

City of Portola Parks and Recreation Master Plan

June 2010



This Master Plan was funded under the Community Development Block Grant Program administered by the California State Department of Housing and Community Development, through a Planning and Technical Assistance grant awarded to the City of Portola.

Prepared for:

City of Portola
35 Third Avenue
Portola, CA 96122

Prepared by



WOOD RODGERS
DEVELOPING INNOVATIVE DESIGN SOLUTIONS
5440 Reno Corporate Drive Tel: 775.823.4068
Reno, NV 89511 Fax: 775.823.4066

City of Portola Parks & Recreation Master Plan

Table of Contents

- [1] Introduction
- [2] Community Description
- [3] Parks Categories & Criteria
- [4] Parks & Recreation Inventory
- [5] Community Input
- [6] Goals, Objectives & Priorities

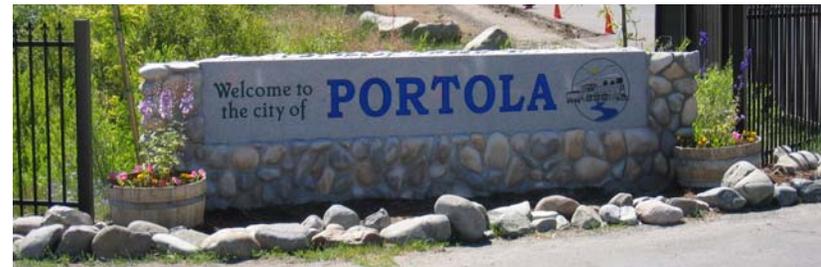
[1] INTRODUCTION

The City of Portola has developed a Parks and Recreation Master Plan to help guide future park construction, existing park improvements, and facilitate positive healthy lifestyles for the residents and visitors of Portola. The City currently collects a Parkland Development Fee and/or requires the dedication of land for parks and recreation facilities/services with the development of new residential lots in the City. This master plan document is intended to:

- (1) Guide the future capital expenditures of the City, utilizing Parkland Development Fee, General Fund, and/or other funding sources for the development of new parks and recreation facilities.
- (2) Assist the City in decision making for opportunities for parks and recreation land dedications/acquisitions with new residential developments.
- (3) Assist the City in prioritizing existing facilities' improvements.
- (4) Initiate an on-going relationship and dialogue with other agencies with common interests relative to recreation in the City of Portola (i.e. Plumas County, Plumas Unified School District, and Feather River College).

Prior to any parks and recreation plan being adopted, it is important to identify the needs of residents and visitors, in addition to recreation organizations, to develop and understanding of the recreation opportunities that currently exist, what sort of projects are relevant to the locale, and the availability/diversity of recreational opportunities in

neighboring, unincorporated areas. This plan has carefully considered and incorporated input from the community and stakeholders via actively soliciting feedback through a citywide survey, workshop, individual recreation stakeholder interviews, and website. This input is a critical component to the master plan, and coupled with an intensive assessment of existing facilities will provide the basis for future parks and recreation development.



At the onset of the master planning process, the goals for the City were to:

- Involve the community and stakeholders in an informed dialogue of the future of parks and recreation facilities.
- Conduct a community wide survey of citizens' interests, needs and satisfaction with park facilities and programs.
- Identify, map, and assess existing parks facilities.
- Initiate discussions with other agencies on joint use of facilities.
- Conduct public workshops to solicit feedback on the plan.

This Parks and Recreation Master Plan was funded under the Community Development Block Grant Program administered by the California State Department of Housing and Community Development, by a grant awarded to the City of Portola.

[2] COMMUNITY DESCRIPTION

Located in eastern Plumas County, the City of Portola straddles the Middle Fork of the Feather River and Highway 70. Portola is the only incorporated City in the County with a population of approximately 2,000. Being approximately 5-miles south of Lake Davis and virtually surrounded by Plumas National Forrest, Portola is an ideal outdoor recreation destination and offers residents and visitors alike a multitude of recreational opportunities. Outdoor recreation opportunities surrounding the community include fishing and hunting, hiking, mountain biking, and water sports. The City of Portola additionally offers many formal parks, including a community swimming pool.

