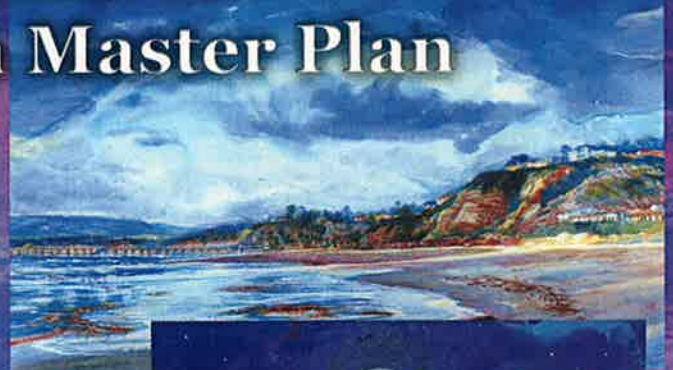


CITY OF SAN CLEMENTE

Parks and Recreation Master Plan



Adopted June 2, 1999

City of San Clemente

Parks and Recreation Master Plan

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San Clemente California



*“Paradise
on the
Mainland”*



North Shore
Oahu, Hawaii

Parks and Recreation Master Plan

City Council

Lois Berg, Mayor
Susan Ritschel, Mayor Pro Tem
Jim Dahl
Scott Diehl
G. Wayne Eggleston

Parks and Recreation Commission

Tony Amorelli
Mary Anna Anderson
Kevin Evans
Bob Maltinsky
Bill Roberts
Mary Sykes Rushing
William Thomas

Golf Course Committee

Barbara Adams
Tom Byrd
Art Carter
Jack Dusek
Harvey Gieseke
John Jordan
Dick Veale

Parks and Recreation Master Plan Technical Advisory Committee

Tony Amorelli
Margo Beauchamp
Chuck Bush
Kevin Evans
Rick Heil
John Jordan
Bob Maltinsky

City Staff

Mike Parness, City Manager
Bruce Wegner, Director of Beaches, Parks and Recreation
Lynn Hughes, Marine Safety and Recreation Manager
Steven "Gus" Nelson, Golf Course Manager
Dennis Reed, Beaches and Parks Maintenance Manager
John Beck, Park Planner
Kelly Main, Associate Planner
Pablo Bargueno, GIS Mapping Specialist
Rita DeForrest, Administrative Secretary

Cover Design

The cover design for the 1999 Parks and Recreation Master Plan features paintings of the City of San Clemente by artist Rick J. Delanty.

Mr. Delanty is a native of northern California. He demonstrates an expressive, bold brushwork in his acrylic and watercolor paintings of landscapes, seascapes, and historical subjects. The artist often finds his inspiration and subject matter while running or swimming and returns to the site to draw on location. He completes the work from memory in his studio.

An exuberant calligraphy is the hallmark of his style, an “expressionistic realism,” which evokes the California coastline, and his travels in the Northwest and Atlantic seaboard.

Mr. Delanty has served as an arts educator for more than 25 years and has established his studio in San Clemente. Several Orange County galleries have represented his work, as well as the Laguna Beach Festival of Arts, Muckenthaler Cultural Center, and Mission San Juan Capistrano. Mr. Delanty’s originals are included in corporate and private collections throughout the United States. His lithographs are published by Top Art of Milan, Italy and distributed in the United States and Europe.



Introduction

The Parks and Recreation Master Plan that is before you represents the combined efforts of many people in San Clemente to provide a realistic vision, action, and study plan relating to park and recreation facilities and services for the future of this “Spanish Village by the Sea.” The first Parks and Recreation Master Plan was adopted by City Council in 1988. Prior to that, the vision of parks and recreation was contained solely in the City’s General Plan.

Parks and recreation services are important aspects of a healthy community. Parks provide much more than just green grass or a place to bounce a basketball. They are places of beauty, places that protect our environment and precious open spaces, places where a person can exercise, read a book, or “just take a nap.” They are our beaches and our coastal hillsides. They are places where we meet friends, have family picnics, or get that much desired summer tan. They are where we hit the tennis ball, golf ball, and baseball. They help us learn a hobby or a sport. They are where trees grow and birds nest. They provide us with a place to swim, surf, kayak, or score that game-winning soccer goal. They provide us with an opportunity to play and enjoy life, and, at the same time, to laugh and burn calories. Parks provide much more than just green grass.



Recreation is much more than bouncing a ball or running a lap. It helps us learn about teamwork and discipline. It teaches us about art, music, and culture. It is exercise, both physical and mental. It is an avenue to discover and develop talents that a person may never have known existed. Recreation is a way to add joy to life, to become a better person, to serve others, and to be a part of a community. It helps people strive to be the best they can be, whether on the baseball field or behind an easel with a paint brush in hand. Recreation enriches the mind, builds strong muscles, and knits generations together.

Combined, Parks and Recreation are a part of the fabric of San Clemente that knit us together as a community. They are worth cherishing and protecting.

Overview of the Master Plan

The Parks and Recreation Master Plan is divided into nine chapters. Each addresses a specific topic. Please refer to the Table of Contents for the topic areas. The Master Plan is designed to consider the provision of leisure services and preservation/development of park amenities that would be sufficient to serve the residents and visitors of San Clemente at buildout of the City with an estimated population of 65,000. A primary role of the plan is to ensure that adequate public parks (five acres per 1,000 residents is the standard adopted by City Council) and trails

are considered and provided as the City develops, so that as the City reaches full maturity, it has open space in place to serve the needs of its residents.

Formal Review Process for the Master Plan

The formal public hearing and adoption process for the Parks and Recreation Master Plan included public hearings before the Parks and Recreation Commission on April 13, 1999, the Planning Commission on May 4, 1999, and the City Council. The City Council adopted the updated Master Plan on June 2, 1999.

Relationship to Other City Documents

The Parks and Recreation Master Plan is both an extension of, and accompaniment to, a number of other City planning documents. The Master Plan functions, among many things, as the foremost plan for implementing the goals and policies for parks and recreation included in the City's General Plan. The San Clemente General Plan is the foundation planning policy document of the City. The General Plan includes elements dedicated specifically to parks and recreation functions. The first is the Parks and Recreation Element (beaches, parks, recreation, golf, etc.). The second is the Public Facilities and Services Element (marine safety, beach, and library services).

Developed with extensive public input, the General Plan reflects the vision the community has for its future, including its future parks. The General Plan identifies the importance of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan in providing specific goals and policies and methods of implementation for achieving the broader goals established for parks and recreation in the General Plan.

Along with providing an action/implementation plan for parks and recreation facilities, the Master Plan includes recommendations for issues, ideas, and potential facilities which should be explored in future studies. Most of these potential facilities differ from the City's approved plan for parks, contained in the General Plan, Zoning Ordinance, and various specific plans. The issues, ideas, and potential facilities identified for future study by the Master Plan are diverse, and, thus, the studies that will be required for them will be diverse: some studies would determine the physical and/or fiscal feasibility of potential facilities; other studies would determine environmental impacts; others would explore community desires and concerns. Through these studies, the need for amendments to the City's existing planning documents, environmental documentation, and further public discussion would be identified. The Master Plan does not always specify which type of study will be needed for individual facilities, as many of these facilities are still relatively undefined. The Master Plan does, however, identify when a General Plan Amendment would be required.

The Parks and Recreation Master Plan should also be used along with the City's Zoning Ordinance and numerous specific plans. The Zoning Ordinance and specific plans regulate land use for the entire City, including areas designated to be parks. The Master Plan provides

guidelines and methods of review for changes to existing parks and for the development of future parks. Taken together, the Parks and Recreation Master Plan, along with the City's regulatory documents, provide a deliberate picture of how future parks will be planned, developed, and maintained. It also provides this same picture with respect to the provision of recreation and other leisure services that assist in providing for a City that is both healthy and an enjoyable place in which to live, work, and play.

History

San Clemente has traditionally taken a proactive approach in the provision of beach, park, recreation services, and amenities. San Clemente is blessed with high quality and diverse recreation and leisure opportunities for residents and visitors to enjoy. San Clemente beaches are some of the most beautiful beaches to be found anywhere. In addition, the quality of the surf is consistently high, providing some of the best surfing and bodyboarding conditions on the West Coast.



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The San Clemente Municipal Golf Course is one of the busiest courses in the state, averaging 115,000 rounds annually. It is a high-quality course that is well-maintained and provides a forgiving course for the average golfer and challenges for the low-handicapped golfer. There are a variety of neighborhood, community, and special use parks and trails located throughout the city, providing plenty of options for recreation and relaxation.

Recreation and leisure service programs managed through the City of San Clemente Beaches, Parks and Recreation Department are well supported in the community and include a vast array of opportunities geared to sports, arts, dance, aquatics, exercise, language, animal obedience, bridge, music, and environment. The Community Center, Senior Center, and Ole Hanson Beach Club buildings are popular facilities in the community. They provide important places for families, groups, and organizations to meet on a regular basis.



In addition, San Clemente is blessed with many outstanding community-based organizations. These organizations, from service and specialty clubs to churches, provide a vast level of services to residents and visitors alike. It is this community desire to be of service that makes San Clemente a truly special place to live. One of the major goals of this Master Plan is for the City to support these outstanding organizations, facilitating through them the provision of services that has become a tradition that is highly valued.



San Clemente has been challenged, for many years, with limited revenue sources to provide for high levels of service to the community. This reality has manifested itself in limited funding, particularly for maintenance of beach and park facilities. However, over the past decade, a major effort has been implemented in renovation and rehabilitation of beaches and parks. Substantial improvements have been completed throughout the park system. In addition, 61 acres of new parks have been built.

Revenue generation remains a challenge for San Clemente. Proactive economic development policies have recently been enacted, and the future looks bright. This Master Plan is dedicated to being fiscally responsible in the provision of park and recreation facilities and services. The City has traditionally been very proactive in maintaining a high level of self-sufficiency through the recreation services provided. This tradition is expected to continue. In addition, specific goals and objectives are contained in this document to provide a high level of security that fiscal responsibility is indeed a key to future development.

Historical/Cultural Resources

Incorporated in 1928, the City of San Clemente has significant cultural and historical resources, including some which are publicly owned and overseen by the Beaches, Parks and Recreation Department, Parks and Recreation Commission, and Golf Course Committee. Many of these



public resources were put in place by the town's founder, Ole Hanson, who had a dream of a "Spanish Village by the Sea, a beautiful city on the ocean where the whole city will be a park"...I want plazas, playgrounds, schools, clubs, swimming pools, a golf course, a fishing pier, and a beach enlivened with people getting a healthy joy out of life." Hanson's new town included many of the public amenities of which he dreamed, including the Community Center,

Ole Hanson Beach Club, the City's Municipal Golf Course, the Pier, and, of course, our public beaches and parks. The Ole Hanson Beach Club, one of the original structures in San Clemente, is recognized on the National Register of Historic Places for its architectural and cultural significance.

The 1999 Parks and Recreation Master Plan recognizes the importance of these historic public amenities and includes goals and policies, found in Chapter 3, to preserve and enhance their contribution to the City's sense of history and community.

Community Decisions

Over the past 20 years, voters throughout California have been increasingly wary of how government spends money. This trend first surfaced in the 1970's, with the passage of Proposition 13, that placed a cap on how much property tax revenue can be generated and utilized by state and local government. Unfortunately, this decision led to a decade of reduced park maintenance in San Clemente that resulted in substantial deterioration of facilities. The

major renovation and rehabilitation efforts described above (and in more detail in Chapter 8, Park Facilities Development) were designed specifically to rectify the deterioration and to restore park facilities to their former beauty and usefulness.

In the early 1990's, the State of California entered into a substantial recession that had a negative effect upon the local San Clemente economy. To further complicate this situation, State and Federal government regulatory actions, during this same time, resulted in a \$2.4 million revenue loss to the City, with an ongoing impact of nearly \$1.2 million annually. City Council made difficult decisions to balance the budget that included contracting of many traditionally in-house City services.

Then, in November 1996, the voters of California passed Proposition 218. This amendment to the State Constitution redefined how and what cities can charge taxpayers to provide services, including maintenance of improvements. It created a \$2.8 million shortfall in the City's budget. In order to address the shortfall, City Council made dramatic budget reductions in the amount of \$1.8 million in the spring of 1997. However, it considered



the remaining \$1 million to be a decision that should be made by San Clemente voters. Therefore, City Council placed Measure "A" on the ballot. This measure provided an opportunity for residents to decide if they wanted to retain certain services or eliminate them. City Council spent many hours reviewing City services and determining which services should be placed before the voters. The final list of items was approved by City Council in March 1997. In order to fund the items, if approved by the voters, Measure "A" would become a 2.5% Utility Tax.

On June 3, 1997, the voters of San Clemente turned down Measure "A." Included in the budget cuts was the elimination of \$500,000 (approximately a 10% reduction) from the Beaches, Parks and Recreation Department budget. Many recreation programs and events were lost, a major sports park was closed, and staff was reduced.

In addition to Proposition 218 and Measure "A," a panel of San Clemente residents was formed by City Council in September 1996 to look at the Beaches, Parks and Recreation Department and determine what kinds of changes could be made to make it more efficient. The results of this panel were adopted by City Council in March 1997 and are contained in the Public Input chapter of this Master Plan. Generally, this committee recommended that careful consideration be given to all future park and recreation expansion based upon the cost to provide and maintain these facilities and services.

Based upon the realities of the recent past, the City has taken major steps to keep expenditures acceptable while maintaining important services. This includes taking a much more conservative approach in the provision of future park and recreation facilities and services.

Community Input

An extensive public input process was conducted to make decisions for this Master Plan. Please refer to Chapter 2, Public Input, for specific information. A number of tools were utilized in this process, including mailed questionnaires, a phone survey, community forums, workshops, and interviews. A Parks and Recreation Master Plan Technical Advisory Committee (representing residents, the Parks and Recreation Commission, the Golf Committee, and City staff) was created to provide staff with policy and technical review.

A substantial amount of information was obtained. This information has been tabulated, reviewed, and incorporated into this Parks and Recreation Master Plan and provides a primary source for the policy direction established.

A New Approach to Leisure Service Provision

Recreation services in San Clemente are an integral part of the community. Residents have been very supportive of the services provided in the City. However, these services are expensive to



provide and are not always self-sufficient. Balancing cost recovery with service delivery is a challenge. Some residents cannot afford to participate in programs if they were all designed to be self-sufficient. Making the determination, as to what responsibility the City has to provide these services and at what cost to the community, is the philosophical challenge that future commissions and City Councils will grapple with.

It is a goal of this Master Plan that the City become both a facilitator of recreation services and a provider, utilizing the talents and expertise of the community to be the deliverers of these services. Under this concept, the City will continue to be in a leadership role with respect to the provision of leisure services to the community since the City is in the best position to be a sounding board for the community through its elected and appointed officials. There is an established Parks and Recreation Commission and Golf Committee within the City structure that represent the community with respect to the leisure needs of the residents. They provide a direct conduit for residents to voice their opinions and concerns with respect to the provision of leisure services. The City then can evaluate how best the service can be provided. Criteria on how this decision is to be made is described below.

- (1) Direct Services: Direct services are those services that are provided and managed directly by the Beaches, Parks and Recreation Department. They have traditionally included many of the aquatic programs, facility rentals, youth sports, and special events.

- (2) **Facilitated Services:** Facilitated services are those that are provided through outside private and non-profit organizations. Examples include the YMCA, Boys and Girls Club, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, youth sports groups, service clubs, churches, special interest clubs, and private businesses. The services may take different forms, from (a) a private business opening a roller hockey park that is accessed through the payment of fees, (b) partnerships or operating agreements between the City and an organization to provide service at City facilities, to (c) non-profit organizations' provision of services at their own facilities.



Decision Making Process: In the future, the decision to provide a service directly or through facilitation will be very closely evaluated by considering the following in the decision making process: (a) is the City the best organization to provide the service from a quality and expertise standpoint or are there other organizations better positioned to provide the service, (b) how important is the program to the community, and (c) what is the cost, both startup and ongoing, to sustain the program?

This process, in no way, attempts to restrict community-based organizations or private companies from providing services they consider to be important and valuable to the community they serve. This process is provided as a policy for the City to use in making its own decisions in the future.

A New Approach to Park Development

This Master Plan is designed to preserve what currently exists and plan for additional services and amenities as the City grows in the future. The City of San Clemente is currently at 75% of buildout with an estimated population of 65,000 residents. This means that the City is anticipated to grow another 25% before it reaches maturity. This is based upon the current population of the City and projections within the General Plan. With this in mind, it is obvious that additional park and recreational facilities will be necessary to meet the needs of a growing population. As the city grows, there will be additional revenue generated by the new residential properties (through property taxes) and commercial development (sales and other commercial revenue sources) to provide ongoing maintenance of added beach and park amenities.

However, there can be a large difference between the perceived “needs” of a community and the “desires” of a community. Balancing the needs/desires and the ability or willingness to pay for future beach, park and recreation improvements/services is a struggle that current and future City Councils and appointed commissions/committees must face. What is truly a need that the

community must have, and what is purely a desire that would be nice to have, but not a necessity, must be determined.

In an effort to plan for future growth and better determine the “need” versus “desire,” the following two-step funding and development process has been established.

- (1) First, this Master Plan has established a minimum level of balance or equality with respect to the provision of park amenities. Under this minimum level, the City shall provide neighborhood and community parks (definitions provided in Exhibit G, Park and Facility Development Standards), to serve all areas of the city. These parks provide for both the needs of local neighborhoods (through the provision of children’s play areas, picnic areas, rest rooms, sports courts, and general passive open space), as well as entire communities (through the provision of lighted sports fields\courts and other active recreational activities).
- (2) Second, the provision of special use facilities (such as community/senior center buildings, gymnasiums, pools, golf courses, libraries, etc.) shall be provided by the City unless (a) the cost to develop and maintain these facilities exceeds the ability of the City to fund them without the creation of special assessments or taxes levied upon the community, or (b) the cost to develop and maintain these facilities results in a lowering of maintenance/operational levels as established in this Master Plan for existing beach, parks, and recreation improvements. If either (a) or (b) become a reality, then the decision to build the special use facility shall be approved by San Clemente voters, including the funding mechanism for development and maintenance/operational expenditures.



Traditionally, special use type facilities are expensive to build and maintain on an ongoing basis. This two-step funding process provides clarity to achieve the distinction between what a community “wants” and “needs.” It also answers the question of what the community is able or willing to pay. The City may be able to fund the development of a special use amenity. However, the development cost is only a portion of the total cost. Maintenance and operational costs are ongoing and, therefore, are an important factor in the full equation. This process provides security to the existing park system and protects the maintenance quality, at the same

time, by not allowing a diluting of maintenance funding due to expanded amenities that the community wants but is not willing to pay for.



It is important to note that a primary goal of this plan is to properly forecast future park and recreation needs so that appropriate funding for these needs can be found, both for development and ongoing operations and maintenance. Balance is the key. Sufficient improvements and programs are proposed to provide a level of service that is acceptable to the majority of residents at a reasonable cost. The two-step funding and development process, discussed above, will provide additional flexibility in the provision of park and recreation services and improvements. It will allow for expansion, as well as provide voters the opportunity to look at specific needs and desires on a case-by-case basis, in order to make financial commitments to those that make the most sense.

Conclusions

As you will see, this Parks and Recreation Master Plan includes substantial steps to be proactive in providing future park and recreation facilities and services to residents and visitors of San Clemente. At the same time, it is realized that fiscal responsibility is key to the success of this effort to maintain the facilities and services at an acceptable level in the years ahead.



It is important to keep everything in balance. The City did what it had to during difficult economic times earlier in this decade to maintain fiscal stability. Budgets were dramatically reduced and programs lost. At the same time, the City realizes that the future is right around the corner.

In order to plan for success, the City has initiated proactive economic development policies City-wide to provide for a better balanced community in the years to come. Fee-based cost recovery programs have also been expanded. This provides revenue through the provision of services within the Beaches, Parks and Recreation Department operation. These policies and programs are designed specifically to enhance revenue generation so that funding is available to address the needs of residents and visitors as the City grows to maturity.

In order to provide for a community that remains very special, quality is imperative. Quality parks and recreation services are a part of this equation. This Master Plan revisits the reductions made in the past and provides tools to determine what should be reinstated in the future. As city-wide economic development policies are initiated and achieved, and fee based cost recovery programs expanded, investing into our valued park and recreation infrastructure will be

implemented. This includes considering increased quality of maintenance or added recreation services.

Current and future City Councils and their appointed commissions and committees will be tasked with the responsibility to consider options and make decisions that properly implement this Master Plan. San Clemente is a successful City. The quality of its outstanding natural and man-made park and recreation resources is one of the primary reasons for this success. This Master Plan is dedicated to continuing this success through buildout of the City and the aging process of the City beyond.

San Clemente is a special place. Parks, recreation and leisure services play a key role in preserving and enhancing the character and ambience of this blessed coastal community. This Master Plan is dedicated to maximizing these services for current and future benefit of residents and visitors to San Clemente. We have an opportunity to build upon the successes already achieved to create a City of the future that celebrates its natural and man-made parks and recreation resources. Our children will be the beneficiaries of this vision. Let's ensure that they are not disappointed.

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Public Input

In order to assess how customers view the various beach, park, recreation, and other leisure services provided in San Clemente, an extensive public outreach program was initiated.

- a. This program included (1) a random phone survey, (2) questionnaires, (3) workshops and interviews, (4) community forums, (5) direct input from youth, and (6) a citizens' committee evaluation of the Beaches, Parks and Recreation Department. The Department utilized the services of the Parks and Recreation Commission, Golf Committee, San Clemente Task Force for Youth (non-profit organization), and the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (who funded the Task Force efforts), San Clemente Youth Advisory Committee (appointed by the Parks and Recreation Commission and eliminated in July 1997 due to budget cuts), Research Network Ltd. of Laguna Hills (a private company specializing in obtaining customer profiles), and Capistrano Unified School District.
- b. This program has been reviewed by the Parks and Recreation Master Plan Technical Advisory Committee, a committee of residents who donated their time to providing technical and professional support to staff, in the preparation and finalization of this Parks and Recreation Master Plan update.

The goal was to provide for a city-wide public outreach to as many existing and potential recreation customers as possible. It is also important to note that, by understanding and comparing the various public input types, a quality Parks and Recreation Master Plan document is created that fits the needs and desires of residents and customers.

Random Phone Survey

In order to establish a base from which to compare other public input gathering, a random phone survey (300 interviews) was conducted in March 1996 by Research Network Ltd. of Laguna Hills, a professional company that specializes in this type of work. This type of survey is statistically defensible, with a 95% confidence rate. It is also representative of all households in San Clemente.



Primary information learned from the phone survey included the following:

- a. Overall, 50% of respondents were very satisfied with availability of park and recreation programs. Specifically, 85% of respondents who use San Clemente parks and recreation programs, 79% of regular beach users and 79% of households with children stated they were very satisfied with programs available.

- b. Overall, 53% of respondents were very satisfied with parks safety, maintenance, and availability of parks in the City. Specifically, 83% of those using San Clemente parks and recreation facilities were very satisfied with facility maintenance, 84% of beach users were very satisfied with maintenance, and 83% of households with children were very satisfied with maintenance.
- c. Ninety-seven percent of San Clemente households participate in ocean or beach activities. Twenty-six percent responded that the beach is what they like best about San Clemente in relation to parks, recreation programs, and facilities.
- d. Fifty-six percent of San Clemente households utilize park and recreation facilities frequently (ranging from every day to three to four times per month).
- e. Eighteen percent of households utilize recreation programs and classes regularly (ranging from every day to three to four times per month, with 15% on a weekly basis).
- f. Of those residents using parks and recreation services and facilities, the heaviest users are frequent repeat users, from households with school-age children, and below the age of 44.
- g. Households without children, at a rate of 95%, never use City recreation programs. Additionally, 95% of Hispanics never use recreation programs.
- h. San Clemente residents also showed strong yearly use of trails, children's play areas, and picnic areas. Forty-one percent of households used trails; 40% of households used tot lots and picnicked.
- i. Seventy-one percent of the residents would change "nothing" in San Clemente programs or facilities.
- j. The demographic makeup of San Clemente households are as follows: Two-thirds of San Clemente households have no children under 18 years old; half of those are two adults without children, half are households with single adults. Over three-fourths of the recreation program users and over half the beach, park, and recreation facility users are from households with children. This shows that families with children are the biggest customers of parks and recreation services, and this group represents one-third of San Clemente households.
- k. A majority of San Clemente households support user fees to pay for park system improvements. Virtually none support a household tax.

Questionnaires

In April 1996, staff prepared two questionnaires for distribution. The first was a questionnaire designed specifically for parks and recreation services. Of the 17,700 questionnaires mailed, 1,560 were returned, providing a 9% response rate. The second was designed specifically for Municipal Golf Course customers. Questionnaires were placed on the counter of the Starter's Office. One hundred forty-three questionnaires were filled out and returned. Although not statistically defensible, these questionnaires provide a good comparison of information to use in conjunction with other public input options. They also provide a representative of households who are active and interested in San Clemente recreation programs, facilities, and the golf course, since these users are more apt to fill out and return the questionnaires.

As it turned out, the findings of the two questionnaires supported data obtained in the phone survey. Findings were as follows:

- a. Demographics of the questionnaire match the phone survey for San Clemente households makeup: a majority are without children, two adult households are about a third, single adult households another third. The last third of households include two or more adults with children.
- b. High use of beaches and beach activities matches the phone survey, as does demand for more facilities on the beaches.
- c. Trails use and demand for additional trails also ranked highly. A sizeable percentage of north San Clemente and Forster Ranch residents responded to the questionnaire.



