the 1966 General Plan and expanded when the 1974 Local Park Code codified a spatial park standard of four acres per 1,000 population for neighborhood parks and set a Residential Construction Tax, or impact fee, to support park development.

The first formal study of recreation needs was completed in November 1984 as part of the Clark County Comprehensive Plan Process. The 1984 Park Program, Park and Open Space Plan, explored alternative methods to accommodate park needs and delivery of services within constraints of available fiscal resources. The plan resulted in definitions, siting and development standards for parks and leisure facilities.

In response to sustained local growth and development, the Parks Master Plan was updated in December 1992. The purpose of the plan update was to identify public needs and expectations related to park and facility delivery over a five-year planning horizon. Although the plan was primarily a capital improvement program, it clarified space standards for neighborhood parks and established a broad community-based public assessment process to identify, evaluate and baseline public attitudes and opinions regarding the County's Parks and Recreation programs.



STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The purpose of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan is to describe goals and recommendations needed to meet recreational needs for both urban and rural communities. The plan is intended to be a broad policy and management framework to guide decision-making to facilitate the orderly development of parks and leisure facilities well into the twenty-first century.

The Parks and Recreation Master Plan is comprehensive in that it addresses the programming, maintenance, public safety and assistance resources which are required to support existing and new park and leisure facilities. Also included are regional trails and open space goals and policy recommendations. It is not intended that the plan serve as a multi-year capital improvement program (CIP); rather, the policies and related information should prepare the foundation for future CIP planning.

ORGANIZATION OF PLAN

This Parks and Recreation Master Plan is organized into five main parts:

The first part provides background as it relates to master planning and community trends. This part also lays out public participation and outreach activities in the development of the plan for both urban and rural communities.

- The second part defines park classifications and discusses existing park and leisure facilities. It addresses the
 physical and programming resource support needed for park system expansion. This part also addresses urban
 Las Vegas Valley park facility needs and opportunities and establishes policy recommendations to guide future
 park development.
- The third part discusses parks and leisure facilities, needs, and recommendations for the outlying rural communities.
- The fourth part identifies opportunities for trails and open space development. This part focuses on developing a primary trail system and provides policies for trails and open space preservation.
- The fifth part discusses funding needs and a strategy option for the implementation of this plan.



LINKAGE TO STRATEGIC PLANNING

The Clark County Strategic Plan, adopted October 1995, provides general policy guidance to department levels and identifies goals and strategies to address "smart growth" within the County. This Master Plan is consistent with the intent of the Strategic Plan and furthers the following goals:

Goal A

To create partnerships with common interest groups and the people within our community

Goal B

To accelerate the infrastructure to meet the challenges of growth and redevelopment

The Master Plan promotes marketing and community ownership to create support for parks, trails and open space programs. It describes the need for multi-jurisdictional collaboration to address park system issues on a regional basis.

The Master Plan also identifies processes designed to speed the development of new parks, leisure facilities, trails and open space. It contains recommendations to accelerate park infrastructure and reinvest in existing parks in established neighborhoods. To be effective, Clark County must anticipate future parks and recreation needs while maintaining flexibility to be responsive to emerging leisure patterns and opportunities. New and renovated parks in mature community areas will act to renew older neighborhoods and provide recreational amenities reflective of its users. In new and developing areas, the County must be ahead of growth with park facilities.

COMPLIANCE WITH STATE LAW

Nevada Revised State Statutes (NRS) enable local governments (i.e., Clark County) to prepare and adopt a comprehensive long-term general plan for the physical development of their respective jurisdictions. NRS Chapter 278.160 (I) (j) provides for Recreation Planning "showing a comprehensive system of recreation areas, including natural reservations, parks, parkways, reserved riverbank strips, beaches, playgrounds, and other recreation areas, including when practicable, the locations and proposed development thereof." Further, NRS 278.160(2) permits Clark County to prepare and adopt other and additional plans and reports dealing with other subjects relating to growth and development prohibition.



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CHAPTER 1

SETTING

Providing for the general public's recreational needs is one of the greatest challenges facing local governments. This challenge is complicated by ever-changing demands and expectations caused by increasing population growth and shifting community demographic profiles. It is the primary goal of Clark County to develop opportunities which meet recreational needs, including open space, for the citizens of unincorporated Clark County. These facilities should complement the parks and leisure facilities in the surrounding incorporated cities. The provision of these opportunities requires planning in advance for future needs.

CURRENT TRENDS IN RECREATION

As the urban Las Vegas Valley area continues to grow, its demographic profile tends to become more complex. This constant change in societal patterns directly affects the recreational desires and needs of the community and the way local governments anticipate meeting these needs. The range of public expectations and demands for recreational activities is a dynamic and direct function of the changing community profile.

Population and Growth Trend -The rapid migration of new residents into the County has created significant demands for recreational activities. Over the last ten years, the unincorporated Las Vegas Valley population has nearly doubled to 474,500 residents. Future population growth is expected to remain robust and is projected to double again to at least 865,000 residents by the year 2020.



The growth in population is changing Las Vegas Valley's urban landscape. As development continues and U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM) lands are privatized, opportunities for low-cost park and leisure facility site acquisitions diminish.





LAND USE AND PUBLIC SERVICE LINKAGES

Residential land patterns vary across the metropolitan Las Vegas Valley. The Valley's urban center is characterized by mature neighborhoods and higher resident population densities. The area is almost fully developed and offers little or no growth and development potential.

The urban center also has little potential to generate park and facility funds via the Residential Construction Tax, which is generated from new residential construction. New parks and recreation facilities in the developed urban center are dependent on other sources of funding.

Conversely, most opportunities for new residential development follow along the growth edge of the suburban community. The growth edge is characterized by newer neighborhoods, predominantly single-family residential, with some multi-family developments. This area has the most potential to generate Residential Construction Tax funds for new park development. It is anticipated that future growth patterns will continue to move outward from the suburban edge.

This plan is closely tied to other planning efforts in Clark County. As development expands the suburban edge outward, schools and other public infrastructure, such as streets, flood control, and water and sewer deliveries, are needed to support and sustain the growth. The same public services are needed to support park system expansion, and opportunities are created to co-locate park and leisure facilities in conjunction with schools and flood control facilities.



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GEOGRAPHIC SERVICE AREAS

Clark County is located in the southern tip of the State of Nevada, and comprises approximately 8,000 square miles (Figure 2). Parks and recreation services are provided in both the unincorporated urban Las Vegas Valley and rural communities. This plan covers the unincorporated areas of Clark County. It does not include planning processes of the incorporated cities. However, park officials from other local and state entities have provided input via representation on the Citizen's Advisory Commission. Map 1 identifies recreation facilities without respect to jurisdictional boundaries.

Within the unincorporated Las Vegas Valley are seven town areas, including:

- Enterprise
- Lone Mountain
- Paradise
- Spring Valley
- Sunrise Manor
- Whitney
- Winchester

These towns were created by the County Commission to better facilitate citizen representation and also to serve as taxing districts, with the exception of Enterprise and Lone Mountain. The County functions much like a city by providing municipal services, including parks and leisure activities.



There are also ten rural communities serviced by Parks and Recreation; these are:

- Blue Diamond
- Bunkerville
- Goodsprings
- Indian Springs
- Moapa/Glendale
- Moapa Valley
- Mt. Charleston
- Laughlin
- Sandy Valley
- Searchlight

These rural communities are separated from each other by vast tracts of federally owned and managed lands.

REGIONAL COORDINATION

This plan is closely tied to other planning efforts in the County's Comprehensive Planning process. Goals and policies of the numerous elements of the comprehensive plan were reviewed to ensure policy consistency.

Additionally, the plan also builds upon other regional planning efforts such as the recent Urban Land Institute Growth Study, Southern Nevada Strategic Planning Authority Study and the Clark County Regional Transportation Commission Trails Development Report.





CHAPTER 2

PUBLIC OUTREACH

Community involvement has been stressed throughout the Parks and Recreation Plan development process. Due to the large urban geographic planning area and rural communities, the plan is organized and based on four public outreach programs.

1998 COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT

A December 1997 Parks and Recreation telephone survey of unincorporated urban residents was conducted to assess leisure behaviors, attitudes and opinions. The basic objectives were:

- To gather information that the Clark County Parks and Recreation staff can use to gain a better understanding of its constituency.
- To assess the public's attitudes on the extent to which the Department's current recreation programs and services satisfy the needs of participants.
- To determine the most effective methods of disseminating information to the public about recreation/cultural programs, facilities, and opportunities.
- To determine the community's need for new programs and facilities.
- To afford community residents the opportunity to offer suggestions, comments and concerns related to the recreational/cultural opportunities provided by the Department.

COMMUNITY FOCUS GROUPS

A series of focus group interviews was conducted during May of 1998. Key community groups were asked to participate and discuss parks and recreationrelated interests, issues, and opportunities to meet their needs and expectations. The first four groups were selected based on age profile and/or organized recreation interest. All focus groups were moderated by the UNLV - Center for Business and Economic Research. **Children Focus Group** - 18 young children from the fourth grade participated on this panel. Since children are primary users of park facilities and not normally part of the planning process, it was extremely important to identify their particular needs and desires. The fourth grade level was viewed as an optimal age where the children had past experiences in individual and organized play activities, with and without adult supervision.

Teenage Focus Group - A teen focus group was conducted which included 12 boys and girls ranging from 12 to 17 years of age. The intent of this group was to identify issues and opportunities specific to the teenage group. This was especially important since this age group has greater choice and mobility to travel to recreational activities.

Senior Focus Group - Seniors represent a growing segment of the resident population. As a general rule, seniors have more available time to pursue leisure activities. The senior panel included 15 individuals, most of whom moved to Southern Nevada to enjoy their retirement years. This group identified the greatest range of interests and desires for quality recreational activities.

Organized User Focus Group - The organized user group panel focused on identifying programs for children, which included Safekey and arts, as well as more traditional organized sports activities. This panel represented a wide spectrum of age groups.

Focus Group Review - A fifth roundtable group discussion was conducted to review the summary results of the four community focus groups. Parks and recreation administrators from each of the local cities were asked to participate with key County Parks and Recreation managers to better understand the strengths and weaknesses of their programs and facilities and impacts to the population served.

CITIZEN'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The 31-member Parks Master Plan Citizen's Advisory Committee was created by the Board of County Commissioners to assist staff in developing the Master Plan. The goal of the committee was to provide oversight, neighborhood and user group input, and review of the Master Plan. To ensure community balance and plan flexibility, committee membership included broad social, ethnic and spatial representation in addition to organized sports groups and special facility users.

The committee met biweekly through November 1998 and was deeply involved with the preparation of the Master Plan.



RURAL COMMUNITIES

Public input into the planning process from rural communities presented unique challenges and opportunities. Staff worked with each town board to identify issues and parks and recreation needs and desires. Their needs have been incorporated into this Master Plan.





CHAPTER 3

PARKS AND LEISURE FACILITY CLASSIFICATIONS

Park and leisure facility classifications are intended to be used as guidelines for future site and development activities. The classifications expand upon past parks and leisure definitions and take into consideration local urban community needs. Park and leisure classifications are not appropriate for rural communities.

PARK CLASSIFICATIONS

Mini-Park (<5 acres) - specialized facilities that serve a concentrated and/or limited population, such as, but not limited to, passive areas with picnic and conversation tables, tot-lots, and shaded rest areas. No convenience facilities are typically provided, and organized sport group activities are not encouraged.

Desirable location characteristics for a mini-park are within commercial, business and light manufacturing districts or adjacent to senior residential complexes. These facilities should be readily accessible to pedestrians.

Also, locating them in conjunction with trail links, recreational centers, senior centers and other facilities, such as early childhood and training centers, is encouraged. The mini-park would service children, workers, and seniors.

Neighborhood Park (5-25 acres) - typical uses of a neighborhood park include a combination of passive and intense recreational activity areas, such as field game areas, court game areas, limited ballfields, playgrounds, walking/jogging paths, wading pools, roller hockey areas, and picnic and conversation areas. Convenience facilities are provided, and limited organized sport group activities are encouraged.

Desirable location characteristics of a neighborhood park would be within residential neighborhoods and in close proximity to multi-family complexes. Ideally, these facilities should be located in conjunction with schools and centered with safe walking and bike access.

Ballfields are not typically lighted. Any lights should be designed to avoid impacts on adjacent use.

This park would service various age groups with emphasis on the youth. **Community Park** (26-160 acres) - areas suited for a combination of intense recreational activity areas, such as lighted ballfields and field game areas, court game areas, sand volleyball courts, playgrounds, walking/jog-ging paths, wading pools, skate facilities, horseshoe and bocce ball pits, picnic and conversation areas.

Convenience facilities are provided, and organized sport group activities encouraged. These parks may also include smaller outdoor festival areas, community pools, and recreation centers.

A desirable characteristic for a community park would be a location close to residential neighborhoods and light business/manufacturing districts. Lighted field areas and facilities should be situated to avoid impacts on adjacent land use.

A community park would service various ages, with emphasis on organized sport group activities and potential protection of natural areas.

