

VIII. Parks, Recreation, and Open Space

Open space is both a land use designation and a way of referring to land that is not developed with buildings or other intensive land uses. As a land use designation, open space is discussed in the Land Use Element and shown on the Land Use Map. This element refers to the consideration of open space as it is applied to land that is set aside for recreation, oak preservation, riparian and wetlands, slopes, and parks. Each of these is important to the identity of the town as a rural community, and to the preservation of the natural beauty of Loomis.

The Town owns approximately 5 acres of developed parks and relies on regional parks and school facilities to meet the remainder of residents' park, recreation, and open space need. There are four categories of parks in Loomis: community parks, joint use agreement facilities, regional parks, and other recreational and open spaces.

Community Parks. Community parks are owned by the Town and offer a range of developed amenities including play structures (tot lots), sport fields, walking paths, and picnicking facilities along with open space. These parks are located in the north of town to be accessible to residents with smaller home lots.

Joint Use Agreement Facilities. The Town has entered into joint use agreements with two schools within Town limits to permit Loomis residents to use recreational facilities at the school in exchange for funding assistance for recreational improvements.

Regional Parks and Facilities. Regional parks are not owned by the Town and, in some cases, are not located within Town limits. However, they still are a valuable recreational resource for Loomis residents and offer a variety of improvements including sport fields, tot lots, an equestrian facility, and more.

Other Spaces. Open spaces include trails, oak preservations, and riparian corridors that provide passive recreational opportunities and buffers between uses.

Figure 3-4 ~~X-1~~ identifies the locations of park and recreation facilities in Loomis and the immediate vicinity.

[Needs types of open space, parks: passive, active, etc. defined per Town and discussed with subcommittee]

Park = Active Open Space and can contain improvements such as baseball fields, skateboard parks, playground equipment, amphitheters, soccer fields, etc. May also include parking, restrooms, paths, picnic facilities, gazebos, and concession stands.

Open Space = Passive Land]

8.1 Park and Recreation Facilities

Town Parks

Commented [A1]: New map requested. Text Moved up.

1 The Town of Loomis owns and operates one two park sites, Sunrise Loomis Park and Blue Anchor
 2 Park, for a total of 5 acres as shown in Table X-1.

3 **Table 8-1: Town-Owned Park Facilities**

<u>Park Name</u>	<u>Acreage</u>	<u>Amenities</u>
<u>Blue Anchor Park</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>Skate park, tot lot, open space</u>
<u>Sunrise Loomis Park</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>Softball/baseball field, tot lot, open space</u>

4 The Sunrise-Loomis Neighborhood Park is located on Arcadia Avenue, located between Humphrey
 5 and Swetzer Roads. This park is approximately four (4) acres in size and features open turf areas
 6 with a softball backstop, a small and large playground with adjacent picnic area, meandering
 7 sidewalk, a basketball court, and sand play area.

8 Blue Anchor Park was constructed in 2010 adjacent to the Loomis Train Station at the intersection
 9 of Horseshoe Bar and Taylor Roads. The approximately one-acre park provides a central gathering
 10 place in the heart of Loomis and includes a skatepark, playground and seating, and small open turf
 11 areas.

12 **Joint Use Agreement Facilities**

14 The Town also has several joint use agreements with the ~~contributes funds to the~~ Loomis Unified
 15 School District and Del Oro High School through which it has provided funds in the past for to
 16 ~~provide~~ recreational improvements to their facilities in exchange for public access to these facilities
 17 outside of school hours. Although schools limit the use of their facilities, they represent a significant
 18 resource for meeting recreational needs for Loomis residents.

19 **Table 8-2: Joint Use Agreement**

Facility Name	Acreage	Amenities
Del Oro High School	25 (approx.)	1 softball field; 2 soccer fields; 1 football fields; track field; pool; 4 basketball courts; 5 tennis courts; 2 handball courts; 2 baseball diamonds; 2 gymnasiums; multi-purpose cafeteria/theater; swimming pool; cross-country trail; parcourse.
Franklin Elementary School	4.2	3 softball diamonds; 1 soccer field; 2 basketball courts; 1 track field; 2 volleyball courts; gymnasium; amphitheater; 2 tot lots.
H. Clarke Powers School	6.5	1 softball and 1 baseball field; 3 soccer fields; gymnasium; outdoor amphitheater; 2 tot lots.

