

**MISSION STATEMENT: TO CREATE A HEALTHY, SAFE, DIVERSE, AND PROSPEROUS CITY
BY ENGAGING COMMUNITY MEMBERS TO DEVELOP AN ENRICHED QUALITY OF LIFE.**



**PARKS COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA
CITY OF ONTARIO OREGON
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2022, 6:00 PM, MT**
[Zoom Link](#)

1) CALL TO ORDER

Roll Call: Lynn Johnson _____ Michael Miller _____ David Goldthorpe _____ Efren Garza _____
Andrew Maeda _____ Eddie Melendrez _____ Mike Pratt _____

Ex-Officio City Manager _____
Ex-Officio Economic Development Director _____

2) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

This Agenda was posted on September 13, 2022. Copies of the Agenda are available at City Hall and on the city's website at www.ontariooregon.org.

3) MOTION TO ADOPT THE AGENDA

4) APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A) August 18, 2022

5) DISCUSSION ITEMS

A) Parks Club presentation, each Club and their respective park.

6) COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

7) ADJOURN



**PARK'S
COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
Thursday August 18, 2022 6:00 p.m. MT**

Call to Order

The scheduled meeting of the Park's Committee was called to order by Vice-Chair Mike Miller at approximately 6:06 p.m. on Thursday, August 18, 2022 in the Council Chambers of City Hall. Committee members present in person, Michael Miller, Mike Pratt, Efren Garza, and Andrew Maeda. David Goldthorpe was excused. Attending via Zoom were Lynn Johnson, and Eddie Melendrez at 6:20

Others present in person were, City Manager/Economic Development Director Dan Cummings, Public Works Director Casey Mordhorst, and Airport Manager Justin Zysk

Michael Miller led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA

This Agenda was posted on August 12, 2022; copies of the agenda and minutes are available at the Public Works Headquarters and on the city's website at www.ontariooregon.org.

Motion to Adopt the Agenda

RESOLUTION, ACTION &/OR MOTION

MICHAEL MILLER MOVED, ANDREW MAEDA SECOND TO ADOPT AGENDA

Approval of Minutes

RESOLUTION, ACTION &/OR MOTION

MIKE PRATT MOVED, EFREN GARZA SECOND TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JUNE 16, 2022

Discussion Items

Park's Club Presentation, each Club, and their respective park.

Marc Berg of Kiwanis Club – Presented Master Plan for Lanterman park (East Side Park).

RESOLUTION, ACTION &/OR MOTION

ANDREW MAEDA MOVED TO APPROVE THE KIWANIS CLUB MASTER PLAN; LYNN JOHNSON SECONDED. VOTE IS UNANIMOUS.

Comments from Committee Members

LJ – I think we need to take our message out to the service clubs, like Mike did recently when he went to Kiwanis. If we have the united message of “don’t build it if you can’t maintain it”, then maybe we can have some support.

Next meeting scheduled for September 15, 2022 at 6:00PM.
The motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Miller

Approved:

Signature

Date

(Lynn Johnson, Chairman /Michael Miller, Vice-Chairman)

Ontario Parks Committee – Master Planning Documentation

EASTSIDE LANTERMAN PARK – ONTARIO KIWANIS CLUB



Kiwanis®



PLANNING BACKGROUND

Both Kiwanis and the City of Ontario have an interest in leveraging funds to accumulate more amenities for residents. Kiwanis gives serious consideration to their parks and how to create positive opportunities. The Parks Committee believes in collaboration and is appreciative of all the time, effort, and money invested into this vision for a better city.

Prior to the replacement or installation of new facilities, it was recommended that a site master plan be prepared for planned improvements at each location. In coordination with the details from the city's 2018 Parks and Recreation Master Plan, this document seeks to delineate what Kiwanis Club sees as a positive direction and vision for the parks of Ontario.

EXISTING STRUCTURES AT LANTERMAN PARK



PUBLIC INPUT

Use of Volunteers:

“The use of volunteers should not be overlooked as a means of providing more service on a limited budget. In addition to expanding staff capabilities, the use of volunteers promotes good public relations and increases individual support for services. Volunteers can be used in a variety of ways such as assistance with special events, conducting minor maintenance duties, and assistance with administrative tasks.”

Parks Master Plan page 6-36

2018 Survey Findings:

“What type of activities or fields do we need more of in Ontario?”