In addition, the Golf Course questionnaire indicated that residents are very supportive of the San Clemente Municipal Golf Course. There are a number of residents that play the course on a regular basis and would like to see a second course built due to the high levels of play on the current course. The questionnaire also revealed a desire for a new clubhouse.

Workshops and Interviews

A more personal aspect of gathering community input came in the form of workshops and interviews.

The workshops were advertised and held in four different sub-areas of San Clemente from January to February, 1996. One was held for Spanish-speaking residents. The information gathered from this process is not statistically defensible. However, it is good comparative information that is representative of specific local needs and concerns.

Interviews were also conducted with stakeholders in San Clemente recreation and facility users that include organized recreation groups, sports organizations, and regular facility users.

The requests made by consensus in workshops and by stakeholders are specific to the area of town or type of use, and did not necessarily match city-wide use or interests as determined in the random phone survey and questionnaires. This may seem obvious, but the specific requests are valuable information in that specific projects or issues can be addressed in the Master Plan that are the direct results of the workshops and interviews.

Three of the workshops revealed the following information:

North San Clemente and Forster Ranch Workshop revealed that residents have several key projects or issues: build Forster Ranch Community Park, install the local trails, and allow or cause a privately-run (teen) activity complex to be built.

The Downtown or Central San Clemente Workshop revealed that residents want to focus on maintaining or improving existing facilities, especially the beaches or beach access points. They also wanted to improve the look and function of El Camino Real.

The Spanish-Speaking Workshop revealed that residents would like an emphasis on activities for teens and low-cost or no-cost activities or facilities. Comparison to demographics in the survey indicated that the programs and activities were not utilized by the Hispanic population due to language barriers or the prevalence of user fees. Facility use by Hispanics matches percentage of population, but program use is below the norm for San Clemente resident ethnic groups.

Interviews were conducted with a number of regular users of San Clemente parks and recreation programs and facilities. Staff met with youth sports organizations, pool users, local service organizations, specialty clubs, and class instructors to gather information on their perceptions, needs, and desires. Staff was particularly focused upon future needs of these groups and individuals. For example, growth of youth sports programs in the coming years has a direct impact upon the number of sports fields the City needs to build. Participation in pool programs will determine when a second pool complex should be built. These meetings provided a great deal of insight to better plan for future park and recreation facility and program growth.

Community Forums

The San Clemente Task Force for Youth is a sub-committee of the South Orange County Community Services Council (SOCCSC), a non-profit organization, that serves cities in the south Orange County area by facilitating and coordinating social service programs. The Task Force initiated a city-wide process designed specifically to discuss issues pertaining to our children.

Four separate workshops were conducted over a six-month period, beginning in June 1995 and ending in November 1995.

Youth Service Providers: The Task Force began the process by conducting two half-day workshops with youth service providers. These workshops brought together the decision makers of approximately 20 youth organizations that provide services to the children of San Clemente, including education, law enforcement, municipal government, YMCA, Boys and Girls Club, youth sports, churches, and community service organizations. "Youth Service Provider" is defined as any organization, public or private, profit or non-profit, that provides services to the youth of San Clemente. Both workshops were graciously hosted by Southern California Edison Company at the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station in its Educational Building.

The results of these two workshops centered upon the three highest priorities determined by those in attendance. They are as follows:

a. **Family and Parent Involvement:** This priority represents youth service provider concern that, without the family involved, success in any area pertaining to youth will be limited. Preservation of the family and support to parents were also concerns. This priority asks the question how youth service providers can assist families, and, in particular, parents with the challenging career of raising children. It was determined that youth service providers should work together to better market the programs already in place, develop resources to assist parents in finding the types of services they needed for their families, and reach out to families to determine what services are not being provided but should be.



b. **Cultural Diversity:** This priority is designed to help focus attention to the changing demographics in San Clemente. This means that youth service providers need to evaluate how their programs are working and if they are reaching those with different cultural backgrounds. In addition, this priority raises the question of what new services should be created to meet the needs of a changing community. It was determined that San Clemente, in general, was already providing programs designed to break down prejudices and develop a greater understanding between individuals and groups. However, additional programs are needed beyond what is already in process. In addition, programs are needed that reach out specifically to groups that are underserved.

c. **Facilities and Resources to be used for community activities:** This priority challenges the community to collaborate to maximize usage of assets to the fullest extent possible. With the high cost of real estate and buildings, this priority is designed to help focus attention beyond

servicing youth to servicing other youth service providers and youth. It was determined that cooperation between business and youth service providers would provide a means to open additional resources for our children. Breaking down barriers that prevent joint use of existing facilities would also maximize building utilization. Finally, developing a data base of services available, also mentioned above under Family and Parent Involvement, would assist in both youth service providers and families being better informed of what services exist and how to access them.

Educators: In November 1995, the Task Force held another half-day workshop for educators. A majority of teachers from San Clemente High School and two representatives from each of the other six public schools in San Clemente met at San Clemente High School. Similar to the youth service provider workshops, educators ranked parent responsibility/supervision well above all other priorities. The next three priorities revolved around the family, ethics, personal responsibility, and respect for authority. All priorities focused around the dynamics of family and personal relationships.



The results of this workshop are as follows:

- a. **Parent Responsibility:** This priority centered around providing parents with a community that supported the difficult job of being parents. Areas discussed included workshops or programs for parents and children, support groups for parents, financial help for stay-at-home parents, improved school/home communications, ethics education, etc.

- b. **Personal Responsibility:** This priority centered upon taking responsibility for actions. Areas discussed included ethics education, holding parents financially responsible for children's actions, alternative educational programs, teen mediators and courts, enforcement of consequences for action, community service hours for school credit, rewards and recognition for positive behavior, consistent and persistent role modeling in schools, tough law enforcement, tough discipline in schools, parent education involving families starting in elementary school, etc.



- c. **Lack of Respect for Authority:** This priority centered around returning respect to the forefront of our community. Areas discussed included good role modeling, community police interacting in non-threatening ways, providing youth motivation and interest in their own

behavior, focusing on relationships over roles, teacher training to interpret student needs, modeling respect for authority, enforcing rules, etc.

- d. **Breakdown of the Family:** This priority centered around current trends away from the traditional family due to divorce and other social factors. Areas discussed included providing family counseling and support groups, parent education, teacher awareness of home situations, and personal responsibility for ethics and morality stressed in the classroom and at all levels of the community.
- e. **Recreational Facilities:** This priority centered around the availability of facilities and programs for our children. Areas discussed included the need for more activities for children such as after-school programs, sports, field trips to cultural activities, a music center, movie theaters, etc. Additional facilities to serve the needs of our children were also discussed.

Community Forum: Having called upon youth service providers and educators, the Task Force then called upon members of the community to participate in identifying the challenges and proposing solutions in serving the youth of the community. Over 400 residents, children and adults, answered the call. The workshop was conducted at San Clemente High School and was called "An Evening for our Children."

The group approached the topic of our youth in the same manner as other workshops. At the end of the evening, the top three priorities were as follows:

- a. Lack of Parenting Skills
- b. Insufficient Low Cost Activities
- c. Uninvolved Parents/Lack of Responsible Families

Proposed solutions focused in the following areas:

- a. **Respect Youth Opinions:** Support groups and teen opinions in newspapers would aid in a better understanding of teens as well as what their expectations are, increase opportunities for open communication between teens, parents, and communities.
- b. **Erosion of Families:** Parenting classes for young parents, family values education community-wide, city sponsored community events-family oriented, business opportunities- family oriented, family education for parents and teens, etc.

- c. Number of Children Falling Through Cracks in Education System: Access for tutoring more students, higher standards for tests, fail students that are not performing, mentors for at-risk students, identifying students lacking basic skills, etc.
- d. Violence: Keep weapons away from children, family relations/parenting skills classes on self-destruction, alternatives to gang involvement, socially acceptable tension-relieving activities, etc.
- e. Lack of Communication Between Adults and Children in the Community: Round table discussions in classroom and encourage same at home, student town hall meetings in the classroom, meet your neighbor programs, etc.
- f. Lack of Youth Club Programs: Social clubs with community-emphasis projects, skate park, ice rink, bowling, etc. Provide diversions to drugs and/or alcohol through theater/art/music/and other cultural activities, dances, school credit for community service hours, additional sports programs, etc.
- g. Dangers of Easy Availability of Drugs and Guns: Be aware of what children are doing on and off school campuses, initiate drug testing in schools, hold parents accountable for actions of their children, etc.
- h. Lack of Safety in Schools and on the Streets: Town- more police on foot beat supported by neighborhood watch and town hall meeting involvement, Schools- Video cameras on campus and more perimeter supervision at breaks, continue zero tolerance policy on drugs/guns, programs for at-risk children, etc.
- i. Negative Stereotyping-More Cultural Diversity in Education: Cultural diversity festivals on cultural difference in food, background/history and interests; offer English classes for parents; teach communications between cultures.
- j. Increase Discipline in Schools and at Home: Classes available on how to have stronger, closer families; provide crisis volunteers/counselors, etc.



Direct Input from Youth

The Youth Advisory Committee conducted three surveys, two “teen surveys,” and one in which the Committee provided its own input. The intent was to gain advice directly from youth and those who support them.

The "teen survey" was conducted through the Youth Advisory Committee in the summer of 1995. The survey was distributed to students attending San Clemente High School, Shorecliffs Middle School, and Our Lady of Fatima School. One thousand two hundred surveys were returned and tabulated by the Youth Advisory Committee. The following is a brief description of the conclusions.

- a. Knowledge about the Quarterly Recreation Magazine was limited.
- b. Most familiar City [and Regional] parks were Calafia Beach Park and San Clemente State Beach campground, Marblehead Park, San Gorgonio Park and Bonito Canyon Park. Teens were not familiar with Richard T. Steed Memorial Park or the particular amenities (basketball courts, tennis courts, etc.) of any parks.
- c. Knowledge of City recreation classes was very low.
- d. On the other hand, major City special events are popular with teens.
- e. Teens would utilize private recreation facilities, if available in San Clemente, including: movie theaters, bowling, ice skating, miniature golf, arcade, roller hockey, skateboard park, dance club, etc.
- f. San Clemente teens will drive an average of 15-30 minutes to seek an activity.
- g. Mode of transportation to activities is 70% by a teen's own car, to a lesser degree by parent's or friend's cars. Walking or riding bikes was considered too difficult or dangerous.
- h. Most teens responding to the survey were not aware of City government processes or how to respond to them appropriately.



The Youth Advisory Committee was also asked to provide its own input in May of 1996.

Requests from this group included the following:

- a. Commercial amenities: There is a need for an ice-skating rink, entertainment/family fun center, a youth night dance club, a bowling center, a movie complex.
- b. Parks, Open Space, City facilities: There is a need for a skateboard park, a dog park or dog beach, and multi-purpose parks with new recreation features and lights.

- c. Recreational Activities: Classes offered are great (but little information about classes available), conduct monthly dances during the school year.

The San Clemente Task Force for Youth also conducted a Teen Interest Survey in June 1996. This survey was distributed to students of San Clemente High School and Shorecliffs Middle School. One thousand six hundred ninety-five surveys were returned. The general findings are as follows:

- a. San Gorgonio Park (46%) was the most frequently used park, followed by Rancho San Clemente, Calafia, and San Clemente State Park.
- b. Parties (60%) ranked first in the activities enjoyed most by those responding to the survey, followed by unorganized sports and organized sports. The most popular unorganized sports (in order of preference) included surfing (35%), bicycling, basketball, skateboarding, soccer, roller hockey, baseball, racquetball. Soccer (28%) was the most popular organized sport mentioned, followed by basketball and softball/baseball.
- c. When asked why they didn't participate in an organized sport, the most common response was "no interest" (31%), followed by "don't have the time," "can't afford the equipment," "can't afford the uniform," or "can't afford the registration fee." Others stated that they "don't have transportation."
- d. Movie theaters (53%) ranked number one for commercial recreation facilities that teens would attend, followed by an ice skating rink, bowling alley, arcade/fun center, skateboard park, dance club, and roller hockey/skating rink.
- e. Twenty-eight percent of the respondents indicated they enjoy the Boys and Girls Club. The sports leagues were listed as popular activities followed by movies and having a place to "hang out." Most attend the Club on weekdays, followed by both weekdays and weekends. Weekend usage of the Club by this age group was not as popular.
- f. Sixty-six percent of the responses stated they would like to see a large indoor youth center dedicated just for teens. Amenities in this facility most requested included bowling, arcade, dances, and a game room.
- g. When asked about the "biggest problems" facing San Clemente teens today, gangs, availability of drugs, and youth/domestic violence were listed the most. Breakdown of the family, not enough low-cost activities for youth, increasing racism, and lack of employment for teens were the next most common responses.



Evaluation of the Beaches, Parks and Recreation Department

In the fall of 1996, City Council appointed a fifteen-member citizens Ad Hoc Committee to evaluate funding and operations of the Beaches, Parks and Recreation Department. This committee, called the Lighting and Landscape District Ad Hoc Committee, met for approximately six months. Overall, the majority of the committee was favorable with how the department operated. However, there was definite concern with respect to the future cost of park improvements and the community's ability or desire to pay for these costs. The results of the committee efforts were incorporated into a report that was submitted to City Council as part of the annual Long Term Financial Plan. The results of this panel were adopted by City Council in March 1997. They included the following items.



- a. Retain the current "C" level (average) of maintenance quality if possible.
- b. Regularly evaluate ongoing operations throughout city government and implement cost savings whenever possible. Included in this effort would be revenue enhancements through corporate sponsorships and constantly monitored fee structures for use of recreational services.
- c. Implement cost avoidance standards for future parks and recreation facilities and streetscapes including (1) reduced number of recreational amenities installed in parks, (2) fewer trees planted in parks and along public streets, and (3) reduce the number of acres of landscaped areas to be installed in the future.
- d. Prepare a policy and procedure that would (1) provide a balance and equity with the provision of neighborhood park amenities throughout the city, (2) provide financial protection for the existing park system maintenance program and prevent future deterioration of amenities due to future desires for park expansion, and (3) establish guidelines for obtaining voter approval of future special use and regional beach and park improvements, including the provision of ongoing maintenance.

Conclusions

The information gained through the public input tools utilized above was quite extensive. It has provided an important thumbprint of the needs and desires of the community as well as its concerns.

Overall, residents are quite satisfied with the provision and quality of parks and recreation services provided in San Clemente. They are pleased with the level of maintenance services and amenities that are included. San Clemente beaches are the most popular park amenity provided,

with hiking/bicycle trails coming in second, and children's play areas and picnic areas tying for third.

Over half the community use park and recreation facilities on a regular basis. Approximately, one-fifth of the community participates in structured recreation programs on a regular basis. This portion of the community is made up primarily of families with children under the age of 18. A vast majority would not change anything that is currently provided. There is concern that existing facilities should not be allowed to deteriorate or fall into disrepair.

One statistic, in particular, is troubling. The vast majority of Hispanic residents do not participate in structured recreation programs. This is statistically much lower than the remaining population participation numbers. This may be due to language barriers. It may also be due to the high cost of recreation services.

With respect to the desire for additional parks and other leisure facilities, residents voiced strong interest in added beach amenities and trails (hiking and bicycling). Children's play areas were the second most desired added amenity. Sports courts (tennis, basketball, and volleyball) came in third. Sport fields, picnic areas, outdoor pools, and a second golf course came in fourth, fifth, sixth, and seventh, respectively.

From a youth perspective, there is a substantial desire for active recreational activities such as sports as well as time to be with friends (parties). There is support for the vast number of existing recreational opportunities available. Teens support the Boys and Girls Club. They also desire more commercial recreational activities such as movie theaters, ice skating rinks, and bowling alleys.

Their wishes are to some extent being answered. A six-screen movie theater complex has been developed on Camino De Los Mares, and a roller hockey arena recently opened on Calle Lago in the North Beach area.

Of particular interest is the concern voiced with respect to supporting the family unit in San Clemente. It is apparent that residents (teens and adults) have a strong desire to see the family remain strong and an integral part of the structure of the city. Along with this comes a desire to make sure that children and their parents are supported, at home, at school, and in the community.

This support is partially satisfied through the provision of adequate parks and recreational programs. This includes active amenities such as sports fields (baseball, soccer, etc.) and sports courts (roller hockey, skateboard/in-line skate, basketball, volleyball, etc.) to provide families with a variety of amenities and activities from which to choose.

It is also satisfied through family recreation programming. Items such as after-school activities and sports programs provide families with wholesome recreational opportunities for their children. These are currently offered through non-profit organizations such as youth sport organizations, the Boys and Girls Club and YMCA. They are particularly important for younger children who go home after school to empty houses when both parents work.

In addition, a broad range of recreational opportunities geared specifically for adults provides important alternatives in our fast-paced world.

Finally, this support is satisfied through parent and resident participation in the community schools, churches, and other community-based organizations that are created specifically to be of service to the family.

There is substantial support for user fees to pay for recreational services provided and virtually no support for a household special tax to fund these services. There is a concern for providing low cost or no cost recreation services for those who are not able to participate due to financial restrictions. The dichotomy of these two perspectives will require substantial thought to balance cost recovery with the desire to provide service at reduced or no cost to those who cannot afford them.

The extensive amount of information obtained from the public input has been a critical part of the decision making process for the Parks and Recreation Master Plan update. It has been thoroughly reviewed, and the results can be seen throughout the document in every chapter. The staff of the Beaches, Parks and Recreation Department are indebted to the hundreds of residents who took the time to attend meetings, serve on committees, answer survey inquiries, and complete questionnaires. The information has been invaluable to the direction established for the future of parks and recreation in San Clemente.



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Parks and Recreation Master Plan Goals

Recreation Programming

- Goal A: Enrich the quality of life for all citizens of San Clemente by providing or facilitating constructive and creative leisure opportunities. (General Plan)
- Goal B: Provide and facilitate the provision of recreational experiences and programs that contribute to the total health of the individual and family while meeting the needs and desires of the community as a whole. (General Plan)
- Goal C: Support local community based organizations and facilitate, through these organizations, continued success in the vast array of services they provide for the benefit of San Clemente. (General Plan)

Park Land Acquisition

- Goal A: Provide adequate park land acreage in both location and size to meet the recreation needs of existing and future residents and to preserve natural resources within the City of San Clemente. (General Plan)

Park Development

- Goal A: Develop park sites to provide diverse recreational facilities to meet the active and passive recreational needs of the San Clemente residents. (General Plan)

Park Planning and Design

- Goal A: Provide for the optimum functional and aesthetic integration of all recreational, environmental, cultural, and social elements into San Clemente parks. (General Plan)

Renovation and Upgrading of Existing Parks

- Goal A: Improve and modernize existing San Clemente parks to overcome both design deficiencies and prevent facilities from becoming deteriorated. (General Plan)

Special Use, Community Parks, and Neighborhood Parks

- Goal A: Distribute future developed park sites to equitably serve a greater number of residents, thus enhancing the quality and livability of San Clemente. (General Plan)



Beaches

- Goal A: Maintain the valuable beach resources as a fundamental element to conserve and develop sensitively, thus enhancing the quality and livability of the City of San Clemente. (General Plan Objective 8.7. Please also refer to numerous goals in Chapter 3, Goals and Policies, of the City's Coastal Element.)

Goal B: Provide and maintain a comprehensive and safe beach access network and improve the City's public coastal access system wherever possible. (City of San Clemente Coastal Element, Chapter 303, Section B, Coastal Access Goal IX)

General Plan Objective 8.7. Please also refer to numerous goals in Chapter 3, Goals and Policies, of the City's Coastal Element.

Open Space and Environmental Quality

Goal A: Maintain the presence of park lands and open space as a fundamental element to conserve and enhance the natural environment, thereby improving the quality and livability of the City of San Clemente. (General Plan)

Trail Systems

Goal A: Develop an extensive network of trails and bikeways, thus enhancing the quality and livability of San Clemente. Emphasize trail linkage opportunities between community, County and State open space systems, recreational facilities, and throughout those private developments where deemed both suitable and appropriate. (General Plan)

Beach Accesses

Goal A: Develop a comprehensive network of improved beach access facilities which will ultimately provide safe access to all City-owned beaches.

General Plan Objective 8.17. Please also refer to Section 303, Shoreline Access Goals and Policies, of the City's Coastal Element.



Historical/Cultural Resources

Goal A: Promote the preservation and restoration of the public sites and structures included in the City's public recreational and streetscape system which have architectural, historical, archaeological, and/or cultural significance to the City of San Clemente. (General Plan)

Joint Use of Park and Recreation Facilities

Goal A: Foster cooperative use of existing land resources and recreational facilities between other public and quasi-public agencies as well as private companies. (General Plan)

Park and Golf Course Operations and Maintenance

Goal A: Operate and maintain San Clemente park and recreation facilities through programs that are designed for the most effective use and enhancement of the park site at the minimum possible cost. (General Plan)

Park Economics and Financing

Goal A: Define basic objectives, financing, and alternative non-traditional means for timely and balanced development of park and recreation facilities in San Clemente. (General Plan)

Goal B: Develop parks and recreation facilities only when adequate funding is available to provide for the ongoing maintenance and operational costs. (General Plan)

Parks and Recreation Master Plan Policies

Recreation Programming

- Policy 1: Provide or facilitate recreational opportunities through programs, activities, and park facilities that promote and support the family. (General Plan)
- Policy 2: Recognize the value that recreation and leisure activities provide in achieving a healthy and viable community. (General Plan)
- Policy 3: Encourage opportunities in San Clemente parks for participation in outdoor-oriented athletic sports, thereby increasing public involvement and enjoyment of these activities. (General Plan)
- Policy 4: Provide or facilitate leisure opportunities through programs, activities, and park facilities that foster "mainstreaming" the specialized needs of the disabled, children, and the elderly into the daily provision of public recreation services in San Clemente. (General Plan)
- Policy 5: Continue to provide an adequate level of lifeguard and water rescue services for the protection of residents and visitors who use the public beach and pool facilities of San Clemente. (General Plan)
- Policy 6: Park sites with significant historic or natural features should be combined with recreational learning opportunities wherever possible. (General Plan)

Park Land Acquisition

- Policy 1: Establish priorities for the acquisition of park land which take into consideration the City's need for open space and recreation facilities based on current and projected need. (General Plan)
 - a. Preservation of unique and valuable natural resource, conservation, historic, and cultural areas.
 - b. Ease of accessibility of future users including the disabled.
- Policy 2: Inspect City procedures and policies for review, evaluation, and acceptance of usable park land. (General Plan)
- Policy 3: Provide park sites through the park land dedication process prior to the subdivision of large acreage projects into smaller residential developments. (General Plan)
- Policy 4: Do not sell usable park land where shown on the Master Plan as intended for future park development. (General Plan)



Park Development

- Policy 1: Incorporate park features and facilities that are responsive to the recreational preferences expressed for the general geographic area the park is to serve. (General Plan)

Policy 2: Provide a variety of desirable amenities within recreation areas to accommodate persons with different leisure time interests. (General Plan)

Park Planning and Design

Policy 1: Recognize that careful consideration to the importance of spatial relationships (two areas or facilities adjacent to one another) within a park ultimately influences the success of the park environment. (General Plan)

Policy 2: Provide for a balance of community needs and public financial constraints when undertaking site-specific park planning and design. (General Plan)

Policy 3: Identify park type and facility needs as a basis for future selection of specific park sites. (General Plan)

Policy 4: Provide an appropriate neighborhood, community, and special use park classification system to suit the changing conditions of San Clemente. (General Plan)

Policy 5: Establish guidelines for the convenient, safe, and barrier-free access to San Clemente parks by centrally locating them within each geographic area. (General Plan)

Policy 6: Actively seek to provide disabled access whenever possible on public parks and recreational facilities. (General Plan)



Renovation and Upgrading of Existing Parks

Policy 1: Develop a means to annually identify and justify the rehabilitation of existing San Clemente parks based on such measures as increased public access, lower maintenance costs, and increased service delivery. (General Plan)

Policy 2: Strive to provide for an ongoing rehabilitation program that would keep park and recreational amenities from deteriorating to unacceptable levels where they become unsafe or are forced to be closed. (General Plan)

Special Use Parks, Community Parks, and Neighborhood Parks

Policy 1: Future acceptance of dedicated park land by the City should be limited to land that fits the character and requirements of community and/or neighborhood park areas. (General Plan Policy 8.10.1. Refer to numerous policies in Section 303, Shoreline Access Goals and Policies, of the City's Coastal Element.)

- Policy 2: Future locations of potential special use, community and neighborhood park sites, and their associated recreation facilities shall be in accordance with the City of San Clemente General Plan and the Parks and Recreation Master Plan for the City of San Clemente. (General Plan)
- Policy 3: The timing for future development of unimproved special use, community, and neighborhood park sites should be developed when a significant number of the population expected to be served by the park has been established. (General Plan)

Beaches

- Policy 1: Identify and prioritize issues (sand erosion, water quality, etc.) associated with all San Clemente beaches and implement strategies to protect and enhance beaches from these issues.
- Policy 2: Identify the key beach areas which are important to protect through land use regulation because of their inherent environmental, ecological, and/or aesthetic contributions. (General Plan Policy 8.7.1)
- Policy 3: Locate and enhance the beach areas that accept limited recreational development without destroying existing natural beauty. (General Plan Policy 8.7.2)

Please refer to numerous policies in Chapter 3, Goals and Policies, of the City's Coastal Element.