Commented [A2]: The Town only has joint use agreements with DO and Loomis Grammar

Commented [A3]: Show on figure as separate color/texture

Loomis Grammar Elementary School	3.5	2 softball fields, including 3 soccer fields; 2 volleyball courts; 3 basketball courts; track/field; multi-purpose gym; 3 tot lots.
Placer Elementary School	Unknown	3 softball fields/2 soccer fields; gymnasium with amphitheater; track; 2 tot lots.

Loomis Grammar School is located in the downtown core at the southeast intersection of Taylor and King Roads. The total area of the school grounds is about seven acres. The total area utilized for recreational facilities is about 3.5 acres. The Town of Loomis has contributed funds to the School District for the development of the community recreation facilities at the school. All of the recreation facilities are maintained by the Loomis Unified School District.

Located to the east of the Town center, Del Oro High School provides a significant recreational resource to the Town. The high school has the most significant concentration of active area recreational facilities in the area and also serves as a regional recreation resource with its swimming pool, large gymnasium, track, theater, football field, and tennis courts. The Town has contributed funds to Del Oro High School for improvements to the tennis courts. All recreation facilities are maintained by the school and Placer Union High School District.

Regional Parks and Facilities

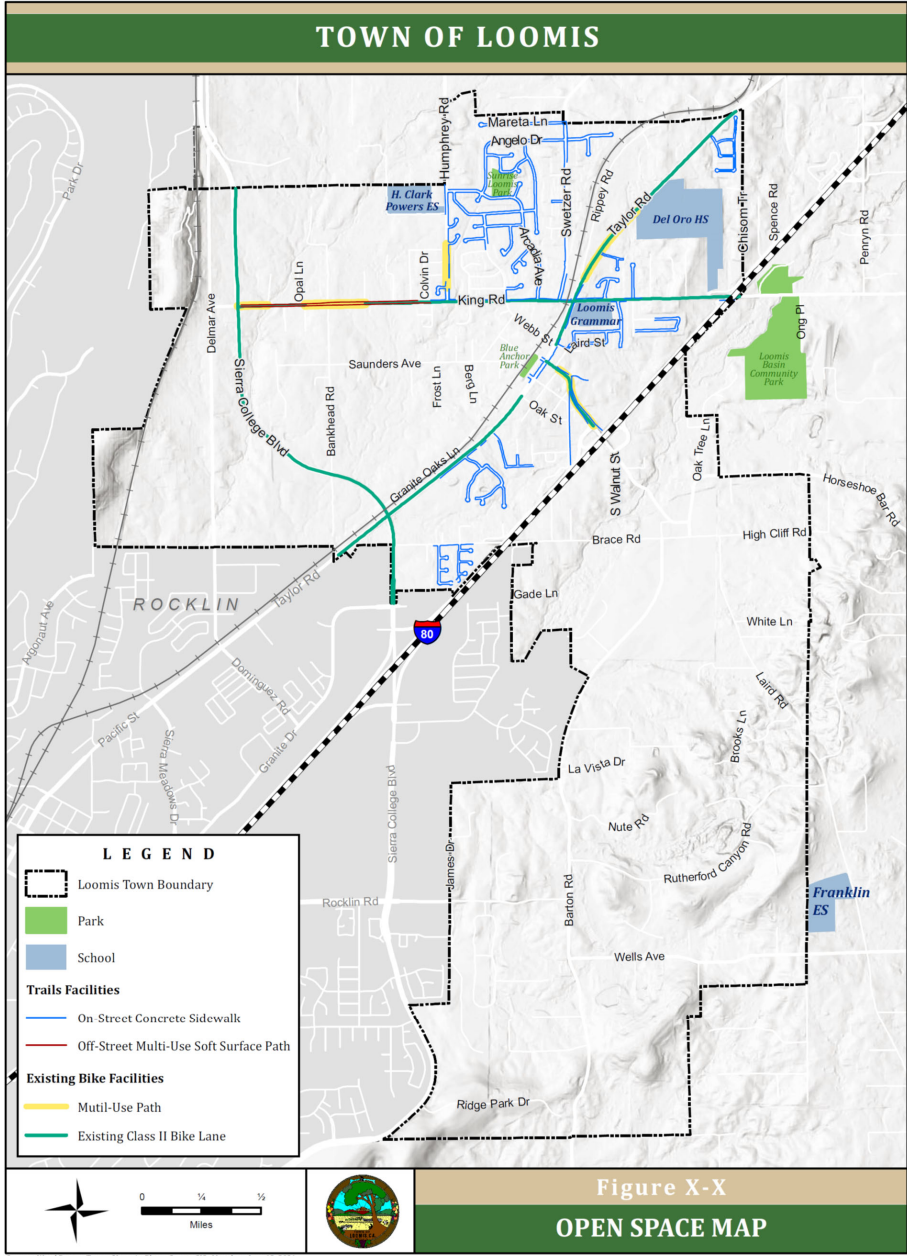
Placer County operates the Loomis Basin Regional Park on the northeast border of the Town at the intersection of King and Winters Roads which is regularly used by Loomis residents. Located north of Town between Humphrey and English Colony Roads, the Loomis Basin Horsemen’s Association maintains the Traylor Ranch Nature Reserve and Bird Sanctuary that provides several miles of trails and picnicking facilities. In addition, Sierra Community College also has recreational facilities available for limited use by non-students. Bikeways, hiking and equestrian trails throughout the region also provide recreational opportunities for residents. Figure 3-4 identifies the locations of park and recreation facilities in Loomis. An inventory of park and recreational facilities in and nearby Loomis that are frequented by Town residents is provided in Table 3-2.