- Functioning Pool (77.3%)
- Gymnasium (25.1%)
- Shelters (19.7%)
- Sand Volleyball (16.7%)
- Basketball Courts (14.8%)
- Multi-purpose Trails
- Updated Playgrounds
- Regional Sports Complex

EASTSIDE LANTERMAN PARK – AN OVERVIEW

Lanterman Kiwanis Park was formerly known as Eastside Kiwanis. The 3.29 acres is owned by City and located at the corner of SE 5th Avenue and SE 5th Street. Located in a more impoverished section of the city, Lanterman is close to a highway overpass and adjacent to two water storage reservoirs. In years past, this park has been a low priority. However, Kiwanis would like to continue putting more efforts into this location. Many of the park amenities require renovation and/or improvements. Facilities at the site include a shelter building, two basketball courts, playground equipment and soccer goals (all are in need of repair).

In the past, public feedback indicated a desire for updated playground equipment, shelters, soccer fields, and walking trails. The Master Plan survey results reflect the ideas coming from the Kiwanis Club vision. Requested items at Lanterman include the following:

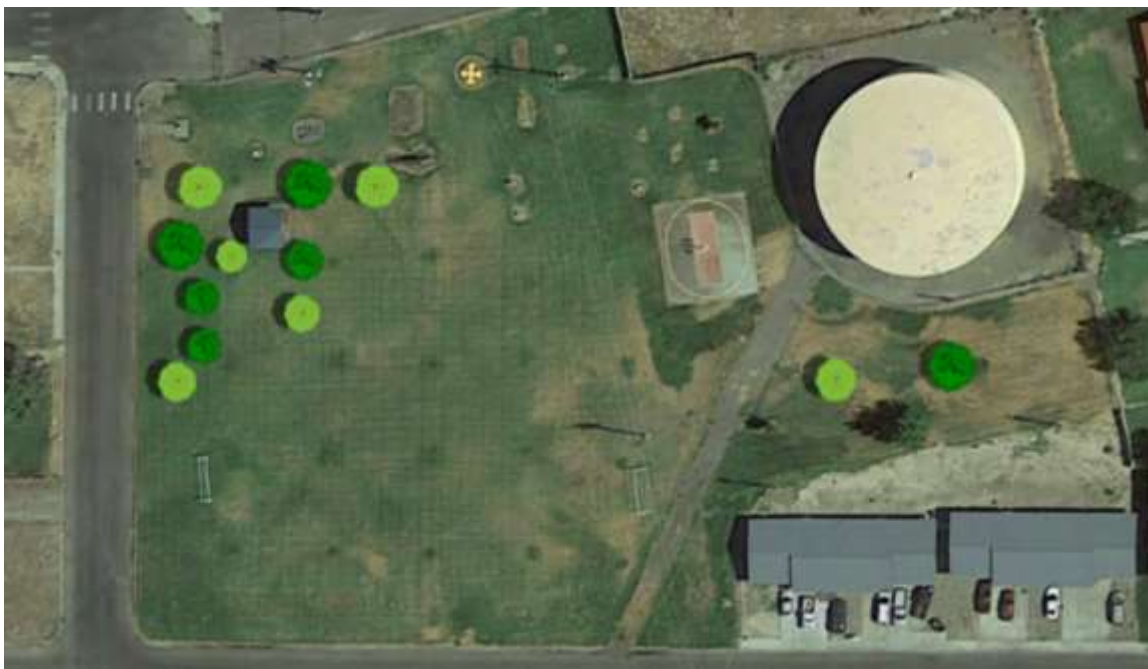
- **Updated playground equipment** (67.9%)
- **Shelters** (30.5%)
- **Soccer field** (25.8%)
- **Walking trail** (20%)
- **Pavilion** (13.7%)
- **Sand Volleyball Court** (12.1%)