Open Space and Environmental Quality

- Policy 1: Identify those major areas of the City which are important to protect through land use regulation or public ownership because of their inherent environmental, ecological, and/or aesthetic contribution to the scenic and natural qualities of San Clemente. (General Plan)
- Policy 2: Provide cooperative leadership between private interests and other public agencies in preserving and improving the physical environment by joining mutual programs to protect and enhance both land and water resources. (General Plan)

Trail Systems

- Policy 1: Provide a comprehensive city-wide trail plan, implementation strategy, and design criteria. (General Plan)
- Policy 2: To the maximum extent possible, the City should explore means by which ongoing maintenance for the various trail systems can be accomplished through cooperative sharing agreements with other public agencies, volunteer user groups, or exclusively by private parties. (General Plan)
- Policy 3: Actively seek to provide disabled access whenever possible on public trails. (General Plan)



Beach Accesses

- Policy 1: Conduct an inventory of existing beach access facilities on a periodic basis to determine requirements of renovation and/or future capital improvement items.
- Policy 2: Improvements to beach facilities and beach access points which are administered by the City of San Clemente shall specifically be intended to provide for the maintenance and enhancement of maximum public use of the beach and the ocean. (Coastal Element, Chapter 303, Section B, Coastal Access Policy IX.1)
- Policy 3: The City of San Clemente shall promote not only increased access to the shoreline, but increased safety of access. Improved access for the disabled shall be provided for at least one of the primary access points administered by the City. (Coastal Element, Chapter 303, Section B, Coastal Access Policy IX.7)
- Policy 4: Monitor and attempt to improve the safety of pedestrians crossing El Camino Real and the railway along the coast (GP Policy 4.15.1). Specifically, the City shall work with OCTA to implement a safe and legal railroad crossing at Linda Lane Park, at an existing access centrally located between Linda Lane Park and North Beach, and at an existing access centrally located between "T" Street and Calafia State Beach. (Coastal Element, Chapter 303, Section B, Coastal Access Policy IX.2) One of the options to discuss further with OCTA and the community to improve beach access and safety is the relocation of the existing railroad tracks along San Clemente beaches away from the coast.

Additional Policies: Refer to numerous additional policies in Chapter 303, Shoreline Access Goals and Policies, of the City's Coastal Element.

Historical/Cultural Resources

- Policy 1: Utilize Secretary of Interior Standards for Historic Rehabilitation and standards and guidelines prescribed by the State Office of Historic Preservation, as well as the City's Design Guidelines (section for historic structures and districts) when they do not conflict, as the architectural and landscape design standards for rehabilitation, alteration, or additions to sites containing historic resources in order to preserve these structures in a manner consistent with the site's architectural and historic integrity. (General Plan)
- Policy 2: Ensure that City-owned properties designated as historic resources and over which the Department has purview are maintained in a manner that is aesthetically and/or functionally compatible with such resources. (General Plan)
- Policy 3: Require the adaptive reuse of City-owned properties and structures which are



designated as historic resources and over which the Department has jurisdiction to prevent demolition. (General Plan)

Policy 4: Prohibit demolitions, if other alternatives exist, and encourage rehabilitation of City-owned structures and sites that are designated as historic resources and over which the Department has jurisdiction. (General Plan)

Policy 5: Promote learning experiences regarding the cultural and historical resources over which the Department has jurisdiction, whenever possible and feasible. (General Plan)

Policy 6: Establish a list of the cultural and historic structures (using as a starting point the City's Designated Historic Structures List) and sites over which the Department has jurisdiction noting the criteria for their historic and cultural significance. (General Plan)

Joint Use of Park and Recreation Facilities

Policy 1: Continue and strive to improve existing and future joint-use agreements between other public agencies and seek out new opportunities to share established park and recreation resources for the common benefit of San Clemente residents. (General Plan)

Park Operations and Maintenance

Policy 1: Develop park facilities that are not only functional but in keeping within the realm of realistic maintenance costs. (General Plan)

Policy 2: Park facilities should experience a periodic in-house review and evaluation in order to achieve the highest efficiencies possible in operation and maintenance costs. (General Plan)

Park Economics and Financing

- Policy 1: Seek out and pursue all forms of Federal, State, private foundation, and endowment support to assist in acquisition, development, and programming of park and recreation resources in the City of San Clemente. (General Plan)
- Policy 2: Develop definitive economic criteria for allocation of financial resources as well as encompassing greater self-sufficiency in the operation of recreation facilities and programs. (General Plan)
- Policy 3: Encourage neighborhood groups, organizations, clubs, and businesses to take a greater interest and financial responsibility in the improvement of the park and recreation system in San Clemente through the donation of goods, services, and financial support. (General Plan)
- Policy 4: Consider establishing a non-profit foundation to solicit private organizations to sponsor public recreation activities and park development initiatives. (General Plan)
- Policy 5: Maintain and expand the current volunteer services component of the Beaches, Parks and Recreation Department to stimulate more direct community involvement and reduce future staffing costs. (General Plan)
- Policy 6: Encourage commercial recreation facilities where appropriate that provide services and facilities that could not otherwise be provided by the City. (General Plan)
- Policy 7: In the future design and programming of community/special use/regional park facilities, a prime measure of success should be the ability of the park investment to generate revenues within the City to help recover requisite operational and maintenance costs. (General Plan)
- Policy 8: Approval to proceed with development of additional park acreage shall be made only after adequate funding is set aside to provide for ongoing maintenance and operations of the proposed park. (General Plan)



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Recreation Services

Part of a healthy community is its ability to enjoy leisure time activities, to be able to take a break from the day-to-day burdens that life can place upon us. Individuals and families have plenty of opportunities to pursue leisure activities here in San Clemente.

Current Services

Over the years, the Beaches, Parks and Recreation Department has been the primary facilitator in the provision of recreation and leisure services, as well as a major provider. The goal is to ensure that the community is provided with ongoing quality recreation and leisure services that meet its needs. The current services provided by the Department are a direct result of input from residents, who have a direct voice in the provision of leisure services through the City Council and Council-appointed Parks and Recreation Commission and Golf Committee.

The programs currently in operation have been specifically designed to meet San Clemente resident interests. In addition, a Tri-City Partnership has been active for a number of years with the cities of Dana Point and San Juan Capistrano to foster cooperation and higher quality services among all three communities. Joint youth sports programs, excursions, and advertising have resulted in successful programs at a reasonable cost, since planning and operational expertise and costs are shared among the three city agencies.

Current programs cover a large range of services. They are briefly described as follows:

Aquatics: Services are provided at the Ole Hanson Beach Club, which is open year-round. Learn-to-swim through advanced swim classes are provided from spring through fall, as well as a variety of specialty swim classes, taught by City employees and contract instructors. The two pools are open for recreation swim (aimed primarily toward children) through the summer months. The Beach Club also supports a year-round lap swim, adult water exercise, and masters swim schedule, as well as therapeutic programs to assist patients with injury or disease disabilities. Junior Lifeguard and Instructional Surfing programs are conducted by the Marine Safety Division at the beach each summer with the primary purpose of teaching ocean safety.

Specialty Classes: Services are provided throughout the community on a year-round basis, primarily at the Community Center, Senior Center, and Ole Hanson Beach Club. Additionally, other locations are used, such as parks, the municipal golf course, schools, and the beach. Over 70 different classes are taught by 35 private contract instructors. The City is responsible for advertising classes, registration, and providing the instructors with a room or other type of facility for the class. This



allows the City to offer a large variety of classes with knowledgeable, skilled instructors. Classes offer opportunities in a wide range of areas, including sports, exercise, dance, cultural arts, martial arts, financial management, education, and dog obedience.

Golf: The City owns and operates an 18-hole full service golf course (133 acres) that is open 365 days a year and provides a driving range, cart rentals, pro shop, lessons, and restaurant. This operation is described in detail under the Golf Course chapter of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

Trap and Skeet: The City owns a trap and skeet range, which is leased and operated by the San Clemente Elks Club. This facility is located at Vista Bahia Park and operates on a very limited basis due to noise restrictions to respect the adjacent residential community's right for peace and quiet. Relocating this facility to a non-residential location has been proposed for future study in this Master Plan.

Lawn Bowling: The City provides residents with a lawn bowling facility, located at San Luis Rey Park, which is operated by the San Clemente Lawn Bowling Association.

Adult Sports: The City has operated an extensive adult softball and basketball program in the past. The basketball program utilized the Boys and Girls Club gymnasium at Bonito Canyon Park. The softball program utilized Richard T. Steed Memorial Park. Both programs were eliminated due to severe budget reductions implemented after San Clemente voters turned down Measure "A" in June 1997, which would have funded this and other recreation and general government programs by imposing a 2.5% utility tax. Richard T. Steed Memorial Park was closed in July 1997 and reopened in October 1998. The adult softball program has been reestablished along with adult sand volleyball. A goal of this Master Plan is to restore the adult basketball program in the future.



Youth Sports: A variety of youth sports options exist in San Clemente. They are operated by the City, school district, and non-profit or private sector organizations. Sports include baseball, softball, soccer, basketball, volleyball, competitive swimming, surfing, water polo, track and field, etc. These activities operate year-round at city beaches, parks, and schools.

Excursions: This program provides residents with opportunities to visit museums, see an award-winning play in Los Angeles, take a trip to Las Vegas, or view the Pasadena Tournament of Roses Parade without having to drive themselves. Luxury buses take groups on these excursions, providing participants with the ability to relax with friends in transit.

Youth and Family Programs: In the past, the Beaches, Parks and Recreation Department operated programs specifically designed to reach out to families with children. These programs included a year-round after-school recreation program to provide a safe and fun place for children of working parents. Spring, summer, fall, and holiday children's day camps offered arts and crafts, games, sports, and a weekly trip to places like Knott's Berry Farm. Quarterly teen dances provided a safe and supervised place for teenagers to enjoy dancing, food, and conversation. These programs have all been eliminated due to ongoing financial constraints and the failure of Measure "A" in June 1997, as described above. A goal of this Master Plan is to restore these services in the future.

In addition, the Department provides and facilitates, through other private and non-profit organizations, services designed to reach out to parents. These services include parenting, financial stewardship, and marriage classes.

Special Events: The Department has traditionally sponsored a number of annual special events throughout the community. These include events such as Christmas Tree Lighting, Easter Egg Hunt, Labor Day Weekend Carnival, Halloween Haunted House, Cinco De Mayo Celebration, and Arbor/Earth Day Tree Planting. The Department also supports, through partnerships, events with other non-profit organizations such as the Ocean Festival, Chamber Fiesta, Sea Feast Chowder Challenge, Arts and Crafts Show, Flower and Garden Show, Loyalty Day Luncheon, Jazz Festival, etc.

Facility Rentals: The City operates a facility rental program at three community buildings, in parks, on the beach, and at the swimming pools. This program is designed to provide customers the opportunity to utilize the City's buildings, parks, or swimming pools for weddings, receptions, meetings, picnics, sporting events, birthday parties, or other special events.

Historical/Cultural Resources

Incorporated in 1928, the City of San Clemente has significant cultural and historical resources, including some which are publicly owned and overseen by the Department, Golf Course Committee, and the Parks and Recreation Commission. Many of these public resources were put in place by the town's founder, Ole Hanson, who had a dream of a "Spanish Village by the Sea," a "beautiful city on the ocean where the whole city will be a park...I want plazas, playgrounds, schools, clubs, swimming pools, a golf course, a fishing pier, and a beach enlivened with people getting a healthy joy out of life." Hanson's new town included many of the public amenities of which he dreamed, including the Community Center, Ole Hanson Beach Club, the City's Municipal Golf Course, the pier, and, of course, our public beaches and parks. The Ole Hanson Beach Club, one of the original structures in San Clemente, is recognized on the National Register of Historic Places for its architectural and cultural significance.

This Master Plan recognizes the importance of these historic public amenities and includes goals and policies, found in Chapter 3, Page 3-7, to preserve and enhance their contribution to the City's sense of history and community.

Parks: Currently, the City owns and maintains 18 parks totaling 124 acres. These parks provide numerous facilities to meet the leisure needs of residents. Facilities include sports fields, picnic areas, children's play areas, basketball, tennis and volleyball courts, exercise courses, and plenty of open space to accommodate all kinds of informal play. A majority of parks are open to the public seven days a week with no entry fee, unless exclusive use in a particular amenity is requested. Richard T. Steed Memorial Park, Vista Bahia Park Trap and Skeet Range, and San Luis Rey Park Lawn Bowling Facility require entry fees to participate in activities at specified times.



Beach and Pier: The City owns and maintains 20 acres of ocean front beach, which extends approximately one-mile on each side of the pier. This beach area provides numerous facilities to meet the leisure needs of residents. Facilities include a 1,200-foot historical wooden fishing and pleasure pier, children's play areas, picnic areas, volleyball courts, food service facilities, including a full service restaurant, and plenty of sand for sunbathing. San Clemente beaches are known world-wide for outstanding surfing conditions and generally warm water temperatures. The pier concession operation is described in detail under the Beach Services chapter of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

Bicycle and Hiking Trails: The City has 17.2 miles of bicycle trails along public streets, including the Bicentennial Trail that runs from the Canadian to the Mexican border. This trail passes through San Clemente from El Camino Real at the north end of town, snaking through neighborhood streets, past Max Berg Plaza Park, Community Center, and south along Ola Vista to San Clemente State Beach. From there, it runs along Del Presidente to the southern border of San Clemente and on into San Onofre State Park before continuing into Camp Pendleton. Most of the remaining on-street trails are designed for bicycles and provide connections between neighborhoods.



The City also operates 3.4 miles of hiking trails, primarily within the Rancho San Clemente planned community. This trail system is designed primarily for hiking. However, non-motorized mountain bicycles and dogs on leash are also allowed. Per City ordinance, hiking trails are the only recreational facilities that allow dogs. However, they must be on leash at all times.

The Future

The provision of leisure services continues to be an important part of the Beaches, Parks and Recreation Department mission. The goals provided in this Master Plan incorporate this vision and outline pathways to accomplish it. This will be provided through two primary ways of doing business. The first is direct services, and the second is through facilitation of services. They are defined below. The concept is that the Department should be in a leadership role with respect to the



provision of leisure services to the community since the City is in the best position to be a sounding board for the community through its elected and appointed officials. There is an established Parks and Recreation Commission and Golf Committee within the City structure that represent the community with respect to the leisure needs of the residents. They provide a direct conduit for residents to voice their opinions and concerns with respect to the provision of leisure services. The City then can evaluate how best the service can be provided. Criteria on how this decision is to be made is described as follows:

Direct Services: Direct services are those services that are provided and managed directly by the Department. They have traditionally included many of the aquatic programs, facility rentals, after-school recreation programs, day camps, youth sports, and special events.

Facilitation of Services: Facilitated services are those that are provided through outside private and non-profit organizations. Examples include the YMCA, Boys and Girls Club, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, youth sports groups, churches, service clubs, special interest clubs, and private businesses. The services may take different forms, from a (1) private business operating a roller hockey park that is accessed through the payment of fees, (2) partnerships or operating agreements between the City and an organization to provide service at City facilities, to (3) non-profit organizations' provision of services at their own facilities.

Decision Making Process: In the future, the decision to provide a service directly or through facilitation will be very closely evaluated by considering the following in the decision making process: (1) Is the City the best organization to provide the service from a quality and expertise standpoint or are there other organizations better positioned to provide the service? (2) How important is the program to the community? and (3) What is the cost, both startup and ongoing, to sustain the program?

Additional Facilities: As San Clemente grows, so will the need for additional recreational facilities to accommodate additional sports, recreation and library programs, activities, and events. In an effort to plan appropriately to accommodate a population of approximately 65,000 people at buildout of the city, it is proposed that additional parks be added and the potential for a second municipal golf course be studied. This development and study program is described in full in the Golf and Park Development chapters of this Master Plan.

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Beach Services

San Clemente is blessed with an outstanding natural resource by the 4.7 miles of white sandy beaches that parallel the southwest side of the City. Of this total, 1.6 miles is owned privately, the City owns 2.0 miles, and the State of California owns 1.1 miles. This valuable natural and recreational amenity is one of the primary reasons that the City's founder, Ole Hanson, selected this location to develop his vision of a "Spanish Village by the Sea." The water is clean, and the surf breaks are some of the best anywhere. Many of the top amateur and professional surfers have spawned from the San Clemente area.

The City's offshore areas are also popular for fishing and recreational diving, due to numerous rock formations that provide an ideal environment for fish, lobster, and other types of marine life. Seal Rock is the most notable reef, one-half mile off Riviera Beach. This reef is home to dozens of sea lions.

Current Services

San Clemente beaches are very popular, both with residents and visitors. The San Clemente Municipal Pier was originally built in 1928. This 1,200-foot pier serves as a fishing and pleasure pier, attracting approximately 600,000 visitors a year. A full service restaurant sits at the entrance of the pier, and a bait and tackle shop is located near the end. In addition to the pier, San Clemente beaches provide a variety of public improvements designed to serve the two million people who also visit every year. There are a number of children's play areas, volleyball courts, and public restrooms along the beach, as well as seasonally operated food concession buildings.

San Clemente beaches are unique in that they are lined by the Orange County Transit Authority (OCTA) railroad right-of-way, including a single railroad track with rock ballast (under the tracks) and a rock rip-rap sea wall. The rock sea wall was originally built by the railroad in the late 1880s for the purpose of protecting the railroad tracks from ocean waves and tides. This railroad right-of-way also creates a substantial barrier for customers to cross in order to visit the beach areas. The right-of-way is 100 feet wide with the tracks situated generally in the middle.

All two million annual visitors to San Clemente beaches must cross the tracks. They do so by using 11 established public beach access points. These access points are located on the Facilities Map Exhibits of this Master Plan. Of the total, seven beach access points are licensed by the railroad. These are either (a) at-grade crossings with crossing arms and bells, (b) overpass crossings that span the tracks to the beach, or (c) underpasses that go underneath the tracks. The licensed crossings provide enhanced safety for pedestrians and vehicles since they include improved trail crossings with warning devices or crossings that completely separate pedestrians from the railroad tracks as is the case with the "T" Street overpass. In addition to the City-owned beach access points, there are a number of informal or



privately owned beach access points along the coastline. However, these access points are not licensed and, therefore, not approved by OCTA.

The City provides year-round lifeguard (Marine Safety) services for City-owned beach areas. Lifeguard operations include observation/rescues, first aid, and law enforcement services. An Operating Supervisor/Dispatcher at the Marine Safety Headquarters building (north of the Pier) coordinates these services with lifeguards stationed at towers on the pier and beach, as well as mobile units. The Marine Safety Headquarters building houses the administrative offices for the lifeguard operation and equipment and facilities for the beach maintenance operation. The Marine Safety Division also provides public information and water safety information through regularly updated surf-weather phone lines, a School Education Program, Junior Lifeguard Program, and Instructional Surfing Program, among others.

Maintenance standards for the beaches are outlined in Chapter 5 and Exhibit 5 of this Master Plan. The quality level of maintenance services is calculated on a standard school grading system (A-F) with "A" being excellent, "C" being average, and "F" being low level. The beach is maintained at a "C+" or slightly above average grade. This provides for daily trash collection and restroom cleaning. From May 15 through September 15, beach restrooms are cleaned twice a day on weekends and holidays. High use sand areas are groomed twice a week during summer months.

Environmental Issues

Sand Erosion: San Clemente beaches are a major attraction to residents and visitors alike. The beach environment was relatively stable over the years until 1983, when a series of violent winter storms, associated with an El Nino weather phenomenon, battered the west coast, causing a great deal of beach sand erosion. Subsequent significant El Nino storm seasons followed in 1988 and 1998, which again caused large amounts of beach sand loss. While some of the sand loss from these storms has been replenished with the seasonal return of sand in the spring and summer, the net result has left San Clemente beach areas at less than half the width they were prior to 1983. El Nino conditions (associated with a change in the warm equatorial currents off the west coast of South America) have existed for centuries. However, an ocean warming trend, punctuated with subtropical-like weather, "El Ninos," has increased the incidence of abnormally large waves striking our beaches.



There are many causes for beach sand loss such as (a) reduced sand flow from inland rivers and channels due to development and stabilizing of natural riverbeds with concrete and other hardscape materials; (b) the loss of sand replenishment from coastal bluffs due to the construction of the railroad's rock, rip-rap, and other manmade structures that protect the foot of the bluffs from erosion; and (c) natural storms with large waves that erode sand from beach areas. The El Nino storms appear to be a primary factor in loss of beach sand in the San Clemente area in recent years.

Since the mid 1980's, the City has participated with the Coast of California Storm and Tidal Wave Study, a seven-year, multi-million dollar study sponsored by the federal government and managed by the Army Corps of Engineers. The purpose of the study, which extends from the Dana Point headlands to the Mexican border, was to gather data to better understand the long shore coastal processes. In turn, this information will hopefully provide avenues to protect and preserve this same shoreline. The study's findings determined that there has been substantial sand loss along the northern portions of the beach study area and that this trend is expected to continue. However, it was inconclusive in definitively identifying the sand loss. The coastal environment is very complex, and sand movement is somewhat cyclical. The time frame for these cycles has not been solidified, and more study is necessary.

Water Quality: Water quality is another item of concern.

The San Clemente coastline has in the past and continues to be blessed with relatively clean, healthy water. It is monitored by the County of Orange on a regular basis for evidence of fecal contamination. There are times when water quality falls below desirable or acceptable standards. Generally, this is due to sewer spills or urban runoff that is flushed through the storm drain system during the rainy season. As San Clemente and surrounding urban areas continue to grow, additional urban runoff is generated. Therefore, it is a goal of this Master Plan to consider how to manage urban runoff so that it does not pose a danger to the ocean environment or the public that use it.



In addition to monitoring runoff from the urban environment, the City has consistently and successfully participated with other Orange County coastal communities to maintain a moratorium on off-shore oil drilling, an important part in retaining high water and air quality. However, it is an ongoing effort that is approved by Congress on an ongoing basis. Continuing the moratorium is an important goal of the San Clemente Coastal Element and this Master Plan.

Artificial Reef: The City Marine Safety Division has been following the planning progress for installation of an artificial reef off the San Clemente coastline. This reef is required mitigation for the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (plants #2 and #3) located south of San Clemente. This nuclear station generates electricity for both the Southern California Edison Company and San Diego Gas and Electric Company. It is a goal of the San Clemente Coastal Element and the Master Plan that the City continue to participate in the planning, design, construction, and monitoring processes to determine the positive and negative impacts that the artificial reef may have upon San Clemente beaches and associated ocean environment.

Beach Access Issues

As mentioned above, only a portion of existing beach at-grade accesses are licensed and outfitted with equipment to provide safe, controlled access across the railroad tracks. This situation, one of licensed and unlicensed access points, raises complicated safety and access issues. The safety and access concerns have become increasingly aggravated by the fact that the number of trains

using the tracks each day has increased from 21, in 1993, to 36, in 1998, and the trains are quieter because they now run on seamless rails. This is expected to increase the number of accidental (no suicide) fatalities that occur on the tracks from people crossing the tracks, as well as using the tracks as a pathway.

There is an inherent conflict between the California Coastal Commission and the Orange County Transit Authority (OCTA), with the City caught in the middle. The Coastal Commission is interested in providing as much public access to the beach as possible, and, in some instances in the past, have approved beach access points that end at the railroad right-of-way without a licensed crossing. The Orange County Transit Authority is interested in limiting unauthorized or unsafe access across its railroad tracks as much as possible. The City is interested in both maximized public access to the beach as well as safety and recognizes the inherent danger of the public crossing the tracks at locations that are not designed for crossing.

Therefore, a goal of this Master Plan is to improve the ease and safety of beach accesses by improving existing licensed beach access points, where necessary, and obtain additional licensed access points along the San Clemente coastline. This will improve safety and enhance currently under utilized portions of the beach to accommodate added visitation as the city and surrounding urban areas continue to grow. The City will have to search for outside funding sources or



mechanisms to pay for the cost of these access improvements, since beach access and related safety equipment are extremely expensive.

Another goal is to consider relocation of the railroad tracks away from the beach to improve beach access and eliminate the safety conflict between people and trains. It is recommended that the City continue to discuss solutions with both the Coastal Commission and OCTA.

The Future

Healthy beaches are extremely important assets to the citizens and visitors, the business community, and the City. They are valuable natural resources, recreational amenities, and important tourist attractions. Healthy beaches are also extremely important from a safety standpoint because sand covers the hard rock and clay formations that are the true floors of the near shore and offshore areas. With this in mind, protection and preservation of these beaches is of paramount importance.

As San Clemente and surrounding urban areas grow, increased populations will impact the beaches. Therefore, the City will need to consider how to accommodate the additional City resident use and outside visitation. There may come a point in the future when the beaches will reach a saturation point with respect to their ability to comfortably accommodate customers in terms of beach parking, beach access, beach space, and water space. Determining how to maximize visitation on beaches without over-burdening them to the point where they are no longer highly enjoyable will be an important decision in the future.

Beach improvements, designed to provide recreational and food services to beach visitors, are an important part of the beach environment. They should be appropriately placed to match beach access and availability of parking, as well as adequate, sustained beach sand. These amenities, such as the pier, restaurants and seasonal food concessions, restrooms, play areas, picnic shelters, etc., are a valuable support to visitors to the beach. Ensuring that these improvements are in safe and aesthetic condition is important.

Water quality has a direct effect upon sustaining the natural biology of the ocean environment. It also has a direct effect upon recreational activities such as swimming, surfing, and fishing. Maintaining the current high quality of water along San Clemente beaches is considered a high priority in this Master Plan. Information gathered from future studies relating to the beach environment, in particular, water quality and beach sand erosion, will assist in assuring that high water quality is maintained and sand erosion minimized.