Commented [A4]: New map requested

Table 8-3: Regional Parks and Facilities

<u>Park Name</u>	<u>Acreage</u>	<u>Amenities</u>
Loomis Basin Regional Park (Placer County)	33	North: 3 softball fields; tot lot; picnic area; soccer field; snack bar. South: 3 baseball fields; basketball court; equestrian center; covered group picnic area; jogging trail; tot lot.
Traylor Park <u>Ranch Nature Reserve and Bird Sanctuary</u>	400-90	Equestrian facility; bird watching facility. Humphrey and English Colony Roads
Sierra Community College	250	1 baseball field; 1 softball field; track fields; 2 swimming pools; gymnasium; cross-country trail; 1 football field; 5 tennis courts; 1 theater.

Commented [A5]: Show on figure as separate color/texture.



Commented [A6]: Placeholder. To be revised to show Town open space vs. contract and regional space.

1 **Other Space**

Commented [A7]: Needs editing to update access and status of adjacent and non-Town owned facilities.

2
3 In 2010, the Town of Loomis adopted its Trails Master Plan which outlined a number of short range
4 and long range opportunities and recommendations to develop a multi-use trail system to serve the
5 Town and to connect to trail systems beyond the Town's boundaries. That plan also established
6 design standards for a variety of multi-use trail installations along some of the Town's creeks and
7 railroad tracks.

8
9 Additionally, there are several trail corridors that are designated by the Loomis Basin Horseman's
10 Association Trail System map within the Town of Loomis, although not developed. When the Town
11 approved the Montserrat subdivision, a multi-use trail was required along the side of the road
12 between Barton and Laird and a multi-use trail has recently been completed along Rutherford Road
13 as required.

14
15 Both the Town of Loomis and Placer County have adopted a Trail Master Plan and several
16 community plans in the areas adjacent to the Town which designate trails and pathways along
17 roadways, creeks and other geographic features. Trails are designated by the County in the
18 following areas:

19 a. Town Area Northwest of I-80

- 20 • English Colony Road from Sierra College Boulevard on west to Town of Penryn on
- 21 east
- 22 • Secret Ravine Creek from the Loomis Basin Regional Park west to Brace Road
- 23
- 24

25 b. Town Area Southeast of I-80

- 26 • Horseshoe Bar Road from the intersection with Barton Road east to Folsom Lake in
- 27 the Lakeshore Area
- 28 • Barton Road south to the Town limits
- 29 • King Road east to the Lakeshore neighborhood and Folsom Lake
- 30

31 In addition to these trails, Placer County and the Loomis Basin Horseman's Association have also
32 officially designated equestrian trails in the area. Trails are designated along the Brace Road,
33 Barton Road, Laird Road, and the area along Secret Ravine Creek. In most other areas, the narrow
34 road sections present problems to trail users. However, creek beds, shoulders of roads and the
35 general openness of much of the Service Area offers many places to walk, hike and ride horses.

36
37 Linear spaces along riparian corridors and major transportation corridors (e.g. Sierra College
38 Boulevard) provide visual buffers between uses, wildlife corridors, and tree preservation and
39 mitigation opportunities. These areas may be used as equestrian and pedestrian trails, picnic areas,
40 fitness areas, and more, in addition to preserving natural vegetation.