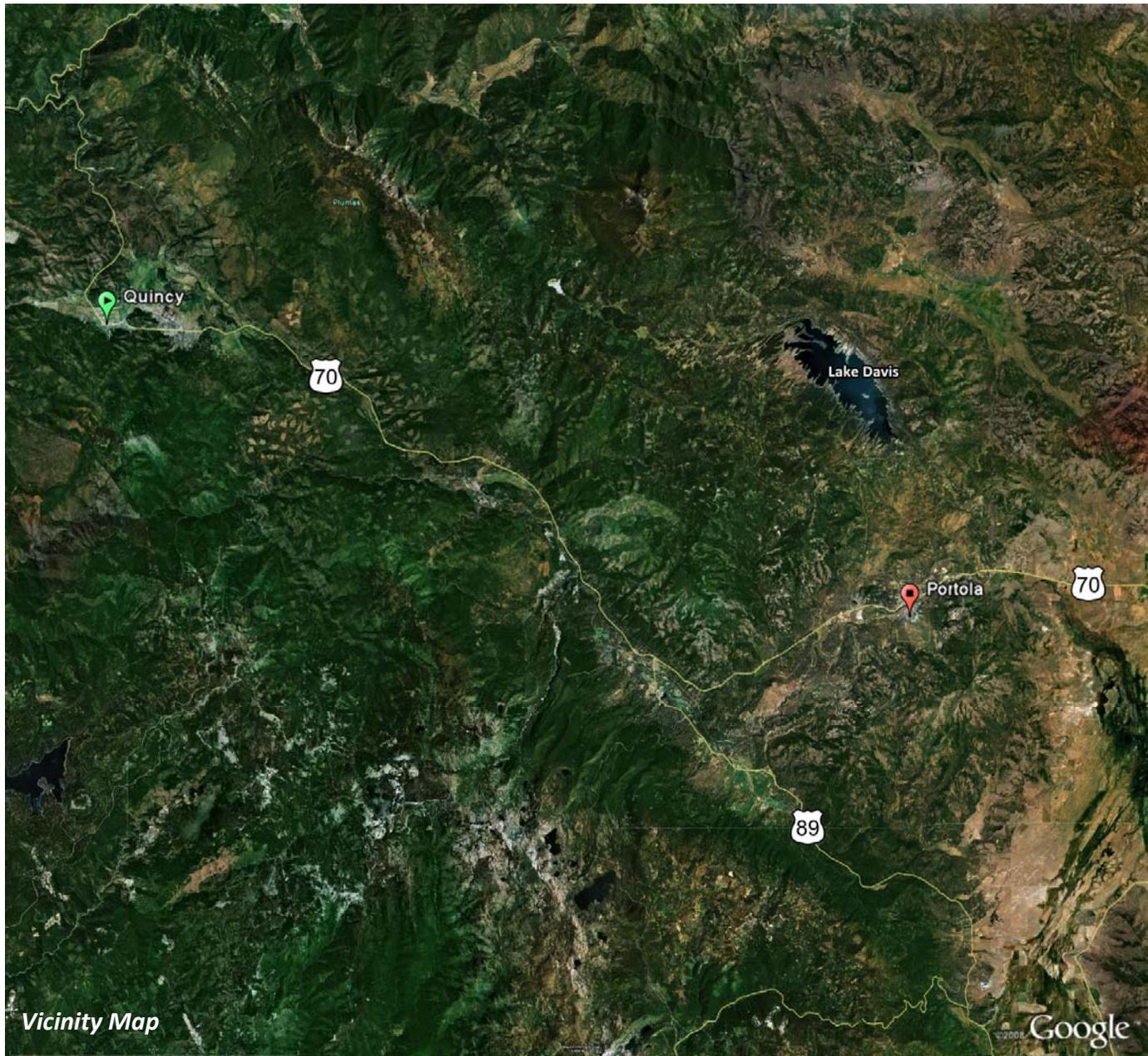
The eastern Plumas area can best be characterized by the areas forested open spaces, as well as its railroading history. The community boasts an impressive railroad museum, the Western Pacific Railroad Museum, and celebrates a communitywide Railroad Days Festival every summer.

The vision for the community is articulated in the 2020 General Plan. At the time of the current General Plan's update, the City identified a changing dynamic in the population with an increase in the retired population. With this change in population, the City began to realize that this population will likely have more leisure time and affluence and will be attracted to a community like Portola for its natural beauty and vast outdoor recreational opportunities.

Subject	Number	Percent
Total population	2,227	100.0
SEX AND AGE		
Male	1,097	49.3
Female	1,130	50.7
Under 5 years	138	6.2
5 to 9 years	200	9.0
10 to 14 years	202	9.1
15 to 19 years	168	7.5
20 to 24 years	110	4.9
25 to 34 years	224	10.1
35 to 44 years	355	15.9
45 to 54 years	344	15.4
55 to 59 years	105	4.7
60 to 64 years	80	3.6
65 to 74 years	144	6.5
75 to 84 years	116	5.2
85 years and over	41	1.8
Median age (years)	37.2	(X)
18 years and over	1,571	70.5
Male	753	33.8
Female	818	36.7
21 years and over	1,502	67.4
62 years and over	348	15.6
65 years and over	301	13.5
Male	117	5.3
Female	184	8.3

