



DATE: March 10, 2021

AGENDA ITEM # 3

TO: Parks and Recreation Commission

FROM: Manny A. Hernandez, Maintenance Services Director

SUBJECT: Parks Plan Overview

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive an overview of 2012 Parks Plan and receive an update on action items from staff

BACKGROUND

The City of Los Altos Parks Plan was approved by City Council on May 8, 2012 after a long process that included City staff, hired consultants, survey specialists and the Parks and Recreation Commission (PARC). This plan is a requirement by the State of California for the City to collect Park-In-Lieu fees on development.

Starting at the regular meeting of August 8, 2018, the PARC reviewed the Parks Plan in sections each month through March 13, 2019. At the conclusion of the review, it was noted that an update of the Parks Plan may be recommended. The Commission later decided against a full update.

DISCUSSION

Staff has prepared an update for the Parks and Recreation Commission on the status of the Priorities in the Parks Plan. Priorities are broken down into One Time, Ongoing and Aspirational recommendations. The attached spreadsheet was created directly from the Parks Plan to help illustrate the status of the priorities.

Attachments:

- A. Parks Plan Website Link: <https://www.losaltosca.gov/parksreccommission/page/los-altos-parks-plan>
- B. Parks Plan Priorities Spreadsheet

PRIORITIES

Attachment B

The goals and recommendations set forth in this Plan can be initially divided into three categories: on-going, one-time and aspirational. The on-going actions are those actions that the City is consistently undertaking (ex. maintenance of parks). These actions are not as defined or visible as many one-time projects, but are vital to providing a first-class park system. One-time recommendations are those projects which are undertaken and completed (ex. a park renovation). These projects are typically capital projects and can provide greater changes to the parks. One-time recommendations can be further broken out into categories of short- and long-term and can be prioritized in a more linear fashion than on-going recommendations. Aspirational goals are precisely that: aspirational in nature.



ON-GOING RECOMMENDATIONS

The following are those on-going recommendations set forth in this Plan. They are not prioritized as they are recommendations that the City should strive to follow in order to maintain such a great park system.

COMMENTS

- Maintain the south portion of Heritage Oaks Park as undeveloped open space (see page 10 for more details)

Remains undeveloped

- Continue habitat restoration in Redwood Grove (pages 16 and 26)

Contracted through Grassroots Ecology

ONE-TIME RECOMMENDATIONS

The following are one-time recommendations set forth in this Plan. They are divided into two categories: Short-term (those projects which can be handled by the City in a timely manner and with little use of resources) and Long-term (those projects which will most likely require a CIP or more use of resources). In both categories recommendations are listed according to priority.



Short-term

1. Complete the pathway from Redwood Grove to Shoup Park (see pages 16 and 19 for more details)
2. Create a long-term agreement for use of Montclair Park (page 15)
3. Move tennis backboard in McKenzie Park (page 14)
4. Survey potential users of a skate park (page 31)
5. Move Walter Singer Bust from Community Plaza (page 8)

COMPLETE?
Y or N

COMMENTS

Pathway not paved

N

No solution has been identified

N

In possession of History Museum

6. Begin efforts to preserve creek banks in Shoup and Heritage Oaks Parks (page 26)		N	
7. Augment the landscaping along the Hetch Hetchy Right-of-Way (page 22)		N	More frequent maintenance, no additional landscaping. Owned by
8. Consider installing parking spaces along Portland Avenue at Heritage Oaks Park (page 10)		N	

Long-term	COMPLETE? Y or N	COMMENTS
1. Provide a park in north Los Altos (page 24)*	N	
2. Obtain the title for Lincoln Park (page 12)	Y	Purchase approved 2016
3. Create a CIP for Redwood Grove to address creek bank restoration, replacement of the boardwalk and installation of permanent restrooms (page 16)	Y & N	Bank restoration and boardwalk done.
4. Make a decision on the future of Halsey House and Caretaker House in Redwood Grove (page	N	Halsey decision in progress
5. Repurpose the 647 North San Antonio Road site into a neighborhood park (page 21)	N	San Antonio Club, looked at for park site, but security issues & negative feedback from neighbors.
6. Proceed with the Renovation CIP, installing new landscaping and expanding parking for	N	
7. Proceed with the McKenzie Park Renovation CIP (page 14)	N	
8. Proceed with the Renovation CIP, shaded seating and Jogging Trail CIP for Grant Park (page 9)	N	Plans for additional park benches as maintenance item.
9. Proceed with the Renovation CIP and shaded seating for Heritage Oaks Park (page 10)	N	Plans to create rentable picnic area
10. Proceed with the Renovation CIP, Tennis Court Lighting CIP, landscaping and restroom for	Y & N	Tennis court lighting upgraded
11. Proceed with the Community Plaza Renovation CIP including an iconic feature (page 8)	N	Some upgrades made with tables and shade. More planned.
*Due to the need to identify a location for a park in north Los Altos, projects which receive a lower priority should be considered first until a location can be identified and acquired.		



One recommendation was not included in either the Short-term nor Long-term categories.

That recommendation is for Hillview Park and is to proceed with the Community Center Master Plan (see page 11). This recommendation is dependent upon Council action to proceed with a bond measure to finance the project. As such, the timing of the recommendation is dependent upon when the City Council decides it is time to proceed with the project and therefore all other recommendations should be considered independently of any recommendations for Hillview Park.

ASPIRATIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS		COMMENTS
<p>The following are the aspirational recommendations set forth in this Plan. They may or may not be feasible, but are goals the City should aspire to attain. They are listed according to priority.</p>		
1. Consider the viability of open space downtown (see page 32 for more detail)		Opportunity with 2017 LACI project
2. Provide restrooms in all active parks (page 32)		
3. Provide public restrooms in Downtown (page 32)		
4. Explore placement of skate elements on school property (page 31)		Explored in 2015, school not receptive
5. Explore installation of skateable art (page 31)		Explored in 2015, suitable location not identified
6. Strive to identify a location for an off-leash dog park (page 29)		Off-Leash park hours starts in April at Hillview
		