The amount of sand on the beach directly affects recreational use of the beach for sunbathing, picnicking, and sporting activities. It also has a direct effect upon beach improvements (restrooms, play areas, picnic shelters, seasonal food concessions, etc.). Without adequate sand to protect these structures, they are subject to damage or loss due to high tides and wave wash. This situation may rectify itself in coming years, or it may worsen, depending upon natural or artificial sand replenishment. Determining whether San Clemente beaches can accommodate structures on the beach and how much effort the City is willing to put into protecting them will be another important decision to be faced in coming years and is considered a high priority in this Master Plan. Options include but are not limited to: 1) placing structures adjacent but not on the beach, as was done with the Calafia concession building, 2) replacing existing beach structures where they currently stand, and 3) replacing existing beach structures with movable structures.

It is important to note that issues of access, habitat, water quality, and beach sand erosion are not specific to San Clemente. These issues are being debated along ocean coastlines around the world. Solutions to these issues are difficult and, in many cases, impossible to implement on a local basis. The ocean environment is enormous, and managing it must take a regional scope. Solutions in one community may have devastating effects upon another community up, down, or inland from the coast.



Therefore, San Clemente must be proactive in obtaining a regional focus on Southern California beaches, a focus that takes into consideration the ocean and beach environment, coastal rivers and estuaries, plus existing and new development on the coastal and inland plain. The long term success of San Clemente beaches depends upon partnering with our neighbors to ensure a broad mutual vision of protection and enhancement of the ocean and beach environment.

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Golf Services

The San Clemente Municipal Golf Course was designed by William Park Bell (Billy Bell Sr.) in 1926. Originally, nine holes were developed. In 1955, the layout was expanded to 18 holes. In addition to the size of the course, a number of improvements have been completed since the course opened, including development of the parking lot, new sand bunkers, rebuilding of all greens and many of the tees, and a complete renovation of the irrigation system. In 1965, a clubhouse was built.

Current Services

The Municipal Golf Course is one of three courses in San Clemente. The other two, Shorecliffs Golf Course and Pacific Golf Club, are privately owned and operated. Pacific Golf Club is open only to members, while Shorecliffs Golf Course is open to the public.

The Municipal Golf Course has the distinction of being one of the busiest courses in the nation, averaging 115,000 rounds annually. The course is 6,437 yards long with a par 72. It has been honored as one of the best courses in Orange County by the Orange County Register and annually obtains high marks for maintenance excellence by the United States Golf Association (USGA).

Services include a pro shop, driving range, cart rentals, restaurant and banquet facilities (100 people), and a full range of golf lessons, including a junior golf program. A Golf Committee, appointed by the City Council, provides a direct voice of the golfing community to the staff and City Council.



The operation of the golf course is provided through a combination of in-house staff and concessionaires. The City provides for complete maintenance of the golf course landscaping, including all tees, fairways, roughs, and greens. The starter operation is also under the direction of the City. There are two private companies that operate concession operations at the course. The pro shop, driving range, and cart rental operation is under one concession agreement. The clubhouse, restaurant, and banquet facilities are under the second concession agreement.

Maintenance standards are outlined in Exhibit H. The quality level of maintenance services is calculated on a standard school grading system (A-F) with "A" being excellent, "C" being average, and "F" being low level. The golf course utilizes a grade "B" or above average grade that provides for high quality maintenance to maximize play and enjoyment of a round of golf.

Over the past ten years, substantial renovations and upgrades have been completed at the golf course. The course is currently in outstanding condition. It is recommended that this commitment to quality facilities be continued in the future, continuing the tradition of preventative maintenance programs and facility renovations as deemed necessary.

The Future

As the city grows, so does the desire for additional golfing facilities. Considering the current high play on the Municipal Golf Course, it is unrealistic to consider the current course capable of accommodating a substantial increase in play in the future.

Another private golf course is planned in San Clemente, located in the Talega development, a couple of miles east of the Interstate 5 freeway on Avenida Pico. This course will be privately owned but open to the public.

There are plans for the Prima Deshecha Landfill that borders San Clemente to the north for a full-length golf course once the landfill reaches capacity. This is part of an overall regional park plan for the site by the County of Orange. However, this course development is approximately 15-20 years in the future. At this time, this course is planned to be public.

Second Municipal Golf Course



Based upon the above, a second municipal public golf course is recommended for future study to serve a growing population and to accommodate the desire of the City to expand its tourist industry. However, providing for this desire will not be a simple effort. Staff recommends that several locations be included in future studies of potential locations for a second municipal golf course, including undeveloped open space along the northeastern and southern boundaries of the City.

The Golf Committee has pondered the type of golfing facility that would be the most effective in San Clemente. A consensus has not been reached at this time. The two types under consideration include the following:

- a. 18-Hole Executive Golf Course. This type of facility would require approximately 80 acres of usable land, with a par 63 at 3,500 yards. It would be designed to serve those who prefer a shorter game but still desire to play 18 holes. There would be a number of par 3 and par 4 holes, all with bunkers and other obstacles. The course could include a service facility that would contain a small snack bar, pro-shop, and starter's station. Practice putting greens and a driving range would also be provided. This option could also be down-sized to a 9-hole course.

- b. 18-Hole Championship Golf Course. This type of facility requires a site of approximately 140 acres of usable land with a par 72 at 7,000 yards. It would be designed with similar characteristics to the existing Municipal Golf Course, including a clubhouse, restaurant, pro shop, cart rentals, driving range, etc.

Both types of facilities will require substantial physical, fiscal, and environmental feasibility studies to determine possible locations, environmental impacts, and the potential financial success of each based upon the location and design. It is recommended that the City study the feasibility of a second municipal golf course as development occurs. Along with studying other options, the feasibility study should include the options raised for location and facility type discussed above. Depending upon the outcome of this effort, amendments to the City's General Plan and Specific Plans can be pursued, the appropriate environmental documentation can be completed, and the type of course can be determined, funded, and implemented.



New Clubhouse

In addition to the potential of a second Municipal Golf Course, the Golf Committee has been seriously contemplating building a new clubhouse at the existing course. The current clubhouse was built in 1965. A year-long study completed in June 1998 considered renovating the existing facility and expanding it to accommodate larger special events and banquets, or demolishing the existing facility in favor of a new building. City Council will consider the various concepts in the near future and decide whether to authorize staff to move forward with a specific option. Of particular importance will be how the clubhouse improvements will be financed and to what extent it will be able to pay for itself in the long run.

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Trails and Bikeways

The General Plan indicates a need for a Trails Master Plan, in order to implement the City's trails and bikeways goals. The Trails and Bikeways chapter is included within this Parks and Recreation Master Plan to serve as the Trails Master Plan. The Trails and Bikeways chapter also recognizes that recent public surveys taken in San Clemente indicate a high demand for walking, riding, jogging, and hiking trails.

Trails are different from other recreational facilities for several reasons. Generally considered a recreation amenity, trails are also a mode of transportation to many. Trails are long and narrow, not compact or in one spot. Because they involve transportation, either by foot, wheels, or horseback, trails should return to the same beginning point. Trails return the user by either being two-way or by linking one trail to another into a loop. All loops and individual trails put together form a trails system. The trails system within San Clemente is intended to serve several types of users, at different levels of use.

For quick reference, the different use levels and types of trails are listed as follows:

Local Recreation Trails

- Location: in open space and usually away from streets.
- Permitted use: hikers and pedestrians, mountain bikers, the disabled (in some cases), and dogs on leashes.
- Link : other local and regional trails and bikeways, local parks and public facilities.
- Trail surface: usually natural in appearance, native soil or other; may be paved in some instances.
- Trail Width: 12-foot trail in 16-foot easement is optimum; 8-foot trail minimum allowed in some instances

Regional Recreation Trails (*Regional Riding and Hiking Trails*)

- Locations: in open space and usually away from streets.
- Permitted use: hikers and pedestrians, mountain bikers, equestrians, the disabled (in some cases), and dogs on leashes.
- Link: other trails throughout the County of Orange, to trails in neighboring cities, and as inter-county links to trails in neighboring San Diego County; link also to County or State parks and public facilities.
- Trail surface: usually natural in appearance, native soil or other; may be paved in some instances.
- Trail width: 12-foot trail in 16-foot easement is optimum; 8' trail minimum allowed in some instances.



Bikeways

Class I Bikeways are off-street bike lanes, located parallel to major streets, but separated from them. They are eight feet wide and paved, allowing two-way travel, and are typically placed within developed landscape areas. They allow pedestrians and bicyclists, with any number of wheeled uses from wheelchair to strollers to skaters. These are most often used for recreational purposes.

Class II Bikeways are on-street bike lanes, located within major streets or collectors, with a separate bike lane parallel to automobile lanes. The trails include a painted lane and bike route signage. Class II lanes permit only bicycles and are, therefore, most often used for commuter purposes.

Class III Bikeways are on-street bike routes, located within major streets or collectors, without a separate bike lane from automobile lanes. The trails include bike route signage. Class III lanes permit bicycles to ride in vehicle lanes and are, therefore, most often used for commuter purposes.

Recreational Trails

Recreational trails are differentiated from bikeways, in that they are generally intended for recreational uses and are developed on easements set in an open space area. Some recreational trails are used as links for commuters. The three most common active recreational uses for trails are walking, bicycling, and equestrian riding. Paved trails also attract other wheeled users, such as wheelchairs, skateboarders, and in-line skaters. Individual users choose their own level of exertion and pace. On any given trail, you may find a range of uses: pedestrians as walkers, wheelers, hikers or joggers; cyclists on leisurely rides; or mountain bikers on more intense rides.

Recreational trails most often include an opportunity for contact with nature, considered a unique and primary recreational amenity. Trails provide that contact with nature by being built through open space, either native or created, and by affording significant views or vistas. Trails in natural settings invite a range of unique recreational uses, some passive, such as simple viewing and contemplation of nature; others slightly more active, such as bird-watching or artwork.

Because trails in San Clemente are mostly located in open space, they must follow the natural hilly land forms. The grades are often steeper and more likely to change suddenly and drastically, as compared to flatland trails or bikeways. Sharp turns or switchbacks, long steep inclines or declines, as well as sudden drops and rises may occur on a trail in San Clemente's open space. Such features provide interesting and challenging opportunities for some users, while to others, they present difficulties or obstacles. This is especially true for individuals with disabilities. It is the intent of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan that San Clemente's trails system shall

provide some accessibility to significant open space without compromising all the natural land forms and the unique opportunities they afford.

Recreational trails are planned for most of the major ridgelines and through several significant canyons. Opportunities exist on those ridgelines for significant regional vistas, over three counties and the Pacific Ocean, including significant landmarks beyond, like San Clemente and Santa Catalina Islands, Mount Baldy, Saddleback Mountain, and Mount Wilson. Other view opportunities exist, including immediate views to the open space of hills and canyons, native flora and fauna. Trail alignments, view points, and rest areas should be planned to take advantage of natural views and vistas. Taking into consideration natural conditions, several view points in the overall trail system should be made accessible by the guidelines of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Recreational trails are divided into two types: Local Recreational Trails and Regional Riding and Hiking Trails.

Local Recreational Trails

Local recreational trails will be maintained by the City of San Clemente. Most are non-equestrian and serve mostly as local trail links for local trail users. However, local trails may serve as links to regional trails, including local trails outside City borders. Trail "spurs" (minor or side-trails to the main) to a local trail are encouraged after its original development in order to connect new trails, public parking or "staging" areas, recreational or public facilities, or new residential or commercial sites desiring access. San Clemente's Development Standards shall apply where recreational trails interface with bikeways or at intersections with streets or roadways.

Primary users of local recreational trails are intended to be pedestrians and bicyclists. Equestrian uses are allowed on local trails in the following cases: when a local Specific Plan specifically allows; when linking equestrian-zoned property to regional equestrian trails or facilities; or for law enforcement or maintenance purposes.

Recreational trails are a minimum eight feet wide, preferred at 10 feet. Shoulders shall be a minimum of two feet clear space on either side of the trail surface, while three feet to four feet is preferred. Standard trail easements are 16 feet wide total.

The preferred surface for local trails is native soil or natural materials. However, some local trail easements may coincide with access easements for utilities or other public purposes, or may cross public street rights-of-way. Some sections of local trails may coincide with a commuter bicycle route or may require access for the disabled. In those cases, all-weather paving, such as asphalt or concrete, is utilized.



All-weather surfacing, preferably natural looking, may be considered in the following instances: 1) where the trail sits over or shares another easement, like a utility easement, 2) where disabled access is required or found to be desirable, 3) where grades of under 5% can be provided and the nature of the site is not compromised, and the cost to provide paving is reasonable and cost effective, and 4) where all-weather access is required for emergency vehicles.

Signage is required at trail entrances or intersections, indicating rules and/or hazards, as well as location maps and minor directional signage at intervals along the trail. Other design standards for local trails, including grading and fencing, shall follow County of Orange Trails Standards.

Regional Riding and Hiking Trails

Regional Riding and Hiking Trails is a designation in the Orange County Master Plan of Regional Riding and Hiking Trails (OCRT). Trails with such designations are intended for County maintenance and serve as a main trail or link in the regional trail system beyond the City or County borders. Trail spurs are encouraged for a regional trail after its original development in order to connect to new trails, public parking or "staging" areas, recreational or public facilities, or new residential or commercial sites desiring access.

The County of Orange Trails Standards shall apply to regional trails. In the absence of specific requirements in the County's standards for any particular trail feature, such as roadway intersections or signage, San Clemente's local trail standards and/or Development Standards shall apply.

Trail widths are 12 feet in a 16-foot easement, optimum; widths down to 10 feet or eight feet in 16-foot easements may be accepted in certain special cases where topography or preservation of natural features are an issue.

Bikeways

Bikeways are differentiated from other trails in that they are either wholly or mostly dedicated to transportation by bicycle, and they are set in mostly urban or built environments. Bikeway alignments follow roadway alignments and are often a part of a street right-of-way. Bikeways often serve as the primary links in a trail system, connecting trail users from homes or businesses to recreational facilities, including recreational trails. Bikeway grades and surfaces parallel a street's grade, while the grades of trails are often steeper and more likely to follow natural land forms.

Bikeway standards are dictated by San Clemente's Development Standards, which are revised as necessary, and are not affected by the adoption of this Master Plan. General standards are shown

here to indicate the type of uses possible, especially as they affect recreational uses. The bikeway system indicated in this Master Plan serves as the expression of goals of the General Plan for linking the various recreational and public facilities, including recreational trails. The bikeways proposed will be implemented on a segment-by-segment basis, in coordination with San Clemente's Development Standards.

Class I Bikeways

Class I bikeways are separated from the roadway, have bike signage, and are wide enough to handle two-way bicycle or pedestrian traffic. Sometimes, Class I bikeways are striped to indicate division of bike travel. These are usually located in a landscaped parkway or setback adjacent to the street, usually in street rights-of-way. However, Class I bikeways may be located in easements over private or public property.



Class I bikeways create a feeling of safety from automobiles because of their separation from the roadway. That feeling of safety, combined with relatively easier grades, draw many recreational users to Class I bikeways, including family bicycling groups, in-line skaters and skateboarders, walkers and joggers.

Class II Bikeways

Class II bikeways are on-road with a painted bike lane, sometimes including bike signage. These bikeways attract some recreational users, but it is widely held that Class II bikeways attract more commuting bicyclists. This is especially true where speed is an issue to the cyclist, where Class I bikeways are not straight or filled with recreational users.



Class III Bikeways

Class III bikeways are on-road, with no painted bike lane, but include bike signage. Class III bikeway users in San Clemente are typically commuters or recreational riders seeking the challenges of a particularly hilly bikeway. Class III bikeways are useful in linking other bikeways and trails where streets are narrow and no right-of-way is available for a separate bike lane.

Existing Trails

A significant length of trails and bikeways have been developed in the past ten years since the first Parks and Recreation Master Plan was adopted. There are continuous bikeways from the north to south borders of the City, linking to regional bikeways in Dana Point and San Diego County. There are also significant sections of trails and bikeways running west to east, from the coast to inland portions of San Clemente. There are significant ridgelines and trails planned in undeveloped

portions of inland areas. However, there are numerous missing links between the existing trails and bikeways, as well as between the planned and existing. Please refer to Map A and B.

Rancho San Clemente Ridgeline Trail is a U-shaped local recreational trail that follows the major ridgeline that connects the south and central areas of San Clemente. Its highest point is above Salvador Hill (870 feet in elevation), and it has some of the best vistas in the City, including the regional snow-capped peaks, a 180-degree view of the Pacific Ocean from San Diego to Dana Point Harbor, and the Headlands, as well as offshore islands. This trail is located inside hundreds of acres of natural open space, within a mature coastal sage plant community.

Completed in 1993, the trail shares a portion of easements with water lines, reservoirs, and communications towers and is mostly surfaced in asphalt. Trail entrances, with parking, include one at Steed Park at the easterly terminus of Avenida La Pata and the City/County Border, as well as at the highest point on Avenida Salvador. Entrances, without parking, include the trails intersection with Calle Del Cerro, at the ridgeline, and at Calle Cordillera, south of Calle Amanecer, in the business park. This trail includes a developed spur known as the San Pablo Trail, between Avenida Salvador and San Pablo.

Existing Class I bikeways include:

1. A section on Camino De Los Mares, from Calle Nuevo to the northwestern City border.
2. A section on Camino Del Rio, from Camino De Los Mares to Sarmentoso.
3. A section on Avenida Vista Hermosa, from Via Turqueza to Camino Vista Pacifica.

Existing Class II bikeways include:



1. A set of lanes that effectively links the North-inland border at Forster Ranch to the beach, by the following streets: Avenida Vaquero at Camino Capistrano to Camino de Los Mares; Camino de Los Mares to the northwestern City border.
2. A regional link in the form of lanes from the north-coastal border with Dana Point, to the South City border with San Diego County and San Onofre State Park, via the following route: Pacific Coast Highway from Camino Capistrano to Avenida Pico, then changing to Class III on Avenida Pico through the following streets: Calle Las Bolas, Calle Sacramento, Avenida Florencia, Avenida Pelayo, Calle Puente, Avenida Palizada, Calle Seville, Avenida Santa Barbara, and South Ola Vista; changing back to Class II at Avenida Valencia, to Avenida Calafia and Avenida Del Presidente; then Del Presidente south to the City/County border at Cristianitos Road.

3. Lanes on Avenida Vista Hermosa, from Calle Frontera to Camino Vera Cruz. Lanes on Avenida Pico, east of Interstate 5 to Avenida La Pata, and Avenida La Pata from Avenida Pico to its terminus at Steed Park on the eastern border with San Diego County.
4. Lanes on Avenida Del Presidente, from Avenida Calafia north to Avenida Valencia.

Existing Class III bikeways include:

1. The bicentennial bikeway through downtown, which links Class II bikeways described in #2 above.
2. Bikeway starting just inside the City boundary, following Cristianitos Road into San Diego County and to San Mateo Campground approximately a mile northeast.

Planned Trails and Proposed Trail Links

San Clemente has a wealth of unparalleled climate and natural beauty. Its ocean and beaches, its hills and vistas, and open space blend with the small-town charm. Those features bring new residents and visitors on a constant basis. Those features, as well as the system of parks, beaches, golf courses, and recreational facilities, bring residents and visitors out in all seasons. A network of trails and bikeways on which to walk and ride between all the wonderful places allows us to take an easier pace and enjoy it all the more. Recognition that trails mean enjoyment was reflected in the comments received from the public regarding the Master Plan. Phone surveys and workshops indicated a high demand for public trails for walking, jogging, and riding.

The Parks and Recreation Master Plan proposes a network of trails and bikeways, linking as many natural areas and vistas, parks, beaches, schools, public facilities, and open spaces as possible as shown in Maps A, B, and D. Recreation trails are planned to follow San Clemente's major ridgelines, near or within large open spaces, regional or State parks. Some lesser recreational trail spurs are proposed for future study to link trails or public parks which were previously planned without links (see maps C and E).

Class I and/or Class II bikeways are planned or proposed for future study on all streets designated as Major Scenic Corridors in the Master Landscape Plan of Scenic Corridors (MLPSC), as well as one or two Minor Corridors (see Maps C and E). Class III bikeways are proposed for future study where gaps between existing or planned bikeways or trails exist.

Below are descriptions of the major implementation projects for trails and bikeways.

Forster Ranch, Marblehead Inland, and Shorecliffs Areas

Forster Ranch Ridgeline Trail is a planned local recreational trail, with its spine on the highest north-south ridgeline separating Prima Deshecha Canada and Segunda Deshecha Canada, better known as the canyons which have Camino de Los Mares and Avenida Pico at their bottoms. This trail also includes a significant east-west trail that will link the ridgeline to existing trails in San

Juan Capistrano, the future Prima Deshecha Regional Park, and the Prima Deshecha Regional Trail. Forster Ranch Ridgeline Trail will be connected to the northeastern and central portions of San Clemente. This trail has several spur opportunities to proposed recreational facilities east of the ridgeline. This trail was originally planned as part of the Forster Ranch Specific Plan. The developer, Laing Forster Ranch, will improve the trail as part of its development agreement with the City.

Forster Ranch bikeway extensions are proposed for future study to add two Class II Bikeways: located on Camino Vera Cruz/Camino Vista Pacifica (to complement existing Class II on Veracruz), and on Camino Del Rio, to complement the Class I planned and partially existing. The developer, Laing Forster Ranch, will improve these bikeways as part of its development agreement with the City. A planned Class II Bikeway on Sarmentoso will link bikeways and trails to an existing park, elementary, and middle school. Class II Bikeways are proposed for future study to complement the Planned Class I Bikeways along Avenida La Pata and Avenida Vista Hermosa.

Cascadita Canyon Trail is proposed for future study as a local recreational trail designed to follow the natural canyon area between the Marblehead Inland and Coast planned communities. It will link Calle Frontera and Camino Vera Cruz with a spur to Avenida Vista Hermosa near Marblehead Inland Park.

Camino Capistrano Bikeway is proposed for study and would be a one-block-long Class III bikeway. It represents the only missing link in bikeways leading from northwest San Clemente to the beach. It will link Calle Frontera and Camino Vera Cruz with a spur to Avenida Vista Hermosa near Marblehead Inland Park. Included with the Cascadita Canyon Trail is a Class III Bikeway proposed for future study to be added on Calle Frontera between Cascadita Canyon and the existing Class II trail along Avenida Vista Hermosa.

Talega Area and Northeastern San Clemente

Cristianitos Regional Trail is a planned regional riding and hiking trail in the Talega area that will run north and south from a central point--the terminus of Avenida Pico. From that starting point, the first leg of Cristianitos Regional Trail runs north through San Clemente's Sphere of Influence within the County of Orange, then follows the west boundary of the Talega Open Space Reserve back into the City; then back out of the City boundary in an



area of Talega identified in "proposed Sphere of Influence." Cristianitos Regional Trail will eventually reach to San Juan Creek and the Ortega Highway, per the OCRT. It will link to the currently planned terminus of Prima Deshecha Trail at the City/County border. It also will serve for spurs that reach east into currently undeveloped Orange County, past the proposed Foothill

Transportation Corridor (FTC). It is anticipated that any developer who proposes to complete the Talega development will be required to improve the Cristianitos Trail.

The southern half of the Cristianitos Regional Trail is planned as part of the San Onofre State Park, but proposed for future study by this Master Plan, in order to serve as a regional loop for existing local trails and regional bikeways. It is also proposed to serve as a destination point for regional equestrian users traveling the Cristianitos and the Prima Deshecha Regional Trails. It is planned to connect with trails within the planned future expansion of San Onofre State Park and with existing trails surrounding the San Mateo Campground. The southern leg of the Cristianitos Regional Trail has several spur opportunities to the Rancho San Clemente Ridgeline local recreational trail, as well as connections to existing trans-county regional bikeways which now link at the intersection of Cristianitos Road and Avenida Del Presidente. Future study will be required for any trail spurs to the southern Cristianitos Trail, as well as in the case where the alignment of the Foothill Transportation Corridor may shift the trail.



Prima Deshecha Trail is a planned riding and hiking trail within the Talega Community. It will run mainly east to west, from the future Prima Deshecha Regional Park to the possible future expansion of San Onofre State Park. At least, it will link to the currently planned southern terminus of Cristianitos Regional Trail at the City/County border. Prima Deshecha Regional Trail is also planned to loop to a northern section of the Cristianitos Trail, just beyond the northern City border, within the City's proposed Sphere of Influence. It is anticipated that any developer who proposes to complete the Talega development will be required to improve the Prima Deshecha Regional Trail.

At its buildout, this Prima Deshecha Regional Trail is planned to reach to San Juan Creek and the Ortega Highway, per the OCRT. It also will serve for spurs that may reach east into currently undeveloped Orange County, past the proposed Foothill Transportation Corridor (FTC). This trail has several spur opportunities to planned community and neighborhood parks within Talega and Forster Ranch areas, as well as to the Forster Ranch Ridgeline Trail.

Talega Bikeways include Class I and II designs. There are three planned Class I bikeways on Avenida Pico, Avenida La Pata, and Avenida Vista Hermosa, as well as two Class II bikeways on Vista Hermosa and Avenida Talega. Class II Bikeways are proposed for study for Avenida Pico, Avenida La Pata, and Avenida Vista Hermosa, to complement the planned Class I Bikeway and Access, "roadway commuter traffic." It is anticipated that any developer who proposes to complete that development will be required to improve the required bikeways.

