AGENDA – Planning Commission Meeting

Planning Commissioner Bryan Chapman, Chair
Planning Commissioner Troy Cunningham, Vice Chair
Planning Commissioner Bryce Anderson
Planning Commissioner Audrey Barton
Planning Commissioner Ken Kilgore
Planning Commissioner Reed Ryan
Planning Commissioner Josh Wagstaff

CITY OF SARATOGA SPRINGS
Thursday, January 23, 2020 @ 6:00 pm
City of Saratoga Springs Council Chambers
1307 North Commerce Drive, Suite 200, Saratoga Springs, UT 84045

1. Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Roll Call.
3. Public Input: Time has been set aside for any person to express ideas, concerns, comments, questions, or issues that are not listed as a public hearing on the agenda. Comments are limited to three minutes.
4. Public Hearing: Parks and Trails Master Plan Amendment, City initiated.
5. Approval of Minutes: January 9, 2020
6. Commission Comments.
7. Director's Report.
8. Possible motion to enter into closed session for the purchase, exchange, or lease of property; pending or reasonably imminent litigation; the character, professional competence, or the physical or mental health of an individual; or the deployment of security personnel, devices, or systems.
9. Adjourn.

PLEASE NOTE: The order of items may be subject to change with the order of the planning commission chair. One or more members of the Commission may participate electronically via video or telephonic conferencing in this meeting.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals needing special accommodations (including auxiliary communicative aids and services) during this meeting should notify the City Recorder at 801.766.9793 at least one day prior to the meeting.

STAFF REPORT – PLANNING MEETING

Author: David Johnson, Economic Development & PR Director
Department: Communications
Subject: Update to Parks, Trails, Recreation & Open Space Masterplan
Date: January 23, 2020
Type of Item: Parks, Trails, Recreation & Open Space Masterplan

---

Introduction:
The following is an update of the City's 2011 Park, Trails, Recreation and Open Space Masterplan.

Background:
In 2018 City staff reviewed the Parks, Trails, Recreation & Open Space Masterplan and found that with the growth of the City, many aspects of the plan were outdated or needed clarification. Likewise, staff saw the need to update the masterplan to ensure that it aligned with the priorities of the City Council and its residents, as well as provided a guide for the future parks and recreational development.

The City sent out a Request for Proposal in June of 2018 and awarded contract to Landmark Design that following September, Landmark is the same company that created the original 2011 masterplan. City Staff later approved Landmark to also conduct a survey to assist in gathering public feedback for the update of the masterplan.

The timeline for the completion of the masterplan was delayed due to the addition of the survey that was conducted, as well as corrections that were made by City staff and Landmark to ensure that the update reflected more real-time population data, which impacted the recommendations within the entirety of the document.

Budget Impact:
Total Budget impact was $42,495. $39,995 for the original contract and an additional $2,500 for the survey.

Department Review:
Administration, Communications, Recreation, Public Works

Recommendation & Alternatives:
Staff recommends a Positive Recommendation from the Planning Commission to the City Council of the updated Parks, Trails, Recreation, & Open Space Masterplan.

Alternative 1 - Adoption
"I move to forward a positive recommendation to the City Council on this 2020 Update to the Parks, Trails, Recreation, & Open Space Masterplan."

Alternative 2 – Adoption with Modifications
"I move to forward a positive recommendation to the City Council on this 2020 Update to the Parks, Trails, Recreation, & Open Space Masterplan with direction to the Staff to modify it as follows:"

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Alternative 3 – Denial
"I move to forward a negative recommendation to the City Council on this 2020 Update to the Parks, Trails, Recreation, & Open Space Masterplan with the following direction to the Staff for changes needed for future consideration:"

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Attachments:

1. Executive Summary
2. Parks, Trails, Recreation, & Open Space Masterplan
3. Appendix

CITY OF SARATOGA SPRINGS

PARKS, RECREATION, TRAILS, AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

SARATOGA SPRINGS

Life's just better here

LANDMARK DESIGN

DRAFT DECEMBER 2019

Executive Summary
Plan-at-a-Glance

1 Introduction

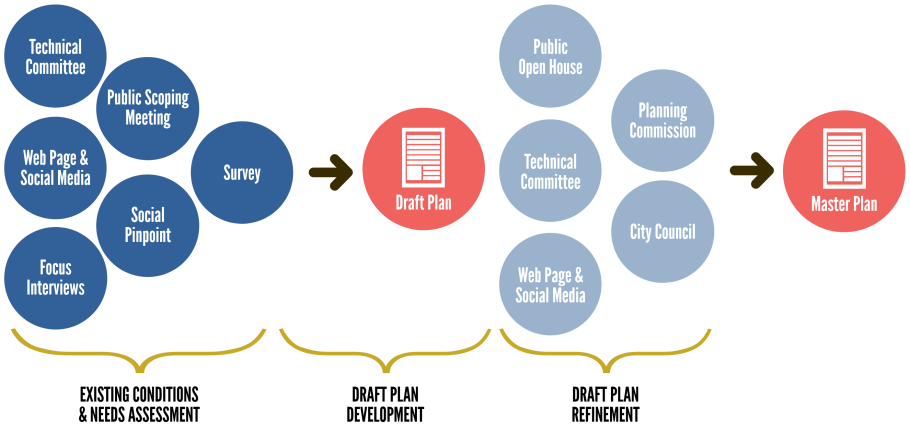
The *Saratoga Springs Parks, Recreation, Trails and Open Space Master Plan 2020-2030* encapsulates the community vision. It also provides policy guidance and specific recommendations for allocating resources for the next ten years and beyond.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROCESS

A robust public engagement process engaged the public, providing ideas and input regarding the City's parks, recreation trails and open space.

RESIDENT TOP PRIORITIES ARE...

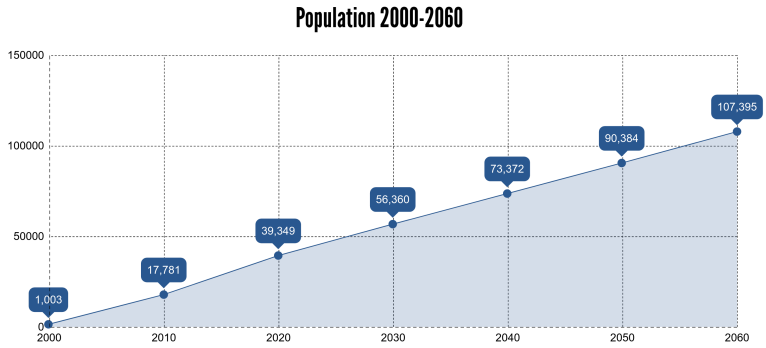
... Recreation Center
... Community Swimming Pool
... Lake Front Beach
... Walking and Biking Trails
... Preservation of Open Space



DEMOGRAPHICS

292%

Population Increase by Build-Out in 2060



The City's Population...

... is **younger** than the county, state and national averages.
... has **more children under 18** than the county, state and nation.
... is **getting younger** while the number of older residents gradually grows.
... has **increasingly larger households**.

PARK ACRE RATIO

Total Park Acres (Regional, Community, Neighborhood, Pocket, Special Use and Other Recreational Land)

Existing Park Acre Ratio

Future Park Acre Ratio

DISTRIBUTION

Most residents believe it is important to have parks within walking distance of home. Saratoga Springs has several gaps in park distribution- primarily in the lower central area of the City near Utah Lake and the golf course.

MEETING CURRENT AND FUTURE NEEDS

31.0 *Acres of Park Land Needed to **Fill Gaps***

41.8 *Acres of Park Land to **Meet Needs by 2030***

189.9 *Acres of Park Land to **Meet Needs Between 2030 and Build-Out***

271.7 *Acres of **Currently Proposed Parks** (combination of City and Developer Provided Parks)*

9.0 *Acres of **Potential Surplus Park Land** if all Currently Proposed Parks are Developed by 2060*

> As opportunities to acquire open space arise, the City should first verify that the land is **large enough and has connections to other open spaces and parks** to be considered real community assets. Open space should typically only be acquired if it:
>
> - **Expands existing open spaces**;
> - **Preserves** natural drainages, critical habitat or other key **natural resources**;
> - **Provides greater connections** between parks, neighborhoods, and key City and regional destinations and systems.
>
> **Special recreational uses** such as trails and trailheads, urban camping sites, archery ranges, fitness courses and similar features should be considered for open space on a case-by-case basis, with the caveat that **preservation of the City's natural systems** should be the priority.

ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Establish and implement minimum park standards.
2. Include a splash pad, lake front beach and specialty parks, including bike parks, dog parks and skate parks, in future development.
3. Upgrade parks that are aged or lack amenities.
4. Develop a comprehensive parks, recreation, trails and open space wayfinding and signage master plan.
5. Conduct a separate feasibility study of motorized trails.

KEY RECOMMENDATIONS

1 Conduct a feasibility study for a flexible facility that can potentially accommodate needs for indoor recreation, swimming pool(s), the arts, senior programs, and general community meeting, classroom and event space.

2 Explore partnerships with neighboring communities, the school district and other education providers, arts and cultural organizations and other non-profits and private companies and organizations for the construction and operation of a flexible-use community center.

3 Ensure that Community and Regional Parks are designed to incorporate the appropriate infrastructure to accommodate large community events.

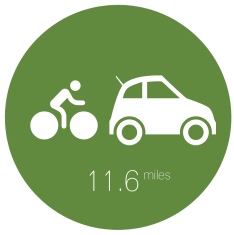
Existing Paved Trails

Proposed Paved Trails

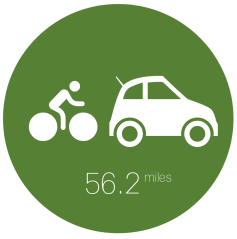
Existing Unpaved Trails

Proposed Unpaved Trails

Existing Bike Lanes



Proposed Bike Lanes



Existing Motorized Trails

4 ***Proposed Trail Types*** *(Paved, Unpaved, Motorized and Bike Lanes)*

5 ***Proposed Paved Trail Sub-Categories*** *(Regional; Separated; Street Adjacent - Local or Collector, Minor Arterial, Major or Principal Arterial)*

2 ***Proposed Unpaved Trail Sub-Categories*** *(Regional and Local)*

4 *Existing Trailheads*

15 *Proposed Trailheads*

3 *Proposed Trailhead Types*

22 *Proposed Crossings*

Additional Recommendations

1. Ensure trails and trailheads meet minimum standards established in this plan.
2. Implement proposed trailheads and crossings.
3. Explore the possibility of user-specific trails.
4. Continue partnering with Alpine School District to support the “Safe Routes to School” Program.
5. Implement lighting and safety improvements.
6. Develop a comprehensive wayfinding system.

$48,576,000

Probable Costs to Upgrade Existing Parks & Meet Amenity LOS, Fill Gaps, Acquire New Park Land & Develop Future Parks Through Buildout

$76,088,500

Probable Costs to Develop Trails & Trailheads & Implement Lighting & Other Improvements

$250,000

Wayfinding Sign Master Plan & Implementation

$125,094,500

Total Probable Costs of Park & Trail System Improvements & Wayfinding System

$137,430

Proposed Annual Budget for Amenity Replacement Over Time

Goal 1

Assure that Residents of Saratoga Springs Have Adequate Access to Parks

Goal 2

Continue to Maintain a High Standard of Maintenance for Saratoga Springs' Parks in the Future

Goal 3

Increase the Amount and Variety of Natural Open Space in the City

Goal 4

Assure that Residents of Saratoga Springs Have Access to High Quality Recreation Programs and Community Events

Goal 5

Assure that Recreation and Arts Facilities Meet the Needs of the Community

Goal 6

Create Attractive and Safe Bicycle and Pedestrian Networks that can be Enjoyed for Transportation and Recreation

Goal 7

Assure that the Saratoga Springs Trails System Meets Public Needs and Expectations

Goal 8

Ensure that Trails are Safe

Goal 9

Promote Water Conservation and Similar Practices to Help Ensure the Saratoga Springs Parks and Recreation System is Sustainable and Resilient

Goal 10

Maintain a Healthy and Aesthetically-Pleasing Environment and Manage a Sustainable Community Forest to Optimize Environmental, Social and Economic Benefits.

CITY OF SARATOGA SPRINGS

PARKS, RECREATION, TRAILS, AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

SARATOGA SPRINGS

Life's just better here

LANDMARK DESIGN

DRAFT

DECEMBER 2019

Table of Contents

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS I

INTRODUCTION 1

Purpose, Use and Organization of the Plan 1
Organization of the Plan 2
Coordination with Other Plan Documents 3
Public Involvement 7
Saratoga Springs City Profile 19

PARKS AND OPEN SPACE 23

Public Input: Parks and Open Space 24
Existing Parks - System at a Glance 26
Existing Parks Needs and Analyses 37
Meeting Existing and Future Park Needs 42
Parks Standards 49
Park Amenities 53
Open Space 56
Recommendations: Parks and Open Space 59

RECREATION, COMMUNITY EVENTS AND THE ARTS 61

Public Input: Recreation, Community Events and the Arts 62
Existing Recreation Facilities and Programs 66
Community Events 69
Arts 70
Recommendations: Recreation, Community Events and the Arts 71

TRAILS 72

Public Input: Trails 73
Existing Trails and Bike Lanes 76
Trailheads 81
Trail Crossings 82
Trail Needs Analysis 82
Proposed Trails and Trailheads 82
Proposed Trail Crossings 91
Trail Design Standards 92
Recommendations: Trails 97

PRIORITIES, ACQUISITION AND CONSTRUCTION COSTS.....99

Online Survey Results: Spending and Willingness to Fund.....100
Park and Open Priorities.....101
Recreation, Community Events and Arts Priorities.....102
Trail Priorities.....103
Development Costs and Funding Priorities.....103
Establishing Funding Priorities.....107
Action Plan.....108
Existing Funding Sources.....113

GOALS AND POLICIES.....136

Parks and Open Space.....137
Recreation, Community Events and Arts.....139
Trails.....139
Other Goals and Policies.....141

APPENDICES..... SEPARATE DOCUMENT

Acknowledgments

SARATOGA SPRINGS CITY COUNCIL

Shellie Baertsch
Michael McOmber
Jim Miller, Mayor
Ryan Poduska
Chris Porter
Stephen Willden

PLANNING COMMISSION

Bryce Anderson
Christopher Carn
Bryan Chapman, Vice Chair
Troy Cunningham
Ken Kilgore
Sandra Steele
Kirk Wilkins, Chair

SARATOGA SPRINGS ADMINISTRATION

Mark Christensen, City Manager
Owen Jackson, Assistant City Manager

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Shellie Baertsch	City Council
Sarah Carroll	Senior Planner
Mark Christensen	City Manager
Mark Edwards	Assistant Public Works Director
Owen Jackson	Assistant City Manager
David Johnson	Public Relations and Economic Development Director
Rick Kennington	Parks Superintendent
Jeremy Lapin	Public Works Director
Daniel McRae	Engineer
David Stroud	Planning Director
Heston Williams	Recreation Director

PLANNING CONSULTANTS

Landmark Design
Mark Vlasic, AICP, PLA, ASLA, Principal-in-Charge
Lisa Benson, AICP, PLA, ASLA, Senior Planner, Project Manager
Madison Merrill, ASLA, Project Planner

Chapter 1

Introduction

PURPOSE, USE AND ORGANIZATION OF THE PLAN

Saratoga Springs is a young, active community that values its idyllic location on the shores of Utah Lake. The City's parks, recreation, trails and open space system provides a wide range of opportunities to meet recreation and leisure needs, while also providing places for community gathering and celebration.

As one of the fastest growing communities in the region, an up-to-date and comprehensive *Parks, Recreation, Trails and Open Space Master Plan* is an essential tool to ensure the acquisition, development and maintenance of facilities in Saratoga Springs keeps pace with demand.

To ensure the City meets these needs, the *Saratoga Springs Parks, Recreation, Trails and Open Space Master Plan 2020-2030* encapsulates the community vision, in addition to providing policy guidance and specific recommendations for allocating resources.

ORGANIZATION OF THE PLAN

The *Saratoga Springs Parks, Recreation, Trails and Open Space Master Plan* is organized into six chapters, as follow:

Chapter 1 **Introduction**	Describes the **purpose of the plan** and summarizes the coordination with other plan documents and policies. It also describes the **planning process**, documents issues and opportunities identified through **public involvement**, and concludes with baseline data and **demographic projections**.
Chapter 2 **Parks and Open Space**	Addresses **existing and future parks**, beginning with an analysis of existing parks. It discusses **future needs and standards** and determines the **Park Acre Ratio (PAR)** for the current population, as well as for the projected population in 2030 and at build-out in 2060. This section concludes with an inventory of City-owned **open space and other natural lands** and outlines strategies for acquiring open space in the future.
Chapter 3 **Recreation, Community Events and Arts**	Explores existing and future **recreation, community event and art programs and facilities**. The chapter begins with documentation and analysis of existing facilities and programs and concludes with strategies to meet future needs and demands.
Chapter 4 **Trails**	Investigates **current trail needs** and issues and concludes with ideas for **meeting future trail needs**. The chapter builds upon the *Saratoga Springs Transportation Master Plan* and the *Saratoga Springs Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan*, which are adopted policy documents that also address trails.
Chapter 5 **Priorities and Acquisition and Construction Costs**	**Estimates the probable costs** to upgrade existing facilities to meet City standards and to acquire and construct new parks, recreation facilities and trails. The chapter concludes with an **action plan,** prioritizing detailed implementation measures for the short and long-term.
Chapter 6 **Goals and Policies**	Provides specific **goals, policies and implementation actions** to help the City achieve its vision for parks, recreation, trails and open space.

While the plan addresses each of these elements separately, it is understood that they often overlap and work in concert to form a comprehensive recreation system that meets the needs of the community and contributes to the overall quality of life for residents.

COORDINATION WITH OTHER PLAN DOCUMENTS

The City has several planning documents that guide current and future development, many of which address parks, recreation, trails and open space to some degree. A summary of key documents and their relationship to the master plan follows.

SARATOGA SPRINGS GENERAL PLAN

The *Saratoga Springs General Plan* is the primary planning policy document, providing guidance to City leaders on the physical structure of the City, including land use, transportation, facilities, services and housing.

The plan addresses parks, recreation, trails and open space throughout the document – from the community vision through specific themes and objectives. Two of the general plan elements are dedicated solely to Parks, Recreation, Open Space and Natural Features. The key objectives for those elements follow.

Recreation - Acquire and protect land for future recreational facilities, expand the variety of recreational opportunities, provide access to parks and green spaces within one-half mile of all residences and explore the feasibility of constructing and operating a recreation center.

Saratoga Springs Guiding Vision

Saratoga Springs is a growing community with an unparalleled quality of life. Now and into the future, we strive to:

Increase recreation opportunities for all ages;
Maximize our lakeside location;
Provide vibrant gathering places;
Offer a range of housing choices;
Encourage a variety of employment and business opportunities.

We will maintain sound fiscal strategies and sustainable city services in pursuit of these goals.

Trails - Provide an interconnected trail network that connects neighborhoods to parks and key open spaces. Provide regional trail connections and a trail network in the foothills that includes well-designed and properly located trailheads.

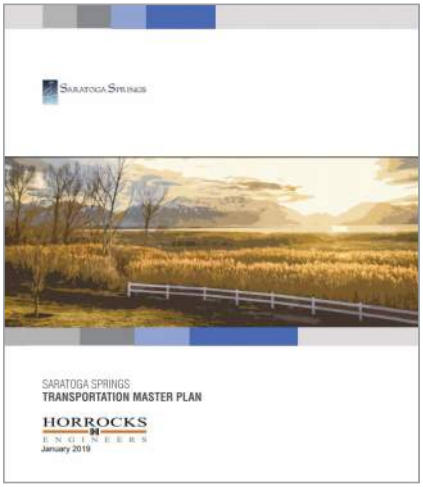
Jordan River Parkway - Balance recreation needs along the Jordan River with the preservation of habitat, natural systems and the riparian character.

Utah Lake - Enhance access to Utah Lake for recreation and tourism. Explore the development of a destination retail and recreation area on the Utah Lake Shoreline with year-round recreation activities and a connection to the historic hot springs. Protect lake views and public trail access through the development of lakeshore residential uses.

Open Spaces and Views - Identify and protect natural open space areas and notable scenic view corridors.

Natural Features - Improve the management and quality of water resources. Identify and protect key riparian, wildlife and other corridors in the City. Improve air quality on a City-wide basis.

The General Plan also indicates that the recommendations in the *Parks, Recreation, Trails and Open Space Master Plan* be implemented.



SARATOGA SPRINGS TRANSPORTATION MASTER PLAN

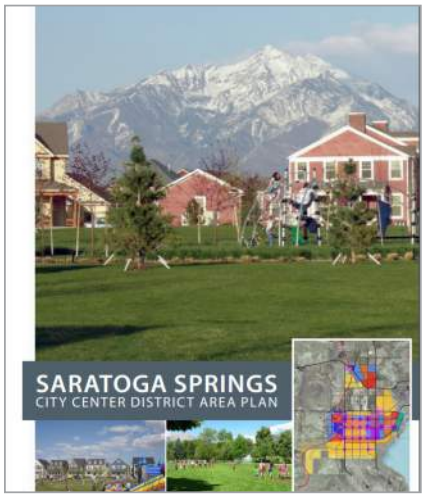
The *Transportation Master Plan* focuses primarily on aligning the City's roadway network with the regional network, as expressed in the Mountainland Association of Governments TransPlan40. The plan mentions trails briefly in the discussion of alternative transportation modes, deferring to the *Parks, Recreation, Trails and Open Space Master Plan* for recommendations. It specifically states that "pedestrian safety is an important feature of the Transportation Master Plan" and includes recommendations for buffers to protect pedestrians and bicyclists from vehicular traffic. A summary of recommended bicycle and pedestrian facilities are shown in table 1.1.

Table 1.1: Recommended Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities from *Transportation Master Plan*

Roadway	Pedestrian Buffer	Pedestrian Facility	Bicycle Buffer	Bicycle Facility
7-Lane Principal Arterial	4.5' min. landscaped buffer	Meandering trail in 30' pedestrian corridor	3' painted buffer	7' on-street bike lane
5-Lane Major Arterial	16.5' min. landscaped buffer	Meandering trail in 30' pedestrian corridor	3' painted buffer	7' on-street bike lane
5-Lane Minor Arterial	9' landscaped park strip	5' sidewalk	No buffer	5' on-street bike lane
3-Lane Minor Arterial	9' landscaped park strip	10' trail	2' painted buffer	6' on-street bike lane
3-Lane Collector	9' landscaped park strip	5' sidewalk	No buffer	5' on-street bike lane
2-Lane Local Collector	9' landscaped park strip	5' sidewalk	No buffer	6' on-street bike lane
Local Street	8' landscaped park strip	5' sidewalk	No buffer	No on-street bike facilities

Source: Saratoga Springs Transportation Master Plan

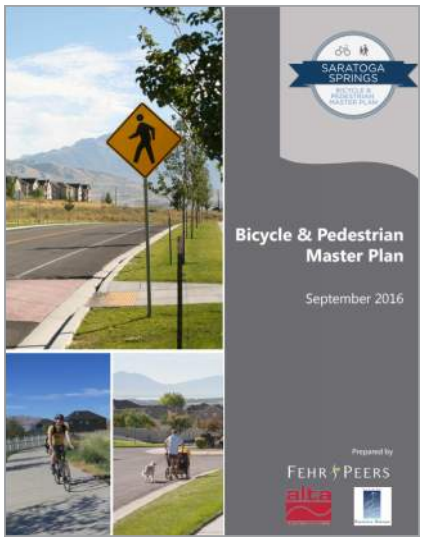
SARATOGA SPRINGS CITY CENTER DISTRICT AREA PLAN



The *City Center District Area Plan* builds upon the vision in the *Saratoga Springs General Plan*, establishing vision and specific guidance for more than 2,800 acres of land owned by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. Currently held in reserve as a welfare farm, these holdings are intended to be developed with a variety of land uses. The plan establishes a flexible vision for the area as a planned community that is walkable, interconnected and transit-ready, with a variety of housing types that allow people to live in close proximity to shopping, work and recreation.

Parks, open space and trails are addressed on a general level with recommended facilities. The plan also features a comprehensive list of open space types, including descriptions, typical sizes, service areas and examples for the following facilities: squares, plazas, entrance parks, pocket parks, neighborhood parks, community parks, regional parks, school parks, sports complexes, special uses, waterfronts, community gardens, greenways, waterways/channels, parkways/boulevards, park lawns, connector trails and paseos.

The following four parks and recreation features are specifically identified in the plan: a community park, a public swimming pool, a community center and an interconnected trail network.



SARATOGA SPRINGS BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN MASTER PLAN

The *City's Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan* provides an in-depth analysis of the existing bicycle and pedestrian facilities in Saratoga Springs and proposes a City-wide system of on-street and off-street pedestrian and bicycle facilities. The plan also includes detailed information on capital costs, maintenance, funding and implementation. The vision set forth in the plan states:

> "Saratoga Springs will create healthy and vibrant communities through the creation of attractive and safe bicycle and pedestrian networks that can be enjoyed for recreation and transportation."

The three primary tasks required to accomplish the vision are (1) providing a continuous system of bike lanes, sidewalk, crosswalks, shared paths and other bicycle and pedestrian facilities throughout Saratoga Springs with connections to neighboring cities that are safe and attractive to all users, (2) increasing transportation safety for all modes through education and enforcement efforts, and (3) institutionalizing bicycle and pedestrian planning and routine accommodation of bicycle and pedestrian needs into City processes.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

A robust public engagement process is essential for ensuring the plan is aligned with the community's needs and desires. A variety of public involvement tools and methods were used to engage the public and receive ideas and input regarding the City's parks, recreation trails and open spaces. Figure 1.1 illustrates the key techniques and activities that were applied to ensure the plan represents the community vision, which is followed by a description of each outreach method.

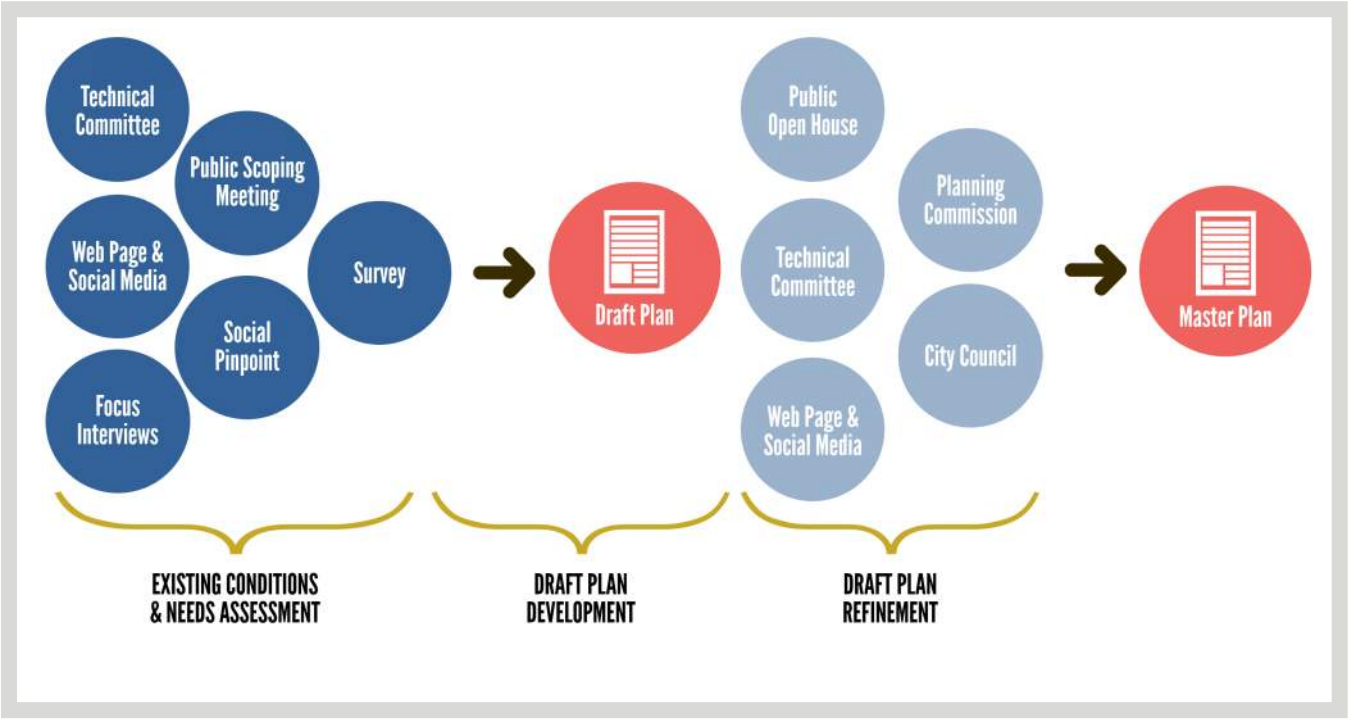


Figure 1.1: Public Involvement Through Planning Process

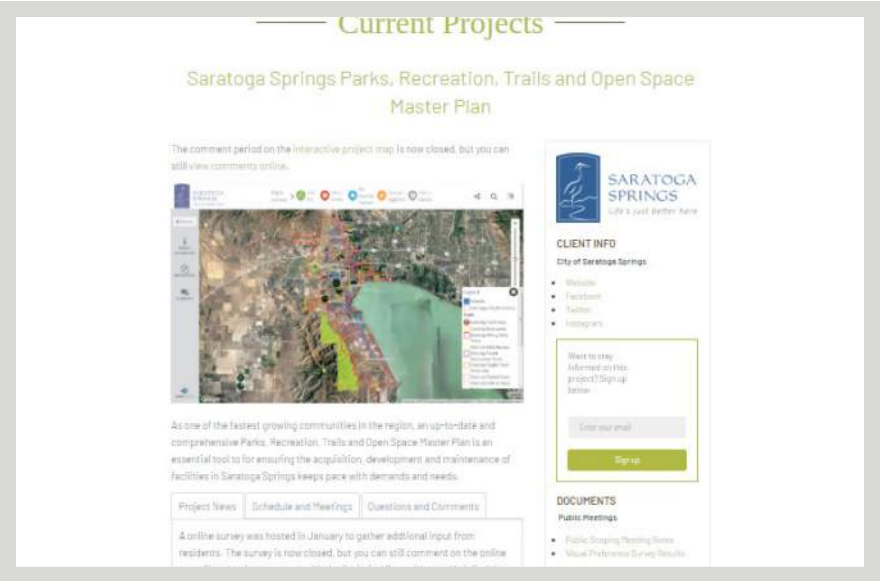
A – TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

A technical committee was established to provide guidance, review and input throughout the planning process. The committee included a City Council representative and members of City administration, planning, public works, engineering, economic development, public relations, parks and recreation departments. The committee met four times as the planning process unfolded and the plan was drafted. Notes from the committee meetings are included in the Appendix, page A-1.

B – PROJECT WEB PAGE AND SOCIAL MEDIA OUTREACH

A project web page was developed at the beginning of the project, serving as a primary engagement tool and a central clearinghouse for project information. The web page included updates on project status, meeting notes and materials, survey results and draft plan materials. It also offered multiple avenues to comment throughout the planning process, including a comment form, an email list sign-up form, and a link to the *Social Pinpoint* interactive map comment tool.

Twenty-one comments were received via email and through the project web page. All comments are included in the Appendix, page A-7, a summary of which follows.



Project Web Page

Project Web Page and Social Media Comments

Parks and Open Space

- Love City parks and trails
- Requested amenities: a splash pad, dog park and bike park
- More open space and non-motorized use
- Patriot Park could use tennis courts (lighted) in addition to pickleball
- Open space uses should include rain gardens, wildlife corridors and natural spaces with learning stations (interpretive signage)

Recreation

- Reserve space for swimming pool/aquatic center
- Desire a recreation center with indoor/outdoor facilities

Trails

- Keep equestrian trails
- Jordan River trail needs more parking/a trailhead near Pioneer Crossing
- Desire more single track trails for mountain bikes
- Provide direct, safe routes to schools

C – SOCIAL PINPOINT

Social Pinpoint (SPP) is an online community engagement tool that helps communities, like Saratoga Springs, connect with their residents and stakeholders. The tool was hosted on the project web page, providing numerous opportunities to comment, question and propose ideas for specific sites using online maps. The software allowed participants to "drag and drop" various types of "comment pins" to a location. The tool also provided opportunities for participants to upload photos and images to help describe ideas and point out specific locations. Figure 1.2 is a summary map indicating the number and locations of where pins were placed. Figure 1.3 is a heat map that illustrates the concentration of comments across the City.

A total of 693 unique users spent an average of twenty minutes on the SPP page. Forty-four unique stakeholders submitted 89 comments and three photos. Detailed responses for SPP are included in the Appendix, page A-11, and a summary of those comments follows.

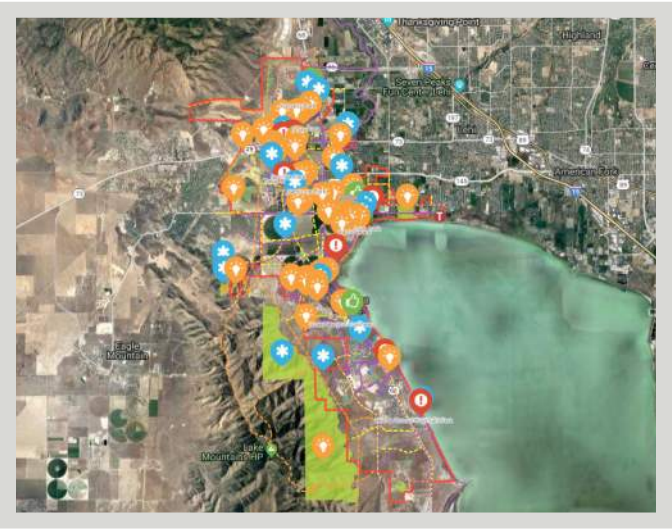
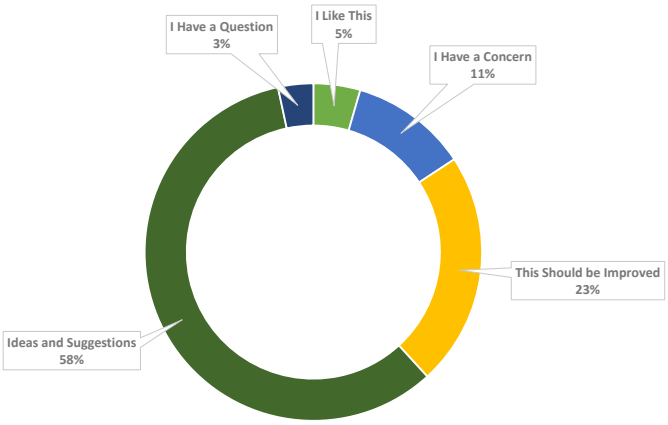


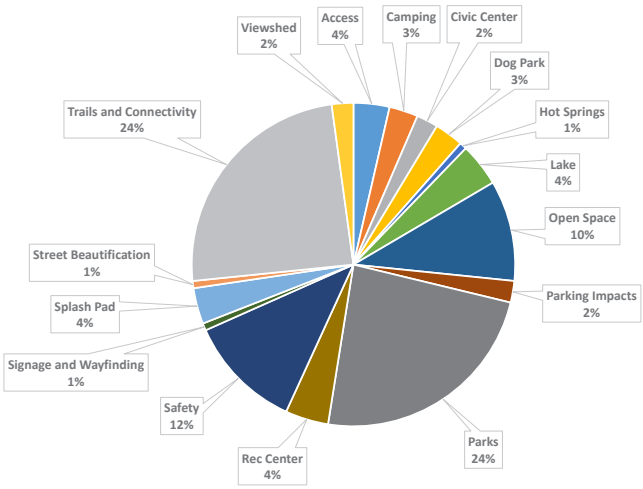
Figure 1.2: Social Pinpoint Comment Summary Map

Figure 1.3: Social Pinpoint Comment Heat Map

Social Pinpoint Comment Category Chart



Social Pinpoint Comment Topic Chart



Social Pinpoint Comments

Parks and Open Space

- Requested amenities include a dog park, an ice ribbon, outdoor racquetball courts, a skate park, a splash pad, camping, more beaches, trees, fitness trails in parks, and a bike park
- Create unique playgrounds
- Inadequate parking at Marina and Neptune parks is a safety issue and impacts surrounding neighborhoods
- Use baseball outfields in the off-season for other uses that utilize open lawn areas
- Extend the season of restrooms in parks
- Complete planned Marina Park improvements
- Provide spaces for teens and young children
- Secure land for parks and open space and preserve access to the foothills and river
- More open space, less development
- Existing parks should be upgraded
- Preserve more open space for habitat, views and use of residents
- Would like a nature preserve in the foothills to help protect wildlife
- Desire more non-motorized boat launches on the river and lake
- Clean up hot springs

Recreation

- Would like a recreation center with a swimming pool
- Want a community center

Trails

- Need safer crossings throughout the City, including more grade-separated crossings at busy roads and intersections
- Connect trails, fill gaps and provide connections to parks and other key destinations
- Off-street trails are more comfortable to use

Social Pinpoint Comments Continued

- Provide stretches of trail along both sides of the Jordan River
- Provide regional trail connections in foothills and along the lake and river
- Safe routes to school need to be as direct and safe as possible.
- Need to provide safe options for pedestrians and bicyclists

Other

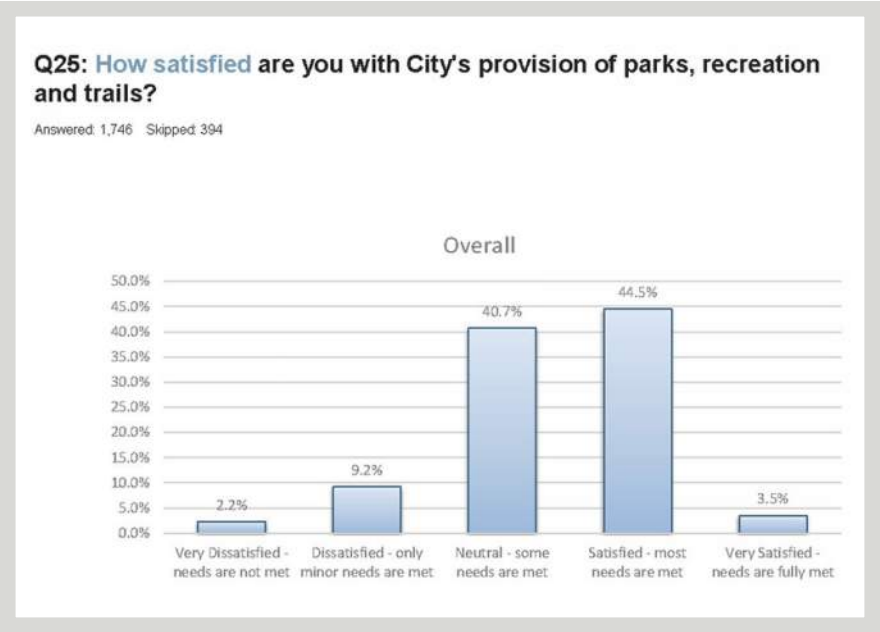
- Provide wayfinding signage
- Plan now to address traffic and congestion issues, while also creating pleasant attractive streetscapes

D – ONLINE SURVEY

An online survey was used to gather residents' opinions on parks, recreation, trails and open space. The survey was conducted in January 2019 and promoted through the City's social media, website and email lists. The level of participation was quite astounding, with 2,140 survey responses submitted and 1,693 respondents completing all questions. It should be noted that the survey was open to anyone who opted to participate with no controls on the number of responses that could be submitted, rather than being random. The survey results are therefore not representative of the entire population according to scientific statistical standards. Nevertheless, the results provide a level of insight into general community preferences of a portion of the population. Detailed results are found in the Appendix, page A-27, a summary of which follows.

Parks and Open Space

City parks, trails and open spaces are the primary way residents meet their recreation and leisure needs, followed by the utilization of federal or state lands and programs offered by other communities. The most-used parks are Neptune, Harvest and Shay Park. Proximity to home is the primary reason for using their most-used park. When asked how important it is to have public parks within walking distance (1/2 mile or 10 minutes) of home (with 0



Q7: From your perspective, how important is it to have public parks within walking distance (within ½ mile or 10 minutes) of your home? (with 0 being unimportant and 10 being very important)

Answered: 2,119 Skipped: 21

8.3

Q26: How much would you be willing to pay per year if the additional funding would be used for maintenance or improvements to existing Saratoga Springs Parks, Trails and Open Space?

Answered: 1,640 Skipped: 500

$38

Q27: How much would you be willing to pay per year if the additional funding would be used to provide new Saratoga Springs Parks, Recreation Facilities, Trails and Open Space?

Answered: 1,653 Skipped: 487

$49

being unimportant and 10 being very important), the average response was 8.3.

The top desired improvements to their most used park are trees and lighting/safety features. Others indicated that no improvements are required. The most-desired parks or recreation facilities are a recreation center, a splash pad, a lake front beach and specialty parks (i.e. dog park, skate park, bike park, shooting range).

Recreation

Nearly half of all respondent households had participated in a Saratoga Springs recreation program during the past twelve months. The favorite programs are youth soccer and basketball. The key reasons for not participating are a lack of activities of interest and no children at home. Top recreation programs of interest not currently offered include adult programs, gymnastics and swimming.

Events

A majority of respondents had participated in community events offered by the City in the preceding 12 months. The most popular events include Splash Days, Summer Celebration Series, Fall Festival and Trail Rides at Shay Park. Survey respondents suggested additional community events such as fireworks on Independence Day, races, a farmers market, community theater and parades.

Trails

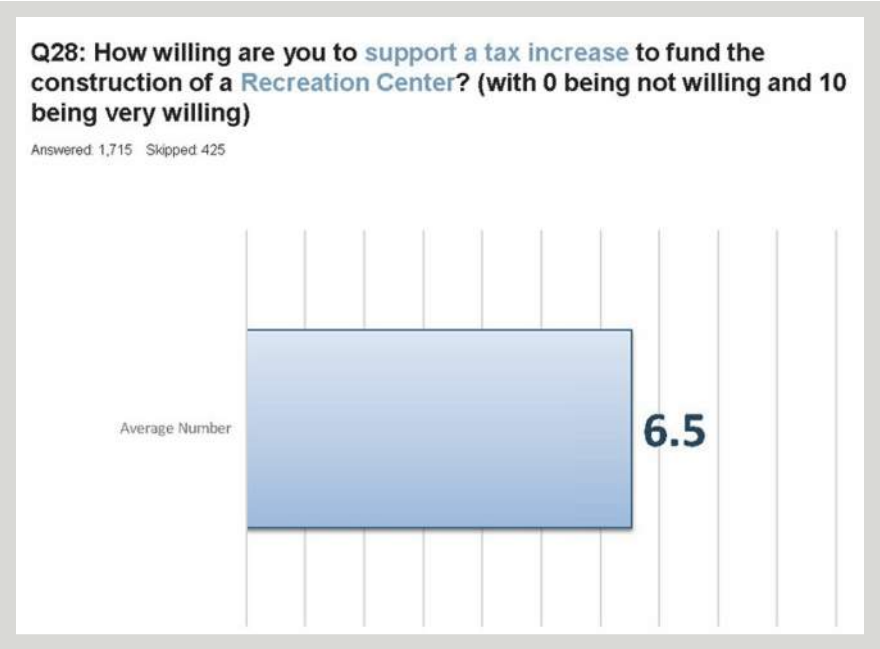
A majority of survey respondents indicated they would use City trails more often if they were more complete or connected. Most people use City trails for walking, jogging or hiking, followed by recreational biking, in-line skating and motorized recreation. The most popular trails are the Jordan River Parkway, Harvest Hills Trails and the Redwood Road Pathway. The most desired improvements to the trail system are filling gaps, linking neighborhoods, additional lighting, safer crossings and more restrooms.

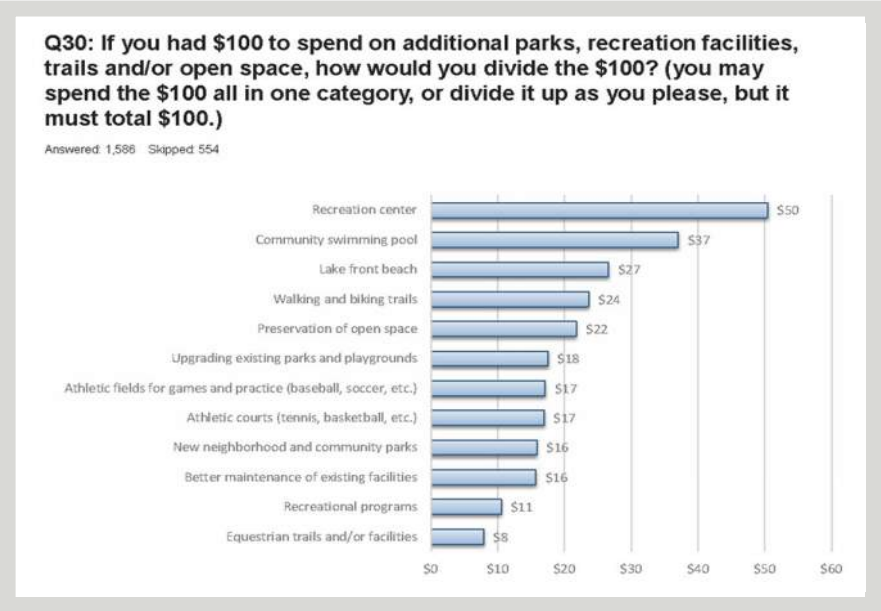
Satisfaction and Willingness to Fund

Less than half of the respondents are satisfied or very satisfied with the City's overall provision of parks, recreation and trails, while 40.7-percent are neutral and 11.4-percent are dissatisfied or very dissatisfied.

Survey respondents indicated they are slightly more willing to pay a tax increase for the provision of new parks, recreation facilities, trails and open space than they are to pay for better maintenance or improvements to existing facilities.

When asked how willing they were to support a tax increase to fund the construction of a recreation center (0 being not willing and 10 being very willing), survey respondents





indicated an average support level of 6.5.

When asked to prioritize spending a hypothetical $100 on additional parks, recreation facilities, trails and/or open space, survey respondents supported a recreation center, community swimming pool, lake front beach, walking and biking trails and preservation of open space. Survey respondents indicated a willingness to pay an average of $139 per year for the provision of a recreation center.

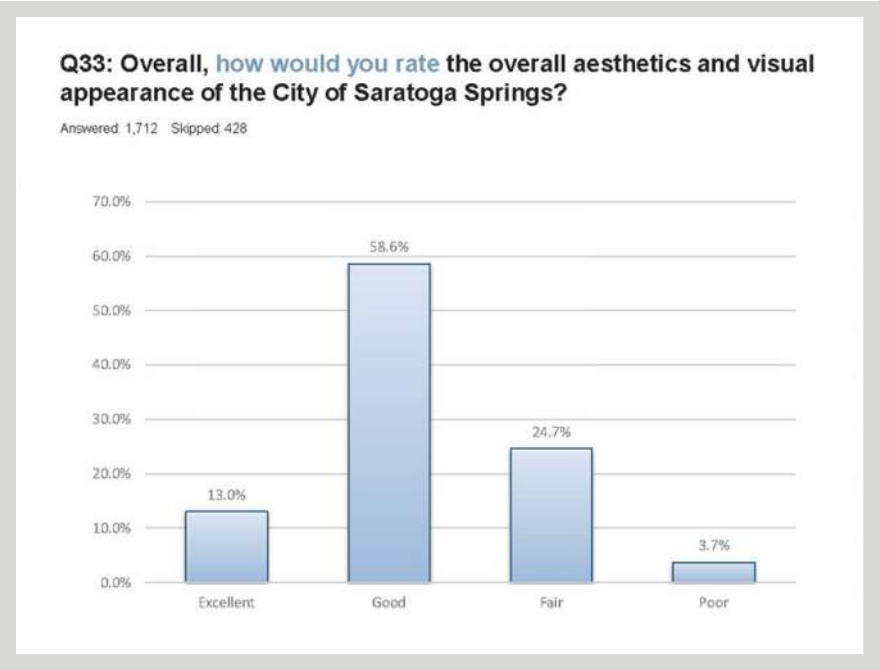
General Questions

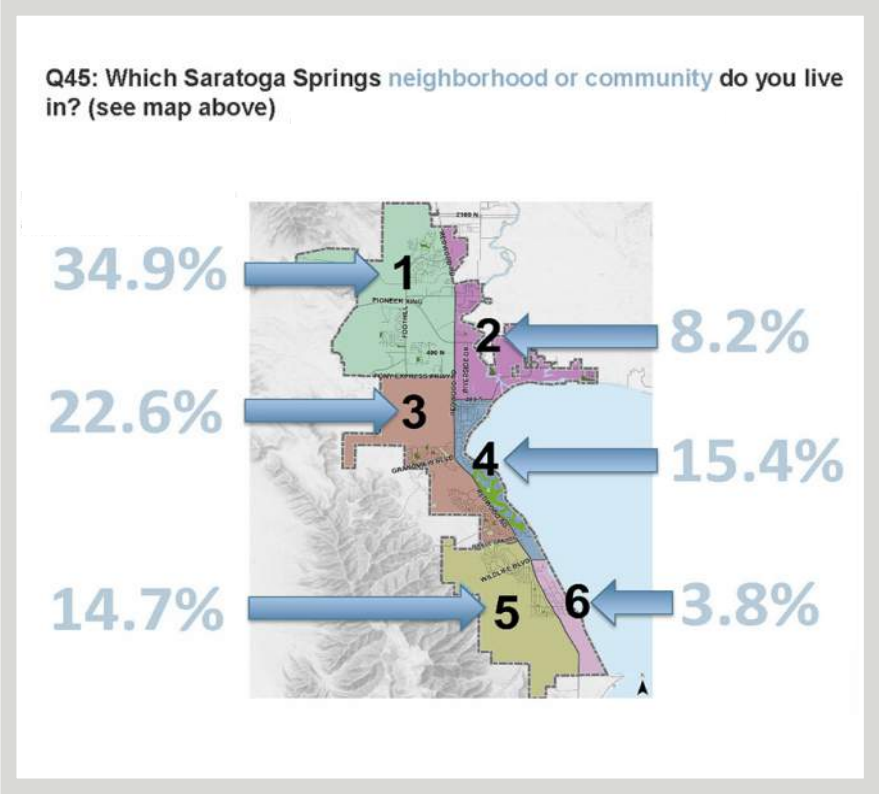
A majority of respondents believe City aesthetics are very or somewhat important and more than half believe the City's appearance is good.

Survey respondents like the views of the lake, the open space, and the clean and new appearance of the City. They dislike the high density housing, the lack of trees, the traffic and all of the construction.

Demographics

The survey results were skewed toward female respondents. The majority of respondents were from the 24 to 34 age group. Over two-thirds of respondents have four or more children in their households.





E – FOCUS INTERVIEWS

The planning team met with key staff members in a series of focus interviews held in October and November 2018. A summary of those comments follows. Detailed notes can be found in the Appendix, page A-56.

Focus Interview Comments

Staffing/Internal

- Some departments need more staff. Staffing levels should be compared with other cities.
- There is a need for an urban forester and a dedicated volunteer coordinator
- The City needs better communication procedures to make sure all key departments review new projects.

Maintenance

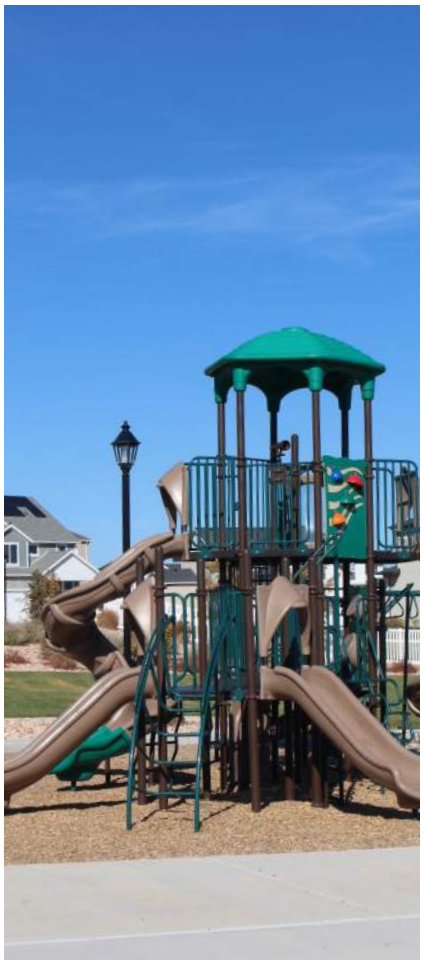
- The City receives minimal complaints – comments focus mainly on weeds, watering and vandalism
- Tree mortality is a huge issue due to quality of secondary water supply
- Open space maintenance is more significant than most people think
- There is no regular schedule for upgrading or replacing playgrounds
- It was strongly recommended to not build or acquire more small parks, as they are challenging and expensive to maintain and only provide marginal value.

Facility Needs/Wants

- Skate park, splash pad, cemetery, indoor gym, recreation center w/ pools, fields converted to artificial turf to ease impact, senior center, and spider boxes at every park

Other

- Need to find a better location for a farmer's market
- Link Patriot and Inlet Park together to create a large "central park"
- Provide dedicated space for large events
- Need signage and wayfinding
- Provide coordinated trail standards



Pinnacle Park

F – PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING

A public scoping meeting was held on December 5, 2018 at the North Fire Station. While **only eight people signed in**, the feedback provided an additional layer of information and ideas to be considered in the planning process. The meeting began with a Visual Preference Survey, which presented 50 images that were scored by participants to help determine the types and qualities of park, recreation, trails open space and community facilities and activities preferred in Saratoga Springs. The six highest-scoring images and six lowest-scoring images are illustrated below. All 50 images and their scores can be viewed in the Appendix, page A-63. It should be noted that the results may be skewed due to the low number of participants. A general scoping discussion followed the Visual Preference Survey, offering an opportunity for participants to freely discuss their ideas, visions and concerns.

Top Scoring Images

1. Average score: 2.5

1. Average score: 2.5

1. Average score: 2.5

Bottom Scoring Images

18. Average score: 0.4

18. Average score: 0.4

19. Average score: 0.3

Public Scoping Meeting Comments

Parks and Open Space

- The City has a good variety of parks.
- Desire more beaches.
- Requested amenities include a skate park, archery range and shooting range
- Build unique parks and playgrounds.
- Preserve more open space for views and for wildlife
- Improve the hot springs area

Trails

- Fill gaps and connect the trails
- Provide safer crossings of major roads
- Need safer on-street bike lanes
- Want more single track trails
- Need more parking for the Jordan River Trail
- Create a pedestrian-oriented center around Patriot Park
- Provide signage, both regulation and educational

Events

- The City has great events, would love a farmers market and more food-oriented events

General Comments

- The City should have a cemetery
- Want more community gathering places
- Community gardens would be great

G – PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE

A Draft Plan Open House was held on (insert date) at Saratoga Springs City Hall prior the adoption process. The meeting provided the public an opportunity to review the draft plan, discuss issues and ask questions. (Insert #) members of the public signed in. Comments that were submitted during the meeting, through the web page or by email can be viewed in the Appendix, page A-66. A summary of comments follows.

Public Open House Comments

- (Insert comments once complete)

Island Park

Saratoga Springs' Fall Festival

H – CITY LEADERSHIP BRIEFINGS AND ADOPTION PRESENTATIONS

On March 5, 2019 the planning team briefed the City Council, providing a summary of the planning process.

The final draft of the *Saratoga Springs Parks, Recreation, Trails and Open Space Master Plan* was presented to the Saratoga Springs Planning Commission on (insert date) and the City Council on (insert date). The Council adopted the plan on (insert date if different than previous sentence).

SARATOGA SPRINGS CITY PROFILE

PHYSICAL AND SOCIAL STRUCTURE

Saratoga Springs City is located between the western shores of Utah Lake and the Lake Mountains to the west. The lake and mountains offer a range of natural settings, drainages and views.

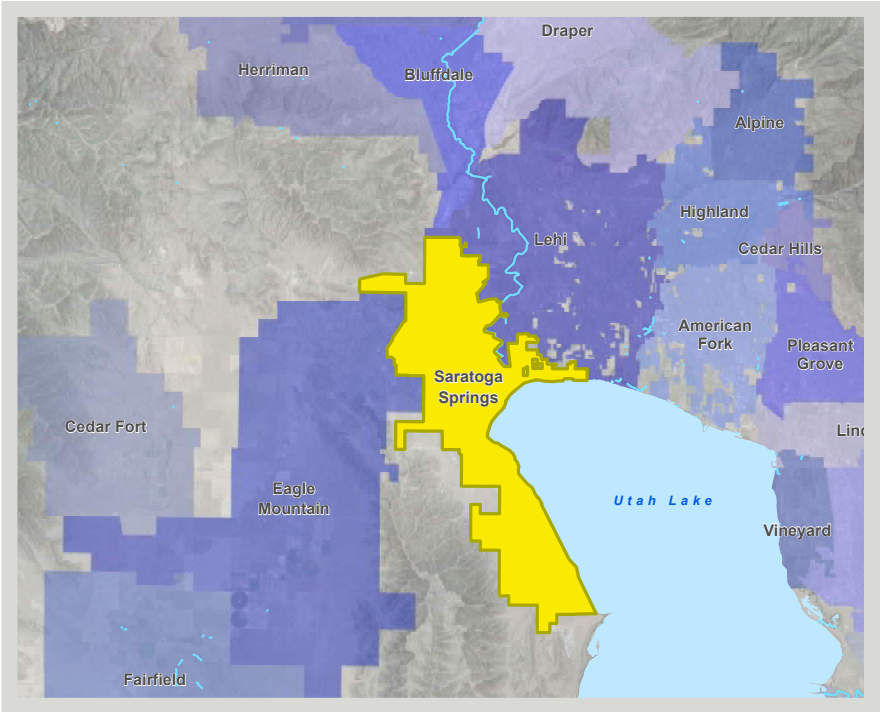


Figure 1.4: Saratoga Springs Context Map

The City encompasses more than twenty-one square miles of land, running approximately eleven miles from north to south at an average width of less than two miles. The long and narrow shape creates some unique opportunities and challenges for the provision and distribution of recreational amenities.

Historical Saratoga Hot Springs

Saratoga Springs began as a resort called *Beck's Saratoga Springs*, named after the owner and another resort in Saratoga Springs, New York. It was centered around the natural hot springs located in the northwest corner of Utah Lake near the mouth of the Jordan River. The resort opened in 1884 and was a popular tourist destination for a number of years. Unfortunately, none of the original buildings remain today.