Regional Park (>160 acres) - large areas for a diverse range of active and passive recreational activity areas, such as lighted ballfields and field game areas, organized group activity areas, large swimming pools, playgrounds, court game areas, sand volleyball courts, walking and jogging paths, roller blade and roller hockey facilities, horseshoe and bocce ball pits, family group picnic and conversation areas.

Also, these areas may include a wide range of natural or ornamental quality for outdoor recreation and may include horseback riding, fishing, camping and hiking trails.

Convenience facilities are provided and contain organized sport group facilities. Regional parks may also include public golf courses, athletic complexes, regional recreation centers and large outdoor festival areas. Regional parks should be located within or adjacent to an urban community. Ideally, regional parks would be located in areas of varied topography with diverse environmental quality and should be designed to avoid adjacent land use impacts and be easily accessible to the public. These parks would service a variety of ages and emphasize family and organized group activities.

Special Use Park (size varies) - areas which are dedicated for specialized or single-purpose recreational activity,

such as an equestrian facility, golf course, fairground, outdoor theater or festival areas.

A special use facility is compatible with adjacent land uses. Ideally, special use facilities are located in proximity to diverse environmental quality, topography, unobstructed views and open space. Special use facilities service a variety of ages, emphasizing individual and family activities.



LEISURE FACILITY CLASSIFICATIONS

Neighborhood Recreational Center -Neighborhood Recreational Centers are specialized indoor recreation facilities, which typically service a localized or neighborhood population, with summer and after school programs for youth, special interest classes for teens and adults, and holiday programs. Some senior programs may also be offered. It may also include a public neighborhood pool.

This center would typically serve adjacent neighborhoods and should be located within residential areas. Ideally, the neighborhood recreation center should be centered with safe walking and bike access, and located in conjunction with neighborhood parks and schools for maximum efficiency. This center services various ages with emphasis on youth.

Regional Recreational Center - functions to offer a wide range of leisure services, such as fitness programs, sports programs, craft and hobby activities, indoor gymnasiums, game rooms, locker and shower facilities, and swimming pools. It may also provide preschool, teen and senior programs, exhibit galleries, theaters and other cultural activities. This center would typically serve several communities and be centrally located for regional use. Ideally, it should be located in conjunction with larger park facilities and outdoor activities.

This center would service a variety of ages.

Community Resource Center - traditionally provides a variety of public services and functions, such as social services, health and safety, in addition to parks and recreation.

In rural areas, it may also house satellite offices for business license, planning and zoning, animal control, etc. This center serves various ages.

Specialized Center - indoor recreation facility which services a target population, such as children, teens and seniors. Uses may include some intergenerational programs for seniors, and activities for at-risk populations. A specialized center may also include natatoriums. Ideally it would be centered within safe walking and bike access. Service groups include a variety of ages, with emphasis on teens and seniors.

CHAPTER 4

EXISTING CONDITIONS

The Clark County Department of Parks and Recreation is currently responsible for the development, operation and maintenance of a wide range and variety of urban parks and leisure/cultural facilities. Although the existing parks and recreation system offers recreational opportunities for individuals and group users, it must also be dynamic to meet changing public needs and desires.

LEVEL OF SERVICE

The level of service guidelines are a tool to measure developed park acreage to a goal or space standard. Usually defined as programmable park acres per 1,000 residents, it represents the minimum amount of park space needed to meet recreational demand.

The present County level of service goal is an average of four acres per 1,000 population for neighborhood parks within the urban unincorporated Las Vegas Valley. Of this total, at least two acres should be programmable park area, one acre in joint school-park conjunctive use and one acre serviced by special use facilities.

Expanding this formula to include community and regional parks, but not counting the special use facilities, unincorporated urban Las Vegas Valley is currently at an overall service level of 1.3 acres of programmable park area per 1,000 residents. Calculated to include special use facilities, the level of service ratio increases to 1.8 acres per 1,000 residents. However, since special use facilities include a wide range of fairly specialized

activity centers such as pet parks, equestrian areas, fairgrounds and golf courses which are used by a fairly narrow segment of the resident population, a better indicator is to use existing programmable park space which is used most often by the general population.

There is no level of service standard or goal for the rural communities. Given the great distances between communities, small population bases, and unique needs and desires, each rural community typically has a town park and related leisure facilities to support its individual population base.

There is no county level of service standard or goal for leisure facilities. Leisure facility level of service is typically based on facility demand (number of visits over time), latent demand which may or may not be met by existing facilities, or service area population.



URBAN PARKS AND LEISURE FACILITIES

The existing parks and recreation system is described below. Given the large geographic service area of unincorporated Clark County, park facilities within the urban Las Vegas Valley are summarized by the following quadrant image (Figure 3). Quadrant boundaries follow the Interstate 15 Freeway alignment from south to north; Charleston Boulevard from the origin west and Sahara Avenue to the east.





Park Facilities - The County presently manages 39 park facilities in the urban unincorporated Las Vegas Valley. Park sizes vary greatly, from a 2-acre mini-park to a 200-acre regional park. Map 2 shows locations of existing park and leisure facilities.

Table 1

				ι	RBAN P	ARKS	
CLASSIFICAT	ION NW	NUMBER SW NE		SE	TOTAL	TOTAL DEVELOPED ACREAGE	TOTAL EXPANSION ACREAGE
Mini-Parks	0	0	0	3	3	12.08 acres	0
School/Parks	0	3	4	4	11	73.79 acres	0
Neighborhood	1	7	6	7	21	214.45 acres	17.65 acres
Community	0	0	1	0	1	12.00 acres	68.00 acres
Regional	0	1	0	2	3	304.45 acres	494.25 acres
Total	1	11	11	16	39	616.77 acres	579.90 acres

Table 2

CLASSIFICATION	NW		SW		NE		SE	
	DEV	UNDEV	DEV	UNDEV	DEV	UNDEV	DEV	UNDEV
Mini-Parks	0	0	0	0	0	0	12.08	0
School/Parks	0	0	22.00	0	19.19	0	32.60	0
Neighborhood	20.00	10.00	61.26	0	55.99	7.65	77.20	0
Community	0	0	0	0	12.00	68.00	0	0
Regional	0	0	*30.00	215.25	0	0	274.45	279.00
Total	20.00	10.00	113.26	215.25	87.18	75.65	396.33	279.00

*Desert Breeze Regional Park Phase I Development





Special Use Facilities - The County operates a wide variety of special use facilities. These activity centers offer recreation and community- sponsored events and programs.

The Dog Fanciers Park hosts shows and events and fenced open areas for unleashed dog play.

Horseman's Park provides equestrian facilities, including stalls, a show arena and a staging area.

The County also owns the **18-hole Desert Rose Golf course**. This course is operated to ensure that low-cost golfing is available to the general public.

			SP	ECIAL	USE FA	CILITIES	tean ball terms
CLASSIFICATI	ON	NU	MBER			TOTAL DEVELOPED	UNDEVELOPED
	NW	SW	NE	SE	TOTAL	ACREAGE	ACREAGE
Canine Facility	0	0	0	1	1	9.00 acres	3.00 acres
Equestrian	0	0	0	1	1	38.00 acres	10.00 acres
Golf Course	0	0	0	1	1	147.00 acres	0 acres
Total	0	0	0	3	3	194.00 acres	13.00 acres





School/Parks - The Clark County School District and the County have partnered to develop park facilities on school grounds or adjacent to schools. The concept of co-locating parks and schools within safe walking distance and within neighborhood settings is often very functional and appropriate. When a park recreational facility is located on School District property, the Parks and Recreation Department normally programs the facility when school is not in session and provides maintenance responsibilities.

At the present time, there are 11 schools with park facilities. These are identified in Table 4.

Table 4

	URBAN SCH	HOOL/PARKS	
FACILITY/LOCATION	ACRES	TOWNSHIP	QUADRANT
Cannon Middle School/Park			
5850 Euclid Ave. 89120	7.77	Paradise	Southeast
Cashman Middle School/Park			
4622 W. Desert Inn Rd. 89102	9.00	Winchester	Southwest
Durango High School Ballfield			
7100 W. Dewey Drive 89118	3.00	Spring Valley	Southwest
Eldorado High School Ballfield			
1139 No. Linn Lane 89110	3.00	Sunrise Manor	Northeast
Guinn Middle School/Park			
4150 So. Torrey Pines Dr. 89103	10.00	Spring Valley	Southwest
Mt. View School/Park			
5436 E. Kell Lane 89115	3.23	Sunrise Manor	Northeast
Orr Middle School/Park			
1562 E. Katie Ave. 89109	10.00	Paradise	Southeast
Silvestri Middle School Ballfields			
1055 E. Silverado Ranch Blvd. 89123	7.00	Enterprise	Southeast
S.N.V.T.C. Ballfields			
5710 Mtn. Vista 89120	7.83	Paradise	Southeast
VonTobel Middle School/Park			
2436 No. Pecos Rd. 89115	7.96	Sunrise Manor	Northeast
Wengert School/Park			
2001 Winterwood Blvd. 89121	5.00	Sunrise Manor	Northeast

Leisure Facilities - The County operates a variety of recreation, community and senior centers. These centers provide family, youth and senior recreation programs, after-school activities, day camps, summer special events and sports programs. Specialized classes and workshops are available for all age groups. At the present time, the County operates 14 urban centers which serve local neighborhoods and the community at large and often use adjacent school facilities during summer months. The new Cambridge Resource Complex is designed to be multi-functional, providing recreation, social service programs, motor vehicle licensing and registration and a host of other community support services.

Several centers focus on senior activities providing workshops, field trips, health and fitness programs, and in-house meal service. These centers also offer classes and workshops to keep seniors current in technological advancements in computers and other life skills.

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Cultural resource facilities are co-located at the larger recreation and community facilities. The Winchester Center has theater and gallery space where performances, concerts and film series are held. An outdoor

concert amphitheater is located at the Clark County Government Center. Two urban museums also provide for cultural and personal enrichment. Urban leisure facilities are identified in Table 5.

Table 5

FACILITY/LOCATION	N LEISURE F Area	TOWNSHIP	QUADRANT
Senator Howard Cannon Aviation Museum		Paradise	Southeast
Cambridge Resource Complex 3827 S. Maryland Pkwy. 89109	9,000 sq. ft.	Paradise	Southeast
Clark County Amphitheater 500 S. Grand Central Pkwy. 89155	87,120 sq. ft.	City of Las Vegas	Northeast
Clark County Heritage Museum 1830 S. Boulder Hwy., Henderson 89015 1	,361,250 sq. ft.	Henderson	Southeast
Desert Breeze Recreation Center 8275 Spring Mtn. Rd. 89117	21,300 sq. ft.	Spring Valley	Southwest
Guinn Recreation Center* 6480 Fairbanks Rd. 89103	1,440 sq. ft.	Spring Valley	Southwest
Helen Meyer Recreation Center 4525 New Forest Dr. 89147	6,000 sq.ft.	Spring Valley	Southwest
Orr Recreation Center* 1520 E. Katie 89109	1,449 sq.ft.	Paradise	Southeast
Paradise Recreation Center 4770 Harrison 89121	12,200 sq. ft.	Paradise	Southeast
Parkdale Recreation Center 3200 Ferndale 89121	5,052 sq. ft.	Sunrise Manor	Southeast
Sunrise Recreation Center 2240 Linn Lane 89115	12,532 sq. ft.	Sunrise Manor	Northeast
Von Tobel Recreation Center* 3610 E. Carey Ave. 89115	2,160 sq. ft.	Sunrise Manor	Northeast
Walnut/Cecile Recreation Center 3880 Cecile Avenue 89030	2,160 s q. ft.	Sunrise Manor	Northeast
West Flamingo Senior Center 6255 W. Flamingo Rd. 89103	6,000 sq. ft.	Spring Valley	Southwest
Whitney Recreation Center 5700 E. Missouri Ave. 89122	13,800 sq. ft.	Whitney	Southeast
Whitney Senior Center 5712 E. Missouri Ave. 89122	4,400 sq. ft.	Whitney	Southeast
Winchester Recreation Center 3130 So. McLeod Drive 89121	13.253 sq. ft.	Winchester	Southeast

*School facilities available when not in session.



ACQUIRED PARK SITES

A pproximately 668 acres have been acquired for future park facility development. Of this total, about 346 acres are located in the unincorporated urban Las Vegas Valley. Table 6 and Table 7 identify general locations, park type and acreage for acquired park sites. Acquired and proposed park sites are shown on Map 3.

Table 6

			(NUMBER)			UNDEVELOPED
CLASSIFICATION	NW	SW	NE	SE	TOTAL	ACREAGE
Mini-Parks	0	0	0	1	1	.97
School/Parks	0	0	0	0	0	0.
Neighborhood	0	0	2	2	4	60.54
Community	0	2	0	2	4	145.00
Regional	0	0	0	0	0	0.
Subtotal	0	2	2	5	9	206.51
Special Use Facilities	0	0	0	1	1	140.00
Total	0	2	2	6	10	346.51

Table 7

ACQUIRED URBAN PARK SITES (ACRES)					
CLASSIFICATION	NW	SW	NE	SE	
Mini-Parks	0	0	0	.97	
School/Parks	0	0	0	0	
Neighborhood	0	0	25.54	35.00	
Community	0	80.00	0	65.00	
Regional	0	0	0	0	
Subtotal	0	80.00	25.54	100.97	
Special Use Facilities	0	0	0	140.00	
Total	0	80.00	25.54	240.97	

TENTATIVE PARK SITES

All of the tentative park sites identified are presently administered by the BLM. These sites are summarized in Tables 8 and 9. There is no acquisition schedule for tentative park sites. Individual sites will be acquired from BLM through the Recreation and Public Purposes Act as development resources become available.