Marblehead Coastal Trails are planned to include a local recreational trail and two local bikeways. The planned parks, Marblehead Bluff Park and Marblehead Sportspark, as well as the existing school, Shorecliffs Middle School, would be linked by a recreational trail within an existing canyon and Class I and Class II bikeways on Vista Hermosa, as well as to the adjacent and existing North Beach recreational area by Class II bikeways. In addition, a local recreational trail is planned for the middle of the bluff face along El Camino Real, affording coastal viewing opportunities from Dana Point Harbor and the Headlands to the northwest, the Channel Islands, and to San Clemente Pier and Cotton's Point to the south.

Future Trails Opportunities

Development in San Clemente has yet to reach a static phase, and it is presumed that opportunities may arise for new local recreational and regional trails, trail spurs, or bikeways not proposed with this Master Plan. Opportunities may arise to include local recreational trails over existing or proposed utility easements or to connect to new trails outside of San Clemente that have not been planned at this time.

It is a high priority goal of this Master Plan to expand the trail system as opportunities arise in the future.

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Beach and Park Facilities Maintenance

Current Services

All beach, park, and streetscape improvements are managed by the Beach and Park Maintenance Division. This division also administers city-wide weed abatement of private and public undeveloped property.

The majority of maintenance services are provided through contract companies. Oversight is provided by in-house inspectors who also provide specific maintenance and construction activities. This operational system has been utilized since 1994 and implemented specifically to reduce overall maintenance costs. Previously, a majority of maintenance services were provided through in-house staff.



In order to provide for the level of maintenance quality desired by residents at the lowest reasonable cost, staff identified individual activities that would best be completed with in-house employees and those activities that would best be accomplished through contract companies. The decision reached in this process was that day-to-day routine services that could be easily quantified were most effectively completed through contract companies. This decision was implemented in 1994 with a goal of saving approximately \$275,000 per year. In 1997, an evaluation of the system was conducted as part of the City's annual Long Term Financial Plan. The evaluation revealed that, over a three-year period, the quality of maintenance remained consistent with established standards, and savings were \$378,000 per year, or 35% greater than anticipated.

Quality Level of Maintenance Services

The quality level of maintenance services is calculated on a standard school grading system (A-F) with "A" being excellent, "C" being average, and "F" being low level. The Beaches, Parks and Recreation Department has utilized a grade "C," or average grade, as the level that provides for quality maintenance at a reasonable price. This grading system utilizes the National Recreation and Park Association standard maintenance classification system that is utilized nation-wide. This classification system has been modified to meet the climate and use realities of the southern California area. The San Clemente maintenance classification system is described in detail in Exhibit H.



All beach and park improvements are maintained in a safe and aesthetically pleasing manner. Trash is collected daily, and rest rooms are cleaned daily. Lawn areas are mowed on a weekly basis in the growing season and twice a month in the non-growing season. Amenities such as baseball, softball, and soccer fields, as well as tennis, basketball, and volleyball courts are routinely maintained to keep them in a safe and usable condition. Children's play areas are inspected weekly and damage is repaired immediately.

This quality level has worked well, as was determined when a city-wide random phone survey was conducted in April 1996. More than eight of every ten respondents (83%), who use San Clemente parks and recreational facilities, responded that they were very satisfied with maintenance activities. A synopsis of the various methods used to obtain input from the public is contained in the Public Input chapter of this plan.

With the failure of Measure "A," the quality of beach and park maintenance has dropped from a "C" level to a "C-," or "D+" level. This effectively means that beach and park facilities will continue to be maintained. However, the ability of the City to provide repair of facilities has been greatly reduced. For instance, in the past, when a park tree was destroyed due to vandalism, it was replaced. Today, it is removed and not replaced unless there is sufficient savings in the budget at the end of the fiscal year to replace it. In addition, renovation and rehabilitation projects, such as upgrading of children's play areas and rest room buildings, have been eliminated. Prior to Measure "A," funding was set aside on an annual basis specifically for this type of work.

The Future

It is the goal of this master plan to return maintenance activities to a "C" level and, eventually, enhance maintenance to a "B" level. San Clemente beaches, parks, and streetscapes are an important resource that need to be well maintained and preserved. Quality maintenance is key to this success.

In addition, consideration should be given to expanding joint use facilities with other public, private, and non-profit organizations to maximize utilization of facilities and share the cost of maintenance.

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Park Facilities Development

The City of San Clemente has traditionally been proactive in the provision of parks to the community. The standards for park development are high and requirements maximize state law allocations. The park acreage to population ratio, a standard measurement within the industry, is five acres of parks per 1,000 population. Currently, the City has 6.01 acres per 1,000 population. Please refer to Table F that provides a complete description of existing and proposed city park facilities.

The 1988 Parks and Recreation Master Plan continued the proactive process of park expansion. The City classifies parks into several categories: neighborhood, community, and special use parks. These classifications are described in detail in Exhibit G.

Since 1988, an extensive amount of effort has been placed into the development, upgrading, renovation, and rehabilitation of parks in San Clemente. Sixty-one acres of new parks have been built, including Bonito Canyon Park Boys and Girls Club expansion, Calafia Beach Park, Forster Ranch Community Park (phase one), Marblehead Park, Rancho San Clemente Park, San Gorgonio Park (phase three), and Richard T. Steed Memorial Park (phases one and two). In addition, an intensive renovation and rehabilitation program has been implemented in the City's existing parks. Max Berg Plaza Park was completely renovated. Every children's play area has been upgraded with new equipment, and three play areas have been completely outfitted to accommodate the disabled.

Restroom buildings have been renovated, showers on the beach have been upgraded, and a new at-grade crossing at North Beach has been installed. Tennis and basketball courts have been upgraded and surfaced with special coatings and windscreens to provide for a higher level of play. Picnic areas have been renovated, irrigation systems have been upgraded, and a centralized computer controlled system has been implemented to manage water utilized in parks.

The Municipal Golf Course has completely renovated its irrigation system and centralized computer controlled water management system. Greens and tees have been upgraded, and cart paths have been expanded and renovated. The driving range fence has been raised, a new maintenance facility built, and the clubhouse has received a substantial facelift.



Park Development Fee Program

The City utilizes a number of options in the development of parks and recreation facilities. The first is the Quimby Act. This state law authorizes the City to collect one time fees from residential developers to provide for the acquisition and development of parks. The amount of

the fee varies, based upon density of the residential project, average number of people anticipated to occupy each home, and the established park acreage ratio per 1,000 population established in the City. In San Clemente, this ratio is five acres of park land per 1,000 population. In addition to the Quimby Act fee program, the City also requires all new hotel and motel commercial developments to pay a one time fee per unit within the project.

The basis for this fee program is predicated upon the reality that, as residents move into new homes in San Clemente or as visitors stay in hotel/motels in San Clemente, the need for additional parks is created to serve the new residents and ongoing flow of visitors. The existing park system would quickly become overburdened if additional parks were not added to accommodate the additional population numbers.

Park Acreage and Amenity Program

This Parks and Recreation Master Plan has proposed for future study a scenario which might result in significant alterations to the park scenario currently adopted in the City's 1992 General Plan and 1988 Master Plan. Despite the alterations, the total park acreage and number of parks included in the proposal for study scenario are essentially the same as the park acreage and number of parks included in the park scenario adopted in the 1992 General Plan.

The 1988 Master Plan/1992 General Plan park scenario included 513 acres of parks and golf courses. The study scenario included in this Master Plan could result in 515 acres of publicly owned parks and golf courses. One of the most significant changes proposed for study in this Master Plan is the reconfiguration of the City's community/special use parks. The 1988 Master Plan/1992 General Plan park scenario included three new community/special use parks (two that included community centers, gymnasiums and pools and one park specifically designated as a pool complex). The 1998 Master Plan proposes for study elimination of the one park specifically designated as a pool complex.

A detailed map of the location of planned future parks and other facilities can be found under Map E. A detailed map of the changes to parks and other facilities proposed for study by this Master Plan can be found under Map C. A description of the different types of park classifications can be found under Exhibit G. In general, the different park classifications are as follows:

Neighborhood Parks: Neighborhood parks are designed to serve the needs of local neighborhoods. They are generally less than 10 acres in size. Typical facilities in these parks include children's play areas, picnic areas, restroom buildings, sports courts, exercise areas, and open turf. It is the intention of this Master Plan that neighborhood parks be considered a basic service provided by the City. Therefore, neighborhood parks will continue to be planned, designed, built, and maintained as part of new residential development of the City as it occurs.

Community Parks: Community parks are designed to serve larger portions of the City or the entire City. They are generally over 10 acres in size. These parks include major sports facilities such as baseball, softball, soccer, football, tennis, and basketball. These facilities generally include field lighting and parking lots to accommodate high use. Neighborhood park amenities (picnic areas and children’s play areas) are also included since community parks are also designed to serve neighborhood park needs. Community parks are considered a basic service that is provided by the City. Therefore, community parks will continue to be planned, designed, built, and maintained as part of new residential development of the City as it occurs.

Special Use Park Facilities: Special use parks are designed to serve larger portions of the City or the entire City, as community parks do. However, these parks are also designed to meet specific needs of the City. The size of a special use park can vary from a couple of acres to over 100 acres. Examples of special use parks include the beach, Community Center/Senior Center/Library, Ole Hanson Beach Club and Pools, San Clemente Municipal Golf Course, Vista Bahia Park Trap and Skeet Range, and City Hall. This Master Plan considers special use parks to be an important aspect of San Clemente and should be built when the proposed improvements are justified. However, voter approval shall be obtained if City Council determines that the development and maintenance of the proposed special use park cannot be accomplished without an additional tax burden placed upon residents of San Clemente.



Since the adoption of the 1988 Parks and Recreation Master Plan, residents have voiced interest in developing a therapeutic pool, a skate park, and a dog park in San Clemente. These special use facilities should be considered with development of future parks or inclusion into existing parks, where space is available.

Trails and Bikeways: See Chapter 7 for description of Trails and Bikeways which are existing, planned, and proposed for study.

Public and Private Plazas: Plazas provide unique opportunities as open space or gathering places. They can be incorporated into many aspects of a community, from public parks to private shopping centers. Examples include public plazas at Max Berg Plaza Park, Marblehead Park, and Rancho San Clemente Park. Plazas provide space for people to meet, to participate in conversation, and to relax. Plazas create an ambiance specific to the setting they are in and reflect a pedestrian orientation. It is a goal of this Master Plan to support incorporating plazas in public parks as well as public and private plazas in commercial areas.



The Future

For purposes of planning, the following neighborhood, community, and special use park facilities are proposed for future development or study. These facilities for future development or study are broken into geographical areas of the city.

Southwest San Clemente: This area represents the southern-most portion of the city. In the 1988 Master Plan/1992 General Plan, three new neighborhood parks were planned. This plan suggests that a reduction in these three new neighborhood parks to one new neighborhood park be studied in the future. As part of the study, consideration should be given to placement of one park in a centralized location to maximize its use by residential development in the south San Clemente area. One potential location would be at San Clemente State Park, on a currently undeveloped portion of the park. This effort would require a joint-use agreement between the City and State Department of Parks and Recreation. A second location would be along the southern boundary of the City with Camp Pendleton Marine Base. After a study/public process is completed, should the City/community determine that reduction of the parks from three to one is appropriate, a general plan amendment to amend the Planned Parks and Recreational Facilities Map would be required. Depending on future park locations, an amendment to the City's General Plan Land Use Map may be required as well.

It is also recommended that a relocation of the Vista Bahia Trap and Skeet Range be considered. This facility is extremely limited in its ability to operate due to its close proximity to residential neighborhoods. Potential relocation areas include the Talega planned community or the undeveloped portion of land adjacent to the future extension of Avenida La Pata, north of the intersection with Avenida Vista Hermosa. Relocation of the Trap and Skeet Range would also require an amendment to the Existing and Planned Parks and Recreational Facilities Map in the City's General Plan, as well as a possible amendment to the General Plan Land Use Map.

Downtown Central Area: This area represents the central portion of the city, west of the Rancho San Clemente planned community. In the 1988 Master Plan, a substantial expansion and upgrading of Parque Del Mar and the associated beach was proposed. This Master Plan continues to support this expansion and upgrading of the park and beach area.



In 1989, the City Redevelopment Agency purchased the Casa Romantica, the original home of Ole Hanson, the City's founder. This 1928 estate is located on the bluff just north of the pier. In recent years, the home has been used for weddings and private parties or events. However, public access to the site has been minimal. It is a goal of the City to restore the building and to provide public access and programs on-site. Options being considered include re-establishing the building as an historic resource for the community, including a non-profit component that will

provide public uses and a commercial component which can fund the project, pay down the debt on the property, and provide a reliable source of revenue to offset maintenance costs.

The Parks and Recreation Master Plan also recommends an expansion of the San Clemente County Library and expansion of the San Clemente Senior Center. Both facilities are located adjacent to each other, and both will be undersized at buildout of the city. Based upon this need to expand, it is recommended that a new Senior Center facility be built (10,000-15,000 square feet). This would allow the Library to expand into the vacated senior center space. Under this scenario, both facilities would be of sufficient size to meet the needs of the city at buildout. Senior organizations recommend that the new senior center building remain in the downtown central area of the city. In order to accomplish this, the City will most likely need to find an existing building of sufficient size to purchase since undeveloped land in this area is very limited. A second option would be to relocate the senior center to the existing community center next door and then build a new community center in another area of the city. Both of these options will need further study in the future.

Marblehead Coastal Planned Community: This area is a 250-acre undeveloped portion of the city west of the freeway and north of Avenida Pico. It is the last remaining undeveloped large coastal property in San Clemente and represents that portion of the city developed under the Marblehead Coastal Specific Plan. In the 1988 Master Plan/1992 General Plan, one community level coastal bluff top park was proposed. This park would also support the future upgrading of the North Beach commercial area, located near the corner of Avenida Pico and El Camino Real. This Master Plan continues to support this coastal bluff park. In addition, a community-level sport park (two to three soccer fields) was added to the General Plan (in 1998) and is included in this Master Plan. The sports park site is adjacent to Shorecliffs Middle School. This park will add important soccer facilities to the community and augment the existing soccer facilities existing at the middle school. Its location will also allow the sports fields of both the school and park to be used for tournaments.

Finally, it is recommended that hiking and bicycle trails be developed to take advantage of preserved existing coastal canyons and fill in missing links in the trail system.

Northwest San Clemente: This area represents the northern portion of the city, west of the Forster Ranch Planned Community. In the 1988 Master Plan, no additional park development was planned. This plan also does not anticipate additional park development.

Rancho San Clemente Planned Community: This area represents that portion of the city developed under the Rancho San Clemente Specific Plan. In the 1988 Master Plan, this area planned for the development of a community level park (Richard T. Steed Memorial Park) and a neighborhood level park (Rancho San Clemente Park). Both of these parks have been developed. Richard T. Steed Memorial Park was originally built to relocate the City's existing adult softball

program to a facility outside of residentially zoned areas and provide youth sports groups with the additional fields vacated by the adult program. It was developed in 1990 as a self-sufficient public-private partnership, with the City providing the land and private concessionaires developing and operating the park. Adult sports have been successful at the park. Unfortunately, to date, the park has not been financially successful. With the failure of Measure "A," the park was closed in July 1997, and the adult softball program (that served approximately 100 teams on a quarterly basis) was eliminated.

The park reopened in October 1998 when the City and All Sports Communications, Inc. signed a five-year operating agreement. Under this agreement, All Sports Communications operates the park and is responsible for all maintenance costs. The park is used for youth/adult softball/volleyball leagues and tournaments.



The long term goal of this Master Plan is to re-establish the full adult softball program at Steed Park. However, this will happen only after appropriate youth sports facilities are developed in sufficient quantities at Steed Park or other parks to serve local youth sports groups through buildout of the city. In order to accomplish this, it is proposed that the approximately 12 acres of undeveloped land at Steed Park be developed as a lighted youth sports park (two to three softball fields).

Marblehead Inland Planned Community: This area represents that portion of the city developed under the Marblehead Inland Specific Plan. In the 1988 Master Plan, one neighborhood park was planned for development (Marblehead Inland Park). This park has been developed. A goal of this Master Plan is to expand Marblehead Inland Park by assisting the Capistrano Unified School District in developing a portion of the elementary school located adjacent to the park. Additional bicycle and hiking trails are also proposed for future study that will fill in missing links in the trails plan.

Forster Ranch Planned Community: This area represents that portion of the city developed under the Forster Ranch Specific Plan. In the 1988 Master Plan and the 1992 General Plan, one community park (Forster Ranch Community Park and one neighborhood level park, La Cristianitos Pageant property) were proposed for development. The first phase of development of Forster Ranch Community Park was completed. This park was developed on Capistrano Unified School District property (Bernice Ayer Middle School). It is operated under a joint-use agreement between the City and School District. Future phases of this park would include children's play areas, sports courts, picnic areas, and special use facilities.

The types of special use facilities which are proposed include:

- A community center which would be very similar in use to the existing Community Center located at the corner of Del Mar and Seville. The new facility would provide space to expand services already in existence to serve new customers as the city grows.
- A gymnasium which would provide much needed space for indoor sports such as basketball, volleyball, indoor soccer, etc. The gymnasium would also provide space for special events and other major activities that need a large building. There are three gymnasiums currently in use in San Clemente: two at the Boys and Girls Club (Bonito Canyon Park) and one at San Clemente High School. These facilities are heavily used at current population levels.
- A pool complex is suggested which would include both an Olympic and 25-meter pool. This would provide pools that would expand existing services through the aquatics programs at the Ole Hanson Beach Club pools and additional services including competition events. The pool complex could include diving facilities as well.

As previously noted in the 1988 Master Plan/1992 General Plan, the existing La Cristianitos Pageant property (approximately 60 acres) was recommended for purchase and development as a neighborhood park. This Plan proposes, for future study, the elimination of the La Cristianitos neighborhood park. Geological instability of this property requires that the City consider the elimination of this park. After a study/public process is completed, should the City/community determine that the elimination of this park is appropriate, an amendment to the Planned Parks and Recreational Facilities Map in the City's General Plan would be required.

Talega Planned Community: This undeveloped 3,510-acre area represents that portion of the city developed under the Talega Specific Plan. In the 1988 Master Plan, one community park and three neighborhood level parks were proposed for development. This plan continues to support the development of all four parks. However, this plan recommends that the City study the possibility of moving the Talega Community Park to a non-residential



site (within the City). This recommendation is suggested to eliminate conflicts between residential property and high use community park property, including lighted sports fields. If a study is undertaken to consider relocation, sites outside of the Talega area should be considered. One potential location for a relocated Talega Community Park is at the corner of Avenida La Pata and Avenida Vista Hermosa. This park could include a community center, gymnasium, and pool complex. In addition, this new park could include a lighted youth sports field complex (four baseball/ two soccer fields). Please refer to the Forster Ranch Planned Community portion of this chapter for a general description of special use facilities.

Should the City/community determine that the relocation of Talega Community Park is desirable, a General Plan amendment to amend the Planned Parks and Recreational Facilities Map would be required. Amendments to the City's General Plan Land Use Map and specific plan amendments may be required as well.



Finally, it is recommended that, in the future, as part of future general plan and specific plan amendments to the Talega Specific Plan, the City give consideration to providing space for a privately operated equestrian facility and relocation of the Vista Bahia Park Trap and Skeet Range. Two potential locations which should be included in future studies are identified on Map C and E of this document. A number of hiking/equestrian trails are planned for the areas shown, and an equestrian facility that offered boarding, training, and other services would complement the trails and provide another recreational opportunity currently not available in San Clemente. Relocation of the Trap and Skeet Range to a non-residential portion of the Talega planned community would allow the range to expand its hours of operation to better serve the City in the future as the population grows.

Park Development Timelines

In the past, parks were developed near the end or after residential development occurred. This was because land and/or fees were collected as development occurred, and sufficient funding was not available until the last homes were built and fees paid. In addition, since the City standard acreage is five acres per 1,000 population, many times, only land was dedicated to the City in order to achieve the acreage necessary. However, since all Quimby Act requirements were satisfied through the dedication of land, no funding was available to develop the park property. This led to acres of park land remaining undeveloped until alternative funding could be found.

This Parks and Recreation Master Plan has replaced the prior development timeline policy with a new one. The new policy requires that parks in new neighborhood developments be developed up front, prior to the occupancy of one-half of the total homes of the project area served by the proposed park. This requires the City, in most cases, to enter into development agreements in order to require residential home builders to front park development funds to build the necessary parks.

A priority list is provided in Exhibit K on Page K-1, describing the various park development projects and their estimated costs.

Neighborhood and Community Parks versus Special Use Parks

This Parks and Recreation Master Plan has designated that neighborhood and community level parks will be considered primary for the provision of services and amenities to residents and visitors of San Clemente. As new residential development occurs, neighborhood and community level parks will be built and funded for maintenance through the City.

This Master Plan also takes a more conservative approach to the development of special use parks/facilities. Special use parks/facilities are, by design, expensive to build, operate, and maintain since they include major park amenities such as community centers, gymnasiums, and pools. Therefore, in an effort to provide an increased degree of scrutiny in the approval process for the development, of this type of park/facility, the Parks and Recreation Commission; Golf Committee, when a golf course is under consideration; and City Council shall be required to make a determination that the development, operation, and maintenance of a proposed special use park/facility can be accomplished without an increased tax burden upon San Clemente residents. If this determination can be made, the proposed special use park/facility can be approved for development.

If the development, operation, and maintenance of the special use park/facility is determined to require an increased tax burden upon San Clemente residents, then the decision to build, operate, and maintain the park/facility shall be made by voters of San Clemente. Through this voting process, San Clemente residents will make the determination whether to fund the development of the proposed special use park/facility as well as ongoing operations and maintenance.

Financing Park Development and Maintenance

All parks, whether they are neighborhood, community, or special use parks, will require full funding for development and maintenance before they are built. This will be accomplished in three ways.



Development Agreements: This scenario provides a mechanism whereby the City and developer can lock in when a particular park or parks within a development project will be built. It also provides a mechanism to fund the development of the parks, especially when specific amenities are desired that are beyond the financial requirements of state and local codes.

Financial Stability of the Development Project: This scenario requires that all new developments in the city be financially self-supporting. This means that all public services, including parks, will have sufficient funding to provide for the maintenance and operation of the amenities after they are built.

Voter Approval: This scenario provides for voter approval of a funding mechanism for the development, maintenance, and operation of a specific special use park/facility, when the cost of the park/facility exceeds the City's ability to fund it without additional financial support from residents and property owners. The Parks and Recreation Commission, Golf Committee (when a golf course is under consideration), and City Council shall be required to make a determination that this financial situation exists and schedule an appropriate date to place the item before San Clemente voters.

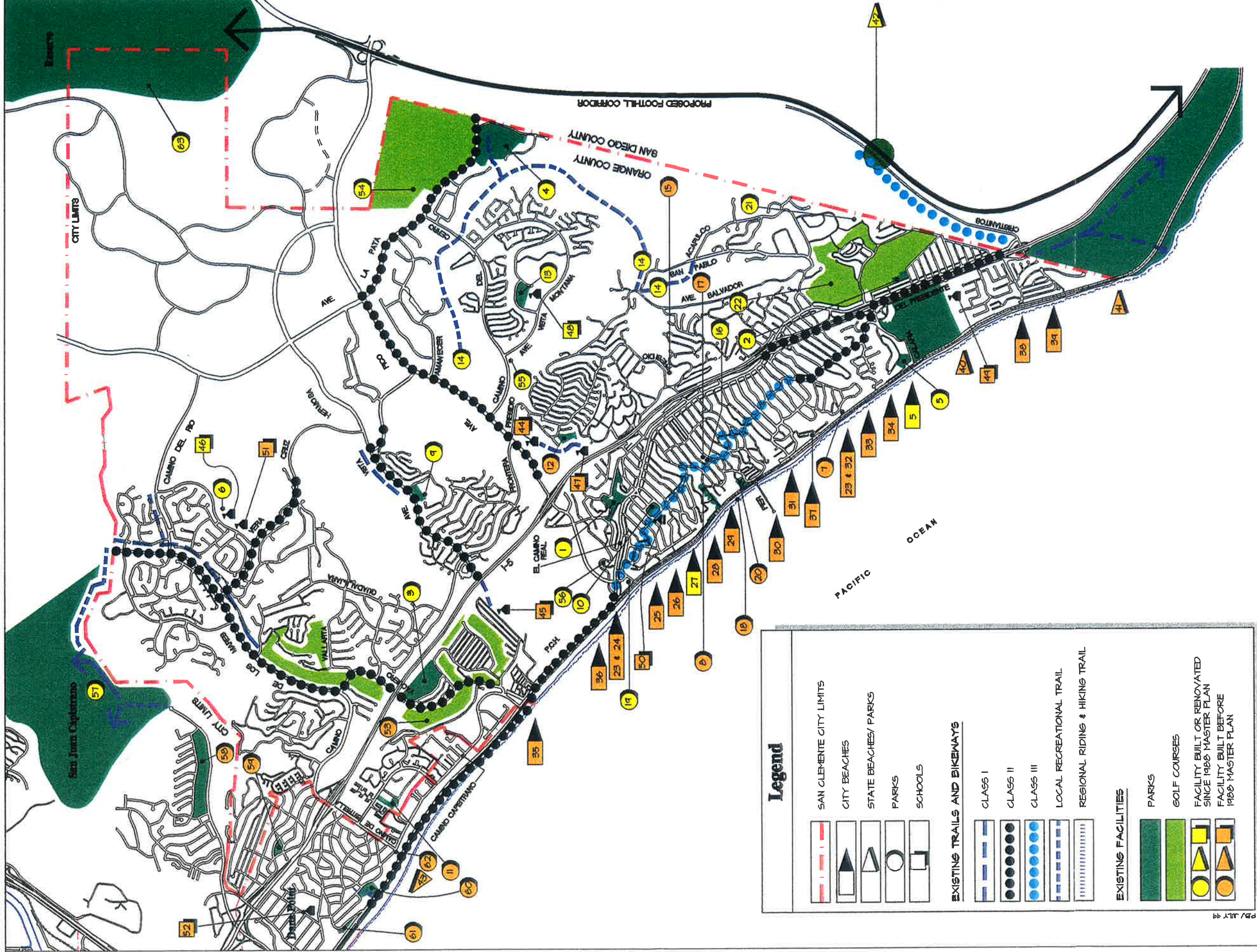
Park Development Procedures



As part of the comprehensive update of the City's Zoning Ordinance in 1995 and 1996, review procedures for parks were examined by the City's Parks and Recreation Commission, Planning Commission, and ZOAC (Zoning Ordinance Advisory Committee), and a citizen's committee appointed by the City Council to draft the new Zoning Ordinance. The 1988 Parks and Recreation Master Plan did not detail review procedures for parks, and the procedures included in the previous Zoning Ordinance were outdated and ambiguous. In 1995, the Commissions and staff concurred that the review procedures required clarification as part of the update of the Zoning Ordinance and future update of the Master Plan.