A collection of irrigated farms surrounded the resort as water became readily available from canals and the Jordan River. Dry farms were scattered throughout the south end of the City and were maintained well into the late twentieth century. Landowners began to develop the area in the 1990's, beginning near the resort. The City was incorporated in 1997 and has since developed rapidly into an extensive bedroom community, composed primarily of large subdivisions of single-family homes situated to take advantage of the views and interesting hillside topography.

DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE AND PROJECTIONS[1]

A clear understanding of the current population and household characteristics of Saratoga Springs is necessary to accurately analyze needs for public parks, recreation, trails and open space. The following is a summary of key population, age and household size and composition characteristics.

Population

As shown in Table 1.2 and Figure 1.5, the City experienced a rapid burst of growth following incorporation, expanding from 1,003 residents in 2000 to 17,781 by 2010 (a seventeen-fold increase in population). Since then, the population has continued to grow at a high rate, increasing by more than 106-percent (19,016 persons) to 36,797[2] in July 2019. The population is projected to increase to 37,698 by the end of 2019. As shown in figure 1.5, the population is anticipated to increase by an additional 17,011 persons between 2020 and 2030, representing an increase of 43.2-percent.

1 All years in plan refer to calendar year
2 Source: Saratoga Springs Staff

Table 1.2: Saratoga Springs Population Growth 2000-2060

2000	2020	2040	2060
1,003	39,349	73,372	107,395

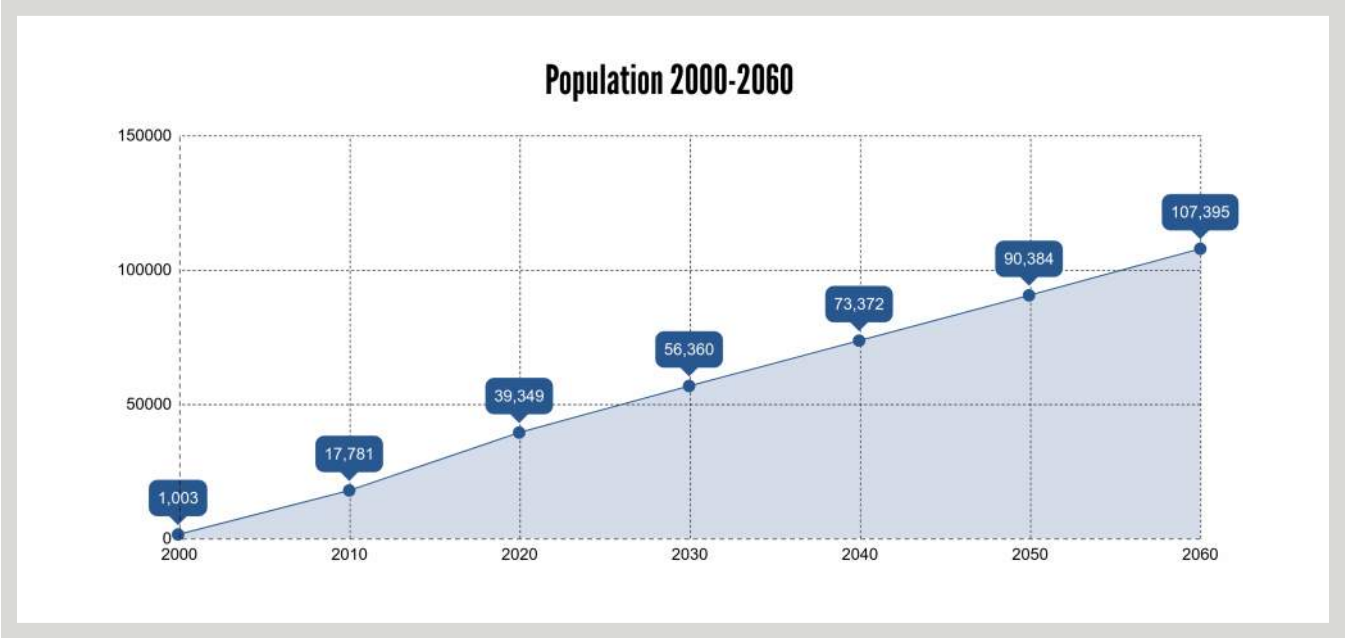


Figure 1.5: Saratoga Springs Projected Population 2000-2060

By build-out in 2060, it is estimated the population will expand to 107,395[1]. This will add 51,035 persons to the 2030 projected population, nearly doubling the City's population again in that thirty-year period.

Age[2]

While the national population is aging, Saratoga Springs and other rapidly growing communities in Utah are getting younger over time. The median age in Saratoga Springs decreased from 22.6 in 2010 to 21.4 in 2017. As illustrated in figure 1.6, the City is somewhat younger than Utah County (24.5), significantly younger than the state (30.5) and much younger than the nation (37.8). It is currently one of the youngest cities in the United States.

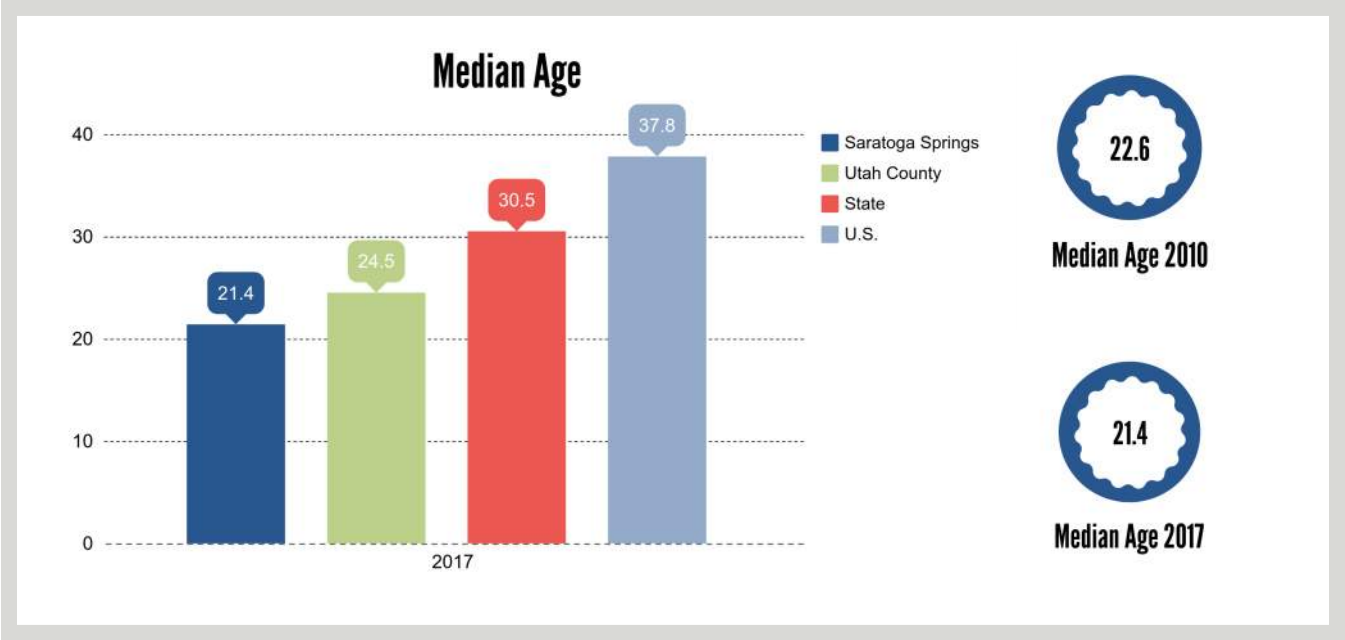


Figure 1.6: Median Age Comparison

According to *American Community Survey 2017* estimates, approximately 68.1-percent of households in the City have children under eighteen years. Table 1.3 compares the breakdown of children by age group in 2017 for Saratoga Springs, Utah County, Utah, and the United States. As illustrated, Saratoga Springs has a greater percentage of population of children in all age groups than the county, state or U.S., with local rates more than doubling the national average. This has obvious implications for the provision of parks, recreation, trails and open space facilities.

1 *Source: Zions Public Finance*
2 *Source: American FactFinder: https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/community_facts.xhtml*

Table 1.3: Comparison of Percent Population of Children by Age Group in 2017

Location	<5 Years	5-14 Years	15-17 Years	<17 Years
Saratoga Springs	14.1%	27.6%	5.3%	47.0%
Utah County	10.0%	19.3%	5.2%	34.6%
State of Utah	8.5%	17.2%	4.8%	30.5%
United States	6.2%	12.8%	3.9%	22.9%

Concurrent with the dominance of younger households, the City's elderly population is also on the rise, with approximately 4-percent of households having people 65 years or older in 2017, compared to 3.2-percent in 2010.

Household Size[1]

Saratoga Springs' household size increased from 4.05 in 2010 to 4.28 in 2018, which is much higher than the 2017 household sizes for Utah County (3.61) and the state (3.14). The City has one of the highest average household sizes in the nation, with the national average being 2.63. The large average household size coincides with the high percentage of children, once again emphasizing the need to accommodate the needs of children well into the future.

Household Income[2]

In 2017 the median household income in Saratoga Springs was $88,804, up from $68,500 in 2010. This is higher than the median household income in Utah County ($67,942), Utah ($65,325) and the United States ($57,665).

SUMMARY

Saratoga Springs' population is growing rapidly, and is anticipated to nearly double by 2030 and once again by projected build-out in 2060. Overall the City has a very young population and large household sizes, although its senior population is slowly increasing as well. With the population nearly doubling in the next ten years and children and the general population continuing to age, it will be critical for the City to provide park, recreation, open space and trail amenities that meet the needs of a broad range of user groups.

1 Source: U.S. Census Bureau QuickFacts, Housing, Persons per Household: https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/saratogaspringscityutah/PST045218
2 Source: U.S. Census Bureau American Fact Finder https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/community_facts.xhtml

Average Household Size 2010

Average Household Size 2018

Median Household Income 2017

Median Household Income 2010

Chapter 2

Parks and Open Space

Harvest Hills Park

Parks have been the heart of Saratoga Springs from its founding, offering relief from the built environment and providing a link to nature and outdoor life. The role of parks have expanded over time, providing places to play, recreate, exercise and connect with the natural environment.

This chapter analyzes the park and open space system in Saratoga Springs, beginning with an inventory of existing resources, followed by analyses to help understand whether or not current needs are being met. We then take a look forward, projecting needs in the short and long term and providing strategies to ensure the City meets its needs for parks and open space through build-out.

PUBLIC INPUT: PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

As detailed in Chapter 1, page 7, this plan utilized a range of outreach efforts to help ensure the needs and desires of the community were understood. The following is a summary of public input specifically related to parks and open space.

Web Page and Email Comments

Comments submitted through the project web page were generally complimentary of the City's existing parks. Some correspondents requested additional amenities, including splash pads, dog parks, a bike park, tennis courts, and additional open space incorporating water-conserving features such as rain gardens. There were also calls for wildlife corridors and natural spaces that incorporate learning stations and interpretive signage.

Public Scoping Meeting Comments

While there were **few people in attendance**, the feedback provided at the public scoping meeting was generally positive. Attendees noted that the City has a variety of parks but would like to see more beaches, unique and well-themed parks and playgrounds, a skate park, an archery range and a shooting range. They also indicted that the City should preserve more open space as view and wildlife corridors, and should improve the hot springs area.

Social Pinpoint Comments

Feedback included requests for upgraded parks, unique playgrounds, spaces for teens and children, additional open space and extended restroom seasons. Specific amenities included a dog park, an ice ribbon, outdoor racquetball courts, a skate park, a splash pad, camping sites, additional beaches and non-motorized boat launches along the Utah Lake shoreline, more trees, fitness trails in parks, a nature preserve and a bike park.

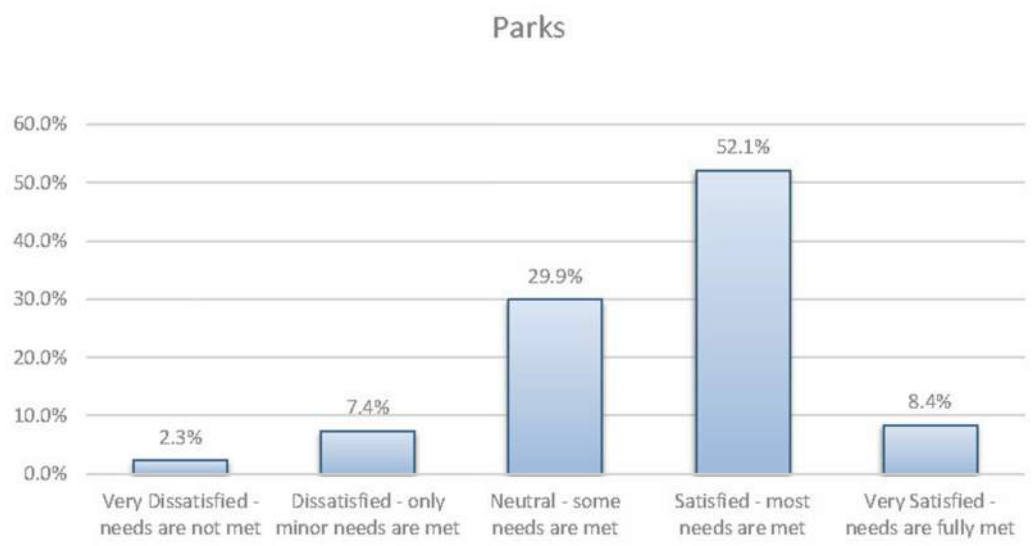
Areas that require attention include addressing parking/safety issues at existing parks, utilizing baseball outfields in off-season for other sports, completing planned improvements at Marina Park, cleaning up the hot springs, and securing land as soon as possible for future parks and open space.

Online Survey Results

The online survey indicates that respondents are generally satisfied with the provision of parks. City parks, trails and open spaces are the primary way residents meet their recreation and leisure needs. Most residents visit parks a few times a month or more, the top visited parks being Neptune Park, Harvest Park and Shay Park. The main reason respondents use their most-visited park is its close proximity to their home

The most desired improvements to the park that respondents visit most often include the addition of more trees and improved lighting/safety features. The main reason respondents do not use City parks is due to the lack of interesting features.

Respondents indicated that the most desired park or recreation facilities include a recreation center, splash pads, additional lakefront beaches, and specialty parks such as dog parks, skate parks, bike parks and a shooting range. A small percentage of respondents use fields or playgrounds at local schools and amenities in private HOA's or developments.



EXISTING PARKS - SYSTEM AT A GLANCE

Saratoga Springs has a host of parks, open spaces and recreation amenities. This is due, in part, to the close proximity of Utah Lake and the Lake Mountain Foothills. Map 1 shows the location of the existing parks and open space in the City. Table 2.1 lists the parks by type, including the quantity of individual amenities within the parks.

There are currently just over 335 acres of park land and associated recreational facilities in Saratoga Springs. These facilities have been classified into six categories and are described on the following pages. The categories begin with the smallest park type - Pocket Parks - and are followed by progressively larger and more complex types - Neighborhood Parks, Community Parks and Regional Parks. The plan also examines Special Use Parks, which are not classified by size, and Other Recreational Facilities. The section concludes with a description of open space distributed throughout the City.

Shay Park

Saratoga Springs Parks, Recreation, Trails & Open Space Master Plan

Map 1: Existing Parks & Open Space

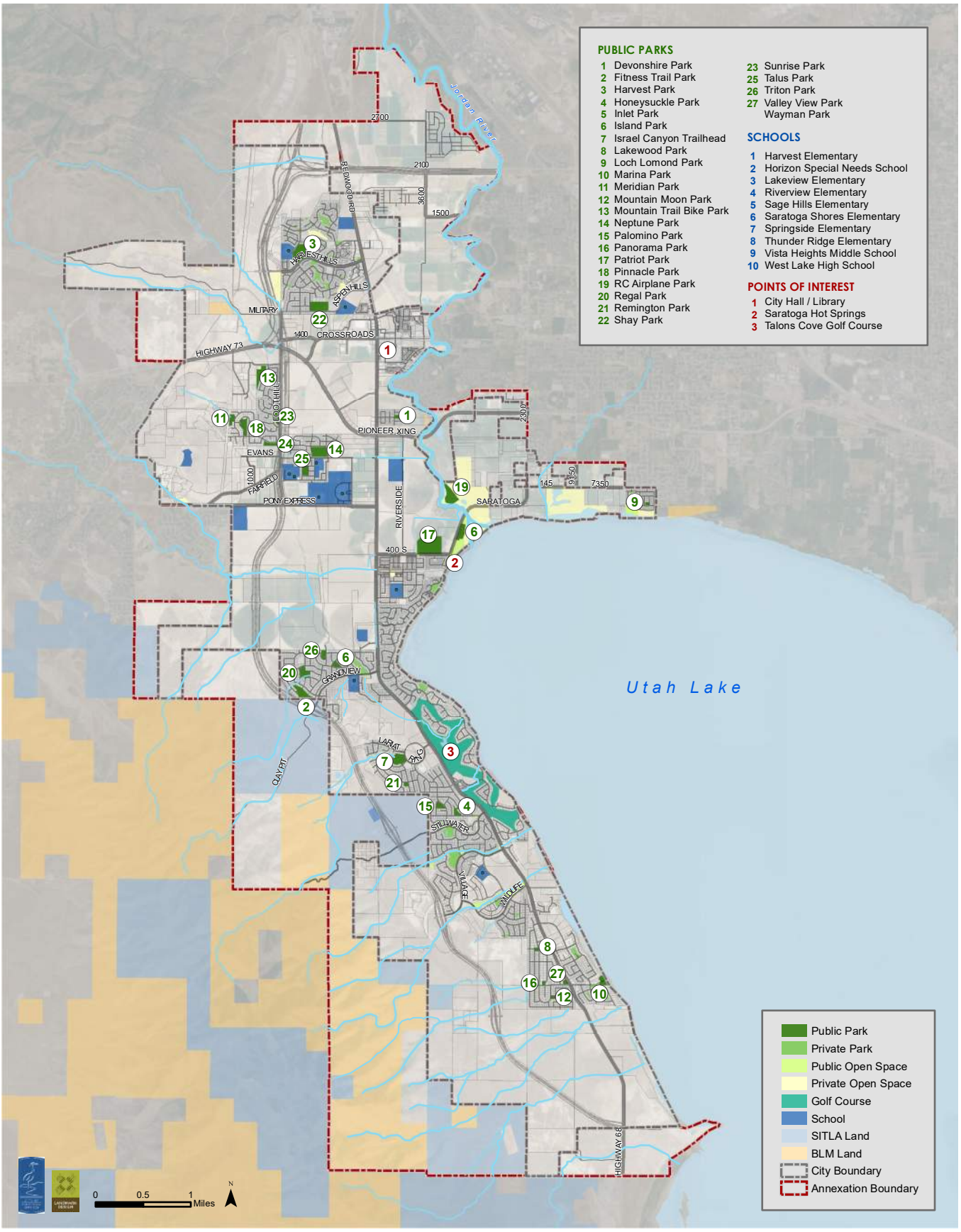


Table 2.1: Park Amenity Matrix

Map Code	Park Name	Total Park Acres	Native Acres	Restrooms	Pavilions	Multipurpose Fields	Baseball/Softball Fields	Tennis Courts	Pickleball Courts	Volleyball Courts	Basketball Courts	Playgrounds
REGIONAL PARKS												
18	**Patriot Park** (391 S. Saratoga Rd.)	30.0	0.0	2	1	0	6	0	8	0	0	1
	Subtotal Community Parks	***30.0***	***0.0***	***2***	***1***	***0***	***6***	***0***	***8***	***0***	***0***	***1***
COMMUNITY PARKS												
3	**Harvest Park** (2104 N. Providence Dr.)	13.3	0.0	1	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	1
6	**Inlet Park** (6800 N. Saratoga Rd.)	6.7	10.7	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1
11	**Marina Park** (156 Harbor Park Way)	4.4	9.5	1	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
15	**Neptune Park** (452 W. 400 N.)	10.9	0.0	1	1	3	0	0	0	0	1	2
23	**Shay Park** (516 W. Aspen Hills Blvd.)	11.8	0.0	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	1
	Subtotal Community Parks	***47.1***	***20.2***	***5***	***11***	***8***	***2***	***0***	***0***	***0***	***1***	***5***
NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS												
2	**Fitness Trail Park** (1582 S. Rocky Ridge Ct.)	8.9	4.6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
8	**Israel Canyon Trailhead** (260 W. Weatherby Dr.)	8.2	0.0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
12	**Meridian Park** (717 N. Meridian Dr.)	3.4	0.3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
19	**Pinnacle Park** (678 N. Pinnacle Ln.)	5.5	10.7	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
21	**Regal Park** (1397 S. Allison Way)	5.4	5.4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
24	**Sunrise Park** (749 N. 800 W.)	5.2	0.0	1	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	1
25	**Talus Park** (891 W. Talus Ridge Dr.)	3.4	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
26	**Triton Park** (563 W. Malia Ln.)	3.3	0.0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Subtotal Neighborhood Parks	***43.3***	***21.0***	***2***	***3***	***3***	***1***	***0***	***0***	***0***	***1***	***4***
POCKET PARKS												
1	**Devonshire Park** (756 N. Devonshire Dr.)	1.4	0.0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
5	**Honeysuckle Park** (186 W. Summerhill Dr.)	2.6	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	**Island Park** (325 W. Alpine Dr.)	1.9	0.0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
9	**Lakewood Park** (3696 S. Lake Mountain Dr.)	0.9	0.0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
10	**Loch Lomond Park** (2231 E. Loch Lomond Dr.)	0.9	0.0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
13	**Mountain Moon Park** (4112 S. Mountain Moon Dr.)	0.9	0.0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
16	**Palomino Park** (2479 S. Palomino Dr.)	2.6	0.7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
17	**Panorama Park** (3969 S. Panorama Dr.)	0.7	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
22	**Remington Park** (2317 S. Western Dr.)	1.0	0.0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
27	**Valley View Park** (1237 S. Pondside Dr.)	2.4	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
28	**Wayman Park** (12 W. Harbor Pkwy.)	1.2	0.0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
	Subtotal Pocket Parks	***16.5***	***0.7***	***0***	***8***	***0***	***0***	***0***	***0***	***1***	***2***	***7***
SPECIAL USE PARKS												
14	**Mountain Trail Bike Park** (900 W. 1200 N.)	7.4	7.4	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20	**RC Airplane Park** (7205 N. Saratoga Rd.)	11.2	9.5	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Subtotal Special Use Parks	***18.6***	***16.9***	***0***	***2***	***0***	***0***	***0***	***0***	***0***	***0***	***0***
OTHER RECREATION FACILITIES												
1	**Saratoga Hot Springs**	0.1	24.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	**Talons Cove Golf Course**	179.5										
	Subtotal Other Recreation Facilities	***179.6***	***24.0***	***0***	***0***	***0***	***0***	***0***	***0***	***0***	***0***	***0***
TOTAL PARK LAND (Regional, Community, Neighborhood, Pocket, Special Use & Other Recreation Facilities)		**335.1**	**82.8**	**9**	**25**	**11**	**9**	**0**	**8**	**1**	**4**	**17**
TOTAL PARK LAND USED FOR LOS (Regional, Community, Neighborhood and Pocket Parks)		**136.9**	**41.9**	**9**	**23**	**11**	**9**	**0**	**8**	**1**	**4**	**17**
PRIVATE PARKS												
	Private Parks	61.5										
OTHER LAND MAINTAINED BY THE CITY												
	Parkways, Roundabouts, Detention Basins, etc.	90.4										

Table 2.1: Park Amenity Matrix (continued)

Map Code	Tables	Barbeque Grills	Firepits	Benches	Walking Paths	Trailhead	Horseshoes	Water Access	Parking Stalls	Recreational Programs	Notes
18	0	0	0	-	Y	N	0	N	623	Instructional Baseball	
	0	*0*	*0*	*0*			*0*		*623*		
3	15	2	1	20	Y	N	0	N	31	Soccer, Baseball, Cross Country	
6	10	0	0	1	Y	Y	0	Y	56	Soccer, Baseball	Jordan River Parkway Trail, Lakeshore Trail, Satatoga Hot Springs Trail
11	16	5	2	0	N	Y	0	Y	105	Urban Fishing	Admission Fee, fishing, boating; two pergolas
15	12	3	0	17	Y	N	0	N	88	Soccer, Flag Football, Baseball	
23	8	0	0	0	Y	N	0	N	78	Soccer, Flag Football, Soccer Camp	Train Rides
	61	*10*	*3*	*38*			*0*		*358*		
2	0	0	0	4	Y	N	0	N	0		A few exercise machines
8	0	0	0	3	Y	N	0	N	61	Soccer	Field soggy all the time. Need restrooms for recreational use, Detention Basin
12	0	0	0	0	N	N	0	N	0		
19	0	0	0	4	Y	N	0	N	0		
21	2	0	0	3	Y	N	0	N	0		Poor grass
24	8	2	0	4	Y	N	0	N	71	Soccer, Flag Football, Adult Volleyball, Baseball	
25	0	0	0	2	N	N	0	N	0		Detention Basin
26	0	0	0	2	N	N	0	N	0		Also called Sunset Haven Park, Detention Basin
	10	*2*	*0*	*22*			*0*		*132*		
1	3	0	0	1	N	N	0	N	0		Also called Dalmore Meadows Park
5	0	0	0	0	Y	N	0	N	0		
7	3	1	0	3	Y	N	0	N	0		
9	1	0	0	2	Y	N	0	N	0		
10	2	0	0	6	N	N	0	N	0		
13	2	1	0	0	N	N	0	N	0		
16	0	0	0	0	Y	N	0	N	0		Detention Basin
17	1	1	0	2	N	N	0	N	0		
22	6	2	0	2	N	N	0	N	0		Also called Jacob's Ranch Tot Lot
27	0	0	0	0	Y	N	0	N	0		Dention Basin
28	14	3	0	1	Y	N	1	N	0		
	32	*8*	*0*	*17*			*1*		*0*		
14	1	0	0	0	N	N	0	N	0		Mountain Bike 1/2 Mile Loop Trail; Bike Repair Station
20	0	0	0	0	N	Y	0	Y	30		Model airplane runway, bleachers, Jordan River Parkway Trail,
	1	*0*	*0*	*0*			*0*		*30*		
1	0	0	0	0	Y	0	0	Y	0		Natural Hot Springs, Owned by Utah State Forestry, Fire and State Lands (FFSL)
2											
	0	*0*	*0*	*0*			*0*		*0*		
	104	**20**	**3**	**77**	**0**		**1**		**1143**		
	103	**20**	**3**	**77**			**1**		**1113**		

POCKET PARKS

Pocket Parks are the smallest parks. They are typically **less than 3 acres** in size and usually having minimal improved amenities. Open lawn areas, picnic tables, benches and trees are standard for this category. Pocket parks are designed to serve the immediate residential neighborhood, helping to fill distribution gaps where a larger Neighborhood or Community Park may not be accessible within a reasonable distance.

With eleven **Pocket Parks** currently established, this is the most frequently occurring park type in the City. Yet, it encompasses the least amount of acreage (16.5 acres total, or an average of 1.5 acres per park).

Pocket Parks

- Devonshire Park
- Honeysuckle Park
- Island Park
- Lakewood Park
- Loch Lomond Park
- Mountain Moon Park
- Palomino Park
- Panorama Park
- Remington Park
- Valley View Park
- Reid and Ursula Wayman Park

Loch Lomond Park

Mountain Moon Park

Lakewood Park

NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS

Neighborhood Parks are larger than Pocket Parks, generally ranging from **3 to 10 acres** in size. They typically provide amenities that meet the needs of the surrounding neighborhoods, including sports courts and/or fields, perimeter walking paths, trees, open grass areas, a playground, pavilions, picnic areas, seating and a restroom.

There are currently nine **Neighborhood Parks,** averaging 5.4 acres each.

Neighborhood Parks

- Fitness Trail Park
- Israel Canyon Trailhead Park
- Meridian Park
- Pinnacle Park
- Regal Park
- Sunrise Park
- Talus Park
- Triton Park

Sunrise Park

Pinnacle Park

COMMUNITY PARKS

Community Parks are the next-largest park type in Saratoga Springs. Typically **10 to 30 acres in size**, these parks are designed to meet community-wide needs through the provision of a wide-range of amenities. Typical amenities include a large specialty feature such as a sports complex, aquatics facility or splash pad, in addition to sports fields and courts, playgrounds, pavilions, perimeter walking trails, a restroom or restrooms, trees, large open grassy areas, picnic areas and seating. As described in the call-out below and on the following page, there are five parks in this category, which encompass 47.1 acres of land, at an average of 9.4 acres per park.

Harvest Hills Park

Shay Park

Community Parks

Harvest Park is the City's northernmost existing park. It is located in the Harvest Hills development. The 13.3-acre park includes two multipurpose fields, a restroom, a reservable pavilion, a playground, barbecue grills, open lawn areas, a fire pit and a walking path.

Inlet Park is located on the northwest shores of Utah Lake on the eastern border of the City. At 6.7 acres, this park falls below the typical range for the Community Park type. However, the City intends to connect Inlet Park to an expanded Patriot Park in the future and the park includes unique amenities of community-wide importance. The historic Saratoga Hot Springs located on Utah Forestry Fire and State Lands are accessed via the open space portion of Inlet Park at the south end of the site. The park also includes a multipurpose field, a restroom, a reservable pavilion, a playground, open lawn areas, a walking path, a trailhead with access to the Jordan River Trail, the Jordan River and Utah Lake.

Community Parks (continued)

Marina Park is located at the southern end of the City on the western shore of Utah Lake. The 4.4-acre park features a boat marina, a beach, a restroom, outside showers, seven pavilions including a reservable pavilion, barbecue grills, fire pits, a fish cleaning station, a trailhead with access to the Lake Shore Trail, a boat ramp, three floating docks and open grassy areas. The park charges an admission fee for use.

Neptune Park is located in the north central area of the City, south of Pioneer Crossing just west of Redwood Road. This 10.9-acre park includes three multipurpose fields, a year-round restroom, a reservable pavilion, a basketball court, two playgrounds, barbecue grills, open lawn areas and a walking path. At the time the park was constructed in 2012, it was one of three 30-foot play pyramids in the world.

Shay Park is located at the northern end of the City, north of Pioneer Crossing and west of Redwood Road, just south of Harvest Park. This 11.8 acre park features two multipurpose fields, a restroom, a reservable pavilion, a playground, open grassy areas, a walking path that includes a remnant of the old rail grade and a small-scale ridable train.

Neptune Park

Marina Park

Marina Park

REGIONAL PARKS

Regional Parks are the largest park type in the City and are typically **30 acres or larger** in size. These parks are intended to serve both the region and the community with special amenities and features. Typical amenities include multiple large specialty features such as a sports complex, aquatics facility or splash park; multiple sports fields or courts; unique playgrounds; a range of pavilions; perimeter walking trails; two or more restrooms, depending on the specific needs; trees; large open grassy areas; picnic areas and seating.

Saratoga Springs' Patriot Park is the only park in this category.

Regional Parks

Patriot Park is a newly-constructed 30-acre park near the center of the City, just east of Redwood Road and west of Inlet Park. This new regional park features a large complex of six baseball fields, concessions, eight pickleball courts, a reservable pavilion, a restroom, a military veteran's memorial, a food truck court, open grassy areas and perimeter walkways.

Patriot Park

SPECIAL USE PARKS

There are two special use parks that serve Saratoga Springs. This category is unique, as these parks do not generally serve traditional park and recreation needs, are pay-to-play facilities, or are owned, controlled and/or maintained by entities other than the City.

2
Special Use Parks

18.6
Special Use Park Acres

Special Use Parks

Mountain Bike Trail Park is a 7.4-acre park located at the north end of the City, next to the North Fire Station, featuring a half-mile mountain bike loop, a small pavilion with a table and a bike repair station. The landscape is maintained primarily as natural open space with little manicured park area.

RC Airplane Park is a 11.2-acre park located in the central area of the City, north of Patriot Park and Inlet Park on the east side of the Jordan River. The park features a long and short model airplane runway and a pavilion pilot station with tables and bleacher seating.

RC Airplane Park

Mountain Bike Trail Park

Talons Cove Golf Course

OTHER RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

Two additional recreation facilities serve Saratoga Springs.

Saratoga Hot Springs is a 0.1-acre site located on the north shore of Utah Lake. Owned by the state, it is managed by Forestry, Fire and State Lands (FFSL). It is located just south of Inlet Park, through which public access is provided. Though the Hot Springs are currently in poor condition, there is a unique opportunity to work with FFSL to improve conditions and tie this special feature into larger improvements that could connect it with Inlet Park and potentially Patriot Park as well.

Talons Cove Golf Course is a 179.5-acre privately-owned, 18-hole golf course located in the south-central area of the City on the shore of Utah Lake.

OTHER LAND MAINTAINED BY CITY

In addition to the parks and similar sites described above, the City also maintains over 90 acres of roadway medians, park strips, detention ponds and municipal building sites. While these features often contribute to the aesthetics of the City, they do not contribute to meeting park needs and place additional demands on the City's maintenance staff. The City also maintains a network of trails, which is addressed in Chapter 4, page 72.

SUMMARY OF EXISTING PARK ACREAGE

While Saratoga Springs has approximately 335.1 acres of parks and other recreation facilities that serve the community, only a small portion fill traditional park roles, are owned and controlled by the City, or are accessible without paying a fee.

When the non-contributing acreage is deducted from the 335.1 acres describe previously, 136.9 acres of existing Pocket, Neighborhood, Community and Regional Parks remain. This is the acreage that has been determined as contributing toward meeting the City's current park needs and was used to determine the **Park Acre Ratio (PAR) Analysis** which follows.

EXISTING PARKS NEEDS AND ANALYSES

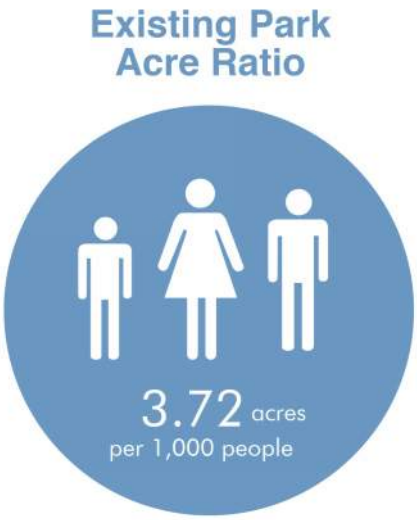
To determine whether existing parks in Saratoga Springs meet community needs, two analyses were undertaken. The first is a **Park Acre Ratio (PAR) Analysis**, which examines park acreage in relation to population. The second is a **Distribution/Service Area Analysis**, which evaluates the distribution of City parks to determine if any gaps in service to residential areas exist.

EXISTING PARK ACRE RATIO ANALYSIS

The Park Acre Ratio (PAR) Analysis was developed by the National Parks and Recreation Association (NRPA) to assist communities in evaluating whether the amount of park land in the community is sufficient for meeting needs. The PAR analysis is a ratio calculated by dividing the total acres of park land by the population and multiplying by 1,000. This resulting figure represents the number of park acres for every thousand residents.

Until fairly recently, the PAR analysis was a nationally-recognized benchmark for helping to determine park needs, allowing a community to compare its performance to other communities and against national standards. In recent years, the NRPA has recommended starting with it as a general reference only, in large part because nation-wide comparisons do not necessarily reflect the unique conditions, vision and expectations of individual communities. This is especially true in the Intermountain West and more particularly in Saratoga Springs, where recreational needs can be met through the easy access to state and federal public land. Therefore, the PAR analysis focuses on Saratoga Springs as a unique community, rather than applying the generic national standards. As locally adapted, the PAR analysis remains an important tool to help gauge whether traditional park acreage meets existing needs and if adjustments are required to ensure future needs are met as the City continues to grow.

As previously indicated, only publicly-owned Pocket, Neighborhood, Community and Regional Parks were used to calculate the existing Park Acre Ratio for the City[1]. The existing PAR was determined by taking the number of existing park acres, dividing by the 2019 population, then multiplying by 1,000, resulting in the ratio of park acres per 1,000 people. **The existing PAR for the City of Saratoga Springs is 3.72** (136.9 acres / 36,797 current population x 1,000 = 3.72).



1. Mountain Trail Bike Park, RC Airplane Park, Saratoga Hot Springs and Talons Cove Golf Course were not included in the existing park acreage because they do not fill traditional park roles, are pay-to-play facilities or are owned and/or maintained by others.

A Note About Park Acre Ratio (PAR) Analysis and Impact Fees

The PAR discussion in this document is related specifically to planning for future parks. The intent is to understand the existing park acre ratio in order to project an appropriate ratio for the future. PAR is based on a quantity (acres, miles, numbers) per a determined number of persons (population), and is expressed as a ratio of facilities to population. For example, the parks ratio is typically expressed as the number of acres of park land per 1,000 persons.

It is important to distinguish this discussion of PAR for planning purposes from the level of service typically used in determining impact fees. Impact fees are a means of charging new development a proportionate share of the cost for providing essential public services. While a PAR is used to establish a standard or guideline for future facility development, an impact fee is used to assess new development for the actual cost of providing the service. For example, if there are five-acres of parks per every 1,000 residents at present, new development cannot be charged a rate for ten-acres of park land for each 1,000 residents. The City may elect to provide a higher rate if its current residents desire more services, but it cannot require new development to pay for the higher PAR. Utah law is clear on this point:

"A local political subdivision or private entity may not impose an impact fee to raise the established level of service of a public facility serving existing development." UC11-36-202(1)(a)(ii)."

This Master Plan should provide a foundation for developing a *Capital Improvements Plan, Impact Fee Facilities Plan (IFFP), and Impact Fee Analysis (IFA)*. The IFFP is designed to identify the demands placed upon the existing facilities by future development and evaluate how these demands will be met by the City, as well as the future improvements required to maintain the existing level of service. The purpose of the IFA is to proportionately allocate the cost of the new facilities and any excess capacity to new development, while ensuring that all methods of financing are considered. While the IFFP and IFA will serve as a companion to this document, information may differ due to the specific requirements related to the calculation of impact fees as defined in Utah Code 11-36a – the Impact Fee Act.

As illustrated in Table 2.2, the PAR varies widely between communities, even along the Wasatch Front. These variations can be attributed to differences in the physical structure of each community, how their parks are classified, and their approach for providing parks. Such variations make it difficult to make direct comparisons. Nevertheless, reviewing where Saratoga Springs' PAR lies in comparison to similar cities can help the City determine whether to extend the existing ratio forward or to make adjustments. While the PAR in Saratoga Springs is on the lower end of the spectrum, it should be reiterated that Saratoga Springs has a young population with a large average household size, which places constant pressure on existing facilities and pushes the PAR ever downward, requiring great fortitude on the part of City leaders to ensure needs are met.

Table 2.2: Park Acre Ratio (PAR) Comparison

Community	Park Acre Ratio (PAR) Acres per 1,000 residents
Saratoga Springs	**3.72**
Draper	3.8
Herriman	3.6
Lehi	5.6
Orem	2.8
Provo	10.0
Sandy	6.0
South Jordan	4.8
Spanish Fork	5.9
St. George	10.0
West Jordan	2.8

Harvest Hills Park

Shay Park

DISTRIBUTION ANALYSIS

While the PAR analysis is important to understand the quantity of parks relative to City population, **it is equally important to understand the spatial distribution of parks within the City**. In the online survey, nearly six of every ten respondents indicated that the reason they visit their most-used park is because it is close to home. When asked how important it is to have public parks within walking distance of home, the average response was 8.3 out of 10. These responses are compelling, indicating that having parks in close proximity to residential areas is paramount for the City's park system. The distribution analysis takes this into account, providing a snapshot of how well parks in Saratoga Springs are distributed at present and what the distribution pattern should be in the future.

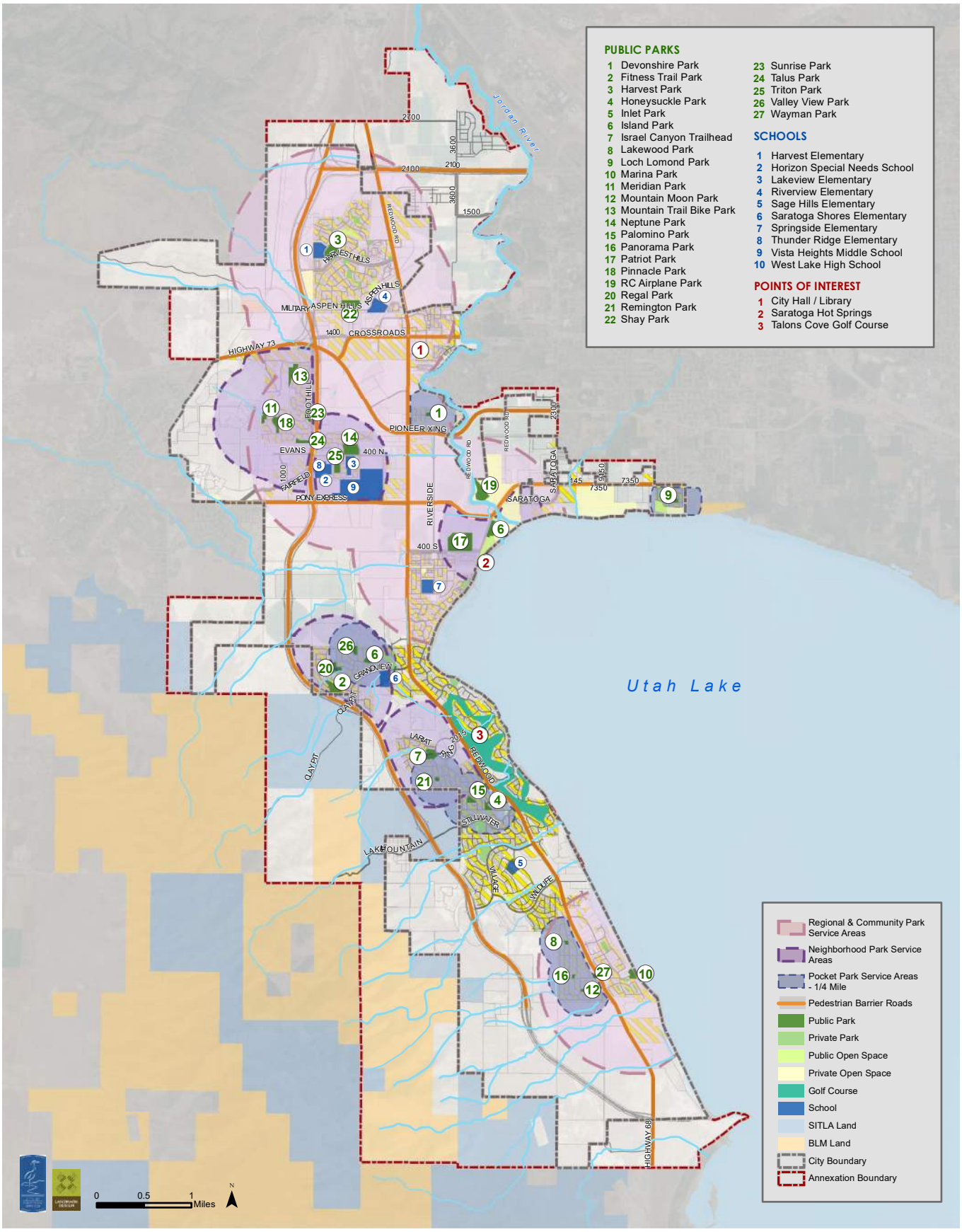
Map 2 illustrates the distribution and corresponding service areas for the four traditional park types. Regional and Community Parks are the largest categories and were assigned a radius of 1 mile. Neighborhood Parks were assigned a radius of 1/2 mile and Pocket Parks were assigned a radius of 1/4 mile.

Once the service radii of the different parks were mapped, existing and planned residential areas were added, providing a graphic analysis of park service in residential areas. The four park types were also assigned different colored service areas, making it easy to see which areas of the City have a park within an easy distance of home (less than one-half mile). As a result, residential areas under-served by parks were identified.

To summarize, the northern end of the City is served primarily by large Community and Regional Parks, Neighborhood and Pocket Parks are less frequent in this area, requiring residents to travel longer distances to access the nearest park. In contrast, there is currently only one Community Park in the south end of the City, resulting in several service gaps. This, too, requires many residents to travel longer distances to access their nearest park and results in a large area of the City that is dominated by smaller parks with limited recreational value. There are several proposed parks which will help fill these gaps, but since existing development precludes the construction of additional City parks, less traditional means must be utilized to meet the recreational needs of residents. These means could include the use of private parks and trails, the use of school fields, or development of partnerships with entities like the Utah State Institutional Trust Lands Association (SITLA).

Saratoga Springs Parks, Recreation, Trails & Open Space Master Plan

Map 2: Existing Park Distribution & Service Areas



All areas with zoning that allow residential use are shown on Map 2 with yellow stripes.

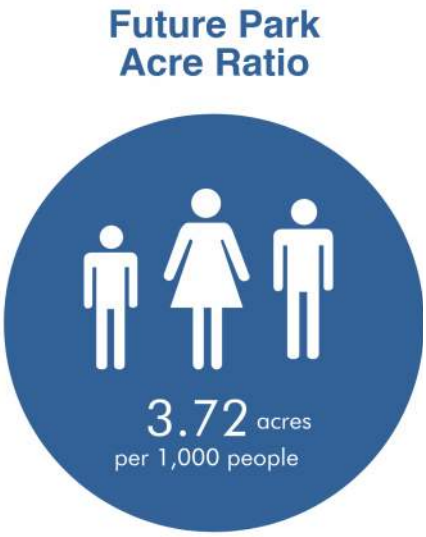
As shown on Map 3, **there are three gaps existing in established residential areas**. The **first gap** is near Saratoga Shores Elementary on the west side of Redwood Road in the center of the City. The **second gap** is located just east of Redwood Road in the same area, wrapping around Talons Cover Golf Course along the western shore of Utah Lake. The **third gap** is located on the west side of Redwood Road in the neighborhood surrounding Sage Hills Elementary. Growth areas will have a need for parks in the future as well.

MEETING EXISTING AND FUTURE PARK NEEDS

This section outlines specific actions to ensure parks meet existing and future needs.

FUTURE PARK ACRE RATIO FOR PARKS

The previous *Parks, Recreation, Trails and Open Space Master Plan 2011* established the future PAR at 5.9 acres per 1,000 people, which is significantly higher than the existing 3.72 ratio. While this indicates that the City has not provided parks on pace with population growth, this goal should be considered in light of current visions and expectations.



When asked how satisfied they were with the current provision of parks, slightly more than half of all survey respondents indicated they were satisfied, while just under ten-percent indicted they were dissatisfied or very dissatisfied. Taken as a whole, it can be argued that Saratoga Springs is generally doing a good job of providing parks, considering the rapid growth that is taking place. However, there is room for improvement.

Maintaining the previous PAR will be challenging, as it sets a goal that is not easily achievable. **It is, therefore, recommended that the existing PAR of 3.72 be adopted as the long-term goal for the future**, with greater attention paid to filling existing gaps and providing more equitable access to parks as the City continues to develop.

FILLING THE GAPS

As demonstrated in the preceding analyses, there are three major gaps in park service. As a built-out area of the City, the **first gap** near Saratoga Shores Elementary can be addressed with the private Summer Hills Park and Lake View Terrace Park with its associated open space. These connect through the neighborhood to the east before eventually connecting to the Utah Lake Shoreline Trail. The neighborhood may also have access to a potential ten-acre or larger Community Park in a future development on SITLA lands west of the proposed Foothill/Mountain View Corridor Extension as shown on Map 3.

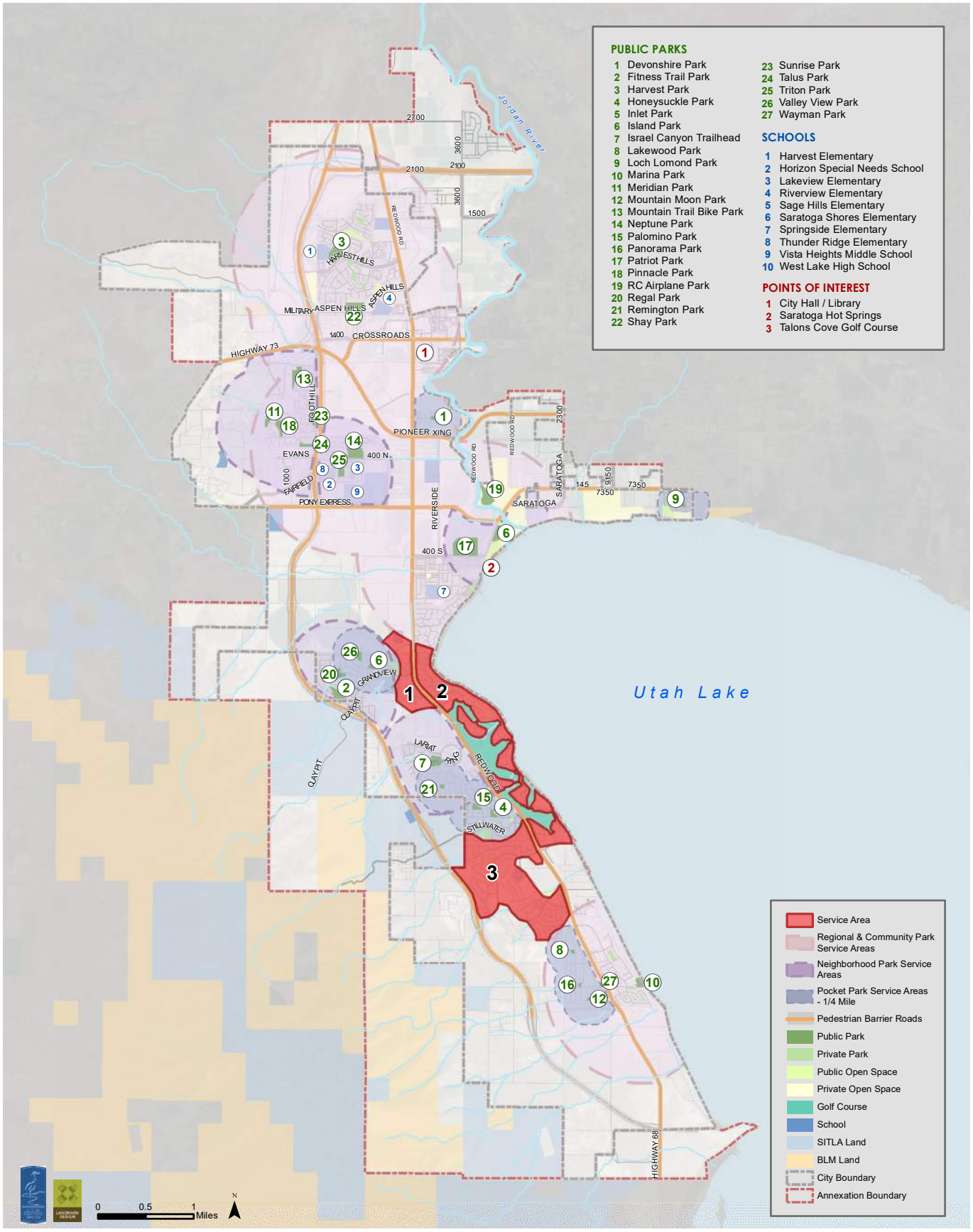
The **second gap** is located in a developed neighborhood that surrounds the Talons Cove Golf Course near the western shore of Utah Lake. While this neighborhood lacks a public park and the space to develop one, it is served by manicured open space to the north, by the privately owned Eagle Park abutting the shore of the lake, and by the views and a sense of open space provided by the golf course. The neighborhood also has access to the Utah Lake Shoreline Trail and to private amenities that include two pools, a clubhouse, a half basketball court, a marina and pocket parks.

The **third gap** located in the neighborhood surrounding Sage Hills Elementary School will be served by the future 21-acre Performance Park, which is slated to include baseball fields, a large outdoor performance amphitheater, and a network of trails located in the surrounding open space.

In summary, **a total of 31 acres needs to be developed** at Performance Park and the potential SITLA Community Park to fill existing service area gaps in areas 1, 2 and 3. Meeting these needs should be established as a primary goal of the City in the near-term,

Saratoga Springs Parks, Recreation, Trails & Open Space Master Plan

Map 3: Existing Park Service Area Gaps



with the provision of additional park land and amenities provided in the long-term as opportunities arise.

MEETING NEEDS DURING THE 10-YEAR PLANNING HORIZON

The population of Saratoga Springs is projected to grow steadily over the next ten years. The City has large swaths of land that are already slated for development to the north, west and south, with additional areas yet to be developed near the eastern boundary along Utah Lake.

Projecting the recommended PAR of 3.72 forward through the 10-year planning horizon indicates that a total of 209.7 acres of park land is needed to meet parks needs by 2030. Subtracting the 136.9 acres of existing park acres and the 31.0 acres of park land needed to fill existing gaps from this figure indicated that a total of **41.8 additional acres of park land is needed to meet needs by 2030** (209.7 – 136.9 – 31.0 = 41.8).

Acres Needed by 2030

MEETING NEEDS THROUGH BUILD-OUT

Population at build-out in 2060 is expected to top out at 107,395, nearly doubling the projected 2030 population. Applying the recommended PAR of 3.72 to the 2060 population results in a total of 399.6 acres of park land required by 2060. Subtracting the 136.9 acres of existing park acres, the 31.0 acres of park land needed to fill existing gaps, and the 41.8 acres of park land needed to meet needs by 2030 results in **189.9 additional acres of park land needed to meet needs between 2030 and build-out** (399.6 – 136.96 – 31.0 – 41.8 = 189.9).

Acres Needed Between 2030 and Buildout

PROPOSED PARKS

As shown on Maps 3 and 4 and in Table 2.3, a significant number of public parks are proposed for the future, totaling 271.7 acres. The proposed public parks are a combination of undeveloped City-owned park land, developer planned parks, and parks proposed in this plan to help meet distribution gaps.

The proposed public park land is sufficient for meeting acreage requirements by 2030 and at build-out. They include one potential community park and one potential neighborhood park proposed on SITLA-owned land, Performance Park, the completion of Patriot Park, the expansion at the existing Marina Park on undeveloped City-owned land, a range of developer-proposed parks (121.7 acres total), and nine five-acre Neighborhood Parks.

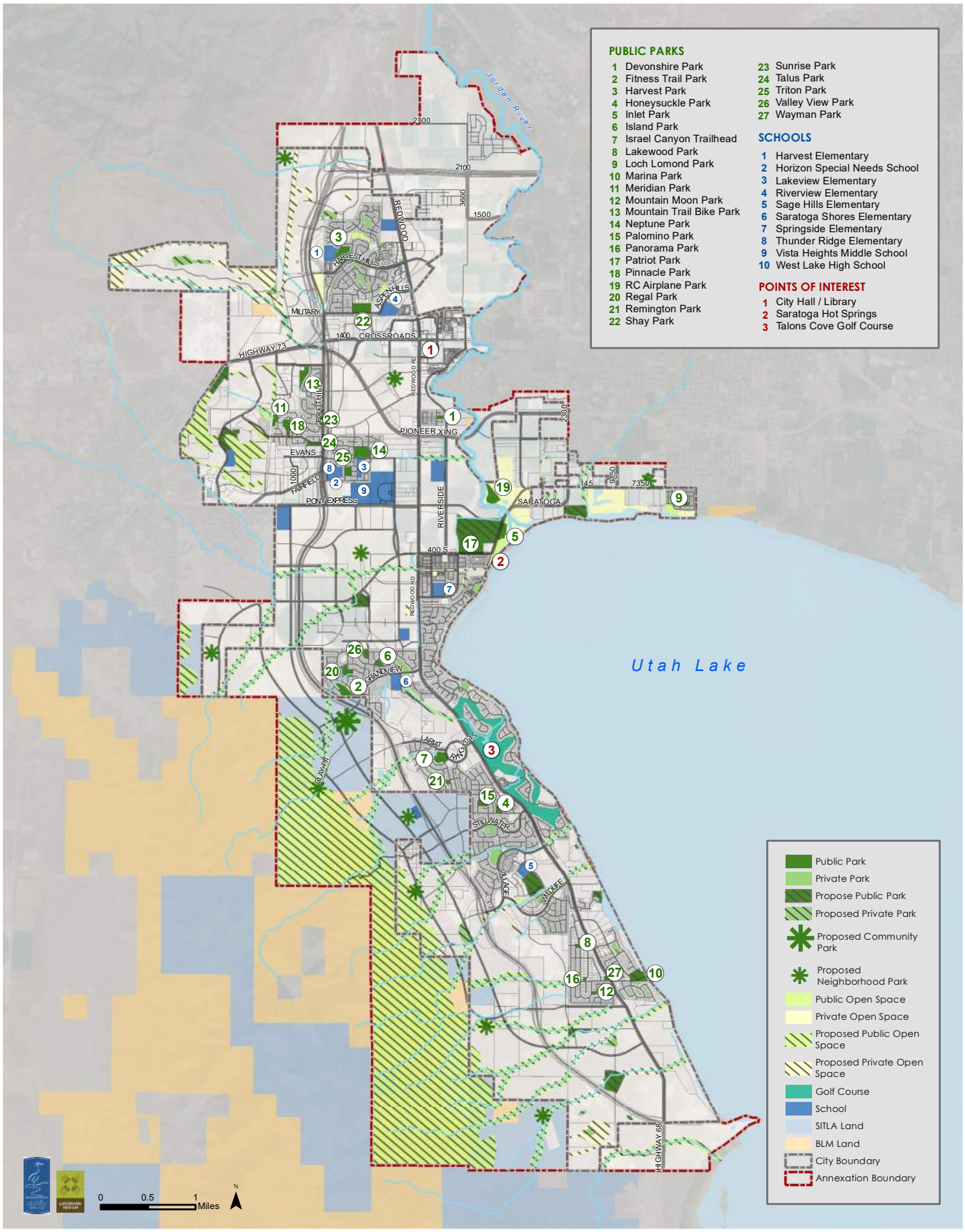
Subtracting the 31.0 acres needed to fill existing gaps from the total of proposed parks (271.7) and leaves 240.7 acres to meet needs by 2030 and 2060. Subtracting the 41.8 acres required to meet needs by 2030 leaves 198.9 acres of proposed parks to help meet needs by build-out. With a total projected need of 189.9 acres to meet park acreage needs between 2030 and 2060, the City will have a surplus of 9.0 acres by 2060 if all proposed parks are provided as indicated in Table 2.3. This will raise the City's PAR slightly to 3.80 in 2060.