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census





COMMUNITY DESCRIPTION

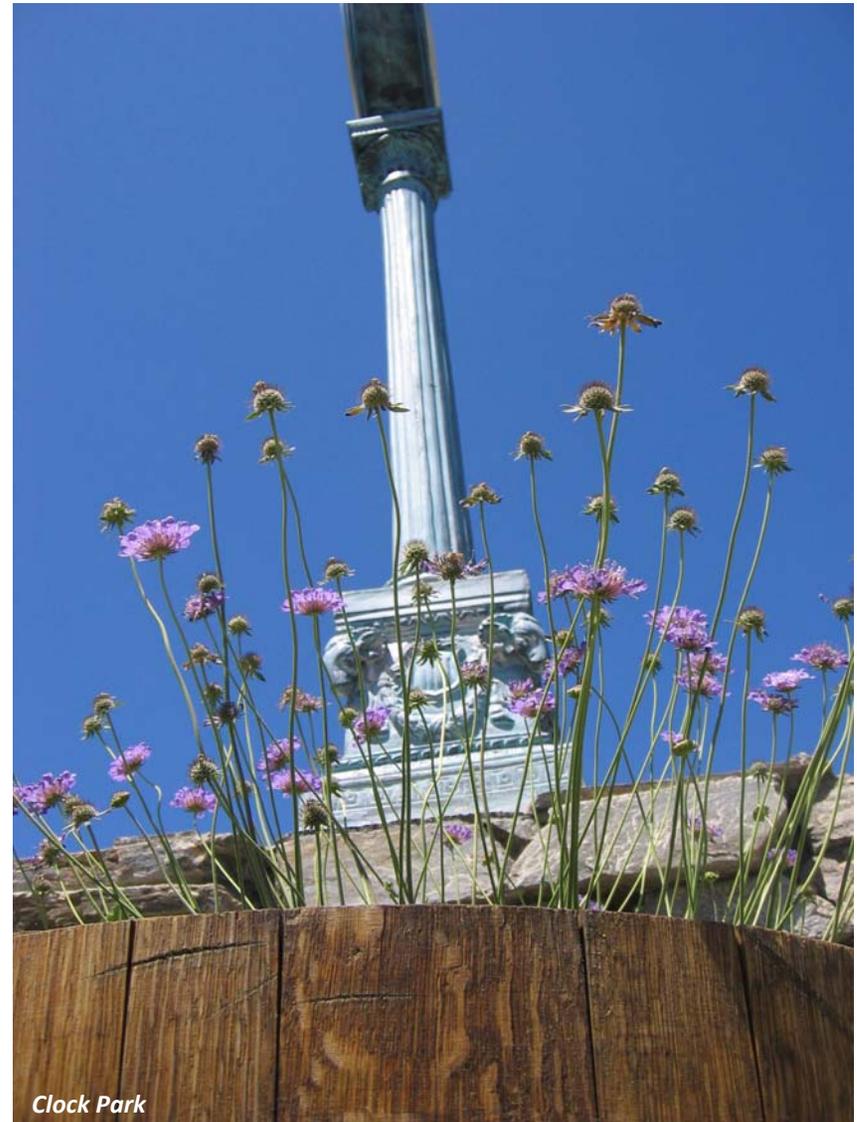
[3] PARK CATEGORIES & CRITERIA

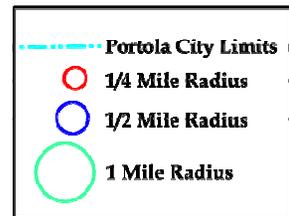
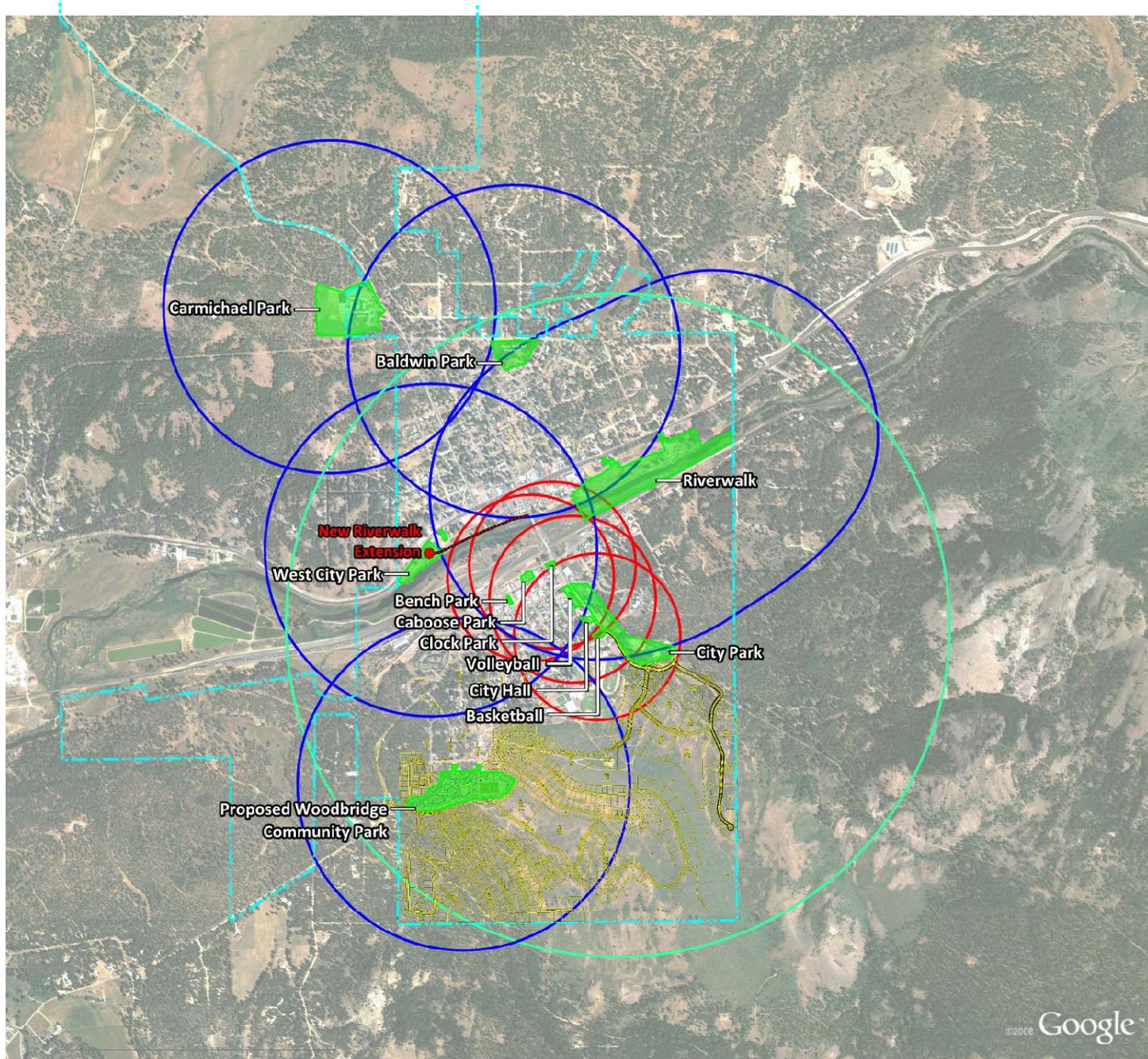
Parks within the City of Portola have been inventoried and classified type, acreage, facilities/amenities provided, and service radius. Parks are generally grouped into four (4) categories: Pocket, Neighborhood, Community, and Trails & Open Space (Special Purpose Parks). Each type of park fulfills a different need to the recreational community.

The following table provides a snapshot of the park categories and their characteristics:

Park Type	Service Area	Park Size
Pocket	1/4 mile	Up to 1-acre
Neighborhood	1/2 mile	3-10 acres
Community	1 mile	10-30 acres
Special Purpose	Varies	Varies

The descriptions provided in this chapter identify the purpose of existing parks and to guide the development of future park amenities based upon size and service area. A graphical representation of the existing parks and City owned parcels with appropriate service area radii has been provided on the following page.