LANTERMAN PARK STATUS

Aerial view imagery of the park from 201Google Earth 2018



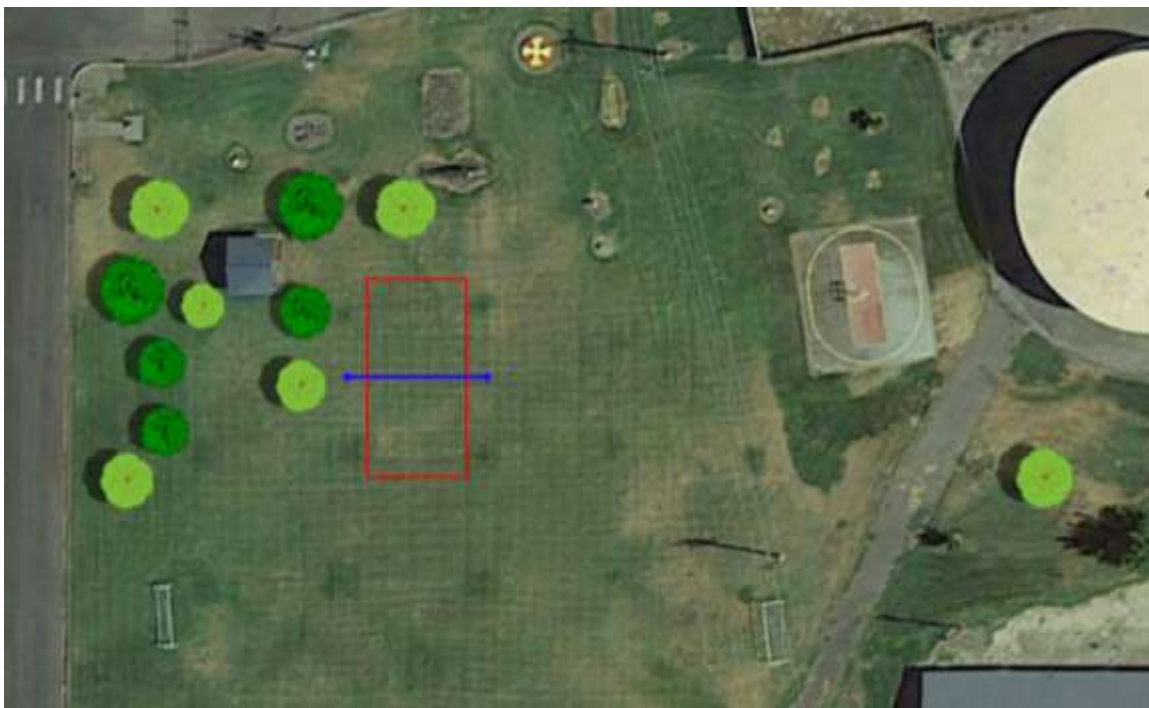
Location of Recent Tree Plantings



Walking Pathway Possibility



Grass Volleyball Court Location



THE KIWANIS CLUB VISION

The Parks Committee and their Master Plan of Action is to work with the Ontario Kiwanis Club to implement their vision. Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to improving the world one child and one community at a time. For more than a century, Kiwanis has created opportunities for children, regardless of the community in which they live. Kiwanis Club wants to be a positive influence in this community. Working in collaboration with the city, the Parks Committee, the local schools, businesses, and community members: This is part of the mission and vision for Kiwanis and the outdoor spaces available.

Current deficiencies at Lanterman consist of aged playground equipment without safety surfacing, no sidewalks, no pathways, uneven playing, street-only parking, lack of shaded areas, and minimal tree plantings (occurring mostly in 2022).



Future plans for Lanterman could include:

- Soccer goals repaired with new netting
- Bathroom installation
- Water storage tanks removed or upgraded
- Decorative fencing
- Sprinkler upgrades
- Existing shelter repairs
- Water fountain feature
- Soil improvements
- Parking
- Upgraded playground equipment
- Perimeter walking path
- Grass volleyball court
- Additional shelter
- Additional trees to be planted each year

KIWANIS CLUB SUGGESTIONS FOR THE FUTURE

Tree Plantings – Several trees were successfully planted in the Spring of 2022. Kiwanis would like to continue this trend of acquiring trees and planting in the Spring and Fall. Suggestions were made for trees that can handle the climate, clay-heavy soil, and alkalinity of this area.

Goals:

- Ten trees planted at each park, each year
- Budget for soil amendments and tree purchases
- Stake new trees, remove stakes from older plantings
- Limb up lower hanging branches, clean up dead or fallen branches
- Coordinate installation locations with parks maintenance crews
- Seek donations (plants and financial) to meet this goal
- TVCC Ag and Natural Resource Department is willing to help

Soil Amendments – Kiwanis would like parks maintenance to include budgeting for amenities such as grass fertilizer, tree root stimulant, and organic soil. The focus would be to use these at future tree planting sites.