Table 2.3: Proposed Park Acres

Proposed Parks	Potential Need Filled	Acres
SITLA Community Park	Fill Gap 1	10.0
Performance Park	Fill Gap 3	21.0
Total Proposed Park Acres for Filling Gaps		**31.0**
Marina Park (South) Expansion	Future Needs	7.1
Patriot Park Expansion	Future Needs	61.9
SITLA Neighborhood Park	Future Needs	5.0
Other Developer Proposed Parks	Future Needs	121.7
Proposed Neighborhood Parks (9)	Future Needs	45.0
Total Proposed Park Acres for Meeting Needs in 2030 and 2060		**240.7**
Total Proposed Park Acres		**271.7**

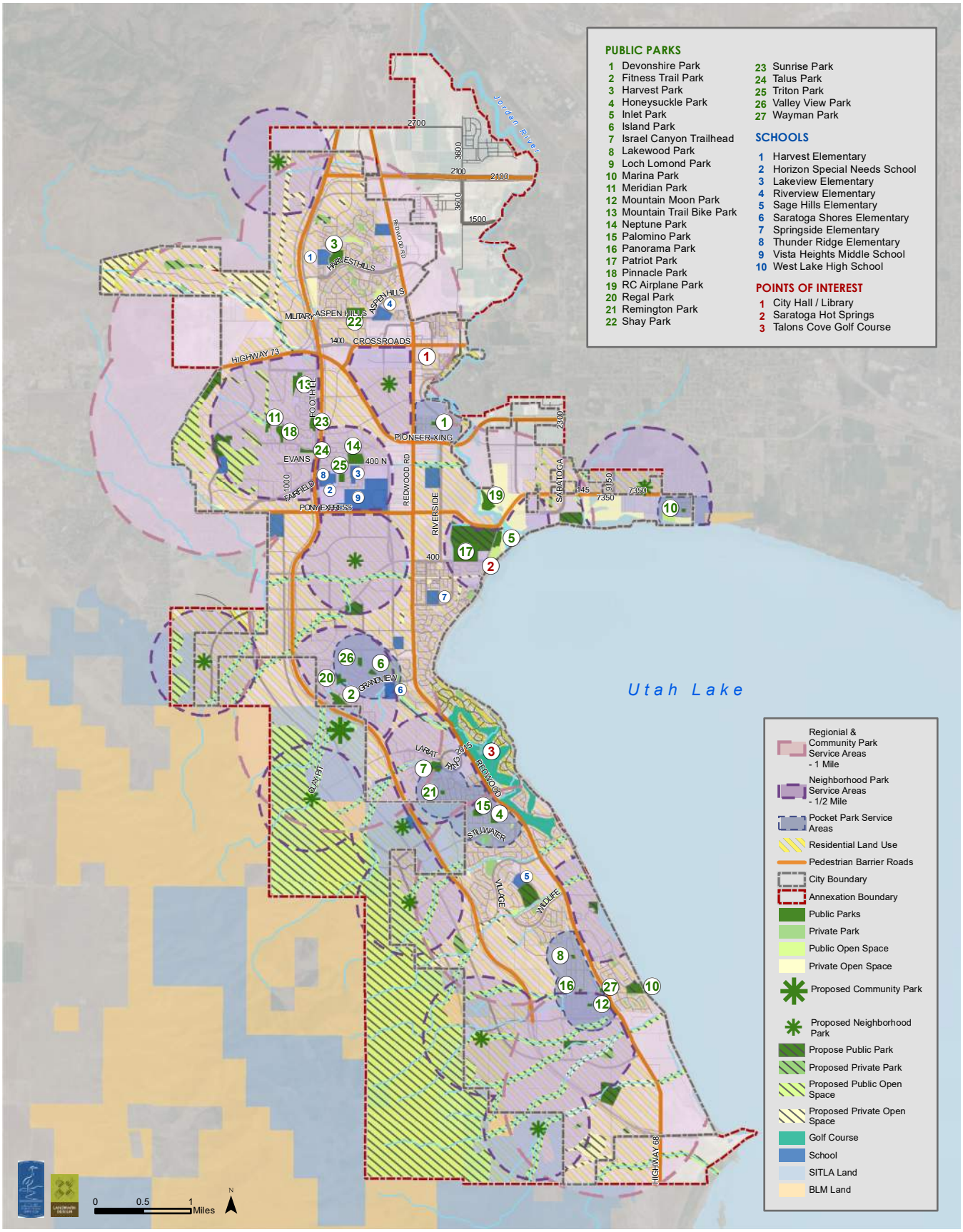
Saratoga Springs Parks, Recreation, Trails & Open Space Master Plan

Map 4: Existing & Planned Parks & Open Space



Saratoga Springs Parks, Recreation, Trails & Open Space Master Plan

Map 5: Existing & Planned Park Distribution & Service Areas



PARKS STANDARDS

Establishing a minimum standard for parks is essential for creating a system that meets needs and expectations. While the online survey indicated that the City is doing a good job of providing parks, feedback from Social Pinpoint and the public scoping meeting indicates that residents desire higher-quality parks that have special amenities and themes. When asked how willing they are to spend additional money for maintenance of existing parks or construction of new parks, respondents were more willing to pay more for new facilities than to pay for upgrades or improved maintenance of existing facilities. This response is similar for other growing communities, where park acquisition and development are not keeping pace with expansion. It should also be noted that the provision of new parks ranked lower than providing specialty park and recreation features, and also lagged well behind the desire for additional trails and open space.

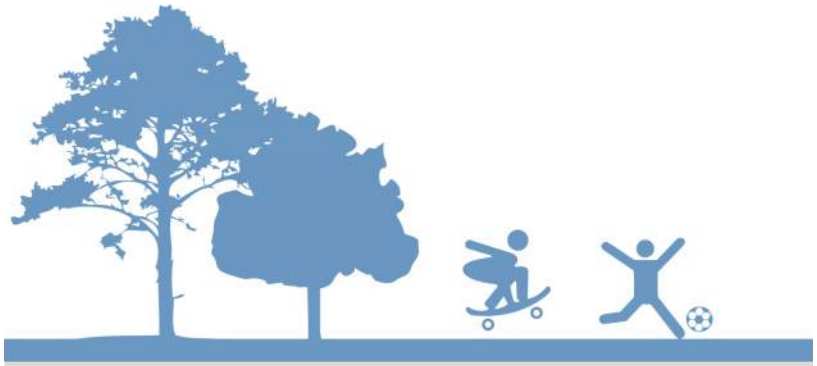
As described in the following pages, the adoption and application of **minimum park standards** will help ensure existing and future parks meet basic needs. The standards are not meant to be prescriptive or to suggest that every park should look exactly the same with exactly the same features and equipment. Rather, each park should be designed with a unique identity based on its setting and intended purpose while still providing a minimum standard of development.

Neptune Park

Pocket Parks

Pocket Parks are small and should include the following minimum amenities to match their size and function:

- Trees
- Picnic table(s), bench(es) or site furnishings
- Grassy play area(s)
- A covered shelter, pavilion or shade structure **or** a small playground, sport court or activity area



Neighborhood Parks

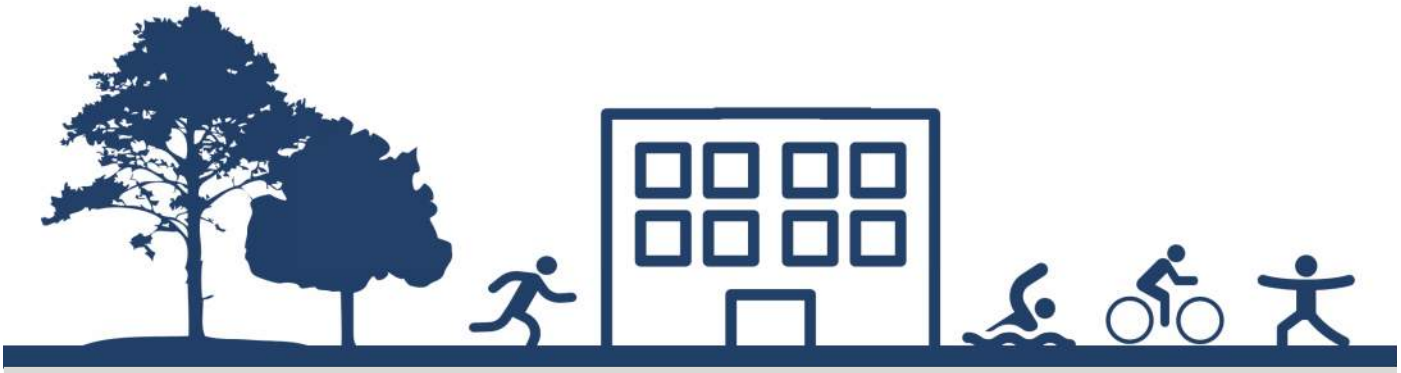
Neighborhood Parks are recommended as the primary park type for filling gaps and providing the best value to the City and its residents. While the established size range for Neighborhood Parks is 3-10 acres, staff recommends that the minimum size be upgraded to 5 acres for future parks, as this is considered the minimum threshold for ensuring efficient maintenance routines and for providing the greatest benefit to residents. This category of parks should include the following amenities:

- Trees
- Picnic tables or benches
- A drinking fountain
- Grassy play area(s)
- Playground(s)
- Small/Medium Pavilion(s)
- A restroom
- Sport court(s) (basketball, volleyball, pickleball and tennis)
- Sports field(s) (baseball, soccer, football and similar sports)
- Connections to other parks, open spaces, recreation amenities and community destinations by trails and bike lanes
- Perimeter walking trail(s) where appropriate

Community Parks

Community Parks are between 10 and 30 acres in size and should include the following:

- All the amenities and features in Neighborhood Park
- At least one large pavilion
- At least one specialty regional recreation feature, such as a sports complex, an aquatics facility, splash pad or arboretum
- At least one restroom, depending on size and need
- Community event infrastructure



Regional Parks

Regional Parks Regional Parks are large, typically greater than 30 acres in size. They are the most diverse park type, providing a wide range of amenities and features. Regional Parks should include the following:

- All the amenities and features in Community Parks
- Two or more specialty regional recreation features, such as a sports complex, an aquatics facility, splash pad or arboretum
- Two or more restrooms, depending on size and need
- Community event infrastructure

Existing parks should be upgraded as feasible to meet the minimum requirements for their designated type as space, funding and timing allows. Parks should be evaluated on a case-by-case basis to determine the possibility of providing additional amenities, preferably in consultation with nearby residents and the community at-large. In cases where the acreage of individual parks qualifies them for a “higher” park type, additional amenities should be added to bring these parks up to the higher standard if space allows and the additional uses are appropriate. All future parks should be designed and developed from the outset in a flexible manner that provides a range of amenities and features.

A number of the proposed parks shown on Maps 3 and 4 fall under the five-acre minimum for Neighborhood Parks. While these pocket parks have already been approved, it is recommended that the City refrain from acquiring or developing parks smaller than five acres. Small parks are difficult to maintain and operate, placing a burden on City resources and maintenance staff. The City should instead focus on establishing new Neighborhood, Community and Regional Parks, which provide a wider range of amenities, are usable by larger numbers of people, and are easier to maintain and operate than small Pocket Parks.

PARK AMENITIES

In combination with the overall design and setting, the type and range of park amenities have significant impact on establishing a unique character and special appeal for Saratoga Springs' park system. To clarify needs and deficiencies, amenities were analyzed for each individual park and on a community basis using a variation of the Park Acre Ratio (PAR) analysis.

AMENITY RATIO

The NRPA recommends minimum ratio standards for park amenities to ensure park systems are functional and usable. While these recommendations were used as a starting point, the national standards were adjusted to reflect the unique needs and expectations in Saratoga Springs. Table 2.4 below identifies the total quantity of existing amenities in Regional, Community, Neighborhood and Pocket Parks; compares the population per amenity to the suggested ratio; and summarizes the total surplus or deficit (shown in red).

As indicated in this analysis, the City has a slight surplus of restrooms, playgrounds, and baseball/softball fields. Specific amenities that are lacking include four multipurpose fields, a sand volleyball court, a skate/bike park and a splash pad/water feature. Access to tennis court are provided through local schools.

Table 2.4: Amenity Levels of Service and Deficiencies

Amenity	Quantity of Existing Amenities	2019 Saratoga Springs Amenity Ratio (pop. per amenity)	Suggested Amenity Ratio (based on modified NRPA standards)	Quantity to meet Amenity Ratio with 2019 Population	2019 Surplus or Deficit of Amenity
Pavilions	25	1,472	1,500	25	0
Restrooms	9	4,089	5,000	8	1
Playgrounds	17	2,165	2,500	15	2
Basketball Courts	4	9,199	10,000	4	0
Tennis Courts	0	36,797	15,000	3	0[1]
Pickleball Courts	8	4,600	5,000	8	0
Multipurpose Fields	11	3,345	2,500	15	-4
Baseball/Softball Fields	9	4,089	5,000	8	1
Sand Volleyball Courts	1	36,797	20,000	2	-1
Skate/Bike Park	0	36,797	50,000	1	-1
Splash Pads/Water Features	0	36,797	50,000	1	-1

1 It should be noted that residents have access to and use tennis courts at local schools. Those courts are not included here since the City does not own or control them and the City does not anticipate needing to construct additional tennis courts. As a result, the amenity deficiencies summarized in Table 2.6 do not indicate a need for additional tennis courts.

DEFICIENCIES BY PARK STANDARDS

The establishment of minimum park standards was recommended in the previous section to help establish a baseline standard for parks in Saratoga Springs. Table 2.5 below indicates which existing parks in the City currently lack specific amenities established in those standards.

As shown in Table 2.5, several Neighborhood and Pocket Parks are missing amenities required by the park standards, including pavilions, restrooms, playgrounds, sports fields/courts and benches/picnic tables. Several pocket parks are missing either a playground or a sports court.

Table 2.5: Amenities Required to Meet Park Standards

Amenity	Parks Lacking Amenities Required by Standards	Total Amenity Deficiency for Park Standards
Pavilions	Fitness Trail park Israel Canyon Trailhead Park Meridian Park Pinnacle park Regal Park Talus Park Honeysuckle Park Palomino Park Valley View Park	-9
Restrooms	Fitness Trail Park Israel Canyon Trailhead park Meridian Park Regal Park Talus Park Triton Park	-6
Playgrounds	Marina Park Fitness Trail Park Israel Canyon Trailhead Park Meridian Park Triton Park	-5
Sports Fields or Courts	Marina Park Israel Canyon Trailhead Park Meridian Park Regal Park Talus Park Triton Park	-6
Benches or Picnic Tables	Honeysuckle Park Palomino Park Valley View Park	-3
Playgrounds or Sports Courts Specifically for Pocket Parks	Honeysuckle Park Palomino Park Valley View Park	-3

AMENITY DEFICIENCY ASSESSMENT

The preceding analyses indicate there are amenity gaps in the City's park system. Table 2.6 summarizes the cumulative results of the two analyses, indicating the total number of amenities required to bring existing parks up to standard. Before fully implementing these improvements, it is recommended that the City apply subjective analyses to ensure the recommended improvements are feasible and desirable. It is also recommended that input from neighboring residents and the community is sought as the design of each park takes place.

Table 2.6: Amenity Deficiency Based on the Ratio Analysis and Recommended Park Standards

Amenity	2019 Surplus or Deficit of Amenity Based on Ratio	Total Amenity Deficiency for Park Standards	Total Amenities Required to meet BOTH Ratio and Park Standards
Pavilions	0	-9	**9**
Restrooms	1	-6	**6**
Playgrounds	2	-5	**5**
Basketball Courts	0	-6	**1**
Tennis Courts	-2		**0**[1]
Pickleball Courts	0		**0**
Multipurpose Fields	-4		**4**
Baseball/Softball Fields	1		**0**
Sand Volleyball Courts	-1		**1**
Skate/Bike Park	-1	n/a	**1**
Splash Pads/Water Features	-1	n/a	**1**
Bench or Picnic Tables	n/a	-3	**3**
Playgrounds or Sports Courts Specifically for Pocket Park	n/a	-3	**3**

1 It should be noted that residents have access to and use tennis courts at local schools. Those courts are not included here since the City does not own or control them and the City does not anticipate needing to construct additional tennis courts. As a result, the amenity deficiencies summarized in Table 2.6 above do not indicate a need for additional tennis courts.

OPEN SPACE

84.4 Total Acres Existing Open Space

Similar to parks, open space provides opportunities to recreate and connect with the outdoors, albeit as part of a more natural, minimally maintained setting. Open space can take many forms, incorporating trails or other less developed recreation amenities. Open Space also provides a host of ecosystem benefits that can purify soil, water and air; absorb noise, wind and visual blight; store water and carbon; and reduce solar heat gain. Taken together, the preservation of open space is critical to the health and beauty of the City.

Saratoga Springs has more than 60 acres of existing public open space and 71 acres of existing private open space, the bulk of which is located along natural drainages. Other significant extents of public open space are located near the northwestern corner of Utah Lake where the Jordan River begins its journey northward toward the Great Salt Lake.

Public input indicated support for the acquisition of additional open space, particularly for recreation purposes (trails), preservation of wildlife habitat and for view corridors. When asked how they would allocate $100 for park, recreation, trails or open space amenities, spending on open space preservation ranked fifth behind a recreation center, a community swimming pool, an additional lake front beach, and additional walking/biking trails.

Map 2 illustrates that 3,713 acres of new public open space and 448 acres of new private open space is proposed in the City, encompassing natural drainages, utility corridors and other uses. The preservation of natural drainages, is particularly critical, as such spaces can usually serve as key trail corridor connections, helping to link the foothills in the west to the parks, open space and lake to the east.

Utah Lake Shoreline Trail in Saratoga Springs

Map 6 illustrates key environmental conditions in the City. These include 100 and 500 year flood zones, debris flow areas, landslide areas, wetlands and mule deer habitat. Preserving open space in those locations will help mitigate some of the potential environmental hazards and will help preserve wildlife habitat in the City.

There is no standard Park Acre Ratio (PAR) for providing open space. Open space is typically a function of the lay of the land and can vary significantly from place to place. It is usually acquired on an case-by-case basis where opportunities are present. Given the public's interest in acquiring additional open space, the City should consider some of the following tools to facilitate acquisition and preservation efforts (see Appendix, page B-1, for details). Funding options are described in Chapter 5: Priorities and Acquisition and Construction Costs, page 98.

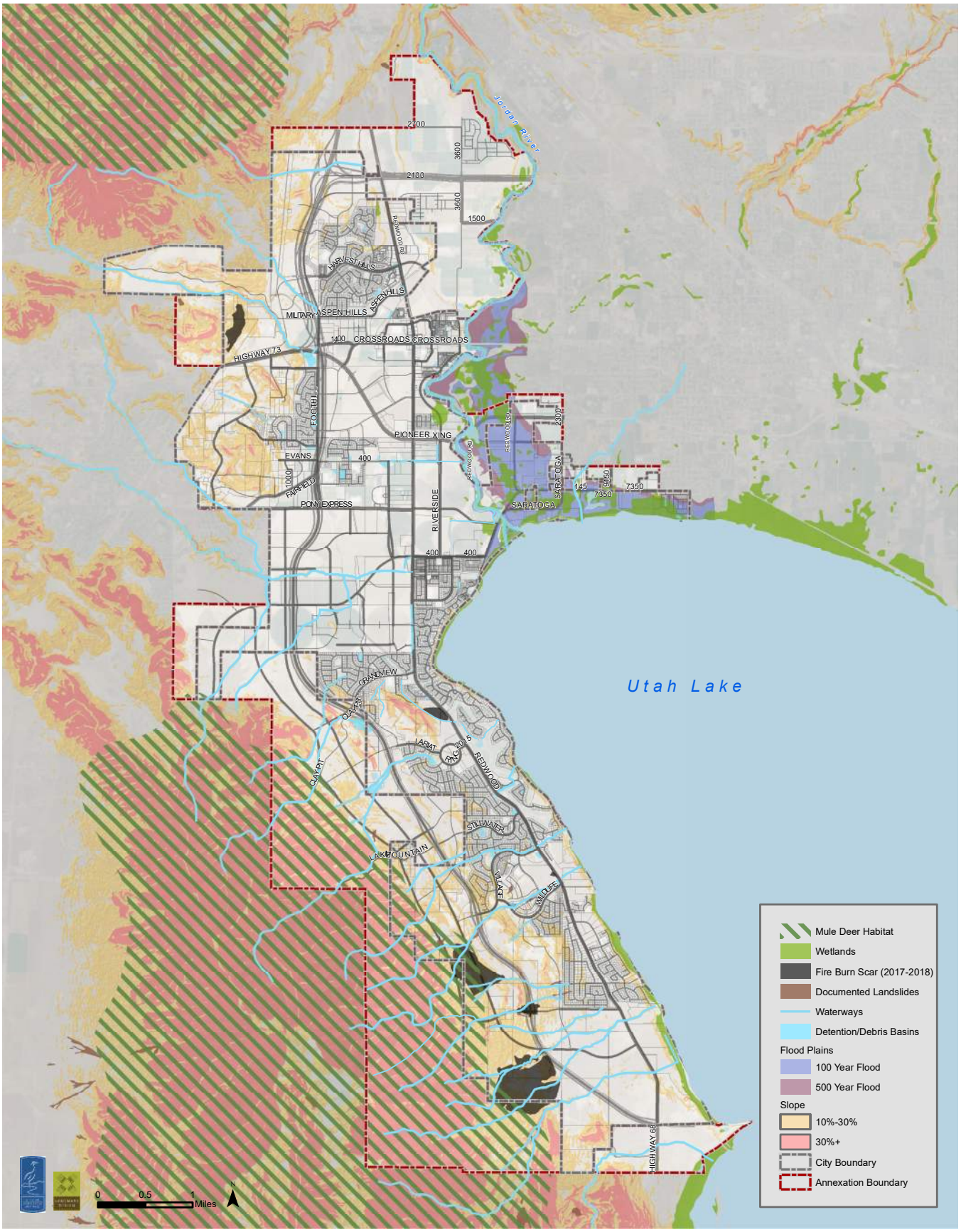
Open Space Acquisition Tools

- Donation
- Open Space Design Standards/Clustered Development
- Zoning and Development Restrictions: Sensitive Lands Overlay as an Example
- Fee Simple Title (Outright Purchase)
- Purchase and Sellback or Leaseback
- Conservation Easements
- Land Banking

Utah Lake

Saratoga Springs Parks, Recreation, Trails & Open Space Master Plan

Map 6: Environmental Conditions



RECOMMENDATIONS: PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

- The existing PAR of **3.72 acres per 1,000 residents should be carried into the future** as the minimum standard for the provision of park land. Since the existing PAR has not maintained pace with the goal contained in the previous master plan, every effort should be made to ensure the new standard is maintained as the minimum standard.
- **Gaps in the distribution of parks require the development of 31 acres** to meet existing needs. The potential 10-acre SITLA community park provides 10 acres, while the development of Performance Park would provide an additional 21 acres toward this need.
- The City needs to acquire and **develop 41.8 acres of additional park land to meet needs by 2030 and an additional 189.9 acres by 2060**. In order to ensure these thresholds are met, it is essential that specific park sites are located and acquired, even if the land sits fallow until the City has the adequate resources for development.
- The proposed developer-provided parks are essential for ensuring the City meets PAR and distribution needs. The City must **acquire the remaining 61.9 acres planned for Patriot Park and either acquire 40 acres for the eight neighborhood parks, or work with developers to ensure the required parks are provided**.
- When fully implemented, Patriot Park is anticipated to encompass approximately 105 acres, with ten to twelve of those acres dedicated to civic uses such as a police station and a new City Hall. This site has priority for the City over the next five years. The City's vision is that **Patriot Park will eventually connect to nearby Inlet Park and Hot Springs, creating a massive regional park and civic center** that offers a wide array of opportunities. It is strongly encouraged that the vision of establishing a large central park as the heart of the community's park system is maintained.
- Lacking park amenities have been determined through a combination of a system-wide PAR analysis and an analysis of the minimum standards. The **additional amenities indicated should be confirmed and implemented** as described in the Amenity Deficiency Assessment.
- New parks should be developed according to the proposed **minimum park standards**. The City should not acquire or

Neptune Park

Shay Park

develop parks less than **five acres in size** unless no other option is available for meeting park distribution needs.

- Any park used for programmed sports should include **restrooms**. Areas used as **multipurpose fields should be upgraded and maintained** as required to meet the programming needs of the community.
- A **splash pad, lake front beach and specialty parks, including bike parks, dog parks and skate parks,** were mentioned as specific desired amenities in the online survey. Such uses should be included in the design of future park implementation and enhancement projects.
- A **shooting range is being built by Utah County** south of the City near Soldier Pass and Redwood. While public input indicated some support for a local shooting range, it is assumed that this desire will be met through the County facility.
- While not specifically requested, **a comprehensive signage and wayfinding system is recommended.** This will help tie the parks, recreation and trail system together, provide important information on use and directions to key destinations, help brand the City's investments, and promote the establishment of a unique identity for the City's parks, recreation, trails and open space system.
- As opportunities to acquire open space arise, the City should first verify that the land is large enough and has connections to other open spaces and parks to be considered community assets. **Open space should typically only be acquired if it expands existing open spaces; preserves natural drainages, critical habitat or other key natural resources; and provides greater connections between parks, neighborhoods, and key City and regional destinations**. Special recreational uses such as trails and trailheads, urban camping sites, archery ranges, fitness courses and similar features should be considered open space on a case-by-case basis, with the caveat that preservation of the City's natural systems should be prioritized.

Chapter 3

Recreation, Community Events and the Arts

Splash Days

While parks, open spaces and trails are the heart of the City's recreation system, there are additional layers of recreational facilities, programs and services that complete the system, enhancing the quality of life and providing opportunities to exercise, compete and explore new activities. This chapter examines the role of recreation programs, community events and the arts in Saratoga Springs, today and in the future.

PUBLIC INPUT: RECREATION, COMMUNITY EVENTS AND THE ARTS

Various methods were used to solicit public input regarding needs and desires for recreation, community events and the arts. A summary of comments follow, and detailed comments can be viewed in the Appendix.

Web Page, Email, and Social Pinpoint Comments

There is a desire for a community/recreation center and a swimming pool. The recreation center should include an indoor/outdoor pool.

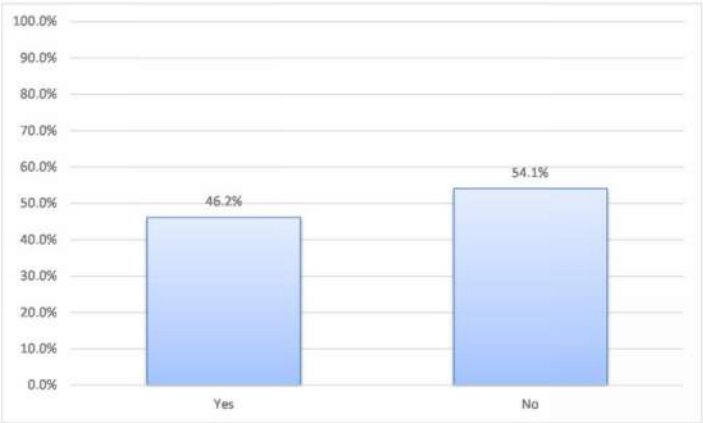
Online Survey Results

As illustrated in the below chart, the online survey indicated that nearly half of all respondents had participated in recreation programs offered by the City in the past twelve months, with many households taking part in multiple recreation programs each year.

The three most popular programs that people participate in at present are Youth Soccer, Youth Basketball and Instructional Baseball. The top reasons respondents do not take part in City recreation programs include the lack of programs and activities they are interested in, they do not have children at home, they take part in other recreation programs, and have no time to participate.

Q11: Have you or any members of your household participated in any recreation programs offered by the City of Saratoga Springs in the past 12 months?

Answered: 2,063 Skipped: 77



Requested Programs through the Online Survey

Programs Associated with a Recreation Center

- **Fitness Classes**
- Gymnasium
- Racquetball
- **Swimming Lessons/ Water Aerobics/Swim Teams, etc.**

General Activities

- Activities for Seniors
- Activities for Toddlers
- Adaptive Sports/ Activities/Dance

Enrichment/Continuing Education

- **Art Classes** (adult and youth)
- Astronomy, Cooking and Gardening Classes
- Life Skills/Career Readiness/ Mentoring
- Service Opportunities
- STEM Classes/Science Camps

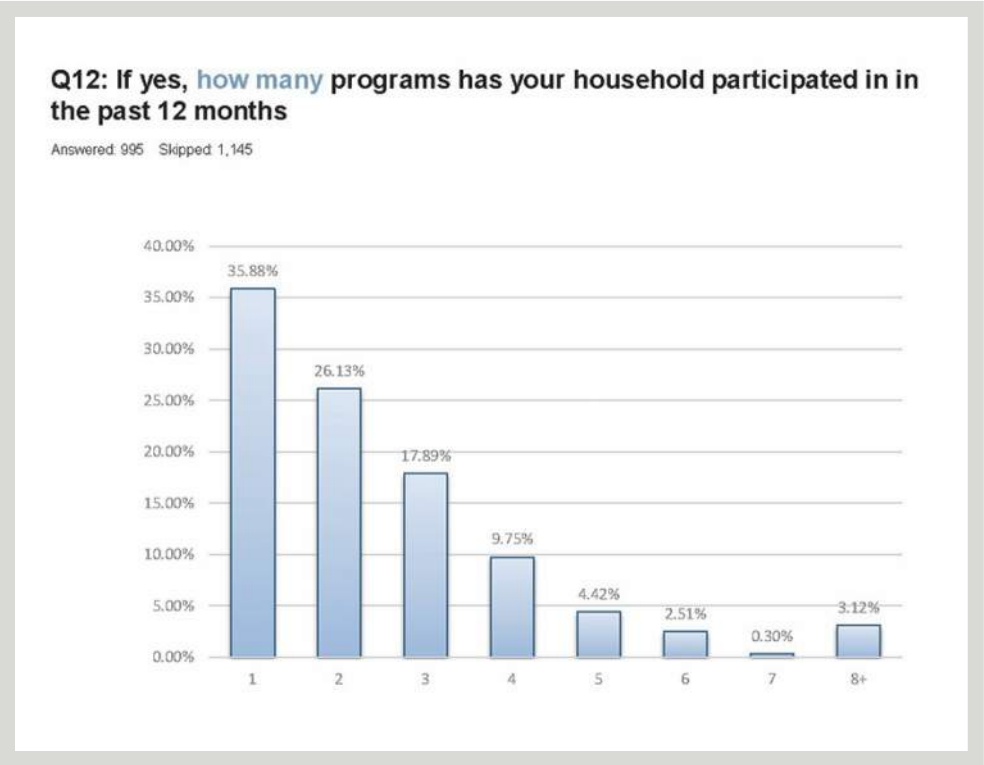
Sports

- **Baseball/Softball** (adult and younger children, formal leagues, comp teams)
- Basketball (women's)
- Cross Country (adult)
- Flag Football (adult)
- Golf Classes (men's and youth)
- Hockey
- **Lacrosse**
- Multi-Sport Camps/ Programs
- Rugby
- **Soccer** (indoor and adult)
- Tackle Football (youth)
- Wrestling

Other Activities

- Archery
- Ax throwing
- Bigger Library
- Bocci Ball
- Bowling
- Boxing
- Cheerleading
- **Dance** (adult and children's)
- Darts
- Dodgeball/Kickball/ Spikeball (adult)
- Dog Groups/Facilities
- Equestrian Programs
- Fencing
- **Gymnastics**
- Hiking/Walking
- Horseshoes
- Ice skating
- Junior Ninja Training
- Lake/Reservoir Water Activities (boating, sailing, kayaking, stand up paddle boarding, etc.)
- Lawn Bowling
- Martial Arts/Self Defense
- Mommy and Me Classes (outdoor activity based)
- Motocross
- Mountain Biking
- Parkour
- Rock Climbing
- Roller Skating
- Rowing
- Running Club
- **Shooting Classes/ Competitions**
- Skateboarding/Skate Park
- Ski Classes
- Trails
- **Ultimate Frisbee**
- Water Park/Splash Pad

The most-requested programs are indicated in **bold**.



Additional Online Survey Results and Public Scoping Meeting Comments

When asked how satisfied they are with the City's recreation activities and programs, less than a third of respondents indicated they were satisfied or very satisfied and have most or all of their needs met. The remaining respondents were neutral, indicating that some of their needs are met, or were dissatisfied or very dissatisfied.

When asked to prioritize spending for additional parks, recreation facilities, trails and/or open space, a recreation center and swimming pool were the two top priorities, followed by a lake front beach, walking and biking trails, preservation of open space, upgrading existing parks and playgrounds, athletic courts, athletic fields, and new Neighborhood and Community Parks.

A majority of survey respondents indicated they have participated in community events offered by the City in the previous twelve months (59.7-percent). The most popular events are Splash Days, Summer Celebration, and Fall Festival.

The **limited number of participants in the public scoping meeting** indicated that Splash Days and the Harvest Festival are great events, but, races are not as successful. They would like more events that involve food. It was felt that a large outdoor event venue and a farmer's market would both be good additions.

Community Events Respondents Would Like to Participate in

Holiday Celebrations

- **4th of July celebration/ parade/fireworks**
- Memorial Day celebration/Veterans events
- Pioneer Day celebration

Festivals/General Events

- **Concerts/music in the park**
- Dog events
- Events for teens, seniors and people without children
- Events on Sundays and earlier in the day
- Family dances
- **Farmer's market**
- **Festivals** (art, music, food, crafts, fishing, reading, kite, fall/pumpkin, lanterns on lake, cultural/ ethnic celebrations, etc.)
- Rodeo/demolition derby
- Winter festival (ice sculpting/snowman building contests)

Physical/Sporting Events

- **5k races/fun runs/trail races**
- Archery tournaments
- Lake/water events/ activities
- Mountain bike races
- Shooting tournaments

Theater/Arts

- Community choir performances
- Community theater performances
- Paint a city mural

Community Education

- Classes from local experts
- Lego club
- Library events/activities (including crafts and book club)
- Stargazing

Community Well-Being/Safety

- Blood drives
- Community cleanup
- Emergency drills
- First aid training
- Neighborhood watch
- Public health screenings
- Service opportunities for teens and adults

The most-requested events are indicated in **bold**.

Splash Days

Fall Festival

EXISTING RECREATION FACILITIES AND PROGRAMS

As indicated in the following list, Saratoga Springs offers a variety of recreation programs. All are organized and managed by the City's Recreation Department, supplemented by volunteers.

Existing City-Offered Recreation Programs

- Baseball Instructional
- Baseball Youth
- Basketball Camp Boys
- Basketball Camp Girls
- Basketball Fall
- Basketball Junior Jazz
- Basketball Junior Jazz Instructional
- Basketball Men's
- Basketball Thunder Tots Camp
- Cross Country
- Dance Winter Lessons
- Flag Football
- Game Changers Sports Camp
- Golf Lessons
- Pickleball League Fall
- Pickleball League Spring
- Pickleball League Summer
- Pickleball Splash Days
- Soccer Camp Elite
- Soccer Camp Westlake
- Soccer Fall
- Soccer Spring
- Softball Adult Coed Fall
- Softball Adults Coed Spring
- Softball Men's Fall
- Softball Men's Spring
- Softball Girls Fastpitch
- Tennis League
- Tennis Lessons
- Track and Field
- Urban Fishing
- Volleyball Camp
- Volleyball Coed Grass Summer
- Volleyball Splash Days
- Volleyball Women's Grass Summer
- Volleyball Women's Indoor
- Volleyball Youth

Due to significant population growth, the City has expanded its recreational programs in recent years, resulting in a significant increase in participation[1] (Figure 3.1).

Figure 3.1: Recreation Program Participation

As indicated in Table 3.1, outdoor recreation programs are hosted at seven parks around the City. An eighth site - Israel Canyon Park - was used for one season, but drainage issues and lack of restrooms resulted in its elimination as a regularly programmed site. City staff has

Table 3.1: Outdoor Recreation Program Venues

Park	Programs
Marina Park	Urban Fishing
Neptune Park	Soccer, Flag Football, Instructional Baseball
Shay Park	Soccer, Flag Football, Soccer Camp
Harvest Park	Soccer, Instructional Baseball, Cross Country
Inlet Park	Soccer, Instructional Baseball
Sunrise Park	Soccer, Flag Football, Adult Volleyball, Instructional Baseball
Patriot Park	Instructional Baseball

1. It should be noted that only a portion of the current activities listed have been offered for the duration indicated.

indicated that while eleven multipurpose fields are programmed for the City, not all of these facilities were designed or are maintained as fields. This presents challenges for the types of activities the City is already programming at these locations.

The City does not own any indoor recreation facilities and depends on rental agreements with schools in the community to provide venues for its indoor programs. The City currently pays between $30,000 to $50,000 in rental fees each year to local elementary, middle, and high schools for this purpose.

City recreation programs typically have access to schools in the evenings and on Saturdays, although access after 7:00PM at elementary schools is cost prohibitive, due to the assessment of additional fees for staffing beyond regular operational hours. Schools have their own programming needs and also rent their facilities to other organizations and competitive private recreation programs.

Elementary schools have tile floors and smaller courts, making it difficult to program older age groups. Existing programs are limited due to the lack of available space and indoor gym space is not available at all during the summer because the schools are on traditional schedules and are not operating at that time.

The online survey indicates there is significant support for a recreation center and indoor/outdoor pools to meet existing and future needs. When asked what types of recreation facilities are most desired, a recreation center was the top response (72.2-percent of respondents). The survey specifically asked how willing respondents would be to support a tax increase to fund the construction of a recreation center. The average score was 6.5 on a scale of 0 to 10. The same survey indicated that respondents were willing to pay an average of $139 (on a scale of $0 to $500) per year if the funding were applied toward a recreation center.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

As listed below, Saratoga Springs offers several community events and activities throughout the year.

Community Events

- **Miss Saratoga Springs Pageant**
- **Spring Festival** (Easter Egg Hunt, Pancake Breakfast, Scavenger Hunt and Face Painting)
- **Splash Days** (Water Party, Carnival, Food Trucks, Concerts and Fireworks)
- **Summer Celebration Series** (Food Rally, Concerts in the Park and Movie Nights)
- **Train Rides at Shay Park**
- **Fall Festival** (Train Rides, Games, Trick or Treating, Petting Zoo, Inflatables and Food Trucks)
- **Veterans Day Flag Ceremony**
- **Celebrate in Saratoga** (City Christmas Tree Lighting, Community Messiah, Holiday Orchestra Concert and Holiday Home)

The City also participates in the "Get into the River" celebration organized by the Jordan River Commission, which is highlighted by a month of river-focused celebration and conservation activities along the river.

Community events are held at a variety of parks in the City as well as at City Hall. Only Neptune Park was designed specifically to accommodate large community events. There is support for programming such uses into future Community and Regional parks. In particular, event infrastructure such as electrical distribution boxes, event lighting, sound systems and enhanced restroom facilities should be prioritized for future parks earmarked for hosting community events.

ARTS

The City has an active Arts Council focused on providing visual and performing arts activities and events to the community. The Council organizes several programs throughout the year, as noted below. The City does not have a dedicated arts venue. The Community

Art Programs

- **Community Orchestra**
- **Youth Theatre Program**
- **Photo Contest**
- **Handel's Messiah**
- **Holiday Home Decorating Contest**

Orchestra performs at City Hall and the Youth Theatre Program holds performances at local schools. The Community Messiah performance, which is now a holiday tradition, began as a shared event with Eagle Mountain, and was most recently held at Westlake High School.

A large outdoor amphitheater is planned at Performance Park, a 21-acre park currently planned for the south end of the City adjacent to Sage Hills Elementary. While the amphitheater will accommodate outdoor performances during the warm seasons, it will not address the desire for a dedicated indoor performance space.

RECOMMENDATIONS: RECREATION, COMMUNITY EVENTS AND THE ARTS

- While the City is generally keeping pace with demands for outdoor recreation programs, there is a **significant need for indoor recreation space, particularly indoor gymnasium space**. City staff has indicated a need for up to four full-sized indoor basketball courts based on current and future needs. The development of this space would resolve some of the challenges associated with reserving indoor gym space in local schools. There is also a desire by many residents for a recreation center that includes **indoor and outdoor pools**. In addition the need for **programs and facilities for seniors** will increase as the population ages.

- The addition of an outdoor amphitheater at Performance Park will greatly enhance the **community's performing arts programming capabilities** during warmer months, however, supplying adequate indoor space will remain a challenge.

- It should be noted that recreation and community art facilities are major investments that need adequate funding to construct and operate. The establishment of **strong partnerships** with neighboring communities, school districts, and arts/cultural organizations are strongly encouraged to help ensure future needs are met in an economical and carefully considered manner. There may be an opportunity to work with the developer as the *City Center District Area Plan* is implemented, for example.

- It is recommended that a **feasibility study** be conducted to explore funding, programming and design needs, as well as to investigate partnering and implementation opportunities for a **flexible facility that can accommodate multiple uses** such as indoor recreation, senior programs, community theater performances, classes, community meetings, art exhibitions and events, and general community uses, as recommended in the *General Plan*. The new City Hall site near Patriot Park offers an ideal location for such a facility.

- Ensure that Community and Regional Parks are designed to incorporate the appropriate infrastructure to **accommodate large community events**.

Spring Festival

Chapter 4

Trails

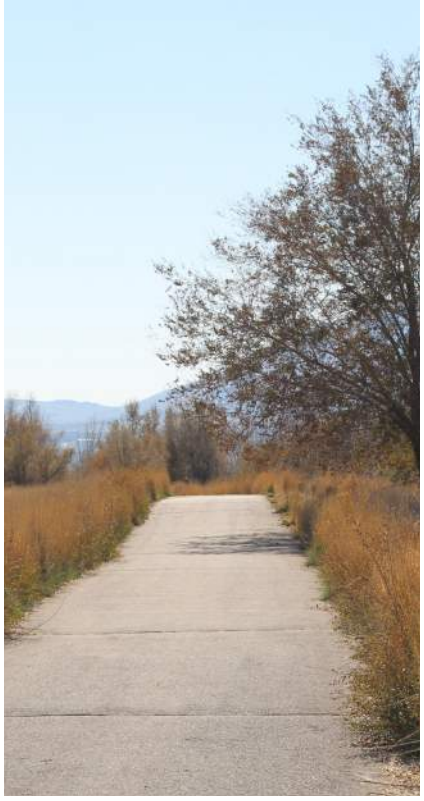
Utah Lake Shoreline Trail

Trails are an essential component of a thriving, comprehensive recreation system. They provide opportunities for exercise and connections with the natural environment, linking neighborhoods to parks, open spaces and other key community destinations. Trails also serve as active transportation infrastructure and facilitate connections to transit. They are a key component of the City's "Safe Routes to School" network, providing options for the City's youth to get to and from school.

This chapter examines the existing trail network, establishing a vision for future trail development. The process begins by analyzing the disparate information and ideas related to trails, concluding with the development of a unified set of standards and policies to lead implementation of the future trail system.

PUBLIC INPUT: TRAILS

Significant input was received through a variety of outreach methods as described in Chapter 1, page 7. The following is a summary of the public comments specifically related to trails (details can be viewed in the Appendix). The results identify specific needs and desires that should be addressed as the trail system is enhanced.



Utah Lake Shoreline Trail

Web Page and Email Comments

There is a desire to keep the existing equestrian trails. The Jordan River Trail needs more parking and a trailhead near Pioneer Crossing. A desire for more single track trails to accommodate mountain biking was expressed, and the provision of direct, safe trail connections from home to school was supported.

Social Pinpoint Comments

According to the responses received, there is a pressing need for safer street crossings, including grade-separated crossings at busy roads. Connecting trails, filling gaps and providing connections to parks and other key destinations is important. It was also indicated that off-street trails are more comfortable to use than trails located on or along roads. The provision of trails along both sides of the Jordan River was supported, in addition to regional trail connections in the foothills and along the Utah Lake shoreline. Routes to schools need to be as direct and safe as possible. The provision of safe options for pedestrians and bicyclists was a general theme.

Online Survey Results

Nearly two-thirds of survey respondents use the City's trail system. One in three respondents indicate they use trails daily or weekly, and almost a quarter of additional respondents indicate they use trails monthly.

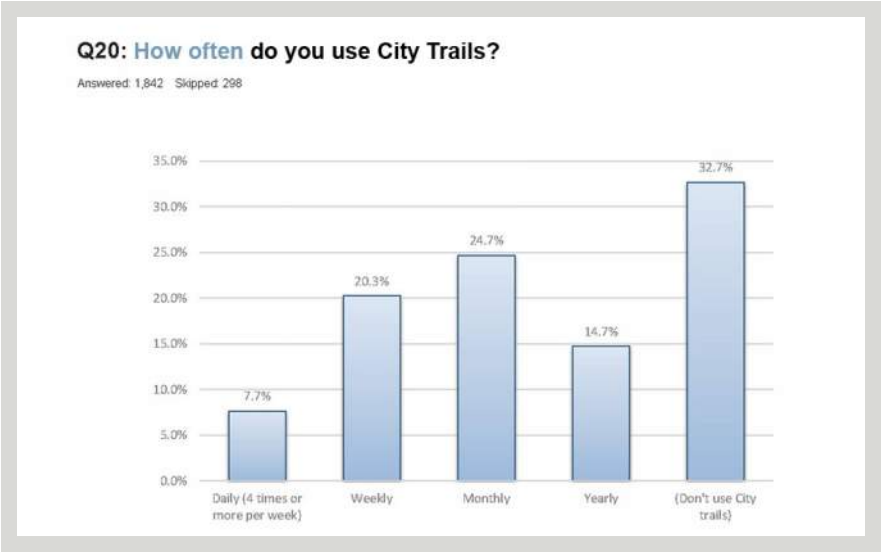
More than four out of five respondents said they would use City trails more often if the system was more complete and connected. Walking, jogging and hiking are the most popular trail uses (76.5-percent), followed by recreational biking (53.3-percent), in-line skating/skateboarding (7.9-percent), motorized uses (7.6-percent) and commuter biking (5.5-percent).

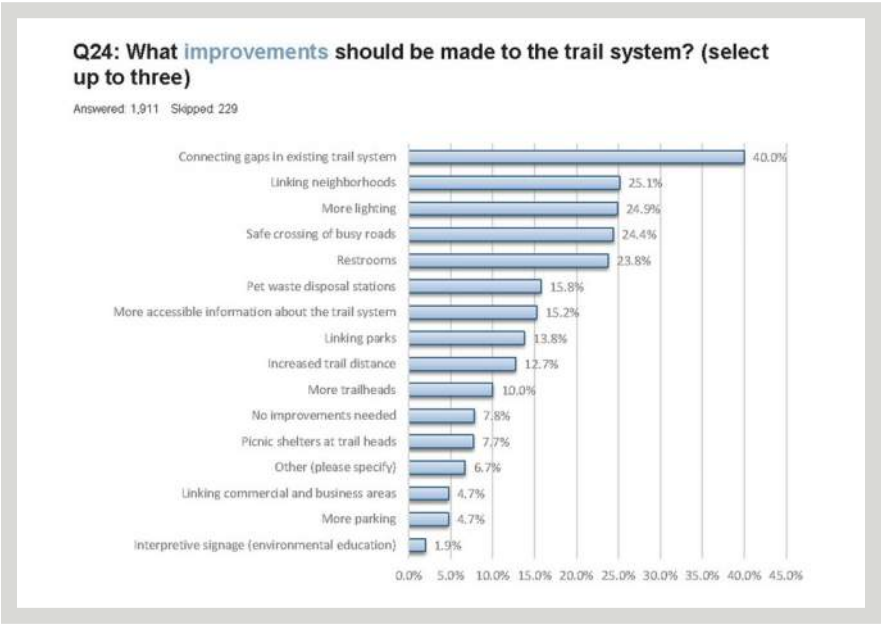
The Jordan River Parkway, Harvest Hills Trails and Redwood Road Pathway are the three most-used trails in the City. The most requested improvements to City trails include connecting gaps in the existing system, linking neighborhoods, and providing more lighting, safer crossings and restrooms.

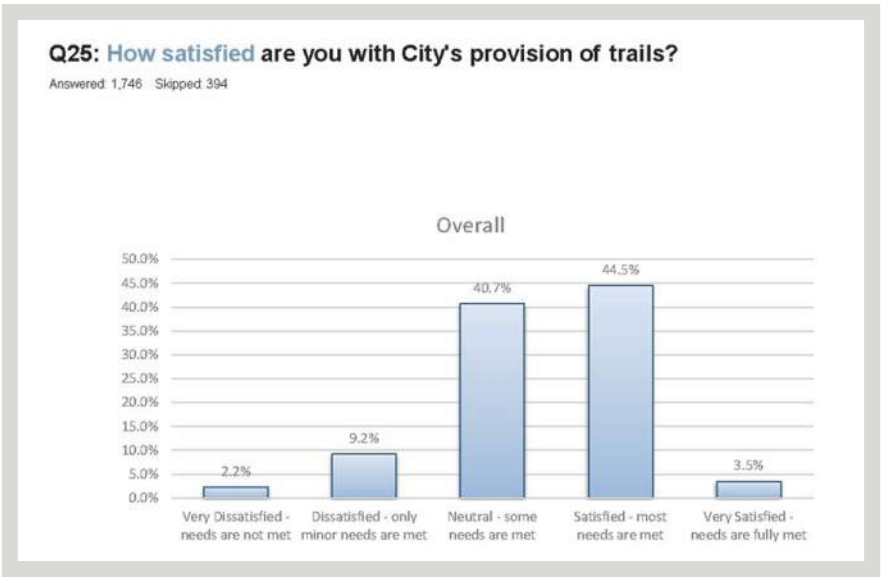
When asked how satisfied they are with the City's provision of trails, two out of five respondents indicated they are satisfied or very satisfied, with most or all of their needs met. Slightly more respondents (44.5-percent) were neutral, indicating that some of their needs are met, and 14.5-percent indicated they are dissatisfied or very dissatisfied, with only minor or no needs being met.

Public Scoping Meeting Comments

According to the **few participants** who attended the meeting, the future priority for trails should be to fill gaps and connect trails. Safer crossings of major roads were also supported, as were safer on-street bike lanes. Additional single track trails for mountain biking were supported, and it was indicated that the Jordan River Trail needs additional parking. It was expressed that the Patriot Park area should be established as a pedestrian-oriented center, and that the City's trails should include regulatory, directional and informational signage.


Q20: How often do you use City Trails?
Answered: 1,842 Skipped: 298
35.0%
30.0%
25.0%
20.0%
15.0%
10.0%
5.0%
0.0%
7.7%
20.3%
24.7%
14.7%
32.7%
Daily (4 times or more per week)
Weekly
Monthly
Yearly
(Don't use City trails)


Q24: What improvements should be made to the trail system? (select up to three)
Answered: 1,911 Skipped: 229
Connecting gaps in existing trail system 40.0%
Linking neighborhoods 25.1%
More lighting 24.9%
Safe crossing of busy roads 24.4%
Restrooms 23.8%
Pet waste disposal stations 15.8%
More accessible information about the trail system 15.2%
Linking parks 13.8%
Increased trail distance 12.7%
More trailheads 10.0%
No improvements needed 7.8%
Picnic shelters at trail heads 7.7%
Other (please specify) 6.7%
Linking commercial and business areas 4.7%
More parking 4.7%
Interpretive signage (environmental education) 1.9%
0.0% 5.0% 10.0% 15.0% 20.0% 25.0% 30.0% 35.0% 40.0% 45.0%


Q25: How satisfied are you with City's provision of trails?
Answered: 1,746 Skipped: 394
Overall
50.0%
45.0%
40.0%
35.0%
30.0%
25.0%
20.0%
15.0%
10.0%
5.0%
0.0%
2.2%
9.2%
40.7%
44.5%
3.5%
Very Dissatisfied - needs are not met
Dissatisfied - only minor needs are met
Neutral - some needs are met
Satisfied - most needs are met
Very Satisfied - needs are fully met

Existing Paved Trails

Existing Unpaved Trails

Existing Bike Lanes

Existing Motorized Trails

EXISTING TRAILS AND BIKE LANES

As shown in table 4.1 and Map 7, Saratoga Springs has approximately 36.3 miles of existing paved trails, 5.4 miles of unpaved trails, and 4.2 miles of existing motorized trails. There are also 11.6 miles of existing bike lanes, as shown on Map 8.

Table 4.1: Existing Trails

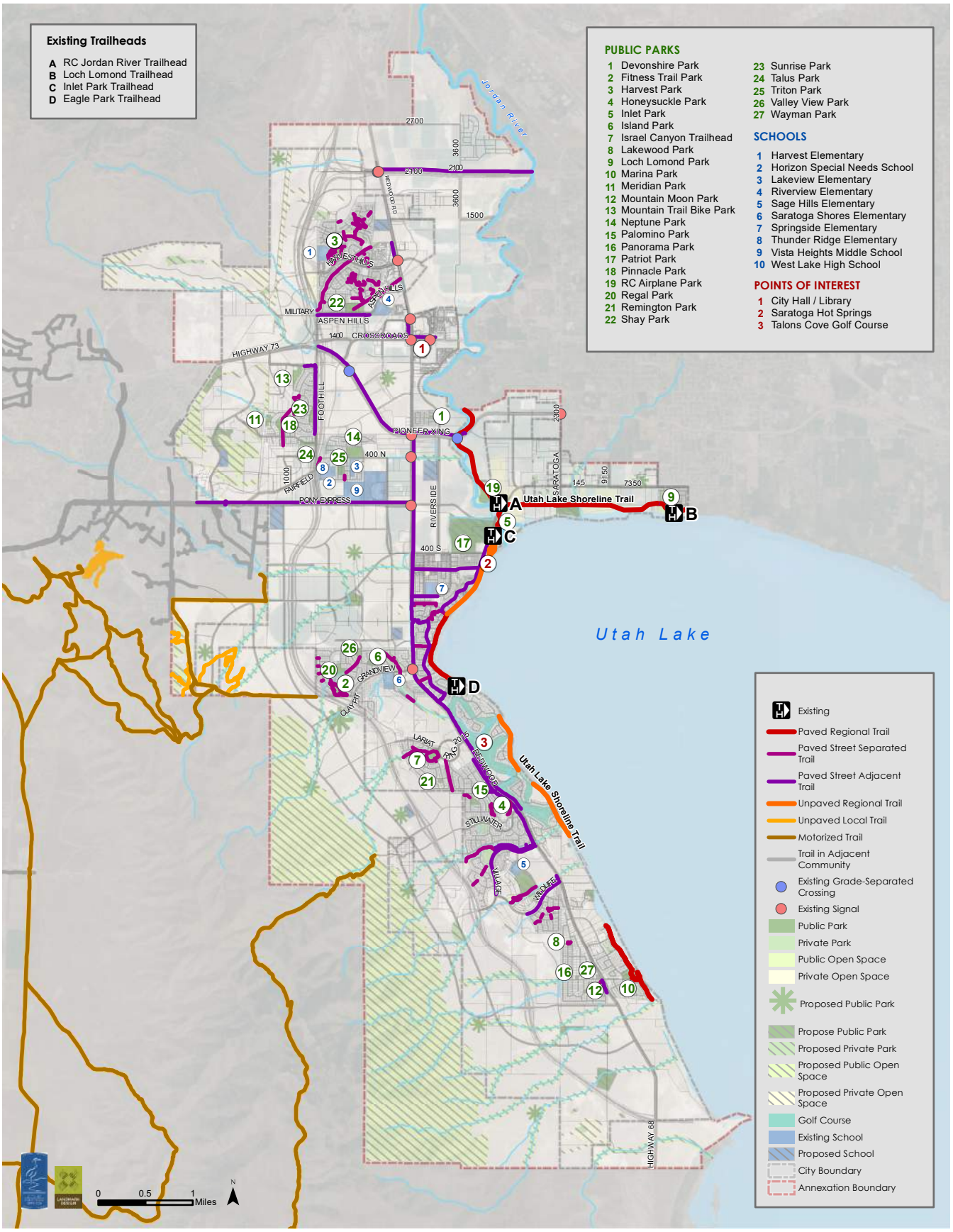
Existing Trails	Miles
Paved Trails	**36.3 total**
Regional	5.9
Separated	10.9
Street Adjacent	19.5
Unpaved Trails	**5.4 total**
Regional	2.4
Local	3.0
Bike Lanes	**11.6 total**
Motorized Trails	**4.2 total**

PAVED TRAILS

Saratoga Springs has a good start on its paved trail system, with more than 36 miles of paved trails facilitating non-motorized uses including walking, running and cycling.

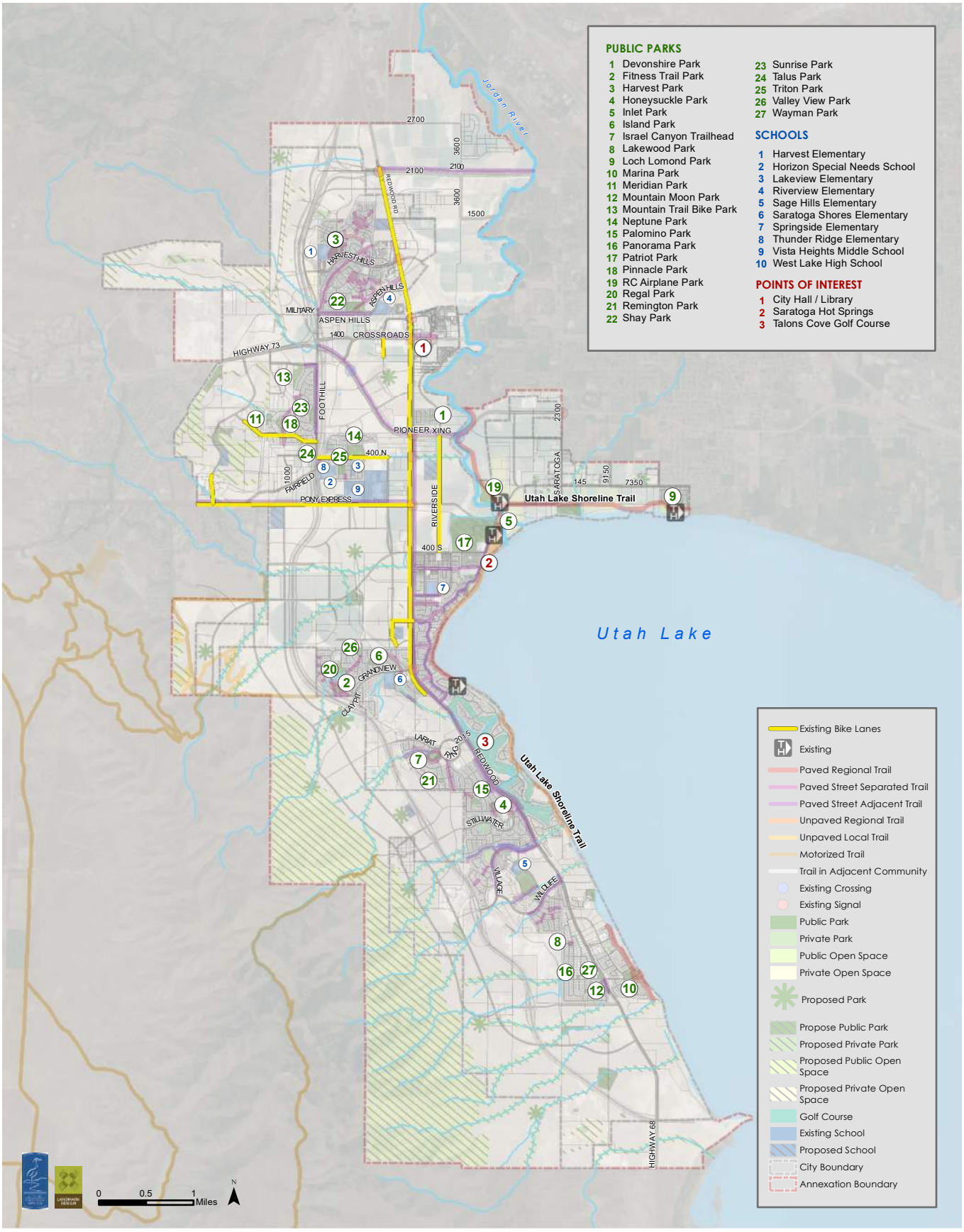
Saratoga Springs Parks, Recreation, Trails & Open Space Master Plan

Map 7: Existing Trails



Saratoga Springs Parks, Recreation, Trails & Open Space Master Plan

Map 8: Existing Bike Lanes



The Jordan River Trail

Regional Paved Trails

Jordan River Trail - A 40+ mile contiguous non-motorized trail that runs north from the river's headwaters near Inlet Park and continues through Salt Lake County, eventually connecting to the Legacy Trail in Davis County.

