



## Open Space Element

Santa Ana General Plan  
FINAL, APRIL 2022

# A SHARED VISION

Santa Ana is a city that promotes the health & wellness of all residents, with a civic culture that actively embraces the power of diversity. Our city invests in resources that create economic opportunities for the next generation, and it is a community that celebrates our past while working together to create a sustainable future.

## OUR CORE VALUES

### **H** HEALTH

The people of Santa Ana value a physical environment that encourages healthy lifestyles, a planning process that ensures that health impacts are considered, and a community that actively pursues policies and practices that improve the health of our residents.

### **Eq** **Eq<sup>EJ</sup>** EQUITY

Our residents value taking all necessary steps to ensure equitable outcomes, expanding access to the tools and resources that residents need, and to balance competing interests in an open and democratic manner.

*The value of equity that includes “EJ” in the upper corner indicates a policy related to environmental justice.*

### **S** SUSTAINABILITY

Santa Ana values land use decisions that benefit future generations, plans for the impacts of climate change, and incorporates sustainable design practices at all levels of the planning process.

### **C** CULTURE

Our community values efforts that celebrate our differences as a source of strength, preserve and build upon existing cultural resources, and nurture a citywide culture of empowered residents.

### **Ed** EDUCATION

We are a city that values the creation of lifelong learners, the importance of opening up educational opportunities to all residents and investing in educational programs that advance our residents’ economic wellbeing.



#### ▲ Pacific Electric Park and Community Gardens [cover photo]

Four Santa Ana neighborhoods (Cornerstone Village, Eastside, Heninger Park, and Madison Park) came together and asked the City to build a unique park adjacent to the old Pacific Electric train right-of-way. The 1.39-acre park, shown above, opened in 2018 and includes a playground, exercise equipment, community garden, restroom, drinking fountain, park benches, trees, native plants, and shaded areas.



# OPEN SPACE ELEMENT

INTRODUCTION ..... OS-02

COMMUNITY CONSIDERATIONS ..... OS-03

POLICY FRAMEWORK ..... OS-05

    GOAL OS-1: PARKS, OPEN SPACE, AND RECREATION ..... OS-05

    GOAL OS-2: HEALTHY, SAFE AND INCLUSIVE  
        OPPORTUNITIES ..... OS-12

    GOAL OS-3: PARK MAINTENANCE, STEWARDSHIP,  
        AND SUSTAINABILITY ..... OS-14

RELATED GENERAL PLAN POLICIES ..... OS-15

IMPLEMENTATION ..... OS-16

FIGURE

    FIGURE OS-1: OPEN SPACE RESOURCES ..... OS-07

    FIGURE OS-2: WALKING DISTANCE TO PARK FACILITIES ..... OS-09

TABLE

    TABLE OS-1: OPEN SPACE RESOURCES ..... OS-08

    TABLE OS-2: RELATED GENERAL PLAN POLICIES ..... OS-15

    TABLE OS-3: OPEN SPACE ELEMENT IMPLEMENTATION ..... OS-16

### RELATED ITEMS UNDER SEPARATE COVER

BIOLOGICAL AND NATURAL RESOURCE INVENTORY AND ASSESSMENT,  
MAY 2020 (APPENDIX D, DEIR)

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE BACKGROUND AND ANALYSIS, OCTOBER 2021

EIR CHAPTERS: 5.1, AESTHETICS; 5.3, BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES;  
5.10, LAND USE AND PLANNING; 5.15, RECREATION



**Madison Park.** Children and adults alike had fun playing at Madison Park during the Summer Night Lights program (shown here in July 2019). The Summer Night Lights program was held in partnership with the Madison Park Neighborhood Association.

# OPEN SPACE

The purpose of the Open Space Element is to identify, preserve, and add open space areas that provide value to the community and enrich the quality of life. Such lands or waters provide value in the form of recreation, health, biodiversity, wildlife conservation, and aesthetics. Additionally, open spaces are used for climate change mitigation and adaptation, flood risk reduction, managed natural resources production, agricultural production, and protection from hazardous conditions. The Open Space Element will guide the City in its efforts to plan for open space lands in what is largely a built-out, urban environment.



# INTRODUCTION

Open space is a limited and valuable resource that provides multiple benefits to those living and working in Santa Ana. It provides a place of relaxation and reprieve from the urban environment. It also offers a place to gather, celebrate, learn, or exercise, whether one is alone, with friends or family, or with other members of the community. Open space is so important that its presence (or absence) can profoundly shape the physical, social, mental, and economic health and well-being of our communities.