	TEN	TATIVE PAR			
CLASSIFICATION	NW	SW	NE	SE	ACRES
Mini-Parks	0	0	0	0	0
School/Parks	0	0	0	0	0
Neighborhood	0	9	1	4	172.09
Community	1	18	0	0	895.00
Regional	1	1	2	1	1,617.78
Subtotal	2	28	3	5	2,684.87
Special Use Facilities	0	0	0	0	0
Total	2	28	3	5	2,684.87

Table 8

Table 9						
CLASSIFICATION		ITATIVE PAP RES BY QUA		SE		
Mini-Parks	0	0	0	0		
School/Parks	0	0	0	0		
Neighborhood	0	125.00	7.09	40.00		
Community	130.00	765.00	0	0		
Regional	668.90	290.00	458.88	200.00		
Subtotal	798.90	1,180.00	465.97	240.00		
Special Use Facilities	0	0	0	0		
Total	798.90	1,180.00	465.97	240.00		

Table 9



PARK SPACE NEEDS AND OPPORTUNITIES

An analysis of each urban quadrant shows the existing park space level of service and present and future needs to achieve a minimum park space goal of 2.5 acres per 1,000 residents. Table 10 summarizes this analysis.

Table 10

	PA	RK LEVEL O SPACE N			
		(Acre			
	NW	SW	NE	SE	TOTAL
Population					
2000	20,550	205,106	61,037	265,432	552,125
2020	46,155	439,218	71,061	309,411	865,845
Park System					
Existing Parks	20	113	87	397	617
Expansion Area*	10	295	102	380	787
Major Projects	0	190	0	0	190
Tentative Sites	799	1,180	466	240	2,685
TOTAL	829	1,778	655	1,017	4,279
Service Level					
Exisitng					
Acres/1,000 Population	1.0	.06	1.4	1.5	1.1acs/1,000 pop.
		imum Threshold 2	2.5 acs/Pop. Goa	1	
2000	51	513	153	64	1,380
2020	115	1,098	178	774	2,165
Acres Needed to Achieve					
2.5 acs/1,000 Population Ge	oal				
2000	31	400	66	267	763
2020	95	985	91	377	1,548
2020 Surplus/Shortage	+714	+680	+477	+243	+2,144

* Includes BLM-Leased Sites



The Northwest, Northeast, and Southeast quadrants have similar current levels of service for the population base. These quadrants also contain incorporated cities which provide additional parks and recreational facilities. The existing level of service for the Southwest quadrant is less at 0.6 acres per 1,000 population.

Population in the Northwest quadrant is expected to increase by 25,605 residents by the year 2020. An additional 95 acres of parks are needed to support a minimum goal of 2.5 acres per 1,000 residents. This need can be satisfied by the addition of a regional park in the area. There is ample opportunity to acquire BLM lands to meet the needs of northwest residents.

The Southwest quadrant currently has the lowest existing park service level and highest growth potential. Over the next 20 years, the population is expected to increase by 234,112 to become the highest population center. Part of this increase is due to having the largest area with no incorporated cities. To meet this 20-year need for park space, an additional 985 acres of park development is required. Of all the quadrants, the Southwest offers the greatest potential for acquiring BLM lands for park development. An additional opportunity exists to locate park sites within the lands acquired by the County, pursuant to the Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act of 1998.

Population in the Northeast quadrant is expected to increase by about 10,024 over the next 20 years. To achieve the goals of this plan, an additional 91 acres of park land will need to be secured and developed by the year 2020. The opportunity exists to acquire a large BLM regional park site to meet this need, coupled with expansion of existing parks and new neighborhood parks.

In the Southeast quadrant, the population is anticipated to increase by at least 43,979 by the year 2020. An additional 377 acres of parks will be needed. The area currently has 279 acres of park expansion area available and has ample BLM lands available for parks along the southern perimeter. However, the existing community consists of mature neighborhoods with little potential for new neighborhood parks without purchasing private land parcels. A larger regional park site has been identified in the southern area of the valley.

CHAPTER 5

ISSUES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The community benefits of parks and recreation are difficult to quantify. Improved public health, decreased sick care, enhanced community harmony, reduced crime, and a role in attracting businesses and economic opportunities are attributable to the quality of the park system.

The growing popularity and demand for parks and recreational opportunities are in proportion to the constant growth and development of the urban Las Vegas Valley. The need for more park facilities is a common theme in Clark County. Numerous community issues regarding parks and recreation have been identified through the public outreach process and refined by the Citizen's Advisory Committee. These key issues have been grouped by function and provide the basis for recommended policies and actions.

KEY ISSUES

- Site Acquisition:
 - The need to identify and acquire park sites in advance of community needs.
- Planning and Design:
 - 2. The need to integrate proposed park sites with zoning, surrounding land use and community development plans.
 - 3. The need for parks to be located in conjunction with schools and other public facilities.
 - The need for parks to be located and designed to take advantage of and complement environmental and physical site amenities.
 - The need to design parks to meet community needs and separate active sport areas from passive leisure activities.
 - 6. The need to link and connect park facilities by trails and open space.
- Park and Facility Space Goals:
 - 7. The need to establish park and leisure facility space standards or goals for the next 20 years.
- Funding and Marketing:
 - The need to actively solicit community input and involvement to further the marketing and funding of park and leisure facility development.

- The need to adequately fund and provide support service resources for park system expansion.
- Operation and Maintenance:
 - 10. The need to maintain and operate parks and leisure facilities to a quality condition.
 - 11. The need to use automated technologies to increase operational and maintenance efficiencies.
 - 12. The need to continually retrofit and improve existing parks to new park design standards.
- Public Safety:
 - 13. The need to ensure public safety and assistance for general public park and leisure facility users.
 - 14. The need to use automated technologies to increase park police effectiveness.
- Recreation and Leisure Programs:
 - 15. The need to provide quality recreation and leisure opportunities.
 - The need to expand recreation and leisure programming to service the general public.
- Intergovernmental Park Planning and Coordination:
 - The need for all local, state and federal governmental agencies to cooperate and develop comprehensive approaches for park and recreation system development on a regional scale.





MASTER PLAN-RECOMMENDED POLICIES AND ACTIONS

PLF.1 Recommendations Relating to Acquisition (Relating to Key Issues #1 and #3)

These recommendations are intended to maximize the use of currently available BLM-administered public lands for future park development under the Recreation and Public Purposes Act. Also, as public land opportunities become more scarce over time, the County will need to purchase private land for park development, particularly on the east side of the Las Vegas Valley.

PLF.1.1 Acquisition for park and leisure facility sites should occur now to serve the future needs of the County.

Actions:

- A. Identify and secure three additional sites (greater than 160 acres) for future development. Regional park sites are needed to serve residents in the northwest, northeast, and southern portions of the Las Vegas Valley.
- B. Acquire BLM and private lands for future community and neighborhood park expansion. Acquisition of park sites now will avoid increased land costs at a future date.

PLF. 1.2 Park site acquisitions should be geographically balanced across the Las Vegas Valley to provide service to all residents. Actions:

- A. Acquisition priority for private land purchases should be made for the Northeast and Southeast quadrants of the Las Vegas Valley. These areas have little or no BLM land available for park expansion.
- B. Acquire private land parcels that are odd-shaped or difficult to develop due to physical development limitations. These parcels may be purchased at a lower cost than prime developable lands.

C. Acquire park sites that are easily accessible by the surrounding neighborhoods and community. The opportunity to construct future parks will be lost if these parcels are developed for some other land use.

PLF. 1.3 Secure park sites adjacent to schools and other public facilities.

Actions:

- A. Work with the Clark County School District to identify school-park joint use. Park and recreational facilities are expanded when combined with school facilities.
- B. Work with the Regional Flood Control District to develop joint park-detention basin facilities. Flood control detention basins offer excellent opportunities for neighborhood and/or park development.
- C. Work with County service providers to identify available surplus land for park development. Several public service providers, such as the Fire Department, Library District and Metro Police, may have existing surplus land adjacent to existing facilities.

PLF.2 Recommendations Relating to Park and Leisure Facility Planning and Design (Relating to Key Issues #2, #3, #4, #5 and #6)

Parks and leisure facilities should be designed and located to service neighborhoods, communities and the general public and be a positive amenity to surrounding areas. These recommendations consider opportunities to integrate natural and physical components into park planning and design.

PLF.2.1 Parks and leisure facilities should continue to be incorporated into comprehensive land use and public facilities development plans. Actions:

- A. Prepare parks and recreation components to enhance land use and major project development plans. Parks and recreation facilities locations influence how surrounding lands should be developed.
- B. Stress school/park joint use opportunities in public facilities planning. Shared recreational facilities maximize available resources for both the County and School District.

PLF.2.2 The County zoning process should be streamlined to facilitate park planning, design and development.

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Actions:

- A. Work to amend the zoning code and development permit process to decrease the time required to design and permit park development. Standardized park design specifications should be pre-approved to reduce processing time for park development.
- B. Ensure that parks and leisure facilities are considered an "allowed use" in all land use categories of land. This will avoid non-conforming use designations for zoning, and development and development permit processing, use and development plans.

PLF.2.3 Land forms and natural environmental features should be maintained in the design and development of parks. Action:

Natural resource values will be stressed in planning and design for park sites. Viewsheds, topography, desert washes and other natural features provide variation and generally enhance recreational experiences.

PLF.2.4 Parks and leisure facilities should be connected by trails where possible.

Action:

Park sites which can be linked by an existing system will be given priority for development.

Recreational opportunities and safe pedestrian access can be enhanced by connected trails.

PLF. 3 Recommendations Relating to Park and Leisure Facility Space Goals. (Relating to Key Issue #7)

The allocation of park and leisure facility space for recreational activities is typically determined by the total amount of developed park facilities. It is defined by a quantity of programmable park acres per 1,000 population base. The County is presently at a service level of 1.3 acres of programmable park land per 1,000 population. There is no current County leisure facility standard or goal.

The multi-jurisdictional Southern Nevada Strategic Planning Authority (SNSPA) has recommended a minimum park space goal of 2.5 acres per thousand population. An aggressive parks development program is needed for rededication of the County's park space goal.

PLF.3.1 The SNSPA-recommended goal of a minimum of 2.5 acres of programmable park space per 1,000 population should be adopted for the park space standard goal.

Actions:

- A. Identify and acquire sufficient park sites to meet the projected population growth over the next 20 years. Approximately 1,548 acres of additional park lands will need to be acquired over the next 20 years to maintain a goal of 2.5 acres per 1,000 residents.
- B. Park development average targets to provide periodic milestones to gauge park development performance over the 20-year planning horizon. The following park development targets give staff planning tools to prepare budget and development requests and monitor actual park development performance:

	Park Development
Year	Target Acres
2005	400
2010	400
2015	400
2020	400
	TOTAL 1,600

C. Prepare annual park space tracking reports to measure performance toward meeting space goals. Annual reports should be presented to the Board of County Commissioners and the public for review and policy direction.

PLF.3.2 Regional parks should be developed within five miles of every resident's home in the unincorporated Las Vegas Valley. Actions:

- A. Acquire three additional regional park sites, one each in the Northwest, Northeast, and southern quadrants of the Las Vegas Valley. These sites will complement the existing regional park sites in the Southwest.
- B. Prepare site-specific designs and plans to expedite development as funds and resources become available.

PLF.3.3 Regional recreation centers (at least 45,000 square feet) should be constructed within each of the regional park facilities. Action:

Regional park designs will incorporate regional recreation centers as a key recreational element. Having a regional recreation center within each regional park will place a key recreational facility within five miles of every urban home in the unincorporated Las Vegas Valley.

PLF.4 Recommendations Relating to Funding and Marketing (Relating to Key Issues #8 and #9)

Funding, resource commitment and allocation are the determining factors in implementing an aggressive and comprehensive park system expansion program. These recommendations are intended to provide direction in searching for available resources, funding and marketing strategies to implement the goals and policies contained in this Master Plan.

PLF.4.1 Park and leisure facility development and support service requirements should be joined together in the budget request. Actions:

- A.Prepare long-term funding strategy which comprehensively addresses available funding sources, capital facility, and park expansion. The strategic funding strategy will include capital project costs as well as support services needed to provide:
 - administrative support
 - planning and design support
 - operation and maintenance support
 - leisure programming support
 - public safety and assistance support
- B. Prepare annual budget request which reflects the funding strategy and the Parks and Recreation Department Strategic Plan. Annual budget requests should directly tie to both strategic planning documents.

PLF.4.2 Promote marketing and community ownership to foster support for parks and leisure facilities.

Actions:

- A. Identify strategies for community involvement and support including volunteer activities, community funding opportunities, and other activities. Community support, involvement and ownership are required to effectively implement a long-range parks master plan.
- B. Work with nonprofit organizations to allow private citizens and companies to contribute time, materials and funding to develop park facilities. Local community-based groups can provide a valuable service and allow park dollars to be directed elsewhere. Liability issues will need to be researched and resolved.
- C. Market park facilities and special events for off-hour activities. These special events typically provide unique leisure and cultural opportunities for the general public and provide enterprise resources for program expansion.