Utah Lake Shoreline Trail - A multi-use recreational trail system that will eventually surround Utah Lake. Existing sections in Saratoga Springs run from the eastern City boundary on the north end of the lake to the Jordan River Trail, then south to Inlet Park. There are some paved segments along the western shore of the lake, with several large gaps that are lacking either paved or unpaved trails. Once complete, the Utah Lake Shoreline Trail will link the City with major regional trails on the east side of Utah Lake, including the Provo River Parkway and Murdock Canal Trails.

Redwood Road Pathway - A separated multi-use trail that parallels the east and west side of Redwood Road. On the east, the trail runs from Pioneer Crossing to the south just past Village Parkway. On the west, segments of the trail are in place and additional segments will be completed as development occurs or grant money is obtained. The trail is slated to eventually trace both sides of Redwood Road for the entire length of the City, providing a critical north-south connection.

Saratoga Springs has 5.9 of Regional Paved Trails which are typically located along major transportation routes and along water corridors (i.e. Utah Lake shoreline, Jordan River, and Mountain View Corridor) and are part of regional connections. The City's Regional Paved Trails are described above. The City also has 10.9 miles of Paved Separated Trails which are typically located in natural drainages or natural open space, and 19.5 miles of Paved Street Adjacent Trails which are located within road rights-of-way. Street Adjacent Trails must still be at least five feet minimum from the back of curb.

UNPAVED TRAILS

There are a handful of existing unpaved trails in the City. These total 5.4 miles, and are located in the foothills on the western edge of the City and along the Utah Lake shoreline. There are 2.4 miles

of Unpaved Regional Trails which are located along the shores of Utah Lake and nine miles of Unpaved Local Trails located in the Lake Mountain foothills.

BIKE LANES

Saratoga Springs currently has several segments of road with bike lanes, totaling 11.6 miles located in the central core of the City. As indicated from the input provided by the public, there is a need for additional safe on-street bike lanes. Since Redwood Road is a heavily-trafficked street, additional bike lane improvements may be needed to improve safety. Connections with future bike lanes on other less-trafficked roads in the vicinity should also be considered.

MOTORIZED TRAILS

There are 4.2 miles of motorized trails in the City or within the declared annexation area. Access to one of these trails is located in the south end of the City along Lake Mountain Communications Road. Additional access points are located (1) on the western municipal boundary near the middle of the City, (2) behind Fitness Trail Park where the trail extends from Grand View Boulevard to Reformation Canyon and the Eagle Mountain motorized trail system beyond, and (3) along a gravel road south of Tickville Gulch, which connects with the motorized trail system in Reformation Canyon.

EQUESTRIAN TRAILS

Saratoga Springs is a rapidly-urbanizing community. While equestrian trail use was common in the past and the City currently has three equestrian centers, local riding needs and patterns are shifting in line with population growth and the urbanization. For example, one of the local equestrian centers is relocating to a more rural community, and a second is leasing their site with no guarantee that their equestrian operations will be able to remain in place. Discussions with local equestrian facility owners indicated that the Saratoga Spring foothills are not particularly good riding sites, and that horses are typically transported in trailers to destinations outside of the City that are more conducive to horse riding. These sites are located south of the City or in mountain locations.

Increased vehicle traffic and the steady urbanization of the local street system has further impacted traditional horse riding activities and patterns in the City. The emerging urban road system, rising traffic volumes and fast moving traffic results in roadways that do not easily facilitate safe horse riding; crossings can be particularly challenging. Urban roadways are typically not designed with horse riding needs in mind, and even when they are, well-trained horses can easily become spooked by an unexpected horn or other traffic noise. As a city with rapidly-growing traffic levels, increasing speeds on major roadways, and more major roads planned for the future (including the extension of Foothill Boulevard south through the City), traditional horse riding activities will need to adjust.

This plan recommends limiting equestrian use of trails to unpaved and motorized trails, which are primarily located west of the City in the foothills, west of the planned Foothills Boulevard extension. If user conflicts continue to be an issue in the foothills, management techniques such as designating user-specific trails (bike-only or equestrian-only), or limiting specific uses to certain days, similar to the Forest Service's policy of alternating bike/off-leash dog use on trails in Millcreek Canyon in Salt Lake County should be investigated.

Equestrian use should be limited to the unpaved and motorized trail system west of Redwood Road utilizing three of the trailheads proposed in the foothills (see Map 9 and Table 4.3)

TRAILHEADS

As illustrated on Map 7 and described below, there are four existing trailheads in Saratoga Springs.

RC Jordan River Trailhead

Loch Lomond Trailhead

Inlet Park Trailhead Restrooms

Eagle Park Trailhead

Existing Trailheads

A. RC Jordan River Trailhead - Located north of Saratoga Road at the entrance to the Utah County Radio Controlled Park, just east of the Jordan River. This trailhead offers paved off-street parking and direct access to the Jordan River Trail and the Utah Lake Shoreline Trail. It does not include other amenities.

B. Loch Lomond Trailhead - Located on the northern shoreline of Utah Lake on Lakeview Drive at the eastern end of the City. On-street parking along Lakeview Drive allows direct access to the Utah Lake Shoreline Trail, which connects the eastern boundary of the City to the Jordan River Trail. There are no amenities at this trailhead.

C. Inlet Park Trailhead - Located at Inlet Park, the trailhead includes both paved and unpaved parking areas, with restrooms located at the south end of Inlet Park. The trailhead offers direct access to the Jordan River Trail and a trail that heads south to the Saratoga Hot Springs. Inlet Park also links to trails that head south to the neighborhood surrounding Springside Elementary, and links to the Utah Lake Shoreline Trail.

D. Eagle Park Trailhead - Located north of Talon's Cove Golf Course in Eagle Park, which is a private residential park. This trailhead includes a paved parking lot and provides direct access to the Utah Lake Shoreline Trail. The park includes restrooms and a playground.

TRAIL CROSSINGS

There are two existing grade-separated trail crossings in the City. The first passes under Pioneer Crossing, providing unhindered and safe passage for users on the Jordan River Trail. The second grade-separated crossing is an underpass that was installed when Pioneer Crossing was constructed at approximately 300 West. While there is not a trail in this location at present, a paved trail is proposed.

Pedestrian crossing near Inlet Park

Pedestrian underpass at Pioneer Crossing

TRAIL NEEDS ANALYSIS

As indicated in the summary of public involvement, there is strong resident support for trails in the City. Nearly 65-percent of survey respondents use the City's trails, with more than half using trails daily, weekly or monthly. More than 83-percent of survey respondents indicated that they would use trails more often if they were more complete or connected. Residents also indicated there is a need to provide safer crossings where trails cross busy roads, to fill gaps in the trail network, to connect neighborhoods to local and regional destinations with trails, to provide more trailheads and parking, and to provide more trails of all types. Connecting gaps and linking neighborhoods were the top two desired trail improvements in the online survey. Survey participants would also like to see more direct "Safe Routes to Schools".

In addition to the trails themselves, the public indicated a desire for more trail amenities, including signage, lighting, restrooms and pet waste disposal stations, some of which are specifically discussed in the *Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan*. Residents also expressed a desire for more accessible information about the trail system.

PROPOSED TRAILS AND TRAILHEADS

Saratoga Springs has grown so rapidly in recent years that many of the proposed routes in the *Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan* are already out-of-date. In order to provide a new vision and to help lead investment and implementation priorities in the short and long term, the following trail and trailhead enhancements are proposed, replacing those currently proposed in the *Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan*.

PROPOSED TRAILS

Maps 9 and 10 and Table 4.2 illustrate the proposed public network of public trails and on-street bike lanes. It should be noted that

a variety of additional trails may be provided as part of private developments.

The maps do not include additional proposed motorized trails, since such facilities require a more detailed level of study due to the complexity of issues involved. A small study focused solely on the provision of motorized trails in the foothills is recommended.

Table 4.2 summarizes proposed trails, which expands the City's trail system to more than 180 miles including 163.4 miles of paved trails and 20 miles of unpaved trails. As shown on Map 9, the proposed facilities fill key gaps in the trail system, providing critical connections to key destinations in the community. The proposed trail system takes advantage of natural drainages and utility corridors where possible, providing pleasant off-street trail alignments throughout the City. Regional and street separated trails are the most desirable trail types, as they meet the needs of recreational cyclists and pedestrians.

Paved Trails serve the broadest set of user groups, including pedestrians, recreational cyclists and people that need or desire accessible routes. The City should partner with community stakeholders to plan and develop new accessible routes and upgrade existing routes, ensuring they meet federally-mandated Americans with Disability Act (ADA) standards where feasible. It is imperative that existing trail routes not get abandoned or cut-off by new development, such as the trail located south of Aspen Hills Boulevard.

The completion of the Bonneville Shoreline Trail through Saratoga Springs should be one of the top **Unpaved Trails** priorities, as it will facilitate trail access to the foothills, regional amenities and other community destinations. Unpaved trails are intended to

Proposed Paved Trails

Proposed Unpaved Trails

Proposed Bike Lanes

Table 4.2: Proposed Trails

Proposed Trails	Miles
Paved Trails	**127.1 total**
Regional	8.8
Separated	36.9
Street Adjacent	81.4
Unpaved Trails	**14.6 total**
Regional	5.6
Local	9.0
Bike Lanes	**56.2 total**

serve a range of user groups, including hikers, mountain bikers and equestrians. Each user group has specific design and material (trail surfacing) preferences, which makes it imperative that standards are applied with a level of flexibility.

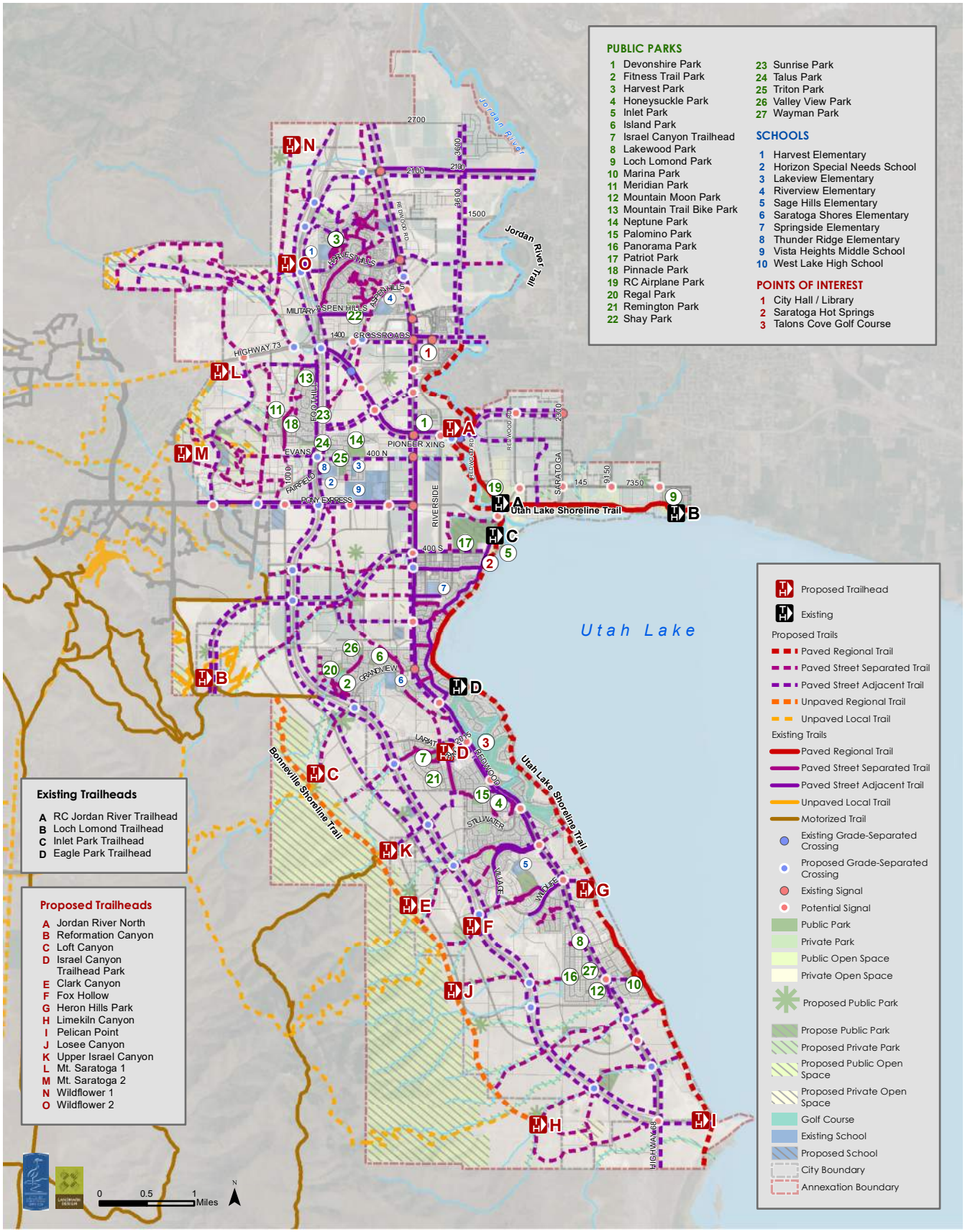
While various user groups will utilize the unpaved trail system together, the City should explore the possibility of providing a selection of user-specific trails, perhaps adding bike-only trails in some locations and unpaved trails specifically for hikers and equestrian users in other locations. It is also recommended that the City develop a small portion of backcountry trails that are suitable for new and/or young trail users, where they can develop their skills on less challenging terrain.

While no additional **Motorized Trails** are indicated on the map, an extensive existing motorized trail network is already established, which is well-connected to the motorized trail system in Eagle Mountain and other trails further south. There was some discussion that additional motorized trails might be constructed in the vicinity of Camp Williams, perhaps circumnavigating the perimeter of the military base. A separate study is recommended to verify the needs and requirements of additional motorized trails in the foothills and establish the City's policies on motorized trail use.

Map 10 indicates that approximately 56.2 miles of new **On-street Bike Lanes** will be located on major and minor collectors and arterial roadways. These facilities are intended to serve the needs of commuter bicyclists, who are skilled and confident cycling adjacent to automobiles, in addition to more confident recreational bicyclists.

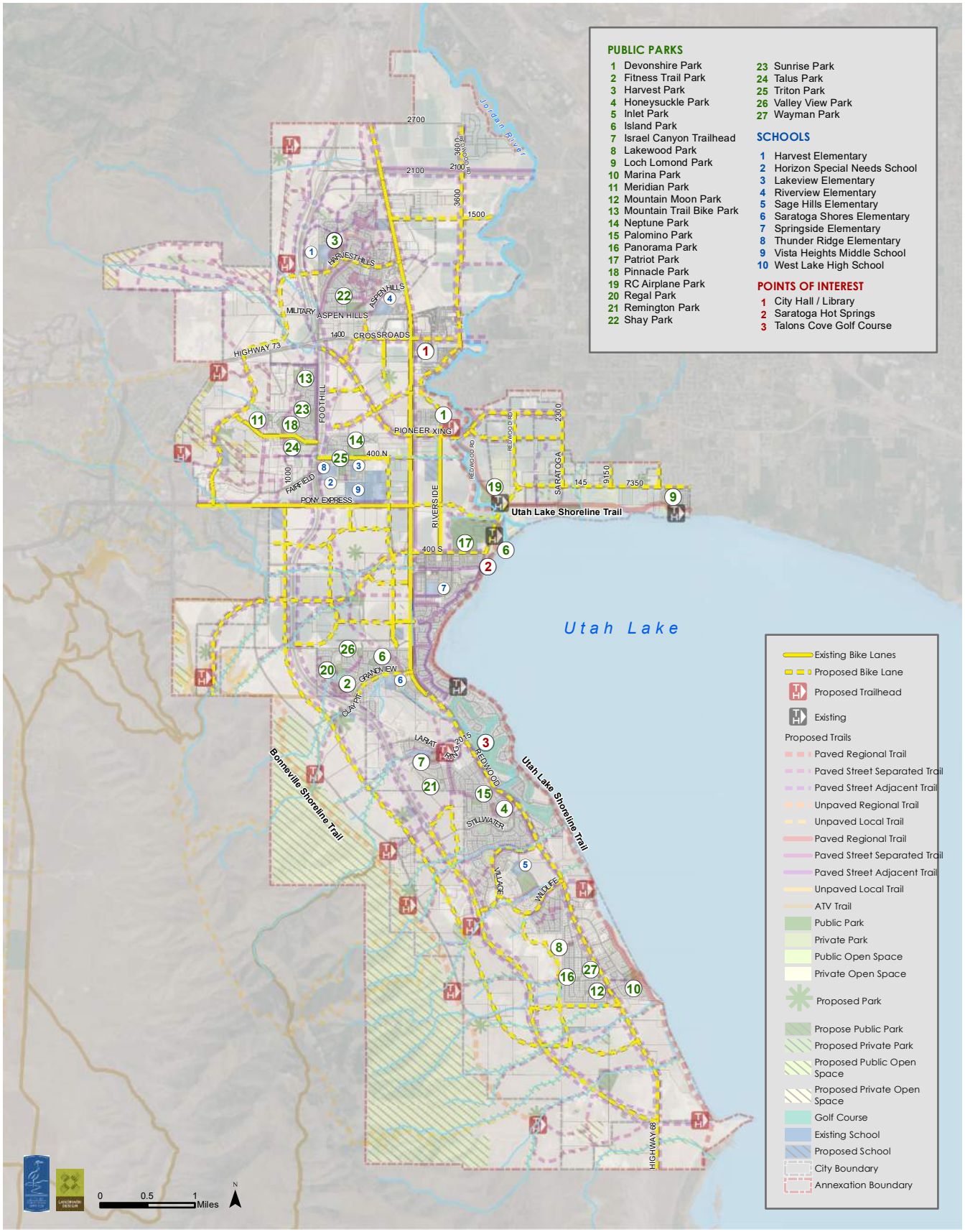
Saratoga Springs Parks, Recreation, Trails & Open Space Master Plan

Map 9: Existing & Proposed Trails



Saratoga Springs Parks, Recreation, Trails & Open Space Master Plan

Map 10: Existing & Proposed Bike Lanes



PROPOSED TRAILHEADS

Fifteen trailheads (shown in red) are proposed to provide better and safer access to the City's growing trail network (see Maps 9 and 10 and Table 4.3). Map 11 illustrates the distribution of existing and proposed trails and trailheads throughout the City. The proposed trailheads are Class 1 and 2, which are medium to large facilities. Class 3 trailheads may be better suited in areas that need minimal developed parking. Additional trailheads may be required in the future as development progresses throughout the community and unforeseen opportunities arise.

The provision of restrooms at a trailhead is dependent on the anticipated use and location within the City's water zones. Trailheads outside of the uppermost City water zone are required to utilize pit toilets or other non-flush systems.

Table 4.3: Proposed Trailheads

Proposed Trailhead	Proposed Class/ Parking	Proposed Amenities	User Groups
A – Jordan River North	Class 1: Standard Paved Parking	• Restrooms w/ drinking fountain/bottle filler • Picnic tables • Small picnic pavilion • Bike Repair Station Dog waste station • Trail map/rules kiosk • Trail access	Pedestrians, recreational and commuter bicyclists and other non-motorized uses
B – Reformation Canyon	Class 1: Equestrian/ Motorized Paved Parking	• Equestrian/Motorized Trailer Parking • Restrooms (pit toilets) • Dog waste station • Trail map/rules kiosk • Trail access	Off-Highway Vehicles, Pedestrians, recreational and commuter bicyclists, equestrians and other non-motorized uses
C – Loft Canyon	Class 2 Unpaved Parking	• Neighborhood Park with Standard Amenities • Restrooms w/ drinking fountain/bottle filler • Dog waste station • Trail map/rules kiosk • Trail access	Pedestrians, recreational and commuter bicyclists and other non-motorized uses
D – Israel Canyon Trailhead Park	Class 1: Standard Unpaved Parking	• Restrooms w/ drinking fountain/bottle filler • Picnic tables • Small picnic pavilion • Dog waste station • Trail map/rules kiosk • Trail access	Off-Highway Vehicles, Pedestrians, recreational and commuter bicyclists and other non-motorized uses

Table 4.3: Proposed Trailheads (continued)

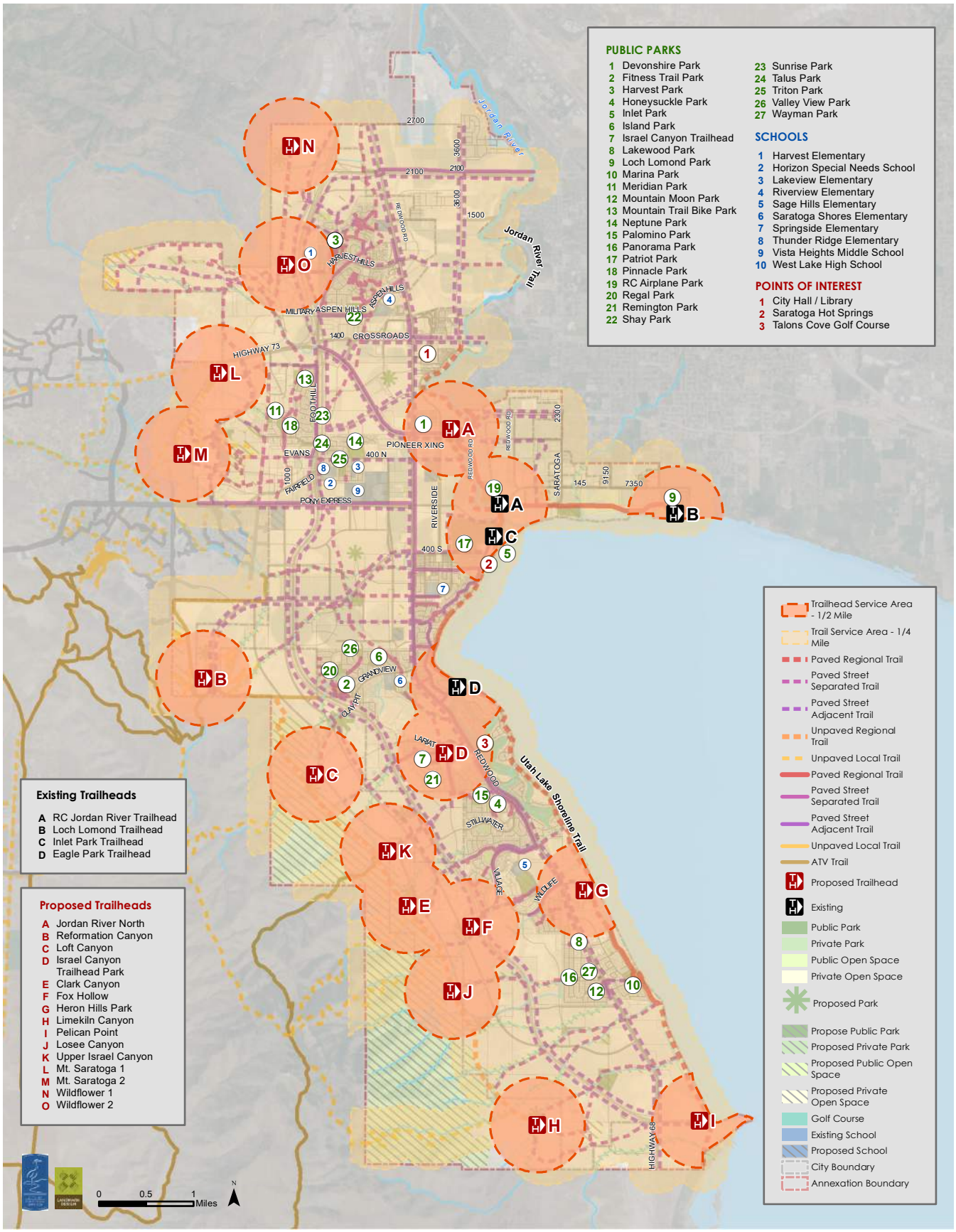
Proposed Trailhead	Proposed Class/ Parking	Proposed Amenities	User Groups
E – Clark Canyon	Class 2 Unpaved Parking	• Dog waste station • Trail map/rules kiosk Trail access	Pedestrians, recreational and commuter bicyclists and other non-motorized uses
F – Fox Hollow	Class 1: Standard Unpaved Parking	• Neighborhood Park with Standard Amenities • Restrooms w/ drinking fountain/bottle filler • Picnic tables • Small picnic pavilion • Dog waste station • Trail map/rules kiosk • Trail access	Pedestrians, recreational and commuter bicyclists and other non-motorized uses
G – Heron Hills Park	Class 2 Paved Parking	• Neighborhood Park with Standard Amenities • Dog waste station • Trail map/rules kiosk • Trail access	Pedestrians, recreational and commuter bicyclists and other non-motorized uses
H – Limekiln Canyon	Class 1: Equestrian/ Motorized Paved Parking	• Equestrian/Motorized Trailer Parking • Restrooms w/ drinking fountain/bottle filler • Picnic tables • Small picnic pavilion • Dog waste station • Trail map/rules kiosk • Trail access	Pedestrians, recreational and commuter bicyclists, equestrians and other non-motorized uses
I – Pelican Point	Class 1: Standard Paved Parking	• Restrooms w/ drinking fountain/bottle filler • Picnic tables • Small picnic pavilion • Bike Repair Station • Dog waste station • Trail map/rules kiosk • Trail access	Pedestrians, recreational and commuter bicyclists and other non-motorized uses
J – Losee Canyon	Class 3 Paved Parking	• Dog waste station • Trail map/rules kiosk • Trail access	Pedestrians, recreational and commuter bicyclists and other non-motorized uses

Table 4.3: Proposed Trailheads (continued)

Proposed Trailhead	Proposed Class/ Parking	Proposed Amenities	User Groups
K – Upper Israel Canyon	Class 1: Equestrian/ Motorized Unpaved Parking	• Equestrian/Motorized Trailer Parking • Restrooms w/ drinking fountain/bottle filler • Picnic tables • Small picnic pavilion • Dog waste station • Trail map/rules kiosk • Trail access	Off-Highway Vehicles, Pedestrians, recreational and commuter bicyclists, equestrians and other non-motorized uses
L – Mt. Saratoga 1	Class 3 Unpaved Parking	• Dog waste station • Trail map/rules kiosk • Trail access	Pedestrians, recreational and commuter bicyclists and other non-motorized uses
M – Mt. Saratoga 2	Class 3 Unpaved Parking	• Dog waste station • Trail map/rules kiosk • Trail access	Pedestrians, recreational and commuter bicyclists and other non-motorized uses
N – Wildflower 1	Class 3 Paved Parking	• Dog waste station • Trail map/rules kiosk • Trail access	Pedestrians, recreational and commuter bicyclists and other non-motorized uses
O – Wildflower 2	Class 1: Standard Paved Parking	• Restrooms w/ drinking fountain/bottle filler • Picnic tables • Small picnic pavilion • Bike Repair Station • Dog waste station • Trail map/rules kiosk • Trail access	Pedestrians, recreational and commuter bicyclists and other non-motorized uses

Saratoga Springs Parks, Recreation, Trails & Open Space Master Plan

Map 11: Trail & Trailhead Distribution



PROPOSED TRAIL CROSSINGS

Safe road crossings were one of the main concerns expressed during the public involvement process, ranking just behind connecting gaps, linking neighborhoods and more trail lighting.

Map 9 shows the location existing and proposed crossings and signal locations in the City. To determine the preferred crossing type (underpass or overpass), this plan references the Crosswalk Decision Matrix located in Appendix E of the *Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan (*provided below in Table 4.4 for convenience).

Table 4.4: Crosswalk Decision Matrix from the *Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan*

	Local Streets <30 MPH	Collector Streets 25-45 MPH		Arterial Streets/Parkway 45+ MPH				
Facility Type	**2 Lanes**	**2 Lanes**	**2 Lanes with Median**	**4 Lanes**	**4 Lanes with Median**	**5 Lanes**	**6 Lanes**	**6 Lanes with Median**
Crosswalk Only (high visibility)								
Crosswalk with Warning Signage and Yield Lines								
Active Warning Beacon (RRFB)								
Hybrid Beacon								
Full Traffic Signal								
Grade Separation								

Saratoga Springs Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan

Most Desirable

Engineering Judgment

Not Recommended

As stated in the *Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan*, the intent of the decision matrix is to:

> "Provide guidance for determining where to install crosswalks at uncontrolled locations. The Crosswalk Decision Matrix is a toolbox of elements to improve pedestrian mobility, visibility, and safety at uncontrolled locations. It will assist the City in making decisions about where basic crosswalks (two stripes) can be marked; where crosswalks with special treatments, such as high visibility crosswalks, flashing beacons, and other special features, should be employed; and where crosswalks will not be marked due to safety concerns resulting from volume, speed, or sight distance issues. This matrix provides guidance about the type of treatments appropriate on various streets and under various conditions. While the strategies in the matrix reflect best practices, the guidance is not meant to replace engineering judgment. Each situation is unique and walking safety treatments must be selected on a case-by-case basis."

TRAIL DESIGN STANDARDS

A number of City documents and regulations reference trail design, standards and uses, although they are inconsistent and unaligned. This section provides a coordinated set of standards for City trails and trailheads. The standards are intended to ensure a consistent and unified trail system is implemented. A level of flexibility and "common-sense" adjustments may be required as specific needs are identified and site conditions encountered.

TRAIL STANDARDS

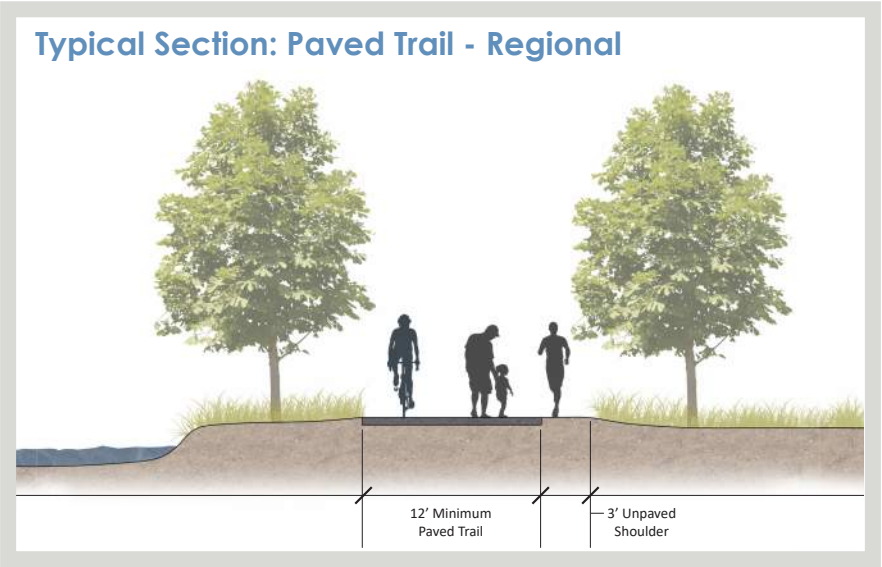
The trail standards contained Table 4.5 are for Paved Trail Types, indicating the permitted widths, materials, maximum grades and uses. The indicated widths are minimums, with wider trails to be

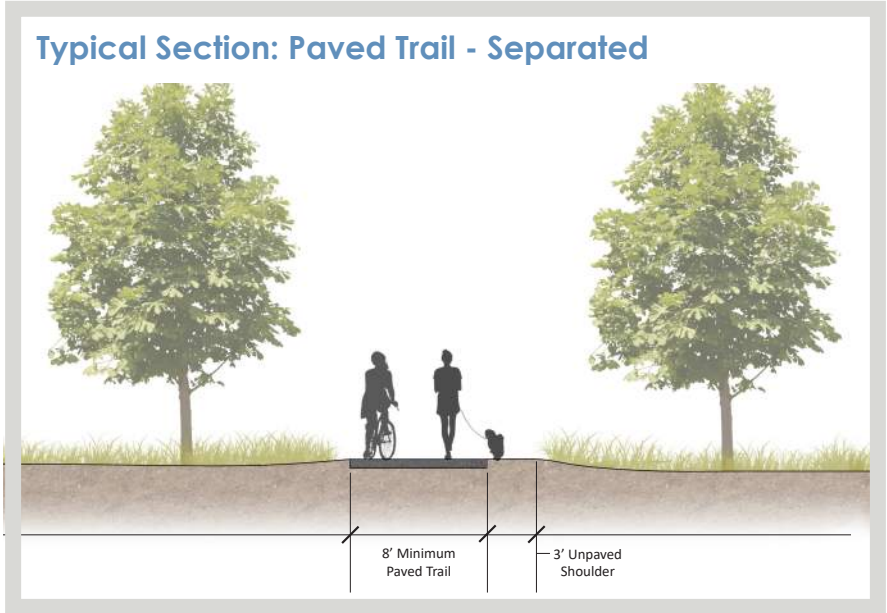
Table 4.5: Proposed Paved Trail Standards

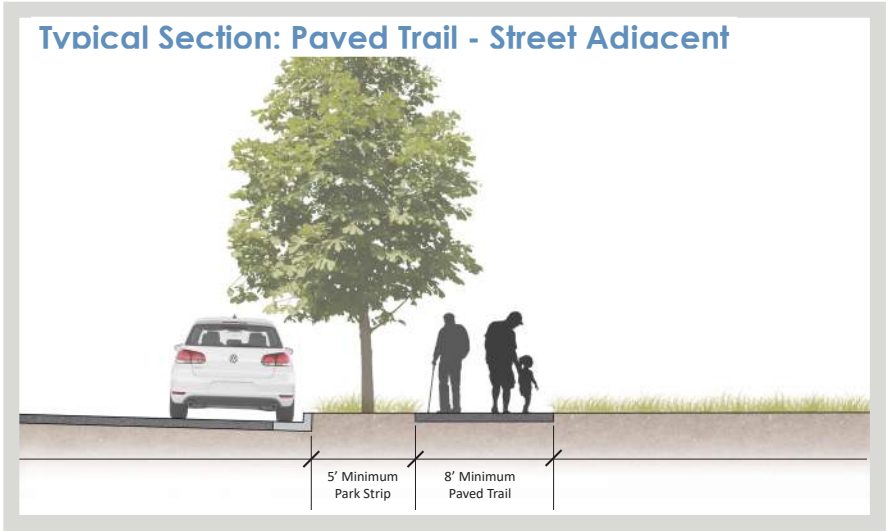
Trail Type	Width	Typical Materials	Maximum Grade	User Groups/ Allowed Uses
Paved Trails				
Regional	12' minimum	**Concrete is required in all riparian corridors** (i.e. Utah Lake Shoreline and Jordan River), **Asphalt is allowed in non-riparian areas**	8% Steeper grades (up to 20%) may be allowed where needed in unique situations, beyond which switchbacks will be required	Pedestrians, recreational and commuter bicyclists and other non-motorized uses (equestrian use not allowed)
Separated	8' minimum	**Concrete is required in all riparian corridors** (i.e. Utah Lake Shoreline and Jordan River), **Asphalt is allowed in non-riparian areas**	8% Steeper grades (up to 20%) may be allowed where needed in unique situations, beyond which switchbacks will be required	Pedestrians, recreational and commuter bicyclists and other non-motorized uses (equestrian use not allowed)
Street Adjacent: Local or Collector	5' sidewalk	Concrete	Per roadway engineering standards	Pedestrians, recreational and commuter bicyclists and other non-motorized uses (equestrian use not allowed)
Street Adjacent: Minor Arterial	10' minimum	**Concrete is required in all riparian corridors** (i.e. Utah Lake Shoreline and Jordan River), **Asphalt is allowed in non-riparian areas**		
Street Adjacent: Major or Principal Arterial	10' minimum			

Table 4.6: Proposed Unpaved Trail, Motorized Trail and Bike Lane Standards

Trail Type	Width	Typical Materials	Maximum Grade	User Groups/ Allowed Uses
Unpaved Trails				
Regional	3' minimum	Natural surface	10-20% 17-20% slopes are desirable for short distances only, refer to IMBA standards	Pedestrians, recreational bicyclists, equestrians and other non-motorized uses
Local	2' minimum	Natural surface	10-20% 17-20% slopes are desirable for short distances only, refer to IMBA standards	Pedestrians, recreational bicyclists, equestrians and other non-motorized uses
Other Trails				
Motorized Trails	4' minimum	Natural surface with some imported materials for tread stabilization	3-35% Steepest pitch maximums between 10-40% of total trail length depending on class, refer to USFS standards	Off-Highway Vehicles (ATVs, UTVs and single-track motorized vehicles), pedestrians, recreational bicyclists and equestrians
Bike Lanes	per Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan	Roadway	As per roadway design standards	Bicyclists



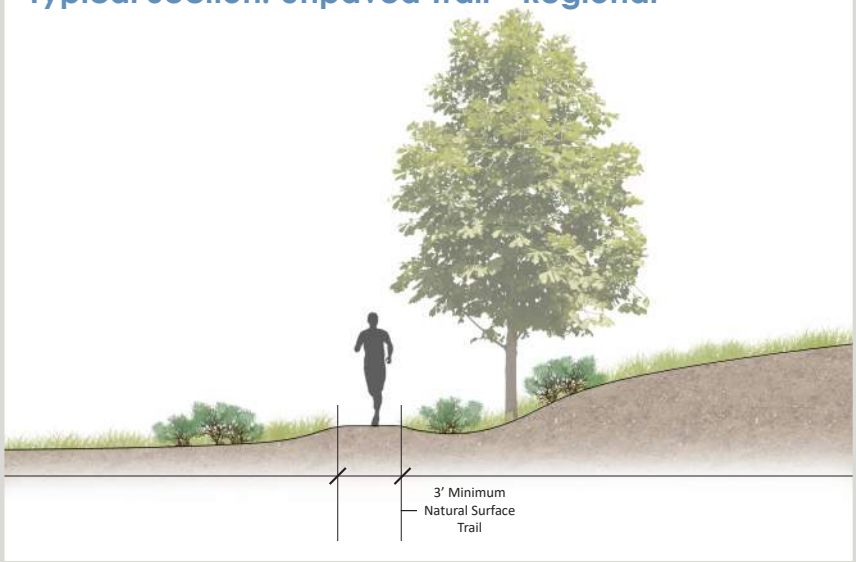




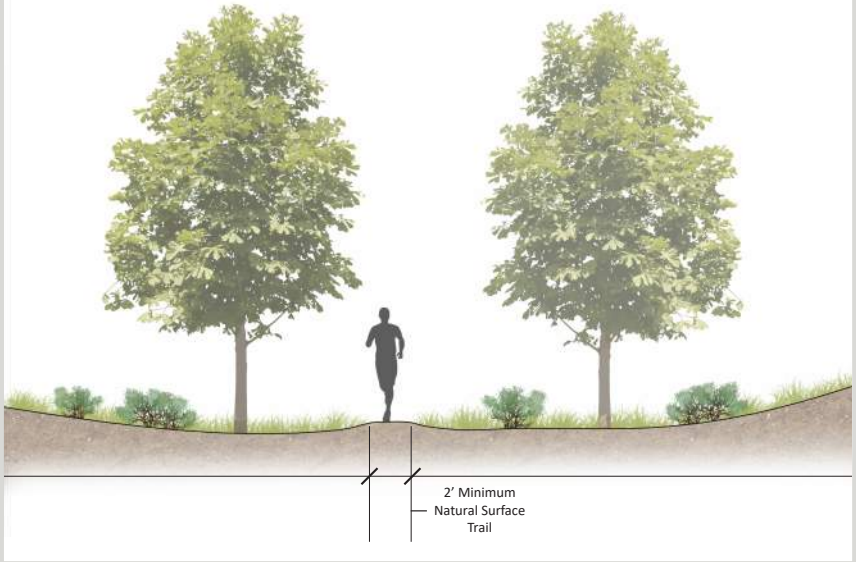
considered if specific conditions, needs, funding and intent warrant. Table 4.6 indicates trail standards for unpaved trails, motorized trails and bike lanes. The proposed Trail Types and associated standards are illustrated in the corresponding cross sections.

The *Transportation Master Plan* and other City documents and standards should be updated to reflect the trail standards in this plan.

Typical Section: Unpaved Trail - Regional



Typical Section: Unpaved Trail - Local



Typical Section: Motorized Trail

TRAILHEAD STANDARDS

The trailhead standards in Table 4.7 are intended to guide the design and construction of existing trailhead improvements as well as new trailhead development. It should be noted that Class 1 trailheads provide the highest level of access and amenities and Class 3 Trailheads have the lowest level. Class 3 trailheads are intended for situations where higher-level trailheads are not feasible. For instance, a Class 3 trailhead might be required where spatial or access constraints limit the amount of parking or amenities. They may also be used where smaller trailheads are desired.

Table 4.7: Proposed Trailhead Standards

Trailhead Type	Description
Class 1: Standard Large Trailhead	• Major developed paved parking hub for community and regional trails • 25 parking stalls minimum (paved or unpaved) • Restrooms, information kiosk with trail map and other amenities
Class 1: Equestrian/ Motorized Large Trailhead	• Major developed paved parking hub for community and regional unpaved and motorized trails • 10 stalls for horse/motorized trailer parking • 25 parking stalls minimum (paved or unpaved) • Restrooms, information kiosk with trail map and other amenities
Class 2: Medium Trailhead	• Trail parking area • 5-24 off-street parking stalls (paved or unpaved) • May include restrooms, information kiosk with trail map and other amenities
Class 3: Small Trailhead or Trail Access Point	• Small, minimally-developed, fewer than 5 parking stalls, on-street parking, or no on-site parking • May include trail map or trail marker

An example of a trailhead that has been well-integrated into an existing neighborhood

RECOMMENDATIONS: TRAILS

- **The proposed trail network, including paved trails, unpaved trails and on-street bike lanes should be implemented by build-out**, which is projected to take place by 2060. It is assumed that **on-street bicycle facilities will be constructed as part of associated roadway projects. Trails should be developed as indicated in Map 9,** working with property owners, as needed, to realize the complete trail network. Phasing of the proposed systems should be applied strategically, ensuring that opportunities to acquire land and install specific trail segments are utilized, even if short-term connectivity gap results.

- **Explore the possibility of providing trails that serve specific users groups** including accessible routes, beginner routes and use-specific trail segments.

- Continue partnering with Alpine School District in **support the "Safe Routes to School" (SRTS) program**, thereby helping to ensure the youth of Saratoga Springs have a safe route to walk or bike to school. The SRTS program is facilitated and managed by UDOT, which provides funding resources to schools and communities that "can be used for both non-infrastructure (education and encouragement programs), and infrastructure (physical improvements - primarily new sidewalks, but also school pavement markings, signage, bicycle parking, etc.) type projects".

  The City's current policy for SRTS is that (1) Schools are responsible to develop SRTS, (2) the City wants to be involved in the School Community Council meetings when SRTS is discussed, and (3) the City will install traffic controls as warranted and verify through City involvement with the School Community Council.

- **Update the design standards for trails and trailheads** as described, making adjustments as the needs and desires of the community evolve over time.

- **Pursue development of the recommended trailhead amenities and improvements** described, which includes several new trailheads to help ensure access to trails is equitably distributed as the trail system grows.

- **Pursue the implementation of proposed crossings**, and continue to evaluate safety needs as roadway and trail systems are developed in the future. In particular, the City should continue to coordinate and **partner with Utah Department of**

Transportation to ensure trail crossings at major roadways are safe and well-distributed.

- **Develop a comprehensive signage and wayfinding system and publish and distribute information about the City's trail system** to promote safety and stewardship. Proper trail maintenance is required to ensure that the trail system functions as intended, which will require that adequate maintenance resources are provided as the trail system grows and expands.

- **Update the proposed facilities and standards contained in this Chapter on a regular basis** in concert with the *Transportation Master Plan*. The transportation plan should incorporate the proposed crossings and signals contained in this plan, updating them to reflect current roadway improvement plans. The next update to the *Transportation Master Plan* should also incorporate and update the Crosswalk Decision Matrix contained in Appendix E of the *Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan*.

Chapter 5

Priorities, Acquisition and Construction Costs

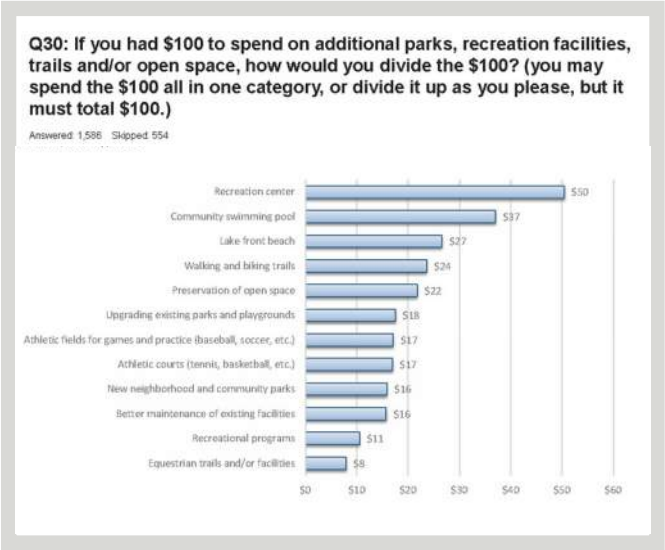
As described in the preceding chapters, numerous improvements and actions are required to ensure existing and future needs related to parks, recreation, trails and open space in Saratoga Springs are met. The following is a summary of the priorities discussed in the previous chapters. It also highlights projects, including probable costs (indicated in 2019 dollars) and anticipated implementation tasks.

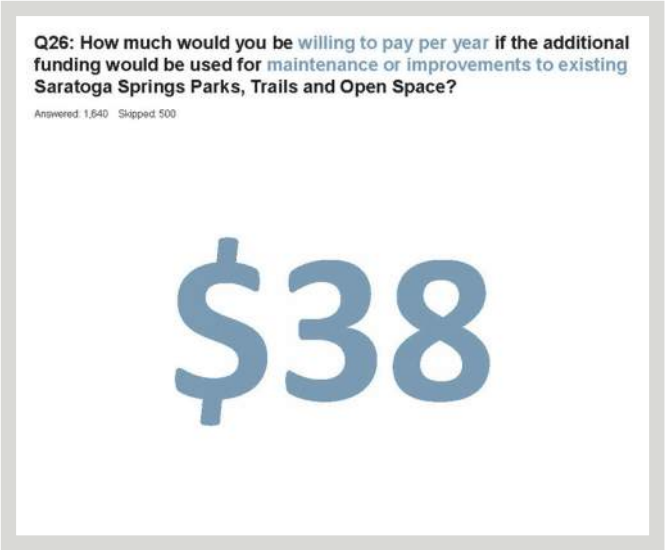
ONLINE SURVEY RESULTS: SPENDING AND WILLINGNESS TO FUND

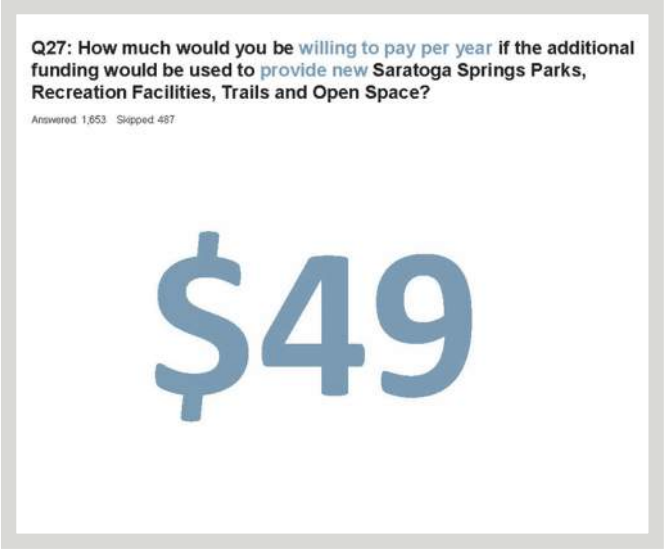
The online survey featured several questions related specifically to funding priorities and the willingness to fund maintenance and implementation improvements. The following are some of the key highlights.

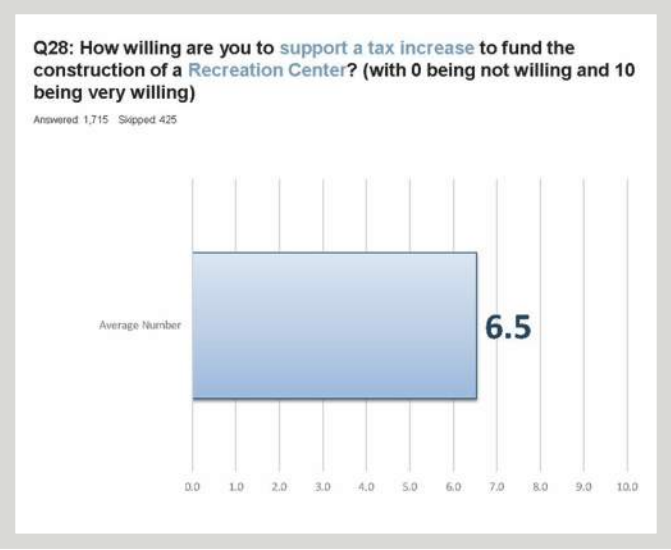
- When asked how they would allocate $100 for additional parks, recreation facilities, trails and/or open space, top priorities included a recreation center, a community swimming pool, a lake front beach, walking and biking trails, and the preservation of open space.
- Survey respondents indicated they would be willing to pay $49 per year to fund new parks, recreation facilities, trails and/or open space, and were less willing to fund maintenance or improvements to existing parks, recreation facilities, trails and/or open space (average of $38 per year).
- When asked how willing they would be to increase taxes to fund the construction of a recreation center, the average response was 6.5 on a scale of 0 to 10. A follow-up question asking how much they would be willing to pay to specifically fund a recreation center resulted in an average of $139.

In other words, the willingness to pay more than at present was tepid. In order to more precisely determine the willingness of the public to self-tax for improved recreational facilities and services, a focused polling process would be required.









PARK AND OPEN PRIORITIES

A MEETING EXISTING PARK NEEDS

There are three gaps in park service and distribution areas for Saratoga Springs and **31 acres of additional parks in addition to some selective use of private parks and public open space are proposed to fill these gaps**.

B MEETING NEEDS BY 2030

Projecting the recommended Park Area Ratio (PAR) of 3.72 forward through the short-term planning horizon and accounting for existing parks and park land needed to fill gaps results in **41.8 acres of additional park land needed to meet needs by 2030**.

C MEETING NEEDS AT BUILD-OUT

Applying the recommended PAR of 3.72 to the 2060 population and accounting for existing parks, park land needed to fill gaps and to meet needs by 2030 results in **189.9 additional acres of park land required to meet needs by build-out.**

D ADOPTING MINIMUM PARK STANDARDS AND UPGRADING EXISTING PARKS

A number of amenities are required to meet Park Acre Ratio (PAR) needs and to bring existing parks up to proposed standards.

To ensure existing and future parks meet community needs, the minimum park standards presented in Chapter 2, page 49, should be adopted as official City policy. New parks should include amenities and features to meet the minimum park standards, and surrounding neighbors and other community stakeholders should be consulted during design to ensure new parks meet the needs of the neighborhood and community. Specific projects should be implemented with a level of flexibility to encourage creative design solutions that capitalize on the unique opportunities and setting of each park location.

Special amenities such as a splash pad, lake front beach, a bike park, dog park and skate park should be included in the development of future parks.

Since public input indicated support for the acquisition of additional open space in the City, effort should be made to secure additional open space as opportunities arise. This will not only help link the existing open space network with parks, trails and new open spaces, it will also help preserve the unique natural environment of the City.

Finally, a comprehensive signage and wayfinding system should be implemented that ties the system together; provides users with important information on the various parks, open spaces and trails; directs users to key destinations; and helps create a distinct and positive brand for the City's park, open space and trail system.

RECREATION, COMMUNITY EVENTS AND ARTS PRIORITIES

The City should conduct a feasibility study for a community, recreation and arts center. Due to the high cost and range of opinions regarding such improvements, a cost estimate for the recommended feasibility study and development of such a center is

not included in this master plan.

It is recommended that future Community and Regional Parks be designed and constructed to host large community events, including associated infrastructure enhancements.

TRAIL PRIORITIES

Trail priorities include the development of approximately 127.1 miles of paved trails, 14.6 miles of unpaved trails and 56.2 miles of on-street bike lanes.

The development of the fifteen proposed trailheads with the recommended amenities will be important for improving access to the envisioned trail network. The provision of 24 planned crossings will help ensure safe trail use. The City should continue to partner with the Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) and Utah County to develop safe trail crossings at major roadways.

A comprehensive signage and wayfinding system will tie the tail system together, providing users with important information on trail use and directions to key destinations. It will also help brand a unique identity for the City's trail system.

The City should continue to work with Alpine School District on the "Safe Routes to Schools" program, ensuring that the program stays on track and that facilities are updated as needed.

DEVELOPMENT COSTS AND FUNDING PRIORITIES

PARK AND OPEN SPACE COSTS

As indicated in the Table 5.1, the total probable cost to upgrade existing parks and meet amenity ratios is $3,101,000.

Table 5.2 summarizes the costs to upgrade existing parks to meet amenity levels of service and to acquire and develop parks through 2030 and build-out in 2060. Estimated land acquisition costs are $250,000 per acre and park development costs are also estimated at $250,000 per acre[1]. A total of $48,576,000 is required to develop parks to the proposed minimum standards, fill existing gaps, and

1 Probable costs are based on recent land acquisition and project installation costs along the Wasatch Front.

Table 5.1: Probable Costs for Upgrading Existing Parks to Meet Amenity Ratios[1]

Amenity	Total Amenities Required to Meet both Ratio and Park Standards	Probable Costs	Unit	Total
Pavilions	9	$30,000	Each	$270,000
Restrooms	6	$150,000	Each	$900,000
Playgrounds	5	$75,000	Each	$375,000
Basketball Courts	1	$70,000	Each	$70,000
Multipurpose Fields	4	$200,000	Each	$800,000
Sand Volleyball Court	1	$35,000	Each	$35,000
Skate/Bike Park	1	$200,000	Each	$200,000
Splash Pads/Water Features	1	$250,000	Each	$250,000
Benches or Picnic Tables	3	$2,000	Each	$6,000
Playgrounds or Sports Courts Specifically for Pocket Parks	3	$65,000	Each	$195,000
			Total	**$3,101,000**

1 Probable costs are based on recent project installation costs along the Wasatch Front.

Table 5.2: Probable Costs for Parks

Item	Probable Cost
Meeting Standards	
Cost to Upgrade Exsting Parks & Meet Amenity LOS	$3,101,000
Subtotal Amenities	***$3,101,000***
Filling Existing Gaps	
Cost for SITLA Community Park (10 acres, assume developer provided)	$0
Cost to Develop Performance Park (21 acres x $250,000)	$5,250,000
Subtotal Current Need	***$5,250,000***
Meeting Needs by 2030	
Cost for two 5-acre Neighborhood Parks (10 acres, assume developer provided)	$0
Cost to Acquire and Develop three 5-acre Neighborhood Parks (15 acres x $500,000)	$7,500,000
Cost to Develop 16.8 Developer Proposed Parks (16.8 acres, assume developer provided)	$0
Subtotal 2028 Need	***$7,500,000***
Meeting Needs by Build-Out in 2060	
Cost to Acquire and Develop four 5-acre Neighborhood Parks (20 acres x $500,000)	$10,000,000
Cost to Develop Remaining Park Land at Marina Park (7.1 acres x $250,000)	$1,775,000
Cost to Acquire and Develop Remaining Area at Patriot Park (61.9 acres x $500,000)	$30,950,000
Cost for SITLA Neighborhood Park (5 acres, assume developer provided)	$0
Cost for Remaining Developer Proposed Parks (110.3 acres, assume developer provided)	$0
Subtotal Build-out Need	***$32,725,000***
Grand Total	***$48,576,000***

to meet needs by build-out. Some of the proposed parks may be developer provided, which would reduce the total probable costs.

Since open space will be acquired opportunistically with no specific sites proposed, the probable costs for acquisition and development of open space are not included.

RECREATION, COMMUNITY EVENTS AND ARTS COSTS

Due to the high level of uncertainty of funding, acquiring and constructing major recreation, community event and arts facilities, an opinion of probable cost is not included in this plan. Since the time-frame and scope of work associated with conducting feasibility studies for such facilities has yet to be established. Costs for those services are also not included.

TRAIL SYSTEM COSTS

Table 5.3 summarizes the costs required to develop the complete trail network and associated improvements indicated on Map 7. The total cost for trail system improvements is $76,088,500 which may be reduced if the City is able to partner with local volunteers for trail development and if open space suitable for trails is provided by developers.

It is assumed that on-street bicycle facilities will be constructed as part of roadway development projects. Costs for such improvements are not included here. It is also assumed that grade separated crossings at major roadways will be completed as part of roadway improvements led by the Utah Department of Transportation. The associated costs for those projects are also not included.