The City boasts dozens of parks and joint use facilities, hundreds of recreational programs and classes, and miles of off-street trails weaving through neighborhoods and along the Santa Ana River. These varied resources provide hundreds of acres for public open space and recreation.

The City continues to explore ways to provide more open space and a more equitable distribution across our many communities. The demands for new open space and the pressures on existing open space will rise alongside planned growth on our corridors and around current and future activity centers.

To create more open space in an urban environment where nearly every parcel is developed requires new approaches, creative solutions, and strong partnerships. A parks master plan is underway to better define and guide the City's strategies and investments in the coming years. The City will also continue to engage with regional partners to expand the public use and connectivity of the Santa Ana River Parkway.



### ▲ Party in the Park (Memorial Park)

In partnership with the City of Santa Ana, Santa Ana Unified School District, and County of Orange, Active Learning created and leads Party in the Park (held annually at Memorial Park) to promote healthy and active lifestyles through games, activities, dance classes, and more.

*Photo courtesy of Active Learning*



# COMMUNITY CONSIDERATIONS



Through the community engagement process for this General Plan, participants identified numerous open space considerations and values that they believe should form the basis of and be addressed by this element. Specifically, participants highlighted the following topics, areas of concern, and/or community strengths:

- ▶ More open space and community centers
- ▶ More equitable distribution of open space
- ▶ Improve park safety and accessibility
- ▶ Enhance facility maintenance
- ▶ Increase public events and programming
- ▶ Expand senior services



## ▲ Centennial Skatepark

The skatepark at Centennial Park offers street skaters large area with several banks of stairs, rails, ledges, fun boxes, and other obstacles. The park's design and layout ensure that every level of skater can have fun and challenge themselves.



## ▲ Community Input

Residents consistently expressed their desire to increase the amount of parks, open space, and programming during all stages of the General Plan preparation, including youth outreach events (map above from June 2016 event) and focused input such as the 2017 General Plan Advisory Group meeting.





**Santiago Park.** One of the city's largest parks, the 34.4-acre community park provides a wide range of open spaces and recreational facilities. Shown above is the Santiago Creek Bike Trail that runs through the park and northeast over eight miles through the cities of Orange and Villa Park, until it connects into the Santiago Oaks Regional Park. Santiago Park also has many other features, such as sports facilities, an archery range, hiking trail, and wildlife and watershed interpretive center.



# POLICY FRAMEWORK

## 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.

### POLICY OS-1.1

#### PARK MASTER PLAN

Create and regularly update a citywide parks master plan to provide guidance for the acquisition, development, maintenance and programming of parks, recreation facilities, trails and open space to meet community needs.



### POLICY OS-1.2

#### PARKS AND RECREATION SYSTEM

Provide and support a comprehensive and integrated network of parks, recreation facilities, trails, and open space that is diverse, with a variety of active and passive recreational opportunities.



### POLICY OS-1.3

#### PARK STANDARD

Establish and maintain public parks, open space and recreation requirements for new residential and nonresidential development to provide sufficient opportunities for Santa Ana residents and visitors. Attain a minimum of three acres of land per 1,000 persons residing in the City of Santa Ana.



### POLICY OS-1.4

#### PARK DISTRIBUTION

Ensure that all City residents have access to public parks, recreation facilities, or trails in the City of Santa Ana, within a 10-minute walking and biking distance of their homes. Prioritize park provision, programs, and partnerships in park deficient and environmental justice areas.



### POLICY OS-1.5

#### PARK AND OPEN SPACE TYPES

Provide a mix of community, neighborhood, and special-use parks, along with greenway corridors, natural areas, and landscape areas, to meet community needs for greenspace, recreation space, social space, and trail connectivity.



### POLICY OS-1.6

#### PARK ACCESS AND CONNECTIVITY

Create a Safe Routes to Parks program that establishes and enhances access to existing and new parks and recreation facilities through safe walking, bicycling, and transit routes.



### POLICY OS-1.7

#### TRAIL CONNECTIVITY

Collaborate with other City agencies, partners, and regional entities to provide, and connect regional and local trails, travelways, and access corridors to support recreation, active transportation, and park and program access. Consider greenways along the OC Streetcar route, flood control channels, and other underutilized sites.



CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE >>



## << GOAL OS-1: PARKS, OPEN SPACE, AND RECREATION

### POLICY OS-1.8 LAND ACQUISITION AND EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION

Acquire available lands for parks, open space, greenways and trail corridors, with priority given to sites that are within park deficient and environmental justice areas.



### POLICY OS-1.9 NEW DEVELOPMENT

Require all new development to provide adequate parks and open space, including via parkland dedication or development fees, in order to meet the City's park standard. Ensure that new development includes pedestrian and multi-modal travelways to promote a quality living environment. For new development within park deficient and environmental justice areas, prioritize the creation and dedication of new public parkland over the collection of impact fees.



### POLICY OS-1.10 CREATIVE SOLUTIONS FOR DEFICIENCIES

Develop creative and flexible solutions to provide greenspace and recreation activities in park-deficient neighborhoods. Encourage private and commercial recreational facilities that are physically open to the public and are affordable to residents of surrounding neighborhoods, and serve community needs.



### POLICY OS-1.11 FUNDING SOURCES

Explore and pursue all available funding, including nontraditional funding sources, for park acquisition, facility development, programming, maintenance of existing and new parks, and to increase investment per resident and meet the City's park standard of three acres per 1,000 residents. Set aside park funding to have monies on hand to acquire and develop parkland when opportunities arise and to leverage grant options.



### POLICY OS-1.12 SHARED USE

Collaborate with school districts, faith-based communities, and community serving organizations to expand shared use facilities through cooperative agreements to maximize recreation options.