41
42 Conservation areas also provide a valuable resource for protecting natural features, improve
43 drainage, and offer opportunities for passive recreation. The only existing Conservation Easement
44 in the Town of Loomis is a portion of the Montserrat development. Montserrat includes conservation
45 easements for 96 acres of wetlands, 32 acres of agricultural land, and 53 acres of oak woodland.

46 Conservation Areas

47
48
49 There may be overlap between open space and recreation facilities and some types of

habitat/conservation area preservation. Not all conserved lands may be accessible to the public for reasons of habitat sensitivity, slope, safety, etc., however some conserved lands may have trails and/or park areas that are within the conserved areas and can be considered part of the Town's open space.

Commented [A8]: Small but crucial overlap topic per subcommittee discussion. Refine and discuss with subcommittee.

8.2 Park and Recreation Standards Facilities

The parks and recreation needs assessment prepared and adopted by the Town indicated that the appropriate parks standard to apply to Loomis is five acres of park area per 1,000 population. Existing park and recreation facilities are generally located in the north area of the Town (above north of Interstate 80). Therefore, the needs assessment identified future recreation needs based on the town population and demographics as a whole, and on the two major north/south planning areas. The results of the needs assessment indicate a current (1998) park land need for the north planning area of 21 acres, and a future (2005) need for 28 acres. The south planning area, which does not currently have any existing park facilities, is projected to need nine acres of park land by the year 2005. Park needs are further defined as needing approximately 7.9 acres of active park land and 30 acres of passive/open space acreage. The parks and recreation land and facility needs represent minimum, versus maximum needs. In addition, the The Town does not currently have a multi-use community center available to provide recreation opportunities, group meeting facilities, etc.

Commented [A9]: Change this approach since committee recommends that parks should be located in denser areas. most of south planning area is large lot development. Revise to meet the recommended parkland ratio.

8.3 Bikeways and Trails

Bikeways and trails are another means to meet the recreational needs of Town residents. The Town of Loomis has designated several bikeways and trails within the community, which are also part of the Placer County Bikeway System and Trails Master Plan. Currently, one bikeway has been developed in Loomis along King Road, and portions of Taylor Road. The County has designated four additional bikeways within Loomis, which remain unimproved.

Commented [A10]: Does this belong here or in circulation or both?

As noted above, Antelope Creek and Secret Ravine provide opportunities for open space corridors potentially providing hiking and equestrian trails. The creeks provide connections between the north and south areas of town, and to areas south of Loomis. The County has designated Secret Ravine as a Class 1 bicycle corridor in the regional bicycle transportation plan. The corridor is planned to extend from Loomis Basin Regional Park, west to the City of Roseville. This bikeway has not yet been improved. Secret Ravine has also been designated as in hiking and equestrian trail in the Loomis Basin Horsemen's Association Trails Master Plan and in other County planning documents. While no bikeways or trails have been designated along Antelope Creek, it is an important open space resource providing flood protection and significant riparian habitat value, and is also used as an informal hiking trail.

Commented [A11]: Does this plan still exist? Could find no reference or indication that it is still active or has been updated.

More detailed information on bikeways can be found in the Circulation Element, on pages 69 and 83.

Table 8-1

Parks and Recreational Facilities Accessible to the Town of Loomis

Facility	Amenities	Acreage	Location
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Commented [A12]: Existing information put into separate tables to differentiate between Town owned open space, contract / joint use space, and regional parks outside of the Town.

Parks			
Loomis Basin Regional Park (Placer County)	North: 3 softball fields; tot lot; picnic area; soccer field; snack bar. South: 3 baseball fields; basketball court; equestrian center; covered group picnic area; jogging trail; tot lot.	33	Intersection of King and Winters Roads
Sunrise Loomis Neighborhood Park	1 temporary softball field; tot lot; open space.	4	North Planning Area on Areadia Avenue, between Humphrey and Swetzer Roads
Traylor Park	Equestrian facility; bird watching facility.	100	Humphrey and English Colony Roads
School Facilities			
Del Oro High School	1 softball field; 2 soccer fields; 1 football fields; track field; pool; 4 basketball courts; 5 tennis courts; 2 handball courts; 2 baseball diamonds; 2 gymnasiums; multi- purpose cafeteria/theater; swimming pool; cross- country trail; parcourse.	25 (approx.)	Taylor Road
Franklin Elementary School	3 softball diamonds; 1 soccer field; 2 basketball courts; 1 track field; 2 volleyball courts; gymnasium; amphitheater; 2 tot lots.	4.2	Laird Road
H. Clarke Powers School	1 softball and 1 baseball field; 3 soccer fields; gymnasium; outdoor amphitheater; 2 tot lots.	6.5	Humphrey Road
Loomis Elementary School	2 softball fields, including 3 soccer fields; 2 volleyball courts; 3 basketball courts; track/field; multi-purpose gym; 3 tot lots.	3.5	Intersection of Taylor and King Roads

