

Section X. Parks, & Recreation, and Open Space Setting

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 and if used for conservation of natural resources would be discussed in the Conservation Element. This element refers to the consideration of open space as it is applied to land that is set aside for recreation, 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 of Loomis is proud of its partnership with schools and other agencies to meet the recreational needs of its residents. This element recognizes the significant benefit residents gain from these partnerships and continues the practice of working with others to improve the quality of life in Loomis.

The Town is fortunate to have riparian areas, natural creeks, and natural rural beauty. The Conservation Element preserves these areas to maintain the Town's rural character and natural resources. This Element encourages additional areas near the resource that could be developed with park and recreational facilities to allow residents to enjoy the preserved natural beauty. Combined with trails and sidewalks, the addition of trails along natural features of the Town should incentivize walking to schools, employment, and recreation.

Existing Park and Recreational Facilities

The Town owns approximately seven acres of developed parks and relies on regional parks and school facilities to meet the remainder of residents' park, recreation, and open space needs. If only the Town-owned parkland is considered, the current ratio of parkland is 1 acre per 1,000. Fortunately, through a series of joint use agreements with the school district, and proximity to regional parks, there are more opportunities than this amount of parkland would suggest. The land use pattern for the Town has large lot residential on the periphery, with gradually smaller lots as development is closer to the Town center. Many of the existing residential parcels at the periphery are larger than the Town parks which reduces the need for parkland at the edge of Town as these residents have access to open space on their properties. As development becomes more intense near the Town core, or new higher density development is approved, the need for parkland will increase as the available land for each unit will be substantially reduced.

There are also several other facilities and open space resources that serve the community's recreational needs. The Town has contributed funds to the Loomis Union School District *and to Del Oro High School* to provide recreational improvements. Although school facilities have limitations on use of their facilities (available to the public approximately 40 percent of the time), they represent a significant park and recreation resource for Loomis residents. Placer County also operates the Loomis Basin Regional Park on the northeast border of the Town, which Loomis residents frequently use. In addition, Sierra Community College has recreational facilities available for limited use by non-students. Bikeways, hiking and equestrian trails also provide recreational opportunities for residents. Figure 4-1 identifies the locations of all park and recreation facilities in available to Loomis residents. An inventory of park and recreational facilities in the vicinity of Loomis is provided in Table 4-1.

Table 4-1: Park & Recreational Facilities Accessible to the Town of Loomis

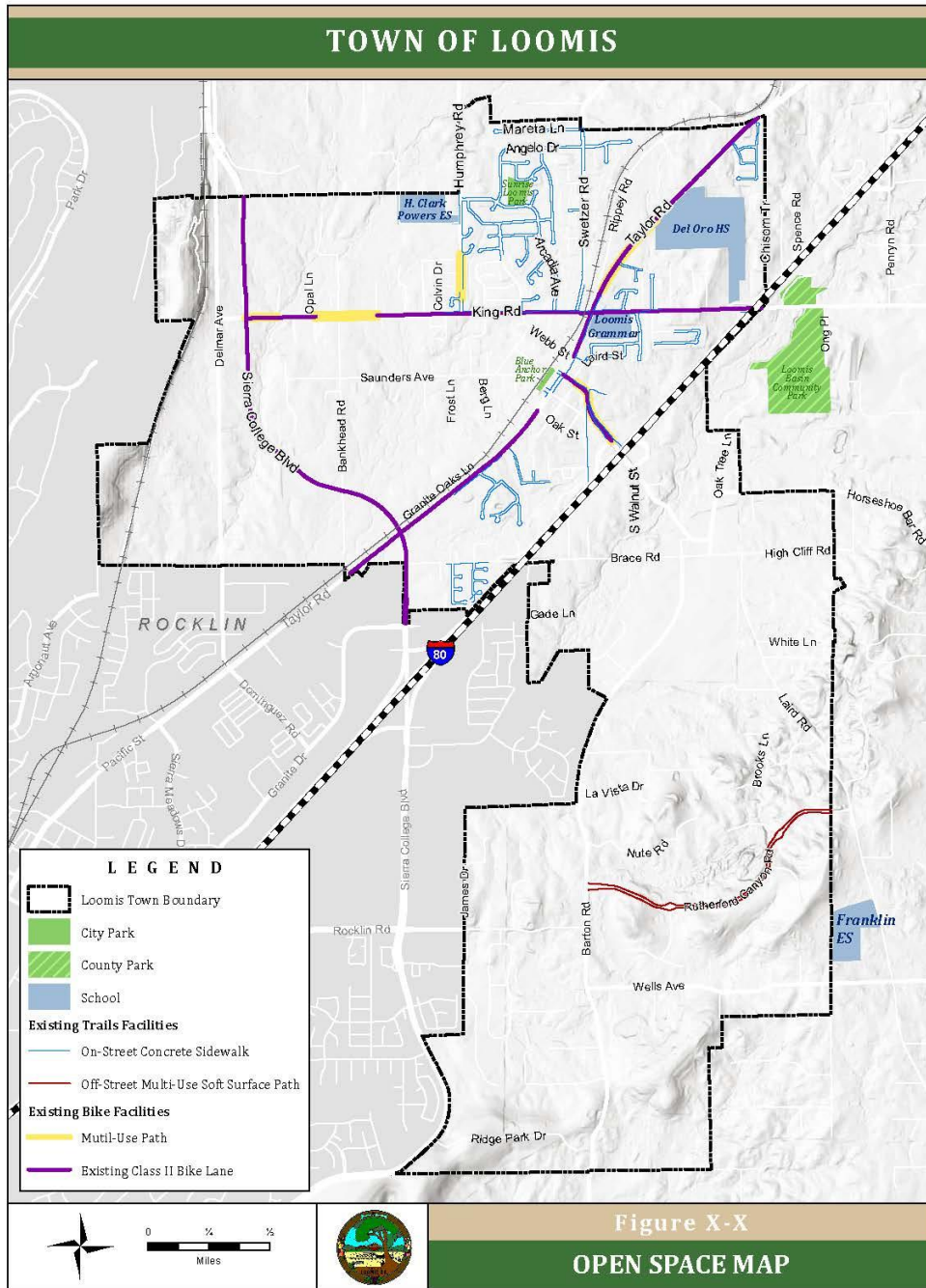
| Facility | Amenities | Acreage | Location |
|-------------------------|-----------|---------|----------|
| <i>Town Owned Parks</i> | | | |