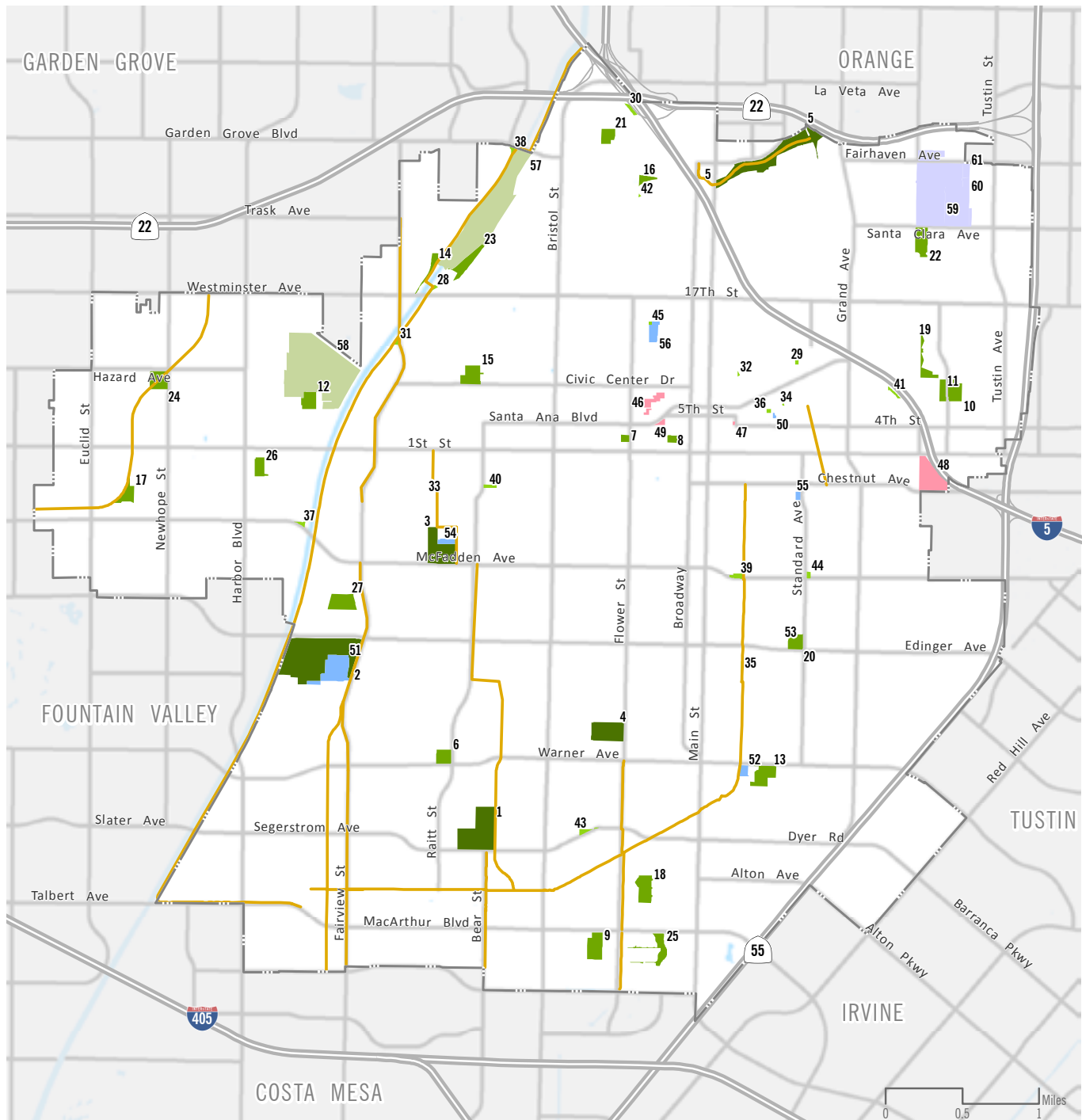


### POLICY OS-1.13 WATER FEATURES

Maintain, protect, and program the City's lakes, river and creek to support recreation, resource and water quality protection, and community aesthetics.



**ABOUT THE MAP.** This map shows the number, type, and distribution of open space areas in Santa Ana, with the majority representing parks and trails owned and operated by the City. The City also maintains joint-use agreements with schools to expand public parks and recreation resources. Golf course and cemetery areas provide a more limited form of recreation or open space. See Table OS-1, Open Space Resources, for a listing of parks and open space resources with numbering that is consistent with the labels on this figure.



Source: City of Santa Ana 2021 Date Published: 11/22/2021

- Open Space Type**
- Community Park
  - Specialty Park
  - Golf Course
  - Class 1 Bikeway/Trail (Existing & Planned)
  - Neighborhood Park
  - Joint-use School
  - Cemetery
  - Small Park