PLF.5 Recommendations Relating to Park and Leisure Facility Operation and Maintenance (Relating to Key Issues #10, #11, and #12)

All park facilities require continuing maintenance and operation. The existing park and leisure facility system represents a tremendous investment of funding and resources over time. These recommendations reflect the need to operate and maintain park and facility investments for the recreational enjoyment and safety of the general public.

PLF.5.1 Parks and leisure facilities should be operated and maintained in a quality condition for recreational use by the general public. Actions:

- A. Inventory existing conditions in parks and facilities and develop a tracking mechanism. Facility life cycle tracking will allow for anticipation of maintenance needs and replacement of equipment.
- B. Improve older parks to new park standards. This will require scheduled replacement of outdated and worn equipment.
- C. Program into budget cycles resources needed for operation and maintenance of new parks into budget cycles. Operation and maintenance costs should be considered a part of new park and facility development.

PLF.6 Recommendations Relating to Public Assistance and Safety (Relating to Key Issues #13 and #14)

These recommendations consider the need to provide park police public assistance and safety. Park facilities must be monitored to protect the public from crime and vandalism and for greater enforcement of park rules and regulations. Integrating defensible space concepts, security lighting, and safety fencing around children's playgrounds will provide additional safety measures for park visitors.

The frequency of needed public assistance is increasing proportionally to growing population and park users. Prompt response times to emergency situations and proactive approaches to reducing criminal activities and public awareness will positively affect public health and safety in the park system.

PLF.6.1 Parks and leisure facilities should be protected from graffiti and vandalism. Actions:

A. Increase frequency of on-site routine monitoring of park and recreation facilities. An increased presence of park police will act as a deterrent to crime and vandalism activities.

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- B. Work to create a community "park watch" program to assist in curbing crime and vandalism. Defensible park design concepts and public safety features such as emergency call boxes, and security lighting will increase park safety.
- C.Design children's playgrounds to include perimeter security fencing and safety surfaces under playground equipment.



PLF.6.2 Response times for public assistance calls should be decreased to increase effectiveness. Action:

Examine patterns of past public assistance calls and response times to determine gaps and areas for improvement. Historic patterns of public assistance requests will provide insight to operational staffing and resource needs.

PLF.7 Recommendations Relating to Recreation and Leisure Programs (Relating to Key Issues #15 and #16)

These recommendations are intended to provide balanced recreational program opportunities to serve the needs of County residents. As the urban Las Vegas Valley population continues to grow, its demographic profile tends to become more complex, resulting in a more diverse demand for recreational and leisure activities.

PLF.7.1 Recreation and leisure programs should be expanded to meet the needs of the general public.

Actions:

A. Evaluate the hours of operation for recreational facilities and identify opportunities for expanded operation. This analysis will identify types of programs and resources required to schedule and manage recreational facilities.

- B. Continue to expand and market recreation and leisure program services through public television broadcasting. Public television offers the greatest opportunity to reach the general public.
- C. Seek to expand recreation and leisure services which address social issues. Offering more low-cost program activities for at-risk, teen and senior groups will result in decreased social services costs across our community.
- D.Promote youth and seniors in the arts. There is a public demand for more cultural activities.

PLF.7.2 Special events and outdoor festivals should be expanded.

Action:

Identify at least one site for a large outdoor festival area. The demand for outdoor activities such as concerts and festivals has increased dramatically over the last two years. Current park facilities are unable to meet this demand.

PLF.8 Recommendations Relating to Intergovernmental Park Planning and Coordination

(Relating to Key Issue #17) Each city, state and numerous federal agencies operate recreation facilities within Clark County. Coordinating park planning and development, without concerns of jurisdictional boundaries, will reduce redundancy of facility locations and increase efficiencies and economies of scale on a regional basis.

PLF.8.1 Encourage parks planning and development coordination within Clark County. Actions:

- A. Participate in developing partnerships with local, state and federal entities involved with parks planning and development. A regional cooperative parks coordination effort can only be achieved with full participation by all entities.
- B. Active participation in regional multi-jurisdictional groups such as southern Nevada Strategic Planning Authority and Regional Planning Coalition. Other regional coordination groups will be organized over the 20-year planning horizon as well.

Outlying Carks Leisure Facilities

PART THREE

CHAPTER 6

RURAL COMMUNITIES

Outside of the urban Las Vegas Valley lies approximately 7,800 square miles of unincorporated Clark County. This large geographic area can be characterized by expansive Mojave Desert ecosystems. Within this area, rural towns and communities have developed, based primarily on agriculture-, gaming resort-, mining- and transportation-related economies.

There are presently 17 major rural communities located in the outlying County areas. The graph below shows the relative locations of these communities.

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Figure 4 Rural Communities These communities are separated from each other by vast tracts of federally owned public lands managed by the BLM and the U.S. Forest Service. These public lands offer outstanding recreational opportunities.

FEDERAL AND STATE RECREATION AREAS

Throughout rural Clark County there are numerous recreation and conservation areas under federal and state management. These facilities offer a wide diversity of recreational amenities for all County residents. Major recreational facilities and administering agencies are listed below:

- U. S. Bureau of Land Management
 - Las Vegas Dunes Recreation Area
 - Logandale Recreation Management Area
 - Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area
 - Sunrise Recreation Management Area
 - Virgin River National Recreation Area
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
 Desert National Wildlife Range
- U.S. Forest Service
 - Spring Mountains National Recreation Area
- U.S. Park Service
 - Lake Mead National Recreation Area
- Nevada State Parks
 - · Big Bend of the Colorado River State Park
 - Floyd Lamb State Park
 - Spring Mountain State Park
 - Valley of Fire State Park

In addition to these dedicated recreational areas, almost all of the public lands are managed for multiple uses and are available for outdoor recreational pursuits.

COUNTY RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

The Clark County Department of Parks and Recreation is responsible for the development, operation and maintenance of park and recreational facilities in nine rural communities. These include:

- Blue Diamond
- Bunkerville
- Goodsprings
- Indian Springs
- Moapa/Glendale
- Moapa Valley
- Laughlin
- Sandy Valley
- Searchlight

Each community is unique, and park and recreational facilities provide gathering places for individual, family and community events. There is little opportunity to share parks and related facilities given the large distances between communities. For the purpose of this Master Plan, rural communities were surveyed to determine their individual needs over the planning horizon.

The County also operates recreational facilities outside of populated communities. These include resident group use camp facilities at Lee Canyon and Mt. Potosi in the Toiyabe National Forest and the County Fairgrounds in Moapa Valley. Recreational activities are also provided at the Mt. Charleston Elementary School.

Blue Diamond - The community of Blue Diamond is located approximately eight miles to the southwest of Las Vegas. Originally established as a company town to service nearby mining operations, the community is nested entirely within the Red Rock National Conservation Area. Population growth and development is constrained by available private land and limited water supply. The population base has held relatively stable at 316 residents.

Recreational facilities - In 1974 a small 2.2-acre park site was dedicated to the County. Renovation of the site in 1986 included a ballfield, turf and fencing. A sand playground, shade shelter and family picnic area were added to the park in 1990. Horseshoe pits were constructed in 1992.

Blue Diamond residents have identified the following needs for future park expansion:

- a tennis court
- a walking/jogging path



Recommendation: Work with town residents to identify funding and prepare site design for requested improvements.

Bunkerville - The town of Bunkerville is situated along the Virgin River, about 80 miles to the northeast of Las Vegas. Development in Bunkerville is rural and historically agricultural. Development pressure from the nearby city of Mesquite has resulted in significant increases in population growth and will continue over time. Since 1992, the resident population has grown from 607 residents to more than 860 in 1998.

Recreational facilities - The seven-acre town park site was deeded to the County in 1972 from the Leavitt family. Park facilities include a multi-use play area, lighted ballfield, tennis court, playground, family picnic area and public restrooms. In 1987, basketball standards were installed on the tennis courts. A horse arena and a twoacre green belt were added in 1989. Horseshoe pits were constructed in the park during 1991.

A recreation community center is also located within walking distance to the park. This center was renovated in 1987. The Bunkerville Town Board has identified the following needs for future facility expansion:

- lighted soccer field
- expanded tennis/basketball courts to accommodate two full size tennis courts with finished surface
- a walking/jogging trail around the park
- playground equipment renovations and replacement
- a nature trail located on the northwest of the soccer field

Recommendation: Work with the Bunkerville Town Board to prepare site design and funding options for requested improvements.



Goodsprings - Goodsprings is a small residential community located about 30 miles southwest of Las Vegas. A historic mining town since the 1890s, Goodsprings today has very little commercial activity. Population growth has remained stable, with about 316 people living in Goodsprings today.

Recreational facilities - Goodsprings has park facilities located and developed in conjunction with the Clark County School District. The park is situated on one acre, but is not turfed with other associated facilities. The park is adjacent to the modular community center constructed in 1985. The following need has been identified by the town's residents:

 expansion of the school/park facilities to increase turf and landscaped area, sport courts and walking paths

Recommendation: Prepare site design and funding source for requested improvements.



Indian Springs - Located about 25 miles northwest of Las Vegas is the Town of Indian Springs. The town is situated along U.S. Highway 95 and is adjacent to the Indian Springs Air Force Auxiliary Field. U.S. 95 provides for transportation-related commercial uses while the remaining portion of Indian Springs is residential. The present population is 1,380 residents, an increase of about 370 since 1990.

Recreational facilities - Indian Springs has two park facilities, one in conjunction with a school, totaling 20 developed acres. The community center park has an additional expansion area of about 36 undeveloped acres. Community center park facilities consist of eight acres of park, including lighted ballfield, playground and family picnic area. Park development began in 1986 with the ballfield added in 1993. The school/park was developed in 1971 and includes a public swimming pool, playground, group picnic area and lighted ballfield.

A combination Community/Senior Center and library constructed in 1986, is also located at the community park site.

The Indian Springs Town Board has identified the following needs to meet future park and recreation needs:

- a hiking trails area west to the mountains
- a trail system connecting the two parks with the community
- a covering for the public swimming pool
- an additional lighted ballfield for tournament play
- bocce ball courts

Recommendation: Work with the Indian Springs Town Board to develop a comprehensive Trails, Parks and Recreation Master Plan for the town.

Moapa/Glendale - The towns of Moapa and Glendale are located adjacent to each other, about 30 miles northeast of Las Vegas. Moapa is rural residential within an agricultural setting. Approximately 500 people live in Moapa, and the population has not grown over the last ten years.

Glendale consists of one square mile which is bisected by U.S. Interstate Highway 15. Commercial uses are focused along Interstate 15 and provides the town's economy. Although the population of about 75 residents has remained unchanged since 1980, tourism-oriented support uses are planned.

Recreational facilities - Moapa recreation facilities include a ballfield in combination with a community center, completed in 1988, and a recreation center built in 1997. The ballfield was constructed in 1998, and its outfield serves as a multi-use field. There is no park facility in Glendale.

The respective town boards have identified the following facility needs:

- Moapa has indicated a need for park expansion of the ballfield to include a playground, group picnic area and landscaping.
- Glendale has requested a town park and community center.

Recommendation: Work with town boards to prepare site designs and funding source for park facility expansion.

Moapa Valley - Located 40 miles northeast of Las Vegas is the Town of Moapa Valley. Within the valley are two growing communities, Logandale and Overton. With an abundance of water, the area historically developed based on agricultural uses. However, since 1990, there has been a trend toward large-lot residential development which indicates an evolution into a Las Vegas bedroom community. Since 1992, the resident population base has grown from 4,150 to over 5,600; an increase of 1,450 residents (a 26 percent growth rate). It is anticipated that this growth will continue into the future.

Recreational facilities - Recreational facilities in the Moapa Valley are located in both Logandale and Overton communities. Logandale has one park of just over six acres with development beginning in 1970. Park facilities include two lighted tennis courts, lighted ballfield, family picnic area, playground and multi-use field. In 1974, a public swimming pool was constructed in the park and a wading pool added in 1984.

Overton has a 12-acre park which dates back to 1971. Park facilities include a lighted ballfield, two lighted tennis courts, multi-purpose field, playground, group picnic area and restroom. A second lighted ballfield was added to the park in 1993. A public swimming pool at a satellite site is also operated by the County.

The Moapa Valley Community Center in Overton was constructed in the early 1970s. The center houses recreation staff and provides a wide variety of community and social services.

The Moapa Valley Town Board has identified the following needs and opportunities to meet future recreational demand:

- irrigation system improvement at Logandale Park
- green belt areas along State Highway 169
- equestrian and pedestrian walking and bicycle trail system linking park facilities and residential areas

Recommendation: Work with the Moapa Valley Town Board to develop a comprehensive Trails, Parks and Recreation Master Plan for the Moapa Valley.



The Clark County Fairgrounds is also located in the Moapa Valley. The Fairgrounds is located on a 190-acre parcel northeast of Logandale and owned and operated by the Department of Parks and Recreation. Fairgrounds construction began in 1986 and the first annual County fair event held in 1988. Since 1986, development of the Fairgrounds has occurred as funding became available. Current facilities include five acres of landscaped turf, thirty acres of gravel, and five acres of rodeo grounds which include five arenas, two animal pavilions and one fine arts building.