PARK CATEGORIES & CRITERIA

Pocket Park –

Pocket parks are typically less than one acre in areas of high demand, and may include tot lots, gardens, and plazas. Pocket parks should be used for specific instances. For example, they are particularly welcome in a downtown situation, where they are able to serve a very specific purpose (i.e. Clock Park). Pocket parks may be utilized to meet some recreational needs of small or isolated residential areas. Small parks may be appropriate as a focal point when improving recreational services in older developed neighborhoods where vacant parcels are scarce. Pocket parks are also encouraged to become venues or settings for public art.

Pocket parks should be designed to maximize available winter sun and minimize maintenance requirements.

Pocket parks are typically less than an acre in size and have a service area radius of 1/4- mile.

Existing Pocket Parks within the City include:

- Bench Park (Commercial St. and California St.)
- Clock Park (So. Gulling St. and Commercial St.)
- Caboose Park (Commercial St.)
- Volleyball Park (So. Gulling St. and 1st Ave.)
- City Hall Park (So. Gulling St. and 4th Ave.)



Caboose Park



Bench Park

Neighborhood Park –



Neighborhood parks are meant to serve the basic recreational needs of the City. They are centrally located within the service area of the neighborhood in order to foster pedestrian access to the park. Neighborhood parks should be accessible by means of sidewalks and trails. Pedestrian access that is impeded by physical barriers, whether natural or man made,

is discouraged. Pedestrian impediments can include freeways, gullies, streams, railroads, etc.

The facilities and activities in a neighborhood park will depend on the family type and needs of the residents within the service area. Neighborhood parks typically consist of a combination of the following: ballfields, hard courts (i.e. basketball, tennis, etc.), children’s play equipment, picnic facilities, and landscaped areas. Future neighborhood park sites should contain areas that have relatively level terrain and stable soils, due to the active nature of the many activities provided at the park. Steep slope areas may be appropriate on a case by case basis; so much as the entire park has an adequate amount of level terrain to provide necessary park services (i.e. ballfield, children’s play area, hard courts, etc.).

Steep slope areas are appropriate for trails, look-outs, and to preserve ridgelines.

Neighborhood parks are typically 3 to 10 acres in size with a service area radius of approximately 1/2 - mile.

Existing Neighborhood Parks in the City include:

- Baldwin Park (Joy Way and No. Beckwith St.)
- Carmichael Elementary School (County owned and maintained)



Community Park –

Community parks offer a wide range of recreational opportunities for either the entire community or parks district. Where the neighborhood park focuses on a specific combination of activities, the community park provides both a wider range and often a larger number of activities. A community park can be thought of as a collection of three to four neighborhood parks.

Community parks are often located adjacent to other public facilities such as City Hall, libraries, and schools, or are located in conjunction with downtown business districts. The facilities and activities provided at community parks include those provided at neighborhood parks, plus specialized facilities such as swimming pools, tennis complexes, nature study areas, and large areas for community events (i.e. pavilions, stage/amphitheater, barbeque pits, outdoor fairs etc.). An important design aspect of community parks is that the park should appeal to all age groups.

The community park must provide good access for emergency, surveillance, maintenance and program operations vehicles and equipment. The park may contain areas of significant relief, flood plains, and other natural features which should be preserved and enhanced.

Community parks are typically 10 to 30 acres in size with a service area radius of approximately 1-mile.

Portola currently has one Community Park, City Park. City Park provides the most extensive and diverse facilities in the City and is centrally located to serve almost the entire community.



Trails & Open Space (Special Purpose Parks) –

Trails & Open Space are vital components of the City’s Parks and Recreation master plan. Trails and open space connect parks to neighborhoods and provide connection to surrounding community natural resources, such as rivers, streams, forest, etc. Trails are one type of special purpose parks, which also may include golf, nature study, bicycling, camp grounds, or equestrian activities. Fees may be associated with some special park features.



[4] PARKS & RECREATION INVENTORY

In order for a plan for future parks and recreation needs for a community, a base-line inventory of existing facilities is critical. As this plan both guides future parks development, as well as provides a basis for future maintenance and existing facilities improvements, an inventory and assessment of City facilities has been conducted. Provided below is a description of each park facility as of Summer 2009. Also provided are recommendations for improvements. Because the ultimate decision making power is held by the City Council and citizens of Portola, the recommended improvements are not provided in any particular order and are intended to be an objective review of current facilities.

City Park –

City Park is the idyllic small town central park. This Community Park provides a vast array of facilities and serves as a central meeting place for everything from a play date to the Railroad Days Festival. Located on So. Gulling Street, the 14± acre park is generally bifurcated into two distinct parts – the northern grounds (with pool, play area, pavilion) and the southern ball fields. The following is an overview and assessment of the park facilities and recommended improvements.

Major Facilities:

Northern Grounds –

- Community identification monument sign

- Swimming pool
- Changing rooms
- Play structure
- Restrooms
- Skate park
- Large pavilion
- BBQ pits
- Dance Floor
- Pergolas
- Picnic tables
- Horseshoe pits
- Large grass events space
- Tennis courts



Southern Ball fields –

- Little league field (dirt infield)
- High school softball field
- Practice softball/little league field
- Bleachers
- Batting cage
- Snack bar

Overall Assessment:

- Overall the park is very well kept and appears to be the pride of the city.
- Although there is a large monument sign at the northern most portion of the park (adjacent to South Gulling Street), the park itself does not have signage to

identify this is *the* City Park. This makes it difficult to identify the park to visitors.

- The little league and softball fields appear to be in good working order and maintained regularly. The batting cage needs improvement.
- There is no formal parking adjacent to the ball fields. This needs to be considered for future improvements. The addition of handicap accessible parking is also necessary.
- Improved pedestrian access around the ball fields is necessary.
- The northern portion of the park lacks adequate parking and relies almost totally on on-street parking on South Gulling Street and side streets.
- The pool and accessory structures appear to be in good order and maintained.
- The safe fall surrounding the play structure is appears to be in good condition.
- The pavilion with the BBQ, buffet and dance floor are a tremendous asset to the park.
- The tennis courts have few cracks and the wind screens are in good condition.
- The skate park appears to be in good condition and is maintained regularly (no graffiti present).