**FIGURE OS-1**  
**OPEN SPACE RESOURCES**



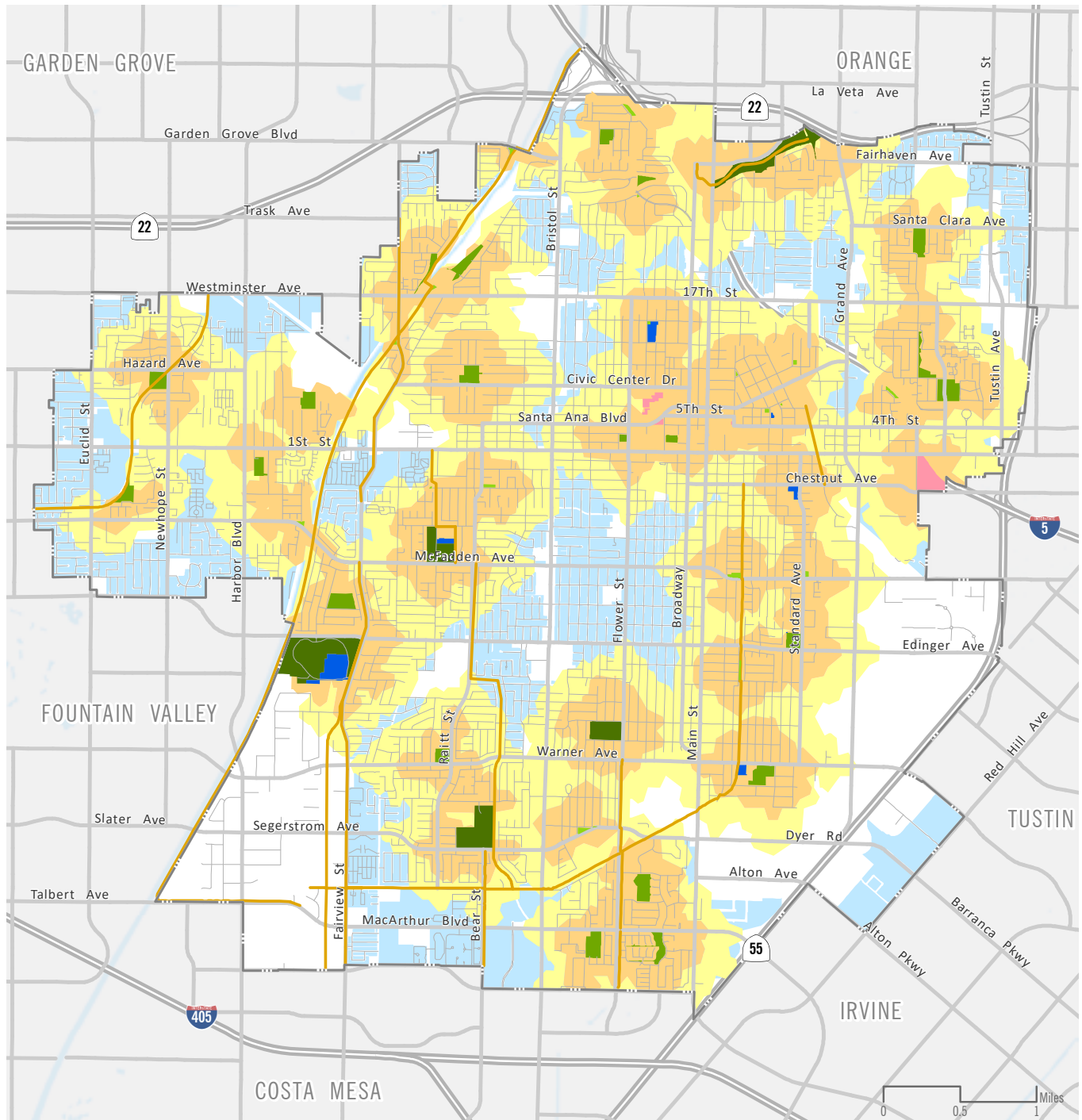
**TABLE OS-1. OPEN SPACE RESOURCES**

Park Name	Acres	Park Name	Acres	Park Name	Acres
<b>COMMUNITY PARKS 168.10</b>					
1. Carl Thornton Park	32.70	3. Jerome Park	19.27	5. Santiago Park	34.57
2. Centennial Regional Park	65.26	4. Memorial Park	16.30	--	--
<b>NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS 145.86</b>					
6. Adams Park	5.68	14. Edna Park	3.56	22. Portola Park	9.07
7. Angels Community Park	1.60	15. El Salvador Park	8.91	23. Riverview Park	8.33
8. Birch Park	2.37	16. Fisher Park	2.58	24. Rosita Park	8.68
9. Bomo Koral Park	10.40	17. Heritage Park	6.44	25. Sandpointe Park	7.73
10. Cabrillo Park	7.60	18. Lillie King Park	10.40	26. Santa Anita Park	5.05
11. Cabrillo Tennis Center	3.61	19. Mabury Park	5.46	27. Windsor Park	10.81
12. Cesar Chavez Campesino Park	6.48	20. Madison Park	6.04	--	--
13. Delhi Park	9.94	21. Morrison Park	5.12	--	--
<b>SMALL PARKS 11.84</b>					
28. 17th Street Triangle	0.70	34. Garfield Fitness Park	0.10	40. Raitt and Myrtle	1.09
29. Chepa's Park	0.41	35. Maple Occidental Exercise Park	0.96	41. Saddleback View Park	0.92
30. Colonel William W. Eldridge Park	1.20	36. Mariposa Park	0.43	42. Sarah May Downie Herb Garden	0.13
31. Fairview Triangle	0.74	37. McFadden Triangle Park	0.77	43. Segerstrom Triangle Park	1.33
32. French Park	0.21	38. Memory Lane Park	0.56	44. Standard and McFadden Park	0.66
33. Friendship Park	0.10	39. Pacific Electric Park	1.41	45. Willard Intermediate Playlot	0.12
<b>SPECIALTY PARKS 24.78</b>					
46. Civic Center Plaza	4.89	48. Santa Ana Zoo at Prentice Park	18.75	--	--
47. Plaza Calle Cuatro	0.20	49. Sasscer Park	0.94	--	--
<b>JOINT-USE SCHOOL/REC AREAS 31.78</b>					
50. Garfield Community Center	0.39	53. Madison Elementary School	0.03	56. Willard Intermediate School	4.85
51. Godinez Fundamental High School	18.58	54. Monte Vista Elementary School	2.40	--	--
52. James Monroe Elementary School	2.91	55. Roosevelt Community Center Park	2.62	--	--
<b>OTHER OPEN SPACE 282.77</b>					
57. River View Golf Course	81.78	59. Fairhaven Memorial Cemetery	66.83	61. St. John's Lutheran Cemetery	4.23
58. Willowick Golf Course	102.11	60. Santa Ana Cemetery	27.82	--	--
<b>CLASS I BIKEWAY/TRAILS - 19.44 MILES</b>					
City Bikeways/Trails - 15.74 miles		Santa Ana River Trail - 3.70 miles		--	
<b>TOTAL PARKS/REC FACILITIES - 382.36 ACRES</b>		<b>TOTAL OTHER OPEN SPACE - 282.77 ACRES</b>		<b>TOTAL TRAILS - 19.44 MILES</b>	