Goals:

- Budget for new trees, soils, and amendments
- Seek out advice from local businesses (Andrew's Seed)
- Confirm matching funds from the Planning Committee
- Kraft Heinz - Public Works Director suggested the soil at this facility could be taken off-site.
- Ask Public Works if they have anything composted

Water Storage Tanks – Two structures located adjacent to the park are scheduled to be replaced. The city plans to remove both tanks and replace them as one structure (in one location). Kiwanis would like to pursue the option of turning those structures into a useable space. Suggestions include office space, meeting area, restrooms, area for artwork, museum, covered eating area, or auditorium. If these structures are to be demolished, would the city save the parts for a future parks project?

Goals:

- Confirm the city's plans for water storage
- Consider any storage, auditorium, restroom, office space, pavilion ideas
- Determine timeline for replacement
- Find engineering firm willing to retrofit structures
- Work with Community Development on the options for these structures
- If demolished, salvage fencing for other projects

Walking Pathway – Kiwanis would like to see a pathway around the outer perimeter of Lanterman.

Goals:

- Budget for materials and installation of a pathway
- Collaborate with Parks Committee on path layout
- Ask School District on the recent walking paths installed at elementary schools
- Research suggestions and design ideas
- Confirm with Community Development on any city code restrictions

Acquire Adjacent Property – To the north of Lanterman Park, an RV park was developed in 2021. Another affordable housing development to the east is underway in 2022. The demand for park use could increase considerably in the near future. There is vacant property for sale between SE 5th Ave and the park, across from River Point RV park. If the city had interest, this would be ideal parking space or an expansion of the dog park area. Or perhaps a new location for the water storage tanks.

Township 18S47E10AC

County Tax Lot #400 (694 SE 5th Avenue)

Goals:

- Seek out vacant property information
- Inquire with City Council on purchase
- Coordinate with Parks Committee on design ideas
- Seek out any grants/federal funding to use for development

Soccer Goals – The third most desired amenity for Lanterman was soccer fields. Two goals currently sit in an east-west orientation. The netting has been torn and needs replaced. The bottom of both goals has rust and damage to the poles running along the bottom. Kiwanis would like, at a minimum for the goals to be repaired and the nets replaced. The Futsal project was found to be too expensive.

Goals:

- Seek funding for new soccer equipment
- Repair existing goals and replace netting
- Look for other soccer opportunities at the park

Playground Equipment – The highest demand for Lanterman has been for new and upgraded playground equipment. Many have commented on the age of the existing playground, or the lack of play equipment (see the section on existing structures). Several items had been tagged with graffiti prior to the painting project in 2022. Kiwanis would like to seek funding for replacement items. New and creative design ideas are welcome. One example is this climbing pyramid (Neptune Park, Saratoga Springs):



Goals:

- Seek funding from the Parks Committee
- Research design ideas and get input from the school districts
- Seek advice from Ontario Police Department on any safety concerns
- Select equipment for replacement and make a priority list
- Reach out to local community groups and neighbors for further input
- Confirm with Community Development on any code restrictions or ADA requirements
- Request installations with Public Works / ORD.

Restrooms – Kiwanis would like to eventually see public restrooms at all of the park facilities. If the water storage tanks next to Lanterman Park are to be removed, one suggestion is to try and turn that space into a restroom. Another option is to convert the small utility building on the north end of the park into a restroom facility. Another solution would be a “port-a-potty” portable restroom rental.



Goals:

- Research the feasibility of a public restroom at Lanterman
- Seek input from Ontario Police Department on safety concerns
- Coordinate efforts with Public Works on the utility building at the north end of the park
- Budget for a port-a-potty rental to be located at the park

Pavilion Shelter – Kiwanis would like to see another structure at the park. One suggestion was on the east side, near the basketball courts or the dog park. Consideration should be made on the design of any structure and how it will match the existing amenities at the park. The current pavilion needs repair work on the underside of its roof.

Goals:

- Research design, location, and cost for a new pavilion
- Select equipment and coordinate installation with Parks Committee
- Reach out to local community groups and neighbors for further input
- Confirm with Community Development on any code restrictions or ADA requirements

Waste Water Treatment Facility – The City website states:

"The city's wastewater treatment plant operators use a conventional treatment system of aerated lagoons and secondary chlorination treatment. Effluent from the treatment process is used to irrigate forage crops during the growing season."