Table 5.3: Probable Costs for Trail Network[1]

Item	Miles/Quantity	Unit Cost Each or Per Mile	Probable Cost
Proposed Bike Lanes	56.2	n/a	n/a
Proposed Paved Trails (cost per mile)	127.1	$335,000	$42,578,500
Proposed Unpaved Trails (cost per mile)	14.6	$200,000	$2,920,000
Proposed Pedestrian/Bicycle Crossings	3	n/a	n/a
Lighting and Safety Improvements (cost per mile)	141.7	$200,000	$28,340,000
New Trailhead	15	$150,000	$2,250,000
		Grand Total	***$76,088,500***

1 Costs for the proposed bike lanes are addressed in the Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan. Trail costs are based on Eagle Mountain Bicycle and Pedestrian Mater Plan done in partnership with the Mountainland Association of Governments, adjusted for inflation using the US Bureau of Labor Statistics Inflation Calculator. It is assumed that grade separated crossings will be completed as part of road improvements. Costs include only basic amenities described in trailhead standards.

TOTAL PROBABLE COSTS

As illustrated in Table 5.4, the total probable costs for implementing the proposed park and trail system improvements through 2060 is $125,094,500.

Table 5.4: Total Probable Cost for Park and Trail System Improvements

Item	Probable Cost
Probable Costs to Upgrade Existing Parks, Acquire New Park Land, and Develop Future Parks Through Buildout	$48,756,000
Probable Costs to Develop Trails, Trailheads and Other Improvements	$76,088,500
Wayfinding & Signage Master Plan (for entire parks, recreation, open space and trails system)	$50,000
Wayfinding & Signage Installation (for entire parks, recreation, open space and trails system)	$200,000
Grand Total	**$125,094,500**

OPERATIONAL AND MAINTENANCE COSTS

Saratoga Springs maintains its parks, open spaces and trails at a high standard. This is supported by the lack of public comments citing maintenance as an issue. Nevertheless, it is recommended that a specific annual budget amount be established to ensure ongoing needs for replacing and upgrading existing playgrounds, parking lots and other park, open space and trail amenities are met.

For preliminary planning purposes, it is estimated that 5% of the total probable costs for park and trail implementation will be required to meet maintenance needs. Dividing that amount by 41 (the number of years remaining before projected build-out), an annual budget of $152,500 is recommended ($125,094,500 x .05 / 41 = $152,554)[1]. This budget should be used to address deferred maintenance issues, to complete special park and trail enhancement projects and to ensure that existing and future park and trail amenities do not become outdated or obsolete. The budget should be adjusted annually to ensure resources maintain pace with inflation and future needs.

1 The annual budget amount for amenity replacement and upgrades is a suggested amount to provide the City with a starting place to begin planning for this need. The City may need to adjust this amount in the future to ensure funds are adequate to meet actual needs.

ESTABLISHING FUNDING PRIORITIES

Establishing funding priorities for parks, recreation, open space and trails is a challenge for rapidly-growing communities with limited resources and diverse needs. The following are key factors to consider when prioritizing specific projects:

Project Prioritization Considerations

- Do they help fill a critical need or service gap?
- Do they address life and safety concerns?
- Do they support on-going maintenance of existing facilities (thereby protecting existing resources and investments)?
- Do they meet future needs in clear and logical phases?

Table 5.5 is an Action Plan that summarizes short, medium and long-term implementation actions and priorities to help ensure implementation is coordinated with capital funding as well as on-going annual operation and maintenance costs. In order to meet all future needs, it is critical that the suggested improvements be made according to the corresponding 2030 and 2060 target dates. It is highly recommended that the resources required to acquire land be identified as soon as possible, as this will help avoid escalating acquisition costs over time.

Triton Park

Table 5.5: Action Plan

	Item	Recommended Implementation Timeline			
		Immediate Implementation	Short-Term Implementation 2019 - 2030	Medium-Term Implementation 2019 - 2040	Medium to Long-Term Implementation (through build-out) 2040 - 2060+
	Capital Facility Improvements				
	Parks and Open Space				
1	Utilize 3.72 acres per 1,000 population as the minimum future level of service through build-out.				
2	Upgrade existing parks to meet standards and amenity levels of service.				
3	Ensure development of a 10 acre Community Park in SITLA development to help fill existing gaps (assume developer provided).				
4	Develop 21 acres at Performance Park to help fill existing gaps.				
5	Develop 7.1 acres of undeveloped land at Marina Park.				
6	Acquire and develop 61.9 acres at Patriot Park.				
7	Ensure development of a 5 acre Neighborhoods Park in SITLA development to meet future needs (assume developer provided).				
8	Ensure acquisition and development of 9 neighborhood parks with a total of 45 acres to meet needs by build-out (assume 2 are developer provided).				
9	Ensure development of 121.7 acres of other developer proposed parks to help meet future needs.				
10	Install City-wide wayfinding and signage system which applies to trails & open space.				
11	Acquire the proposed open spaces shown in this plan.				
	Trails				
12	Develop 56.2 miles of proposed bike lanes (assume with road projects).				
13	Develop 127.1 miles of proposed paved trails.				
17	Develop 14.6 miles of proposed unpaved trails.				
15	Develop crossings.				
16	Implement lighting and safety improvements.				
17	Develop proposed trailheads.				
	Operations & Maintenance				
18	Establish annual budget for deferred maintenance and upgrades to parks, open space and trails.				

Table 5.5: Action Plan (continued)

	Item	Recommended Implementation Timeline			
		Immediate Implementation	Short-Term Implementation 2019 - 2030	Medium-Term Implementation 2019 - 2040	Medium to Long-Term Implementation (through build-out) 2040 - 2060+
	Policy Actions				
	Parks and Open Space				
19	As the community grows ensure that the recommended LOS is maintained.				
20	Develop City-wide Wayfinding and Signage Master Plan which applies to trails & open space.				
21	Pursue neighborhood and community parks (parks 5 acres or larger) in the future to meet the needs of the community while minimizing the maintenance demands associated with smaller parks.				
22	Adopt the minimum development standards for parks detailed in this plan as a City policy.				
23	Design and develop all new parks with amenities and features that meet the established standards, and allow and encourage public input on the design.				
24	Construct all new Community and Regional Parks to accommodate large public events, including appropriate event infrastructure.				
25	Update annual budgets to ensure funding for operation and maintenance of City parks and other land the City maintains is sufficient to meet needs.				
26	Continue to maintain an up-to-date inventory of all parks, park facilities and parkways, documenting and implementing improvements according to a feasible schedule.				
27	Apply design standards for all parks in a way that helps reduce maintenance requirements while promoting better long-term use of public parks and recreation amenities.				
28	Increase the variety of amenities in and the individual identities/themes of parks to promote better long-term use of parks.				
29	Provide amenities and facilities to help residents "self-maintain" their parks and park facilities (trash receptacles, animal waste containers, hose bibs, pet clean-up stations, etc.).				
30	Work with Utah County and the State of Utah to ensure that city, county and state statutes and regulations are met as new facilities are developed.				

Table 5.5: Action Plan (continued)

	Item	Recommended Implementation Timeline			
		Immediate Implementation	Short-Term Implementation 2019 - 2030	Medium-Term Implementation 2019 - 2040	Medium to Long-Term Implementation (through build-out) 2040 - 2060+
31	Acquire the proposed open spaces shown in this plan, and other land that may become available in the future.				
32	Work with Utah County and the State of Utah to ensure that city, county and state statutes and regulations are met as new facilities are developed.				
	Recreation and Community Arts and Events				
33	Regularly survey residents and fitness center users on a regular basis to make sure programs and facilities are meeting needs.				
34	Develop a feasibility study that explores potential options, financial feasibility and appropriate timing for the construction of a flexible facility to meet the City's recreation, arts, senior and general community needs.				
35	Partner with other public and private agencies, facilities, organizations and groups to provide additional facilities and programs, including the Alpine School District and private developers.				
36	Continue to support the Arts Council and non-profit and non-profits to provide high quality arts events and activities.				
	Trails				
37	Adopt a Complete Streets Policy for the City.				
38	Require all Capital Improvement Projects to conform to the Saratoga Springs Transportation Master Plan and this master plan.				
39	Adopt and adhere to existing and future standards established by the *AASHTO Guide for the Development of Bicycle Facilities* , and the *Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices* (MUTCD).				
40	Create a sustainable, dedicated source of trail funding within the annual City budget.				
41	Encourage multi-jurisdictional cooperation and funding relationships with the Alpine School District, Mountainland Association of Governments (MAG), the neighboring cities of Lehi and Eagle Mountain and Utah County.				
42	Update the *Transportation Master Plan* and this master plan on a regular basis.				
43	Make trail and bike path maps available to the public.				
44	Develop an accessible network of pedestrian supportive infrastructure, including sidewalks, curb ramps, and trails near existing parks and other high-use destinations.				

Table 5.5: Action Plan (continued)

	Item	Recommended Implementation Timeline			
		Immediate Implementation	Short-Term Implementation 2019 - 2030	Medium-Term Implementation 2019 - 2040	Medium to Long-Term Implementation (through build-out) 2040 - 2060+
45	Continually evaluate system-wide trail needs as part of future planning initiatives, focusing on closing gaps, developing trailheads, and improving connections with existing and future neighborhoods, destinations, parks and recreation facilities, and transit stations.				
46	Require private development projects to finance and install bicycle facilities, sidewalks, and trails as appropriate and where recommended in the Transportation Master Plan and this plan.				
47	Work with the local school district, police, UDOT, Utah County, local developers and neighborhood groups to identify and clearly mark appropriate trails and routes.				
48	Install a safe system of trail lighting and emergency response stations along paved trails where appropriate.				
49	Ensure that maintenance routines include the control of weeds (particularly thorny species), the removal of trash and debris, and selective plowing of key routes to facilitate winter trail use.				
50	Promote an "Adopt a Trail" program to encourage trail user assistance in maintaining the trail system. Encourage participants to become involved in all aspects of trails development, through maintenance and long-term improvements.				
51	Provide a bicycle and pedestrian network that is safe and attractive to all users.				
	Other				
52	Utilize drip irrigation, moisture sensors, central control systems and appropriate plant materials and soil amendments to create a more sustainable parks and recreation system.				
53	Utilize industry best practices to make sure plants are water-wise, regionally-appropriate and as low maintenance where appropriate to reduce maintenance and water demands.				
54	Increase the amount of greenery, especially street trees to provide shade, cooling, habitat, air quality benefits, visual continuity and visual relief from the built environment.				

Table 5.6: Action Plan (continued)

Item		Recommended Implementation Timeline			
		Immediate Implementation	Short-Term Implementation 2019 - 2030	Medium-Term Implementation 2019 - 2040	Medium to Long-Term Implementation (through build-out) 2040 - 2060+
55	Preserve and enhance the visual amenity provided by the open spaces, foothills, lake, river and natural drainages, focusing on the urban connections to scenic views that are important to residents and visitors.				
56	Maintain publicly-owned lands at highest maintenance levels appropriate to land use and type of facility or amenity.				
57	Provide exterior lighting that enhances safety and night use in public spaces but minimizes impacts on surrounding land uses.				

EXISTING FUNDING SOURCES

The following are some of the key funding sources currently available for implementing the plan recommendations.

- **General Funds**- acquired through government levies such as property and sales taxes that are divided up as the City sees fit.
- **Park Improvement Funds** - impact fees assessed with new development and redevelopment to provide comparable level of service for parks as the City grows.
- **Enterprise Funds** - business funds where governments charge fees for programs and services and then use the money to pay for those services.
- **Bonds** - debt obligations issued by government entities for helping the City acquire and develop parks not provided by developers.

Details regarding the various funding options and sources follow.

General Obligation Bonds

The lowest interest cost financing for any local government is typically through the levying of taxes for issuance of General Obligation Bonds. General Obligation Bonds, commonly referred to as "G.O. Bonds," are secured by the unlimited pledge of the taxing ability of the City, sometimes called a "full faith and credit" pledge. Because G.O. bonds are secured by and repaid from property taxes, they are generally viewed as the lowest credit risk to bond investors. This low risk usually translates into the lowest interest rates of any municipal bond structure.

Under the Utah State Constitution, any bonded indebtedness secured by property tax levies must be approved by a majority of voters in a bond election called for that purpose. Currently, bond elections may only be held once each year on the November general election date.

If the recreation improvements being considered for funding through a G.O. bond has broad appeal to the public and proponents are willing to assist in the promotional efforts, G.O. bonds for recreation projects can meet with public approval. However, since some constituents may not view them as essential-purpose facilities for a local government or may view the government as competing with the private sector, obtaining positive voter approval may be a challenge.

It should also be noted that a G.O. bond election, if successful, would only cover the financing of capital expenditures for the facility. Facility revenues and/or other city funds would still be needed to pay for the operation and maintenance expenses of the facilities. State law limitations on the amount of General Obligation indebtedness for this type of facility are quite high with the limit being four percent of a city's taxable value. Pursuant to state law the debt must be structured to mature in forty years or less, but practically the city would not want to structure the debt to exceed the useful life of the facility.

Advantages of G.O. bonds:

- Lowest interest rates
- Lowest bond issuance costs
- If approved, a new 'revenue' is identified to pay for the capital cost

Disadvantages of G.O. bonds:

- Timing issues; limited dates to hold required G.O. election
- Risk of a "no" vote while still incurring costs of holding a bond election
- Can only raise taxes to finance bonds through election process to pay for physical facilities, not ongoing or additional operation and maintenance expense. This would have to be done through a separate truth-in-taxation tax increase.

Sales Tax Revenue Bonds

Utah State law allows municipalities to issue debt secured by a pledge of their sales tax receipts. Sales tax revenue bonds have been well received in the markets and may be used for a wide variety of municipal capital projects, including recreation facilities. State law limits the amount of sales tax revenue bonds that may be issued by a community. Due to the fact that (1) most cities rely heavily on their sales tax revenues for their operations; and (2) local governments have very little control over the sales tax revenue source; the financial markets will typically only allow an issuer to utilize approximately one-half of the revenues available as a pledge toward debt service as they require minimum debt service coverage covenants of two times revenues to debt costs.

Additionally, due to the reliance on sales tax revenues for the general operations of most communities, existing sales tax revenues would have to be diverted to repay the bonds, unless the City has additional revenue sources that can be devoted to repayment of the bonds, or is anticipating a spike in sales tax revenues due to new large retail businesses locating in the City.

Utah local government sales tax revenue bonds are very well regarded in the bond market and will generally trade within five to fifteen basis points of where the City's General Obligation Bond debt would price.

Advantages of Sales Tax Revenue Bonds:

- Relatively low interest rates
- No vote required

Disadvantages of Sales Tax Revenue Bonds:

- Utilizes existing City funds with no new revenue source identified
- Somewhat higher financing costs than G.O. Bonds

Special Assessment Areas

Formerly known as Special Improvement Districts or (SIDs), a Special Assessment Area (SAA) provides a means for a local government to designate an area as benefited by an improvement and levy an assessment to pay for the improvements. The assessment levy is then pledged to retire the debt incurred in constructing the project.

While not subject to a bond election as General Obligation bonds require, SAAs may not, as a matter of law, be created if 40 percent or more of the property owners subject to the assessment, weighted by method of assessment, within the proposed SAA, protest its creation. Politically, most City Councils would find it difficult to create an SAA if even 20-30 percent of property owners oppose the SAA. If created, the City's ability to levy an assessment within the SAA provides a sound method of financing although it will be at interest rates higher than other types of debt that the City could consider issuing.

The underlying rationale of an SAA is that those who benefit from the improvements will be assessed for the costs. For a recreation facility or similar major project, which is intended to serve all residents of the community, and in this case possibly serve multiple communities, it would be difficult to make a case for excluding any residential properties from being assessed, although commercial property would have to be evaluated with bond counsel. The ongoing annual administrative obligations related to an SAA would be formidable even though State law allows the City to assess a fee to cover such administrative costs. Special Assessment notices are mailed out by the entity creating the assessment area and are not included as part of the annual tax notice and collection process conducted by the County.

If an SAA is used, the City would have to decide on a method of assessment (i.e. per residence, per acre, by front-footage, etc.), which is fair and equitable to both residential and commercial property owners. The ability to utilize this mechanism by cities joined together under an inter-local cooperative would need to be explored with legal counsel. There are several issues that would need to be considered such as ownership of the facility as a local government can only assess property owners within its proper legal boundaries.

<u>Advantages of SAA Bonds:</u>

- Assessments provide a 'new' revenue source to pay for the capital expense
- No general vote required (but those assessed can challenge the creation)

<u>Disadvantages of SAA Bonds:</u>

- Higher financing costs
- Significant administration costs for a City-Wide Assessment area

Note – Due to the costs of administering a City-Wide SAA and given that special assessments cannot be deducted from income taxes, but property taxes can, it seems more rational to seek for G.O. election approval rather than form a City-Wide SAA.

Lease Revenue Bonds

One financing option which, until the advent of sales tax revenue bonds, was frequently used to finance recreation facilities is a Lease Revenue Bond issued by the Local Building Authority (formerly Municipal Building Authority) of the City. This type of bond would be secured by the recreation center property and facility itself, not unlike real property serving as the security for a home mortgage. Lease revenue bonds are repaid by an annual appropriation of the lease payment by the City Council. Generally, this financing method works best when used for an essential public facility such as city halls, police stations and fire stations. Interest rates on a lease revenue bond would likely be 15 to 30 basis points higher than on sales tax revenue bonds depending on the market's assessment of the "essentiality" of the facility.

Financial markets generally limit the final maturity on this type of issue to the useful life of the facility and State law limits the term of the debt to a maximum of forty years. As the City is responsible to make the lease payments, the financial markets determine the perceived willingness and ability of the City to make those payments by a thorough review of the City's General Fund monies.

As this type of bond financing does not generate any new revenue source, the City Council will still need to identify revenue sources sufficient to make the lease payments to cover the debt service.

Creative use of this option could be made with multiple local governments, each of which could finance their portion through different means – one could use sales tax, another could issue G.O. bonds, etc.

Advantages of Lease Revenue Bonds:

- No general vote required
- No specific revenue pledge required

Disadvantages of Lease Revenue Bonds:

- Higher financing costs than some other alternatives
- No 'new' revenue source identified to make up the use of general fund monies that will be utilized to make the debt service payment

Transient Room Tax Revenue Bonds

Transient Room Tax Revenue Bonds are similar to Sales Tax Revenue Bonds and are paid from excise tax revenues governed pursuant to Utah State Code. Without the need for a vote, cities and counties may issue bonds payable solely from excise taxes levied by the city, county or those levied by the State of Utah and rebated to the city or county, such as gasoline taxes or sales taxes.

For all sales and excise tax bonds, there exists in State law a non-impairment clause that restricts the State's ability to change the distribution formula in such a way that would harm bondholders while local governments have debt outstanding.

Tax Increment Financing (Utah Community Development and Renewal Agencies Act (CDRA))

Tax increment financing can be an attractive option to communities, developers and landowners because it provides public assistance and funding for improvements, infrastructure, land write-downs, etc., in partnership with private investment in an area. The purpose is to encourage development to take place in areas that are deteriorating, to create jobs, or to assist with important community projects.

The main steps in establishing a tax increment area include:

- Formation of a Community Development Redevelopment Agency (must only be created once by a community, not for each project) –this step has already been completed by the City.
- Creation of a project area plan and budget
- Approval of taxing entities

Short-Term Financing

Short-term financing options are obligations that are remarketed or become due over a relatively short period of time. They are issued to provide working capital to pay operating expenses or provide interim short-term financing for capital projects.

There are several tools that can be used under this mechanism including:

- Tax and Revenue Anticipation Note (TRANs)
- Bond Anticipation Notes (BANs)
- Grant Anticipation Notes (GANs)
- Interim Warrants

Social Impact Bonds

Through Social Impact Bonds (SIB), or Pay for Success Bonds, governments collaborate with investors/funders and service providers to improve services for a disadvantaged population. In exchange for funding, a governmental entity sets specific, measurable goals for early prevention programs that will achieve clearly defined outcomes. The investors/funders provide the initial capital support and the municipality makes payments to the program as outcomes are reached.

Creation of a Special Service District

A city, or several cities via inter-local agreement, can create a Recreation District charged with providing certain services to residents of the area covered by the District. A Special District can levy a property tax assessment on residents of the District to pay for both the bond debt service and O&M. It should be noted that the City already can levy, subject to a bond election and/or the truth-in-taxation process, property taxes. The creation of a Recreation Special Service District serves to separate its designated functions from those of the City by creating a separate entity with its own governing body. However, an additional layer of government may not be the most cost effective.

Creative Financing

Non-traditional sources of funding may be used to minimize the amount that needs to be financed via the issuance of debt. The City's approach should be to utilize community support for fund-raising efforts, innovative sources of grants, utilization of naming rights/ donations, corporate sponsorships, contracting services, partnership opportunities involving other communities and the private sector, together with cost-sharing arrangements with school districts. To the extent debt must be incurred to complete the financing package, alternative bonding structures, as discussed above, should be evaluated to find the optimal structure based on the financial resources of the City.

FUNDING OPTIONS FOR SMALLER PROJECTS

Private Funding Sources

Private and Public Partnerships

The Parks and Recreation Department or a group of communities acting cooperatively, and a private developer or other government or quasi-government agency may often cooperate on a facility that services the public, yet is also attractive to an entrepreneur or another partner. These partnerships can be effective funding opportunities for special use sports facilities like baseball complexes or soccer complexes; however, they generally are not feasible when the objective is to develop community parks that provide facilities such as playgrounds, informal playing fields, and other recreational opportunities that are generally available to the public free of charge. A recreation center, community center, or swimming/water park is also potentially attractive as a private or public partnership.

Private Fundraising

While not addressed as a specific strategy for individual recreation facilities, it is not uncommon for public monies to be leveraged with private donations. Private funds will most likely be attracted to high-profile facilities such as a swimming complex or sports complex, and generally require aggressive promotion and management on behalf of the park and recreation department or City administration.

Service Organization Partners

Many service organizations and corporations have funds available for park and recreation facilities. Local Rotary Clubs, Kiwanis Clubs, and other service organizations often combine resources to develop park and recreation facilities. Other for-profit organizations such as Home Depot and Lowes are often willing to partner with local communities in the development of playground and other park and recreation equipment and facilities. Again, the key is a motivated individual or group who can garner the support and funding desired.

Joint Development Partnerships

Joint development opportunities may also occur between municipalities and among agencies or departments within a municipality. Cooperative relationships between cities and counties are not uncommon, nor are partnerships between cities and school districts. Often, small cities in a region can cooperate and pool resources for recreation projects. There may be other opportunities as well which should be explored whenever possible to maximize recreation opportunities and minimize costs. To make these kinds of opportunities happen, there must be on-going and constant communication between residents, governments, business interests and others.

Industrial Loan Companies (ILC) or Industrial Banks (IB)

Industrial Loan Companies (ILC) or Industrial Banks (IB) are financial institutions in the United States that lend money for all kinds of consumer and commercial projects. Many of the largest ILCs are located in the State of Utah. ILCs like other commercial banks have community reinvestment requirements (CRA credits, as discussed in this document) that encourage lending within the market areas in which they operate.

Heart of the Community Grant Programs (Project for Public Spaces)

The Heart of the Community Program began in April 2014 and is sponsored by Southwest Airlines. Southwest Airlines has partnered with the nonprofit Project for Public Spaces (PPS) to leverage resources in order to strengthen connections between people and places. PPS is dedicated to building communities through planning, design, and education and aims to revitalize communities by creating spaces for members of the community to gather. The goal is to "capitalize on a community's assets and potential to create vibrant destinations—such as neighborhood gardens, community markets, and downtown squares."

Point of Sale Fundraising

Point of Sale Fundraising allows businesses the opportunity to collect voluntary donations from patrons of hotels, restaurants, grocery stores or other service providers at the time they pay for the primary service. Patrons may elect to round up their bill or contribute a self-designated amount to go towards the City designated fund, park or project.

Local Funding Sources

ZAP Taxes

Zoo, Arts and Park (ZAP) taxes have been very effective in raising funds for a range of recreation, trails, and arts projects. This program is administered by Salt Lake County, which receives one penny for every $10.00 purchased, and redistributes the funds to more than 160 qualified parks, recreation cultural organizations and events. The existing ZAP tax was recently approved, and will be in effect for a ten-year period.

Dedications and Development Agreements

The dedication of land for parks, and park development agreements has long been an accepted development requirement and is another valuable tool for implementing parks. The City can require the dedication of park land through review of projects such as Planned Unit Developments (PUDs), for example.

Park and Recreation Impact Fees

The City is developing an impact fee program for park, recreation and trail projects concurrent to this planning process. Impact fees can be used by communities to offset the cost of public parks and facilities needed to serve future residents and new development.

Impact fees are especially useful in areas of rapid growth or redevelopment. They help the community to maintain a current level of service as new development puts strain on existing facilities. It assures that new development pays its proportionate share to maintain quality of life expectations for City residents.

Park Utility Fee

A park utility fee is charged as a specified amount per housing unit in connection with the utility bill. The revenue may be used to pay for park and public lands maintenance and operations. A park utility fee provides a dedicated stream of funding for parks and public lands regardless of appropriations from the general fund. The fee may be determined by a set project cost or ongoing maintenance, based on the number of units within the city. The fee is collected simultaneously with the utility fee each month.

Special Taxes or Fees

Tax revenue collected for special purposes may be earmarked for park development. For instance, the room tax applied to hotel and motel rooms in the City could be earmarked for parks, recreation and trails development but is generally earmarked for tourism-related projects.

Community Development Block Grants

Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) can be used for park development in areas of the City that qualify as low and moderate income areas. CDBG funds may be used to upgrade parks, purchase new park equipment and improve accessibility (Americans with Disabilities Act). Additionally, CDBG funds may be used for projects that remove barriers to access for the elderly and for persons with severe disabilities.

User Fees

User fees may be charged for reserved rentals on park pavilions and for recreation programs. These fees should be evaluated to determine whether they are appropriate. A feasibility study may be needed to acquire the appropriate information before making decisions and changes.

Redevelopment Agency Funds

Generally, Redevelopment Agency (RDA) Funds are available for use in redevelopment areas. As new RDA areas are identified and developed, tax increment funds generated can, at the discretion of the City, be used to fund park acquisition and development.

Local, State and Federal Programs

The availability of these funds may change annually depending on budget allocations at the local, state or federal level. It is important to check with local representatives and administering agencies to find out the status of funding. Many of these programs are funded by the Federal government and administered by local State agencies.

These include:

- USFWS Sharon Steel Natural Resource Damage Assessment
- Jordan River Commission Corridor Grants
- Utah Watershed Restoration Initiative
- Utah Office of Outdoor Recreation Grants
- Utah Forestry, Fire and State Lands Grants
- Utah Division of Water Quality Nonpoint Source Grants
- Utah Department of Agriculture and Food Invasive Species Management Grants
- Utah State Parks Recreation and Trails Program
- Salt Lake County Tourism, Community and Cultural Centers Grants

Land and Water Conservation Fund

This Federal money is made available to states, and in Utah is administered by the Utah State Division of Parks and Recreation. Funds are matched with local funds for acquisition of park and recreation lands, redevelopment of older recreation facilities, trails, accessibility improvements and other recreation programs /facilities that provide close-to-home recreation opportunities for youth, adults, senior citizens and persons with physical and mental disabilities.

TIGER Discretionary Grants

According to the U.S. Department of Transportation, "the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2016 appropriated $500 million, available through September 30, 2019, for National Infrastructure Investments otherwise known as TIGER grants. As with previous rounds of TIGER, funds for the FY 2016 TIGER program are to be awarded on a competitive basis for projects that will have a significant impact on the Nation, a metropolitan area or a region.

TIGER Discretionary Grants have supported innovative projects, including multi-modal and multi-jurisdictional projects which are difficult to fund through traditional federal programs. Successful TIGER projects leverage resources, encourage partnership, catalyze investment and growth, fill a critical void in the transportation system or provide a substantial benefit to the nation, region or metropolitan area in which the project is located. The 2016 TIGER grant program will continue to make transformative surface transportation investments that dramatically improve the status quo by providing significant and measurable improvements over existing conditions."

Federal Recreational Trails Program

The Utah Department of Natural Resources, Parks and Recreation Division administers these Federal funds. The funds are available for motorized and non-motorized trail development and maintenance projects, educational programs to promote trail safety and trail-related environmental protection projects. The match is 50 percent, and grants may range from $10,000 to $200,000. Projects are awarded in August each year.

Utah Trails and Pathways/Non-Motorized Program

Funds are available for planning, acquisition and development of recreational trails. The program is administered by the Board of Utah State Parks and Recreation, which awards grants at its fall meeting based on recommendations of the Recreation Trails Advisory Council and Utah State Parks and Recreation. The match is 50 percent, and grants may range from $5,000 to $100,000.

In-Kind and Donated Services or Funds

Several options for local initiatives are possible to further the implementation of the master plan. These kinds of programs would require the City to implement a proactive recruiting initiative to generate interest and sponsorship, and may include:

- Fund-raising and volunteer support of Saratoga Springs' parks, open spaces, recreation facilities and trails;
- Adopt-a-park or adopt-a-trail, whereby a service organization or group either raises funds or constructs a given facility with in-kind services;
- Corporate sponsorships, whereby businesses or large corporations provide funding for a facility, as per an adopt-a-trail and adopt-a-park program; or
- Public trail and park facility construction programs, in which local citizens donate their time and effort to planning and implementing trail projects and park improvements.

Additional funding and assistance opportunities from *Utah's Outdoor Recreation Plan 2019*, by the Utah Department of Natural Resources and the Utah Division of Parks and Recreation follow.

Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership Program (ORLP)

ORLP is a national competitive matching grant program that is administered by the NPS in partnership with each state's LWCF stateside programs and officers. This program is funded utilizing the same revenue sources as the LWCF program. Projects proposed for funding must meet all the requirements of the stateside assistance program, as well as, annual ORLP goals.

The purpose of this grant program is to help create and improve state and locally-owned parks and other outdoor recreation areas in ways that support public access and re-connect people with the outdoors. The grant targets projects in city neighborhoods that are delineated by the 2010 Census as having populations of 50,000 or more people, consist of densely settled territory, and lack parks and recreational opportunities. Each year the funding opportunity requirements under this program can vary slightly depending on direction from United States Congress and the NPS.

Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program

The Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance (RTCA) Program of the NPS is not a granting program but provides technical assistance in the implementation of outdoor recreation and natural resource conservation projects. The RTCA coordinators assist local organizations and governments to collaboratively preserve open space, conserve rivers, and develop greenways and trails. Projects must have broad community support to receive approval, and be supported by a group of partners with substantive and well-defined roles. Preference is given for projects that include both resource conservation and recreation, provide physical connections among resources, engage youth, develop relationships between NPS areas and local communities, and partner with health organizations or the NPS. Applications for assistance are found on the RTCA website. An RTCA coordinator is located in Salt Lake City to serve projects in Utah.

Recreational Trails Program

The Recreational Trails Program (RTP) is an assistance program through the Federal Highway Administration that is administered by State Parks. The RTP was authorized by the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (ISTEA), which established the Recreational Trails Funding Program and the Recreational Trails Trust Fund. The ISTEA requires that revenues from motor fuel taxes generated from the sale of fuel for OHV recreational purposes be transferred to the Trails Trust Fund from the Highway Trust Fund to provide for both motorized and non-motorized recreational trail and facility improvements.

States are required to use at least 40 percent of their appropriation for diversified trail uses so that multiple user groups can benefit from the projects funded. States are encouraged to consider projects that benefit both motorized and non-motorized trail users, such as common trailhead facilities. In Utah, grant applications are considered by the Utah Combined Trails Advisory Council (a joint-session meeting of the Utah Recreational Trails Advisory Council and the OHV Advisory Council) and State Parks staff. This group recommends project funding to the Utah Transportation Commission, which has the authority for funding approval. The RTP in Utah can fund up to 50 percent of project costs. The remaining percent of a project can be matched with sponsor cash, in-kind services, volunteer labor, or donations. Any federal agency project sponsor must secure at least 5 percent of funding from a nonfederal source. Most project grants range in amount from $10,000 to $100,000. Funds are distributed on a reimbursement schedule after project completion and inspection. All projects receiving these funds are subject to an environmental clearance process.

Utah Off-Highway Vehicle Program

Utah's Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) Program coordinates OHV-related recreation throughout the state and emphasizes rider safety through its education program and efforts to provide OHV opportunities. Managed by State Parks, the OHV Program produces maps and publications informing citizens of riding opportunities and events around the state, laws and regulations, natural resource use and protection, as well as riding ethics and volunteer opportunities.

The OHV Program sponsors a youth education program through private providers. Youth under age 16 are required by state law to complete an education course before operating an OHV on public lands, roads, or trails. (Children under age eight are prohibited from operating an OHV on public land.) Several of these courses are offered online and cover the following topics: safe riding, proper machine sizing, weight distribution, responsible and ethical riding, proper handling and shifting, and riding within your ability. Classroom riding courses are offered through private providers.

The OHV Program also administers grants through the state OHV Trails Program. The OHV Trails Program was authorized by the Utah Legislature in 1987 with the purpose of assisting public land management agencies in their efforts to meet the needs of OHV users. The OHV Trails Program provides 50/50 matching fund grants to federal, state, and local governments and to organized user groups to fund OHV-related projects in Utah. Projects eligible for funding include trail construction, rehabilitation and maintenance, development of trailhead facilities, signage installation, education and interpretive media and programs, law enforcement/search and rescue, peer-patrolling activities, and purchase of trail maintenance equipment.

Funding for the OHV Trails Program is appropriated annually by the state legislature and is received from OHV registration fees and a small percentage of Utah's motor fuel tax. The grant program generally provides about $175,000 per year for projects statewide.

Projects are selected by State Park's citizen governing board, based on recommendations submitted by the OHV Advisory Council and State Parks staff. Once projects are selected, project sponsors can apply to receive up to 50 percent of their awards in advance of work done to fund start-up costs. The OHV Advisory Committee comprises members representing the following interests: motorcycles, ATVs, snowmobiles, 4-wheel drive vehicles, OHV safety, retail OHV dealers, two members at large, a youth member, the USFS, the BLM, and SITLA.

Office of Outdoor Recreation – Utah Outdoor Recreation Grant

In January 2013, Governor Herbert created the Office of Outdoor Recreation in recognition of the substantial contribution the outdoor recreation industry plays in Utah's economy. This office is responsible for establishing a nationwide recreation management standard along with the sustainment of Utah's natural assets and continued economic growth of Utah's recreational industry. Utah's natural assets include, but are not limited to, 54 million acres of public land, five National Parks, seven National Forests, 44 State Parks, 14 ski resorts, and thousands of miles of public trails. The Office of Outdoor Recreation with the assistance of Utah's Legislature and the Governor has created the Utah Outdoor Recreation Grant. This grant was designed to improve tourism in communities around the State of Utah through the development of recreational amenities and opportunities. Any recreational infrastructure developed with funding through this grant must provide economic opportunities for the surrounding area along with the ability to increase visitation and/or retain residents locally. Eligible recipients include counties, municipalities, towns, tribal governments and non-profit entities. Funding is provided on a 50/50 match basis with in-kind and/or donations limited to 25 percent of the local match.

Utah Recreation and Parks Association

The Utah Recreation and Parks Association (URPA) is a local non-profit association that offers an annual recreation conference designed to bring professionals together in a format of educational classes, roundtable discussions, networking, and social interaction. URPA supports students as the future leaders of Utah's leisure profession through an annual scholarship program. Each year, URPA awards three graduate scholarships and three undergraduate scholarships in the park and recreation field. URPA is comprised of 400 members that represent government (state, federal, municipal, tribal), non-profits and private organizations.

The mission of the URPA is to actively support and promote the growth, development and preservation of recreation, leisure, parks, and natural resources in the State of Utah. The mission will be accomplished through: development of high standards of leadership, facilities and programs, acquiring and disseminating accurate information, promoting interest in and understanding of recreation and parks, and acting as liaison with the National Recreation and Park Association as an affiliate member.

Leray Mcallister Critical Land Conservation Fund

The LeRay McAllister Critical Land Conservation Fund is a state program administered by the Utah Quality Growth Commission and the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget. Its goal is to protect open lands that are critical to recreation, scenery, historic preservation, agriculture, water quality, wildlife habitat, and wetlands. The fund is an incentive program that provides grants that encourage collaborative conservation efforts between communities and landowners.

Counties, cities, towns, the DNR, the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food, and nonprofits with 501(c) (3) status can apply for these 50/50 matching grants to acquire conservation easements on private lands or to purchase fee title, under limited circumstances, on small parcels. Projects must have support from local communities, by way of their local elected officials and legislators. These grants cannot be used for "active recreation" sites like parks with developed facilities or ball fields. However, some forms of recreation may occur on these lands, or they may provide access to recreation sites. Lee Ray McAllister Critical Land Conservation Fund was not appropriated funds for 2018

Utah's boating program was authorized by the state legislature to promote and regulate safety and adherence to boating laws on Utah's waterways and to provide educational programs for boat operators.

Utah's boating program is guided by the *Utah Boating Program Strategic Plan* (State Parks 2010) and is funded through numerous sources including: U.S. Coast Guard grants, boat registration fees, fuel tax revenues from fuel used for recreational boating, commercial boating registration fees, and boater access funds from matching grant programs through UDWR and USFWS. Grants from the USCG are supported by the Sports Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund (formerly Wallop-Breaux), which operates through a user-pay, user-benefits initiative. These funds are generated through taxes and fees associated with fishing and boating, allocated by Congress, and administered by USCG; they provide boating safety programs, including education, law enforcement, and other initiatives.

Additional funding opportunities for bicycle and pedestrian facilities detailed in the *Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan* are included below.

Parking Fees

Some cities have instituted parking fees to help pay for infrastructure improvements. Pasadena, California, for example, installed paid parking meters to gather revenue to help maintain streets, alleys, and sidewalks in Old Pasadena. These funds were also used to provide new signs, lighting, pedestrian-friendly alleys, and similar improvements.

New Construction

Future road widening and construction projects are the primary way that on-street bicycle lanes and routes will be implemented. To ensure that roadway construction projects provide bike lanes and walkways where needed, it is important that the recommendations contained in this plan are conveyed and understood by UDOT, and preferably by one of their designated bicycle and pedestrian coordinators.

ADA Pedestrian Access Program

UDOT is committed to providing barrier-free pedestrian accessibility within the state road system. The program goals include validating existing access ramp data and updating to ensure it accurately reflects current conditions; reconstructing substandard access ramps through new projects, maintenance projects, or alteration project funds and prioritizing these access ramps that fall within the project limits to ensure that critical locations are addressed and not postponed; reducing the number of remaining secondary access ramps that need to be updated by projects; ensuring that engineers and designers consider pedestrian accessibility during project development and make every attempt to address the needs along the project corridor; ensuring every effort is made during construction to ensure a safe pedestrian accessibility route is maintained through the project; and continuing to receive and respond to meritorious requests or complaints from individuals and public agencies concerning accessibility issues or substandard access ramps in a timely manner. Applications for funding to rectify these shortcomings can be submitted to the UDOT Region Coordinator.

Safe Sidewalks Program

Applications for improving sidewalks as part of the UDOT Safe Sidewalk Program should be submitted by the City to the UDOT Region coordinator. Applications should include a scope and associated cost estimate. Saratoga Springs must agree to maintain the improved sidewalks within one year following the release of funds.

Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP)

The Mountainland Association of Governments (MAG) funds are distributed to projects during the *Transportation Improvement Plan* project selection process. Most TAP projects have an 80/20 federal to local match requirement. Projects can include sidewalks, trails, bicycle facilities, signals, traffic calming, lighting and safety infrastructure and ADA improvements. Rail-to-trails conversions are also allowed. The Recreational Trails Program is included in Transportation Alternatives, as is the Safe Routes to School program. See http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/transportation_alternatives/ for details.

UDOT Surface Transportation Program (STP)

The Surface Transportation Program (STP) provides flexible funding that may be used by States and localities for projects to preserve and improve the conditions and performance on any Federal-aid highway, bridge and tunnel projects on any public road, pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure, and transit capital projects, including intercity bus terminals. (http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/map21/factsheets/stp.cfm)

Congestion and Mitigation Air Quality Program

The Mountainland Association of Governments (MAG) offers some assistance with congestion and the mitigation of air quality impacts. Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funds are intended to fund transportation projects that improve air quality. Funds are not eligible for through travel lanes. MAG calls for projects from local communities each year. An eligible project sponsor must be a local government in the Ogden-Layton or Salt Lake City-West Valley City Urbanized Area, Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT), or Utah Transit Authority (UTA). Other entities interested in applying must submit a letter in cooperation with an eligible project sponsor.

Funds must be used for projects which improve air quality. Eligible projects include transportation activities in the *State Air Quality Implementation Plan* (SIP); construction/purchase of public transportation facilities and equipment; construction of bicycle or pedestrian facilities serving transportation needs; promotion of alternative modes, including ridesharing; Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS); and certain traffic control measures, such as traffic signal coordination, intersection improvements, and incident management. The funds may not be used for major road widening.

Federal Lands Access Program

Funds for this program are administered through UDOT in coordination with the Central Federal Lands Highway Division, which establishes a Programming Decisions Committee to prioritize projects, establish selection criteria, and call for projects. See http://www.cflhd.gov/programs/flap/ut/ for details.

Passenger Enhancement

This is a program to improve sidewalk within a half mile and bike infrastructure within three miles of a transit stop. Administered by the Utah Transit Authority (UTA), funding can be completed in two ways: where the lead agency will share in the cost of the construction and the submitting agency has already done design and is planning to construct. If the project is on a priority sidewalk list for UTA, UTA will design and construct.

Cambia Health Foundation Children's Health Program

Cambia Health Foundation is the corporate foundation of Cambia Health Solutions, a total health solutions company headquartered in Portland, Oregon dedicated to transforming the way people experience health care. Founded in 2007, the Foundation has funded over $60 million in grants to advance patient-focused and family-oriented care for all, making purposeful philanthropic investments that transform health care, making the journey more person-focused and economically sustainable from birth to natural completion of life. This particular program provides funding and sometimes infrastructure that improve access to healthy foods, recreation facilities and which encourage healthy behavior for families. Cambia Health Foundation Grants are typically in $50,000- $100,000 range. The focus is on programs. Contact foundation staff at cambiahealthfoundation@cambiahealth.org for additional information.

People for Bike Community Grant Program

The PeopleForBikes Community Grant Program provides funding for important projects that build momentum for bicycling in communities across the U.S. These projects include bike paths and rail trails, as well as mountain bike trails, bike parks, BMX facilities, and large-scale bicycle advocacy initiatives. Since 1999, we have awarded 416 grants to non-profit organizations and local governments in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. Our investments total more than $3.4 million and have leveraged nearly $770 million in public and private funding. (https://peopleforbikes.org/our-work/community-grants/)

Chapter 6

Goals and Policies

The following goals stem directly from the planning process and include ideas from both public involvement and technical analyses. The accompanying policies and implementation measures provide guidance and detailed steps to help Saratoga Springs implement the vision contained in this plan.

PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

GOAL 1.0: ASSURE THAT RESIDENTS OF SARATOGA SPRINGS HAVE ADEQUATE ACCESS TO PARKS

Policy 1.1: Meet the recommended Park Acre Ratio (PAR) of 3.72 acres per 1,000 population in the future.

a. Implementation Measure: Acquire and develop 31 acres of planned park land to fill existing gaps. Assume some of these will be provided through developer contributions.

b. Implementation Measure: Acquire and develop 41.8 acres of additional park land to meet needs by 2030. Assume some land will be provided through developer contributions.

c. Implementation Measure: Acquire and develop an additional 189.9 park acres to meet needs between 2030 and build-out in 2060. Assume some of these acres will be provided through developer contributions.

d. Implementation Measure: As the community grows ensure that the recommended PAR is maintained.

e. Implementation Measure: Pursue Neighborhood and Community Parks to meet the needs of the community, minimizing the maintenance demands associated with smaller parks.

f. Implementation Measure: Develop and implement a City signage and wayfinding system so residents have ample information about facilities and amenities.

g. Implementation Measure: Acquire and develop parks that are 5 acres and above at a minimum to maximize the efficiency of maintenance personnel and funds.

Policy 1.2 Provide access to parks within walking distance of homes.

a. Fill existing park distribution gaps to ensure access is adequate and consistent.

b. Distribute future parks to facilitate access with a half mile of local residences.

Policy 1.3 Upgrade existing parks to meet minimum park standards and amenity levels of service requirements and develop new parks with at least the minimum required amenities.

a. Implementation Measure: Upgrade existing parks, where possible, to meet the minimum requirements for amenities and features using the funding tools described in Chapter 5.

b. Implementation Measure: Adopt the minimum development standards for parks detailed in this plan as a City policy.

c. Implementation Measure: Design and develop all new parks with amenities and features that meet the established standards while allowing and encouraging public input on the design.

d. Implementation Measure: Construct all new Community and Regional Parks to accommodate large public events, including appropriate event infrastructure.

e. Implementation Measure: Increase the variety of amenities in parks and encourage unique, creative designs of parks to promote better long-term use of parks.

GOAL 2.0: CONTINUE TO MAINTAIN A HIGH STANDARD OF MAINTENANCE FOR SARATOGA SPRINGS' PARKS IN THE FUTURE

Policy 2.1: Continue to improve the best-management and maintenance procedures to protect the City's park and recreation investments and protect the City's natural systems.

a. Implementation Measure: Establish an annual budget for deferred maintenance and park upgrades.

b. Implementation Measure: Update annual budgets to ensure funding for operation and maintenance of City parks and other City maintained land is sufficient to meet needs.

c. Implementation Measure: Continue to maintain an up-to-date inventory of all parks, park facilities and parkways and implementing improvements according to a feasible schedule.

d. Implementation Measure: Apply design standards for all parks in a way that helps reduce maintenance requirements while promoting better long-term use of public parks and recreation amenities.

e. Implementation Measure: Provide amenities and facilities to help residents "self-maintain" their parks and park facilities (trash receptacles, animal waste containers, hose bibs, pet clean-up stations, etc.)

GOAL 3.0: INCREASE THE AMOUNT AND VARIETY OF NATURAL OPEN SPACE IN THE CITY

Policy 3.1 Secure and expand the Saratoga Springs open space system as part of a flexible and opportunistic approach.

a. Implementation Measure: Acquire the proposed open spaces shown in this plan and other land that may become available in the future.

b. Implementation Measure: Work with Utah County and the State of Utah to ensure that city, county and state statutes and regulations are met as new facilities are developed.

c. Implementation Measure: Identify and protect notable scenic view corridors.

RECREATION, COMMUNITY EVENTS AND ARTS

GOAL 4.0: ASSURE THAT RESIDENTS OF SARATOGA SPRINGS HAVE ACCESS TO HIGH QUALITY RECREATION PROGRAMS AND COMMUNITY EVENTS

Policy 4.1: Continue to provide City-run recreation and arts programs

a. Implementation Measure: Regularly survey residents and program participants to make sure programs and facilities are meeting needs.

b. Implementation Measure: Partner with other public and private agencies, facilities, organizations, groups and developers to provide additional facilities and programs, including Alpine School District and private developers.

c. Implementation Measure: Continue to support the Arts Council and non-profits to provide high quality arts events and activities.

GOAL 5.0: ASSURE THAT RECREATION AND ARTS FACILITIES ARE PROVIDED TO MEET THE NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITY

Policy 5.1: Conduct feasibility studies to provide flexible facility for programs and events.

a. Implementation Measure: Develop a feasibility study that explores potential options, financial feasibility and appropriate timing for the construction of a flexible facility that can accommodate multiple uses such as indoor recreation, senior programs, community theater performances, classes, community meetings, art exhibitions and events and general community uses.

TRAILS

GOAL 6.0: CREATE ATTRACTIVE AND SAFE BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN NETWORKS FOR TRANSPORTATION AND RECREATION PURPOSES

Policy 6.1: Complete a non-motorized transportation system network.

a. Implementation Measure: Implement the prosed trail and bike lane networks as proposed.

b. Implementation Measure: Create a sustainable and dedicated source of trail funding within the annual City budget.

c. Implementation Measure: Encourage multi-jurisdictional cooperation and funding relationships with the Alpine School District, Mountainland Association of Governments (MAG), and the neighboring cities of Lehi and Eagle Mountain and Utah County.

d. Implementation Measure: Update the *Transportation Master Plan* and this master plan on a regular basis.

e Implementation Measure: Ensure that all bike lanes in this plan are included in the next update of the *Saratoga Springs Transportation Master Plan*

f. Implementation Measure: Develop a comprehensive network of bike lanes as shown in this plan and the *Saratoga Springs Transportation Master Plan*.

g. Implementation Measure: Adopt and adhere to existing and future standards established by the AASHTO Guide for the Development of Bicycle Facilities, and the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD).

GOAL 7.0: ASSURE THAT THE SARATOGA SPRINGS TRAILS SYSTEM MEETS PUBLIC NEEDS AND EXPECTATIONS

Policy 7.1: Ensure all trails and bike lanes are implemented as envisioned.

a. Implementation Measure: Install all proposed paved and unpaved trails by build-out, including lighting and other improvements suggested in this plan.

b. Implementation Measure: Develop a wayfinding and signage program that provides clear information to users about how to access trails and proper trail behavior.
c. Implementation Measure: Make trail and bike lane maps available to the public.

d. Implementation Measure: Develop an accessible network of pedestrian supportive infrastructure, including sidewalks, curb ramps, and trails near existing parks and other high-use destinations.

e. Implementation Measure: Increase safety for all modes of transportation through education and enforcement efforts.

Policy 7.2: Require trail master planning to be incorporated into the development review process of Saratoga Springs, including the development of trailheads and access to trails.

a. Implementation Measure: Continually evaluate system-wide trail needs as part of future planning initiatives, focusing on closing gaps, developing trailheads, and improving connections with existing and future neighborhoods, destinations, parks, recreation facilities, and future transit stations.

b. Implementation Measure: Require private development projects to finance and install bicycle facilities, sidewalks, and trails as appropriate and where recommended in the *Transportation Master Plan* and this plan.

c. Assess motorized trail policies to ensure new motorized trails, such as those discussed near Camp Williams, are supported and aligned with community needs.

GOAL 8.0: ENSURE THAT TRAILS ARE SAFE

Policy 8.1: Continue working with schools to ensure the Safe Routes to Schools program remains on track.

a. Implementation Measure: Work with the local school district, police, UDOT, Utah County, local developers and neighborhood groups to identify and clearly mark appropriate trails and routes.

Policy 8.2: Ensure Trails are safe places at all hours of operation.

a. Implementation Measure: Install a safe system of trail lighting and emergency response stations along multi-use trails where appropriate.

Policy 8.3: Maintain trails as safe, attractive and comfortable amenities for the community.

a. Implementation Measure: Ensure that maintenance routines include the control of weeds (particularly thorny species), the removal of trash and debris, and selective plowing of key routes (to facilitate winter trail use).

b. Implementation Measure: Promote an "Adopt a Trail" program to encourage trail user assistance in maintaining the trail system. Encourage participants to become involved in all aspects of trail development, through maintenance and long-term improvements.

c. Implementation Measure: Provide a bicycle and pedestrian network that is safe and attractive to all users.

OTHER GOALS AND POLICIES

GOAL 9.0: PROMOTE WATER CONSERVATION AND SIMILAR PRACTICES TO HELP ENSURE THE SARATOGA SPRINGS PARKS AND RECREATION SYSTEM IS SUSTAINABLE AND RESILIENT

Policy 9.1: As new parks, open spaces, recreation facilities and trails are developed, utilize the most up-to-date technologies to conserve water and other resources.

a. Implementation Measure: Utilize drip irrigation, moisture sensors, central control systems and appropriate plant materials and soil amendments to create a more sustainable Saratoga Springs parks and recreation system.

b. Implementation Measure: Utilize industry best practices to make sure plants are water-wise, regionally-appropriate and as low maintenance as possible to reduce maintenance and water.

GOAL 10.0: MAINTAIN A HEALTHY, SUSTAINABLE AND AESTHETICALLY-PLEASING ENVIRONMENT TO OPTIMIZE ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC BENEFITS

Policy 10.1: Work with the Saratoga Springs City Departments to ensure all plans and ordinances regarding the City's physical form and appearance are up-to-date and implemented as envisioned.

a. Implementation Measure: Increase the amount of greenery, especially street trees, to provide shade, cooling, habitat, air quality benefits, visual continuity and visual relief from the built environment.

b. Implementation Measure: Preserve and enhance the visual amenities provided by the open spaces, foothills, lake, river and natural drainages.

c. Implementation Measure: Maintain publicly-owned lands appropriately to meet the needs and expectations for each facility or amenity.

d. Implementation Measure: Provide exterior lighting that enhances safety and night use in public spaces but minimizes impacts on surrounding land uses.

e. Implementation Measure: Improve the management and quality of water resources for the health of the City's natural systems and for community recreational benefits.

f. Implementation Measure: Identify and protect key riparian, wildlife and other corridors in the City.

CITY OF SARATOGA SPRINGS

PARKS, RECREATION, TRAILS, AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

APPENDICES

SARATOGA SPRINGS

Life's just better here

LANDMARK DESIGN

DRAFT

DECEMBER 2019

Table of Contents

APPENDIX A: PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT A-1

Technical Committee Notes A-1
Project Web Page and Email Comments A-7
Social Pinpoint Comments A-11
Survey Results A-27
Focus Group Meeting Notes A-56
Public Scoping Meeting Notes A-63
Equestrian User Notes A-66
Public Open House Notes A-67

APPENDIX B: OPEN SPACE ACQUISITION TOOLS B-1

Open Space Design Standards/Clustered Development B-1
Zoning and Development Restrictions: Sensitive Lands Overlay B-2
Fee Simple (Outright Purchase) B-2
Purchase and Sellback or Leaseback B-2
Conservation Easements B-2
Land Banking B-3
Transfer of Development Rights (TDRs) B-3

APPENDIX A: PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE NOTES

Saratoga Springs Parks, Recreation, Trails and Open Space Master Plan

Landmark Design
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE & PLANNING

NOTES

Technical Committee Meeting #1 September 28, 2018, 2:30pm, City Hall

IN ATTENDANCE:

Sarah Carroll	Senior Planner
David Johnson	Economic Development & Public Relations Director
Jeremy Lapin	Public Works Director
Daniel McRae	Engineer II
Heston Williams	Recreation Director
Mark Vlasic	Landmark Design
Madison Merrill	Landmark Design
Lisa Benson	Landmark Design

SUMMARY

The meeting began with introductions and discussion of the project's purpose. This was followed by introducing the project schedule and scope of work. The meeting concluded with discussion of the steps to take before the next meeting. The notes from the meeting follow.

DISCUSSION/COMMENTS

General

- The project came about because of a petition from equestrian users in the community. They were concerned that equestrian users were being confronted by other users who thought horses weren't allowed on any City trails. Trail uses are not specified through signage.
- Population has double since 2011, which brings a new dynamic to the process.
    - Will be looking at the current population, 10 years out, and to build-out. Also looking at age, children at home in age cohorts in 5 year increments
    - Household size is now 4.28.
- Plan needs to tie into Bike/Pedestrian Master Plan
    - Look for inconsistencies in current engineering standards as well: ST-15A, ST-15B, ST-34
- Still want to keep the schedule aggressive.
- Recreation and Parks Departments are separate.
- Top three amenities they don't yet have: skate park, rec center, splash pad
- No partnerships between cities
- Need better accommodation for civic events
- Alpine School district rents facilities to City – potential for partnership

- The look of the final plan needs to speak to the aesthetics of what parks, rec and trails wayfinding may look like.
- Technical Committee - Shelly will be the City Council Rep.
- Plan needs to present consistency, and not create any false expectations.
- Look at the Park Impact Fee Facility Plan done by ZBPF.
- Splash pad, skate park and rec center are the three major facilities we don't have. The plan can say what would be required for these to become feasible.
- County doesn't have a parks and arts funding program like Salt Lake County.
- Alpine School District – do rent their facilities out, but not really working with them yet. Could be a potential new option to consider.

Parks/Rec

- Showcase parks: Shay Park, Neptune Park, Patriot Park
- Impact fees being used for larger regional parks. Looking at a central location by Patriot Park to locate new City Hall, police, library. One central location for park and rec amenities can present equal access issues.
- Don't just want to rely on developers giving them land to meet the City's park needs.
- Rec has a full time staff now and runs a lot more programs than when the last plan was done
- There is usually good communication between parks and rec.
- Parks is understaffed – the workload is large – hard to keep up with maintenance expectations
- Remote Control Park – County provided the land, the RC Club has done the capital improvements, City maintains the park.
- Trains at Shay Park – have formal agreements with train operator club.

Open Space/Unique Features

- Would like to use the hot springs for something similar to Lava Hots Springs. The State owns this land but is letting the City use it as long as it is maintained for public use. Maybe enter into a public/private partnership? Also involve Forestry, Fire and State Lands and they currently manage the land.
- Need better open space maintenance plan
- Open space/natural areas – hard to keep up with the weeds, have contracted this out before, but it's very expensive

Trails

- Plan needs to identify which uses are allowed on which trails
- Need consistent trail width standards. Use and type will help determine width. Right now plan says 12' wide. Trails are being installed at 8', 10' and 12', although most are 8'. Pioneer Crossing has one trail that is 12' wide.
- 12' width is good for higher use trails, like major regional trails.
- Corridor preservation is a big issue – need to identify where trails will go so the City can maintain those corridors
- Regional trail connections: trails on Lake Mountain need tie into the trails in Eagle Mountain. The Utah Lake trail ties into the Jordan River Trail. How do these connect with the rest of the network?
- Look at user levels, surface materials
- Trail widths are not consistent and need to be analyzed according to usage (types/volume)
- Trails have some different maintenance requirements
- Israel Canyon Trailhead – erosion problem, added a debris basin - need a contiguous trail going all the way through to this trail

- Trail maintenance – who maintains – not clearly defined. Streets or parks department? Trails are under the parks department, but the street department is better able to deal with maintenance of the trail itself
- Trails have some deferred maintenance

Community Master Plans/Future Development

- Mt. Saratoga – 800 acres, 200 of that will be open space.
- Jordan Promenade/Oakwood Homes – Patriot Park Phase I is under construction
- North Shore – DR Horton – future marina
- Large chunk of Forestry, Fire and State Lands north of Utah Lake – this will always be preserved as open space – the North Lake Trail will be a contiguous trail running through this area
- Church Property – Tickville Wash/Beacon Point – planned to have a City park – large drainage that should include a trail
- Fox Hollow – 21 acre park that will be dedicated to the City
- Taquayo
- Heron Hills – beachfront improvements

Events

- Dave manages the City-wide events
- Popularity and growth of community and therefore of events is a huge issue
- Need spider boxes at all parks that will host events
- Would be fun to move Splash Days to the new marina park.