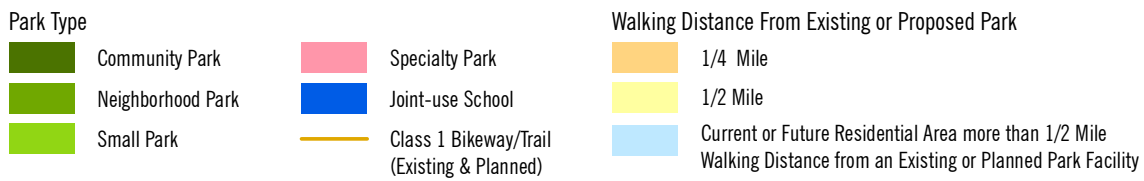
Notes: The numbering corresponds to the labels on Figure OS-1, Open Space Resources. The list of parks and acreage figures are accurate as of April 2022. All figures are subject to rounding.



**ABOUT THE MAP.** This map shows the walking distance from publicly accessible parks. This map can help identify neighborhoods that may be underserved or have limited access to parks and recreation facilities. The City seeks to ensure an equitable distribution of access to these facilities for all Santa Ana residents.



Source: City of Santa Ana 2021 Date Published: 11/29/2021



**FIGURE OS-2**  
**WALKING DISTANCE TO PARK FACILITIES**







**Mariposa Park.** Completed in 2019, the 0.43-acre neighborhood park includes a vibrant playground, a 2,500-square-foot skate bowl, picnic benches, areas with shade, a rock bioswale, and water-wise landscaping. The site was formerly three vacant homes, which were acquired by the City of Santa Ana, demolished, and redeveloped as open space to provide more outdoor recreation opportunities for the Lacy Neighborhood community.

## GOAL OS-2: Healthy, Safe and Inclusive Opportunities

Provide welcoming, inclusive, safe, and healthy parks, recreation facilities, and activities to serve Santa Ana residents regardless of age, ability, or income.

### POLICY OS-2.1

#### RECREATION VARIETY

Provide a variety of recreation facilities and activities to meet the diverse needs of the community. Consider needs for indoor and outdoor recreation opportunities, as well as traditional and trending activities.



### POLICY OS-2.2

#### HEALTHY PARKS AND PUBLIC SPACES

Invest in and activate parks, recreation facilities and greenspace to support active lifestyles, mental health, youth development, lifelong learning and environmental health benefits that support individual and community wellbeing.



### POLICY OS-2.3

#### ACTIVE LIFESTYLES

Invest in parks, trails and programs that support sports, fitness, active transportation, and active lifestyles.



### POLICY OS-2.4

#### URBAN AGRICULTURE AND HEALTHY FOODS

Expand urban agriculture opportunities in private development and public spaces, including home gardens, community gardens, and urban farms. Support healthy food choices through amenities and programs.



### POLICY OS-2.5

#### AIR QUALITY AND HEAT

Coordinate park renovation and development to address air quality and climate impacts by reducing heat island effect by providing green infrastructure and shade, and reducing air pollution by providing vegetation that removes pollutants and air particles.



### POLICY OS-2.6

#### CONNECTIONS TO NATURE

Design and develop parks, greenspace, and trail corridors to support community respite, wellness, and the mental health benefits found in connections to nature.



### POLICY OS-2.7

#### HEALTHY INDOOR OPTIONS

Encourage or incentivize new commercial and residential development to provide private indoor recreation space when located in areas with high levels of localized air pollution or if site is adjacent to freeways or heavy industrial uses.



### POLICY OS-2.8

#### HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

Reduce or eliminate, where feasible, the use of pesticides and herbicides that negatively impact human health at park facilities and publicly accessible open spaces.