Recommended Improvements:

- Formal parking adjacent to the southern ball fields.
- Signage identifying the park.
- Improve/modernize bathroom facilities.

- Consider demolition of the small ballfield located in the center field area of the upper softball field.
- Improve pedestrian access around ball fields.
- Improve batting cage.



Bench Park –

Bench Park is a pocket park with just over 3,000 square feet of area, located on the southeast corner of Commercial and California Streets. The park provides a small rest stop just off the downtown core with turf grass, a benches and trees. Additionally, there is a “Welcome to Old Town” sign, which fits with the theme of the downtown. The park is in overall very good shape and appears to be maintained regularly. One improvement was identified; provide hard surface (paved, pavers, compacted DG) path to the benches from the adjacent sidewalks.



Clock Park –

Clock Park is a pocket park, located at the entrance to the downtown area just off of South Gulling Street and Commercial Street. Clock Park is approximately 10,000 square feet in size and provides a quaint, identity-creating open space at the downtown’s front door. The park provides a great paver walk and functions as a kind of “town square”, with a handful of businesses fronting on the park. The park is also accompanied by very well integrated streetscape on Commercial Street. The park contains a decorative clock, two pergolas, decorative lighting, and benches. No necessary improvements were identified.



Caboose Park –

Caboose Park (pocket park) is located on the south side of Commercial Street. The 12,000± square foot park is the home of a red caboose, a parking lot, and a picnic table. The park, in general, appears to be significantly underutilized. As the caboose is located away from the main street, it requires a pedestrian to cross a parking lot, without the aid of wayfinding signage, to view the caboose. Improvements to consider may include formal landscaping around the caboose, signage, and possible adaptive reuse of the caboose for civic (or even possible retail) use.



Baldwin Park –

Baldwin Park is a Neighborhood Park located in the north-central portion of Portola. The park is the primary park facility in the northern part of Portola. Located on the southeast corner of Beckwith Street and Joy Way, the park is over 5-acres in size. The following is an overview and assessment of the park facilities and recommended improvements.

Major Facilities:

- Ballfield and backstop
- Restroom facility
- Basketball court
- Play structure and tot-lot
- Picnic tables
- BBQ pits

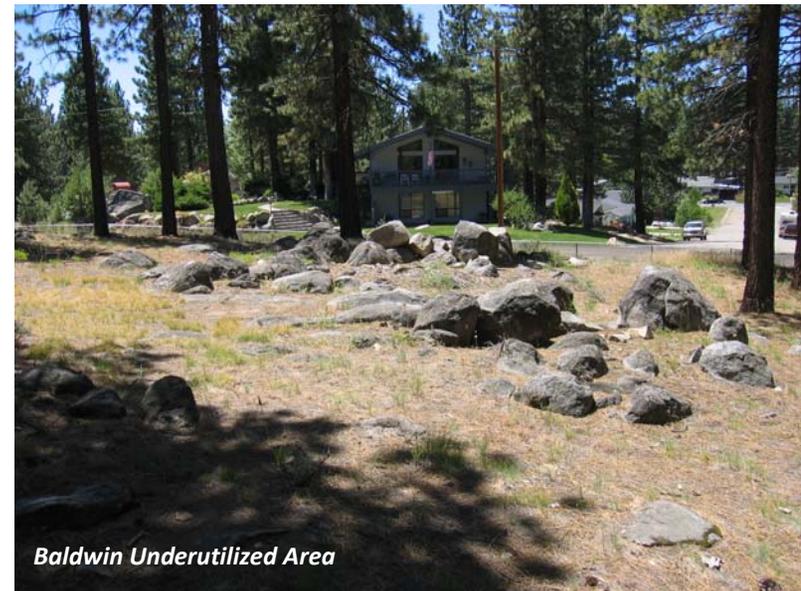
Overall Assessment:

- Overall, the park is budding with potential and is currently significantly underutilized.
- The park lacks identity. There is no identifiable signage.
- There is no internal park circulation – from the street there is not an identifiable pedestrian route to the play area. Likewise, there is not a pathway from the play area to the basketball courts.

- The turf on the ball fields, play area and basketball court appears un-kept.
- The restroom facility had graffiti on the back side at the time of the assessment.
- The basketball court was missing a hoop and had large cracks in the asphalt with weeds growing in.

Recommended Improvements:

- Baldwin Park monument sign on Joy Way and formal landscaping to give park more of an identity.
- The underutilized areas throughout the park have the opportunity for additional park uses. In particular, there may be an opportunity to provide a small BMX bike park in the hilled, rocky portion in the southwest corner of the park. Additionally, a dog park may be viable either in the southwest portion of the park or in the area between the ball fields and the play area.
- The area surrounding the play structure needs additional safe fall material.
- Overall park clean up and weeding, including basketball court.
- Reseal basketball court and fix broken hoop,
- Provide internal pathway system to provide pedestrian access from the street to the play structure and basketball courts.
- Minor improvements to the ballfield would make it suitable for tee-ball games or practice facility.
- Improve/modernize bathroom facilities.



Carmichael Elementary School –

Carmichael Elementary School is approximately 10-acres in size and contains turf fields and a ballfield diamond located directly adjacent to the school. This facility is owned and maintained by Plumas County, in conjunction with the Plumas Unified School District. The “park” portion currently has a large turf multi-use field area (currently utilized for soccer), as well as a baseball diamond with dugouts. The ballfield portion of the park is in significant disrepair and is not currently suitable for use (neither practice nor games). With minor repairs (weeding, additional dirt and dirt leveling) the ballfield will be suitable for a little league or softball practice facility. Additionally, there is a small turf ballfield with a backstop. With regular mowing, this field may be suitable as a practice facility. The open field/soccer portion of the park currently has two goals (one field) with room for an additional large field and 2 small fields, or some combination thereof.