The recreational facilities and streetscapes review policy was recommended for the City Council's approval by the Parks and Recreation Commission and Planning Commission in 1995. The City Council adopted those procedures as an interim policy on February 7, 1996, and directed their inclusion in the updated Parks and Recreation Master Plan. These procedures are described in detail under Exhibit I of this Master Plan entitled "Recreational Facilities and Streetscapes Review Policies," and with the adoption of this Master Plan are hereby adopted as the permanent and official policies of the City for the review of recreational facilities and streetscapes.

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Legend

- SAN CLEMENTE CITY LIMITS
- CITY BEACHES
- STATE BEACHES/ PARKS
- PARKS
- SCHOOLS

EXISTING TRAILS AND BIKEWAYS

- CLASS I
- CLASS II
- CLASS III
- LOCAL RECREATIONAL TRAIL
- REGIONAL RIDING & HIKING TRAIL

EXISTING FACILITIES

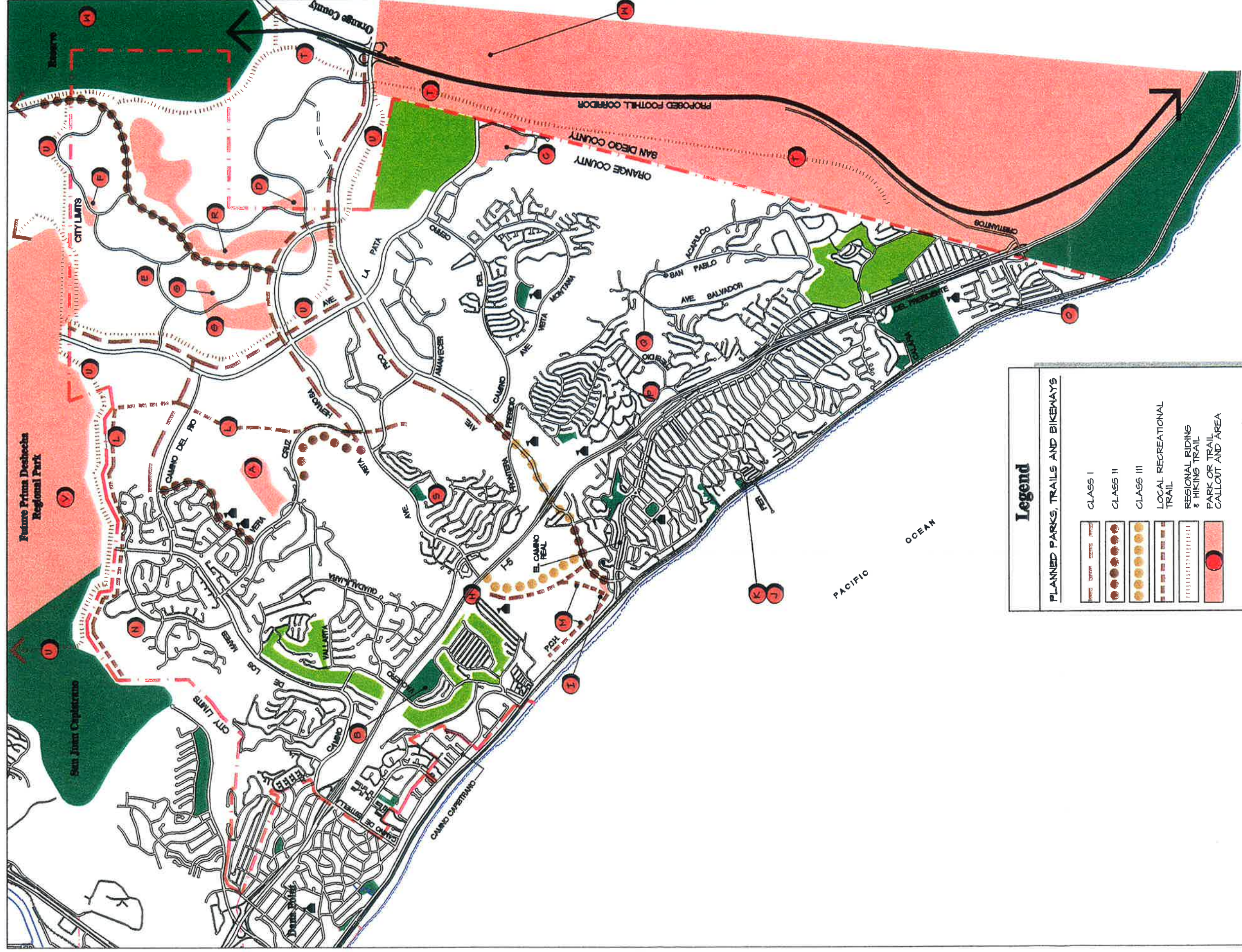
- PARKS
- GOLF COURSES
- FACILITY BUILT OR RENOVATED SINCE 1988 MASTER PLAN
- FACILITY BUILT BEFORE 1988 MASTER PLAN

REV. JULY 94

Prepared in the office of
City of San Clemente
 Beaches, Parks and Recreation
 100 N. Calle Seville
 San Clemente, CA 92672
 Tel. (949) 361-8264
 Fax (949) 361-8280
 E-Mail: SCCM@Fechell.net

Existing Parks, Beaches and Trails
 (Color Version)

Parks and Recreation Master Plan
 Adopted 1999

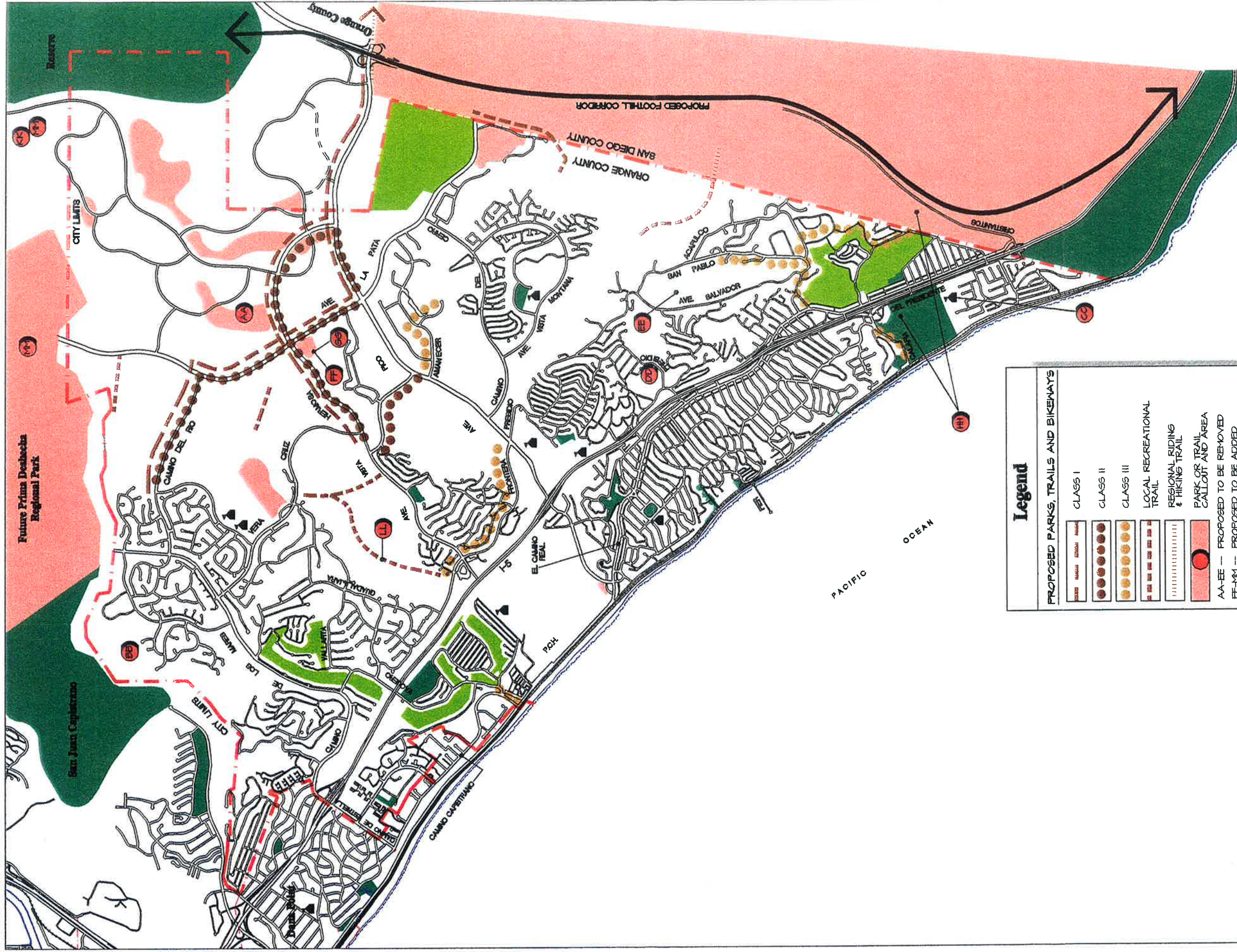


Prepared in the office of
City of San Clemente
 Beaches, Parks and Recreation

100 N. Calle Seville
 San Clemente, CA 92672
 Tel (949) 361-5264
 Fax (949) 361-8280
 E-Mail SCCM@Pachel.net

**Planned Parks and Trails
 (Color Version)**

**Parks and Recreation Master Plan
 Adopted 1999**



Legend

PROPOSED PARKS, TRAILS AND BIKEWAYS

	CLASS I
	CLASS II
	CLASS III
	LOCAL RECREATIONAL TRAIL
	REGIONAL RIDING & HIKING TRAIL
	PARK OR TRAIL CALLOUT AND AREA
	AA-BE -- PROPOSED TO BE REMOVED
	FF-MM -- PROPOSED TO BE ADDED

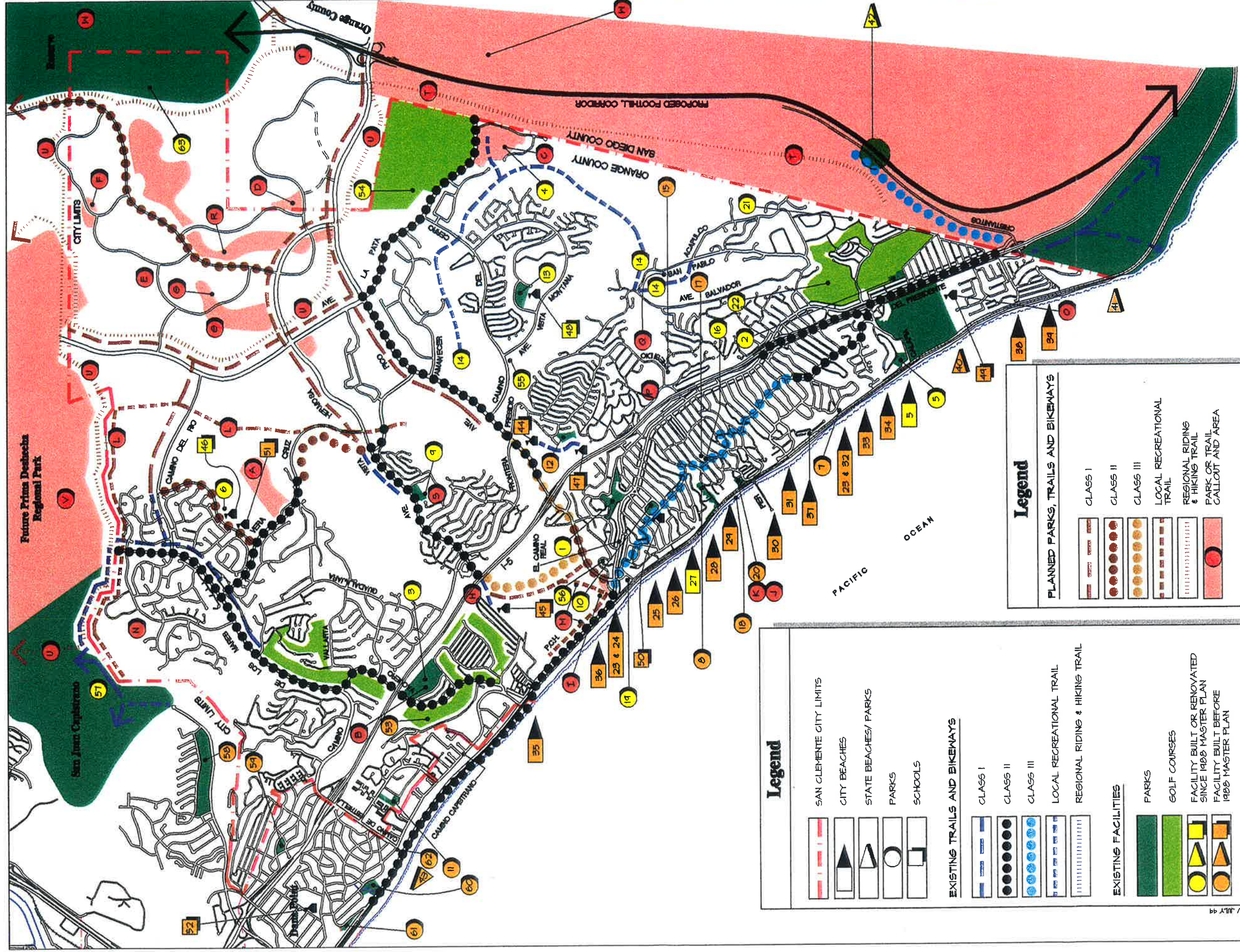
NOTE: (FF - M -- NOT INDICATED) ALT. LOCATIONS FOR 2 ND. MUNICIPAL GOLF COURSE (SEE TEXT)

**Proposed for Study Parks and Trails
(Color Version)**

**Parks and Recreation Master Plan
Adopted 1999**

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City of San Clemente
Beaches, Parks and Recreation

100 N. Calle Seville
San Clemente, CA 92672
Tel (949) 361-8264
Fax (949) 361-8280
E-Mail SCCM@PacBell.net



Prepared in the office of
City of San Clemente
 Beaches, Parks and Recreation

100 N. Calle Sevilla
 San Clemente, CA 92672
 Tel (949) 361-6264
 Fax (949) 361-8260
 E-Mail SCCM@Pacbell.net

**Planned Buildout Scenario
 (Combined Existing and Planned Parks and Trails)
 (Color Version)**

**Parks and Recreation Master Plan
 Adopted 1999**



Legend

	SAN CLEMENTE CITY LIMITS
	CITY BEACHES
	STATE BEACHES/ PARKS
	PARKS
	SCHOOLS

EXISTING TRAILS AND BIKEWAYS

	CLASS I
	CLASS II
	CLASS III
	LOCAL RECREATIONAL TRAIL
	REGIONAL RIDING & HIKING TRAIL

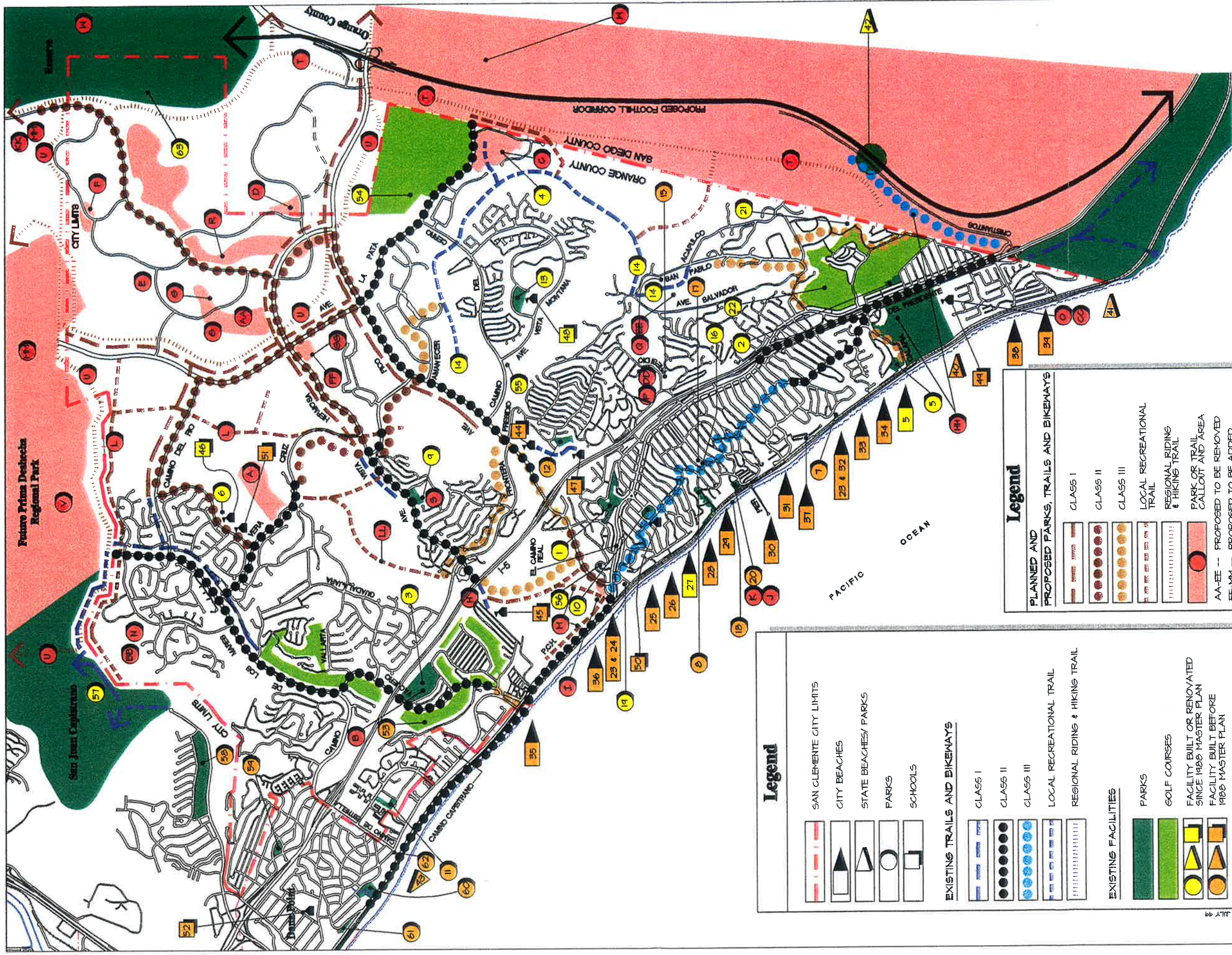
EXISTING FACILITIES

	PARKS
	GOLF COURSES
	FACILITY BUILT OR RENOVATED SINCE 1988 MASTER PLAN
	FACILITY BUILT BEFORE 1988 MASTER PLAN

Legend

	PLANNED PARKS, TRAILS AND BIKEWAYS
	CLASS I
	CLASS II
	CLASS III
	LOCAL RECREATIONAL TRAIL
	REGIONAL RIDING & HIKING TRAIL
	PARK OR TRAIL CALLOUT AND AREA

PS / JULY 99



PS/ JULY 99

Legend

SAN CLEMENTE CITY LIMITS
 CITY BEACHES
 STATE BEACHES/PARKS
 PARKS
 SCHOOLS

EXISTING TRAILS AND BIKEWAYS

CLASS I
 CLASS II
 CLASS III
 LOCAL RECREATIONAL TRAIL
 REGIONAL RIDING & HIKING TRAIL

EXISTING FACILITIES

PARKS
 GOLF COURSES
 FACILITY BUILT OR RENOVATED SINCE 1988 MASTER PLAN
 FACILITY BUILT BEFORE 1988 MASTER PLAN

Legend

PLANNED AND PROPOSED PARKS, TRAILS AND BIKEWAYS

CLASS I
 CLASS II
 CLASS III
 LOCAL RECREATIONAL TRAIL
 REGIONAL RIDING & HIKING TRAIL
 PARK OR TRAIL CALLOUT AND AREA
 AA-EE -- PROPOSED TO BE REMOVED
 FF-MM -- PROPOSED TO BE ADDED

NOTE: (FF - W -- NOT INDICATED) ALT. LOCATIONS FOR 2 ND. MUNICIPAL GOLF COURSE (SEE TEXT)

Prepared in the office of
City of San Clemente
 Beaches, Parks and Recreation

100 N. Calle Seville
 San Clemente, CA 92672
 Tel. (949) 361-8264
 Fax (949) 361-8280
 E-Mail SCOR@Facbell.net

**Proposed for Study Buildout Scenario
 Combined Existing and Planned Parks and Trails
 with Proposed for Study Changes (Color Version)**

Parks and Recreation Master Plan
 Adopted 1999

Parks, Trails, and Bikeways Inventory
Proposed for Study Buildout Scenario

Neighborhood Parks	Gross Acres	Net Acres	Gross Dev. Acres	Net Dev. Acres	Net Dev. Acres/Buildout
Calafia Beach Park	7.50	2.50	7.50	2.50	2.50
Leslie Park	0.09	0.09	0.09	0.09	0.09
Linda Lane Park	4.45	3.75	4.45	3.75	3.75
Marblehead Inland Park	4.10	3.80	4.10	3.80	3.80
Max Berg Plaza Park	3.62	3.62	3.62	3.62	3.62
Mira Costa Park	3.85	3.85	3.85	3.85	3.85
Rancho San Clemente Park	8.00	7.50	8.00	7.50	7.50
South San Clemente Neighborhood Pk.	5.00	5.00	0.00	0.00	5.00
Talega Neighborhood Park No. 1	8.00	8.00	0.00	0.00	8.00
Talega Neighborhood Park No. 2	8.00	8.00	0.00	0.00	8.00
Talega Neighborhood Park No. 3	8.00	8.00	0.00	0.00	8.00
Verde Park	3.10	2.10	3.10	2.10	3.10
	63.71	56.21	34.71	27.21	57.21
Community Parks					
Bonito Canyon Bicentennial Park	11.00	7.00	11.00	7.00	7.00
Forster Ranch Community Park	22.00	19.40	8.80	6.30	19.40
LaPata/Vista Hermosa Com. Park	25.00	25.00	0.00	0.00	25.00
Marblehead Bluff Park	9.35	6.61	0.00	0.00	6.61
Marblehead Sports Park	7.00	7.00	0.00	0.00	7.00
San Luis Rey Park	3.28	3.28	3.28	3.28	3.28
San Geronio Park	23.00	12.00	23.00	12.00	18.00
Richard T. Steed Memorial Park	43.42	23.65	31.42	12.00	23.65
	144.05	103.94	77.50	40.58	109.94
Special Use Parks/Facilities					
Beaches	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00
City Hall	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00
Com Center/Library/Senior Center	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00
Municipal Golf Course	133.00	129.00	133.00	129.00	129.00
Second Municipal Golf Course	150.00	140.00	0.00	0.00	140.00
Ole Hanson Beach Club	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00
Parque Del Mar	4.00	3.25	4.00	3.25	3.25
Pier Bowl Park/Plaza	0.50	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.50
Vista Bahia Park	3.00	2.75	3.00	2.75	2.75
	318.50	303.50	168.00	163.00	303.50
Beach Access Points					
Calafia	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.06
Corto Lane	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03
Diji Court	0.29	0.29	0.29	0.29	0.29
Esplanade ("T" Street)	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50
Linda Lane	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.06
Los Alamos	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50
North Beach	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.06
Mariposa	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.30
Pier	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.06
Portal	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50
Riviera	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.06
	2.42	2.42	2.42	2.42	2.42

Trails	Total Miles	Developed Miles	Miles/Bldout
Cascadita Canyon Trail	1.60	0.00	1.60
Cristianitos Trail	5.77	0.00	5.77
Forster Ranch Ridgeline Trail	3.13	0.00	3.13
Marblehead Coastal Trail	1.04	0.00	1.04
Prima Deshecha Trail	6.63	0.00	6.63
Rancho San Clemente Ridgeline Trail	3.40	3.40	3.40
Bicycle Trails (Class One)	13.21	2.03	13.21
Bicycle Trails (Class Two)	20.45	13.06	20.45
Bicycle Trails (Class Three)	5.20	2.08	5.20
	60.43	20.57	60.43
Public Schools		Developed Acres	Dev. Acres/Bldout
Truman Benedict Elementary School		8	8
Concordia Elementary School		10	10
Clarence Lobo Elementary School		9	9
Las Palmas Elementary School		7	7
Marblehead Elementary School		0	7
Ole Hanson Elementary School		17	17
Palisades Elementary School		11	11
Bernice Ayer Middle School		13	13
Shorecliffs Middle School		20	20
San Clemente High School		49	49
Talega Elementary School		0	10
		144	161
State Parks		Developed Acres	Acres/Bldout
Doheny State Park		62	62
San Clemente State Park		110	110
San Onofre State Park		32	3732
		204	3904
General Information - City Parks	1998	Proposed for Study Buildout	Proposed Bldout w/o Golf
City of San Clemente Population	47,000	65,000	65,000
Acres of Parks Developed (Gross Acres)	282.63	528.68	245.68
Acres of Parks Developed (Net Acres)	233.21	473.07	204.07
Acres of Parks\1,000 Pop. (Gross Acres)	6.01	8.13	3.78
Acres of Parks\1,000 Pop. (Net Acres)	4.96	7.28	3.14
General Information - Public Schools and State Parks		1998	Buildout
City of San Clemente Population		47,000	65,000
Acres of Schools Developed		144	161
Acres of State Parks Developed		204	3904
Acres of Schools/State Parks/1,000 pop.		7.40	62.54

Definitions:

Gross Acres: Total land area dedicated to the City and maintained by the City, including easements.

