

IMPLEMENTATION

An implementation plan is a coordinated series of actions the City desires to take in the future that are intended to advance, over the long term, the City’s Shared Vision, Core Values, and the General Plan goals and policies. An implementation plan is thus a follow-up measure for this element. Taken as a whole, these programs represent the City’s best thinking today on what actions should be taken to address the considerations and concerns of the community and make sure that the plan’s aspirations are achieved.

Implementation is in large part contingent on adequate funding. Many of these actions can be pursued through initiatives already underway.

Other programs will require additional resources. As such, the exact mix and timing of programs the City may pursue will in part be opportunity driven, dependent on the availability of funding, staffing, and other necessary resources. The Time Frame in the Implementation Table below is the target for completion of the Action.

This element may be implemented by amendments to existing plans, ordinances, development standards, and design guidelines; capital investments/projects; and interagency/interjurisdictional coordination. The following table identifies the implementation action, the responsible City agency, and targeted timeline for accomplishment.

TABLE OS-3. OPEN SPACE ELEMENT IMPLEMENTATION

Ref #	Implementation Action	Agency / Time Frame
Goal OS-1: Parks, Open Space, and Recreation		
Provide an integrated system of accessible parks, recreation facilities, trails, and open space to serve the City of Santa Ana.		
1.1	Park needs assessment and master plan. Create, adopt, and implement a park needs assessment and master plan, based on community input, defining park service areas according to best practices, establishing a service area for each park facility, creating a tool to evaluate needs and prioritize improvements by quadrant or appropriate geographic subarea, and maintaining a list of priorities for the expansion and improvement of open space and recreational facilities in each quadrant or geographic subarea to attain a park land standard of three acres per 1,000 residents.	PRCSA 2022
1.2 ^{EJ}	Interagency Forum. Convene an interagency forum to take a coordinated approach to evaluating the feasibility for converting City-owned properties to parkland, with special focus in park deficient and environmental justice areas.	PRCSA 2022
1.3	Annual Open Space Summit. Convene an annual forum to bring together City interagency staff, community leaders, and private enterprise to establish goals for park acquisition and review a status report of metrics associated with progress.	PRCSA 2023 & ongoing
1.4	No-net-loss of parkland. Establish land use provisions in the Municipal Code that prevent a net loss of public parkland in the City of Santa Ana. Require at least a 1:1 replacement if there is any loss of public parkland or City-owned open space due to public or private development.	PRCSA 2022
1.5	Park Opportunity Fund. Incorporate General Funds, cannabis revenues, and private donations into an established Park Opportunity Fund to leverage for matching grants and have monies available when opportunities arise for new park acquisition.	PRCSA 2022 & ongoing
1.6	Development fees. Update the City’s Acquisition and Development Ordinance to increase the parkland dedication requirements to meet three acres of parkland per 1,000 residents. Require that fees collected in place of parkland dedication to be utilized to acquire or expand facilities within geographic proximity to new development or parkland deficient areas.	PRCSA 2022
1.7 ^{EJ}	Public parkland requirements for residential projects. Update the Residential Development Fee Ordinance for large residential projects, which include projects of 100 residential units or more, to require public parkland within the City limits and a 10-minute walking distance of the new residential projects.	PBA/PRCSA 2022



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1.7A EJ	Open space and park land incentives. Allow developers a reduction in on-site open space by giving credits for park land for public use. Establish a process and program to incentivize developers to provide additional on-site and/or publicly accessible open space to create public park land and open space. Research and collaborate with residents, developers, and community organizations to design and implement an open space density bonus to incentivize the creation of additional on-site open space in exchange for more density in the project.	PBA & PRCSA 2022-2027
1.8	Park Foundation. Establish a 501(c)(3) Parks and Recreation Foundation to establish fundraising support for Santa Ana’s park system. Identify communication protocols, roles and responsibilities, and bylaws.	PRCSA 2023 & Ongoing
1.9	Right-of-way use. Coordinate with public agencies, railroads, and utilities to determine the feasibility of acquiring the use of rights-of-way for restricted use by the public.	PRCSA/PWA Ongoing
1.10 EJ	New parkland collaborative. Coordinate with property owners to explore options to provide public access and programming on privately-owned open space in park deficient areas, including options to acquire land through purchase, land dedication, easements, and land leases that would allow for permanent or temporary public use of land for open space and recreational opportunities.	PRCSA 2022 & ongoing
1.11 EJ	Joint-use agreements. Coordinate with public school districts, private schools, and other community organizations to provide community members with access to additional open space and recreational resources.	PRCSA 2022 & ongoing
1.12	Santa Ana River. Update the Santa Ana River Vision Plan to expand opportunities to reintroduce natural elements, increase habitat, and provide more recreational opportunities.	PRCSA/PWA 2024
1.13 EJ	New programming in underserved areas. Partner with community organizations to offer new programs that are accessible to residents who live in areas underserved by open space and recreational facilities. Develop a comprehensive partnership policy providing guidelines that can be used throughout the City organization.	PRCSA 2022
1.14 EJ	Community partnerships. Continue building partnerships with community-based organizations that administer social services to the elderly, youth, and other special needs groups; create use agreements for these providers to use public park facilities to meet the recreational and educational needs of these groups.	Ongoing
1.15 EJ	Community input. Identify and utilize multilingual and interactive community engagement tools, initiated through the Parks and Recreation Master Plan, for residents and facility users to provide ongoing input about open space needs, park design, facility improvements, and programming.	PRCSA 2022
1.16 EJ	Acquisitions to meet park standard. Using the Park Master Plan as guidance, identify and acquire property within the City for park and open space use which will focus on bringing the park and recreation system to three acres of land per 1,000 residents with a plan to keep pace with future urban growth.	PRCSA 2022 & ongoing