Next meeting/Tasks

- Pros/cons of statistically valid survey, update mapping, review existing documents, identify inconsistencies and issues that need to be resolved
- If possible, have the Social Pinpoint page set up.
- Come with an outline of what we will be doing at all of the future Technical Committee meetings.
- Email Jeremy for PDF of future marina plan
- Sarah will provide Community Development Plans/Master Development Agreements
- Focus interviews with staff:
    - Engineering
    - Planning
    - Recreation
    - Parks
    - Events and public outreach

NOTES

Technical Committee Meeting #2

October 29, 2018, 2:30pm, City Hall

IN ATTENDANCE:

Shellie Baertsch	City Council
Sarah Carroll	Senior Planner
Owen Jackson	Assistant City Manager
David Johnson	Economic Development & Public Relations Director
Rick Kennington	Parks Superintendent
Daniel McRae	Engineer II
David Stroud	Planning Director
Heston Williams	Recreation Director
Mark Vlasic	Landmark Design
Madison Merrill	Landmark Design
Lisa Benson	Landmark Design

SUMMARY

The meeting began with a discussion of preliminary findings (demographics, mapping, inventory, level of service, and distribution). This was followed by a discussion on public participation and schedule. The notes from the meeting follow.

DISCUSSION/COMMENTS

- City population estimates are more accurate than census.
    - Current population 32,000+
- City provides adequate park maintenance staff.
    - Ask Rick for staff per park acre
- Look at points program in place for developers.
- Use regional, community, neighborhood, & pocket for park classifications.
    - Neighborhood Parks: 5-20 acres
- Use total acreage – include private parks in analysis
- Patriot Park and Inlet Park will eventually be "combined" into a larger recreation area.
- Recommend which LOS will be good to keep pace with growth
    - Look at LOS for impact fees
- Planned debris basins & sensitive land inventory
    - Get info on planned debris basins from Dan or Public Works
- Need hillside park standards
- Meeting with SITLA about land west of city – Have city representative there
- Provide estimate for non-statistically valid survey
    - Email Documents to Dave & others

- Public Scoping meeting to be held Dec. 5th or 6th
    - Include announcement in city newsletter
- Desired Maps
    - Trail distribution
    - Hybrid parks & trails Service Area
    - ATV Trails
- Park upgrade standards needed
    - Replacement plan -5%/year of total park value?
    - Maintenance
    - Check with Rick on list of upgrades

NOTES

Technical Committee Meeting #3

February 28, 2019, 2:00pm, City Hall

IN ATTENDANCE:

Shellie Baertsch	City Council
Sarah Carroll	Senior Planner
Owen Jackson	Assistant City Manager
David Johnson	Economic Development & Public Relations Director
Rick Kennington	Parks Superintendent
Heston Williams	Recreation Director
Mark Vlasic	Landmark Design
Madison Merrill	Landmark Design
Lisa Benson	Landmark Design

SUMMARY

The meeting began with a discussion of project progress and the project schedule. The results from the public involvement process were reviewed, including the public scoping meeting/visual preference survey, focus interviews with staff, the online survey, and Social Pinpoint. (A PDF of the public involvement results presented at the meeting is attached to these notes.)

DISCUSSION/COMMENTS

- The City owns 26 acres at Patriot Park, and has more than 100 acres under contract for the surrounding area.
- Want to tie City trails into BLM/OHV trails. They don't have their own yet.
- Annexation areas need to be addressed as these areas are brought into the City.

PROJECT WEB PAGE AND EMAIL COMMENTS

Saratoga Springs Parks, Recreation, Trails and Open Space Master Plan

NOTES

Email, Website, Phone and Social Media Comments

- I was unable to attend the meeting last night, but I hope you will reserve some open space for a swimming complex (or aquatic center). The swim coach at Lehi high school mentioned that 4 high schools utilize the Lehi pool for practices and meets. With the growth of Saratoga Springs and Eagle Mountain the need for a new pool is inevitable.

- Can I just say how much I love the parks and trails here. It's fantastic living in a place with kids and having beautiful trails to enjoy and a multitude of parks within walking distance. Thanks for helping make this city such a great place to be!

- Recreation Center

- A splash pad! Please

- Can we keep an equestrian trail please!!!

- Could we please build a dog park? There are plenty of dog owners that end up driving to Draper just to go to a half decent dog park. We should have one in Saratoga Springs.

- Would love to see some designs that are inclusive of the equestrian community. Seems we are being pushed out.

- Our family is a big fan of public trails. We use them constantly, both for walking and biking. I'd love to come to the meeting tonight, but I just heard about it and have a conflict. If possible, I'd like to request that as Pioneer Crossing is modified between the river and Redwood Rd that a parking and trail access area be built. As it is, there exists a trail sidewalk spur just east of the Jordan River bridge over Pioneer, on the north side of the road, but there is no place to park for those of us who aren't within walking distance of the trail. If some of that marshy, wooded space could be used for a small parking area and trailhead, that would be terrific. Thank you

- I just heard about the meeting and can’t attend. My wife and I would like to make a suggestion. We live in the Talus Ridge Area and drive down Redwood Road by the Horton Homes by the park to access the trail. It would be nice to have access and parking off Pioneer Crossing where the Jordan River Trail goes under the bridge. Right now, the sidewalk that goes under the bridge connects to the sidewalk along Pioneer Crossing, but there’s no place to park. A trailhead either on the east or west side of the bridge would be nice. Thank you.

- Are you including any dog park space in any of our parks? We need more places where our pups can interact.

- Please add more single-track trails for mountain biking like Eagle Mountain.

- I would love to see a bike park in Saratoga similar to the one recently opened near Saint George.

- Would very much like a rec center similar to what they have in prove with indoor/outdoor facilities and am willing to pay an annual membership. As we are much smaller than Provo, perhaps we can do it jointly with eagle mountain

- I am a local resident and would like to register my strong support for increased open space and non-motorized multi-use trail development surrounding Saratoga Springs. In particular, collaborating with and connecting trail networks with existing Eagle Mountain trails and expansion along the Lake Mountains. Working with the city of Eagle Mountain and state of Utah to improve trails and open spaces will directly improve quality of life for tens of thousands of residents who enjoy outdoor recreation. As our canyons and watersheds are increasingly crowded, expanding recreation in other areas close to residents is essential. The closer the trails, the more people will get out and use them. The Flintstone mountain bike trail is a great immediate resource which is currently under administrative closure. Expansion of trails in this area would be easy and relatively inexpensive. Thank you for your time.

- I am excited to have Patriot Park in our community; however, I am disappointed that there will be no installation of tennis courts. Pickle ball courts will be great, but tennis is still a popular sport. The Lehi sport complex nearby is awesome, and their tennis courts are fantastic. The high school courts are ok, but it is better when courts are part of a greater community gathering place such as the future Patriot Park. Therefore, assuming that it is too late to add tennis courts to the design of Patriot Park, when and where will future tennis courts be placed? Thanks!

- I wasn't able to make it to the open house, but our community would truly benefit from tennis courts with lights. By the time it cools off in the summer, it begins to get dark, and many people are on the Westlake courts. In Lehi off 2300 are lighted courts and they are always packed and not easy to get on to. There is a demand for private lessons, but courts in the northern area of SS are non-existent. Tennis is a fantastic family sport and lighted courts would truly benefit our community. In the past back in Cache Valley 20 years ago, they held a huge tennis tournament each summer for several years with entry fees to pay for the lights with a sponsor that matched funds.

- PLEASE please please put in a splash pad. Hopefully near patriot park or in Neptune. I LOVE family time there. With all the young families in and moving to Saratoga we need a fairly large splash pad with streams and hopefully lots of overhead toys.

- When are you going to show where the Temple is going in at? I feel like SS city is the ones dragging their feet on this. It has been too long since the church's announcement.

- Up in Landrock Connection the kids have to walk all the way around the neighborhood and back down to Saratoga shores elementary. Is there a way to put a path east or west of well 1 so the kids can get to school a little safe and easier than they currently are. Elementary is a small age and I think this area may have been overlooked for a trail or path of some sort. Thanks!

- With the growing amount of traffic that is moving into the area, incorporating rain gardens along major roads and paths would add a benefit of filtering the contaminants as well as incorporating more natural habitat rather than eliminating it. Grass is nice but hardly beneficial. While I believe the master plan stated there was about 25% open space in the city plan, it looks like open space is sporadic. We loved the fact that we lived in Saratoga Springs and saw wildlife almost every day. It seems that as the city grows, planning has taken out the nature aspect in lieu of more profitable development thus making Saratoga Springs like every other urban development. Things like wildlife corridors, natural spaces with learning stations (i.e. native plant life placards), etc. could be so much more beneficial and healthy for the community while providing a temporary escape from the norm.

- Any future plan for tennis courts? 😊. Ideally there would be 2 tennis courts to balance out all the pickleball courts going in... any chance that this can be added to the plan there at the new sport complex?

- I would like to invite you to one of my fb pages, "Keep Saratoga Springs Beautiful". I showcase through my photography, one of our cities most attractive and unique features. I didn't get the chance to chime in on Lisa's map asking for ideas and pinpointing them.

  I wish to bring the idea forward into your meetings that most of our resident's desire to preserve some "natural" open space. To protect some of the integrity of Saratoga Springs, I suggest we keep some open space for the Pronghorn who live right there on the property of LDS church welfare farm, just South of Pony Express and North of Grandview Blvd.

  We could call it a "Migration Corridor". There hasn't been a wildlife open space option on that last survey, except to ask how much would we spend on open space. Open space was the 4th from the top of the list meaning our residents think it's that important that they would spend money to preserve natural open space. That's why most of us (90%) moved here in the first place.

  The pristine and natural surroundings found in this beautiful place are precious. So many of our residents have told me how heartbroken they are as they watch these beautiful fields of gold and amazing wildlife disappear to make room for gas stations and fast food.

  Please help me stand for what is right for our little piece of heaven. Let's save some of the integrity of Saratoga Springs.

  Thank you for anything you can do. I don't have Lisa's contact info either, so hopefully you and Lisa will get this and are inspired to share this with the Technical Commission of Saratoga Springs and implement it into your plans.

I do believe that if you and your design team along with our commission can put this into the design for our city, your firm will be recognized for the outstanding vision and beautiful design incorporating nature and buildings together in harmony.

Thereby, creating a peaceful, beautiful, unique and amazing city master plan that benefits the entire community and everyone who has the chance to visit this enchanting place for generations to come.

- Dear City of Saratoga Springs,

  Saturdays at Neptune Park are wonderful. There are kids playing Rec soccer, kids playing at the basketball courts and the playground, and families enjoying supporting one another. Plus, living across the street from the park is truly wonderful; I have a 10-acre front yard!

  I would like to bring to your attention something that could be improved: parking and traffic. Bono Blvd and Grand Sierra become extremely difficult to drive down and, frankly, very dangerous during high traffic times at the park. When park visitors park their car on the residential-side of the street, there is barely enough room for one car to get by, let alone two. But more alarming is the number of small kids that jet between cars and into the line of traffic. Having lived where I do for some time, my max speed limit around the park is 10 mph. And more than once have I come close to hitting a kid.

  How do we solve this? My cost-effective (and even revenue generating) suggestion is to place "No Parking" signs and on the residential side of the streets neighboring the park. You could even do a survey of when the busiest times at the park are and limit the no parking restrictions to those times. (Football practice season is another very busy time, as well.) Once that restriction is in place, have a policeman come by every half hour or even every hour to write tickets.

  I would be happy to present this plan and discuss others with the city council and/or city administration to find a workable solution. Please few free to contact me at your convenience.

  An additional issue that came up in the group discussion is the difficulty emergency vehicles will have to access neighborhoods like Sierra Estates when there are cars parked on both sides of the street, particularly on Carlton Ave, Bono Blvd, and Grand Sierra. To me, the issue with emergency vehicles is a major public safety risk the city may need to address very soon.

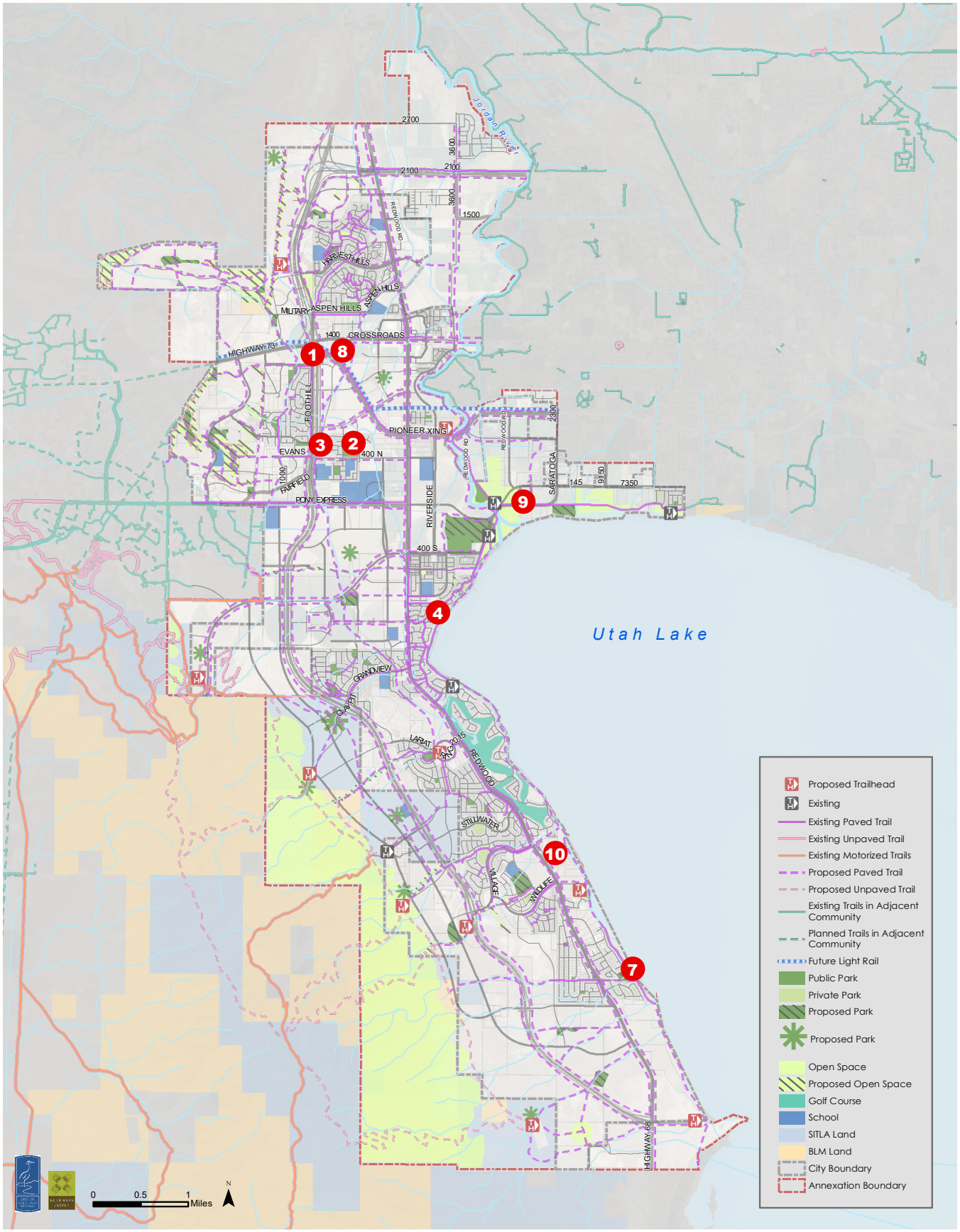
  And, as Facebook Messenger is a good way to communicate on minor issues but not necessarily on substantive ones, like this, I would be happy to come into the city offices and meet with Mr. Miner and/or others who are responsible for these types of issues.

- Is there a dog park in the plans so far? If not, I think there should be. It would be a huge benefit and asset for this community.

SOCIAL PINPOINT COMMENTS

Social Pinpoint, an online public involvement tool, was used throughout the planning process. Comments referencing specific geographic locations along with their corresponding maps are on the following pages.

I HAVE A CONCERN



Comments

1 I agree that this road is dangerously narrow. I've had close calls while running. If two cars are going opposite directions there is no place for them to yield to pedestrians. If there are plans to widen this in the future, they should be moved up.

2 Neptune Park is too crowded for the amount of kids who play sports in SS. I live in the neighborhood that flanks it and I worry every game day that a running child will be hit because of poor visibility and I also worry that due to the way many people park the roads are too crowded for emergency vehicles to get through. Perhaps eliminating the park strip if moving sports elsewhere is not likely.

3 The sidewalk in this area is very narrow and has abrupt sharp turns. This is the "safe" walking route for Thunder Ridge Elementary, where no kids are bused. This needs to be widened and curb added to keep cars from drifting into the walking path.

4 A paved or maintained trail along the lake shore would be beneficial to walkers, runners, and fisherman. Please extend the single multi-track trail so there is no gap. Thanks!

5 This narrow point in the road is extremely dangerous. I have personally tried to bike with my family through here and have almost had multiple vehicles hit us. I have seen children walking this way to cross Pioneer and there is no way to not walk in the road.

6 I once tried to ride a bike here and never did that again. I think the design was to have a bicycle lane but drivers would hit bicycles often if it was used. Maybe a flashing sign to notify when a pedestrian is crossing or a bike is there?

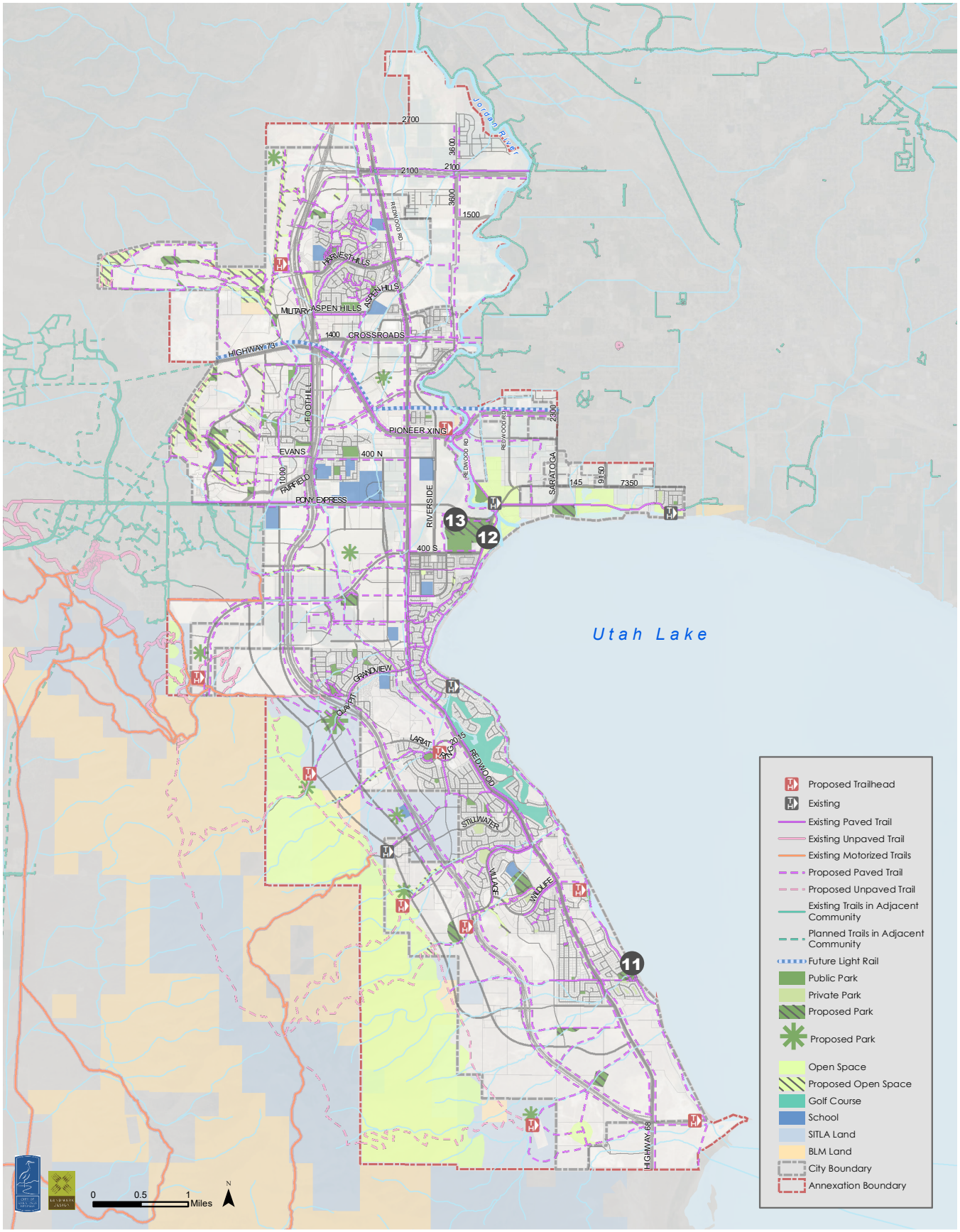
7 Parking here is pretty limited. For what was planned in the current marina plan the parking for the beaches and events will bleed over into the surrounding neighborhoods, specifically on Spinnaker bay drive which is not wide enough for parking on both sides of the street and two way traffic. The parking limitations and neighborhood impact must be addressed. I live on spinnaker and fear the parking issues, especially during boating season when the parking lot is already full with boat trailers.

8 There needs to be a pedestrian light/signal for crossing the continuous right section of this intersection. Vehicles almost never stop for a pedestrian/bicyclists to cross and if they do, they almost get rear-ended. (There is one on the actual crossing of Crossroads Blvd.)

9 I'll bet this resident doesn't like her home being called existing open space. Maybe tighten up this boundary.

10 Please listen to the people of your city and stop building developments and protect the natural beauty and habitats around us and the lake!

I HAVE A QUESTION



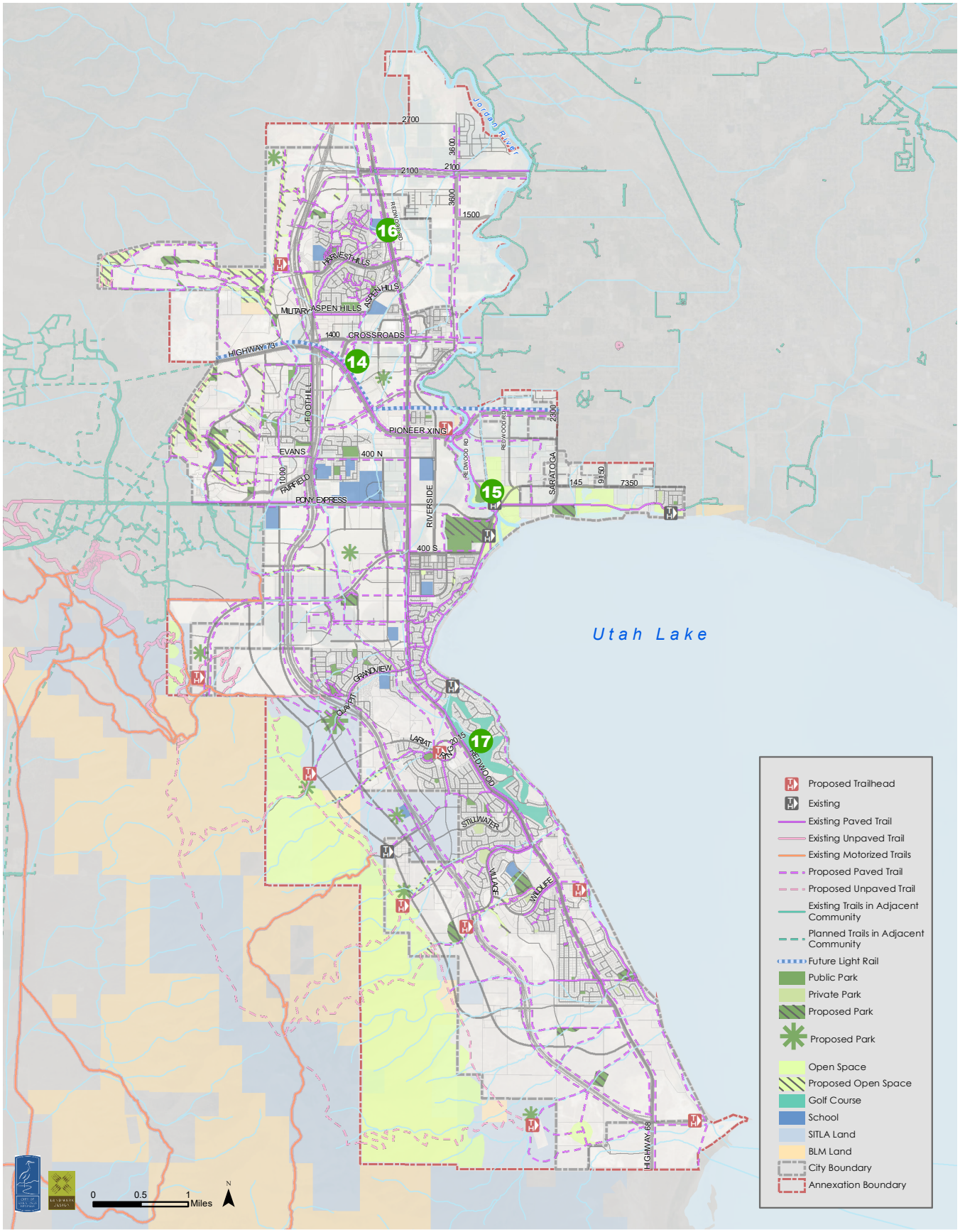
Comments

11 There was a master plan previously developed and published to improve this city marina with exciting improvements. I believe the estimated date when the plan would be implemented has already passed. When is the city planning on implementing the master plan for the marina improvements?

12 What are the plans for this space? I've been noticing construction going on and cant seem to find any information on whats being put in. I've found proposals for a police station city hall and a library but I'm not sure what the final decisions was. Does anyone have a link to a city plan i could view?

13 Are there any plans for any sort of Recreation Center with swimming pool, racquetball, basketball, etc. ??

I LIKE THIS


Utah Lake
Jordan River
16
14
15
17
HARVEST HILLS
ASPEN HILLS
MILITARY
CROSSROADS
HIGHWAY 73
FOOTHILL
PIONEER XING
EVANS
400 N
RAFFIELD
PONY EXPRESS
RIVERSIDE
400 S
REDWOOD RD
SARATOGA
GRANDVIEW
OLYMPIT
LARIAT
STILLWATER
VILLAGE
WILDLIFE
HIGHWAY 68
Proposed Trailhead
Existing
Existing Paved Trail
Existing Unpaved Trail
Existing Motorized Trails
Proposed Paved Trail
Proposed Unpaved Trail
Existing Trails in Adjacent Community
Planned Trails in Adjacent Community
Future Light Rail
Public Park
Private Park
Proposed Park
Proposed Park
Open Space
Proposed Open Space
Golf Course
School
SITLA Land
BLM Land
City Boundary
Annexation Boundary
0
0.5
1
Miles
N

Comments

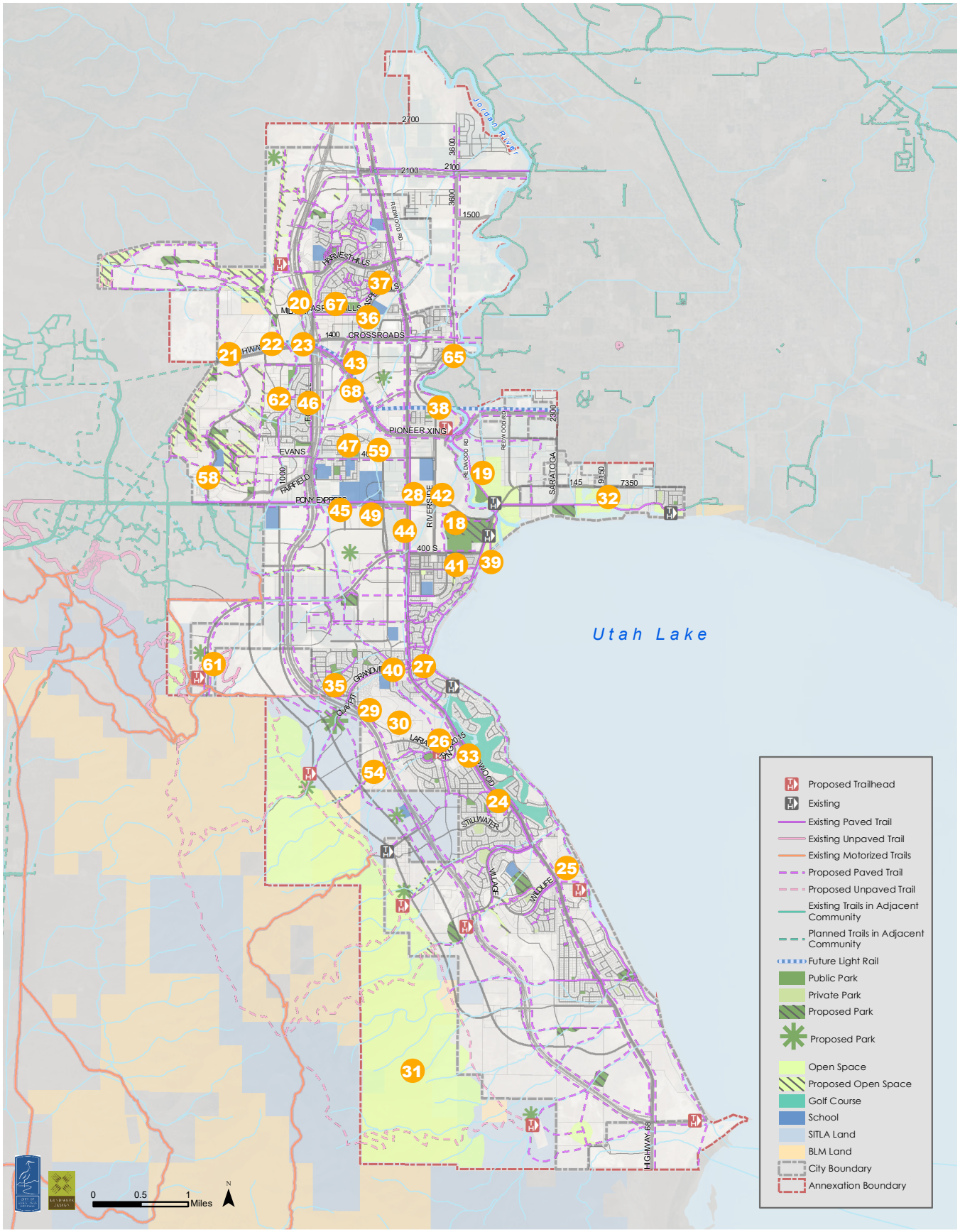
14 The tunnel would be nice to use if there was a path it connected to.

15 This is good area to fly drones and enjoy watching RC airplanes.

16 As the land over this canal is developed effort should be made to maintain a trail along the canal alignment as shown on this map.

17 It's nice being able to see the lake from redwood road trails. Future developments should try to maintain this viewshed.

IDEAS & SUGGESTIONS



Comments

18 Could we look at great ideas from other cities to work towards a plan for a recreation center, pool, and more open space? What are the steps to save space to make this happen someday? We moved to Saratoga Springs from Erie, Colorado (very similar fast growing suburban town) where we built a small but much used rec center, pool, library, and park next to baseball diamonds. Erie's master plan: https://www.erieco.gov/DocumentCenter/View/8802/Erie-Master-Plan-Update-2016?bidId=

19 I feel that a dog park would be a great addition to this city. It would help people have better socialized and behaved dogs, as well as encourage owners to obey city leash laws. It is also a great way for owners to meet other people and build relationships that help foster a great sense of community.

20 Need a way to continue the canal trail across the MVC and then SR73 without having to use traffic lights and street sidewalks. One of the nice things about the canal trail is that it is separated from traffic.

21 A grade separated crossing of SR73 along the power line corridor trail would be nice.

22 A grade separated crossing of SR73 along the power line corridor trail would be nice.

23 As MVC is built and SR73 is widened, the canal trail needs to have a separated crossing to connect Aspen Hills, Harvest Hills, and Wildflower to Sunrise Meadows, Neptune Park etc.

24 This park needs something, Playground equipment would be ideal.

25 Continue this open space with trails down to the lake.

26 A splash pad and park would be perfect here. Something similar to the Cory B Wride park in Eagle Mountain. Saratoga has nothing like it and needs it so we can enjoy our own city instead of traveling to other cities and using their things.

27 I'd love to see directional markers to parks and trail heads from Redwood and Foothill/MVC, and Pioneer.

28 Isn't there any room anywhere for a Saratoga Springs Recreation Center with a full size pool?

29 The children in the landrock connection subdivision are having to walk all the way down Landview Dr, Valley View Drive to Grandview Blvd to get to a path that takes them to school. There is a neighbor at the end of Sage View court that has been kind enough to let all the kids cut across their lawn to make it a little faster, BUT it's killing their grass. It would be great to have a path somewhere behind the water tank that gives them an option of getting to school in a safer and easier way.

30 I think there should be a rec center here because it looks over the lake and if it had a nice outdoor pool and chair it would be a nice view

31 Camping for everyone plant trees firpit etc

32 This area along the north shore would make an awesome campground and beach area. The trees are already in place and it would keep the area open rather than developed into housing. This is the prettiest shoreline in town anywhere along the lake and should be preserved.

33 I would like to see a pedestrian overpass from the trail/path on the east side of Redwood Rd, to connect over to the west side. It would be good to be considered at Ring Road or at Fairway Blvd. Providing a way to get pedestrians across Redwood would be in the safety interest of many.

34 Somewhere in this vicinity, I think there should be a small public park accessible from Sage View Ct or Landview Dr. Unfortunately, I see that housing has taken up most of the access points to this area and there may not be a good way to walk into this area from those streets.

35 I'd like to see the planned paved trail moved directly behind the homes on Rocky ridge ln. This would tie the fitness Park in with the trail system nicely, as well as create the feeling of park extending northward with open space.

36 An "Adventure Playground" as they are called could be a really great idea here. We don't have anything like that yet and the retention area would be a great location for many reasons. https://www.cbsnews.com/news/america-ready-for-uk-adventure-playgrounds/

37 This would be a cool place to improve and maintain to take the kids to explore.

38 It would be great if swings were added to this playground

39 Is there any plan to tie the east west sidewalk into the paved path? Currently i would have to have my kid either carry there bikes across the curb to get to it or ride 30 feet down the road to an cut down curb that can be ridden over to get to the path. Its a bit of a safety hazard especially with the increased traffic

40 Consider this area or converting adjacent hoa park into a city park yo include a splash pad with bathrooms and better play equipment

41 Can a fitness trail be incorporated at Patriot Park? This would be a great way for parents to stay fit while waiting for their children to finish sports practice.

42 I really enjoy seeing the wildlife in this area and it was part of the draw for moving out here. Especially the antelope. It would be cool to see a nature preserve/park that allowed for them to remain as undisturbed as possible.

43 This is a pedestrian underpass that UDOT installed as a city paid betterment when this section of Pioneer Crossing was constructed. It runs alongside the canal which is part of our master trails plan, but is yet to be constructed.

44 Redwood should be beautified and reengineered. It is both a highway and our "main street". We must plan for congestion, but we don't want Redwood to become like State or Bangerter. There are options. 1- let's plant trees! Cities like Provo are beautiful because they invested in trees long ago. 2- consider alternative engineering, like a Boulevard or "Michigan Left". With more development and a temple coming, let's act now to ensure our "main street" showcases a beautiful west lake city!

45 Could we incorporate an ice ribbon (ice skating) to any of the new parks coming to Saratoga like Herriman did? I feel like it is new, fun and unique to the area, plus adds year round fun to a park. https://www.herriman.org/ice-ribbon/

46 A splash pad at Sunrise Meadows Park up on the saddle between the two retention fields would be wonderful!

47 A splash pad would be great here!

48 Can these baseball diamonds be used for other sporting events in off season? Neptune Park is too busy with the number of kids playing and there is far too little parking.

49 This would be a great location for a 21st century Community Center. State of the Art Library, Rec Center, Police Station, Sports fields with ample parking. Similar to orem city center.

50 Dog park!

51 I feel that a piece of land needs to be set aside for a dog park. If the city has laws that require a dog to be on leash then there needs to be a place to run dogs off leash. So many dog owners ignore this to the detriment of the city but it's out of necessity.

52 I love all the plans of bike, walking paths, and parks. If we have to loose farm land i hope we can at least keep an outdoor focus. My biggest concern is not having a long term plan for a recreation center. Patriot Park is a great first step, but it will mainly be utilized for a limited months. Please make sure there is land for a center. A pool would be so nice too. Provo has figured out the money end of a pool, maybe we can too. Also I like someone else's suggestion of urban camping land.

53 The view from Land Rock is amazing. You can see all of Saratoga Springs, North into SL County and South to Mt. Nebo. This view of our wonderful city, majestic mountains and Utah lake should be preserved for everyone to enjoy forever. The city should partner with the county and turn this hilltop area into a regional park with walking trails, mountain biking trails and open space. Similar to how draper and SL County manage corner canyon in Draper. It would be amazing!

54 Add a multipurpose trail for biking, hiking, trail running, etc. all along Lake Mountain foothills that connect up into eagle mountains bike parks and over to harvest hills then up to camp Williams. Similar to the Bonneville Shoreline trail network on the east side of the valleys.

55 I think a few outdoor racquetball courts could be a very valuable addition to Saratoga Springs. There are currently 3 courts in the state, and they are in Centerville. Outdoor courts are simply made of concrete and some sort of fence, quite affordable with little or no maintenance.

56 There should be a dog park around here. So many pet owners around with no where to let them off leash.

57 Outdoor workout equipment/gym would make this a better fitness park. Embarcadero Marina Park South in San Diego has workout stations along the walking/running path. So cool for this location.

58 A splash pad would be really nice in this area.

59 An assisted living and retirement community may not be the best planning option for this location. It is close to the best kids park in SS and is a loud place during the summer months. Single family housing makes much more sense for the area, especially with all the young families in the surrounding neighborhoods.

60 Many of the natural spaces teens used to go to hang out have been replaced or removed. We need more spaces for teens to spend time outside. For example a park with wifi and study spaces, ninja course type play structure, graffiti wall, parkour, bike pump track, skate park. Skate park should have places for young kids and an expert area, plus some bleacher type seating for kids to hang out at.

61 The city should set aside open space land for urban camping. Alpine has Lambert Park, Lehi has Willow Park, Saratoga Springs should save some land so that in 50 years when everything is developed we have a space to use.

62 Connecting the Sunrise neighborhood to the canal trail here would be nice.

63 In addition to the mountain bike park here, perhaps a skate park. Maybe the canal company can improve the pond for a fishing area?

64 A cleaned-up hot pot area for scouting and family activities would be nice.

65 Jordan River is a wonderful greenbelt through Salt Lake County with trails and fishing ponds, and open space. Effort should be made to keep a development buffer around the river so this beautiful part of the city can be preserved and shared by all.

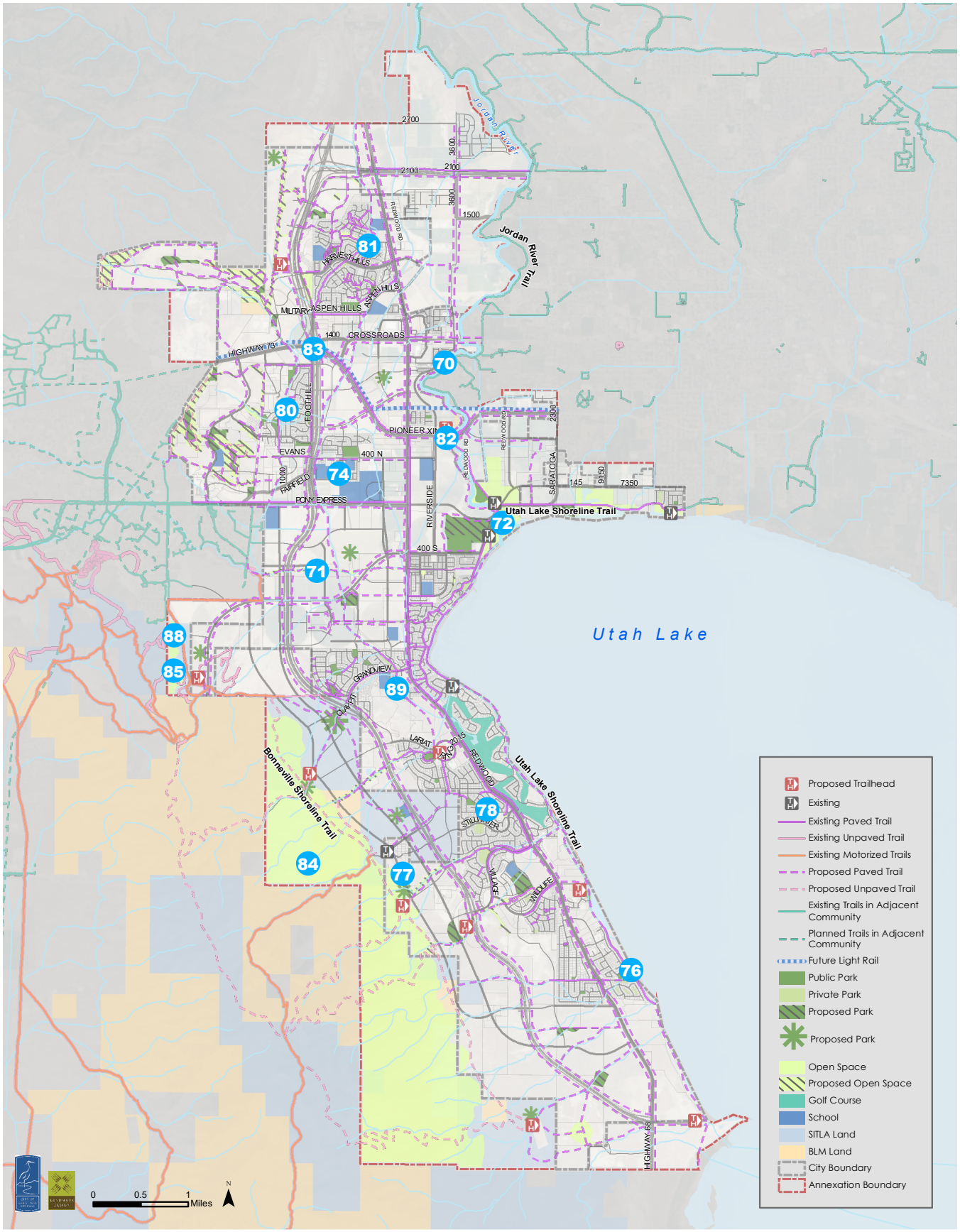
66 The design for the library, city hall connection to patriot park area should be pedestrian centric. There should be a clear path for pedestrians to access the city center area from patriot park. Ideally, not a painted crosswalk through a parking lot.

67 Parks are very busy at the start of spring and late fall before the bathrooms are open. A few rec league soccer games happen while bathrooms are closed for the winter. It would be nice if future bathrooms are designed such that they can be used in the early and late seasons. Many other cities in Utah manage to do this.

68 A future location for a recreation center should be set aside now. The location should be easily accessible from regional trails so that it can be accessed by bikers and pedestrians. The YMCA in Sun Valley Idaho is a good example of this. This gym is located along a main road network and next to the main trail system in the community.

69 A sidewalk here would be nice. People often cut through here anyway or walk on the parking lot after they realize the sidewalk doesn't connect.

THIS SHOULD BE IMPROVED



Comments

70 Need JR trail on this side of the river.

71 It would be nice to have the Tickville Wash trail extended from EM all the way to Utah Lake. It would also provide for a wildlife corridor.

72 A non-motorized boat launch on both sides of the inlet (into the JR and into Utah Lake) would be awesome here.

73 There needs to be a safe solution for pedestrians to cross the river here. It is difficult to access the trail on the other side for many residents because of this issue.

74 This was originally planned to have a little playground. We have a small pavilion with no table. How come all other small communities neighborhoods have theirs, and we don't?

75 This pavilion and playground need some improvements.

76 I would like to see the city implement the master plan for the marina improvements, especially the beach front area.

77 There should be some consideration given to whether or not it is still safe to have so much target shooting in this area now that there has been so much development. This area is used heavily by bikers, ATVs, UTVs, hunters and dirt bike riders. While many target shooters are very responsible and conscious of others, there are also shooters who are careless when it comes to shooting in a safe direction and neglect cleaning up the area after use, leaving behind targets and litter.

78 This park is really quite pointless. The whole thing slopes and it's simply just grass. It would be great to get it leveled out and/or put some play equipment in it.

79 There should be some planned updates to the walking trail here to allow the widening of the road and a safe pedestrian area.

80 Finishing this trail would be great!

81 This trail should continue once developed.

82 When riding east on Pioneer and trying to access the Jordan River trail, there is no entrance on the South side.

83 There is no walk signal for the East light in this intersection. This causes a dangerous situation when walking/jogging/biking north and then needing to move to the west side to cross. A cross walk or tunnel should be added here.

84 Desirable areas should be identified on lake mountain and access protected, for both hiking and biking trail networks.

85 Additional single track for hiking and mountain biking would be a great improvement and would bring additional business to the area. It would also provide a diverse range of activities to do in Saratoga. If these also connected to the em trails it would be awesome to have an expanded trails network.

86 When traveling northbound on redwood road it is nearly impossible and very dangerous for a cyclist to enter the harvest hills neighborhood. Especially in the morning when crossing two lanes of busy traffic is required. A crosswalk from the east side to the west side would help, or a left turn bicycle signal head.

87 It is too difficult to access regional trails in Lehi and Eagle Mountain from North Saratoga Springs.

88 The Flintstone and Shooting Gallery trails have been closed for a year. I believe the community will benefit from these trails reopening and more added singletrack trails if possible. Eagle Mountain, Lehi, Herriman, and Draper are cities that have recognized the benefits and have embraced efforts to build more dirt, single track trails. Also, look at Bentonville, Arkansas as a compelling case study for building trails for economic growth and development

89 The trail next to the canal ends at both ends of the Lake View Terrace community. Paving the trail all the way through would allow residents in the community and south of the community to more easily use the trail to access the middle school that is being built further to the north.

SURVEY RESULTS

2140

Total Responses

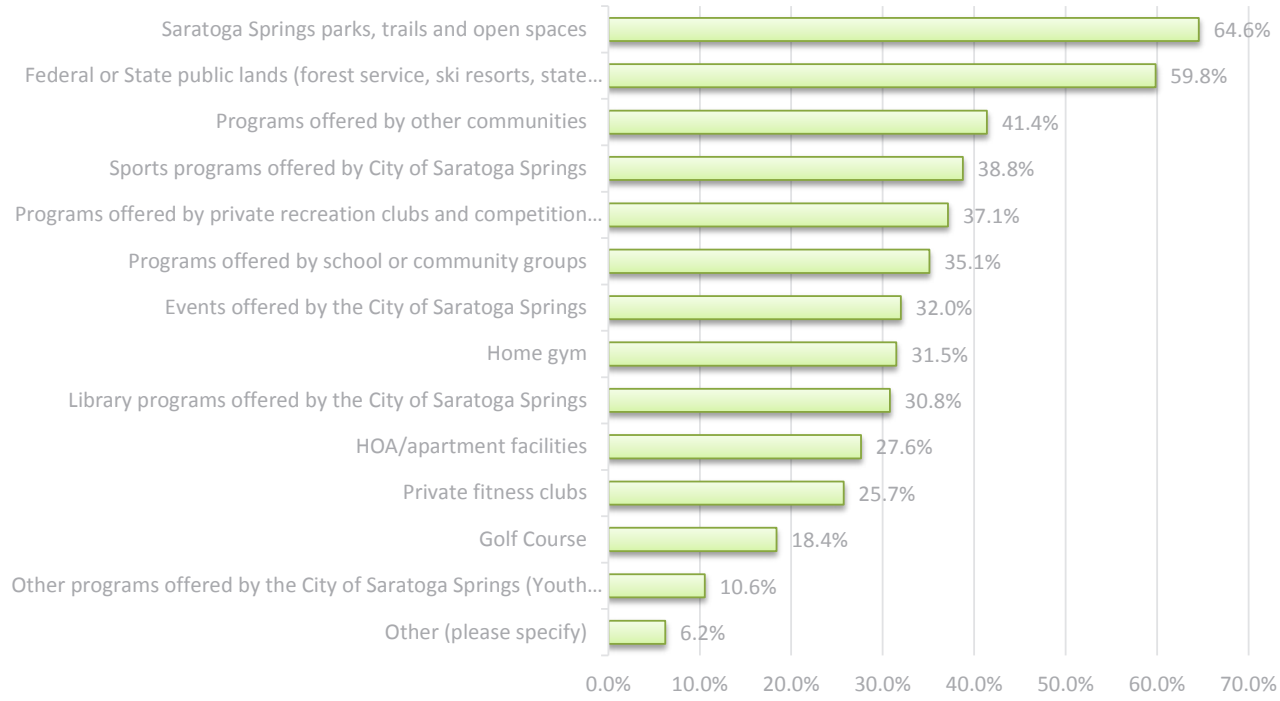
Collection Period: January 18 – February 3, 2019

Complete Responses: 1693

PARKS

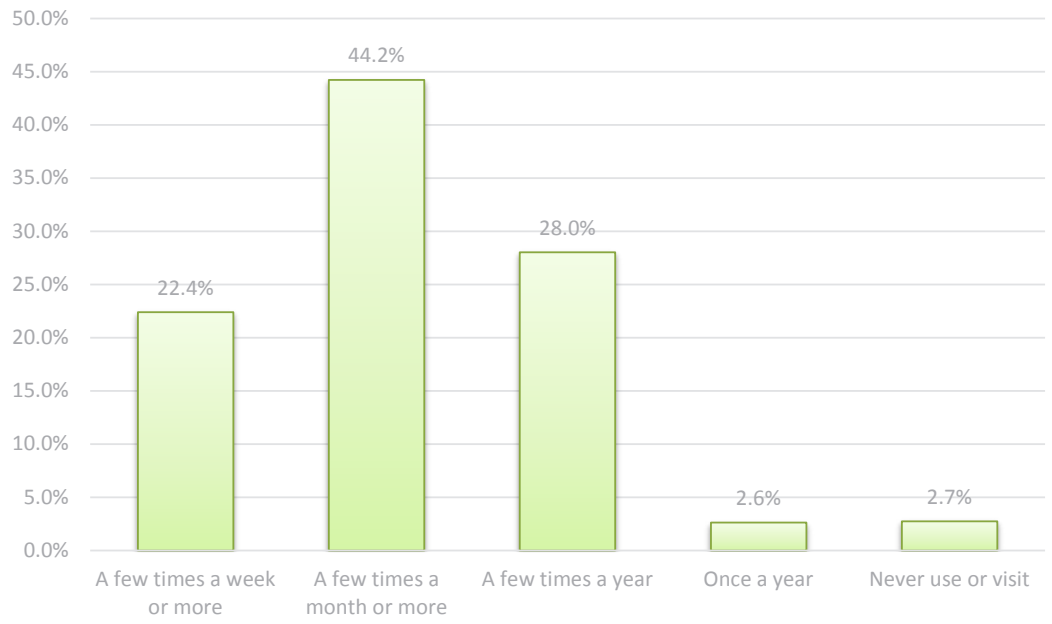
Q1: Please indicate the ways your household leisure and recreational needs are currently met. (check all that apply)

Answered: 2,111 Skipped: 29



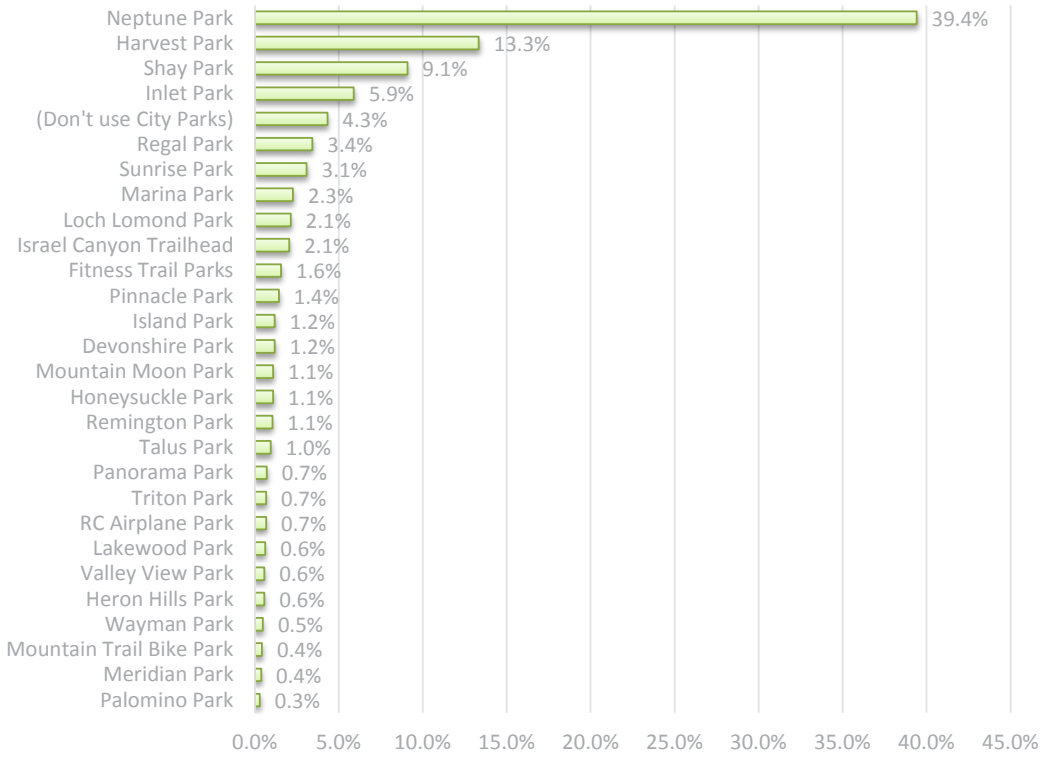
Q2: How often do you use or visit City parks?

Answered: 2,130 Skipped: 10



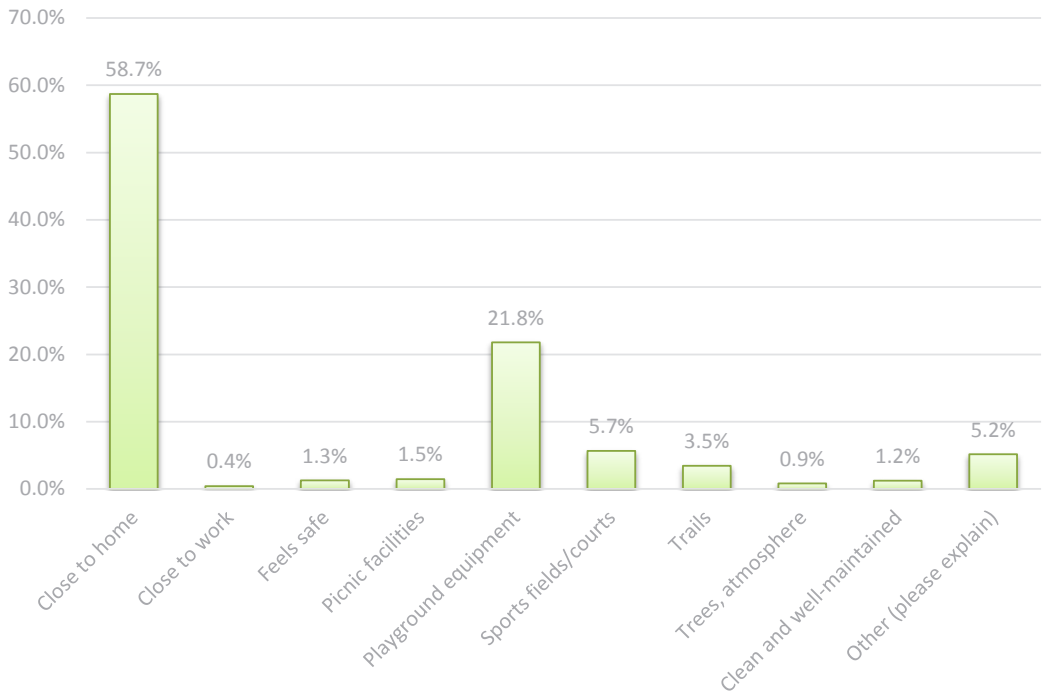
Q3: Which City park does your household use most often?

Answered: 2,101 Skipped: 39



Q4: For the park that you use most often, what is the primary reason that you use it?