| | | | |
|---|--|----------------|---|
| Sunrise-Loomis Neighborhood Park | 2 softball fields; 1 tot lot; picnic area; open space | 4.0 | North Planning Area on Arcadia Avenue, between Humphrey and Swetzer Roads |
| Blue Anchor Park | Skateboard park; pavilion, splash pad, picnic tables | 3.0 | Next to the Loomis Train Station off of Horseshoe Bar and Taylor Road. |
| Regional Parks Outside Town | | | |
| Loomis Basin Regional Park (Placer County) | 2 softball fields; 1 soccer field; 1 basketball court; 1 tot lot; picnic area; snack bar; portable restrooms | 33.0 | Intersection of King and Winters Roads |
| School Facilities Accessed Through Agreement | | | |
| Loomis Elementary School | 2 softball fields; 2 volleyball courts; 3 basketball courts; track field; tot lot | 3.5 | Intersection of Taylor and King Roads |
| H. Clarke Powers School | 2 ball fields/soccer fields | 6.5 | Humphrey Road |
| Franklin Elementary School | 3 ball diamonds; 1 soccer field; 2 basketball courts; 1 tract field; 2 volleyball courts; 1 tot lot | 4.2 | Laird Road |
| Del Oro High School | 1 softball field; 2 soccer fields; 1 football fields; track field; pool; 4 basketball courts; 5 tennis courts; 2 hardball courts | 25.0 (approx.) | Taylor Road |
| Sierra Community College | track fields; trails | not known | Intersection of Rocklin Road and Sierra College Blvd. |
| Total Acreage | 76.2 | | |

Source: Town of Loomis Draft Park and Recreation Master Plan, 2010

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Figure 4-1: Park and Recreation Facilities



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1 **Bikeways and Trails**

2 The Town of Loomis has designated several bikeways and trails within the community, which are
3 also part of the Placer County Bikeway System and Trails Master Plan. Currently, one bikeway has
4 been developed in Loomis along King Road. The County has designated ~~four~~ **several** additional
5 bikeways within Loomis ***as shown on Figure 4-1***, ~~which remain unimproved.~~

6
7 Antelope Creek and Secret Ravine provide opportunities for open space corridors potentially
8 providing bikeways, hiking and equestrian trails. The creeks provide connections between the north
9 and south areas of town, and to areas south of Loomis. The County ~~has~~ designated Secret Ravine
10 as a Class 1 bicycle corridor in the ***2004 Dry Creek Greenway Regional Vision master plan***
11 ~~regional bicycle transportation plan.~~ The ***Secret Ravine*** corridor is planned to extend from Loomis
12 Basin Regional Park, west to the City of Roseville. This bikeway has not yet been improved. Secret
13 Ravine has also been designated as a hiking and equestrian trail in the Loomis Basin Horsemen’s
14 Association Trails Master Plan and in other County planning documents. While no bikeways or
15 trails have been designated along Antelope Creek, it is an important open space resource providing
16 flood protection and significant riparian habitat value and is also used as an informal hiking trail.
17 The County trails master plan and surrounding community plans designate trails and pathways along
18 several corridors within Loomis, as shown in Figure 4-1.

19
20 **Other Recreational Facilities**

21 There are several other regional recreational facilities within the Loomis Basin available to Town
22 residents. These include Griffith Quarry Historic Park in Penryn, Mormon Park to the northeast
23 town east of I-80, the Folsom Lake State Recreation Area (FLSRA), the American River Parkway,
24 and private and municipal golf courses. The lake provides opportunities for boating, camping, hiking
25 trails, beach activities, and picnic facilities. A regional trail can be accessed from Beals Point and
26 Granite Bay (access points for FLSRA) which provide a connection to the American River Parkway
27 along the north shore of Lake Natoma to the lower American River Parkway trail system.
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