The Moapa Valley Town Board has requested that a master plan be prepared for the fairgrounds.

The future intent is to develop the fairgrounds as a regional park and recreational facility to provide year-round activities.

Recommendation: Prepare a Clark County Fairgrounds Master Plan with assistance from the Moapa Town Board.

Laughlin - The Town of Laughlin is located along the Colorado River, approximately 120 miles south of Las Vegas. Laughlin is the largest outlying town in Clark County, having a resident population base of about 8,000. Rapid growth and development since the mid-1980s has slowed over the last five years. The major economy consists primarily of gaming resorts and support services.

Recreational facilities - Laughlin's 16-acre town park was constructed in two phases. In 1991, Phase One included turf and irrigation, one lighted ballfield multiuse field, one lighted tennis court, walking/jogging trail, two sand volleyball courts, one basketball court, family picnic area, horseshoe pits and playground. A second lighted ballfield and public restrooms were added in 1997. A Boys-Girls Club facility is located in conjunction with the park.



Laughlin also has a satellite Government Center which provides town services and functions as a Community Center.

There are two additional park sites within the town for park and recreation expansion. A 360-acre park site parcel identified for future recreation and special events is currently under a recreation lease from the BLM. A second site, located within the Big Bend State Park, contains 20 acres for park development.

The Laughlin Town Board has identified the following needs to meet existing and future recreational demands:

- development of the 320-acre BLM park site as a combination special events/sports complex; requested facilities would include a festival area, municipal golf course and community recreation center with pool
- a sports park for the County 20-acre parcel within the Big Bend State Park
- basketball court and roller hockey rink expansion in the 16-acre town park
- pedestrian walking and bicycle trails system linking park and community facilities with residential areas.

Recommendations:

- A. Work with the Laughlin Town Board to prepare site plans and designs for the 320-acre BLM site.
- B. Pursue a cooperative agreement with Big Bend State Park to ensure a better quality of life for the residents of Laughlin.
- C. Work with the Laughlin Town Board to develop a comprehensive Trails, Parks and Recreation Master

Plan for the Town of Laughlin, ensuring that the proper signage, including flag poles, be included in all existing and future parks and recreation facilities.

Sandy Valley - The Town of Sandy Valley is located about 40 miles southwest of Las Vegas on the California border. Growth in Sandy Valley has been steady. The current population of about 1,250 residents live on large parcels. There is little commercial development, and the economy is tied to Las Vegas where many residents commute to work.

Recreational facilities - Sandy Valley has, at the present time, one developed park site of nine acres. Park facilities include group picnic area, multi-use field, playground and horse arena. There is also a Community/Recreation Center in conjunction with the park. Sandy Valley town residents have identified the following needs for future park expansion:

- expansion of the equestrian facility
- additional park turf and landscaping
- pedestrian, bicycle and equestrian trails within the community.

Recommendation: Work with town residents to prepare site designs and funding options for requested improvements.

Searchlight - The Town of Searchlight is located approximately 55 miles southeast of Las Vegas. Situated along U.S. Highway 95, Searchlight developed as a mining town in the early 1900s. Today, Searchlight is a residential community with a resident population of about 750. The existing economy is dependent on transportation-related commercial uses.

Recreation facilities - Searchlight has three existing park and recreation facilities. The town park, built in 1979, is located on over an acre and contains a multi-use turf area, one basketball court, a group picnic area and two playgrounds. The town fire station is also located at the park site. The Searchlight Community Center and Museum site is located on a 20-acre parcel which is largely undeveloped. The community center site has a playground and approximately 15 acres of undeveloped area. The third site is a rehabilitated school building renovated to function as a recreation center, game room and playground on less than one acre.



The Searchlight Town Board has identified the following future needs:

- development of the remaining community center park site to include a ballfield, turfed multi-use field and festival grounds, swimming pool, playground and group picnic area
- replacement of town park playground equipment
- turf and landscaping for the school/park site; a pedestrian/bicycle trail system linking the three park facilities

Recommendation: Work with the Searchlight Town Board to prepare site designs and funding options for requested improvements.



CHAPTER 7

EXISTING CONDITIONS / FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES

Preservation and maintenance of trails and open space in the Las Vegas Valley can help provide and enhance additional recreational opportunities. Trail corridors preserve open space. Preserving linear corridors also creates areas for wildlife and native vegetation and provides separation for various urban land uses.

While open space is a key quality-of-life factor, a multi-modal trail system serves as a close-to-home recreational area of equestrian, bicycle and pedestrian paths. The trails system is also intended to serve as part of the regional transportation network.

At the present time, there are no comprehensive regional trails or open space programs within the Las Vegas Valley. The purpose of this section is to establish a policy framework to guide future trails and open space development in unincorporated Clark County. It is also anticipated that this plan will be superseded with multi-jurisdictional regional trails and open space planning efforts.

Practical definitions are needed to assist in the development of a trails and open space system. Within the context of the urban unincorporated Las Vegas Valley, the following classifications are identified.

TRAILS

Trails are described as functional linear areas developed for one or more modes of transportation and recreational travel designed for equestrian, bicycle and/or pedestrian use. Specifically, urban trails should not allow motorized access and use. These trail systems may include active recreation activity modes such as fitness apparatus and court games. Two types of urban trails are identified: Primary Trail Corridors, the focus of the Master Plan, and Secondary Trails, which complement the primary system.

Primary Trail Corridors - linear trail areas follow natural features such as desert washes and ridge lines, flood control facilities and also follow freeways, beltways and utility rights-of-way. Primary trails within these corridors should be separated from streets and other public infrastructure and provide the foundation and backbone for the comprehensive trail system. Two fundamental trail profiles are used within primary corridors. Figure 5 shows a typical cross section of a multi-modal, single tread width primary trail.



Figure 6 shows a typical cross section of a multi-modal, double tread, primary trail used to separate incompatible uses. (Note that both biking and walking are together on one tread.)





Primary Trail Design - Multi-modal trails, by definition, should accommodate various users simultaneously. The range of users within a single trail depends on trail width, trail surface and speed of trail users. Equestrian trail uses are not compatible with pedestrian bicycle uses and should be physically separated wherever possible. Minimum trail widths will be consistent with the guidelines developed and adopted by the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO). Design and development of wider trails may be encouraged based upon surrounding development, user group needs, and available resources. Should conditions on specific design standards be developed for trails given surrounding conditions, those design standards will be incorporated by reference into this document.

Trail Width - minimum of 12' for bi-directional pedestrian/bicycle path. Equestrian trails should be a minimum 5' in width with at least 2' separation between the shoulders of each trail tread, making the minimum distance separating tread 6' when possible.

Trail Surface - High use pedestrian/bicycle trails should be concrete or asphalt paved. Low-use pedestrian and/or mountain bike use trails should be constructed of soil cement, recycled material, or native soil. Equestrian trails should be located on native soil or recycled materials to reduce dust exposure.

Vertical Considerations - Vertical clearances for pedestrian/bicycle trails should be a minimum of 8' and 10' minimum for equestrian trails.

Horizontal Considerations - A minimum 5' clearance is recommended from the trail edge to any fence line, building, or physical hazard. At-Grade Street Crossings - All trail/street intersections should be signed appropriately with street painted crossings to increase trail user safety; where feasible, barriers should be placed to prevent motorized access onto the trails.

Secondary Trails - the secondary trail system supplements the primary system and provides access to it. In developed areas, trail linkages may follow, without separation, existing streets and public infrastructure and may link parks and other land uses to the primary system.

Separation of trails from public infrastructure is desirable, although sometimes not possible. A typical cross section of a secondary trail system linked to a public street is indicated in Figure 7.

Secondary Trail Design - By its nature, the secondary trail system component should be integrated into existing and planned public infrastructure and rights-of-way. Where possible, the primary trail design recommendations should apply. Additional safety considerations should be made for trail signage and trail intersections with public streets.

Trails should be located in areas of varied topography and diverse environmental quality. The greatest opportunity for trail development is on BLM-managed lands surrounding the Las Vegas Valley. Another significant opportunity exists to develop trails along desert washes, in conjunction with flood control facilities.

Ideally, trails should be integrated up front into the design and engineering of flood control and other appropriate public works projects prior to construction. However, trails can also be constructed in areas of existing flood control facilities and public rights-of-way. All trail use and travel modes should be designated to avoid conflicts in land use and development. See Map 4 for proposed Las Vegas Valley trail corridors.

Trails in the rural area of the County may include a motorized component which allows four-wheel vehicles, motorcycles and all terrain recreational vehicles. The motorized vehicle component is especially appropriate on federal public lands administered by the BLM which are designated for off-road vehicle use.

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OPEN SPACE

Open space is described as areas of natural quality for nature-oriented outdoor recreation and leisure activities. It may be defined as natural areas with unique environmental quality and areas with physical development limitations such as slope, flooding, drainage soils and land use restrictions. Open space may also be identified as undeveloped urban public land parcels which will be used at a later date for park development and/or other public service uses. The desirable sizes of open space parcels vary depending on the area or recognized amenity. Primary considerations in identifying open space include view sheds, environmental amenities and developed area. Generally, 80 percent of the open space area should be undeveloped with less than 20 percent developed for recreational uses, the exception being flood control facilities.

Where possible, open space should link and/or be linked into other trail and park system components.

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Existing Open Space - At the present time, open space is limited in the unincorporated Las Vegas Valley. The resource areas that have been identified are:

- Clark County Wetlands Park
- desert wash corridors
- public land future park sites
- public land exterior to the BLM urban land disposal boundary
- Sunset Park Nature Area

Clark County Wetlands Park - Located in the Southeast of the Las Vegas Valley, the Wetlands Park runs 6.5 miles along the lower Las Vegas Wash. The park contains approximately 2,400 acres and is the single largest contiguous undeveloped open space area within the urban valley. City and County waste water treatment facilities discharge high-quality treated waste water into and through the park, which provides the effluent dominated stream, marshlands, riparian and upland wildlife habitats. Enhancement and preservation of Wetlands Park resources are currently under way.

Desert Wash Corridors - The Las Vegas Valley is transected with approximately 300 linear miles of intermittent desert washes. The majority of the washes have been flood-proofed and channelized; these areas provide important small wildlife habitat areas and offer the greatest opportunity for the urban primary trail system backbone. Perhaps the greatest desert wash opportunity is found in the Upper Las Vegas Wash which still retains most of its original wash qualities. All of the major washes tie to the lower Wetlands Park. The washes provide connectivity and linkage to flood control detention basins which, in turn, allow a great opportunity for joint park development.

Public Land Future Park Sites -Approximately 2,685 acres of public land administered by the BLM have been identified for future park development within the Las Vegas Valley. The majority of these parcels is relatively undisturbed native desert and provides transitory micro-wildlife habitats and smaller open space areas. These areas are considered temporal open space, since at some future date, trail corridors will be programmed to be developed as a park facility.

Public Lands - The Las Vegas Valley is surrounded by federally owned lands managed by the BLM, U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Park Service, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, and Department of Defense. A BLM urban land disposal boundary, based on administrative boundaries and physical slopes, has defined the limits of future development.

All BLM lands outside of the growth boundary are not available for privatization and should remain as open space. This area provides visually important ridge lines, hills and canyons and significant opportunities for trail development.



Sunset Park Nature Area - Sunset Park is a 325-acre regional park facility located in the southern part of the Las Vegas Valley. Of this total, approximately 140 acres of sand dunes and mesquite bosk have been set aside as a nature and wildlife habitat area. The nature area is home to many sensitive species of animals endemic to the desert and is programmed to remain an open space. There is no priority order to the resources listed above. Other appropriate open space land types not listed but meeting the open space definition and/or intent may still be included in the open space program as opportunities become present. Map 5 shows open space areas within the Las Vegas Valley.













CHAPTER 8

ISSUES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

E stablishing a viable regional trails and open space program in the urban Las Vegas Valley presents unique opportunities and challenges for Clark County and other local governmental agencies. The growing popularity in trails is in response to two emerging local trends. First, there is a growing interest in fitness activities by residents and visitors. Second, with explosive urban growth and development, residents have become increasingly concerned about the quality of their environment. Natural trail corridors and open spaces are rapidly being lost.

KEY ISSUES

- The need to identify and acquire trail corridors and open space now, in anticipation for future use.
- The need to maximize the use of washes and natural features such as wetlands, native desert and topography in trail and open space siting.
- The need to identify and preserve areas of unique environmental quality and value.
- The need to separate trails from streets and roadways to increase safety and provide for greater recreational experiences.
- The need to use trail corridors to link open space and park system facilities.
- The need to fully integrate trails into flood control projects, freeways, beltways, and along utility corridors.
- The need to provide multi-modal trails to accommodate a range of recreational users and avoid user conflict.
- The need to develop, operate and maintain trail facilities and open space areas.
- The need for all local, state and federal governmental agencies to cooperate and identify coordinated approaches for implementing trails and open space programs on a regional scale.
- The need to actively solicit community input and involvement to further develop and market the trails and open space program.