Goals:

- Contact Public Works on the feasibility of using effluent at the parks
- Find research on the cost benefit of using waste water treatment

Frisbee Golf – A future goal of Kiwanis is to install a Frisbee golf course. These can be permanent stations. Or, there are ways to make baskets removable. A new course was installed in 2022 at Mesa Park, in Fruitland. These are removed during the baseball and soccer season. A design will typically set up a 9 hole or 18 hole course if they have enough room. Lanterman's small size may not make it the ideal location. However, a 9 hole course would not be a risk for other pedestrians.

Goals:

- Coordinate efforts for a Frisbee golf course at the ideal park location
- Gather design ideas and advice from local enthusiasts and Parks and Rec organizations

Fencing – Kiwanis had plans to redo the mural on the wooden fencing along the northeast corner of the park. As the property behind the fence is for sale, concerns were voiced that the fencing may be torn down. Another fencing option would be between the future walkway and the street parking along the south and west sides of the park. Protective fencing is an option (similar to what is done at the schools) to keep balls/kids/pets from going into the street. If the dog park is ever moved or expanded, a new fence will likely be needed.

Goals:

- Seek out city's interest in fencing for the park
- Determine the relocation or expansion of the dog park
- Future installations (sand volleyball) would be improved with fencing
- Determine if old fencing can be used at a different park location

Picnic Tables – Lanterman Park currently has a few tables under the pavilion, which needs repair to the roof. Camping in public spaces has become a sensitive topic. Consideration for vandalism, loitering, and homelessness should be considered.

Goals:

- Research the cost of picnic tables
- Seek guidance from Community Development on any code restrictions
- Seek input from Ontario Police Department on safety concerns
- Request funding from Parks Committee

Landscape Lumber Materials – Kiwanis previously installed a garden box, designed to protect the new trees at Lanterman. One goal is to design and install similar boxes, perhaps doubled as a seating area.



Goals:

- Construct garden boxes and public seating
- Research design ideas
- Seek advice from Ontario Police Department on any safety concerns
- Select existing tree locations for installation
- Reach out to local hardware stores for material donations

Fundraising and Donations – Kiwanis will continue to do annual fundraising.

Goals:

- Continue fundraising efforts
- Explore grants and business donations
- Work with city for matched funds
- Annual barbecue fundraiser in the Fall

Sand Volleyball Court – The sixth most desired amenity for Lanterman was a sand volleyball court. In 2021, Kiwanis has acquired a volleyball net system, with matching funds from the city. Phase one was to install as a grass volleyball court. Phase two was to install the sand court. Exorbitant costs for shipping sand into Ontario put these plans on hold. Public Works was also concerned about performing the excavation. With the approval of the Parks Committee, a sand court could be pursued here, or at another park location. Future funding for sand, or a cheaper alternative for sand, would be necessary. This could be planned and installed at Beck Park, Alameda Park, future Sunset Park, or somewhere on school grounds. TVCC initially had plans for a sand court, but will keep their grass court instead. The school district has expressed interest. Additional costs would include lighting, a water source (spigot), short fencing around the court, shade, seating, parking, equipment storage area, etc. Oregon will be voting on making boys volleyball a sanctioned sport in the next few years. This would increase demand for volleyball at the schools.



Goals:

- Seek an efficient location for sand volleyball
- Secure funding for equipment
- Coordinate installation with Community Development and park maintenance crew
- Consider expanding courts to schools, other parks

Dog Park – The dog park at Lanterman is a fenced area south of the water storage tank. The area has a main entrance on the southwest corner, as well as a locked maintenance gate on the west fence. New trees were planted in the Spring of 2022. Some discussions included possible expansion of the dog park if the water tank was removed. Or else, keeping the Lanterman area as it is currently, and focusing on a dog park in other locations.

Goals:

- Seek improvements, should there be a change in surrounding structures
- Continue to plant trees annually inside and around fencing
- Seek direction from city on the dog park areas
- Focus investments at other park locations

Amphitheater – The option for a large structure for gatherings would be feasible at Lanterman. If the water storage reservoirs are upgraded, the existing storage tank could be retrofitted to be a covered structure. Should the city acquire the vacant property to the northeast of Lanterman, a large structure could be considered there.