Overall, the park has ample parking and likely presents a good opportunity for a multi-field soccer complex.

The following are recommended improvements for the Carmichael park:

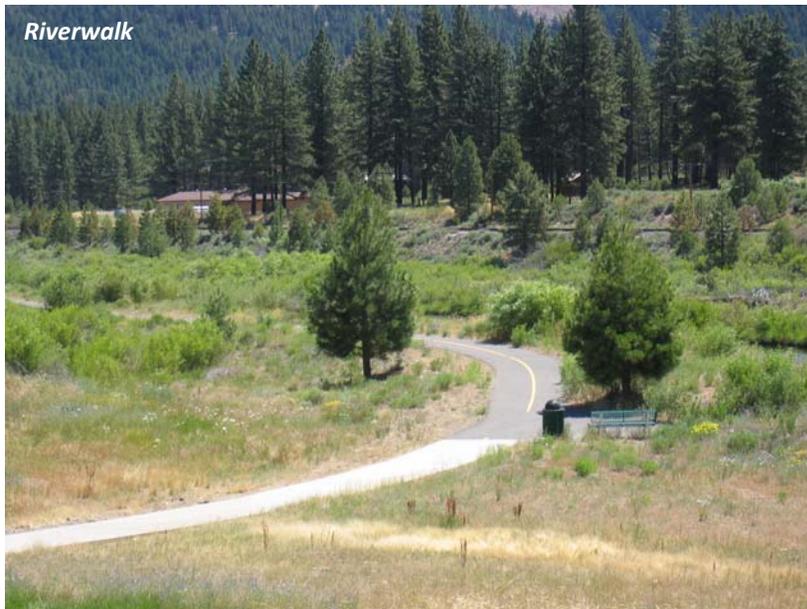
- Explore joint use and maintenance between Plumas County, Plumas Unified School District, and City of Portola for greater community service level.
- Improve irrigation on middle portion of turf field.
- Weed and improve dirt surface on western ballfield.

- Increase mowing and overall maintenance operations for turf.
- There is currently no pedestrian access from the parking lot to the fields. Consider DG path from parking lot.



Riverwalk –

The Portola Riverwalk is a multi-purpose paved trail, providing trail access from the downtown area to the National Forest picnic area located just east of town. The Riverwalk land area totals over 28-acres, with the majority of land area remaining vacant with native vegetation. The trail itself is in very good condition. The only improvements noted during the assessment of the facility were weeds that were growing through cracks in the paving.



Volleyball Park –

Volleyball Park is a pocket park located on South Gulling Street, across from City Park. The park consists of a sand volleyball court with net and landscaping. As the park is a corner parcel, the landscaped corner presents a quality “front door” to the civic center and downtown area. The park overall is in very good shape with little to no improvements necessary at this time. It is recommended that the City continue regular maintenance, including raking and additional sand as necessary.



City Hall Park –

City Hall Park is a pocket park located adjacent to city hall on the corner of South Gulling Street and 4th Avenue. The park contains a half-court concrete basketball court, picnic table, and message board. There is currently no formal landscaping, however the grounds were free of weeds and the park is in very good condition. No improvements are required.



West City Park –

“West City Park” is un-built and refers to the City owned land located on Highway 70, just west of the Veterans’ Hall. The land area includes three parcels west of Veterans’ Hall and a parcel to the east. The western properties currently have a sewer pump station, with the remainder remaining vacant. As this site is located next to the Veterans’ Hall, certain synergies exist between the two parcels. It is understood that the Veterans’ Hall will host indoor concerts, shows, or events. The West City Park may provide an outdoor venue to support the activities of the Veterans’ Hall, while also presenting a great opportunity to increase the City’s branding and marketing to travelers on Highway 70. The park is the western gateway into the City. One use in particular may be the western trail head for an extension of the Riverwalk. Construction of a western leg of the Riverwalk trail system can originate at the West City Park, traversing river frontage land before connecting to West Riverside Road. This extension of the Riverwalk will provide nearly 1-mile of trail along the Middle Fork of the Feather River and provide east/west non-motorized access through Portola.

Additional uses for the West City Park may include:

- Riverwalk extension.
- Amphitheater to provide an outdoor concert/event venue.
- River and fishing access.
- Gateway signage on the highway.

- Visitor's gazebo.
- Ancillary support recreation to trailhead and amphitheater (i.e. small play structure, grassy area).



Visitor Center –

The Visitor Center, located at the eastern gateway to the City on Highway 70 contains the City’s welcome center for tourists, as well as a museum, gazebo, and small play/picnic area. Little to no improvements are necessary, however there are existing wood timber steps leading to the river that may require improvement for safety concerns or even removal.



[5] COMMUNITY INPUT

Community input is viewed as an extremely valuable component in this parks and recreation master plan. Several methods were utilized to solicit input from the community on the citizens' vision for the future of parks and recreation facilities in Portola. Community outreach for this master plan took on many forms, including: workshops, city wide survey, website, and individual interviews with recreation stakeholders.

Provided below is a summary of the results and input received from citizens and stakeholders during the master planning process.

Citizen Survey –

A one page survey was sent to every household in Portola, asking residents their thoughts on parks and recreation services in town. Surveys were mailed to all Portola residences, as well as made available at the front counter at City Hall. A total of 22 surveys were returned and a summary of the results are presented below.