Key issues were identified via a public outreach process. Results and insights taken from the 1998 Parks and Recreation Needs Assessment and community focus groups were combined with issues raised by the Master Plan Citizen's Advisory Committee. The issue statements are the foundation that guide this Master Plan's recommended policies and actions.



MASTER PLAN-RECOMMENDED POLICIES AND ACTIONS

TOS.1 Recommendations Relating to Acquisition. (Relating to Key Issue #1)

These recommendations reflect the desire to take advantage of public lands and rights-of-way for recreational trail and open space use. It is assumed that the unincorporated Las Vegas Valley population will nearly double from 474,538 in 1997 to 865,844 by the year 2020. As growth and development continue, opportunities for trails and open space decline.

TOS.1.1 Identification and acquisition of trail corridors and open space should occur now to serve the future needs of the County.

Actions:

A. Identify and secure urban primary trail corridors facing imminent development. This action will require a valley-wide resource evaluation process to assess necessities and opportunities. Priority criteria should include:

- Existing BLM land in the Las Vegas Valley appropriate for trails and open space.
- Opportunities for connectivity or rights-ofway threatened by pending development.
- Establishing multi-modal functions in existing rights-of-way prior to development.
- Purchase opportunities for multiple use which require minimal investment.
- Proximity of open space areas needed to access public lands and/or protect vulnerable natural resource values.
- Dedicated public access to trail head and open space areas.
- Trails corridors and open space areas identified in existing land use master plans and other comprehensive plan elements.
- Estimated costs of trail development.

B. Acquire sufficient right-of-way and utility easements along the Beltway project for future bicycle and pedestrian trails. The Beltway project offers a unique opportunity to ring the Las Vegas Valley with a continuous trail system.

TOS.1.2 Acquisition of trail corridors and open space should be balanced to provide geographic equity within the Las Vegas Valley.

Action:

Acquisition priority should include criteria to balance the geographic distribution of trails and open space to serve the needs of the general public. This action can be programmed into the valley-wide resource evaluation assessment criteria.

TOS.1.3 Secure secondary trail corridors as opportunities become available.

Action:

Seize and create opportunities to work with civic groups, neighborhood organizations and other agencies in designating secondary trails and alignments. This is an ongoing effort that would include items such as independent trail plans, County land use programs and other local and regional agency trails programs.

TOS.1.4 Trail corridors in the rural portions of the County should be secured.

Actions:

- A. Assist rural communities in developing pedestrian and bicycle trails within their respective town areas. This action will require a trail needs assessment for rural communities within the County.
- B. Identify and evaluate opportunities for multi-purpose trail development outside of the Las Vegas Valley. The vast amount of BLM and other public land within the County offers unique and diverse opportunities for hiking, equestrian, mountain biking and motorized vehicle trail travel. As the County continues to grow and develop, the increasing demand for off-road recreational experiences will be met by public lands use.

TOS.2 Recommendations Relating to Environmental Resource Opportunities. (Relating to Key Issues #2 and #3)

Significant natural resource amenities still exist within the urban Las Vegas Valley. However, one consequence of continuing land development is that native wildlife and general public use of open space are displaced and

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concentrated in remaining open areas. These recommendations are premised on the need to preserve and manage environmentally valued resources within the context of trail corridors and open space.

TOS.2.1 Trail facilities and open space areas should be designed and managed to enhance and protect natural resource values.

Actions:

- A. Trail designs will emphasize local conditions and be incorporated into topographical features and vegetation to minimize impact. Trail locations within corridors will be situated to take advantage of resource values such as wetlands, native vegetation and trees, view sheds and other natural amenities.
- B. The Sunset Park Natural Area should remain an Open Space and be managed to protect the sand dunes and mesquite bosk. The resource value of this 140-acre natural area will increase over time as other sand dune and mesquite areas disappear within the Las Vegas Valley.
- C. Continue with implementation of the Clark County Wetlands Park Master Plan. The Wetlands Park is the single largest area in the urban Las Vegas Valley. Reestablishment of wetland and native vegetative communities will provide valuable wildlife habitat for native plant and animal species.

TOS.2.2 Public lands outside of the BLM urban land disposal boundary should remain in public ownership and be managed as open space recreational areas. Actions:

- A. Encourage the BLM to maintain the area outside of the BLM urban land disposal boundary in public ownership. This action is consistent with BLM Resource Management Plan goals for the Las Vegas District.
- B. The County should apply for Recreation and Public Purpose Act leases for areas to be designated as open space and trail corridors. The areas immediately outside of the BLM urban land disposal boundary are typically steep-sloped and rich in view sheds, physical features and biological values and are especially appropriate for trails development and open space preservation.

TOS.3 Recommendations Relating to Trail Location, Form and Function. (Relating to Key Issues #4, 5, 6 and 7) Multi-modal primary trails should be located in places that permit practical use by commuters as well as recreational uses. Off-street trails increase use safety by reducing contact with motor vehicle travel and increasing recreational experiences. Trails and open space must be developed and maintained to ensure public safety. AASHTO minimum standards will be used for trail design and development. Should additional standards be developed for specific trails, those standards will be incorporated into this document by reference.

TOS.3.1 Primary pedestrian/bicycle trails should be separated, to the greatest extent possible, from streets and motor vehicle travel.

Actions:

- A. Work with the Regional Flood Control District to develop multiple-use trail facilities in conjunction with flood control projects in desert washes. These washes have the greatest potential for urban off-street trails.
- B. Develop design specifications, signage and improvement standards for trail/street crossings and intersections. Any urban trail system will cross numerous minor and major streets to ensure connectivity to other trail facilities. These crossings are the greatest risk to public safety and have the highest possibility of contact with motor vehicles.

TOS.3.2 Primary trail facilities should be integrated into public rights-of-way along the beltway and public utility corridors.

Actions:

- A. Evaluate the ability of the beltway right-of-way to accept a pedestrian/bicycle trail facility. Program trail facilities into the design and construction of the beltway segments.
- B. Work with public utility companies to evaluate the ability of utility corridors to accept trail facilities. Utility corridors provide an opportunity to crossconnect desert wash trails.

TOS.3.3 Primary trail facilities should provide public access and connectivity to open space and park system facilities.

Actions:

A. Trail facilities which connect existing parks and open space will be given priority. Every attempt will be made to link trails to parks and open space. B. Designated open space will be designed to link trails through the open space. Large open space areas such as BLM lands outside the BLM urban land disposal boundary offer excellent opportunities to develop trail facilities.

TOS.3.4 Primary trails facilities should be multimodal to accommodate a range of recreational users.

Actions:

- A. Follow the recommended space and design standards when designing and constructing trails. Most urban trails will be asphalt-paved with bi-directional travel lanes.
- B. Equestrian paths should be separated from pedestrian/bicycle paths. These two uses are generally incompatible.

TOS. 3.5 Trails and Open Space Areas Should Be Designed to Enhance Public Safety.

Action:

Work to create a community "trails monitoring and watch" program. Public safety features such as emergency call boxes and security lighting will increase trail safety.

TOS. 4. Recommendations Relating to Development, Operation And Maintenance.

(Relating to Key Issue #8)

The acquisition of trail corridors and open space accomplishes a major goal of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan. However, if the facilities are not managed and maintained, there may be greater adverse impact to the resources, public safety issues, and loss of administrative and site improvement costs. It is important that ongoing operation and maintenance resources needed for project areas are identified and budgeted as part of the capital improvement requests.

TOS. 4.1 Trails and Open Space development should be accelerated and managed to ensure natural resource protection, quality recreation experiences and public safety.

Actions:

- A. Prepare site management plans for designated trail corridors and open space project areas. Management plans should include the following components:
 - physical conditions and features
 - site layout and recreational facilities
 - operational and administrative needs

- maintenance needs
- five-year budget for capital improvements, operation and maintenance
- B. Provide adequate signage and street markings for trail intersections with busy streets. Prepare and adopt safety specifications and improvement standards for trail-street intersections.
- C. Continue with implementation of the Clark County Wetlands Park site design. Each specific project area requires full environmental compliance and capital improvement and operations plans.

TOS.5 Recommendations Relating to Intergovernmental Coordination (Palating to Kay Janua 40)

(Relating to Key Issue #9)

The BLM manages about 60 percent of the total land within Clark County and will play a key role in the development of regional trails and open space programs. The County, cities and regional agencies, primarily the Regional Flood Control District and Regional Transportation Commission, have lead and interdependent roles in the development of a comprehensive trails program.

TOS.5.1 Encourage coordination with existing agencies that perform trails and open space functions. Actions:

- A. Participate in developing partnerships with local, state and federal agencies that will provide for coordination in the development of trails and open space.
 A regional trails program can be achieved only if all agencies have ownership in the process.
- B. Coordinate with the Regional Flood Control District to develop recreational trails within flood ways and desert washes. These areas will provide the urban primary trails backbone.
- C. Coordinate with the Regional Transportation Commission to ensure that commuter pedestrian and bicycle transportation are considered along with recreational travel. Providing alternative modes of transportation will help reduce traffic congestion and improve air quality.
- D. Work to establish a regional trails foundation to assist with trails implementation. The desired result would be a regional organization to share information and expedite implementation.



TOS.6 Recommendations Relating to Community Involvement and Marketing

(Relating to Key Issue #10)

Positive neighborhood community attitudes and support are critical factors for trails and open space programs to be successful. Promotion and marketing are key ingredients needed to develop community partnerships and ownership of these facilities.

TOS.6.1 Encourage partnerships with civic and neighborhood groups to facilitate trails development. Actions:

- A. Coordinate trails and open space planning with community stakeholders. Multiple partnering projects will accelerate trail development.
- B. Work with County town boards to identify trails and open space opportunities within their respective town areas. Town boards will assist with trails and open space implementation.

TOS.6.2 Promote marketing and community ownership strategies to foster community support for trails and open space development.

Actions:

A. Develop trail maps and brochures to educate the public regarding appropriate usage of trails and open space recreational opportunities. Clearly identified trails will more likely be used by the public.

- B. Establish a marketing committee of key sponsors and civic groups to develop marketing strategies to promote trails and open space within the Las Vegas Valley. Ongoing public outreach is vital to long-term trails development.
- C. Continue with public outreach and marketing of the Clark County Wetlands Park. More public exposure is needed to inform residents of this resource.



CHAPTER 9

FUNDING STRATEGY AND IMPLEMENTATION

The single most significant challenge in meeting public recreational demands is funding. Significant financial investment is necessary for physical development and resources for ongoing park management, including programming, operation and maintenance, and public safety and assistance. Achieving the recommended policies and actions hinges on the ability to secure funding from multiple sources and responding with value engineering and management for the park and leisure facility system.

SYSTEMATIC APPROACH

It is essential that the park and leisure facility system, trails, and open space programs are viewed in a comprehensive fashion; that all components are considered in development and ongoing management. The context for recreation service delivery is interdependent, based on the need to identify appropriate sites, manage developed parks and leisure facilities in a quality condition to facilitate recreational programming and public assistance requests. Major County support levels related to park and leisure activities include the following:

Administrative Support - The Parks and Recreation Administrative office is responsible for all aspects of day-to-day activities which support park and leisure facility operations and for ensuring customer satisfaction. The administrative level provides finance and procurement functions, human resources activities and leadership for department employees and programs.

Operation and Maintenance Support - Quality operation and maintenance are required to maintain the physical condition and appearance of parks and leisure facilities. A tree nursery is maintained at Sunset Park for memorial trees and tree replacement. Park improvements are done, along with ballfield maintenance, trimming, shaping, pruning, mowing, planting, and the maintenance of irrigation systems. Maintenance support is also necessary for setup, tear down, and cleanup of special events.

Planning and Design Support - Planning and design is responsible for site acquisition, the design and bid process, and construction services for expansion and improvement of the park system. This level handles the assurance of suitable park, landscape, and structure design and construction. Responsibilities include coordinating structure design with the needs of maintenance and leisure programming services. **Public Safety and Assistance Support** - Park Police provide for the public's safety in parks and leisure facilities. Responsibilities include suppressing crime and vandalism in park areas and enforcing park rules and regulations. Police training certification is required for handling the many different circumstances which occur in leisure facilities. Public safety presentations are done for children and adults in park facilities, and information is provided on preventing crimes and keeping the public safe.

Recreation and Cultural Program Support - This division is needed to develop and implement recreational and leisure programs for all segments of the population throughout the County. This level plans, coordinates and directs urban and rural leisure facilities; a sports and aquatics program; summer playground programs; joint use facilities with the Clark County School District; the Safekey Program, senior citizen programming; Outdoor Adventure Recreation; and at-risk programming (New Directions for Youth). Special facilities are maintained, such as mountain camps, fairgrounds, a BMX track, equestrian and canine parks, museums, and facilities for radio-controlled boats, planes and cars.

Cultural programs emphasize visual, performing and media arts; the humanities and historic preservation; special events and museum services. Activities include concerts, festivals and other special events.



EXISTING REVENUE SOURCES

There are several revenue sources currently available for park and leisure facility development. These provide the financial basis and support park operations and system expansion.

Capital Improvement Projects (CIP)

(Fund 437) - The County Commission reallocates unspent General Fund appropriations on an annual basis. Appropriations for park and leisure facility projects fluctuate based on availability and must be used for onetime capital facility development and equipment. The amount of funds available is dependent on realized revenues which accrue over the given budget year. CIP funds are not used for annual management functions.

Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) -

The most consistent federal grant program available for park and leisure facility development is the CDBG Program. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development makes available block grants to benefit low- to moderate-income households by developing viable communities. These grants may be used for recreation capital improvements.

General Fund - Revenues from several sources accrue to the General Fund and are annually appropriated by the County Commission. Normally, fund outlays for Parks and Recreation are made on the basis of providing for basic annual park management and operation. Because of the competing demands on General Fund resources, funding for one-time recreational capital projects is usually limited. For fiscal year 1999 the General Fund appropriation to the Department of Parks and Recreation totaled \$16,944,634. (Figure 8 identifies how these funds were operationally distributed.)

General Fund increases are typically tied to revenue projections, cost of living indexes, and the adopted Taxpayer Bill of Rights, which provides limitations on public spending. Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority -The Las Vegas Convention and Visitor's Authority awards grants to Clark County entities to enhance park and leisure facilities. These funds are awarded annually and are restricted to capital expenditures.



Residential Construction Tax (RCT) - The RCT program has been the most consistent source of funding for park development. Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS 278.483) enables local units of government to impose a Residential Construction Tax.

The tax is levied on new residential development to develop parks and facilities which are required to serve the increased population within defined Park Revenue Management Districts. The revenues generated may only be used for the acquisition, improvement and expansion of neighborhood parks. A neighborhood park is defined as a park site not exceeding 25 acres. Pools, recreation centers and other facilities are excluded from using RCT funds.





The "Local Park Code," Clark County Code - Chapter 19.05, provides for RCT fees and Park Revenue Districts. The rate of the tax is based on one percent of the valuation of the living area of each residential dwelling unit, with a maximum limit of \$1,000 per dwelling unit. Generated fees must be spent within the Park Revenue Management District where collected. Currently, there are 19 park districts within unincorporated Clark County: nine urban districts located in the Las Vegas Valley and ten rural districts which reflect the boundaries of the outlying towns and communities.

Map 6 shows the park districts within the Las Vegas Valley.

These Park Revenue Management Districts are evaluated every two years with respect to community growth and neighborhood development. Periodic park district boundary adjustments are necessary to ensure that fees collected are expended to benefit immediate areas from where collected.

Over the next 20 years, the RCT is expected to provide about \$105,000,000 within the Las Vegas Valley for neighborhood park development. These revenues would not be generated equally across the urban community. Approximately \$76,000,000 (or 75 percent of the total) will be collected from residential development along the suburban growth edge of Spring Valley, Enterprise and the southern portion of Paradise. Another \$23,000,000 (21 percent) will be generated in the Sunrise Manor and Lone Mountain areas. The remaining \$6,000,000 (4 percent) of potential revenues is spread out across the existing developed urban center, including the Winchester and Whitney areas. Table 11 identifies RCT projections by quadrant for the Las Vegas Valley.

RESIDE	NTIAL CONS	TRUCTION	TAX PROJEC	TIONS BY C	UADRANT
FY	NW	SW*	NE	SE	TOTAL
Existing (12/98)	\$105,569	\$1,322,148	\$1,915,866	\$5,664,331	\$9,007,914
Projected '99	\$104,480	\$1,570,304	\$1,272,256	\$1,050,336	\$3,997,376
2000	\$109,088	\$1,683,968	\$1,361,952	\$1,135,232	\$4,290,240
2001	\$113,696	\$1,805,536	\$1,459,456	\$1,227,840	\$4,606,528
2002	\$118,880	\$1,936,512	\$1,564,512	\$1,329,664	\$4,949,568
2003	\$124,640	\$2,076,896	\$1,418,240	\$1,442,080	\$4,061,856
2004-08	\$498,560	\$8,307,584	\$1,672,960	\$5,768,320	\$16,247,424
2009-20	\$5,638,752	\$39,497,536	\$4,309,760	\$9,262,669	\$58,708,717
Total	\$6,813,665	\$58,200,484	\$14,975,002	\$26,880,472	\$105,869,623

Table 11

*Excludes Summerlin major project

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Actual revenues generated may differ over time, depending on type and character of residential development and housing market demands.

RCT revenues will not provide a stable funding source for the outlying communities due to limited growth potential. The exceptions may be the Moapa Valley and Laughlin Town areas.

Self-Supporting Enterprise Accounts - These funds provide recreation, cultural and leisure programs to the community which may not otherwise be available to the public. Normally these programs complement other low- and no-cost programs. The Recreation Activity Fund was established to provide program activities on a self-supporting basis.

POTENTIAL FUNDING MECHANISMS

Out of necessity, the long-term (20 years) funding strategy requires additional resources to supplement existing available resources. These resources are needed to meet the increasing public recreation demands function to the growing community. Possible funding sources include the following:

General Obligation Bonds - General Obligation Bonds that require the full faith and credit of Clark County necessitate approval by the voters at a general election.

The County could sell bonds to be repaid by an automatic lien on an existing revenue source.

Revenue Bonds (mid-term or long-term) - Revenue Bonds do not require voter approval since there would be a dedicated revenue source for them. The most appropriate revenues that could be allocated by the County Commission for these bonds would be the Residential Construction Tax or the Utility Franchise Tax.

Tax Increases - The Nevada State Legislature has enabled counties to solicit voter approval of tax increases that would provide a dedicated and immediate funding resource. Before any of these tax increases could be imposed, a Parks and Recreation Master Plan must be adopted, and the taxpayers must approve any increase by a majority vote during a general or special election. There are several authorized types of increases - the most common being a sales tax increase of up to quarter of one percent. Expand the Residential Construction Tax - Non-residential development is currently exempt from the RCT. Also, residential development funds are capped. Any changes to the RCT Tax Law would require State Legislative approval.

Federal Land Programs - The 1998 Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act provides funding for the acquisition of environmentally sensitive lands and other recreational improvements. Although not fully identified, the process for the use of these funds is expected to generate revenues for local parks, trails and open space programs.



Congress may also reauthorize funding for the Land and Water Conservation Program. Historically, this program has funded several local park projects. This funding source is conditional on federal funding appropriations.



The BLM also administers the Recreation and Public Purposes Act, which allows local units of government to secure recreational sites, free of charge. This program is viewed as an opportunity revenue, and available funds can be spent on other park expansion activities.

EXISTING AND NEW PARK AND LEISURE FACILITY COSTS

Periodic park and leisure facility renovations, coupled with new park and facility expansion, represent a substantial capital investment in one-time capital and ongoing management costs. Both components must be identified and considered equally as park expansion continues over the planning horizon. **Existing Park Management Costs** - Park management costs include both annual management and periodic renovation costs. Annual operating resources are needed for continual park operation, maintenance, outdoor recreational programming and public assistance. The average annual management costs for the current park system inventory of 617 acres is outlined in Table 12.

Table 12

URBAN PARKS ANNUAL COST ESTIMATES (BASED ON EXISTING 617 ACRES)

	PER ACRE (In Dollars)	ANNUAL TOTAL (In \$ Millions)
ADMINISTRATION ¹	2,820	1.8
O&M	6,500	4.0
PROGRAM SERVICES ²	3,273	2.0
POLICE	2,472	1.5
UTILITIES ³	2,120	1.3
TOTAL	17,185	10.6

1 Administration cost - \$2,820 per acre per year, also includes planning and design (General Services and Parks & Recreation).

2 Does not include self-funded programming.

3 Utilities Cost - \$2,120 per acre per year (\$1,660 electric and \$460 water)



Utilities are also included in the above table to present the total average cost to support the urban park system. These include water service delivery and electric power needs.

Park System Inventory

Urban parks have been inventoried as to present condition and life cycle component renovation/replacement, based on a 30-year life span. The majority (20 parks) within the urban system are in "excellent condition." Component life cycles and renovation of these parks fall outside the 20-year planning horizon. Urban parks in excellent condition are listed by quadrant in Table 13.



Table 13

URBAN PARKS EXCELLENT CONDITION

PARK		QU	ADRANT	
	NW	SW	NE	SE
Alexander Villas Park (Phase II)			Х	
Cashman School/Park		Х		
Davis Park		Х		
Desert Bloom Park		*********		Х
Desert Breeze Park		Х	*********	
Guinn School/Park		Х	********	
Grapevine Springs Park				Х
Hidden Palms Park				X
Lewis Family Park				Х
Lone Mtn. Park	Х			
Paul Meyer Park		Х		
Potosi Park		Х		
Joe Shoong Park			Х	
Silvestri School/Park				Х
S.N.V.T.C. Ballfields				Х
Spring Valley Park		Х		
Von Tobel School/Park			Х	
Wengert School/Park			Х	
West Flamingo Park		Х		
Winterwood Park			Х	

Parks classified as being in "good condition" still have at least 15 years left before renovation/replacement is needed (Table 14). There are five parks in good condition; with renovation targeted around year 2015. By that time, approximately \$33,450,000 in improvements will be needed.

Table 14

URBAN PARKS GOOD CONDITION

PARK		QU	ADRANT		RENOVATION COST			
	NW	SW	NE	SE				
Eldorado High School Ballfield			Х		\$200,000			
Paradise Park				Х	\$1,500,000			
Paradise Vista Park			******	Х	\$550,000			
Shadow Rock Park			Х		\$1,200,000			
Sunset Park				Х	\$30,000,000			





There are eight parks in "fair condition." These parks should be scheduled for renovation/replacement around the year 2010. At that time, approximately \$14,288,400

in improvements will be needed. Parks in fair condition are listed in Table 15.

Table 15

URBAN PARKS FAIR CONDITION

PARK		QUAD	RANT		RENOVATION COST
	NW	SW	NE	SE	
Alexander Villas Park (Phase I)			Х		\$547,000
Desert Inn Park			******	Х	\$550,000
Laurelwood Park		Х			\$900,000
Mountain View School/Park			Х	********************	\$450,000
Nellis Meadows Park			Х		\$2,116,400
Orr School/Park			******	Х	\$1,000,000
Silver Bowl Park				X	\$8,000,000
Winchester Park		*******		Х	\$725,000

There are also six parks listed in "poor condition" (Table 16). These parks are in need of renovation and replacement as soon as can be budgeted and are target-

ed for improvements prior to year 2005. Approximately \$4,826,000 will be needed to renovate the parks classified as poor condition.

Table 16

URBAN PARKS POOR CONDITION

PARK		QUAD	RANT		RENOVATION COST
	NW	SW	NE	SE	
Cannon School/Park				Х	\$388,000
Maslow Park			**************	Х	\$750,600
Parkdale Park				Х	\$558,000
Prosperity Park		Х			\$1,200,000
Sunrise Park			X		\$770,000
Whitney Park				Х	\$1,159,400

Park System Expansion Costs - Identifying all average costs associated with park system expansion is needed to establish realistic goals and prepare a funding strategy to implement the plan. In this case, average costs are identified by one-time capital outlays and ongoing annual management. One-time costs include capital construction/development and capital equipment such as mowers, vehicles and other major equipment. Annual costs include support services such as administration, operation and maintenance, outdoor recreation and public safety and assistance. Power and water utility outlays are also included in the annual cost. Five-year incremental costs are shown on Table 17.

Table 17

PARKS PROJECTION AT 2.5 ACRES PER 1,000 POPULATION PROJECTED COSTS (In \$ Millions)

		ONE-TIM	E COSTS		
YEAR	POPULATION	ADDITIONAL	CONSTRUCTION	0 & M	ONE TIME
		ACRES '			TOTAL
2005	654,697	1,020	173	5.4	179
2010	741,547	1,237	210	6.6	217
2015	810,589	1,409	240	7.5	247
2020	865,844	1,548	263	8.2	271

TOTAL COST PER ACRE DEVELOPED PARK

One-Time Cost - \$175,300 includes:

- \$170,000 construction
- \$5,300 O&M capital equipment cost
- Assumes no land purchase costs; all park sites are proposed to be obtained via BLM public lands at no cost

¹ Excludes 617 acres of baseline parks.



UTILITIES	O&M	ADMINIS-TRATION	PROGRAM	POLICE	ANNUAL TOTAL
2.2	6.6	2.9	3.3	2.5	17.5
2.6	8.0	3.5	4.0	3.1	21.2
3.0	9.2	4.0	4.6	3.5	24.3
3.3	10.1	4.4	5.1	3.8	26.7

Annual Cost - \$17,185 includes:

٠	Utility	\$ 2,120	(\$1,660
			electric and
			\$460 water)
٠	O&M	\$ 6,500	
٠	Admin.	\$ 2,820	

- Program \$ 3,273
- Police <u>\$2,472</u>

\$17,185

Park Pools - There are eight seasonal public swimming pools co-located with parks and/or leisure facilities. These are identified in Table 18. Of the eight pools, three are in "excellent condition" and require no renovation over the 20-year planning horizon. One pool is classified in "good condition" and has a life expectancy

of another 15 years. One pool is in "fair condition" and should be renovated by the year 2010. There are also three pools in "poor condition" which need renovation improvements prior to the year 2005. All renovations/replacement costs are \$1,500,000 per pool.