Goals:

- Seek direction from the Parks Committee and City Council on their interest in an amphitheater
- Offer assistance to Community Development as needed

PLANNING FOR ONTARIO

The City of Ontario is located in eastern Oregon in the northeast portion of Malheur County along the Oregon-Idaho border. The City is linked with Interstate 84, connecting cities like Baker and La Grande to Caldwell, Meridian, and Boise. Highway 20 and 26 also provide access west to central Oregon (Bend). Highway 201 provides access to south Malheur County and the Owyhee Reservoir.

Ontario's "Urban Growth Area" includes the current incorporated areas of Ontario. In general, the UGA extends to the Oregon state border on the east, to the Malheur River on the west, to the Snake and Malheur Rivers on the north, and SW 18th Ave on the south. This planning area measures approximately 8.22 square miles in size and includes roughly 5,259 acres.

NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS

There are 16 park and recreational areas (985 acres of land). Ontario also owns and operates several specialized recreational facilities including the Ontario Splash Pad and skateboard area. Other recreational sites include the Malheur County Fairgrounds, Ontario State Park, and Safety Rest Areas (ODOT).

Ontario's balanced park system consists of neighborhood and community parks. These parks are well maintained, but are in need of renovation. Many facilities are old and need to be replaced. The limited access to indoor recreational facilities means relying on school facilities for indoor programs. Another example of desirables is the lack of trails. There are many bike lanes in the city, but very few trails, pathways, or bikeways. Surveyed input placed "trails" as one of the top identified needs, which came up in multiple settings during public feedback.

CITY RECOMMENDATIONS

Within the Ontario Parks and Recreation Master Plan, city staff pointed to the following recommendations:

- Our parks system should be considered a city investment.
- Upgrading parks should have a high priority. High importance on maintenance and renovation.
- Old playgrounds are of concern, as many do not meet ADA accessibility requirements.
- Developing a regional sports field complex should have a high priority (high need, few existing).
- Development of indoor recreation space should have a priority (lack of indoor recreation).
- The (Ontario Recreation District) program should have a priority (cost/benefit ratio).
- New park development should have a medium priority.
- Neighborhoods without access to a park should be given the first priority.
- Climate is considered moderate with four distinct seasons, with a minor amount of rainfall.
- Provide a variety of year-round, indoor and outdoor recreational opportunities.
- Overall age distribution is very evenly distributed (large child/youth/young adult population).

Park Land Needs Recommendations:

- Continue to build out reserved park area as population increases.
- Expand existing Ontario State Park with the State of Oregon.
- Development a regional sports complex, riverfront parks and indoor recreation facilities.
- Additional open space to preserve the Malheur and Snake Rivers for habitat.

Recreation Facility Needs:

- Need for additional softball, baseball and soccer fields.
- Need for multi-use trails, paths, and bikeways.
- Special use facilities (amphitheater and indoor recreation center) are needed.

The Master Plan also recommended that Ontario establish a minimum threshold for park maintenance services. It was suggested that it be established at \$6,000 per developed acre. It was highly recommended to invest in restrooms, irrigation systems, and playground equipment. Some suggested design factors included adequate spacing between trees, proper selection of plants, and paving. Other Suggestions for Lanterman Park (from the Master Plan) include:

- Replace playground area with separate equipment for respective age categories; install safety surfacing and curbing
- Re-grade turf areas to level the open play areas.
- Upgrade irrigation system
- Prune and maintain trees
- Install sidewalks and/or internal pathways
- Install new support facilities (e.g., signage, bike racks, waste receptacles, benches and picnic tables)

Specific examples would be:

- New decorative fencing where the current chain link and razor wire fence surround the city water tank
- Updated playground equipment
- A walking path around the perimeter of the park
- Maintain existing dog park
- Two combination basketball and futsal courts
- An additional shelter
- A water fountain/feature

SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS

APPENDIX A LAND USE DEFINITIONS AND PARK LAND DEFINITIONS

APPENDIX B SPORTS FIELDS AND COURT DIMENSIONS

APPENDIX C DEMOGRAPHICS, CENSUS DATA, HOUSING ANALYSIS AND BUILDABLE LANDS INVENTORY

APPENDIX D LAND USE ASSESSMENTS FOR FACILITIES, PARK AMENITIES, AND PARTNERING ORGANIZATIONS

APPENDIX E SOIL DATA, WATER ANALYSIS, UTILITIES, WATERING, SUNLIGHT, HARDINESS ZONES

APPENDIX F SAND VOLLEYBALL COURT DESIGN RESEARCH