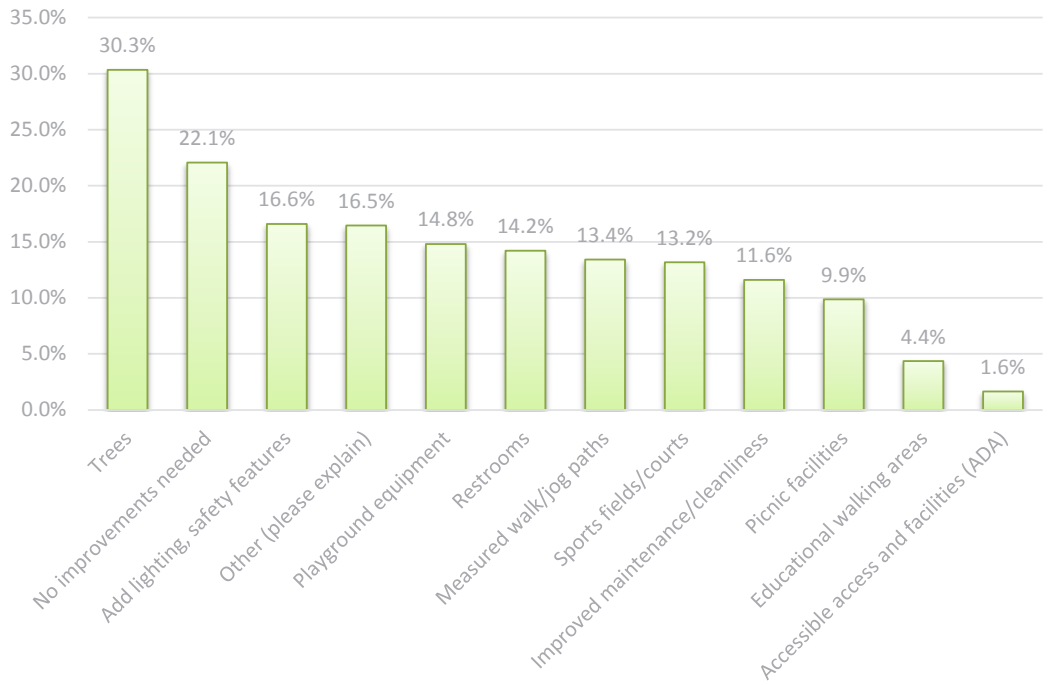
Answered: 2,116 Skipped: 24



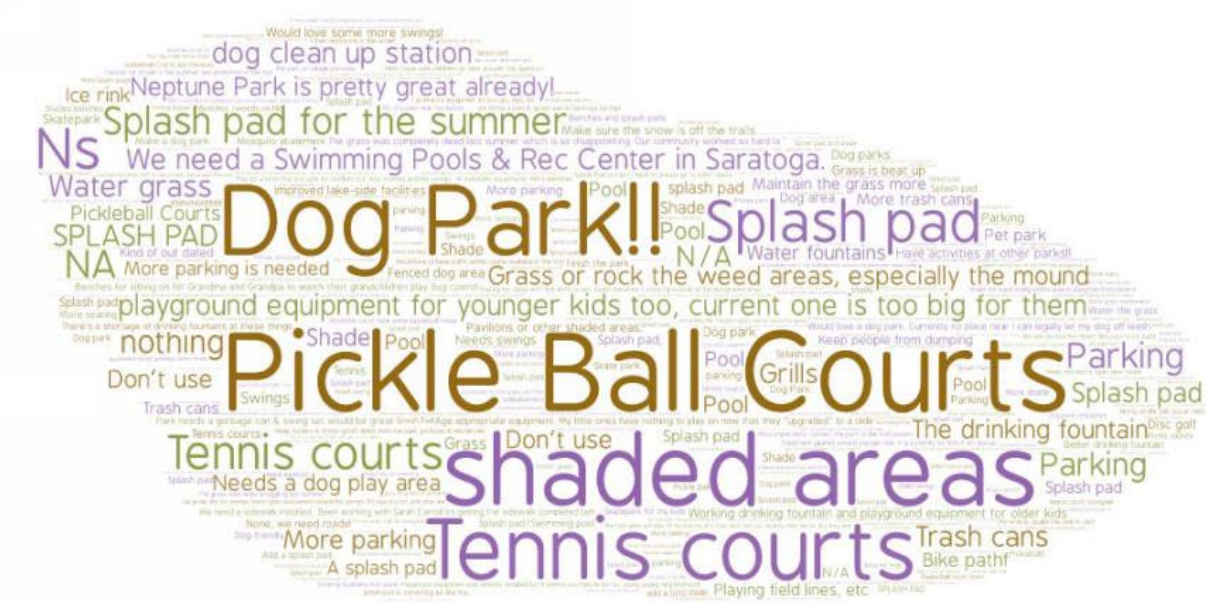
"Other" Responses

Q5: What improvements should be made to the park you use most often? (select up to three)

Answered: 2,140 Skipped: 0

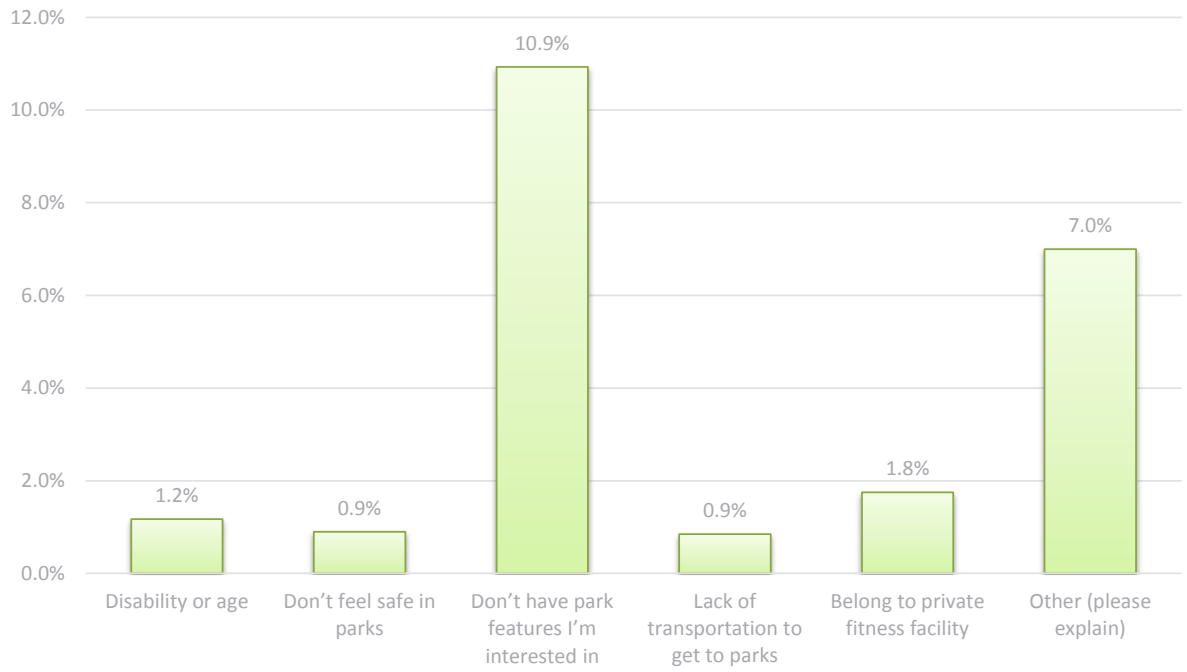


"Other" Responses

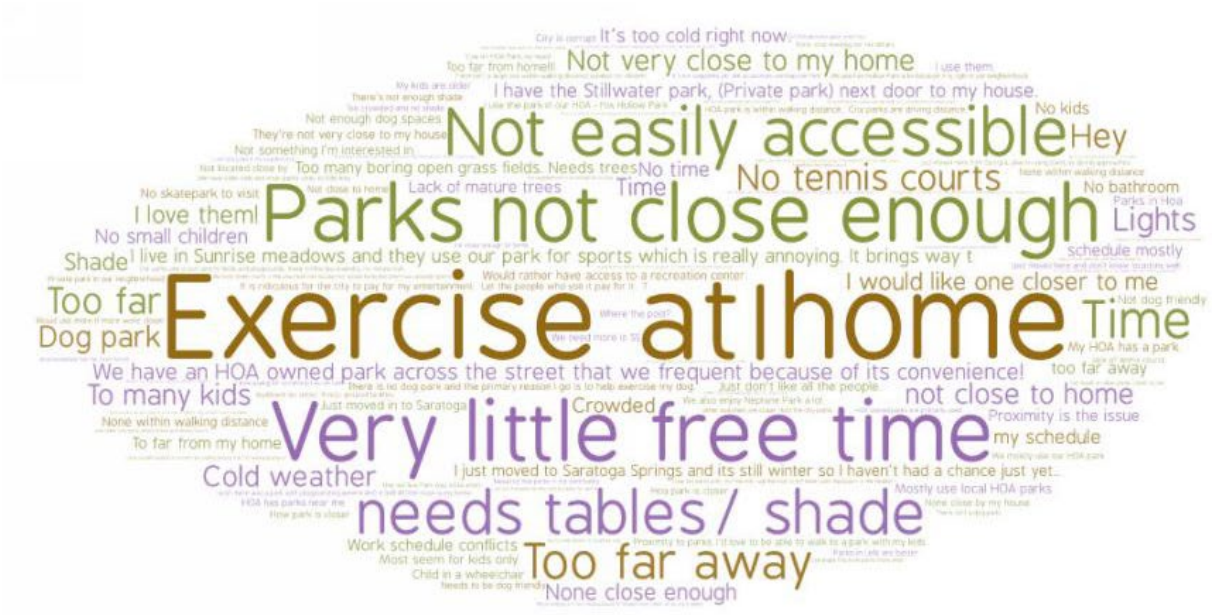


Q6: If you do not use City parks, please tell us the primary reason why not?

Answered: 1,885 Skipped: 255



"Other" Responses



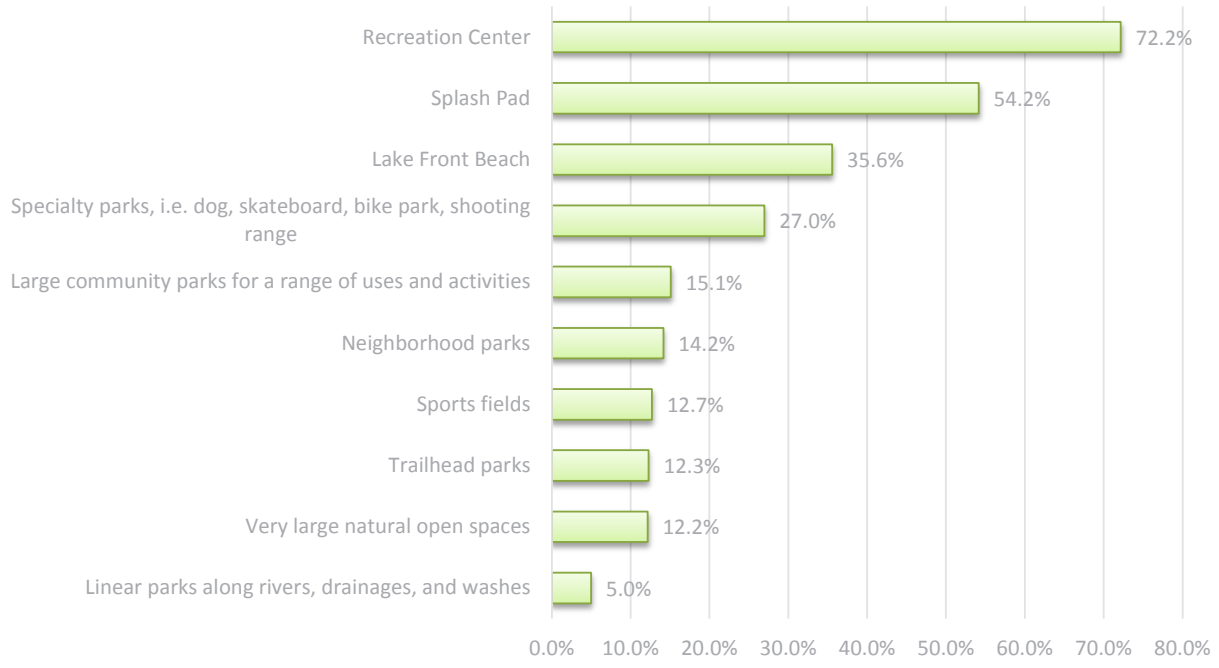
Q7: From your perspective, how important is it to have public parks within walking distance (within ½ mile or 10 minutes) of your home? (with 0 being unimportant and 10 being very important)

Answered: 2,119 Skipped: 21

8.3

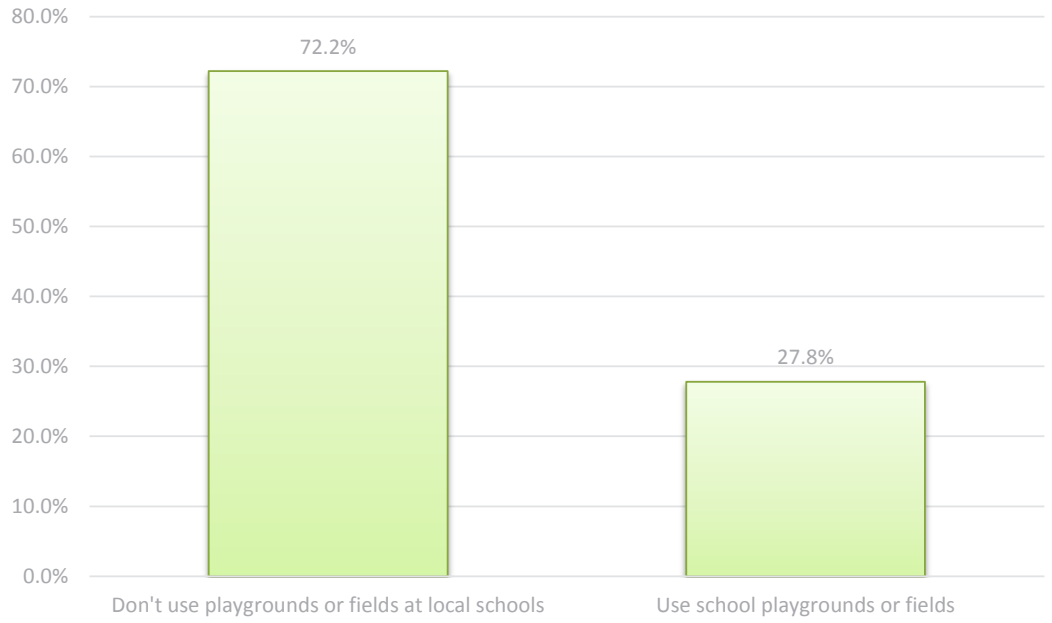
Q8: What types of parks or recreation facilities are needed most in Saratoga Springs? (select up to three)

Answered: 2,140 Skipped: 0

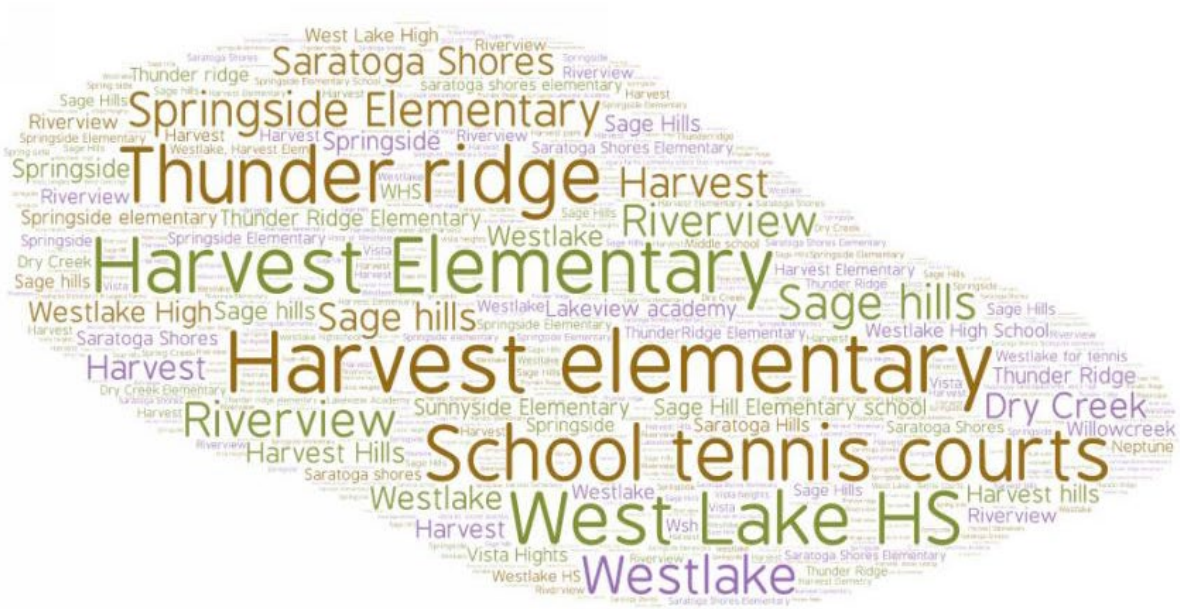


Q9: If you use playgrounds and fields at local schools (excluding organized sporting events) which school do you use most often?

Answered: 2,111 Skipped: 29

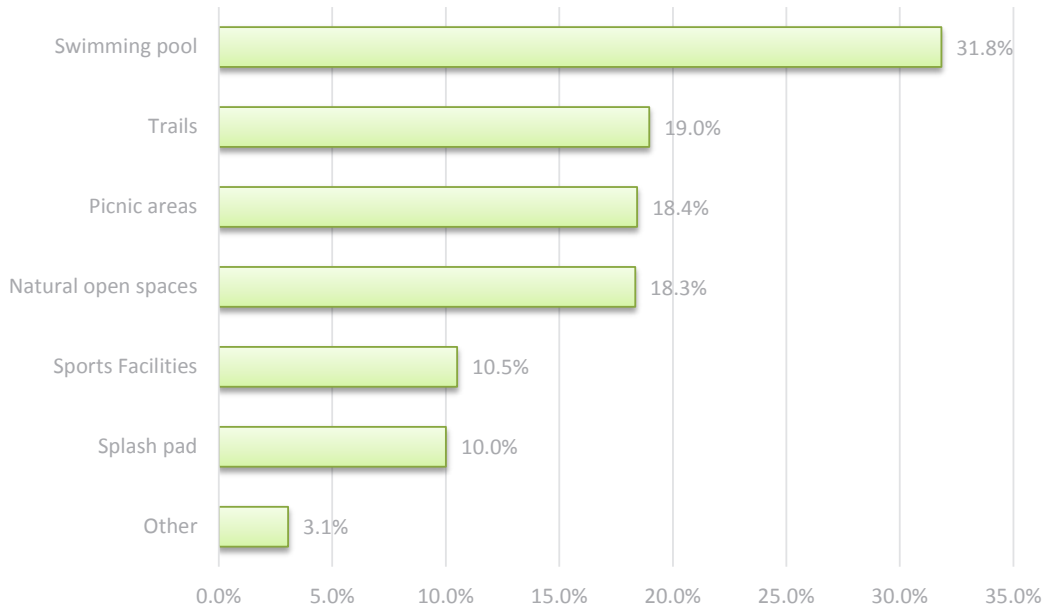


School Used



Q10: If you use private parks or recreation amenities in a private HOA or development, please check which amenities you most often use and then list the development. (check all that apply)

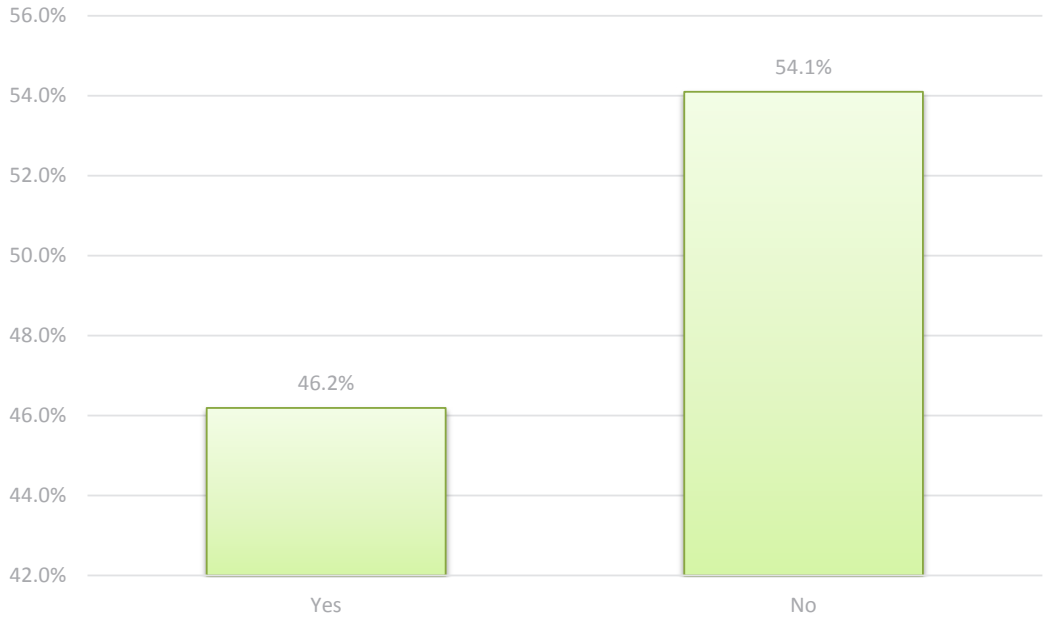
Answered: 2,067 Skipped: 73



RECREATION & EVENTS

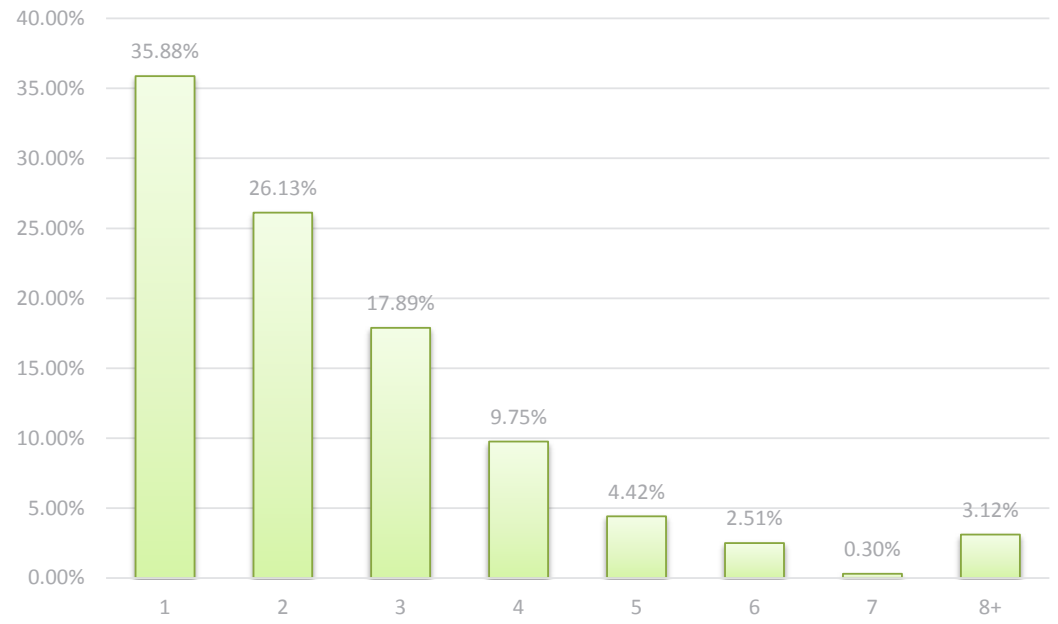
Q11: Have you or any members of your household participated in any recreation programs offered by the City of Saratoga Springs in the past 12 months?

Answered: 2,063 Skipped: 77



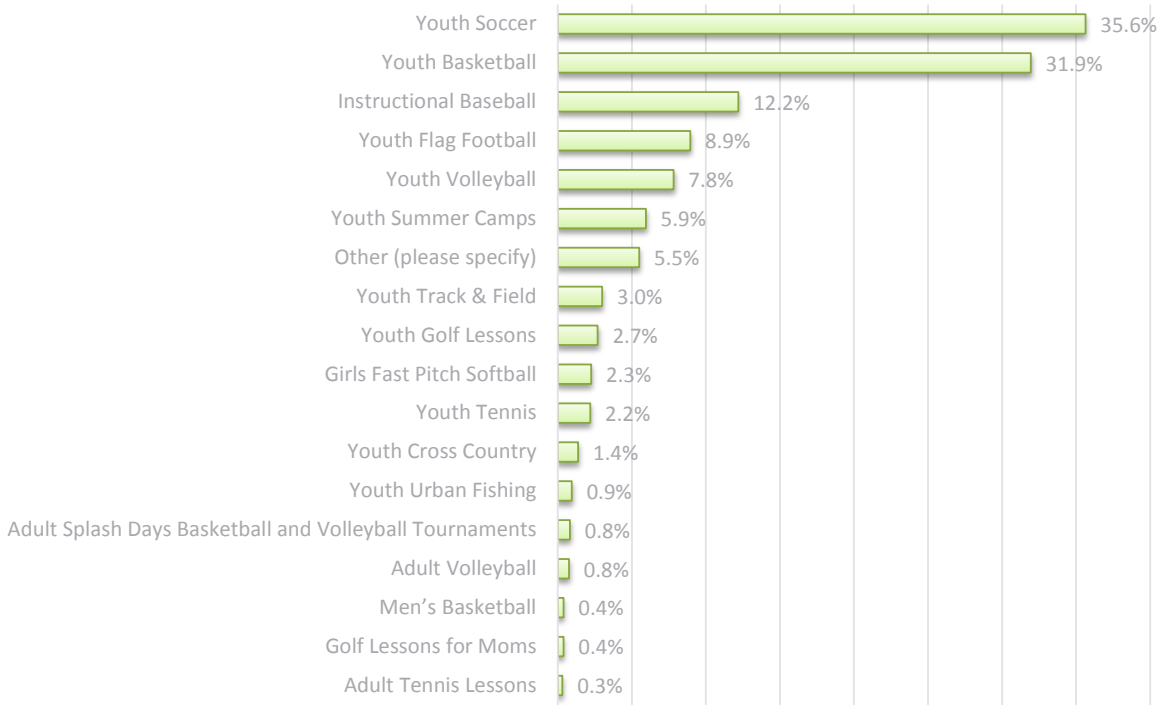
Q12: If yes, how many programs has your household participated in in the past 12 months

Answered: 995 Skipped: 1,145



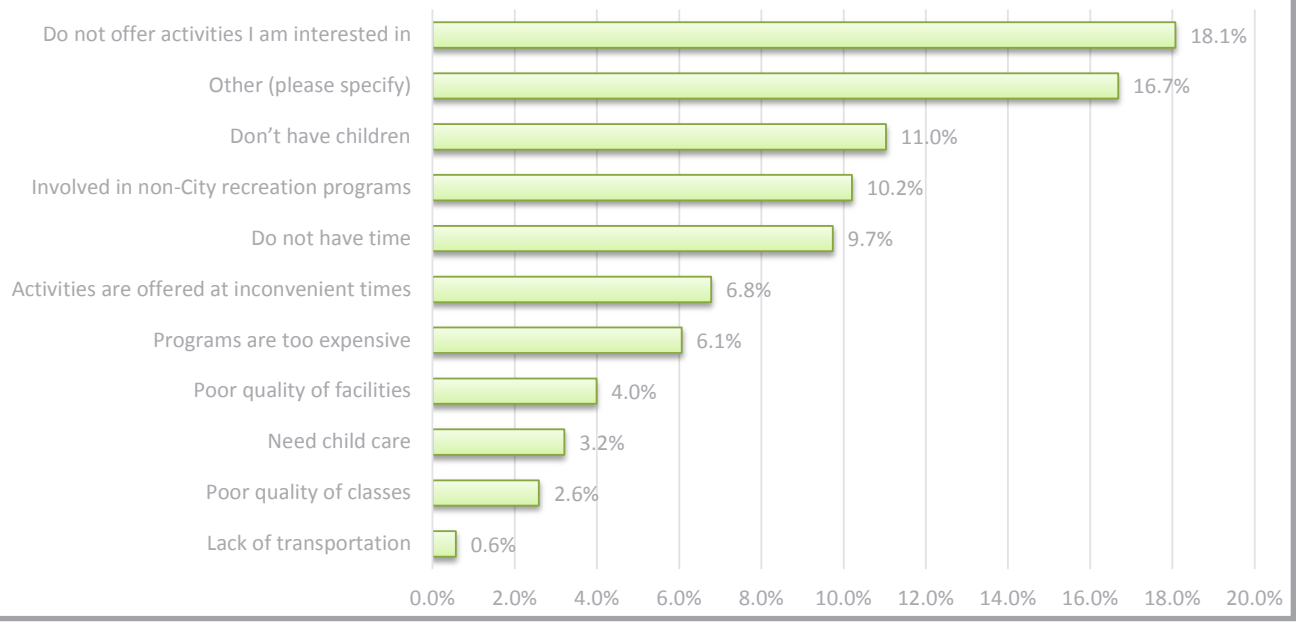
Q13: If yes, which programs? (Please check all that apply)

Answered: 1,600 Skipped: 540



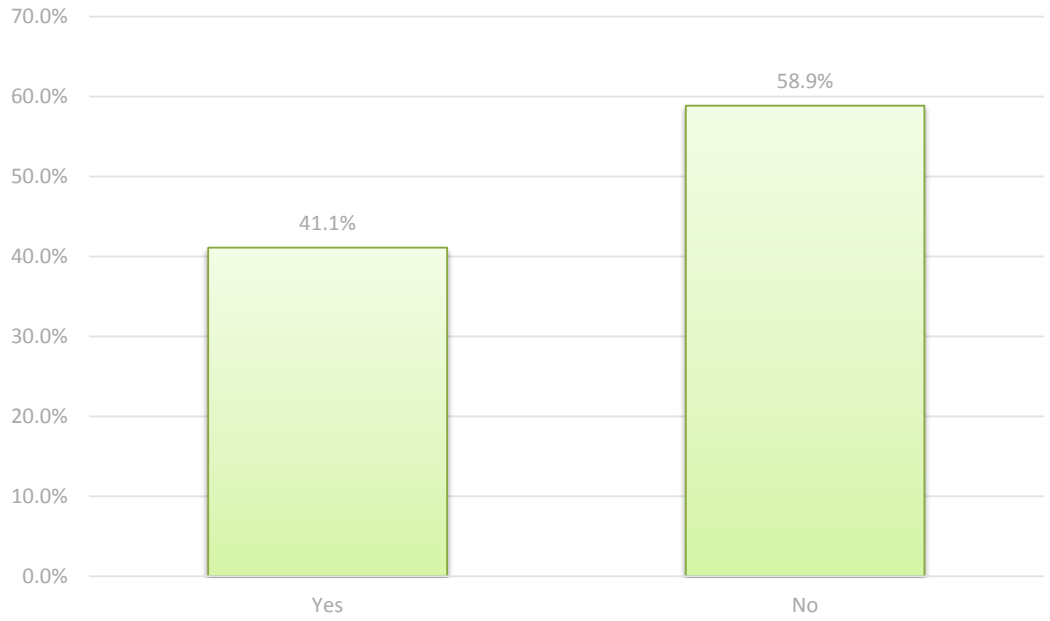
Q14: If you do not participate in City recreation programs, please tell us why not? (check all that apply)

Answered: 1,931 Skipped: 209



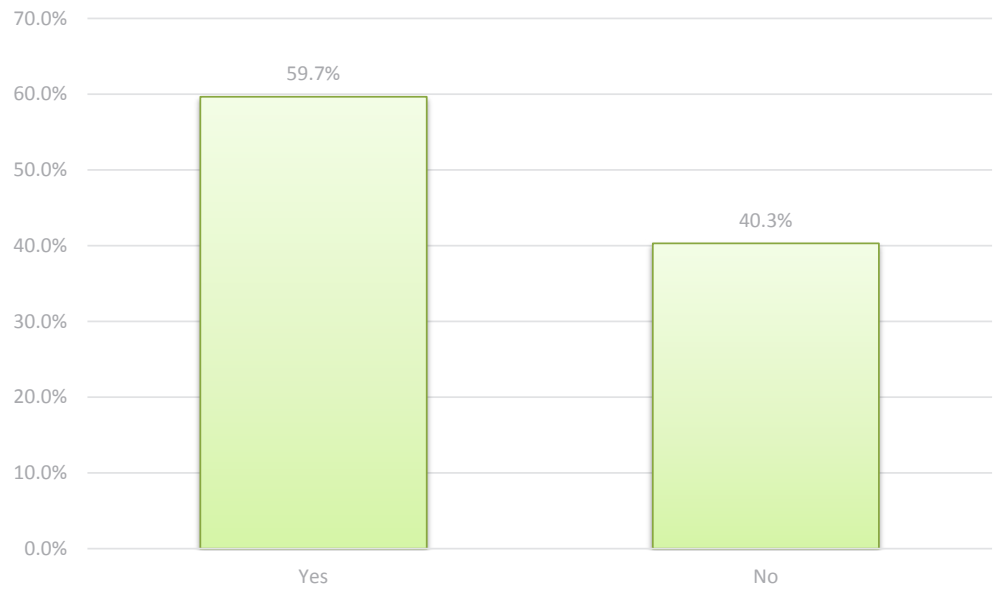
Q15: Are there any recreation programs that you and your family would like to participate in that are not currently offered?

Answered: 1,919 Skipped: 221



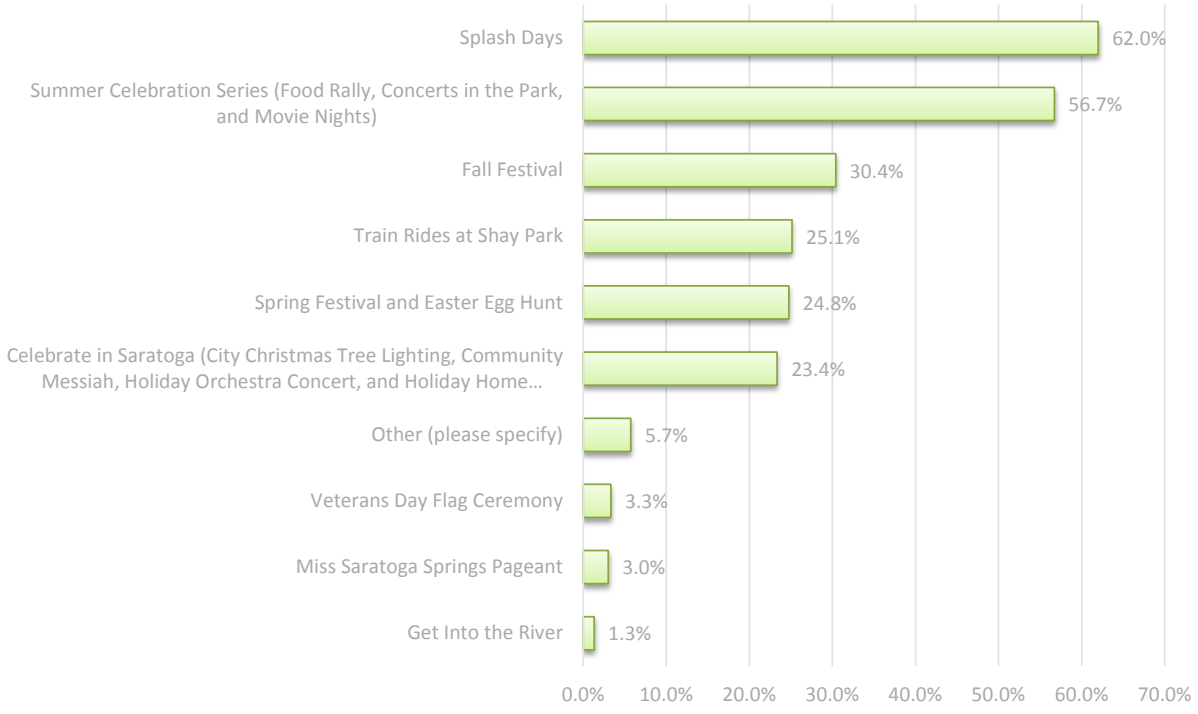
Q16: Have you or any members of your household participated in any community events offered by the City of Saratoga Springs in the past 12 months?

Answered: 1,996 Skipped: 144



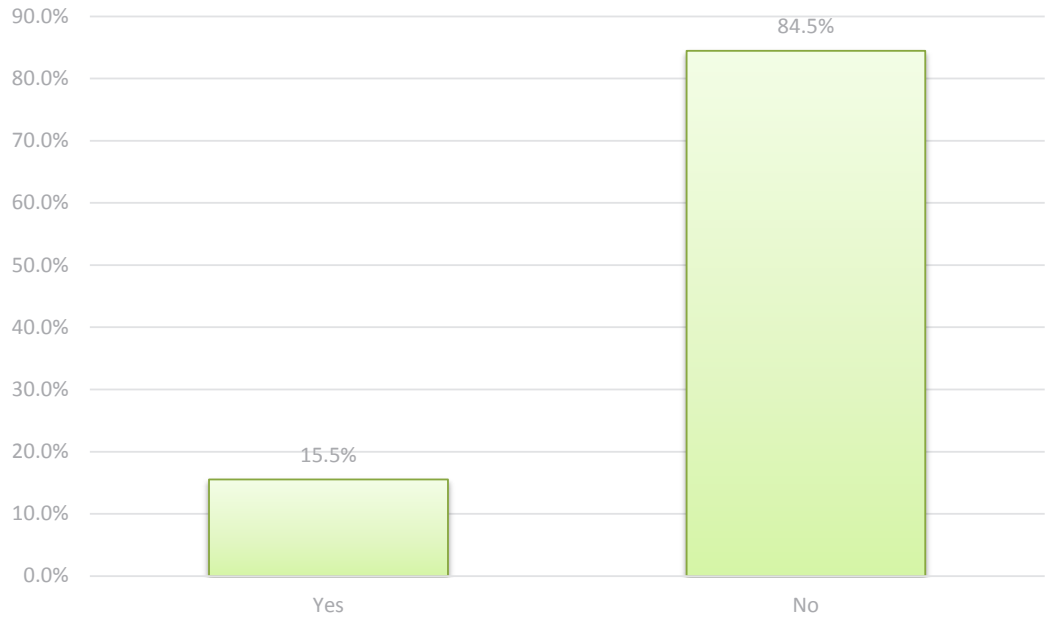
Q17: If yes, which events? (select all that apply)

Answered: 1,289 Skipped: 851



Q18: Are there any community events or activities that you and your family would like to participate in that are not currently offered?

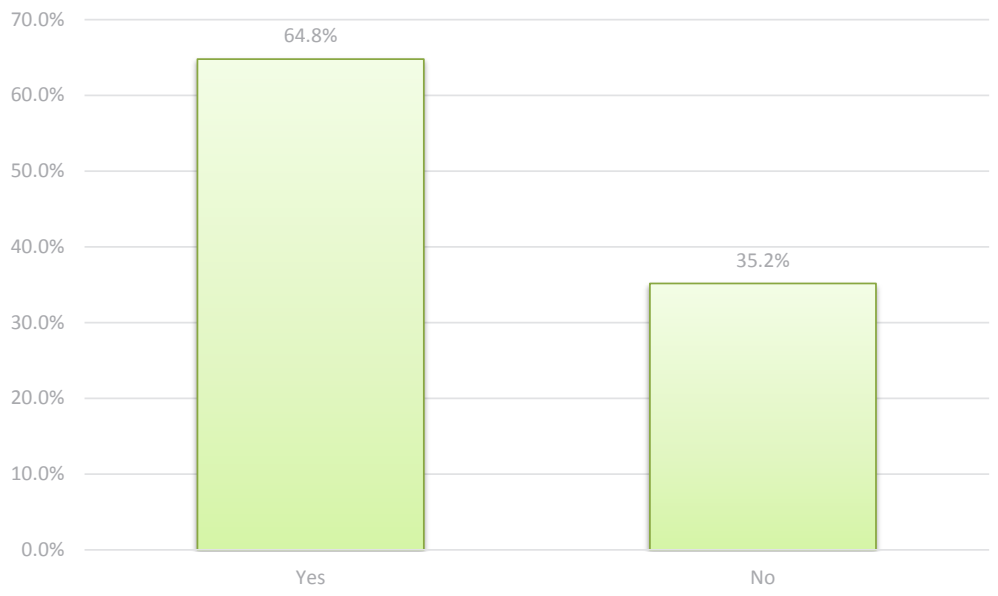
Answered: 1,840 Skipped: 300



TRAILS

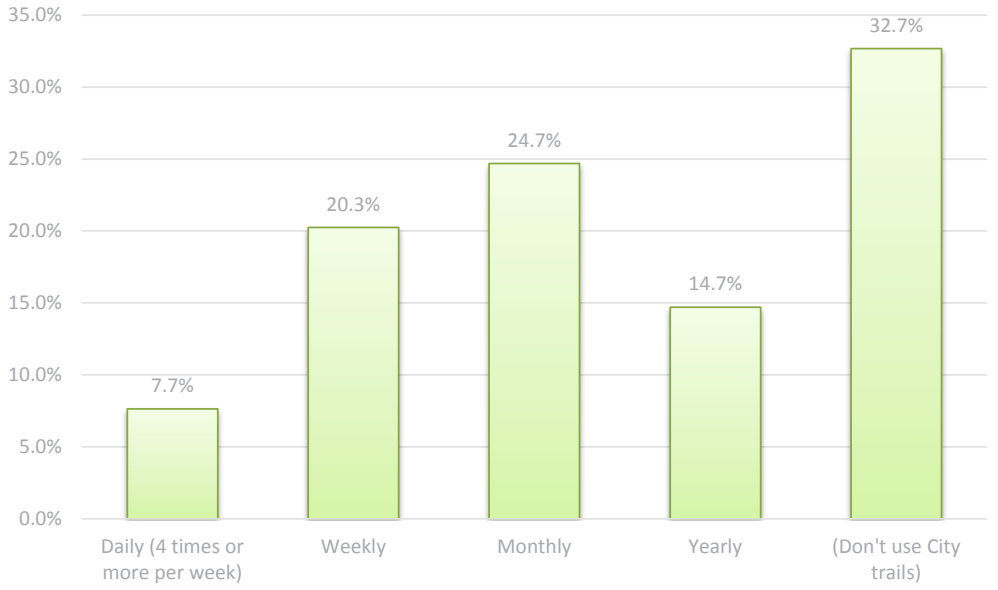
Q19: Do you or members of your household use the City's trail system?

Answered: 1,904 Skipped: 236



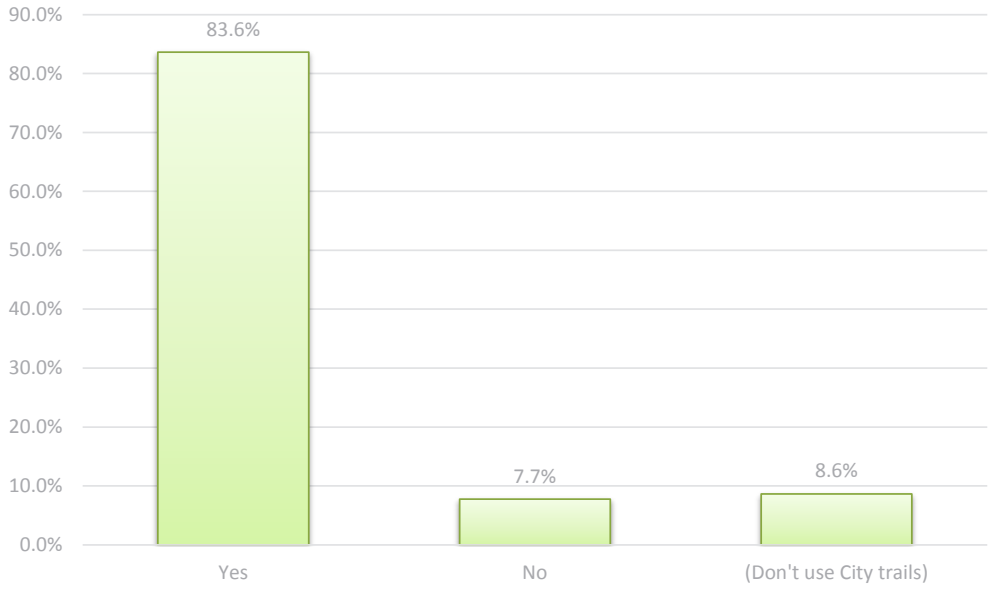
Q20: If yes, how often?

Answered: 1,842 Skipped: 298



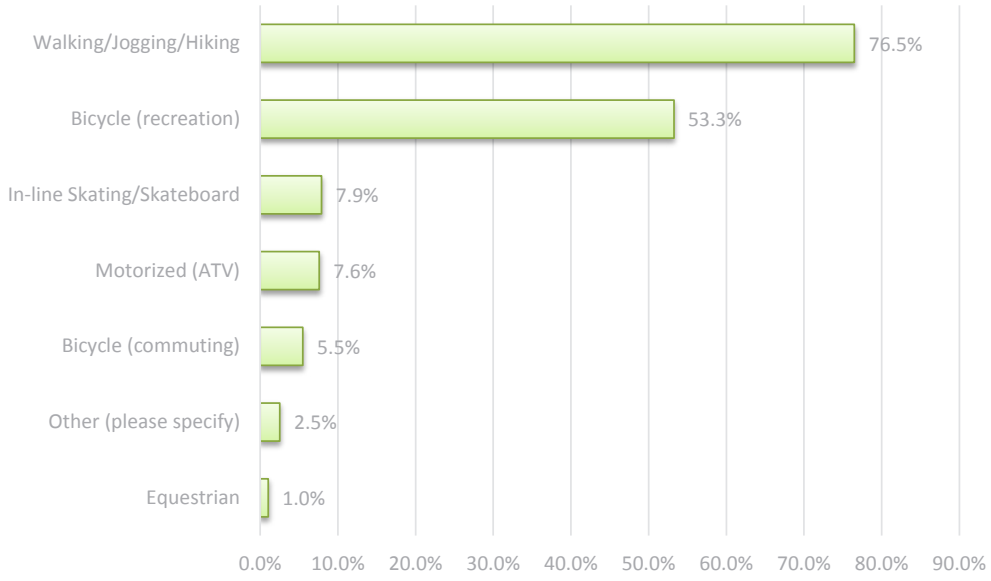
Q21: If Saratoga Springs trails were more complete or connected would you use them more often?

Answered: 1,898 Skipped: 242



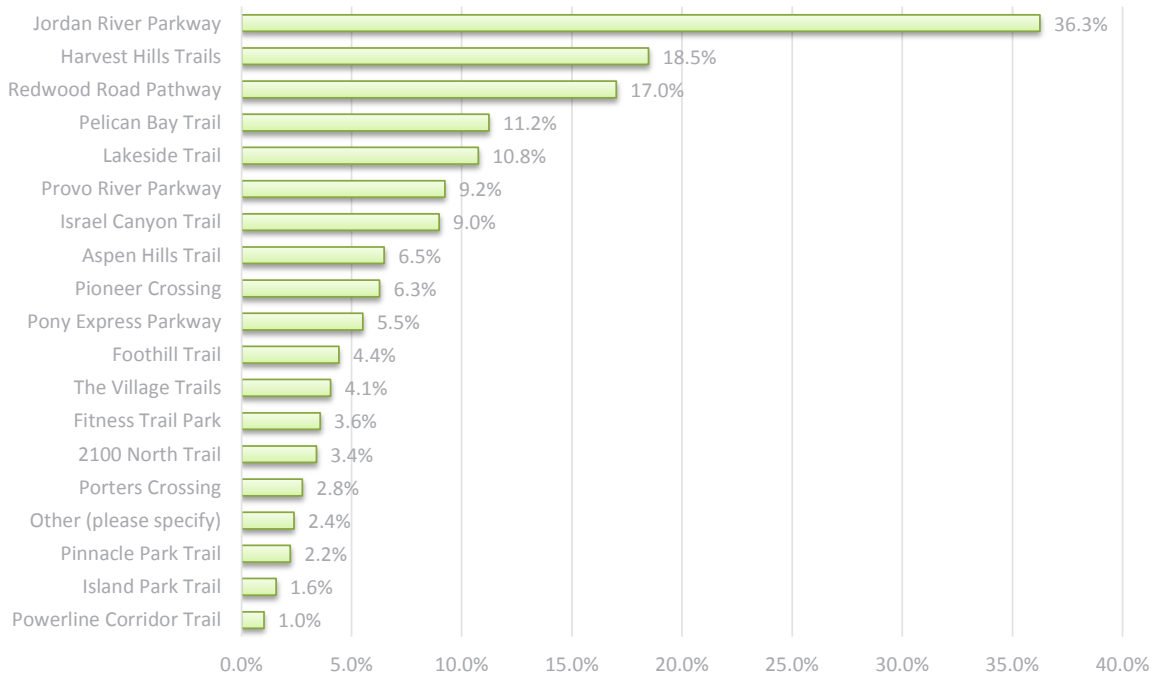
Q22: Please tell us how you use the trails. (please check all that apply)

Answered: 1,876 Skipped: 264



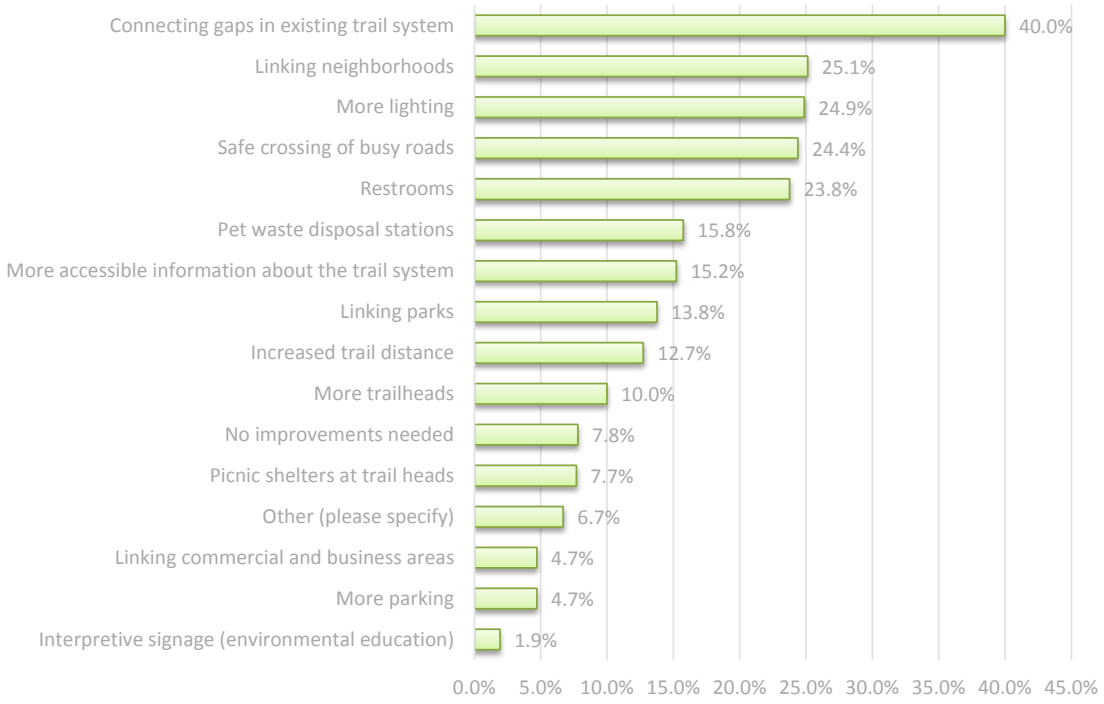
Q23: Which trail(s) do you use most often? (check all that apply)

Answered: 1,851 Skipped: 289



Q24: What improvements should be made to the trail system? (select up to three)

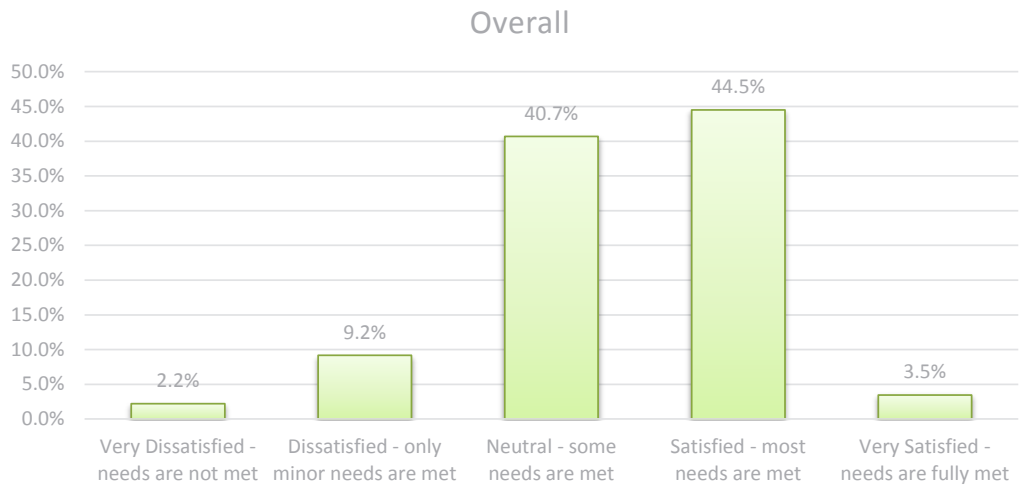
Answered: 1,911 Skipped: 229



GENERAL

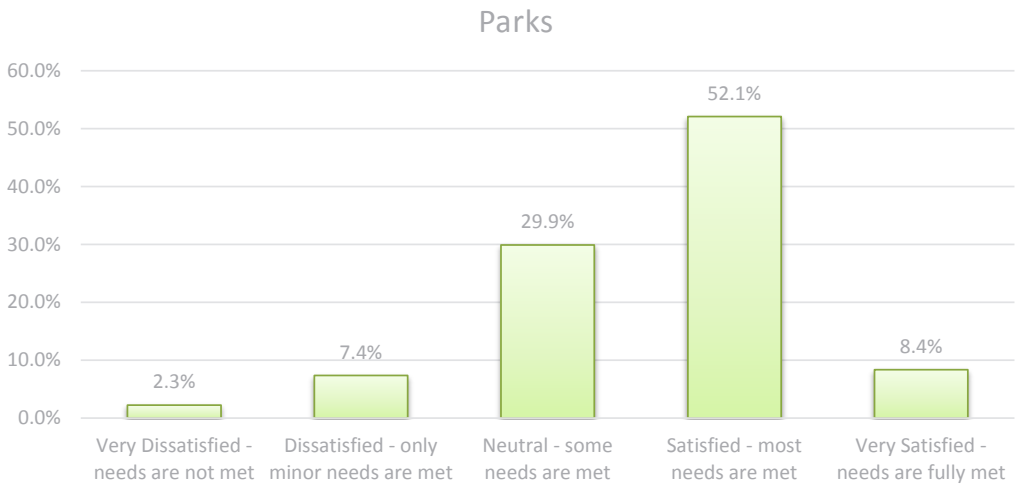
Q25: How satisfied are you with City's provision of parks, recreation and trails?

Answered: 1,746 Skipped: 394



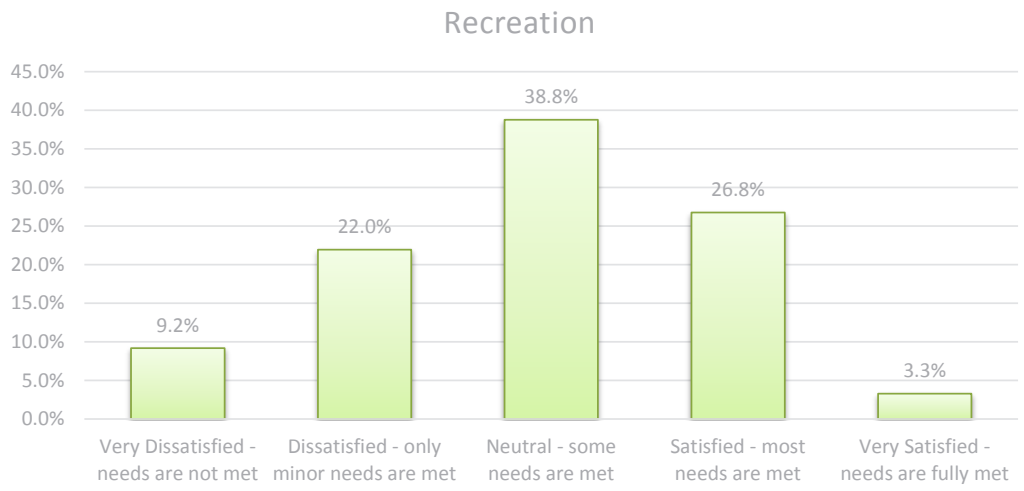
Q25: How satisfied are you with City's provision of parks, recreation and trails?

Answered: 1,746 Skipped: 394



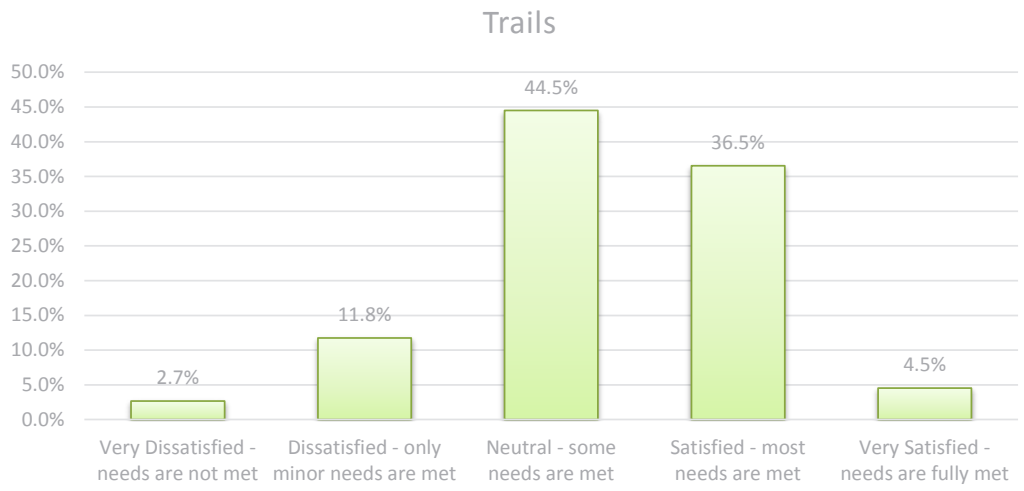
Q25: How satisfied are you with City's provision of parks, recreation and trails?

Answered: 1,746 Skipped: 394



Q25: How satisfied are you with City's provision of parks, recreation and trails?

Answered: 1,746 Skipped: 394



Q26: How much would you be willing to pay per year if the additional funding would be used for maintenance or improvements to existing Saratoga Springs Parks, Trails and Open Space?

Answered: 1,640 Skipped: 500

$38

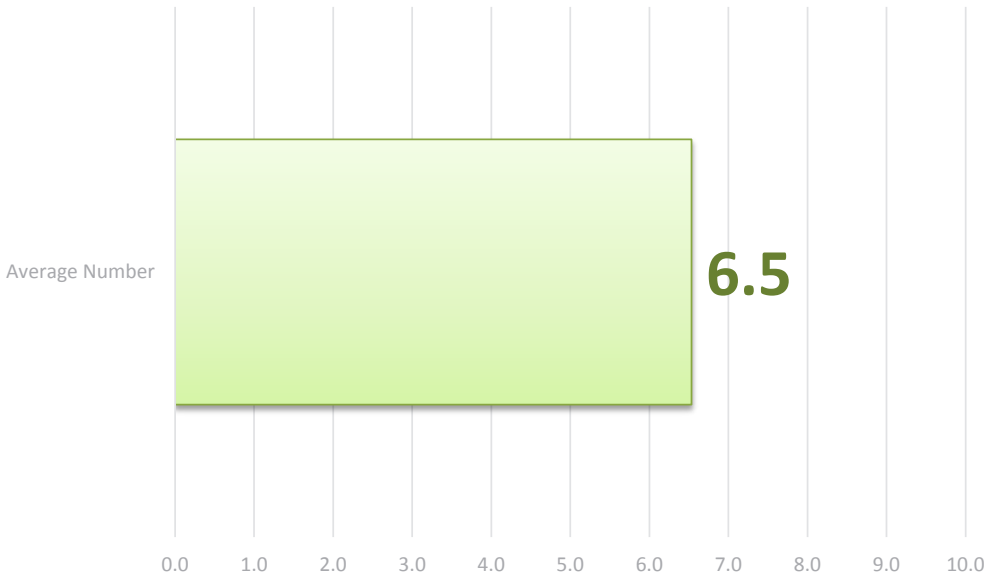
Q27: How much would you be willing to pay per year if the additional funding would be used to provide new Saratoga Springs Parks, Recreation Facilities, Trails and Open Space?