Question 1: Overall, are the parks, playgrounds, open space, trails, and athletic/school fields meeting the needs of the community? (Circle the corresponding number below)

Scoring Criteria:

Agree Completely	Mostly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Do Not Agree	Don't Know
1	2	3	4	Not Counted

Results (ranked in order of agreement): [score]

Park Maintenance	[2.0]
Parks/Open Space (quality of facilities)	[2.3]
Parks/Open Space (number of facilities)	[2.5]
Playgrounds	[2.6]
Athletic Fields	[2.6]
Trails	[2.8]
Contribute to Tourism	[2.8]
Indoor Facilities	[3.4]

Question 2: Please rank the following facilities found around Portola and how they meet your recreation needs. (Circle the corresponding number below)

Scoring Criteria:

Highest	Slightly Above Average	Average	Slightly Below Average	Lowest
1	2	3	4	5

Results (ranked in order): [score]

Pool	[2.2]
Railroad Museum	[2.3]
Skateboard Park	[2.3]
Picnic area at City Park	[2.3]
Grass Fields	[2.3]
Museum	[2.4]
Ballfields	[2.5]
Basketball Courts	[2.6]
Volleyball Courts	[2.6]
Gazebos	[2.7]
Horseshoe Pits	[2.8]
Public Parking Lots	[2.9]
Paths/Trails	[3.0]
Playgrounds	[3.0]
Tennis Courts	[3.1]
Bathroom Facilities	[3.2]
Bench Seating Areas	[3.3]
Soccer Fields	[3.4]

Question 3: Which, if any, of the following facilities would you like to see provided in Portola? Please check all that apply.

Restroom Facilities	50%
Public Art Projects	45%
Drinking Fountains	45%
Trailheads	41%
Picnic Sites with Tables	41%
Barbeque Pits	36%
BMX Track	36%
Dog Park – off-leash areas	36%
Soccer Fields	36%
Interpretive Signage/Nature Trails	36%
Parking Areas/Access	32%
Children’s Play Structures	27%
Native American/Other History Area	27%
Bleachers	23%
Disc Golf Course	23%
Skate Park	14%
Boccee	14%
Concession Stands	14%
Volleyball Courts	14%
Chess	14%
Football Fields	9%
Tennis Courts	9%
Campgrounds	9%
Baseball Fields	9%
Basketball Courts	9%

Ranked in order with % of respondents:

Shade Structures	55%
Multi-use Trails	50%

Question 4: Which of the following funding mechanism would your household be willing to support for additional facilities and activities?

Scoring Criteria:

Would Support	Would Not Support	Don't Know
1	2	Not Counted

Results (ranked in order of support):

	[score]
Special Fund Raising Campaign	[1.2]
User Fees	[1.3]
Bond Issue	[1.4]
Sales Tax Increase	[1.6]
Property Tax Increase	[1.6]

Methodology: All surveys were tabulated utilizing the numerical value corresponding to the level of support with the various funding options. An average score was then calculated and presented above. Surveys with responses of “Don’t Know” were not counted.

Two additional questions asked residents what recreation or sports they currently participate (or would like to participate) in, as well as a general question soliciting any additional comments not covered directly by the survey.

Summarizing the additional comments regarding participate sports and recreation activities, residents expressed a desire to see trails and trail heads (including OHV and ATV trails), adult league sports and programs (i.e. co-ed softball), swimming, swim lessons for all ages and life guard training, and an indoor facility for recreation opportunities during winter months (including volleyball and basketball).

The additional comments that were solicited varied greatly. Below is a list of summarized comments received:

- Fitness stations along jogging trails.
- Promote healthy lifestyles.
- Need winter activities (i.e. sledding hill, ice rink, indoor recreation opportunities)
- Better advertising of recreational opportunities.
- Swim team.
- Bike trail between Delleker and Portola.
- Overall concerns about citywide walkability (no sidewalks).
- Indoor recreation (i.e. bowling, rollerskating, volleyball, etc.)

Sample Survey:

PORTOLA PARKS AND RECREATION SURVEY

The City of Portola in conjunction with Wood Rodgers, Inc. is seeking feedback to help better serve the public and create a Parks and Recreation Master Plan. This Plan will evaluate existing parks and recreation facilities and provide a vision for the future population's parks and recreation needs. Your responses to the survey will be summarized and presented to the Community at a workshop as well as being included in a full report to be presented to the Portola City Council.

This survey will only take a few minutes of your time to complete but will make a big impact on the facilities and services provided in your community! Please visit the blog at <http://portolaparksplan.blogspot.com> and share your thoughts and comments. Thank you for your time and support.

*Please come to a
Community Meeting
on Tuesday,
September 22, 2009
from 4-7 p.m. There
will be fun activities
for the kids!*

1. Overall, are the parks, playgrounds, open space, trails, and athletic/school fields meeting the needs of the community? (Circle the corresponding number below)

	Agree Completely	Mostly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Do Not Agree	Don't Know
A. Parks/Open Space (quality of facilities)	1	2	3	4	5
B. Parks/Open Space (number of facilities)	1	2	3	4	5
C. Playgrounds	1	2	3	4	5
D. Trails	1	2	3	4	5
E. Athletic Fields	1	2	3	4	5
F. Indoor Facilities	1	2	3	4	5
G. Contribute to Tourism	1	2	3	4	5
H. Park Maintenance	1	2	3	4	5

2. Please rank the following facilities found around Portola and how they meet your recreation needs. (Circle the corresponding number below)

	Highest	Slightly Above Average	Average	Slightly Below Average	Lowest
A. Picnic area at City Park	1	2	3	4	5
B. Ballfields	1	2	3	4	5
C. Basketball Courts	1	2	3	4	5
D. Bathroom Facilities	1	2	3	4	5
E. Bench Seating Areas	1	2	3	4	5
F. Gazebos	1	2	3	4	5
G. Grass Fields	1	2	3	4	5
H. Horseshoe Pits	1	2	3	4	5
I. Museum	1	2	3	4	5
J. Paths/Trails	1	2	3	4	5
K. Public Parking Lots	1	2	3	4	5
L. Playgrounds	1	2	3	4	5
M. Pool	1	2	3	4	5
N. Railroad Museum	1	2	3	4	5
O. Skateboard Park	1	2	3	4	5
P. Soccer Fields	1	2	3	4	5
Q. Tennis Courts	1	2	3	4	5
R. Volleyball Courts	1	2	3	4	5