## &lt;&lt; OS-2 HEALTHY, SAFE AND INCLUSIVE OPPORTUNITIES

POLICY OS-2.9  
SAFETY THROUGH DESIGN

Create a safe environment through implementation of Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles in public spaces.

H

POLICY OS-2.10  
SAFE USE

Ensure the safety of park visitors and usability of facilities through facility upkeep, landscaping maintenance, surveillance, recreation and social service programs, and partnerships with public and private entities that address public safety and related issues in parks.

H

POLICY OS-2.11  
COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT AND  
VOLUNTEERISM

Encourage residents, stakeholders, neighborhood groups, businesses, schools, social organizations, and public agencies to volunteer and partner in the development, maintenance, and activation of publicly-owned parks and recreation facilities.

C Eq

POLICY OS-2.12  
PARK AND FACILITY CHARACTER

Ensure that parks and recreation facilities incorporate placemaking elements that foster social connections and community pride such as art, landscaping, murals, and amenities and facilities that reflect site character and local needs.

C Eq

POLICY OS-2.13  
NEIGHBORHOOD NEEDS

Consider unique neighborhood and demographic needs in the development of local parks, open spaces and programs. Balance these unique needs with efforts to ensure affordability and serve residents citywide.

H Eq

POLICY OS-2.14  
ADA ACCESSIBILITY

Design new and renovate existing parks, recreation facilities, and trails to provide access to residents of varying abilities, including people with special needs.

H Eq

POLICY OS-2.15  
INCLUSIVE, AFFORDABLE RECREATION

Provide parks, recreation facilities and programs that reflect the different demographics of the Santa Ana community, including diverse races, ethnic groups, identities, family configurations, abilities, and incomes.

H Eq



# 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.

## POLICY OS-3.1

### PARK AND FACILITY MAINTENANCE

Ensure all parks, recreation facilities and open spaces are well maintained.



## POLICY OS-3.2

### MAINTENANCE RESOURCES

Ensure that funding, staffing, and other resources are available to maintain existing parks and facilities, as well as new ones when added to the park and open space system.



## POLICY OS-3.3

### ASSET MANAGEMENT

Ensure that funding is earmarked for the repair, replacement, and renovation of old or worn amenities, facilities and landscaping in parks when needed or at the end or their lifecycles. This would include deferred maintenance and new capital projects.



## POLICY OS-3.4

### PROTECTION OF NATURAL, CULTURAL AND HISTORIC RESOURCES

Maintain, preserve, and interpret the City's natural resources, landmarks, urban tree canopy, and designated historical and cultural features.



## POLICY OS-3.5

### LANDSCAPING

Encourage the planting of native and diverse tree species in public and private spaces to reduce heat island effect, reduce energy consumption, and contribute to carbon mitigation.



## POLICY OS-3.6

### SUSTAINABLE PARKS AND FACILITIES

Integrate drought tolerant or native plantings, water-wise irrigation, design and maintenance efficiencies, and sustainable development practices to reduce water use and energy consumption.



## POLICY OS-3.7

### URBAN FOREST

Maintain, preserve, and enhance the City's urban forest as an environmental, economic, and aesthetic resource to improve residents' quality of life.



## POLICY OS-3.8

### NATURALIZING THE SANTA ANA RIVER

Explore opportunities to reintroduce natural habitat along the Santa Ana River to provide natural habitat and educational and recreational opportunities.



# RELATED GENERAL PLAN POLICIES

Each policy in the City of Santa Ana General Plan is listed under the most related goal and element. Some policies, however, also reinforce other goals housed in different elements.

To provide a more complete picture of all of the policies that support the goals of this element, Table OS-2 lists each Open Space goal in the far left column and, in columns to the right, identifies related policy numbers from other elements.

Goal OS-1, for example, is supported not only by the policies listed in this element (OS-1.1 through OS-3.8), but also by six goals and policies in the Community Element, five goals and policies in the Public Service Element, four policies in the Land Use Element, and four policies in the Urban Design Element.