Answered: 1,653 Skipped: 487

$49

Q28: How willing are you to support a tax increase to fund the construction of a Recreation Center? (with 0 being not willing and 10 being very willing)

Answered: 1,715 Skipped: 425



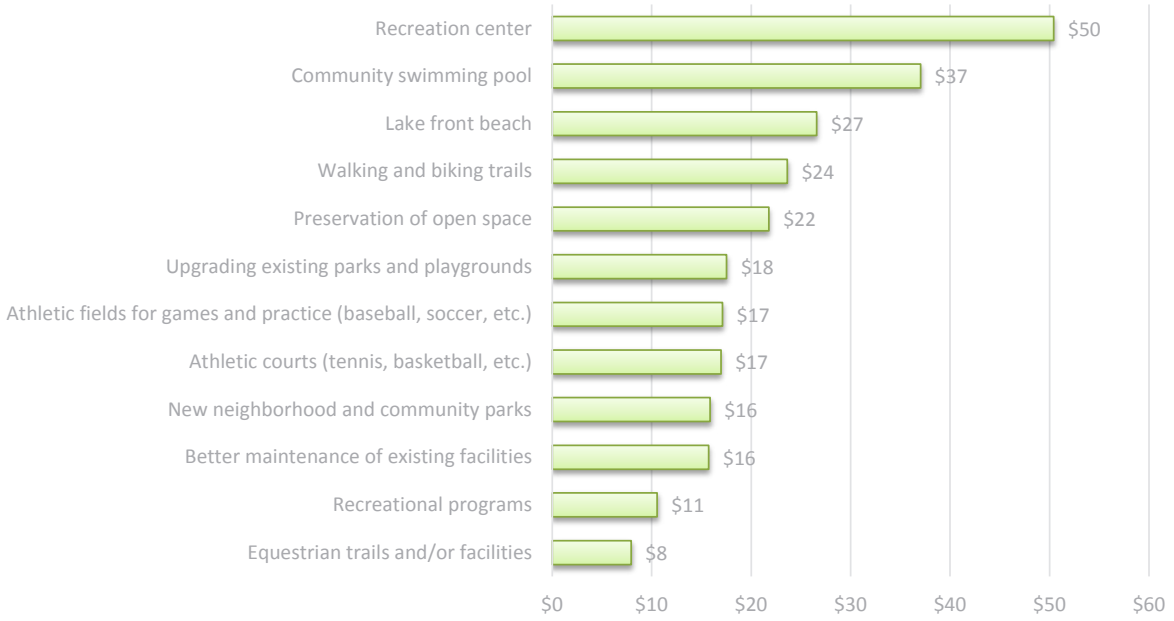
Q29: How much would you be willing to pay per year if the additional funding would be used to provide a Recreation Center?

Answered: 1,705 Skipped: 435

$139

Q30: If you had $100 to spend on additional parks, recreation facilities, trails and/or open space, how would you divide the $100? (you may spend the $100 all in one category, or divide it up as you please, but it must total $100.)

Answered: 1,586 Skipped: 554

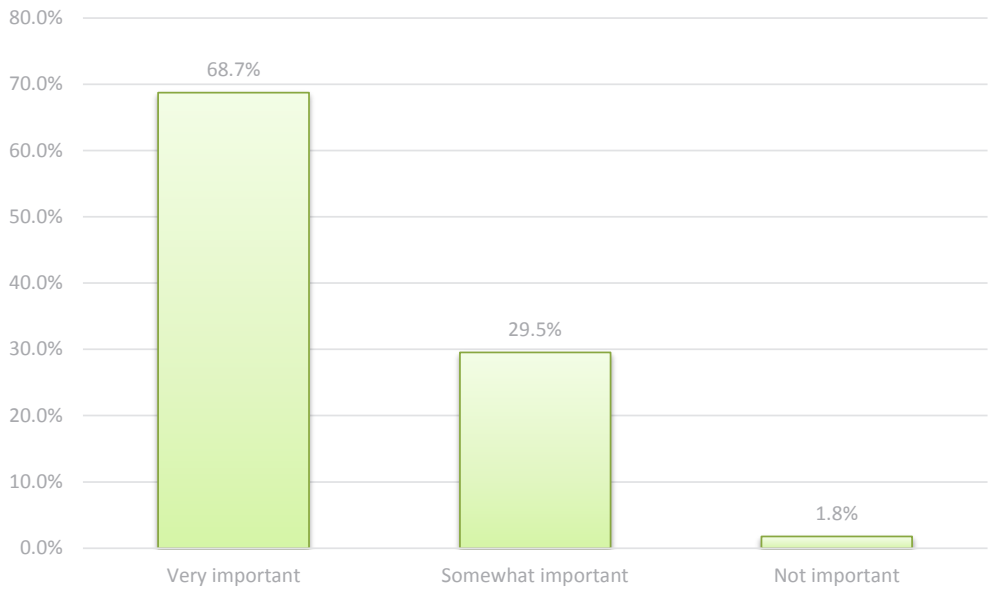


Q31: Additional comments?

Answered: 384 Skipped: 1,756

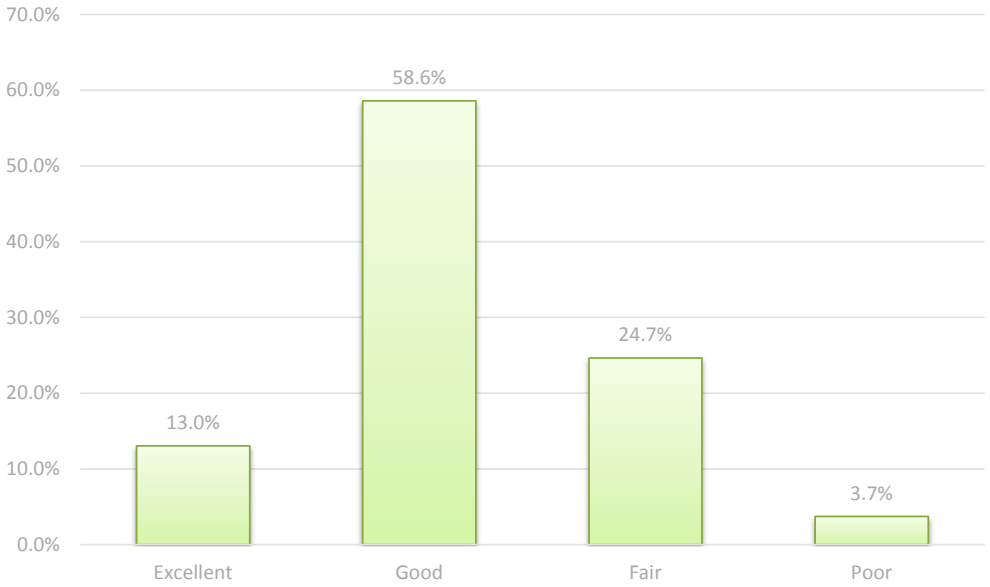
Q32: How important are the overall aesthetics and visual appearance of the City?

Answered: 1,714 Skipped: 426



Q33: Overall, how would you rate the overall aesthetics and visual appearance of the City of Saratoga Springs?

Answered: 1,712 Skipped: 428

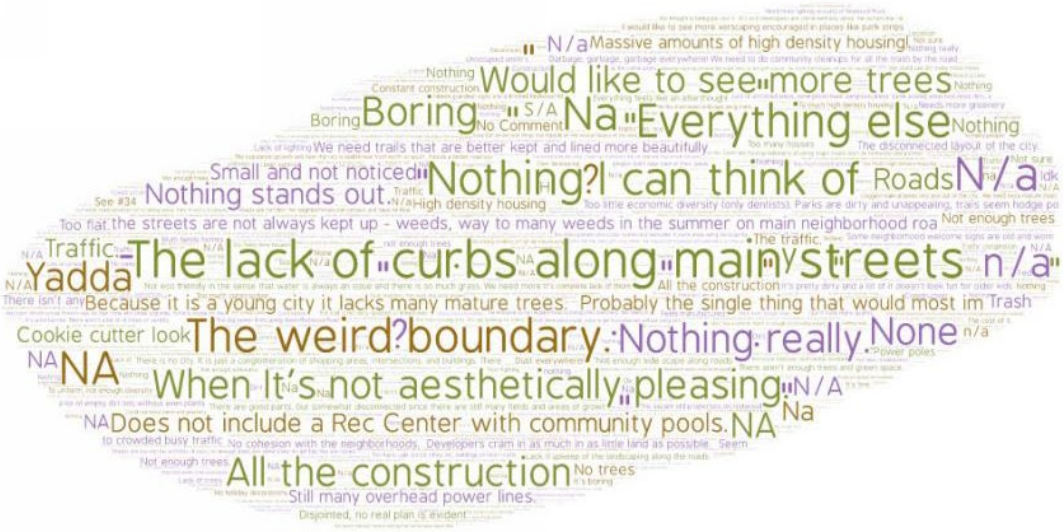


Q34: What do you like about the City's aesthetics?

Answered: 1,104 Skipped: 1,036

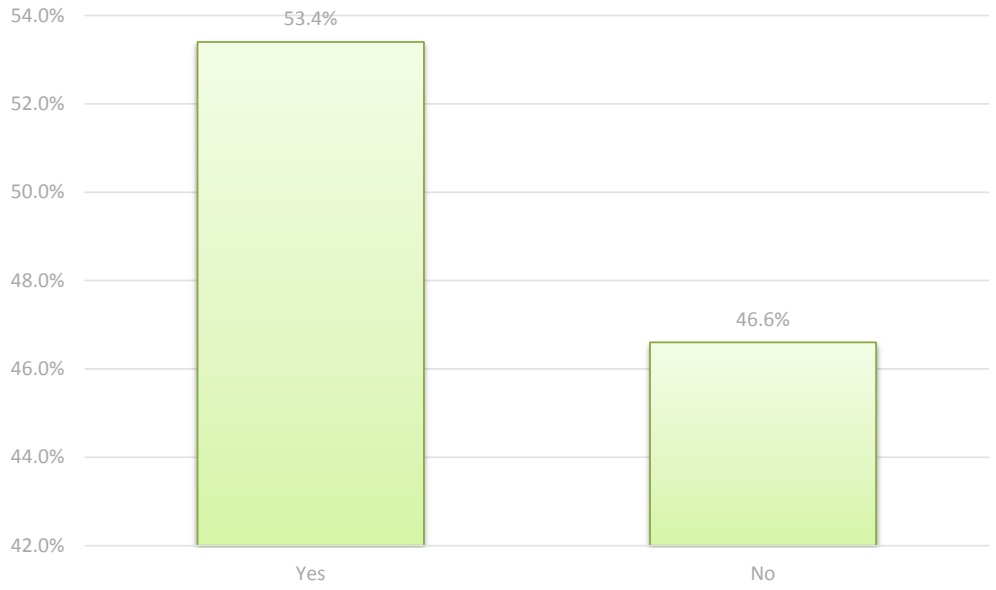
Q35: What do you dislike about the City's aesthetics?

Answered: 1,061 Skipped: 1,079



Q36: Do you feel it is important for Saratoga Springs to provide public cemeteries and burial plots for purchase?

Answered: 1,678 Skipped: 462



Q37: If so, how much would you be willing to pay per plot?

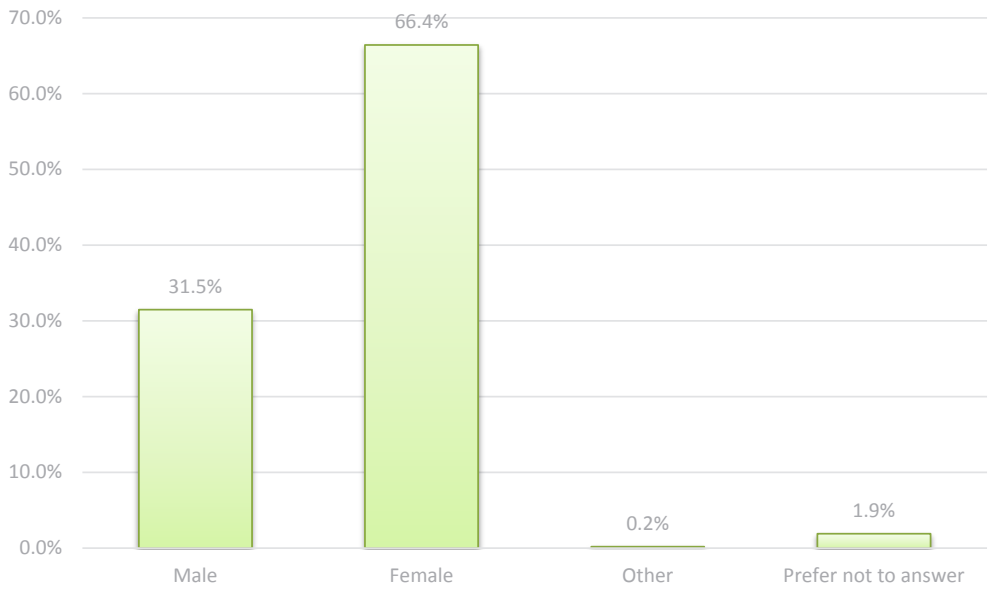
Answered: 1,359 Skipped: 781

$513

DEMOGRAPHICS

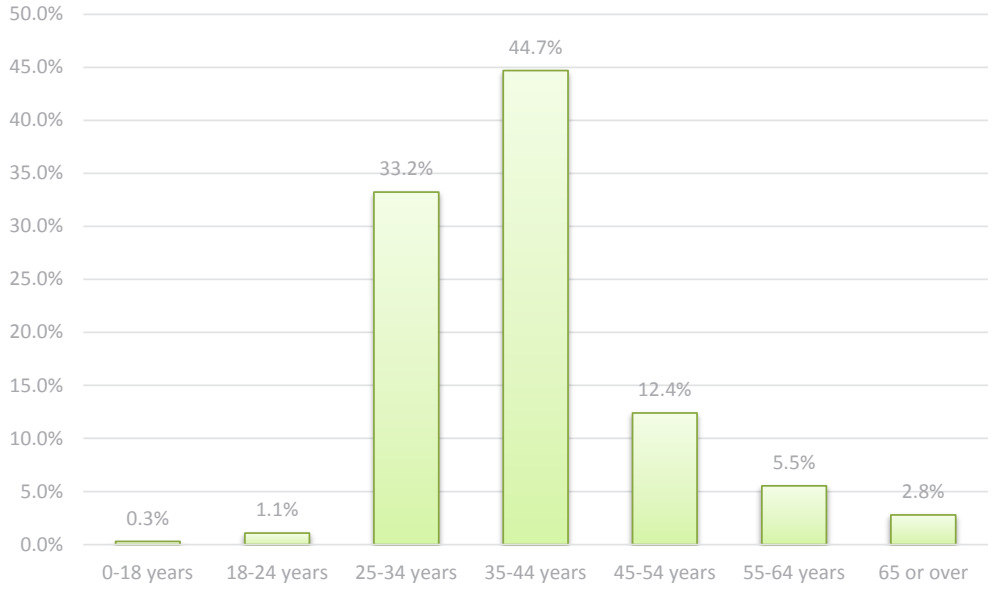
Q38: Please indicate your gender:

Answered: 1,677 Skipped: 463



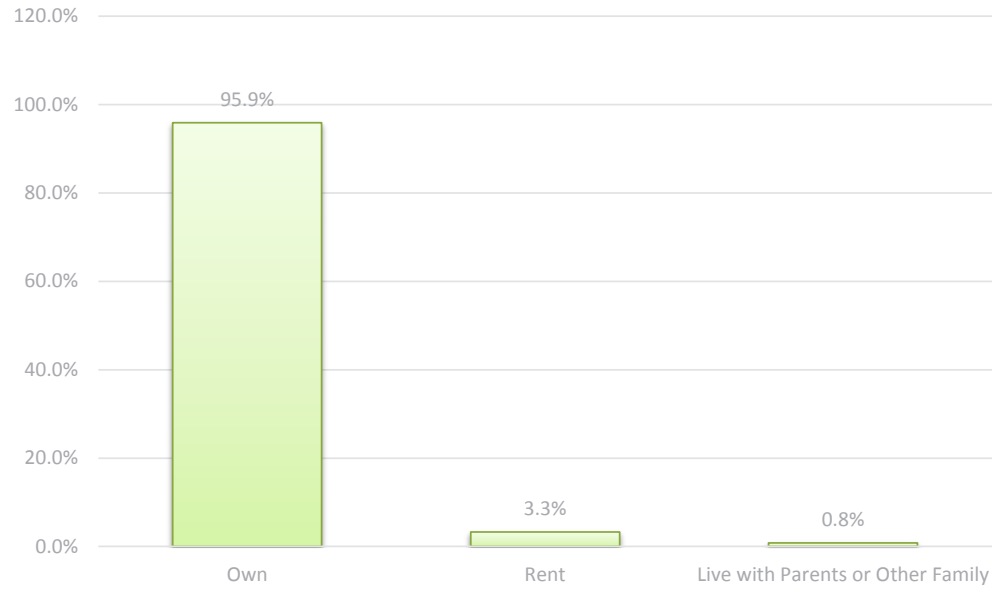
Q39: Please indicate your age:

Answered: 1,685 Skipped: 455



Q40: Do you own or rent your home?

Answered: 1,686 Skipped: 454

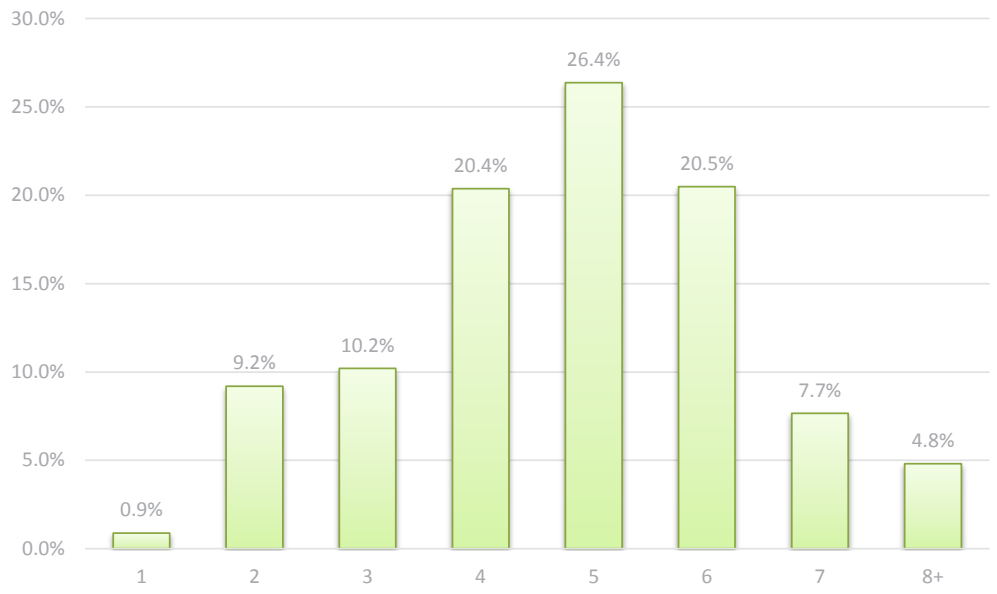


Q41: How long have you lived in Saratoga Springs?

Answered: 1,687 Skipped: 453

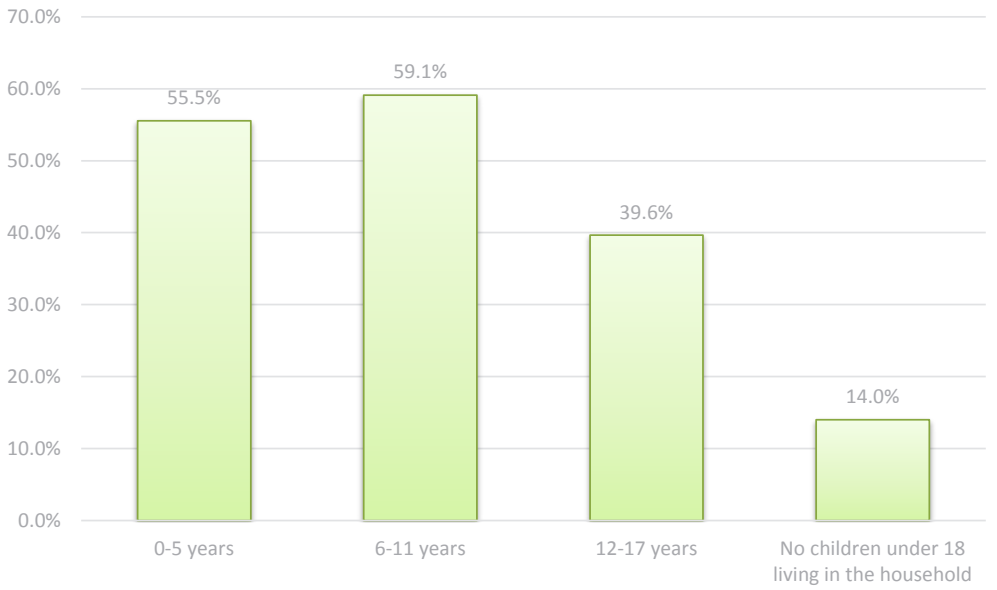
Q42: How many people currently live in your household

Answered: 1,684 Skipped: 456



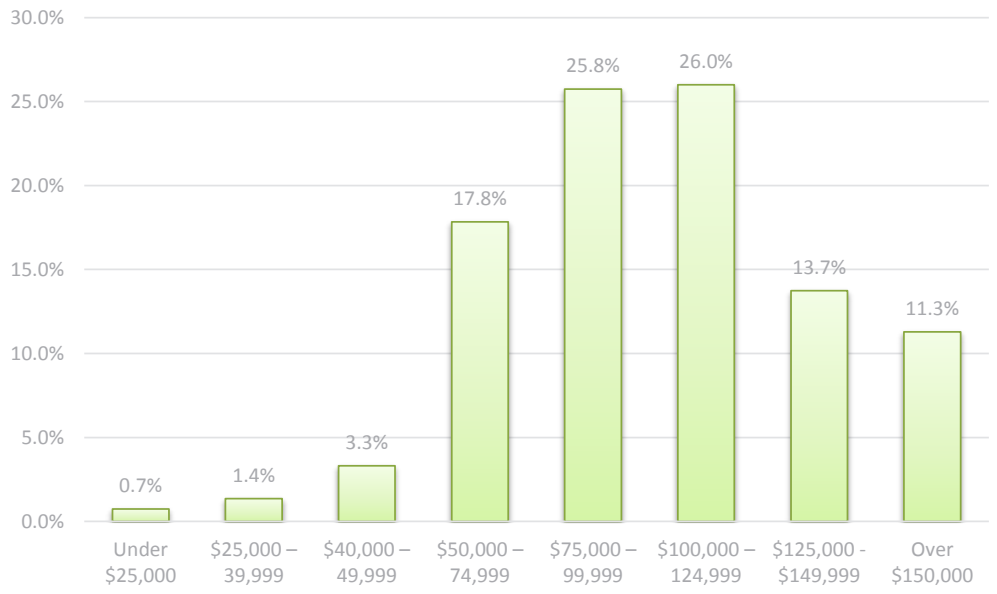
Q43: Please check the age categories for which you have children living at home. (Please check all that apply)

Answered: 1,680 Skipped: 460



Q44: What was your 2018 household income?

Answered: 1,631 Skipped: 509



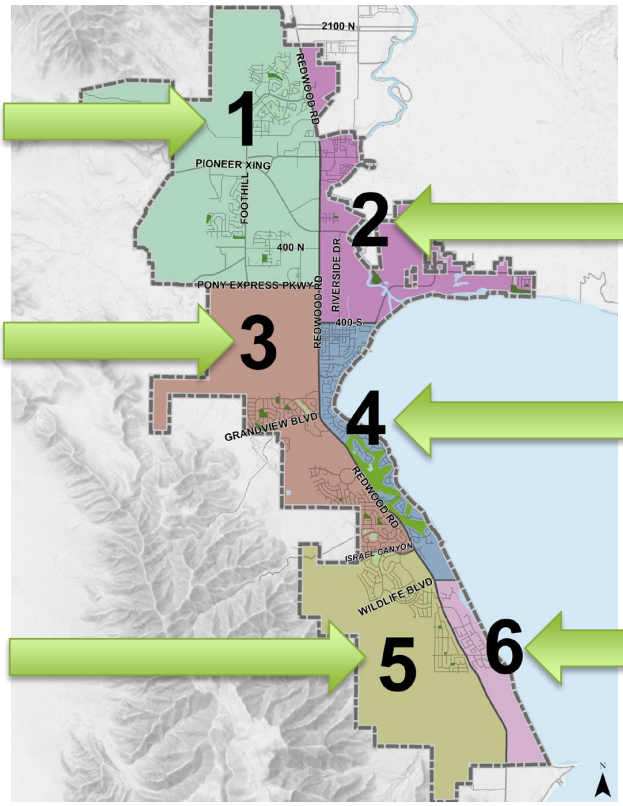
Q45: Which Saratoga Springs neighborhood or community do you live in? (see map above)

Answered: 1,693 Skipped: 447

34.9%

22.6%

14.7%



8.2%

15.4%

3.8%

FOCUS GROUP MEETING NOTES

Saratoga Springs Parks, Recreation, Trails and Open Space Master Plan

Landmark Design
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE & PLANNING

NOTES

Saratoga Springs Focus Interviews October 9, 2018, City Hall

Interview 1 – Rick Kennington
1PM

PARKS SUPERINTENDENT

- Responsible for all aspects of all park maintenance, but involved with planning and design as well, inspections on new parks, etc. In charge of operating budget, etc. They do everything in-house (will hire out small projects, supplemental mowing, etc.).
- Dependent on college students for temp employment (mowing), so rely on contract help in shoulder season.
- Nine full-time staff, 12 seasonal. Two full-time supervisors take charge of the others.
- City has been good about trying to get them what they need.
- System Highlights (excluding Patriot Park):
    - 264 acres of land they maintain (121 acres of turf)
    - 173 park acres/29 parks
    - 106 acres Open and Native areas
    - 62,000 LF (+/- 12 miles)
    - 90 different sites that are maintained (parks, office buildings, medians etc.)
    - 7 restrooms (all male/female mostly)
    - 18 pavilions
    - 17 playgrounds
    - 72 trash cans
    - 76 irrigation controllers, changing to WeatherTRAK central control system that can be controlled with app on phones
- Only replacement program is for trucks, equipment
- Front desk/receptionist schedules pavillons.
- Special events permits required to reserve a park, etc. Neptune and Shay most popular.

ISSUES

- Main complaint with restrooms is the occasional vandalism, but not many complaints about them.
- Growing so fast that planners and other staff can't communicate changes. Lots of times City standards are not followed. Becomes an issue on sites the City ends up managing. NEED IMPROVED COMMUNICATION.
- Would love to have a review system where parks department can review projects. On projects the City will be taking over, this needs to be done well in advance so staffing and maintenance needs can be budgeted and planned for.
- Use of Utah Lake water has clogged irrigation system.

- Irrigation system is shut down from Oct. 15th to Apr. 15th – may be contributing to issues with tree survival. Hard to hand water thousands of trees if we have a warm fall and winter.
- Hard to keep trees healthy – soils, watering, drought, wind, etc. Trees planted in turf also has impact. Elms, cottonwood, poplars, Austrian Pines, London Planes are the best performers.
- Stay away from Netafim, use bubblers instead.
- Native open spaces – the public romanticizes what they should look like. Reality of making the look match the vision requires a lot of weed control and maintenance. Lots of hand maintenance, perhaps more than turf.
- Streets department maintains on-street bike facilities since they are in the road right-of-way.
- Playground equipment is replaced on a case-by-case basis.
- Recreation department paints the fields for their games – parks department maintains and prepares the field.
- Pavilion rentals are handled at the front desk.
- Special event permits are required for unique events that require additional attention of staff. Events usually happen at Neptune Park, Shay Park, and Harvest Hills Park.

KEEPING UP/WISH LIST

- Urban Forester
- Irrigation Specialist
- No splash pad or skate park. Skate park provides good bang for the buck; likely to have one soon.
- Small parks are okay, but require more time, unloading, etc. Less efficient to maintain the same acreage in small parks as one or two larger parks.
- New maintenance yard (at Public Works).
- Public Complaints: Weeds (particularly along trails; watering (too much/too little); and unique situations like wasps, pests, or vandalism.
- Contractor to empty trash, maintenance of parks, etc. is an idea.
- Look at standards and staffing levels.

Interview 2 – Heston Williams
1:45 PM

- In charge of all youth sports, dance classes, camps, etc.
- 1 full-time coordinator, 60 ish part-time employees, site supervisors, train referees in house, usually teens.
- All coaches are volunteer
- Soccer is largest programs (especially spring soccer) – 1,700 kids, fall soccer – 1,130, Jr. Jazz - 1,480, flag football - 413, added fall basketball, don't affiliate with any soccer org.
- Are club teams, aren't begging for fields, can practice but don't rent out fields.
- Recreation, not competitive (council says no renting). Maybe challenge as get bigger.
- Youth baseball – 697 kids, t-ball machine pitch, will be offering
- Fastpitch softball, urban fishing, tennis, volleyball (indoor/outdoor) golf, camps.
- Will send list (30 programs).
- Issues keep coming up at employees only.
- Space: grass space okay, indoor court space big need. Have to go to school district – not sustainable, less time available at schools, but more kids signing up. 1,447 – Jr Jazz. Need full court for over 5th grade, only three courts. Getting new Jr. high next year, hopefully 2 courts. Tile courts at Lakeview, can't rent full season so can't use them.
- Will be hiring part time coordinator for Patriot Park.
- City needs recreation center with pools indoor/out and fieldhouse at north end of City.
- Everyone knows a rec center is needed/wanted, but money is a big deal, not enough sales tax yet.
- City works with other communities to have teams to play against in their rec leagues.
- In Utah County each city has their own taxes like Orem's CARE Tax.
- Priorities: 1- Lake Mountain, good for biking clubs; 2- Lake, early June before algae, use lake more, will have 2nd marina; 3-Trails, so many young people, new activities.
- Lacrosse rough on fields, make it turf field.
- Lacrosse is an expensive sport to get into - don't have a program here yet.
- Hybrid flag football with some gear - super expensive too.
- Baseball: 3 backstops, 3 parks with grass no field, will be adding 6 fields at Patriot. Four full softball sized, 2 kids pickle ball and 8 at Patriot Park.
- City has VASA Fitness and 24 Hour Fitness - few private facilities overall
- Open to running tournaments at Patriot Park, will allow private games tournaments at Patriot Park
- Patriot has four 300' fields and two 260' fields.
- Large full sized indoor basketball courts needed
- Look at other cities staff levels and levels-of-service for programs
- An indoor fieldhouse at Wildflower would be great.

Interview 3 – Sarah Carroll
2:30 PM

PLANNING

- Seems there are plenty of parks (existing and those coming on-line like Patriot Park, Fox Hollow, and the second Marina Park)
- Very young, active community – trails are a big deal, and more trails will always get used
- A lot of residents are runners.
- Moms are usually hitting the parks and trails after they drop kids off at schools, and the families are out recreating on the weekend.
- The city follows the existing Parks, Rec and Trails Master Plan closely. Developers are required to provide the amenities listed in the plan, although individual proposals have different requirements, based on credits system.

TRENDS/ISSUES

- Thinks a survey is a great idea; also need to engage with the public. This is the time to do it. Children have aged since the last plan – would be interesting to see how priorities and preferences have changed.
- Saratoga Springs Link – 4,000 (35,000 total population) members on Facebook – want a recreation center and restaurants. Support trails.
- Wonders if the support for paying for new facilities would be similar to last survey.
- Comparisons with other municipalities, particularly in relation to long-term maintenance.
- City doesn't have a cemetery.
- Rec center, splash pad, tot lots and skate parks may come up as desired facilities.

NOTES

Saratoga Springs Focus Interviews November 1, 2018, City Hall

Interview 1 – David Johnson

EVENTS & PUBLIC RELATIONS

- Arts Council – youth theater program
  - Currently use a school but talking about an outdoor amphitheater
  - Want to add adult & youth theater
- 10-30 Community, less than 10 neighborhood, 30+ regional?
- Have an orchestra
- Youth council – active
- Senior council – less active
  - Seniors are very active
  - No senior center or rec center
- Zero indoor recreational facilities
  - Use schools or city buildings
- Future Patriot Park – 30 acre city campus
  - Police, library, city hall or rec center
    - Residents want rec center before new city hall
- Want to eventually cover costs on events
- Facilities – offers some events and programs
- PR / Social Media / Website
  - Library manages their own pages
- Farmers market was unsuccessful
  - Maybe successful at regional park

<u>Big events</u>

- Easter egg hunt – 4,000-5,000 people at Neptune Park
- Miss Saratoga Springs Pageant – 400-500 people at Neptune Park
- City Celebration / Saratoga Splash Days – 10,000-15,000 people at Neptune Park
  - First week of June
  - Parade
  - Kicks off Monday night concert series – 100's of people
    - Food trucks, local music, magicians
    - Ends 2nd Monday of August
  - Movie nights 3 Thursdays in Summer
- Get into the River at Inlet Park – 50-100 people at
  - September
  - "Walk the River"

    - Tracy Aviary & Invasive education
- Fall Fest – 6,000? people at Shay Park
    - 3 hours
    - Carnival, boutique, BBQ contest, car show
        - Petting zoo, inflatables, booth games, trick or treating, Santa, Easter buddy, STEM activities, free concert, train at Shay, food trucks (1,000 meal contract with Food Truck League), fireworks
    - Seasonal staff is a challenge
    - Water fight at sunrise & other water activities
- Christmas Tree Lighting
    - Managed by Arts Council
    - Last weekend in November
    - Santa, food trucks, etc.
    - Work with Eagle Mountain on co-event for Handel's Messiah
    - Holiday Orchestra concert
    - Holiday home decorating contest
    - Tree donated to a school – kids decorate with their art
- Spring 2019 – big grand opening VIP, onetime event
- Veterans Day Flag Ceremony
    - Will be moved from Neptune Park to Patriot Park with a monument

<u>Committees</u>

- Pageant Committee
- Veterans Committee
- Youth Council
- Senior Council
- Splash Days Council
- City Celebrations
- BBQ contest
- Arts Council

WISH LIST

- More staff / capacity
- Spider Box at every park
    - $10k
    - Could use Shay more
- Inlet Park, Patriot Park & Marina tied together
    - Would like to move Splash Days there
- Need dedicated land for events
    - Maybe at Inlet/Patriot/Marina
    - Large events should be hosted at regional park
- Volunteer coordination program
    - Look at Friends Program in NYC

    - Been using Just Serve website
    - Occasionally coordinate with churches
- Signage & wayfinding
    - What trails can be used for what
    - Branding – look at branding guide and determine how signage can fit in
        - Saratoga life, Saratoga Springs – life is better here
- Facilities for Youth and Seniors

Interview 2 – Dan McRae

ENGINEERING

- Work with Rick in parks
- Review all proposed trails
    - Rarely make comments on trails
- Avg. slope 10% max
- Saratoga is lacking different types / classifications of trails
    - Look at comparable systems – Draper, SLC County
- Usually Public Works does most of the review – but does look at traffic and deal more with developers
    - Looks mainly at irrigation and ADA routes
- Planning usually reviews developers plans
- Jeremy used to be city engineer and still is and engineer
- Detention basins and d4rainage channels
- Gordan reviews hillside / lake side issues
- 3:1 is their goal on slope
- Max depth
- Commercial areas typically bury detention functions

PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING NOTES

Saratoga Springs Parks, Recreation, Trails & Open Space Master Plan

NOTES

Public Scoping Meeting

December 5, 2018, 6:00 pm; North Fire Station

ATTENDANCE: 8 people signed in

SUMMARY

The meeting began with a Visual Preference Survey, where attendees were asked to score 50 images based on personal preference. The results are available on the project webpage (www.saratogaspringscity.com/parksandtrailsplan) under documents. The survey was followed by a discussion about what the public's needs and desires for Parks, Recreation, Open Space and Trails. The notes from the meeting follow.

DISCUSSION/COMMENTS

EXISTING

- Nice variety of parks
- Love fitness trail park and use it frequently
    - Great views
    - Great use of undevelopable land
    - Natural beauty
    - Low cost and maintenance
    - Use equipment
    - Many users - even kids love it
    - Would like something similar in the northern part of the city
- Great City events
    - Loves Splash Days and participates in car show
    - Harvest Festival
    - Races are not as successful
- Disconnected trail system
    - Lived in the Ranches, now in Harvest – No connection to the Jordan Parkway Trail
    - Roads are major barriers
- Crossing major roads is dangerous
    - Pioneer Crossing and 800 W
    - Pioneer Crossing and Foothill
        - Too narrow

    - Existing tunnel under Pioneer Crossing next to canal
    - Tunnel planned for the Mountain View Corridor
        - Need to put tunnels in master plan so they are addressed in transportation plans
- Pioneer Crossing is dangerous
    - Almost hit on bike
    - Speed limit is 50 mph
    - Not safe for kids to cross
        - Must drive kids to school
- Love Marina and beach area – always well used
    - Would like more beach space and children's play area
    - Hits large rocks when sailing – would like to see the lake bottom cleaned up
- North Marina planned with commercial lots
- Love Mountain Bike Park
    - Would like to have an expanded trail system like Draper or Eagle Mountain

<u>DESIRES / IDEAS</u>

- Need a city cemetery
- Demonstration garden to educate the public on what to grow in Saratoga
    - Waterwise, tough soil, salty water
- Archery Course
    - Unique
    - There is one in Provo
- Sustainability
    - Permaculture
    - Community Garden
    - Farmers Market
- Social gathering places
- Mayor is pushing for shooting range
    - Prevent fires
    - Don't have to travel far to find a range
- Skate Park – would always be well used
    - Travel to Lehi to skate
- Incorporate Hot Springs
    - Like Lava Hot Springs
- Off-highway vehicle park
    - Range of course difficulties (beginner, intermediate, expert)
- Unique amenities found outside of Utah
    - Shipping container park in Las Vegas

- Better connect trail system
    - Important for children's mobility
    - Connect parks
- North Parking Area for the Jordan River Parkway Trail
- Better standards and signage
    - Motorized vehicles allowed on trails?
        - Prepare for motorized scooters in Saratoga
    - Educational signage along trails
- Riverwalk destination with restaurants and markets
    - Large river setback by Jordan River Parkway
- Pedestrian oriented area
- Events that involve food
    - BBQ
- Large outdoor event venue
- Farmers market would be great
    - Discontinued two years ago – three years unsuccessful but could be successful in the future – Location is important. Should be held where the people are.
    - Like the ones in Eagle Mountain and Thanksgiving Point
- Open space as a migration corridor for the pronghorn
    - Provide a crossing

EQUESTRIAN USER NOTES

Saratoga Springs Parks, Recreation, Trails and Open Space Master Plan

NOTES

Conversations with Equestrians

MEETING WITH OWNER OF SILVER SPRINGS STABLES
September 24, 2019 at Landmark Design's office

We met with the owner of Silver Springs Stables to discuss equestrian needs in the City. A summary of the meeting follows:

- Pavement is okay to ride on.
- Crossings are key – need to be at-grade or underpasses. Overpasses won't work for horses.
- Most of the time he and his clients trailer their horses to other locations when they want ride outside of the stables.
- They don't like to ride in foothills just west of town because it's too dry – it's not a pleasant environment to ride in.
- Horses are easy with other user groups – passersby just need to make verbal communication with the rider, and then the horse knows where they are and will be okay. Maybe an educational campaign would be helpful.
- Need to allow access to street adjacent trails to make those key connections if you have proper crossings in place for busy roads.

PHONE CONVERSATIONS WITH OWNER OF HOOFBEATS TO HEALING
September 25, 2019 and October 10, 2019

We talked with the owner of Hoofbeats to Healing. A summary of the phone discussion follows.

- They are relocating to Eagle Mountain.
- They don't use local trails because of their patients' sensitivity to commotion and noise – they take them on mountain trails for calmer environments.
- She has heard that there are specific trails and sidewalk that horses are forbidden from using.
- She feels like the equestrian community is shrinking like it has in other communities and will continue to do so as development increases.
- She said Summerhill is the one most likely to remain long-term.

PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE NOTES

Appendix B: Open Space Acquisition Tools

The following are options for acquiring agricultural land in perpetuity, which could help broaden and enrich the Saratoga Springs open space system.

OPEN SPACE DESIGN STANDARDS/CLUSTERED DEVELOPMENT

Open Space Design Standards (OSDS) can be used to preserve agricultural land, wildlife habitat and open spaces while allowing an equal or higher level of development on a smaller area of land. OSDS's may establish the preservation of sites such as sensitive lands, farmlands, stream corridors, rural road buffers, view corridors and other open space identified by the community as important. OSDS's generally require the "clustering" of development as part of Conservation Subdivisions, helping to preserve open space and protect property rights. Open space preservation in new development areas can be encouraged through incentives, such as allowing full density with clustering or reduced density without clustering.

These mechanisms are not considered a "taking" because there is still reasonable and beneficial use of the property. They do not regulate density per se, just the pattern of development. To encourage and facilitate Conservation Subdivision development, it is important to: 1) treat cluster developments equally with conventional subdivisions in the development review process; 2) favor clustering in special areas; and 3) encourage cluster development as a standard, specifically for the preservation of open space. As a general rule, OSDS's are part of an overlay or special district.

As described below, Open Space Design Standards have several advantages over other means of preserving open space.

- They do not require public expenditure of funds, such as the purchase of property;
- They do not depend on landowner charity or benevolence, such as land or easement donations;
- They do not need a high-end market to be affordable;
- They do not involve complicated regulations for transfer of development rights; and
- They do not depend on cooperation between two or more adjoining property owners.

Open Space Design Standards and Clustered Development can simulate a transfer of development rights (see TDR discussion later in this section) by allowing the transfer of development density between non-adjacent parcels.

Most cluster subdivision ordinances specify that multiple parcels may participate in a clustered development, provided the parcels are adjacent to each other. This allows the transfer of density from

one or more parcels onto a single parcel or portion of a single parcel. Similarly, non-adjacent parcels could be allowed to combine density and transfer it onto a concentrated site where services, such as sewer and culinary water, may be available. This technique allows land owners to seek development partnerships that may not have otherwise been available, encourages the free market to preserve more continuous greenbelts of open space, and concentrates development of new homes and businesses into a more compact growth pattern. The advantages of this development pattern include reduced costs to service growth, greater opportunities for farming or wildlife habitat activities, and larger, more contiguous open space areas.

ZONING AND DEVELOPMENT RESTRICTIONS: SENSITIVE LANDS OVERLAY

This tool requires additional regulation on underlying zoning districts, with special restrictions on unique resources, hazards or sensitive lands. However, a Sensitive Lands Overlay does not provide complete control of the land. Such overlays might be applied over core habitats, grazing land, stream and river corridors and other sensitive lands described in a corresponding Sensitive Lands Overlay Zone. Specific measures are then created to protect these areas. Within each category of protected land, specific regulations can be devised to treat specific density, open space, site design and building design requirements.

FEE SIMPLE (OUTRIGHT PURCHASE)

Desirable open space properties (recreational or agricultural) may be purchased and held by a responsible agency or organization for that purpose. Because of the potential for a very high cost of acquisition, fee simple acquisition should be reserved for highly important, critical parcels for which no other strategy can feasibly be used. Although fee simple title or out-right purchase can be the most expensive option, there are other opportunities that are available to help recover some of the initial investment.

PURCHASE AND SELLBACK OR LEASEBACK

Purchase and Sellback enables a government agency to purchase a piece of land, along with all the rights inherent in full ownership, then sell the same piece of land without certain development rights, depending on the preservation objective related to that parcel of land. The restrictions placed on development can range from no development to requiring clustered development. Purchase and Leaseback is similar, although instead of selling the land, the agency leases it with restrictions in place. In this manner the agency is able to recoup some of its investment in the form of rent.

CONSERVATION EASEMENTS

Conservation Easements have gained favor and popularity with property owners and preservation groups in recent years. These easements remove the right to develop from the usual bundle of property rights. This separation of development rights is accomplished in three ways:

Donations: The property owner willingly donates the development value of the property to a land trust or other organization and agrees that the property will never be developed. Tax incentives are available for such donations.

Purchases: The property owner sells the right to develop the property to a land trust or other organization, which agrees that the property will never be developed.

Transfers: The property owner transfers or trades the right to develop the property to another entity. The owner may then use that right on another property agreed upon by the jurisdiction administering the trade.

Conservation Agreements prevent alterations to a designated piece of land. Most land uses are prohibited, although certain uses such as farming, nature conservation, passive recreation and other "open space" uses may be allowed. Of the three methods (donations, purchases and transfers), transfers are the most complicated.

The conservation easement "runs" with the land and is recorded with the deed. Typically, the easement is granted to a land trust, land conservancy, or a government entity. The easement is typically agreed upon with the property owner who retains ownership of the property but gives up the right to develop it or to use it in ways that are incompatible with the open space goal. The entity receiving the development rights agrees to hold the development rights in order to maintain the area as open space. Often there are IRS tax advantages to the benefactor for the value of the donated development rights.

LAND BANKING

Local governments have used this option only rarely as a means for preserving land, primarily due to its often-prohibitive costs. This tool involves the purchase of land and holding it for possible future development. Often the land is purchased and leased back to the original owners so as to continue its immediate use, such as agricultural production. Agencies interested in this option should have the ability to purchase and condemn land, hold and lease land, and to obtain debt financing for its purchase.

TRANSFER OF DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS (TDRS)

This is a type of zoning control that allows owners of property zoned for low-density development or conservation uses to sell development rights to other property owners. For example, suppose two adjacent landowners, A and B, are each allowed to build a three-story office building on their own property. Using TDRs, landowner A could sell his development rights to landowner B, allowing B to build six stories high provided that A leaves his land as-is. This is a market-based tool, thus there must be sufficient demand for increased density for it to work. The goal of a TDR strategy is to maintain fairness between landowners, while allowing a governing authority to manage land use and preserve sensitive lands.

MINUTES – Planning Commission

Thursday, January 9, 2020
City of Saratoga Springs City Offices
1307 North Commerce Drive, Suite 200, Saratoga Springs, Utah 84045

PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES - DRAFT

Call to Order - 6:00 p.m. by Vice Chair Bryan Chapman

Present:

Commission Members: Bryan Chapman, Bryce Anderson, Audrey Barton, Troy Cunningham, Ken Kilgore, Reed Ryan, Josh Wagstaff.

Staff: Dave Stroud, Planning Director; Rachel Day, Planner I; Daniel McRae, Engineer II; Nicolette Fike, Deputy Recorder.

Others: Reed Barlow, Mary Valentine, Darrel & Chris Wendel, Zach Olsen, Daniel Herzog

1. **Pledge of Allegiance -** led by Commissioner Cunningham

2. **Roll Call** – A quorum was present

3. **Public Input - Open** by Chairman Bryan Chapman

   Mary Valentine Spoke in favor of having a dog park located in the City. She had posted on a Facebook page and collected signatures. She commented on D.R. Horton who she felt had been tearing up the roads to excess and the trees and would like them fixed.

   Public Input Closed by Chairman Bryan Chapman

   Staff responded to public comment that while there is talk of a city dog park, there are no concrete plans at this time. There may be dog parks as part of other developments. Public Works will most likely have the road on their schedule based on priority. Any trees removed should be replaced.

4. **Oaths of Office for new Planning Commissioners: Audrey Barton, Troy Cunningham, Reed Ryan, and Josh Wagstaff.** – administered by Deputy City Recorder, Nicolette Fike

5. **Election of Commission Chair**

   The recent resignation of Commissioner Wilkins opened the need to fill the remainder term for Chair. **Nomination for Bryan Chapman as Chairman was made by Commissioner Cunningham. Seconded by Commissioner Anderson. Aye: Bryce Anderson, Audrey Barton Bryan Chapman, Troy Cunningham, Ken Kilgore, Reed, Ryan, Josh Wagstaff. Motion passed 7 - 0.**

   The election of Commissioner Chapman to Chair opened a need to fill the remainder term for Vice Chair. **Nomination for Troy Cunningham as Vice Chairman was made by Commissioner Kilgore. Seconded by Commissioner Anderson. Aye: Bryce Anderson, Audrey Barton Bryan Chapman, Troy Cunningham, Ken Kilgore, Reed, Ryan, Josh Wagstaff. Motion passed 7 - 0.**

6. **Business Item: Wildflower Zone 3 Pond Site Plan and Conditional Use Permit, located approximately 900 W. Military Road, DAI as applicant.**

   Planner I Rachel Day presented the item requesting approval of a pond in the Planned Community zone which will be owned and maintained by the City. Daniel Herzog with DAI was present at applicant. He noted that their development included amended plans for a dog park.

   Commissioner Kilgore
   - Received confirmation from the applicant that they would comply with the conditions from City Staff.
   - Received clarification from applicant that this pond will service home at a higher level. The water is pumped up from the canal.
   - Shared concern about fiscal impact to the City, Staff advised that the costs are necessary to provide the secondary water.

   Commissioner Anderson
   - Asked staff about what maintenance entailed. Planning Director Dave Stroud advised that the city would do monitoring from time to time for upkeep and repairs. It will be fenced.

Commissioner Cunningham
- Concern about note for property lines to be confirmed. Planner I Rachel Day advised that it was being filed with the County and will be corrected as soon as that happens.

Motion made by Commissioner Kilgore to approve the proposed Site Plan and Conditional Use Permit for the Zone 3 Pond at approximately 900 West Military Road, with the findings and conditions in the staff report. Seconded by Commissioner Cunningham.
Aye: Bryce Anderson, Audrey Barton Bryan Chapman, Troy Cunningham, Ken Kilgore, Reed, Ryan, Josh Wagstaff. Motion passed 7 - 0.

7. **Business Item: Jenny Chan Blossom Restaurant Site Plan, located at 2082 N. Hillcrest Rd. Jenny Chan applicant.**
Planning Director Dave Stroud presented the item. This is a request for site plan approval of Blossom, a sit down restaurant proposed by Jenny Chan in the Regional Commercial zone. The site plan includes one building with 6,800 square-feet and a building pad for a future building with approximately 4,000 square feet. Jenny Chan was present as applicant.

Commissioner Kilgore
- Received confirmation from the applicant that they would comply with the conditions from City Staff.
- Commented that he liked the modern plan of the architecture.
- Asked about the parking memo. Planning Director Dave Stroud advised that as it is now there is plenty of parking, when another use comes in there may need to be a request for parking reduction. It probably won't be an issue.
- Question on the entrance awning being 4 feet. Planning Director Dave Stroud advised the applicant will need to meet all City ordinances, so it will be verified. Jenny Chan did not think it would be a problem.
- Director Stroud advised there will be rain sensors and other equipment as required.

Commissioner Cunningham
- Thanked the applicant for coming to the City. He liked the accessibility.

Commissioner Chapman
- Thanked them for a thorough application.

Motion made by Commissioner Anderson to approve the proposed site plan of the Blossom restaurant at 2082 North Hillcrest Road in the Regional Commercial zone with the findings and conditions in the staff report. Seconded by Commissioner Cunningham. Aye: Bryce Anderson, Audrey Barton Bryan Chapman, Troy Cunningham, Ken Kilgore, Reed, Ryan, Josh Wagstaff. Motion passed 7 - 0.

8. **Public Hearing: West Lake Estates plat F Rezone from Agriculture to R1-10 and Concept Plan, located at 951 W. Evans Ln. Reed Barlow, applicant.**
Planner I Rachel Day presented the item. The applicant requests that the City rezone property from Agriculture to R1-10 in compliance with the current General Plan. The applicant also requests non-binding feedback on the proposed West Lake Estates 17-lot concept subdivision plat. This request affects approximately 5.58 acres. The applicant is proposing no open space and would request the payment in lieu option. Reed Barlow was present as applicant. Their intent is to build some nice homes. There could be possible connection to the west.

Public Hearing Open by Chairman Bryan Chapman
Darrell Wendel is south of this proposed project. They have gone to a lot of trouble to keep their property zoned agriculture. He feels his property is getting closed in and is not happy with the encroachment on his working agricultural property. He thought perhaps the density could be brought up to half acre lots. He noted that even with fences neighboring children and dogs make their way into his farmland.

Melissa Nelson noted she has found people that want a community like this with custom homes closer to the City. She feels this will fit in to what is going in the area.
Public Hearing Closed by Chairman Bryan Chapman

Staff responded to some questions from public comment. Planning Director Dave Stroud advised that any single family development comes in above the percentages for types of housing. This concept meets the max units per acre. This would not be a collector route, but will be a local road. They can do payment in Lieu of

DRAFT

open space if they meet the criteria. Reed Barlow felt that payment in lieu was better to be used at nearby parks than in anything tiny they would be able to have. He noted they had looked at half acre lots, R1-10 would allow for some really nice lots.

Commissioner Ryan
- Asked how the stub to the west might be envisioned. Reed Barlow noted that right now that parcel is not interested in developing but they want to leave the options open.
- Appreciated the forethought of looking toward another development possibly coming in.

Commissioner Wagstaff
- Expressed concern about homes facing Evans Ln. If the other subdivision goes in to the west the road would become more of a main road and be more dangerous for driveways and kids.

Commissioner Anderson
- Shared concern about proximity to Mountain View Corridor.
- Noted that the due process is being done and public can also bring their concerns to City Council.

Commissioner Kilgore
- Received clarification on maximum units per acre. Planning Director Dave Stroud advised the standard R1-10 lot is 10,000 sq. ft.

Commissioner Cunningham
- Received clarification from Planning Director Dave Stroud that a note on the plat for nearby agricultural is our standard procedure.
- He felt lot 9 was troublesome with the narrow lot frontage. Reed Barlow noted that when they refine the plans they would look at the home designs to make sure they complimented the lots.

Commissioner Barton
- Received clarification from Planning Director Dave Stroud that the payment in lieu money went into a City open space fund to be used for amenities or acreage or other improvements in other locations.

Motion made by Commissioner Anderson to forward to the City Council a positive recommendation regarding the West Lake Estates rezone at 951 West Evans Lane as outlined in Exhibit 1 with the findings and conditions in the staff report dated January 2, 2020. Seconded by Commissioner Wagstaff. Aye: Bryce Anderson, Audrey Barton Bryan Chapman, Troy Cunningham, Ken Kilgore, Reed, Ryan, Josh Wagstaff. Motion passed 7 - 0.

9. Business Item: Riverside Crossing Preliminary Plat and Site Plan, located approximately Pioneer Crossing and Redwood Road, Zach Olsen applicant.

Planning Director Dave Stroud presented the item. The applicant is requesting review and approval of a commercial site plan with two buildings and a preliminary plat with 14 lots.
Zach Olsen was present as applicant.

Commissioner Kilgore
- Received confirmation from the applicant that they would comply with the conditions from City Staff.
- Concern on lighting. Planning Director Dave Stroud advised that the resubmittal has come in and it now meets lighting.
- Asked about how neighborhood meeting went. Zach Olsen noted that he went door to door and received positive feedback. Some items they liked were the cleanup of the old house and the medical offices coming.
- The applicant responded to question that that there were several medical offices that were interested in coming in.
- Expressed concern about a traffic light on Riverside and Pioneer Crossing. He felt east/west movement needed priority. Engineer Daniel McRae advised that UDOT will build a signal if warranted. He noted that UDOTs signals are optically controlled to help flow.

Commissioner Chapman
- Asked what the traffic signal warrant for UDOT would be. Planning Director Dave Stroud advised that any development with access on UDOT roads needs to be approved by the state. Engineer II Dan McRae advised about different criteria that can warrant a signal. UDOT would do a study to see that their criteria is met.

DRAFT

Commissioner Anderson
- Commented that this is an entrance to the City and wants to make sure it looks nice and is excited for them to come to the City.

Commissioner Anderson was excused from the meeting at this time. (7:32 p.m.)

Commissioner Cunningham
- Noted he had reviewed City Council notes and he felt their comments would be helpful for Planning Commission to understand their vision for this area. He would like to have City Council comments included in the staff reports for Planning Commission review before recommendations. He felt it may be useful for anyone interested to go back and look at those minutes.

Commissioner Wagstaff
- Received clarification from staff that on Pioneer Crossing, as a state road, UDOT could put in a median or other things to control traffic/access.

Commissioner Ryan
- Asked if UDOT would meet with the City if they made changes. Planning Director Dave Stroud advised they may give a heads up to the City Engineer but it might not come to him in planning. Commissioner Ryan could see this as becoming a problem intersection.

Motion made by Commissioner Cunningham to approve the proposed Site Plan of Riverside Crossing at 62 East Thrive Drive in the Office and Community Commercial zones, with the Findings and Conditions in the staff report. Seconded by Commissioner Ryan. Aye: Audrey Barton Bryan Chapman, Troy Cunningham, Ken Kilgore, Reed, Ryan, Josh Wagstaff. Motion passed 6 - 0.

Motion made by Commissioner Kilgore to recommend approval of the proposed Preliminary Plat of Riverside Crossing at 62 East Thrive Drive in the Office, Mixed Use, and Community Commercial zones with the Findings and Conditions in the staff report. Seconded by Commissioner Ryan. Aye: Audrey Barton Bryan Chapman, Troy Cunningham, Ken Kilgore, Reed, Ryan, Josh Wagstaff. Motion passed 6 - 0.

10. **Approval of Minutes: December 12, 2019.**

Motion made by Commissioner Kilgore to approve the minutes of December 12, 2019. Seconded by Commissioner Cunningham. Aye: Audrey Barton Bryan Chapman, Troy Cunningham, Ken Kilgore, Reed, Ryan, Josh Wagstaff. Motion passed 6 - 0.

11. **Reports of Action.** – No Reports were needed.

12. **Commission Comments.**
Commissioner Barton thanked the others for their questions that helped answer her questions as well.
Commissioner Cunningham shared advice that it was ok to vote no on an item if they feel the need.
Commissioner Kilgore shared advice that based on state training that decisions should not be made based on public clamor or opinion. It is made on applicants meeting City Ordinance/Code. He noted that Utah favors the rights of the property owner.
Commissioner Chapman advised that new commissioners should start to become familiar with city code.

13. **Director's Report.** – Planning Director Dave Stroud advised of training opportunities for commissioners. He advised on upcoming agenda items.

14. **Possible motion to enter into closed session** – No closed session was held.

15. **Meeting Adjourned Without Objection at 7:50 p.m. by Chairman Bryan Chapman.**

_____
Date of Approval

_____
Planning Commission Chair
Bryan Chapman

_____
Deputy City Recorder

DRAFT