GOAL OS-2: Healthy, Safe and Inclusive Opportunities
Provide welcoming, inclusive, safe, and healthy parks, recreation facilities, and programs to serve Santa Ana residents regardless of age, ability, or income.

2.1	Public safety audits. Conduct public safety audits to determine areas with the highest levels of crime; pursue funding to create public safety programs based on the recommendations from the audits. Avoid aspects of public safety that privatize or segregate open space and recreation facilities.	PD/PBA/ PRCSA 2023
2.2	Enhanced safety features. Provide enhanced lighting, cameras, or other security features that would enhance the safety or perceived safety of parks, trails, and other public spaces; seek grant funding to improve safety measures and program facility improvements into the Capital Improvement Program each year.	PRCSA 2022
2.3	Park Patrol. Provide continuous evaluation of existing security program and look at ways to enhance and strengthen; consider formation of neighborhood watch group, park host, or other similar program.	PRCSA 2022
2.4	Public notification. Prior to treating areas in the city with pesticides or herbicides, inform the public through signage posted in impacted areas, direct mailers, and announcements on the City website, cable channels, publications, and the City’s social media platforms.	PRCSA/PWA 2022



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2.5	Healthy amenities. As facilities are upgraded, include amenities that improve the health and wellness of residents, including hydration stations and shading devices.	PRCSA 2021 & ongoing
2.6	Healthy indoor options. Explore options to incentivize or require the provision of indoor recreation space, particularly in environmental justice areas that experience high levels of exposure to air pollution.	PRCSA 2023
2.7	Universal access. Explore options for the systematic completion of Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance upgrades for all City facilities.	PWA 2024
2.8	Public input. Establish a procedure to collect community input regarding park design and programming at the beginning of the planning process whenever a new facility is proposed or when redevelopment of an existing facility is under consideration.	PRCSA 2023
2.9	Hours of operation. Evaluate hours of operation for parks, community centers, and other facilities. Consider the option to extend hours of operation to meet community needs.	PRCSA 2022
2.10	Evaluate programming. Evaluate recreational programming through participant service assessment and online public opinion surveys on a periodic basis to identify needed and desired programs.	PRCSA 2022 & annually
2.11	Program and facility fees. Evaluate program and facility rental fees to ensure that programming is sustainable, and fees are equitable and appropriate.	PRCSA 2022 & ongoing
GOAL OS-3: Park Maintenance, Stewardship and Sustainability Maintain and manage parks, recreation facilities, trails and open space to sustain City assets and support safe use.		
3.1	Park and facility maintenance resources. Evaluate and identify the funding, staffing and resources needed to provide quality preventative and routine maintenance for existing sites as well as planned parks and facilities.	PRCSA 2022
3.2	Deferred maintenance. Assess the condition of parks and facilities, identifying deficiencies, repairs and replacements needed, including cost estimates. Include facility improvements in the Capital Improvement Program.	PRCSA 2022 & ongoing
3.3	Asset management. Forecast and track facility lifecycle to plan for the ongoing needs for park and landscaping renovations and replacement.	PRCSA 2022 & ongoing
3.4	Green infrastructure. Identify and apply funds to implement environmental design practices such as integrating and maintaining native plants, additional trees, bioswales, and other natural and green infrastructure into targeted sites to support sustainability, reduced water and maintenance costs, natural resource protection, environmental education/interpretation, and connections to nature.	PRCSA 2022 & ongoing
3.5	Urban Forestry Plan. Coordinate with other City agencies to develop, implement and maintain a citywide tree preservation ordinance and Urban Forestry Plan for parks and open space that provides air pollution mitigation, microclimate modification, noise reduction, and offers an area of recreation, rest, and education.	PRCSA 2022 & ongoing

Notes:

CDA - Community Development Agency

CMO - City Manager’s Office

HR- Human Resources Department

PBA - Planning and Building Agency

PWA - Public Works Agency

PRCSA - Parks, Recreation and Community Services Agency

PD - Police Department

EJ associated with environmental justice policies