Table 18

SITE		COND			QUADRANT
	Exc.	Good	Fair	Poor	
Desert Inn Pool		Х			Southeast
Maslow Pool				Х	Southeast
Paradise Pool	Х				Southeast
Parkdale Pool				Х	Southeast
Sunrise Pool			Х		Northeast
Sunset Pool				Х	Southeast
Von Tobel Pool	Х				Northeast
Whitney Pool	Х				Southeast



Special Use Facility Costs - Of the three special use facilities, the Desert Rose Public Golf Course is in excellent condition. Ongoing course improvements are made in conjunction with the management firm contracted to operate and maintain the County's course. The condition of these facilities are summarized in Table 19.

The Dog Fancier's Park is listed in "poor condition," as is Horseman's Park. Both of these facilities should be scheduled for renovation improvements around the year 2005. Renovation costs for Dog Fancier's and Horseman's Parks are \$1,200,000 and \$8,640,000, respectively.

Table 19

SPECIAL USE FACILITIES										
SITE		COND	ITION		QUADRANT	RENOVATION				
				*********		COST				
	Exc.		Fair	Poor						
Desert Rose Golf Course	Х				Southeast	N/A				
Dog Fancier's Park				Х	Southeast	\$ 1,200,000				
Horseman's Park				Х	Southeast	\$ 8,640,000				

Existing Leisure Facility Management Costs - Given the wide range of urban leisure centers, both in terms of physical structures and function, it is more difficult to approximate annual operating costs. Averaged annual operating costs used for planning purposes are identified in Table 20.

At the present time, there is a total of approximately 127,045 square feet contained in the 14 leisure facilities

in the urban unincorporated Las Vegas Valley. Applying the annual operating cost of \$9.12 results in a total average cost of \$1,158,650 per year.

Urban leisure centers have also been inventoried to determine condition and renovation schedules. Based on 30-year life cycles, the condition of the 14 urban centers is summarized in Table 21.

Table 20

LEISURE FACILITIES ANNUAL AVERAGE OPERATING COSTS (BY SQUARE FOOTAGE)

ITEM AV	ERAGE COSTS	
 HOUSEKEEPING	\$1.20	
 MAINTENANCE	\$2.32	
 STAFFING/PROGRAMS	\$3.98	
 UTILITIES	\$1.62	
 TOTAL	\$9.12	

Table 21

LEISURE FACILITIES

SITE	CONDITION			QUADRANT RENOVATIO		
	*******					COST
	Exc.	Good	Fair	Poor		
Cambridge Resource Complex	Х				SE	N/A
Desert Breeze Recreation Center	Х				SW	N/A
Guinn Recreation Center*	Х				SW	N/A
Helen Meyer Recreation Center	Х				SW	N/A
Orr Recreation Center*	Х		************		SE	N/A
Paradise Recreation Center				Х	SE	\$ 976,000
Parkdale Recreation Center	*******			Х	SE	\$ 404,160
Spring Valley Senior Center	Х		******		SW	N/A
Sunrise Recreation Center	*********			Х	NE	\$ 1,002,560
Von Tobel Recreation Center*	Х				NE	N/A
Walnut/Cecile Recreation Center*	**********************	Х	**************		NE	\$ 172,800
					SE	\$ 1,104,000
Whitney Senior Center	X				SE	N/A
Winchester Recreation Center		Х			SE	\$ 710,360

*Removable modular building.



Eight centers are classified as being in "excellent condition." Component life cycles for these facilities fall outside of the planning horizon.

Two leisure centers are in "good condition" and have an average of 15 years, or the year 2015, before renovation/replacement is needed. By that time, approximately \$883,160 will be needed for improvements. One center is listed in "fair condition", approximately \$1,104,000 will be needed for renovation improvements by 2010. There are three leisure centers in "poor condition." These centers are in need of renovation and/or replacement as soon as can be budgeted and are targeted for improvements prior to year 2005. Approximately \$2,382,720 will be needed for renovations.

All renovation costs are based on \$80 per square foot of facility.

Leisure Facility System Expansion Costs - Similar to parks, the leisure facility system expansion average costs are identified by one-time capital outlay for the structure and annual operating costs. One-time costs include capital construction, furniture and equipment, annual costs include facility staffing/programming, maintenance, housekeeping and utilities. Annual costs do not include other support services since these costs have already been allocated by park expansion costs. Table 22 shows averaged costs associated with a 45,000 square foot regional recreation center.

Table 22

REGIONAL RECREATIONAL FACILITY COST ESTIMATES BASED ON 45,000 SQ.FT. CENTER

ONE-TIME COSTS	PER SQ.FT.	TOTAL
	(In Dollars)	(In \$ Thousands)
CONSTRUCTION	120	5,400
EQUIPMENT/FURNITURE	50	2,250
TOTAL	170	7,650
ANNUAL COSTS	PER SQ.FT.	ANNUAL TOTAL
	(In Dollars)	(In \$ Thousands)
UTILITIES	1.62	72.9
MAINTENANCE	2.32	104.4
HOUSEKEEPING	1.20	54.0
STAFFING/PROGRAMS	3.98	179.1
TOTAL	9.12	410.4



Five regional recreation centers co-located with regional park development are needed to achieve the goal recommended in this plan. Total one-time costs for these regional recreation centers would approximate \$38,250,000 plus total annual operating costs.

TOTAL PARKS AND LEISURE FACILITY COSTS

The averaged financial resources needed to implement this plan include one-time funding for maintaining existing parks and leisure facilities in quality condition and expansion of the park system. Also, averaged annual management costs are identified. These costs will be needed to support park and facility expansion efforts. Tables 23 and 24 summarize the one-time capital and annual management costs, respectively. Note that there are five new Regional Recreation Centers identified, one in year 2005, three in year 2010 and one more in year 2015.



Table 23

PARKS AND LEISURE FACILITIES ONE-TIME CAPITAL/RENOVATION COSTS (In \$ Millions)

	2005	2010	2015	2020	TOTAL
PARKS					
RENOVATIONS	4.8	14.3	33.5	-	52.6
EXPANSION					
2.5 acs/1,000 Goal (Comparison)	179	38	30	24	271
SPECIAL USE FACILITIES					
RENOVATIONS	9.8	-	-	-	9.8
POOLS					
RENOVATIONS	4.5	1.5	1.5	-	7.5
LEISURE FACILITIES					
RENOVATIONS	2.4	1.1	.9	-	4.4
EXPANSION					
(5 Recreation Centers)	7.7 (1)	23.1 (1)	7.7 (1)	-	38.5
TOTAL					
2.5 acs/1,000 Goal (Comparison)	208.2	78	73.6	24	383.8

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PARKS AND LEISURE FACILITIES ANNUAL MANAGEMENT COSTS (In \$ Millions)						
2.5 Acres per 1,000	Population					
2005	2010	2015	2020			
28.1	31.9	34.8	37.2			
0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8			
1.6	2.8	3.2	3.2			
30.5	35.5	38.8	41.2			
	ANNUAL MANAGEI (In \$ Million 2.5 Acres per 1,000	ANNUAL MANAGEMENT COST (In \$ Millions) 2.5 Acres per 1,000 Population 2005 2010 28.1 31.9 0.8 0.8 1.6 2.8	ANNUAL MANAGEMENT COSTS (In \$ Millions) 2.5 Acres per 1,000 Population 2005 2010 2015 28.1 31.9 34.8 0.8 0.8 0.8 1.6 2.8 3.2			

¹ Includes 617 acres of existing parks

A suggested mix of new regional, community and neighborhood parks is presented in Table 25. This table

provides some planning guidance, however, it is anticipated that changes will be made as opportunities arise.

	PARK	S IMPL	Table 25	ATION	PLAN	
	1 All		RESHO		LAIN	
	2.5 AC	RES PER 1,	000 POP	ULATION	I GOAL	
			(ACRES)			
YEAR	NW	SW	NE	SE	TOTAL	FUNDING SOURCE
Existing Acres	20	113	87	397	617	
2005						
Mini/Neighborhood	7	60	30	50	147	RCT/CIP
Community	-	40	-	-	40	RCT/CIP/Bond
Regional		80	25	25	130	Bond/CIP/RCT
Major Projects	-	100	÷.,	-	100	Development Agreement
Subtotal	7	280	55	75	417	
2010						
Mini/Neighborhood	25	50	-	50	125	RCT/CIP
Community	80	40		-	120	RCT/CIP/Bond
Regional	-	160	160	80	400	Bond/CIP/RCT
Major Projects	-	40			40	Development Agreement
Subtotal	105	290	160	130	685	
2015						
Mini/Neighborhood	8	120	-	30	158	RCT/CIP
Community		40	-	-	40	RCT/CIP/Bond
Regional	-	160	-	-	160	Bond/CIP/RCT
Major Projects	-	40	-	-	40	Development Agreement
Subtotal	8	360	-	30	398	
2020						
Mini/Neighborhood		112	-	28	140	RCT/CIP
Community		-	-	-	-	RCT/CIP/Bond
Regional	-	-	-	160	160	Bond/CIP/RCT
Major Projects		-	-	-	-	Development Agreement
Subtotal	-	112	-	188	300	
TOTAL	120	1,042	215	423	1,800	

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FUNDING STRATEGY

The major impediment to the implementation of this Master Plan is the lack of adequate dedicated funding sources for either capital facilities or ongoing park management A significant funding deficiency exists, regardless of the level of service or development standards, that are ultimately pursued for the unincorporated area. This funding deficit is complicated by the fact that each of the incorporated cities is responsible for development of parks and recreational facilities within its jurisdiction, and the funding capabilities of the cities vary widely.

Tables 26 and 27 summarize total capital improvement and average annual management costs, respectively, of implementing the Master Plan at the existing service level, i.e., approximately one acre per 1,000 population, and at enhanced service levels. To simply maintain the

existing level of service, an additional \$212.4 million (in current dollars) of capital investment will be required over the 20-year planning horizon, with incremental management costs estimated to increase at about \$1.0 million annually. The sole dedicated funding source, RCT, is expected to generate in excess of \$105.8 million over this period and, in theory, is sufficient to fund new park development at the existing service level. However, use of these funds is restricted to development of neighborhood parks of no more than 25 acres, and the funds must be expended within the defined park district where the funds are generated. Even at the existing level of service, there is no ongoing funding source to renovate existing parks, to develop new parks in more developed areas, or to fund pools, recreational centers or trails. Therefore, even the baseline service level includes unfunded capital requirements of over \$150 million, or an average of more than \$7.5 million annually.

Table 26

20-YEAR COST SUMMARY (\$ MILLIONS)						
Acres/ 1,000 Pop.	Existing Park Renovations	New Parks	Rec Centers & Pools	Trails/ Open Space	Total	Average Annual Capital Cost
1	62.4	49.6	50.4	50	212.4	10.6
2.5	62.4	271	50.4	50	433.8	21.7
4.0	62.4	499	50.4	50	661.8	33.1

Table 27

MANAGEMENT COSTS (\$ MILLIONS)

Acres/1,000 Population	Annual Average Incremental	Total Average Annual Management Costs		
1	0.975	11.1		
2.5	1.5	22.7		
4.0	2.7	35.3		



Increasing the standard for park development to either 2.5 acres per 1,000 population, as recommended by the Southern Nevada Strategic Planning Authority, or the desired 4 acres per 1,000 population presents an even more challenging financing exercise. While the amount required to fund park renovations, recreational facilities, and trails and open space remain unchanged, at four acres per 1,000 population, the capital costs for park development increase by about \$455 million or about \$22.8 million per year. In total, nearly \$550 million in funding, net of projected RCT, is needed for capital construction. In turn, projected management costs increase by \$2.7 million on an annual basis climbing to \$54 million (in current dollars) at the end of the 20-year planning horizon.

The County does have some ability to fund annual capital expenditures for this purpose-for example, by allocating amounts from the County Capital Projects Fund on a pay-as-you-go basis or even some limited leveraging of general County revenues. Similarly, the County can be expected to absorb some portion of the incremental management costs as general increase as a function of population growth. However, the County's ability to dedicate an additional \$25-\$30 million annually for capital construction and an additional \$27 million annually on average (the projected fiscal year 2010 amount) for operating costs will necessitate identification of new funding sources.

The development of a feasible funding strategy first requires that annual capital and park management costs be viewed from the perspective of the revenue potential of various taxes and fees. As mentioned previously, combined capital and management costs will average approximately \$55 million annually over the 20-year period. This is equivalent to the following:

- An urban unincorporated town tax rate of \$0.3665 per \$100 of assessed valuation compared to the existing tax rate of \$0.2064.
- An additional one-quarter of one percent sales tax levied on a countywide basis.
- An increase in the room tax levied on transient lodging by three percent increasing the total tax levied in the County from eight percent to 11 percent.
- An increase in the Residential Construction Tax from the current average of \$467 per new residential unit to \$2,410 per residential unit to fund only the capital component of the Plan.

Obviously, no one funding source can reasonably be expected to generate the level of funding required to implement the Master Plan. It is recommended that a Parks Master Plan funding committee be formed, comprised of representatives from both the public and private sectors, to develop a realistic funding plan. This committee could evaluate all existing and potential sources of funding park facilities for both the unincorporated areas as well as within incorporated cities and develop recommendations for future consideration by the Board of County Commissioners.

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