3. Which, if any, of the following facilities would you like to see provided in Portola? Please check all that apply.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Barbeque Pits	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bleachers
<input type="checkbox"/>	BMX Track	<input type="checkbox"/>	Campgrounds
<input type="checkbox"/>	Children's Play Structure	<input type="checkbox"/>	Concession Stands
<input type="checkbox"/>	Dog Park – off-leash areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	Disc Golf Course
<input type="checkbox"/>	Football Fields	<input type="checkbox"/>	Interpretive Signage/Nature Trails
<input type="checkbox"/>	Native American/Other History Area	<input type="checkbox"/>	Picnic Sites with Tables
<input type="checkbox"/>	Public Art Projects	<input type="checkbox"/>	Shade Structures
<input type="checkbox"/>	Skate Park	<input type="checkbox"/>	Drinking Fountains
<input type="checkbox"/>	Multi-use Trails	<input type="checkbox"/>	Parking Areas/Access
<input type="checkbox"/>	Trailheads	<input type="checkbox"/>	Baseball Fields
<input type="checkbox"/>	Soccer Fields	<input type="checkbox"/>	Volleyball Courts
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tennis Courts	<input type="checkbox"/>	Basketball Courts
<input type="checkbox"/>	Restroom Facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	Chess
<input type="checkbox"/>	Bocce	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (Please explain below):

4. Which of the following funding mechanism would your household be willing to support for additional facilities and activities?

	Would Support	Would Not Support	Don't Know
A. Sales Tax Increase	1	2	3
B. Bond Issue	1	2	3
C. Special Fund Raising Campaign	1	2	3
D. User Fees	1	2	3
E. Property Tax Increase	1	2	3
F. Other (please explain)			

5. What organized programs and/or league sports have you participated in or would like to participate in?

6. Please tell us any additional comments you have relative to the City of Portola's Parks and Recreation opportunities.

*Please return this survey by
September 11, 2009 to
Portola City Hall or fax to
832-5418. Call 832-6808 if
you have any questions.*

Public Workshops –

A public workshop was conducted on September 22, 2009 with a subsequent presentation to the Planning Commission. The goal of both was to solicit feedback from the public and Planning Commission on priorities and areas where improvements could be made. Surveys were also made available (summary provided above). Below is a summary of the comments received from the public workshops.

- Portola High School and Middle School complex provide recreation opportunities (basketball, fields, track, etc.)
- The track at the high school should be renovated with an all-weather surface.
- Can the high school gymnasium be opened for public use (especially in the winter months)?
- City owned properties at the west entrance to the City – what can be done with these properties? Amphitheater? Riverwalk extension?

Stakeholder Input –

Through the master planning process, several key individual and organization stakeholders were identified. Individual interviews were conducted with stakeholders to better ascertain their recreation needs and vision for future community resources.

The stakeholders involved in master plan process provided feedback on their experience and hopes for future improvements within the City. In general, the comments received are best characterized in two words, visibility and partnership. Visibility of City assets, such as the Railroad Museum, can be accomplished through a citywide recreation based signage program. Signage throughout the City will increase wayfinding to city and partnering organization’s recreation facilities, better brand the City, and communicate the City’s commitment to recreational opportunities for residents and visitors alike. The signage program can be utilized in many different ways, including wayfinding, placemaking, recreation site identification, interpretive, and event notification.

Another common theme in discussions with stakeholders was the need for increased inter-governmental partnerships, as well as between the City and private groups. For example, a partnership and agreement to share facilities and maintenance responsibilities with the City, Plumas Unified School District and Plumas County was mentioned as a recommended improvement at Carmichael Elementary

School. In addition to this, there are potential partnering opportunities with Feather River College and the governmental agencies above to provide additional recreation and cultural opportunities to the residents of Portola and surrounding unincorporated towns.

[6] GOALS, OBJECTIVES & PRIORITIES

Goal 1: Provide broad community based parks and recreation amenities throughout the City for all residents that promotes healthy lifestyles and improves the quality of life.

Objective 1.1: Improve overall accessibility of parks for a wide range of residents and park users.

Objective 1.2: Upgrade/Develop park facilities where necessary to further increase recreation opportunities for all residents.

Priority 1.1: Develop partnership for joint use plan for Carmichael Elementary School with City of Portola, Plumas County, and Plumas Unified School District.

Goal 2: Avoid major capital improvement costs for parks and recreation programs.

Objective 2.1: Develop parks and recreation partnerships with key stakeholders, including Plumas Unified School District, Feather River College, and the Western Railroad Museum.

Objective 2.2: Identify necessary maintenance issues and provide proactive improvements to existing facilities.

Objective 2.3: Construct facilities through Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) availability and requirements.

Priority 1.2: Develop partnerships for indoor recreational venue(s) and opportunities.

Goal 3: Facilitate quality pedestrian and bike mobility throughout the City.

Objective 3.1: Acquire necessary land to provide Riverwalk extension from Veterans' Hall to South Gulling Street.

Objective 3.2: Improve sidewalk conditions in and around park facilities to promote safe pedestrian accessibility.

Objective 3.3: Improve on-site park pedestrian facilities between amenities to ensure access for all citizens.

Priority 3.1: Provide quality pedestrian and bicycle mobility in the City.

Goal 4: Create an identity for the parks and recreation system in the City.

Objective 4.1: Provide monument signage at all parks to give individual parks, as well as the system as a whole, a recreation brand identity.

Objective 4.2: Increase wayfinding signage throughout the City to increase accessibility to all parks and recreation facilities.

Priority 4.1: Provide quality wayfinding for City parks and private recreational facilities.