Placer Elementary School	3 softball fields/2 soccer fields; gymnasium with amphitheater; track; 2 tot lots.	Unknown	Horseshoe Bar Road
Sierra Community College	1 baseball field; 1 softball field; track fields; 2 swimming pools; gymnasium; eross-country trail; 1 football field; 5 tennis courts; 1 theater.	250	Intersection of Roeklin Road and Sierra College Boulevard
Total Acreage		426.2	

Source: Town of Loomis Parks and Recreation Master Plan, 2010

1
2 **8.4 Goals, Policies, and Implementation Measures**

3
4 **8.3.1**

- 5 • The Town's 1997 park and recreation needs assessment indicates a need for additional park
6 and recreation facilities and services. These include new parks, ball fields, playgrounds, courts,
7 and bike paths and trails.
- 8 • The resident survey prepared for the General Plan update highlighted the need for a
9 community center.
- 10 • The Social Pinpoint resident survey conducted during the General Plan indicated a desire
11 for a community gathering space and additional park facilities.
- 12 • Designating additional park land or open space will require additional funding to maintain
13 these spaces.

14
15 **8.3.2 Goals**

- 16 1. To ensure adequate park and recreation facilities to meet the needs of Loomis residents as the
17 Town's population grows.
- 18 2. To provide for a multi-use community center.
- 19 3. To protect natural riparian (aquatic) areas, oak woodland, and drainages and incorporate
20 these natural features into project design, and the placement of trails, pathways, and open
21 space.
- 22 4. Active and passive open space preserved areas that are protected for Town aesthetic and to

Commented [A13]: Add to questionnaire?

1 preserve the rural character of Loomis.

2 5. Connect schools/regional trails with homes and employment centers.

3
4 **8.3.3 Policies**

5 1. The Town will seek to achieve five acres of park land for each 1,000 residents. All parkland
6 and open space will either be owned by the Town or the Town will have legal interest in the
7 land through a joint use agreement or entitlement.

8 2. The Town will pursue all available funding mechanisms as appropriate to provide a multi-use
9 community center.

10 3. The Town will work toward providing additional park and recreation facilities to meet the
11 needs of Loomis residents as the Town's population increases.

12 4. Loomis shall adopt Town park and recreational standards to guide and promote the
13 development of recreational open space, in addition to working *work* with Placer County (*or*
14 non-profit, businesses, or others) in the provision of public recreation facilities.

15 5. ~~New residential developments shall provide for the recreational open space needs of their~~
16 ~~residents.~~

17 6. Allow for the development and operation of smaller parks such as tot lots, exercise pads,
18 and green space throughout the Town and linked by trails, sidewalks and open space.

19 7. Loomis shall encourage the compatible recreational use of riparian and stream corridors, where
20 feasible.

21 a. As appropriate, the Town will Loomis shall support and cooperate with volunteer
22 groups and organizations that provide recreational activities for Town residents.

23 b. Open space areas within proposed developments shall be designed as part of an
24 integrated Town-wide network, in conjunction with bicycle, pedestrian and equestrian
25 trails.

26 c. The Town may consider the relocation of the development potential of the land with
27 riparian areas, preserved oak woodland, conservation areas, and drainages.

28 8. Loomis will continue to work with local school districts and the County *and other agencies* to
29 extend the park and recreation opportunities of Loomis residents through joint-use facilities.

30 9. ~~New lighted park and recreation facilities shall undergo review to determine whether lighting~~
31 ~~would impact adjacent residential uses. If such impacts would occur, facilities shall remain~~
32 ~~either unlighted, or lighting shall be limited either by timing or location, as appropriate.~~

33 10. ~~The Town encourage preservation of oak trees and riparian habitat in new development.~~

Commented [A14]: Edit. Parks = Active (ish) Open Space = passive recreation (ish)

Commented [A15]: Edit...