Net Acres: Usable land area within a park not exceeding a 10% slope with allowances up to a 25% slope depending upon type of uses provided. Slopes greater than 10% are considered unusable for active recreation purposes, but may be allowed for passive recreation purposes as long as they don't exceed 25%. Slopes exceeding 25% are considered unusable for all recreation purposes.

Proposed for Study Buildout Scenario: includes existing & planned parks, plus those proposed for study by this Master Plan to be added or deleted from the City's General Plan; formal changes to the General Plan will be required to implement the Proposed for Study changes.

Major Building Square Footages: Community Center-16,425; Library-10,000; Senior Center-3,608; Beach Club-6,555; Boy's and Girl's Club-26,795;

Municipal Golf Course Clubhouse-6,555; Pro Shop-1,534; Cart Storage-2,889; Maint Bldg-7,000; Marine Safety Headquarters-5,675; Pier-41,492;

Fisherman's Restaurant-3,968; Steed Park Restaurant-2,244. Not included in this inventory, are stand alone beach and park restrooms, concession bldgs, or other ancillary structures such as storage bldgs and the pier lifeguard tower.

Parks, Trails, and Bikeways Inventory
Planned Buildout Scenario

Neighborhood Parks	Gross Acres	Net Acres	Gross Dev. Acres	Net Dev. Acres	Net Dev. Acres/Buildout
Calafia Beach Park	7.50	2.50	7.50	2.50	2.50
Concordia Park	5.00	5.00	0.00	0.00	5.00
Cristianitos Park	5.00	5.00	0.00	0.00	5.00
Leslie Park	0.09	0.09	0.09	0.09	0.09
Linda Lane Park	4.45	3.75	4.45	3.75	3.75
Marblehead Inland Park	4.10	3.80	4.10	3.80	3.80
Max Berg Plaza Park	3.62	3.62	3.62	3.62	3.62
Mira Costa Park	3.85	3.85	3.85	3.85	3.85
Rancho San Clemente Park	8.00	7.50	8.00	7.50	7.50
Our Lady of Fatima Park	2.00	2.00	0.00	0.00	2.00
San Pablo Reservoir Park	5.00	5.00	0.00	0.00	5.00
Talega Neighborhood Park No. 1	5.00	5.00	0.00	0.00	5.00
Talega Neighborhood Park No. 2	5.00	5.00	0.00	0.00	5.00
Talega Neighborhood Park No. 3	5.00	5.00	0.00	0.00	5.00
Verde Park	3.10	2.10	3.10	2.10	3.10
	66.71	59.21	34.71	27.21	60.21
Community Parks					
Bonito Canyon Bicentennial Park	11.00	7.00	11.00	7.00	7.00
Forster Ranch Community Park	22.00	19.40	8.80	6.30	19.40
Talega Community Park	21.80	18.00	0.00	0.00	18.00
Marblehead Bluff Park	9.35	6.61	0.00	0.00	6.61
Marblehead Sports Park	7.00	7.00	0.00	0.00	7.00
San Luis Rey Park	3.28	3.28	3.28	3.28	3.28
San Gorgonio Park	23.00	12.00	23.00	12.00	18.00
Richard T. Steed Memorial Park	43.42	23.65	31.42	12.00	23.65
	140.85	96.94	77.50	40.58	102.94
Special Use Parks/Facilities					
Beaches	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00
City Hall	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00
Com Center/Library/Senor Center	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00
Municipal Golf Course	133.00	129.00	133.00	129.00	129.00
Ole Hanson Beach Club	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00
Parque Del Mar	4.00	3.25	4.00	3.25	3.25
Pier Bowl Park/Plaza	0.50	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.50
Vista Bahia Park	3.00	2.75	3.00	2.75	2.75
	168.50	163.50	168.00	163.00	163.50
Beach Access Points					
Calafia	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.06
Corto Lane	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03
Diji Court	0.29	0.29	0.29	0.29	0.29
Esplanade ("T" Street)	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50
Linda Lane	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.06
Los Alamos	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50
North Beach	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.06
Mariposa	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.30
Pier	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.06
Portal	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50
Riveria	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.06
	2.42	2.42	2.42	2.42	2.42

Trails	Total Miles	Developed Miles	Miles/Bldout
Cristianitos Trail	5.77	0.00	5.77
Forster Ranch Ridgeline Trail	3.13	0.00	3.13
Marblehead Coastal Trail	1.04	0.00	1.04
Prima Deshecha Trail	6.63	0.00	6.63
Rancho San Clemente Ridgeline Trail	3.40	3.40	3.40
Bicycle Trails (Class One)	13.21	2.03	13.21
Bicycle Trails (Class Two)	20.45	13.06	20.45
Bicycle Trails (Class Three)	5.20	2.08	5.20
	58.83	20.57	58.83
Public Schools		Developed Acres	Dev. Acres/Bldout
Truman Benedict Elementary School		8	8
Concordia Elementary School		10	10
Clarence Lobo Elementary School		9	9
Las Palmas Elementary School		7	7
Marblehead Elementary School		0	7
Ole Hanson Elementary School		17	17
Palisades Elementary School		11	11
Bernice Ayer Middle School		13	13
Shorecliffs Middle School		20	20
San Clemente High School		49	49
Talega Elementary School		0	10
		144	161
State Parks		Developed Acres	Acres/Bldout
Doheny State Park		62	62
San Clemente State Park		110	110
San Onofre State Park		32	3732
		204	3904
General Information - City Parks	1998	Planned Buildout	Bldout w/o Golf
City of San Clemente Population	47,000	65,000	65,000
Acres of Parks Developed (Gross Acres)	282.63	378.48	245.48
Acres of Parks Developed (Net Acres)	233.21	329.07	200.07
Acres of Parks\1,000 Pop. (Gross Acres)	6.01	5.41	3.78
Acres of Parks\1,000 Pop. (Net Acres)	4.96	4.70	3.08
General Information - Public Schools and State Parks	1998	Buildout	
City of San Clemente Population	47,000	65,000	
Acres of Schools Developed	144	161	
Acres of State Parks Developed	204	3904	
Acres of Schools/State Parks/1,000 pop.	7.40	62.54	

*N/A - not available at time of printing.

Definitions:

Gross Acres: Total land area dedicated to the City and maintained by the City, including easements.

Net Acres: Usable land area within a park not exceeding a 10% slope with allowances up to a 25% slope depending upon type of uses provided. Slopes greater than 10% are considered unusable for active recreation purposes, but may be allowed for passive recreation purposes as long as they don't exceed 25%. Slopes exceeding 25% are considered unusable for all recreation purposes.

Major Building Square Footages: Community Center-16,425; Library-10,000; Senior Center-3,608; Beach Club-6,555; Boy's and Girl's Club-26,795; Municipal Golf Course Clubhouse-6,555, Pro Shop-1,534, Cart Storage-2,889, Maint Bldg-7,000; Marine Safety Headquarters-5,675; Pier-41,492; Fisherman's Restaurant-3,968; Steed Park Restaurant-2,244. Not included in this inventory, are stand alone beach and park restrooms, concession bldgs, or other ancillary structures such as storage bldgs and the pier lifeguard tower.

Development Standards

An important part of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan is the need to evaluate the criteria or guidelines established to assist in the general determination of future park acreage and recreational facility requirements for the City of San Clemente. These criteria or guidelines take the form of "standards" and add one other dimension by which to gauge the attainment of the goals and objectives this Master Plan contains. The conventional use of standards to justify existing and future park and recreational needs and opportunities is a well known and practiced planning technique.

Standards by which to generally allocate recreational facilities, prior to detailed park site planning, are important to ensure that adequate acreage and amenities are provided to serve the residents and visitors of San Clemente. Given the qualifications and assumptions listed below, these standards can assist in giving a reference point to the community decision-making process in San Clemente that ultimately determines the allocation of park space and recreational facilities.

Qualifications and Assumptions

These park designations, acreage, and facility standards take into account the following parameters:

1. The goals, policies and actions contained within the Master Plan.
2. Current and projected economic trends.
3. New and emerging trends and patterns in park and leisure usage by the public.
4. Established and time-tested park facility and recreational use preferences of the public.
5. Quality and quantity of existing San Clemente facilities.
6. The location of school sites with the potential for joint-use.
7. The influence of the private sector on park and recreational resources available.
8. Expressed needs and desires of the San Clemente public as represented in public input received regarding this Master Plan, specific input from the Parks and Recreation Commission, the Golf Committee, the Parks and Recreation Master Plan Technical Advisory Committee, and the direct experience of City staff.
9. Expressed desire of the community to be more conservative in the development of future park facilities.

The standards also take into consideration such essential factors as population differences and density, time, scale, and the ability of the City to actually implement the standard. In terms of degree, the standards set forth are predicated on the fact that they are indicative of a minimum target for accomplishment by the City. These standards do address the dimension of time in terms of relating sheer population growth projections to needed park acres and number of facilities. The possibility of a shift in the future recreational needs and preferences as San Clemente matures is not provided in these standards.

Methodology

The 1988 Master Plan standards were compared to the traditional standards promoted throughout the country by the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA). This comparison provided a valid point of departure in the search to make the standards more specific to San Clemente.

A revised standard for minimum park acreage allocations was developed by comparison to other acre/population ratios currently utilized by jurisdictions similar in size to San Clemente. From this analysis, a breakdown of the current five acres of park land per thousand population was subdivided between neighborhood and community parks. This will enable the City to continue an equitable distribution of the acreage for future dedications of park land between neighborhood, community, and special use parks.

Although not specifically a part of this Master Plan, consideration should be given to creating privately owned "public plazas" in commercial and retail areas of the City, as well as continuing the inclusion of plazas in public parks. This would enhance the visual and open space character of these high use areas. It would also promote a pedestrian orientation, providing a quality walking environment from which to play, work, shop, and dine.

Future Use and Application

The result of this process is that the City of San Clemente has a set of park acreage and recreational facility standards that are feasible and oriented to the community being served.

The method employed to arrive at these standards is both quantitative and facility-oriented. It does not provide the final answer to planning facilities, nor does it yield adequate detail for site selection or planning of specific parks, since the level of analysis is more in a macro scale versus a micro scale. More definition can only come from strong interaction with the immediate neighborhoods and the communities they make up, when a new park development initiative is undertaken by the City. The standards are grounded in sound planning principles and represent a vision of how much park land San Clemente should have at buildout of the city.

Park Acreage Standards

Neighborhood Park

Acres per 1,000 people:	2 acres
Size:	5-10 acres
Service Area Guide:	Local neighborhoods
Average Population Served:	5,000 people
Location:	Preferably near center of multiple residential areas, on or near secondary thoroughfares.
Typical Facilities:	Play areas, multi-purpose courts, picnic facilities, restrooms, informal sports fields, passive "quiet" places, and small public plazas.

Community Park

Area per 1,000 people:	3 acres
Size:	10 acres or more
Service Area Guide:	A geographical segment of the City; or the entire City
Average Population Served:	10,000 people
Location:	Preferably located near residential areas but may also be located in commercial areas due to active nature of amenities that could negatively impact residential neighborhoods.
Typical Facilities	Play areas, multi-purpose courts, picnic facilities, restrooms, multi-purpose lighted sports fields, parking lots, outdoor event structures or public plazas, and other active and passive "quiet" spaces.

Special Use Facility

Acres per 1,000 people:	N/A; Specific facilities dictate level of service.
Size:	Dependent on character of facility.
Service Area Guide:	A geographical segment of the City; or the entire City
Average Population Served:	City Wide
Location:	Located throughout the City; or natural/environmental resource areas on fringe of urban development.
Typical Facilities	Beaches, golf courses, community centers, gymnasiums, pools, historical sites, cultural landmarks, ecological preserves, natural rustic areas, regional recreational facilities, and public plazas or outdoor event structures.

Park Facility Standards

Sportsfields	City Standard Amount/1,000 People
Baseball/Softball	1/ 4,000
Football/Soccer	1/10,000
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Sports Courts	
Tennis	1/3,000
Volleyball	1/3,000
Basketball	1/3,000
Skate Court	1/30,000
Roller Hockey	1/25,000
Lawn Bowling	1/60,000
<hr/>	
Swimming Pools	
50 meter	1/40,000
25 meter	1/20,000
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Miscellaneous Improvements	
Picnic Areas	1/3,000
Children's Play Areas	1/3,000
Community Centers	1/25,000
Gymnasiums	1/20,000
Trap and Skeet Range	1/60,000
Golf Courses	1/30,000
Therapeutic Pool	1/60,000
Dog Park	1/30,000
Equestrian Facility	1/60,000
Large Public Plazas	1/30,000

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Maintenance Standards

Level "A"

Excellent or state of the art level of maintenance applied to a high quality diverse landscape. Usually associated with high traffic commercial recreational facilities such as theme parks, stadiums, hotels, arboretums, golf course country clubs, squares, malls, or high visitation parks.

1. Park turf care - Grass height maintained according to species and variety of grass. Mowed at least once every five working days but may be as often as once every three working days. Aeration as required, not less than four times per year. Reseeding or sodding as needed. Weed control should be practiced so that no more than one percent of the surface has weeds present.

2. Golf turf care - Greens: Maintenance practices to meet highest industry standards and satisfy expectations of the most demanding of golfers. Green speed should be consistent throughout course with greens mowed daily at an appropriate height to achieve average stimpmeter readings greater than nine on annual basis. Greens should be free of thin or bare areas, and exhibit surface uniformity sufficient to provide minimum disruptance of ball roll. Zero tolerance of disease, insect, or weed infestations. Tees: Tees maintained to eliminate impact on play from wear and divots from previous players. Tees should be uniform, free from thin or bare areas, and cut low enough, and regularly, as to allow optimum ball presentation on teeing surface. Fairways: Fairways to be cut a minimum of twice weekly during periods of high growth and a minimum of once weekly during the dormant season. All mowing to be done at the appropriate height to provide optimum ball roll and positioning at all times. Fairways should be uniform and free from thin or bare areas. Weeds should be non-existent. Roughs: Roughs should be uniform and at a consistent height throughout the course. Roughs should be cut regularly a minimum of twice weekly during periods of high growth and a minimum of once weekly during the dormant season so that clippings will not pile or detract from playability at any time.

Weeds should not account for more than one percent of total area.

3. Golf bunkers - Bunkers hand raked with debris, weeds, and pebbles removed daily. Bunker sand should be in particle size range specified by USGA. Depth of sand should be uniform throughout bunker, and sand should remain firm enough to prevent plugging and "fried egg" lies.

4. Fertilizer - Adequate fertilization applied to plant species according to their optimum requirements. Application rates and times should ensure an even supply of nutrients for the entire year. Nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium percentages should follow recommendations from the Orange County Agricultural Extension Service. Trees, shrubs, and flowers should be fertilized according to their individual requirements of nutrients for optimum growth. Unusually long or short growing seasons may modify the chart slightly.

5. Irrigation - Sprinkler irrigated. Electric automatic system that utilizes a centralized computer for oversight. Some manual systems could be considered adequate under plentiful rainfall circumstances and adequate staffing. Frequency of use follows rainfall, temperature, seasonal length, and demands of plant material.

6. Litter control - Minimum of once per day, seven days per week. Extremely high visitation may increase the frequency. Receptacles should be plentiful enough to hold all trash generated between servicing without normally overflowing.

7. Pruning - Frequency dictated primarily by species and variety of trees and shrubs.

Length of growing season and design concept also a controlling factor as are clipped hedges versus natural style. Timing usually scheduled to coincide with low demand periods or to take advantage of special growing characteristics such as pruning after flowering of particular types of plant species.

8. Disease and insect control - Control program may use any of three philosophies: a.) Preventative - a scheduled chemical or cultural program designed to prevent significant damage; b.) Corrective - application of chemical or mechanical controls designed to eliminate observed problems; c.) Integrated pest management - a combination of corrective and preventative measures plus withholding controls until such time as pests demonstrate damage to plant materials or become a demonstrated irritant in the case of flies, mosquitoes, gnats, etc. At this maintenance level, the controlling objective is to not have the public notice any problems. It is anticipated at Level "A" that problems will either be prevented or observed, at a very early stage, and corrected immediately.

9. Sand beaches - Sand areas are leveled on a daily basis when usage is high and weekly during remaining times of year. Debris is removed daily.

10. Lighting - Maintenance should preserve the original design. Damaged systems should be repaired as quickly as they are discovered. Bulb replacement should be done during the first working day after the outage is reported.

11. Surfaces - Sweeping, cleaning, and washing of surfaces shall be done so that at no time does an accumulation of sand, dirt, and leaves distract from the looks or safety of the area. Repainting or restaining of structures should occur when weather or wear deteriorate the appearance of the covering. Wood

surfaces requiring oiling should be done a minimum of four times per year. Stains to surfaces should be taken off within five working days. Graffiti should be washed off or painted over the next working day after application.

12. Repairs - Repairs to all elements of the design should be done immediately upon discovery, provided replacement part and technicians are available to accomplish the job. When disruption to the public might not be major and the repair not critical, repairs may be postponed to a time period which is least disruptive.

13. Inspection - Inspections of facilities shall be performed daily by a member of staff.

14. Floral plantings - Normally extensive or unusual floral plantings are part of the design. These may include ground level beds, planters, or hanging baskets. Often multiple plantings are scheduled, usually at least two blooming cycles per year. Some designs may call for a more frequent rotation of bloom. Maximum care of watering, fertilizing, disease control, removal of spent blooms, and weeding is necessary. Weeding flowers and shrubs is done a minimum of once per week. The desired standard is essentially weed free.

15. Rest rooms - Not always a part of the design but where required will normally receive no less than once per day servicing. Especially high traffic areas may require multiple servicing or a person assigned as attendant.

16. Special features - Features such as fountains, drinking fountains, sculpture, speaker systems, structural art, flag poles or parking and crowd control devices may be part of the integral design. Maintenance requirements can vary drastically, but, for this mode, it should be of the highest possible order.

Level "B"

Above average level of maintenance - associated with well developed park areas, golf courses and beaches with high expectation and visitation.

1. Park turf care - Grass cut once every five working days. Aeration as required but not less than two times per year. Reseeding or sodding when bare spots are present. Weed control practiced when weeds present visible problem or when weeds represent 5 percent of the turf surface. Some pre-emergent products may be utilized at this level.

2. Golf turf care - Greens: Maintenance practices to meet high industry standards and satisfy expectations of most golfers. Green speed should be somewhat consistent throughout course with greens mowed daily at an appropriate height to achieve average stimpmeter readings greater than seven on annual basis. Greens should be free of thin or bare areas, and exhibit surface uniformity sufficient to provide minimum disruption of ball roll. Very low tolerance of disease, insect, or weed infestations. Tees: Tees maintained to minimize impact on play from wear and divots from previous players. Tees should be uniform, free from thin or bare areas, and cut low enough, and regularly as to allow superior ball presentation on teeing surface. Fairways: Fairways to be cut a minimum of twice weekly during periods of high growth and a minimum of once biweekly during the dormant season. Mowing to be done at the appropriate height to provide superior ball roll and positioning at all times. Fairways should be uniform and free from thin or bare areas. Weed infestation should be limited to less than five percent of fairway area. Roughs: Roughs should be uniform and at a consistent height throughout the course. Roughs should be cut once weekly to minimize the effect of clippings on the playability of the course. Weeds should not account for more than ten percent of maintained rough area. Relatively out of play areas should be mowed regularly so as to be playable.

3. Golf bunkers - Bunkers hand raked with debris, weeds, and pebbles removed daily. Bunker sand should be in particle size range specified by USGA. Depth of sand should be uniform throughout bunker.

4. Fertilizer - Adequate fertilizer level to ensure that all plant materials are healthy and growing vigorously. Amounts depend on species, length of growing season, soils and rainfall. Rates should correspond to the median recommended rates commonly utilized by climate zone. Distribution should ensure an even supply of nutrients for the entire year. Nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium percentage should follow local recommendations from the Orange County Agricultural Extension Services. Trees, shrubs and flowers should receive fertilizer levels to ensure optimum growth.

5. Irrigation - Sprinkler irrigated. Electric automatic system that may utilize a centralized computer for oversight. Some manual systems could be considered adequate under plentiful rainfall circumstances and adequate staffing. Frequency of use follows rainfall, temperature, seasonal length, and demands of plant material.

6. Litter control - Minimum of once per day, seven days a week. Off-site movement of trash dependent on size of containers and use by the public.

7. Pruning - Usually done at least once per season unless species planted dictate more frequent attention. Sculptured hedges or high growth species may dictate a more frequent requirement than most trees and shrubs in natural growth style plantings.

8. Diseases and insect control - Usually done when disease or insects are inflicting

noticeable damage, reducing vigor of plant materials, or could be considered a bother to the public. Some preventative measures may be utilized such as systemic chemical treatments. Cultural prevention of disease problems can reduce time spent in this category. Some minor problems may be tolerated at this level.

9. Sand beaches - Sand areas are leveled on a weekly basis when usage is high and monthly during remaining times of year. Debris is removed weekly when usage is high and monthly at remaining times of year.

10. Lighting - Replacement or repair of fixtures when observed or reported as not working.

11. Surfaces - Should be cleaned, repaired, repainted, or replaced when appearance has noticeably deteriorated.

12. Repairs - Should be done whenever safety, function, or bad appearance is in question.

13. Inspection - Inspection by some staff member at least once a day when regular staff is scheduled.

14. Floral planting - Some sort of floral plantings present. Normally no more complex than two rotations of bloom per year. Care cycle usually at least once per week, except watering may be more frequent. Health and vigor dictate cycle of fertilization and disease control. Beds essentially kept weed free.

15. Rest rooms - When present should be maintained at least once per day as long as they are open to public use. High use may dictate two servicings or more per day as long as they are open to public use. Servicing period should ensure an adequate supply of paper and that rest rooms are reasonably clean and free from bad odors.

16. Special features - Should be maintained for safety, function, and high quality appearance as per established design.

Level "C"

Average level of maintenance - associated with well developed park areas, golf courses and beaches with moderate to high visitation.

1. Park turf care - Grass cut once every five working days. Aeration as required but not less than two times per year. Reseeding or sodding when bare spots are present. Weed control practiced when weeds present visible problem or when weeds represent 25 percent of the turf surface. Some pre-emergent products may be utilized at this level.

2. Golf turf care - Greens: Maintenance practices to meet industry standards and satisfy expectations of most low end golfers. Green speed may vary throughout course with greens mowed periodically at an appropriate height to achieve average stimpmeter readings greater than five on annual basis. Thin or bare areas should be expected, especially during periods of environmental stress. Greens should exhibit surface uniformity sufficient to provide reduced disruption of ball roll. Moderate tolerance of disease, insect, or weed infestations. Tees: Tees maintained to provide a safe and relatively flat area from which to begin play. Bare areas are acceptable and should be considered normal, especially on par three holes. Fairways: Fairways to be cut once weekly during periods of high growth and once every other week during periods of dormancy. Mowing to be done at the appropriate height to provide a playable lie. Fairways should be uniform and thin, or bare areas kept to a minimum. Weed infestation should be limited to less than 20 percent of fairway area. Roughs: Roughs should be cut once weekly during periods of high growth and once every other week during periods of dormancy. Weeds should not account for more than 50 percent of maintained rough area. Relatively out of play areas may be left in a natural state.

3. Golf bunkers - Bunkers hand raked with debris, weeds, and pebbles removed two to three times per week. Bunker sand depth

should be adequate for safe play from the bunker.

4. Fertilizer - Adequate fertilizer level to ensure that all plant materials are healthy and growing vigorously. Amounts depend on species, length of growing season, soils, and rainfall. Rates should correspond to the lowest recommended rates commonly utilized by climate zone. Distribution should ensure an even supply of nutrients for the entire year. Nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium percentage should follow local recommendations from the Orange County Agricultural Extension Services. Trees, shrubs, and flowers should receive fertilizer levels to ensure optimum growth.

5. Irrigation - Sprinkler irrigated. Electric automatic system that may utilize a centralized computer for oversight. Manual systems can be utilized as adequate, even though plant quality may suffer to some extent due to limited staffing to operate systems. Frequency of use follows rainfall, temperature, seasonal length, and demands of plant material.

6. Litter control - Minimum of once per day, seven days a week. Off-site movement of trash dependent on size of containers and use by the public.

7. Pruning - Usually done at least twice per year unless species planted dictate more frequent attention. Sculptured hedges or high growth species may dictate a more frequent requirement than most shrubs in natural growth style plantings. Trees trimmed by species as required to maintain natural and safe appearance, generally on a two to five year schedule.