**TABLE OS-2. RELATED GENERAL PLAN POLICIES**

Open Space Goals	Volume 1 Services & Infrastructure				Volume 2 Natural Environment				Volume 3 Built Environment			
	CM	M	EP	PS	CN	OS	N	S	LU	HE	HP	UD
<b>OS-1: Parks, Open Space, and Recreation</b> Provide an integrated system of accessible parks, recreation facilities, trails, and open space to serve the City of Santa Ana.	CM-1 CM-1.1 CM-1.3 CM-1.4 CM-1.5 CM-1.10	-	-	PS-1 PS-1.2 PS-1.3 PS-1.4 PS-1.5	CN-1.17	Current Element	-	-	LU-1.3 LU-2.3 LU-2.9 LU-4.9	-	-	UD-1.5 UD-4.3 UD-4.5 UD-4.6
<b>OS-2: Healthy, Safe and Inclusive Opportunities</b> Provide welcoming, inclusive, safe, and healthy parks, recreation facilities, and activities to serve Santa Ana residents regardless of age, ability, or income.	CM-3 CM-3.2 CM-3.3 CM-3.5 CM-3.6	-	-	PS-1.8	-	Current Element	-	-	LU-3.9	HE-1.3 HE-1.4	-	UD-1.4 UD-3.11
<b>OS-3: Park Maintenance, Stewardship, and Sustainability</b> Maintain and manage parks, recreation facilities, trails and open space to sustain City assets and support safe use.	-	M-3.1 M-3.8	-	-	CN-3.8 CN-4.1 CN-4.2	Current Element	-	-	-	-	-	UD-3 UD-3.1 UD-3.2 UD-3.6 UD-3.7

Notes:

CM: Community Element

M: Mobility Element

EP: Economic Prosperity Element

PS: Public Services Element

CN: Conservation Element

OS: Open Space Element

N: Noise Element

S: Safety Element

LU: Land Use Element

HE: Housing Element

HP: Historic Preservation Element

UD: Urban Design Element



# 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
<b>Goal OS-1: Parks, Open Space, and Recreation</b>		
<b>Provide an integrated system of accessible parks, recreation facilities, trails, and open space to serve the City of Santa Ana.</b>		
1.1	<b>Park needs assessment and master plan.</b> 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 <sup>EJ</sup>	<b>Interagency Forum.</b> 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	<b>Annual Open Space Summit.</b> 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	<b>No-net-loss of parkland.</b> 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	<b>Park Opportunity Fund.</b> 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	<b>Development fees.</b> 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 <sup>EJ</sup>	<b>Public parkland requirements for residential projects.</b> 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



**TABLE OS-3. OPEN SPACE ELEMENT IMPLEMENTATION**

Ref #	Implementation Action	Agency / Time Frame
1.7A <sup>EJ</sup>	<b>Open space and park land incentives.</b> 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	<b>Park Foundation.</b> 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	<b>Right-of-way use.</b> 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 <sup>EJ</sup>	<b>New parkland collaborative.</b> 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 <sup>EJ</sup>	<b>Joint-use agreements.</b> 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	<b>Santa Ana River.</b> 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 <sup>EJ</sup>	<b>New programming in underserved areas.</b> 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 <sup>EJ</sup>	<b>Community partnerships.</b> 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 <sup>EJ</sup>	<b>Community input.</b> 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 <sup>EJ</sup>	<b>Acquisitions to meet park standard.</b> 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	<b>Public safety audits.</b> 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	<b>Enhanced safety features.</b> 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	<b>Park Patrol.</b> 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	<b>Public notification.</b> 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



**TABLE OS-3. OPEN SPACE ELEMENT IMPLEMENTATION**

Ref #	Implementation Action	Agency / Time Frame
2.5	<b>Healthy amenities.</b> 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	<b>Healthy indoor options.</b> 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	<b>Universal access.</b> Explore options for the systematic completion of Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance upgrades for all City facilities.	PWA 2024
2.8	<b>Public input.</b> 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	<b>Hours of operation.</b> 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	<b>Evaluate programming.</b> 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	<b>Program and facility fees.</b> Evaluate program and facility rental fees to ensure that programming is sustainable, and fees are equitable and appropriate.	PRCSA 2022 & ongoing
<b>GOAL OS-3: Park Maintenance, Stewardship and Sustainability</b> <b>Maintain and manage parks, recreation facilities, trails and open space to sustain City assets and support safe use.</b>		
3.1	<b>Park and facility maintenance resources.</b> 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	<b>Deferred maintenance.</b> 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	<b>Asset management.</b> Forecast and track facility lifecycle to plan for the ongoing needs for park and landscaping renovations and replacement.	PRCSA 2022 & ongoing
3.4	<b>Green infrastructure.</b> 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	<b>Urban Forestry Plan.</b> 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