Commented [A16]: Question for subcommittee: Should some of the responsibility for construction/maintenance of trails be placed on new non-res development to support walking/biking to work?

Commented [A17]: How to ensure that the park stays green...and make sure we end up actual park. - need policy on maintenance

Commented [A18]: Is this a reasonable addition?

Commented [A19]: Coordinate with public facilities.

Commented [A20]: Duplicate.

Commented [A21]: Make this part of the Element, not a policy

Commented [A22]: As written, this suggests that private open space could provide for their needs, suggest deleting this in favor of new policy that requires provision of build to town standards and dedicate for, and/or payment of in-lieu park fees at a ratio of 5 acres per 1,000 population.

Commented [A23]: From 2010 Draft Plan

Commented [A24]: The idea is that the development potential be preserved which gives the land owner an incentive to incorporate these things into the design. Not quite a transfer of development rights, but not far from it.

Commented [A25]: Edit...

Commented [A26]: Needs more explanatory discussion though the detail(s) would be most appropriate in the implementing zoning and/or development agreement for a project.

Commented [A27]: Check for dark sky ordinance linkage...

Commented [A28]: Vague and essentially eliminates lighted parks as '...impact adjacent residential uses.' is open ended. Usually there is a numeric threshold such as one candle foot or prohibit within x feet. If this is something the Town wants it needs more clarity unless the intent is to prohibit lighting all together. Also, what about security lighting?

Commented [A29]: Move to conservation.

1 **11. Linear preservation corridors along riparian areas and transportation routes shall be**
2 **maintained by private owners, homeowner associations, land trusts, or other private entities.**

3
4 **8.3.4 Implementation Measures**

5 1. **The Town will update the Zoning Code to require park land, dedication of land, and/or**
6 **payment of in lieu fees for all developments.**

7 2. **The Town will continue and expand upon the mutually beneficial relationship between the**
8 **Town of Loomis and the School Districts in providing active use recreation facilities and**
9 **allowing Town residents greater access to those facilities. The Town will also seek new**
10 **partnerships with Placer County, Loomis Basin Horseman's Association, Placer Land**
11 **Trust, and other groups to jointly manage parks, recreational facilities, and open space.**

12 3. The Town will evaluate and consider the following financing options to procure park land and
13 recreational facilities, and a multi-use community center. ~~These options are described in detail~~
14 ~~in the Town of Loomis Parks and Recreation Master Plan, Chapter VI, Financial Plan.)~~

- 15 Lease-Purchase;
- 16 Borrowed Funds using Certificates of Participation;
- 17 County Service Area Charges;
- 18 Property Tax Financing;
- 19 General Obligation Bond Issue;
- 20 Joint Powers Agreements;
- 21 Lighting and Landscaping Districts;
- 22 Non-profit Foundation;
- 23 A combination of the above; and
- 24 Impact Fees on New Construction.

26 4. ~~The Town will evaluate the existing park land and recreation in lieu impact fee program and~~
27 ~~recommend revisions if determined appropriate.~~

28 5. ~~The Town will evaluate the existing park land and recreation use fee schedule to determine if~~
29 ~~amendments to the current program are necessary.~~

30 6. **The Town will designate linear corridors along all riparian areas, Sierra College Boulevard,**
31 **Interstate 80, and north of the Union Pacific railroad as open space to maintain native**
32 **landscaping and a visual buffer between uses and major transportation corridors.**

33 7. **The Town will develop an ordinance to allow developers to count dedicated park land or**
34 **open space toward the total acreage used to calculate allowed density to encourage**
35 **preservation without loss of development potential.**

36 8. **Commission a scientific public opinion survey of the Town's residents on parks, recreation,**
37 **and open space issues and gauge public opinion regarding the formation of an Open Space**
38 **District funded by a quarter cent sales tax increase and/or a \$60 annual parcel tax.**

Commented [A30]: Acquire land adjacent to the library for a park and community center?

Commented [A31]: The code currently requires a multiplier of 0.0298 for single-family, 0.0224 for duplex units, 0.176 for multi-family and mobile homes.

Commented [A32]: Perhaps non-res employment uses benefit from trails and paths that link homes to work to school, etc. and could be part of the solution to build and maintain these features. Discuss with subcommittee.

Commented [A33]: These belong in the Economic Development Element

Commented [A34]: If adopted into policy this should be on both an Open Space and a Land use Figure.

Commented [A35]: From the 2010 Draft Parks Master Plan. Is this still needed/wanted by the Town?

1
2