8. Diseases and insect control - Usually done when disease or insects are inflicting noticeable damage, reducing vigor of plant materials, or could be considered a bother to the public. Some preventative measures may be utilized such as systemic chemical treatments. Cultural prevention of disease problems can reduce time spent in this category. Some minor problems may be tolerated at this level.

9. Sand beaches - Sand areas are leveled every two weeks when usage is high and as needed during remaining times of year. Debris is removed weekly when usage is high and as needed during remaining times of year.

10. Lighting - List of replacement or repair completed upon regularly scheduled night inspections of improvements and from complaint or employee discovery. Replacement or repair of fixtures are scheduled to provide group repairs, generally completed on a quarterly basis.

11. Surfaces - Should be cleaned, repaired, repainted, or replaced when appearance has noticeably deteriorated.

12. Repairs - Should be done whenever safety, function, or bad appearance is in question.

13. Inspection - Inspection by some staff member at least once a day when regular staff is scheduled.

14. Floral planting - Floral planting not present in landscapes. Only perennials or flowering trees or shrubs utilized.

15. Rest rooms - When present should be maintained at least once per day as long as they are open to public use. High use may dictate two servicings per day as long as they are open to public use. Servicing period should ensure an adequate supply of paper and that rest rooms are reasonably clean and free from bad odors.

16. Special features - Should be maintained for safety, function, and high quality appearance as per established design.

Level "D"

Moderately low level of maintenance - associated with locations with moderate to low levels of development, moderate to low levels of visitation and budget allocations that restrict a higher intensity of maintenance.

1. Turf care - Cut once every 10 working days. Normally not aerated unless turf quality indicates a need or in anticipation of an application of fertilizer. Reseeding or resodding done only when major bare spots appear. Weed control measures normally used when 50 percent of small areas are weed infested or general turf quality is low in 50 percent or more of the surface area.

2. Fertilizer - Applied only when turf vigor seems to be low. Low level application done on a once per year basis. Rate suggested should correspond to one-half the lowest recommended rates commonly utilized by climate zone.

3. Irrigation - Dependent on climate. Manual and automatic irrigation systems utilized. When irrigation is automatic, a demand schedule is programmed. Where manual servicing is required, a two or three times per week operation would be the norm even though plant quality suffers due to lack of adequate water application.

4. Litter control - Minimum service of two to three times per week. High use may dictate higher levels.

5. Pruning - When required for health or reasonable appearance. Frequencies would be no more than annually for shrubs and three to six years for trees.

6. Disease and insect control - Done only on epidemic or serious complaint basis. Control measures may be put into effect when the health or survival of the plant material is threatened or where public comfort is concerned.

7. Sand beaches - Sand areas are leveled and debris removed at the beginning of high use seasons.

8. Lighting - List of replacement or repair completed upon regularly scheduled night inspections of improvements and from complaint or employee discovery. Replacement or repair of fixtures when 25% of lighting has been compromised at facility in question.

9. Surfaces - Cleaned on complaint basis. Repaired or replaced as budget allows.

10. Repairs - Should be done whenever safety or function is in question. If budget allocations do not allow for repair, then amenity should be closed or removed.

11. Inspections - Twice per month.

12. Floral planting - No floral plantings in landscape. Only perennials or flowering trees or shrubs utilized.

13. Rest rooms - When present, serviced a minimum of five times per week. Seldom more than once each day.

14. Special features - Minimum allowable maintenance for features present with function and safety in mind.

Level "F"

Low level of maintenance - usually associated with low level of development, low visitation, remote parks, and budget allocations that restrict a higher intensity of maintenance.

1. Turf care - Low frequency mowing schedule based on species. Low growing grasses may not be mowed. High grasses may receive periodic mowing to aid public use or reduce fire danger. Weed control limited to legal requirements of noxious weeds.

2. Fertilizer - Not fertilized.

3. Irrigation - Limited to no irrigation. When irrigation systems are present, they are scheduled to minimize plant growth to reduce mowing and trimming frequencies.

4. Litter control - Once per week or less. Complaint may increase level above one servicing.

5. Pruning - No regular trimming. Safety or damage from weather may dictate actual work schedule.

6. Disease and insect control - None except where epidemic condition threatens resource or public.

7. Sand beaches - Sand areas are leveled and debris removed when safety is a consideration.

8. Lighting - List of replacement or repair completed upon complaint or employee discovery. Replacement or repair of fixtures when 25% of lighting has been compromised at facility in question.

9. Surfaces - Replaced or repaired when safety is a concern and when budget is available.

10. Repairs - Should be done when safety or function is in question.

11. Inspections - Once per month.

12. Floral plantings - None; may have wild flowers, perennials, flowering trees, or shrubs in place.

13. Rest rooms - When present, three times per week.

14. Special features - Minimum maintenance to allow safe use.

Natural Area

Minimum maintenance level - low visitation natural area or large urban parks that are undeveloped.

1. Turf areas - Not mowed. Weed control only if legal requirements demand it.

2. Fertilizer - Not fertilized.

3. Irrigation - No irrigation.

4. Litter control - On demand or complaint basis.

5. Pruning - No pruning unless safety is involved.

6. Disease and insect control - No control except in epidemic or safety situations.

7. Sand beaches - Sand areas are left in a natural condition. Debris is removed when safety is a consideration.

8. Lighting - List of replacement or repair completed upon complaint or employee

discovery. Replacement or repair of fixtures when 25% of lighting has been compromised at facility in question.

9. Surfaces - Serviced when safety is consideration.

10. Repairs - Should be done when safety or function is in question.

11. Inspection - Once per month in high use seasons and quarterly during remaining times of year.

12. Floral plantings - None.

13. Rest rooms - Service based on need.

14. Special features - Service based on lowest acceptable frequency for feature. Safety and function interruption a concern when either seem significant.

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RECREATIONAL FACILITIES AND STREETSCAPES REVIEW POLICIES

**Reviewed by: Parks and Recreation Commission
 Golf Committee
 Planning Commission
 Zoning Administrator**

PURPOSE: The purpose of this policy is to provide a description of the City review process for committees and commissions for recreational facilities and streetscapes. The review process shall ensure:

1. The Parks and Recreation Commission's assistance in the planning of recreational facilities (except for golf courses and related facilities) and streets, the promotion and stimulation of public interest in such facilities, and the solicitation, to the fullest extent possible, of the cooperation of all public and private agencies interested in such facilities, as described in the City's Municipal Code; and
2. The Golf Committee's assistance in the planning of golf courses and related facilities, the promotion and stimulation of public interest in such facilities, and the solicitation, to the fullest extent possible, of the cooperation of all public and private agencies interested in such facilities; and
3. The Planning Commission's fulfillment of their role in the designation of land for recreational facilities and in the architectural review of major structures within recreational facilities, as described in Section 17.16.020, General Plan Amendment, Section 17.16.030, Specific Plan Adoption and Amendment, Section 17.16.040, Zoning Amendments, Section 17.16.100, Architectural/Cultural Heritage Permits, and Section 17.16.120, Planning Commission Waivers of Cultural Heritage Permits of the City's Zoning Ordinance, as well as their role in the review of streetscapes for traffic safety-related issues.
4. The Zoning Administrator's fulfillment of his/her role in the architectural review of minor structures within recreational facilities, as described in Section 17.16.100, Minor Architectural/Cultural Heritage Permits and Section 17.16.120, Zoning Administrator Waiver of Cultural Heritage Permits of the City's Zoning Ordinance.

THE REVIEW

PROCESS: City review of the designation of lands for recreational facilities and of the design of individual recreational facilities and streetscapes shall take place in the following manner:

1. The Designation of Land for Recreational Facilities (The Placement of a General Plan, Zoning, or Specific Plan Designation on a Site):
 - A. Parks and Recreation Commission Role: To provide comments and recommendations to the City Council regarding the placement of land use designations on potential recreational facility sites (except for golf courses). Public input at Parks and Recreation Commission meetings shall take place as described in the following section titled "Public Notice Requirements." Parks and Recreation Commission review of the proposed designation shall take place prior to the Planning Commission's finalization of their comments and recommendations regarding the designation, so that the Planning Commission may have the benefit of the Parks and Recreation Commission's comments and recommendations. The Parks and Recreation Commission's comments and recommendations regarding the designation shall be forwarded in their entirety to the City Council.
 - B. Golf Committee Role: To provide comments and recommendations to the City Council regarding the placement of land use designations on potential golf course sites. Public input at Golf Committee meetings shall take place as described in the following section titled "Public Notice Requirements." Golf Committee review of the proposed designation shall take place prior to the Planning Commission's finalization of their comments and recommendations regarding the designation, so that the Planning Commission may have the benefit of the Golf Committee's comments. The Golf Committee's comments and recommendations regarding the designation shall be forwarded in their entirety to the City Council.
 - C. Planning Commission Role: To provide comments and recommendations to the City Council regarding the placement of land use designations on potential recreational sites. Public hearings for general plan, zoning, or specific plan designation shall be in conformance with State Law, as described in Section 17.16.100, Public Hearing and Notification, of the City's Zoning Ordinance.

2. Review of the Specific Design for Recreational Facilities:
 - A. Parks and Recreation Commission Role: To provide comments and recommendations to the City Council regarding the design of recreational facilities (except for golf courses). Comments and recommendations may be regarding all aspects of recreational facilities design, including but not limited to, site plan issues, the placement and design of specific recreational facilities, landscaping, and the location and design of structures. Public input at Parks and Recreation Commission meetings shall take place as described in the following section titled "Public Notice Requirements." The Parks and Recreation Commission's comments and recommendations regarding a recreational facility's design shall be forwarded in their entirety to the City Council.
 - B. Golf Committee Role: To provide comments and recommendations to the City Council regarding the design of golf courses. Comments and recommendations may be regarding all aspects of golf course design. Public input at Golf Committee meetings shall take place as described in the following section titled "Public Notice Requirements." The Golf Committee's comments and recommendations regarding a golf course's design shall be forwarded in their entirety to the City Council.
 - C. Planning Commission's Role: To provide comments and recommendations to the City Council regarding the architecture of major structures within City recreational facilities. Public input at Planning Commission meetings shall take place as described in the following section titled "Public Notice Requirements." Planning Commission review of the proposed architecture shall take place prior to Parks and Recreation Commission's or Golf Committee's finalization of their comments and recommendations regarding the facility's design, so that the Parks and Recreation Commission or the Golf Committee may have the benefit of the Planning Commission's comments. The Planning Commission's comments and recommendations regarding architecture shall be forwarded in their entirety to the City Council.
 - D. Zoning Administrator's Role: To provide comments and recommendations to the City Council regarding the architecture of minor structures within City recreational facilities. Public input at Zoning Administrator meetings shall take place as described in the following section titled "Public Notice Requirements." Zoning

Administrator review of the proposed architecture shall take place prior to Parks and Recreation Commission's or the Golf Committee's finalization of their comments and recommendations regarding a facility's design, so that the Parks and Recreation Commission or the Golf Committee may have the benefit of the Zoning Administrator's comments. The Zoning Administrator's comments and recommendations regarding architecture shall be forwarded in their entirety to the City Council.

3. Review of the Specific Design for Streetscapes:

A. Parks and Recreation Commission Role: To provide comments and recommendations to the City Council regarding the design of streetscapes. Comments and recommendations may be regarding all aspects of streetscape design. Public input at Parks and Recreation Commission meetings shall take place as described in the following section titled "Public Notice Requirements." The Parks and Recreation Commission's comments and recommendations regarding streetscape design shall be forwarded in their entirety to the City Council.

B. Planning Commission's Role: To provide comments and recommendations to the City Council regarding traffic safety issues related to the design of City streetscapes. Public input at Planning Commission meetings shall take place as described in the following section titled "Public Notice Requirements." Planning Commission review of the proposed streetscape for traffic safety issues shall take place prior to Parks and Recreation Commission's finalization of their comments and recommendations regarding streetscape design, so that the Parks and Recreation Commission may have the benefit of the Planning Commission's comments. The Planning Commission's comments and recommendations regarding streetscape safety shall be forwarded in their entirety to the City Council.

4. Review of Feasibility Studies for New Special Use Parks:

The Parks and Recreation Commission and the Golf Committee shall review feasibility studies for special use parks and make recommendations for a determination of feasibility to City Council, using the following criteria:

The provision of special use facilities (such as community/senior center buildings, gymnasiums, pools, golf courses, libraries, etc.) shall be provided by the City unless (a) the cost to develop and maintain these facilities exceeds the

ability of the City to fund them without the creation of special assessments or taxes levied upon the community, or (b) the cost to develop and maintain these facilities results in a lowering of maintenance/operational levels as established in this Master Plan for existing beach, parks, and recreation improvements. If either (a) or (b) become a reality, then the decision to build the special use facility shall be approved by San Clemente voters, including the funding mechanism for development and maintenance/operational expenditures. City Council shall make the final determination of feasibility.

**PUBLIC NOTICE
REQUIREMENTS:**

Public notification of the designation of lands for recreational facilities and of the design of individual recreational facilities and streetscapes shall take place in the following manner:¹

1. The Designation of Land for Recreational Facilities (The Placement of a General Plan, Zoning, or Specific Plan Designation on a Site):
 - A. Parks and Recreation Commission: Public Meeting, Notice in Local Paper, Agendized Item.
 - B. Golf Committee: Public Meeting, Notice in Local Paper, Agendized Item.
 - C. Planning Commission: A public hearing, as described in Section 17.12.100, Public Hearing and Notification, of the Zoning Ordinance, in conformance with State Law.
- 2 Review of the Specific Design for Recreational Facilities:

The appropriate public notification for Parks and Recreation Commission, Golf Committee, Planning Commission, and Zoning Administrator meetings regarding the specific design of recreational facilities and architectural review of structures shall be determined by Beaches, Parks and Recreation staff, in consultation with the Planning Division staff and the City Attorney, when needed. The project manager shall assess the potential impact of the facility on a neighborhood or business. Upon assessing the impacts, the manager shall determine whether notification is required, can be given through fliers, news releases, letters, or other similar types of notification, or whether public meetings or official public hearings are appropriate or necessary.

¹ For public noticing requirements related to negative declarations, mitigated negative declarations, and Environmental Impact Reports required by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), please consult Sections 15072, 15073, 15083, 15087, 15094, 15201, 15202, and 15203 of the CEQA Guidelines.

In deciding whether public notification in a manner similar to that of public hearing (300-foot notification, legal ad, and other public notification requirements for public hearings described in Section 17.12.100, Public Hearing and Notification, of the Zoning Ordinance) is required for a recreational facility, the following shall be considered:

- A. Whether a negative declaration, mitigated negative declaration, or Environmental Impact Report, in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act, has been prepared; or
- B. Whether approval of the project is discretionary and affects private property rights.

If either one of the above considerations applies to a project, public notification required for a public hearing, as described in Section 17.12.100, Public Hearing and Notification of the Zoning Ordinance, shall be provided.

In deciding whether a public hearing and corresponding public notification, as described in Section 17.12.100, Public Hearing and Notification of the Zoning Ordinance, is required for a recreational facility, the following shall be considered:

- A. Whether approval of the project is discretionary; and
- B. Whether the decision has a significant or substantial impact on proximately located property.

If both of the above considerations apply to a project, a public hearing, and corresponding public notification, as described in Section 17.12.100, Public Hearing and Notification of the Zoning Ordinance, shall be provided.

3. Review of the Specific Design for Streetscapes:

Public notification regarding the specific design of streetscapes shall take place in the same manner as described above for the specific design for recreational facilities.

4. Review of Feasibility Studies for New Special Use Parks:

The appropriate public notification for Parks and Recreation Commission and Golf Committee meetings regarding the feasibility studies for new special use parks shall be determined by Beaches, Parks and Recreation staff, in consultation with the Planning Division staff and the City Attorney, when needed. The project manager shall assess the potential impact of the facility on a neighborhood or business. Upon assessing the impacts, the manager shall determine whether notification is

required, can be given through fliers, news releases, letters, or other similar types of notification, or whether public meetings or official public hearings are appropriate or necessary.

In deciding whether a public hearing and corresponding public notification, as described in Section 17.12.100, Public Hearing and Notification of the Zoning Ordinance, is required for a recreational facility, the following shall be considered:

- A. Whether approval of the project is discretionary; and
- B. Whether the decision has a significant or substantial impact on proximately located property.

If both of the above considerations apply to a project, a public hearing and corresponding public notification, as described in Section 17.12.100, Public Hearing and Notification of the Zoning Ordinance, shall be provided.

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Population Analysis and Demographics

Introduction

The decennial census, conducted by the federal government, is the most detailed and heavily relied upon demographic source for obtaining socio-economic characteristic information. The demographic information provided herein is a critical factor in quantifying and forecasting some of the important recreational needs and directions of the City of San Clemente.

Beyond the census information, key demographic information regarding household composition was collected with the Recreational Needs Assessment, 1996, and is included for comparison purposes.

Population Trends in San Clemente

According to the US Census, San Clemente's population increased by 60 percent, or 10,262 people between 1970 and 1980. Between 1980 and 1990, the City's population increased 50 percent, or 13,775 new residents. As of April, 1990, the population of San Clemente was 41,100 residents.

Projected population in the year 2000 is 50,900 residents; projected population in the year 2005 is 58,700.¹

City-wide Age Distribution

Age	1980 Population	Percent of Total	1990 Population	Percent of Total
0-19	6,472	24%	9,659	23%
20-34	7,671	28%	11,349	28%
35-64	9,098	33%	14,756	36%
65+	4,084	15%	5,336	13%
Median Age	32.2		33.3	
Total Population	27,325	100%	41,100	100%

¹ These projections provided by City's Planning Division based on State Department of Finance, 5/98, City of San Clemente Projections, Planning, 1/99.

City-wide Cultural Composition Per Capita Income

Ethnicity	White	Black	Asian	Hispanic	Other
San Clemente 1990	84%	0.6%	3%	12%	0.4%
Orange County 1990	66%	2%	10%	23%	0.1%
San Clemente 1980	88%	1%	1%	8%	2%
Orange County 1980	74%	1%	4%	15%	2%

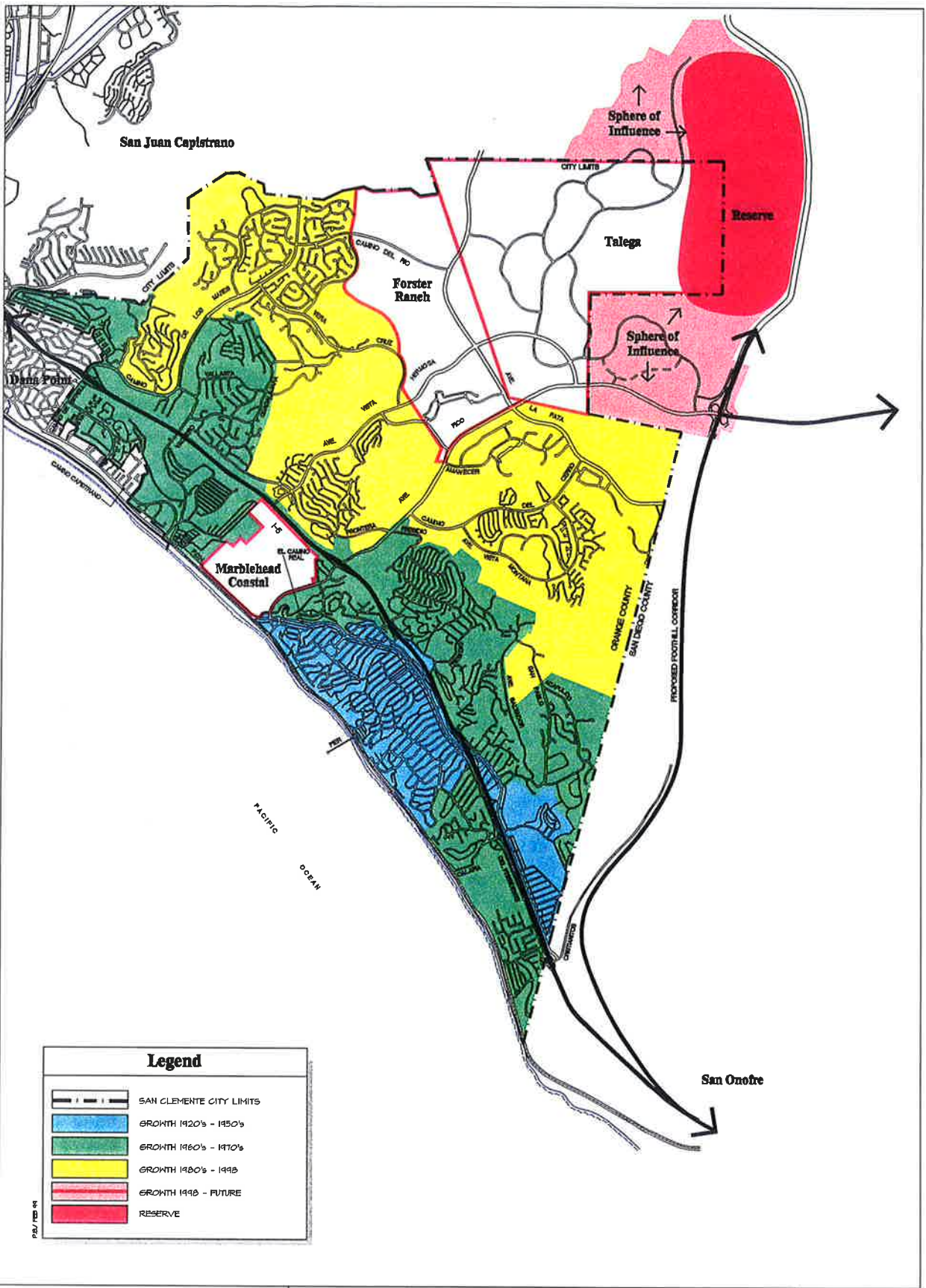
City-Wide Per Capita Income

Geographic Area	1980	1990
California	\$8,303	\$14,855
Five County Region	\$8,371	\$15,066
Orange County	\$9,569	\$18,321
San Clemente	\$10,575	\$19,268

City-Wide General Household Composition

Household Description	Percentage of Total	Percentage are Program Users	Percentage are Facility Users
Single Adult without children	33%	2%	26%
2+ Adults without children	33%	17%	23%
Single Adult with children	3%	8%	4%
2 Adults with children	28%	61%	44%
3+ Adults with children	2%	11%	4%

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Legend	
	SAN CLEMENTE CITY LIMITS
	GROWTH 1920's - 1950's
	GROWTH 1960's - 1970's
	GROWTH 1980's - 1990's
	GROWTH 1990 - FUTURE
	RESERVE



Prepared in the office of
City of San Clemente
 Beaches, Parks and Recreation

100 N. Calle Sevilla
 San Clemente, CA 92072
 Tel (949) 381-8284
 Fax (949) 381-8280
 E-Mail SCCM@Pacbell.net

**City Growth and Population Trends
 (Color Version)**

**Parks and Recreation Master Plan
 Adopted 1999**



North
 0' 1000'

**Map J
 Page J-3**

Parks Recreation Master Plan

Adopted June 2, 1999

Exhibit K, Page K-1 Park Development Priority List

Priority Number	Park Project or Phase	Projected Park Development Revenue	Estimated Project Cost	Difference	Annual Operation Cost
1	Forster Ranch Community Park, Phase II (development of the 22 acres excluding com. ctr/gym/pools)		\$3,300,000		\$192,700
2	Richard T. Steed Park Youth Sportsfields		\$1,800,000		\$64,800
3	New Senior Center/Senior Center Expansion		\$2,000,000		\$475,000
4	Library Expansion (includes Community Center plaza renovation)		\$250,000		\$0
5	Forster Ranch Community Park, Phase III (community center/gymnasium/pools)		\$6,000,000		\$1,100,000
6	Second Municipal Golf Course		\$10,000,000		\$1,134,000
7	Talega Neighborhood Park #1 (County area)		\$1,200,000		\$64,800
8	Marblehead Bluff Park		\$1,000,000		\$53,500
9	Marblehead Youth Sports Park		\$1,200,000		\$56,700
10	Vista Hermosa/La Pata Community Park Phase I (youth sports park)		\$2,250,000		\$121,500
11	Talega Neighborhood Park #2		\$1,200,000		\$64,800
12	South San Clemente Neighborhood Park		\$750,000		\$40,500
13	Talega Neighborhood Park #3		\$1,200,000		\$64,800
14	Parque Del Mar Expansion		\$2,000,000		\$0
15	Pier Bowl Park (Acquisition/Development)		\$1,000,000		\$4,100
16	Vista Hermosa/La Pata Special Use Park Phase II (community center/gym/pools)		\$6,000,000		\$1,100,000
17	Vista Bahia Park Trap and Skeet Range (relocate range to a non-residential area of the city)		\$700,000		\$0
	Projected Park Development Revenue				
	Talega Planned Community	\$17,000,000			
	Forster Ranch Specific Plan	\$1,700,000			
	Marblehead Coastal Planned Community	\$3,250,000			
	Golf Course Development	\$10,000,000			
	Monarch Development	\$300,000			
	Rancho San Clemente Planned Community	\$300,000			
	Other In-fill Development	\$80,000			
	Totals	\$32,630,000	\$41,850,000	(\$9,220,000)	\$4,537,200
	<i>Notes:</i>				
A	Park Development Priorities Chart provides priorities for major new park development contemplated with the Parks & Recreation Master Plan. Some of the projects are proposed for study. Please refer to the Park Development Chapter for specific details on each project.				
B	This chart does not include renovation or remodeling of existing parks.				
C	A majority of the revenue will be generated as residential development occurs through buildout of the City.				
D.	Priority list subject to change by City Council on an annual basis.				

